

英语文学注释读物



The Devil's Disciple

by Bernard Shaw

魔鬼的门徒

商务印书馆

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THE DEVIL'S DISCIPLE

A MELODRAMA

by

Bernard Shaw

魔鬼的門徒

[英] 蕭伯納著

徐燕謀注释

商务印书馆

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内 容 提 要

本书是萧伯纳的第八个剧本,以美国独立运动为背景,作者以其幽默而又犀利的笔调刻划了那些满口清规戒律的清教徒的伪善。剧本中有舍身救人的“魔鬼的门徒”,毅然脱去圣衣从事独立运动的牧师。剧情曲折,有惊险的场面,最后以大团圆收场。这是萧伯纳采用十九世纪传奇剧(melodrama)风格所写的一个剧本。

这个注释本对一些历史人物、背景、地名以及较费解的词句作了注释,适合大学三、四年级英语系学生及相当程度的英语自修者阅读。

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魔 鬼 的 门 徒

〔英〕萧伯纳著 徐燕谋注释

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作家和作品簡介

蕭伯納（1856—1950）出生于爱尔兰都柏林的一个小公務員的家庭。十四岁讀完中学之后，由于家境清寒，不能升学，就去当写字員，自立謀生。二十岁到伦敦后才开始写作。他很热心于社会主义运动，閱讀了馬克思的《資本論》，但是馬克思的著作，仅仅使蕭伯納了解了資本主义制度的罪恶，却并没有使他成为真正的馬克思主义者。在政治經濟学問題上，他始終沒有能超越資產階級經濟学的范畴。

在十九世紀八十年代，英国社会主义运动蓬勃发展，蕭成为費边社組織者之一，写了許多社会政治問題的文章。費边社会主义者是社会主义运动中小資產階級改良主义的代表。他們主张把社会主义因素逐漸輸入到現代社会中去。他們明知社会革命的不可避免，但又不願意把这任务交給无产阶级。恩格斯虽然严厉地批評了蕭的政治經濟主张，对于他的文学作品却是推崇的，而且認為他在費边社中是唯一正直而不怀野心的人。列宁也說蕭是“墮入費边主义者中間的一个好人”。

伟大的十月革命給了蕭很大的鼓舞与教育。他始終是苏維埃国家的同情者、支持者和歌頌者。1921年蕭在英国共产党刊物《劳动月刊》的創刊号上发表的《无产阶级专政》一篇文章里說：“不能用我們的（即資產階級的）政治机器实行社会主义，正如縫紉机上制造不出熟鷄蛋一样。”这句话表示了他在思想上跨进了一大步。1931年蕭訪問了苏联，在那里度过了他

七十五岁的生辰。他看到了苏维埃人民的成就，更加深信不疑资本主义的日趋没落，人类摆脱这种制度的时候已经为期不远了。虽然如此，萧对于人民群众在历史过程中的作用总是估计不足。这种局限性影响了他的作品。他虽然在作品中提出了一系列的社会问题，但不能明确地指出改造社会制度的真正的道路。

萧伯纳早年从事音乐和戏剧评论，到中年才创作小说和戏剧。他写了五部批判现实主义的小说，都不很成功。萧的主要成就在戏剧创作方面。萧是优秀的批判现实主义者，竭力反对为艺术而艺术。他的作品一反十九世纪末叶资产阶级戏剧创作中的以巧妙的结构掩饰空洞的内容的作风。他以挪威剧作家易卜生为榜样，通过戏剧，暴露资本主义社会的矛盾，激发观众的思想。

1885年他以伦敦贫民居住问题为题材写他第一部剧本《鳏夫的房屋》，直到1892年才完成上演。接着又以娼妓问题为题材写了《华伦夫人的职业》。这些易卜生式的戏剧，在英国文艺界掀起了一个巨大的风潮。资产阶级在剧院看到他们的罪恶无耻的生活赤裸裸地被揭露出来，感到芒刺在背，不能坐到终场，于是在他们的刊物上大肆攻击。然而民主阶层的观众，却欢迎这种新式戏剧的诞生。

