

世界名著插图本 Eve's Diary

夏娃日记

马克·吐温/著 文爱艺/译



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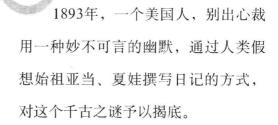
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Eue's DIARY 夏桂日记



这个美国人就是马克·吐温(Mark Twain),这个底就是你手中正拿着的这部日记。

马克·吐温——原名塞缪尔·郎 德恩·克列门斯(Samuel Langhorne Clemens), 1835年11月30日出生于 密苏里州门罗县佛罗里达小镇, 卒于 1910年4月21日。在其存世的七十五年 间, 他先后做过印刷厂的小学徒、终日奔走的排字工人、密西西比河上的

唐

爱情是什么?

这个干古之谜,从人类 诞生起,就没有停止过追问, 尽管答案汗牛充栋,但它至今 依然是一个疑问。

人是什么?

这依然是一个问题,同 样困惑着人类,就像人们困惑 于什么是男人、什么是女人。 领港员、内华达金矿的工人、小报通讯员、新闻记者、报刊编辑、幽 默作家等。

1863年,他在为《企业报》撰写一篇通讯时,署名Mark Twain(马克·吐温),这是他在密西西比河上当领港人时,经常喊的词,意为"水深十二英尺",表示水够深,船可以通过了。

从此,在人类的文学史上,闪亮出了一颗如同这个笔名一样幽默的大师级作家——马克·吐温。人们翻阅他的作品,无论是长篇小说《哈克贝利·费恩历险记》、《傻瓜威尔逊》,还是中短篇小说《百万英镑》、《竞选州长》、《加利维拉县有名的跳蛙》、《田纳西的新闻界》、《败坏了赫德莱堡的人》,演讲如《横行无忌的报刊界》,甚至小品如《亚当日记》和《夏娃日记》等,无不令人眉开眼笑,但这种笑不仅使你笑出眼泪,更是让你感到战栗。

尽管教科书上异口同声地评定:他——马克·吐温,早年是一个机智诙谐的幽默家,晚年却成了一位悲观绝望的厌世者。但在译者看来,这个所谓的评定真是一个误导——纵览马克·吐温的全部作品,无论是早年的幽默之笔抑或是晚境的沉痛之语,无不是对世相的讥讽、人性的解剖。正如他在自传中所言:"我一直在真心实意地致力于人类的研究——也就是说,研究我自己,因为在我身上集中了全人类的缩影。"

《亚当日记》和《夏娃日记》正是这个研究的成果。他动笔于1893年,定稿于1905年,出版于1906年,历时十二年。短短篇幅,耗

时可谓长久,可见其用心之深。

幽默,我们现在通常的注解是:有趣或可笑而意味深长。在译者看来,这意味深长的背后,何尝不包含着无尽的哀怨与沉痛、感伤与忧郁,只不过这种哀怨与沉痛被熟视无睹的冷漠麻木了而已。

作品诞生在可恶而实惠的资产阶级泛滥时期的美国,资产阶级所标榜的所谓自由平等,只不过是为了掩饰资本积累的血腥无情,它张扬的结果使人人都深陷在利己主义的冰水之中,沦为被物化的金钱的奴隶。

作者在深恶中,虽然描绘的是那时美国男女的心态,但它深刻立体的画像,至今依然闪烁着思想的光芒,依然能从中看见我们自身的 影子。

《亚当日记》和《夏娃日记》揭示了爱情,揭示了人,但它又远远不止这些,那看似天真的笔触频频闪现出对人性深思的哲学意味,幽默讥评的叙述里不时流露出对人的命运的关切,活泼清新的文风构筑了他对人性的洞见,朴实无华的文字背后蕴藏的是深沉与睿智。

我们不能希图在一篇短短的序文里,尽显马克·吐温数十年的研究成果,这其中的深味,需我们开卷,深入其中去探寻。

打开这部日记吧,它会让你从中体味什么是爱情,什么是男 人,什么是女人。



Saturday

星期六

I am almost a whole day old, now. I arrived yesterday. That is as it seems to me. And it must be so, for if there was a day-before-yesterday I was not there when it happened, or I should remember it. It could be, of course, that it did happen, and that I was not noticing.

我来到这个世界快一天了。我是昨天来的。我感到好像就是昨天。也 只能是昨天,因为不是昨天,我肯定不在这儿,如果在,我是应该记 得的。也许可能有过前天,只是我没有注意罢了。

Very well; I will be very watchful now, and if any day-beforeyesterdays happen I will make a note of it.

从现在开始,我将留意,并把它记录下来。我一定把它准确记录,不能有任何失误。

It will be best to start right and not let the record get confused, for some instinct tells me that these details are going to be important to the historian some day.

最好一开始就记录准确,以免变得混乱。我感到这些详细的记录会成为历史学家重要的参考资料。

For I feel like an experiment, I feel exactly like an experiment; it







我只不过在这场实验中居中心位置而已, 其他的一切都各居其位



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would be impossible for a person to feel more like an experiment than I do, and so I am coming to feel convinced that that is what I am — an experiment; just an experiment, and nothing more.

不错,我愈来愈感到自己就像是一种实验,没有人能够感觉到我的这种感受,这的确是一种实验,而我仅仅是一件实验品,如此而已。

Then if I am an experiment, am I the whole of it? No, I think not; I think the rest of it is part of it.

如果这真是一场实验,我是否是这场实验的全部?不,我感到不是,我感到其他的事物也是这个实验的部分。

I am the main part of it, but I think the rest of it has its share in the matter. Is my position assured, or do I have to watch it and take care of it? The latter, perhaps.

