堂·吉诃德

Don Quixote

(西)塞万提斯著



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DON QUIXOTE

VOLUME I

by Miguel de Cervantes

Translated by John Ormsby



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Miguel de Cervantes

Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra (29 September 1547 - 22 April 1616) is widely regarded as the greatest writer in the Spanish language and one of the world's preeminent novelists.

His major work, *Don Quixote*, considered to be the first modern novel, is a classic of Western literature, and is regarded amongst the best works of fiction ever written. His influence on the Spanish language has been so great that the language is often called *la lengua de Cervantes* ("the language of Cervantes").

DEDICATION OF VOLUME I

TO THE DUKE OF BEJAR, MARQUIS OF GIBRALEON, COUNT OF BENALCAZAR AND BANARES, VICECOUNT OF THE PUEBLA DE ALCOCER, MASTER OF THE TOWNS OF CAPILLA, CURIEL AND BURGUILLOS

n belief of the good reception and honours that Your Excellency bestows on all sort of books, as prince so inclined to favor good arts, chiefly those who by their nobleness do not submit to the service and bribery of the vulgar, I have determined bringing to light The Ingenious Gentleman Don Quixote of la Mancha, in shelter of Your Excellency's glamorous name, to whom, with the obeisance I owe to such grandeur, I pray to receive it agreeably under his protection, so that in this shadow, though deprived of that precious ornament of elegance and erudition that clothe the works composed in the houses of those who know, it dares appear with assurance in the judgment of some who, trespassing the bounds of their own ignorance, use to condemn with more rigour and less justice the writings of others. It is my earnest hope that Your Excellency's good counsel in regard to my honourable purpose, will not disdain the littleness of so humble a service.

Miguel de Cervantes

Is This Book for You?

梦幻骑士 另类英雄

--- "最经典英语文库"第六辑之 《堂・吉诃德》导读

马 爽

都说"人生只是一场戏",可有多少人能真的把自己当作人生大戏的主角?又有多少人的人生真的像戏剧一样丰富多彩?西班牙作家塞万提斯笔下的堂·吉诃德竟真的用他的一生鲜活而完美地诠释了这个说法,并尽心尽力地在生活中演绎着他所钟爱的骑士角色——虽然他的做法有时令人哭笑不得,虽然很多事的结局令人啼笑皆非,但这些都不妨碍给他贴上"人生之戏最佳主角"的标签,也不妨碍他成为人们心目中的另类英雄。

塞万提斯塑造的堂·吉诃德,是世界文学史上非常成功的艺术形象之一。西方人常把他和哈姆雷特、浮士德("最经典英语文库"已经在头5辑里出版了《哈姆雷特》和《浮士德》)并称为三个杰出典型,可见其影响之深远。小说《堂·吉诃德》之所以赢得全世界的读者,而且400多年来热度不减,其成功的主要原因是作者对堂·吉诃德这个人物形象的塑造有独到之处:这是一个脱离现实、盲目行动的人,一个充满正义感、好

打抱不平的人,一个让人忍俊不禁,同时又肃然起敬的人……

一位年近五旬、身材偏瘦、面貌清癯的绅士,自诩为骑士,他全身披挂、手持长矛,胯下一匹瘦马,与一身村夫打扮、体态偏胖、个头矮小、长相敦厚、胯下一头灰驴的侍从结伴而行,闯荡世界……这就是为世人所熟知的主仆形象:堂·吉诃德和桑丘·潘沙。

堂·吉诃德有一个嗜好,就是对骑士小说上瘾,读得如痴如醉。他不打猎,不管家事,后来为了买书竟然卖了土地。除了必要的吃喝拉撒,他每天起早贪黑地读,甚至到了走火入魔的状态——满脑子都是魔法、战车、决斗、挑战、受伤、恋爱风波以及骑士小说中特有的种种荒唐之事。凡书中所写,他都信以为真。后来他又突发奇想:为了声名远扬,为了救民于水火,为了惩恶扬善,他要身体力行书中所见所闻,要去做游侠骑士,要去亲历危险,要去建功立业……

实际上,中世纪的骑士装束令生活在同时代的人瞠目结舌。早已销声匿迹的骑士之风竟然在17世纪的堂·吉诃德身上复活,但毕竟时代不同了,曾经风靡中世纪的骑士早已失去了昔日的光辉和存在的意义。可是,堂·吉诃德却执着地逆潮流而动,扮演了一个反潮流的英雄角色。他自备行头,一身骑士装扮,仿佛一个中世纪的幽灵穿越到了17世纪。

在中世纪,骑士是一种特殊荣誉,非普通人能担 当。只有上层社会中的贵族和具有财产的人才授封骑士。不过,也有富裕的商人用钱购买骑士称号的,也有 些为贵族服务、表现出色的武士被破格升为骑士的。 堂·吉诃德的骑士封号是客店老板封赐的,似乎有点儿 不合规矩,但他拥有一些薄田和家产,当一名骑士也自

塞万提斯是文艺复兴时期西班牙小说家、剧作家、诗人,因撰写讽刺人类荒唐之举的《堂·吉诃德》而闻名于世,被誉为"西班牙文学世界里最伟大的作家"。塞万提斯命途多舛、一生坎坷,曾做过士兵、军需官、税吏,战争中胸部受伤,还失去左手,但这些付出却没能换来他所期待的荣耀和善待,反倒度过多年的母身生活,又数度入狱。连《堂·吉诃德》这部小说最初也是在狱中起笔的,堂·吉诃德的故事好多都曾发生在作者身上。更可悲的是,他死后竟落得连坟茔也不知下落的结局,不禁让人唏嘘世态炎凉。

不过,塞万提斯的作品还是得到了相当大的认可——评论家们称他的小说《堂·吉诃德》是文学史上的第一部现代小说,同时也是世界文学的瑰宝之一。今天小说家们仍然津津乐道的方法都曾在《堂·吉诃德》



SOME COMMENDATORY VERSES

To the book of Don Quixote of la Mancha

If to be welcomed by the good,
O Book! thou make thy steady aim,
No empty chatterer will dare
To question or dispute thy claim.
But if perchance thou hast a mind
To win of idiots approbation,
Lost labour will be thy reward,
Though they'll pretend appreciation.

