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远大前程 Great Expectations

[英] Charles Dickens 原著
Brian Phillips
Wendy Cheng

常子霞 翻译

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哈佛蓝星双语名著导读

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14/46/22

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

远大前程/(英)狄更斯(Dickens, C.)著;常子霞译. 一天津: 天津科技翻译出版 公司,2003.9

(哈佛蓝星双语名著导读)

书名原文: Great Expectations

ISBN 7-5433-1652-8

I.远… II.①狄… ②常… III.英语-对照读物,小说-英、汉 IV. H319.4:1

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2003)第 017096 号

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著作权合同登记号:图字:02-2003-9

哈佛蓝星双语名著导读:远大前程

TODAY'S MOST POPULAR STUDY GUIDES

责任编辑: 王霞 张志远

美术编辑: 朱爽蕾

出版者:天津科技翻译出版公司(天津市南开区白堤路244号 邮编300192)

印

50.1 千字

由 话: 022-24314802

传 真: 022-24310345

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

刷: Leefung-Asco Printers Holdings Limited

发 行:全国新华书店

开 本: 850mm×1168mm 1/32

版 次: 2003年9月第1版 印

书 号: ISBN 7-5433-1652-8/H·52

定 价: 9.00元

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致读者

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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

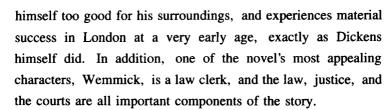
harles Dickens was born on February 7, 1812, and spent the first nine years of his life living in the coastal regions of Kent, a county in southeast England. Dickens's father, John, was a kind and likable man, but he was incompetent with money and piled up tremendous debts throughout his life. When Dickens was nine, his family moved to London. When he was twelve, his father was arrested and taken to debtors' prison. Dickens's mother moved his seven brothers and sisters into prison with their father, but she arranged for the young Charles to live alone outside the prison and work with other children pasting labels on bottles in a blacking warehouse (blacking was a type of manufactured soot used to make a black pigment for products such as matches or fertilizer). Dickens found the three months he spent apart from his family highly traumatic. Not only was the job itself miserable, but he considered himself too good for it, earning the contempt of the other children. After his father was released from prison, Dickens returned to school. He eventually became a law clerk, then a court reporter, and finally a novelist. His first novel, The Pickwick Papers, became a huge popular success when Dickens was only twenty-five. He published extensively and was considered a literary celebrity until his death in 1870.

Many of the events from Dickens's early life are mirrored in *Great Expectations*, which, apart from *David Copperfield*, is his most autobiographical novel. Pip, the novel's protagonist, lives in the marsh country, works at a job he hates, considers

来だ・去除

查尔斯・狄更斯生于1812年2月7日,9岁前一 直生活在英格兰东南部肯特郡的沿海地区。狄更斯的 父亲约翰是个和蔼可亲的人, 但不善理财, 一生为巨 额债务所累。狄更斯9岁那年,随家人移居伦敦。12岁 时,其父因债务问题被抓进负债人监狱。他的母亲带 着7个弟妹搬进监狱与父亲同住,却留狄更斯一人独 自在狱外生活,让他与别的孩子一起,在碳质颜料仓 库给瓶子贴标签(碳质颜料是一种用来给火柴或肥料 等产品做黑色素的人造煤烟)。狄更斯的工作不仅辛 苦,而且他认为对他来说也是大材小用,因而遭到其 他孩子的白眼。狄更斯与家人分住了三个月,这段经 历给他的心灵造成了巨大的伤害。父亲出狱后,他重 新回到学校。后来狄更斯先在一家律师事务所当职 员,后来还做过法院书记官,最后才成为小说家。狄更 斯 25 岁时完成了他的第一部小说《匹克威克外传》, 并且取得了巨大成功。以后他又发表了大量的小说, 被誉为文学界的泰斗。他于1870年病逝。

在《远大前程》中,读者可以看到狄更斯早期生活的影子。除《大卫·科波菲尔》外,它是狄更斯最具自传性质的小说。小说的男主人公,匹普,生活在沼泽区,做着一份自己痛恨的工作,认为自己应该生活在



Great Expectations is set in early Victorian* England, a time when great social changes were sweeping the nation. The Industrial Revolution* of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries had transformed the social landscape, enabling capitalists and manufacturers to amass huge fortunes. Although social class was no longer entirely dependent on the circumstances of one's birth, the divisions between rich and poor remained nearly as wide as ever. London, a teeming mass of humanity. lit by gas lamps at night and darkened by black clouds from smokestacks during the day, formed a sharp contrast with the nation's sparsely populated rural areas. More and more people moved from the country to the city in search of greater economic opportunity. Throughout England, the manners of the upper class were very strict and conservative: gentlemen and ladies were expected to have thorough classical educations and to behave appropriately in innumerable social situations.

