嘉丽妹妹 Sister Carrie

(美) 德莱赛 (Dreiser, T.) 著



辽宁人民出版社



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Theodore Dreiser

Theodore Herman Albert Dreiser (August 27, 1871 – December 28, 1945) was an American novelist and journalist of the naturalist school. His novels often featured main characters who succeeded at their objectives despite a lack of a firm moral code, and literary situations that more closely resemble studies of nature than tales of choice and agency. Dreiser's best known novels include *Sister Carrie* (1900) and *An American Tragedy* (1925).

Is this book for you?

女屌丝成名背后的辛酸奋斗史

一部禁书。

一位饱受争议的作家。

该书曾被拒绝发行,后勉强出版也只印了几百册,除了少量赠阅,其余全部封存,并被列为禁书……在那么"包容"和"开放"的美国,它竟然被禁数年!该作家由于处女作惨遭封杀厄运,又被扣上"伤风败俗"的帽子,在精神上和经济上受到的沉重打击可想而知。他曾因此一蹶不振、几近崩溃,甚至一度想通过自杀了却一生!心有余悸的他还因此辍笔十载。

然而,是金子总是要发光的。这部在1900年叩开 20世纪大门的名作,最终成为美国文学走进现代文学历 史阶段的标志性作品,该作家也成为美国现实主义、自 然主义文学的奠基人之一,成为20世纪美国文坛的灵魂 人物。

这部书就是《嘉莉妹妹》。这位作家就是——西 奥多·德莱赛。

西奥多·德莱赛(1871-1945)是20世纪美国杰 出的现实主义小说作家。他出生于印第安纳州的一个破 产业主家庭,在家中十几个子女中排行第二。

因家境贫难,15岁时,他便开始自谋生计,先后 当过饭店洗碗工、洗衣房工人、火车站验票员、家具店 伙计。后在一位中学老师资助下,读了一年州立大学。

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后来当过十几年的记者,目睹了美国社会形形色色的人物和林林总总的事件。丰富的经历,引起他的思考,也为日后创作积累了充分的素材。作为一个自学成才的作家,德莱赛一生虽多经磨难,却一直笔耕不辍,出版了八部长篇小说、四部短篇小说和札记集、四部游记及自传,成了名副其实的多产作家。其中《美国悲剧》、《欲望三部曲》、《金融家》早已成脍炙人口的名著。他本人也被认为是同海明威、福克纳齐名的美国现代小说的三巨头之一。

不知是人类社会的发展存在着某种神奇的相似规律,还是历史会在一定的时间和地点重演,总之,今天再捧读德莱赛百余年前的名作《嘉莉妹妹》时,非但不觉得遥远、陌生,反倒觉得更加亲近、熟悉。中国自上世纪80年代打开国门之后,经济飞速发展、城市化脚步加快、竞争压力加大、拜金现象接踵产生。外来妹进城打工,为融入梦幻般生活付出种种艰辛和代价。凡此种种,都与《嘉丽妹妹》小说中刻画的人物和背景,有着惊人的相似之处!也因此,作为读者的您,在捧读这部小说时,自然会增添一份心领神会的理解与喜爱。

19世纪末20世纪初,现代化的美国迅速崛起,工业和科学技术的发展,使得现代化大都市与保守乡村之间,拉开越来越大的距离。不可否认的是,工业化在培养一批商业巨头的同时,也制造了大批朝不保夕、居无定所的工业无产阶级。《嘉莉妹妹》便写于这样大背景之下。时至今日,捧读《嘉丽妹妹》,您仍能从当时美国大都市生活的描述中,找到今天在经济物质等方飞速发展时遭遇到的各种压力,也能轻易发现对理想、道德、荣辱观等人性基本观念予以挑战的阴影:农村人为大城市的高楼大厦和灯红酒绿吸引,带着无限纯真和

无限向往,奔向心中梦幻地。但丰满的梦想和骨感的现实,其间的差距让多少人迷失了自我。"适者生存"的规律,适用于一切生灵。嘉莉这个屌丝女,也同样为"更好地"生活在纸醉金迷的世界而不遗余力,甚至以牺牲自己的尊严和肉体为代价,换取物质生活的一步步提高。

有趣的是,后期的她还是决定靠自我奋斗,来换 回想要的一切。所以,又有了非常励志的故事。德莱赛 将这种现实以及这种现实下的人物心理和生理发展,刻 画得淋漓尽致,入木三分。

西奥多·德莱赛是20世纪美国文学史上颇受争议 的人物。他的道德观念在当时极有针对性,带有强烈的 反传统色彩。这种色彩体现在他的每部小说中,《嘉莉 妹妹》将其表现得最充分,也因此《嘉丽妹妹》也就最 有代表性。嘉莉身上汇集了太多令大众难以接受的因 素——她年轻、美丽、聪明、向往生活中美好的事物, 但同时又爱慕虚荣、冷漠无情,为了不同层次的物质需 求,先后对两个男人投怀送抱,不需要他们时,便一脚 蹬开。这样一个"道德败坏"的女人,最后居然没有悲 惨死去或遭万人唾弃, 却在她向往的城市中"如鱼得 水",成为耀眼的明星!这样惊世骇俗的反传统性处理 方式, 使作品和作者本人遭到公众的质疑和舆论的口诛 笔伐。德莱赛犀利的文笔和充满写实精神的想象力,使 当时美国文学作品中普遍存在的乐观主义基调,受到了 完全颠覆。来自社会底层的他,还原了一个真实的美国 社会。

在这个充满竞争和诱惑的大千世界中,应该如何 看待嘉莉妹妹这个人物?她到底是追求自由和幸福的漂 亮女神,抑或是新女性代表?是堕落败坏、玩弄男性的 拜金女郎, 抑或恶俗女化身? 还可以得出其他结论吗?

当然,这是仁者见仁、智者见智的问题,有待读者您自己慢慢品味与解读。

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《天刊西的《党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、美国风趣而笔法超而游水。一个艺术家的肖像》等、美国风趣而笔法超为游戏。一个艺术家的肖像》等、美国风趣而笔法超为游戏。一个艺术家的肖像》等,有为塑造自己民族的著名小说家马克·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《查拉自己民族的者位为关系。他同时向世界展示了他们所属的民族的优美剪影。

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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

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CHAPTER 1

THE MAGNET ATTRACTING: A WIFE AMID FORCES

When Caroline Meeber boarded the afternoon train for Chicago, her total outfit consisted of a small trunk, a cheap imitation alligator- skin satchel, a small lunch in a paper box, and a yellow leather snap purse, containing her ticket, a scrap of paper with her sister's address in Van Buren Street, and four dollar in money. It was in August, 1889. She was eighteen years or age, bright, timid, and full of the illusions of ignorance and youth. Whatever touch of regret at parting characterized her given up. A gush of tears at her mother's farewell kiss, mill where her father worked by the day, a pathetic sigh as the familiar green environs of the village passed in review and the threads which bound her so lightly to girlhood and home were irretrievably broken.

To be sure there was always the next station, where one might descend and return. There was the great city, bound more closely by these very trains which came up daily. Columbia City was not so very far away, even once she was in Chicago. What pray, is a few hours a few hundred miles? She looked at the little slip bearing her sister's address and wondered. She gazed at the green landscape, now passing in swift review until her swifter thoughts replaced its impression with vague conjectures of what Chicago might be.

When a girls leaves her home at eighteen, she

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