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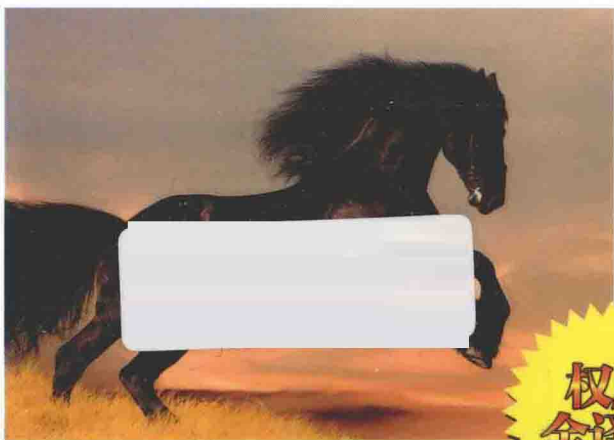
青少年最喜欢的动物小说

Black Beauty

黑骏马

[英] 安娜·塞维尔◎著
石赞◎译

我们怎样对待动物，动物就会怎样对待我们……



**权威
全译版**

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 **北京理工大学出版社**
BEIJING INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY PRESS

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图书在版编目(CIP)数据

黑骏马 / (英)塞维尔著; 石赟译. —北京: 北京理工大学出版社, 2014.7

(美国教育学会推荐读物)

ISBN 978-7-5640-9147-7

I. ①黑… II. ①塞… ②石… III. ①儿童文学-长篇小说-英国-近代 IV. ①I561.84

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2014)第 111742 号

出版发行 / 北京理工大学出版社有限责任公司

社 址 / 北京市海淀区中关村南大街 5 号

邮 编 / 100081

电 话 / (010)68914775(总编室)

82562903(教材售后服务热线)

68948351(其他图书服务热线)

网 址 / <http://www.bitpress.com.cn>

经 销 / 全国各地新华书店

印 刷 / 北京市通州富达印刷厂

开 本 / 880 毫米 × 1230 毫米 1/32

印 张 / 9.5

字 数 / 260 千字

版 次 / 2014 年 7 月第 1 版 2014 年 7 月第 1 次印刷

定 价 / 29.80 元

责任编辑 / 刘 娟

文案编辑 / 李文文

责任校对 / 周瑞红

责任印制 / 边心超

图书出现印装质量问题, 请拨打售后服务热线, 本社负责调换

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黑
骏
马

Chapter 1

My Early Home

The first place that I can well remember was a large pleasant meadow with a pond of clear water in it. Some shady trees leaned over it, and rushes and water-lilies grew at the deep end. Over the hedge on one side we looked into a plowed field, and on the other we looked over a gate at our master's house, which stood by the roadside; at the top of the meadow was a grove of fir trees, and at the bottom a running brook overhung by a steep bank.

While I was young I lived upon my mother's milk, as I could not eat grass. In the daytime I ran by her side, and at night I lay down close by her. When it was hot we used to stand by the pond in the shade of the trees, and when it was cold we had a nice warm shed near the grove. As soon as I was old enough to eat grass my mother used to go out to work in the day-time, and come back in the evening.

There were six young colts in the meadow besides me; they were older than I was; some were nearly as large as grown-up horses. I used to run with them, and had great fun; we used to gallop all together round and round the field as hard as we could go. Sometimes we had rather rough play, for they would frequently bite and kick as well as gallop.

One day, when there was a good deal of kicking, my mother whinnied to me to come to her, and then she said: "I wish you to pay attention to what I am going to say to you. The colts who live here are very good colts, but they are cart-horse colts, and of course they have not learned manners. You have been well-bred and well-born; your father has a great name in these parts, and your grandfather won the cup two years at the Newmarket races; your grandmother had the sweetest temper of any horse I ever knew, and I think you have never seen me kick or bite. I hope you

第 1 章

我早先的家

记忆中，我住过的第一个地方是一大片绿油油的草场，一汪清澈的池水镶嵌其中，两岸绿树成荫，池塘的深处长着灯芯草和睡莲。从一头的篱笆望过去是一片耕作过的土地，而从另一头的篱笆望过去就是主人家的大门了，就位于路边。在草场的高处生长着一片冷杉树，下面则是一条潺潺的小溪，河岸陡峭。

小时候，我只吃妈妈的奶，还不会吃草，白天我围绕在妈妈的左右，到了晚上，我就躺在妈妈的身边。天热时，我们就站在池塘边的树荫下乘凉，天冷时，在小树林附近，我们还有一个温暖的小棚子。

