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冷山 Cold Mountain

〔美〕 Charles Frazier 原著 Catherine Buchanan 导读

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天津科技翻译出版公司

图书在版编目(CIP)数据 ·

冷山, 英汉对照 / (美)法吉尔(Frazier, C.)著, 王怡译, 一天津, 天津科技翻译出版公司, 2008.1

(哈佛蓝星双语名著导读)

书名原文:Cold Mountain

ISBN 978-7-5433-2251-6

I. 冷··· II. ①法··· ②王··· III. ①英语一汉语一对照读物②长篇小说一美国一现代 IV. H319.4:I

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2007)第 163165 号

Cold Mountain By Frazier, C.

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Chinese edition © 2008 by Tianjin Science & Technology Translation & Publishing Co. This Chinese edition was published by arrangement with Sterling Publishing.,Inc.,387 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10016.

哈佛蓝星双语名著导读:冷山

TODAY'S MOST POPULAR STUDY GUIDES

出 版:天津科技翻译出版公司

出版人:蔡颢

地 址:天津市南开区白堤路 244 号

邮政编码: 300192

电 话: 022-87894896

传 真: 022-87895650

网 址: www.tsttpc.com

印 刷:天津市蓟县宏图印务有限公司

发 行:全国新华书店

版本记录: 846×1092 32 开本 6.125 印张 123 千字

2008年1月第1版 2008年1月第1次印刷

定价:10.00元

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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

old Mountain, Charles Frazier's debut novel, won critical acclaim and the National Book Award for fiction when it was published in 1997. As an author of travel books and short stories, Frazier had ample experience in writing about landscapes and using a condensed prose style. Frazier applied these literary skills in crafting Cold Mountain's episodic structure and detailed descriptive passages. Frazier's prose draws on the transcendentalism of Ralph Waldo Emerson, the scope of southern novels by authors such as William Faulkner, and the appreciation of nature expressed in the poetry of Walt Whitman. Frazier lives in North Carolina, and his choice of Cold Mountain's setting along the Blue Ridge Mountains conveys his profound identification with this hallowed terrain.

The epic novel charts its course through the troubled waters of nineteenth-century American history. The action is set in 1864, three years after the outbreak of the Civil War, in an era of discord between North and South. Although the war is essentially a backdrop for events, it is clear that Inman's experiences as a Confederate soldier have profoundly affected his understanding of the world and have resurrected his dormant spiritual anxieties. Many characters tell tales of hardship and despair, some of which are war stories. These tales help develop the themes of displacement and exile that define the novel.

来だ・去除

查尔斯·弗雷泽的首部小说《冷山》1997年一经出版便获得评论界的高度评价,并一举荣获美国国家图书奖。作为一名游记和短篇小说作家,弗雷泽在景色描写和简约的散文风格运用方面经验颇丰。他运用这些文学技巧设计小说的分段式结构,展开了段落中的细节描写。弗雷泽的散文吸取了拉尔夫·瓦尔多·爱默生的超验主义思想,采用威廉·福克纳等作家的美国南方小说的题材,并反映出华尔特·惠特曼诗歌中所表现出的对于自然的热爱。弗雷泽生活在北卡罗来纳州,选择蓝岭山脉作为《冷山》的背景恰恰表达了作者对于这片神圣土地的深刻认同。

这部史诗小说将其情节发展置于19世纪美国动荡不安的时代背景下。故事发生在美国内战爆发后的第三年,也就是1864年,正是南北冲突不可调和的时期。尽管战争实际上只是故事发生的背景,但显然,作为一名邦联士兵,英曼的经历对他的世界观产生了深远的影响,并复活了他沉睡的内心焦虑。小说中的许多人物都讲述了关于困境和绝望的经历,这些经历中也包括战争故事。这些故事有助于逐步突显小说关于错位和放逐的主题。



Frazier suggests that the war damaged Southerners both personally and politically. Frazier's characters are rarely supportive of one side or another. After three years of conflict, many are disillusioned with what they consider to be the self-ish motivations of both sides. In particular, the inhabitants of Cold Mountain are presented as guarded, insular, and narrow-minded.

Frazier examines the issue of slavery in the context of the war, but as a backdrop to central events. The characters are racially diverse, but the novel tends to focus on white society. Frazier incorporates the cruel treatment meted out to slaves by Southern landowners into more general themes like human suffering and hope for a better future. Frazier is more interested in Inman and Ada's relationship to each other and to the landscape than he is in the politics of the era, leaving us to decide whether he shortchanges historical events. The novel is most effective in capturing the spirit of two people searching for self-knowledge and romantic fulfillment.

