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# CHARLIE CHAPLIN



英 汉 对 照 Ruth Turk

# 卓 别 林

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## 卓别林

Ruth Turk

严 华 译注



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# Biography 外教社 人物 传记 丛书

## 出版前言

曾经有人做了一项调查,拥有最多读者的书籍是传记。阅读一本优秀的人物传记,往往可以使人振作精神,奋发图强,尤其对于青少年,阅读传记更可以使他们建立起正确的人生坐标,从而开拓美好的未来。

上海外语教育出版社从美国乐勒出版集团引进的“外教社人物传记丛书”就是这样一套奉献给广大青少年朋友的优秀传记丛书。全套书共13册,人物包括美国开国元勋本杰明·富兰克林,著名黑人民权运动领袖马丁·路德·金,文豪莎士比亚,意大利文艺复兴巨匠达·芬奇,极具个人魅力的体育明星泰格·伍兹、穆罕默德·阿里、魔术师约翰逊,影视音乐界的巨星卓别林、史蒂文·斯皮尔伯格、玛丽莲·梦露、甲壳虫乐队,商界奇才比尔·盖茨,以及深受世人爱戴的戴安娜王妃等。阅读这些著名人物的传奇人生,可以帮助青少年朋友们了解西方不同时代的社会历史背景,更能够激励他们树立远大理想,以积极的态度直面人生的风雨。

这套传记丛书均由专门从事青少年文学创作的美国资深作家撰写,语言生动活泼,故事性强,引人入胜。外教社特邀一批在翻译方面颇有建树的年轻学者对丛书进行翻译和注释,希望英汉对照加注释这一形式能更好地帮助读者学习英语,享受阅读。

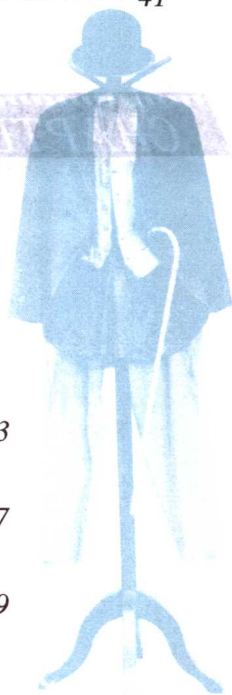
这套丛书特别适合高中生和大学一二年级的学生阅读。我们相信它必将成为青少年朋友们学习英语、探求人生真谛的好伙伴!

上海外语教育出版社  
2005年6月

# 卓 别 林

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# CHARLIE CHAPLIN

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# *CHAPTER ONE*

# 工生演员

Charlie Chaplin clasped his mother's hand tightly. He quickly propelled himself along, keeping up with her new pace. Charlie knew that Hannah Chaplin did not want to be late for her performance at the music hall. If the show didn't start on time, the crowd would become rude and noisy. Charlie had frequently seen patrons hiss and jeer at entertainers who displeased them. Sometimes, if a few spectators had had too much to drink, they would throw rotten fruit and old shoes onto the stage.

Music halls, also called variety halls, were a popular form of entertainment for working people in England at the time. Shows consisted of various types of entertainment. In a single night, many small audiences would be treated to singing, dancing, pantomime, and especially slapstick—a type of comedy featuring horseplay, and often, physical humor, such as slapping and throwing.

Charlie Chaplin's mother was a singer. Charlie, she was known as Lily Harley. Audiences loved her dancing, her dance and her sweet delicate voice. This night, however, Hannah's throat felt dry and scratchy. The damp weather had affected her vocal chords, and she worried that she might sing badly. With both Charlie and his nine-year-old brother, Sydney, to care for, she had better be able to sing—or there would be no supper for any of them.

As soon as she entered the back door of the music hall, Hannah Chaplin dropped her son's hand and hurried to the dressing room to put on her costume. Though the backstage area was cluttered with props and performers moving in

## A BORN PERFORMER



## 1. A Born Performer

1889 – 1894

ON A DAMP, CHILLY LONDON NIGHT, FIVE-YEAR-OLD Charlie Chaplin clasped his mother's hand tightly. He quickly propelled himself along, keeping up with her nervous pace. Charlie knew that Hannah Chaplin did not want to be late for her performance at the music hall<sup>[1]</sup>. If the show didn't start on time, the crowd would become rude and noisy. Charlie had frequently seen patrons hiss and jeer at entertainers who displeased them. Sometimes, if a few spectators had had too much to drink, they would throw rotten fruit and old shoes onto the stage.

