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# JANE EYRE

— An Autobiography

by Charlotte Brontë

简爱

[英]夏洛蒂·勃朗特 著



Liaoning People's Publishing House, China

辽宁人民出版社



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## Charlotte Brontë

Charlotte Brontë (21 April 1816 - 31 March 1855) was an English novelist and poet, the eldest of the three Brontë sisters who survived into adulthood and whose novels are English literature standards. She wrote *Jane Eyre* under the pen name Currer Bell.

Charlotte believed art was most convincing when based on personal experience; in *Jane Eyre* she transformed the experience into a novel with universal appeal. Commercially it was an instant success, and initially received favourable reviews.

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### 永远的夏洛蒂，永远的简

“你以为我穷、个子矮小，又不好看，就没有感情了吗？告诉你吧，如果上帝赐予我财富和美貌，我会让您难以离开我，就像我现在难以离开您。可上帝没有这样做，但我的灵魂能够同你的灵魂说话，仿佛我们都经过了坟墓，平等地站在上帝面前。”“你难道认为我会留下来甘愿做一个对你来说无足轻重的人？你以为我是一架机器？一架没有感情的机器？能够容忍别人把我嘴里的面包抢走，把我杯子里的水泼掉？”这两段话好多读者都耳熟能详，它们那么富有代表性，成为女性争取独立、平等爱情的典范。这些经典语句就出自夏洛蒂·勃朗特笔下的《简爱》。

在世界文学史上，有许多经典作品注定要名垂史册。《简爱》就是这样一部作品。它能深入魂魄、震撼精神、励志向上！这一切还要归功于作者塑造的不同寻常的女主人公形象。

简爱自幼父母双亡，只能寄人篱下。没有花容月貌，没有妩媚骄恣，她却始终不甘沉沦，在孤苦飘零中，她一直自强不息、勇敢地接受命运挑战。这个普普通通的家庭女教师，就这样完全靠自身人格魅力，征服了她所爱的罗切斯特先生，也征服了全世界千万读者的心。

可以说，《简爱》是镶嵌在世界文学宝藏中的一颗耀眼的宝石。作者夏洛蒂·勃朗特（1816-1855），

是英国著名的勃朗特三姐妹中的大姐。母亲早亡、家庭贫困、被迫寄读于条件恶劣的学校、两个姐姐少年夭折、弟弟自甘沉沦等不幸的遭遇，使其过早成熟，社会上对女性的歧视，使其充满愤怒。良好的文学天赋和坚持不懈的努力，使得她和两个妹妹均走上了文学创作之路。她们以独特的视角审视人生，每个人都成绩卓著。值得一提的是，简爱的叛逆、自由、平等、独立、纯洁等个性特点，也正是夏洛蒂自身的特征。从某种程度上说，简爱就是夏洛蒂的自画像，因为外在方面——她们有相似的童年经历、相近的寄宿学校、相同的社会地位，内在方面——她们都有一颗勇敢的心、聪慧的头脑、强烈的自尊、高度的女性意识等。

夏洛蒂曾经在创作《简爱》之前对她的妹妹们说：“我要写一个女主角给你们看，她和我一样矮小，而且貌不惊人，然而，这个女主角却要 and 你们写的一样，能引起读者兴趣……”她确实如愿以偿了。她把自己的很多经历和思想内涵，都体现在了简爱身上：小简爱在劳伍德学校的好朋友彭斯的原型，就是自己得病去世的姐姐玛丽亚；简爱当家庭教师，也是她自己的亲身经历；另外，夏洛蒂曾经爱上过自己的老师埃热先生，但埃热是有妇之夫，不允许这样的感情发展下去，因此而受到伤害的她，便在小说中塑造了一个各方面条件都酷似埃热的罗切斯特，并最终设计让简爱得到了自己的爱情。

小说《简爱》也采用了哥特式的写作手法，即整个故事中常常出现神秘、阴森，甚至有些残忍、恐怖的场景。简爱独立自主的个性和平等自由追求爱情的观念，在这种背景的映衬下，更加耀眼夺目。长期以来，简爱一直被称为神奇的女人，她的反叛性格，反映出女



性不愿意受束缚、不希望成为男人或社会的附属品。她的出现，使得全世界千千万万的女性，找到了追求自由和平等的源泉。

在物欲横流的当今，有太多的年轻女孩为了金钱、地位、奢侈的生活，不惜丧失尊严与自我，追求虚无缥缈的虚荣，结果产生了太多可悲的结局。所以，今天，我们重读《简爱》，不仅不是一种不合时宜，相反，是最为必须的，因为这部书有助于荡涤心灵、重新找到女性应有的尊严和位置。

