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格列佛游记 Gulliver's Travels

[英]乔纳森·斯威夫特(Jonathan Swift)著 纪飞 译

> **消** 苯大学出版社 北 京

内容简介

《格列佛游记》是世界上最伟大的童话、讽刺小说之一。故事讲述主人公格列佛在四个完全不同的国度——小人国、大人国、飞岛国和慧骃国的冒险经历和非凡奇遇。格列佛遇海难,来到小人国,这里的人身高仅六英寸,君臣贪婪、国家战祸连绵,作者以巨人的角度,俯视人类的荒唐和渺小。格列佛误闯大人国,这里的人身高如塔,国威显赫,作者以小矮人的角度,仰视人类的粗俗和无情。格列佛遇海盗,造访飞岛国,这里的城市和乡村颓败、荒芜,作者以平常的心态,平视人类的疯狂和邪恶本性。格列佛游访慧骃国,这里的统治者高度理性,人形动物邪恶、低劣,作者以理性动物的角度,审视人类的本质。该书问世近300年,已被译成几十种文字,还多次被改编成电影。在中国,它是最具影响力的外国文学作品之一,被列入语文新课程标准推荐阅读书目。无论是作为语言学习的课本,还是作为通俗的文学读本,本书对当代中国的青少年读者都将产生积极的影响。

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图书在版编目(CIP)数据

格列佛游记:名著英汉对照双语版 / (英) 乔纳森 • 斯威夫特 (Jonathan Swift) 著;纪飞译.一北京:清华大学出版社,2024.1

ISBN 978-7-302-64506-1

I. ①格··· II. ①乔··· ②纪··· III. ①英语-汉语-对照读物 IV. ① H319.4

中国国家版本馆 CIP 数据核字 (2023) 第 163001 号

责任编辑: 陈 莉 封面设计: 刘 晶 版式设计: 方加青 责任校对: 成凤进 责任印制: 杨 艳

出版发行:清华大学出版社

网 址: https://www.tup.com.cn, https://www.wqxuetang.com

地 址:北京清华大学学研大厦A座 邮 编:100084

社 总 机: 010-83470000 邮 购: 010-62786544

投稿与读者服务: 010-62776969, c-service@tup.tsinghua.edu.cn 质量反馈: 010-62772015, zhiliang@tup.tsinghua.edu.cn

印装者:河北鹏润印刷有限公司

经 销:全国新华书店

开 本: 170mm×260mm 印 张: 18.5 字 数: 472 千字

版 次: 2024年1月第1版 印 次: 2024年1月第1次印刷

定 价: 69.80 元

产品编号: 100067-01



前言

乔纳森·斯威夫特 (Jonathan Swift, 1667—1745), 英国启蒙运动中激进民主派的创始人, 18世纪英国最杰出的政论家和讽刺文学大师之一。

1667年11月30日,乔纳森·斯威夫特出生在爱尔兰都柏林的一个贫苦家庭。他出生前七个月的时候父亲去世,由叔父抚养长大。1686年,他获得都柏林三一学院学士学位;1692年,获得牛津大学硕士学位;1701年,获都柏林三一学院博士学位。在大学期间,虽然主修的是哲学和神学,但他却对文学和历史产生了浓厚的兴趣。在此期间,斯威夫特曾任穆尔庄园主人威廉·邓波尔爵士的私人秘书、英国国教会教士及乡村牧师等。1710—1714年,为托利党主编《考察报》。1714年,托利党失势后,他回到爱尔兰,在都柏林圣帕特里克大教堂任副主教,同时着手研究爱尔兰现状,积极支持并投入争取爱尔兰独立自由的斗争。1745年10月19日,斯威夫特去世,葬于圣帕特里克大教堂。

斯威夫特一生发表了大量的政论、讽刺诗和散文等,抨击地主、豪绅和英国殖民主义政策,受到民众的热烈欢迎。而他的讽刺小说影响更为深广,其代表作《格列佛游记》是一部杰出的游记体长篇小说,是世界文学史上最伟大的讽刺小说之一。1726年,《格列佛游记》一经出版,便震惊了当时的英国社会,成为当时最畅销、最受关注的作品之一。小说以格列佛船长的口吻叙述了周游小人国、大人国、飞岛国和慧骃国的经历,作者以神奇的想象、夸张的语言、寓言的笔法对英国政体进行了批判,尤其对统治阶级的腐败、无能、毒辣、荒淫、贪婪、自大等做了痛快淋漓的鞭挞。该书问世近300年,已被译成几十种文字,是世界各国人民最喜爱的经典文学作品之一。

在中国,《格列佛游记》同样是最受广大青少年读者欢迎的经典小说之一,自20世纪初引入中国以来,各种版本总计不下百种。作为世界文学宝库中的经典之作,它影响了一代又一代中国人的美丽童年、少年直至成年。基于以上原因,我们决定翻译本书,并采用英汉双语的形式出版。我们相信,该经典著作的引进对加强当代中国读者,特别对青少年读者的人文修养是非常有帮助的。

本书配有英文音频、读者可在每章章标题处获取音频二维码、扫码听书。

纪 飞 2023年3月



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The Publisher to the Reader



The author of these Travels, Mr. Lemuel Gulliver, is my ancient and intimate friend; there is likewise some relation between us on the mother's side. About three years ago, Mr. Gulliver growing weary of the concourse of curious people coming to him at his house in Redriff, made a small purchase of land, with a convenient house, near Newark, in Nottinghamshire, his native country; where he now lives retired, yet in good esteem among his neighbours.

Although Mr. Gulliver was born in Nottinghamshire, where his father dwelt, yet I have heard him say his family came from Oxfordshire; to confirm which, I have observed in the churchyard at Banbury in that county, several tombs and monuments of the Gullivers.

Before he quitted Redriff, he left the custody of the following papers in my hands, with the liberty to dispose of them as I should think fit. I have carefully perused them three times. The style is very plain and simple; and the only fault I find is, that the author, after the manner of travellers, is a little too circumstantial. There is an air of truth apparent through the whole; and indeed the author was so distinguished for his veracity, that it became a sort of proverb among his neighbours at Redriff, when any one affirmed a thing, to say, it was as true as if Mr. Gulliver had spoken it.

By the advice of several worthy persons, to whom, with the author's permission, I communicated these papers, I now venture to send them into the world, hoping they may be, at least for some time, a better entertainment to our young noblemen, than the common scribbles of politics and party.

This volume would have been at least twice as large, if I had not made bold to strike out innumerable passages relating to the winds and tides, as well as to the variations and bearings in the several voyages, together with the minute descriptions of the management of the ship in storms, in the style of sailors; likewise the account of longitudes and latitudes; wherein I have reason to apprehend, that Mr. Gulliver may be a little dissatisfied. But I was resolved to fit the work as much as possible to the general capacity of readers. However, if my own ignorance in sea affairs shall have led me to commit some mistakes, I alone am answerable for them. And if any traveller hath a curiosity to see the whole work at large, as it came from the hands of the author, I will be ready to gratify him.

As for any further particulars relating to the author, the reader will receive satisfaction from the first pages of the book.

