

# 3000词读遍天下书

# BEDTIME READING

## 床头灯英语学习读本 V



SENSE AND SENSIBILITY

## 理智与情感

美国作家改编 纯英文版

Jane Austen

[英] 简·奥斯汀

Hansford Pulley

航空工业出版社

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## 理智与情感

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## CHAPTER ONE

The Dashwood family had long been settled in Sussex, in southeastern England. They lived in a grand home at Norland Park, and owned quite a bit of land. The Dashwoods were a respectable family that had lived on the land for generations. The owner of this land was a single man, who had lived alone for many years with his sister. But after she died, nearly ten years before he did, he often invited his nephew, Mr. Henry Dashwood, to come live with him. The old man then decided that, **upon his death**, he would give his nephew the land and his great home, but told his nephew that he must give the land and home to his son, upon his own death. The old man lived quite happily, and grew to love his nephew and his wife dearly, as they treated him quite well, with love and respect.

Mr. Henry Dashwood had one son, John, with this wife before she died. After some time, he married a kind woman, and they had three daughters. The son, a calm, respectable young man, had a great fortune that was given to him by his mother. His own wife, as well, was quite a wealthy woman, so receiving the land at Norland Park was not

a great addition to his wealthy fortune. His half sisters, however, had very little fortune for themselves, as their father had little more than the land he owned, before it was given to his son after his death. Their mother, as well, had no fortune to offer the girls, either.

Just before Mr. Henry Dashwood died, he requested that his son, John Dashwood, promise him to care for his new mother and his half-sisters. The son then decided to give a present of one thousand pounds to each of his sisters. He would now be receiving four thousand pounds a year from the land he would soon receive, **in addition to** his present income, besides the remaining half of his own mother's fortune. This idea made him feel more **generous** to his half-sisters. "Yes, I will give them three thousand pounds, and it will be generous and handsome! It will give them freedom from money worries. Three thousand pounds! I can allow myself to give them such a great amount, although it will cause me a bit of **inconvenience**," he **thought to himself**. He thought with pride about his generous decision to give his sisters the three thousand pounds, and he did not regret that decision.

Soon after his father's funeral was over, young Mr.

John Dashwood, **along with** his wife and child, arrived at Norland Park, and announced to Mrs. Henry Dashwood and her three daughters that they would be moving in. The young couple told the mother and daughters that the four were allowed to stay at Norland Park until they were able to find a new home of their own. The mother-in-law and daughters **were quite upset with** Mrs. John Dashwood's impolite behavior. The home, indeed, now belonged to her and her husband, after Mr. Henry's death, but the mother-in-law was quite upset with such **inappropriate** and **unfeeling** behavior towards them, who had just lost their father and husband. Her husband's family never liked Mrs. John Dashwood, as she was always cold and bitter towards them, and this act only worsened their opinion of her.

The emotional mother-in-law was quite upset with her Mrs. John Dashwood's behavior, and wished to leave the place immediately. However, her oldest daughter, Elinor, explained calmly that they could not leave yet, as they had no other home to move to. She told her mother that they should begin looking for another home immediately, indeed, but must wait until they found an appropriate home, near Norland Park, of course. Her



mother then agreed to remain living with her disliked daughter-in-law, as she cared so deeply for her three girls and their happiness.

Elinor, the oldest daughter, who had persuaded her mother to remain in the home for a short time, had a calm character that guided her spirit. She was quite reasonable and **mature** at the age of nineteen. For this reason, she was able to give her mother such advice and be respected. Her mother was quite different from her first child in that she was **passionate** and **unexpected**, just as her second daughter was, as well. Elinor had an excellent heart and strong feelings, but she knew how to handle such passionate emotions better than her mother and sisters. Her mother had not yet learned this, and her younger sister did not wish to learn.

Marianne, the second daughter, had excellent abilities, just as Elinor did. She was clever, but too eager in all her emotions; her sadness and her happiness were both **extreme**. She was generous, friendly and interesting, but never sensible or careful. She was quite like her mother.

Elinor noticed her sister's extreme sensibility with a great deal of concern. To their mother, however, Marianne's sensibility and strong emotions were

appreciated. Marianne and her mother encouraged each other in their passionate feelings. They experienced the loss of their father and their home with great sadness and emotion. Elinor, too, was deeply hurt, but she could manage her pain in a much more **modest** way. She could speak with her brother about business matters and greet her sister-in-law without being impolite.

Margaret, the youngest sister, was a friendly girl, but watched her older sister, Marianne, carefully, and grew to have strong emotions, as well, although she was only thirteen, and had much to learn.

