

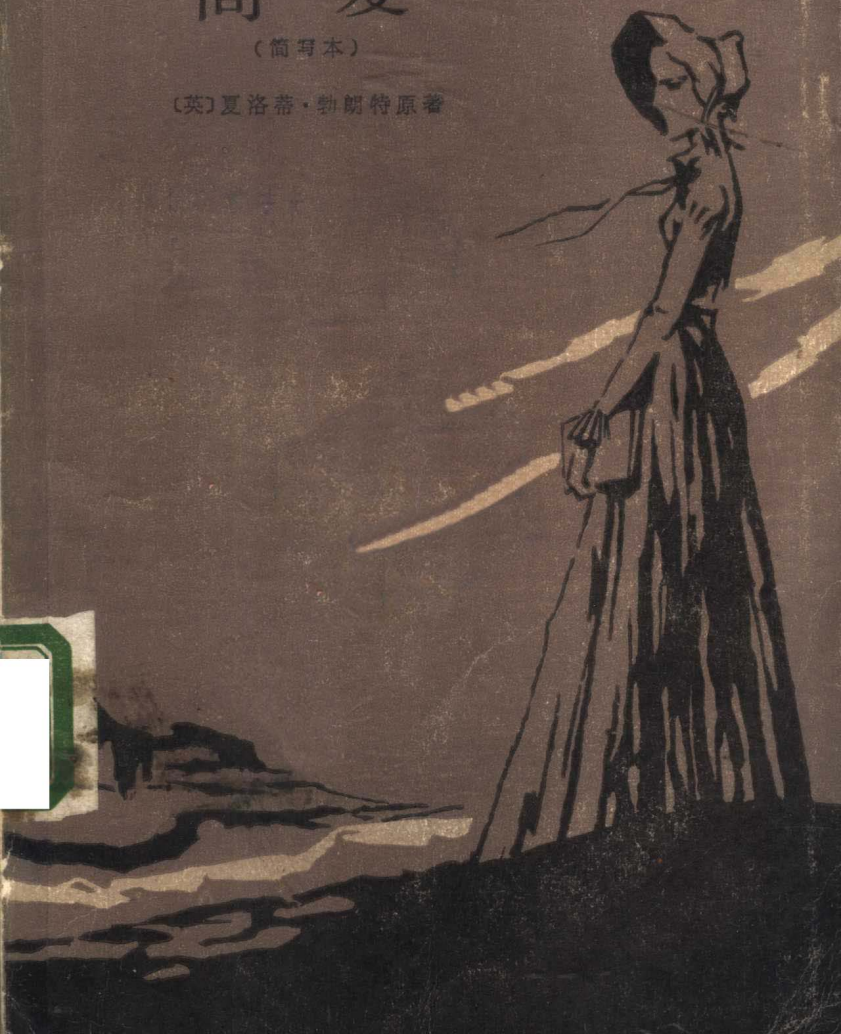
英汉对照世界文学丛书

Jane Eyre

简·爱

(简写本)

[英]夏洛蒂·勃朗特原著



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第二辑

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[英]夏洛蒂·勃朗特 原著

[英]伊吾琳·艾特伍德 改写

石岩山 译

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作者简介

夏洛蒂·勃朗特(1816—1855)和她的两个妹妹艾米莉·勃朗特(Emily Brontë, 1818—1848)、安妮·勃朗特(Anne Brontë, 1820—1849)是英国文学史上著名的三姊妹作家。

三姐妹生于英国北部约克郡山区一个牧师的家庭，幼年丧母，随父亲读书成长，因家境贫寒，夏洛蒂曾就读于为贫苦儿童设立的寄宿学校。十九岁时，夏洛蒂当了这个学校的教师。以后，为生活所迫，姊妹三人都曾离家外出，当过家庭教师。

姊妹三人自幼对文学、美术、音乐都十分爱好，思想又十分早熟，从少年时代就开始写作。曾于1846年合作出版一本诗集。第二年，夏洛蒂的《简·爱》、艾米莉的《呼啸山庄》(*Wuthering Heights*)和安妮的《艾格尼斯·格雷》(*Agnes Grey*)相继出版，轰动了当时英国文坛。

不幸，次年弟弟勃兰威尔和艾米莉相继病逝，安妮不久也离开人世。夏洛蒂迭遭丧乱，悲痛之余，埋头写作。夏洛蒂三十八岁出嫁，婚后半年，

卧病不起，终年三十九岁。

《简·爱》是夏洛蒂的代表作，是一部自传体小说。夏洛蒂在这部小说中因塑造了一个向往自由、具有叛逆性格的新女性而蜚声文坛。

故事梗概

小说女主人公简·爱，自幼父母双亡，寄居在舅家盖茨海德府门下，备受欺凌和侮辱。十岁时被舅母里德太太送进一个慈善学校——劳渥德孤儿院，在那里接受“惩罚肉体以拯救灵魂”的教育。

