

# Jane Eyre

简·爱

世界名著学习馆  
哈佛双语导读本

双语导读

原著 [英] Charlotte Brontë  
导读 Brian Phillips  
主译 张滨江

天津出版传媒集团

◆ 天津科技翻译出版有限公司

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## 致读者

亲爱的读者,在这个多元文化的世界里,渴望知识、钟情文学、热爱英语的你是否想过站在巨人的肩膀上摘星呢?

名著是经典传承的历史明珠,尽管岁月变迁,经典名著总是在各个时代给我们启迪和指引。哈佛双语名著导读丛书正是风行全美的经典名著导读笔记,是由哈佛学生们将名著阅读与文学学习融会贯通,编写而成的名著导读本,可谓“名著名导”。该系列精选了来自世界各国的杰出经典著作,以经典性和流行性并重的名著为素材,突出“导读”特色,以明晰的风格和地道的语言,解读名著精华和具有时代性的主题和思想。每一分册都包括著作的创作背景、人物分析、主题解析、篇章讲解、重要引文释义、作品档案,并且附有相关思考题及推荐阅读篇目。

这样的编排使你不仅仅停留在对名著内容上的了解,更可迅速、全面、深入地掌握经典名著的精华和内涵,同时也可对英语语言和文化做进一步的了解和研究。本丛书精辟、明晰的编写风格让“半天阅读一本名著”成为现实,帮你在有限的闲暇时间内享受文学,提高文学修养,同时在地道的语言环境中迅速提高英语水平,增强语言能力。

## CONTEXT



1944年《简·爱》  
电影剧照

Charlotte Brontë was born in Yorkshire, England on April 21, 1816 to Maria Branwell and Patrick Brontë. Because Charlotte's mother died when Charlotte was five years old, Charlotte's aunt, a devout Methodist, helped her brother-in-law raise his children. In 1824 Charlotte and three of her sisters—Maria, Elizabeth, and Emily—were sent to Cowan Bridge, a school for clergymen's daughters. When an outbreak of tuberculosis killed Maria and Elizabeth, Charlotte and Emily were brought home. Several years later, Charlotte returned to school, this time in Roe Head, England. She became a teacher at the school in 1835 but decided after several years to become a private governess instead. She was hired to live with and tutor the children of the wealthy Sidgwick family in 1839, but the job was a misery to her and she soon left it. Once Charlotte recognized that her dream of starting her own school was not immediately realizable, however, she returned to working as a governess, this time for a dif-

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夏洛蒂·勃朗特(1816-1855),英国小说家,以《简·爱》一书闻名于世。其他小说作品包括:《教师》、《谢莉》、《维莱特》。

## 作品·溯源

1 1816年4月21日,夏洛蒂·勃朗特出生于英国的约克郡,其母亲是玛丽娅·布兰威尔,父亲是帕特里克·勃朗特。因为夏洛蒂的母亲在她5岁时就去世了,夏洛蒂的姨妈,一位虔诚的卫理公会教徒\*,承担起帮助姐夫抚养孩子的责任。1824年夏洛蒂和她的三姐妹——玛丽娅、伊丽莎白和艾米莉——被送到一所专收神职人员女儿的柯文桥女子寄宿学校读书。一场突然爆发的肺结核夺去了玛丽娅和伊丽莎白的生命,夏洛蒂和艾米莉被送回了家。几年后,夏洛蒂才重返校园,这次去的是英格兰的罗黑德学校。1835年她成为该校教师,但几年后她又决定改做私人家庭女教师。她于1839年受雇于富有的西奇威克家,同他家的孩子住在一起,并负责辅导他们。可是这个工作使她苦不堪言,于是她很快就放弃了。当夏洛蒂认识到开办一所自己的学校的梦想短期内还无法实现时,她又重操家庭女教师的旧业,只不过换了一家。她发现第二次做家庭女教师得到的还是同样的失望时,她招来了她两个妹妹,为开办一所学校做起了更认真的准备。

\* 卫理公会教徒是信奉三位一体的基督教新教徒。该宗派初为英国教会内部的一种信仰复兴运动,后脱离英国教会,在美国另立主教派教会,奉行亚美约宗教义。



## CONTEXT



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ferent family. Finding herself equally disappointed with governess work the second time around, Charlotte recruited her sisters to join her in more serious preparation for the establishment of a school.

