

世界名著 • 经典电影 • 双语阅读

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*Sense and sensibility*

◆ [英] 简·奥斯丁 著

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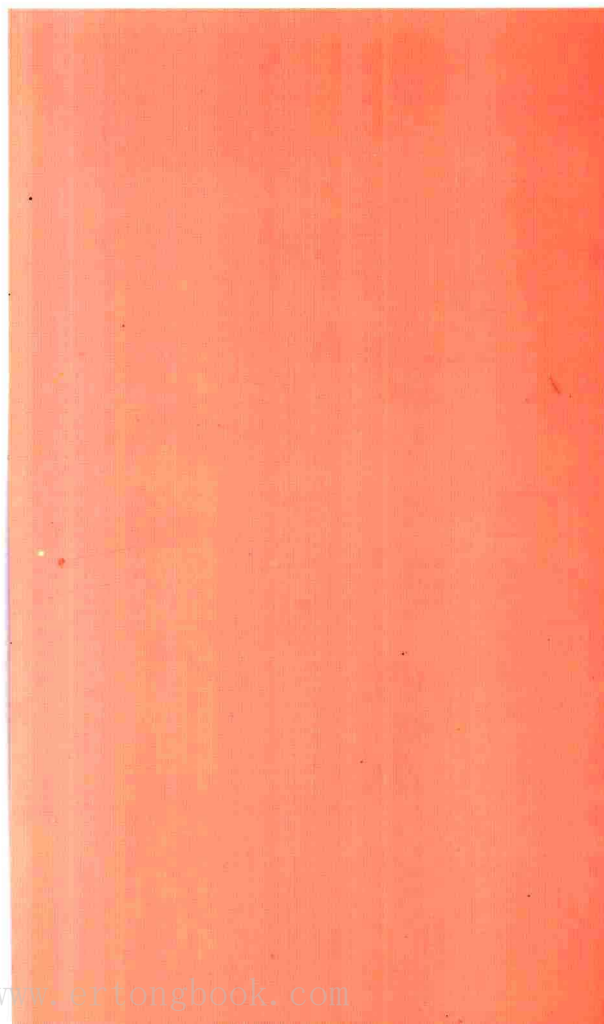
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**简·奥斯丁**（1775－1817），英国文学史上杰出的现实主义小说家。《理智与情感》是她的处女作。奥斯丁的小说以其女性特有的细致入微的观察力，展现了英国乡绅的日常生活和英国乡村的田园风光，在英国小说的发展史上有承上启下的意义。其他主要作品：《傲慢与偏见》、《曼斯菲尔德庄园》、《爱玛》等。

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# *Sense and Sensibility*



# Chapter 1

The family of Dashwood had been long settled in Sussex. Their estate was large, and their **residence** was at Norland Park, in the centre of their property, where for many generations they had lived in so respectable a manner as to engage the general good opinion of their surrounding acquaintance. The late owner of this estate was a single man, who lived to a very advanced age, and who for many years of his life had a constant companion and housekeeper in his sister. But her death, which happened ten years before his own, produced a great alteration in his home; for to supply her loss, he invited and received into his house the family of his nephew Mr Henry Dashwood, the legal inheritor of the Norland estate, and the person to whom he intended to **bequeath** it. In the society of his nephew and niece and their children, the old gentleman's days were comfortably spent. His attachment to them all increased. The constant attention of Mr and Mrs Henry Dashwood to his wishes, which proceeded not merely from interest, but from goodness of heart, gave him every degree of solid comfort which his age could receive; and the cheerfulness of the children added a relish to his existence.

By a former marriage, Mr Henry Dashwood had one son; by his present lady, three daughters. The son, a steady, respectable young man, was amply provided for by the fortune of his mother, which had been large, and half of which devolved on him on his coming of age. By his own marriage, likewise, which happened soon afterwards, he added to his wealth. To him, therefore, the succession to the Norland estate was not so really important as to his sisters; for their fortune, independent of what might arise to them from their father's **inheriting** that property, could be but small. Their mother had nothing, and their father only seven thousand pounds in his own disposal; for the remaining **moiety** of his first wife's fortune was also secured to her child, and he had only a life interest in it.

