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傲慢与偏见 Pride and Prejudice

[英] Jane Austen 原著 Ross Douthat 导读 高嘉勇 翻译

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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。

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CONTEXT

ane Austen was born in Steventon, England, in 1775, where she lived for the first twenty-five years of her life. Her father, George Austen, was the rector of the local parish and taught her largely at home. She began to write while in her teens and completed the original manuscript of *Pride and Prejudice*, titled *First Impressions*, between 1796 and 1797. A publisher rejected the manuscript, and it was not until 1809 that Austen began the revisions that would bring it to its final form. *Pride and Prejudice* was published in January 1813, two years after *Sense and Sensibility*, her first novel, and it achieved a popularity that has endured to this day. Austen published four more novels: *Mansfield Park*,Emma*,Northanger Abbey**, and *Persuasion**. The last two were published in 1818, a year after her death.

During Austen's life, however, only her immediate family knew of her authorship of these novels. At one point, she wrote behind a door that creaked when visitors approached; this warning allowed her to hide manuscripts before anyone could enter. Though publishing anonymously prevented her from acquiring an authorial reputation, it also enabled her to preserve her privacy at a time when English society associated a female's entrance into the public sphere with a reprehensible loss of femininity. Additionally, Austen may have sought anonymity because of the more general atmosphere of repression pervading her era. As the Napoleonic Wars* (1800–1815) threatened the safety of monarchies throughout Europe, government censorship of literature proliferated.

来だ・去除

简·奥斯丁1775年生于英国的史蒂文顿,并在那里生活到25岁。她的父亲,乔治·奥斯丁是当地教区的教区长,奥斯丁虽然没有进过正规学校,但从小受父亲的影响和教育,从十几岁开始写作,并在1796-1797年间,完成了《傲慢与偏见》的初稿,当时的名字叫《最初的印象》。小说初稿遭到了一位出版商的拒绝,直到1809年,奥斯丁开始对初稿进行修改,这就是我们今天所看到的小说的最终内容。简·奥斯丁的第一部小说是《理智与情感》,两年以后,《傲慢与偏见》于1813年1月出版,受到了广泛的欢迎,至今不衰,除此之外,简·奥斯丁还有另外四部小说:《曼斯菲尔德庄园》、《爱玛》、《诺桑觉修道院》和《劝导》。最后两部小说在她去世后第二年,也就是1818年出版。

然而,在简·奥斯丁的一生中,只有她最亲近的家人才知道她是这些小说的真正作者。一方面,奥斯丁喜欢关起门来写作,那扇门一有人来就吱吱作响,这就使奥斯丁能在别人进来之前就把手稿藏好了,尽管匿名出版自己的作品,使她无法拥有作者应得的名誉和声望,但这也曾一度维护了她的个人隐私,因为在当时的英国社会,女性涉足公众范围被认为是女性品质的丧失,是要受到谴责和非议的。除此之外,简·奥斯丁要求匿名出版的另一个原因,可能是考虑到那个时代对文学的镇压之风愈演愈烈,由于拿破仑战争(1800-1815)威胁到了整个欧洲的君主制,政府对于文学的审查力度大大加强了。



The social milieu of Austen's Regency England* was particularly stratified, and class divisions were rooted in family connections and wealth. In her work, Austen is often critical of the assumptions and prejudices of upper class England. She distinguishes between internal merit (goodness of person) and external merit (rank and possessions). Though she frequently satirizes snobs, she also pokes fun at the poor breeding and misbehavior of those lower on the social scale. Nevertheless, Austen was in many ways a realist, and the England she depicts is one in which social mobility is limited and class- consciousness is strong.

Socially regimented ideas of appropriate behavior for each gender factored into Austen's work as well. While social advancement for young men lay in the military, church, or law, the chief method of self-improvement for women was the acquisition of wealth. Women could only accomplish this goal through successful marriage, which explains the ubiquity of matrimony as a goal and topic of conversation in Austen's writing. Though young women of Austen's day had more freedom to choose their husbands than in the early eighteenth century, practical considerations continued to limit their options.

