



Moby Dick

白鲸默比•迪克



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Moby Dick

(A Bilingual Edition) by Herman Melville

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相性如

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内容提要

本书通过水手伊什梅尔的一段海上经历,叙述了船长埃哈布曾被白色巨鲸默比·迪克,咬断一只腿,因而决心要捕捉巨鲸,以雪此恨。经过海上艰险与长期寻觅,他终于遇到白鲸,但在最后一次微烈搏斗中,不仅没有捕获凶猛的白鲸,反而与水手一同葬身海洋,只有伊什梅尔一人幸存。故事描写了捕鲸工人的艰苦生活,并以象征手线揭示了资本主义的罪恶,但带有悲观情绪。作者描述了海上捕鲸的繁张动人情景,刻划了水手的勇敢顽强和白鲸的凶猛机警,使读者感到生动有趣。本书为简写本,语言简练,文字流畅,又附以汉译和注释,可供大学初年级学生或同等程度的英语自学者阅读。

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1 THE INN

My name is Ishmael. I am going to tell you a story of one of the voyages which took me to sea some years ago.

When I have no money in my pocket and need a change, I look for a ship and sail away in her.² I do not go in one of those big, comfortable ships in which rich people eat big meals and drink a lot. I haven't enough money for that! I don't even go to sea as a cook or a cleaner. I always go as a simple sailor.

At first, I don't like taking orders from other men. It is a great change from my ordinary life. I usually give orders to other people! But I soon get used to⁴ this change. When my captain orders me to get a brush and clean the deck, I obey him. I know that it is all right. They pay me for my work, and I work for my pay. I also get the pure air of the sea and the wildwinds.

I thought, 'This time I'll go on a whaling ship⁵ — a ship which catches and kills whales.'

Many ships hunt for whales in the ocean, because a whale's body contains a lot of valuable oil. The best place in which to find a whaler (a whaling ship) is Nantucket — an island on the east coast of America. I had to get to Nantucket by boat from New Bedford. I reached New Bedford on Saturday night, but the boat to Nantucket had already sailed. And so I had to stay in New Bedford for a night — or more.

It was getting dark. I stood in the middle of an unlit street,⁹ wondering where I could sleep that night. I had very little money

^{1.} Ishmael ['jʃmeiəl] 2. sail away in her: 乘船去航行。her 指船, 英语中某些名词由于意境的引伸可用阴性代词。 3. I usually give orders to other people! 通常都由我指挥别人! 4. soon get used to ...: 很快就

一、客店

我叫伊什梅尔,几次出过海。现在我来给你们讲一个若干年前一 次出海的故事。

当我口袋里没了钱,而又需要换换环境的时候,我就去找条船,乘它到海上去。我不乘富人们在上面大吃大喝的那种舒适的大船,我没有那么多钱!我甚至也不愿意充当厨子或清洁工去出海,而总是当一名普通水手。

起初,我不乐意听别人指挥。那跟我平时生活相比,变化太大了。通常我总是向别人发号施令的! 但是我很快就习惯于这种变化。船长命令我去拿刷子洗甲板,我就去刷。我知道这是应该的,他们给我报酬,是为了我干活儿;我干活儿是为了得到报酬。再说我还能领略到海上的清新空气和狂暴的海风呢。

我想:"这一回我要上一只捕鲸船——就是用来捕杀鲸鱼的船。"

许多船在海洋里追捕鲸鱼,因为鲸鱼体内含有大量宝贵的油脂。 最容易找到捕鲸船的地方是楠塔克特——美洲东海岸的一个小岛。我 得从新贝德福乘船去楠塔克特。星期六晚上我到了新贝德福,但是去 楠塔克特的船已经开走了。这样,我只好在新贝德福过一夜——或许 还不止呢。

天渐渐地黑下来,我站在一条没有灯光的街道中间,寻思着在哪儿 过夜。我口袋里没有几个钱。我自言自语地说:"伊什梅尔,你得问问

习惯于……。 5. whaling ship: 捕鲸船。(whale 转性为动词: 捕鲸)。 6. hunt for: 追捕。 7. Nantucket [næn'tʌkət]: 位于美国马萨诸塞州东南。 8. New Bedford [nju:ˈbedfəd]: 马萨诸塞州东南的港口。 9. unlit street: 没有照明的街道。

in my pocket. I said to myself, 'Ishmael, you must ask the price of a room, and don't expect too much.'

