

An English-Chinese Collation

The Confessions

忏悔录

(法)卢梭

中国戏剧出版社

中英文对照全译本丛书

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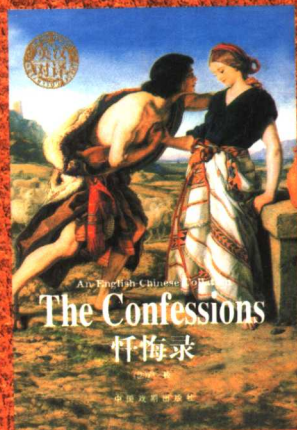
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中英文对照全译本丛书(第三辑)



*The Collected Masterworks
of the Foreign Literature*





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外国文学名著精粹文集

The Collected Masterworks of the Foreign Literature

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I HAVE begun on a work which is without precedent, whose accomplishment will have no imitator. I propose to set before my fellow - mortals a man in all the truth of nature; and this man shall be myself.

I have studied mankind and know my heart; I am not made like any one I have been acquainted with, perhaps like no one in existence; if not better, I at least claim originality, and whether Nature has acted rightly or wrongly in destroying the mold in which she cast me, can only be decided after I have been read.

I will present myself, whenever the last trumpet shall sound, before the Sovereign Judge with this book in my hand, and loudly proclaim, "Thus have I acted; these were my thoughts; such was I. With equal freedom and veracity have I related what was laudable or wicked, I have concealed no crimes, added no virtues; and if I have sometimes introduced superfluous ornament, it was merely to occupy a void occasioned by defect of memory: I may have supposed that certain, which I only knew to be probable, but have never asserted as truth, a conscious falsehood. Such as I was, I have declared myself; sometimes vile and despicable, at others, virtuous, generous, and sublime; even as Thou hast read my inmost soul: Power Eternal! assemble round Thy throne an innumerable throng of my fellow - mortals, let them listen to my confessions, let them blush at my depravity, let them tremble at my sufferings; let each in his turn expose with equal sincerity the failings, the wanderings of his heart, and if he dare, aver, I was better than that man."

I was born at Geneva, in 1712, son of Isaac Rousseau and Susannah Bernard, citizens. My father's share of a moderate competency, which was divided among fifteen children, being very trivial, his business of a watchmaker (in which he had the reputation of great ingenuity) was his only dependence. My mother's circumstances were more affluent; she was daughter of a Mons. Bernard, minister, and possessed a considerable share of modesty and beauty; indeed, my father found some difficulty in obtaining her hand.

The affection they entertained for each other was almost as early as their existence; at eight or nine years old they walked together, every evening on the banks of the Treille, and before they were ten, could not support the idea of separation. A natural sympathy of soul confined those sentiments of predilection which habit at first produced; born with minds susceptible of the most exquisite sensibility and tenderness, it was only necessary to encounter similar dispositions; that moment fortunately presented itself, and each surrendered a willing heart.

The obstacles that opposed served only to give a degree

我在从事一项前无古人、后无来者的事业。我要把一个自己的真实面目全部地展示在世人面前,只有我能这样做。

我洞悉自己,也了解他人。我生来就有别于我所见过的任何一个人。如果要问大自然打碎了它塑造我的模子是好还是坏,大家只有读过此书之后才可论断。

末日审判的号角想吹就吹吧,我将手拿着此书,站在至高无上的审判者面前。我将大声宣布:“这就是我所做,所想,我的为人。我坦率道出了善与恶,既没有隐瞒丑行,也没添加什么善举。万一有些什么不经意的添枝加叶,那可能是把自以为如此的事当成真事写了,但绝没有造假或撒谎。我如实地描绘自己,可鄙可恶绝不隐瞒,善良宽厚高尚也不遮掩;我把我那你所看不到的内心暴露出来了。上帝啊,把我的无数同类召到我周围来吧,让他们听听我的忏悔,让他们为我的丑恶而叹息,为我的可鄙而羞愧。让他们每一个人也以同样的真诚把自己的内心呈献在你的宝座前面,然后,看有谁敢于对你说:‘我比那人要好!’”(是一句拉丁文短诗,源自古罗马讽刺诗人波尔斯,强烈地表现出作者暴露自己灵魂的雄心)

