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居伊·德·莫泊桑 著

Ball-of-Fat

羊脂球



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内 容 简 介

书中所讲的故事发生在普法战争中的法国。普鲁士军队进入卢昂后，一些有神通的人士想方设法从普鲁士驻军总司令那里弄到了外出许可证，他们订了一辆公共马车以期先到迪耶普，然后再坐船前往仍是法军地盘的阿弗尔。这些人当中有6位有身份、有地位的上流社会人士、2位修女、1位民主派人士以及1位绰号为“羊脂球”的卖俏女郎。

旅途比想像中的要艰难、漫长，在大家饥肠辘辘且无处觅食的情况下，“羊脂球”慷慨地拿出自己的食物与大家分享。于是，一行人暂时成为朋友。

途中，马车遭德军拦截，为首的军官向“羊脂球”提出非分要求，并扬言：不达目的誓不罢休。在祖国的敌人面前，“羊脂球”决定捍卫自己的尊严，断然拒绝了德军军官的要求。旅伴们最初对她的举动表示赞同，但随着时间的推移，他们意识到自己的利益会遭受损失，便不择手段地对“羊脂球”施加压力，迫使她就范。当“羊脂球”最终为了他们的利益而牺牲了自己的时候，她得到的却是鄙视和唾弃。

BALL-OF-FAT

For many days now the fag-end of the army had been straggling through the town. They were not troops, but a disbanded horde. The beards of the men were long and filthy, their uniforms in tatters, and they advanced at an easy pace without flag or regiment. All seemed worn-out and back-broken, incapable of a thought or a resolution, marching by habit solely, and falling from fatigue as soon as they stopped. In short, they were a mobilized, pacific people, bending under the weight of the gun; some little squads on the alert, easy to take alarm and prompt in enthusiasm, ready to attack or to flee; and in the midst of them, some red breeches, the remains of a division broken up in a great battle; some somber artillery men in line with these varied kinds of foot soldiers; and, sometimes the brilliant helmet of a dragoon on foot who followed with difficulty the shortest march of the lines.

Some legions of free-shooters, under the heroic names of "Avengers of the Defeat," "Citizens of the Tomb," "Partakers of Death," passed in their turn with the air of bandits.

Their leaders were former cloth or grain merchants, exmerchants in tallow or soap, warriors of circumstance, elected officers on account of their

一连好多天，这批落伍的残余部队稀稀拉拉地从城里穿过。他们早已算不上什么队伍，而仅仅是一群松松垮垮的散兵游勇。这些人一个个胡子拉碴，军衣褴褛，都在无精打采地向前走着。他们既没有打出旗帜，也看不出是什么兵团的。所有的人看上去都疲惫不堪，腰杆发软，全都丧失了思考的能力，更不会拿出什么主意来，只是在习惯地向前迈动着脚步；只要一停下来，他们就会精疲力尽地倒在地上。总之，在这些人的中间，有一批喜好平静安逸生活的人，是被动员才当兵的，枪的重量已经把他们的腰都压弯了；还有一批机敏过人、反应迅速的小分队，动不动就惊慌失措，要么就激动不已，情绪高昂，随时准备冲锋陷阵，也随时准备逃之夭夭；另外，夹在他们中间还有几个穿红套裤的正规兵，这些人是在一次大规模战役中被打败的一个步兵师的残余部分；跟这些各种各样的步兵混杂在一起的还有一些垂头丧气的炮兵；而且，时而还能看到一个戴着锃亮的钢盔的龙骑兵，拖着自己沉重的脚步，艰难地跟在行进队伍的后面。

几队自由射手的队伍也走了过去，他们那种神气看上去像是一帮土匪。他们每一队都有自己英勇悲壮的名称——“失败复仇队”、“坟墓公民队”、“敢死队”等等。

这些部队的将领们原本都是些布匹商人或粮食商人，或者曾经做过油脂肥皂生意，由于发生了战争而变成了战士；又因为身上带着家族的纹章和长着长胡子

escutcheons and the length of their mustaches, covered with arms and with braid, speaking in constrained voices, discussing plans of campaign, and pretending to carry agonized France alone on their swaggering shoulders, but sometimes fearing their own soldiers, prison-birds, that were often brave at first and later proved to be plunderers and debauchees.

It was said that the Prussians were going to enter Rouen.

The National Guard who for two months had been carefully reconnoitering in the neighboring woods, shooting sometimes their own sentinels, and ready for a combat whenever a little wolf stirred in the thicket, had now returned to their firesides. Their arms, their uniforms, all the murderous accoutrements with which they had lately struck fear into the national heart for three leagues in every direction, had suddenly disappeared.