The book is also effective in presenting a view of nine-teenth-century Americans' relationship to the land. Inman's obsessive drive westward is an expression of his freedom of spirit. When he is forced to retrace his steps east by the military, Inman feels as though life is slipping away from him. As Henry David Thoreau wrote in his essay "Walking" (1862), "The future lies [west] to me.... Eastward I go by force; but westward I go free." Frazier's novel is set on the verge of a new era, and Inman seems to symbolize the independence of spirit and dynamic will of those who will later lay claim to the West.

Although he touches upon the issue of migration west-

弗雷泽暗示,南方人在这场战争中不但个人方面,而且政治上也遭受了巨大打击。他笔下的人物很少支持交战的某一方。三年的战争使许多人对参战双方的自私动机不再抱任何幻想,特别是冷山的居民,弗雷泽将他们表现得谨慎、保守而狭隘。

弗雷泽在战争的环境下审视奴隶制问题,但仅仅 将其处理为中心事件的背景。小说中的人物属于不同 种族,但小说更倾向于关注白人社会。弗雷泽把南方 地主对奴隶施加的残酷虐待融入到更广泛的主题,例 如人类的苦难和他们对美好未来的向往。比起英曼当 时在政治上的参与,弗雷泽更关心的是他和艾达之间 的关系以及自然景色,至于他是否因此而故意忽略了 历史事实,则需留给我们去评判了。小说将两个主人 公不断认识自我和寻觅美满爱情的心态表现得淋漓 尽致。

小说同时成功展现了19世纪美国人与土地之间的关系。英曼西进的强烈欲望正是他自由心灵的表现。当军队迫使他向东倒退时,他觉得生命正渐渐离他远去。正如亨利·大卫·梭罗在他的文章《散步》(1862)中所写的那样,"对我来说未来存在于西方……向东实非我所愿;向西我便随心所欲。"在弗雷泽的小说里,一个崭新的时代即将到来,英曼似乎正象征那些日后征服西部的人们的独立精神和强大意志。

尽管触及到西部迁移和内战惨痛的经历,弗雷泽

ward as well as the trauma of Civil War experiences, Frazier refrains from coming to any definitive political conclusions in his novel. Instead, *Cold Mountain* examines the evolution of human relationships in tandem with the seasonal changes and variations of the natural world. Although set in the Civil War era, Frazier's work deals primarily with the timeless search for self-realization.

在小说中并未得出任何明确的政治性结论。相反,《冷山》探讨的是伴随季节更替和自然界变化,人类关系的演变过程。尽管作品以内战为背景,但其本质是对自我实现永恒的寻觅。★

PLOT OVERVIEW

old Mountain opens with its protagonist, Inman, lying in a Virginia hospital recovering from war wounds. He is shattered by the violence he has witnessed while fighting in the Confederate army and wants to go home to reunite with Ada, the woman he loves. Inman talks to a blind man and realizes that losing something you already have is worse than not getting what you want. One day in town, Inman writes to inform Ada that he is returning home. That night, he leaves the hospital through a window and sets out on his journey back to North Carolina.

The story of Inman's adventures intertwines with Ada's story. Ada is left alone to manage Black Cove Farm following her father's death. She is bereft and has no idea where she belongs or how she should earn a living. When she visits the Swangers, her neighbors, Ada looks into a well to foretell her future. She sees a man walking through the woods on a journey but does not know what this vision means. The next day, Sally Swanger sends a local girl named Ruby to help out on the farm. Ruby and Ada become friends and establish a comfortable domestic routine.

Meanwhile, Inman's journey westward is fraught with danger and violence. He is pursued across the Cape Fear River, escaping with his life thanks to the skill of a girl paddling a dugout canoe. Inman intervenes when he finds a dissolute preacher, Solomon Veasey, attempting to murder his (the

情节・意

《冷山》的开篇,主人公英曼因在战斗中负伤而躺在弗吉尼亚一所医院里修养。目睹了战争的暴力,身心交瘁的英曼希望回家与心爱的女人艾达团聚。英曼和一个瞎子交谈后认识到,得而复失要比从未拥有更糟糕。一天进城时,英曼写信告诉艾达他就要回家了。那天夜里他跳窗离开了医院,踏上返回北卡罗来纳州的旅程。

英曼的征途与艾达的经历相互交织。父亲门罗去世后,留下艾达独自照料布莱克谷农场。她茫然无助,不知何处是自己的归宿,也不知日后该如何生存。她拜访邻居斯万哲夫妇时俯看井水,希望能够预知未来。她看到一个男人在树林中穿行,但无法领会个中的含义。第二天,莎莉·斯万哲安排当地一个叫鲁比的女孩帮忙打理农场的活计。艾达和鲁比成为朋友,两个人过上了舒适而规律的生活。

与此同时,英曼西进的旅途险象环生、暴力不断。 渡过开普菲尔河时,他被人追赶,多亏一位姑娘划独 木舟相救才得以全身而退。而后他又阻止了一个道德 沦丧的牧师所罗门·维西杀死他怀孕的情人。牧师因 此被逐出村子,英曼被迫和他同行。接着维西又在一 preacher's) pregnant lover. The preacher is exiled from his community, and Inman is forced tocontinue part of his journey with Veasey. Inman has to intervene again when Veasey causes trouble in a store and at an inn. While Veasey spends the night with a prostitute called Big Tildy, the peddler Odell tells Inman a sad story about landowners' cruelty towards slaves.

