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內容提要

“潜流”是当代美国进步作家艾伯特·馬尔茲的一部名著，也是美国进步文学最重要的作品之一。这部小說一方面生动地刻画出美国共产党的形象，另一方面通过法西斯匪徒的活动，揭露了美国法西斯秘密組織的内幕及其与反动統治集团之間的关系。本書摘选其中精彩的几章以英汉对照并加注释的形式出版，汉语譯文是采用作家出版社 1955 年出版黄星圻的譯本。本書除了对美国俚語和俗語加以詳細的注释外，对一些结构比較复杂的句子亦作了語法分析，可供大学英語专业中、高年級学生及相当程度的英語自修者閱讀。

英汉对照文学讀物

潜 流

馬尔茲著 黄星圻譯

中国人民大学外国語教研組注释

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英汉对照文学读物

THE UNDERGROUND STREAM

(*Selected Chapters*)

By Albert Maltz

潜 流

(节 选 本)

馬尔茲 著

黄星圻 譯

中国人民大学外国語教研組注释

商 务 印 书 馆

1960 年 · 北京

关于馬尔茲和他的“潜流”

艾伯特·馬尔茲(1908—)是当代美国杰出的进步作家。他出身于紐約一个貧苦的工人家庭。早年从事戏剧創作活动，于1932—33年，与乔治·斯科拉尔合作，先后写成“旋轉木馬”和“和平降临大地”。前者揭露美国政治的腐朽，后者是反对美帝的战争侵略政策。1935年写成剧本“黑矿”，描述美国矿工反对矿主的斗争。1936年又写成独幕剧“小兵希克斯”，揭露美国厂主利用退伍軍人镇压罢工的罪行。此后，在1938年，他还写过一个揭露汽車大王福特屠杀罢工工人的独幕剧“排戏”。同年，他出版了有名的短篇小说集“世道”，获得了“欧·亨利奖金”。接着他出版了几部长篇小说：“潜流”(1940)，“十字奖章与箭火”(1944)，“賽蒙·馬其維尔遊記”(1949)；除“潜流”外，后面两部都不太成功。但是他在1952年写成的独幕剧“莫里生案件”却是“美国进步文学的一个新的胜利”(叶利斯特拉托娃)。剧本描写美国海軍造船厂工人莫里生受到美国反动政府的忠誠审訊委员会的迫害的事，不仅揭露美国統治阶级的反动与法西斯化的程度，更写出了美国人民的觉醒。正由于这一剧本的政治的尖锐性，它虽然在世界各地受到广大人民的欢迎，在美国却一直被禁止出版。

馬尔茲除写剧本与长短篇小说外，还写电影脚本和論文。同时他更积极地参加进步政治活动，因而受到美国反动政府的不断迫害。1947年，他曾受到过非美活动調查委员会的传訊。他是好萊塢开始“清洗”进步的电影艺术工作者时，首批被“清洗”的有名的“好萊塢十君子”之一。1950年，他曾被美国反动

政府以“对国会不敬”的罪名判处一年監禁。1951年出獄后，他被迫流亡到墨西哥去。

“潜流”是馬尔茲的一部杰作，也是美国进步文学中最重要的作品之一。小說描写三十年代中，美国工人在共产党的领导下，在美国汽車制造业中心第特律城的杰佛逊汽車公司中，为建立进步工会而对美国法西斯匪徒所作的英勇斗争。小說主人公普林塞是一个美国共产党员和工会工作者，在一次开完党的会议出来，由于思想上的麻痹和叛徒的出卖，遭到了工厂特务的綁架，被关到郊外的一所房子里。他的妻子柏曦和党的組織与同志們多方設法营救，均归无效。綁架他的法西斯匪徒、杰佛逊汽車公司招工部主任格雷勃对他施行拷打和利誘，并用死来威胁。但是正直而英勇的普林塞，却始終堅貞不屈，为了共产主义的理想，終于牺牲在法西斯匪帮的手里。这部小說一方面生动地刻画出美国共产党员的形象（普林塞、黑人员員班恩·席尔維史密斯、威尔·卡尔迈克尔、党組織的負責人保尔·忒納尔等），一方面通过两个法西斯匪徒（格雷勃和第特律黑色軍团头目凱洛格）的活动，揭露出美国法西斯秘密組織的內幕及其与反动統治集团之間的关系。正如苏联美国文学研究家孟德尔森所說的：“‘潜流’这部小說的最好的几章都具有高度的思想性，情节的戏剧性，細致的心理分析。”

