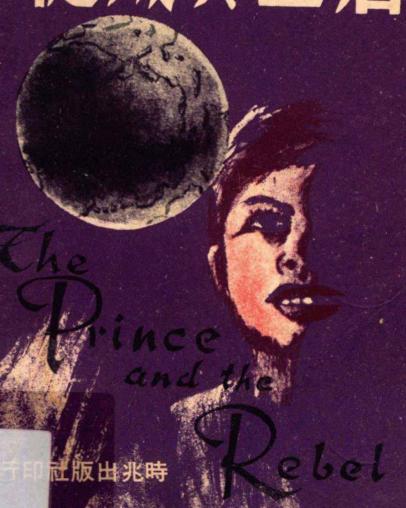
徒叛與王君



君王與叛徒

The Prince and the Rebel

著 者 Beatrice Short Neall

譯 者 時兆出版社編譯部

出版兼 時兆出版社

台北市入德路二段四二四號看港雲地利道十七號

• 主曆一九七一年春 • 重版五千册 •

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by Beatrics Short Neall

時兆出版社印行



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第一章

我們為甚麼要受苦呢?

Why Do We Have to Suffer? Chapter 1

I i Jeng Yi sat in the front door of his house, looking out over White Sand Village. Out in the fields his neighbors were planting rice. His friend Syin Sheng was herding his family's water buffalo in the pasture beyond. Nearby a mother was trying to hush her baby. "For them life goes on just as usual," he thought bitterly. "But for me it will never be the same again."

The events of that fateful day six weeks earlier came back vividly to his mind: the shrieking of brakes, the crash of a bicycle on the pavement, the moaning, the blood, the crowds. He had been in crowds like that before and had watched as broken bodies were carried away from the scene of an accident. But this time he was the one who was lying on the road—it was his moans, his blood, his bicycle. And his leg. Now he knew that the kneecap of his left leg was damaged beyond

一些在家門口,眺望着白沙村。在水田 理鄰居們正挿着秧,他的朋友新生在後面的草地上放牛。鄰近有一個母親正在哄着 她的寶寶。「他們的生活還 是同平常一樣,」他傷痛地 思想着。「但是我今後就完 全不同了。」

repair. Never again would he bend his leg easily. Never pedal a bicycle. Never engage in the sports he loved. From now on he would limp through life.

Furthermore, while he sat thinking about his troubles, his classmates were taking their final exams in school. Because of all the time he had lost, he would have to repeat the school year. To the honor student from Nan Ling Middle School, this came as a great disappointment.

"Why should I have so much trouble when everybody else has an easy life?" he thought. He remembered the saying, "Do good, reap good; do evil, reap evil." But this made him angry. "I am not any worse than others," he mumbled to himself.

Just then a man he had never seen before came walking up the path. The neighbors left their work to greet him. Jeng Yi climbed painfully down the steps of his house. "Who is that man?" he asked his friend, Syin Sheng.

"He is a teacher who has come several times to tell us stories," replied Syin Sheng. "We like to listen to him."

"Where does he live?"

便地彎腿。再也不能踩自行車。再也無法參加他所喜歡 的運動。從今以後,他要跛 一輩子了。

更有甚者,當他坐着思想他的災難時,他的同學正在學校裡參加大考呢。因為他缺課的時間這麽長,他一定要重讀一年了。對南陵中學的高材生而言,這眞是非常失望的專。

「別人的生活都很安逸 ,爲甚麽我要遭遇到這麽多 的困難呢?」他想道。他記 得俗話說,「善有善報;惡 有惡報。」可是這句話却不 由得使他生氣了。「我並不 比別人壞阿,」他喃喃自語 地說。

正在這時候,有一個從 未見過的人正從小路上走過 來。鄰居們都放下了他們的 工作去招呼他。敬一痛苦地 走下了臺階,他向他的朋友 新生說:『那是誰呀?』

『他是老師,已經來過 好幾次講故事給我們聽,』 新生囘答說。『我們都很喜 歌聽他的故事呢。』

『他住在甚麽地方?』

"To the west, about a kilometer away."

"And what does he teach about?"

"He tells us about the good way of life."

"Well, I'd like to know why a good person has trouble," said Jeng Yi.

"Let's ask him," said Syin Sheng; and before Jeng Yi could hold him back, the boy had dashed over to where the teacher was standing. "My friend wants to know why good people have trouble," he said.

