朗文英汉对照阶梯阅读丛书





# The Swiss Family Robinson

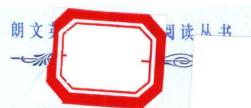
约翰·怀斯原著 D.K.斯旺 迈克尔·韦斯特改写 卫海文译

瑞士家庭鲁滨孙

简写本







# le Swiss Family ns

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家 庭



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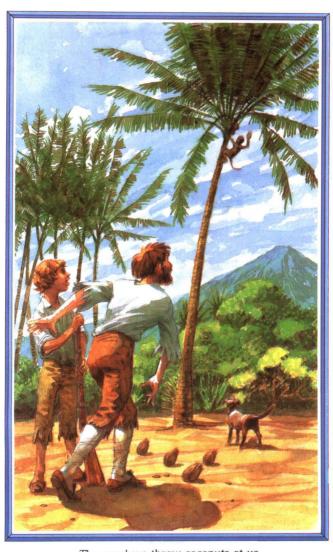
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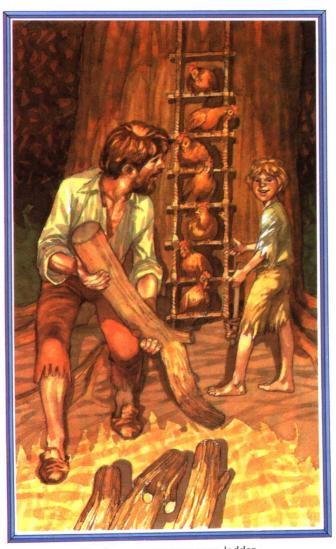
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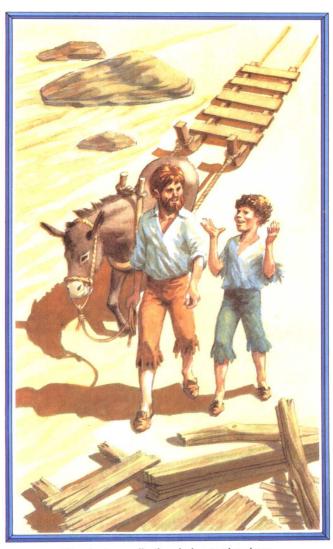


The monkeys throw coconuts at us 毛猴朝我们扔椰子 (参见第三章)

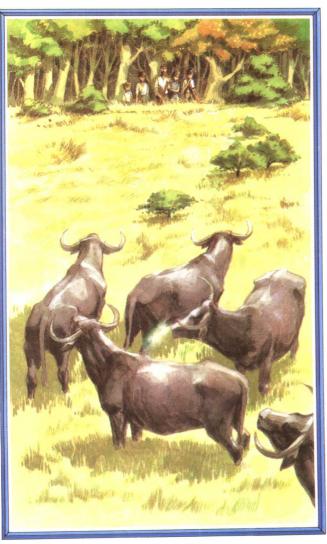


The hens on our new rope ladder 母鸡柄在我们的新绳梯上 (参见第七章)

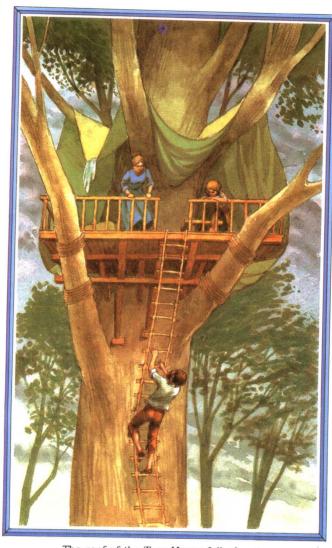
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The donkey pulls the sledge to the shore 毛驴把雪橇拉到岸边 (参见第十章)



We see the buffaloes 我们看到了野牛群 (参见第十三章)



The roof of the Tree House full of water 积满了水的巢屋屋顶 (参见第十五章)



Fritz finds the canoe very difficult at first 一开始,弗利茨发现独木舟很难控制 (参见第十八章)

# Introduction

Johann Rudolph Wyss (1782–1830) was a professor in Berne in Switzerland. He was well known as a student of folklore – the special national or group beliefs, customs, etc, that have been passed from parents to children for hundreds of years. But he is more widely remembered as the man who gave the world *The Swiss Family Robinson* in 1812. This novel was his own work, but it began as an uncompleted story by his father, Johann David Wyss.

Wyss took the idea for The Swiss Family Robinson from Daniel Defoe's Robinson Crusoe, so we had better look at Defoe's novel first in this Introduction.

