

【汤姆叔叔的小屋】中英双语对照



《汤姆叔叔的小屋》（Uncle Tom's Cabin）是美国作家哈丽雅特·比彻·斯托（Harriet Beecher Stowe, 1811-1896）于1852年出版的一部反奴隶制小说。这部作品以其强烈的道德感召力和对奴隶制残酷现实的揭露，对美国社会...生了深远的影响，被认为是推动了废奴运动的重要力量之一。小说讲述了忠诚、虔诚的黑人奴隶汤姆叔叔和其他一些奴隶的悲惨遭遇。汤姆叔叔因其主人债务问题被卖到南方，经历了多次转卖和种种折磨，最终在残酷的奴隶主

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唐库学习 译

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Late in the afternoon of a chilly day in February, two gentlemen were sitting alone over their wine, in a well-furnished dining parlor, in the town of P—, in Kentucky. —

在二月份一个寒冷的下午，两位绅士独自坐在肯塔基州P镇一个装潢精美的餐厅里，品着葡萄酒。 —

There were no servants present, and the gentlemen, with chairs closely approaching, seemed to be discussing some subject with great earnestness.

餐厅里没有仆人在场，两位绅士，坐得很近，似乎在认真讨论某个话题。

For convenience sake, we have said, hitherto, two *gentlemen*. —

为方便起见，我们前面说的是两位“绅士”。 —

One of the parties, however, when critically examined, did not seem, strictly speaking, to come under the species. —

不过，仔细观察其中一方，他似乎严格来说不属于这一类别。 —

He was a short, thick-set man, with coarse, commonplace features, and that swaggering air of pretension which marks a low man who is trying to elbow his way upward in the world. —

他是一个矮小、身材粗壮的男人，有着普通的粗野面孔，装扮华丽过分，带有那种表现出上升要求的低贱人的咄咄逼人的样子。 —

He was much over-dressed, in a gaudy vest of many colors, a blue neckerchief, bedropped gayly with yellow spots, and arranged with a flaunting tie, quite in keeping with the general air of the man. —

他穿着过多，穿着一件色彩斑斓的马甲，一条蓝色的围巾，上面点缀着黄色斑点，并且系着一根花哨的领带，与他整体的装束完全匹配。 —

His hands, large and coarse, were plentifully bedecked with rings; —

他那双又大又粗糙的手上好多戒指。 —

and he wore a heavy gold watch-chain, with a bundle of seals of portentous size, and a great variety of colors, attached to it,—which, in the ardor of conversation, he was in the habit of flourishing and jingling with evident satisfaction. —

他戴着一条厚重的金表链，上面挂着一串尺寸庞大且颜色繁多的印章，他在谈话的热情中，常常高高兴兴地晃动和叮当作响。 —

His conversation was in free and easy defiance of Murray's Grammar,[1] and was garnished at convenient intervals with various profane expressions, which not even the desire to be graphic in our account shall induce us to transcribe.

他的谈吐充满了对穆里的语法的自由和不拘，且在方便的时机点缀着各种亵渎的词汇，这些我们也不会为了生动描述而把它们抄录下来。

1 English Grammar (1795), by Lindley Murray (1745-1826), the most authoritative American grammarian of his day.

穆里(1795)所著的英语语法，穆雷(1745-1826)，他是八十年代最具权威性的美国语法学家。

His companion, Mr. Shelby, had the appearance of a gentleman; —

他的伴侣，舍尔比先生，看起来像个绅士； —

and the arrangements of the house, and the general air of the housekeeping, indicated easy, and even opulent circumstances. —

屋子的装潢和整体的家居氛围显示出舒适、甚至是丰裕的境况。 —

As we before stated, the two were in the midst of an earnest conversation.

正如我们之前所说，两人正被一场热烈的对话所包围。

“That is the way I should arrange the matter,” said Mr. Shelby.

“我会以这种方式安排这件事的，”舍尔比先生说。

“I can’t make trade that way—I positively can’t, Mr. Shelby,” said the other, holding up a glass of wine between his eye and the light.

“我做不到那样交易—我绝对做不到，舍尔比先生，”另一位说着，用一杯酒把眼睛遮住，让光线透过。

“Why, the fact is, Haley, Tom is an uncommon fellow; —

“为什么呢，哈利，事实上，汤姆是个不同寻常的家伙； —

he is certainly worth that sum anywhere,—steady, honest, capable, manages my whole farm like a clock.”

在任何地方都值得那笔钱，诚实、正直、能干，像钟表一样管理我的整个农场。”

“You mean honest, as niggers go,” said Haley, helping himself to a glass of brandy.