"That's a very interesting story, son," said the teacher kindly. "Where is your friend? I'd like to talk to him."

"Why don't you tell the story to all of us?" asked Grandpa Kao, the village chief. "I'd like to hear it too." At his suggestion the group walked over to a grassy spot under some papaya trees and sat down. Jeng Yi moved in close to listen. Then the teacher began his story.

"There was once a great King who ruled over a large empire," he said. "This King was very wise, and His people loved Him. His government had but one law: "Love one another." 「西邊,離道裡大約有 一公里。」

「他教些甚麽呢?」

「他告訴我們良好的生 活方式。」

「好,我倒想知道爲甚 麼好人會受苦,」敬一說。

「我們來問她,」新生 說着;而且在敬一還沒有來 得及拉住他之前,這孩子就 衝到了教員站立的地方。「 我的朋友想知道好人爲甚麼 也會受苦的,」他說。

「那是個非常有趣的故事,孩子,」教員很和善地 說。「你的朋友在那裡?我 很願意同他談談。」

「你為甚麼不將這故事 也告訴大家呢?」村長高爺 爺要求說。「我也喜歡聽聽 呢。」由於他的建議,一羣 人都走到幾株木瓜樹下的草 地上坐下。敬一就走近來傾 聽。於是教員就開始講述他 的故事。

「從前有一個偉大的王 ,他統治着廣大的帝國,」 他說。「這個王非常聰明, 他的臣民都很愛戴他。他的 政府祗有一條法令:彼此相 愛。

"But the prime minister of the realm became jealous when he saw how everyone loved the King. 'I wish I had His power,' he thought. I'd like a throne as high as the stars! I'd like to be the king!' This prime minister finally decided to rebel against the government. He wanted all the King's subjects to follow him. He began talking to them secretly, saying, 'The King is selfish to make everybody obey Him. I am going to set up a government where everyone can do as he pleases. You will not need to obey anyone. You can have freedom!"

"Soon this rebel prime minister had a large following.

"The King knew that the rebel and his followers would be miserable if they forsook the law of love and lived only to please themselves," Teacher continued. "He saw that the results of the rebellion would be jealousy, hatred, war, suffering, and death. What should He do about it?"

"He should kill that bad prime minister!" said a little boy whom everyone called Syau Gwo.

"He could have killed him easily, little brother," said Teacher. "But He didn't."

「不久這個叛逆的首相 就有大批的人跟從他**了**。

『王知道如果這個叛徒和跟從他的人們丟棄了愛的 律法,而渡祇顧取悅自己的 生活,他們就會遭遇不幸的 ,』教員繼續道。『他知道 背叛的結果將是嫉妒,仇恨 ,戰爭,痛苦,和死亡。他 應該怎麽處理這件事呢?』

『他應該把那個壞首相 殺了!』一個大家都叫他小 郭的小孩說。

「他要殺他是很容易的 ,小兄弟,」教員說。「但 是他沒有。」 "Why not?" asked Jeng Yi.

"Because His loyal subjects had never seen a rebellion before," replied Teacher. "They didn't know how evil it was. Many of them still admired their prime minister, and if the King had killed him right away, they would not have understood why. They would have thought their King was cruel, and their sympathies would have been with the prime minister."

"So what did the King do then?" asked Syin Sheng.

"He let the rebel live and set up his own government," answered Teacher. "Then everybody could compare the King's government with the rebel's government and see which was better."

"That's a good idea," said Grandfather Kao. "What happened to the rebel's government? Did it really have trouble?"

"Indeed it did!" said Teacher.
"No one loved anyone else. There was no law or order. It was just 'Everybody get all you can for yourself.' Some of the rebel's subjects wanted power, and fought to get it. Others wanted pleasure; so they ate and drank and caroused until they were sick. Many

「爲甚麽不把他殺了? 」敬一問道。

「因為他忠心的臣民從 來就沒有見過叛逆的事,」 教員囘答說。「他們不知罪 惡是怎樣的。他們之中很 人仍敬仰他們的首相,如果 王立刻把他殺了,他們就不 明白這是爲了甚麽原因。他 們會以爲王是殘忍的,就都 同情首相了。」

