

长青藤  
英语



# 英国经典小说 导读与鉴赏

主编 李冀宏

*An Appreciative Guide to British Classic Novels*

◆ 湖南师范大学出版社  
HUNAN NORMAL UNIVERSITY PRESS



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（第二辑）

中国文联出版社



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An Appreciative Guide to British Classic Novels

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## 图书在版编目 (CIP) 数据

英国经典小说导读与鉴赏 / 李冀宏主编. —长沙: 湖南师范大学出版社, 2006. 9

ISBN 7-81081-650-0

I. 英... II. 李... III. ①英语—阅读教学—高等学校—教材②小说—文学欣赏—英国 IV. H319.4:1

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字 (2006) 第 108197 号

## 英国经典小说导读与鉴赏

◇主 编: 李冀宏

◇策划组稿: 李 阳

◇责任编辑: 李 阳

◇责任校对: 李永芳

◇出版发行: 湖南师范大学出版社

地址/长沙市岳麓山 邮编/410081

电话/0731.8853867 8872751 传真/0731.8872636

网址/www.hunnu.edu.cn/press

◇经销: 湖南省新华书店

◇印刷: 长沙利君漾印刷厂

◇开本: 787 × 1092 1/16

◇印张: 18.5

◇字数: 320 千字

◇版次: 2006 年 12 月第 1 版 2006 年 12 月第 1 次印刷

◇印数: 1—3000 册

◇书号: ISBN 7-81081-650-0/H·078

◇定价: 20.00 元

凡购本书, 如有缺页、倒页、脱页, 由本社发行部调换

本社购书热线: (0731) 8872256 8872636

投稿热线: (0731) 8872256 13975805626 8872636 (传真)

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## 前言

众所周知,文学是任何一种成熟的语言所承载的文化中的重要组成部分;而文学语言则是语言中最具艺术性的精华部分。文学反映生活与社会,其描绘包罗万象,无所不涉,这就为我们提供了学习语言的最佳材料。学习英语者,尤其是英语专业的本科生和以语言学、文学为研究方向的硕士生,都有必要阅读莎士比亚、雪莱、拜伦、狄更斯、哈代等的作品。只有这样,才有望使自己的英语学习达到最佳境界。同样的道理,一个学习汉语的人,若没有受过中国文学的熏陶,从未读过屈原、李白、曹雪芹、鲁迅、巴金、钱钟书等的作品,其汉语也不可能达到高水平。此外,文学的教谕作用也是毋庸置疑的。任何一部优秀的文学作品,都是艺术化和升华了的生活再现,阅读它有助于我们获得深广的人生阅历,积累丰富的人生经验。至此,我们可以得出这样一个结论:学习语言应当阅读、欣赏文学作品。

英国是一个具有悠久文学传统的国家。在其文学园地里,诗歌、戏剧、散文、小说等各种体裁的文学创作百花齐放,硕果累累,不仅成为英国人民,而且成为世界各国人民的精神食粮和文化遗产。英国长篇小说的兴起晚于诗歌、散文、戏剧等文学形式,它形成于18世纪,繁荣于19世纪,到20世纪已发展为一种十分成熟的主要文学体裁。约翰·班扬(John Bunyan, 1628—1688)发表于1678年的《天路历程》(*The Pilgrim's Progress*),可视为英国最早的长篇小说。以此为开端,英国长篇小说已经历了300多年的发展,其间产生了众多的名家名作,有如满天繁星,辉映世间。《鲁滨逊漂流记》、《格列佛游记》、《傲慢与偏见》、《双城记》、《简·爱》、《呼啸山庄》、《还乡》、《儿子与情人》等经典小说已成为家喻户晓的世界名著。

本书荟萃英国经典小说18部,分为18个单元。每单元按体例分为作者简介、故事梗概、作品评析和作品选读四个部分,其中作品选读又下设题解、注释和思考题三个部分。作者简介向读者介绍作家的生