《魔鬼的门徒》是萧伯纳第八个剧本，完成于1897年。这是他为清教徒写的三个剧本中的第一个。他称它为传奇剧(melodrama)。在形式和处理的手法上确是一出传奇剧，跟《不愉快的戏剧集》和《愉快的戏剧集》中的七个剧本的形式和处理手法确有不同。然而《魔鬼的门徒》毕竟与传统的传奇剧有着本质的

不同。在內容上它还坚持批判现实主义的作风，有深刻的社会意义。剧本以美国独立运动为背景，根据了历史和传记，把英国大将勃谷音 (General Burgoyne) 奕奕如生地介绍到舞台上，增强了戏剧的真实感。通过对清教徒特琴太太 (Mrs. Dudgeon) 一流人的刻画，萧揭露了那些满口清规戒律，神圣其貌，豺狼其心的“善男信女”們的伪善。而不信神道、蔑视一切传统道德、被人所不齿而称为魔鬼的門徒的理查 (Richard) 却是一个最无私心和最有道德的人。萧伯納最善于运用似非而是 (paradox) 的艺术手法。这种手法不仅表现在他剧中人物的語言里，也表现在整个戏剧的情节里。通过这种手法，他有力地否定了资产阶级的一切天經地义，使他們显得可笑、可鄙、可恶。这种手法使萧成为近代一个卓越的諷刺家。

ACT I

At the most wretched hour between a black night and a wintry morning in the year 1777, Mrs Dudgeon, of New Hampshire,¹ is sitting up in the kitchen and general dwelling room of her farm house on the outskirts of the town of Websterbridge. She is not a prepossessing woman.² No woman looks her best after sitting up all night; and Mrs Dudgeon's face, even at its best, is grimly trenched by the channels into which the barren forms and observances of a dead Puritanism can pen a bitter temper and a fierce pride.³ She is an elderly matron who has worked hard and got nothing by it except dominion and detestation in her sordid home,⁴ and an unquestioned reputation for piety and respectability among her neighbors, to whom drink and debauchery are still so much more tempting than religion and rectitude, that they conceive goodness simply as self-denial.⁵ This conception is easily extended to others-denial, and finally generalized as covering anything disagreeable.⁶ So Mrs Dudgeon, being exceedingly disagreeable, is held to be exceedingly good. Short of flat felony,⁷ she enjoys complete license except for amiable weak-

1. New Hampshire 美国东北部州名。 2. not a prepossessing woman 不是一个漂亮的女人。 3. Mrs. ... pride—Dudgeon 太太的脸，就是在最好看的时候，也有着深深的皱纹；在那些皱纹里死气沉沉的清教的清规戒律束缚住了一个暴躁骄傲的性格。 4. has... home 她这样辛勤地工作，在那鄙吝的家庭中除了权力和憎恨之外什么也没有得到。 5. to... self-denial 他们觉得酗酒纵欲还是比宗教道德求得更富于引诱力，因此他们认为“善良”不过是“克己”而已。 6. This... disagreeable. 这个概念容易扩展为待人刻薄，最后就包括着一切可憎的事。(others-denial 一詞是杜撰的，跟上文 self-denial 对称。) 7. Short of flat felony (她沒有极恶大罪。

nesses of any sort,¹ and is consequently, without knowing it, the most licentious woman in the parish on the strength of never having broken the seventh commandment² or missed a Sunday at the Presbyterian church.³

The year 1777 is the one in which the passions roused by the breaking-off of the American colonies from England, more by their own weight than by their own will,⁴ boiled up to shooting point, the shooting being idealized to the English mind as suppression of rebellion and maintenance of British dominion, and to the American as defence of liberty, resistance to tyranny, and self-sacrifice on the altar of the Rights of Man.⁵ Into the merits of these idealizations it is not here necessary to inquire: suffice it to say,⁶ without prejudice, that they have convinced both Americans and English that the most highminded course⁷ for them to pursue is to kill as many of one another as possible, and that military operations to that end are in full swing,⁸ morally supported by confident requests from the clergy of both sides for the blessing of God on their arms.⁹

