

哈佛 蓝星双语名著导读

Today's Most Popular Study Guides

魔戒前传 霍比特人

The Hobbit

[英] J.R.R.Tolkien 原著

Patrick Gardner 导读

Brian Phillips 翻译

刘芳 翻译

SMARTER

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致读者

亲爱的读者,在这个多元文化的世界里,渴望知识、钟情文学、热爱英语的你是否希望站在巨人的肩膀上摘星呢?

“哈佛蓝星双语名著导读”系列是全美最风行的经典名著导读笔记,由哈佛学生们融会名著阅读和文学学习精华,亲笔撰写而成。蓝星系列精选了来自世界各国的杰出经典著作,以经典性和流行性并重的名著为素材,以明晰的风格和地道的语言,解读名著精华和具有时代性的主题和思想。每一分册都包括名著的创作背景、人物分析、主题解析、篇章讲解、重要引文释义、作品档案,并且附有相关的思考题、推荐论题、小测验以及延伸阅读篇目。

如今“蓝星”漂洋过海,轻轻落在了国内英语学习读者的掌中,读者不需走出国门,即可轻松掌握哈佛课堂上的知识。蓝星系列丰富的内容编排,使我们不仅仅停留于名著内容的了解,而且对著作的精华和内涵有更全面、深入的掌握,进而对英语语言和文化做更进一步的了解和研究。蓝星精辟、明晰的编写风格让“半天阅读一本名著”成为现实,使我们在有限的闲暇时间内阅读更多的书,同时迅速增强英语水平,提高文学修养,增加谈资。

天津科技翻译出版公司之前推出的“蓝星”系列50册,在图书市场上收到了很好的反响。本次新推出的品种同样精挑细选了国外近现代经典作品,以期进一步丰富该系列的内容。本次出版仍由天津外国语学院张滨江教授和青年教师负责翻译和审校,并严格按照原作的风格,提供原汁原味的英语环境,让读者自由地阅读、想象和发挥。

蓝星闪耀,伴你前行!

CONTEXT

John Ronald Reuel Tolkien was born on January 3, 1892, in Bloemfontain, South Africa. His parents had moved there from England so that his father, Arthur, could work for the bank of Africa. Tolkien lost both parents early in life — his father died in Africa in 1896 after the rest of the family had returned to England, and his mother, Mabel, died in 1904 near Birmingham, England. After Mabel's death, Tolkien and his younger brother, Hilary, came under the care of Father Francis Morgan, a friend of the family's. Soon after, Tolkien went to King Edward's School and then to Oxford.

At Oxford, Tolkien pursued a degree in English language and literature. He developed a particular passion for philology, the study of languages. While studying Old English, Anglo-Saxon, and Welsh poetry, he continued experimenting with a language of his own, which he had started to do in his youth. This language would form the groundwork for his imagined world known as Middle-Earth.

By 1916, Tolkien had received his degree and married his childhood sweetheart, Edith Bratt. He eventually took a teaching position at Oxford. By 1929, he had had his fourth child with Edith. During these years, he also began his great mythology of Middle-Earth, a compendium of stories called *The Silmarillion*. Out of these stories grew *The Hobbit* (1936), his first published work. A simple children's story about a small person who takes part in great adventures, the

莱龙·去脉

约翰·罗纳德·鲁埃尔·托尔金于1892年1月3日出生在南非的布隆方丹市。他的父母为了让他的父亲亚瑟能在非洲银行工作从英国搬到了那里。托尔金很小的时候就失去了双亲——他的父亲于1896年在家里其他人都返回英国后在南非去世了，而他的母亲梅布尔也于1904年在英国伯明翰附近与世长辞。在梅布尔去世后，托尔金和他的弟弟希拉里就委托给他家的一位好友弗朗西斯·摩根神父来照顾。不久以后，托尔金考入了爱德华国王学校，后来又回到牛津大学继续深造。

