

CHAPTER I

第一章

Emma Woodhouse, handsome, clever, and rich, with a comfortable home and happy disposition, seemed to unite some of the best blessings of existence; and had lived nearly twenty-one years in the world with very little to distress or vex her.

爱玛·伍德豪斯容貌俊俏，头脑聪慧，家境宽裕，生活舒心，仿佛汇聚了世间最美的福分；她在这人世间已度过了近二十一个春秋，却鲜少遇到令她烦忧或苦恼的事。

She was the youngest of the two daughters of a most affectionate, indulgent father; and had, in consequence of her sister's marriage, been mistress of his house from a very early period. **Her** mother had died too long ago for her to have more than an indistinct remembrance of her caresses; and her place had been supplied by an excellent woman as governess, who had fallen little short of a mother in affection.

她是一位最慈爱、最宽容的父亲的两个女儿中最小的一个；由于姐姐的出嫁，她早在少年时期就成了家里的女主人。母亲去世太久，她只能模糊地记得母亲的抚爱；而母亲的位置则由一位出色的家庭女教师填补，这位女教师在感情上几乎不亚于一位母亲。

Sixteen years had Miss Taylor been in Mr. **Woodhouse'**s family, less as a governess than a friend, very fond of both daughters, but particularly of Emma. **Between** them it was more the intimacy of sisters. **Even** before

泰勒小姐在伍德豪斯先生家里已经待了十六年，与其说是家庭教师，不如说是一位朋友。她十分疼爱两个女儿，对爱玛更是格外亲近。她们

Miss Taylor had ceased to hold the nominal office of governess, the mildness of her temper had hardly allowed her to impose any restraint; and the shadow of authority being now long passed away, they had been living together as friend and friend very mutually attached, and Emma doing just what she liked; highly esteeming Miss Taylor's judgment, but directed chiefly by her own.

之间的情谊，更像是姐妹般亲密无间。早在泰勒小姐尚未卸任家庭教师名义职务之时，她那温和的性情就几乎不曾施加过什么管束；如今那点权威的影子早已消散殆尽，她们更是如同知己般相依相伴，爱玛完全随心所欲，虽然十分尊重泰勒小姐的意见，但主要还是由着自己性子来。

The real evils, indeed, of Emma's situation were the power of having rather too much her own way, and a disposition to think a little too well of herself; these were the disadvantages which threatened alloy to her many enjoyments. **The** danger, however, was at present so unperceived, that they did not by any means rank as misfortunes with her.

Sorrow came—a gentle sorrow—but not at all in the shape of any disagreeable consciousness. —**Miss** Taylor married. **It** was Miss Taylor's loss which first brought grief. **It** was on the wedding-day of this beloved friend that

爱玛处境的真正弊端，其实在于她自行其是惯了，以及对自己评价略高的倾向——这些潜在隐患可能使她诸多乐事减色。然而目前这种危险尚难察觉，这些缺点在她心中根本算不上不幸。

忧伤降临了——一种温柔的忧伤——但绝非任何不快之感。泰勒小姐出嫁了。正是失去泰勒小姐这件事，第一次带来了哀愁。在这位挚友的

Emma first sat in mournful thought of any continuance. **The** wedding over, and the bride-people gone, her father and herself were left to dine together, with no prospect of a third to cheer a long evening. **Her** father composed himself to sleep after dinner, as usual, and she had then only to sit and think of what she had lost.

婚礼当天，爱玛第一次陷入持续不断的忧郁思绪中。婚礼结束后，新婚夫妇离去，只剩她与父亲共进晚餐，漫漫长夜再无第三人相伴畅谈。饭后父亲照例安坐入眠，她只得独坐沉思，怀念逝去的温馨。

The event had every promise of happiness for her friend. **Mr. Weston** was a man of unexceptionable character, easy fortune, suitable age, and pleasant manners; and there was some satisfaction in considering with what self-denying, generous friendship she had always wished and promoted the match; but it was a black morning's work for her. **The** want of Miss Taylor would be felt every hour of every day. **She** recalled her past kindness—the kindness, the affection of sixteen years—how she had taught and how she had played with her from five years old—how she had devoted all her powers to attach and amuse her in health—and how nursed her through the various illnesses of childhood. A large debt of gratitude was owing here; but the intercourse

这件事对她的朋友来说，真是美满幸福不过了。**韦斯顿**先生品格高尚，家境优裕，年纪相当，态度温和。**她**深感庆幸的是，自己怀着一片无私而慷慨的友情，一直希望能促成这桩婚事，而且极力为之撮合。**然而**，这天早晨对她却是个痛苦的早晨。**泰勒**小姐走后，她每时每刻都会感到失落。一想起过去对她的情意——十六年的深情厚谊，从她五岁起，泰勒小姐就教她读书，陪她玩耍——想起她身体健康时，泰勒小姐一心为她消遣、解闷，她生病时，泰勒小姐百般照料、

of the last seven years, the equal footing and perfect unreserve which had soon followed Isabella's marriage, on their being left to each other, was yet a dearer, tenderer recollection. **She** had been a friend and companion such as few possessed: intelligent, well-informed, useful, gentle, knowing all the ways of the family, interested in all its concerns, and peculiarly interested in herself, in every pleasure, every scheme of hers—one to whom she could speak every thought as it arose, and who had such an affection for her as could never find fault.

体贴入微——想起她这一切的好处，她心里真是感激不尽。而最近七年来，泰勒小姐既是她的朋友，又是她的伴侣，把她的乐趣看得比什么都重要，这种情意更是使她感激不尽。她感到非常难过的是，伊莎贝拉出嫁后，就剩下她们两个人，相互之间越发亲密无间，真像一对情深意切的姐妹。泰勒小姐是个难得的朋友和伙伴，富有才智，知识丰富，善于助人，举止文雅，熟知家里的一切事务，对家里的一切事情都关心备至，特别是对她爱玛，事事都关心，事事都夸奖。她有什么想法，都可以向泰勒小姐倾诉，泰勒小姐对她无比疼爱，总能原谅她的过错。

How was she to bear the change? —**It** was true that her friend was going only half a mile from them; but Emma was aware that great must be the difference between a Mrs. Weston, only half a mile from them, and a Miss

她该如何忍受这变故? ——诚然她的朋友只是搬到离他们半英里之外；但爱玛心里明白，与同住一宅的泰勒小姐相比，住在半英里外的韦

Taylor in the house; and with all her advantages, natural and domestic, she was now in great danger of suffering from intellectual solitude. **She** dearly loved her father, but he was no companion for her. **He** could not meet her in conversation, rational or playful.

斯顿太太终究是云泥之别。
尽管她天赋过人又家境优渥，此刻却深陷精神孤寂的危机。**她**深爱父亲，但他终究无法成为她的知音——无论是在理性探讨还是轻松笑谈中，他都难以与她心意相通。

The evil of the actual disparity in their ages (and Mr. **Woodhouse** had not married early) was much increased by his constitution and habits; for having been a valetudinarian all his life, without activity of mind or body, he was a much older man in ways than in years; and though everywhere beloved for the friendliness of his heart and his amiable temper, his talents could not have recommended him at any time.

两人年龄的实际差距（伍德豪斯先生结婚不算早）本来就已不利，而他的体质和习惯更是雪上加霜；他一生病恹恹，既无精神活动，又缺乏身体锻炼，未老先衰。虽然他那和蔼的心性和温厚的性情使处处受人爱戴，但他的才能在任何时候都无足称道。

Her sister, though comparatively but little removed by matrimony, being settled in London, only sixteen miles off, was much beyond her daily reach; and many a long October and November evening must be struggled through at Hartfield, before Christmas brought

她的姐姐虽然婚后离家不远，就定居在伦敦，仅十六英里之遥，却非她日常所能及；在哈特菲尔德，她必须熬过许多漫长的十月与十一月的夜晚，直到圣诞节来临，

the next visit from Isabella and her husband, and their little children, to fill the house, and give her pleasant society again. 伊莎贝拉和她的丈夫，以及他们的小孩子们才会再度登门，让宅邸充满欢声笑语，使她重获愉快的陪伴。

Highbury, the large and populous village, almost amounting to a town, to which Hartfield, in spite of its separate lawn, and shrubberies, and name, did really belong, afforded her no equals. **The** Woodhouses were first in consequence there. **All** looked up to them. **She** had many acquaintance in the place, for her father was universally civil, but not one among them who could be accepted in lieu of Miss Taylor for even half a day. **It** was a melancholy change; and Emma could not but sigh over it, and wish for impossible things, till her father awoke, and made it necessary to be cheerful. **His** spirits required support. **He** was a nervous man, easily depressed; fond of every body that he was used to, and hating to part with them; hating change of every kind. **Matrimony**, as the origin of change, was always disagreeable; and he was by no means yet reconciled to his own daughter's marrying, nor could ever speak of her but with compassion, though it had been 海伯里这个大村庄几乎算得上个镇子，哈特菲尔德尽管有独立的草坪、灌木林和名称，其实也隶属其中。这里找不到能与她相匹敌的人。**伍德豪斯家**在当地堪称首户。众人都仰望着他们。她在此地有不少熟人，毕竟她父亲对谁都以礼相待，但这些人里竟找不出一个能替代泰勒小姐哪怕半日的人。这真是个令人黯然神变的境况；爱玛只能为此叹息，空怀着些不可能实现的愿望，直到父亲醒来，她才不得不强打起精神。**他的精神需要支撑**。他是个神经质的人，容易消沉；对熟稔的人都满怀眷恋，极不愿与他们分离；憎恶任何形式的变故。**婚姻**作为变化的根源，总让他不快；他至

entirely a match of affection, when he was now obliged to part with Miss Taylor too; and from his habits of gentle selfishness, and of being never able to suppose that other people could feel differently from himself, he was very much disposed to think Miss Taylor had done as sad a thing for herself as for them, and would have been a great deal happier if she had spent all the rest of her life at Hartfield. **Emma** smiled and chatted as cheerfully as she could, to keep him from such thoughts; but when tea came, it was impossible for him not to say exactly as he had said at dinner,

今仍不能接受自己女儿出嫁的事实，提起她时总带着怜惜之情，尽管那本是桩情投意合的姻缘。如今他又不得不与泰勒小姐分别；出于他那温和自私的习性，且从不愿设想别人会与自己的感受不同，他深信泰勒小姐做这件事既害苦了自己也害苦了他们，若是能在哈特菲尔德度过余生，她本该幸福得多。**爱玛**尽可能欢快地微笑着闲谈，好让他摆脱这些念头；但用茶点时，他还是忍不住把午饭时说过的话原样重复了一遍——

“**Poor** Miss Taylor! —I wish she were here again. **What** a pity it is that Mr. **Weston** ever thought of her! ”

“**可怜的泰勒小姐！——我真希望她能再回到这儿来。** **韦斯顿先生竟然会想到她，真是可惜！”**

“**I** cannot agree with you, papa; you know I cannot. **Mr. Weston** is such a good-humoured, pleasant, excellent man, that he thoroughly deserves a good wife;—and you

“**我不同意您的看法，爸爸；您知道我不会同意的。** **韦斯顿先生性情这样和蔼可亲，这样开朗可敬，实在应该有**

would not have had Miss Taylor live with us for ever, and bear all my odd humours, when she might have a house of her own? ”

个贤内助；您总不见得愿意让泰勒小姐永远寄居在我们家，忍受我的怪脾气吧？她明明可以拥有自己的家呀？”

“**A** house of her own! —**But** where is the advantage of a house of her own? **This** is three times as large. —**And** you have never any odd humours, my dear. ”

“一所她自己的房子！——可那又有什么好处呢？这栋房子比它大三倍呢。——而且你从来不会闹什么怪脾气，我亲爱的。”

“**How** often we shall be going to see them, and they coming to see us! —**We** shall be always meeting! —**We** must begin; we must go and pay wedding visit very soon. ”

“我们该多么频繁地去看望他们，他们又多么频繁地来看望我们啊！——我们会经常见面的！必须由我们先开始；我们得尽快去作新婚拜访才是。”

“**My** dear, how am I to get so far? **Randalls** is such a distance. I could not walk half so far. ”

“亲爱的，我怎么能走那么远呢？兰德尔庄园太远了。我可走不了那么远的路。”

“**No**, papa, nobody thought of your walking. **We** must go in the carriage, to be sure. ”

“不，爸爸，没人打算让您走路。我们当然得坐马车去。”

“**The** carriage! **But** James will not like to put the horses to for such a little way;—and where

“马车！可是这么近的路，詹姆斯不会愿意套马的——再

are the poor horses to be while we are paying 说我们去做客的时候，那些
our visit?" 可怜的马儿该待在哪儿呢?"

"They are to be put into Mr. Weston's stable, papa. You know we have settled all that already. We talked it all over with Mr. Weston last night. And as for James, you may be very sure he will always like going to Randas, because of his daughter's being house-maid there. I only doubt whether he will ever take us anywhere else. That was your doing, papa. You got Hannah that good place. Nobody thought of Hannah till you mentioned her—James is so obliged to you!"

"爸爸，那些马要牵到韦斯顿先生的马厩里去。您知道我们早就把这一切都安排好了。昨晚我们和韦斯顿先生详细谈过这件事。至于詹姆斯嘛，您尽管放心，他永远都会乐意去兰德尔斯的，因为他的女儿在那儿当女仆。我只担心他往后是否还肯带我们去别处。这全是您的功劳，爸爸。是您给汉娜谋了那份好差事。在您提到汉娜之前，谁也没想到她——詹姆斯可真感激您呢!"

"I am very glad I did think of her. It was very lucky, for I would not have had poor James think himself slighted upon any account; and I am sure she will make a very good servant: she is a civil, pretty-spoken girl; I have a great opinion of her. Whenever I see her, she always curtseys and asks me how I do, in a very pretty manner; and when you have had her

"我想到她真是万幸。这事办得再巧不过——可怜的詹姆斯要是觉得受人冷落，那多不好；我敢说她准能当个好佣人：这姑娘懂礼貌，说话又得体；我相当看重她。每次见到我，她总得体地行个屈膝礼，问候我安康；你们

here to do needlework, I observe she always turns the lock of the door the right way and never bangs it. **I** am sure she will be an excellent servant; and it will be a great comfort to poor Miss Taylor to have somebody about her that she is used to see. **Whenever** James goes over to see his daughter, you know, she will be hearing of us. **He** will be able to tell her how we all are. ”

请她来做针线时，我留意到她总是轻轻转动门锁，从不摔门。我确信她会是个出色的仆人；对可怜的泰勒小姐来说，身边有个看惯的人也是莫大安慰。等詹姆斯去看女儿时，你瞧，她就能知道我们的近况了。他准会把咱们大伙儿的情形都告诉她。”

Emma spared no exertions to maintain this happier flow of ideas, and hoped, by the help of backgammon, to get her father tolerably through the evening, and be attacked by no regrets but her own. **The** backgammon-table was placed; but a visitor immediately afterwards walked in and made it unnecessary.

爱玛不遗余力地维持着这种较为愉快的思绪，希望借助双陆棋让父亲安然度过这个夜晚，除了自己的悔恨之外不再受其他情绪侵扰。双陆棋盘刚摆好，就有一位访客翩然而至，使得棋局再无必要。

Mr. Knightley, a sensible man about seven or eight-and-thirty, was not only a very old and intimate friend of the family, but particularly connected with it, as the elder brother of Isabella's husband. **He** lived about a mile from Highbury, was a frequent visitor, and always welcome, and at this time more welcome

奈特利先生是个明达事理的人，年约三十七八岁，不仅与伍德豪斯家是世交，而且由于他是伊莎贝拉丈夫的兄长，与这家人更有了一层特殊关系。他住在海伯里村一英里外的地方，是哈特菲

than usual, as coming directly from their mutual connexions in London. **H**e had returned to a late dinner, after some days' absence, and now walked up to Hartfield to say that all were well in Brunswick Square. **I**t was a happy circumstance, and animated Mr. **Woodhouse** for some time. **M**r. **Knightley** had a cheerful manner, which always did him good; and his many inquiries after "poor Isabella" and her children were answered most satisfactorily. **W**hen this was over, Mr. **Woodhouse** gratefully observed, "It is very kind of you, Mr. **Knightley**, to come out at this late hour to call upon us. I am afraid you must have had a shocking walk."

"**N**ot at all, sir. **I**t is a beautiful moonlight night; and so mild that I must draw back from your great fire."

尔德庄园的常客，总是受到热情欢迎，而这次从伦敦共同亲友处直接来访，更比平日倍受欢迎。**他**外出数日归来已近晚餐时分，此刻步行至哈特菲尔德，专程告知布鲁姆斯伯里区的亲友俱各安好。**这消息令人欣慰，使伍德豪斯先生精神为之一振。奈特利先生谈笑风生，总能给他带来慰藉；当他对"可怜的伊莎贝拉"及其孩子们殷殷垂询时，得到的答复也令人极为宽慰。**叙话既毕，伍德豪斯先生满怀感激地说道："您实在太周到了，奈特利先生，这么晚还特意前来看望我们。**恐怕您一路走来甚是辛苦吧。**"

"**一**点也不，先生。**今晚月色正好，而且天气这般温和，您这炉火烧得太旺，我倒要往后退几步呢。**"

"**B**ut you must have found it very damp and

"**不**过你肯定觉得那里又潮

dirty. I wish you may not catch cold. ” 又脏。但愿你别着凉才好。”

“**Dirty**, sir! **Look** at my shoes. **Not** a speck on them. ” “**脏**，先生！瞧瞧我的鞋。上面一星半点也没有。”

“**Well!** **that** is quite surprising, for we have had a vast deal of rain here. **It** rained dreadfully hard for half an hour while we were at breakfast. **I** wanted them to put off the wedding. ” “哎呀！这可真叫人吃惊，我们这儿雨水可多得很呢。我们吃早饭那会儿，足足下了半个钟头的倾盆大雨。我当时还想劝他们改期举行婚礼呢。”

“**By** the bye—I have not wished you joy. **Be-** **ing** pretty well aware of what sort of joy you must both be feeling, I have been in no hurry with my congratulations; but I hope it all went off tolerably well. **How** did you all behave? **Who** cried most? ” “顺便说一句——我还没向你们道喜呢。因为很清楚地想象到你们双方的心情，所以我也就不急着道贺；不过我希望事情总算还办得差强人意吧。你们举止如何？谁哭得最厉害？”

“**Ah!** **poor** Miss Taylor! ’ Tis a sad business. ” “唉！可怜的泰勒小姐！这真是件伤心事。”

“**Poor** Mr. **and** Miss Woodhouse, if you please; but I cannot possibly say ‘poor Miss Taylor. ’ I have a great regard for you and Emma; but when it comes to the question of ” “可怜的伍德豪斯先生和小姐——请允许我这么说；但我绝不能称‘可怜的泰勒小姐’。我对您和爱玛都怀着深

dependence or independence! —At any rate, 厚的感情；可一旦涉及寄人
it must be better to have only one to please 篱下还是自立门户的问题！
than two.” —无论如何，只取悦一个人总比同时取悦两个人要强
得多。”

“Especially when one of those two is such a fanciful, troublesome creature!” said Emma playfully. “That is what you have in your head, I know—and what you would certainly say if my father were not by.”

“尤其是当这两人中有一个如此异想天开、惹是生非的家伙时！”爱玛打趣道，“我晓得你心里正是这么想的——要不是我父亲在场，你准会这么说出口。”

“I believe it is very true, my dear, indeed,” said Mr. Woodhouse, with a sigh. “I am afraid I am sometimes very fanciful and troublesome.”

“我相信这话说得非常对，我亲爱的，确实如此，”伍德豪斯先生叹了口气说，“恐怕我有时候就是太爱胡思乱想，太惹人烦了。”

“My dearest papa! You do not think I could mean you, or suppose Mr. Knightley to mean you. What a horrible idea! Oh no! I meant only myself. Mr. Knightley loves to find fault with me, you know—in a joke—it is all a joke. We always say what we like to one another.”

“我最亲爱的爸爸！您不会以为我指的是您，或者以为奈特利先生指的是您吧。多么可怕的念头！哦，不！我只是在说我自己。您知道，奈特利先生就喜欢挑我的毛病——都是开玩笑的——全都

是玩笑话。我们向来都是想说什么就说什么的。”

Mr. Knightley, in fact, was one of the few people who could see faults in Emma Woodhouse, and the only one who ever told her of them: and though this was not particularly agreeable to Emma herself, she knew it would be so much less so to her father, that she would not have him really suspect such a circumstance as her not being thought perfect by every body.

事实上，奈特利先生是少数能看出爱玛·伍德豪斯缺点的人之一，也是唯一会当面指出她缺点的人。虽然爱玛本人对此并不十分受用，但她深知若让父亲察觉竟有人觉得她并非完人，恐怕更要难受百倍，因此绝不愿让父亲真正觉察到这等情形。

“**Emma** knows I never flatter her,” said Mr. **Knightley**, “but I meant no reflection on any body. **Miss Taylor** has been used to have two persons to please; she will now have but one. **The** chances are that she must be a gainer.”

“爱玛知道我从不奉承她，”奈特利先生说，“但我并不是在指责任何人。泰勒小姐过去习惯于取悦两个人，现在却只需取悦一个了。十有八九她会是受益者。”

“**Well,**” said Emma, willing to let it pass—“you want to hear about the wedding; and I shall be happy to tell you, for we all behaved charmingly. **Every** body was punctual, every body in their best looks: not a tear, and hardly a long face to be seen. **Oh** no; we all felt that

“好吧，”爱玛说，情愿让这事过去——“你想听听婚礼的情形；我倒是很乐意讲给你听，因为我们大家都表现得非常好。人人都准时到场，个个都容光焕发。没有一滴

we were going to be only half a mile apart, and
were sure of meeting every day. ”

眼泪，也见不到一张愁眉苦脸。哦，没有；我们都觉得往后只不过相隔半英里路，准能天天见面。”

“**Dear** Emma bears every thing so well,” said her father. “**But**, Mr. **Knightley**, she is really very sorry to lose poor Miss Taylor, and I am sure she will miss her more than she thinks for. ”

“亲爱的爱玛对什么事都那么能忍耐，”她父亲说。“可是，奈特利先生，失去可怜的泰勒小姐，她真是非常伤心，我敢说，她今后一定会比她现在所想的更想念她呢。”

Emma turned away her head, divided between tears and smiles. “**It** is impossible that Emma should not miss such a companion,” said Mr. **Knightley**. “**We** should not like her so well as we do, sir, if we could suppose it; but she knows how much the marriage is to Miss Taylor’s advantage; she knows how very acceptable it must be, at Miss Taylor’s time of life, to be settled in a home of her own, and how important to her to be secure of a comfortable provision, and therefore cannot allow herself to feel so much pain as pleasure. **Evy** friend of Miss Taylor must be glad to have her so happily married. ”

爱玛转过头去，既想流泪又想微笑。”爱玛失去这样一位伴侣，不可能不感到若有所失，”奈特利先生说。“先生，要是我们真这么想，那我们就不会像现在这样喜欢她了。不过她清楚这门婚事对泰勒小姐多么有利；她知道在泰勒小姐这个年纪，能安顿在自己的家里是多么可贵，知道有个舒适的生活保障对她多么重要。因此她宁愿多一些快乐，少一些痛苦。泰勒小姐的每位朋友看到她

婚姻如此幸福，都一定会感到高兴的。”

“**And** you have forgotten one matter of joy to me,” said Emma, “and a very considerable one —that I made the match myself. **I** made the match, you know, four years ago; and to have it take place, and be proved in the right, when so many people said Mr. **Weston** would never marry again, may comfort me for any thing.”

“你还忘了一桩叫我高兴的事呢，”爱玛说，“而且是挺重要的一桩——这桩婚事是我撮合的。你知道，四年前是我做的媒；当时那么多人都说韦斯顿先生绝不会再娶，如今这门亲事到底成了，而且证明我做对了，这真是给了我莫大的安慰。”

Mr. Knightley shook his head at her. **Her** father fondly replied, “Ah! **my** dear, I wish you would not make matches and foretell things, for whatever you say always comes to pass. **Pray** do not make any more matches.”

奈特利先生对她摇了摇头。她父亲慈爱地答道：“唉！亲爱的，但愿你别再做媒预言了，因为你说的话总会应验。求你别再撮合任何姻缘了。”

“I promise you to make none for myself, papa; but I must, indeed, for other people. **It** is the greatest amusement in the world! **And** after such success, you know! —**Every** body said that Mr. **Weston** would never marry again. **Oh** dear, no! **Mr. Weston**, who had been a widower so long, and who seemed so perfectly

“我向您保证绝不会给自己做媒，爸爸；但确实得替别人撮合。这可是世上顶有趣的消遣！况且您瞧，刚撮合得多成功！——当初人人都说韦斯顿先生绝不会再婚。天哪，那怎么可能！韦斯顿

comfortable without a wife, so constantly occupied either in his business in town or among his friends here, always acceptable wherever he went, always cheerful—Mr. Weston need not spend a single evening in the year alone if he did not like it. Oh no! Mr. Weston certainly would never marry again. Some people even talked of a promise to his wife on her deathbed, and others of the son and the uncle not letting him. All manner of solemn nonsense was talked on the subject, but I believed none of it.

先生鳏居这么多年，没有太太显得多么自在，总在城里忙生意，或是到这儿陪朋友们，所到之处无不受欢迎，永远兴致勃勃——他若不愿独处，一年到头连一个孤寂的夜晚都不必有。哎，可不是嘛！韦斯顿先生定然不会再娶了。有人甚至传言他曾在亡妻病榻前立过誓，还有人说是他儿子和舅爷不许他再娶。关于这事流传着各种煞有介事的无稽之谈，可我半句都不信。”

“Ever since the day—about four years ago—that Miss Taylor and I met with him in Broadway Lane, when, because it began to drizzle, he darted away with so much gallantry, and borrowed two umbrellas for us from Farmer Mitchell's, I made up my mind on the subject. I planned the match from that hour; and when such success has blessed me in this instance, dear papa, you cannot think that I shall leave off match-making.”

”大约四年前的那个日子——泰勒小姐和我在百老汇巷遇见他时，因为天开始飘起细雨，他风度翩翩地疾步跑开，从农场主米切尔那里为我们借来两把雨伞，从那一刻起我就认定了这桩姻缘。自那时起我便开始筹划这段姻缘；既然这次做媒如此成功，亲爱的爸爸，您总不会认为我会就此罢手不做

月老了吧。”

“I do not understand what you mean by ‘success,’ ” said Mr. **Knightley**. “**Success** supposes endeavour. **Your** time has been properly and delicately spent, if you have been endeavouring for the last four years to bring about this marriage. A worthy employment for a young lady’s mind! **But** if, which I rather imagine, your making the match, as you call it, means only your planning it, your saying to yourself one idle day, ‘I think it would be a very good thing for Miss Taylor if Mr. **We-ston** were to marry her,’ and saying it again to yourself every now and then afterwards, why do you talk of success? **Where** is your merit? **What** are you proud of? **You** made a lucky guess; and that is all that can be said.”

“And have you never known the pleasure and triumph of a lucky guess? —I pity you. —I thought you cleverer—for, depend upon it a lucky guess is never merely luck. **There**

“我不明白您所说的‘成功’是什么意思，”奈特利先生说。“**成功**意味着付出努力。**如果您在过去四年里一直努力促成这门婚事，那您的时间确实花得恰当又精细。一位年轻小姐的心思用在这么体面的事情上！但如果——我倒是更倾向于这么认为——您所谓的撮合仅仅是指您的筹划，是指您某个闲来无事的日子自言自语道：‘我觉得韦斯顿先生若是娶了泰勒小姐，对她倒是件大好事。’而后又时不时在心里重复这个念头——那您何来成功之说呢？您的功劳在哪里？有什么值得骄傲的？您不过是侥幸猜中罢了——仅此而已。’**

“**难道**你从未体验过侥幸猜中的喜悦与得意？——我真替你惋惜。——我原以为你更聪明些——因为，你要知

is always some talent in it. **And** as to my poor word ‘success,’ which you quarrel with, I do not know that I am so entirely without any claim to it. **You** have drawn two pretty pictures; but I think there may be a third—a something between the do-nothing and the do-all. **If** I had not promoted Mr. Weston’s visits here, and given many little encouragements, and smoothed many little matters, it might not have come to any thing after all. **I** think you must know Hartfield enough to comprehend that.”

道，侥幸猜中从来都不只是运气。这其中总包含着几分才智。**至于**你挑剔我说的‘成功’这个词，我倒不认为自己完全当不起这个字眼。你描绘了两幅美好图景；但我想或许还有第三种——介于无所作为与大包大揽之间的状态。**若不是**我促成韦斯顿先生常来拜访，多次稍加鼓励，又摆平诸多琐事，这段姻缘可能根本不会有结果。**我想**你应当足够了解哈特菲尔德，能明白这个道理。”

“**A** straightforward, open-hearted man like Weston, and a rational, unaffected woman like Miss Taylor, may be safely left to manage their own concerns. **You** are more likely to have done harm to yourself, than good to them, by interference.”

像韦斯顿这样坦率开朗的男子，和泰勒小姐这样明事理、不矫情的女子，完全可以放心让他们处理自己的事情。你横加干涉，恐怕对人家没什么好处，反倒更可能害了自己。

“**Emma** never thinks of herself, if she can do good to others,” rejoined Mr. Woodhouse, understanding but in part. “**But**, my dear,

“**爱玛**只要能为别人做点好事，就从来不顾自己，”伍德豪斯先生并没有完全听懂她

pray do not make any more matches; they are silly things, and break up one's family circle grievously. ”

的话，便接着说道。“不过，亲爱的，求你别再给人做媒了，这都是做傻事，把一家人拆散得七零八落，真叫人伤心。”

“**Only** one more, papa; only for Mr. **Elton**. ” 再画一幅就好，爸爸——
Poor Mr. **Elton!** **You** like Mr. **Elton**, 就画给埃尔顿先生。可怜的
papa,—I must look about for a wife for him. 埃尔顿先生！您不是挺喜欢
There is nobody in Highbury who deserves him—and he has been here a whole year, and 海伯里没人配得上他——他
has fitted up his house so comfortably, that 在这儿都住满一整年了，房
it would be a shame to have him single any 子布置得那么舒适，再让他
longer—and I thought when he was joining 打光棍可太说不过去了。今
their hands to-day, he looked so very much as 天我看他替新人握手时就在
if he would like to have the same kind office 想，他那模样多像是盼着也
done for him! I think very well of Mr. **Elton**, 有人替他牵红线啊！我对埃
and this is the only way I have of doing him a 尔顿先生评价很高，帮他这个忙是我唯一能尽的力了。”
service. ”

“**Mr.** **Elton** is a very pretty young man, to “**埃尔顿**先生确实是个非常
be sure, and a very good young man, and I 俊俏的年轻人，也是个很好的
have a great regard for him. **But** if you want 年轻人，我很看重他。不过
to shew him any attention, my dear, ask him 亲爱的，你若想对他表示关
to come and dine with us some day. **That** 切，不妨改日请他来家里吃
will be a much better thing. I dare say Mr. 饭。这样安排要好得多。我

Knightley will be so kind as to meet him. ” 敢说奈特利先生也会乐意赏光作陪的。”

“With a great deal of pleasure, sir, at any time,” said Mr. **Knightley**, laughing, “and I agree with you entirely, that it will be a much better thing. **Invite** him to dinner, Emma, and help him to the best of the fish and the chicken, but leave him to chuse his own wife. **Depend** upon it, a man of six or seven-and-twenty can take care of himself. ”

“随时乐意奉陪，先生，”奈特利先生笑着说道，“我完全同意您的看法，这样安排确实妥当得多。请他吃顿饭吧，爱玛，把最鲜美的鱼和鸡肉都留给他，但择偶的事还是让他自己决定。放心吧，一个二十六七岁的男子总该能料理好自己的终身大事。”

CHAPTER II

第二章

Mr. Weston was a native of Highbury, and born of a respectable family, which for the last two or three generations had been rising into gentility and property. He had received a good education, but, on succeeding early in life to a small independence, had become indisposed for any of the more homely pursuits in which his brothers were engaged, and had satisfied an active, cheerful mind and social temper by entering into the militia of his county, then embodied.

韦斯顿先生乃是海伯里本地人，出身于体面人家。其家族近两三辈以来，家道日隆，门第渐显。他受过良好教育，但早年继承了一笔薄产，便不愿再从事几个兄弟所操持的寻常营生。为满足活跃开朗的天性与爱好交际的脾性，他投身郡民兵团，当时正逢团队整编之期。

Captain Weston was a general favourite; and when the chances of his military life had introduced him to Miss Churchill, of a great Yorkshire family, and Miss Churchill fell in love with him, nobody was surprised, except her brother and his wife, who had never seen him, and who were full of pride and importance, which the connexion would offend.

韦斯顿上尉是个到处受欢迎的人；他军人生涯中的机遇使他结识了约克郡一个望族丘吉尔家的小姐，丘吉尔小姐爱上了他，这事既没人觉得意外，也没人表示反对，只有丘吉尔夫妇，他们从未见过这位上尉，自视过高，觉得这门亲事有辱门楣。

Miss Churchill, however, being of age, and with the full command of her fortune—though her fortune bore no proportion to the family-estate—was not to be dissuaded from the marriage, and it took place, to the infinite mortification of Mr. **and** Mrs. **Churchill**, who threw her off with due decorum. It was an unsuitable connexion, and did not produce much happiness. **Mrs. Weston** ought to have found more in it, for she had a husband whose warm heart and sweet temper made him think every thing due to her in return for the great goodness of being in love with him; but though she had one sort of spirit, she had not the best. **She** had resolution enough to pursue her own will in spite of her brother, but not enough

然而，丘吉尔小姐既已成年，又完全掌握着自己的财产——尽管她的财产与家族产业相比微不足道——终究未被劝阻放弃这桩婚事。婚礼如期举行，令丘吉尔夫妇颜面尽失，他们循礼断绝了与她的关系。这段姻缘本不般配，婚后的幸福也着实有限。韦斯顿夫人原应从中获得更多满足，因为她嫁的丈夫心地热忱、性情温和，觉得她既然垂青于自己，便该倾尽所有相报。可惜她虽有几分气性，却算不得高明。当初她足以违抗兄长坚持己见，如

to refrain from unreasonable regrets at that brother's unreasonable anger, nor from missing the luxuries of her former home. **They** lived beyond their income, but still it was nothing in comparison of Enscombe: she did not cease to love her husband, but she wanted at once to be the wife of Captain Weston, and Miss Churchill of Enscombe.

今却既忍不住对兄长无理的愤怒抱憾，又割舍不下旧家奢华的生活。他们过着入不敷出的日子，但比起恩斯康伯府仍是云泥之别。**她**始终爱着丈夫，却妄想同时拥有韦斯顿上尉之妻和恩斯康伯的丘吉尔小姐这双重身份。

Captain Weston, who had been considered, especially by the Churchills, as making such an amazing match, was proved to have much the worst of the bargain; for when his wife died, after a three years' marriage, he was rather a poorer man than at first, and with a child to maintain. **From** the expense of the child, however, he was soon relieved. **The** boy had, with the additional softening claim of a lingering illness of his mother's, been the means of a sort of reconciliation; and Mr. **and** Mrs. **Churchill**, having no children of their own, nor any other young creature of equal kindred to care for, offered to take the whole charge of the little Frank soon after her decease. **Some** scruples and some reluctance the widower-father may be supposed to have felt; but as they were over-

韦斯顿上校当初缔结的这门亲事，在丘吉尔夫妇看来，尤其是丘吉尔夫人看来，实在是了不起的良缘，谁知事实证明这只是一桩极其失算的婚事。**韦斯顿**上校结婚三年，太太便死了，他不仅比婚前更穷，而且还要抚养一个孩子。**不过**，他不久就用不着负担孩子的抚养费了。**这**孩子加上母亲长期生病，倒帮了父母言归于好的忙，成了父母重新和好的媒介。**丘吉尔**先生和夫人自己没有孩子，也没有别的近亲的孩子需要抚养。**所以**，韦斯顿太太死后不久，他们就提出要抚养

come by other considerations, the child was given up to the care and the wealth of the Churchills, and he had only his own comfort to seek, and his own situation to improve as he could.

小弗兰克。那丧偶的父亲心里有些顾虑，有些犹豫，但是顾虑打消之后，事情就照对方的心意安排妥当了。孩子到了丘吉尔家，让他们享受抚养的乐趣，也让他们破费钱财，他只需自己设法寻求安慰，并且改善自己的境况。

A complete change of life became desirable. He quitted the militia and engaged in trade, having brothers already established in a good way in London, which afforded him a favourable opening. It was a concern which brought just employment enough. He had still a small house in Highbury, where most of his leisure days were spent; and between useful occupation and the pleasures of society, the next eighteen or twenty years of his life passed cheerfully away. He had, by that time, realised an easy competence—enough to secure the purchase of a little estate adjoining Highbury, which he had always longed for—enough to marry a woman as portionless even as Miss Taylor, and to live according to the wishes of

彻底改变生活已成为他的渴望。他辞去了民兵团职务投身商界，几位兄长已在伦敦站稳脚跟，为他提供了便利的入门途径。这份事业恰能给予他足够的用武之地。他在海伯里仍保留着一处小宅邸，多数闲暇时光都度过；在有益身心的劳作与社交欢愉之间，他生命中接下来的十八载春秋便欣然流逝。待到此时，他已积攒下宽裕的资产——足以购置毗邻海伯里的一处小小田产，这原是他长久以来的夙愿；也足以迎娶像泰勒小姐这般

his own friendly and social disposition.

毫无嫁妆的淑女，并能依照自己友善好交的性情自在度日。

It was now some time since Miss Taylor had begun to influence his schemes; but as it was not the tyrannic influence of youth on youth, it had not shaken his determination of never settling till he could purchase Randalls, and the sale of Randalls was long looked forward to; but he had gone steadily on, with these objects in view, till they were accomplished.

He had made his fortune, bought his house, and obtained his wife; and was beginning a new period of existence, with every probability of greater happiness than in any yet passed through. **He** had never been an unhappy man; his own temper had secured him from that, even in his first marriage; but his second must shew him how delightful a well-judging and truly amiable woman could be, and must give him the pleasantest proof of its being a great deal better to choose than to be chosen, to excite gratitude than to feel it.

泰勒小姐开始影响他的计划已有一段时日；但这并非年轻人对年轻人的专横影响，所以并未动摇他非等买下兰德尔斯的产业才安家的决心——而兰德尔斯的出售却是他期盼已久的事。**他**始终坚定不移地朝着这个目标迈进，直至如愿以偿。**他**发了财，置了业，娶了妻，正在开启人生新篇章，幸福前景远胜往昔。**他**素来不是个愁苦之人——即便是初婚时期，天生的好性情也使他与愁苦绝缘；但第二次婚姻必将让他懂得，一位明达贤淑的女子能带来何等美妙的滋味，也将向他昭示：主动选择远比被动接受来得甜蜜，激发感恩远比心怀感激更令人愉悦。

He had only himself to please in his choice: his fortune was his own; for as to Frank, it was more than being tacitly brought up as his uncle's heir, it had become so avowed an adoption as to have him assume the name of Churchill on coming of age. **I**t was most unlikely, therefore, that he should ever want his father's assistance. **H**is father had no apprehension of it. **T**he aunt was a capricious woman, and governed her husband entirely; but it was not in Mr. Weston's nature to imagine that any caprice could be strong enough to affect one so dear, and, as he believed, so deservedly dear. **H**e saw his son every year in London, and was proud of him; and his fond report of him as a very fine young man had made Highbury feel a sort of pride in him too. **H**e was looked on as sufficiently belonging to the place to make his merits and prospects a kind of common concern.

他的婚事尽可以随心所欲，他的财产全归他自己掌管。至于弗兰克，他不仅被悄然当作舅舅的继承人收养，而且过继为子，改姓邱吉尔，一到了成年，就可以继承舅舅的家业。因此，他不大可能寻求父亲的帮助。他父亲对此也并不担心。舅母是个任性的女人，丈夫完全受她控制。不过，韦斯顿先生并不相信她的任性会有那么大的力量，居然会影响一个如此亲爱的人，而且他认为这亲爱也受之无愧。他每年都能在伦敦见到儿子，很为他感到骄傲。他夸赞他是个出类拔萃的青年，因此海伯里的人也难免要为他感到骄傲。大家都把他视为本地人，对他的品行和前途都很关心。

Mr. **F**rank Churchill was one of the boasts of Highbury, and a lively curiosity to see him prevailed, though the compliment was so little returned that he had never been there in his

弗兰克·丘吉尔先生乃是海伯里引以为荣的人物之一，想见他的热望虽普遍存在，却始终未能如愿。他自幼不

life. **H**is coming to visit his father had been often talked of but never achieved.

曾踏足这片土地，众人常议论他该来探望生父，却总未成行。

Now, upon his father's marriage, it was very generally proposed, as a most proper attention, that the visit should take place. **T**here was not a dissentient voice on the subject, either when Mrs. **Perry** drank tea with Mrs. **and** Miss Bates, or when Mrs. **and** Miss Bates returned the visit. **N**ow was the time for Mr. **Frank** Churchill to come among them; and the hope strengthened when it was understood that he had written to his new mother on the occasion. **F**or a few days, every morning visit in Highbury included some mention of the handsome letter Mrs. **Weston** had received. “**I** suppose you have heard of the handsome letter Mr. **Frank** Churchill has written to Mrs. **Weston**? **I** understand it was a very handsome letter, indeed. **M**r. **Woodhouse** told me of it. **M**r. **Woodhouse** saw the letter, and he says he never saw such a handsome letter in his life. ”

自他父亲再婚以来，人们普遍认为进行这次拜访才是最得体的表示。无论佩里太太同贝茨太太和贝茨小姐一起喝茶的时候，还是贝茨太太和贝茨小姐回访的时候，都没人对这事提出异议。眼下正是弗兰克·邱吉尔先生来看望他们的时候了。人们听说他在这时候给新妈妈写了封信，便越发觉得希望大了。有几天工夫，海伯里每天早上有人拜访时，总要说起韦斯顿太太收到一封十分得体的信。”我想你听说弗兰克·邱吉尔先生给韦斯顿太太写了封十分得体的信吧？我听说那封信写得很得体。伍德豪斯先生跟我说起了这件事。伍德豪斯先生看见了那封信，说他这辈子从没见过写得这么得体的信。”

It was, indeed, a highly prized letter. **Mrs. Weston** had, of course, formed a very favourable idea of the young man; and such a pleasing attention was an irresistible proof of his great good sense, and a most welcome addition to every source and every expression of congratulation which her marriage had already secured. **She** felt herself a most fortunate woman; and she had lived long enough to know how fortunate she might well be thought, where the only regret was for a partial separation from friends whose friendship for her had never cooled, and who could ill bear to part with her.

这确实是一封备受珍视的信函。韦斯顿太太对这位年轻人自然早已心存好感；而这样一番令人愉悦的关怀，既无可辩驳地证明了他卓越的见识，更为她新婚之际获得的种种祝贺锦上添花。她自觉是世间最幸运的女子，更因年岁渐长而深知这份幸运何等难得——此刻唯一的憾事不过是与几位挚友小别，这些始终待她情谊如初的友人，实在难以忍受与她分离之苦。

She knew that at times she must be missed; and could not think, without pain, of Emma's losing a single pleasure, or suffering an hour's ennui, from the want of her companionableness: but dear Emma was of no feeble character; she was more equal to her situation than most girls would have been, and had sense, and energy, and spirits that might be hoped would bear her well and happily through its little difficulties and privations. **And** then there was such comfort in the very easy distance of

她深知自己偶尔会被思念萦绕；一想到爱玛缺少了这位知心伴侣，哪怕只是失去片刻欢愉，或是独自忍受须臾烦闷，都会令她心痛难当。但亲爱的爱玛绝非性情柔弱之人——比起寻常姑娘，她更能从容应对这般境况，那与生俱来的慧心、活力与精气神，足可支撑她欣然度过这段微小的困窘与匮乏。

Randalls from Hartfield, so convenient for even solitary female walking, and in Mr. **Weston**'s disposition and circumstances, which would make the approaching season no hindrance to their spending half the evenings in the week together.

更何况兰德尔斯的居所与哈特菲尔德相隔咫尺，即便是独身女子步行往来也极为便利；而韦斯顿先生的性情与家境，更确保了即将到来的季节不会妨碍她们每周共度半数良宵。

Her situation was altogether the subject of hours of gratitude to Mrs. **Weston**, and of moments only of regret; and her satisfaction—her more than satisfaction—her cheerful enjoyment, was so just and so apparent, that Emma, well as she knew her father, was sometimes taken by surprize at his being still able to pity ‘poor Miss Taylor,’ when they left her at Randalls in the centre of every domestic comfort, or saw her go away in the evening attended by her pleasant husband to a carriage of her own.

But never did she go without Mr. **Woodhouse**'s giving a gentle sigh, and saying, “Ah, poor Miss Taylor! **She** would be very glad to stay.”

韦斯顿太太的境况，始终是令她心怀感激的源泉，偶尔才会泛起一丝惋惜；她那心满意足——甚至可说是喜出望外——的欢愉如此理所当然又显而易见，以至于爱玛虽然深知父亲的脾性，有时仍不免惊讶：当他们把泰勒小姐留在兰德尔斯的安乐窝里，或是目睹她在黄昏时分由那位体贴的丈夫陪伴着走向自家马车时，父亲竟仍会怜悯”可怜的泰勒小姐”。但伍德豪斯先生没有一次不轻轻叹息道：“唉，可怜的泰勒小姐！她**本来是很愿意留下的。”**

There was no recovering Miss Taylor—nor 泰勒小姐是再也回不来了
much likelihood of ceasing to pity her; but ——再也不可能不觉惋惜地
a few weeks brought some alleviation to Mr. 来怀念她了。可是没过几个
Woodhouse. **The** compliments of his neigh- 星期，伍德豪斯先生就渐渐
bours were over; he was no longer teased by 好转了。左邻右舍的问候已
being wished joy of so sorrowful an event; and 经使他感到欣慰，他也敢欣
the wedding-cake, which had been a great dis- 慰地祝愿他们不要再为如此
tress to him, was all eat up. **His** own stomach 可悲的一件事向他道喜了。
could bear nothing rich, and he could never be- 那结婚蛋糕后来也都吃光
lieve other people to be different from himself. 了。他自己的胃吃不得一点
What was unwholesome to him he regarded 油腻的东西，就以为别人也
as unfit for any body; and he had, therefore, 跟他一样。凡是他吃着不舒
earnestly tried to dissuade them from having 服的东西，他就认为谁吃了
any wedding-cake at all, and when that proved 都不合适。因此，他真心诚
vain, as earnestly tried to prevent any body' 意地劝说大家，压根儿不要
s eating it. **He** had been at the pains of 准备结婚蛋糕，见劝说无效，
consulting Mr. **Perry**, the apothecary, on 他又真心诚意地劝阻大家不
the subject. **Mr. Perry** was an intelligent, 要吃。他不辞辛苦地特地请
gentlemanlike man, whose frequent visits were 教了药剂师佩里先生。佩里
one of the comforts of Mr. **Woodhouse'** 先生是个很有见识、颇有绅
s life; and upon being applied to, he could 士风度的人，常到伍德豪斯
not but acknowledge (though it seemed rather 先生家来，给他的生活带来
against the bias of inclination) that wedding- 不少安慰。既然伍德豪斯先
cake might certainly disagree with many—per- 生求助于他，他虽说看来有
haps with most people, unless taken moder- 些不大情愿，但还是不得不

ately. **With** such an opinion, in confirmation of his own, Mr. **Woodhouse** hoped to influence every visitor of the newly married pair; but still the cake was eaten; and there was no rest for his benevolent nerves till it was all gone.

承认：有许多人，甚至大多数人，的确不适于吃结婚蛋糕，要吃也只能少吃一点。这话印证了伍德豪斯先生的看法，他希望说给所有来向新婚夫妇贺喜的客人听。然而，蛋糕还是吃光了。伍德豪斯先生神经脆弱，一片好意直到蛋糕吃得一点也不剩了，他才安下心来。

There was a strange rumour in Highbury of all the little Perrys being seen with a slice of Mrs. **Weston**' s wedding-cake in their hands: but Mr. **Woodhouse** would never believe it.

海伯里流传着一个奇怪的谣言，说有人看见小佩里家的孩子们手里都拿着一块韦斯顿太太的婚礼蛋糕。但伍德豪斯先生始终不肯相信这事。

CHAPTER III

第三章

Mr. **Woodhouse** was fond of society in his own way. He liked very much to have his friends come and see him; and from various united causes, from his long residence at Hartfield, and his good nature, from his fortune, his house, and his daughter, he could command

伍德豪斯先生自有其独特的社交之道。他极爱友人造访，因着诸多缘由——在哈特菲尔德的长居、温厚性情、家财宅邸，更因着他那掌上明珠，他大抵能随心所欲地邀得自

the visits of his own little circle, in a great measure, as he liked. **H**e had not much intercourse with any families beyond that circle; his horror of late hours, and large dinner-parties, made him unfit for any acquaintance but such as would visit him on his own terms. **F**ortunately for him, Highbury, including Randalls in the same parish, and Donwell Abbey in the parish adjoining, the seat of Mr. **K**nightley, comprehended many such. **N**ot unfrequently, through Emma's persuasion, he had some of the chosen and the best to dine with him: but evening parties were what he preferred; and, unless he fancied himself at any time unequal to company, there was scarcely an evening in the week in which Emma could not make up a card-table for him.

Real, long-standing regard brought the Westons and Mr. **K**nightley; and by Mr. **E**lton, a young man living alone without liking it, the privilege of exchanging any vacant evening of his own blank solitude for the elegancies and society of Mr. **W**oodhouse's drawing-room, and the smiles of his lovely daughter, was in no danger of being thrown away.

己的小圈子前来相聚。至于圈子之外的人家，他鲜少往来；对熬夜与盛大宴会的深恶痛绝，使他只愿接受那些愿遵他规矩的交往。幸而海伯里教区——连同同属一教的兰德尔斯，以及毗邻教区奈特利先生的宅邸唐威尔修道院——正多的是这般合宜的友邻。经爱玛劝说，他倒也常邀三五挚友共进晚餐，但终究更钟情晚间聚会。除非自觉精神不济，几乎每周总有数个夜晚，爱玛能为他凑齐一桌牌局。

韦斯顿夫妇和奈特利先生是出于真挚而长久的友情；至于埃尔顿先生，他独自居住，并不喜欢这种生活，能将自己闲暇夜晚的孤寂时光，换取伍德豪斯先生客厅里的雅致社交与他可爱女儿的笑容，这样的殊遇自然不会白

白错过。

After these came a second set; among the most come-at-able of whom were Mrs. and Miss Bates, and Mrs. Goddard, three ladies almost always at the service of an invitation from Hartfield, and who were fetched and carried home so often, that Mr. Woodhouse thought it no hardship for either James or the horses. Had it taken place only once a year, it would have been a grievance.

随后又来了一批客人；其中最随和可亲的有贝茨太太、贝茨小姐和戈达德太太，这三位女士简直是哈特菲尔德一声邀请就到，而且常常是车接车送，以至于伍德豪斯先生既不觉得为难詹姆斯，也不觉得为难马匹。倘若一年只接送一次，反倒会成为一桩难事。

Mrs. Bates, the widow of a former vicar of Highbury, was a very old lady, almost past every thing but tea and quadrille. She lived with her single daughter in a very small way, and was considered with all the regard and respect which a harmless old lady, under such untoward circumstances, can excite. Her daughter enjoyed a most uncommon degree of popularity for a woman neither young, handsome, rich, nor married. Miss Bates stood in the very worst predicament in the world for having much of the public favour; and she had no intellectual superiority to make atonement to

贝茨太太——海伯里前任牧师的遗孀——是位年事极高的老太太，除了喝茶玩牌之外几乎什么都做不了了。她与终身未嫁的女儿过着十分清贫的生活，在这般困窘的境遇中，这位与世无争的老太太赢得了人们由衷的关怀与敬重。她的女儿虽非妙龄，既不美貌，也不富裕，更未嫁人，却享有世间罕有的好人缘。贝茨小姐所处的境况本最容易招致非议，她又不具

herself, or frighten those who might hate her into outward respect. **She** had never boasted either beauty or cleverness. **Her** youth had passed without distinction, and her middle of life was devoted to the care of a failing mother, and the endeavour to make a small income go as far as possible. **And** yet she was a happy woman, and a woman whom no one named without good-will. **It** was her own universal good-will and contented temper which worked such wonders. **She** loved every body, was interested in every body's happiness, quick-sighted to every body's merits; thought herself a most fortunate creature, and surrounded with blessings in such an excellent mother, and so many good neighbours and friends, and a home that wanted for nothing. **The** simplicity and cheerfulness of her nature, her contented and grateful spirit, were a recommendation to every body, and a mine of felicity to herself. **She** was a great talker upon little matters, which exactly suited Mr. **Woodhouse**, full of trivial communications and harmless gossip.

备过人的才智来弥补缺憾，或是让厌恶她的人表面保持尊重。她从不自诩美貌或聪慧，青春岁月平淡无奇，中年时光全都倾注在照料日渐衰弱的母亲，并竭力将微薄收入精打细算。然而她却是快乐的，人们提起她时总带着善意。正是她那普世的善意与知足的性情创造了这般奇迹——她关爱每个人，对所有人的幸福都感同身受，总能敏锐发现他人优点；她自认是受上天眷顾的人，拥有一位贤德的母亲、众多友善的邻里朋友、以及样样不缺的好感，更成为她自身幸福的源泉。她尤擅絮叨家常琐事，这正合伍德豪斯先生心意，总带着些闲谈碎语与人无害的流言。

Mrs. Goddard was the mistress of a School 戈达德太太是一所学校的

—not of a seminary, or an establishment, or any thing which professed, in long sentences of refined nonsense, to combine liberal acquirements with elegant morality, upon new principles and new systems—and where young ladies for enormous pay might be screwed out of health and into vanity—but a real, honest, old-fashioned Boarding-school, where a reasonable quantity of accomplishments were sold at a reasonable price, and where girls might be sent to be out of the way, and scramble themselves into a little education, without any danger of coming back prodigies. **Mrs. Goddard's** school was in high repute—and very deservedly; for Highbury was reckoned a particularly healthy spot: she had an ample house and garden, gave the children plenty of wholesome food, let them run about a great deal in the summer, and in winter dressed their chilblains with her own hands. It was no wonder that a train of twenty young couple now walked after her to church. She was a plain, motherly kind of woman, who had worked hard in her youth, and now thought herself entitled to the occasional holiday of a tea-visit; and女校长——这并非那种冠冕堂皇的学府，不是那种用冗长华丽的辞藻标榜新式教育体系，将通识教养与优雅品德相结合的机构，更不是那种让年轻姑娘们付出高昂代价、牺牲健康换取虚荣的地方——而是一所实实在在、朴朴素素的老式寄宿学校。在这里，女孩们能用合理的价钱学到适量的才艺，被送来既不至于碍事，又能胡乱学些知识，绝不会变成神童归来。**戈达德太太的学校声誉卓著**——这实在是名副其实；因为海伯里素来被认为是个特别有益健康的地方：她校舍宽敞，花园阔大，给孩子们供应充足的健康食品，夏天任由她们在野外奔跑嬉戏，冬天还亲手为她们敷治冻疮。**如今有二十对小姑娘列队跟着她去教堂**，也就不足为奇了。**她是位朴实慈爱的妇人**，年轻时勤勤恳恳，如

having formerly owed much to Mr. **Woodhouse**' s kindness, felt his particular claim on her to leave her neat parlour, hung round with fancy-work, whenever she could, and win or lose a few sixpences by his fireside.

今觉得偶尔喝杯茶消遣消遣也理所应当。往日她曾蒙伍德豪斯先生诸多照拂，此刻总觉得义不容辞要离开她那挂满刺绣的整洁客厅，尽可能多到他的炉火边坐坐，陪他打几局六便士的牌局，不论输赢。

These were the ladies whom Emma found herself very frequently able to collect; and happy was she, for her father's sake, in the power; though, as far as she was herself concerned, it was no remedy for the absence of Mrs. **Weston**. **She** was delighted to see her father look comfortable, and very much pleased with herself for contriving things so well; but the quiet prosings of three such women made her feel that every evening so spent was indeed one of the long evenings she had fearfully anticipated.

爱玛发现自己能时常邀集到的正是这几位女士。能为父亲张罗这些聚会令她欣慰，但就她个人而言，这并不能弥补韦斯顿太太缺席带来的怅惘。看到父亲怡然自得的神情，她感到欣喜；为自己能把诸事安排得如此妥帖，她也颇为得意。不过三位女士温存的絮语令她觉得，这样度过的每个夜晚，恰恰印证了她先前惴惴预料过的那些漫漫长夜。

As she sat one morning, looking forward to exactly such a close of the present day, a note was brought from Mrs. **Goddard**, requesting, in

一日清晨，爱玛正坐着思忖今日大约就要这般沉闷地收场，忽有戈达德太太差人送

most respectful terms, to be allowed to bring 来一纸短笺，措辞极为恭敬，
Miss Smith with her; a most welcome request: 请求允许带史密斯小姐同
for Miss Smith was a girl of seventeen, whom 来。这个请求再令人欣喜不
Emma knew very well by sight, and had long 过：史密斯小姐年方十七，爱
felt an interest in, on account of her beauty. A 玛素来熟悉她的容貌，早因
very gracious invitation was returned, and the 她姿容秀美而心生关切。一封措辞优雅的邀请函当即回
evening no longer dreaded by the fair mistress 复而去，这座宅邸的美丽女
of the mansion. 主人顿时不再忧心今晚的聚会了。

Harriet Smith was the natural daughter of somebody. **Somebody** had placed her, several years back, at Mrs. **Goddard'**s school, and somebody had lately raised her from the condition of scholar to that of parlour-boarder. **This** was all that was generally known of her history. **She** had no visible friends but what had been acquired at Highbury, and was now just returned from a long visit in the country to some young ladies who had been at school there with her.

She was a very pretty girl, and her beauty happened to be of a sort which Emma particularly admired. **She** was short, plump, and fair,

哈丽特·史密斯是某人的私生女。多年前，有人把她安置在戈达德太太的学校里，最近又有人把她从普通学生的身份提升为寄宿生。这就是人们通常所知的关于她身世的全部情况。除了在海伯里结识的朋友之外，她不见还有其他亲友，眼下刚结束对乡间几位同窗少女的长住拜访归来。

她是位非常标致的姑娘，那种美恰巧是爱玛特别欣赏的类型。她身材娇小丰满，肌肤

with a fine bloom, blue eyes, light hair, regular features, and a look of great sweetness, and, before the end of the evening, Emma was as much pleased with her manners as her person, and quite determined to continue the acquaintance.

白皙，面颊透着健康的红晕，蓝眼睛，浅色头发，五官端正，神情甜美温柔。还没等晚会结束，爱玛就已对她的仪态和容貌同样喜爱，并且下定决心要与她继续来往。

She was not struck by any thing remarkably clever in Miss Smith's conversation, but she found her altogether very engaging—not inconveniently shy, not unwilling to talk—and yet so far from pushing, shewing so proper and becoming a deference, seeming so pleasantly grateful for being admitted to Hartfield, and so artlessly impressed by the appearance of every thing in so superior a style to what she had been used to, that she must have good sense, and deserve encouragement. **Encouragement** should be given. **Those** soft blue eyes, and all those natural graces, should not be wasted on the inferior society of Highbury and its connexions. **The** acquaintance she had already formed were unworthy of her. **The** friends from whom she had just parted, though very good sort of people, must be doing her harm. **They** were a family of the name of Mar-

她并不觉得史密斯小姐的谈吐有什么特别聪慧之处，却发觉对方整体十分讨人喜欢——没有不合时宜的羞怯，并非不愿交谈，却又毫不冒进，显得既得体又谦逊，对于能被接纳到哈特菲尔德来流露出由衷的感激，对这里一切远胜于她所习惯的优越陈设展现出纯真的惊叹，可见这姑娘颇有见识，值得加以栽培。这份栽培理应给予。那双柔和的蓝眼睛与种种天然风韵，不该埋没在海伯里及其周边的低层次社交圈里。她已结交的那些人都不配与她为伍。刚与她分别的那些朋友虽算得上好人，却必定会对她产生不良影响。那

tin, whom Emma well knew by character, as 家人姓马丁，爱玛素闻其名
renting a large farm of Mr. **Knightley**, and ——他们向奈特利先生租种
residing in the parish of Donwell—very cred- 大片农场，住在唐维尔教区，
itably, she believed—she knew Mr. **Knight-** 风评倒是不差——她知道奈
ley thought highly of them—but they must 特利先生很看重他们——但
be coarse and unpolished, and very unfit to be 这家人必定粗俗少文，极不
the intimates of a girl who wanted only a lit- 适合与这位姑娘亲密往来。
tle more knowledge and elegance to be quite 她只需稍加学识与仪态的熏
perfect. She would notice her; she would 陶便能臻于完美。她要亲自
improve her; she would detach her from her 关照她，塑造她，使她远离
bad acquaintance, and introduce her into good 不良交往，引她进入上流社
society; she would form her opinions and her 会；她要为她奠定见解与风
manners. It would be an interesting, and cer- 度。这将是桩饶有兴味的事
tainly a very kind undertaking; highly becom- 业，无疑也是极仁慈的举动，
ing her own situation in life, her leisure, and 于她自身的身份地位、闲暇
powers.

她只顾着欣赏那双柔和的蓝
眼睛，只顾着谈天说地，在言
谈间隙里酝酿种种计划，这
个夜晚竟以非同寻常的速度
飞逝而去；平日作为聚会收
尾的餐桌——她向来习惯
坐着等待适当时间才开席的
——此刻竟已布置妥当，挪

She was so busy in admiring those soft blue
eyes, in talking and listening, and forming
all these schemes in the in-betweens, that the
evening flew away at a very unusual rate; and
the supper-table, which always closed such par-
ties, and for which she had been used to sit and
watch the due time, was all set out and ready,
and moved forwards to the fire, before she was

aware. **With** an alacrity beyond the common impulse of a spirit which yet was never indifferent to the credit of doing every thing well and attentively, with the real good-will of a mind delighted with its own ideas, did she then do all the honours of the meal, and help and recommend the minced chicken and scalloped oysters, with an urgency which she knew would be acceptable to the early hours and civil scruples of their guests.

到壁炉前，而她浑然未觉。带着超乎寻常的敏捷——这敏捷并非来自寻常的敷衍冲动，而是源于凡事力求周全妥帖的本性，更怀着因自己种种妙想而欢欣的真诚热忱——她立刻担当起张罗餐宴的职责，殷切地帮客人们布菜，推荐那鸡肉碎和烤扇贝，这般热情周到她心知最合宜——既体贴客人们平日起居的早睡习惯，又顾全了他们拘谨的礼数。

Upon such occasions poor Mr. **Wood-house'**s feelings were in sad warfare. **He** loved to have the cloth laid, because it had been the fashion of his youth, but his conviction of suppers being very unwholesome made him rather sorry to see any thing put on it; and while his hospitality would have welcomed his visitors to every thing, his care for their health made him grieve that they would eat.

每逢这种场合，可怜的伍德豪斯先生内心总要经历一番痛苦的挣扎。铺上餐布能唤起他年轻时的时尚记忆，因而他对此情有独钟；可坚信夜宵有损健康的观念，又使他不忍目睹任何食物摆上面。虽然待客的热情驱使他恨不能邀请来宾享用所有佳肴，但对众人健康的关切却让他为客人们即将入口的食物暗自神伤。

Such another small basin of thin gruel as his own was all that he could, with thorough self-approbation, recommend; though he might constrain himself, while the ladies were comfortably clearing the nicer things, to say: 他只能真心实意地推荐一小碗和他自己那份一般稀薄的粥；尽管在女士们怡然自得地享用精致餐点时，他或许会勉强自己说上几句：

“**Mrs. Bates**, let me propose your venturing on one of these eggs. **An** egg boiled very soft is not unwholesome. **Serle** understands boiling an egg better than any body. **I** would not recommend an egg boiled by any body else; but you need not be afraid, they are very small, you see—one of our small eggs will not hurt you. **Miss Bates**, let Emma help you to a little bit of tart—a very little bit. **Ours** are all apple-tarts. **You** need not be afraid of unwholesome preserves here. **I** do not advise the custard. **Mrs. Goddard**, what say you to half a glass of wine? **A** small half-glass, put into a tumbler of water? **I** do not think it could disagree with you.” “贝茨太太，请允许我建议您尝一只这样的鸡蛋。煮得嫩嫩的鸡蛋不会不卫生的。**塞尔**煮鸡蛋的手艺比谁都好。**要是**别人煮的鸡蛋我绝不会推荐，但您不用害怕，您瞧这些鸡蛋都很小——吃一只我们这样的小鸡蛋不会碍事的。**贝茨**小姐，让爱玛给您切一小块馅饼吧——只要极小的一块。**我们**这儿全是苹果馅饼。**您**不用担心这儿会有不卫生的果酱。**我不**建议您吃蛋奶冻。**戈达德**太太，您觉得来半杯葡萄酒怎么样？小小半杯，兑上一杯水？**我想**这不会让您不舒服的。”

Emma allowed her father to talk—but supplied her visitors in a much more satisfactory 爱玛任凭父亲去絮叨——却用更令人满意的方式款待了

style, and on the present evening had particular pleasure in sending them away happy. **The** happiness of Miss Smith was quite equal to her intentions. **Miss** Woodhouse was so great a personage in Highbury, that the prospect of the introduction had given as much panic as pleasure; but the humble, grateful little girl went off with highly gratified feelings, delighted with the affability with which Miss Woodhouse had treated her all the evening, and actually shaken hands with her at last!

她的客人。这个夜晚她尤其欣慰，因为最终让客人们欢欣而归。史密斯小姐的喜悦之情完全符合她的预期。伍德豪斯小姐在海伯里地位如此尊崇，使得这次引见既令人欣喜又叫人惶恐；但这位谦卑感恩的少女离去时满怀欣喜，整晚伍德豪斯小姐待她的亲切态度令她沉醉，最后竟真的与她握手道别！

CHAPTER IV

Harriet Smith's intimacy at Hartfield was soon a settled thing. **Quick** and decided in her ways, Emma lost no time in inviting, encouraging, and telling her to come very often; and as their acquaintance increased, so did their satisfaction in each other. **As** a walking companion, Emma had very early foreseen how useful she might find her. **In** that respect Mrs. Weston's loss had been important. **Her** father never went beyond the shrubbery, where two divisions of the ground sufficed him for his long walk, or his short, as the year varied; and since

第四章

哈里特·史密斯与哈特菲尔德宅邸的亲密往来很快就成了定局。爱玛办事麻利果断，当即邀请她、鼓励她，嘱咐她要常来；随着交往渐深，彼此的情谊也愈发深厚。作为散步的伙伴，爱玛早就预见到她将多么有用。在这方面，韦斯顿夫人的离去确实是个不小的损失。她父亲散步从不走出灌木丛的范围，那里有两片空地，足够他随

Mrs. Weston's marriage her exercise had been too much confined. She had ventured once alone to Randalls, but it was not pleasant; and a Harriet Smith, therefore, one whom she could summon at any time to a walk, would be a valuable addition to her privileges. But in every respect, as she saw more of her, she approved her, and was confirmed in all her kind designs.

着季节变换进行长短适宜的散步；而自从韦斯顿夫人出嫁后，她的活动范围就太受限制了。她曾独自一人壮着胆子去过兰德尔斯的宅子，但那次经历并不愉快；因此，有个随时能召来相伴散步的哈里特·史密斯，对她的生活实在是锦上添花。随着日渐了解，她对这位姑娘越发满意，原先那些善意的打算也愈发坚定了。

Harriet certainly was not clever, but she had a sweet, docile, grateful disposition, was totally free from conceit, and only desiring to be guided by any one she looked up to. Her early attachment to herself was very amiable; and her inclination for good company, and power of appreciating what was elegant and clever, shewed that there was no want of taste, though strength of understanding must not be expected. Altogether she was quite convinced of Harriet Smith's being exactly the young friend she wanted—exactly the something which her home required. Such a friend

哈丽特确实不算聪明，但她性情温柔恭顺，懂得感恩，毫无自负之心，唯一的心愿就是受自己仰慕的人指引。她早年对爱玛的依恋十分可爱；她偏爱与体面人交往，懂得欣赏优雅睿智的事物，这表明她并非缺乏品味，只是不能指望她有多强的悟性。总之，爱玛深信哈丽特·史密斯正是她想要的年轻伙伴——正是她家中需要的那份点缀。像韦斯顿太太那样的

as Mrs. **Weston** was out of the question. 朋友是绝无可能的。两位这样的知己可遇不可求。她也需要两位这样的朋友。这完全是一件两码事，是两种截然不同的情谊。对韦斯顿太太的敬重基于感激与钦佩，而哈丽特将会作为她能够施以援手的对象被疼爱。对韦斯顿太太她无以为报，对哈丽特她却能倾力相助。

Harriet would be loved as one to whom she could be useful. **For** Mrs. **Weston** there was nothing to be done; for Harriet every thing.

Her first attempts at usefulness were in an endeavour to find out who were the parents, but Harriet could not tell. **She** was ready to tell every thing in her power, but on this subject questions were vain. **Emma** was obliged to fancy what she liked—but she could never believe that in the same situation she should not have discovered the truth. **Harriet** had no penetration. **She** had been satisfied to hear and believe just what Mrs. **Goddard** chose to tell her; and looked no farther.

她初次尝试着做点有用的事，就是去打听她的父母是谁，可是哈丽特也说不清楚。她倒乐意讲出自己知道的一切，可是在这个问题上，再怎么问也是白搭。爱玛只好随意想象，但她始终相信，要是换了她，她准能查个水落石出。可惜哈丽特缺乏洞察力，戈达德太太跟她说什么，她就听什么、信什么，从不肯追根究底。

Mrs. **Goddard**, and the teachers, and the girls and the affairs of the school in general,

戈达德太太、女教师们、女学生们以及学校里的日常琐

formed naturally a great part of the conversation—and but for her acquaintance with the Martins of Abbey-Mill Farm, it must have been the whole. **But** the Martins occupied her thoughts a good deal; she had spent two very happy months with them, and now loved to talk of the pleasures of her visit, and describe the many comforts and wonders of the place. **Emma** encouraged her talkativeness —amused by such a picture of another set of beings, and enjoying the youthful simplicity which could speak with so much exultation of Mrs. **Martin'**s having “two parlours, two very good parlours, indeed; one of them quite as large as Mrs. **Goddard'**s drawing-room; and of her having an upper maid who had lived five-and-twenty years with her; and of their having eight cows, two of them Alderneys, and one a little Welch cow, a very pretty little Welch cow indeed; and of Mrs. **Martin'**s saying as she was so fond of it, it should be called her cow; and of their having a very handsome summer-house in their garden, where some day next year they were all to drink tea:—a very handsome summer-house, large

事，自然构成了谈话的主要内容——若不是她与修道院磨坊农场的马丁一家相识，这个话题恐怕会贯穿始终。不过马丁一家确实占据了她的不少思绪；她曾在那里度过无比愉快的两个月时光，如今总爱谈论那次做客的欢欣，细细描述那地方的种种舒适与奇妙。**爱玛**鼓励她滔滔不绝地讲述——既觉得这幅别样生活的图景颇有趣味，也欣赏这份青春的天真，竟能如此得意地说起马丁太太拥有“两个客厅，两个相当不错的客厅呢；其中一间简直和戈达德太太的起居室一般大”；说她家有位做了二十五年的帮厨女佣；说她们养着八头奶牛，其中两头是奥尔德尼种，还有一头漂亮的威尔士小奶牛——当真标致极了；说马丁太太因为特别喜爱这头牛，竟说要把它称作“自己的”奶牛；又说她

enough to hold a dozen people. ”

们花园里有座十分雅致的凉亭，明年哪天要请大伙儿都去那儿喝茶——那凉亭气派得很，足足能容纳十几个人呢。

For some time she was amused, without thinking beyond the immediate cause; but as she came to understand the family better, other feelings arose. She had taken up a wrong idea, fancying it was a mother and daughter, a son and son's wife, who all lived together; but when it appeared that the Mr. Martin, who bore a part in the narrative, and was always mentioned with approbation for his great good-nature in doing something or other, was a single man; that there was no young Mrs. Martin, no wife in the case; she did suspect danger to her poor little friend from all this hospitality and kindness, and that, if she were not taken care of, she might be required to sink herself forever.

起初一段时间，她只是单纯觉得有趣，并未深究其中缘由；但随着对这家人了解加深，她心中便泛起了别的思量。她原先想错了，以为这是母女俩与儿子儿媳同住；可后来发现故事里那位常被提及的马丁先生——就是总因这样那样的善举备受称赞的那位——竟是单身汉；既没有年轻的马丁太太，也压根不存在什么妻子。她不禁为那位小朋友担忧起来，这般殷勤体贴恐怕暗藏危机——若不加提防，她那可怜的小友怕是要坠入永远无法翻身的境地了。

With this inspiring notion, her questions increased in number and meaning; and she par-

这个念头鼓舞着她，问题便越发多了起来，也越发有了

ticularly led Harriet to talk more of Mr. **Martin**, and there was evidently no dislike to it. **Harriet** was very ready to speak of the share he had had in their moonlight walks and merry evening games; and dwelt a good deal upon his being so very good-humoured and obliging. **He** had gone three miles round one day in order to bring her some walnuts, because she had said how fond she was of them, and in every thing else he was so very obliging. **He** had his shepherd's son into the parlour one night on purpose to sing to her. **She** was very fond of singing. **He** could sing a little himself. **She** believed he was very clever, and understood every thing. **He** had a very fine flock, and, while she was with them, he had been bid more for his wool than any body in the country. **She** believed every body spoke well of him. **His** mother and sisters were very fond of him. **Mrs. Martin** had told her one day (and there was a blush as she said it,) that it was impossible for any body to be a better son, and therefore she was sure, whenever he married, he would make a good husband. **Not** that she wanted him to marry. **She** was in 深意；她特意引导哈丽特多谈谈马丁先生，对方显然并不排斥这个话题。哈丽特很乐意说起他如何参与她们月下散步与欢快晚戏的时光，又反复提及他是多么性情温厚、体贴入微——有回她随口说了句爱吃核桃，他竟特意多绕了三英里路给她捎来些；其他种种小事也都体贴周到得很。有天晚上他还特意把牧羊人的儿子叫到客厅里给她唱歌。她可爱听歌了。他自己也能唱上几句。她相信他聪明极了，什么都懂。他养的羊群可精神了，她在的那阵子，他的羊毛卖价是全教拔最高的。她觉着人人都夸他好。他母亲和妹妹都疼他疼得紧。马丁太太有天还红着脸对她说，再找不出比他更孝顺的儿子了，所以敢打包票——不管他将来娶了谁，准是个好丈夫。倒不是说她急着让他娶亲，她可半

no hurry at all.

点都不着急呢。

“Well done, Mrs. Martin! ”thought Emma. “You know what you are about.”

“干得好，马丁太太！”爱玛心想，“你很清楚自己在做什么。”

“And when she had come away, Mrs. Martin was so very kind as to send Mrs. Goddard a beautiful goose—the finest goose Mrs. Goddard had ever seen. Mrs. Goddard had dressed it on a Sunday, and asked all the three teachers, Miss Nash, and Miss Prince, and Miss Richardson, to sup with her.”

她告辞出来时，马丁太太还特意送给戈达德太太一只肥美的鹅——那可是戈达德太太见过最漂亮的鹅。戈达德太太特意选了个星期天把鹅料理好，邀请了全校三位教师——纳什小姐、普林斯小姐和理查森小姐一起共进晚餐。

“Mr. Martin, I suppose, is not a man of information beyond the line of his own business? He does not read?”

“我想，马丁先生除了本行以外，见识不多吧？他不大看书？”

“Oh yes! —that is, no—I do not know—but I believe he has read a good deal—but not what you would think any thing of. He reads the Agricultural Reports, and some other books that lay in one of the window seats—but he reads all them to himself. But sometimes of an evening, before we went to cards,

“哦，是啊！——倒也不是——我不太清楚——不过我相信他读过不少书——只是未必合您的意。他常读《农业报告》，还有几本搁在窗台座位的书——不过那些都是他自己默读的。但有时候晚

he would read something aloud out of the Elegant Extracts, very entertaining. **And** I know he has read the Vicar of Wakefield. **He** never read the Romance of the Forest, nor The Children of the Abbey. **He** had never heard of such books before I mentioned them, but he is determined to get them now as soon as ever he can. ”

The next question was—

“**What** sort of looking man is Mr. **Martin**? ” “马丁先生是位什么样貌的先生?”

“**Oh! not** handsome—not at all handsome. I think him very plain at first, but I do not think him so plain now. **One** does not, you know, after a time. **But** did you never see him? **He** is in Highbury every now and then, and he is sure to ride through every week in his way to Kingston. **He** has passed you very often. ”

“**That** may be, and I may have seen him fifty times, but without having any idea of his name.

上打牌之前，他会从《文选精华》里挑些段落念给我们听，可有意思了。我知道他读过《威克菲尔德牧师传》。从没见他读过《森林传奇》，也没读过《修道院的孩子》。在我提起之前，他压根不知道这些书，不过现在他打定主意要尽快找来读了。”

接下来的问题是——

“哦！不算英俊——一点也不英俊。起初我觉得他相貌平平，但现在倒不这么认为了。你知道，相处久了自然就不觉得了。难道你从未见过他吗？他时常来海伯里，每星期去金斯顿的路上必定会骑马经过。他经常从你身边经过的。”

“或许如此，我兴许见过他五十回，却从未知晓他的名姓。

A young farmer, whether on horseback or on foot, is the very last sort of person to raise my curiosity. **The** yeomanry are precisely the order of people with whom I feel I can have nothing to do. **A** degree or two lower, and a creditable appearance might interest me; I might hope to be useful to their families in some way or other. **But** a farmer can need none of my help, and is, therefore, in one sense, as much above my notice as in every other he is below it. ”

一个年轻农夫，不论骑马还是步行，都最是引起我好奇心的那类人。自耕农这个阶层，恰恰是让我觉得与己无干的。若是再低一两等，体面的模样或许能引起我的兴趣；我或许能指望以这样那样的方式对他们的家庭有所帮助。但农夫断不需要我的任何帮助，因此从某种意义上说，他们既超乎我的关注之上，又处处低乎我的关注之下。”

“**To** be sure. **Oh** yes! **It** is not likely you should ever have observed him; but he knows you very well indeed—I mean by sight. ”

“当然啦。哦，是的！你大概从没注意过他；不过他可非常熟悉你——我是说见过你的模样。”

“**I** have no doubt of his being a very respectable young man. **I** know, indeed, that he is so, and, as such, wish him well. **What** do you imagine his age to be? ”

“我毫不怀疑他是个非常可敬的年轻人。说实在的，我知道他确实如此，也正因为这样，我才希望他一切顺利。你觉得他有多大年纪了？”

“**He** was four-and-twenty the 8th of last June, “他上个六月八号刚满二十

and my birthday is the 23rd just a fortnight
and a day's difference—which is very odd.”
四岁，而我的生日是二十三号——只差两周零一天，真是巧得出奇。”

“Only four-and-twenty. That is too young to settle. His mother is perfectly right not to be in a hurry. They seem very comfortable as they are, and if she were to take any pains to marry him, she would probably repent it. Six years hence, if he could meet with a good sort of young woman in the same rank as his own, with a little money, it might be very desirable.”
“才二十四岁呢。这么年轻就安定下来太早了。他母亲不着急是完全正确的。他们现在这样似乎很舒服，要是她费心张罗婚事，多半会后悔。再过六年，要是他能遇到个和他门当户对、略有些积蓄的好姑娘，那倒很理想。”

“Six years hence! Dear Miss Woodhouse, he would be thirty years old!”
“六年之后！亲爱的伍德豪斯小姐，他可就三十岁啦！”

“Well, and that is as early as most men can afford to marry, who are not born to an independence. Mr. Martin, I imagine, has his fortune entirely to make—cannot be at all beforehand with the world. Whatever money he might come into when his father died, whatever his share of the family property, it is, I dare say, all afloat, all employed in his stock, and so forth; and though, with diligence and

“嗯，对没有祖产继承的年轻人来说，这已是早婚的年纪了。据我推测，马丁先生的财产全要白手起家——眼下根本谈不上积蓄。即便父亲过世后能获得些许遗产，分得些家产，我敢说也都投入在牲畜群之类的营生里了。虽说勤勉经营加上好运，将来

good luck, he may be rich in time, it is next
to impossible that he should have realised any
thing yet. ” 或可致富，但眼下要说攒下
什么家当，简直难如登天。”

“**To** be sure, so it is. **But** they live very com-
fortably. **They** have no indoors man, else they
do not want for any thing; and Mrs. **Martin**
talks of taking a boy another year. ”

”确实如此。不过她们日子
过得挺舒坦的。家里虽没雇
男仆，可什么也不缺；马丁
太太还说等来年要雇个小伙
计呢。”

“I wish you may not get into a scrape, Harriet,
whenever he does marry;—I mean, as to be-
ing acquainted with his wife—for though his
sisters, from a superior education, are not to
be altogether objected to, it does not follow
that he might marry any body at all fit for
you to notice. **The** misfortune of your birth
ought to make you particularly careful as to
your associates. **There** can be no doubt of
your being a gentleman’s daughter, and you
must support your claim to that station by ev-
ery thing within your own power, or there will
be plenty of people who would take pleasure in
degrading you. ”

”但愿你将来不会因为他的
婚事而陷入窘境，哈里特
——我是指结识他妻子这件
事——虽说他几位姐妹因受
过良好教育尚可结交，却未
必意味着他会娶个值得你理
睬的人。你出身不幸，理应对
交往对象格外审慎。毋庸置
疑你是位乡绅家的小姐，你
务必要凭自身能力维护这个
地位，否则自会有人乐得作
践你。”

“Yes, to be sure, I suppose there are. **But** “是啊，想必是有的。不过

while I visit at Hartfield, and you are so kind to me, Miss Woodhouse, I am not afraid of what any body can do."

只要我还能来哈特菲尔德做客，承蒙您这般厚待，伍德豪斯小姐，任谁做什么我都不怕。”

"**You** understand the force of influence pretty well, Harriet; but I would have you so firmly established in good society, as to be independent even of Hartfield and Miss Woodhouse. **I** want to see you permanently well connected, and to that end it will be advisable to have as few odd acquaintance as may be; and, therefore, I say that if you should still be in this country when Mr. **Martin** marries, I wish you may not be drawn in by your intimacy with the sisters, to be acquainted with the wife, who will probably be some mere farmer's daughter, without education."

"你很清楚影响力的作用，哈丽特；但我希望你能在上流社会站稳脚跟，即便不依赖哈特菲尔德和伍德豪斯小姐也能独立。我期望你能建立稳固的良缘，为此应当尽量减少与古怪人士的往来。所以我认为，倘若马丁先生结婚时你仍留在此地，切莫因与姐妹们的交情而去结识那位妻子——那多半是个目不识丁的农家女。”

"**To** be sure. **Yes.** **Not** that I think Mr. **Martin** would ever marry any body but what had had some education—and been very well brought up. **However**, I do not mean to set up my opinion against yours—and I am sure I shall not wish for the acquaintance of his wife. I shall always have a great regard for the Miss

"确实如此。是的。我并非认为马丁先生会娶一个没受过什么教育、教养不佳的女子。不过，我并非要用自己的看法来反对您的——而且我敢说，我绝不会渴望与他妻子结交。我会永远对马丁家的

Martins, especially Elizabeth, and should be very sorry to give them up, for they are quite as well educated as me. **But** if he marries a very ignorant, vulgar woman, certainly I had better not visit her, if I can help it. ”

小姐们怀有深厚情谊，特别是伊丽莎白，若要与她们断绝往来，我定会深感遗憾，因为她们受的教育丝毫不亚于我。但倘若他娶了个愚昧粗俗的女人，那我自然还是尽量不去拜访为妙。”

Emma watched her through the fluctuations of this speech, and saw no alarming symptoms of love. **The** young man had been the first admirer, but she trusted there was no other hold, and that there would be no serious difficulty, on Harriet's side, to oppose any friendly arrangement of her own.

爱玛听着她这番起伏不定的言语，观察着她的神色，并未发现任何动情的危险迹象。那年轻人虽是哈丽特最初仰慕者，但她确信除此之外再无其他牵绊，料想哈丽特那边不会有真正的困难，来阻碍她亲自作出的友好安排。

They met Mr. **Martin** the very next day, as they were walking on the Donwell road. **He** was on foot, and after looking very respectfully at her, looked with most unfeigned satisfaction at her companion. **Emma** was not sorry to have such an opportunity of survey; and walking a few yards forward, while they talked together, soon made her quick eye suf-

次日他们在唐维尔巷散步时，正好遇见了马丁先生。他徒步走来，先是恭恭敬敬地望了她一眼，随后便极其坦率地望着她的同伴露出欣喜的神色。**爱玛**倒很乐意有这样一个观察的机会，便故意走在前面几步，趁他们交谈

ficiently acquainted with Mr. **Robert Martin**. His appearance was very neat, and he looked like a sensible young man, but his person had no other advantage; and when he came to be contrasted with gentlemen, she thought he must lose all the ground he had gained in Harriet's inclination. **Harriet** was not insensible of manner; she had voluntarily noticed her father's gentleness with admiration as well as wonder. **Mr. Martin** looked as if he did not know what manner was.

之时，她那敏锐的目光很快就把罗伯特·马丁先生看了个仔细。他外表整洁，像是个很有头脑的年轻人，不过除此以外便别无长处了。只要把他跟有教养的人一比较，她就认为他定会失去他在哈丽特心上赢得的那点好感。**哈丽特**并不是不懂得礼貌规矩，她曾带着既赞赏又惊讶的目光，情不自禁地注意到她父亲彬彬有礼的举止。而马丁先生却像是压根儿不懂什么是礼貌规矩。

They remained but a few minutes together, as Miss Woodhouse must not be kept waiting; and Harriet then came running to her with a smiling face, and in a flutter of spirits, which Miss Woodhouse hoped very soon to compose. 她们只在一起待了几分钟，因为伍德豪斯小姐不能久等；随后哈丽特便笑容满面、心情激动地跑到她跟前，伍德豪斯小姐希望很快能使她平静下来。

“**Only** think of our happening to meet him! —— **How** very odd! It was quite a chance, he said, that he had not gone round by Randalls. **He** did not think we ever walked this road. “想想我们竟会碰见他！——多么奇怪啊！他说，这完全是碰巧，他差一点就没绕道去兰德尔家。他没想到我们常

He thought we walked towards Randalls most days. **He** has not been able to get the Romance of the Forest yet. **He** was so busy the last time he was at Kingston that he quite forgot it, but he goes again to-morrow. **So** very odd we should happen to meet! **Well**, Miss Woodhouse, is he like what you expected? **What** do you think of him? **Do** you think him so very plain?"

走这条路。他以为我们多半是往兰德尔方向散步的。他还没能弄到《森林奇谭》呢。上次去金斯顿太忙，完全忘了这事，不过明天还要再去一趟。我们竟会碰见，真是太巧了！对了，伍德豪斯小姐，他和你想象的一样吗？你觉得他怎么样？你觉得他相貌很普通吗？”

"**He** is very plain, undoubtedly—remarkably plain:—but that is nothing compared with his entire want of gentility. **I** had no right to expect much, and I did not expect much; but I had no idea that he could be so very clownish, so totally without air. **I** had imagined him, I confess, a degree or two nearer gentility."

"他无疑非常平庸——极其平庸：——但这与他全然缺乏教养相比，简直不值一提。我本无权期待太多，也确实不曾期待太多；但我万万没想到他竟会如此粗鄙，如此毫无风度。坦白说，我原以为他至少该有几分接近文雅的气质。”

"**To** be sure," said Harriet, in a mortified voice, "he is not so genteel as real gentlemen."

"确实，"哈丽特用羞愧的声调说道，"他不如真正的绅士那么文雅。"

"**I** think, Harriet, since your acquaintance with

"哈丽特，我想自从你结识

us, you have been repeatedly in the company of some such very real gentlemen, that you must yourself be struck with the difference in Mr. **Martin**. At Hartfield, you have had very good specimens of well educated, well bred men. I should be surprised if, after seeing them, you could be in company with Mr. **Martin** again without perceiving him to be a very inferior creature—and rather wondering at yourself for having ever thought him at all agreeable before. Do not you begin to feel that now? Were not you struck? I am sure you must have been struck by his awkward look and abrupt manner, and the uncouthness of a voice which I heard to be wholly unmodulated as I stood here. ” 我们以来，已多次见识过真正有教养的绅士，你必定会注意到马丁先生与之判若云泥。在哈特菲尔德，你见惯了知书达理的上流人士。若你在见识过这些人之后，再与马丁先生相处时竟察觉不到他是个粗鄙之徒——甚至诧异自己从前怎会觉得他讨人喜欢，那才叫我吃惊呢。难道你现在还没这种感觉吗？难道你不觉得他举止笨拙、言谈粗鲁吗？方才我站在这儿，就听见他那毫无抑扬顿挫的粗哑嗓门——你肯定也注意到了吧？”

“Certainly, he is not like Mr. **Knightley**. He has not such a fine air and way of walking as Mr. **Knightley**. I see the difference plain enough. But Mr. **Knightley** is so very fine a man! ” “确实，他不像奈特利先生。他没有奈特利先生那样优雅的气度和步态。这区别我看得明明白白。不过奈特利先生实在是位出众的绅士！”

“Mr. **Knightley**’s air is so remarkably good that it is not fair to compare Mr. **Martin** with him. You might not see one in a

“奈特利先生的风度如此出众，拿马丁先生与他相比实在有失公允。你或许在百人

hundred with gentleman so plainly written 中也难觅一位像奈特利先生 as in Mr. **Knightley**. But he is not the 这般，将‘绅士’二字诠释得 only gentleman you have been lately used to. 如此淋漓尽致之人。不过近 **What** say you to Mr. **Weston** and Mr. **El-ton?** **Compare** Mr. **Martin** with either of 来你接触的绅士可不止他一 them. **Compare** their manner of carrying 位。你觉得韦斯顿先生和埃尔顿先生如何？不妨将马丁 themselves; of walking; of speaking; of being 先生与他们二位中的任何一位比较比较——比比他们的 silent. **You** must see the difference. ” 举止仪态、步履姿态、谈吐方式乃至静默时的气度。你一定能看出差别来。”

“**Oh** yes! —**there** is a great difference. **But** “哦，是啊！——差别可大了。 Mr. **Weston** is almost an old man. Mr. **We-ston** must be between forty and fifty. ” 但韦斯顿先生差不多是个老头子了。韦斯顿先生肯定有四五十岁了。”

“**Which** makes his good manners the more “这更显得他风度可贵。一个 valuable. **The** older a person grows, Harriet, 人年纪愈大，哈丽特，就愈 the more important it is that their manners 应该注意举止得体，大声说 should not be bad; the more glaring and dis-gusting any loudness, or coarseness, or awk- 话、粗鲁行为或笨拙举动都 wardness becomes. **What** is passable in youth 会变得更加显眼，更加令人 is detestable in later age. Mr. **Martin** is now 厌恶。年轻时尚可原谅的毛病，到了老年就变得可憎了。 awkward and abrupt; what will he be at Mr. 马丁先生现在尚且如此笨拙 Weston’ s time of life? ” 唐突，等到了韦斯顿先生这

个年纪又会怎样呢?”

“**There** is no saying, indeed,” replied Harriet rather solemnly.

”这实在难说，”哈丽特颇为郑重地应道。

“**But** there may be pretty good guessing. **He** will be a completely gross, vulgar farmer, totally inattentive to appearances, and thinking of nothing but profit and loss.”

“不过倒也不难猜个八九不离十。他会是个彻头彻尾粗鄙庸俗的庄稼汉，全然不修边幅，满脑子只盘算着盈亏得失。”

“**Will** he, indeed? **That** will be very bad.”

“他真会这样吗？那可太糟糕了。”

“**How** much his business engrosses him already is very plain from the circumstance of his forgetting to inquire for the book you recommended. **He** was a great deal too full of the market to think of any thing else—which is just as it should be, for a thriving man. **What** has he to do with books? **And** I have no doubt that he will thrive, and be a very rich man in time—and his being illiterate and coarse need not disturb us.”

“他有多么专注于自己的事业，从一件事上便看得明明白白——他竟忘了询问你推荐的那本书。他满脑子装的都是集市的事，别的事情一概顾不上——对于一个发家致富的人来说，这倒是正理。书本与他何干？我毫不怀疑他将来定会发迹，成为腰缠万贯的富人——至于他不通文墨、举止粗俗，这可不该让咱们烦心。”

“I wonder he did not remember the book”— was all Harriet’s answer, and spoken with a degree of grave displeasure which Emma thought might be safely left to itself. **She**, therefore, said no more for some time. **Her** next beginning was,

“我纳闷他怎么不记得那本书呢。”——哈丽特只答了这么一句，语气里带着几分明显的不悦。**爱玛**觉得这种情绪不妨任其自行消散，便半晌没有作声。隔了一会儿才又开口道：

“**In** one respect, perhaps, Mr. **Elton**’ s manners are superior to Mr. **Knightley**’ s or Mr. **Weston**’ s. **They** have more gentleness. **They** might be more safely held up as a pattern. **There** is an openness, a quickness, almost a bluntness in Mr. **Weston**, which every body likes in him, because there is so much good-humour with it—but that would not do to be copied. **Neither** would Mr. **Knightley**’ s downright, decided, commanding sort of manner, though it suits him very well; his figure, and look, and situation in life seem to allow it; but if any young man were to set about copying him, he would not be sufferable. **On** the contrary, I think a young man might be very safely recommended to take Mr. **Elton** as a model. **Mr. Elton** is good-humoured, cheerful, obliging, and gentle. **He** seems to me

”在某一方面，埃尔顿先生的举止或许比奈特利先生或韦斯顿先生更胜一筹。他的态度更为温文尔雅。若要以他为楷模，也更为稳妥。韦斯顿先生性情开朗爽直，甚至有些唐突，大家却都欣赏他这般模样——盖因其中蕴含着无限温厚之意，但这般举止却不宜效仿。奈特利先生那种直截了当、斩钉截铁、不容置喙的做派，虽与他本人极为相称——他的仪表风度与身份地位都使得这般举止恰如其分，但若有年轻人刻意模仿，定会令人难以忍受。反之，我认为大可以放心推荐年轻绅士以埃尔顿先

to be grown particularly gentle of late. I do not know whether he has any design of ingratiating himself with either of us, Harriet, by additional softness, but it strikes me that his manners are softer than they used to be. If he means anything, it must be to please you. Did not I tell you what he said of you the other day? ”

生为典范。他性情温厚，开朗随和，举止文雅。我似乎觉得他近来格外温文有礼。哈丽特，不知他是否刻意用这般柔和的姿态来讨好我们两人中的某一位，但我明显感觉他的举止比往日更显轻柔。若他当真别有深意，那定是为了取悦于你。前几日他对你的那番赞美，我不是早就告诉过你了吗？”

She then repeated some warm personal praise which she had drawn from Mr. **Elton**, and now did full justice to; and Harriet blushed and smiled, and said she had always thought Mr. **Elton** very agreeable.

她接着复述了从埃尔顿先生那里引出的几句热烈的赞美之辞，此刻说来更是淋漓尽致；哈丽特听得双颊绯红，含笑说她一直觉得埃尔顿先生非常和蔼可亲。

Mr. Elton was the very person fixed on by Emma for driving the young farmer out of Harriet's head. **She** thought it would be an excellent match; and only too palpably desirable, natural, and probable, for her to have much merit in planning it. **She** feared it was what every body else must think of and predict. It

爱玛认定埃尔顿先生正是那个能将年轻农夫从哈丽特心中驱走的人。她认为这门婚事再般配不过，而且显然如此合乎情理、顺理成章，反倒显得自己谋划之功不足为奇。她担心这桩姻缘怕是早

was not likely, however, that any body should have equalled her in the date of the plan, as it had entered her brain during the very first evening of Harriet's coming to Hartfield. **The** longer she considered it, the greater was her sense of its expediency. **Mr. Elton'**s situation was most suitable, quite the gentleman himself, and without low connexions; at the same time, not of any family that could fairly object to the doubtful birth of Harriet. **He** had a comfortable home for her, and Emma imagined a very sufficient income; for though the vicarage of Highbury was not large, he was known to have some independent property; and she thought very highly of him as a good-humoured, well-meaning, respectable young man, without any deficiency of useful understanding or knowledge of the world.

已在众人意料之中。不过，众人产生此念的时间断不会早于她——这个计划早在那晚哈丽特初访哈特菲尔德时，就已在她脑海中萌生。她越是深思熟虑，越觉得这个安排恰到好处。埃尔顿先生身份得体，本身就是位十足的绅士，又无卑贱亲戚牵绊；同时他的门第也不至于对哈丽特不明不白的出身过分挑剔。他能给她一个舒适的家，爱玛估摸着他的收入也相当宽裕——虽说海伯里教区牧师俸禄不高，但众所周知他另有些私人产业；在她眼中，他是个性情温和、心地善良、值得敬重的年轻人，既通晓世故人情，又具备实用才智。

She had already satisfied herself that he thought Harriet a beautiful girl, which she trusted, with such frequent meetings at Hartfield, was foundation enough on his side; and on Harriet's there could be little doubt that the idea of being preferred by him would have

她早已确信他认为哈丽特是个漂亮姑娘，并且相信凭着在哈特菲尔德频繁的接触，他这方面已经有了足够的基础；而哈丽特这方面，几乎用不着怀疑，她意识到自己

all the usual weight and efficacy. **A**nd he was really a very pleasing young man, a young man whom any woman not fastidious might like. **H**e was reckoned very handsome; his person much admired in general, though not by her, there being a want of elegance of feature which she could not dispense with:—but the girl who could be gratified by a Robert Martin’s riding about the country to get walnuts for her might very well be conquered by Mr. **E**lton’ s admiration.

被他看中后，自然会倍受鼓舞，倾心于他。他也确实是个非常讨人喜欢的年轻人，任何一个不挑剔的女人都会喜欢他。**大家**普遍认为他非常英俊，他的人品也备受赞赏，只是她本人对他不以为然，因为他缺少她所不能忽视的优雅特征——不过，一个女孩既然能因为罗伯特·马丁骑马到乡下为她摘核桃而心满意足，那么被埃尔顿先生的爱慕所征服也是理所当然的。

CHAPTER V

“I do not know what your opinion may be, Mrs. **W**eston,” said Mr. **K**nightley, “of this great intimacy between Emma and Harriet Smith, but I think it a bad thing.”

“A bad thing! **D**o you really think it a bad thing? —**w**hy so?”

“I think they will neither of them do the other

第五章

“韦斯顿太太，”奈特利先生说，“我不知道您对爱玛和哈丽特·史密斯这般亲近有何看法，但我认为这是件坏事。”

“坏事！你真觉得这是坏事吗？——怎么说呢？”

“我看他们俩谁也不会对谁

any good. ”

有什么好处。”

“**You** surprize me! **Emma** must do Harriet good: and by supplying her with a new object of interest, Harriet may be said to do Emma good. **I** have been seeing their intimacy with the greatest pleasure. **How** very differently we feel! —**Not** think they will do each other any good! **This** will certainly be the beginning of one of our quarrels about Emma, Mr. **Knightley.** ”

”你真让我吃惊！爱玛肯定对哈丽特有益；而通过给她提供新的关注对象，可以说哈丽特也对爱玛有益。看到她们如此亲密，我一直感到极为欣慰。我们的感受竟如此天差地别！——居然认为她们不会互相裨益！这肯定要成为我们为爱玛争执的开端了，奈特利先生。”

“**Perhaps** you think I am come on purpose to quarrel with you, knowing Weston to be out, and that you must still fight your own battle.”

“也许你以为我是明知韦斯顿不在家，特意来跟你吵架的，知道你还得孤军奋战。”

“**Mr. Weston** would undoubtedly support me, if he were here, for he thinks exactly as I do on the subject. **We** were speaking of it only yesterday, and agreeing how fortunate it was for Emma, that there should be such a girl in Highbury for her to associate with. **Mr. Knightley**, I shall not allow you to be a fair judge in this case. **You** are so much used to

“韦斯顿先生若是在场，定会支持我的看法，因为在这个问题上他与我不谋而合。昨天我们还说起这事，一致认为海伯里能有这样一位姑娘与爱玛作伴，实在是她的福气。奈特利先生，在这件事上您可算不得公正的裁判。您

live alone, that you do not know the value of a companion; and, perhaps no man can be a good judge of the comfort a woman feels in the society of one of her own sex, after being used to it all her life. **I** can imagine your objection to Harriet Smith. **She** is not the superior young woman which Emma's friend ought to be. **But** on the other hand, as Emma wants to see her better informed, it will be an inducement to her to read more herself. **They** will read together. **She** means it, I know."

独居惯了，不懂得伴侣的可贵；况且男人永远无法真正体会，一个自幼便有女伴相随的姑娘，能从同性交往中获得多少慰藉。**我**猜您对哈丽特·史密斯颇有微词。**诚然**她并非配得上爱玛的出众女子，但正因爱玛想要提携她，这反倒会激励爱玛自己多读书——她们打算一起研读，这主意我早已知晓。”

"**Emma** has been meaning to read more ever since she was twelve years old. **I** have seen a great many lists of her drawing-up at various times of books that she meant to read regularly through—and very good lists they were—very well chosen, and very neatly arranged—sometimes alphabetically, and sometimes by some other rule. **The** list she drew up when I only fourteen—I remember thinking it did her judgment so much credit, that I preserved it some time; and I dare say she may have made out a very good list now. **But** I have done with expecting any course of steady reading from Emma. **She** will never submit to any

"**爱玛**从十二岁起就总说要多多读书。**我**见过她不同时期列出的许多书单，都是她打算系统阅读的书目——那些书单都很不错——选书精当，排列有序——有时按字母顺序，有时按其他规则。**她**十四岁时列的那份书单，我记得当时就觉得充分体现了她的判断力，特意保存了一阵子；我敢说她现在列的书单肯定更出色。**但我已不再**指望爱玛能持之以恒地读书了。**她**绝不会屈从于任何需

thing requiring industry and patience, and a subjection of the fancy to the understanding. 要勤奋耐心、需要让幻想服从理性的事情。 **Where** Miss Taylor failed to stimulate, I may safely affirm that Harriet Smith will do nothing. —**You** never could persuade her to read half so much as you wished. —**You** know you could not.” 都未能激励她，我敢断言哈丽特·史密斯更无可能——您从来没能说服她读上您期望的一半分量——您心里明白。”

“I dare say,” replied Mrs. Weston, smiling, “that I thought so then;—but since we have parted, I can never remember Emma’s omitting to do any thing I wished.”

“我敢说，”韦斯顿太太微笑着答道，“当时我确实是这么想的——不过自从我们分开以后，我印象中爱玛从没有漏掉过任何一件我希望她做的事。”

“**There** is hardly any desiring to refresh such a memory as that,”—said Mr. Knightley, feelingly; and for a moment or two he had done. “**But I**,” he soon added, “who have had no such charm thrown over my senses, must still see, hear, and remember. **Emma** is spoiled by being the cleverest of her family. At ten years old, she had the misfortune of being able to answer questions which puzzled her sister at seventeen. **She** was always quick and assured: Isabella slow and diffident. And ever since

“实在不愿重新勾起这样的回忆，”奈特利先生动情地说，一时停顿下来。“但我，”他随即补充道，“从未被这类魔力迷惑过感官的人，却不得不继续目睹、聆听并铭记。爱玛是被她全家人的聪慧宠坏了。十岁时她就能解答令她十七岁姐姐困惑的难题，这实属不幸。她向来机敏果决，伊莎贝拉却迟钝怯懦。自从

she was twelve, Emma has been mistress of the house and of you all. **In** her mother she lost the only person able to cope with her. She inherits her mother's talents, and must have been under subjection to her. ”

十二岁起，爱玛就成了这个家和你们所有人的主心骨。她失去了唯一能约束她的母亲。她继承了母亲的才智，本该受到母亲的管束。”

“I should have been sorry, Mr. **Knightley**, to be dependent on your recommendation, had I quitted Mr. **Woodhouse**' s family and wanted another situation; I do not think you would have spoken a good word for me to anybody. I am sure you always thought me unfit for the office I held. ”

“奈特利先生，倘若我离开了伍德豪斯先生家而另谋职位，却要仰仗您的推荐，那我才觉得遗憾呢；我相信您是不会为我在任何人面前说一句好话的。我确信您始终认为我根本不配担任原来的职务。”

“Yes,” said he, smiling. “**You** are better placed here; very fit for a wife, but not at all for a governess. **But** you were preparing yourself to be an excellent wife all the time you were at Hartfield. **You** might not give Emma such a complete education as your powers would seem to promise; but you were receiving a very good education from her, on the very material matrimonial point of submitting your own will, and doing as you were bid; and if Weston had asked me to recommend him a wife, I should

“是啊，”他含笑说道。“你在这里安身是再合适不过了——为人妻极为相宜，但做家庭教师却一点也不合适。你在哈特菲尔德的时候，很可能没有好好培养 Emma，按照你的天赋来看，你似乎可以培养得很好。**不过**，你实际上倒受到了她的很好的熏陶，学会了如何婚配，学会了如何心甘情愿地听从别人的安

certainly have named Miss Taylor. ”

排。如果韦斯顿请我给他找个太太，我肯定要推荐泰勒小姐。”

“**Thank** you. **There** will be very little merit in making a good wife to such a man as Mr. **Weston.** ”

“谢谢。给韦斯顿先生这样的男人当个好妻子，实在算不上什么功劳。”

“**Why**, to own the truth, I am afraid you are rather thrown away, and that with every disposition to bear, there will be nothing to be borne. **We** will not despair, however. **We-ston** may grow cross from the wantonness of comfort, or his son may plague him. ”

“说实话，我担心您有些大材小用，而且尽管您有百般忍耐的雅量，到时候却根本无事需要忍耐。不过我们也不必灰心。**韦斯顿**先生或许会因生活太安逸而变得脾气暴躁，又或者他儿子可能会惹他烦心。”

“I hope not that. —**It** is not likely. **No**, Mr. **Knightley**, do not foretell vexation from that quarter. ”

“但愿不至于那样——那不太可能。**不**，奈特利先生，可别预言那一方会带来烦恼。”

“**Not** I, indeed. **I** only name possibilities. **I** do not pretend to Emma's genius for foretelling and guessing. **I** hope, with all my heart, the young man may be a Weston in merit, and a Churchill in fortune. —**But** Harriet Smith—I have not half done about Harriet Smith. **I**

”我可不敢当。只是说说可能的情形罢了。我哪里比得上爱玛，有她那种预见和猜测的本领。我真心希望那年轻人都能继承韦斯顿先生的人品、邱吉尔家的财富——可

think her the very worst sort of companion that Emma could possibly have. **She** knows nothing herself, and looks upon Emma as knowing every thing. **She** is a flatterer in all her ways; and so much the worse, because undesigned. **Her** ignorance is hourly flattery. **How** can Emma imagine she has any thing to learn herself, while Harriet is presenting such a delightful inferiority? **And** as for Harriet, I will venture to say that she cannot gain by the acquaintance. **Hartfield** will only put her out of conceit with all the other places she belongs to. **She** will grow just refined enough to be uncomfortable with those among whom birth and circumstances have placed her home. I am much mistaken if Emma's doctrines give any strength of mind, or tend at all to make a girl adapt herself rationally to the varieties of her situation in life. —**They** only give a little polish."

是说起哈里特·史密斯——关于她的危害我还没说完呢。我认为她是爱玛所能交往的最糟糕的伴侣。她自己一无所知，却把爱玛看作无所不能。她处处阿谀奉承，更糟糕的是这种奉承完全出于无意。她的无知每时每刻都在助长爱玛的虚荣。当哈里特表现出如此讨喜的卑微时，爱玛怎会觉得自还需长进呢？至于哈里特，我敢说她从这段交往中获益更少。哈特菲尔德只会让她看不上自己原本所属的各个圈子。她会变得稍有修养，就与那些因出身和境遇而成为她天然伙伴的人们格格不入。若是爱玛那套处世哲学真能培养出坚韧的心性，或是帮助姑娘理性适应人生境遇的变迁——那就算我大错特错。那些道理不过给人镀层虚饰罢了。”

"I either depend more upon Emma's good "要么是我比您更信赖爱玛

sense than you do, or am more anxious for her present comfort; for I cannot lament the acquaintance. **How** well she looked last night! ”
的明智，要么是我更关心她眼下的安逸；反正我绝不能为这段交往感到惋惜。昨晚她的气色多么好啊！”

“**Oh!** **you** would rather talk of her person than her mind, would you? **Very** well; I shall not attempt to deny Emma’s being pretty. ”
“哦！你宁可谈论她的外貌，而不愿谈论她的头脑，是不是？好吧，我也不必否认爱玛确实长得漂亮。”

“**Pretty!** say beautiful rather. **Can** you imagine any thing nearer perfect beauty than Emma altogether—face and figure? ”
“漂亮！不如说是美丽。你能想象还有什么比爱玛的整体——面容与身姿更接近完美的美吗？”

“**I** do not know what I could imagine, but I confess that I have seldom seen a face or figure more pleasing to me than hers. **But** I am a partial old friend. ”
“我真不知自己会作何猜想，但我承认，我很少见到比她更令我愉悦的面容或身段了。不过我是个偏心的老朋友。”

“**Such** an eye! —**the** true hazle eye—and so brilliant! **regular** features, open countenance, with a complexion! **oh!** **what** a bloom of full health, and such a pretty height and size; such a firm and upright figure! **There** is health, not merely in her bloom, but in her air, her
“多么美的一双眼睛——真正的淡褐色眼睛——而且如此明亮！五官端正，面容开朗，还有那样的肤色！哦！多么健康饱满的气色，身材高矮适中，体态匀称，多么挺

head, her glance. **One** hears sometimes of a child being ‘the picture of health;’ now, Emma always gives me the idea of being the complete picture of grown-up health. **She** is loveliness itself. **Mr. Knightley**, is not she? ”

拔端庄的身姿！她身上洋溢着健康的气息，不仅体现在红润的面色，更体现在她的仪态、她的头颅、她的顾盼之间。人们常说某个孩子是‘健康的化身’；而爱玛总让我觉得是成年健康最完美的写照。她就是可爱的化身。奈特利先生，您说是不是？”

“I have not a fault to find with her person,” he replied. “I think her all you describe. I love to look at her; and I will add this praise, that I do not think her personally vain. **Considering** how very handsome she is, she appears to be little occupied with it; her vanity lies another way. **Mrs. Weston**, I am not to be talked out of my dislike of Harriet Smith, or my dread of its doing them both harm.”

“我对她的容貌并无不满，”他答道，“我觉得她正如你所描述的那样。我喜欢看她；我还要加上一句称赞，我认为她并不自负。考慮到她如此美貌，她似乎对此并不十分在意；她的虚荣心另有所系。韦斯顿太太，不要指望我会打消对哈丽特·史密斯的反感，或消除我对这段交往可能损害她们双方的忧虑。”

“And I, Mr. **Knightley**, am equally stout in my confidence of its not doing them any harm. **With** all dear Emma’s little faults, she is an excellent creature. **Where** shall we see

“而我，奈特利先生，同样坚信这不会对他们造成任何伤害。尽管亲爱的爱玛有种种小缺点，她仍是个极好的

a better daughter, or a kinder sister, or a truer friend? **No**, no; she has qualities which may be trusted; she will never lead any one really wrong; she will make no lasting blunder; where Emma errs once, she is in the right a hundred times.”

人。我们上哪儿去找比她更孝顺的女儿、更亲切的姐妹、更真挚的朋友呢？**不**，不会的；她拥有值得信赖的品格，绝不会真正将任何人引入歧途，也不会犯下无法挽回的大错。**爱玛**若有一次失误，必会有百次正确的表现。”

“**Very** well; I will not plague you any more. **Emma** shall be an angel, and I will keep my spleen to myself till Christmas brings John and Isabella. **John** loves Emma with a reasonable and therefore not a blind affection, and Isabella always thinks as he does; except when he is not quite frightened enough about the children. I am sure of having their opinions with me.”

“很好；我不再烦你了。**爱玛**将是一位天使，而我要把满腹牢骚留到圣诞节约翰和伊莎贝拉回来时再说。**约翰**对爱玛的喜爱合乎情理，因而并非盲目溺爱，伊莎贝拉也在对待孩子们不够谨慎这件事上。**我**确信他们会赞同我的看法。”

“I know that you all love her really too well to be unjust or unkind; but excuse me, Mr. **Knightley**, if I take the liberty (I consider myself, you know, as having somewhat of the privilege of speech that Emma's mother might have had) the liberty of hinting that I do not

”**我**知道诸位确实都深爱着她，断不会待她不公或刻薄；但请恕我冒昧，奈特利先生——我自认为多少继承了爱玛母亲才有的发言权——恕我斗胆提醒，我认为将哈里

think any possible good can arise from Har- 特·史密斯的交往之事在诸
riet Smith's intimacy being made a matter of 位之间大肆讨论，实在无甚
much discussion among you. **Pray** excuse me; 益处。**恳请见谅**；即便这段交
but supposing any little inconvenience may be 情可能招致些许不便，可既
apprehended from the intimacy, it cannot be 然爱玛只需向她那完全赞同
expected that Emma, accountable to nobody 此事的父亲负责，只要这友
but her father, who perfectly approves the 情谊仍是她快乐的源泉，便不
quaintance, should put an end to it, so long as 能指望她终止往来。**这些年**
it is a source of pleasure to herself. **It** has been 来进言本是我的职责所在，
so many years my province to give advice, that 您想必不会惊讶，奈特利先
you cannot be surprised, Mr. **Knightley**, at 生，此刻我仍残留着这般旧
this little remains of office. ” 习。”

“**Not** at all,” cried he; “I am much obliged to “**一点也不**，”他嚷道，“我对此
you for it. **It** is very good advice, and it shall 感激不尽。**这真是金玉良言**，
have a better fate than your advice has often 定会比您往常的劝告幸运得
found; for it shall be attended to. ” 多，因为它必将得到遵从。”

“**Mrs. John Knightley** is easily alarmed, and 约翰·奈特利太太容易受惊，
might be made unhappy about her sister. ” 可能会为她姐姐感到不快。

“**Be** satisfied,” said he, “I will not raise any “**你且放心吧**，”他说道，“我不
outcry. **I** will keep my ill-humour to myself. 会大声嚷嚷的。**我会把坏情**
I have a very sincere interest in Emma. **Is-** **绪闷在肚子里。我对爱玛怀**
abella does not seem more my sister; has **着十分真挚的关切。伊莎贝**
never excited a greater interest; perhaps hardly **拉似乎都不比她更像我亲妹**

so great. **There** is an anxiety, a curiosity in what one feels for Emma. **I** wonder what will become of her! ” 妹；从来没有人激起过我更大的兴趣——也许连一半都不及。对爱玛总怀着一种挂虑，一种好奇。我真想知道她将来会怎么样！”

“**So** do I,” said Mrs. **Weston** gently, “very much.” “我也是，”韦斯顿太太柔声说道，“非常喜欢。”

“**She** always declares she will never marry, which, of course, means just nothing at all. **But** I have no idea that she has yet ever seen a man she cared for. **It** would not be a bad thing for her to be very much in love with a proper object. **I** should like to see Emma in love, and in some doubt of a return; it would do her good. **But** there is nobody hereabouts to attach her; and she goes so seldom from home. ” 她总宣称自己终身不嫁，这种话自然当不得真。不过我确实没发现她曾对哪个男子动过心。若能遇上个般配的对象，让她好好坠入情网倒也不是坏事。我倒是很想看看爱玛陷入爱情的模样，再为能否得到回应而忐忑不安；这对她大有裨益。可惜这附近没有能让她倾心的人；而她又是这般深居简出。”

“**There** does, indeed, seem as little to tempt her to break her resolution at present,” said Mrs. **Weston**, “as can well be; and while she is so happy at Hartfield, I cannot wish her to be forming any attachment which would be

“说真的，目前看来确实没有什么能诱使她改变决心，”韦斯顿太太说，“她在哈特菲尔德过得这么开心，我也不能指望她与人产生感情，那样

creating such difficulties on poor Mr. **Woodhouse's** account. I do not recommend matrimony at present to Emma, though I mean no slight to the state, I assure you."

会给可怜的伍德豪斯先生带来诸多不便。虽然我绝无轻视婚姻之意，但我确实不主张爱玛现在考虑婚事。”

Part of her meaning was to conceal some favourite thoughts of her own and Mr. **Weston's** on the subject, as much as possible. **There** were wishes at Randalls respecting Emma's destiny, but it was not desirable to have them suspected; and the quiet transition which Mr. **Knightley** soon afterwards made to "What does Weston think of the weather; shall we have rain?" **convinced** her that he had nothing more to say or surmise about Hartfield.

她部分意图是尽可能隐藏自己与韦斯顿先生对这件事的某些心照不宣的想法。兰德尔斯那边对爱玛的命运自有期许，但还不宜让人察觉；而奈特利先生随即不动声色地将话题转向”韦斯顿觉得天气会怎样？会下雨吗？”——这使她确信，关于哈特菲尔德的事，他已无意再多谈或多多揣测了。

CHAPTER VI

Emma could not feel a doubt of having given Harriet's fancy a proper direction and raised the gratitude of her young vanity to a very good purpose, for she found her decidedly more sensible than before of Mr. **Elton's** being a remarkably handsome man, with most agreeable manners; and as she had no hesitation in

第六章

爱玛毫不怀疑自己已将哈丽特的遐思引上了正轨，并巧妙地激发了这位年轻姑娘知恩图报的虚荣心——她发现哈丽特显然比从前更能体会到埃尔顿先生是个多么英俊潇洒、风度翩翩的男子；既然

following up the assurance of his admiration by agreeable hints, she was soon pretty confident of creating as much liking on Harriet's side, as there could be any occasion for. **She** was quite convinced of Mr. **Elton**' s being in the fairest way of falling in love, if not in love already. **She** had no scruple with regard to him. **He** talked of Harriet, and praised her so warmly, that she could not suppose any thing wanting which a little time would not add. **His** perception of the striking improvement of Harriet' s manner, since her introduction at Hartfield, was not one of the least agreeable proofs of his growing attachment.

她毫不迟疑地借着对方爱慕的保证顺势点拨，很快就信心十足地认定哈丽特心中萌生的好感，已然达到了应有的程度。**她**完全确信埃尔顿先生即便尚未坠入情网，也正朝着这个美妙的方向顺利进展。**对他**，她毫无疑虑。**他**时时谈论哈丽特，热情洋溢地赞美她，让她觉得只需假以时日便能水到渠成。**自从**哈丽特来到哈特菲尔德后，**他**敏锐地察觉到她举止仪态突飞猛进的改善——这正是**他**情意日增的最令人欣慰的明证之一。

“**You** have given Miss Smith all that she required,” said he; “you have made her graceful and easy. **She** was a beautiful creature when she came to you, but, in my opinion, the attractions you have added are infinitely superior to what she received from nature.”

“**你**已经给予了史密斯小姐所需要的一切，”他说，“**你**使她变得优雅从容。**她**初来你这时本就是个美人儿，但依我看，**你**为她增添的魅力远胜于她与生俱来的姿色。”

“I am glad you think I have been useful to her; but Harriet only wanted drawing out, and re-

“**我**很高兴你认为我对她有所帮助；但哈里特只是需要

ceiving a few, very few hints. **She** had all the natural grace of sweetness of temper and artlessness in herself. **I** have done very little. ”

有人引导，给予少许、极少的提示罢了。她天生就具备温婉的性情与纯真的仪态。我实在没做什么。”

“**If** it were admissible to contradict a lady,” said the gallant Mr. **Elton**—

“倘若反驳一位女士不算失礼的话，”殷勤的埃尔顿先生说道——

“**I** have perhaps given her a little more decision of character, have taught her to think on points which had not fallen in her way before. ”

“或许我让她性格中多了几分决断，教她思考一些以前从未遇到过的问题。”

“**Exactly** so; that is what principally strikes me. **So** much superadded decision of character! **Skilful** has been the hand! ”

”正是如此；这是最令我惊叹之处。性格中增添了何等果决！那只手真是巧妙！”

“**Great** has been the pleasure, I am sure. **I** never met with a disposition more truly amiable. ”

“我确信，这份快乐是巨大的。我从未遇到过如此真正温厚的性情。”

“**I** have no doubt of it. ”**And** it was spoken with a sort of sighing animation, which had a vast deal of the lover. **She** was not less pleased another day with the manner in which he seconded a sudden wish of hers, to have Harriet’s picture.

“我对此毫不怀疑。”这句话带着一种叹息般的活泼语气，颇有几分情人的意味。又一日，她忽然想为哈丽特画像，见他立即附和的那股殷勤劲儿，心里更是欢喜。

“**Did** you ever have your likeness taken, Harriet? ”**said** she: “did you ever sit for your picture? ”

Harriet was on the point of leaving the room, and only stopt to say, with a very interesting naïveté,

“**Oh! dear,** no, never.”

No sooner was she out of sight, than Emma exclaimed,

“**What** an exquisite possession a good picture of her would be! **I** would give any money for it. **I** almost long to attempt her likeness myself. **You** do not know it I dare say, but two or three years ago I had a great passion for taking likenesses, and attempted several of my friends, and was thought to have a tolerable eye in general. **But** from one cause or another, I gave it up in disgust. **But** really, I could almost venture, if Harriet would sit to me. **It** would be such a delight to have her picture! ”

“你画过像吗，哈丽特？”她问道，“你让人画过像吗？”

哈丽特正要离开房间，却停下脚步，带着一种极动人的天真神情说道：

“哦！天哪，不，永远不会。”

她一走出视线，爱玛便立刻嚷道：

“要是能有一张她的精美画像，那该是多么珍贵的宝物啊！我愿意为此付出任何代价。我几乎忍不住想亲自为她画像了。您大概不知道吧，两三年前我曾痴迷于画人物肖像，为几位朋友试过笔，大家都说我眼光还算不错。但出于种种原因，我后来厌烦地搁下了画笔。不过说真的，要是哈丽特愿意给我当模特，我几乎敢再试一次。能拥有她的画像该是多么令人欣喜啊！”

“**Let** me entreat you,” cried Mr. **Elton**; “it would indeed be a delight! **Let** me entreat you, Miss Woodhouse, to exercise so charming a talent in favour of your friend. **I** know what your drawings are. **How** could you suppose me ignorant? **Is** not this room rich in specimens of your landscapes and flowers; and has not Mrs. **Weston** some inimitable figure-pieces in her drawing-room, at Randalls?”

“恳请您了，”埃尔顿先生嚷道，“这实在是莫大的荣幸！伍德豪斯小姐，恳请您为您的朋友施展这般迷人的才艺。我深知您的画作何等精妙。您怎会认为我一无所知？这间屋子里不就珍藏着您诸多山水花卉的佳作？韦斯顿太太在朗道斯宅的客厅里，不也挂着几幅您无可匹敌的人物小品么？”

Yes, good man! —**thought** Emma—but what has all that to do with taking likenesses? **You** know nothing of drawing. **Don’t** pretend to be in raptures about mine. **Keep** your raptures for Harriet’s face. “**Well**, if you give me such kind encouragement, Mr. **Elton**, I believe I shall try what I can do. **Harriet’s** features are very delicate, which makes a likeness difficult; and yet there is a peculiarity in the shape of the eye and the lines about the mouth which one ought to catch.”

“是啊，好心人！”爱玛心想，“可这跟画像有什么关系呢？你根本不懂绘画。别假装对我的画如痴如狂。留着你的热情去赞美哈丽特的容貌吧。”“既然您这样鼓励我，埃尔顿先生，我想不妨试试看。哈丽特的五官特别精致，画起来很难把握。不过眼角和唇边的线条有些特点，非得捕捉住不可。”

“**Exactly** so—The shape of the eye and the lines about the mouth—I have not a doubt of

“正是如此——眼睛的形状和嘴角的纹路——我毫不怀

your success. **Pray**, pray attempt it. As you will do it, it will indeed, to use your own words, be an exquisite possession. ” 疑您会成功。务必，务必尝试画下来。以您的手笔，诚如您所言，必将成为一件珍贵的精品。”

“But I am afraid, Mr. Elton, Harriet will not like to sit. She thinks so little of her own beauty. Did not you observe her manner of answering me? How completely it meant, ‘why should my picture be drawn?’ ” “可是，埃尔顿先生，我担心哈丽特会不愿意坐着让人画呢。她对自己的美貌太不放在心上了。你没注意到她回答我时的神态吗？那意思完全是说：‘为什么要画我的像呢？’ ”

“Oh! yes, I observed it, I assure you. It was not lost on me. But still I cannot imagine she would not be persuaded. ” “哦！是的，我注意到了，我向你保证。我并没有忽略这一点。但我仍然无法想象她会不被说服。”

Harriet was soon back again, and the proposal almost immediately made; and she had no scruples which could stand many minutes against the earnest pressing of both the others. Emma wished to go to work directly, and therefore produced the portfolio containing her various attempts at portraits, for not one of them had ever been finished, —— 哈丽特很快就回来了，那项提议也几乎立刻提了出来；面对两位友人热切的催促，她那点犹豫不决没能坚持几分钟。爱玛想立即着手准备，便取出收藏画作的文件夹，里面都是她尝试画过的肖像——没有一幅最终完成——

that they might decide together on the best size for Harriet. **H**er many beginnings were displayed. **M**iniatures, half-lengths, whole-lengths, pencil, crayon, and water-colours had been all tried in turn. **S**he had always wanted to do every thing, and had made more progress both in drawing and music than many might have done with so little labour as she would ever submit to. **S**he played and sang;—and drew in almost every style; but steadiness had always been wanting; and in nothing had she approached the degree of excellence which she would have been glad to command, and ought not to have failed of. **S**he was not much deceived as to her own skill either as an artist or a musician, but she was not unwilling to have others deceived, or sorry to know her reputation for accomplishment often higher than it deserved.

这样她们可以共同商议哈丽特肖像的最佳尺寸。她那些数不清的半成品铺展开来：袖珍画、半身像、全身像、铅笔素描、蜡笔画、水彩画都逐一尝试过。她向来什么都想涉猎，在绘画和音乐上取得的进步，比起许多比她刻苦的人也不遑多让。她能弹会唱——绘画几乎各种风格都能上手——但始终缺乏恒心；她本渴望达到精湛境界，也理应不至于失败，可事实上在任何领域都未能臻于完美。无论是作为画师还是乐师，她对自己的造诣都颇有自知之明，但她不介意旁人看走眼，也不遗憾自己的才艺名声时常超出实际水准。

There was merit in every drawing—in the least finished, perhaps the most; her style was spirited; but had there been much less, or had there been ten times more, the delight and admiration of her two companions would have been the same. **T**hey were both in ecstasies.

每一幅画都有其优点——或许那些最未完成的，优点反而最多；她的风格活泼奔放；不过，即便优点再少十倍，或是再多十倍，她那两位同伴的欣喜与赞叹也丝毫不会改

A likeness pleases every body; and Miss Woodhouse's performances must be capital.

变。两人都如痴如醉。肖像画总能取悦众人，而伍德豪斯小姐的作品必然堪称上乘。

"No great variety of faces for you," said Emma. "I had only my own family to study from. There is my father—another of my father—but the idea of sitting for his picture made him so nervous, that I could only take him by stealth; neither of them very like therefore. Mrs. Weston again, and again, and again, you see. Dear Mrs. Weston! always my kindest friend on every occasion. She would sit whenever I asked her. There is my sister; and really quite her own little elegant figure! —and the face not unlike. I should have made a good likeness of her, if she would have sat longer, but she was in such a hurry to have me draw her four children that she would not be quiet. Then, here come all my attempts at three of those four children;—there they are, Henry and John and Bella, from one end of the sheet to the other, and any one of them might do for any one of the rest. She was so eager to have them drawn that I could not refuse; but there is no making children of three

"你能画的模特可不多呀，" 爱玛说。"我只能对着自家人练习。这是我父亲——另一张也是我父亲——不过一听说要坐着画像，他就紧张得坐立不安，我只能偷偷给他画，所以两张都不太像。你瞧，这张是韦斯顿太太，这张也是，这张也是。亲爱的韦斯顿太太！无论什么时候都是我最好的朋友。不管我什么时候求她，她都愿意坐着让我画。这是我姐姐，画出了她那娇小优雅的身材！——脸蛋也挺像。要是她肯多坐一会儿，我本可以画得更像些，可她急着要我给她四个孩子画像，怎么也静不下来。接下来是我给四个孩子中的三个画的尝试——你看，从画纸这头到那头，亨利、约翰和贝拉，随便哪个孩子都能

or four years old stand still you know; nor can it be very easy to take any likeness of them, beyond the air and complexion, unless they are coarser featured than any of mama's children ever were. **Here** is my sketch of the fourth, who was a baby. I took him as he was sleeping on the sofa, and it is as strong a likeness of his cockade as you would wish to see. **He** had nestled down his head most conveniently. **That'** s very like. I am rather proud of little George. **The** corner of the sofa is very good. **Then** here is my last,"—unclosing a pretty sketch of a gentleman in small size, whole-length—"my last and my best—my brother, Mr. **John** Knightley. —**This** did not want much of being finished, when I put it away in a pet, and vowed I would never take another likeness. I could not help being provoked; for after all my pains, and when I had really made a very good likeness of it—(Mrs. **Weston** and I were quite agreed in thinking it very like)—only too handsome—too flattering—but that was a fault on the right side"—after all this, came poor dear Isabella's cold approbation of—"Yes, it was a little like—but to be sure it did not

当成另外两个。她那么急切地要我画他们，我没法拒绝。可你知道，三四岁的孩子根本站不住，而且除了神态和肤色，很难画出他们的相貌特征，除非他们长得比妈妈家的哪个孩子都粗笨。这是第四个孩子的素描，还是个小宝宝。他躺在沙发上睡着了，我趁机画的，帽徽画得再像不过了。他把头埋得正合适，非常传神。小乔治这幅画我挺得意。沙发这个角落也画得好。最后这张，”——她揭开一幅小巧精致的全身绅士素描——“是我最后一幅，也是最好的一幅——我姐夫约翰·奈特利先生。这幅画本来差几笔就完成了，可我当时一气之下搁了笔，发誓再也不给人画像。我实在忍不住生气——我费了那么多功夫，明明画得很像（韦斯顿先生和我都认为画得特别像）——只是太俊美了，太

do him justice. **We** had had a great deal of trouble in persuading him to sit at all. **It** was made a great favour of; and altogether it was more than I could bear; and so I never would finish it, to have it apologised over as an unfavourable likeness, to every morning visitor in Brunswick Square;—and, as I said, I did then forswear ever drawing any body again. **But** for Harriet's sake, or rather for my own, and as there are no husbands and wives in the case at present, I will break my resolution now."

奉承了——不过这总比画丑强——可到头来，亲爱的伊莎贝拉只冷冷地说了句：‘嗯，是有点像——不过确实没把他画好。’我们好不容易才说服他坐下来，他可是给了天大的面子。**我**实在受不了这份委屈，所以坚决不画完了，免得让布鲁姆斯伯里广场的晨访客人都来对着这幅不像样的画像道歉。**正如**我说过的，那时我发誓再也不给任何人画像了。**不过**为了哈丽特，或者说为我自己——反正现在不涉及夫妻关系——我决定破例一次。”

Mr. Elton seemed very properly struck and delighted by the idea, and was repeating, “No husbands and wives in the case at present indeed, as you observe. **Exactly** so. **No** husbands and wives,”with so interesting a consciousness, that Emma began to consider whether she had not better leave them together at once. **But** as she wanted to be drawing, the declaration must wait a little longer.

埃尔顿先生似乎被这个主意恰如其分地打动并欢喜起来，他反复说着：“眼下确实没有夫妻关系，正如您所说的。**正是如此。**没有夫妻关系。”**那副**饶有兴味的会意神态，让爱玛不禁思忖是否该立刻让他们单独相处。**但既然**她还要继续作画，这个

决定还得稍待片刻。

She had soon fixed on the size and sort of portrait. **It** was to be a whole-length in water-colours, like Mr. **John** Knightley's, and was destined, if she could please herself, to hold a very honourable station over the mantelpiece.

她很快就决定了画像的尺寸和类型。这将是一幅水彩全身肖像，就像约翰·奈特利先生那幅一样，若是能称心如意，她打算把它挂在壁炉架上方最显贵的位置。

The sitting began; and Harriet, smiling and blushing, and afraid of not keeping her attitude and countenance, presented a very sweet mixture of youthful expression to the steady eyes of the artist. **But** there was no doing any thing, with Mr. **Elton** fidgeting behind her and watching every touch. **She** gave him credit for stationing himself where he might gaze and gaze again without offence; but was really obliged to put an end to it, and request him to place himself elsewhere. **It** then occurred to her to employ him in reading.

画像开始了；哈丽特微笑着，红着脸，生怕自己的姿态和表情不够端庄，在画家凝神注视下展现出十分甜美的青春神态。可是埃尔顿先生在她身后坐立不安，紧盯着每一笔触，让人实在无法作画。她体谅他选了个既能反复凝视又不失礼的位置，但终究不得不制止这种行为，请他换个地方坐下。这时她想起可以让他帮忙朗读。

“**If** he would be so good as to read to them, it would be a kindness indeed! **It** would amuse away the difficulties of her part, and lessen the irksomeness of Miss Smith's.”

要是他肯赏脸给大家念一念，那真是再好不过了！这样既能排解她角色中的困窘，也能减轻史密斯小姐那部分

的烦闷。”

Mr. Elton was only too happy. **Harriet** 埃尔顿先生真是喜不自胜。listened, and Emma drew in peace. **She** must 哈丽特凝神静听，爱玛安然allow him to be still frequently coming to look; 作画。她必须容许他频频凑any thing less would certainly have been too lit- 过来观看，否则就不像个恋tle in a lover; and he was ready at the smallest 人了；哪怕画笔稍有停顿，intermission of the pencil, to jump up and see 他都要跳起身来看看进展如the progress, and be charmed. —**There** was 何，为之倾倒——有这样no being displeased with such an encourager, 一位赞赏者在旁，任谁也不会for his admiration made him discern a likeness 感到不快。他的倾慕使他几乎almost before it was possible. **She** could not 在画像初具雏形时便看出了respect his eye, but his love and his complai- 几分神似。她虽不敢恭维sance were unexceptionable. 他的鉴赏力，但他的钟情和殷勤却是无可指摘的。

The sitting was altogether very satisfactory; 这次作画整体令人十分满she was quite enough pleased with the first 意；她对第一天的素描相当day's sketch to wish to go on. **There** was no 满意，甚至渴望继续画下去。want of likeness, she had been fortunate in the 肖像的相似度无可挑剔，她attitude, and as she meant to throw in a lit- 庆幸自己捕捉到了恰当的attle improvement to the figure, to give a little 姿态。由于她打算对身形稍作more height, and considerably more elegance, 修饰——增加些许高度，再she had great confidence of its being in every添上几分优雅，她有十足把握way a pretty drawing at last, and of its filling its destined place with credit to them both— 握最终能完成一幅尽善尽美的画作。这幅画必将在其命

a standing memorial of the beauty of one, the skill of the other, and the friendship of both; with as many other agreeable associations as Mr. Elton's very promising attachment was likely to add.

定的位置大放异彩，为她们二人增光：既永久铭记了其中一位的美貌与另一位的画技，更见证着兩人的情谊；随着埃尔顿先生那段充满希望的恋曲渐入佳境，想必还会为这幅画作增添更多温馨的注脚。

Harriet was to sit again the next day; and Mr. Elton, just as he ought, entreated for the permission of attending and reading to them again.

哈丽特次日还要再坐一坐；埃尔顿先生则恰如其分地恳求允许他再来陪伴，为她们朗读。

“By all means. We shall be most happy to consider you as one of the party.”

“当然可以。我们非常乐意将您视为我们中的一员。”

The same civilities and courtesies, the same success and satisfaction, took place on the morrow, and accompanied the whole progress of the picture, which was rapid and happy. Every body who saw it was pleased, but Mr. Elton was in continual raptures, and defended it through every criticism.

次日，同样的礼数周旋，同样的顺利如意，伴随着画像的整个绘制过程——进展迅速而圆满。凡见此画者无不称许，但埃尔顿先生更是欣喜若狂，每遇微词必力加维护。

“Miss Woodhouse has given her friend the only beauty she wanted,”—observed Mrs.

”伍德豪斯小姐已经给了她朋友唯一欠缺的美貌，”

Weston to him—not in the least suspecting that she was addressing a lover. — “**The expression of the eye is most correct, but Miss Smith has not those eyebrows and eyelashes. It is the fault of her face that she has them not.**”

——韦斯顿太太对他评论道，丝毫未察觉自己正对一位爱慕者说话——”那眼神画得惟妙惟肖，但史密斯小姐确实没有这样的眉毛和睫毛。她脸上美中不足的正是缺少这分神韵。”

“**Do you think so?** ”**replied** he. “**I cannot agree with you. It appears to me a most perfect resemblance in every feature. I never saw such a likeness in my life. We must allow for the effect of shade, you know.** ”

“你这么想吗?”他答道，“我可不敢苟同。在我看来，这容貌的每一处都像极了。我平生从未见过如此相像的画像。要知道，我们得把光影的效果考虑进去。”

“**You have made her too tall, Emma,** ”said Mr. **Knightley.**

“你把她画得太高了，爱玛，”奈特利先生说。

Emma knew that she had, but would not own it; and Mr. **Elton** warmly added,

爱玛心知肚明，却偏不肯承认；而埃尔顿先生便热切地接话道：

“**Oh no! certainly not too tall; not in the least too tall. Consider,** she is sitting down—which naturally presents a different—which in short gives exactly the idea—and the proportions must be preserved, you know. **Pro-**

“哦，不！当然不算太高；一点儿也不算太高。您想啊，她是坐着的——这自然呈现出不同的——简而言之，这正好能传达出——您知道，比

portions, fore-shortening. —Oh no! it gives one exactly the idea of such a height as Miss Smith's. Exactly so indeed!" 例必须保持协调。比例啊, 透视缩短啊——哦不! 这恰恰让人想到史密斯小姐这样的身高。确实正是如此!"

"It is very pretty," said Mr. Woodhouse. "So prettily done! Just as your drawings always are, my dear. I do not know any body who draws so well as you do. The only thing I do not thoroughly like is, that she seems to be sitting out of doors, with only a little shawl over her shoulders—and it makes one think she must catch cold."

“画得真好看，”伍德豪斯先生说。“画得真美！你画的画总是这样美，亲爱的。我不知道还有谁能画得像你这样好。只有一点我总觉得不太满意，那就是她好像坐在户外，肩上只搭着一条小小的披肩——这叫人不由得担心她要着凉感冒。”

"But, my dear papa, it is supposed to be summer; a warm day in summer. Look at the tree."

“可是，亲爱的爸爸，现在明明是夏天啊；一个暖和的夏日。您瞧瞧那棵树。”

"But it is never safe to sit out of doors, my dear."

“可是，亲爱的，坐在户外总是不保险的。”

"You, sir, may say any thing," cried Mr. Elton, "but I must confess that I regard it as a most happy thought, the placing of Miss Smith out of doors; and the tree is touched with such inimitable spirit! Any other situ-

“先生，您尽管说吧，”埃尔顿先生嚷道，“但我必须承认，我认为让史密斯小姐置身户外是个绝妙的主意，那棵树的笔触更是带着无与伦比的

tion would have been much less in character. 灵气！换作其他场景就远不及这般契合本色。史密斯小姐举止中那种浑然天真的韵味——总而言之——噢！实在令人叹服！我的目光简直无法从画上移开。从未见过如此传神的肖像。”

The naïveté of Miss Smith's manners—and altogether—Oh, it is most admirable! I cannot keep my eyes from it. I never saw such a likeness.”

The next thing wanted was to get the picture framed; and here were a few difficulties. It must be done directly; it must be done in London; the order must go through the hands of some intelligent person whose taste could be depended on; and Isabella, the usual doer of all commissions, must not be applied to, because it was December, and Mr. Woodhouse could not bear the idea of her stirring out of her house in the fogs of December. But no sooner was the distress known to Mr. Elton, than it was removed. His gallantry was always on the alert. “Might he be trusted with the commission, what infinite pleasure should he have in executing it! he could ride to London at any time. It was impossible to say how much he should be gratified by being employed on such an errand.”

接下来需要做的是给画像配个画框；这事倒有些难处。必须立刻动手；必须送到伦敦去；订购必须交给有眼光的人去办；而平常承办各项事务的伊莎贝拉又没法找，因为现在正值十二月，伍德豪斯先生不忍心让她在十二月的雾天里出门。可是这桩烦恼刚被埃尔顿先生知道，就迎刃而解了。他向来最乐于献殷勤。“若能信任他把这事交托办理，那该是何等的荣幸！他随时可以骑马去伦敦。能被委以这样的差事，真不知会叫他多么欢喜呢。”

“**H**e was too good! —**s**he could not endure the thought! —**s**he would not give him such a troublesome office for the world,”—brought on the desired repetition of entreaties and assurances,—and a very few minutes settled the business.

“他太好了！——她简直无法忍受这个念头！——她无论如何也不能让他承担这样麻烦的差事。”——这番话果然引来了对方再三的恳请与保证——不出片刻工夫，这件事便谈妥了。

Mr. Elton was to take the drawing to London, chuse the frame, and give the directions; and Emma thought she could so pack it as to ensure its safety without much incommoding him, while he seemed mostly fearful of not being incommoded enough.

埃尔顿先生要把画像带到伦敦去，选个镜框，再吩咐人装起来；爱玛寻思着，她可以把画像包装得妥妥帖帖的，既确保画像安然无恙，又不会给他添多少麻烦，而埃尔顿先生却似乎唯恐自己受的麻烦还不够多。

“**W**hat a precious deposit!” said he with a tender sigh, as he received it.

“这是多么珍贵的托付啊！”他接过信时，温柔地叹息道。

“**T**his man is almost too gallant to be in love,” thought Emma. “I should say so, but that I suppose there may be a hundred different ways of being in love. **H**e is an excellent young man, and will suit Harriet exactly; it will be an ‘Exactly so,’ as he says himself; but he does

“这个人殷勤得简直不象是在谈恋爱了，”爱玛想。“谈恋爱的人各种各样，也许有一百种谈恋爱的方式。他是个很好的青年，一定会使哈丽特幸福，用他自己的话说：‘一

sigh and languish, and study for compliments
rather more than I could endure as a principal.
I come in for a pretty good share as a second.
But it is his gratitude on Harriet's account. ”
点不差。”可是，他老是唉声叹气，真叫人腻烦。**他**讨人喜欢，讨人喜欢——就不大像——不过，他究竟认为我帮了他多大的忙，那要看他的估价如何。**我**值得他感谢，是因为哈丽特的关系。**不过**，归总一句话，我对于这门亲事还是很满意的。”

CHAPTER VII

第七章

The very day of Mr. Elton's going to London produced a fresh occasion for Emma's services towards her friend. **Harriet** had been at Hartfield, as usual, soon after breakfast; and, after a time, had gone home to return again to dinner: she returned, and sooner than had been talked of, and with an agitated, hurried look, announcing something extraordinary to have happened which she was longing to tell. **Half** a minute brought it all out. **She** had heard, as soon as she got back to Mrs. God-dard's, that Mr. Martin had been there an hour before, and finding she was not at home, nor particularly expected, had left a little par-

埃尔顿先生启程前往伦敦的那天，又为爱玛帮助朋友提供了新契机。**哈丽特**照例在早饭后不久来到哈特菲尔德，待了一阵便回家用餐，不料竟比预定时间提早返回，神色慌张急切，声称有桩非同寻常的事要立刻倾诉。**不到**半分钟工夫，她便将始末和盘托出——原来她一回到戈达德太太那里，就听说马丁先生一小时前曾登门造访，发现她不在家且归期未定，便留下一个他姊妹托带

cel for her from one of his sisters, and gone away; and on opening this parcel, she had actually found, besides the two songs which she had lent Elizabeth to copy, a letter to herself; and this letter was from him, from Mr. **Martin**, and contained a direct proposal of marriage. “**Who** could have thought it? **She** was so surprized she did not know what to do. **Yes**, quite a proposal of marriage; and a very good letter, at least she thought so. **And** he wrote as if he really loved her very much—but she did not know—and so, she was come as fast as she could to ask Miss Woodhouse what she should do. —”**Emma** was half-ashamed of her friend for seeming so pleased and so doubtful.

的小包裹。打开包裹后，她竟发现里面除了她借给伊丽莎白誊抄的两首歌曲外，还有一封写给她的信——正是马丁先生亲笔所书，内容直截了当便是求婚。”谁料得到呢？她太震惊了简直不知所措。千真万确是求婚信，文笔还挺不错，至少她是这么觉得。他字里行间仿佛倾注了满腔真情——可她又拿不准——这才火急火燎赶来请教伍德豪斯小姐该如何是好。”爱玛见朋友既喜形于色又犹豫不决的模样，心里不免生出几分难堪。

“**Upon** my word,”she cried, “the young man is determined not to lose any thing for want of asking. **He** will connect himself well if he can.”

“说真的，”她嚷道，“这年轻人打定主意，只要开口就能捞到好处。只要有可能，他准会攀上一门好亲事。”

“Will you read the letter?” cried Harriet. “Pray do. I’d rather you would.”

“你愿意读这封信吗？”哈丽特嚷道，“求你了，我宁愿你读一读。”

Emma was not sorry to be pressed. **She** read, and was surprized. **The** style of the letter was much above her expectation. **There** were not merely no grammatical errors, but as a composition it would not have disgraced a gentleman; the language, though plain, was strong and unaffected, and the sentiments it conveyed very much to the credit of the writer. **It** was short, but expressed good sense, warm attachment, liberality, propriety, even delicacy of feeling. **She** paused over it, while Harriet stood anxiously watching for her opinion, with a “Well, well,” and was at last forced to add, “Is it a good letter? **or** is it too short?”

爱玛并不觉得被人催促有什么不快。她读着信，感到十分惊讶。这封信的文笔远远超出了她的预期。信中不仅没有语法错误，而且就其整体而言，即便出自绅士之手也毫不逊色；语言虽质朴，却有力而真挚，字里行间流露的情操更显得写信人品性可敬。信虽简短，却表达了通达的见识、炽热的情谊、宽厚的胸怀、得体的举止，乃至细腻的情感。她沉吟不语时，哈丽特正焦急地察言观色，连声问着“怎么样？怎么样？”，最后忍不住追问：“这是封好信吗？是不是太短了？”

“**Yes**, indeed, a very good letter,” replied Emma rather slowly—“so good a letter, Harriet, that every thing considered, I think one of his sisters must have helped him. I can hardly imagine the young man whom I saw talking with you the other day could express himself so well, if left quite to his own powers, and yet

“确实，这封信写得很好，”爱玛回答得有些慢吞吞——“哈丽特，这封信写得实在太好了，考虑到各方面因素，我觉得多半是他哪位姐姐帮忙。我简直无法想象那天见到和你说话的那个年轻人，

it is not the style of a woman; no, certainly, it is too strong and concise; not diffuse enough for a woman. **No** doubt he is a sensible man, and I suppose may have a natural talent for —thinks strongly and clearly—and when he takes a pen in hand, his thoughts naturally find proper words. **It** is so with some men. **Yes**, I understand the sort of mind. **Vigorous**, decided, with sentiments to a certain point, not coarse. **A** better written letter, Harriet (returning it,) than I had expected. ”

若是全凭自己就能把意思表达得如此妥帖。不过这信倒像是女性代笔的；不，肯定不是，文风过于刚劲简练，不像女性那般绵密。毫无疑问他是个明白人，想必天生就擅长——思维清晰有力——提起笔时，思想自然就能找到恰当的言辞。有些男子确实如此。是的，我懂得这类头脑。刚健，果决，情感表达恰如其分，毫不粗俗。哈丽特（把信递回去），这封信比我预想的要好得多。”

“**Well,**” said the still waiting Harriet;—“well —and—and what shall I do? ” “嗯，”仍在等待的哈丽特说道——“那么——那——我该怎么办呢?”