The last French soldiers finally came across the Seine to reach the Audemer bridge through Saint-Sever and Bourg-Achard; and, marching behind, on foot, between two officers of ordnance, the General, in despair, unable to do anything with these incongruous tatters, himself lost in the breaking-up of a people accustomed to conquer and disastrously beaten, in spite of his legendary bravery.

A profound calm, a frightful, silent expectancy had spread over the city. Many of the heavy citizens, emasculated by commerce, anxiously awaited the conquerors, trembling lest their roasting spits or kitchen knives be considered arms.

而被任命为军官。他们全身上下挂满了武器，裹满了绶带丝绦。他们在那里拿腔作调，高谈阔论着作战计划，并且声称只有他们那些用大话吹起来的肩膀才能把水深火热中的法国支撑过去。但是，他们有时竟害怕自己的士兵，那些原来坐过大牢的惯犯，开始看起来倒还像是些勇猛剽悍的勇士，后来却都变成了强取豪夺、无恶不作的恶棍。

消息传来，普鲁士人就要进入卢昂了。

这里的国民自卫队在附近地区的森林里已经小心翼翼地侦察了两个多月，有时还开枪误伤了自己的哨兵，只要有一只小狼崽在树丛中一动，他们就如临大敌似地准备作战。可现在，这些人却都躲到了自家的炉火边去了。他们的武器和军服，以及那些他们近来在方圆三法里一带使人望而生畏的所有凶器，突然之间都消失得无影无踪了。

最后一批法国士兵终于渡过了塞纳河，他们正在从圣塞维尔和阿沙尔镇转移到奥德梅尔桥去。在队伍的后面，两位军械官在陪着一位将军徒步向前走着，这位万念俱灰的将军望着这群衣衫褴褛的残兵败卒也是无可奈何，只能眼睁睁看着这个善于征战、有着传奇般英勇精神的民族被打得一败涂地而走向崩溃。

一种深不可测的宁静和令人惶恐不安的静悄悄的等待弥漫了整座城市。很多做生意把男子汉气概都做没了的大腹便便的商人们，在焦躁不安地等待着征服者的到来。一想到厨房里的烤肉叉或是切肉刀有可能被看成武器，他们就不免心惊肉跳，吓得浑身发抖。

All life seemed stopped; shops were closed, the streets dumb. Sometimes an inhabitant, intimidated by this silence, moved rapidly along next the walls. The agony of waiting made them wish the enemy would come.

In the afternoon of the day which followed the departure of the French troops, some uhlans, coming from one knows not where, crossed the town with celerity. Then, a little later, a black mass descended the side of St. Catharine, while two other invading bands appeared by the way of Darnetal and Boisguillaume. The advance guard of the three bodies joined one another at the same moment in Hotel de Ville square and, by all the neighboring streets, the German army continued to arrive, spreading out its battalions, making the pavement resound under their hard, rhythmic step.

Some orders of the commander, in a foreign guttural voice, reached the houses which seemed dead and deserted, while behind closed shutters, eyes were watching these victorious men, masters of the city, of fortunes, of lives, through the "rights of war." The inhabitants, shut up in their rooms, were visited with the kind of excitement that a cataclysm, or some fatal upheaval of the earth, brings to us, against which all force is useless. For the same sensation is produced each time that the established order of things is overturned, when security no longer exists, and all that protect the laws of man and of nature find themselves at the mercy of unreasoning, ferocious brutality. The trembling of the earth crushing the houses and burying an entire people; a river overflowing its banks and carrying in its course

所有的生活好像都停顿了；店铺都关了门，街道也变得无声无息了。有时，能看到一个忍受不了这种沉寂的居民顺着墙根疾步走过。等待带来的折磨使人们反倒希望敌人早一点进来。

在法国部队撤离后的第二天下午，几个不知从什么地方冒出来的普鲁士枪骑兵从市区急匆匆地跑了过去。过了一会儿，一片黑压压的大队人马就从圣凯瑟琳山坡上开了下来；同时，另外两支入侵部队也出现在达内塔尔和布瓦季洛姆的大道上。这三支队伍的先头兵正巧同时在市政广场汇合了；随后，德国部队在临近的几条街上不断到达，几个团的兵力分散开去，石路上回响着他们沉重而有节奏的脚步声。

驻军总指挥发布了命令，声音生硬而含混，带着浓重的德国口音，他的声音传进了似乎被废弃不用、死一般沉寂的房子里；而同时在关着的百叶窗后面却有一双双瞪大的眼睛在暗暗地注视着这些胜利者、这些通过“战争法则”成为整座城市生命和财产主宰的人们。居民们全都躲在家里，一阵寒栗震慑了他们，好像是人类遇到了巨大的灾变或天崩地裂一样，任何努力和抗争都是徒劳无益的。因为，每当一种已经确立起来的秩序被推翻，每当安全感不复存在，每当人类的法律和自然法则的保护神受到无端残暴的蹂躏时，这种震惊感就会顿然而生。地震会摧毁所有的房屋而覆没一个民族；江河决堤会带着淹死的农民、牛尸和从房顶

the drowned peasants, carcasses of beeves, and girders snatched from roofs, or a glorious army massacring those trying to defend themselves, leading others prisoners, pillaging in the name of the sword and thanking God to the sound of the cannon, all are alike frightful scourges which disconnect all belief in eternal justice, all the confidence that we have in the protection of Heaven and the reason of man.

