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Charles Dickens

Great Expectations

远大前程

(简写本)

商务印书馆

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〔英〕Charles Dickens 原著

北京外国语学院英语系三年级教学小组选注

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本书简介

查尔士·狄更斯 (Charles Dickens, 1812--1870) 是 19 世纪英国伟大的批判现实主义作家。他幼年时备历艰苦，对下层人民的生活多所体会。因此，在他一生所写的二十多本小说中，表现了憎恶金钱统治、同情下层人民的进步倾向。他的作品如《双城记》、《大卫·科波菲尔》、《奥立弗·屈斯特》等，也久为我国读者所喜爱。《远大前程》写于 1861 年，是狄更斯后期的主要作品。这本书结构严谨，技巧圆熟，超过其他著作。特别是前面几章关于 Pip 幼年时期的描写，百年来尤其受到读者的推崇。通过 Pip 的所谓“远大前程”，作者写出一个乡村青年怎样在资本主义社会的影响下，从纯朴变成浮夸，从节俭流于糜费，饱食终日，无所事事，只知道追求纨绔子弟的生活与不健康的恋爱，甚至摈弃了把他从小抚养到大、真心待他的姐夫。Pip 的“前程”越显得远大，他的道德品质也越低落。而随着这“前程”的破灭，他才良心发现，回头看到自己的可鄙。狄更斯在这里歌颂了劳动与劳动人民的品质，他鄙夷资产阶级的绅士淑女，并从内心深处揭露了他们的丑恶。他也写出了资本主义社会的贪婪、欺诈与凶杀；这里少女被牺牲为复仇的工具，孤儿只能走上犯罪的道路。总之，作者使我们看到，整个英国社会，正如 Havisham 小姐住的那所房子一样暗无天日。

但是，狄更斯並沒有看見在这一切背后的社会原因，也沒有触及造成这一切的剝削制度。书中人物的遭际，他們的善恶与爱憎，都被描写成是偶合，是私人恩怨的結果，是个人性格与感情的抒发，而沒有同他們所处的阶级地位与社会环境联系起来。作者囿于自己小资产阶级的眼光，跳不出“良心”，“报恩”，“友情”的圈子，他笔下的人物从沒有打生活的小天地里探出头来，看一看进行着激烈的阶级斗争的英国社会。因此，我們在这本书里看不到对吃人的旧制度的反抗，看不到群众的斗争，听不見他們的呼喊，相反，作者宣揚了“乐天安命”的思想，認為只要像 Joe 一样“善良”，就能得到幸福。而他为 Provis 安排的改邪归正的道路，替 Pip 安排的自食其力的道路，也都不免是到当时成为英帝国的殖民地的澳洲或异国去，直接間接地为帝国主义的掠夺事业效劳。这一些，都說明了狄更斯的局限性。

这个簡写本保存了很多原句，它可以帮助讀者进而閱讀原著，并窺見狄更斯原作的风格。

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CHAPTER ONE

I AM TOLD TO STEAL

My father's family name being Pirrip, and my Christian name¹ Philip, my infant tongue could make of both names nothing longer than Pip.² So, I called myself Pip, and came to be called Pip. Having lost both my parents in my infancy, I was brought up by my sister, Mrs. Joe Gargery, who married the blacksmith.

Ours was the marsh country,³ down by the river, within twenty miles of the sea. My earliest memory is of a cold, damp afternoon towards evening.⁴ At such a time I found out for certain⁵ that this windy place overgrown with coarse grass was the churchyard; and that my father, mother and five little brothers were dead and buried there; and that the dark flat wilderness beyond the churchyard

1. Christian ['kristʃən] name — 教名, 嬰兒在受洗時取的名字.

2. my infant tongue ... Pip — 對這兩個名字, 我幼小時頂多只能說成 Pip. (Pirrip ['pirip], Philip ['filip])

3. Ours was the marsh country — 我們家鄉是一片沼澤地.

4. My earliest memory is ... towards evening. — 我能記得起來的最遠的事情, 是在一個寒冷潮濕的下午, 在接近黃昏的時候.

5. At such a time I found out for certain — 在這樣的時候, 我很清楚地知道....

was the marshes; and that the low leaden line further down was the river;¹ and that the distant place from which the wind was rushing was the sea, and that the small boy growing afraid of it all and beginning to cry was Pip.²

"Hold your noise,"³ cried a terrible voice, as a man started up from among the graves. "Keep still, you little devil, or I'll cut your throat."

A fearful man, all in coarse grey, with a great iron on his leg.⁴ A man with no hat, and with broken shoes, and with an old rag tied round his head. He limped and shivered, and his teeth chattered in his head as he seized me by the chin.

"Oh! Don't cut my throat, sir," I begged him in terror. "Pray, don't do it, sir."

"Tell us⁵ your name," said the man. "Quick."

"Pip, sir."

"Once more," said the man, staring at me. "Speak out."