“**What** shall you do! **In** what respect? **Do** you mean with regard to this letter? ” ”你打算怎么办！在哪方面？你是指关于这封信的事吗？”

“**Yes.** ”

“是的。”

“**But** what are you in doubt of? **You** must answer it of course—and speedily. ” ”可你还有什么可犹豫的？自然是要回复的——而且要尽快。”

“Yes. But what shall I say? Dear Miss “好的。可我该怎么说呢? 亲爱的伍德豪斯小姐, 请您务必指点我。”
Woodhouse, do advise me.”

“Oh no, no! the letter had much better be “哦, 不, 不! 这封信还是全由 all your own. You will express yourself very 你自己写更好。我相信你定 properly, I am sure. There is no danger of 能措辞得体, 首先不必担心 your not being intelligible, which is the first 表达不清。你的意思必须明 thing. Your meaning must be unequivocal; 确无误, 不容半点迟疑或含 no doubts or demurs: and such expressions of 糊。那些合乎礼节的感激之 gratitude and concern for the pain you are in- 辞, 以及对你所造成的痛苦 flicting as propriety requires, will present them- 的关切, 我相信自会自然而然 selves unbidden to your mind, I am per- 然地涌上你的心头。你无需 suaded. You need not be prompted to write 旁人提醒, 自会带着对他失 with the appearance of sorrow for his disap- 望的惋惜之情来写这封信。” pointment.”

“You think I ought to refuse him then,” said “那么你认为我应当拒绝他了,”哈丽特垂着眼帘说道。
Harriet, looking down.

“Ought to refuse him! My dear Harriet, what “该拒绝他! 我亲爱的哈丽 do you mean? Are you in any doubt as to 特, 你这是什么意思? 难道 that? I thought—but I beg your pardon, per- 你对此还有疑虑吗? 我原以 haps I have been under a mistake. I certainly 为——请原谅, 或许是我弄 have been misunderstanding you, if you feel in 错了。如果你对答复的 _ 意 doubt as to the purport of your answer. I 图 _ 感到犹豫, 那确实是我

had imagined you were consulting me only as to the wording of it.” 误解你了。我还以为你只是在斟酌措辞方面征询我的意见呢。”

Harriet was silent. **With** a little reserve of manner, Emma continued: 哈丽特沉默不语。爱玛带着几分矜持，又继续说道：

“**You** mean to return a favourable answer, I collect.” “我猜想，你是打算给她一个满意的答复吧。”

“**No**, I do not; that is, I do not mean—What shall I do? **What** would you advise me to do? **Pray**, dear Miss Woodhouse, tell me what I ought to do.” “不，我不；我是说，我不是这个意思——我该怎么办呢？您建议我怎么做？求您了，亲爱的伍德豪斯小姐，告诉我该怎么做才好。”

“I shall not give you any advice, Harriet. I will have nothing to do with it. **This** is a point which you must settle with your feelings.” “我不会给你任何建议，哈丽特。这事与我无关。这个问题必须由你自己的感情来决定。”

“I had no notion that he liked me so very much,” said Harriet, contemplating the letter. **For** a little while Emma persevered in her silence; but beginning to apprehend the bewitching flattery of that letter might be too powerful, she thought it best to say, “我一点也没想到他竟会如此喜欢我，”哈丽特凝视着信笺说道。爱玛一时仍保持着沉默；但她开始担心那封信里令人心醉的奉承话力量过于强大，觉得最好还是开口

说几句。

“I lay it down as a general rule, Harriet, that if a woman doubts as to whether she should accept a man or not, she certainly ought to refuse him. **If** she can hesitate as to ‘Yes,’ she ought to say ‘No’ directly. **It** is not a state to be safely entered into with doubtful feelings, with half a heart. I thought it my duty as a friend, and older than yourself, to say thus much to you. **But** do not imagine that I want to influence you. ”

“哈丽特，我定下一条普遍原则：倘若一位女子对于是否接受一个男子心存疑虑，那她必定应当拒绝他。倘若她在‘应允’二字上犹豫不决，便该当即回绝。怀着犹疑不定的情感、抱着半心半意的态度踏入这种关系，终究难保稳妥。我自认作为朋友，又年长于你，有责任对你说这番话。但切莫以为我意图左右你的决定。”

“Oh! no, I am sure you are a great deal too kind to—but if you would just advise me what I had best do—No, no, I do not mean that —As you say, one’s mind ought to be quite made up—One should not be hesitating—It is a very serious thing. —**It** will be safer to say ‘No,’ perhaps. —**Do** you think I had better say ‘No? ’”

“哦！不，我确信您实在太仁慈了——不过您能否指点我该怎么做才好——不，不，我不是这个意思——正如您所说，人应当下定决心——不该犹豫不决——这可是件非常严肃的事。或许说‘不’会更稳妥些。——您觉得我是否该回绝呢？”

“Not for the world,” said Emma, smiling gra-

“我无论如何也不会劝你，”

ciously, "would I advise you either way. **You** 爱玛优雅地微笑着说道, "这
must be the best judge of your own happiness. **If** 你必须由你自己来判断怎样最
you prefer Mr. **Martin** to every 幸福。如果你觉得马丁先生
other person; if you think him the most agree- 胜过所有人, 如果你认为他
able man you have ever been in company with, 是你交往过的最讨人喜欢的
why should you hesitate? **You** 男士, 那还有什么可犹豫的?
blush, Harriet. —**Does** 你脸红了, 哈丽特——此刻
any body else occur to you at this 你心里可曾浮现出另一个符
moment under such a definition? **Harriet**, 合这标准的人? **哈丽特**, 哈
Harriet, do not deceive yourself; do not be run 丽特, 别欺骗自己, 别被感
away with by gratitude and compassion. **At** 激和怜悯冲昏头脑。此刻你
this moment whom are you thinking of?" 心里究竟想着谁?"

The symptoms were favourable. —**Instead** 种种迹象都令人欣喜。——
of answering, Harriet turned away confused, 哈丽特没有答话, 而是不好
and stood thoughtfully by the fire; and though 意思地转过身, 若有所思地
the letter was still in her hand, it was now 站在炉火旁。她手里虽然还
mechanically twisted about without regard. 捏着那封信, 却已心不在焉
Emma waited the result with impatience, but 地把它搓卷又展平。**埃玛**急
not without strong hopes. **At** last, with some 切地等待结果, 心里却满怀
hesitation, Harriet said— 希望。最后, 哈丽特略带迟疑地说道——

"**Miss** Woodhouse, as you will not give me "伍德豪斯小姐, 既然您不愿
your opinion, I must do as well as I can by 发表意见, 我只好自己尽力
myself; and I have now quite determined, and 而为了。此刻我已完全下定

really almost made up my mind—to refuse Mr. **Martin.** Do you think I am right? ”

决心——真的几乎打定主意
要拒绝马丁先生。您认为我
这样做对吗?”

“**Perfectly**, perfectly right, my dearest Harriet; you are doing just what you ought. **While** you were at all in suspense I kept my feelings to myself, but now that you are so completely decided I have no hesitation in approving. **Dear** Harriet, I give myself joy of this. **It** would have grieved me to lose your acquaintance, which must have been the consequence of your marrying Mr. **Martin.** **While** you were in the smallest degree wavering, I said nothing about it, because I would not influence; but it would have been the loss of a friend to me. **I** could not have visited Mrs. **Robert** Martin, of Abbey-Mill Farm. **Now** I am secure of you for ever. ”

”完全正确，我最亲爱的哈丽特；你这样做正合情理。
当你尚在犹豫不决时，我将
自己的情感深藏不露，但如
今你已完全拿定主意，我便
毫不犹豫地表示赞许。**亲爱**
的哈丽特，我为此感到欣喜。
若因你嫁给马丁先生而失去
与你往来的机会，这原本会
令我痛心不已。**当你**还有丝
毫动摇时，我对此只字未提，
因为我不愿施加影响；但那
对我而言将意味着失去一位
挚友。**我**绝不可能去拜访修
道院磨坊农场的罗伯特·马
丁太太。**现在**我可以永远拥
有你这个朋友了。”

Harriet had not surmised her own danger, but the idea of it struck her forcibly.

哈丽特并未觉察到自身的危
险，但这个念头猛然袭上心
头。

“**You** could not have visited me! ”she cried, ”你不可能来看我的！”她嚷
looking aghast. “**No**, to be sure you could 道，露出惊骇的神情。”是的，
not; but I never thought of that before. **That** 你确实不可能来；可我以前
would have been too dreadful! —**What** an es- 从没想到这一点。那该有多
cape! —**Dear** Miss Woodhouse, I would not 糟糕啊！——真是万幸！——
give up the pleasure and honour of being inti- 亲爱的伍德豪斯小姐，我说
mate with you for any thing in the world. ” 什么也不肯放弃与你亲近的
快乐和荣幸。”

“**Indeed**, Harriet, it would have been a severe pang to lose you; but it must have been. **You** would have thrown yourself out of all good society. **I** must have given you up. ”

“说真的，哈丽特，失去你会让我痛彻心扉；但这终究无法避免。你将会自绝于所有良善社交圈。我不得不放弃你。”

“**Dear** me! —**How** should I ever have borne it! **It** would have killed me never to come to Hartfield any more! ”

“天哪！——我怎么能受得了呢！要是再也不能来哈特菲尔德，那简直要了我的命！”

“**Dear** affectionate creature! ——**You** banished to Abbey-Mill Farm! ——**You** confined to the society of the illiterate and vulgar all your life! **I** wonder how the young man could have the assurance to ask it. **He** must have a pretty good opinion of himself. ”

“亲爱的好心人儿！——你被发配到修道院磨坊农场去了！——你一辈子都得跟那些没有教养、粗俗不堪的人混在一起！我真奇怪那年轻人怎么好意思提出这个要求。他一定相当自以为是。”

“I do not think he is conceited either, in general,” said Harriet, her conscience opposing such censure; “at least, he is very good natured, and I shall always feel much obliged to him, and have a great regard for—but that is quite a different thing from—and you know, though he may like me, it does not follow that I should —and certainly I must confess that since my visiting here I have seen people—and if one comes to compare them, person and manners, there is no comparison at all, one is so very handsome and agreeable. **However**, I do really think Mr. **Martin** a very amiable young man, and have a great opinion of him; and his being so much attached to me—and his writing such a letter—but as to leaving you, it is what I would not do upon any consideration.”

“我平时也不觉得他自负，”哈丽特凭良心反对这样的指责，“至少他脾气很好，我永远都该感激他，对他十分敬重——但这完全是两码事——您知道，虽然他可能喜欢我，并不代表我就该说实话，自从常来这儿做客之后，我见过一些人——若是把他们放在一起比较，无论是相貌还是举止，简直天差地别，其中一位是那样英俊潇洒、风度翩翩。不过我的确认为马丁先生是个非常和蔼的年轻人，对他评价很高；他如此钟情于我——还写了这样一封信——但若要离开您，这是我无论如何都不愿做的。”

“**Thank** you, thank you, my own sweet little friend. **We** will not be parted. A woman is not to marry a man merely because she is asked, or because he is attached to her, and can write a tolerable letter.”

“**谢谢你，谢谢你，我亲爱的小朋友。我们不会分开的。**一个女人总不能因为别人向她求婚就嫁给他，也不能因为他钟情于她，或者能写一封还算过得去的信就非嫁不

可。”

“Oh no;—and it is but a short letter too.”

“哦，不；——而且这封信还这么短。”

Emma felt the bad taste of her friend, but let it pass with a “very true; and it would be a small consolation to her, for the clownish manner which might be offending her every hour of the day, to know that her husband could write a good letter.”

爱玛觉得她朋友的品味实在糟糕，却只说了句“确实如此”便不再计较——即便知道丈夫能写出典雅书信，对那位终日被粗鲁言行冒犯的女士而言，怕也是微不足道的慰藉。

“Oh! yes, very. Nobody cares for a letter; the thing is, to be always happy with pleasant companions. I am quite determined to refuse him. But how shall I do? What shall I say?”

“哦！当然，非常在意。谁也不会在乎一封信；要紧的是永远和愉快的伴侣们在一起快快乐乐。我已经下定决心要拒绝他了。可我该怎么做呢？该怎么说呢？”

Emma assured her there would be no difficulty in the answer, and advised its being written directly, which was agreed to, in the hope of her assistance; and though Emma continued to protest against any assistance being wanted, it was in fact given in the formation of every sentence. **The** looking over his letter again, in

爱玛向她保证，回信绝不会有困难，主张立刻写信，对方也同意了，指望着她帮助。虽然爱玛一再声称用不着帮助，实际上每句话都是两人一起斟酌的。她在重新看过来信准备回复时，不由

replying to it, had such a softening tendency, that it was particularly necessary to brace her up with a few decisive expressions; and she was so very much concerned at the idea of making him unhappy, and thought so much of what his mother and sisters would think and say, and was so anxious that they should not fancy her ungrateful, that Emma believed if the young man had come in her way at that moment, he would have been accepted after all.

得心肠软了下来，觉得有几处严厉的措辞非得用上几句 decisive 的话语来加以抵消不可。她十分担心他会感到痛苦，也十分担心他母亲和妹妹会怎么想、怎么说，唯恐她们认为她忘恩负义。因此爱玛相信，如果那年轻人此刻来到她面前，她一定会接受他的求婚。

This letter, however, was written, and sealed, and sent. **The** business was finished, and Harriet safe. **She** was rather low all the evening, but Emma could allow for her amiable regrets, and sometimes relieved them by speaking of her own affection, sometimes by bringing forward the idea of Mr. **Elton**.

这封信到底还是写了，封好了，送走了。事情总算告一段落，哈丽特也安全了。整个晚上她都显得没精打采，不过爱玛体谅她这种温厚的惆怅，时而说起自己的深情厚谊，时而又提起埃尔顿先生，这才使她的心情时而得到些许宽慰。

“**I** shall never be invited to Abbey-Mill again,” “我再也收不到修道院磨坊的邀请啦，”这话说得颇为感伤。

“**Nor**, if you were, could I ever bear to part “就算你愿意，我也绝不舍得

with you, my Harriet. **You** are a great deal too necessary at Hartfield to be spared to Abbey-Mill. ” 放你走，我亲爱的哈丽特。你在哈特菲尔德实在太重要了，万万不能让你去修道院磨坊。”

“**And** I am sure I should never want to go there; for I am never happy but at Hartfield. ”

“我相信我绝不会想要去那儿；因为除了哈特菲尔德，我在哪儿都不会快乐。”

Some time afterwards it was, “I think Mrs. **Goddard** would be very much surprised if she knew what had happened. I am sure Miss Nash would—for Miss Nash thinks her own sister very well married, and it is only a linen-draper. ”

过了一阵子，她又说道：“我想戈达德太太要是知道了这事准会大吃一惊。纳什小姐就更不用说了——她总觉得自己妹妹嫁得极好，其实不过是个布商罢了。”

“**One** should be sorry to see greater pride or refinement in the teacher of a school, Harriet. I dare say Miss Nash would envy you such an opportunity as this of being married. Even this conquest would appear valuable in her eyes. As to any thing superior for you, I suppose she is quite in the dark. The attentions of a certain person can hardly be among the tittle-tattle of Highbury yet. **Hitherto** I fancy you and I are the only people to whom his looks

“哈丽特，看到一个学校的老师表现出更强烈的傲慢或过分讲究，真叫人遗憾。我敢说，纳什小姐会嫉妒你有这样一个结婚的机会。即使是这样一次征服，在她眼里也会显得很有价值。至于对你来说更优越的对象，我想她还完全蒙在鼓里。某位先生的殷勤关注，恐怕还没成为

and manners have explained themselves. ”

海伯里闲言碎语的话题吧。
至今我以为，只有你我二人
能从他的一举一动中看出端
倪。”

Harriet blushed and smiled, and said something about wondering that people should like her so much. **The** idea of Mr. **Elton** was certainly cheering; but still, after a time, she was tender-hearted again towards the rejected Mr. **Martin.**

哈丽特红着脸笑了笑，说自己也不明白为什么大家会这样喜欢她。**埃尔顿**先生的爱慕自然令她欢欣；但过不多时，她又对那位遭她回绝的马丁先生产生了温柔的怜悯。

“Now he has got my letter,” said she softly. “I wonder what they are all doing—whether his sisters know—if he is unhappy, they will be unhappy too. I hope he will not mind it so very much.”

“此刻他该收到我的信了，”她轻声说道，“不知他们此刻在做什么——他的姐妹们是否知晓——倘若他心中不快，她们定也会愁眉不展。但愿他莫要太过介怀。”

“Let us think of those among our absent friends who are more cheerfully employed,” cried Emma. “At this moment, perhaps, Mr. **Elton** is shewing your picture to his mother and sisters, telling how much more beautiful is the original, and after being asked for it five

“让我们想想那些不在场的朋友们，此刻他们正从事着更愉快的事情吧，”爱玛高声说道。“说不定就在此刻，埃尔顿先生正在把你的画像拿给他的母亲和姐妹们看，告

or six times, allowing them to hear your name, your own dear name. ” 诉她们画中人远不及本人美丽，待到她们追问了五六遍之后，才说出你那可爱的芳名。”

“**M**y picture! —**B**ut he has left my picture in Bond-street. ”

“**H**as he so! —**T**hen I know nothing of Mr. **E**lton. **N**o, my dear little modest Harriet, depend upon it the picture will not be in Bond-street till just before he mounts his horse to-morrow. **I**t is his companion all this evening, his solace, his delight. **I**t opens his designs to his family, it introduces you among them, it diffuses through the party those pleasantest feelings of our nature, eager curiosity and warm prepossession. **H**ow cheerful, how animated, how suspicious, how busy their imaginations all are! ” “他当真如此！——那我可真是不了解埃尔顿先生了。不，我亲爱的小哈丽特，你尽管放心，那幅画不到他明天上马前最后一刻，绝不会离开邦德街。今晚它就是他形影不离的伴侣、他的慰藉、他的欢愉。这幅画向他的家人昭示了他的心意，将你引荐到他们中间，让聚会上弥漫着人性中最愉悦的情感——热切的好奇与温暖的偏爱。此刻他们的想象该是多么欢欣、多么活跃、多么猜度、多么忙碌啊！”

Harriet smiled again, and her smiles grew stronger.

哈丽特又笑了，笑容愈发灿烂。

Harriet slept at Hartfield that night. For some weeks past she had been spending more than half her time there, and gradually getting to have a bed-room appropriated to herself; and Emma judged it best in every respect, safest and kindest, to keep her with them as much as possible just at present. She was obliged to go the next morning for an hour or two to Mrs. **Goddard's**, but it was then to be settled that she should return to Hartfield, to make a regular visit of some days.

哈丽特那晚便在哈特菲尔德留宿。近几周来，她大半时光都在此度过，渐渐有了专属的卧房。**爱玛**认为眼下让她尽可能留在身边，无论从哪方面看都是最妥当、最稳妥也最善意的安排。**翌日**早晨她不得不去高达德太太府上逗留一两个时辰，但已说定随后便返回哈特菲尔德作数目的正式拜访。

While she was gone, Mr. **Knightley** called, and sat some time with Mr. **Woodhouse** and Emma, till Mr. **Woodhouse**, who had previously made up his mind to walk out, was persuaded by his daughter not to defer it, and was induced by the entreaties of both, though against the scruples of his own civility, to leave Mr. **Knightley** for that purpose. Mr. **Knightley**, who had nothing of ceremony about him, was offering by his short, decided answers, an amusing contrast to the protracted apologies and civil hesitations of the

她走开的时候，奈特利先生来访了，陪着伍德豪斯先生和爱玛坐了一阵儿。**伍德豪斯**先生本来打算出去散散步，经女儿劝说没有推迟。在两人的恳求下，尽管觉得有失礼节，他还是为了散步把奈特利先生撇下了。**奈特利**先生不拘泥礼节，回答起问题来干脆利落，与对方冗长的致歉和客气的犹豫形成了有趣的对比。

other.

“Well, I believe, if you will excuse me, Mr. **Knightley**, if you will not consider me as doing a very rude thing, I shall take Emma’s advice and go out for a quarter of an hour. **As** the sun is out, I believe I had better take my three turns while I can. **I** treat you without ceremony, Mr. **Knightley**. **We** invalids think we are privileged people.”

好吧，奈特利先生，如果您能原谅我——如果您不认为这是十分失礼的举动，我想接受爱玛的建议，到外面待一刻钟。既然太阳出来了，我想最好趁现在去散步三圈。我对您就不拘礼了，奈特利先生。我们病人总觉得自己是享有特权的人。”

“My dear sir, do not make a stranger of me.” “我亲爱的先生，请别把我当外人。”

“I leave an excellent substitute in my daughter. **Emma** will be happy to entertain you. **And** therefore I think I will beg your excuse and take my three turns—my winter walk.”

“我留下一个绝佳的替代者——我的女儿。爱玛会乐意款待诸位的。因此我想请诸位见谅，容我告退去散步三圈——这是我冬日的惯例。”

“You cannot do better, sir.”

“您不可能做得更好了，先生。”

“I would ask for the pleasure of your company, Mr. **Knightley**, but I am a very slow walker, and my pace would be tedious to you; and,

“奈特利先生，我本想邀您同行，但我步履迟缓，怕您觉得沉闷；况且您还得赶远路

besides, you have another long walk before you, 回唐维尔修道院呢。”
to Donwell Abbey. ”

“**Thank** you, sir, thank you; I am going this moment myself; and I think the sooner you go the better. **I** will fetch your greatcoat and open the garden door for you. ” “谢谢您，先生，谢谢；我这就亲自去；而且我认为您越早动身越好。我去给您取大衣，再为您打开花园的门。”

Mr. Woodhouse at last was off; but **Mr. Knightley**, instead of being immediately off likewise, sat down again, seemingly inclined for more chat. **He** began speaking of Harriet, and speaking of her with more voluntary praise than Emma had ever heard before. 伍德豪斯先生终于走了；但奈特利先生非但没有立刻跟着离开，反倒又坐了下来，似乎还想多聊一会儿。他提起了哈丽特，说起她时那种由衷的赞美，是爱玛从未在他口中听到过的。

“I cannot rate her beauty as you do,” said he; “but she is a pretty little creature, and I am inclined to think very well of her disposition. **Her** character depends upon those she is with; but in good hands she will turn out a valuable woman. ” “我无法像您这般盛赞她的美貌，”他说道，“但她确实是个娇俏的小人儿，我对她的性情也颇有好感。她的品格往往取决于交往的对象；若得良师引导，将来必能成为出众的女子。”

“I am glad you think so; and the good hands, I hope, may not be wanting. ” ”你这么说我很高兴；但愿好手不会短缺。”

“Come,” said he, “you are anxious for a compliment, so I will tell you that you have improved her. You have cured her of her school-girl’s giggle; she really does you credit.”

“来吧,”他说,“你急于听一句恭维话,那我就告诉你,你让她大有长进。你已经治好了她那女学生式的傻笑,她确实给你增了光。”

“Thank you. I should be mortified indeed if I did not believe I had been of some use; but it is not every body who will bestow praise where they may. You do not often overpower me with it.”

“谢谢您。要是我认为自己毫无用处,那就真叫羞愧呢;不过,并非人人都能在该称赞时给予称赞。您就很少用赞美来淹没我。”

“You are expecting her again, you say, this morning?”

“你说,你又在盼着她今早来吗?”

“Almost every moment. She has been gone longer already than she intended.”

“几乎每时每刻都在惦记。她已经比原计划多逗留了些时候。”

“Something has happened to delay her; some visitors perhaps.”

“准是出了什么事耽搁了她;也许是来了什么客人。”

“Highbury gossips! —Tiresome wretches!”

海伯里的闲言碎语!——真是些烦人的家伙!

“Harriet may not consider every body tiresome that you would.”

“哈丽特或许不会像你那样觉得人人都讨人嫌。”

Emma knew this was too true for contradiction, and therefore said nothing. **He** presently added, with a smile,

爱玛知道这确是实情，无法反驳，便没有作声。他随即含笑补充道：

“**I** do not pretend to fix on times or places, but I must tell you that I have good reason to believe your little friend will soon hear of something to her advantage.”

“我不敢妄断具体的时间地点，但我必须告诉你，我有充分理由相信你那位小朋友很快就能听到对她有利的消息。”

“Indeed! how so? of what sort?”

“真的吗！怎么回事？是哪一类的？”

“A very serious sort, I assure you;” still smiling.

“我向你保证，是个非常严肃的人；”她依然含笑说道。

“Very serious! I can think of but one thing —Who is in love with her? Who makes you their confidant?”

“非常严重！我只能想到一件事——谁爱上她了？谁向你吐露了心事？”

Emma was more than half in hopes of Mr. Elton’s having dropt a hint. **Mr. Knightley** was a sort of general friend and adviser, and she knew Mr. Elton looked up to him.

爱玛多半希望埃尔顿先生已经透露过一点风声。奈特利先生是位总领全局的朋友和顾问，她知道埃尔顿先生一向敬重他。

“I have reason to think,” he replied, “that Harriet Smith will soon have an offer of mar-

”我有理由相信，”他答道，“哈丽特·史密斯很快就会

riage, and from a most unexceptionable quarter:—Robert Martin is the man. **Her** visit to Abbey-Mill, this summer, seems to have done his business. **He** is desperately in love and means to marry her. ”

收到求婚，而且对象再合适不过——罗伯特·马丁就是那个人。今年夏天她去修道院磨坊做客，看来促成了这桩好事。他现在爱得神魂颠倒，决意要娶她为妻。”

“**He** is very obliging,” said Emma; “but is he sure that Harriet means to marry him? ”

“他倒是挺热心的，”爱玛说道，“不过，他确定哈丽特愿意嫁给他吗？”

“Well, well, means to make her an offer then. Will that do? **He** came to the Abbey two evenings ago, on purpose to consult me about it. **He** knows I have a thorough regard for him and all his family, and, I believe, considers me as one of his best friends. **He** came to ask me whether I thought it would be imprudent in him to settle so early; whether I thought her too young: in short, whether I approved his choice altogether; having some apprehension perhaps of her being considered (especially since your making so much of her) as in a line of society above him. I was very much pleased with all that he said. I never hear better sense from any one than Robert

“好吧，好吧，那就是打算向她求婚喽。这样总行了吧？前天晚上他特地来修道院找我商量这事。他知道我一向很看重他和他的全家，而且我相信，他把我看作他最好的朋友之一。他来问我，这么早成家是否不够慎重；她是不是太年轻了；总之，我是否完全赞成他的选择。他大概有些担心，怕她（特别是从你如此抬举她之后）被看作社会地位比他高。我对他说的话都非常满意。罗伯特·马丁说的话总是最合情合理

Martin. **H**e always speaks to the purpose; 的。他说话坦诚、直率，又 open, straightforward, and very well judging. 很有见地。他把所有情况都 **H**e told me every thing; his circumstances and 告诉了我：他的家境和计划， plans, and what they all proposed doing in the 以及结婚后的打算。他是个 event of his marriage. **H**e is an excellent young 好青年，既是好儿子，也是好 man, both as son and brother. I had no hesi- 兄长。我毫不犹豫地劝他结 tation in advising him to marry. **H**e proved 婚。他向我证明他是有能力 to me that he could afford it; and that be- 结婚的。既然如此，我深信 ing the case, I was convinced he could not do 他这样做再合适不过了。我 better. I praised the fair lady too, and alto- 也称赞了那位漂亮的小姐, gether sent him away very happy. If he had 总之，让他高高兴兴地走了。 never esteemed my opinion before, he would 如果他以前从不看重我的意 have thought highly of me then; and, I dare 见，那么这次他一定非常重 say, left the house thinking me the best friend 视了。我敢说，他离开我家 and counsellor man ever had. **T**his happened 时，一定认为我是天下最要 the night before last. **N**ow, as we may fairly 好的朋友、最明智的参谋。这 suppose, he would not allow much time to pass 是前天晚上的事。现在， before he spoke to the lady, and as he does not 我们完全可以料想，他会迫不 appear to have spoken yesterday, it is not un- 及待地去跟那位小姐谈。既 likely that he should be at Mrs. **G**oddard's 然他昨天好像没有谈，那 he to-day; and she may be detained by a visitor, 今天很可能到戈达德太太家 without thinking him at all a tiresome wretch. 去了。他去了以后，也许被 ”一位客人耽搁住了，可他并不会觉得人家讨厌。”

“Pray, Mr. Knightley,” said Emma, who “请问，奈特利先生，”爱玛说

had been smiling to herself through a great part of this speech, “how do you know that Mr. Martin did not speak yesterday? ” ——这番话她大半都暗自觉得好笑——“您怎么知道马丁先生昨天没有开口呢?”

“**Certainly,**” replied he, surprized, “I do not absolutely know it; but it may be inferred. **Was** not she the whole day with you? ” ”当然，”他惊讶地答道，”我并不完全确定；但可以推断出来。她不是整天都和你在一起吗？”

“**Come,**” said she, “I will tell you something, in return for what you have told me. **He** did speak yesterday—that is, he wrote, and was refused. ” “来，”她说，“我也告诉你一件事，算是回报你方才的话。他昨天确实说了——确切地说，他写了信，但遭到了拒绝。”

This was obliged to be repeated before it could be believed; and Mr. **Knightley** actually looked red with surprize and displeasure, as he stood up, in tall indignation, and said, 这番话不得不重复了一遍，人家才肯相信；奈特利先生果然涨红了脸，现出又是吃惊又是生气的神情，他站起身来，仿佛满腔义愤地说道：

“**Then** she is a greater simpleton than I ever believed her. **What** is the foolish girl about? ” “那她可是比我想象的还要傻。这傻丫头在干什么呢？”

“**Oh! to** be sure,” cried Emma, “it is always incomprehensible to a man that a woman should ” “哦！那是当然，”爱玛嚷道，“男人总以为女人会拒

ever refuse an offer of marriage. A man always imagines a woman to be ready for any body who asks her.”

绝求婚是件不可思议的事。
男人总幻想女人随时准备接受任何人的求爱。”

“**Nonsense!** a man does not imagine any such thing. **But** what is the meaning of this? **Harriet** Smith refuse Robert Martin? **madness**, if it is so; but I hope you are mistaken.”

“胡说！一个男人根本不会想
象这种事。但这到底是什么
意思？哈丽特·史密斯拒绝
了罗伯特·马丁？若果真如
此，简直是疯了；但愿是你
弄错了。”

“I saw her answer! —**nothing** could be clearer.”

“我看到了她的回信！——再
清楚不过了。”

“**You** saw her answer! —**you** wrote her answer too. **Emma**, this is your doing. You persuaded her to refuse him.”

“你看到了她的回信！——那
回信也是你写的。爱玛，这
都是你干的好事。是你劝她
拒绝他的。”

“**And** if I did, (which, however, I am far from allowing) I should not feel that I had done wrong. **Mr. Martin** is a very respectable young man, but I cannot admit him to be Harriet's equal; and am rather surprised indeed that he should have ventured to address her. By your account, he does seem to have had some scruples. It is a pity that they were ever

“就算我真说了（不过我绝不承认），我也不觉得做错了什么。马丁先生是个很体面的年轻人，但我认为他配不上哈丽特。说实话，他竟敢向她表白，倒让我有些惊讶。照你的说法，他似乎确实有过几分顾虑。可惜这些顾虑

got over. ”

终究还是被克服了。”

“Not Harriet’s equal! ”**exclaimed** Mr. **Knightley** loudly and warmly; and with calmer asperity, added, a few moments afterwards, “No, he is not her equal indeed, for he is as much her superior in sense as in situation. **Emma**, your infatuation about that girl blinds you. **What** are Harriet Smith’s claims, either of birth, nature or education, to any connexion higher than Robert Martin? **She** is the natural daughter of nobody knows whom, with probably no settled provision at all, and certainly no respectable relations. **She** is known only as parlour-boarder at a common school. **She** is not a sensible girl, nor a girl of any information. **She** has been taught nothing useful, and is too young and too simple to have acquired any thing herself. **At** her age she can have no experience, and with her little wit, is not very likely ever to have any that can avail her. **She** is pretty, and she is good tempered, and that is all. **My** only scruple in advising the match was on his account, as being beneath his deserts, and a bad connexion for him. I felt that, as to fortune, in all probability he

“还比不上哈里特!”奈特利先生高声热烈地说道；稍停片刻后，又比较平静但尖刻地补充了一句：“不比她强，说真的，他在这方面和那方面都比她强得多。**爱玛**，你对那姑娘的痴情蒙蔽了你的眼睛。**哈里特·史密斯**有什么权利攀一门高亲呢，论出身，论天性，还是论受的教育？**她**不过是一个无名氏的私生女，也许生活尚无保障，肯定没有体面的亲戚。**大家**只晓得她是一所普通学校的寄宿生。**她**不算聪明，也不懂事。**她**没有学过什么有用的东西，而她又太年轻，太单纯，靠自己是学不到什么的。**她**这个年纪，不可能有什么经验，加上她那点微薄的才智，也不可能获得什么有益的经验。**她**长得漂亮，性情温和，仅此而已。**我**唯一有所顾虑，不便促成这门亲事，

might do much better; and that as to a rational companion or useful helpmate, he could not do worse. **But** I could not reason so to a man in love, and was willing to trust to there being no harm in her, to her having that sort of disposition, which, in good hands, like his, might be easily led aright and turn out very well. **The** advantage of the match I felt to be all on her side; and had not the smallest doubt (nor have I now) that there would be a general cry-out upon her extreme good luck. **Even** your satisfaction I made sure of. It crossed my mind immediately that you would not regret your friend's leaving Highbury, for the sake of her being settled so well. I remember saying to myself, 'Even Emma, with all her partiality for Harriet, will think this a good match. ’'

是从他的利益着想，觉得这门亲事委屈了他，给他找了个不体面的伴侣。**我**觉得，从财产来看，他满可以找一个更合适的姑娘；从情理和实际来看，他也找不到一个更糟糕的伴侣。**我**总不好去跟一个正在热恋中的人讲道理吧，不过我又巴望他能清醒一些，料想她也还不至于坑害他，料想她性情好，只要好好引导，像他那样的人，准能轻而易举地引上正路，结为美满夫妻。**我**觉得这门亲事显然对她有利；我毫不怀疑（现在仍然毫不怀疑），如果这桩婚事真成了，大家都会说她福气好。**不瞒你说**，我当时也满以为你一定会感到称心如意。**我**当即想到，你不会为你的朋友离开海伯里而感到遗憾，因为她攀上了一门这么好的亲事。**我**记得当时自言自语说：‘爱玛尽管那么偏爱哈里特，也会觉得

这是一件大好事。”

“I cannot help wondering at your knowing so little of Emma as to say any such thing. What! think a farmer, (and with all his sense and all his merit Mr. Martin is nothing more,) a good match for my intimate friend! Not regret her leaving Highbury for the sake of marrying a man whom I could never admit as an acquaintance of my own! I wonder you should think it possible for me to have such feelings. I assure you mine are very different. I must think your statement by no means fair. You are not just to Harriet's claims. They would be estimated very differently by others as well as myself; Mr. Martin may be the richest of the two, but he is undoubtedly her inferior as to rank in society. —The sphere in which she moves is much above his. —It would be a degradation.”

“A degradation to illegitimacy and ignorance, to be married to a respectable, intelligent gentleman-farmer!”

“我不禁诧异你竟如此不了解爱玛，说出这等话来。什么！竟认为一个农夫——（马丁先生虽有见识有德行，毕竟不过是个农夫——）配得上我的知交！她离开海伯里去嫁一个我绝不会认作自己相识的人，我竟不为她惋惜！我奇怪你竟以为我可能有这种想法。我向你保证，我的感受截然不同。我必须认为你的说法极不公正。你太低估哈丽特的价值了。别人和我都会对她的评价大不相同——马丁先生也许是两人中较富裕的那个，但就社会地位而言，他无疑比她低微。她所处的社交圈远高于他——这简直是自贬身价。”

“嫁给一位体面、聪明的乡绅，竟被视为沦落到私生与无知的地步！”

“**A**s to the circumstances of her birth, though in a legal sense she may be called Nobody, it will not hold in common sense. **S**he is not to pay for the offence of others, by being held below the level of those with whom she is brought up. —**T**here can scarcely be a doubt that her father is a gentleman—and a gentleman of fortune. —**H**er allowance is very liberal; nothing has ever been grudged for her improvement or comfort. —**T**hat she is a gentleman’s daughter, is indubitable to me; that she associates with gentlemen’s daughters, no one, I apprehend, will deny. —**S**he is superior to Mr. **R**obert Martin.”

”说到她的出身，虽然在法律上或许可称她为无名之辈，但按常理却说不通。她不该因他人的过错而受罚，被置于与她一同长大的人们之下。——几乎毋庸置疑，她的父亲是位绅士——而且是位有产的绅士。她的用度十分宽裕，凡为她的进步与舒适所需，从未有人吝惜。在我看来，她是一位绅士的女儿，这一点确凿无疑；我想也不会有人否认，她交往的皆是绅士家的女儿。——她比罗伯特·马丁先生要高贵得多。”

“**W**hoever might be her parents,” said Mr. **K**nightley, “whoever may have had the charge of her, it does not appear to have been any part of their plan to introduce her into what you would call good society. **A**fter receiving a very indifferent education she is left in Mrs. **G**oddard’s hands to shift as she can; —to move, in short, in Mrs. **G**oddard’s line, to have Mrs. **G**oddard’s acquaintance. **H**er

“不论她的父母是谁，”奈特利先生说，“不论是谁抚养了她，看来他们都没有打算要让她进入你所谓的上流社会。她接受了一套差强人意的教育之后，就被留在戈达德太太手里自谋生路——总之，只能在戈达德太太的圈子里活动，结交戈达德太太的熟人。

friends evidently thought this good enough for her; and it was good enough. **She** desired nothing better herself. **Till** you chose to turn her into a friend, her mind had no distaste for her own set, nor any ambition beyond it. **She** was as happy as possible with the Martins in the summer. **She** had no sense of superiority then. **If** she has it now, you have given it. **You** have been no friend to Harriet Smith, Emma. **Robert** Martin would never have proceeded so far, if he had not felt persuaded of her not being disinclined to him. **I** know him well. **He** has too much real feeling to address any woman on the haphazard of selfish passion. **And** as to conceit, he is the farthest from it of any man I know. **Depend** upon it he had encouragement."

她的亲友们显然觉得这样对
她已经足够，也确实足够了。
她自己也不曾有过更高的奢
求。在你决意要把她当作朋
友之前，她对自己的圈子从
无不满，也从未有过超越这
个圈子的野心。夏天她和马
丁一家相处时，简直快活极
了。那时她丝毫没有优越感。
若是现在有了，那也是你赋
予的。你并不是哈丽特·史
密斯真正的朋友，爱玛。罗
伯特·马丁若不是确信对方
对自己有意，绝不会贸然推
进到这一步。我很了解他，他
性情真挚，绝不会凭着自私
的冲动随意向女子求爱。至
于自负，他是我认识的人里
最与之无缘的。相信我，他
必定得到了对方的鼓励。”

It was most convenient to Emma not to make a direct reply to this assertion; she chose rather to take up her own line of the subject again.

爱玛觉得最好不直接回答这
番话；她宁愿重新拾起自己
的话题。

“**You** are a very warm friend to Mr. Mar-

”你对马丁先生真是一片热

tin; but, as I said before, are unjust to Harriet. **Harriet's** claims to marry well are not so contemptible as you represent them. She is not a clever girl, but she has better sense than you are aware of, and does not deserve to have her understanding spoken of so slightly. **Waiving** that point, however, and supposing her to be, as you describe her, only pretty and good-natured, let me tell you, that in the degree she possesses them, they are not trivial recommendations to the world in general, for she is, in fact, a beautiful girl, and must be thought so by ninety-nine people out of an hundred; and till it appears that men are much more philosophic on the subject of beauty than they are generally supposed; till they do fall in love with well-informed minds instead of handsome faces, a girl, with such loveliness as Harriet, has a certainty of being admired and sought after, of having the power of chusing from among many, consequently a claim to be nice. **Her** good-nature, too, is not so very slight a claim, comprehending, as it does, real, thorough sweetness of temper and manner, a very humble opinion of herself, and

忧；不过正如我刚才说的，这对哈丽特可不公平。哈丽特想要嫁个好人家并非像你说的那样不堪。她虽不算聪慧，但比你想象的要明事理得多，不该被如此轻蔑地评价她的见识。即便暂且不论这点，就算她真如你所说只是相貌可人、性情温顺——请容我告诉你，以她拥有的这些特质，在世俗眼光里绝非无足轻重的优势。她确实是美人儿，百人之中九十九个都会这么认为。除非世人对美色的看法比通常认为的更具哲思，除非男人们真的会爱上渊博的头脑而非姣好的容貌——否则像哈丽特这样可爱的姑娘，注定会受人仰慕追捧，拥有在众多追求者中挑选的资格，自然也有挑剔的底气。再说她的好脾气，这也不是微不足道的长处，其中包含着真正温婉的性情举止，极其谦逊的自

a great readiness to be pleased with other people. I am very much mistaken if your sex in general would not think such beauty, and such temper, the highest claims a woman could possess.”

我认知，以及乐于欣赏他人的胸怀。若我说世上男子大多都会认为，这般美貌与这般性情已是女子所能拥有的最高资本——这话恐怕说得并不为过。”

“Upon my word, Emma, to hear you abusing the reason you have, is almost enough to make me think so too. Better be without sense, than misapply it as you do.”

“说真的，爱玛，听你这样滥用理智，连我都要觉得还是不要理智来得好。与其像你这般误用聪明，倒不如干脆没有头脑。”

“To be sure!” cried she playfully. “I know that is the feeling of you all. I know that such a girl as Harriet is exactly what every man delights in—what at once bewitches his senses and satisfies his judgment. Oh! Harriet may pick and chuse. Were you, yourself, ever to marry, she is the very woman for you. And is she, at seventeen, just entering into life, just beginning to be known, to be wondered at because she does not accept the first offer she receives? No—pray let her have time to look about her.”

“可不是嘛！”她俏皮地嚷道，“我早知道你们都是这般心思。我早知道像哈里特这样的姑娘，正是所有男人都倾心的——既能让感官着迷，又能让理智满足。哦！哈里特大可精挑细选。若是您自己有朝一日要结婚，她正是您的绝配。难道就因为她年方十七，刚步入社会，初露头角，没有接受第一个求婚者，就该惹人非议吗？不——恳请让她有时间好好观

望。”

“I have always thought it a very foolish intimacy,” said Mr. **Knightley** presently, “though I have kept my thoughts to myself; but I now perceive that it will be a very unfortunate one for Harriet. **You** will puff her up with such ideas of her own beauty, and of what she has a claim to, that, in a little while, nobody within her reach will be good enough for her. **Vanity** working on a weak head, produces every sort of mischief. **Nothing** so easy as for a young lady to raise her expectations too high. **Miss** Harriet Smith may not find offers of marriage flow in so fast, though she is a very pretty girl. **Men** of sense, whatever you may chuse to say, do not want silly wives. **Men** of family would not be very fond of connecting themselves with a girl of such obscurity—and most prudent men would be afraid of the inconvenience and disgrace they might be involved in, when the mystery of her parentage came to be revealed. **Let** her marry Robert Martin, and she is safe, respectable, and happy for ever; but if you encourage her to expect to marry greatly, and teach her to be satisfied with nothing less

“我向来认为这段交情愚不可及，”奈特利先生随即说道，“虽然我一直隐忍未言；但现在我意识到它会给哈丽特带来不幸。你会用那些关于她美貌和应得权利的念头把她捧得忘乎所以，要不了多久，她就会觉得身边谁都不配不上她。**虚荣心**作用于薄弱的头脑，会滋生各种祸端。**年轻**小姐好高骛远实在不容易不过。**哈丽特·史密斯**小姐虽是个标致姑娘，却未必能轻易获得那么多求婚。**有头脑的男子**——无论你如何辩驳——都不会想要愚蠢的妻子。**世家子弟**也不愿与身世不明的姑娘联姻——当她的身世之谜揭晓时，谨慎的男士更会担心可能卷入的麻烦与耻辱。**若她嫁给罗伯特·马丁**，便能永远安稳体面、幸福美满；但若你鼓励她攀附高门，教她非名门显贵不嫁，

than a man of consequence and large fortune, 她或许就要在戈达德太太的
she may be a parlour-boarder at Mrs. God- 寄宿学校里当一辈子雅舍生
dard's all the rest of her life—or, at least, (for —或者至少（毕竟哈丽特
Harriet Smith is a girl who will marry some- 总归是要嫁人的）等到心灰
body or other,) till she grow desperate, and is 意冷时，不得不屈就那位老
glad to catch at the old writing-master's son. 书法教师的儿子。”
”

“**We** think so very differently on this point, “奈特利先生，在这个问题上
Mr. **Knightley**, that there can be no use 我们的看法大相径庭，再争
in canvassing it. **We** shall only be making 论下去也无济于事。只会让
each other more angry. **But** as to my _let- 彼此更加不快。至于说我 _
ting_ her marry Robert Martin, it is impossi- 允许 _ 她嫁给罗伯特·马丁，
ble; she has refused him, and so decidedly, I 这绝无可能；她已经拒绝了
think, as must prevent any second application. 他，而且如此决绝，我认为
She must abide by the evil of having refused 这足以阻止他再次求婚。她
him, whatever it may be; and as to the refusal 必须承担拒绝他带来的种种
itself, I will not pretend to say that I might not 不利，不论这不利是什么；
influence her a little; but I assure you there was 至于拒绝本身，我不敢说
very little for me or for any body to do. **His** 没有施加一点影响；但我向
appearance is so much against him, and his 你保证，我能做的或任何人
manner so bad, that if she ever were disposed 能做的都微乎其微。他的相
to favour him, she is not now. **I** can imagine, 貌实在太不讨喜，举止又如
that before she had seen any body superior, she 此粗俗，即便她曾经对他有
might tolerate him. **He** was the brother of her 过好感，现在也荡然无存了。
friends, and he took pains to please her; and 我可以想象，在她没见过更

altogether, having seen nobody better (that must have been his great assistant) she might not, while she was at Abbey-Mill, find him disagreeable. **But** the case is altered now. **She** knows now what gentlemen are; and nothing but a gentleman in education and manner has any chance with Harriet. ”

高尚的绅士之前，或许还能容忍他。他是她好友的兄弟，又费心讨好她；总之，在没见过更优秀的人时（这必定是他最大的助力），她在修道院磨坊期间或许不觉得他讨厌。但今非昔比了。她现在懂得什么是真正的绅士了；除非是受过良好教育、举止得体的绅士，否则绝无可能赢得哈丽特的芳心。”

“**Nonsense**, errant nonsense, as ever was talked! ” cried Mr. **Knightley**. — “**Robert** Martin’s manners have sense, sincerity, and good-humour to recommend them; and his mind has more true gentility than Harriet Smith could understand.”

“一派胡言，简直是胡说八道！”奈特利先生嚷道。——“罗伯特·马丁的举止有见识、真诚、令人愉快；他的思想具有真正的绅士风度，这远非哈丽特·史密斯所能理解。”

Emma made no answer, and tried to look cheerfully unconcerned, but was really feeling uncomfortable and wanting him very much to be gone. **She** did not repent what she had done; she still thought herself a better judge of such a point of female right and refinement

爱玛没有答话，只是尽量装出快活自在的样子，其实心里很不自在，巴不得他快点走开。她并不后悔自己所做的事，依然认为在判断女性的权利和优雅方面，她比他

than he could be; but yet she had a sort of habitual respect for his judgment in general, which made her dislike having it so loudly against her; and to have him sitting just opposite to her in angry state, was very disagreeable. **Some** minutes passed in this unpleasant silence, with only one attempt on Emma's side to talk of the weather, but he made no answer. **He** was thinking. **The** result of his thoughts appeared at last in these words.

来得高明。不过，她总体上还是习惯于尊重他的见解，因而讨厌他这样公然与她对立，板着面孔坐在她对面，真是让人不好受。两人这样不愉快地沉默了几分钟，有一次爱玛想谈谈天气，可他一声不吭。他在思索。最后，他思虑的结果变成了这样几句话。

“**Robert** Martin has no great loss—if he can but think so; and I hope it will not be long before he does. **Your** views for Harriet are best known to yourself; but as you make no secret of your love of match-making, it is fair to suppose that views, and plans, and projects you have;—and as a friend I shall just hint to you that if Elton is the man, I think it will be all labour in vain.”

”罗伯特·马丁若是能想得开，倒也算不得有多大损失——但愿他早日释怀。您为哈丽特筹划的意图，自然您自己最明白；不过您既毫不讳言喜好撮合姻缘，不妨设想您确有种种意图、计划和方案——作为朋友，我稍提醒您一句：倘若您属意埃尔顿，只怕终究是枉费心机。”

Emma laughed and disclaimed. **He** continued,

爱玛笑着推辞。他接着说道，

“**Depend** upon it, Elton will not do. **Elton** is

“你尽管相信，埃尔顿是不成

a very good sort of man, and a very respectable vicar of Highbury, but not at all likely to make an imprudent match. **H**e knows the value of a good income as well as any body. **E**lton may talk sentimentally, but he will act rationally. **H**e is as well acquainted with his own claims, as you can be with Harriet's. **H**e knows that he is a very handsome young man, and a great favourite wherever he goes; and from his general way of talking in unreserved moments, when there are only men present, I am convinced that he does not mean to throw himself away. I have heard him speak with great animation of a large family of young ladies that his sisters are intimate with, who have all twenty thousand pounds apiece. ”

的。埃尔顿是个很好的人，海伯里的牧师也很受人敬重，可决不会贸然缔结一门冒失的婚姻。他跟你我一样，都知道一笔可观收入的价值。埃尔顿说起话来也许很动感情，可做起事来却很有理智。正如你了解哈丽特的种种长处一样，他也了解他自己的种种长处。他知道自己是个十分英俊的青年，走到哪里都很讨人喜欢。从只有男人在场的场合他所流露的言谈举止来看，我深信他决不是个不在意好处的人。我曾听他兴致勃勃地说起过一户人家，那是他妹妹很熟悉的一户人家，家里有几个女儿，每人都有两万镑财产。”

“I am very much obliged to you,” said Emma, laughing again. “If I had set my heart on Mr. Elton's marrying Harriet, it would have been very kind to open my eyes; but at present I only want to keep Harriet to myself. I have done with match-making indeed. I could never

“真是感激不尽，”爱玛又笑了起来，说道，“倘若我一心想要埃尔顿先生娶哈丽特，你点醒我倒是好意；不过眼下我只想把哈丽特留给自己。说真的，我已经不打算做媒

hope to equal my own doings at Randalls. I 了。我哪能指望比得上自己
shall leave off while I am well." 在兰德尔斯的成就呢。我还是
趁早收手为妙。"

"Good morning to you,"—said he, rising and "早上好,"他说着,突然站起
walking off abruptly. He was very much 身走开了。他心烦意乱,既为
vexed. He felt the disappointment of the 那年轻人的失望感到难过,
young man, and was mortified to have been the 又因自己先前认可的举动促
means of promoting it, by the sanction he had 成这般结局而羞愧难当。更
given; and the part which he was persuaded 让他恼火的是,他确信爱玛
Emma had taken in the affair, was provoking 在这件事上插了一手。
him exceedingly.

Emma remained in a state of vexation too; 爱玛也仍处于烦恼之中;不
but there was more indistinctness in the causes 过她烦恼的缘由比他的更为
of her's, than in his. She did not always feel 模糊。她并不像奈特利先生
so absolutely satisfied with herself, so entirely 那样,总能对自己感到绝对
convinced that her opinions were right and her 满意,完全相信自己的见解
adversary's wrong, as Mr. Knightley. He 正确而对手的错误。他怀着
walked off in more complete self-approbation 比她更为圆满的自得之情走
than he left for her. She was not so ma- 开了。然而她并没有十分沮
terially cast down, however, but that a little 丧,只需稍过片刻,再见到
time and the return of Harriet were very ade- 哈丽特回来,就足以使她完
quate restoratives. Harriet's staying away 全恢复常态。哈丽特在外面
so long was beginning to make her uneasy. 逗留了这么久,已经开始让
The possibility of the young man's coming to 她感到不安了。那个年轻人

Mrs. **Goddard**' s that morning, and meeting with Harriet and pleading his own cause, gave alarming ideas. **The** dread of such a failure after all became the prominent uneasiness; and when Harriet appeared, and in very good spirits, and without having any such reason to give for her long absence, she felt a satisfaction which settled her with her own mind, and convinced her, that let Mr. **Knightley** think or say what he would, she had done nothing which woman's friendship and woman's feelings would not justify.

可能那天早上会去戈达德太太那里，与哈丽特见面，为自己申辩——这个念头让她产生了种种惊慌的设想。这种功亏一篑的担忧成了她主要的不安；等到哈丽特回来，见她兴致勃勃，也没有说出什么久不归来的正当理由，她顿时感到心满意足，这使她安下心来，并且确信——无论奈特利先生怎么想、怎么说——她所做的一切都是出于女性之间的友谊和女性的情感，无可指摘。

He had frightened her a little about Mr. **Elton**; but when she considered that Mr. **Knightley** could not have observed him as she had done, neither with the interest, nor (she must be allowed to tell herself, in spite of Mr. **Knightley**' s pretensions) with the skill of such an observer on such a question as herself, that he had spoken it hastily and in anger, she was able to believe, that he had rather said what he wished resentfully to be true, than what he knew any thing about. **He**

奈特利先生方才关于埃尔顿先生的那番话确实令她略感不安；但转念想到奈特利先生不像她那样怀着特殊兴趣观察过埃尔顿先生，也不具备她这般洞察此类问题的敏锐眼光（尽管奈特利先生自视甚高，她仍要暗自承认这点），加之他刚才那番话分明是盛怒之下的冲动之言——她便认定那不过是他出于怨

certainly might have heard Mr. **Elton** speak with more unreserve than she had ever done, and Mr. **Elton** might not be of an imprudent, inconsiderate disposition as to money matters; he might naturally be rather attentive than otherwise to them; but then, Mr. **Knightley** did not make due allowance for the influence of a strong passion at war with all interested motives. Mr. **Knightley** saw no such passion, and of course thought nothing of its effects; but she saw too much of it to feel a doubt of its overcoming any hesitations that a reasonable prudence might originally suggest; and more than a reasonable, becoming degree of prudence, she was very sure did not belong to Mr. **Elton**.

愤而说的气话，绝非基于事实的判断。诚然，他或许听过埃尔顿先生更肆无忌惮的言论，而埃尔顿先生在金钱事务上或许也并非轻率鲁莽之人，反倒会格外精打细算；但奈特利先生终究未能充分估量：当炽烈的情感与利益动机相抗衡时会产生何等力量。奈特利先生未曾察觉这股情愫，自然无从考量其影响；可她亲眼见证过太多，深信这份情感足以击溃任何由合理审慎产生的迟疑——更何况她十分确信，埃尔顿先生本就不具备超乎常理的、恰如其分的谨慎品格。

Harriet' s cheerful look and manner established hers: she came back, not to think of Mr. **Martin**, but to talk of Mr. **Elton**. Miss Nash had been telling her something, which she repeated immediately with great delight. Mr. **Perry** had been to Mrs. **Goddard**' s to attend a sick child, and Miss Nash had seen him, and he had told Miss Nash, that as he was

哈丽特那欢快的神色与举止印证了这一点：她回来并非为了思念马丁先生，倒是要谈论埃尔顿先生。纳什小姐刚告诉她一件事，她立刻兴高采烈地复述起来。佩里先生刚去戈达德太太家诊治一个病孩，纳什小姐遇见他时

coming back yesterday from Clayton Park, he had met Mr. **Elton**, and found to his great surprize, that Mr. **Elton** was actually on his road to London, and not meaning to return till the morrow, though it was the whist-club night, which he had been never known to miss before; and Mr. **Perry** had remonstrated with him about it, and told him how shabby it was in him, their best player, to absent himself, and tried very much to persuade him to put off his journey only one day; but it would not do; Mr. **Elton** had been determined to go on, and had said in a very particular way indeed, that he was going on business which he would not put off for any inducement in the world; and something about a very enviable commission, and being the bearer of something exceedingly precious. **Mr. Perry** could not quite understand him, but he was very sure there must be a lady in the case, and he told him so; and Mr. **Elton** only looked very conscious and smiling, and rode off in great spirits. **Miss Nash** had told her all this, and had talked a great deal more about Mr. **Elton**; and said, looking so very significantly at

听说，昨日从克莱顿公园返回途中他竟遇见了埃尔顿先生，发现他正要前往伦敦，打算次日才归来。可当晚正是惠斯特牌局之夜，这位先生向来风雨无阻；佩里先生为此劝诫他，说作为牌技最精湛的牌手缺席实在不体面，竭力说服他将行程推迟一日。但无济于事——埃尔顿先生去意已决，还用一种极其郑重的口吻宣称，此行是为处理绝不可耽搁的要务，更提及某项令人艳羨的差事，说自己是某件无价之宝的护送者。**佩里**先生虽不甚明白，却断定其中必有位淑女牵涉其中，便直言相询。**埃尔顿**先生闻言只是赧然微笑，神采飞扬地策马而去。**纳什**小姐将此事尽数相告，又滔滔不绝地谈论埃尔顿先生，最后意味深长地望着她说：“虽不敢妄测他此行目的，但若论起被埃尔顿先生

her, "that she did not pretend to understand 倾心的女子，我必认定她是 what his business might be, but she only knew 世间最幸运的人——毋庸置 that any woman whom Mr. **Elton** could pre- 疑，无论品貌风度，世上再 fer, she should think the luckiest woman in the 无人能及埃尔顿先生。" world; for, beyond a doubt, Mr. **Elton** had not his equal for beauty or agreeableness. "

CHAPTER IX

第九章

Mr. Knightley might quarrel with her, but 奈特利先生或许会跟她怄 Emma could not quarrel with herself. **He** was 气，但爱玛却不会跟自己过 so much displeased, that it was longer than 不去。他大为不快，以至于 usual before he came to Hartfield again; and 比往常隔了更久才再次来到 when they did meet, his grave looks shewed 哈特菲尔德；待到两人重逢 that she was not forgiven. **She** was sorry, but 时，他那严肃的神情表明她 could not repent. **On** the contrary, her plans 并未获得宽宥。她感到歉疚, and proceedings were more and more justified 却并无悔意。相反，随着接 and endeared to her by the general appear- 下来数日的情形发展，她的 ances of the next few days. 谋划与行动反倒愈发显得理据充分，令她倍加珍视。

The Picture, elegantly framed, came safely to 那幅画配着典雅的画框，在 hand soon after Mr. **Elton**' s return, and be- 埃尔顿先生回来后不久便安 ing hung over the mantelpiece of the common 然送达。当它被悬挂在公共 sitting-room, he got up to look at it, and sighed 起居室的壁炉上方时，他起 out his half sentences of admiration just as he 身端详，恰如其分地发出断

ought; and as for Harriet's feelings, they were visibly forming themselves into as strong and steady an attachment as her youth and sort of mind admitted. **Emma** was soon perfectly satisfied of Mr. **Martin**' s being no otherwise remembered, than as he furnished a contrast with Mr. **Elton**, of the utmost advantage to the latter.

断续续的赞叹之声；至于哈丽特的感情，显然正随着她稚嫩的年纪和单纯的心性，逐渐凝聚成坚定而持久的倾慕。**爱玛**很快便确信马丁先生已被完全淡忘，仅沦为衬托埃尔顿先生的背景——而这种衬托，恰使后者显得愈发耀眼夺目。

Her views of improving her little friend's mind, by a great deal of useful reading and conversation, had never yet led to more than a few first chapters, and the intention of going on to-morrow. **It** was much easier to chat than to study; much pleasanter to let her imagination range and work at Harriet's fortune, than to be labouring to enlarge her comprehension or exercise it on sober facts; and the only literary pursuit which engaged Harriet at present, the only mental provision she was making for the evening of life, was the collecting and transcribing all the riddles of every sort that she could meet with, into a thin quarto of hot-pressed paper, made up by her friend, and ornamented with ciphers and trophies.

她一心想要通过大量有益的阅读和交谈来提升这位小朋友的心智，但迄今为止，这种努力最多不过开了几个头，总想着明天再继续。闲聊远比学习轻松自在；任想象力驰骋、为哈丽特筹划前程，远比费心拓展她的理解力、或是用严肃事实来训练思维来得愉快。而哈丽特眼下唯一的文学追求，为晚年生活所作的唯一精神储备，便是将所能搜集到的各类谜语誊抄成册——那是她用朋友装订的烫金纸四开薄本，上面还装饰着花押和战利品图案。

In this age of literature, such collections on a very grand scale are not uncommon. Miss Nash, head-teacher at Mrs. Goddard's, had written out at least three hundred; and Harriet, who had taken the first hint of it from her, hoped, with Miss Woodhouse's help, to get a great many more. Emma assisted with her invention, memory and taste; and as Harriet wrote a very pretty hand, it was likely to be an arrangement of the first order, in form as well as quantity.

在如今这个文学盛行的年代，如此规模宏大的收藏并不罕见。戈达德太太学校的女校长纳什小姐至少已抄录了三百段；而哈丽特从她那里得到这个启发后，希望在伍德豪斯小姐的帮助下收集更多。爱玛以她的巧思、记忆与品味相助；加之哈丽特写得一手娟秀字迹，这番整理无论在形式上还是数量上，都堪称一流之作。

Mr. Woodhouse was almost as much interested in the business as the girls, and tried very often to recollect something worth their putting in. "So many clever riddles as there used to be when he was young—he wondered he could not remember them! but he hoped he should in time. "And it always ended in "Kitty, a fair but frozen maid."

伍德豪斯先生对这件事几乎和姑娘们一样兴致勃勃，时常努力回忆些值得她们收录的谜语。”我年轻时总有那么多巧妙的谜语——奇怪怎么现在一个都记不起来！不过我相信迟早会记起来的。”而每次总是以“基蒂，一位美丽却冷若冰霜的姑娘”收场。

His good friend Perry, too, whom he had spoken to on the subject, did not at present rec-

他的好友佩里先生——他同他谈起过此事——此刻也记

ollect any thing of the riddle kind; but he had 不起任何谜语之类的东西；
desired Perry to be upon the watch, and as he 不过他已嘱咐佩里留心注
went about so much, something, he thought, 意，因为他四处走动得多，
might come from that quarter. 或许会从那方面有所收获。

It was by no means his daughter's wish that 绝非他女儿的意愿，要让海
the intellects of Highbury in general should be 伯里众人的才智都听凭差
put under requisition. **M**r. **E**lton was the 遣。她只向埃尔顿先生求助，
only one whose assistance she asked. **H**e was 邀请他贡献任何能回忆起
invited to contribute any really good enigmas, 的真正精彩的谜语、字谜或
charades, or conundrums that he might recol- 诙谐问答。她欣喜地看到他
lect; and she had the pleasure of seeing him 全神贯注地搜肠刮肚，同时
most intently at work with his recollections; 又能察觉到他万分谨慎，绝
and at the same time, as she could perceive, 不让任何失礼的、不蕴含对
most earnestly careful that nothing ungallant, 女性恭维之意的词句溜出唇
nothing that did not breathe a compliment to 齿。他们最文雅的两三个谜
the sex should pass his lips. **T**hey owed to 题都拜他所赐；最后他忆起
him their two or three politest puzzles; and 那首著名的字谜时，带着近
the joy and exultation with which at last he 乎感伤的情致吟诵出来的那
recalled, and rather sentimentally recited, that 种欣喜若狂，更是令人难忘
well-known charade,

My first doth affliction denote, Which my sec- 我的首字表痛苦，次字注定
ond is destin'd to feel And my whole is the best 要承受；合为一体乃良药，能
antidote That affliction to soften and heal. — 抚伤痛愈忧愁。

made her quite sorry to acknowledge that they had transcribed it some pages ago already. 令她颇感歉疚的是，不得不承认早在几页之前他们就已经誊写完毕了。

“**Why** will not you write one yourself for us, Mr. **Elton?** ”**said** she; “that is the only security for its freshness; and nothing could be easier to you. ”

“埃尔顿先生，你何不亲自为我们写一首呢？”她说道，“唯有如此才能确保其清新自然，况且这对你来说易如反掌。”

“**Oh no!** **he** had never written, hardly ever, any thing of the kind in his life. **The** stupidest fellow! **He** was afraid not even Miss Woodhouse”—he stopt a moment—“or Miss Smith could inspire him. ”

“哦，不！他这辈子几乎从没写过这类东西。真是最蠢的家伙！恐怕连伍德豪斯小姐”——他停顿片刻——“或是史密斯小姐也激发不了他的灵感。”

The very next day however produced some proof of inspiration. **He** called for a few moments, just to leave a piece of paper on the table containing, as he said, a charade, which a friend of his had addressed to a young lady, the object of his admiration, but which, from his manner, Emma was immediately convinced must be his own.

然而就在第二天，便有了灵感的明证。他来访片刻，只为在桌上留一张纸片——据他所说，上面写着首字谜诗，是他一位朋友写给某位年轻小姐的倾慕之作。但看他的神态，爱玛当即断定这必是出自他本人手笔。

“I do not offer it for Miss Smith’s collection,” “我并非要将此物献给史密

said he. “**Being** my friend’s, I have no right to expose it in any degree to the public eye, but perhaps you may not dislike looking at it.”

斯小姐的收藏，”他说道，“既是友人之作，我无权将其公之于众，但或许您不会介意观赏一番。”

The speech was more to Emma than to Harriet, which Emma could understand. **There** was deep consciousness about him, and he found it easier to meet her eye than her friend’s. **He** was gone the next moment:—after another moment’s pause,

这话多半是对爱玛说的，而不是对哈丽特，这一点爱玛能够理解。他显得深有感触，觉得看着她的眼睛比看着她朋友的眼睛要自在些。紧接着他就走了——又停顿了片刻之后——

“**Take** it,” said Emma, smiling, and pushing the paper towards Harriet—“it is for you. **Take** your own.”

”收下吧，”爱玛微笑着说，把那张纸朝哈丽特推过去——“这是给你的。收好你自己的。”

But Harriet was in a tremor, and could not touch it; and Emma, never loth to be first, was obliged to examine it herself.

但哈丽特激动得浑身发抖，不敢伸手去碰；而爱玛向来不羞于争先，便只好亲自上前查看。

To Miss——

致——小姐

CHARADE.

字谜。

My first displays the wealth and pomp of 我的前半显示帝王的荣华，

kings, Lords of the earth! **their** luxury and 世上的君主！穷奢极侈。我
ease. **Another** view of man, my second 的后半展现人类的另一面,
brings, Behold him there, the monarch of the 看啊，他成了海上的霸王！
seas!

But ah! **united**, what reverse we have! 然而啊！一旦结合，何等颠
Man's boasted power and freedom, all are 倒乾坤！人类自诩的力量与
flown; Lord of the earth and sea, he bends 自由，尽皆消散；虽为陆海
a slave, And woman, lovely woman, reigns 之主，却躬身如奴，而女子，
alone. 可爱的女子，唯她独掌君权。

Thy ready wit the word will soon supply, May 你那敏捷的才思自会即刻接
its approval beam in that soft eye! 上诗句，愿它的赞许在你柔
和的眼眸中闪亮！

She cast her eye over it, pondered, caught the 她将目光投向字谜，沉吟片
meaning, read it through again to be quite 刻，恍然大悟，又从头细读
certain, and quite mistress of the lines, and 一遍以确认真意、完全领会
then passing it to Harriet, sat happily smil- 诗句精髓后，这才把纸条递
ing, and saying to herself, while Harriet was 给哈丽特，自己则怡然含笑
puzzling over the paper in all the confusion 坐着。当哈丽特正对着纸条
of hope and dulness, “Very well, Mr. **Elton**, 绞尽脑汁，在希冀与懵懂间
very well indeed. **I** have read worse charades. 困惑不已时，她暗自思忖：“
Courtship—a very good hint. **I** give you 妙极了，埃尔顿先生，当真妙
credit for it. **This** is feeling your way. **This** is 极。比这更蹩脚的字谜我也
saying very plainly—‘Pray, Miss Smith, give 见过。’求偶’——这暗示着

me leave to pay my addresses to you. **A**p-
prove my charade and my intentions in the
same glance. ’

实高明。我该夸您一句。这
是在试探风向呢。分明是在
说——’史密斯小姐，恳请您
准许我向您献殷勤。愿您能
在读懂字谜的瞬间，也读懂
我的心意。’”

May its approval beam in that soft eye!

愿那温柔的眸子流露出赞许
的光芒！

Harriet exactly. **Soft** is the very word for her
eye—of all epithets, the justest that could be
given.

哈丽特正是如此。**温柔**—
用来形容她的眼神再贴切不
过了，在所有修饰语中，这
恰是最恰当的。

Thy ready wit the word will soon supply.

你的机智自会立刻找到恰当
的字眼。

Humph—Harriet’ s ready wit! **All** the
better. **A** man must be very much in love, in-
deed, to describe her so. **Ah! Mr. Knight-**
ley, I wish you had the benefit of this; I think
this would convince you. **For** once in your life
you would be obliged to own yourself mistaken.
An excellent charade indeed! **and** very much
to the purpose. **Things** must come to a crisis
soon now. ”

“哼——哈丽特机敏过人！那
再好不过了。一个男人若不
是爱到极处，断不会这般形
容她。啊！奈特利先生，但
愿你此刻在场听听这话；我
想这总该叫你信服了。你这
辈子头一回非得承认自己看
走眼不可。这谜语出得确实
妙极！正中要害。眼下事情

该快要见分晓了。”

She was obliged to break off from these very pleasant observations, which were otherwise of a sort to run into great length, by the eagerness of Harriet's wondering questions.

她不得不中断这些愉快的思绪，否则它们很可能会无限延伸下去——因为哈丽特急切地提出了许多充满惊奇的问题。

“**What** can it be, Miss Woodhouse? —**what** can it be? **I** have not an idea—I cannot guess it in the least. **What** can it possibly be? **Do** try to find it out, Miss Woodhouse. **Do** help me. I never saw any thing so hard. **Is** it kingdom? I wonder who the friend was—and who could be the young lady. **Do** you think it is a good one? **Can** it be woman?

“会是什么字呢，伍德豪斯小姐?——会是什么字呢?我一点也想不出来——我一点也猜不着。那可能是什么字呢?伍德豪斯小姐，你尽量猜猜看。帮帮我呀。我从没见过这么难猜的字谜。是‘王国’吗?不知道那位朋友是谁——那位年轻小姐又会是谁。你觉得这个字谜好吗?会不会是‘女人’呢?

And woman, lovely woman, reigns alone.

而女人，可爱的女人，独自君临天下。

Can it be Neptune?

这难道是海王星?

Behold him there, the monarch of the seas!

看啊，他就在那儿，统御七海的君王!

Or a trident? or a mermaid? or a shark? ” 还是三叉戟？还是美人鱼？
Oh, no! shark is only one syllable. It must 还是鲨鱼？啊，不对！鲨鱼
be very clever, or he would not have brought 只有一个音节。这谜语必定
it. Oh! Miss Woodhouse, do you think we 十分巧妙，否则他不会拿来
shall ever find it out? ” 考我们。哦！伍德豪斯小姐，
您觉得我们能猜出来吗？”

“Mermaids and sharks! Nonsense! My “美人鱼和鲨鱼！胡说八道！
dear Harriet, what are you thinking of? 我亲爱的哈丽特，你在想些
Where would be the use of his bringing us 什么？他拿朋友编的关于美
a charade made by a friend upon a mermaid 人鱼或鲨鱼的字谜给我们
or a shark? Give me the paper and listen. 猜，又有什么意思？把纸给
我，听着。”

For Miss ——, read Miss Smith.

至于——小姐，请读作史密斯小姐。

My first displays the wealth and pomp of 我首句展现君王富贵与排
kings, Lords of the earth! their luxury and 场，世间主宰！其奢靡与安
ease. 逸。

That is _court_.

那才叫献殷勤。

Another view of man, my second brings; Be-
hold him there, the monarch of the seas!

又一番景象，我的第二幕呈
现；看啊，他就在那儿，海
洋的主宰！

That is _ship_—plain as it can be. —Now 那是”船”字——再明白不过

for the cream.

But ah! **united**, (_courtship_, you know,) what reverse we have! **Man's** boasted power and freedom, all are flown. **Lord** of the earth and sea, he bends a slave, And woman, lovely woman, reigns alone.

A very proper compliment! —and then follows the application, which I think, my dear Harriet, you cannot find much difficulty in comprehending. **Read** it in comfort to yourself. **There** can be no doubt of its being written for you and to you."

Harriet could not long resist so delightful a persuasion. **She** read the concluding lines, and was all flutter and happiness. **She** could not speak. **But** she was not wanted to speak. **It** was enough for her to feel. **Emma** spoke for her.

"**There** is so pointed, and so particular a

了。——现在来看”奶油”二字。

可是啊！一旦结合，（你明白，就是求爱之后，）局面便全然颠倒！人类自诩的力量与自由，尽皆消散。虽为陆地海洋之主，他却俯首为奴，而女子，可爱的女子，唯她独掌王权。

”这恭维话说得真得体！——接着便是那番表白，我亲爱的哈丽特，我想你领会起来不会有太多困难。你且安心读下去吧。毫无疑问，这信是写给你、献给你的。”

哈丽特无法长久抗拒如此令人欣喜的劝说。**她**读完最后几行字，整个人都沉浸在雀跃与幸福之中。**她说不出话来，但此刻也不需要她言语。对她而言，能够感受便已足够。爱玛替她道出了心声。**

meaning in this compliment," said she, "that I cannot have a doubt as to Mr. **Elton**' s intentions. **You** are his object—and you will soon receive the completest proof of it. **I** thought it must be so. **I** thought I could not be so deceived; but now, it is clear; the state of his mind is as clear and decided, as my wishes on the subject have been ever since I knew you. **Yes**, Harriet, just so long have I been wanting the very circumstance to happen that has happened. **I** could never tell whether an attachment between you and Mr. **Elton** were most desirable or most natural. **Its** probability and its eligibility have really so equalled each other! **I** am very happy. **I** congratulate you, my dear Harriet, with all my heart. **This** is an attachment which a woman may well feel pride in creating. **This** is a connexion which offers nothing but good. **It** will give you every thing that you want—consideration, independence, a proper home—it will fix you in the centre of all your real friends, close to Hartfield and to me, and confirm our intimacy for ever. **This**, Harriet, is an alliance which can never raise a blush in either of us."

如此特别，”她说道，“我毫不怀疑埃尔顿先生的意图。你就是他的目标——你很快就能得到最确凿的证据。我早就料到会是这样。我原以为自己不会看走眼；现在总算真相大白了；他的心思和我自从认识你以来对这个问题的期望一样明朗而坚定。是啊，哈丽特，我期盼发生这样的事已经很久很久了。我始终说不清你与埃尔顿先生之间的情愫究竟是众望所归，还是水到渠成。其可能性与合宜性竟如此旗鼓相当！我真是满心欢喜。衷心祝贺你，亲爱的哈丽特。能让一位男子倾心至此，是足以令女子引以为豪的姻缘。这段关系只会带来幸福。它将赋予你渴望的一切——体面、独立、安稳的家——让你永远置身于真心好友之间，紧邻哈特菲尔德与我，使我们情谊永固。哈丽特，这样的结合永

远不会让你我蒙羞。”

“Dear Miss Woodhouse! ”—and “Dear Miss Woodhouse,” was all that Harriet, with many tender embraces could articulate at first; but when they did arrive at something more like conversation, it was sufficiently clear to her friend that she saw, felt, anticipated, and remembered just as she ought. Mr. Elton’s superiority had very ample acknowledgment.

”亲爱的伍德豪斯小姐! ”——”亲爱的伍德豪斯小姐，”这便是哈丽特最初含着无数温柔拥抱所能倾吐的全部言语；待她们终于能够进行更像对话的交流时，她的友人便完全明白——她的所见、所感、所期、所忆，皆恰如其分。埃尔顿先生的优越地位得到了极其充分的认可。

“Whatever you say is always right,” cried Harriet, “and therefore I suppose, and believe, and hope it must be so; but otherwise I could not have imagined it. It is so much beyond any thing I deserve. Mr. Elton, who might marry any body! There cannot be two opinions about him. He is so very superior. Only think of those sweet verses—‘To Miss _____.’ Dear me, how clever! —Could it really be meant for me?”

”您说的总是对的，”哈丽特嚷道，“所以我想，我相信，也希望一定是这样；要不然我根本想不到。这远远超出了我应得的。埃尔顿先生，他娶谁都行啊！大家对他的看法不会有分歧。他是那么出众。想想那些美妙的诗句——‘致某小姐’。天哪，多聪明啊！——这真是写给我的吗？”

“I cannot make a question, or listen to a question about that. **It** is a certainty. **Receive** it on my judgment. **It** is a sort of prologue to the play, a motto to the chapter; and will be soon followed by matter-of-fact prose.”

关于这件事，我既不能提出疑问，也不能听取疑问。这是确凿无疑的。请相信我的判断。这好比戏剧的序幕，章节的箴言；紧接着就要展开平铺直叙的散文了。

“**It** is a sort of thing which nobody could have expected. I am sure, a month ago, I had no more idea myself! —**The** strangest things do take place!”

”这种事真是谁也料不到的。我敢说，一个月前我自己都还毫无头绪！——最离奇的事情确实会发生呢！”

“**When** Miss Smiths and Mr. **Eltons** get acquainted—they do indeed—and really it is strange; it is out of the common course that what is so evidently, so palpably desirable—what courts the pre-arrangement of other people, should so immediately shape itself into the proper form. **You** and Mr. **Elton** are by situation called together; you belong to one another by every circumstance of your respective homes. **Your** marrying will be equal to the match at Randalls. **There** does seem to be a something in the air of Hartfield which gives love exactly the right direction, and sends it into the very channel where it ought to flow.

”史密斯小姐和埃尔顿先生相识之后——他们确实相识了——说来也怪，这般明摆着天造地设的姻缘——这般理应顺水推舟的良缘，竟能如此迅速地步入正轨，实在超乎寻常。您与埃尔顿先生因境遇而相聚，彼此的家世背景更是珠联璧合。若二位成婚，简直堪与兰德尔斯的姻缘媲美。哈特菲尔德这方天地间，似乎当真萦绕着某种指引爱情的灵气，总能让情愫循着命定的轨迹涓涓流

淌。”

The course of true love never did run smooth 真爱之路永无坦途——

A Hartfield edition of Shakespeare would have a long note on that passage.”

哈特菲尔德版的莎士比亚集，定会为那段文字加上一条长长的注解。

“**That** Mr. **Elton** should really be in love with me,—me, of all people, who did not know him, to speak to him, at Michaelmas! **And** he, the very handsomest man that ever was, and a man that every body looks up to, quite like Mr. **Knightley!** His company so sought after, that every body says he need not eat a single meal by himself if he does not chuse it; that he has more invitations than there are days in the week. **And** so excellent in the Church! **Miss** Nash has put down all the texts he has ever preached from since he came to Highbury. **Dear** me! **When** I look back to the first time I saw him! **How** little did I think! — **The** two Abbots and I ran into the front room and peeped through the blind when we heard he was going by, and **Miss** Nash came and

埃尔顿先生居然会爱上我——偏偏是我，在米迦勒节时还不认识他，没跟他说过话呢！而他又是世上最英俊的男子，人人都敬重他，简直像奈特利先生一样！他的应酬那么多，人人都说他若是不愿意，根本用不着独自吃一顿饭。他收到的请柬比一周的天数还要多。在教堂里又是那么出色！纳什小姐把他来海伯里后所有布道的经文都记下来了。天哪！回想起我第一次见到他的情形！我哪里想得到啊！——当时听说他路过，两个阿博特和我赶紧跑进前屋，从百叶窗

scolded us away, and staid to look through herself; however, she called me back presently, and let me look too, which was very good-natured. **And** how beautiful we thought he looked! **He** was arm-in-arm with Mr. **Cole.** ”

缝里偷看，纳什小姐过来骂着把我们赶走，自己却留在那儿看。不过她马上又把我叫回来，让我也看看，真是好心。我们当时觉得他多英俊啊！他和科尔先生手挽着手走着呢。

“**This** is an alliance which, whoever—whatever your friends may be, must be agreeable to them, provided at least they have common sense; and we are not to be addressing our conduct to fools. **If** they are anxious to see you happily married, here is a man whose amiable character gives every assurance of it;—if they wish to have you settled in the same country and circle which they have chosen to place you in, here it will be accomplished; and if their only object is that you should, in the common phrase, be well married, here is the comfortable fortune, the respectable establishment, the rise in the world which must satisfy them.”

“这门亲事，无论你的朋友们是谁——只要他们还有一点起码的见识，都必定会感到满意。我们行事原就不必迎合愚人之见。倘若他们期盼你觅得美满姻缘，这位先生温厚的品性便是最佳明证；倘若他们希望你安居于他们为你择定的乡邻圈子，此事正可如愿以偿；倘若他们唯一的期许只是俗语所谓的‘嫁得体面’，那么眼前这份殷实的家产、体面的宅邸，以及社会地位的提升，都足以令他们称心如意了。”

“**Yes**, very true. **How** nicely you talk; I love to hear you. **You** understand every thing. **You**

“是啊，千真万确。你说得真动听；我爱听你说话。你什

and Mr. **Elton** are one as clever as the other. 么都能领会。你和埃尔顿先生一样聪明。这个字谜！——
This charade! —If I had studied a twelve-month, I could never have made any thing like 我就是琢磨上一年，也写不出这样的佳作。”

“I thought he meant to try his skill, by his manner of declining it yesterday.”

“我原以为他昨天的推辞方式，是想显显自己的本事呢。”

“I do think it is, without exception, the best charade I ever read.”

“我确实认为，这无疑是我读过的最好的字谜。”

“I never read one more to the purpose, certainly.”

“我确实从未读过比这更切题的书信了。”

“It is as long again as almost all we have had before.”

这比我们之前几乎所有的加起来还要长。

“I do not consider its length as particularly in its favour. Such things in general cannot be too short.”

“我并不认为篇幅长是它特别可取之处。这类作品通常越短越好。”

Harriet was too intent on the lines to hear. The most satisfactory comparisons were rising in her mind.

哈里特全神贯注地读着诗句，根本没听见。她心中正涌起最令人满意的比较。

“It is one thing,” said she, presently—her cheeks in a glow—“to have very good sense in a

她立刻说道，脸颊泛着红晕——“以寻常方式拥有良好

common way, like every body else, and if there is any thing to say, to sit down and write a letter, and say just what you must, in a short way; and another, to write verses and charades like this. ”

的判断力, 像其他人一样, 若有什么要说, 便坐下来写信, 简短地说出必须说的话, 这是一回事; 而写出这样的诗句和字谜, 则是另一回事。”

Emma could not have desired a more spirited rejection of Mr. **Martin'**s prose.

爱玛再想不出比这更干脆的对马丁先生那篇散文的拒绝了。

“**Such** sweet lines! ”**continued** Harriet— “these two last! —**But** how shall I ever be able to return the paper, or say I have found it out? —**Oh!** **Miss** Woodhouse, what can we do about that? ”

“多么美妙的诗句啊!”哈丽特继续念道——“最后这两行! ——可我该怎么归还这张纸, 或者说我已经发现它了呢? ——哦! 伍德豪斯小姐, 我们该怎么办才好呢?”

“Leave it to me. **You** do nothing. **He** will be here this evening, I dare say, and then I will give it him back, and some nonsense or other will pass between us, and you shall not be committed. —**Your** soft eyes shall chuse their own time for beaming. **Trust** to me. ”

“这事交给我吧, 你什么都不用做。我敢说他今晚就会来, 到时候我自会还给他, 我们俩总要说些不着边际的玩笑话——绝不会把你牵扯进来。你那双温柔的眸子, 爱什么时候流光溢彩都随你。只管信我。”

“**Oh!** **Miss** Woodhouse, what a pity that I ”

“哦! 伍德豪斯小姐, 多可惜

must not write this beautiful charade into my book! I am sure I have not got one half so good.” 啊，我不能把这首绝妙的字谜抄进我的本子里！我敢说我的收藏里连一半这么好的都没有。”

“Leave out the two last lines, and there is no reason why you should not write it into your book.”

“Oh! but those two lines are”—

— “The best of all. Granted;—for private enjoyment; and for private enjoyment keep them. They are not at all the less written you know, because you divide them. The couplet does not cease to be, nor does its meaning change. But take it away, and all _appropriation_ ceases, and a very pretty gallant charade remains, fit for any collection. Depend upon it, he would not like to have his charade slighted, much better than his passion. A poet in love must be encouraged in both capacities, or neither. Give me the book, I will write it down, and then there can be no possible reflection on you.”

“只要删去最后两行，你尽可以把它抄进你的本子里去。”

“哦！可是那两行诗是——”

”再好不过了。我同意——就私下欣赏而言；那就留着私下欣赏吧。你要知道，即使你把它分开，这些诗句的价值也丝毫不会减损。那对句依然存在，它的意义也未曾改变。但若将署名去掉，一切专属权便不复存在，只留下一首相当漂亮的殷勤字谜，足以收录进任何谜语集。相信我，他宁愿自己的字谜受到轻视，也不愿自己的深情被怠慢。一个坠入情网的诗人，必须同时在诗才和情感上得到鼓励，否则就一样

也别鼓励。把本子给我，我来把它抄下来，这样你就绝不会受到任何非议了。”

Harriet submitted, though her mind could hardly separate the parts, so as to feel quite sure that her friend were not writing down a declaration of love. **It** seemed too precious an offering for any degree of publicity.

哈丽特顺从了，尽管她心里几乎无法理清头绪，总觉得无法完全确信她的朋友不是在写下一封情书。这份心意太过珍贵，似乎不该被任何程度的公开所玷污。

“I shall never let that book go out of my own hands,” said she.

“我绝不会让那本书离开我的手，”她说道。

“**Very** well,” replied Emma; “a most natural ”很好，“爱玛答道，”这是 feeling; and the longer it lasts, the better I shall be pleased. **But** here is my father coming: you will not object to my reading the charade to him. **It** will be giving him so much pleasure! **He** loves any thing of the sort, and especially any thing that pays woman a compliment. **He** has the tenderest spirit of gallantry towards us all! —**You** must let me read it to him. ”

再自然不过的感情了。这种心情持续得越久，我就越高兴。不过家父来了——您不会反对我把这首字谜念给他听吧。这会给他带来莫大的快乐！他对这类作品向来喜爱有加，特别是那些赞美女性的作品。他对我们所有女性都怀着最温柔的殷勤之意！——您务必让我念给他听。”

Harriet looked grave.

哈丽特神情严肃。

“My dear Harriet, you must not refine too much upon this charade. —**You** will betray your feelings improperly, if you are too conscious and too quick, and appear to affix more meaning, or even quite all the meaning which may be affixed to it. **Do** not be overpowered by such a little tribute of admiration. **If** he had been anxious for secrecy, he would not have left the paper while I was by; but he rather pushed it towards me than towards you. **Do** not let us be too solemn on the business. **He** has encouragement enough to proceed, without our sighing out our souls over this charade.”

“Oh! no—I hope I shall not be ridiculous about it. **Do** as you please.”

Mr. Woodhouse came in, and very soon led to the subject again, by the recurrence of his very frequent inquiry of “Well, my dears, how does your book go on? —**Have** you got any thing fresh?”

“我亲爱的哈丽特，你切不可对这首字谜想得太多——倘若你过于敏感、过于急切，流露出你领会了其中全部或大部分含义，那反倒会不恰当地泄露你的心迹。别让这样一点小小的赞颂之词就冲昏了头脑。他若是真想保密，就不会趁我在场时把字条留下；他递纸条时更像是朝我这边推，而不是朝你。我们不必把这事看得太郑重。即使没有我们为这首字谜唉声叹气，他得到的鼓励也足够他继续行动了。”

“噢！不——我希望我不会为此显得可笑。随你的便吧。”

伍德豪斯先生走了进来，很快又把话题引了回去，因为他那惯常的询问又来了：“怎么样，亲爱的孩子们，你们的书进展如何？——可有什么新收获？”

“Yes, papa; we have something to read you, something quite fresh. A piece of paper was found on the table this morning—(dropt, we suppose, by a fairy)—containing a very pretty charade, and we have just copied it in.”

“是的，爸爸；我们有段新鲜文字要念给您听呢。今早在桌上发现一张字条——（想必是仙子遗落的）——上面写着首绝妙的字谜诗，我们刚把它誊抄下来。”

She read it to him, just as he liked to have any thing read, slowly and distinctly, and two or three times over, with explanations of every part as she proceeded—and he was very much pleased, and, as she had foreseen, especially struck with the complimentary conclusion.

她按照他喜欢的方式，把信慢慢而清晰地读给他听，每段都要重复两三遍，边读边逐句解释——他听得非常满意，尤其如她所预料的那样，对结尾那些恭维话格外受用。

“Aye, that's very just, indeed, that's very properly said. **Very** true. ‘**Woman**, lovely woman. ’**It** is such a pretty charade, my dear, that I can easily guess what fairy brought it. —**Nobody** could have written so prettily, but you, Emma.”

“啊，这确实很公正，说得非常得体。千真万确。‘女人，可爱的女人。’这字谜真讨人喜欢，亲爱的，我一下子就能猜到是哪位仙子送来的——除了你，爱玛，再没人能写得这般巧妙了。”

Emma only nodded, and smiled. —**After** a little thinking, and a very tender sigh, he added,

爱玛只是点了点头，微微一笑。他略加思索，轻轻叹了口气，又说道：

“Ah! it is no difficulty to see who you take “啊！不难看出你像谁！你亲
after! Your dear mother was so clever at all 爱的母亲在这些事上可真是
those things! If I had but her memory! But I 聪明！我要是能有她那样
can remember nothing;—not even that partic- 记性就好了！可我什么也记
ular riddle which you have heard me mention; 不住——就连我跟你提过的
I can only recollect the first stanza; and there 那首特别的谜语也记不住；
are several. 我只记得第一节；后面还有
好几节呢。”

Kitty, a fair but frozen maid, Kindled a flame 一位冰清玉洁的冷面娇娃，
I yet deplore, The hood-wink'd boy I called to 竟点燃我至今痛惜的火焰，
aid, Though of his near approach afraid, So 那蒙眼顽童我唤来相助，虽
fatal to my suit before. 畏惧他再度临近身旁，他早
对我的恳求施以重创。

And that is all that I can recollect of it—but 我只记得这些了——不过通
it is very clever all the way through. But I 篇都写得非常巧妙。不过，亲
think, my dear, you said you had got it.” 爱的，我想你刚才说你已经
拿到这首诗了吧。

“Yes, papa, it is written out in our second “是的，爸爸，就写在第二页
page. We copied it from the Elegant Extracts. 上。我们是从《雅萃集》里
It was Garrick's, you know.” 抄来的。您知道，这是加里
克先生的诗句。”

“Aye, very true. —I wish I could recollect “啊，确实如此——可惜我记
more of it. 不起更多了。

Kitty, a fair but frozen maid.

基蒂，一位美丽却冷若冰霜的少女。

The name makes me think of poor Isabella; for she was very near being christened Catherine after her grandmama. I hope we shall have her here next week. Have you thought, my dear, where you shall put her—and what room there will be for the children? ”

这名字让我想起了可怜的伊莎贝拉；她当初差点就用了她外婆的名字凯瑟琳受洗。我希望下星期她能到这儿来。亲爱的，你可曾想过把她安置在哪儿——孩子们又该住哪个房间呢？

“Oh! yes—she will have her own room, of course; the room she always has;—and there is the nursery for the children,—just as usual, you know. Why should there be any change? ”

“哦！是啊——她当然要有自己的房间，就是她常住的那间——孩子们也有育儿室——照旧安排，你知道的。何必作什么变动呢？”

“I do not know, my dear—but it is so long since she was here! —not since last Easter, and then only for a few days. —Mr. John Knightley's being a lawyer is very inconvenient. —Poor Isabella! —she is sadly taken away from us all! —and how sorry she will be when she comes, not to see Miss Taylor here! ”

“我不知道，亲爱的——可她好久没来了！——上次来还是复活节，只待了几天。——约翰·奈特利先生当律师实在不方便。——可怜的伊莎贝拉！——她离开我们大家多叫人伤心！——等来了发现泰勒小姐不在这儿，她该多难过啊！”

“She will not be surprized, papa, at least. ” “爸爸，至少她是不会感到意外的。”

“I do not know, my dear. I am sure I was very much surprized when I first heard she was going to be married. ” “我不知道，亲爱的。我初次听说她要结婚时，确实感到非常意外。”

“We must ask Mr. **and** Mrs. **Weston** to dine with us, while Isabella is here. ” 趁伊莎贝拉在此地，我们务必邀请韦斯顿夫妇来与我们共进晚餐。

“Yes, my dear, if there is time. —**But**—(in a very depressed tone)—she is coming for only one week. **There** will not be time for any thing. ” “是的，亲爱的，要是有时间的话——可是——（语气十分消沉）她只来住一个星期。哪来得及准备什么像样的活动呢。”

“It is unfortunate that they cannot stay longer—but it seems a case of necessity. **Mr. John Knightley** must be in town again on the 28th, and we ought to be thankful, papa, that we are to have the whole of the time they can give to the country, that two or three days are not to be taken out for the Abbey. **Mr. Knightley** promises to give up his claim this Christmas—though you know it is longer since they were with him, than with us. ” 可惜他们不能多住些日子——不过看来也是迫不得已。**约翰·奈特利先生**必须在二十八号前回到城里，我们应当知足了，爸爸，他们能在乡下待的日子全给了我们，不用再分两三天去修道院做客。**奈特利先生**答应今年圣诞节把团聚的机会让给我们——虽然您知道，他们

上次在他家住的时间可比在
我们家长多了。”

“It would be very hard, indeed, my dear, if poor Isabella were to be anywhere but at Hartfield.” “我亲爱的，要是可怜的伊莎贝拉不住在哈特菲尔德，那就真叫人难受。”

Mr. Woodhouse could never allow for Mr. Knightley's claims on his brother, or anybody's claims on Isabella, except his own. He sat musing a little while, and then said, 伍德豪斯先生向来不肯承认奈特利先生对他兄弟有什么权利，也不肯承认任何人对他伊莎贝拉有什么权利，只有他自己才有权利。他坐着沉思了一会儿，然后说道：

“But I do not see why poor Isabella should be obliged to go back so soon, though he does. I think, Emma, I shall try and persuade her to stay longer with us. She and the children might stay very well.” “可我不明白为什么可怜的伊莎贝拉非得这么快就回去，尽管他这么想。爱玛，我觉得我该试着劝她多住些日子。她和孩子们大可以好好住下去的。”

“Ah! papa—that is what you never have been able to accomplish, and I do not think you ever will. Isabella cannot bear to stay behind her husband.” “啊！爸爸——这正是您从未能办到的事，我看您永远也办不到。伊莎贝拉可受不了和丈夫分开。”

This was too true for contradiction. Unwell 这事实在无可辩驳。伍德豪

come as it was, Mr. **Woodhouse** could only give a submissive sigh; and as Emma saw his spirits affected by the idea of his daughter's attachment to her husband, she immediately led to such a branch of the subject as must raise them. 斯先生虽不乐意，也只能顺从地叹口气。爱玛见父亲因女儿对丈夫的眷恋而情绪低落，便立刻将话题引到能令他振奋的方向。

“**Harriet** must give us as much of her company as she can while my brother and sister are here. I am sure she will be pleased with the children. We are very proud of the children, are not we, papa? I wonder which she will think the handsomest, Henry or John? ”

“在我哥哥和姐姐逗留期间，哈丽特务必尽可能多来陪伴我们。我相信她一定会喜欢这两个孩子。我们为孩子们感到非常骄傲，是不是，爸爸？我很好奇她会觉得哪个更俊俏，是亨利还是约翰？”

“**Aye**, I wonder which she will. Poor little dears, how glad they will be to come. They are very fond of being at Hartfield, Harriet. ”

“唉，我猜不透她会挑中哪一个。可怜的小家伙们，能来这儿该有多高兴啊。她们可喜欢来哈特菲尔德了，哈丽特。”

“I dare say they are, sir. I am sure I do not know who is not. ”

“我敢说他们是的，先生。我确实不知道有谁不是。”

“**Henry** is a fine boy, but John is very like his mama. **Henry** is the eldest, he was named after me, not after his father. **John**, the sec-

“亨利是个好孩子，不过约翰更像他妈妈。亨利是老大，随的是我的名字，不是他父

ond, is named after his father. **Some** people are surprized, I believe, that the eldest was not, but Isabella would have him called Henry, which I thought very pretty of her. **And** he is a very clever boy, indeed. **They** are all remarkably clever; and they have so many pretty ways. **They** will come and stand by my chair, and say, ‘Grandpapa, can you give me a bit of string?’ **and** once Henry asked me for a knife, but I told him knives were only made for grandpapas. **I** think their father is too rough with them very often. ”

亲的。**老二**是约翰，随父亲叫的。**我**猜有些人觉得奇怪，怎么老大不随父亲，可伊莎贝拉偏要叫他亨利——我觉得她这主意真不错。这孩子确实聪明得很。几个孩子都特别伶俐，各有各的讨喜之处。**他们会跑到我椅子跟前说：**‘外公，给我一小段绳子好吗?’有一回亨利还问我耍小刀，我告诉他小刀是专门给外公们用的。我觉得他们父亲待他们时常太过严厉了。”

“**He** appears rough to you,” said Emma, “because you are so very gentle yourself; but if you could compare him with other papas, you would not think him rough. **He** wishes his boys to be active and hardy; and if they misbehave, can give them a sharp word now and then; but he is an affectionate father—certainly Mr. **John** Knightley is an affectionate father. **The** children are all fond of him. ”

“**他**让你觉得粗鲁，”爱玛说，“那是因为你自己太温柔了；但你要是拿他和其他父亲比较，就不会觉得他粗鲁了。**他**希望孩子们活泼坚强；要是他们不守规矩，偶尔也会厉声训斥——但他确实是位慈爱的父亲，约翰·奈特利先生确实是慈爱的父亲。**孩子们都很喜欢他。**”

“**And** then their uncle comes in, and tosses them up to the ceiling in a very frightful way! ” “接着她们的舅舅进来了，用非常吓人的方式把她们往天花板上抛！”

“**But** they like it, papa; there is nothing they like so much. **It** is such enjoyment to them, that if their uncle did not lay down the rule of their taking turns, whichever began would never give way to the other. ” “可是她们喜欢这样，爸爸；她们最喜欢这样了。这对她们来说是莫大的乐趣，要不是她们舅舅定下了轮流读的规矩，无论谁开了头，都绝不会让给另一个的。”

“Well, I cannot understand it. ” “唉，我实在弄不明白。”

“**That** is the case with us all, papa. **One** half of the world cannot understand the pleasures of the other. ” “我们大家都是这样的，爸爸。世界上有一半人不懂另一半人的乐趣。”

Later in the morning, and just as the girls were going to separate in preparation for the regular four o'clock dinner, the hero of this inimitable charade walked in again. **Harriet** turned away; but Emma could receive him with the usual smile, and her quick eye soon discerned in his the consciousness of having made a push—of having thrown a die; and she imagined he was come to see how it might turn up. **His** ostensible reason, however, was

这天上午稍晚时分，正当姑娘们准备各自散去为四点钟的正餐梳妆时，那位无与伦比字谜的男主角又走了进来。哈丽特扭过头去；但爱玛仍能以惯常的微笑迎接他，敏锐的目光立刻从他眼神中捕捉到一种跃跃欲试的神情——仿佛掷出了骰子的人，她猜想他是来察看结果的。

to ask whether Mr. **Woodhouse**' s party could be made up in the evening without him, or whether he should be in the smallest degree necessary at Hartfield. **If** he were, every thing else must give way; but otherwise his friend Cole had been saying so much about his dining with him—had made such a point of it, that he had promised him conditionally to come.

不过他表面上的理由，是来询问晚上伍德豪斯先生的聚会若没有他能否凑齐人数，或者他是否需要在哈特菲尔德略尽绵力。若果真需要，其他所有事务都必须让路；但若非如此，他的朋友科尔再三坚持要与他共进晚餐——态度如此恳切，他已答应若情况允许定当前往。

Emma thanked him, but could not allow of his disappointing his friend on their account; her father was sure of his rubber. **He** re-urged —she re-declined; and he seemed then about to make his bow, when taking the paper from the table, she returned it—

爱玛向他道了谢，却不愿让他为了她们而辜负了朋友的期待；她父亲肯定会按时打他的克牌。他再次坚持——她再度推辞；他正要鞠躬告辞时，她把那张纸从桌上拿起来递还给了他——

“**Oh! here** is the charade you were so obliging as to leave with us; thank you for the sight of it. **We** admired it so much, that I have ventured to write it into Miss Smith's collection. **Your** friend will not take it amiss I hope. **Of** course I have not transcribed beyond the first eight lines.”

“哦！这就是您好意留给我们 的字谜；多谢让我们一睹为快。我们对此赞不绝口，便冒昧地将其收录进史密斯小姐的集子里。希望您的朋友不会介意。自然，我只抄录了前八行而已。”

Mr. Elton certainly did not very well know what to say. **He** looked rather doubtfully—rather confused; said something about “honour,”—glanced at Emma and at Harriet, and then seeing the book open on the table, took it up, and examined it very attentively. **With** the view of passing off an awkward moment, Emma smilingly said,

埃尔顿先生显然一时语塞，神情犹疑不定——颇显窘迫；支吾着说了些“荣幸”之类的话——目光在爱玛与哈丽特之间游移，继而瞥见摊在桌上的书册，便顺手捧起，凝神细阅。为化解这尴尬局面，爱玛莞尔一笑道：

“**You** must make my apologies to your friend; but so good a charade must not be confined to one or two. **He** may be sure of every woman’s approbation while he writes with such galantry.”

“请务必代我向你的朋友致歉；不过如此绝妙的字谜，实在不该只限于一两人欣赏。他既写得这般殷勤动人，定能赢得所有女士的青睐。”

“I have no hesitation in saying,” replied Mr. **Elton**, though hesitating a good deal while he spoke; “I have no hesitation in saying—at least if my friend feels at all as I do—I have not the smallest doubt that, could he see his little effusion honoured as I see it, (looking at the book again, and replacing it on the table), he would consider it as the proudest moment of his life.”

“我毫不迟疑地说，”埃尔顿先生答道，尽管说话时颇有些迟疑，“我毫不迟疑地说——至少，倘若我的朋友感受与我相同——我毫不怀疑，倘若他能看到自己这小小的诗作受到如此礼遇（说着又看了看那本书，将它放回桌上），他定会视此为一生中最骄傲的时刻。”

After this speech he was gone as soon as possible. **Emma** could not think it too soon; for with all his good and agreeable qualities, there was a sort of parade in his speeches which was very apt to incline her to laugh. **She** ran away to indulge the inclination, leaving the tender and the sublime of pleasure to Harriet's share.

说完这话，他便尽快告辞了。爱玛觉得这告辞一点也不嫌早；因为尽管他有种种讨人喜欢的优点，他谈话中那种夸夸其谈的架势却总让她忍不住要发笑。她跑开去尽情笑了个够，让哈里特独自去品味那温柔庄重的欢乐境界。

CHAPTER X

第十章

Though now the middle of December, there had yet been no weather to prevent the young ladies from tolerably regular exercise; and on the morrow, Emma had a charitable visit to pay to a poor sick family, who lived a little way out of Highbury.

时值十二月中旬，天气却尚未妨碍年轻女士们进行相当规律的户外活动。翌日，爱玛要去探望住在海伯里稍远处一户贫病交加的人家，此行乃慈善之举。

Their road to this detached cottage was down Vicarage Lane, a lane leading at right angles from the broad, though irregular, main street of the place; and, as may be inferred, containing the blessed abode of Mr. **Elton**. A few inferior dwellings were first to be passed, and then, about a quarter of a mile down the lane

通往那所孤零零小屋的路要经过牧师巷，这条小巷从镇上那条虽不规整却还算宽阔的主街垂直延伸出去——可想而知，这条巷子里坐落着埃尔顿先生那所福泽绵长的宅邸。先得路过几处简陋的

rose the Vicarage, an old and not very good house, almost as close to the road as it could be. **It** had no advantage of situation; but had been very much smartened up by the present proprietor; and, such as it was, there could be no possibility of the two friends passing it without a slackened pace and observing eyes. — **Emma's** remark was—

屋舍，再往前走约四分之一英里，牧师宅邸便映入眼帘。这是幢年久失修的老房子，紧贴着路边，地势上毫无优势可言；好在现任主人将它修缮得焕然一新。即便如此，当两位友人经过时，还是不由自主放慢脚步，目光细细打量着这宅子——只听爱玛评论道——

“**There** it is. **There** go you and your riddle-book one of these days.”—**Harriet's** was—

“你瞧，总有一天你也会带着你的谜语书落到这步田地的。”——哈丽特的谜语是

“**Oh**, what a sweet house! —**How** very beautiful! —**There** are the yellow curtains that Miss Nash admires so much.”

“啊，多可爱的房子！——多么漂亮啊！——那就是纳什小姐赞不绝口的黄色窗帘。”

“I do not often walk this way now,” said Emma, as they proceeded, “but then there will be an inducement, and I shall gradually get intimately acquainted with all the hedges, gates, pools and pollards of this part of Highbury.”

“如今我不常走这条路，”爱玛边走边说，“不过今后就有了念想，我会渐渐熟悉海伯里这一带的每道树篱、每扇栅门、每处水塘和每棵截头柳。”

Harriet, she found, had never in her life been inside the Vicarage, and her curiosity to see it was so extreme, that, considering exteriors and probabilities, Emma could only class it, as a proof of love, with Mr. **Elton's** seeing ready wit in her.

她发现，哈丽特这辈子从未踏进过牧师寓所，如今竟如此渴望进去参观。考虑到那宅子的外观和情理常道，爱玛只能将这份热切与埃尔顿先生在她身上发现的机敏才智归为一类——都是爱情的明证。

“I wish we could contrive it,” said she; “but I cannot think of any tolerable pretence for going in;—no servant that I want to inquire about of his housekeeper—no message from my father.”

“但愿我们能想出个办法来，”她说道，“可我想不出任何说得过去的借口走进去——既没有仆人需要向他的管家打听——也没有家父的口信要捎带。”

She pondered, but could think of nothing. After a mutual silence of some minutes, Harriet thus began again—

她思索着，却什么也想不出来。两人相对无言了几分钟后，哈丽特又这样开口说道

“I do so wonder, Miss Woodhouse, that you should not be married, or going to be married! so charming as you are!”—

“伍德豪斯小姐，我真纳闷您怎么还没结婚，或者快要结婚！像您这样迷人的人儿！”

Emma laughed, and replied,

爱玛笑着答道：

“My being charming, Harriet, is not quite enough to induce me to marry; I must find other people charming—one other person at least. **And** I am not only, not going to be married, at present, but have very little intention of ever marrying at all.”

“哈里特，单凭我招人喜爱这一点，还不足以诱使我结婚；我必须觉得别人也可爱——至少得有一个这样的人。眼下我不但不准备结婚，而且压根儿就没有这个打算。”

“Ah! —so you say; but I cannot believe it.” “啊！——你虽这么说，可我实在难以相信。”

“I must see somebody very superior to any one I have seen yet, to be tempted; Mr. Elton, you know, (recollecting herself,) is out of the question: and I do _not_ wish to see any such person. I would rather not be tempted. I cannot really change for the better. If I were to marry, I must expect to repent it.”

”除非遇到一个远胜过我迄今所见之人，我才可能动心。至于埃尔顿先生——（她忽然醒悟般顿了顿）自然不在考虑之列。况且我根本不愿遇见这样的人。我宁可永远不要动心。婚姻不可能让我变得更好。若是结婚，我注定要追悔莫及。”

“Dear me! —it is so odd to hear a woman talk so!” —

“天哪！听一个女人这样说话，真是怪事！” —

“I have none of the usual inducements of women to marry. Were I to fall in love, indeed, it would be a different thing! but I never have been in love; it is not my way, or my na-

“我完全没有一般女性想要结婚的动机。倘若我真要坠入情网，那自然另当别论！可我从未尝过恋爱的滋味；这

ture; and I do not think I ever shall. **And**, 既非我的作风，也非我的天性；我自己永远都不会改变 such a situation as mine. **Fortune** I 陷入情网。若是没有爱情，我若改变现在这样的处境，那真是愚不可及。**财富**我不缺，事业我不缺，地位我也不缺：我相信没有几个已婚女子能像我这样主宰哈特菲尔德的家务；我也永远——永远不可能指望在任何一个男子眼中，能像在我父亲眼中这般始终被珍视、被重视，永远占据首位且永远正确。”

“**But** then, to be an old maid at last, like Miss Bates!”

“可是到头来，当个老处女，像贝茨小姐那样！”

“**That** is as formidable an image as you could present, Harriet; and if I thought I should ever be like Miss Bates! **so** silly—so satisfied—so smiling—so prosing—so undistinguishing and unfastidious—and so apt to tell every thing relative to every body about me, I would marry to-morrow. **But** between us, I am convinced there never can be any likeness, except in being unmarried.”

“哈丽特，你描绘的这幅景象可真够吓人的；要是我觉得自己将来会变成贝茨小姐那样！那么愚蠢——那么自满——那么满脸堆笑——那么絮絮叨叨——那么不分好歹、不辨美丑——还那么爱把周围所有人的事都一股脑儿抖出来，那我明天就结婚。

不过跟你说句体己话，我深信咱们俩绝不会有相似之处，除非是在都没结婚这一点上。”

“But still, you will be an old maid! and that's so dreadful!” 可你终究会成为一个老姑娘！那真是太可怕了！”

“Never mind, Harriet, I shall not be a poor old maid; and it is poverty only which makes celibacy contemptible to a generous public! A single woman, with a very narrow income, must be a ridiculous, disagreeable old maid! the proper sport of boys and girls, but a single woman, of good fortune, is always respectable, and may be as sensible and pleasant as any body else. And the distinction is not quite so much against the candour and common sense of the world as appears at first; for a very narrow income has a tendency to contract the mind, and sour the temper. Those who can barely live, and who live perforce in a very small, and generally very inferior, society, may well be illiberal and cross. This does not apply, however, to Miss Bates; she is only too good natured and too silly to suit

“别在意，哈丽特，我才不会成为寒酸的老姑娘呢；只有贫穷才会让独身生活被宽厚的世人所鄙视！一个收入微薄的单身女子，注定会成为荒唐可笑、惹人厌烦的老小姐！少男少女们尽可拿她取笑，但一位拥有丰厚财产的单身女子，却始终受人尊敬，完全可以像任何人那样通情达理、讨人喜欢。这种差别初看似乎有悖世人的公允与常识，实则不然——因为微薄的收入容易让人心胸狭隘，性情乖戾。那些勉强糊口、不得不生活在狭小（往往还是低劣）圈子里的人，难免会变得狭隘偏执。不过这话

me; but, in general, she is very much to the taste of every body, though single and though poor. **Poverty** certainly has not contracted her mind: I really believe, if she had only a shilling in the world, she would be very likely to give away sixpence of it; and nobody is afraid of her: that is a great charm. ”

可不适用于贝茨小姐，只是她太过善良又太过愚蠢，不合我的脾胃罢了。总的来说，尽管她既单身又贫穷，却颇受众人喜爱。**贫穷**显然没有让她的心胸变得狭隘——我深信，就算她全副家当只剩一先令，她也准会分出六便士给别人。**而且**谁都不会怕她——这正是她最大的魅力所在。”

“**Dear me! but** what shall you do? **how** shall you employ yourself when you grow old? ”

“**天哪！可**你将来怎么办呢？等你老了，你靠什么消遣呢？”

“**If** I know myself, Harriet, mine is an active, busy mind, with a great many independent resources; and I do not perceive why I should be more in want of employment at forty or fifty than one-and-twenty. **Woman'**s usual occupations of hand and mind will be as open to me then as they are now; or with no important variation. **If** I draw less, I shall read more; if I give up music, I shall take to carpet-work. **And** as for objects of interest, objects for the

“**哈丽特**，若说我了解自己的性情，那便是个闲不住的人——我天生有无数自得其乐的法子；我看不出为什么到了四十岁或者五十岁，反倒会比二十一岁时更缺消遣。**女人家**日常的手工活计和脑力活动，到那时仍会像现在一样对我敞开大门，即便有变化也无关紧要。**若**是我少

affections, which is in truth the great point of 画些画，就多读些书；若是 inferiority, the want of which is really the great 放弃音乐，便改做编织。至 evil to be avoided in not marrying, I shall 于情感寄托的对象——这倒 be very well off, with all the children of a sister 确实是单身最大的缺憾，也 I love so much, to care about. **There** will be 是不婚真正需要规避的不幸 enough of them, in all probability, to supply ——我大可以疼爱姐姐的孩子们来弥补。她那么多儿女， every sort of sensation that declining life can need. **There** will be enough for every hope 想来足够满足渐入老境所需 and every fear; and though my attachment to 的种种情感体验。足够寄托 none can equal that of a parent, it suits my 各种希望与忧虑。虽然我对 ideas of comfort better than what is warmer 他们的疼爱永远比不上亲生 and blinder. **My** nephews and nieces! —I 父母，但这样恰恰更符合我 shall often have a niece with me. ” 对安逸的期许——比起那种更炽热更盲目的亲情。我的外甥外甥女们！——我身边会常有个小姑娘作伴的。”

“**Do** you know Miss Bates’s niece? **That** is, I know you must have seen her a hundred times —but are you acquainted? ”

“你认识贝茨小姐的外甥女吗？我是说，我知道你肯定见过她上百次了——但你们相熟吗？”

“**Oh!** yes; we are always forced to be acquainted whenever she comes to Highbury. **By** the bye, that is almost enough to put one out of conceit with a niece. **Heaven** forbid!

“哦！可不是嘛；只要她来海伯里，我们就非得跟她结识不可。说起来，光凭这一点就够让人对当姑妈的反感

at least, that I should ever bore people half so much about all the Knightleys together, as she does about Jane Fairfax. **One** is sick of the very name of Jane Fairfax. **Every** letter from her is read forty times over; her compliments to all friends go round and round again; and if she does but send her aunt the pattern of a stomacher, or knit a pair of garters for her grandmother, one hears of nothing else for a month. **I** wish Jane Fairfax very well; but she tires me to death. ”

了。老天保佑！至少我绝不会把奈特利一家子的事唠叨个没完，像她念叨简·费尔法克斯那样叫人腻烦。一听到简·费尔法克斯这个名字就叫人恶心。她每封来信都要被翻来覆去念上四十遍；她对所有朋友的问候总要被反复传颂；要是她给舅妈寄了个胸衣式样，或是给外婆织了双袜带，那更是整整一个月都听不到别的话题。我但愿简·费尔法克斯诸事顺遂，可她实在叫人烦得要命。”

They were now approaching the cottage, and all idle topics were superseded. **Emma** was very compassionate; and the distresses of the poor were as sure of relief from her personal attention and kindness, her counsel and her patience, as from her purse. **She** understood their ways, could allow for their ignorance and their temptations, had no romantic expectations of extraordinary virtue from those for whom education had done so little; entered into their troubles with ready sympathy, and

此刻她们已行至农舍前，所有闲谈便都戛然而止。爱玛是个极富同情心的人；穷苦人的困厄不仅能得到她金钱上的资助，更总能获得她亲自的关怀照拂、耐心劝导。她深谙他们的习性，能体谅他们的无知与贪念，对那些未曾受过多少教化的人从不抱有不切实际的美德期待；她总是感同身受地分担他们的

always gave her assistance with as much intelligence as good-will. **In** the present instance, it was sickness and poverty together which she came to visit; and after remaining there as long as she could give comfort or advice, she quitted the cottage with such an impression of the scene as made her say to Harriet, as they walked away,

烦恼，施以援手时既充满善意又不失明智。此番她要探访的正是贫病交加的人家；在屋里尽可能给予慰藉与建议后，她辞别时满心萦绕着这般景象，使得与哈丽特并肩离去时不禁说道：

“**These** are the sights, Harriet, to do one good. **How** trifling they make every thing else appear! —I feel now as if I could think of nothing but these poor creatures all the rest of the day; and yet, who can say how soon it may all vanish from my mind? ”

“这些景象啊，哈丽特，真叫人心里舒坦。相比之下，其他一切显得多么微不足道！——此刻我觉得今天余下的时光里，除了这些可怜人我什么都不会想了；可谁又说得准，这念头会不会转眼就从我脑海里消失呢？”

“**Very** true,” said Harriet. “**Poor** creatures! **one** can think of nothing else. ”

“确实如此，”哈丽特说，“可怜的人儿！除了他们，别的什么也想不到了。”

“**And** really, I do not think the impression will soon be over,” said Emma, as she crossed the low hedge, and tottering脚步 which ended the narrow, slippery path through the cottage

”说真的，我看这印象一时间会儿是消不掉了，”爱玛说着，跨过低矮的树篱，踉踉跄跄地走过农舍花园里那

garden, and brought them into the lane again. “I do not think it will,” stopping to look once more at all the outward wretchedness of the place, and recall the still greater within.

一条又窄又滑的小径尽头，重新回到了巷子里。”我看是消不掉了，”她停下脚步，又朝那地方外表的破败景象望了一眼，同时回想起里面更是破烂不堪。

“Oh! dear, no,” said her companion.

“哦！天哪，没有的事，”她的同伴说道。

They walked on. The lane made a slight bend; and when that bend was passed, Mr. Elton was immediately in sight; and so near as to give Emma time only to say farther,

他们继续前行。小径微微转弯；刚绕过弯道，埃尔顿先生便赫然出现在眼前，距离如此之近，爱玛只来得及再说一句：

“Ah! Harriet, here comes a very sudden trial of our stability in good thoughts. Well, (smiling,) I hope it may be allowed that if compassion has produced exertion and relief to the sufferers, it has done all that is truly important. If we feel for the wretched, enough to do all we can for them, the rest is empty sympathy, only distressing to ourselves.”

“啊！哈丽特，我们坚守善念的决心马上就要面临突如其来的考验了。不过，（含笑）但愿大家能认同：若怜悯之心能化为实际行动，为受苦之人带来慰藉，便已成就了最根本的要义。倘若我们对不幸者的悲悯足以驱使我们竭尽所能，余下的便只是空洞的同情，徒然令自己煎熬

罢了。”

Harriet could just answer, “Oh! **dear**, yes,” 哈丽特刚来得及应一声”哦！ before the gentleman joined them. **The** wants 天哪，正是呢”，那位绅士便 and sufferings of the poor family, however, 已走到她们跟前。不过 were the first subject on meeting. **He** had been 双方见面后的首要话题，还是那 going to call on them. **His** visit he would now 户穷人家的困苦状况。他原 defer; but they had a very interesting parley 本正要去探望他们，现在 about what could be done and should be done. 决定推迟拜访。三人就如何救 Mr. Elton then turned back to accompany 济这户人家进行了一番颇为 them.

“**To** fall in with each other on such an errand as “为了这样一桩善举而相遇，” this,” thought Emma; “to meet in a charitable 爱玛心想，“在慈善活动里相 scheme; this will bring a great increase of love 逢；这定会让双方的情意与 on each side. **I** should not wonder if it were to 日俱增。倘若因此促成表白， bring on the declaration. **It** must, if I were not 我也不会感到意外。若不是 here. **I** wish I were anywhere else.” 我在此碍事，这事准能成。真希望此刻能在别处才好。”

Anxious to separate herself from them as far 她急于尽可能与他们分开， as she could, she soon afterwards took posses- 便随即走上小路旁略高处的 sion of a narrow footpath, a little raised on one 狹窄步道，留下他们在主路 side of the lane, leaving them together in the 上并肩而行。但她在那

main road. **But** she had not been there two minutes when she found that Harriet's habits of dependence and imitation were bringing her up too, and that, in short, they would both be soon after her. **This** would not do; she immediately stopped, under pretence of having some alteration to make in the lacing of her half-boot, and stooping down in complete occupation of the footpath, begged them to have the goodness to walk on, and she would follow in half a minute. **They** did as they were desired; and by the time she judged it reasonable to have done with her boot, she had the comfort of farther delay in her power, being overtaken by a child from the cottage, setting out, according to orders, with her pitcher, to fetch broth from Hartfield. **To** walk by the side of this child, and talk to and question her, was the most natural thing in the world, or would have been the most natural, had she been acting just then without design; and by this means the others were still able to keep ahead, without any obligation of waiting for her. **She** gained on them, however, involuntarily: the child's pace was quick, and theirs

了不到两分钟，就发现哈丽特依赖与效仿的习性使得这姑娘也跟了上来，总之两人转眼就会追到她身后。这可不行；她立刻停步，佯装要调整半筒靴的系带，弯腰完全占住步道，恳请他们先行一步，说自己半分钟后就赶上。他们依言而行；待她估摸整理靴子的时间足够合理时，又庆幸找到了更充分的延宕借口——农舍有个孩子正奉命提着陶罐去哈特菲尔德取肉汤。与这孩子并肩而行，同她说话问答，本是世间最自然不过的事，若她此刻并非别有用心就更显自然了；借此机会，前面两人仍能继续前行，无须驻足等候。然而她却不自觉地缩短了与他们的距离：那孩子步履轻快，而他们的步子相当迟缓；更令她忧心的是，他们显然正谈着兴致盎然的话题。埃尔顿先生说得眉飞色舞，哈

rather slow; and she was the more concerned at it, from their being evidently in a conversation which interested them. **Mr. Elton** was speaking with animation, Harriet listening with a very pleased attention; and Emma, having sent the child on, was beginning to think how she might draw back a little more, when they both looked around, and she was obliged to join them.

Mr. Elton was still talking, still engaged in some interesting detail; and Emma experienced some disappointment when she found that he was only giving his fair companion an account of the yesterday's party at his friend Cole's, and that she was come in herself for the Stilton cheese, the north Wiltshire, the butter, the celery, the beet-root, and all the dessert. 埃尔顿先生还在说着，仍在兴致勃勃地讲述某个细节；爱玛不免有些失望，因为她发现他不过是在向那位漂亮女伴描述昨天在朋友科尔家聚会的情形，而她进来不过是为了取些斯蒂尔顿干酪、北威尔特郡干酪、黄油、芹菜、甜菜根以及所有餐后点心。

“**This** would soon have led to something better, of course,” was her consoling reflection; “any thing interests between those who love; and any thing will serve as introduction to what is near the heart. **If** I could but have

“这当然很快就会引向更好的话题，”她自我安慰地想道，“相爱的人之间，随便什么都能引起兴趣；随便什么都能引出贴近心坎的话。要

kept longer away! ”

是我能多待一会儿就好了！”

They now walked on together quietly, till within view of the vicarage pales, when a sudden resolution, of at least getting Harriet into the house, made her again find something very much amiss about her boot, and fall behind to arrange it once more. **S**he then broke the lace off short, and dexterously throwing it into a ditch, was presently obliged to entreat them to stop, and acknowledged her inability to put herself to rights so as to be able to walk home in tolerable comfort.

他们此刻静静地并肩走着, 直到能望见牧师住宅的栅栏时, 她突然下定决心——至少要把哈丽特带进屋里——便又发觉自己的靴子出了大毛病, 于是落在后面整理系带。她猛地扯断鞋带, 利索地抛进水沟, 随即不得不央求他们停下, 坦言自己实在没法收拾妥当, 无法舒舒服服地走回家去。

“**P**art of my lace is gone,” said she, “and I do not know how I am to contrive. **I** really am a most troublesome companion to you both, but I hope I am not often so ill-equipped. **M**r. **E**lton, I must beg leave to stop at your house, and ask your housekeeper for a bit of ribband or string, or any thing just to keep my boot on.”

“我靴子上的花边掉了一部分,”她说道, “真不知该如何补救。给你们两位添了这么多麻烦, 实在过意不去, 不过好在我平时倒不常这样丢三落四。**埃尔顿先生**, 恐怕要烦请你允许我在府上稍作停留, 向管家讨根丝带或绳子, 随便什么能把靴子系牢的东西都好。”

Mr. **E**lton looked all happiness at this propo-

埃尔顿先生听到这个提议,

sition; and nothing could exceed his alertness and attention in conducting them into his house and endeavouring to make every thing appear to advantage. **The** room they were taken into was the one he chiefly occupied, and looking forwards; behind it was another with which it immediately communicated; the door between them was open, and Emma passed into it with the housekeeper to receive her assistance in the most comfortable manner. **She** was obliged to leave the door ajar as she found it; but she fully intended that Mr. **Elton** should close it. **It** was not closed, however, it still remained ajar; but by engaging the housekeeper in incessant conversation, she hoped to make it practicable for him to chuse his own subject in the adjoining room. **For** ten minutes she could hear nothing but herself. **It** could be protracted no longer. **She** was then obliged to be finished, and make her appearance.

脸上洋溢着欣喜的神色。他立刻殷勤备至地引领众人进屋，竭力将屋内的陈设展现得尽善尽美。他们被请进的是他日常起居的主要房间，面朝前方；与之紧邻的后间另有洞天，两室相通的门扉敞开着。**爱玛**随着管家太太步入后间，好让这位妇人从旁协助她整理装束。**她**故意让房门保持原状虚掩着，满心期待埃尔顿先生会将其合拢。**可**那扇门始终未曾关严，依然维持着半开的状态。**为**给邻室的绅士创造畅所欲言的机会，她刻意与管家絮絮攀谈不休。**足足**十分钟光景，耳畔只闻自己的话语声。**这**般拖延终难以为继。**她**只得整装完毕，重新现身于人前。

The lovers were standing together at one of the windows. **It** had a most favourable aspect; and, for half a minute, Emma felt the glory of having schemed successfully. **But** it would

那对情人正并肩站在一扇窗前。**那扇**窗户的朝向极好；有半分钟光景，爱玛不禁为自己成功撮合而感到得意。**可**

not do; he had not come to the point. **He** 惜好景不长——他始终没有
had been most agreeable, most delightful; he 切入正题。他方才表现得殷
had told Harriet that he had seen them go by, 勤备至，令人如沐春风；告诉
and had purposely followed them; other little 哈丽特说看见她们经过，特
gallantries and allusions had been dropt, but 意追了上来；又说了些讨巧
nothing serious. 的恭维话，抛出些耐人寻味
的暗示——但终究没有半句
郑重其事的表态。

“**Cautious**, very cautious,” thought Emma; “**谨慎**，非常谨慎，”爱玛心
“he advances inch by inch, and will hazard 想，“他一步一步地向前试探，
nothing till he believes himself secure.” 在确信万无一失之前绝不贸
然行事。”

Still, however, though every thing had not 然而，尽管她巧妙的设计未
been accomplished by her ingenious device, 能尽如人意，她仍不禁暗自
she could not but flatter herself that it had 欣慰：这番安排终究为两人
been the occasion of much present enjoyment 带来了当下的诸多欢愉，且
to both, and must be leading them forward to 必将引领他们迈向那桩重大
the great event. 姻缘。

CHAPTER XI

第十一章

Mr. Elton must now be left to himself. **It** 如今只得任由埃尔顿先生自
was no longer in Emma's power to superintend 行其是了。爱玛再也无法左
his happiness or quicken his measures. **The** 右他的幸福，或是催促进展。
coming of her sister's family was so very near **姐姐**一家不久即将到来，起

at hand, that first in anticipation, and then in reality, it became henceforth her prime object of interest; and during the ten days of their stay at Hartfield it was not to be expected—she did not herself expect—that any thing beyond occasional, fortuitous assistance could be afforded by her to the lovers. **T**hey might advance rapidly if they would, however; they must advance somehow or other whether they would or no. **S**he hardly wished to have more leisure for them. **T**here are people, who the more you do for them, the less they will do for themselves.

先是翘首以盼，后来成为现实，从此便成了她心头首要的牵挂。他们在哈特菲尔德逗留的十天里，她自知无法——也确实不曾指望——能为这对恋人提供任何偶然之外的助力。不过他们若是有心，进展倒可能突飞猛进；不论情愿与否，他们总得设法往前推进。她几乎不愿为他们腾出更多闲暇。世间确有这样的人——你越是替他们操劳，他们越是急于自助。

Mr. and Mrs. **J**ohn Knightley, from having been longer than usual absent from Surry, were exciting of course rather more than the usual interest. **T**ill this year, every long vacation since their marriage had been divided between Hartfield and Donwell Abbey; but all the holidays of this autumn had been given to sea-bathing for the children, and it was therefore many months since they had been seen in a regular way by their Surry connexions, or seen at all by Mr. **W**oodhouse, who could not be induced to get so far as London, even for poor

约翰·奈特利夫妇由于比往常更久未回萨里郡，自然激起了超乎寻常的关切。自成婚以来，每年长假他们总是在哈特菲尔德与唐威尔修道院两地轮住；但今年秋天的假期全让孩子们的海滨浴疗占去了，以致萨里的亲友们已有数月未能如常相见，伍德豪斯先生更是始终未见——即便为了可怜的伊莎贝拉，也无法劝动他远行至伦

Isabella's sake; and who consequently was now most nervously and apprehensively happy in forestalling this too short visit.

敦；因而此刻他正怀着紧张不安的欣喜，期盼着这次过于短暂的相聚。

He thought much of the evils of the journey for her, and not a little of the fatigues of his own horses and coachman who were to bring some of the party the last half of the way; but his alarms were needless; the sixteen miles being happily accomplished, and Mr. **and** Mrs. **John** Knightley, their five children, and a competent number of nursery-maids, all reaching Hartfield in safety. **T**he bustle and joy of such an arrival, the many to be talked to, welcomed, encouraged, and variously dispersed and disposed of, produced a noise and confusion which his nerves could not have borne under any other cause, nor have endured much longer even for this; but the ways of Hartfield and the feelings of her father were so respected by Mrs. **John** Knightley, that in spite of maternal solicitude for the immediate enjoyment of her little ones, and for their having instantly all the liberty and attendance, all the eating and drinking, and sleeping and playing, which they could possibly wish for, without the small-

他十分担心她旅途的艰辛，更不放心自己的马匹和车夫——他们要将部分同行者送至最后半程路。然而他的忧虑实属多余；十六英里路程顺利走完，约翰·奈特利夫人带着五个孩子以及足够数量的保姆，全都平安抵达哈特菲尔德。这般热闹的团聚场面，需要招呼应酬的人群，需要安顿疏导的喧嚷纷乱，若换作别的缘故早已令他神经难以承受，即便为此也难以持久；好在约翰·奈特利太太极其尊重哈特菲尔德的规矩与她父亲的感受，尽管身为母亲渴望让孩子们即刻享受自由，渴望他们立即得到周全照料，吃喝玩睡皆能随心所欲不耽搁分毫，却始终不曾让孩子们——无论是他们本身还是照看他们引起

est delay, the children were never allowed to be 的忙乱——过多打扰到他。
long a disturbance to him, either in themselves
or in any restless attendance on them.

Mrs. John Knightley was a pretty, elegant 约翰·奈特利太太是位娇小
little woman, of gentle, quiet manners, and a 玲珑、风姿优雅的女子，性
disposition remarkably amiable and affection- 情温婉娴静，待人尤为和蔼
ate; wrapt up in her family; a devoted wife, 可亲；她全身心扑在家庭中，
a doating mother, and so tenderly attached to 既是忠贞不渝的妻子，又是
her father and sister that, but for these higher 舐犊情深的母亲，对父亲和
ties, a warmer love might have seemed impossi- 妹妹的眷恋之情如此深厚，
ble. **She** could never see a fault in any of them. 若非这些更亲密的纽带，简
She was not a woman of strong understanding 直难以想象她还能对旁人怀
or any quickness; and with this resemblance of 有更炽热的感情。她从来看
her father, she inherited also much of his con- 不见亲人们的半点缺点。她
stitution; was delicate in her own health, over- 并非颖悟过人、反应敏捷的
careful of that of her children, had many fears 女子，这性情倒与父亲一脉
and many nerves, and was as fond of her own 相承，连体质也继承了大半：
Mr. **Wingfield** in town as her father could 自己身子单薄，对儿女的健
be of Mr. **Perry**. **They** were alike too, in 康过分操心，整日忧心忡忡、
a general benevolence of temper, and a strong 神经紧张，对她那位城里的
habit of regard for every old acquaintance. 温菲尔德先生的信赖，恰如
父亲信赖佩里先生一般。父
女二人还有相似之处：皆怀
宽厚仁慈之心，对故交旧友
总怀着深切的眷顾。

Mr. John Knightley was a tall, gentleman-like, and very clever man; rising in his profession, domestic, and respectable in his private character; but with reserved manners which prevented his being generally pleasing; and capable of being sometimes out of humour. **He** was not an ill-tempered man, not so often unreasonably cross as to deserve such a reproach; but his temper was not his great perfection; and, indeed, with such a worshipping wife, it was hardly possible that any natural defects in it should not be increased. **The** extreme sweetness of her temper must hurt his. **He** had all the clearness and quickness of mind which she wanted, and he could sometimes act an ungracious, or say a severe thing.

约翰·奈特利先生是个身材高大、风度翩翩、天资聪颖的人；在事业上蒸蒸日上，在家庭生活上眷恋家园，在个人品格上令人敬重；然而他举止矜持，难以博得众人欢心，有时还不免闹闹脾气。他并非性情乖戾之人，也并非经常无理取闹而该受此责备，只是他的脾气毕竟不是十全十美；况且有那样一位对他顶礼膜拜的妻子，他天性中的种种缺陷势必还要变本加厉。他妻子极度温柔的性格，定会使他显得有失温柔。他具有她所缺乏的机敏与果断，有时做起事来能显得很不客气，或者说起话来能显得很尖刻。

He was not a great favourite with his fair sister-in-law. **Nothing** wrong in him escaped her. **She** was quick in feeling the little injuries to Isabella, which Isabella never felt herself. **Perhaps** she might have passed over more had his manners been flattering to Is-

他这位漂亮的小姨子对他并无太多好感。他身上的任何缺点都逃不过她的眼睛。伊莎贝拉自己从未察觉的种种细小委屈，她总能敏锐地感受到。倘若他对伊莎贝拉的

abella's sister, but they were only those of a calmly kind brother and friend, without praise and without blindness; but hardly any degree of personal compliment could have made her regardless of that greatest fault of all in her eyes which he sometimes fell into, the want of respectful forbearance towards her father. **T**here he had not always the patience that could have been wished. **M**r. **W**oodhouse' s peculiarities and fidgetiness were sometimes provoking him to a rational remonstrance or sharp retort equally ill-bestowed. **I**t did not often happen; for Mr. **J**ohn Knightley had really a great regard for his father-in-law, and generally a strong sense of what was due to him; but it was too often for Emma's charity, especially as there was all the pain of apprehension frequently to be endured, though the offence came not. **T**he beginning, however, of every visit displayed none but the properest feelings, and this being of necessity so short might be hoped to pass away in unsullied cordiality. **T**hey had not been long seated and composed when Mr. **W**oodhouse, with a melancholy shake of the head and a sigh, called 妹妹能多些殷勤，或许她还能宽容几分；然而他始终保持着平静友善的姐夫身份，既不阿谀奉承，也不盲目偏袒。但最令她难以容忍的是他偶尔对父亲缺乏恭敬包容的态度——这在她眼中是最大的过错。面对伍德豪斯先生特有的癖性与焦虑，他并非总能保持应有的耐心，有时竟会不合时宜地据理力争或反唇相讥。这种情况虽不常发生，因为约翰·奈特利先生确实敬重岳父，大多时候深知礼数周全；但在爱玛看来已然太过频繁，尤其当父亲尚未失礼时，她总要提心吊胆地预先忍受这种煎熬。不过每次见面之初，他总会表现得彬彬有礼。这次短暂的拜访想必也能在毫无芥蒂的融洽中度过。众人刚安坐片刻，伍德豪斯先生便忧郁地摇着头叹了口气，提醒女儿注意哈特菲尔德自她上次

his daughter's attention to the sad change at 来访后发生的凄凉变化。
Hartfield since she had been there last.

“**Ah**, my dear,” said he, “poor Miss Taylor—It “唉，我亲爱的，”他说，“可怜
is a grievous business.” 的泰勒小姐——这真是件伤
心事。”

“**Oh** yes, sir,” cried she with ready sympathy, “哦！是呀，先生，”她立即满
“how you must miss her! **And** dear Emma, 怀同情地大声说道，“您该多
too! —**What** a dreadful loss to you both! 么想念她啊！还有亲爱的爱
—**I** have been so grieved for you. —**I** could 玛！——这对你们俩是多么
not imagine how you could possibly do without 可怕的损失啊！——我一直
her. —**It** is a sad change indeed. —**But** I 十分难过。——我无法想象
hope she is pretty well, sir. ” 你们怎么离得开她。——这
的确是个可悲的变化。——
不过我希望她身体还好，先
生。”

“**Pretty** well, my dear—I hope—pretty well. “还不错，亲爱的——我希望
—**I** do not know but that the place agrees with —还不错。——我倒觉得
her tolerably.” 这地方对她还算适宜。”

Mr. John Knightley here asked Emma qui- 约翰·奈特利先生此时低声
etly whether there were any doubts of the air 问爱玛，是否对兰德尔斯的
of Randalls. 空气有所疑虑。

“**Oh!** no—none in the least. **I** never saw “哦！不——一点儿也不。我

Mrs. **Weston** better in my life—never looking 从未见过韦斯顿太太气色 so well. **Papa** is only speaking his own regret. 这么好——从未显得如此健康。爸爸只是表达他自己的
”

遗憾罢了。”

“**Very** much to the honour of both,” was the handsome reply.

“这对双方来说都是极大的荣幸，”对方体面地回答道。

“**And** do you see her, sir, tolerably often? ” asked Isabella in the plaintive tone which just suited her father.

“那么，您能时常见到她吗，先生?”伊莎贝拉用那种恰好迎合父亲心意的哀婉语调问道。

Mr. Woodhouse hesitated. — “**Not** near so often, my dear, as I could wish. ”

伍德豪斯先生犹豫了一下。——“远没有我希望的那么频繁，亲爱的。”

“**Oh! papa**, we have missed seeing them but one entire day since they married. **Either** in the morning or evening of every day, excepting one, have we seen either Mr. **Weston** or Mrs. **Weston**, and generally both, either at Randalls or here—and as you may suppose, Isabella, most frequently here. **They** are very, very kind in their visits. **Mr. Weston** is really as kind as herself. **Papa**, if you speak in that melancholy way, you will be giving Is-

哦！爸爸，自从他们结婚以来，我们统共只有一整天没见到他们。除了那一天，我们每天早晨或晚上总能见到韦斯顿先生或韦斯顿太太，通常两位都能见到——不是在兰德尔斯就是在我们家，伊莎贝拉你也想得到，多半是在我们家。他们来访得实在殷勤。韦斯顿先生确实和她

abella a false idea of us all. **Every** body must be aware that Miss Taylor must be missed, but every body ought also to be assured that Mr. **and** Mrs. **Weston** do really prevent our missing her by any means to the extent we ourselves anticipated—which is the exact truth. ”

一样亲切。爸爸，您要是用这种忧伤的腔调说话，会让伊莎贝拉对我们全家产生误解的。谁都知道泰勒小姐必定会让人思念，但大家也都该确信，韦斯顿夫妇确实在竭力不让我们像原先预料的那样深切怀念她——这完全是实话。”

“**Just** as it should be,” said Mr. **John Knightley**, “and just as I hoped it was from your letters. **Her** wish of shewing you attention could not be doubted, and his being a disengaged and social man makes it all easy. **I** have been always telling you, my love, that I had no idea of the change being so very material to Hartfield as you apprehended; and now you have Emma’s account, I hope you will be satisfied.”

“正该如此，”约翰·奈特利先生说，“和我从你信中推测的完全吻合。她想要对你表示关怀之意毋庸置疑，而他是个闲散好交际的人，更是顺理成章。我向来跟你说，亲爱的，哈特菲尔德发生的这些变化，远不会像你担心的那样造成实质影响。现在既然有爱玛的亲口叙述，我想你总该放心了。”

“**Why**, to be sure,” said Mr. **Woodhouse** — “yes, certainly—I cannot deny that Mrs. **Weston**, poor Mrs. **Weston**, does come and see us pretty often—but then—she is always

“哎呀，确实如此，”伍德豪斯先生说，“是的，当然——我不能否认韦斯顿太太，可怜的韦斯顿太太，确实常来看

obliged to go away again. ”

望我们——不过呢——她总是不得不又告辞离去。”

“**It** would be very hard upon Mr. **Weston** if she did not, papa. —**You** quite forget poor Mr. **Weston**. ”

“她要是真不去，那对韦斯顿先生可就太说不过去了，爸爸。——您完全把可怜的韦斯顿先生给忘了。”

“I think, indeed,” said John Knightley pleasantly, “that Mr. **Weston** has some little claim. **You** and I, Emma, will venture to take the part of the poor husband. I, being a husband, and you not being a wife, the claims of the man may very likely strike us with equal force. As for Isabella, she has been married long enough to see the convenience of putting all the Mr. **Westons** aside as much as she can. ”

“说真的，”约翰·奈特利愉快地说道，“我认为韦斯顿先生确实有几分道理。爱玛，你我倒不妨为那可怜的丈夫说几句话。我身为丈夫，你尚未出嫁，他的难处很可能同样令我们动容。至于伊莎贝拉，她结婚已久，自然早已懂得能躲开韦斯顿们时尽量躲开的道理。”

“Me, my love,” cried his wife, hearing and understanding only in part. —“Are you talking about me? —I am sure nobody ought to be, or can be, a greater advocate for matrimony than I am; and if it had not been for the misery of her leaving Hartfield, I should never have thought of Miss Taylor but as the most fortu-

“我呀，我的好老爷，”他太太听见这话，只听见一部分，便嚷道。“你是在说吧？我敢说，论起提倡婚姻，谁也比不上我。要不是因为泰勒小姐离开了哈特菲尔德是件痛苦的事，我本来要认为她是世

nate woman in the world; and as to slighting 界上最幸运的女人。至于说 Mr. Weston, that excellent Mr. Weston, 到亏待了韦斯顿先生，那么 I think there is nothing he does not deserve. 这位杰出的韦斯顿先生，我 I believe he is one of the very best-tempered 看他是样样都好，配得上任 men that ever existed. Excepting yourself 何人。我相信他是天下脾气 and your brother, I do not know his equal for 最好的男人。除非是你和你 temper. I shall never forget his flying Henry' 的兄弟，我不知道还有谁的 s kite for him that very windy day last Easter 脾气能比得上他。我永远也 —and ever since his particular kindness last 忘不了，去年复活节刮大风 September twelvemonth in writing that note, 那天，他帮亨利放风筝。特 at twelve o'clock at night, on purpose to assure 别是我记得，去年九月，也就 me that there was no scarlet fever at Cobham, I 是十二个月以前，他特地在 have been convinced there could not be a more 夜里十二点钟写了一封信给 feeling heart nor a better man in existence. — 我，告诉我科巴姆没有猩红 If any body can deserve him, it must be Miss 热，叫我放心。从这件事我就认定，世界上再也找不出 Taylor. ” 比他更体贴人、更善良的人了。要是有人配得上他，那就一定是泰勒小姐。”

“Where is the young man? ” said John “那位年轻人在哪儿?”约翰 · Knightley. “Has he been here on this occasion—or has he not? ” 奈特利先生问道，“这次他来过了吗——还是没来?”

“He has not been here yet,” replied Emma. “他还没来过呢，”爱玛答 “There was a strong expectation of his com- 道。“大家原以为他婚后不久

ing soon after the marriage, but it ended in nothing; and I have not heard him mentioned lately.”

“But you should tell them of the letter, my dear,” said her father. “He wrote a letter to poor Mrs. Weston, to congratulate her, and a very proper, handsome letter it was. I thought it very well done shewed it to me. Whether it was his own idea of him indeed. Whether it was his own idea you know, one cannot tell. He is but young, and his uncle, perhaps—”

“可你得把信的事告诉他们, 我亲爱的,”她父亲说道。“他给可怜的韦斯顿太太写了封信, 向她道贺, 那是一封非常得体、非常诚恳的信。她把信给我看了。我确实觉得他这件事办得很漂亮。至于是不是他自己的主意, 那就不得而知了。他还年轻, 也许是他舅舅——”

“My dear papa, he is three-and-twenty. You forget how time passes. ”

“我亲爱的爸爸, 他已经二十三岁了。您忘了时光是怎么流逝的。”

“Three-and-twenty! —is he indeed? — Well, I could not have thought it—and he was but two years old when he lost his poor mother! Well, time does fly indeed! —and my memory is very bad. However, it was an exceeding good, pretty letter, and gave Mr. and Mrs. Weston a great deal of pleasure.

“二十三岁啦! —真的吗? 哟, 我可真没想到——他失去可怜的妈妈时才不过两岁呢! 唉, 时光过得真快啊! —我的记性也太差了。不过那真是封极好、极漂亮的信, 叫韦斯顿先生和太太

I remember it was written from Weymouth, 高兴极了。我记得信是从韦
and dated Sept. 28th—and began, ‘My dear 默斯寄来的，日期是九月二
Madam,’but I forget how it went on; and it 十八日——开头写的是‘我亲
was signed ‘F. C. Weston Churchill.’ —I 爱的夫人’，可后面怎么写我
remember that perfectly.” 忘了；落款是‘F. C. 韦斯顿·
丘吉尔’——这个我倒记得清清楚楚。”

“How very pleasing and proper of him! ” ”他这般行事多么得体讨喜
cried the good-hearted Mrs. John Knightley. 啊！”善良的约翰·奈特利
“I have no doubt of his being a most amiable young man. But 夫人嚷道，”我毫不怀疑他
he should not live at home with his father! 不随父亲住在家里多叫人惋
There is something so shocking in a child’s being taken away from his parents and natu-惜！把孩子从父母身边和天
ral home! I never could comprehend how Mr. Weston could part with him. To 人听闻！我始终想不通韦斯
give up one’s child! I really never could think well of any body who proposed such a thing to any body 顿先生怎舍得与他分离。竟
else.” 要放弃自己的孩子！说真的，但凡劝人骨肉分离者，我永远无法对其抱有好感。”

“Nobody ever did think well of the Churchills, I fancy,”observed Mr. Knightley coolly. “But you need not imagine Mr. Weston to have felt what you would feel in giving up Henry or John. Mr. Weston is 瞧得起邱吉尔这一家吧，” 约翰·奈特利先生冷冷地
“我猜想，从来就没有谁真正 约翰·奈特利先生冷冷地 说。“不过，你也用不着认为 韦斯顿先生因为放弃了亨利

rather an easy, cheerful-tempered man, than a man of strong feelings; he takes things as he finds them, and makes enjoyment of them somehow or other, depending, I suspect, much more upon what is called society for his comforts, that is, upon the power of eating and drinking, and playing whist with his neighbours five times a week, than upon family affection, or any thing that home affords. ”

或约翰(注: 此处指上文中提到的韦斯顿先生过继给邱吉尔家的儿子)而有你那样的感受。韦斯顿先生生性乐观, 和和气气, 而不是个感情强烈的人。他随遇而安, 并且能自得其乐——依我看, 他所谓的交际, 就是他能从中得到乐趣, 也就是说, 他能一个星期跟邻居一起吃五顿饭, 一起打打惠斯特。他并不靠什么家庭情感, 或者诸如此类能引起家庭乐趣的东西。”

Emma could not like what bordered on a reflection on Mr. **Weston**, and had half a mind to take it up; but she struggled, and let it pass. **She** would keep the peace if possible; and there was something honourable and valuable in the strong domestic habits, the all-sufficiency of home to himself, whence resulted her brother's disposition to look down on the common rate of social intercourse, and those to whom it was important. —**It** had a high claim to forbearance.