Although the Brontës' school was unsuccessful, their literary projects flourished. At a young age, the children created a fictional world they named Angria, and their many stories, poems, and plays were early predictors of shared writing talent that eventually led Emily, Anne, and Charlotte to careers as novelists. As adults, Charlotte suggested that she, Anne, and Emily collaborate on a book of poems. The three sisters published under male pseudonyms\*: Charlotte's was Currer Beil, while Emily and Anne wrote as Ellis and Acton Bell, respectively. When the poetry volume received little public notice, the sisters decided to work on separate novels but retained the same pseudonyms. Anne and Emily produced their masterpieces in 1847, but Charlotte's first book, *The Professor*, never found a willing publisher during her lifetime. Charlotte wrote *Jane Eyre* later that year. The book, a critique of Victorian assumptions about gender and social class, became one of the most successful novels of its era, both critically and commercially.

Autobiographical elements are recognizable throughout *Jane Eyre*. Jane's experience at Lowood School, where her dearest friend dies of tuberculosis, recalls the death of Charlotte's sisters at Cowan Bridge. The hypocritical religious fervor of the headmaster, Mr. Brocklehurst, is based in part on that of the Reverend Carus Wilson, the Evangelical minister who ran Cowan Bridge. Charlotte took revenge upon the school that treated her so poorly by using it as the basis for the fic-

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\* pseudonym *n.* 假名;化名;笔名

尽管勃朗特姐妹们开办的学校未能获得成功,但她们的文学事业却蒸蒸日上。虽然她们都还年轻,但她们的创造出了一个虚幻的世界,并将其命名为昂格里亚。她们的很多小说、诗歌和剧本早就预示她们都极具写作天分,而正是这种天分最终使得艾米莉、安妮和夏洛蒂走上了小说家的职业生涯。成年后,夏洛蒂建议由她、安妮和艾米莉合作写一本诗集。在书发表时,三姐妹分别为自己取了男性化的笔名:夏洛蒂为居里·贝尔,艾米莉和安妮分别取名为艾利斯·贝尔和埃格顿·贝尔。由于这本诗集并未引起公众的注意,三姐妹决定沿用同样的笔名分头去写小说。安妮和艾米莉在1847年就出版了她们的成名之作,而夏洛蒂的第一本小说《教师》\*,在其有生之年始终未得到出版商的青睐。在那年晚些时候,夏洛蒂写出了《简·爱》。该书批判了维多利亚时代\*对性别和社会阶层的观点,成为该时期文学批评和商业运作上都获得巨大成功的小说之一。

\*《教师》是夏洛蒂·勃朗特的处女作,写于1846年,可以说是一部自传体小说。小说的情节大部分来源于作者的亲身经历。

\*维多利亚时代大致与维多利亚女王统治时期相同(1836-1901)。

小说《简·爱》中自传的成分随处可见。简在罗伍德学校的经历,即她最亲密的朋友死于肺结核的情节使人很容易联想到夏洛蒂两姐妹死在柯文桥学校的情景。校长勃洛克赫斯特先生那虚伪的宗教狂热,部分是取材于负责管理柯文桥的福音派新教会牧师卡鲁斯·威尔逊。为报复以前在学校所受的虐待,夏洛蒂以柯文桥为素材虚构出了罗伍德学校。简的朋友海伦·彭斯死于肺结核

tional Lowood. Jane's friend Helen Burns's tragic death from tuberculosis recalls the deaths of two of Charlotte's sisters, Maria and Elizabeth, who succumbed to the same disease during their time at Cowan Bridge. Additionally, John Reed's decline into alcoholism and dissolution is most likely modeled upon the life of Charlotte Brontë's brother Branwell, who slid into\* opium and alcohol addictions in the years preceding his death. Finally, like Charlotte, Jane becomes a governess—a comparatively neutral vantage point from which to observe and describe the oppressive social ideas and practices of nineteenth-century Victorian society.

The plot of *Jane Eyre* follows the form of a Bildungsroman which is a novel that tells the story of a child's maturation and focuses on the emotions and experiences that accompany and incite his or her growth to adulthood. In *Jane Eyre*, there are five distinct stages of development, each linked to a particular place: Jane's childhood at Gateshead, her education at the Lowood School, her time as Adele's governess at Thornfield, her time with the Rivers family at Morton and at Marsh End (also called Moor House), and her reunion with and marriage to Rochester at Ferndean. From these various experiences, Jane becomes the mature and steady-handed woman who narrates the novel retrospectively.

