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幽默大师的百味人生 马克·吐温传

Mark Twain: A Biography

(美) Connie Ann Kirk 著 邱进译

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Preface

Mark Twain was nearly as famous an author in his time as J. K. Rowling is in the early twenty-first century, and this, plus his own public statements about his life and work, have made finding information about his life a fairly easy task. However, unlike the very private Emily Dickinson, for whom much available biographical information is debatable and sketchy even now, the sheer volume of material on Twain makes poring through it another kind of challenge for the biographer.

My method has been to seek counsel from established Twain scholars, gather the most respected source material together, and visit and study at three important locations in Twain's life—Hannibal, Missouri; Elmira, New York; and Hartford, Connecticut. I was also fortunate to be able to examine pages from the original manuscript of *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* in the Mark Twain Room at the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library. Significant sources used for facts and impressions of Samuel Clemens's life story come from *The Autobiography of Mark Twain*, by Samuel Clemens and edited by Charles Neider; *Mark Twain, A Biography: The Personal and Literary Life of Samuel Langhorne Clemens* in four volumes by Clemens's authorized biographer, Albert Bigelow Paine; *Mr. Clemens and Mark Twain: A Biography* by Justin Kaplan; *Mark Twain: A Literary*

Life by Everett Emerson; *The Singular Mark Twain: A Biography* by Fred Kaplan; Twain's correspondence archived online through the University of California–Berkeley's Mark Twain Project; and firsthand biographical accounts and memoirs from family members and contemporaries such as Clara Clemens, Susy Clemens, Katy Leary, and William Dean Howells. I also found R. Kent Rasmussen's book, *Mark Twain A–Z: The Essential Reference to His Life and Writings* as useful a resource as its title suggests.

I was aided significantly in my research by receiving a Mark Twain Research Fellowship from the Center for Mark Twain Studies. The fellowship allowed me the privilege of staying and studying at Quarry Farm, Samuel Clemens's 20-year summer residence. I thank Jane McCone, Director of the Center for Mark Twain Studies, for her invitation to apply for the fellowship and for her gracious hospitality and helpful assistance during my residency in the autumn of 2003. Quarry Farm preservationist and caretaker, Rick Rolinski, was a steadfast and cordial presence I could count on at the farm during my stay.

Other people who deserve thanks for making contributions, great or small, to my quest for information for this project include Mark Woodhouse, Archivist at the Mark Twain Archives at Elmira College; Margaret Moore, Archivist at the Mark Twain House in Hartford, Connecticut; Vic Fischer of the Mark Twain Papers and Project at the University of California–Berkeley; and Twain scholars Vic Doyno, Michael Kiskis, Ann Ryan, and Barbara Schmidt. Colleagues outside of Twain studies who offered important support include Margaret H. Freeman, Marcy L. Tanter, and Walter Sanders. Talks and presentations I have heard over several years of living a stone's throw

away from Elmira, New York, as well as through my membership and participation in the American Literature Association and its conferences, added to my perceptions of this author and his work. In addition, my work benefited from valuable information shared through the collegial Mark Twain listserv—the Mark Twain Forum, and articles such as those published by the Mark Twain Circle and Quarry Farm Papers.

Finally, I thank once again my family, Ken, Ben, John, and my parents, Leonard A. Lewis and Mary A. Lewis, for their enduring love, good humor, interest, and support. I hope this little book may help them all come to know a bit more about our famous “neighbor” who spent so many summers in our area years ago and found it, as I do, an enriching place in which to work.

前 言

在马克·吐温的时代，他的知名度之高相当于二十一世纪初期的J. K. 罗琳。基于此，再加上作家本人对其生活和工作有过各种公开论述，要寻找有关其生平的材料较为容易。但马克·吐温与深居简出的埃米莉·狄更生有所不同：关于后者，目前能够得到的个人资料仍相当粗略，且存在争议；而与前者相关的材料则浩如烟海。对于传记作者而言，详细研究这些材料本身构成了另一种挑战。