The idea for *Robinson Crusoe* came from the real adventures of Alexander Selkirk. Selkirk quarrelled with the captain on his ship, and was put on to the island of Juan Fernandez in 1704. He was rescued when another ship visited the island in 1709. Daniel Defoe took Alexander Selkirk's story and added descriptions and events of his own. He didn't pretend that *Robinson Crusoe* (1719) was a true story, though many people believed it was. The story-telling was so like a real-life account that it seemed completely true. Remember that the novel, as a form of literature, didn't appear in England until about 1740. Defoe's story has Robinson Crusoe describing very carefully how he used the things he saved from the ship and the things he found on the island. He also describes his fight

约翰·鲁道夫·怀斯 (1782-1830) 是瑞士伯尔尼市的一位教授。当时,他作为民俗学学者闻名遐迩 (这些民俗是指数百年世代相传的独特的民族或团体的信仰、习俗等)。然而今天,他则是作为 1812 年出版的《瑞士家庭鲁滨孙》一书的作者而为世人铭记在心。这部小说虽是他自己的创作,但小说的雏型,却是他父亲约翰·戴维·怀斯写的一篇未写完的故事。

《瑞士家庭鲁滨孙》一书的主题思想,取自丹尼尔·笛福的小说《鲁滨孙历险记》。因此在这篇引言中,我们最好先来看看笛福的小说。

《鲁滨孙历险记》一书的创作构思,源于亚历山大·赛科克的真实冒险经历。1704年,赛科克在船上与船长发生口角,结果被丢到了胡安·费尔南德斯荒岛上,直到 1709年另一艘海轮来到该岛时他才获救。丹尼尔·笛福以亚历山大·赛科克的传奇故事为素材,并根据自己的经历加以具体描绘,充实故事情节。尽管许多人相信实有其事,但笛福从未声称《鲁滨孙历险记》(1719)是个真实故事。故事娓娓道来,简直就像在记叙现实生活,这自然会给人一种实有其事的印象。但是我们要记住:作为一种文学形式,小说直到 1740年左右才在英国发表。笛福在故事里,让鲁滨孙十分细腻地描述了他如何利用从船上获得的和在岛上发现的各种物品。此外,鲁滨孙在独

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to keep command of his own mind during the long years alone on the island. Exciting moments are his discovery of a footmark in the sand, his seeing a group of man-eating savages visiting the island, and his saving from them the man he calls Friday, who becomes his servant.

Robinson Crusoe was not written to teach any special lessons. Wyss's The Swiss Family Robinson was different. The idea was to show a family working together in perfect family love through every kind of difficulty. The father, who is the narrator (the person who tells the story), teaches his sons lessons that the readers ought to learn. Most of all, they must learn the value of patience, hard work and helping each other. There is a great deal of religious teaching in the original very long (two volumes) book, but modern editions usually shorten the story and keep the more exciting and adventurous parts.

At the time of the story, ships often carried such birds and animals as hens, ducks, pigs, sheep, cows, goats and donkeys. Some of these were owned by passengers who were on their way to settle in newly discovered countries. Some were to supply fresh food on long voyages because, as we must remember, the sailing ships of the time were slow, and they had no canned food and certainly no form of cold storage.

We may think the Swiss family were very lucky to find on one small island all the animals, plants and other things they used. Again there is something we must remember: even as late as 1812 there was very little known about many parts of the world. James Cook's voyages of discovery in the South Pacific were made between 1768 and 1779. Wyss must have read about them, but there was still a great deal to be learnt about the places whose coasts Cook visited and

守荒岛的漫长岁月中,竭力保持自己的思维能力,对此所作的努力他也有细致的描绘。书中不乏惊心动魄的时刻:他发现沙滩上有脚印,目击一群食人生番登临岛上,并从他们手里救出了他称之为"星期五"的男子——此人后来成了他的仆人。

《鲁滨孙历险记》的写作目的,并非为授业传道,而怀斯的《瑞士家庭鲁滨孙》则不同。该书力图表现这样一个主题。家人在互敬互爱的完美气氛中,齐心协力共渡难关。父亲——故事的叙述者——向儿子们传授各种学问,而这些也是读者应该掌握的。而最重要的,是必须认识到耐心、勤奋和互助的价值所在。在厚厚的两大卷原著中,有大量的宗教说教,但现代版本往往都作了删节,只保留那些较为扣人心弦的有关历险故事的章节。

在故事发生的那个年代,轮船上常常装载母鸡、鸭、猪、绵羊、奶牛、山羊和毛驴之类的家禽家畜。其中一部分为前往新发现地区定居的乘客所有。一部分在长途航行中用来供应新鲜食品——我们应该记住:当时船只的航速很慢,而且没有罐装食品,当然也没有任何形式的冷藏食品。

我们可能会认为,这个瑞士家庭很幸运,竟然能够在一座小岛上找到各种所需要的动物、植物和其他物品。另外,我们还要记住一点:即使是迟至1812年,人们对世界的许多地方仍知之甚少。在1768至1779年间,詹姆斯•库克对南太平洋作了一系列的探测航行。怀斯想必读过有关这些旅行的文字记载,但是对于库克曾涉足其海岸的那些地区,以及尚未发

other places which had not yet been discovered. The first readers of this book would not have been at all surprised about the great number of different things found on the island.

Although we may find it harder than the first readers to believe in the island, *The Swiss Family Robinson* is still an interesting and exciting story about the way people can build their lives in a strange and difficult place.

现的其他地区,都还有许多情况有待于了解。否则,此书最早的读者就会对于岛上发现的五花八门的大量新鲜事物,一点也不感到惊奇了。

我们也许会发现, 比起最早的读者来, 我们更难相信这座小岛的存在。但是, 就人们如何在陌生而又艰难的境遇中开创自己的生活这一点来说, 《瑞士家庭鲁滨孙》一书, 仍不失为一部趣味盎然、并且扣人心弦的作品。

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