全書共分三部二十二章，譯文約二十七万字，这里选的是第一部第四章、第二部第六章第四节、第三部第三章、第六章第二节和第八章，譯文共約八万字，占全書三分之一弱。

PART ONE

IV

1

Sunday . . . 6:35 p. m.

Princey lingered for a moment on the front porch of his house, gazing vacuously down the street. He was not quite able to muster¹ the effort of will that would send him toward the auto² waiting around the corner. His thoughts were still with Betsy; his mood, his physical tone,³ so relaxed that he felt acutely loath to face an evening of Party work.⁴

A sharp wind sliced at his face, burning the skin; he shivered and groped automatically for his coat collar. With a sense of self-pity he thought how luxurious it would be to remain at home for this one night. He could dawdle around⁵ in a warm place — they would go to bed together and lie quietly, and not even feel obliged to talk. It was this that he missed these days, the sense of freedom from all problems.... But why was he never free from this conflict? he wondered. He would be miserable if he left the Movement,⁶ he knew that. Believing in the vision of socialism as he did, he could not leave and retain pride in himself. On the one hand he accepted the responsibilities attached to his political affiliation, understood them, took pride in them; on the other hand there were

1. to muster 振起, 鼓起. 2. auto (汽車) 与 automobile 同. 美国俗称 automobile 为 auto. 3. tone 一般作“音調”、“語氣”解釋. 此处应解釋为

第一部

(在小說的前面几章里，作者分別描述了格雷勃和凱洛格的法西斯秘密活动以及普林塞夫妇的情况。现在是普林塞吻別了妻子柏曦走出大門来。)

第四章

1

星期日……下午六点三十五分

普林塞在門廊上留連了片刻，茫然地凝視着街道的那一头。他不大提得起劲来，便自己朝那輛等在街角附近的汽車走去。他仍然在想着柏曦；他的心情，他的体态，都是那样懈怠，他覺得很不願意去做一夜党的工作。

一股凜冽的寒风像刀子似地割着他的脸，刮得他皮肤发痛；他哆嗦了一下，不自觉地伸手去摸摸上衣的領子。他怀着一种自怜的心情，想着今天晚上要是能留在家里，該是多么惬意。他可以在一个温暖的地方消磨时间——他和柏曦可以一同上床，靜靜地躺着，甚至連話都不必談。近来，他所缺少的正是这种东西，这种摆脱了一切問題的逍遙自在的⁴感觉……可是他为什么永远不能摆脱这种矛盾呢？——他⁵感觉奇怪。要是他脱离了革命运动，他会很难过的，他知道这一点，⁶像他这样深深地向往着社会主义远景的人，要是脱离了革命，决不能再保全自己的自尊心。他一方面承担了他的政治組織所給予他的种种責任，也了解这些責任，并且以有这些責任为荣；可是另一方

“情况”、“状态”。 4. face 作動詞用，在此解釋为“承受”、“担当”。 Party 是指美国共产党。 5. dawdle around 閒着。 6. the Movement 指“革命运动”。

times when he drew back sharply in the longing for an easier personal existence. Why couldn't he get over this?

