



Vol. 109



Hillbilly Women

山沟里的妇女

(英汉对照)



商务印书馆



SIMPLE ENGLISH READERS

Vol. 109

Hillbilly Women

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The Commercial Press

Beijing, 1981

内 容 简 介

本书作者凯西·卡恩(Kathy Kahn)出身于美国白人工人家庭。她十七岁开始做工,先后当过售货员、服务员和做过其他工作。她每天经常工作十二至十四小时,工资低微。她参加组织工会,为争取改善工人的生活和工作条件进行了斗争。

本书根据她的同名著作《山沟里的妇女》节选改写而成。其中包括《人家说成亲太早的小姑娘活不长》、《我不怕》和《只有工人才帮助工人》等八个章节。每个章节都是一个独立的生活斗争故事。作者通过本人和几个在工人运动中结识的妇女的自述,生动地刻画了二十年代至六十年代美国阿巴拉契亚山脉一带广大矿工、纺织工人以及他们的家属被迫被剥削的痛苦遭遇,描写了他们的反抗斗争和这一地区妇女在斗争中的作用。本书内容生动,文字浅显,描写日常生活的口语比较多,适合大学英语专业一、二年级学生或同等程度的读者阅读。

简易英语注释读物

山 沟 里 的 妇 女

(英汉对照)

凯西·卡恩

徐式谷译 陆培敏注释

商 务 印 书 馆 出 版

(北京王府井大街36号)

新华书店北京发行所发行

北京第二新华印刷厂印刷

统一书号: 9017·1153

1981年11月第1版

开本 787×1092 1/32

1981年11月北京第1次印刷

字数 115 千

印数 10,400 册

印张 4 3/4

定价: 0.52 元

QZ 60/02



统一书号: 9017·1153
定 价: 0.52 元

商务印书馆出版

简易英语注释读物

编号	书 名	著 者	注 释 者
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102	死胡同学校		嵇才
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Introduction

by Kathy Kahn

This book tells what it means to be a woman¹ when you are poor, when you are proud,² and when you are a hillbilly. The women in this book come from all over the Southern mountains. Some of them were born and brought up³ in coal camps⁴ (the small coal-mining towns in the USA are called coal camps); others have lived all their lives⁵ in cotton mill and factory towns or on farms. All of them were brought up in poverty in a rich and prosperous land. They are all daughters of coal miners, factory workers or farmers.

The women in this book have many things in common.⁶ Their families all go back to⁷ the British people who first settled in this Southern mountain land more than a hundred and fifty years ago. These first settlers came to America from England, Scotland and Ireland to escape persecution by the reactionary British government. They were proud and independent. They became small farmers and passed down to their children their traditions of hard work and struggle and their love for family and music. The hillbillies of today are proud of their family histories and traditions. But while they are proud, they are also angry with a country that makes their life one of hardship

1. **what it means to be a woman:** what 以下是宾语从句,从句中的它是先行代词,实际主语是 to be a woman. 2. **proud:** 有自尊心的(此处不作“骄傲”解)。 3. **be brought up:** 长大。 4. **a coal camp:** (美国)矿主在煤矿附

前 言

凯西·卡恩

这本书讲的是:当你是一个妇女,同时又是一个贫穷而有自尊心的“山沟佬”的时候,那是一种什么样的生活处境。这本书里讲到的妇女,来自南部山区的四面八方。她们当中有些人是在煤矿村里长大的(在美国,煤矿的小村镇都叫做“煤矿村”),有些人一辈子都住在棉纺厂附近的小村镇上,或者是在农场上度过一生。她们生活在富饶、昌盛的国土上,但全都是在贫困中长大成人。她们都是煤矿工人、工厂工人或者农民的女儿。

出现在本书里的妇女有许多共同点。她们的家族全可以追溯到一百五十多年以前第一批在这片南方山地落户的英国人,这些最早的移民为了逃避英国反动政府的迫害,从英格兰、苏格兰和爱尔兰来到美国。他们活得有骨气,不愿意依靠别人。他们成了小农户,给他们的子孙留下了吃苦耐劳、敢于斗争、热爱家庭和喜欢音乐的传统。今天的“山沟佬”为自己家庭的历史和传统感到自豪。不过,尽管他们感到自豪,他们

