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# 红色英勇勋章

## The Red Badge of Courage

〔美〕 Stephen Crane 原著

Brian Phillips 导读

David Hopson 翻译

刘红霞 翻译

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TODAY'S MOST POPULAR STUDY GUIDES

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美术编辑:朱爽蕾

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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

**S**tephen Crane was born in 1871 in Newark, New Jersey. The fourteenth child of highly religious Methodist \* parents, Crane lapsed into a rebellious childhood during which he spent time preparing for a career as a professional baseball player. After brief flirtations with higher learning at Lafayette College\* and Syracuse University\*, Crane turned to writing full-time. Convinced that he must invest his work with the authenticity of experience, he often went to outlandish lengths to live through situations that he intended to work into his novels. For his first book, *Maggie, a Girl of the Streets* \* (1893), Crane lived in poverty in the Bowery\* slum of New York City. Similarly, he based his short story "The Open Boat"\* on his experience as a castaway from a shipwreck.

Crane's most enduring work, the short novel *The Red Badge of Courage* was published in 1895. Though initially not well received in the United States, *The Red Badge of Courage* was a massive success in England. The attention of the English critics caused many Americans to view the novel with renewed enthusiasm, catapulting the young Crane into international literary prominence. His realistic depictions of war and battle led to many assignments as a foreign correspondent for newspapers, taking him to such locales as Greece, Cuba, and Puerto Rico. He published volumes of poetry as well as many works of fiction, including the landmark "The Open Boat" (1897) . In 1899, Crane moved into a medieval castle in England with his lover, the former madam of a Jacksonville brothel. Here Crane

## 来龙·去脉

斯蒂芬·克莱恩于1871年出生在新泽西的纽瓦克市。他从小生活在宗教气氛浓厚的家庭中，父母是基督教卫理会的虔诚教徒。他是14个子女中最小的一个，童年时期非常叛逆，花费大量时间训练棒球，准备做一名职业棒球球员。他先后进入拉斐德学院与锡拉丘兹大学，但只在这两所学校呆过短暂的一段时间之后便离开了，转入全职写作。他坚定不移地要以真实性作为自己作品的特征，所以经常到打算写进作品中的奇特领域体验生活。为写第一本书，《街头女郎玛琪》(1893)，克莱恩就在纽约的巴坞律贫民窟体验过贫困的生活。他的短篇小说《海上扁舟》差不多也是基于他在一次船只失事中的亲身经历写成的。

克莱恩最经久不衰的作品就是1895年发表的短篇小说《红色英勇勋章》。虽然一开始，在美国它没有博得喝彩，但是在英国却获得巨大成功。英国评论家的评论使许多美国人对这部小说重燃热情之火，眨眼工夫，他便被列入国际知名作家的行列。由于他对战争和战役现实性的描写，报社派给他许多驻外战地记者的工作，把他派往希腊、古巴和波多黎各的战场。他在出版几部诗集的同时，还出版了几本小说，其中包括里程碑般的作品《海上扁舟》(1897)。1899年，克莱恩和曾在杰克逊威尔的一个妓院做过鸨母的情人移居到英国的一个中世纪城堡居住。在那里克莱恩疯狂



wrote feverishly, hoping to pay off his debts. His health began to fail, however, and he died of tuberculosis in June 1900, at the age of twenty-eight.

Ironically, for a writer so committed to the direct portrayal of his own experience, Crane's greatest work is almost entirely a product of his imagination. When he wrote *The Red Badge of Courage*, Crane had neither fought in war nor witnessed battle, and was forced to rely on his powers of invention to create the extraordinarily realistic combat sequences of the novel. His work proved so accurate that, at the time of the book's publication, most critics assumed that Crane was an experienced soldier.

Based loosely on the events of the Civil War Battle of Chancellorsville\* (May 2–6, 1863)—though neither the battle, the war, nor the armies are named in the book—*The Red Badge of Courage* shattered American preconceptions about what a war novel could be. In the decades before Crane's novel, most fiction about the Civil War was heavily idealistic, portraying the conflict as a great clash of opposed ideals. Whereas previous writers had taken a large, epic view, Crane focused on the individual psychology of a single soldier, Private Henry Fleming, during his first experiences of battle. In this narrowed scope, Crane represents Henry's mind as a maze of illusions, vanity, and romantic naiveté, challenged by the hard lessons of war. Crane does not depict a world of moral absolutes, but rather a universe utterly indifferent to human existence.

This startling and unexpected shift drew the world's attention to *The Red Badge of Courage*, as did the novel's vivid and powerful descriptions of battle. With its combination of detailed imagery, moral ambiguity, and terse psychological focus, *The*


写作，期望还清他的债务。他的健康每况愈下，1900年6月死于肺结核，年仅28岁。


颇具讽刺意味的是，对于这样一位忠实于直接描写亲身经历的作家，克莱恩最伟大的作品却几乎全是想象的产物。当他创作《红色英勇勋章》的时候，他既没有参加过战争也没有目睹过战斗，硬是依赖自己的创作天才写出了小说中一系列栩栩如生的战斗场景。他的作品如此逼真，书一出版，大多数评论家就断定克莱恩一定是位久经沙场的战士。

