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原著/Frances Hodgson Burnett 屠岸 徐伟锋 主编

# 小勋爵

LITTLE LORD FAUNTLEROY





中國火年兒童出版社 💥











[英] 弗朗西丝 霍奇森 伯内特 徐伟锋 译

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### 总 序

只要中国是开放的,只要中国人有一丁点儿跟外国人交往、交流的愿望,英语作为全世界的普通话(lingua franca)是必须学习,而且必须学好的。

一般中国人很小就开始接触英语,一直学到大学毕业,乃至研究生毕业,仍然发现自己的英语水平"不过如此",总是停留在"中不溜儿"的程度上。

我们认为,这其中最重要的一条原因,恐怕是不读原著。不读原著,就休想将英语学深、学精、学通。整天做习题,抠语法,应付各种各样的模拟考试和统一考试,是极难窥见英语的堂奥的。

很多人并不是没有捧过原著,但就是没有静心读过。他们一般刚刚翻阅几页,就觉得作品太难,或太枯燥,而不能读下去。个中原因是,他们选的材料不好,或者更确切地说,选的不合适。艰涩的古典名作或高深的学术文章,肯定会让初学者望而生畏。而以前出版的英语辅助阅读材料中,多的就是这两类东西。

基于此,入选本套丛书的几部作品,都是较为简易的 英语文学名著。只要你具有中等英语水准,600个以上的 词汇量,你就不用担心读不完它们。这些作家、作品在英



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语国家中都是妇孺皆知的。有些故事在中国也是耳熟能详的。所以在阅读的过程中,你不仅能大幅度地提高英语水平,而且能受到文学的熏陶。

这些作品的文学性都比较高。语言明白晚畅,情节曲折多变,神话和传说更添加了神秘的色彩,所以颇能引人入胜。由于原作是写给记忆力尚不能集中、理解力尚不十分发达的少儿看的,所以书中(主要是小说中)时有重复之处。这似乎不太符合成人小说的要求,但对学英语的中国读者来说,不能不说是一种好处,因为重复能有助于学习者的记忆。

本套丛书所收的都是英语文学中的名著。在这些原创作品中,有一些当时当地的语言现象,如模仿儿童说话、模仿文盲说话等,都是相当难译的。译者虽尽力而为,但里面肯定还有不当之处,尚祈读者不吝指正!

屠岸 徐伟锋 1999.10



### 作者简介

弗朗西丝·霍奇森·伯内特 (Frances Hodgson Burnett 1849—1924),生于英国的曼彻斯特,死于美国的纽约。

她是一位多产作家,写了大约 40 部小说,还有几部戏剧。其作品大多数是给成人看的。如《楼日的少女》、《一体化管理》、《莎拉·克鲁》(改编成戏剧又名《小公主》)、《贤惠夫人》等。但她的不朽声名却建立在两部给孩子看的小说上。一部叫《神秘的花园》,另一部就是《小勤爵》。

《小勋爵》在英语国家,是一部家喻户晓的名作。它写于 1886年,讲的是:一个美国男孩,突然成为英国伯爵爵位的继承人。小主人公的原型是她自己的次子。其形象特点是:长长的鬈发和天鹅绒套装。据说,这是当时英国惟美主义文学大师奥斯卡·王尔德的典型装扮。《小勋爵》出版后,受到读者的普遍喜爱,后来,又改编成了戏剧和电影。在当时社会上刮起了一股"《小勋爵》风"。一时间,无论是城里的,还是乡下的;无论是富人家的,还是穷人家的,孩子们都穿上了天鹅绒套装。在 20世纪 30 年代的上海,曾上演过电影《小伯爵》,就改编自这部小说:20世纪80年代联邦德国拍的电影《英俊少年》,曾在全世界风靡一时,其实也有这部小说的影子。





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### I A Great Surprise

Cedric himself knew nothing whatever about it. It had never been even mentioned to him. He knew that his papa had been an Englishman, because his mamma had told him so; but then his papa had died when he was so little a boy that he could not remember very much about him, except that he was big, and had blue eyes and a long mustache, and that it was a splendid thing to be carried around the room on his shoulder.

