

大卫·科波菲尔

英语世界名著简读丛书

江苏教育出版社

英语世界名著简读丛书

David Copperfield 大卫·科波菲尔

[英]查尔斯·狄更斯

侯萍 闻炜 译注

车 月 插图

江苏教育出版社

英语世界名著简读丛书

大卫·科波菲尔

[英] 查尔斯·狄更斯

侯萍 闻炜 译注

车 月 插图

责任编辑 王铁军

出 版:江 苏 教 育 出 版 社
(南京中央路 165 号, 邮政编码:210009)

发 行:江 苏 省 新 华 书 店

照 排:南京理工大学激光照排公司

印 刷:常 熟 市 印 刷 二 厂

(常熟市大义镇 邮政编码:215557)

开本 787×1092 毫米 1/36 印张 11.625 字数 260,000

1995 年 10 月第 1 版 1997 年 4 月第 2 次印刷

印数 5,081—10,080 册

ISBN 7—5343—2461—0

G·2212

定价:9.50 元

江苏教育版图书若有印刷装订错误,可向承印厂调换

查尔斯·狄更斯与 《大卫·科波菲尔》

查尔斯·狄更斯(Charles Dickens, 1812—1870)是19世纪英国批判现实主义文学的杰出代表。他出生于一个海军小职员之家,其父嗜酒好客,挥霍无度,经常入不敷出。10岁时,由于父亲负债入狱,全家被迫迁入债务拘留所,过着穷困的生活。12岁起在皮鞋油作坊当学徒,16岁时在一家律师事务所当缮写员。以后,经过刻苦努力,学会了速记法,担任了报社采访记者,经常出入议会采访新闻,熟悉议会政治中的种种弊端,并为伦敦几家报纸撰写稿件。在采访之余,他开始了文学创作。1836年出版了《特写集》,受到出版界注目。1837年,他发表了第一部长篇小说《匹克威克外传》,深受读者欢迎和好评。从此,狄更斯跻身于职业作家行列,孜孜不倦地从事文学创作,直至去世时仍在写作小说《艾德温·德鲁德之谜》。

狄更斯一生勤奋创作,为世人留下了30余部中长篇小说,对英国社会进行了深刻的批判。他的作品思想内容丰富,反映了19世纪30年代至60年代英国社会生活的诸多方面,触及到当时社会的许多本质问题。他的成名之作《匹克威克外传》通过匹克威克和他的挚友在英国各地游历的故事,用幽默与讽

刺的笔调，勾勒了讼师、法官、牧师等各色人物的形象，暴露了当时英国现实生活的黑暗，反映了作者向往不受封建压迫和资产阶级剥削的思想与乐观主义情绪。又如在《奥立佛·退斯特》(1838)中，通过孤儿奥立佛·退斯特的苦难经历，揭示了处于社会底层的人们哀苦无告的生活画面。他一生还创作了许多优秀作品，如《尼古拉斯·尼科尔贝》(1839)、《老古玩店》(1841)、《董贝父子》(1848)、《荒凉山庄》(1853)、《艰难时世》(1854)、《双城记》(1859)、《远大前程》(1861)等。狄更斯一生游历甚广，先后到过美国、意大利、瑞士、法国等地，写了《美国札记》(1842)、《马丁·朱述尔维特》(1844)、《圣诞故事集》(1843—1845)等。

《大卫·科波菲尔》(1850)是作者的一部半自传体小说，被认为是作者的最重要的作品，正如作者在原著的序中所说，“在我所有的作品中，这是我最喜欢的一部。”

小说主人公大卫·科波菲尔还未出世，父亲就死了。母亲改嫁，继父不仁，使大卫和母亲备受虐待。后来，母亲经不起继父的折磨，含恨去世。大卫被送到一间酒坊去刷洗酒瓶，因不堪凌辱，他逃出酒坊，只身跑去寻找他唯一的亲人贝茜姨婆。在姨婆供养下，大卫上学读书，17岁中学毕业，后又得到姨婆资助，到一家律师事务所当见习生。经过一番拼搏，他终于功成名就，在事业上和家庭生活方面都得到了美满的结局。

小说以大卫为主线，围绕他的经历以及他周围一系列人物的遭遇，展现了人物纷繁、情节错综、内容丰富的社会画面，多方位地揭露了资产阶级的虚伪和贪婪，以及对受苦受难的劳动群众的深切同情。作者用清新细腻的描写，娓娓动听的叙述，发人深省的幽默，略带伤感的情调，以及简洁洗练的语言，给人们带来美好的艺术享受。