平和文学成就,故事梗概便于读者了解整部作品的故事情节,作品评析告诉读者怎样评论这部作品,而作品选读则可以让读者尝鼎一脔,欣赏到原汁原味的作品的精彩片段。此外,题解为读者提供选文的背景,注释为读者扫清语言障碍,思考题便于教学或自学,使读者读有所思,思有所获。

《英国经典小说导读与鉴赏》的编写,旨在提高读者对英国小说的理解和欣赏能力以及英语的思维能力和表达能力。本书可读性强,适用面广;既可作教材,供大学生,尤其是英语专业的本科生和硕士生使用,也可作文学读物,供英语学习者和英国文学爱好者使用。另外,对于有志报考英语语言文学方向硕士生的大学生来说,也是一本合适的参考书。

本书各编写者分别承担了以下编写任务:李冀宏:第1、2、4、7单元;任红樱:第3单元;曾婷:第5单元;周雪婷:第6单元;刘兴华:第8单元;唐梅秀:第9、10、14单元;罗春霞:第11、15单元;周晓寒:第12单元;李修群:第13、16单元;王文英:第17单元;彭娟:第18单元。附录部分由罗春霞编写,全书的内容选择和体例设计以及统稿、修改工作由李冀宏负责,全书的审阅工作由陈建生负责。本书部分材料的版权分别属于不同的个人或机构,请各版权持有者通过出版社与本书编者联系处理。

湖南师范大学出版社英文编辑李阳博士为本书的出版付出了心血和辛劳,其勤奋敬业和求真务实的精神,令人敬佩,在此谨表衷心感谢。

李冀宏

2006年于长沙理工大学外国语学院



目 录	
<b>Unit 1</b>	<i>Robinson Crusoe</i> by Daniel Defoe ..... 1 丹尼尔·笛福著《鲁滨逊漂流记》
<b>Unit 2</b>	<i>Gulliver's Travels</i> by Jonathan Swift ..... 16 乔纳森·斯威夫特著《格列佛游记》
<b>Unit 3</b>	<i>Pride and Prejudice</i> by Jane Austen ..... 33 简·奥斯丁著《傲慢与偏见》
<b>Unit 4</b>	<i>A Tale of Two Cities</i> by Charles Dickens ..... 47 查尔斯·狄更斯著《双城记》
<b>Unit 5</b>	<i>Great Expectations</i> by Charles Dickens ..... 61 查尔斯·狄更斯著《远大前程》
<b>Unit 6</b>	<i>Jane Eyre</i> by Charlotte Brontë ..... 75 夏洛蒂·勃朗特著《简·爱》
<b>Unit 7</b>	<i>Wuthering Heights</i> by Emily Brontë ..... 89 艾米莉·勃朗特著《呼啸山庄》
<b>Unit 8</b>	<i>Vanity Fair</i> by William Makepeace Thackeray ..... 105 威廉·梅克皮斯·萨克雷著《名利场》
<b>Unit 9</b>	<i>The Return of the Native</i> by Thomas Hardy ..... 120 I 托玛斯·哈代著《还乡》
<b>Unit 10</b>	<i>Jude the Obscure</i> by Thomas Hardy ..... 136 托马斯·哈代著《无名的裘德》
<b>Unit 11</b>	<i>Treasure Island</i> by Robert Louise Stevenson ..... 151 罗伯特·路易斯·史蒂文生著《金银岛》
<b>Unit 12</b>	<i>The Picture of Dorian Gray</i> by Oscar Wilde ..... 166 奥斯卡·王尔德著《道林·格雷的画像》
<b>Unit 13</b>	<i>Lord Jim</i> by Joseph Conrad ..... 180 约瑟夫·康拉德著《吉姆爷》