Since his papa's death, Cedric had found out that it was best not to talk to his mamma about him. When his father was ill, Cedric had been sent away, and when he had returned, everything was over; and his mother, who had been very ill, too, was only just beginning to sit in her chair by the window. She was pale and thin, and all the dimples had gone from her pretty face, and her eyes looked large and mournful, and she was dressed in black.

"Dearest," said Cedric (his papa had called her that always, and so the little boy had learned to say it), "dearest, is my papa better?"

He felt her arms tremble, and so he turned his curly head and looked in her face. "Dearest," he said, "is he well?"

Then suddenly his loving little heart told him that he'd better put both his arms around her neck and kiss her again and





### 第一章 大吃一惊

这到底是怎么一回事?塞德里克一点儿概念都没有。他只知道爸爸是个英国人,因为妈妈曾经告诉过他。但是,在他还是个小不点儿的时候,爸爸就去世了,所以,在他脑子里,关于爸爸的记忆很少。他只记得,爸爸的个头高高的、眼睛蓝蓝的、胡子长长的。还有啊,坐在爸爸的肩膀上,在屋子里转啊转,可好玩了。

自从爸爸去世后,塞德里克发觉,最好不要跟妈妈谈论爸爸。他记得那时侯,爸爸生病了,妈妈也病得不轻,而他被别人带到了别的地方;等他回来的时候,一切都完了,家里只剩下妈妈一个人,她刚刚能够费力地坐上窗边的椅子。她穿着黑色的丧服,身体瘦弱,面色苍白,美丽的脸上所有的酒窝都消失了,哀伤的眼睛看上去比以前更大了。

"最最亲爱的,"塞德里克说(爸爸总是那样称呼妈妈,所以小不点儿也学会了),"最最亲爱的,爸爸他好些了吗?"

他感到妈妈的胳膊在颤抖,所以他转过鬈毛头,盯着妈妈的脸。

"最最亲爱的,"他说,"爸爸的病好了吗?"

就在那时,他那颗小小的"爱"心突然告诉他,他最好用双臂 环抱妈妈的脖子,用温软的脸颊贴近她的脸颊,然后一遍遍地吻

mention['men[ən]v. 提到 splendid['splendid]a. 美妙的, thin[fin]a. 单薄的,瘦弱的 dimple['dimpl]n. 酒窝 mournful['moxnful]a. 哀伤的 curly ['kə:li]a. 长着鬈发的 loving['lavin]a. 有爱心的





again, and keep his soft cheek close to hers; and he did so, and she laid her face on his shoulder and cried bitterly, holding him as if she could never let him go again.

"Yes, he is well," she sobbed. "He is quite, quite well, but we — we have no one left but each other. No one at all."

Then, little as he was, he understood that his big, handsome young papa would not come back any more; that he was dead, although he could not comprehend exactly what strange thing had brought all this sadness about.

It was because his mamma always cried when he spoke of his papa that he secretly made up his mind it was better not to speak of him very often to her.

He and his mamma knew very few people, and lived what might have been thought very lonely lives, although Cedric did not know it was lonely until he grew older and heard why it was they had no visitors.

Then he was told that his mamma was an orphan, and quite alone in the world when his papa had married her. She was very pretty, and had been living as companion to a rich old lady who was not kind to her, and one day Captain Cedric Errol, who was calling at the house, saw her run up the stairs with tears on her eyelashes; and she looked so sweet and innocent and sorrowful that the Captain could not forget her.

