

哈佛

蓝星双语名著导读

Today's Most Popular Study Guides

白鲸

Moby-Dick

〔美〕 Herman Melville 原著

Jia-Rui Chong 导读

Melissa Martin

闫玉敏 翻译

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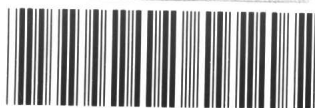
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致读者

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

Herman Melville was born in New York City in 1819, the third of eight children born to Maria Gansevoort Melville and Allan Melville, a prosperous importer of foreign goods. When the family business failed at the end of the 1820s, the Melvilles relocated to Albany in an attempt to revive their fortunes. A string of further bad luck and overwork, however, drove his father to an early grave, and the young Melville was forced to start working in a bank at the age of thirteen.

After a few more years of formal education, Melville left school at eighteen to become an elementary school teacher. This career was abruptly cut short and followed by a brief tenure as a newspaper reporter. Running out of alternatives on land, Melville made his first sea voyage at nineteen, as a merchant sailor on a ship bound for Liverpool, England. He returned to America the next summer to seek his fortune in the West. After settling briefly in Illinois, he went back east in the face of continuing financial difficulties.

Finally, driven to desperation at twenty-one, Melville committed to a whaling voyage of indefinite destination and scale on board a ship called the *Acushnet*. This journey took him around the continent of South America, across the Pacific Ocean, and to the South Seas, where he abandoned ship with a fellow sailor in the summer of 1842, eighteen months after setting out from New York. The two men found themselves in the Marquesas Islands, where they accidentally wandered into the company of a tribe of cannibals *. Lamed with a bad leg,

来龙·去脉

赫尔曼·麦尔维尔 1819 年生于纽约，在八个孩子中排行第三。母亲名叫玛丽娅·甘斯福·麦尔维尔，父亲亚伦·麦尔维尔是一个富有的外国图书进口商。19 世纪 20 年代末期家道中落后，麦尔维尔全家搬到阿尔波尼试图重振家业。但是一连串新的不幸，加上过度的操劳，使他的父亲过早地离开人世。年轻的麦尔维尔被迫在 13 岁时开始在一家银行上班。

在接受了几年正规教育之后，麦尔维尔于 18 岁辍学，当了一名小学教员。但这份工作很快就无端地丢掉了，他又当了很短一段时间的报社记者。麦尔维尔在陆地上找不到生计，便于 19 岁第一次出海，在一艘开往英国利物浦的商船上当了一名水手。第二年夏天，他回到美国，又到西部去碰运气。在伊利诺斯州小住后，面对连续不断的财务困境，他又回到东部。

最后，在 21 岁时，走投无路的麦尔维尔登上了一艘名为阿卡什奈的船，开始了没有明确目的地和航海范围的捕鲸航程。在这次航程中，他绕过南美洲，横跨太平洋，来到了南太平洋。在从纽约出发 18 个月后，也就是 1842 年夏，麦尔维尔在南太平洋和一个水手同伴下了船。两个人发现他们来到了马奎索群岛，并意外地走进了食人部落的领地。麦尔维尔瘸了一条腿，与同伴走散，独自一人与土著人相处了一个月。这段经历构成了他的第一部小说的主要内容（《泰琵：波利尼西亚人

Melville became separated from his companion and spent a month alone in the company of the natives. This experience later formed the core of his first novel, *Typee: A Peep at Polynesian Life*, published in 1846. An indeterminate mixture of fact and fiction, Melville's fanciful travel narrative remained the most popular and successful of his works during his lifetime.

Life among these natives and numerous other exotic experiences abroad provided Melville with endless literary conceits. Armed with the voluminous knowledge obtained from constant reading while at sea, Melville set out to write a series of novels detailing his adventures and his philosophy of life. *Typee* was followed by *Omoo* (1847) and *Mardi and a Voyage Thither* (1849), two more novels about his Polynesian experiences. *Redburn*, also published in 1849, is a fictionalized account of Melville's first voyage to Liverpool. His next novel, *White-Jacket; or The World in a Man-of-War*, published in 1850, is a more generalized and allegorical account of life at sea aboard a warship.

Through the lens of literary history, these first five novels are all seen as an apprenticeship to what is today considered Melville's masterpiece, *Moby-Dick; or The Whale*, which first appeared in 1851. A story of monomania aboard a whaling ship, *Moby-Dick* is a tremendously ambitious novel that functions at once as a documentary of life at sea and a vast philosophical allegory of life in general. No sacred subject is spared in this bleak and scathing critique of the known world, as Melville satirizes by turns religious traditions, moral values, and the literary and political figures of the day.