<b>Unit 14</b>	<i>The Man of Property</i> by John Galsworthy .....	196
	约翰·高尔斯华绥著《有产业的人》	
<b>Unit 15</b>	<i>Sons and Lovers</i> by David Herbert Lawrence .....	213
	戴维·赫伯特·劳伦斯著《儿子与情人》	
<b>Unit 16</b>	<i>Of Human Bondage</i> by William Somerset Maugham .....	229
	威廉·萨默塞特·毛姆著《人性的枷锁》	
<b>Unit 17</b>	<i>A Passage to India</i> by Edward Morgan Forster .....	245
	爱德华·摩根·福斯特著《印度之行》	
<b>Unit 18</b>	<i>Lord of the Flies</i> by William Golding .....	259
	威廉·戈尔丁著《蝇王》	
<b>Appendix I</b>	Fictional Terms .....	274
	小说术语	
<b>Appendix II</b>	How to Read a Novel .....	279
	怎样阅读小说	
<b>参考书目</b>	.....	290



## Unit 1

### *Robinson Crusoe* by Daniel Defoe

### 丹尼尔·笛福著《鲁滨逊漂流记》

#### ◆作者简介/About the Author

丹尼尔·笛福(Daniel Defoe, 1660—1731), 英国文学史上首位杰出的小说家。他是最早采用长篇小说形式进行文学创作的作家之一, 其作品与风格对英国长篇小说的形成和现实主义小说的兴起产生过重要的影响, 因而被誉为“英国小说之父”。笛福出身于小商人家庭, 信奉新教, 早年间商, 游历过欧洲大陆的一些国家, 后从事政治、宗教活动, 曾因发表讽刺国教专制的文章而获罪下狱, 戴枷示众, 以致破产。他晚年生活贫困, 最终为避债而客死他乡。

笛福多才多艺, 创作甚丰, 写过诗歌、游记、政论文以及历史、经济论著等各种散文, 出版各类著作、小册子及报刊多达 500 余种, 但在英国文学史上为他赢得重要地位的则是他所创作的长篇小说。笛福一生丰富而独特的经历和他近 40 年办报当记者的生涯, 为其小说创作提供了极佳的素材和必备的技巧。他虽年近花甲才开始写小说, 但创作灵感如喷泉涌出, 一发而不可收, 先后创作出《鲁滨逊漂流记》(*Robinson Crusoe*, 1719)、《辛格顿船长》(*Captain Singleton*, 1720)、《杰克上校》(*Colonel Jack*, 1722)、《摩尔·弗兰德斯》(*Moll Flanders*, 1722)、《伦敦大疫记》(*A Journal of the Plague Year*, 1722) 和《罗克萨娜》(*Roxana*, 1724) 等重要作品。

笛福的小说创作是标志近代英国小说逐步形成的里程碑。他的作品最大特色在于其真实感和生动性, 而坚持细节描写则是他的小说生动逼真的诀窍。他的散文语言是普通百姓的日常语言, 其特点是朴实、简洁、流畅, 明白易懂。



## ◆故事梗概/The Gist of the Story

Although his father wants him to become a lawyer, young Robinson Crusoe is determined to go to sea. On September 1, 1651, in the seaport town of Hull, the nineteen-year-old boy decides to ship aboard a vessel bound for London. Just out of port, they strike a great storm, and young Crusoe vows that if he ever reaches shore alive he will obey his parents and never go to sea again. But when the sea becomes calm, he forgets his resolution. Impressed by the courage and good fellowship of his shipmates, he takes up a life of adventure.

Aboard an African trading vessel, when it is boarded by Turkish buccaneers, Crusoe is sold into slavery. He manages a desperate escape in a boat no larger than a dory and is picked up by a Portuguese freighter bound for Brazil. There he sets up as a successful sugar planter; but, finding that he needs slaves for his plantation, he is persuaded by another English planter to sail to the slave coast of Africa. The ship is wrecked off an unknown island near the northeast coast of South America. Crusoe is the only survivor.

2 He is washed ashore on a deserted island with only his knife, a pipe, and some tobacco. Fortunately the ship has not actually sunk, but has foundered on some rocks. The next day, in clear weather, Crusoe is able to swim out to the wrecked ship which he finds loaded with useful supplies in good condition. Back on the island he constructs a crude raft which he plies back and forth between ship and shore for two weeks, bringing back with him firearms, powder, saws, an ax, and a hammer. He also finds £36 aboard the ship. He takes the money with him although he realizes that all the gold in the world is of no use to a castaway. Crusoe thanks Providence that his life has been spared and that he now has a chance for survival on the island. He begins to keep a diary of his activities and reflections.