And after many strange things had happened, they knew





她。当他这么做时,妈妈把脸搁在他的肩膀上,哭得肝肠都快断了。她紧紧地抱住他,就好像她再也不想让他离开身边似的。

"是的,他好了,"妈妈啜泣着说, "他很好,很好。可是咱们——现在就剩下咱们俩了,再没有别人了。"

那时,尽管他很小,不能理解这到底是怎么一回事,到底是什么东西,给他们家带来了如此的悲哀,但他明白,他的高大、英俊而年轻的爸爸死了,再也不会回来了。

每当他谈起爸爸,妈妈就会一个劲儿地哭,所以他暗暗下定决心,最好不要经常提起爸爸。

塞德里克和妈妈都极少结识人,过着一种在一般人看来十分孤独的生活。尽管直到他长大了一点儿,知道没有人来访问他们的原因后,他才意识到他们过的是一种孤独的生活。

塞德里克听说,妈妈曾是个孤儿,爸爸跟她结婚之前,她一直是孤零零一个人。但她非常漂亮。她陪侍着一位富裕而年老的夫人,那位夫人对她一点儿也不好。有一天,塞德里克·爱罗尔上尉来拜访夫人,一眼就看见妈妈急急忙忙地跑上楼梯去,眼眶里噙满了泪水。她看上去是那样的甜蜜、天真而又悲伤,上尉再也忘不了她了。

后来发生了许多奇怪的事情,他们俩相互熟知,进而又倾心

bitterly['bitəli] ad. 痛苦地 sob[sob] v. 啜泣 comprehend[ˌkompri 'hend] v. 理解 companion[kom'pænion] n. 陪侍 evelash['ailæf] n. 睫毛





each other well and loved each other dearly, and were married, although their marriage brought them the ill-will of several persons. The one who was most angry of all, however, was the Captain's father, who lived in England, and was a very rich and important old nobleman, with a very bad temper and a very violent dislike to America and Americans. He had two sons older than Captain Cedric; and it was the law that the elder of these sons should inherit the family title and estates, which were very rich and splendid; if the eldest son died, the next one would be heir; so, though he was a member of such a great family, there was little chance that Captain Cedric would be very rich himself.

But it so happened that Nature had given to the youngest son gifts. He had a beautiful face and a fine, strong, graceful figure; he had a bright smile and a sweet, gay voice; he was brave and generous, and had the kindest heart in the world, and seemed to have the power to make every one love him.

And it was not so with his elder brothers; neither of them was handsome, or very kind, or clever. When they were boys at Eton, they were not popular; when they were at college, they cared nothing for study, and wasted both time and money, and made few real friends.

The old Earl, their father, was constantly disappointed and humiliated by them; his heir was no honor to his noble name,





相爱、结婚;但是他们的婚姻给他们带来的是几个人的敌意,其中最感到气愤的,不是别人,恰恰是上尉的父亲。老头儿生活在英国,是个有钱有势的老牌贵族。他的脾气坏透了,极端讨厌美国和美国人。塞德里克上尉还有两个哥哥。按照英国法律,只有老大才有权利继承家族无比荣耀的封号和无比庞大的财产。如果老大死了,就由老二继承。所以尽管上尉是这样一个大家族的成员,但他几乎没有机会成为富人。

不过,多亏老天爷给了他一些馈赠。 他身材匀称,体魄健壮,举止优雅,脸长得很清秀;他的笑容灿烂,声音甜润而快乐;他勇敢而慷慨,具有世界上最美好的心灵;他似乎有一种特殊的魅力,能让所有的人喜爱他。

他的兄长们就不一样了。他们俩都不英俊,也不友好、不聪明。他们在伊顿中学上学的时候,一点儿也不出名;后来上大学的时候,对学习一点儿兴趣都没有,只是耗费时间和金钱罢了。他们连一个真心的朋友都没有。

他们的父亲,那位伯爵老爷一个劲儿地为他们感到失望和 羞辱。他的继承人实在配不上贵族的名誉,到最后都可能不具备

dearly ['diəli] ad. 深爱地 ill-will ['ilwil] n. 恶意 violent ['vaiələnt] a. 强烈的, 极端的 inherit [in 'herit] v. 继承 title [taitl] n 头衔, 封号 estate [is 'teit] n. 财产 heir [sə] n. 继承人 figure ['figə] n. 身材 constantly ['kənstəntli] ad. 连续地, 一直地 humiliate [hju: 'milieit] v. 羞辱





and did not promise to end in being anything but a selfish, wasteful, insignificant man, with no manly or noble qualities. It was very bitter, the old Earl thought, that the son who was only third, and would have only a very small fortune, should be the one who had all the gifts, and all the charms, and all the strength and beauty. Sometimes he almost hated the handsome young man because he seemed to have the good things that should have gone with the stately title and the magnificent estates; and yet, in the depths of his proud, stubborn old heart, he could not help caring very much for his youngest son.

