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大卫·科波菲尔

David Copperfield



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David Copperfield

大卫·科波菲尔

原著：〔英〕查尔斯·狄更斯(Charles Dickens)

改写：〔英〕D.K. 斯旺(D.K. Swan)

D. 安德森(D. Anderson)

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中国学生英语文库 出版前言

“中国学生英语文库”是一套由商务印书馆专门为我国学生精心设计编辑的英语读物文库，首批推出100种英汉对照简易读物。

首批100种分四辑出版，第一辑为世界经典童话故事（20种），第二辑为优秀科普简易读物（22种），第三辑为世界名人故事（10种），第四辑为世界经典文学简易读物（48种）。前两辑的读者对象为小学生，后两辑的读者对象为中学生。全四辑英汉对照，图文并茂，知识性强，通俗易懂，引人入胜。

第一辑精选了20种美丽动人的经典童话故事，既给人以丰富的想象又陶冶人的心灵，让人在童话的世界里感受真善美。第二辑精选了22种颇具代表性的科普作品，不仅给人以科学新知，唤起人们对科学的兴趣，更让人享受到阅读的愉悦。第三辑精选了10种广为流传的世界名人故事，一个个传奇人生，一幅幅成功画卷，无一不激励人生，催人奋进。第四辑精选了48种最为脍炙人口的世界文学名著简写本，对人们开阔眼界、陶冶情操、丰富个性、提高素质大有裨益。

“中国学生英语文库”得到了我国国学大师、学界泰斗季羨林先生和我国英语教育界胡文仲先生、胡壮麟先生、陆谷孙先生、王蔷先生等众多专家、学者、教师以及国外多家出版公司的大力支持和帮助，在此表示由衷的感谢。

我们相信，这套文库将会推动我国英语教育的发展，并受到我国广大学生的青睐。

商务印书馆编辑部

专家的话

对于初学者和中等程度的学习者来说,阅读简易读物几乎是学好英语的必由之路。不仅要读,而且要持续地大量地读。“中国学生英语文库”为读者提供了一批精选的题材多样的简易读本。这对于提高学生的英语水平和综合素质都将起到极好的作用。

中国英语教学研究会会长

北京外国语大学教授

胡文仲

“中国学生英语文库”为我国中小学生提供了100种英汉对照简易读物,方便学生在课外阅读英语经典名著,打好扎实的英语功底。“文库”选材广泛,使学生能在知识的乐园中尽情漫游,增长知识。“文库”特别关注素质教育,让学生在学习英语的同时汲取西方文化的精髓,孕育优美情操。

北京大学资深教授 胡壮麟

我们的中小学同学若能轻轻松松读懂这套英文简易读物,不去孤立地死记硬背一个个单词,而是用英语笔写口述来反馈整体的故事内容,依我看至少也该有两千左右的单词可供活用。作为初学者,那也属相当了不起了。

复旦大学杰出教授 陆谷孙

有益的书籍不仅能丰富孩子的阅历,触发细腻的情感,启发敏锐的洞察力,发展对真善美的感知力,更能培养孩子自觉读书、深入思考、发展思维和善于表达的能力。愿这套“中国学生英语文库”能为孩子们思维和语言的发展插上翅膀。

北京师范大学教授 王 蔷

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DAVID COPPERFIELD

Introduction

Charles Dickens

Charles Dickens, born in 1812, was the son of a clerk in a government office. His father spent more money than he earned, and Charles Dickens was still a boy when his father, like Mr Micawber in this book, was sent to prison for debt. In those days, men who owed quite small amounts had to stay in prison until the debt was paid.

One result was that Charles's education was interrupted. Another result was that he had experience of the unhappy life of many poor people, including children. In years of hard work in various unpleasant jobs, he met large numbers of people, young and old, rich and poor, happy and unhappy. He had unusual energy and unusual powers of observation. He worked hard to improve his knowledge and at the same time he stored away memories of all the people he met—the men he worked for, the boys he worked with, London scenes and London characters.

He learnt to write **shorthand**, and he became a newspaper reporter, using his shorthand to record speeches and conversations in different parts of England and finally in **Parliament**.