I walked towards the sea and saw an inn. The door was open. The light inside was dim, but I could hear voices. I opened the door. There was a long curved table over which a man was selling drinks to sailors.

The men called him Jonah¹ because that table was shaped like the lower bone of a whale's jaw. There is a story in the Bible that Jonah was swallowed by a whale.

I went to the inn-keeper and asked, 'Can I get a room for tonight?'

'No,' he said, 'the house is full. Not an empty bed in the place.' Then he thought again. 'Will you share a bed?' he asked. 'With whom?'

'With a harpooner.2 Would you like to share a harpooner's bed?'

At this point³ I had better explain what a harpoon is. It is a spear with the edges turned back. The harpooner throws the harpoon at a whale. It cannot be pulled out because of those turned-back edges. There is a long rope on the harpoon. The whale swims away pulling the boat with that rope.

Harpooners are very strong and rough men. So I said to the inn-keeper, 'It depends on the harpooner — but I probably won't like sharing a bed with a harpooner.'

'Well,' said the inn-keeper, 'it's that — or nothing.'

I thought of the cold and stormy night outside. Then I said, 'I must share any man's bed — even a harpooner's.'

'I thought so,' said the inn-keeper. 'Sit down. You want some supper. It will be ready soon.'

The inn-keeper brought supper to me and to some other men, in another room. There was no fire burning.

'Cold as Iceland,' said someone.

'Well,' said the inn-keeper, 'I have no money for a fire.'

房间的价钱,不能要求过高。"

我向海边走去,看见一家小客店。门开着,里面灯光昏暗,但我能听到人声。我推开了门,只见里边有一个长长的弧形桌子,有个人正从桌子上向水手们出售饮料。

水手们管他叫约拿,这是因为那张桌子的形状挺象鲸鱼的下顎骨。 《圣经》里有个故事说约拿给鲸鱼吞掉了。

我走到店主人跟前,问道:"能给我一个今晚过夜的房间吗?"

"不行了,"他说:"住满了,店里连一张空床都没有了。"接着他又想了一想说:"你愿意跟别人合睡一张床吗?"

"跟谁?"

"跟一个鱼叉手,你愿意跟鱼叉手合睡一张床吗?"

说到这儿,我最好解释一下什么是鱼叉。那是一种刀刃向里弯成钩形的鱼叉。鱼叉手用鱼叉投刺鲸鱼,刺中后拔不出来,因为上面有倒钩形的刃。鱼叉上系着一根长长的绳子,鲸鱼游走时,就带着这根绳子,拖着小船。

鱼叉手都是身强力壮,性格粗鲁的人。因此我对店主人说:"那就看鱼叉手是个什么样的人了——不过,我是不怎么愿意跟一个鱼叉手合睡一张床的。"

"嗯,"店主人说,"就是这样,——不然就没办法了。"

我想到外面大风呼啸的寒夜,于是说: "我只好随便跟人合睡一张床了,——即使是跟鱼叉手也罢。"

"我想也是这样,"老板说,"坐下吧,你需要吃点儿晚饭,很快就会做得的。"

店主人给我和另外一些人把晚饭端到另一个房间,这个房间里没 有生火。

"跟冰岛一样冷,"有人说。

^{1.} Jonah ['douna] 约拿(基督教《圣经》中希伯来的预言者)。 2. harpooner: 鱼叉手。(harpoon: 鱼叉)。 3. at this point: 此时。说到这儿、

I held my hot cup of tea to warm my hands. Potatoes and boiled puddings made of flour and fat and sugar were put on the table in front of us. One young fellow in a green coat started eating very quickly.