Like most workers, Princey had joined the Communist Party as, earlier, he had sought membership in a trade union. The act¹ was the same in its immediacy, although more profound in its implications. Intellectuals ally themselves to the revolutionary movements of their time out of a vision of a new society, or from indignation at injustice, or from an embittered idealism. But daily events, his work and life — and among those events, a tire chain wielded by a policeman — had made Princey a Communist. Later, the acceptance of certain principles, of the political program for which the Communist movement stood, had kept him in the Party. But it was still his daily life, and the life he saw about him, which cemented² him to it. If not for this he would, like most other workers, have been content to leave idealism to those who had the leisure for it. It was not of his choosing that he lived in an age of social change when history plucks the business of vision out of the hands of philosophers, away from thinkers and priests, and gives it over to the humble and anonymous,³ to whom it is not a profession or an avocation, a matter of sympathy or one of dalliance, but a stern struggle for survival. Because of this he had ceased to be foot-loose, he had volunteered deliberately for a kind of activity that sometimes made demands on him even on a Sunday night like this. Yet tonight, as on occasions⁴ before, he wished he could forget everything and sleep for a week — curl up like an un-

1. act 一般作“行为”、“动作”解，此处应解释为“动机”、“原因”。

2. cement 一般作“粘合”解释，此处应解释为“使...与...紧密地结合”。 3. the

面，他有时却因为渴望能过一种较为安适的个人生活而想一下子缩手不干。他为什么不能克服这种矛盾呢？

像大多数工人一样，普林塞很自然地就加入了共产党，就像他先前很自然地要参加工会一样。入党和加入工会的直接原因是相同的，虽然入党的意义比较深远。知识分子投身当代的革命运动，不是由于对新社会有所憧憬，就是由于对不公道行为感觉愤慨，要不就是由于自己怀着理想，饱经挫折，理想无法实现。可是，使普林塞加入共产党的，却是他的日常遭遇，他的工作和生活——其中有一样，就是曾经给一个警察用車胎上的防滑鍊毒打过。后来，因为拥护了一些原则，因为拥护了共产主义运动所坚持的政治纲领，他才一直留在党里。可是使他和党紧密结合在一起的，仍然是他的日常生活和他所见到的周围的人的生活。要不是这样的话，他就会像大多数别的工人那样，宁愿把追求理想的工作留给那些有闲的人去做了。他之生活在一个社会变革的时代，并不是他自己立意选择的。在这个时代，历史把追求理想的工作从哲学家的手里拿过来，从思想家和教士的手里拿过来，交给了那些出身微贱和默默无闻的人。对于这些人来说，追求理想的工作并不是什么职业或副业，并不是什么同情不同情、好玩不好玩的问题，而是一种冷酷的求生存的斗争。因为这个缘故，他才不再自由散漫，并且自愿从事一种有时连像这样的星期天晚上也不能停止的活动。可是，今天晚上，正如过去好几次的情形一样，他真希望能够忘掉一切，睡它一个星期——像一只无知的猫儿一样，在爐火前面蜷

humble and anonymous 出身微贱和默默无闻的人。形容詞前加冠詞 the，作名詞用。 4. on occasions “随时”或“有时”，与 now and then 意义相同。

knowing cat in front of a fire, lap some milk, drowse, lap some more milk, drowse again... Oh, marvelous!

Anyway, he thought now, working on the night shift was rotten! To anyone who was on it the week end loomed up like an ambrosial drink, but when you got it down, it turned sour.¹ The average worker broke the week's routine and went to sleep Sunday night² like any human being. You wanted one little spell with your family on a normal basis, one day in which you didn't feel out of step with the rest of the world. As a result you couldn't sleep Monday. But like Judgment doom, the Monday-night shift rolled around as always, and you struggled through it like a dead dog. The whole plant was full of mopey workers every Monday night, like a collection of hopped-up sleep-walkers. ...³

"Hey."

"Hey, yourself!"

Jesse Vandermill stood on the sidewalk in front of Princey — stuttering, heavy-tongued, trying to manufacture an affectionate jest. "Paul thought you must have gone back to sleep again," he said. "I walk all the way back from the auto and here you are, standing on the front porch counting daisies."⁴

"Where's daisies? Show me a single daisy!"

Vandermill chortled and waved a huge, red-knuckled hand. "Aw, you know what I mean," he said sheepishly.

Princey jumped off the porch and slapped him hard on the great stone slab of his back. "Hello Vandermill, or is it Vanderpill or Vanderswill?"