He began to write sketches—short stories and descriptions—for weekly and monthly magazines. Readers enjoyed these sketches, especially those which showed

简介

查尔斯·狄更斯

查尔斯·狄更斯生于 1812 年，父亲是位政府职员。他的父亲花的比挣的多，他很小的时候，他的父亲就像书中的米考伯先生一样，由于负债被送进了监狱。在那个时代，欠一点点钱也要蹲监狱，直到偿清债务。

debt
负债

这件事的影响之一是查尔斯的教育被迫中断。另一个就是使他像很多穷人以及他们的孩子们那样，有了很多不快乐的生活经历。在辛苦做工的那些年，在各种各样让人不愉快的工作中，他结识了很多，他们有老有少，有穷有富，有快乐的也有不快乐的。他有着超乎寻常的精力和超乎寻常的观察力。他刻苦好学，同时把他对所遇到的人的记忆都储存起来：他的雇主、他的小工友、伦敦的景象和那里的各色人等。

他学会了速记，而后当了记者，他在英国各地用速记记录下人们的演讲和对话，最终进入议会采访。

shorthand
速记

他开始为周刊和月刊写些札记——小故事和随笔。读者非常喜爱他的文字，尤其是那些诙谐幽默的作品。1836 年至

Parliament
英国议会（由上议院和下议院组成）

Dickens's humour, his rich sense of fun. The *Pickwick Papers* appeared in parts in 1836—1837, and the public loved them. Mr Pickwick is the very simple, **innocent** observer of the behaviour of the people of his time. He is shocked by the wickedness he finds. Sam Weller, his servant, is a **worldly-wise**, clever fellow who gets Mr Pickwick out of trouble with all the humour of the London "Cockney".

The *Pickwick Papers* were immediately popular, and Dickens was soon in a position to make the writing of novels his one profession. The stories poured from his pen. They all appeared in weekly or monthly parts before being collected in books. Here are the most important of them in the order of writing, with the date of appearance as a book:

- 1838 *Oliver Twist* ;
- 1839 *Nicholas Nickleby* ;
- 1841 *The Old Curiosity Shop* ;
- 1848 *Dombey and Son* ;
- 1849 *David Copperfield* ;
- 1850 *Hard Times* ;
- 1859 *A Tale of Two Cities* ;
- 1861 *Great Expectations* .

Dickens's characters were much better or much worse than they would be in real life. They were **exaggerated** in rather the same way as artists exaggerate in their drawings of political and other leaders in newspaper **cartoons** today. But the readers of Dickens's time accepted such exaggeration. They were perhaps readier to laugh or cry over the novelist's characters and situations than we are today.

The novels of Dickens are full of life, observation and energy, and his own energy seemed endless. His books were popular in the English-speaking countries on both sides of the Atlantic. In later years he travelled widely in Britain and America, reading from his books to eager audi-

1837 年间,《匹克威克外传》以连载的形式刊出,受到公众的喜爱。匹克威克先生用单纯和天真的眼光观察那个时代的人们,结果总是被自己看到的邪恶所震惊。他的仆人萨姆·韦勒是一个老于世故的聪明家伙,总是用“伦敦佬”的幽默,帮匹克威克先生摆脱各种麻烦。

innocent

天真的

worldly-wise

老于世故的

《匹克威克外传》一下子就风靡起来,狄更斯也很快将写小说变成了自己的一个职业。故事从他笔下喷涌而出。在集结成册之前,以每周或分月连载的形式刊出。下面是依照写作顺序和出版年代排列的他的几部重要作品:

1838 年《雾都孤儿》

1839 年《尼古拉斯·尼克尔比》

1841 年《老古玩店》

1848 年《董贝父子》

1849 年《大卫·科波菲尔》

1850 年《艰难时世》

1859 年《双城记》

1861 年《远大前程》

狄更斯笔下的人物有的远比现实生活中的人好,有的则是糟糕很多。这些人物都被夸张了,就像当今报纸漫画里,艺术家们要把那些政治领导人夸张描绘一样。但狄更斯时代的读者们完全接受这种手法。他们可能比今天的读者更能够与小说的主人公们同喜同悲。

exaggerate

夸张

cartoon

漫画

狄更斯的小说充满了生命力、观察力和活力,他自己似乎有着无限充沛的精力。他的著作风靡大西洋两岸。在晚年,他经常往返于英国和美国,为急切的读者们朗读他的作品。1870 年他突然死亡,他的死震惊了成千上万期待他的新作的读者们。

ences. His sudden death in 1870 shocked thousands of people who were waiting for his next book. Instead, they bought, and wept over, a picture called "The Empty Chair", showing the desk and chair that he would no longer use.