The next day, Inman and Veasey help a man remove a dead bull from his stream. This man, Junior, invites them to his home to spend the night, and several strange things happen. Inman is drugged and forced to marry Junior's wife, who the author suggests may be a cannibal. Junior then hands Inman and Veasey over to the Home Guard, the military force that has been searching for Inman. Inman is forced to walk eastward, retracing his steps. The guards decide to shoot the men and bury them in a shallow grave. Although Inman escapes with a slight head wound, Veasey dies.

Ada's story resumes. The novel follows her adjustment to a life of labor in harmony with nature. Ada's friendship with Ruby blossoms as she begins to identify with the natural world. The female protagonist lays down roots at the farm and recalls memories of Inman and her father. Occasionally, she finds herself touched by events surrounding the war. A group of pilgrims forced into exile by Federal soldiers seeks shelter for a day at the farm. Ada recalls Blount, a soldier she met at a party in Charleston who later died in battle.

Finally, when Ada and Ruby visit the town of Cold Mountain, they hear a story told by a prisoner jailed for desertion. The captive tells of the sadistic Teague's band of the Home Guard. On their walk home, the two women observe

家商店和一个酒馆里惹了麻烦,英曼不得不再次加以干涉。维西和一个名叫彼格·特尔迪的妓女过了一夜,而同时小商贩奥德尔给英曼讲述了一个地主残酷虐待奴隶的悲惨故事。

第二天,英曼和维西帮助一个人从溪中移走一头死牛。这个叫朱尼尔的人邀请他们到他家过夜,随后怪事便接踵而至。先是英曼被下了药,还被强迫娶朱尼尔的老婆为妻。根据作者的暗示,这个女人很可能习惯吃人肉。随后朱尼尔把英曼和维西交给一直在搜捕英曼的民兵队。英曼被迫向东折回,沿来路后退。民兵们决定开枪把他们打死,然后埋在浅坑里。结果英曼只是头部受轻伤逃过此劫,维西却丢了性命。

接下来继续讲述艾达的故事。她开始逐渐适应劳作的生活,习惯了与自然和谐共存。艾达开始学着亲近自然,她和鲁比之间的友谊也日趋成熟。我们的女主角在农场安定下来,对于父亲和英曼的思念时常涌上心头。时不时也会有些与战争相关的事情给她带来一些触动。一天,一群被联邦军队逼得背井离乡的难民请求在农场留宿一晚。艾达想起她在查尔斯顿一次舞会上遇到的士兵布伦特,这位士兵后来战死沙场。

最后,艾达和鲁比去冷山镇散心,听到一个因擅 离部队而被囚的犯人所讲的故事,这个囚犯把提格民 兵队的暴虐行径公之于众。在回家的路上她们看到几 只苍鹭,鲁比说她的生父就是一只苍鹭。接着艾达讲 some herons, and Ruby explains that a heron fathered her. Ada tells the intricate story of her parents' relationship and her mother's tragic death in childbirth. Ruby's father, Stobrod, appears later, caught in a trap the women have laid to catch a corn thief. He explains that he is living in a mountain cave with a community of outliers who object to the war. Stobrod plays his fiddle to prove that he is a changed man, but Ruby remains skeptical.

Inman's story continues. Having been dragged from the shallow grave by wild hogs, Inman meets a kind slave who feeds and clothes him and draws a map of what lies ahead. He returns to Junior's house and kills him. Inman then con-tinues on his journey, full of despair, a "traveling shade." Inman meets an old woman who offers him shelter at her camp in the mountains. He rests and regains his strength while the woman nurses his wounds and talks about her life. Inman learns that the woman ran away from a loveless marriage and raises goats for company and sustenance. Inman identifies with the goatwoman, but concludes that he could not live such an isolated life.

Inman continues to wander and meets a man called "Potts," who directs him to a cabin belonging to Sara, a kind young woman whose husband died in battle. Sara feeds Inman, mends his clothes and tells him her story. Despite her bravery, she is close to despair. The next day, Inman kills three Federal soldiers, called "Federals" in the novel, after these men threaten Sara and her baby and steal the family hog, the only form of sustenance that the family has.

At home, Ada and Ruby start harvesting apples as autumn nears. Stobrod reappears with a slow-witted banjo player