

少年维特之烦恼

The Sorrows of Young Werther

中英对照全译本

歌德

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe



世界图书出版公司

欧洲文学卷

Young Werther

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*The Sorrows of
Young Werther
Johann Wolfgang von Goethe*

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前言

通过阅读文学名著学语言，是掌握英语的绝佳方法。既可接触原汁原味的英语，又能享受文学之美，一举两得，何乐不为？

对于喜欢阅读名著的读者，这是一个最好的时代，因为有成千上万的书可以选择；这又是一个不好的时代，因为在浩繁的卷帙中，很难找到适合自己的好书。

然而，你手中的这套丛书，值得你来信赖。

这套精选的中英对照名著全译丛书，未改编改写、未删节削减，且配有权威注释、部分书中还添加了精美插图。

要学语言、读好书，当读名著原文。如习武者切磋交流，同高手过招方能渐明其间奥妙，若一味在低端徘徊，终难登堂入室。积年流传的名著，就是书中“高手”。然而这个“高手”，却有真假之分。初读书时，常遇到一些挂了名著名家之名改写改编的版本，虽有助于了解基本情节，然而所得只是皮毛，你何曾真的就读过了那名著呢？一边是窖藏了50年的女儿红，一边是贴了女儿红标签的薄酒，那滋味，怎能一样？“朝闻道，夕死可矣。”人生短如朝露，当努力追求真正的美。

本套丛书的英文版本，是根据外文原版书精心挑选而来；对应的中文译文以直译为主，以方便中英文对照学习，译文经反复推敲，对忠实理解原著极有助益；在涉及到重要文化习俗之处，添加了精当的注释，以解疑惑。

读过本套丛书的原文全译，相信你会得书之真意、语言之精髓。

送君“开卷有益”之书，愿成文采斐然之人。



PREFACE.....	1
前言.....	1

BOOK ONE 第一编

Letters of May, 1771.....	3
五月的信件.....	3
Letters of June.....	35
六月的信件.....	35
Letters of July.....	64
七月的信件.....	64
Letters of Aug.....	99
八月的信件.....	99
Letters of Sept.....	131
九月的信件.....	131

BOOK TWO 第二编

Letters of Oct.....	143
十月的信件.....	143
Letters of Nov.....	146
十一月的信件.....	146
Letters of Dec.....	148
十二月的信件.....	148

Letters of Jan, 1772.....	155
一月的信件.....	155
Letters of Feb.....	161
二月的信件.....	161
Letters of Mar.....	166
三月的信件.....	166
Letters of April.....	177
四月的信件.....	177
Letters of May.....	178
五月的信件.....	178
Letters of June.....	185
六月的信件.....	185
Letters of July.....	187
七月的信件.....	187
Letters of Aug.....	191
八月的信件.....	191
Letters of Sept.....	195
九月的信件.....	195
Letters of Oct.....	210
十月的信件.....	210
Letters of Nov.....	218
十一月的信件.....	218
Letters of Dec.....	238
十二月的信件.....	238
THE EDITOR TO THE READER.....	242
编者致读者.....	242



I have carefully collected whatever I have been able to learn of the story of poor Werther, and here present it to you, knowing that you will thank me for it. To his spirit and character you cannot refuse your admiration and love: to his fate you will not deny your tears.

And thou, good soul, who sufferest the same distress as he endured once, draw comfort from his sorrows; and let this little book be thy friend, if, owing to fortune or through thine own fault, thou canst not find a dearer companion.

我仔仔细细地把我所能搜集到的、关于可怜的维特的故事，全都在此呈献给诸位。我知道你们会因此而感谢我。他的精神和品格，你们一定会由衷钦佩和喜爱；而他的命运一定会让你们不禁落泪。

而你，正经历着与他同样苦恼的善良的人啊，可以从他的烦恼中汲取些许慰藉；而要是你由于命运不济或自身的过错而知音难觅的话，就让这本小书做你的朋友吧。

BOOK ONE

第一编



MAY 4, 1771

1771年5月4日

How happy I am that I am gone! My dear friend, what a thing is the heart of man! To leave you, from whom I have been inseparable, whom I love so dearly, and yet to feel happy! I know you will forgive me. Have not other attachments been specially appointed by fate to torment a head like mine? Poor Leonora! and yet I was not to blame. Was it my fault, that, whilst the peculiar charms of her sister afforded me an agreeable entertainment, a passion for me was engendered in her feeble heart? And yet am I wholly blameless? Did I not encourage her emotions? Did I not feel charmed at those truly genuine expressions of nature, which, though

