

SFLEP-MACMILLAN CLASSICS READERS

轻松读经典丛书

(英语课程标准八年级之二)

Tess of the D'Urbervilles

德伯家的苔丝

THOMAS HARDY

原著 托马斯·哈代

安吉尔·卡莱尔发誓要永远爱苔丝。但在得知苔丝曾经蒙受的耻辱后，他的爱化作了仇恨，幸福的婚姻也随之葬送。



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Anna of the Five O'Clock Shadow

德伯家的苔丝

THE GREAT GATSBY

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THOMAS HARDY

Adapted by Richard Sellwood

Series Editor Dr Colin Swatridge

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注释 王 珏



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出版说明

为了促进我国中学生的英语学习,培养他们的文化素养和文学修养,上海外语教育出版社经过长时间的酝酿和市场调研,决定将英国麦克米伦出版公司的一套文学名著简写本引荐给我国的中学生。

麦克米伦出版公司是从20世纪初开始陆续出版这套文学名著简写本的。为了满足世界各地英语为非母语国家,也包括英语国家不同程度中学生的阅读需要,他们请专家对一些大家耳熟能详的世界文学名著进行了改写,在保留原著的故事情节和原著者的创作风格的同时,适当地降低了语言的难度,至今已经推出了200多本。若干年过去了,这些书仍然受到世界各地读者的欢迎。

外教社从麦克米伦出版公司的这套文学名著简写本中精心挑选了40本,汇成一套“轻松读经典丛书”,难易程度跨越“英语课程标准”的3级—8级。这套丛书选编了英、美、法等国文学大师的经典之作,包括莎士比亚、狄更斯、马克·吐温、哈代、大仲马等著名作家的作品。为了让中学生在阅读过程中更好地把握原书的精髓和作家的创作历程,外教社还特地对读物中的语言难点做了注释;并加入了一篇关于作家、作品的背景介绍。

我们衷心希望“轻松读经典丛书”能够有助于提高我国中学生的文学欣赏水平,陶冶他们的道德情操,增强他们的英语阅读能力,成为开启中学生英语文学名著阅读之门的金钥匙。

外教社编辑部

2002年11月

简 介

苔丝是哈代最喜爱的小说女主人公，是作者感觉最亲切的人物。苔丝美丽纯洁，楚楚动人，而这也使读者对她在小说里的悲惨遭遇给予莫大的同情。

哈代采用传统的小说情节——年轻的乡村姑娘被富有乡绅诱奸，又遭遗弃。作者在书中融入了对道德、社会和性问题的讨论。小说暴露了维多利亚时代社会对待男女的双重标准，揭示了因男性的不负责任和恶意对待而往往使女性饱受欺凌的社会现实。苔丝在遭到阿历克·德伯维尔强暴之后，被人们唾弃，她孤苦伶仃，生下的孩子不久也夭折了。

当苔丝爱上了代表开明自由观念的安吉尔·卡莱尔，她面临了两难的抉择。她究竟是该冒着失去爱情的危险坦白她不为人知蒙羞的过去，还是该隐瞒真相，保持沉默。苔丝终于答应与卡莱尔结婚。在新婚之夜，她将真相和盘托出，卡莱尔厌弃了苔丝。小说这一部分读来催人泪下。

小说一开始，苔丝就好像没有根基，不停地四处奔波，试图改变境况——最初是为了家庭，后来她辗转于一个又一个农场之间，仅仅是为了生存。小说暗示，在现代社会，人们不再定居一处，四处奔波使人们失去了可靠的依托。哈代的妇女观很先进：他痛斥苔丝在短暂一生里所遭受的不公正对待。

与哈代的其他小说一样，本书生动描绘了19世纪

英国农村生活场景。苔丝融入其中,书里有许多篇幅展示了苔丝与自然界的亲密关系,这表明作家将人类与他居住的环境视为一体。

小说副标题是“纯洁的女人”。尽管种种诱惑试图腐蚀苔丝的心灵,但她却依旧纯洁无瑕。

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Chapter 1

THE village of Marlott lies in the beautiful Vale of Blackmoor. This is a quiet region four hours' journey from London. It is fertile¹ country in which the fields are never brown and the springs never dry. It is very different from the chalk hills which surround it, and the view of the landscape reveals a rich growth of grass and trees.

Many of the old customs survive in the valley. For instance the May-Day dance was still an interesting event to the younger inhabitants of Marlott. A group of young ladies had gathered for the occasion, all dressed in white gowns. In addition every woman and girl carried in her right hand a willow wand², and in her left a bunch of white flowers.

