

英语阅读丛书

The Mill on the Floss

弗洛斯河上的磨坊



上海译文出版社

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【英】 乔 治・埃略特 原著 迈克尔・韦斯特 简写 庄 和・ 玲 注释

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作者及作品内容介绍

乔治·爱略特 (George Eliot) 是英国女作家玛丽·安· 伊文思 (Mary An Evens, 1819—1880) 的笔名。

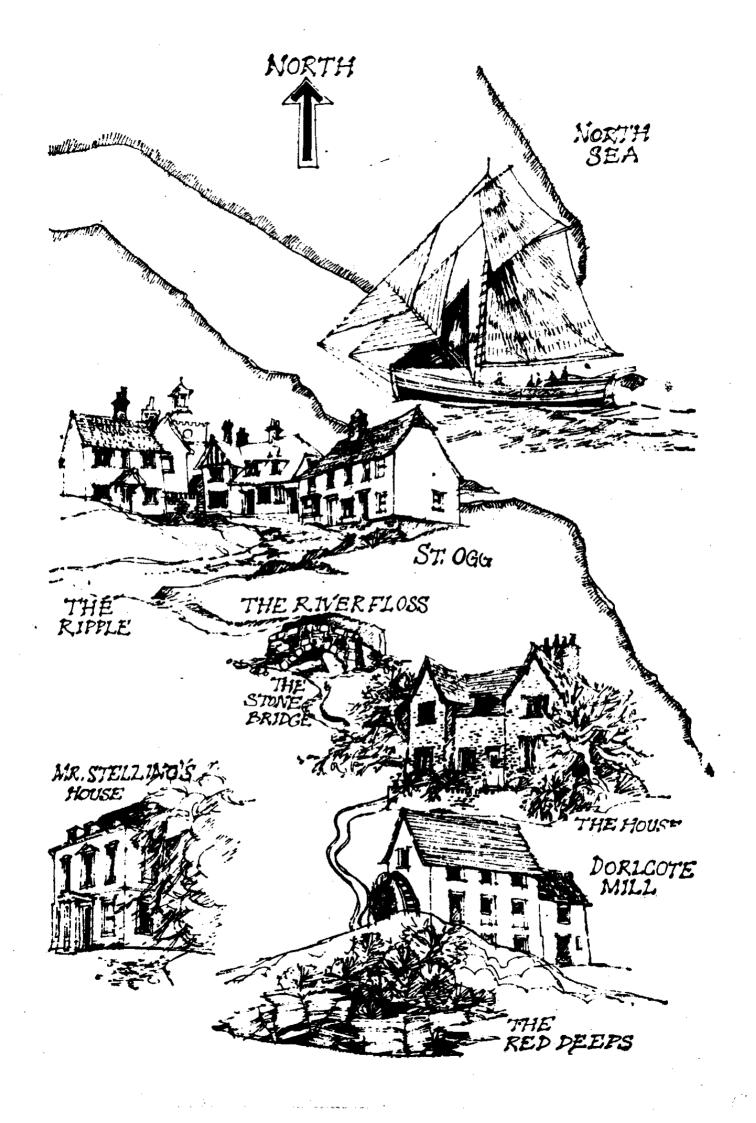
爱略特的童年是在农村度过的。她后来移居伦敦,成为新闻记者,并从事翻译工作和编辑进步杂志。三十五岁时,她和著名的批评家、政论家乔治·亨利·路易斯(George Henry Lewes, 1817—1878)同居。在路易斯的影响下,她走上了文学创作的道路,著有《亚当·比德》(Adam Bede, 1859)、《弗洛斯河上的磨坊》(The Mill on the Floss, 1860)、《织工马南传》(Silas Marner, 1861)、《罗慕拉》(Romola, 1862—1863)、《费立克斯·霍尔特》(Felix Holt, 1866)、《米德尔马契》(Middlemarch, 1872)、和《丹尼尔·狄朗达》(Danil Deronda, 1876)等。

《弗洛斯河上的磨坊》是爱略特的第二部长篇巨著。故事发生在十九世纪的英国农村,弗洛斯河岸边。塔立弗经营着祖传的磨坊,一家人过着小康生活。塔立弗生性好强,他对当地的律师韦克姆成见很深。在一次诉讼纠纷中(韦克姆及对方的辩护律师),他败诉负债,不得不变卖所有的产业,并成了韦克姆的雇员,为他管理磨坊。但他并不甘心,到镇上当了银行会计。由于汤姆的奋发努力,他们的家境有所好,这使塔立弗感到重振家业有了希望,并对韦克姆进行到其,也是个聪慧而富有感情的人。虽然她家和韦克姆家了报复,但由于过分激动而中风死去。塔立弗有个女儿叫有,这使塔立弗感到重振家业有了希望,并对韦克姆进行到其,她是个聪慧而富有感情的人。虽然她家和韦克姆家了报复,但她对韦克姆的儿子却有着纯真的友情,只是由于父兄的反对,他们的友谊才未能继续发展。故事的结尾是