# 第一章

residence

[ˈrezidəns]

n. 居住,住处

bequeath

[biˈkwið]

v. 遗赠,把……传下去

inherit

[inˈherit]

v. 继承,遗传而得

moiety

[ˈmoɪəti]

n. 一半

达什伍德家居住在苏塞克斯的年代已经非常久远了,家里拥有大片的田庄,府邸诺兰庄园就坐落在田庄的中心。达什伍德家世代过着体面的日子,受到周围邻里的赞誉。上一代的田庄主人终生未娶,寿命很长。在世时,一直由妹妹陪伴,替他料理家务。不想妹妹早他十年去世,这使他的家发生了彻底的变化。为了填补失去妹妹的缺憾,他把侄子——诺兰田庄的合法继承人亨利·达什伍德先生和他的家人接来同住,打算把家业传给他。在侄子、侄媳以及他们的子女的陪伴下,这位老先生的日子过得很舒心,他越来越依恋他们。亨利·达什伍德夫妇对他一直关怀备至,这不仅出于利害关系,也因为他们心地善良,因而使他享受了这个年纪的人所能得到的一切,而孩子们的无忧无虑也给老先生的生活增添了色彩。

亨利·达什伍德和前妻生了一个儿子,和现在的太太生了三个女儿。儿子是一个稳重、可敬的年轻人,母亲的丰厚财产使他一直过着富足的生活,成年后,这笔财产的一半归到了他的名下,而此后不久他的婚姻更增加了他的财富。因而对于他,继承诺兰庄园的家产并不像对于他的妹妹们那么重要,如果不依靠父亲继承那份家产可能带来的增益,她们的财产便少得可怜。她们的母亲一无所有,父亲可以支配的只有七千英镑,前妻遗产的另一半也是指定留给儿子的,他只有在有生之年享用的权利。



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The old gentleman died; his will was read, and like almost every other will, gave as much disappointment as pleasure. He was neither so unjust, nor so ungrateful, as to leave his estate from his nephew; but he left it to him on such terms as destroyed half the value of the bequest. Mr Dashwood had wished for it more for the sake of his wife and daughters than for himself or his son; but to his son, and his son's son, a child of four years old, it was secured, in such a way, as to leave to himself no power of providing for those who were most dear to him, and who most needed a provision, by any charge on the estate, or by any sale of its valuable woods. The whole was tied up for the benefit of this child, who, in occasional visits with his father and mother at Norland had so far gained on the affections of his uncle, by such attractions as are by no means unusual in children of two or three years old: an imperfect **articulation**, an earnest desire of having his own way, many cunning tricks, and a great deal of noise, as to outweigh all the value of all the attention which, for years, he had received from his niece and her daughters. He meant not to be unkind, however, and as a mark of his affection for the three girls, he left them a thousand pounds apiece.

Mr Dashwood's disappointment was at first severe; but his temper was cheerful and **sanguine**, and he might reasonably hope to live many years, and by living economically, lay by a considerable sum from the produce of an estate already large, and capable of almost immediate improvement. But the fortune, which had been so tardy in coming, was his only one twelve-month. He survived his uncle no longer; and ten thousand pounds, including the late legacies, was all that remained for his widow and daughters.

His son was sent for, as soon as his danger was known, and to him Mr Dashwood recommended, with all the strength and urgency which illness could command, the interest of his mother-in-law and sisters.

Mr John Dashwood had not the strong feelings of the rest of the family; but he was affected by a recommendation of such a nature at such a time, and he promised to do everything in his power to make them comfortable. His father was rendered easy by such an assurance, and Mr John Dashwood had then leisure to consider how much there might **prudently** be in his power to do for them.

He was not an ill-disposed young man, unless to be rather cold-hearted, and rather selfish, is to be ill-disposed; but he was, in general, well respected; for he conducted himself with propriety in the discharge of his ordinary duties. Had he married a more amiable woman, he might have been

## articulation

[ɑː'tikjuˈleɪʃən]

n. 发音, 说话

## sanguine

['sæŋɡwɪn]

adj. 乐天的, 乐观的

## prudently

['pruːdəntli]

adv. 审慎地, 小心地

## ill-disposed

[ɪl'dɪ'spəʊzd]

adj. 居心不良的

老先生死了, 他的遗嘱宣读了, 像大部分遗嘱一样, 这份遗嘱带来的失望和快乐一样多。老先生既非偏颇, 也非薄义, 他把家业留给了侄子, 但是其附带条件却毁掉了这份遗赠的一半价值。达什伍德先生希望得到遗产, 更多是为太太和女儿们考虑, 为自己和儿子考虑得并不多, 可是遗产偏偏指定留给他的儿子以及儿子的儿子——一个四岁的孩子; 对于他最亲近的人, 或者最需要遗赠的人, 他既没有权力分授地产, 也不能出卖地产上的珍贵林木赡养她们。全部遗产都保留给这个孩子, 他偶尔随父母来诺兰庄园, 和其他两三岁的孩子没什么不同, 说话咿呀难辨, 做事自行其是, 又闹又吵, 却得到了老先生的喜爱, 把多年来侄媳和侄孙女们对他的照顾都比了下去。不过他也没有忘恩负义, 作为对三个侄孙女的疼爱, 他给了她们每个人一千镑。