我于1712年生于日内瓦,父亲是伊萨克·卢梭,母亲是苏珊·贝尔纳。祖上只有一份薄产,由十五个孩子平分,父亲所得微乎其微。他只有靠钟表匠的手艺谋生,他倒是个能工巧匠。我母亲是贝尔纳牧师的女儿,比较富有。她既聪明又美丽;父亲费了好大的劲儿才把她娶到手的。

他俩几乎是从小青梅竹马:八九岁时,每晚便一起在特莱依广场玩耍;十岁时,两人便形影不离了。他俩相知相好、心心相印,使得由习惯使然的感情更加地牢固了。两人生就温柔多情。

命运似乎在阻遏他俩的激情,反而

of vivacity to their affection, and the young lover, not being able to obtain his mistress, was overwhelmed with sorrow and despair. She advised him to travel - to forget her. He consented - he traveled but returned more passionate than ever, and had the happiness to find her equally constant, equally tender. After this proof of mutual affection, what could they resolve? - to dedicate their future lives to love! the resolution was ratified with a vow, on which Heaven shed its benediction.

Fortunately, my mother's brother, Gabriel Bernard, fell in love with one of my father's sisters: she had no objection to the match, but made the marriage of his sister with her brother an indispensable preliminary. Love soon removed every obstacle, and the two weddings were celebrated the same day: thus my uncle became the husband of my aunt, and their children were doubly cousins german. Before a year was expired, both had the happiness to become fathers, but were soon after obliged to submit to a separation.

My uncle Bernard, who was an engineer, went to serve in the empire and Hungary, under Prince Eugene, and distinguished himself both at the siege and battle of Belgrade. My father, after the birth of my only brother, set off, on recommendation, for Constantinople, and was appointed watchmaker to the Seraglio. During his absence, the beauty, wit, and accomplishments of my mother attracted a number of admirers, among whom Mons. de la Closure, Resident of France, was the most assiduous in his attentions. His passion must have been extremely violent, since after a period of thirty years I have seen him affected at the very mention of her name.

My mother had a defense more powerful even than her virtue; she tenderly loved my father, and conjured him to return; his inclination seconding his request, he gave up every prospect of emolument, and hastened to Geneva.

I was the unfortunate fruit of this return, being born ten months after, in a very weakly and infirm state; my birth cost my mother her life, and was the first of my misfortunes. I am ignorant how my father supported her loss at that time, but I know he was ever after inconsolable. In me he still thought he saw her he so tenderly lamented, but could never forget that I had been the innocent cause of his misfortune, nor did he ever embrace me, but his sighs, the convulsive pressure of his arms, witnessed that a bitter regret mingled itself with his caresses, though, as may be supposed, they were not on this account less ardent. When he said to me, "Jean Jacques, let us talk of your mother," my usual reply was, "Yes, father, but then, you know, we shall cry," and immediately the tears started from his eyes. "Ah!" exclaimed he, with agitation, "Give me back my wife; at least console me for her loss; fill up, dear boy, the void she has left in my soul. Could I love thee thus wert thou only my son?"

更使他俩难舍难分。他出了远门,可是归来时,非但未能忘掉她,反而爱得更加炽热。他发觉自己的心上人仍旧温柔忠贞。这么一来,两人便终身相许了。

我舅舅加布里埃尔·贝尔纳爱上了我的一位姑姑。但姑姑提出,只有他姐姐嫁给她哥哥她才答应嫁给他。结果,有情人终成眷属,两桩婚事在同一天举行了。

因此,我舅舅也是我姑父,他们的孩子成了我双重的表亲了。一年后,两家各添了个孩子,后来两家便不得不分开了。

我母亲很看重贞操,不为人所惑。她真情地爱着自己的丈夫,催促他赶紧回来。他抛下一切,返回家来。

十个月后,我出世了,先天不足,病歪歪的;母亲因生我而死,所以我的出生是我所有不幸中的第一个不幸。我不知道父亲是如何忍受失去我母亲的痛楚的,但我知道他的悲痛始终没有得到抚慰。他认为在我身上重又看到了母亲,但又不能忘记是我夺去了她的生命。每当他亲我的时候,我总感到在他的叹息、他的抽搐的搂抱之中,有一丝苦涩的遗憾交织其中。他跟我说:"让·雅克,咱们来聊聊你母亲吧。"我便回答他说:"好啊!我们要大哭一场了。"我这么一说,他便老泪纵横了。"唉!"他唉声叹气,道,"把她还给我吧,抚平我失去她的痛楚吧,填满她在我心灵中留下的空缺吧。如果你只是我的儿子,我会这么爱你吗?"母亲谢世四十

Forty years after this loss he expired in the arms of a second wife, but the name of the first still vibrated on his lips, still was her image engraved on his heart.