Richard Sympson

A Letter from Captain Gulliver to his Cousin Sympson

I hope you will be ready to own publicly, whenever you shall be called to it, that by your great and frequent urgency you prevailed on me to publish a very loose and incorrect account of my travels, with directions to hire some young gentleman of either university to put them in order, and correct the style, as my cousin Dampier did, by my advice, in his book called, A Voyage round the world. But I do not remember I gave you power to consent that anything should be omitted, and much less that anything should be inserted; therefore, as to the latter, I do here renounce everything of that kind; particularly a paragraph about her Majesty Queen Anne, of most pious and glorious memory; although I did reverence and esteem her more than any of human species. But you, or your interpolator, ought to have considered, that it was not my inclination, so was it not decent to praise any animal of our composition before my master Houyhnhnm: And besides, the fact was altogether false; for to my knowledge, being in England during some part of her Majesty's reign, she did govern by a chief minister; nay even by two successively, the first whereof was the lord of Godolphin, and the second the lord of Oxford; so that you have made me say the thing that was not. Likewise in the account of the academy of projectors, and several passages of my discourse to my master Houvhnhnm, you have either omitted some material circumstances, or minced or changed them in such a manner, that I do hardly know my own work. When I formerly hinted to you something of this in a letter, you were pleased to answer that you were afraid of giving offence; that people in power were very watchful over the press, and apt not only to interpret, but to punish everything which looked like an innuendo (as I think you call it). But, pray how could that which I spoke so many years ago, and at about five thousand leagues distance, in another reign, be applied to any of the Yahoos, who now are said to govern the herd; especially at a time when I little thought, or feared, the unhappiness of living under them? Have not I the most reason to complain, when I see these very Yahoos carried by Houyhnhnms in a vehicle, as if they were brutes, and those the rational creatures? And indeed to avoid so monstrous and detestable a sight was one principal motive of my retirement hither.

Thus much I thought proper to tell you in relation to yourself, and to the trust I reposed in you.

I do in the next place, complain of my own great want of judgment, in being prevailed upon by the entreaties and false reasoning of you and some others, very much against my own opinion, to suffer my travels to be published. Pray bring to your mind how often I desired you to consider, when you insisted on the motive of public good, that the *Yahoos* were a species of animals utterly incapable of amendment by precept or example: and so it has proved; for,

instead of seeing a full stop put to all abuses and corruptions, at least in this little island, as I had reason to expect; behold, after above six months warning, I cannot learn that my book has produced one single effect according to my intentions. I desired you would let me know, by a letter, when party and faction were extinguished; judges learned and upright; pleaders honest and modest, with some tincture of common sense, and Smithfield blazing with pyramids of law books; the young nobility's education entirely changed; the physicians banished; the female Yahoos abounding in virtue, honor, truth, and good sense; courts and levees of great ministers thoroughly weeded and swept; wit, merit, and learning rewarded; all disgracers of the press in prose and verse condemned to eat nothing but their own cotton, and quench their thirst with their own ink. These, and a thousand other reformations, I firmly counted upon by your encouragement; as indeed they were plainly deducible from the precepts delivered in my book. And it must be owned, that seven months were a sufficient time to correct every vice and folly to which Yahoos are subject, if their natures had been capable of the least disposition to virtue or wisdom. Yet, so far have you been from answering my expectation in any of your letters; that on the contrary you are loading our carrier every week with libels, and keys, and reflections, and memoirs, and second parts; wherein I see myself accused of reflecting upon great state folk; of degrading human nature (for so they have still the confidence to style it), and of abusing the female sex. I find likewise that the writers of those bundles are not agreed among themselves; for some of them will not allow me to be the author of my own travels; and others make me author of books to which I am wholly a stranger.

I find likewise that your printer has been so careless as to confound the times, and mistake the dates, of my several voyages and returns; neither assigning the true year, nor the true month, nor day of the month; and I hear the original manuscript is all destroyed since the publication of my book; neither have I any copy left; however, I have sent you some corrections, which you may insert, if ever there should be a second edition: and yet I cannot stand to them; but shall leave that matter to my judicious and candid readers to adjust it as they please.

I hear some of our sea *Yahoos* find fault with my sea-language, as not proper in many parts, nor now in use. I cannot help it. In my first voyages, while I was young, I was instructed by the oldest mariners, and learned to speak as they did. But I have since found that the sea *Yahoos* are apt, like the land ones, to become new-fangled in their words, which the latter change every year; insomuch, as I remember upon each return to my own country their old dialect was so altered, that I could hardly understand the new. And I observe, when any *Yahoo* comes from London out of curiosity to visit me at my house, we neither of us are able to deliver our conceptions in a manner intelligible to the other.

If the censure of the *Yahoos* could any way affect me, I should have great reason to complain, that some of them are so bold as to think my book of travels a mere fiction out of mine own brain, and have gone so far as to drop hints, that the *Houyhnhnms* and *Yahoos* have no more existence than the inhabitants of Utopia.

Indeed I must confess, that as to the people of Lilliput, Brobdingrag (for so the word should have been spelt, and not erroneously Brobdingnag), and Laputa, I have never yet heard of any *Yahoo* so presumptuous as to dispute their being, or the facts I have related concerning them; because the truth immediately strikes every reader with conviction. And is there less

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probability in my account of the *Houyhnhnms* or *Yahoos*, when it is manifest as to the latter, there are so many thousands even in this country, who only differ from their brother brutes in *Houyhnhnmland*, because they use a sort of jabber, and do not go naked? I wrote for their amendment, and not their approbation. The united praise of the whole race would be of less consequence to me, than the neighing of those two degenerate *Houyhnhnms* I keep in my stable; because from these, degenerate as they are, I still improve in some virtues without any mixture of vice.

Do these miserable animals presume to think, that I am so degenerated as to defend my veracity? *Yahoo* as I am, it is well known through all *Houyhnhnmland*, that, by the instructions and example of my illustrious master, I was able in the compass of two years (although I confess with the utmost difficulty) to remove that infernal habit of lying, shuffling, deceiving, and equivocating, so deeply rooted in the very souls of all my species; especially the Europeans.

I have other complaints to make upon this vexatious occasion; but I forbear troubling myself or you any further. I must freely confess, that since my last return, some corruptions of my *Yahoo* nature have revived in me by conversing with a few of your species, and particularly those of my own family, by an unavoidable necessity; else I should never have attempted so absurd a project as that of reforming the *Yahoo* race in this kingdom; But I have now done with all such visionary schemes for ever.

April 2, 1727

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Part I **A Voyage to Lilliput**

Chapter I



The author gives some account of himself and family. His first inducements to travel. He is shipwrecked, and swims for his life. Gets safe on shore in the country of Lilliput; is made a prisoner, and carried up the country.

My father had a small estate in Nottinghamshire; I was the third of five sons. He sent me to Emanuel College in Cambridge at fourteen years old, where I resided three years, and applied myself close to my studies; but the charge of maintaining me, although I had a very scanty allowance, being too great for a narrow fortune, I was bound apprentice to Mr. James Bates, an eminent surgeon in London, with whom I continued four years. My father now and then sending me small sums of money, I laid them out in learning navigation, and other parts of the mathematics, useful to those who intend to travel, as I always believed it would be, sometime or other, my fortune to do. When I left Mr. Bates, I went down to my father; where, by the assistance of him and my uncle John, and some other relations, I got forty pounds, and a promise of thirty pounds a year to maintain me at Leyden; there I studied physic two years and seven months, knowing it would be useful in long voyages.

Soon after my return from Leyden, I was recommended by my good master, Mr. Bates, to be surgeon to the Swallow, Captain Abraham Pannel, commander; with whom I continued three years and a half, making a voyage or two into the Levant, and some other parts. When I came back I resolved to settle in London; to which Mr. Bates, my master, encouraged me, and by him I was recommended to several patients. I took part of a small house in the Old Jewry; and being advised to alter my condition, I married Mrs. Mary Burton, second daughter to Mr. Edmund Burton, hosier, in Newgate-street, with whom I received four hundred pounds for a portion.

But my good master Bates dying in two years after, and I having few friends, my business began to fail; for my conscience would not suffer me to imitate the bad practice of too many among my brethren. Having therefore consulted with my wife, and some of my acquaintance, I determined to go again to sea. I was surgeon successively in two ships, and made several voyages, for six years, to the East and West Indies, by which I got some addition to my fortune. My hours of leisure I spent in reading the best authors, ancient and modern, being always provided with a good number of books; and when I was ashore, in observing the manners and

dispositions of the people, as well as learning their language; wherein I had a great facility, by the strength of my memory.