开始, 达什伍德先生很是失望, 不过他生性愉快乐观, 满心希望能多活几年, 如果节俭用度, 靠着这么一大片田庄, 肯定能有些收益, 生活很快也会提高。谁想他没比叔叔晚走多久, 这份姗姗来迟的好运只陪伴了他十二个月。他仅给寡妻和女儿们留下了一万镑, 其中还包括老达什伍德的那些遗赠。

知道自己病危, 达什伍德先生马上找来了儿子。他用尽垂危的气力, 急切地嘱托他照顾他的继母和妹妹们。

约翰·达什伍德先生不像家里其他人那样感情丰富, 不过此时此刻却被这样的嘱托感动, 他承诺尽他所能让她们过得舒服。他父亲得到这样的保证也就安心了, 约翰·达什伍德先生这才有空仔细算计给她们多少才不会超越他的能力范畴。

他不是不是一个不良青年, 只是有些冷漠、有些自私, 不过总体上说, 他还算得上值得尊重, 因为他平时行为处事, 总是本分规矩。如果能娶一位好一些的女人, 他也许能变得更受人敬

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made still more respectable than he was; he might even have been made amiable himself; for he was very young when he married, and very fond of his wife. But Mrs John Dashwood was a strong caricature of himself; more narrow-minded and selfish.

When he gave his promise to his father, he meditated within himself to increase the fortunes of his sisters by the present of a thousand pounds apiece. He then really thought himself equal to it. The prospect of four thousand a-year, in addition to his present income, besides the remaining half of his own mother's fortune, warmed his heart and made him feel capable of generosity.

No sooner was his father's funeral over, than Mrs John Dashwood, without sending any notice of her intention to her mother-in-law, arrived with her child and their attendants. No one could dispute her right to come; the house was her husband's from the moment of his father's decease; but the **indelicacy** of her conduct was so much the greater, and to a woman in Mrs Dashwood's situation, with only common feelings, must have been highly displeasing; but in her mind there was a sense of honour so keen, a generosity so romantic, that any offence of the kind, by whomsoever given or received, was to her a source of immoveable disgust. Mrs John Dashwood had never been a favourite with any of her husband's family; but she had had no opportunity, till the present, of showing them with how little attention to the comfort of other people she could act when occasion required it.

So acutely did Mrs Dashwood feel this **ungracious** behaviour, and so earnestly did she despise her daughter-in-law for it, that, on the arrival of the latter, she would have quitted the house for ever, had not the entreaty of her eldest girl induced her first to reflect on the propriety of going, and her own tender love for all her three children determined her afterwards to stay, and for their sakes avoid a breach with their brother.

Elinor, this eldest daughter whose advice was so effectual, possessed a strength of understanding, and coolness of judgment, which qualified her, though only nineteen, to be the counsellor of her mother, and enabled her frequently to **counteract**, to the advantage of them all, that eagerness of mind in Mrs Dashwood which must generally have led to imprudence. She had an excellent heart; her disposition was affectionate, and her feelings were strong; but she knew how to govern them: it was a knowledge which her mother had yet to learn, and which one of her sisters had resolved never to be taught.

Marianne's abilities were, in many respects, quite equal to Elinor's. She was **sensible** and clever, but eager in everything; her sorrows, her joys,

indelucacy

[in'delikəsi]

n. 粗鲁

ungracious

[ˌʌn'greɪʃəs]

adj. 粗鲁的,放肆的

counteract

[ˌkauntə'rækt]

v. 抵消,中和

sensible

['sensəbl]

adj. 明智的

重,更令人爱戴——毕竟他那时年纪还小,又很疼爱自己的妻子。偏偏约翰·达什伍德太太如同他的翻版,甚至更加狭隘、自私。

向父亲许诺的时候,他心里盘算着给每个妹妹一千镑,增加她们的收入。他觉得他完全可以支付。想到在现有收入基础上,每年即将增加四千英镑的进项,这还不算母亲留给他的那一半财产,他的心中涌过一股暖流。他觉得有能力慷慨一下。