These conditions defined Dickens's time, and they make themselves felt in almost every facet of *Great Expectations*. Pip's sudden rise from country laborer to city gentleman forces him to move from one social extreme to another while dealing with the strict rules and expectations that governed Victorian England. Ironically, this novel about the desire for wealth and social advancement was written partially out of economic necessity. Dickens's magazine *All the Year Round* * had become extremely popular based on the success of works it had pub-

更好的环境中,后来年纪轻轻就在伦敦取得物质生活 上的成功。匹普的经历与狄更斯的经历如出一辙。此 外,这部小说中最具有吸引的人物之一,文米克,是位 律师事务所的职员, 而对于法律、司法公正和法庭的 描绘和体现也是小说的重要组成部分。

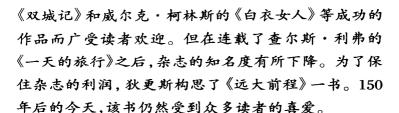
《远大前程》是以维多利亚时代早期的英格兰为 背景的,当时的英格兰社会方方面面都在发生着巨大 的变化。18世纪末和19世纪初的工业革命改变了社 会的面貌,为资本家和制造商聚积了巨大的财富。虽 然社会等级不再完全取决于个人的出身,但是贫富间 的巨大差距仍然存在。伦敦,这个晚上点着煤气灯,白 天烟囱里冒着黑烟的人满为患的城市,与人口稀少的 乡村形成了鲜明的对照。为了寻求更好的经济机遇, 越来越多的人从农村迁居到城市。在整个英格兰,上 流社会的行为规范非常严格而保守:有身份的男人和 女人都需要接受全面的传统教育,在各种不同的社交 场合要举止得当。

这些情况是狄更斯时代的特点, 几乎体现在《远 大前程》的各个方面。匹普从一个乡下的劳工一跃成 为城里的绅士,从社会的最底层进入了最上层,也就 不得不面对维多利亚时代英格兰社会那些严格的规 定和要求。具有讽刺意味的是,小说之所以描写人们 对财富和提高社会地位的渴望,部分原因是出于经济 上的需要。狄更斯创办的杂志《一年四季》因连载他的



lished in serial, such as his own A Tale of Two Cities and Wilkie Collins's* The Woman in White. But it had experienced a decline in popularity after publishing a dull serial by Charles Lever* called A Day's Ride. Dickens conceived of Great Expectations as a means of restoring his publication's fortunes. The book is still immensely popular a century and a half later.

In form Great Expectations fits a pattern popular in nine-teenth-century European fiction: the bildungsroman* or novel depicting growth and personal developmentgenerally a transition from boyhood to manhood such as that experienced by Pip. The genre was popularized by Goethe* with his book Wilhelm Meister (1794-1796) and became prevalent in England with such books as Daniel Defoe's * Robinson Crusoe Charlotte Brontë's * Jane Eyreand Dickens's own David Copperfield. Each of these works, like Great Expectations depicts a process of maturation and self-discovery through experience as a protagonist moves from childhood to adulthood.



在形式上,《远大前程》符合 19世纪欧洲流行的小说模式:它是一部教育小说,是描写成长和个人发展的小说。而更广泛地说,它是描写类似于匹普所经历过的这种从少年到成年的成长过程的小说。歌德的《威廉·麦斯特》(1794~1796)使这种类型的小说开始深入人心。随着丹尼尔·笛福的《鲁滨孙漂流记》、夏洛蒂·勃朗特的《简爱》和狄更斯本人的《大卫·科波菲尔》的相继出版,这类小说开始在英格兰广泛流行。像《远大前程》一样,这些小说都是描写主人公从少年到成年所经历的逐渐成熟、自我发现的过程。此

PLOT OVERVIEW

ip, a young orphan living with his sister and her husband in the marshes of Kent*, sits in a cemetery one evening looking at his parents' tombstones. Suddenly, an escaped convict springs up from behind a tombstone, grabs Pip, and orders him to bring him food and a file for his leg irons. Pip obeys, but the fearsome convict is soon captured anyway. The convict protects Pip by claiming to have stolen the items himself.

