

朗文英汉对照阶梯阅读丛书



第四级

# Oliver Twist

查尔斯·狄更斯原著 玛格丽特·梅森 D.K.斯旺 迈克尔·韦斯特改写 芮芙译

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**雾都孤儿(简写本)**

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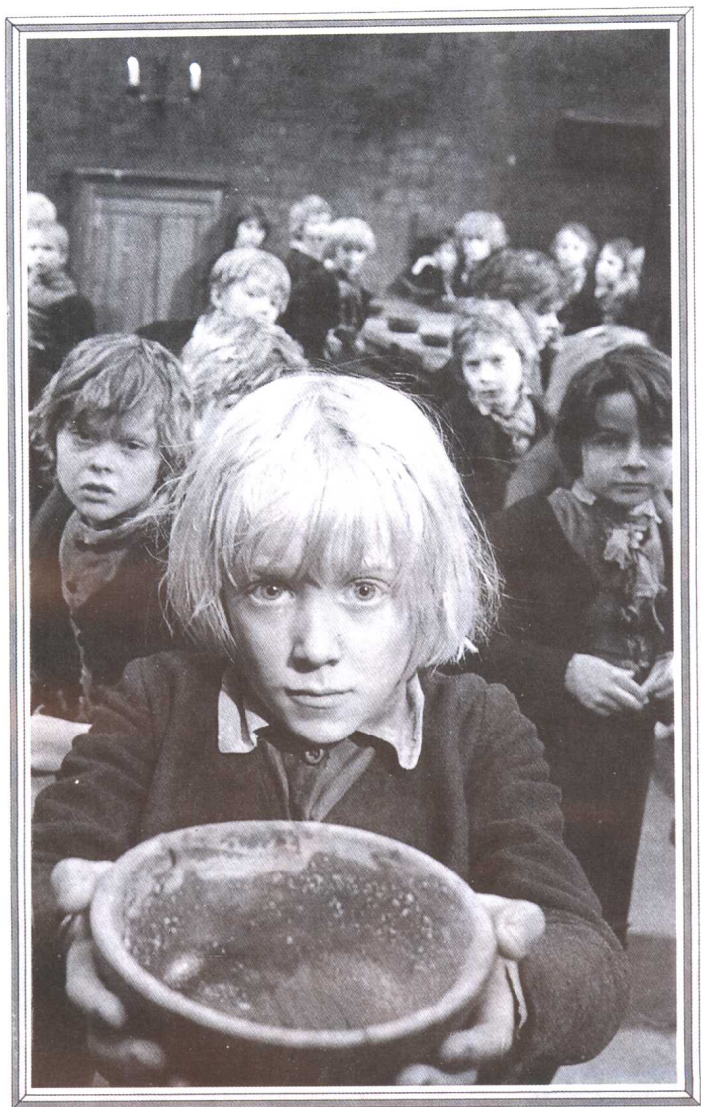
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*Oliver asks for more*

奥列弗要求再添一点 (参见第一章)