父亲的葬礼刚刚结束,约翰·达什伍德太太便带着孩子、仆从赶来了,事先并没有向她的婆母打声招呼。没有人能剥夺她来的权力,从她丈夫的父亲去世的那一刻起,这所房子就归她丈夫了。但是对于处在达什伍德太太这样地位的人,即使只有普通人的情感,都会对她的放肆莽撞感到不快,更何况达什伍德太太的自尊心那么强,行为那么高洁,如此冒犯他人的人,不论是谁干的,针对的是谁,都会引起她的憎恶。约翰·达什伍德太太在这个家里没有人缘,可是直到今天她才有机会让大家领教:必要的时候,她做事绝对不会顾及他人的感受。

达什伍德太太对如此无礼的行为极为愤慨,对儿媳做出这种事嫌恶至极,如果不是大女儿恳求她先考虑一下一走了之是否合适,儿媳一进门她就会永远离开这座庄园。后来,是对三个女儿的爱,使她决定继续留下来,为了她们,她不想和她们的哥哥闹翻。

埃莉诺的劝说在母亲那里举足轻重,这位长女通晓事理,遇事冷静,虽然只有十九岁,却成了母亲的顾问,达什伍德太太情绪冲动,做事冒失,她总能劝阻,从而使大家受益。她心地极好,性情可人,虽然感情丰富,却懂得如何驾驭——这一点她母亲尚需学习,不过她的一个妹妹却决定永远不要学。

玛丽安很多方面的能力都能与姐姐匹敌,她明智而聪慧,

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could have no moderation. She was generous, amiable, interesting: she was everything but prudent. The resemblance between her and her mother was strikingly great.

Elinor saw, with concern, the excess of her sister's sensibility; but by Mrs Dashwood it was valued and cherished. They encouraged each other now in the violence of their affliction. The agony of grief which overpowered them at first, was voluntarily renewed, was sought for, was created again and again. They gave themselves up wholly to their sorrow, seeking increase of **wretchedness** in every reflection that could afford it, and resolved against ever admitting consolation in future. Elinor, too, was deeply afflicted; but still she could struggle, she could **exert** herself. She could consult with her brother, could receive her sister-in-law on her arrival, and treat her with proper attention; and could strive to rouse her mother to similar exertion. and encourage her to similar forbearance.

Margaret, the other sister, was a good-humoured, well-disposed girl; but as she had already **imbibed** a good deal of Marianne's romance, without having much of her sense, she did not, at thirteen, bid fair to equal her sisters at a more advanced period of life.

**wretched**

['retʃɪd]

adj. 不幸的

**exert**

[ɪg'zɜ:t]

v. 用(力), 尽(力)

**imbibe**

[ɪm'baɪb]

v. 吸收

做什么事都满怀热情，从不克制自己的情绪。她为人慷慨、可爱、有趣，唯一的缺点就是不够谨慎，和母亲如出一辙。

埃莉诺看到妹妹过于感情用事，不免担心，而达什伍德太太却认为这一点难能可贵。眼下，她们极度悲哀，却又相互影响，彼此助长。失去亲人的悲痛刚刚降临的时候，她们几乎无力承受，而后她们又故意重新提起，寻求这样的情绪，任其肆意滋生、蔓延。她们让自己完全淹没在忧伤之中，让每一次回忆带来的苦痛不断加深，并且决心以后不听从任何劝慰。埃莉诺也很伤心，但是她挣扎着使自己振作，和哥哥商量有关事宜，迎接嫂子的到来，并待之以礼。她甚至竭力鼓舞母亲像她一样打起精神，和她一样容忍克制。

她的另外一个妹妹玛格丽特快活善良，很受玛丽安浪漫气质的影响，却没有她的智慧。十三岁的她还看不出在以后的岁月里有希望赶上两位姐姐。

## Chapter 2

Mrs John Dashwood now installed herself mistress of Norland; and her mother and sisters-in-law were degraded to the condition of visitors. As such, however, they were treated by her with quiet civility; and by her husband with as much kindness as he could feel towards anybody beyond himself, his wife, and their child. He really pressed them, with some earnestness, to consider Norland as their home; and, as no plan appeared so **eligible** to Mrs Dashwood as remaining there till she could accommodate herself with a house in the neighbourhood, his invitation was accepted.

Mrs John Dashwood did not at all approve of what her husband intended to do for his sisters. To take three thousand pounds from the fortune of their dear little boy, would be **impoverishing** him to the most dreadful degree. She begged him to think again on the subject. How could he answer it to himself to rob his child, and his only child too, of so large a sum? And what possible claim could the Miss Dashwoods, who were related to him only by half-blood, which she considered as no relationship at all, have on his generosity to so large an amount? It was very well known that no affection was ever supposed to exist between the children of any man by different marriages; and why was he to ruin himself, and their poor little Harry, by giving away all his money to his half-sisters?