在牛津大学，托尔金攻读英语语言和文学学位，他逐渐对哲学和语言研究表现出特殊的热情。他一边学习古英语、盎格鲁-撒克逊及威尔士诗歌，一边继续尝试着创造自己独特的语言，这一尝试从他的青年时期就开始了，而这种语言为他的奇幻世界即中土世界打下了基础。

托尔金在1916年获得学位并且迎娶了孩童时代的意中人依迪斯·布拉特。他最终在牛津大学找到了一份教书的工作。到1929年，他和依迪斯已经有了第四个孩子。这些年来，他同时开始创作其伟大的中土神话，一本叫做《精灵宝钻》的故事简编。他于1936年出版的首部作品《魔戒前传：霍比特人》就是从这些故事中诞生的。它是一本关于一个小矮人参加大冒险的

novel's playful tone and imagery made it a hit with both children and adults. The *Hobbit's* success also gave Tolkien a huge public that was anxious to learn more about the meticulously developed world that he had created around his invented language and mythology, only a small part of which was detailed in *The Hobbit*.

The *Hobbit's* plot and characters combined the ancient heroic Anglo-Saxon and Scandinavian epics Tolkien studied with the middle-class rural England in which he lived. In many ways, the novel's charm and humor lie in transplanting a simple, pastoral Englishman of the 1930s into a heroic medieval setting. Tolkien acknowledged that his hero, Bilbo Baggins, was patterned on the rural Englishmen of his own time.

By the time Tolkien began to work on the sequel to *The Hobbit*, he had developed a friendship with another well-known Oxford professor and writer, C.S. Lewis, author of *The Chronicles of Narnia*. Their friendship lasted for many years. Tolkien helped convert Lewis to Christianity (although Tolkien, a Roman Catholic, was disappointed that Lewis became a Protestant), and the two critiqued each other's work as part of an informal group of writers known as the Inklings.

From 1945 to 1959, Tolkien continued to teach at Oxford and wrote *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy, which served as a follow-up to *The Hobbit*. The trilogy brought Tolkien fame in England and America, but he was never a public figure. He continued work on *The Silmarillion* and other tales and led a quiet life. Despite his public acclaim, he was most comfortable with middle-class surroundings and peace in which to write and think. Tolkien died on September 2, 1973. *The Silmaril-*

简单儿童故事，但小说风趣的语言和形象的描述使儿童和成人都十分喜欢。《魔戒前传：霍比特人》的成功也给托尔金带来了一大批读者，他们渴望更多地了解他用自创的语言和神话所精心设计的那个世界，而《魔戒前传：霍比特人》中只详细描述了其中的一小部分。


《魔戒前传：霍比特人》的情节和人物把托尔金曾经研究过的盎格鲁-撒克逊和斯堪的纳维亚英雄史诗同他亲身经历过的英国中产阶级乡村生活有机地结合到了一起。从许多方面看，这部小说的魅力和幽默在于它把一个生活在20世纪30年代过着简单田园生活的英国人放到了充满英雄气概的中世纪背景当中。托尔金承认他的主人公比尔博·巴金斯的原型就是他那个时代的乡村英国人。

到托尔金开始创作《魔戒前传：霍比特人》的续篇时候，他已经和牛津大学的另一位教授及作家，《纳尼亚传奇》的作者，C. S.刘易斯成为好友。他们的友谊持续了很多年。托尔金帮助刘易斯皈依了基督教（尽管作为一名天主教徒的托尔金对刘易斯成为新教徒感到失望），而且他们把批评性地评论彼此的作品当作是因克林这个非正式作家俱乐部活动中的一部分。

从1945年到1959年，托尔金继续在牛津大学任教，并创作了《魔戒》三部曲作为《魔戒前传：霍比特人》的续篇。这三部曲使托尔金在英国和美国名声大震，但他却从来不是一位公众人物。他继续创作他的《精灵宝钻》及其他故事，过着一种平静的生活。尽管周围充满公众的喝彩声，但托尔金还是觉得中产阶级