Melville was strongly influenced in the writing of *Moby-Dick* by the work of Nathaniel Hawthorne*, author of *The Scarlet Letter*, whom he finally met in 1850 and to whom he dedicated

生活一瞥》),该书出版于1846年。麦尔维尔对旅行进行了富于幻想的叙述,将事实与虚构融合在一起,使该书成为他一生中最成功、最受欢迎的作品。


在土著人中的生活和在国外无数其他的奇特经历,为麦尔维尔提供了无穷无尽的文学奇想。麦尔维尔从在海上不间断的阅读中获取了丰富的知识,他开始着手创作一系列的小说,详细阐述他的冒险经历和人生哲学。继《泰琵》之后,他又出版了《奥莫》(1847)、《马尔蒂和那儿的航行》(1849),以及另外两部讲述他在波利尼西亚的经历的小说。1849年,他还出版了《红色的伤疤》,这是对麦尔维尔首航利物浦的虚构化的描写。他接下来的另一部小说《白夹克衫》(或《军舰的世界》)出版于1850年,用更为抽象的和寓言化的语言叙述了一艘战舰上的海上生活。

从文学史角度来看,这5部小说都可以被看做是麦尔维尔的练笔之作,而《白鲸》,或《莫比·迪克》,才是他公认的代表作,初版于1851年。这是一部极为雄心勃勃的小说,描写了一个偏执狂在一艘捕鲸船上的故事,它既是一部对海上生活的纪实,又是一部宏大的揭示普遍人生哲理的寓言。麦尔维尔运用了所有直接而尖锐的批评手段,轮番讽刺了宗教的传统、道德的价值,还有当时在文学与政治上显赫的人物,几乎所有所谓的神圣话题都在他的讽刺之列。

麦尔维尔创作《白鲸》时,受纳森奈尔·霍桑作品的影响很大。他于1850年见到了这位《红字》的作者,并把《白鲸》献给了他。麦尔维尔一直以来就很崇拜霍


Moby-Dick. Melville had long admired Hawthorne's psychological depth and gothic grimness, and he associated Hawthorne with a new, distinctively American literature. Though the works of Shakespeare and Milton* and stories in the Bible (especially the Old Testament) influenced *Moby-Dick*, Melville didn't look exclusively to celebrated cultural models. He drew on sources from popular culture as well; whaling narratives, for example, were extremely popular in the nineteenth century. In particular, Melville relied on Thomas Beale's encyclopedic *Natural History of the Sperm Whale* and the narrative *Etchings of a Whaling Cruise*, by J. Ross Browne.

By the 1850s, whaling was a dying industry. Whales had been hunted into near-extinction, and more economical substitutes for whale oil had been found. Despite its ambitious range of cultural references and affiliation with popular genres, *Moby-Dick* was also a failure. Its reception led Melville to try to defy his critics by writing in an increasingly experimental style and eventually forsaking novels altogether in favor of poetry. He died in 1891.

Moby-Dick remained largely ignored until the 1920s, when it was rediscovered and promoted by literary historians interested in constructing an American literary tradition. To these critics, *Moby-Dick* was both a seminal work elaborating on classic American themes, such as religion, fate, and economic expansion, and a radically experimental anachronism that anticipated Modernism in its outsized scope and pastiche of forms. It stands alongside James Joyce's* *Ulysses* and Laurence Sterne's* *Tristram Shandy* as a novel that appears bizarre to the point of being unreadable but proves to be infinitely open to interpretation and discovery. 

桑对于心理刻画의深度和哥特式的严肃,他认为霍桑创立了一种新的独特的美国文学样式。虽然莎士比亚与弥尔顿的作品和圣经故事(尤其是《旧约》)都对《白鲸》产生了一定的影响,但麦尔维尔并没有刻意去追随这些著名的文化模式。他同时还从流行文化里汲取创作源泉。例如,关于捕鲸的纪事在19世纪极为流行,麦尔维尔就特别参考了托马斯·比莱斯的百科全书式的著作《抹香鲸的自然发展史》和罗斯·布朗尼的《捕鲸之旅记》。

到19世纪50年代,捕鲸业已经到了穷途末路,因为鲸已几近绝迹,而且已经有了更廉价的鲸油的替代品。虽然在《白鲸》的写作中雄心勃勃地参阅了各种文化史料,并接纳了各种流行风格,但在当时它并未能获得成功。这种结果使麦尔维尔采用越来越具有实验性的写作风格来回击他的批评家,并最终彻底放弃了小说的创作而转向诗歌。他于1891年去世。

《白鲸》一直很少有人问津,直到20世纪20年代,有志构建美国文学传统的文学史学家们才重新发现了这部作品,并对其推崇备至。他们认为,《白鲸》既是一部详尽阐述诸如宗教、命运与经济扩张等美国传统主题的创新之作,又是一部激进、实验性的不合时宜之作,其视野之宏大和写作形式之混杂,都提前具有了现代主义风格。这部小说就如同詹姆斯·乔伊斯的《尤利西斯》和劳伦斯·斯得恩的《泰斯特莱姆·山迪》一样,表面上古怪得不可卒读,但后来却被证明是可以无限进行解释与发掘的作品。