爱玛不喜欢任何近乎指责韦斯顿先生的话, 她几乎忍不住要反驳; 但她还是克制住了, 让这话过去。她尽可能维持和平; 而且在她哥哥那种强烈的家庭生活习惯, 那种以家庭为自足天地的习性中, 有着某种可敬可贵之处, 正是这种习性使他瞧不起一般的社交往来, 以及那些视社交为重要的人。——这种

习性理应得到极大的宽容。

CHAPTER XII

第十二章

Mr. Knightley was to dine with them— rather against the inclination of Mr. Wood-house, who did not like that any one should share with him in Isabella's first day. Emma's sense of right however had decided it; and besides the consideration of what was due to each brother, she had particular pleasure, from the circumstance of the late disagreement between Mr. Knightley and herself, in procuring him the proper invitation.

奈特利先生要来与他们共进晚餐——这多少有些违背伍德豪斯先生的心意，他不愿意任何人在伊莎贝拉回家的第一天就与他分享这份天伦之乐。但爱玛出于公正之心作出了这个决定；除了考虑到应当对两位兄弟一视同仁之外，更因她与奈特利先生近日的龃龉，能向他发出得体邀请这件事本身，就令她感到分外欣慰。

She hoped they might now become friends again. She thought it was time to make up. Making-up indeed would not do. She certainly had not been in the wrong, and he would never own that he had. Concession must be out of the question; but it was time to appear to forget that they had ever quarrelled; and she hoped it might rather assist the restoration of friendship, that when he came

她希望他们现在能重归于好。她觉得是时候和解了。虽然真正认错是绝无可能的——她自然不认为自己有错，而他也绝不会承认自己有错。让步断无可能，但装作忘记曾经争吵的时机已然成熟；她揣测着当自己抱着其中一个孩子——那个八个月

into the room she had one of the children with her—the youngest, a nice little girl about eight months old, who was now making her first visit to Hartfield, and very happy to be danced about in her aunt's arms. **It** did assist; for though he began with grave looks and short questions, he was soon led on to talk of them all in the usual way, and to take the child out of her arms with all the unceremoniousness of perfect amity. **Emma** felt they were friends again; and the conviction giving her at first great satisfaction, and then a little sauciness, she could not help saying, as he was admiring the baby,

大的小女儿，正初次到哈特菲尔德做客，在姑母臂弯里欢快地颤动着——迎接他进屋时，或许反倒能促成友情的复苏。这法子果然奏效；虽然他起初板着脸简短寒暄，但很快就像往常那样谈起家常，还极其自然地接过她怀里的孩子，那份熟稔正是亲密无间的明证。**爱玛**觉得他们确实重修旧好了。这个认知起初令她心满意足，继而滋生出几分俏皮，当听到他夸赞婴儿时，她忍不住说道：

“**What** a comfort it is, that we think alike about our nephews and nieces. **As** to men and women, our opinions are sometimes very different; but with regard to these children, I observe we never disagree.”

“我们在侄儿侄女的事情上想法一致，这真令人欣慰。**至于**男人和女人，我们的见解时常大相径庭；但对待这些孩子，我却注意到我们从未有过分歧。”

“**If** you were as much guided by nature in your estimate of men and women, and as little under the power of fancy and whim in your dealings with them, as you are where these children are

“倘若你在评价男女时，能像对待这些孩子那样多几分天性指引，少几分异想天开与心血来潮，我们或许就能永

concerned, we might always think alike. ”

远心意相通了。”

“**To** be sure—our discordances must always arise from my being in the wrong. ”

“**确实**如此——我们之间的分歧，总是因我的不是而起。”

“**Yes,**” said he, smiling—“and reason good. I was sixteen years old when you were born. ”

“**不错，**”他含笑答道，“而且理由很充分。你出生的时候，我已经十六岁了。”

“**A** material difference then,” she replied—“and no doubt you were much my superior in judgment at that period of our lives; but does not the lapse of one-and-twenty years bring our understandings a good deal nearer? ”

“**那**倒是个实质性的差别，”她答道——“毫无疑问，在我们人生的那个阶段，你的判断力远胜于我。**但**二十一年光阴荏苒，难道没让我们的悟性更为接近吗?”

“**Yes—a** good deal nearer. ”

“**是啊——**近得多了。”

“**But** still, not near enough to give me a chance of being right, if we think differently. ”

”**但**即便如此，若你我见解不同，这亲近仍不足以让我有猜对的机会。”

“**I** have still the advantage of you by sixteen years’ experience, and by not being a pretty young woman and a spoiled child. **Come**, my dear Emma, let us be friends, and say no more about it. **Tell** your aunt, little Emma, that she

“**我**仍比你多十六年的阅历，况且又不是个漂亮姑娘、娇生惯养的娃娃。**得啦，**亲爱的爱玛，咱们握手言和吧。**告诉你姨妈，**小爱玛，说她会

ought to set you a better example than to be renewing old grievances, and that if she were not wrong before, she is now.”
给你树立更好的榜样，别再翻旧账了——就算她从前没错，现在可要犯错了。”

“That’s true,” she cried—“very true. Little Emma, grow up a better woman than your aunt. Be infinitely cleverer and not half so conceited. Now, Mr. Knightley, a word or two more, and I have done. As far as good intentions went, we were both right, and I must say that no effects on my side of the argument have yet proved wrong. I only want to know that Mr. Martin is not very, very bitterly disappointed.”
“确实如此，”她嚷道——“千真万确。小爱玛，长大后要胜过你姑妈。要聪明百倍，却不可有她半分骄矜。好啦，奈特利先生，再说一两句便罢。就善意初衷而言，我们俩都没错，而且必须说我这方的论断至今未见纰漏。我只想知道马丁先生是否并未痛心疾首。”

“A man cannot be more so,” was his short, full answer.
“一个男人不可能比这更甚了，”这便是他简短而干脆的回答。

“Ah! —Indeed I am very sorry. —Come, shake hands with me.”
“啊！——我真是非常抱歉。
——来，和我握握手吧。”

This had just taken place and with great cordiality, when John Knightley made his appearance, and “How d’ye do, George? ” and “John, how are you? ” succeeded in the true English style, burying under a calmness that seemed
这番寒暄刚刚在极为热络的气氛中结束，约翰·奈特利便走了进来。随之而来的是“你好吗，乔治？”和“约翰，你好吗，乔治？”的问候——正是

all but indifference, the real attachment which would have led either of them, if requisite, to do every thing for the good of the other.

典型的英式作风，将那份实则甘愿为对方倾尽所有的真挚情谊，掩藏在近乎淡漠的平静表象之下。

The evening was quiet and conversable, as Mr. **Woodhouse** declined cards entirely for the sake of comfortable talk with his dear Isabella, and the little party made two natural divisions; on one side he and his daughter; on the other the two Mr. **Knightleys**; their subjects totally distinct, or very rarely mixing—and Emma only occasionally joining in one or the other.

这个夜晚宁静而宜于闲谈，伍德豪斯先生完全放弃了打牌，为的是能与他亲爱的伊莎贝拉舒心畅谈。小小的聚会自然分成了两组：一边是他和女儿；另一边是两位奈特利先生——两边的谈话内容截然不同，极少相互穿插，爱玛只是偶尔加入其中一组聊上几句。

The brothers talked of their own concerns and pursuits, but principally of those of the elder, whose temper was by much the most communicative, and who was always the greater talker. As a magistrate, he had generally some point of law to consult John about, or, at least, some curious anecdote to give; and as a farmer, as keeping in hand the home-farm at Donwell, he had to tell what every field was to bear next year, and to give all such local information as

两兄弟谈论着各自的事务和消遣，但主要是兄长的话多些——他的性情本就健谈得多，素来更爱开口。身为地方法官，他总有几桩法律条文要向约翰请教，至少也有些奇闻轶事要讲述；作为经营着唐威尔宅旁农庄的庄主，他得说明每块田地来年要种什么作物，还要详细介绍

could not fail of being interesting to a brother whose home it had equally been the longest part of his life, and whose attachments were strong. **T**he plan of a drain, the change of a fence, the felling of a tree, and the destination of every acre for wheat, turnips, or spring corn, was entered into with as much equality of interest by John, as his cooler manners rendered possible; and if his willing brother ever left him any thing to inquire about, his inquiries even approached a tone of eagerness.

当地的各种情形——这些话题自然会引起兄弟的浓厚兴趣，毕竟这里同样是他居住最久的家园，他对这片土地怀着深厚的感情。**无论是**排水渠的规划、篱笆的改建、树木的砍伐，还是每块田地决定种植小麦、芜菁或是春麦，约翰都以他那种沉静的性情所能允许的平等热忱参与讨论；若是热心的兄长偶尔留出话头让他询问，他的问话里甚至会透出几分殷切。

While they were thus comfortably occupied, Mr. **Woodhouse** was enjoying a full flow of happy regrets and fearful affection with his daughter.

正当他们舒适地忙碌时，伍德豪斯先生正与女儿沉浸在幸福的牵挂与脉脉温情之中。

“**M**y poor dear Isabella,” said he, fondly taking her hand, and interrupting, for a few moments, her busy labours for some one of her five children—“How long it is, how terribly long since you were here! **A**nd how tired you must be after your journey! **Y**ou must go to bed early, my dear—and I recommend a little gruel to

“我可怜的亲爱的伊莎贝拉，”他慈爱地握着她的手，打断了她为五个孩子中某一个的忙碌操劳——片刻工夫——“你多久没来了，多么可怕地长久啊！路上之后你一定很疲倦了，必须早点睡觉，亲

you before you go. —**You** and I will have a nice basin of gruel together. **My** dear Emma, suppose we all have a little gruel. ” 爱的——我建议你睡前喝点粥。你和我要一起美美地喝上一碗粥。我亲爱的爱玛，咱们大家都喝点粥吧。”

Emma could not suppose any such thing, knowing as she did, that both the Mr. **Knightleys** were as unpersuadable on that article as herself;—and two basins only were ordered. **After** a little more discourse in praise of gruel, with some wondering at its not being taken every evening by every body, he proceeded to say, with an air of grave reflection, 爱玛可不这么想，她深知两位奈特利先生在这件事上都和她一样固执己见——最后只叫了两份粥。他又对麦片粥赞叹了几句，表示不解为何不是人人都每晚食用，随后摆出深思熟虑的神气说道：

“**It** was an awkward business, my dear, your spending the autumn at South End instead of coming here. **I** never had much opinion of the sea air.” “亲爱的，你秋天去南端度假而没有来这儿，真是一件尴尬的事。我对海边的空气向来评价不高。”

“**Mr. Wingfield** most strenuously recommended it, sir—or we should not have gone. **He** recommended it for all the children, but particularly for the weakness in little Bella’s throat,—both sea air and bathing.” “温菲尔德先生极力推荐这个疗法，先生——否则我们也不会去。他建议所有孩子都采用，特别是针对小贝拉喉咙虚弱的症状——既需要海洋空气又需要海水浴。”

“**Ah!** my dear, but Perry had many doubts “啊！亲爱的，可佩里先生对

about the sea doing her any good; and as to myself, I have been long perfectly convinced, though perhaps I never told you so before, that the sea is very rarely of use to any body. I am sure it almost killed me once."

于海水是否对她有益疑虑重重；至于我自己嘛，我早就完全确信——虽然可能从未向你明言——海水对任何人都鲜有裨益。我敢说，有一回海水差点要了我的命。”

"Come, come," cried Emma, feeling this to be an unsafe subject, "I must beg you not to talk of the sea. It makes me envious and miserable; —I who have never seen it! South End is prohibited, if you please. My dear Isabella, I have not heard you make one inquiry about Mr. Perry yet; and he never forgets you."

“得啦，得啦，”爱玛嚷道，觉得这个话题不妙，“我求你别再讲海啦。让我这个从没见过海的人听得又羡慕又难受——可别再提南海啦。我亲爱的伊莎贝拉，你还没问起佩里先生呢，他可一直惦记着你。”

"Oh! good Mr. Perry—how is he, sir?"

“哦！好心的佩里先生——他近来可好，先生？”

"Why, pretty well; but not quite well. Poor Perry is bilious, and he has not time to take care of himself—he tells me he has not time to take care of himself—which is very sad—but he is always wanted all round the country. I suppose there is not a man in such practice anywhere. But then there is not so clever a

”还算不错，只是不算太好。可怜的佩里肝火旺，偏又抽不出空照顾自己——他亲口跟我说抽不出空照顾自己——实在叫人难过——可这附近一带谁都离不开他。我看天底下再找不出第二个

man any where. ”

诊务这么繁忙的医生了。不过话说回来，天底下也找不出第二个这么医术高明的人啦。”

“**And** Mrs. **Perry** and the children, how are they? **do** the children grow? **I** have a great regard for Mr. **Perry**. **I** hope he will be calling soon. **He** will be so pleased to see my little ones.”

“佩里太太和孩子们都好吗？孩子们长高了吗？我对佩里先生素来敬重。盼他近日能来访，见到我的小宝贝们定会满心欢喜。”

“**I** hope he will be here to-morrow, for I have a question or two to ask him about myself of some consequence. **And**, my dear, whenever he comes, you had better let him look at little Bella’s throat. ”

“但愿他明天能来，我有几个与自己切身相关的问题要问他。还有，亲爱的，他来了以后，你最好让他给贝拉看看喉咙。”

“**Oh!** my dear sir, her throat is so much better that I have hardly any uneasiness about it. **Either** bathing has been of the greatest service to her, or else it is to be attributed to an excellent embrocation of Mr. **Wingfield’s**, which we have been applying at times ever since August. ”

“哦！亲爱的先生，她的喉咙好多了，我几乎不再为此担心了。要么是海水浴对她大有裨益，要么就该归功于温菲尔德先生那剂特效搽剂——我们从八月份起就时常给她涂抹呢。”

“**It** is not very likely, my dear, that bathing should have been of use to her—and if I had

“亲爱的，泡澡对她恐怕不太可能有什么益处——要是我

known you were wanting an embrocation, I 早知道您需要一种搽剂，我
would have spoken to— 早就跟——”

“**You** seem to me to have forgotten Mrs. **and** “在我看来，您似乎把贝茨太
Miss Bates,” said Emma, “I have not heard one 太和贝茨小姐给忘了，”爱玛
inquiry after them. ” 说道，“我还没听见您问候过她们呢。”

“**Oh! the** good Bateses—I am quite ashamed “哦！好心的贝茨一家——我
of myself—but you mention them in most of 真是惭愧极了——不过您信
your letters. I hope they are quite well. **Good** 里多半都提到他们。希望他
old Mrs. **Bates**—I will call upon her to- 们都安好。亲爱的贝茨老太
morrow, and take my children. —**They** are 太——我明天就去拜访她，
always so pleased to see my children. —**And** 带上我的孩子们。——他们
that excellent Miss Bates! —**such** thorough 见到我的孩子们总是那么高
worthy people! —**How** are they, sir? ” 兴。——还有那位出色的贝茨小姐！——多么淳厚可敬
“哦！好心的贝茨一家——我真是惭愧极了——不过您信里多半都提到他们。希望他们都安好。亲爱的贝茨老太太和贝茨小姐给忘了，”爱玛说道，“我还没听见您问候过她们呢。”

“**Why**, pretty well, my dear, upon the whole. ” 哟，亲爱的，大体上还算不
But poor Mrs. **Bates** had a bad cold about 错。不过可怜的贝茨太太大约一个月前得了重感冒。”

“**How** sorry I am! **But** colds were never so “我真遗憾！不过，感冒从
prevalent as they have been this autumn. **Mr.** 来没有像今年秋天这样流行
Wingfield told me that he has never known 过。温菲尔德先生告诉我，除

them more general or heavy—except when it has been quite an influenza. ”

了真正流感肆虐的时期外，
他从没见过这么普遍又严重的感冒。”

“**That** has been a good deal the case, my dear; but not to the degree you mention. **Perry** says that colds have been very general, but not so heavy as he has very often known them in November. **Perry** does not call it altogether a sickly season. ”

”大致是这么个情况，亲爱的，不过没有你说得那么严重。佩里先生说今年感冒确实很普遍，但不像他往年十一月常见的那样来势汹汹。佩里先生并不认为这算是个多病的季节。”

“**No**, I do not know that Mr. **Wingfield** considers it very sickly except—

”不，我并不认为温菲尔德先生觉得这地方有什么特别
不卫生的，除非——”

“**Ah!** my poor dear child, the truth is, that in London it is always a sickly season. **Nobody** is healthy in London, nobody can be. **It** is a dreadful thing to have you forced to live there! **so** far off! —**and** the air so bad! ”

”唉！我可怜的宝贝，实情是伦敦的天气总是不利于健康。在伦敦没人能保持健康，谁都不可能。让你被迫住在那里真可怕！那么远！——空气又那么糟！”

“**No**, indeed—we are not at all in a bad air. **Our** part of London is very superior to most others! —**You** must not confound us with London in general, my dear sir. **The** neigh-

”哪儿的话——我们这儿的空气可一点儿都不差。伦敦我们这个地段比大多数地方都强得多！——亲爱的先生，

bourhood of Brunswick Square is very different from almost all the rest. **We** are so very airy! I should be unwilling, I own, to live in any other part of the town;—there is hardly any other that I could be satisfied to have my children in: but we are so remarkably airy! —**Mr. Wingfield** thinks the vicinity of Brunswick Square decidedly the most favourable as to air.

”

“Ah! my dear, it is not like Hartfield. You make the best of it—but after you have been a week at Hartfield, you are all of you different creatures; you do not look like the same. Now I cannot say, that I think you are any of you looking well at present.”

“I am sorry to hear you say so, sir; but I assure you, excepting those little nervous head-aches and palpitations which I am never entirely free from anywhere, I am quite well myself; and if

您可别把我们和整个伦敦混为一谈。布伦瑞克广场这一带和别处简直天差地别。我们这儿通风特别好！说实话，要我住在城里别的区域我都
不情愿——几乎找不到第二个能让我放心安置孩子们的
地方。可我们这儿就是特别通风！——温菲尔德先生认
为，单就空气而言，布伦瑞克广场周边确实是最适宜居
住的。”

“唉！亲爱的，这可不像哈特菲尔德。你尽量把它往好里说——可是你在哈特菲尔德住上一个星期以后，你们一个个就都变了样；你们看上去都不是原来那样了。现在我可不能说，我认为你们目前有谁脸色好看。”

”听您这么说我很难过，先生。不过说实话，除了这些无论身在何处都摆脱不掉的轻微神经性头痛和心悸之外，

the children were rather pale before they went to bed, it was only because they were a little more tired than usual, from their journey and the happiness of coming. I hope you will think better of their looks to-morrow; for I assure you Mr. **Wingfield** told me, that he did not believe he had ever sent us off altogether, in such good case. I trust, at least, that you do not think Mr. **Knightley** looking ill,"turning her eyes with affectionate anxiety towards her husband.

我身体相当好。孩子们睡前脸色有些苍白，也只是因为旅途奔波加上回家的喜悦比平时更疲倦些。相信明天您就会觉得他们的气色好多了——温菲尔德先生亲口对我说，他确信从未见过我们全家出发时状态如此之好。至少我希望您不会觉得奈特利先生气色不佳吧，”她说着将满含关切的目光转向丈夫。

“Middling, my dear; I cannot compliment you. I think Mr. **John** Knightley very far from looking well. ”

“一般，我亲爱的；我可不能恭维你。我看约翰·奈特利先生气色差得远呢。”

“What is the matter, sir? —Did you speak to me? ”cried Mr. **John** Knightley, hearing his own name.

“怎么了，先生？——您是在跟我说话吗？”约翰·奈特利先生听见自己的名字，连忙问道。

“I am sorry to find, my love, that my father does not think you looking well—but I hope it is only from being a little fatigued. I could have wished, however, as you know, that you had seen Mr. **Wingfield** before you left

“我亲爱的，看到我父亲觉得你气色不大好，我真是难过——不过我希望这只是因为有些疲倦罢了。但你也知道，我原本倒是希望你在离

home. ”

家之前能请温菲尔德先生看看的。”

“**M**y dear Isabella,”—exclaimed he hastily— “pray do not concern yourself about my looks. **B**e satisfied with doctoring and coddling yourself and the children, and let me look as I chuse. ”

”亲爱的伊莎贝拉，”他急忙嚷道，”请不必为我的面色操心。你只管医治和娇养你自己跟孩子们好了，让我愿意怎么面色就怎么面色。”

“**I** did not thoroughly understand what you were telling your brother,” cried Emma, “about your friend Mr. **Graham**’s intending to have a bailiff from Scotland, to look after his new estate. **W**hat will it answer? **W**ill not the old prejudice be too strong? ”

“我不太明白你刚才跟你哥哥说的，”爱玛嚷道，“关于你的朋友格雷厄姆先生打算从苏格兰请个管家来照管他新置的产业。这会有什么好处呢？那老一套的偏见难道不会太顽固了吗？”

And she talked in this way so long and successfully that, when forced to give her attention again to her father and sister, she had nothing worse to hear than Isabella’s kind inquiry after Jane Fairfax; and Jane Fairfax, though no great favourite with her in general, she was at that moment very happy to assist in praising.

她就这样滔滔不绝地说了许久，而且说得十分成功，最后不得不把注意力重新转到父亲和妹妹身上时，只听见伊莎贝拉在亲切地询问简·费尔法克斯的情况。而对于简·费尔法克斯，虽说她平时并不怎么特别喜欢，这时候却也很乐意跟着一起赞扬

几句。

“**That** sweet, amiable Jane Fairfax! ”**said** “**那位**可爱又可亲的简·费
Mrs. **John** Knightley. — “**It** is so long since 尔法克斯!”**约翰·奈特利**
I have seen her, except now and then for a mo- 太太说道, “除了偶尔在城里
ment accidentally in town! **What** happiness it 匆匆碰面外, 我已经很久没
must be to her good old grandmother and ex- 见到她了! 她回去探望那位
cellent aunt, when she comes to visit them! **I** 慈祥的老祖母和出色的舅母
always regret excessively on dear Emma’s ac- 时, 该让她们多么高兴啊! 我
count that she cannot be more at Highbury; 总为亲爱的爱玛感到万分遗
but now their daughter is married, I suppose 憾, 她不能常来海伯里住住。
Colonel and Mrs. **Campbell** will not be able 不过现在坎贝尔上校夫妇的
to part with her at all. **She** would be such a 女儿出嫁了, 想必他们更舍
delightful companion for Emma. ” 得放她走了。她若是能来,
该是爱玛多好的伴儿啊。”

Mr. **Woodhouse** agreed to it all, but 伍德豪斯先生对这一切都表
added, 示赞同, 但又补充道,

“**Our** little friend Harriet Smith, however, is “**我们**的小朋友哈丽特·史密
just such another pretty kind of young person. 斯, 正是这样一位娇俏可爱的
You will like Harriet. **Emma** could not have 年轻姑娘。你会喜欢哈丽
a better companion than Harriet. ” 特的。对爱玛来说, 再找不到
比哈丽特更合适的伴侣了。”

“**I** am most happy to hear it—but only Jane ” 听到这消息我真是太高兴
Fairfax one knows to be so very accomplished 了——不过谁不知道简·费

and superior! —and exactly Emma's age. ” 尔法克斯是那样多才多艺、出类拔萃！——而且正好和爱玛同龄。”

This topic was discussed very happily, and others succeeded of similar moment, and passed away with similar harmony; but the evening did not close without a little return of agitation. The gruel came and supplied a great deal to be said—much praise and many comments—undoubting decision of its wholesomeness for every constitution, and pretty severe Philippics upon the many houses where it was never met with tolerably;—but, unfortunately, among the failures which the daughter had to instance, the most recent, and therefore most prominent, was in her own cook at South End, a young woman hired for the time, who never had been able to understand what she meant by a basin of nice smooth gruel, thin, but not too thin. Often as she had wished for and ordered it, she had never been able to get any thing tolerable. Here was a dangerous opening.

这个话题谈得大家都很开心，类似的要紧话题接着又谈了一些，也都谈得十分融洽。不过，晚会结束时，还是起了一点小小的风波。粥送来了，引得大家议论纷纷——又是夸奖，又是议论——人人都毫不迟疑地断定，这种粥对每个人都是养身补体的，并且还狠狠抨击了许多人家，说他们家里简直熬不出像样的粥来。然而，不幸的是，在女儿列举的许多失败事例中，数她最近去南海给雇来的一个年轻女人最糟糕，她压根不懂得什么叫作熬一盆可口的稀粥，既不要太稠，又不要太稀。她尽管常常希望得到这样一碗粥，也常常叫人熬了，可却从来得不到一碗像样的粥。这倒是个危险的导火线。

“Ah!” said Mr. Woodhouse, shaking his head and fixing his eyes on her with tender concern. —The ejaculation in Emma’s ear expressed, “Ah! **there** is no end of the sad consequences of your going to South End. **It** does not bear talking of.” And for a little while she hoped he would not talk of it, and that a silent rumination might suffice to restore him to the relish of his own smooth gruel. After an interval of some minutes, however, he began with,

“唉！”伍德豪斯先生摇着头说道，目光饱含温柔的忧虑凝视着她——这声在爱玛耳边的感叹仿佛在说：“唉！你去萨瑟克那趟惹来的伤心事真是没完没了。简直不堪回首。”她暗自盼着他能暂且不提这事，指望沉默的沉思足以让他恢复享用那碗温粥的兴趣。然而过了几分钟光景，他还是开口道：

“I shall always be very sorry that you went to the sea this autumn, instead of coming here.”

“你今秋没来这儿，反倒去了海边，我始终觉得十分遗憾。”

“But why should you be sorry, sir? —I assure you, it did the children a great deal of good.”

”可是先生，您何必感到抱歉呢？——我向您保证，这对孩子们大有裨益。”

“And, moreover, if you must go to the sea, it had better not have been to South End. South End is an unhealthy place. Perry was surprised to hear you had fixed upon South End.”

”而且，倘若您非要去海边，也不该选中骚森德。那地方对健康很不利。佩里先生听说您选定骚森德时，着实吃了一惊。”

“I know there is such an idea with many people.”

”我知道不少人有这种想法，

ple, but indeed it is quite a mistake, sir. —**We** 但先生，这实在是个天大的 all had our health perfectly well there, never 误会——我们在那儿身体都 found the least inconvenience from the mud; 康健极了，从没因泥泞感到 and Mr. **Wingfield** says it is entirely a mis- 丝毫不便。温菲尔德先生说 take to suppose the place unhealthy; and I am 过，认为那地方对健康有害 sure he may be depended on, for he thoroughly 纯属无稽之谈。我敢说他这 understands the nature of the air, and his own 话是可信的，因为他深谙空 brother and family have been there repeatedly. 气的特性，况且他自家兄弟 ”携眷属也常去那儿小住。”

“**You** should have gone to Cromer, my dear, “亲爱的，你若是要出门，真 if you went anywhere. —**Perry** was a week 该去克罗默才对——佩里有 at Cromer once, and he holds it to be the best 一回在克罗默住了一周，说 of all the sea-bathing places. A fine open sea, 那是海滨浴场中顶好的去 he says, and very pure air. **And**, by what I 处。他说那儿海面开阔，空 understand, you might have had lodgings there 气极清新。据我所知，你本可 quite away from the sea—a quarter of a mile 以在那儿租到离海边足足四 off—very comfortable. **You** should have con- 分之一英里的住处——非常 sulted Perry.” 舒适。你原该问问佩里的。”

“**But**, my dear sir, the difference of the jour- “可是，我亲爱的先生，路程 ney;—only consider how great it would have 远近可大不相同——您想想 been. —**An** hundred miles, perhaps, instead 看，这差别有多大。原本要 of forty.” 走一百英里路，现在可能只要走四十英里就够了。”

“Ah! my dear, as Perry says, where health “啊！亲爱的，正如佩里先生
is at stake, nothing else should be considered; 所说，当健康攸关之时，其
and if one is to travel, there is not much to 他一切都该置之度外。倘若
chuse between forty miles and an hundred. — 非要出行，四十英里与一百
Better not move at all, better stay in London 英里实在别无二致——倒不如原地不动，宁可整个留在
altogether than travel forty miles to get into a worse air. **This** is just what Perry said. It 伦敦，也强过奔波四十英里去呼吸更糟的空气。这正是
seemed to him a very ill-judged measure.” 佩里先生的原话。在他看来，
这实在是欠妥之举。”

Emma’s attempts to stop her father had been vain; and when he had reached such a point as this, she could not wonder at her brother-in-law’s breaking out.

爱玛试图阻止父亲的一切努力都白费了；当父亲说到这个份上时，她也就难怪姐夫会突然发作了。

“Mr. Perry,” said he, in a voice of very strong displeasure, “would do as well to keep his opinion till it is asked for. Why does he make it any business of his, to wonder at what I do? —at my taking my family to one part of the coast or another? —I may be allowed, I hope, the use of my judgment as well as Mr. Perry. —I want his directions no more than his drugs.” He paused—and growing cooler in a moment, added, with only sarcastic dryness,

“佩里先生，”他用极其不悦的语气说道，“最好等别人请教时再发表意见。我做什么事情——带着家人去这片海岸还是那片海岸——凭什么要他多管闲事来指手画脚？我希望自己总该和佩里先生一样有权支配自己的判断力吧。——我既不需要他开药方，也不需要他指方向。”他

"If Mr. **Perry** can tell me how to convey a wife and five children a distance of an hundred and thirty miles with no greater expense or inconvenience than a distance of forty, I should be as willing to prefer Cromer to South End as he could himself."

停顿片刻，冷静了些，又带着讥诮的淡漠补充道：“倘若佩里先生能指教我，如何用不超过四十英里路程的花费与周折，把妻子和五个孩子送到一百三十英里之外，那我倒愿意像他那样，宁愿选择克洛默而不是骚森德。”

"**True, true,**" cried Mr. **Knightley**, with most ready interposition—"very true. **That'** s a consideration indeed. —**But** John, as to what I was telling you of my idea of moving the path to Langham, of turning it more to the right that it may not cut through the home meadows, I cannot conceive any difficulty. I should not attempt it, if it were to be the means of inconvenience to the Highbury people, but if you call to mind exactly the present line of the path. . . . **The** only way of proving it, however, will be to turn to our maps. I shall see you at the Abbey to-morrow morning I hope, and then we will look them over, and you shall give me your opinion."

“确实如此，确实如此，”奈特利先生立刻插嘴道——“说得极是。这确实是个值得斟酌的问题。——不过约翰，关于我方才提起那条通往朗汉姆的小路——我想把它往右移些，免得穿过家中草场，实在想不出这有什么难办的。若是会给海伯里乡亲们造成不便，我断不会贸然行事，但倘若你仔细回想当下这条小路的走向. 不过要验证此事，唯一的法子还是查查地图。但愿明早能在修道院见到你，届时我们一同查阅地图，你再谈谈你的见解。”

Mr. Woodhouse was rather agitated by such harsh reflections on his friend Perry, to whom he had, in fact, though unconsciously, been attributing many of his own feelings and expressions;—but the soothing attentions of his daughters gradually removed the present evil, and the immediate alertness of one brother, and better recollections of the other, prevented any renewal of it.

伍德豪斯先生听到有人如此严厉地批评他的朋友佩里，不免有些激动——事实上，他虽未察觉，却早已不自觉地将自己的许多感受和言辞都归因于佩里了。不过女儿们体贴入微的安抚渐渐驱散了眼前的不快，一位兄弟立刻表现出的机敏和另一位重新唤起的善意，使得这场不快没有再延续下去。

CHAPTER XIII

第十三章

There could hardly be a happier creature in the world than Mrs. John Knightley, in this short visit to Hartfield, going about every morning among her old acquaintance with her five children, and talking over what she had done every evening with her father and sister. She had nothing to wish otherwise, but that the days did not pass so swiftly. It was a delightful visit;—perfect, in being much too short.

世上几乎再没有比约翰·奈特利太太这次回哈特菲尔德小住更快乐的人了：她每天上午带着五个孩子走亲访友，晚上便与父亲和姐姐畅谈日间见闻。她别无他求，只盼光阴不要这般匆匆。这次探亲实在愉快——正因太过短暂，反倒显得完美无缺。

In general their evenings were less engaged 总的来说，他们晚上的应酬

with friends than their mornings; but one complete dinner engagement, and out of the house too, there was no avoiding, though at Christmas. **Mr. Weston** would take no denial; they must all dine at Randalls one day;—even Mr. **Woodhouse** was persuaded to think it a possible thing in preference to a division of the party.

比早晨少；但即便在圣诞节期间，也免不了要外出参加一次完整的晚宴。**韦斯顿先生**不容推辞；大家务必择日齐聚兰德尔斯的宅邸——就连**伍德豪斯先生**也被说服，认为与其让众人分散活动，这倒不失为可行的安排。

How they were all to be conveyed, he would have made a difficulty if he could, but as his son and daughter's carriage and horses were actually at Hartfield, he was not able to make more than a simple question on that head; it hardly amounted to a doubt; nor did it occupy Emma long to convince him that they might in one of the carriages find room for Harriet also.

要是可能的话，他本会在如何运送大家这件事上提出些难题，但无奈儿子和女儿的马车和马匹实际上都在哈特菲尔德，他只能对此稍作询问，几乎算不上质疑。**爱玛**也没费多少工夫就让他相信，他们完全可以在其中一辆马车里给哈丽特也腾出个位置。

Harriet, Mr. Elton, and Mr. Knightley, 受邀前来与他们相聚的，只有哈里特、埃尔顿先生和奈特利先生这几位至交——不仅宾客要少，时间也要早；**伍德豪斯先生**的习惯和意愿在每件事上都得到了充分的尊

重。

The evening before this great event (for it was a very great event that Mr. **Woodhouse** should dine out, on the 24th of December) had been spent by Harriet at Hartfield, and she had gone home so much indisposed with a cold, that, but for her own earnest wish of being nursed by Mrs. **Goddard**, Emma could not have allowed her to leave the house. **Emma** called on her the next day, and found her doom already signed with regard to Randalls. **She** was very feverish and had a bad sore throat: Mrs. **Goddard** was full of care and affection, Mr. **Perry** was talked of, and Harriet herself was too ill and low to resist the authority which excluded her from this delightful engagement, though she could not speak of her loss without many tears.

这件大事发生的前一晚（因为伍德豪斯先生要在十二月二十四日外出吃饭，确实是件大事），哈丽特是在哈特菲尔德度过的，她回家时着了凉，很不舒服，若不是她自己执意要由戈达德太太来照料，爱玛是不会让她离开的。
第二天，爱玛去探望她，发现她已经注定去不成兰多尔斯了。她发着高烧，喉咙痛得厉害。戈达德太太满怀慈爱，悉心照料，还说要请佩里先生来看看。哈丽特本人病得有气无力，无法反对不让她赴这次愉快约会的硬性规定，不过一提起这次失约，她还是要落泪。

Emma sat with her as long as she could, to attend her in Mrs. **Goddard**' s unavoidable absences, and raise her spirits by representing how much Mr. **Elton**' s would be depressed when he knew her state; and left her at last

爱玛尽可能久地陪伴着她，在戈达德太太不得不走开时照料她，用”埃尔顿先生得知她病况后该多么沮丧”的说法来提振她的精神；最后当

tolerably comfortable, in the sweet dependence of his having a most comfortless visit, and of their all missing her very much. **She** had not advanced many yards from Mrs. **Goddard**'s door, when she was met by Mr. **Elton** himself, evidently coming towards it, and as they walked on slowly together in conversation about the invalid—of whom he, on the rumour of considerable illness, had been going to inquire, that he might carry some report of her to Hartfield—they were overtaken by Mr. **John Knightley** returning from the daily visit to Donwell, with his two eldest boys, whose healthy, glowing faces shewed all the benefit of a country run, and seemed to ensure a quick despatch of the roast mutton and rice pudding they were hastening home for. **They** joined company and proceeded together. **Emma** was just describing the nature of her friend's complaint;—"a throat very much inflamed, with a great deal of heat about her, a quick, low pulse, &c. **and** she was sorry to find from Mrs. **Goddard** that Harriet was liable to very bad sore-throats, and had often alarmed her with them. "Mr. **Elton** looked all alarm on the 她确信这位先生将度过极其扫兴的探访、众人都将深深惦记她时，才留下心境尚算平静的哈里特离去。她刚走出戈达德太太家门没几步，就迎面遇见了正朝这个方向走来的埃尔顿先生。两人便缓步同行，谈论起那位病患——他原是听闻病情颇重，特来探问以便向哈特菲尔德汇报情况的。这时约翰·奈特利先生带着两个大儿子从每日例行的唐威尔散步归来，父子三人红润健康的面庞印证了乡间奔跑的益处，也预示着他们赶回家要享用的烤羊肉与大米布丁即将被迅速消灭。两路人马汇合后继续前行。爱玛正详细描述朋友的病症：“喉咙严重发炎，浑身高热，脉搏快而微弱等等。更令人担忧的是，从戈达德太太处得知哈里特经常患严重的喉疾，每次都会引起恐慌。”埃尔顿先生闻言顿时

occasion, as he exclaimed,

忧形于色，失声叹道：

“A sore-throat! —I hope not infectious. I “喉咙痛！但愿不是传染性的。hope not of a putrid infectious sort. Has Perry 但愿不是那种腐烂性的传染病。佩里给她看过了吗？说Indeed you should take care of yourself as well as of your friend. Let me entreat you to run no risks. Why does not Perry 病。佩里真的，你既要照顾朋友，也要当心自己。我恳求你千万别冒险。佩里怎么不去看看see her? ”她呢？”

Emma, who was not really at all frightened herself, tranquillised this excess of apprehension by assurances of Mrs. Goddard's experience and care; but as there must still remain a degree of uneasiness which she could not wish to reason away, which she would rather feed and assist than not, she added soon afterwards —as if quite another subject,

爱玛自己其实一点也不惊慌，她以戈达德太太富有经验、悉心照料的保证来安抚这种过分的忧虑。不过，由于一定程度的焦虑依然存在——这是她不愿用理智去驱散的，反倒宁肯助长而非抑制——她随即又开口补充，仿佛在谈论另一个话题：

“It is so cold, so very cold—and looks and feels ” 天气这样冷，实在是冷——so very much like snow, that if it were to any other place or with any other party, I should really try not to go out to-day—and dissuade my father from venturing; but as he has made up his mind, and does not seem to feel the cold 而且天色和空气都像要下雪的样子，要是到别的地方去，或是跟别的什么人出去，我今天一定不愿出门——还要劝阻父亲不要冒险；不过既

himself, I do not like to interfere, as I know it would be so great a disappointment to Mr. and Mrs. Weston. But, upon my word, Mr. Elton, in your case, I should certainly excuse myself. You appear to me a little hoarse already, and when you consider what demand of voice and what fatigues to-morrow will bring, I think it would be no more than common prudence to stay at home and take care of yourself to-night. ”

然他已经打定主意，而且他自己似乎并不觉得冷，我也就不便干涉了，因为我知道，如果不去，韦斯顿夫妇一定会大失所望。可是，说实在的，埃尔顿先生，要是你的话，我一定会推辞不去。你好像已经有点感冒了，想想明天要费多少精神说话，多么劳累，我认为你今晚留在家里养精蓄锐才是明智之举。”

Mr. Elton looked as if he did not very well know what answer to make; which was exactly the case; for though very much gratified by the kind care of such a fair lady, and not liking to resist any advice of her's, he had not really the least inclination to give up the visit;—but Emma, too eager and busy in her own previous conceptions and views to hear him impartially, or see him with clear vision, was very well satisfied with his muttering acknowledgment of its being “very cold, certainly very cold,” and walked on, rejoicing in having extricated him from Randalls, and secured him the power of sending to inquire after Harriet every hour of

埃尔顿先生看上去似乎不知该如何作答——这确是实情；虽然承蒙这位俏丽女士的关怀备至深感荣幸，也不愿违拗她的任何建议，但他实在丝毫没有放弃这次拜访的念头。然而爱玛先前已形成自己的见解和打算，过于急切和专注，既不能公允地倾听他的想法，也无法清晰地观察他的神情，只听得他含糊地承认“天气确实很冷，非常冷”，便已心满意足，继续往前走去，暗自庆幸自己

the evening.

帮他摆脱了兰德尔斯的邀约，也确保了他今晚随时能派人探问哈丽特的情况。

“**You** do quite right,” said she;—“we will make your apologies to Mr. **and** Mrs. **Weston.**”

“你做得非常对，”她说道，“我们会替你向韦斯顿夫妇致歉的。”

But hardly had she so spoken, when she found her brother was civilly offering a seat in his carriage, if the weather were Mr. **Elton**’ s only objection, and Mr. **Elton** actually accepting the offer with much prompt satisfaction. It was a done thing; Mr. **Elton** was to go, and never had his broad handsome face expressed more pleasure than at this moment; never had his smile been stronger, nor his eyes more exulting than when he next looked at her.

但她话音未落，便见兄长彬彬有礼地表示：若天气是埃尔顿先生唯一的顾虑，他的马车里正好有个空位。而埃尔顿先生竟当即欣然接受了这个提议。**这事**便一锤定音：埃尔顿先生定要同行了。**他**那张宽阔英俊的面庞从未像此刻这般喜形于色，当他的目光再次转向她时，那笑容从未如此灿烂，眼神也从未如此飞扬得意。

“**Well,**” said she to herself, “this is most strange! —**After** I had got him off so well, to chuse to go into company, and leave Harriet ill behind! —**Most** strange indeed! — **But** there is, I believe, in many men, espe-

”唉，”她暗自思忖，“这可真是怪事！我好不容易把他支开，他竟偏要去应酬，把生病的哈里特独自撇下！——真是太奇怪了！——不过我

cially single men, such an inclination—such a passion for dining out—a dinner engagement is so high in the class of their pleasures, their employments, their dignities, almost their duties, that any thing gives way to it—and this must be the case with Mr. Elton; a most valuable, amiable, pleasing young man undoubtedly, and very much in love with Harriet; but still, he cannot refuse an invitation, he must dine out wherever he is asked. **What** a strange thing love is! **he** can see ready wit in Harriet, but will not dine alone for her. ”

猜想,许多男人,特别是单身汉,都有这种癖好——这种外出赴宴的狂热——饭局在他们享乐清单上的地位如此崇高,既是消遣,又是体面,几乎成了应尽的本分,其他任何事情都要为之让路——埃尔顿先生必定也是如此。他无疑是个可贵、可亲、讨人喜欢的年轻人,也深爱着哈里特;可他还是无法拒绝邀约,无论谁请吃饭都必定赴宴。**爱情真是奇妙!**他能在哈里特身上看到灵慧,却不肯为她推掉一顿饭局。”

Soon afterwards Mr. Elton quitted them, and she could not but do him the justice of feeling that there was a great deal of sentiment in his manner of naming Harriet at parting; in the tone of his voice while assuring her that he should call at Mrs. Goddard's for news of her fair friend, the last thing before he prepared for the happiness of meeting her again, when he hoped to be able to give a better report; and he sighed and smiled himself off in a way

埃尔顿先生不多时便告辞了。她不得不为他说句公道话:临别提起哈丽特时,他那声调着实充满感情;他再三说要到戈达德太太家打听她漂亮朋友的消息,那笑容那叹息也真令人满意;他希望能给她带来好消息,这最后一次见面可以为他带来重逢的快乐——他告辞时的仪

that left the balance of approbation much in his favour. 态举止足以赢得她的高度赞许。

After a few minutes of entire silence between them, John Knightley began with— 他们俩完全沉默了几分钟后，约翰·奈特利开口说道

“I never in my life saw a man more intent on being agreeable than Mr. Elton. It is down-right labour to him where ladies are concerned. With men he can be rational and unaffected, but when he has ladies to please, every feature works.”

我平生从未见过比埃尔顿先生更刻意讨人喜欢的人。在女士们面前，他简直是在卖苦力。与男士相处时他尚能保持理智与自然，可一旦要取悦女宾，连每道皱纹都在使劲。

“Mr. Elton’s manners are not perfect,” replied Emma; “but where there is a wish to please, one ought to overlook, and one does overlook a great deal. Where a man does his best with only moderate powers, he will have the advantage over negligent superiority. There is such perfect good-temper and good-will in Mr. Elton as one cannot but value.”

“埃尔顿先生的仪态虽非完美无缺，”爱玛答道，“但一个人若有取悦他人的意愿，我们就该包容，事实上也确实会包容许多。当一个人能力平平却竭尽全力时，比起那些漫不经心的优越者反而更胜一筹。埃尔顿先生性情温厚、待人赤诚，实在令人珍视。”

“Yes,” said Mr. John Knightley presently, “不错，”约翰·奈特利先生随

with some slyness, “he seems to have a great deal of good-will towards you.” 即带着几分狡黠说道，“看来他对您怀着满腹好意呢。”

“**Me!**”she replied with a smile of astonishment, “are you imagining me to be Mr. **Elton’s** object?” “我！”她惊讶地笑着答道，“你竟以为我是埃尔顿先生追求的对象？”

“**Such** an imagination has crossed me, I own, Emma; and if it never occurred to you before, you may as well take it into consideration now.” “我承认，我确实有过这样的念头，爱玛；就算你以前从未想过，现在也不妨考虑一下。”

“**Mr. Elton** in love with me! —**What** an idea!” “埃尔顿先生爱上了我！——多么荒唐的念头！”

“**I** do not say it is so; but you will do well to consider whether it is so or not, and to regulate your behaviour accordingly. **I** think your manners to him encouraging. **I** speak as a friend, Emma. **You** had better look about you, and ascertain what you do, and what you mean to do.” “我并非说事情就是如此；但你最好还是思量一下，到底是不是这样，并据此规范你的行为。我认为你待他的态度颇有鼓励之意。我是作为朋友才说这番话的，爱玛。你应当审时度势，弄清楚自己正在做什么，以及打算做什么。”

“**I** thank you; but I assure you you are quite mistaken. **Mr. Elton** and I are very good friends.” “我谢谢您；不过我敢说您完全误会了。埃尔顿先生和

friends, and nothing more;”and she walked 我只是很好的朋友，仅此而
on, amusing herself in the consideration of 已。”她继续往前走，暗自思
the blunders which often arise from a par- 央着那些因一知半解而常产
tial knowledge of circumstances, of the mis- 生的谬误，那些自诩明察秋
takes which people of high pretensions to judg- 毫之人永远在犯的错误；想
ment are for ever falling into; and not very 到哥哥竟以为她懵懂无知到
well pleased with her brother for imagining her 需要旁人指点，心里更是不
blind and ignorant, and in want of counsel. He 太痛快。他也就没再作声。
said no more.

Mr. Woodhouse had so completely made 伍德豪斯先生对这次拜访心
up his mind to the visit, that in spite of the in- 意已决，尽管天气愈发寒冷，
creasing coldness, he seemed to have no idea of 他似乎丝毫没有退缩的念
shrinking from it, and set forward at last most 头，最后准时带着长女坐上
punctually with his eldest daughter in his own 自己的马车出发了，对天气
carriage, with less apparent consciousness of 的感知远不如另外两位来得
the weather than either of the others; too full 敏锐。他满心都在惊叹自己
of the wonder of his own going, and the plea- 竟能出门做客，又能为兰德
sure it was to afford at Randalls to see that it 尔斯的友人带去欢欣，全然
was cold, and too well wrapt up to feel it. **The** 不曾留意到凛冽的寒意，更
cold, however, was severe; and by the time the 何况周身裹得严严实实，更
second carriage was in motion, a few flakes of 觉不出寒冷了。然而严寒确
snow were finding their way down, and the sky 实凌厉；待第二辆马车启程
had the appearance of being so overcharged as 时，已有零星雪花飘落，穹
to want only a milder air to produce a very 苍阴云密布，仿佛只需一阵
white world in a very short time. 稍温和的风，顷刻间便能造

就银装素裹的人间。

Emma soon saw that her companion was not in the happiest humour. **The** preparing and the going abroad in such weather, with the sacrifice of his children after dinner, were evils, were disagreeables at least, which Mr. **John** Knightley did not by any means like; he anticipated nothing in the visit that could be at all worth the purchase; and the whole of their drive to the vicarage was spent by him in expressing his discontent.

爱玛很快便看出，她的同伴兴致不高。在这样糟糕的天气里准备出门作客，还要牺牲饭后与孩子们相处的时光——这些麻烦事，至少这些不痛快，约翰·奈特利先生是万万不能认同的；他料定这次拜访根本不值得如此劳师动众；前往教区牧师宅邸的一路上，他都在宣泄着满腹牢骚。

“A man,” said he, “must have a very good opinion of himself when he asks people to leave their own fireside, and encounter such a day as this, for the sake of coming to see him. **He** must think himself a most agreeable fellow; I could not do such a thing. **It** is the greatest absurdity—Actually snowing at this moment! —**The** folly of not allowing people to be comfortable at home—and the folly of people’s not staying comfortably at home when they can! **If** we were obliged to go out such an evening as this, by any call of duty or busi-

“一个人，”他说，“在请别人离开自家的炉火，冒着这样的天气前来拜访他时，定是自视甚高的。**他**必定认为自己是个极讨人喜欢的家伙；我可做不出这种事。**这**实在是荒谬透顶——此刻竟真的下起雪来了！——不让人舒服服待在家里的愚蠢行径！**还有**那些本可以安坐家中却偏要出门的人的愚昧！若是因职责或事务所迫，不

ness, what a hardship we should deem it;—得不在这样的夜晚外出，我
and here are we, probably with rather thinner 们该觉得多么痛苦啊；——
clothing than usual, setting forward voluntar- 而此刻我们却穿着比平日更
ily, without excuse, in defiance of the voice of 单薄的衣衫，毫无缘由地自
nature, which tells man, in every thing given 愿出发，全然不顾自然的呼
to his view or his feelings, to stay at home him- 声——自然通过呈现在人们
self, and keep all under shelter that he can;— 眼前和感受中的一切告诉人
here are we setting forward to spend five dull 们，应当自己留在家中，并
hours in another man's house, with nothing to 尽可能让所有事物都待在庇
say or to hear that was not said and heard yes- 护之下；——我们却要出发
terday, and may not be said and heard again 去别人家里消磨五个沉闷的
to-morrow. **Going** in dismal weather, to re- 钟头，说的听的无非是昨日
turn probably in worse;—four horses and four 说过听过的陈词滥调，明日
servants taken out for nothing but to convey 难免还要再说再听。冒着阴
five idle, shivering creatures into colder rooms 郁的天气出门，归来时恐怕
and worse company than they might have had 更糟；——动用四匹马和四
at home.” 个仆人，仅仅是为了把五个无所事事、瑟瑟发抖的人送到比家里更寒冷的房间，去见比家里更乏味的同伴。”

Emma did not find herself equal to give the 爱玛觉得自己无法像他那位
pleased assent, which no doubt he was in the 旅行伴侣惯常所做的那样，
habit of receiving, to emulate the “Very true, 给予他那种无疑习以为常的
my love,” which must have been usually admin- 愉快赞许，也说不出“千真
istered by his travelling companion; but she 万确，亲爱的”这般附和；但

had resolution enough to refrain from making any answer at all. **She** could not be complying, she dreaded being quarrelsome; her heroism reached only to silence. **She** allowed him to talk, and arranged the glasses, and wrapped herself up, without opening her lips.

她已下定决心保持缄默。她既不愿曲意逢迎，又害怕发生争执，她的英雄气概仅止于沉默。她任凭他滔滔不绝，自己则整理着车窗玻璃，裹紧披肩，始终紧闭双唇。

They arrived, the carriage turned, the step was let down, and Mr. **Elton**, spruce, black, and smiling, was with them instantly. **Emma** thought with pleasure of some change of subject. **Mr. Elton** was all obligation and cheerfulness; he was so very cheerful in his civilities indeed, that she began to think he must have received a different account of Harriet from what had reached her. **She** had sent while dressing, and the answer had been, “Much the same—not better.”

马车停稳，踏板放下，埃尔顿先生立刻精神抖擞地出现在他们面前——黑衣挺括，满面春风。**爱玛**想到能换个话题，心头不禁一喜。埃尔顿先生表现得格外殷勤欢快，那热情洋溢的礼数几乎让她以为，他听到的关于哈丽特的病情与她自己得知的大相径庭。**她**更衣时曾派人去询问，得到的答复是“病情依旧——未见好转”。

“My report from Mrs. **Goddard’s**,” “我从戈达德太太那儿听来
said she presently, “was not so pleasant as I 的消息，”她随即说道，“并
had hoped—‘Not better’ was my answer.” 不如我期望的那般令人愉快
——‘没有好转’便是我的答
复。”

His face lengthened immediately; and his voice was the voice of sentiment as he answered. 他的脸立刻拉长了；答话时，声音里也带着感伤的调子。

“Oh! no—I am grieved to find—I was on the point of telling you that when I called at Mrs. Goddard’s door, which I did the very last thing before I returned to dress, I was told that Miss Smith was not better, by no means better, rather worse. Very much grieved and concerned—I had flattered myself that she must be better after such a cordial as I knew had been given her in the morning.” “哦！不——我很难过地发现所更衣前特意去了戈达德太太家一趟，却听说史密斯小姐病情并未好转，丝毫未见起色，反而更严重了。实在令人痛心又担忧——我原本还暗自庆幸，知道她早上服了那剂提神药后定会好转的。”

Emma smiled and answered—“My visit was of use to the nervous part of her complaint, I hope; but not even I can charm away a sore throat; it is a most severe cold indeed. Mr. Perry has been with her, as you probably heard.” 爱玛微笑着答道：“我希望，我的探望对她那神经质的毛病倒不无裨益；但即便是我也没法用魔力治好喉痛——她这回伤风确实很严重。佩里先生去看她了，想必您也听说了吧。”

“Yes—I imagined—that is—I did not—”

“是的——我猜想——就是说——我没有——”

“He has been used to her in these complaints, and I hope to-morrow morning will bring us” “他对她的这些抱怨已经习以为常，但愿明早能给我们

both a more comfortable report. **But** it is impossible not to feel uneasiness. **Such** a sad loss to our party to-day! ”

带来好消息。但要说完全不担心也是不可能的。今天这场聚会少了她们母女，实在是莫大的遗憾！”

“**Dreadful!** —**Exactly** so, indeed. —**She** will be missed every moment. ”

“真可怕！——确实如此。——她时时刻刻都会被人想念。”

This was very proper; the sigh which accompanied it was really estimable; but it should have lasted longer. **Emma** was rather in dismay when only half a minute afterwards he began to speak of other things, and in a voice of the greatest alacrity and enjoyment.

这倒很是得体；那随之而来的一声叹息也确实值得称许；只是这叹息本该持续得更久一些。然而，半分钟过后，他便开始用极其轻快愉悦的声调说起别的事情来，这让爱玛颇感沮丧。

“**What** an excellent device,” said he, “the use of a sheepskin for carriages. **How** very comfortable they make it;—impossible to feel cold with such precautions. **The** contrivances of modern days indeed have rendered a gentleman’s carriage perfectly complete. **One** is so fenced and guarded from the weather, that not a breath of air can find its way unpermitted. **Weather** becomes absolutely of no con-

“这真是个绝妙的发明，”他说道，“用羊皮来装饰马车。这样一弄，多舒服啊——有了这样的防护措施，根本不可能觉得冷。现代的设计确实让绅士的马车臻于完美。人被如此严密地遮挡着，与天气隔绝，一丝风也休想未经允许钻进来。天气变得完全

sequence. **It** is a very cold afternoon—but in this carriage we know nothing of the matter.—**Ha! snows** a little I see. ”

“**Yes,**” said John Knightley, “and I think we shall have a good deal of it. ”

“**Christmas** weather,” observed Mr. **Elton.** “**Quite** seasonable; and extremely fortunate we may think ourselves that it did not begin yesterday, and prevent this day’s party, which it might very possibly have done, for Mr. **Woodhouse** would hardly have ventured had there been much snow on the ground; but now it is of no consequence. **This** is quite the season indeed for friendly meetings. **At Christmas** every body invites their friends about them, and people think little of even the worst weather. **I** was snowed up at a friend’s house once for a week. **Nothing** could be pleasanter. **I** went for only one night, and could not get away till that very day se’nnight. ”

无关紧要了。今天下午非常寒冷——但坐在这马车里，我们根本感觉不到。——哈！我看是下点雪了。”

”是啊，”约翰·奈特利说，”我看我们往后可少不了要常来常往呢。”

“这真是圣诞节的天气，”埃尔顿先生评论道，“相当应景；而且我们真该庆幸雪没有从昨天起，否则今天的聚会就泡汤了——这完全有可能发生，因为伍德豪斯先生见地上积雪太厚是绝不肯冒险出门的。不过现在倒无妨了。这确实是好友相聚的好时节。圣诞节期间人人都爱邀请亲友团聚，再恶劣的天气也不放在心上。我有次在朋友家遇上大雪，被困了整整一周。再没有比那更惬意的了。原本只打算住一晚，结果直到第七天傍晚才得以离开。”

Mr. John Knightley looked as if he did not comprehend the pleasure, but said only, coolly, 约翰·奈特利先生的神情仿佛全然不解其中乐趣，只是冷冷地说道：

“I cannot wish to be snowed up a week at Randas.” “我可不愿在兰多尔斯被大雪困上一个星期。”

At another time Emma might have been amused, but she was too much astonished now at Mr. Elton’s spirits for other feelings. Harriet seemed quite forgotten in the expectation of a pleasant party. 要是在别的时候，爱玛也许会感到很有趣，可是眼下她太惊奇了，顾不上体会别的滋味。哈丽特好像给撇到了一边，一心只盼着参加一次愉快的晚会。

“We are sure of excellent fires,” continued he, “and every thing in the greatest comfort. Charming people, Mr. and Mrs. Weston;—Mrs. Weston indeed is much beyond praise, and he is exactly what one values, so hospitable, and so fond of society;—it will be a small party, but where small parties are select, they are perhaps the most agreeable of any. Mr. Weston’s dining-room does not accommodate more than ten comfortably; and for my part, I would rather, under such circumstances, fall short by two than exceed by 火，”他接着说，“样样东西都会显得称心如意。韦斯顿夫妇真是可爱的人儿——韦斯顿太太着实值得称赞，他更是样样都好，总是那么殷勤好客，那么喜欢与人交往——这次聚会人不多，但聚在一起的都是经过挑选的，或许比任何别的聚会都令人愉快。韦斯顿家的餐厅太小，客人超过十位就坐不舒坦。

two. I think you will agree with me, (turning with a soft air to Emma,) I think I shall certainly have your approbation, though Mr. **Knightley** perhaps, from being used to the large parties of London, may not quite enter into our feelings. ”

要是让我选择，在这种情况下，我宁愿少请两位，也不愿多请两位。我想你会同意我的看法（说着朝埃玛轻轻转过头去），我想我肯定会得到你的赞同，虽然奈特利先生习惯于参加伦敦的大型聚会，可能不见得会有同感。”

“I know nothing of the large parties of London, sir—I never dine with any body. ”

“先生，我对伦敦的大型宴会一无所知——我从不与人共进晚餐。”

“Indeed! (in a tone of wonder and pity,) I had no idea that the law had been so great a slavery. Well, sir, the time must come when you will be paid for all this, when you will have little labour and great enjoyment. ”

“真的吗！（带着惊奇与怜悯的语气）我竟不知道法律竟是如此沉重的束缚。唉，先生，您终将获得回报的时刻总会到来，那时您只需付出微末劳碌，便能尽享欢愉。”

“My first enjoyment,” replied John Knightley, as they passed through the sweep-gate, “will be to find myself safe at Hartfield again. ”

“我的第一件乐事，”约翰·奈特利穿过回转门时答道，“就是发现自己又平安回到了哈特菲尔德。”

CHAPTER XIV

第十四章

Some change of countenance was necessary for each gentleman as they walked into Mrs. **Weston's** drawing-room;—Mr. **Elton** must compose his joyous looks, and Mr. **John Knightley** disperse his ill-humour. **Mr. Elton** must smile less, and Mr. **John Knightley** more, to fit them for the place. —**Emma** only might be as nature prompted, and shew herself just as happy as she was. **To** her it was real enjoyment to be with the Westons. **Mr. Weston** was a great favourite, and there was not a creature in the world to whom she spoke with such unreserve, as to his wife; not any one, to whom she related with such conviction of being listened to and understood, of being always interesting and always intelligible, the little affairs, arrangements, perplexities, and pleasures of her father and herself. **She** could tell nothing of Hartfield, in which Mrs. **Weston** had not a lively concern; and half an hour's uninterrupted communication of all those little matters on which the daily happiness of private life depends, was one of the first gratifications of each.

两位先生走进韦斯顿太太客厅时，都需要调整一下自己的神情——埃尔顿先生必须收敛他欢天喜地的神色，约翰·奈特利先生则要驱散他满腹的阴郁。埃尔顿先生应当少些笑容，约翰·奈特利先生则要多些笑意，才符合这场合的要求。唯有爱玛可以随心所欲地流露真情，尽情展现内心的欢愉。对她而言，与韦斯顿夫妇相聚是真正的乐事。韦斯顿先生是她极为喜爱的人，而他妻子更是这世上唯一能让她推心置腹的人——无论是关于父亲和她自己的琐碎事务、日常安排、烦心困扰还是点滴欢欣，她都能向对方倾吐，并确信总能得到专注的倾听与理解，总能引发兴趣并获得共鸣。哈特菲尔德发生的每件事，韦斯顿太太无不真切关怀；而每日家居生活的幸福所系的那些细碎话题，能得

以畅谈半小时而不被打断，
正是她们彼此最大的慰藉。

This was a pleasure which perhaps the whole day's visit might not afford, which certainly did not belong to the present half-hour; but the very sight of Mrs. Weston, her smile, her touch, her voice was grateful to Emma, and she determined to think as little as possible of Mr. Elton's oddities, or of any thing else unpleasant, and enjoy all that was enjoyable to the utmost.

这或许是一整天拜访都未必能带来的欢愉，此刻这半个时辰里自然更无缘得见；但光是看见韦斯顿太太的身影、她的微笑、她的轻触、她的嗓音，就足以让爱玛心怀感激。她决定尽量不去想埃尔顿先生的古怪行径，也不去想任何不愉快的事，而要尽情享受当下所有值得欢欣的一切。

The misfortune of Harriet's cold had been pretty well gone through before her arrival. Mr. Woodhouse had been safely seated long enough to give the history of it, besides all the history of his own and Isabella's coming, and of Emma's being to follow, and had indeed just got to the end of his satisfaction that James should come and see his daughter, when the others appeared, and Mrs. Weston, who had been almost wholly engrossed by her attentions to him, was able to turn away and

哈丽特患感冒这件不幸的事，在她到来之前早就详详细细地说过了。伍德豪斯先生早已安安稳稳地坐了好一阵子，先把这件事的来龙去脉讲了一遍，又把他自己和伊莎贝拉的来龙去脉讲了一遍，最后还说爱玛随后就来，他刚说到詹姆斯来看他女儿真是件大喜事，另外几个人就来了。韦斯顿太太先前一

welcome her dear Emma.

一直在全神贯注地照料伍德豪斯先生，现在总算可以抽出身来，迎接她亲爱的爱玛。

Emma's project of forgetting Mr. **Elton** for a while made her rather sorry to find, when they had all taken their places, that he was close to her. **The** difficulty was great of driving his strange insensibility towards Harriet, from her mind, while he not only sat at her elbow, but was continually obtruding his happy countenance on her notice, and solicitously addressing her upon every occasion. **Instead** of forgetting him, his behaviour was such that she could not avoid the internal suggestion of "Can it really be as my brother imagined? **can** it be possible for this man to be beginning to transfer his affections from Harriet to me? —**Ab-surd** and insufferable! "—**Yet** he would be so anxious for her being perfectly warm, would be so interested about her father, and so delighted with Mrs. **Weston**; and at last would begin admiring her drawings with so much zeal and so little knowledge as seemed terribly like a would-be lover, and made it some effort with her to preserve her good manners. **For** her 爱玛本打算暂时把埃尔顿先生置之脑后，不料入座之后，她发现他偏偏紧挨在她身边，心里不免有些懊恼。她很难摆脱他的异常举动给哈丽特带来的痛苦，不仅他坐在她身旁，而且那副喜滋滋的面孔总要引起她的注意，还要硬找话跟她说，对什么事都十分关顾。她不但无法把他忘掉，他的举止反而使她心里嘀咕起来：“难道真像我哥哥想象的那样？难道这家伙要把对我的情意转移到哈丽特身上？真是荒谬透顶，令人作呕！”然而，他却一个劲地生怕她着凉，对她父亲关怀备至，对韦斯顿太太欢天喜地。后来，他又那么起劲地赞赏她的绘画，丝毫没有一点恋人的那种羞怯之态，倒像个痴心情郎，使她好不

own sake she could not be rude; and for Harriet's, in the hope that all would yet turn out right, she was even positively civil; but it was an effort; especially as something was going on amongst the others, in the most overpowering period of Mr. Elton's nonsense, which she particularly wished to listen to. She heard enough to know that Mr. Weston was giving some information about his son; she heard the words "my son," and "Frank," and "my son," repeated several times over; and, from a few other half-syllables very much suspected that he was announcing an early visit from his son; but before she could quiet Mr. Elton, the subject was so completely past that any reviving question from her would have been awkward.

容易才捺住了性子。为了她自身着想，她不能失礼；为了哈丽特着想，她希望最终能一切顺利，甚至还真能彬彬有礼。**不过**，这样做谈何容易啊！就在埃尔顿先生胡搅蛮缠到了极点，别人又有什么事引得她特别想听的时候，他却偏偏缠住她没完没了。她听得出，韦斯顿先生在讲他儿子的事情。她听见了“我儿子”、“弗兰克”这两个词，还听见了“我儿子”重复了好几遍。她从另外几个人那里还听到一鳞半爪，觉得可能是在宣布他儿子不久要来这里。**但是**，还没等她制止住埃尔顿先生，话题已经结束了，要想再问什么，势必显得很唐突。

Now, it so happened that in spite of Emma's resolution of never marrying, there was something in the name, in the idea of Mr. Frank Churchill, which always interested her. She had frequently thought—especially since his

说来也怪，尽管爱玛打定主意不结婚，但一听到弗兰克·邱吉尔先生的名字，一想到他这个人，她总要为之怦然心动。她时常在想——特别

father's marriage with Miss Taylor—that if she were to marry, he was the very person to suit her in age, character and condition. **He** seemed by this connexion between the families, quite to belong to her. **She** could not but suppose it to be a match that every body who knew them must think of. **That** Mr. and Mrs. **Weston** did think of it, she was very strongly persuaded; and though not meaning to be induced by him, or by any body else, to give up a situation which she believed more replete with good than any she could change it for, she had a great curiosity to see him, a decided intention of finding him pleasant, of being liked by him to a certain degree, and a sort of pleasure in the idea of their being coupled in their friends' imaginations.

是自从他父亲跟泰勒小姐结婚以后——如果她要结婚的话，他的年龄、性情和条件倒是最适合她的。从两家的关系来看，他似乎也属于她的人了。**她**不禁在想：熟悉他们的人，一定觉得他们是天造地设的一对。**她**深信韦斯顿夫妇也有这个意思。**她**虽说不想受他、也不想受任何别人的诱惑，放弃现有的她觉得无比美好的处境，但她又很想见到他，决计要看他是否中她的意，而她也存心要多少讨他喜欢一下，一想到朋友们把他们视为一对，心里不禁有些美滋滋的。

With such sensations, Mr. **Elton**' s civilities were dreadfully ill-timed; but she had the comfort of appearing very polite, while feeling very cross—and of thinking that the rest of the visit could not possibly pass without bringing forward the same information again, or the substance of it, from the open-hearted Mr. **We-ston**. —**So** it proved;—for when happily re-

怀着这般心绪，埃尔顿先生的殷勤来得实在不合时宜；不过她表面上仍能维持彬彬有礼的模样，心里却窝着一团火——暗自思忖着这次拜访余下的时光里，那位胸无城府的韦斯顿先生定会再度提起那件事，或是透露些

leased from Mr. **Elton**, and seated by Mr. **Weston**, at dinner, he made use of the very first interval in the cares of hospitality, the very first leisure from the saddle of mutton, to say to her,

相关消息。果不其然——当她终于如释重负地摆脱埃尔顿先生，在晚宴上坐到韦斯顿先生身旁时，这位绅士刚尽完待客之道，才从切分羊肉的忙碌中抽出身来，便立即趁着这第一个空闲对她说道：

“**We** want only two more to be just the right number. **I** should like to see two more here,— your pretty little friend, Miss Smith, and my son—and then I should say we were quite complete. **I** believe you did not hear me telling the others in the drawing-room that we are expecting Frank. **I** had a letter from him this morning, and he will be with us within a fortnight.”

”只差两位就正好凑齐人数了。我倒是希望再添两位——你那位漂亮的小朋友史密斯小姐，还有我儿子——这样咱们的聚会就圆满了。方才在客厅里我对众人说起弗兰克要来的事，你大概没听见吧。今早我刚收到他的信，不出两星期他就能到了。

Emma spoke with a very proper degree of pleasure; and fully assented to his proposition of Mr. **Frank Churchill** and Miss Smith making their party quite complete.

爱玛以恰如其分的喜悦语气表示赞同，并完全认可他关于弗兰克·丘吉尔先生与史密斯小姐加入后能使聚会臻于完美的提议。

“**H**e has been wanting to come to us,” continued Mr. **Weston**, “ever since September: every letter has been full of it; but he cannot command his own time. **H**e has those to please who must be pleased, and who (between ourselves) are sometimes to be pleased only by a good many sacrifices. **B**ut now I have no doubt of seeing him here about the second week in January.”

“他一直想来我们这儿,”韦斯顿先生接着说道,“从九月份起就念念不忘,每封信里都满纸都是这个念头。可惜他身不由己,得先应付那些非讨好不可的人——说句体已话,那些人往往要你做出不少让步才肯满意。不过如今我可以笃定,一月份第二周准能在这儿见到他。”

“**W**hat a very great pleasure it will be to you! and Mrs. **Weston** is so anxious to be acquainted with him, that she must be almost as happy as yourself.”

“这对你来说将是多么巨大的喜悦啊!而韦斯顿太太又如此渴望结识他,她必定几乎和你一样快乐。”

“**Y**es, she would be, but that she thinks there will be another put-off. **S**he does not depend upon his coming so much as I do: but she does not know the parties so well as I do. **T**he case, you see, is—(but this is quite between ourselves: I did not mention a syllable of it in the other room. **T**here are secrets in all families, you know)—The case is, that a party of friends are invited to pay a visit at Enscombe in January; and that Frank’s coming depends upon

”是啊,她本该如此,只是她觉得这事八成又要延期。她不像我这般笃定他一定会来,毕竟她对那些人的了解不如我深。事情是这样的——(这话只在你我之间说,方才在客厅里我可半个字都没提。家家都有难念的经,你是知道的)——原来恩斯科姆那边一月份邀了些客人小

their being put off. **If** they are not put off, he cannot stir. **But** I know they will, because it is a family that a certain lady, of some consequence, at Enscombe, has a particular dislike to: and though it is thought necessary to invite them once in two or three years, they always are put off when it comes to the point. **I** have not the smallest doubt of the issue. **I** am as confident of seeing Frank here before the middle of January, as I am of being here myself: but your good friend there (nodding towards the upper end of the table) has so few vagaries herself, and has been so little used to them at Hartfield, that she cannot calculate on their effects, as I have been long in the practice of doing."

"I am sorry there should be any thing like doubt in the case," replied Emma; "but am disposed to side with you, Mr. Weston. If you think he will come, I shall think so too; for you know Enscombe."

住，弗兰克能否成行全看那场聚会取不取消。若是不取消，他便动弹不得。但我料定必会取消，因为恩斯科姆有位颇有地位的夫人，对那户人家素来厌恶。虽说每隔两三年总得走个过场发次邀请，临到关头却总会借故推脱。这事的结果我拿得十成稳。我确信一月中旬前准能在这儿见到弗兰克，就像确信自己会待在这儿一样。不过你那位好朋友（说着朝餐桌上方点了点头），自己从不行差踏错，在哈特菲尔德又少见这等反复无常的事，自然算不准其中的变数——我可是早就算惯了的。"

"我很抱歉，这件事竟会存在任何疑虑，"爱玛答道，"但我倾向于支持您的看法，韦斯顿先生。如果您认为他会来，我也会这么想；因为您最了解恩斯康伯府的情况。"

“Yes—I have some right to that knowledge; though I have never been at the place in my life. —She is an odd woman! —But I never allow myself to speak ill of her, on Frank’s account; for I do believe her to be very fond of him. I used to think she was not capable of being fond of any body, except herself: but she has always been kind to him (in her way—allowing for little whims and caprices, and expecting every thing to be as she likes). And it is no small credit, in my opinion, to him, that he should excite such an affection; for, though I would not say it to any body else, she has no more heart than a stone to people in general; and the devil of a temper.”

“是啊——我在这方面还算有些发言权；虽说这辈子从未去过那地方。——她是个古怪的女人！——不过看在弗兰克的份上，我从不允许自己说她的不是；因为我确实相信她非常疼爱他。过去我总以为她除了自己之外，不会真心喜爱任何人：但她待他却一直很好（当然以她的方式——总免不了有些怪癖和任性，指望事事都顺着她的心意）。依我看，他能激起这样的感情实在不是件小事；因为——虽然我不会对别人这么说——她对普通人根本是铁石心肠，脾气还坏得要命。”

Emma liked the subject so well, that she began upon it, to Mrs. Weston, very soon after their moving into the drawing-room: wishing her joy—yet observing, that she knew the first meeting must be rather alarming. —Mrs. Weston agreed to it; but added, that she should be very glad to be secure of undergo-

爱玛对这个话题兴致盎然，一走进客厅便对韦斯顿太太提起此事，向她道贺——却又表示料想初次会面定然令人忐忑。韦斯顿太太对此表示赞同，不过补充说她倒巴不得真能在约定的时间经历

ing the anxiety of a first meeting at the time
talked of: "for I cannot depend upon his com-
ing. **I** cannot be so sanguine as Mr. **Weston**.
I am very much afraid that it will all end in
nothing. **Mr. Weston**, I dare say, has been
telling you exactly how the matter stands? "

这番初见的焦虑：“因为我实
在不敢指望他真会来。我
不敢像韦斯顿先生那样乐观。
恐怕这事到头来终成泡影。
我敢说，韦斯顿先生早把实
情原原本本告诉你了吧？”

"**Yes—it** seems to depend upon nothing but
the ill-humour of Mrs. **Churchill**, which I
imagine to be the most certain thing in the
world."

“是啊——看来这完全取决
于邱吉尔太太的心情好坏，
而我觉得她的坏脾气是世上
最靠得住的事。”

"**My Emma!**" replied Mrs. **Weston**, smil-
ing, "what is the certainty of caprice?" **Then**
turning to Isabella, who had not been attend-
ing before—"You must know, my dear Mrs.
Knightley, that we are by no means so sure
of seeing Mr. **Frank Churchill**, in my opinion,
as his father thinks. **It** depends entirely upon
his aunt's spirits and pleasure; in short, upon
her temper. **To** you—to my two daughters—I
may venture on the truth. **Mrs. Churchill**
rules at Enscombe, and is a very odd-tempered
woman; and his coming now, depends upon her
being willing to spare him."

“我的爱玛！”韦斯顿太太微笑
着答道，“反复无常的人做事
有什么准儿？”随即转向刚才
没有留意听的伊莎贝拉——
“亲爱的奈特利太太，你得
知道，照我看，我们并不像
他父亲那样十拿九稳能见到
弗兰克·邱吉尔先生。这完
全取决于他舅妈的兴致和意
愿，说穿了，取决于她的脾
气。对你们俩——对我的两
个女儿——我说说真话倒也
无妨。邱吉尔太太主宰着恩
斯库姆，她是个脾气古怪的

女人，他这次来不来，完全取决于她是否愿意放他走。”

“Oh, Mrs. Churchill; every body knows “哦，邱吉尔太太；谁都知道 Mrs. Churchill,” replied Isabella: “and 邱吉尔太太，”伊莎贝拉答 I am sure I never think of that poor young man without the greatest compassion. To be constantly living with an ill-tempered person, must be dreadful. It is what we happily have never known any thing of; but it must be a life of misery. What a blessing, that she never had any children! Poor little creatures, how unhappy she would have made them!”

道，“我肯定每次想到那个可怜的年轻人，都会涌起最深切的同情。常年跟一个脾气恶劣的人生活在一起，该有多么可怕。我们幸好从未经历这种事，但那注定是痛苦不堪的生活。她没生过孩子真是万幸！可怜的小家伙们，要是落在她手里该遭多少罪啊！”

Emma wished she had been alone with Mrs. Weston. She should then have heard more: Mrs. Weston would speak to her, with a degree of unreserve which she would not hazard with Isabella; and, she really believed, would scarcely try to conceal any thing relative to the Churchills from her, excepting those views on the young man, of which her own imagination had already given her such instinctive knowledge. But at present there was nothing more

爱玛真希望当时只有她跟韦斯顿太太两个人。那样她就能多听到一些了：韦斯顿太太跟她说话，会比跟伊莎贝拉说话来得坦率，不会那么吞吞吐吐。而且，她相信，韦斯顿太太几乎不会向她隐瞒有关邱吉尔夫妇的任何事情，除了对那位年轻人的种种打算，不过，她自己的直

to be said. **Mr. Woodhouse** very soon followed them into the drawing-room. **To** be sitting long after dinner, was a confinement that he could not endure. **Neither** wine nor conversation was any thing to him; and gladly did he move to those with whom he was always comfortable.

觉已经本能地让她有所察觉了。可是眼下，她们不便再谈下去了。**伍德豪斯先生**很快地跟着她们走进了客厅。**晚餐**后要他在餐厅里多坐一会，他可受不了，把喝酒聊天当作赏心乐事，他从来没有这个习惯。**他**喜欢回到他总感到安逸的这些人中间来。

While he talked to Isabella, however, Emma found an opportunity of saying,

趁他与伊莎贝拉交谈之际，爱玛寻得空隙说道：

“**And** so you do not consider this visit from your son as by any means certain. I am sorry for it. **The** introduction must be unpleasant, whenever it takes place; and the sooner it could be over, the better.”

“这么说，你认为你儿子这次来访并非十拿九稳了。我为此感到遗憾。无论何时相见，这番引见总归是桩尴尬事，倒不如趁早了结为好。”

“**Yes;** and every delay makes one more apprehensive of other delays. **Even** if this family, the Braithwaites, are put off, I am still afraid that some excuse may be found for disappointing us. I cannot bear to imagine any reluctance on his side; but I am sure there is a great wish on the Churchills' to keep him to themselves.

“是啊；每耽搁一天，就叫人担心还会再有耽搁。即使这户人家——布雷思韦特家——回绝了，我还是担心会有人找出别的借口来敷衍我们。我不愿设想他会不情愿；但我敢断定丘吉尔夫妇定是

There is jealousy. **T**hey are jealous even of his regard for his father. **I**n short, I can feel no dependence on his coming, and I wish Mr. **W**eston were less sanguine. ” 极力要把他留在身边。他们甚至嫉妒他对父亲的关怀。总而言之，我对他的来访不抱多大希望，但愿韦斯顿先生不要过于乐观。”

“**H**e ought to come,” said Emma. “**I**f he could stay only a couple of days, he ought to come; and one can hardly conceive a young man’s not having it in his power to do as much as that. **A** young woman, if she fall into bad hands, may be teased, and kept at a distance from those she wants to be with; but one cannot comprehend a young man’s being under such restraint, as not to be able to spend a week with his father, if he likes it.” “他应该来，”爱玛说，“哪怕只能待上两天，他也应该来。很难想象一个年轻人连这点能力都没有。一个年轻女子若是遇人不淑，或许会受尽刁难，被迫与想见的人分离；但一个年轻男子若想与父亲共度一周，竟会受制于人无法成行，这实在令人费解。”

“**O**ne ought to be at Enscombe, and know the ways of the family, before one decides upon what he can do,” replied Mrs. **W**eston. “**O**ne ought to use the same caution, perhaps, in judging of the conduct of any one individual of any one family; but Enscombe, I believe, certainly must not be judged by general rules: she is so very unreasonable; and every thing gives way to her.” “一个人总得先到恩斯康伯宅子去住上一阵，了解了解那家人的行事方式，才能断定他做得了什么，”韦斯顿太太答道。“也许，在判断任何一户人家的任何一个人的行为时，都要同样地谨慎从事。不过，要判断恩斯康伯宅子，我相信，可不能用一般的标

准：她太不讲情理了！什么事都得由着她。”

“But she is so fond of the nephew: he is so very great a favourite. Now, according to my idea of Mrs. Churchill, it would be most natural, that while she makes no sacrifice for the comfort of the husband, to whom she owes every thing, while she exercises incessant caprice towards him, she should frequently be governed by the nephew, to whom she owes nothing at all.”

“可她偏偏又那么疼爱那个外甥：他是她心尖上的人儿。依我对邱吉尔太太的看法，最合乎情理的推测是：她虽然对丈夫——这个给了她一切的人——的安逸从不曾有所牺牲，虽然对他恣意任性、百般挑剔，却常常会被这个对她毫无恩情的外甥牵着鼻子走。”

“My dearest Emma, do not pretend, with your sweet temper, to understand a bad one, or to lay down rules for it: you must let it go its own way. I have no doubt of his having, at times, considerable influence; but it may be perfectly impossible for him to know beforehand when it will be.”

”我最亲爱的爱玛，你性情这般温柔，就莫要装作能理解坏脾气，或是为它定下规矩：你只能任其自然发展。我毫不怀疑他时常能施加相当的影响力；但要他事先预知何时能施加影响——这恐怕全然不可能。”

Emma listened, and then coolly said, “I shall not be satisfied, unless he comes.”

爱玛听了，只是冷冷地答道：“除非他亲自前来，否则我绝不会满意。”

“**H**e may have a great deal of influence on some points,” continued Mrs. **Weston**, “and on others, very little: and among those, on which she is beyond his reach, it is but too likely, may be this very circumstance of his coming away from them to visit us.”

“在某些问题上，他或许能施加很大影响，”韦斯顿太太继续说道，“但在另一些问题上，他的影响力就微乎其微了。而在他无法左右的那些事情当中，很可能就包括他离开他们来看望我们这件事。”

CHAPTER XV

第十五章

Mr. Woodhouse was soon ready for his tea; and when he had drank his tea he was quite ready to go home; and it was as much as his three companions could do, to entertain away his notice of the lateness of the hour, before the other gentlemen appeared. **Mr. Weston** was chatty and convivial, and no friend to early separations of any sort; but at last the drawing-room party did receive an augmentation. **Mr. Elton**, in very good spirits, was one of the first to walk in. **Mrs. Weston** and Emma were sitting together on a sofa. **H**e joined them immediately, and, with scarcely an invitation, seated himself between them.

伍德豪斯先生很快就准备好了要喝茶了；喝完茶后，他便急着要回家。在另外几位先生露面之前，他那三位同伴使尽浑身解数转移他的注意力，不让他注意到天色已晚。韦斯顿先生健谈又活泼，反对任何形式的早早散场。不过客厅里的聚会总算还是多了几个人。埃尔顿先生兴高采烈地率先走了进来。韦斯顿太太和爱玛正同坐在一张沙发上。他立即凑到她们身边，不等对方邀请就径自在两人中间坐下了。

Emma, in good spirits too, from the amusement afforded her mind by the expectation of Mr. **Frank** Churchill, was willing to forget his late improprieties, and be as well satisfied with him as before, and on his making Harriet his very first subject, was ready to listen with most friendly smiles.

爱玛此刻心情正好——想到弗兰克·邱吉尔先生即将到来，她心中早已充满期待带来的欢愉，便也乐意忘却他近日的失当举止，待他如初般亲切。当他开口便将哈丽特作为首要话题时，她立刻报以最友善的微笑侧耳倾听。

He professed himself extremely anxious about her fair friend—her fair, lovely, amiable friend. “**Did** she know? —**had** she heard any thing about her, since their being at Randalls? —**he** felt much anxiety—he must confess that the nature of her complaint alarmed him considerably.” **And** in this style he talked on for some time very properly, not much attending to any answer, but altogether sufficiently awake to the terror of a bad sore throat; and Emma was quite in charity with him.

他声称对那位美丽的朋友——那位美丽、可爱、亲切的朋友极为挂念。”她可知道? ——自从上次在朗道尔宅邸见面后，可曾听到过她的消息? ——他实在忧心忡忡——必须承认她的病症性质令他相当惶恐。”他就用这种语气继续说了好一阵子，态度十分得体，并不怎么留意对方的回答，但完全表现出对严重喉疾该有的警觉；爱玛此刻对他倒是满怀善意。

But at last there seemed a perverse turn; it

然而事情突然出现了反常的

seemed all at once as if he were more afraid of its being a bad sore throat on her account, than on Harriet's—more anxious that she should escape the infection, than that there should be no infection in the complaint. **He** began with great earnestness to entreat her to refrain from visiting the sick-chamber again, for the present —to entreat her to promise him not to venture into such hazard till he had seen Mr. **Perry** and learnt his opinion; and though she tried to laugh it off and bring the subject back into its proper course, there was no putting an end to his extreme solicitude about her. **She** was vexed. **It** did appear—there was no concealing it—exactly like the pretence of being in love with her, instead of Harriet; an inconstancy, if real, the most contemptible and abominable! **and** she had difficulty in behaving with temper. **He** turned to Mrs. **Weston** to implore her assistance, “Would not she give him her support? —**would** not she add her persuasions to his, to induce Miss Woodhouse not to go to Mrs. **Goddard**' s till it were certain that Miss Smith's disorder had no infection? **He** could not be satisfied without a 转折。霎时间，他仿佛更担心她会染上严重的喉炎，而不是担心哈丽特——更急于让她避开传染，而不是不让疾病传染开。他十分恳切地劝她目前不要再探访病人的房间——恳求她答应他在他见到佩里先生、听听他的意见之前，不要贸然去冒这个险。尽管埃玛想一笑置之，把事情敷衍过去，把话题再引回到正轨上，但他对她异乎寻常的关切，却久久不能平息。她心里好不气恼。他装出一副爱上她的样子，而不是爱上哈丽特——这是无法掩饰的，真是一种可鄙可憎的反复无常行为！她很难平心静气地容忍下去。他转向韦斯顿太太，乞求她的帮助：“你难道不愿支持我吗？你不肯帮我说服伍德豪斯小姐，让她暂且不要去戈达德太太家，等证实史密斯小姐的病没有传染性再说，好吗？”

promise—would not she give him her influence in procuring it? ”

得不到她的承诺，我是不会满意的。你就不能帮我说服她吗？”

“**So** scrupulous for others,” he continued, “and yet so careless for herself! **She** wanted me to nurse my cold by staying at home to-day, and yet will not promise to avoid the danger of catching an ulcerated sore throat herself. **Is** this fair, Mrs. **Weston**? —**Judge** between us. **Have** not I some right to complain? I am sure of your kind support and aid. ”

“对别人考虑得那么周到，”他接着说道，“可对自己却那么马虎！**她**要我当心感冒，叫我待在家里，可她自己却不肯保证不会染上溃疡性咽喉炎。**韦斯顿太太**，这公平吗？你给我们评评理。我难道没有权利发几句牢骚吗？我相信你一定会支持我、帮助我的。”

Emma saw Mrs. **Weston**’ s surprize, and felt that it must be great, at an address which, in words and manner, was assuming to himself the right of first interest in her; and as for herself, she was too much provoked and offended to have the power of directly saying any thing to the purpose. **She** could only give him a look; but it was such a look as she thought must restore him to his senses, and then left the sofa, removing to a seat by her sister, and giving her all her attention.

爱玛看到韦斯顿太太一脸惊讶，想必这声称呼的措辞与语气——俨然以她第一保护人自居的姿态——一定是令她大为震惊。**至于爱玛自己**，她实在气恼至极，竟连一句切题的话都说不出来。**她**只能瞪他一眼——这一瞥她自认为足以唤醒他的理智——随即离开沙发，挪到姐姐身边的座位，将全部注意力都倾

注在姐姐身上。

She had not time to know how Mr. **Elton** 她还没来得及留意埃尔顿先生 took the reproof, so rapidly did another subject 生如何接受这番责备, 另一个话题就接踵而至; 原来约 succeed; for Mr. **John** Knightley now came into the room from examining the weather, and 翰·奈特利先生方才到屋外 opened on them all with the information of the ground being covered with snow, and of its still snowing fast, with a strong drifting wind; 众人通报说满地已是皑皑积雪, 鹅毛大雪仍纷扬不止, 还 concluding with these words to Mr. **Woodhouse**: 夹着呼啸的狂风。最后他对伍德豪斯先生这样说道:

“**This** will prove a spirited beginning of your winter engagements, sir. **Something** new for your coachman and horses to be making their way through a storm of snow.” “先生, 这将是您冬季应酬的一个热闹开端。让您的车夫和马匹在暴风雪中赶路, 倒是件新鲜事呢。”

Poor Mr. **Woodhouse** was silent from consternation; but every body else had something to say; every body was either surprized or not surprized, and had some question to ask, or some comfort to offer. **Mrs. Weston** and Emma tried earnestly to cheer him and turn his attention from his son-in-law, who was pursuing his triumph rather unfeelingly. 可怜的伍德豪斯先生惊得说不出话来; 其他人都各有话说; 有的表示惊讶, 有的说不惊讶, 有的提出问题, 有的则好言劝慰。韦斯顿太太和爱玛竭力宽慰他, 想使他的注意力离开他那正洋洋得意、毫不体贴的女婿。

“I admired your resolution very much, sir,” said “先生, 我十分钦佩您的决断

he, "in venturing out in such weather, for of course you saw there would be snow very soon. **Every** body must have seen the snow coming on. I admired your spirit; and I dare say we shall get home very well. **Another** hour or two's snow can hardly make the road impassable; and we are two carriages; if one is blown over in the bleak part of the common field there will be the other at hand. I dare say we shall be all safe at Hartfield before midnight."

力,"他说道,"竟敢在这样的天气里冒险出门,您肯定早就看出马上要下雪了。谁都能看出大雪将至。我佩服您的勇气;相信我们能顺利到家。再下一两个小时的雪也不至于让道路无法通行;我们有两辆马车,即便一辆在荒野上被风吹翻,另一辆也能随时接应。想必午夜之前我们都能平安抵达哈特菲尔德。"

Mr. Weston, with triumph of a different sort, was confessing that he had known it to be snowing some time, but had not said a word, lest it should make Mr. **Woodhouse** uncomfortable, and be an excuse for his hurrying away. **As** to there being any quantity of snow fallen or likely to fall to impede their return, that was a mere joke; he was afraid they would find no difficulty. **He** wished the road might be impassable, that he might be able to keep them all at Randalls; and with the utmost good-will was sure that accommodation might be found for every body, calling on his wife to agree with

韦斯顿先生却带着另一种扬扬得意的神情,坦言他早就知道在下雪,只是怕伍德豪斯先生听了不安,便闭口不提,免得他情急慌忙地非要走不可。**至于**说雪下得很大,或者会下得很大,把他们困在外面回不了家,那不过是说着玩的。**他还**怕他们路上不好走呢。**他**巴不得路不好走,那样他就可以把他们全都留在兰多尔斯。**他**一片好心,满有把握地对大家说,这

him, that with a little contrivance, every body might be lodged, which she hardly knew how to do, from the consciousness of there being but two spare rooms in the house.

里完全可以住得下，随即请太太附和说，稍许想点办法，人人都能安顿下来。而他太太却不知如何是好，因为心里清楚：家里只有两间空房。

“**What** is to be done, my dear Emma? — **what** is to be done?” **was Mr. Woodhouse**’s first exclamation, and all that he could say for some time. **To** her he looked for comfort; and her assurances of safety, her representation of the excellence of the horses, and of James, and of their having so many friends about them, revived him a little.

“怎么办，亲爱的爱玛？——怎么办？”这是伍德豪斯先生最初的惊叹，也是他好一阵子唯一能说的话。他指望从她那里得到安慰；她保证平安无事，又说明马匹多么精良，詹姆斯多么可靠，还说周围有那么多朋友相助，这才使他稍稍振作起来。

His eldest daughter’s alarm was equal to his own. **The** horror of being blocked up at Randas, while her children were at Hartfield, was full in her imagination; and fancying the road to be now just passable for adventurous people, but in a state that admitted no delay, she was eager to have it settled, that her father and Emma should remain at Randalls, while she and her husband set forward instantly through all the possible accumulations of drifted snow

他大女儿的惊恐不亚于他。一想到自己被困在兰多尔斯，而孩子们却在哈特菲尔德，她心里就万分焦急。她料想现在这条路只有冒险的人才敢走，但已到了刻不容缓的地步。她急于想让事情定下来：要父亲和爱玛留在兰多尔斯，而她和丈夫立刻动身，赶在可能阻碍他们的

that might impede them.

积雪飘落之前上路。

“**You** had better order the carriage directly, my love,” said she; “I dare say we shall be able to get along, if we set off directly; and if we do come to any thing very bad, I can get out and walk. **I** am not at all afraid. **I** should not mind walking half the way. **I** could change my shoes, you know, the moment I got home; and it is not the sort of thing that gives me cold.”

“你最好立刻吩咐备车，我亲爱的，”她说道；“我敢说，只要马上出发，我们总能设法走过去的。就算遇到实在难走的地方，我也可以下车步行。我一点儿都不害怕。走一半路我也不在乎。一回到家就能换鞋，你知道的；况且这种天气根本不会让我着凉。”

“Indeed!” replied he. “Then, my dear Isabella, it is the most extraordinary sort of thing in the world, for in general every thing does give you cold. **Walk** home! —you are prettily shod for walking home, I dare say. **It** will be bad enough for the horses.”

“真的吗！”他答道，“那么，亲爱的伊莎贝拉，这倒真是天下最奇怪的事了，因为平常随便什么事都会让你着凉。**走回家！**——我敢说，你这双鞋走回家倒是挺漂亮。**马匹可要受罪了。**”

Isabella turned to Mrs. **Weston** for her approbation of the plan. **Mrs. Weston** could only approve. **Isabella** then went to Emma; but Emma could not so entirely give up the hope of their being all able to get away; and

伊莎贝拉转向韦斯顿太太，希望得到她对这一计划的赞同。韦斯顿太太只能表示同意。伊莎贝拉又去找爱玛商量；但爱玛还不愿完全放

they were still discussing the point, when Mr. Knightley, who had left the room immediately after his brother's first report of the snow, came back again, and told them that he had been out of doors to examine, and could answer for there not being the smallest difficulty in their getting home, whenever they liked it, either now or an hour hence. **H**e had gone beyond the sweep—some way along the Highbury road—the snow was nowhere above half an inch deep—in many places hardly enough to whiten the ground; a very few flakes were falling at present, but the clouds were parting, and there was every appearance of its being soon over. **H**e had seen the coachmen, and they both agreed with him in there being nothing to apprehend.

弃大家都能离开的希望；她们仍在争论这个问题时，奈特利先生——他早在哥哥初次报告下雪时就离开了房间——又回到她们中间，告诉她们说，他到室外去察看过后，可以保证她们回家毫无困难，不论现在就走，还是再过一个小时走都行。**他**已走到坡道以外——沿海伯里路走了一段——积雪处处都不及半英寸深——许多地方连地面都没有盖白；眼下还在飘着零零星星的雪花，但乌云正在散去，眼看雪就要停了。**他**已去问过马车夫，两人都认为没有什么可担心的。

To Isabella, the relief of such tidings was very great, and they were scarcely less acceptable to Emma on her father's account, who was immediately set as much at ease on the subject as his nervous constitution allowed; but the alarm that had been raised could not be appeased so as to admit of any comfort for him while he continued at Randalls. **H**e was satisfied

对伊莎贝拉来说，这消息带来的宽慰实在不小；而对爱玛而言，这消息因父亲之故也几乎同样令人欣慰——他立刻在这件事上放下了心来，那放松的程度已是他的敏感的体质所能允许的极限了。然而先前引起的惊恐

of there being no present danger in returning home, but no assurances could convince him that it was safe to stay; and while the others were variously urging and recommending, Mr. **Knightley** and Emma settled it in a few brief sentences: thus—

却无法如此轻易平息，使他继续留在兰德尔斯的期间再也无法获得片刻安宁。他虽确信此刻返家并无危险，但任何保证都无法说服他留下是安全的。正当众人七嘴八舌地劝解时，奈特利先生与爱玛三言两语便做出了决定——事情是这样的——

“**Your** father will not be easy; why do not you go? ”

”你父亲会不放心的；你为什么不去呢？”

“I am ready, if the others are. ”

“**只要**其他人准备好了，我随时可以动身。”

“Shall I ring the bell? ”

“要我去拉铃吗？”

“Yes, do. ”

“好的，请吧。”

And the bell was rung, and the carriages spoken for. A few minutes more, and Emma hoped to see one troublesome companion deposited in his own house, to get sober and cool, and the other recover his temper and happiness when this visit of hardship were over.

铃声响了，马车也叫好了。再过几分钟，爱玛便有望把一个讨厌的伙伴送到他自己家里，让他清醒清醒，而另一个经历了这次艰苦拜访之后，或许也能恢复他的脾气和快乐。

The carriage came: and Mr. **Woodhouse**, 马车到了；在这种场合总是
always the first object on such occasions, was 首要关照对象的伍德豪斯先
carefully attended to his own by Mr. **Knight- 生，由奈特利先生和韦斯顿**
ley and Mr. **Weston**; but not all that ei- 先生悉心搀扶着走向自己的
ther could say could prevent some renewal of 车厢。然而任凭两人如何宽
alarm at the sight of the snow which had actu- 慰，当看到地上已然积起的
ally fallen, and the discovery of a much darker 雪，发现夜色比预期中昏暗
night than he had been prepared for. “**He** was 得多时，他仍不免再度惊慌
afraid they should have a very bad drive. **He** 起来。”只怕他们这路会走
was afraid poor Isabella would not like it. **And** 得很艰难，只怕可怜的伊莎
there would be poor Emma in the carriage be- 贝拉要受不住。后面那辆车
hind. **He** did not know what they had best 上还坐着可怜的埃玛呢。真
do. **They** must keep as much together as they 不知如何是好。大家得尽量
could;”and James was talked to, and given a 挨近些才是。”他吩咐着詹
charge to go very slow and wait for the other 姆斯，再三叮嘱要缓辔而行，
carriage. 务必等候后面那辆马车。

Isabella stept in after her father; John 伊莎贝拉随父亲之后步入车
Knightley, forgetting that he did not belong 厢；约翰·奈特利忘了自己本
to their party, stept in after his wife very nat- 不属于这一行人，也自然而
urally; so that Emma found, on being escorted 然地跟着妻子走了进去；结
and followed into the second carriage by Mr. 果当爱玛在埃尔顿先生护送
Elton, that the door was to be lawfully shut 下坐进第二辆马车时，发现
on them, and that they were to have a tête-à- 车门竟要依法将他们关在一
tête drive. **It** would not have been the awk- 处，不得不进行一场单独同
wardness of a moment, it would have been 车的旅程。若不是这天刚生

rather a pleasure, previous to the suspicions of this very day; she could have talked to him of Harriet, and the three-quarters of a mile would have seemed but one. **But** now, she would rather it had not happened. **She** believed he had been drinking too much of Mr. **Weston'**s good wine, and felt sure that he would want to be talking nonsense.

出的疑窦，此刻的尴尬不仅不会持续片刻，反倒会成为乐事——她本可以与他谈论哈丽特，那段四分之三英里的路程也会显得只有一英里之遥。但此刻，她宁愿这事不曾发生。她确信他准是喝了韦斯顿先生太多美酒，定会说出些荒唐话来。

To restrain him as much as might be, by her own manners, she was immediately preparing to speak with exquisite calmness and gravity of the weather and the night; but scarcely had she begun, scarcely had they passed the sweep-gate and joined the other carriage, than she found her subject cut up—her hand seized—her attention demanded, and Mr. **Elton** actually making violent love to her: availing himself of the precious opportunity, declaring sentiments which must be already well known, hoping—fearing—adoring—ready to die if she refused him; but flattering himself that his ardent attachment and unequalled love and unexampled passion could not fail of having some effect, and in short, very much resolved on being se-

为了尽可能用自己的仪态约束他，她当即准备以极其沉静郑重的态度谈谈天气和夜晚；可是刚开口说了几句，他们刚走过扫帚场门口跟上另一辆马车，她就发现自己的话题被截断了——手被他抓住——注意力被攫住，埃尔顿先生竟对她发起狂热的求爱来：他利用这个宝贵时机，诉说着想必早已心知肚明的衷肠，期盼着——忐忑着——倾慕着——声称若遭拒绝宁可赴死；却又自信满满地以为，他那炽热的眷恋、无与伦比的深情与空前绝后

riously accepted as soon as possible. It really was so. **Without** scruple—without apology —without much apparent diffidence, Mr. **Elton**, the lover of Harriet, was professing himself her lover. **She** tried to stop him; but vainly; he would go on, and say it all. **Angry** as she was, the thought of the moment made her resolve to restrain herself when she did speak. **She** felt that half this folly must be drunkenness, and therefore could hope that it might belong only to the passing hour. **Accordingly**, with a mixture of the serious and the playful, which she hoped would best suit his half and half state, she replied,

的痴心，绝不会毫无作用。 **总之**，他已打定主意要尽快让她郑重接受这份感情。**事实**确实如此。**毫不迟疑**——
毫无歉意——毫无赧颜，这位哈丽特的倾慕者，竟宣称自己成了她的追求者。**她**试图阻止他，却是徒劳；他执意要说下去，把话全都倒尽。**她**虽恼怒，却因顾及眼前情势，决定开口时定要克制自己。**她**料想这般荒唐多半是酒后失态，便寄望于这仅是转瞬即逝的醉态。**于是**她带着半庄半谐的语气回应——这态度她认为最适宜应对他此刻半醉半醒的状态——

“I am very much astonished, Mr. **Elton**. **This** to me! **you** forget yourself—you take me for my friend—any message to Miss Smith I shall be happy to deliver; but no more of this to me, if you please.”

“我十分惊讶，埃尔顿先生。**这话**竟是对我说的！您忘乎所以了——您把我错当成我的朋友了——要给史密斯小姐带什么口信我乐意效劳，但请您别再对我说这些话了。”

“Miss Smith! —message to Miss Smith! “史密斯小姐！——给史密斯小姐的口信！”——她这究竟有什么意思！”——他以那般笃定的语气、那般故作夸张的惊愕重复着她的话，令她不得不立刻回敬道——

he repeated her words with such assurance of accent, such boastful pretence of amazement, that she could not help replying with quickness,

“Mr. Elton, this is the most extraordinary conduct! and I can account for it only in one way; you are not yourself, or you could not speak either to me, or of Harriet, in such a manner. Command yourself enough to say no more, and I will endeavour to forget it.” “埃尔顿先生，这种行为真是闻所未闻！我只能用一种方式来解释：您此刻神志不清，否则绝不会用这种态度对我说话，更不会如此议论哈丽特。请您克制自己别再往下说，我会努力忘记刚才的一切。”

But Mr. Elton had only drunk wine enough to elevate his spirits, not at all to confuse his intellects. He perfectly knew his own meaning; and having warmly protested against her suspicion as most injurious, and slightly touched upon his respect for Miss Smith as her friend,—but acknowledging his wonder that Miss Smith should be mentioned at all,—he resumed the subject of his own passion, and was very urgent for a favourable answer. 但埃尔顿先生只是喝了点酒提提神，丝毫没有扰乱他的理智。他完全清楚自己的意思；他热烈地抗议她的猜疑是对他最大的伤害，又略微提及对史密斯小姐作为她朋友的尊重——但表示诧异为何会突然提起史密斯小姐——随后便重拾自己炽热的情感话题，急切地恳求得到

一个满意的答复。

As she thought less of his inebriety, she thought more of his inconstancy and presumption; and with fewer struggles for politeness, replied,

随着她不再那么在意他的醉态，反倒越发觉得他反复无常、狂妄自大；于是她不再费力维持礼节，当即答道：

“It is impossible for me to doubt any longer. You have made yourself too clear. Mr. Elton, my astonishment is much beyond any thing I can express. After such behaviour, as I have witnessed during the last month, to Miss Smith—such attentions as I have been in the daily habit of observing—to be addressing me in this manner—this is an unsteadiness of character, indeed, which I had not supposed possible! Believe me, sir, I am far, very far, from gratified in being the object of such professions.”

“我不能再有任何怀疑了。你已经说得太明白了。埃尔顿先生，我的惊讶远非言语所能表达。在过去一个月里，我亲眼目睹了你对史密斯小姐那样的行为——那些我每日习以为常的殷勤关注——如今却用这种方式对我说话——这实在是性格上的反复无常，我万万没有想到！请相信，先生，成为这番表白对象非但不能使我感到荣幸，反倒令我极为不安。”

“Good Heaven!” cried Mr. Elton, “what can be the meaning of this? —Miss Smith! —I never thought of Miss Smith in the whole course of my existence—never paid her any attentions, but as your friend: never cared

“天哪！”埃尔顿先生嚷道，“这究竟是什么意思？——史密斯小姐！——我这辈子从来就没想过史密斯小姐——除了作为你的朋友，我从未

whether she were dead or alive, but as your friend. **If** she has fancied otherwise, her own wishes have misled her, and I am very sorry—extremely sorry—But, Miss Smith, indeed! —**Oh!** **Miss** Woodhouse! **who** can think of Miss Smith, when Miss Woodhouse is near! **No**, upon my honour, there is no unsteadiness of character. **I** have thought only of you. **I** protest against having paid the smallest attention to any one else. **Every** thing that I have said or done, for many weeks past, has been with the sole view of marking my adoration of yourself. **You** cannot really, seriously, doubt it. **No!** —(**in** an accent meant to be insinuating)—I am sure you have seen and understood me. ”

对她献过任何殷勤；除了作为你的朋友，我根本不在乎她是死是活。如果她产生了别的幻想，那只是她的一厢情愿误导了她，我非常抱歉——万分抱歉——可是，史密斯小姐，说真的！——哦！伍德豪斯小姐！有伍德豪斯小姐在身边，谁还会想到史密斯小姐呢！不，以我的名誉起誓，这绝不是什么用情不专。我心里只想着你。我发誓从未对旁人有过丝毫殷勤。过去数周间我的所有言行，都只为表达对你的倾慕。你实在不该——当真不该——对此心存疑虑。不！（带着刻意讨好的腔调）我确信你早已明白我的心意。”

It would be impossible to say what Emma felt, on hearing this—which of all her unpleasant sensations was uppermost. **She** was too completely overpowered to be immediately able to reply: and two moments of silence being ample encouragement for Mr. **Elton**’ s sanguine

听到这番话，爱玛心中是何感受——那千般不快里哪种最是难耐，实在难以言说。她完全被这突如其来的情势压倒了，一时竟答不上话来。这片刻的沉默对埃尔顿

state of mind, he tried to take her hand again, 先生炽热的心绪已是足够的
as he joyously exclaimed— 鼓舞，他欢欣鼓舞地又想去
握她的手，一边兴高采烈地
嚷道——

“**Charming** Miss Woodhouse! **allow** me to interpret this interesting silence. **It** confesses that you have long understood me. ”

“迷人的伍德豪斯小姐！请允许我解读这意味深长的沉默。这表明您早就明白我的心意了。”

“**No**, sir,” cried Emma, “it confesses no such thing. **So** far from having long understood you, I have been in a most complete error with respect to your views, till this moment. **As** to myself, I am very sorry that you should have been giving way to any feelings—Nothing could be farther from my wishes—your attachment to my friend Harriet—your pursuit of her, (pursuit, it appeared,) gave me great pleasure, and I have been very earnestly wishing you success: but had I supposed that she were not your attraction to Hartfield, I should certainly have thought you judged ill in making your visits so frequent. **Am** I to believe that you have never sought to recommend yourself particularly to Miss Smith? —**that** you have

“不，先生，”爱玛大声说道，“这根本不算承认。我非但一直没有理解你，反而对你的意图产生了天大的误会，直到此刻才恍然大悟。至于我自己，我深感遗憾你竟会放纵这样的情感——这完全违背我的意愿——你对我朋友哈丽特的好感——你对她的追求（看来确实是追求），曾让我满心欢喜，我一直热切地盼望你成功。但若早知哈特菲尔德吸引你的并非是她，我必定会认为你如此频繁登门实属不智。难道要我相信你从未刻意向史密

never thought seriously of her? ”

斯小姐献过殷勤？从未认真考虑过她？”

“**Never**, madam,” cried he, affronted in his turn: “never, I assure you. **I** think seriously of Miss Smith! —**Miss** Smith is a very good sort of girl; and I should be happy to see her respectably settled. **I** wish her extremely well: and, no doubt, there are men who might not object to—Every body has their level: but as for myself, I am not, I think, quite so much at a loss. **I** need not so totally despair of an equal alliance, as to be addressing myself to Miss Smith! —**No**, madam, my visits to Hartfield have been for yourself only; and the encouragement I received—”

“绝对没有，小姐，”他感到受辱，嚷了起来，“绝对没有，我向你保证。我会认真考虑史密斯小姐！——史密斯小姐是个很好的姑娘；看到她体面地安顿下来，我会很高兴。我衷心祝愿她一切如意：当然，世上总有不嫌弃——人各有志。但就我自己而言，我想我还不至于如此走投无路，竟要完全放弃门当户对的联姻希望，转而向史密斯小姐献殷勤！——不，小姐，我去哈特菲尔德拜访完全是为了您；而我得到的鼓励——”

“**Encouragement!** —**I** give you encouragement! —**Sir**, you have been entirely mistaken in supposing it. **I** have seen you only as the admirer of my friend. **In** no other light could you have been more to me than a common acquaintance. **I** am exceedingly sorry: but it is well

“**鼓励！** ——我鼓励你！——先生，你完全误会了。我向来只把你视为我朋友的仰慕者。除此之外，你对我而言不过是个普通相识。我深感抱歉：所幸这个误会在适可

that the mistake ends where it does. **Had** the same behaviour continued, Miss Smith might have been led into a misconception of your views; not being aware, probably, any more than myself, of the very great inequality which you are so sensible of. **But**, as it is, the disappointment is single, and, I trust, will not be lasting. **I** have no thoughts of matrimony at present.”

之处终止了。若你继续同样的举动，史密斯小姐或许会误解你的意图；她可能和我一样，尚未意识到你如此在意的那道巨大鸿沟。但如今，失望仅属于单方面，我相信这不会持续太久。眼下我丝毫不考虑婚姻之事。”

He was too angry to say another word; her manner too decided to invite supplication; and in this state of swelling resentment, and mutually deep mortification, they had to continue together a few minutes longer, for the fears of Mr. **Woodhouse** had confined them to a foot-pace. **I**f there had not been so much anger, there would have been desperate awkwardness; but their straightforward emotions left no room for the little zigzags of embarrassment. **W**ithout knowing when the carriage turned into Vicarage Lane, or when it stopped, they found themselves, all at once, at the door of his house; and he was out before another syllable passed. —**E**mma then felt it indispensable to wish him a good night. **T**he com-

他气得说不出第二句话；她的态度如此决绝，容不得半分恳求。在这般怒潮翻涌、彼此都深感屈辱的状态下，他们不得不继续共处片刻——伍德豪斯先生的胆怯使马车只能缓步前行。若不是满腔怒火，场面定会尴尬得无以为继；但直白汹涌的情绪，反倒容不下忸怩作态的曲折。不知马车何时转入牧师巷，何时停驻，他们倏忽已停在他宅邸门前。未待只言片语，他已跃下马车。爱玛此时觉得必须道声晚安。对方也冷傲地回了礼。在难以名状的

pliment was just returned, coldly and proudly; 愠怒中，马车载着她驶回了
and, under indescribable irritation of spirits, 哈特菲尔德。
she was then conveyed to Hartfield.

There she was welcomed, with the utmost delight, by her father, who had been trembling for the dangers of a solitary drive from Vicarage Lane—turning a corner which he could never bear to think of—and in strange hands—a mere common coachman—no James; and there it seemed as if her return only were wanted to make every thing go well: for Mr. **John** Knightley, ashamed of his ill-humour, was now all kindness and attention; and so particularly solicitous for the comfort of her father, as to seem—if not quite ready to join him in a basin of gruel—perfectly sensible of its being exceedingly wholesome; and the day was concluding in peace and comfort to all their little party, except herself. —**But** her mind had never been in such perturbation; and it needed a very strong effort to appear attentive and cheerful till the usual hour of separating allowed her the relief of quiet reflection. 她受到了父亲最为欣喜的欢迎。这位老先生先前一直在为女儿独自驾车从牧师巷归来的风险担惊受怕——要拐过那个他向来不敢细想的弯道——而且是由素不相识的车夫驾驭，并非惯常的詹姆斯。随着她的归来，一切似乎都恢复了正轨：约翰·奈特利先生为自己先前的坏脾气感到惭愧，此刻显得格外殷勤周到，特别关心岳父的舒适，虽然还不至于愿意陪喝一碗麦片粥，却完全认同这食物的养生功效。这天夜晚在宁静祥和中渐近尾声，对他们这个小圈子而言本应皆大欢喜——唯独她是例外。她的内心从未经历过如此剧烈的动荡，需要竭尽全力才能维持专注欢欣的表象，直到惯常的分别时刻终于来临，她

才得以在独处中获得沉思的慰藉。

CHAPTER XVI

第十六章

The hair was curled, and the maid sent away, and Emma sat down to think and be miserable. —**It** was a wretched business indeed! —**Such** an overthrow of every thing she had been wishing for! —**Such** a development of every thing most unwelcome! —**Such** a blow for Harriet! —**that** was the worst of all. **Every** part of it brought pain and humiliation, of some sort or other; but, compared with the evil to Harriet, all was light; and she would gladly have submitted to feel yet more mistaken—more in error—more disgraced by mis-judgment, than she actually was, could the effects of her blunders have been confined to herself.

“**If** I had not persuaded Harriet into liking the man, I could have borne any thing. **He** might have doubled his presumption to me—but poor Harriet! ”

头发卷好了，女仆也打发走了，爱玛坐下来思量，心里好不难受。这件事太糟糕了！她期盼的一切全给推翻了！而讨厌的事情却一股脑儿地出现了！对哈丽特来说，这是多么沉重的打击！这是最糟糕的事情。这件事的每一个环节，都带来了这样或那样的痛苦和羞辱。然而，跟哈丽特所受的苦难比起来，这一切又算不了什么。假如她的过失仅仅害苦了她自己，那她即使觉得自己比实际上更荒唐，更丢脸，心里也要好受得多。

“若不是我劝得哈里特爱上了他，我什么都能忍受。他尽可以对我加倍地狂妄——可是可怜的哈里特呀！”

How she could have been so deceived! —**He** 她怎么会如此受骗！——他 protested that he had never thought seriously 声称自己从未认真考虑过哈 of Harriet—never! **She** looked back as well 丽特——从未！她尽力回想 as she could; but it was all confusion. **She** 往事，却只觉得一片混乱。想 had taken up the idea, she supposed, and made 必是她自己先入为主地产生了 every thing bend to it. **His** manners, however, 了这个念头，而后便让一切 must have been unmarked, wavering, dubious, 顺着这个思路发展。然而他的 or she could not have been so misled.

态度定然是暧昧不明、摇摆不定、模棱两可的，否则她绝不会被误导到这般田地。

The picture! —**How** eager he had been 那幅画像！——他对那幅画 about the picture! —**and** the charade! — 像多么热心啊！——还有那 **and** an hundred other circumstances;—how 字谜！——以及许许多多其 clearly they had seemed to point at Harriet. 他情景——它们多么清楚地 **To** be sure, the charade, with its “ready wit”— 指向了哈丽特啊。当然，那 but then the “soft eyes”—in fact it suited nei- 则字谜里“机敏伶俐”的形容——可后面又提到“温柔 ther; it was a jumble without taste or truth. 眼眸”——实际上这两者都不贴切，不过是既无品味又 **Who** could have seen through such thick- 失真实的胡言乱语。谁能看 headed nonsense?

穿这般愚不可及的浑话呢？

Certainly she had often, especially of late, 确实，她常常觉得他对自己 thought his manners to herself unnecessarily 过分殷勤，尤其是近来更甚； gallant; but it had passed as his way, as a mere 但她一直把这归咎于他的习

error of judgment, of knowledge, of taste, as one proof among others that he had not always lived in the best society, that with all the gentleness of his address, true elegance was sometimes wanting; but, till this very day, she had never, for an instant, suspected it to mean anything but grateful respect to her as Harriet's friend.

性，认为这只是判断上、见识上、品味上的一点偏差，是又一个例证，说明他毕竟未曾在最上流的社交圈中生活过，尽管举止温文尔雅，却时而缺乏真正的优雅风度。然而，直到今天之前，她从未有过片刻的猜疑，只当这是他对她作为哈丽特的朋友所表示的感激与敬意。

To Mr. **John** Knightley was she indebted for her first idea on the subject, for the first start of its possibility. **There** was no denying that those brothers had penetration. **She** remembered what Mr. **Knightley** had once said to her about Mr. **Elton**, the caution he had given, the conviction he had professed that Mr. **Elton** would never marry indiscreetly; and blushed to think how much truer a knowledge of his character had been there shewn than any she had reached herself. **It** was dreadfully mortifying; but Mr. **Elton** was proving himself, in many respects, the very reverse of what she had meant and believed him; proud, assuming, conceited; very full of his own claims, and little

关于这件事的最初念头和可能性，都是约翰·奈特利先生点拨的。不可否认，这兄弟俩都独具慧眼。她想起奈特利先生有一次跟她谈起埃尔顿先生，提醒她要谨慎，并且断言埃尔顿先生决不会贸然结婚。可是，他对埃尔顿先生的看法比她正确得多，她一想起来就感到脸红。这真叫人万分羞愧。埃尔顿先生在许多方面都证明与她当初的意思和信念完全相反：高傲，自大，自负，一心只想自己得意，丝毫不顾别人的

concerned about the feelings of others.

情意。

Contrary to the usual course of things, Mr. Elton's wanting to pay his addresses to her had sunk him in her opinion. **His** professions and his proposals did him no service. **She** thought nothing of his attachment, and was insulted by his hopes. **He** wanted to marry well, and having the arrogance to raise his eyes to her, pretended to be in love; but she was perfectly easy as to his not suffering any disappointment that need be cared for. **There** had been no real affection either in his language or manners. **Sighs** and fine words had been given in abundance; but she could hardly devise any set of expressions, or fancy any tone of voice, less allied with real love. **She** need not trouble herself to pity him. **He** only wanted to aggrandise and enrich himself; and if Miss Woodhouse of Hartfield, the heiress of thirty thousand pounds, were not quite so easily obtained as he had fancied, he would soon try for Miss Somebody else with twenty, or with ten.

与寻常情形相反，埃尔顿先生向她求爱的举动反而降低了在她心中的地位。他的表白和求婚都未能给他加分。她丝毫不看重他的痴情，反倒因他的希图感到受辱。他一心想攀一门好亲事，既自负地妄图高攀她，又佯装出情深似海的模样；不过她十分笃定，即便他遭受失望的打击也不值得旁人挂怀。无论言语举止间，他都未曾流露过真情实意。叹息与甜言蜜语倒是层出不穷；可她实在想象不出还有哪套说辞、哪种腔调能比这更与真爱毫不相干。她无需费神去怜悯他。此人不过是想借婚姻抬高身价、扩充财富罢了；若是哈特菲尔德的伍德豪斯小姐——那位拥有三万镑遗产的女继承人——不像他设想的那般容易得手，他转眼就会去追求某个只有两万镑甚

至一万镑嫁妆的某某小姐。

But—that he should talk of encouragement, should consider her as aware of his views, accepting his attentions, meaning (in short), to marry him! —**should** suppose himself her equal in connexion or mind! —**look** down upon her friend, so well understanding the gradations of rank below him, and be so blind to what rose above, as to fancy himself shewing no presumption in addressing her! —**It** was most provoking.

可是——他居然谈起什么鼓励，居然认为她已意识到他接受他的关注，有意（简而言之）要嫁给他！——居然自以为在门第上或心智上与她不相上下！——瞧不起她的朋友，对低于自己的等级区分得一清二楚，却对高于自己的视而不见，竟以为向她求爱毫不自量力之嫌！——这实在令人气恼。

Perhaps it was not fair to expect him to feel how very much he was her inferior in talent, and all the elegancies of mind. **The** very want of such equality might prevent his perception of it; but he must know that in fortune and consequence she was greatly his superior. **He** must know that the Woodhouses had been settled for several generations at Hartfield, the younger branch of a very ancient family—and that the Eltons were nobody. **The** landed property of Hartfield certainly was inconsiderable, being but a sort of notch in the Donwell

或许要求他认识到自己在才华与思想修养方面远不如她，确实有失公允。正是这种不平等使他无法察觉；但他必须清楚，在财产和家世方面，她远胜于他。他应当知道，伍德豪斯家族在哈特菲尔德已定居数代，是当地古老世家的幼支——而埃尔顿家则门第寒微。**哈特**菲尔德的田产固然不算可观，不过是当维尔修道院地产边缘

Abbey estate, to which all the rest of Highbury belonged; but their fortune, from other sources, was such as to make them scarcely secondary to Donwell Abbey itself, in every other kind of consequence; and the Woodhouses had long held a high place in the consideration of the neighbourhood which Mr. **Elton** had first entered not two years ago, to make his way as he could, without any alliances but in trade, or any thing to recommend him to notice but his situation and his civility. —**But** he had fancied her in love with him; that evidently must have been his dependence; and after rav- ing a little about the seeming incongruity of gentle manners and a conceited head, Emma was obliged in common honesty to stop and admit that her own behaviour to him had been so complaisant and obliging, so full of courtesy and attention, as (supposing her real motive unperceived) might warrant a man of ordinary observation and delicacy, like Mr. **Elton**, in fancying himself a very decided favourite. **If** she had so misinterpreted his feelings, she had little right to wonder that he, with self-interest to blind him, should have mistaken 的一小块楔形地界（海伯里其余地产尽属修道院所有），但其他财源使他们几乎可与当维尔世家比肩；伍德豪斯家族更早就在当地享有崇高声望——而埃尔顿先生两年前初来此地时，除却经商关系别无依傍，除却职位与礼数外别无引荐。然而他竟妄想她钟情于他，这显然是他的依仗所在；爱玛先是对他温文尔雅的外表与自负头脑的不相称发了一通议论，终究不得不诚实地停下反省：自己待他确实殷勤周到，礼数备至（若说真实动机未被察觉），这等举止足以让埃尔顿先生这般观察力与悟性平平的男子，认定自己成了特别受青睐的人。既然连她都曾误解他的心意，又岂能责怪被私心蒙蔽的他误判了她的情意？

hers.

The first error and the worst lay at her door. It was foolish, it was wrong, to take so active a part in bringing any two people together. It was adventuring too far, assuming too much, making light of what ought to be serious, a trick of what ought to be simple. She was quite concerned and ashamed, and resolved to do such things no more.

首要的、也是最严重的错误，都该归咎于她。如此积极地为他人牵线搭桥实属愚蠢之举，实属谬误。这无异于过分冒险，过于自以为是，将本该郑重对待之事视若等闲，把本该简单纯粹之事变得复杂难解。她深感不安与羞愧，决心再也不做这等事情。

"Here have I," said she, "actually talked poor Harriet into being very much attached to this man. She might never have thought of him but for me; and certainly never would have thought of him with hope, if I had not assured her of his attachment, for she is as modest and humble as I used to think him. Oh! that I had been satisfied with persuading her not to accept young Martin. There I was quite right. That was well done of me; but there I should have stopped, and left the rest to time and chance. I was introducing her into good company, and giving her the opportunity of pleasing some one worth having; I ought not

"唉,"她说道,"我竟然说得可怜的哈里特深深迷恋上了这个人。要不是因为我,她可能压根儿不会想到他;要不是我断定他对她有意,她也决不敢抱着希望去想他——原来她那样谦逊,就像我原先认为他很谦逊一样。哦!要是我满足于说服她不要嫁给年轻的马丁就好了。在这一点上,我倒做得完全正确。这件事我做得很妥当,不过我本该就此罢休,把其余的事情交给时间和机会。我让她

to have attempted more. **But** now, poor girl, her peace is cut up for some time. I have been but half a friend to her; and if she were not to feel this disappointment so very much, I am sure I have not an idea of any body else who would be at all desirable for her;—William Coxe—Oh! **no**, I could not endure William Coxe—a pert young lawyer. ”

加入了上流的社交圈，使她有机会取悦某个值得结交的人，我不该再做进一步的努力。如今，这可怜的姑娘心里要久久不能平静了。我对她还算不上半个朋友。要是她不是那么深感失望的话，我敢说谁也不会中她的意——威廉·考克斯——哦！不行，我可忍受不了威廉·考克斯——那个冒冒失失的年轻律师。”

She stopt to blush and laugh at her own relapse, and then resumed a more serious, more dispiriting cogitation upon what had been, and might be, and must be. **The** distressing explanation she had to make to Harriet, and all that poor Harriet would be suffering, with the awkwardness of future meetings, the difficulties of continuing or discontinuing the acquaintance, of subduing feelings, concealing resentment, and avoiding eclat, were enough to occupy her in most unmirthful reflections some time longer, and she went to bed at last with nothing settled but the conviction of her hav-

她停下脚步，为自己再次陷入幻想而脸红发笑，随后又陷入更严肃、更令人沮丧的沉思，思量着过往种种、未来种种与必然种种。她必须向哈丽特作出令人难堪的解释，想到可怜的哈丽特将要承受的痛苦，想到日后相见的尴尬，想到维持或断绝往来的两难，还要克制情绪、掩饰愤懑、避免张扬——这些足以让她在极不愉快的思绪中沉浸良久。最终上床就寝

ing blundered most dreadfully.

时，她唯一能确定的就是自己犯下了天大的错误。

To youth and natural cheerfulness like Emma's, though under temporary gloom at night, the return of day will hardly fail to bring return of spirits. The youth and cheerfulness of morning are in happy analogy, and of powerful operation; and if the distress be not poignant enough to keep the eyes unclosed, they will be sure to open to sensations of softened pain and brighter hope.

像爱玛这般青春年少、天性乐观的人，尽管夜间会暂时笼罩在阴郁之中，但白昼的归来几乎总能唤回她的活力。**清晨**的朝气与欢愉有着美妙的共鸣，且具有强大的感染力；倘若痛苦尚未尖锐到令人彻夜难眠，那么睁开双眼时，必定会感受到渐趋缓和的伤痛与愈发明亮的希望。

Emma got up on the morrow more disposed for comfort than she had gone to bed, more ready to see alleviations of the evil before her, and to depend on getting tolerably out of it.

第二天早晨爱玛起身时，比上床时更想得到些安慰，更愿意正视眼前的烦恼，并指望能够较为体面地摆脱它。

It was a great consolation that Mr. Elton should not be really in love with her, or so particularly amiable as to make it shocking to disappoint him—that Harriet's nature should not be of that superior sort in which the feelings are most acute and retentive—and that there

令她深感宽慰的是，埃尔顿先生并非真正钟情于她，也不至于过分讨人喜欢到让她因拒绝而感到愧疚——哈丽特的性情也并非那种情感特别敏锐持久的卓越类型——

could be no necessity for any body's knowing what had passed except the three principals, and especially for her father's being given a moment's uneasiness about it. 更庆幸的是除了三位当事人之外，无需让旁人知晓这番纠葛，尤其不必让她父亲为此事产生片刻烦忧。

These were very cheering thoughts; and the sight of a great deal of snow on the ground did her further service, for any thing was welcome that might justify their all three being quite asunder at present.

这些念头令人十分振奋；而看到地上厚厚的积雪，更让她感到欣慰，因为眼下任何能让他们三人分开的理由都是受欢迎的。

The weather was most favourable for her; though Christmas Day, she could not go to church. **Mr. Woodhouse** would have been miserable had his daughter attempted it, and she was therefore safe from either exciting or receiving unpleasant and most unsuitable ideas. The ground covered with snow, and the atmosphere in that unsettled state between frost and thaw, which is of all others the most unfriendly for exercise, every morning beginning in rain or snow, and every evening setting in to freeze, she was for many days a most honourable prisoner. No intercourse with Harriet possible but by note; no church for her on Sunday any more than on Christmas Day; and no

天气对她极为有利；虽是圣诞节日，她却不必去教堂。倘若女儿执意前往，伍德豪斯先生定会痛苦不堪，如此一来，她既不会产生不愉快且极不合时宜的念头，也不会招致此类烦扰。大地覆雪，空气又处于霜冻与融雪间的阴晴不定——这般天气最不宜出行。每个清晨始于雨雪霏霏，每个黄昏又凝霜冻结，一连数日她都成了体面的囚徒。与哈丽特的往来只能凭短笺维系；主日礼拜如同圣诞节日那般无法参加；更无须为埃

need to find excuses for Mr. Elton's absent- 尔顿先生的缺席寻找托词。
ing himself.

It was weather which might fairly confine every body at home; and though she hoped and believed him to be really taking comfort in some society or other, it was very pleasant to have her father so well satisfied with his being all alone in his own house, too wise to stir out; and to hear him say to Mr. **Knightley**, whom no weather could keep entirely from them,—

这天气着实能把所有人都困在家中；虽然她希望并相信他此刻定在某个交际圈里寻得慰藉，但听到父亲对他独自安居的表现如此满意——明智得不愿迈出家门一步，实在是件快事。她还听见父亲对奈特利先生说——这位先生是任何天气都阻挡不了他来访的——

“Ah! Mr. **Knightley**, why do not you stay at home like poor Mr. **Elton**? ”

“啊！奈特利先生，您怎么不像可怜的埃尔顿先生那样待在家里呢？”

These days of confinement would have been, but for her private perplexities, remarkably comfortable, as such seclusion exactly suited her brother, whose feelings must always be of great importance to his companions; and he had, besides, so thoroughly cleared off his ill-humour at Randalls, that his amiableness never failed him during the rest of his stay at

若不是心中藏着难解的烦恼，这段闭门不出的日子本应过得相当惬意，因为这样的幽居生活正合她哥哥的心意。他情绪的好坏向来是身边人最关切的事；况且他在兰德尔斯的满腔不快既已彻底消除，此后在哈特菲尔德

Hartfield. **He** was always agreeable and obliging, and speaking pleasantly of every body. **But** with all the hopes of cheerfulness, and all the present comfort of delay, there was still such an evil hanging over her in the hour of explanation with Harriet, as made it impossible for Emma to be ever perfectly at ease.

作客期间，始终保持着和蔼可亲的性情。他总是那么温文尔雅、殷勤体贴，谈起谁都带着善意。然而尽管有这些令人宽慰的盼头，眼下也因拖延而暂得安宁，但想到终究要向哈丽特说明真相，这团阴影始终笼罩着她，使得爱玛永远无法真正安下心来。

CHAPTER XVII

第十七章

Mr. and Mrs. John Knightley were not detained long at Hartfield. **The** weather soon improved enough for those to move who must move; and Mr. **Woodhouse** having, as usual, tried to persuade his daughter to stay behind with all her children, was obliged to see the whole party set off, and return to his lamentations over the destiny of poor Isabella;—which poor Isabella, passing her life with those she doated on, full of their merits, blind to their faults, and always innocently busy, might have been a model of right feminine happiness.

约翰·奈特利夫妇在哈特菲尔德并未久留。天气很快转晴，必须启程的人已可动身；伍德豪斯先生照例试图劝说女儿带着所有外孙留下，却不得不目送一行人全体离去，重新陷入对可怜的伊莎贝拉命运的哀叹——而这位伊莎贝拉，终日与她挚爱的人们相伴，满眼都是他们的优点，对他们的缺点视而不见，永远天真地忙碌着，倒堪称女性幸福生活的典范。

The evening of the very day on which they went brought a note from Mr. **Elton** to Mr. **Woodhouse**, a long, civil, ceremonious note, to say, with Mr. **Elton**' s best compliments, "that he was proposing to leave Highbury the following morning in his way to Bath; where, in compliance with the pressing entreaties of some friends, he had engaged to spend a few weeks, and very much regretted the impossibility he was under, from various circumstances of weather and business, of taking a personal leave of Mr. **Woodhouse**, of whose friendly civilities he should ever retain a grateful sense —and had Mr. **Woodhouse** any commands, should be happy to attend to them. "

就在他们出门的当天傍晚，伍德豪斯先生收到埃尔顿先生写来的一封信。这是一封礼节周全、口气谦恭的长信，以“埃尔顿先生谨致问候”开头，说他“拟于次日上午告别海伯里，前往巴思。因几位朋友盛情邀请，他承诺去那里盘桓数周。鉴于天气和事务等诸多不便，无法亲自向伍德豪斯先生告辞，深表遗憾。日后如有机会，定当登门致谢，对于伍德豪斯先生的诸多善意，他将永志不忘。”

Emma was most agreeably surprised. —Mr. **Elton**' s absence just at this time was the very thing to be desired. **She** admired him for contriving it, though not able to give him much credit for the manner in which it was announced. **Resentment** could not have been more plainly spoken than in a civility to her father, from which she was so pointedly excluded. **She** had not even a share in his opening compliments. —**Her** name was not men-

爱玛真是喜出望外。——埃尔顿先生此刻的离开正是求之不得的事。她佩服他竟能想出这个主意，虽然对他表达的方式不敢恭维。他客客气气地跟她父亲道别，而对她说理也不理，这再清楚不过地暴露了他的愤懑之情。连开场白的客套话都没有她的份——她的名字只字未提

tioned;—and there was so striking a change ——这一切变化太显著了，在 all this, and such an ill-judged solemnity of 他一本正经地鞠了一躬，郑 leave-taking in his graceful acknowledgments, 重其事地最后道别，爱玛起 as she thought, at first, could not escape her 初以为，这奇怪的举动准会 father’s suspicion. 引起她父亲的猜疑。

It did, however. —**Her** father was quite taken up with the surprize of so sudden a journey, and his fears that Mr. **Elton** might never get safely to the end of it, and saw nothing extraordinary in his language. **It** was a very useful note, for it supplied them with fresh matter for thought and conversation during the rest of their lonely evening. **Mr. Woodhouse** talked over his alarms, and Emma was in spirits to persuade them away with all her usual promptitude.

然而确实如此——她父亲完全被这突如其来的旅程惊呆了，又担心埃尔顿先生能否平安抵达终点，因此丝毫未觉其言辞有何异常。这封信来得正是时候，为他们在余下孤寂的夜晚提供了新鲜的话题。伍德豪斯先生反复诉说他的忧虑，而爱玛则兴致勃勃地以惯有的敏捷，——化解了他的不安。

She now resolved to keep Harriet no longer in the dark. **She** had reason to believe her nearly recovered from her cold, and it was desirable that she should have as much time as possible before the gentleman’s return. **She** went to Mrs. **Goddard’s** accordingly the very next day, to undergo the necessary penance of com-

她当即决定不再对哈丽特隐瞒实情。她有理由相信哈丽特的风寒已近痊愈，当务之急是在那位先生归来之前，尽可能留出时间让她从另一种心病中恢复过来。于是次日她便前往戈达德太太寓所，去完成那场必要的忏

munication; and a severe one it was. —**She** 悔——这实在是场严酷的考
had to destroy all the hopes which she had 验。她必须亲手摧毁自己苦
been so industriously feeding—to appear in 心培育的全部希望，以被偏
the ungracious character of the one preferred— 爱者的身份扮演不讨喜的角
and acknowledge herself grossly mistaken and 色，承认自己过去六周里关
mis-judging in all her ideas on one subject, all 于某个话题的全部设想、所
her observations, all her convictions, all her 有观察、种种确信乃至诸多
prophecies for the last six weeks. 预言，都荒谬绝伦地错判了
形势。

The confession completely renewed her first 这番坦白让她重新陷入了最
shame—and the sight of Harriet's tears made 初的羞愧——而看到哈丽特
her think that she should never be in charity 流泪的模样，更使她觉得自
with herself again. 己永远无法再原谅自己。

Harriet bore the intelligence very well— 哈丽埃特听到这个消息，倒
blaming nobody—and in every thing testify- 还受得住——既不怪谁——
ing such an ingenuousness of disposition and 处处都显出一副性情坦率、
lowly opinion of herself, as must appear with 自视卑微的样子，此时此刻，
particular advantage at that moment to her 她的朋友觉得这种态度必然
friend. 特别对她有利。

Emma was in the humour to value simplic- 爱玛此刻的心情格外推崇
ity and modesty to the utmost; and all that 纯朴与谦逊，她感到所有可
was amiable, all that ought to be attaching, 爱的品质、所有令人依恋的
seemed on Harriet's side, not her own. **Har-** 特质似乎都体现在哈丽特

riet did not consider herself as having any thing to complain of. **The** affection of such a man as Mr. **Elton** would have been too great a distinction. —**She** never could have deserved him—and nobody but so partial and kind a friend as Miss Woodhouse would have thought it possible.

身上，而非她自己。哈丽特并不觉得自己有任何可抱怨之处。能得到埃尔顿先生这般人物的垂青，实在是莫大的荣幸——她根本配不上他——除了伍德豪斯小姐这样偏袒她、待她亲切的朋友，谁会觉得这事可能成真呢。

Her tears fell abundantly—but her grief was so truly artless, that no dignity could have made it more respectable in Emma's eyes—and she listened to her and tried to console her with all her heart and understanding—really for the time convinced that Harriet was the superior creature of the two—and that to resemble her would be more for her own welfare and happiness than all that genius or intelligence could do.

她的眼泪簌簌直流——但这悲伤如此真挚自然，在爱玛眼中，纵使再端庄持重也无法使这悲伤显得更可敬——她倾听着，用全部的真心与智慧安慰她——此刻她真心认为哈丽特才是两人中更高尚的那个——与其依赖才智，不如效仿她的品性，才能获得真正的安宁与幸福。

It was rather too late in the day to set about being simple-minded and ignorant; but she left her with every previous resolution confirmed of being humble and discreet, and repressing imagination all the rest of her life. **Her** second duty now, inferior only to her father's claims,

此时再要装出头脑简单、蒙昧无知的模样，未免为时太晚；不过她在离开时，坚定了先前立下的决心，要从此谦逊谨慎，今生今世再也不胡思乱想了。如今她的第二

was to promote Harriet's comfort, and endeavour to prove her own affection in some better method than by match-making. **She** got her to Hartfield, and shewed her the most unvarying kindness, striving to occupy and amuse her, and by books and conversation, to drive Mr. **Elton** from her thoughts.

项职责，其重要性仅次于对她的父亲的尽孝，便是要让哈丽特过得快活，要用比做媒更好一点的办法来证明自己的一片真心。**她**把她带到哈特菲尔德来，对她关怀备至，千方百计地帮她消遣时间，给她看书，陪她聊天，不让她脑子里闪现埃尔顿先生的身影。

Time, she knew, must be allowed for this being thoroughly done; and she could suppose herself but an indifferent judge of such matters in general, and very inadequate to sympathise in an attachment to Mr. **Elton** in particular; but it seemed to her reasonable that at Harriet's age, and with the entire extinction of all hope, such a progress might be made towards a state of composure by the time of Mr. **Elton's** return, as to allow them all to meet again in the common routine of acquaintance, without any danger of betraying sentiments or increasing them.

她明白，这事必须假以时日才能彻底解决；她自认对这类事情向来缺乏判断力，尤其无法理解对埃尔顿先生的痴情。**但她**觉得，以哈丽特的年纪，在希望完全破灭的情况下，等到埃尔顿先生归来时，她的心境应当能恢复足够的平静，使她们可以如常往来而不致流露真情，也不致助长痴念。

Harriet did think him all perfection, and 哈丽特确实认为他完美无

maintained the non-existence of any body equal to him in person or goodness—and did, in truth, prove herself more resolutely in love than Emma had foreseen; but yet it appeared to her so natural, so inevitable to strive against an inclination of that sort unrequited, that she could not comprehend its continuing very long in equal force.

缺，坚称世上再没有谁能在相貌或品德上与他相提并论——事实上，她表现出的痴情确实超出了爱玛的预料；不过在爱玛看来，面对这种单相思的倾慕，会产生抗拒之心实属自然且不可避免，因此她无法理解这种感情何以能长久保持同等强度。

If Mr. Elton, on his return, made his own indifference as evident and indubitable as she could not doubt he would anxiously do, she could not imagine Harriet's persisting to place her happiness in the sight or the recollection of him.

倘若埃尔顿先生回来时，他那份冷淡——她毫不怀疑他会急切地表露得明明白白、确凿无疑——能像她所料想的那样昭然若揭，她实在无法想象哈丽特还会执意将幸福寄托于与他相见或追忆往昔。

Their being fixed, so absolutely fixed, in the same place, was bad for each, for all three. Not one of them had the power of removal, or of effecting any material change of society. They must encounter each other, and make the best of it.

他们如此绝对地固守在同一地方，对彼此、对三个人都极为不利。谁都没有能力迁居，也无法促成社交圈的任何实质性改变。他们必须相互面对，尽力而为。

Harriet was farther unfortunate in the tone of her companions at Mrs. **Goddard's**; Mr. **Elton** being the adoration of all the teachers and great girls in the school; and it must be at Hartfield only that she could have any chance of hearing him spoken of with cooling moderation or repellent truth. **Where** the wound had been given, there must the cure be found if anywhere; and Emma felt that, till she saw her in the way of cure, there could be no true peace for herself.

哈丽特在戈达德太太学校的同伴们说话的口吻更令她不幸；埃尔顿先生是学校里所有女教师和大女孩们崇拜的对象；只有在哈特菲尔德，她才可能听到人们用令人冷静的克制或令人反感的事实来谈论他。伤口是在哪里造成的，也必须在哪里找到治疗方法——如果真有治疗方法的话；爱玛觉得，在她看到哈丽特走上康复之路之前，她自己是不可能得到真正安宁的。

CHAPTER XVIII

第十八章

Mr. Frank Churchill did not come. **When** the time proposed drew near, Mrs. **Weston's** fears were justified in the arrival of a letter of excuse. **For** the present, he could not be spared, to his “very great mortification and regret; but still he looked forward with the hope of coming to Randalls at no distant period.” 弗兰克·邱吉尔先生没有来。当约定的时日临近时，韦斯顿太太的担忧被一封致歉信证实了。目前他实在分身乏术，对此感到“万分懊恼与遗憾”；不过他“仍期盼能在不久之后来访朗道斯”。

Mrs. **Weston** was exceedingly disappointed 韦斯顿太太失望至极——事

—much more disappointed, in fact, than her husband, though her dependence on seeing the young man had been so much more sober: but a sanguine temper, though for ever expecting more good than occurs, does not always pay for its hopes by any proportionate depression. **It** soon flies over the present failure, and begins to hope again. **For** half an hour Mr. **Weston** was surprised and sorry; but then he began to perceive that Frank's coming two or three months later would be a much better plan; better time of year; better weather; and that he would be able, without any doubt, to stay considerably longer with them than if he had come sooner.

实际上比她丈夫还要失望得多，虽说她对见到那位年轻人的期待原本要克制得多：但一个乐观的性情，尽管永远期盼着比实际发生的更多好事，却并不总是因其希望而遭受相应比例的沮丧。它很快便从眼前的失败上一掠而过，重新开始希望起来。半小时工夫，韦斯顿先生便由惊转喜；随后他开始意识到，弗兰克推迟两三个月再来倒是更好的安排；季节更相宜，天气也更合宜；而且毫无疑问，他定能比早来的时候和他们相处得更久些。

These feelings rapidly restored his comfort, while Mrs. **Weston**, of a more apprehensive disposition, foresaw nothing but a repetition of excuses and delays; and after all her concern for what her husband was to suffer, suffered a great deal more herself.

这些感觉迅速恢复了他的平静，而韦斯顿太太天性更为忧虑，预见到只会有一连串的借口和拖延；在她为丈夫将要承受的痛苦忧心忡忡之后，自己反而承受了更多的煎熬。

Emma was not at this time in a state of spir-

爱玛此刻心绪不佳，无暇真

its to care really about Mr. **Frank** Churchill' 正在意弗兰克·丘吉尔先生不 coming, except as a disappointment at Randalls. **The** acquaintance at present had no charm for her. **She** wanted, rather, to be quiet, and out of temptation; but still, as it was desirable that she should appear, in general, like her usual self, she took care to express as much interest in the circumstance, and enter as warmly into Mr. **and** Mrs. **Weston'**s disappointment, as might naturally belong to their friendship.

生失约之事，唯有想到兰德尔斯的失望才略感歉然。眼下这段交情对她已毫无吸引力。她宁愿独处静思，远离种种诱惑；但既然在众人面前理应保持平日模样，她便刻意对这件事流露出恰如其分的关切，以符合彼此交情的热情，陪着韦斯顿夫妇一同惋惜。

She was the first to announce it to Mr. **Knightley**; and exclaimed quite as much as was necessary, (or, being acting a part, perhaps rather more,) at the conduct of the Churchills, in keeping him away. **She** then proceeded to say a good deal more than she felt, of the advantage of such an addition to their confined society in Surry; the pleasure of looking at somebody new; the gala-day to Highbury entire, which the sight of him would have made; and ending with reflections on the Churchills again, found herself directly involved in a disagreement with Mr. **Knightley**; and, to her great amusement, perceived that she was tak- 她第一个向奈特利先生报告了这件事；对丘吉尔夫妇强留他在家的行为表示了必要的愤慨——或许由于在演戏，她表现得比实际感受更为激烈。接着她又言过其实地大谈这对萨里郡狭小社交圈带来的益处，说能看到新面孔多么令人愉悦，说他的出现会让整个海伯里如同过节般欢腾——最后话题又回到对丘吉尔夫妇的议论上，却发现自己竟与奈特利先生意见相左。更觉有趣的是，

ing the other side of the question from her real opinion, and making use of Mrs. Weston's arguments against herself. 她发现自己正站在与真实想法完全相反的立场，竟借用韦斯顿太太的论调来反驳自己。

“**The** Churchills are very likely in fault,” said Mr. Knightley, coolly; “but I dare say he might come if he would.” “丘吉尔一家很可能有过错，”奈特利先生冷冷地说，“但我敢说，他若愿意，还是能来的。”

“I do not know why you should say so. **He** wishes exceedingly to come; but his uncle and aunt will not spare him.” “我不明白你为何这样说。他非常想来，只是他舅舅和舅母不肯放人。”

“I cannot believe that he has not the power of coming, if he made a point of it. **It** is too unlikely, for me to believe it without proof.” “我无法相信，倘若他执意要来，竟会没有能力成行。这事太过蹊跷，没有确凿证据我断不能信。”

“How odd you are! **What** has Mr. Frank Churchill done, to make you suppose him such an unnatural creature?” “你真是古怪！弗兰克·丘吉尔先生做了什么，竟让你觉得他是这般不近人情的人？”

“I am not supposing him at all an unnatural creature, in suspecting that he may have learnt to be above his connexions, and to care very little for any thing but his own pleasure, from

我并非凭空揣测他是个不近人情的怪物，只因他与那群人为伍，难免耳濡目染——那些人向来只顾自身享乐，

living with those who have always set him the example of it. **It** is a great deal more natural than one could wish, that a young man, brought up by those who are proud, luxurious, and selfish, should be proud, luxurious, and selfish too. **If** Frank Churchill had wanted to see his father, he would have contrived it between September and January. A man at his age—what is he? —**three** or four-and-twenty—cannot be without the means of doing as much as that. **It** is impossible.”

