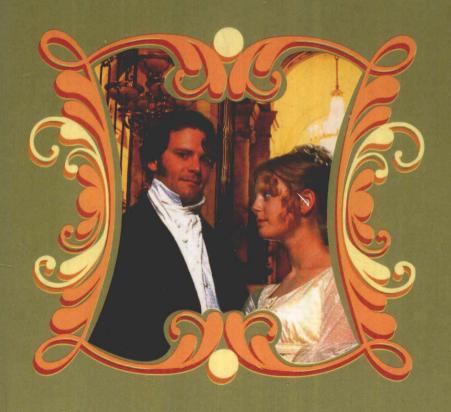
PRIDE AND PREJUDICE

英文原版・注释本 (英) Jane Austen 著

傲慢与偏见



中央编译出版社

PRIDE AND PREJUIDICE

世界文学经典名著

英文原版·注释本 (英)Jane Austen 著



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Pride and Prejudice

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一个终生未嫁的女人写的一本关于爱情和婚姻的书,或者说是她对爱情和婚姻隔岸观火式的理解,这本书就是《傲慢与偏见》,一部到现在仍为绝大多数人所喜爱、阅读的书。

《傲慢与偏见》一书真实地反映了18世纪末、19世纪 初,英国乡镇中产阶层的日常生活及理念,但全书重点描 述的还是青年男女之间的爱情故事。小说中讲到, 班纳特 太太有五个女儿,但无一男丁,她最大的心事就是如何把 女儿们嫁给有钱的人做阔太太。正在班纳特太太为此事 犯愁的时候,有一位阔少爷彬格莱来到了班纳特家附近的 耐瑟斐尔得庄园,并和住了这座庄园。与彬格莱同住的还 有彬格莱的两个妹妹及朋友达西。经过一段时间的交往, 彬格莱和班纳特家的大小姐简相爱了。同时,达西对二小 姐伊丽莎白的聪慧开朗也有所心仪,班纳特太太满心喜 欢。但是,在一次舞会上,傲慢的达西因出言不逊伤害了 伊丽莎白的自尊。与此同时,参加他们的社交活动的青年 军官威克姆对伊丽莎白宣称他是达西庄园已故总管之子, 达西之父也就是达西庄园的主人生前曾许诺给威克姆以 资财作为报答,但老庄主死后,达西却没有兑现这一许诺。 因此,伊丽莎白对达西的偏见愈深。同时,达西对班纳特 太太的庸俗无知,三个小女儿的轻浮作风十分反感,便对 好友彬格莱提出了忠告,劝他终止与简的恋爱关系。于 是,彬格莱及其妹妹、达西四人未向班纳特一家告辞便离 开了庄园。

在一次婚礼上,伊丽莎白和达西不期而遇,达西为伊

丽莎白的言谈举止中所表现出来的不凡气质所倾倒,向伊丽莎白求婚,但是被伊丽莎白拒绝了——主要理由是她不能同一个破坏她姐姐幸福的人结婚。其实,真正令伊丽莎白拒婚的是达西的傲慢和具有施舍意味的求婚态度。不久,达西写信给伊丽莎白为自己辩白,伊丽莎白开始为自己对达西怀有的偏见感到像悔。

似乎应了中国人的那句老话,有情人终成眷属,在一次随舅父母出行的途中,伊丽莎白在参观达西山庄时,突遇归来的达西,这令伊丽莎白十分尴尬,但达西以热情、真诚的态度接待他们。同时,另外一件事使得伊丽莎白彻底改变了自己对达西的态度——原来,在伊丽莎白外出期间,妹妹莉迪亚与威克姆私奔了,家人束手无策,又是达西暗中寻找到了他们,并资助他们成婚。

小说的结局是彬格莱和简重修旧好,达西放弃了自己的傲慢,伊丽莎白消除了对达西的偏见,各自都结成了美满的婚姻。

本书作者简·奥斯汀(Jane Austen 1775—1817)是英国著名的女小说家,出生于一个乡村牧师家庭,一直过着孤寂的乡居生活。她的另一部著名的小说是《爱玛》。她一生写作了6部小说,但均以笔名发表,直到她死后才以真实身份为世人所认知。