After he recovers from a fever, Crusoe slowly starts building a



permanent dwelling. For food and clothing he hunts wild goats and tans their hides. He plants some barley and corn—half of his precious stock from the ship—but finds to his horror that he has planted them at the wrong season and they are wasted. His every effort, from making pottery in which to store fresh water to felling and planting trees for his shelter, is enormously difficult and often meets with failure. Most frustrating of all is his attempt to build a canoe that will carry him away from the island. For five months he works on a great cedar tree, hewing and shaping it until it is seaworthy, only to find that it is so heavy that he cannot get it from the construction site to the shore.

Eventually Crusoe learns to plant crops, domesticate goats for milk, and even train a parrot for a pet. Although he has never seen another living soul on the island, he makes himself a safe hiding place. It is well that he has done so, for after twelve years of utter isolation on the island, Crusoe one day makes a startling discovery: On the beach far from his shelter he finds a human footprint in the sand. Determined to find out who the intruder is, Crusoe constructs a hiding place in a cave near the footprint and spends years searching that part of the island.

When he has been on the island about twenty-two years, Crusoe makes another shocking discovery. On the beach where he first saw the footprint are human bones and mutilated flesh. Apparently cannibals from the mainland have paddled over with their prisoners of war whom they murdered and ate.

Crusoe's first reaction is one of terror, but soon he becomes so indignant that he determines to ambush the savages the next time they arrive and kill as many as he can. He sets up a small fortress in a cave. One day, from his lookout post, he sees about thirty savages dancing obscenely before a fire. They have already cooked one prisoner and are getting ready to murder two more when Crusoe attacks them with his two loaded muskets and a sword. He shoots several of the cannibals. The others run off in panic, leaving one of their pri-



soners behind. After twenty-four years of solitude, Crusoe at last has a companion.

The man he rescues is also a cannibal, but Crusoe soon teaches him to loathe his former habits. He names him Friday, for the day of his rescue. Crusoe brings Friday back to his shelter and gradually teaches him enough English so they can communicate with each other. The grateful Friday, who is basically intelligent and comes from a superior tribe, becomes Crusoe's loyal and trustworthy servant and friend.

Friday informs Crusoe that on his native island seventeen white men are unharmed but being held captive. Crusoe decides to get to them and perhaps with their help return to civilization. Aided by Friday, Crusoe builds another seaworthy boat—this time right at the shore.

They are just about to set sail when three canoes full of savages land on the island with three prisoners—one a white captive. Crusoe and Friday attack with all the firepower at their command, kill all but four of the twenty-one savages, and save two of the captives. One of them turns out to be Friday's father. Father and son greet each other joyfully.

The white man they save is an old Spaniard who had been aboard a ship that Crusoe had seen wrecked some years before. Crusoe sends the Spaniard back with Friday's father to the island in his newly made boat to rescue the other white prisoners. Meanwhile, he sights an English ship anchored off shore. The captain and two loyal crew members are sent ashore by a rebellious crew. Crusoe and Friday help them recapture the ship, and they depart with the captain for England. The crew say they would rather remain on the well-stocked island than face trial and inevitable hanging in England. They are left behind.

Learning later that the Spaniard and Friday's father have succeeded in rescuing the captive seamen on Friday's island, Crusoe determines to visit them someday.

But first he returns to England with Friday, after an absence of



twenty-eight two years. Crusoe is now a rich man. Besides the money from the sunken Spanish ship, he has an estate in Brazil, kept intact all the time he was away by an honest Portuguese captain, and £10,000 waiting for him in Portugal. He learns that both his parents are dead. After a visit to Portugal to settle his estate, Crusoe returns to England, marries, and has children. When his wife died, Crusoe sets sail once again to see what has happened on his island.

In Defoe's sequel, *The Farther Adventures of Robinson Crusoe*, the shipwrecked Spaniards and the mutinous English sailors have joined forces, married native women from another island, and established a thriving colony.

