

威尼斯商人

著

Jennifer Mulherin (英)

外语教学与研究出版社 FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING AND RESEARCH PRESS

THE MERCHANT OF VENICE



SHAKESPEARE FOR EVERYONE

不可不知的莎士比亚名剧



红杉树 RED LARCH



MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

无事生非

著

Abigail Frost (英)

656

汪泳 注

George Thompson (英) 插图

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# THE MERCHANT OF VENICE 威尼斯商人

Jennifer Mulherin (英) 著

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## 致读者

威廉·莎士比亚（1564-1616）是英国文艺复兴时期伟大的戏剧家和诗人。他在戏剧创作上取得了巨大的成就，著名戏剧家本·琼孙称莎士比亚是“时代的灵魂，……他不属于一个时代而属于所有的世纪”。他的戏剧至今仍为世界各地的戏剧爱好者们所欣赏品读。

为使广大英语爱好者和戏剧爱好者走近莎士比亚的戏剧殿堂，我们现推出“不可不知的莎士比亚名剧”这套丛书。本丛书收录了莎士比亚的16部戏剧，其中包含他的四大悲剧和四大喜剧等经典剧目。每册收录两个剧目，书中介绍了各剧的创作历史背景，并用平实易懂的语言介绍了各剧的故事情节，同时还穿插有读者耳熟能详的台词选段。各剧最后还对剧中主要角色的性格特点以及人物关系进行了分析。

本丛书的中文台词选取的是朱生豪、方平、方重的译文，方便读者参考、赏析。我们衷心地希望读者通过阅读“不可不知的莎士比亚名剧”丛书，可以从中感受到莎翁名剧历久弥新、耐人寻味的独特魅力。

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Seafaring adventures and  
The Merchant of Venice

