FROM THE EARTH TO THE MOON

Jules Verne



从地球到月球

[法]儒勒·凡尔纳



Liaoning People's Publishing House, China



FROM THE EARTH TO THE MOON and

ROUND THE MOON - A SEQUEL

by Jules Verne

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

从地球到月球 = From the Earth to the Moon:英文/(法) 儒勒・凡尔纳(Jules Verne)著. 一沈阳: 辽宁人民出版社, 2017.3

(最经典英语文库)

ISBN 978-7-205-08977-1

I. ①从··· Ⅱ. ①儒··· Ⅲ. ①英语—语言读物 ②科学幻想小说—法国—近代 Ⅳ. ①H319.4: I

中国版本图书馆CIP数据核字(2017)第052297号

出版发行: 辽宁人民出版社

地址: 沈阳市和平区十一纬路25号 邮编: 110003

电话: 024-23284321(邮 购) 024-23284324(发行部)

传真: 024-23284191(发行部) 024-23284304(办公室)

http://www.lnpph.com.cn

印 刷:沈阳海世达印务有限公司

幅面尺寸: 105mm×175mm

印 张: 7.5

出版时间: 2017年3月第1版

印刷时间: 2017年3月第1次印刷

责任编辑: 张 放 封面设计: 琥珀视觉 责任校对: 吉 拉

书 号: ISBN 978-7-205-08977-1

定 价: 19.00元

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Jules Verne

Jules Verne (1828–1905) was a French novelist, poet, and playwright best known for his adventure novels and his profound influence on the literary genre of science fiction.

Verne's collaboration with the publisher Pierre-Jules Hetzel led to the creation of the *Voyages* extraordinaires, a widely popular series of scrupulously researched adventure novels including *Journey to the* Center of the Earth (1864), Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea (1870), and Around the World in Eighty Days (1873).

Verne has been the second most-translated author in the world since 1979, ranking between Agatha Christie and William Shakespeare.

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General Preface

Millions of Chinese are learning English to acquire knowledge and skills for communication in a world where English has become the primary language for international discourse. Yet not many learners have come to realize that the command of the English language also enables them to have an easy access to the world literary classics such as Shakespeare's plays, Shelley's poems, Mark Twain's novels and Nietzsche's works which are an important part of liberal-arts education. The most important goals of universities are not vocational, that is, not merely the giving of knowledge and the training of skills.

In a broad sense, education aims at broadening young people's mental horizon, cultivating virtues and shaping their character. Lincoln, Mao Zedong and many other great leaders and personages of distinction declared how they drew immense inspiration and strength from literary works. As a matter of fact, many of them had aspired to become writers in their young age. Alexander the Great (356-323 B.C.) is said to take along with him two things, waking or sleeping: a book and a dagger, and the book is *Iliad*, a literary classic, by Homer. He would put these two much treasured things under his pillow when he went to bed.

Today, we face an unprecedented complex and changing world. To cope with this rapid changing world requires not only communication skills, but also adequate knowledge of cultures other than our own home culture. Among the most important developments in present-day global culture is the ever increasing cultural exchanges and understanding between different nations and peoples. And one of the best ways to know foreign cultures is to read their literary works, particularly their literary classics, the soul of a country's culture. They also give you the best language and the feeling of sublimity.

Liaoning People's Publishing House is to be congratulated for its foresight and courage in making a new series of world literary classics (Bedside Classics) available to the reading public. It is hoped that people with an adequate command of the English language will read them, like them and keep them as their lifetime companions.

I am convinced that the series will make an important contribution to the literary education of the young people in China. At a time when the whole country is emphasizing "spiritual civilization", it is certainly a very timely venture to put out the series of literary classics for literary and cultural education.

Zhang Zhongzai
Professor
Beijing Foreign Studies University
July, 2013 Beijing

总序

经典名著的语言无疑是最凝练、最优美、最有审美价值的。雪莱的那句"如冬已来临,春天还会远吗?"让多少陷于绝望的人重新燃起希望之火,鼓起勇气,迎接严冬过后的春天。徐志摩一句"悄悄的我走了,正如我悄悄的来;我挥一挥衣袖,不带走一片云彩"又让多少人陶醉。尼采的那句"上帝死了",又给多少人以振聋发聩的启迪作用。

读经典名著,尤其阅读原汁原味作品,可以怡情养性,增长知识,加添才干,丰富情感,开阔视野。所谓"经典",其实就是作者所属的那个民族的文化积淀,是那个民族的灵魂缩影。英国戏剧泰斗莎士比亚的《哈姆雷特》和《麦克白》等、"意大利语言之父"的但丁的《神曲》之《地狱篇》《炼狱篇》及《天世篇》、爱尔兰世界一流作家詹姆斯·乔伊斯的《尤利西斯》及《一个艺术家的肖像》等、美国风趣而笔法超斯斯》及《一个艺术家的肖像》等、美国风趣而笔法超为游的著名小说家马克·吐温的《哈克历险记》以及《斯特拉如是说》及《快乐的科学》等等,都为塑造自己民族的之代积淀,做出了永恒的贡献,也同时向世界展示了他们所属的民族的优美剪影。

很多著名领袖如林肯、毛泽东等伟大人物,也都曾从经典名著中汲取力量,甚至获得治国理念。耶鲁大学教授查尔斯·希尔曾在题为《经典与治国理念》的文章,阐述了读书与治国之间的绝妙关系。他这样写道: "在几乎所有经典名著中,都可以找到让人叹为观止、深藏其中的治国艺术原则。"