Under such circumstances many other women besides this disagreeable Mrs Dudgeon find themselves sitting up all night waiting for news. Like her, too, they fall asleep towards morning at the risk of nodding themselves into the kitchen fire. Mrs Dudgeon sleeps with a shawl over her head, and

1. amiable weaknesses of any sort 任何风流罪过(把风流罪过說成 amiable weaknesses 是修辞手段中的婉曲法). 2. on... commandment 因为她从来没有犯过第七条诫令。(指 "Thou shalt not commit adultery". "你不可以奸淫." 見聖經中的旧約出埃及記.) 3. Presbyterian church 长老会. 4. more... will 由于它們的願望,更由于它們的力量的增加. 5. boiled... Man (指当时美国独立运动) 沸騰到用武的程度,用武在英国人的理想中是平息叛变,維持英国領土,在美国人的理想中却是保卫自由,抵抗专制和献身于人权的祭台. 6. suffice it to say 說...就够了. 7. the most highminded course 最高貴的行动. 8. military...swing 为达到那目标的軍事行动飞速地展开着. 9. arms 军队.

her feet on a broad fender of iron laths, the step of the domestic altar of the fireplace,¹ with its huge hobs and boiler, and its hinged arm above the smoky mantelshelf for roasting. The plain kitchen table is opposite the fire, at her elbow, with a candle on it in a tin sconce.² Her chair, like all the others in the room, is uncushioned and unpainted; but as it has a round railed back and a seat conventionally moulded to the sitter's curves, it is comparatively a chair of state.³ The room has three doors, one on the same side as the fireplace, near the corner, leading to the best bedroom; one, at the opposite end of the opposite wall, leading to the scullery and washhouse; and the housedoor, with its latch, heavy lock, and clumsy wooden bar, in the front wall, between the window in its middle and the corner next the bedroom door. Between the door and the window a rack of pegs suggests to the deductive observer⁴ that the men of the house are all away, as there are no coats or hats on them. On the other side of the window the clock hangs on a nail, with its white wooden dial, black iron weights, and brass pendulum. Between the clock and the corner, a big cupboard, locked, stands on a dwarf dresser full of common crockery.

On the side opposite the fireplace, between the door and the corner, a shamelessly ugly⁵ black horsehair sofa stands against the wall. An inspection of its stridulous⁶ surface shews that Mrs Dudgeon is not alone. A girl of sixteen or seventeen has fallen asleep on it. She is a wild, timid looking creature with black hair and tanned skin. Her frock, a scanty

1. domestic altar of the fireplace 灶头. 2. sconce 矮烛台. 3. comparatively a chair of state 比較華美的椅子. 4. deductive observer 有推論能力的觀察者. 5. shamelessly ugly 等于 extremely ugly. 6. stridulous 作唧唧聲的.

garment, is rent, weather-stained, berrystained, and by no means scrupulously clean. It hangs on her with a freedom which, taken with her brown legs and bare feet, suggests no great stock of underclothing.¹

Suddenly there comes a tapping at the door, not loud enough to wake the sleepers. Then knocking,² which disturbs Mrs Dudgeon a little. Finally the latch is tried, whereupon she springs up at once.

MRS DUDGEON [*threateningly*] Well, why dont you open the door? [*She sees that the girl is asleep, and immediately raises a clamor of heartfelt vexation*]. Well, dear, dear me!³ Now this is — [*shaking her*] wake up, wake up: do you hear?

THE GIRL [*sitting up*] What is it?

MRS DUDGEON. Wake up; and be ashamed of yourself, you unfeeling sinful girl, falling asleep like that, and your father hardly cold in his grave.