The last of these voyages not proving very fortunate, I grew weary of the sea, and intended to stay at home with my wife and family. I removed from the Old Jewry to Fetter Lane, and from thence to Wapping, hoping to get business among the sailors; but it would not turn to account. After three years expectation that things would mend, I accepted an advantageous offer from Captain William Prichard, master of the Antelope, who was making a voyage to the South Sea. We set sail from Bristol, May 4, 1699, and our voyage was at first very prosperous.

It would not be proper, for some reasons, to trouble the reader with the particulars of our adventures in those seas; let it suffice to inform him, that in our passage from thence to the East Indies, we were driven by a violent storm to the north-west of Van Diemen's Land. By an observation, we found ourselves in the latitude of 30 degrees 2 minutes south. Twelve of our crew were dead by immoderate labor and ill food; the rest were in a very weak condition. On the 5th of November, which was the beginning of summer in those parts, the weather being very hazy, the seamen spied a rock within half a cable's length of the ship; but the wind was so strong, that we were driven directly upon it, and immediately split. Six of the crew, of whom I was one, having let down the boat into the sea, made a shift to get clear of the ship and the rock. We rowed, by my computation, about three leagues, till we were able to work no longer, being already spent with labor while we were in the ship. We therefore trusted ourselves to the mercy of the waves, and in about half an hour the boat was overset by a sudden flurry from the north. What became of my companions in the boat, as well as of those who escaped on the rock, or were left in the vessel, I cannot tell; but conclude they were all lost. For my own part, I swam as fortune directed me, and was pushed forward by wind and tide. I often let my legs drop, and could feel no bottom; but when I was almost gone, and able to struggle no longer, I found myself within my depth; and by this time the storm was much abated. The declivity was so small, that I walked near a mile before I got to the shore, which I conjectured was about eight o'clock in the evening. I then advanced forward near half a mile, but could not discover any sign of houses or inhabitants; at least I was in so weak a condition, that I did not observe them. I was extremely tired, and with that, and the heat of the weather, and about half a pint of brandy that I drank as I left the ship, I found myself much inclined to sleep. I lay down on the grass, which was very short and soft, where I slept sounder than ever I remembered to have done in my life, and, as I reckoned, about nine hours; for when I awaked, it was just day-light. I attempted to rise, but was not able to stir: for, as I happened to lie on my back, I found my arms and legs were strongly fastened on each side to the ground; and my hair, which was long and thick, tied down in the same manner. I likewise felt several slender ligatures across my body, from my arm-pits to my thighs. I could only look upwards; the sun began to grow hot, and the light offended my eyes. I heard a confused noise about me; but in the posture I lay, could see nothing except the sky. In a little time I felt something alive moving on my left leg, which advancing gently forward over my breast, came almost up to my chin; when, bending my eyes downwards as much as I could, I perceived it to be a human creature not six inches high, with a bow and arrow in his hands, and a quiver at his back. In the meantime, I felt at

least forty more of the same kind (as I conjectured) following the first. I was in the utmost astonishment, and roared so loud, that they all ran back in a fright; and some of them, as I was afterwards told, were hurt with the falls they got by leaping from my sides upon the ground. However, they soon returned, and one of them, who ventured so far as to get a full sight of my face, lifting up his hands and eyes by way of admiration, cried out in a shrill but distinct voice, Hekinah degul; the others repeated the same words several times, but then I knew not what they meant. I lay all this while, as the reader may believe, in great uneasiness. At length, struggling to get loose, I had the fortune to break the strings, and wrench out the pegs that fastened my left arm to the ground; for, by lifting it up to my face, I discovered the methods they had taken to bind me, and at the same time with a violent pull, which gave me excessive pain, I a little loosened the strings that tied down my hair on the left side, so that I was just able to turn my head about two inches. But the creatures ran off a second time, before I could seize them; whereupon there was a great shout in a very shrill accent, and after it ceased I heard one of them cry aloud Tolgo phonac; when in an instant I felt above a hundred arrows discharged on my left hand, which pricked me like so many needles; and besides, they shot another flight into the air, as we do bombs in Europe, whereof many, I suppose, fell on my body, (though I felt them not), and some on my face, which I immediately covered with my left hand. When this shower of arrows was over, I fell a groaning with grief and pain; and then striving again to get loose, they discharged another volley larger than the first, and some of them attempted with spears to stick me in the sides; but by good luck I had on a buff jerkin, which they could not pierce. I thought it the most prudent method to lie still, and my design was to continue so till night, when my left hand being already loose, I could easily free myself; and as for the inhabitants, I had reason to believe I might be a match for the greatest army they could bring against me, if they were all of the same size with him that I saw. But fortune disposed otherwise of me. When the people observed I was quiet, they discharged no more arrows; but, by the noise I heard, I knew their numbers increased; and about four yards from me, over against my right ear, I heard a knocking for above an hour, like that of people at work; when turning my head that way, as well as the pegs and strings would permit me, I saw a stage erected about a foot and a half from the ground, capable of holding four of the inhabitants, with two or three ladders to mount it: from whence one of them, who seemed to be a person of quality, made me a long speech, whereof I understood not one syllable. But I should have mentioned, that before the principal person began his oration, he cried out three times, Langro dehul san (these words and the former were afterwards repeated and explained to me); whereupon, immediately, about fifty of the inhabitants came and cut the strings that fastened the left side of my head, which gave me the liberty of turning it to the right, and of observing the person and gesture of him that was to speak. He appeared to be of a middle age, and taller than any of the other three who attended him, whereof one was a page that held up his train, and seemed to be somewhat longer than my middle finger; the other two stood one on each side to support him. He acted every part of an orator, and I could observe many periods of threatening, and others of promises, pity, and kindness. I answered in a few words, but in the most submissive manner, lifting up my left hand, and both my eyes to the sun, as calling him for a witness; and being almost famished with hunger, having not eaten a morsel for some