*Mr Bumble*

本布尔先生 （参见第三章）



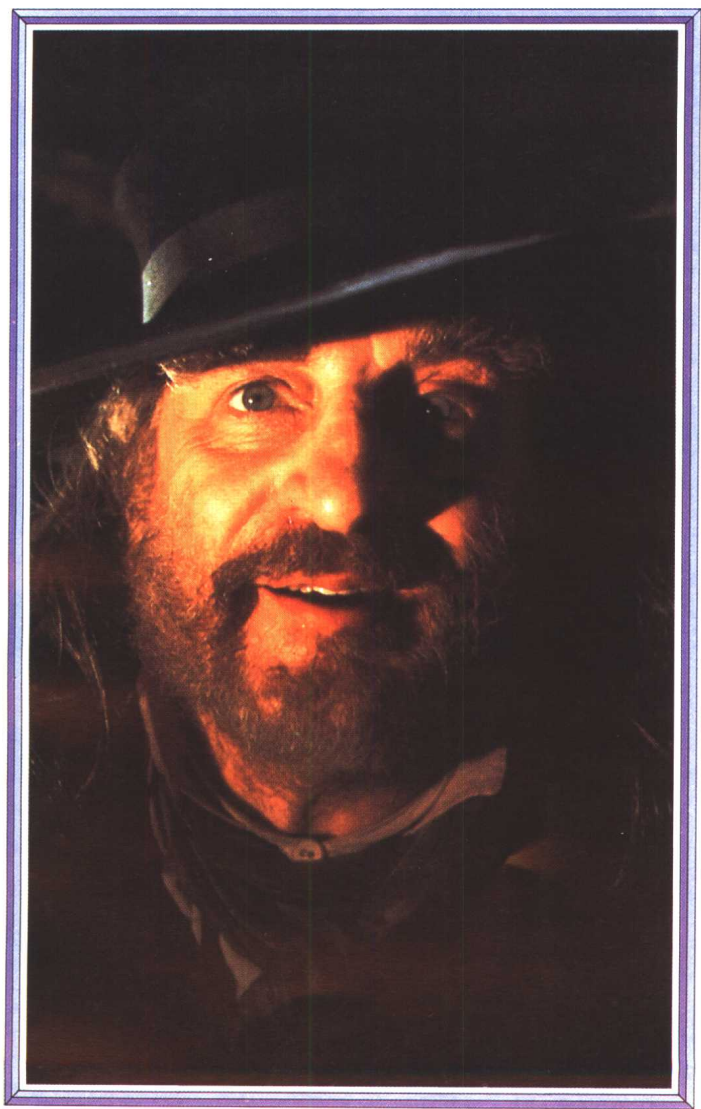
*Jack Dawkins*

杰克·达霍金 （参见第四章）



*Bill Sikes*

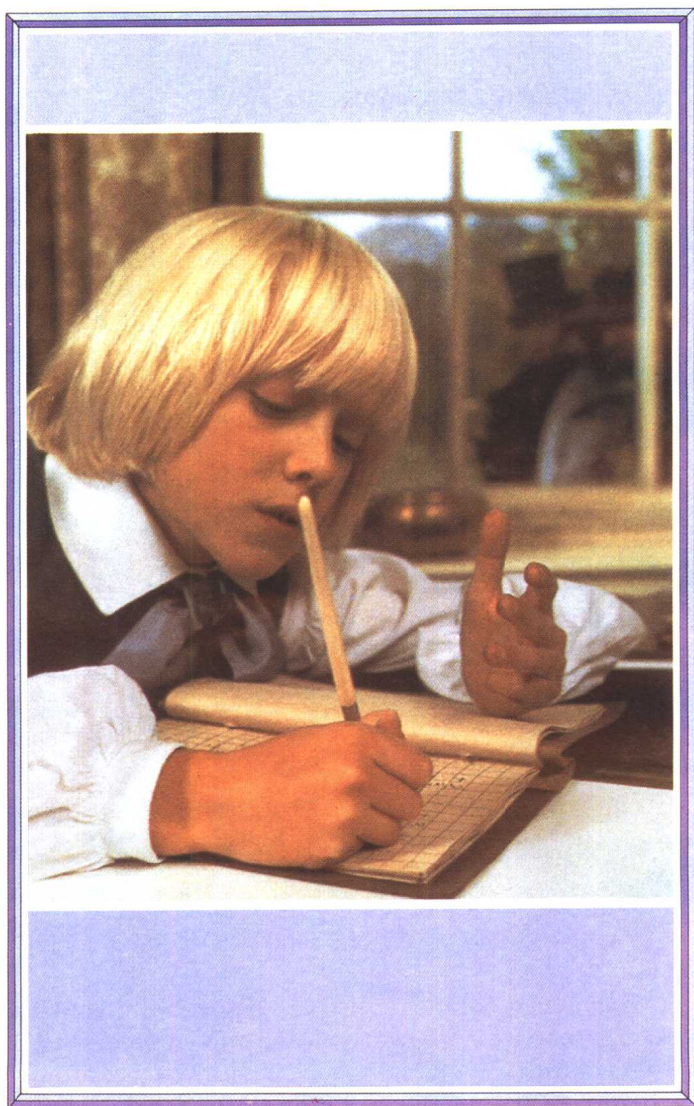
比尔·赛克斯 （参见第六章）



*Fagin*

法根 (参见第八章)