久而久之他自然就学会了漠视亲情，只顾自己快活。这般教养实在令人扼腕：一个年轻人若是由骄奢自私之辈抚养长大，到头来变得同样骄奢自私，实在是再自然不过的事。**弗兰克·丘吉尔**若真想见父亲，九月到一月间早该设法安排。他这般年纪——多大来着？**二十三**还是二十四——总不至于连这点事都办不到。**断无可能。**

“**That**’ s easily said, and easily felt by you, who have always been your own master. **You** are the worst judge in the world, Mr. **Knightley**, of the difficulties of dependence. **You** do not know what it is to have tempers to manage.”

“这话说来轻巧，你感受起来也容易，毕竟你向来都是自己的主人。**奈特利先生**，你根本不懂得寄人篱下的难处，世上再没有比你更不擅此道的评判者了——你从来不需要费心去应付别人的坏脾气。”

“**It** is not to be conceived that a man of three or four-and-twenty should not have liberty of mind or limb to that amount. **He** cannot want money—he cannot want leisure. **We** know, on

实在难以想象，一个二十三、四岁的年轻人竟会连这点身心自由都没有。**他**不可能缺钱——也不可能缺少闲暇。

the contrary, that he has so much of both, that he is glad to get rid of them at the idlest haunts in the kingdom. **We** hear of him for ever at some watering-place or other. A little while ago, he was at Weymouth. **This** proves that he can leave the Churchills. ”

相反我们知道，他的钱和闲暇多得要命，巴不得能在全国最无聊的度假胜地挥霍掉。我们总听说他出现在这个温泉那个浴场。不久前他还在韦茅斯。这足以证明他完全可以离开邱吉尔夫妇。

“**Yes**, sometimes he can. ”

“是的，他偶尔会这样。”

“**And** those times are whenever he thinks it worth his while; whenever there is any temptation of pleasure. ”

“只要他觉得值得，只要有什么玩乐的机会，他随时都会来。”

“**It** is very unfair to judge of any body's conduct, without an intimate knowledge of their situation. **Nobody**, who has not been in the interior of a family, can say what the difficulties of any individual of that family may be. **We** ought to be acquainted with Enscombe, and with Mrs. **Churchill**' s temper, before we pretend to decide upon what her nephew can do. **He** may, at times, be able to do a great deal more than he can at others. ”

若要对任何人的行为作出评判，若非深知其处境，实有失公允。若非亲历某个家庭的内部生活，谁也无法断言该家庭中任何成员可能面临的难处。在我们贸然断定她外甥能做什么之前，理当先熟悉恩斯康比宅第的境况，并了解丘吉尔夫人的脾气。有些时候，他能做到的事情，或许远胜于其他时候。

“**There** is one thing, Emma, which a man

“爱玛，有件事只要是男人就

can always do, if he chuses, and that is, his duty; not by manoeuvring and finessing, but by vigour and resolution. **It** is Frank Churchill's duty to pay this attention to his father. **He** knows it to be so, by his promises and messages; but if he wished to do it, it might be done. **A** man who felt rightly would say at once, simply and resolutely, to Mrs. Churchill— ‘**Every** sacrifice of mere pleasure you will always find me ready to make to your convenience; but I must go and see my father immediately. **I** know he would be hurt by my failing in such a mark of respect to him on the present occasion. **I** shall, therefore, set off to-morrow.’ —**If** he would say so to her at once, in the tone of decision becoming a man, there would be no opposition made to his going.”

总能办到——只要他愿意，那就是尽责任；不需要什么手腕权谋，只需要毅力和决心。向父亲表示关切是弗兰克·邱吉尔的责任。从他的承诺和传话来看，他明白这一点；但若他真心想做，这事本可以办成。一个明白事理的人会立刻用符合男子气概的果断语气对邱吉尔夫人说——‘为您的方便牺牲任何个人享乐，我都在所不辞；但我必须立刻去见父亲。我知道若在这样需要表达敬意的场合缺席，定会伤他的心。因此我决定明天就动身。’——倘若他当即用这般决断的语气对她表明，绝不会有任何人阻拦他成行。”

“**No,**” said Emma, laughing; “but perhaps there might be some made to his coming back again. **Such** language for a young man entirely dependent, to use! —**Nobody** but you, Mr. **Knightley**, would imagine it possible. **But** you have not an idea of what is requi-

“**不,**”爱玛笑着说，“不过等他回来时，也许倒可能编出几句来。一个完全仰仗他人生的年轻人，竟说出这种话来！——除了你，奈特利先生，谁也不会认为有这种可

site in situations directly opposite to your own. 能。可是你完全不了解，处境
Mr. Frank Churchill to be making such a 跟你截然不同的人，该有什
speech as that to the uncle and aunt, who have 么样的礼貌。**弗兰克·邱吉尔**
brought him up, and are to provide for him! 先生对着把他抚养成人、供
—**Standing** up in the middle of the room, I 他生活的舅父母，居然说出
suppose, and speaking as loud as he could! — 那样的话来！——大概是站
How can you imagine such conduct practica- 在屋子中央，扯着嗓门在嚷
ble? ” 嚥吧！——你怎么能认为他会做出这种事来呢？”

“**Depend** upon it, Emma, a sensible man ” 爱玛，你且相信：一个明
would find no difficulty in it. **He** would feel 白人处理这件事绝不会感到
himself in the right; and the declaration— 为难。他自会认清这是正理；
made, of course, as a man of sense would make 而这般表态——自然要像明
it, in a proper manner—would do him more 白人那样用恰当的方式表态
good, raise him higher, fix his interest stronger ——比一连串的推诿周旋更
with the people he depended on, than all that 能赢得人心，更能抬高他的
a line of shifts and expedients can ever do. **Re-** 身份，更能巩固那些依附他
spect would be added to affection. **They** 的人对他的好感。敬重会叠
would feel that they could trust him; that the 加在亲情之上。他们会觉得
nephew who had done rightly by his father, 可以信赖他；这个能正确对
would do rightly by them; for they know, as 待父亲的侄儿，也定会正确
well as he does, as well as all the world must 对待他们；因为他该去探望
know, that he ought to pay this visit to his fa- 父亲这件事，他们和他一样
ther; and while meanly exerting their power to 清楚，世人也都有目共睹。当
delay it, are in their hearts not thinking the 他们卑劣地滥用权力阻挠此

better of him for submitting to their whims. **Respect** for right conduct is felt by everybody. **If** he would act in this sort of manner, on principle, consistently, regularly, their little minds would bend to his."

事时，心底里其实并不会因他屈从于他们的任性而更看得起他。**对**正当行为的敬重是人人皆有的。**倘若**他能像这样本着原则，始终如一地行事，他们那些狭隘的念头终会向他屈服。”

"I rather doubt that. **You** are very fond of bending little minds; but where little minds belong to rich people in authority, I think they have a knack of swelling out, till they are quite as unmanageable as great ones. I can imagine, that if you, as you are, Mr. **Knightley**, were to be transported and placed all at once in Mr. **Frank Churchill's** situation, you would be able to say and do just what you have been recommending for him; and it might have a very good effect. **The Churchills** might not have a word to say in return; but then, you would have no habits of early obedience and long observance to break through. **To** him who has, it might not be so easy to burst forth at once into perfect independence, and set all their claims on his gratitude and regard at nought. **He** may have as strong a sense of what would be right,

“对此我颇为怀疑。你素来喜爱扭转那些狭隘的心胸；但若狭隘心胸长在有权有势的富人身上，我看它们自会膨胀起来，直到变得与宽广的胸襟同样难以驾驭。**我可以设想**，若是你——现在的你，奈特利先生——突然被送到弗兰克·丘吉尔先生的处境里，你定能如方才为他建议的那般言行；或许还能收得奇效。**丘吉尔**夫妇或许会无言以对；但你要知道，你身上并没有自幼养成的顺从习惯与长年累月的敬畏需要打破。**对于**他那样的人而言，要突然挣脱束缚实现彻底独立，将他们对恩情与尊重的

as you can have, without being so equal, under particular circumstances, to act up to it. ” 种种要求置之不理，恐怕并非易事。他内心对是非的判断或许与你一般坚定，只是在特定境遇下，未必能如你这般游刃有余地付诸实践。”

“**Then** it would not be so strong a sense. **If** it failed to produce equal exertion, it could not be an equal conviction. ” ”那么它就不会如此强烈了。如果它未能激发同等的努力，那便不能算是同等的信念。”

“**Oh**, the difference of situation and habit! **I** wish you would try to understand what an amiable young man may be likely to feel in directly opposing those, whom as child and boy he has been looking up to all his life. ” ”啊，处境与习惯的差异！但愿你能试着理解，一个温良的年轻人要直接反对那些自幼仰望至今的人，内心该有多么挣扎。”

“**Our** amiable young man is a very weak young man, if this be the first occasion of his carrying through a resolution to do right against the will of others. **It** ought to have been a habit with him by this time, of following his duty, instead of consulting expediency. **I** can allow for the fears of the child, but not of the man. **As** he became rational, he ought to have roused himself and shaken off all that was unworthy “我们这位和蔼可亲的年轻人若是在旁人不情愿时，头一遭坚持做了正确的事，那他可真是个优柔寡断的人。到如今，恪尽职守本该成为他的习惯，而非权衡利弊。我能体谅孩童的怯懦，却无法谅解成年人的懦弱。当他明事理之后，就该振作精神，

in their authority. **H**e ought to have opposed the first attempt on their side to make him slight his father. **H**ad he begun as he ought, there would have been no difficulty now. ”

摆脱那些长辈们不合理的管束。当家人初次企图让他怠慢父亲时，他就该当即反对。若是当初行事得当，如今又何来这些困扰。”

“**W**e shall never agree about him,” cried Emma; “but that is nothing extraordinary. **I** have not the least idea of his being a weak young man: I feel sure that he is not. **M**r. **W**eston would not be blind to folly, though in his own son; but he is very likely to have a more yielding, complying, mild disposition than would suit your notions of man’s perfection. **I** dare say he has; and though it may cut him off from some advantages, it will secure him many others. ”

“我们永远也不会对他有一致的看法，”爱玛嚷道，“不过这也没有什么特别。我丝毫不觉得他是个软弱的年轻人，我敢说他决不是那样的人。韦斯顿先生虽然对自己的儿子，也不会看不出他的愚笨，不过他很可能性情比较柔顺、随和、温存，不完全符合你那完美无缺的男性标准。我敢说他是这样的。虽然这也许会使他失去一些好处，可是在另外一些方面，这对他却很有好处。”

“**Y**es; all the advantages of sitting still when he ought to move, and of leading a life of mere idle pleasure, and fancying himself extremely expert in finding excuses for it. **H**e can sit down and write a fine flourishing letter, full of

“确实如此；该动的时候却坐着不动，该勤勉的时候却一味贪图安逸，还自以为很会找借口，这些好处他全占了。他能坐下来写一封天花乱坠

professions and falsehoods, and persuade himself that he has hit upon the very best method in the world of preserving peace at home and preventing his father's having any right to complain. **His** letters disgust me. ”

的信，满纸虚情假意与谎话连篇，还自以为找到了世上最好的法子，既维持了家中太平，又让父亲找不出半点埋怨的理由。他那些信真叫我作呕。”

“**Your** feelings are singular. **They** seem to satisfy every body else. ”

“你的情感真是独特，似乎能让其他所有人都感到满意。”

“I suspect they do not satisfy Mrs. **Weston**. **They** hardly can satisfy a woman of her good sense and quick feelings: standing in a mother's place, but without a mother's affection to blind her. **It** is on her account that attention to Randas is doubly due, and she must doubly feel the omission. **Had** she been a person of consequence herself, he would have come I dare say; and it would not have signified whether he did or no. **Can** you think your friend behindhand in these sort of considerations? **Do** you suppose she does not often say all this to herself? **No**, Emma, your amiable young man can be amiable only in French, not in English. **He** may be very ‘amiable,’ have very good manners, and be very agreeable; but he can have no

“我猜想韦斯顿太太并不满意。她那样通情达理、心思敏锐的人很难感到满意：虽居于母亲之位，却无慈母之情令她盲目。正因为顾及她的感受，我们更该加倍关注兰德尔斯的境况，而她对这份疏忽也必定加倍敏感。倘若她本人是个举足轻重的人物，他敢情早就来了；至于他来与不来，反倒无关紧要。难道你认为你的朋友会欠缺这般考量？难道你觉得她不会时常暗自思忖这些？不，爱玛，你那位和蔼可亲的年轻人，不过是法式的殷勤，而

English delicacy towards the feelings of other people: nothing really amiable about him. ” 非英式的体贴。他或许十分‘可亲’，举止温文，谈吐悦耳；但对待他人情感时，却毫无英伦式的细腻体贴：他身上实在没有真正令人心折的温厚品质。”

“**You** seem determined to think ill of him. ” “你似乎打定主意要把他往坏处想。”

“**Me! —not at all,**” replied Mr. **Knightley**, “我！——完全没有，”奈特利先生颇为不悦地回答，“我并不愿把他往坏处想。我和旁人一样乐于承认他的优点；只是我从未听闻任何值得一提的长处，除了那些纯属外在的特质——说他身材挺拔、相貌堂堂，举止温文尔雅、讨人喜欢罢了。”

“**Well**, if he have nothing else to recommend him, he will be a treasure at Highbury. **We** do not often look upon fine young men, well-bred and agreeable. **We** must not be nice and ask for all the virtues into the bargain. **Cannot** you imagine, Mr. **Knightley**, what a _sen-

倘若他别无长处，单凭这一点也够得上海伯里的珍宝了。我们可不常见到教养良好、风度宜人的翩翩青年。万不能苛求人家样样美德俱全。奈特利先生，您难道想

sation_ his coming will produce? **There** will be but one subject throughout the parishes of Donwell and Highbury; but one interest—one object of curiosity; it will be all Mr. **Frank** Churchill; we shall think and speak of nobody else. ”

象不出他的到来会引起怎样轰动吗? 整个当维尔和海伯里教区将只有一个话题、一个焦点、一个好奇的对象——那就是弗兰克·邱吉尔先生。我们心里想的、嘴上说的，再不会有别人。”

“**You** will excuse my being so much over-powered. **If** I find him conversable, I shall be glad of his acquaintance; but if he is only a chattering coxcomb, he will not occupy much of my time or thoughts. ”

“请原谅我如此失态。倘若我发现他谈吐不俗，自当乐意与他结交；但若他只是个饶舌的纨绔子弟，便不值得我耗费太多时间与心神。”

“**My** idea of him is, that he can adapt his conversation to the taste of every body, and has the power as well as the wish of being universally agreeable. **To** you, he will talk of farming; to me, of drawing or music; and so on to every body, having that general information on all subjects which will enable him to follow the lead, or take the lead, just as propriety may require, and to speak extremely well on each; that is my idea of him. ”

在我看来，他懂得使自己的谈吐适应每个人的口味，既有能力也有意愿让所有人都感到愉悦。对你，他会谈论农事；对我，则会论及绘画或音乐；对其他人也都如此——他具备各领域的通识，既能顺应话题，也能主导交谈，恰如其分地在每个话题上都发表精辟见解。这就是我对他的评价。

“**And** mine,” said Mr. **Knightley** warmly, “而我呢,”奈特利先生热切地
“is, that if he turn out any thing like it, he 说道, “却认为, 他若果真如
will be the most insufferable fellow breathing! 此, 定会成为世上最令人难
What! at three-and-twenty to be the king 以忍受的家伙! 想想看! 年
of his company—the great man—the practised 方二十三岁便要在同伴中称
politician, who is to read every body’s char- 王——自命不凡——俨然老
acter, and make every body’s talents conduce 练的政客, 既要洞察每个人的
to the display of his own superiority; to be 性情, 又要利用众人的才
dispensing his flatteries around, that he may 智来衬托自己的高明; 四处
make all appear like fools compared with him- 奉承谄媚, 好让所有人都相
self! **My** dear Emma, your own good sense 形见绌! 我亲爱的爱玛, 待
could not endure such a puppy when it came 到亲眼目睹时, 凭你这般明
to the point.” 达的见识, 断然忍受不了这等狂妄之徒。”

“I will say no more about him,” cried Emma, “我不要再提他了,”爱玛嚷
“you turn every thing to evil. **We** are both 道, “你把什么都往坏处想。
prejudiced; you against, I for him; and we have 我们两个都有偏见: 你讨厌
no chance of agreeing till he is really here.” 他, 我喜欢他; 我们不等到
他真正来到这儿, 就不会有
机会一致。”

“**Prejudiced!** I am not prejudiced.” ”有偏见! 我可没有偏见。”

“**But** I am very much, and without being at “但我确实非常喜欢他, 而且
all ashamed of it. **My** love for Mr. **and** Mrs. 毫不以此为耻。我对韦斯顿

Weston gives me a decided prejudice in his favour. ” 夫妇的爱使我对弗兰克·邱吉尔先生怀有毋庸置疑的偏爱。”

“**He** is a person I never think of from one month's end to another,” said Mr. **Knightley**, with a degree of vexation, which made Emma immediately talk of something else, though she could not comprehend why he should be angry. “他是个我一个月到头也不想不起一次的人，”奈特利先生带着几分懊恼说道，这让爱玛立刻转换了话题，尽管她实在不明白他为何要生气。

To take a dislike to a young man, only because he appeared to be of a different disposition from himself, was unworthy the real liberality of mind which she was always used to acknowledge in him; for with all the high opinion of himself, which she had often laid to his charge, she had never before for a moment supposed it could make him unjust to the merit of another. 仅仅因为一个年轻人性情与自己不同便厌恶他，这实在有失她一贯认可的他那真正豁达的胸怀——尽管她时常指责他过于自负，却从未料想这份自负竟会让他对旁人的长处如此不公。

VOLUME II

CHAPTER I

Emma and Harriet had been walking together one morning, and, in Emma's opinion, had 一天早晨，爱玛和哈丽特一同散步。依爱玛看来，她们

第二卷

第一章

been talking enough of Mr. **Elton** for that day. **She** could not think that Harriet's solace or her own sins required more; and she was therefore industriously getting rid of the subject as they returned;—but it burst out again when she thought she had succeeded, and after speaking some time of what the poor must suffer in winter, and receiving no other answer than a very plaintive—"Mr. **Elton** is so good to the poor!" **she** found something else must be done.

这天谈论埃尔顿先生已经谈得够多了。她认为，无论是为了安慰哈丽特，还是为了弥补自己的过失，都不宜再谈下去了。所以，在往回走的时候，她竭力避开这个话题。可是，就在她自以为获得成功的时候，这个话题又突然冒了出来。她说了一阵穷人冬天受苦的情形，不料只听到哈丽特十分悲戚地答了一声：“埃尔顿先生对穷人真好呀！”爱玛意识到还得另想办法。

They were just approaching the house where lived Mrs. **and** Miss Bates. **She** determined to call upon them and seek safety in numbers. **There** was always sufficient reason for such an attention; Mrs. **and** Miss Bates loved to be called on, and she knew she was considered by the very few who presumed ever to see imperfection in her, as rather negligent in that respect, and as not contributing what she ought to the stock of their scanty comforts.

他们正走近贝茨太太与贝茨小姐的寓所。她决定去拜访她们，在人多处寻个安心。这样的关切从来都不乏理由——贝茨母女素日最爱有人登门造访；她也知道，在那些胆敢从她身上挑毛病的少数人眼里，自己在这方面确实有些疏忽，未能给她们清贫的生活增添应有的慰藉。

She had had many a hint from Mr. **Knightley** and some from her own heart, as to her deficiency—but none were equal to counteract the persuasion of its being very disagreeable,—a waste of time—tiresome women—and all the horror of being in danger of falling in with the second-rate and third-rate of Highbury, who were calling on them for ever, and therefore she seldom went near them. **But** now she made the sudden resolution of not passing their door without going in—observing, as she proposed it to Harriet, that, as well as she could calculate, they were just now quite safe from any letter from Jane Fairfax.

奈特利先生曾多次暗示过她，她自己也时常意识到有所欠缺——但这些都不足以抵消她心中的成见，认为那实在是件不愉快的事——既浪费时间，又得应付那些烦人的女人，更可怕的是还会碰上海伯里那些二三流的人物，他们总是没完没了地登门拜访，因此她很少走近她们。但此刻她突然下定决心，决定经过她们家门口时一定要进去看看——她对哈丽特说，据她推算，此刻她们正好不必担心会收到简·费尔法克斯的来信。

The house belonged to people in business. **Mrs. and** Miss Bates occupied the drawing-room floor; and there, in the very moderate-sized apartment, which was every thing to them, the visitors were most cordially and even gratefully welcomed; the quiet neat old lady, who with her knitting was seated in the warmest corner, wanting even to give up her place to Miss Woodhouse, and her more ac-

这幢房子属于经商人家。贝茨太太和贝茨小姐住在客厅那层；就在那间对她们来说包罗万象的适中居室里，客人们受到了最热诚甚至满怀感激的欢迎。那位安静整洁的老夫人正坐在最暖和的角落织毛线，甚至想把座位让给伍德豪斯小姐；而她那位

tive, talking daughter, almost ready to overpower them with care and kindness, thanks for their visit, solicitude for their shoes, anxious inquiries after Mr. **Woodhouse**' s health, cheerful communications about her mother's, and sweet-cake from the beaufet—"Mrs. **Cole** had just been there, just called in for ten minutes, and had been so good as to sit an hour with them, and she had taken a piece of cake and been so kind as to say she liked it very much; and, therefore, she hoped Miss Woodhouse and Miss Smith would do them the favour to eat a piece too."

更为活跃健谈的女儿几乎要用关怀与热情将客人淹没——又是感谢她们来访，又是担心她们的鞋子是否受潮，又是殷切询问伍德豪斯先生的健康状况，又是兴高采烈地讲述母亲近况，还忙着从餐柜里取甜糕——“科尔太太方才来过，只坐了十分钟光景，竟好心陪我们聊了一小时。她尝了块蛋糕，还特别客气地说非常喜欢。所以希望伍德豪斯小姐和史密斯小姐也赏脸尝一块。”

The mention of the Coles was sure to be followed by that of Mr. **Elton**. There was intimacy between them, and Mr. **Cole** had heard from Mr. **Elton** since his going away. Emma knew what was coming; they must have the letter over again, and settle how long he had been gone, and how much he was engaged in company, and what a favourite he was wherever he went, and how full the Master of the Ceremonies' ball had been; and she went through it very well, with all the interest and all the

一提起科尔家，就必然会提起埃尔顿先生。他们两家关系很密切，自埃尔顿先生走后，科尔先生还得到了他的音讯。爱玛知道接下来要说什么。他们肯定又要把那封信拿出来念一念，同时还要合计一下他走了多久了，跟哪些人交往最多，他在社交场上多么讨人喜欢，舞会主持人举行的舞会多么拥挤不

commendation that could be requisite, and always putting forward to prevent Harriet's being obliged to say a word.

堪。爱玛把这一切都应付得很好，该感兴趣的都感兴趣，该赞扬的都赞扬，而且自始至终抢在前面说话，免得哈丽特不得不应一声。

This she had been prepared for when she entered the house; but meant, having once talked him handsomely over, to be no farther incommoded by any troublesome topic, and to wander at large amongst all the Mistresses and Misses of Highbury, and their card-parties.

She had not been prepared to have Jane Fairfax succeed Mr. **Elton**; but he was actually hurried off by Miss Bates, she jumped away from him at last abruptly to the Coles, to usher in a letter from her niece.

她进屋时对此已有心理准备；但本打算在得体地谈论过他一番后，便不再受任何恼人话题的困扰，自由自在地徜徉于海伯里各位太太小姐的牌局闲谈中。可她没料到简·费尔法克斯竟会取代埃尔顿先生成为话题——实际上贝茨小姐急匆匆打断了他的话，最后突然撇下他转向科尔家，只为引出她外甥女的一封来信。

“Oh! yes—Mr. Elton, I understand—certainly as to dancing—Mrs. Cole was telling me that dancing at the rooms at Bath was—Mrs. Cole was so kind as to sit some time with us, talking of Jane; for as soon as she came in, she began inquiring after her, Jane is so very great a favourite there. Whenever

“哦！是啊——埃尔顿先生，我明白——当然是关于跳舞的事——科尔太太刚才告诉我，巴斯舞厅里的跳舞是——科尔太太真好，陪着我们坐了好一会儿，说起简的事；因为她一进门就开始打

she is with us, Mrs. **Cole** does not know how to shew her kindness enough; and I must say that Jane deserves it as much as any body can. **And** so she began inquiring after her directly, saying, ‘I know you cannot have heard from Jane lately, because it is not her time for writing;’ and when I immediately said, ‘But indeed we have, we had a letter this very morning,’ I do not know that I ever saw any body more surprized. ‘**Have** you, upon your honour?’ **said** she; ‘well, that is quite unexpected. **Do** let me hear what she says. ’

Emma’s politeness was at hand directly, to say, with smiling interest—

“**Have** you heard from Miss Fairfax so lately? I am extremely happy. I hope she is well?”

“**Thank** you. You are so kind!” **replied** the happily deceived aunt, while eagerly hunting

听简的情况，简在那儿可真是备受宠爱。只要简和我们在一起，科尔太太简直不知该如何表达她的亲切；我必须说，简也确实当之无愧。所以她立刻就开始打听，说道：‘我知道你们最近不可能收到简的信，因为还没到她写信的日子；当我马上说‘可我们确实收到了，今天早晨刚收到一封信’时，我真没见过有谁比她更吃惊了。‘真的吗？您能保证？’她说，‘这可太出乎意料了。快让我听听她说些什么。’

爱玛立刻礼貌地欠了欠身，带着盈盈笑意关切地说道

“你最近收到了费尔法克斯小姐的来信吗？我真是太高兴了。但愿她身体安康？”

“多谢你，你真是太好了！”那位被蒙在鼓里却满心欢喜

for the letter. — “**Oh! here** it is. **I** was sure it could not be far off; but I had put my huswife upon it, you see, without being aware, and so it was quite hid, but I had it in my hand so very lately that I was almost sure it must be on the table. **I** was reading it to Mrs. **Cole**, and since she went away, I was reading it again to my mother, for it is such a pleasure to her —a letter from Jane—that she can never hear it often enough; so I knew it could not be far off, and here it is, only just under my huswife —and since you are so kind as to wish to hear what she says;—but, first of all, I really must, in justice to Jane, apologise for her writing so short a letter—only two pages you see—hardly two—and in general she fills the whole paper and crosses half. **My** mother often wonders that I can make it out so well. **She** often says, when the letter is first opened, ‘Well, Hetty, now I think you will be put to it to make out all that checker-work’—don’t you, ma’am? — **And** then I tell her, I am sure she would contrive to make it out herself, if she had nobody to do it for her—every word of it—I am sure she would pore over it till she had made out

的姨妈答道，一面急切地翻找着那封信——“哦！在这儿呢。我就知道它不会丢远的。可你瞧，我不小心把针线盒压在上面了，所以完全看不见。但我刚才明明还拿在手里的，几乎能肯定就在桌上。我刚念给科尔太太听过，她走后我又念给母亲听，因为简的来信总能让她高兴——她永远听不厌。所以我知道信不会丢远，果然就在针线盒底下——既然你好心要听听信里说什么。不过首先，我真得替简赔个不是，这封信写得实在太短——只有两页纸，你瞧，连两页都不到——平常她总是写满整张纸还要再补半页。母亲总纳闷我怎么能认得出她的字。每次刚拆开信她说：‘唉，赫蒂，这回你怕是要被这些蛛网似的字迹难住了吧？’——是不是呀，夫人？然后我就说，要是没人替她念信，她准会自

every word. **And**, indeed, though my mother's eyes are not so good as they were, she can see amazingly well still, thank God! **with** the help of spectacles. **It** is such a blessing! My mother's are really very good indeed. **Jane** often says, when she is here, 'I am sure, grandmama, you must have had very strong eyes to see as you do—and so much fine work as you have done too! —**I** only wish my eyes may last me as well. ”

All this spoken extremely fast obliged Miss Bates to stop for breath; and Emma said something very civil about the excellence of Miss Fairfax's handwriting.

“**You** are extremely kind,” replied Miss Bates, “you who are such a judge, and write so beautifully yourself. I am sure there is nobody's praise that could give us so much pleasure as Miss Woodhouse's. My mother does not hear; she is a little deaf you know.

已琢磨着读明白——每个字都要弄懂——我敢说她准会对着信纸琢磨到每个字都认清为止。说真的，虽然母亲的眼睛不如从前了，但感谢上帝！戴上眼镜还是看得很清楚。这真是天大的福气！母亲的眼睛确实还很管用。简在这儿时常说：‘外婆，您眼睛这么厉害，年轻时准是顶好的视力——还做了那么多精细活儿！真希望我的眼睛将来也能像您这样耐用。’”

这一番话说得极快，贝茨小姐不得不停下来喘口气；爱玛便说了几句十分得体的客套话，称赞费尔法克斯小姐的书法精妙。

”您真是太客气了，”贝茨小姐喜不自胜地答道，”您这样有眼光，自己又写得一手好字。我敢说，任谁的称赞都比不上伍德豪斯小姐的夸奖更叫我们高兴。家母没听

Ma' am," addressing her, "do you hear what Miss Woodhouse is so obliging to say about Jane's handwriting?" 清；她耳朵有点背，您是知道的。**母亲**，"她转向老夫人说，"您可听见伍德豪斯小姐多么亲切地夸赞简的字迹么？"

And Emma had the advantage of hearing her own silly compliment repeated twice over before the good old lady could comprehend it. **She** was pondering, in the meanwhile, upon the possibility, without seeming very rude, of making her escape from Jane Fairfax's letter, and had almost resolved on hurrying away directly under some slight excuse, when Miss Bates turned to her again and seized her attention. 爱玛有幸听到她那傻乎乎的恭维话被重复了两遍，那位善良的老太太才总算听明白。与此同时，她正盘算着如何既能从简·费尔法克斯的信件中脱身，又不显得太过失礼。她几乎已经决定要随便找个借口立刻溜走，不料贝茨小姐又转向她，攫住了她的注意力。

"**My** mother's deafness is very trifling you see —just nothing at all. **By** only raising my voice, and saying any thing two or three times over, she is sure to hear; but then she is used to my voice. **But** it is very remarkable that she should always hear Jane better than she does me. **Jane** speaks so distinct! **However**, she will not find her grandmama at all deafer than she was two years ago; which is saying a great "你看，我母亲的耳聋其实无足轻重——简直算不了什么。我只要稍微提高嗓门，把话说上两三遍，她准能听见。不过话说回来，她毕竟听惯了我的声音。奇怪的是，她听简说话总是比听我说话清楚。简的吐字多么清晰啊！不过她这次来会发现，外婆的

deal at my mother's time of life—and it really 耳朵一点儿也不比两年前差
is full two years, you know, since she was here. ——到了我母亲这个年纪,
We never were so long without seeing her be- 这实在难得。要知道距她上
fore, and as I was telling Mrs. **Cole**, we shall 次来确实整整两年了，我们
hardly know how to make enough of her now. 从未隔这么久没见面。正如
” 我跟科尔太太说的，如今我们真不知该怎么疼爱她才好呢。”

“**Are** you expecting Miss Fairfax here soon? ” “您是在等费尔法克斯小姐
很快到来吗?”

“**Oh** yes; next week. ” “哦，是的；下个星期。”

“**Indeed!** —**that** must be a very great plea- “真的！——那一定是非常大
sure. ” 的乐趣。”

“**Thank** you. **You** are very kind. **Yes**, next “谢谢您。您真是太好了。是
week. **Every** body is so surprized; and ev- 的，就在下周。**大家**都这么
ery body says the same obliging things. I am 惊讶；人人都说着同样客气
sure she will be as happy to see her friends 的话。**我**相信她见到海伯里
at Highbury, as they can be to see her. **Yes**, 的朋友们一定会和他们见到
Friday or Saturday; she cannot say which, be- 周五或周六；她还没确定具
cause Colonel Campbell will be wanting the 体日子，因为那两天坎贝尔
carriage himself one of those days. **So** very 上校自己也要用马车。**他们**
good of them to send her the whole way! **But** they always do, you know. **Oh** yes, Friday 特意派车全程送她过来，真

or Saturday next. **That** is what she writes about. **That** is the reason of her writing out of rule, as we call it; for, in the common course, we should not have heard from her before next Tuesday or Wednesday. ”

是太好了！不过您知道，他们向来都这么周到。哦对了，就是下周五或周六。她信里写的就是这件事。这也就是她破例提前来信的原因——照平常的规矩，我们要到下周二或周三才会收到她的信呢。”

“**Yes**, so I imagined. **I** was afraid there could be little chance of my hearing any thing of Miss Fairfax to-day. ”

“是啊，我料想也是如此。今天怕是没什么机会听到有关费尔法克斯小姐的消息了。”

“**So** obliging of you! **No**, we should not have heard, if it had not been for this particular circumstance, of her being to come here so soon. **My** mother is so delighted! —**for** she is to be three months with us at least. **Three** months, she says so, positively, as I am going to have the pleasure of reading to you. **The** case is, you see, that the Campbells are going to Ireland. **Mrs. Dixon** has persuaded her father and mother to come over and see her directly. **They** had not intended to go over till the summer, but she is so impatient to see them again—for till she married, last October, she

“您真是太热心了！要不是有这么一桩巧事，我们根本不会知道她这么快就要过来。我母亲高兴极了——因为她至少要和我们同住三个月呢。千真万确说是三个月，等会儿我念信给您听就知道了。事情是这样的，坎贝尔夫妇要去爱尔兰。**迪克森**太太说服了她父母立刻过去探望她。原本他们打算夏天才动身，可她实在等不及要再见双亲——去年十月出嫁前，

was never away from them so much as a week, 她从未与父母分开超过一周，如今分处两个王国—— which must make it very strange to be in different kingdoms, I was going to say, but however 我本想说两个国家，不过反正隔着国界总归不便。于是 different countries, and so she wrote a very urgent letter to her mother—or her father, I declare I do not know which it was, but we shall see presently in Jane's letter—wrote in Mr. Dixon's name as well as her own, to press their coming over directly, and they would give them the meeting in Dublin, and take them back to their country seat, Baly-craig, a beautiful place, I fancy. **Jane** has heard a great deal of its beauty; from Mr. **Dixon**, I mean—I do not know that she ever heard about it from any body else; but it was very natural, you know, that he should like to speak of his own place while he was paying his addresses—and as Jane used to be very often walking out with them—for Colonel and Mrs. **Campbell** were very particular about their daughter's not walking out often with only Mr. **Dixon**, for which I do not at all blame them; of course she heard every thing he might be telling Miss Campbell about his own home in Ireland; and I think she wrote us word that he had shewn

她写了封急信给母亲——也可能是父亲，说实在我记不清了，待会儿看简的信便知——是用迪克森夫妇共同名义写的，恳请他们即刻启程，约定在都柏林会合，再接他们去乡间宅邸巴利克雷格。

我猜那定是个风景绝佳之处，简常听人夸赞那地方的美景——自然是听迪克森先生说的。倒没听说旁人提过，不过这也合情合理，您想，他向坎贝尔小姐献殷勤时，自然会常聊起自家宅邸。那时简常与他们一同散步——坎贝尔上校夫妇特别注意不让女儿单独与迪克森先生散步，这点我完全赞同。因此迪克森先生向坎贝尔小姐描述爱尔兰家园时，简自然都听见了。记得她在信里提过，

them some drawings of the place, views that he had taken himself. **He** is a most amiable, charming young man, I believe. **Jane** was quite longing to go to Ireland, from his account of things."

迪克森先生还给他们看过他亲手绘制的宅邸风景画。要我说，这位年轻人真是温文尔雅，风度翩翩。听了他那些描述，简对爱尔兰可是向往得很呢。”

At this moment, an ingenious and animating suspicion entering Emma's brain with regard to Jane Fairfax, this charming Mr. **Dixon**, and the not going to Ireland, she said, with the insidious design of farther discovery,

就在此时，一个巧妙而令人振奋的猜疑闪入爱玛的脑海——关于简·费尔法克斯、这位迷人的狄克逊先生以及未去爱尔兰之行。她带着暗中深究的意图开口说道：

"**You** must feel it very fortunate that Miss Fairfax should be allowed to come to you at such a time. **Considering** the very particular friendship between her and Mrs. **Dixon**, you could hardly have expected her to be excused from accompanying Colonel and Mrs. **Campbell.**"

"费尔法克斯小姐能在这样的时候获准前来你处，你必定深感庆幸。念及她与狄克逊夫人之间非同寻常的情谊，你几乎难以指望她能获准不陪同坎贝尔上校夫妇同行。"

"**Very** true, very true, indeed. **The** very thing that we have always been rather afraid of; for we should not have liked to have her at such a distance from us, for months together

"千真万确，千真万确。这正是我们素来最担心的事；实在不忍心让她一连数月离我们这般遥远，万一出了什

—not able to come if any thing was to happen. **But** you see, every thing turns out for the best. **They** want her (Mr. **and** Mrs. **Dixon**) excessively to come over with Colonel and Mrs. **Campbell**; quite depend upon it; nothing can be more kind or pressing than their joint invitation, Jane says, as you will hear presently; Mr. **Dixon** does not seem in the least backward in any attention. **He** is a most charming young man. **Ever** since the service he rendered Jane at Weymouth, when they were out in that party on the water, and she, by the sudden whirling round of something or other among the sails, would have been dashed into the sea at once, and actually was all but gone, if he had not, with the greatest presence of mind, caught hold of her habit—(I can never think of it without trembling!)—**But** ever since we had the history of that day, I have been so fond of Mr. **Dixon!** ”

么事都赶不回来。不过您瞧，如今倒是皆大欢喜。迪克森夫妇——就是那位先生和太太——极力邀她随坎贝尔上校夫妇同来；简亲口说的，您稍后就能听到，再没有比他们联名发出的邀请更恳切周到的了。迪克森先生待人接物半点不怠慢，真是个讨人喜欢的青年。自从他在韦茅斯救了简那次——当时他们乘船出游，帆索间不知什么东西突然打转，眼看就要把简掀进海里，说时迟那时快，他一把揪住她的裙裾（我每回想起来都止不住发抖！）——自从听说了那日的险情，我就对迪克森先生喜欢得不得了！”

“**But**, in spite of all her friends'urgency, and her own wish of seeing Ireland, Miss Fairfax prefers devoting the time to you and Mrs. **Bates?** ”

可是，尽管朋友们都极力催促，她自己也很想去爱尔兰看看，费尔法克斯小姐却宁愿把这段时间用来陪伴你和贝茨太太？”

“Yes—entirely her own doing, entirely her own choice; and Colonel and Mrs. **Campbell** think she does quite right, just what they should recommend; and indeed they particularly wish her to try her native air, as she has not been quite so well as usual lately.”

“是的——完全是她自己的主意，完全是她自己的选择；坎贝尔上校夫妇也认为她做得十分妥当，正是他们想要建议的；说实在的，他们特别希望她回乡呼吸故土的空气，因为她近来身子不如往常康健。”

“I am concerned to hear of it. I think they judge wisely. **But** Mrs. **Dixon** must be very much disappointed. **Mrs. Dixon**, I understand, has no remarkable degree of personal beauty; is not, by any means, to be compared with Miss Fairfax.”

”听闻此事，我深感关切。我认为他们的判断很明智。但狄克森夫人必定大失所望。据我所知，狄克森夫人的容貌并不出众，无论如何都比不上菲尔费克斯小姐。”

“Oh! no. You are very obliging to say such things—but certainly not. **There** is no comparison between them. **Miss Campbell** always was absolutely plain—but extremely elegant and amiable.”

“哦！不。您这么说真是太客气了——但绝无可能。她们之间根本不能相提并论。坎贝尔小姐向来相貌平平——不过极为优雅可亲。”

“Yes, that of course.”

“是的，那当然。”

“Jane caught a bad cold, poor thing! **so** long ago as the 7th of November, (as I am going to read to you,) and has never been well since. **A** (我正要念给你听呢)，至今

“简得了重感冒，可怜的孩子！早在十一月七日就病了（我正要念给你听呢），至今

long time, is not it, for a cold to hang upon her? **She** never mentioned it before, because she would not alarm us. **Just** like her! **so** considerate! —**But** however, she is so far from well, that her kind friends the Campbells think she had better come home, and try an air that always agrees with her; and they have no doubt that three or four months at Highbury will entirely cure her—and it is certainly a great deal better that she should come here, than go to Ireland, if she is unwell. **Nobody** could nurse her, as we should do. ”

都没好利索。感冒拖了这么久，可不是太久了么？她先前只字未提，生怕我们担心。真是她的作风！多体贴人啊！——不过她现在身子还很虚弱，好心的坎贝尔夫妇觉得她最好还是回家来，试试这儿对她一向有益的空气。他们深信在海伯里住上三四个星期定能让她痊愈——既然身子不适，来这儿当然比去爱尔兰强得多。要论照料她，谁也比不上我们周到。”

“**It** appears to me the most desirable arrangement in the world.”

在我看来，这似乎是世上最令人称心如意的安排了。

“**And** so she is to come to us next Friday or Saturday, and the Campbells leave town in their way to Holyhead the Monday following —as you will find from Jane's letter. **So** sudden! —**You** may guess, dear Miss Woodhouse, what a flurry it has thrown me in! **If** it was not for the drawback of her illness—but I am afraid we must expect to see her grown thin, and looking very poorly. **I** must tell you what ” 所以她下周五或周六就要来我们这儿了，坎贝尔夫妇周一启程去霍利黑德时会路过我们这里——这些你从简的信里都能看到。多么突然啊！亲爱的伍德豪斯小姐，你一定能想象这让我多么手忙脚乱！若不是她生病这件事令人担忧——只怕我们见到

an unlucky thing happened to me, as to that. 她时会发现她消瘦不少，气
I always make a point of reading Jane's let- 色也很差。我得跟你说件倒
ters through to myself first, before I read them 霉事。你知道的，我向来习
aloud to my mother, you know, for fear of there 惯先把简的信通读一遍，再
being any thing in them to distress her. **Jane** 念给母亲听，就怕信里有什
desired me to do it, so I always do: and so I 么会让她难过的事。简特意
began to-day with my usual caution; but no 嘱咐过我这么做，所以今天
sooner did I come to the mention of her being 我也照例先看信，谁知刚读
unwell, than I burst out, quite frightened, with 到她说身体不适的地方，我
'Bless me! **poor** Jane is ill! ' —**which** my 就吓得失声叫道：' 天哪！可
mother, being on the watch, heard distinctly, 怜的简病倒了！' ——母亲当
and was sadly alarmed at. **However**, when I 时正留心听着，听得清清楚
read on, I found it was not near so bad as I had 楚，顿时忧心不已。不过等
fancied at first; and I make so light of it now 我继续往下念，才发现病情
to her, that she does not think much about it. 远没有起初想象的严重，现
But I cannot imagine how I could be so off 在我在她面前也尽量轻描淡
my guard. **If** Jane does not get well soon, we 写，她倒也不怎么放在心上
will call in Mr. **Perry**. The expense shall not 了。可我真不明白自己当时
be thought of; and though he is so liberal, and 怎么会如此疏忽。要是简不
so fond of Jane that I dare say he would not 能很快康复，我们就去请佩
mean to charge any thing for attendance, we 里先生来诊治。医药费根本
could not suffer it to be so, you know. **He** has 不必计较。虽说他为人慷慨，
a wife and family to maintain, and is not to be 又那么喜欢简，我敢说他本
giving away his time. **Well**, now I have just 意是不想收诊金的，但我们
given you a hint of what Jane writes about, we 总不能白白麻烦人家，你知

will turn to her letter, and I am sure she tells her own story a great deal better than I can tell it for her."

道的，他毕竟要养家糊口，总不能白白耗费时间。好了，既然我已经把简信里说的事都透露给你了，现在就来念她的信吧，我敢说她亲笔写来肯定比我转述要生动得多。”

"I am afraid we must be running away," said Emma, glancing at Harriet, and beginning to rise—"My father will be expecting us. I had no intention, I thought I had no power of staying more than five minutes, when I first entered the house. I merely called, because I would not pass the door without inquiring after Mrs. Bates; but I have been so pleasantly detained! Now, however, we must wish you and Mrs. Bates good morning."

"恐怕我们得告辞了，"爱玛瞥了哈丽特一眼，一边起身说道，“家父定在等候我们。我本没有打算——原以为进门最多只能停留五分钟，只因不愿过门不入，才来探问贝茨太太安好；不料竟被愉快地耽搁了这许久！不过现在，我们必须向您和贝茨太太道声晨安了。”

And not all that could be urged to detain her succeeded. She regained the street—happy in this, that though much had been forced on her against her will, though she had in fact heard the whole substance of Jane Fairfax's letter, she had been able to escape the letter itself.

然而，任凭众人如何挽留都无济于事。她重新走上街道——此刻唯一值得庆幸的是，虽然被迫接受了诸多违心之事，虽然实际上已经听完了简·费尔法克斯信件的全部内容，但终究不必亲眼阅读那封信件本身。

Jane Fairfax was an orphan, the only child of Mrs. **Bates'** s youngest daughter.

简·费尔法克斯是个孤儿，她是贝茨太太小女儿留下的唯一骨肉。

The marriage of Lieut. **Fairfax** of the —— regiment of infantry, and Miss Jane Bates, had had its day of fame and pleasure, hope and interest; but nothing now remained of it, save the melancholy remembrance of him dying in action abroad—of his widow sinking under consumption and grief soon afterwards—and this girl.

——步兵团费尔法克斯中尉与简·贝茨小姐的婚事，也曾有过风光欢愉、憧憬与关切交织的时光；而今这段姻缘除却凄凉的追忆外已荡然无存——只余他在海外战死沙场的往事，他那位承受着肺痨与悲恸煎熬的遗孀不久也随之离世——以及眼前这个孤女。

By birth she belonged to Highbury: and when at three years old, on losing her mother, she became the property, the charge, the consolation, the foundling of her grandmother and aunt, there had seemed every probability of her being permanently fixed there; of her being taught only what very limited means could command, and growing up with no advantages of connexion or improvement, to be engrafted

她生来就是海伯里人；三岁丧母后，她便成了祖母和姑妈的财产、负担与慰藉——如同她们的养女，似乎极有可能从此永远定居于此，受着有限财力所能提供的教育，在人际关系或自我提升方面毫无优势，只能凭借天生讨喜的容貌与聪慧头脑，

on what nature had given her in a pleasing person, good understanding, and warm-hearted, well-meaning relations.

在那些心地善良、待人热诚的亲戚栽培下成长。

But the compassionate feelings of a friend of her father gave a change to her destiny. **This** was Colonel Campbell, who had very highly regarded Fairfax, as an excellent officer and most deserving young man; and farther, had been indebted to him for such attentions, during a severe camp-fever, as he believed had saved his life. **These** were claims which he did not learn to overlook, though some years passed away from the death of poor Fairfax, before his own return to England put any thing in his power.

When he did return, he sought out the child and took notice of her. **He** was a married man, with only one living child, a girl, about Jane's age: and Jane became their guest, paying them long visits and growing a favourite with all; and before she was nine years old, his daughter's great fondness for her, and his own wish of being a real friend, united to produce an offer from Colonel Campbell of undertaking the whole charge of her education. **It** was accepted; and from that period Jane had

然而她父亲的一位友人出于怜悯，改变了她的命运。这位坎贝尔上校一直十分器重费尔法克斯，认为他是个出色的军官，是个值得提拔的青年。**不仅如此**，上校还感激费尔法克斯在他患重斑疹伤寒时悉心照料，认为救了他一命。**这些**恩情他始终铭记在心，不过可怜的费尔法克斯去世几年以后，他才回到英格兰，得以聊表寸心。**他**一回来就找到那孩子，并关照起她来。**他**是个有家室的人，家里只有一个女儿，年纪与简相仿。**简**成了他们家的常客，一住就是好些天，渐渐博得了一家人的欢心。**简**还不满九岁的时候，坎贝尔的女儿十分喜爱她，加上坎贝尔本人也想做个名副其实的恩人，便主动提出要负担简的

belonged to Colonel Campbell's family, and had lived with them entirely, only visiting her grandmother from time to time. 全部教育费用。这个提议被接受了。从此以后，简就成了坎贝尔上校家的一员，常年跟他们生活在一起，只是偶尔去看看外婆。

The plan was that she should be brought up for educating others; the very few hundred pounds which she inherited from her father making independence impossible. To provide for her otherwise was out of Colonel Campbell's power; for though his income, by pay and appointments, was handsome, his fortune was moderate and must be all his daughter's; but, by giving her an education, he hoped to be supplying the means of respectable subsistence hereafter. 原定的计划是要把她培养成一名教师，以使她日后能够自食其力；她从父亲那里继承的财产不过几百英镑，要靠这点钱维持生计是绝对不够的。坎贝尔上校无力接济她，因为他的收入虽然凭薪俸和津贴算来相当可观，但财产不多，而且必须全部留给他的女儿；可是，他希望通过她的教育，促使她以后能够维持体面的生活。

Such was Jane Fairfax's history. She had fallen into good hands, known nothing but kindness from the Campbells, and been given an excellent education. Living constantly with right-minded and well-informed people, her heart and understanding had received every advantage of discipline and culture; and 这便是简·费尔法克斯的际遇。她幸得良人眷顾，在坎贝尔夫妇家中备受呵护，更获得了上佳的教育。常年与明理博闻之人相处，她的心性与悟性皆受到良好教养的熏陶；加之坎贝尔上校府邸坐

Colonel Campbell's residence being in London, every lighter talent had been done full justice to, by the attendance of first-rate masters. **Her** disposition and abilities were equally worthy of all that friendship could do; and at eighteen or nineteen she was, as far as such an early age can be qualified for the care of children, fully competent to the office of instruction herself; but she was too much beloved to be parted with. **Neither** father nor mother could promote, and the daughter could not endure it. **The** evil day was put off. It was easy to decide that she was still too young; and Jane remained with them, sharing, as another daughter, in all the rational pleasures of an elegant society, and a judicious mixture of home and amusement, with only the drawback of the future, the sobering suggestions of her own good understanding to remind her that all this might soon be over.

The affection of the whole family, the warm attachment of Miss Campbell in particular, was the more honourable to each party from the circumstance of Jane's decided superiority both in beauty and acquirements. **That**

落于伦敦，一流名师亲授指点，使她的各项才艺得以充分发挥。**她的**品性与天资都无愧于这番情谊，待到十八九岁时——以这般年纪而论——她已完全胜任教导孩童之职；但家人对她钟爱至深，不忍分离。**父母**不忍催促，女儿亦难承受。那个不得已的日子便一再推迟。人们轻易便能认定她年岁尚轻，于是简继续留在他们身边，如同第二个女儿般分享着雅致社交圈的种种高雅乐趣，享受着家居与娱乐的明智调和，惟有一丝阴翳始终相伴：她那清醒的理智时时提醒，眼前种种终有尽时。

这一家人的深情厚意，尤其是坎贝尔小姐的深厚情谊，更因简在容貌才艺上的明显优势而显得难能可贵。**这位**年轻姑娘不可能看不出天生

nature had given it in feature could not be unseen by the young woman, nor could her higher powers of mind be unfelt by the parents. **They** continued together with unabated regard however, till the marriage of Miss Campbell, who by that chance, that luck which so often defies anticipation in matrimonial affairs, giving attraction to what is moderate rather than to what is superior, engaged the affections of Mr. **Dixon**, a young man, rich and agreeable, almost as soon as they were acquainted; and was eligibly and happily settled, while Jane Fairfax had yet her bread to earn.

丽质赋予她的优势，她的父母也不会感受不到她超群的才智。然而她们始终亲密无间地相处在一起，直到坎贝尔小姐出嫁为止。**坎贝尔**小姐出乎意料地——因为男女婚配往往凭机遇，造化并不总是眷顾优秀的一方——几乎刚一结识，就幸运地赢得了狄克森先生这样一位富有而可爱的年轻人的爱慕。她美满地建立了自己的家庭，而简·费尔法克斯却还得自谋生计。

This event had very lately taken place; too lately for any thing to be yet attempted by her less fortunate friend towards entering on her path of duty; though she had now reached the age which her own judgment had fixed on for beginning. **She** had long resolved that one-and-twenty should be the period. **With** the fortitude of a devoted novitiate, she had resolved at one-and-twenty to complete the sacrifice, and retire from all the pleasures of life, of rational intercourse, equal society, peace and

这件事发生得实在太近；对于她那位运气欠佳的朋友来说，此刻还来不及着手履行自己立下的誓约——虽然她早已达到自己认定的起始年龄。她长久以来就下定决心要在二十一岁那年完成这个仪式。怀着虔诚信徒般的坚毅，她决意在二十一岁那年彻底献身，永远告别生活中所有的欢愉、理性的交流、平

hope, to penance and mortification for ever.

等的社交、宁静与希望，从此踏上苦修赎罪的漫漫长路。

The good sense of Colonel and Mrs. **Campbell** could not oppose such a resolution, though their feelings did. As long as they lived, no exertions would be necessary, their home might be hers for ever; and for their own comfort they would have retained her wholly; but this would be selfishness:—what must be at last, had better be soon. Perhaps they began to feel it might have been kinder and wiser to have resisted the temptation of any delay, and spared her from a taste of such enjoyments of ease and leisure as must now be relinquished. Still, however, affection was glad to catch at any reasonable excuse for not hurrying on the wretched moment. She had never been quite well since the time of their daughter's marriage; and till she should have completely recovered her usual strength, they must forbid her engaging in duties, which, so far from being compatible with a weakened frame and varying spirits, seemed, under the most favourable circumstances, to require something more than human perfection of body and mind to be dis-

坎贝尔上校夫妇虽然感情上不容他们反对。只要他们健在，她永远可以把他们的家当作自己的家，完全不必另觅居所；为了他们自身的安逸，他们本希望永远把她留在身边——但这未免太自私了。终究要分离的事，不如趁早分开。他们或许开始意识到，当初若是抗拒拖延时日的诱惑，不让她尝到闲适生活的甜头——这种闲适如今却必须舍弃——或许才是更仁慈更明智的做法。然而亲情总乐于抓住任何合情合理的借口推迟那令人痛苦的时刻。自从女儿出嫁后，她的身体就一直不大好——至少要等她完全恢复往日的活力，他们才能允许她承担那份职责。那样的职责，莫说是对体弱神衰之人，即便在

charged with tolerable comfort.

最有利的情况下，似乎也需要超乎常人的完美身心才能勉强胜任。

With regard to her not accompanying them to Ireland, her account to her aunt contained nothing but truth, though there might be some truths not told. **It** was her own choice to give the time of their absence to Highbury; to spend, perhaps, her last months of perfect liberty with those kind relations to whom she was so very dear: and the Campbells, whatever might be their motive or motives, whether single, or double, or treble, gave the arrangement their ready sanction, and said, that they depended more on a few months spent in her native air, for the recovery of her health, than on any thing else. **Certain** it was that she was to come; and that Highbury, instead of welcoming that perfect novelty which had been so long promised it—Mr. **Frank** Churchill—must put up for the present with Jane Fairfax, who could bring only the freshness of a two years' absence.

关于她未能陪同他们前往爱尔兰一事，她向舅母所述皆属实情，不过或许尚有未尽之言。**留在**海伯里度过他们外出的这段时光原是她自己的选择——或许是要与那些疼爱她的亲切眷属共度这最后几个月无拘无束的时光。而坎贝尔夫妇不论出于何种动机（或单纯或复杂），都立即认可了这般安排，声称他们对她恢复健康的指望，更多是寄托在故乡空气中小住数月，而非其他任何良方。**她确定要来了**；海伯里这个早已被许诺要迎接弗兰克·丘吉尔先生这般完美新面孔的地方，眼下却只能将就接纳简·费尔法克斯——这位只能带来两年离别后些许生疏感的故人。

Emma was sorry;—to have to pay civilities to a person she did not like through three long months! —**to** be always doing more than she wished, and less than she ought! **Why** she did not like Jane Fairfax might be a difficult question to answer; Mr. **Knightley** had once told her it was because she saw in her the really accomplished young woman, which she wanted to be thought herself; and though the accusation had been eagerly refuted at the time, there were moments of self-examination in which her conscience could not quite acquit her. **But** “she could never get acquainted with her: she did not know how it was, but there was such coldness and reserve—such apparent indifference whether she pleased or not—and then, her aunt was such an eternal talker! —**and** she was made such a fuss with by every body! —**and** it had been always imagined that they were to be so intimate—because their ages were the same, every body had supposed they must be so fond of each other. ”**These** were her reasons—she had no better.

爱玛心里好生过意不去——要她对一个自己不喜欢的人强作殷勤，而且一作就是整整三个月！——要她经常做出违心的事，装出言不由衷的样子，而她本该少跟这人来往！她为什么不喜欢简·费尔法克斯，这可能是个难以回答的问题。奈特利先生有一次对她说，那是因为她看见简·费尔法克斯是个真正多才多艺的年轻女子，而她爱玛却想把她视为这样的人。虽然这个指控当场受到了激烈的驳斥，但是后来她也有几次良心发现，觉得自己的并非完全没有过错。不过，“她始终没法跟她相熟：她不知道是怎么回事，但是她们之间似乎隔着一层冷漠和拘谨——对方无论在言语上，还是在态度上，都显得很冷漠——加上她姨妈总是絮絮叨叨，说个没完！——加上人人都很偏爱她，把她

捧上了天！——加上人们还总以为她们俩非常要好，因为两人年龄相当——所以便以为她们准是情投意合。其实不然，她们只不过是名义上的朋友罢了。”这就是爱玛陈述的理由——她没有什么更好的理由了。

It was a dislike so little just—every imputed fault was so magnified by fancy, that she never saw Jane Fairfax the first time after any considerable absence, without feeling that she had injured her; and now, when the due visit was paid, on her arrival, after a two years' interval, she was particularly struck with the very appearance and manners, which for those two whole years she had been depreciating. **Jane** Fairfax was very elegant, remarkably elegant; and she had herself the highest value for elegance. **Her** height was pretty, just such as almost every body would think tall, and nobody could think very tall; her figure particularly graceful; her size a most becoming medium, between fat and thin, though a slight appearance of ill-health seemed to point out the like- 这种厌恶实在有失公允——种种臆断的过错都被想象夸大了，以至于每次久别重逢后初次见到简·费尔法克斯时，她总觉得自己亏待了对方。而今，当这位阔别两年的姑娘依礼登门拜访时，那曾被自己贬斥整整两年的仪态风姿，竟格外令她震撼。简·费尔法克斯气质极为高雅，那种超凡脱俗的优雅，恰是艾玛最为推崇的。她身量恰到好处，恰是众人眼中的高挑，却无人会觉得过高；体态尤其端庄匀称；丰腴与清瘦间的尺度堪称完美，只是略带病容的模样似乎暗示着

liest evil of the two. **Emma** could not but feel all this; and then, her face—her features—there was more beauty in them altogether than she had remembered; it was not regular, but it was very pleasing beauty. **Her** eyes, a deep grey, with dark eye-lashes and eyebrows, had never been denied their praise; but the skin, which she had been used to cavil at, as wanting colour, had a clearness and delicacy which really needed no fuller bloom. **It** was a style of beauty, of which elegance was the reigning character, and as such, she must, in honour, by all her principles, admire it:—elegance, which, whether of person or of mind, she saw so little in Highbury. **There**, not to be vulgar, was distinction, and merit.

后者更接近真实。这一切艾玛不得不暗自赞叹；再看那面容——那五官——竟比她记忆中更显风致：虽非标准的美人相貌，却自有一种动人的韵致。**那双**深灰色的明眸衬着乌黑的睫毛与黛眉，向来无人能否认其魅力；就连她惯常挑剔缺乏血色的肌肤，也透着晶莹细腻的光泽，全然无需红润点缀。**这是一种**以优雅为灵魂的美，秉持着这样的审美准则，她必须心怀敬意地欣赏——这种无论形体或气质都蕴含的优雅，她在海伯里实在罕见。在这里，不流于俗套便是卓尔不群，便是德行所在。

In short, she sat, during the first visit, looking at Jane Fairfax with twofold complacency; the sense of pleasure and the sense of rendering justice, and was determining that she would dislike her no longer. **When** she took in her history, indeed, her situation, as well as her beauty; when she considered what all this el-

总之，这第一次拜访中，她坐在那儿注视着简·费尔法克斯，怀着双重的满足——既有欣赏的愉悦又有主持公道的欣慰——决心不再对她抱有偏见。**当她了解了她的身世和处境，再结合她的美**

egance was destined to, what she was going to sink from, how she was going to live, it seemed impossible to feel any thing but compassion and respect; especially, if to every well-known particular entitling her to interest, were added the highly probable circumstance of an attachment to Mr. **Dixon**, which she had so naturally started to herself. **In** that case, nothing could be more pitiable or more honourable than the sacrifices she had resolved on. **Emma** was very willing now to acquit her of having seduced Mr. **Dixon**' s affections from his wife, or of any thing mischievous which her imagination had suggested at first. **If** it were love, it might be simple, single, successless love on her side alone. **She** might have been unconsciously sucking in the sad poison, while a sharer of his conversation with her friend; and from the best, the purest of motives, might now be denying herself this visit to Ireland, and resolving to divide herself effectually from him and his connexions by soon beginning her career of laborious duty.

貌思量；当她想到这般优雅的仪态将面临怎样的命运，她即将从怎样的地位坠落，又将过着怎样的生活时，似乎除了怜悯与敬重之外，再难产生其他情感。**尤其是**当所有令她引人同情的熟知细节之外，还要加上那极有可能存在的、对迪克逊先生的情愫——这个念头曾如此自然地浮现在她心中。**若真如此**，那么她决心作出的牺牲，便再没有比这更令人唏嘘、更值得敬重的了。**此刻的爱**玛十分愿意打消先前的猜疑——不再认为她曾引诱迪克逊先生对妻子不忠，也不再相信任何自己当初臆想出的恶意。**若真是爱情**，或许只是她单方面单纯而无望的痴恋。**在**与好友共叙时，她或许不自觉地饮下了这爱情的苦酒；而如今，出于最善良、最纯洁的动机，她正拒绝前往爱尔兰探亲，并决心即刻

开始辛劳的职业生涯，以此彻底割断自己与他及其社交圈的联系。

Upon the whole, Emma left her with such softened, charitable feelings, as made her look around in walking home, and lament that Highbury afforded no young man worthy of giving her independence; nobody that she could wish to scheme about for her.

总而言之，爱玛离开她时心中充满了温柔宽厚的情感，这使她在步行回家途中环顾四周，不禁感叹海伯里竟找不出一个配让她获得独立地位的青年男子，找不到一个值得她费心撮合的对象。

These were charming feelings—but not lasting. **Before** she had committed herself by any public profession of eternal friendship for Jane Fairfax, or done more towards a recantation of past prejudices and errors, than saying to Mr. **Knightley**, “She certainly is handsome; she is better than handsome! ”**Jane** had spent an evening at Hartfield with her grandmother and aunt, and every thing was relapsing much into its usual state. **Former** provocations reappeared. **The** aunt was as tiresome as ever; more tiresome, because anxiety for her health was now added to admiration of her powers; and they had to listen to the description of ex-

这些感受固然美妙——却未能持久。她还没来得及公开宣告与简·费尔法克斯结下永恒友谊，也尚未对过往偏见与谬误作出比这句“她确实标致，不止是标致”更深刻的忏悔——当简携外祖母与姨妈在哈特菲尔德度过某个夜晚后，一切便几乎退回了旧日轨迹。往日**的芥蒂重新浮现：那位姨妈依旧令人厌烦，甚至变本加厉——如今除了对她才情的赞叹，更添了对她健康的担忧；她们不**

actly how little bread and butter she ate for breakfast, and how small a slice of mutton for dinner, as well as to see exhibitions of new caps and new workbags for her mother and herself; and Jane's offences rose again. **They** had music; Emma was obliged to play; and the thanks and praise which necessarily followed appeared to her an affectation of candour, an air of greatness, meaning only to shew off in higher style her own very superior performance. **She** was, besides, which was the worst of all, so cold, so cautious! **There** was no getting at her real opinion. **Wrapt** up in a cloak of politeness, she seemed determined to hazard nothing. **She** was disgustingly, was suspiciously reserved.

得不听她细数早餐时只吃了多么小片黃油面包，正餐时仅用了多么薄一片羊肉，还得观赏她为母亲和自己展示的新软帽与新针线袋。而简的过失也再度显现：当琴声响起，爱玛不得不弹奏时，随之而来的致谢与赞美在她听来全是矫饰的坦率，端着居高临下的姿态，只为衬托出对方更高超的琴艺。最糟糕的是，她如此冷淡，如此审慎！根本无从探知她真实的想法。礼貌的外衣将她紧紧包裹，仿佛打定主意不越雷池半步。那种矜持作态令人反感，更叫人疑心。

If any thing could be more, where all was most, she was more reserved on the subject of Weymouth and the Dixons than any thing. **She** seemed bent on giving no real insight into Mr. **Dixon'**s character, or her own value for his company, or opinion of the suitableness of the match. **It** was all general approbation and smoothness; nothing delineated or distin-

倘若说在一切都已登峰造极之处还能更胜一筹，那便是她对韦茅斯和狄克森夫妇话题的讳莫如深。她似乎打定主意不让人真正窥见狄克森先生的品性，不透露自己对他陪伴的珍视，也不表明对这门婚事是否般配的看法。

guished. **It** did her no service however. Her caution was thrown away. **Emma** saw its artifice, and returned to her first surmises. **There** probably was something more to conceal than her own preference; Mr. **Dixon**, perhaps, had been very near changing one friend for the other, or been fixed only to Miss Campbell, for the sake of the future twelve thousand pounds.

满口尽是泛泛的赞许与圆融之辞，毫无具体描摹或独到见解。但这番谨慎全然徒劳。**爱玛**识破了其中机巧，重新拾起最初的猜度：恐怕要遮掩的不单是她自己的心意；说不定狄克森先生曾险些为了一位朋友而舍弃另一位，或是只因坎贝尔小姐将来那一万两千英镑财产才定下心意。

The like reserve prevailed on other topics. **She** and Mr. **Frank** Churchill had been at Weymouth at the same time. **It** was known that they were a little acquainted; but not a syllable of real information could Emma procure as to what he truly was. “**Was** he handsome? ”— “**She** believed he was reckoned a very fine young man. ”“**Was** he agreeable? ”— “**He** was generally thought so. ”“**Did** he appear a sensible young man; a young man of information? ”— “**At** a watering-place, or in a common London acquaintance, it was difficult to decide on such points. **Manners** were all that could be safely judged of, under a much

同样的矜持也体现在其他话题上。**她**与弗兰克·丘吉尔先生曾在威茅斯不期而遇。谁都知道他们有过点头之交，可是爱玛始终无法打听到关于他真实品性的只言片语。“他可英俊? ”——“大家都说他是位翩翩佳公子。””他可讨人喜欢? ”——“普遍认为如此。””他看起来可像是个明事理的青年? 可像是个见多识广的? ”——“在温泉胜地，或是在寻常伦敦交际场中，这类品质实在难以判

longer knowledge than they had yet had of Mr. Churchill. She believed every body found his manners pleasing. "Emma could not forgive her.

断。礼仪举止倒是能确切断定的——不过即便要评判这个，也需要比他们与丘吉尔先生更久的交往。不过她相信，人人都觉得他仪态可亲。"爱玛实在无法原谅她这般滴水不漏。

CHAPTER III

Emma could not forgive her;—but as neither provocation nor resentment were discerned by Mr. Knightley, who had been of the party, and had seen only proper attention and pleasing behaviour on each side, he was expressing the next morning, being at Hartfield again on business with Mr. Woodhouse, his approbation of the whole; not so openly as he might have done had her father been out of the room, but speaking plain enough to be very intelligible to Emma. He had been used to think her unjust to Jane, and had now great pleasure in marking an improvement.

爱玛无法原谅她；——但当晚也在场的奈特利先生并未察觉任何挑衅或怨愤之情，他只看到双方都得体周到、举止合宜，于是次日上午在哈特菲尔德与伍德豪斯先生商谈事务时，便对整个情形表示赞许。若不是她父亲在场，他或许会说得更直白些，但此刻的措辞已足够让爱玛心领神会。他向来认为爱玛对简有失公允，此刻注意到这般改善，自然深感欣慰。

"A very pleasant evening," he began, as soon as Mr. Woodhouse had been talked into what

“真是个愉快的夜晚，”待伍德豪斯先生被劝着做了必要之

was necessary, told that he understood, and the papers swept away;—“particularly pleasant. **You** and Miss Fairfax gave us some very good music. **I** do not know a more luxurious state, sir, than sitting at one’s ease to be entertained a whole evening by two such young women; sometimes with music and sometimes with conversation. **I** am sure Miss Fairfax must have found the evening pleasant, Emma. **You** left nothing undone. **I** was glad you made her play so much, for having no instrument at her grandmother’s, it must have been a real indulgence.”

事，被告知他已明白，报纸也被收走之后，他便开口说道——“特别愉快。您和费尔法克斯小姐给我们带来了绝妙的音乐。**先生**，我不知道还有什么比舒舒服服坐着，整晚享受两位年轻女士的款待更惬意的事了；时而音乐，时而交谈。**爱玛**，我相信费尔法克斯小姐一定也觉得今晚很愉快。**你**事事都考虑得很周全。**我**很高兴你让她弹了这么多曲子，她在祖母家没有乐器，这对她来说实在是难得的享受。”

“I am happy you approved,” said Emma, smiling; “but I hope I am not often deficient in what is due to guests at Hartfield.”

“我很高兴你认可，”爱玛微笑着说，“但我希望自己在哈特菲尔德待客之道上并非时常有所欠缺。”

“No, my dear,” said her father instantly; “_that_ I am sure you are not. **There** is nobody half so attentive and civil as you are. **If** any thing, you are too attentive. **The** muffin last night—if it had been handed round once,

“不，我亲爱的，”她父亲立刻说道，“_这一点_ 我敢肯定你不是。**没有人**有你一半那么周到客气。**要说**有什么的话，就是你太过周到了。

I think it would have been enough. ”

昨晚那松饼——要是只传一圈，我觉得就足够了。”

“**No,**” said Mr. **Knightley**, nearly at the same time; “you are not often deficient; not often deficient either in manner or comprehension. I think you understand me, therefore. ”

“不,”奈特利先生几乎同时说道,“你很少有所欠缺;无论是举止还是理解力,你都很少有所欠缺。所以我想你是明白我的意思的。”

An arch look expressed—“I understand you well enough;”but she said only, “Miss Fairfax is reserved. ”

一个狡黠的眼神表明——“我完全明白你的意思;”但她只说道:“费尔法克斯小姐为人矜持。”

“I always told you she was—a little; but you will soon overcome all that part of her reserve which ought to be overcome, all that has its foundation in diffidence. **What** arises from discretion must be honoured. ”

“我早就告诉过你她有点腼腆;不过你很快就能克服她应当被克服的那部分拘谨,那些源于羞怯的拘束。至于因审慎而生的矜持,则应当予以尊重。”

“**You** think her diffident. I do not see it. ”

“你认为她缺乏自信,我却不这么看。”

“**My** dear Emma,”said he, moving from his chair into one close by her, “you are not going to tell me, I hope, that you had not a pleasant

“亲爱的爱玛,”他说着从自己的椅子上挪到她身边的一把椅子上,“你该不会是想告诉

evening. ”

我，你今晚过得不愉快吧。”

“**Oh! no;** I was pleased with my own perseverance in asking questions; and amused to think how little information I obtained. ”

“哦！不；我为自己坚持追问感到高兴，又觉得好笑，因为我得到的信息实在少得可怜。”

“I am disappointed,” was his only answer.

“我真是失望，”这便是他唯一的回答。

“I hope every body had a pleasant evening,” said Mr. **Woodhouse**, in his quiet way. “I had. **Once**, I felt the fire rather too much; but then I moved back my chair a little, a very little, and it did not disturb me. **Miss Bates** was very chatty and good-humoured, as she always is, though she speaks rather too quick. **However**, she is very agreeable, and Mrs. **Bates** too, in a different way. I like old friends; and Miss Jane Fairfax is a very pretty sort of young lady, a very pretty and a very well-behaved young lady indeed. **She** must have found the evening agreeable, Mr. **Knightley**, because she had Emma. ”

“但愿昨晚大家都过得愉快，”伍德豪斯先生以他惯常的温和语气说道，“我倒是挺惬意的。有一阵子觉得炉火太旺了些，不过把椅子往后挪了挪——就挪了一丁点儿——也就无妨了。贝茨小姐还是那么健谈亲切，虽说语速总嫌太快，但总是讨人喜欢的。贝茨太太也随和，只是风格不同。我就爱和老朋友相处。简·费尔法克斯这位年轻小姐真是秀外慧中，既标致又知书达理。奈特利先生，她昨晚定是尽兴的，毕竟有爱玛陪着呢。”

“**True**, sir; and Emma, because she had Miss Fairfax.”

“**确实**如此，先生；而爱玛呢，因为她有费尔法克斯小姐作伴。”

Emma saw his anxiety, and wishing to appease it, at least for the present, said, and with a sincerity which no one could question—

爱玛看出了他的焦虑，为着要安抚他——至少暂时缓解他的不安——便以无人能够质疑的真诚语气说道：

“**She** is a sort of elegant creature that one cannot keep one’s eyes from. I am always watching her to admire; and I do pity her from my heart.”

“**她**是个优雅的人儿，叫人忍不住总想多看几眼。**我**总在端详她，满心赞叹；说实在的，我打心底里可怜她。”

Mr. Knightley looked as if he were more gratified than he cared to express; and before he could make any reply, Mr. **Woodhouse**, whose thoughts were on the Bates’s, said—

奈特利先生的神情仿佛比他自己愿意表露的还要满意；没等他来得及答话，伍德豪斯先生便开口了——他此刻正惦记着贝茨一家的事——

“**It** is a great pity that their circumstances should be so confined! a great pity indeed! and I have often wished—but it is so little one can venture to do—small, trifling presents, of any thing uncommon—Now we have killed a porker, and Emma thinks of sending them a loin or a leg; it is very small and delicate

”他们的境况竟如此窘迫，真是天大的遗憾！**实在**是天大的遗憾！**我常**想着能帮衬些——可又不敢贸然行事——顶多送些稀罕的小玩意儿罢了。**眼下**我们刚宰了头乳猪，爱玛打算送他们一块腰肉或

—Hartfield pork is not like any other pork—but still it is pork—and, my dear Emma, unless one could be sure of their making it into steaks, nicely fried, as ours are fried, without the smallest grease, and not roast it, for no stomach can bear roast pork—I think we had better send the leg—do not you think so, my dear? ”

猪腿；这猪虽个头不大却肉质细腻——哈特菲尔德养的猪可比别处的强多了——但终究还是猪肉——亲爱的爱玛，除非能保证他们像我们家这样把猪肉煎成毫无油脂的牛排，而不是拿去烤着吃，要知道烤猪肉谁的肠胃都受不住——我看还是送猪腿肉为好——亲爱的，你说是不是？”

“My dear papa, I sent the whole hind-quarter. I knew you would wish it. **There** will be the leg to be salted, you know, which is so very nice, and the loin to be dressed directly in any manner they like. ”

“亲爱的爸爸，我把整块后腿肉都送来了。我知道您会希望这样的。您瞧，那条腿肉可以腌起来，味道可美了；腰肉可以随他们高兴立刻烹调成各种口味。”

“**That'**s right, my dear, very right. I had not thought of it before, but that is the best way. **They** must not over-salt the leg; and then, if it is not over-salted, and if it is very thoroughly boiled, just as Serle boils ours, and eaten very moderately of, with a boiled turnip, and a little carrot or parsnip, I do not consider

”说得对，亲爱的，非常对。我之前没想到这点，但这确实是最好的办法。**羊腿**千万不能腌得太咸；只要不太咸，再像瑟尔煮咱们家那样彻底炖透，吃的时候适量取用，配个煮芜菁，加点胡萝卜或欧

it unwholesome. ”

洲萝卜，我倒不觉得有损健康。”

“**Emma,**” said Mr. **Knightley** presently, “I have a piece of news for you. **You** like news—and I heard an article in my way hither that I think will interest you. ”

“爱玛，”奈特利先生随即说
道，“我有个消息要告诉你。
你向来爱听新闻——我在来
这儿的路上听到一桩事，料
想你会感兴趣。”

“**News! Oh!** yes, I always like news. **What** is it? —**why** do you smile so? —**where** did you hear it? —**at** Randalls? ”

“有消息！哦！是啊，我最爱
听消息了。是什么消息？——
你为何笑得这般模样？——
从哪儿听来的？——在朗道
斯宅吗？”

He had time only to say,

他只来得及说，

“**No,** not at Randalls; I have not been near Randalls,” when the door was thrown open, and Miss Bates and Miss Fairfax walked into the room. **Full** of thanks, and full of news, Miss Bates knew not which to give quickest. **Mr. Knightley** soon saw that he had lost his moment, and that not another syllable of communication could rest with him.

“不，不是在朗道斯；我压根
就没走近朗道斯。”正说着，
房门突然敞开，贝茨小姐和
费尔法克斯小姐走进屋来。
她们满口道谢，又满腹新闻，
贝茨小姐简直不知该先说什么好。**奈特利**先生立刻意识到自己错失了良机，连一个字都不可能再插进去了。

“Oh! my dear sir, how are you this morning? My dear Miss Woodhouse—I come quite over-powered. Such a beautiful hind-quarter of pork! You are too bountiful! Have you heard the news? Mr. Elton is going to be married.”

“哦！亲爱的先生，您今早可好？亲爱的伍德豪斯小姐——我激动得简直不知所措。那么精美的猪后腿！您实在太慷慨了！您可听到消息了？埃尔顿先生就要结婚啦。”

Emma had not had time even to think of Mr. Elton, and she was so completely surprised that she could not avoid a little start, and a little blush, at the sound.

埃玛连想起埃尔顿先生的工夫都没有，听到这声音不禁微微一怔，脸上泛起淡淡红晕。

“There is my news:—I thought it would interest you,” said Mr. Knightley, with a smile which implied a conviction of some part of what had passed between them.

“这就是我的消息——我想你会感兴趣的，”奈特利先生说道，脸上带着一丝微笑，那笑容仿佛暗示他已察觉到了他们之间发生的某些事。

“But where could you hear it?” cried Miss Bates. “Where could you possibly hear it, Mr. Knightley? For it is not five minutes since I received Mrs. Cole’s note—no, it cannot be more than five—or at least ten—for I had got my bonnet and spencer on, just ready to come out—I was only gone down to speak to

“可您是从哪儿听来的呢？”贝茨小姐嚷道，“您可能从哪儿听来呢，奈特利先生？科尔太太给我送便条来还不到五分钟呢——不，不可能超过五分钟——要不就是十分钟——因为当时我刚戴好帽

Patty again about the pork—Jane was standing in the passage—were not you, Jane? —**for** my mother was so afraid that we had not any salting-pan large enough. **So** I said I would go down and see, and Jane said, ‘Shall I go down instead? **for** I think you have a little cold, and Patty has been washing the kitchen.’ — ‘**Oh! my** dear,’ said I—well, and just then came the note. **A** Miss Hawkins—that’s all I know. **A** Miss Hawkins of Bath. **But**, Mr. **Knightley**, how could you possibly have heard it? **for** the very moment Mr. **Cole** told Mrs. **Cole** of it, she sat down and wrote to me. **A** Miss Hawkins—”

子、披上外套，正要出门——我不过是下楼再去跟帕蒂说说猪肉的事——简就站在过道里——是不是啊，简？因为我的妈妈担心我们的腌肉盆不够大。所以我说我要下楼去看看，简就说：‘我替你去好吗？我看你有点感冒，帕蒂在洗厨房呢。’——‘哦！亲爱的，’我说——嗯，就在这时送来了便条。一位霍金斯小姐——我就知道这些。巴思的一位霍金斯小姐。可是，奈特利先生，您怎么可能听说呢？科尔先生刚把这消息告诉科尔太太，科尔太太就坐下给我写来了便条。一位霍金斯小姐——”

“I was with Mr. **Cole** on business an hour and a half ago. **He** had just read Elton’s letter as I was shewn in, and handed it to me directly.”

“大约一个半小时前，我因公务与科尔先生会面。我刚被请进书房时，他正好读完埃尔顿先生的来信，便立即将那封信递给了我。”

“Well! **that** is quite—I suppose there never

“哎呀！这可真是——我想再

was a piece of news more generally interesting. 没有比这更引人入胜的消息
My dear sir, you really are too bountiful. **My** 了。亲爱的先生，您实在太
mother desires her very best compliments and 过慷慨了。**家母**嘱我转达她
regards, and a thousand thanks, and says you 最诚挚的问候与敬意，还有
really quite oppress her. ” 万分的感谢，她说您这番盛
情真叫她受宠若惊呢。”

“**We** consider our Hartfield pork,” replied Mr. “我们认为哈特菲尔德的猪
Woodhouse— “**indeed** it certainly is, so 肉,”伍德豪斯先生答道—
very superior to all other pork, that Emma and “确实如此，它实在比其他
I cannot have a greater pleasure than—” 所有猪肉都要出色，以至于
我和爱玛最大的乐趣莫过于
_____”

“**Oh!** my dear sir, as my mother says, our “哦！亲爱的先生，正如家母
friends are only too good to us. **If** ever there 所说，我们的朋友们待我们
were people who, without having great wealth 实在太好了。倘若世上真有
themselves, had every thing they could wish 人虽无万贯家财，却事事称
for, I am sure it is us. **We** may well say that 心如意，那定然是我们了。
'our lot is cast in a goodly heritage. 'Well, 我们大可以说' 我们的命运
Mr. **Knightley**, and so you actually saw the 落在佳美之地'。好了，奈特
letter; well—” 利先生，这么说您当真见到
那封信了；那么——”

“**It** was short—merely to announce—but ” 信很短——只是告知一声
cheerful, exulting, of course. ”—**Here** was a ——但语气欢快，当然还带

sly glance at Emma. “**H**e had been so fortunate as to—I forget the precise words—one has no business to remember them. **T**he information was, as you state, that he was going to be married to a Miss Hawkins. **B**y his style, I should imagine it just settled.”

着得意。”——说着朝爱玛狡黠地瞥了一眼。”他如此幸运地——我记不得原话了——本就不该刻意去记。正如你所说，主要内容是他即将迎娶一位霍金斯小姐。从行文风格看，我猜这事刚刚敲定。

”

“**M**r. **E**lton going to be married!” said “埃尔顿先生要结婚了！”爱玛Emma, as soon as she could speak. “**H**e will have every body’s wishes for his happiness.” 一能开口便说道。“大家都会祝愿他幸福的。”

“**H**e is very young to settle,” was Mr. **W**oodhouse’ s observation. “**H**e had better not be in a hurry. **H**e seemed to me very well off as he was. **W**e were always glad to see him at Hartfield.”

“他年纪轻轻就安家，未免太早，”伍德豪斯先生评论道，“他实在不必如此匆忙。依我看他原先的境况就相当不错。我们在哈特菲尔德见到他，总是很愉快的。”

“**A** new neighbour for us all, Miss Woodhouse!” 伍德豪斯小姐，我们大家 said Miss Bates, joyfully; “my mother is so pleased! —she says she cannot bear to have the poor old Vicarage without a mistress. This is great news, indeed. **J**ane, you have never seen Mr. Elton! —no wonder that you

都有新邻居啦！”贝茨小姐欢天喜地地说，“我母亲可高兴啦！——她说可怜的老牧师住宅没有女主人实在叫人受不了。这真是天大的好

have such a curiosity to see him. ”

消息。简呀，你从没见过埃尔顿先生！——难怪你这么想见他呢。”

Jane' s curiosity did not appear of that absorbing nature as wholly to occupy her.

简的好奇心似乎并不那么强烈，以至于完全占据她的心神。

“**No—I** have never seen Mr. **Elton**,” she replied, starting on this appeal; “is he—is he a tall man? ”

“不——我从没见过埃尔顿先生，”她听到这一问，有些吃惊，便答道，“他——他是个高个子吗？”

“**Who** shall answer that question? ” cried “这问题谁能回答？”爱玛嚷 Emma. “**My** father would say ‘yes,’ Mr. Knightley ‘no;’ and Miss Bates and I that he is just the happy medium. **When** you have been here a little longer, Miss Fairfax, you will understand that Mr. Elton is the standard of perfection in Highbury, both in person and mind.”

道。“我父亲会说‘是’，奈特利先生会说‘不’；而贝茨小姐和我则认为他恰到好处。等您在这儿多住些时日，费尔法克斯小姐，就会明白埃尔顿先生堪称海伯里完美的典范，无论仪表还是才识。”

“**Very** true, Miss Woodhouse, so she will. **He** is the very best young man—But, my dear Jane, if you remember, I told you yesterday he was precisely the height of Mr. Perry. Miss Hawkins,—I dare say, an excel-

“说得太对了，伍德豪斯小姐，她确实会的。他是最出色的年轻人——不过，我亲爱的简，你要是记得的话，我昨天就告诉过你，他的身高和佩

lent young woman. **H**is extreme attention to my mother—wanting her to sit in the vicarage pew, that she might hear the better, for my mother is a little deaf, you know—it is not much, but she does not hear quite quick. **J**ane says that Colonel Campbell is a little deaf. **H**e fancied bathing might be good for it—the warm bath—but she says it did him no lasting benefit. **C**olonel Campbell, you know, is quite our angel. **A**nd Mr. **D**ixon seems a very charming young man, quite worthy of him. **I**t is such a happiness when good people get together—and they always do. **N**ow, here will be Mr. **E**lton and Miss Hawkins; and there are the Coles, such very good people; and the Perrys—I suppose there never was a happier or a better couple than Mr. **a**nd Mrs. **P**erry. **I** say, sir,”turning to Mr. **W**ood-**house**, “I think there are few places with such society as Highbury. **I** always say, we are quite blessed in our neighbours. —**M**y dear sir, if there is one thing my mother loves better than another, it is pork—a roast loin of pork—”

里先生分毫不差。霍金斯小姐嘛——我敢说，是位出色的年轻女士。他对我母亲无微不至的关怀——特意请她坐在牧师家属席上，听得更清楚些，毕竟我母亲耳朵有点背，您知道的——不算严重，但反应总慢半拍。简说坎贝尔上校也有些耳背。他曾以为泡温水浴能改善——结果她说这法子没什么持久效果。您知道的，坎贝尔上校简直是我们的大恩人。而迪克森先生看来也是个讨人喜欢的年轻人，完全配得上他。善良的人们聚在一起总是叫人欣慰——而且他们总会相聚的。眼下有埃尔顿先生和霍金斯小姐，还有科尔夫妇那样的大好人，佩里夫妇——要我说，天底下再找不出比佩里先生和太太更美满的姻缘了。”她转向伍德豪斯先生继续说道：“先生，我认为像海伯里这样邻里和睦

的地方实在不多见。我总说，我们有这样的邻居真是天大的福气——亲爱的先生，要说我母亲最钟爱的食物，那非得是烤猪腰肉不可——”

“**A**s to who, or what Miss Hawkins is, or how long he has been acquainted with her,” said Emma, “nothing I suppose can be known. **O**ne feels that it cannot be a very long acquaintance. **H**e has been gone only four weeks.”

至于霍金斯小姐是何许人也，或是他与她相识多久了，”爱玛说道，“我想谁也说不上来。总让人觉得他们相识不会太久。他离开不过才四个星期。”

Nobody had any information to give; and, after a few more wonderings, Emma said,

谁也说不出个所以然来；大家又惊叹了一番之后，爱玛说道：

“**Y**ou are silent, Miss Fairfax—but I hope you mean to take an interest in this news. **Y**ou, 小姐——不过，我希望您对 who have been hearing and seeing so much of late on these subjects, who must have been so deep in the business on Miss Campbell’s account—we shall not excuse your being indifferent about Mr. **E**lton and Miss Hawkins.”

“您不作声呀，费尔法克斯小姐——不过，我希望您对这条消息是感兴趣的。您最近对这类事情听得多了，对坎贝尔小姐的事一定有很深的了解——我们可不能认为您对埃尔顿先生和霍金斯小姐的事会无动于衷。”

“**W**hen I have seen Mr. **E**lton,” replied Jane, “等我见到了埃尔顿先生，”简

“I dare say I shall be interested—but I believe it requires that with me. **And** as it is some months since Miss Campbell married, the impression may be a little worn off.”

答道，“我敢说我会感兴趣的——不过，我向来需要亲眼见到人才行。既然坎贝尔小姐出嫁已有数月，当初那份印象或许已淡去几分。”

“**Yes**, he has been gone just four weeks, as you observe, Miss Woodhouse,” said Miss Bates, “four weeks yesterday. —**A** Miss Hawkins! — **Well**, I had always rather fancied it would be some young lady hereabouts; not that I ever —Mrs. **Cole** once whispered to me—but I immediately said, ‘No, Mr. **Elton** is a most worthy young man—but’—In short, I do not think I am particularly quick at those sort of discoveries. I do not pretend to it. **What** is before me, I see. At the same time, nobody could wonder if Mr. **Elton** should have aspired—Miss Woodhouse lets me chatter on, so good-humouredly. **She** knows I would not offend for the world. **How** does Miss Smith do? **She** seems quite recovered now. **Have** you heard from Mrs. **John** Knightley lately? **Oh!** **those** dear little children. **Jane**, do you know I always fancy Mr. **Dixon** like Mr. **John** Knightley. I mean in person—tall, and

“是啊，他走了整整四个星期，跟您说的一样，伍德豪斯小姐，”贝茨小姐说，“到昨天正好四个星期。一位霍金斯小姐！——唉，我原先总想着会是附近的哪位小姐；倒不是说我曾经——科尔太太有次跟我悄悄说过——但我立刻就说：‘不，埃尔顿先生是个顶好的年轻人，不过——’总之，我觉得自己在这方面不算特别敏锐。我不自诩有这本事。眼前明摆着的事，我才看得见。不过话说回来，就算埃尔顿先生真有高攀的心思，谁也不会觉得奇怪——伍德豪斯小姐总是这么和蔼地听我絮叨。她知道自己绝没有冒犯的意思。史密斯小姐近来可好？她看起

with that sort of look—and not very talkative. 来已经完全康复了。最近收到约翰·奈特利太太的来信吗？哦！那些可爱的小宝贝。

简，你知道吗，我总觉得狄克森先生长得像约翰·奈特利先生。我是说模样——高高的个子，那种神气——而且不太爱说话。”

“Quite wrong, my dear aunt; there is no likeness at all.”

“您完全搞错了，我亲爱的姑妈；根本一点都不像。”

“Very odd! but one never does form a just idea of any body beforehand. One takes up a notion, and runs away with it. Mr. Dixon, you say, is not, strictly speaking, handsome?”

“真是奇怪！不过人们事先对任何人都形成不了正确的看法。总是先入为主，然后便顺着这个思路想下去。你说迪克逊先生严格说来并不英俊？”

“Handsome! Oh! no—far from it—certainly plain. I told you he was plain.”

”英俊！哦！不——远非如此——显然很普通。我告诉过你他长相平平。”

“My dear, you said that Miss Campbell would not allow him to be plain, and that you yourself —”

“亲爱的，你方才说坎贝尔小姐不许人家说他相貌平常，还说你自个儿也——”

“Oh! as for me, my judgment is worth nothing. Where I have a regard, I always think a person well-looking. But I gave what I believed the general opinion, when I called him plain.”

“哦！至于我，我的判断毫无价值。凡是我敬重的人，我总觉得他们相貌堂堂。不过我刚才说他相貌平常，那确实是我认为的普遍看法。”

“Well, my dear Jane, I believe we must be running away. The weather does not look well, and grandmama will be uneasy. You are too obliging, my dear Miss Woodhouse; but we really must take leave. This has been a most agreeable piece of news indeed. I shall just go round by Mrs. Cole's; but I shall not stop three minutes: and, Jane, you had better go home directly—I would not have you out in a shower! —We think she is the better for Highbury already. Thank you, we do indeed. I shall not attempt calling on Mrs. Goddard, for I really do not think she cares for any thing but _boiled_ pork: when we dress the leg it will be another thing. Good morning to you, my dear sir. Oh! Mr. Knightley is coming too. Well, that is so very! —I am sure if Jane is tired, you will be so kind as to give her your arm. —Mr. Elton, and Miss Hawkins! —Good morning to you.”

“哎，我亲爱的简，我看咱们得赶紧告辞啦。天色瞧着不大好，外婆该着急了。您真是太客气了，亲爱的伍德豪斯小姐。不过我们确实该告辞了。这消息实在令人欣喜。我得顺道去科尔太太家绕一下，但绝不停留超过三分钟。简，你最好直接回家——我可不能让你淋着雨！我们觉得她来海伯里之后气色好多了。真是多谢您，确实如此。我就不特意去拜访戈达德太太了，说实在的，除了炖猪肉之外，她对什么都不上心。等我们烹制猪腿肉时那才值得登门呢。早安，亲爱的先生。哎呀！奈特利先生也来了！这可真是——要是简走累了，您一定会好心搀着她

吧。埃尔顿先生和霍金斯小姐！祝各位早安。”

Emma, alone with her father, had half her attention wanted by him while he lamented that young people would be in such a hurry to marry—and to marry strangers too—and the other half she could give to her own view of the subject. **It** was to herself an amusing and a very welcome piece of news, as proving that Mr. **Elton** could not have suffered long; but she was sorry for Harriet: Harriet must feel it—and all that she could hope was, by giving the first information herself, to save her from hearing it abruptly from others. **It** was now about the time that she was likely to call. **If** she were to meet Miss Bates in her way! — and upon its beginning to rain, Emma was obliged to expect that the weather would be detaining her at Mrs. **Goddard's**, and that the intelligence would undoubtedly rush upon her without preparation.

爱玛独自陪着父亲，一半注意力得应付他的哀叹——年轻人总是这样急着结婚，而且偏要嫁给陌生人；另一半注意力则能用来思索这件事本身。对她而言，这消息既有趣又令人欣慰，正好证明埃尔顿先生不可能痛苦太久。但她为哈丽特感到难过：哈丽特必定会为此伤心——她现在唯一能做的，就是亲自率先告知这个消息，免得这姑娘猝不及防地从别人口中听闻。此刻差不多到了哈丽特平日来访的时辰。万一她在路上遇见贝茨小姐可怎么好！——眼见着天开始落雨，爱玛不得不推测这天气准会把哈丽特困在戈达德太太家里，而那消息定然会毫无预兆地撞到她眼前。

The shower was heavy, but short; and it had 阵雨虽急，却为时不长；雨住

not been over five minutes, when in came Harriet, with just the heated, agitated look which hurrying thither with a full heart was likely to give; and the “Oh! **Miss** Woodhouse, what do you think has happened! ”**which** instantly burst forth, had all the evidence of corresponding perturbation. **As** the blow was given, Emma felt that she could not now shew greater kindness than in listening; and Harriet, unchecked, ran eagerly through what she had to tell. “**She** had set out from Mrs. **God-dard’s** half an hour ago—she had been afraid it would rain—she had been afraid it would pour down every moment—but she thought she might get to Hartfield first—she had hurried on as fast as possible; but then, as she was passing by the house where a young woman was making up a gown for her, she thought she would just step in and see how it went on; and though she did not seem to stay half a moment there, soon after she came out it began to rain, and she did not know what to do; so she ran on directly, as fast as she could, and took shelter at Ford’s. ”—**Ford’s** was the principal woollen-draper, linen-draper, and haberdasher’

还不到五分钟，哈丽特就走进屋来，满脸是急匆匆赶来要说掏心话的那种热烈激动的神气，而且一进门就嚷开了：“哦！伍德豪斯小姐，你猜出了什么事啦！”完全表明她心乱如麻。事情既然已经摊开，爱玛觉得现在最能表示友情的就是耐心倾听。哈丽特没受到阻拦，急急忙忙把她要说的话全说了出来。“我是半小时前从戈达德太太家出来的——我怕天要下雨——每时每刻都怕下起倾盆大雨来——不过我想也许在下雨之前能赶到哈特菲尔德——我就尽快赶路。后来我走过给我做衣服的那个年轻女人的家，心想还是进去看看衣服做得怎样了。我在里边似乎只待了片刻，可出来时天就下起雨来了，我不知道怎么办好；所以就一直往前奔，尽快地跑，到福特商店躲雨。”——福特商店是当

s shop united; the shop first in size and fashion in the place. — “**And** so, there she had set, without an idea of any thing in the world, full ten minutes, perhaps—when, all of a sudden, who should come in—to be sure it was so very odd! —**but** they always dealt at Ford’s—who should come in, but Elizabeth Martin and her brother! —**Dear** Miss Woodhouse! **only** think. I thought I should have fainted. I did not know what to do. I was sitting near the door—Elizabeth saw me directly; but he did not; he was busy with the umbrella. I am sure she saw me, but she looked away directly, and took no notice; and they both went to quite the farther end of the shop; and I kept sitting near the door! —**Oh!** **dear**; I was so miserable! I am sure I must have been as white as my gown. I could not go away you know, because of the rain; but I did so wish myself anywhere in the world but there. —**Oh!** **dear**, Miss Woodhouse—well, at last, I fancy, he looked round and saw me; for instead of going on with her buyings, they began whispering to one another. I am sure they were talking of me; and I could not help thinking that he was persuad-

地一家兼营棉布、呢绒、服饰用品的最大商店，也就数这家商店最大、最时髦。——“我在那儿坐了足足有十分钟，脑子里什么也没想——这时，突然之间，你猜谁进来啦——真奇怪，他们居然也来了！不过他们倒是经常在福特商店买东西的——谁进来了呢？不是伊丽莎白·马丁和她哥哥！亲爱的伍德豪斯小姐啊！你想想看。我以為自己快要晕倒了。我真不知道该怎么办。那时我坐在门边——伊丽莎白一眼就看见了我，可他没有看见，他正忙着收伞。我肯定她看见我了，可是她马上把脸转过去，不理睬我。他们俩走到商店里边最远的一头，而我却一直坐在门口！哦！天啊；我难受极了！我的脸色肯定像我的衣服这样白。你知道我没法走开，因为天在下雨；不过我但愿 anywhere in the world

ing her to speak to me—(do you think he was, but there. 哦！天啊，伍德豪 Miss Woodhouse?)—**for** presently she came forward—came quite up to me, and asked me how I did, and seemed ready to shake hands, if I would. **She** did not do any of it in the same way that she used; I could see she was altered; but, however, she seemed to try to be very friendly, and we shook hands, and stood talking some time; but I know no more what I said—I was in such a tremble! —**I** remember she said she was sorry we never met now; which I thought almost too kind! **Dear**, Miss Woodhouse, I was absolutely miserable! **By** that time, it was beginning to hold up, and I was determined that nothing should stop me from getting away—and then—only think! —**I** found he was coming up towards me too slowly you know, and as if he did not quite know what to do; and so he came and spoke, and I answered—and I stood for a minute, feeling dreadfully, you know, one can't tell how; and then I took courage, and said it did not rain, and I must go; and so off I set; and I had not got three yards from the door, when he came after me, only to say, if I was going

斯小姐——后来, 我猜想, 他回过头来, 看见了我; 因为他们不再买东西, 而是悄声说起话来。我肯定他们是在谈论我。我不由得认为他在劝她跟我说话——(你想他是这样, 伍德豪斯小姐?) ——因为她马上朝我走来, 一直走到我跟前, 向我问好, 而且只要我愿意, 看来她是准备跟我握手的。她这些举动跟以前不一样。我看得出来她变了; 不过, 尽管如此, 她似乎在竭力表示友好, 于是我们握了手, 站在那儿谈了一会儿。可是我记不得我说了些什么——我当时抖得厉害! ——我记得她说, 现在老见不到面, 她感到遗憾; 我觉得她这样说真是太厚道了! 亲爱的伍德豪斯小姐, 我真是难受得要命! 就在那时, 雨开始小了, 我下定决心, 不管怎么样, 都

to Hartfield, he thought I had much better go round by Mr. Cole's stables, for I should find the near way quite floated by this rain. **Oh!** dear, I thought it would have been the death of me! **So** I said, I was very much obliged to him: you know I could not do less; and then he went back to Elizabeth, and I came round by the stables—I believe I did—but I hardly knew where I was, or any thing about it. **Oh!** Miss Woodhouse, I would rather done any thing than have it happen: and yet, you know, there was a sort of satisfaction in seeing him behave so pleasantly and so kindly. **And** Elizabeth, too. **Oh!** Miss Woodhouse, do talk to me and make me comfortable again.

得走了——这时候——你想看！我居然看见他也朝我走来——你知道，他走得很快，好像不知道该怎么办才好。就这样，他走了过来，说了话，我也回答了——我在那儿站了一会儿，感觉糟透了，你知道，说不上是什么感觉；然后我有了勇气，就说雨停了，我该走了。于是刚走出店门还没三码远，他突然朝我追来，只是对我说，如果我要去哈特菲尔德，他认为最好还是绕个弯，打科尔先生马厩那边走，因为这场雨把近路淹没了。天啊，我原以为会难过死了！所以我说，我非常感谢他；你知道，我不能说不领情。然后，他回到伊丽莎白那儿，我就绕道打马厩那儿过来——我相信我是那么走的——可我几乎不知道自己身在何处，或者任何关于它的事。哦！伍德豪斯小姐，”

我宁可干任何事，也不愿发生这样的事；然而，你知道，看见他那么愉快，那么和善地待人，心里也有一丝欣慰。伊丽莎白也一样。哦！伍德豪斯小姐，跟我聊聊，让我再安下心来吧。”

Very sincerely did Emma wish to do so; but it was not immediately in her power. She was obliged to stop and think. She was not thoroughly comfortable herself. The young man's conduct, and his sister's, seemed the result of real feeling, and she could not but pity them. As Harriet described it, there had been an interesting mixture of wounded affection and genuine delicacy in their behaviour. But she had believed them to be well-meaning, worthy people before; and what difference did this make in the evils of the connexion? It was folly to be disturbed by it. Of course, he must be sorry to lose her—they must be all sorry. Ambition, as well as love, had probably been mortified. They might all have hoped to rise by Harriet's acquaintance: and besides, what was the value of Harriet's description? —So 爱玛真心希望能这样做；但这并非立时可行。她停下来思考。她自己也并非完全心安理得。那年轻人的举止，还有他妹妹的举止，似乎都发自真情实感，她不由得同情他们。按照哈丽特的描述，他们的行为中交织着受伤的情感和真挚的体贴，颇为动人。但她先前就认为他们是心地善良、可敬可佩的人——这段关系的不妥之处又因此有何改变？为此烦扰实属荒唐。当然，他失去她必然难过——他们全家都会难过。野心与爱情恐怕都受了挫。他们或许都指望通过与哈丽特结交而提升门第：

easily pleased—so little discerning;—what signified her praise?

再说，哈丽特的描述又有多大价值呢？——那么容易满足——眼光那么浅薄——她的称赞又算得了什么？

She exerted herself, and did try to make her comfortable, by considering all that had passed as a mere trifle, and quite unworthy of being dwelt on,

她打起精神，竭力想让她安心，便把方才发生的一切都看作微不足道的小事，根本不值得挂在心上，

“**It** might be distressing, for the moment,” said she; “but you seem to have behaved extremely well; and it is over—and may never—can never, as a first meeting, occur again, and therefore you need not think about it.”

“这或许一时令人难受，”她说道，“但你的表现似乎极为得体；事情已经过去——而且可能永远不会——作为初次见面，绝不可能再次发生，因此你无需再为此挂怀。”

Harriet said, “very true,” and she “would not think about it;” but still she talked of it—still she could talk of nothing else; and Emma, at last, in order to put the Martins out of her head, was obliged to hurry on the news, which she had meant to give with so much tender caution; hardly knowing herself whether to rejoice or be angry, ashamed or only amused, at such a state of mind in poor Harriet—such a

哈丽特嘴上说着”确实如此”，还保证”不再去想这件事”；可她依然念叨着——依然满口都是这件事；最后，爱玛为了让她把马丁一家抛在脑后，不得不把原本打算小心翼翼透露的消息匆匆说了出来。看着可怜的哈丽特这般心境——竟把埃尔顿先生

conclusion of Mr. Elton's importance with her! 看得如此重要！爱玛自己几乎说不清是该喜还是该怒，该羞愧还是只觉得好笑。

Mr. Elton's rights, however, gradually revived. Though she did not feel the first intelligence as she might have done the day before, or an hour before, its interest soon increased; and before their first conversation was over, she had talked herself into all the sensations of curiosity, wonder and regret, pain and pleasure, as to this fortunate Miss Hawkins, which could conduce to place the Martins under proper subordination in her fancy.

然而，埃尔顿先生的权利渐渐复苏了。虽然她乍闻消息时不像昨天或一小时前可能感受的那样强烈，但这份兴趣很快便浓厚起来；不等初次交谈结束，她已让自己沉浸在对这位幸运的霍金斯小姐的全部好奇、惊叹与惋惜、痛苦与欢欣之中，这些情绪足以使马丁一家在她的想象中回归到恰当的位置。

Emma learned to be rather glad that there had been such a meeting. It had been serviceable in deadening the first shock, without retaining any influence to alarm. As Harriet now lived, the Martins could not get at her, without seeking her, where hitherto they had wanted either the courage or the condescension to seek her; for since her refusal of the brother, the sisters never had been at Mrs. Goddard's; and a twelvemonth might pass without their

爱玛觉得这次见面倒也并非坏事，反倒庆幸有过这样一番遭遇。它有效地冲淡了初次重逢的震撼，却不至于留下令人不安的后患。以哈丽特目前的处境，马丁一家若不主动寻访，便无缘与她相见——而迄今为止，他们既缺乏前来探访的勇气，也放不下登门造访的身段。自她

being thrown together again, with any necessity, or even any power of speech.

回绝那兄弟的求婚后，两位姐妹就再未踏足戈达德太太的学堂；纵使再过十二个月，他们恐怕也难有重逢的契机，甚至未必能有交谈的可能。

CHAPTER IV

Human nature is so well disposed towards those who are in interesting situations, that a young person, who either marries or dies, is sure of being kindly spoken of.

第四章

人类的天性总是对那些身处有趣境况的人格外垂青，因此一个年轻人无论是喜结连理还是溘然长逝，总能赢得众人的交口称赞。

A week had not passed since Miss Hawkins's name was first mentioned in Highbury, before she was, by some means or other, discovered to have every recommendation of person and mind; to be handsome, elegant, highly accomplished, and perfectly amiable: and when Mr. Elton himself arrived to triumph in his happy prospects, and circulate the fame of her merits, there was very little more for him to do, than to tell her Christian name, and say whose music she principally played.

霍金斯小姐的大名才在海伯里传开不到一星期，人们就通过各种渠道发现她无论容貌品性都无可挑剔：标致端庄、才艺出众、性情更是温柔可亲。待到埃尔顿先生亲自回来，得意洋洋地展望起美满前程，四处宣扬她的种种优点时，除了告知她的教名以及她最常弹奏谁的乐曲之外，实在也没什么需要他

补充的了。

Mr. Elton returned, a very happy man. **He** had gone away rejected and mortified—disappointed in a very sanguine hope, after a series of what appeared to him strong encouragement; and not only losing the right lady, but finding himself debased to the level of a very wrong one. **He** had gone away deeply offended—he came back engaged to another—and to another as superior, of course, to the first, as under such circumstances what is gained always is to what is lost. **He** came back gay and self-satisfied, eager and busy, caring nothing for Miss Woodhouse, and defying Miss Smith.

埃尔顿先生回来时，已然是个春风得意之人。当初他离去时满腹委屈——在一连串看似确凿无疑的鼓励之后，满腔热望竟遭挫败；不仅错失了理想的淑女，更发现自己竟沦落到与不相配之人相提并论。他离去时深感受辱——归来时却已与另一位女士订下婚约，而这位自然远胜前者，正如这般情境下，所得永远胜过所失。他归来时神采飞扬，志得意满，忙碌中带着急切，对伍德豪斯小姐不屑一顾，对史密斯小姐更是全然不放在眼里。

The charming Augusta Hawkins, in addition to all the usual advantages of perfect beauty and merit, was in possession of an independent fortune, of so many thousands as would always be called ten; a point of some dignity, as well as some convenience: the story told well; he had not thrown himself away—he had gained

迷人的奥古斯塔·霍金斯小姐不仅具备完美美貌与品德的一切寻常优势，还拥有一笔独立财产——数万英镑的数额总被人称作”万镑”之数，这既显得体面，又颇为实惠。这段姻缘说来风光：他

a woman of 10,000 l. or thereabouts; and he had gained her with such delightful rapidity—the first hour of introduction had been so very soon followed by distinguishing notice; the history which he had to give Mrs. **Cole** of the rise and progress of the affair was so glorious—the steps so quick, from the accidental rencontre, to the dinner at Mr. **Green'**s, and the party at Mrs. **Brown'**s—smiles and blushes rising in importance—with consciousness and agitation richly scattered—the lady had been so easily impressed—so sweetly disposed—had in short, to use a most intelligible phrase, been so very ready to have him, that vanity and prudence were equally contented. 并未委屈自己——他娶了个拥有一万英镑左右的女子；而且赢得如此轻快——初识之后便迅速获得青睐；他向科尔太太讲述这段恋情始末时何等得意——从偶然相遇到底林先生家的晚宴，再到布朗太太家的聚会，进展快得惊人——笑意与红晕愈发动人，羞涩与慌乱交相辉映——那位小姐如此轻易便倾心于他，如此温柔地属意于他，总而言之，用最直白的话来说，她早已迫不及待要接纳他，这既满足了虚荣心，又合乎了谨慎之道。

He had caught both substance and shadow—both fortune and affection, and was just the happy man he ought to be; talking only of himself and his own concerns—expecting to be congratulated—ready to be laughed at—and, with cordial, fearless smiles, now addressing all the young ladies of the place, to whom, a few weeks ago, he would have been more cautiously gallant. 他既抓住了实体也抓住了影子——既得到了财富也得到了爱情，理应成为一个幸福的人；他只谈论自己和自己的事——期待别人的祝贺——随时准备接受嘲笑——并且，带着真诚而无畏的微笑，此刻正向当地所有的年轻女士们致意，而在几周前，

他对她们还会更加谨慎地献殷勤。

The wedding was no distant event, as the parties had only themselves to please, and nothing but the necessary preparations to wait for; and when he set out for Bath again, there was a general expectation, which a certain glance of Mrs. Cole's did not seem to contradict, that when he next entered Highbury he would bring his bride.

婚礼已非遥不可及，因为当事人只需遂自己心意，除了筹备必要事宜外别无耽搁。当他再度启程前往巴斯时，众人普遍预料——科尔太太那意味深长的一瞥似乎也印证了这点——待他下次踏上海伯里这片土地时，定会携着新娘同来。

During his present short stay, Emma had barely seen him; but just enough to feel that the first meeting was over, and to give her the impression of his not being improved by the mixture of pique and pretension, now spread over his air. She was, in fact, beginning very much to wonder that she had ever thought him pleasing at all; and his sight was so inseparably connected with some very disagreeable feelings, that, except in a moral light, as a penance, a lesson, a source of profitable humiliation to her own mind, she would have been thankful to be assured of never seeing him again. She wished

在他这次短暂的逗留期间，爱玛几乎没怎么见到他；但仅有的几次照面已足够让她感到初次重逢的尴尬已经过去，也足以使她察觉到他眉宇间混合着愠怒与自负的神情——这种神情丝毫未能为他增添风度。事实上，她已经开始大为诧异自己当初怎么会觉得他讨人喜欢；如今一见到他，就不可避免地联想到某些极不愉快的情绪。除非从道德层面来看——视其

him very well; but he gave her pain, and his welfare twenty miles off would administer most satisfaction.

为一种忏悔、一次教训、一剂令她内心获益的屈辱良药——否则她真要感激上天允诺永不再见此人。她诚心祝他安好；但他的存在总令她痛苦，唯有他远在二十英里之外，方能令她感到最为满意。

The pain of his continued residence in Highbury, however, must certainly be lessened by his marriage. Many vain solicitudes would be prevented—many awkwardnesses smoothed by it. A Mrs. Elton would be an excuse for any change of intercourse; former intimacy might sink without remark. It would be almost beginning their life of civility again.

然而，他继续留在海伯里的痛苦必然会因这桩婚事而减轻。许多徒劳的牵挂将得以避免——许多尴尬也将因此化解。“埃尔顿太太”将成为改变交往方式的绝佳借口；昔日的亲密无间尽可悄然消逝而不致引人注目。这几乎等于让彼此彬彬有礼的生活重新开始。

Of the lady, individually, Emma thought very little. She was good enough for Mr. Elton, no doubt; accomplished enough for Highbury—handsome enough—to look plain, probably, by Harriet's side. As to connexion, there Emma was perfectly easy; persuaded, that af-

对于那位女士本人，爱玛几乎不以为意。她配埃尔顿先生自然是绰绰有余——论才艺足以立足海伯里——论相貌也算标致，不过站在哈丽特身旁恐怕就要显得平庸

ter all his own vaunted claims and disdain of Harriet, he had done nothing. **On** that article, truth seemed attainable. What she was, must be uncertain; but who she was, might be found out; and setting aside the 10,000 l., it did not appear that she was at all Harriet's superior. **She** brought no name, no blood, no alliance. **Miss** Hawkins was the youngest of the two daughters of a Bristol—merchant, of course, he must be called; but, as the whole of the profits of his mercantile life appeared so very moderate, it was not unfair to guess the dignity of his line of trade had been very moderate also. **Part** of every winter she had been used to spend in Bath; but Bristol was her home, the very heart of Bristol; for though the father and mother had died some years ago, an uncle remained—in the law line—nothing more distinctly honourable was hazarded of him, than that he was in the law line; and with him the daughter had lived. **Emma** guessed him to be the drudge of some attorney, and too stupid to rise. **And** all the grandeur of the connexion seemed dependent on the elder sister, who was very well married, to 了。至于门第关系，爱玛更是全然放心；她深信尽管此人曾自诩门第显赫、对哈丽特百般轻蔑，终究未能攀得高枝。**在这一点上，真相倒不难以定论，但出身门第却可查证——且撇开那一万镑嫁妆不谈，她实在看不出这位小姐有任何胜过哈丽特之处。**
霍金斯小姐不过是布里斯托尔某商人的次女——自然要称他作商人；不过看他经商一生的收益如此微薄，推测他所从事的行业不甚体面倒也合乎情理。**她**每年总会去巴斯度过部分冬日，但布里斯托尔才是她的故乡，就住在布里斯托尔市中心；虽说父母数年前已过世，但还有位当律师的叔父——除了“在司法界任职”这般含糊其辞的说法外，无人敢断言他有何等

a gentleman in a great way, near Bristol, who kept two carriages! **That** was the wind-up of the history; that was the glory of Miss Hawkins.

显赫的职位。这位小姐便随叔父同住。爱玛猜想他定是某个律师事务所的苦力，因资质愚钝而永无升迁之望。而这段姻亲所有的体面，似乎都系于那位嫁给布里斯托尔附近富绅的长姐——那位绅士“家业鼎盛”，竟拥有两架马车！这便是全部故事的结局，也是霍金斯小姐的全部荣光。

Could she but have given Harriet her feelings about it all! **She** had talked her into love; but, alas! **she** was not so easily to be talked out of it. **The** charm of an object to occupy the many vacancies of Harriet's mind was not to be talked away. **He** might be superseded by another; he certainly would indeed; nothing could be clearer; even a Robert Martin would have been sufficient; but nothing else, she feared, would cure her. **Harriet** was one of those, who, having once begun, would be always in love. **And** now, poor girl! **she** was considerably worse from this reappearance of Mr. **Elton**. **She** was always having a glimpse

她若能把自己的感受向哈丽特和盘托出该有多好！是她劝说她坠入了情网，可惜要劝说她摆脱出来却不那么容易。一个目标占据了哈丽特的心，这种魅力不是劝说所能消除的。可能会有另一个人取代他，事实上这肯定会的，这是再清楚不过的，即使一个罗伯特·马丁就足够了。但是她又担心，别的什么也医治不了她的创伤。哈丽特属于那种一旦产生了爱情便永远也摆脱不了的人。如

of him somewhere or other. **Emma** saw him only once; but two or three times every day Harriet was sure just to meet with him, or just to miss him, just to hear his voice, or see his shoulder, just to have something occur to preserve him in her fancy, in all the favouring warmth of surprize and conjecture. **She** was, moreover, perpetually hearing about him; for, excepting when at Hartfield, she was always among those who saw no fault in Mr. **Elton**, and found nothing so interesting as the discussion of his concerns; and every report, therefore, every guess—all that had already occurred, all that might occur in the arrangement of his affairs, comprehending income, servants, and furniture, was continually in agitation around her. **Her** regard was receiving strength by invariable praise of him, and her regrets kept alive, and feelings irritated by ceaseless repetitions of Miss Hawkins's happiness, and continual observation of, how much he seemed attached! —**his** air as he walked by the house—the very sitting of his hat, being all in proof of how much he was in love!

今，这可怜的姑娘让埃尔顿先生重新出现搞得更加不可自拔。**她**无时无刻不在某个地方瞥见他。然而爱玛只见过他一次，而哈丽特每天两三次准会恰好遇到他，或者恰好看不到他，恰好听到他的声音，瞥见他的肩膀，或者恰好发生什么事，将他保留在她的想象中，让她怀着惊喜和猜测的温暖心情思念他。此外，她无时无刻不在听人说起他。除了在哈特菲尔德之外，她总是置身于那些认为埃尔顿先生完美无瑕的人们中间，大家认为，除了讨论他的事情之外，任何其他话题都索然无味。因而，每一个报道，每一个猜测——他以前做过的一切，他可能做的一切，包括他的收入、仆人和家具，人们都在周围津津乐道，众说纷纭。大家众口一词地赞扬他，使她对他的爱恋越来越强烈。大家无

休止地谈起霍金斯小姐的幸福，不断评论说他对她显得多么倾心——他步行经过她家的神态，他帽子戴在头上的角度，全都证明他如何深深地沉浸在爱情之中！这一切都让她感到怏怏不乐，惹得她心绪烦乱。

Had it been allowable entertainment, had there been no pain to her friend, or reproach to herself, in the wavering of Harriet's mind, Emma would have been amused by its variations. **Sometimes** Mr. **Elton** predominated, sometimes the Martins; and each was occasionally useful as a check to the other. **Mr. Elton'**s engagement had been the cure of the agitation of meeting Mr. **Martin**. **The** unhappiness produced by the knowledge of that engagement had been a little put aside by Elizabeth Martin's calling at Mrs. **God-dard'**s a few days afterwards. **Harriet** had not been at home; but a note had been prepared and left for her, written in the very style to touch; a small mixture of reproach, with a great deal of kindness; and till Mr. **Elton** him- 若不是顾及友人感受与自身体面，爱玛本会觉得哈里特心意反复的模样颇为有趣。埃尔顿先生与马丁一家在她心中此消彼长，彼此反倒成了制约对方的良方。得知埃尔顿先生订婚的消息，缓解了她与马丁重逢的局促；而这份婚约带来的愁绪，又在几天后伊丽莎白·马丁造访戈达德太太寓所时稍得宽解。虽然哈里特当日恰巧外出，但留给她的一封短笺写得情真意切——三分嗔怨裹着七分温存，直教人读后心潮难平。在埃尔顿先生再度现身之前，她始终为此事萦

self appeared, she had been much occupied by it, continually pondering over what could be done in return, and wishing to do more than she dared to confess. **But** Mr. Elton, in person, had driven away all such cares. **While** he staid, the Martins were forgotten; and on the very morning of his setting off for Bath again, Emma, to dissipate some of the distress it occasioned, judged it best for her to return Elizabeth Martin's visit.

怀，不断思忖该如何回应才得体，心底还藏着些不敢明言的殷勤念头。然而当埃尔顿先生亲身到访，这些烦恼便烟消云散了。他在场时，马丁一家被抛诸脑后；待他启程再赴巴斯那天早晨，为排解这番离别引发的怅惘，爱玛认为她最好去回访伊丽莎白·马丁。

How that visit was to be acknowledged—what would be necessary—and what might be safest, had been a point of some doubtful consideration. **Absolute** neglect of the mother and sisters, when invited to come, would be ingratitude. **It** must not be: and yet the danger of a renewal of the acquaintance—!

这次拜访该如何回礼——需要做些什么——怎样做才最稳妥，这些问题都曾引起一番犹豫不决的考量。倘若对发出邀请的母女几人置之不理，未免显得忘恩负义。这万万不可；然而重修旧好又恐节外生枝——！

After much thinking, she could determine on nothing better, than Harriet's returning the visit; but in a way that, if they had understanding, should convince them that it was to be only a formal acquaintance. **She** meant to take her in the carriage, leave her at the Abbey

经过反复思量，她最终决定让哈丽特回访；但采用的方式必须让对方明白，这不过是礼节性的往来。她打算用马车载哈丽特到修道院磨坊，自己则继续前行片刻，

Mill, while she drove a little farther, and call 随即折返接人。这样既不给
for her again so soon, as to allow no time for 对方可乘之机重提旧事，也
insidious applications or dangerous recurrences 能明明白白地表明今后往来
to the past, and give the most decided proof of 的分寸。
what degree of intimacy was chosen for the fu-
ture.

She could think of nothing better: and though 她想不出更好的办法了；虽
there was something in it which her own heart 然其中有些地方她的内心并
could not approve—something of ingratitude, 不赞同——有些忘恩负义的
merely glossed over—it must be done, or what 意味，只是表面上敷衍过去
would become of Harriet? —但这事非做不可，否则
哈丽特会落得什么下场呢？

CHAPTER V

Small heart had Harriet for visiting. **Only** 哈丽特毫无心思出门拜访。
half an hour before her friend called for her 就在她的朋友到戈达德太太
at Mrs. **Goddard's**, her evil stars had led 家来接她的半小时前，她竟
her to the very spot where, at that moment, a 被灾星引到了那个地方——
trunk, directed to The Rev. Philip Elton, 恰好看见一个贴着“致巴斯
White-Hart, Bath_, was to be seen under the 白鹿旅社菲利普·埃尔顿牧
operation of being lifted into the butcher's cart, 师先生”标签的行李箱，正
which was to convey it to where the coaches 被抬进肉铺的送货马车，准
past; and every thing in this world, excepting 备运往驿车经过的地方。此
that trunk and the direction, was consequently 时此刻，这世上除了那只行

第五章

a blank.

李箱和上面的地址标签，万物在她眼中都成了空白。

She went, however; and when they reached the farm, and she was to be put down, at the end of the broad, neat gravel walk, which led between espalier apple-trees to the front door, the sight of every thing which had given her so much pleasure the autumn before, was beginning to revive a little local agitation; and when they parted, Emma observed her to be looking around with a sort of fearful curiosity, which determined her not to allow the visit to exceed the proposed quarter of an hour. **She** went on herself, to give that portion of time to an old servant who was married, and settled in Donwell. **她**终究还是去了。当马车抵达农庄，她被安置在宽阔整洁的砂石小径尽头时，只见两排墙式栽培的苹果树通向正门，去年秋天曾带给她无限欢愉的景致，此刻竟重新撩拨起些许地方性的悸动。临别时，爱玛注意到她正带着某种怯生生的好奇环顾四周，这促使爱玛决定将此次拜访控制在原定的一刻钟之内。**她**独自继续前行，打算把这段时间用来探望一位出嫁后定居在唐维尔的老女仆。

The quarter of an hour brought her punctually to the white gate again; and Miss Smith receiving her summons, was with her without delay, and unattended by any alarming young man. **She** came solitarily down the gravel walk—a Miss Martin just appearing at the door, and parting with her seemingly with ceremonious civility.

一刻钟后，她准时再次来到那扇白色大门前；史密斯小姐接到召唤毫不耽搁地走来，身边并没有跟着任何令人不安的年轻男子。**她**独自一人沿着砾石小径走来——只见一位马丁小姐刚在门口露面，正与她道别，彼此间

似乎带着客套的礼节。

Harriet could not very soon give an intelligible account. **She** was feeling too much; but at last Emma collected from her enough to understand the sort of meeting, and the sort of pain it was creating. **She** had seen only Mrs. **Martin** and the two girls. **They** had received her doubtfully, if not coolly; and nothing beyond the merest commonplace had been talked almost all the time—till just at last, when Mrs. **Martin**' s saying, all of a sudden, that she thought Miss Smith was grown, had brought on a more interesting subject, and a warmer manner. **In** that very room she had been measured last September, with her two friends. **There** were the pencilled marks and memorandums on the wainscot by the window. **He** had done it. **They** all seemed to remember the day, the hour, the party, the occasion—to feel the same consciousness, the same regrets—to be ready to return to the same good understanding; and they were just growing again like themselves, (Harriet, as Emma must suspect, as ready as the best of them to be cordial and happy,) when the carriage reap-

哈丽特一时半会儿也说不清楚。她此刻百感交集；过了好半天，爱玛才从她嘴里听出了个所以然，明白她遇见了一些什么人，这次会面究竟引起了多大的痛苦。她只见到了马丁太太和两个姑娘。她们接待她时，心里是有所保留的，如果说不上冷淡的话。双方几乎自始至终只谈些极其平常的话——直到最后，马丁太太突然说起她觉得史密斯小姐长高了，这才扯起一个比较有趣的话题，态度也比较亲热了。去年九月，就在那间屋里，她和她的两位朋友量过身高。窗户的护壁板上还留着铅笔标记和记录。那是他划的。她们似乎都记忆犹新，记得那天是什么日子，在场有哪些人，具体是什么时刻——有着同样的感受，同样的遗憾——准备重修旧好。眼下，她们眼

peared, and all was over. **The** style of the visit, and the shortness of it, were then felt to be decisive. **Fourteen** minutes to be given to those with whom she had thankfully passed six weeks not six months ago! —**Emma** could not but picture it all, and feel how justly they might resent, how naturally Harriet must suffer. **It** was a bad business. **She** would have given a great deal, or endured a great deal, to have had the Martins in a higher rank of life. **They** were so deserving, that a little higher should have been enough: but as it was, how could she have done otherwise? —**Im-possible!** —**She** could not repent. **They** must be separated; but there was a great deal of pain in the process—so much to herself at this time, that she soon felt the necessity of a little consolation, and resolved on going home by way of Randalls to procure it. **Her** mind was quite sick of Mr. **Elton** and the Martins. **The** refreshment of Randalls was absolutely necessary.

看就要亲热起来，爱玛猜想哈丽特眼看就要变得跟她们一样热诚、一样快活，谁想马车又给赶回来了，于是一切都完了。这次见面的方式和时间长短，都显得十分果断。仅仅给了十四分钟，去会见跟她一起感激不尽地度过了六个星期的人！爱玛可以想象得到这一切，觉得她们理所当然要愤愤不平，哈丽特自然要感到痛苦。这件事做得太糟糕。她宁愿付出很大的代价，或者忍受很大的痛苦，只要能让马丁一家人的地位提高一些。他们是非常善良的人，只要地位稍微高一点就够了。可是事实如此，她又有什么办法呢？不可能！她不可能后悔。一定要把他们拆开。不过，她眼下感到非常苦恼，过不多久就觉得需要一点安慰，便决定回家时取道兰多尔斯。她一想起埃尔顿先生和马丁一家，心

里就十分懊恼。到兰多尔斯散散心，这绝对是必要的。

It was a good scheme; but on driving to the door they heard that neither "master nor mistress was at home;" they had both been out some time; the man believed they were gone to Hartfield.

这主意倒是不错；可等马车到了门口，他们却听说“主人和夫人都不在家”；两人出门已有些时候，那仆人猜想他们是去哈特菲尔德了。

"**This** is too bad," cried Emma, as they turned away. "**And** now we shall just miss them; too provoking! —**I** do not know when I have been so disappointed." **And** she leaned back in the corner, to indulge her murmurs, or to reason them away; probably a little of both—such being the commonest process of a not ill-disposed mind. **Presently** the carriage stopt; she looked up; it was stopt by Mr. **and** Mrs. **Weston**, who were standing to speak to her. **There** was instant pleasure in the sight of them, and still greater pleasure was conveyed in sound—for Mr. **Weston** immediately accosted her with,

“这真是太糟糕了，”他们转身离开时，爱玛嚷道，“现在偏要错过他们了！实在叫人懊恼——我都不记得什么时候这般失望过。”她向后靠在车厢角落里，时而纵容自己喃喃抱怨，时而试图用理智驱散不快——这大概就是心地善良之人最常见的心理活动。正思忖间，马车突然停住；她抬头望去，原来是韦斯顿夫妇驻足与她说话。乍见二人已令她欣喜，而随后传来的话语更使她喜出望外——只听韦斯顿先生立即上前搭话道：

“How d'ye do? —how d'ye do? —We have been sitting with your father—glad to see him so well. Frank comes to-morrow—I had a letter this morning—we see him to-morrow by dinner-time to a certainty—he is at Oxford today, and he comes for a whole fortnight; I knew it would be so. If he had come at Christmas he could not have staid three days; I was always glad he did not come at Christmas; now we are going to have just the right weather for him, fine, dry, settled weather. We shall enjoy him completely; every thing has turned out exactly as we could wish.”

“你好啊！——你好啊！——我们刚陪令尊坐着说话呢——见他精神这么好真叫人高兴。弗兰克明天就到——今早我刚收到信——明天晚饭前准能见到他——他今天还在牛津，这一来要住整整两周；我早料到会这样。他要是圣诞节来，连三天都待不住；我一直庆幸他当时没来。如今这天气对他再合适不过，晴朗干爽的好天气。我们能尽情享受与他相聚的时光；事事都遂了我们的心意。”

There was no resisting such news, no possibility of avoiding the influence of such a happy face as Mr. Weston's, confirmed as it all was by the words and the countenance of his wife, fewer and quieter, but not less to the purpose. To know that she thought his coming certain was enough to make Emma consider it so, and sincerely did she rejoice in their joy. It was a most delightful reanimation of exhausted spirits. The worn-out past was sunk in the

面对这样的消息，实在无法抗拒；面对韦斯顿先生那张喜气洋洋的面孔，实在无法不受感染。他妻子的话和神情虽然不多，也比较平静，但却进一步证实了他的话。听说她认为他肯定会来，爱玛便觉得这事确定无疑了，并且真心实意地跟他们一起高兴起来。这真是一件令人振

freshness of what was coming; and in the rapidity of half a moment's thought, she hoped Mr. **Elton** would now be talked of no more.

奋的大喜事，顿时使沉闷的空气变得活跃起来。沉溺于往事会令人萎靡不振，新来临的喜事会给人们带来一种新鲜感。柯尔太太话还没说完，爱玛已经在思忖，但愿你从此不再议论埃尔顿先生了。

Mr. Weston gave her the history of the engagements at Enscombe, which allowed his son to answer for having an entire fortnight at his command, as well as the route and the method of his journey; and she listened, and smiled, and congratulated.

韦斯顿先生向她讲述了恩斯库姆那边的约会安排，这使他儿子能够确定自己有两周时间完全自由支配，并详细说明了他的行程路线和方式；她听着，微笑着，并表示祝贺。

“I shall soon bring him over to Hartfield,” said he, at the conclusion.

“我很快就会带他来哈特菲尔德，”他在谈话结束时说道。

Emma could imagine she saw a touch of the arm at this speech, from his wife.

听到这番话，爱玛仿佛看见他妻子用手臂轻轻碰了碰他。

“We had better move on, Mr. **Weston**,” said she, “we are detaining the girls.”

“我们最好继续走吧，韦斯顿先生，”她说道，“我们耽

误姑娘们的时间了。”

“Well, well, I am ready;”—and turning again to Emma, “but you must not be expecting such a _very_ fine young man; you have only had _my_ account you know; I dare say he is really nothing extraordinary:”—though his own sparkling eyes at the moment were speaking a very different conviction.

”好了，好了，我这就去。”——他又转向爱玛，”不过你可别指望见到什么了不得的俊俏青年；你听到的只是一我的一面之词，要知道；我敢说他其实没什么出奇的。”——虽然此时他那双亮晶晶的眼睛分明诉说着截然不同的心声。

Emma could look perfectly unconscious and innocent, and answer in a manner that appropriated nothing.

爱玛能显得完全懵懂无辜，回答时滴水不漏。

“Think of me to-morrow, my dear Emma, about four o’clock,” was Mrs. **Weston’s** parting injunction; spoken with some anxiety, and meant only for her.

“我亲爱的爱玛，明天四点钟左右要想着我呀，”这是韦斯顿太太临别时叮嘱的话；说得有点焦虑，而且只是说给她一个人听的。

“Four o’clock! —depend upon it he will be here by three,” was Mr. **Weston’s** quick amendment; and so ended a most satisfactory meeting. **Emma’s** spirits were mounted quite up to happiness; every thing wore a different

“四点钟！——你放心，他三点钟以前准会到，”韦斯顿先生连忙修正；于是皆大欢喜的会见结束了。爱玛快活极了，十分兴奋。样样东西都

air; James and his horses seemed not half so sluggish as before. **When** she looked at the hedges, she thought the elder at least must soon be coming out; and when she turned round to Harriet, she saw something like a look of spring, a tender smile even there.

好象和以前不同了；詹姆斯和马匹仿佛也不像先前那样疲塌了。她望着树篱，心想至少那棵榆荀必定就要发芽了；她回过头去望望哈丽特，看见她颊上泛起一点春色，甚至在那儿看到了一丝温柔的微笑。

“**Will** Mr. **Frank** Churchill pass through Bath as well as Oxford? ”—**was** a question, however, which did not augur much.

“**弗兰克·丘吉尔先生是否会途经巴斯和牛津?**”——这问题却不是什么好兆头。

But neither geography nor tranquillity could come all at once, and Emma was now in a humour to resolve that they should both come in time.

然而无论是地理知识还是宁静心境，都不可能一蹴而就。此刻的爱玛正怀着这般心绪，决意要让这两者都随着时光慢慢到来。

The morning of the interesting day arrived, and Mrs. **Weston'**s faithful pupil did not forget either at ten, or eleven, or twelve o'clock, that she was to think of her at four.

那个有趣日子的早晨终于来临，韦斯顿太太的忠实门生始终不曾忘记——无论是十点、十一点还是十二点——她总要在四点钟惦记着这位师长。

“**My** dear, dear anxious friend,”—said she, “我亲爱的，忧心忡忡的朋友

in mental soliloquy, while walking downstairs from her own room, "always overcareful for every body's comfort but your own; I see you now in all your little fidgets, going again and again into his room, to be sure that all is right. " **The** clock struck twelve as she passed through the hall. " **Tis** twelve; I shall not forget to think of you four hours hence; and by this time to-morrow, perhaps, or a little later, I may be thinking of the possibility of their all calling here. **I** am sure they will bring him soon. "

啊,"她边从自己房间走下楼梯,边在心底自语,"总是过分操心别人的安适,却独独忘了自己;此刻我仿佛看见你坐立不安的模样,一趟趟走进他的房间,非要确保万事妥帖才甘心。"当她穿过门厅时,钟敲响了十二下。"十二点了,再过四个钟头我定会记得惦念你;待到明日此时,或许稍晚些,我大概就要思量他们一行人登门造访的可能性了。我确信他们很快就会带他回来的。"

She opened the parlour door, and saw two gentlemen sitting with her father—Mr. **We-ston** and his son. **They** had been arrived only a few minutes, and Mr. **Weston** had scarcely finished his explanation of Frank's being a day before his time, and her father was yet in the midst of his very civil welcome and congratulations, when she appeared, to have her share of surprize, introduction, and pleasure.

她推开客厅的门,看见两位先生正陪父亲坐着——韦斯顿先生和他的儿子。他们刚到不过几分钟,韦斯顿先生刚解释完弗兰克提前一天到来的缘故,父亲正客气周到地表示欢迎和祝贺,这时她走进来,正好赶上分享这份惊讶、引见和喜悦。

The Frank Churchill so long talked of, so

那位久闻其名、令人兴致盎

high in interest, was actually before her—he was presented to her, and she did not think too much had been said in his praise; he was a very good looking young man; height, air, address, all were unexceptionable, and his countenance had a great deal of the spirit and liveliness of his father's; he looked quick and sensible. **She** felt immediately that she should like him; and there was a well-bred ease of manner, and a readiness to talk, which convinced her that he came intending to be acquainted with her, and that acquainted they soon must be.

然的弗兰克·邱吉尔此刻终于出现在她眼前——他被引荐给她时，她觉得人们对他的赞誉并无过分之处。这年轻人容貌着实俊朗，身量、气度、谈吐皆无可挑剔，眉目间颇有他父亲那股机敏活泼的神气，看起来既敏锐又明理。她当即觉得自己会喜欢他，而他举止间那种有教养的从容，以及乐于交谈的态度，更使她确信：他是存着结交之心而来，而他们很快便会相熟起来。

He had reached Randalls the evening before. **She** was pleased with the eagerness to arrive which had made him alter his plan, and travel earlier, later, and quicker, that he might gain half a day.

他前一天晚上就到了兰德尔。她对他急于抵达的心情感到高兴，这促使他改变了原计划，提早出发，延迟休息，加快行程，只为争取到半天时间。

“I told you yesterday,” cried Mr. **Weston** with exultation, “I told you all that he would be here before the time named. I remembered what I used to do myself. One cannot creep

“我昨天就告诉过你，”韦斯顿先生得意洋洋地大声说道，“我早说过他肯定比预定时间提前到。这让我想起

upon a journey; one cannot help getting on faster than one has planned; and the pleasure of coming in upon one's friends before the lookout begins, is worth a great deal more than any little exertion it needs. ”

自己当年的情形——出门赶路的人哪能慢吞吞地挪动? 总会比原计划走得快些。趁亲友们还没开始张望就突然出现在他们面前, 这种惊喜带来的欢愉, 可比路上多费的那点力气珍贵多了。”

“It is a great pleasure where one can indulge in it,” said the young man, “though there are not many houses that I should presume on so far; but in coming home I felt I might do any thing. ”

“能在可以纵情享受的地方这样做, 真是莫大的快乐,”年轻人说道, “虽然并没有多少人家会让我冒昧到这种地步; 不过在回‘家’的路上, 我觉得自己做什么都行。”

The word home made his father look on him with fresh complacency. Emma was directly sure that he knew how to make himself agreeable; the conviction was strengthened by what followed. He was very much pleased with Randalls, thought it a most admirably arranged house, would hardly allow it even to be very small, admired the situation, the walk to Highbury, Highbury itself, Hartfield still more, and professed himself to have always felt the sort of interest in the country which none but

”家”这个字眼令他父亲脸上焕发出新的欣慰。爱玛当即确信他懂得如何讨人欢心; 随后发生的事更坚定了这个看法。他对兰德尔斯的喜爱溢于言表, 认为这屋子布局精妙绝伦, 甚至不愿承认它略显狭小, 盛赞这里的地理位置, 通往海伯里的林荫道, 海伯里本镇, 更对哈特菲尔德青眼有加, 还坦言自

one's own country gives, and the greatest curiosity to visit it. **That** he should never have been able to indulge so amiable a feeling before, passed suspiciously through Emma's brain; but still, if it were a falsehood, it was a pleasant one, and pleasantly handled. **His** manner had no air of study or exaggeration. **He** did really look and speak as if in a state of no common enjoyment.

已始终怀有一种对乡间的眷恋——这种情愫唯有在故土才能滋生，并表达了前来游历的强烈夙愿。这般的温厚的情愫竟从未得以满足——这个念头如疑云掠过爱玛的脑海；但转念一想，纵使是违心之论，也算得是令人愉悦的谎言，且说得恰到好处。他的举止毫无矫揉造作之态，那神情谈吐确实像是沉浸在难言的欢愉之中。

Their subjects in general were such as belong to an opening acquaintance. **On** his side were the inquiries,—“Was she a horsewoman? — **Pleasant** rides? —**Pleasant** walks? —**Had** they a large neighbourhood? —**Highbury**, perhaps, afforded society enough? —**There** were several very pretty houses in and about it. —**Balls**—**had** they balls? —**Was** it a musical society? ”

他们谈论的话题大体上属于初识者之间的寒暄。他这边提出的问题包括：“她可擅长骑马？——骑马漫游是否惬意？——散步是否愉快？——邻里交往可广泛？——海伯里或许能提供足够的社交活动？——镇内外有几幢相当漂亮的住宅。——舞会呢？——他们可举办舞会？——这里的社交圈可崇尚音乐？”

But when satisfied on all these points, and

然而，当这些疑虑尽数消释、

their acquaintance proportionably advanced, 彼此交情相应增进之后，他
he contrived to find an opportunity, while their 趁着两位父亲促膝畅谈之
two fathers were engaged with each other, of 际，寻机提起自己的继母，言
introducing his mother-in-law, and speaking of 语间满是得体的赞誉、炽热
her with so much handsome praise, so much 的钦慕，感激她为父亲缔造
warm admiration, so much gratitude for the 幸福，又盛情接纳自己——
happiness she secured to his father, and her 这更印证了他深谙取悦之
very kind reception of himself, as was an addi- 道，且确实认为值得费心博
tional proof of his knowing how to please—and 她欢心。他所说的每一句赞
of his certainly thinking it worth while to try 美之辞，无不是韦斯顿夫人
to please her. **H**e did not advance a word of 当之无愧的；尽管他对此中
praise beyond what she knew to be thoroughly 情由实则知之甚少。他懂得
deserved by Mrs. **Weston**; but, undoubtedly 投其所好，除此以外便难有
he could know very little of the matter. **H**e 把握。”家父这桩婚事，”他
understood what would be welcome; he could 说道，”实乃最明智之举，诸
be sure of little else. “**H**is father’s marriage,” 位挚友无不为之欣喜；赐我
he said, “had been the wisest measure, every 如此厚泽的家族，当永远被
friend must rejoice in it; and the family from 我视作恩情最重的存在。”
whom he had received such a blessing must be
ever considered as having conferred the highest
obligation on him. ”

He got as near as he could to thanking her for 他尽可能委婉地表达了对
Miss Taylor’s merits, without seeming quite to 泰勒小姐优点的感激之情，
forget that in the common course of things it 却又不至于显得全然忘了常
was to be rather supposed that Miss Taylor had 理——按常理本该是泰勒小

formed Miss Woodhouse's character, than Miss Woodhouse Miss Taylor's. **And** at last, as if resolved to qualify his opinion completely for travelling round to its object, he wound it all up with astonishment at the youth and beauty of her person.

姐塑造了伍德豪斯小姐的品性，而非伍德豪斯小姐塑造了泰勒小姐的品性。最后，他似乎决意要让自己的评价绕个弯子回到她身上，便全然以惊叹她青春美貌的赞语作了收梢。

“**Elegant**, agreeable manners, I was prepared for,” said he; “but I confess that, considering every thing, I had not expected more than a very tolerably well-looking woman of a certain age; I did not know that I was to find a pretty young woman in Mrs. **Weston**. ”

“优雅合度的举止，我原是早有准备的，”他说，“但老实说，考虑到各方面情况，我原以为至多只能见到一位相貌尚可、上了年纪的妇人；我竟不知道韦斯顿太太是位秀美动人的年轻女子。”

“**You** cannot see too much perfection in Mrs. **Weston** for my feelings,” said Emma; “were you to guess her to be eighteen, I should listen with pleasure; but she would be ready to quarrel with you for using such words. **Don't** let her imagine that you have spoken of her as a pretty young woman. ”

“以我的感情来说，你把韦斯顿太太看得再完美也不过分，”爱玛说，“你就是猜她只有十八岁，我也会听得高兴。可是她要是知道你用这样的字眼形容她，她准会跟你吵起来。千万别让她觉得你把她变成了一个漂亮的年轻女人。”

“I hope I should know better,” he replied; “no, “我希望我能更明白些,”他答
depend upon it, (with a gallant bow,) that in 道, “不, 您尽管放心, (说着
addressing Mrs. Weston I should understand 优雅地鞠了一躬) 在对韦斯
whom I might praise without any danger of 顿太太说话时, 我很清楚该
being thought extravagant in my terms.” 称赞谁才不至于因措辞浮夸
而招人非议。”

Emma wondered whether the same suspicion 爱玛心里思忖, 自己脑海中
of what might be expected from their know- 强烈浮现的那种对于他们相
ing each other, which had taken strong pos- 识后可能发生什么的猜疑,
session of her mind, had ever crossed his; and 是否也曾掠过他的心头; 他
whether his compliments were to be considered 的那些恭维话, 究竟是表示
as marks of acquiescence, or proofs of defiance. 默认的迹象, 还是故作挑衅
She must see more of him to understand his 的证明。她必须再多见见他,
ways; at present she only felt they were agree- 才能摸透他的脾性; 眼下她
able.

She had no doubt of what Mr. Weston was 她毫不怀疑韦斯顿先生时常
often thinking about. **His** quick eye she de- 在思量些什么。他那敏锐的
tected again and again glancing towards them 目光, 她一次次地察觉正带
with a happy expression; and even, when he 着欣喜的神情朝他们瞥去;
might have determined not to look, she was 甚至当他可能决意不看时,
confident that he was often listening. 她也确信他常在侧耳倾听。

Her own father’s perfect exemption from any 自己的父亲完全没有这类心
thought of the kind, the entire deficiency in 思, 丝毫不疑神疑鬼, 这实

him of all such sort of penetration or suspicion, was a most comfortable circumstance. **Hap-pily** he was not farther from approving matrimony than from foreseeing it. —**Though** always objecting to every marriage that was arranged, he never suffered beforehand from the apprehension of any; it seemed as if he could not think so ill of any two persons' understanding as to suppose they meant to marry till it were proved against them. **She** blessed the favouring blindness. **He** could now, without the drawback of a single unpleasant surmise, without a glance forward at any possible treachery in his guest, give way to all his natural kind-hearted civility in solicitous inquiries after Mr. **Frank** Churchill's accommodation on his journey, through the sad evils of sleeping two nights on the road, and express very genuine unmixed anxiety to know that he had certainly escaped catching cold—which, however, he could not allow him to feel quite assured of himself till after another night.