'I'm hungry,' he said.

'My boy,' said the inn-keeper, 'you'll have bad dreams if you eat so fast.'

'Inn-keeper,' I whispered, 'that's not the harpooner, is it?'

'Oh no!' This seemed to be great fun for him.² 'The harpooner is a black man. He never eats sweet stuff. He eats only red meat.'³

'Where is this harpooner? Is he here?'

'He'll be here soon,' he answered.

I did not feel very happy about sharing a bed. I thought that I would let the harpooner go to bed first. So I spent the evening listening to the sailors' talk of their voyages. These men came off the ships which had just returned to harbour, and so they brought the latest news. Jonah was kept busy pouring drinks, and the noise in the room grew louder and louder.

At twelve o'clock the inn-keeper came to me.

'You won't see the harpooner tonight; so it's no use waiting. I'll get you a light and show you your room.'

He took me upstairs to a cold, small room. There was a very big bed, big enough for four men to sleep in.

'There!' said the inn-keeper. 'Make yourself comfortable, and good night to you.' He put the lamp down and left me

2 THE HARPOONER

I was cold and undressed quickly and jumped into bed. It was hard, and seemed to be full of stones, and I could not sleep for some time. Then at last I slept.

Heavy footsteps woke me up suddenly a few hours later, and

6

"唉,"店主人说,"我没钱生火呀。"

我捧着我那杯热茶暖暖手。我们面前的桌子上放着土豆和用面粉、大油和糖一起煮成的布丁。一个身穿绿上衣的年轻人很快地吃起来。

- "我饿了。"他说。
- "小伙子",店主人说,"吃这么快,你要作恶梦的。"
- "掌柜的,"我悄悄地问,"他不是那个鱼叉手吧?"
- "啊,不是!"他似乎觉得我的问话挺好笑,"那个鱼叉手是个黑人,他从来不吃甜食,只吃牛羊肉。"
 - "那个鱼叉手在哪儿,在这儿吗?"
 - "他很快就会来的。"他回答说。

我不大高兴跟别人合睡一张床。我想让鱼叉手先上床睡觉,于是那天晚上我就在那儿听水手们讲他们航海的事。这些人都是从刚回到港口的船上下来的,带来了最近的新闻。乔纳给他们倒着酒,忙得不可开交。屋里的嘈杂声越来越大。

十二点时,店主人过来对我说:

"你今晚见不到鱼叉手了,用不着等了。我给你拿个灯来,领你去你的房间。"

他把我领到楼上一间又小又冷的房间,里面有一张很大的床,大得 足能睡下四个人。

"好了」"店主人说,"请自便吧,晚安。"他放下灯就走了。

二、鱼叉手

我觉得冷,很快就脱掉衣服跳上床。床很硬,好象上面全是石头。 我好一会儿不能入睡,后来总算睡着了。

几个钟头之后,沉重的脚步声突然把我惊醒,我看见一个陌生人走

^{1.} boiled puddings: 煮布丁。
2. This seemed to be great fun for him. 他听到这句话觉得挺好笑。
3. red meat: 宁、羊肉。
4. There! 此处是感叹词,表示提起注意的语气。

I saw a stranger come into the room. He did not look at the bed, and I kept quiet. I could not see his face at first; and then — 'Lord save me!' I thought, as he turned towards the light. 'What a face! Such a face!' — It was dark purple, with yellow

and black squares on it here and there.

'Yes—just as I thought! He's a terrible bed-fellow': he's been in a fight, and a doctor has put those things on his face.' Then I saw that the marks seemed to be stains.² And I remembered a story of sailors who were caught by wild men and marked like this on their faces and bodies. I thought, 'This man has been marked in the same way. "Tattooed" — that's the word for it.'