近为矿工及其家属盖起来的木棚村庄。 5. live one's life: 度过一生。此处的宾语是与其相应的动词的名词,即同源宾语。 6. have many things in common: 有许多共同点。 7. go back to: 追溯到。

and misery.¹

How mountain people came to be called² “hillbillies” is not very clear. Some people think it is because Bill is a very common British name, and many of the old songs that the people sing are about boys and men called Bill. So the people living near the mountains began calling all boys from the mountains Bill or Billy. And because they lived in the mountains they came to be called Hill-billies. Soon everyone who lived in the Southern mountains began to be called hillbillies. The mountain people themselves used the name and were proud of it; but outsiders looked down on³ the mountain people and they used the name as a bad name.

Life in the mountains was always hard. The soil was poor and stony and there were often droughts and floods. Travel was difficult in the mountains, too, and most people there lived on their small farms all their lives and didn't know much about the rest of the country. And the rest of the country knew very little about the mountain people. They were “forgotten” people.⁴

But around 1900 the greedy northern capitalists discovered the riches of this mountain region. First they discovered the forests and began cutting down the trees to sell and make huge profits. Then they discovered coal in the hills, and finally the northern factory owners began to exploit the people themselves. They found that here was a big resource of cheap labour.⁵

1. a country that makes their life one of hardship and misery: 一个使他们的生活变得艰难困苦的国家。one 在这里是代词，指 a life. one of hardship and misery 是宾语 life 的补语。 2. How mountain people came

对于一个使他们的生活变得艰难困苦的国家也感到愤怒。

山里人怎么会被叫做“山沟佬”(山沟比尔或山沟比利), 这点不太清楚。有人认为, 这是因为比尔是一个很普通的英国名字, 人们唱的许多古老的歌曲里都提到叫做比尔这个名字的男孩子和男人。所以, 住在山区附近的人开始把山里来的男孩子都叫做比尔或者比利。又因为他们是住在山里的, 所以他们就被叫做山沟佬(山沟比尔或山沟比利)。不久, 所有住在南部山区里的人都开始被叫做“山沟佬”了。山里人自己也使用这个名称并为它感到自豪, 可是山外面的人瞧不起山里人, 他们用这个名称是带有贬意的。

山里的生活总是艰苦的。土壤贫瘠、多石, 而且时常闹水灾和旱灾。山里的交通也不方便, 大多数人一辈子都生活在自己的小农庄上, 对山外面的情况知道得很少, 而山外面对山里人的情况也很不了解。他们是“被遗忘了”的人。

但是到 1900 年前后, 贪婪的北方资本家发现了这片山区的宝藏。首先, 他们发现了森林, 于是他们开始砍伐树木卖出去赚大钱。接着, 他们发现了山里的煤矿。最后, 北方的工厂老板开始剥削山里人本身。他们发现这里是一个廉价劳动力的巨大来源。

to be called ...: 山里人怎么会被叫做...。came to be called 用来表示原来他们不叫..., 后来才被叫做...。 3. look down on (upon): 瞧不起; 轻视。 4. "forgotten" people: “被遗忘了”的人。 5. cheap labour: 廉价劳动力。

Capitalists sent agents there to buy from the farmers the right to cut down the trees and mine any coal found on the farmers' land.¹ They paid as little as fifty cents an acre² (an acre is about 6 *mu*) for the land. Then they moved in, dug deep mines and hired mountain men off the farms to mine their coal and cut down their trees.

Hoping for a better life, people left their poor farms and moved to the coal camps. The coal companies (the capitalist organizations that owned the coal) paid low wages and built very poor houses for the coal miners and their families. And they made the miners pay very high rents for these houses. It was not long before³ the miners found that instead of a better life they had got nothing but⁴ hard work and poverty. They also found they had lost their freedom. The company bosses controlled their whole lives. Accidents happened daily in the mines. The coal camps brought poverty, illness and death to the coal mining families, and riches for the coal bosses.