等我一长大了，能吃青草了，妈妈就白天出去干活，晚上回来。

在那片草场上，除了我，还有6匹小马驹，它们都比我大，有些都已经接近成年大马了。我总是跟着它们跑来跑去的，玩得非常开心。我们也会一圈圈地绕着草场跑，直到筋疲力尽为止。有时，我们玩得稍有些粗野，它们不只跑，还既咬又踢。

有一天，当大家正踢得尽兴时，妈妈一声嘶鸣，把我叫了过去。然后她说：“我希望你能注意听我将要对你说的话，生活在这里的小马驹都是好马，但它们是运货拉车的马，当然就没有什么教养。你是受到良好教育的且出身高贵。你的父亲在当地很有名气，你的爷爷两次在纽马克特赛马会上赢得冠军，而你的奶奶是我见过的马中脾气最温柔的一个。我想你也从来不曾见我踢人或咬人吧，我希望你长大后能够温和善良，永远都不要学坏；干活时要怀着善意，

will grow up gentle and good, and never learn bad ways; do your work with a good will, lift your feet up well when you trot, and never bite or kick even in play."

I have never forgotten my mother's advice; I knew she was a wise old horse, and our master thought a great deal of her. Her name was Duchess, but he often called her Pet.

Our master was a good, kind man. He gave us good food, good lodging, and kind words; he spoke as kindly to us as he did to his little children. We were all fond of him, and my mother loved him very much. When she saw him at the gate she would neigh with joy, and trot up to him. He would pat and stroke her and say, "Well, old Pet, and how is your little Darkie?" I was a dull black, so he called me Darkie; then he would give me a piece of bread, which was very good, and sometimes he brought a carrot for my mother. All the horses would come to him, but I think we were his favorites. My mother always took him to the town on a market day in a light gig.

There was a plowboy, Dick, who sometimes came into our field to pluck blackberries from the hedge. When he had eaten all he wanted he would have what he called fun with the colts, throwing stones and sticks at them to make them gallop. We did not much mind him, for we could gallop off; but sometimes a stone would hit and hurt us.

One day he was at this game, and did not know that the master was in the next field; but he was there, watching what was going on; over the hedge he jumped in a snap, and catching Dick by the arm, he gave him such a box on the ear as made him roar with the pain and surprise. As soon as we saw the master we trotted up nearer to see what went on.

"Bad boy!" he said, "bad boy! to chase the colts. This is not the first time, nor the second, but it shall be the last. There—take your money and go home; I shall not want you on my farm again." So we never saw Dick any more. Old Daniel, the man who looked after the horses, was just as gentle as our master, so we were well off.

奔跑时要高高扬起蹄子，即便在玩耍的时候也不要咬人或踢人。”

我从来没有忘记妈妈的叮嘱，我知道她是一匹充满智慧的老马，并且我们的主人也很看重她。妈妈的名字叫做女公爵，但是主人常常叫她宝贝儿。

我们的主人是一个非常善良、温和的男人，他给我们吃上好的草料，住舒适的窝棚，跟我们讲话时语气十分亲切，亲切得就像在跟他自己的小孩子说话一样。我们都特别喜欢他，妈妈更是从心底里爱他，当她一见到主人走到门口时，她就会开心地嘶鸣，并且会快步跑向他。他轻抚着妈妈说：“嘿，老宝贝儿，你的小黑子如何啊？”我全身深黑，所以主人就叫我“黑子”。然后他就给我一片面包，非常好吃。有时他会给我妈妈带一根胡萝卜，所有的马都向他走来，但是我认为他最喜欢我们。妈妈总会拉着一辆轻便的车，带着他们去镇上的集市。

这儿有个伙计，叫迪克，有时会进到我们的场地里从篱笆上摘刺莓浆果，他吃够了浆果后，就会捉弄小马驹，朝它们扔石头，还用木棍捅它们逼它们跑。我们并没有在意他，因为我们很快就跑开了，但是有时石头也会击中并伤到我们。

一天，他又在玩这套把戏，不想主人一直站在旁边的草场上，注视着发生的一切。主人猛地从篱笆上跳过来，将迪克的胳膊揪住，狠狠地给了他一记耳光，迪克又惊又疼，咆哮起来。我们一见到主人来了，就都跑过去看个究竟。