这部小说粗略地参照了美国内战中常塞勒斯威尔战役（1863年，5月2~6日）——但书中没有提到战役、战争和军队的名称——《红色英勇勋章》粉碎了美国人原来关于战争小说的成见。在这部小说发表前的几十年，大部分关于内战的小说都带有强烈的理想主义色彩，把冲突描绘成不同理想的激烈碰撞。先前的作家采用宏大、史诗般的角度描写战争，而克莱恩侧重描写了一个叫亨利·弗莱明的士兵第一次参加战斗的心理活动。通过这一有限的视角，克莱恩描写了亨利幻想、虚荣和浪漫天真等错综复杂的思想感情，受到了战争残酷教训的挑战。克莱恩并没有单纯描述一个绝对的道德天地，而是探讨了宇宙对人类生存的极度的漠然。

这个令人震惊、出人意料的转变加上作品中对战争绘声绘色、强有力的刻画，使《红色英勇勋章》成为世人瞩目的焦点。《红色英勇勋章》把详尽的意象、道德见解的歧义、简洁的心理聚焦结合起来，对美国20



*Red Badge of Courage* exerted an enormous influential on twentieth-century American fiction, particularly the work of the modernists. These qualities continue to make the work absorbing and important more than a century after it was written. 

世纪的小说，特别是现代主义作家的作品产生了巨大的影响。作品在出版后的一个多世纪里，仍然以这些特征而引人入胜，不失为一部重要的作品。 

## PLOT OVERVIEW

**D**uring the Civil War, a Union regiment rests along a riverbank, where it has been camped for weeks. A tall soldier named Jim Conklin spreads a rumor that the army will soon march. Henry Fleming, a recent recruit with this 304th Regiment, worries about his courage. He fears that if he were to see battle, he might run. The narrator reveals that Henry joined the army because he was drawn to the glory of military conflict. Since the time he joined, however, the army has merely been waiting for engagement.

At last the regiment is given orders to march, and the soldiers spend several weary days traveling on foot. Eventually they approach a battlefield and begin to hear the distant roar of conflict. After securing its position, the enemy charges. Henry, boxed in by his fellow soldiers, realizes that he could not run even if he wanted to. He fires mechanically, feeling like a cog in a machine.

The blue (Union) regiment defeats the gray (Confederate) soldiers, and the victors congratulate one another. Henry wakes from a brief nap to find that the enemy is again charging his regiment. Terror overtakes him this time and he leaps up and flees from the line. As he scampers across the landscape, he tells himself that he did the right thing, that his regiment could not have won, and that the men who remained to fight were fools. He passes a general on horseback and overhears the commander saying that the regiment has held back the enemy charge. Ashamed of his cowardice, Henry tries to convince

## 情节·览

内战时期，一支联邦军团沿河边已经驻扎了几周了。一个身材高大的名叫吉姆·康克林的战士散布了谣言，他说部队不久就要开拔。亨利·弗莱明，一个新加入到304团的小伙子，为自己的勇气问题感到焦虑。他担心，自己一看到战斗就会逃跑。这时叙述者揭示了亨利是由于景仰战斗的光荣才参军的。自从他参军以来，部队却一直在原地待命。

后来这个团终于得到命令开拔了。士兵们一连好几天走得疲惫不堪。最后他们靠近了战场，听到远处枪炮的呼啸声。刚加固好阵地，敌人就冲了过来。亨利被困在士兵当中出不来，想跑也跑不了。他机械地开着枪，感觉像机器中的一个齿轮。

蓝色军团（北方联邦）打败了灰色军团（南部邦联）的士兵，胜利者互相祝贺。亨利打了一个小盹后发现敌军又一次猛攻过来。这一次他不胜惊恐，从队伍中跳起来，拔腿就跑。他一边往前跑一边告诉自己他的选择是对的，这个团体不可能赢得战斗的胜利，继续作战的人都是傻瓜。当他从一位骑在马上将军身旁跑过时，无意中听到指挥官说他所在的兵团击退了敌军的进攻。他对自己的懦夫行为感到羞耻，但他仍



himself that he was right to preserve his own life. He wanders through a forest glade in which he encounters the decaying corpse of a soldier. Shaken, he hurries away.

After a time, Henry joins a column of wounded soldiers winding down the road. He is deeply envious of these men, thinking that a wound is like “a red badge of courage;” visible proof of valorous behavior. He meets a tattered man who has been shot twice and who speaks proudly of the fact that his regiment did not flee. He repeatedly asks Henry where he is wounded, which makes Henry deeply uncomfortable and compels him to hurry away to a different part of the column. He meets a spectral soldier with a distant, numb look on his face. Henry eventually recognizes the man as a badly wounded Jim Conklin. Henry promises to take care of Jim, but Jim runs from the line into a small grove of bushes where Henry and the tattered man watch him die.

Henry and the tattered soldier wander through the woods. Henry hears the rumble of combat in the distance. The tattered soldier continues to ask Henry about his wound, even as his own health visibly worsens. At last, Henry is unable to bear the tattered man’s questioning and abandons him to die in the forest.

Henry continues to wander until he finds himself close enough to the battlefield to be able to watch some of the fighting. He sees a blue regiment in retreat and attempts to stop the soldiers to find out what has happened. One of the fleeing men hits him on the head with a rifle, opening a bloody gash on Henry’s head. Eventually, another soldier leads Henry to his regiment’s camp, where Henry is reunited with his companions. His friend Wilson, believing that Henry has been shot, cares for him