

简易英汉对照读物

# The Black Tulip

Alexandre Dumas

黑郁金香

教育与研究出版社

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(简写本)

Alexandre Dumas 原著

Michael West 简写

许钢 沈丽 译

外语教学与研究出版社

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## 本书作者及内容简介

亚历山大·仲马〔大仲马〕(Alexandre Dumas [Dumas père], 1803—1870) 是十九世纪法国著名浪漫主义小说家和戏剧家。他的作品拥有广泛的读者，在全世界十分流行，影响很大。他的一生著作宏富，卷帙浩瀚。

大仲马出身于一个将军家庭，父母早丧，生活贫困，曾在公证人事务所当见习生，在奥尔良公爵办公室当抄写员。一八二五年开始写剧本，后来加入以维克多·雨果(Victor Hugo, 1802—1885)为首的浪漫派行列，从四十年代起为报刊撰写连载小说。长篇小说《三个火枪手》(*Three Musketeers*, 1844)和《基度山伯爵》(*The Count of Monte Cristo*, 1844—1845)为大仲马赢得巨大声誉。此后他又创作了大量有一定历史背景的小说，一般情节惊险曲折，安排巧妙有致，叙事手法细腻，人物栩栩如生，有传奇色彩，能引人入胜。

大仲马所著小说《黑郁金香》以十七世纪荷兰资产阶级革命时期激烈的政治斗争与动荡生活为背景，描写一对青年男女的爱情故事：医生拜尔勒因故被捕入狱，在狱中与看守的女儿萝莎发生纯洁、真挚的感情，二人合作，培育出黑郁金香。本书和大仲马其他作品一样，内容生动紧张，富有吸引力。

这个简写本的情节比较集中、紧凑，在语言方面，仅用一千五百个英语常用词叙述，浅易流畅，对话甚多，可供高中和大学一、二年级学生或具有中等英语水平的自学者阅读。

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# **The Black Tulip**

黑郁金香

## 1. A HAPPY MAN

In the little town of Dort in Holland, in the year 1672, there lived a really happy man. There are very few really happy men in the world, but Cornelius Van Baerle was one of these very few.

Cornelius began life as a doctor, but when his father died he gave up that work.

Van Baerle's father had gained a lot of money as a trader. When he was near death he said to his son, Cornelius, "Be happy. Working all day in an office is not a happy life. Do not be like me, a trader. Do not be like Cornelius De Witte, a politician, for he will certainly end in trouble. Live quietly and, above all, be happy."

So Cornelius Van Baerle remained in the large house. He did not know how to pass the time, so he began to grow tulips. At this time people were very interested in the growing of tulips and great prizes were offered to anyone who could grow some new kind — a tulip of some new shape or new colour. Van Baerle grew three new kinds of tulip: he called them Jane (after his mother), Van Baerle (after his father), and Cornelius (after Cornelius De Witte, his father's friend).

In the next house to Van Baerle lived a man named Isaac Boxtel. He also was a tulip grower, but he was not rich. He worked very hard — and he hated Van Baerle. He was afraid that this rich man might grow better tulips than his own. He looked over the garden wall and watched everything that Van Baerle did. He even bought a telescope so that he might look into the window of Van Baerle's

## 1. 一个幸福的人

一六七二年，在荷兰多德这个小城里，住着一个真正幸福的人。世界上真正幸福的人是很少的，不过高乃利于斯·冯·拜尔勒却是这少数人当中的一个。

高乃利于斯最初是个医生，父亲去世后，他就不再干医生的工作了。

冯·拜尔勒的父亲做买卖的时候，挣了许多钱，他临终前对儿子说：“过快乐的生活吧！整天呆在办公室里工作不是幸福的生活。别象我那样当商人，也别象高乃依·德·维特<sup>①</sup>那样当政治家，他将来不会有好下场的。安安静静地过吧，首先要愉快。”