Such were the authors of my being; of all the gifts it had pleased Heaven to bestow on them, a feeling heart was the only one that descended to me; this had been the source of their felicity, it was the foundation of all my misfortunes.

I came into the world with so few signs of life, that they entertained but little hope of preserving me, with the seeds of a disorder that has gathered strength with years, and from which I am now relieved at intervals, only to suffer a different, though more intolerable evil. I owed my preservation to one of my father's sisters, an amiable and virtuous girl, who took the most tender care of me; she is yet living, nursing, at the age of fourscore, a husband younger than herself, but worn out with excessive drinking. Dear aunt! I freely forgive your having preserved my life, and only lament that it is not in my power to bestow on the decline of your days the tender solicitude and care you lavished on the first dawn of mine. My nurse, Jaqueline, is likewise living, and in goodhealth - the hands that opened my eyes to the light of this world may close them at my death. We suffer before we think; it is the common lot of humanity. I experienced more than my proportion of it. I have no knowledge of what passed prior to my fifth or sixth year; I recollect nothing of learning to read, I only remember what effect the first considerable exercise of it produced on my mind; and from that moment I date an uninterrupted knowledge of myself.

Every night, after supper, we read some part of a small collection of romances which had been my mother's. My father's design was only to improve me in reading, and he thought these entertaining works were calculated to give me a fondness for it; but we soon found ourselves so interested in the adventures they contained, that we alternately read whole nights together, and could not bear to give over until at the conclusion of a volume. Sometimes, in a morning, on hearing the swallows at our window, my father, quite ashamed of this weakness, would cry, "Come, come, let us go to bed; I am more a child than thou art."

I soon acquired, by this dangerous custom, not only an extreme facility in reading and comprehending, but, for my age, a too intimate acquaintance with the passions. An infinity of sensations were familiar to me, without possessing any precise idea of the objects to which they related - I had conceived nothing - I had felt the whole. This confused succession of emotions did not retard the future efforts of my reason, though they added an extravagant, romantic notion of human life, which experience and reflection have never been able to eradicate.

年后,父亲嘴里念叨着我母亲的名字,心里深藏着她的音容笑貌,在我继母怀中死去。

这就是我的生身父母。在上苍赋予他们的所有品德中,唯一留给我的就是一颗温柔的心,这颗温柔的心铸就了他俩的幸福,但却造成了我一生中的所有不幸。

我生下来的时候几乎快要死了,大家对我能活下来已不抱希望。我随身带来了一种病根,随着年岁的增长而加重,虽时有缓解,但接着又使我更加疼痛难忍。我的一位姑姑即苏珊·卢梭,后为贡塞鲁夫人,对我极尽关怀照料,救了我的命。在我写这事的时候,她还健在,已八十高龄,还在照料我那位比她小、但却因酗酒而健康不佳的姑父。亲爱的姑姑,但我很难受,不能在您晚年时报答您在我出世时所给予我的悉心照料。我的那位老奶妈雅克琳也依然健在,身体硬朗,腰板结实。在我出世时,让我睁开眼的手,将在我死去时为我合上眼睛。这是人类的共同命运,对此我比别人感觉要深。我不知道我五、六岁前的事;不知道我是怎么学会认字的;我只记得最初读的那些书及其对我的影响,我对自己不间断地了解便从此时开始。我母亲留下了一些小说。

我和父亲晚饭之后便开始阅读它们。起初,他只是为了让我练习读一些有趣的书,但很快,我们兴趣都变得十分强烈,我和父亲便轮流不停地读,通宵达旦,一直到读完结尾为止。

很快,我便通过这种方法掌握了一种极大的阅读和理解能力,而且还有了我这种年龄的孩子,对激情的一种独一无二的悟性。我对具体事尚无任何概念,但已懂得了所有的感情。我对什么都不理解,但却全都感受到了。这些乱糟糟的感情,丝毫没有损害我尚没有的理性,但却为我造就了另一种类型的理智,使我对待人生有了一些奇特而浪漫的想法,日后的经验和反省都没能够很好地治愈它们。