我解决问题的方法是向研究马克·吐温的知名学者征询建议，搜集最权威的原始材料，并亲自去马克·吐温一生中的三大重要地点做研究——密苏里州的汉尼拔、纽约州的埃尔迈拉和康涅狄格州的哈特福德。我也有幸能够在布法罗和伊利县公共图书馆仔细查阅保存在马克·吐温资料室中的《哈克贝利·费恩历险记》原始手稿。用以了解塞缪尔·克莱门斯生平事迹之客观事实和他人主观看法的重要资料来源包括：《马克·吐温自传》（塞缪尔·克莱门斯著，查尔斯·奈德编辑），四卷本的《马克·吐温传——塞缪尔·兰霍恩·克莱门斯的个人生活和文学生涯》（马克·吐温本人授权的传记作家艾伯特·比奇洛·佩因著），《克莱门斯先生和马克·吐温的传记》（贾斯廷·卡普兰著），《马克·吐温的文学生涯》（埃弗里特·埃默森著），《独一无二的马克·吐温：传记》（弗雷德·卡普兰著），加州大学伯克利分校“马克·吐温研究项目”的在线马克·吐温书信档案库，由马克·吐温家人及其同代

人（如克拉拉·克莱门斯、苏茜·克莱门斯、凯蒂·利里和威廉·迪安·豪威尔斯）提供的第一手的马克·吐温生平叙述资料以及回忆录。此外，我也发现 R. 肯特·拉斯马森所著的《马克·吐温 A 到 Z：关于其生活与著作的必要参考书》如其标题所示，的确是实用的资料。

马克·吐温研究中心授予的马克·吐温研究基金为我的研究提供了重要帮助。有了这项基金的资助，我才有幸住在塞缪尔·克莱门斯度过了二十个夏天的阔里农场，在此从事研究工作。我要感谢马克·吐温研究中心的主任简·麦科恩邀请我申请该项基金，并在我 2003 年秋季于农场居住期间给予我热情的款待与帮助。同时，阔里农场的原址保护者及看管人里克·罗林斯基性格坚毅，为人友善，是我在农场期间信赖和依靠的对象。

除此之外，还有人在我为此研究项目调研时提供了或大或小的帮助，包括埃尔迈拉学院马克·吐温档案室的档案保管员马克·伍德豪斯，康涅狄格州哈特福德市马克·吐温之家的档案保管员玛格丽特·莫尔，加州大学伯克利分校马克·吐温著作与研究项目的维克·费希尔以及马克·吐温研究者维克·多伊诺、迈克尔·斯基斯基斯、安·瑞安和芭芭拉·施密特，在此我对他们一并表示感谢。玛格丽特·H. 弗里曼、马西·L. 坦特、沃尔特·桑德斯等并非专门从事马克·吐温研究的同事也为我提供了重要支持。我曾在纽约州的埃尔迈拉附近住过几年，有机会聆听过许多演讲与报告；作为美国文学协会的成员，我参加过协会主办的相关会议。以上经历都增加了我对这位作家及其作品的理解。此外，我的工作也得益于大学校际马克·吐温研究电子论坛中的“马克·吐温论坛”共享的颇有价值的信息，以及“马克·吐温研究界”和“阔里农场论文”出版的论文。

最后，我要再次感谢我的家人，肯、本、约翰以及我的父母伦纳德·A. 刘易斯和玛丽·A. 刘易斯，感谢他们永无止境的爱和良好的幽

默感，感谢他们对我的工作表现出兴趣并给予支持。希望这本小书能够让他们对多年前多次来我们这个地区消夏的著名“邻居”有更多了解，同时也像我一样，发现这位作家是一座开发不尽的丰富宝藏。

Chronology

30 November 1835	SAMUEL LANGHORNE CLEMENS is born in Florida, Missouri.
13 July 1838	Henry Clemens, Sam's brother, is born in Florida, Missouri.
1839	Arrives in Hannibal, Missouri with his family.
August 1839	Margaret Clemens, Sam's sister, dies.
1840	Sam begins school in Hannibal.
12 May 1842	Benjamin Clemens, Sam's brother, dies.
27 November 1845	Olivia Louise (Livy) Langdon, Sam's future wife, is born.
24 March 1847	John Marshall Clemens, Sam's father, dies.
1848	Sam begins printing apprenticeship with Joseph P. Amant.
1852	Sam runs Orion's newspaper in his absence and publishes anonymous sketches. <i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i> by Harriet Beecher Stowe is published.
1853	Visits and works in New York City and Philadelphia. Reads a great deal at the library in New York. World's Fair in New