于是，冯·拜尔勒在一所大房子里住下来。他不知道怎样消磨时间，便开始培植郁金香。那时候人们对培植郁金香很感兴趣，谁要是能培植出新品种——具有新式样或新颜色的郁金香，就会得到数量可观的奖金。冯·拜尔勒培植出三个郁金香新品种，他把这些新品种叫做简（取他母亲的名字）、冯·拜尔勒（取他父亲的姓氏）和高乃依（取他父亲的朋友高乃依·德·维特的名字）。

在冯·拜尔勒家隔壁，住着一个人，名叫依萨克·博克斯泰尔。他也是个郁金香种植者，但并不富有。他努力干活儿，对冯·拜尔勒心怀嫉恨，惟恐这个富裕的人所培育的郁金香比他自己的好。他从花园的隔墙上面观察冯·拜尔勒的一举一动。他甚至买了一个望远镜，透过冯·拜尔勒住房的窗户窥视

house and see him working with his seeds and bulbs. (Tulips are grown from bulbs.) When he saw Van Baerle's garden filled with the most beautiful flowers, he tied two cats together and dropped them over the wall at night. The cats broke down all the flowers.

Van Baerle then put a watchman in the garden to guard his flowers against cats (for he did not know that Boxel had put the cats there).

Just at this time a prize was offered to anyone who could grow a black tulip without any other colour on it at all. The prize offered was one hundred thousand guilders.

Van Baerle set to work. He grew deep red tulips. Then, from these dark red tulips, he got brown tulips. Next year he had very dark brown tulips.

Boxel had, up to this time, only got tulips of a light brown colour. He was very angry. He was so angry that he could not work. He could do nothing but watch Van Baerle. He sat at his telescope and looked at Van Baerle working with his bulbs and seeds so as to mix one kind of tulip with another. The more Boxel watched Van Baerle, the more he hated him.

And just at this time Cornelius De Witte arrived in the town.

## 2. SECRET PAPERS

Cornelius De Witte reached Van Baerle's house one evening in the month of January, 1672. He looked at the whole house; he saw everything. Then he said, "I wish to be alone with you for a few minutes."

他的邻居怎样摆弄种子和球茎。(郁金香是从球茎中生出来的。)当他看见冯·拜尔勒的花园里开满了最美丽的花儿时,便在夜里把两只猫拴在一起,从墙头上放下去。这两只猫把所有花儿都毁掉了。

冯·拜尔勒就派了一个守夜人在花园里看守他的花儿,以防猫儿再来捣乱(因为他不知道是博克斯泰尔放的猫)。

就在这个时候,有人提供一笔奖金,奖给能培植出不带一点杂色的黑郁金香的人。这笔奖金的数目是十万盾。

冯·拜尔勒开始工作。他先栽培深红色的郁金香,然后,从这些深红色的郁金香中培育出棕色的郁金香。第二年他种出了深褐色的郁金香。

博克斯泰尔这时也忙于此事,但他只培育出浅棕色的郁金香,因而非常生气,气得没法儿干活,除了窥视冯·拜尔勒外,什么也干不了。他坐在望远镜前,观察冯·拜尔勒处理球茎和种子,使不同品种的郁金香进行杂交。博克斯泰尔越看冯·拜尔勒,心里就越恨他。

这时,高乃依·德·维特到这个小城来了。

## 2. 秘密文件

一六七二年一月,有一天晚上,高乃依·德·维特来到冯·拜尔勒家里。他参观了整所住宅,什么都看了,然后说:  
“我想跟你单独呆一会儿。”

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① 高乃依·德·维特(Corneille de Witt, 1623—1672),即高乃利于斯·德·维特(Cornelius De Witte),荷兰政治家。

"Come to my seed room," said Van Baerle.

All this time Boxtel was watching everything through his telescope.

Van Baerle took a lamp and led De Witte to the seed room. Here was a large box in which the seeds and bulbs were kept. — Boxtel watched through his telescope more carefully than ever! He saw the light come into the room. He saw De Witte and knew who he was (for Cornelius De Witte was well known as a leader of the government).