我们译注的这本《大卫·科波菲尔》是英国牛津大学出版社的一个读者版本。全书用近两千个常用英文词汇将原文浓缩，文字浅显易懂，但保留了原著的主要故事情节和作者特有的语言风格，可供广大英语爱好者作为阅读提高读物。为了方便读者，我们对书中较难的英文词句、语法现象等作了适当的注释，同时在书后附上译文，以供参考。

译注中的错讹之处，在所难免，恳请读者批评指正。

1995 年 3 月

译者于南京

CONTENTS

1. My Birth	1
2. A Holiday	7
3. My Punishment	12
4. Salem House	19
5. My First Term	28
6. The School Holidays and My Birthday	34
7. Alone with the Murdstones	41
8. Murdstone and Grinby's	47
9. A Great Decision	54
10. Miss Betsy Trotwood	59
11. A Visit from the Murdstones	65
12. Mr. Wickfield and Uriah Heep	72
13. At Canterbury	78
14. Mr. Micawber Again	84
15. A Friend from Salem House	92
16. Little Emily	100
17. Spenlow and Jorkins	107
18. Uriah's Wicked Plan	115
19. Dora	124
20. Terrible News	136

21. A Gain and a Loss	152
22. I Make Some Decisions	164
23. A Wedding	175
24. Our Life Together	179
25. Emily's Story	183
26. An Unimportant Criminal	196
27. Another Loss	208
28. The Wreck	211
29. A Letter from Agnes	219
30. The End	225

1. My Birth

I should begin my story at the beginning of my life. I was born on a Friday at 12 o'clock at night. The place of my birth was Blunderstone¹ in Suffolk². My father had died six months earlier.

Thinking of the past, the first persons I can remember are my mother and Peggotty, our servant. My mother had pretty hair and a lovely shape; but Peggotty had no shape³ at all. Her cheeks and arms were very hard and red. I was surprised the birds did not try to eat her instead of⁴ apples.

I can still remember our house, with the bedroom windows opened to let in the fresh air. At the back of the house was the garden, with a high fence round it. Here there were butterflies and fruit trees. The fruit on these trees was riper and

1. Blunderstone: 布伦德斯通(地名) 2. Suffolk: 萨福克(地名)
3. had no shape: 身材不漂亮 4. instead of: 而不是……

juicier than any I have seen since, in any other garden. Sometimes on cold evenings we played and danced in the parlour¹. I remember my mother, out of breath, resting in a chair and twisting the ends of her hair round her fingers. I knew well how proud she was of being so pretty.

Peggotty and I were sitting one night by the parlour fire, alone. I was reading to Peggotty when the bell rang. We went to the door. My mother was there, looking especially pretty, I thought. With her was a gentleman with beautiful black hair. I remembered that he had walked home with us from church last Sunday.

My mother bent down to take me in her arms and kiss me. The gentleman put his hand on my head; somehow I didn't like him. I was jealous that when he touched my hand he also touched my mother's hand, which was holding me.

My mother thanked the gentleman for taking the trouble to bring her home. Then Peggotty shut the door and we all went into the parlour.

Gradually I got used to² seeing the gentleman with the black hair. However, I did not learn to

1. parlour: 客厅 2. got used to: 习惯于(后面跟名词或动名词)

like him.

One morning I was with my mother in the front garden when Mr. Murdstone arrived — I knew that was his name now — riding a horse. He said he was going to Lowestoft¹ to see some friends there. He merrily suggested taking me with him on his horse, if I would like the ride.

I had a great desire to go, and so Mr. Murdstone and I soon left.

We went to a hotel by the sea. In the hotel two gentlemen were smoking cigars in a room by themselves.

‘Hallo, Murdstone!’ they said.

‘And who’s this young man?’ said one of the gentlemen.

‘That’s Davy,’ replied Mr. Murdstone.

‘Davy who?’ said the gentleman, ‘Jones?’

‘Copperfield,’ said Mr. Murdstone.

‘What!’ cried the gentleman, ‘the pretty little widow’s son?’

‘Quinion,’ said Mr. Murdstone, ‘take care please. Somebody is not stupid.’

‘Who isn’t?’ said the gentleman, laughing.