弗洛斯河泛滥成灾, 玛琪独自驾船到被淹的磨坊去救汤姆, 两人在危难中和解, 但小船覆没, 两人淹没在洪水之中。

本书为简写本,但它不仅保持了原著的主要情节,而且在写作技巧上也较好地保持了原作者简洁明快的笔调,特别是对儿童和各种人物的描写,往往是寥寥数笔便把人们的心理状态和精神面貌勾画得惟妙惟肖。本书文字浅近,语言生动,词汇量在1,800左右,可作大学一年级学生和广播英语中级班学员的课外阅读材料,也可供自学者阅读。

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Chapter 1

Dorlcote Mill¹

A wide plain — where the broadening River Floss hurries between its green banks to the sea. At the mouth of the river lies the little town of St Ogg². Ships come here loaded with wood or oil-seed or coal³, and their red-brown sails are seen uplifted among the trees.

Just by the red-roofed town, a little stream, named the Ripple⁴, flows into the Floss. How lovely the little river is with the dark, ever-changing colours of its water.

See those large trees whose branches overhang the stream...

Here is the stone bridge ...

And this is Dorlcote Mill.

Even on this cold evening of leafless February the mill is pleasant to look at. The comfortable house of the miller is as old as the trees that shelter it from the northern winds⁵, and the rush of the water under the mill-wheel is like a great curtain of sound shutting one off from the world beyond⁶.

A little girl is standing near the edge of the water, and a

^{1.} 道尔可特磨坊. 2. 圣奥格. 3. 满载着木料、油料子或煤的船只来到这里。loaded with ... 意为"装载着……",是过去分词短语作定语,修饰ships. 4. 丽波尔河(弗洛斯河的支流)。 5. 那些使它(磨坊主 舒适的量子)免受北风侵袭的树木. shelter ... from ... 意为"遮蔽……","使免于……"。6. 一幅用声音筑成的大帷幔,把人们与外界隔离开来。

white dog with one brown ear is jumping up and down at her side. She is watching the never-resting mill-wheel scattering its diamond shower of water as the stream turns it to grind the corn.

It is time she went into the house¹, for there is a bright fire to welcome her; its red light shines out through the window under the deepening grey of the sky. And her mother and father, Mr and Mrs Tulliver², are sitting there by the fire and talking.

'What I want,' says Mr Tulliver, 'What I want is ...'

Chapter 2

Mr Tulliver decides about Tom

A good education

'What I want,' said Mr Tulliver, 'what I want is to give Tom's a good education, an education that will help him to earn a living. That school where he is now would have been good enough if I meant to make a miller or a farmer of him', but I should like Tom to be a gentleman. I want him to be able to talk and write well; it would be a help to me when I bring cases in the law-courts. I don't want to make an actual lawyer of the boy, because I don' want him to be a rascal. I'd like him to be a business man or a land-valuer. Riley. Riley

^{1.} 该是她进屋的时候了。在 it is time (that) ... 句型中,从句里的谓语动词形式用动词的过去式,表示虚拟语气。 2. 塔立弗先生和塔立弗太太. 3. 汤姆,塔立弗夫妇的儿子。 4. 要是我只想他当个磨坊主或农民,那么他现在所在的学校也算是够好的了。这里的 meant 和 would have been 都是虚拟语气形式,表示与事实相反的条件和 结果。 5. 土地估价者。 6. 菜利。

looks Lawyer Wakem in the face¹ as hard as one cat looks at another; he's not trightened of Wakem.'

'Well, you know best,' said Mrs Tulliver. 'I don't mind. But hadn't I better kill two nice fat birds² and invite the aunts and uncles to dinner? Then you may hear what my sisters, Mrs Glegg and Mrs Pullet³, have got⁴ to say about it.'

'You may kill every hen in the yard, if you like, Bessy⁸; but I shall not ask the advice of any aunt or uncle about what I'm to do with my own son⁶, 'said Mr Tulliver.

Mrs Tulliver exclaimed, 'How can you talk like that, Mr Tulliver! — But you always do speak disrespectfully of my family. I say that it's lucky for my children to have rich aunts and uncles. However, if Tom is to go to a new school, I should like him to go somewhere where I can wash and mend his clothes. And, when the box of clothes is going to and fro?, I might send him a cake or some apples. He will be glad to have the extra bit of food, whether they feed him well or not. My children can eat more than most children can — thank God.'

'Well, well,' said Mr Tulliver, 'we won't send-him too far away for that. But what I'm thinking about is how to find the right sort of school to send Tom to...'