*Oliver works at his lessons*

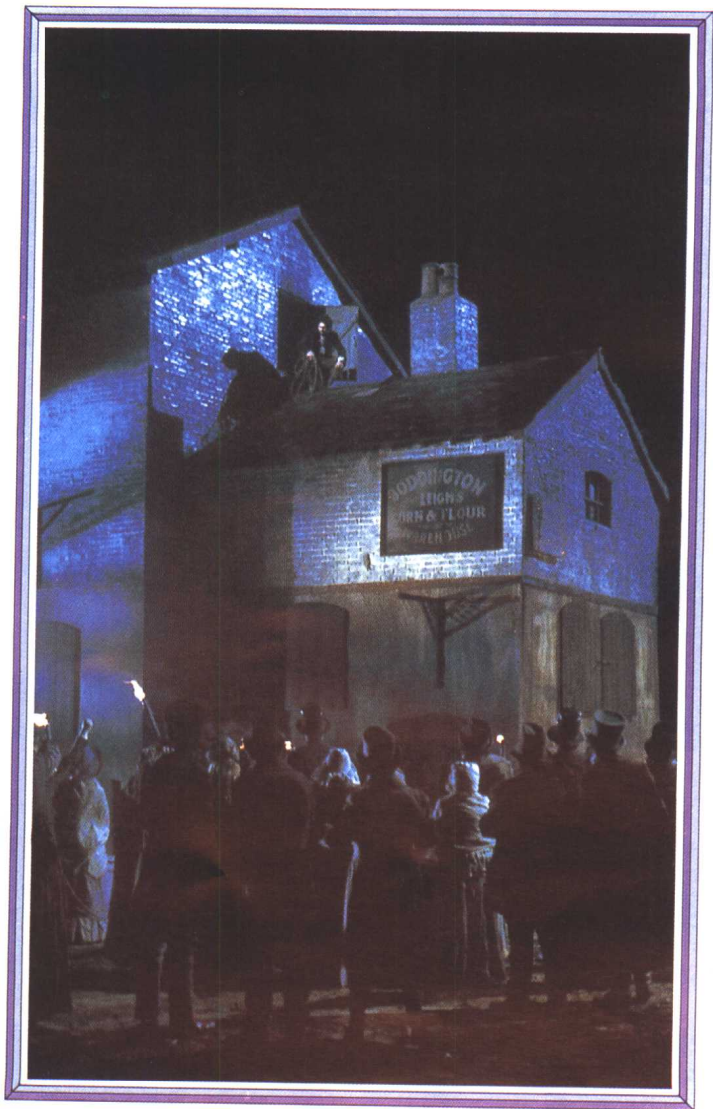
奥列弗在做功课 （参见第十一章）





*Sikes strikes Nancy*

赛克斯棒打楠茜 （参见第十七章）



*The crowd shouts as Sikes appears on the roof*  
赛克斯出现在屋顶时人们喊叫起来（参见第二十章）

## 给读者的话

学好英语的关键之一是多读。读什么？英语大师们的回答是：读名著。倘若名著又长又难，怎么办？那么就从简写本开始。《朗文英汉对照阶梯阅读丛书》就是为满足这种需要编写的。这套丛书以循序渐进的方法、最浅显的英语词汇和最精美的全页彩图，给你讲世界上脍炙人口的经典故事。本套丛书有四大特色：

一、所选内容均为世界文学名著；

二、英语地道、纯正、流畅、清新，均出自英美名家手笔；

三、语言浅显易懂，可读性强。本丛书共分四级，所用英语单词分别为：第一级 500 个，第二级 900 个，第三级 1300 个，第四级 1800 个，非常适合不同程度的中学生、大学生及广大英语爱好者阅读；

四、英汉对照，帮助理解。汉语译文准确、优美。在符合汉语表达习惯的基础上，力图传达英语原文的意美和形美。

我们的宗旨就是向你打开通向英语名著世界的一扇扇小窗，让你轻轻松松地寓语言学习、文学欣赏和翻译练习于一体，一举而有三得。

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# Introduction

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## *Charles Dickens*

Charles Dickens, born in 1812, was the son of a clerk in a government office. His father spent more money than he earned, and Charles Dickens was still a boy when his father was sent to prison for debt. In those days, men who owed quite small amounts had to stay in prison until the debt was paid.