Some detachments rapped at each door, then disappeared into the houses. It was occupation after invasion. Then the duty commences for the conquered to show themselves gracious toward the conquerors.

After some time, as soon as the first terror disappears, a new calm is established. In many families, the Prussian officer eats at the table. He is sometimes well bred and, through politeness, pities France, and speaks of his repugnance in taking part in this affair. One is grateful to him for this sentiment; then, one may be, some day or other, in need of his protection. By treating him well, one has, perhaps, a less number of men to feed. And why should we wound anyone on whom we are entirely dependent? To act thus would be less bravery than temerity. And temerity is no longer a fault of the commoner of Rouen, as it was at the time of the heroic defense, when their city became famous. Finally, each told himself that the highest judgment of French urbanity required that they be allowed to be polite to the strange soldier in the house, provided they did not show themselves familiar with him in public. Outside they would not make themselves known to each other, but at home they could chat freely, and the

冲下的梁木一起顺流而下；一支取胜的军队便可以屠杀那些企图自卫的人们，俘虏其他的人，以刀剑的名义大肆抢掠，用炮声向神明致谢，所有这些恐怖的灾难都迫使我们无法再去相信永恒的真理，同时也打碎了我们对于上天庇佑和人类理性的一切信念。

一些小股的队伍开始挨家挨户地叩门了，随后就进到了房子里。这就是入侵之后的占领。这样，被征服者对于征服者所尽的敬奉的义务也就此开始了。

过了一段时间，最初的那种恐惧刚一消失，一种新的平静就建立了起来。在许多居民家中，普鲁士军官与主人同桌共餐。这些军官中间也有些比较有教养的，因而会出于礼貌对法国的境况表示同情，并表白自己对卷入这种事情感到厌恶。人们对他们能有这样的情感深表感激；况且说不定哪一天还会需要他们的保护。如果对这样的军官照顾周全一点儿，也许会少供养几个士兵。再说，我们何苦要去开罪一个我们必须完全依靠的人呢？这样做确实是有些轻率甚至不够勇敢，但轻率已不再是卢昂人的什么缺点了，因为这已不是那个英勇自卫而使卢昂威名远扬的时代了。结果，每个人都得出这样的最高结论，那就是法国人的斯文达理意味着，只要在公开场合不对外国士兵表示亲近，那么在家里以礼相待应该是允许的。所以，在外面大家都装作互不相识，但在家里可以侃侃而谈；这样一

German might remain longer each evening warming his feet at their hearthstones.

The town even took on, little by little, its ordinary aspect. The French scarcely went out, but the Prussian soldiers grumbled in the streets. In short, the officers of the Blue Hussars, who dragged with arrogance their great weapons of death up and down the pavement, seemed to have no more grievous scorn for the simple citizens than the officers or the sportsmen who, the year before, drank in the same *cafés*.

There was nevertheless, something in the air, something subtle and unknown, a strange, intolerable atmosphere like a penetrating odor, the odor of invasion. It filled the dwellings and the public places, changed the taste of the food, gave the impression of being on a journey, far away, among barbarous and dangerous tribes.

The conquerors exacted money, much money. The inhabitants always paid and they were rich enough to do it. But the richer a trading Norman becomes the more he suffers at every outlay, at each part of his fortune that he sees pass from his hands into those of another.

Therefore, two or three leagues below the town, following the course of the river toward Croisset, Dieppedalle, or Biessart mariners and fishermen often picked up the swollen corpse of a German in uniform from the bottom of the river, killed by the blow of a knife, the head crushed with a stone, or perhaps thrown into the water by a push from the high bridge. The slime of the river bed buried these obscure vengeance, savage, but legitimate, unknown

来，每天晚上德国人都可以在壁炉旁暖脚，而且呆得时间越来越长。

慢慢地，这个城市甚至恢复了往日的景象。法国人还不太经常出门，但普鲁士军人却在满街走动。另外，那些蓝装轻骑兵的军官拖着他们那些可怕的杀人武器在街道上趾高气扬地游来荡去；不过，他们那种对普通老百姓表现出的鄙夷和蔑视，倒也不比前一年在这些咖啡馆里喝酒的法国军官或运动员厉害到哪儿去。