My romance reading concluded with the summer of 1719, the following winter was differently employed. My mother's library being quite exhausted, we had recourse to that part of her father's which had devolved to us; here we happily found some valuable books, which was by no means extraordinary, having been selected by a minister that truly deserved that title, in whom learning (which was the rage of the times) was but a secondary commendation, his taste and good sense being most conspicuous. The history of the Church and Empire by LeSueur, Bossuett's Discourses on Universal History, Plutarch's Lives, the History of Venice by Nani, Ovid's Metamorphoses, La Bruyere, Fontenelle's World, his Dialogues of the Dead, and a few volumes of Moliere, were soon ranged in my father's closet, where, during the hours he was employed in his business, I daily read them, with an avidity and taste uncommon, perhaps unprecedented at my age.

Plutarch presently became my greatest favorite. The satisfaction I derived from the repeated readings I gave this author, extinguished my passion for romances, and I shortly preferred Agesilaus, Brutus, and Aristides, to Orondates, Artemenes, and Juba. These interesting studies, seconded by the conversations they frequently occasioned with my father, produced that republican spirit and love of liberty, that haughty and invincible turn of mind, which rendered me impatient of restraint or servitude, and became the torment of my life, as I continually found myself in situations incompatible with these sentiments. Incessantly occupied with Rome and Athens, conversing, if I may so express myself, with their illustrious heroes; born the citizen of a republic, of a father whose ruling passion was the love of his country, I was fired with these examples; could fancy myself a Greek or Roman, and readily give into the character of the personage whose life I read; transported by the recital of any extraordinary instance of fortitude or intrepidity, animation flashed from my eyes, and gave my voice additional strength and energy. One day, at table, while relating the fortitude of Scœvola, they were terrified at seeing me start from my seat and hold my hand over a hot chafing-dish, to represent more forcibly the action of that determined Roman.

My brother, who was seven years older than myself, was brought up to my father's profession. The extraordinary affection they lavished on me might be the reason he was too much neglected; this certainly was a fault which cannot be justified. His education and morals suffered by this neglect, and he acquired the habits of a libertine before he arrived at

1719年夏天,小说读完了。冬天,我们就又干别的了。我母亲的藏书都读过了,我们便把外公留给我们的书拿来读。很巧,里面有一些好书。这并不奇怪,这原是一位诚实而博学的牧师的珍藏,因为这是时尚使然,而且他还是——一位颇有见地且很风趣的人。勒絮厄尔的《宗教与帝国史》、博絮埃法的《世界通史》、普吕塔克的《名人传》、纳尼的《威尼斯史》、奥维德的《变形记》、拉布吕耶尔(法国著名作家 1627-1704,卢梭常读他的《论宇宙史》)的著作、丰特奈尔的《宇宙万象》和《死者对话录》,以及莫里哀的几部著作,都给搬到父亲的工作间里来了。我每天便在他干活儿时,念给他听。我对这些书有了一种少有的、也许是这个年岁的孩子所绝无仅有的兴趣。

我特别喜爱普吕塔克。我饶有兴味地一遍又一遍地读他的书,这稍微减少了我对小说的钟情。很快我便喜欢上了阿格西拉斯、布鲁图斯、阿里斯蒂德(三人皆为古希腊、罗马时代的人物),胜过对欧隆达特、阿泰门和攸巴(他们分别为当时的三部流行小说中的人物)的喜爱。这些有趣的书以及我们父子俩就这些书的谈论铸就了我那种自由的共和思想,那种不屈服的高傲性格,不愿意受到桎梏和奴役,使得我一生中,在这种性格受到压抑之时,便痛苦万状。我朝思暮想着罗马和雅典,可以说是生活在其伟人们之中,但我生来就是一个共和国的公民,是一位对祖国的爱高于一切的父亲的儿子,我以父亲为榜样,也对祖国充满了激情。我自以为成了希腊人或罗马人。我变成我在读其生平的那些人物了,他们的忠贞不渝、英勇不屈深深地打动了,使我目光炯炯,声音洪亮。有一天,我在饭桌上叙述塞沃拉(罗马青年英雄,因夜间刺入侵者国王时错杀了他人而悔恨交加,便将自己右手置于火上烧灼,以示自惩)的英雄壮举时,为了表演逼真,我离开餐桌,把手放在火盆上,大家见了全都吓坏了。