De Witte said a few words to Van Baerle. Boxtel could not tell what those words were. Then De Witte took out a number of papers all tied together. De Witte gave the papers to Van Baerle. It was clear that the papers were very important. Boxtel thought that they were papers written about matters of government. But why (thought Boxtel) were government papers given to Van Baerle who was not interested in public matters at all?

Boxtel knew that the public did not like Cornelius De Witte. Every month they hated him more. Perhaps those papers were some secret of the government which De Witte did not wish to have known.

Van Baerle took the papers and put them in a box with his bulbs. De Witte then said something; he shook Van Baerle's hand. They went out of the room. Soon afterwards De Witte went out into the street.

Boxtel was right in his thoughts. The papers which De Witte gave to Van Baerle were letters to the King of France. — But De Witte was careful not to tell his friend what was in the papers. He only asked him to keep them carefully and not to give them up to anyone except himself or a person whom he might send.

Van Baerle put the papers away in the box and thought no more about them.

### 3. DE WITTE SENDS A MESSAGE

The Hague was the chief city of Holland. On August 20th, 1672, its streets were full of men carrying guns. They were all hurrying towards the prison.

冯·拜尔勒说：“到我的种子房来吧。”

博克斯泰尔一直用望远镜窥视着一切。

冯·拜尔勒提着灯，领德·维特到了种子房。这儿有一个大箱子，里边存放着种子和球茎。——博克斯泰尔用望远镜观察得更加仔细了！他瞧见灯光移入那个房间，看到德·维特，并且知道他是谁（因为德·维特是著名的政府首脑）。

德·维特对冯·拜尔勒说了几句话，博克斯泰尔猜不出说的是什么。接着，德·维特拿出捆在一起的一些文件交给冯·拜尔勒。这些文件显然非常重要。博克斯泰尔认为那是些和政府有关的文件。但是（博克斯泰尔想）为什么要把官方文件交给一个对公众事务毫无兴趣的冯·拜尔勒呢？

博克斯泰尔晓得民众厌恶德·维特，对他的憎恨与日俱增。这些文件大概涉及德·维特不想让别人知道的政治机密。

冯·拜尔勒接过文件，放在他装球茎的箱子里。随后德·维特又说了些什么，握了握冯·拜尔勒的手，两人便走出房间。不久，德·维特就到街上去了。

博克斯泰尔没有猜错，德·维特交给冯·拜尔勒的文件是他写给法国国王的信。但是德·维特很小心，没有把文件内容告诉他的朋友，只请他保存好，除了他本人或他派去的人外，不得交给任何人。

冯·拜尔勒把这些文件放进箱子里以后，就置之脑后了。

### 3. 德·维特送信

海牙是荷兰的首府。一六七二年八月二十日这一天，海牙大街上挤满了带枪的人，他们匆匆忙忙地向监狱奔去。



Just outside the prison was a company of horsemen keeping back the crowd; and inside the prison were Cornelius De Witte and his brother, John De Witte.

"On to the prison!" shouted the crowd. "The brothers De Witte shall not escape! Kill them!"

The soldiers outside the prison remained unmoved.

"Kill the brothers De Witte!" Shouted the crowd.

The captain of the soldiers rode forward.

"What do you want?" he said.

"We want the brothers De Witte! We want to kill them!"

"My orders," said the captain, "are to allow no one near the prison, and if you come any nearer, I shall shoot!"

The crowd drew back.

Inside the prison Cornelius De Witte was lying ill on a bed. John stood by his side.

"Dear Cornelius," he said, "are you better? I have a carriage near the back of the prison, all ready for your escape."

"Death to the brothers De Witte," shouted the crowd.

"I hear the noise of a crowd," said Cornelius.

"Yes," answered John; "they are crying out against us because of our letters to the French King. — Where are those letters?"

"I have left them with Van Baerle," answered Cornelius. "He lives at Dort."

"Van Baerle!" cried John. "Poor Van Baerle! He knows nothing about these matters. But, if the letters are found in his house, he will be killed or put in prison."

"Death to the brothers De Witte!" shouted the crowd from below.