There were a few middle-aged and even elderly women in the gathering, but young girls formed the majority. Their hair reflected in the sunshine every tone of gold, and black, and brown. Some had beautiful eyes, others a beautiful nose, others a beautiful mouth and figure; few, if any, had all. They were

1 fertile: 肥沃的 2 willow wand: 柳枝

shy country girls, unaccustomed to¹ being watched. All were cheerful, and many of them had some dream or distant hope to make them merry.

They came by The Pure Drop Inn, and were turning out of the road to pass through a gate into the meadows², when one of the women said: 'The Lord-a-Lord! Why, Tess Durbeyfield, there's your father riding home in a carriage!'

A young member of the band turned her head at this. She was a fine and handsome girl — not handsomer than some others, possibly — but her passionate³ red mouth and large innocent⁴ eyes made her more attractive. She wore a red ribbon in her hair, and was the only one of the group who did. As she looked around Durbeyfield was seen moving along the road in a carriage belonging to The Pure Drop, driven by a curly-headed girl with her gown-sleeves rolled above her elbows. Durbeyfield, leaning back, with his eyes closed, was waving his hand above his head, and singing: 'I've got a great family vault⁵ at Kingsbere — and knights as forefathers⁶ buried there!'

The girls giggled, except the girl called Tess, in whom a blush rose at the sense that her father was making himself foolish in their eyes. 'He's tried, that's all,' she said hastily, 'and he has got a lift home, because our own horse has to rest today.'

But Tess's pride would not allow her to turn her

1 unaccustomed to: 不习惯 2 meadow: 草地, 牧场 3 passionate: 热烈的 4 innocent: 纯洁的 5 vault: 墓穴 6 fore-father: 祖先



head in her father's direction again, or to learn what his meaning was, if he had any. Thus the women moved on to the enclosure¹ where there was to be dancing on the green.

Tess Durbeyfield at this time of her life was full of emotion which had not been affected by experience. You could still see phases of her childhood in her face; for all her bouncing handsome womanliness, you could still sometimes see her twelfth year in her cheeks.

As there were no men in the company the girls danced at first with each other, but when the hour for the close of labour drew on menfolk gathered round the spot, inclined to look for a partner. Among these on-lookers were three young men of a higher class, carrying small knapsacks² strapped to their shoulders, and stout sticks in their hands. They were brothers; the eldest was dressed in the clothes of a curate³; the second was an undergraduate⁴; the third and youngest was more difficult to characterise on appearance. The brothers were spending their spring holidays in a walking tour through the Vale of Blackmoor. They leant over the gate by the road, and inquired as to the meaning of the dance and the white dresses. The two elder brothers were plainly not intending to linger⁵ more than a moment, but the spectacle of girls dancing without male partners seemed to amuse the third.

1 enclosure: 围栏 2 knapsack: (旅行用的帆布或皮的)背包
3 curate: 助理牧师 4 undergraduate: 大学本科生 5 linger: 逗留

He unstrapped his knapsack, put it, with his stick, on the hedge-bank, and opened the gate.

‘What are you going to do, Angel?’ asked the eldest.

‘I am inclined to go and have a dance with them. It will not detain us long.’

‘No, no; nonsense!’ said the first. ‘Dancing in public with a group of country girls. Suppose we should be seen! Come along, or it will be dark before we get to Stourcastle.’

‘All right. I’ll overtake you and Cuthbert in five minutes; don’t stop; I give my word that I will, Felix.’

The two elder men reluctantly left him and walked on, and the youngest entered the field. ‘Where are your partners, my dear?’ he said gallantly¹ to two or three of the girls nearest him.

‘They’ve not left off work yet,’ answered one of the boldest. ‘They’ll be here by and by². Till then, will you be one, Sir?’

‘Certainly.’

The young man, thus invited, glanced them over and took almost the first that came to hand. It did not happen to be Tess Durbeyfield, and the chosen girl was envied by all as the first who enjoyed the luxury³ of a male partner that evening. Soon the young men from the village joined in and all had partners.

The church clock struck, when suddenly the student said that he must leave — he had been forget-

1 gallantly: 殷勤地 2 by and by: 逐渐地 3 luxury: 奢侈



ting himself — he had to join his companions. As he fell out of the dance his eyes lighted on Tess Durbeyfield, whose own eyes wore the faintest trace of blame that he had not chosen her. He, too, was sorry then that, owing to her backwardness, he had not observed her. With that in his mind he left the field.