然而，空气中还是有一种东西，一种难以捉摸、莫名其妙的东西，一种怪异的、令人难以容忍的气氛，仿佛是一种无孔不入的气味，那就是侵略的气味。这种气味充斥着住宅和公共场所，它改变了食物的味道，让人觉得走上了一次遥远的旅程，置身于那些野蛮而危险的部落之中。

占领军开始索要金钱了，要很多很多的金钱。而居民们却总是如数交纳，而且他们有足够的钱去交纳。不过，一个诺曼底大商人越是有钱，他就越是不愿意出钱，每次看到一点儿钱财从自己手中转到别人的手上，他都痛苦得心如刀绞。

因而，在沿城向下走两三法里，靠近科瓦塞、迪埃勃达勒或比萨尔一带的河里，船夫和渔人们时常会从河底捞起一具早已发胀的尸体，这些还穿着军服的日耳曼人有的是被猛的一刀扎死的，有的脑袋被石头砸碎了，还有的可能是被人从很高的桥上一把推到水里的。河底的淤泥埋葬了这些来历不明、看似野蛮却又

heroisms, mute attacks more perilous than the battles of broad day, and without the echoing sound of glory.

For hatred of the foreigner always arouses some intrepid ones, who are ready to die for an idea.

Finally, as soon as the invaders had brought the town quite under subjection with their inflexible discipline, without having been guilty of any of the horrors for which they were famous along their triumphal line of march, people began to take courage, and the need of trade put new heart into the commerce of the country. Some had large interests at Havre, which the French army occupied, and they wished to try and reach this port by going to Dieppe by land and there embarking.

They used their influence with the German soldiers with whom they had an acquaintance, and finally, an authorization of departure was obtained from the General-in-chief.

Then, a large diligence, with four horses, having been engaged for this journey, and ten persons having engaged seats in it, it was resolved to set out on Tuesday morning before daylight, in order to escape observation.

For some time before, the frost had been hardening the earth and on Monday, toward three o'clock, great black clouds coming from the north brought the snow which fell without interruption during the evening and all night.

At half past four in the morning, the travelers met in the courtyard of Hotel Normandie, where they were to take the carriage.

They were still full of sleep, and shivering with

合法的报复行为，这都是一些无名的英雄事迹，这些无声的偷袭比白天的战斗更能出奇制胜，只是得不到荣耀的回响。

因为对外敌的仇恨总是能够唤起一些无所畏惧的人们，他们为了某种信念，随时都可以牺牲自己的生命。

最后，侵略者以他们那种严酷无情的纪律控制了整个城市，但他们在乘胜进军的途中干的那些恶名远扬的凶残恶行，到了城里后却一件也没有干，于是人们的胆子开始壮起来了，做生意的需要使这里的商人们又活动起了心眼儿。有些人在阿弗尔有大买卖，而这个港口还仍然是法国军队的地盘；所以他们都想先乘车到迪耶普，从那儿再坐船到阿弗尔。

他们对自己认识的一些日尔曼军人做了一些工作，最后竟然从总司令那儿弄到了一份外出许可证。

然后，有人就订了一辆由4匹马拉的大型四轮公共马车来走这趟路。一共有10个人在车里订了座位；为了不引起外人的注意，他们决定星期二凌晨天亮以前启程。

在出行前的几天里，严寒把地面冻得越来越硬。星期一快三点钟的时候，大片大片的乌云裹挟着雪片从北面漫天飘来，从傍晚一刻不停地下下了整整一夜。

凌晨四点半，旅客们都聚集到了诺曼底旅馆的天井里。他们就要从这儿登车启程了。

大家都还睡意蒙眬，身体在衣服下面瑟瑟发抖。

cold under their wraps. They could only see each other dimly in the obscure light, and the accumulation of heavy winter garments made them all resemble fat curates in long cassocks. Only two of the men were acquainted; a third accosted them and they chatted: "I'm going to take my wife," said one. "I too," said another. "And I," said the third. The first added: "We shall not return to Rouen, and if the Prussians approach Havre, we shall go over to England." All had the same projects, being of the same mind.

As yet the horses were not harnessed. A little lantern, carried by a stable boy, went out one door from time to time, to immediately appear at another. The feet of the horses striking the floor could be heard, although deadened by the straw and litter, and the voice of a man talking to the beasts, sometimes swearing, came from the end of the building. A light tinkling of bells announced that they were taking down the harness; this murmur soon became a clear and continuous rhythm by the movement of the animal, stopping sometimes, then breaking into a brusque shake which was accompanied by the dull stamp of a sabot upon the hard earth.

The door suddenly closed. All noise ceased. The frozen citizens were silent; they remained immovable and stiff.

A curtain of uninterrupted white flakes constantly sparkled in its descent to the ground. It effaced forms, and powdered everything with a downy moss. And nothing could be heard in the great silence. The town was calm, and buried under the wintry frost, as this fall