简·爱初来乍到就被剪去头发罚站在高凳上。一场传染病，八十名女孩子病倒了四十五个。简·爱的好友海伦·彭斯就在这个孤儿院里被折磨致死。

简·爱在这个贫苦儿童的牢狱里，度过八个寒暑，终于在艰难中成长，在勤奋中学业有成。为了渴望自由，向往广阔的天地，她登报求职，应聘到一个大地主的庄园桑菲尔德府当家庭教师，时年十八。

庄园主罗切斯特，人已中年；由于年轻时不慎受骗，其父为了三万英镑给他娶了一个疯女人为妻，从此变得性情暴戾，喜怒无常。二十年来，为了排遣心中积郁，他愤世嫉俗，浪迹欧陆，寻欢作乐，放荡不羁，然而他坚定不移的愿望是要寻找一个理解他的、善良而聪明的女子。

简·爱以一个地位卑贱的家庭女教师的身份出现在罗切斯特身边。她身材瘦小，又没有姿色，既矜持又羞怯，可是她有思想，有见地，人格高尚，聪明过人，在精神上大大高于那些覬覦罗切斯特夫人地位的贵族小姐，使罗切斯特为之倾倒。罗切斯特不顾社会地位的差别和世俗的障碍决意和简·爱结婚。婚礼进行之际，罗切斯特的妻弟赶到教堂，当众揭发罗切斯特的发妻还活着，以致不克成仪。这时简·爱才知道罗切斯特是个有妇之夫，他的妻子患遗传性疯病，被关在庄园楼顶密室里已有十年之久。

简·爱受此打击，在绝望之中悄然出走。流浪途中昏倒在圣约翰家门口，几乎成为饿殍，被圣约翰一家所救，并在他们帮助下当了村校教师。

圣约翰是个传教士，为了要到印度去传经布道，需要一个能吃苦耐劳的贤内助，遂向简·爱求婚。简·爱不能接受这种没有爱情的追求，而对于能以平等待人，又耿直而多情的罗切斯特一直不能忘怀，便毅然回到桑菲尔德府。

桑菲尔德府已成一片废墟。原来疯女人纵火烧了大厦，自己也在大火中堕楼身亡。罗切斯特在救火时受伤致残，双目失明。简·爱这时已意外地获得远在海外的叔叔的两万镑遗产，而罗切斯特则因火灾破产，潦倒不堪，已是一个孤独的盲人。简·爱仍然跟他结为夫妇。

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JANE EYRE

简 · 爱

(简写本)



Chapter 1

Gateshead

There was no possibility of taking a walk that day. We had, indeed, been wandering in the leafless garden for an hour in the morning, but since dinner, the cold winter wind had brought with it such dark clouds and such heavy rain that further exercise out of doors was impossible.

I was glad of it. I never liked long walks, especially on cold afternoons. Coming home in the twilight was terrible to me — with frozen fingers and toes, and a heart saddened by the scoldings of Bessie, the nurse, and by the consciousness of how weak my thin little body was, compared with those of Eliza, John and Georgiana Reed.

Eliza, John and Georgiana were now gathered round their mama in the drawing room at Gateshead, their home. She lay resting by the fireside, and with her loved ones near her, for

第一章

盖茨海德府

那一天去散步是不可能的了。诚然，早晨我们已经在那草木凋零的花园里逛了一个钟头，但是，午饭时起，冬季的寒风刮来了那样乌黑的云和那样大的雨，再要到户外去活动是不可能的了。

我倒蛮高兴，我一向不喜欢走得老远，尤其是在寒冷的下午。暮色苍茫中回家，在我是很可怕的——冻僵了手指和足趾；还得挨保姆贝茜一顿臭骂，何况还要产生一种感觉，就是自己瘦小的身体同伊丽莎、约翰和乔奇安娜·里德相比显得多么纤弱，这样就弄得我心里怪难受的。

伊丽莎、约翰和乔奇安娜这时候都在盖茨海德他们家的客厅里围着他们的妈妈。她在炉旁躺着休息，心爱的儿女都在膝下，既不吵，又不闹，此时此刻母亲心里乐滋滋的。她把我从这群孩子中支开，

the time neither quarrelling nor crying, she looked perfectly happy. She had dismissed me from the group, saying that she regretted she was forced to keep me at a distance, but that until I tried earnestly to develop a more friendly and attractive nature, she really could not admit me to pleasures intended only for contented, happy little children.

‘But what have I done?’ I asked.

‘Jane, I don’t like questions or objections. Children should not speak to their elders in such a way. Sit down somewhere, and until you can speak pleasantly, remain silent.’

A small breakfast room lay next to the drawing room. I crept in there. It contained bookshelves, and I soon took possession of¹ a book, making sure² that it should be one full of pictures. I climbed on to the window-seat, and gathering up my feet, I sat cross-legged. There, having drawn the red curtains, I felt doubly sheltered.

