



# The Cost of a Loaf of Bread

一块面包的代价

One evening in October, 1815, a man set foot in the small town of Digne. He was wearing dirty, ragged clothes and carrying a large knapsack on his back.

He stopped by the town hall, where all strangers had to report when they arrived. Then he trudged into an inn nearby.

“What can I do for you?” asked the innkeeper.

“Lodging and something to eat,” said the man. “I can pay.”

“In that case, you’re welcome,” said the innkeeper. As the stranger dropped into a chair by the fire, the innkeeper wrote a note.

“Take this to the town hall,” he whispered to the kitchen boy.

Minutes later, the boy returned and handed a note to the innkeeper. He frowned as he read it.



He approached the stranger and said, “You can’t stay here.”

“Why?” said the stranger. “I have money.”

“I know who you are. I can’t serve a convict.”

“I’m a free man! I can pay in advance if you want.”

“Leave my inn!” said the innkeeper, angrily.

The stranger picked up his knapsack and left.

- set foot in 进入，踏上
- ragged 褴褛的，寒酸的
- knapsack 背包
- stop by 在……短暂停留
- trudge 跋涉，吃力地走
- lodging 暂住，借宿
- in that case 在那种情况下

- drop into a chair 瘫坐在椅子上
- hand sth. to sb. 把某物交给某人
- frown 皱眉
- serve 为（客人）服务
- convict 罪犯
- in advance 事先

Nineteen years before, the man had been an honest, hardworking young lumberjack. After losing his job, he stole a loaf of bread to feed his sister's hungry children. He was caught and sentenced to five years in prison. Four times he had attempted to escape, and four times he had failed. Each time his sentence increased. Now he was forty six years old and he had recently been released from Toulon Prison. <sup>1</sup> His name was Jean Valjean.

Night was falling and it was bitterly cold. He was thirsty, hungry and exhausted from walking all day. He tried every inn in the town but no one would let him stay. Finally, he gave up and lay down on a freezing stone bench near a church.

“I’ll sleep here,” he thought. “I can’t walk any further tonight.”

- lumberjack 伐木工人
- feed 喂养，抚养
- be sentenced to... 被判处……刑
- sentence 宣告，判决
- increase 增加
- bitterly 痛苦地，悲痛地
- exhausted 耗尽的，筋疲力尽的
- give up 放弃

- lie down on... 在……上面躺下  
(lie - lay - lain)
- freezing 严寒的、冰冷的
- further 更远的
- bishop 主教
- except 除了 (=but)
- silverware 银餐具，银器
- inherit sth. from... 从……继承了某物
- great-aunt 姨祖母

Just then an old woman came out of the church and said, “You can’t sleep here. If you don’t have anywhere to go, knock there. They’ll help you.” She pointed to a small house across the street. It was the house of Myriel, the Bishop of Digne, who lived simply and gave all his money to the poor.<sup>2</sup> He owned nothing valuable except some silverware he had inherited from his great-aunt.

<sup>1</sup> be released from... 从……出来，被释放  
He had recently been released from Toulon Prison.  
他最近刚刚从土伦监狱里释放出来。

<sup>2</sup> the + 形容词 ……的人们  
It was the house of Myriel, the Bishop of Digne, who lived simply and gave all his money to the poor.  
这是穆里尔的房子，他是迪涅的主教。他生活简朴，把所有积蓄都施舍给了穷人。





Jean knocked and the door was opened by an old man about seventy-five years of age.

“How may I help you?” said the Bishop with a smile.

“A good woman told me to come here,” said Jean.

“I’m starving and exhausted, but because I was a convict, no one will let me stay. I have a yellow passport that says I’m a dangerous man. Will you let me stay? I can pay.”

Jean waited for the man to tell him to leave but instead, the Bishop invited Jean inside.

“This is God’s house,” said the Bishop. “You’re welcome to share everything we have.”

“What! Really? You will let me stay?” said Jean in confusion. “You are humane, sir.”

Hesitantly, he stepped inside.

The housekeeper set the table with silver plates on a white cloth and lit candles in silver candlesticks.