He ran down the lane westward, but paused to get breath, and looked back. He could see the white figures of the girls, and they seemed to have quite forgotten him already. All of them, except, perhaps, one. This white shape stood apart by the hedge alone. From her position he knew it to be the pretty maiden with whom he had not danced. He wished that he had asked her; he wished that he had inquired her name. However, it could not be helped, and turning, walking rapidly, he dismissed the subject from his mind.

As for Tess Durbeyfield, she did not so easily dismiss the incident from her mind. She had not spirit to dance again for a long time, though she might have had plenty of partners. It was not till the young stranger's figure was lost in the rays of the sun that she took another partner, though he did not speak so nicely as the strange young man.

She remained with her comrades till dusk¹. She might have stayed even later but the incident of her father returned to her mind and made her anxious. Wondering what had happened to him she walked towards the end of the village at which her parents' cot-

1 dusk: 黄昏

tage lay.

When Tess opened the door she was sorry that she had not returned sooner. There stood her mother Joan with the group of children, hanging over the Monday washing-tub, which had now, as always, lingered on to the end of the week. As usual Mrs Durbeyfield was rocking her youngest child, and singing a cradle song.

‘I’ll rock the cradle for you, Mother,’ said the daughter gently.

Her mother bore Tess no ill-will for leaving the housework to her. Tonight there was a different look in her mother’s face, some excitement mingled¹ with dreaminess. ‘Well, I’m glad you’ve come,’ her mother said. ‘I want to go and fetch your father, and I want to tell you what has happened.’

‘Since I’ve been away?’ Tess asked. ‘Has it anything to do with father’s making such a fool of himself in the carriage this afternoon. I wanted to sink into the ground with shame!’

‘That was all part of it. We’ve been found to be the greatest gentlefork² in the whole country, reaching back for centuries. In the past our real name was d’Urberville!’

‘I’m glad of that. Will it do us any good, Mother?’

‘Your father learnt of it on his way home from Shaston. A preacher³ who is in the habit of hunting

1 mingle: 使混合 2 gentlefork: 出身名门而有教养的人

3 preacher: 布道者



up old family names for a new county history met him and told that he is the living representative¹ of the ancient and knightly family of the d'Urbervilles. It is thought that great things may come of it.'

'Where is father now?' asked Tess suddenly.

Her mother put on a stern² look. 'Now don't you be angry! The poor man, he went up to Rolliver's Inn half an hour ago. He needs his strength for the journey tomorrow with that load of beehives³, which must be delivered, family or no. He'll have to start shortly after twelve tonight, as the distance is so long.'

Tears welled to Tess's eyes. 'O my God! Go to a public-house to get up his strength, and are you going as well, Mother?'

'No,' said the latter. 'I have been waiting for you to look after the house while I go and fetch him.'

'I'll go.'

'Oh, no, Tess. You see, it would be no use.'

Tess knew what her mother's objection meant. This hunting for her husband at the inn was one of Mrs Durbeyfield's only enjoyments. To find him at Rolliver's and sit there for an hour or two by his side, and forget about the care of the children, made her happy.

Tess was left alone with the younger children. There was an interval⁴ of four years between Tess and the next of the family, 'Liza-Lu'. Next came Abra-

1 representative: 代表 2 stern: 严厉的 3 beehive: 蜂巢

4 interval: 间隔

ham who was nine years old, then two more girls, Hope and Modesty; there was a boy of three, and then the baby, who had just completed his first year. They were six helpless creatures who had never been asked if they wished for life on any terms, much less if they wished for it on such hard conditions.

It grew later, and neither father nor mother reappeared. Tess thought that a man like her father in poor health who was to start a long journey at one in the morning ought not to be at an inn at this late hour. 'I must go to fetch them,' she said.

Tess, locking the children in, started on her way up the dark and winding lane to Rolliver's Inn.

Mrs Durbeyfield had walked quickly to the inn and climbed the stairs to the room where a party of drinkers had assembled¹. She was welcomed with glances and nods by the company, and turned to where her husband sat. He was singing absently to himself: 'I am as good as some folks! I've got a great family vault at Kingsbere, and finer skeletons than any man in Wessex²!'

'I've something to tell you that's come into my head about that,' whispered his wife. 'I've been thinking since you brought the news that there's a rich lady out by Trantridge of the name of d'Urberville.'

'Hey! What's that?' said her husband.

'That lady must be our relation,' she said.

1 assemble: 汇集 2 Wessex: 韦塞克斯 (英国英格兰西南部一地区)