1. but ... it down, it... sour: it 在此指美酒. 这句意指: 对普林塞等这些做夜班的工人来说, 週末这段时光不能给人以快乐, 却变成一种痛苦了. 2. to sleep Sunday night 与 sleep on Sunday night 意义相同. 在日期前, on 在口

着，舐些牛奶，打打瞌睡，再舐些牛奶，再打打瞌睡……噢，多美啊！

不管怎样，他现在觉得，干夜班工作实在是乏味！对于任何夜班工人说来，週末这一段时间本来像香喷喷的美酒似的悠然摆在前面，可是喝下肚去，却又是酸溜溜的。一般的夜班工人在星期天晚上都打破了一星期的生活习惯，跟平常人一样，好好地睡一觉。你总想按照常例跟你的家人一同玩玩啊，你总想有那么一天使自己不再觉得与世上其余的人脱节啊。这样一来，星期一的白天你便不能再睡了。可是星期一的夜班却像“末日审判”似的到来了，于是你便只有像死狗一样挣扎着熬过这一晚。每逢星期一的夜里，全工厂都是精神恍惚的工人，就像一群昏昏沉沉的鸦片烟鬼一样……

“嘿。”

“嘿，你一个人吗！”

杰西·范德米尔站在人行道上，面对着普林塞，结结巴巴地笨嘴笨舌地想说些什么亲热的俏皮话。“保尔还以为你一定又睡着了呢，”他说。“我从汽车跟前一路走回来，而你却站在门廊上泡蘑菇。”

“哪儿有蘑菇？指一朵蘑菇给我看看！”

范德米尔格格地大笑起来，把一只关节发红的大手一挥。“得啦，你知道我的意思呀，”他尴尬地说。

普林塞从门廊上跳下来，在范德米尔的石板一样的背上重重地拍了一巴掌。“你好，范德米尔，你到底是叫范德皮尔，还是叫范德斯威尔呀？”

語中常常省略。 3. sleepwalker 梦游病者。 形容这群工人就像是一群从床上跳起来昏昏沉沉的梦游病者一样。 4. counting daisies 是常用的比喻：“没事干”的意思。

Jesse chortled. He was a laborer in the heavy forge department at Jefferson,¹ still in his twenties,² six feet two, with the physique of a professional wrestler. Turner had recently assigned him to be a sort of bodyguard to Princey³ because of the work Princey was doing. Such assignments were rare in the Party and Vandermill, as a new member, enjoyed the romance of it.⁴

In Princey's estimation Vandermill was a fool, and he regretted recruiting him. Actually he was wrong; Vandermill was of quite average intelligence. What was really abrasive⁵ was the man's personality. Something in early life had clubbed him into⁶ a state of emotional insecurity. He reflected it by his sheepish manner, in incessant, blundering conversation, in the curious, whining voice which issued so strangely from his massive body. When Princey bullied⁷ him, he acted more stupidly, not less⁸. Tolerance, patience, would have made a great difference, but Princey had never been able to tolerate torpidity of any sort. Since Turner's orders threw them together at all times outside of the shop,⁹ friction had begun to develop in the two months of their close association. The fault was basically Princey's; he didn't like the man and, immaturely, he refused to make allowances¹⁰ — as he would have made allowances if Jesse had merely been a union member. Vandermill, in his own curious, melting way,¹¹ fought Princey, struggling for his dignity, for the right to be considered a worthwhile comrade. It was precisely a feeling of self-respect, of his usefulness, that the Party

1. Jefferson: 即 Jefferson Motors (杰佛逊汽车厂). 2. twenties 二十来岁. 此处指二十岁至二十九岁之间的年龄, 须用复数. 3. Turner had ... to Princey 忒纳尔最近派他担任了普林塞的保镖一类的工作. 4. enjoyed the romance of it 欣赏这项任务中的浪漫味儿. 5. abrasive 一般解释为“擦伤...的”. 此处作

杰西又格格地大笑了。他是杰佛逊汽車厂鍛工部的工人，还只二十来岁，身高六呎二吋，体格像个职业摔角家。忒納尔最近因为普林塞工作的需要，派他担任了普林塞的保鑣。这种任务在党内是很稀有的，范德米尔是一个新党员，觉得其中很有点浪漫味儿。