□ ...of age 在……的年龄

□ starve 挨饿

□ passport 身份证, 护照

□ in confusion 疑惑不解的, 处于混乱状态

□ be welcome to... 可以自由(随意)做……

□ humane 有人情味的, 仁爱的

□ hesitantly 迟疑地, 踌躇地

□ light 点灯, 照亮

□ candlestick 烛台

□ mutton 羊肉

□ say grace 做祷告

□ fall fast asleep 熟睡



Then she brought supper of soup, bacon and mutton, a fresh cheese and bread. The Bishop politely asked Jean to sit beside him at the table. And as soon as the Bishop finished saying grace, Jean ate hungrily until he could eat no more. After supper, the Bishop showed Jean to the guest room. No sooner had Jean gone to bed than he fell fast asleep. ☀

### ☀ 迷你课堂

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No sooner... than... : 一……就……

如果想表达“一……就……”，可以用“No sooner had + 主语 + 过去分词 + than + 主语 + 动词过去式”。为了表示强调，no sooner 放在句首时，语序要倒置，把 had 放在主语前面。

- No sooner had Jean gone to bed than he fell fast asleep.  
冉一上床就很快睡着了。



At two in the morning, Jean awoke and had trouble falling asleep again because the bed was so comfortable. Suddenly, a thought flashed through his mind – the Bishop’s silver! <sup>1</sup> He had seen the housekeeper placing it in a cupboard beside the Bishop’s bed.

“I could sell it for two hundred francs<sup>\*</sup>, or perhaps even more,” he thought.

franc 是当时在法国使用的  
货币单位。

He rose to his feet <sup>2</sup> and quietly opened the door to the Bishop’s room. The Bishop lay asleep on his back, breathing peacefully.

As Jean reached the bedside, a ray of moonlight lit up the Bishop's gentle face. There was something divine and serene about him.

"He looks like a sleeping god," thought Jean.

"I shouldn't steal from him, but..."

He stood for a moment, gazing in awe at the sleeping man. Then he moved quickly past the bed to the cupboard. He grabbed the silver plates and soup ladle, put them into his knapsack, and fled through the window into the darkness.

□ have trouble doing sth. 做某事  
有困难

□ cupboard 食物柜, 食橱

□ lie asleep on one's back 仰卧  
着睡

□ a ray of 一线, 一丝

□ light up 被……照亮; 变明亮

□ divine 神圣的

□ serene 平稳的, 沉静的

□ gaze in awe at 敬畏地注视

□ grab 紧握

(grab - grabbed - grabbed)

□ soup ladle 汤勺

□ flee 逃走 (flee - fled - fled)

<sup>1</sup> flash through one's mind 在某人脑海中浮现

Suddenly, a thought flashed through his mind – the Bishop's silver!

突然, 他闪过一个念头——主教的银器!

<sup>2</sup> rise to one's feet 站起来

He rose to his feet and quietly opened the door to the Bishop's room.

他站起来, 悄悄打开了主教房间的门。

The next day, four policemen arrived at the Bishop's house. Three of them held Jean by the collar. The fourth, a police inspector, advanced toward the Bishop and gave a military salute.

“Bishop,” he said.

“Ah! Here you are!” said the Bishop to Jean.

“I’m so glad to see you again. But I gave you the candlesticks too. Why didn’t you take them?”

Jean looked at him in stunned disbelief. Not only ☀ had the Bishop forgiven his crime, but he was also giving Jean his precious silver candlesticks.

“Do you know this man, Sir?” asked the police inspector. “We stopped him because he looked suspicious. Then we arrested him because he had a knapsack full of silverware, which we thought he had stolen.”

“You’ve made a mistake,” said the Bishop. “Let him go.”

- police inspector 警督
- hold sb. by the collar 抓住某人的衣领
- advance 向前进
- give a military salute 行军礼
- Here you are! 原来是你!

- in stunned disbelief 惊讶到难以置信
- suspicious 形迹可疑
- arrest 逮捕
- make a mistake 失误, 犯错
- release 释放, 宽恕
- tremble with fear 害怕



The police released Jean and went away.

“My friend,” said the Bishop quietly to Jean, “take these candlesticks too.”

Trembling with fear, Jean put the candlesticks in his knapsack.

The Bishop continued, “With them, I’ve bought your soul and given it to God. Use this wealth wisely to make yourself an honest man.”



② 警察因为冉偷了什么而逮捕了他？

- a. Silverware    b. Candlesticks

答案：b

## ☀ 迷你课堂

### Only 倒装句

句首出现 only 引导的分句时，语序要倒装，构成“助动词 / 动词 + 主语”的形式。

Not only had the Bishop forgiven his crime, but he was also giving Jean his precious silver candlesticks.

主教不但原谅了他的罪行，还把自己贵重的银烛台给了冉。

Only then did I realize the situation.

直到那时我才了解了情况。



All that day, Jean wandered about a deserted plain. He was possessed by a variety of new sensations. Memories of his years in prison came into his mind and he was overcome with anger. Why had God given him such a hard life? At the same time, he felt a tenderness that he had not known for nineteen years.