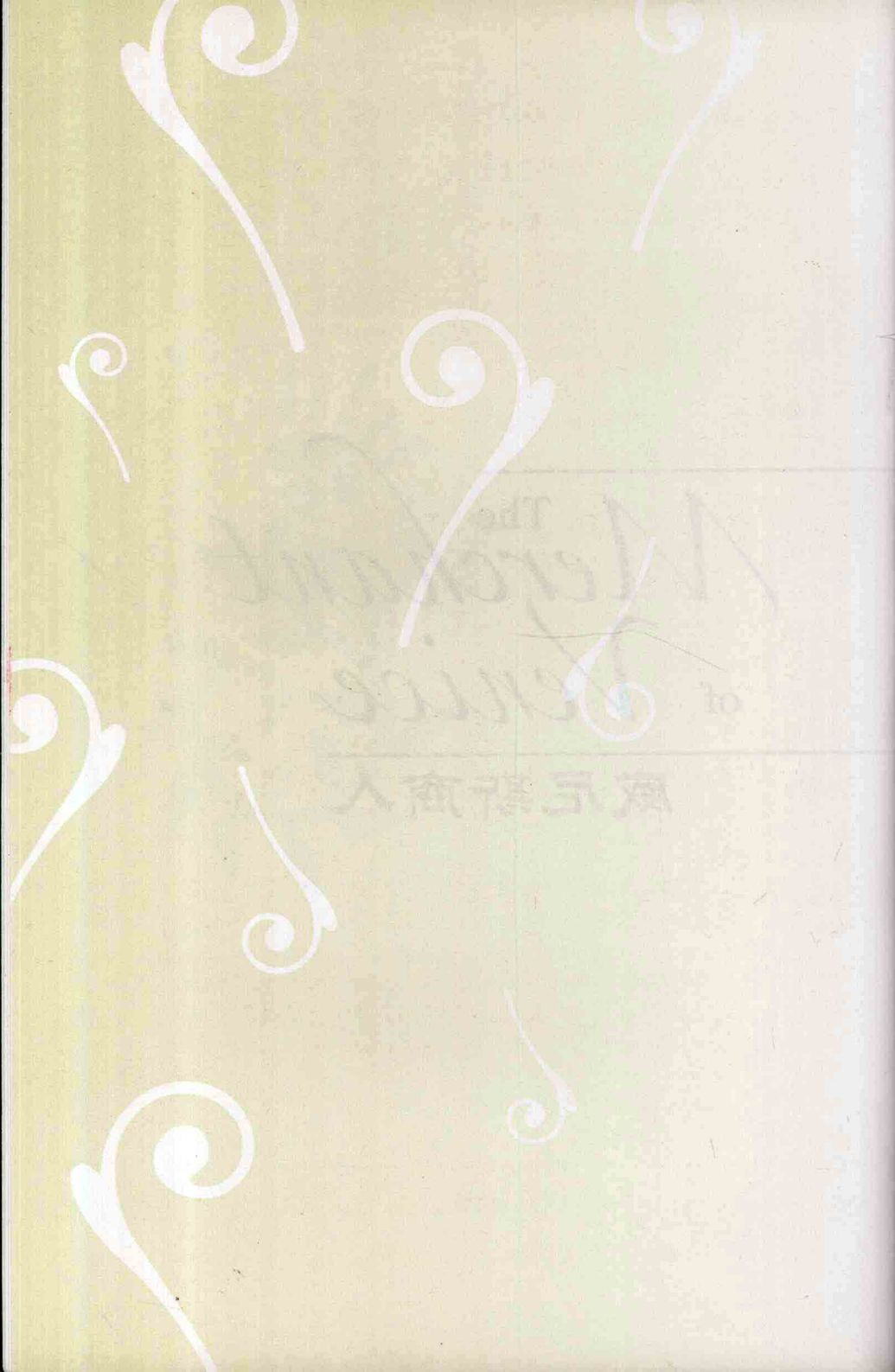
航海探險家考（威尼斯商人）

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The  
*Merchant*  
of *Venice*

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威尼斯商人



# Seafaring adventurers and The Merchant of Venice

## 航海探险家与《威尼斯商人》



*Sir Walter Raleigh<sup>1</sup> with his son. Raleigh was a famous courtier in Elizabethan times, who, it is said, gallantly laid down his cloak on a muddy patch at Greenwich for the Queen to step on. Raleigh took part in a number of voyages of discovery, and invested an enormous amount of money in setting up the colony of Virginia.*

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1. Sir Walter Raleigh: 沃尔特·雷利 (1554–1618), 英国探险家和作家, 女王伊丽莎白一世的宠臣和早期美洲殖民者。



Nowadays we tend to think of traders and merchants as ordinary unadventurous people, but in Shakespeare's day they were great heroes. They ventured on the high seas, voyaging to exotic<sup>1</sup> and foreign lands in search of trade or treasure. They took risks which often paid off<sup>2</sup> and sometimes did not. However, without them England would not have been the great trading nation that it was in Elizabeth I's time<sup>3</sup>.

## Merchant adventurers

Merchants such as Antonio<sup>4</sup> were not very different from explorers, and their exploits and adventures were of special interest to the Elizabethans. They travelled to lands such as Russia, Turkey and the Middle East. They also opened up new sea routes to the New World of North and South America<sup>5</sup>

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1. exotic: 异国的

2. pay off: 带来利益

3. Elizabeth I's time: 伊丽莎白时代。伊丽莎白一世是英格兰历代最伟大的君主之一，1558年至1603年在位。她的统治时期是英格兰趋向强盛和国家建立最重要的一个时期。在此期间，贸易和经济得到了很大发展；军事上，伊丽莎白成功地维持了国内的统一，并且击败了西班牙无敌舰队，结束了西班牙海上霸主的地位；文化上，也可谓是英国历史上最为光辉灿烂的时代。

4. Antonio: 安东尼奥，剧中的威尼斯商人

5. New World of North and South America: 美洲新大陆，是欧洲人于15世纪末发现美洲大陆及邻近的群岛后对这片土地的称呼。



*This is a view of Goa<sup>1</sup> in India in 1635. Goa was an important trading post for Portuguese seamen and merchants. In the early years of the 17th century, the English East India Company<sup>2</sup> likewise established trade links with India on the mainland at Calcutta<sup>3</sup>, and with the Spice Islands of the East Indies<sup>4</sup>.*

