

“追求卓越” 学英语丛书（英汉对照）

经典的回声

——莎士比亚戏剧故事选

Echoes of Classics: Stories from Shakespeare

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河南大学出版社
HENAN UNIVERSITY PRESS

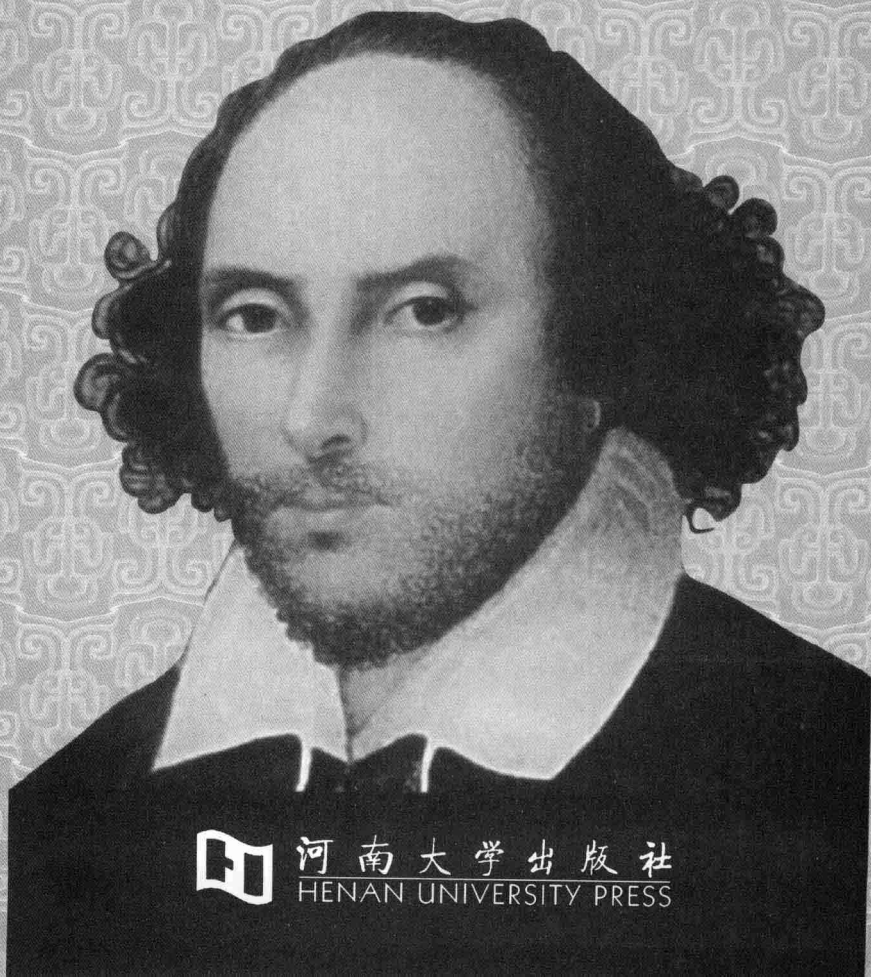
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前言

威廉·莎士比亚(William Shakespeare, 1564~1616)是文艺复兴时期英国伟大的剧作家、诗人,也是人文主义的杰出代表。1564年4月23日,莎士比亚出生于英格兰沃里克郡埃文河畔的斯特拉特福镇(Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire, England),其父约翰·莎士比亚是经营羊毛、皮革制造及谷物生意的杂货商。莎士比亚幼年在当地文法学校读书,1582年同邻乡农家女安·哈瑟维(Anne Hathaway)结婚。1585年至1592年间,莎士比亚经历不详,传说他当过乡村教师、兵士、贵族家仆,并因偷猎乡绅托马斯·路希爵士(Sir Thomas Lucy)之鹿逃往伦敦。他先在剧院门前为人看马,后来进入剧团。他跑过龙套,也担任过导演,但主要是编写剧本。1597年,莎士比亚在斯特拉特福购置了房产,1599年,他成为环球剧场拥有1/10股份的股东。1610年莎士比亚卖出了他的股份,回乡隐居。1616年4月23日他在家乡病逝,葬于镇上的圣三一教堂。

莎士比亚的编剧工作是从改编旧剧开始的,二十余年间他共写了37部戏剧,另有长篇叙事诗2部、十四行诗一卷共154首。莎士比亚的主要成就是戏剧,他的创作通常被分为三个时期:

第一时期(1590~1600)以写作历史剧、喜剧为主,有9部历史剧、10部喜剧和2部悲剧。9部历史剧中除《约翰王》是写13世纪初英国历史外,其余8部是内容相衔接的两个四部曲:《亨利六世》(上、中、下)与《理查三世》;《理查二世》、《亨利四世》(上、下)与《亨利五世》。这些历史剧概括了英国历史上百余年间的动乱,塑造了一系列正、反面君主形象,反映了莎士比亚反对封建割据,拥护中央集权,谴责暴君暴政,要求开明君主进行自上而下的改革,建立和谐社会关系的人文主义政治与道德理想。10部喜剧《错误的喜剧》、《驯悍记》、《维洛那二绅士》、《爱的徒劳》、《仲夏夜之梦》、《威尼斯商人》、《温莎的风流娘儿们》、《无事生非》、《皆大欢喜》和《第十二夜》大都以爱情、友谊、婚姻为主题,主人公多是一些具有人文主义智慧与美德的青年男女,通过对他们争取自由、幸福的斗争的描写,歌颂进步、美好的新人新风,同时也温和地揭露和嘲讽旧事物的衰朽和丑恶,如禁欲主义者的虚矫、清教徒的伪善和高利贷者的贪鄙等。在这一时期,莎士比亚戏剧创作的基本情调是乐观、明朗的,充满着以人文主义理想解决社会矛盾的信心,以致写在这一时期的悲剧《罗密欧与朱丽叶》中也洋溢着喜剧的气氛。尽管



主人公殉情而死,但爱的理想战胜了死亡,换来了封建世仇的和解。然而,在这一时期较后的成熟喜剧《威尼斯商人》中,又带有忧郁色彩和悲剧因素,在鼓吹仁爱、友谊和真诚爱情的同时,反映了基督教社会中弱肉强食的阶级压迫和种族歧视问题,说明作者已逐渐意识到理想与现实之间存在着难以解决的矛盾。

第二时期(1601~1607)以写作悲剧为主,有3部罗马剧、5部悲剧和3部“阴暗的喜剧”或“问题剧”。罗马剧《尤利乌斯·凯撒》、《安东尼和克莉奥佩特拉》和《科里奥拉努斯》是取材于普卢塔克的《希腊罗马英雄传》的历史剧。四大悲剧《哈姆雷特》、《奥赛罗》、《李尔王》、《麦克白》和悲剧《雅典的泰门》标志着作者对时代、人生的深入思考,着力塑造了这样一些新时代的悲剧主人公:他们从中世纪的禁锢和蒙昧中醒来,在近代黎明的照耀下,雄心勃勃地想要发展或完善自己,但又不能克服时代和自身的局限,终于在同环境和内心敌对势力力量悬殊的斗争中遭到不可避免的失败和牺牲。哈姆雷特为报父仇而发现“整个时代脱榫”了,决定担起“重整乾坤”的责任,结果却是空怀大志、无力回天;奥赛罗正直淳朴、嫉恶如仇,却又轻信他人,在奸人的摆布下杀妻自戕,为追求至善至美反遭恶报;李尔王在权势带来的尊荣、自豪、自信中迷失本性,丧失理智,幻想以让权分国来证明自己不当国王而做一个普通人也能同样或更伟大,因而经受了一番痛苦的磨难;麦克白本是有功的英雄,性格中有着善和美的一面,只因王位的诱惑和野心的驱使,沦为“从血腥到血腥”、懊悔无及的罪人。这些人物的悲剧深刻地揭示了在资本原始积累时期已开始出现的种种社会罪恶和资产阶级的利己主义,表现了人文主义理想与残酷现实之间矛盾的不可调和性,具有高度的概括意义。在这一时期,莎士比亚剧作由于思想深度和现实主义深度的增强,使《特洛伊罗斯与克瑞西达》、《终成眷属》和《一报还一报》等喜剧也显露出阴暗的一面,笼罩着背信弃义、尔虞我诈的罪恶阴影,因而被称为“问题剧”或“阴暗的喜剧”。

第三时期(1608~1613)的主要作品是4部悲喜剧或传奇剧:《泰尔亲王配力克里斯》、《辛白林》、《冬天的故事》、《暴风雨》,这些作品多写失散、团聚、诬陷、昭雪。尽管仍然坚持人文主义理想,并对黑暗现实有所揭露,但矛盾的解决主要靠魔法、幻想、机缘巧合和偶然事件,并以宣扬宽恕、容忍、妥协、和解告终。