我有个哥哥,大我七岁。他跟着父亲学手艺。大家对我极其偏爱,对他便有所冷落。我对此并不满意。这种冷落使他年岁很小,便已放浪形骸了。他后来被送到别人家去学徒,但像在自己家里一样,经常偷偷溜出去。但我仍然

an age to be really one. My father tried what effect placing him with a master would produce, but he still persisted in the same ill conduct. Though I saw him so seldom that it could hardly be said we were acquainted, I loved him tenderly, and believe he had as strong an affection for me as a youth of his dissipated turn of mind could be supposed capable of. One day, I remember, when my father was correcting him severely, I threw myself between them, embracing my brother, whom I covered with my body, receiving the strokes designed for him; I persisted so obstinately in my protection, that either softened by my cries and tears, or fearing to hurt me most, his anger subsided, and he pardoned his fault. In the end, my brother's conduct became so bad that he suddenly disappeared, and we learned some time after that he was in Germany, but he never wrote to us, and from that day we heard no news of him; thus I became an only son.

If this poor lad was neglected, it was quite different with his brother, for the children of a king could not be treated with more attention and tenderness than were bestowed on my infancy, being the darling of the family; and what is rather uncommon, though treated as a beloved, never a spoiled child; was never permitted, while under paternal inspection, to play in the street with other children; never had any occasion to contradict or indulge those fantastical humors which are usually attributed to nature, but are in reality the effects of an injudicious education. I had the faults common to my age, was talkative, a glutton, and sometimes a liar; made no scruple of stealing sweetmeats, fruits, or, indeed, any kind of eatables; but never took delight in mischievous waste, in accusing others, or tormenting harmless animals. I recollect, indeed, that one day, while Madam Clot, a neighbor of ours, was gone to church, I made water in her kettle; the remembrance even now makes me smile, for Madam Clot (though, if you please, a good sort of creature) was one of the most tedious grumbling old women I ever knew. Thus have I given a brief, but faithful, history of my childish transgressions.

How could I become cruel or vicious, when I had before my eyes only examples of mildness, and was surrounded by some of the best people in the world? My father, my aunt, my nurse, my relations, our friends, our neighbors, all I had any connections with, did not obey me, it is true, but loved me tenderly, and I returned their affection. I found so little to excite my desires, and those I had were so seldom contradicted, that I was hardly sensible of possessing any, and can solemnly aver I was an absolute stranger to caprice until after I had experienced the authority of a master.

Those hours that were not employed in reading or writing with my father, or walking with my governess, Jaque-

真心地爱着他,他也像一个放荡之人能够爱点什么似的喜欢我。最后,哥哥越变越坏,干脆逃得无影无踪。过了一段,大家才知道他到了德国。他一封信都没写回来过。自此之后,就再也没有他的消息了。

可怜的哥哥受人冷落,他的弟弟我可并非如此,我身边的所有人都把我当成了宝贝,王家的孩子们也不会比我所受到的关怀更深切,更加难得的是,我始终被疼爱,却并不是娇惯溺爱。在我离开家庭之前,加里人从来没让我单独与其他孩子一起跑上街去过,从来没有要压制或满足任何那些古怪的脾性,大家把这些脾性归之于天生的,但它们却完全是教育的结果。我有我这么大孩子的缺点:我话多,贪馋,有时候还说假话。我可能会偷吃水果、糖果、零食,但我从不存心坑人毁物,给人添乱,折磨可怜的小动物。不过,我记得有一次,我曾趁我们的一位邻居克洛太太去听布道时,在她家的锅里撒过尿。说实在的,一想起这事,我仍觉得开心,因为克洛太太确实是个老好人,但确实是我一生中所见过的最受唠叨的老太太。这就是我幼时的种种坏事的简短而真切的故事。

我所见到的都是些善良的榜样,我身边尽是些最好的人,可我是怎么变坏了的呢?父亲、姑姑、奶奶、亲戚、朋友、邻居等身边的所有人,并非一味地迁就我,我的任性很少受到激发或阻遏,以致我都想不起自己有过什么任性行为。在我受老师管束之前,我都不知道何为奇思异想。

我除了在父亲身边看书写字而外,除了奶奶带我去玩之外,我总是同姑姑

line, I spent with my aunt; and whether seeing her embroidery, or hearing her sing, whether sitting or standing by her side, I was ever happy. Her tenderness and unaffected gayety, the charms of her figure and countenance, have left such indelible impressions on my mind, that her manner, look, and attitude, are still before my eyes; I recollect a thousand little caressing questions; could describe her clothes, her head - dress, nor have the two curls of fine black hair which hung on her temples, according to the mode of that time, escaped my memory.