如果您是英文爱好者中的一员，希望您通过阅读英语原文，来欣赏这部作品，这无疑是一种无法替代的精神享受。

如果您是学生家长，建议您给上中学或大学的孩子准备一套“最经典英语文库”，放在书架上。它们是永远不会过时的精神食粮。

如果您是正在学习的大中学生，也建议您抽空读读这些经时间检验的人类精神食粮文库里最经典的精品。一时读不懂不要紧，先收藏起来，放进您的书架里，等您长大到某个时候，您会忽然发现，自己开始能读，而且读懂了作品的字里行间意义时，那种喜悦感，是无法言述的，也是无与伦比的。您可能也会因此对走过的人生，有更深刻的感悟与理解。

关于这套图书的装帧设计与性价比：完全按欧美出版规则操作，从图书开本，到封面设计，从体例版式，到字体选取，但价钱却比欧美原版图书便宜三分之二，甚至更多。因此，从性价比看，它们也是最值得收藏的。

## 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 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《天堂篇》、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、美国风趣而笔法超一流的著名小说家马克·吐温的《哈克历险记》以及《汤姆索亚历险记》等，德国著名哲学家尼采的《查拉图斯特拉如是说》及《快乐的科学》等等，都为塑造自己民族的文化积淀，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”。

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欧美文学研究中心主任  
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2013年7月于北京

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## CHAPTER 1

THERE WAS no possibility of taking a walk that day. We had been wandering, indeed, in the leafless shrubbery an hour in the morning; but since dinner (Mrs. Reed, when there was no company, dined early) the cold winter wind had brought with it clouds so somber, and a rain so penetrating, that further out-door exercise was now out of the question.

I was glad of it: I never liked long walks, especially on chilly afternoons: dreadful to me was the coming home in the raw twilight, with nipped fingers and toes, and a heart saddened by the chidings of Bessie, the nurse, and humbled by the consciousness of my physical inferiority to Eliza, John, and Georgiana Reed.

The said Eliza, John, and Georgiana were now clustered round their mama in the drawing-room: she lay reclined on a sofa by the fireside, and with her darlings about her (for the time neither quarrelling nor crying) looked perfectly happy. Me, she had dispensed from joining the group; saying, "She regretted to be under the necessity of keeping me at a distance; but that until she heard from Bessie, and could discover by her own observation, that I was endeavouring in good earnest to acquire a more sociable and childlike disposition, a more attractive and sprightly manner—something lighter, franker, more natural, as it were—she really must exclude me from privileges intended only for contented, happy, little children."

"What does Bessie say I have done?" I asked.

"Jane, I don't like cavilers or questioners; besides, there is something truly forbidding in a child taking up



her elders in that manner. Be seated somewhere; and until you can speak pleasantly, remain silent."

A breakfast-room adjoined the drawing-room, I slipped in there. It contained a bookcase: I soon possessed myself of a volume, taking care that it should be one stored with pictures. I mounted into the window-seat: gathering up my feet, I sat cross-legged, like a Turk; and, having drawn the red moreen curtain nearly close, I was shrined in double retirement.

Folds of scarlet drapery shut in my view to the right hand; to the left were the clear panes of glass, protecting, but not separating me from the drear November day. At intervals, while turning over the leaves of my book, I studied the aspect of that winter afternoon. Afar, it offered a pale blank of mist and cloud; near a scene of wet lawn and storm-beat shrub, with ceaseless rain sweeping away wildly before a long and lamentable blast.

I returned to my book—Bewick's History of British Birds: the letterpress thereof I cared little for, generally speaking; and yet there were certain introductory pages that, child as I was, I could not pass quite as a blank. They were those which treat of the haunts of sea-fowl; of "the solitary rocks and promontories" by them only inhabited; of the coast of Norway, studded with isles from its southern extremity, the Lindeness, or Naze, to the North Cape—

*"Where the Northern Ocean, in vast whirls,  
Boils round the naked, melancholy isles  
Of farthest Thule; and the Atlantic surge  
Pours in among the stormy Hebrides."*

Nor could I pass unnoticed the suggestion of the bleak shores of Lapland, Siberia, Spitzbergen, Nova Zembla, Iceland, Greenland, with "the vast sweep of the Arctic Zone, and those forlorn regions of dreary space,—that reservoir of frost and snow, where firm