🌿 THE HOBBIT

lion was edited and published posthumously by his son Christopher in 1977. 🌿

的生活圈子以及能使他创作和思考的平静生活最为舒适。托尔金于1973年9月2日去世，他的《精灵宝钻》一书是其死后由他的儿子克里斯多夫于1977年编辑出版。

PLOT OVERVIEW

Bilbo Baggins lives a quiet, peaceful life in his comfortable hole at Bag End. Bilbo lives in a hole because he is a hobbit — one of a race of small, plump people about half the size of humans, with furry toes and a great love of good food and drink. Bilbo is quite content at Bag End, near the bustling hobbit village of Hobbiton, but one day his comfort is shattered by the arrival of the old wizard Gandalf, who persuades Bilbo to set out on an adventure with a group of thirteen militant dwarves. The dwarves are embarking on a great quest to reclaim their treasure from the marauding dragon Smaug, and Bilbo is to act as their “burglar.” The dwarves are very skeptical about Gandalf’s choice for a burglar, and Bilbo is terrified to leave his comfortable life to seek adventure. But Gandalf assures both Bilbo and the dwarves that there is more to the little hobbit than meets the eye.

Shortly after the group sets out, two hungry trolls capture all of them except for Gandalf. Gandalf tricks the trolls into remaining outside when the sun comes up, and the sunlight turns the nocturnal trolls to stone. The group finds a great cache of weapons in the trolls’ camp. Gandalf and the dwarf lord Thorin take magic swords, and Bilbo takes a small sword of his own.

The group rests at the elfish stronghold of Rivendell, where they receive advice from the great elf lord Elrond, then sets out to cross the Misty Mountains. When they find shelter

情节·览

比尔博·巴金斯在他舒适的袋底洞穴里过着宁静的生活。比尔博住在洞穴里因为他是一个霍比特人，这是一个身材矮小，体态丰满，身高大约只有人类一半的民族。他们长着毛茸茸的脚趾，酷爱美食和佳酿。比尔博对位于喧嚣的霍比顿附近的袋底洞穴生活感到很满足，但是有一天他舒适安逸的生活却因为巫师甘达尔夫的到来而灰飞烟灭，他说服比尔博同十三个好战的侏儒一起外出冒险。这些侏儒正要开始一次大冒险，从四处劫掠的恶龙斯毛格手中夺回属于他们的财宝，而比尔博将要扮演他们的“窃贼”。侏儒们对甘达尔夫选出的窃贼持怀疑态度，同时比尔博也对放弃舒适的生活而外出探险感到惶恐和害怕。但甘达尔夫却向比尔博和侏儒们保证，这个小霍比特人身上的优点要比人们看到的多得多。

这个团队出发后不久，两个饥饿的特罗尔人就把他们全都擒住了，除了甘达尔夫幸免于难。甘达尔夫使用了一点小招数使这两个特罗尔人在日出之时仍然呆在户外，而阳光把这些只能在夜间活动的特罗尔人变成了石头。他们的队伍在特罗尔人的营地中发现了大量隐藏的武器，甘达尔夫和侏儒的首领拿了两把有魔力的宝剑，而比尔博则为自己挑选了一把短剑。

他们的队伍在小精灵的要塞之地利文德尔进行了休整，在那里他们得到了伟大的精灵之主埃尔伦的

in a cave during a snowstorm, a group of goblins who live in the caverns beneath the mountain take them prisoner. Gandalf leads the dwarves to a passage out of the mountain, but they accidentally leave behind Bilbo.

Wandering through the tunnels, Bilbo finds a strange golden ring lying on the ground. He takes the ring and puts it in his pocket. Soon he encounters Gollum, a hissing, whining creature who lives in a pool in the caverns and hunts fish and goblins. Gollum wants to eat Bilbo, and the two have a contest of riddles to determine Bilbo's fate. Bilbo wins by asking the dubious riddle, "What have I got in my pocket? "

Gollum wants to eat Bilbo anyway, and he disappears to fetch his magic ring, which turns its wearer invisible. The ring, however, is the same one Bilbo has already found, and Bilbo uses it to escape from Gollum and flee the goblins. He finds a tunnel leading up out of the mountain and discovers that the dwarves and Gandalf have already escaped. Evil wolves known as Wargs pursue them, but Bilbo and his comrades are helped to safety by a group of great eagles and by Beorn, a creature who can change shape from a man into a bear.