Even so, critics often accuse Austen of portraying a limited world. As a clergyman's daughter, Austen would have done parish work and was certainly aware of the poor around her. However, she wrote about her own world, not theirs. The critiques she makes of class structure seem to include only the middle class and upper class; the lower classes, if they appear at all, are generally servants who seem perfectly pleased with their lot. This lack of interest in the lives of the poor may be a failure on Austen's part, but it should be understood as a failure

简·奥斯丁所处的英国摄政时期,社会有明确的阶级分化,而社会分化的根源在于家庭关系和财富。在她的作品中,简·奥斯丁常常批判英国上层阶级的自恃与偏见,并对人的内在优点(优良品质)和外在优点(阶级和财产)加以区分。她常常辛辣地讽刺那些势利的上流人士,也同样对下等人的那些粗俗和无礼不屑一顾。然而,许多方面表明,简·奥斯丁是一个现实主义作家,她笔下的英国,是一个缺少灵活性,而存在严明的等级观念的社会。

对人按性别区别其社会行为的原则,同样在简· 奥斯丁的作品中得到体现。对年轻男人而言,社会地 位的进步取决于他在军队、教堂和法律界的涉猎,而 女性要想完善和提高自己,主要办法是获得财富,而 女性只能通过一场成功的婚姻才能达到这一目标。这 就是为什么简·奥斯丁的作品中普遍存在着以婚姻为 目标和对话的主题。尽管比起18世纪初期,简·奥斯 丁时代的女性在选择丈夫时拥有了更多的自由,但对 现实的考虑仍然会限制她们的选择。

尽管如此,评论家仍然指责简·奥斯丁的作品的局限性和片面性。作为牧师的女儿,简·奥斯丁本应该做一份教区的工作,并且深知周围穷人的生活。而她只是讲述着她自己的世界,而不是穷人们的。她对于阶级结构的批评似乎只包含中上层阶级;而下层阶级,如果出现的话,也只是那些看起来对自己的命运完全感到满意的仆人。这种对贫苦人民生活描写的缺乏应该是简·奥斯丁作品中的不足之处,但实际上,这种不足不仅仅属于简·奥斯丁,而是在当时英国社会普遍存在的问题。

shared by almost all of English society at the time.

In general, Austen occupies a curious position between the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Her favorite writer, whom she often quotes in her novels, was Dr. Samuel Johnson*, the great model of eighteenth-century classicism* and reason. Her plots, which often feature characters forging their respective ways through an established and rigid social hierarchy, bear similarities to such works of Johnson's contemporaries as Pamela*, written by Samuel Richardson*. However, Austen's novels also display an ambiguity about emotion and an appreciation for intelligence and natural beauty that aligns them with Romanticism. In their awareness of the conditions of modernity and city life and the consequences for family structure and individual characters, they prefigure much Victorian literature (as does her usage of such elements as frequent formal social gatherings, sketchy characters, and scandal).

总之,简·奥斯丁是18~19世纪一位独特的作家。她最喜爱的作家,塞缪尔·约翰逊博士,是18世纪最伟大的古典主义和理性主义的作家典范,她的小说中常常引用他的话。简·奥斯丁小说的情节,常以固有的、严格的社会等级家庭中的人物为背景展开,而这一点,与约翰逊的同时期作家塞缪尔·理查森的作品《帕梅拉》,有很多相似之处。此外,简·奥斯丁的小说对情感、对智慧和自然美的欣赏表现出一种模糊、不确定的态度,并把它们用浪漫的手法结合而表现出来。简·奥斯丁的小说通过描写引领当时社会的新潮事物与城市生活状况、家庭结构与个人性格关系,显示出许多维多利亚时期文学的前兆和特点:如作者习惯使用频繁的正式社交聚会,人物速写和丑闻的描写

等写作方法。 坐

PLOT OVERVIEW

he news that a wealthy young gentleman named Charles Bingley has rented the manor of Netherfield Park causes a great stir in the nearby village of Longbourn, especially in the Bennet household. The Bennets have five unmarried daughters — from oldest to youngest, Jane, Elizabeth, Mary, Kitty, and Lydia — and Mrs. Bennet is desperate to see them all married. After Mr. Bennet pays a social visit to Mr. Bingley, the Bennets attend a ball at which Mr. Bingley is present. He is taken with Jane and spends much of the evening dancing with her. His close friend, Mr. Darcy, is less pleased with the evening and haughtily refuses to dance with Elizabeth, which makes everyone view him as arrogant and obnoxious.