A reasonable visit paid, Mr. **Weston** began to move. — “**He** must be going. **He** had business at the Crown about his hay, and a great

在是万幸。令人欣慰的是，他虽不赞成婚事，却也从不预见婚事——虽然对别人安排的婚事总要反对，却从不担心会有谁私下订婚。他好像从不会把人想得那么坏，总认为谁也不会瞒着别人私订终身，除非事实摆在面前。她感激父亲这种善良的盲目。现在，父亲既然不会心存任何令人不快的猜疑，也不会认为客人居心叵测，那他就会怀着天生的真诚和善意，关心地询问弗兰克·丘吉尔先生一路上的饮食起居，而且由于可怜年轻人在路上睡了两夜，一定会很想听听他确信自己没有着凉——不过，父亲总要说明年轻人还不能完全放心，要再睡一夜才能确保无事。

一次合情合理的拜访结束后，韦斯顿先生便起身告辞。”我该走了。得去王冠旅馆

many errands for Mrs. **Weston** at Ford's, but he need not hurry any body else. "His son, too well bred to hear the hint, rose immediately also, saying,

处理干草的事，还要替韦斯顿夫人到福特商店办几件事——不过不必催促其他各位。”他那教养有素的儿子虽未听出弦外之音，却也当即起身说道：

"**A**s you are going farther on business, sir, I will take the opportunity of paying a visit, which must be paid some day or other, and therefore may as well be paid now. **I** have the honour of being acquainted with a neighbour of yours, (turning to Emma,) a lady residing in or near Highbury; a family of the name of Fairfax. **I** shall have no difficulty, I suppose, in finding the house; though Fairfax, I believe, is not the proper name—I should rather say Barnes, or Bates. **D**o you know any family of that name?"

“先生，您既然要外出办事，我正好趁此机会去拜访一户人家——这本是迟早要履行的礼节，不如就趁现在完成。我很荣幸认识您的一位邻居（转向爱玛），是住在海伯里或附近的一位女士，姓费尔法克斯。想必找到那户人家并不难，虽然费尔法克斯恐怕不是他们现在的姓氏——我应当说巴恩斯或贝茨才对。您可知道有姓这个的人家？”

"**T**o be sure we do," cried his father; "Mrs. **Bates**—we passed her house—I saw Miss Bates at the window. **T**rue, true, you are acquainted with Miss Fairfax; I remember you knew her at Weymouth, and a fine girl she is. **C**all upon her, by all means."

”我们当然要去的，”他父亲嚷道；”贝茨太太家——我们路过她家门口——我看见贝茨小姐站在窗口。对对，你认识费尔法克斯小姐；我记得你在韦茅斯就认识她

了，她可是个好姑娘。务必去拜访她。”

“**T**here is no necessity for my calling this morning,” said the young man; “another day would do as well; but there was that degree of acquaintance at Weymouth which—”

“我今天上午不必去拜访，”年轻人说道，“改日再去也无妨；不过我们在韦茅斯有过那么一段交情，所以——”

“**O**h! go to-day, go to-day. **D**o not defer it. **W**hat is right to be done cannot be done too soon. **A**nd, besides, I must give you a hint, Frank; any want of attention to her here should be carefully avoided. **Y**ou saw her with the Campbells, when she was the equal of every body she mixed with, but here she is with a poor old grandmother, who has barely enough to live on. **I**f you do not call early it will be a slight.”

“哦！今天就去，今天就去。该做的事越早做越好。而且，弗兰克，我必须提醒你一句：在这儿对她有任何怠慢之处都该格外小心。你见到她时她正和坎贝尔家在一起，那时候她和来往的每个人都是平等的，可在这儿她却跟着一个穷苦的老外婆过日子，老人家连糊口都勉强。你要是去晚了，可就显得怠慢了。”

The son looked convinced.

做儿子的看来信服了。

“**I** have heard her speak of the acquaintance,” said Emma; “she is a very elegant young woman.”

“我听说过她提起过这位熟人，”爱玛说道，“她是个非常优雅的年轻女士。”

He agreed to it, but with so quiet a “Yes,” as inclined her almost to doubt his real concurrence; and yet there must be a very distinct sort of elegance for the fashionable world, if Jane Fairfax could be thought only ordinarily gifted with it.

他应允了，但只轻轻答了一声“是”，这简直让她怀疑他是否真心赞同；然而，若连简·费尔法克斯这样的风范在社交界都只能算作寻常资质，那上流社会的优雅标准想必是另有一番严苛尺度了。

“**I**f you were never particularly struck by her manners before,” said she, “I think you will today. **Y**ou will see her to advantage; see her and hear her—no, I am afraid you will not hear her at all, for she has an aunt who never holds her tongue.”

“**如**果你以前从未特别留意过她的仪态，”她说道，“我想今天你会有所触动。你会看到她最好的一面；既能见到她又能听到她说话——不，恐怕你根本听不到她说话，因为她有位姑妈总是喋喋不休。”

“**Y**ou are acquainted with Miss Jane Fairfax, sir, are you?” said Mr. **W**oodhouse, always the last to make his way in conversation; “then give me leave to assure you that you will find her a very agreeable young lady. **S**he is staying here on a visit to her grandma and aunt, very worthy people; I have known them all my life. **T**hey will be extremely glad to see you, I am sure; and one of my servants shall go with

“**先**生，您认识简·费尔法克斯小姐吧？”伍德豪斯先生说道——他向来最不善于抢着说话，“那就请允许我向您保证，您会发现她是位非常可爱的年轻女士。她正在这里探望外婆和舅妈，都是极可敬的人家，我跟她们相识一辈子了。她们见到您定会欣

you to shew you the way. ”

喜万分，我让一个仆人陪您过去指路。”

“**M**y dear sir, upon no account in the world; my father can direct me. ”

“亲爱的先生，这绝对不必；我父亲会指点我的。”

“**B**ut your father is not going so far; he is only going to the Crown, quite on the other side of the street, and there are a great many houses; you might be very much at a loss, and it is a very dirty walk, unless you keep on the foot-path; but my coachman can tell you where you had best cross the street. ”

”不过你父亲不会走那么远；他只是去街对面的王冠旅馆，那边房子很多，你很容易迷路。那条路很脏，必须沿着人行道走才行。不过我的车夫可以告诉你在哪里过街最合适。”

Mr. **F**rank Churchill still declined it, looking as serious as he could, and his father gave his hearty support by calling out, “My good friend, this is quite unnecessary; Frank knows a puddle of water when he sees it, and as to Mrs. **B**ates’ s, he may get there from the Crown in a hop, step, and jump. ”

弗兰克·邱吉尔先生仍旧推辞，神色尽可能显得郑重。他父亲也热诚地支持他，大声说道：“我的好朋友，这实在是多此一举。弗兰克看到一洼水，还知道怎么跨过去；至于贝茨太太家，他只要纵身一跃就能从冠冕酒馆门口跳过去。”

They were permitted to go alone; and with a cordial nod from one, and a graceful bow from the other, the two gentlemen took leave.

他们被允许单独前往；一位热诚地点了点头，另一位优雅地鞠了个躬，两位先生便

Emma remained very well pleased with this beginning of the acquaintance, and could now engage to think of them all at Randalls any hour of the day, with full confidence in their comfort. 告辞了。爱玛对这段初识的开端颇为满意，此刻已能随时想起他们在兰德尔斯的点点滴滴，并对他们的惬意生活充满笃定。

CHAPTER VI

第六章

The next morning brought Mr. **Frank Churchill** again. He came with Mrs. **Weston**, to whom and to Highbury he seemed to take very cordially. He had been sitting with her, it appeared, most companionably at home, till her usual hour of exercise; and on being desired to chuse their walk, immediately fixed on Highbury. — “He did not doubt there being very pleasant walks in every direction, but if left to him, he should always chuse the same. **Highbury**, that airy, cheerful, happy-looking Highbury, would be his constant attraction.” —Highbury, with Mrs. Weston, stood for Hartfield; and she trusted to its bearing the same construction with him. They walked thither directly. 翌日清晨，弗兰克·丘吉尔先生再度造访。他与韦斯顿太太同行而来，对这位夫人乃至海伯里村都显得格外热忱。原来他先前一直惬意地陪坐在她家中，直到她平日出门散步的时辰；当被邀请决定散步路线时，他当即选定海伯里——”他毫不怀疑四处都有怡人的小径，但若由他做主，永远只会选择同人心旷神怡的海伯里，将永远吸引着他的脚步。”海伯里在韦斯顿太太心中便等同于哈特菲尔德；她深信在这位青年心中亦是如此。两人便径直朝那个方向走去。

Emma had hardly expected them: for Mr. **爱玛**几乎没料到他们会来: **Weston**, who had called in for half a minute, 因为韦斯顿先生刚才只进来待了半分钟,听说儿子相貌堂堂便心满意足,对他们的计划全然不知。**因此**看到 in order to hear that his son was very handsome, knew nothing of their plans; and it was an agreeable surprize to her, therefore, to perceive them walking up to the house together, arm in arm. **She** was wanting to see him again, and especially to see him in company with Mrs. **Weston**, upon his behaviour to whom her opinion of him was to depend. **If** he were deficient there, nothing should make amends for it. **But** on seeing them together, she became perfectly satisfied. **It** was not merely in fine words or hyperbolical compliment that he paid his duty; nothing could be more proper or pleasing than his whole manner to her—nothing could more agreeably denote his wish of considering her as a friend and securing her affection. **And** there was time enough for Emma to form a reasonable judgment, as their visit included all the rest of the morning. **They** were all three walking about together for an hour or two—first round the shrubberies of Hartfield, and afterwards in Highbury. **He** was delighted with every thing; admired Hartfield sufficiently for **爱玛**几乎没料到他们会来: **因为**韦斯顿先生刚才只进来待了半分钟,听说儿子相貌堂堂便心满意足,对他们的计划全然不知。**因此**看到他们挽着胳膊一同向宅邸走来,对她而言真是意外的惊喜。**她**正想再见他一面,尤其想看看他与韦斯顿夫人相处的情形,他对待后者的态度将决定她对他的评价。**倘若**他在这方面有所欠缺,任何优点都无法弥补。**但**见到他们在一起的情形,她彻底放心了。**他**恪守礼数并非仅靠漂亮的言辞或过分的恭维——他对韦斯顿夫人的整个态度再恰当得体不过,再令人愉快不过——那种姿态再好不过地表明了他愿将她视为友人并赢得她好感的意愿。**爱玛**有充足的时间做出合理判断,因为这次拜访占用了整个上午余下的时光。**三人**一同散步了一两个钟头

Mr. Woodhouse's ear; and when their going farther was resolved on, confessed his wish to be made acquainted with the whole village, and found matter of commendation and interest much oftener than Emma could have supposed.

——先是在哈特菲尔德的花灌木丛中穿行，后来又走到海伯里村里。他对一切都赞不绝口；在伍德豪斯先生听得见的范围内对哈特菲尔德极尽赞美；当决定要继续往前走时，他坦言希望结识整个村落，不时发出的赞美和表现出的兴趣，远比爱玛预想的要多得多。

Some of the objects of his curiosity spoke very amiable feelings. He begged to be shewn the house which his father had lived in so long, and which had been the home of his father's father; and on recollecting that an old woman who had nursed him was still living, walked in quest of her cottage from one end of the street to the other; and though in some points of pursuit or observation there was no positive merit, they shewed, altogether, a good-will towards Highbury in general, which must be very like a merit to those he was with.

他这番好奇的举动中，有些地方显露出十分可亲的情感。他请求去看看父亲久居的老屋——那也是他祖父居住过的地方；当忆起照料过他的老乳母尚在人世时，便从街头走到巷尾，一路寻访她的茅舍。虽然这些探访与观察本身未必有什么了不起的价值，但整体而言，这都体现了他对海伯里村真挚的善意——在同行者眼中，这份善意本身就近乎一种美德。

Emma watched and decided, that with such

爱玛观察着，心中断定：以

feelings as were now shewn, it could not be fairly supposed that he had been ever voluntarily absenting himself; that he had not been acting a part, or making a parade of insincere professions; and that Mr. **Knightley** certainly had not done him justice.

他现在表现出的这般情意来看，断不能认为他先前是自愿避而不见的；他既非在演戏，也并非虚情假意地故作姿态；奈特利先生确实对他有失公允。

Their first pause was at the Crown Inn, an inconsiderable house, though the principal one of the sort, where a couple of pair of post-horses were kept, more for the convenience of the neighbourhood than from any run on the road; and his companions had not expected to be detained by any interest excited there; but in passing it they gave the history of the large room visibly added; it had been built many years ago for a ball-room, and while the neighbourhood had been in a particularly populous, dancing state, had been occasionally used as such;—but such brilliant days had long passed away, and now the highest purpose for which it was ever wanted was to accommodate a whist club established among the gentlemen and half-gentlemen of the place. **He** was immediately interested. **Its** character as a ball-room caught him; and instead of passing on,

他们最先驻足的是皇冠旅店——这虽然算得上是当地的主要客栈，但也不过是间不起眼的屋舍。店里养着两三对驿马，与其说是为了应对驿道上的车马往来，倒不如说是为了方便邻近的住户。他的同伴们本不指望在此处激起什么兴致而耽搁行程；但经过时，他们还是说起了那间加盖的宽敞厅堂的来历：那是多年前为举办舞会而建的，在邻近地区人口鼎盛、舞风盛行的时期，这里曾偶尔用作舞厅——可惜那般辉煌的岁月早已逝去，如今它最大的用处，不过是供当地绅士与半绅士们组建的惠斯特牌俱乐部使用。他立刻兴致

he stopt for several minutes at the two superior sashed windows which were open, to look in and contemplate its capabilities, and lament that its original purpose should have ceased. **H**e saw no fault in the room, he would acknowledge none which they suggested. **N**o, it was long enough, broad enough, handsome enough. **I**t would hold the very number for comfort. **T**hey ought to have balls there at least every fortnight through the winter. **W**hy had not Miss Woodhouse revived the former good old days of the room? —**S**he who could do any thing in Highbury! **T**he want of proper families in the place, and the conviction that none beyond the place and its immediate environs could be tempted to attend, were mentioned; but he was not satisfied. **H**e could not be persuaded that so many good-looking houses as he saw around him, could not furnish numbers enough for such a meeting; and even when particulars were given and families described, he was still unwilling to admit that the inconvenience of such a mixture would be any thing, or that there would be the smallest difficulty in every body's returning into their

盎然。这厅堂作为舞会的特质吸引了他，他没有继续前行，反而在那两扇敞开的凸窗旁驻足良久，向内张望并思忖着它的潜力，惋惜它最初功用的消逝。他觉得这厅堂无可挑剔，对旁人指出的缺陷概不认同。不，它足够长、足够宽、足够气派。容纳恰到好处的人数绰绰有余。他们理当在冬季至少每半月在此举办一场舞会。伍德豪斯小姐为何不重振这厅堂往昔的美好时光？——她可是在海伯里无所不能的人啊！当旁人提及当地缺乏体面人家，且确信除了本地及近郊居民外无人愿来赴会时，他仍不以为然。他无法被说服，认为眼前这许多美观宅邸竟凑不齐一场舞会所需的人数；即便当人们细数各家底细时，他仍固执己见，不承认这种阶层混杂会带来什么不便，也不认为次日清晨众人各归

proper place the next morning. **H**e argued like 其位会有丝毫困难。他争辩 a young man very much bent on dancing; and 时像个一心盼着跳舞的年轻人；爱玛见韦斯顿先生的爽 Emma was rather surprized to see the constitu- 朗性情竟如此彻底地压过了 tion of the Weston prevail so decidedly against the habits of the Churchills. **H**e seemed to 邱吉尔家的习气，颇感惊讶。 have all the life and spirit, cheerful feelings, and 他似乎继承了父亲全部的朝 social inclinations of his father, and nothing of 气、热忱、欢快情绪与社交倾 the pride or reserve of Enscombe. **O**f pride, in- 向，却没有恩斯康伯宅第那 deed, there was, perhaps, scarcely enough; his 般的傲慢与拘谨。不过说到 indifference to a confusion of rank, bordered 傲慢，他或许倒是过于欠缺 too much on inelegance of mind. **H**e could be 了一对等级混淆的漠视， no judge, however, of the evil he was holding 几乎已流于粗俗不拘。然而 cheap. **I**t was but an effusion of lively spirits. 他终究无法体察自己正在轻慢的礼数之弊。这不过是青春热血的一时奔涌罢了。

At last he was persuaded to move on from the front of the Crown; and being now almost facing the house where the Bateses lodged, Emma recollect ed his intended visit the day before, and asked him if he had paid it.

他终于被说服从克朗旅馆门前走开；这时几乎已来到贝茨家所住的房前，爱玛记起他昨天打算的拜访，便问他是否已经过去了。

“**Y**es, oh! **y**es” —he replied; “I was just going to mention it. **A** very successful visit:— I saw all the three ladies; and felt very much obliged to you for your preparatory hint. **I**f

“是啊，哦！是啊——”他回答，“我正要说这件事呢。这次拜访相当成功——我见到那三位女士；真得多谢你

the talking aunt had taken me quite by surprise, it must have been the death of me. **As** it was, I was only betrayed into paying a most unreasonable visit. **Ten** minutes would have been all that was necessary, perhaps all that was proper; and I had told my father I should certainly be at home before him—but there was no getting away, no pause; and, to my utter astonishment, I found, when he (finding me nowhere else) joined me there at last, that I had been actually sitting with them very nearly three-quarters of an hour. **The** good lady had not given me the possibility of escape before. ”

事先提醒。要是那位健谈的姨妈让我完全猝不及防，我非得丧命不可。即便如此，我还是被迫进行了一次极不合时宜的拜访。本来十分钟就足够了，或许十分钟才是得体的；而且我告诉过父亲肯定会比他先到家——可是根本脱不开身，连喘息的间隙都没有。更让我惊愕的是，当父亲（在别处找不着我）最后那里与我会合时，我发现竟然和她们坐了将近三刻钟。那位好心的夫人根本没给我任何脱身的机会。”

“**And** how did you think Miss Fairfax looking? ” “你觉得费尔法克斯小姐气色如何？”

“**Ill**, very ill—that is, if a young lady can ever be allowed to look ill. **But** the expression is hardly admissible, Mrs. **Weston**, is it? **Ladies** can never look ill. **And**, seriously, Miss Fairfax is naturally so pale, as almost always to give the appearance of ill health. —A most deplorable want of complexion. ” “病啦，病得很重——假如一位年轻小姐可以允许显得病恹恹的话。不过这种说法实在不妥当，韦斯顿太太，您说是是不是？小姐们是永远不会显得病态的。说正经的，费尔法克斯小姐天生就那么苍

白，简直总像带着三分病容
——面色憔悴得令人惋惜。”

Emma would not agree to this, and began a warm defence of Miss Fairfax's complexion. “**It** was certainly never brilliant, but she would not allow it to have a sickly hue in general; and there was a softness and delicacy in her skin which gave peculiar elegance to the character of her face.” **He** listened with all due deference; acknowledged that he had heard many people say the same—but yet he must confess, that to him nothing could make amends for the want of the fine glow of health. **Where** features were indifferent, a fine complexion gave beauty to them all; and where they were good, the effect was—fortunately he need not attempt to describe what the effect was.

爱玛并不同意这话，还为费尔法克斯小姐的肤色热烈辩护起来。“当然说不上鲜艳，可她总的说来并不显得病态。再说，她的皮肤有一种柔和感，一种细腻感，从而给她面孔赋予了一种非同寻常的文雅。”他彬彬有礼地听着，承认他也听不少人这样说——然而他又不得不承认，在他看来，缺少了鲜艳的色彩，什么也无法弥补。如果五官长得差一点，鲜艳的色彩倒可以显得楚楚动人，如果长得标致，那效果就会——好在他用不着试图描述那效果是什么。

“**Well,**” said Emma, “there is no disputing about taste. —**At** least you admire her except her complexion.”

“好吧，”爱玛说，“各人的口味是无法争辩的。——至少除了肤色之外，你还是欣赏她的。”

He shook his head and laughed. — “I cannot separate Miss Fairfax and her complexion.” 他摇了摇头，笑起来——“我实在没法把费尔法克斯小姐和她的气色分开来看。”

“**Did** you see her often at Weymouth? **Were** you often in the same society?” “你在韦茅斯常见到她吗？你们常出入同一个社交圈吗？”

At this moment they were approaching Ford's, and he hastily exclaimed, “Ha! **this** must be the very shop that every body attends every day of their lives, as my father informs me. **He** comes to Highbury himself, he says, six days out of the seven, and has always business at Ford's. **If** it be not inconvenient to you, pray let us go in, that I may prove myself to belong to the place, to be a true citizen of Highbury. **I** must buy something at Ford's. **It** will be taking out my freedom. —**I** dare say they sell gloves.” **此刻**他们正走近福特商店，他急忙嚷道：“哈！这想必就是家父所说那间人人每日必至的铺子了。他说自己七天里倒有六天要来海伯里，且总要在福特商店办些事。若您方便，咱们不妨进去走走，好叫我证明自己确系本地人，是个不折不扣的海伯里居民。我定要在福特商店买点东西——这就算取得了居留权。我敢说这儿准卖手套。”

“**Oh!** **yes**, gloves and every thing. **I** do admire your patriotism. **You** will be adored in Highbury. **You** were very popular before you came, because you were Mr. **Weston**' s son —but lay out half a guinea at Ford's, and your “哦！是的，手套样样都要买。我真钦佩您的爱国热忱。您定会成海伯里万众景仰的人物。当初您人还没到就深受欢迎，因为您是韦斯顿先生

popularity will stand upon your own virtues. ” 的公子——不过只要在福特商店花上半个几尼，您的声望就能全靠自己的美德来建立了。”

They went in; and while the sleek, well-tied parcels of “Men’s Beavers” and “York Tan” were bringing down and displaying on the counter, he said—“But I beg your pardon, Miss Woodhouse, you were speaking to me, you were saying something at the very moment of this burst of my amor patriae. **D**o not let me lose it. **I** assure you the utmost stretch of public fame would not make me amends for the loss of any happiness in private life. ”

他们走了进去；当那些光滑整齐的”海狸男帽”和”约克黃皮”包裹被取下来陈列在柜台上时，他开口说道：”请原谅我，伍德豪斯小姐，刚才您正和我说话呢，就在我这股爱国热情迸发的时候您正要说什么。请别让我错过您的话。说实在的，即便赢得再大的公众声誉，也弥补不了我在私人生活中失去的任何幸福。”

“**I** merely asked, whether you had known much of Miss Fairfax and her party at Weymouth. ”

“我只是问一问，您对韦茅斯的费尔法克斯小姐和她那一伙人是否很熟悉。”

“**A**nd now that I understand your question, I must pronounce it to be a very unfair one. **I**t is always the lady’s right to decide on the degree of acquaintance. **M**iss Fairfax must already

“既然我明白了你的问题，我必须要说这是个很不公平的问题。决定交往程度向来是女士的权利。费尔法克斯小

have given her account. —I shall not commit myself by claiming more than she may chuse to allow. ” 姐肯定已经表明了她的态度 ——我可不敢擅自僭越她所允许的界限。”

“Upon my word! you answer as discreetly as she could do herself. But her account of every thing leaves so much to be guessed, she is so very reserved, so very unwilling to give the least information about any body, that I really think you may say what you like of your acquaintance with her. ” “说真的！你回答得简直像她本人一样谨慎。可是她对每件事的叙述都留给人这么多猜测的余地，她是那么含蓄，那么不愿透露关于任何人的点滴信息，我确实觉得你大可以随心所欲地描述你与她的交情。”

“May I, indeed? —Then I will speak the truth, and nothing suits me so well. I met her frequently at Weymouth. I had known the Campbells a little in town; and at Weymouth we were very much in the same set. Colonel Campbell is a very agreeable man, and Mrs. Campbell a friendly, warm-hearted woman. I like them all. ” ”当真？——那我要实话实说了，这最合我的脾胃。我在韦茅斯常遇见她。在城里时我与坎贝尔家略有往来；到了韦茅斯我们又常在同一个社交圈来往。坎贝尔上校是个极讨人喜欢的绅士，坎贝尔太太则是位亲切热心的夫人。我很喜欢他们全家。”

“You know Miss Fairfax’s situation in life, I conclude; what she is destined to be? ” “我想你总知道菲尔费克斯小姐的身世吧；她命中注定要成为怎样的人？”

“Yes—(rather hesitatingly)—I believe I do. “是的——(略有些犹豫)——”
我想我是的。”

“**You** get upon delicate subjects, Emma,” said “你谈到微妙的话题了，爱
Mrs. **Weston** smiling; “remember that I am 玛，”韦斯顿太太微笑着
here. —**Mr. Frank** Churchill hardly knows 说，“别忘了我也在这儿呢。
what to say when you speak of Miss Fairfax’s 你一提起费尔法克斯小姐的
situation in life. **I** will move a little farther off. 境遇，弗兰克·邱吉尔先生
” 简直不知如何应对。我且往
远处挪一挪。”

“**I** certainly do forget to think of her, ” said “我确实忘了去想她，”爱玛
Emma, “as having ever been any thing but my 说，“除了是我的朋友，我最
friend and my dearest friend. ” 亲爱的朋友之外，她在我心
里从来就没有过别的身份。”

He looked as if he fully understood and hon- 他的神情似乎完全理解并尊
oured such a sentiment. 重这种情感。

When the gloves were bought, and they had 手套买好，两人走出商店以
quitted the shop again, “Did you ever hear the 后，弗兰克·邱吉尔说：“你
young lady we were speaking of, play? ”**said** 听过我们刚才谈到的那位小
Frank Churchill. 姐弹琴吗?”

“**Ever** hear her! ”**repeated** Emma. “**You** “听她弹琴!”爱玛重复道，“您
forget how much she belongs to Highbury. **I** 忘了她可是海伯里人。自从
have heard her every year of our lives since we 我们开始学琴起，我每年都

both began. **She** plays charmingly. ”

听她弹奏。她的琴声美妙极了。”

“**You** think so, do you? —**I** wanted the opinion of some one who could really judge. **She** appeared to me to play well, that is, with considerable taste, but I know nothing of the matter myself. —**I** am excessively fond of music, but without the smallest skill or right of judging of any body's performance. —**I** have been used to hear her's admired; and I remember one proof of her being thought to play well:—a man, a very musical man, and in love with another woman—engaged to her—on the point of marriage—would yet never ask that other woman to sit down to the instrument, if the lady in question could sit down instead—never seemed to like to hear one if he could hear the other. **That**, I thought, in a man of known musical talent, was some proof.”

“你这么想吗? ——我正需要听听真正懂行的人的评价。在我看来她弹得不错, 就是说很有韵味, 不过我自己完全是个门外汉——我虽然酷爱音乐, 却丝毫没有评判他人演奏的能耐。我常听人赞美她的琴艺; 有件事倒能证明大家认为她弹得好: 一位颇具音乐造诣的男士——当时正与另一位女士相恋, 已订了婚, 即将结婚——但只要这位小姐在座, 他就从不邀请未婚妻弹琴; 只要能听这位小姐演奏, 他就似乎从不愿听别人弹奏。我想, 对于一位公认懂音乐的人而言, 这总算是某种明证。”

“**Proof** indeed! ”**said** Emma, highly amused. — “**Mr. Dixon** is very musical, is he? **We** shall know more about them all, in half an hour, from you, than Miss Fairfax would have

”这还用说! ”爱玛觉得十分有趣, 说道。”狄克森先生非常喜欢音乐, 是吗? 他们的情况, 我们只要半小时就能从

vouchsafed in half a year. ”

你那儿了解得清清楚楚，比菲尔费克斯小姐半年里肯告诉我们的还要多呢。”

“**Yes**, Mr. **Dixon** and Miss Campbell were the persons; and I thought it a very strong proof. ”

“是的，正是狄克逊先生和坎贝尔小姐；我认为这是个非常有力的佐证。”

“**Certainly—very** strong it was; to own the truth, a great deal stronger than, if I had been Miss Campbell, would have been at all agreeable to me. **I** could not excuse a man’s having more music than love—more ear than eye—a more acute sensibility to fine sounds than to my feelings. **How** did Miss Campbell appear to like it? ”

“当然啦——非常强烈；老实说，要是换作我是坎贝尔小姐，那种强烈的程度实在让我难以接受。我绝不能原谅一个男人把音乐看得比爱情还重——对音律比对情意更敏感——对美妙乐声的感知远胜过对我的感受。坎贝尔小姐当时表现得可还喜欢？”

“**It** was her very particular friend, you know. ”

“那可是她最要好的朋友，你知道的。”

“**Poor** comfort! ”**said** Emma, laughing. “**One** would rather have a stranger preferred than one’s very particular friend—with a stranger it might not recur again—but the misery of having a very particular friend always at hand, to do every thing better than one does

“这算是什么安慰！”爱玛笑着说，“与其让一个特别要好的朋友胜过自己，还不如让一个陌生人胜过自己呢——跟陌生人打交道，那种事也许不会再发生——可是让一个

oneself! —**Poor** Mrs. **Dixon!** Well, I am glad she is gone to settle in Ireland. ” 特别要好的朋友经常守在身边，事事都比你自己强！可怜的狄克生太太！哼，她到爱尔兰去安家，我倒很高兴。”

“**You** are right. **It** was not very flattering to Miss Campbell; but she really did not seem to feel it. ” “你说得对。这对坎贝尔小姐确实不太恭维；不过她似乎真的并不在意。”

“**So** much the better—or so much the worse:— I do not know which. **But** be it sweetness or be it stupidity in her—quickness of friendship, or dulness of feeling—there was one person, I think, who must have felt it: Miss Fairfax herself. **She** must have felt the improper and dangerous distinction. ” “这样更好——或者说更糟：——我也不知道是哪一个。但不管这是她的可爱之处还是愚钝之处——是交友的迅速，还是感情的迟钝——我想，总有一人必定感受到了：那就是费尔法克斯小姐本人。她一定感觉到了这种不合时宜且危险的差别对待。”

“**As** to that—I do not—” “至于那个——我并不——”

“**Oh!** **do** not imagine that I expect an account of Miss Fairfax’s sensations from you, or from any body else. **They** are known to no human being, I guess, but herself. **But** if she continued to play whenever she was asked by Mr. 果迪克森先生每次请她弹琴

“哦！别以为我指望你或任何其他人来告诉我费尔法克斯小姐的感受。我想，除了她自己，谁也不会知道。但如

Dixon, one may guess what one chuses. ”

她都继续弹下去，那人们爱怎么猜就怎么猜吧。”

“**T**here appeared such a perfectly good understanding among them all—he began rather quickly, but checking himself, added, “however, it is impossible for me to say on what terms they really were—how it might all be behind the scenes. **I** can only say that there was smoothness outwardly. **B**ut you, who have known Miss Fairfax from a child, must be a better judge of her character, and of how she is likely to conduct herself in critical situations, than I can be.”

”他们之间似乎存在着一种完全融洽的默契——”他起初说得相当急促，但随即克制住自己，补充道，“不过，我实在说不清他们实际的关系如何——幕后究竟是怎样的情况。我只能说表面上一派祥和。但您从小认识费尔法克斯小姐，对她的品性，以及她在紧要关头的行事方式，定然比我更有判断力。”

“**I** have known her from a child, undoubtedly; we have been children and women together; and it is natural to suppose that we should be intimate,—that we should have taken to each other whenever she visited her friends. **B**ut we never did. **I** hardly know how it has happened; a little, perhaps, from that wickedness on my side which was prone to take disgust towards a girl so idolized and so cried up as she always was, by her aunt and grandmother, and all their set. **A**nd then, her reserve—I never

”我从小就认识她，这是无疑的；我们曾一起经历孩提时代，又一同成长为女子；按理说我们本该亲密无间——每次她来探望亲友时，我们都应当互相亲近。但事实从未如此。我几乎说不清这是如何发生的；或许有几分要归咎于我性格里那点邪僻，对于像她那样始终被姨母、祖母以及她们那整个圈子奉若

could attach myself to any one so completely reserved. ” 神明、交口称赞的姑娘，我总忍不住心生厌烦。再者，她那矜持的性情——我永远无法真心亲近一个如此讳莫如深的人。”

“**It** is a most repulsive quality, indeed,” said he. “**Oftentimes** very convenient, no doubt, but never pleasing. **There** is safety in reserve, but no attraction. **One** cannot love a reserved person. ” “这确实是一种最令人反感的品质，”他说。“**无疑**往往很方便，但绝不讨人喜欢。**矜持**固然稳妥，却毫无魅力。谁也不会爱上一个沉默寡言的人。”

“**Not** till the reserve ceases towards oneself; and then the attraction may be the greater. **But** I must be more in want of a friend, or an agreeable companion, than I have yet been, to take the trouble of conquering any body’s reserve to procure one. **Intimacy** between Miss Fairfax and me is quite out of the question. I have no reason to think ill of her—not the least—except that such extreme and perpetual cautiousness of word and manner, such a dread of giving a distinct idea about any body, is apt to suggest suspicions of there being something to conceal. ” ”要等到对方对我自己不再矜持，我才会消除这种保留；而那时，吸引力或许反而更大。不过除非我比现在更需要朋友，或更渴望有个投契的伴侣，否则绝不会费心去突破谁的拘谨来结交知己。我与费尔法克斯小姐建立亲密关系是完全不可能的。我毫无理由对她抱有成见——丝毫没有——只是她言语举止永远过分谨慎，如此害怕对任何人表露明确态度，难

免让人怀疑她是否藏着什么秘密。”

He perfectly agreed with her: and after walking together so long, and thinking so much alike, Emma felt herself so well acquainted with him, that she could hardly believe it to be only their second meeting. **H**e was not exactly what she had expected; less of the man of the world in some of his notions, less of the spoiled child of fortune, therefore better than she had expected. **H**is ideas seemed more moderate —his feelings warmer. **S**he was particularly struck by his manner of considering Mr. **E**lton's house, which, as well as the church, he would go and look at, and would not join them in finding much fault with. **N**o, he could not believe it a bad house; not such a house as a man was to be pitied for having. **I**f it were to be shared with the woman he loved, he could not think any man to be pitied for having that house. **T**here must be ample room in it for every real comfort. **T**he man must be a block-head who wanted more.

他完全赞同她的看法；两人同行了这么久，想法又如此相似，爱玛不禁觉得与他相知已深，几乎不敢相信这只是他们的第二次会面。他并非完全如她所料——少了几分世故圆滑，少了几分纨绔习气，因而比她预想的更令人满意。他的见解更显持重，情感却更为温厚。尤其令她动容的是他评价埃尔顿先生住宅的态度：他打算亲自去看看那幢房子和教堂，并不随声附和旁人对房子的诸多指摘。**不**，他绝不认为那是幢差劲的住宅，绝不至于让人同情宅子的主人。**若能**与他心爱的女子同住，他觉着拥有那房子的人根本无可怜悯。**其中**必有充裕的空间容纳世间所有实在的安乐。**若**还有人贪求更多，那定是个糊涂虫。

Mrs. Weston laughed, and said he did not know what he was talking about. Used only to a large house himself, and without ever thinking how many advantages and accommodations were attached to its size, he could be no judge of the privations inevitably belonging to a small one. But Emma, in her own mind, determined that he did know what he was talking about, and that he shewed a very amiable inclination to settle early in life, and to marry, from worthy motives. He might not be aware of the inroads on domestic peace to be occasioned by no housekeeper's room, or a bad butler's pantry, but no doubt he did perfectly feel that Enscombe could not make him happy, and that whenever he were attached, he would willingly give up much of wealth to be allowed an early establishment.

韦斯顿太太笑着说他不知所云。他自己住惯了大宅子，从没考虑过大宅子带来的种种优渥与便利，自然无从评判小宅子必然存在的种种缺憾。但爱玛心里认定他确实明白自己在说什么，而且表现出一种令人赞赏的意愿——想要早早安定下来，怀着体面的动机成家。或许他尚未意识到没有管家用房或糟糕的备餐间会对家庭安宁造成怎样的侵害，但他必定真切地感受到恩斯康比宅邸无法给他幸福，并且确信一旦坠入情网，他会心甘情愿放弃大量财富，只为能早日组建自己的家庭。

CHAPTER VII

第七章

Emma's very good opinion of Frank Churchill was a little shaken the following day, by hearing that he was gone off to London, merely to have his hair cut. A sudden freak seemed to have seized him at breakfast, and he

第二天，爱玛对弗兰克·丘吉尔的良好印象便打了个折扣，因为她听说他突然心血来潮去了伦敦，仅仅为了理个头发。早餐时他突发奇想

had sent for a chaise and set off, intending to return to dinner, but with no more important view that appeared than having his hair cut. **T**here was certainly no harm in his travelling sixteen miles twice over on such an errand; but there was an air of foppery and nonsense in it which she could not approve. **I**t did not accord with the rationality of plan, the moderation in expense, or even the unselfish warmth of heart, which she had believed herself to discern in him yesterday. **V**anity, extravagance, love of change, restlessness of temper, which must be doing something, good or bad; heedlessness as to the pleasure of his father and Mrs. **W**eston, indifferent as to how his conduct might appear in general; he became liable to all these charges. **H**is father only called him a coxcomb, and thought it a very good story; but that Mrs. **W**eston did not like it, was clear enough, by her passing it over as quickly as possible, and making no other comment than that "all young people would have their little whims."

雇了辆轻便马车就出发，声称赶得及回来用晚餐，可除了理发之外似乎并无更重要的事要办。为这等小事往返三十二英里自然无伤大雅，但这般纨绔子弟的荒唐行径实在令她不敢苟同。这与他昨日展现的周密计划、节制用度乃至那份赤诚热忱都格格不入——她原以为自己已从他身上看到了这些品质。**虚荣、奢靡、喜新厌旧、性情浮躁**（总得找点事做不论好坏）、全然不顾伍德豪斯先生与韦斯顿夫人的感受、毫不在意旁人如何看待自己的行径——这些指控如今都能安在他头上。他父亲只笑骂了句"纨绔子弟"，觉得是桩趣闻；但韦斯顿夫人明显不以为然，她匆匆带过这个话题，只淡淡说了句："年轻人总免不了有些怪念头。"

With the exception of this little blot, Emma found that his visit hitherto had given her

除了这点小小瑕疵外，爱玛发现他此次来访给女友留下

friend only good ideas of him. **Mrs. Weston** 的印象可说完美无缺。韦斯顿太太总爱说他多么体贴入微——说他多么讨人喜欢地陪她解闷——说他的性情风度处处招人喜爱。他显然胸怀坦荡——确实又开朗又活泼；她在她言谈中找不出半点毛病，倒是处处显得颇有见地。他提起舅父时满怀敬意，乐于谈论——说若是让舅父自行其是，他定是世上第一流的人物；虽然对舅妈并无感情，却总感激她的养育之恩，谈起她时始终怀着敬意。这一切都令人欣慰。若不是因为那个剪发的不合时宜的怪念头，简直挑不出半点毛病足以玷污她想象中赋予他的那份殊荣——那份即使不算真正爱上她，也几乎临近爱情的殊荣（因为她依然坚持不婚的决心）——简而言之，那份被他们共同相识圈公认为属于她的殊荣。

This was all very promising; and, but for such an unfortunate fancy for having his hair cut, there was nothing to denote him unworthy of the distinguished honour which her imagination had given him; the honour, if not of being really in love with her, of being at least very near it, and saved only by her own indifference —(for still her resolution held of never marrying)—the honour, in short, of being marked out for her by all their joint acquaintance.

Mr. Weston, on his side, added a virtue 韦斯顿先生这边又添上了一

to the account which must have some weight. 项美德，分量着实不轻。他
He gave her to understand that Frank admired 让她明白弗兰克极为倾慕她
her extremely—thought her very beautiful and —认为她容貌出众，仪态
very charming; and with so much to be said for 万方；既然他有这许多可取
him altogether, she found she must not judge 之处，她觉得自己断不该苛
him harshly. **As** Mrs. Weston observed, “all 责于他。正如韦斯顿夫人所
young people would have their little whims.” 言：“年轻人嘛，总免不了有
些小癖好。”

There was one person among his new ac- 他在萨里新结识的圈子里，
quaintance in Surry, not so leniently disposed. 偏有一个人不肯对他宽厚相
In general he was judged, throughout the 待。总的说来，在当维尔和海
parishes of Donwell and Highbury, with great 伯里两个教区，人们都怀着
candour; liberal allowances were made for the 公正的态度评判他。大家如
little excesses of such a handsome young man 此宽宏大量，原谅了这个英
— one who smiled so often and bowed so well; 俊小伙子的一些小小过分之
but there was one spirit among them not to be 处——他见人笑容可掬，鞠
softened, from its power of censure, by bows or 躬行礼彬彬有礼！但是，他
smiles—Mr. Knightley. **The** circumstance 们中间的这位先生却不为他
was told him at Hartfield; for the moment, he 的鞠躬和微笑所动，决心要
was silent; but Emma heard him almost imme- 对他加以谴责——他就是奈
diately afterwards say to himself, over a news- 特利先生。他在哈特菲尔德
paper he held in his hand, “Hum! just the 听人说起这件事，当时默不
trifling, silly fellow I took him for. ”**She** had 作声。但是，爱玛几乎紧接着
half a mind to resent; but an instant’s observa- 就听见他对着手里拿的报
tion convinced her that it was really said only 纸自言自语：“哼！我早料定

to relieve his own feelings, and not meant to provoke; and therefore she let it pass.

她是个轻浮的蠢材。”她心里有点想反驳，但是再一想，马上相信他说这话不过是为了发泄一下自己的情绪，并不是存心要惹她生气，因此她也就不予理会。

Although in one instance the bearers of not good tidings, Mr. **and** Mrs. **Weston'** s visit this morning was in another respect particularly opportune. **Something** occurred while they were at Hartfield, to make Emma want their advice; and, which was still more lucky, she wanted exactly the advice they gave.

尽管带来了不尽人意的消息，韦斯顿夫妇今晨的造访在另一方面却显得格外及时。他们在哈特菲尔德庄园逗留期间，发生了一桩事，使得爱玛渴望听取他们的建议；而更幸运的是，他们给出的建议恰恰正是她所需要的。

This was the occurrence:—The Coles had been settled some years in Highbury, and were very good sort of people—friendly, liberal, and unpretending; but, on the other hand, they were of low origin, in trade, and only moderately genteel. **On** their first coming into the country, they had lived in proportion to their income, quietly, keeping little company, and that little unexpensively; but the last

事情是这样的：科尔一家在海伯里已定居多年，是些很好的人——友善、慷慨、又不摆架子。然而，他们出身低微，以经商为业，仅算得上略有教养。初来此地时，他们量入为出，过着俭朴的生活，很少与人交往，即便交往也花费不多。但近一两年

year or two had brought them a considerable increase of means—the house in town had yielded greater profits, and fortune in general had smiled on them. **With** their wealth, their views increased; their want of a larger house, their inclination for more company. **They** added to their house, to their number of servants, to their expenses of every sort; and by this time were, in fortune and style of living, second only to the family at Hartfield. **Their** love of society, and their new dining-room, prepared every body for their keeping dinner-company; and a few parties, chiefly among the single men, had already taken place. **The** regular and best families Emma could hardly suppose they would presume to invite—neither Donwell, nor Hartfield, nor Randalls. **Nothing** should tempt her to go, if they did; and she regretted that her father's known habits would be giving her refusal less meaning than she could wish. **The** Coles were very respectable in their way, but they ought to be taught that it was not for them to arrange the terms on which the superior families would visit them. **This** lesson, she very much feared, 来，他们的财产大增——城里的店铺盈利颇丰，命运之神似乎总向他们微笑。随着财富增长，他们的眼界也开阔了：想要更大的宅邸，渴望更多的交际。他们扩建房屋，增添仆役，各项开支都水涨船高。如今在财富与生活排场上，他们仅次于哈特菲尔德家。他们热衷交际的新餐厅，让所有人都预料到他们将举办宴会；其实早已办过几场，宾客多是单身男士。**爱玛**认为他们断不敢贸然邀请当地体面人家——无论是当维尔、哈特菲尔德还是兰德尔。即便他们敢请，也休想说服她赴宴。她唯一遗憾的是，父亲惯常的处世方式会使她的拒绝显得不够郑重。**科尔**夫妇固然值得敬重，但该让他们明白，上等人家是否造访，岂由他们来定规矩？**这层**道理——她暗自忧心——恐怕唯有靠她来点拨：

they would receive only from herself; she had 对奈特利先生不抱指望，对 little hope of Mr. **Knightley**, none of Mr. 韦斯顿先生更不存奢望。
Weston.

But she had made up her mind how to meet 然而她早在几周前就拿定了 this presumption so many weeks before it ap- 主意，如何应对这种可能的 peared, that when the insult came at last, it 惰慢。因此，当这侮辱最终 found her very differently affected. **Donwell** 来临时，她的心境已大不相 and Randalls had received their invitation, and 同。当唐维尔和兰德尔都收 none had come for her father and herself; and 到了邀请，唯独她与父亲被 Mrs. **Weston**'s accounting for it with “I sup- 排除在外时，连韦斯顿夫人 pose they will not take the liberty with you; 那句”想必他们不敢贸然叨 they know you do not dine out,” was not quite 扰，都知道您从不应酬晚宴” sufficient. **She** felt that she should like to have 的解释也显得苍白无力。她 had the power of refusal; and afterwards, as 本渴望拥有婉拒的权利；而 the idea of the party to be assembled there, 当想到这场聚会将汇聚她最 consisting precisely of those whose society was 珍视的友人——哈里特傍晚 dearest to her, occurred again and again, she 会出席，贝茨母女也在受邀 did not know that she might not have been 之列，前日他们在海伯里散 tempted to accept. **Harriet** was to be there in 步时还热烈讨论过此事，弗 the evening, and the Bateses. **They** had been 兰克·丘吉尔更是痛惜她的 speaking of it as they walked about Highbury 缺席，甚至提议“何不以舞 the day before, and Frank Churchill had most 会收场？”——这些念头反复 earnestly lamented her absence. **Might** not 涌现时，她不敢保证自己 the evening end in a dance? **had** been a ques- 不会动心前往。纵然这般疏漏 tion of his. **The** bare possibility of it acted 是出于敬意，让她独享尊荣，

as a farther irritation on her spirits; and her being left in solitary grandeur, even supposing the omission to be intended as a compliment, was but poor comfort.

It was the arrival of this very invitation while the Westons were at Hartfield, which made their presence so acceptable; for though her first remark, on reading it, was that “of course it must be declined,” she so very soon proceeded to ask them what they advised her to do, that their advice for her going was most prompt and successful.

She owned that, considering every thing, she was not absolutely without inclination for the party. **The** Coles expressed themselves so properly—there was so much real attention in the manner of it—so much consideration for her father. “**They** would have solicited the honour earlier, but had been waiting the arrival of a folding-screen from London, which they hoped might keep Mr. **Woodhouse** from any draught of air, and therefore induce him the more readily to give them the hon-

但这孤高的处境如同芒刺，令她心绪难平。

韦斯顿夫妇正在哈特菲尔德时，恰巧这封请柬送到了，这使他们的在场显得格外及时；因为爱玛虽然初读请柬时说了句“当然只能婉拒”，但她很快就征求他们的意见该如何处理，结果他们立刻劝她接受邀请，并且顺利地说服了她。

她承认，考虑到种种情况，自己对这次聚会倒也并非全无兴致。**科尔**夫妇的措辞十分得体——邀请方式显得格外诚恳——对父亲的照料更是考虑周详。”他们早该前来恳请赏光，只因等候从伦敦运来的一扇折叠屏风，盼着能为伍德豪斯先生遮挡穿堂风，好让他更愿意赏脸光临。”总而言之，她颇容易被

our of his company. "Upon the whole, she was very persuadable; and it being briefly settled among themselves how it might be done without neglecting his comfort—how certainly Mrs. **Goddard**, if not Mrs. **Bates**, might be depended on for bearing him company—Mr. **Woodhouse** was to be talked into an acquiescence of his daughter's going out to dinner on a day now near at hand, and spending the whole evening away from him. As for his going, Emma did not wish him to think it possible, the hours would be too late, and the party too numerous. **He** was soon pretty well resigned.

"I am not fond of dinner-visiting," said he—"I never was. No more is Emma. Late hours do not agree with us. I am sorry Mr. and Mrs. **Cole** should have done it. I think it would be much better if they would come in one afternoon next summer, and take their tea with us—take us in their afternoon walk; which they might do, as our hours are so reasonable, and yet get home without being out in the damp of the evening. The dews of a summer evening are what I would not expose any body to. However, as they are so very de-

说服；几人简短商议了既不影响父亲安适又能成行的方案——即便贝茨太太抽不开身，戈达德太太总能来作陪——于是决定劝说伍德豪斯先生同意女儿在近日外出赴宴，整晚不在家中。至于父亲本人同行，爱玛根本不让他存此念想，毕竟宴席时间太晚，宾客又过于繁杂。老人不多时便也释然了。

"我不喜欢赴宴，"他说，"从来都不喜欢。爱玛也一样。我们都不习惯熬夜。科尔先生和太太这样做，我很遗憾。要我说，不如明年夏天找个下午来我们家喝茶——趁傍晚散步时顺便过来；这完全可行，因为我们作息很规律，他们也能赶在夜露降临前回家。我可不愿让任何人在夏夜的露水里赶路。不过，既然他们如此盛情邀请亲爱的

sirous to have dear Emma dine with them, and as you will both be there, and Mr. **Knightley** too, to take care of her, I cannot wish to prevent it, provided the weather be what it ought, neither damp, nor cold, nor windy. ”

Then turning to Mrs. **Weston**, with a look of gentle reproach—“Ah! **Miss Taylor**, if you had not married, you would have staid at home with me. ”

爱玛，加上你们二位和奈特利先生都会在场照顾她，只要天气合宜——不潮湿、不寒冷、无大风——我也就不反对了。”说罢转向韦斯顿太太，带着温和的责备神色叹道：“唉！泰勒小姐，要是您没结婚，这会儿还能在家陪着我呢。”

“Well, sir,” cried Mr. **Weston**, “as I took Miss Taylor away, it is incumbent on me to supply her place, if I can; and I will step to Mrs. **Goddard** in a moment, if you wish it. ”

“好吧，先生，”韦斯顿先生高声说道，“既然是我把泰勒小姐带走的，理应由我来补这个缺，只要我能办到。您要是愿意，我这就去找戈达德太太。”

But the idea of any thing to be done in a moment, was increasing, not lessening, Mr. **Woodhouse**’ s agitation. **The** ladies knew better how to allay it. **Mr. Weston** must be quiet, and every thing deliberately arranged.

然而，想到要在顷刻间完成任何事，非但不能减轻伍德豪斯先生的焦虑，反而使之愈演愈烈。女士们更懂得如何平息他的不安——韦斯顿先生必须保持安静，每件事都需从容安排。

With this treatment, Mr. **Woodhouse** was 经此安抚，伍德豪斯先生很

soon composed enough for talking as usual. 快便恢复了常态，照常说起
“**H**e should be happy to see Mrs. **Goddard**. 话来。”我很乐意见到戈达
He had a great regard for Mrs. **Goddard**; 德太太。我一向十分敬重戈
and Emma should write a line, and invite her. 达德太太；爱玛该写封短信
James could take the note. **B**ut first of all, 邀请她。可以让詹姆斯把请
there must be an answer written to Mrs. **Cole**. 束送去。不过首先得给科尔
” 太太写封回信。”

“**Y**ou will make my excuses, my dear, as civilly as possible. **Y**ou will say that I am quite an invalid, and go no where, and therefore must decline their obliging invitation; beginning with my compliments, of course. **B**ut you will do every thing right. **I** need not tell you what is to be done. **W**e must remember to let James know that the carriage will be wanted on Tuesday. **I** shall have no fears for you with him. **W**e have never been there above once since the new approach was made; but still I have no doubt that James will take you very safely. **A**nd when you get there, you must tell him at what time you would have him come for you again; and you had better name an early hour. **Y**ou will not like staying late. **Y**ou will get very tired when tea is over.”

“亲爱的，你要尽可能客气地替我致歉。就说我实在是个病人，哪儿也去不了，因此只能婉拒他们盛情的邀请；当然，开头要先代我致意。不过你自然会处理得妥妥帖帖，我无需嘱咐该怎么做。我们得记得通知詹姆斯，星期二要用马车。有你坐他的车，我一点儿都不担心。新路修好之后我们只去过一次，我相信詹姆斯一定能把你平安送到。等到了那儿，你得告诉他几点来接你回去，最好说个早点儿的时间。你不会愿意待太晚的。喝完茶后你肯定会很疲倦的。”

“**But** you would not wish me to come away before I am tired, papa? ” “可是，爸爸，您总不会希望我还没玩够就回来吧?”

“**Oh! no**, my love; but you will soon be tired. **There** will be a great many people talking at once. **You** will not like the noise. ” “哦！不，亲爱的；但你很快就会厌倦的。会有很多人同时说话，你不会喜欢那种喧闹声的。”

“**But**, my dear sir,” cried Mr. **Weston**, “if Emma comes away early, it will be breaking up the party. ” “可是，我亲爱的先生，”韦斯顿先生嚷道，“要是爱玛提前离席，这场聚会可就散场啦。”

“**And** no great harm if it does,” said Mr. **Woodhouse**. “**The** sooner every party breaks up, the better. ” “就算真那样也没什么大不了的，”伍德豪斯先生说，“聚会散得越早越好。”

“**But** you do not consider how it may appear to the Coles. **Emma**’s going away directly after tea might be giving offence. **They** are good-natured people, and think little of their own claims; but still they must feel that any body’s hurrying away is no great compliment; and Miss Woodhouse’s doing it would be more thought of than any other person’s in the room. **You** would not wish to disappoint and mortify the Coles, I am sure, sir; friendly, good sort of

“可您没考虑科尔夫妇会作何感想。爱玛刚喝完茶就走，怕是会得罪人。他们性子好，从不计较自家体面；可任谁匆匆离席总归不算恭敬，这点他们总该有数。伍德豪斯小姐这么做，比屋里其他人更惹人注目。您肯定不愿让科尔夫妇失望难堪的，先生；天底下再找不出比他们

people as ever lived, and who have been your neighbours these ten years.” 更和气的好人了，做您邻居都整整十年啦。”

“**No**, upon no account in the world, Mr. **We-ston**; I am much obliged to you for reminding me. **I** should be extremely sorry to be giving them any pain. **I** know what worthy people they are. **Perry** tells me that Mr. **Cole** never touches malt liquor. **You** would not think it to look at him, but he is bilious—Mr. **Cole** is very bilious. **No**, I would not be the means of giving them any pain. **My** dear Emma, we must consider this. **I** am sure, rather than run the risk of hurting Mr. **and** Mrs. **Cole**, you would stay a little longer than you might wish. **You** will not regard being tired. **You** will be perfectly safe, you know, among your friends.” “不，绝对不行，韦斯顿先生；非常感谢您提醒我。若让他们感到丝毫痛苦，我将万分歉疚。我知道他们是多么可敬的人。佩里先生告诉我，科尔先生从不沾麦芽酒。看外表您可能想不到，但他确实患有胆郁症——科尔先生胆郁相当严重。**不**，我绝不能成为令他们难过的缘由。**亲爱的爱玛**，我们必须慎重考虑。我相信，您宁愿多留片刻——哪怕超出您本意，也绝不愿冒令科尔夫妇不快的风险。**您不会在意些许疲惫的**。要知道，在朋友们中间**您绝对安全。**”

“**Oh** yes, papa. **I** have no fears at all for myself; and I should have no scruples of staying as late as Mrs. **Weston**, but on your account. **I** am only afraid of your sitting up for me. **I** am not afraid of your not being exceedingly 儿也不担心；若不是为您着想，我本可以像韦斯顿太太那样毫无顾虑地待到很晚。我只怕您熬夜等我。我知道

comfortable with Mrs. **Goddard**. She loves 您和戈达德太太打皮克牌时
piquet, you know; but when she is gone home, 很自在——她酷爱此道；但
I am afraid you will be sitting up by yourself, 我担心她回家后，您会独自
instead of going to bed at your usual time— 枯坐，不肯按平时作息就寝
and the idea of that would entirely destroy my ——这个念头会让我坐立难
comfort. You must promise me not to sit up. 安。您得答应我绝不熬夜。”
”

He did, on the condition of some promises on 他答应了，但要求她作出一
her side: such as that, if she came home cold, 些承诺：比如，若回家时觉
she would be sure to warm herself thoroughly; 得冷，务必好好暖和一下；若
if hungry, that she would take something to 饿了，就吃点东西；要让她
eat; that her own maid should sit up for her; 自己的女仆熬夜等她；还要
and that Serle and the butler should see that 塞尔和管家像往常一样检查
every thing were safe in the house, as usual. 家里是否一切安好。

CHAPTER VIII

第八章

Frank Churchill came back again; and if he kept his father's dinner waiting, it was not known at Hartfield; for Mrs. **Weston** was too anxious for his being a favourite with Mr. **Woodhouse**, to betray any imperfection which could be concealed.

弗兰克·邱吉尔又回来了；即使他让他父亲的晚饭等了许久，在哈特菲尔德也无人知晓——因为韦斯顿太太一心巴望他博得伍德豪斯先生的好感，纵有什么瑕疵能够遮掩，她也绝不肯泄露半分。

He came back, had had his hair cut, and 他回来了，理了发，还十分洒

laughed at himself with a very good grace, but without seeming really at all ashamed of what he had done. **He** had no reason to wish his hair longer, to conceal any confusion of face; no reason to wish the money unspent, to improve his spirits. **He** was quite as undaunted and as lively as ever; and, after seeing him, Emma thus moralised to herself:—

脱地自嘲了一番，但似乎对自己所做的事毫无愧色。他不必蓄长发遮羞，也不必省下那笔钱来振作精神。他依然那样无所畏惧，那样生气勃勃。见过他之后，爱玛暗自思忖起来：——

“I do not know whether it ought to be so, but certainly silly things do cease to be silly if they are done by sensible people in an impudent way. **Wickedness** is always wickedness, but folly is not always folly. —**It** depends upon the character of those who handle it. **Mr. Knightley**, he is not a trifling, silly young man. **If** he were, he would have done this differently. **He** would either have gloried in the achievement, or been ashamed of it. **There** would have been either the ostentation of a coxcomb, or the evasions of a mind too weak to defend its own vanities. —**No**, I am perfectly sure that he is not trifling or silly.”

“我不知道这是否应当如此，但可以肯定的是，若是明达之人以放肆的方式行事，蠢事也就不成其为蠢事了。邪恶永远是邪恶，但愚蠢未必总是愚蠢——这取决于行事者的品格。奈特利先生，他绝非 轻浮愚蠢的年轻人。
倘若他是，处理此事的方式便会不同。他要么会夸耀这番成就，要么会为此感到羞愧。要么会像纨绔子弟般招摇过市，要么会因心智薄弱而闪烁其词，无力维护自己的虚荣。不，我完全确信他既不轻浮，也不愚蠢。”

With Tuesday came the agreeable prospect of seeing him again, and for a longer time than hitherto; of judging of his general manners, and by inference, of the meaning of his manners towards herself; of guessing how soon it might be necessary for her to throw coldness into her air; and of fancying what the observations of all those might be, who were now seeing them together for the first time.

星期二一到，她便有希望再次见到他，而且见面的时间会比以往更长，有机会判断他的一般态度，并凭推测，领悟他对她自己的态度有何含义，猜测她必须把冷淡的态度做到什么地步，设想那些初次见到他们在一起的人会有什么议论。

She meant to be very happy, in spite of the scene being laid at Mr. **Cole'** s; and without being able to forget that among the failings of Mr. **Elton**, even in the days of his favour, none had disturbed her more than his propensity to dine with Mr. **Cole**.

尽管这场戏是在科尔先生家上演的，她本意是要高高兴兴的；可心里总不免想起，即使在埃尔顿先生最得她欢心的时候，他有个毛病最叫她恼火，就是总爱跟着科尔先生一起吃饭。

Her father's comfort was amply secured, Mrs. **Bates** as well as Mrs. **Goddard** being able to come; and her last pleasing duty, before she left the house, was to pay her respects to them as they sat together after dinner; and while her father was fondly noticing the beauty of her dress, to make the two ladies all the amends in her power, by helping them to large slices of

她父亲的舒适已得到充分保障，贝茨太太和戈达德太太都能前来；离开宅邸前她最后一件愉快的职责，便是趁两位女士饭后同坐时上前致意——当父亲慈爱地赞叹她衣裙的美丽时，她忙着将大块蛋糕和满杯葡萄酒递给两

cake and full glasses of wine, for whatever unwilling self-denial his care of their constitution might have obliged them to practise during the meal. —**She** had provided a plentiful dinner for them; she wished she could know that they had been allowed to eat it.

位女士，竭力弥补她们方才用餐时因父亲对她们健康的关切而不得不勉强克制的口腹之欲。她为她们准备了丰盛的晚餐，只恨不能确信她们被允许尽情享用。

She followed another carriage to Mr. Cole's door; and was pleased to see that it was Mr. Knightley's; for Mr. Knightley keeping no horses, having little spare money and a great deal of health, activity, and independence, was too apt, in Emma's opinion, to get about as he could, and not use his carriage so often as became the owner of Donwell Abbey. **She** had an opportunity now of speaking her approbation while warm from her heart, for he stopped to hand her out.

她跟着另一辆马车来到科尔先生家门口；看到那是奈特利先生的马车，她不禁满心欢喜。因为奈特利先生不养马，闲钱不多却精力充沛、行动自如且生性独立，在爱玛看来，他总爱随遇而安，难得动用这辆作为唐威尔庄园主本该经常使用的马车。此刻她正可以趁着心中暖意未消表达赞许之情——因为他停下脚步，伸手扶她下车。

“**This** is coming as you should do,” said she; “like a gentleman. —**I** am quite glad to see you.”

“你来得正是时候，”她说，“像个绅士该有的样子——见到你我真高兴。”

He thanked her, observing, “How lucky that we should arrive at the same moment! **for**, if

他向她道谢，又说：“我们同时到达真是巧极了！要是我

we had met first in the drawing-room, I doubt 们先在客厅里相遇，我怀疑 whether you would have discerned me to be 你是否能看出我比平常更有 more of a gentleman than usual. —**You** might 绅士风度——光凭我的神态 not have distinguished how I came, by my look 举止，你或许辨别不出我是 or manner. ” 怎么来的。”

“**Yes** I should, I am sure I should. **There** is “确实如此，我确信我会的。 always a look of consciousness or bustle when 当人们以自知不够体面的方式走进来时，神情间总会流 people come in a way which they know to be beneath them. **You** think you carry it off very 露出局促或忙乱。**我敢说**，你 well, I dare say, but with you it is a sort of 以为自己掩饰得相当不错， bravado, an air of affected unconcern; I always 但这不过是种逞强，故作镇 observe it whenever I meet you under those 定的姿态罢了——每逢在那 circumstances. **Now** you have nothing to 般情境下遇见你，我总能察 try for. **You** are not afraid of being supposed 觉出来。而此刻你无需任何 ashamed. **You** are not striving to look taller 矫饰。你不必担心被人看作 than any body else. **Now** I shall really be 羞怯，也不必费心显得比旁 very happy to walk into the same room with 人更高挑。**现在**，我才真心 you. ” 乐意与你并肩步入同一个房间。”

“**Nonsensical girl!** ”**was** his reply, but not “傻丫头！”他答道，却丝毫没有生气的意思。

Emma had as much reason to be satisfied with the rest of the party as with Mr. 爱玛对聚会其余成员的满意程度，丝毫不亚于对奈特利

Knightley. She was received with a cordial respect which could not but please, and given all the consequence she could wish for. When the Westons arrived, the kindest looks of love, the strongest of admiration were for her, from both husband and wife; the son approached her with a cheerful eagerness which marked her as his peculiar object, and at dinner she found him seated by her—and, as she firmly believed, not without some dexterity on his side.

先生的满意。她受到诚挚尊敬的接待——这自然令她欢喜，也获得了她所期望的显要地位。韦斯顿夫妇抵达时，丈夫与妻子都向她投来最亲切的爱的目光、最热烈的赞赏；儿子更是带着欢欣雀跃的神情向她走来，分明将她视作自己特别关注的对象。晚宴时她发现他特意坐在自己身旁——她深信不疑，这定然是对方精心安排的结果。

The party was rather large, as it included one other family, a proper unobjectionable country family, whom the Coles had the advantage of naming among their acquaintance, and the male part of Mr. Cox's family, the lawyer of Highbury. The less worthy females were to come in the evening, with Miss Bates, Miss Fairfax, and Miss Smith; but already, at dinner, they were too numerous for any subject of conversation to be general; and, while politics and Mr. Elton were talked over, Emma could fairly surrender all her attention to the

这次聚会规模颇大，因为还邀请了另一户人家——一户体面得体无可挑剔的乡绅人家，科尔夫妇有幸与他们相识；此外还有海伯里律师考克斯先生家的几位男宾。那些不够分量的女宾们要等到晚上才随贝茨小姐、费尔法克斯小姐和史密斯小姐一同前来。但即便是午宴时分，宾客数量已多到无法进行统一话题的交谈。当人们谈论着

pleasantness of her neighbour. **The** first remote sound to which she felt herself obliged to attend, was the name of Jane Fairfax. **Mrs.** **Cole** seemed to be relating something of her that was expected to be very interesting. **She** listened, and found it well worth listening to. **That** very dear part of Emma, her fancy, received an amusing supply. **Mrs. Cole** was telling that she had been calling on Miss Bates, and as soon as she entered the room had been struck by the sight of a pianoforte—a very elegant looking instrument—not a grand, but a large-sized square pianoforte; and the substance of the story, the end of all the dialogue which ensued of surprize, and inquiry, and congratulations on her side, and explanations on Miss Bates's, was, that this pianoforte had arrived from Broadwood's the day before, to the great astonishment of both aunt and niece—entirely unexpected; that at first, by Miss Bates's account, Jane herself was quite at a loss, quite bewildered to think who could possibly have ordered it—but now, they were both perfectly satisfied that it could be from only one quarter;—of course it must be from 政治动向和埃尔顿先生时，爱玛正好可以全神贯注地享受与邻座相伴的愉悦。直到一个遥远的字眼迫使她侧耳倾听——简·费尔法克斯的名字。**科尔太太**似乎正在讲述关于她的某件趣闻，听起来颇引人入胜。**爱玛**凝神细听，发现确实值得一听。她那最珍视的幻想力此刻获得了有趣的滋養。**原来****科尔太太**说起日前去拜访贝茨小姐，刚进门就被一架大钢琴吸引了目光——那是架外观雅致的乐器，并非三角钢琴。**这故事**的精髓，以及随后所有关于惊讶、探问、祝贺与解释的对话归结起来便是：这架钢琴于前日从布罗德伍德琴行运抵，令姨妈和外甥女惊诧不已——完全出乎意料；据贝茨小姐描述，简起初完全茫然，绞尽脑汁也想不出订购者究竟何人——但如今她

Colonel Campbell.

们俩都确信无疑，只可能来自一个人——当然定是坎贝尔上校所赠。

“**One** can suppose nothing else,” added Mrs. **Cole**, “and I was only surprised that there could ever have been a doubt. **But** Jane, it seems, had a letter from them very lately, and not a word was said about it. **She** knows their ways best; but I should not consider their silence as any reason for their not meaning to make the present. **They** might chuse to surprise her.”

“只能这样设想，”科尔太太补充道，“我先前还奇怪怎么竟有人怀疑。不过，简好像最近收到过他们一封信，信里只字未提这件事。她最清楚他们的行事风格。但我可不认为他们保持沉默就意味着不打算送这份礼。他们或许是想给她一个惊喜呢。”

Mrs. Cole had many to agree with her; every body who spoke on the subject was equally convinced that it must come from Colonel Campbell, and equally rejoiced that such a present had been made; and there were enough ready to speak to allow Emma to think her own way, and still listen to Mrs. Cole.

科尔太太的话得到了许多人的附和；凡是谈到这个话题的人，都同样深信这份厚礼必定来自坎贝尔上校，也同样为这份赠礼欢欣不已；愿意发表意见的人够多的了，爱玛尽可以随心所欲地琢磨，同时还能聆听科尔太太的谈话。

“I declare, I do not know when I have heard any thing that has given me more satisfaction!” 说真的，我好久没听到过这么令人欣慰的消息了！简 ·

—It always has quite hurt me that Jane Fairfax, who plays so delightfully, should not have an instrument. It seemed quite a shame, especially considering how many houses there are where fine instruments are absolutely thrown away. This is like giving ourselves a slap, to be sure! and it was but yesterday I was telling Mr. Cole, I really was ashamed to look at our new grand pianoforte in the drawing-room, while I do not know one note from another, and our little girls, who are but just beginning, perhaps may never make any thing of it; and there is poor Jane Fairfax, who is mistress of music, has not any thing of the nature of an instrument, not even the pitifullest old spinet in the world, to amuse herself with. —I was saying this to Mr. Cole but yesterday, and he quite agreed with me; only he is so particularly fond of music that he could not help indulging himself in the purchase, hoping that some of our good neighbours might be so obliging occasionally to put it to a better use than we can; and that really is the reason why the instrument was bought—or else I am sure we ought to be ashamed of it. —We are in great hopes that

费尔法克斯弹得那么动听，却没有一架琴，这实在让我心疼。尤其想到多少人家把好端端的钢琴闲置着，这简直太不像话了。我们自己就是在打自己的耳光呢！昨天我还跟科尔先生说，看到客厅里那架新买的大钢琴，我真觉得害臊——我连音符都分不清，两个小女儿才刚刚入门，说不定根本学不出名堂。而可怜的简·费尔法克斯精通音乐，却连一件像样的乐器都没有，世上最破旧的古钢琴她都没有一架用来消遣。我昨天刚对科尔先生说过这话，他完全赞同。只是他特别爱好音乐，忍不住买了这架琴，指望好心的邻居们偶尔能来弹奏，让物尽其用。说实在的，这就是我们买琴的缘由——要不然我准会为此羞愧难当。我们衷心希望今晚能说动伍德豪斯小姐赏脸试弹呢。”

Miss Woodhouse may be prevailed with to try it this evening."

Miss Woodhouse made the proper acquiescence; and finding that nothing more was to be entrapped from any communication of Mrs. Cole's, turned to Frank Churchill.

"Why do you smile?" said she.

"Nay, why do you?"

"Me! —I suppose I smile for pleasure at Colonel Campbell's being so rich and so liberal. —It is a handsome present."

"Very."

"I rather wonder that it was never made before."

"Perhaps Miss Fairfax has never been staying here so long before."

"Or that he did not give her the use of their own instrument—which must now be shut up in London, untouched by any body."

伍德豪斯小姐得体地应和了一声；发现从科尔太太的谈话中再也套不出什么消息，便转向了弗兰克·丘吉尔。

"你笑什么？"她问道。

"不，你为何要这样？"

"我呀！——我想我笑是因为高兴坎贝尔上校这么富有又这么慷慨。——这真是件厚礼。"

"非常。"

"我倒觉得奇怪，以前竟没有人想到这么做。"

"或许费尔法克斯小姐从未在此逗留过这么久。"

"或者说他没有让她使用他们自己的钢琴——那架琴现在一定被搁置在伦敦，无人

问津。”

“**That** is a grand pianoforte, and he might think it too large for Mrs. **Bates'** s house.” 那是一架大钢琴，他或许会觉得贝茨太太家里放不下。

“**You** may say what you chuse—but your countenance testifies that your thoughts on this subject are very much like mine.” “你尽管说你的——可你的神情表明，你对这件事的想法和我相差无几。”

“I do not know. I rather believe you are giving me more credit for acuteness than I deserve. I smile because you smile, and shall probably suspect whatever I find you suspect; but at present I do not see what there is to question. If Colonel Campbell is not the person, who can be?” “我不知道。恐怕您把我看得过于敏锐了。我微笑是因为您在微笑，您怀疑什么我大概也会跟着怀疑；但眼下我实在看不出有什么可疑之处。如果坎贝尔上校不是那个人，还能是谁呢？”

“What do you say to Mrs. **Dixon**? ” “你对狄克逊夫人怎么看?”

“Mrs. **Dixon!** very true indeed. I had not thought of Mrs. **Dixon**. She must know as well as her father, how acceptable an instrument would be; and perhaps the mode of it, the mystery, the surprize, is more like a young woman's scheme than an elderly man's. It is Mrs. **Dixon**, I dare say. I told you that your “狄克森太太！确实如此。我竟没想到狄克森太太。她肯定和她父亲一样清楚，收到一架钢琴该多么令人欣喜；而且这种赠送方式——这般神秘，这般出其不意——倒更像是年轻女子的主意，而

suspicions would guide mine. ”

非长辈所为。准是狄克森太太，我敢肯定。早说过你的猜测会指引我的思路。”

“If so, you must extend your suspicions and comprehend Mr. **Dixon** in them. ”

“若是如此，您必须扩大您的猜疑范围，把迪克逊先生也包含进去。”

“**Mr. Dixon.** —Very well. Yes, I immediately perceive that it must be the joint present of Mr. **and** Mrs. **Dixon.** We were speaking the other day, you know, of his being so warm an admirer of her performance. ”

” 狄克逊先生——很好。是的，我立刻意识到这必定是狄克逊夫妇共同赠送的礼物。您知道，我们前些天还说起过，他对她的演奏是何等热情洋溢的崇拜者。”

“Yes, and what you told me on that head, confirmed an idea which I had entertained before. —I do not mean to reflect upon the good intentions of either Mr. **Dixon** or Miss Fairfax, but I cannot help suspecting either that, after making his proposals to her friend, he had the misfortune to fall in love with her, or that he became conscious of a little attachment on her side. One might guess twenty things without guessing exactly the right; but I am sure there must be a particular cause for her chus-

” 不错，而且你在这方面告诉我的话，证实了我先前的一个想法。我并不是要指责狄克逊先生或费尔法克斯小姐居心不良，可我忍不住怀疑：要么是在向她的朋友求婚后，不幸又爱上了她，要么是他察觉到了她对自己萌生了一丝情意。人们可能猜测二十件事也猜不中真正原因，但我敢肯定她选择来海

ing to come to Highbury instead of going with the Campbells to Ireland. **Here**, she must be leading a life of privation and penance; there it would have been all enjoyment. **As** to the pretence of trying her native air, I look upon that as a mere excuse. —**In** the summer it might have passed; but what can any body's native air do for them in the months of January, February, and March? **Good** fires and carriages would be much more to the purpose in most cases of delicate health, and I dare say in her's. **I** do not require you to adopt all my suspicions, though you make so noble a profession of doing it, but I honestly tell you what they are. ”

伯里而不跟坎贝尔一家去爱尔兰，必定别有隐情。在这里她只能过着清苦克己的生活，在那里却会充满欢乐。**至于**所谓试试故乡空气的托词，我看纯属借口——若在夏季还说得过去，可一二三月间，谁的故乡空气能对健康有什么益处呢？**对于**体质虚弱的人，旺旺的炉火和马车代步才最实际，我敢说对她也是如此。**我**并非要你全盘接受我的猜疑，尽管你刚才慷慨激昂地表示愿意相信，但我还是坦诚相告了。”

“**And**, upon my word, they have an air of great probability. **Mr. Dixon'**s preference of her music to her friend's, I can answer for being very decided. ”

“说真的，这些推測听起来倒很有几分道理。**狄克森**先生格外欣赏她的音乐胜过她的朋友，这一点我敢担保确有其事。”

“**And** then, he saved her life. **Did** you ever hear of that? —**A** water party; and by some accident she was falling overboard. **He** caught her. ”

“而且，他还救过她的命呢。你听说过这事吗？——一次水上聚会，她不知怎么差点掉进水里。**是他**一把拉住了

她。”

“**H**e did. **I** was there—one of the party. ”

“他确实说了。当时我也在场——是聚会中的一员。”

“**W**ere you really? —**W**ell! —**B**ut you ob- served nothing of course, for it seems to be a new idea to you. —**I**f I had been there, I think I should have made some discoveries. ”

“真的吗? ——哎呀! ——不过你肯定什么都没注意到, 因为这事儿对你来说似乎挺新鲜。——要是我在场的话, 想必能发现些端倪。”

“**I** dare say you would; but I, simple I, saw nothing but the fact, that Miss Fairfax was nearly dashed from the vessel and that Mr. **D**ixon caught her. —**I**t was the work of a moment. **A**nd though the consequent shock and alarm was very great and much more durable —indeed I believe it was half an hour before any of us were comfortable again—yet that was too general a sensation for any thing of peculiar anxiety to be observable. **I** do not mean to say, however, that you might not have made discoveries. ”

”我敢说你会注意到; 可是我这个笨人, 除了看见范费尔克斯小姐险些跌出船外, 被迪克逊先生一把抓住之外, 什么也没有看见——那只是刹那工夫的事。虽然随之而来的震惊和恐慌非常厉害, 而且持续了许久——的确, 我相信我们大家过了半个钟头才重新定下心来——可是他们太慌张了, 不可能让人家看出什么特别焦急的心情来。不过, 我并不是说, 你就不会有所发现。”

The conversation was here interrupted. 谈话到此中断。席间上菜的

They were called on to share in the awkwardness of a rather long interval between the courses, and obliged to be as formal and as orderly as the others; but when the table was again safely covered, when every corner dish was placed exactly right, and occupation and ease were generally restored, Emma said,

间隙颇长，不免有些尴尬，他们不得不像其他人一样，正襟危坐，循规蹈矩。待到餐桌重新布置妥当，每道边菜都摆放得恰到好处，众人恢复自在从容之际，爱玛才开口道：

“**The** arrival of this pianoforte is decisive with me. **I** wanted to know a little more, and this tells me quite enough. **Depend** upon it, we shall soon hear that it is a present from Mr. and Mrs. **Dixon.**”

这架钢琴的到来，让我彻底明白了。我原本还想多知道些情况，现在它已经说明了一切。等着瞧吧，我们很快就会听说这是迪克森先生和夫人送的礼物。

“**And** if the Dixons should absolutely deny all knowledge of it we must conclude it to come from the Campbells.”

“倘若狄克逊夫妇对此事矢口否认，那我们就只能认定消息来自坎贝尔家了。”

“**No**, I am sure it is not from the Campbells. **Miss** Fairfax knows it is not from the Campbells, or they would have been guessed at first. **She** would not have been puzzled, had she dared fix on them. **I** may not have convinced you perhaps, but I am perfectly convinced myself that Mr. **Dixon** is a principal in the busi-

“不，我敢说这绝不是坎贝尔夫妇寄的。费尔法克斯小姐心里明白不是坎贝尔夫妇，否则一开始就会猜到是他们。倘若她敢断定是他们，就不会那样困惑了。也许我还没能说服您，但我自己完

ness. ”

全确信——狄克逊先生才是这件事的主角。”

“**Indeed** you injure me if you suppose me unconvinced. **Your** reasonings carry my judgment along with them entirely. **At** first, while I supposed you satisfied that Colonel Campbell was the giver, I saw it only as paternal kindness, and thought it the most natural thing in the world. **But** when you mentioned Mrs. **Dixon**, I felt how much more probable that it should be the tribute of warm female friendship. **And** now I can see it in no other light than as an offering of love. ”

“你若是以为我未被说服，那可真冤枉我了。你的推论完全征服了我的判断。起初，我以为你认定坎贝尔上校是赠礼者时，我只视其为慈父般的厚爱，觉得这是世间最自然不过的事。但当你提及狄克逊夫人时，我立刻意识到这更可能是炽热女性友情的馈赠。而此刻在我眼中，这分明只能是爱情的献礼。”

There was no occasion to press the matter farther. **The** conviction seemed real; he looked as if he felt it. **She** said no more, other subjects took their turn; and the rest of the dinner passed away; the dessert succeeded, the children came in, and were talked to and admired amid the usual rate of conversation; a few clever things said, a few downright silly, but by much the larger proportion neither the one nor the other—nothing worse than everyday remarks, dull repetitions, old news, and

无需再往下追问。他的确信似乎发自真心，神情也显得真切。她没再多说，话题转到了别处。晚餐在余下的时间里继续进行；接着是餐后甜点，孩子们也进来了，大家照例一边交谈，一边逗弄，夸奖他们——席间偶有妙语连珠，也不乏蠢话连篇，但绝大多数既不算高明也不至拙劣，无非是日常闲谈、老

heavy jokes.

生常谈、过时消息与沉闷笑
话罢了。

The ladies had not been long in the drawing-room, before the other ladies, in their different divisions, arrived. Emma watched the entree of her own particular little friend; and if she could not exult in her dignity and grace, she could not only love the blooming sweetness and the artless manner, but could most heartily rejoice in that light, cheerful, unsentimental disposition which allowed her so many alleviations of pleasure, in the midst of the pangs of disappointed affection. There she sat—and who would have guessed how many tears she had been lately shedding? To be in company, nicely dressed herself and seeing others nicely dressed, to sit and smile and look pretty, and say nothing, was enough for the happiness of the present hour. Jane Fairfax did look and move superior; but Emma suspected she might have been glad to change feelings with Harriet, very glad to have purchased the mortification of having loved—yes, of having loved even Mr. Elton in vain—by the surrender of all the dangerous pleasure of knowing herself beloved by

这几位女士在客厅里还没坐多久，其他几位女士便按各自所属的社交圈子陆续到来。爱玛注视着她那位亲密小伙伴走进门来的仪态——如果说她无法为对方的端庄优雅而欢欣鼓舞，那么她不仅喜爱那如花绽放的甜美与浑然天成的举止，更由衷庆幸那颗轻盈欢快、不耽于感伤的心性，竟能在失恋苦楚中赋予她如此多愉悦的慰藉。瞧她端坐其间——谁又能猜到她近来淌过多少泪水？此刻能置身社交场合，身着得体服饰，眼见旁人衣冠楚楚，只需静坐微笑展露娇颜，缄口不语便足以构成此刻的全部欢愉。简·费尔法克斯的仪态举止确实更胜一筹，但爱玛暗自揣度，这位小姐或许甘愿与哈丽特交换心境——宁愿以放弃“被

the husband of her friend.

友人丈夫倾慕”这份危险的愉悦为代价，来换取眼下这种“即便曾痴恋埃尔顿先生而不得”的屈辱体验。

In so large a party it was not necessary that Emma should approach her. She did not wish to speak of the pianoforte, she felt too much in the secret herself, to think the appearance of curiosity or interest fair, and therefore purposely kept at a distance; but by the others, the subject was almost immediately introduced, and she saw the blush of consciousness with which congratulations were received, the blush of guilt which accompanied the name of “my excellent friend Colonel Campbell.”

在这样大的聚会里，爱玛不必特意走近她。她不愿谈起那架钢琴——由于深知其中隐情，她觉得若流露出好奇或关切都显得虚伪，便刻意保持着距离。但旁人几乎立刻提起了这个话题，她看见对方接受祝贺时因心知肚明而泛起的红晕，更看见当提及“我那位挚友坎贝尔上校”时，那抹伴着愧疚的红晕。

Mrs. Weston, kind-hearted and musical, was particularly interested by the circumstance, and Emma could not help being amused at her perseverance in dwelling on the subject; and having so much to ask and to say as to tone, touch, and pedal, totally unsuspecting of that wish of saying as little about it as possible, which she plainly read in the fair heroine's countenance.

韦斯顿太太天性善良，爱好音乐，对这件事特别感兴趣，爱玛禁不住拿她打趣，说她在这件事上总是说个没完没了。她又是问，又是说，什么音调啊，弹奏啊，踏瓣啊，全然没有察觉，女主人公脸上明明白白地写着，她巴不得尽可能少谈这件事。

They were soon joined by some of the gentlemen; and the very first of the early was Frank Churchill. **In** he walked, the first and the handsomest; and after paying his compliments en passant to Miss Bates and her niece, made his way directly to the opposite side of the circle, where sat Miss Woodhouse; and till he could find a seat by her, would not sit at all. **Emma** divined what every body present must be thinking. **She** was his object, and every body must perceive it. **She** introduced him to her friend, Miss Smith, and, at convenient moments afterwards, heard what each thought of the other. “**He** had never seen so lovely a face, and was delighted with her naïveté.” **And** she, “Only to be sure it was paying him too great a compliment, but she did think there were some looks a little like Mr. **Elton**.” **Emma** restrained her indignation, and only turned from her in silence.

不多时便有几位男宾加入她们；最早到场的当属弗兰克·丘吉尔。他翩然而至，既是首批抵达的宾客，又是人群中最为俊朗的那位——只见他先向贝茨小姐和她的外甥女略致寒暄，便径直走向圈子对面伍德豪斯小姐就座的位置，非要寻个挨着她的座位才肯落座。**爱玛**能猜到在场众人此刻的心思。他分明是冲着她来的，这意图任谁都看得分明。**她**将这位先生引荐给自己的朋友史密斯小姐，而后在适当的间隙里，听到了双方对彼此的评价。”**他**从未见过如此可爱的面容，并为她的天真烂漫欣喜不已”；而哈丽特则表示”虽说这样比拟未免过于抬举他，但她确实觉得这位先生的神态有几分像埃尔顿先生”。**爱玛**强压下心头的不悦，只是默然别过脸去。

Smiles of intelligence passed between her and **she** with那位先生初次望向菲尔

the gentleman on first glancing towards Miss Fairfax; but it was most prudent to avoid speech. **H**e told her that he had been impatient to leave the dining-room—hated sitting long—was always the first to move when he could—that his father, Mr. **Knightley**, Mr. **Cox**, and Mr. **Cole**, were left very busy over parish business—that as long as he had staid, however, it had been pleasant enough, as he had found them in general a set of gentleman-like, sensible men; and spoke so handsomely of Highbury altogether—that it so abundant in agreeable families—that Emma began to feel she had been used to despise the place rather too much. **S**he questioned him as to the society in Yorkshire—the extent of the neighbourhood about Enscombe, and the sort; and could make out from his answers that, as far as Enscombe was concerned, there was very little going on, that their visitings were among a range of great families, none very near; and that even when days were fixed, and invitations accepted, it was an even chance that Mrs. **Churchill** were not in health and spirits for going; that they made a point of visiting no

法克斯小姐时，彼此会意地交换了微笑；但最稳妥的做法还是避免交谈。他告诉她，自己早就迫不及待要离开餐厅——讨厌久坐——只要可能总是第一个离席——此刻他父亲、奈特利先生、考克斯先生和科尔先生正忙着讨论教区事务——不过就他停留的这段时间而言，倒还算愉快，因为他发现他们大体都是些有绅士风度、通情达理的人；他对海伯里整体的赞誉如此恳切——认为这里聚居着众多令人愉快的家庭——以至于爱玛开始觉得自己过去未免过于轻视这个地方了。她向他打听约克郡的社交状况——恩斯康比宅邸周边的交际范围及其性质；从他的回答中她了解到，就恩斯康比而言几乎没什么社交活动，他们往来的都是些大户人家，且没有一家住得近；即便定好了日期，接受

fresh person; and that, though he had his separate engagements, it was not without difficulty, without considerable address at times, that he could get away, or introduce an acquaintance for a night.

了邀请，也有一半可能因为邱吉尔夫人身体不适或情绪不佳而取消；他们坚决不结交新朋友；虽然他自己另有应酬，但要抽身离开或带个朋友回去住一晚，往往需要费不少周折，有时还得运用相当巧妙的手段。

She saw that Enscombe could not satisfy, and that Highbury, taken at its best, might reasonably please a young man who had more retirement at home than he liked. **His** importance at Enscombe was very evident. **He** did not boast, but it naturally betrayed itself, that he had persuaded his aunt where his uncle could do nothing, and on her laughing and noticing it, he owned that he believed (excepting one or two points) he could with time persuade her to any thing. **One** of those points on which his influence failed, he then mentioned. **He** had wanted very much to go abroad—had been very eager indeed to be allowed to travel—but she would not hear of it. **This** had happened the year before. Now, he said, he was beginning to have no longer the same

她看出恩斯康比并不能使他心满意足；对海伯里，即使往最好里说，他也是勉强凑合。他在恩斯康比府上的重要地位是一目了然的。他并不自夸，可是流露了出来：在舅父无能为力之处，他却能说服舅母；等爱玛取笑他，说穿了这一点时，他也就承认下来，说他认为（除了二三事以外）只要假以时日，他就能说服舅母做任何事。接着，他提到了他无能为力的一事。他本来很想出国，确实很想能允许他去旅行，可是舅母不肯同意。这是去年的事。现在，他说，他已经

wish.

没有这种愿望了。

The unpersuadable point, which he did not mention, Emma guessed to be good behaviour to his father.

他没有明说的那个无法被说服之点，爱玛猜想是对他的父亲应有的良好态度。

“I have made a most wretched discovery,” said he, after a short pause. —“I have been here a week to-morrow—half my time. I never knew days fly so fast. A week to-morrow! —And I have hardly begun to enjoy myself. But just got acquainted with Mrs. Weston, and others! —I hate the recollection.”

“我发现了一件非常糟糕的事，”他停顿了一下，说道——“我明天来这里就满一周了——时间过去一半啦。我从不知道日子过得这么快。明天就一周啦！可我还没开始享受呢。刚刚结识了韦斯顿太太和其他人！——想起这个我就难受。”

“Perhaps you may now begin to regret that you spent one whole day, out of so few, in having your hair cut.”

“你或许现在要后悔了，在这寥寥数日里，竟花了整整一天去修剪头发。”

“No,” said he, smiling, “that is no subject of regret at all. I have no pleasure in seeing my friends, unless I can believe myself fit to be seen.”

“不，”他微笑着说，“那根本没什么可遗憾的。除非我确信自己体面得能见人，否则与朋友会面于我毫无乐趣可言。”

The rest of the gentlemen being now in the

其余几位先生也走进客厅

room, Emma found herself obliged to turn from him for a few minutes, and listen to Mr. Cole. When Mr. Cole had moved away, and her attention could be restored as before, she saw Frank Churchill looking intently across the room at Miss Fairfax, who was sitting exactly opposite.

后，爱玛不得不暂时背对着他，听科尔先生说话。等科尔先生走开，她的注意力又能像先前那样恢复时，只见弗兰克·邱吉尔正目不转睛地望着屋子对面坐在正对面的费尔法克斯小姐。

“What is the matter? ”said she.

“怎么了?”她问道。

He started. “Thank you for rousing me,” he replied. “I believe I have been very rude; but really Miss Fairfax has done her hair in so odd a way—so very odd a way—that I cannot keep my eyes from her. I never saw any thing so outrée! —Those curls! —This must be a fancy of her own. I see nobody else looking like her! —I must go and ask her whether it is an Irish fashion. Shall I? —Yes, I will—I declare I will—and you shall see how she takes it;—whether she colours.”

他猛地一惊。“谢谢你唤醒了我，”他答道，“我想我刚才太失礼了；可实在是因为费尔法克斯小姐梳了个怪发型——怪得出奇——我的眼睛简直没法从她身上移开。我从未见过如此离奇的打扮！那些卷发！这肯定是她别出心裁的发明。我看在场没一个人梳这种发型！我得去问问她这是不是爱尔兰的时髦款式。可以吗？——对，我要去——我这就去——你且看她作何反应；——会不会脸红。”

He was gone immediately; and Emma soon saw him standing before Miss Fairfax, and talking to her; but as to its effect on the young lady, as he had improvidently placed himself exactly between them, exactly in front of Miss Fairfax, she could absolutely distinguish nothing.

他立刻走开了；爱玛随即看见他站在费尔法克斯小姐面前同她交谈。可是至于这番举动对那位年轻女士产生的影响，他却冒失地恰好站在她们两人之间，恰好挡在费尔法克斯小姐正前方，让她完全无法看清任何反应。

Before he could return to his chair, it was taken by Mrs. **Weston**.

他还没来得及回到自己的座位，韦斯顿太太便已坐了上去。

“**T**his is the luxury of a large party,” said she: “**这**就是人多聚会的妙处，” —“one can get near every body, and say every thing. **M**y dear Emma, I am longing to talk to you. **I** have been making discoveries and forming plans, just like yourself, and I must tell them while the idea is fresh. **D**o you know how Miss Bates and her niece came here? ”

“**这**就是人多聚会的妙处，”她说，“可以接近每一个人，想说什么就说什么。**亲爱**的爱玛，我正渴望和你谈谈呢。**我**有了些新发现，也制定了计划，就和你一样，得趁着想法新鲜时告诉你。**你**知道贝茨小姐和她外甥女是怎么来这儿的吗？”

“**H**ow? —**T**hey were invited, were not they? ” “**怎**么? ——他们受到邀请了，难道没有吗?”

“**O**h! yes—but how they were conveyed

“**哦**！是啊——可它们是怎

hither? —**the** manner of their coming? ”

么运来的? ——是怎么个来法?”

“**They** walked, I conclude. **How** else could they come? ”

“我猜他们是走来的。不然还能怎么来呢?”

“**Very** true. —**Well**, a little while ago it occurred to me how very sad it would be to have Jane Fairfax walking home again, late at night, and cold as the nights are now. **And** as I looked at her, though I never saw her appear to more advantage, it struck me that she was heated, and would therefore be particularly liable to take cold. **Poor** girl! I could not bear the idea of it; so, as soon as Mr. **Weston** came into the room, and I could get at him, I spoke to him about the carriage. **You** may guess how readily he came into my wishes; and having his approbation, I made my way directly to Miss Bates, to assure her that the carriage would be at her service before it took us home; for I thought it would be making her comfortable at once. **Good** soul! **she** was as grateful as possible, you may be sure. ‘**Nobody** was ever so fortunate as herself! ’ —**but** with many, many thanks—‘there was no occasion to trou-

”确实如此——方才我忽然想到,简·费尔法克斯这么晚独自走回家实在叫人难过,如今夜里又这般寒冷。我瞧着她时——虽说从未见过她如此容光焕发——却猛然察觉她面泛红晕,这样反而更容易着凉。**可怜的姑娘!**这念头让我坐立难安;等韦斯顿先生刚进客厅,我便立刻上前与他商量派车的事。**您一定能想见他有多爽快就应允了;**既得了他的首肯,我径直走到贝茨小姐跟前,告诉她马车会先送她们回家再接我们——我想着这样能让她立刻安心。**这位好心人!**您可想而知她千恩万谢的模样,连声说‘谁都比不上她这般好运’——不过再三道谢后又

ble us, for Mr. **Knightley**' s carriage had brought, and was to take them home again. 'I was quite surprized;—very glad, I am sure; but really quite surprized. **Such** a very kind attention—and so thoughtful an attention! —**the** sort of thing that so few men would think of. **And**, in short, from knowing his usual ways, I am very much inclined to think that it was for their accommodation the carriage was used at all. **I** do suspect he would not have had a pair of horses for himself, and that it was only as an excuse for assisting them. ”

说' 实在不必劳烦，奈特利先生的马车已经接送她们来了，稍后还要接她们回去'。我当真吃了一惊——自然很是欣慰，但确实出乎意料。这般体贴周到的安排——考虑得如此细致！根本不是寻常男子能想到的。总之，以我对他平日作风的了解，倒觉得这马车根本就是特地为她们准备的。我甚至怀疑，他本不需要套两匹马，不过是为了帮助她们才寻的托词。”

“**Very** likely,” said Emma—“nothing more likely. **I** know no man more likely than Mr. **Knightley** to do the sort of thing—to do any thing really good-natured, useful, considerate, or benevolent. **He** is not a gallant man, but he is a very humane one; and this, considering Jane Fairfax's ill-health, would appear a case of humanity to him;—and for an act of unostentatious kindness, there is nobody whom I would fix on more than on Mr. **Knightley**. **I** know he had horses to-day—for we arrived together; and I laughed at him about it, but

”很有可能，”爱玛说，”再没有比这更可能的了。我知道没有人比奈特利先生更可能做这种事了——做任何真正仁慈、有用、体贴或慈善的事。他不是个殷勤献媚的人，却是个极富人道精神的；考虑到简·费尔法克斯身体不适，这在他看来正是人道精神的体现——至于说到不事张扬的善举，我想不出还有谁比奈特利先生更会这样

he said not a word that could betray. ”

做了。我知道他今天备了马——因为我们是一起来的；我还为此取笑过他，可他只字未提，丝毫不露痕迹。”

“Well,” said Mrs. Weston, smiling, “you give him credit for more simple, disinterested benevolence in this instance than I do; for while Miss Bates was speaking, a suspicion darted into my head, and I have never been able to get it out again. The more I think of it, the more probable it appears. In short, I have made a match between Mr. Knightley and Jane Fairfax. See the consequence of keeping you company! —What do you say to it? ”

“唔，”韦斯顿太太微笑着说，“在这件事上，你把他想得太天真无私了；因为贝茨小姐说话时，我脑子里突然闪过一个猜疑，这念头就再也挥之不去了。我越想越觉得可能。简而言之，我觉得奈特利先生和简·费尔法克斯很相配。你看这都是和你做伴的结果！——你觉得如何？”

“Mr. Knightley and Jane Fairfax!” exclaimed Emma. “Dear Mrs. Weston, how could you think of such a thing? —Mr. Knightley! —Mr. Knightley must not marry! —You would not have little Henry cut out from Donwell? —Oh! no, Henry must have Donwell. I cannot at all consent to Mr. Knightley’s marrying; and I am sure it is not at all likely. I am amazed that you

“奈特利先生和简·费尔法克斯！”爱玛嚷道，“亲爱的韦斯顿太太，你怎么能想到这种事？——奈特利先生！——奈特利先生可不能结婚！——你总不忍心让小亨利失去唐韦尔的继承权吧？——哦！不行，不行，亨利必须继承唐韦尔。我绝不能同意奈特利

should think of such a thing. ”

先生结婚。而且我敢说这根本不可能。你居然会有这种念头，真让我吃惊。”

“**M**y dear Emma, I have told you what led me to think of it. **I** do not want the match—I do not want to injure dear little Henry—but the idea has been given me by circumstances; and if Mr. **Knightley** really wished to marry, you would not have him refrain on Henry’s account, a boy of six years old, who knows nothing of the matter? ”

“亲爱的爱玛，我已经告诉过你是什么让我想到这件事的。我并不想要这门亲事——我并不想伤害亲爱的小亨利——但这个念头是环境促使我产生的；如果奈特利先生真的想要结婚，你总不会为了亨利的缘故而让他放弃吧，一个六岁的孩子，对这种事一无所知？”

“**Y**es, I would. **I** could not bear to have Henry supplanted. —**M**r. **K**nightley marry! — **N**o, I have never had such an idea, and I cannot adopt it now. **A**nd Jane Fairfax, too, of all women! ”

“是的，我愿意。我无法忍受亨利被取代。——奈特利先生结婚！——不，我从未有过这样的念头，现在也不能接受。而简·费尔法克斯，偏偏还是所有女人中的她！”

“**N**ay, she has always been a first favourite with him, as you very well know. ”

“不，她一向是他最宠爱的人，这你很清楚。”

“**B**ut the imprudence of such a match! ”

“可这门亲事多轻率啊！”

“I am not speaking of its prudence; merely its probability.” “我并非在谈论其是否审慎，仅仅是说其可能性。”

“I see no probability in it, unless you have any better foundation than what you mention. **His** good-nature, his humanity, as I tell you, would be quite enough to account for the horses. **He** has a great regard for the Bateses, you know, independent of Jane Fairfax—and is always glad to shew them attention. **My** dear Mrs. **Weston**, do not take to match-making. **You** do it very ill. **Jane** Fairfax mistress of the Abbey! —**Oh! no**, no;—every feeling revolts. **For** his own sake, I would not have him do so mad a thing.” “我看这事不大可能，除非你还有比这更充分的依据。我跟你说，他心地善良，富有同情心，单凭这一点就足以解释他借马的行为了。你知道，他对贝茨一家一向敬重，这跟简·费尔法克斯毫无关系——他总是乐意向她们表示关怀。我亲爱的韦斯顿太太，可别乱点鸳鸯谱了。你根本不会做媒。让简·费尔法克斯做唐威尔的女主人！——哦，不，不——这简直让人无法接受。就算为他着想，我也绝不能让他做出这种荒唐事。”

“Imprudent, if you please—but not mad. Excepting inequality of fortune, and perhaps a little disparity of age, I can see nothing unsuitable.” “若说轻率，或许如此——但绝非疯狂。除了财产上的不相称，或许还有年龄上的一点差距，我看不出任何不合适之处。”

“But Mr. Knightley does not want to marry. I am sure he has not the least idea of it. Do not put it into his head. Why should he marry? —He is as happy as possible by himself; with his farm, and his sheep, and his library, and all the parish to manage; and he is extremely fond of his brother's children. He has no occasion to marry, either to fill up his time or his heart.”

“但是奈特利先生并不想结婚。我敢肯定他压根儿没有这个念头。别把这种念头灌进他脑袋里。他何苦要结婚呢？——他独自一人再快活不过了：经营着他的农场，照料着他的羊群，翻阅着他的藏书，还得管理整个教区的事务；况且他又是那般疼爱他兄弟家的孩子们。无论是为了填补时间还是填补心灵，他都完全没有必要结婚。”

“My dear Emma, as long as he thinks so, it is so; but if he really loves Jane Fairfax—”

“我亲爱的爱玛，只要他这么想，那便是真的；可倘若他当真爱着简·费尔法克斯——”

“Nonsense! He does not care about Jane Fairfax. In the way of love, I am sure he does not. He would do any good to her, or her family; but—”

“胡扯！他才不在乎简·费尔法克斯呢。在男女之情这方面，我敢说他绝对没有那份心思。他固然愿意为她或她的家人两肋插刀，可是——”

“Well,” said Mrs. Weston, laughing, “perhaps the greatest good he could do them,许他能给她们的最大恩惠，

“嗯，”韦斯顿太太笑着说，“也

would be to give Jane such a respectable home. 就是让简安顿在这样一个体面的家里。”

“**If** it would be good to her, I am sure it would be evil to himself; a very shameful and degrading connexion. **How** would he bear to have Miss Bates belonging to him? —**To** have her haunting the Abbey, and thanking him all day long for his great kindness in marrying Jane? — ‘**So** very kind and obliging! —**But** he always had been such a very kind neighbour! ’
And then fly off, through half a sentence, to her mother’s old petticoat. ‘**Not** that it was such a very old petticoat either—for still it would last a great while—and, indeed, she must thankfully say that their petticoats were all very strong. ’”

“倘若这对她算是好事，那我敢说对他便是灾祸；这是一种极其可耻、有失身份的联姻。他怎能忍受贝茨小姐成为他的姻亲？——让她终日徘徊在修道院里，为他娶简的恩情不停道谢？——‘您真是太好太周到啦！——不过他向来就是个极好的邻居！’话说到一半，她又会突然扯到她母亲的旧衬裙上去。‘倒也不是特别旧的衬裙——毕竟还能穿很久呢——说真的，她得感激地说，她们的衬裙都结实得很。’”

“**For** shame, Emma! **Do** not mimic her. **You** divert me against my conscience. **And**, upon my word, I do not think Mr. **Knightley** would be much disturbed by Miss Bates. **Litle** things do not irritate him. **She** might talk on; and if he wanted to say any thing himself, he would only talk louder, and drown her voice.

“真不害臊，爱玛！别学她那样。你逗得我违背良心发笑。说实在的，我觉得奈特利先生根本不在乎贝茨小姐。小事从来烦扰不了他。她尽管喋喋不休说下去；要是他自己想说什么，只需提高嗓

But the question is not, whether it would be a bad connexion for him, but whether he wishes it; and I think he does. **I** have heard him speak, and so must you, so very highly of Jane Fairfax! **The** interest he takes in her—his anxiety about her health—his concern that she should have no happier prospect! **I** have heard him express himself so warmly on those points! — **Such** an admirer of her performance on the pianoforte, and of her voice! **I** have heard him say that he could listen to her for ever. **Oh!** **and** I had almost forgotten one idea that occurred to me—this pianoforte that has been sent here by somebody—though we have all been so well satisfied to consider it a present from the Campbells, may it not be from Mr. Knightley? **I** cannot help suspecting him. **I** think he is just the person to do it, even without being in love. ”

“**Then** it can be no argument to prove that he is in love. **But** I do not think it is at all a likely thing for him to do. **Mr. Knightley** does nothing mysteriously.”

“**I** have heard him lamenting her having no in-

门压过她的声音就行了。问题不在于这门亲事对他是否不利，而在于他是否愿意。我看他是愿意的。我听他说过——你一定也听过——他对简·费尔法克斯的赞美！他对她的关心——对她健康的担忧——对她前途的惦念！我听他满怀热情地说起这些！他那样欣赏她的琴艺和歌喉！我听过他说能永远听她弹唱下去。哦！我差点忘了刚才闪过的念头——那架不知谁送来的钢琴——虽然我们都认定是坎贝尔夫妇的礼物，但会不会是奈特利先生送的呢？我忍不住要怀疑他。就算没有陷入爱河，我觉得他也正是会做这种事的人。”

“那么这并不能证明他坠入了爱河。但我认为他根本不可能做出这种事。奈特利先生行事从不遮遮掩掩。”

“我屡次听他惋惜她没有一

strument repeatedly; oftener than I should suppose such a circumstance would, in the common course of things, occur to him. ”

“**Very** well; and if he had intended to give her one, he would have told her so. ”

“**There** might be scruples of delicacy, my dear Emma. **I** have a very strong notion that it comes from him. **I** am sure he was particularly silent when Mrs. **Cole** told us of it at dinner. ”

“**You** take up an idea, Mrs. **Weston**, and run away with it; as you have many a time reproached me with doing. **I** see no sign of attachment—I believe nothing of the pianoforte—and proof only shall convince me that Mr. **Knightley** has any thought of marrying Jane Fairfax. ”

They combated the point some time longer in the same way; Emma rather gaining ground over the mind of her friend; for Mrs. **Weston** was the most used of the two to yield; till a

架琴；这种情形在寻常事理中本不会经常被他想起的。”

“很好；倘若他有意送她一件，他早就会告诉她了。”

“**这**或许是由于一种微妙的顾虑，我亲爱的爱玛。我强烈地感觉到这准是他送的。**科尔**太太在餐桌上说起这件事时，他显得格外沉默，我敢肯定。”

“**韦斯顿**太太，你一旦有了个想法，就抓住不放，就像你多次责备我的那样。我看不出有丝毫爱慕的迹象——我也不相信那钢琴的事——只有确凿的证据才能让我相信奈特利先生有意娶简·费尔法克斯。”

她们又就这一点争执了片刻；爱玛倒是在朋友的心目中略占上风，因为韦斯顿太太在两个当中，是比较习惯

little bustle in the room shewed them that tea was over, and the instrument in preparation;— and at the same moment Mr. **Cole** approaching to entreat Miss Woodhouse would do them the honour of trying it. **Frank** Churchill, of whom, in the eagerness of her conversation with Mrs. **Weston**, she had been seeing nothing, except that he had found a seat by Miss Fairfax, followed Mr. **Cole**, to add his very pressing entreaties; and as, in every respect, it suited Emma best to lead, she gave a very proper compliance.

于退让的；直到室内有一点小小的忙碌景象，向她们表示茶事已毕，琴正在准备着；同时柯尔先生向她们走来，请求伍德豪斯小姐赏光一试。由于她先前只顾跟韦斯顿太太热切交谈，对弗兰克·邱吉尔竟视若无睹，只知道他找到了一个座位在菲尔费克斯小姐身旁坐下。他跟在柯尔先生后面也来请求她，在各方面都最热心恳求，因此，她十分得体地依从了。

She knew the limitations of her own powers too well to attempt more than she could perform with credit; she wanted neither taste nor spirit in the little things which are generally acceptable, and could accompany her own voice well. **One** accompaniment to her song took her agreeably by surprize—a second, slightly but correctly taken by Frank Churchill. **Her** pardon was duly begged at the close of the song, and every thing usual followed. **He** was accused of having a delightful voice, and a perfect knowledge of music; which was properly 她十分清楚自己能力的局限，从不敢尝试超出能力范围的事情，以免有失体面。在那些通常受人欢迎的小事上，她既不缺乏品味，也不缺乏兴致。她能很好地给自己的歌声伴奏。有一次，有人给她的歌伴奏，让她又惊又喜——第二次伴奏则略有欠缺，不过还算准确，那是弗兰克·丘吉尔弹的。歌曲一结束，他便请求她的原谅，

denied; and that he knew nothing of the matter, and had no voice at all, roundly asserted. **They** sang together once more; and Emma would then resign her place to Miss Fairfax, whose performance, both vocal and instrumental, she never could attempt to conceal from herself, was infinitely superior to her own.

接下来是些老生常谈的客套话。有人指责他有一副迷人的歌喉，还精通音乐，他却矢口否认，声音自己完全不懂音乐，歌喉也毫无动人之处。他们又合唱了一遍，爱玛便把自己的位置让给了费尔法克斯小姐。不论是唱歌还是弹琴，费尔法克斯小姐的表演都比她强得多，这一点她心里不得不承认。

With mixed feelings, she seated herself at a little distance from the numbers round the instrument, to listen. **Frank** Churchill sang again. **They** had sung together once or twice, it appeared, at Weymouth. **But** the sight of Mr. **Knightley** among the most attentive, soon drew away half Emma's mind; and she fell into a train of thinking on the subject of Mrs. **Weston**' s suspicions, to which the sweet sounds of the united voices gave only momentary interruptions. **Her** objections to Mr. **Knightley**' s marrying did not in the least subside. **She** could see nothing but evil in it. **It** would be a great disappointment to

她怀着复杂的心情在离琴凳稍远处坐下，聆听着众人的合唱。弗兰克·丘吉尔又唱了一遍。看来他们在韦茅斯时曾合唱过一两次。可是当爱玛看见奈特利先生在全神贯注地听唱时，她的心思立刻走了一半神，转而琢磨起韦斯顿太太的猜疑。那和谐的歌声只能暂时打断她的思路。她反对奈特利先生结婚的念头丝毫没有改变。她觉得这桩婚事有百弊而无一利。这会使约翰·奈特利先

Mr. **John** Knightley; consequently to Isabella. A real injury to the children—a most mortifying change, and material loss to them all;—a very great deduction from her father's daily comfort—and, as to herself, she could not at all endure the idea of Jane Fairfax at Donwell Abbey. A Mrs. **Knightley** for them all to give way to! —No—Mr. **Knightley** must never marry. Little Henry must remain the heir of Donwell.

生大失所望，伊莎贝拉也会感到失望。对几个孩子来说，这可是实实在在的损失，还会带来莫大的屈辱，使他们蒙受物质损失——她父亲每天也要失去许多欣慰。至于她自己，一想到简·费尔法克斯要在当维尔寺当主妇，心里就受不了。奈特利先生娶了简，大伙儿都得向她让步！不行——奈特利先生说什么也不能结婚。小亨利一定得做当维尔寺的继承人。

Presently Mr. **Knightley** looked back, and came and sat down by her. They talked at first only of the performance. His admiration was certainly very warm; yet she thought, but for Mrs. **Weston**, it would not have struck her. As a sort of touchstone, however, she began to speak of his kindness in conveying the aunt and niece; and though his answer was in the spirit of cutting the matter short, she believed it to indicate only his disinclination to dwell on any kindness of his own.

不一会儿，奈特利先生回头看了看，走过来坐在她身旁。两人起初只谈论演出。他的赞赏确实十分热烈；但她心想，若不是为了韦斯顿太太，他的赞美本不会引起她的注意。不过，为试探他的态度，她开始提及他热心接送姨妈和外甥女的事；虽然他回答时带着想要结束话题的语气，她却认为这恰恰表明他不愿夸耀自己的善举。

“I often feel concern,” said she, “that I dare not make our carriage more useful on such occasions. It is not that I am without the wish; but you know how impossible my father would deem it that James should put-to for such a purpose.”

“我时常感到不安，”她说，“不敢在这种场合更多地使用我们的马车。并非我没有这个意愿；但你知道，我父亲会觉得让詹姆斯为这种事套车是多么不可能。”

“Quite out of the question, quite out of the question,” he replied;—“but you must often wish it, I am sure.” And he smiled with such seeming pleasure at the conviction, that she must proceed another step.

“这绝对不可能，绝对不可能，”他答道：“不过我敢说，你肯定经常这么希望吧。”他说这话时带着心照不宣的笑意，仿佛确信她定会继续追问下去。

“This present from the Campbells,” said she—“this pianoforte is very kindly given.”

“这架钢琴，”她说，“是坎贝尔夫妇送的礼物，真是盛情难却。”

“Yes,” he replied, and without the smallest apparent embarrassment.—“But they would have done better had they given her notice of it. Surprises are foolish things. The pleasure is not enhanced, and the inconvenience is often considerable. I should have expected better judgment in Colonel Campbell.”

“是的，”他答道，神色间不见丝毫窘迫——“不过他们若是事先告知她一声，倒会更妥当些。突如其来的惊喜实属愚行，愉悦未见增添，不便却往往颇多。我原以为坎贝尔上校应当更有见识些。”

From that moment, Emma could have taken

从那一刻起，爱玛几乎可以

her oath that Mr. **Knightley** had had no concern in giving the instrument. **But** whether he were entirely free from peculiar attachment—whether there were no actual preference—remained a little longer doubtful. **Towards** the end of Jane's second song, her voice grew thick.

发誓说奈特利先生与赠送这架钢琴毫无关系。不过他是否完全不曾怀有特殊情意——是否确实不存在偏心——这一点仍叫她琢磨了片刻。待简唱到第二支歌曲将近尾声时，她的嗓音渐渐滞涩了。

“**That** will do,” said he, when it was finished, thinking aloud—“you have sung quite enough for one evening—now be quiet.”

“这就够了，”他听完后自言自语道，“你今晚唱得够多了——现在安静会儿吧。”

Another song, however, was soon begged for. “**One** more;—they would not fatigue Miss Fairfax on any account, and would only ask for one more.” **And** Frank Churchill was heard to say, “I think you could manage this without effort; the first part is so very trifling. **The** strength of the song falls on the second.”

然而，很快又有人请求再唱一首歌。”再来一首吧——我们无论如何也不能让费尔法克斯小姐劳累，只再唱一首就好。”只听弗兰克·丘吉尔说道：“我想这首您不费力气就能应付，前半部分实在算不得什么。这首歌的难点全在第二段。”

Mr. **Knightley** grew angry.

奈特利先生生气了。

“**That** fellow,” said he, indignantly, “thinks of nothing but shewing off his own voice. **This** ‘那家伙，’他愤愤不平地说，‘只顾着卖弄自己的嗓门。’

must not be." **And** touching Miss Bates, who at that moment passed near—"Miss Bates, are you mad, to let your niece sing herself hoarse in this manner? **Go**, and interfere. **They** have no mercy on her."

这可不行。"他碰了碰正从旁边经过的贝茨小姐——"贝茨小姐，您疯了吗？竟由着您外甥女这样把嗓子唱哑？快去制止他们。他们对她太狠心了。"

Miss Bates, in her real anxiety for Jane, could hardly stay even to be grateful, before she stept forward and put an end to all farther singing. **Here** ceased the concert part of the evening, for Miss Woodhouse and Miss Fairfax were the only young lady performers; but soon (within five minutes) the proposal of dancing—originating nobody exactly knew where—was so effectually promoted by Mr. **and** Mrs. **Cole**, that every thing was rapidly clearing away, to give proper space. **Mrs.** **Weston**, capital in her country-dances, was seated, and beginning an irresistible waltz; and Frank Churchill, coming up with most becoming gallantry to Emma, had secured her hand, and led her up to the top.

贝茨小姐实在替简担心，甚至顾不上道谢，就连忙走上前去，中止了再往下唱。晚会的音乐部分到此便告结束了，因为能表演的年轻女子只有伍德豪斯小姐和费尔法克斯小姐。可是不久（不到五分钟）就提出了要跳舞——科尔夫妇在尽力鼓动，谁也不知道是怎么提出来的——科尔夫妇在尽力鼓动，大家马上把一切都收拾好，腾出足够的场地。韦斯顿太太擅长演奏乡间舞曲，便坐下来弹了一支令人禁不住想跳的华尔兹。弗兰克·邱吉尔以恰如其分的殷勤姿态走到爱玛跟前，把她第一个请进舞圈，领到上首。

While waiting till the other young people could pair themselves off, Emma found time, in spite of the compliments she was receiving on her voice and her taste, to look about, and see what became of Mr. **Knightley**. This would be a trial. **He** was no dancer in general. **If** he were to be very alert in engaging Jane Fairfax now, it might augur something. **There** was no immediate appearance. **No**; he was talking to Mrs. **Cole**—**he** was looking on unconcerned; Jane was asked by somebody else, and he was still talking to Mrs. **Cole**.

趁着等候其他年轻人配对的间隙，爱玛尽管不断收到对她歌喉和品味的赞美，却仍有余暇环顾四周，留意奈特利先生的动向。这将是一场考验。他素来不爱跳舞。倘若此刻他殷勤地邀请简·费尔法克斯共舞，那或许预示着某种可能。然而眼前并无这般迹象——不，他正与科尔太太交谈着，神情淡漠地作壁上观；简已被旁人邀走，而他仍在同科尔太太说话。

Emma had no longer an alarm for Henry; his interest was yet safe; and she led off the dance with genuine spirit and enjoyment. **Not** more than five couple could be mustered; but the rarity and the suddenness of it made it very delightful, and she found herself well matched in a partner. **They** were a couple worth looking at.

爱玛不再为亨利担忧；他的利益依然稳妥；于是她以真挚的热情与欢愉领舞开场。能凑齐的舞伴不过五对；然而这稀罕与突如其来的欢乐使其格外令人欣喜，她发现自己的舞伴与自己十分相配。他们这一对堪称赏心悦目。

Two dances, unfortunately, were all that could be allowed. **It** was growing late, and Miss

可惜的是，只允许再跳两场舞。天色渐晚，贝茨小姐为

Bates became anxious to get home, on her mother's account. **After** some attempts, therefore, to be permitted to begin again, they were obliged to thank Mrs. **Weston**, look sorrowful, and have done.

母亲着想，开始着急回家。她们虽几番请求准许再跳几曲，终究只能向韦斯顿太太道谢，带着惆怅的神情结束了这场舞会。

“**Perhaps** it is as well,” said Frank Churchill, as he attended Emma to her carriage. “I must have asked Miss Fairfax, and her languid dancing would not have agreed with me, after yours.”

”也许这样倒也好，”弗兰克·丘吉尔送爱玛上马车时说道，“否则我就得邀请费尔法克斯小姐跳舞了，她那样无精打采的舞步，在与你共舞之后实在让我难以适应。”

CHAPTER IX

第九章

Emma did not repent her condescension in going to the Coles. The visit afforded her many pleasant recollections the next day; and all that she might be supposed to have lost on the side of dignified seclusion, must be amply repaid in the splendour of popularity. She must have delighted the Coles—worthy people, who deserved to be made happy! —**And** left a name behind her that would not soon die away.

爱玛并不后悔自己屈尊前往科尔家。这次拜访在次日给她带来了许多愉快的回忆；她可能在尊严的隐居生活方面有所损失，但这一定在众星捧月的荣光中得到了充分补偿。她必定让科尔夫妇欣喜不已——这对可敬的夫妇理应获得快乐！——她留下的美名也不会很快消逝。

Perfect happiness, even in memory, is not

完美的幸福，即便在回忆中

common; and there were two points on which she was not quite easy. **She** doubted whether she had not transgressed the duty of woman by woman, in betraying her suspicions of Jane Fairfax's feelings to Frank Churchill. **It** was hardly right; but it had been so strong an idea, that it would escape her, and his submission to all that she told, was a compliment to her penetration, which made it difficult for her to be quite certain that she ought to have held her tongue.

也属罕见；此刻她心中仍有两处隐隐不安。她怀疑自己将对简·法尔法克斯情感的猜疑透露给弗兰克·丘吉尔，是否违背了女性之间应守的本分——这实在不算妥当；可那念头如此强烈，终究不由自主地脱口而出。而他全盘接受她所言的态度，恰是对她洞察力的恭维，这又让她难以断定自己本当守口如瓶。

The other circumstance of regret related also to Jane Fairfax; and there she had no doubt. **She** did unfeignedly and unequivocally regret the inferiority of her own playing and singing. **She** did most heartily grieve over the idleness of her childhood—and sat down and practised vigorously an hour and a half.

另一件令她懊悔的事也与简·费尔法克斯有关；在这一点上她毫不怀疑。她真心实意地为自己的琴艺歌声不如人而感到遗憾。她由衷痛惜童年时代的怠惰——于是立即坐下来刻苦练习了一个半小时。

She was then interrupted by Harriet's coming in; and if Harriet's praise could have satisfied her, she might soon have been comforted.

正在这时，哈丽特走了进来，打断了她的思绪；若是哈丽特的赞美能令她满足，她或许很快就能得到宽慰。

“Oh! if I could but play as well as you and Miss Fairfax!” “哦！要是我能弹得像你和费尔法克斯小姐一样好就好了！”

“Don’t class us together, Harriet. My playing is no more like her’s, than a lamp is like sunshine.” “可别把我们相提并论，哈丽特。我的琴艺比起她的来，就好比灯烛之于艳阳。”

“Oh! dear—I think you play the best of the two. I think you play quite as well as she does. I am sure I had much rather hear you. Everybody last night said how well you played.” “哦！亲爱的——我觉得你们俩比起来，还是你弹得更好些。我认为你弹得和她一样好。我肯定更愿意听你弹琴。昨晚大家都夸你弹得好极了。”

“Those who knew any thing about it, must have felt the difference. The truth is, Harriet, that my playing is just good enough to be praised, but Jane Fairfax’s is much beyond it.” “但凡稍懂音乐的人，都能感受到其中的差异。说实话，亲爱的哈丽特，我的琴艺不过勉强值得称赞，而简·费尔法克斯的造诣则远胜于此。”

“Well, I always shall think that you play quite as well as she does, or that if there is any difference nobody would ever find it out. Mr. Cole said how much taste you had; and Mr. Frank Churchill talked a great deal about your taste, and that he valued taste much more than ex- ” 嗯，我始终认为你的演奏与她不相上下，即便略有差异，常人也难以察觉。科尔先生曾盛赞你的鉴赏力；弗兰克·丘吉尔先生也多次提及你的品味，并坦言对他而

cution.”

言，鉴赏力远比演奏技巧更值得珍视。”

“Ah! but Jane Fairfax has them both, Harriet.”

“啊！可是简·费尔法克斯两者兼得呢，哈丽特。”

“Are you sure? I saw she had execution, but I did not know she had any taste. Nobody talked about it. And I hate Italian singing. —There is no understanding a word of it. Besides, if she does play so very well, you know, it is no more than she is obliged to do, because she will have to teach. The Coxes were wondering last night whether she would get into any great family. How did you think the Coxes looked?”

“你确定吗？我见她指法娴熟，却不知她竟懂得品味。从没人提起过这事。况且我顶讨厌意大利唱法——一个字都听不明白。再说，即便她琴艺精湛，你要知道这也是分内之事，毕竟她将来总要教课的。昨晚考克斯家还在议论，不知她能否进个显赫人家。你觉得考克斯兄妹气色如何？”

“Just as they always do—very vulgar.”

“他们总是这样——俗不可耐。”

“They told me something,” said Harriet rather hesitatingly; “but it is nothing of any consequence.”

“她们告诉了我一些事，”哈丽特颇为踌躇地说，“不过实在不值一提。”

Emma was obliged to ask what they had told her, though fearful of its producing Mr. El-

爱玛只得问她们刚才告诉她什么来着，虽然她唯恐一提

ton.

起就会引出埃尔顿先生来。

“They told me—that Mr. Martin dined with them last Saturday.”

“他们告诉我——马丁先生上星期六和他们一起吃了饭。”

“Oh! ”

“哦！”

“He came to their father upon some business, and he asked him to stay to dinner.”

他因一些事务来找她们的父亲，便受邀留下共进晚餐。

“Oh! ”

“哦！”

“They talked a great deal about him, especially Anne Cox. I do not know what she meant, but she asked me if I thought I should go and stay there again next summer.”

她们谈论他谈得很多，尤其是安妮·考克斯。我不知道她是什么意思，但她问我明年夏天是否还打算再去那儿小住。

“She meant to be impertinently curious, just as such an Anne Cox should be.”

“她这是存心要无礼地刨根问底，正像安妮·考克斯这种女人会做出来的事。”

“She said he was very agreeable the day he dined there. He sat by her at dinner. Miss Nash thinks either of the Coxes would be very glad to marry him.”

“她说他那天在那里吃饭时非常讨人喜欢。用餐时他就坐在她旁边。纳什小姐觉得，无论考克斯家哪个姑娘都会很乐意嫁给他。”

“Very likely. —I think they are, without exception, the most vulgar girls in Highbury.” “很有可能——我认为她们是海伯里最俗气的姑娘，无一例外。”

Harriet had business at Ford's. —**Emma** 哈丽特有事要去福德商店。thought it most prudent to go with her. **An-other** accidental meeting with the Martins was possible, and in her present state, would be dangerous. —爱玛觉得陪她同去最为稳妥。说不定又会碰巧遇见马丁一家，以她眼下的心境，这将是十分危险的。

Harriet, tempted by every thing and swayed by half a word, was always very long at a purchase; and while she was still hanging over muslins and changing her mind, Emma went to the door for amusement. —**Much** could not be hoped from the traffic of even the busiest part of Highbury;—Mr. **Perry** walking hastily by, Mr. **William** Cox letting himself in at the office-door, Mr. **Cole'** s carriage-horses returning from exercise, or a stray letter-boy on an obstinate mule, were the liveliest objects she could presume to expect; and when her eyes fell only on the butcher with his tray, a tidy old woman travelling homewards from shop with her full basket, two curs quarrelling over a dirty bone, and a string of dawdling

哈丽特样样都想买，别人稍一怂恿，她就要买，买东西总是磨磨蹭蹭。她正在细看那些平纹细布，心里踌躇不决，爱玛便走到门口去散散心。即使海伯里最热闹的地方，也不能指望有多少人来人往。爱玛所能望见的最活跃的景象，是：佩里先生疾步走过，威廉·考克斯先生走进律师事务所，科尔先生家拉车的马游荡完了刚被牵回去，还有一个邮差骑着一头倔强的骡子。爱玛觉得眼睛没有白看，倒也有趣——当她的目光落在那位肉贩子

children round the baker's little bow-window eyeing the gingerbread, she knew she had no reason to complain, and was amused enough; quite enough still to stand at the door. A mind lively and at ease, can do with seeing nothing, and can see nothing that does not answer.

身上，看见他挎着篮子，正经八百地去做生意；看见一个整洁的老太太买了菜，挎着满满的篮子往家走；看见两条恶狗为了一根脏骨头在争抢；看见一群游游荡荡的孩子正聚在面包店的小橱窗前，眼巴巴地盯着里面的姜饼。**爱玛**无所事事地站着，望着这一切，觉得颇为有趣。心里悠闲自在的人，即使看不到什么，也会觉得很有趣；即使真看不到什么，也会凭空想象出什么。

She looked down the Randalls road. **The** scene enlarged; two persons appeared; Mrs. **Weston** and her son-in-law; they were walking into Highbury;—to Hartfield of course. **They** were stopping, however, in the first place at Mrs. **Bates'** s; whose house was a little nearer Randalls than Ford's; and had all but knocked, when Emma caught their eye. —**Immediately** they crossed the road and came forward to her; and the agreeableness of yesterday's engagement seemed to give fresh

她顺着通往兰德尔斯的道路望去。眼前景象逐渐扩大；两个人影出现了——是韦斯顿太太和她的女婿；他们正朝着海伯里走来，自然是往哈特菲尔德去的。不过他们先要在贝茨太太家稍作停留，那宅子比福特商店离兰德尔斯的距离更近些。正当他们几乎要叩响门环时，爱玛的目光与他们相遇了。两人当

pleasure to the present meeting. **Mrs. Weston** informed her that she was going to call on the Bateses, in order to hear the new instrument.

即穿过马路向她走来，昨日欢聚的余韵仿佛给这次邂逅增添了新的喜悦。韦斯顿太太告诉她说，正要去贝茨家听听那架新到的钢琴。

“**For** my companion tells me,” said she, “that I absolutely promised Miss Bates last night, that I would come this morning. **I** was not aware of it myself. **I** did not know that I had fixed a day, but as he says I did, I am going now.”

“因为我的同伴告诉我，”她说，“我昨晚确实答应了贝茨小姐今天早上会去。我自己都没意识到。我不知道自己定下了具体日子，但既然他说我答应了，我现在就得过去。”

“**And** while Mrs. Weston pays her visit, I may be allowed, I hope,” said Frank Churchill, “to join your party and wait for her at Hartfield —if you are going home.”

“韦斯顿太太去拜访的时候，”弗兰克·邱吉尔说，“我希望，能允许我加入你们的聚会，在哈特菲尔德等她——如果你们是回家去的话。”

Mrs. Weston was disappointed.

韦斯顿太太大失所望。

“**I** thought you meant to go with me. **They** would be very much pleased.”

“我原以为你打算与我同去呢。他们一定会非常高兴的。”

“**Me!** **I** should be quite in the way. **But,** “我！我只会碍手碍脚。不过

perhaps—I may be equally in the way here. ——或许我在这儿也同样碍事。**伍德豪斯**小姐的神情像是并不需要我。**舅妈**买东西时总打发我走开，说我会把她烦死。**伍德豪斯**小姐看上去也像要说同样的话。我该怎么办呢？”

“I am here on no business of my own,” said Emma; “I am only waiting for my friend. She will probably have soon done, and then we shall go home. But you had better go with Mrs. Weston and hear the instrument.” ”我来这儿并非为了自己的事，”爱玛说道，“我只是在等我的朋友。她大概很快就办完了，然后我们就回家。不过您最好还是陪韦斯顿太太去听听那架琴。”

“Well—if you advise it. —But (with a smile) ”好吧——既然你这么建议。if Colonel Campbell should have employed a careless friend, and if it should prove to have an indifferent tone—what shall I say? I shall be no support to Mrs. Weston. She might do very well by herself. A disagreeable truth would be palatable through her lips, but I am the wretchedest being in the world at a falsehood. ” ——不过（微微一笑），要是坎贝尔上校托付了一个粗心的朋友，要是这架琴的音色确实平平——我该怎么说呢？我可给不了韦斯顿太太什么帮衬。她独自应付反倒更妥当。逆耳的实话经她口中说出也能变得悦耳，可要我客客气气地说句违心话——那真是世上再没有比我

更拙劣的人了。”

“I do not believe any such thing,” replied Emma. — “I am persuaded that you can be as insincere as your neighbours, when it is necessary; but there is no reason to suppose the instrument is indifferent. Quite indeed, if I understood Miss Fairfax’s opinion last night.”

“我绝不相信有这种事，”爱玛答道。——“我深信，必要时你也能像你的邻居们一样言不由衷；不过没有理由认为这架琴弹得不好。恰恰相反，其实，如果我昨晚没有误解费尔法克斯小姐的意思的话。”

“Do come with me,” said Mrs. Weston, “if it be not very disagreeable to you. It need not detain us long. We will go to Hartfield afterwards. We will follow them to Hartfield. I really wish you to call with me. It will be felt so great an attention! and I always thought you meant it.”

“请务必陪我走一趟吧，”韦斯顿太太说道，”倘若你不太反感的话。我们不会耽搁太久，之后再去哈特菲尔德。我们跟着他们去哈特菲尔德便是。我真心希望你能陪我同去，这样的关切定会令人感念至深！况且我一直以为你本就有此意。”

He could say no more; and with the hope of Hartfield to reward him, returned with Mrs. Weston to Mrs. Bates’ s door. Emma watched them in, and then joined Harriet at the interesting counter,—trying, with all the

他不能再说什么了；怀着对哈特菲尔德之行的期盼，他陪着韦斯顿太太回到了贝茨太太家门口。爱玛目送他们进去，然后走到哈丽特身边

force of her own mind, to convince her that if she wanted plain muslin it was of no use to look at figured; and that a blue ribbon, be it ever so beautiful, would still never match her yellow pattern. **At** last it was all settled, even to the destination of the parcel.

那个有趣的柜台前——竭尽全力想让她明白：若想要素色棉布，看印花布料是徒劳的；那条蓝缎带纵然再漂亮，也永远配不上她那黃底图案。最后一切终于安排妥当，连包裹的送达地点都确定了下来。

“**Should** I send it to Mrs. **Goddard’s**, ma’am? ”asked Mrs. **Ford**. — “**Yes—no—yes,** to Mrs. **Goddard’s**. Only my pattern gown is at Hartfield. **No**, you shall send it to Hartfield, if you please. **But** then, Mrs. **Goddard** will want to see it. —**And** I could take the pattern gown home any day. **But** I shall want the ribbon directly—so it had better go to Hartfield—at least the ribbon. You could make it into two parcels, Mrs. **Ford**, could not you? ”

“我该把这送到戈达德太太那儿吗，夫人？”福特太太问道。“好——不——好，送到戈达德太太那儿。只是我的样袍还在哈特菲尔德。不，还是请你送到哈特菲尔德吧。可这么一来，戈达德太太又想看这件样袍了——反正我随便哪天都能把样袍带回家。但这缎带我马上要用——所以最好还是送到哈特菲尔德——至少把缎带送去。你可以分两个包裹寄，福特太太，行不行？”

“**It** is not worth while, Harriet, to give Mrs. **Ford** the trouble of two parcels.”

“哈丽特，不值得麻烦福特太太分两个包裹寄送。”

“**No** more it is.”

“确实不是了。”

“**No** trouble in the world, ma’am,” said the obliging Mrs. **Ford**.

“夫人，这世上再没什么麻烦事，”殷勤的福特太太应道。

“**Oh! but** indeed I would much rather have it only in one. **Then**, if you please, you shall send it all to Mrs. **Goddard’s**—I do not know—No, I think, Miss Woodhouse, I may just as well have it sent to Hartfield, and take it home with me at night. **What** do you advise?”

“哦！不过说真的，我宁愿只要一份。那么，如果您同意的话，就请全部送到戈达德太太府上——我说不好——不，伍德豪斯小姐，我想还是送到哈特菲尔德为好，我晚上带回家去。您看这样可好？”

“**That** you do not give another half-second to the subject. **To** Hartfield, if you please, Mrs. **Ford.**”

“请别再为这事费半点心思了。去哈特菲尔德吧，如果您方便的话，福特太太。”

“**Aye**, that will be much best,” said Harriet, quite satisfied, “I should not at all like to have it sent to Mrs. **Goddard’s**.”

“啊，那再好不过了，”哈丽特十分满意地说，“我一点儿也不愿意把它送到戈达德太太那儿去。”

Voices approached the shop—or rather one voice and two ladies: Mrs. **Weston** and Miss Bates met them at the door.

店门口传来人声——更确切地说，是一位女士的嗓音伴着两位女客：韦斯顿太太和贝茨小姐在门口与她们相遇

了。

“My dear Miss Woodhouse,” said the latter, “I am just run across to entreat the favour of you to come and sit down with us a little while, and give us your opinion of our new instrument; you and Miss Smith. How do you do, Miss Smith? —Very well I thank you. —And I begged Mrs. Weston to come with me, that I might be sure of succeeding.”

“亲爱的伍德豪斯小姐，”后者说道，“我刚跑过来恳请您赏光，过去和我们坐一会儿，给我们新置办的乐器提提意见——您和史密斯小姐都来。史密斯小姐，您好吗？——我很好，谢谢您。我还特意请韦斯顿太太陪我过来，这样准能把您请到。”

“I hope Mrs. Bates and Miss Fairfax are—”

“但愿贝茨太太和费尔法克斯小姐都——”

“Very well, I am much obliged to you. My mother is delightfully well; and Jane caught no cold last night. How is Mr. Woodhouse? —I am so glad to hear such a good account. —Mrs. Weston told me you were here. —Oh! then, said I, I must run across, I am sure Miss Woodhouse will allow me just to run across and entreat her to come in; my mother will be so very happy to see her—and now we are such a nice party, she cannot refuse. — ‘Aye, pray do,’ said Mr. Frank Churchill, ‘Miss Wood-

“太好了，真是感激不尽。我母亲身体极好；简昨晚也没着凉。伍德豪斯先生可好？——听到这样的好消息我真高兴。韦斯顿太太告诉我您在这儿。——哎呀！我说，那我得跑过来，相信伍德豪斯小姐定会允许我跑过来恳请她光临寒舍——我母亲见到她不知该多高兴——眼下我们这儿正有几位好客人，她

house's opinion of the instrument will be worth having.' —**But**, said I, I shall be more sure of succeeding if one of you will go with me.—‘**Oh**,’ said he, ‘wait half a minute, till I have finished my job;’—For, would you believe it, Miss Woodhouse, there he is, in the most obliging manner in the world, fastening in the rivet of my mother’s spectacles. —**The** rivet came out, you know, this morning. —**So** very obliging! —**For** my mother had no use of her spectacles—could not put them on. **And**, by the bye, every body ought to have two pair of spectacles; they should indeed. **Jane** said so. **I** meant to take them over to John Saunders the first thing I did, but something or other hindered me all the morning; first one thing, then another, there is no saying what, you know. **At** one time Patty came to say she thought the kitchen chimney wanted sweeping. **Oh**, said I, Patty do not come with your bad news to me. **Here** is the rivet of your mistress’s spectacles out. **Then** the baked apples came home, Mrs. **Wallis** sent them by her boy; they are extremely civil and obliging to us, the Wallises, always—I have heard some

肯定不会拒绝的。”**弗兰克·邱吉尔**立刻说：“对，务必请过来，伍德豪斯小姐对钢琴的见解一定值得聆听。”——可我说：“要是你们哪位肯陪我同去，我就更有把握了。”——他答道：“啊，请稍等半分钟，等我修好手里的活计。”——您绝对想不到，伍德豪斯小姐，他正以世上最殷勤的态度给我母亲的眼镜加固螺丝呢！——那螺丝今早掉出来了——真是殷勤备至！我母亲没了眼镜就完全没法用——根本戴不上。说起来人人都该备两副眼镜，确实该这样。**简**也这么说。**我本**打算一早把眼镜送给约翰·桑德斯修理，可总被这事那事耽搁——先是帕蒂来说厨房烟囱该清扫了，我赶紧说：别拿这种烦心事来找我，太太的眼镜螺丝松了。接着沃利斯太太派她家小子送来烤苹果——他们沃利斯一

people say that Mrs. **Wallis** can be uncivil and give a very rude answer, but we have never known any thing but the greatest attention from them. **And** it cannot be for the value of our custom now, for what is our consumption of bread, you know? **Only** three of us. — **besides** dear Jane at present—and she really eats nothing—makes such a shocking breakfast, you would be quite frightened if you saw it. **I** dare not let my mother know how little she eats—so I say one thing and then I say another, and it passes off. **But** about the middle of the day she gets hungry, and there is nothing she likes so well as these baked apples, and they are extremely wholesome, for I took the opportunity the other day of asking Mr. **Perry**; I happened to meet him in the street. **Not** that I had any doubt before—I have so often heard Mr. **Woodhouse** recommend a baked apple. **I** believe it is the only way that Mr. **Woodhouse** thinks the fruit thoroughly wholesome. **We** have apple-dumplings, however, very often. **Patty** makes an excellent apple-dumpling. **Well**, Mrs. **Weston**, you have prevailed, I hope, and these ladies will 家待我们总是客气周到。我听过有人说沃利斯太太会摆脸色答话粗鲁，可我们感受到的从来只有无微不至的关怀。**况且**现在也谈不上图我们什么光顾——您知道我们才三口人用多少面包？眼下加上亲爱的简也才四个——她几乎不吃东西，早餐食量少得吓人，您要是见了准会吃惊。**我**从不敢让母亲知道她吃得这样少——只好左右搪塞遮掩过去。**不过**到了晌午她总会饿，最爱吃的就是这些烤苹果，既养生又可口。**前些天**我碰巧在街上遇见佩里先生还特意请教过——其实我原本也没疑虑，常听伍德豪斯先生推荐烤苹果。想必在伍德豪斯先生看来，这是水果最养生的吃法了。**不过**我们常吃苹果布丁，帕蒂做得一手好布丁。**好了**，韦斯顿太太，您既已说动大家，想必这几位女士肯赏光了吧？”

oblige us. ”

Emma would be “very happy to wait on Mrs. Bates, &c. ,” and they did at last move out of the shop, with no farther delay from Miss Bates than,

爱玛”很乐意去拜访贝茨太太等等”，他们终于走出了店铺，贝茨小姐只耽搁了这么一小会工夫，

“How do you do, Mrs. **Ford**? I beg your pardon. I did not see you before. I hear you have a charming collection of new ribbons from town. **Jane** came back delighted yesterday. Thank ye, the gloves do very well—only a little too large about the wrist; but Jane is taking them in. ”

”您好，福特太太。请原谅我刚才没瞧见您。听说您从城里进了批很漂亮的缎带，简昨天回来时高兴极了。手套正合适——多谢您费心，就是腕口稍宽了些，不过简正在收针改小呢。”

“What was I talking of? ” said she, beginning again when they were all in the street.

“我刚才在说什么来着?”待他们都全都走到街上时，她又重新拾起话头。

Emma wondered on what, of all the medley, she would fix.

艾玛思忖着，在这纷繁万象中，究竟该将心神寄托于何处。

“I declare I cannot recollect what I was talking of. —Oh! my mother’s spectacles. So very obliging of Mr. **Frank** Churchill! ‘Oh! ’ said he, ‘I do think I can fasten the rivet; I like a

”我敢说我都记不得刚才在说什么了——哦! 是我母亲的眼镜。弗兰克·丘吉尔先生真是太客气了! ’噢! ’他

job of this kind excessively. ' —**W**hich you 说，' 我觉得我能钉好这个铆
know shewed him to be so very. . . . **I**n**d**e**ed** 钉，我特别喜欢干这类活计。
I must say that, much as I had heard of him ——这您知道，显得他多么.
before and much as I had expected, he very far **说实话**，虽然我之
exceeds any thing. . . . **I** do congratulate you, 前常听人提起他，也对他抱
Mrs. **W**eston, most warmly. **H**e seems every 有很高期待，但他实在远超
thing the fondest parent could. . . . ' **O**h! ' 任何想象. **韦斯顿太**
said he, 'I can fasten the rivet. **I** like a job of 太，我要向您表示最热烈的
that sort excessively. ' **I** never shall forget his 祝贺。他简直满足慈父对子
manner. **A**nd when I brought out the baked 女的一切期望. ' 噢！
apples from the closet, and hoped our friends ' **他说**，' 我能钉好铆钉，我
would be so very obliging as to take some, 'Oh! 特别喜欢这类活计。' **他那神**
' **s**aid he directly, 'there is nothing in the way 态我永远忘不了。当我从储
of fruit half so good, and these are the finest- 藏室端出烤苹果，希望客人
looking home-baked apples I ever saw in my 们赏脸尝几个时，他立刻就
life. ' **T**hat, you know, was so very. . . . **A**nd 说：' 噢！水果里再没有比这
I am sure, by his manner, it was no compli- 更好的了，这是我生平见过
ment. **I**n**d**e**ed** they are very delightful apples, 最漂亮的家庭烤苹果。' 您知
and Mrs. **W**allis does them full justice—only 道，这实在. 我从他
we do not have them baked more than twice, 的态度看得出，这绝非客套
and Mr. **W**oodhouse made us promise to 话。这些苹果确实美味，瓦
have them done three times—but Miss Wood- 利斯太太烤得恰到好处——
house will be so good as not to mention it. 不过我们只烤了两遍，伍德
The apples themselves are the very finest sort 豪斯先生非要我们答应烤三
for baking, beyond a doubt; all from Donwell 遍不可——但伍德豪斯小姐

—some of Mr. **Knightley**' s most liberal supply. **He** sends us a sack every year; and certainly there never was such a keeping apple anywhere as one of his trees—I believe there is two of them. **My** mother says the orchard was always famous in her younger days. **But** I was really quite shocked the other day—for Mr. **Knightley** called one morning, and Jane was eating these apples, and we talked about them and said how much she enjoyed them, and he asked whether we were not got to the end of our stock. ‘I am sure you must be,’ said he, ‘and I will send you another supply; for I have a great many more than I can ever use. **William** Larkins let me keep a larger quantity than usual this year. I will send you some more, before they get good for nothing.’ So I begged he would not—for really as to ours being gone, I could not absolutely say that we had a great many left—it was but half a dozen indeed; but they should be all kept for Jane; and I could not at all bear that he should be sending us more, so liberal as he had been already; and Jane said the same. **And** when he was gone, she almost quarrelled with me—肯定不会说出去的。这些苹果本身就是最上等的烘焙品种，毫无疑问全是唐威尔产的——是奈特利先生慷慨赠送的一部分。他每年都送我们一袋，说真的再没有比他家树上结的苹果更耐储存的了——我记得有两棵这样的树。我母亲说这片果园在她年轻时就很有名。不过前几天我真被吓了一跳——奈特利先生有天早晨来访，简正在吃这些苹果，我们聊起苹果说她非常喜欢，他问我们是不是快吃完了。’想必你们快吃完了吧，’他说，’我再送些来，我多得根本吃不完。今年威廉·拉金斯让我留了比往年更多的存货。趁还没放坏，我改天再送些来。’我连忙推辞——因为说实话我们的存货虽不多，倒也不至于只剩几个——其实还有半打，但都是留给简的。他先前已经够慷慨了，我实在不

No, I should not say quarrelled, for we never had a quarrel in our lives; but she was quite distressed that I had owned the apples were so nearly gone; she wished I had made him believe we had a great many left. **Oh**, said I, my dear, I did say as much as I could. **However**, the very same evening William Larkins came over with a large basket of apples, the same sort of apples, a bushel at least, and I was very much obliged, and went down and spoke to William Larkins and said every thing, as you may suppose. **William** Larkins is such an old acquaintance! I am always glad to see him. **But**, however, I found afterwards from Patty, that William said it was all the apples of that sort his master had; he had brought them all—and now his master had not one left to bake or boil. **William** did not seem to mind it himself, he was so pleased to think his master had sold so many; for William, you know, thinks more of his master's profit than any thing; but Mrs. **Hodges**, he said, was quite displeased at their being all sent away. **She** could not bear that her master should not be able to have another apple-tart this spring. **He** told Patty 忍心让他再送。简也是这个意思。等他走后，她差点跟我闹别扭——不，不能说闹别扭，我们从未红过脸——但她很懊恼我承认苹果快吃完了，宁愿我让他相信我们还剩很多。我说，亲爱的，我已经尽力搪塞了。可当晚威廉·拉金斯就送来一大篮苹果，至少有一蒲式耳，都是同一个品种。我感激不尽，特意下楼和威廉·拉金斯说了好些话——您也想象得到。威廉·拉金斯可是老相识了！见到他我总是很高兴。但后来我从帕蒂那里得知，威廉说那是主人所有这种苹果的库存，他全搬来了——现在主人连一个烤着吃或煮着吃的苹果都不剩了。威廉自己倒不在意，反而为主人卖出这么多苹果高兴；要知道威廉把主人的利益看得比什么都重。但他说霍奇斯太太见苹果全送走很不高兴，想到

this, but bid her not mind it, and be sure not to say any thing to us about it, for Mrs. **Hodges** would be cross sometimes, and as long as so many sacks were sold, it did not signify who ate the remainder. **And** so Patty told me, and I was excessively shocked indeed! I would not have Mr. **Knightley** know any thing about it for the world! **He** would be so very. . . I wanted to keep it from Jane's knowledge; but, unluckily, I had mentioned it before I was aware. ”

今春主人吃不上苹果馅饼就难受。这些话威廉只告诉帕蒂，嘱咐她别往心里去，千万别跟我们提，因为霍奇斯太太有时脾气躁，既然已经卖出这么多袋，剩下的给谁吃了都无所谓。帕蒂转告我后，我真是震惊极了！我死也不愿让奈特利先生知道！他会那么. . . . 我本不想让简知晓，可糟糕的是，我没留神就说漏了嘴。”

Miss Bates had just done as Patty opened the door; and her visitors walked upstairs without having any regular narration to attend to, pursued only by the sounds of her desultory goodwill.