注释:

**upon/on one's death** 在某人死后

**in addition to** 除...之外

**generous** ['dʒenərəs] *adj.* 慷慨的, 大方的

**inconvenience** [ˌɪnkən'vinjəns] *n.* 麻烦, 不方便之处

**think to oneself** 某人心里想; 暗自忖度

**along with** 和...一起

**be upset with sb.** 生某人的气; 对某人感到厌恶

**inappropriate** [ˌɪnə'prəʊpriət] *adj.* 不适当的

**unfeeling** [ˌʌn'fi:liŋ] *adj.* 无情的, 冷酷的

**mature** [mə'tʃʊə] *adj.* 成熟的

**passionate** ['pæʃənət] *adj.* 充满热情的, 容易激动的

**unexpected** [ˌʌnɪk'spektɪd] *adj.* 想不到的; 意外的

**extreme** [ɪk'stri:tɪm] *adj.* 极端的, 极度的

**modest** ['mɒdɪst] *adj.* 在这表示“适度的; 有节制的”, 而非“谦虚的”。

## CHAPTER TWO

Mrs. John Dashwood now **declared herself to be** the mistress of Norland, and her mother and sisters-in-law were now treated as visitors. John Dashwood treated them kindly, and explained that they were welcome to live at Norland with himself, his wife, and their child until they could find a proper home for themselves. His stepmother, having no other place to live, accepted, but was quite eager to find another home nearby to move to.

She was content, however, to continue living in the home that had brought her so much joy. She was, thus quite happy to remember her gentle husband, but such memories brought a great deal of pain, as well. When Mrs. Dashwood was cheerful, no other person could be more so, but when she was upset, no other on earth could be as sad and disturbed as she. Mrs. Dashwood really had no calm emotions, and felt everything with extreme emotion.

Mrs. John Dashwood did not approve of her husband's decision to give each of his sisters one thousand pounds. She often told her husband that giving his half-sisters

such a **great amount of** money would be robbing his own child of his future wealth. Besides, his sisters were only his half-sisters, being that his father had married Mrs. Dashwood after his own mother had died. Therefore, they were hardly related.

"It was my father's last request to me," replied her husband, "that I should **assist** his wife and daughters."

"He did not know what he was talking of, as he was near death, and could not think correctly. Otherwise, he would never have asked you to take part of your son's fortune away from him."

"He did not ask for a particular amount of money, my dear Fanny. He only requested that I help make their lives more comfortable, as he can no longer help them. I promised my father I would help them, so I must help them when they leave Norland and settle in a new home."

"Well, please help them, but you do not have to give them three thousand pounds. That money will never be returned; what will our poor son do?"

"Yes, that amount of money would **make** quite a **difference**, indeed. Perhaps, when our little Harry will have a large family some day and greatly need that



three thousand pounds."

"Yes, indeed."

"Perhaps, then, it would be better for everyone if I gave each of the girls five hundred pounds, instead of one thousand. Five hundred pounds would be a great increase to their fortunes."

"Oh, yes! You would be an excellent brother for it! And, they are only half-sisters! They could not expect to receive more than that!"

"They cannot think, then, that I have not helped them to live in comfort."

"Yes, if you believe that you are able to afford that amount. Fifteen hundred pounds is still a great deal of money."

"Certainly, and I think I can **afford to** give them five hundred pounds each. Without any more from me, they will each have three thousand pounds when their mother dies, which is a comfortable fortune for any young woman."

"It is a great fortune. Together, they will have nearly ten thousand pounds; a great fortune, indeed."

"That is true, and, therefore, I wonder if, perhaps, I should instead give something to their mother, as the





inconvenient some years to give them one hundred, or even fifty pounds.”

“I believe you are right, my love. It will be better if I give them a present of fifty pounds when I have the money to give them.”

“Indeed, and I believe your father did not know you planned to give them money at all. The help he thought of was only to help them move into a new home. Your sisters and mother will be quite comfortable with seven thousand pounds together. They will live so cheap! They will have no carriage, no horses, and hardly any servants.”

“I believe you are right. My father certainly meant no more than what you said. I understand now. When my mother moves to another house, I **am** no longer **responsible to** care for them.”

“Certainly,” responded Mrs. John Dashwood, satisfied with her husband’s decision.

注释:

**declare oneself to be...** 某人自称是...

**a great amount of** 大量的, 后接不可数名词

**assist** [ə'sist] *v.* 协助, 帮助

**make a difference** 有一定的影响, 关系; 这里加 “quite” 表示影响重大。





**afford to** 付得起;买得起,常和can 连用表示一种能力。

**perfectly** ['pə:fɪktli] *adv.* 极好地;完满地;全然地

**it is better to do sth. rather than do sth.** 与其做A事,倒不如做B事;即前者比后者来得好。

**yearly** ['ji:əli] *adj.* 每年(发生)的,每年一次的

**troublesome** ['trʌbəl səm] *adj.* 令人烦恼的

**bother** ['bɒðə] *n.* 麻烦,烦扰

**be responsible to do sth.** 有责任做某事