

哈佛

蓝星双语名著导读

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# 最蓝的眼睛 The Bluest Eye

[美] Toni Morrison 原著  
Selena Ward 导读  
石琳 翻译

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## 哈佛蓝星双语名著导读: 最蓝的眼睛

TODAY'S MOST POPULAR STUDY GUIDES

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传 真: 022-24310345

E - mail: tstbc@public.tpt.tj.cn

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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，热爱英语的你是否想过站在巨人的肩膀上摘星呢？

你手上这本蓝色小册子正是风行全美的哈佛蓝星笔记，是哈佛学生们将名著阅读与文学学习融会贯通，编写而成的名著导读本。它们以经典性和流行性并存的名著为素材，以明晰的风格和地道的语言而著称。每一本都包括著作的创作背景，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，推荐的论文题，阅读后的小测验，要点注释，以及推荐阅读篇目。

这样的编排使你不仅仅停留在对名著内容上的了解，更可迅速、全面、深入地掌握著作的全部资料，同时也满足了对文化做进一步了解和研究的需求。蓝星精辟、明晰的编写风格将“半天阅读一本名著”的想法变为现实，帮你在有限的闲暇内阅读更多的书，在地道的语言环境中迅速提高英语水平，丰富文学内涵，增加谈资。

天津科技翻译出版公司精挑细选了50本蓝星笔记，由我国外语界资深专家张滨江教授、刘品义教授主持翻译和审校工作，天津外国语学院教授、副教授以及部分优秀青年教师进行翻译，陈法春教授，阎玉敏、常子霞副教授和李晓霞讲师协助部分审校，共同合作、精心制作成为“哈佛蓝星双语名著导读”，既保留了原书特点，并对文中的知识要点做了注释，更加适合你的需要。

蓝星闪耀，照你前行！

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## CONTEXT

**T**oni Morrison was born Chloe Anthony Wofford in 1931 in Lorain, Ohio. Her mother's family had come to Ohio from Alabama via Kentucky, and her father had migrated from Georgia. Morrison grew up with a love of literature and received her undergraduate degree from Howard University. She received a master's degree from Cornell University, completing a thesis on William Faulkner and Virginia Woolf. Afterward, she taught at Texas Southern University and then at Howard, where she met Harold Morrison, an architect from Jamaica. The marriage lasted six years, and Morrison gave birth to two sons. She and her husband divorced while she was pregnant with her second son, and she returned to Lorain to give birth. She then moved to New York and became an editor at Random House, specializing in black fiction. During this difficult and somewhat lonely time, she began working on her first novel, *The Bluest Eye*, which was published in 1970.

Morrison's first novel was not an immediate success, but she continued to write. *Sula*, which appeared in 1973, was more successful, and Morrison was nominated for a National Book Award. In 1977, *Song of Solomon* launched Morrison's national reputation, winning her the National Book Critics Circle Award. Her most well-known work, *Beloved*, appeared in 1987 and won the Pulitzer Prize. Her other novels include *Tar Baby* (1981), *Jazz* (1992), and *Paradise* (1998). Meanwhile, Morrison returned to teaching and was a professor at Yale and the State University of New York at Albany. Today, she is the Robert F. Goheen\* Professor in the Council of Humanities at Princeton University, where

## 来龙·去脉

托尼·莫里森，原名科洛·安东尼·沃福德，1931年出生在美国俄亥俄州的洛伦城。她的母亲一家经肯塔基从阿拉巴马来到俄亥俄，而她的父亲则来自佐治亚州。莫里森自幼酷爱文学，曾就读于华盛顿特区的霍华德大学并获学士学位。她于康奈尔大学获得硕士学位，完成了一篇研究威廉·福克纳与弗吉尼亚·沃尔夫的毕业论文。她曾先后在南得克萨斯大学和霍华德大学任教。在华盛顿期间，她与牙买加籍建筑师哈罗德·莫里森结婚，生有两子。这段婚姻仅持续了6年，他们在次子出生前便离婚，莫里森独自一人回到洛伦城生下孩子。而后，她来到纽约，成为兰登书屋的一名编辑，主编黑人小说。在这段艰苦、孤独的日子里，莫里森开始创造她的第一部小说《最蓝的眼睛》，并于1970年出版。

这部小说虽然没有一鸣惊人，莫里森仍旧坚持不懈继续创作。她的第2部长篇小说《秀拉》则比较成功并获得全国图书奖提名。1977年《所罗门之歌》的问世提高了莫里森在全国的声誉，使她荣获美国文学艺术协会奖。莫里森最著名的一部小说《宠儿》问世于1987年，并获得翌年的普利策文学奖。莫里森其它的小说包括《柏油娃娃》（1981）、《爵士乐》（1992）和《天堂》（1998）。在写作的同时，莫里森重新开始执教，曾任耶鲁大学和奥尔巴尼纽约州立大学的教授。如今，她在普林斯顿大学的人文科学院教授创作课，是该校的罗伯特·F·戈辛教席教授。1933年莫里森

she teaches creative writing. In 1993, Morrison became the first African-American woman to receive the Nobel Prize in literature.