“你是说在黑人中算诚实的，”哈利边说着，一边倒了一杯白兰地。

“No; I mean, really, Tom is a good, steady, sensible, pious fellow. —

“不，我是说，汤姆真是个好家伙，稳重、诚实、明智、虔诚。 —

He got religion at a camp-meeting, four years ago; and I believe he really *did* get it. —

四年前在一个宗教营会上他信了教；我相信他真的信了。 —

I’ve trusted him, since then, with everything I have,—money, house, horses,—and let him come and go round the country; —

那以后，我把一切都交给了他，钱、房子、马，让他在乡间走动； —

and I always found him true and square in everything.”

在任何事情上我总是发现他真诚、正直。”

“Some folks don’t believe there is pious niggers Shelby,” said Haley, with a candid flourish of his hand, “but *I do*. —

“有些人不相信有虔诚的黑人的，谢尔比，”哈利坦率地挥了挥手，“但我相信。 —

I had a fellow, now, in this yer last lot I took to Orleans—’t was as good as a meetin, now, really, to hear that critter pray; —

在上次我带去新奥尔良的那批人中我有一个家伙，真是一场见义勇为，听他祈祷就像在礼拜，真是的。 —

and he was quite gentle and quiet like. He fetched me a good sum, too, for I bought him cheap of a man that was ‘bliged to sell out; —

而且他也很温和安静。我买到了他，也算赚了一笔，因为是有有人不得已卖掉他的； —

so I realized six hundred on him. Yes, I consider religion a valeyable thing in a nigger, when it’s the genuine article, and no mistake.”

就算是个好价钱，我出了六百元。是的，我认为当它是真实的东西时，信仰是黑人身上的一件有价值的事，毫无疑问。”

“Well, Tom’s got the real article, if ever a fellow had,” rejoined the other. —

“嗯，如果有人能有真实的信仰，那一定是汤姆，”另一个人接道。 —

“Why, last fall, I let him go to Cincinnati alone, to do business for me, and bring home five hundred dollars. —

“为什么说去年秋天我让他单独去辛辛那提为我做生意，并带回五百元。 —

Tom, I trust you, because I think you’re a Christian—I know you wouldn’t cheat.’ —

‘汤姆，我对他说，‘我信任你，因为我觉得你是个基督徒—我知道你不会欺骗。’ —

Tom comes back, sure enough; I knew he would. —

汤姆果然准时回来；我就知道他会的。 —

Some low fellows, they say, said to him—Tom, why don’t you make tracks for Canada?’ —

一些下流的家伙们说，他们说汤姆，为什么不去加拿大呢？ —

‘Ah, master trusted me, and I couldn’t,—they told me about it. —

“啊，主人信任我，我不能走，”他们告诉我。 —

I am sorry to part with Tom, I must say. —

我很遗憾要和汤姆分开，我必须说。 —

You ought to let him cover the whole balance of the debt; —

你应该让他支付整笔债务的余款； —

and you would, Haley, if you had any conscience.”

如果你还有良知的話，Haley，你会这么做的。

“Well, I’ve got just as much conscience as any man in business can afford to keep,—just a little, you know, to swear by, as ‘t were,” said the trader, jocularly; —

“好吧，我在商界拥有的良心跟其他人一样多，就够我守誓时用了，”商人开玩笑地说； —

“and, then, I’m ready to do anything in reason to ‘blige friends; —

“而且，嗯，我愿意在合理范围内为朋友做任何事情； —

but this yer, you see, is a leetle too hard on a fellow—a leetle too hard.” —

但是这件事，你看，在一个人身上有点苛刻了一些，有点太苛刻了。” —

The trader sighed contemplatively, and poured out some more brandy.

商人沉思地叹了口气，再倒了一些白兰地。

“Well, then, Haley, how will you trade?” said Mr. Shelby, after an uneasy interval of silence.

“那么，Haley，你打算怎么做生意？”雇主谢尔比在一段尴尬的沉默之后说。

“Well, haven’t you a boy or gal that you could throw in with Tom?”

“嗯，你有没有一个男孩或女孩可以跟汤姆一起交换的？”

“Hum!—none that I could well spare; to tell the truth, it’s only hard necessity makes me willing to sell at all. —

“嗯！我没什么可以牺牲的，要说实话，只有在情况非常困难的时候我才愿意出售。 —

I don’t like parting with any of my hands, that’s a fact.”