可是在普林塞看来，范德米尔是个傻瓜，他很后悔当初把他吸收入了党。其实，他是看錯了；范德米尔的智力也算中平。真正招人討厭的是他的性格。在他早年的生活中，有某件事情打击了他，使他常常陷入一种情緒不安的状态。他的尷尬的态度，他的喋喋不休的冒失的談話，以及从他的庞大身躯里发出来的那种令人意想不到的古怪的嗯嗯唧唧的声音，都反映出这一点。普林塞挖苦或責备他的时候，他的动作非但不会变得灵活，只会越来越更笨拙。要是容忍他，耐心地对待他，也許会使情况大为改观，可是普林塞对于任何一种感觉迟钝的人，从来是不能容忍的。因为忒納尔有过吩咐，要他們在車間以外的時候总在一起，經過两个月的密切来往，他們俩已經开始有点磨擦了。錯誤主要是在普林塞一面；他不喜欢这个人，他沒有經過思索就对他提出了过早的要求——要是杰西仅仅是个工会会员的話，他說不定倒会体諒他的。范德米尔呢，他用自己的那种稀奇的、軟弱的方式跟普林塞斗争，爭取自己的尊嚴，爭取自己被人認作有出息的同志的权利。这种自尊心，这种觉得

“招人討厭”，“使人不耐煩”解。 6. clubbed him into 因受...的打击而陷入....
7. bullied 一般解釋为“欺負”。此处应解釋为“挖苦”。 8. 即 not less stupidly.
譯成中文时可从正面來說“更笨拙”。 9. shop 車間。 10. to make allowance 体諒。 11. melting 軟弱的。

had given him. He gloried in¹ his Party card. When Princey lost his temper and jibed at² him, it was this that was undermined; and the treachery³ hurt the more because he admired Princey so much.

Now, blowing on⁴ his thick hands, which were burning⁵ from the cold, -- his gloves had been filched in the plant the day before, -- Vandermill scrutinized Princey closely, studying him with fear and adoration, as a mutt studies its master, waiting behind the barricade of a vacant grin to learn his mood.

"How's the Daughter of the American Revolution?"⁶ Princey asked as they walked down the street. Vandermill came from old New England stock and had his family pedigree hanging on the wall of his furnished room. He was frightfully proud of it.

"Oh, fine, fine," he grinned. "And how's the Mis-sus?"⁷ he inquired politely.

Princey nodded without bothering to reply. The silence made Vandermill uncomfortable. "Did you see Foster's⁸ article in today's *Sunday Worker*?"⁹ he asked, beetling his brows together.

"No."

"Oh, that was a powerful article," Vandermill advised importantly. His ruddy, huge-jawed face, spotted white by the cold, was set with great seriousness. "I learned a lot from it. It'll do you good¹⁰ to get hold of it,¹¹ too, Princey."

1. gloried in 以...为荣, 因...而自傲. 2. jibe (同 gibe) 嘲笑, 作动词时与 at 连用. 3. treachery 一般作“不忠”、“背信弃义”解. 此处则指普林塞对他特别不客气而言, 故译作“意外的苛刻行动”. 4. blowing on 呵气. 5. burning 燃烧, 发烧. 此处指杰西的手冻得要命. 6. the Daughter of the American Revolution “美国革命女儿”是美国的一个反动妇女组织的名称. 1891 年成立.

自己有用的感觉，正是党给予他的。他以自己有党证为荣。当普林塞发脾气，嘲弄他的时候，他便觉得他的自尊心受了损伤，感觉自己无用了；同时因为他非常敬佩普林塞，所以这种意外的苛刻行动格外叫他难过。

范德米尔的手套昨天在工厂里叫人偷走了，这会儿，他一面对着他那冻得发痛的大手呵气，一面细细地端详着普林塞。他就像一只狗打量主人一样，怀着恐惧和敬慕的心情打量着普林塞，拿没有内容的微笑当挡箭牌，等着看普林塞的脸色。