真高兴自己终于走了！亲爱的朋友，人心真不知是怎么一个东西！离开了你，离开了难以割舍的你，离开了我如此深爱的你，我竟然仍感到高兴！我知道你会原谅我的。命运如此刻意安排我陷入这些纠葛，不正是为了让我这颗心饱受煎熬？可怜的莱奥诺拉！但这不能怪我。她妹妹的非凡魅力使我赞赏倾慕，而她柔弱的心中又对我产生了一番热情，那难道是我的过错吗？然而，我就真的一点错也没有吗？难道我不曾助长过她的感情？难道在她那些自然的真情流露的言辞中，我不曾沾沾自喜，

but little mirthful in reality, so often amused us? Did I not – but oh! what is man, that he dares so to accuse himself? My dear friend I promise you I will improve; I will no longer, as has ever been my habit, continue to ruminate on every petty vexation which fortune may dispense; I will enjoy the present, and the past shall be for me the past. No doubt you are right, my best of friends, there would be far less suffering amongst mankind, if men – and God knows why they are so fashioned – did not employ their imaginations so assiduously in recalling the memory of past sorrow, instead of bearing their present lot with equanimity.

Be kind enough to inform my mother that I shall attend to her business to the best of my ability, and shall give her the earliest information about it. I have seen my aunt, and find that she is very far from being the disagreeable person our friends allege her

并和大家一起拿这原本并不可笑的事情来取笑她吗？难道我不曾——可是，唉，人啊，真是会自怨自艾！我亲爱的朋友，我向你保证，我一定会改变自己；我不会再像以前那样，总把命运加诸于我们的一点小小的痛苦反复咀嚼回味；我将享受现在，而让过去了的一切都过去。是的，我最好的朋友，诚如你所说：如果人们不这么无休止地发挥想像力去唤起往日痛楚的回忆——上帝才知道人们为何如此执着——而是坦然地去面对眼前的处境，那人们就远不会如此痛苦。

请告诉我的母亲，我将尽力去办她交给我的事情，并且会尽早给她消息。我已经见过了姑妈，发现她远非亲友们口中那般刁钻。她很精神，开朗，心地很好。我向她转达了我母亲对于她扣

to be. She is a lively, cheerful woman, with the best of hearts. I explained to her my mother's wrongs with regard to that part of her portion which has been withheld from her. She told me the motives and reasons of her own conduct, and the terms on which she is willing to give up the whole, and to do more than we have asked. In short, I cannot write further upon this subject at present; only assure my mother that all will go on well. And I have again observed, my dear friend, in this trifling affair, that misunderstandings and neglect occasion more mischief in the world than even malice and wickedness. At all events, the two latter are of less frequent occurrence.

In other respects I am very well off here. Solitude in this terrestrial paradise is a genial balm to my mind, and the young spring cheers with its bounteous promises my oftentimes misgiving heart. Every tree, every bush, is full of flowers; and one might wish himself

下一部分遗产未分的不满。她则告诉了我她这样做的理由和原因，以及她准备放弃全部财产的条件，这甚至比我们要求的还要多。简单讲，我现在不想再多谈这件事情了；只要告诉我母亲一切都会好起来就行。而且，亲爱的朋友，从这件小事上我又一次发现，世界上误解和成见比诡诈和恶毒更糟。毕竟世事之中后两者要少见些。

再就是，我在这儿很好。在这人间天堂里，寂寞恰是一剂医治我心的良药，还有初春的明媚春光温暖着我这颗时常疑虑重重的心。每一棵树，每一丛灌木，都是繁花盛开；你会恨不得变成一

transformed into a butterfly, to float about in this ocean of perfume, and find his whole existence in it.

The town itself is disagreeable; but then, all around, you find an inexpressible beauty of nature. This induced the late Count M to lay out a garden on one of the sloping hills which here intersect each other with the most charming variety, and form the most lovely valleys. The garden is simple; and it is easy to perceive, even upon your first entrance, that the plan was not designed by a scientific gardener, but by a man who wished to give himself up here to the enjoyment of his own sensitive heart. Many a tear have I already shed to the memory of its departed master in a summer-house which is now reduced to ruins, but was his favourite resort, and now is mine. I shall soon be master of the place. The gardener has become attached to me within the last few days, and he will lose nothing thereby.