我其实一点也不想和任何一个手下分开，这是个事实。”

Here the door opened, and a small quadroon boy, between four and five years of age, entered the room. There was something in his appearance remarkably beautiful and engaging. —

这时门打开了，一个四五岁的小部分黑人男孩走进了房间。他的外表非常美丽和讨人喜欢。 —

His black hair, fine as floss silk, hung in glossy curls about his round, dimpled face, while a pair of large dark eyes, full of fire and softness, looked out from beneath the rich, long lashes, as he peered curiously into the apartment. —

他浓密如丝绢般的黑发挂在他圆润、酒窝满面的脸上，一双又大又黑、既充满火焰又柔软的眼睛从浓密而长的睫毛底下向房间内好奇地瞄去。 —

A gay robe of scarlet and yellow plaid, carefully made and neatly fitted, set off to advantage the dark and rich style of his beauty; —

一个gay款式的红色和黄色格子长袍，精心制作并整齐合身，突出了他深邃而富有风格的美； —

and a certain comic air of assurance, blended with bashfulness, showed that he had been not unused to being petted and noticed by his master.

一种融合了自信与害羞的滑稽气派表明他并不是没有经验过被主人宠爱和关注。

“Hulloa, Jim Crow!” said Mr. Shelby, whistling, and snapping a bunch of raisins towards him, “pick that up, now!”

“嘿，吉姆克劳！”Shelby先生吹了个口哨，把一大把葡萄干朝着他扔过去，“现在捡起来！”

The child scampered, with all his little strength, after the prize, while his master laughed.

孩子拼命地用他所有的力气去抢夺这个奖品，而他的主人却笑了。

“Come here, Jim Crow,” said he. The child came up, and the master patted the curly head, and chucked him under the chin.

“来这里，吉姆克劳，”他说。孩子走过来，主人拍了拍他卷曲的头，还拧了拧他的下巴。

“Now, Jim, show this gentleman how you can dance and sing.” —

“现在，吉姆，向这位先生展示你会跳舞和唱歌的本事。” —

The boy commenced one of those wild, grotesque songs common among the negroes, in a rich, clear voice, accompanying his singing with many comic evolutions of the hands, feet, and whole body, all in perfect time to the music.

孩子用一个那些黑人间常见的野性怪诞的歌声开始，声音又浓又清，伴随着他手脚和全身许多滑稽的动作，全都与音乐完美地融合在一起。

“Bravo!” said Haley, throwing him a quarter of an orange.

“太棒了！”Haley伸手抛给他四分之一的橙子。

“Now, Jim, walk like old Uncle Cudjoe, when he has the rheumatism,” said his master.

“现在，吉姆，走路像老库乔大叔得了风湿病时的样子，”主人说。

Instantly the flexible limbs of the child assumed the appearance of deformity and distortion, as, with his back humped up, and his master’s stick in his hand, he hobbled about the room, his childish face drawn into a doleful pucker, and spitting from right to left, in imitation of an old man.

孩子瞬间灵活的身体变得变形扭曲，背驼起来，主人的棍子在他手中，他在屋子里蹒跚前行，孩子的脸扭曲成一副悲哀的表情，从左到右吐着口水，模仿着一个老人。

Both gentlemen laughed uproariously.

两位先生都大笑起来。

“Now, Jim,” said his master, “show us how old Elder Robbins leads the psalm.” —

“现在，吉姆，向我们展示老罗宾斯牧师是如何领唱诗的。” —

The boy drew his chubby face down to a formidable length, and commenced toning a psalm tune through his nose, with imperturbable gravity.

孩子把他胖乎乎的脸拉得很长，开始通过他的鼻子以冷静的严肃调子吟唱赞美诗。

“Hurrah! bravo! what a young ‘un!” said Haley; “that chap’s a case, I’ll promise. —

“万岁！太棒了！这小子真了不起！”Haley说，“那小家伙是个人才，我保证。 —

Tell you what,” said he, suddenly clapping his hand on Mr. Shelby’s shoulder, “fling in that chap, and I’ll settle the business—I will. —

“告诉你吧，”他突然拍了拍Shelby先生的肩膀，“就带上这小子，我就办掉这事——我保证。” —

Come, now, if that ain’t doing the thing up about the rightest!”

来吧，那简直是最恰当的方法了！

At this moment, the door was pushed gently open, and a young quadroon woman, apparently about twenty-five, entered the room.

就在这时，门被轻轻推开，一个年纪约二十五的混血儿女人走进了房间。

There needed only a glance from the child to her, to identify her as its mother. —

这个孩子朝她看了一眼，就认出她是他的母亲。 —

There was the same rich, full, dark eye, with its long lashes; —

她有着同样丰满浓密的黑眼睛，配以长长的睫毛； —

the same ripples of silky black hair. The brown of her complexion gave way on the cheek to a perceptible flush, which deepened as she saw the gaze of the strange man fixed upon her in bold and undisguised admiration. —

同样的细纹丝绸般的黑发。她黝黑的肤色在脸颊上淡淡转为红晕，当她发现陌生男子大胆且毫不掩饰地盯着她时，红晕加深了。 —

Her dress was of the neatest possible fit, and set off to advantage her finely moulded shape; —

她的衣服剪裁得非常合体，突显了她完美的身形； —

—a delicately formed hand and a trim foot and ankle were items of appearance that did not escape the quick eye of the trader, well used to run up at a glance the points of a fine female article.