THE GIRL [*half asleep still*] I didnt mean to. I dropped off⁴—

MRS DUDGEON [*cutting her short*] Oh yes, youve plenty of excuses, I daresay. Dropped off! [*Fiercely, as the knocking recommences*] Why dont you get up and let your uncle in? after me waiting⁵ up all night for him! [*She pushes her rudely off the sofa*]. There: I'll open the door: much good you are to wait up. Go and mend that fire a bit.⁶

The girl, cowed⁷ and wretched, goes to the fire and puts a log on. Mrs Dudgeon unbars the door and opens it, letting

1. It... underclothing 掛在她身上那件寬寬廓廓的長外衣，跟她的光着的腿赤着的脚，使人一望便知衬衣的单薄。 2. Then knocking 是 Then comes a knocking 的省略。 3. dear me 感叹語。 4. dropped off 打瞌睡。 5. after me waiting 等于 after my waiting。 6. mend that fire a bit 把爐火加旺些。 7. cowed 吓昏了。

into the stuffy kitchen a little of the freshness and a great deal of the chill of the dawn, also her second son Christy, a fattish, stupid, fair-haired, roundfaced man of about 22, muffled in a plaid shawl and grey overcoat. He hurries, shivering, to the fire, leaving Mrs Dudgeon to shut the door.

CHRISTY [at the fire] F—f—f!¹ but it is cold. [Seeing the girl, and staring lumpishly² at her] Why, who are you?

THE GIRL [shyly] Essie.

MRS DUDGEON. Oh, you may well ask. [To Essie] Go to your room, child, and lie down, since you havnt feeling enough to keep you awake. Your history isnt fit for your own ears to hear.

ESSIE. I—

MRS DUDGEON [peremptorily] Dont answer me, Miss; but shew your obedience by doing what I tell you. [Essie, almost in tears, crosses the room to the door near the sofa]. And dont forget your prayers. [Essie goes out]. She'd have gone to bed last night just as if nothing had happened if I'd let her.

CHRISTY [phlegmatically]³ Well, she cant be expected to feel Uncle Peter's death like one of the family.

MRS DUDGEON. What are you talking about, child? Isnt she his daughter — the punishment of his wickedness and shame? [She assaults her chair by sitting down].

CHRISTY [staring] Uncle Peter's daughter!

MRS DUDGEON. Why else should she be here? D'ye think Ive not had enough trouble and care put upon me bringing up my own girls, let alone you and your good-for-nothing brother,⁴ without having your uncle's bastards —

1. F—f—f! 表示寒冷的声音。 2. lumpishly 呆呆地。 3. phlegmatically 漠然地。 4. let... brother 不把你和你的没出息的哥哥算在内。

CHRISTY [*interrupting her with an apprehensive glance at the door by which Essie went out*] Sh! She may hear you.

MRS DUDGEON [*raising her voice*] Let her hear me. People who fear God dont fear to give the devil's work its right name. [*Christy, soullessly indifferent to the strife of Good and Evil, stares at the fire, warming himself*]. Well, how long are you going to stare there like a stuck pig?¹ What news have you for me?

CHRISTY [*taking off his hat and shawl and going to the rack to hang them up.*] The minister is to break the news to you. He'll be here presently.

MRS DUDGEON. Break what news?

CHRISTY [*standing on tiptoe, from boyish habit, to hang his hat up, though he is quite tall enough to reach the peg, and speaking with callous placidity,² considering the nature of the announcement*] Father's dead too.

MRS DUDGEON [*stupent*]³ Your father!

CHRISTY [*sulkily, coming back to the fire and warming himself again, attending much more to the fire than to his mother*] Well, it's not my fault. When we got to Nevinstown we found him ill in bed. He didnt know us at first. The minister sat up with him and sent me away. He died in the night.

MRS DUDGEON [*bursting into dry angry tears*] Well, I do think this is hard on me⁴—very hard on me. His brother, that was a disgrace to us all his life, gets hanged on the public gallows as a rebel; and your father, instead of staying at home where his duty was, with his own family, goes after him and dies, leaving everything on my shoulders.

1. like a stuck pig 像只死猪。 2. with callous placidity 无动于衷地。
3. stupent 吃惊地。 4. This is hard on me. 这苦了我。

After sending this girl to me to take care of, too! [She plucks her shawl vexedly over her ears]. It's sinful, so it is: downright sinful.