只蝴蝶，在这芬芳的海洋中徜徉，并在其中找到自己人生的最终归宿。

城镇本身并不算舒适，可四周的自然景色却说说不出的美妙。一座座小山丘交错纵横，千姿百态，形成了一个个秀丽宜人的峡谷。也许已故的 M 伯爵正是因此而心动，才在其中一座小丘上建造了一个花园。花园很简单，就算你是第一次来，也能很快觉出它并没有经过园艺家精心的设计，而是出自一位多愁善感的人之手，渴望在此独自品味那份心动。我已经在那座业已破败的凉亭中，为追怀已故园主而洒下了不少眼泪；这座亭子曾是他的最爱，如今也成了我的流连之所。不久我将成为花园的主人。没几天时间，园丁就已经对我颇有些好感，而这样于他本身也没什么损失。

MAY 10.

A wonderful serenity has taken possession of my entire soul, like these sweet mornings of spring which I enjoy with my whole heart. I am alone, and feel the charm of existence in this spot, which was created for the bliss of souls like mine. I am so happy, my dear friend, so absorbed in the exquisite sense of mere tranquil existence, that I neglect my talents. I should be incapable of drawing a single stroke at the present moment; and yet I feel that I never was a greater artist than now. When, while the lovely valley teems with vapour around me, and the meridian sun strikes the upper surface of the impenetrable foliage of my trees, and but a few stray gleams steal into the inner sanctuary, I throw myself down among the tall grass by the trickling stream; and, as I lie close to the earth,

5 月 10 日

一种奇妙的静谧充溢着我的整个灵魂，犹如我全心享受着春天那些甜美的清晨。我独自一人，在这个好似专与我有同样心境的人创造的地方，享受着生活的美好。我真幸福啊，亲爱的朋友，我完全沉浸在对宁静生活的感受之中，结果把自己的才艺都荒废了。此刻我无法作画，一笔也不行；但尽管如此，现在的我却比以往任何时候都更配被称为一个伟大的画家。每当那些可爱峡谷的氤氲霞气围绕在我身边，正午的太阳从密林的树梢头，将几束光芒悄悄地射进这片圣地来，我躺在茂密的草丛里，旁边是汨汨的溪流；而我紧贴着地面躺着，所以能看到千百种不知名的小草：当我听着这草丛中的小

a thousand unknown plants are noticed by me: when I hear the buzz of the little world among the stalks, and grow familiar with the countless indescribable forms of the insects and flies, then I feel the presence of the Almighty, who formed us in his own image, and the breath of that universal love which bears and sustains us, as it floats around us in an eternity of bliss; and then, my friend, when darkness overspreads my eyes, and heaven and earth seem to dwell in my soul and absorb its power, like the form of a beloved mistress, then I often think with longing, Oh, would I could describe these conceptions, could impress upon paper all that is living so full and warm within me, that it might be the mirror of my soul, as my soul is the mirror of the infinite God! O my friend – but it is too much for my strength – I sink under the weight of the splendour of these visions!

小世界的纷扰之声，而对这不可胜数、无可名状的蚊蝇虫豸变得更加熟悉，这时，我便感受到了按照自身模样创造我们的全能上帝的存在，感受到了那将我们托付于永恒的欢乐海洋之中的广博的爱的气息；随后，我的朋友，当夜色朦胧，天与地都如我爱的人的形象般憩息于我的心中并由此汲取力量，我便时常急切地向往着：啊，要是能把这一切再现出来，把这如此丰富而又如此温暖的、活在我心中的形象画到纸上，使它成为我灵魂的镜子，正如我的灵魂是无所不在的上帝的镜子一样，该有多好！哦，我的朋友！——然而我力有不逮——在这壮丽景象的威力下，我必然深陷沉沦。

MAY 12.