Though my taste, or rather passion, for music, did not show itself until a considerable time after, I am fully persuaded it is to her I am indebted for it. She knew a great number of songs, which she sung with great sweetness and melody. The serenity and cheerfulness which were conspicuous in this lovely girl, banished melancholy, and made all round her happy.

The charms of her voice had such an affect on me, that not only several of her songs have ever since remained on my memory, but some I have not thought of from my infancy, as I grow old, return upon my mind with a charm altogether inexpressible. Would any one believe that an old dotard like me, worn out with care and infirmity, should sometime surprise himself weeping like a child, and in a voice querulous, and broken by age, muttering out one of those airs which were the favorites of my infancy? There is one song in particular, whose tune I perfectly recollect, but the words that compose the latter half of it constantly refuse every effort to recall them, though I have a confused idea of the rhymes. The beginning, with what I have been able to recollect of the remainder, is as follows:

Turcis, je n'ose
 Ecouter ton Chalumeau
 Sous l'Ormeau;
 Car on en cause
 Deja dans notre hameau.

 - un Berger
 s'engager
 sans danger,
 Et toujours l'épine est sous la rose.

I have endeavored to account for the invincible charm my heart feels on the recollection of this fragment, but it is altogether inexplicable. I only know, that before I get to the end of it, I always find my voice interrupted by tenderness, and my eyes suffused with tears. I have a hundred times formed the resolution of writing to Paris for the remainder of these words, if any one should chance to know them; but I am almost certain the pleasure I take in the recollection would be greatly diminished was I assured any one but my poor aunt Susan had sung them. Such were my affections on

在一起,坐在或站在她的身边,看她刺绣,听她唱歌,心里挺高兴。她的开朗、和善、她那姣好的容貌给我留下了极深刻的印象,她的那些温馨的话语仍萦绕在我的耳边。我甚至还记得她的穿着打扮,还记得她赶时髦,两鬓留有两个小黑发卷。

我深信,我很久以后才培养起来的对音乐的爱好,或者说是激情,应归功于她。姑姑会唱许许多多美妙的小调和歌曲,唱起来委婉动听。这位好姑娘心宁气静,为她自己及其周围的人驱除了怅惘和忧伤。

她的歌声对我的吸引力极大,以致不仅她的许多首歌始终留存在我的记忆之中,即使今天我已记忆不佳,那些自孩童时起已完全忘却的歌曲,随着我的年迈,以一种我无以言表的妩媚,又浮现在我的脑海之中。谁会相信,我这么一个饱经风霜苦痛的老糊涂,有时竟然会像个孩子似的,用已经微弱、颤抖的声音,一边哼唱这些小调,一边啜泣呢?特别是其中的一首歌的曲调,我还完全记得,但后半段的词儿,我怎么想也想不起来了,下面是歌的开头以及我还能记起的余下部分:

“我不敢,狄西,
 到小榆树下,
 去听你吹芦笛;
 因为在我们村里,
 大家已经在议论我们。
 ……一个牧童
 ……一往情深
 ……毫不足虑,
 是玫瑰总要带刺儿的。”

我在寻思,我的心为什么对这首歌情有独钟,我实在弄不明白。每当我唱这首歌时,总不免潸然泪下,时断时续。这就是我涉足人世时最初的情感:那颗既那么高傲又那么温柔的心,那种女性的但却难以驯服的性格,就这样开始在我身上形成或显现出来了。这种性格始终游移在懦弱和勇敢之间,游移在柔弱和刚毅之间,最后,使我自己矛盾重重,使得我节制和享受、快乐和审慎全

entering this life. Thus began to form and demonstrate itself a heart at once haughty and tender, a character effeminate, yet invincible; which, fluctuating between weakness and courage, luxury and virtue, has ever set me in contradiction to myself; causing abstinence and enjoyment, pleasure and prudence, equally to shun me.