CHRISTY [*with a slow, bovine¹ cheerfulness, after a pause*] I think it's going to be a fine morning, after all.

MRS DUDGEON [*railing at him*] A fine morning! And your father newly dead! Wheres your feelings, child?

CHRISTY [*obstinately*] Well, I didn't mean any harm. I suppose a man may make a remark about the weather even if his father's dead.

MRS DUDGEON [*bitterly*] A nice comfort my children are to me! One son a fool, and the other a lost sinner that's left his home to live with smugglers and gypsies and villains, the scum of the earth!

Someone knocks.

CHRISTY [*without moving*] That's the minister.

MRS DUDGEON [*sharply*] Well, arnt you going to let Mr Anderson in?

Christy goes sheepishly to the door. Mrs Dudgeon buries her face in her hands, as it is her duty as a widow to be overcome with grief. Christy opens the door, and admits the minister, Anthony Anderson, a shrewd, genial, ready Presbyterian divine of about 50, with something of the authority of his profession in his bearing.² But it is an altogether secular authority, sweetened by a conciliatory, sensible manner not at all suggestive of a quite thorough-going other-worldliness.³ He is a strong, healthy man too, with a thick sanguine⁴ neck; and his keen, cheerful mouth cuts into somewhat fleshy

1. bovine 蠢如牛的。 2. with...bearing 在举止上带着些职业所赋予的威严。
3. But... other-worldliness. 但是这完全是一种世俗的威严，被温和的通情达理的态度调和着。这种态度一些也没有超世出尘的气息。 4. sanguine 血色好的。

corners. No doubt an excellent parson, but still a man capable of making the most of this world,¹ and perhaps a little apologetically conscious of getting on better with it than a sound Presbyterian ought.²

ANDERSON [*to Christy, at the door, looking at Mrs Dudgeon whilst he takes off his cloak*] Have you told her?

CHRISTY. She made me. [*He shuts the door; yawns; and loafs across to the sofa, where he sits down and presently drops off to sleep*].

Anderson looks compassionately at Mrs Dudgeon. Then he hangs his cloak and hat on the rack. Mrs Dudgeon dries her eyes and looks up at him.

ANDERSON. Sister:³ the Lord has laid his hand very heavily upon you.⁴

MRS DUDGEON [*with intensely recalcitrant resignation*]⁵ It's His will, I suppose; and I must bow to it. But I do think it hard. What call⁶ had Timothy to go to Springtown, and remind everybody that he belonged to a man that was being hanged?—and [*spitefully*] that deserved it, if ever a man did.⁷

ANDERSON [*gently*] They were brothers, Mrs Dudgeon.

MRS DUDGEON. Timothy never acknowledged him as his brother after we were married: he had too much respect for me to insult me with such a brother. Would such a selfish wretch as Peter have come thirty miles to see Timothy hanged, do you think? Not thirty yards, not he.

1. but... world 但仍是一个善于处世的人。 2. perhaps...ought 他似乎也有些愧怍地感觉到,自己对世俗过于随和迁就了一些。 不是一个有道行的长老会牧师应该的。 3. sister 姊妹 (牧师对教友往往以姐妹兄弟称呼)。 4. The Lord...you. 上帝加在你身上的负担不轻。 5. recalcitrant resignation 无可奈何而又不甘心的神情。 6. call 必要; 理由。 7. that...did 如果说罪有应得,他就是一个。

However, I must bear my cross¹ as best I may: least said is soonest mended.²

ANDERSON [*very grave, coming down to the fire to stand with his back to it*] Your eldest son was present at the execution, Mrs Dudgeon.

MRS DUDGEON [*disagreeably surprised*] Richard?

ANDERSON [*nodding*] Yes.

MRS DUDGEON [*vindictively*] Let it be a warning to him. He may end that way himself,³ the wicked, dissolute, godless — [*she suddenly stops; her voice fails; and she asks, with evident dread*] Did Timothy see him?

ANDERSON. Yes.

MRS DUDGEON [*holding her breath*] Well?