I know not whether some deceitful spirits haunt this spot, or whether it be the warm, celestial fancy in my own heart which makes everything around me seem like paradise. In front of the house is a fountain, — a fountain to which I am bound by a charm like Melusina and her sisters. Descending a gentle slope, you come to an arch, where, some twenty steps lower down, water of the clearest crystal gushes from the marble rock. The narrow wall which encloses it above, the tall trees which encircle the spot, and the coolness of the place itself, — everything imparts a pleasant but sublime impression. Not a day passes on which I do not spend an hour there. The young maidens come from the town to fetch water, — innocent and necessary employ-

5 月 12 日

不知是这儿有迷惑人的精灵呢，还是我自己心中温馨的、天马行空般的奇思妙想，竟把周围的一切都变得如天堂一般美好。房前有一眼泉水——我好像人鱼美露茜娜及其姐妹一样迷上了它。走下一个缓坡，就是一座拱门，再往下走 20 步，便有一泓清澈的泉水从大理石缝中涌出。那绕井而筑的矮墙，那泉边参天的大树，那里丝丝的清凉——所有一切都既让人欣然愉悦，而又让人怦然心悸。我没有一天不去那儿待上一个钟头。有年轻的姑娘们从镇上过来打水——这是一种最平凡、而又最必需的工作，从前的时候连国王的女儿们也亲自做过。当我坐在那儿休息时，古代家族社会的生活情景便会活现在

ment, and formerly the occupation of the daughters of kings. As I take my rest there, the idea of the old patriarchal life is awakened around me. I see them, our old ancestors, how they formed their friendships and contracted alliances at the fountain-side; and I feel how fountains and streams were guarded by beneficent spirits. He who is a stranger to these sensations has never really enjoyed cool repose at the side of a fountain after the fatigue of a weary summer day.

我眼前。我能看见先辈们如何在这泉边结识，联姻；我还能感受到甘泉清冷边守护着无数善良的精灵。谁要是对这些体会没有感同身受，那他一定从来不曾炎炎夏日的长途跋涉后，在清泉边享受气爽神怡的清涼。

MAY 13.

You ask if you shall send me books. My dear friend, I beseech you, for the love of God, relieve me from such a yoke! I need no more to be guided, agitated, heated. My heart ferments sufficiently of itself. I want strains to lull me, and I find them to perfection in my Homer. Often do I strive to allay the burning fever of my blood; and you have never witnessed anything so unsteady, so uncertain, as my heart. But need I confess this to you, my dear friend, who have so often endured the anguish of witnessing my sudden transitions from sorrow to immoderate joy, and from sweet melancholy to violent passions? I treat my poor heart like a sick child, and gratify its every fancy. Do not mention this again: there are people who would censure me for it.

5 月 13 日

你问需不需要寄书给我？——亲爱的朋友，我求你看在上帝的份上，别再拿它们来烦扰我了！我不再要什么指导、鼓舞和勉励。我这颗心本身就已经够不平静的了。我需要的是琴声的安抚，而我的荷马史诗，就是一首绝佳的催眠曲。我时常努力使自己沸腾的血液平静下来；你从没见过有什么像我的心这样变化莫测、捉摸不定。可这还用我对你说吗？我亲爱的朋友，你不是已无数次地见过我由烦恼而变为大喜，从甜蜜的感伤而变为强烈的兴奋么？我把自己这颗可怜的心当作一个生病的孩子，而对其有求必应。请别把这话再一次提起：有人会因此而非难我的。

MAY 15.

The common people of the place know me already, and love me, particularly the children. When at first I associated with them, and inquired in a friendly tone about their various trifles, some fancied that I wished to ridicule them, and turned from me in exceeding ill-humour. I did not allow that circumstance to grieve me: I only felt most keenly what I have often before observed. Persons who can claim a certain rank keep themselves coldly aloof from the common people, as though they feared to lose their importance by the contact; whilst wanton idlers, and such as are prone to bad joking, affect to descend to their level, only to make the poor people feel their impertinence all the more keenly.

I know very well that we are not all equal, nor can be so; but it is my

5 月 15 日

本地的老乡们已经都认识我、并且喜欢上我了，尤其是孩子们。一开始我去接近他们，友好地跟他们问这问那，他们中有几个还以为我是在拿他们寻开心，便粗暴地想把我打发走。我并不会因此而气恼：我只是对于一个早已多次发现的情况，有了更加切身的体会。那些稍稍有些地位的人，总对老百姓采取冷淡疏远的态度，似乎一旦有什么联系就会有失身份；同时又有一些游手好闲的浪荡子们，偏喜欢开无聊的玩笑，装出一副纡尊降贵的模样，其实只是为了让穷人们领教他们的傲慢无礼。

我很清楚地知道我们不是是一类人，也不可能是一类