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The Three Musketeers

三个火枪手

ALEXANDRE DUMAS 原著 大仲马

外省年轻人达尔大尼央为效忠国王路易十三来到巴黎。他加入了国王的特警队成为一名火枪手。达尔大尼央和他的三个朋友阿多斯、波尔朵斯、阿拉密斯出发执行任务。达尔大尼央会及时赶到白金汉公爵那里取王后珍贵的钻石吗?他们能从邪恶的米莱狄手中救出公爵吗?米莱狄到底有什么不可告人的过去,迫使她要拼死掩盖呢?



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(英语课程标准八级之七)

The Three Musketeers



ALEXANDRE DUMAS Told by E. F. Dodd

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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。

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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

《三个火枪手》生动地描写了一个发生在 1626 年至 1628 年间法国的故事。当时英国国王为查理一世,而法国国王为路易十三。1627 年英法两国间爆发了战争,围攻拉罗舍尔和次年白金汉公爵遭刺杀都是历史事实。

小说作者大仲马生于1802年,他四岁时身为将军 的父亲病逝,因此大仲马的童年相当贫寒。十五岁时, 他被送入一家公证事务所当办事员,有机会阅读大量 书籍,弥补了所受教育的不足。1823年他来到巴黎在 奥尔良公爵处当文书,不久他和一女工生下了小仲马。 大仲马是法国浪漫主义时期最受欢迎的剧作家,一生 共创作了300多部作品,他在戏剧和小说方面都卓有 成就。他的戏剧《亨利三世和他的宫廷》在巴黎上演 时取得了巨大成功,打响了浪漫主义戏剧的第一炮。 大仲马的一生也很富有戏剧色彩,1830年到1831年 间他参加了法国七月革命和六月起义,但不幸上了反 动当局的黑名单,被迫离开法国四处游历,这却为他日 后的创作奠定了基础。1844年他的长篇小说《三个火 枪手》问世,获得空前的成功,也奠定了他作为历史小 说家的地位:一年之后他又完成了《基督山伯爵》。在 反对拿破仑和法兰西第二帝国的斗争中,大仲马被迫 再次流亡,1853年才重返故里。

1589年亨利四世建立了波旁王朝,胡格诺派掌

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权。1598年国王颁布了南特敕令使胡格诺派建立了国中之国。1610年亨利四世遇刺身亡,年幼的路易十三即位,胡格诺派新教和天主教派再起纷争。1625年胡格诺派联络英国在拉罗舍尔举兵叛乱,红衣主教黎塞留亲自平定了叛乱。《三个火枪手》就是以这段历史为背景,描述了发生在以达尔大尼央为首的火枪手们、国王路易十三、红衣主教和英国白金汉公爵之间的故事,同时也反映了当时法国的社会风貌。

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CHAPTER 1

D'Artagnan Goes to Paris

ON the first Monday of the month of April, 1626, a young man arrived in the French market-town of Meung. We can sketch his portrait in a few words. Imagine a Don Quixote¹ of eighteen, dressed in a faded woollen jacket; his face long and brown, with high cheek-bones, intelligent eyes, and a determined chin. He wore a cap set off with a feather, such as all Gascons² wear. Too big for a boy, too small for a grown man, he might have been a farmer's son, except for the long sword which hit against his legs as he walked, and against the rough side of his horse when he rode. This horse was a Béarn³ pony, from twelve to fourteen years old, yellow-skinned, and without a hair in its tail. It had been given to D'Artagnan (for so the young man was named) by his father, and the

¹ Don Quixote: 堂·吉诃德是西班牙作家塞万提斯笔下的西班牙贵族,他既浪漫又愚蠢,总是寻找冒险保护女士的机会 2 Gascon:加斯科涅人,以勇猛而著称 3 Béarn:贝亚恩,法国南部旧省名

youth did not like to refuse the pony; but he knew how foolish such a horse made him seem, even though he was an excellent horseman.