Music halls, also called vaudeville, were a popular form of entertainment for working people in England at the time. Shows consisted of various types of entertainment. In a single night, music hall audiences would be treated to singing, dancing, pantomime, and especially slapstick — a type of comedy featuring horseplay, pranks<sup>[2]</sup>, and other physical humor, such as pie-throwing.

Charlie Chaplin's mother was a singer. Onstage, she was known as Lily Harley. Audiences loved her dainty appearance and her sweet, delicate voice. This night, however, Hannah's throat felt dry and scratchy. The damp weather had irritated<sup>[3]</sup> her vocal chords, and she worried that she might sing badly. With both Charlie and his nine-year-old brother, Sydney, to care for, she had better be able to sing — or there would be no supper for any of them.

As soon as they entered the back door of the music hall, Hannah Chaplin dropped her son's hand and hurried to the dressing room to put on her costume. Though the backstage area was cluttered with props and performers moving in



# 1889年—1894年

在一个潮湿阴冷的夜晚，伦敦街头，5岁的查理·卓别林紧紧抓着他母亲的手。他迅速朝前走，以跟上母亲紧张的步伐。查理知道，汉娜·卓别林要在杂耍戏院演出，她不想迟到。如果她的表演不能按时开始，人们将会粗鲁地闹翻天。查理经常看见观众们对冒犯了他们的演员发出嘘声，加以嘲弄。有时候，如果一些观众喝多了，他们就会往舞台上扔烂水果和旧鞋子。

[1] music hall 杂

耍戏院

[2] pranks 胡闹，

恶作剧

[3] irritated 使不

舒服；使疼痛

杂耍戏院也叫综艺剧院，是当时英格兰工人阶级喜欢去的娱乐场所。里面的演出包括各种不同的娱乐形式。单单一个晚上杂耍戏院的观众们就可以观赏到唱歌、舞蹈、哑剧，特别是滑稽剧。滑稽剧是喜剧表演的一种，其特色是喧嚣的打闹、恶作剧以及其他引人发笑的形体表演，如扔馅饼。

查理·卓别林的母亲是一名歌手。她在舞台上的名字叫莉莉·哈利。观众们喜欢她秀丽的外表和动听优美的嗓音。然而，那天晚上汉娜感觉嗓子有些干燥嘶哑。潮湿的天气影响了她的声带，她担心可能会唱不好。为了照顾查理和他9岁的哥哥西德尼，她最好能够唱下去，否则他们就都没有饭吃了。

一走进戏院的后门，汉娜·卓别林就放开儿子的手，冲进更衣室穿上她的演出服。尽管后台乱糟糟地摆满了各种道具，演员们来来回回到处走动，汉娜一点也不担心

every direction, Hannah was not afraid to leave Charlie on his own. Charlie's parents had first brought him to the theater at age three, and he had become accustomed to wandering around backstage. The stagehands and entertainers always smiled at the polite, neatly dressed child. Often they paused in their frantic preparations to greet him with a pat on the head. Sometimes they gave Charlie a cookie or piece of candy to nibble on. Most of the time, Charlie stood quietly in the wings, watching his mother perform.

Charlie spent so much time listening to his mother sing that he had memorized her entire repertoire<sup>[1]</sup>. He also learned other performers' songs, not just because it seemed to make his time backstage move faster, but also because he enjoyed the words and the music.

Born in London in 1889, Charles Spencer Chaplin felt loved and protected. But on this night in 1894, everything changed. As his mother came onstage in her long ruffled skirt and velvet jacket, the usually noisy audience became still and quiet. Lily Harley started to sing. As she reached for the high notes of a beautiful ballad, her voice suddenly cracked. A rude customer began to whistle. Lily tried again, only to fail once more. She broke down in tears and looked to the music hall owner for help, but he ignored her and darted<sup>[2]</sup> backstage. To Lily's surprise, he then dragged out her son, who had been watching unhappily in the wings.