- 
1. Goa: 果阿, 印度的一个邦, 位于西海岸, 过去是葡属印度的首府。
2. English East India Company: 英国东印度公司, 1600年12月31日经英国王室特许成立, 目的在于发展英国对远东和印度的贸易。
3. Calcutta: 加尔各答, 西孟加拉邦首府。1772年至1912年为英属印度首府, 现为印度最大城市和主要港口之一。
4. Spice Islands of the East Indies: 香料群岛, 指位于印度尼西亚的摩鹿加群岛或泛指东印度群岛, 是公元15世纪前后欧洲国家对东南亚盛产香辣料的岛屿的泛称。



and explored the coastlines of Africa, India and the islands of the East Indies. Their purpose was to set up trade with these far-flung lands and to bring back exotic spices, foodstuffs or treasures, just as the Spaniards had done in the early part of the century.<sup>2</sup>

## **How voyages were financed**

Companies were set up to finance these ventures. Although only the fairly rich could afford to buy shares in these companies, many people invested their entire fortune. Sir Humphrey Gilbert<sup>3</sup>, an Elizabethan courtier and the half-brother of Sir Walter Raleigh, lost not only his own inherited wealth but also his wife's money in a series of disastrous ventures.

One of the first companies to be set up was the Russian Company. This was founded in 1553 with £6000 raised by its 200 or so members. Out of the three ships that set sail for



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1. far-flung: 辽阔的, 遥远的; Spaniard: 西班牙人。

2. Sir Humphrey Gilbert: 汉弗莱·吉尔伯特 (约1539–1583), 英国军人和航海家, 沃尔特·雷利同父异母的兄弟, 使纽芬兰成为英国殖民地。





*This miniature shows Sir Francis Drake<sup>2</sup>, one of the great heroes of English history. Drake, who commanded the fleet which destroyed the Spanish Armada, has been described by one historian as just 'a merchant seaman commissioned by the Crown<sup>3</sup> in a crisis'.*

Russia, two were frozen up before they reached the White Sea. Fortunately, the third arrived safely at Archangel, the Russian port on the Arctic<sup>1</sup>. England was the first country in those days to open up trade with Russia and the company made considerable profits for its shareholders.

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1. the Arctic: 北极区

2. Sir Francis Drake: 弗朗西斯·德雷克 (1540或1543-1596), 英国海军将领, 伊丽莎白时代著名航海家, 作过环球航行 (1577-1580), 在击败西班牙无敌舰队 (Spanish Armada) 的战役 (1588) 中起过重要作用。

3. the Crown: 君主

## The slave trade<sup>1</sup>

English adventurers had already explored the coast of Guinea<sup>2</sup> in Africa in Henry VIII's<sup>3</sup> reign and brought back gold dust and ivory. Sir John Hawkins<sup>4</sup> found another shameful source of wealth here—in human beings. He made a fortune transporting African slaves to work as labourers in the New World, and proudly displayed an African slave, bound with a cord, on his coat of arms<sup>5</sup>.

## The exploits of Sir Francis Drake

Sir Francis Drake is one of the greatest heroes in English history, who is remembered for defeating the Spanish Armada. Before that, however, he had been something of a pirate<sup>6</sup>. He