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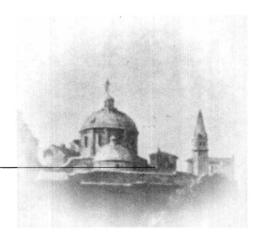
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Volume I

Chapter 1

It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a good fortune must be in want of a wife. $^{\bigcirc}$

However little known the feelings or views of such a man may be on his first entering a neighbourhood, this truth is so well fixed in the minds of the surrounding families, that he is considered as the rightful property of some one or other of their daughters.

"My dear Mr. Bennet," said his lady to him one day, "have you heard that Netherfield Park is let at last?"

Mr. Bennet replied that he had not.

"But it is," returned she; "for Mrs. Long has just been here, and she told me all about it."

Mr. Bennet made no answer.

"Do not you want to know who has taken it?" cried his wife impatiently.

"You want to tell me, and I have no objection to hearing it."

This was invitation enough. ²

"Why, my dear, you must know, Mrs. Long says that Netherfield is taken by a young man of large fortune from the north of England; that he came down on Monday in a chaise and four[®] to see the place, and was so much delighted with it that he agreed with Mr. Morris immediately; that he is to take possession before Michaelmas, [®] and some of his servants are to be

① It is a truth... of a wife: 富有的单身汉必定需要一个太太,这是一条举世公认的真理。

② This was... enough:这句话足以鼓励她讲下去了。

③ chaise and four:驷马马车

④ Michaelmas:米迦勒节,纪念天使长米迦勒的教会节日,九月二十九举行,为英格兰四季结账日之一,雇用佣人和租约多在这天履行。

in the house by the end of next week."

"What is his name?"

"Bingley."

"Is he married or single?"

"Oh! single, my dear, to be sure! A single man of large fortune; four or five thousand a year. What a fine thing for our girls!"

"How so? how can it affect them?"

"My dear Mr. Bennet," replied his wife, "how can you be so tiresome! You must know that I am thinking of his marrying one of them."

"Is that his design in settling here?"

"Design! Nonsense, how can you talk so! But it is very likely that he may fall in love with one of them, and therefore you must visit him as soon as he comes."

"I see no occasion for that. ^① You and the girls may go, or you may send them by themselves, which perhaps will be still better; for, as you are as handsome as any of them, Mr. Bingley might like you the best of the party."

"My dear, you flatter me. I certainly have had my share of beauty, but I do not pretend to be any thing extraordinary now. When a woman has five grown up daughters, she ought to give over thinking of her own beauty."

"In such cases, a woman has not often much beauty to think of."

"But, my dear, you must indeed go and see Mr. Bingley when he comes into the neighbourhood."

"It is more than I engage for, I assure you."

"But consider your daughters. Only think what an establishment it would be for one of them. Sir William and Lady Lucas are determined to go, merely on that account, for in general, you know they visit no new comers. Indeed you must go, for it will be impossible for us to visit him, if you do not."

① I see... for that:我看没必要。

"You are over-scrupulous^①, surely. I dare say Mr. Bingley will be very glad to see you; and I will send a few lines by you to assure him of my hearty consent to his marrying which ever he chuses of the girls; though I must throw in a good word for my little Lizzy." $^{@}$

"I desire you will do no such thing. Lizzy is not a bit better than the others; and I am sure she is not half so handsome as Jane, nor half so good humoured as Lydia. But you are always giving her the preference."

"They have none of them much to recommend them," replied he; they are all silly and ignorant like other girls; but Lizzy has something more of quickness than her sisters."

"Mr. Bennet, how can you abuse your own children in such way? You take delight in vexing me. You have no compassion on my poor nerves."

"You mistake me, my dear. I have a high respect for your nerves. They are my old friends. I have heard you mention them with consideration these twenty years at least."

"Ah! you do not know what I suffer."

"But I hope you will get over it, and live to see many young men of four thousand a year come into the neighbourhood."