—一只纤细的手，修长的双脚和踝部是那位买家注意到的外表品质，他习惯一眼看出一位出色女奴的所有亮点。

“Well, Eliza?” said her master, as she stopped and looked hesitatingly at him.

“埃丽扎，怎么了？”主人说，当她停下来犹豫地看着他。

“I was looking for Harry, please, sir;” and the boy bounded toward her, showing his spoils, which he had gathered in the skirt of his robe.

“请问，哈里在哪？先生；”男孩跳到她跟前，展示着他在长袍裙摆中收集的战利品。

“Well, take him away then,” said Mr. Shelby; —

“那好，把他带走吧，”谢尔比先生说； —

and hastily she withdrew, carrying the child on her arm.

她匆匆退了出去，抱着孩子的手臂。

“By Jupiter,” said the trader, turning to him in admiration, “there’s an article, now! —

“哎呀，”贸易商赞叹着，转向他，“那可真是个宝贝！ —

You might make your fortune on that ar gal in Orleans, any day. —

在奥尔良，你随时可以因为那位姑娘发财。 —

I’ve seen over a thousand, in my day, paid down for gals not a bit handsomer.”

我一生中见过一千多个女孩，没有一个比她漂亮。”

“I don’t want to make my fortune on her,” said Mr. Shelby, dryly; —

“我不想因为她而发财，”谢尔比先生干巴巴地说； —

and, seeking to turn the conversation, he uncorked a bottle of fresh wine, and asked his companion’s opinion of it.

他掏开一瓶新酒，试图转移话题，并询问他的伴侣对此的看法。

“Capital, sir,—first chop!” said the trader; —

“好极了，先生，一流的！”贸易商说； —

then turning, and slapping his hand familiarly on Shelby’s shoulder, he added—

然后转身，熟络地拍了拍谢尔比的肩膀，补充道—

“Come, how will you trade about the gal?—what shall I say for her—what'll you take?”

“来吧，你打算怎么交易这个姑娘？我该如何开口—你愿意出售吗？”

“Mr. Haley, she is not to be sold,” said Shelby. —

“哈里，她不能卖掉，”谢尔比说。 —

“My wife would not part with her for her weight in gold.”

“我的妻子即使有一跟金子的重量也不会放弃她。”

“Ay, ay! women always say such things, cause they ha'nt no sort of calculation. —

“啊，啊！女人总是说这种话，因为她们根本没有计算能力。 —

Just show 'em how many watches, feathers, and trinkets, one's weight in gold would buy, and that alters the case, / reckon.”

只要向她们展示一分钱的重量可以买到多少手表、羽毛和装饰品，达到金子的重量会改变情况，我认为。”

“I tell you, Haley, this must not be spoken of; I say no, and I mean no,” said Shelby, decidedly.

“我告诉你，哈里，这件事不能被提起；我说不，我就是不同意，”谢尔比坚定地说。

“Well, you'll let me have the boy, though,” said the trader; —

“嗯，不过你会让我带走这个男孩的，”贸易商说； —

“you must own I've come down pretty handsomely for him.”

“你必须承认我已经为他付了相当可观的价钱。”

“What on earth can you want with the child?” said Shelby.

“你到底想要这个孩子做什么？”谢尔比说。

“Why, I've got a friend that's going into this yer branch of the business—wants to buy up handsome boys to raise for the market. —

“哦，我有一个朋友打算进入这个分支业务—想要买一些漂亮的男孩培养出售。 —

Fancy articles entirely—sell for waiters, and so on, to rich 'uns, that can pay for handsome 'uns. —

高级商品—出售给富人，可以付钱买漂亮的人。 —

It sets off one of yer great places—a real handsome boy to open door, wait, and tend. —

让一个真正漂亮的男孩开门、服务和侍候，给你宏伟的场所增添亮色。” —

They fetch a good sum; and this little devil is such a comical, musical concern, he's just the article!’

他们可以卖个好价钱;而这只小家伙如此滑稽、音乐性十足,简直就是这个绝佳的选择!’

“I would rather not sell him,” said Mr. Shelby, thoughtfully; —

“我宁愿不卖他,”谢尔比先生深思熟虑地说道; —

“the fact is, sir, I’m a humane man, and I hate to take the boy from his mother, sir.”