hours before I left the ship, I found the demands of nature so strong upon me, that I could not forbear showing my impatience (perhaps against the strict rules of decency) by putting my finger frequently to my mouth, to signify that I wanted food. The hurgo (for so they call a great lord, as I afterwards learnt) understood me very well. He descended from the stage, and commanded that several ladders should be applied to my sides, on which above a hundred of the inhabitants mounted and walked towards my mouth, laden with baskets full of meat, which had been provided and sent thither by the king's orders, upon the first intelligence he received of me. I observed there was the flesh of several animals, but could not distinguish them by the taste. There were shoulders, legs, and loins, shaped like those of mutton, and very well dressed, but smaller than the wings of a lark. I ate them by two or three at a mouthful, and took three loaves at a time, about the bigness of musket bullets. They supplied me as fast as they could, showing a thousand marks of wonder and astonishment at my bulk and appetite. I then made another sign, that I wanted drink. They found by my eating that a small quantity would not suffice me; and being a most ingenious people, they slung up, with great dexterity, one of their largest hogsheads, then rolled it towards my hand, and beat out the top; I drank it off at a draught, which I might well do, for it did not hold half a pint, and tasted like a small wine of Burgundy, but much more delicious. They brought me a second hogshead, which I drank in the same manner, and made signs for more; but they had none to give me. When I had performed these wonders, they shouted for joy, and danced upon my breast, repeating several times as they did at first, Hekinah degul. They made me a sign that I should throw down the two hogsheads, but first warning the people below to stand out of the way, crying aloud, Borach mevolah; and when they saw the vessels in the air, there was a universal shout of Hekinah degul. I confess I was often tempted, while they were passing backwards and forwards on my body, to seize forty or fifty of the first that came in my reach, and dash them against the ground. But the remembrance of what I had felt, which probably might not be the worst they could do, and the promise of honor I made them — for so I interpreted my submissive behaviour — soon drove out these imaginations. Besides, I now considered myself as bound by the laws of hospitality, to a people who had treated me with so much expense and magnificence. However, in my thoughts I could not sufficiently wonder at the intrepidity of these diminutive mortals, who durst venture to mount and walk upon my body, while one of my hands was at liberty, without trembling at the very sight of so prodigious a creature as I must appear to them. After some time, when they observed that I made no more demands for meat, there appeared before me a person of high rank from his imperial Majesty. His excellency, having mounted on the small of my right leg, advanced forwards up to my face, with about a dozen of his retinue; and producing his credentials under the signet royal, which he applied close to my eyes, spoke about ten minutes without any signs of anger, but with a kind of determinate resolution, often pointing forwards, which, as I afterwards found, was towards the capital city, about half a mile distant; whither it was agreed by his Majesty in council that I must be conveyed. I answered in few words, but to no purpose, and made a sign with my hand that was loose, putting it to the other (but over his excellency's head for fear of hurting him or his train) and then to my own head and body, to signify that I desired my liberty. It appeared that he understood me well enough, for he shook his head by way of disapprobation, and held his hand in a posture to show that I must be carried as a prisoner. However, he made other signs to let me understand that I should have meat and drink enough, and very good treatment. Whereupon I once more thought of attempting to break my bonds; but again, when I felt the smart of their arrows upon my face and hands, which were all in blisters, and many of the darts still sticking in them, and observing likewise that the number of my enemies increased, I gave tokens to let them know that they might do with me what they pleased. Upon this, the hurgo and his train withdrew, with much civility and cheerful countenances. Soon after I heard a general shout, with frequent repetitions of the words Peplom selan; and I felt great numbers of people on my left side relaxing the cords to such a degree, that I was able to turn upon my right, and to ease myself with making water; which I very plentifully did, to the great astonishment of the people; who, conjecturing by my motion what I was going to do, immediately opened to the right and left on that side, to avoid the torrent, which fell with such noise and violence from me. But before this, they had daubed my face and both my hands with a sort of ointment, very pleasant to the smell, which, in a few minutes, removed all the smart of their arrows. These circumstances, added to the refreshment I had received by their victuals and drink, which were very nourishing, disposed me to sleep. I slept about eight hours, as I was afterwards assured; and it was no wonder, for the physicians, by the emperor's order, had mingled a sleepy potion in the hogsheads of wine.

It seems, that upon the first moment I was discovered sleeping on the ground, after my landing, the emperor had early notice of it by an express; and determined in council, that I should be tied in the manner I have related, (which was done in the night while I slept;) that plenty of meat and drink should be sent to me, and a machine prepared to carry me to the capital city.

This resolution perhaps may appear very bold and dangerous, and I am confident would not be imitated by any prince in Europe on the like occasion. However, in my opinion, it was extremely prudent, as well as generous: for, supposing these people had endeavored to kill me with their spears and arrows, while I was asleep, I should certainly have awaked with the first sense of smart, which might so far have roused my rage and strength, as to have enabled me to break the strings wherewith I was tied; after which, as they were not able to make resistance, so they could expect no mercy.

These people are most excellent mathematicians, and arrived to a great perfection in mechanics, by the countenance and encouragement of the emperor, who is a renowned patron of learning. This prince has several machines fixed on wheels, for the carriage of trees and other great weights. He often builds his largest men of war, whereof some are nine feet long, in the woods where the timber grows, and has them carried on these engines three or four hundred yards to the sea. Five hundred carpenters and engineers were immediately set at work to prepare the greatest engine they had. It was a frame of wood raised three inches from the ground, about seven feet long, and four wide, moving upon twenty-two wheels. The shout I heard was upon the arrival of this engine, which, it seems, set out in four hours after my landing. It was brought parallel to me, as I lay. But the principal difficulty was to raise and place me in this vehicle. Eighty poles, each of one foot high, were erected for this purpose, and very strong cords, of the bigness of packthread, were fastened by hooks to many bandages, which the workmen had

girt round my neck, my hands, my body, and my legs. Nine hundred of the strongest men were employed to draw up these cords, by many pulleys fastened on the poles; and thus, in less than three hours, I was raised and slung into the engine, and there tied fast. All this I was told; for, while the operation was performing, I lay in a profound sleep, by the force of that soporiferous medicine infused into my liquor. Fifteen hundred of the emperor's largest horses, each about four inches and a half high, were employed to draw me towards the metropolis, which, as I said, was half a mile distant.

About four hours after we began our journey, I awaked by a very ridiculous accident; for the carriage being stopped a while, to adjust something that was out of order, two or three of the young natives had the curiosity to see how I looked when I was asleep; they climbed up into the engine, and advancing very softly to my face, one of them, an officer in the guards, put the sharp end of his half-pike a good way up into my left nostril, which tickled my nose like a straw, and made me sneeze violently; whereupon they stole off unperceived, and it was three weeks before I knew the cause of my waking so suddenly. We made a long march the remaining part of the day, and, rested at night with five hundred guards on each side of me, half with torches, and half with bows and arrows, ready to shoot me if I should offer to stir. The next morning at sunrise we continued our march, and arrived within two hundred yards of the city gates about noon. The emperor, and all his court, came out to meet us; but his great officers would by no means suffer his Majesty to endanger his person by mounting on my body.

At the place where the carriage stopped there stood an ancient temple, esteemed to be the largest in the whole kingdom; which, having been polluted some years before by an unnatural murder, was, according to the zeal of those people, looked upon as profane, and therefore had been applied to common use, and all the ornaments and furniture carried away. In this edifice it was determined I should lodge. The great gate fronting to the north was about four feet high, and almost two feet wide, through which I could easily creep. On each side of the gate was a small window, not above six inches from the ground; into that on the left side, the king's smith conveyed fourscore and eleven chains, like those that hang to a lady's watch in Europe, and almost as large, which were locked to my left leg with six-and-thirty padlocks. Over against this temple, on the other side of the great highway, at twenty feet distance, there was a turret at least five feet high. Here the emperor ascended, with many principal lords of his court, to have an opportunity of viewing me, as I was told, for I could not see them. It was reckoned that above a hundred thousand inhabitants came out of the town upon the same errand; and, in spite of my guards, I believe there could not be fewer than ten thousand at several times, who mounted my body by the help of ladders. But a proclamation was soon issued, to forbid it upon pain of death. When the workmen found it was impossible for me to break loose, they cut all the strings that bound me; whereupon I rose up, with as melancholy a disposition as ever I had in my life. But the noise and astonishment of the people, at seeing me rise and walk, are not to be expressed. The chains that held my left leg were about two yards long, and gave me not only the liberty of walking backwards and forwards in a semicircle, but, being fixed within four inches of the gate, allowed me to creep in, and lie at my full length in the temple.