'My son,' said the old Gascon gentleman, D'Artagnan the elder. 'I have nothing to give you except fifteen crowns1, my horse, and some good advice, but I want you to go to Paris and offer to serve our king, Louis XIII. Be proud and brave in all things. Take no orders nor insults from anyone except Monsieur² the cardinal³ and the king. You are young. You ought to be brave for two reasons: first, because you are a Gascon; and secondly, because you are my son. Never fear quarrels, but seek adventures. I have taught you how to handle a sword; you have muscles of iron and a wrist of steel. Fight on all occasions. Fight all the more because duels4 are forbidden; because there is, for this reason, twice as much courage in fighting. I have only one thing to add, and that is to hold up an example for you. I am speaking of M. de Tréville, who was formerly my neighbour, and who had the honour to be, as a child, the playfellow of our king. He is now captain of the king's musketeers⁵. Go to him with this letter, and follow his example in all things. '

And this is why the young D'Artagnan, on that April day in 1626, came to the city of Meung. He had decided to spend the night there on his way to

¹ crown: 克朗(法国硬币相当于英国币制 5 先令) 2 Monsieur: (法语)先生 3 cardinal: 红衣主教 4 duel: 决斗 5 musketeer: 火枪手



Paris.

As he dismounted from his horse at the gate of an inn called the Jolly Miller, the young man saw—through an open window on the ground floor—a gentleman talking with two people who were listening to him with respect. D'Artagnan could clearly hear their conversation, and as he listened, the gentleman made some witty and amusing remarks about the Béarnese pony. His two listeners laughed, but D'Artagnan was insulted. He pulled his cap down over his eyes and walked forward angrily, with one hand on the hilt of his sword. His anger increased at every step, and at last he shouted,

'I say, sir, you, sir, who are hiding behind that window, tell me what you are laughing at, and we will laugh together!'

The gentleman raised his eyes slowly from the horse to its owner, and replied coldly, 'I was not speaking to you, sir'.

'But I am speaking to you!' replied the young man, more angry than ever at this mixture of politeness and scorn.

The unknown man looked at him again with a slight smile, and, leaving the window, came out of the inn and stood close to the horse and D'Artagnan.

'This horse must, in its youth, have been a buttercup³,' he said, still speaking to his listeners at the window and not paying the least attention to

¹ dismount:下马 2 hilt:剑柄 3 buttercup:毛茛

D'Artagnan. 'It is a colour very well known in botany¹, but, until now, very rare among horses.' He turned to re-enter the inn, but D'Artagnan drew his sword and followed him, crying,

'Turn, turn, sir, or I shall strike you from behind!'

'Strike me?' said the other, turning round in astonishment. 'Why, my good fellow, you must be mad!'

But D'Artagnan attacked him so fiercely that, if he had not jumped quickly backwards, he might never have spoken again. Seeing that the young Gascon was deadly serious, the stranger drew his sword and prepared to fight. But at the same moment his two listeners, accompanied by the inn-keeper, attacked D'Artagnan with sticks and stones, and the stranger became a spectator of the fight. D'Artagnan fought bravely, but at last his sword was broken in two pieces, and a blow on his fore-head brought him to the ground, covered with blood and almost fainting.

The inn-keeper and his servants carried the wounded man into his kitchen, where his wounds were attended to. The unknown stranger returned to his place at the window, where the inn-keeper joined him a few minutes later. 'I hope your Excellency² is safe and unhurt?' he said.

'Oh, yes, perfectly safe, my good man,' the stranger replied. 'And now tell me, what has hap-

¹ botany: 植物学 2 your Excellency: 阁下(对大使、总督、主教、总理等的尊称)



pened to the young man?'

'He is better, sir. He fainted, and during his fainting fit we examined his luggage and found nothing but a clean shirt and twelve crowns. A letter addressed to M. de Tréville, captain of the musketeers, was in his pocket.'

'Indeed!' said the stranger to himself. 'Can Tréville have sent this Gascon to attack me?' He turned to the inn-keeper. 'Where is he now?' he asked. 'Is his luggage with him? Has he taken off his coat?'

'No, everything is in the kitchen, sir,' replied the other. 'And my wife has taken the young man up to our room.'