Mr Tulliver paused, and pushed both his hands into his pockets as if he hoped to find some suggestion there. At last he said: 'I know what I'll do; I'll talk to Riley about it. He's coming tomorrow to settle that quarrel about the bridge. He's been educated himself. I want Tom to be a man like Riley,

^{1.} 敢于正视韦克姆律师. 2. 肥鸡. 3.格莱克太太和普利特太太,她们是塔立弗太太的姐妹. 4. have got = have. 多用在口语. 5. 贝茜,这里是塔立弗先生对他的妻子的爱称. 6. 我打算怎样教育自己的孩子. "be + 动词不定式"是将来时态的一种形式,表示按计划或事先安排要发生或要做的事. 7. 来回地。

a man who can talk well, and has a good knowledge of business too.'

He paused again.

'What I'm afraid of,' he continued, 'is that Tom hasn't got the right sort of brains. He's a bit slow.¹ He's like your family, Bessy.'

'Yes, he is,' said Mrs Tulliver; 'he takes a lot of salt on his food; my brother did that, and my father too.'

'Our little girl, Maggie², is more like my side of the family: she's twice as quick as Tom. Too clever for a woman, I'm afraid,' said Mr Tulliver, nodding his head seriously. 'An over-clever woman is like a long-tailed sheep—it doesn't add to her value³'.

'All her cleverness makes her naughty,' said Mrs Tulliver, rising and going to the window. 'I can't keep her in a clean dress for two hours. I don't know where she is now, and it's nearly tea-time. Ah, I thought so⁴!— wandering up and down by the water like a wild thing: she'll fall in one day and be drowned.'

Nine years old

Mrs Tulliver opened the window and called to Maggie to come in.

'You talk of cleverness, Mr Tulliver,' she said as she sat down, 'but I'm sure the child is half a fool in some things. If I send her upstairs to fetch anything, she forgets what she's gone for⁵; and sometimes she sits on the floor in the sunshine

^{1.} 他反应不太快. 2. 玛琪, 塔立弗夫妇的女儿. 3. 它(指女人过分聪明)并没有给她增添身价. 4. 我想一定如此! 这里 so 指 wandering up and down by the water like a wild thing: she'll fall in one day and be drowned. 5. (忘掉)她去干什么了.

and sings to herself like a mad creature while I'm waiting for her downstairs. That's not in my side of the family—nor is her brown skin either¹.'

'Nonsense!' said Mr Tulliver. 'She's as fine a girl as anyone could wish to see; and she can read as well as the priest.'

'But her hair won't curl - whatever I do to it.'

'Cut it off! Cut it off short,' said Mr Tulliver.

'How can you talk like that! She's nine years old, too big to have short hair². And her cousin Lucy³ has got a row of curls round her head. It seems hard that⁴ my sister Deane⁵ should have that pretty child. — Maggie, Maggie,' continued the mother as this small mistake of nature⁶ entered the room, 'what's the use of my telling you to keep away from the water? You'll fall in and get drowned one day! Don't throw your hat down there; take it upstairs. And change your shoes, and then go on with your needlework.'

'Oh, mother,' said Maggie in a cross voice, 'I don't want to do my needlework.'

'Not want to make a pretty tablecloth for your aunt Glegg?'

'I don't want to do anything for my aunt Glegg; I don't like her.'

Maggie went out, dragging her hat by the string⁷, while Mr Tulliver laughed loudly.

'I'm surprised at your laughing at her, Mr Tulliver,' said the mother. 'You encourage her in her naughtiness; and her aunts blame me for not teaching her better.'

^{1.} 她的黑皮肤也不象我家里的人。 发了。 3. 篇茜,玛琪的表妹。 4. 似乎很难忍受、It 是先行代词,作形式主语,真正的主语是由 that 引起的从句。 5. 第思,塔立弗太太的姐妹。 6. 大自然的小错误。这里指玛琪。 7. 拉着帽带拖着帽子(走了)。这是个现在分词短语,作状语,表示伴随情况。

Chapter 3

Mr Riley gives advice about a school

A very important thing

'I've been thinking about something,' said Mr Tulliver as he turned his head and looked eagerly at Mr Riley.

'Ah?' said Mr Riley carefully. Mr Riley was a slow and solemn person; and for this reason Mr Tulliver had great faith in him.

'It's a very important thing,' he went on. 'It's about my boy, Tom.'

At the sound of this name Maggie, who was seated close by the fire with a book, looked up. Few sounds¹ attracted Maggie's attention when she was reading; but Tom's name was like the loudest whistle. In an instant she was on the watch², ready to attack anyone who threatened danger to Tom³.

'I want to send him to a new school—a really good school.'

'Well,' said Mr Riley, 'there's no greater advantage in life than a good education, although,' he added politely, 'a man can be an excellent miller or farmer without much help from the schoolmaster.'