给读者的话

这部游记的作者,莱米尔·格列佛先生,是我很亲密的一位老友。我们俩甚至还有一点亲属关系,应该是我们各自的母亲那边的关系。大约三年前,格列佛先生厌烦了他在雷德里夫的住所,因为那儿总是有大批怀着好奇心的客人前来造访。于是,他在诺丁汉郡的纽瓦克买下了一块地,还有一幢房子。诺丁汉郡是他出生的地方,也是他现在颐养天年的地方,他和邻居们过着和睦的生活。

虽然格列佛先生是在诺丁汉郡出生的,但是我曾听他说过他们一家子其实来自牛津郡。为了证实这一点,我到牛津郡班伯里的一个教堂墓园看过,发现了格列佛家族的几座墓穴和墓碑。

在他离开雷德里夫之前,他把所有的手稿都托付给了我,并且授权我随意处置。我 把这些手稿仔仔细细地读了三遍,文章风格相当平淡而简洁,唯一的缺点是描述得过于 详尽了,不过这也是旅行家们的通病。字里行间透露着一种详尽可靠的气息,作者也因 为这种诚实的作风而受到好评。在他的家乡雷德里夫甚至还有这样的说法:如果想证明 一件事情是真的,除非格列佛先生亲口讲过。

经过作者的允许,我曾把这些手稿交给几位德高望重的前辈审阅。在他们的建议之下,我才决定将其公之于众,希望本书能成为年轻贵族的有趣读物。至少从现在的情况来看,这本书要比寻常的那些空谈政治和政党的书籍有趣多了。

如果我没有大胆地删去一些有关风向、潮汐,以及几次旅行中的定位和方向之类的内容,没有删去那些关于如何在暴风雨中操控船只的详细描述,没有删去那些辨识经纬度的知识的话,这本书的篇幅可能会比现在多出一倍。我能够预见格列佛先生对此颇有微词,但我下定决心,要使这本书尽可能地适合广大读者阅读。如果由于我本人的疏忽,而使书中出现了有关航海的低级错误的话,我在此声明,对此负全部责任。如果有热衷旅行的人对原稿表示好奇,想要一睹为快的话,我随时都会满足他的要求。

如果想了解有关作者生平的更多细节,读者可以通过仔细阅读本书起始的几页得到满意的答案。

理査徳・辛普森



格列佛船长 **致其表兄辛普森的一封信**

我是在你的不断催促和热情鼓励之下才决定出版这本内容松散、记叙混乱的游记的; 如果有人就这个问题质疑你,希望你能够公开这一点。我曾叮嘱你聘请几位大学里的年 轻绅士帮忙整理一下稿子,矫正一下文体;我的堂兄丹皮尔出版他的那本《环球航行记》 时,就是听从我的意见这么办的。但是我并不记得我赋予过你任意删减其中内容的权利, 更不要说同意你增添任何内容。因此,我在此郑重声明,对于你后来增添的文字,我表 示坚决反对,特别是那段有关安妮女王陛下的文字。虽然我对她致以最为崇高的敬意, 但这样的文字我是不可能接受的。但是你,或者你聘用的那些家伙,应该考虑到这不是 我的本意,在我的主人"慧骃"面前赞美我们这个物种中的任何一位都是不合适的。更 何况那段文字本身就是捏造的。据我所知,伟大的英国女王安妮在位期间,的确任命过 国家首相,而且接连任命过两位,第一位是戈多尔芬伯爵,随后是牛津伯爵。因此,是 你把错误的事情推在了我的身上。同样,在描述有关科学院的篇章中,以及我和我的主 人"慧骃"的几次谈话中, 你要么删掉了一些重要的细节, 要么篡改了其中的内容, 导 致我自己都快读不懂自己写的内容了。我曾写信给你,表达过类似的意思,而你却告诉我, 自己之所以这样做是为了避免我冒犯高层,因为他们对出版行业十分重视。他们不仅擅 长曲解内容,而且还会对所有与"讽刺"(我记得你用的是这个词)有关的作品加以惩罚。 但是恕我直言,那么多年前,我在距离这个国家五千里格以外另一个君王的领地说过的 一些话,和现在统治着一群野兽的"野猢"有什么关系呢?那时候的我对于他们统治下 的生活的痛苦和不幸没有一点点概念, 所以更谈不上有什么畏惧了! 难道我看到那些"慧 骃"成了拉车的,而那些"野猢"就端坐在车里,就像前者变成了畜生,而"野猢"则 变得人模狗样的时候,我不能抱怨几句吗?说实话,我正是为了躲开这样恐怖而荒谬的 不堪场景,才选择离开这个地方的。

正是出于对你的信任,我才觉得自己应该把最真实的想法告诉你。

但是从另外一个方面来讲,我还是应该怪自己没有主见,竟然在你和其他人的劝说之下轻易听信了你们的话,同意出版我的这本游记,而这本身就违背了我自己的意愿。请你好好想想,当你打着为了公众利益的旗号坚持出版我的游记时,我有没有请你好好考虑一下,那些"野猢"是不可能通过讲道理或者举例子之类的办法来认识到自己的错误的。这一点已经得到了证明,我原本对这个小岛还是有一点期望的,还希望岛上的腐败和弊端能够得到改善。但是六个月过去之后,我通过这本书发出的警示并没有得到哪怕一丁点的效果。我原本还盼望着你能写封信给我,让我知道那些只知道纷争和内讧的政党团体已经销声匿迹;法官变得博学正直;律师开始明白事理,同时变得谦逊而诚实。原本我希望有无数法律文书在史密斯菲尔德广场付之一炬;那些年轻贵族也已经洗心革面;招摇撞骗的庸医没有了立足之地;而那些女性"野猢"变得重视名誉和道德;部长们的院落被打扫得干干净净;那些拥有智慧、美德、学识的普通人会受到嘉奖;而那些酸腐文人会得到惩罚,

只准食用自己的衣服充饥,喝自己的墨水解渴。从你鼓励我出版的言辞中,我坚信这一切,以及上千个改良措施能够得以实行,因为我的书里记载着可行的改良办法。如果那些"野猢"的天性中还有那么一点点对美德和智慧的渴望的话,在这七个月的时间里,他们早已纠正了自己的恶习。然而你的来信中并没有任何相关的答复。恰恰相反,每周的信中只有各种夹杂着侮辱和诽谤的内容,甚至还有许多莫名其妙的指责。在这些文字中,我看到他们控诉我污蔑大臣、贬低人性(亏他们还能理直气壮地说出这个词),还指责我辱骂妇女。我发现这些人的意见还不太统一,有些人宣称我不可能是此书的作者,有些人则坚信许多与我无关的著作是我写的。

我还发现你找的印刷商人十分粗心,他们把整个游记的顺序、日期,还有我几次航程的出发和返航时间都搞错了,那些年份、月份和日子也没有一个是正确的。我还听说出版之后原稿就被毁掉了,而我自己也没有留下任何副本,但我还是送去了一份勘误表。如果以后还会再版的话,我希望你能够改正过来。然而我不是一个固执的人,我想这一切还是交由明智、坦诚的读者们来判断吧。

我听说有好几个"野猢"在我的书中鸡蛋里挑骨头,不是认为航海语言使用不当,就是说这些语言已经过时了。对此我也无能为力,在我最初的几次航行中,我还是一个初出茅庐的家伙,全凭一些老水手的教导,一言一行都是亦步亦趋。不过我很快就发现那些海上的"野猢"和陆地上的一样,都喜欢在用词上标新立异——这也导致他们的语言每年都在变化。正是因为这样,我每次回国都听不懂他们的新语言。我还发现,每当有"野猢"出于好奇从伦敦跑来我家看望我时,我们双方都无法使对方明白自己所表达的意思。

如果说这些"野猢"的指责有哪里让我不痛快的话,那就是其中几位指责我的游记是凭空想象所得,这样的言论让我出离愤怒。甚至还有人认为"慧骃"和"野猢"只是虚构的乌托邦的产物。