“事实上,先生,我是个富有同情心的人,我讨厌将这个男孩从他母亲身边带走,先生。”

“O, you do?—La! yes—something of that ar natur. I understand, perfectly. —

“哦,是吗?—啦!是的—有点儿那个又自然。我完全明白。 —

It is mighty onpleasant getting on with women, sometimes, I al’ays hates these yer screechin,’ screamin’ times. —

有时候,与女人相处是非常不愉快的,我总是讨厌这种尖叫、嚎啕的时候。 —

They are *mighty* onpleasant; but, as I manages business, I generally avoids ‘em, sir. —

它们*非常*不愉快;但是,我经营业务时,通常会避免它们,先生。 —

Now, what if you get the girl off for a day, or a week, or so; —

现在,如果你把那女孩放出去一天,或一周,或什么时间; —

then the thing’s done quietly,—all over before she comes home. —

那件事就悄无声息地完成了,—在她回家之前就结束了。 —

Your wife might get her some ear-rings, or a new gown, or some such truck, to make up with her.”

你妻子可能会给她买些耳环,或一件新裙子,或者其他的什么东西,来弥补一下。

“I’m afraid not.”

“我想不是吧。”

“Lor bless ye, yes! These critters ain’t like white folks, you know; —

“亲爱的,是这样!这些家伙不像白人,你知道; —

they gets over things, only manage right. —

他们会忘记一切,只要处理得当。 —

Now, they say,” said Haley, assuming a candid and confidential air, “that this kind o’ trade is hardening to the feelings; —

“他们说,”哈利说道,故作坦诚和亲密的口吻,“这种交易会让人变得感情冷漠; —

but I never found it so. Fact is, I never could do things up the way some fellers manage the business. —

但我从没这么觉得。事实是，我从来就做不到有些人处理这个行当的水平。 —

I've seen 'em as would pull a woman's child out of her arms, and set him up to sell, and she screechin' like mad all the time; —

我见过有些人会把一个女人的孩子从她怀里夺走，然后卖掉，而她却一直尖叫不停； —

—very bad policy—damages the article—makes 'em quite unfit for service sometimes. —

—这样做很不明智—会损害商品—有时会让它们完全无法服役。 —

I knew a real handsome gal once, in Orleans, as was entirely ruined by this sort o' handling. —

我曾经在奥尔良见过一个真正漂亮的姑娘，她就是被这种对待彻底毁了。 —

The fellow that was trading for her didn't want her baby; —

那个为她交易的家伙并不想要她的孩子； —

and she was one of your real high sort, when her blood was up. —

而她是那种真正高贵的人，一旦她愤怒起来。 —

I tell you, she squeezed up her child in her arms, and talked, and went on real awful. —

我告诉你，她用手抱着孩子，大声说话，表现得非常可怕。 —

It kinder makes my blood run cold to think of 't; —

—想起来我就感觉全身冰凉； —

and when they carried off the child, and locked her up, she jest went ravin' mad, and died in a week. —

他们把孩子带走锁起来后，她就疯狂了，一周后就死了。 —

Clear waste, sir, of a thousand dollars, just for want of management,—there's where 't is. —

清除浪费，先生，因为缺乏管理，就浪费了一千美元，这就是问题所在。 —

It's always best to do the humane thing, sir; that's been *my* experience." —

做仁慈的事情总是最好的，先生；这是我的经验。 —

And the trader leaned back in his chair, and folded his arm, with an air of virtuous decision, apparently considering himself a second Wilberforce.

而商人则倚在椅子上，双臂交叠，展现出一副决断的神态，显然自比为第二个威尔伯福斯。

The subject appeared to interest the gentleman deeply; —

这个话题似乎深深地吸引了这位绅士； —

for while Mr. Shelby was thoughtfully peeling an orange, Haley broke out afresh, with becoming diffidence, but as if actually driven by the force of truth to say a few words more.

因为在雪比先生若有所思地剥着一个橙子时，哈利又表现出了一种让人信服的谦虚，但似乎实际上是被真理的力量所驱使又说了几句。

“It don't look well, now, for a feller to be praisin' himself; —
“一个人自夸看起来不好，现在，一个人自夸就像说出了真理一样。 —

but I say it jest because it's the truth. —
但我说出这些话是因为这是事实。 —

I believe I'm reckoned to bring in about the finest droves of niggers that is brought in,—at least, I've been told so; —
我相信人们认为我带来的黑奴群是最好的群体，至少，我被告知是这样； —

if I have once, I reckon I have a hundred times,—all in good case,—fat and likely, and I lose as few as any man in the business. —
如果我曾经，我想我已经有一百次了，—个个状况良好，—肥壮而有潜力，而我失去的数量和任何其他一样少。 —

And I lays it all to my management, sir; —
这一切我归功于我的管理，先生； —

and humanity, sir, I may say, is the great pillar of *my* management.”
而人道主义，先生，我可以说是我的管理的重要支柱。”

Mr. Shelby did not know what to say, and so he said, “Indeed!”
雪比先生不知道该说什么，于是他说：“的确！”

“Now, I've been laughed at for my notions, sir, and I've been talked to. —
“现在，人们嘲笑我的想法，先生，他们指责我。 —