1. the low leaden line further down was the river -- 再往远处, 那一条低低的、铅灰色的线就是大河.

2. the small boy growing afraid of it all and beginning to cry was Pip -- 对这一切越来越害怕, 而且哇地一声哭了起来的孩子就是我 Pip.

3. Hold your noise -- 不许出声.

4. all in coarse grey, with a great iron on his leg -- 穿一身灰色的粗布衣服, 戴着很重的脚镣. iron 脚镣.

5. us -- (俚) 应作 me.

“Pip. Pip, sir.”

“Show us where you live,” said the man.
“Point out the place.”

I pointed to where our village lay, a mile or more from the church.

The man, after looking at me for a moment, turned me upside down, and emptied my pockets. There was nothing in them but a piece of bread, which he took and began to eat greedily.

“You young dog!” said the man, licking his lips. “What fat cheeks you ha’ got!”¹

I believe they were fat, though I was at that time undersized for my years,² and not strong.

He asked me where my father and mother were. When I had pointed out their tombstones to him, he asked me with whom I lived. I told him I lived with my sister, wife of Joe Gargery, the blacksmith.

On hearing the word “blacksmith” he looked down at his leg and then at me. He took me by both arms and ordered me to bring him, early the next morning at the old Battery,³ a file and some food, or he would have my heart

1. What fat cheeks you ha’ got! — 你脸蛋上的肉真肥! ha’ = have.

2. undersized for my years — 按年齡說，个子长得不够大。

3 the old Battery [‘bætəri] — 旧炮台。

and liver out.¹ I was not to say a word about it all. "I ain't² alone," he said, "as you may think I am. There's a young man hid with me, in comparison with whom I am an angel.³ That young man hears the words I speak. That young man has a secret way, peculiar to himself, of getting at a boy,⁴ and at his heart, and at his liver. It is in vain for a boy to attempt to hide himself from that young man."

I promised to bring him the file, and what broken bits of food I could, and wished him good-night. He limped towards the low church wall, got over it, and then turned round to look for me. When I saw him turning, I set my face towards home, and made the best use of my legs.⁵

CHAPTER TWO

I ROB MRS. JOE

My sister, Mrs. Joe Gargery, was more than twenty years older than I, tall, bony and

1. or he would have my heart and liver out — 要不然他就要把我的心肝挖出来。

2. I ain't (俚) = I am not.

3. in comparison with whom I am an angel — 和他比起来, 我可以算是个天使。

4. has a secret way, peculiar to himself, of getting at a boy — 他有他特别的、秘密的办法, 专门会捉小男孩儿。get at = get hold of, 抓住。

5. made the best use of my legs — 撒开腿拼命地跑。

plain-looking, and had established a great reputation with herself and the neighbours because she had brought me up "by hand."¹ Having at that time to find out for myself what the expression meant,² and knowing her to have a hard and heavy hand, and to be much in the habit of laying it upon her husband, as well as upon me,³ I supposed that Joe Gargery and I were both brought up by hand.

Joe was a fair man, with light brown hair and blue eyes. He was a mild, good-natured, foolish, dear fellow.

When I ran home from the churchyard, Joe's forge, which adjoined our house, was shut up, and Joe was sitting alone in the kitchen.

Joe and I being fellow-sufferers,⁴ he told me that my sister had been out a dozen times, looking for me, and that she had got Tickler (a stick) with her. Presently he saw her com-

1. established a great reputation ... "by hand" — 由于她“一手”把我带大，她因此很有名气，在街坊上也很出名。brought up by hand, 有双关意思，原指沒有奶吃，用奶瓶喂大，这里也指从小挨了不少打。

2. Having at that time ... what the expression meant — 那时候沒有人告訴我“一手”这詞儿是什么意思，我只好自己去猜。

3. in the habit of laying it upon her husband, as well as upon me — 常常动手打她的丈夫，也常常打我。

4. fellow-sufferers — 同是吃苦头的人；难友。

ing, and advised me to get behind the door, which advice I took at once.

My sister, throwing the door wide open, and finding an obstruction behind it,¹ immediately guessed the cause, and applied the stick to me. She concluded by throwing me at Joe, who, glad to get hold of me on any terms,² passed me on into the chimney corner and quickly fenced me up there with his great leg.³

"Where have you been, you young monkey?" said Mrs. Joe, stamping her foot. "Tell me directly what you've been doing to wear me away with fright and worry, or I'd have you out of that corner if you were fifty Pips, and he was five hundred Gargerys."⁴

"I have only been to the churchyard," said I, crying and rubbing myself.

