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# 黑美人

## BLACK BEAUTY

【英】安娜·休厄◎著  
陶国霞◎译



《哈里·波特》作者 J.K. 罗琳  
最喜爱的英美经典文学名著

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# ***Part I***

# 第一部分

## Chapter 1 My Early Home

The first place that I can well remember was a large pleasant **meadow** with a pond of clear water in it. Some shady trees leaned over it, and rushes and water-lilies grew at the deep end. Over the hedge on one side we looked into a plowed field, and on the other we looked over a gate at our master's house, which stood by the roadside; at the top of the meadow was a grove of fir trees, and at the bottom a running brook overhung by a steep bank.

While I was young I lived upon my mother's milk, as I could not eat grass. In the daytime I ran by her side, and at night I lay down close by her. When it was hot we used to stand by the pond in the shade of the trees, and when it was cold we had a nice warm **shed** near the grove.

As soon as I was old enough to eat grass my mother used to go out to work in the daytime, and come back in the evening.

There were six young **colts** in the meadow besides me; they were older than I was; some were nearly as large as grown-up horses. I used to run with them, and had great fun; we used to **gallop** all together round and round the field as hard as we could go. Sometimes we had rather rough play, for they would frequently bite and kick as well as gallop.

One day, when there was a good deal of kicking, my mother whinnied to me to come to her, and then she said: "I wish you to pay attention to what I am going to say to you. The colts who live here are very good colts, but they are cart-horse colts, and of course they have not learned manners. You have been

## 第一章 我最初的家

最早进入我记忆的地方是一大片醉人的牧场，那里还嵌有一汪池塘，碧波荡漾。池边绿树成阴，枝条垂在池上，池底还长着灯心草和睡莲。在树篱的一边映入我们眼帘的是一片翻垦过的田地，而顺着另一边望去就能看到我主人家的大门，就在大路边。牧场的高处是一片杉树林，低处是一条淙淙的小溪，陡峭的堤岸使得它拔地而起。

小的时候我不会啃草，所以我是母乳喂养长大的。白天我在妈妈身边奔跑，晚上就紧紧地依偎着她。天热时，我们常常站在池边的树阴下；天冷的时候，我们在树林附近一个温暖可爱的马棚里。

当我长到可以吃草的时候，妈妈便常常在白天出去干活，晚上才回来。

把我算在内，牧场上一共有六匹小马驹。他们都比我岁数大，有些个子差不多有成年马那么高。我常常跟着他们奔跑，很好玩；我们也常常一起铆足了劲儿绕着牧场一圈一圈地奔驰。有时我们玩得很粗野，因为他们经常边跑边咬，还要踢人呢！

有一天，我们踢得正欢时，妈妈轻叫一声把我叫到跟前，说道：“听着，今天我对你说的每一句话都要好好记住。住在这儿的马驹都很好，但他们以后都是去拉大车的，可想而知他们都没有

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meadow *n.* 牧场,草地    shed *n.* 棚,小屋    colt *n.* (四、五年以下的)雄驹  
gallop *v.* 疾驰,飞奔



## **Black Beauty**

**well-bred** and well-born; your father has a great name in these parts, and your grandfather won the cup two years at the Newmarket races; your grandmother had the sweetest **temper** of any horse I ever knew, and I think you have never seen me kick or bite. I hope you will grow up gentle and good, and never learn bad ways; do your work with a good will, lift your feet up well when you trot, and never bite or kick even in play."

I have never forgotten my mother's advice; I knew she was a wise old horse, and our master thought a great deal of her. Her name was Duchess, but he often called her Pet.

Our master was a good, kind man. He gave us good food, good **lodging**, and kind words; he spoke as kindly to us as he did to his little children. We were all fond of him, and my mother loved him very much. When she saw him at the gate she would **neigh** with joy, and trot up to him. He would **pat** and **stroke** her and say, "Well, old Pet, and how is your little Darkie?" I was a dull black, so he called me Darkie; then he would give me a piece of bread, which was very good, and sometimes he brought a carrot for my mother. All the horses would come to him, but I think we were his favorites. My mother always took him to the town on a market day in a light gig.

There was a plowboy, Dick, who sometimes came into our field to **pluck** blackberries from the hedge. When he had eaten all he wanted he would have what he called fun with the colts, throwing stones and sticks at them to make them gallop. We did not much mind him, for we could gallop off; but sometimes a stone would hit and hurt us.

One day he was at this game, and did not know that the master was in the next field; but he was there, watching what was going on; over the hedge



学过礼仪。但你是有教养的，而且是名门之后。你爸爸在这一带口碑很好，你爷爷在纽马克赛马比赛中两度夺得奖杯，你奶奶的脾气也是好得没话说，我想你也从没见过我踢过什么人或者咬过什么人吧！我就希望你长大后不会学坏，当一匹彬彬有礼、秉性善良的好马仔。用心工作，跑的时候把脚提高了，千万别咬别人也别踢别人，即使是玩也不行。”

我一直都没有忘记妈妈的忠告。我知道她是一匹聪明的老马，我家主人对她评价就很高。妈妈的名字叫公爵夫人，但主人常常唤她宝贝儿。

我们主人是个好人。他给我们吃好的，住好的，而且还善言不断；和我们说话就像和自家孩子说话时那样温和。我们大家都喜欢他，我妈妈非常地敬爱他。要是在大门边看到他，妈妈就会欢快地嘶叫起来，小跑着奔到他身边。主人就会拍拍她说：“哦，老宝贝儿，你家小黑子怎么样啊？”我毛色黧黑，所以他叫我小黑子。接着他就会给我一片香喷喷的面包，有时也会给我妈妈带一根胡萝卜。所有的马儿都会接近他，但我觉得我们是他的最爱。赶集那天总是我妈妈一个人拉着轻便马车送主人去镇上。

我们那里有一个耕童叫迪克，他时不时地会翻过树篱到我们地里来摘黑莓。吃饱了，他还要朝马驹们扔石头和树枝什么的，让他们四处乱窜，说是要“逗他们玩”。我们也不大在意，因为我们可以跑开。但有的时候石头也会砸中我们，害我们受伤。

那天他又在玩这种把戏，浑然不知主人就在隔壁的地里。主人就在那里，瞧了个正着。他“噌”地跳过栅栏，一把抓住迪克的胳膊。

well-bred *adj.* 教养良好的

temper *n.* 脾气,性情

lodging *n.* 住宿

neigh *v.* 马叫,马嘶

pat *v.* 轻拍

stroke *v.* 抚摸

pluck *v.* 拔,摘