They an't pop'lar, and they an't common; but I stuck to 'em, sir; —
它们不受欢迎，也不常见；但我一直坚持我的想法，先生； —

I've stuck to 'em, and realized well on 'em; —
我一直坚持它们，并从中获益不少； —

yes, sir, they have paid their passage, I may say,” and the trader laughed at his joke.
是的，先生，他们已经付了他们的船费，我可以这么说，”交易商笑着开玩笑说。

There was something so piquant and original in these elucidations of humanity, that Mr. Shelby could not help laughing in company. —

在这些关于人性的阐明中有一种如此耐人寻味和独特的东西，让谢尔比先生也忍不住在众人面前笑了起来。 —

Perhaps you laugh too, dear reader; but you know humanity comes out in a variety of strange forms now-a-days, and there is no end to the odd things that humane people will say and do. 或许你也在笑，亲爱的读者；但你知道如今人性展现出各种奇怪的形式，善良的人们会说和做出各种古怪的事情，永无止境。

Mr. Shelby's laugh encouraged the trader to proceed.

谢尔比先生的笑鼓励了这位交易商继续说下去。

"It's strange, now, but I never could beat this into people's heads. —

“奇怪的是，我从来就没法让人们明白这一点。 —

Now, there was Tom Loker, my old partner, down in Natchez; —

现在，有个汤姆·洛克，我的老伙计，在纳彻兹市； —

he was a clever fellow, Tom was, only the very devil with niggers,—on principle 't was, you see, for a better hearted feller never broke bread; —

他是个聪明人，汤姆是，只是对待黑人就像魔鬼一样，—你知道，基本上是由于原则，因为再善良的人也不会对黑人手软；” —

't was his *system*, sir. I used to talk to Tom. **Why, Tom, ' I used to say,** when your gals takes on and cry, what's the use o' crackin on' em over the head, and knockin' on 'em round? —

“这是他的‘系统’，先生。我曾经和汤姆谈过。‘为什么，汤姆，’我曾经说，‘当你的女孩们发脾气哭泣时，用头来击打她们，捶打她们有什么意义呢？’” —

It's ridiculous,' says I, `and don't do no sort o' good. —

“这太荒谬了，”我说，“而且一点用也没有。” —

Why, I don't see no harm in their cryin', ' says I; —

“为什么，她们哭个不停，’我说，‘没什么害处，’” —

it's natur,' says I, and if natur can't blow off one way, it will another. —

“这是自然的，’我说，‘如果自然不能以一种方式排解，就会以另一种方式排解。” —

Besides, Tom,' says I, `it jest spiles your gals; they get sickly, and down in the mouth; —

“此外，汤姆，”我说，“这只会让你的女孩们毁了；她们会变得虚弱，情绪低落； —

and sometimes they gets ugly,—particular yallow gals do,—and it's the devil and all gettin' on 'em broke in. —

有时候还会变得糟糕，—尤其是黄种女孩，—弄得她们破旧不堪。 —

Now,' says I, `why can't you kinder coax 'em up, and speak 'em fair? —

“现在，”我说，“为什么不能对她们温柔些，好好和她们交谈？ —

Depend on it, Tom, a little humanity, thrown in along, goes a heap further than all your jawin' and crackin'; —

“请相信我，汤姆，稍微带点人性，照顾一下，比你说风凉话和殴打要好得多； —

and it pays better,' says I, `depend on 't.' But Tom couldn't get the hang on 't; —

“而且效果更好，”我说，“信赖我的。”但汤姆无法领会； —

and he spiled so many for me, that I had to break off with him, though he was a good-hearted fellow, and as fair a business hand as is goin'”

“他把太多人毁了，我不得不跟他断绝关系，虽然他是一个好心肠的家伙，而且是一个公平的商业人。”

“And do you find your ways of managing do the business better than Tom's?” said Mr. Shelby.

“那您发现您的管理方式比汤姆的更能做生意吗？”谢尔比先生问道。

“Why, yes, sir, I may say so. You see, when I any ways can, I takes a leetle care about the onpleasant parts, like selling young uns and that,—get the gals out of the way—out of sight, out of mind, you know,—and when it's clean done, and can't be helped, they naturally gets used to it. —

“嗯，是的，先生，我可以这么说。您看，只要我能做到，我就小心翼翼地处理不愉快的事情，比如卖掉年轻人之类的事情—让女孩们离开，不见面，不想起，您懂的—等净做了，而且无法避免，那些女孩自然就习惯了。 —

'Tan't, you know, as if it was white folks, that's brought up in the way of 'spectin' to keep their children and wives, and all that. —

“这不像是白人，他们是被养育在期望保留自己的孩子和妻子的环境中。 —

Niggers, you know, that's fetched up properly, ha'n't no kind of 'spectations of no kind; —

“您知道，被正确教养的黑人对任何事情都没有期望； —

so all these things comes easier.”