我只不过在这场实验中居中心位置而已,其他的一切都各居其位。我的中心位置是永远确立的,还是需要小心保持呢?应该是后者。

Some instinct tells me that eternal vigilance is the price of supremacy. (That is a good phrase, I think, for one so young.)

凭直觉,我认为,永远谨慎,至高无上(我认为,对于年轻人,这是一句非常有益的格言)。

Everything looks better today than it did yesterday. In the rush of







这个壮丽无比的新世界就是一件最高贵、最美丽的艺术品



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finishing up yesterday, the mountains were left in a ragged condition, and some of the plains were so cluttered with rubbish and remnants that the aspects were quite distressing. Noble and beautiful works of art should not be subjected to haste; and this majestic new world is indeed a most noble and beautiful work. And certainly marvelously near to being perfect, not with-standing the shortness of the time.

今天显得比昨天好。昨天的一切都在匆匆忙忙中完成,山峦凌乱,平原乱七八糟,很不雅观。高贵美丽的艺术品是不可能在匆忙中造就的,这个壮丽无比的新世界就是一件最高贵、最美丽的艺术品。虽然它在很短的时间里被创造出来,但依然达到了令人不可思议的完美。

There are too many stars in some places and not enough in others, but that can be remedied presently, no doubt. The moon got loose last night, and slid down and fell out of the scheme — a very great loss; it breaks my heart to think of it. There isn't another thing among the ornaments and decorations that is comparable to it for beauty and finish. It should have been fastened better. If we can only get it back again...







因为我太喜欢月亮了,它是那么美丽、神奇



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But of course there is no telling where it went to. And besides, whoever gets it will hide it; I know it because I would do it myself.

然而,谁也不知道它掉到哪里去了。再说,无论谁捡到它,都会把它 藏起来。我之所以这样说,是因为我就想这样做。

I believe I can be honest in all other matters, but I already begin to realize that the core and center of my nature is love of the beautiful, a passion for the beautiful, and that it would not be safe to trust me with a moon that belonged to another person and that person didn't know I had it.

我是一个诚实的人,而我现在开始意识到,我天性爱美,我的灵魂深 处充满了对美的渴求。所以,如果我把月亮藏起来,而它的主人并不 知道,那我的诚实就不一定靠得住了。

I could give up a moon that I found in the daytime, because I should be afraid some one was looking; but if I found it in the dark, I am sure I should find some kind of an excuse for not saying anything about it. For I do love moons, they are so pretty and so romantic. I wish we had five or six; I would never go to bed; I should never get tired lying on the moss-bank and looking up at them.

假如我在白天找到它,我会把它交出去,因为我怕有人看见,如果夜里我找到它,我一定声称对此一无所知,因为我太喜欢月亮了,它是那么美丽、神奇。我真想拥有五个或者六个这样的月亮。如果真能这样的话,我愿永远不睡觉,我将毫不疲惫地躺在小草苔藓茂密的岸边







昨晚, 星星一出现, 我就拿着树枝想敲落几个



仰望着它们。

Stars are good, too. I wish I could get some to put in my hair. But I suppose I never can. You would be surprised to find how far off they are, for they do not look it.

星星也很美。我真想摘几颗星星戴在头上。可惜我无能为力。因为它们离我们很遥远。你也许感到惊奇,它们看上去并不远。

When they first showed, last night, I tried to knock some down with a pole, but it didn't reach, which astonished me; then I tried clods till I was all tired out, but I never got one. It was because I am left - handed and cannot throw good.

昨晚,星星一出现,我就拿着树枝想敲落几个,可树枝竟然够不着,这真令我困惑。于是我又用土块儿扔,直累得我精疲力竭也没有打下来一颗。也许我是左撇子,所以打不准。

Even when I aimed at the one I wasn't after I couldn't hit the other one, though I did make some close shots, for I saw the black blot of the clod sail right into the midst of the golden clusters forty or fifty times, just barely missing them, and if I could have held out a little longer maybe I could have got one.

我尝试着打别的东西,看能否误中星星,结果依然不行。有四五十次, 我看见土块儿直向金灿灿的繁星,眼看就要击中,结果还是落空。如 果我再坚持一会儿,或许可以击中。







幸好我看见了几只老虎,我躺在它们中间

So I cried a little, which was natural, I suppose, for one of my age, and after I was rested I got a basket and started for a place on the extreme rim of the circle, where the stars were close to the ground and I could get them with my hands, which would be better, anyway, because I could gather them tenderly then, and not break them. But it was farther than I thought, and at last I had to give it up; I was so tired I couldn't drag my feet another step; and besides, they were sore and hurt me very much.

为此,我很伤心。我以为,在我这个年龄,哭泣是很自然的事。稍息片刻,我挎上一只篮子,走向天边,那儿离星星最近,我可以用手把它们摘下来。这比其他办法都好,我可以从容地摘,而且不会把它们打破。可天边遥远得超出了我的想象。我走得累极了。腿又酸又痛,简直寸步难行了。我只好放弃了这个计划。

I couldn't get back home; it was too far and turning cold; but I found some tigers and nestled in among them and was most adorably comfortable, and their breath was sweet and pleasant, because they live on strawberries. I had never seen a tiger before, but I knew them in a minute by the stripes. If I could have one of those skins, it would make a lovely gown.

我走不回去了,路途太远,而且天转凉了。幸好我看见了几只老虎,我躺在它们中间,感到舒服极了,因为它们以草莓为食,周围散发出 甜蜜的芬芳。过去,我对老虎一无所知,但一看见它们身上的斑纹我