"Churchyard!" repeated my sister. "If it wasn't for me you'd have been to the church-

1. finding an obstruction behind it — 发现門后面有东西堵着。

2. concluded by ... on any terms — 打完之后把我向 Joe 推过去。Joe 巴不得把我抓到手 (不管怎么抓住, 他都是高兴的)。

3. fenced me up there with his great leg — 用他长大的腿把我围在烟囱边角落里。

4. Tell me directly ... and he was five hundred Gargerys — 你刚才在干什么? 害我担惊害怕受折磨。馬上給我讲出来, 要不然的话, 不管有五十个 Pip, 五百个 Gargery, 我也得把你从那个角落里拖出来。

yard long ago, and stayed there.”¹

She applied herself to set the tea-things; she buttered a loaf, cut a very thick slice off, which she again cut into two halves, of which Joe got one, and I the other.

Though I was hungry, I dared not eat my slice, for I must have something in reserve for my dreadful acquaintance, and his ally, the still more dreadful young man. I took advantage of a moment² when Joe was not looking at me, and got my bread and butter down the leg of my trousers.³

Joe was shocked to see my slice disappear so suddenly, and thought that I had swallowed it all in one mouthful. My sister also believed this to be the case,⁴ and insisted on giving me a generous dose of a hateful medicine called “Tar Water”⁵ which she poured down my throat.

The guilty knowledge that I was going to rob Mrs. Joe, united to the necessity of always keeping one hand on my bread-and-butter as I sat or walked, almost drove me

1. If it wasn't for me ... and stayed there — 要不是有我的話，你早就到教堂墳地里去待着啦。

2. I took advantage of a moment — 我乘...的机会。

3. down the leg of my trousers — 往下塞在我的褲腳管里。

4. My sister also believed this to be the case — 我姐姐也認為我把面包一口吞到肚子里去了。

5. “Tar Water” — 一種黑色難吃的葯水。

out of my mind.¹ Happily I managed to slip away, and deposited it in my bedroom.

On hearing big guns fired, I enquired from Joe what it meant, and Joe said, "There's another convict off. There was a convict off last night, escaped from the Hulks,² and they fired warning of him.³ And now it appears they are firing warning of another."

I kept asking so many questions about convicts and hulks that my sister grew impatient with me, and told me that people were put in hulks because they murdered, and robbed and forged, and that they always began by asking questions.⁴

As I went upstairs to my bedroom in the dark I kept thinking of her words with terror in my heart. I was clearly on my way to the hulks, for I had begun by asking questions, and I was going to rob Mrs. Joe.

I had a troubled night full of fearful dreams and as soon as the day dawned, I stole to the pantry, which was abundantly

1. The guilty knowledge ... almost drove me out of my mind — 我心里知道自己就要去干坏事，去偷 Joe 太太的东西，同时我无论坐着或是走路，都得把一只手按着那块涂了牛油的面包，这弄得我简直要发疯了。

2. Hulk — 囚船。

3. fired warning of him — 鳴槍示警（警惕当地居民有囚犯逃走）。

4. they always began by asking questions — 他們后来犯罪都是因为从前爱問問題。

supplied with provisions, for it was Christmas.¹ I stole some bread, a hard piece of cheese, about half a jar of mince meat, some brandy from a stone bottle (diluting the stone bottle from a jug in the kitchen cupboard),² a bone with very little meat on it, and a beautiful round pork pie, which I thought was not intended for early use, and would not be missed for some time.

Having also taken a file from among Joe's tools in the forge, I ran for the misty marshes.

CHAPTER THREE

THE TWO MEN ON THE MARSHES

It was a frosty morning, and very damp. On the marshes the mist was so heavy that everything seemed to run at me.³

I was getting on towards the river, but however fast I went, I couldn't warm my feet. I knew my way to the Battery, but in the

1. which was abundantly supplied with provisions, for it was Christmas — 因为是圣诞节，食品間里吃的喝的东西很多。

2. diluting the stone bottle from a jug in the kitchen cupboard — 把灶間食櫥里一个水罐里的水倒了些掺在石头酒瓶里。

3. the mist was so heavy that everything seemed to run at me — 雾很浓，雾里看見的一切东西都仿佛在我冲过来。

confusion of the mist, I found myself at last too far to the right, and consequently had to turn back along the riverside. I had just crossed a ditch when I saw the man sitting before me. His back was towards me, and he had his arms folded, and was nodding forward, heavy with sleep.¹

I thought he would be more glad if I came upon him with his breakfast, in that unexpected manner, so I went forward softly and touched him on the shoulder. He instantly jumped up, and it was not the same man, but another man.

And yet this man was dressed in coarse grey, too, and had a great iron on his leg, and was lame, and shivering, and was everything that the other was, except that he had not the same face. He swore an oath at me, made a hit which missed me,² and then he ran into the mist.

"It's the young man!" I thought, feeling my heart jump as I identified him.³ I should have felt a pain in my liver, too, if I had

1. nodding forward, heavy with sleep — 人向前一晃一晃地大打瞌睡。

2. swore an oath at me, made a hit which missed me — 罵了我一句，打我一下沒有打着。

3. feeling my heart jump as I identified him — 我看出他是誰之后，覺得自己的心狂跳起來。