所以这些事情对他们来说更加容易。”

“I'm afraid mine are not properly brought up, then,” said Mr. Shelby.

“我的担忧是我的黑奴们并没有得到恰当的培养，”谢尔比先生说道。

“S'pose not; you Kentucky folks spile your niggers. —

“可能是吧；你们肯塔基人把你们的黑奴给惯坏了。 —

You mean well by 'em, but 'tan't no real kindness, arter all. —

你们对他们是出于善意，但毕竟那并不是真正的仁慈。 —

Now, a nigger, you see, what's got to be hacked and tumbled round the world, and sold to Tom, and Dick, and the Lord knows who, 'tan't no kindness to be givin' on him notions and expectations, and bringin' on him up too well, for the rough and tumble comes all the harder on him arter. —

现在你看，一个黑人，他得在世界上被推来搡去，被出售给汤姆、迪克，以及天知道还有谁，对他来说，把他主意和期望灌输进去，把他培养得太好，其实并不是什么善待，因为在那之后，他要经历的磨难就显得更加艰难。 —

Now, I venture to say, your niggers would be quite chop-fallen in a place where some of your plantation niggers would be singing and whooping like all possessed. —

现在我敢打赌，你的黑奴在某些地方可能会感到相当气馁，而你种植园里的黑奴们却会像疯了一样高声唱歌。 —

Every man, you know, Mr. Shelby, naturally thinks well of his own ways; —

每个人都知道，谢尔比先生，自然对自己所做的事情抱有好感； —

and I think I treat niggers just about as well as it's ever worth while to treat 'em.”

而我认为，对待黑人，我差不多就是尽可能善待他们了。”

“It's a happy thing to be satisfied,” said Mr. Shelby, with a slight shrug, and some perceptible feelings of a disagreeable nature.

“感到满足是件幸事，”谢尔比先生轻轻耸了耸肩，感觉到一些不快的情绪。

“Well,” said Haley, after they had both silently picked their nuts for a season, “what do you say?”

“好吧，”在两人静静地摘了些果仁之后，海利说道，“你想怎么办？”

“I'll think the matter over, and talk with my wife,” said Mr. Shelby. —

“我会考虑这件事，和我妻子谈谈，”谢尔比先生说。 —

“Meantime, Haley, if you want the matter carried on in the quiet way you speak of, you'd best not let your business in this neighborhood be known. —

“在此期间，海利，如果你想这个事情按照你说的安静方式办理，最好别让你在这个地区的买卖泄露出去。 —

It will get out among my boys, and it will not be a particularly quiet business getting away any of my fellows, if they know it, I'll promise you.”

要是知道了，这事会传到我的手下，要是他们知道了，要带走我的任何一个家伙就绝不会是一件特别安静的事，我向你保证。

“O! certainly, by all means, mum! of course. But I'll tell you. —

“哦！当然，无论如何，夫人！毋庸置疑。但我告诉你。 —

I'm in a devil of a hurry, and shall want to know, as soon as possible, what I may depend on,” said he, rising and putting on his overcoat.

我事情紧，我得尽快知道我能依靠什么，”他站起身，穿上外套说。

“Well, call up this evening, between six and seven, and you shall have my answer,” said Mr. Shelby, and the trader bowed himself out of the apartment.

“嗯，今晚六七点之间来拜访，你就会得到我的答复，”谢尔比先生说完，这位商人便鞠躬离开了房间。

“I'd like to have been able to kick the fellow down the steps,” said he to himself, as he saw the door fairly closed, “with his impudent assurance; —

“我真希望能把那家伙踢下楼梯去，”他心里想着，看着门已经被关上，“他这种傲慢自负，真让人气愤； —

but he knows how much he has me at advantage. —

但他知道他对我有多大优势。 —

If anybody had ever said to me that I should sell Tom down south to one of those rascally traders, I should have said, ‘Is thy servant a dog, that he should do this thing?’ —

如果有人曾对我说过我会把汤姆卖到南方给那些恶棍商人，我本会说，‘仆人算得了什么，竟然做出这种事？’ —

And now it must come, for aught I see. And Eliza's child, too! —

现在却不得不这么做，我看来是没有办法了。还有伊丽莎的孩子！ —

I know that I shall have some fuss with wife about that; and, for that matter, about Tom, too. —

我知道我和妻子会为此大吵一架；至于汤姆，也是一样的。 —

So much for being in debt,—heigho! The fellow sees his advantage, and means to push it.”