贝茨小姐刚说完，帕蒂便打开了门；客人们走上楼去，并没有听到什么正经的讲述，只有她那些零星的热情话语在身后追随着。

“**Pray** take care, Mrs. **Weston**, there is a step at the turning. **Pray** take care, Miss Woodhouse, ours is rather a dark staircase—rather darker and narrower than one could wish. **Miss Smith**, pray take care. **Miss Woodhouse**, I am quite concerned, I am sure you hit your foot. **Miss Smith**, the step at the

“请留神，韦斯顿太太，转弯处有个台阶。请当心，伍德豪斯小姐，我们的楼梯间光线不太好——比预想的要暗些窄些。史密斯小姐，请当心。伍德豪斯小姐，我真过意不去，您肯定绊到脚了吧。

turning. ”

史密斯小姐，转弯处那个台阶要当心。”

CHAPTER X

The appearance of the little sitting-room as they entered, was tranquillity itself; Mrs. Bates, deprived of her usual employment, slumbering on one side of the fire, Frank Churchill, at a table near her, most heedlessly occupied about her spectacles, and Jane Fairfax, standing with her back to them, intent on her pianoforte.

他们走进那间小客厅时，眼前是一片安谧的景象：贝茨太太失去了平日的活计，在炉火旁打盹；弗兰克·丘吉尔坐在她身边的桌旁，正全神贯注地修理她的眼镜；而简·费尔法克斯则背对着他们，正专心致志地弹奏钢琴。

Busy as he was, however, the young man was yet able to shew a most happy countenance on seeing Emma again.

然而，尽管事务繁忙，这位年轻人见到爱玛时，脸上依然绽放出无比欢欣的神情。

“This is a pleasure,” said he, in rather a low voice, “coming at least ten minutes earlier than I had calculated. You find me trying to be useful; tell me if you think I shall succeed. ”

“这真是令人欣喜，”他声音颇为低沉地说道，“至少比我预计的早了十分钟。您瞧我正想做个有用之人；请告诉我您觉得我能否成功。”

“What! ” said Mrs. Weston, “have not you finished it yet? you would not earn a very good livelihood as a working silversmith at this

“什么！”韦斯顿太太说，“你还没完工吗？照你这速度，当银匠可挣不着好生计呢。”

第十章

rate. ”

“I have not been working uninterruptedly,” he replied, “I have been assisting Miss Fairfax in trying to make her instrument stand steadily, it was not quite firm; an unevenness in the floor, I believe. You see we have been wedging one leg with paper. This was very kind of you to be persuaded to come. I was almost afraid you would be hurrying home.”

“我并没有一直不停地工作，”他答道，“我刚才在帮费尔法克斯小姐把她的琴放稳，它有点晃动，想必是地板不平的缘故。你看，我们用纸片垫住了一条腿。你能被说服过来真是太好了，我刚才还担心你会急着回家呢。”

He contrived that she should be seated by him; and was sufficiently employed in looking out the best baked apple for her, and trying to make her help or advise him in his work, till Jane Fairfax was quite ready to sit down to the pianoforte again. That she was not immediately ready, Emma did suspect to arise from the state of her nerves; she had not yet possessed the instrument long enough to touch it without emotion; she must reason herself into the power of performance; and Emma could not but pity such feelings, whatever their origin, and could not but resolve never to expose them to her neighbour again.

他设法让她坐在自己身边，而后便忙着为她挑选烤得最完美的苹果，又央求她帮着出主意或动手帮忙，直到简·费尔法克斯准备好再次坐到钢琴前。**爱玛**猜想她没能立刻准备好，是因为心绪不宁——这架钢琴到手不久，弹奏时难免心潮起伏，必须用理智说服自己才能鼓起演奏的勇气。**爱玛**不禁怜悯起这般情愫，无论其根源为何，并暗自下定决心，绝不再让邻居察觉这样的情绪。

At last Jane began, and though the first bars were feebly given, the powers of the instrument were gradually done full justice to. **Mrs. Weston** had been delighted before, and was delighted again; Emma joined her in all her praise; and the pianoforte, with every proper discrimination, was pronounced to be altogether of the highest promise.

简终于开始弹奏，虽然最初的几个音符有些微弱，但琴弦的潜力渐渐被充分发掘出来。**韦斯顿太太**先前就已欣喜不已，此刻更是再次陶醉；爱玛也随声附和着所有赞美之词。**这架钢琴**经过众人恰如其分的品评，被一致认为极具卓越潜质。

“**Whoever** Colonel Campbell might employ,” said Frank Churchill, with a smile at Emma, “the person has not chosen ill. **I** heard a good deal of Colonel Campbell’s taste at Weymouth; and the softness of the upper notes I am sure is exactly what he and all that party would particularly prize. **I** dare say, Miss Fairfax, that he either gave his friend very minute directions, or wrote to Broadwood himself. **Do** not you think so? ”

弗兰德·邱吉尔向爱玛微微一笑，说道：“无论坎贝尔上校委托的是谁，这人挑选得可不错。我在韦默斯听到不少有关坎贝尔上校的鉴赏力的话，那高音部的柔和婉转，准是他和他那伙人特别珍爱的。我敢说，菲尔费克斯小姐，他要么是向他的朋友做了非常精细的交代，要么是亲自写信给布罗德伍德。你不这样想吗？”

Jane did not look round. **She** was not obliged to hear. **Mrs. Weston** had been speaking to her at the same moment.

简没有回头。她并非非得听见不可。**韦斯顿太太**恰在此时正对她说着话。

“It is not fair,” said Emma, in a whisper; “mine was a random guess. Do not distress her.” “这不公平，”爱玛低声说道，“我不过是随口一猜。别让她难过了。”

He shook his head with a smile, and looked as if he had very little doubt and very little mercy. Soon afterwards he began again,

他微笑着摇了摇头，神情间仿佛既无多少犹疑，也鲜有几分怜悯。片刻之后，他又重新开口，

“How much your friends in Ireland must be enjoying your pleasure on this occasion, Miss Fairfax. I dare say they often think of you, and wonder which will be the day, the precise day of the instrument’s coming to hand. Do you imagine Colonel Campbell knows the business to be going forward just at this time? —Do you imagine it to be the consequence of an immediate commission from him, or that he may have sent only a general direction, an order indefinite as to time, to depend upon contingencies and conveniences?”

“费尔法克斯小姐，这次您的爱尔兰亲友们想必也在为您感到高兴吧。我敢说他们时常惦记着您，不知那架钢琴究竟何日能送到府上。您认为坎贝尔上校是否知晓此事这是上校临时嘱托所致，抑或他只是泛泛交代，并未限定具体时日，全凭机缘方便而定？”

He paused. She could not but hear; she could not avoid answering,

他停住了。她不得不听；她不得不回答，

“Till I have a letter from Colonel Campbell,” said she, in a voice of forced calmness, “I can

“在收到坎贝尔上校的来信之前，”她强作镇定地说

imagine nothing with any confidence. It must be all conjecture."

道，“我实在不敢妄加揣测。
眼下一切都只能是猜想罢了。”

"**Conjecture—aye**, sometimes one conjectures right, and sometimes one conjectures wrong. I wish I could conjecture how soon I shall make this rivet quite firm. **What** nonsense one talks, Miss Woodhouse, when hard at work, if one talks at all;—your real workmen, I suppose, hold their tongues; but we gentlemen labourers if we get hold of a word—Miss Fairfax said something about conjecturing. **There**, it is done. I have the pleasure, madam, (to Mrs. **Bates**,) of restoring your spectacles, healed for the present."

"猜测——唉，有时猜对了，有时猜错了。我巴不得能猜出还要多久才能把这铆钉完全固定好。人干着活儿说起话来多荒唐啊，伍德豪斯小姐——要真开口说话的话；我想真正的工匠都是闭口不言的；但我们这些绅士临时工只要逮着个词儿——刚才费尔法克斯小姐不是提到猜测么。瞧，修好了。夫人（转向贝茨太太），我很荣幸能将您的眼镜完璧归赵，暂时是修好了。”

He was very warmly thanked both by mother and daughter; to escape a little from the latter, he went to the pianoforte, and begged Miss Fairfax, who was still sitting at it, to play something more.

母女二人都对他表示了热烈的感谢；为了稍微避开女儿，他走到钢琴边，请求仍坐在琴凳上的费尔法克斯小姐再弹奏一曲。

"**If** you are very kind," said he, "it will be one

"你若真愿意成全我，"他说

of the waltzes we danced last night;—let me live them over again. **You** did not enjoy them as I did; you appeared tired the whole time. **I** believe you were glad we danced no longer; but I would have given worlds—all the worlds one ever has to give—for another half-hour. ”

道，“就选我们昨晚跳过的华尔兹——让我重温一遍当时我的欢愉。你跳得不如我尽兴；整晚你都显得倦怠。我相信你巴不得早些结束；可我宁愿付出一切——世间所有可付出的一切——来换取再多跳半个钟头。”

She played.

她弹奏起来。

“**What** felicity it is to hear a tune again which has made one happy! —**If** I mistake not that was danced at Weymouth. ”

“能再次听到一首曾让自己快乐的曲子，这多么幸福啊！——如果我没记错的话，那是在韦茅斯跳过的一支舞曲。”

She looked up at him for a moment, coloured deeply, and played something else. **He** took some music from a chair near the pianoforte, and turning to Emma, said,

她抬头望了他一眼，霎时羞得满脸通红，随手弹起另一支曲子。他从钢琴旁一张椅子上拿起一叠乐谱，转向爱玛说道：

“**Here** is something quite new to me. **Do** you know it? —**Cramer**. —**And** here are a new set of Irish melodies. **That**, from such a quarter, one might expect. **This** was all sent with

“这对我来说可真是新鲜。你认得这个吗? ——克拉默的谱子。——这儿还有一套新出的爱尔兰民谣集。从那位

the instrument. **Very** thoughtful of Colonel Campbell, was not it? —**He** knew Miss Fairfax could have no music here. **I** honour that part of the attention particularly; it shews it to have been so thoroughly from the heart. **Nothing** hastily done; nothing incomplete. **True** affection only could have prompted it.

先生处得到这样的礼物，倒是在意料之中。这些都是和钢琴一起送来的。坎贝尔上校考虑得真周到，是不是？——他知道菲尔费克斯小姐在这儿没有乐谱。我特别欣赏这份体贴，可见这完全是一份发自内心的馈赠。没有半点仓促，没有一丝缺憾。唯有真挚的情谊才能促成如此周全的馈赠。”

Emma wished he would be less pointed, yet could not help being amused; and when on glancing her eye towards Jane Fairfax she caught the remains of a smile, when she saw that with all the deep blush of consciousness, there had been a smile of secret delight, she had less scruple in the amusement, and much less compunction with respect to her. —**This** amiable, upright, perfect Jane Fairfax was apparently cherishing very reprehensible feelings.

爱玛但愿他不要说得这么露骨，可是又不禁觉得有趣。她朝简·费尔法克斯瞥了一眼，看见她脸上还留着一丝笑意，见她虽然自觉羞赧，脸上泛起了红晕，却流露出暗暗欣喜的神气，于是爱玛心里不那么顾忌了，对她也就不那么怜悯了。那个可爱、正直、完美的简·费尔法克斯，却显然怀着一股理应受到责备的情感。

He brought all the music to her, and they

他把所有的乐谱都拿到她面

looked it over together. —Emma took the opportunity of whispering,

前，两人一起翻阅起来。爱玛趁机悄声说道：

“**You** speak too plain. **She** must understand you.”

“你说得太直白了。她一定会明白你的意思。”

“I hope she does. I would have her understand me. I am not in the least ashamed of my meaning.”

“但愿她明白。我要她理解我。我丝毫不为自己的用意感到羞愧。”

“**But** really, I am half ashamed, and wish I had never taken up the idea.”

“不过说真的，我有些惭愧，倒希望自己从未动过这个念头。”

“I am very glad you did, and that you communicated it to me. I have now a key to all her odd looks and ways. **Leave** shame to her. **If** she does wrong, she ought to feel it.”

“我很高兴你这么做了，并且告诉了我。现在我对她所有古怪的神情和举止都有了答案。让她自己留着那份羞耻吧。若是她做错了事，就该让她自己体会。”

“**She** is not entirely without it, I think.”

“我想，她并非完全没有。”

“I do not see much sign of it. **She** is playing Robin Adair at this moment—his favourite.”

“我倒没看出多少迹象。她此刻正在弹奏《罗宾·阿代尔》——那可是他最喜欢的曲子。”

Shortly afterwards Miss Bates, passing near the window, described Mr. **Knightley** on horse-back not far off. 不一会儿，贝茨小姐从窗前经过时，瞥见不远处的奈特利先生正骑着马。

“**Mr. Knightley** I declare! —I must speak to him if possible, just to thank him. I will not open the window here; it would give you all cold; but I can go into my mother’s room you know. I dare say he will come in when he knows who is here. **Quite** delightful to have you all meet so! —Our little room so honoured!” 奈特利先生，我敢肯定！我得跟他说说话，只要可能，哪怕只为道声谢。我不能在这儿开窗，怕让你们着凉；不过我可以去我母亲的房间，这你是知道的。我敢说，等他知道了是谁在这儿，一定会进来的。能让大家这样相聚，多么令人欣喜啊！——我们这间小客厅竟有这般荣幸！”

She was in the adjoining chamber while she still spoke, and opening the casement there, immediately called Mr. **Knightley**’s attention, and every syllable of their conversation was as distinctly heard by the others, as if it had passed within the same apartment. 她话音未落已走进隔壁房间，推开那里的窗扉，立刻唤来了奈特利先生。两人交谈的每字每句都清晰地传回室内，仿佛对话本就发生在同一房间。

“**How** d’ye do? —how d’ye do? —Very well, I thank you. **So** obliged to you for the carriage last night. **We** were just in time; my “你好吗？——你好吗？——我很好，谢谢你。昨晚真是多亏了你的马车。我们到得

mother just ready for us. **Pray** come in; do 正是时候；我母亲刚好准备
come in. **You** will find some friends here. ” 好等我们。快请进；快请进
来吧。这儿有几位朋友你会
想见见的。”

So began Miss Bates; and Mr. **Knightley** 贝茨小姐的话音刚落，奈特
seemed determined to be heard in his turn, for 利先生便决意要接过话头，
most resolutely and commandingly did he say, 只见他斩钉截铁、不容置喙
地说道：

“**How** is your niece, Miss Bates? —I want “贝茨小姐，您的侄女好吗？
to inquire after you all, but particularly your —我想问候你们大家，特
niece. **How** is Miss Fairfax? —I hope she 别是您的侄女。费尔法克斯
caught no cold last night. **How** is she to-day? 小姐可好？——但愿她昨晚
Tell me how Miss Fairfax is.” 没着凉。她今天怎么样？请
告诉我费尔法克斯小姐近况
如何。”

And Miss Bates was obliged to give a di- 贝茨小姐只得在他愿意听别
rect answer before he would hear her in any 的话之前，先直接回答他的
thing else. **The** listeners were amused; and 问题。旁听的人都觉得很有
Mrs. **Weston** gave Emma a look of particu- 趣；韦斯顿太太意味深长地
lar meaning. **But** Emma still shook her head 看了爱玛一眼。可爱玛还是
in steady scepticism. 摆摇头，表示坚决不信。

“**So** obliged to you! —so very much obliged ” 真是太感激您了！——万
to you for the carriage,” resumed Miss Bates. 分感激您派车来接我，” 贝

茨小姐又说道。

He cut her short with,

“I am going to Kingston. **C**an I do any thing for you? ”

“**O**h! dear, Kingston—are you? —**M**rs. **C**ole was saying the other day she wanted something from Kingston. ”

“**M**rs. **C**ole has servants to send. **C**an I do any thing for you? ”

“**N**o, I thank you. **B**ut do come in. **W**ho do you think is here? —**M**iss Woodhouse and Miss Smith; so kind as to call to hear the new pianoforte. **D**o put up your horse at the Crown, and come in. ”

“**W**ell,” said he, in a deliberating manner, “for five minutes, perhaps. ”

“**A**nd here is Mrs. **W**eston and Mr. **F**rank Churchill too! —**Q**uite delightful; so many friends! ”

他打断了她的话，说道：

“我要去金斯顿了。有什么需要我帮你带的吗? ”

“哦！天哪，要去金斯顿吗？——科尔太太前两天还在说想从金斯顿带些东西呢。”

“科尔太太有仆人可差遣。我能为你做点什么吗? ”

“不，谢谢您。不过请进来吧。您猜谁在这儿？——伍德豪斯小姐和史密斯小姐；她们真好，特意来听听这架新钢琴。您就把马拴在王冠旅店，进来坐坐吧。”

“好吧，”他思忖着说道，“大概五分钟吧。”

“韦斯顿太太和弗兰克·丘吉尔先生也来了！——真是令人欣喜；这么多朋友都聚在一起了！”

“**No**, not now, I thank you. **I** could not stay two minutes. **I** must get on to Kingston as fast as I can.” “不，现在不用了，谢谢您。我连两分钟也待不住。得尽快赶到金斯顿去。”

“**Oh! do** come in. **They** will be so very happy to see you.” “哦！快请进。他们见到你一定会非常高兴的。”

“**No**, no; your room is full enough. **I** will call another day, and hear the pianoforte.” “不，不；你的房间已经够满了。我改日再来，听你弹钢琴。”

“**Well**, I am so sorry! —**Oh! Mr. Knightley**, what a delightful party last night; how extremely pleasant. —**Did** you ever see such dancing? —**Was** not it delightful? —**Miss Woodhouse** and **Mr. Frank Churchill**; I never saw any thing equal to it.” “哎呀，真是遗憾！——哦！奈特利先生，昨晚的聚会多么令人愉快啊；简直妙不可言。——您可见过这样精彩的舞姿？——难道不叫人欢喜吗？——伍德豪斯小姐和弗兰克·丘吉尔先生配合得天衣无缝，我从未见过如此绝妙的舞伴。”

“**Oh! very** delightful indeed; I can say nothing less, for I suppose **Miss Woodhouse** and **Mr. Frank Churchill** are hearing every thing that passes. **And** (raising his voice still more) I do not see why **Miss Fairfax** should not be mentioned too. **I** think **Miss Fairfax** dances “哦！确实令人愉快极了；这话一点儿也不过分，我想伍德豪斯小姐和弗兰克·丘吉尔先生正听着我们说的每句话呢。（更提高嗓音）我看没理由不把费尔法克斯小姐

very well; and Mrs. **Weston** is the very best country-dance player, without exception, in England. **Now**, if your friends have any gratitude, they will say something pretty loud about you and me in return; but I cannot stay to hear it. ” 也夸一夸。我认为费尔法克斯小姐舞跳得极好；而韦斯顿太太更是全英国首屈一指的乡村舞演奏家。现在，要是你的朋友们懂得感恩，就该大声回赞你我几句才是——可惜我顾不上听这些了。”

“**Oh! Mr. Knightley**, one moment more; something of consequence—so shocked! — **Jane** and I are both so shocked about the apples! ”

“**What** is the matter now? ”

“**To** think of your sending us all your store apples. **You** said you had a great many, and now you have not one left. **We** really are so shocked! **Mrs. Hedges** may well be angry. **William** Larkins mentioned it here. **You** should not have done it, indeed you should not. **Ah!** **he** is off. **He** never can bear to be thanked. **But** I thought he would have staid now, and it would have been a pity not to have mentioned. . . . **Well**, (returning to the room,) I have not been able to succeed.

“哦！奈特利先生，请稍等片刻；有件要紧事——太令人震惊了！——简和我都为那些苹果感到震惊！”

“这会儿又怎么了？”

“想想看，您竟把窖藏的苹果全都送给我们了。您原说有许多许多，如今却一个不剩。我们实在过意不去！霍奇斯太太生气也是应当的。威廉·拉金斯在这儿提起过这事。您真不该这么做，实在不该。啊！他走了。他最怕听人道谢。我原以为他此刻会留下的，若不提一句倒显得失礼了……（回到屋内）我没能

Mr. Knightley cannot stop. He is going to Kingston. He asked me if he could do any thing. . . .” 留住他。奈特利先生实在不能耽搁。他要去金斯顿。还问我有无需要指办的事……”

“Yes,” said Jane, “we heard his kind offers, we heard every thing.” “是的，”简说，“我们听到了他的好意，什么都听到了。”

“Oh! yes, my dear, I dare say you might, because you know, the door was open, and the window was open, and Mr. Knightley spoke loud. You must have heard every thing to be sure. ‘Can I do any thing for you at Kingston?’ said he; so I just mentioned. . . . Oh! Miss Woodhouse, must you be going? —You seem but just come—so very obliging of you.” “哦！是啊，亲爱的，我敢说你可能听见了，因为你知道，门开着，窗也开着，奈特利先生说话声音又大。你肯定什么都听见了。’我能为你在金斯顿办什么事吗？’他说；于是我就提了. . . . 哦！伍德豪斯小姐，你这就要走了吗？——才刚来一会儿呢——你真是太客气了。”

Emma found it really time to be at home; the visit had already lasted long; and on examining watches, so much of the morning was perceived to be gone, that Mrs. Weston and her companion taking leave also, could allow themselves only to walk with the two young ladies to Hartfield gates, before they set off for 爱玛觉得确实该回家了；这次拜访已经持续了很久；看了看表，发现上午的时光竟已消磨大半，韦斯顿太太和她的同伴便也起身告辞，只来得及陪着两位年轻小姐走到哈特菲尔德庄园门口，便

Randalls.

动身返回兰德尔斯的寓所。

CHAPTER XI

第十一章

It may be possible to do without dancing entirely. **Instances** have been known of young people passing many, many months successively, without being at any ball of any description, and no material injury accrue either to body or mind;—but when a beginning is made —when the felicities of rapid motion have once been, though slightly, felt—it must be a very heavy set that does not ask for more.

彻底不跳舞或许也能过得去。不少例子表明，有些年轻人接连许多个月不参加任何形式的舞会，身心也并未受到多大损害。然而一旦开了头——一旦领略过翩跹起舞的欢愉，哪怕只是浅尝——除非是生性极其沉闷之人，否则断不会不心向往之。

Frank Churchill had danced once at Highbury, and longed to dance again; and the last half-hour of an evening which Mr. **Wood-house** was persuaded to spend with his daughter at Randalls, was passed by the two young people in schemes on the subject. **Frank's** was the first idea; and his the greatest zeal in pursuing it; for the lady was the best judge of the difficulties, and the most solicitous for accommodation and appearance. **But** still she had inclination enough for shewing people again how delightfully Mr. **Frank** Churchill

弗兰克·丘吉尔曾在海伯里跳过一回舞，便心心念念想再跳一次；在伍德豪斯先生被说服与女儿在兰德尔度过的那晚最后半小时里，两位年轻人便一直在筹划这件事。最初是弗兰克起的意，也是他最为热心地推动；因为女方最清楚其中难处，也最在意场地体面与宾客尽欢。但她终究还是愿意再次向人们展示弗兰克·丘吉尔先生

and Miss Woodhouse danced—for doing that in which she need not blush to compare herself with Jane Fairfax—and even for simple dancing itself, without any of the wicked aids of vanity—to assist him first in pacing out the room they were in to see what it could be made to hold—and then in taking the dimensions of the other parlour, in the hope of discovering, in spite of all that Mr. Weston could say of their exactly equal size, that it was a little the largest.

与伍德豪斯小姐的舞姿多么令人的心醉——做这件事时，她大可以坦然自若地与简·费尔法克斯相较——甚至单纯为了跳舞本身，不带任何虚荣的邪念——于是先帮他丈量所在房间的容量，又去测量另一间客厅的尺寸，尽管韦斯顿先生坚称两间一般大小，他们仍盼着能发现这间略大些。

His first proposition and request, that the dance begun at Mr. Cole's should be finished there—that the same party should be collected, and the same musician engaged, met with the readiest acquiescence. Mr. Weston entered into the idea with thorough enjoyment, and Mrs. Weston most willingly undertook to play as long as they could wish to dance; and the interesting employment had followed, of reckoning up exactly who there would be, and portioning out the indispensable division of space to every couple.

他首先提议并请求，将在科尔先生家开始的那场舞会应当在那里结束——应当召集同一批宾客，聘请同一位乐师，这个提议立刻获得了最爽快的应允。韦斯顿先生怀着满腔热忱赞同这个主意，韦斯顿太太则欣然承诺，只要大家还想跳舞，她必定奉陪到底；紧接着便是一桩饶有兴味的差事——仔细盘算宾客名单，为每一对舞伴精确分配必不可少的活动空间。

“**You** and Miss Smith, and Miss Fairfax, will be three, and the two Miss Coxes five,” had been repeated many times over. “**And** there will be the two Gilberts, young Cox, my father, and myself, besides Mr. **Knightley**. **Yes**, that will be quite enough for pleasure. **You** and Miss Smith, and Miss Fairfax, will be three, and the two Miss Coxes five; and for five couple there will be plenty of room.”

“你、史密斯小姐、费尔法克斯小姐就是三位，加上两位考克斯小姐就是五位，”这话重复说了好多遍。“再加上吉尔伯特家两位，小考克斯，我父亲，还有我自己，这就除了奈特利先生之外够凑齐人數了。是啊，这样足够热闹了。你、史密斯小姐、费尔法克斯小姐三位，加上两位考克斯小姐五位；五对舞伴场地绰绰有余呢。”

But soon it came to be on one side,

但不久，这事便偏到了一边，

“**But** will there be good room for five couple? —**I** really do not think there will.”

“可是五对舞伴能转得开吗？——我确实觉得地方不够大。”

On another,

在另一件事上，

“**And** after all, five couple are not enough to make it worth while to stand up. **Five** couple are nothing, when one thinks seriously about it. **It** will not do to _invite_ five couple. **It** can be allowable only as the thought of the moment.”

“说到底，五对舞伴实在不值得站起来跳。认真想想，五对根本算不了什么。邀请五对可不行。这只能当作一时兴起的念头罢了。”

Somebody said that Miss Gilbert was expected at her brother's, and must be invited with the rest. **Somebody** else believed Mrs. **Gilbert** would have danced the other evening, if she had been asked. A word was put in for a second young Cox; and at last, Mr. **Weston** naming one family of cousins who must be included, and another of very old acquaintance who could not be left out, it became a certainty that the five couple would be at least ten, and a very interesting speculation in what possible manner they could be disposed of.

有人提起，吉尔伯特小姐预计会到她哥哥家来，应当一并邀请。又有人相信，只要邀请过，吉尔伯特太太那晚定会下场跳舞的。还有人替考克斯家二少爷美言了几句。最后，韦斯顿先生又提出必须列入的表亲一家，还有不能不请的世交一家，如此一来，五对舞伴势必增至十对以上。大家便兴致勃勃地揣测着，该如何安排这许多人的好。

The doors of the two rooms were just opposite each other. "Might not they use both rooms, and dance across the passage?" It seemed the best scheme; and yet it was not so good but that many of them wanted a better. **Emma** said it would be awkward; Mrs. **Weston** was in distress about the supper; and Mr. **Woodhouse** opposed it earnestly, on the score of health. It made him so very unhappy, indeed, that it could not be persevered in.

两间屋子的房门正好相对。“他们何不把两间屋子都利用起来，在走廊里穿梭跳舞呢？”这似乎是个最佳方案，然而却并非尽善尽美，仍有不少人期待更周全的安排。爱玛说这样未免局促；韦斯顿太太则为晚宴的布置忧心忡忡；而伍德豪斯先生则出于健康考量极力反对。这个提议实在令他忧心忡忡，最终只得作罢。

“Oh! no,” said he; “it would be the extreme of imprudence. I could not bear it for Emma! —Emma is not strong. She would catch a dreadful cold. So would poor little Harriet. So you would all. Mrs. Weston, you would be quite laid up; do not let them talk of such a wild thing. Pray do not let them talk of it. That young man (speaking lower) is very thoughtless. Do not tell his father, but that young man is not quite the thing. He has been opening the doors very often this evening, and keeping them open very inconsiderately. He does not think of the draught. I do not mean to set you against him, but indeed he is not quite the thing!”

“哦！不行，”他说，“这简直是鲁莽至极。我可不能让爱玛受这个罪！——爱玛身子单薄，会染上重感冒的。可怜的小哈丽特也会病倒。你们全都逃不过。韦斯顿太太，您准会卧床不起——千万别让他们提这种荒唐主意。求您千万别让他们再提了。那个年轻人（压低声音）实在太欠考虑。千万别告诉他父亲，不过那个年轻人确实不太得体。今晚他总把门开来开去，毫不顾忌地让门大敞着。根本不顾及穿堂风。我并非要挑拨您对他的看法，但他确实不太得体！”

Mrs. Weston was sorry for such a charge. She knew the importance of it, and said every thing in her power to do it away. Every door was now closed, the passage plan given up, and the first scheme of dancing only in the room they were in resorted to again; and with such good-will on Frank Churchill’s part, that the space which a quarter of an hour before

韦斯顿太太听到这样的指责，心里很过意不去。她知道这件事非同小可，便竭尽全力加以化解。这时所有的门都已关上，穿过走廊跳舞的计划放弃了，大家又只好采用最初只在现成房间里跳舞的方案。弗兰克·邱吉尔

had been deemed barely sufficient for five couple, was now endeavoured to be made out quite enough for ten.

表现得十分乖巧，眼见一刻钟前还认为只够五对舞伴使用的场地，现在居然硬要凑合着容纳十对舞伴。

“**We** were too magnificent,” said he. “**We** allowed unnecessary room. **Ten** couple may stand here very well.”

“我们当初过于铺张了，”他说道，“留出了不必要的空间。这里站十对舞伴也绰绰有余。”

Emma demurred. “**It** would be a crowd—a sad crowd; and what could be worse than dancing without space to turn in?”

爱玛表示异议。”那会太拥挤——拥挤得可怕；还有什么比跳舞时连转身的地方都没有更糟糕的呢？”

“**Very** true,” he gravely replied; “it was very bad. ”**But** still he went on measuring, and still he ended with,

“确实如此，”他严肃地答道，“这确实很糟糕。”但他仍继续丈量着，末了还是那句话——

“**I** think there will be very tolerable room for ten couple.”

”我想，容纳十对舞伴绰绰有余。”

“**No**, no,” said she, “you are quite unreasonable. **It** would be dreadful to be standing so close! **Nothing** can be farther from pleasure than to be dancing in a crowd—and a crowd

“不，不，”她说道，“你太没道理了。站得那么近多可怕！再没有什么比挤在人群里跳舞更扫兴的了——而且还是

in a little room! ”

挤在这么小的房间里! ”

“**There** is no denying it,” he replied. “I agree with you exactly. A crowd in a little room—Miss Woodhouse, you have the art of giving pictures in a few words. **Exquisite**, quite exquisite! —**Still**, however, having proceeded so far, one is unwilling to give the matter up. **It** would be a disappointment to my father—and altogether—I do not know that—I am rather of opinion that ten couple might stand here very well. ”

“这无可否认，”他答道。“我完全同意你的看法。小小房间里挤满了人——伍德豪斯小姐，你真有本事，三言两语就勾勒出这般画面。精妙，实在精妙！——不过既然已经进行到这个地步，就此放弃总是不甘。这会让家父失望——而且总的来说——我不知道该不该——我倒认为十对舞伴站在这里应该绰绰有余。”

Emma perceived that the nature of his gallantry was a little self-willed, and that he would rather oppose than lose the pleasure of dancing with her; but she took the compliment, and forgave the rest. **Had** she intended ever to marry him, it might have been worth while to pause and consider, and try to understand the value of his preference, and the character of his temper; but for all the purposes of their acquaintance, he was quite amiable enough.

爱玛觉察到，他的殷勤带着几分固执，宁肯违拗她的心意也不愿错过与她共舞的机会。她领受了这份恭维，其余的便不计计较了。倘若她当真存过嫁给他念头，或许值得驻足思量，细细揣度他这份青睐的分量，品察他性情中的特质；但就他们相识的情分而言，他的温厚已然绰绰有余。

Before the middle of the next day, he was at Hartfield; and he entered the room with such an agreeable smile as certified the continuance of the scheme. **It** soon appeared that he came to announce an improvement.

次日正午之前，他已抵达哈特菲尔德；走进屋时脸上挂着那般怡人的微笑，足见计划仍在推进。很快便知他此行是来宣告一项进展。

“Well, Miss Woodhouse,” he almost immediately began, “your inclination for dancing has not been quite frightened away, I hope, by the terrors of my father’s little rooms. I bring a new proposal on the subject:—a thought of my father’s, which waits only your approbation to be acted upon. **May** I hope for the honour of your hand for the two first dances of this little projected ball, to be given, not at Randalls, but at the Crown Inn? ”

“伍德豪斯小姐，”他几乎立刻开口，“希望我父亲那狭小房间的局促，不曾吓退您对跳舞的兴趣吧？我带来个新提议——是家父的想法，只待您首肯便可实施。不知我能否有幸在计划中的这场小型舞会上，邀您共舞前两曲？这场舞会不在朗道斯宅举行，而要改在皇冠旅店。”

“The Crown! ”

“王冠！ ”

“Yes; if you and Mr. **Woodhouse** see no objection, and I trust you cannot, my father hopes his friends will be so kind as to visit him there. **Better** accommodations, he can promise them, and not a less grateful welcome than at Randalls. **It** is his own idea. **Mrs. Weston** sees no objection to it, provided you

“是的，要是你和伍德豪斯先生不反对——我相信你们也不会反对，家父希望他的朋友们能赏光到那儿去看他。他保证能提供更好的住宿条件，而且绝不会比兰德尔斯的款待来得逊色。这都是他

are satisfied. **This** is what we all feel. **Oh!** 自己的主意。只要你们满意，
you were perfectly right! **Ten** couple, in ei- 韦斯顿太太也觉得没问题。
ther of the Randalls rooms, would have been 这是我们大家的共同感受。
insufferable! —**Dreadful!** —I felt how right 啊！你当时说得完全正确！
you were the whole time, but was too anxious 不论在兰德尔斯哪个房间里
for securing any thing to like to yield. 挤上二十个人，都会让人受
Is not it a good exchange? —**You** consent— 不了！——太可怕了！——我
I hope you consent?" 始终觉得你说得对，但当时一心只想着促成这件事，就
不愿让步。现在这样安排不是很好吗？——你同意了吧
——但愿你是同意的？”

“**It** appears to me a plan that nobody can ob- “在我看来，只要韦斯顿夫妇
ject to, if Mr. **and** Mrs. **Weston** do not. **I** 不反对，这个计划谁都不会
think it admirable; and, as far as I can answer 有异议。我觉得这主意妙极了，而且就我个人而言，定当
for myself, shall be most happy—It seems the only improvement that could be. **Papa**, do 欣然赴约——这似乎已是尽
you not think it an excellent improvement?” 善尽美的安排了。爸爸，您不
也觉得这是绝妙的改进吗？”

She was obliged to repeat and explain it, 她不得不重复解释了一遍，
before it was fully comprehended; and then, 对方才完全明白；由于这消息
being quite new, farther representations were 实在新鲜，又经过一番进
necessary to make it acceptable. 一步的说明，对方才总算接受
了。

“**No**; he thought it very far from an improvement—a very bad plan—much worse than the other. **A** room at an inn was always damp and dangerous; never properly aired, or fit to be inhabited. **If** they must dance, they had better dance at Randalls. **He** had never been in the room at the Crown in his life—did not know the people who kept it by sight. —**Oh! no** —a very bad plan. **They** would catch worse colds at the Crown than anywhere.”

“不；他认为这远非改进——一个非常糟糕的计划——比另一个差远了。客栈里的房间总是又潮又危险；从未好过通风，也不宜居住。如果他们非要跳舞，不如就在兰德尔家跳。他这辈子从没去过皇冠客栈的那个房间——连客栈老板的面都没见过。——哦！不行——这计划糟透了。他们在皇冠客栈染上的感冒会比在任何地方都更严重。”

“I was going to observe, sir,” said Frank Churchill, “that one of the great recommendations of this change would be the very little danger of any body’s catching cold—so much less danger at the Crown than at Randalls! **Mr. Perry** might have reason to regret the alteration, but nobody else could.”

“我正要说，先生，”弗兰克·丘吉尔说道，“这次变动最大的好处之一，就是大家几乎不会有感冒的风险——皇冠酒店比朗道尔宅子安全多了！佩里先生或许有理由惋惜这样的变动，但旁人绝不会。”

“Sir,” said Mr. Woodhouse, rather warmly, “you are very much mistaken if you suppose Mr. **Perry** to be that sort of character. Mr. **Perry** is extremely concerned when any of us

“先生，”伍德豪斯先生颇为热切地说道，“倘若您认为佩里先生是那种人，那您可就大错特错了。每逢我们有人身

are ill. **But** I do not understand how the room at the Crown can be safer for you than your father's house. ”

体不适，佩里先生总是关切备至。只是我不明白，为何王冠旅馆的房间会比令尊府上更让您觉得安稳。”

“**From** the very circumstance of its being larger, sir. **We** shall have no occasion to open the windows at all—not once the whole evening; and it is that dreadful habit of opening the windows, letting in cold air upon heated bodies, which (as you well know, sir) does the mischief. ”

“正因为房间更大些，先生。我们根本没必要开窗——整个晚上一次都不用开。正是那种开窗的可怕习惯，让冷空气侵袭发热的身体，（先生您很清楚）这才招来了病痛。”

“**Open** the windows! —**but** surely, Mr. **Churchill**, nobody would think of opening the windows at Randalls. **Nobody** could be so imprudent! **I** never heard of such a thing. **Dancing** with open windows! —**I** am sure, neither your father nor Mrs. **Weston** (poor Miss Taylor that was) would suffer it. ”

”开窗户！——不过邱吉尔先生，surely 不会有人想在兰德尔开窗户吧。谁也不会这么冒失！我从未听说过这种事。开着窗户跳舞！——我敢肯定，你父亲和韦斯顿太太（就是可怜的泰勒小姐）都绝不会允许的。”

“**Ah!** sir—**but** a thoughtless young person will sometimes step behind a window-curtain, and throw up a sash, without its being suspected. **I** have often known it done myself. ”

“啊！先生——不过一个冒失的年轻人有时会走到窗帘后面，推开窗扇，而不被人察觉。我自己就常这么干。”

“Have you indeed, sir? —Bless me! I never “真的吗，先生? —天哪!
could have supposed it. But I live out of the 我万万没想到。不过我平日
world, and am often astonished at what I hear. 不问世事，听到什么都觉得
However, this does make a difference; and, 惊奇。不过这件事确实不同
perhaps, when we come to talk it over—but 寻常；或许等我们仔细商议
these sort of things require a good deal of con- —但这类事情需要从长计
sideration. One cannot resolve upon them in 议。总不能仓促决定。若是
a hurry. If Mr. and Mrs. Weston will be so 韦斯顿夫妇肯赏光某日上午
obliging as to call here one morning, we may 过来坐坐，我们不妨共同商
talk it over, and see what can be done. ” 议，看看能如何安排。”

“But, unfortunately, sir, my time is so limited “可是，先生，真不凑巧，我
—” 的时间实在太紧——”

“Oh! ”interrupted Emma, “there will be “哦！”爱玛打断道，“有的是时
plenty of time for talking every thing over. 间从长计议呢。根本不用着
There is no hurry at all. If it can be con- 急。爸爸，要是能把地点定
trived to be at the Crown, papa, it will be very 在皇冠酒店，对马匹可就方
convenient for the horses. They will be so 便多了。那儿离自家马厩近
near their own stable. ” 很得。”

“So they will, my dear. That is a great thing. “他们会的，亲爱的。这可是
Not that James ever complains; but it is right 件大事。倒不是说詹姆斯会
to spare our horses when we can. If I could be 抱怨什么；但能省马力的时
sure of the rooms being thoroughly aired—but 候还是该省着用。要是我能
is Mrs. Stokes to be trusted? I doubt it. I 确信房间彻底通风了就好了

do not know her, even by sight. ”

——但斯托克斯太太靠得住吗？我表示怀疑。我连她的长相都认不得呢。”

“I can answer for every thing of that nature, sir, because it will be under Mrs. Weston’s care. Mrs. Weston undertakes to direct the whole.”

“凡是这类事情，先生，我都可以担保，因为一切都会由韦斯顿太太照料。韦斯顿太太答应来指点一切。”

“There, papa! —Now you must be satisfied —Our own dear Mrs. Weston, who is carefulness itself. Do not you remember what Mr. Perry said, so many years ago, when I had the measles? ‘If Miss Taylor undertakes to wrap Miss Emma up, you need not have any fears, sir. ’How often have I heard you speak of it as such a compliment to her! ”

“瞧，爸爸！——这下您总该放心了吧——有我们亲爱的韦斯顿太太亲自照料，她可是再细心不过的人。您难道不记得多年前我出麻疹时佩里先生说的话吗？只要泰勒小姐答应把爱玛小姐裹严实，先生您就完全不必担心了。我常听您提起这话，说这真是对她莫大的夸奖呢！”

“Aye, very true. Mr. Perry did say so. I shall never forget it. Poor little Emma! You were very bad with the measles; that is, you would have been very bad, but for Perry’s great attention. He came four times a day for a week. He said, from the first, it was a very

“是啊，说得太对了。佩里先生确实这么说过。我永远都忘不了。可怜的小爱玛！你出麻疹时可严重了；要不是佩里先生悉心照料，病情准会恶化。他连着七天每天来四

good sort—which was our great comfort; but the measles are a dreadful complaint. I hope whenever poor Isabella's little ones have the measles, she will send for Perry."

趟。他一开始就说这麻疹品种还算温和——这话可真叫人宽慰；但麻疹终究是可怕的病症。但愿可怜的伊莎贝拉家的孩子们出疹子时，她也能请佩里先生来诊治。”

"My father and Mrs. Weston are at the Crown at this moment," said Frank Churchill, "examining the capabilities of the house. I left them there and came on to Hartfield, impatient for your opinion, and hoping you might be persuaded to join them and give your advice on the spot. I was desired to say so from both. It would be the greatest pleasure to them, if you could allow me to attend you there. They can do nothing satisfactorily without you."

“家父和韦斯顿夫人此刻正在皇冠旅社，”弗兰克·邱吉尔说道，“正在考察那栋房子的格局。我特意离开他们赶到哈特菲尔德来，急于听取您的意见，希望您能被我劝说着立即过去帮他们出主意。他们两位都嘱咐我这么说。您若能允许我陪同前往，他们必将深感荣幸。没有您在场，他们什么事都定不下来。”

Emma was most happy to be called to such a council; and her father, engaging to think it all over while she was gone, the two young people set off together without delay for the Crown. There were Mr. and Mrs. Weston; delighted to see her and receive her ap-

爱玛被唤来参与这样的商议，真是快活极了；她父亲答应在她去后仔细考虑这件事，两个年轻人便片刻不耽搁地一同赶往王冠旅店。韦斯顿先生和太太都在那儿；

probation, very busy and very happy in their different way; she, in some little distress; and he, finding every thing perfect. 见到她很是高兴，得到她的赞许更是欢喜，两人各以不同的方式忙碌着，也各以不同的方式感到幸福；她略带几分烦恼，而他则觉得事事完美无缺。

“**Emma**,” said she, “this paper is worse than I expected. **Look! in** places you see it is dreadfully dirty; and the wainscot is more yellow and forlorn than any thing I could have imagined.” “**爱玛**，”她说道，“这纸张比我预想的还要糟糕。**你瞧！**有几处脏得不成样子；护壁板的颜色黄得厉害，破败得超乎我的想象。”

“**My** dear, you are too particular,” said her husband. “**What** does all that signify? **You** will see nothing of it by candlelight. **It** will be as clean as Randalls by candlelight. **We** never see any thing of it on our club-nights.” “**亲爱的**，你太挑剔了，”她丈夫说道，“那些痕迹有什么要紧？**烛光**下根本看不出来。**点上**蜡烛后，这里会跟兰德尔庄园一样干净。**我们**俱乐部聚会那晚，谁也没注意到这些。”

The ladies here probably exchanged looks which meant, “Men never know when things are dirty or not;” and the gentlemen perhaps thought each to himself, “Women will have their little nonsenses and needless cares.” 这里的女士们或许交换了一个眼神，意思是“男人永远分不清东西脏不脏”；而先生们各自暗忖的，大概是“女人家总爱在这种小事上瞎操

心”。

One perplexity, however, arose, which the gentlemen did not disdain. It regarded a supper-room. At the time of the ballroom's being built, suppers had not been in question; and a small card-room adjoining, was the only addition. What was to be done? This card-room would be wanted as a card-room now; or, if cards were conveniently voted unnecessary by their four selves, still was it not too small for any comfortable supper? Another room of much better size might be secured for the purpose; but it was at the other end of the house, and a long awkward passage must be gone through to get at it. This made a difficulty. Mrs. Weston was afraid of draughts for the young people in that passage; and neither Emma nor the gentlemen could tolerate the prospect of being miserably crowded at supper.

然而，有一桩难题却让绅士们不得不放下架子认真思量——关于晚宴厅的布置。当初建造舞厅时，并未将晚宴纳入考量；仅在一旁添了间小小的牌室。眼下该如何是好？这牌室如今自然要作牌室之用；即便他们四人一致认为打牌实属多余，这房间用来举办舒心的晚宴岂不也过于局促？倒是另有一间宽敞得多的厅室可用，可惜坐落于宅邸另一端，要穿过一条既冗长又不便的廊道才能抵达。韦斯顿夫人担心年轻宾客经过那条长廊会受穿堂风侵扰；而爱玛与绅士们想到要在晚宴时忍受拥挤不堪的场面，也都纷纷蹙起了眉头。

Mrs. Weston proposed having no regular supper; merely sandwiches, &c., set out in the little room; but that was scouted as a

韦斯顿太太提议不设正式晚宴，只在侧厅准备些三明治之类的小食；但这个糟糕的

wretched suggestion. A private dance, without sitting down to supper, was pronounced an infamous fraud upon the rights of men and women; and Mrs. Weston must not speak of it again. She then took another line of expediency, and looking into the doubtful room, observed,

建议立刻遭到众人反对。一场不设座席晚宴的私人舞会，被大家斥为对男女宾客权利的无耻践踏；韦斯顿夫人只得噤声。她随即另辟蹊径，打量着那间格局欠佳的房间说道：

“I do not think it is so very small. We shall not be many, you know.” “我倒不觉得它真那么小。你知道，我们人数不会太多。”

And Mr. Weston at the same time, walking briskly with long steps through the passage, was calling out, 韦斯顿先生同时迈着大步，步履轻快地穿过走廊，高声喊道：

“You talk a great deal of the length of this passage, my dear. It is a mere nothing after all; and not the least draught from the stairs.” “你总说这条走廊太长，亲爱的。其实根本算不了什么；楼梯那儿也一点没有穿堂风。”

“I wish,” said Mrs. Weston, “one could know which arrangement our guests in general would like best. To do what would be most generally pleasing must be our object—if one could but tell what that would be.” “但愿，”韦斯顿太太说，“我们能知道客人们普遍最喜欢哪种安排。我们的目标应该是做最能让大多数人高兴的事——要是我们能知道那是什

么就好了。”

“Yes, very true,” cried Frank, “very true. You “确实如此,”弗兰克嚷道,“千
want your neighbours’ opinions. I do not won- 真万确。您需要听听邻居们
der at you. If one could ascertain what the 的意见。我完全理解。要是能
chief of them—the Coles, for instance. They 摸清其中几位头面人物的想
are not far off. Shall I call upon them? Or 法——比如科尔夫妇。他们
Miss Bates? She is still nearer. —And I do 就住在附近。要不要我去拜
not know whether Miss Bates is not as likely 访他们? 或者贝茨小姐? 她
to understand the inclinations of the rest of 住得更近。——而且我不知
the people as any body. I think we do want a 道贝茨小姐是不是最了解其
larger council. Suppose I go and invite Miss 他人意向的人选。看来我们
Bates to join us?” 确实需要更多参谋。要不我
现在去请贝茨小姐过来?”

“Well—if you please,” said Mrs. Weston “好吧——如果你觉得合
rather hesitating, “if you think she will be of 适,”韦斯顿太太略带迟疑
any use.” 地说,“如果你认为她能帮上忙的话。”

“You will get nothing to the purpose from “你从贝茨小姐那儿是问不出
Miss Bates,” said Emma. “She will be all de- 什么名堂来的,”爱玛
light and gratitude, but she will tell you noth- 说,“她会满心欢喜、感激不
ing. She will not even listen to your questions. 尽,但什么也不会告诉你。她
I see no advantage in consulting Miss Bates. ” 甚至不会留心听你的问题。
我看不出向贝茨小姐请教有什么好处。”

“**But** she is so amusing, so extremely amusing! I am very fond of hearing Miss Bates talk. **And** I need not bring the whole family, you know.”

“可她多有趣啊，太有趣了！我最爱听贝茨小姐聊天。再说也用不着把全家人都带上，您说是不是。”

Here Mr. **Weston** joined them, and on hearing what was proposed, gave it his decided approbation.

这时韦斯顿先生也凑了过来，听到这个提议，便立即表示极力赞成。

“**Aye**, do, Frank. —**Go** and fetch Miss Bates, and let us end the matter at once. **She** will enjoy the scheme, I am sure; and I do not know a properer person for shewing us how to do away difficulties. **Fetch** Miss Bates. **We** are growing a little too nice. **She** is a standing lesson of how to be happy. **But** fetch them both. **Invite** them both.”

“好啊，弗兰克，去吧——去把贝茨小姐请来，咱们立刻把这事定下来。她准会喜欢这个安排，我敢肯定；我也想不出还有谁比她更懂得如何化解难题。快去请贝茨小姐。咱们现在未免太讲究了些。她活生生教会我们如何保持快乐。不过两位都请来吧。把她们两位都邀请上。”

“Both sir! **Can** the old lady? ” . . .

“两位先生！那位老太太也能吗？……”

“**The** old lady! **No**, the young lady, to be sure. I shall think you a great blockhead, Frank, if you bring the aunt without the niece.”

“老太太！不，当然是那位年轻小姐。弗兰克，你要是只带了姨妈来，却不带外甥女，我可要觉得你是个大傻瓜了。”

“Oh! I beg your pardon, sir. I did not immediately recollect. **Undoubtedly** if you wish it, I will endeavour to persuade them both.” And away he ran.

“哦！请您原谅，先生。我一时没想起来。若您确有此意，我自当尽力劝说二位。”说罢他便跑开了。

Long before he reappeared, attending the short, neat, brisk-moving aunt, and her elegant niece,—Mrs. Weston, like a sweet-tempered woman and a good wife, had examined the passage again, and found the evils of it much less than she had supposed before—indeed very trifling; and here ended the difficulties of decision. All the rest, in speculation at least, was perfectly smooth. All the minor arrangements of table and chair, lights and music, tea and supper, made themselves; or were left as mere trifles to be settled at any time between Mrs. Weston and Mrs. Stokes. —Every body invited, was certainly to come; Frank had already written to Enscombe to propose staying a few days beyond his fortnight, which could not possibly be refused. And a delightful dance it was to be.

在他陪着那位矮小整洁、步履轻快的舅母和她那优雅的外甥女再次露面之前，韦斯顿太太——这位性情温婉的贤惠妻子——早已重新审视过那条过道，发觉其中的不便远比自己先前想象的要少，简直微不足道；于是所有的犹豫不决便到此为止。其余种种，至少在设想中，都已是顺理成章。**桌椅**摆放、**灯烛配置**、**音乐茶点**等琐碎安排，要么自然到位，要么索性留给韦斯顿太太和斯托克斯太太随时商定。所有受邀宾客必定都会前来；弗兰克早已致函恩斯康伯宅邸，请求将原定的两周行程略作延长，这个请求断无被拒之理。一场令人心驰神往的舞会已是呼之欲出。

Most cordially, when Miss Bates arrived, did she agree that it must. **As** a counsellor she was not wanted; but as an approver, (a much safer character,) she was truly welcome. **Her** approbation, at once general and minute, warm and incessant, could not but please; and for another half-hour they were all walking to and fro, between the different rooms, some suggesting, some attending, and all in happy enjoyment of the future. **The** party did not break up without Emma's being positively secured for the two first dances by the hero of the evening, nor without her overhearing Mr. **Weston** whisper to his wife, "He has asked her, my dear. **That's** right. **I** knew he would!"

贝茨小姐一到，便极其热诚地赞同说真该如此。作为参谋她虽无必要，但作为赞许者（一个安全得多的角色），她确实受到欢迎。她那既全面又细致、热情而不间断的赞许，令人不能不感到欣喜。在接下来的半小时里，他们全都在几个房间之间走来走去，有人提议，有人聆听，全都沉浸在未来的欢乐中。舞会结束前，当晚的主角不仅确定无疑地邀请爱玛跳了前两曲舞，她还恰好听见韦斯顿先生对妻子低语：“他邀请她了，亲爱的。**这就对了。**我早知道他会这么做的！”

CHAPTER XII

第十二章

One thing only was wanting to make the prospect of the ball completely satisfactory to Emma—its being fixed for a day within the granted term of Frank Churchill's stay in Surry; for, in spite of Mr. **Weston's** confidence, she could not think it so very impos-

要使舞会的前景在爱玛心中臻于完满，唯有一事尚存缺憾——那便是舞会日期未能定在弗兰克·丘吉尔暂居萨里的期限内。尽管韦斯顿先生信心十足，她却始终认为

sible that the Churchills might not allow their nephew to remain a day beyond his fortnight. **But** this was not judged feasible. The preparations must take their time, nothing could be properly ready till the third week were entered on, and for a few days they must be planning, proceeding and hoping in uncertainty—at the risk—in her opinion, the great risk, of its being all in vain.

丘吉尔夫妇未必应允外甥逾期逗留。然而这个设想终难实现。筹备工作须得从容进行，非得进入第三周方能诸事齐备，他们不得不冒着风险——在她看来是极大的风险——在忐忑不安中筹划准备、翘首期盼，说不定最后竟是枉费心机。

Enscombe however was gracious, gracious in fact, if not in word. **His** wish of staying longer evidently did not please; but it was not opposed. **All** was safe and prosperous; and as the removal of one solicitude generally makes way for another, Emma, being now certain of her ball, began to adopt as the next vexation Mr. **Knightley's** provoking indifference about it. **Either** because he did not dance himself, or because the plan had been formed without his being consulted, he seemed resolved that it should not interest him, determined against its exciting any present curiosity, or affording him any future amusement. **To** her voluntary communications Emma could get no more approving reply, than,

然而恩斯库姆方面倒是很客气，虽说言语上未见表示，实际上却颇为宽容。他想要多住些日子的愿望显然并不讨喜，却也未遭反对。一切顺遂无忧；而一桩心事既了，另一桩便接踵而至，爱玛既已确知舞会必能举行，眼下便开始为奈特利先生对此事那恼人的漠然而烦恼起来。不知是因他自己不跳舞，还是因为筹划此事时未同他商量，他似乎已打定主意不予关注，决意不受当下好奇心的驱使，也不指望它能带来什么未来的乐趣。对于爱玛

主动透露的消息，他至多不过敷衍一句：

“Very well. If the Westons think it worth while to be at all this trouble for a few hours of noisy entertainment, I have nothing to say against it, but that they shall not chuse pleasures for me. —Oh! yes, I must be there; I could not refuse; and I will keep as much awake as I can; but I would rather be at home, looking over William Larkins’s week’s account; much rather, I confess. —Pleasure in seeing dancing! —not I, indeed—I never look at it—I do not know who does. —Fine dancing, I believe, like virtue, must be its own reward. Those who are standing by are usually thinking of something very different.”

“很好。如果韦斯顿夫妇觉得为了一场闹哄哄的娱乐活动费这么大周折是值得的，我也不便反对，只是他们休想替我选择消遣方式——哦！我当然得去，总不能推辞；我会尽量打起精神不瞌睡。不过说实话，我宁愿待在家里核对威廉·拉金斯的周度账目，实在情愿得多。看跳舞能有什么乐趣！——我反正看不出——我从来不看跳舞——也不知道谁爱看。依我看，精妙的舞姿就像美德，必须本身就是回报。那些站在一旁观看的人，通常都在想着完全不相干的事。”

This Emma felt was aimed at her; and it made her quite angry. It was not in compliment to Jane Fairfax however that he was so indifferent, or so indignant; he was not guided by _her_ feelings in reprobating the ball, for 爱玛觉得这话是冲着她来的，不由得心头火起。他这般冷淡——这般愤慨，绝非为了向简·费尔法克斯献殷勤，因为舞会遭到非议并非出于

she enjoyed the thought of it to an extraordinary degree. **It** made her animated—open hearted—she voluntarily said;—

对她的体贴——要知道她对舞会的构想可是怀着异乎寻常的欣喜呢。这念头使她神采飞扬——敞开心扉——她主动开口道：——

“**Oh!** **Miss** Woodhouse, I hope nothing may happen to prevent the ball. **What** a disappointment it would be! I do look forward to it, I own, with very great pleasure.”

“哦！伍德豪斯小姐，但愿不会发生什么事阻碍舞会。那就该多么令人失望啊！说真的，我确实怀着极大的期待盼着这场舞会呢。”

It was not to oblige Jane Fairfax therefore that he would have preferred the society of William Larkins. **No!** —she was more and more convinced that Mrs. **Weston** was quite mistaken in that surmise. **There** was a great deal of friendly and of compassionate attachment on his side—but no love.

他之所以宁愿与威廉·拉金斯为伴，绝非为了讨好简·费尔法克斯。不！——她越来越确信韦斯顿太太那个猜测完全错了。他心中怀有深厚的友情与怜惜——却绝无爱情。

Alas! **there** was soon no leisure for quarrelling with Mr. **Knightley**. **Two** days of joyful security were immediately followed by the over-throw of every thing. A letter arrived from Mr. **Churchill** to urge his nephew's instant return. **Mrs.** **Churchill** was unwell

唉！可惜很快就没工夫跟奈特利先生争执了。两天的欢欣安稳转瞬即逝，一切都被打乱了。丘吉尔先生来信催促外甥即刻返家。丘吉尔夫人身体不适——病势沉重已

—far too unwell to do without him; she had been in a very suffering state (so said her husband) when writing to her nephew two days before, though from her usual unwillingness to give pain, and constant habit of never thinking of herself, she had not mentioned it; but now she was too ill to trifle, and must entreat him to set off for Enscombe without delay.

离不开他照顾；其实两天前她给外甥写信时就已经非常痛苦（这是她丈夫的说法），只是她素来不愿让人担忧，又总习惯忽略自身病痛，才只字未提；但此刻病情已不容怠慢，务请他立即动身返回恩斯康比。

The substance of this letter was forwarded to Emma, in a note from Mrs. **Weston**, instantly. As to his going, it was inevitable. He must be gone within a few hours, though without feeling any real alarm for his aunt, to lessen his repugnance. He knew her illnesses; they never occurred but for her own convenience.

这封信的要旨，韦斯顿太太立刻用短笺转告了爱玛。至于他这次离去，那是无法避免的。他非得在几小时内动身不可，尽管他并不真正替他姨妈担心，因而减少几分厌恶之情。他知道她生病的情况，她每次生病，无不是为了给她自己提供方便。

Mrs. **Weston** added, “that he could only allow himself time to hurry to Highbury, after breakfast, and take leave of the few friends there whom he could suppose to feel any interest in him; and that he might be expected at Hartfield very soon.”

韦斯顿太太补充道：“他只能在早饭后抽出时间赶到海伯里，向那儿为数不多的几位可能对他怀有几分情谊的朋友们道别；预计他很快就会抵达哈特菲尔德。”

This wretched note was the finale of Emma's breakfast. **When** once it had been read, there was no doing any thing, but lament and exclaim. **The** loss of the ball—the loss of the young man—and all that the young man might be feeling! —**It** was too wretched! —**Such** a delightful evening as it would have been! —**Every** body so happy! **and** she and her partner the happiest! — “I said it would be so,” was the only consolation.

这封令人懊丧的短笺成了爱玛早餐时分的终曲。一旦读罢，除了哀叹与惊呼便再也无心他事——舞会就此告吹！那位年轻人就此离去！而年轻人此刻该是怎样的心境！这实在太令人难过了！原本该是个多么愉快的夜晚！人人都该欢欣雀跃！她与她的舞伴更该是全场最幸福的一对！“我早说过会如此”——这竟成了唯一的慰藉。

Her father's feelings were quite distinct. **He** thought principally of Mrs. **Churchill**' s illness, and wanted to know how she was treated; and as for the ball, it was shocking to have dear Emma disappointed; but they would all be safer at home.

她父亲的感受则截然不同。他主要想着邱吉尔太太的病情，想知道她接受了怎样的治疗；至于舞会嘛，亲爱的爱玛为此失望实在令人扼腕——不过待在家里对大家都更安稳。

Emma was ready for her visitor some time before he appeared; but if this reflected at all upon his impatience, his sorrowful look and total want of spirits when he did come might redeem him. **He** felt the going away almost too

爱玛在客人到来之前，就已等候多时；但若说这显得他不够急切，那么他到来时那满面愁容、全然打不起精神的模样，倒足以弥补这点不

much to speak of it. **H**is dejection was most evident. **H**e sat really lost in thought for the first few minutes; and when rousing himself, it was only to say,

足。离别之苦几乎压得他说不出话来，沮丧之情溢于言表。最初几分钟，他确实怔怔地坐在那儿出神；待振作起精神时，也只不过说了这么一句：

“**O**f all horrid things, leave-taking is the worst.”

在所有烦人的事情里，道别是最糟糕的。

“**B**ut you will come again,” said Emma. “**T**his will not be your only visit to Randalls.”

“但你还会再来的，”爱玛说道，“这不会是你对兰德尔斯的唯一一次拜访。”

“**A**h! —(shaking his head)—the uncertainty of when I may be able to return! —I shall try for it with a zeal! —**I**t will be the object of all my thoughts and cares! —**a**nd if my uncle and aunt go to town this spring—but I am afraid —they did not stir last spring—I am afraid it is a custom gone for ever.”

“唉！——（他摇着头）——我何时才能重返此地，实难预料！——我定当竭力争取！——这将是我一切思绪与挂念的目标！——倘若今春舅父舅母进城去——可我又担心——去年春天他们就未曾动身——恐怕这习俗已不复存在了。”

“**O**ur poor ball must be quite given up.”

“我们那场可怜的舞会只得彻底取消了。”

“Ah! that ball! —why did we wait for any thing? —why not seize the pleasure at once? —How often is happiness destroyed by preparation, foolish preparation! —You told us it would be so. —Oh! Miss Woodhouse, why are you always so right? ”

“唉！那场舞会！——我们当时为什么要等什么？——为什么不立刻抓住那快乐？——幸福往往就被准备、愚蠢的准备给毁掉了！——你早就说过会这样的。——哦！伍德豪斯小姐，为什么你总是这么正确呢？”

“Indeed, I am very sorry to be right in this instance. I would much rather have been merry than wise. ”

”说真的，我此刻宁愿自己说错了才好。我宁可开开心心犯错，也不愿明明白白说中。”

“If I can come again, we are still to have our ball. My father depends on it. Do not forget your engagement. ”

“倘若我还能再来，我们的舞会可还得办呢。我父亲就指望着这事。你可别忘了你的承诺。”

Emma looked graciously.

爱玛优雅地望了一眼。

“Such a fortnight as it has been! ”he continued; “every day more precious and more delightful than the day before! —every day making me less fit to bear any other place. Happy those, who can remain at Highbury! ”

“这是多么不寻常的两个星期啊！”他继续说道，“每一天都比前一天更珍贵、更令人愉悦！——每一天都让我越发难以适应其他任何地方。能留在海伯里的人真是幸福

啊！”

“As you do us such ample justice now,” said Emma, laughing, “I will venture to ask, whether you did not come a little doubtfully at first? Do not we rather surpass your expectations? I am sure we do. I am sure you did not much expect to like us. You would not have been so long in coming, if you had had a pleasant idea of Highbury.”

“既然你现在对我们如此公道，”爱玛笑着说，“我倒要冒昧问一问，开头你是否稍存疑虑？我们不是比你预料的要强么？我敢说是这样。我敢说你并没有料到会喜欢我们。你若是觉得海伯里还称心，就不会拖了这么久才来。”

He laughed rather consciously; and though denying the sentiment, Emma was convinced that it had been so.

他颇为忸怩地笑了笑；虽然嘴上否认这种情绪，爱玛却深信事实正是如此。

“And you must be off this very morning?”

“那你必须今天早上就走？”

“Yes; my father is to join me here: we shall walk back together, and I must be off immediately. I am almost afraid that every moment will bring him.”

“是的；我父亲会来这里与我会合：我们将一起走回去，我得立刻动身了。我几乎担心他随时都会出现。”

“Not five minutes to spare even for your friends Miss Fairfax and Miss Bates? How unlucky! Miss Bates's powerful, argumentative mind might have strengthened yours.”

“连给菲尔费克斯小姐和贝茨小姐——你的朋友们——五分钟都抽不出来吗？真不巧！贝茨小姐那强有力的、雄

辩的头脑说不定能给你的头脑增加些力量呢。”

“Yes—I have called there; passing the door, I thought it better. It was a right thing to do. I went in for three minutes, and was detained by Miss Bates’s being absent. She was out; and I felt it impossible not to wait till she came in. She is a woman that one may, that one must laugh at; but that one would not wish to slight. It was better to pay my visit, then”—

“是的——我确实去拜访了；路过门口时，觉得还是进去为好。这是应当做的事。我进去坐了约莫三分钟，因为贝茨小姐不在家耽搁了。她出门去了；我总觉得非等到她回来不可。她是个让人忍不住要发笑的女人，可又绝不能轻慢对待。当时还是把这场拜访完成了才好——”

He hesitated, got up, walked to a window.

他犹豫了一下，站起身来，走到一扇窗前。

“In short,” said he, “perhaps, Miss Woodhouse—I think you can hardly be quite without suspicion”—

”总之，”他说道，”也许，伍德豪斯小姐——我想您不可能毫无猜疑”——

He looked at her, as if wanting to read her thoughts. She hardly knew what to say. It seemed like the forerunner of something absolutely serious, which she did not wish. Forcing herself to speak, therefore, in the hope of putting it by, she calmly said,

他注视着她，仿佛要读懂她的心思。她几乎不知该说什么好。这情形像是某种极严重之事的前兆，而她并不愿其发生。于是她强迫自己开口，指望能把话头岔开，便

镇定地说道：

“**You** are quite in the right; it was most natural to pay your visit, then”—

“你说得对极了；那时去拜访一下，是再自然不过的事
——”

He was silent. **She** believed he was looking at her; probably reflecting on what she had said, and trying to understand the manner. **She** heard him sigh. **It** was natural for him to feel that he had _cause_ to sigh. **He** could not believe her to be encouraging him. A few awkward moments passed, and he sat down again; and in a more determined manner said,

他沉默不语。她相信他正注视着她；大概是在琢磨她方才那番话，试图参透其中深意。她听见他一声叹息。他自然觉得这声叹息_名正言顺_。他断不会认为她是在鼓励他。难堪的片刻静默过后，他重新落座，以更决绝的语气说道：

“**It** was something to feel that all the rest of my time might be given to Hartfield. **My** regard for Hartfield is most warm”—

“至少我还能感到欣慰，余下的时光可以全部奉献给哈特菲尔德。我对哈特菲尔德怀有最炽热的深情”——

He stopt again, rose again, and seemed quite embarrassed. —**He** was more in love with her than Emma had supposed; and who can say how it might have ended, if his father had not made his appearance? **Mr. Woodhouse** soon followed; and the necessity of exertion

他又一次停下，又一次站起身，显得十分局促不安——他爱她之深超出了爱玛的预料。若不是他父亲突然出现，谁说得准这场会面将如何收场呢？伍德豪斯先生很快也

made him composed.

跟了进来；迫于需要振作精神的处境，他反倒镇定下来了。

A very few minutes more, however, completed the present trial. **Mr. Weston**, always alert when business was to be done, and as incapable of procrastinating any evil that was inevitable, as of foreseeing any that was doubtful, said, "It was time to go;" and the young man, though he might and did sigh, could not but agree, to take leave.

然而，没过几分钟，眼前的煎熬便告结束。**韦斯顿先生**向来办事利落，既不会拖延无可避免的坏事，也不会预想尚未确定的灾祸，当下便说：“该告辞了。”**年轻人**虽不免叹息，却也只得起身作别。

"I shall hear about you all," said he; "that is my chief consolation. I shall hear of every thing that is going on among you. I have engaged Mrs. **Weston** to correspond with me. She has been so kind as to promise it. Oh! the blessing of a female correspondent, when one is really interested in the absent! —she will tell me every thing. In her letters I shall be at dear Highbury again."

“我会听到你们大家的情况，”他说，“这是我主要的安慰。我会了解到你们中间发生的一切。我已经请韦斯顿太太与我通信。她非常友善地答应了。啊！当一个人真心惦记着远方的人时，有位女性笔友是多么幸福！——她会把每件事都告诉我。读着她的来信，我就仿佛又回到了亲爱的高伯里。”

A very friendly shake of the hand, a very

一番极其友好的握手，一声

earnest "Good-bye," closed the speech, and the door had soon shut out Frank Churchill. **Short** had been the notice—short their meeting; he was gone; and Emma felt so sorry to part, and foresaw so great a loss to their little society from his absence as to begin to be afraid of being too sorry, and feeling it too much.

情真意切的"再见"为这段告别辞收了尾。房门很快便将弗兰克·邱吉尔的身影隔绝在外。这次通知如此仓促——这次会面如此短暂；他走了；爱玛因这分别感到如此难过，预见到他的离去将给这个小圈子带来莫大损失，以至于开始担心自己过于伤感，太过沉溺于这种情绪。

It was a sad change. **They** had been meeting almost every day since his arrival. **Certainly** his being at Randalls had given great spirit to the last two weeks—indescribable spirit; the idea, the expectation of seeing him which every morning had brought, the assurance of his attentions, his liveliness, his manners! **It** had been a very happy fortnight, and forlorn must be the sinking from it into the common course of Hartfield days. **To** complete every other recommendation, he had almost told her that he loved her. **What** strength, or what constancy of affection he might be subject to, was another point; but at present she could not

这真是个令人伤心的转变。自他到来后，他们几乎日日相见。毫无疑问，他住在朗道斯宅邸给过去两周增添了无穷生气——难以言表的活力；每个清晨都带来与他相见的憧憬与期待，确信能感受到他的殷勤、他的活泼、他的翩翩风度！那是多么愉快的十四天啊，如今要从这般光景坠回哈特菲尔德寻常生活的轨迹，该是何等凄凉。难得的是，他几乎就要对她说出"爱"这个字眼了。至于

doubt his having a decidedly warm admiration, a conscious preference of herself; and this persuasion, joined to all the rest, made her think that she must be a little in love with him, in spite of every previous determination against it.

他的感情能有多深厚，或是能持续多久，固然另当别论；但此刻她毫不怀疑他确实怀着炽热的爱慕，对自己有着清醒的偏爱。这般确信加上其他种种，让她不得不承认——尽管先前百般抗拒——自己怕是也对他生出几分情愫了。

“I certainly must,” said she. “**This** sensation of listlessness, weariness, stupidity, this disinclination to sit down and employ myself, this feeling of every thing’s being dull and insipid about the house! —I must be in love; I should be the oddest creature in the world if I were not—for a few weeks at least. **Well! evil** to some is always good to others. I shall have many fellow-mourners for the ball, if not for Frank Churchill; but Mr. **Knightley** will be happy. **He** may spend the evening with his dear William Larkins now if he likes.”

“我确实必须承认，”她说。“这种无精打采、倦怠迟钝的感觉，这种不愿安坐做事的心绪，觉得家里样样事物都沉闷乏味！——我准是陷入情网了；否则我就是天下最古怪的人——至少这几周总该是的。**也罢！**有人失意总有人得意。**舞会**取消后会有不少人与我同悲，就算不为弗兰克·邱吉尔；但奈特利先生定会欢欣。**现在**他若愿意，大可以整晚陪着他亲爱的威廉·拉金斯了。”

Mr. **Knightley**, however, shewed no tri-

然而，奈特利先生并未流露

umphant happiness. **H**e could not say that he was sorry on his own account; his very cheerful look would have contradicted him if he had; but he said, and very steadily, that he was sorry for the disappointment of the others, and with considerable kindness added,

出志得意满的欢喜。他不能说自己是为此感到遗憾——即便说了，那神采奕奕的面容也会立时揭穿他的违心之论；但他语气坚定地表示，着实为其他几位感到惋惜，随后又满怀善意地补充道：

“**Y**ou, Emma, who have so few opportunities of dancing, you are really out of luck; you are very much out of luck! ”

“你呀，爱玛，难得有机会跳舞，这回可真不走运；实在太不走运了！”

It was some days before she saw Jane Fairfax, to judge of her honest regret in this woeful change; but when they did meet, her composure was odious. **S**he had been particularly unwell, however, suffering from headache to a degree, which made her aunt declare, that had the ball taken place, she did not think Jane could have attended it; and it was charity to impute some of her unbecoming indifference to the languor of ill-health.

过了几天她才见到简·费尔法克斯，也好判断一下她面对这令人沮丧的变化是否真心感到遗憾；然而，当她们相见时，她那副镇定自若的神情实在令人不快。**不**过她当时身体特别不适，头痛得厉害，连她舅母都声称，即使舞会如期举行，她觉得简也无法参加；把她不得体的冷漠态度部分归因于病体虚弱带来的倦怠，也算是一种善意的体谅。

Emma continued to entertain no doubt of her being in love. **Her** ideas only varied as to the how much. **At** first, she thought it was a good deal; and afterwards, but little. **She** had great pleasure in hearing Frank Churchill talked of; and, for his sake, greater pleasure than ever in seeing Mr. **and** Mrs. **Weston**; she was very often thinking of him, and quite impatient for a letter, that she might know how he was, how were his spirits, how was his aunt, and what was the chance of his coming to Randalls again this spring. **But**, on the other hand, she could not admit herself to be unhappy, nor, after the first morning, to be less disposed for employment than usual; she was still busy and cheerful; and, pleasing as he was, she could yet imagine him to have faults; and farther, though thinking of him so much, and, as she sat drawing or working, forming a thousand amusing schemes for the progress and close of their attachment, fancying interesting dialogues, and inventing elegant letters; the conclusion of every imaginary declaration on his side was that she _refused_ him. **Their** affection was

爱玛始终确信自己已坠入爱河，只是在情意深浅的认知上有所反复。起初她认定用情至深，转念又觉得不过尔尔。**她**极爱听人谈起弗兰克·邱吉尔，为此比往日更殷勤地拜访韦斯顿夫妇；她时常惦记着他，为等书信坐立不安，只想知道他近况如何、精神可好、舅母身体怎样，今春是否有望再来朗道斯宅邸。但从另一方面看，她又不愿承认自己郁郁寡欢——而且次日清晨起身后，她发觉自己并未比往常更懈怠劳作。**她**依然忙碌而快活；虽说对他颇有好感，却仍能想象出他的若干缺点；更值得注意的是，尽管时时思念着他，每当执笔作画或做针线时，更在脑海中编织过无数段恋情发展的趣事、设想过无数场意味深长的对话、杜撰过无数封典雅动人的书信，可

always to subside into friendship. **E**very thing tender and charming was to mark their parting; but still they were to part. **W**hen she became sensible of this, it struck her that she could not be very much in love; for in spite of her previous and fixed determination never to quit her father, never to marry, a strong attachment certainly must produce more of a struggle than she could foresee in her own feelings.

所有幻想中由他开口求婚的结局，竟总是自己断然回绝。两人的情意终将化作友谊，分离时虽充满缠绵悱恻的动人场景，终究还是要各奔东西。当她意识到这点时，不禁暗忖自己用情或许并不太深——因为尽管她先前已打定主意终身不离开父亲、终身不嫁人，但若真遇上刻骨铭心的恋情，内心产生的挣扎必然远胜于此刻的云淡风轻。

“I do not find myself making any use of the word sacrifice, ” said she. — “In not one of all my clever replies, my delicate negatives, is there any allusion to making a sacrifice. I do suspect that he is not really necessary to my happiness. So much the better. I certainly will not persuade myself to feel more than I do. I am quite enough in love. I should be sorry to be more.”

“我发觉自己并未用到‘牺牲’这个词，”她说道——“在我所有那些巧妙的答复、委婉的拒绝中，没有一处暗示过作出牺牲。我确实怀疑他并非我幸福所必需。这样再好不过。我决不会强求自己产生更多情意。现在这样已足够倾心。若再深陷，我反倒要感到遗憾了。”

Upon the whole, she was equally contented

总而言之，她对于自己对他

with her view of his feelings.

情感的判断同样感到满意。

“He is undoubtedly very much in love—every thing denotes it—very much in love indeed! —**and** when he comes again, if his affection continue, I must be on my guard not to encourage it. —**It** would be most inexcusable to do otherwise, as my own mind is quite made up. **Not** that I imagine he can think I have been encouraging him hitherto. **No**, if he had believed me at all to share his feelings, he would not have been so wretched. **Could** he have thought himself encouraged, his looks and language at parting would have been different. —**Still**, however, I must be on my guard. **This** is in the supposition of his attachment continuing what it now is; but I do not know that I expect it will; I do not look upon him to be quite the sort of man—I do not altogether build upon his steadiness or constancy. —**His** feelings are warm, but I can imagine them rather changeable. —**Every** consideration of the subject, in short, makes me thankful that my happiness is not more deeply involved. —**I** shall do very well again after a little while —and then, it will be a good thing over; for

”他无疑是深深坠入爱河了——种种迹象都表明了这点——确实是情根深种！等他再来时，若这番情意依旧，我一定要谨守分寸，不可助长其念。——既然我心已决，若行差踏错便是不可饶恕。倒不是以为他会觉得我至今在纵容他的情愫。**不**，倘若他当真认为我与他心意相通，便不会如此痛苦。**若是**自觉得到鼓励，他临别时的神色言语定会不同。——不过，我仍须保持警惕。**这**自然是假定他如今这般痴情能持续不变；可我未必指望如此，我看他并非那般矢志不渝的男子——我并未全然信赖他的坚贞。**他的**情感虽炽烈，但我料想难免见异思迁。——总之，思及此事种种，反倒庆幸自己未曾深陷情网。**稍假时日**我自能恢复如常——届时这场风波便算过去；人都说此

they say every body is in love once in their lives, and I shall have been let off easily." 生总要经历一次情劫，我这般轻轻放过倒也算幸事。”

When his letter to Mrs. Weston arrived, Emma had the perusal of it; and she read it with a degree of pleasure and admiration which made her at first shake her head over her own sensations, and think she had undervalued their strength. It was a long, well-written letter, giving the particulars of his journey and of his feelings, expressing all the affection, gratitude, and respect which was natural and honourable, and describing every thing exterior and local that could be supposed attractive, with spirit and precision. No suspicious flourishes now of apology or concern; it was the language of real feeling towards Mrs. Weston; and the transition from Highbury to Enscombe, the contrast between the places in some of the first blessings of social life was just enough touched on to shew how keenly it was felt, and how much more might have been said but for the restraints of propriety. —The charm of her own name was not wanting. Miss Woodhouse appeared more than once, and never without a something of

当这封写给韦斯顿太太的信送到时，爱玛得以先睹为快。她读着信，心头涌起一阵欣喜与赞赏，这让她起初不禁对自己的感受摇头，意识到先前低估了这份情感的力度。这是封详尽而得体的长信，既叙述了旅途见闻与心路历程，又淋漓尽致地表达了自然真挚的敬爱感激之情；信中描绘当地风物时更是神采飞扬、鞭辟入里。此刻已不见丝毫矫揉造作的歉意或忧思，字里行间满溢着对韦斯顿太太的真情实感。从海伯里到恩斯康比的转折处，作者仅以含蓄笔触点出两地社交生活的微妙差异，却足以让人感受到他敏锐的体察——若非礼数约束，本可抒发更多。《伍德豪斯小姐》这个令人心动的称谓在信中多次出现，每次总伴随

pleasing connexion, either a compliment to her taste, or a remembrance of what she had said; and in the very last time of its meeting her eye, unadorned as it was by any such broad wreath of gallantry, she yet could discern the effect of her influence and acknowledge the greatest compliment perhaps of all conveyed. **Compressed** into the very lowest vacant corner were these words—"I had not a spare moment on Tuesday, as you know, for Miss Woodhouse's beautiful little friend. **Pray** make my excuses and adieu to her. " **This**, Emma could not doubt, was all for herself. **Harriet** was remembered only from being her friend. **His** information and prospects as to Enscombe were neither worse nor better than had been anticipated; Mrs. **Churchill** was recovering, and he dared not yet, even in his own imagination, fix a time for coming to Randalls again.

着令人愉悦的关联：或是称赞她的品味，或是追忆她的谈吐。当目光落在信笺末尾那片逼仄的空白处，虽无华丽辞藻装点，她仍能察觉自己施加的影响，并领会到其中蕴含的最高赞誉。那里挤着一行小字：“如您所知，星期二我实在抽不出空拜访伍德豪斯小姐那位可爱的小朋友。**恳请**代为致歉并转达临别问候。”**爱玛**确信这全然是为她而写——哈丽特之所以被提及，仅仅因为是她的朋友。**信中**关于恩斯康比的近况与展望，既不出色也不逊于预期；邱吉尔太太正在康复，而他还不敢在想象中确定再访兰德尔斯的日期。

Gratifying, however, and stimulative as was the letter in the material part, its sentiments, she yet found, when it was folded up and returned to Mrs. **Weston**, that it had not added any lasting warmth, that she could still do without the writer, and that he must learn

然而，这封信虽然在实质内容上令人欣慰且鼓舞人心，但当她把信折好交还给韦斯顿太太时，她发现它并未增添任何持久的温情——她依然可以没有写信人，而他也

to do without her. **Her** intentions were unchanged. **Her** resolution of refusal only grew more interesting by the addition of a scheme for his subsequent consolation and happiness. **His** recollection of Harriet, and the words which clothed it, the “beautiful little friend,” suggested to her the idea of Harriet’s succeeding her in his affections. **Was** it impossible? —**No.** —**Harriet** undoubtedly was greatly his inferior in understanding; but he had been very much struck with the loveliness of her face and the warm simplicity of her manner; and all the probabilities of circumstance and connexion were in her favour. —**For** Harriet, it would be advantageous and delightful indeed.

必须学会没有她。她的心意没有改变。她拒绝的决心反而因增添了一个为他日后慰藉与幸福的计划而愈发坚定。他提到哈丽特时所用的措辞，那个“可爱的小朋友”，使她萌生了让哈丽特取代自己获得他钟情的念头。这难道不可能吗？——不。
——哈丽特在悟性上固然远不及他；但他曾深深触动于她姣好的面容和热情纯真的举止；况且种种环境与交往的可能性都对她有利。——对哈丽特而言，这实在是一桩既有利又令人欣喜的事。

“I must not dwell upon it,” said she. —“I must not think of it. I know the danger of indulging such speculations. But stranger things have happened; and when we cease to care for each other as we do now, it will be the means of confirming us in that sort of true disinterested friendship which I can already look forward to with pleasure.”

”我不该在这头多想，”她说
道。”我不该思量这事。我
知道沉溺于这类猜想有多危
险。但更离奇的事都发生过；
待我们有朝一日不再像现
在这般彼此关切时，这反倒会促成那种真挚无私的情谊
——这种情谊我已能怀着欣
喜期待了。”

It was well to have a comfort in store on Harriet's behalf, though it might be wise to let the fancy touch it seldom; for evil in that quarter was at hand. As Frank Churchill's arrival had succeeded Mr. Elton's engagement in the conversation of Highbury, as the latest interest had entirely borne down the first, so now upon Frank Churchill's disappearance, Mr. Elton's concerns were assuming the most irresistible form. —His wedding-day was named. He would soon be among them again; Mr. Elton and his bride. There was hardly time to talk over the first letter from Enscombe before "Mr. Elton and his bride" was in every body's mouth, and Frank Churchill was forgotten. Emma grew sick at the sound. She had had three weeks of happy exemption from Mr. Elton; and Harriet's mind, she had been willing to hope, had been lately gaining strength. With Mr. Weston's ball in view at least, there had been a great deal of insensibility to other things; but it was now too evident that she had not attained such a state of composure as could stand against the actual approach—new carriage, bell-ringing, and all.

为哈丽特预先存下一份慰藉固然不错，但这种念想还是少触碰为妙——因为厄运正悄然逼近。正如弗兰克·丘吉尔的到来取代了埃尔顿先生订婚的消息，成为海伯里街头巷议的新话题；正如后起的兴致完全压倒了先前的热闹；如今随着弗兰克·丘吉尔的离去，埃尔顿先生的事务又呈现出最令人无法抗拒的姿态。婚期已定，他很快就要带着新娘重返他们的生活圈。人们还没来得及细品恩斯康比宅的第一封来信，“埃尔顿先生和他的新娘”就已挂在所有人嘴边，弗兰克·丘吉尔则被抛诸脑后。这声浪让爱玛心生烦恶。她刚享受过三周不必面对埃尔顿先生的惬意时光，原本还期盼着哈丽特的心智日渐坚强——至少借着期待韦斯顿先生舞会的由头，这姑娘近来对其他事确实显得麻木不

少。可如今再明显不过：当崭新马车伴着叮当铃声真正逼近时，她那份强装的镇定终究不堪一击。

Poor Harriet was in a flutter of spirits which required all the reasonings and soothings and attentions of every kind that Emma could give. Emma felt that she could not do too much for her, that Harriet had a right to all her ingenuity and all her patience; but it was heavy work to be for ever convincing without producing any effect, for ever agreed to, without being able to make their opinions the same. Harriet listened submissively, and said “it was very true —it was just as Miss Woodhouse described—it was not worth while to think about them—and she would not think about them any longer” but no change of subject could avail, and the next half-hour saw her as anxious and restless about the Eltons as before. At last Emma attacked her on another ground.

可怜的哈丽特心绪不宁，需要爱玛竭尽所能给予各种开导劝慰、关怀体贴。爱玛觉得为她做再多也不为过，哈丽特有权得到她的全部智慧和耐心。然而，总是说服不了对方，总是意见无法达成一致，这实在是件累人的事。哈丽特乖乖地听着，说道：“说得真对——正像伍德豪斯小姐说的——不值得为他们费神——她不会再想他们了。”可是谈什么话题都不管用，半个小时以后，她又像先前一样，为埃尔顿夫妇的事急得坐立不安。最后，爱玛只得从另一个角度去抨击她。

“Your allowing yourself to be so occupied and so unhappy about Mr. Elton’s marrying, Harriet, is the strongest reproach you can make

“你让自己为埃尔顿先生的婚事如此烦恼、如此痛苦，哈丽特，这是你对我的最严

me. **You** could not give me a greater reproof for the mistake I fell into. **It** was all my doing, I know. **I** have not forgotten it, I assure you. —**Deceived** myself, I did very miserably deceive you—and it will be a painful reflection to me for ever. **Do** not imagine me in danger of forgetting it. ”

厉的责备。你不可能对我当初犯下的错误给予更严厉的谴责了。这全都是我一手造成的，我知道。我向你保证，我从未忘记这件事——我自己受了蒙蔽，又极其可悲地欺骗了你——这将永远成为我痛苦的回忆。请别以为我有可能忘记这件事。”

Harriet felt this too much to utter more than a few words of eager exclamation. **Emma** continued,

哈丽特觉得这话实在太过，激动得只吐出几个热切的感叹词。**爱玛**接着说道，

“I have not said, exert yourself Harriet for my sake; think less, talk less of Mr. **Elton** for my sake; because for your own sake rather, I would wish it to be done, for the sake of what is more important than my comfort, a habit of self-command in you, a consideration of what is your duty, an attention to propriety, an endeavour to avoid the suspicions of others, to save your health and credit, and restore your tranquillity. **These** are the motives which I have been pressing on you. **They** are very important—and sorry I am that you cannot

“我方才并非说：哈里特，看在我的份上请克制些；看在我的份上请少想、少谈埃尔顿先生。因为我更希望这是为你自己而做，为着比我的舒坦更重要的事——是为你养成克己的习惯，为你明白自己的责任，为你注重礼仪体统，为避免旁人的猜疑，为保全你的健康与名誉，为恢复你内心的平静。这些才是我竭力劝诫你的缘由。它们

feel them sufficiently to act upon them. **My** 至关重要——而令我痛心的是，你竟未能充分领会并付 being saved from pain is a very secondary con- 考虑。 **I** want you to save yourself from 诸行动。使我免受痛苦实属 greater pain. **Perhaps** I may sometimes have 次要，我真正期盼的是你能 felt that Harriet would not forget what was due 免遭更大的痛苦。或许我偶尔会 —or rather what would be kind by me. ” 觉得，哈里特总不至于忘却本分——或者说，总不至于待我薄情。”

This appeal to her affections did more than all 这番诉诸情感的恳求比什么都更有效。一想到自己竟会 the rest. **The** idea of wanting gratitude and consideration for Miss Woodhouse, whom she 奉负伍德豪斯小姐的恩情与 really loved extremely, made her wretched for a 体恤——这位她真心挚爱着 while, and when the violence of grief was com- 的小姐——她便一时悲痛难 forted away, still remained powerful enough to 忍；待剧烈的哀伤渐渐被抚 prompt to what was right and support her in 平时，这份愧疚仍足以促使 it very tolerably. 她做出正确的抉择，并相当坚定地支撑着她走下去。

“**You**, who have been the best friend I ever “你，一直是我此生最好的 had in my life—Want gratitude to you! — 朋友——竟说我缺乏对你的 **Nobody** is equal to you! —**I** care for nobody 感激！——无人能与你相比！ as I do for you! —**Oh!** **Miss** Woodhouse, —我对谁都不曾像对你这 how ungrateful I have been! ” 般在意！——哦！伍德豪斯小姐，我竟是这般忘恩负义！”

Such expressions, assisted as they were by every thing that look and manner could do, made Emma feel that she had never loved Harriet so well, nor valued her affection so highly before.

如此的言语，再配上种种神色举止的助力，使爱玛觉得她从未像现在这样深爱过哈丽特，也从未像此刻这般珍视过她的情谊。

“**There** is no charm equal to tenderness of heart,” said she afterwards to herself. “**There** is nothing to be compared to it. **Warmth** and tenderness of heart, with an affectionate, open manner, will beat all the clearness of head in the world, for attraction, I am sure it will. **It** is tenderness of heart which makes my dear father so generally beloved—which gives Isabella all her popularity. —**I** have it not—but I know how to prize and respect it. —**Harriet** is my superior in all the charm and all the felicity it gives. **Dear** Harriet! —**I** would not change you for the clearest-headed, longest-sighted, best-judging female breathing. **Oh!** the coldness of a Jane Fairfax! —**Harriet** is worth a hundred such—And for a wife —a sensible man’s wife—it is invaluable. I mention no names; but happy the man who changes Emma for Harriet! ”

”温柔的心比什么都动人，”她后来暗自思忖道。”无与伦比。热情、温柔的心，加上亲切开朗的态度，比世界上头脑最聪明的人还有魅力，这一点是确定无疑的。正是心地温柔，使我亲爱的父亲普遍受到爱戴——也使伊莎贝拉广为受人喜爱。我没有这一长处——不过我知道如何珍视和敬重它。哈里特在由此而产生的种种动人之处和幸福方面都比我强。亲爱的哈里特！我情愿拿头脑最清楚、目光最远大、判断最正确的女人来换你。哦！简·费尔法克斯那样冷漠无情！——哈里特抵得上一百个她——说到给一个通情达理的男人做妻子——那可是十分宝贵

的。我不提具体的人名，但是舍得爱玛而要哈里特的人真有福气！”

CHAPTER XIV

第十四章

Mrs. Elton was first seen at church: but though devotion might be interrupted, curiosity could not be satisfied by a bride in a pew, and it must be left for the visits in form which were then to be paid, to settle whether she were very pretty indeed, or only rather pretty, or not pretty at all.

埃尔顿太太初次在教堂露面时，虽然虔诚礼拜可能受到打扰，但单凭坐在教堂长椅上的新娘是无法满足人们的好奇心的。非得等到正式拜访时，才能确定她究竟是貌若天仙，还是仅算清秀，抑或根本与美貌无缘。

Emma had feelings, less of curiosity than of pride or propriety, to make her resolve on not being the last to pay her respects; and she made a point of Harriet's going with her, that the worst of the business might be gone through as soon as possible.

爱玛并非出于好奇，而是出于自尊与礼节，决意不做最后一个登门致意的人。她特意带着哈丽特同去，好让这桩最不愉快的差事尽快了结。

She could not enter the house again, could not be in the same room to which she had with such vain artifice retreated three months ago, to lace up her boot, without recollecting. A thousand vexatious thoughts would recur.

她无法再走进那所房子，无法再踏入三个月前她徒然要弄心机退进去系靴带的那个房间——那会勾起万千回忆。种种恼人的念头会重新

Compliments, charades, and horrible blunders; and it was not to be supposed that poor Harriet should not be recollecting too; but she behaved very well, and was only rather pale and silent. **The** visit was of course short; and there was so much embarrassment and occupation of mind to shorten it, that Emma would not allow herself entirely to form an opinion of the lady, and on no account to give one, beyond the nothing-meaning terms of being “elegantly dressed, and very pleasing.”

涌现:那些恭维话、字谜游戏,以及可怕的误会;可怜的哈丽特想必也在回忆往事,不过她举止十分得体,只是脸色略显苍白,沉默寡言。这次拜访自然十分短暂,心里百感交集,只想匆匆结束,因此爱玛不允许自己对这位女士妄加评论,也绝不发表任何意见,只用毫无意义的客套话形容她“衣着雅致,模样可人”。

She did not really like her. **She** would not be in a hurry to find fault, but she suspected that there was no elegance;—ease, but not elegance. —**She** was almost sure that for a young woman, a stranger, a bride, there was too much ease. **Her** person was rather good; her face not unpretty; but neither feature, nor air, nor voice, nor manner, were elegant. **Emma** thought at least it would turn out so.

她其实并不喜欢她。她不急于挑毛病,但总觉得对方缺乏优雅——从容有余,风韵不足。她几乎可以断定,对于一位年轻女子、一位初来乍到的新娘而言,这般随性实在有些过分。她的身段还算匀称,面容也算清秀,但无论五官、神态、嗓音还是举止,都谈不上优雅。爱玛至少认为最终会证明这一点。

As for Mr. Elton, his manners did not ap-

至于埃尔顿先生,他的举止

pear—but no, she would not permit a hasty or a witty word from herself about his manners. **It** was an awkward ceremony at any time to be receiving wedding visits, and a man had need be all grace to acquit himself well through it. **The** woman was better off; she might have the assistance of fine clothes, and the privilege of bashfulness, but the man had only his own good sense to depend on; and when she considered how peculiarly unlucky poor Mr. **Elton** was in being in the same room at once with the woman he had just married, the woman he had wanted to marry, and the woman whom he had been expected to marry, she must allow him to have the right to look as little wise, and to be as much affectedly, and as little really easy as could be.

倒不见得——不，她决不允许自己用轻率或俏皮的言辞来评价他的举止。任何时候接受新婚贺访都是桩尴尬的仪式，男人需要十足的优雅方能应付得体。**女人**处境要好得多；她尽可借助华服丽饰，还能享有羞怯的特权；而男人只能依靠自己的识见周全。**当**她想到可怜的埃尔顿先生何其不幸——竟要同时与三个女人共处一室：他刚娶的女子、他曾经想娶的女子、以及众人原指望他会娶的女子——她便不得不承认，他完全有权利显得这般手足无措，既矫揉造作又难掩局促，实在情有可原。

“Well, Miss Woodhouse,” said Harriet, when they had quitted the house, and after waiting in vain for her friend to begin; “Well, Miss Woodhouse, (with a gentle sigh,) what do you think of her? —Is not she very charming? ”

“哎，伍德豪斯小姐，”她们走出屋子，哈丽特等她的朋友先开口，等了半天却没有等到，只得自己说：“哎，伍德豪斯小姐，(轻轻叹一口气)你觉得她这个人怎么样？——她不是很迷人吗？”

There was a little hesitation in Emma's answer. 爱玛的回答略显犹豫。

“**Oh! yes—very—a** very pleasing young woman.” “哦！是的——非常——一位非常讨人喜欢的年轻女士。”

“I think her beautiful, quite beautiful.”

“我觉得她很美，真是美极了。”

“**Very** nicely dressed, indeed; a remarkably elegant gown.”

”穿得真是非常漂亮；一件格外雅致的长裙。”

“I am not at all surprised that he should have fallen in love.”

我一点也不奇怪他会坠入爱河。

“**Oh! no—there** is nothing to surprize one at all. —A pretty fortune; and she came in his way.”

“哦！不——这根本没什么可奇怪的。——一笔可观的财产，又正好让他遇上了。”

“I dare say,” returned Harriet, sighing again, “I dare say she was very much attached to him.”

“我敢说，”哈丽特又叹了口气答道，“我敢说她一定非常爱他。”

“**Perhaps** she might; but it is not every man's fate to marry the woman who loves him best. **Miss Hawkins** perhaps wanted a home, and thought this the best offer she was likely to have.”

“或许她会；但并不是每个男人都有福气娶到最爱他的女人。霍金斯小姐也许是想要个家，觉得这是她可能得到的最好归宿了。”

“Yes,” said Harriet earnestly, “and well she might, nobody could ever have a better. Well, I wish them happy with all my heart. And now, Miss Woodhouse, I do not think I shall mind seeing them again. He is just as superior as ever;—but being married, you know, it is quite a different thing. No, indeed, Miss Woodhouse, you need not be afraid; I can sit and admire him now without any great misery. To know that he has not thrown himself away, is such a comfort! —She does seem a charming young woman, just what he deserves. Happy creature! He called her ‘Augusta.’ How delightful!”

“是啊,”哈丽特恳切地说,“她当然会这样,谁也不可能找到更好的伴侣了。我真心祝愿他们幸福。现在嘛,伍德豪斯小姐,我觉得再见他们也不会难过了。他还和从前一样出众——不过你知道,结了婚就完全不同了。不,说真的,伍德豪斯小姐,您不必担心;我现在可以坦然坐着欣赏他,不会感到痛苦了。知道他并没有糟蹋自己,这是多大的安慰!——她确实是个可爱的年轻女子,正配得上他。多幸福的人儿啊!他叫她‘奥古斯塔’。这多令人欣喜!”

When the visit was returned, Emma made up her mind. She could then see more and judge better. From Harriet’s happening not to be at Hartfield, and her father’s being present to engage Mr. Elton, she had a quarter of an hour of the lady’s conversation to herself, and could composedly attend to her; and the quarter of an hour quite convinced her that Mrs.回访之时,爱玛已打定主意。此刻她得以更细致地观察、更准确地评判。由于哈丽特恰巧不在哈特菲尔德,老父亲又缠着埃尔顿先生说话,她竟独享了与这位女士一刻钟的交谈时光,得以从容不迫地端详对方。这短短一

Elton was a vain woman, extremely well satisfied with herself, and thinking much of her own importance; that she meant to shine and be very superior, but with manners which had been formed in a bad school, pert and familiar; that all her notions were drawn from one set of people, and one style of living; that if not foolish she was ignorant, and that her society would certainly do Mr. **Elton** no good.

刻钟使她确信：埃尔顿太太是个虚荣自负的女人，对自己极为满意，总把自身看得无比重要；她处处想要出风头、摆架子，可惜举止教养来自不良环境，显得冒失而随便；她的全部观念都源于某个特定阶层和某种固定生活方式；即便不算愚蠢，也实在浅薄无知；与这样的人交往，对埃尔顿先生绝无益处。

Harriet would have been a better match. If not wise or refined herself, she would have connected him with those who were; but Miss Hawkins, it might be fairly supposed from her easy conceit, had been the best of her own set. **The** rich brother-in-law near Bristol was the pride of the alliance, and his place and his carriages were the pride of him.

哈丽特本是个更合适的对象。她本人虽不聪慧也不文雅，却能与那些有教养的人联系起来；而霍金斯小姐，从她那毫不掩饰的自负来看，大抵已是她那个圈子里最出众的人物了。那位住在布里斯托附近的阔绰连襟是这门亲事最大的荣光，他的宅邸和马车更是他引以为傲的资本。

The very first subject after being seated was 刚一落座，话题便转到了枫

Maple Grove, "My brother Mr. **Suckling**’ 林园——“我姐夫萨克林先生的宅邸”。众人将哈特菲尔德与枫林园相比较：哈特菲尔德的庭院虽小巧，却整洁雅致；宅邸也是现代建筑，结构考究。埃尔顿夫人对客厅的规模、门厅格局以及目之所及的一切都显得极为赞赏。“简直和枫林园一模一样！
That room was the very shape and size of the morning-room at Maple Grove; her sister’s间客厅的形状大小，完全就是枫林园晨室的翻版——那是我姐姐最钟爱的房间。”她转向埃尔顿先生求证：“难道不是像得惊人吗？我几乎真要以为自己身在枫林园了。”

She could really almost fancy herself at Maple Grove. ”

"**And** the staircase—You know, as I came in, I observed how very like the staircase was; placed exactly in the same part of the house. I really could not help exclaiming! I assure you, Miss Woodhouse, it is very delightful to me, to be reminded of a place I am so extremely partial to as Maple Grove. I have spent so many happy months there! (with a little sigh of sentiment). A charming place, un-

“还有那楼梯——您知道，我进门时就注意到这楼梯多么相像啊！位置恰好就在宅子的同一处。我实在忍不住要惊叹！伍德豪斯小姐，说真的，能让我想起像枫林这样令我格外倾心的地方，实在叫我欢喜。我在那儿度过了多少快乐的时光啊！（带着感

doubtedly. **Every** body who sees it is struck 伤轻轻叹息) 那无疑是个迷 by its beauty; but to me, it has been quite a 人的地方。凡是见过它的人 home. **Whenever** you are transplanted, like 无不为它的美丽倾倒; 但对我 me, Miss Woodhouse, you will understand how 来说, 那里简直成了我的 very delightful it is to meet with any thing at 家。**伍德**豪斯小姐, 等您将来 all like what one has left behind. I always say 像我这样嫁到异乡时, 就会明白能遇到与故园相似的 this is quite one of the evils of matrimony. ” 事物是多么令人欣慰。我常说这桩婚事带来的诸多不便中, 思乡便是其一。”

Emma made as slight a reply as she could; but it was fully sufficient for Mrs. **Elton**, who only wanted to be talking herself.

爱玛只敷衍地应了一声; 但对于只想自己说个不停的埃尔顿太太来说, 已经足够了。

“**So** extremely like Maple Grove! **And** it is ” 简直和枫树林一模一样! 不 not merely the house—the grounds, I assure 单是房屋——我敢说, 就连 you, as far as I could observe, are strikingly 庭园的景致也像得出奇。这 like. **The** laurels at Maple Grove are in the 儿的月桂树和枫树林一般茂 same profusion as here, and stand very much 盛, 栽种的位置也分毫不差 in the same way—just across the lawn; and I ——都正对着草坪; 我还瞥 had a glimpse of a fine large tree, with a bench 见一棵枝繁叶茂的大树, 树 round it, which put me so exactly in mind! **My** 周围摆着长椅, 那景象让我 brother and sister will be enchanted with this 倍感亲切! 我哥哥嫂嫂见了 place. **People** who have extensive grounds 这地方定会着迷。自家拥有

themselves are always pleased with any thing in the same style.” 广阔庭园的人，见到同类风格的景致总会格外欢喜。”

Emma doubted the truth of this sentiment. **She** had a great idea that people who had extensive grounds themselves cared very little for the extensive grounds of any body else; but it was not worth while to attack an error so double-dyed, and therefore only said in reply, 爱玛对此番见解的真实性表示怀疑。她总觉得拥有广阔庭院的人，压根不会在意别人家园子的规模；但犯不着去戳穿如此根深蒂固的谬见，便只应声道：

“**When** you have seen more of this country, I am afraid you will think you have overrated Hartfield. **Surry** is full of beauties.” 等你再多看看这一带地方，恐怕你就会觉得哈特菲尔德给你的好印象不过如此。萨里可是处处美景呢。

“**Oh! yes,** I am quite aware of that. **It** is the garden of England, you know. **Surry** is the garden of England.” “哦！是的，我完全清楚这一点。您知道，那是英格兰的花园。萨里郡就是英格兰的花园。”

“**Yes;** but we must not rest our claims on that distinction. **Many** counties, I believe, are called the garden of England, as well as Surry.” “确实如此；但我们不能仅凭这一美誉来标榜自己。据我所知，英格兰许多郡都享有‘花园’之称，萨里郡并非独享此名。”

“**No,** I fancy not,” replied Mrs. **Elton**, with a “不，我想不会吧，”埃尔顿

most satisfied smile. “I never heard any county 太太带着极为满意的笑容答
but Surry called so.” 道。“除了萨里郡，我还从没听说过哪个郡被人这么称呼呢。”

Emma was silenced.

爱玛哑口无言。

“**M**y brother and sister have promised us a visit in the spring, or summer at farthest,” continued Mrs. Elton; “and that will be our time for exploring. **W**hile they are with us, we shall explore a great deal, I dare say. **T**hey will have their barouche-landau, of course, which holds four perfectly; and therefore, without saying any thing of our carriage, we should be able to explore the different beauties extremely well. **T**hey would hardly come in their chaise, I think, at that season of the year. **I**nIndeed, when the time draws on, I shall decidedly recommend their bringing the barouche-landau; it will be so very much preferable. **W**hen people come into a beautiful country of this sort, you know, Miss Woodhouse, one naturally wishes them to see as much as possible; and Mr. Suckling is extremely fond of exploring. **W**e explored to

“我哥哥姐姐答应春天来探望我们，最迟不过夏天，”埃尔顿太太继续说道，“那将是他们来了，我敢说我们定会四处畅游。他们自然会乘坐那辆可宽松容纳四人的敞篷四轮马车，且不提我们自家的马车，单凭这辆就足以遍览各处美景了。我想在那个时节，他们总不至于乘着双轮轻便马车过来。等行期临近时，我定要力荐他们带上敞篷马车——那实在要惬意得多。伍德豪斯小姐，您知道，当亲友来到这般风景如画的地方，人们自然希望他们能饱览胜景；况且萨克林先生素来热衷探幽访胜。去

King's-Weston twice last summer, in that way, most delightfully, just after their first having the barouche-landau. **You** have many parties of that kind here, I suppose, Miss Woodhouse, every summer? ”

年夏天刚置办那辆马车时，我们就曾两度乘着它前往金斯威斯顿漫游，真是妙不可言。想必每年夏季，你们这儿也有不少这般雅集吧，伍德豪斯小姐？”

“**No**; not immediately here. **We** are rather out of distance of the very striking beauties which attract the sort of parties you speak of; and we are a very quiet set of people, I believe; more disposed to stay at home than engage in schemes of pleasure. ”

“不，并非紧邻此地。我们离那些引人入胜的景致颇有距离，那些景致通常能吸引您所说的那种游览团体。依我看，我们这一带居民生性喜静，更倾向于安居家中，而非参与各种行乐计划。”

“**Ah! there** is nothing like staying at home for real comfort. **Nobody** can be more devoted to home than I am. I was quite a proverb for it at Maple Grove. **Many** a time has Selina said, when she has been going to Bristol, ‘I really cannot get this girl to move from the house. I absolutely must go in by myself, though I hate being stuck up in the barouche-landau without a companion; but Augusta, I believe, with her own good-will, would never stir beyond the park paling. ’**Many** a time has she

“啊！要说真正的舒适，再没有比待在家里更好的了。没有人比我更恋家了。在枫林园时，这事简直成了我的笑谈。塞琳娜每次要去布里斯托尔时总说：‘我实在没法让这姑娘离开家门。虽说讨厌独自坐在敞篷马车里没人做伴，但终究只能一个人去——毕竟奥古斯塔呀，凭她自己心意，是决计不肯

said so; and yet I am no advocate for entire seclusion. I think, on the contrary, when people shut themselves up entirely from society, it is a very bad thing; and that it is much more advisable to mix in the world in a proper degree, without living in it either too much or too little. I perfectly understand your situation, however, Miss Woodhouse—(looking towards Mr. **Woodhouse**), Your father's state of health must be a great drawback. **Why** does not he try Bath? —**Indeed** he should. **Let** me recommend Bath to you. I assure you I have no doubt of its doing Mr. **Woodhouse** good. ”

迈出庭院栅栏半步的。”这话她说过多少回；不过我并非主张完全与世隔绝。恰恰相反，我认为人们若完全封闭自己，实在是件坏事；应当适度融入社交界，既不过分沉溺，也不过分疏离才是正理。**不过**伍德豪斯小姐，我完全理解您的处境——（向伍德豪斯先生）令尊的健康状况确实是个大牵绊。他何不试试巴思温泉？——确实该去。**请容**我向您推荐巴思。**我敢说**，那地方对伍德豪斯先生必定大有裨益。”

“My father tried it more than once, formerly; but without receiving any benefit; and Mr. **Perry**, whose name, I dare say, is not unknown to you, does not conceive it would be at all more likely to be useful now. ”

家父从前曾试过不止一次，但并未收到任何效果；而佩里先生——我敢说您也并非没听说过他的名字——并不认为现在再试就更可能奏效。”

“Ah! that's a great pity; for I assure you, Miss Woodhouse, where the waters do agree, it is quite wonderful the relief they give. In my

啊！那可太遗憾了。伍德豪斯小姐，我向您保证，只要水质相宜，温泉的疗效真是妙

Bath life, I have seen such instances of it! **And** 不可言。我在巴斯居住期间 it is so cheerful a place, that it could not fail 见过多少这样的实例！那地方 of being of use to Mr. **Woodhouse'**s spir- 又那么令人心旷神怡，对 its, which, I understand, are sometimes much 伍德豪斯先生的精神必定大 depressed. **And** as to its recommendations to 有裨益——听说他时常情绪 _you_, I fancy I need not take much pains to 低落。至于对您的益处，倒不必我多费唇舌。 **巴斯** 对年轻 dwell on them. **The** advantages of Bath to the young are pretty generally understood. **It** 人的好处是众所周知的。像 would be a charming introduction for you, who 您这样深居简出的人，去那里开开眼界再合适不过。我 have lived so secluded a life; and I could imme- 立刻就能为您引荐当地最上 diately secure you some of the best society in the place. **A** line from me would bring you 流的社交圈——只要我写张 a little host of acquaintance; and my particu- 便笺，就能让您结识一大批 lar friend, Mrs. **Partridge**, the lady I have 朋友。我那位特别要好的帕 always resided with when in Bath, would be 特里奇太太——每次去巴斯 most happy to shew you any attentions, and 我都住在她家——一定会竭诚 would be the very person for you to go into 款待您，陪您出入社交场合 public with. ” 再合适不过了。”

It was as much as Emma could bear, without 爱玛几乎按捺不住，险些失 being impolite. **The** idea of her being indebted 礼。她竟要承蒙埃尔顿太太 to Mrs. **Elton** for what was called an _intro- 所谓的”引荐”——竟要仰仗 duction_—of her going into public under the 埃尔顿太太友人的庇护踏入 auspices of a friend of Mrs. **Elton'**s—prob- 社交场！那友人想必是个俗 ably some vulgar, dashing widow, who, with 艳张扬的寡妇，靠着收个把 the help of a boarder, just made a shift to live! 房客勉强维持生计！伍德豪

—The dignity of Miss Woodhouse, of Hartfield, was sunk indeed! 斯小姐，哈特菲尔德庄园的千金，竟沦落至此！

She restrained herself, however, from any of the reproofs she could have given, and only thanked Mrs. Elton coolly; “but their going to Bath was quite out of the question; and she was not perfectly convinced that the place might suit her better than her father. ”And then, to prevent farther outrage and indignation, changed the subject directly. 她强忍住本可脱口而出的责备之词，只是冷淡地向埃尔顿太太道了谢：“不过他们根本不可能去巴斯；而且她并不完全相信那个地方会比父亲这里更适合自己。”说罢，为防止对方继续发作愤慨之情，她立刻转换了话题。

“I do not ask whether you are musical, Mrs. Elton. Upon these occasions, a lady’s character generally precedes her; and Highbury has long known that you are a superior performer.”

“埃尔顿太太，我无需探问您是否精通音乐。在这种场合，一位女士的才艺通常早已声名远扬；海伯里早就知道您是位出类拔萃的演奏家。”

“Oh! no, indeed; I must protest against any such idea. A superior performer! —very far from it, I assure you. Consider from how partial a quarter your information came. I am doatingly fond of music—passionately fond;—and my friends say I am not entirely devoid of taste; but as to any thing else, upon my honour my performance is mediocre to the last

“哎呀！不，真的；我必须反对这样的想法。高超的演奏者！——差得远呢，我向你保证。想想您的消息来源是多么偏袒。我痴迷音乐——狂热地痴迷；——朋友们说我的品味不算太差；但除此之外，说句实话，我的演奏

degree. **You**, Miss Woodhouse, I well know, 水平实在平庸至极。伍德豪 play delightfully. **I** assure you it has been the 斯小姐，我很清楚您弹得动 greatest satisfaction, comfort, and delight to 听极了。说真的，能加入这 me, to hear what a musical society I am got 样一个音乐氛围浓厚的社 into. **I** absolutely cannot do without music. 交圈，对我来说是莫大的欣 It is a necessary of life to me; and having al- 慰、慰藉和喜悦。我完全离不开 ways been used to a very musical society, both 开音乐。它是我生活的必需 at Maple Grove and in Bath, it would have 品；无论是在枫林园还是在 been a most serious sacrifice. **I** honestly said 巴斯，我一直生活在音乐氛 as much to Mr. **E.** when he was speaking 围浓厚的圈子里，若失去这 of my future home, and expressing his fears 个，将是极大的牺牲。埃尔 lest the retirement of it should be disagreeable; 顿先生谈及我未来的家，担 and the inferiority of the house too—knowing 心我会嫌僻静不适时，我就 what I had been accustomed to—of course he 坦白说过这话——还有这房 was not wholly without apprehension. **When** 子的简陋（毕竟他知道我过 he was speaking of it in that way, I honestly 惯了什么日子），他自然不免 said that the world I could give up— 担忧。当时他那样说时，我 parties, balls, plays—for I had no fear of re- 就老实告诉他：社交圈我可 tirement. **Blessed** with so many resources 以放弃——宴会、舞会、戏 within myself, the world was not necessary to 剧——因为我不怕隐居。我 me. **I** could do very well without it. **To** 天生有这么多自得其乐的本 those who had no resources it was a different 领，社交对我并非必需。没 thing; but my resources made me quite inde- 有它我照样过得很好。对那 pendent. **And** as to smaller-sized rooms than 些没有自娱能力的人情况就 I had been used to, I really could not give it 不同了；但我的内在储备使

a thought. I hoped I was perfectly equal to any sacrifice of that description. **Certainly** I had been accustomed to every luxury at Maple Grove; but I did assure him that two carriages were not necessary to my happiness, nor were spacious apartments. ‘**But,**’ said I, ‘to be quite honest, I do not think I can live without something of a musical society. **I** condition for nothing else; but without music, life would be a blank to me.’”

我完全独立。至于房间比习惯的小，我根本不会在意。我相信自己完全能承受这类牺牲。当然，在枫林园我享受惯了各种奢华；但我确实向他保证，两辆马车并非我幸福的必要条件，宽敞的房间也不是。‘不过，’我说，‘老实讲，我觉得生活中不能没有音乐圈子。其他我都不要求，但若没有音乐，生活于我将是一片空白。’”

“**We** cannot suppose,” said Emma, smiling, “**我们可不能设想，**”爱玛微笑着，“that Mr. **Elton** would hesitate to assure you of there being a very musical society in Highbury; and I hope you will not find he has outstepped the truth more than may be pardoned, in consideration of the motive.” 不决，不敢向您保证海伯里有个非常活跃的音乐社团；我希望您不会觉得他言过其实，即使稍有夸张，看在他好意的份上也该得到原谅。”

“**No**, indeed, I have no doubts at all on that head. I am delighted to find myself in such a circle. I hope we shall have many sweet little concerts together. I think, Miss Woodhouse, you and I must establish a musical club, and

“不，真的，在这方面我毫不怀疑。能置身于这样的社交圈令我欣喜万分。希望我们能共同举办许多温馨的小型音乐会。伍德豪斯小姐，我

have regular weekly meetings at your house, or ours. **Will** not it be a good plan? If we exert ourselves, I think we shall not be long in want of allies. **Something** of that nature would be particularly desirable for me, as an inducement to keep me in practice; for married women, you know—there is a sad story against them, in general. **They** are but too apt to give up music. ”

想你我应当组建一个音乐俱乐部，每周定期在府上或寒舍聚会。这岂非绝妙的主意？只要我们稍加努力，想必很快就能找到志同道合的伙伴。这类活动对我而言尤为可贵，可作为保持琴艺的鞭策；毕竟您知道，已婚妇人——通常总有个令人遗憾的通病。她们往往太容易荒疏音乐了。”

“**But** you, who are so extremely fond of it—there can be no danger, surely? ”

”可你，既然对跳舞如此热衷——想必不会有危险吧? ”

“I should hope not; but really when I look around among my acquaintance, I tremble. **Selina** has entirely given up music—never touches the instrument—though she played sweetly. **And** the same may be said of Mrs. **Jeffereys**—**Clara** Partridge, that was—and of the two Milmans, now Mrs. **Bird** and Mrs. **James** Cooper; and of more than I can enumerate. **Upon** my word it is enough to put one in a fright. I used to be quite angry with Selina; but really I begin now to comprehend

“但愿不会；可说实话，当我环顾身边的熟人时，不禁心惊胆战。**塞利娜**已经完全放弃了音乐——再也没碰过琴键——尽管她曾经弹得那么动听。**杰弗里斯太太**——就是以前的克拉拉·帕特里奇——还有两位米尔曼小姐，如今是伯德太太和詹姆斯·库珀太太，情况也都如此。**这样的例子多得我数不过来。**

that a married woman has many things to call her attention. **I** believe I was half an hour this morning shut up with my housekeeper. ”

说真的，这足以叫人惶恐。我过去常为塞利娜生气，但现在确实开始明白，已婚妇人要操心的事务实在太多。今天早上我就和管家关在房里商谈了足足半个钟头。”

“**But** every thing of that kind,” said Emma, “will soon be in so regular a train—”

“不过这类事情，”爱玛说，“很快便会井井有条——”

“**Well,**” said Mrs. Elton, laughing, “we shall see.”

“好吧，”埃尔顿太太笑着说，“我们走着瞧。”

Emma, finding her so determined upon neglecting her music, had nothing more to say; and, after a moment's pause, Mrs. Elton chose another subject.

爱玛见她执意不肯再练琴，便没再说什么。停顿了片刻之后，埃尔顿太太换了个话题。

“**We** have been calling at Randalls,” said she, “and found them both at home; and very pleasant people they seem to be. **I** like them extremely. **Mr. Weston** seems an excellent creature—quite a first-rate favourite with me already, I assure you. **And** she appears so truly good—there is something so motherly and kind-hearted about her, that it wins upon one directly. **She** was your governess, I think?

“我们刚才去兰德尔家拜访了，”她说道，“发现他们夫妇都在家；他们看起来都是非常和善的人。我极其喜欢他们。韦斯顿先生似乎是个非常好的人——我敢说，他已经成了我心目中一等一喜欢的人物了。而那位夫人看上去真是善良——她身上有种慈

”

母般的亲切气质，让人一见就心生好感。她曾经是你的家庭教师，对吧？”

Emma was almost too much astonished to answer; but Mrs. **Elton** hardly waited for the affirmative before she went on.

爱玛惊得几乎答不上话来；但埃尔顿太太不等她首肯，便又说了下去。

“**Having** understood as much, I was rather astonished to find her so very lady-like! **But** she is really quite the gentlewoman.”

“明白了这一点，我反倒惊讶地发现她竟如此有淑女风范！她确实是个十足的大家闺秀。”

“**Mrs. Weston’s** manners,” said Emma, “were always particularly good. **Their** propriety, simplicity, and elegance, would make them the safest model for any young woman.”

“韦斯顿太太的仪态，”爱玛说，“向来是特别端庄得体的。那份得体、质朴与优雅，足以成为任何年轻女子最稳妥的典范。”

“**And** who do you think came in while we were there?”

“你猜我们当时在那儿的时候，谁进来了？”

Emma was quite at a loss. The tone implied some old acquaintance—and how could she possibly guess?

爱玛完全不知所措。那语气分明暗示着旧相识——可她怎么可能猜得出来呢？

“**Knightley!** ”continued Mrs. Elton; “**Nay!** ”埃尔顿太太继续说道，“竟是奈特利先生本人！”

for, not being within when he called the other ——多巧啊? ——因为前几
day, I had never seen him before; and of course, 天他来访时我正好不在家,
as so particular a friend of Mr. E. ' s, I had 此前从未见过他; 既然是埃
a great curiosity. 'My friend Knightley'had 先生如此特别的朋友, 我当
been so often mentioned, that I was really im- 然充满好奇。'我的朋友奈特
patient to see him; and I must do my cara sposo 利'被提起的次数太多, 实在
the justice to say that he need not be ashamed 教人迫不及待想见他; 我必
of his friend. **Knightley** is quite the gentle- 须为亲爱的夫君说句公道话
man. I like him very much. **Decidedly**, I ——他完全不必为这位朋友
think, a very gentleman-like man. " 感到惭愧。奈特利是位十足
的绅士。我十分喜欢他。毋庸置疑，我认为他是个极有
绅士风度的人。"

Happily, it was now time to be gone. **They** 所幸, 动身的时刻终于到了。
were off; and Emma could breathe. 他们走了; 爱玛这才松了一口气。

"**Insufferable** woman! "was her immediate "真叫人受不了的女人!"她
exclamation. "**Worse** than I had supposed. 当即嚷道。"比我想象的还要
Absolutely insufferable! **Knightley!** —I 糟! 绝对叫人无法忍受! 奈
could not have believed it. **Knightley!** —特利! 我简直不敢相信。奈
never seen him in her life before, and call him 特利! 以前从没见过他, 却管
Knightley! —**and** discover that he is a gen- 他叫奈特利! 居然发现他是
tleman! A little upstart, vulgar being, with 个绅士! 一个有点暴发户味
her Mr. E. , **and** her _caro_ _sposo_, and 道的俗不可耐的东西, 开口

her resources, and all her airs of pert preten- 闭口‘我的埃先生’，‘我的 caro-
sion and underbred finery. **Actually** to dis- sposo’，自诩多才多艺，神气
cover that Mr. **Knightley** is a gentleman! I 活现，忸怩作态，还故意装出
doubt whether he will return the compliment, 一副高雅的打扮。居然发现
and discover her to be a lady. I could not have 奈特利先生是个绅士！我怀
believed it! **And** to propose that she and I 疑他会不会也回敬她一句，
should unite to form a musical club! **One** 说她是个淑女。我简直无法
would fancy we were bosom friends! **And** Mrs. 相信！还提出要跟我联手组
Weston! —**Astonished** that the person 织一个音乐俱乐部！人家还
who had brought me up should be a gentle- 以为我们是知心朋友呢！还有
woman! **Worse** and worse. I never met with **韦斯顿太太！看到把我带**
her equal. **Much** beyond my hopes. **Harriet** 大的人是个上流妇女，居然
is disgraced by any comparison. **Oh! what** 表现得那么惊讶！真是越来
would Frank Churchill say to her, if he were 越不像话。我从没见过像她
here? **How** angry and how diverted he would 这样的人。大大超出了我的
be! **Ah! there** I am—thinking of him di- 期望。拿哈丽特跟她相比，那
rectly. **Always** the first person to be thought 简直是对哈丽特的亵渎。哦！
of! **How** I catch myself out! **Frank** Churchill 要是弗兰克·邱吉尔在这儿
comes as regularly into my mind! ”— 的话，会怎么看待她呢？他会
多么气愤，又会觉得多么好笑啊！唉，我又想到了他。
总是第一个想到他！我抓住了自己的弱点！弗兰克·邱吉尔总是闯进我的脑海里。”

All this ran so glibly through her thoughts, 这些念头在她脑海中流畅地

that by the time her father had arranged him-
self, after the bustle of the Eltons' departure,
and was ready to speak, she was very tolerably
capable of attending.

滑过，等到父亲在埃尔顿夫
妇离去的小小骚动后安顿好
自己，准备开口说话时，她
已经完全能够集中精神倾听了。

“Well, my dear,” he deliberately began, “con-
sidering we never saw her before, she seems
a very pretty sort of young lady; and I dare
say she was very much pleased with you. She
speaks a little too quick. A little quickness of
voice there is which rather hurts the ear. But
I believe I am nice; I do not like strange voices;
and nobody speaks like you and poor Miss
Taylor. However, she seems a very oblig-
ing, pretty-behaved young lady, and no doubt
will make him a very good wife. Though I
think he had better not have married. I made
the best excuses I could for not having been
able to wait on him and Mrs. Elton on this
unhappy occasion; I said that I hoped I should
in the course of the summer. But I ought to
have gone before. Not to wait upon a bride is
very remiss. Ah! it shews what a sad invalid I
am! But I do not like the corner into Vicarage
Lane.”

“唔，亲爱的，”他从容不迫地
开口，“考虑到我们素未谋面，
这位年轻女士倒也算得上仪
态得体；我敢说她定是对你
颇为满意。只是她说话略显
急促，那种语速里的促狭颇
有些刺耳。不过想来是我过
于挑剔——生来不惯听陌生
人的嗓音，毕竟再无人能及
得上你与可怜的泰勒小姐谈
吐这般悦耳。话说回来，她
瞧着倒是个殷勤知礼的年轻
姑娘，无疑会成为他的贤内
助。虽然我始终认为他本不
该缔结这桩婚事。适才未能
亲往恭贺埃尔顿先生夫妇新
婚之喜，我已竭力致歉，只
说盼着入夏后定当补上这份
心意。其实原该早些登门才是，怠慢新嫁娘实在有失礼

数。唉！足见我这病弱之躯
多么不济！不过说实在的，我
始终不喜牧师巷那个拐角。”

“I dare say your apologies were accepted, sir.
Mr. Elton knows you.”

“我敢说，您的道歉已经被接
受了，先生。**埃尔顿先生**了
解您。”

“**Yes:** but a young lady—a bride—I ought to
have paid my respects to her if possible. **It** was
being very deficient.”

”是啊，可是一位年轻小姐
——一位新娘——我理应尽
可能去向她致意的。**这实在**
是我的疏忽。”

“**But**, my dear papa, you are no friend to mat-
rimony; and therefore why should you be so
anxious to pay your respects to a _bride_? **It** ought to be no recommendation to _you_. **It** is encouraging people to marry if you make so
much of them.”

“可是，亲爱的爸爸，你并不
是婚姻的朋友；那你又何必
这样急于向一位新娘表示敬
意呢？**这**对你来说不该是什
么值得推崇的事。**如果你**这
样看重她们，那就是在鼓励
人们结婚。”

“**No**, my dear, I never encouraged any body
to marry, but I would always wish to pay ev-
ery proper attention to a lady—and a bride,
especially, is never to be neglected. **More** is
avowedly due to _her_. A bride, you know,
my dear, is always the first in company, let the

“不，亲爱的，我从不鼓励任
何人结婚，但我总是愿意对
一位女士——尤其是一位新
娘——表示应有的关注。**新**
娘是绝不能怠慢的，这是公
认的道理。**你要知道**，亲爱

others be who they may.”

的，新娘在社交场合永远该居首位，不管其他人身份如何。”

“Well, papa, if this is not encouragement to marry, I do not know what is. And I should never have expected you to be lending your sanction to such vanity-baits for poor young ladies.”

“唉，爸爸，要是这还不算鼓励人结婚，我真不知道什么才算呢。我万万没想到您竟会支持用这种虚荣的诱饵来哄骗可怜的年轻小姐们。”

“My dear, you do not understand me. This is a matter of mere common politeness and good-breeding, and has nothing to do with any encouragement to people to marry.”

”亲爱的，你误解了我的意思。这不过是寻常的礼貌和教养问题，与鼓励人们结婚毫不相干。”

Emma had done. Her father was growing nervous, and could not understand _her_. Her mind returned to Mrs. Elton's offences, and long, very long, did they occupy her.

爱玛已经尽力了。她父亲渐渐紧张起来，实在摸不透她的心思。她的思绪又回到了埃尔顿太太的种种冒犯，这些念头盘踞在她心头，久久不散。

CHAPTER XV

第十五章

Emma was not required, by any subsequent discovery, to retract her ill opinion of Mrs. Elton. Her observation had been pretty cor-

此后，爱玛始终没有发现需要她改变对埃尔顿太太不良看法的理由。她的观察完全

rect. **Such** as Mrs. **Elton** appeared to her on this second interview, such she appeared whenever they met again,—self-important, presuming, familiar, ignorant, and ill-bred. **She** had a little beauty and a little accomplishment, but so little judgment that she thought herself coming with superior knowledge of the world, to enliven and improve a country neighbourhood; and conceived Miss Hawkins to have held such a place in society as Mrs. **Elton**' s consequence only could surpass.

正确。第二次见面时埃尔顿太太给她留下的印象，每次见面都一再得到证实：自命不凡、自行其是、傲慢无礼、无知无识、缺乏教养。她略有几分姿色，稍有几分才艺，却毫无见识，以为踏进这外省地区，便成了首屈一指的风雅女子，以为只要她一来，本地人便会茅塞顿开，认为霍金斯小姐在社交界的地位，只有她埃尔顿太太可以与之媲美。

There was no reason to suppose Mr. **Elton** thought at all differently from his wife. **He** seemed not merely happy with her, but proud. **He** had the air of congratulating himself on having brought such a woman to Highbury, as not even Miss Woodhouse could equal; and the greater part of her new acquaintance, disposed to commend, or not in the habit of judging, following the lead of Miss Bates's good-will, or taking it for granted that the bride must be as clever and as agreeable as she professed herself, were very well satisfied; so that Mrs. **Elton**' s

没有理由认为埃尔顿先生的想法与他太太有什么不同。他似乎不仅对她感到满意，更带着骄傲。他浑身上下都透着庆幸自己将这样一位女子带到海伯里的神气，仿佛连伍德豪斯小姐都不能与之比肩；而她的新相识们大多存着称赞之心，或本不惯于评头论足，要么顺着贝茨小姐的好意附和，要么想当然地认为新娘定如她自称的那

praise passed from one mouth to another as it ought to do, unimpeded by Miss Woodhouse, who readily continued her first contribution and talked with a good grace of her being “very pleasant and very elegantly dressed.”

般聪慧可人，于是个个心满意足——因此对埃尔顿太太的称赞便顺理成章地口耳相传，未曾受到伍德豪斯小姐的阻挠。她从容不迫地延续着最初的礼数，仪态优雅地称赞这位新娘”谈吐风趣，衣着雅致”。

In one respect Mrs. Elton grew even worse than she had appeared at first. Her feelings altered towards Emma. —Offended, probably, by the little encouragement which her proposals of intimacy met with, she drew back in her turn and gradually became much more cold and distant; and though the effect was agreeable, the ill-will which produced it was necessarily increasing Emma's dislike. Her manners, too—and Mr. Elton's, were unpleasant towards Harriet. They were sneering and negligent. Emma hoped it must rapidly work Harriet's cure; but the sensations which could prompt such behaviour sunk them both very much. —It was not to be doubted that poor Harriet's attachment had been an offering to conjugal unreserve, and her own share in the

埃尔顿太太在一个方面甚至比初露面时更糟——她对爱玛的感情发生了变化。也许是因為她主动示好却只得到冷淡回应，这位太太感到受了冒犯，便也渐渐疏远起来，变得格外冷淡拘谨。虽然这情形令人舒心，但那份促成此态的恶意却不可避免地加深了爱玛的反感。再者，她与埃尔顿先生对哈丽特的态度也令人不快——带着轻蔑与怠慢。爱玛暗忖这倒能加速治愈哈丽特的痴心；然而促成这般行径的心绪，却让那对夫妇显得格外卑劣。毋庸置疑，可怜的哈丽特的倾

story, under a colouring the least favourable to her and the most soothing to him, had in all likelihood been given also. **She** was, of course, the object of their joint dislike. —**When** they had nothing else to say, it must be always easy to begin abusing Miss Woodhouse; and the enmity which they dared not shew in open disrespect to her, found a broader vent in contumacious treatment of Harriet.

慕早已成为他们夫妻私语的话题，而爱玛本人在这个故事里的角色，也必然被染上最不利于她、最抚慰他的色彩被一并吐露。她自然成了他们共同厌弃的对象——每当无话可说时，诋毁伍德豪斯小姐总是最便捷的话题；他们不敢公然对她表露的不敬，全都化作对哈丽特肆无忌惮的轻蔑。

Mrs. Elton took a great fancy to Jane Fairfax; and from the first. **Not** merely when a state of warfare with one young lady might be supposed to recommend the other, but from the very first; and she was not satisfied with expressing a natural and reasonable admiration —but without solicitation, or plea, or privilege, she must be wanting to assist and befriend her. —**Before** Emma had forfeited her confidence, and about the third time of their meeting, she heard all Mrs. **Elton's** knight-errantry on the subject. —

埃尔顿太太对简·费尔法克斯产生了极大的好感——从最初相识便是如此。这不仅仅仅是因为与一位年轻女士处于对立状态时，自然会倾向于推崇另一位，而是打从一开始就这样；她并不满足于表达合情合理的赞赏——未经对方恳求，不找任何借口，也不凭借什么特权，她就非要主动帮助和关照简不可。在爱玛尚未失去她的信任时，大约在她们第三次会面之际，她就聆听了埃尔顿太

太在这件事上全部侠义心肠
的壮举——

“**Jane** Fairfax is absolutely charming, Miss Woodhouse. —**I** quite rave about Jane Fairfax. —**A** sweet, interesting creature. **So** mild and ladylike—and with such talents! —**I** assure you I think she has very extraordinary talents. **I** do not scruple to say that she plays extremely well. **I** know enough of music to speak decidedly on that point. **Oh!** **she** is absolutely charming! **You** will laugh at my warmth—but, upon my word, I talk of nothing but Jane Fairfax. —**And** her situation is so calculated to affect one! —**Miss** Woodhouse, we must exert ourselves and endeavour to do something for her. **We** must bring her forward. **Such** talent as hers must not be suffered to remain unknown. —**I** dare say you have heard those charming lines of the poet,

“**伍德豪斯小姐，简·费尔法克斯真是迷人极了。——我简直要为简·费尔法克斯神魂颠倒了。多么可爱动人的姑娘啊！既温柔又端庄——还如此才华横溢！说真的，我认为她有着非凡的才华。我毫不讳言她琴艺精湛，在音乐方面我还是有资格下定论的。哦！她实在令人倾倒！您定要笑话我这般热情——不过说实在的，我现在开口闭口都是简·费尔法克斯。她的境遇又如此惹人怜惜！——伍德豪斯小姐，我们应当尽力为她周旋，定要帮她崭露头角。这样的才华岂能埋没？想必您也听过诗人那动人的诗句：**

‘**Full** many a flower is born to blush unseen,
‘And waste its fragrance on the desert air. ’

“**多少花儿吐艳却无人见，徒把芬芳消耗在荒漠的空气里。**”

We must not allow them to be verified in sweet Jane Fairfax."

我们绝不能让这些猜测在可爱的简·费尔法克斯身上得到印证。

"I cannot think there is any danger of it," was Emma's calm answer—"and when you are better acquainted with Miss Fairfax's situation and understand what her home has been, with Colonel and Mrs. **Campbell**, I have no idea that you will suppose her talents can be unknown."

"我认为这绝无可能,"爱玛沉着地回答——"等你更了解费尔法克斯小姐的处境,明白她这些年在坎贝尔上校夫妇家中的生活,我相信你就不会认为她的才华可能被埋没。"

"**Oh! but** dear Miss Woodhouse, she is now in such retirement, such obscurity, so thrown away. —**Whatever** advantages she may have enjoyed with the Campbells are so palpably at an end! **And** I think she feels it. I am sure she does. **She** is very timid and silent. **One** can see that she feels the want of encouragement. I like her the better for it. I must confess it is a recommendation to me. I am a great advocate for timidity—and I am sure one does not often meet with it. —**But** in those who are at all inferior, it is extremely prepossessing. **Oh!** I assure you, Jane Fairfax is a very delightful character, and interests me more than I can

"哦! 可是亲爱的伍德豪斯小姐, 她现在过着如此隐居、如此默默无闻、如此被埋没的生活——她在坎贝尔家享受过的一切优渥待遇都已明显结束了! 我想她也感受到了。她我确信她确实感受到了。她非常羞怯沉默, 谁都看得出她正渴望着鼓励。我反而因此更喜欢她。必须承认这在我眼里是个优点。我一向最欣赏羞怯的品格——而且说实话现在可不多见了——在地位稍低的人身上, 这种特

express. ”

质尤其令人心生好感。哦！我向您保证，简·费尔法克斯是个非常讨人喜欢的姑娘，我对她的兴趣简直难以言表。”

“**You** appear to feel a great deal—but I am not aware how you or any of Miss Fairfax’ acquaintance here, any of those who have known her longer than yourself, can shew her any other attention than”—

”你似乎感触良多——可我却不明白，你或是费尔法克斯小姐在此地的任何熟人，那些比你更早认识她的人，除了这般关切之外，还能如何向她表示——”

“My dear Miss Woodhouse, a vast deal may be done by those who dare to act. **You** and I need not be afraid. **If** we set the example, many will follow it as far as they can; though all have not our situations. **We** have carriages to fetch and convey her home, and we live in a style which could not make the addition of Jane Fairfax, at any time, the least inconvenient. —**I** should be extremely displeased if Wright were to send us up such a dinner, as could make me regret having asked more than Jane Fairfax to partake of it. **I** have no idea of that sort of thing. **It** is not likely that I should, considering what I have been used

“亲爱的伍德豪斯小姐，敢作敢为的人总能成就大事。你我根本不必畏首畏尾。只要我们带头示范，许多人虽处境不同，也必会尽力效仿。我们有马车接送她往返，我们的生活水准即便随时添个简·费尔法克斯也绝不会稍有不便——要是赖特给我们准备的晚餐竟让我后悔多请了简·费尔法克斯这样的客人，那我可真要大为光火了。我压根没有这种顾虑。以我素来的生活习惯来看，这种

to. My greatest danger, perhaps, in house-
keeping, may be quite the other way, in doing
too much, and being too careless of expense.
Maple Grove will probably be my model more
than it ought to be—for we do not at all af-
fect to equal my brother, Mr. **Suckling**, in
income. —**However**, my resolution is taken
as to noticing Jane Fairfax. —I shall certainly
have her very often at my house, shall intro-
duce her wherever I can, shall have musical
parties to draw out her talents, and shall be
constantly on the watch for an eligible situ-
ation. My acquaintance is so very extensive,
that I have little doubt of hearing of something
to suit her shortly. —I shall introduce her, of
course, very particularly to my brother and sis-
ter when they come to us. I am sure they will
like her extremely; and when she gets a little
acquainted with them, her fears will completely
wear off, for there really is nothing in the man-
ners of either but what is highly conciliating.
—I shall have her very often indeed while they
are with me, and I dare say we shall sometimes
find a seat for her in the barouche-landau in
some of our exploring parties.”

情况也不太可能出现。我持
家最大的风险恐怕恰恰相
反，总是过于铺张，太不把
开销当回事。**枫林园**恐怕会
不自觉地成了我的参照标准
——毕竟我们从不妄想与我
姐夫萨克林先生比收入。不
过我已下定决心要关照简 ·
费尔法克斯——我定要常请
她来家里做客，有机会就引
荐她，举办音乐茶会展示她
的才华，还要时时留意合适
的职位。**我**交游如此广阔，想
必很快就能打听到适合她的
机会。**等**哥嫂来访时，我自
然要特别引荐她。**相信**他们
定会非常喜欢她；等她与他
们熟络些，拘谨自然会消失，
因为他们夫妇的举止实在亲
切得体。**他们**做客期间我定
要常邀她来，想必我们乘敞
篷马车出游时，也常能给她
留个座位的。”

“Poor Jane Fairfax! ”—thought Emma. “可怜的简·费尔法克斯！”
— “**You** have not deserved this. **You** may ——爱玛思忖着。——“这不
have done wrong with regard to Mr. **Dixon**, 该是你承受的。你或许在狄
but this is a punishment beyond what you can 克逊先生的事上有过失，但
have merited! —**The** kindness and protection 这样的惩罚实在超出你应
of Mrs. **Elton**! — ‘**Jane** Fairfax and Jane 得的程度！——居然要接受
Fairfax. ’**Heavens!** Let me not suppose that 埃尔顿夫人的关照与庇护！
she dares go about, Emma Woodhouse-ing me! ——‘简·费尔法克斯长，简·
—**But** upon my honour, there seems no limits 费尔法克斯短’。天哪！但愿
to the licentiousness of that woman’s tongue! ” 她不敢到处用‘爱玛·伍德豪斯’的腔调来称呼我！——不过我敢说，那个女人的舌头
简直放肆到毫无节制！”

Emma had not to listen to such paradings again—to any so exclusively addressed to herself—so disgustingly decorated with a “dear Miss Woodhouse. ”**The** change on Mrs. **Elton**’ s side soon afterwards appeared, and she was left in peace—neither forced to be the very particular friend of Mrs. **Elton**, nor, under Mrs. **Elton**’ s guidance, the very active patroness of Jane Fairfax, and only sharing with others in a general way, in knowing what was felt, what was meditated, what was done.

爱玛没有再听到过这样的夸夸其谈——再没有谁把话说得这么专门为她一个人——再没有谁这么令人作呕地故意用“亲爱的伍德豪斯小姐”来奉承她。埃尔顿太太的态度不久就发生了变化，她终于得到了安宁——既不必非做埃尔顿太太的亲密朋友不可，也不必在埃尔顿太太的指导下，去充当简·费尔法克斯的热心保护人，而且还

得等着看看人家想要她做什么，打算要她做什么，只是跟大家一样，一般地了解一些情况。

She looked on with some amusement. — **Miss Bates's** gratitude for Mrs. **Elton's** attentions to Jane was in the first style of guileless simplicity and warmth. **She** was quite one of her worthies—the most amiable, affable, delightful woman—just as accomplished and descending as Mrs. **Elton** meant to be considered. **Emma's** only surprize was that Jane Fairfax should accept those attentions and tolerate Mrs. **Elton** as she seemed to do. **She** heard of her walking with the Eltons, sitting with the Eltons, spending a day with the Eltons! **This** was astonishing! —**She** could not have believed it possible that the taste or the pride of Miss Fairfax could endure such society and friendship as the Vicarage had to offer.

她饶有兴味地旁观着——贝茨小姐对埃尔顿太太关照简的感激之情，全然是天真烂漫的赤诚热忱。这位太太俨然成了她心目中的完人——最和蔼可亲、温文尔雅、令人愉快的女士——正符合埃尔顿太太希望被人看待的那样：多才多艺而又平易近人。
爱玛唯一诧异的是，简·费尔法克斯居然接受了那些关照，而且似乎对埃尔顿太太如此容忍。她听说简和埃尔顿夫妇一同散步，陪他们闲坐，竟还陪他们消磨整日！这真叫人吃惊！——她万万不敢相信，以费尔法克斯小姐的品味和傲骨，竟能忍受牧师府所提供的这般交际与友谊。

“She is a riddle, quite a riddle!” said she. — “她真是个谜，十足的谜！”
“To chuse to remain here month after month, under privations of every sort! And now to chuse the mortification of Mrs. Elton’s notice and the penury of her conversation, rather than return to the superior companions who have always loved her with such real, generous affection.” 她说道。——“竟甘愿留在此地，月复一月地忍受种种匮乏！如今宁可忍受埃尔顿太太的垂青带来的屈辱，忍受她言谈的贫乏，也不愿回到那些始终以真挚慷慨的深情爱护着她的良伴中去。”

Jane had come to Highbury professedly for three months; the Campbells were gone to Ireland for three months; but now the Campbells had promised their daughter to stay at least till Midsummer, and fresh invitations had arrived for her to join them there. According to Miss Bates—it all came from her—Mrs. Dixon had written most pressingly. Would Jane but go, means were to be found, servants sent, friends contrived—no travelling difficulty allowed to exist; but still she had declined it!

简原本声称只来海伯里住三个月；因为坎贝尔夫妇去爱尔兰待三个月。但如今坎贝尔夫妇答应让女儿至少住到仲夏时节，而且又寄来新的邀请，请她去那里团聚。据贝茨小姐说——这一切都是从她那儿听来的——狄克森太太来信写得十分恳切。只要简肯去，车马仆从都会备好，友人也会代为安排——旅途中的种种困难一概不许存在。可她还是谢绝了！

“She must have some motive, more powerful than appears, for refusing this invitation,” was Emma’s conclusion. “She must be under some

“她拒绝这次邀请，必定有某种比表面看来更强烈的动机，”爱玛暗自断定。“她准是

sort of penance, inflicted either by the Camp- 在经受某种惩罚，不是坎贝
bells or herself. **T**here is great fear, great 尔夫妇施加的，就是她自己
caution, great resolution somewhere. —**S**he 施加的。这背后藏着极大的
is not to be with the Dixons. **T**he 恐惧、极度的谨慎、坚定的
cree is issued by somebody. **B**ut why must 决心——她就是不能和狄克
she consent to be with the Eltons? —**H**ere is 森夫妇见面。这禁令是某个人
quite a separate puzzle. ” 下达的。可她又何必非要
同意和埃尔顿夫妇待在一起呢？这真是另一个难解的谜了。”

Upon her speaking her wonder aloud on that part of the subject, before the few who knew her opinion of Mrs. **E**lton, Mrs. **W**eston ventured this apology for Jane.

当她当着几位了解她对埃尔顿太太看法的人，对那部分话题大声说出自己的惊讶时，韦斯顿夫人便鼓起勇气为简说了这番辩解的话。

“**W**e cannot suppose that she has any great enjoyment at the Vicarage, my dear Emma— but it is better than being always at home. **H**er aunt is a good creature, but, as a constant companion, must be very tiresome. **W**e must consider what Miss Fairfax quits, before we condemn her taste for what she goes to. ”

“我们不能设想她在牧师住宅里会有多大乐趣，亲爱的爱玛——不过总比一直待在家里强。她舅妈是个好人，但作为长期相处的伴侣，必定相当令人厌倦。在指责费尔法克斯小姐的品味之前，我们得先考虑她离开的是怎样的环境。”

“**You** are right, Mrs. **Weston**,” said Mr. **Knightley** warmly, “Miss Fairfax is as capable as any of us of forming a just opinion of Mrs. **Elton**. Could she have chosen with whom to associate, she would not have chosen her. **But** (with a reproachful smile at Emma) she receives attentions from Mrs. **Elton**, which nobody else pays her.”