I looked up quickly, being curious to know;

1. Lowestoft: 洛维斯托弗特(地名)



but they only laughed.

We went home early in the evening. My mother asked me about everything we had done, and what they had said. I mentioned what they had said about her, and I saw that she was pleased.

About two months afterwards, Peggotty and I were sitting in the parlour one evening; my mother was out again. Peggotty said suddenly:

‘Master Davy¹, would you like to go with me to Yarmouth²? I am going to stay for two weeks with my brother. There is the sea; and the boats and ships; and the fishermen; and the beach; and my nephew Ham to play with...’

I replied that it would be great fun.

‘But what will my mother do while we are away?’ said I. I put my small elbows on the table while I argued.

‘Oh dear, Davy! Haven’t you heard? She’s going to stay for two weeks with Mrs. Grayper.’

Oh! If my mother was going to Mrs. Grayper’s, I was quite content to go. Our plans were all worked out that night.

The day soon arrived. We travelled in a

1. Master Davy: 大卫少爷 (master 用在人名前作称呼)

2. Yarmouth: 雅茅斯 (地名)

carrier's cart¹, leaving in the morning after breakfast.

Just as we were leaving, my mother ran out to the gate. She called out to the carrier to stop so she could kiss me once more. I cried and my mother cried too. I am glad to remember this detail.

We left her standing in the road. Then Mr. Murdstone went to my mother; he seemed to be angry with² her for crying. I was looking back round the side of the cart. I wondered why he interfered, and Peggotty seemed to wonder also.

1. carrier's cart: 运货马车

2. be angry with: 对……生气

2. A Holiday

The carrier's horse took us lazily and slowly to Yarmouth. I was quite tired, and very glad, when we arrived at the small hotel. Peggotty's nephew, Ham, was waiting there for us. Ham was a huge, strong man. He was six feet tall and very broad; but his young face made him look quite like a boy.

Ham carried me home on his back, and he and Peggotty carried our two small boxes. After a while we came to a piece of low, flat ground. Ham said,

‘There is our house, Master Davy!’

I looked all around me as far as I could see¹. I could not see a house anywhere. There was some kind of old black boat pulled up on dry ground not far away. It had an iron pipe sticking out of it for a chimney. The smoke from this chimney made it look very warm and comfortable. I couldn't see anything else that looked like a house.

1. as far as I could see; 我极目望去

'Is that it?' said I. 'That thing like a ship?'

'That's it, Master Davy,' replied Ham.

The idea of living in a real boat delighted me. There was a door on one side, and little windows. If it had been designed as a house it would have seemed too small and unsuitable. But now it seemed a perfect place to live in.

We were welcomed by a very polite woman. I had seen her at the door when we were about a quarter of a mile away. With her was a most beautiful little girl. She would not let me kiss her when I offered to. Instead she ran away and hid herself.

A little later, after dinner, a man came home. He had a lot of hair and a pleasant face. He was Peggotty's brother.

'I am glad to see you, sir,' said Mr. Peggotty. 'You will find we're rough, but you'll find we're friendly.' I thanked him. I said I was sure I was going to be happy in such a lovely place.

After tea the door was shut, and everything was warm and comfortable. We sat and talked for a long time. Peggotty, her brother (Mr. Peggotty), Ham and Emily were there. So was the woman who had welcomed us at the door. Her name, I discovered, was Mrs. Gummidge.

Later, when we were alone, Peggotty told me

that Mr. Peggotty was Ham and Emily's uncle. When their parents died they had no money and nowhere to live. Mr. Peggotty had cared for them ever since. Mrs. Gummidge was the widow of his partner in a boat. Peggotty told me he had been very poor.

As I went to sleep I heard the wind roaring out at sea¹. The sound was quite frightening. I was glad to think that Mr. Peggotty was a good person to have near by if anything happened.

Nothing did happen, however. In the morning I got out of bed and went out with little Emily to pick up stones on the beach.

'You are a skilful sailor, I suppose?' I said to Emily.

'No,' replied Emily, shaking her head, 'I'm afraid of the sea.'

'Afraid!' I said, looking at the sea boldly. 'I'm not!'

'Oh! But it is cruel,' said Emily, 'I have seen it destroy a boat as big as our house. I should like to be rich. Me and uncle and Ham and Mrs. Gummidge. We would not mind when there was stormy weather. Not for ourselves, anyhow. But

1. I heard... at sea: 我听见海上狂风咆哮