*The Bluest Eye* contains a number of autobiographical elements. It is set in the town where Morrison grew up, and it is told from the point of view of a nine-year-old, the age Morrison would have been the year the novel takes place (1941). Like the MacTeer family, Morrison's family struggled to make ends meet during the Great Depression. Morrison grew up listening to her mother singing and her grandfather playing the violin, just as Claudia does. In the novel's afterword, Morrison explains that the story developed out of a conversation she had had in elementary school with another little girl, who longed for blue eyes. She was still thinking about this conversation in the 1960s, when the Black is Beautiful movement\* worked to reclaim African-American beauty, and she began her first novel.

While its historical context is clear, the literary context of *The Bluest Eye* is more complex. Faulkner and Woolf, whose work Morrison knew well, influenced Morrison's style. She uses the modernist techniques of stream-of-consciousness, multiple perspectives, and deliberate fragmentation. But Morrison understands her work more fundamentally as part of a black cultural tradition and works to create a distinctively black literature. Her prose is inflected with black musical traditions such as the spirituals, gospel, jazz and the blues. She writes in a black vernacular, full of turns of phrase and figures of speech unique to the community in which she grew up, with the hope that if she is true to her own particular experience, it will be universally meaningful. In this way, she attempts to create what she calls a "race-specific yet race-free prose."


In the afterword to *The Bluest Eye*, Morrison explains her


成为美国历史上第一位荣获诺贝尔文学奖的黑人女作家。

《最蓝的眼睛》一书中贯穿了许多自传性的因素。故事发生在作家的故乡洛伦城，由一个9岁小女孩儿来讲述，而莫里森在那一年（1941年）也刚好9岁。同故事中的麦克蒂尔家一样，莫里森的家庭也挣扎在经济大萧条时期入不敷出的边缘上。她小时候也会像克劳蒂亚一样，经常听母亲唱歌，听外公拉小提琴。莫里森在该书的编后记中解释到故事的灵感来自她与一个小女孩儿在学校里的一次对话。这个小女孩儿渴望能够拥有一双蓝色的眼睛。莫里森在20世纪60年代仍在思考着那次对话，当时黑人为找回自己的审美标准，正在掀起一场“美丽黑人”运动。于是，她便开始了她这第一部小说的创作。

小说的历史背景虽然清晰可辨，但它的文学背景却错综复杂。莫里森熟谙福克纳与沃尔夫，她的写作风格也深受这两位作家的影响。她善用意识流、多视角与情节切割等现代派艺术表现手法。同时，作为黑人文化传统的一部分，莫里森的作品又形成了一种独特的黑人文学。她散文诗般的字句弹奏出黑人音乐的韵律，包括黑人圣歌音乐、福音音乐、爵士乐与蓝调音乐。她用黑人的语言写作，文中充满了她成长的黑人社区中所特有的措辞与比喻。莫里森这样做是希望她的作品能够因为自己忠实于生活而具有普遍意义。她试图用这种方式创造出一种她称之为“种族所特有的却又超越于种族之外的作品”。

在小说的编后记中，莫里森阐明了她的创作意

goal in writing the novel. She wants to make a statement about the damage that internalized racism can do to the most vulnerable member of a community—a young girl. At the same time, she does not want to dehumanize the people who wound this girl, because that would simply repeat their mistake. Also, she wants to protect this girl from “the weight of the novel’s inquiry,” and thus decides to tell the story from multiple perspectives. In this way, as she puts it, she “shapes a silence while breaking it,” keeping the girl’s dignity intact. 