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

"Well, then, let something be done for them; but that something need not be three thousand pounds. Consider," she added, "that when the money is once parted with, it never can return. Your sisters will marry, and it will be gone for ever. If, indeed, it could ever be restored to our poor little boy..."

"Why, to be sure," said her husband, very gravely, "that would make a great difference. The time may come when Harry will regret that so large a

## 第二章

### eligible

[ˈelɪdʒəbl]

adj. 有资格当选的, 在法律上合格的

### impoverish

[ɪmˈpɒvərɪʃ]

v. 使穷困

现在, 约翰·达什伍德太太以诺兰庄园的女主人自居, 而她的婆母和小姑们则降级为客。不过, 她对她们, 倒也默默地以礼相待, 而她丈夫也算客气, 对自己妻子、孩子之外的其他人, 他至多不过如此。他的确带有几分真诚地要她们把诺兰庄园当成自己的家。达什伍德太太在附近没有找到合适的房子, 又想不出更好的方法, 只好接受他的邀请, 继续呆在那里。

约翰·达什伍德太太根本不同意丈夫为他妹妹们的打算。从他们亲爱的小儿子的财产里拿走三千镑, 那将使他陷入赤贫。她求他重新考虑这个计划。他怎么能坦然从孩子手中抢走那么一大笔钱? 那可是他唯一的儿子! 达什伍德姐妹只是他同父异母的妹妹, 在她看来, 那根本算不上什么血缘关系, 她们凭什么享受他的慷慨, 分到这么一大笔钱? 大家都知道, 同父异母的子之间从来不会有什么感情, 他何苦把钱全都丢给那几个同父异母的妹妹, 这样既毁了自己, 也害了他们可怜的小哈里。

“这是我父亲临终时对我的嘱托,” 她丈夫回答, “他要我帮助他的寡妻和女儿们。”

“那就帮帮她们, 可是帮帮她们哪用得着三千镑呀! 你想想,” 她又说, “钱一旦分出去, 可就拿不回来了。将来, 你的妹妹们嫁了人, 钱就永远消失了。不过, 如果这些钱还能回到我们可怜的小儿子手里……”

“那倒是,” 她丈夫变得十分严肃, “情况可就大不一样了,



sum was parted with. If he should have a numerous family, for instance, it would be a very convenient addition. ”

“To be sure it would. ”

“Perhaps, then, it would be better for all parties if the sum were diminished one half. Five hundred pounds would be a **prodigious** increase to their fortunes. ”

“To be sure it is: and, indeed, it strikes me that they can want no addition at all. They will have ten thousand pounds divided amongst them. If they marry, they will be sure of doing well; and if they do not, they may all live very comfortably together on the interest of ten thousand pounds. ”

“That is very true, and, therefore, I do not know whether, upon the whole, it would not be more advisable to do some thing for their mother while she lives rather than for them; something of the **annuity** kind I mean. My sisters would feel the good effects of it as well as herself. A hundred a year would make them all perfectly comfortable. ”

His wife hesitated a little, however, in giving her consent to this plan.

“To be sure, ” said she, “it is better than parting with fifteen hundred pounds at once. But then, if Mrs Dashwood should live fifteen years, we shall be completely taken in. ”

“Fifteen years! my dear Fanny; her life cannot be worth half that purchase. ”

“Certainly not; but if you observe, people always live for ever when there is any annuity to be paid them; and she is very stout and healthy, and hardly forty. An annuity is a very serious business; it comes over and over every year, and there is no getting rid of it. You are not aware of what you are doing. I have known a great deal of the trouble of annuities; for my mother was **clogged** with the payment of three to old superannuated servants by my father’s will, and it is amazing how disagreeable she found it. Twice every year, these annuities were to be paid; and then there was the trouble of getting it to them; and then one of them was said to have died, and afterwards it turned out to be no such thing. My mother was quite sick of it. Her income was not her own, she said, with such **perpetual** claims on it; and it was the more unkind in my father, because, otherwise, the money would have been entirely at my mother’s disposal, without any restriction whatever. It has given me such an **abhorrence** of annuities, that I am sure I would not pin myself down to the payment of one for all the world. ”

“It is certainly an unpleasant thing, ” replied Mr Dashwood, “to have