- 
1. slave trade: 奴隶贸易
  2. Guinea: 几内亚, 现为西非独立国家; 15世纪时葡萄牙殖民主义者侵入几内亚, 随后西班牙、荷兰和英国接踵而至。
  3. Henry VIII: 亨利八世 (1491–1547), 英格兰国王 (1509–1547), 在他统治下英格兰开始复兴并进行宗教改革。
  4. Sir John Hawkins: 约翰·霍金斯 (1532–1595), 英格兰海军行政官和司令官, 16世纪英国海军最著名的人物, 伊丽莎白海军的主要设计师。早年经营非洲贸易, 最先开始奴隶贸易。
  5. coat of arms: (盾形) 纹章, 盾徽
  6. pirate: 海盗



sailed the Spanish Main<sup>1</sup> in the West Indies<sup>2</sup>, capturing ships laden<sup>3</sup> with treasure on their way back to Spain. Although sea dogs<sup>4</sup> like Drake risked torture and even death if they were caught, the profits were worth it. Being loyal Protestants<sup>5</sup>, too, they thought they were doing God's work in taking ships and treasure from Catholic Spain<sup>6</sup>.

## A voyage round the world

Drake's voyage in 1577<sup>7</sup> to open up the Pacific was backed by a small company of merchant adventurers, who raised the modest sum of £6000. Despite the loss of men and ships in the perils of the voyage, Drake with one ship and 80 men held on boldly to reach the coast of Chile and Peru.<sup>8</sup>

- 
1. Spanish Main: 旧指美洲大陆加勒比海沿岸地区, 尤指靠近南美大陆北岸一带海面, 16世纪至18世纪时这一带常有西班牙商船来往, 也是海盗出没之所。
  2. West Indies: 西印度群岛, 北美洲东南部岛群, 位于大西洋及其属海墨西哥湾、加勒比海之间; 原为土著居民印第安人的故乡, 从15世纪末开始, 曾相继沦为西班牙、英国等国的殖民地。
  3. lade: 载满 (主要用于被动语态, 过去分词 laden)
  4. sea dog: 海盗, 海贼
  5. Protestant: 新教徒, 新教是基督教三大派之一。
  6. Catholic Spain: 信奉天主教的西班牙, 天主教又称罗马公教。
  7. Drake's voyage in 1577: 1577年, 德雷克奉命绕南美麦哲伦海峡探索西海岸, 目的是打破西班牙在太平洋的独占地位, 这次远征得到女王的亲自支持。
  8. peril: 危险; the coast of Chile and Peru: 智利和秘鲁海岸, 位于南美洲西部沿海。







*The Indian town of Pomeiooc in Virginia, North America, by John White<sup>1</sup>, one of the early settlers in the colony. Many of the English colonists who went to seek their fortune in Virginia were fascinated by the American Indians<sup>2</sup> and their way of life. Some, like White, depicted and described their houses, clothes and costumes.*

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1. John White: 约翰·怀特 (?-约1593), 英国画家、探险家和制图家, 多次前往美洲探险。

2. American Indian: 美洲印第安人, 又称美洲原住民, 16世纪起曾遭欧洲殖民者的摧残和杀戮。



Here they found unguarded Spanish treasures and Drake loaded his boat with gold, silver, pearls, emeralds<sup>1</sup> and diamonds.

With spoils<sup>2</sup> of more than half a million pounds in value, he sailed back around the cape of Africa. When he finally dropped anchor in Plymouth Harbour<sup>3</sup>, he had completed a voyage around the world. The shareholders who had risked their money on that venture were now rich beyond their wildest dreams; they made a profit on their money of some 4700 per cent!

### **The Queen's encouragement<sup>4</sup>**

The Queen herself greatly encouraged this expansion of trade and she even lent some of the Treasury's<sup>5</sup> money to

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1. emerald: 翡翠, 绿宝石

2. spoils: 战利品, 掠夺物

3. Plymouth Harbour: 普利茅斯港, 英国主要商港, 早期因经营贸易和向法国运输武器得以发展。

4. the Queen's encouragement: 女王的支持; 伊丽莎白一世即位时, 英国在英法百年战争之后已经濒临穷困边缘, 对外又与拥有强大舰队的西班牙明争暗斗; 在这样内忧外患的情况下, 女王提出“英国要以英国的战舰守护”, 私底下支持海盗活动, 以此逐渐繁荣起英国的经济并且建立起军队。

5. Treasury: 财政部