“坏孩子！”他说，“坏孩子！追我的马驹。这不是第一次，也不是第二次，但这必须是最后一次。给——拿上你的工钱回家去吧，我不想让你继续在这里干活了。”从此，我们再也没有见过迪克。丹尼尔老人照看着所有的马，他和主人一样和蔼，因此我们是交好运了。

Chapter 2

The Hunt

Before I was two years old a circumstance happened which I have never forgotten. It was early in the spring; there had been a little frost in the night, and a light mist still hung over the woods and meadows. I and the other colts were feeding at the lower part of the field when we heard, quite in the distance, what sounded like the cry of dogs. The oldest of the colts raised his head, pricked his ears, and said, "There are the hounds!" and immediately cantered off, followed by the rest of us to the upper part of the field, where we could look over the hedge and see several fields beyond. My mother and an old riding horse of our master's were also standing near, and seemed to know all about it.

"They have found a hare," said my mother, "and if they come this way we shall see the hunt."

And soon the dogs were all tearing down the field of young wheat next to ours. I never heard such a noise as they made. They did not bark, nor howl, nor whine, but kept on a "yo! yo, o, o! yo! yo, o, o!" at the top of their voices. After them came a number of men on horseback, some of them in green coats, all galloping as fast as they could. The old horse snorted and looked eagerly after them, and we young colts wanted to be galloping with them, but they were soon away into the fields lower down; here it seemed as if they had come to a stand; the dogs left off barking, and ran about every way with their noses to the ground.

"They have lost the scent," said the old horse; "perhaps the hare will get off."

"What hare?" I said.

"Oh! I don't know what hare; likely enough it may be one of our own hares out of the woods; any hare they can find will do for the dogs

第 2 章

狩 猎

两岁之前，发生了一件我永远也不会忘记的事情。早春时节，夜里的草场上下了点霜，一层薄雾笼罩在树林和草场上。我和其他的小马驹都在田野的低洼处吃草，听到很远处传来了像狗叫的声音。年纪较大的马驹仰起头，竖起耳朵，说：“那边有猎狗！”并且立即就跑开了，其余的小马驹也跟着它跑到了草场的高处，在那里我们可以越过树篱，看到那边几个不同的草场。妈妈和一批主人骑乘的老马也站在旁边，好像知道所发生的一切。

“他们发现了一只野兔，”妈妈说，“如果他们朝着这边来，我们就能看到打猎了。”

很快，猎狗们就分散到了我们旁边的青青麦田中。我从来没有听过它们如此的叫声，不是吠，不是吼，也不是尖叫，而是扯足嗓门不断地发出“哟！哟，噢，噢！哟！哟，噢，噢！”的声音。在狗后面过来了一伙骑马的人，有几个穿着绿外套，都在全力奔跑。那匹老马喷着鼻息，热切地望着它们的背影，我们小马驹很想飞驰过去跟上它们，但是他们很快就离开并到了下面的低洼的田野里。它们好像突然停下了，猎狗也不叫了，鼻子贴着地面在路上跑来跑去。

“它们闻不到气味了，”老马说，“说不定兔子已经逃脱了呢。”

“什么兔子？”我说。

“哦！我不知道是什么兔子，很有可能是从树林中跑出来的我们自己的兔子。不管什么兔子，只要它们发现了，被猎狗和人看到了就要在后面追。”不久，猎狗们再次发出了它们“哟！哟，噢，噢！”

and men to run after;" and before long the dogs began their "yo! yo, o, o!" again, and back they came altogether at full speed, making straight for our meadow at the part where the high bank and hedge overhang the brook.

"Now we shall see the hare," said my mother; and just then a hare wild with fright rushed by and made for the woods. On came the dogs; they burst over the bank, leaped the stream, and came dashing across the field followed by the huntsmen. Six or eight men leaped their horses clean over, close upon the dogs. The hare tried to get through the fence; it was too thick, and she turned sharp round to make for the road, but it was too late; the dogs were upon her with their wild cries; we heard one shriek, and that was the end of her. One of the huntsmen rode up and whipped off the dogs, who would soon have torn her to pieces. He held her up by the leg torn and bleeding, and all the gentlemen seemed well pleased.

As for me, I was so astonished that I did not at first see what was going on by the brook; but when I did look there was a sad sight; two fine horses were down, one was struggling in the stream, and the other was groaning on the grass. One of the riders was getting out of the water covered with mud, the other lay quite still.