One result was that Charles's education was interrupted. Another result was that he had experience of the unhappy life of many poor people, including children. In years of hard work in various unpleasant jobs, he met large numbers of people, young and old, rich and poor, happy and miserable. He had unusual energy and unusual powers of observation. He worked hard to improve his knowledge and at the same time he stored away memories of all the people he met – the men he worked for, the boys he worked with, the London scenes and London characters.

He learnt to write shorthand, and he became a newspaper reporter, using his shorthand to record speeches and conversations in different parts of England and finally in Parliament.

He began to write sketches – short stories and descriptions – for weekly and monthly magazines. Readers enjoyed these sketches, especially those which showed Dickens's humour, his rich sense of fun. *The Pickwick Papers* appeared in parts in 1836–37, and the public loved



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## 前 言

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### 查尔斯·狄更斯

查尔斯·狄更斯 1812 年生于一个政府机关职员家庭，他父亲每月入不敷出。当查尔斯·狄更斯还是个孩子的时候，他父亲就因负债而被送进了监狱。那时候，一个人只要欠了债，哪怕数额很小，也得坐牢，直到债务偿清为止。

这样一来，查尔斯的教育不得不中断了，因此，他也就有了许多穷人，包括穷孩子们过的那种艰辛的生活经历。他在各种不合意的工作中苦干数年，结识了许许多多的人，有年轻的、年老的、富有的、贫困的，有幸福的，也有悲惨的。他有不同寻常的精力以及超常的观察力。他拼命学习以提高自身的知识水平，同时将他所遇到过的人——他为之工作过的人，与他一起工作过的孩子，以及伦敦的风土人情都一一积聚在记忆之中。

他学会了速记法，并用速记记录英国各地乃至议会上举行的演讲和会谈，成了一名报纸记者。

后来他开始写随笔，为周刊和月刊撰写短篇故事和描写性文章，读者很欣赏这些作品，尤其是那些显示出狄更斯的幽默和风趣的文章。《匹克威克外传》于 1836 年至 1837 年以连载形式刊出，颇受广大读者喜爱。匹克威克先生非常善于观

them. Mr Pickwick is the very simple, innocent observer of the behaviour of the people of his time. He is shocked by the wickedness he finds. Sam Weller, his servant, is a worldly-wise, clever fellow who gets Mr Pickwick out of trouble with all the humour of the London "Cockney".

The *Pickwick Papers* were immediately popular, and Dickens was soon in a position to make the writing of novels his one profession. The stories poured from his pen. They all appeared in weekly or monthly parts before being collected in books. Here are the most important of them in the order of writing, with the date of appearance as a book:

1838 *Oliver Twist*; 1839 *Nicholas Nickleby*;  
1841 *The Old Curiosity Shop*; 1848 *Dombey and Son*;  
1849 *David Copperfield*; 1850 *Hard Times*;  
1859 *A Tale of Two Cities*; 1861 *Great Expectations*.

Dickens's characters were much better or much worse than they would be in real life. They were exaggerated in rather the same way as artists exaggerate in their drawings of political and other leaders in newspaper cartoons today. But the readers of Dickens's time accepted such exaggeration. They were perhaps readier to laugh or cry over the novelist's characters and situations than we are today.

The novels of Dickens are full of life, observation and energy, and his own energy seemed endless. His books were popular in the English-speaking countries on both sides of the Atlantic. In later years he travelled widely in Britain and America, reading from his books to eager audiences. His sudden death in 1870 shocked thousands of people who were waiting for his next book. Instead, they bought, and wept over, a picture called "The Empty Chair", showing the desk and chair that he would no longer use.