莎士比亚还与弗莱彻合作写了历史剧《亨利八世》和传奇剧《两位贵亲》,后者近年来被收入一些莎士比亚戏剧集。

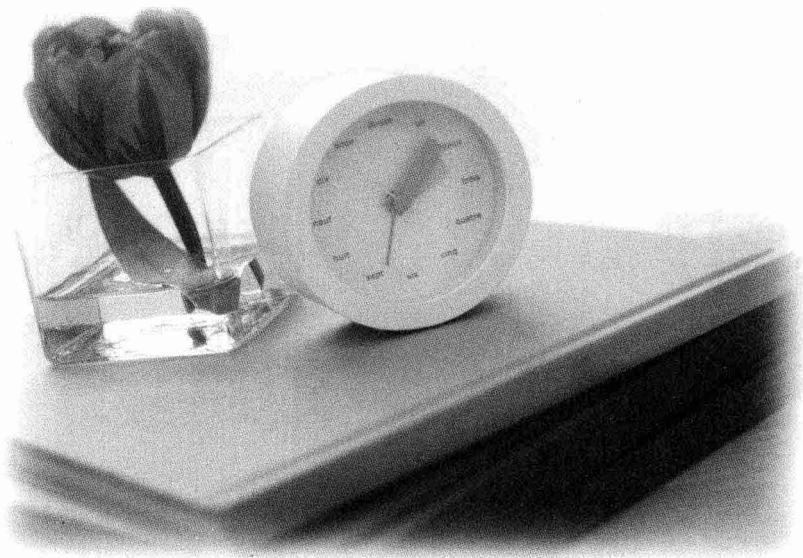


莎士比亚的戏剧大都取材于旧有剧本、小说、编年史或民间传说,但在改写中注入了自己的思想,给旧题材赋予了新颖、丰富、深刻的内容。在艺术表现上,莎士比亚继承了古希腊古罗马、中世纪英国和文艺复兴时期欧洲戏剧的三大传统并加以发展,从内容到形式进行了创造性革新。他的戏剧不受束缚,突破悲剧和喜剧的界限,努力反映生活的本来面目,深入探索人物内心的奥秘,从而能够塑造众多性格复杂多样、形象真实生动的人物典型,描绘广阔的、五光十色的社会生活图景,并以其博大、深刻、富于诗意和哲理著称。

莎士比亚戏剧是英国文学史上的瑰宝,也颇得我国读者的喜爱。然而,经粗略调查,即使是英语专业的本科生,也很少有人将大学四年中将这 37 部戏剧读完。其原因是原著过于经典,有许多难懂的地方。于是,根据莎士比亚戏剧改编的、通俗易懂的故事集便应运而生。英国散文家查尔斯·兰姆(Charles Lamb, 1775 ~ 1834)和他的姐姐玛丽·兰姆(Mary Lamb, 1764 ~ 1847)从莎士比亚的 37 个剧本中精选出 20 个,改写成可读性很强的故事。本书根据英国作家伊迪斯·讷斯比特(Edith Nesbit, 1858 ~ 1924)改写的莎士比亚故事集编译而成。

编者

2008 年 1 月





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1. All's Well That Ends Well



Bertram's Letter

In the year thirteen hundred and something, the Countess^① of Rousillon^② was unhappy in her palace near the Pyrenees^③. She had lost her husband, and the King of France had summoned her son Bertram^④ to Paris, hundreds of miles away.

Bertram was a pretty youth with curling hair, finely arched

① countess ['kauntis] *n.* 伯爵夫人, 女伯爵

② Rousillon [rɔ:'sɪɒn] *n.* 罗西昂

③ Pyrenees [ˌpɪrə'ni:z] *n.* 比利牛斯山脉(欧洲西南部的一条山脉, 从比斯开湾沿着法国与西班牙边境延伸至地中海)

④ Bertram ['bɛ:trəm] *n.* 勃特拉姆(男子名)



eyebrows, and eyes as keen as a hawk's. He was as proud as ignorance^① could make him, and would lie with a face like truth itself to gain a selfish end. But a pretty youth is a pretty youth, and Helena was in love with him.

Helena was the daughter of a great doctor who had died in the service of the Count of Rousillon. Her sole fortune consisted in a few of her father's prescriptions.

When Bertram had gone, Helena's forlorn^② look was noticed by the Countess, who told her that she was exactly the same to her as her own child. Tears then gathered in Helena's eyes, for she felt that the Countess made Bertram seem like a brother whom she could never marry. The Countess guessed her secret forthwith^③, and Helena confessed^④ that Bertram was to her as the sun is to the day.