I felt sorry for him. 'But it's only his outside!' I thought. 'A man can be honest with any kind of skin.'

He still did not look at me. I watched him now as he took off his hat. There was no hair on his head except a small knot tied up on top. He was between me and the door; so I could not run away. I lay there, shaking with fear, and watched him. He took a little figure of wood out of his pocket, and put it in the fireplace. In front of it he put some small pieces of wood, and on top of them a ship's biscuit. He set these pieces of wood on fire. Then he took the biscuit and offered it to the little wooden figure, singing some strange song. The figure did not move, and soon he put out the fire, and quickly put the figure back in his pocket. Then he put out the light and got into bed.

'Oh, oh!' I cried and rolled away from him. He let me get up and light the lamp again.

'Inn-keeper, inn-keeper!' I shouted, 'Save me!'

'Who are you? Speak, or I'll kill you,' said this black devil, waving his arms about.

Thank heaven the inn-keeper heard me and came in.

'Don't be afraid,' he said laughing. 'His name is Queequeg.⁵ Queequeg wouldn't hurt a hair of your head.'6

进房间,他没往床上看,我也没出声。起先,我看不见他的脸,随后,当 他的脸转过去朝着灯光——

"天哪!"我想,"好家伙!这么一张脸!"——脸色黑紫,有的地方还 黑一块,黄一块的。

"果然——不出所料!要跟我同床睡觉的这个伴儿可够呛:他一定跟人打过架,脸上那些玩艺儿准是医生给贴上去的。"后来我看那些一块一块的东西好象是色斑。 我想起一些有关水手被野人抓住的故事,脸上、身上被刺上象这样一块一块的东西。我想:"这个人脸上也有同样的斑纹,'文身'——对,他是一个文了身的人。"

我为他感到遗憾。"不过这仅仅是他的外表罢了₁"我想,"一个人不管他外表皮肤如何,也有可能是个好人。"

他仍然没有朝我看。他摘下帽子时我瞧着他,他只是头顶绾了个小发结,此外没有头发,他站在我和门之间,所以我无法逃跑。我躺在那儿,吓得直抖,眼睛盯着他。他从兜里掏出个小木头人,放进壁炉里,在小木头人的前面放了几小块木柴,又在木柴上面放了一块船上吃的饼干。他点着了这几块木柴,接着拿起饼干祭献那个小木头人,嘴里一边唱着什么奇怪的歌。那小人儿没有动,他马上将火扑灭,很快把小人儿又装回衣兜里。然后他熄灯,上了床。

"哎呀! 哎呀!"我一边喊,一边翻滚着躲开他。他让我起来,又把灯点着了。

"掌柜的,掌柜的!"我喊道,"不得了啦!"

"你是谁?说!不然我就揍死你,"那黑鬼一边说一边挥舞着双臂。

谢天谢地,店主人听到了我的喊声,进来了。

"别怕,"他大笑着说,"他叫奎魁格,奎魁格不会伤你一根毫毛的。"

^{1.} bed-fellow: 同床睡觉的人。 2. the marks seemed to be stains: 这些斑痕好象是色斑。 3. tattooed: 文身。 4. a little figure of wood: 一个木制的小雕像。 5. Queequeg ['kwi:kweg] 6. Queequeg wouldn't hurt a hair of your head. 奎魁格不会伤你一根头发的,用汉语习惯说法即,不会伤你一根毫毛。

'Stop laughing!' I shouted. 'Why didn't you tell me what this harpooner was like?'

'Queequeg,' the inn-keeper said, 'this man will share your bed. Do you understand?'

'Yes,' said Queequeg. He had lighted a great pipe and sat up in bed smoking.

'You get in,' said Queequeg to me. He moved to make room for me in a most¹ kind and polite way. I had a chance to look at him in the light and decided that he was a clean and good-looking man.

'What a lot of noise I've made,' I thought. 'I have no reason to be afraid of this man. He isn't drunk. Better to sleep with him than with a drunken man.'