对此我必须承认,关于利立浦特、布罗丁格拉格(这才是正确写法,那个布罗丁格 奈格的写法是错误的)和拉普塔的人民,我从未听说有"野猢"敢自以为是地怀疑他们 的真实性,或者怀疑我讲述的和他们有关的事情,因为事实会让每一位读者信服。但是 为什么在我讲到"慧骃"和"野猢"的时候,总会有人跑出来质疑呢?就以后者为例,我们这个国家就有数不清的"野猢"。和生活在"慧骃"国的同类相比,他们除了更加 吵闹,身上裹着一些遮羞布,两者又有什么区别呢?我之所以写下这本游记,是为了让 他们改邪归正,而不是得到他们的赞许。那些"野猢"的溢美之词,在我听来还不如我 养在马厩里的那两匹已经退化的"慧骃"的嘶鸣,毕竟从它们那已经退化的天性中,我还能学习到一些纯正的、不掺杂一丝邪气的美德。

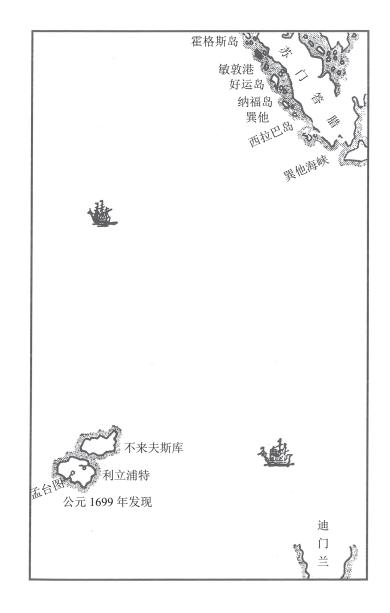
难道这些不堪的动物以为我会为这本游记的真实性去辩护吗?我本人就是一只"野猢",但我生活在"慧骃"国的两年时间里,亲眼看到我的那些坦荡的主人们的一举一动。在它们潜移默化地教导下,我已经摆脱了撒谎、拖延、欺骗、推诿等坏习惯(我承认这很难),尽管这些恶习已经在我们的内心深处深深扎根,特别是那些欧洲的"野猢"。

有关这本书的出版,我还有许多抱怨之处,但是我不想给自己找麻烦了,也不想再给你添麻烦了。还有一点我必须坦白,那就是自从我上次旅行结束回国之后,我不得不和你们进行交流,特别是我的家庭成员,这也是不可避免的。但这样一来我身上那些属于"野猢"的堕落性格又死灰复燃了,不然的话我也不可能产生企图改变"野猢"这个种群的荒唐念头。不过现在我已经彻底放弃了这样的念头。

1727年4月2日







第一章

作者简要叙述了自己的家世,以及自己最初的外出动机。由于货船失事,他不得不泅水 逃生,随后在利立浦特的海岸登陆。他被俘虏了,然后被带到首都。

我的父亲在诺丁汉郡拥有一块小小的庄园,他一共有五个儿子,我排行第三。在我十四岁的时候,他就把我送去了剑桥的伊曼纽尔学院上学,我在那儿研读了三年时间;不过由于经费有限,高昂的学费给我的家庭带来了很大的负担,于是我就去詹姆斯·贝茨医生那儿当学徒,借此补贴家用。贝茨先生是伦敦有名的外科医生,我在他手下干了四年活。我的父亲时不时会寄给我几笔小额的补助,而我把这些钱都投入了航海和一些数学科目,因为我一直觉得自己是要出去旅行的,而这些知识对我的旅行生涯是很有帮助的。离开贝茨先生后,我就回家去见了父亲。在他和我的叔叔约翰及其他亲戚的帮助下,凑齐了四十英镑,我的父亲还答应每年都给我三十英镑,供我到莱顿念书;我在莱顿学习了两年零七个月的医学知识,我知道这也会给我的旅行生涯带来不小的助益。

我从莱顿回到伦敦后不久,我的恩师贝茨先生就举荐我去亚伯拉罕·潘内尔船长手下的"燕子号"商船做外科医生,我在那儿整整干了三年半,也曾去过黎凡特和其他地方两次。回来之后,我就决定在伦敦定居了。我的导师贝茨先生十分支持我的决定,并且给我介绍了好几位病人。我在犹太人街区租了一套小房子,然后听从朋友的建议,改善一下我的生活状况,和在新门街做针织品生意的艾德蒙·波顿家的二女儿玛丽·波顿成亲了。妻子还给我带来了四百英镑的嫁妆。

两年之后,我的恩师贝茨先生去世了,由于没有朋友的扶助,而我又不允许自己像 其他同行一样去干那些欺上瞒下的勾当,生意因此日渐萧条。在和我的妻子以及一些熟 人商量了一番之后,我决定再次出海。在接下来的六年时间里,我先后在两艘船上担任 外科医生的职务,出了好几次海,去过东印度和西印度群岛,这也给我带来了一笔丰厚 的收入。闲暇时光里,我阅读了好些古代和现代的名作;当我上岸的时候,就考察当地 的风土人情,还抽空学习了他们的语言。我的记忆力不错,所以这样的学习还是相对轻 松的。

但是最后一趟旅程并不顺心,让我对航海生涯产生了一丝厌倦,我甚至打算从此以后待在家里和我的妻儿一起安享平静的生活了。我从老犹太街搬到了费达巷,然后又搬到了距离码头比较近的沃平,盘算着能接到一些水手的生意,但实际上却事与愿违。三年过去了,生活还是没有希望,这时候我接受了"羚羊号"的船长威廉·普利查德的邀请,和他一起前往南太平洋,因为他给了我丰厚的待遇。于是,在1699年5月4日,我们从布里斯托尔启程。旅程一开始是相当顺利的。

但是出于某些原因,将航海过程中的冒险经历事无巨细地描述给读者听显然有些不太合适,所以我只要把旅途中重要的事情讲一讲就好。我们的船只在东印度洋航行的途中遭遇了超强的暴风雨,把我们刮到了位于范迪门地西北方的海域。我们观测了一番,发现自己位于南纬三十度零二分的海面上。由于繁重的劳动和有限的食物,十二位海员在海上去世了,剩下的也个个虚弱不堪。11月5日正值当地初夏时节,海面上升腾起浓厚的雾气,当海员们发现前方的礁石时,狂风中的船只已经无力躲避了。整艘船向着礁石冲去,船体一下子被撞得支离破碎。包括我在内的六个人放下了一只救生艇,用尽吃奶的力气才把救生艇划离礁石和船只所在的范围。我们一口气划出了大约三里格远,然后就累得没了力气,因为之前在船上就已经耗费了大部分体力。我们只能祈祷海浪能够