“美国革命女儿好吗？”当他们顺着大街走去的时候，普林塞问道。范德米尔的祖先是新英格兰人，他把他的家谱挂在公寓房间的墙上，很以自己是新英格兰人自豪。

“噢，很好，好极了，”他咧嘴笑着说。“你太太好吗？”他很有礼貌地問。

普林塞点点头，懒得回答。这种沉默使范德米尔感觉很不舒服。“你看见了今天‘工人日报’星期日增刊上的福斯特的文章吗？”他问道，一面把眉头紧蹙在一起。

“没有。”

“噢，那可是一篇带劲的文章呢，”范德米尔像煞有介事地说，他的红红的、下巴很宽的脸，冻得红一块白一块的，显出一种异常认真的神气。“我从里面学到了很多東西。能彻底了解这篇文章，对你也会有好处的，普林塞。”

它以繼承美国革命传统为名，反对一切进步活动，进行反苏反共活动。普林塞在此用这一名称呼杰西是挖苦他平日喜欢夸耀自己为新英格兰人的行为。 7. Missus = missis 太太。一般用“Mrs.(姓)”，但在口語中往往省去姓。 8. Foster 即 William Z. Foster (威廉·福斯特)，1881 年生。現任美国共产党名誉主席。 9. Worker = Daily Worker “工人日报”。这是美国共产党的机关报。 10. do someone good 对(某人)有好处。 11. to get hold of it 原意为“抓住”、“掌握”。此处意即“彻底了解”。

"I'm sure."

"There's nothing like reading to learn a man,¹ is there?"

"Nope."²

"Before I joined the Party I never read anything, only the sport page sometimes. But the Party has taught me the value of education. Now I wished I'd gone to high school. When you go to high school, you have a head-start.³ Don't you think so?"

"Yeah."⁴

Jesse glanced uncertainly out of the corner of his eye. Princey looked ahead. This was the sort of Vanderswill chatter that invariably irritated him.

"Yes, knowledge is a weapon, all right," Jesse pronounced, repeating the Party truism⁵ as though it were his own discovery. "Don't you think so?"

"Yeah."

"Without real Marxist knowledge, the danger is you will become oppor-oppo-opportunist."

"Vanderswill, what's your definition of an opportunist?"

"An opportunist? Well..." The curious whine in his voice became more pronounced. "An opportunist is a man who — who betrays the in-ter-ests of the working class."

Princey clapped his hands together. "That's great."

Jesse looked at him uneasily. "I guess I'm developing politically a *little*, ain't I?"⁶

"Hell, they'll be printing your letters⁷ in the *Daily Worker* before you know it."⁸

1. There's nothing like reading to learn a man 没有什么东西像阅读那样有教育作用. learn 在此作 "教育" 解. 2. nope = no. 美国俚语.

“一定会的。”

“没有什么东西像阅读那样有教育作用了，是不是？”

“是的。”

“在入党以前，我从来没有唸过什么东西，有时只看看报上的体育新闻。可是党使我懂得了教育的价值。现在我真希望当初自己唸过高中。唸了高中，就有很大的便利。你不这样想吗？”

“我也这样想。”

杰西犹豫地用眼角瞟了一眼。普林塞眼睛望着前面。正是范德斯威尔的这种无聊的谈话经常使他生气。

“可不是吗，知识是一种武器，一点也不假，”杰西引用党里的一句老生常谈，就像这是他自己的新发现似的。“你以为怎样？”

“不错。”

“没有真正的马克思主义的知识，就有变成机—机—机会主义者的危险。”

“范德斯威尔，你给机会主义者下的定义是什么？”

“机会主义者吗？嗯……”他声音里的那种奇怪的嗯嗯唧唧的调子变得更显著了。“一个机会主义者就是一个——一个出卖工人阶级的利—利益的人。”

普林塞把手一拍。“真了不起。”

杰西不自在地望着他。“我想我在政治上是长进了一点儿，对不对？”

“哼，他们很快就会把你的文章登在‘工人日报’上啦。”

3. head-start 占先，占便宜。 4. yeah=yes. 美国俚语。 5. the Party truism 指“党内常说的一套话”。 6. ain't I = am I not. 土音。 7. letters 此处不是指“信”，而是指“文章”。 8. before you know it 很快。