At social functions over subsequent weeks, however, Mr. Darcy finds himself increasingly attracted to Elizabeth's charm and intelligence. Jane's friendship with Mr. Bingley also continues to burgeon, and Jane pays a visit to the Bingley mansion. On her journey to the house she is caught in a downpour and catches ill, forcing her to stay at Netherfield for several days. In order to tend to Jane, Elizabeth hikes through muddy fields and arrives with a spattered dress, much to the disdain of the snobbish Miss Bingley, Charles Bingley's sister. Miss Bingley's spite only increases when she notices that Darcy, whom she is pursuing, pays quite a bit of attention to Elizabeth.

When Elizabeth and Jane return home, they find Mr. Collins visiting their household. Mr. Collins is a young clergyman who stands to inherit Mr. Bennet's property, which has been

情节・览

年轻而富有的单身汉查尔斯·宾格利租下了尼日菲尔德花园的消息在附近的朗伯恩村传得沸沸扬扬,尤其引起了小乡绅班纳特家的注意。班纳特家有五个待字闺中的千金,她们从大到小分别是:简、伊丽莎白、玛丽、吉蒂和丽迪雅。班纳特太太整天忙着为女儿物色称心如意的丈夫。班纳特先生去正式拜访过宾格利以后,班纳特一家参加了一次有宾格利先生参加的舞会。在舞会上,宾格利对班纳特家的大女儿简一见钟情,一直和她跳舞。参加舞会的还有宾格利的好友达西,但他当晚的兴致不高,又非常傲慢,甚至拒绝与简的妹妹伊丽莎白跳舞。这使在场的每个人把他看做一个傲慢自大的家伙。

可是在接下来几周的社交活动中,达西渐渐为伊丽莎白的魅力和智慧所吸引,而简与宾格利的关系也在慢慢发展着。一次,简到宾格利家的庄园去,在路上遇到了倾盆大雨,简生病了,只好在尼日菲尔德花园多住几天。为照顾简,伊丽莎白匆匆赶往尼日菲尔德花园。由于路途泥泞,伊丽莎白的裙子被溅污了,遭到了势利的宾格利妹妹的白眼。而宾格利小姐一心追求达西,当她发现达西有意于伊丽莎白时,更加妒火中烧。

伊丽莎白和简回到家后,正好碰见柯林斯到家中 拜访。柯林斯是个年轻的牧师,由于班纳特先生没有 独生子,依照"限定"继承权,他的家产将由柯林斯 继承。柯林斯自负无知,他早就对班纳特家的姑娘们 "entailed", meaning that it can only be passed down to male heirs. Mr. Collins is a pompous fool, though he is quite enthralled by the Bennet girls. Shortly after his arrival, he makes a proposal of marriage to Elizabeth. She turns him down, wounding his pride. Meanwhile, the Bennet girls have become friendly with militia officers stationed in a nearby town. Among them is Wickham, a handsome young soldier who is friendly toward Elizabeth and tells her how Darcy cruelly cheated him out of an inheritance.

At the beginning of winter, the Bingleys and Darcy leave Netherfield and return to London, much to Jane's dismay. A further shock arrives with the news that Mr. Collins has become engaged to Charlotte Lucas, Elizabeth's best friend and the poor daughter of a local knight*. Charlotte explains to Elizabeth that she is getting older and needs the match for financial reasons. Charlotte and Mr. Collins get married and Elizabeth promises to visit them at their new home. As winter progresses, Jane visits the city to see friends (hoping also that she might see Mr. Bingley). However, Miss Bingley visits her and behaves rudely, while Mr. Bingley fails to visit her at all. The marriage prospects for the Bennet girls appear bleak.

That spring, Elizabeth visits Charlotte, who now lives near the home of Mr. Collins's patron, Lady Catherine de Bourgh, who is also Darcy's aunt. Darcy calls on Lady Catherine and encounters Elizabeth, whose presence leads him to make a number of visits to the Collins's home, where she is staying. One day, he makes a shocking proposal of marriage, which Elizabeth quickly refuses. She tells Darcy that she considers him arrogant and unpleasant, then scolds him for steering Bingley away from Jane and disinheriting Wickham. Darcy leaves her but shortly there-