'Ah, but I don't mean Tom to be a miller or a farmer. I shall give Tom a good education and put him into a business, so that he may make a nest⁴ for himself and not want to push me out of mine.'

^{1.} 几乎没有什么声音。 2. 智神着; 警惕着。 3. 威胁汤姆。 4. 成家立业。

Maggie was listening. Tom, she was sure, would never be wicked enough to want to turn her father out of his own home. She jumped from her chair and her book fell on the floor; then, running to her father, she said in a half-crying, half angry voice:

'Father, Tom wouldn't be naughty to you — ever. I know ne wouldn't.'

'What! No one must say anything against Tom, eh?' said Mr Tulliver, laughing. 'Well, he's a good boy.'

Maggie was satisfied and retired.

'It's a pity she wasn't the boy,' said Mr Tulliver when she had gone; 'she would have been clever enough to beat all the lawyers.'

'But your boy isn't dull, is he?' asked Mr Riley.

'Well, he is clever at things out-of-doors, and he's got a lot of common sense. But he's slow with his tongue; he hates books and spells badly—so they tell me; and you never hear him say clever things like the little girl. Now I want to send him to a school where they'll make him quick with his tongue and his pen, and make a clever fellow of him. I want my son to be equal to those people who have beaten me because they've had better schooling.'

'You're right, Tulliver,' said Mr Riley. 'Better spend money on your son's education than leave the money to him after you're dead.'

Mr Stelling

'Now I expect that you know of 2 just the right school for Tom?' asked Mr Tulliver.

^{1.} 常识. 2. 听说过; 知道. know 和 know of 意思不同, know 意为 "认识"。

Mr Riley paused a long time before replying.

'I know of a very fine chance for anyone who has got the necessary money. The fact is, I wouldn't recommend any friend of mine to send a boy to a regular school, if he could afford to do better. A boy ought to get the best teaching, and he ought to be the companion of his master, and that master ought to be a very first-class fellow. And I know the right man.'

Mr Tulliver's face was eager. 'Well let's hear,' he said.

'He's an Oxford man', a clergyman. He's very fond of teaching, and wishes to keep up² his studies. He's willing to take one or two boys as pupils. The boys would be treated as members of the family—always under Stelling's eye³.'

'And how much money would Mr Stelling want?' said Mr Tulliver, who suspected that this wonderful man would demand a high price.

'Why, I know of a clergyman who asks a hundred and fifty pounds, and he's not as good as Stelling.'

'A hundred and fifty!' said Mr Tulliver. 'I never thought of paying so much as that.'

'A good education is cheap at any price⁴; but Stelling isn't greedy. I've no doubt he'll take your boy at a hundred. I'll write to him about it if you like.'

Mr Riley was a man of business, and he knew his own interests⁵. He knew very little about Mr Stelling — but Stelling was a son-in-law of Timpson⁶, and Timpson was an important man in the place and could send Riley a lot of business.

And it is pleasant to be able to give advice when it is asked for.

^{1、}他是牛津大学毕业生. 2. 坚持;继续. 3. 经常受到斯特林的管数.

^{4.} 无论花多少钱. 5. 知道自己的利害所在. 6. 蒂姆森.

Chapter 4

Tom is expected

It was a great disappointment to Maggie that she was not allowed to go with her father in the cart when he went to fetch Tom from the school; but Mrs Tulliver said that the morning was too wet. Maggie disagreed strongly. Soon afterwards Mrs Tulliver tried to brush Maggie's hair; but Maggie was revengefully determined that there should be no curls that day. Rushing from under her mother's hands, she put her head in a bowl of water.

'Maggie, Maggie!' exclaimed Mrs Tulliver, sitting helplessly with the brushes in her lap, 'what will be the end of you² if you are so naughty? I'll tell your aunt Glegg and your aunt Pullet when they come next week, and they'll never love you any more. Oh, dear, oh, dear! Look at your clean dress, wet from top to bottom! People will think that ...'

But Maggie could not hear the rest. She was on her way to a disused room at the top of the house—right under the $roof^3$ —shaking the water from her head as she ran, like a dog escaped from his bath.

This room was Maggie's favourite hiding-place. She stayed in it, sobbing, until a sudden beam of sunshine came into the room. Then she ran to the window. The sun was really breaking through the clouds; the sound of the mill seemed cheerful again; and there was Yap, the white and brown dog, running about aimlessly as if he were in search of a companion⁴.

^{1.} 早晨雨太大. 2. 你将来会怎么样呢? 3. 就在屋顶底下. right 是副词,这里用来加强语气,作"正好"、"就"解. 4. 好象他在找同伴似的. 这里谓语动词用 were 是一种虚拟语气,表示与事实相反. in search of 意为"寻找".