Encouraging Charlie to sing any song he wanted, the desperate man waved Hannah off the stage, where she collapsed<sup>[3]</sup> in the arms of a sympathetic performer. As the small boy advanced bravely to the center of the stage, the unruly<sup>[4]</sup> audience stopped booing and stared in astonishment. No one knew what to expect from such a young performer.

Charlie took advantage of the brief lull<sup>[5]</sup> and began singing a popular melody called "Jack Jones." The way he moved his shoulders and



把查理一个人丢下不管。查理在3岁的时候就被父母带进了戏院，他已经习惯了在后台闲逛。后台工作人员和演员们总是对这个彬彬有礼、穿着整齐的小孩子微笑。他们常常在极度忙乱的准备工作中停一小会儿，拍拍这个孩子的头，跟他打招呼。有时，他们也会给查理甜饼或糖果吃。大多数时候，查理静静地站在后台的侧面，观看母亲的表演。

查理有很多时间都在听母亲唱歌，因此记住了她全部的曲目。同时他也学唱其他演员的歌，这不仅仅是为了打发在后台的时间，而且因为他喜欢这些唱词和音乐。

1889年，查理·斯宾塞·卓别林生于伦敦，他一直感受到家人的关爱和保护。但是，在1894年的这个夜晚，一切都改变了。当他的母亲穿着长长的褶裙和天鹅绒外套走上台时，平时吵闹的观众安静了下来。莉莉·哈利开始唱起来。当她唱到一首优美的民谣的高音部时，她的嗓音突然变哑了。一个粗鲁的观众开始吹口哨。莉莉又试了一次，还是不行。她不禁哭了出来，朝杂耍戏院老板投去求助的目光。但是老板没有理她，冲进了后台。让莉莉吃惊的是，他把她的儿子——在舞台侧面闷闷不乐地看着这一切的小查理拽了出来。

汉娜倒在一个同情她的演员怀中，心急如焚的老板挥手示意，把她赶下了舞台，并鼓励查理唱任何他想唱的歌。当这个小男孩勇敢地走向舞台中央的时候，闹哄哄的观众停止了嘘声，吃惊地瞪着他。没有人知道，这么小的一个演员能带来什么样的演出。

趁着这短暂的安静间歇，查理开始唱一首名叫“杰克·琼斯”的流行歌曲。他晃着肩膀，像大人一样

crowd. They broke  
performer. Charlie  
spent many hours  
told sad as well as  
long well, and they  
tamped their feet.  
Soon Charlie  
he had seen on  
he lifted his feet  
up the steps as he  
[1] repertoire 全  
部剧目，全部节  
目  
[2] darted 急冲，  
突进  
[3] collapsed 倒  
塌  
[4] unruly 不守秩  
序的，不守规矩  
的  
[5] lull 间歇，暂停

strutted around like someone much older delighted the crowd. They broke into a roar of appreciation, applauding the bold<sup>[1]</sup> little performer. Charlie gave them one song after another — songs he had spent many hours listening to from the wings of the theater. The songs told sad as well as funny stories. People in the audience also knew the songs well, and they joined in on the choruses, clapped their hands, and stomped their feet.

Soon Charlie started to dance, imitating the dancers he had seen on the stage. Though he had no musical accompaniment, he lifted his feet and tapped<sup>[2]</sup> and stomped to his own beat, making up the steps as he went along. Charlie even concluded his performance with an imitation of his mother, letting his voice crack in the middle of a song just as she had. The audience screamed with laughter.

Suddenly Charlie felt something sting his cheek. He was terrified, thinking the customers were throwing things at him. They were. Delighted with the boy's performance, the audience flung coins onstage, requesting more songs. Charlie was glad to comply<sup>[3]</sup>. He was enjoying himself. He collected all the money, then went on with his act until his mother picked him up and carried him off the stage.

Hannah Chaplin never appeared on stage again. Her music hall career was over, but that night a new performer was born. At age five, Charlie Chaplin had made his debut<sup>[4]</sup>.