At sunset, he was sitting in the shade of a bush when a boy walked by, tossing a coin. The boy missed the coin and it rolled toward Jean. Without thinking, Jean put his foot over it.

“Sir,” said the boy, “my franc is under your foot. Please give it to me.”

“Get lost!” screamed Jean.

A look of terror came into the boy’s eyes. When Jean started shouting at him again, the boy turned

- wander about 徘徊不定
- deserted plain 人迹稀少的旷野
- be possessed by 被……附身/迷住
- a variety of 多种的，种种
- sensation 感觉，知觉
- come into one’s mind 想起
- be overcome with 被压到/制服
- such a + 形容词 + 名词  
多么……啊

- tenderness 亲切
- toss 向上投掷（硬币）
- Get lost! 赶紧走开，滚开！
- look of terror 恐惧的眼神
- set out 出发，离开
- pray for 祈祷，祈愿
- forgiveness 原谅
- break down 衰弱下来
- vow to 向……发誓
- fill... with... 用……把……填满

and ran away. An instant later, Jean realized what he had done.

“Oh, my God!” he cried. “I’m a monster. I’ve stolen from a child!”

He set out in the direction in which the boy had run. He prayed for God’s forgiveness as he searched, but the boy was gone. Jean broke down and wept bitterly for a long time. He remembered what the Bishop had said to him. He vowed to God that he would be like the Bishop and fill his life with good deeds. For the first time, Jean felt truly free.

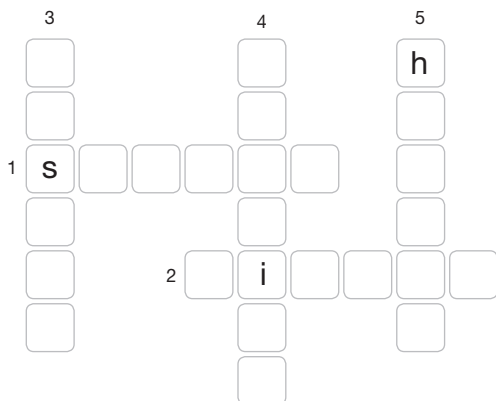




# Check-up Time!

## • WORDS

根据中文提示在拼图空格里填入合适的字母，完成单词。



### Across

1. 平稳的，沉静的
2. 神圣的

### Down

3. 主教
4. 罪犯
5. 有人情味的

## • STRUCTURE

从方框中选出合适的介词填入空格，完成句子。

through	by	from	to
---------	----	------	----

1. Three of them held Jean \_\_\_\_\_ the collar.
2. Suddenly, a thought flashed \_\_\_\_\_ his mind!
3. He rose \_\_\_\_\_ his feet and quietly opened the door.
4. He had inherited the silverware \_\_\_\_\_ his great-aunt.

### ANSWERS

WORDS | 1. serene 2. divine 3. bishop 4. convict 5. humane  
 STRUCTURE | 1. by 2. through 3. to 4. from

## • COMPREHENSION

根据故事发生的顺序，将下列句子排序。

- a. Jean awoke and had trouble sleeping again.
- b. Jean stood, gazing in awe at the Bishop.
- c. Four policemen arrived at the Bishop's house.
- d. The Bishop showed Jean to the guest room.

(     ) → (     ) → (     ) → (     )

## • SUMMARY

从所给选项中选出合适的单词填入括号内，完成短文。

Jean had been recently (     ) from prison. No one would help him because he was a convict. Finally, the Bishop gave him food and a place to sleep, but Jean (     ) his silverware and fled. The next morning, he was caught but the Bishop forgave Jean's (     ) and gave him his silver candlesticks. Jean was possessed by many new sensations and without thinking, he stole a boy's (     ). But later, he prayed for God's forgiveness and promised to fill his life with good deeds.

a. stole

b. coin

c. released

d. crime

### ANSWERS

COMPREHENSION 1 (d) → (a) → (b) → (c)  
SUMMARY 1 c, a, d, b



# The Mayor's Secret

市长的秘密

In December of 1815, a stranger arrived in Montreuil-sur-Mer. He reached the town hall just as a fire broke out. The man rushed into the flames and saved two children that were trapped inside. After such a brave act, no one asked him for his passport. He told everyone his name was Mr. Madeleine.

He settled in the town, which was famous for manufacturing black glass jewelry. Soon, he invented a cheaper way to make the jewelry. He opened a large factory and employed anyone who<sup>1</sup> was honest and willing to work hard. He built schools and had a small hospital in his house for the poor. He was respected throughout the district for his kindness and honesty.