"His neck is broke," said my mother.

"And serve him right, too," said one of the colts.

I thought the same, but my mother did not join with us.

"Well, no," she said, "you must not say that; but though I am an old horse, and have seen and heard a great deal, I never yet could make out why men are so fond of this sport; they often hurt themselves, often spoil good horses, and tear up the fields, and all for a hare or a fox, or a stag, that they could get more easily some other way; but we are only horses, and don't know."

While my mother was saying this we stood and looked on. Many of the riders had gone to the young man; but my master, who had been watching what was going on, was the first to raise him. His head fell back and his arms hung down, and every one looked very serious. There was no noise now; even the dogs were quiet, and seemed to know that something was wrong. They carried him to our master's house. I heard afterward that

的声音，并且它们一起全速向我们的草场直奔过来，奔向小溪边高高堆积起来的树篱。

“现在我们可以看到兔子了，”妈妈说。就在这时，一只受惊的兔子仓惶地窜了出来，向树林跑去。猎狗追上来了，它们冲出河岸，越过小溪，猎人们紧跟着猛地穿过了田野。6个或8个男人一跃而过，紧跟着前面的猎狗。兔子试图穿过栅栏，可是栅栏太密了，它猛地回转身冲向大路，但太晚了，猎狗带着它们野蛮的叫声扑了上去。我们听到一声尖叫，而那声尖叫也结束了兔子的性命。一个猎人赶上去赶走了猎狗，那些猎狗会很快将兔子撕成碎片的。猎人拿着兔子被撕裂的正在流血的腿拎起她，那些先生们似乎都很高兴。

而我完全惊呆了，起初还没明白河对岸到底发生了什么，但是当我仔细一看时，那场景简直惨不忍睹。两匹上等的马倒下了，一匹在小溪中努力挣扎着，而另一匹在草地上呻吟。其中一位骑手从河水中爬了上来，满身泥浆，另一个躺在地上一动也不动。

“他的脖子断了。”妈妈说。

“那是他活该。”一匹小马驹说。

我也是这样想的，但是妈妈不赞同我们。

“不是的，”妈妈说，“你们不能那样说。虽然我是一匹老马，曾见过很多也听过很多事情，但是我始终没能明白，为什么那些男人如此喜欢这项运动。他们自己经常受伤，也经常糟蹋好马，还在草地上狂奔，但都是为了一只兔子或者一只狐狸，或者一只鹿，他们本可以用其他更为简单的方法获得。但我们只是马，我们不明白他们的做法。”

就在妈妈说这段话的时候，我们就站在那里看着。许多骑手奔向那个年轻人，而一直注视着所发生的一切的我们的主人第一个过去扶起了他。他的头向后耷拉着，双臂低垂着，看上去每个人都都很严肃。没有一点声响，甚至连狗也安静了，就像知道有什么事情要发生了。他们将那个年轻人抬到了我主人的家里。过后我才听说那是年轻的乔治·戈登，乡绅戈登老爷唯一的儿子，一个英俊帅气的高个儿小伙儿，是他们全家的骄傲。

it was young George Gordon, the squire's only son, a fine, tall young man, and the pride of his family.

There was now riding off in all directions to the doctor's, to the farrier's, and no doubt to Squire Gordon's, to let him know about his son. When Mr. Bond, the farrier, came to look at the black horse that lay groaning on the grass, he felt him all over, and shook his head; one of his legs was broken. Then some one ran to our master's house and came back with a gun; presently there was a loud bang and a dreadful shriek, and then all was still; the black horse moved no more.

My mother seemed much troubled; she said she had known that horse for years, and that his name was "Rob Roy"; he was a good horse, and there was no vice in him. She never would go to that part of the field afterward.

Not many days after we heard the church-bell tolling for a long time, and looking over the gate we saw a long, strange black coach that was covered with black cloth and was drawn by black horses; after that came another and another and another, and all were black, while the bell kept tolling, tolling. They were carrying young Gordon to the churchyard to bury him. He would never ride again. What they did with Rob Roy I never knew; but 'twas all for one little hare.

Chapter 3

My Breaking In

I was now beginning to grow handsome; my coat had grown fine and soft, and was bright black. I had one white foot and a pretty white star on my forehead. I was thought very handsome; my master would not sell me till I was four years old; he said lads ought not to work like men, and colts ought not to work like horses till they were quite grown up. When I was four years old Squire Gordon came to look at me. He examined my eyes, my mouth, and my