"It will be no use to us if twenty such should come, since you will not visit them."

"Depend upon it, $^{\textcircled{4}}$ my dear, that when there are twenty I will visit them all."

Mr. Bennet was so odd a mixture of quick parts, sarcastic humour, reserve, and caprice, ^⑤ that the experience of three and twenty years had been

① You are over-scrupulous: 你有点过于心细了。

② Lizzy:二女儿 Elizabeth 的昵称。

③ They... recommend them:她们中没有一个值得夸奖的。

④ Depend upon it:我可以打包票。

⑤ Mr. Bennet was so odd... caprice:班纳特先生是个古怪人,他一方面乖觉诙谐,好挖苦人,另一方面他又不苟言笑,变幻莫测。

insufficient to make his wife understand his character. Her mind was less difficult to develop. ^① She was a woman of mean understanding, little information, and uncertain temper. When she was discontented, she fancied herself nervous. The business of her life was to get her daughters married; its solace was visiting and news. ^②

① Her mind... develop:她的心思就不那么难以捉摸了。

② its solace... and news:她的安慰就是访亲拜友和打听消息。

Chapter 2

Mr. Bennet was among the earliest of those who waited on Mr. Bingley. He had always intended to visit him, though to the last always assuring his wife that he should not go; and till the evening after the visit was paid, she had no knowledge of it. It was then disclosed in the following manner. Observing his second daughter employed in trimming a hat, he suddenly addressed her with,

"I hope Mr. Bingley will like it, Lizzy."

"We are not in a way to know what Mr. Bingley likes," said her mother resentfully, "since we are not to visit."

"But you forget, mama," said Elizabeth, "that we shall meet him at the assemblies, and that Mrs. Long has promised to introduce him."

"I do not believe Mrs. Long will do any such thing. She has two nieces of her own. She is a selfish, hypocritical woman, and I have no opinion of her." ①

"No more have I," said Mr. Bennet; "and I am glad to find that you do not depend on her serving you."

Mrs. Bennet deigned^② not to make any reply; but unable to contain herself, began scolding one of her daughters.

"Don't keep coughing so, Kitty, "for heaven's sake! Have a little compassion on my nerves. You tear them to pieces."

"Kitty has no discretion in her coughs," said her father; "she times them ill."

"I do not cough for my own amusement," replied Kitty fretfully.

① I have... of her: 我瞧不起她。

② deign:(有时用作贬义或反语) 屈尊

③ Kitty:指四女儿 Catherine。

④ she times them ill:咳嗽的不是时候。

"When is your next ball to be, Lizzy?"

"Tomorrow fortnight."

"Aye, so it is," cried her mother, "and Mrs. Long does not come back till the day before; so it will be impossible for her to introduce him, for she will not know him herself."

"Then, my dear, you may have the advantage of your friend, and introduce Mr. Bingley to her."

"Impossible, Mr. Bennet, impossible, when I am not acquainted with him myself; how can you be so teazing?"

"I honour your circumspection. ^② A fortnight's acquaintance is certainly very little. One cannot know what a man really is by the end of a fortnight. But if we do not venture, somebody else will; and after all, Mrs. Long and her nieces must stand their chance; and therefore, as she will think it an act of kindness, if you decline the office, I will take it on myself."

The girls stared at their father. Mrs. Bennet said only, "Nonsense, nonsense!"

"What can be the meaning of that emphatic exclamation?" cried he. "Do you consider the forms of introduction, and the stress that is laid on them, as nonsense? I cannot quite agree with you there. What say you, Mary? For you are a young lady of deep reflection I know, and read great books, and make extracts."

Mary wished to say something very sensible, but knew not how.

"While Mary is adjusting her ideas," he continued, "let us return to Mr. Bingley."

"I am sick of Mr. Bingley," cried his wife.

"I am sorry to hear that; but why did not you tell me so before? If I had known as much this morning, I certainly would not have called on him. It is very unlucky; but as I have actually paid the visit, we cannot escape the ac-

① Tomorrow fortnight:从明天算起,还有两周。

② I honour... circumspection:我尊重你的谨慎。