”你说得对，韦斯顿太太，”奈特利先生热切地说道，“费尔法克斯小姐和我们任何人一样，都能对埃尔顿太太作出公正的评价。如果她能够选择交往的对象，她是不会选择埃尔顿太太的。但是(带着责备的笑意看向爱玛)她现在接受了埃尔顿太太的殷勤——这种殷勤可是别人都不曾给过她的。”

Emma felt that Mrs. **Weston** was giving her a momentary glance; and she was herself struck by his warmth. **With** a faint blush, she presently replied,

爱玛觉得韦斯顿太太瞥了她一眼；她自己也被他的热情所打动。她微微红了脸，随即答道：

“Such attentions as Mrs. **Elton**’ s, I should have imagined, would rather disgust than gratify Miss Fairfax. Mrs. **Elton**’ s invitations I should have imagined any thing but inviting.”

“像埃尔顿太太那样的殷勤关切，我本以为只会让费尔法克斯小姐感到厌恶而非愉悦。至于埃尔顿太太的邀约，我原以为任谁都会避之不及。”

“I should not wonder,” said Mrs. **Weston**, “if Miss Fairfax were to have been drawn on be-

”我一点也不觉得奇怪，”韦斯顿太太说，”费尔法克斯

yond her own inclination, by her aunt's eagerness in accepting Mrs. **Elton**' s civilities for her. **Poor** Miss Bates may very likely have committed her niece and hurried her into a greater appearance of intimacy than her own good sense would have dictated, in spite of the very natural wish of a little change. ”

小姐很可能是被她姨妈怂恿着，违背自己的意愿，接受了埃尔顿太太的殷勤款待。可怜的贝茨小姐很可能替外甥女作了主，让她显得过分亲热了些。其实她虽然很自然地想换换环境，但以她平日那般知书达理，本不该表现得这般热络。”

Both felt rather anxious to hear him speak again; and after a few minutes silence, he said,

两人都急切地想听他再说些什么；静默了几分钟后，他终于开口道：

“**Another** thing must be taken into consideration too—Mrs. **Elton** does not talk to Miss Fairfax as she speaks of her. **We** all know the difference between the pronouns he or she and thou, the plainest spoken amongst us; we all feel the influence of a something beyond common civility in our personal intercourse with each other—a something more early implanted. **We** cannot give any body the disagreeable hints that we may have been very full of the hour before. **We** feel things differently. **And** besides the operation of this,

还有一点必须考虑——埃尔顿太太当面对费尔法克斯小姐说话时，并不像背后议论时那般随意。“我们都懂得”他”或”她”与”汝”之间的区别，即便最直言不讳的人也是如此；在亲身交往中，我们都能感受到某种超越寻常礼节的力量——那是更早根植于心的东西。“我们不可能把半小时前还耿耿于怀的不快暗示给对方。此刻的感受

as a general principle, you may be sure that Miss Fairfax awes Mrs. **Elton** by her superiority both of mind and manner; and that, face to face, Mrs. **Elton** treats her with all the respect which she has a claim to. **Such** a woman as Jane Fairfax probably never fell in Mrs. **Elton**' s way before—and no degree of vanity can prevent her acknowledging her own comparative littleness in action, if not in consciousness.”

已然不同。且不说这个普遍原则的作用,你应当明白,费尔法克斯小姐凭借心智与仪态的优越,自然令埃尔顿太太心生敬畏;当面交谈时,埃尔顿太太必定会给予她应有的全部尊重。像简·费尔法克斯这样的女子,埃尔顿太太平生恐怕从未遇到过——无论她是否意识到,但再强烈的虚荣心也无法阻止她在行动上承认自己的相形见绌。

“I know how highly you think of Jane Fairfax,” said Emma. **Little** Henry was in her thoughts, and a mixture of alarm and delicacy made her irresolute what else to say.

“我知道你对简·费尔法克斯评价很高,”爱玛说道。她心里想着小亨利,一阵惶恐与顾虑交织,使她犹豫着不知该再说什么。

“Yes,” he replied, “any body may know how highly I think of her.”

“是的,”他答道,“谁都能看出我有多么器重她。”

“And yet,” said Emma, beginning hastily and with an arch look, but soon stopping—it was better, however, to know the worst at once—she hurried on—“And yet, perhaps, you may

“不过,”爱玛带着狡黠神情匆忙开口,却又立即打住——但无论如何,还是趁早面对最坏的局面为好——她

hardly be aware yourself how highly it is. **The** extent of your admiration may take you by surprise some day or other. ”

急忙继续说下去，“不过，或许您自己都还没意识到这份情意有多深。总有一天，您这份仰慕之情的深度会让您自己都大吃一惊的。”

Mr. Knightley was hard at work upon the lower buttons of his thick leather gaiters, and either the exertion of getting them together, or some other cause, brought the colour into his face, as he answered,

奈特利先生正忙着系他那厚皮绑腿最下边的几颗纽扣，也许是系扣子时费了劲，也许是别的什么原因，他回答时脸上泛起了红晕。

“**Oh! are** you there? —**But** you are miserably behindhand. **Mr. Cole** gave me a hint of it six weeks ago. ”

“哦！你在这儿啊？——可你消息也太不灵通了。科尔先生六个星期前就跟我提过这事啦。”

He stopped. —**Emma** felt her foot pressed by Mrs. **Weston**, and did not herself know what to think. **In** a moment he went on—

他停住了。——韦斯顿太太轻轻踩了踩爱玛的脚，爱玛自己也茫然不知该如何理解。片刻之后，他又继续说了下去——

“**That** will never be, however, I can assure you. **Miss Fairfax**, I dare say, would not have me if I were to ask her—and I am very sure I shall never ask her. ”

”不过，这是永远不可能的事，我可以向你保证。我相信，即使我向费尔法克斯小姐求婚，她也不会接受——

而我非常确定，我永远不会向她求婚。”

Emma returned her friend's pressure with interest; and was pleased enough to exclaim,

爱玛以加倍的挚情回报了朋友的紧握；她高兴得不禁嚷了起来，

“**You** are not vain, Mr. **Knightley**. I will say that for you.”

“奈特利先生，您并不自负，这一点我要为您说句公道话。”

He seemed hardly to hear her; he was thoughtful—and in a manner which shewed him not pleased, soon afterwards said,

他似乎根本没听见她的话；他若有所思——那神情表明他并不高兴，随即说道，

“**So** you have been settling that I should marry Jane Fairfax?”

“那么，你刚才是在盘算着要我娶简·费尔法克斯了？”

“**No** indeed I have not. **You** have scolded me too much for match-making, for me to presume to take such a liberty with you. **What** I said just now, meant nothing. **One** says those sort of things, of course, without any idea of a serious meaning. **Oh! no**, upon my word I have not the smallest wish for your marrying Jane Fairfax or Jane any body. **You** would not come in and sit with us in this comfortable

“真的，我绝没有这个意思。你总怪我太爱做媒，我怎敢对你这样放肆呢？我刚才说的那些话，不过是随口说说的罢了。人说起这些事，自然都不会当真。哎呀！说真的，我半点也不希望你娶简·费尔法克斯，或是任何哪个简。你要是结了婚，哪还能

way, if you were married. ”

像现在这样，随随便便就进来陪我们舒舒服服地坐着聊天呢。”

Mr. Knightley was thoughtful again. The result of his reverie was, “No, Emma, I do not think the extent of my admiration for her will ever take me by surprize. —I never had a thought of her in that way, I assure you. ” **And** soon afterwards, “Jane Fairfax is a very charming young woman—but not even Jane Fairfax is perfect. **She** has a fault. **She** has not the open temper which a man would wish for in a wife. ”

奈特利先生又陷入了沉思。他思忖的结果是：“不，爱玛，我想我对她的倾慕程度永远不会让我自己吃惊——老实告诉你，我从未对她产生过那种念头。”片刻之后又说道：“简·费尔法克斯确实是位迷人的年轻姑娘——但即便是简·费尔法克斯也并非完美无缺。她有个缺点——她缺乏男人期望妻子应当具备的坦荡性情。”

Emma could not but rejoice to hear that she had a fault. “**Well,**” said she, “and you soon silenced Mr. **Cole**, I suppose? ”

听到她也有缺点，爱玛不禁暗自欢喜。”那么，”她说，”想必你很快就让科尔先生哑口无言了吧? ”

“**Yes**, very soon. **He** gave me a quiet hint; I told him he was mistaken; he asked my pardon and said no more. **Cole** does not want to be wiser or wittier than his neighbours. ”

“是的，很快。他悄悄给了我暗示；我告诉他弄错了，他便请求原谅，没再多说。科尔并不想显得比邻居们更聪明

明或更风趣。”

“In that respect how unlike dear Mrs. Elton, who wants to be wiser and wittier than all the world! I wonder how she speaks of the Coles—what she calls them! How can she find any appellation for them, deep enough in familiar vulgarity? She calls you, Knightley—what can she do for Mr. Cole? And so I am not to be surprised that Jane Fairfax accepts her civilities and consents to be with her. Mrs. Weston, your argument weighs most with me. I can much more readily enter into the temptation of getting away from Miss Bates, than I can believe in the triumph of Miss Fairfax's mind over Mrs. Elton. I have no faith in Mrs. Elton's acknowledging herself the inferior in thought, word, or deed; or in her being under any restraint beyond her own scanty rule of good-breeding. I cannot imagine that she will not be continually insulting her visitor with praise, encouragement, and offers of service; that she will not be continually detailing her magnificent intentions, from the procuring her a permanent situation to the including her in those delightful exploring parties which are

”在这一点上，与那位总想比全世界都更聪明机智的埃尔顿太太多么不同！我很好奇她会如何谈论科尔夫妇——会给他们起什么绰号！她得从多么粗俗的称呼里才能找出足够鄙陋的字眼来称呼他们呢？她直呼你奈特利——那她又该怎么称呼科尔先生？所以简·费尔法克斯接受她的殷勤、同意与她交往，我倒不觉得意外。韦斯顿太太，您的论点最令我信服。比起相信费尔法克斯小姐能在精神上战胜埃尔顿太太，我更容易理解她想要摆脱贝茨小姐的诱惑。我根本不信埃尔顿太太会承认自己在思想、言语或行为上稍逊一筹，也不认为她除了那点浅薄的教养准则之外还会受到任何约束。我完全可以想象，她定会不停地用赞美、鼓励和帮忙的提议来羞辱客

to take place in the barouche-landau. ”

人，定会不断细数自己那些宏图大计——从替她谋个固定职位，到邀请她参加那些即将用敞篷马车组织的愉快游览活动。”

“**Jane** Fairfax has feeling,” said Mr. **Knightley**— “I do not accuse her of want of feeling. **Her** sensibilities, I suspect, are strong—and her temper excellent in its power of forbearance, patience, self-control; but it wants openness. **She** is reserved, more reserved, I think, than she used to be—And I love an open temper. **No—till** Cole alluded to my supposed attachment, it had never entered my head. I saw Jane Fairfax and conversed with her, with admiration and pleasure always—but with no thought beyond. ”

“简·费尔法克斯是有感情的，”奈特利先生说，“我并非指责她缺乏感情。我猜想她的感受力很强烈——她的性情在忍耐力、耐心和自制力方面极为出色；但缺乏坦率。她为人含蓄，比以往更加含蓄了——而我钟爱开朗的性情。不——直到科尔提及我可能对她怀有的爱慕之前，这个念头从未在我脑海中出现过。我见到简·费尔法克斯并与她交谈时，始终带着钦佩与愉悦——但从未有过其他念头。”

“Well, Mrs. **Weston**, ” said Emma triumphantly when he left them, “what do you say now to Mr. **Knightley**’ s marrying Jane Fairfax? ”

“嗨，韦斯顿太太，”等他一走开，爱玛便得意洋洋地说，“现在你对奈特利先生要娶简·费尔法克斯还有什

么好说的？”

“**W**hy, really, dear Emma, I say that he is so very much occupied by the idea of not being in love with her, that I should not wonder if it were to end in his being so at last. **D**o not beat me.”

“哎呀，亲爱的爱玛，我是说他满脑子都想着不要爱上她，要是到头来反而真陷进去了，我也不会觉得奇怪。你可别打我呀。”

CHAPTER XVI

第十六章

Every body in and about Highbury who had ever visited Mr. **E**lton, was disposed to pay him attention on his marriage. **D**inner-parties and evening-parties were made for him and his lady; and invitations flowed in so fast that she had soon the pleasure of apprehending they were never to have a disengaged day.

海伯里及其附近但凡拜访过埃尔顿先生的人，都愿意在他新婚之际表示关切。晚宴和晚会纷纷为他与新娘举办；请柬如雪片般飞来，她很快便欣喜地意识到，他们往后的日子怕是再难得清闲了。

“I see how it is,” said she. “I see what a life I am to lead among you. **U**pon my word we shall be absolutely dissipated. **W**e really seem quite the fashion. **I**f this is living in the country, it is nothing very formidable. **F**rom Monday next to Saturday, I assure you we have not a disengaged day! —A woman with fewer resources than I have, need not have been at a loss.”

“我明白是怎么回事了，”她说，“我明白在你们中间要过什么样的日子了。说真的，我们简直要纵情享乐了。我们看起来确实相当时髦。如果这就是乡间生活，那也没什么可怕的。从下星期一到星期六，我敢说我们连一天空

闲都没有! ——比我缺少办法的女人, 也不见得会不知所措呢。”

No invitation came amiss to her. Her Bath habits made evening-parties perfectly natural to her, and Maple Grove had given her a taste for dinners. She was a little shocked at the want of two drawing rooms, at the poor attempt at rout-cakes, and there being no ice in the Highbury card-parties. Mrs. Bates, Mrs. Perry, Mrs. Goddard and others, were a good deal behind-hand in knowledge of the world, but she would soon shew them how every thing ought to be arranged. In the course of the spring she must return their civilities by one very superior party—in which her card-tables should be set out with their separate candles and unbroken packs in the true style—and more waiters engaged for the evening than their own establishment could furnish, to carry round the refreshments at exactly the proper hour, and in the proper order.

什么样的宴请对她而言都不会嫌多。巴斯的社交生活使晚会对她来说如同家常便饭, 而枫树林的经历更让她养成了享用正餐的品味。看到海伯里牌会只有一间客厅、粗制滥造的宴会蛋糕、连冰块都付之阙如, 她不免略感诧异。贝茨太太、佩里太太、高达德太太等人都太不懂世面, 不过她很快就会示范给她们看, 各种陈设应该遵循怎样的规制。待到开春时分, 她定要举办一场格调高雅的宴会回礼——牌桌必须按正宗样式摆开, 每桌配备独立的烛台与未拆封的新牌——还要额外多雇几个侍应, 在恰好的时辰按恰当的次序端上茶点, 这排场远非本地人家所能企及。

Emma, in the meanwhile, could not be satisfied without a dinner at Hartfield for the Eltons. **They** must not do less than others, or she should be exposed to odious suspicions, and imagined capable of pitiful resentment. **A**fter Emma had talked about it for ten minutes, Mr. **Woodhouse** felt no unwillingness, and only made the usual stipulation of not sitting at the bottom of the table himself, with the usual regular difficulty of deciding who should do it for him.

爱玛此时觉得非请埃尔顿夫妇来哈特菲尔德吃顿饭不可。他们决不能比旁人招待得差，否则就会招来可恶的猜疑，让人以为她会怀恨在心。这顿饭一定得请。爱玛说了十分钟之后，伍德豪斯先生就不觉得勉强了，只是跟往常一样，提出个条件：不让他坐在餐桌末席，而且照例难以决定该由谁来代他坐这个位置。

The persons to be invited, required little thought. **Besides** the Eltons, it must be the Westons and Mr. **Knightley**; so far it was all of course—and it was hardly less inevitable that poor little Harriet must be asked to make the eighth:—but this invitation was not given with equal satisfaction, and on many accounts Emma was particularly pleased by Harriet's begging to be allowed to decline it. “**She** would rather not be in his company more than she could help. **She** was not yet quite able to see him and his charming happy wife together, without feeling uncomfortable. **If** Miss

需要邀请哪些人，几乎用不着多费思量。除了埃尔顿夫妇，必须是韦斯顿夫妇和奈特利先生，这是理所当然的；而邀请可怜的小哈里特来凑足八个人，也几乎同样不可避免——不过这个邀请并不那么令人称心如意，等到哈里特恳求允许她谢绝邀请时，爱玛由于种种原因，反倒特别高兴。”她尽可能不想跟他多见面。看见他和他那位可爱幸福的太太在一起，

Woodhouse would not be displeased, she would rather stay at home. "It was precisely what Emma would have wished, had she deemed it possible enough for wishing. She was delighted with the fortitude of her little friend —for fortitude she knew it was in her to give up being in company and stay at home; and she could now invite the very person whom she really wanted to make the eighth, Jane Fairfax. —Since her last conversation with Mrs. Weston and Mr. Knightley, she was more conscience-stricken about Jane Fairfax than she had often been. —Mr. Knightley's words dwelt with her. He had said that Jane Fairfax received attentions from Mrs. Elton which nobody else paid her.

她心里还受不了。要是伍德豪斯小姐不见怪的话，她宁可待在家里。”这正是爱玛求之不得的，倘若她认为有可能实现的话。她为她小朋友的刚强感到高兴——她知道，哈里特之所以放弃聚会待在家里，正是凭借了这种刚强精神。现在，她可以邀请她真正想请来凑足八个人的那个人了，那就是简·费尔法克斯。自从上次跟韦斯顿太太和奈特利先生谈过话以后，她比以往任何时候都更感到对不起简·费尔法克斯。奈特利先生的话一直萦绕在她心头。他说过，简·费尔法克斯接受埃尔顿太太的关怀，别人谁也不关心她。

"This is very true," said she, "at least as far as relates to me, which was all that was meant—and it is very shameful. —Of the same age—and always knowing her—I ought to have been more her friend. —She will never like me now. I have neglected her too long. But I will shew

“这话说得非常对，”她说，“至少对我而言是如此，这正是我方才所指的——实在令人惭愧。我们年纪相仿，自幼相识，我本该待她更亲厚些。如今她再不会喜欢我

her greater attention than I have done. ”

了。我疏远她的时日太久。但今后我定要对她比往日格外关切。”

Every invitation was successful. **They** were all disengaged and all happy. —**The** preparatory interest of this dinner, however, was not yet over. **A** circumstance rather unlucky occurred. **The** two eldest little Knightleys were engaged to pay their grandpapa and aunt a visit of some weeks in the spring, and their papa now proposed bringing them, and staying one whole day at Hartfield—which one day would be the very day of this party. —**His** professional engagements did not allow of his being put off, but both father and daughter were disturbed by its happening so.

Mr. Woodhouse considered eight persons at dinner together as the utmost that his nerves could bear—and here would be a ninth—and Emma apprehended that it would be a ninth very much out of humour at not being able to come even to Hartfield for forty-eight hours without falling in with a dinner-party.

每份邀请都得到了欣然应允。人人都恰好得闲，个个都欢天喜地。——然而，这场晚宴的筹备工作尚未了结，反倒出了件颇为扫兴的插曲。奈特利家两位年长的孩子早先已约定在春日里来外公与姨母家小住数周，如今他们的父亲提议趁此机会携子同行，在哈特菲尔德宅邸盘桓整日——而这整日偏偏与宴会之期重合。奈特利先生因公务在身无法更改行程，但父女二人皆为此等巧合深感不安。伍德豪斯先生素来认定同桌用膳者以八人为限，方不至惊扰他敏感的神经——而今竟要添至九位。爱玛则忧心这第九位宾客必定满腹牢骚：原本期盼能在哈特菲尔德享受四十八小时的清静，偏生连这段短暂时光

都要撞上宴席喧嚣。

She comforted her father better than she could comfort herself, by representing that though he certainly would make them nine, yet he always said so little, that the increase of noise would be very immaterial. **She** thought it in reality a sad exchange for herself, to have him with his grave looks and reluctant conversation opposed to her instead of his brother.

她安慰父亲比安慰自己更有效，便解释说虽然他的加入确实会使人数增至九位，但他向来寡言少语，因此增添的喧闹实在微不足道。可对**她**而言，这实在是桩令人沮丧的交换——眼前将不再是神采飞扬的兄长，取而代之的是这位神情肃穆、言谈勉强的先生要与她终日相对。

The event was more favourable to Mr. **Woodhouse** than to Emma. **John Knightley** came; but Mr. **Weston** was unexpectedly summoned to town and must be absent on the very day. **He** might be able to join them in the evening, but certainly not to dinner. Mr. **Woodhouse** was quite at ease; and the seeing him so, with the arrival of the little boys and the philosophic composure of her brother on hearing his fate, removed the chief of even Emma's vexation.

这件事对伍德豪斯先生比对爱玛更有利。**约翰·奈特利**来了；但韦斯顿先生意外被召进城，偏偏就在当天不能到场。**他**或许晚上能赶来相聚，但肯定赶不上正餐。**伍德豪斯**先生这下完全安心了；眼见他如此平静，加上两个小男孩的到来，以及她哥哥听闻自己命运安排时那副泰然自若的神情，就连爱玛心头的主要烦恼也随之消散了。

The day came, the party were punctually assembled, and Mr. **John** Knightley seemed early to devote himself to the business of being agreeable. **Instead** of drawing his brother off to a window while they waited for dinner, he was talking to Miss Fairfax. **Mrs. Elton**, as elegant as lace and pearls could make her, he looked at in silence—wanting only to observe enough for Isabella's information—but Miss Fairfax was an old acquaintance and a quiet girl, and he could talk to her. **He** had met her before breakfast as he was returning from a walk with his little boys, when it had been just beginning to rain. **It** was natural to have some civil hopes on the subject, and he said,

那一天到了，宾客们准时齐聚。**约翰·奈特利先生**早早便显出殷勤周到的本事。等候用餐时，他非但没有把兄长拉到窗前私语，反倒与费尔法克斯小姐攀谈起来。至于那位用蕾丝珍珠装扮得珠光宝气的埃尔顿太太，他只默然打量——不过是想替伊莎贝拉收集些谈资——但费尔法克斯小姐既是旧识又性情文静，正宜交谈。原来清晨他带着两个小男孩散步归来时，恰逢天降微雨与她相遇。此刻自然要就天气寒暄几句，他便说道：

“I hope you did not venture far, Miss Fairfax, this morning, or I am sure you must have been wet. —We scarcely got home in time. I hope you turned directly.”

“**费尔法克斯小姐**，但愿您今早没有走远，不然准得淋湿——我们差点没能及时赶回家。**但愿您**当时就直接转身回来了。”

“I went only to the post-office,” said she, “and reached home before the rain was much. It is my daily errand. I always fetch the letters

“**我**只是去了趟邮局，”她说道，“到家时雨还不算大。这可是我每天的差事。**只要我在**

when I am here. **It** saves trouble, and is a something to get me out. **A** walk before breakfast does me good."

这儿，取信总是我去的。这样省事，而且也算是个出门的由头。早饭前散散步对我有好处。”

"**Not** a walk in the rain, I should imagine."

“我想，这可不是雨中散步的好时候。”

"**No**, but it did not absolutely rain when I set out."

“不，不过我出门的时候倒并没有真的下雨。”

Mr. John Knightley smiled, and replied,

约翰·奈特利先生微微一笑，答道：

"**That** is to say, you chose to have your walk, for you were not six yards from your own door when I had the pleasure of meeting you; and Henry and John had seen more drops than they could count long before. **The** post-office has a great charm at one period of our lives. **When** you have lived to my age, you will begin to think letters are never worth going through the rain for."

“也就是说，你原是打算散步的，因为我遇见你时，你离自家门口还不到六码远；何况亨利和约翰早就数过不知多少雨点了。邮局在我们人生的某个阶段确实颇具魔力。等你活到我这把年纪，就会明白那些信件实在不值得人冒雨去取。”

There was a little blush, and then this answer,

她脸上微微一红，随即答道：

"I must not hope to be ever situated as you are,"

我断不能指望有朝一日能像

in the midst of every dearest connexion, and therefore I cannot expect that simply growing older should make me indifferent about letters.” 您这般，被至亲至爱之人环绕左右，因此也不敢奢望，单凭年岁渐长便能对书信往来淡然处之。

“**Indifferent!** Oh! no—I never conceived you could become indifferent. **Letters** are no matter of indifference; they are generally a very positive curse.” “冷漠！哦！不——我从未想过你会变得冷漠。书信绝非无关紧要之物，它们往往是一种十足的祸害。”

“**You** are speaking of letters of business; mine are letters of friendship.” “你说的是商务信件；我的是友情的信函。”

“I have often thought them the worst of the two,” replied he coolly. “**Business**, you know, may bring money, but friendship hardly ever does.” “我常觉得他们俩中更糟的倒是他，”他冷冷地回答。“你知道，办正事或许能挣钱，可是友谊几乎从来不会。”

“Ah! **you** are not serious now. I know Mr. John Knightley too well—I am very sure he understands the value of friendship as well as any body. I can easily believe that letters are very little to you, much less than to me, but it is not your being ten years older than myself which makes the difference, it is not age, but situation. **You** have every body dearest to you always at hand, I, probably, never shall.” “啊！您这不是在说正经话吧。我太了解约翰·奈特利先生了——我深信他和任何人一样懂得友谊的可贵。我完全相信书信对您无足轻重，远不如对我重要，但这并非因为您比我年长十岁造成的差异，与年龄无关，而是境遇使然。您最亲爱的人们总在身

again; and therefore till I have outlived all my affections, a post-office, I think, must always have power to draw me out, in worse weather than to-day. ”

边相伴，而我恐怕再也难有这样的福分；因此只要我心中仍怀有真挚情感，哪怕是比今天更恶劣的天气，我想邮局也总能吸引我出门的。”

“**W**hen I talked of your being altered by time, by the progress of years,” said John Knightley, “I meant to imply the change of situation which time usually brings. **I** consider one as including the other. **T**ime will generally lessen the interest of every attachment not within the daily circle—but that is not the change I had in view for you. **A**s an old friend, you will allow me to hope, Miss Fairfax, that ten years hence you may have as many concentrated objects as I have. ”

“当我提及岁月流逝会使您改变时，”约翰·奈特利说道，“我指的是时间通常带来的境遇变迁。我认为这两者本是一体。时光往往会冲淡日常圈子之外的所有情谊——但我想象中您要经历的变化并非如此。作为老朋友，请允许我怀着这样的期望，费尔法克斯小姐：十年之后，您也能像我一样拥有众多值得倾注心血的目标。”

It was kindly said, and very far from giving offence. **A** pleasant “thank you” seemed meant to laugh it off, but a blush, a quivering lip, a tear in the eye, shewed that it was felt beyond a laugh. **H**er attention was now claimed by Mr. **W**oodhouse, who being, according to his custom on such occasions, making the circle

这话说得十分体贴，丝毫没有冒犯之意。一声愉快的“谢谢”本像是要一笑置之，但面颊的红晕、颤抖的嘴唇、眼中的泪光，却表明这话带来的触动远非一笑可以化解。这时伍德豪斯先生过来与她

of his guests, and paying his particular compliments to the ladies, was ending with her—and with all his mildest urbanity, said,

搭话——按照这类场合的习惯，他正挨个招呼宾客，特别向女宾们致意，最后才来到她跟前——以最温和的礼数说道：

“I am very sorry to hear, Miss Fairfax, of your being out this morning in the rain. **Young** ladies should take care of themselves. — **Young** ladies are delicate plants. They should take care of their health and their complexion. **My** dear, did you change your stockings?”

“费尔法克斯小姐，听说你今早冒雨外出，我深感不安。年轻小姐们应当好好保重自己——年轻小姐就像娇嫩的鲜花，得好好爱惜身体和容颜。亲爱的，你可曾更换过长袜？”

“Yes, sir, I did indeed; and I am very much obliged by your kind solicitude about me.”

“是的，先生，我确实去了；承蒙您如此亲切关怀，实在感激不尽。”

“My dear Miss Fairfax, young ladies are very sure to be cared for. —I hope your good grand-mama and aunt are well. **They** are some of my very old friends. I wish my health allowed me to be a better neighbour. **You** do us a great deal of honour to-day, I am sure. **My** daughter and I are both highly sensible of your goodness, and have the greatest satisfac-

“亲爱的费尔法克斯小姐，年轻姑娘们总是备受呵护的——希望您的外婆和舅母身体安康。她们都是我的老相识。若我这身子骨争气些，本该多来走动走动的。今日您肯赏光莅临，实在令寒舍蓬荜生辉。小女与我对您的

tion in seeing you at Hartfield. ”

盛情感激不尽，能在哈特菲尔德见到您，真是莫大的欣慰。”

The kind-hearted, polite old man might then sit down and feel that he had done his duty, and made every fair lady welcome and easy.

这位心地善良、彬彬有礼的老先生此刻便可安然落座，自觉已尽到礼数，让每位优雅的女士都感受到宾至如归的惬意。

By this time, the walk in the rain had reached Mrs. **Elton**, and her remonstrances now opened upon Jane.

这时，雨中散步的事已传到埃尔顿太太耳中，她的规劝便向简展开了。

“**My** dear Jane, what is this I hear? —**Going** to the post-office in the rain! —**This** must not be, I assure you. —**You** sad girl, how could you do such a thing? —**It** is a sign I was not there to take care of you. ”

“我亲爱的简，我听到的是什么消息? ——居然冒着雨去邮局! ——这可不行，我向你保证。你这傻孩子，怎么能做这种事? ——这说明我当时没在身边照顾你。”

Jane very patiently assured her that she had not caught any cold.

简非常耐心地向她保证，自己完全没有着凉。

“**Oh!** **do** not tell me. **You** really are a very sad girl, and do not know how to take care of yourself. —**To** the post-office indeed! **Mrs.**

“哦！别跟我说了。你真是个让人操心的姑娘，根本不懂得照顾自己——居然跑去邮

Weston, did you ever hear the like? **You** 局! 韦斯顿太太, 您可曾听过 and I must positively exert our authority. ” 这样的事? 我和您非得拿出长辈的威严来管管不可了。”

“**My** advice,” said Mrs. **Weston** kindly and persuasively, “I certainly do feel tempted to give. **Miss** Fairfax, you must not run such risks. —**Liable** as you have been to severe colds, indeed you ought to be particularly careful, especially at this time of year. **The** spring I always think requires more than common care. **Better** wait an hour or two, or even half a day for your letters, than run the risk of bringing on your cough again. **Now** do not you feel that you had? **Yes**, I am sure you are much too reasonable. **You** look as if you would not do such a thing again.”

”我的建议,”韦斯顿太太和蔼而恳切地说道,“确实忍不住想提出来。费尔法克斯小姐,你可不能再这样冒险了——你既然容易患重感冒,实在应该格外当心,特别是在这个季节。我总觉得春天需要比平常更加注意保养。宁可等上一两个钟头,甚至半天再去取信,也强过冒着咳嗽复发的风险。你现在不也觉得该这样吗?没错,我确信你是个明白人。看你的神情,就知道不会再做这种事了。”

“**Oh!** **she** _shall_ _not_ do such a thing again,” eagerly rejoined Mrs. **Elton**. “**We** will not allow her to do such a thing again:” and nodding significantly—“there must be some arrangement made, there must indeed. **I** shall speak to Mr. **E.** The man who fetches

“哦! 她绝不能再做这样的事了,”埃尔顿太太急切地接口道,“我们绝不会允许她再这样做——”说着意味深长地点了点头,“必须作出些安排,确实必须。我会跟埃尔顿先

our letters every morning (one of our men, I
forget his name) shall inquire for yours too and
bring them to you. **That** will obviate all diffi-
culties you know; and from us I really think,
my dear Jane, you can have no scruple to ac-
cept such an accommodation. ”

生说的。每天早晨给我们取信的那个仆人（是我们家的仆人，我忘了他的名字）也可以顺便帮你取信，再给你送去。这样所有困难就都迎刃而解了；说真的，我亲爱的简，从我们这里接受这样的便利，你完全不必有任何顾虑。”

“**You** are extremely kind,” said Jane; “but I
cannot give up my early walk. **I** am advised
to be out of doors as much as I can, I must
walk somewhere, and the post-office is an ob-
ject; and upon my word, I have scarcely ever
had a bad morning before. ”

“您真是太好了，”简说道，“但我不能放弃清晨散步的习惯。医生嘱咐我要尽量多待在户外，我总得找个地方走走，去邮局便是个由头。说实在的，我平日早晨出门几乎从未遇过坏天气。”

“**My** dear Jane, say no more about it. **The**
thing is determined, that is (laughing affect-
edly) as far as I can presume to determine any
thing without the concurrence of my lord and
master. **You** know, Mrs. **Weston**, you and
I must be cautious how we express ourselves.
But I do flatter myself, my dear Jane, that my
influence is not entirely worn out. **If** I meet

“我亲爱的简，别再提这件事了。事情已经决定了——（矫揉造作地笑着）至少在我能擅自决定、不必等候我家老爷首肯的范围内算是定了。韦斯顿太太，您明白，你我在言辞上都得格外谨慎。不过亲爱的简，我确实暗自庆

with no insuperable difficulties therefore, consider that point as settled. ”

幸，自己的影响力尚未完全消失。只要不遇到无法克服的阻碍，就请把那件事视作定局吧。”

“**Excuse** me,” said Jane earnestly, “I cannot by any means consent to such an arrangement, so needlessly troublesome to your servant. **If** the errand were not a pleasure to me, it could be done, as it always is when I am not here, by my grandmama’s. ”

“请原谅，”简恳切地说道，“我无论如何也不能同意这样的安排，这会给您的仆人带来不必要的麻烦。倘若这差事对我不是一种乐趣，那么它完全可以像我不在时那样，由我外婆家的仆人去办。”

“**Oh! my** dear; but so much as Patty has to do! —**And** it is a kindness to employ our men. ”

“哦！亲爱的，可帕蒂要干的活儿已经够多了！——再说，雇咱们自家伙计也是积德。”

Jane looked as if she did not mean to be conquered; but instead of answering, she began speaking again to Mr. **John** Knightley.

简看上去似乎不打算认输；但她没有回答，反而又开始跟约翰·奈特利先生说起话来。

“**The** post-office is a wonderful establishment! ” said she. — “**The** regularity and despatch of it! **If** one thinks of all that it has to do, and all that it does so well, it is really astonishing! ”

“邮局真是个了不起的机构！”她说，“办事那么有规律，那么迅速！只要想想它有那么多事务要处理，办得又那么妥当，真叫人吃惊！”

“It is certainly very well regulated.”

“这确实安排得井井有条。”

“So seldom that any negligence or blunder appears! So seldom that a letter, among the thousands that are constantly passing about the kingdom, is even carried wrong—and not one in a million, I suppose, actually lost! And when one considers the variety of hands, and of bad hands too, that are to be deciphered, it increases the wonder.”

”疏漏与差错何其罕见！王
国之内，信件往来如梭，误
投者已属凤毛麟角——至于
遗失的，依我看百万封里也
未必有一封！再想到那些字
迹各异，且不乏潦草难辨者，
更觉此事堪称奇迹。”

“The clerks grow expert from habit. —They must begin with some quickness of sight and hand, and exercise improves them. If you want any farther explanation,” continued he, smiling, “they are paid for it. That is the key to a great deal of capacity. The public pays and must be served well.”

”这些职员因熟能生巧——
他们初学时就得眼明手快，
反复练习更使他们技艺精
进。若您还需进一步说明，
”他含笑继续道，“他们领的
薪俸便是答案。这正是解锁
诸多才能的钥匙。公众既付
了钱，自然应当享受到周到
的服务。”

The varieties of handwriting were farther talked of, and the usual observations made.

大家又谈论起书法来，说了
些老生常谈的评语。

“I have heard it asserted,” said John Knightley, “that the same sort of handwriting often prevails in a family; and where the same mas-

“我曾听人说过，”约翰·奈特利说道，“同一种笔迹往往会在家族中流传；若是同一位

ter teaches, it is natural enough. **But** for that 老师教导，自然更不足为奇。
reason, I should imagine the likeness must be 但正因如此，我认为这种相
chiefly confined to the females, for boys have 似性应当主要存在于女性之
very little teaching after an early age, and 间，因为男孩们稍长便疏于
scramble into any hand they can get. **Isabella** 管教，写起字来都是信手涂
and Emma, I think, do write very much alike. 鸱。依我看，伊莎贝拉和爱
I have not always known their writing apart. ” 玛的字迹就极为相像。我向
来分不清她俩的笔迹。”

“**Yes,**” said his brother hesitatingly, “there is a “是的，”他的兄弟犹豫着答
likeness. **I** know what you mean—but Emma’ 道，“是有几分相像。我明白
s hand is the strongest. ” 你的意思——不过爱玛的手
笔更遒劲些。”

“**Isabella** and Emma both write beautifully,” “伊莎贝拉和爱玛都写得一
said Mr. **Woodhouse**; “and always did. 手好字，”伍德豪斯先生
And so does poor Mrs. **Weston**”—**with** 说，“向来如此。可怜的韦斯
half a sigh and half a smile at her. 顿太太也一样。”——说着朝
她半是叹息半是微笑。

“**I** never saw any gentleman’s handwriting”— ”我从未见过哪位绅士的字
Emma began, looking also at Mrs. **Weston**; 迹——”爱玛开口说道，目
but stopped, on perceiving that Mrs. **Weston** 光也转向了韦斯顿太太；但
was attending to some one else—and the pause 发现韦斯顿太太正忙着应酬
gave her time to reflect, “Now, how am I going 旁人，便顿住了——这片刻
to introduce him? —**Am** I unequal to speak- 的停顿让她得以思忖：“此

ing his name at once before all these people? 刻我该如何介绍他? 难道我
Is it necessary for me to use any roundabout 竟不敢在众人面前直呼其
phrase? —**Your** Yorkshire friend—your cor- 名? 是否非得用些迂回的说
respondent in Yorkshire;—that would be the 法? —你在约克郡的那位
way, I suppose, if I were very bad. —**No**, I 朋友, 那位与您通信的约克
can pronounce his name without the smallest 郡先生; —若是我实在不
distress. I certainly get better and better. — 济, 想必只能这般措辞了。
Now for it. ” 不, 我大可以坦然念出他的
姓名。我确实愈来愈从容了
——这就说来。”

Mrs. Weston was disengaged and Emma began again—“**Mr. Frank** Churchill writes one of the best gentleman’s hands I ever saw. ”

韦斯顿太太正好有空, 爱玛便继续说道: ” 弗兰克·丘吉尔先生的字迹, 是我见过绅士书法中最出色的。”

“I do not admire it,” said Mr. **Knightley**. “我并不欣赏它,”奈特利先生
“It is too small—wants strength. It is like a 说。“这字太小了——缺乏力
woman’s writing.” 度。倒像是出自女子之手。”

This was not submitted to by either lady. 两位女士都不肯接受这种说
They vindicated him against the base asper- 法。她们为他辩护, 驳斥那
sion. “No, it by no means wanted strength— 种卑劣的诽谤。“不, 这绝不是
it was not a large hand, but very clear and cer- 是笔力软弱——字虽写得不
tainly strong. Had not Mrs. **Weston** any let- 大, 但非常清晰, 也很有力
ter about her to produce? ” No, she had heard 道。韦斯顿太太身边没带着

from him very lately, but having answered the letter, had put it away. 他写的信吗? ”没有，她最近刚收到他的信，不过回完信就收起来了。

“**If** we were in the other room,” said Emma, “if I had my writing-desk, I am sure I could produce a specimen. I have a note of his. —**Do** not you remember, Mrs. **Weston**, employing him to write for you one day?” “要是我们在那间屋里，”爱玛说，“要是我有我的写字台，我一定能拿出个样子来。我有一张他写的便条。——你不记得吗，韦斯顿太太，有一天你叫他给你写过一封信?”

“**He** chose to say he was employed”—

“他偏要说自己有事在身”

“**Well**, well, I have that note; and can shew it after dinner to convince Mr. **Knightley**. ”

“好吧，好吧，我有那张便条；饭后可以拿出来给奈特利先生看，好叫他信服。”

“**Oh! when** a gallant young man, like Mr. **Frank Churchill**,” said Mr. **Knightley** dryly, “writes to a fair lady like Miss Woodhouse, he will, of course, put forth his best. ”

“哦！像弗兰克·丘吉尔先生这样风度翩翩的年轻人，”奈特利先生淡淡说道，“给伍德豪斯小姐这般优雅的女士写信，自然要竭尽所能展现文采。”

Dinner was on table. —**Mrs. Elton**, before she could be spoken to, was ready; and be-

晚餐已经摆上桌了。——埃尔顿太太没等别人招呼就做

fore Mr. **Woodhouse** had reached her with his request to be allowed to hand her into the dining-parlour, was saying— 好了准备；没等伍德豪斯先生走过来请她允许自己搀着她进餐厅，便开口说道——

“**Must** I go first? **I** really am ashamed of always leading the way.” ”非得我先走吗？老是走在最前面，实在叫我难为情。”

Jane's solicitude about fetching her own letters had not escaped Emma. **She** had heard and seen it all; and felt some curiosity to know whether the wet walk of this morning had produced any. **She** suspected that it _had_; that it would not have been so resolutely encountered but in full expectation of hearing from some one very dear, and that it had not been in vain. **She** thought there was an air of greater happiness than usual—a glow both of complexion and spirits.

简对于亲自取信的急切心情，并未逃过爱玛的眼睛。她早已将这一切听在耳里、看在心上，不禁萌生几分好奇，想知道今晨的冒雨出行是否换来了什么音讯。她料定必是有了回音——若非满怀期待某位至亲之人的来信，断不会如此毅然决然地顶风冒雨；而这份期待想必不曾落空。她察觉简的眉宇间洋溢着非同寻常的喜悦，双颊泛着红晕，精神也格外焕发。

She could have made an inquiry or two, as to the expedition and the expense of the Irish mails;—it was at her tongue's end—but she abstained. **She** was quite determined not to utter a word that should hurt Jane Fairfax's 她本可以问上一两句，打听爱尔兰邮件的行程和费用——话已到了嘴边——但她还是忍住了。她打定主意不说任何可能伤害简·费尔

feelings; and they followed the other ladies out of the room, arm in arm, with an appearance of good-will highly becoming to the beauty and grace of each.

CHAPTER XVII

When the ladies returned to the drawing-room after dinner, Emma found it hardly possible to prevent their making two distinct parties;—with so much perseverance in judging and behaving ill did Mrs. **Elton** engross Jane Fairfax and slight herself. **S**he and Mrs. **We-ston** were obliged to be almost always either talking together or silent together. **M**rs. **El-ton** left them no choice. **I**f Jane repressed her for a little time, she soon began again; and though much that passed between them was in a half-whisper, especially on Mrs. **El-ton'**s side, there was no avoiding a knowledge of their principal subjects: The post-office—catching cold—fetching letters—and friendship, were long under discussion; and to them succeeded one, which must be at least equally unpleasant to Jane—inquiries whether she had yet heard of any situation likely to suit her, and

法克斯感情的话；于是她们手挽手跟着其他女士走出房间，彼此和善亲切的模样，与各自的美貌仪态相得益彰。

第十七章

女士们饭后回到客厅时，爱玛发现几乎无法避免她们分成两个小圈子——埃尔顿太太始终执拗地冷落她而独占简·费尔法克斯。她和韦斯顿太太不得不几乎总是要么一起交谈，要么一起沉默。埃尔顿太太不给她们选择的余地。即使简能让她安静片刻，她很快又会重新开始；虽然她们交谈的内容多半是低声细语，特别是埃尔顿太太那方，但人们仍不免听出她们的主要话题：邮局——感冒——取信——还有友谊，都是经久不衰的议题；接着又谈起一个对简至少同样不愉快的话题——询问她是否听说有什么适合她的职位，以

professions of Mrs. Elton's meditated activity. 及埃尔顿太太打算积极代为奔走的承诺。

"Here is April come!" said she, "I get quite anxious about you. June will soon be here." "四月已经到了!"她说道,"我真为你担心。六月转眼就要来了。"

"But I have never fixed on June or any other month—merely looked forward to the summer in general." 但我从未确定在六月或任何其他月份——只是大致盼望着夏天。

"But have you really heard of nothing?" "但你当真什么都没听说吗?"

"I have not even made any inquiry; I do not wish to make any yet." "我甚至还没有打听过；眼下我也不想打听。"

"Oh! my dear, we cannot begin too early; you are not aware of the difficulty of procuring exactly the desirable thing." "哦！亲爱的，我们着手得再早也不为过；你还不清楚要物色到十全十美的东西有多难呢。"

"I not aware!" said Jane, shaking her head; "dear Mrs. Elton, who can have thought of it as I have done?" "我竟会不知道!"简摇摇头说道, "亲爱的埃尔顿太太, 谁能像我这样惦记着这件事呢?"

"But you have not seen so much of the world" "可是你不如我见多识广。你

as I have. **You** do not know how many candidates there always are for the first situations. I saw a vast deal of that in the neighbourhood round Maple Grove. A cousin of Mr. **Suckling**, Mrs. **Bragge**, had such an infinity of applications; every body was anxious to be in her family, for she moves in the first circle. **Wax-candles** in the schoolroom! **You** may imagine how desirable! Of all houses in the kingdom Mrs. **Bragge**' s is the one I would most wish to see you in."

根本不知道有多少人时刻在谋求那些头等美缺。我在枫树林附近就见识过太多这类情形。萨克林先生的表亲布雷格太太家里，求职的人简直络绎不绝——谁不巴望进她家当差呢？她可是在上流圈子里周旋的人。教室里都点着蜡烛呢！你想想这有多诱人！全英国的人家里，我最盼望你能进的就是布雷格太太府上。”

"Colonel and Mrs. **Campbell** are to be in town again by midsummer," said Jane. "I must spend some time with them; I am sure they will want it;—afterwards I may probably be glad to dispose of myself. But I would not wish you to take the trouble of making any inquiries at present."

"坎贝尔上校夫妇仲夏时节又要回城里来了，"简说。"我得去陪他们一段时间，他们肯定要我去的——之后我很可能就愿意把自己安排出去了。不过眼下还不劳您费神打听。"

"Trouble! aye, I know your scruples. You are afraid of giving me trouble; but I assure you, my dear Jane, the Campbells can hardly be more interested about you than I am. I shall write to Mrs. **Partridge** in a day or

"麻烦！唉，我知道你的顾虑。你是怕给我添麻烦；不过我向你保证，亲爱的简，坎贝尔夫妇对你的关心未必能超过我。这一两天里我就会给

two, and shall give her a strict charge to be on
the look-out for any thing eligible. ”

帕特里奇太太去信，定要嘱咐她仔细留意任何合适的去处。”

“**Thank** you, but I would rather you did not mention the subject to her; till the time draws nearer, I do not wish to be giving any body trouble. ”

“谢谢您，不过请您还是不要向她提起这件事为好；时候未到，我不愿给任何人添麻烦。”

“**But**, my dear child, the time is drawing near; here is April, and June, or say even July, is very near, with such business to accomplish before us. **Your** inexperience really amuses me! **A** situation such as you deserve, and your friends would require for you, is no everyday occurrence, is not obtained at a moment's notice; indeed, indeed, we must begin inquiring directly. ”

“可是，我亲爱的孩子，时间越来越近了；眼下已是四月，六月——或者就算七月吧——也近在眼前，我们还有这么多事情要操办呢。你这种缺乏经验的天真劲儿真让我觉得好笑！像你这样值得、你的亲友们也会为你要求的那种好人家，可不是随随便便就能遇到的，不是一时半会儿就能找到的。真的，真的，我们必须立刻开始打听。”

“**Excuse** me, ma'am, but this is by no means my intention; I make no inquiry myself, and should be sorry to have any made by my

“请原谅，夫人，这绝非我的本意；我自己不会去打听，也不愿让朋友们去打听。等

friends. **When** I am quite determined as to the time, I am not at all afraid of being long unemployed. **There** are places in town, offices, where inquiry would soon produce something—Offices for the sale—not quite of human flesh—but of human intellect. ”

我把时间完全确定下来，就一点儿不怕找不到事做。城里有些地方，有些机构，只要去打听很快就能找到差事——那些机构买卖的——倒不完全是人身——而是人的才智。”

“**Oh! my** dear, human flesh! **You** quite shock me; if you mean a fling at the slave-trade, I assure you Mr. **Suckling** was always rather a friend to the abolition. ”

“哦！天哪，人肉！你真吓坏我了；如果你是在讽刺奴隶贸易的话，我向你保证萨克林先生向来都是支持废奴运动的。”

“I did not mean, I was not thinking of the slave-trade,” replied Jane; “governess-trade, I assure you, was all that I had in view; widely different certainly as to the guilt of those who carry it on; but as to the greater misery of the victims, I do not know where it lies. **But** I only mean to say that there are advertising offices, and that by applying to them I should have no doubt of very soon meeting with something that would do. ”

“我并不是指、也压根没想到奴隶贸易，”简答道：“我向你保证，我考虑的只是家庭教师这一行。虽然从事这两种行当的人罪过程度天差地别，但要说受害者哪边更悲惨，我倒说不准。我只是想说，现在有好多荐职介绍所，只要去求助，保管很快就能找到合适的差事。”

“Something that would do! ” repeated “随便找个事做做！”埃尔顿太

Mrs. Elton. “Aye, that may suit your humble ideas of yourself;—I know what a modest creature you are; but it will not satisfy your friends to have you taking up with any thing that may offer, any inferior, commonplace situation, in a family not moving in a certain circle, or able to command the elegancies of life.”

太重复道。“啊，这倒符合你对自己那谦卑的看法——我知道你是个多么谦逊的人；但你的朋友们可不会满意你随便找个差事应付，找个低等的、普通的职位，在某个不属于特定社交圈的家庭里，或是连生活体面都维持不了的人家。”

“**You** are very obliging; but as to all that, I am very indifferent; it would be no object to me to be with the rich; my mortifications, I think, would only be the greater; I should suffer more from comparison. A gentleman’s family is all that I should condition for.”

“您太客气了；不过说到这些，我实在并不在意；与富者同处对我并无吸引力；我想那样只会增添更多屈辱；在比较中我只会承受更多痛苦。我唯一的要求就是嫁入绅士门第。”

“I know you, I know you; you would take up with any thing; but I shall be a little more nice, and I am sure the good Campbells will be quite on my side; with your superior talents, you have a right to move in the first circle. Your musical knowledge alone would entitle you to name your own terms, have as many rooms as you like, and mix in the family as

“我了解你，我了解你；你什么都能将就；可我要挑剔些，我敢说善良的坎贝尔夫妇准会赞成我的看法。凭着你这样出众的才艺，你有权利结交第一流的人物。单凭你的音乐知识，你就有资格提出你自己的条件，你要

much as you chose;—that is—I do not know 几间房间就有几间房间，要
—if you knew the harp, you might do all that, 跟那家人家来往得多密切就
I am very sure; but you sing as well as play; 有多密切；——就是说——
—yes, I really believe you might, even without 我不知道——要是你会弹竖
the harp, stipulate for what you chose;—and 琴的话，我敢说你什么事都
you must and shall be delightfully, honourably 能办到，准能如愿以偿；不
and comfortably settled before the Campbells 过，你唱歌还跟弹琴一样好；
or I have any rest. ” ——对，我真的相信，即使
不会弹竖琴，你也能如愿以偿；所以你非得舒舒服服、体
体面面、称心如意地安顿下来，我们和坎贝尔夫妇才会
安心。”

“**You** may well class the delight, the honour, “你完全有理由把这种境遇
and the comfort of such a situation together,” 带来的愉悦、体面和慰藉相
said Jane, “they are pretty sure to be equal; 提并论，”简说道，“它们确实
however, I am very serious in not wishing any 难分高下。**不过**我要郑重声
thing to be attempted at present for me. I am 明，眼下绝不要为我作任何
exceedingly obliged to you, Mrs. **Elton**, I am 安排。**埃尔顿太太**，我实在
obliged to any body who feels for me, but I am 感激不尽，任何关心我的人
quite serious in wishing nothing to be done till 我都心怀感激，但我确实希
the summer. **For** two or three months longer 望等到夏天再作打算。**未来**
I shall remain where I am, and as I am. ” 这两三个月，我愿保持现状，
维持现在的生活状态。”

“**And** I am quite serious too, I assure you,” “我向你保证，我也是非常认真的，”埃尔顿太太快活地答道，“我决心时刻留意，还要请我的朋友们也帮着留意，这样才不会有真正无可挑剔的人从我们眼皮底下溜走。”

In this style she ran on; never thoroughly stopped by any thing till Mr. **Woodhouse** came into the room; her vanity had then a change of object, and Emma heard her saying in the same half-whisper to Jane,

她就这样滔滔不绝地说着；直到伍德豪斯先生进屋之前，几乎没有被任何事情彻底打断过；这时她的虚荣心又换了目标，爱玛听见她用同样压低的嗓音对简说道：

“**Here** comes this dear old beau of mine, I protest! —**Only** think of his gallantry in coming away before the other men! —**what** a dear creature he is;—I assure you I like him excessively. I admire all that quaint, old-fashioned politeness; it is much more to my taste than modern ease; modern ease often disgusts me. **But** this good old Mr. **Woodhouse**, I wish you had heard his gallant speeches to me at dinner. **Oh!** I assure you I began to think my cara sposo would be absolutely jealous. I fancy I am rather a favourite; he took notice of

“我那位可爱的老风流果然来了！——你们瞧他多么体贴周到！别的男人都还没离席，他就先赶过来了！——真是个可人儿，说实在的，我对他喜欢得不得了。我就欣赏这种古雅守旧的老派礼节，比现代人那种随随便便的作风强得多。现代人的散漫实在令我生厌。这位慈祥的伍德豪斯老先生，您真该听听他在席间对我说的那些

my gown. **H**ow do you like it? —**S**elina' 殷勤话。天哪! 说真的, 我当
s choice—handsome, I think, but I do not 时都担心我的卡拉斯波索会
know whether it is not over-trimmed; I have 吃醋呢。我猜想自己准是颇
the greatest dislike to the idea of being over- 受青睐——他居然留意到了
trimmed—quite a horror of finery. **I** must put 我的礼服。您觉得这衣裳如
on a few ornaments now, because it is expected 何? 是塞莉娜挑的——花纹
of me. **A** bride, you know, must appear like a 很精美吧? 不过我拿不准是
bride, but my natural taste is all for simplicity; 不是装饰过度了? 我最反感
a simple style of dress is so infinitely preferable 过分修饰的打扮——对那些
to finery. **B**ut I am quite in the minority, I 华丽俗气的东西简直深恶痛
believe; few people seem to value simplicity of 绝。现在却不得不佩戴些首
dress,—show and finery are every thing. **I** have 饰, 毕竟新嫁娘总得有个新
some notion of putting such a trimming as this 娘的模样。但就我个人品味
to my white and silver poplin. **D**o you think 而言, 向来崇尚简约素雅。朴
it will look well? ” 素的衣装不知比华丽服饰高
明多少。可惜如今像我这样的人怕是寥寥无几, 似乎没
几个人看重简朴的衣着——眼下尽是炫目浮华的风气。
我正打算在这件银白色府绸裙上缀些类似的饰边, 您觉得可还相称?”

The whole party were but just reassembled in 这伙人刚在客厅里重新聚
the drawing-room when Mr. **W**eston made 齐, 韦斯顿先生就来了。他很
his appearance among them. **H**e had returned 迟才回来吃晚饭, 一吃完就

to a late dinner, and walked to Hartfield as soon as it was over. **H**e had been too much expected by the best judges, for surprize—but there was great joy. **M**r. **W**oodhouse was almost as glad to see him now, as he would have been sorry to see him before. **J**ohn Knightley only was in mute astonishment. — **T**hat a man who might have spent his evening quietly at home after a day of business in London, should set off again, and walk half a mile to another man's house, for the sake of being in mixed company till bed-time, of finishing his day in the efforts of civility and the noise of numbers, was a circumstance to strike him deeply. **A** man who had been in motion since eight o'clock in the morning, and might now have been still, who had been long talking, and might have been silent, who had been in more than one crowd, and might have been alone! — **S**uch a man, to quit the tranquillity and independence of his own fireside, and on the evening of a cold sleety April day rush out again into the world! — **C**ould he by a touch of his finger have instantly taken back his wife, there would have been a motive; but his com- 步行到哈特菲尔德来。最为知趣的人早就望眼欲穿，因此并不感到惊讶——不过，大家倒是非常高兴。伍德豪斯先生现在见到他，几乎跟他以前见到他要感到遗憾时一样高兴。只有约翰·奈特利感到惊异不已。——一个人在伦敦忙了一整天事务之后，本可以安安静静地待在家里，却要跑出来，冒着四月里阴冷多雨的夜色，步行半英里来到别人家里，为的是跟众人聚到就寝时分，为的是把一天的时光都耗费在礼貌周旋和人声嘈杂之中，这件事简直让他不可思议。一个人从早晨八点就开始忙碌，眼下本该安静下来；一个人已经说了那么多话，眼下本该闭口不语；一个人已经接触了那么多人，眼下本该避开大家——这个人居然不在自己家的炉边清静清静，却要在这样一个大雨滂沱的

ing would probably prolong rather than break up the party. **John** Knightley looked at him with amazement, then shrugged his shoulders, and said, "I could not have believed it even of him."

阴冷夜晚，再次投身到外面的世界中去！他只要用手指轻轻一触，就可以把他妻子接回家，那倒还有个动机；可是他这一来，聚会可能要延长，而不是就此结束。**约翰·奈特ley** 带着惊异的神情望着他，然后耸耸肩，说：“即使是他，我也不可能相信会做出这样的事。”

Mr. Weston meanwhile, perfectly unsuspecting of the indignation he was exciting, happy and cheerful as usual, and with all the right of being principal talker, which a day spent anywhere from home confers, was making himself agreeable among the rest; and having satisfied the inquiries of his wife as to his dinner, convincing her that none of all her careful directions to the servants had been forgotten, and spread abroad what public news he had heard, was proceeding to a family communication, which, though principally addressed to Mrs. **Weston**, he had not the smallest doubt of being highly interesting to every body in the room. **He** gave her a letter, it was from Frank,

韦斯顿先生此刻完全没有察觉自己激起的愤慨，仍像平日一样快活开朗。由于在外消磨了一整天，他自然享有主要发言人的权利，正兴致勃勃地与众人交谈。他先满足了妻子对晚餐情况的询问，使她相信所有对仆人的细致吩咐都未被遗漏；接着又把自己听到的公众消息传播开来，随后便开始讲述一件家事。**这话**虽然主要是对韦斯顿太太说的，但他毫不怀疑屋里的每个人都会极为感兴趣。**他**递给她一封信

and to herself; he had met with it in his way, ——是弗兰克写来的，收信人正是她本人；他在路上遇见送信人，就擅自拆阅了。

“**R**e**a**d it, read it,” said he, “it will give you pleasure; only a few lines—will not take you long; read it to Emma.” “读吧，读吧，”他说，“这会使你高兴的；只有几行字——不会耽误你太久；给爱玛念念吧。”

The two ladies looked over it together; and he sat smiling and talking to them the whole time, in a voice a little subdued, but very audible to every body. 两位女士一起仔细看着；他则始终微笑着坐在一旁同她们说话，声音虽略为压低，却仍能让每个人都听得清清楚楚。

“**W**ell, he is coming, you see; good news, I think. **W**ell, what do you say to it? —I always told you he would be here again soon, did not I? —**A**nne, my dear, did not I always tell you so, and you would not believe me? —**I**n town next week, you see—at the latest, I dare say; for she is as impatient as the black gentleman when any thing is to be done; most likely they will be there to-morrow or Saturday. **A**s to her illness, all nothing of course. **B**ut it is an excellent thing to have

“看啊，他就要来了，我觉得这是个好消息。你觉得呢？我不是很一直跟你说他很快就会回来吗？安妮，亲爱的，我不一直是这么跟你说，你偏不信吗？瞧，最迟下星期就到城里了——要我说恐怕还会更早些；但凡是有什么事要办，那位太太的急性子简直比魔鬼还厉害。说不定明天或星期六他们就到了。至于她生

Frank among us again, so near as town. **They** 病的事，当然根本不算什么。will stay a good while when they do come, and 弗兰克能回到我们中间真是he will be half his time with us. **This** is pre- 再好不过，而且就在邻近的cisely what I wanted. **Well**, pretty good news, 城里。他们来了准会住上好is not it? **Have** you finished it? **Has** Emma 一阵子，他多半时间都会和read it all? **Put** it up, put it up; we will have 我们在一起。这正合我心意。a good talk about it some other time, but it 怎么样，算是不错的消息吧?will not do now. **I** shall only just mention the 你看完了吗？爱玛都读过了circumstance to the others in a common way. 吗？把信收好，收好；改天”

我们再好好聊聊，现在不合适。我只会轻描淡写地跟其他人提一提这事。”

Mrs. Weston was most comfortably pleased 韦斯顿太太对此事感到无比on the occasion. **Her** looks and words had 欣慰，她的神情言语都毫无nothing to restrain them. **She** was happy, she 拘束。她很快乐，她知道她knew she was happy, and knew she ought to be 快乐，也知道她理应快乐。她的happy. **Her** congratulations were warm and 祝贺热情而坦率；但爱玛open; but Emma could not speak so fluently. 却无法如此流畅地表达。她
She was a little occupied in weighing her 正稍费心思地掂量着自己的own feelings, and trying to understand the de- 情感，试图理解内心激荡gree of her agitation, which she rather thought 程度——她自觉这份悸动着实不小。was considerable.

Mr. Weston, however, too eager to be very 然而韦斯顿先生由于过于热observant, too communicative to want others 切，来不及仔细观察，又太

to talk, was very well satisfied with what she did say, and soon moved away to make the rest of his friends happy by a partial communication of what the whole room must have overheard already.

爱说话，顾不上让别人也说几句，所以对她的话已深感满意，不久便走开了，一边把刚才屋里人人都已听见的话，向几位朋友说个大概，让大家也高兴高兴。

It was well that he took every body's joy for granted, or he might not have thought either Mr. **Woodhouse** or Mr. **Knightley** particularly delighted. **They** were the first entitled, after Mrs. **Weston** and Emma, to be made happy;—from them he would have proceeded to Miss Fairfax, but she was so deep in conversation with John Knightley, that it would have been too positive an interruption; and finding himself close to Mrs. **Elton**, and her attention disengaged, he necessarily began on the subject with her.

好在他把众人的喜悦视作理所当然，否则他恐怕会觉得伍德豪斯先生或奈特利先生格外欣喜。这两位原是继韦斯顿太太和爱玛之后最有资格分享这份快乐的——他本打算接着告知费尔法克斯小姐，可她正与约翰·奈特利谈得投机，贸然打断未免太过唐突；恰见身旁的埃尔顿太太正闲来无事，便顺理成章地先与她提起了这桩喜讯。

CHAPTER XVIII

第十八章

“I hope I shall soon have the pleasure of introducing my son to you,” said Mr. **Weston**.

“我希望不久就能有幸介绍我儿子与您相识，”韦斯顿先生说道。

Mrs. Elton, very willing to suppose a particular compliment intended her by such a hope, smiled most graciously.

埃尔顿太太十分乐意相信，这番期望中蕴含着对她本人的特殊恭维，于是极其和蔼地展露了笑颜。

“**You** have heard of a certain Frank Churchill, I presume,” he continued—“and know him to be my son, though he does not bear my name.”

“我想您大概听说过一位弗兰克·丘吉尔先生吧，”他继续说道，“并且知道他就是我的儿子，尽管他并未随我的姓。”

“**Oh! yes**, and I shall be very happy in his acquaintance. I am sure Mr. Elton will lose no time in calling on him; and we shall both have great pleasure in seeing him at the Vicarage.”

“哦！是的，能结识他我将非常高兴。我相信埃尔顿先生定会即刻前去拜访，我们二人都很乐意在牧师宅邸接待他。”

“**You** are very obliging. —**Frank** will be extremely happy, I am sure. —**He** is to be in town next week, if not sooner. **We** have notice of it in a letter to-day. I met the letters hand, presumed to open it—though it was not directed to me—it was to Mrs. Weston. She is his principal correspondent, I assure you. I hardly ever get a letter.”

“您真是太客气了——我敢说弗兰克一定会喜出望外。他下周就要进城来，说不定还会更早些。我们是今天刚收到信才知道的。今早路上正巧遇到送信的，看见我儿子的笔迹，就冒昧拆开了——虽然信并不是写给我的——是写给韦斯顿太太的。”

不瞒您说，她才是他主要的通信对象。我几乎没收到过他的信。”

“And so you absolutely opened what was directed to her! Oh! Mr. Weston—(laughing affectedly) I must protest against that. — A most dangerous precedent indeed! —I beg you will not let your neighbours follow your example. —Upon my word, if this is what I am to expect, we married women must begin to exert ourselves! —Oh! Mr. Weston, I could not have believed it of you! ”

“这么说，你当真拆了写给她看的信！哎哟！韦斯顿先生——（矫揉造作地笑着）我可要反对这种做法——这实在是开了个太危险的先例！求你别让邻居们效仿你——说真的，要是以后都这样，我们这些已婚妇女可要打起精神来提防了！哎！韦斯顿先生，真没想到你会做出这种事！”

“Aye, we men are sad fellows. You must take care of yourself, Mrs. Elton. —This letter tells us—it is a short letter—written in a hurry, merely to give us notice—it tells us that they are all coming up to town directly, on Mrs. Churchill’s account—she has not been well the whole winter, and thinks Enscombe too cold for her—so they are all to move southward without loss of time. ”

“唉，我们男人都是些糟糕的家伙。您可得多保重自己啊，埃尔顿太太。——这封信告诉我们——是封短信——匆匆写就的，只为通知我们——信上说他们全家马上就要进城来，因为丘吉尔太太的缘故——她整个冬天身体都不太好，觉得恩斯康伯太冷了——所以他们会即刻动

身南行。”

“Indeed! —from Yorkshire, I think. **En-**
scombe is in Yorkshire?”

“真的! ——我想, 是约克郡吧。恩斯康比庄园就在约克郡?”

“Yes, they are about one hundred and ninety miles from London, a considerable journey.”

“是的, 他们距离伦敦大约一百九十英里, 路程相当远。”

“Yes, upon my word, very considerable. **Sixty-five** miles farther than from Maple Grove to London. **But** what is distance, Mr. Weston, to people of large fortune? —**You** would be amazed to hear how my brother, Mr. **Suckling**, sometimes flies about. **You** will hardly believe me—but twice in one week he and Mr. **Bragge** went to London and back again with four horses.”

“确实, 我敢保证, 那距离相当可观。比从枫林园到伦敦还要远六十五英里呢。不过对于家财万贯的人来说, 距离又算得了什么呢? 韦斯顿先生, 您要是听说我姐夫萨克林先生平日如何奔波, 定会大吃一惊。说来您恐怕难以相信——他和布拉基先生曾在一周之内, 带着四匹马往返伦敦两趟。”

“The evil of the distance from Enscombe,” said Mr. Weston, “is, that Mrs. Churchill, as we understand, has not been able to leave the sofa for a week together. In Frank’s last letter she complained, he said, of being too weak to get into her conservatory without

“恩斯康比宅邸路途遥远之弊害,”韦斯顿先生道, “在于据我们了解, 邱吉尔夫人已接连一周无法离开卧榻。弗兰克上封信里提及, 她抱怨自己虚弱到需同时挽着他与

having both his arm and his uncle's! **This**, 其叔父的胳膊方能步入花房!
you know, speaks a great degree of weakness
—but now she is so impatient to be in town,
that she means to sleep only two nights on the
road. —**So** Frank writes word. **Certainly**, 这情形，诸位都明白，足见
delicate ladies have very extraordinary consti- 其衰弱之甚——可如今她竟
tutions, Mrs. **Elton**. **You** must grant me 迫不及待要进城，打算沿途
that. ” 只歇两夜。此乃弗兰克亲笔
所言。**艾尔顿夫人**，您得承
认，娇弱的贵妇们确实有着
非同寻常的体质。”

“**No**, indeed, I shall grant you nothing. **I** al- “不，真的，我什么也不会答
ways take the part of my own sex. **I** do in- 应你。我总是站在自己这一
deed. **I** give you notice—You will find me a 边。真的。我提醒你——你
formidable antagonist on that point. **I** always 会发现我在这点上是个难
stand up for women—and I assure you, if you 缠的对手。我永远为女性辩
knew how Selina feels with respect to sleep- 护——而且我向你保证，要
ing at an inn, you would not wonder at Mrs. 是你知道塞利娜对住客栈有
Churchill's making incredible exertions to 多介意，你就不会奇怪丘吉
avoid it. **Selina** says it is quite horror to her— 尔太太为何要费尽周折避免
and I believe I have caught a little of her nicety. 住店了。塞利娜说这对她简
She always travels with her own sheets; an ex- 直是折磨——我想我也染上了
cellent precaution. **Does** Mrs. **Churchill** do 了她这点讲究。她出门总是
the same? ” 带床单；这个预防措施极
好。丘吉尔太太也这样吗?”

“**Depend** upon it, Mrs. **Churchill** does ev- “你尽管放心，丘吉尔太太
ery thing that any other fine lady ever did. 的做派和所有贵妇人如出一

Mrs. Churchill will not be second to any lady in the land for"— 辑。丘吉尔太太在——方面绝不会逊色于国内任何一位贵妇人。”

Mrs. Elton eagerly interposed with,

埃尔顿太太迫不及待地插嘴道：

“**Oh! Mr. Weston**, do not mistake me. **Selina** is no fine lady, I assure you. **Do** not run away with such an idea.”

“哦！韦斯顿先生，您可别误会。塞利娜绝不是那种娇贵的淑女，我向您保证。您千万别产生这样的念头。”

“**Is** not she? **Then** she is no rule for **Mrs. Churchill**, who is as thorough a fine lady as any body ever beheld.”

“她不算吗？那么她就不能作为丘吉尔太太的准则了，丘吉尔太太可是个彻头彻尾的贵妇人，任谁见了都得这么说。”

Mrs. Elton began to think she had been wrong in disclaiming so warmly. **It** was by no means her object to have it believed that her sister was not a fine lady; perhaps there was want of spirit in the pretence of it;—and she was considering in what way she had best retract, when **Mr. Weston** went on.

埃尔顿太太开始觉得，自己刚才那样极力否认恐怕是欠妥的。她绝非想要让人以为她姐姐算不上个淑女；或许这般故作谦逊反倒显得气量不足——正当她盘算着该如何挽回时，韦斯顿先生又继续说了下去。

“Mrs. Churchill is not much in my good graces, as you may suspect—but this is quite between ourselves. She is very fond of Frank, and therefore I would not speak ill of her. Besides, she is out of health now; but that indeed, by her own account, she has always been. I would not say so to every body, Mrs. Elton, but I have not much faith in Mrs. Churchill’s illness.”

“邱吉尔太太不太得我的欢心，这您大概也猜到了——不过这话只在我们之间说。她十分疼爱弗兰克，因此我不愿说她的不是。再说她现在身体欠安；不过说实话。在的，据她自己说，她身体从来就没好过。这话我不会对谁都讲，埃尔顿太太，但我对邱吉尔太太的病实在不太相信。”

“If she is really ill, why not go to Bath, Mr. Weston? —To Bath, or to Clifton?” “She has taken it into her head that Enscombe is too cold for her. The fact is, I suppose, that she is tired of Enscombe. She has now been a longer time stationary there, than she ever was before, and she begins to want change. It is a retired place. A fine place, but very retired.”

“她要是真不舒服，韦斯顿先生，何不去巴思呢？——去巴思，或是去克里夫顿？”“她满心认定恩斯康比对她来说太冷了。其实呢，我猜她是厌倦恩斯康比了。她这回在那儿住得比以往任何时候都长，开始想换换环境了。那是个僻静地方。好地方，就是太僻静了。”

“Aye—like Maple Grove, I dare say. Nothing can stand more retired from the road than Maple Grove. Such an immense plantation all

“是啊——我敢说，就像枫林庄园一样。再没有比枫林庄园更远离大路的宅子了。四

round it! **You** seem shut out from every thing 周全是无边无际的种植园!
— in the most complete retirement. —**And** 仿佛与世隔绝——完完全全
Mrs. **Churchill** probably has not health or 的幽居。而丘吉尔夫人恐怕
spirits like Selina to enjoy that sort of seclu- 没有塞莉娜那样的健康和
sion. **Or**, perhaps she may not have resources 精神来享受这种隐居生活。
enough in herself to be qualified for a country 也许她自身缺乏足够的修养
life. **I** always say a woman cannot have too 来适应乡村生活。我常说女
many resources—and I feel very thankful that 人再怎么多才多艺都不为过
I have so many myself as to be quite indepen- ——庆幸我自己就有这么多
dent of society. ” 才艺，完全可以不依赖社交
圈。”

“**Frank** was here in February for a fortnight. ” “弗兰克二月份在这儿待了
两个星期。”

“**So** I remember to have heard. **He** will find an ” 我记得曾听人这么说过。
addition to the society of Highbury when 等他再来海伯里时，会发现
he comes again; that is, if I may presume to 这里多了个社交伙伴——倘
call myself an addition. **But** perhaps he may 若我敢自称为新添的人物
never have heard of there being such a creature 的话。不过说不定他压根就
in the world. ” 没听说过世上有我这么个人呢。”

This was too loud a call for a compliment to 这一声呼唤实在不容错过，
be passed by, and Mr. **Weston**, with a very 韦斯顿先生当即风度翩翩地
good grace, immediately exclaimed, 高声应道：

“My dear madam! Nobody but yourself “亲爱的夫人！除了您自己，could imagine such a thing possible. Not 谁也不会想到有这种可能。heard of you! —I believe Mrs. Weston’ s 没听说过您！——我相信韦letters lately have been full of very little else 斯顿太太最近的信里几乎全than Mrs. Elton.” 是关于埃尔顿太太的事。”

He had done his duty and could return to his 他已尽了自己的责任，可以son. 回到儿子身边去了。

“When Frank left us,” continued he, “it was “当弗兰克离开我们时，”他quite uncertain when we might see him again, 继续说道，“我们完全不确定which makes this day’s news doubly welcome. 何时能再见到他，这使得今It has been completely unexpected. That 天的消息倍加令人欣喜。这is, _I_ always had a strong persuasion he 完全出乎意料。也就是说, would be here again soon, I was sure some- _我_ 一直深信他很快会thing favourable would turn up—but nobody 回来，我确信会有好事发生believed me. He and Mrs. Weston were ——但没人相信我。他和韦both dreadfully desponding. ‘How could he 斯顿夫人都非常沮丧。‘他contrive to come? And 怎么能设法来呢? 又怎么能posed that his uncle and aunt would spare him 指望他的舅舅和舅母再次放again? ’and so forth—I always felt that some- 他走?’ 诸如此类——我一直thing would happen in our favour; and so it 觉得会有利于我们的事情发has, you see. I have observed, Mrs. Elton, in 生; 你看, 果然如此。埃尔顿the course of my life, that if things are going 太太, 我一生中观察到, 如untowardly one month, they are sure to mend 果某个月事情不顺, 下个月the next.” 必定会好转。”

“Very true, Mr. Weston, perfectly true. It 得对极了。我过去也常对一位先生这么说，那是在我谈恋爱的时候，你知道，那位先生动不动就灰心丧气，因为事情进行得不那么顺利，不像他希望的那么快。他总是唉声叹气地说，照这个样子，即使到了五月，我们也穿不上萨福伦色袍子。哦，我费了多少心血，才打消他那些悲观的念头，让他乐观起来！就拿马车来说吧——为马车的事我们不知失望过多少回。记得有一天早晨，他还挺伤心地跑来找我。”

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She was stopped by a slight fit of coughing, and Mr. Weston instantly seized the opportunity of going on.

她被一阵轻微的咳嗽打断，韦斯顿先生立刻抓住机会继续说了下去。

“You were mentioning May. May is the very month which Mrs. Churchill is ordered, or has ordered herself, to spend in some warmer place than Enscombe—in short, to spend in London; so that we have the agreeable prospect “你方才提起五月。五月正是邱吉尔太太遵照医嘱——或者说她自行决定——要离开恩斯康比到较暖和的地方度过的月份；简而言之，她要

of frequent visits from Frank the whole spring —precisely the season of the year which one should have chosen for it: days almost at the longest; weather genial and pleasant, always inviting one out, and never too hot for exercise. **When** he was here before, we made the best of it; but there was a good deal of wet, damp, cheerless weather; there always is in February, you know, and we could not do half that we intended. **Now** will be the time. **This** will be complete enjoyment; and I do not know, Mrs. **Elton**, whether the uncertainty of our meetings, the sort of constant expectation there will be of his coming in to-day or to-morrow, and at any hour, may not be more friendly to happiness than having him actually in the house. **I** think it is so. **I** think it is the state of mind which gives most spirit and delight. **I** hope you will be pleased with my son; but you must not expect a prodigy. **He** is generally thought a fine young man, but do not expect a prodigy. **Mrs. Weston'** s partiality for him is very great, and, as you may suppose, most gratifying to me. **She** thinks nobody equal to him.

在伦敦住下。这样以来，整个春天我们都能欣喜地期待弗兰克频频来访——这正是一年中最适宜相聚的时节：白昼渐长，天气和煦宜人，总引人外出活动，又不会炎热得妨碍出行。上次他来访时，我们虽尽力欢聚，却逢上连日阴雨，天气潮湿阴郁——你知道二月总是这般光景，我们连计划中的一半欢娱都未能实现。如今可要尽兴了。这将是无上的享受。埃尔顿太太，我不知你是否觉得，这种聚散无常的状态——心里总揣着他今日或明日、随时可能到来的期待——或许比让他长住家中更添愉悦？我确有此感。这种心境最是令人神采飞扬。希望小儿的谈吐能令你满意，但请勿期待什么惊世之才。人们普遍认为他是个出众的青年，不过绝非什么奇才。韦斯顿太太对他偏爱有加——你想必明

白，这最令我欣慰。在她眼中，无人能与他比肩。”

“And I assure you, Mr. Weston, I have very little doubt that my opinion will be decidedly in his favour. I have heard so much in praise of Mr. Frank Churchill. —At the same time it is fair to observe, that I am one of those who always judge for themselves, and are by no means implicitly guided by others. I give you notice that as I find your son, so I shall judge of him. —I am no flatterer.” “韦斯顿先生，我敢向您保证，我几乎毫不怀疑自己最终会对他产生好感。关于弗兰克·丘吉尔先生的赞誉之词我已听闻太多——不过需要说明的是，我向来习惯亲自作出判断，从不会人云亦云。在此先行告知：您儿子究竟何等人物，我自会通过接触得出定论。我向来不惯阿谀奉承。”

Mr. Weston was musing.

韦斯顿先生陷入了沉思。

“I hope,” said he presently, “I have not been severe upon poor Mrs. Churchill. If she is ill I should be sorry to do her injustice; but there are some traits in her character which make it difficult for me to speak of her with the forbearance I could wish. You cannot be ignorant, Mrs. Elton, of my connexion with the family, nor of the treatment I have met with; and, between ourselves, the whole blame of it is to be

“我希望，”他随即说道，“我方才对可怜的丘吉尔太太不算苛责。倘若她真有不适，我自然不愿错怪于她；只是她性情中某些特质，总教我难以如愿保持宽容。埃尔顿太太，您想必清楚我与这家人沾亲，也知晓我遭受的待遇——这里不妨说句体己话，

laid to her. **She** was the instigator. **Frank'**s这一切都该归咎于她。她才 mother would never have been slighted as she是始作俑者。若不是她，弗兰 was but for her. **Mr. Churchill** has pride; 克的母亲绝不至于遭受那般 but his pride is nothing to his wife's: his is a 轻慢。丘吉尔先生固然自负, quiet, indolent, gentlemanlike sort of pride that 但较之他妻子实在微不足道: would harm nobody, and only make himself a 他的傲慢是那种温和疏懒的 little helpless and tiresome; but her pride is ar- 绅士作派, 不伤他人分毫, 只rogance and insolence! **And** what inclines one 显得自己有些无能又乏味; less to bear, she has no fair pretence of family 可她那傲慢却是十足的狂妄 or blood. **She** was nobody when he married 无礼! 更教人难以忍受的是, her, barely the daughter of a gentleman; but 她连家世血统的体面借口都 ever since her being turned into a Churchill 拿不出。当年嫁过来时不过 she has out-Churchill'd them all in high and 是个无名之辈, 勉强算个乡 mighty claims: but in herself, I assure you, she 绅之女; 可自从冠上丘吉尔 is an upstart. ” 这个姓氏, 倒比所有丘吉尔家的人都更摆出高高在上的架势: 说句实在话, 她本质上就是个暴发户。”

“**Only** think! **well**, that must be infinitely “你想想看! 哎呀, 这简直太 provoking! **I** have quite a horror of upstarts. 气人了! 我最讨厌那些暴发 **Maple** Grove has given me a thorough dis- 户。枫林园的经历让我对这 gust to people of that sort; for there is a fam- 类人厌恶透顶——附近就住- ily in that neighbourhood who are such an 着这么一户人家, 成天在我 annoyance to my brother and sister from the 哥嫂面前摆架子, 实在惹人 airs they give themselves! **Your** description 厌! 你描述邱吉尔太太那番

of Mrs. Churchill made me think of them directly. People of the name of Tupman, very lately settled there, and encumbered with many low connexions, but giving themselves immense airs, and expecting to be on a footing with the old established families. A year and a half is the very utmost that they can have lived at West Hall; and how they got their fortune nobody knows. They came from Birmingham, which is not a place to promise much, you know, Mr. Weston. One has not great hopes from Birmingham. I always say there is something direful in the sound: but nothing more is positively known of the Tupmans, though a good many things I assure you are suspected; and yet by their manners they evidently think themselves equal even to my brother, Mr. Suckling, who happens to be one of their nearest neighbours. It is infinitely too bad. Mr. Suckling, who has been eleven years a resident at Maple Grove, and whose father had it before him—I believe, at least—I am almost sure that old Mr. Suckling had completed the purchase before his death. ”

话，让我立刻联想到他们。那家姓塔普曼的，刚搬来不久，带着一堆粗俗的亲戚，却摆出天大的架子，竟想和根基深厚的世家平起平坐。他们在西宅至多住了一年半，发家的来路谁也说不清。从伯明翰搬来的——韦斯顿先生，您也知道那地方能有什么出息。伯明翰从来就出不了什么人物，我总说这地名听着就不吉利。虽然大家都暗中揣测塔普曼家不少事，但确凿的底细谁也说不清。最可气的是，他们那副做派俨然觉得连我哥哥萨克林先生都和他们地位相当——偏偏萨克林先生还是他们最近的邻居。这实在太不像话！萨克林先生在枫林园住了整整十一年，而且他父亲早在他之前就置下了这份产业——至少我认为是这样——我几乎能肯定老萨克林先生去世前早已买断了整个庄园。”

They were interrupted. **Tea** was carrying round, and Mr. **Weston**, having said all that he wanted, soon took the opportunity of walking away. 他们的话被打断了。茶点正被端上来，韦斯顿先生说完了他想说的话，便很快借机走开了。

After tea, Mr. **and** Mrs. **Weston**, and Mr. **Elton** sat down with Mr. **Woodhouse** to cards. **The** remaining five were left to their own powers, and Emma doubted their getting on very well; for Mr. **Knightley** seemed little disposed for conversation; Mrs. **Elton** was wanting notice, which nobody had inclination to pay, and she was herself in a worry of spirits which would have made her prefer being silent. 喝过茶后，韦斯顿夫妇和埃尔顿先生陪伍德豪斯先生坐下打牌。剩下的五个人只能自寻消遣，爱玛怀疑他们相处得并不融洽——因为奈特利先生似乎无意攀谈；埃尔顿太太渴望引人注目，却无人愿意奉陪；而她自己则心神不宁，宁愿保持沉默。

Mr. John Knightley proved more talkative than his brother. **He** was to leave them early the next day; and he soon began with— 约翰·奈特利先生比乃兄健谈。他次日一早便要动身，很快便开口说道——

“**Well**, Emma, I do not believe I have any thing more to say about the boys; but you have your sister’s letter, and every thing is down at full length there we may be sure. **My** charge would be much more concise than her’s, and probably not much in the same spirit; all that “嗯，爱玛，关于孩子们的事我应当没有更多要交代的了。反正你收到了你姐姐的信，相信所有细节都在信中详尽说明。我的嘱咐可比她简洁得多，大概也和她说的

I have to recommend being comprised in, do 不是一回事。我全部的叮嘱
not spoil them, and do not physic them. ” 就是：别惯坏他们，也别总
给他们吃药。”

“I rather hope to satisfy you both,” said Emma, “我希望能让你们两位都满
“for I shall do all in my power to make them 意，”爱玛说，“因为我会尽我
happy, which will be enough for Isabella; and 所能让他们过得快乐——这
happiness must preclude false indulgence and 对伊莎贝拉来说就足够了。
physic. ” 而真正的快乐，必然容不得
娇生惯养和乱吃药的。”

“And if you find them troublesome, you must “倘若你觉得他们烦人，就必须把他们再送回家去。”
send them home again.”

“That is very likely. You think so, do not “这很有可能。你是这么想的，
you? ” 是不是?”

“I hope I am aware that they may be too noisy ” 我自知这些声响或许会打
for your father—or even may be some encum- 扰令尊清静——甚至可能成
brance to you, if your visiting engagements 为您的负累，毕竟近来您的
continue to increase as much as they have done 应酬往来已日渐频繁。”
lately.”

“Increase! ” “增加！”

“Certainly; you must be sensible that the “当然；你必定意识到，过去
last half-year has made a great difference in 这半年已使你的生活方式发
your way of life. ” 生了巨大变化。”

“Difference! No indeed I am not.”

“差别！不，我确实不是。”

“**T**here can be no doubt of your being much more engaged with company than you used to be. **WH**ere am I come down for only one day, and you are engaged with a dinner-party! —**W**hen did it happen before, or any thing like it? **Y**our neighbourhood is increasing, and you mix more with it. A little while ago, every letter to Isabella brought an account of fresh gaieties; dinners at Mr. **C**ole’s, or balls at the Crown. **T**he difference which Randalls, Randalls alone makes in your goings-on, is very great.”

”你如今交往应酬比从前多得多，这确是不容置疑的。单看今日便知——我特意赶来住一日，偏遇上你设宴待客！这般情形从前何曾有过？左邻右舍日渐增多，你与他们的往来也愈发密切。不久前每回给伊莎贝拉去信，总少不了记述新的欢宴：不是在科尔先生家用膳，便是在皇冠酒店跳舞。单是兰德尔斯的出现，就教你的生活作息起了天翻地覆的变化。”

“**Y**es,” said his brother quickly, “it is Randalls that does it all.”

“是啊，”他哥哥立刻接口道，“这全是朗道斯宅子的功劳。”

“**V**ery well—and as Randalls, I suppose, is not likely to have less influence than heretofore, it strikes me as a possible thing, Emma, that Henry and John may be sometimes in the way. **A**nd if they are, I only beg you to send them home.”

“很好——我想兰道尔斯宅子的魅力大概不会比从前减少，我只觉得，爱玛，亨利和约翰也许有时会碍事。若是他们碍事，我只要你打发他们回家就是了。”

“No,” cried Mr. **Knightley**, “that need not be the consequence. Let them be sent to Donwell. I shall certainly be at leisure.”

“不,”奈特利先生嚷道,“这倒不必。把它们送到唐维尔去好了,我肯定有空。”

“Upon my word,” exclaimed Emma, “you amuse me! I should like to know how many of all my numerous engagements take place without your being of the party; and why I am to be supposed in danger of wanting leisure to attend to the little boys. These amazing engagements of mine—what have they been? Dining once with the Coles—and having a ball talked of, which never took place. I can understand you—(nodding at Mr. **John Knightley**) —your good fortune in meeting with so many of your friends at once here, delights you too much to pass unnoticed. But you, (turning to Mr. **Knightley**,) who know how very, very seldom I am ever two hours from Hartfield, why you should foresee such a series of dissipation for me, I cannot imagine. And as to my dear little boys, I must say, that if Aunt Emma has not time for them, I do not think they would fare much better with Uncle Knightley, who is absent from home about five hours where she is absent one—and who, when he is at home,

“说实在的,”爱玛嚷道,“你真叫我好笑!我倒要问问,我有一大堆事情,哪一件没有你参加?哪一件你不是帮了大忙?你凭什么认为我照管不了两个孩子?我那些惊人的事情——都是些什么事情呢?跟科尔太太吃了一次饭——人家说还要开一次舞会,只是说说而已,不会真开的。我了解你——(朝约翰·奈特利先生点点头)——你在这儿一下子遇见这么多朋友,喜出望外,便控制不住自己,有话也要说出来不可。可是你——(转向奈特利先生)——你很清楚,我离开哈特菲尔德两个小时都很难得,你凭什么认为我会有很多娱乐活动,我真无法想象。至于我亲爱的小外甥,我得说,如果做姨妈的

is either reading to himself or settling his accounts."

偶尔没空照料他们，那去找做姨父的，我看也强不了多少。姨父若是出门，不是五个小时见不到人影，便是一个小时也见不到人影。他在家的时候，不是只顾自己看书，就是埋头算账。”

Mr. Knightley seemed to be trying not to smile; and succeeded without difficulty, upon Mrs. Elton's beginning to talk to him.

奈特利先生似乎竭力不让自己笑出来；而一听到埃尔顿太太开始对他说话，他就毫不费力地做到了。

VOLUME III

CHAPTER I

A very little quiet reflection was enough to satisfy Emma as to the nature of her agitation on hearing this news of Frank Churchill. She was soon convinced that it was not for herself she was feeling at all apprehensive or embarrassed; it was for him. Her own attachment had really subsided into a mere nothing; it was not worth thinking of;—but if he, who had undoubtedly been always so much the most in love of the two, were to be returning with the

第三卷

第一章

稍稍静心沉思片刻，爱玛便已明白自己听到弗兰克·邱吉尔消息时为何心绪不宁。她很快确信自己全然不是为自身感到惶恐或难堪——而是为他。她那份情意早已消散得无影无踪，实在不值一提；可若是他——两人之中无疑用情更深的那位——归来时仍带着当初那般炽热情

same warmth of sentiment which he had taken away, it would be very distressing. **If** a separation of two months should not have cooled him, there were dangers and evils before her:—caution for him and for herself would be necessary. **She** did not mean to have her own affections entangled again, and it would be incumbent on her to avoid any encouragement of his.

意，那就真叫人难堪。倘若两个月的分离都未能让他热情冷却，接踵而至的将是重重险阻：她必须谨守分寸，既为他也为己。**她**决意不再陷入情网，也务必避免给他任何企盼。

She wished she might be able to keep him from an absolute declaration. **That** would be so very painful a conclusion of their present acquaintance! **and** yet, she could not help rather anticipating something decisive. **She** felt as if the spring would not pass without bringing a crisis, an event, a something to alter her present composed and tranquil state.

她但愿自己能够阻止他作出明确的表态。**那**将会使他们目前的交往陷入极其痛苦的结局！**然而**，她又忍不住隐隐期待着某种决定性的变化。**她**总觉得这个春天不会安然度过，必定会带来某种危机、某个事件、某种改变她此刻从容宁静境况的契机。

It was not very long, though rather longer than Mr. **Weston** had foreseen, before she had the power of forming some opinion of Frank Churchill's feelings. **The** Enscombe family were not in town quite so soon as had been imagined, but he was at Highbury very soon afterwards. **He** rode down for a couple of hours;

没过多久——虽然比韦斯顿先生预料的稍长些——她便得以对弗兰克·丘吉尔的感情作出判断了。**恩斯康比**那家人并未如预期那般早早进城，但他不久后便来到了海伯里。**他**骑马赶来待了两小

he could not yet do more; but as he came from Randalls immediately to Hartfield, she could then exercise all her quick observation, and speedily determine how he was influenced, and how she must act. **They** met with the utmost friendliness. **There** could be no doubt of his great pleasure in seeing her. **But** she had an almost instant doubt of his caring for her as he had done, of his feeling the same tenderness in the same degree. **She** watched him well. **It** was a clear thing he was less in love than he had been. **Absence**, with the conviction probably of her indifference, had produced this very natural and very desirable effect.

时，眼下只能抽得出这么多时间；但既然他从兰德尔直接来到哈特菲尔德，她便得以施展敏锐的观察力，迅速判断出他的情感倾向，以及自己该如何应对。他们以最友好的态度相见。他见到她时的欣喜之情毋庸置疑。然而她几乎立刻察觉到，他待她已不似往日那般殷勤，那份柔情蜜意也不复当初浓烈。她仔细观察着。显而易见，他的爱意已不如往昔。离别时光，加之认定她态度淡漠，自然产生了这般合乎情理的理想效果。

He was in high spirits; as ready to talk and laugh as ever, and seemed delighted to speak of his former visit, and recur to old stories: and he was not without agitation. **It** was not in his calmness that she read his comparative indifference. **He** was not calm; his spirits were evidently fluttered; there was restlessness about him. **Lively** as he was, it seemed a liveliness that did not satisfy himself; but what decided

他兴致很高，像往常一样谈笑风生，似乎很乐意谈起上次的拜访，重温旧事。但他并非毫无激动之情。她从他不安宁的神态里看出他相对冷淡的态度。他并不平静，情绪显然有些波动，周身透着坐立不安。虽然活泼依旧，但这种活泼似乎连他自己都

her belief on the subject, was his staying only a quarter of an hour, and hurrying away to make other calls in Highbury. “**H**e had seen a group of old acquaintance in the street as he passed—he had not stopped, he would not stop for more than a word—but he had the vanity to think they would be disappointed if he did not call, and much as he wished to stay longer at Hartfield, he must hurry off. ”**S**he had no doubt as to his being less in love—but neither his agitated spirits, nor his hurrying away, seemed like a perfect cure; and she was rather inclined to think it implied a dread of her returning power, and a discreet resolution of not trusting himself with her long.

不满意。而最终让她确信的是，他只待了一刻钟就匆匆告辞，说要再去海伯里拜访几家人。”路过时在街上遇见几位老相识——虽然不曾驻足，也不愿多停留寒暄——但若不登门拜访，他们定会失望。尽管他万分渴望在哈特菲尔德多留片刻，却不得不匆匆离去。”她确信他的爱意已消退——但他这般心绪不宁，又这般匆忙离去，都不像是彻底痊愈的模样。她反倒认为，这正表明他害怕自己重获魅力，故而审慎地决定不与她长久独处。

This was the only visit from Frank Churchill in the course of ten days. **H**e was often hoping, intending to come—but was always prevented. **H**is aunt could not bear to have him leave her. **S**uch was his own account at Randall’s. **I**f he were quite sincere, if he really tried to come, it was to be inferred that Mrs. **C**hurchill’s removal to London had been of no service to the wilful or nervous part of her disorder.

这十天里，弗兰克·邱吉尔只来过这么一次。他常常盼着要来——打算要来——但总受阻未能成行。他舅母离不得他，这是他在朗道尔宅子自己的说法。倘若他字字真诚，倘若他确实想来而未能来，那便可推断：邱吉尔夫人迁居伦敦，对她任性的

That she was really ill was very certain; he had declared himself convinced of it, at Randalls. **Though** much might be fancy, he could not doubt, when he looked back, that she was in a weaker state of health than she had been half a year ago. **He** did not believe it to proceed from any thing that care and medicine might not remove, or at least that she might not have many years of existence before her; but he could not be prevailed on, by all his father's doubts, to say that her complaints were merely imaginary, or that she was as strong as ever.

毛病或神经质的毛病都未见裨益。她确实有病，这倒毋庸置疑；他在朗道尔宅子便声称自己对此深信不疑。虽说许多症状可能是臆想出来的，但他回顾往日状况时，不能不信她的身体比半年前更虚弱了。他相信只要悉心调理，对症下药，她的病并非无药可医，至少还不至于不久于人世。任凭他父亲怎么怀疑，他都不肯说她的病是凭空臆造，更不肯说她其实康健如昔。

It soon appeared that London was not the place for her. **She** could not endure its noise. **Her** nerves were under continual irritation and suffering; and by the ten days' end, her nephew's letter to Randalls communicated a change of plan. **They** were going to remove immediately to Richmond. **Mrs. Churchill** had been recommended to the medical skill of an eminent person there, and had otherwise a fancy for the place. **A** ready-furnished house in a favourite spot was engaged, and much benefit expected

不久便发现，伦敦于她并不相宜。她忍受不了那儿的喧嚣，神经一直处于烦躁与痛苦之中；十天结束时，她侄儿写给朗道斯宅的一封信，报告了计划变更。他们即将迁往里士满。**丘吉尔太太**被引荐到那里的一位名医处就诊，此外，她对这个地方也颇有好感。一间位于热门地段的带家具宅邸已经租妥，众

from the change.

人对这一变动寄予厚望。

Emma heard that Frank wrote in the highest spirits of this arrangement, and seemed most fully to appreciate the blessing of having two months before him of such near neighbourhood to many dear friends—for the house was taken for May and June. **She** was told that now he wrote with the greatest confidence of being often with them, almost as often as he could even wish.

爱玛听说弗兰克在来信中，对这一安排表示极为满意，似乎充分体会到能在两个月里与众多亲友近在咫尺是多么幸福——因为房子已经租下了五月和六月。**她**得知，他在信中满怀信心地表示会常与他们相聚，几乎随心所欲，想见就能见到。

Emma saw how Mr. **Weston** understood these joyous prospects. **He** was considering her as the source of all the happiness they offered. **She** hoped it was not so. **Two** months must bring it to the proof.

爱玛看出韦斯顿先生是如何领会这些欢乐前景的。**他**把她视为这一切幸福的源泉。**她**希望事实并非如此。两个月后必将见分晓。

Mr. **Weston**' s own happiness was indisputable. **He** was quite delighted. **It** was the very circumstance he could have wished for. **Now**, it would be really having Frank in their neighbourhood. **What** were nine miles to a young man? —**An** hour's ride. **He** would be always coming over. **The** difference in that respect of Richmond and London was

韦斯顿先生自己的幸福是毋庸置疑的。**他**简直喜不自胜。**这正合他的心意。如今**弗兰克真要成为他们的近邻了。**九英里路**对年轻人算得了什么? ——骑马不过一小时工夫。**他**定会常来常往。**在这一点上**，里士满与伦敦的

enough to make the whole difference of seeing him always and seeing him never. **Sixteen** miles—nay, eighteen—it must be full eighteen to Manchester-street—was a serious obstacle. **Were** he ever able to get away, the day would be spent in coming and returning. **There** was no comfort in having him in London; he might as well be at Enscombe; but Richmond was the very distance for easy intercourse. **Better** than nearer!

差别可谓天壤之别——一个是时时得见，一个是永难相逢。**十六**英里——不，十八英里——到曼彻斯特街足有十八英里——可是个不小的障碍。即便他能抽身来访，一整天光阴都要耗费在往返途中。他在伦敦落脚根本无济于事，还不如留在恩斯康伯庄园；而里士满的距离正好便于往来。**比**再近些还好呢！

One good thing was immediately brought to a certainty by this removal,—the ball at the Crown. **It** had not been forgotten before, but it had been soon acknowledged vain to attempt to fix a day. **Now**, however, it was absolutely to be; every preparation was resumed, and very soon after the Churchills had removed to Richmond, a few lines from Frank, to say that his aunt felt already much better for the change, and that he had no doubt of being able to join them for twenty-four hours at any given time, induced them to name as early a day as possible.

这次搬迁立刻促成了一件好事——皇冠酒店的舞会。之前大家并未忘记这件事，只是很快就意识到确定日期是徒劳的。但现在终于可以如期举行了；所有准备工作重新启动，邱吉尔一家刚搬到里士满不久，弗兰克就来了一封短笺，说他舅妈因环境改变已觉身体大有好转，他随时都能抽二十四小时前来自聚——这便促使大家当即敲定了最早的吉日。

Mr. Weston's ball was to be a real thing. A 韦斯顿先生的舞会即将成为
very few to-morrows stood between the young 现实。海伯里的年轻人们离
people of Highbury and happiness. 幸福只隔着寥寥几个明天。

Mr. Woodhouse was resigned. **The** time of 伍德豪斯先生只得顺从了。
year lightened the evil to him. **May** was better 时令已入五月，在他看来，
for every thing than February. **Mrs. Bates** 这总比二月要好些。贝茨太
was engaged to spend the evening at Hartfield, 太已应承来哈特菲尔德共度
James had due notice, and he sanguinely hoped 良宵，詹姆斯也已接获通知，
that neither dear little Henry nor dear little 他满心期盼，亲爱的爱玛不
John would have any thing the matter with 在家时，他那两个心肝宝贝
them, while dear Emma were gone. 亨利和约翰可千万别出什么
岔子才好。

CHAPTER II

No misfortune occurred, again to prevent the 舞会并未再遭不幸而受阻。
ball. **The** day approached, the day arrived; 日子渐近，日子来临；经过
and after a morning of some anxious watching, 上午一番焦心的守望之后，
Frank Churchill, in all the certainty of his own 弗兰克·邱吉尔先生终于信
self, reached Randalls before dinner, and every 心十足地在正餐前抵达了朗
thing was safe. 道斯，万事俱妥。

No second meeting had there yet been be- 他与爱玛还不曾再度相逢。
tween him and Emma. **The** room at the 这次会面将发生在皇冠酒
Crown was to witness it;—but it would be bet- 店的房间里——但这总比在
ter than a common meeting in a crowd. **Mr.** 人群中的普通会面要强。韦

第二章

Weston had been so very earnest in his entreaties for her arriving there as soon as possible after themselves, for the purpose of taking her opinion as to the propriety and comfort of the rooms before any other persons came, that she could not refuse him, and must therefore spend some quiet interval in the young man's company. **She** was to convey Harriet, and they drove to the Crown in good time, the Randas party just sufficiently before them.

斯顿先生曾极其恳切地请求她在他们抵达后尽快赶来，以便在其他人到来之前听取她对房间是否得体舒适的意见，这让她无法推辞，只得在这位年轻人陪伴下度过一段安静的时光。她还要捎上哈丽特，两人适时驾车前往皇冠酒店，兰德尔家的人恰巧比她们早到一步。

Frank Churchill seemed to have been on the watch; and though he did not say much, his eyes declared that he meant to have a delightful evening. **They** all walked about together, to see that every thing was as it should be; and within a few minutes were joined by the contents of another carriage, which Emma could not hear the sound of at first, without great surprize. “**So** unreasonably early! ”she was going to exclaim; but she presently found that it was a family of old friends, who were coming, like herself, by particular desire, to help Mr. **Weston**' s judgment; and they were so very closely followed by another carriage of cousins, who had been entreated to come early with the

弗兰克·邱吉尔似乎一直在留心观察；虽然话说得不多，但他的眼神表明他决心要度过一个愉快的夜晚。众人一同散步巡视，确保万事妥帖；不出几分钟，又一辆马车载着宾客到来——起初爱玛听到车声时不由大为惊讶。”这么早就来了！”她差点失声惊呼，但随即发现来的是韦斯顿先生家的世交，和她一样是应特别邀请前来协助韦斯顿先生斟酌事宜的。紧接着又驶来一辆载着表亲们的马车，他们同样被格外恳切

same distinguishing earnestness, on the same errand, that it seemed as if half the company might soon be collected together for the purpose of preparatory inspection. 地央求早前来协助筹备，以至于半数宾客似乎转眼间就要聚齐，专为进行这场预备性的巡视。

Emma perceived that her taste was not the only taste on which Mr. **Weston** depended, and felt, that to be the favourite and intimate of a man who had so many intimates and confidantes, was not the very first distinction in the scale of vanity. **She** liked his open manners, but a little less of open-heartedness would have made him a higher character. —**General** benevolence, but not general friendship, made a man what he ought to be. —**She** could fancy such a man. **The** whole party walked about, and looked, and praised again; and then, having nothing else to do, formed a sort of half-circle round the fire, to observe in their various modes, till other subjects were started, that, though May, a fire in the evening was still very pleasant. 爱玛发觉自己的品味并非韦斯顿先生唯一的倚仗，意识到成为这样一个拥有众多知己密友的男士的宠儿，在虚荣心的天平上算不得头等殊荣。她欣赏他坦荡的举止，但若少几分赤诚反倒更能彰显其品格——广施仁爱而不滥交，方为君子典范。这样的男子她倒能想象出来。众人踱步观赏，再度交口称赞；随后因无事可做，便在炉火旁围成半圆，以各自的方式默默注视着火焰，直到新的话题展开——虽时值五月，夜晚炉火仍令人倍感惬意。

Emma found that it was not Mr. **Weston**'s fault that the number of privy councillors was not yet larger. **They** had stopped at Mrs.

爱玛发现，枢密院官员的人数未能增加，这并非韦斯顿先生的过错。他们曾在贝茨

Bates's door to offer the use of their carriage, but the aunt and niece were to be brought by the Eltons. 太太家门口停车，主动提出让她们使用马车，但姨甥二人已确定由埃尔顿夫妇接送。

Frank was standing by her, but not steadily; there was a restlessness, which shewed a mind not at ease. **He** was looking about, he was going to the door, he was watching for the sound of other carriages,—impatient to begin, or afraid of being always near her. 弗兰克站在她身旁，但站得不稳；他显得坐立不安，表明心神不宁。他东张西望，时而走向门口，时而侧耳倾听其他马车的声响——既迫不及待想要开始，又害怕始终待在她近旁。

Mrs. Elton was spoken of. “I think she must be here soon,” said he. “I have a great curiosity to see Mrs. **Elton**, I have heard so much of her. It cannot be long, I think, before she comes.” 大家谈起了埃尔顿太太。”我想她很快就要到了，”他说。“我极想见见埃尔顿太太，关于她的传闻听得太多了。依我看，她应该很快就会来。”

A carriage was heard. **He** was on the move immediately; but coming back, said, 听到马车声。他立刻起身出去，但随即又折回来说道，

“I am forgetting that I am not acquainted with her. I have never seen either Mr. or Mrs. **Elton**. I have no business to put myself forward.” “我忘了自己跟她并不相识，我从未见过埃尔顿先生或埃尔顿太太，实在不该贸然上前。”

Mr. and Mrs. Elton appeared; and all the smiles and the proprieties passed. 埃尔顿夫妇露面了；所有的微笑与礼节便都随之而来。

“**But** Miss Bates and Miss Fairfax! ”said Mr. **Weston**, looking about. “**We** thought you were to bring them. ” “可是贝茨小姐和费尔法克斯小姐呢！”韦斯顿先生环顾四周说道，“我们还以为您会带她们一起来呢。”

The mistake had been slight. **The** carriage was sent for them now. **Emma** longed to know what Frank’s first opinion of Mrs. **Elton** might be; how he was affected by the studied elegance of her dress, and her smiles of graciousness. **He** was immediately qualifying himself to form an opinion, by giving her very proper attention, after the introduction had passed. 这个误会并不严重。马车已经去接他们了。爱玛很想知道自己对埃尔顿太太的第一印象如何；她那刻意讲究的衣着打扮和亲切殷勤的笑容会给他带来怎样的影响。介绍过后，他立刻对她表现出恰到好处的关注，这足以让他形成自己的判断。

In a few minutes the carriage returned. — **Somebody** talked of rain. — “I will see that there are umbrellas, sir,” said Frank to his father: “Miss Bates must not be forgotten:” and away he went. **Mr. Weston** was following; but Mrs. **Elton** detained him, to gratify him by her opinion of his son; and so briskly did she begin, that the young man himself, though 几分钟后马车折返。——有人提起下雨的事。——“我去看一看备好伞没有，先生，”弗兰克对父亲说，“可不能忘了贝茨小姐。”说完便匆匆离去。韦斯顿先生正要跟上，却被埃尔顿太太拦住，硬要对他夸赞他儿子来讨他欢心；她

by no means moving slowly, could hardly be 话说得那般急促，饶是那年轻
out of hearing. 人脚步丝毫不慢，却几乎

还没走出听力所及的范围。

“**A** very fine young man indeed, Mr. **Weston**. “韦斯顿先生，他确实是个非常出色的年轻人。你知道我常说出 my own opinion; and I am happy to say that I 向来直言不讳，定要亲自形 am extremely pleased with him. —**You** may 成见解；现在我很高兴地说， believe me. **I** never compliment. **I** think him 我对他极为满意——这话你 a very handsome young man, and his man- 尽可相信。我从不奉承。我 ners are precisely what I like and approve— 认为他是个非常英俊的年轻 so truly the gentleman, without the least con- 人，他的举止正是我所喜爱 ceit or puppyism. **You** must know I have a 和赞许的那种——如此地道 vast dislike to puppies—quite a horror of them. 的绅士风度，没有半点自负 **They** were never tolerated at Maple Grove. 或纨绔习气。你要知道，我极 **Neither** Mr. **Suckling** nor me had ever any 其厌恶纨绔子弟——简直深 patience with them; and we used sometimes to 恶痛绝。在枫林园就从来容 say very cutting things! **Selina**, who is mild 不得这种人。萨克林先生和 almost to a fault, bore with them much better. 我都对那些人毫无耐心，我们时常还要说些相当尖刻的 ”

话呢！塞利娜脾气好得几乎成了缺点，反倒比我们更能容忍他们。”

While she talked of his son, Mr. **Weston**’ 她谈起他儿子时，韦斯顿先 s attention was chained; but when she got to 生的注意力便被牢牢拴住；

Maple Grove, he could recollect that there were ladies just arriving to be attended to, and with happy smiles must hurry away.

可当她说到枫林园时，他才想起还有几位刚到的女客需要招呼，于是带着欣然的笑容匆匆离去了。

Mrs. Elton turned to **Mrs. Weston**. “**I** have no doubt of its being our carriage with Miss Bates and Jane. **Our** coachman and horses are so extremely expeditious! —**I** believe we drive faster than any body. —**What** a pleasure it is to send one’s carriage for a friend! —**I** understand you were so kind as to offer, but another time it will be quite unnecessary. **You** may be very sure I shall always take care of them.”

埃尔顿太太转向韦斯顿太太。“我敢说那准是我们的马车，接贝茨小姐和简来了。我们的车夫、我们的马匹跑得多快呀！——我相信比谁家的马车都跑得快。——把自己的马车让给朋友，该是多么大的乐趣呀！——我知道你是一片好意，曾经提出要接她们，不过下一次就完全没有必要了。你尽管放心，我会永远照料她们的。”

Miss Bates and **Miss Fairfax**, escorted by the two gentlemen, walked into the room; and **Mrs. Elton** seemed to think it as much her duty as **Mrs. Weston’s** to receive them. **Her** gestures and movements might be understood by any one who looked on like Emma; but her words, every body’s words, were soon lost under the incessant flow of **Miss Bates**, who came

贝茨小姐和费尔法克斯小姐由两位绅士陪同着走进屋来；埃尔顿太太似乎认为自己和韦斯顿太太同样有责任去接待她们。她的姿态和动作，任何像爱玛这样的旁观者都能看得明白；可她的话语，所有人的言语，很快就

in talking, and had not finished her speech under many minutes after her being admitted into the circle at the fire. **A**s the door opened she was heard,

淹没在贝茨小姐滔滔不绝的絮叨里——这位女士进门时便说个不停，直到在炉边圈子里落座后许久都没能结束她的长篇大论。**房门**开启时便已听见她的声音：

“**S**o very obliging of you! —**N**o rain at all. **N**othing to signify. I do not care for myself. **Q**uite thick shoes. **A**nd Jane declares —Well! —(as soon as she was within the door) Well! **T**his is brilliant indeed! —**T**his is admirable! —**E**xcellently contrived, upon my word. **N**othing wanting. **C**ould not have imagined it. —**S**o well lighted up! —**J**ane, Jane, look! —**d**id you ever see any thing? Oh! Mr. Weston, you must really have had Aladdin’s lamp. **G**ood Mrs. Stokes would not know her own room again. I saw her as I came in; she was standing in the entrance. ‘Oh! Mrs. Stokes,’ said I—but I had not time for more. ”She was now met by Mrs. Weston. — “**V**ery well, I thank you, ma’am. I hope you are quite well. **V**ery happy to hear it. So afraid you might have a headache! —**s**eeing you pass

“您真是太客气了！——滴雨都没下。根本不算什么。我自己倒不在乎。鞋子挺厚实的。简还说——哎呀！(刚跨进门就嚷起来)哎呀！这可太漂亮了！——太令人赞叹了！设计得实在高明，说真的。样样俱全。简直超乎想象。——灯火多辉煌啊！简，快看！——你见过这样的场面吗？哎呀！韦斯顿先生，您准是弄到了阿拉丁的神灯。好心的斯托克斯太太怕要认不出自己的房间啦。我进门时遇见她，她正站在门廊里。‘哎呀！斯托克斯太太，’我刚说了这么半句——”这时韦斯顿太太迎上前来。”很好，谢谢您，夫人。希望您

by so often, and knowing how much trouble you must have. **Delighted** to hear it indeed. **Ah! dear** Mrs. Elton, so obliged to you for the carriage! —**excellent** time. Jane and I quite ready. **Did** not keep the horses a moment. **Most** comfortable carriage. — **Oh!** and I am sure our thanks are due to you, Mrs. Weston, on that score. **Mrs. Elton** had most kindly sent Jane a note, or we should have been. —**But** two such offers in one day! —**Never** were such neighbours. I said to my mother, ‘Upon my word, ma’am —. ’**Thank** you, my mother is remarkably well. **Gone** to Mr. Woodhouse’ s. I made her take her shawl—for the evenings are not warm—her large new shawl—Mrs. Dixon’ s wedding-present. —**So** kind of her to think of my mother! **Bought** at Weymouth, you know—Mr. Dixon’ s choice. **There** were three others, Jane says, which they hesitated about some time. **Colonel** Campbell rather preferred an olive. **My** dear Jane, are you sure you did not wet your feet? —**It** was but a drop or two, but I am so afraid:—but Mr. Frank Churchill was so extremely—and there

身体安康。听您这么说真高兴。还担心您会头疼呢！见您经常来回奔波，知道您肯定费了不少神。听说您没事真是欣慰。啊！亲爱的埃尔顿太太，多谢您的马车！——时间掐得正好。我和简早就准备好了。没让马儿多等片刻。马车舒服极了。——哦！说到这个，我们还得感谢您呢，韦斯顿太太。埃尔顿太太好心给简捎了便条，否则我们差点就——一天里竟收到两份邀约！从没见过这么热心的邻居。我对家母说：‘说真的，夫人——’谢谢关心，家母身体硬朗得很。她去伍德豪斯先生府上了。我特意让她披上披肩——傍晚天凉——那条新的大披肩——狄克森太太送的结婚贺礼。她还能惦记着家母，多贴心啊！您知道的，是在韦茅斯买的——狄克森先生挑的。简说当时还有三条别的款式，他们斟酌

was a mat to step upon—I shall never forget 了好一阵。坎贝尔上校倒更 his extreme politeness. —Oh! Mr. Frank 中意橄榄色那条。亲爱的简, Churchill, I must tell you my mother's spec- 你确定没打湿脚吗? ——不 tacles have never been in fault since; the rivet 过几滴雨珠, 可我总放心不 never came out again. My mother often talks 下——幸亏弗兰克·邱吉尔 of your good-nature. Does not she, Jane? — 先生格外周到——还铺了垫 Do not we often talk of Mr. Frank Churchill? 脚毯——我永远忘不了他那 —Ah! here's Miss Woodhouse. —Dear 份体贴。哦! 弗兰克·邱吉尔 Miss Woodhouse, how do you do? —Very 先生, 得告诉您, 家母的眼 well I thank you, quite well. This is meet- 镜再没出过毛病, 铆钉再没 ing quite in fairy-land! —Such a transforma- 松脱过。家母常念叨您的好 tion! —Must not compliment, I know (eye- 心肠。是不是啊, 简? ——咱 ing Emma most complacently)—that would be 们不是常说起弗兰克·邱吉 rude—but upon my word, Miss Woodhouse, 尔先生吗? ——啊! 伍德豪 you do look—how do you like Jane's hair? 斯小姐来了——亲爱的伍德 —You are a judge. —She did it all herself. 豪斯小姐, 近来可好? ——托 Quite wonderful how she does her hair! — 您的福, 很好, 非常好。这 No hairdresser from London I think could. 直像在仙境里相逢! —天 —Ah! Dr. Hughes I declare—and Mrs. 翻地覆的变化! 可不能当面 Hughes. Must go and speak to Dr. and 奉承 (心满意足地打量着爱 Mrs. Hughes for a moment. —How do you 玛), 那太失礼了——不过说 do? How do you do? —Very well, I thank 真的, 伍德豪斯小姐, 您看 you. This is delightful, is not it? —Where's 起来——您觉得简的发式如 dear Mr. Richard? —Oh! there he 何? 您可是行家。——全 is. Don't disturb him. Much better em- 是她自己打理的。她梳头的本

ployed talking to the young ladies. **H**ow do you do, Mr. **RO**tway, I protest! —and good Mr. **O**tway, and Miss Otway and Miss Caroline. —**S**uch a host of friends! —and Mr. **G**eorge and Mr. **A**rthur! —**H**ow do you do? **H**ow do you all do? —**Q**uite well, I am much obliged to you. **N**ever better. —**D**on't I hear another carriage? —**W**ho can this be? —**v**ery likely the worthy Coles. —**U**p on my word, this is charming to be standing about among such friends! **A**nd such a noble fire! —I am quite roasted. **N**o coffee, I thank you, for me—never take coffee. —**A** little tea if you please, sir, by and bye,—no hurry—Oh! **h**ere it comes. **E**very thing so good! ”

事真叫人惊叹！——我看伦敦的理发师也未必及得上。哎呀！是休斯医生夫妇——得去跟休斯医生夫妇寒暄两句。——近来可好？身体安康吗？——很好，谢谢。这场面真叫人欢喜，是不是？——亲爱的理查德先生在哪？——哦！在那儿呢。别打扰他。他跟年轻小姐们谈得正欢。理查德先生，日安！前几日见您骑马穿过镇子——哎呀！奥特韦太太！——还有好心的奥特韦先生，奥特韦小姐和卡罗琳小姐！——这么多朋友聚在一处！——乔治先生和亚瑟先生也在！——诸位可都安好？——很好，多谢挂心。再好不过了——是不是又有马车声？——会是谁呢？很可能是可敬的科尔夫妇——说真的，站在这么多朋友中间多叫人愉快！炉火多旺啊！都要把我烤熟了。咖啡不用了，谢谢——我从

不喝咖啡。劳驾给我斟杯茶吧，先生，不急——哦！这就来了。样样都这么精致！”

Frank Churchill returned to his station by Emma; and as soon as Miss Bates was quiet, she found herself necessarily overhearing the discourse of Mrs. **Elton** and Miss Fairfax, who were standing a little way behind her. — **He** was thoughtful. **Whether** he were over-hearing too, she could not determine. **After** a good many compliments to Jane on her dress and look, compliments very quietly and properly taken, Mrs. **Elton** was evidently wanting to be complimented herself—and it was, “How do you like my gown? —**How** do you like my trimming? —**How** has Wright done my hair?” —**with** many other relative questions, all answered with patient politeness. **Mrs. Elton** then said, “Noboby can think less of dress in general than I do—but upon such an occasion as this, when every body’s eyes are so much upon me, and in compliment to the Westons—who I have no doubt are giving this ball chiefly to do me honour—I would not wish to be inferior to others. **And** I see very few pearls in

弗兰克·丘吉尔回到爱玛身旁的座位；待贝茨小姐安静下来后，她不可避免地听见了站在稍后方的埃尔顿太太与费尔法克斯小姐的交谈——他显得心事重重。至于他是否也在侧耳倾听，她却无从判断。在对简的衣着仪态发表过许多恭维之后（这些恭维被谦和有礼地全盘接受了），埃尔顿太太显然期待着对方投桃报李——于是便有了“您觉得我的长裙如何？我的蕾丝镶边可还雅致？赖特小姐为我梳的发式可还相称？”一连串相关问话都得到了耐心周到的应答。随后埃尔顿太太又道：“平心而论，再没有人比我更不注重衣着打扮了——但在今天这样的场合，众人的目光都聚焦在我身上，再加上为了向韦斯

the room except mine. —**So** Frank Churchill 顿夫妇致意——我毫不怀疑
is a capital dancer, I understand. —**We** shall 这场舞会主要是为向我致敬
see if our styles suit. —**A** fine young man cer- 而举办的——我总不愿显得
tainly is Frank Churchill. **I** like him very well. 比旁人逊色。放眼整个舞厅，
” 除我之外也见不到几串珍珠
项链呢。——听说弗兰克 ·
丘吉尔是个跳舞好手。——
且看我们的舞步能否相得益彰。——他确实是个出众的
年轻人。我对他颇有好感。”

At this moment Frank began talking so vigorously, that Emma could not but imagine he had overheard his own praises, and did not want to hear more;—and the voices of the ladies were drowned for a while, till another suspension brought Mrs. **Elton's** tones again distinctly forward. —**Mr. Elton** had just joined them, and his wife was exclaiming,

就在这时，弗兰克突然起劲地谈笑起来，爱玛不禁猜想他准是听见人家夸他，不爱听下去；几位女客的谈话声一时被淹没了，直到后来才又听见埃尔顿太太特别清楚的话音——原来埃尔顿先生刚来到她们这里，他太太正在大声嚷着：

“**Oh! you** have found us out at last, have you, in our seclusion? —**I** was this moment telling Jane, I thought you would begin to be impatient for tidings of us. ”

“哦！你终于找到我们了，在这僻静的地方？——我刚刚还在跟简说呢，料想你该等我们的消息等得不耐烦了。”

“Jane! ”—repeated Frank Churchill, with “简!”弗兰克·丘吉尔重复道, a look of surprize and displeasure. — “That 神色间带着惊讶与不快, “这 is easy—but Miss Fairfax does not disapprove 倒容易——不过我想, 费尔 it, I suppose. ” 法克斯小姐总不会反对吧。”

“How do you like Mrs. Elton? ”said Emma “你觉得埃尔顿太太怎么样?” in a whisper. 爱玛低声问道。

“Not at all.” “一点也不。”

“You are ungrateful.” “你真是忘恩负义。”

“Ungrateful! —What do you mean? ” “忘恩负义! 你这话是什么意思?”她随即从蹙眉转为微笑
Then changing from a frown to a smile—“No, —“不, 别告诉我——我不想 tell me—I do not want to know what 你解释。——我父亲在
you mean. —Where is my father? —When 哪儿? 我们什么时候开始跳舞?
are we to begin dancing? ”

Emma could hardly understand him; he 爱玛简直无法理解他; 他似乎 seemed in an odd humour. He walked off to 情绪古怪。他走开去找他 find his father, but was quickly back again with 父亲, 但很快又同韦斯顿夫 both Mr. and Mrs. Weston. He had met 妇一起回来了。他遇见他们 with them in a little perplexity, which must 时, 他们正有些为难事, 必须 be laid before Emma. It had just occurred 向爱玛说明。韦斯顿太太刚 to Mrs. Weston that Mrs. Elton must be 刚想到, 这次舞会必须请埃 asked to begin the ball; that she would expect 尔顿太太带头跳; 埃尔顿太

it; which interfered with all their wishes of giving Emma that distinction. —**Emma** heard the sad truth with fortitude.

太自己也会这样期待。这样
一来，他们本想给爱玛的荣
光就要受到影响——爱玛听
这这个坏消息时倒很坚强。

“**And** what are we to do for a proper partner for her? ”**said** Mr. **Weston**. “**She** will think Frank ought to ask her. ”

“**那**我们该给她找个什么样的舞伴才好呢? ”**韦斯顿**先生说。“**她**会认为弗兰克应该请她跳舞的。”

Frank turned instantly to Emma, to claim her former promise; and boasted himself an engaged man, which his father looked his most perfect approbation of—and it then appeared that Mrs. **Weston** was wanting him to dance with Mrs. **Elton** himself, and that their business was to help to persuade him into it, which was done pretty soon. —**Mr. Weston** and Mrs. **Elton** led the way, Mr. **Frank Churchill** and Miss Woodhouse followed. **Emma** must submit to stand second to Mrs. **Elton**, though she had always considered the ball as peculiarly for her. **It** was almost enough to make her think of marrying. **Mrs. Elton** had undoubtedly the advantage, at this time, in vanity completely gratified; for

弗兰克立即转向爱玛，要求她履行先前的承诺，并得意洋洋地宣称自己已是有约在身的人——老丘吉尔先生对此流露出再满意不过的神情。**这时**才得知，韦斯顿太太原是想让他亲自与埃尔顿太太跳这场舞，而他们方才的密谈正是为了劝说他接受这个安排。**事情**很快便谈妥了——韦斯顿先生与埃尔顿太太领头，弗兰克·丘吉尔先生与伍德豪斯小姐紧随其后。**爱玛**只得屈居埃尔顿太太之后，尽管她始终认为这场舞会本是为她而设。**这种**

though she had intended to begin with Frank Churchill, she could not lose by the change. **Mr. Weston** might be his son's superior. — **In** spite of this little rub, however, Emma was smiling with enjoyment, delighted to see the respectable length of the set as it was forming, and to feel that she had so many hours of unusual festivity before her. — **She** was more disturbed by Mr. **Knightley**' s not dancing than by any thing else. — **There** he was, among the standers-by, where he ought not to be; he ought to be dancing,—not classing himself with the husbands, and fathers, and whist-players, who were pretending to feel an interest in the dance till their rubbers were made up,—so young as he looked! — **He** could not have appeared to greater advantage perhaps anywhere, than where he had placed himself. **His** tall, firm, upright figure, among the bulky forms and stooping shoulders of the elderly men, was such as Emma felt must draw every body's eyes; and, excepting her own partner, there was not one among the whole row of young men who could be compared with him. — **He** moved a few steps nearer, and those 委屈几乎要让她萌生出嫁的念头。此时此刻，埃尔顿太太在虚荣心的满足上确实占尽上风——虽然她原计划与弗兰克·丘吉尔开场，但现在的安排于她毫无损失。韦斯顿先生或许比他儿子更胜一筹呢。尽管有这点小小的不快，爱玛仍愉悦地浅笑着，眼见舞队列成长龙，想到自己将度过数小时难得的欢庆时光，心中甚是欢喜。唯一令她不安的是奈特利先生竟不跳舞——他站在旁观人群里，实在不该如此；他应当翩翩起舞才是，不该把自己归入那些丈夫、父亲和牌友之列，那些人装出对跳舞感兴趣的模樣，实则只等着凑够牌局。他看起来还那么年轻！无论置身何处，他都不会比现在的位置更显得出众了。在那些体态臃肿、佝偻着背的长者中间，他那挺拔坚毅的身姿如爱玛所料地吸

few steps were enough to prove in how gentlemanlike a manner, with what natural grace, he must have danced, would he but take the trouble. —**Whenever** she caught his eye, she forced him to smile; but in general he was looking grave. **She** wished he could love a ballroom better, and could like Frank Churchill better. —**He** seemed often observing her. **She** must not flatter herself that he thought of her dancing, but if he were criticising her behaviour, she did not feel afraid. **There** was nothing like flirtation between her and her partner. **They** seemed more like cheerful, easy friends, than lovers. **That** Frank Churchill thought less of her than he had done, was indubitable.

引了所有人的目光。除了她的舞伴之外，整排年轻绅士无人能与他媲美。他向前踱了几步，仅这寥寥数步足以证明：只要他愿意，定能以何等绅士的风范、天生的优雅翩然起舞。每当与他的目光相遇，爱玛总要迫使他报以微笑，但大多时候他总显得神色凝重。她真希望他能对舞会多些热情，对弗兰克·丘吉尔多些好感。他似乎时常注视着她，但她不敢自作多情地认为他是在欣赏她的舞姿，即便他是在评判她的举止，她也毫不心虚。她与舞伴之间毫无调情之态，倒更像是一对轻松愉快的挚友，而非恋人。毋庸置疑，弗兰克·丘吉尔对她的热忱已不如往昔。

The ball proceeded pleasantly. **The** anxious cares, the incessant attentions of Mrs. **Weston**, were not thrown away. **Every** body seemed happy; and the praise of being a de-

舞会进行得十分愉快。韦斯顿太太那殷切的关怀、无微不至的照应都没有白费。人人都显得很快乐；这场舞会

lightful ball, which is seldom bestowed till after a ball has ceased to be, was repeatedly given in the very beginning of the existence of this. **Of** very important, very recordable events, it was not more productive than such meetings usually are. **There** was one, however, which Emma thought something of. —**The** two last dances before supper were begun, and Harriet had no partner;—the only young lady sitting down;—and so equal had been hitherto the number of dancers, that how there could be any one disengaged was the wonder! — **But** Emma's wonder lessened soon afterwards, on seeing Mr. **Elton** sauntering about. He would not ask Harriet to dance if it were possible to be avoided: she was sure he would not —and she was expecting him every moment to escape into the card-room.

令人心旷神怡的赞誉之声——这种赞誉在舞会尚在进行时实在难得——早在开场之际便不绝于耳。若论及意义重大的、值得载入史册的事件，这次舞会倒也不比寻常聚会多出几分。不过倒有一件事，爱玛觉得颇值得玩味——晚宴前的最后两曲舞开始了，哈丽特竟没有舞伴，成了全场唯一枯坐的年轻小姐；此前舞伴人数一直恰好相当，此刻竟有人落单实在令人诧异！但爱玛的诧异很快便消退了，因为她瞥见埃尔顿先生正在场边踱步。只要能避开，他断不会邀请哈丽特跳舞——她确信他绝不会——此刻她正料定他随时要溜进牌室去呢。

Escape, however, was not his plan. **He** came to the part of the room where the sitters-by were collected, spoke to some, and walked about in front of them, as if to shew his liberty, and his resolution of maintaining it. **He** 然而他并不打算溜走。他走到房间那头，在旁观者聚集的地方停下，与几个人交谈，在他们面前来回踱步，仿佛要彰显自己的自由意志与坚

did not omit being sometimes directly before Miss Smith, or speaking to those who were close to her. —**Emma** saw it. **She** was not yet dancing; she was working her way up from the bottom, and had therefore leisure to look around, and by only turning her head a little she saw it all. **When** she was half-way up the set, the whole group were exactly behind her, and she would no longer allow her eyes to watch; but Mr. **Elton** was so near, that she heard every syllable of a dialogue which just then took place between him and Mrs. **We-ston**; and she perceived that his wife, who was standing immediately above her, was not only listening also, but even encouraging him by significant glances. —**The** kind-hearted, gentle Mrs. **Weston** had left her seat to join him and say, “Do not you dance, Mr. **Elton**? ” to which his prompt reply was, “Most readily, Mrs. **Weston**, if you will dance with me.”

守自由的决心。他时不忘特意走到史密斯小姐正前方，或是与紧挨着她的人们搭话——这一切都被爱玛看在眼里。她尚未加入舞队，正从队列末端向前移动，因此有空闲环顾四周，只需稍稍偏头便能尽收眼底。当她行进至舞队中段时，那群人恰好都在她身后，她不便再转头张望；但埃尔顿先生离得那样近，他与韦斯顿太太的对话每字每句都清晰入耳。她注意到站在正上方的埃尔顿太太不仅同样在侧耳倾听，甚至还在用意味深长的眼神怂恿丈夫——那位性情温厚的韦斯顿太太此时已离开座位走到他跟前问道：“您不跳舞吗，埃尔顿先生？”他立即应声道：“非常乐意，韦斯顿太太，只要您愿意做我的舞伴。”

“Me! —oh! no—I would get you a better partner than myself. I am no dancer.”

“我！——哦！不——我会给您找个比我强的舞伴。我可

不会跳舞。”

“If Mrs. **Gilbert** wishes to dance,” said he, “I shall have great pleasure, I am sure—for, though beginning to feel myself rather an old married man, and that my dancing days are over, it would give me very great pleasure at any time to stand up with an old friend like Mrs. **Gilbert.** ”

“倘若吉尔伯特太太有意跳舞，”他说道，“我自然十分乐意奉陪——虽说我也自觉是个上了年纪的已婚男子，跳舞的时日早已过去，但能与吉尔伯特太太这样的故交共舞，无论何时都令我倍感欢欣。”

“Mrs. **Gilbert** does not mean to dance, but there is a young lady disengaged whom I should be very glad to see dancing—Miss Smith.” “Miss Smith! —oh! —I had not observed. —**You** are extremely obliging—and if I were not an old married man. —But my dancing days are over, Mrs. **Weston.** **You** will excuse me. **Any** thing else I should be most happy to do, at your command—but my dancing days are over.”

“吉尔伯特太太不打算跳舞，不过有位年轻小姐正闲着无事，我很乐意看她跳舞——就是史密斯小姐。”“史密斯小姐！哦！我方才没留意——您真是太周到了——可惜我是个有家室的老夫啦。我的跳舞岁月早已过去，韦斯顿太太。请您见谅。若是别的吩咐，我定当欣然从命——只是我的跳舞岁月确实一去不复返了。”

Mrs. **Weston** said no more; and Emma could imagine with what surprize and mortifi-

韦斯顿太太没再说什么；爱玛可以想见，她回到座位上

cation she must be returning to her seat. **This** was Mr. **Elton!** **the** amiable, obliging, gentle Mr. **Elton.** —**She** looked round for a moment; he had joined Mr. **Knightley** at a little distance, and was arranging himself for settled conversation, while smiles of high glee passed between him and his wife.

时，心里一定有多么惊讶和懊丧。**这就是埃尔顿先生！和蔼可亲、彬彬有礼、温文尔雅的埃尔顿先生。**——她环视片刻；只见他已走到不远处奈特利先生身旁，正摆出长谈的架势，两人与各自的妻子相视而笑，眉宇间洋溢着极度的欢愉。

She would not look again. **Her** heart was in a glow, and she feared her face might be as hot.

她不愿再看一眼。**她**的心在发烫，生怕自己的脸也烧得通红。

In another moment a happier sight caught her; —Mr. **Knightley** leading Harriet to the set! —**Never** had she been more surprised, seldom more delighted, than at that instant. **She** was all pleasure and gratitude, both for Harriet and herself, and longed to be thanking him; and though too distant for speech, her countenance said much, as soon as she could catch his eye again.

转瞬间，更欢欣的景象映入她眼帘——奈特利先生正领着哈丽特走向舞群！她从未经历过比此刻更意外的时刻，也鲜少体验过这般由衷的欢欣。为哈丽特也为自己，她满心洋溢着喜悦与感激，恨不能立刻向他道谢。虽因相隔太远无法言语，待他的目光再次转来时，她眉目间已诉尽万语千言。

His dancing proved to be just what she had believed it, extremely good; and Harriet would have seemed almost too lucky, if it had not been for the cruel state of things before, and for the very complete enjoyment and very high sense of the distinction which her happy features announced. **It** was not thrown away on her, she bounded higher than ever, flew farther down the middle, and was in a continual course of smiles.

他的舞技果然如她所料那般精湛至极；若不是想起先前那令人心碎的境况，若不是看见哈丽特眉飞色舞的脸上洋溢着尽兴的欢愉与无上的荣宠，她几乎要觉得这姑娘幸运得过了头。这份殊荣并未被辜负——她比往常跳得更轻盈，在舞队列中穿梭得更远，脸上始终绽放着不绝的笑意。

Mr. Elton had retreated into the card-room, looking (Emma trusted) very foolish. **She** did not think he was quite so hardened as his wife, though growing very like her;—she spoke some of her feelings, by observing audibly to her partner,

埃尔顿先生已退回到牌室，神情（爱玛相信）显得十分愚蠢。她认为他还不至于像他妻子那般铁石心肠，不过倒是越来越像她了——那位夫人正通过向搭档高声说话，宣泄着内心的某些情绪：

“**Knightley** has taken pity on poor little Miss Smith! —**Very** good-natured, I declare. ”

“**奈特利**先生居然怜悯起可怜的史密斯小姐来了！——真是好心肠，我敢说。”

Supper was announced. **The** move began; and Miss Bates might be heard from that

晚餐宣布开始了。众人开始移动；从那一刻起，贝茨小

moment, without interruption, till her being seated at table and taking up her spoon. 姐的声音便不绝于耳，直到她在餐桌前落座拿起汤匙才告一段落。

“**Jane**, Jane, my dear Jane, where are you? —**Here** is your tippet. **Mrs. Weston** begs you to put on your tippet. **She** says she is afraid there will be draughts in the passage, though every thing has been done—One door nailed up—Quantities of matting—My dear Jane, indeed you must. **Mr. Churchill**, oh! **you** are too obliging! **How** well you put it on! —**so** gratified! **Excellent** dancing indeed! —**Yes**, my dear, I ran home, as I said I should, to help grandmama to bed, and got back again, and nobody missed me. —**I** set off without saying a word, just as I told you. **Grandmama** was quite well, had a charming evening with **Mr. Woodhouse**, a vast deal of chat, and backgammon. —**Tea** was made downstairs, biscuits and baked apples and wine before she came away: amazing luck in some of her throws: and she inquired a great deal about you, how you were amused, and who were your partners. ‘**Oh!** ’**said** I, ‘I shall not forestall Jane; I left her dancing with **Mr. George Ot-** ” 简，简，我亲爱的简，你在哪儿？——你的披肩在这儿。韦斯顿太太请你务必披上。她说担心走廊里有穿堂风，虽然已经做足了防备——扇门钉死了，铺了好多毡垫——亲爱的简，你真得披上。丘吉尔先生，哦！您太周到了！您帮她披得多妥帖！真叫人欣慰！舞确实跳得精彩！——是啊亲爱的，我照先前说的跑回家服侍外婆睡下，再赶回来，谁都没发现我不在。我按说好的悄悄溜走。外婆精神很好，和伍德豪斯先生度过了愉快的夜晚，聊了许多闲话，还玩了双陆棋。楼下备了茶点，有饼干、烤苹果和葡萄酒；她掷骰子手气好极了；还不住打听你玩得可开心，舞伴都是谁。’哦！’我说，’我可不能替简先说；

way; she will love to tell you all about it herself 我离开时她正和乔治·奥特
to-morrow: her first partner was Mr. **Elton**, 韦先生跳舞; 明天她准乐意
I do not know who will ask her next, perhaps 亲自跟您细说: 她的第一支
Mr. **William** Cox. 'My dear sir, you are 舞是和埃尔顿先生跳的, 不
too obliging. —**I**s there nobody you would 知下一位邀舞的是谁, 或许
not rather? —**I** am not helpless. **Sir**, you 是威廉·考克斯先生。' 亲爱
are most kind. **Upon** my word, Jane on one 的先生, 您太客气了。——
arm, and me on the other! —**Stop**, stop, let 难道没有更合您心意的舞伴
us stand a little back, Mrs. **Elton** is going; 吗? ——我能照顾自己。先
dear Mrs. **Elton**, how elegant she looks! — 生, 您实在太殷勤了。说真
Beautiful lace! —**Now** we all follow in her 的, 您一边挽着简一边挽着
train. **Quite** the queen of the evening! — 我! ——等等, 我们往后站
Well, here we are at the passage. **Two** steps, 些, 埃尔顿太太要走了; 亲
Jane, take care of the two steps. **Oh!** **no**, 爱的埃尔顿太太, 她看上去
there is but one. **Well**, I was persuaded there 多高雅! 精美的蕾丝! 现在
were two. **How** very odd! I was convinced 我们都跟着她走。简直是今
there were two, and there is but one. I never 晚的皇后! ——啊, 我们到
saw any thing equal to the comfort and style 走廊了。两级台阶, 简, 当
—Candles everywhere. —**I** was telling you 心两级。哦! 不对, 只有一
of your grandmama, Jane,—There was a lit- 级。奇怪! 我明明记得是两
tle disappointment. —**The** baked apples and 级, 结果只有一级。这般舒
biscuits, excellent in their way, you know; but 适考究的排场真是见所未见
there was a delicate fricassee of sweetbread and —到处都点着蜡烛。我刚
some asparagus brought in at first, and good 说到你外婆, 简——其实有
Mr. **Woodhouse**, not thinking the aspara- 点小遗憾。烤苹果和饼干固

gus quite boiled enough, sent it all out again. 然美味，但起初端上来一道
Now there is nothing grandmama loves better 精致的小牛胸腺炖芦笋，好
than sweetbread and asparagus—so she was 心的伍德豪斯先生觉得芦笋
rather disappointed, but we agreed we would 不够熟，又让人撤下去了。你
not speak of it to any body, for fear of its 知道外婆最爱的就是小牛胸
getting round to dear Miss Woodhouse, who 腺配芦笋——所以她有点失
would be so very much concerned! —**W**ell, 望，不过我们说好不告诉别
this is brilliant! **I** am all amazement! **c**ould 人，免得传到亲爱的伍德豪
not have supposed any thing! —**S**uch 斯小姐耳朵里，她会多么过
elegance and profusion! —**I** have seen nothing 意不去！——天哪，这场面
like it since—**W**ell, where shall we sit? **w**here 太辉煌了！我简直眼花缭乱！
shall we sit? **A**nywhere, so that Jane is **w**here **W**here **I** sit is of no 万万想不到！——如此雅致，
not in a draught. **W**here **I** sit is of no 如此丰盛！自那回之后我再
consequence. **O**h! **d**o you recommend this 没见过这般景象！——我们
side? —**W**ell, I am sure, Mr. **C**hurchill 坐哪儿好？坐哪儿都行，只
—**o**nly it seems too good—but just as you 要简不吹到穿堂风。我坐哪
please. **W**hat you direct in this house cannot 儿都不打紧。哦！您推荐这
be wrong. **D**ear Jane, how shall we ever rec- 边？——丘吉尔先生，既然
ollect half the dishes for grandmama? **S**oup 您这么说——只是这位置未
too! **B**less me! I should not be helped so soon, 免太好了——但全听您的安
but it smells most excellent, and I cannot help 排。在这宅子里您指点的地
beginning. ” 方准没错。亲爱的简，这么
多菜肴我们怎么记得住跟外婆说？还有汤！哎呀！本不
该这么快就用餐，可这香气

实在诱人，我忍不住要动勺了。”

Emma had no opportunity of speaking to Mr. **Knightley** till after supper; but, when they were all in the ballroom again, her eyes invited him irresistibly to come to her and be thanked. **He** was warm in his reprobation of Mr. **Elton**' s conduct; it had been unpardonable rudeness; and Mrs. **Elton**' s looks also received the due share of censure.

直到晚饭后，爱玛才找到机会与奈特利先生交谈；但当众人再次回到舞厅时，她的眼神便不由自主地邀他上前接受谢意。他激烈地谴责埃尔顿先生的举止，认为那是不可原谅的粗鲁行为；同时对埃尔顿太太的神情也给予了应有的批评。

“**They** aimed at wounding more than Harriet,” said he. “**Emma**, why is it that they are your enemies? ”

“他们的目标不止是伤害哈丽特，”他说道。“爱玛，他们为何与你为敌？”

He looked with smiling penetration; and, on receiving no answer, added, “She ought not to be angry with you, I suspect, whatever he may be. —**To** that surmise, you say nothing, of course; but confess, Emma, that you did want him to marry Harriet. ”

他带着微笑，目光犀利地注视着；见没有回应，便补充道：“我猜想，不管他怎样，她总不该生你的气吧？——对于这个猜测，你自然无话可说；不过老实承认吧，爱玛，你确实曾希望他娶哈丽特。”

“I did,” replied Emma, “and they cannot for-

“我确实说过，”爱玛答道，“他

give me. ”

们不能原谅我。”

He shook his head; but there was a smile of indulgence with it, and he only said,

他摇了摇头，但脸上带着宽容的笑意，只说道：

“**I** shall not scold you. **I** leave you to your own reflections. ”

“**我**不会责备你，我让你自己去反省。”

“**C**an you trust me with such flatterers? — **D**oes my vain spirit ever tell me I am wrong? ”

“您竟能放心把我交给这般谄媚之徒？——我这虚荣心可曾提醒过我半句不是？”

“**N**ot your vain spirit, but your serious spirit. —**I**f one leads you wrong, I am sure the other tells you of it. ”

“**并**非你那轻浮的脾性，而是你持重的本性——倘若前者引你误入歧途，我确信后者必会予以规劝。”

“**I** do own myself to have been completely mistaken in Mr. **E**lton. **T**here is a littleness about him which you discovered, and which I did not: and I was fully convinced of his being in love with Harriet. **I**t was through a series of strange blunders! ”

“我确实承认自己完全错看了埃尔顿先生。他身上有一种你察觉到了而我却没有的小家子气；我当初还深信他爱着哈丽特。这一连串的误会真是荒唐透顶！”

“**A**nd, in return for your acknowledging so much, I will do you the justice to say, that you would have chosen for him better than he has chosen for himself. —**H**arriet Smith has

”既然你承认了这么多，我也应当公正地说一句：若是让你来替他选择，定会比他自己的选择强得多。哈里特·

some first-rate qualities, which Mrs. Elton 史密斯具备某些一流品质, is totally without. An unpretending, single-minded, artless girl—infinitely to be preferred by any man of sense and taste to such a woman as Mrs. Elton. I found Harriet more conversable than I expected.” 而这些是埃尔顿夫人完全欠缺的。一个谦逊质朴、心地纯真的姑娘——但凡有见识有品位的男子, 都会觉得她远比埃尔顿夫人那样的女子更可贵。我发现哈里特比预想的更善于交谈。”

Emma was extremely gratified. —They 爱玛感到心满意足。——这时, 韦斯顿先生招呼大家继续跳舞的喧闹声打断了他们的谈话。

“Come Miss Woodhouse, Miss Otway, Miss Fairfax, what are you all doing? —Come Emma, set your companions the example. Every body is lazy! Every body is asleep!” 来呀, 伍德豪斯小姐, 奥特韦小姐, 费尔法克斯小姐, 你们都在做什么呢? —爱玛, 快给你的伙伴们做个榜样。人人都懒洋洋的! 人人都睡着了!”

“I am ready,” said Emma, “whenever I am wanted.” “我随时都准备好了,” 爱玛说, “只要有人需要我。”

“Whom are you going to dance with?” asked Mr. Knightley. “你打算和谁跳舞?” 奈特利先生问道。

She hesitated a moment, and then replied, “With you, if you will ask me.” 她犹豫了一下，随即答道：“只要你开口邀请，我就愿意同去。”

“Will you?” said he, offering his hand.

“你愿意吗？”他伸出手来说道。

“Indeed I will. You have shewn that you can dance, and you know we are not really so much brother and sister as to make it at all improper.”

“我当然会。你已经证明了自己会跳舞，而且你知道我们并非真正的兄妹关系，完全不必顾虑什么不妥。”

“Brother and sister! no, indeed.”

“兄妹！不，那可不成。”

CHAPTER III

第三章

This little explanation with Mr. Knightley 与奈特利先生的这番小小解释令爱玛深感欣慰。翌日清晨她在草坪散步时，这仍是 of the agreeable recollections of the ball, which she walked about the lawn the next morning to enjoy. —She was extremely glad that they had come to so good an understanding respecting the Eltons, and that their opinions of both husband and wife were so much alike; and his praise of Harriet, his concession in her favour, was peculiarly gratifying. The impertinence of the Eltons, which for a few minutes had threatened

舞会回忆中令她回味无穷的片段——他们能就埃尔顿夫妇达成如此融洽的共识，对那对夫妇的看法如此不谋而合，实在令她欣喜万分；而他对哈丽特的称赞，为她做出的让步，更让她倍感欣慰。埃尔顿夫妇那番险些毁

ened to ruin the rest of her evening, had been the occasion of some of its highest satisfactions; and she looked forward to another happy result —the cure of Harriet's infatuation. —**From** Harriet's manner of speaking of the circumstance before they quitted the ballroom, she had strong hopes. **It** seemed as if her eyes were suddenly opened, and she were enabled to see that Mr. **Elton** was not the superior creature she had believed him. **The** fever was over, and Emma could harbour little fear of the pulse being quickened again by injurious courtesy. **She** depended on the evil feelings of the Eltons for supplying all the discipline of pointed neglect that could be farther requisite. —**Harriet** rational, Frank Churchill not too much in love, and Mr. **Knightley** not wanting to quarrel with her, how very happy a summer must be before her!