「那末王又怎麽辦**呢?** 」新生問道。

『他讓叛徒活下去並且 建立他自己的政府,』教員 囘答說。『然後每個人都可 以將王的政府與叛徒的政府 比較一下,看看到底是那個 政府好。』

『那倒是個好主意,』高 爺爺說。『叛徒的政府怎麽 樣呢?是不是遭遇到很多困 難?』

『實在是如此!』教員 說。『各人除了自己,,誰都 不愛。沒有紀律,無法無 , 眞是「人人隨心所欲。」 有些叛徒的臣民想要權力, 並且不惜訴諸戰爭以求獲 權力。其他人追求享樂;所 以他們吃喝宴樂,狂歡痛飲 , 直到生病爲止。許多人貪 wanted riches, and they stole and killed to get them. Soon the whole rebel kingdom was filled with bloodshed and misery."

"Was the rebel sorry?" asked Syau Gwo.

"No, little brother, he was not. His heart became so hard that he was actually happy to see people suffer. But the King was sorry for them, even though in justice they all deserved to die for following the rebel. He knew that they had been deceived, and that large numbers would return to Him if they could get free from the power of the rebel.

"I told you that the law of the King's government was love. He Himself was the shining example of love. He could even love His enemies. He thought of a way to save them, to forgive them, and take them back again as His subjects. And the way He fought the rebel and won back the rebellious kingdom is the most remarkable story of all history."

"But what does it have to do with us?" asked Jeng Yi.

"A great deal, son," replied the teacher. "You see, we were born into the rebel kingdom. We are living in a world that has forgotten the King's great law 圖財富,他們就不惜偷竊兇 殺以求獲得財富。不久這整 個叛逆的國度便充满了流血 和不幸的事。』

「那叛徒是不是感覺難 過呢?」小郭問。

「我已經告訴過你們這個國王的政府所定的律法是 愛。他自己就是愛的鮮明。 他自己就是愛的的人 意。他甚至能愛他的仇敵。 他想到一個拯救他們,重做他們,並使他們返回重做他們,並使他們 對抗叛之國爭取同來的方法。 將背叛之國爭取同來的 故事。」

「但是這與我們有甚麼 關係呢?」敬一問道。

「可大有關係呀,孩子 ,」教員囘答說。「你看, 我們就出生在這叛逆的國度 裡。我們就生活在這忘記了 國王愛之偉大律法的世界 of love—a world where people live to please themselves—a world of hate and fear."

Grandpa, the village chief, stood to his feet. "You mean the rebel kingdom is this whole world of ours?" he asked.

"That's right, Grandpa," said the teacher. "We live in a world that has been ruined by the rebel. We are all under his power. That is why we have so much trouble and suffering. But I am happy to tell you that there is a way out. I want to tell you about the great King who is the real owner of this world. I want to tell you of His love for you and His plan to free you from sin and suffering."

"Who is the King who owns this world?" asked Grandpa, wondering.

"And who is the rebel?" asked Jeng Yi. "What do you mean by saying we are under his power? I have never seen him."

"Those are good questions," said Teacher. "But there isn't time to answer them all today. If you like, I will come again tomorrow and tell you more about the great King."

"Yes, come, by all means,"

——一個人們專顧自己生活 的世界——一個充滿仇恨和 恐懼的世界裡。』

老村長站了起來。『你 是說這叛逆的國度就是我們 這個世界嗎?』他問道。

『是的,爺爺,』教員 說。『我們生活在一個被叛 逆所毀壞的世界中。我們們 了是我們有這許多困難和 苦的原因。但是我很高與告 訴你們有一個逃脫的方法內 我我告訴你們,這位的主 。我要告訴你們他對你們的 愛以及他救你們脫離罪惡和 痛苦的計劃。

「誰是擁有這世界的王 ? 』 爺爺茫然地問道。

『還有,誰是叛徒?』 敬一問。『你說我們是置身 在他的勢力之下,那是甚麽 意思呢?我從來就沒有見過 他。』

「這都是很好的問題, 」教員說。「但是今天沒有 時間回答了。如果你們喜歡 的話,我明天會再來,並且 會告訴諸位一些有關這位偉 大王的故事。」

「好的,可是一定要來

said Grandpa. "We want to hear more."