The textile industry followed the coal companies to the Southern mountains. Before this nearly all the textile industry in the U.S. was in the northeast. But here the workers had got organized and the unions were strong. The textile capitalists were looking for a place to set up new textile factories; a place where there were no unions and where they could pay their workers very low wages. They did not set up their new factories in the coal mining towns but on the edge of the mountains. They got their workers from the mountain farms, promising to pay them good wages.⁵

1. the right to cut down the trees and mine any coal found on the farmers' land: 句中 mine 和 cut 同是动词不定式, found ... 是过去分词短句, 修饰 coal. 2. They paid as little as fifty cents an acre ...: 他们每英

资本家派遣代理人到山里来，从农民手上买去了砍伐树木和开采一切在他们耕地下所发现的煤矿的权利。这些人付的钱很少，每英亩（一英亩约合六亩）只给五角钱。然后，这些人便闯了进来，挖掘深藏在地下的煤矿，雇用离开农庄的山里人来开采本来是属于他们自己的煤，砍倒本来是属于他们自己的树木。

人们希望改善自己的生活，纷纷离开贫穷的农庄，迁移到煤矿村去。煤矿公司（占有煤矿的资本家组织）只付给很低的工资，并且只给矿工和他们的家属盖一些十分简陋的房屋，他们让矿工为这些房屋付出昂贵的租金。矿工们不久便发现，他们的生活并没有改善，得到的只不过是艰苦的劳动和贫困。他们还发现自己失去了自由，公司老板控制了他们的全部生活。矿里每天都发生事故。煤矿村给采煤工人家庭带来的是贫困、疾病和死亡，带给煤矿老板的却是大量的财富。

纺织工业跟在煤矿公司的后面也来到南部山区。在这以前，美国的纺织工业几乎全部都集中在东北部，但是东北部的工人已经组织起来，工会力量强大。纺织业资本家当时正在寻找一个开办新纺织厂的地方，一个没有工会可以付给工人很低工资的地方。他们没有把新工厂建立在煤矿村镇里而是设在山区的边缘。他们从山区农庄上招募工人，答应付给他们高工资。

亩土地只给五角（五十分）钱。as little as: 少到只有这么一点钱。 3. It was not long before ...: 不久便…。 4. nothing but: 只不过是，句中的 but 相当于 except. 5. good wages: 高工资。

Whole families left their farms to work in the textile mills. The conditions in the mills were terrible. The air was full of cotton dust and very unhealthy. The machines were very noisy. The working day was from ten to twelve hours, yet wages were so low that¹ families could not live on² the income of even two parents. Many families were forced to send their young children to work in the mills. The bosses welcomed the child laborers into the mills, thinking nothing of³ taking them out of school and working them as hard⁴ as they worked their parents.

The mill villages and factory towns were the same as⁵ the coal company towns. The company owned everything in the town; the houses, the store (shop), the schools and churches. The workers got very little money for themselves. Usually the company took out of the worker's wages the rent for his house, and money to pay things he bought in the store. If the worker earned more than that the company gave him some pieces of paper called "scrip"⁶ which he could only use to buy things at the company store.

Hillbillies were no longer⁷ independent. They had become the slaves of the coal and textile companies. And they began to fight back. In the early 1900's⁸ the United Mine Workers' of America began to organize coal miners in the Southern mountains. One of the Union's strongest organizers was an old grey-haired woman. Her name was Mother Jones. She came from another part of the U.S. to organize coal miners to fight for higher wages and better working conditions. Mother

1. so ... that ...: 如此...以致...。但译成汉语时可灵活处理,重要的是表达出这样的语气。 2. live on: 以...为生;靠...生活。 3. think nothing of: 认为...没有什么了不起,轻视,全不把...放在心上。 4. work them hard: 使

于是，农民们纷纷全家离开农庄进纺织厂做工。厂子里工作条件恶劣。空气里充满棉花的飞尘，非常有害于健康。机器的噪音震耳欲聋。一天要干十到十二个小时活，可是工资却极低，就是父母两个人的收入也养不活一家人。许多人家不得不把小孩子也送进工厂做工。老板们很乐意雇用童工，认为他们不上学也无所谓，迫使他们和他们的父母一样劳累地干活。