She hoped, however, to win this sun by earning the gratitude^⑤ of the King of France, who suffered from a lingering illness^⑥, which made him lame. The great doctors attached to the Court despaired of curing him, but Helena had confidence in a prescription which her father had used with success.

Taking an affectionate^⑦ leave of the Countess, she went to Paris, and was allowed to see the King.

He was very polite, but it was plain he thought her a quack. "It would not become me," he said, "to apply to a simple maiden for the relief which all the learned doctors cannot give me."

"Heaven uses weak instruments sometimes," said Helena, and she declared that she would forfeit^⑧ her life if she failed to make him well.

- ~~~~~
- ① ignorance [ˈɪgnərəns] *n.* 无知, 不知
 - ② forlorn [fəˈlɔːn] *adj.* 被遗弃的
 - ③ forthwith [ˈfɔːθwiθ] *adv.* 立刻, 不犹豫地
 - ④ confess [kənˈfes] *v.* 承认, 坦白, 忏悔
 - ⑤ gratitude [ˈgrætɪtjuːd] *n.* 感谢的心情
 - ⑥ lingering [ˈlɪŋgərɪŋ] *illness* 慢性病
 - ⑦ affectionate [əˈfekʃənɪt] *adj.* 亲爱的, 挚爱的
 - ⑧ forfeit [ˈfɔːfɪt] *v.* 没收, 丧失



“And if you succeed?” questioned the King.

“Then I will ask your Majesty to give me for a husband the man whom I choose!”

So earnest a young lady could not be resisted forever by a suffering king. Helena, therefore, became the King's doctor, and in two days the royal cripple could skip.

He summoned his courtiers, and they made a glittering throng in the throne room of his palace. Well might the country girl have been dazzled, and seen a dozen husbands worth dreaming of among the handsome young noblemen before her. But her eyes only wandered till they found Bertram. Then she went up to him, and said, “I dare not say I take you, but I am yours!” Raising her voice that the King might hear, she added, “This is the Man!”

“Bertram,” said the King, “take her; she's your wife!”

“My wife, my liege^①,” said Bertram. “I beg your Majesty to permit me to choose a wife.”

“Do you know, Bertram, what she has done for your King?” asked the monarch^②, who had treated Bertram like a son.

“Yes, your Majesty,” replied Bertram, “but why should I marry a girl who owes her breeding to my father's charity?”

“You disdain^③ her for lacking a title, but I can give her a title,” said the King; and as he looked at the sulky^④ youth a thought came to him, and he added, “strange that you think so much



① liege [li:dʒ] *n.* 君主

② monarch ['mɒnək] *n.* 君主

③ disdain [dis'dein] *v.* 轻蔑, 蔑视

④ sulky ['sʌlki] *adj.* 生气的, 阴沉的



of blood when you could not distinguish^① your own from a beggar's if you saw them mixed together in a bowl. ”

“I cannot love her,” asserted Bertram; and Helena said gently, “Urge him not, your Majesty. I am glad to have cured my King for my country's sake. ”

“My honor requires that scornful^② country's obedience,” said the King. “Bertram, make up your mind to this. You marry this lady, of whom you are so unworthy, or you learn how a king can hate. Your answer?”

Bertram bowed low and said, “Your Majesty has ennobled the lady by your interest in her. I submit. ”

“Take her by the hand,” said the King, “and tell her she is yours. ”

Bertram obeyed, and with little delay he was married to Helena.

Fear of the King, however, could not make him a lover. Ridicule helped to sour him. A base soldier named Parolles told him to his face that now he had a “kicky-wicky” and his business was not to fight but to stay at home. “Kicky-wicky” was only a silly epithet^③ for a wife, but it made Bertram feel he could not bear having a wife, and that he must go to the war in Italy, though the King had forbidden him.

He ordered Helena to take leave of the King and return to Rousillon, giving her letters for his mother and herself. He then rode off^④, bidding her a cold good-bye.

She opened the letter addressed to herself, and read, “When you can get the ring from my finger you can call me husband, but against that ‘when’ I write ‘never’ . ”



① distinguish [dis'tɪŋɡwɪʃ] *v.* 区别, 辨别

② scornful ['skɔ:nfʊl] *adj.* 轻蔑的

③ epithet ['epɪθet] *n.* 绰号, 称号

④ ride off 骑马而去