After several more adventures, in one of which the faithful Friday is killed, Robinson Crusoe returns for the last time to England, where he lives out the rest of his years in peace and contentment.

### ◆作品评析/Critical Opinion

In 1711 Alexander Selkirk caused a sensation in England. Having run away to sea, he returned after spending five years as a solitary castaway on Juan Fernandez Island off the coast of Chile. Selkirk, after a quarrel with his captain, had been put ashore the island at his own request, and was ultimately rescued by one Captain Woodes Rogers.

The ways in which the castaway had survived on his island fascinated people, and several accounts of his story were published on his return. Never one to let a literary opportunity pass, Defoe wrote his most famous book, *Robinson Crusoe*, a fictional elaboration of Selkirk's adventures, couched in so plain and unadorned a narrative style that it appeared to be true.

*Robinson Crusoe* has influenced many authors, including Swift (*Gulliver's Travels*), Stevenson (*Treasure Island*) and, of course, Wyss (*The Swiss Family Robinson*).

Despite its plain, crude style, *Robinson Crusoe* has epic qualities



often reminiscent of the *Odyssey*. Frightfully lonely, sometimes sick, and often afraid, Crusoe manages not only to stay sane during his long years of isolation, but to build a little civilization of his own on his island. Defoe seems to be saying that no matter how morally weak the average man may be, he has unknown and untapped sources of courage, stamina, and ingenuity.

While a modern writer would have been much more concerned with Crusoe's psychology, Defoe concentrates on his physical activities. Crusoe suffers, to be sure, from moments of terrible loneliness and pangs of religious guilt for having disobeyed his parents. But early in his stay on the island, he makes his peace with God, who, he feels, has mercifully spared his life and provided him with the wherewithal for existence. From that point on, he spends his time in making a little England of his island. The resourcefulness and single-mindedness with which he goes about this task is the most appealing aspect of the book.

When Friday appears on the scene, Crusoe, a slaveholder in Brazil, naturally makes him a servant and forms a two-man colonial system. But Friday is also a valued friend who shows his loyalty and gratitude to his master in countless ways.

The people of Defoe's time had limitless faith in man's ability to carve a life for himself out of the wilderness. This faith, which made possible the exploration and taming of American continent, is implicit in almost every page of *Robinson Crusoe*.

## ◆作品选读/The Selection

### Chapter IX The Other Side of the Island

I mentioned before that I had a great mind to see the whole island<sup>①</sup>, and that I had travelled up the brook, and so on to where I built my bower<sup>②</sup>, and where I had an opening quite to the sea on the



other side of the island<sup>③</sup>. I now resolved to travel quite cross<sup>1</sup> to the seashore on that side; so taking my gun, a hatchet, and my dog, and a larger quantity of powder and shot than usual, with two biscuit-cakes, and a great bunch of raisins in my pouch for my store<sup>③</sup>. I began my journey. When I had passed the vale where my bower stood, as above, I came within view of the sea, to the west, and it being a very clear day, I fairly descried land, whether an island or a continent, I could not tell; but it lay very high, extending from the west to the W. S. W. <sup>⑤</sup> at a very great distance. By my guess it could not be less than fifteen or twenty leagues off.

I could not tell what part of the world this might be, otherwise than that<sup>⑤</sup> I knew it must be part of America, and as I concluded by all my observations, must be near the Spanish dominions<sup>⑥</sup>, and perhaps was all inhabited by savages, where if I should have landed, I should have been in a worse condition than I was now. Therefore I acquiesced in the dispositions of Providence<sup>⑦</sup>, which, I began now to own and to believe, ordered everything for the best<sup>⑧</sup>. I say I quieted my mind with this, and left afflicting myself with fruitless wishes of being there<sup>⑩</sup>.

Besides, after some pause upon this affair, I considered that if this land were the Spanish coast, I should certainly, one time or other, see some vessel pass or repass one way or other; but if not, then it was the savage coast between the Spanish country and Brazils, where are indeed the worst of savages. These are cannibals, or men-eaters, and fail not to<sup>⑫</sup> murder and devour all the human bodies that fall into their hands.