纺织厂附近的村镇和煤矿公司建立的村镇情况完全一样。村镇上的一切——房屋、店铺、学校和教堂，都是属于公司的。工人拿到很少的现钱，公司通常都是从工人的工资里先扣去房租以及去铺子里买东西花的钱。如果工人赚的钱多于公司提供给他们的东西时，公司就发给工人几张叫做“代金券”的票证，工人只能用它在公司开的店铺里买东西。

山沟佬再也做不到不依靠别人了。他们已经成了煤矿和纺织公司的奴隶。于是他们开始反抗。早在二十世纪初，美国煤矿工人联合会就开始在南部山区把矿工组织起来，联合会最坚强的组织家之一，是一位满头白发的老妇人。她叫“琼斯妈妈”。她从美国的另地区来到这里，把煤矿工人组织起来

他们拼命干活，work 在这里是及物动词，hard 是宾语补足语。 5. the same as: 与...一样。 6. "scrip": 煤矿公司印发但只能在它开设的商店使用的代金券。 7. no longer: 不再。 8. in the early 1900's: 二十世纪初期。

Jones believed in the dignity of working people and she urged other women to join in the fight for working people's rights. She often told mountain women, "No strike was ever won without the support of the women."¹

The struggle to organize the union in the coal camps was fierce and bloody. The coal companies hired gunmen to attack the strikers, and many miners and their wives and children were killed. These company gunmen were called "thugs." All over the Southern mountains, miners were hunted down, beaten and murdered because they fought to bring² the union into the company towns.

The 1920's³ were particularly violent years in the coal fields.⁴ Although the union was slowly winning the struggle over the coal bosses, men were often out of work and they and their families were suffering from⁵ hunger and disease. Aunt Molly Jackson was a midwife in a coal town during the twenties. She also gave some medical treatment to the miners' families. One day, after seeing very many small children die because they didn't have enough to eat, Aunt Molly went into a company store with a gun and made the storekeeper give her enough food for a few families of starving children.⁶ She and her sister wrote some of this country's finest labor songs. In the end they were run⁷ out of the district by the coal bosses because of their organizing activities.

Florence Reece, who tells the story of early union organizing⁸ in the first chapter of this book, was another strong union

1. "No strike was ever won ... women": "没有一次罢工不是在妇女的支持下取胜的。" ever 在这里用来加强语气。 2. fought to bring ...: to bring ... 是不定式短语,表示目的。 3. the 1920's: 二十世纪二十年代。 4. in the coal fields: 在煤矿区。 5. suffer from (hunger and disease): 遭受

争取提高工资和改善劳动条件。琼斯妈妈相信劳动人民的高贵品质，她号召工人姐妹参加维护劳动人民权利的斗争。她时常对山里的妇女说：“没有一次罢工不是在妇女的支持下取得胜利的。”

在煤矿村组织工会的斗争是激烈的、需要流血的。煤矿公司雇用带枪的歹徒袭击罢工工人，许多矿工和矿工的妻子儿女被杀害。公司雇用的这些枪手被人们叫做“狗腿子”。在整个南部山区，矿工们到处被追捕，被殴打，被暗杀，因为他们要在煤矿公司村镇里组织工会。

二十世纪二十年代在煤矿区是一段斗争特别激烈的时期。虽然工会在和老板们进行的斗争中慢慢地占了上风，人们还是经常会失去工作，他们以及他们的家属遭受着饥饿和疾病的折磨。莫利·杰克逊大娘是二十年代一个煤矿村上的助产士，也捎带着给矿工家属治病。有一天，她看到许多儿童因为没有东西吃，活活地饿死了，就拿着手枪走进一家公司开的商店里，逼着店主拿出足够多的食品来给几户孩子正在挨饿的人家。她和她的妹妹写了好几首这个国家最优美的工人歌曲。后来，她们终于因为从事组织工会的活动，被煤矿公司老板赶出了这个地区。

在本书第一章里讲述早期工会组织活动状况的弗洛伦斯·里斯，是另一位坚强的女工会活动家和歌曲作者。她在

(饥饿和疾病)的痛苦。这里的 suffer 是不及物动词，和 suffer loss (遭受损失) 等的及物用法不同。 6. starving children: 在挨饿的孩子。 7. be run (out of): (从...)被赶出去。 8. early union organizing: 早期的工会组织活动。