Every picture told a story, mysterious often to my undeveloped understanding, yet always deeply interesting — as interesting as the stories that Bessie sometimes began on winter evenings, when she happened to be in a good temper, holding our eager attention with memories of love and adventure taken from old songs and stories.

With the book on my knee, I was happy.

1. take possession of 拿到 2. make sure 确信

说是她很抱歉，不得不要我离远一点，直到我诚心诚意地去努力，给自己培养出一种更加随和、逗人喜欢的性情，她真的不能让我分享那些只给心满意足的小孩子的乐趣。

“我做了什么事呢？”我问。

“简，我不喜欢好问和拌嘴。孩子们不该这样和长辈说话。找个地方去坐下，不会说讨人喜欢的话，就别作声。”

客厅隔壁是一个小小的早餐室。我溜进那里去了，那里有几个书架，我很快就拿到一本书，我断定那是本插图很多的书。我爬到窗台上面，缩起双脚，盘腿坐下。把红窗帘一拉拢，我就倍感安全隐蔽了。

每一幅画都叙述一个故事，由于我的蒙昧无知，每个故事我都感到很神秘，也老觉得很有趣——和贝茜有时在冬天晚上碰巧情绪好的时候所讲的故事一样有趣。我们总是全神贯注、迫不及待地听着她回忆从古老的歌谣和史话中选出来的那些有关爱情与冒险的片断。

有这么本书放在膝盖上，我感到乐不可支。别

I feared nothing but interruption, and that came too soon.

The voice of John Reed called me. Then he paused. He found the room empty.

‘Where in the world¹ is she?’ he cried. ‘Lizzy! Georgy!’ he called to his sisters. ‘Jane is not here. Tell Mama she has run out into the rain. Bad animal!’

‘It is lucky that I drew the curtain,’ I thought, and I wished with all my heart that he might not discover my hiding place. Nor would he have found it out for himself, as he was neither sharp-sighted nor intelligent, but Eliza put her head in at the door, and said at once:

‘She is in the window-seat, surely, John.’

I came out immediately, because I trembled at the idea of being dragged out by John.

‘What do you want?’ I asked.

‘Say, “What do you want, Master Reed?”’ was the answer. ‘I want you to come here.’ Seating himself in an armchair, he made a sign to me to approach and stand before him.

John Reed was a schoolboy of fourteen years, four years older than I, large and fat for his age, with an unhealthy skin, coarse features and thick arms and legs. He ought now to have been at school, but his mama had taken him home for a month or two, ‘on account of his delicate

1. in the world [加强语气用]到底

2. on account of 因为, 为了…缘故

的我都不在乎，唯恐别人打扰，而偏有人过早地来打扰我了。

约翰·里德的声音在叫我。接着他的叫声又中止了。他发觉屋里没有人。

“她到底在什么地方？”他嚷嚷道。“丽茜^①！乔奇^②！”他叫唤他的姐妹说，“简不在这儿。告诉妈妈，她跑出去淋雨去了。该死的畜生！”

“我幸亏拉上了窗帘，”我想，我满心希望他别发现我的藏身之地。约翰·里德本人倒是不会发现的，他这个人目光迟钝，又笨头笨脑，可是伊丽莎在门口探头一望，立刻就说：

“她在窗台上哩，准没错，约翰。”

我连忙走出来，因为我一想到要给约翰拖出来就直哆嗦。

“你要做什么？”我问。

“说，‘你要做什么，里德少爷？’”这便是回答。“我要你上这儿来。”他在扶手椅上坐下，招手要我走过去，站在他面前。

约翰·里德是个十四岁的学童，比我大四岁，按年龄个儿显得忒大而肥胖，面色苍白无力，相貌丑陋不堪，粗胳膊粗腿的。他现在应该在学校里，可是他妈妈把他接了回来，要他在家里住一两个月，

① 丽茜——伊丽莎的爱称。

② 乔奇——乔奇安娜的爱称。

health'. His schoolmaster said that his condition was the result of greed, but his mother's heart turned from such a severe opinion, and she preferred to believe that he worked too hard and missed his home.

John was not very fond of his mother and sisters, and he hated me. He treated me badly, and punished me, not two or three times in the week, nor once or twice in the day, but continually. I had no protection from him. The servants did not like to offend their young master, and Mrs Reed never appeared to see him strike me or to hear him insult me, though he did both sometimes in her presence — more frequently, however, behind her back.

Being by long habit obedient to John, I came up to his chair. He spent about three minutes in putting out his tongue at me. I knew that he would soon strike, and while I waited fearfully for the blow, I considered his disgusting and ugly appearance. I wonder whether he read the thought in my face, for suddenly, without speaking, he struck sharply and hard. I almost fell, and on recovering my balance, drew back a step from his chair.

'That is for questioning Mama,' he said, 'and for creeping like a thief behind curtains, and for the look you had in your eyes two minutes ago, you rat !'