察他那个年代的人们行为举止，是个纯朴而率真的观察家，他为自己发现的邪恶所震惊。他的仆人萨姆·韦勒善于处世，又非常聪明，他充分利用伦敦“土语”的幽默帮匹克威克先生摆脱了烦恼。

《匹克威克外传》很快就热了起来，狄更斯不久就以写小说作为他的一个职业。他笔下的小说一篇接一篇地问世，在出版成集之前，都在周刊和月刊上登载过。下面是他小说中最有影响的几部，按写作时间以及出版成书之日的先后排列：

1838 年《雾都孤儿》

1839 年《尼古拉斯·尼克尔贝》

1841 年《老古玩店》

1848 年《董贝父子》

1849 年《大卫·科波菲尔》

1850 年《艰难时世》

1859 年《双城记》

1861 年《孤星血泪》

狄更斯笔下的人物比现实中的人物要好得多或坏得多，就像画家在当今的报纸漫画中描绘政界和其他领导人物一样，狄更斯也是采用了夸张的手法。他那个年代的读者接受了这种写作手法，他们比我们现代人更容易为小说主人公的命运和情节的跌宕或开怀大笑，或悲天悯人。

狄更斯的小说富有生活气息，充满了观察力和活力，他自身的生命活力似乎也永无止境。他的书在大西洋两岸说英语的国家广受欢迎，在以后的岁月中，他周游了英国和美国，向热切的读者朗读自己著作的片断。1870 年他溘然长世的噩耗震惊了成千上万期待他下一本书问世的人们，他们争购一幅叫做“空着的椅子”的画，对着画面涕泪涟涟。画面上是一张桌子和一把椅子——他再也用不上了。

### *Oliver Twist*

Dickens wrote *Oliver Twist* in the years 1837–38. The dates are important. In 1834 Parliament passed a new Poor Law. This law was based on the idea that there was work for everybody, and that if a person had no work and no money, it was because he or she was lazy and did not want to work. For such people the local government provided a workhouse, with beds and food, but it must not be comfortable or (the idea was) people might want to stay there instead of looking for work. So the workhouses were unfriendly places – inhuman, Dickens thought – where nobody would want to remain if he or she could find work. The people who controlled them were sometimes unfeeling men almost like Mr Bumble in *Oliver Twist*.

Another Act of Parliament that was beginning to have an effect was the Metropolitan Police Act of 1829. That Act set up a police force for the capital. By the time Dickens was writing *Oliver Twist*, the police had become effective enough to make it hard for a murderer like Bill Sikes to escape. They were not yet able to put an end to all the crime that is represented in this book by Fagin and his gang of boy thieves.

It was a time of cruel punishments if a criminal was caught. That is why, in the story, the evil Monks wants Fagin to turn Oliver into a thief. Even a boy of Oliver's age could be hanged for a serious crime.

It was a time when national and local governments did little to help those people who were old, ill, or badly treated by employers and others. But there were also kind people like Mr Brownlow, Mrs Maylie and Rose, who were ready to help those who were less fortunate than themselves.



## 《雾都孤儿》

狄更斯于1837年至1838年期间写成了《雾都孤儿》，创作日期至关重要。1834年议会通过了一项新的《贫穷法》，该法提倡每一个人都应有一份工作，如果没有工作，没有钱，那是因为他或她生性懒惰而不想工作。为了这类人，当地政府办了济贫院，那儿有吃有住，但决不能舒服，否则，（依当时的看法）人们会待在那儿而不去找工作。因此，济贫院是个冷漠的地方——狄更斯认为那是个毫无人性的地方——一个人只要能够找到一份工作，决不会呆在那种地方。那儿的管理人员有时是一些很无情的人，差不多就像《雾都孤儿》中的本布尔先生那样。

另一个开始实施的议会法案就是1829年制订的《都市警察条例》，该法的制订为首都建立了警察机关。到狄更斯创作《雾都孤儿》的时候，警方已非常得力，足以使像比尔·赛克斯那样的凶杀犯难逃法网，但他们还不能终止所有的犯罪，如这本书里描绘的法根及其少年偷盗团伙犯下的那些罪。

那年代，如果罪犯被擒，就会受到残忍的刑罚，这就是故事中恶魔蒙克斯为什么要让法根把奥列弗训练成贼的原因所在。当时连奥列弗这种年纪的孩子，犯了重罪，也会被处绞刑。

那时，国家和地方政府几乎没有采取措施来帮助老人、病人，或受雇主以及其他虐待的人，倒是社会上不乏热心肠的好人，如勃朗劳先生、麦丽爱夫人和萝丝小姐，他们随时都愿意帮助那些命运不如自己的人。