Dry-eyed had Helena been when she entered the King's presence and said farewell, but he was uneasy on her account, and gave her a ring from his own finger, saying, "If you send this to me, I shall know you are in trouble, and help you."

She did not show him Bertram's letter to his wife; it would have made him wish to kill the truant Count; but she went back to Rousillon and handed her mother-in-law the second letter. It was short and bitter. "I have run away," it said. "If the world be broad enough, I will be always far away from her."

"Cheer up," said the noble widow to the deserted^① wife. "I wash his name out of my blood, and you alone are my child."

The Dowager Countess, however, was still mother enough to Bertram to lay the blame of his conduct on Parolles, whom she called "a very tainted fellow^②".

Helena did not stay long at Rousillon. She clad herself as a pilgrim^③, and, leaving a letter for her mother-in-law, secretly set out for Florence.

On entering that city she inquired of a woman the way to the Pilgrims' House of Rest, but the woman begged "the holy pilgrim" to lodge with her.

Helena found that her hostess was a widow, who had a beautiful daughter named Diana.

When Diana heard that Helena came from France, she said, "A countryman of yours, Count Rousillon, has done worthy service for Florence." But after a time, Diana had something to tell which was not at all worthy of Helena's husband. Bertram was making love to Diana. He did not hide the fact that he was married, but Diana heard from Parolles that his wife was not worth caring for.

The widow was anxious for Diana's sake, and Helena decided to inform her that she was the Countess Rousillon.

① deserted [di'zɜ:tɪd] *adj.* 荒芜的, 为人所弃的

② tainted fellow 不道德的家伙

③ pilgrim ['pilgrim] *n.* 圣地朝拜者

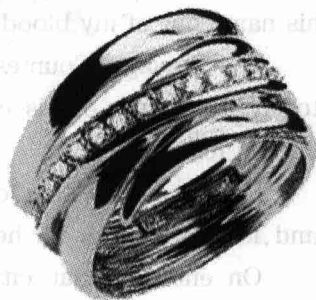


“He keeps asking Diana for a lock of her hair,” said the widow.

Helena smiled mournfully^①, for her hair was as fine as Diana's and of the same color. Then an idea struck her, and she said, “Take this purse of gold for yourself. I will give Diana three thousand Crowns if she will help me to carry out this plan. Let her promise to give a lock of her hair to my husband if he will give her the ring which he wears on his finger. It is an ancestral^② ring. Five Counts of Rousillon have worn it, yet he will yield it up for a lock of your daughter's hair. Let your daughter insist that he shall cut the lock of hair from her in a dark room, and agree in advance that she shall not speak a single word.”

The widow listened attentively, with the purse of gold in her lap. She said at last, “I consent, if Diana is willing.”

Diana was willing, and, strange to say, the prospect of cutting off a lock of hair from a silent girl in a dark room was so pleasing to Bertram that he handed Diana his ring, and was told when to follow her into the dark room. At the time appointed he came with a sharp knife, and felt a sweet face touch his as he cut off the lock of hair, and he left the room satisfied, like a man who is filled with renown, and on his finger was a ring which the girl in the dark room had given him.



The war was nearly over, but one of its concluding chapters taught Bertram that the soldier who had been impudent^③ enough to call Helena his “kicky-wicky” was far less courageous than a wife. Parolles was such a boaster, and so fond of trimmings to his clothes, that the French officers played him a trick to discover what he was made of. He had lost his drum, and had said that he would regain it unless he was killed in the attempt. His attempt was a very poor one, and he was inventing the story

① mournfully [ˈmɔːnfuli] *adv.* 悲哀地

② ancestral [ænˈsestrəl] *adj.* 祖先的, 祖传的

③ impudent [ˈɪmpjudent] *adj.* 放肆无礼的, 厚颜无耻的



of a heroic failure, when he was surrounded and disarmed^①.

"Portotartarossa," said a French lord.

"What horrible lingo^② is this?" thought Parolles, who had been blindfolded^③.

"He's calling for the tortures," said a French man, affecting to act as interpreter. "What will you say without 'em?"