But the Bildungsroman plot of *Jane Eyre*, and the book's element of social criticism, are filtered through a third literary tradition—that of the Gothic horror story. Like the Bildungsroman, the Gothic genre originated in Germany. It became popular in England in the late eighteenth century, and it generally describes supernatural experiences,

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\* slide into 意思是“不知不觉陷入；不知不觉地染上”，其中 slide 的过去式和过去分词为 slid。

的悲剧使读者立即联想到夏洛蒂的两个姐姐——玛丽娅和伊丽莎白,在柯文桥学校上学期间死于同一种疾病的境遇。另外,约翰·里德堕落成酗酒者不能自拔的原型则很可能就是临终前几年沉溺于鸦片和酒精的夏洛蒂的弟弟布兰威尔。像夏洛蒂一样,简最终成了一名家庭女教师——这是一个相对来说有利于客观地观察和描述 19 世纪维多利亚社会那令人压抑的社会观念和行为的职业。

《简·爱》的情节构思属教育小说体裁\*,即利用小说的形式述说一个孩子的成长过程,着眼点放在主人公的情感和经历怎样影响他(她)从少儿到成年的过程。小说《简·爱》可分为 5 个清晰的发展阶段,每个阶段又都同一个特定的地方有关:简少儿时期的盖茨黑德;就学时期的罗伍德学校;做阿黛拉的家庭女教师时期的桑菲尔德;在里佛斯家时期的莫顿和沼屋(也被称做泽庄);以及她与罗彻斯特重修旧好乃至结婚时期的芬丁。经历了种种变故,简变得愈发成熟和稳健,并以回忆的方式讲述了这个故事。

但是,《简·爱》这部教育小说的情节以及该书对社会进行批判的部分是利用另一种文学传统即哥特式恐怖故事的方式慢慢展开的。与教育小说相同,哥特式小说也起源于德国,18 世纪晚期时兴于英国。它被广泛地用来描述超自然的体验、遥远的景色、神奇的事件等等,

\* 教育小说是起源于德国文学中的一种传统小说类型,一般以一位年轻人主人公的成长、发展经历为主题。主要描写小说中的主人公在遇到外界一系列的冲突后自己内心世界成长的过程。教育小说或多或少都带有一些传记成分。

remote landscapes, and mysterious occurrences, all of which are intended to create an atmosphere of suspense and fear. Jane's encounters with ghosts, dark secrets, and sinister plots add a potent and lingering sense of fantasy and mystery to the novel.

After the success of *Jane Eyre*, Charlotte revealed her identity to her publisher and went on to write several other novels, most notably *Shirley* in 1849. In the years that followed, she became a respected member of London's literary set. But the deaths of siblings\* Emily and Branwell in 1848, and of Anne in 1849, left her feeling dejected and emotionally isolated. In 1854, she wed the Reverend Arthur Nicholls, despite the fact that she did not love him. She died of pneumonia, while pregnant, the following year.

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\* sibling *n.* 兄弟姐妹

目的是制造一种悬念与恐惧的气氛。简与幽灵的相遇、那些深藏的秘密以及不祥的情节都有力地为该小说增加了挥之不去的幻觉和神秘感。

《简·爱》获得成功之后,夏洛蒂逐步地向她的出版商透露了她的身份,并继续撰写其他小说,最著名的是1849年出版的《谢莉》\*。随后,她成为伦敦文学圈内令人尊敬的一员。但是她的兄弟姐妹们——艾米莉和布兰威尔于1848年、安妮于1849年的相继去世使她倍感沮丧和情感上的孤独。1854年,在没有丝毫感情基础的情况下,她嫁给了阿瑟·尼古拉斯牧师。转年,她在怀有身孕的情况下死于肺炎。

\*《谢莉》是夏洛蒂·勃朗特所著的5部小说之一,小说出版后获得了巨大的成功。



## PLOT OVERVIEW

Jane Eyre is a young orphan being raised by Mrs. Reed her cruel, wealthy aunt. A servant named Bessie provides Jane with some of the few kindnesses she receives, telling her stories and singing songs to her. One day, as punishment for fighting with her bullying cousin John Reed, Jane's aunt imprisons Jane in the red-room, the room in which Jane's Uncle Reed died. While locked in, Jane, believing that she sees her uncle's ghost, screams and faints. She wakes to find herself in the care of Bessie and the kindly apothecary Mr. Lloyd, who suggests to Mrs. Reed that Jane be sent away to school. To Jane's delight, Mrs. Reed concurs.

Once at the Lowood School, Jane finds that her life is far from idyllic. The school's headmaster is Mr. Brocklehurst, a cruel, hypocritical, and abusive man. Brocklehurst preaches a doctrine of poverty and privation to his students while using the school's funds to provide a wealthy and opulent lifestyle for his own family. At Lowood, Jane befriends a young girl named Helen Burns, whose strong, martyrlike attitude toward the school's miseries is both helpful and displeasing to Jane. A massive typhus epidemic sweeps Lowood, and Helen dies