It was in one of his fits of petulance that he sent him off to travel in America; he thought he would send him away for a while, so that he should not be made angry by constantly contrasting him with his brothers, who were at that time giving him a great deal of trouble by their wild ways.

But, after about six months, he began to feel lonely and longed in secret to see his son again, so he wrote to Captain Cedric and ordered him home. The letter he wrote crossed on its way a letter the Captain had just written to his father, telling of his love for the pretty American girl, and of his intended marriage; and when the Earl received that letter he was furiously angry.

Bad as his temper was, he had never given way to it in his life as he gave way to it when he read the Captain's letter. His





男子汉气概和贵族气质,而只是一个自私的、乱花钱的俗人罢了。上帝把所有的力和美都赠予了老三,而老三毕竟只是老三,他只能得到一份极小的财产,一想到这里,伯爵老爷就感到很难过。有时候,他几乎变得厌恶英俊的小儿子,因为小儿子似乎具备所有的优良素质,真正配得上荣耀的封号和庞大的财产。不过,在他那颗傲慢的、僵化的、年老的心灵深处,他情不自禁地对小儿子寄予了厚望。

有一回,伯爵老爷的坏脾气发作,打发小儿子离开英国,去 美国旅行。他觉得让小儿子离开一段时间,自己就不会老是拿 他和他的哥哥们作比较而恼火了。那段时间,那两个放荡不羁 的家伙惹得他烦恼不堪。

但是,大约六个月后,伯爵开始感到孤单,暗暗地盼望小儿子能够回来,于是他写信给塞德里克上尉,命令他回家。上尉也刚好给父亲写了一封信,说他爱上了一个漂亮的美国女孩,打算跟她结婚。不幸的是两封信错了路。

伯爵老爷读了儿子的来信,大发雷霆。他的脾气一向很坏, 但从来没有像这一次这么坏过。在他火气冲天的时候,他的随

insignificant [ insig 'nifikənt ] a. 不重要的,平庸的 quality [ 'kwəliti ] n. 素质 fortune [ 'fɔ:tʃən ] n. 财产 charm [tʃɑɪm ] n. 魅力 stately [ 'steitli ] a. 庄严的, 荣耀的 stubborn [ 'stabən ] a. 顽固的,僵化的 petulance [ 'petjuləns ] n. 暴躁,坏脾气 contrast [ kən 'træst ] v. 对照 intended [ in 'tendid ] a. 打算中的, 预期的 furiously [ 'fjuəriəsli ] ad. 狂暴地





valet, who was in the room when it came, thought his lordship would have a fit of apoplexy, he was so wild with anger. For an hour he raged like a tiger, and then he sat down and wrote to his son, and ordered him never to come near his old home, nor to write to his father or brothers again. He told him he might live as he pleased, and die where he pleased, that he should be cut off from his family forever, and that he need never expect help from his father as long as he lived.

The Captain was very sad when he read the letter; he was very fond of England, and he dearly loved the beautiful home where he had been born; he had even loved his ill-tempered old father, and had sympathized with him in his disappointments; but he knew he need expect no kindness from him in the future.

At first he scarcely knew what to do; he had not been brought up to work, and had no business experience, but he had courage and plenty of determination.

So he sold his commission in the English army, and after some trouble found a situation in New York, and married. The change from his old life in England was very great, but he was young and happy, and he hoped that hard work would do great things for him in the future.

He had a small house on a quiet street, and his little boy was born there, and everything was so gay and cheerful, in a