	York City.
1854	Visits Washington, D.C.
1855	First edition of <i>Leaves of Grass</i> by Walt Whitman is published. Works with Orion and Henry as a printer in Keokuk, Iowa.
January 1856	Gives first public speech at printer's banquet in Keokuk, Iowa, honoring Benjamin Franklin.
1857	Trains as a cub pilot on several steamboats on the Mississippi.
21 June 1858	Henry Clemens, Sam's brother, dies near Memphis, Tennessee.
1859	Earns pilot's license and makes several voyages on steamboats.
1861	Abraham Lincoln sworn in as president. Civil War begins with attack on Fort Sumter. After a brief stint as a militiaman, Sam goes to Nevada with brother Orion.
1862	Explores Nevada, writing for the <i>Virginia City Territorial Enterprise</i> .
3 February 1863	Sam Clemens first signs an article using the pen name, "Mark Twain."
19 November 1863	Lincoln delivers Gettysburg Address.
1864	Works as a reporter for the <i>San Francisco Call</i> .
18 November 1865	"Jim Smiley and His Jumping Frog" story is published in the <i>Saturday Press</i> and appears nationally.

1866	Visits Hawaii and writes about it for the <i>Sacramento Union</i> .
2 October 1866	Gives first public lecture, on the Sandwich Islands (Hawaiian Islands), in San Francisco; posters claim, "The trouble begins at 8."
1867	Takes tour to Europe and the Holy Land aboard the <i>Quaker City</i> with a group of religious pilgrims. First book, <i>The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County and Other Sketches</i> , is published.
December 1867	Meets Olivia Langdon in New York City and accompanies her to Charles Dickens's reading.
1869	<i>The Innocents Abroad, or the New Pilgrims' Progress</i> is published.
4 February 1869	Samuel Clemens and Olivia Langdon become officially engaged.
2 February 1870	Samuel Clemens and Olivia Langdon marry in the Langdon family parlor in Elmira, New York.
6 August 1870	Jervis Langdon, Livy's father, dies in Elmira, New York.
7 November 1870	First child, Langdon Clemens, is born prematurely and sickly in Buffalo, New York.
1871	Sam, Livy, and Langdon move to Elmira, then Hartford. <i>Mark Twain's (Burlesque) Autobiography and First Romance</i> is published.

- 1872 *Roughing It* is published. ***Their Wedding Journey* by William Dean Howells is published.**
- 19 March 1872 Olivia Susan (Susy) Clemens is born in Elmira, New York.
- 2 June 1872 Langdon Clemens dies in Hartford, Connecticut.
- 1873 Buys land on Farmington Avenue. Scrapbook is patented. *The Gilded Age* is published.
- 1874 Publishes "A True Story, Repeated Word for Word As I Heard It" in the *Atlantic Monthly*. *Number One: Mark Twain's Sketches* is published.
- Summer 1874 Susan Langdon Crane surprises Sam with the octagonal study at Quarry Farm.
- 8 June 1874 Clara Langdon Clemens is born in Elmira, New York.
- 1876 *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* is published, first in England, then the United States.
- 1877 *A True Story and the Recent Carnival of Crime* is published.
- 1878 *Punch, Brothers, Punch! and Other Sketches* is published.
- 1880 *A Tramp Abroad* is published.
- 26 July 1880 Jane Lampton (Jean) Clemens is born in Elmira, New York.
- 1881 *The Prince and the Pauper* is published.
- 1882 *The Stolen White Elephant, Etc.* is published.

1883	•	<i>Life on the Mississippi</i> is published.
1884	•	Founds Charles L. Webster & Company publisher. Publishes <i>Adventures of Huckleberry Finn</i> in England.
1885	•	Publishes <i>Huck Finn</i> in the United States, inaugural publication of Clemens's own publishing company, Charles L. Webster & Company. Ulysses S. Grant contracts with Webster & Company to publish his memoirs; his death increases sales. Susy Clemens begins biography of her father. Sam begins paying for one African American student to attend Yale University.
1889	•	<i>A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court</i> is published.
Summer 1889	•	Rudyard Kipling visits Elmira and Quarry Farm.
27 October 1890	•	Jane Lampton Clemens, Sam's mother, dies in Keokuk, Iowa.
1891	•	Closes Hartford house and moves to Europe to save money.
1892	•	<i>Merry Tales</i> is published. <i>The American Claimant</i> is published.
1894	•	<i>Pudd'nhead Wilson and Those Extraordinary Twins</i> is published in book form.
18 April 1894	•	Webster & Company declares bankruptcy.
1895	•	World lecture tour begins.