The company enters the dark forest of Mirkwood, and, making matters worse, Gandalf abandons them to see to some other urgent business. In the forest, the dwarves are caught in the webs of some giant spiders, and Bilbo must rescue them with his sword and magic ring. After slaying his first spider, Bilbo names his sword Sting. Shortly after escaping the spiders, the unlucky dwarves are captured by a group of wood elves who live near the river that runs through Mirkwood. Bilbo uses his ring to help the company escape and slips the

指点，随后他们就动身穿越云雾山了。当他们在暴风雪中找到一个栖身洞穴时，一群住在山下洞穴里的小妖怪劫持了他们。甘达尔夫带领侏儒们从一个通道里出了山，但是他们却不小心把比尔博落下了。

在地道里徘徊的比尔博发现地上有一枚奇怪的金戒指，他拣起这枚戒指把它放在了口袋里。一会儿他就遇到了戈伦姆，一个生活在地下洞穴池塘里以捕食鱼类和小妖怪为生，总发出嘶嘶呜呜声的家伙。戈伦姆想吃掉比尔博，于是他们两个就通过猜谜比赛来决定比尔博的命运。比尔博获胜了，因为他出了一个有争议的谜语：“我口袋里装的是什么？”

戈伦姆还是想吃掉比尔博，于是他消失了想去取他那枚可以使佩戴者隐身的魔戒，然而那枚戒指恰好就是比尔博已经捡到的那枚，比尔博靠它摆脱了戈伦姆，而且还避开了小妖怪。他找到了一条通向山外的地道，并发现侏儒们已经成功地逃出来了。后来他们又遭到了沃尔格野狼的追杀，但在一群雄鹰以及波恩（一个可以由人变身为熊的生灵）的帮助下，比尔博和他的同伴安然无恙。

探险队走进了黑漆漆的幽暗森林，更糟的是甘达尔夫离开了他们去处理另一件紧急的事情。在森林里侏儒们被某种巨型蜘蛛织成的网困住了，比尔博必须用他的宝剑和魔戒来搭救他们。在他杀死了第一只蜘蛛后，比尔博把他的宝剑命名为斯汀。逃离蜘蛛后不久，倒霉的侏儒们又被住住一条贯穿幽暗森林的河流附近的森林小精灵抓住了。比尔博用他的魔戒帮助队

dwarves away from the elves by hiding them inside barrels, which he then floats down the river. The dwarves arrive at Lake Town, a human settlement near the Lonely Mountain, under which the great dragon sleeps with Thorin's treasure.

After sneaking into the mountain, Bilbo talks to the sly dragon Smaug, who unwittingly reveals that his armorlike scales have a weak spot near his heart. When Bilbo steals a golden cup from the dragon's hoard, Smaug is furious and flies out of the mountain to burn Lake Town in his rage. Bard, a heroic archer, has learned the secret about Smaug's weakness from a thrush, and he fires an arrow into the dragon's heart, killing him. Before Smaug dies, however, he burns Lake Town to the ground.

The humans of Lake Town and Elrond's elves of Mirkwood march to the Lonely Mountain to seek a share of the treasure as compensation for their losses and aid, but Thorin greedily refuses, and the humans and elves besiege the mountain, trapping the dwarves and the hobbit inside. Bilbo sneaks out to join the humans in an attempt to bring peace. When Thorin learns what Bilbo has done, he is livid, but Gandalf suddenly reappears and saves Bilbo from the dwarf lord's wrath.

At this moment, an army of goblins and Wargs marches on the mountain, and the humans, elves, and dwarves are forced to band together to defeat them. The goblins nearly win, but the arrival of Beorn and the eagles helps the good armies win the battle.

After the battle, Bilbo and Gandalf return to Hobbiton, where Bilbo continues to live. He is no longer accepted by respectable hobbit society, but he does not care. Bilbo now