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汤姆叔叔的小屋 Uncle Tom's Cabin

〔美〕 Harriet Beecher Stowe 原著

Amanda David

导读

Brian Phillips

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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

pon meeting Harriet Beecher Stowe* for the first time, Abraham Lincoln* reportedly said, "So this is the little lady who made this big war." Stowe was little—under five feet tall—but what she lacked in height, she made up for in influence and success. Uncle Tom's Cabin became one of the most widely read and deeply penetrating books of its time. It sold hundreds of thousands of copies and was translated into numerous languages. Many historians have credited the novel with contributing to the outbreak of the Civil War.

The daughter of an eminent New England preacher, Stowe was born into a family of eccentric, intelligent people. As a child, she learned Latin and wrote a children's geography book, both before she was ten years old. Throughout her life, she remained deeply involved in religious movements, feminist causes, and the most divisive political and moral issue of her time: the abolition of slavery.

Stowe grew up in the Northeast but lived for a time in Cincinnati, which enabled her to see both sides of the slavery * debate without losing her abolitionist's perspective. Cincinnati * was evenly split for and against abolition, and Stowe wrote satirical pieces on the subject for several local papers there. She often wrote pieces under pseudonyms and with contrasting styles, and one can see a similar attention to voice in *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, in which dialects and patterns of speech contrast among characters. Though Stowe absorbed a great deal of information about

来だ・去除

据说,亚伯拉罕·林肯第一次见到哈丽叶特·比彻·斯陀时说:"这位就是发动这场伟大战争的小妇人。"斯陀夫人确实矮小,身高不足5英尺,但如果说身高算是个缺憾的话,那她就用自己的影响和成功弥补了这个缺憾。《汤姆叔叔的小屋》成为当时读者最多、最深入人心的作品之一。这本书售出了几十万本,并被翻译成多种文字。许多历史学家都认为这部小说是南北战争的导火索。

斯陀夫人是新英格兰一位著名牧师的女儿,她身边的人大都性情孤僻、智慧过人。童年时期,她学过拉丁语,写过一本儿童地理书,当时她还不满10岁。她毕生积极参加宗教活动和妇女运动,并投身于在当时分歧很大的政治和道德运动——废奴运动。

斯陀夫人在美国东北部长大,但是在辛辛那提生活了一段时间,这段生活经历使她对有关奴隶制度的两派观点都有所认识,同时她一直没有放弃自己的废奴思想。在辛辛那提市,蓄奴派和废奴派势均力敌。针对关于奴隶制的争论,斯陀夫人在当地的报纸上发表过一些讽刺性的文章。她经常用笔名写作,而且惯用对照的写法,读者在《汤姆叔叔的小屋》中也能体会到类似的风格,各种人物的方言和说话方式迥然不同。虽然在辛辛那提的生活经历为她提供了大量有关奴隶制的素材,但在创作《汤姆叔叔的小屋》之前,她还是做了大

slavery during her Cincinnati years, she nonetheless conducted extensive research before writing *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. She wrote to Frederick Douglass* and others for help in creating a realistic picture of slavery in the Deep South. Her black cook and household servants also helped by telling her stories of their slave days.

Stowe's main goal with *Uncle Tom's Cabin* was to convince her large Northern readership of the necessity of ending slavery. Most immediately, the novel served as a response to the passage of the Fugitive Slave Act* of 1850, which made it illegal to give aid or assistance to a runaway slave. Under this legislation, Southern slaves who escaped to the North had to flee to Canada in order to find real freedom. With her book, Stowe created a sort of exposé that revealed the horrors of Southern slavery to people in the North. Her radical position on race relations, though, was informed by a deep religiosity. Stowe continually emphasizes the importance of Christian love in eradicating oppression. She also works in her feminist beliefs, showing women as equals to men in intelligence, bravery, and spiritual strength. Indeed, women dominate the book's moral code, proving vital advisors to their husbands, who often need help in seeing through convention and popular opinion.

Uncle Tom's Cabin was published in episodes in the National Era* in 1851 and 1852, then published in its entirety on March 20, 1852. It sold 10 000 copies in its first week and 300 000 by the end of the year, astronomical numbers for the mid-nineteenth century. Today, analysis of both the book's conception and reception proves helpful in our understanding of the Civil War era. Within the text itself, the reader finds insights into the mind of a Christian, feminist abolitionist. For example, in the arguments Stowe uses, the reader receives a

量的研究。为了描绘一幅真实的南方奴隶制画卷,她曾写信向弗雷德里克·道格拉斯请教。她家中的黑人厨师和佣人也帮了她不少忙,把自己当年做奴隶时的故事讲给她听。

斯陀夫人创作《汤姆叔叔的小屋》的主要目的是让广大的北方读者理解废除奴隶制的必要性。1850年通过的《逃亡奴隶法》宣布资助或帮助奴隶逃跑是非法的,这部小说就是作者对这个法令的及时回应。根据这个法令,逃到北方的奴隶必须逃到加拿大才能获得真正的自由。作者通过这部作品的北方的人们揭露了骇人听闻的南方奴隶制。作品中发统的宗教思想让我们认识到斯陀夫人对于种族关系的激进立场。作者反复强调基督教的博爱对于极除压迫的重要作用。同时,她也表现了女权主义的信念,展示了女性可以与男性一样具有智慧、克和精神力量。的确,作品中的女性在道德规范于面起着主导作用,为她们的丈夫们提出了至关重要的建议,因为他们在洞察传统观念和流行观点方面要她们的帮助。

《汤姆叔叔的小屋》最初在 1851 年至 1852 年间 以连载的形式发表在《民族时代报》上。1852 年 3 月 20 日出版单行本,第一个星期就售出了 1 万本,当 年的销量达到了 30 万本,这在 19 世纪中叶可是一 个天文数字。今天,分析这本书的思想内容和出版后 的强烈反响,对于我们理解南北战争那段历史非常 有帮助。读者可以从作品本身体会到一个基督徒、一 名女性废奴主义者深刻的思想内涵。例如,通过斯陀 glimpse into the details of the slavery debate. Looking beyond the text to its impact on its society, the reader gains an understanding of the historical forces contributing to the outbreak of war.