PLOT OVERVIEW

Ishmael, the narrator, announces his intent to ship aboard a whaling vessel. He has made several voyages as a sailor but none as a whaler. He travels to New Bedford, Massachusetts, where he stays in a whalers' inn. Since the inn is rather full, he has to share a bed with a harpooner from the South Pacific named Queequeg. At first repulsed by Queequeg's strange habits and shocking appearance (Queequeg is covered with tattoos), Ishmael eventually comes to appreciate the man's generosity and kind spirit, and the two decide to seek work on a whaling vessel together. They take a ferry to Nantucket, the traditional capital of the whaling industry. There they secure berths on the *Pequod*, a savage-looking ship adorned with the bones and teeth of sperm whales. Peleg and Bildad, the *Pequod's* Quaker owners, drive a hard bargain in terms of salary. They also mention the ship's mysterious captain, Ahab, who is still recovering from losing his leg in an encounter with a sperm whale on his last voyage.

The *Pequod* leaves Nantucket on a cold Christmas Day with a crew made up of men from many different countries and races. Soon the ship is in warmer waters, and Ahab makes his first appearance on deck, balancing gingerly on his false leg, which is made from a sperm whale's jaw. He announces his desire to pursue and kill Moby Dick, the legendary great white whale who took his leg, because he sees this whale as the embodiment of evil. Ahab nails a gold doubloon to the mast and declares that it will be the prize for the first man to sight the whale. As the *Pequod* sails toward the southern tip of Africa, whales are

情节·览

本书的叙述者，以实马利，宣布他要到捕鲸船上去工作。作为水手，他曾经出过几次海，但从未上过捕鲸船。他来到马萨诸塞州的新贝德福，住进了捕鲸者的客店。由于小店客满，他只得和一个名叫魁魁格的来自南太平洋的标枪手挤在一张床上。以实马利一开始接受不了魁魁格奇怪的习惯和令人吃惊的相貌（魁魁格全身刺满了文身花纹），后来却逐渐欣赏起魁魁格的宽怀大度及和善的气质，两个人决定一起到捕鲸船上去找工作。他们坐邮船来到了传统的捕鲸城市南塔卡特。他们成功地登上了“裴廓德号”，一艘看上去很野性的，装饰着抹香鲸骨骼和牙齿的捕鲸船。“裴廓德号”的船主派勒和比勒达是教友派信徒，在薪水问题上与他们激烈地讨价还价。他们还提到神秘的船长亚哈，他因在上次航程中遭遇到一头抹香鲸而失去了一条腿，正在养伤。

“裴廓德号”在一个寒冷的圣诞节驶离南塔卡特，水手由不同国家和种族的人组成。不久，船驶到了温暖的水域，亚哈在甲板上首次露面，他小心翼翼地用假腿平衡着身体，他的假腿竟是用一头抹香鲸的颞骨做成的。他宣称要追杀莫比·迪克，就是那头夺走他一条腿的具有传奇色彩的大白鲸，因为他把它看做是邪恶的化身。亚哈把一枚道伯伦金币钉到桅杆上，宣布第一个发现大白鲸的人将得到这枚金币。“裴廓德

sighted and unsuccessfully hunted. During the hunt, a group of men, none of whom anyone on the ship's crew has seen before on the voyage, emerges from the hold. The men's leader is an exotic-looking man named Fedallah. These men constitute Ahab's private harpoon crew, smuggled aboard in defiance of Bildad and Peleg. Ahab hopes that their skills and Fedallah's prophetic abilities will help him in his hunt for Moby Dick.

The *Pequod* rounds Africa and enters the Indian Ocean. A few whales are successfully caught and processed for their oil. From time to time, the ship encounters other whaling vessels. Ahab always demands information about Moby Dick from their captains. One of the ships, the *Jeroboam*, carries Gabriel*, a crazed prophet who predicts doom for anyone who threatens Moby Dick. His predictions seem to carry some weight, as those aboard his ship who have hunted the whale have met disaster. While trying to drain the oil from the head of a captured sperm whale, Tashtego, one of the *Pequod's* harpooners, falls into the whale's voluminous head, which then rips free of the ship and begins to sink. Queequeg saves Tashtego by diving into the ocean and cutting into the slowly sinking head.

During another whale hunt, Pip, the *Pequod's* black cabin boy, jumps from a whaleboat and is left behind in the middle of the ocean. He goes insane as the result of the experience and becomes a crazy but prophetic *jester* for the ship. Soon after, the *Pequod* meets the *Samuel Enderby*, a whaling ship whose skipper, Captain Boomer, has lost an arm in an encounter with Moby Dick. The two captains discuss the whale; Boomer, happy simply to have survived his encounter, cannot understand Ahab's lust for vengeance. Not long after, Queequeg falls ill and has the ship's carpenter make him a coffin in anticipation of