- break out 发生
- rush into 冲进，匆忙进入
- flame 火焰，烈火
- trapped 被关，受困
- settle in 定居
- manufacture 制作，制造

- invent 发明，研制
- employ 雇佣
- be willing to... 乐于，甘于……
- district 地区，区域
- prosperous 繁荣的，富有的
- appoint sb. ... 任命某人担任……



In 1820, with Montreuil-sur-Mer becoming more ☀  
prosperous, the king appointed Madeleine mayor of  
the town.

<sup>1</sup> anyone who... 任何……样的人

He employed anyone who was honest and willing to work  
hard.

他雇佣任何诚实和乐于吃苦的人。

### ☀迷你课堂

with + 宾语 + 动词现在分词：伴随着……发生……，  
……在进行过程中发生……

这个句型在描述某些动作与其他动作同时发生的状况时使用。

· In 1820, with Montreuil-sur-Mer becoming more prosperous, the king  
appointed Madeleine mayor of the town.

1820 年，蒙特勒伊市变得日益繁荣，国王任命马德林为市长。

· Mike played the piano with the crowd watching him.

迈克在人群的注视下演奏着钢琴。



One morning, Madeleine saw an old carter trapped beneath a cart in the street. The horse had two broken legs and could not rise.

“The cart is sinking into the mud, crushing him,” cried Madeleine. “He’ll die. I’ll pay anyone who tries to raise the cart.”

No one came forward to help.

<sup>1</sup> with all one’s strength 用尽全部力量

Madeleine crawled underneath the cart and pushed with all his strength.

马德林爬到了马车下面用尽全身力气往上推。



“None of them is strong enough,” called Police Inspector Javert from the crowd. “Actually, I know only one man who is capable of doing that. He was a convict at Toulon.”

Madeleine’s face turned pale and his fists clenched. He met Javert’s fierce glare and smiled sadly. A moment later, Madeleine crawled underneath the cart and pushed with all his strength. <sup>1</sup> The cart began to quiver and then it rose slowly. Men rushed forward and pulled the carter, Fauchelevent, free.

“Carry him to the hospital,” said Madeleine. “I think his leg is broken.”

As he walked away, he felt Javert’s eyes on his back.



- carter 运货马车夫
- beneath 在……的下方
- cart 运货马车
- sink into 陷入
- crush 压破，捣碎
- come forward 自告奋勇，出面
- be capable of 有能力做……
- fist 拳头
- clench 紧握
- fierce glare 凶狠的眼神
- underneath 在……下面
- quiver 抖动，微颤
- pull... free 拉拽……以摆脱 / 逃脱

From then on, Javert watched Madeleine more closely than before. Madeleine avoided Javert whenever he could do so.<sup>1</sup> But that changed one cold winter evening when Javert arrested a poor woman named Fantine. She was charged with attacking a gentleman for no reason. But in fact, the man had insulted Fantine until she was so furious that she hit him. Madeleine had been passing by at that moment and had witnessed the fight. He went to the police station to explain what had happened.

- |                             |                                |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| □ from then on 从那时起         | □ desperately 绝望地，极度地          |
| □ be charged with... 以……被控告 | □ beg for mercy 乞求宽恕           |
| □ attack 暴行，攻击              | □ respectable 品行端正的，可敬的        |
| □ insult 侮辱，辱骂              | □ in the wrong 做错了，有过失的        |
| □ furious 狂怒的，暴怒的           | □ oppose 反对                    |
| □ witness 目击，见证             | □ kneel 下跪 (kneel-knelt-knelt) |
|                             | □ faint 晕厥，昏倒                  |

<sup>1</sup> whenever 不管何时  
Madeleine avoided Javert whenever he could do so.  
马德林尽可能地躲着沙威。

<sup>2</sup> send sb. to prison 送某人进监狱  
“Please, don’t send me to prison!” she cried.  
请不要送我去监狱！”她哭喊道。

<sup>3</sup> set sb. free 放开，释放某人  
Madeleine said calmly to Javert, “Set her free.”  
马德林平静地对沙威说：“把她放了。”



When he got there, he saw Fantine desperately begging for mercy.

“Please, don’t send me to prison!”<sup>2</sup> she cried.

“I’m sick and I have a child to take care of.”

Madeleine said calmly to Javert, “Set her free.”<sup>3</sup>

She’s innocent.”

“She attacked a respectable man,” said Javert coldly.

“I saw everything. She was not in the wrong.

Set her free immediately.”

“I’m sorry to oppose you, but I...”

“I’m the mayor and I say she’s innocent,” said Madeleine.

“Now, leave us!”

“Very well,” said Javert, through clenched teeth.

As Fantine knelt and kissed Madeleine’s hand, she fainted.