They say a goodly shade he finds
Who shelters 'neath a goodly tree;
And such a one thy kindly star
In Bejar bath provided thee:
A royal tree whose spreading boughs
A show of princely fruit display;
A tree that bears a noble Duke,
The Alexander of his day.

Of a Manchegan gentleman
Thy purpose is to tell the story,
Relating how he lost his wits
O'er idle tales of love and glory,
Of "ladies, arms, and cavaliers:"
A new Orlando FuriosoInnamorato, rather—who
Won Dulcinea del Toboso.

Put no vain emblems on thy shield; All figures—that is bragging play. A modest dedication make, And give no scoffer room to say, "What! Alvaro de Luna here? Or is it Hannibal again? Or does King Francis at Madrid Once more of destiny complain?"

Since Heaven it hath not pleased on thee Deep erudition to bestow,
Or black Latino's gift of tongues,
No Latin let thy pages show.
Ape not philosophy or wit,
Lest one who cannot comprehend,
Make a wry face at thee and ask,
"Why offer flowers to me, my friend?"

Be not a meddler; no affair
Of thine the life thy neighbours lead:
Be prudent; oft the random jest
Recoils upon the jester's head.
Thy constant labour let it be
To earn thyself an honest name,
For fooleries preserved in print
Are perpetuity of shame.

A further counsel bear in mind:
If that thy roof be made of glass,
It shows small wit to pick up stones
To pelt the people as they pass.
Win the attention of the wise,
And give the thinker food for thought;
Whoso indites frivolities,
Will but by simpletons be sought.

To Don Quixote of la Mancha

Thou that didst imitate that life of mine
When I in lonely sadness on the great
Rock Pena Pobre sat disconsolate,
In self-imposed penance there to pine;
Thou, whose sole beverage was the bitter brine
Of thine own tears, and who withouten plate
Of silver, copper, tin, in lowly state
Off the bare earth and on earth's fruits didst dine;
Live thou, of thine eternal glory sure.
So long as on the round of the fourth sphere
The bright Apollo shall his coursers steer,
In thy renown thou shalt remain secure,
Thy country's name in story shall endure,
And thy sage author stand without a peer.

To Don Quixote of la Mancha

In slashing, hewing, cleaving, word and deed, I was the foremost knight of chivalry, Stout, bold, expert, as e'er the world did see; Thousands from the oppressor's wrong I freed; Great were my feats, eternal fame their meed; In love I proved my truth and loyalty; The hugest giant was a dwarf for me; Ever to knighthood's laws gave I good heed. My mastery the Fickle Goddess owned, And even Chance, submitting to control, Grasped by the forelock, yielded to my will. Yet—though above yon horned moon enthroned My fortune seems to sit—great Quixote, still Envy of thy achievements fills my soul.

To Dulcinea del Toboso

Oh, fairest Dulcinea, could it be!

It were a pleasant fancy to suppose so—
Could Miraflores change to El Toboso,
And London's town to that which shelters thee!
Oh, could mine but acquire that livery
Of countless charms thy mind and body show so!
Or him, now famous grown—thou mad'st him grow so—

Thy knight, in some dread combat could I see!
Oh, could I be released from Amadis
By exercise of such coy chastity
As led thee gentle Quixote to dismiss!
Then would my heavy sorrow turn to joy;
None would I envy, all would envy me,
And happiness be mine without alloy.

To Sancho Panza, squire of Don Quixote

All hail, illustrious man! Fortune, when she Bound thee apprentice to the esquire trade, Her care and tenderness of thee displayed, Shaping thy course from misadventure free. No longer now doth proud knight-errantry Regard with scorn the sickle and the spade; Of towering arrogance less count is made Than of plain esquire-like simplicity. I envy thee thy Dapple, and thy name, And those alforjas thou wast wont to stuff With comforts that thy providence proclaim. Excellent Sancho! hail to thee again! To thee alone the Ovid of our Spain Does homage with the rustic kiss and cuff.

On Sancho Panza and Rocinante

ON SANCHO

I am the esquire Sancho Pan—
Who served Don Quixote of La Man—;
But from his service I retreat-,
Resolved to pass my life discreet-;
For Villadiego, called the Si—,
Maintained that only in reti—
Was found the secret of well-be—,
According to the "Celesti—:"
A book divine, except for sin—
By speech too plain, in my opin—

ON ROCINANTE

I am that Rocinante fa—,
Great-grandson of great Babie—,
Who, all for being lean and bon—,
Had one Don Quixote for an own—;
But if I matched him well in weak—,
I never took short commons meek—,
But kept myself in corn by steal—,
A trick I learned from Lazaril—,
When with a piece of straw so neat—
The blind man of his wine he cheat—.

To Don Quixote of La Mancha

If thou art not a Peer, peer thou hast none;
Among a thousand Peers thou art a peer;
Nor is there room for one when thou art near,
Unvanquished victor, great unconquered one!
Orlando, by Angelica undone,
Am I; o'er distant seas condemned to steer,
And to Fame's altars as an offering bear
Valour respected by Oblivion.
I cannot be thy rival, for thy fame
And prowess rise above all rivalry,
Albeit both bereft of wits we go.
But, though the Scythian or the Moor to tame
Was not thy lot, still thou dost rival me:
Love binds us in a fellowship of woe.