[1] bold 大胆的,  
勇敢的

大摇大摆地走路,把观众们给逗乐了。他们爆发出阵阵赞赏的欢呼声,为这个勇敢的小演员喝彩。查理唱了一首又一首他在舞台侧面多次听到的歌,这些歌曲讲述了或悲伤或可笑的故事。观众们对这些歌也很熟悉,于是他们拍着手,跺着脚,加入到合唱中来。

[2] tapped 轻叩,  
轻敲

很快,查理又开始模仿他从舞台上看得来的舞蹈演员的动作,跳起了舞。虽然没有音乐伴奏,他仍抬起脚,按着自己的节拍或轻或重地踩着地面,边走边形成了舞步。查理甚至以模仿他的母亲来结束表演,他在唱到一首歌的中间时,嗓音突然像他母亲一样变哑。观众们笑着尖叫起来。

[3] comply 照做

突然,查理觉得脸颊被什么东西打了一下。他很害怕,以为观众们朝他扔东西了。确实如此。被这个男孩的表演逗乐了的观众们把硬币扔向舞台,要他多唱几首。查理很高兴地满足了他们的要求。他完全陶醉了。他捡起所有的硬币,继续他的演出,直到他的母亲把他带下台去。

[4] debut (演员  
的)首次演出

汉娜·卓别林从此再也没有在舞台上露过面。她的杂耍戏院生涯从此结束了,但也就是在那一晚,一个新星诞生了。在5岁的时候,查理·卓别林初次登台亮相。

## *CHAPTER TWO*

---



# 月半歌星

at the music hall, she was forced to support her family some other way. Charlie Chaplin Sr. had left his wife and two children years before, and he rarely sent them any money. When he sold her jewelry, but the money did not last long. Then, in 1894, he moved into a tiny one-room apartment in London and lived there for many years. Using her sewing skills, she made dresses for wealthy women to earn some extra money.

Charlie sewed clothes for the two young boys, but since she couldn't afford new material, she had to use old fabric. Charlie and Sybil wore old costumes. When Charlie arrived at school wearing red stockings sewn from a pair of Hannah's nightgowns, his classmates teased him. He received similar treatment when he wore a new winter coat made from a velvet jacket with striped sleeves. His classmates described him as "those old clothes."

The first five years of Charlie's life had been lonely and insecure. He had never gone hungry until his mother left his job. Hannah tried her best to give the proper meals, but often the family had little to eat. Some days all they had to eat was a cup of tea and a bit of bread. To comfort himself, Charlie would sing to himself. He knew that an actor had given him backstage at the music hall.

Despite their cramped quarters, Hannah was determined to keep her boys happy and cheerful as she

could. On some very cold days she would put aside her sewing and entertain her children by singing and dancing. Sometimes all three

CHARLIE CHAPLIN

# TOUGH TIMES

1894–1898

**N**OW THAT HANNAH CHAPLIN COULD NO LONGER WORK at the music hall, she was forced to support her family some other way. Charlie Chaplin Sr. had left his wife and two children years before, and he rarely sent them any money. Hannah sold her jewelry, but the money did not last long. To save on rent, the Chaplins moved into a tiny one-room apartment. Hannah had made her own costumes for many years. Using her sewing skills, she started making dresses for wealthy women to earn some extra money.

Hannah also sewed clothes for her two growing boys, but since she couldn't afford new material, she fashioned<sup>[1]</sup> outfits<sup>[2]</sup> for Charlie and Syd<sup>[3]</sup> from her old costumes. When Charlie arrived at school wearing red stockings sewn from a pair of Hannah's tights, his classmates teased him horribly. Syd received similar treatment when he wore a winter coat made from a velvet jacket with striped sleeves. His classmates described him as "Joseph and the Coat of Many Colors<sup>[4]</sup>."

The first five years of Charlie's life had been comfortable and secure. He had never gone hungry until his mother lost her job. Hannah tried her best to prepare proper meals, but often the family had little to eat. Some days all they had to eat was a cup of tea and a few pieces of bread. To comfort himself, Charlie would sometimes play an old violin that an actor had given him backstage at the music hall.

Despite their cramped quarters<sup>[5]</sup>, Hannah was determined to keep her boys as warm and cheerful as she could. On cold, rainy winter days she would put aside her sewing and entertain her children by singing and dancing. Sometimes all three