David Copperfield

David Copperfield is partly **autobiographical**. That is to say, many of the people and situations Dickens describes come from his own life. But if he knew the people—teachers, lawyers, carriers, fishermen; schools, offices and other places—he used his imagination in describing them. Mr Micawber, for example, is based on Charles Dickens's own father, but Dickens exaggerates. In *David Copperfield*, Mr Micawber is an exaggerated picture of every optimist. The world is full of **optimists** who expect that everything will be all right *if*... But none of them is quite like Mr Micawber himself. We would say that he is a **personification of optimism**.

Dickens's characters often remain in our memories because of a **catchphrase**. The one we connect with Mr Micawber is "Something will turn up." Another in this book is "Barkis is willing." Uriah Heep is "very humble", and so on. One does not go far in one's reading of modern English literature without meeting one of these catchphrases from Dickens or finding a reference to one of the colourful Dickens characters.

人们争相购买一张名为“空椅子”的画，并对画落泪，那上面画着他不会再使用的桌椅。

《大卫·科波菲尔》

《大卫·科波菲尔》是一部近似自传体的小说。也就是说，狄更斯描述的很多人物和场景都来自他自己的生活。对于这些他熟悉的人们——教师、律师、邮差、渔夫，还有学校、办公室和其他地方——在描述时，他仍然运用了他的想象力。比如，米考伯先生就是以狄更斯的父亲为原型创作的，只不过夸张了一些。在《大卫·科波菲尔》里，米考伯先生是每个乐天知命的人夸张后的形象。这个世界上充满了乐观主义者，他们总是想：一切总会好起来的，假如……但没有一个人同米考伯先生一模一样，他是所有乐天派的化身。

狄更斯笔下的人物常常因为一些精彩的语句而永久留存在我们的记忆里，比如米考伯先生的“总会时来运转的”、“巴基斯愿意”和“非常卑微”的尤赖亚·希普。如果你不曾读过狄更斯的这些连珠妙语，也不了解狄更斯笔下各色人等的出处，那么在现代英国文学的阅读上，你才刚刚起步。

autobiographical
自传体的

optimist
乐观主义者
personification
化身

optimism
乐观
catchphrase
名言，流行语

Chapter 1

Beginnings

My father died before I was born. One evening soon after his death my mother was sitting by the fire feeling very sad. She looked up and saw Miss Betsy outside the garden fence.

Miss Betsy was my father's aunt. Her real name was Miss Trotwood. Betsy Trotwood lived with one servant in a cottage near the sea. She had always been **fond of** my father, but she was angry with him when he married my mother.

My mother saw Miss Trotwood at the window, so she hurried to open the door.

"You are Mrs Copperfield, aren't you?"

"Yes. —Please come in," said my mother.

Miss Betsy walked in, and they both sat down. My mother suddenly began to cry.

"Oh! Oh!" said Miss Betsy. "Don't do that!"

But my mother went on crying. Miss Betsy took her face in her hands. "Why!" she cried, "you are only a baby yourself. —Have some tea. What's the name of your girl?"

"I call her Peggotty."

Miss Betsy called Peggotty and made her bring some tea.

"Now," said Miss Trotwood. "Your baby must be a girl. You must name the girl Betsy Trotwood Copperfield."

第1章

开 篇

我还没出生，父亲就死了。他死后不久的一天晚上，母亲哀伤地坐在火炉旁。她抬头向外望去，看到贝齐小姐站在花园篱笆外。

贝齐小姐是我父亲的姨妈。她的真名是特洛特伍德小姐。贝齐·特洛特伍德和一个仆人住在海边的一栋房子里。她一直很宠爱我父亲，但对于父亲娶了我母亲却很恼火。

(be) fond of
喜爱

我母亲从窗口看到特洛特伍德小姐，赶快跑去开门。

“我想，你就是科波菲尔太太吧？”

“是的。请进。”母亲说。

贝齐小姐进门后，两个人都坐下来。这时，我母亲突然哭起来。

“噢！噢！别这样！”贝齐小姐说。

但我母亲还接着哭。贝齐小姐捧起母亲的脸色，大声说：“上帝啊！你自己还是个孩子呢。快喝点儿茶吧。你的女仆叫什么名字？”

“我叫她佩戈蒂。”

贝齐小姐召唤佩戈蒂，让她弄些茶来。

“好了，”特洛特伍德小姐说道，“你必须生个女孩儿，并且必须起名为贝齐·特