经典名著,不仅仅有治国理念,更具提升读者审美情趣的功能。世界上不同时代、不同地域的优秀经典作品,都存在一个共同属性:歌颂赞美人间的真善美,揭露抨击世间的假恶丑。

读欧美自但丁以来的经典名著,你会看到,西方无论是在漫长的黑暗时期,抑或进入现代进程时期,总有经典作品问世,对世间的负面,进行冷峻的批判。与此同时,也有更多的大家作品问世,热情讴歌人间的真诚与善良,使读者不由自主地沉浸于经典作品的审美情感之中。

英语经典名著,显然是除了汉语经典名著以外, 人类整个进程中至关重要的文化遗产的一部分。从历 史上看,英语是全世界经典阅读作品中,使用得最广 泛的国际性语言。这一事实,没有产生根本性变化。 本世纪相当长一段时间,这一事实也似乎不会发生任何 变化。而要更深入地了解并切身感受英语经典名著的风 采,阅读原汁原味的英语经典作品的过程,显然是必不 可少的。

辽宁人民出版社及时并隆重推出"最经典英语文 库"系列丛书,是具有远见与卓识的出版行为。我相信,这套既可供阅读,同时也具收藏价值的英语原版经 典作品系列丛书,在帮助人们了解什么才是经典作品的同时,也一定会成为广大英语爱好者、大中学生以及学生家长们挚爱的"最经典英语文库"。

北京外国语大学英语学院 北外公共外交研究中心 欧美文学研究中心主任 全国英国文学学会名誉会长

> 张中载 教授 2013年7月于北京

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Is This Book for You?

科幻小说的鼻祖

——"最经典英语文库"第七辑之 《从地球到月球》导读

桂 格

儒勒·凡尔纳(1828—1905) 是法国小说家、诗人和剧作家。他对未来科幻小说的影响巨大。

自儒勒·凡尔纳1865年时写出《从地球到月球》 这部伟大的作品,迄今人类又经历了150多年的时光的 流逝。人类已经能够登陆到月球。只不过,百多年前的 凡尔纳先生的这部了不起的作品里充斥着一些今天的读 者读起来感到有些陌生的情节罢了。但这正是凡尔纳先 生最有趣的一面,因为,是他想象出某种登月的工具出 来,尽管不太切合实际。但与今天人类登月工具相比, 也没有太出格之处。比如,凡尔纳先生想象到宇宙飞船 应该是从大炮膛里被射向月球。这听上去的确很滑稽, 然而,正是这种想象力,才使得人类后来朝登月的梦想 一步步走过去。

小说内容大致如下:美国南北战争结束后,某大炮俱乐部提议向月球发射一颗炮弹,建立地球与月球之间的联系。法国冒险家知道了这消息,建议造颗空心炮弹,然后他想乘这颗炮弹登月球探险。

当然,他没有到达月球,炮弹在离月球二千八百 英里的地方开始绕月运行。

那么,他到底是怎么回到地球上的呢?于是,凡 尔纳又写了一部续集,讲述自己如何最终返回地球的 过程。

另外,凡尔纳先生和大炮被他命名为 "Columbiad",而人类登月的那艘宇宙飞船"Apollo 11"(阿波罗11号)的命令模块,刚好被命名为 "Columbia",与凡尔纳的命名意思一样,只少一个可 以忽略不计的字母d。

更有趣的是,凡尔纳先生在书中想象力十分了得,他描述了一个"三人组登月团队"来登月。结果,"阿波罗11号"也弄了个"三人团"。同时,为了呼应凡尔纳先生的作品里的地方,也费尽心力地从美国的佛罗里达点火升空。更有甚者,回来的落地点也与凡尔纳先生的书中描写地方,差不太多。

这一切都是巧合?抑或如中国人做事那样,件件都要先从祖先那里讨个吉利,弄个好彩头?得出结论的最好办法,就是请您翻开此书,自己捧读,并得出属于您自己的结论来。

儒勒·凡尔纳(Jules Gabriel Verne)是法国最伟大的科幻小说家。他的作品包括Journey to the Center of the Earth (1864年的作品《地球中心旅行》), Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea (1870年作品《海底两万里》), 以及Around the World in Eighty Days (1873年作品《环绕世界旅行80天》)。凡尔纳既写宇宙,又写海底,而他生活的时代,人类还没有造出航空与潜海的工具呢,至于太空旅行工具则更是不可想象的事情。

凡尔纳先生的作品在全世界受到广泛的欢迎。从下面的数据中,我们就可以得出此结论:在作品被翻译的次数总排行榜上,他位列第三。第二名为迪斯尼作品,第一名则为写出《阳光下的罪恶》的阿加西·克里斯蒂。凡尔纳的主要作品都被改编成了电影,他与写出《时间机器》(参阅"最经典英语文库"第四辑)的H.G.威尔士共同被称作"科幻小说之父"。

"最经典英语文库"第七辑开始收录儒勒·凡尔纳的英译作品,并准备在接下来几辑里将儒勒·凡尔纳的重要作品英译本都收录进来。当然,"最经典英语文库"仍然秉承给读者奉献最好的作品的原则,给读者选取的英译本,是最权威的、也是译得最美的译本。

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