With these considerations I walked very leisurely forward. I found that side of the island where I now was much pleasanter than mine, the open or *savanna* fields sweet, adorned with flowers and grass, and full of very fine woods. I saw abundance of parrots, and fain I would have caught one<sup>⑬</sup>, if possible, to have kept it to be tamed, and taught it to speak to me. I did, after some painstaking, catch a young parrot, for I knocked it down with a stick; and having



recovered it, I brought it home, but it was some years before I could make him speak. However, at last I taught him to call me by my name very familiarly. But the accident that followed, though it be a trifle, will be very diverting in its place<sup>⑭</sup>.

I was exceedingly diverted with this journey. I found in the low grounds hares, as I thought them to be, and foxes, but they differed greatly from all the other kinds I had met with; nor could I satisfy myself to eat them<sup>⑮</sup>, though I killed several. But I had no need to be venturous, for I had no want<sup>⑯</sup> of food, and of that which was very good too, especially these three sorts: goats, pigeons, and turtle or tortoise; when these were added to my grapes, Leadenhall Market could not have furnished a table better than I<sup>⑰</sup>, in proportion to the company<sup>⑱</sup>. Though my case was deplorable enough, yet I had great cause for thankfulness that I was not driven to any extremities for food, but rather had plenty, even to dainties<sup>⑲</sup>.

I never travelled in this journey above two miles outright<sup>⑳</sup> in a day, or thereabouts, but I took so many turns and returns<sup>㉑</sup>, to see what discoveries I could make, that I came weary enough to the place where I resolved to sit down<sup>㉒</sup> for all night. Then I either reposed myself in a tree, or surrounded myself with a row of stakes set up-right in the ground, either from one tree to another, or so that no wild creature could come at me without waking me.

8 As soon as I came to the seashore, I was surprised to see that I had taken up my lot on the worst side of the island<sup>㉓</sup>. Here indeed the shore was covered with innumerable turtles, whereas on the other side I had found but three in a year and half. Here was also an infinite number of fowl of many kinds, some which I had seen, and some which I had not seen before, and many of them very good meat, but such as I knew not the names of, except those called pen-guins.

I could have shot as many as I pleased, but was very sparing of my powder and shot. I had more mind to kill a goat, if I could, which I could better feed on. Though there were many more goats



here than on my side of the island, yet it was with much more difficulty that I could come near them, the country being flat and even, and they saw me much sooner than when I was on the hill.

I confess this side of the country was much pleasanter than mine, but yet I had not the least inclination to move, for as I was fixed in my habitation, it became natural to me, and I seemed, all the while I was here, to be as it were upon a journey from home. However, I travelled along the shore of the sea towards the east, I suppose about twelve miles. Then setting up a great pole upon the shore for a mark, I concluded I would go home again. The next journey I should take should be on the other side of the island, east from my dwelling, and so round till I came to my post again. Of which in its place<sup>24</sup>.

I took another way to come back than that I went, thinking I could easily keep all the island so much in my view that I could not miss finding my first dwelling by viewing the country<sup>25</sup>, but I found myself mistaken. Having come about two or three miles, I found myself descended into a very large valley, so surrounded with hills, and those hills covered with wood, that I could not see which was my way by any direction but that of the sun, nor even then, unless I knew very well the position of the sun at that time of the day<sup>26</sup>.

It happened to my further misfortune that the weather proved hazy for three or four days, while I was in this valley, and not being able to see the sun, I wandered about very uncomfortably, and at last was obliged to find out the seaside, look for my post, and come back the same way I went. Then by easy journeys<sup>27</sup> I turned homeward, the weather being exceedingly hot, and my gun, ammunition, hatchet, and other things very heavy.

In this journey my dog surprised a young kid and seized upon it, and I, running in to take hold of it, caught it and saved it alive from the dog. I had a great mind to bring it home if I could; for I had often been musing whether it might not be possible to get a kid or two, and to raise a breed of tame goats, which might supply me when my