拯救我们。差不多半个小时之后,突然刮起了一阵北风,把救生艇吹翻了。救生艇上的 其他人,包括逃到礁石上的和留在船上的人的命运如何我就不得而知了,不过他们生还 的希望很渺茫。至于落入海中的我,只能任凭风浪吹打,这条命都只能看天意了。我时 不时地把双腿沉下去,但却怎么都感觉不到坚实的大地。就在我快要支撑不住,打算放 弃的时候,我发现自己的双脚碰到了地面。这时候风暴小了下去,于是我就沿着平坦的 岸线走了差不多一英里,这才上了岸。据我估计当时应该是晚上八点左右。我继续朝内 陆走了大约半英里,没发现一点人烟;由于当时的我过于虚弱,就算有也发现不了。当 时的我筋疲力尽,再加上气候炎热,我离开大船时还喝了差不多半品脱的白兰地,整个 人都昏昏欲睡。脚下的草地十分柔软,于是,我一头栽在地上呼呼大睡起来,我敢说这 辈子还没睡过那么香甜的一觉。大约九个小时之后我才醒过来,这会儿天仿佛刚刚亮。 我想爬起来,但却无法动弹,因为我正好面朝天躺着,我发现自己的胳膊和腿都被牢牢 固定在了地上,我那又长又浓密的头发也被绑在了地上。我感觉到自己的身体,从腋窝 到大腿绑着好几根细细的绳子。我只能维持向上看的姿势。太阳变得火热起来,阳光刺 痛了眼睛。我听到身边有说话的声音,但是我当时的姿势就只能抬头向天。很快我就感 觉到有个什么东西爬上了我的左腿,然后慢慢走到我的胸口,爬上了我的下巴。我努力 向下看,发现眼前是一个身高不足六英寸的小人,手里拿着弓箭,背后还有箭袋。同时 我也看到了他的身后有差不多四十个一样身材的小人,这样的场面让我十分惊讶,于是 我大声咆哮起来; 小人们听到了我的可怕声音, 一个个害怕得转身就跑。我事后才知道, 还有好几个人在从我身上跳下去的过程中受伤了。不过他们很快又聚拢回来了。其中一 个胆子特别大的甚至还凑上前来端详了我的脸庞。只见他高高举起自己的双手,眼里满 是羡慕的眼神。他的嘴里高喊着"海琴那·德古尔",周围的小人们也重复了好几次这 个词语,但是我并不知道这到底是什么意思。各位读者想必也能想到,这时候的我被固 定在地上,是有多么不舒服了。一心挣扎的我终于把那些绳子挣断了,然后把固定我左 胳膊的木桩子拔了出来。我仔细端详自己的左臂,发现了他们绑缚我的方法。我用力一挣, 就把左侧的头发拉了出来;虽然拔出头发的时候感觉到一阵疼痛,但是我已经可以转动 自己的脑袋了。这些家伙在我抓住他们之前就机灵地跑开了,然后就响起了一阵尖锐的 叫喊声,之后就是一个响亮的声音"拓尔古·芬纳克"。刹那间,我就感觉到有一百支 箭射进了我的左手臂,像被无数根针扎了一般。随后他们又来了一轮抛射,就像我们在 欧洲扔炸弹的姿势一般。许多支箭落在我的身上(虽然我并没有感觉到疼痛),还有一 些落在了我的脸上,吓得我赶紧拿左手去遮挡。箭雨过后,我感到一阵难以忍受的疼痛。 我再一次挣扎着想要脱身,他们就更加猛烈地向我齐射,还有几个试图用长矛捅我的腰 部;幸运的是我穿了一身牛皮背心,他们没法扎破。我想这时候最适合我的办法就是静 静躺下,毕竟现在我的左手已经恢复了自由。只要等到夜幕降临,我就能轻轻松松地挣 脱束缚。至于我眼前的这些原住民,如果他们都是这样的身材的话,不管多少人都不可 能是我的对手。但是命运却给了我截然不同的安排。当我安静下来之后,他们也停止了 射箭;从我身边的响声来看,他们的人数又增加了,就在距离我四码的位置响起了一阵 敲打声,好像在忙着建什么东西。我努力转过脑袋,发现他们修建起了一座大约一英尺 半高的台子,边上还有两三个供他们攀爬的梯子。这个台子大约可以容纳四个小人。台 子上的四个人当中有一个看上去地位较高,他发表了一大篇演讲,可惜我根本就听不懂。 不过说到这儿,我得先提一句,那就是他在发表演讲之前,还大喊了三声"兰格罗·德 古尔·桑"(这几个词和先前的几个词语的意思会在后文有解释)。他一喊完就有大约 五十个小人冲上前来,把固定在我脑袋左边的绳索割断了,这样我就可以自由地把脑袋

转向右边,好好观察台子上那位准备演讲的小人的言行举止。这是个中年人,身高比旁 边的三个人都要高一些。三个人当中有一个看上去像仆人,托着他的裙摆,只比我的中 指长那么一点点;旁边的两个小人一左一右护卫在他的身边。他的一举一动都像个演说 家,可以看出他说了不少威胁的话,当然还有承诺、同情和友好的话。我也回答了几句, 尽量装出一副恭敬的模样。我举起左手,看着太阳,请太阳给我作证。这会儿的我其实 已经好长时间没有吃东西了,饥肠辘辘,我感到这种生理需求是如此强烈,于是就把手 指放在嘴巴旁边,表示要吃东西。虽然这样的举动可能违背了礼节,但是这位"赫够"(后 来我才知道,他们都是这么称呼领主的)很快就明白了我的意思。他从台子上爬了下去, 命令手下把那几架梯子搬到我的身边。差不多一百个小人爬上了梯子,把一篮篮肉食送 到我的嘴边。原来是皇帝听说了我的到来,特意准备了这些食物。我注意到篮子里有好 几种动物的肉,但是我没法通过味道判断出来。从形状上看有些可能是羊肉,主要是前腿、 后腿和后腰的肉,每一块肉就只有云雀翅膀那么小,一口就可以吃下两三块。还有和子 弹差不多大小的面包,我一口可以吃下三个。他们飞快地供应着食物,对我的食量感到 万分惊讶。我又做了个手势,表示自己想要喝点什么;他们从我吃东西的样子看出,少 量的水是不够我喝的。这些人非常聪明,他们十分熟练地吊起一只头号大桶,然后把它 滚到我手边,撬开桶盖。我一饮而尽,这我很容易做到,因为一桶酒还不到半品脱。酒 的味道很像勃艮第产的淡味葡萄酒,但是闻起来却香得多。接着他们又给我弄来了一桶, 我也是一口气喝个精光,并表示还想喝,可他们已拿不出来了。我表演完这些奇迹之后, 他们欢呼雀跃,在我的胸脯上手舞足蹈,像起先那样一遍又一遍地高喊"海琴那·德古尔"。 他们示意我把那两个酒桶扔下去,不过事先还是让底下的那些看热闹的人散开,嘴里喊 着"博拉奇·麦福拉": 当他们看到两个酒桶被我扔上了天空之后, 一齐大喊着"海琴那·德 古尔"。我必须承认,当我看到身边的那些小人在走动的时候,内心有一种冲动,那就 是抓住手边那四五十个小人,然后把他们扔在地上。但我想起了刚才吃过的苦头,怀疑 这并不是他们最厉害的手段;更何况我曾经发过誓(我是这样解释刚才的那种恭顺的态 度的),所以我很快就打消了这样的念头。更何况,他们既然这样隆重地款待我,我也 应该礼尚往来。但私底下我还是对这些小家伙的无知无畏感到惊讶,毕竟我的一只手已 经自由了,而他们竟然还敢在我身边走来走去;我是他们眼中的庞然大物,但是他们却 没有一点害怕或者畏惧的表现。过了一会儿,他们发现我不需要吃肉了,我的面前就出 现了一位由皇帝委派而来的高官。他的身后带着十二三个随从,一起沿着我的右小腿爬 了上来,出现在我的面前。他拿出了一份盖有印玺的圣旨,对着我念叨了差不多有十分钟。 虽然没有任何愤怒的意思,但却带着一股子坚决劲儿。他时不时地用手指向前方,后来 我才知道,那是他们的首都的方向,距离这儿不过半英里的距离。这儿的皇帝已经下了 命令,要把我运送到首都去。我回答了几句话,可是毫无意义。我用自由的左手做了一 个手势,然后滑到右手上(当然我十分小心,没有碰到这些脆弱的家伙),接着又指了 指我的脑袋和身体,示意自己想要获得自由。他仿佛明白了我的意思,因为他摇了摇头, 表示不同意,同时举起手来做了个手势,表明我必须被当作俘虏押送去皇宫。不过他也 用手势让我明白,我少不了好酒好肉的招待。我又一次试图挣脱身上的束缚,但扎在我 脸上和手上的那些小箭弄得我生疼,很多伤口都已经起了疱,而箭头却仍然深陷其中。 同时我的敌人的数目已经多了不少,无奈之下,我只能做手势表明自己任由他们处置。 看到我的反应之后,那位"赫够"和他的随从才满意地离开了。很快我就听到边上的小 人们一起反复喊着"派布隆·赛兰"; 我感觉到左侧有很多人在帮我松绑, 这样我整个 人就可以向右翻过去,并且可以小解了。我尿了不少,这让在场的小人们感到十分惊讶,