This course of education was interrupted by an accident, whose consequences influenced the rest of my life. My father had a quarrel ungenerous man, happening to bleed at the nose, in order to be revenged, accused my father of having drawn his sword on him in the city, and in consequence of this charge they were about to conduct him to prison. He insisted (according to the law of this republic) that the accuser should be confined at the same time; and, not being able to obtain this, preferred a voluntary banishment for the remainder of his life, to giving up a point by which he must sacrifice his honor and liberty.

I remained under the tuition of my uncle Bernard, who was at that time employed in the fortifications of Geneva. He had lost his eldest daughter, but had a son about my own age, and we were sent together to Bossey, to board with the Minister Lambercier. Here we were to learn Latin, with all the insignificant trash that has obtained the name of education.

Two years spent in this village softened, in some degree, my Roman fierceness, and again reduced me to a state of childhood. At Geneva, where nothing was exacted, I loved reading, which was, indeed, my principal amusement; but, at Bossey, where application was expected, I was fond of play as a relaxation. The country was so new, so charming in my idea, that it seemed impossible to find satiety in its enjoyments, and I conceived a passion for rural life, which time has not been able to extinguish; nor have I ever ceased to regret the pure and tranquil pleasures I enjoyed at this place in my childhood; the remembrance having followed me through every age, even to that in which I am hastening again towards it.

The simplicity of this rural life was of infinite advantage in opening my heart to the reception of true friendship. The sentiments I had hitherto formed on this subject were extremely elevated, but altogether imaginary. The habit of living in this peaceful manner soon united me tenderly to my cousin Bernard; my affection was more ardent than that I had felt for my brother, nor has time ever been able to efface it. He was a tall, lank, weakly boy, with a mind as

都没能获得。

这种教育被一次意外的事情打断了,这事的后果影响了我以后的一生。我父亲同一个名叫戈蒂埃的法国上尉发生争吵,这个戈蒂埃是个既无礼又胆怯之輩,但与议会的人沾亲带故,他的鼻子出血了,为了报复,他指控我父亲在城里持剑逞凶。被判入狱的父亲,坚决要求根据法律,让指控者与他一同蹲监狱。父亲因为要求未能允准,宁可离开日内瓦,一辈子流落他乡,也不愿在他觉得有损于荣誉和自由的问题上让步。

我舅舅贝尔纳当了我的监护人,他当时在日内瓦防御工程工作。他的大女儿死了,但他还有个儿子,与我同年。我俩一起被送到博赛,在朗贝尔西埃牧师家寄宿,学习拉丁文,学习人们冠之以教育美名的一切繁琐杂乱的东西。

在乡村呆了两年,我那罗马人的粗暴性格有所收敛,恢复了童稚。在日内瓦,无人逼迫我,我却喜欢看书学习。那几乎是我唯一的乐趣。而在博赛,我不爱做功课,反而喜欢使人得以放松的游戏。乡村对我来说特别新鲜,我不能不尽情享受,乐此不疲。我对乡村产生了一种极其强烈的爱,这种爱永远也不能扑灭。在我此后的岁月中,每当我想起在那儿度过的幸福时刻,我便对在乡村的乐趣感到留恋,朗贝尔西埃先生是一位极其通情达理的人,他既不忽略对我们的教育,又不用过多的作业来压我们,尽管我憎恶受人管束,但每每回想起以往学习的情景时,我从未感到过厌恶,诚然,我并没从他那儿学到很多东西,但是,我并没花多大工夫,而且丝毫没忘,这足以证明他善于教学。