1896	<i>Tom Sawyer, Detective</i> is published. <i>Personal Recollections of Joan of Arc</i> is published.
18 August 1896	Susy Clemens dies of spinal meningitis in Hartford.
1897	<i>Following the Equator</i> and <i>How to Tell a Story and Other Essays</i> are published. <i>More Tramps Abroad</i> is published.
11 December 1897	Orion Clemens dies in Keokuk, Iowa.
1898	Clemens's creditors are paid in full.
1899	<i>Literary Essays</i> is published. Ernest Hemingway is born.
1900	<i>The Man That Corrupted Hadleyburg and Other Stories and Sketches</i> is published.
October 1901	Receives honorary doctorate from Yale University.
1902	Makes the last visit to Hannibal. <i>A Double-Barrelled Detective Story</i> is published.
1903	<i>My Début as a Literary Person and Other Essays</i> is published. Family moves to Italy.
1904	<i>A Dog's Tale</i> is published. <i>Extracts from Adam's Diary</i> is published.
5 June 1904	Livy dies in Florence, Italy.
1905	<i>King Leopold's Soliloquy</i> is published.
1906	<i>What Is Man?</i> is published. <i>Eve's Diary</i> is published. Clemens makes Albert Bigelow Paine his official biographer.
1907	<i>Christian Science</i> is published. <i>A Horse's Tale</i> is published.

26 June 1907	Receives honorary doctorate from Oxford University.
1908	Forms Mark Twain Company.
18 June 1908	Moves into house in Redding, Connecticut, later named Stormfield.
1909	<i>Is Shakespeare Dead? From My Autobiography</i> is published. <i>Extract from Captain Stormfield's Visit to Heaven</i> is published. Jean moves to Stormfield to help manage household.
6 October 1909	Clara Clemens marries Ossip Gabrilowitsch.
24 December 1909	Jean Clemens dies at Stormfield.
21 April 1910	SAMUEL LANGHORNE CLEMENS DIES in Redding, Connecticut. Then buried next to Livy, in Woodlawn Cemetery in Elmira, New York.
18 August 1910	Nina Gabrilowitsch, Sam Clemens's only grandchild and Clara's daughter, is born at Stormfield, in Redding, Connecticut.
19 November 1962	Clara Clemens dies in San Diego, California.

大事年表

1835 年 11 月 30 日	塞缪尔·兰霍恩·克莱门斯在密苏里州佛罗里达出生。
1838 年 7 月 13 日	萨姆的弟弟亨利·克莱门斯在密苏里州佛罗里达出生。
1839 年	和家人迁至密苏里州汉尼拔。
1839 年 8 月	萨姆的姐姐玛格丽特·克莱门斯夭折。
1840 年	萨姆在汉尼拔开始学校生涯。
1842 年 5 月 12 日	萨姆的哥哥本杰明·克莱门斯夭折。
1845 年 11 月 27 日	萨姆未来的妻子奥利维娅·路易丝(莉薇)·兰登出生。
1847 年 3 月 24 日	萨姆的父亲约翰·马歇尔·克莱门斯去世。
1848 年	萨姆开始跟着约瑟夫·P. 阿芒做印刷工学徒。
1852 年	萨姆在哥哥奥赖恩外出期间经营他的报纸，并匿名发表了随笔。哈丽雅特·比彻·斯托的《汤姆叔叔的小屋》出版。
1853 年	到纽约市和费城旅行和工作。在纽约市的图书馆阅读了大量书籍。纽约世界博览会召开。
1854 年	到华盛顿特区旅行。
1855 年	沃尔特·惠特曼的《草叶集》第一版出版。在艾奥瓦州基奥卡克做印刷工，与奥赖恩和亨利一起工作。
1856 年 1 月	在艾奥瓦州基奥卡克的印刷工宴会上首次做公众演讲，致敬本杰明·富兰克林。