ANDERSON. He only saw him in the crowd: they did not speak. [*Mrs Dudgeon, greatly relieved, exhales the pent up⁴ breath and sits at her ease again*]. Your husband was greatly touched and impressed by his brother's awful death. [*Mrs Dudgeon sneers. Anderson breaks off to demand with some indignation*] Well, wasn't it only natural, Mrs Dudgeon? He softened towards his prodigal son⁵ in that moment. He sent for him to come to see him.

MRS DUDGEON [*her alarm renewed*] Sent for Richard!

ANDERSON. Yes; but Richard would not come. He sent his father a message; but I'm sorry to say it was a wicked message—an awful message.

MRS DUDGEON. What was it?

1. my cross — cross 指沉重的負擔或苦難。援引耶穌被釘在十字架上的故事。
2. least said is soonest mended 這是諺語，意思是少說話為妙。也可以說：“Little said is soonest mended.” 3. He... himself. 他也許也會落得這個下場（指受絞刑）。 4. pent up 屏住的。 5. softened...son 對他的浪子軟化了。（浪子回頭的故事見聖經：新約路加福音書十五章。）

ANDERSON. That he would stand by his wicked uncle and stand against his good parents, in this world and the next.

MRS DUDGEON [*implacably*] He will be punished for it. He will be punished for it—in both worlds.

ANDERSON. That is not in our hands, Mrs Dudgeon.

MRS DUDGEON. Did I say it was, Mr Anderson? We are told that the wicked shall be punished. Why should we do our duty and keep God's law if there is to be no difference made between us and those who follow their own likings and dislikings, and make a jest of us and of their Maker's¹ word?

ANDERSON. Well, Richard's earthly father has been merciful to him; and his heavenly judge² is the father of us all.

MRS DUDGEON [*forgetting herself*] Richard's earthly father was a softheaded³ —

ANDERSON [*shocked*]⁴ Oh!

MRS DUDGEON [*with a touch of shame*] Well, I am Richard's mother. If I am against him who has any right to be for him? [*Trying to conciliate him*] Wont you sit down, Mr Anderson? I should have asked you before; but I'm so troubled.

ANDERSON. Thank you. [*He takes a chair from beside the fireplace, and turns it so that he can sit comfortably at the fire. When he is seated he adds, in the tone of a man who knows that he is opening a difficult subject*] Has Christy told you about the new will?

1. Maker 作造物者解 (指上帝). 2. heavenly judge 天上的审判者 (指上帝). 3. softheaded 愚蠢的. 4. shocked 大吃一惊 (因为对于死人,按教规不得谩骂).

MRS DUDGEON [*all her fears returning*] The new will! Did Timothy—? [*She breaks off, gasping, unable to complete the question*].

ANDERSON. Yes. In his last hours he changed his mind.

MRS DUDGEON [*white with intense rage*] And you let him rob me?

ANDERSON. I had no power to prevent him giving¹ what was his to his own son.

MRS DUDGEON. He had nothing of his own. His money was the money I brought him as my marriage portion.² It was for me to deal with my own money and my own son. He dare not have done it if I had been with him; and well he knew it. That was why he stole away like a thief to take advantage of the law to rob me by making a new will behind my back. The more shame on you, Mr Anderson, — you, a minister of the gospel — to act as his accomplice in such a crime.

ANDERSON [*rising*] I will take no offence at what you say in the first bitterness of your grief.

MRS DUDGEON [*contemptuously*] Grief!

ANDERSON. Well, of your disappointment, if you can find it in your heart to think that the better word.

MRS DUDGEON. My heart! My heart! And since when, pray, have you begun to hold up our hearts as trustworthy guides for us?

ANDERSON [*rather guiltily*] I—er—

MRS DUDGEON [*vehemently*] Dont lie, Mr Anderson. We are told that the heart of man is deceitful above all

1. prevent him giving — 說 prevent him from giving 或 prevent his giving 比較普通。 2. marriage portion 陪嫁錢財 (英國婦女出嫁時帶到丈夫家的財產自己沒有支配權)。