债务的压力太大了，唉！那家伙看出了他的优势，并打算利用它。”

Perhaps the mildest form of the system of slavery is to be seen in the State of Kentucky. —

或许，奴隶制度中最温和的形式可以在肯塔基州看到。 —

The general prevalence of agricultural pursuits of a quiet and gradual nature, not requiring those periodic seasons of hurry and pressure that are called for in the business of more

southern districts, makes the task of the negro a more healthful and reasonable one; —
平和渐进的农业活动普遍盛行，不需要南方地区那种周期性紧迫的忙碌时期，这使黑人的任务更加健康和合理； —

while the master, content with a more gradual style of acquisition, has not those temptations to hardheartedness which always overcome frail human nature when the prospect of sudden and rapid gain is weighed in the balance, with no heavier counterpoise than the interests of the helpless and unprotected.

而主人对更渐进式的获取方式感到满足，没有那种在利润迅速增长的前景与无辜、无助者的利益之间权衡时总会战胜脆弱的人性的诱惑。

Whoever visits some estates there, and witnesses the good-humored indulgence of some masters and mistresses, and the affectionate loyalty of some slaves, might be tempted to dream the oft-fabled poetic legend of a patriarchal institution, and all that; —

谁要是去那里某些庄园，目睹一些主人的善意宽容和一些奴隶的深情忠诚，可能会被诱惑似乎幻想出那常传说的父权制度，诸如此类； —

but over and above the scene there broods a portentous shadow—the shadow of *law*. —
但在那里却笼罩着一种不祥的阴影——法的阴影。 —

So long as the law considers all these human beings, with beating hearts and living affections, only as so many *things* belonging to a master,—so long as the failure, or misfortune, or imprudence, or death of the kindest owner, may cause them any day to exchange a life of kind protection and indulgence for one of hopeless misery and toil,—so long it is impossible to make anything beautiful or desirable in the best regulated administration of slavery.

只要法律将所有这些有着跳动的心脏和生活情感的人，看作只是属于主人的那么多东西，只要最仁慈的主人的失败、不幸、不慎或死亡可能使他们随时从一种受保护和纵容的生活，转为毫无希望的悲惨和艰苦的生活，只要处于奴隶制度的最良好的管理下，美好的或可取之处就不可能存在。

Mr. Shelby was a fair average kind of man, good-natured and kindly, and disposed to easy indulgence of those around him, and there had never been a lack of anything which might contribute to the physical comfort of the negroes on his estate. —

谢尔比先生是一位公平平均的人，性情和善，易于纵容身边的人，他的庄园里的黑人在物质舒适方面从未缺乏。 —

He had, however, speculated largely and quite loosely; —
然而，他经过大量且相当随意的投机； —

had involved himself deeply, and his notes to a large amount had come into the hands of Haley; —

使自己陷入深深的困境，他大量的本票落入了哈雷手中； —

and this small piece of information is the key to the preceding conversation.

这一点关键是前面对话的解释。

Now, it had so happened that, in approaching the door, Eliza had caught enough of the conversation to know that a trader was making offers to her master for somebody.

此时，偶然间，伊丽莎走近门口，听到了足够多的对话，知道一个交易商为她的主人提供购买某人。

She would gladly have stopped at the door to listen, as she came out; —

她很乐意在走出门时停下来听，但是她的女主人那时正呼唤，她不得不匆忙离开。 —

but her mistress just then calling, she was obliged to hasten away.

尽管如此，她觉得自己听到了交易商为她的孩子出价；—她一定是搞错了吗？

Still she thought she heard the trader make an offer for her boy;—could she be mistaken? —

她的心膨胀跳动，不由自主地抱紧了小家伙，这让小家伙惊讶地抬头看她。 —

Her heart swelled and throbbed, and she involuntarily strained him so tight that the little fellow looked up into her face in astonishment.

“伊丽莎，女孩，你今天怎么了？”当伊丽莎打翻洗漱盆，撞倒工作台，最后心不在焉地拿着一个长睡袍给女主人时，女主人问道。

“Eliza, girl, what ails you today?” said her mistress, when Eliza had upset the wash-pitcher, knocked down the workstand, and finally was abstractedly offering her mistress a long nightgown in place of the silk dress she had ordered her to bring from the wardrobe.

在女主人要她从衣柜里拿来一件丝绸连衣裙时，伊丽莎却不知不觉地拿来一件长睡袍。

Eliza started. “O, missis!” she said, raising her eyes; —

伊莉莎开始了。“哦，太太！”她说，抬起眼睛； —

then, bursting into tears, she sat down in a chair, and began sobbing.

然后突然哭了起来，坐在椅子上，开始啜泣。

“Why, Eliza child, what ails you?” said her mistress.

“怎么了，伊莉莎孩子，你怎么了？”她的女主人说。

“O! missis, missis,” said Eliza, “there’s been a trader talking with master in the parlor! I heard him.”