夫人使用的论据, 读者可以领略到一些关于奴隶制 之争的详细内容。透过作品本身,看到它对社会产生 的深远影响, 读者就会明白究竟是什么样的历史力量 导致了南北战争。★

PLOT OVERVIEW

aving run up large debts, a Kentucky farmer named Arthur Shelby faces the prospect of losing everything he owns. Though he and his wife, Emily Shelby, have a kindhearted and affectionate relationship with their slaves, Shelby decides to raise money by selling two of his slaves to Mr. Haley, a coarse slave trader. The slaves in question are Uncle Tom, a middle-aged man with a wife and children on the farm, and Harry, the young son of Mrs. Shelby's maid Eliza. When Shelby tells his wife about his agreement with Haley, she is appalled, partly because she has promised Eliza that Shelby would not sell her son.

However, Eliza overhears the conversation between Haley and his wife and, after warning Uncle Tom and his wife, Aunt Chloe, she takes Harry and flees to the North, hoping to find freedom with her husband George in Canada. Haley pursues her, but two other Shelby slaves alert Eliza to the danger. She miraculously evades capture by crossing the half-frozen Ohio River, the boundary separating Kentucky from the North. Haley hires a slave hunter* named Loker and his gang to bring Eliza and Harry back to Kentucky. Eliza and Harry make their way to a Quaker settlement, where the Quakers agree to help transport them to safety. They are joined at the settlement by George, who reunites joyously with his family for the trip to Canada.

Meanwhile, Uncle Tom sadly leaves his family and Mas'r George, Shelby's young son and Tom's friend, as Haley takes him to a boat on the Mississippi to be transported to a slave market. On the boat, Tom meets an angelic little white girl

情节・览

肯塔基州一个名叫阿瑟·谢尔贝的庄园主由于债台高筑,面临着失去所有财产的危险。虽然他和太太埃米莉心地善良,他们和自家的奴隶之间感情深厚,但是为了筹钱谢尔贝还是决定把两个奴隶卖给性情粗暴的奴隶贩子海利。这两个奴隶分别是汤姆叔叔和小哈利。汤姆叔叔是一位中年男子,妻子和孩子都生活在庄园里,哈利是谢尔贝太太的女佣伊丽莎的儿子。谢尔贝把这桩交易告诉了太太,她感到非常震惊,因为她答应过伊丽莎,谢尔贝不会卖她的儿子。

然而,伊丽莎偷听到了谢尔贝夫妇的谈话,她先 给汤姆叔叔和他的妻子克萝大婶送了个信,然后带着 哈利逃往北方。她希望能和丈夫乔治一起去加拿大寻 找自由。海利追捕伊丽莎,但是谢尔贝的另外两个奴 隶给她发出了警告。她奇迹般地跨越漂满浮冰的俄亥 俄河,躲过了追捕。俄亥俄河是肯塔基州和北方的分 界线。海利雇了一个名叫洛克的职业黑奴追捕者,叫 他及其同伙把伊丽莎和哈利带回肯塔基。伊丽莎和哈 利来到了一个教友定居点,那里的教友们答应把他们 送到安全地带。在这里,他们意外遇到了乔治,乔治与 家人团聚,喜出望外,他们一道前往加拿大。

与此同时,汤姆叔叔满怀悲伤地告别了家人和乔治少爷。乔治是谢尔贝的小儿子,也是汤姆的朋友。海利带着汤姆登上一条停靠在密西西比河上的轮船上,准备把他送往奴隶市场。汤姆在船上认识了一个名叫



named Eva, who quickly befriends him. When Eva falls into the river, Tom dives in to save her, and her father, Augustine St. Clare, gratefully agrees to buy Tom from Haley. Tom travels with the St. Clares to their home in New Orleans *, where he grows increasingly invaluable to the St. Clare household and increasingly close to Eva, with whom he shares a devout Christianity.

Up North, George and Eliza remain in flight from Loker and his men. When Loker attempts to capture them, George shoots him in the side, and the other slave hunters retreat. Eliza convinces George and the Quakers to bring Loker to the next settlement, where he can be healed. Meanwhile, in New Orleans, St. Clare discusses slavery with his cousin Ophelia, who opposes slavery as an institution but harbors deep prejudices against blacks. St. Clare, by contrast, feels no hostility against blacks but tolerates slavery because he feels powerless to change it. To help Ophelia overcome her bigotry, he buys Topsy, a young black girl who was abused by her past master and arranges for Ophelia to begin educating her.

After Tom has lived with the St. Clares for two years, Eva grows very ill. She slowly weakens, then dies, with a vision of heaven before her. Her death has a profound effect on everyone who knew her: Ophelia resolves to love the slaves, Topsy learns to trust and feel attached to others, and St. Clare decides to set Tom free. However, before he can act on his decision, St. Clare is stabbed to death while trying to settle a brawl. As he dies, he at last finds God and goes to be reunited with his mother in heaven.

St. Clare's cruel wife, Marie, sells Tom to a vicious plantation owner named Simon Legree. Tom is taken to rural