Jeng Yi stayed behind while the others accompanied Teacher to the road. "Maybe this man can answer some of my questions" he thought. 阿,」爺爺說◆「我們還要 再聽呢。」

正當大夥陪伴着教員上路 的時候,敬一留在後面。『 這個人可能會囘答我一些問 題的,』他想。



「為甚麼好人會受苦?」李敬一想。

第二章 偉大的君王是誰? Who is the Great King? Chapter 2

It was late afternoon in White Sand Village when the teacher came again. Li Jeng Yi, who was watching for him, noticed that he carried a big black book in his hand. "The teacher's here," he called; and soon a group of people gathered once more under the papaya trees to listen.

When they were settled, the teacher began. "Have you ever wondered how everything in this world began? Look at that tall mango tree over there. Where did it come from?"

"My cousin planted it from a seed," Grandpa replied. "That must have been over forty years ago."

"And where did the seed come from?" asked the teacher.

"From another tree," answered Syau Gwo.

"And where did the other tree come from?"

"From a seed."

"Say now, how far back can we go?" asked the teacher. "I 教員再來到白沙村時 已是很遲的下午了。 李敬一注視着他,看見在他 的手裡拿着一本又大又黑的 香,他就喊叫說:『老師來 啦!』不久,一羣人又聚集 在木瓜樹下來聽故事了。

當大家安靜以後,教員 開始了。『你們有沒有想過 這世界上的一切是如何開始 的?請看在那邊高大的芒果 樹。它是從那裡來的呢?』

「是我的堂兄從一顆芒果核種的,」爺爺囘答說。 「那一定是四十多年以前的事了。」

「核從那裡來的呢?」 教員問。

「從另外一棵樹來的。 」小郭囘答說。

「另外一棵樹是那裡來 的呢?」

「從一顆核來的。」

「現在且說,我們能回 溯到多遠呢?」教員問道。 want you to think 'way 'way back. Where did the first mango tree come from?"

Just then a hen and her chickens came walking by. "Look at that hen," said Teacher. "Where did she come from?"

"From an egg," Lu Syin Sheng replied.

"And where aid the egg come from?"

"From a hen."

"And that hen came from an egg, which came from a hen. But now, try to think back to the first hen. Where did she come from? And what about yourself? Where did you come from?"

"I came from my mother," said Syau Gwo.

"That's right son," said the teacher. "And she came from your grandparents, and they came from your great-grandparents. But where did they all start?"

"Now I want you to consider something else. That one hen over there has five chicks. And each of those chicks can grow up and have five more chickens. You can see that if that goes on very long, soon there would be many chickens. One mango tree can produce many offspring, too. Because all living things increase, we now have more

我要你們想到很久很久以前 ,第一棵芒果樹是從那裡來 的?』

這時正好有一隻母鷄領 着小鷄從一旁走了過去。『 請看那隻母鷄,』教員說。 『她是從那裡來的?』

『從鶏蛋孵出來的?』 李敬一囘答說。

「可是蛋又是從那裡來 的?」

『母雞生的。』

「鶏生蛋,蛋又解鶏。 可是現在,請追想到第一隻 母鶏。她是從那裡來的?你們自己呢?你們是從那裡來 的?」

『我是母親生的,』小 郭說。

『對的,孩子,』教員 說。『她是你外祖父母生的 ,他們又是你的太外祖父母 生的。但是他們都是從何而 開始的呢?』

chickens, trees, and people in the world than in the past. Conversely, if we go backwards into time, we see that there were fewer and fewer of everything until we get back to the time of the first hen, the first tree, and the first man. And where did they come from? That's the question we want to answer.

"There are more questions we might ask, too," said Teacher. "Where did our world, with its mountains, rivers, and seas come from? And the sun, moon, and stars—did they always exist, or did they have a beginning? If they did, how did they come into being?"

"I have heard it said that everything came from the four elements: wind, fire, earth, and water," said Grandpa.

"That's a wise saying," answered the teacher. "But where did wind, fire, earth, and water come from? If we want to get back to the very beginning, we must find something that had no beginning, something that has always existed. For if the first thing had a beginning, we could ask, 'What came before that?' and it wouldn't be first at all.

"Now I don't remember about

『我們也有更多的問題 可以詢問,』教員說。『我 們這個世界,以及世上的 脈,河流,海洋是從那裡 的呢?太陽,月亮,星星一 一它們是自有永有的呢, 是有個起源呢?如果它們是 有起源的,那些起源又是怎 麼來的呢?』

『我曾聽說過,一切東 西都是由風,火,水,土四 大元素而來的。』 爺爺說。

「現在,我也想不起太