这种乡村生活的质朴给了我一个无价之宝,使我敞开心扉寻求友谊。此前,我只有些高贵的但却是想像的情感。共同生活在一种平和的氛围中的习惯,使我与表哥贝尔纳情投意合。不久,我对他便产生了远胜于对我哥哥的感情,而且从未磨灭。他是一个身材修长、纤细瘦削的小伙子,性情之温柔一

mild as his body was feeble, and who did not wrong the good opinion they were disposed to entertain for the son of my guardian. Our studies, amusements, and tasks, were the same; we were alone; each wanted a playmate; to separate would, in some measure, have been to annihilate us. Though we had not many opportunities of demonstrating our attachment to each other, it was certainly extreme; and so far from enduring the thought of separation, we could not even form an idea that we should ever be able to submit to it. Each of a disposition to be won by kindness, and complaisant, when not soured by contradiction, we agreed in every particular. If, by the favor of those who governed us he had the ascendant while in their presence, I was sure to acquire it when we were alone, and this preserved the equilibrium so necessary in friendship. If he hesitated in repeating his task, I prompted him; when my exercises were finished, I helped to write his; and, in our amusements, my disposition being most active, ever had the lead. In a word, our characters accorded so well, and the friendship that subsisted between us was so cordial, that during the five years we were at Bossey and Geneva we were inseparable; we often fought, it is true, but there never was any occasion to separate us. No one of our quarrels lasted more than a quarter of an hour, and never in our lives did we make any complaint of each other. It may be said, these remarks are frivolous; but, perhaps, a similar example among children can hardly be produced.

The manner in which I passed my time at Bossey was so agreeable to my disposition, that it only required a longer duration absolutely to have fixed my character, which would have had only peaceable, affectionate, benevolent sentiments for its basis. I believe no individual of our kind ever possessed less natural vanity than myself. At intervals, by an extraordinary effort, I arrived at sublime ideas, but presently sunk again into my original languor. To be beloved by every one who knew me was my most ardent wish. I was naturally mild, my cousin was equally so, and those who had the care of us were of similar dispositions. Everything contributed to strengthen those propensities which nature had implanted in my breast, and during the two years I was neither the victim nor witness of any violent emotions.

I knew nothing so delightful as to see every one content; not only with me, but all that concerned them. When repeating our catechism at church, nothing could give me greater vexation, on being obliged to hesitate, than to see Miss Lambercier's countenance express disapprobation and uneasiness. This alone was more afflicting to me than the shame of faltering before so many witnesses, which, notwithstanding, was sufficiently painful; for though not over-solicitous of praise, I was feelingly alive to shame; yet I can truly affirm, the dread of being reprimanded by Miss

如其身体的孱弱,而且,并不因为自己是我监护人之子,在家中受人偏爱,任性撒娇。我俩的功课、消遣、爱好都相同;我们都没有朋友;我们年龄相同;双方都需要有个伴儿;我俩若是分开,可以说都承受不起。尽管我俩很少有机会表达我们的难舍难分,但我们从未想到过可能终有一别。我俩都心慈面善,只要别人不强逼,我们总是乖巧听话的。我俩在一切事情上都意见一致。如果由于管我们的人的偏爱,他们在他们的眼里高我一筹的话,私下里,我便占一次他的上风,双方摆平。课上,当他背不上来时,我便给他提词儿;当我做完作业时,我便帮着他做,而在游戏时,我的兴趣比他浓,总是我带着他玩。总之,我俩的性格如此协调一致,维系着我俩的友谊如此真诚,以致在我们几乎形影不离的五年多里,不管是在博赛还是在日内瓦,我们虽打过架,但从未要人劝解,我们每次争吵从未超过一刻钟,双方都从未告过对方的状。尽管有人会认为这都是小孩子的事,但从其中却产生了一个榜样,这也许是从有孩子时起便是独一无二的。

我在博赛的生活方式对我极其合适,如果能呆得更长些,我的性格就彻底形成了。这种生活方式的基调是温柔、亲切、恬静的情感。我认为世上没有谁生来就比我的虚荣心要小。我常常因为冲动而心高气昂,但随即便重又萎靡颓丧。我最强烈的愿望是受到接近我的所有人的喜爱。我很温柔,我表哥也一样,连管教我们的人也如此。在整整两年里,我既没看见也没受到过粗暴的对待。一切都在我心中培育了受之自然的禀性。

看见大家对我和一切事情都很满意,我真是快活极了。我总也忘不了,在教堂里回答教理问答时,当我一时语塞,朗贝尔西埃小姐面露焦急不安时,我真是无地自容。就此一点已比当众出丑更使我难受不已的了,但却让我极其感动,因为,尽管我对赞扬很少动心,但我对羞愧却始终是十分敏感的,我并不怕受到朗贝尔西埃小姐的呵斥,反倒是担心让她痛苦难受。