"As much," replied Parolles, "as I could possibly say if you pinched^④ me like a pasty." He was as good as his word. He told them how many there were in each regiment^⑤ of the Florentine army, and he refreshed them with spicy anecdotes^⑥ of the officers commanding it.

Bertram was present, and heard a letter read, in which Parolles told Diana that he was a fool.

"This is your devoted friend," said a French lord.

"He is a cat to me now," said Bertram, who detested our hearthrug pets.

Parolles was finally let go, but henceforth he felt like a sneak, and was not addicted to^⑦ boasting.

We now return to France with Helena, who had spread a report of her death, which was conveyed to the Dowager Countess at Rousillon by Lafeu^⑧, a lord who wished to marry his daughter Magdalen to Bertram.

The King mourned for Helena, but he approved of^⑨ the marriage proposed for Bertram, and paid a visit to Rousillon in order to see it accomplished.

"His great offense is dead," he said. "Let Bertram approach me."

① disarm [dis'ɑ:m] v. 解除武装

② lingo ['liŋgəu] n. (尤指)方言,行话

③ blindfold ['blaɪndfəʊld] v. 将眼睛蒙起来

④ pinch [pɪntʃ] v. 挤压,捏

⑤ regiment ['redʒɪmənt] n. 团

⑥ anecdote ['ænikdəʊt] n. 轶事,奇闻

⑦ addicted to 沉迷于……

⑧ Lafeu [ləf'ju:] n. 拉佛(男子名)

⑨ approve of 赞成,满意



Then Bertram, scarred in the cheek, knelt before his Sovereign, and said that if he had not loved Lafeu's daughter before he married Helena, he would have prized his wife, whom he now loved when it was too late.

"Love that is late offends the Great Sender," said the King. "Forget sweet Helena, and give a ring to Magdalen."

Bertram immediately gave a ring to Lafeu, who said indignantly, "It's Helena's!"

"It's not!" said Bertram.

Hereupon the King asked to look at the ring, and said, "This is the ring I gave to Helena, and bade her send to me if ever she needed help. So you had the cunning^① to get from her what could help her most."

Bertram denied again that the ring was Helena's, but even his mother said it was.

"You lie!" exclaimed the King. "Seize him, guards!" but even while they were seizing him, Bertram wondered how the ring, which he thought Diana had given him, came to be so like Helena's. A gentleman now entered, craving permission to deliver a petition^② to the King. It was a petition signed Diana Capilet, and it begged that the King would order Bertram to marry her whom he had deserted after winning her love.

"I'd sooner buy a son-in-law at a fair than take Bertram now," said Lafeu.

"Admit the petitioner," said the King.

Bertram found himself confronted by Diana and her mother. He denied that Diana had any claim on him, and spoke of her as though her life was spent in the gutter^③. But she asked him what sort of gentlewoman it was to whom he gave, as to her he gave, the ring of his ancestors now



① cunning ['kʌniŋ] n. 狡猾, 诡诈

② petition [pi'tiʃən] n. 请愿, 请愿书, 诉状

③ gutter ['gʌtə] n. 贫民区



missing from his finger.

Bertram was ready to sink into the earth, but fate had one crowning generosity^① reserved for him. Helena entered.

“Do I see reality?” asked the King.

“O pardon! pardon!” cried Bertram.

She held up his ancestral ring. “Now that I have this,” said she, “will you love me, Bertram?”

“To the end of my life,” cried he.

“My eyes smell onions,” said Lafeu. Tears for Helena were twinkling in them.

The King praised Diana when he was fully informed by that not very shy young lady of the meaning of her conduct. For Helena's sake she had wished to expose^② Bertram's meanness, not only to the King, but to himself. His pride was now in shreds^③, and it is believed that he made a husband of some sort after all.

终成眷属

公元13世纪左右,罗西昂伯爵夫人在比利牛斯附近的宫殿里闷闷不乐。这个可怜的女人刚刚失去了丈夫,而法国国王又要将她的儿子勃特拉姆召到数百里之外的巴黎王宫。

勃特拉姆是个美男子,头发卷曲,俊眉上弯,还有一双像雄鹰一样敏锐的眼睛。他妄自尊大、盲目无知,为达自私的目的,他撒起谎来面不改色,像真的一样。可是美男子毕竟是美男子,海丽娜深深地爱上了他。

海丽娜是名医之女,她的父亲在为罗西昂伯爵医治时死去,留给她的唯一的财产就是几剂药方。

勃特拉姆离开后,伯爵夫人注意到海丽娜落寂的神情,就对海丽娜说,她会像疼爱自己的孩子那样疼爱她。而海丽娜双眼含满泪水,因为她害怕伯爵夫人让她把勃特拉姆当作哥哥而不能嫁给他。伯爵夫人立刻猜出了这

① generosity [ˌdʒenəˈrɒsɪti] *n.* 慷慨,宽大

② expose [iksˈpəʊz] *v.* 使暴露,受到,使曝光

③ in shreds 一扫而尽