'Inn-keeper,' I said, 'tell him to stop smoking. I don't like having a man smoking in bed with me. It's dangerous.'

Queequeg put out his pipe and again politely invited me into the bed.

I said, 'Goodnight, inn-keeper. You may go.'

I got into bed, and have never slept better in my life.

3 QUEEQUEG

When I woke the next morning, I could not get up. Queequeg's arm was holding me down.² I tried to move away, but he held me fast while still sleeping.

'Queequeg, Queequeg, wake up!' I cried. After much turning and struggling, I got myself free from his hold. He woke then and sat up in bed. He looked at me and rubbed his eyes as if he did not remember me.

At last he decided to get up. I realised that he knew only a few words of English. By certain sounds and signs he made me understand that he would dress first, and then leave me the room to myself.

"别笑了!"我喊道,"为什么昨天不告诉我这个鱼叉手长得是个什么样子?"

- "奎魁格,"店主人说,"这个人要和你睡一张床,明白吗?"
- "明白,"奎魁格说。他已经点着一个大烟斗,坐在床上抽着。
- "你上床吧,"奎魁格对我说。他非常和气、非常有礼貌地挪开,给我腾地方,我借机会在灯光下看他,看到他挺干净,相貌也挺好。
- "我吵嚷得多厉害呀!"我想,"没有理由害怕这个人,他又没喝醉, 跟他一块睡要比跟醉鬼一块儿睡强的多。"
- "掌柜的,"我说,"告诉他别抽烟了,我不喜欢和我睡一张床的人抽烟,这样危险。"

奎魁格灭了烟斗又一次彬彬有礼地请我上床。

我说:"晚安,掌柜的,您可以走了。"

我上了床,从来也没有睡过那么好的觉。

三、奎魁格

第二天早晨醒来时,我起不来了,奎魁格的一条胳臂把我压住,我想挪开,可是他睡着觉还那么紧紧压着我。

"奎魁格,奎魁格,醒醒!"我喊道,经过好一通翻腾、挣扎,我才挣脱他的胳臂。接着他也醒了,从床上坐起来,看看我,揉揉眼睛,好象是不记得我了。

最后他决定起床。我发现他只懂得几句英语。他通过某些声音和 手势使我明白他要先穿衣服,然后让我一个人在房间里。

^{1.} most 此处是 very 的意思,极。 2. Queequeg's arm was holding me down. 奎魁格的胳膊正压住我。

'Thank you, Queequeg,' I said. 'Thank you for your politeness.' I thought, 'Indeed, you don't see a man like Queequeg every day. I am very lucky to have met this kind and gentle creature.'

I felt rather rude as I lay looking at him from the bed. I watched him dressing, with a curiosity that was not good manners. You don't see a man like Queequeg every day and he and his ways were well worth watching.

First of all he put on his hat, then he hunted for his boots. 'What next?' I thought with amusement. He had gone under the bed to put on his boots. 'I have never heard of any one hiding himself while he is putting on his boots!'

At last, he came out, with his hat low down over his eyes. Next he started to shave, using his harpoon, busily removing the hair from his face with the very sharp steel edge. Then, when he had finished, he walked proudly out of the room, wrapped up in his coat and carrying his harpoon.

I dressed and soon went downstairs. There I was greeted by the inn-keeper. 'Good morning, inn-keeper,' I said. 'You certainly had some fun with me last night.' I smiled because I did not blame the man. A good laugh is a good thing to have, and I didn't mind being the cause of it.

The room was now full of the men who had slept at the inn. They were nearly all whalemen. A brave company of men. Most of them had beards.

'Breakfast!' shouted the inn-keeper, and we all went into the other room to eat.

4 MY FRIEND QUEEQUEG

All that day I wandered round the small seaport. When evening came, I returned to the inn. I found Queequeg sitting in front of the fire. I was pleased to see him again, and sat down

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