'Well, give me my bill and call my servant,' said the stranger. 'It is not necessary for Milady to be seen by this fellow,' he continued to himself as the inn-keeper left the room. 'She will be here soon. I had better go and meet her. I should like, however, to know what is in this letter to Tréville.' And he went quietly towards the kitchen.

Meanwhile the inn-keeper returned to his private room and found D'Artagnan, with his head tied up with a bandage, just beginning to descend¹ the stairs. On arriving at the kitchen, the first thing D'Artagnan saw was his enemy talking calmly at the step of a carriage to a young woman of about twenty years of age. As she leaned out of the carriage window, D'Artagnan saw that she was very beautiful: pale and fair, with

¹ descend: 下来,下降



D'Artagnan saw his enemy talking at the step of a carriage

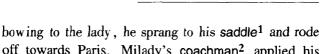
long curls falling over her shoulders, and large blue eyes.

- 'His Eminence¹, then, orders me to return at once to England,' she said. 'What about my other instructions?'
- 'They are in this box, Milady,' replied the stranger.
 - 'Very well. And what will you do?'
 - 'I shall return to Paris.'

At that moment D'Artagnan, who had heard everything, rushed out of the inn. The stranger turned towards him, but Milady cried, 'Remember that the least delay may ruin everything.'

'You are right,' cried the gentleman, and,

¹ his Eminence: 阁下,大人(天主教中对红衣主教的尊称)



off towards Paris. Milady's coachman² applied his whip to his horses, and set off in the opposite direction.

'Coward!' cried D'Artagnan, jumping forward; but his wound had left him weak and dizzy and he fainted for the second time.

On the following morning, however, D'Artagnan arose and went down to the kitchen without help. He asked for his bill, but when the time came for him to pay, he found nothing in his pocket except his old velvet purse containing the twelve crowns. The letter addressed to M. de Tréville had disappeared.

- 'My letter of recommendation!' cried D'Artagnan.
 'My letter of recommendation! I warn you that that letter is for M. de Tréville, and it must be found!'
- 'That letter is not lost,' said the inn-keeper. 'It has been stolen from you.'
 - 'Stolen! By whom?'
- 'By the gentleman who was here yesterday. He came down into the kitchen where your coat was. He remained there for some time, alone. I am sure he has stolen it.
- 'Do you think so?' asked D'Artagnan doubtfully.
- 'I am sure of it,' continued the inn-keeper.
 'When I told him that you were the *protégé*³ of M. de Tréville, and that you had a letter for him, he was

¹ saddle: 马鞍 2 coachman: 驾马车者 3 protégé: 被保护人,门客

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very much disturbed. He asked me where that letter was, and came down at once to the kitchen.

'Then that's my thief,' said D'Artagnan. 'I will complain to M. de Tréville, and he will complain to the king.' He took two crowns from his purse and gave them to the inn-keeper. Then he remounted his yellow horse, and rode without any more accidents to one of the gates of Paris. Here he sold the horse for three crowns, and entered Paris on foot.

He walked about until he found a cheap boardinghouse where he booked a room for the night. Next he went to have a new blade put to his sword. After this, he went to bed and slept the sleep of the brave, full of hopes for the future.

¹ remount: 重新骑上

CHAPTER 2

M. de Tréville's House

M. DE Tréville was a great friend of the French king, Louis XIII. The king had made Tréville the captain of his musketeers, that band of soldiers who were Louis XIII's most devoted and loyal guards.

Now, the most powerful man in France at that time, after the king, was the cardinal, Richelieu. When Richelieu saw the strong and chosen body of soldiers by which Louis XIII surrounded himself, he decided that he, too, must have his guard. He had his musketeers, therefore, just as the king had his, and these two powerful rivals¹ competed with each other in obtaining the most famous swordsmen. It was not uncommon for Richelieu and Louis XIII to argue over their evening game of chess upon the merits of their servants. Each boasted² about the strength and courage of his own musketeers, and it was only natural that the soldiers themselves supported their own mas-

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¹ rival: 竞争对手, 敌手 2 boast: 自吹自擂, 自夸