One day Pip is taken by his Uncle Pumblechook to play at Satis House, the home of the wealthy dowager Miss Havisham, who is extremely eccentric: she wears an old wedding dress everywhere she goes and keeps all the clocks in her house stopped at the same time. During his visit, he meets a beautiful young girl named Estella, who treats him coldly and contemptuously. Nevertheless, he falls in love with her and dreams of becoming a wealthy gentleman so that he might be worthy of her. He even hopes that Miss Havisham intends to make him a gentleman and marry him to Estella, but his hopes are dashed when, after months of regular visits to Satis House, Miss Havisham tells him that she will help him fill out the papers necessary for him to become a common laborer in his family's business.

With Miss Havisham's guidance, Pip is apprenticed to his brother-in-law, Joe, who is the village blacksmith. Pip works in the forge unhappily, struggling to better his education with the help of the plain, kind Biddy and encountering Joe's malicious day laborer, Orlick. One night, after an altercation with

情节・覚

孤儿匹普和姐姐、姐夫住在肯特郡的沼泽区。一 天晚上,他正坐在墓地端详着父母的墓碑,突然,一个 逃犯从墓碑后窜出来,抓住他并让他回家去拿些食 物,再带一把锉脚镣的锉刀来。匹普照逃犯说的做了, 但没过多久,可怕的逃犯就被抓到。为了保护匹普,逃 犯称那些东西是自己偷的。

一天, 匹普的舅舅潘波趣, 带他去富有的寡妇都 薇香小姐的沙堤斯庄园玩儿。郝薇香小姐是个非常古怪的人, 不论她去哪, 都穿着一件旧的结婚礼服, 并把家里所有的钟表都停在同一个时间。在她家, 匹普遇到一位漂亮的姑娘, 叫艾丝黛拉。艾丝黛拉对匹普态度冷淡, 也看不起他, 但匹普却爱上了她, 并且梦想着能够成为一个富有的绅士, 好与她门当户对。 匹普甚至希望郝薇香小姐能有意帮助他成为绅士, 让他与艾丝黛拉结婚。但是匹普的希望破灭了, 因为在对沙堤斯庄园定期拜访了几个月后, 郝薇香小姐告诉他, 她将帮他填写必要的文件, 让他成为自家生意的一名普通雇工。

根据郝薇香小姐的指令, 匹普成为村里的乔铁匠,也就是他的姐夫的徒弟。匹普在铁匠铺工作得并不开心,他在相貌平平但心地善良的毕蒂的帮助下拼命地学习,同时还要面对乔铁匠的一名帮工,恶毒的奥立克。一天晚上,他的姐姐乔大嫂在和奥立克吵了一架后遭到恶意的袭击,成为一个不能说话、不能自理的废人。根据乔大嫂的手势,匹普推断出袭击一事



Orlick, Pip's sister, known as Mrs. Joe, is viciously attacked and becomes a mute invalid. From her signals, Pip deduces that Orlick was responsible for the attack.

One day a lawyer named Jaggers appears with strange news: a secret benefactor has given Pip a large fortune, and Pip must come to London immediately to begin his education as a gentleman. Pip happily assumes that his previous hopes have come true—that Miss Hayisham is his secret benefactor and that the old woman intends for him to marry Estella.

In London, Pip befriends a young gentleman named Herbert Pocket and Jaggers's law clerk, Wemmick. He expresses disdain for his former friends and loved ones, especially Joe, but he continues to pine after Estella. He furthers his education by studying with the tutor Matthew Pocket, Herbert's father. Herbert himself helps Pip learn how to act like a gentleman. When Pip turns twenty-one and begins to receive an income from his fortune, he will secretly help Herbert buy his way into the business he has chosen for himself. But for now, Herbert and Pip lead a fairly undisciplined life in London, enjoying themselves and running up debts. Orlick reappears in Pip's life, employed as Miss Havisham's porter, but is promptly fired by Jaggers after Pip reveals Orlick's unsavory past. Mrs. Joe dies, and Pip goes home for the funeral, feeling tremendous grief and remorse. Several years go by, until one night a familiar figure barges into Pip's room—the convict, Magwitch, who stuns Pip by announcing that he, not Miss Havisham, is the source of Pip's fortune. He tells Pip that he was so moved by Pip's boyhood kindness that he dedicated his life to making Pip a gentleman, and he made a fortune in Australia for that very purpose.