纷纷向两旁散去,躲避那一股凶猛的"洪流"。与此同时,他们在我身上抹了一种很香的药膏,我的伤口一下子就痊愈了。这样的待遇再加上我享用的美食,让我一下子就恢复了精力,然后又沉沉睡去。我大约睡了八个小时(这是事后才知道的),因为那些医生奉皇帝的命令,在我的酒里掺杂了一些安眠药水。



格列佛挣脱了绳索的束缚, 忍不住伸了个懒腰

看来在我上岸之后就被发现了,那时候我还在睡觉,而这些人就去报告了皇帝;他们通过商议决定用之前我说过的办法把我捆绑起来(这一定是趁着晚上做的),同时他也安排了足够多的肉和酒水防止我饿死。当然还少不了一架能够把我拉到首都的巨大机器。

皇帝的这个安排也许是大胆而危险的,因为我敢肯定,如果是欧洲的皇室遇到了同样的情况,是不可能有这样的举措的。不过在我看来,这样的安排虽然是慷慨的,但同样也是欠考虑的。因为假如这些人趁我睡着的时候企图用长矛和弓箭偷袭我,那么我一定会被惊醒。盛怒之下,我会用力挣断绳索。到那时,他们就无法和我对抗了,自然也别指望我放过他们了。

这些小人都是十分出色的数学家,而这位 皇帝也以鼓励学术发展而受到称赞。在皇帝的 鼓励之下,这个国家的机械制造能力堪称完美。 皇帝有好几架装有轮子的机器,可以用来搬运

大树和其他重物。他们经常选用最粗壮的大树打造战舰,成品有整整九英尺那么长,然后用这些机器把战舰运到三四百码以外的海面上去。整整五百名木工和机械师很快就投入了工作,为的是运送我这个庞然大物。他们打造了一个三英寸高的木架子,整整有七英尺那么长,四英尺那么宽,下面组装着二十二个轮子。这么看来,这架机器在我上岸四个小时之后就开始往这个地方运送了。我刚醒过来的时候听到的欢呼声,应该就是因为这架机器顺利抵达了。他们把这架机器推到我身边和我齐平的位置,不过最大的难题在于如何把我抬起来放到那个架子上面。于是他们准备了八十根一英尺高的木柱子,那些工人们用绷带把我的脖子、双手、双脚和身体都牢牢地固定住,然后用我们平时捆货物用的绳子,一端用钩子钩住绷带,另一端则绕过那些木桩顶端的滑轮。最后,由九百名最强壮的小人用了将近3个小时把我拉上架子,又用绳子把我牢牢捆住。这一切都是他们后来告诉我的,因为他们在忙活的时候,掺在我酒里的催眠药药性发作,我在那儿睡得正香甜呢!皇帝派出了整整五百匹骏马来拉这个木架子,每一匹骏马都有四英寸半那么高。浩浩荡荡的队伍就这样向着京城出发了。

我们在路上走了差不多四个小时,我被一件特别滑稽的事情给弄醒了。那时马车恰好停下来休整,两三个好奇心特别强的士兵想看看我睡着是什么模样,于是就悄悄爬上了那个架子,来到我的脸上。其中一个军官把手里的长枪往我的鼻子里伸,我感觉鼻子里像进了一根稻草那样发痒,于是就狠狠打了一个喷嚏。见势不妙的几个调皮鬼就这样悄悄逃跑了。三个星期之后我才知道我那时为什么会突然醒来。那天我们又走了很长的路,到了晚上休息的时候,身子每一侧有整整五百名卫兵看守着我,他们中的一半举着火把,另外一半拿着弓箭;如果我有什么危险举动的话,他们就会毫不犹豫地朝我放箭。

第二天天一亮,我们又继续赶路,差不多到了中午的时候,我们已经来到了距离城门不到两百码的地方。皇帝率领满城的文武百官前来迎接,只不过那些官员们怎么都不同意 皇帝冒险走上我的身体。

马车停下的地方是全国最大的一座古庙。前几年在这儿发生过一起惨绝人寰的凶杀案,当地人都认为这座古庙被亵渎了,于是他们就把古庙里的所有东西都搬走了,只把这里当成一般的公共场所。恰好这个地方可以做我的住所。大门朝北,差不多有四英尺高,两英尺宽,我能够轻松地爬进去。在大门的两边各有一扇离地不过六英寸的小窗户。皇帝的铁匠特意打造了九十一条和我们的表链差不多粗细的铁链,铁链的一头固定在古庙里,还有一头则用三十六把铁锁固定在我的左腿上。这座古庙的对面,隔着一条马路大约20英尺远的地方是一座五英尺高的塔楼。皇帝和他的官员就爬上这座塔楼来观察我;这些都是后来才告诉我的,我那时候根本看不到他们。据说有大约十万以上的居民前来目睹我的风采;虽然我有卫兵守护,可我还是能够感觉到很多人爬上梯子,踩在我的身体上。很快皇帝就颁布了禁令,禁止任何人爬上我的身体,违令者将被处斩。那些工人觉得我已经被牢牢束缚了,就把我身上的绳索砍断了,这样我就可以站起来了。当时的我真是苦不堪言。周围的那些小人看到我站了起来,惊讶之情溢于言表。拴在我左腿上的铁链大概有两码长,这就是我的活动范围;而且铁链是固定在离大门不到四英寸的地方,所以我可以爬进古庙,然后伸直身体在里面休息。

第二章

利立浦特皇帝在好几位贵族的陪同下前来看望身陷囹圄的作者。作者对皇帝的样貌和服饰进行了描述。一些博学之士奉命教授作者当地语言。作者温和的性格赢得了皇帝的赞赏。皇帝派人搜查他的口袋, 贴身的宝剑和手枪都被没收了。

我站了起来,环顾四周。必须承认的一点是,我从未见过那么美丽的景色。周围的田野像巨大的花园一般,围起来的田地有差不多四十英尺见方,看上去就像五彩缤纷的花坛。这些田地间还夹杂着树木,最高的可能有七英尺。我看了看位于我左手边的城池,看上去就像我们的剧院的背景墙上的那种城市布景一样。

我憋了好几个小时了,这一点也不奇怪,毕竟我已经连续两天没有大便了。但是这会儿的处境让我感觉到分外窘迫;我能想到的最好的办法就是钻进属于我的房间,然后关上门。实际上我也是这么做的。我拼命往里爬,一直爬到脚上的铁链长度所能允许的最深处,然后才蹲在那里畅快地排出了体内那让人难受的负担。不过这还是我第一次如此难堪地做出这样的事情,这让我感到分外不安。在此我希望公正的读者能够多多包涵,考虑一下我当时的处境与内心的痛苦。从那以后,每当我有这方面的冲动的时候,我都会跑到最远的地方去解决,而我的排泄物也有了处理的办法:皇帝安排了两个仆人,专门负责在国人前来围观我之前把排泄物处理掉。这虽然是一件小事,但我还是有必要写出来;为的是交代我略微有点洁癖的性格,毕竟正如我先前所说,总有人在这样的小事情上揪着我不放。

当我解决了自己的生理需求之后,我又走出房间,呼吸一下外面的新鲜空气。皇帝已经爬下了塔楼,骑着一匹骏马向我走来。那匹马一定花费不少,虽然受过良好训练,但是从来没见过我这样的庞然大物。我像一座山一般横亘在它的面前,吓得这匹马前蹄腾空,差点就把皇帝摔了下去。幸好皇帝本人也是一位技艺出众的骑手,赶紧控制住了