图。她想述说内在化的种族歧视给最易受伤的社会成员——一个小女孩儿所带来的伤害。然而，她又不愿使那些伤害小女孩儿的人失去人性，因为那样做只会重复他们的错误。同时，为了使小女孩儿免受“对小说人物追根究源”的困扰，莫里森采用了多视角的叙述方式，这种方式保护了小女孩儿的尊严，正如莫里森所言，“在打破沉默的同时形成了另一种沉默”。 

## PLOT OVERVIEW

**N**ine-year-old Claudia and ten-year-old Frieda MacTeer live in Lorain, Ohio, with their parents. It is the end of the Great Depression, and the girls' parents are more concerned with making ends meet than lavishing attention upon their daughters, but there is an undercurrent of love and stability in their home. The MacTeers take in a boarder, Henry Washington, and also a young girl named Pecola. Pecola's father has tried to burn down his family's house, and Claudia and Frieda feel sorry for her. Pecola loves Shirley Temple\*, believing that whiteness is beautiful and that she is ugly.

Pecola moves back in with her family, and her life is difficult. Her father drinks, her mother is distant, and the two of them often beat each other. Her brother, Sammy, frequently runs away. Pecola believes that if she had blue eyes, she would be loved and her life would be transformed. Meanwhile, she continually receives confirmation of her own sense of ugliness—the grocer looks right through her when she buys candy, boys make fun of her, and a light-skinned girl, Maureen, who temporarily befriends her makes fun of her too. She is wrongly blamed for killing a boy's cat and is called a “nasty little black bitch” by his mother.

We learn that Pecola's parents have both had difficult lives. Pauline, her mother, has a lame foot and has always felt isolated. Pauline loses herself in movies, which reaffirm her belief that she is ugly and that romantic love is reserved for the beautiful. She encourages her husband's violent behavior in order to reinforce her own role as a martyr. She feels most alive when she

## 情节·览

9岁的克劳蒂亚与10岁的弗里达·麦克蒂尔同父母一起生活在俄亥俄州的洛伦城。适逢经济大萧条末期，两个女孩儿的父母终日为生计奔忙，无暇顾及自己的女儿。然而，全家却生活在爱与稳定的基调上。在麦克蒂尔家寄宿着两个人——亨利·华盛顿与一个叫皮克拉的黑人小女孩。皮克拉的父亲烧毁了自家的房子，这使得克劳蒂亚姐妹俩对她十分同情。皮克拉非常喜欢童星秀兰·邓波儿，她深信美丽就是白色的肤色而自己却很丑陋。

搬回自己家以后，皮克拉的日子异常难熬——父亲的酗酒、母亲的冷漠和父母动辄厮打在一起的生活使皮克拉觉得度日如年。她的哥哥萨米也常常离家出走。皮克拉认为如果她能有一双蓝色的眼睛，她就能得到关爱，她的命运就会被改变。然而，买糖果时杂货店老板好似要将她看穿的眼神，拿她开玩笑的男孩子们，以及浅黑色皮肤的莫琳（她新交的朋友）对她的戏弄，这些又都使皮克拉更加相信自己相貌的丑陋。就连他的妈妈也错怪她杀了尤尼奥尔（一个浅黑色皮肤的小男孩儿）的小猫，骂她是“肮脏的黑人小婊子”。

事实上，皮克拉的父母都曾有过的悲惨的生活。她的母亲波琳有一只跛足，常常感到很孤独。她一直沉迷在电影里，电影使她相信只有美丽的人才配拥有浪漫爱情，而她自己却相貌丑陋。她甚至故意使丈夫对她施暴以强化自己“殉葬者”的角色。她觉得只有在



is at work, cleaning a white woman's home. She loves this home and despises her own. Cholly, Pecola's father, was abandoned by his parents and raised by his great aunt, who died when he was a young teenager. He was humiliated by two white men who found him having sex for the first time and made him continue while they watched. He ran away to find his father but was rebuffed by him. By the time he met Pauline, he was a wild and rootless man. He feels trapped in his marriage and has lost interest in life.

Cholly returns home one day and finds Pecola washing dishes. With mixed motives of tenderness and hatred that are fueled by guilt, he rapes her. When Pecola's mother finds her unconscious on the floor, she disbelieves Pecola's story and beats her. Pecola goes to Soaphead Church, a sham mystic, and asks him for blue eyes. Instead of helping her, he uses her to kill a dog he dislikes.

Claudia and Frieda find out that Pecola has been impregnated by her father, and unlike the rest of the neighborhood, they want the baby to live. They sacrifice the money they have been saving for a bicycle and plant marigold seeds. They believe that if the flowers live, so will Pecola's baby. The flowers refuse to bloom, and Pecola's baby dies when it is born prematurely. Cholly, who rapes Pecola a second time and then runs away, dies in a workhouse. Pecola goes mad, believing that her cherished wish has been fulfilled and that she has the bluest eyes. 