掉她当晚兴致的无礼举动，反倒促成了几桩最令她满意的美事；她期待着另一桩喜讯——治愈哈丽特的痴心妄想。从哈丽特离开舞厅前谈及此事的神态来看，她已怀有十足把握。仿佛哈丽特突然睁开了双眼，终于看清埃尔顿先生并非她想象中那般卓越超凡。狂热已然消退，爱玛几乎不必担心那些伤人的虚礼会再度令她心跳加速。她指望着埃尔顿夫妇的恶性能代行一切必要的冷落惩戒——哈丽特恢复理智，弗兰克·丘吉尔未陷情网太深，奈特利先生亦无意与她争执，眼前这个夏日该是何等惬意啊！

She was not to see Frank Churchill this morning. **He** had told her that he could not allow himself the pleasure of stopping at Hartfield, as he was to be at home by the middle of the day. **She** did not regret it.

这天早晨她见不到弗兰克·邱吉尔。他告诉她，他不能让自己享受在哈特菲尔德停留的乐趣，因为他必须在中午之前赶回家。她对此并不感到遗憾。

Having arranged all these matters, looked them through, and put them all to rights, she was just turning to the house with spirits freshened up for the demands of the two little boys, as well as of their grandpapa, when the great iron sweep-gate opened, and two persons entered whom she had never less expected to see together—Frank Churchill, with Harriet leaning on his arm—actually Harriet! —A moment sufficed to convince her that something extraordinary had happened. **Harriet** looked white and frightened, and he was trying to cheer her. —**The** iron gates and the front-door were not twenty yards asunder;—they were all three soon in the hall, and Harriet immediately sinking into a chair fainted away.

料理完这些事务，逐一检点妥当后，她正要转身回屋，精神也为应对两个小男孩和外祖父的需求重新振作起来，这时那扇巨大的铁转门开了，走进来两个人——她万万没想到会看见他们结伴而来——竟是弗兰克·丘吉尔搀着哈丽特的手臂走来——真的是哈丽特！——只消片刻工夫她便确信发生了不寻常的事。哈丽特面色惨白神情惶恐，他正努力安抚着她。铁门与前厅门口相距不过二十码——三人转眼已进入大厅，哈丽特当即瘫坐在椅子上昏厥过去。

A young lady who faints, must be recovered; questions must be answered, and surprises be explained. **Such** events are very interesting, but the suspense of them cannot last long. A few minutes made Emma acquainted with the whole.

一位晕倒的年轻小姐总得被救醒，问题总得回答，惊异之情也总得加以解释。这类事件固然饶有兴味，但是连谜团也持续不了多久。短短几分钟，爱玛便知晓了事情的全部经过。

Miss Smith, and Miss Bickerton, another parlour boarder at Mrs. **Goddard's**, who had been also at the ball, had walked out together, and taken a road, the Richmond road, which, though apparently public enough for safety, had led them into alarm. —**About** half a mile beyond Highbury, making a sudden turn, and deeply shaded by elms on each side, it became for a considerable stretch very retired; and when the young ladies had advanced some way into it, they had suddenly perceived at a small distance before them, on a broader patch of greensward by the side, a party of gypsies. A child on the watch, came towards them to beg; and Miss Bickerton, excessively frightened, gave a great scream, and calling on Harriet to follow her, ran up a steep bank, cleared a slight hedge at the top, and made the best of her way by a short cut back to Highbury. **But** poor Harriet could not follow. **She** had suffered very much from cramp after dancing, and her first attempt to mount the bank brought on such a return of it as made her absolutely powerless—and in this state, and exceedingly terrified, she had been obliged to remain.

史密斯小姐与另一位寄宿在戈达德太太家的客厅寄宿生**比克顿**小姐——她也参加了舞会——一同外出散步，沿着通往里士满的大路走去。这条路虽然看似足够公开安全，却让她们陷入了惊恐。走出海伯里大约半英里处，道路突然拐弯，两侧榆树浓荫蔽日，使相当长的一段路变得十分僻静。当两位年轻小姐刚走进这段路不久，就突然发现前方不远处，在路旁更宽阔的草坡上，聚集着一群吉普赛人。一个放风的孩子朝她们走来讨钱，比克顿小姐吓得魂飞魄散，尖叫一声，招呼哈丽特跟上，便冲上陡峭的土坡，翻过顶端的矮树篱，抄近路拼命朝海伯里奔去。可怜的哈丽特却跟不上她。舞会后她的腿抽筋得厉害，第一次尝试爬坡就引发剧烈抽搐，令她完全动弹不得。她只得留在原地，又

惊又怕，束手无策。

How the trampers might have behaved, had the young ladies been more courageous, must be doubtful; but such an invitation for attack could not be resisted; and Harriet was soon assailed by half a dozen children, headed by a stout woman and a great boy, all clamorous, and impertinent in look, though not absolutely in word. —**M**ore and more frightened, she immediately promised them money, and taking out her purse, gave them a shilling, and begged them not to want more, or to use her ill. —**S**he was then able to walk, though but slowly, and was moving away—but her terror and her purse were too tempting, and she was followed, or rather surrounded, by the whole gang, demanding more.

若是这几位年轻小姐胆量再大些，那些流浪汉会如何行事倒还难说；然而这样招引袭击的诱惑实在难以抗拒；哈丽特立刻遭到五六个孩子的围攻，领头的是个粗壮女人和一个半大小子，众人吵吵嚷嚷，虽未口出恶言，神色却十分无礼。她吓得魂不附体，立即答应给钱，掏出钱袋给了他们一先令，央求他们别再要钱，也别为难她。这时她总算能走动——虽然步履缓慢——正要离开，可她的惊惶和钱袋实在太诱人，那帮人全都跟了上来，或者说围拢上来，向她索要更多钱财。

In this state Frank Churchill had found her, she trembling and conditioning, they loud and insolent. **B**y a most fortunate chance his leaving Highbury had been delayed so as to bring him to her assistance at this critical moment.

就在这般情景下，弗兰克·邱吉尔发现了她——她浑身颤抖着正在讨饶，而那两人却气势汹汹地高声威逼。机缘巧合的是，他离开海伯里的

The pleasantness of the morning had induced him to walk forward, and leave his horses to meet him by another road, a mile or two beyond Highbury—and happening to have borrowed a pair of scissors the night before of Miss Bates, and to have forgotten to restore them, he had been obliged to stop at her door, and go in for a few minutes: he was therefore later than he had intended; and being on foot, was unseen by the whole party till almost close to them. The terror which the woman and boy had been creating in Harriet was then their own portion. He had left them completely frightened; and Harriet eagerly clinging to him, and hardly able to speak, had just strength enough to reach Hartfield, before her spirits were quite overcome. It was his idea to bring her to Hartfield: he had thought of no other place.

This was the amount of the whole story,—of his communication and of Harriet's as soon as she had recovered her senses and speech.—He dared not stay longer than to see her

行程有所耽搁，恰好在危急关头赶来相助。因着晨光宜人，他心血来潮提前下了马车，吩咐车夫沿着另一条路在前方一两英里外等候。偏巧前夜他向贝茨小姐借过一把剪刀忘了归还，不得不登门逗留片刻，动身时比原计划晚了时辰。此刻他徒步而行，直到走近那群人才被察觉。方才那对母子施加在哈丽特身上的恐惧，此刻全然落回了他们自己头上。那两人被他吓得魂飞魄散，而哈丽特紧紧抓着他的手臂激动难言，勉强支撑着走到哈特菲尔德门前，紧绷的心神便彻底溃决。送她来哈特菲尔德原是弗兰克的主意——除却此地，他再想不出更妥帖的去处了。

这便是事情的全部经过——既有他的叙述，也有哈丽特恢复神志和言语后的补充。他不敢久留，只待确认她安

well; these several delays left him not another minute to lose; and Emma engaging to give assurance of her safety to Mrs. **Goddard**, and notice of there being such a set of people in the neighbourhood to Mr. **Knightley**, he set off, with all the grateful blessings that she could utter for her friend and herself.

然无恙便匆匆离去；这接二连三的耽搁已使他再不能耽搁片刻。爱玛承诺会向戈达德太太报平安，并通知奈特利先生附近有这伙人出没。他这才启程离去，满载着她为朋友也为自己道出的千恩万谢。

Such an adventure as this,—a fine young man and a lovely young woman thrown together in such a way, could hardly fail of suggesting certain ideas to the coldest heart and the steadiest brain. **So** Emma thought, at least. **Could** a linguist, could a grammarian, could even a mathematician have seen what she did, have witnessed their appearance together, and heard their history of it, without feeling that circumstances had been at work to make them peculiarly interesting to each other? —**How** much more must an imaginist, like herself, be on fire with speculation and foresight! —**especially** with such a groundwork of anticipation as her mind had already made.

这样—桩奇遇——一个英俊青年与一位可爱少女如此凑巧地相聚，即便是最冷漠的心肠、最清醒的头脑，也难免要生出几分遐想。爱玛至少是这么认为的。倘若语言学家、文法学者，甚至数学家目睹了她所见的情景，看见他们并肩而立的身影，听闻这段机缘巧合的始末，谁能不觉得种种际遇正悄然将兩人牵系成彼此特殊的存在？更何况像她这般耽于幻想的人，该会怎样被推测与预见的火焰点燃！——尤其当她心底早已铺就这般期待的温床。

It was a very extraordinary thing! **Nothing** 这真是件极不寻常的事！在 of the sort had ever occurred before to any 她记忆中，当地从未有任何 young ladies in the place, within her memory; 年轻姑娘遭遇过此类事件； no rencontre, no alarm of the kind;—and now 既没有过这样的邂逅，也不 it had happened to the very person, and at 曾有过这般惊险——而今偏 the very hour, when the other very person was 偏发生在这样一个人身上， chancing to pass by to rescue her! —**It** cer- 又恰好在另一个恰好路过英 tainly was very extraordinary! —**And** know- 雄救美的时刻！这实在非同 ing, as she did, the favourable state of mind of 寻常！加之她深知此刻两人 each at this period, it struck her the more. **He** 各自的心境，更觉此事意味 was wishing to get the better of his attach- 深长。他正竭力摆脱对她的 ment to herself, she just recovering from her 情愫，她则刚从对埃尔顿先 mania for Mr. **Elton**. **It** seemed as if every 生的痴迷中苏醒。仿佛万事 thing united to promise the most interesting 万物都在协力促成最动人的 consequences. **It** was not possible that the oc- 结局。这样的机缘巧合，定 currence should not be strongly recommending 然会使他们彼此心生好感。 each to the other.

In the few minutes' conversation which she had yet had with him, while Harriet had been partially insensible, he had spoken of her terror, her naïveté, her fervour as she seized and clung to his arm, with a sensibility amused and delighted; and just at last, after Harriet's own account had been given, he had expressed his indignation at the abominable folly of Miss Bick-

在他与哈丽特尚处于半昏迷状态时，他们有过几分钟的交谈。其间他饶有兴致地谈起她的惊慌、她的天真、她抓住他胳膊时那种热烈依恋的情态，言语间既觉有趣又满含欢欣；待哈丽特亲自讲述完遭遇后，他最后更是用最

erton in the warmest terms. **E**very thing was to take its natural course, however, neither impelled nor assisted. **S**he would not stir a step, nor drop a hint. **N**o, she had had enough of interference. **T**here could be no harm in a scheme, a mere passive scheme. **I**t was no more than a wish. **B**eyond it she would on no account proceed.

激烈的言辞表达了对比克顿小姐荒唐行径的愤慨。不过万事都该顺其自然，既不推波助澜也不横加干涉。她决不会多走一步，也不会稍作暗示。是啊，她已经尝够了插手他人事务的滋味。在心底盘算盘算总无妨，这不过是被动的筹谋罢了。充其量只是个愿望而已。除此之外，她断不会再越雷池半步。

Emma's first resolution was to keep her father from the knowledge of what had passed, —aware of the anxiety and alarm it would occasion: but she soon felt that concealment must be impossible. **W**ithin half an hour it was known all over Highbury. **I**t was the very event to engage those who talk most, the young and the low; and all the youth and servants in the place were soon in the happiness of frightful news. **T**he last night's ball seemed lost in the gipsies. **P**oor Mr. **W**oodhouse trembled as he sat, and, as Emma had foreseen, would scarcely be satisfied without their promising never to go beyond the shrubbery

爱玛的第一个决定是不让父亲得知这件事——她深知这会引起他的焦虑和惊恐。但很快她就意识到隐瞒是不可能的。不到半个时辰，整个海伯里都传遍了。这正是那些最爱闲言碎语的人——年轻人和底层仆役——最热衷的话题；当地所有的年轻人和仆役很快就沉浸在这骇人听闻的消息带来的兴奋中。昨晚的舞会似乎已被吉普赛人的事件淹没。可怜的伍德豪斯先生坐在椅子上瑟瑟发

again. It was some comfort to him that many inquiries after himself and Miss Woodhouse (for his neighbours knew that he loved to be inquired after), as well as Miss Smith, were coming in during the rest of the day; and he had the pleasure of returning for answer, that they were all very indifferent—which, though not exactly true, for she was perfectly well, and Harriet not much otherwise, Emma would not interfere with. She had an unhappy state of health in general for the child of such a man, for she hardly knew what indisposition was; and if he did not invent illnesses for her, she could make no figure in a message.

抖，正如爱玛所预料的那样，非要她们保证再也不走出灌木丛才勉强满意。整个白天不断有人来问候伍德豪斯先生和伍德豪斯小姐（邻居们都知道他喜欢被人间候），也问候了史密斯小姐，这给了他些许安慰；而他总是愉快地回答说“大家都无大碍”——虽然这不完全属实（爱玛身体无恙，哈丽特也没什么大碍），但爱玛并不打算纠正。作为这样一个父亲的女儿，她的健康状况实在令人遗憾，因为她几乎从不知病痛为何物；要是他不替她编造些病症，她在传话中就根本显不出分量了。

The gipsies did not wait for the operations of justice; they took themselves off in a hurry. The young ladies of Highbury might have walked again in safety before their panic began, and the whole history dwindled soon into a matter of little importance but to Emma and her nephews:—in her imagination it main-

那伙吉普赛人不等司法当局来追究就匆匆逃散了。海伯里的年轻小姐们本来刚开始惊慌，现在可以重新平安地出去散步了。整个事情很快就被大家淡忘了，唯独爱玛和她的两个外甥没有忘。她

tained its ground, and Henry and John were still asking every day for the story of Harriet and the gipsies, and still tenaciously setting her right if she varied in the slightest particular from the original recital.

脑海里仍然印着这件事；亨利和约翰仍然天天要她讲哈丽特和吉普赛人的故事，要是她讲得有一点出入，跟原来的情节稍有出入，他们就会毫不客气地给她纠正。

CHAPTER IV

第四章

A very few days had passed after this adventure, when Harriet came one morning to Emma with a small parcel in her hand, and after sitting down and hesitating, thus began:

这次险遇过后没几天，哈丽特便带着个小包裹来找爱玛。她坐下后犹豫片刻，这才开口道：

“Miss Woodhouse—if you are at leisure—I have something that I should like to tell you—a sort of confession to make—and then, you know, it will be over.”

“伍德豪斯小姐——如果您有空的话——我有件事想告诉您——算是一种忏悔吧——说完之后，您知道，这件事就算了结了。”

Emma was a good deal surprised; but begged her to speak. There was a seriousness in Harriet’s manner which prepared her, quite as much as her words, for something more than ordinary.

爱玛大为惊讶，但恳请她说下去。哈里特神情严肃，这让她有了心理准备，知道接下来的话非比寻常。

“It is my duty, and I am sure it is my wish,” ”我有责任，而且我确信这也

she continued, “to have no reserves with you on this subject. **As** I am happily quite an altered creature in one respect, it is very fit that you should have the satisfaction of knowing it. I do not want to say more than is necessary—I am too much ashamed of having given way as I have done, and I dare say you understand me.”

是我的愿望，”她继续说道，“在这个问题上对您毫无保留。既然我在某一方面已幸运地完全改变，让您知晓这个情况而使您感到欣慰，实在是再恰当不过。我不愿多说赘言——为自己先前那般失控感到万分羞愧，想必您能明白我的意思。”

“**Yes,**” said Emma, “I hope I do.”

“是的，”爱玛说，“但愿如此。”

“**How** I could so long a time be fancying myself! . . . ”**cried** Harriet, warmly. “**It** seems like madness! I can see nothing at all extraordinary in him now. —I do not care whether I meet him or not—except that of the two I had rather not see him—and indeed I would go any distance round to avoid him—but I do not envy his wife in the least; I neither admire her nor envy her, as I have done: she is very charming, I dare say, and all that, but I think her very ill-tempered and disagreeable—I shall never forget her look the other night! —**However**, I assure you, Miss Woodhouse, I wish her no evil. —**No**, let them be ever so

“我怎能如此长久地沉迷于幻想！. . . ”哈丽特激动地喊道，“这简直像发了疯！如今我看他毫无出众之处——见不见他我都无所谓，除非非要选择，我宁可不见——说真的我宁愿绕远路避开他。但我丝毫不羡慕他的妻子，既不仰慕也不嫉妒，像从前那样：她确实很迷人，我承认，可我觉得她脾气恶劣又惹人厌——我永远忘不了那天晚上她的表情！不过伍德豪斯小姐，我向您保证，我绝

happy together, it will not give me another moment's pang: and to convince you that I have been speaking truth, I am now going to destroy —what I ought to have destroyed long ago— what I ought never to have kept—I know that very well (blushing as she spoke). —**How-ever**, now I will destroy it all—and it is my particular wish to do it in your presence, that you may see how rational I am grown. **Can-not** you guess what this parcel holds? ”**said** she, with a conscious look.

不愿她遭厄运。不，任凭他们多么幸福，都不会再让我有片刻心痛了。为向您证明我所言非虚，我现在要销毁——这本该早就销毁的——这本就不该保留的东西（说这话时她脸红了）。现在我要全部销毁——特别要在您面前这么做，好让您看到我变得多么理智。您猜不出这包裹里是什么吗？”她说着露出心照不宣的神情。

“**Not** the least in the world. —**Did** he ever give you any thing? ”

”一点也不。——他给过你什么东西没有？”

“**No—I** cannot call them gifts; but they are things that I have valued very much. ”

“不——我不能称之为礼物；但它们是我非常珍视的东西。”

She held the parcel towards her, and Emma read the words Most precious treasures on the top. **Her** curiosity was greatly excited. **Harriet** unfolded the parcel, and she looked on with impatience. **Within** abundance of silver paper was a pretty little

她把那个小包递过来，爱玛看见上面写着“最珍贵的宝物”几个字。她的好奇心给大大地激发了。哈丽特把小包打开，她在一旁急不可耐地看着。衬着好多层银箔纸，

Tunbridge-ware box, which Harriet opened: it was well lined with the softest cotton; but, excepting the cotton, Emma saw only a small piece of court-plaster.

里面是一只漂亮的藤布里奇韦尔小盒，哈丽特把盒子打开，只见里面衬着最柔软的棉花；可是，除了棉花，爱玛只看到一小块橡皮膏。

“Now,” said Harriet, “you must recollect.”

“不，我确实不这么认为。”

“Dear me! I should not have thought it possible you could forget what passed in this very room about court-plaster, one of the very last times we ever met in it! —It was but a very few days before I had my sore throat— just before Mr. and Mrs. John Knightley came—I think the very evening. —Do you remember his cutting his finger with your new penknife, and your recommending court-plaster? —But, as you had none about you, and knew I had, you desired me to supply him; and so I took mine out and cut him a piece; but it was a great deal too large, and he cut it smaller, and kept playing some time with what was left, before he gave it back to me. And

” 天哪！我真没想到你竟会忘记！就在这间屋子里，关于我们最橡皮膏的事——那是我们最后一次在这里相聚！就在我喉咙发炎前几天——约翰·奈特利夫妇到来之前——我记得就是那天晚上。你难道不记得他用你的新铅笔刀割破手指，你建议用橡皮膏包扎吗？可你身边没有，知道我有，就让我给他一块；于是我取出我的，剪下一片给他，可惜剪得太大了，他又重新修剪，还把剩下的那截拿在手里摆弄半天才还给我。后

so then, in my nonsense, I could not help making a treasure of it—so I put it by never to be used, and looked at it now and then as a great treat. ” 来我不知怎么突发奇想，竟把它当作宝贝收了起来——一直珍藏着舍不得用，偶尔拿出来看看，觉得特别有趣。

”

“**M**y dearest Harriet! ”**cried** Emma, putting her hand before her face, and jumping up, “you make me more ashamed of myself than I can bear. **R**emember it? **A**ye, I remember it all now; all, except your saving this relic—I knew nothing of that till this moment—but the cutting the finger, and my recommending court-plaster, and saying I had none about me! —
Oh! **m**y sins, my sins! —**A**nd I had plenty all the while in my pocket! —**O**ne of my senseless tricks! —**I** deserve to be under a continual blush all the rest of my life. —**W**ell—(**sitting** down again)—go on—what else? ”

我最亲爱的哈丽特！”爱玛叫道，用手捂住脸跳起身来，“你让我羞愧得无地自容了。记得？是啊，我现在全都想起来了；所有细节都记起来了，除了你珍藏这件信物这件事——直到此刻我才知道——可我当时划破手指，推荐你用橡皮膏，还说身边没带！天啊！我的罪过，我的罪过！其实我口袋里一直装着好多呢！都是我要的愚蠢把戏！我真该一辈子都羞红着脸才对。好了——（重新坐下）继续说吧——还有什么？”

“**A**nd had you really some at hand yourself? I am sure I never suspected it, you did it so naturally. ”

“你手边真的有一些吗？我敢说我从未怀疑过，你做得那么自然。”

“**And** so you actually put this piece of court-plaster by for his sake!” said Emma, recovering from her state of shame and feeling divided between wonder and amusement. **And** secretly she added to herself, “Lord bless me! when should I ever have thought of putting in cotton a piece of court-plaster that Frank Churchill had been pulling about! I never was equal to this.”

”这么说，你当真为了他特意把这片橡皮膏收起来了！”爱玛说道，从羞愧中恢复过来，既觉得惊奇，又感到有趣。她暗自想道：“天哪！我什么时候会想到把弗兰克·丘吉尔摆弄过的一片橡皮膏特意用棉纸收起来！我永远也做不到这一点。”

“**Here,**” resumed Harriet, turning to her box again, “here is something still more valuable, I mean that has been more valuable, because this is what did really once belong to him, which the court-plaster never did.”

“这儿，”哈丽特又转向她的盒子，“还有一件更珍贵的东西，我是说曾经更珍贵的东西，因为这是真正属于过他的物件，而那块宫廷胶布从来都不算。”

Emma was quite eager to see this superior treasure. **It** was the end of an old pencil,—the part without any lead.

爱玛迫不及待地想见识一下这件宝贝。那不过是一截旧铅笔头——没有铅芯的那一端。

“**This** was really his,” said Harriet. — “**Do** not you remember one morning? —**no**, I dare say you do not. **But** one morning—I forgot exactly the day—but perhaps it was the Tues-

”这确实是他用过的，”哈丽特说——“您不记得有天早上吗？——不，我敢说您忘了。不过有天早上——我记

day or Wednesday before that evening, 不清具体日子了——大概是 he wanted to make a memorandum in his pocket-book; it was about spruce-beer. **Mr. Knightley** had been telling him something about brewing spruce-beer, and he wanted to put it down; but when he took out his pencil, there was so little lead that he soon cut it all away, and it would not do, so you lent him another, and this was left upon the table as good for nothing. **But** I kept my eye on it; and, as soon as I dared, caught it up, and never parted with it again from that moment. ”

那个傍晚前的星期二或星期三，他想在记事本里记点东西，是关于云杉啤酒的。奈特利先生刚跟他说了些酿制云杉啤酒的方法，他想记下来。可当他取出铅笔时，铅芯实在太短，没削几下就全削光了，根本没法用。于是您另借了一支给他，这支就被扔在桌上不管了。可我始终留意着它，等瞅准机会就赶紧收了起来，从那时起就一直珍藏至今。”

“I do remember it,” cried Emma; “I perfectly remember it. —**Talking** about spruce-beer. —**Oh! yes—Mr. Knightley** and I both saying we liked it, and Mr. Elton’s seeming resolved to learn to like it too. I perfectly remember it. —**Stop;** Mr. Knightley was standing just here, was not he? I have an idea he was standing just here. ”

“我确实记得，”爱玛嚷道，“我记得清清楚楚——当时正在谈论云杉啤酒。哦！没错——奈特利先生和我说我们都喜欢喝，埃尔顿先生似乎也决心要学会喜欢它。我记得明明白白——等等，奈特利先生当时就站在这儿，是不是？我印象里他正是站在这儿。”

“Ah! I do not know. I cannot recollect. —**It** “啊！我记不清了——实在想

is very odd, but I cannot recollect. —**Mr. Elton** was sitting here, I remember, much about where I am now. ”—

不起来。真奇怪，我竟完全想不起来了。我记得埃尔顿先生当时就坐在这儿，差不多就是我现在的座位。”——

“Well, go on. ”

“好吧，继续说。”

“Oh! that’s all. I have nothing more to shew you, or to say—except that I am now going to throw them both behind the fire, and I wish you to see me do it. ”

“哦！就这些了。我再没有别的要给你看，要对你说了一——除非说我就要把它们两个都扔到火炉后面去，我还希望你看着我扔。”

“My poor dear Harriet! and have you actually found happiness in treasuring up these things? ”

“我可怜的亲爱的哈丽特！你竟然真的从珍藏这些物件中找到了快乐吗？”

“Yes, simpleton as I was! —but I am quite ashamed of it now, and wish I could forget as easily as I can burn them. It was very wrong of me, you know, to keep any remembrances, after he was married. I knew it was—but had not resolution enough to part with them. ”

“是啊，我当时真是糊涂！——不过现在想起来实在羞愧，真希望能像烧掉它们一样轻易地忘掉。你知道的，在他结婚后还保留这些纪念品实在太不应该。我明知不对——却始终狠不下心丢弃它们。”

“But, Harriet, is it necessary to burn the

“可是，哈丽特，非得烧掉那

court-plaster? —I have not a word to say for the bit of old pencil, but the court-plaster might be useful. ” 橡皮膏不可吗? ——那截旧铅笔我没话可说, 可橡皮膏或许还能派上用场呢。”

“I shall be happier to burn it,” replied Harriet. “It has a disagreeable look to me. I must get rid of every thing. —There it goes, and there is an end, thank Heaven! of Mr. Elton. ”

“我宁愿把它烧了,”哈丽特答道, “它让我看着就不舒服。我得把所有东西都清理掉。——这就烧了, 感谢上帝! 这下和埃尔顿先生总算彻底了结了。”

“And when,” thought Emma, “will there be a beginning of Mr. Churchill? ”

“可是,”爱玛心想, “邱吉尔先生的事什么时候才能有个开端呢?”

She had soon afterwards reason to believe that the beginning was already made, and could not but hope that the gipsy, though she had told no fortune, might be proved to have made Harriet’s. —About a fortnight after the alarm, they came to a sufficient explanation, and quite undesignedly. Emma was not thinking of it at the moment, which made the information she received more valuable. She merely said, in the course of some trivial chat, “Well, Harriet, whenever you marry I would

她随即有理由相信, 事情已经开了头, 并且不禁希望那个吉普赛人——虽然不曾算命——或许倒应验了哈丽特的命运。那次惊扰过后约莫半个月, 她们无意间进行了一次充分的交谈。当时爱玛并未思及此事, 这使得她听到的消息更显珍贵。她只是在一番闲谈中随口说道: ”哈丽特, 将来无论你何时结婚,

advise you to do so and so”—and thought no more of it, till after a minute’s silence she heard Harriet say in a very serious tone, “I shall never marry.”

我都建议你要如此这般——”话毕便不再思量，直到片刻沉默后，忽听得哈丽特用极其郑重的语气说道：“我永远不结婚。”

Emma then looked up, and immediately saw how it was; and after a moment’s debate, as to whether it should pass unnoticed or not, replied,

爱玛抬头一看，立刻明白了是怎么回事；她迟疑片刻，忖着该装作没看见还是该有所表示，终于开口道：

“**Never** marry! —**This** is a new resolution.”

”永不结婚！——这倒是个新主意。”

“**It** is one that I shall never change, however.”

”然而，这一点是我永远不会改变的。”

After another short hesitation, “I hope it does not proceed from—I hope it is not in compliment to Mr. **Elton**? ”

又踌躇片刻后，“但愿这并非因为——但愿这不是为了向埃尔顿先生献殷勤吧？”

“**Mr. Elton** indeed!” cried Harriet indignantly. — “**Oh! no**” — and Emma could just catch the words, “so superior to Mr. **Elton!** ”

”埃尔顿先生，真是的！”哈丽特愤愤地嚷道——“哦！不会的”——爱玛只来得及听见后半句：“比埃尔顿先生强多啦！”

She then took a longer time for consideration.

她于是又思忖了更长的时

Should she proceed no farther? —**should** 间。她该不该再追究下去呢?
she let it pass, and seem to suspect nothing? ——她该不该放任不管，装
—**Perhaps** Harriet might think her cold or 出一副毫无察觉的样子呢?
angry if she did; or perhaps if she were to- ——倘若她真这么做了，哈
tally silent, it might only drive Harriet into 丽特或许会觉得她冷漠或是
asking her to hear too much; and against any 生气；又或者，如果她完全保
thing like such an unreserve as had been, such 持沉默，反倒可能引得哈丽
an open and frequent discussion of hopes and 特非要向她倾诉更多心事。
chances, she was perfectly resolved. —**She** 而对于那种毫无保留的交谈
believed it would be wiser for her to say and know ——那种开诚布公、频频讨
at once, all that she meant to say and know. 论希望与可能性的行为——
Plain dealing was always best. **She** had pre- 她已打定主意绝不容忍。她
viously determined how far she would proceed, 相信，把自己打算说清问明
on any application of the sort; and it would be 的事当即说清问明，才是更
safer for both, to have the judicious law of her 明智的做法。**坦诚相待**总是
own brain laid down with speed. —**She** was 上策。**她**早就决定，但凡遇
decided, and thus spoke— 到这类请托，自己该过问到
什么程度；此刻速速立下自己明智的规矩，对双方都更
为稳妥。——她心意已决，便
开口说道——

“**Harriet**, I will not affect to be in doubt of “**哈丽特**，我不会假装不明白
your meaning. **Your** resolution, or rather your 你的意思。**你**决心不嫁人，或
expectation of never marrying, results from an 者说你指望永不嫁人，是因
idea that the person whom you might prefer, 为你觉得你倾心的人地位比

would be too greatly your superior in situation to think of you. **I**s not it so? ” 你高得太多了，不会考虑你。
是不是这样？”

“**O**h! Miss Woodhouse, believe me I have not the presumption to suppose—Indeed I am not so mad. —**B**ut it is a pleasure to me to admire him at a distance—and to think of his infinite superiority to all the rest of the world, with the gratitude, wonder, and veneration, which are so proper, in me especially.” “哦！伍德豪斯小姐，请您相信，我绝不敢如此不自量力——说真的，我还不至于这般疯狂。不过能远远地仰慕他，想到他比世上所有人都要卓越非凡，怀着这份恰如其分的感激、惊叹与崇敬——特别是对我而言，实在是件赏心乐事。”

“I am not at all surprised at you, Harriet. **T**he service he rendered you was enough to warm your heart.” “我一点也不为你感到惊讶，哈丽特。他为你效劳的那番举动，足以温暖你的心。”

“**S**ervice! oh! it was such an inexpressible obligation! —**T**he very recollection of it, and all that I felt at the time—when I saw him coming—his noble look—and my wretchedness before. **S**uch a change! **I**n one moment such a change! **F**rom perfect misery to perfect happiness!” ”恩情！哦！那真是说不尽的恩情！——回想起当时的情景，以及我当时的感受——当我看见他走过来——他那高贵的神态——而我先前那般凄惨。如此天翻地覆的变化！顷刻之间如此天翻地覆！从极度的痛苦变成极度的幸福！”

“**I**t is very natural. **I**t is natural, and it is “这很自然。这是自然的，也 honourable. —**Y**es, honourable, I think, to 是体面的。——是的，我认为 chuse so well and so gratefully. —**B**ut that 为能如此明智而感恩地选择 it will be a fortunate preference is more than 是体面的。——但要说这定 I can promise. **I** do not advise you to give 能成为幸运的选择，我却不敢 way to it, Harriet. **I** do not by any means en- 保证。我不劝你放任这种 gage for its being returned. **C**onsider what 感情，哈丽特。我绝不保证 you are about. **P**erhaps it will be wisest in 这会得到回应。考虑清楚 you to check your feelings while you can: at 在做什么。趁现在还来得及， any rate do not let them carry you far, unless 克制住自己的感情或许是最 you are persuaded of his liking you. **B**e obser- 明智的：无论如何，除非你 vant of him. **L**et his behaviour be the guide of 确信他也喜欢你，切莫让感 your sensations. **I** give you this caution now, 情失控。留心观察他，让他的 because I shall never speak to you again on 的举止引导你的情感。我 the subject. **I** am determined against all inter- 现在提醒你，因为今后我绝不会再谈及此事。我决心不再 ference. **H**enceforward I know nothing of 干涉。从今以后我对此事概 the matter. **L**et no name ever pass our lips. 不过问。我们谁都不再提 **W**e were very wrong before; we will be cau- tious now. —**H**e is your superior, no doubt, 这个名字。先前我们大错特 and there do seem objections and obstacles of 错，如今须得谨慎——他确 a very serious nature; but yet, Harriet, more 实比你优越，这门婚事也似 wonderful things have taken place, there have been matches of greater disparity. **B**ut take 乎存在着相当严重的阻碍； care of yourself. **I** would not have you too san- 可是哈丽特，更奇妙的事情 guine; though, however it may end, be assured 都发生过，更悬殊的姻缘也 结成过。但你要当心。我不

your raising your thoughts to him, is a mark of good taste which I shall always know how to value. ”

愿你过于乐观；不过无论结局如何，你既将心意寄托于他，这份雅鉴本身就值得我永远珍视。”

Harriet kissed her hand in silent and submissive gratitude. **Emma** was very decided in thinking such an attachment no bad thing for her friend. **Its** tendency would be to raise and refine her mind—and it must be saving her from the danger of degradation.

哈丽特默默顺从地吻了吻她的手以示感激。**爱玛**深信这样的爱慕对她的朋友并非坏事。**这种情感**趋向于提升并陶冶她的情操——而且必定能使她免于堕落的危险。

CHAPTER V

第五章

In this state of schemes, and hopes, and connivance, June opened upon Hartfield. To Highbury in general it brought no material change. The Eltons were still talking of a visit from the Sucklings, and of the use to be made of their barouche-landau; and Jane Fairfax was still at her grandmother's; and as the return of the Campbells from Ireland was again delayed, and August, instead of Midsummer, fixed for it, she was likely to remain there full two months longer, provided at least she were able to defeat Mrs. Elton's activity in

就在这般筹划、期盼与默契中，六月降临哈特菲尔德。对海伯里而言，这个月并未带来实质性变化。埃尔顿夫妇仍在谈论萨克林夫妇的来访，以及如何善用他们那辆四轮敞篷马车；简·费尔法克斯仍住在外婆家；由于坎贝尔夫妇从爱尔兰归来的行程再度推迟，归期从中夏延至八月，她很可能要在那里再住足两个月——只要她能

her service, and save herself from being hurried into a delightful situation against her will. 挫败埃尔顿夫人为她张罗的热心，避免被勉强塞进一桩称心如意的归宿。

Mr. Knightley, who, for some reason best known to himself, had certainly taken an early dislike to Frank Churchill, was only growing to dislike him more. **He** began to suspect him of some double dealing in his pursuit of Emma. **That** Emma was his object appeared indisputable. **Every** thing declared it; his own attentions, his father's hints, his mother-in-law's guarded silence; it was all in unison; words, conduct, discretion, and indiscretion, told the same story. **But** while so many were devoting him to Emma, and Emma herself making him over to Harriet, Mr. **Knightley** began to suspect him of some inclination to trifle with Jane Fairfax. **He** could not understand it; but there were symptoms of intelligence between them—he thought so at least—symptoms of admiration on his side, which, having once observed, he could not persuade himself to think entirely void of meaning, however he might wish to escape any of Emma's errors of imagination. **She** was not present when 奈特利先生出于某种只有他自己最清楚的原因，早就对弗兰克·邱吉尔抱有反感，如今这种反感更是与日俱增。他开始怀疑这位年轻人在追求爱玛时怀有双重用心。爱玛显然是弗兰克的目标——这一点毋庸置疑。种种迹象都表明了这一点：他本人的殷勤、他父亲的暗示、他继母谨慎的沉默，所有一切都如出一辙；言语、举止、谨慎与失慎，无不讲述着同一个故事。然而当众人都将他与爱玛视作一对，连爱玛本人也把他推给哈丽特时，奈特利先生却开始怀疑他对简·费尔法克斯怀有轻浮之意。他无法理解这种行径，但两人之间确实流露出心照不宣的迹象——至少他这么认为——从弗兰克那边更显露

the suspicion first arose. **H**e was dining with the Randalls family, and Jane, at the Eltons' ; and he had seen a look, more than a single look, at Miss Fairfax, which, from the admirer of Miss Woodhouse, seemed somewhat out of place. **W**hen he was again in their company, he could not help remembering what he had seen; nor could he avoid observations which, unless it were like Cowper and his fire at twilight,

出倾慕的端倪。这些迹象一旦被察觉，尽管他多么希望能避免重蹈爱玛幻想中的谬误，却无法说服自己认为这些迹象全然无意。当这怀疑初次萌生时，爱玛并不在场。当时他正与兰德尔一家在埃尔顿家用餐，瞥见那位伍德豪斯小姐的爱慕者向费尔法克斯小姐投去的目光——不止一瞥——那神情总显得不合时宜。之后每当与他们共处，他总不禁回想起所见的一幕，也无法不去留意那些蛛丝马迹，除非像诗人柯珀描写暮色中的炉火那般，

“**M**yself creating what I saw,”

“我所见皆由我创造，”

brought him yet stronger suspicion of there being a something of private liking, of private understanding even, between Frank Churchill and Jane.

这使他更加怀疑弗兰克·邱吉尔和简之间存在着某种私下的情意，甚至可以说是心照不宣的默契。

He had walked up one day after dinner, as he very often did, to spend his evening at Hart-

有天饭后——这原是他常有的习惯——他步行到哈特菲

field. **Emma** and Harriet were going to walk; 尔德来消磨黄昏时光。爱玛
he joined them; and, on returning, they fell 和哈丽特正要出去散步，他
in with a larger party, who, like themselves, 便加入她们。回来时，碰见一
judged it wisest to take their exercise early, 大群人，他们也同她们一样，
as the weather threatened rain; Mr. **and** 看天气要下雨，觉得还是趁
Mrs. **Weston** and their son, Miss Bates and 早散完步好——韦斯顿夫妇
her niece, who had accidentally met. **They** 和他们的儿子，贝茨小姐和
all united; and, on reaching Hartfield gates, 她的外甥女，他们也是不期
Emma, who knew it was exactly the sort of 而遇的。大家便一道儿来了。
visiting that would be welcome to her father, 到了哈特菲尔德门口，爱玛
pressed them all to go in and drink tea with 知道她父亲最喜欢这种方式
him. **The** Randalls party agreed to it immedi- 的拜访，便一定要大家进去
ately; and after a pretty long speech from Miss 陪她父亲喝杯茶。兰德尔的
Bates, which few persons listened to, she also 一家人马上就同意了。贝茨
found it possible to accept dear Miss Wood- 小姐费了半天唇舌（其实几乎没人听她说话），最后才算
house's most obliging invitation. 接受了亲爱的伍德豪斯小姐的恳切邀请。

As they were turning into the grounds, Mr. **Perry** passed by on horseback. **The** gentle- 他们正要拐进庄园时，佩里
men spoke of his horse. 先生骑着马经过。两位绅士
便谈论起他的马匹来。

“**By** the bye,” said Frank Churchill to Mrs. **Weston** presently, “what became of Mr. **Perry**' s plan of setting up his carriage?” “顺便问一句，”弗兰克·丘
吉尔稍后对韦斯顿太太说道，“佩里先生置办马车的

计划后来怎么样了？”

Mrs. Weston looked surprised, and said, “I 韦斯顿太太露出惊讶的神
did not know that he ever had any such plan. 色，说道：”我从未听说他
” 有过这样的打算。”

“**Nay**, I had it from you. **You** wrote me word “不，我是从你那儿听说的。
of it three months ago.” 三个月前你写信告诉我的。”

“**Me! impossible!** ” “我！不可能！”

“**Indeed** you did. **I** remember it perfectly. ” 确实如此。我完全记得这
You mentioned it as what was certainly to be 件事。你当时提到这事肯定
very soon. **Mrs. Perry** had told somebody, 很快就要发生。佩里太太告
and was extremely happy about it. **It** was ow- 诉过什么人，并且对此极为
ing to _her_ persuasion, as she thought his 高兴。这都归功于 _她_ 的
being out in bad weather did him a great deal 劝说，因为她认为他在恶劣
of harm. **You** must remember it now? ” 天气里出门对他害处很大。
你现在总该想起来了吧？”

“**Upon** my word I never heard of it till this “说实在的，我直到此刻才听
moment. ” 说这件事。”

“**Never! really, never!** —**Bless me!** how “绝不可能！真的，绝不可
could it be? —**Then** I must have dreamt it— 能！——天哪！这怎么可能
but I was completely persuaded—Miss Smith, 呢？——那我准是在做梦了
you walk as if you were tired. **You** will not be ——可我原先完全信以为真
sorry to find yourself at home. ” 啊——史密斯小姐，你走起

路来像是累了。等会到了家
你准会高兴的。”

“What is this? —What is this?” cried Mr. Weston, “about Perry and a carriage? Is Perry going to set up his carriage, Frank? I am glad he can afford it. You had it from himself, had you?”

“这是怎么回事? ——这是韦斯顿先生嚷道, “关于佩里和马车的事? 弗兰克, 佩里要置办马车了吗? 我真高兴他能负担得起。你是听他亲口说的吗?”

“No, sir,” replied his son, laughing, “I seem to have had it from nobody. —Very odd! I really was persuaded of Mrs. Weston’s having mentioned it in one of her letters to Enscombe, many weeks ago, with all these particulars—but as she declares she never heard a syllable of it before, of course it must have been a dream. I am a great dreamer. I dream of every body at Highbury when I am away—and when I have gone through my particular friends, then I begin dreaming of Mr. and Mrs. Perry.”

“不, 先生,”他的儿子笑着答道, “我好像不是听谁说的。韦斯顿太太几个星期前在写给恩斯康伯的信上提到过这事, 说了所有这些细节——不过既然她宣称以前从未听说过这事, 那当然是我在做梦了。我是个很会做梦的人。我不在海伯里的时候就会梦见那里的每个人——当我把我特别要好的朋友都梦过一遍之后, 就开始梦见佩里先生和佩里太太。”

“It is odd though,” observed his father, “that

“这倒奇怪了,”他父亲评论

you should have had such a regular connected dream about people whom it was not very likely you should be thinking of at Enscombe. **Perry's** setting up his carriage! **and** his wife's persuading him to it, out of care for his health —just what will happen, I have no doubt, some time or other; only a little premature. **What** an air of probability sometimes runs through a dream! **And** at others, what a heap of absurdities it is! **Well**, Frank, your dream certainly shews that Highbury is in your thoughts when you are absent. **Emma**, you are a great dreamer, I think? ”

Emma was out of hearing. **She** had hurried on before her guests to prepare her father for their appearance, and was beyond the reach of Mr. **Weston's** hint.

道，“你居然会做这样连贯完整的梦，梦见那些你在恩斯康比庄园根本不太可能想到的人。佩里要置办马车！他妻子为照顾他的健康劝他这么做——我毫不怀疑，这事迟早会发生，只是稍早了些。梦境有时多么逼真啊！而另一些时候，又多么荒诞不经！好啦，弗兰克，你这个梦确实说明你人虽不在海伯里，心却想着这里。爱玛，我看你也是个常做梦的人吧？”

爱玛已听不见他的话。她抢在客人前面先走一步，好让父亲对客人的到来有个思想准备，因此韦斯顿先生那话还没说完，她已经听不到了。

“**Why**, to own the truth,” cried Miss Bates, who had been trying in vain to be heard the last two minutes, “if I must speak on this subject, there is no denying that Mr. **Frank** Churchill might have—I do not mean to say that he did not dream it—I am sure I have

“唉，说句老实话，”贝茨小姐嚷道——过去两分钟里她一直试图插话却无人理会——“若要谈论这件事，我不得不承认弗兰克·邱吉尔先生或许确实——我并非说他

sometimes the oddest dreams in the world— 没做过那样的梦——我自己
but if I am questioned about it, I must ac- 就常做些天底下最离奇的梦
knowledge that there was such an idea last ——但若有人追问，我必须
spring; for Mrs. **Perry** herself mentioned it 说明去年春天确实有过这个
to my mother, and the Coles knew of it as 念头。因为佩里夫人亲口对
well as ourselves—but it was quite a secret, 我母亲提过，科尔夫妇也和
known to nobody else, and only thought of 我们一样知情——不过这完
about three days. **Mrs. Perry** was very anx- 全是个秘密，旁人一概不知，
ious that he should have a carriage, and came 只议论了大概三天。佩里夫
to my mother in great spirits one morning be- 人极力主张他应当置办一辆
cause she thought she had prevailed. **Jane**, 马车，有天早上兴冲冲来找
don't you remember grandmama's telling us 我母亲，自以为已经说服成
of it when we got home? I forget where we 功了。简，你记不记得外婆
had been walking to—very likely to Randalls; 回家后告诉我们的情形？我
yes, I think it was to Randalls. **Mrs. Perry** 忘了那天我们去哪儿散步了
was always particularly fond of my mother— ——很可能是去兰德尔家；
indeed I do not know who is not—and she had 对，我想就是兰德尔家。佩
mentioned it to her in confidence; she had no 里夫人向来特别喜爱我母亲
objection to her telling us, of course, but it was ——说实在的，我不知道有
not to go beyond: and, from that day to this, 谁不喜欢她——她私下把这
I never mentioned it to a soul that I know of. 事告诉了母亲，自然不反对
At the same time, I will not positively answer 母亲转告我们，但叮嘱千万
for my having never dropt a hint, because I 不可外传。从那天起到现在，
know I do sometimes pop out a thing before 我敢说再没向任何人透露过
I am aware. I am a talker, you know; I am 半句。不过我也不能完全保

rather a talker; and now and then I have let a thing escape me which I should not. I am not like Jane; I wish I were. I will answer for it _she_ never betrayed the least thing in the world. **Where** is she? —**Oh!** just behind. **Perfectly** remember Mrs. **Perry**' s coming. —**Extraordinary** dream, indeed! ”

证从未漏过口风，因为我知道自己有时会不知不觉说溜嘴。我这人爱说话，你们知道的，确实话多了些；偶尔会漏出不该说的话。我不像简，真希望我能像她那样。我敢担保她绝不会泄露丝毫秘密。她人呢？——哦！就在后面。我清清楚楚记得佩里夫人来访的事——这梦可真是离奇极了！”

They were entering the hall. **Mr. Knightley**' s eyes had preceded Miss Bates's in a glance at Jane. **From** Frank Churchill's face, where he thought he saw confusion suppressed or laughed away, he had involuntarily turned to hers; but she was indeed behind, and too busy with her shawl. **Mr. Weston** had walked in. **The** two other gentlemen waited at the door to let her pass. **Mr. Knightley** suspected in Frank Churchill the determination of catching her eye—he seemed watching her intently—in vain, however, if it were so—Jane passed between them into the hall, and looked at neither.

他们正走进门厅。奈特利先生的目光比贝茨小姐先瞥向简。他从弗兰克·丘吉尔脸上——他自以为看到了被强压下去或被一笑置之的窘迫——不由自主地转向她的脸；但她确实落在后面，正忙着整理披肩。韦斯顿先生已经走进来。另外两位绅士等在门口让她先过。奈特利先生怀疑弗兰克·丘吉尔存心要吸引她的目光——他似乎在专注地注视着她——然而若是如此也是徒劳——简

从他们中间走进门厅，谁都没有看。

There was no time for farther remark or explanation. **T**he dream must be borne with, and Mr. **Knightley** must take his seat with the rest round the large modern circular table which Emma had introduced at Hartfield, and which none but Emma could have had power to place there and persuade her father to use, instead of the small-sized Pembroke, on which two of his daily meals had, for forty years been crowded. **T**ea passed pleasantly, and nobody seemed in a hurry to move.

没有时间再作评论或解释了。这梦幻般的感受只得忍受着，奈特利先生只得与其他客人一起，在爱玛安置在哈特菲尔德的那张新式大圆桌周围就座。这桌子除了爱玛之外，谁也没有本事安置在那里，说服她父亲用上它，而不用那张小彭布罗克桌。**四十年**来，他每天两餐一直是用那张小桌，上面总是挤得满满的。大家愉快地喝着茶，谁也不想急于散席。

“**M**iss Woodhouse,” said Frank Churchill, after examining a table behind him, which he could reach as he sat, “have your nephews taken away their alphabets—their box of letters? **I**t used to stand here. **W**here is it? **T**his is a sort of dull-looking evening, that ought to be treated rather as winter than summer. **W**e had great amusement with those letters one morning. **I**want to puzzle you again.”

“**伍德豪斯小姐，**”弗兰克·丘吉尔仔细查看了身后那张触手可及的边桌后说道，“您的外甥们把他们的字母表——那盒字母积木带走了吗？原先一直搁在这儿的。怎么不见了呢？今晚这般沉闷，倒该当作冬日而非夏日来消遣。有天早晨我们摆弄那些字母

玩得可真高兴。我想再考考您呢。”

Emma was pleased with the thought; and **这个念头让爱玛很是高兴；** producing the box, the table was quickly 她拿出字母盒，桌上很快就 scattered over with alphabets, which no one 摆满了字母，似乎除了她们 seemed so much disposed to employ as their 俩，谁也没那么大的兴致来 two selves. **They** were rapidly forming words 玩。她们飞快地拼出单词让 for each other, or for any body else who would 对方猜，或是让任何愿意猜 be puzzled. **The** quietness of the game made 谜的人来猜。这种安静的游 it particularly eligible for Mr. **Woodhouse**, 戏特别适合伍德豪斯先生， who had often been distressed by the more ani- 韦斯顿先生偶尔带来的那些 animated sort, which Mr. **Weston** had occasion- 热闹游戏常常让他感到难受；此刻 he introduced, and who now sat happily oc- 正心满意足地坐着，时而带着温柔的忧郁哀 cupied in lamenting, with tender melancholy, over the departure of the “poor little boys,” 叹“可怜的小男孩们”的离去，时而拾起手边的零散字 or in fondly pointing out, as he took up any stray letter near him, how beautifully Emma 母，深情地指出爱玛的字写 had written it. 得多么娟秀。

Frank Churchill placed a word before Miss **弗兰克·丘吉尔在菲尔费克 Fairfax.** **She** gave a slight glance round the 斯小姐面前放了一个字谜。 table, and applied herself to it. **Frank** was 她微微环顾餐桌，便专心猜 next to Emma, Jane opposite to them—and 了起来。 **弗兰克**挨着爱玛坐 Mr. **Knightley** so placed as to see them all; 下，简坐在他们对面——而 and it was his object to see as much as he could, 奈特利先生的位置恰好能看

with as little apparent observation. **The** word was discovered, and with a faint smile pushed away. **If** meant to be immediately mixed with the others, and buried from sight, she should have looked on the table instead of looking just across, for it was not mixed; and Harriet, eager after every fresh word, and finding out none, directly took it up, and fell to work. **She** was sitting by Mr. **Knightley**, and turned to him for help. **The** word was _blunder_; and as Harriet exultingly proclaimed it, there was a blush on Jane's cheek which gave it a meaning not otherwise ostensible. **Mr. Knightley** connected it with the dream; but how it could all be, was beyond his comprehension. **How** the delicacy, the discretion of his favourite could have been so lain asleep! **He** feared there must be some decided involvement. **Disingenuousness** and double dealing seemed to meet him at every turn. **These** letters were but the vehicle for gallantry and trick. **It** was a child's play, chosen to conceal a deeper game on Frank Churchill's part.

清所有人；他正尽可能不动声色地观察着。**字谜**被猜中了，随着一抹浅笑被推开。**若想**立即混入其他字条湮没无痕，她本该看向桌面而非径直望向对面——因为字条并未被混入；哈丽特正热切追寻每个新字谜却一无所获，当即拿起那张字条埋头钻研。**她**坐在奈特利先生身旁，便转身向他求助。**那字谜**正是“过失”；当哈丽特欢欣地道出答案时，简的脸颊泛起红晕，为这个字赋予了不言而喻的深意。**奈特利先生**将其与先前的梦境联系起来；然而这一切究竟如何发生，实在超乎他的理解。**他**钟爱的这位女子素来的细腻持重，怎会如此沉睡不醒！**他**担忧其中必有确凿的牵扯。**虚饰**与欺瞒仿佛在每个转角与他相遇。**那些**书信不过是调情与伎俩的载体。**这**孩童把戏，分明是弗兰克·丘吉尔

为掩盖更深图谋而设的障眼法。

With great indignation did he continue to observe him; with great alarm and distrust, to observe also his two blinded companions. **He** saw a short word prepared for Emma, and given to her with a look sly and demure. **He** saw that Emma had soon made it out, and found it highly entertaining, though it was something which she judged it proper to appear to censure; for she said, “Nonsense! **for** shame!” **He** heard Frank Churchill next say, with a glance towards Jane, “I will give it to her—shall I?” — **and** as clearly heard Emma opposing it with eager laughing warmth. “**No**, no, you must not; you shall not, indeed.”

他怀着极大的愤慨继续观察他；同时又带着极大的警觉与不信任，观察那两个被蒙蔽的同伴。他看见有人为爱玛准备了个简短的词，带着狡黠又故作端庄的神情递给她。他看见爱玛很快破译了内容，虽然觉得应当佯装斥责，却显然被逗得乐不可支——只听她说：“胡说！真不害臊！”接着他听见弗兰克·邱吉尔望着简说：“我把它传给她——好不好？”又清清楚楚听见爱玛带着急切的笑闹劲儿反对：“别，千万别给她！实在不行！”

It was done however. **This** gallant young man, who seemed to love without feeling, and to recommend himself without complaisance, directly handed over the word to Miss Fairfax, and with a particular degree of sedate civility entreated her to study it. **Mr. Knightley’**

然而事情还是发生了。这位看似热情实则淡漠、殷勤却不得好的年轻人，径直将字谜递给了费尔法克斯小姐，带着一种异乎寻常的庄重礼节请她推敲。奈特利先生按

s excessive curiosity to know what this word 捺不住好奇心，想看清谜底
might be, made him seize every possible mo- 究竟为何，逮着机会便朝纸
ment for darting his eye towards it, and it was 片瞥去，不多时便瞧见”迪
not long before he saw it to be Dixon. **Jane** 克森”这个姓氏。**简·费尔法**
Fairfax's perception seemed to accompany his; 克斯似乎与他同时会意——
her comprehension was certainly more equal to 不过她显然更参透了这五个
the covert meaning, the superior intelligence, 字母排列组合下的弦外之音
of those five letters so arranged. **She** was ev- 与精妙机巧。**她**明显流露出
idently displeased; looked up, and seeing her- 不悦，抬眼时发觉自己正被
self watched, blushed more deeply than he had 人注视，脸颊顿时泛起他从
ever perceived her, and saying only, “I did 未见过的赧红。”**我**不知竟
not know that proper names were allowed,” 允许用人名作谜底，”她只
pushed away the letters with even an angry 说了这么一句，便带着愠怒
spirit, and looked resolved to be engaged by 将字条推开，神情决绝地表
no other word that could be offered. **Her** face 明不愿再猜任何字谜。**她**把
was averted from those who had made the 脸转向舅母，刻意避开那些
attack, and turned towards her aunt. 始作俑者。

“**Aye**, very true, my dear,” cried the latter, “**是啊，说得对极了，亲爱**
though Jane had not spoken a word—“I was 的，”后一位嚷道——尽管简
just going to say the same thing. **It** is time for 一个字也没说——“我正要
us to be going indeed. **The** evening is closing 说这话呢。**我们**确实该告辞
in, and grandma will be looking for us. **My** 了。**暮色渐浓，外婆该惦记**
dear sir, you are too obliging. **We** really must 我们了。**亲爱的好先生，您**
wish you good night.” 太客气了。**我们**真得向您道声晚安了。”

Jane's alertness in moving, proved her as ready as her aunt had preconceived. She was immediately up, and wanting to quit the table; but so many were also moving, that she could not get away; and Mr. Knightley thought he saw another collection of letters anxiously pushed towards her, and resolutely swept away by her unexamined. She was afterwards looking for her shawl—Frank Churchill was looking also—it was growing dusk, and the room was in confusion; and how they parted, Mr. Knightley could not tell.

简的敏捷动作证明了她正如她舅母所预想的那样迫不及待。她立刻站起身，想要离开餐桌；但许多人都在走动，她没法脱身。奈特利先生觉得他看见又有一些信件被急切地推到简面前，而她看也不看就坚决地推开了。随后她在寻找披肩——弗兰克·丘吉尔也在帮忙寻找——暮色渐浓，客厅里一片忙乱；至于他们是如何分别的，奈特利先生就不得而知了。

He remained at Hartfield after all the rest, his thoughts full of what he had seen; so full, that when the candles came to assist his observations, he must—yes, he certainly must, as a friend—an anxious friend—give Emma some hint, ask her some question. He could not see her in a situation of such danger, without trying to preserve her. It was his duty.

当其他人都离开后，他仍留在哈特菲尔德，满脑子都是方才目睹的情景；这思绪如此充盈，乃至烛台送来照亮四周时，他必须——是的，作为朋友，一个忧心忡忡的朋友——他必须给爱玛些许暗示，向她提出些许疑问。眼见着她陷入这般险境，他不能不设法保全她。这是他的责任。

“Pray, Emma,” said he, “may I ask in what lay the great amusement, the poignant sting of the last word given to you and Miss Fairfax? I saw the word, and am curious to know how it could be so very entertaining to the one, and so very distressing to the other.”

“请问，爱玛，”他说道，“能否告诉我，方才那个词给了你和费尔法克斯小姐带来了什么天大的乐趣，又造成了何等尖锐的刺痛？我看见了那个词，实在好奇它怎会令一位如此开怀，又让另一位如此难堪。”

Emma was extremely confused. **She** could not endure to give him the true explanation; for though her suspicions were by no means removed, she was really ashamed of having ever imparted them.

爱玛感到万分困惑。她实在不忍心将实情告诉他；因为尽管心中的疑虑丝毫未消，她却为自己曾经透露过这些猜疑而深感羞愧。

“Oh!” she cried in evident embarrassment, “it all meant nothing; a mere joke among ourselves.”

“哦！”她显然有些窘迫地嚷道，“那根本算不了什么；只是我们自己人说着玩的。”

“The joke,” he replied gravely, “seemed confined to you and Mr. Churchill.”

“这玩笑，”他严肃地答道，“似乎仅限于你和丘吉尔先生之间。”

He had hoped she would speak again, but she did not. **She** would rather busy herself about any thing than speak. **He** sat a little while in doubt. A variety of evils crossed

他曾希望她再说点什么，她却不再开口。她宁可忙着做任何事，也不愿说话。他犹豫不决地坐了片刻，种种不

his mind. **Interference**—**fruitless interference**. **Emma's** confusion, and the acknowledged intimacy, seemed to declare her affection engaged. **Yet** he would speak. **He** owed it to her, to risk any thing that might be involved in an unwelcome interference, rather than her welfare; to encounter any thing, rather than the remembrance of neglect in such a cause.

样的念头掠过心头——贸然插手、徒劳无功的插手。爱玛的慌乱神情，以及那公认的亲密关系，似乎都在宣告她芳心已许。但他还是要说。为了她的幸福，他甘愿冒着因不合时宜的干预而可能产生的一切风险；为了这般重要的缘由，他宁愿面对任何后果，也不愿将来追悔此时的袖手旁观。

“My dear Emma,” said he at last, with earnest kindness, “do you think you perfectly understand the degree of acquaintance between the gentleman and lady we have been speaking of?”

“我亲爱的爱玛，”他终于开口了，语气真挚而温和，“你认为自己完全清楚我们刚才谈及的那位先生和女士之间的交情深浅吗？”

“Between Mr. Frank Churchill and Miss Fairfax? Oh! yes, perfectly. —Why do you make a doubt of it?”

”弗兰克·丘吉尔先生和费尔法克斯小姐之间？哦！是啊，完全正确——您怎么会对此产生怀疑呢？”

“Have you never at any time had reason to think that he admired her, or that she admired him?”

“难道你从未在任何时候有过理由认为他倾慕她，或是她倾慕他吗？”

“Never, never!” she cried with a most open eagerness—“Never, for the twentieth part of a moment, did such an idea occur to me. **And** how could it possibly come into your head?”

“从来没有，从来没有！”她急切万分地嚷道，“哪怕短短一刹那，我也从未动过这个念头。你怎么会想到这上面去呢？”

“I have lately imagined that I saw symptoms of attachment between them—certain expressive looks, which I did not believe meant to be public.”

“我近来总觉得他们之间有了爱慕的迹象——某些意味深长的眼神，我认为那并非有意要公之于众的。”

“Oh! you amuse me excessively. I am delighted to find that you can vouchsafe to let your imagination wander—but it will not do —very sorry to check you in your first essay—but indeed it will not do. **There** is no admiration between them, I do assure you; and the appearances which have caught you, have arisen from some peculiar circumstances—feelings rather of a totally different nature—it is impossible exactly to explain:—there is a good deal of nonsense in it—but the part which is capable of being communicated, which is sense, is, that they are as far from any attachment or admiration for one another, as any two beings in the world can be. **That** is, I presume

“哦！你真是让我乐不可支。我很高兴发现你竟肯放任想象驰骋——但这行不通——虽不忍在你初次尝试时就阻止你——可实在行不通。他们之间根本不存在什么爱慕之情，我向你保证；那些引起你注意的表象，皆源于某些特殊境况——更像是性质截然不同的情感纠葛——实在难以确切说明：其中颇多无稽之谈——但能够说清的部分合乎情理的是，他们二人之间毫无情愫可言，堪称世间最不可能相互倾心的两

it to be so on her side, and I can _answer_ 个人。也就是说，我 _ 推测
for its being so on his. I will answer for the _ 她这边是如此，而我能 _
gentleman's indifference.” 担保 _ 他这边确系如此。我

愿为这位先生的淡漠作保。”

She spoke with a confidence which staggered, with a satisfaction which silenced, Mr. **Knightley**. **She** was in gay spirits, and would have prolonged the conversation, wanting to hear the particulars of his suspicions, every look described, and all the wheres and hows of a circumstance which highly entertained her: but his gaiety did not meet hers. **He** found he could not be useful, and his feelings were too much irritated for talking. **That** he might not be irritated into an absolute fever, by the fire which Mr. **Woodhouse'**s tender habits required almost every evening throughout the year, he soon afterwards took a hasty leave, and walked home to the coolness and solitude of Donwell Abbey.

她说话时那种胸有成竹的神气令奈特利先生愕然，那种洋洋自得的态度又使他哑口无言。她正兴致勃勃，还想继续这场谈话，想听听他猜疑的具体细节，描述他的每一个眼神，把这件令她乐不可支的事情的前因后果都弄个明白。然而他的兴致却与她的不相吻合。他发觉自己帮不上忙，情绪上又烦躁得不愿多说话。伍德豪斯先生恪守养生之道，几乎一年到头每天晚上都要生上火炉，奈特利先生生怕自己被炉火烤得心头火起，以致发起高烧来，于是没过多久便匆匆告辞，步行回到唐威尔修道院，享受那里的清凉与孤寂。

CHAPTER VI

第六章

After being long fed with hopes of a speedy visit from Mr. **and** Mrs. **Suckling**, the Highbury world were obliged to endure the mortification of hearing that they could not possibly come till the autumn. **No** such importation of novelties could enrich their intellectual stores at present. **In** the daily interchange of news, they must be again restricted to the other topics with which for a while the Suckles' coming had been united, such as the last accounts of Mrs. **Churchill**, whose health seemed every day to supply a different report, and the situation of Mrs. **Weston**, whose happiness it was to be hoped might eventually be as much increased by the arrival of a child, as that of all her neighbours was by the approach of it.

Mrs. Elton was very much disappointed. **It** was the delay of a great deal of pleasure and parade. **Her** introductions and recommendations must all wait, and every projected party be still only talked of. **So** she thought at first; —but a little consideration convinced her that every thing need not be put off. **Why** should not they explore to Box Hill though the Suckles did not come? **They** could go there again 海伯里众人久闻萨克林夫妇即将到访，却不得不忍受延至秋日的失望。眼下再没有什么新鲜谈资能充实他们的见闻宝库。日常交流中，话题只得重新局限于那些曾与萨克林夫妇来访相关联的旧闻——诸如邱吉尔太太的新状况（她的健康状况似乎每日都有不同说法），以及韦斯顿太太的境遇（大家都期盼着新生儿的降临能让她如同所有邻居般欢欣鼓舞）。

with them in the autumn. **It** was settled that 博克斯山玩玩呢？等到秋天，
they should go to Box Hill. **That** there was to 他们还可以再跟萨克林家一
be such a party had been long generally known: 起去那里。于是决定去博克
it had even given the idea of another. **Emma** 斯山游览了。众人早就知道
had never been to Box Hill; she wished to see 要有这样一次聚会，甚至还有
what every body found so well worth seeing, 人也产生了这样的念头。
and she and Mr. **Weston** had agreed to chuse 埃玛从没去过博克斯山，很
some fine morning and drive thither. **Two** or 想看看那地方究竟有什么值
three more of the chosen only were to be ad- 得众人交口称赞的。她跟韦
mitted to join them, and it was to be done in a 斯顿先生商定，找个风和日
quiet, unpretending, elegant way, infinitely su- 丽的早晨坐车去那里。除了
perior to the bustle and preparation, the reg- 两三个知己之外，不再邀请
ular eating and drinking, and picnic parade of 别人同住，一切都要搞得妥
the Eltons and the Sucklings. 妥帖帖、恰到好处，那种优
雅大方，远非埃尔顿夫妇和
萨克林夫妇那种喧闹、忙乱、
讲究吃喝的野餐所能比拟。

This was so very well understood between 他们之间对此原是心照不宣
them, that Emma could not but feel some sur- 的，因此当爱玛听韦斯顿先
prise, and a little displeasure, on hearing from 生说，由于埃尔顿太太的兄
Mr. **Weston** that he had been proposing to 嫂未能赴约，他已向埃尔顿
Mrs. **Elton**, as her brother and sister had 太太提议，让两伙人合成一
failed her, that the two parties should unite, 伙，一起前往，而埃尔顿太
and go together; and that as Mrs. **Elton** had 太已经欣然同意时，她不由
very readily acceded to it, so it was to be, if 得感到有些意外，也有几分

she had no objection. **N**ow, as her objection was nothing but her very great dislike of Mrs. **E**lton, of which Mr. **W**eston must already be perfectly aware, it was not worth bringing forward again:—it could not be done without a reproof to him, which would be giving pain to his wife; and she found herself therefore obliged to consent to an arrangement which she would have done a great deal to avoid; an arrangement which would probably expose her even to the degradation of being said to be of Mrs. **E**lton's party! **E**very feeling was offended; and the forbearance of her outward submission left a heavy arrear due of secret severity in her reflections on the unmanageable goodwill of Mr. **W**eston's temper.

不快。韦斯顿先生一定完全清楚，她反对的唯一理由就是极其讨厌埃尔顿太太，既然如此，何必还要硬作这样的安排呢？要反对吧，就难免要责怪他，那又会给他夫人带来不快。于是，她发觉自己无可奈何，只得同意这一安排，而这样的安排她是竭力想要避免的。这样的安排，说不定还会让人说她甘愿与埃尔顿太太为伍，那该有多丢脸！她心里越想越气。她表面上只好忍着，可心里却在狠狠地责备韦斯顿先生那改不掉的好心肠。

“I am glad you approve of what I have done,” said he very comfortably. “**B**ut I thought you would. **S**uch schemes as these are nothing without numbers. **O**ne cannot have too large a party. **A** large party secures its own amusement. **A**nd she is a good-natured woman after all. **O**ne could not leave her out.”

“我很高兴你赞同我所做的事，”他十分自在地说道。“不过我早就料到你会赞同的。这类计划没有人多势众是行不通的。聚会人数再多也不嫌多。人多自能尽兴。再说她毕竟是个性情温厚的女人。总不能把她排除在外。”

Emma denied none of it aloud, and agreed to 爱玛对此既不公开否认，也不私下认同。

It was now the middle of June, and the weather fine; and Mrs. **Elton** was growing impatient to name the day, and settle with Mr. **Weston** as to pigeon-pies and cold lamb, when a lame carriage-horse threw every thing into sad uncertainty. It might be weeks, it might be only a few days, before the horse were useable; but no preparations could be ventured on, and it was all melancholy stagnation. **Mrs. Elton'** s resources were inadequate to such an attack.

时值六月中旬，天气晴好；埃尔顿太太正迫不及待要选定佳期，与韦斯顿先生商定鸽肉馅饼与冷羔羊的席面，不料拉车的马匹跛了腿，把一切搅得吉凶难卜。若等马匹复原，或许数周，或许只需数日，但任何准备工作都不敢贸然进行，局面陷入令人沮丧的停滞。埃尔顿太太的应变之策，实在不足以应对这般变故。

“Is not this most vexatious, Knightley? ”she cried. — “And such weather for exploring! — These delays and disappointments are quite odious. What are we to do? — The year will wear away at this rate, and nothing done. Before this time last year I assure you we had had a delightful exploring party from Maple Grove to Kings Weston. ”

“这岂不令人懊恼之极，奈特利先生?”她嚷道。——“正是探幽访胜的好天气！——这般耽搁扫兴真是可恶。我们该如何是好？——照这样下去，一年光阴就要虚度，一事无成。去年此时，我敢说我们早已有过一场从枫林苑到金斯韦斯顿的愉快游历了。”

“**You** had better explore to Donwell,” replied Mr. **Knightley**. “**That** may be done without horses. **Come**, and eat my strawberries. **They** are ripening fast.”

“你最好去唐维尔宅子那儿走走，”奈特利先生答道，“那地方不用骑马也能去。来吧，尝尝我的草莓，熟得正快呢。”

If Mr. **Knightley** did not begin seriously, he was obliged to proceed so, for his proposal was caught at with delight; and the “Oh! I should like it of all things,” was not plainer in words than manner. **Donwell** was famous for its strawberry-beds, which seemed a plea for the invitation: but no plea was necessary; cabbage-beds would have been enough to tempt the lady, who only wanted to be going somewhere. **She** promised him again and again to come—much oftener than he doubted—and was extremely gratified by such a proof of intimacy, such a distinguishing compliment as she chose to consider it.

奈特利先生虽非郑重其事地提出这一建议，但一经提出，却立即得到了愉快的响应。这声“啊！我真是再喜欢不过了”不仅言辞恳切，姿态更是热切。唐维尔宅邸素以草莓圃闻名，这似乎成了此次邀约的由头——其实何必需要什么由头呢？即便是白菜圃，也足以吸引这位一心只想出门走走的淑女。她一遍遍地应允前往——远比对方料想的更为热切——并将这份邀约视为亲密情谊的明证、独具青眼的礼遇，心中不胜欢喜。

“**You** may depend upon me,” said she. “I certainly will come. **Name** your day, and I will come. **You** will allow me to bring Jane Fair-

”你尽管放心，”她说道。“我肯定会来的。你定下日子，我就会来。你允许我带简·

fax? ”

费尔法克斯一起来吗? ”

“I cannot name a day,” said he, “till I have spoken to some others whom I would wish to meet you. ”

“我定不下日子,”他说道,“得先跟几位朋友商量一下, 我希望他们能来见见你。”

“Oh! leave all that to me. Only give me a carte-blanche. —I am Lady Patroness, you know. It is my party. I will bring friends with me. ”

“哦! 这一切都交给我来办。只需给我全权委托——要知道我可是赞助人。这是我的宴会, 我会带些朋友来的。”

“I hope you will bring Elton,” said he: “but I will not trouble you to give any other invitations. ”

“我希望你能带埃尔顿来,”他说,“不过我就不麻烦你再去邀请别人了。”

“Oh! now you are looking very sly. But consider—you need not be afraid of delegating power to me. I am no young lady on her preferment. Married women, you know, may be safely authorised. It is my party. Leave it all to me. I will invite your guests. ”

“啊! 瞧你这会儿一脸狡黠的模样。不过想想看——你完全不必担心把权柄交给我。我可不是待字闺中的年轻姑娘。你要知道, 已婚妇人总可以放心托付。这次聚会本是我的主意。全都交给我吧, 宾客由我来邀请。”

“No,”—he calmly replied,—“there is but one married woman in the world whom I can ever allow to invite what guests she pleases to Don-

“不,”他平静地答道,“这世上能由着性子邀请宾客到唐威尔宅邸的已婚女子, 有且仅

well, and that one is—”

“有一位，那就是——”

“—**Mrs. Weston**, I suppose,” interrupted Mrs. Elton, rather mortified.

“——我想，是韦斯顿太太吧，”埃尔顿太太插嘴道，语
气颇为难堪。

“No—**Mrs. Knightley**;—and till she is in being, I will manage such matters myself.”

“不——得是奈特利太太才行——在她出现之前，这类事情还是由我亲自打理。”

“Ah! you are an odd creature!” she cried, satisfied to have no one preferred to herself.— “You are a humourist, and may say what you like. Quite a humourist. Well, I shall bring Jane with me—Jane and her aunt. — The rest I leave to you. I have no objections at all to meeting the Hartfield family. Don’t scruple. I know you are attached to them.”

“啊！你真是个怪人！”她嚷道，因为没有人比自己更受青睐而心满意足——“你是个幽默家，爱怎么说就怎么说吧。地地道道的幽默家。好吧，我就把简带来——简和她的姨妈。——其余的人由你去邀请。跟哈特菲尔德那家人见见面，我丝毫没有意见。不用犹豫。我知道你跟那家人很亲近。”

“You certainly will meet them if I can prevail; and I shall call on Miss Bates in my way home.”

“只要我能办到，你一定会见到她们的；我回家路上会顺便去拜访贝茨小姐。”

“That’s quite unnecessary; I see Jane every

“这实在是多此一举；我天天

day:—but as you like. **I**t is to be a morning 都见到简：——不过随你的 scheme, you know, Knightley; quite a simple 意吧。你知道的，奈特利，就 thing. **I** shall wear a large bonnet, and bring 是个清晨的小聚，再简单不 one of my little baskets hanging on my arm. 过了。**我会戴顶宽檐帽，胳膊 Here,—probably this basket with pink rib- 膊上挽个小篮子——喏，就 bon. **Nothing** can be more simple, you see. 这个系粉红丝带的篮子。你 **And** Jane will have such another. **There** 看，再朴素不过了。简也会 is to be no form or parade—a sort of gipsy 挽个同样的篮子。不要任何 party. **We** are to walk about your gardens, 仪式排场，就像吉普赛人那 and gather the strawberries ourselves, and sit 样随性。我们在你花园里边 under trees;—and whatever else you may like 散步边亲手采草莓，累了就 to provide, it is to be all out of doors—a table 在树荫下坐坐——至于其他 spread in the shade, you know. **Every** thing 茶点，也都要摆在露天，你 as natural and simple as possible. **Is** not that 知道的，在树荫下铺张桌子就好。一切都要尽可能自然简 your idea? ” 朴。这不正是你的主张吗?”**

“**Not** quite. **M**y idea of the simple and the ” 不尽然。依我看来，简朴 natural will be to have the table spread in the 自然的做法应当是在餐厅设 dining-room. **T**he nature and the simplicity 宴。绅士淑女们带着仆从与 of gentlemen and ladies, with their servants 家具，其天性中的纯真质朴, and furniture, I think is best observed by meals 我以为最宜通过室内宴饮来 within doors. **W**hen you are tired of eating 体现。待诸位在园中啖草莓生腻时，屋内自有冷盘肉食 meat in the house. ” 备着。”

“Well—as you please; only don’t have a great set out. **And**, by the bye, can I or my housekeeper be of any use to you with our opinion? —**Pray** be sincere, Knightley. If you wish me to talk to Mrs. **Hodges**, or to inspect anything—”

“好吧——随你的便；只是别太兴师动众。顺便问一句，我和我的管家能否在哪些方面提供些参考意见？——请务必坦诚，奈特利。**若是**您希望我找霍奇斯太太谈谈，或是查验些什么——”

“I have not the least wish for it, I thank you.”

“我对此毫无兴趣，多谢您的好意。”

“Well—but if any difficulties should arise, my housekeeper is extremely clever.”

”嗯——不过万一有什么难处，我家的管家可是个极能干的人。”

“I will answer for it, that mine thinks herself full as clever, and would spurn any body’s assistance.”

我可以担保，我那位小姐自以为聪明绝顶，决不屑于接受任何人的帮助。

“I wish we had a donkey. **The** thing would be for us all to come on donkeys, Jane, Miss Bates, and me—and my caro sposo walking by. I really must talk to him about purchasing a donkey. **In** a country life I conceive it to be a sort of necessary; for, let a woman have ever so many resources, it is not possible for her to be always shut up at home;—and very long

“但愿咱们有一头驴子。那就该让简、贝茨小姐和我都骑上驴子——我那位 caro sposo 在旁边走着。我真得跟他商量买头驴子。在我看来乡居生活少了这个可不行；因为女人家纵有再多消遣，总不能成天关在家里——至于长

walks, you know—in summer there is dust, and in winter there is dirt. ” 途步行嘛，你知道——夏天尘土飞扬，冬天道路泥泞。”

“**You** will not find either, between Donwell and Highbury. **Donwell** Lane is never dusty, and now it is perfectly dry. **Come** on a donkey, however, if you prefer it. **You** can borrow Mrs. Cole’ s. I would wish every thing to be as much to your taste as possible. ” “在唐威尔和海伯里之间，你既不会遇到泥泞也不会遇到尘土。唐威尔巷从来不会尘土飞扬，现在更是完全干燥。不过你若更中意骑驴过来，可以向科尔太太借驴。我但愿事事都能尽量合你心意。”

“**That** I am sure you would. **Indeed** I do you justice, my good friend. **Under** that peculiar sort of dry, blunt manner, I know you have the warmest heart. **As** I tell Mr. E. , **you** are a thorough humourist. —**Yes**, believe me, Knightley, I am fully sensible of your attention to me in the whole of this scheme. **You** have hit upon the very thing to please me. ” “我确信你会的。说真的，我很理解你，我的好朋友。在你那种特别的干涩直率的态度下，我知道你有着最热诚的心。正如我对埃尔顿先生说的，你是个地道的幽默家——是的，请相信我，奈特利，我完全明白你为我安排这整个计划的用心。你正好想到了让我高兴的办法。”

Mr. Knightley had another reason for avoiding a table in the shade. **He** wished to persuade Mr. Woodhouse, as well as Emma, to join the party; and he knew that to have 奈特利先生不愿在树荫下入座还有另一层缘故。他不仅想劝说爱玛，更想说服伍德豪斯先生一同参加聚会；他

any of them sitting down out of doors to eat would inevitably make him ill. **Mr. Woodhouse** must not, under the specious pretence of a morning drive, and an hour or two spent at Donwell, be tempted away to his misery.

深知若让这位老先生在户外坐下用餐，势必会引发身体不适。绝不能让伍德豪斯先生借着晨间驱车散心、在唐维尔宅邸消磨一两小时的由头，被诱骗出来遭受病痛折磨。

He was invited on good faith. **N**o lurking horrors were to upbraid him for his easy credulity. **H**e did consent. **H**e had not been at Donwell for two years. “**S**ome very fine morning, he, and Emma, and Harriet, could go very well; and he could sit still with Mrs. **W**eston, while the dear girls walked about the gardens. **H**e did not suppose they could be damp now, in the middle of the day. **H**e should like to see the old house again exceedingly, and should be very happy to meet Mr. **and** Mrs. **E**lton, and any other of his neighbours. —**H**e could not see any objection at all to his, and Emma’s, and Harriet’s going there some very fine morning. **H**e thought it very well done of Mr. **K**nightley to invite them—very kind and sensible—much cleverer than dining out. —**H**e was not fond of dining out.”

他是诚心诚意受到邀请的。没有什么潜在的可怕念头会责备他轻信别人。他确实同意了。他已有两年没去当维尔斯了。“哪天早晨天气很好，他、爱玛和哈丽特不妨一起他去。他可以跟韦斯顿太太安静地坐着，让两个亲爱的姑娘到花园里逛逛。他想到了中午，花园里不会很潮湿。再去看那幢老房子，他会感到非常高兴。跟埃尔顿先生和太太见面，他也会感到非常高兴，跟其他邻居见见面，他也会非常高兴。哪天早晨天气很好，他、爱玛和哈丽特一起去，他看不出有什么不可以的。他认为奈特利先生

请他们去，真是太好了——非常亲切，非常明智，比出去吃饭聪明多了。他可不喜欢出去吃饭。”

Mr. Knightley was fortunate in every body's most ready concurrence. **The** invitation was everywhere so well received, that it seemed as if, like Mrs. **Elton**, they were all taking the scheme as a particular compliment to themselves. —**Emma** and Harriet professed very high expectations of pleasure from it; and Mr. **Weston**, unasked, promised to get Frank over to join them, if possible; a proof of approbation and gratitude which could have been dispensed with. —**Mr. Knightley** was then obliged to say that he should be glad to see him; and Mr. **Weston** engaged to lose no time in writing, and spare no arguments to induce him to come.

In the meanwhile the lame horse recovered so fast, that the party to Box Hill was again under happy consideration; and at last Donwell was settled for one day, and Box Hill for the next, —the weather appearing exactly right.

奈特利先生真幸运，所有人都爽快地赞同了他的提议。这个邀请处处受到欢迎，仿佛大家都像埃尔顿太太那样，认为这是特意给自己的 一份情面。**爱玛**和哈里特声称对此期待已久，定能尽兴；韦斯顿先生未经邀请便主动 承诺，只要可能，定要让弗兰 克也来参加——这番认可与 感激本可不必表露。奈特利 先生只得表示乐意见他；韦 斯顿先生便立即应承要抓紧 写信，竭力劝说他前来。

在此期间，那匹跛脚的马恢 复得很快，前往博克斯山的 聚会便重新被愉快地提上日 程。最终大家商定先去唐威 尔庄园玩一天，次日再赴博

克斯山——这几日的天气恰好再合适不过。

Under a bright mid-day sun, at almost Mid-summer, Mr. **Woodhouse** was safely conveyed in his carriage, with one window down, to partake of this al-fresco party; and in one of the most comfortable rooms in the Abbey, especially prepared for him by a fire all the morning, he was happily placed, quite at his ease, ready to talk with pleasure of what had been achieved, and advise every body to come and sit down, and not to heat themselves. — **Mrs. Weston**, who seemed to have walked there on purpose to be tired, and sit all the time with him, remained, when all the others were invited or persuaded out, his patient listener and sympathiser.

时值仲夏，午日朗照，伍德豪斯先生安安稳稳地坐在马车里，将一扇车窗放下，前来参加这场露天聚会。在修道院最舒适的一间屋子里，特地为他生了整个上午的炉火，他快快乐乐地坐在那里，十分自在，准备兴致勃勃地跟大家谈论一番这次外出游览的盛况，并且劝大家都来坐下，不要热着了。韦斯顿夫人似乎是特意步行来的，以便累了好陪他坐到最后，等所有的人都被劝说出去了，她仍然耐心地坐在那里，听着，同情着。

It was so long since Emma had been at the Abbey, that as soon as she was satisfied of her father's comfort, she was glad to leave him, and look around her; eager to refresh and correct her memory with more particular observation, more exact understanding of a house and

爱玛许久未到寺院了，见父亲已安顿妥当，她便欣然离开他，四下走动起来。她怀着热切的心情，想更仔细地观察一番，更准确地了解一下这幢住宅和庭园，以便重

grounds which must ever be so interesting to her and all her family. 新唤起和纠正她记忆中那些已经淡漠的印象。这地方对她和她全家来说，永远是个饶有趣味的所在。

She felt all the honest pride and complacency which her alliance with the present and future proprietor could fairly warrant, as she viewed the respectable size and style of the building, its suitable, becoming, characteristic situation, low and sheltered—its ample gardens stretching down to meadows washed by a stream, of which the Abbey, with all the old neglect of prospect, had scarcely a sight—and its abundance of timber in rows and avenues, which neither fashion nor extravagance had rooted up. —**The** house was larger than Hartfield, and totally unlike it, covering a good deal of ground, rambling and irregular, with many comfortable, and one or two handsome rooms. —**It** was just what it ought to be, and it looked what it was—and Emma felt an increasing respect for it, as the residence of a family of such true gentility, untainted in blood and understanding. —**Some** faults of temper John Knightley had; but Isabella had con-

她望着这宅邸宏伟适宜的格局，它那相称得体、独具特色的地势——低洼而避风，宽敞的花园一直延伸到草场，草场旁有溪流洗涤，而寺院本身由于早年全不注重景观，几乎望不见溪流——还有园中一排排、一条条茂密的树木，既未追逐时尚也未肆意滥伐。这宅子比哈特菲尔德大，格局也迥然不同，占地颇广，布局零散随意，房间多数舒适，其中一两间尤为精致。它恰如其分，表里如一——爱玛愈看愈生出几分敬意，觉得这样一家真正高贵、血统与见识都未受玷污的人家，正该居住于此。约翰·奈特利性子是有些缺点，但伊莎贝拉的姻缘确实无可指摘。她的亲属关系里，没

nected herself unexceptionably. **She** had given them neither men, nor names, nor places, that could raise a blush. **These** were pleasant feelings, and she walked about and indulged them till it was necessary to do as the others did, and collect round the strawberry-beds. —**The** whole party were assembled, excepting Frank Churchill, who was expected every moment from Richmond; and Mrs. **Elton**, in all her apparatus of happiness, her large bonnet and her basket, was very ready to lead the way in gathering, accepting, or talking—strawberries, and only strawberries, could now be thought or spoken of. — “**The** best fruit in England—every body’s favourite—always wholesome. —**These** the finest beds and finest sorts. —**Delightful** to gather for one’s self—the only way of really enjoying them. —**Morning** decidedly the best time—never tired—every sort good—hautboy infinitely superior—no comparison—the others hardly eatable—hautboys very scarce—Chili preferred—white wood finest flavour of all—price of strawberries in London—abundance about Bristol—Maple Grove—cultivation—beds when to be

有令她脸红的身份、姓氏或地位。这些都是愉快的思绪，她徘徊着沉醉其中，直到不得不效仿众人，聚到草莓畦边。除了随时可能从里士满赶来的弗兰克·邱吉尔，所有人都已到齐。埃尔顿太太兴高采烈地全副武装——戴着大遮阳帽，挎着篮子——正准备带头采摘、接收或谈论草莓。此刻除了草莓，再无别物可想、可谈。“英格兰最上等的水果——人见人爱——永远有益健康。这是最好的草莓畦，最好的品种。自己采摘真叫人欢喜——唯有这样才算真正享用。早晨绝对是最佳时分——从不觉得累——每种都好吃——麝香草莓尤其出众——无可比拟——其他品种简直难以下咽——麝香草莓极为稀罕——智利品种更佳——白木草莓风味最醇——伦敦的草莓价钱——布里斯托尔一带盛产

renewed—gardeners thinking exactly different
—no general rule—gardeners never to be put
out of their way—delicious fruit—only too rich
to be eaten much of—inferior to cherries—cur-
rants more refreshing—only objection to gath-
ering strawberries the stooping—glaring sun—
tired to death—could bear it no longer—must
go and sit in the shade. ”

——枫树林的种植术——何
时该更新草莓畦——园丁们
的见解截然不同——没有定
规——园丁最恨旁人指手画
脚——鲜美的果子——就
是太甜腻不宜多食——不如樱
桃——红醋栗更爽口——采
草莓唯一的坏处就是得弯腰
——日头毒辣——累得要命
——再也受不住了——得去
阴凉处坐坐。”

Such, for half an hour, was the conversation—
interrupted only once by Mrs. **Weston**, who
came out, in her solicitude after her son-in-law,
to inquire if he were come—and she was a little
uneasy. —**She** had some fears of his horse.

如此这般, 持续了半个小时
的谈话——只被韦斯顿太太
打断过一次, 她出于对女婿
的关切, 特地走出来打听他
是否到了——她显得有些不
安, 对他的马匹有些担心。

Seats tolerably in the shade were found; and
now Emma was obliged to overhear what Mrs.
Elton and Jane Fairfax were talking of. —
A situation, a most desirable situation, was in
question. **Mrs. Elton** had received notice of
it that morning, and was in raptures. **It** was
not with Mrs. **Suckling**, it was not with Mrs.

总算找到了几处还算荫凉的
座位; 这时爱玛不得不听见
埃尔顿太太和简·费尔法克
斯小姐正在谈论的话题。说
的是职位, 一个最理想的职
位。**埃尔顿太太那天早上得**
到消息, 真是欣喜若狂。**不是**

Bragge, but in felicity and splendour it fell short only of them: it was with a cousin of Mrs. **Bragge**, an acquaintance of Mrs. **Suckling**, a lady known at Maple Grove. **Delightful**, charming, superior, first circles, spheres, lines, ranks, every thing—and Mrs. **Elton** was wild to have the offer closed with immediately. — **On** her side, all was warmth, energy, and triumph—and she positively refused to take her friend's negative, though Miss Fairfax continued to assure her that she would not at present engage in any thing, repeating the same motives which she had been heard to urge before. — **Still** Mrs. **Elton** insisted on being authorised to write an acquiescence by the morrow' s post. — **How** Jane could bear it at all, was astonishing to Emma. — **She** did look vexed, she did speak pointedly—and at last, with a decision of action unusual to her, proposed a removal. — “**Should** not they walk? **Would** not Mr. **Knightley** shew them the gardens—all the gardens? — **She** wished to see the whole extent.” — **The** pertinacity of her friend seemed more than she could bear.

在萨克林太太家，也不是在布拉基太太家，论幸福和显赫，又比不上这两家。那是布拉基太太的一位表亲，萨克林太太的一位熟人，在枫树林颇有名气的一位女士。一个愉快、迷人、高贵的环境，来往的都是第一流的人物，圈子、关系、地位，样样都称心如意，而埃尔顿太太心急如焚，巴不得马上给人家定下来。她是一片热心，劲头十足，得意洋洋——坚决不理会她朋友表示拒绝的话，尽管费尔法克斯小姐对她说得清清楚楚，目前还不想做什么事，她还是把以前说过的理由重复了一遍。埃尔顿太太仍然坚持要代朋友答应下来，说是她明天就可以写好信，表示同意寄走。爱玛见简能忍受这一切，不由得大为惊讶。简看上去有些烦恼，说起话来也很尖刻——最后，她采取了一个在她来

说颇不寻常的果决行动，建议一起走走。“干吗不散散步呢？奈特利先生不想带我们看看花园——整个花园吗？我想整个看看。”看来她的朋友执意不肯罢休，她再也忍受不了啦。

It was hot; and after walking some time over the gardens in a scattered, dispersed way, scarcely any three together, they insensibly followed one another to the delicious shade of a broad short avenue of limes, which stretching beyond the garden at an equal distance from the river, seemed the finish of the pleasure grounds. —It led to nothing; nothing but a view at the end over a low stone wall with high pillars, which seemed intended, in their erection, to give the appearance of an approach to the house, which never had been there. **Disputable**, however, as might be the taste of such a termination, it was in itself a charming walk, and the view which closed it at nearly the foot of which the Abbey stood, gradually acquired a steeper form beyond its

天气炎热，众人在花园里漫无目的地散了一会儿步，三三两两地不成队列，不知不觉间相继来到一条宽阔的菩提树小径的怡人绿荫下。**这条**短径延伸至花园之外，与河流保持着平行距离，仿佛是游乐园的尽头——小径本身并不通往任何地方，尽头唯有一道低矮石墙上的景致，墙头立着高柱，这般建造似乎意在营造一条通往宅邸的路径，虽然宅邸从未在此存在过。**且不论**这般收尾的品味是否值得商榷，这小径本身确是怡人的漫步之所，尽头的景致也极为秀丽——修道院所坐落的山坡本

grounds; and at half a mile distant was a bank of considerable abruptness and grandeur, well clothed with wood;—and at the bottom of this bank, favourably placed and sheltered, rose the Abbey Mill Farm, with meadows in front, and the river making a close and handsome curve around it.

已相当陡峭，在宅邸边界之外地势愈发险峻，半英里外赫然耸立着一道峻峭雄伟的崖壁，林木葱茏地覆盖着岩体；崖壁底部得天独厚地坐落着修道院磨坊农场，前方是如茵草甸，河流环绕着农舍勾勒出一道优美而紧凑的弧线。

It was a sweet view—sweet to the eye and the mind. **English** verdure, English culture, English comfort, seen under a sun bright, without being oppressive.

这景色真是美妙——赏心悦目，沁人心脾。**英格兰**的葱茏草木，英格兰的田园耕作，英格兰的闲适情调，在明净而不灼人的阳光下，显得格外悦目。

In this walk Emma and Mr. **Weston** found all the others assembled; and towards this view she immediately perceived Mr. **Knightley** and Harriet distinct from the rest, quietly leading the way. **Mr. Knightley** and Harriet! —**It** was an odd tête-à-tête; but she was glad to see it. —**There** had been a time when he would have scorned her as a companion, and turned from her with little ceremony. **Now**

在这条小径上，爱玛和韦斯顿先生发现众人都已聚齐；她立刻注意到奈特利先生和哈丽特单独走在前面，与众人保持着距离。奈特利先生和哈丽特！——这真是奇特的组合，但她见了却心生欢喜。曾几何时，他定会不屑与她为伴，毫不客气地避开她。

they seemed in pleasant conversation. **There** 此刻他们却相谈甚欢。也曾
had been a time also when Emma would have 有那么一段日子，爱玛若见
been sorry to see Harriet in a spot so favourable 哈丽特置身于这般适宜眺望
for the Abbey Mill Farm; but now she feared 修道院磨坊农庄的位置，必
it not. **It** might be safely viewed with all its 定会忧心忡忡；而今她却毫
appendages of prosperity and beauty, its rich 无忐忑。眼前这片富饶牧场、
pastures, spreading flocks, orchard in blossom, 成群牛羊、繁花果园与袅袅
and light column of smoke ascending. —**She** 烟囱构成的美景，尽可安然
joined them at the wall, and found them more 欣赏。她走到矮墙边与二人
engaged in talking than in looking around. **He** 会合时，发现他们只顾交谈
was giving Harriet information as to modes of 而无心观景。他正向哈丽特
agriculture, etc. **and** Emma received a smile 讲解农耕之事，见到爱玛便
which seemed to say, “These are my own con- 投来一抹微笑，仿佛在说：“
cerns. I have a right to talk on such subjects, 这都是我分内之事。我谈论
without being suspected of introducing Robert 这些理所当然，不必担心被
Martin. ”—**She** did not suspect him. **It** was 疑心提及罗伯特·马丁。”她
too old a story. —**Robert** Martin had prob- 确实不曾疑心。那桩旧事早
ably ceased to think of Harriet. —**They** took 已时过境迁。罗伯特·马丁
a few turns together along the walk. —**The** 大抵早将哈丽特淡忘。三人
shade was most refreshing, and Emma found 沿着小径同行数巡。林荫清
it the pleasantest part of the day. 爽怡人，爱玛觉得这竟是今
日最惬意的时光。

The next remove was to the house; they must 下一步是进屋去；大家都得
all go in and eat;—and they were all seated 进去用餐；——众人纷纷落
and busy, and still Frank Churchill did not 座开始用餐，弗兰克·丘吉

come. **Mrs. Weston** looked, and looked in vain. **His** father would not own himself uneasy, and laughed at her fears; but she could not be cured of wishing that he would part with his black mare. **He** had expressed himself as to coming, with more than common certainty. “**His** aunt was so much better, that he had not a doubt of getting over to them.”—**Mrs. Churchill’s** state, however, as many were ready to remind her, was liable to such sudden variation as might disappoint her nephew in the most reasonable dependence—and **Mrs. Weston** was at last persuaded to believe, or to say, that it must be by some attack of **Mrs. Churchill** that he was prevented coming. — **Emma** looked at Harriet while the point was under consideration; she behaved very well, and betrayed no emotion.

尔却仍未现身。韦斯顿太太望了又望，终是徒劳。他父亲不肯承认不安，反而嘲笑她的担忧；但她始终无法打消让他放弃那匹黑色母马的念头。他先前表态必定前来时，语气比往常更确定。”他舅母病情大有好转，他毫不怀疑能过来赴约。”——然而正如许多人随时准备提醒她的那样，丘吉尔太太的健康状况极易突发变故，足以让她侄儿最合理的期盼落空——韦斯顿太太最终被说服，相信或者说出口认定：定是丘吉尔太太旧疾复发，才阻了他前来。——当众人议论此事时，爱玛观察着哈丽特；她举止得体，未泄露半分情绪。

The cold repast was over, and the party were to go out once more to see what had not yet been seen, the old Abbey fish-ponds; perhaps get as far as the clover, which was to be begun cutting on the morrow, or, at any rate, have the pleasure of being hot, and growing

冷餐既毕，众人又该出门去观赏尚未看尽的景致——那座古老修道院的鱼塘；或许还能走到明日便要开镰收割的苜蓿地边，至少也能享受一番汗流浃背后又重获清凉

cool again. —**Mr. Woodhouse**, who had already taken his little round in the highest part of the gardens, where no damps from the river were imagined even by him, stirred no more; and his daughter resolved to remain with him, that Mrs. **Weston** might be persuaded away by her husband to the exercise and variety which her spirits seemed to need.

的惬意。伍德豪斯先生早已在花园最高处溜达过一圈，连他都认为那里绝不会沾染河边的潮气，此刻便再也不愿挪步。他的女儿决意留在父亲身边，好让韦斯顿先生能劝动太太去活动筋骨、换换环境——她那份兴致似乎正需要这样的调剂。

Mr. Knightley had done all in his power for Mr. **Woodhouse**' s entertainment. **Books** of engravings, drawers of medals, cameos, corals, shells, and every other family collection within his cabinets, had been prepared for his old friend, to while away the morning; and the kindness had perfectly answered.

Mr. Woodhouse had been exceedingly well amused. **Mrs. Weston** had been shewing them all to him, and now he would shew them all to Emma;—fortunate in having no other resemblance to a child, than in a total want of taste for what he saw, for he was slow, constant, and methodical. —**Before** this second looking over was begun, however, Emma walked into the hall for the sake of a

奈特利先生已竭尽全力为伍德豪斯先生安排消遣。雕版画册、装满勋章徽章的抽屉、浮雕宝石、珊瑚、贝壳以及橱柜里所有家族收藏品，全都为这位老友准备停当，供他消磨晨光。这番盛情取得了圆满成功，伍德豪斯先生始终兴致盎然。韦斯顿太太刚陪他欣赏完所有藏品，此刻他正要领着爱玛逐一观看——所幸他除了对眼前之物毫无鉴赏力之外，并无其他孩童心性，因为他观摩得缓慢、专注且有条不紊。然而在这第二遍观赏开始前，爱玛

few moments' free observation of the entrance and ground-plot of the house—and was hardly there, when Jane Fairfax appeared, coming quickly in from the garden, and with a look of escape. —**Little** expecting to meet Miss Woodhouse so soon, there was a start at first; but Miss Woodhouse was the very person she was in quest of.

信步走进门厅，想趁隙自由观察房屋的门廊格局。她刚驻足片刻，便见简·费尔法克斯从花园疾步而入，神色间带着几分脱逃的仓皇。这位小姐没料到会如此快遇见伍德豪斯小姐，初时不免一惊，但伍德豪斯小姐正是她要寻的人。

“**Will** you be so kind,” said she, “when I am missed, as to say that I am gone home? — **I** am going this moment. —**My** aunt is not aware how late it is, nor how long we have been absent—but I am sure we shall be wanted, and I am determined to go directly. —**I** have said nothing about it to any body. **It** would only be giving trouble and distress. **Some** are gone to the ponds, and some to the lime walk. **Till** they all come in I shall not be missed; and when they do, will you have the goodness to say that I am gone? ”

“等我走开以后，能不能劳驾你说一声我回家去了?”她说。“我这就要走了。——我舅妈不知道天色已晚，也不知道我们出来多久了——不过我敢肯定，我们该回家了，我决定马上就走。我对谁也没说，说了只会引起麻烦和担心。有些人到水池那儿去了，有些人到菩提路那儿去了。他们全都要到屋子里来的时候，才会想起我；到时候，劳驾你说一声我回家了，行不行？”

“**Certainly**, if you wish it;—but you are not

”当然可以，如果你希望这

going to walk to Highbury alone? ”

样的话——不过你该不会打算独自走回海伯里吧? ”

“**Yes**—what should hurt me? —**I** walk fast.
I shall be at home in twenty minutes. ”

“是呀——我怎么会受伤呢?
——我走得快。二十分钟就能到家了。”

“**But** it is too far, indeed it is, to be walking
quite alone. **Let** my father’s servant go with
you. —**Let** me order the carriage. **It** can be
round in five minutes. ”

“但这确实太远了，一个人走
实在不妥。让我父亲的仆从
陪您去吧——我这就吩咐备
车。五分钟内就能备好。”

“**Thank** you, thank you—but on no account.
—**I** would rather walk. —**And** for me to
be afraid of walking alone! —**I**, who may so
soon have to guard others! ”

”谢谢，谢谢——可千万别这
样。——我宁愿走路。——我
还会怕一个人走路吗！——
我，说不定很快就要去保护
别人了呢！”

She spoke with great agitation; and Emma
very feelingly replied, “That can be no reason
for your being exposed to danger now. **I** must
order the carriage. **The** heat even would be
danger. —**You** are fatigued already. ”

她说话时情绪十分激动；爱
玛则满怀同情地答道：“这
绝不能成为让您此刻冒险的
理由。我必须吩咐备车。单
是这暑热就够危险了——您
已经疲惫不堪了。”

“**I** am,”—she answered—“I am fatigued; but it
is not the sort of fatigue—quick walking will re-

“我确实，”她答道，“我确实累
了；但这并非那种劳累——

fresh me. —**Miss** Woodhouse, we all know at times what it is to be wearied in spirits. **Mine**, I confess, are exhausted. **The** greatest kindness you can shew me, will be to let me have my own way, and only say that I am gone when it is necessary. ”

快步走走便能使我恢复精神。伍德豪斯小姐，我们都有过精神疲惫的时候。我承认，我的精神已经耗尽了。此刻您对我最大的善意，就是容我按自己的心意行事，只需在必要时说 I 已离开便是。”

Emma had not another word to oppose. **She** saw it all; and entering into her feelings, promoted her quitting the house immediately, and watched her safely off with the zeal of a friend. **Her** parting look was grateful—and her parting words, “Oh! **Miss** Woodhouse, the comfort of being sometimes alone! ”—**seemed** to burst from an overcharged heart, and to describe somewhat of the continual endurance to be practised by her, even towards some of those who loved her best.

爱玛再想不出反驳的话。她全明白了；于是她设身处地地体会她的心情，并且催她马上离开这所住宅，又怀着满腔热忱，照应着她平安离去。她临别时的神情是感激的——她临别时的话，“哦！伍德豪斯小姐，有时候独自一个人待着可真舒服啊！”——似乎是从一颗过分沉重的心里迸发出来的，多少可以看出她一直在忍受着什么，甚至对那些最爱她的人她都得忍受。

“**Such** a home, indeed! **such** an aunt! ”**said** Emma, as she turned back into the hall again. “**I** do pity you. **And** the more sensibility you

“这样的家！这样的舅妈！”爱玛转身回到门厅时说道，“我真为你感到难过。你越是表

betray of their just horrors, the more I shall 现出对她们那些可怕之处的
like you. ” 敏感，我就越喜欢你。”

Jane had not been gone a quarter of an hour, and they had only accomplished some views of St. **Mark's** Place, Venice, when Frank Churchill entered the room. **Emma** had not been thinking of him, she had forgotten to think of him—but she was very glad to see him. **Mrs. Weston** would be at ease. **The black mare** was blameless; they were right who had named **Mrs. Churchill** as the cause. **He** had been detained by a temporary increase of illness in her; a nervous seizure, which had lasted some hours—and he had quite given up every thought of coming, till very late;—and had he known how hot a ride he should have, and how late, with all his hurry, he must be, he believed he should not have come at all. **The heat** was excessive; he had never suffered any thing like it—almost wished he had staid at home—nothing killed him like heat—he could bear any degree of cold, etc. , **but** heat was intolerable—and he sat down, at the greatest possible distance from the slight remains of Mr. **Woodhouse's** fire, looking very deplorable.

简刚走了一刻钟，她们才观赏了几幅威尼斯圣马可广场的风景画，弗兰克·丘吉尔便走进了房间。**爱玛**原本没有想起他，早已把他忘在脑后——可见到他却十分欣喜。**韦斯顿太太**的忧虑可以打消了。**那匹黑母马**没有过错；那些把责任推给丘吉尔太太的人果然没错。**确实是**由于她姨母突然病势加重，他才未能及时赶到——那是神经性的发作，持续了好几个钟头——他几乎完全放弃了前来的希望，直至最后一刻才成行。**若是**早料到赶路会如此酷热难当，而且尽管紧赶慢赶还是迟到这么久，他寻思自己根本就不会动身。**天气**热得厉害；他从未受过这样的罪——几乎后悔没留在家里——酷热最叫他受不了；无论多冷的天气他都能忍

受，可炎热实在令人难以忍受——他在离伍德豪斯先生炉中余烬尽可能远的地方坐下，看上去可怜极了。

“**You** will soon be cooler, if you sit still,” said Emma.

“**As** soon as I am cooler I shall go back again. I could very ill be spared—but such a point had been made of my coming! **You** will all be going soon I suppose; the whole party breaking up. I met one as I came—Madness in such weather! —**absolute** madness!”

“你要是安静地坐着，很快就会觉得凉快些，”爱玛说。

等我稍微凉快一点，我就得回去了。其实真不该离开——可他们非要我来不可！我猜你们也快散场了吧？整场聚会都要结束了。我来的路上还碰到一位——这种天气出门！简直是疯了——十足的疯病！”

Emma listened, and looked, and soon perceived that Frank Churchill's state might be best defined by the expressive phrase of being out of humour. Some people were always cross when they were hot. Such might be his constitution; and as she knew that eating and drinking were often the cure of such incidental complaints, she recommended his taking some refreshment; he would find abundance of every

爱玛听着，看着，很快就察觉到弗兰克·丘吉尔的状况，用一句生动的俗语来形容便是“闹脾气”。有些人一觉得热就会烦躁，这大概就是他的体质使然。她想起饮食往往能缓解这类偶发的不适，便建议他用些茶点——餐厅里各样点心一应俱全，她体

thing in the dining-room—and she humanely 贴地为他指明了餐厅的门。 pointed out the door.

“**No—he** should not eat. **He** was not hungry; “不——他不要吃东西。他不 it would only make him hotter. ”**In** two minutes, however, he relented in his own favour; and muttering something about spruce-beer, walked off. **Emma** returned all her attention to her father, saying in secret— 饿；吃了只会更热。”然而，不到两分钟，他就为自己网开一面，嘟囔着说什么云杉啤酒，便走开了。**爱玛**重新把全部注意力都集中到父亲身上，暗自思忖道——

“I am glad I have done being in love with him. I should not like a man who is so soon discomposed by a hot morning. **Harriet’s** sweet easy temper will not mind it.”

“我很庆幸自己已经不再爱他了。我可不会喜欢一个因为早晨天热就如此烦躁不安的男人。**哈丽特**那温柔随和的性情是不会介意的。”

He was gone long enough to have had a very comfortable meal, and came back all the better—grown quite cool—and, with good manners, like himself—able to draw a chair close to them, take an interest in their employment; and regret, in a reasonable way, that he should be so late. **He** was not in his best spirits, but seemed trying to improve them; and, at last, made himself talk nonsense very agree-

他去了很久，足以舒舒服服地吃上一顿饭，回来时完全变了个样——整个人冷静下来——又恢复了往日的翩翩风度，能拉把椅子坐到她们身边，饶有兴致地看她们做活计，还颇为得体地为自己回来得太晚表示歉意。他虽不算兴致勃勃，却也在努力

ably. **They** were looking over views in Switzerland.

打起精神，最后竟说起俏皮话来，倒也娓娓动听。当时她们正在翻看瑞士风景画册。

“**As** soon as my aunt gets well, I shall go abroad,” said he. “**I** shall never be easy till I have seen some of these places. **You** will have my sketches, some time or other, to look at—or my tour to read—or my poem. **I** shall do something to expose myself.”

“等我姨妈病一好，我就要出国去，”他说，“不去看看那些地方，我永远不得安宁。将来总有一天，你会看到我的速写——读到我的游记——或者我的诗。我要尽情地宣泄一番。”

“**That** may be—but not by sketches in Switzerland. **You** will never go to Switzerland. **Your** uncle and aunt will never allow you to leave England.”

“那倒也可能——但不是去瑞士写生。你永远不会去瑞士的。你姨父姨妈决不会让你离开英格兰的。”

“**They** may be induced to go too. A warm climate may be prescribed for her. **I** have more than half an expectation of our all going abroad. **I** assure you I have. **I** feel a strong persuasion, this morning, that I shall soon be abroad. **I** ought to travel. **I** am tired of doing nothing. **I** want a change. **I** am serious, Miss Woodhouse, whatever your penetrating eyes may fancy—I am sick of England—and

“或许也能劝他们一起去。医生可能会建议她到气候温暖的地方去。我多半预料我们会全体出国。老实告诉你，我确实这么想。今天早上，我强烈地预感到自己很快就要远行。我应当去旅行。我厌倦了无所事事。我渴望改变。伍德豪斯小姐，不管您那双明

would leave it to-morrow, if I could. ”

察秋毫的眼睛作何猜想——我这话是认真的——我实在厌倦了英国，只要条件允许，明天就愿意离开。”

“**You** are sick of prosperity and indulgence. **Cannot** you invent a few hardships for yourself, and be contented to stay?”

“你已厌倦了富足与纵情。难道不能为自己设想些艰难困苦，安心留下么？”

“I sick of prosperity and indulgence! **You** are quite mistaken. **I** do not look upon myself as either prosperous or indulged. **I** am thwarted in every thing material. **I** do not consider myself at all a fortunate person.”

“我会厌倦富足和安逸！你完全想错了。我从不认为自己生活优渥或备受宠爱。我在所有重要事情上都遭遇阻碍，根本不觉得自己是个幸运的人。”

“**You** are not quite so miserable, though, as when you first came. **Go** and eat and drink a little more, and you will do very well. **An-**
other slice of cold meat, another draught of Madeira and water, will make you nearly on a par with the rest of us.”

”不过你比刚来时好些了。再去吃点喝点吧，很快就会好起来的。再来一片冷肉，再喝一杯马德拉酒兑水，你就差不多能和我们一样自在了。”

“**No—I** shall not stir. **I** shall sit by you. **You** are my best cure.”

“不——我哪儿也不去。我要坐在你身边。你是我最好的良药。”

“**We** are going to Box Hill to-morrow;—you will join us. **It** is not Swisserland, but it will be something for a young man so much in want of a change. **You** will stay, and go with us?” —您也一同去吧。那儿虽不是瑞士，但对一位渴望换环境的年轻人来说，也算是个不错的去处。您就留下来，和我们一道去好吗？”

“**No**, certainly not; I shall go home in the cool of the evening.” “不，当然不会；我将在傍晚凉爽时分回家。”

“**But** you may come again in the cool of tomorrow morning.” “不过你可以在明天早晨凉爽的时候再来。”

“**No—It** will not be worth while. **If** I come, I shall be cross.” “不——那不值得。我要是来了，准会闹脾气。”

“**Then** pray stay at Richmond.” “那么就请留在里士满吧。”

“**But** if I do, I shall be crosser still. **I** can never bear to think of you all there without me.” “可我要是去了，只会更加不快。一想到你们都在那儿，独独没有我，我就受不了。”

“**These** are difficulties which you must settle for yourself. **Chuse** your own degree of crossness. **I** shall press you no more.” “这些难题必须由你自己去解决。你爱使多少性子，全由你自己拿主意。我不会再催你了。”

The rest of the party were now returning, and 其余的人此刻也正归来，不

all were soon collected. **With** some there was great joy at the sight of Frank Churchill; others took it very composedly; but there was a very general distress and disturbance on Miss Fairfax's disappearance being explained. **That** it was time for every body to go, concluded the subject; and with a short final arrangement for the next day's scheme, they parted. **Frank** Churchill's little inclination to exclude himself increased so much, that his last words to Emma were,

“Well;—if you wish me to stay and join the party, I will.”

She smiled her acceptance; and nothing less than a summons from Richmond was to take him back before the following evening.

CHAPTER VII

They had a very fine day for Box Hill; and all the other outward circumstances of arrangement, accommodation, and punctuality, were

多时众人便聚齐了。有人见到弗兰克·丘吉尔喜形于色；有人则淡然处之；但听说费尔法克斯小姐失踪的消息后，普遍流露出惶惶不安的神情。既然已到曲终人散之时，这个话题便就此打住；众人匆匆敲定次日游玩的最后安排，便各自散去。弗兰克·丘吉尔原本就无意置身事外，此刻这种念头愈发强烈，临别时对爱玛说的最后一句话竟是——

”好吧——既然你希望我留下加入聚会，那我就留下吧。”

她含笑应允；除非里士满那边有召唤，否则他定要待到次日傍晚才肯回去。

第七章

这天天气晴朗，正是去博克斯山游玩的好日子，各项准备工作、安排和用具都考虑

in favour of a pleasant party. **Mr. Weston** 得很周到，人们准时聚在一起，准备玩个痛快。韦斯顿 directed the whole, officiating safely between Hartfield and the Vicarage, and every body was in good time. **Emma** and Harriet went together; Miss Bates and her niece, with the Eltons; the gentlemen on horseback. **Mrs. Weston** remained with Mr. **Woodhouse**. **Nothing** was wanting but to be happy when they got there. **Seven** miles were travelled in expectation of enjoyment, and every body had a burst of admiration on first arriving; but in the general amount of the day there was deficiency. **There** was a languor, a want of spirits, a want of union, which could not be got over. **They** separated too much into parties. **The Eltons** walked together; Mr. **Knightley** took charge of Miss Bates and Jane; and Emma and Harriet belonged to Frank Churchill. **And** Mr. **Weston** tried, in vain, to make them harmonise better. **It** seemed at first an accidental division, but it never materially varied. **Mr. and Mrs. Elton**, indeed, shewed no unwillingness to mix, and be as agreeable as they could; but during the two whole hours that were spent on the hill, there seemed a prin-

特菲尔德和牧师住宅之间，稳妥地行使他的职权。人人 Eltons; the gentlemen on horseback. **Mrs. Weston** 都准时赶到。埃玛和哈特菲尔德一起前往，贝茨小姐和外甥女跟埃尔顿夫妇一道，几位男宾骑马而去。韦斯顿太太留下来陪伴伍德豪斯先生。到了游玩地点，大家什么都不缺，就等着玩个痛快。大家抱着这样的希望走了七英里路，刚到达时还真兴高采烈了一阵。但是到头来，这一天却过得无精打采，始终没有快活起来。一个个显得没精打采，畏畏葸葸，很不融洽。人们分成了几伙——埃尔顿夫妇走在一起，奈特利先生照应贝茨小姐和简，埃玛和哈特菲尔德由弗兰克·邱吉尔陪伴。韦斯顿先生试图促使大家合在一起，可是没有效果。起初，这种分离

ciple of separation, between the other parties, 似乎是偶然形成的，但后来
too strong for any fine prospects, or any cold 一直没有多大改变。说真的，
collation, or any cheerful Mr. **Weston**, to re- 埃尔顿先生和埃尔顿太太并
move. 不固执己见，或者难以通融，
而另外两伙人，却似乎都受着某种想法的支配，非要分
开不可。在山上度过的那整整两小时里，好像有一种难
以克服的惰性，一种冷漠，一种有失体统的隔阂——把几
伙人分隔开来，任凭你景色再美，点心再冷，任凭韦斯
顿先生再活跃，也消除不了这种隔阂。

At first it was downright dulness to Emma. 起初，这段时光对爱玛来说
She had never seen Frank Churchill so silent 简直沉闷至极。她从未见过
and stupid. **He** said nothing worth hearing 弗兰克·邱吉尔如此沉默寡
—looked without seeing—admired without in- 言、呆头呆脑。他说的全是一些
telligence—listened without knowing what she 不值一听的废话——目光茫
said. **While** he was so dull, it was no wonder 然无神——赞美得毫无灵气
that Harriet should be dull likewise; and they —听她说话时心不在焉。
were both insufferable. 既然他都这般无趣，哈丽特
自然也跟着索然无味；这两人简直叫人难以忍受。

When they all sat down it was better; to her taste a great deal better, for Frank Churchill grew talkative and gay, making her his first object. **E**very distinguishing attention that could be paid, was paid to her. **T**o amuse her, and be agreeable in her eyes, seemed all that he cared for—and Emma, glad to be enlivened, not sorry to be flattered, was gay and easy too, and gave him all the friendly encouragement, the admission to be gallant, which she had ever given in the first and most animating period of their acquaintance; but which now, in her own estimation, meant nothing, though in the judgment of most people looking on it must have had such an appearance as no English word but flirtation could very well describe. “**M**r. **F**rank Churchill and Miss Woodhouse flirted together excessively.” **T**hey were laying themselves open to that very phrase—and to having it sent off in a letter to Maple Grove by one lady, to Ireland by another. **N**ot that Emma was gay and thoughtless from any real felicity; it was rather because she felt less happy than she had expected. **S**he laughed because she was disappointed; and though she liked待到众人落座后，气氛便融洽多了——依她的品味可谓大为改观，因为弗兰克·邱吉尔变得健谈而活泼，将她作为首要关注的对象。所有能展现的独特关注，他都毫无保留地献给了她。逗她开心、赢得她的青睐，似乎成了他唯一在乎的事——而爱玛既乐于被活跃气氛，也不反感受人奉承，便也显得轻松愉快，给予他所有友善的鼓励，默许他献殷勤的姿态，一如他们初识时最令人心动的那段光阴；只是此刻在她自己看来，这些举动毫无深意，但在旁观者眼中，这情景怕是除了“调情”再找不到更贴切的英文字眼来形容。”
弗兰克·邱吉尔先生和伍德豪斯小姐着实打得火热。”他们这般行径，正应了这句评语——注定要被某位夫人写进寄往枫林园的信笺，被另一位女士传往爱尔兰。倒

him for his attentions, and thought them all, whether in friendship, admiration, or playfulness, extremely judicious, they were not winning back her heart. **She** still intended him for her friend.

不是说爱玛的欢快轻佻源于真正的幸福；实则因她感受到的快乐远不及预期。**她的**笑声里藏着失落；尽管欣赏他的殷勤周到，认为无论是出于友谊、爱慕或戏谑，这些举动都极有分寸，却终究未能赢回她的芳心。**她**依然只愿视他为友。

“**How** much I am obliged to you,” said he, “for telling me to come to-day! —**If** it had not been for you, I should certainly have lost all the happiness of this party. **I** had quite determined to go away again. ”

“我多么感激您啊，”他说，“多亏您让我今天过来！——若不是您，我准会错过这场聚会的所有欢乐。**我**原本已决意要再次离开的。”

“**Yes**, you were very cross; and I do not know what about, except that you were too late for the best strawberries. **I** was a kinder friend than you deserved. **But** you were humble. **You** begged hard to be commanded to come. ”

“是的，你当时确实很不高兴；我也不知道是为了什么，大概是因为你来晚了，没赶上最好的草莓。**我**待你这般友善，实在是你所不配的。**不过**你倒很谦卑，再三恳求我吩咐你来。”

“**Don’t** say I was cross. **I** was fatigued. **The** heat overcame me. ”

“别说我脾气不好。**我是累了。热得我受不了。**”

“**It** is hotter to-day.”

今天更热了。

“**Not** to my feelings. I am perfectly comfortable to-day.”

“我的感觉并非如此。我今天非常自在。”

“**You** are comfortable because you are under command.”

“你感到舒适，是因为你正受着管束。”

“**Your** command? —**Yes.**”

“您的命令? ——是的。”

“**Perhaps** I intended you to say so, but I meant self-command. **You** had, somehow or other, broken bounds yesterday, and run away from your own management; but to-day you are got back again—and as I cannot be always with you, it is best to believe your temper under your own command rather than mine.”

“也许我本意是要你这么说，但我指的是自我克制。你昨天不知怎的越了界，摆脱了自己的约束；不过今天你又恢复了常态——既然我不能总陪在你身边，最好还是相信你的脾气由你自己掌控，而不是由我来掌控。”

“**It** comes to the same thing. I can have no self-command without a motive. **You** order me, whether you speak or not. **And** you can be always with me. **You** are always with me.”

“这是一样的。没有动机，我哪能自制得住。不管你说不说话，你都在命令我。而且你总能陪着我。你永远在我身边。”

“**Dating** from three o'clock yesterday. My perpetual influence could not begin earlier, or you would not have been so much out of hu-

“从昨天三点钟算起。我长久的影响不可能更早开始，否则你之前也不会如此闷闷不

mour before.”

乐。”

“**Three** o'clock yesterday! **That** is your date. I thought I had seen you first in February.”

“昨天三点钟！那是你记起的日子。我还以为我是在二月初次见到你的呢。”

“**Your** gallantry is really unanswerable. **But** (lowering her voice)—nobody speaks except ourselves, and it is rather too much to be talking nonsense for the entertainment of seven silent people.”

“您的殷勤实在令人无言以对。不过(压低声音)——此刻除了我们并无人交谈，对着七位沉默的宾客尽说些无稽之谈，未免太过失礼了。”

“I say nothing of which I am ashamed,” replied he, with lively impudence. “I saw you first in February. **Let** every body on the Hill hear me if they can. **Let** my accents swell to Mickleham on one side, and Dorking on the other. I saw you first in February.” **And** then whispering—“Our companions are excessively stupid. **What** shall we do to rouse them? **Any** nonsense will serve. **They** shall talk. **Ladies** and gentlemen, I am ordered by Miss Woodhouse (who, wherever she is, presides) to say, that she desires to know what you are all thinking of?”

“我说的每句话都问心无愧，”他带着活泼的放肆答道，“我是在二月里见到您的。让山丘上的所有人都听见好了——让我的声音一边传到米克尔汉姆，一边传到多金。我是在二月里见到您的。”接着又压低声音说：“我们的同伴实在蠢钝。该怎么让他们活跃起来？随便说些荒唐话就行。非得让他们开口不可。女士们先生们，我奉伍德豪斯小姐之命——无论她在何处都是主持者——前来询问：

诸位此刻都在思索什么?”

Some laughed, and answered good-humouredly. **Miss Bates** said a great deal; Mrs. **Elton** swelled at the idea of Miss Woodhouse's presiding; Mr. **Knightley**'s answer was the most distinct.

有些人笑着，和和气气地应了声。贝茨小姐絮絮叨叨说了许多话；埃尔顿太太一听说要由伍德豪斯小姐主持就气派十足地挺直了腰板；奈特利先生的回答最为干脆利落。

“**Is** Miss Woodhouse sure that she would like to hear what we are all thinking of? ”

伍德豪斯小姐当真愿意听听我们大家的心思吗？

“**Oh! no, no**”—cried Emma, laughing as carelessly as she could—“Upon no account in the world. **It** is the very last thing I would stand the brunt of just now. **Let** me hear any thing rather than what you are all thinking of. **I** will not say quite all. **There** are one or two, perhaps, (glancing at Mr. **Weston** and Harriet,) whose thoughts I might not be afraid of knowing. ”

“哦！不，不——”爱玛嚷道，尽可能笑得漫不经心，“说什么也不行。眼下我最受不了的就是这个。你们想什么尽管就是这个。你们想什么尽管就是这个。当然也不是所有人，”（她朝韦斯顿先生和哈丽特瞥了一眼）“或许有一两位的心思，我倒不介意听听。”

“**It** is a sort of thing,” cried Mrs. **Elton** emphatically, “which I should not have thought myself privileged to inquire into. **Though**, perhaps, as the Chaperon of the

“这种事，”埃尔顿太太加重语气嚷道，“我本不该认为自己有权过问。不过，或许作为舞会上的陪护人——我从未

party—I never was in any circle—exploring parties—young ladies—married women—涉足任何社交圈——游园会
——年轻小姐——已婚妇人
”

Her mutterings were chiefly to her husband; 她的嘟哝主要是对着丈夫说的；而他则低声回应着，
and he murmured, in reply,

“**Very** true, my love, very true. **Exactly** so, indeed—quite unheard of—but some ladies say any thing. **Better** pass it off as a joke. **Every** body knows what is due to you. ” “千真万确，亲爱的，千真万确。确实如此——简直闻所未闻——不过有些太太小姐什么话都说得出口。不如当作玩笑一笑置之。谁不知道该怎样敬重 你。”

“**It** will not do,” whispered Frank to Emma; “**这可行不通，**”弗兰克对爱玛低语道，“他们多半都觉得被冒犯了。我得用更巧妙的方式来打动他们。**女士们**先生们——伍德豪斯小姐命我转告各位，她放弃精确探知诸位内心想法的权利，只要求每人从整体上贡献些特别有趣的节目。**在座**连我共八人（承蒙她谬赞，说我已经够有趣了），她要求诸位要么献上一段绝妙表演——散

to say, that she waives her right of knowing exactly what you may all be thinking of, and only requires something very entertaining from each of you, in a general way. **Here** are seven of you, besides myself, (who, she is pleased to say, am very entertaining already,) and she only demands from each of you either one thing very clever, be it prose or verse, original or re-

peated—or two things moderately clever—or three things very dull indeed, and she engages to laugh heartily at them all. ”

文诗歌皆可，原创或背诵都行；要么来两段尚算机智的节目；要么就奉上三段实在乏味的表演——她保证会对所有节目都开怀大笑。”

“**Oh! very** well,” exclaimed Miss Bates, “then I need not be uneasy. ‘**Three** things very dull indeed. ’**That** will just do for me, you know. I shall be sure to say three dull things as soon as ever I open my mouth, shan’t I? (**looking** round with the most good-humoured dependence on every body’s assent)—Do not you all think I shall? ”

“哦！太好了，”贝茨小姐嚷道，“那我就不用担心啦。‘三件实在很乏味的事。’这正合我的身份，你们知道。只要我一开口，准会说出三件乏味的事来，是不是？（带着最和善的神情环顾四周，期待众人附和）——你们不都觉得我会这样吗？”

Emma could not resist.

爱玛实在忍不住了。

“**Ah! ma’ am**, but there may be a difficulty. **Pardon** me—but you will be limited as to number—only three at once. ”

“啊！夫人，可有个难处。请恕我直言——您得限定人数——一次只能三位。”

Miss Bates, deceived by the mock ceremony of her manner, did not immediately catch her meaning; but, when it burst on her, it could not anger, though a slight blush shewed that it could pain her.

贝茨小姐被她那故作正经的态度给蒙蔽了，一时没能领会她的意思；可是当这句话突然被她领悟时，她虽然微微涨红了脸表明这话确实刺

痛了她，却并没有动怒。

“Ah! —well—to be sure. Yes, I see what she means, (turning to Mr. **Knightley**,) and I will try to hold my tongue. I must make myself very disagreeable, or she would not have said such a thing to an old friend.”

“啊！——嗯——确实。我明白她的意思了，”(转向奈特利先生,)“我会尽量管住自己的舌头。我准是变得十分惹人厌烦了，否则她不会对一位老友说出这样的话来。”

“I like your plan,” cried Mr. **Weston**. “Agreed, agreed. I will do my best. I am making a conundrum. How will a conundrum reckon?”

“我喜欢你的计划，”韦斯顿先生嚷道。“同意，同意。我会尽力而为。我正在编个谜语。谜语该怎么算呢？”

“Low, I am afraid, sir, very low,” answered his son;—“but we shall be indulgent—especially to any one who leads the way.”

“恐怕很低，先生，非常低，”他的儿子回答道，“不过我们会宽容的——尤其是对任何带头人。”

“No, no,” said Emma, “it will not reckon low. A conundrum of Mr. **Weston**’s shall clear him and his next neighbour. Come, sir, pray let me hear it.”

“不，不，”爱玛说，“这不会算低的。韦斯顿先生的一个谜语就能让他和他旁边的人过关。来吧，先生，请让我听听。”

“I doubt its being very clever myself,” said Mr. **Weston**. “It is too much a matter of fact, but

“我自己倒不觉得这谜语有多巧妙，”韦斯顿先生说。“它

here it is. —**What** two letters of the alphabet are there, that express perfection? ” 太直白了，不过还是说出来吧——哪两个字母能代表完美?”

“**What** two letters! —**express** perfection! I am sure I do not know. ” ”这两个字母! ——代表着完美! 我确实不知道。”

“**Ah!** **you** will never guess. **You**, (to Emma), “啊! 你绝对猜不到。你 (对爱 I am certain, will never guess. —**I** will tell 玛说), 我敢肯定, 你绝对猜 you. —**M.** and **A.** —**Em-ma.** —**Do** you 不到——我来告诉你吧—— understand? ” M 和 A——爱——玛——这下明白了吗?”

Understanding and gratification came together. **It** might be a very indifferent piece of wit, but Emma found a great deal to laugh at and enjoy in it—and so did Frank and Harriet. —**It** did not seem to touch the rest of the party equally; some looked very stupid about it, and Mr. **Knightley** gravely said, 理解与满足同时涌上心头。这或许只是个相当平庸的俏皮话, 但爱玛却从中发现了不少值得欢笑玩味的乐趣——弗兰克和哈丽特也同样如此。这番话似乎并未同等地触动在场其他人: 有些人对此显得懵懂茫然, 而奈特利先生则神色凝重地说道:

“**This** explains the sort of clever thing that is wanted, and Mr. **Weston** has done very well for himself; but he must have knocked up every body else. __**Perfection**__ should not ”这就说明了大家想要的是怎样一种妙语, 而韦斯顿先生干得很出色, 他算是露脸了, 可别人却一定都吃不

have come quite so soon. ”

消。‘完美无瑕’来得未免太快了些。”

“**Oh! for** myself, I protest I must be excused,” “哦！至于我嘛，我可得声明 said Mrs. **Elton**; “I really cannot attempt 必须请诸位见谅，”埃尔顿太太说道，“这种事我实在不能 —I am not at all fond of the sort of thing. **I** had an acrostic once sent to me upon my 凑趣——我压根儿不爱猜字 own name, which I was not at all pleased with. **I** knew who it came from. **An** abominable 谜。从前有人用我的名字编 puppy! —**You** know who I mean (nodding to 过一首离合诗，我看了一点不 her husband). **These** kind of things are very 高兴。我知道是谁写的—— well at Christmas, when one is sitting round 我指的是谁（冲她丈夫点点头）。这种游戏在圣诞节围着 the fire; but quite out of place, in my opin- 炉火坐着玩玩倒还合适，可 ion, when one is exploring about the country 依我看，在夏日郊游时实在 in summer. **Miss** Woodhouse must excuse me. **I** am not one of those who have witty things 不合时宜。伍德豪斯小姐务 at every body’s service. **I** do not pretend to 必原谅我。我可不是那种随时能对谁都抖机灵的人。我 be a wit. **I** have a great deal of vivacity in my own way, but I really must be allowed to judge 不敢自诩风趣。我自有活泼 when to speak and when to hold my tongue. 开朗的一面，但什么时候该 **Pass** us, if you please, Mr. **Churchill**. **Pass** 开口，什么时候该缄默，确实得容我自己把握。邱吉尔 Mr. **E.**, **Knightley**, Jane, and myself. **We** 实得容我自己把握。邱吉尔先生，请您跳过我们几位吧。 have nothing clever to say—not one of us. 跳过埃尔顿先生、奈特利、简和我。我们都说不出俏皮话——一个都没有。”

“**Yes**, yes, pray pass me,” added her husband, with a sort of sneering consciousness; “I have nothing to say that can entertain Miss Woodhouse, or any other young lady. **An** old married man—quite good for nothing. **Shall** we walk, Augusta?”

“是呀，是呀，请把话传给我吧，”她丈夫带着戏谑的自嘲补充道，“我可说不出什么能让伍德豪斯小姐或其他年轻小姐感兴趣的话。一个结了婚的老男人——完全不中用了。我们走走吧，奥古斯塔？”

“**With** all my heart. I am really tired of exploring so long on one spot. **Come**, Jane, take my other arm.”

“我打心底里愿意。在一块地方逛这么久，实在腻烦了。来吧，简，挽住我另一只胳膊。”

Jane declined it, however, and the husband and wife walked off. “**Happy** couple!” said Frank Churchill, as soon as they were out of hearing:—“How well they suit one another! —**Very** lucky—marrying as they did, upon an acquaintance formed only in a public place! —**They** only knew each other, I think, a few weeks in Bath! **Peculiarly** lucky! —**for** as to any real knowledge of a person’s disposition that Bath, or any public place, can give—it is all nothing; there can be no knowledge. **It** is only by seeing women in their own homes, among their own set, just as they always are,

简婉言谢绝了，夫妇俩便走了。“好一对恩爱夫妻！”等他们走到听不见的地方，弗兰克·邱吉尔便说道。“他们真是天造地设的一对！太幸运了——只在公共场所结识就结婚了！我想他们在巴斯只认识了几个星期吧！实在幸运！——要说在巴斯或别的公共场所能真正了解一个人的性情，那根本不可能，简直一无所知。只有亲眼见女人待在自己家里，待在

that you can form any just judgment. **Short** of that, it is all guess and luck—and will generally be ill-luck. **How** many a man has committed himself on a short acquaintance, and rued it all the rest of his life! ”

自己人中间，看见她们平时的模样，你才能作出正确的判断。若不是这样，那就只能靠猜测，靠运气——而且往往结果很不幸。有多少男人一见倾心，追悔莫及啊！”

Miss Fairfax, who had seldom spoken before, except among her own confederates, spoke now.

费尔法克斯小姐先前除了跟自己的知心朋友外，一直很少开口，现在却开口说话了。

“**Such** things do occur, undoubtedly.”—**She** was stopped by a cough. **Frank** Churchill turned towards her to listen.

“这种事确实时有发生。”——她的话被一阵咳嗽打断了。
弗兰克·丘吉尔转过身来倾听。

“**You** were speaking,” said he, gravely. **She** recovered her voice.

“你刚才在说，”他严肃地说
道。她这才回过神来。

“I was only going to observe, that though such unfortunate circumstances do sometimes occur both to men and women, I cannot imagine them to be very frequent. A hasty and imprudent attachment may arise—but there is generally time to recover from it afterwards. I would be understood to mean, that it can be only weak, irresolute characters, (whose happy-

“我不过想说，尽管这类不幸的情形有时确实会发生在男女双方身上，但我认为这并不常见。一时冲动轻率产生的感情或许会有——但事后往往有足够的时间从中恢复。我的意思是，只有那些软弱犹豫、缺乏主见的人(他

ness must be always at the mercy of chance,) 们的幸福永远要听凭命运摆布), 才会让一次不幸的结识 be an inconvenience, an oppression for ever. ” 变成永久的累赘和压抑。”

He made no answer; merely looked, and bowed in submission; and soon afterwards said, in a lively tone, 他没有回答, 只是望着她, 顺从地欠了欠身; 不多时便用轻快的语调说道:

“**W**ell, I have so little confidence in my own judgment, that whenever I marry, I hope some body will chuse my wife for me. **W**ill you? (turning to Emma.) **W**ill you chuse a wife for me? —**I** am sure I should like any body fixed on by you. **Y**ou provide for the family, you know, (with a smile at his father). **F**ind some body for me. **I** am in no hurry. **A**dopt her, educate her. ” “唉, 我对自己看人的眼光实在缺乏信心, 所以将来若要结婚, 真盼望有人能替我择定妻子。您可愿意吗? (转向爱玛) 您愿意为我挑选一位妻子吗? ——只要是您选定的人, 我确信自己都会中意。您可是咱们家的当家主策啊(说着朝父亲微微一笑)。请为我物色一位吧。我丝毫不着急。您尽可以收养她, 教导她。”

“**A**nd make her like myself. ”

“让她变得像我一样。”

“**B**y all means, if you can. ”

“当然可以, 只要您办得到。”

“**V**ery well. **I** undertake the commission. **Y**ou shall have a charming wife. ”

“很好。我接下这个委托。你一定会娶到一位迷人的妻

子。”

“She must be very lively, and have hazle eyes. I care for nothing else. I shall go abroad for a couple of years—and when I return, I shall come to you for my wife. Remember.” ”她定要活泼伶俐，双眸须是淡褐色的。其余皆不足道。我将出国两载——待归来时，便向您迎娶我的新娘。请务必牢记。”

Emma was in no danger of forgetting. It was a commission to touch every favourite feeling. Would not Harriet be the very creature described? Hazle eyes excepted, two years more might make her all that he wished. He might even have Harriet in his thoughts at the moment; who could say? Referring the education to her seemed to imply it. 爱玛绝不会忘记。这件事触动了她每一根心弦。哈丽特不正是他所描述的那种人吗？除了淡褐色的眼睛，再过两年她就会完全符合他的期望。说不定此刻他心中想的正是哈丽特呢；谁说得准呢？把教育的事托付给她，似乎正暗示着这一点。

“Now, ma’am,” said Jane to her aunt, “shall we join Mrs. Elton?” ”那么，夫人，”简对她的舅母说道，“我们去找埃尔顿太太好吗？”

“If you please, my dear. With all my heart. I am quite ready. I was ready to have gone with her, but this will do just as well. We shall soon overtake her. There she is—no, that’s somebody else. That’s one of the ladies in

“好的，亲爱的。我十二分乐意。我早就准备好了。本来要陪她去的，不过这样也一样。我们很快就能赶上她。瞧她在那边——不，那是别

the Irish car party, not at all like her. —Well, 人。那是爱尔兰马车队里 I declare—” 一位女士，跟她一点儿都不像。——哎呀，我说——”

They walked off, followed in half a minute by **Mr. Knightley.** **Mr. Weston,** his son, Emma, and Harriet, only remained; and the young man's spirits now rose to a pitch almost unpleasant. **Even** Emma grew tired at last of flattery and merriment, and wished herself rather walking quietly about with any of the others, or sitting almost alone, and quite unattended to, in tranquil observation of the beautiful views beneath her. **The** appearance of the servants looking out for them to give notice of the carriages was a joyful sight; and even the bustle of collecting and preparing to depart, and the solicitude of Mrs. Elton to have her carriage first, were gladly endured, in the prospect of the quiet drive home which was to close the very questionable enjoyments of this day of pleasure. **Such** another scheme, composed of so many ill-assorted people, she hoped never to be betrayed into again. 他们走开了，半分钟后奈特利先生也跟了上去。只剩下韦斯顿先生、他儿子、爱玛和哈丽特；这时年轻人的兴致高涨到了近乎令人不快的程度。最后连爱玛也对奉承和嬉闹感到厌烦了，只希望能和另外几个人一起安安静静地走走，或者几乎独自坐着，无人打扰，静静观赏眼前的美景。仆人们出来找他们、通知马车已备好的景象，真是令人欣喜；就连收拾准备离开时的忙乱，以及埃尔顿太太急于让她的马车先行的焦虑，也都甘之如饴——因为这意味着即将踏上安静归途，为这充满疑问的欢乐日子画上句号。她希望再也不要被怂恿参加这种鱼龙混杂的聚会了。

While waiting for the carriage, she found Mr. **Knightley** by her side. **He** looked around, as if to see that no one were near, and then said, 等候马车的时候，她发现奈特利先生来到了身旁。他环顾四周，仿佛要确认近旁无人，这才开口说道：

“**Emma**, I must once more speak to you as I have been used to do: a privilege rather endured than allowed, perhaps, but I must still use it. **I** cannot see you acting wrong, without a remonstrance. **How** could you be so unfeeling to Miss Bates? **How** could you be so insolent in your wit to a woman of her character, age, and situation? —**Emma**, I had not thought it possible.”

“爱玛，我必须再次像以往那样对你说话：这或许是一种你勉强容忍而非真正允许的特权，但我仍要行使它。我实在不能眼睁睁看着你行为失当而不加以规劝。你怎么能对贝茨小姐如此冷酷？怎能对一个她这样品性、年龄和处境的女人卖弄如此无礼的机智？——爱玛，我万万没想到你会这样。”

Emma recollect ed, blushed, was sorry, but tried to laugh it off.

爱玛回想起来，脸红了，感到歉疚，却试图用笑声搪塞过去。

“**Nay**, how could I help saying what I did? — **Nobody** could have helped it. **It** was not so very bad. **I** dare say she did not understand me.”

“不，我怎么能不说那样的话呢？——谁都会忍不住这么说的。这也没什么大不了的。我敢说她根本没听懂我的意思。”

“I assure you she did. **She** felt your full meaning. **She** has talked of it since. I wish you could have heard how she talked of it—with what candour and generosity. I wish you could have heard her honouring your forbearance, in being able to pay her such attentions, as she was for ever receiving from yourself and your father, when her society must be so irksome.”

“我向你保证她确实感觉到
了。她完全体会到了你的意
思。之后她还谈起过这件事。
我真希望你能听到她是怎么
谈论这件事的——多么坦诚
又宽厚。但愿你能听见她如
何称颂你的克制，说你竟能
对她如此体贴关照——毕竟
她和你们父女朝夕相处，而
她的陪伴必然令人厌烦。”

“Oh!” cried Emma, “I know there is not a better creature in the world: but you must allow, that what is good and what is ridiculous are most unfortunately blended in her.”

“哦！”爱玛嚷道，“我知道世上再没有比她更好的人了；可你得承认，她身上最不幸的就是把可敬和可笑混在了一起。”

“They are blended,” said he, “I acknowledge; and, were she prosperous, I could allow much for the occasional prevalence of the ridiculous over the good. Were she a woman of fortune, I would leave every harmless absurdity to take its chance, I would not quarrel with you for any liberties of manner. Were she your equal in situation—but, Emma, consider how far this is from being the case. **She** is poor; she has

“我承认，”他说，“这两者在她身上是混在一起的；倘若她境况优裕，我倒可以容许某种无伤大雅的荒唐举动，姑且听之任之。倘若她是个有钱的女人，我倒不会因为你的举止随便些而同你争吵。倘若她的地位和你相当——可是，爱玛，你想想实际情

sunk from the comforts she was born to; and, 况与此相差多远。她是个穷 if she live to old age, must probably sink more. 人；她出生时家境优裕，后来落魄了；她若是活到老，很可能还要再落魄下去。她的 **Her** situation should secure your compassion. 处境应该得到你的体恤。你 **It** was badly done, indeed! **You**, whom she 这件事做得实在不妥！你呀， had known from an infant, whom she had seen 她看着你从小长大，当初她 grow up from a period when her notice was 赏识你的时候，你还以此为 an honour, to have you now, in thoughtless 荣，可现在，你出于一时的 spirits, and the pride of the moment, laugh 高兴，出于一时的傲慢，却 at her, humble her—and before her niece, too 嘲笑她，羞辱她——而且还—and before others, many of whom (certainly 当着她外甥女的面——当着 some,) would be entirely guided by your 别人的面，其中许多人（当 treatment of her. —**This** is not pleasant to 然是有些人）完全会以你 to me; but I must, I will,—I will tell you truths 态度来看待她。——这话你 while I can; satisfied with proving myself your 听了不高兴，爱玛——我听了也很不高兴。可我非说不可，我要说——趁现在还能 friend by very faithful counsel, and trusting 对你说，我就要对你说实话； that you will some time or other do me greater 我以此忠言为证，表明我是 your justice than you can do now. ” 你的朋友，并且深信，你以后对待我，会比现在对我公道得多。”

While they talked, they were advancing to-
wards the carriage; it was ready; and, be-

他们说着话，已朝马车走去；
马车已备好；还没等她再次

fore she could speak again, he had handed her in. **H**e had misinterpreted the feelings which had kept her face averted, and her tongue motionless. **T**hey were combined only of anger against herself, mortification, and deep concern. **S**he had not been able to speak; and, on entering the carriage, sunk back for a moment overcome—then reproaching herself for having taken no leave, making no acknowledgment, parting in apparent sullenness, she looked out with voice and hand eager to shew a difference; but it was just too late. **H**e had turned away, and the horses were in motion. **S**he continued to look back, but in vain; and soon, with what appeared unusual speed, they were half way down the hill, and every thing left far behind. **S**he was vexed beyond what could have been expressed—almost beyond what she could conceal. **N**ever had she felt so agitated, mortified, grieved, at any circumstance in her life. **S**he was most forcibly struck. **T**he truth of this representation there was no denying. **S**he felt it at her heart. **H**ow could she have been so brutal, so cruel to Miss Bates! **H**ow could she have exposed herself to such ill opinion in
开口, 他便扶她上了车。他误解了她别过脸去、默不作声的情绪——那其实混合着对自己的恼怒、羞愤与深切的忧虑。**她**方才说不出话；一进车厢便颓然倒向靠垫，片刻后才强自振作。想到自己竟未道别、未致谢辞、带着看似愠怒的神情分别，她急忙探出身去，声音和手势都急切地想表明心迹，可惜为时已晚。**他**已转身离去，马匹开始行进。**她**不断回首张望，终究徒劳；转眼间马车以近乎寻常的速度冲下山坡，将一切远远抛在身后。**她**心中的懊恼难以言表——几乎快要无法掩饰。**此生**从未有任何遭遇让她如此心潮起伏、羞愧难当、悲痛不已。**这番景象**给她带来强烈冲击。**其中蕴含的真相**无可否认。**她**从心底感受到这一切。**自己**怎会对贝茨小姐如此粗暴残忍！**怎会在敬重之人面前留**

any one she valued! **And** how suffer him to leave her without saying one word of gratitude, of concurrence, of common kindness! 下这般恶劣印象！又怎能任由他就此离去，未及道半句感激、赞同与寻常温情！

Time did not compose her. **As** she reflected more, she seemed but to feel it more. **She** never had been so depressed. **Happily** it was not necessary to speak. **There** was only Harriet, who seemed not in spirits herself, fagged, and very willing to be silent; and Emma felt the tears running down her cheeks almost all the way home, without being at any trouble to check them, extraordinary as they were. **时光**并未使她平静。她越是思忖，便越觉得痛苦。**她**从未如此沮丧过。**幸而**此刻无须言语交流。**身旁**只有哈丽特——她自己也情绪低落，倦怠不堪，甘愿保持沉默。**归途**几乎全程，爱玛都感觉泪水沿着脸颊流淌，却无意加以抑制——这泪水来得如此反常。

CHAPTER VIII

第八章

The wretchedness of a scheme to Box Hill was in Emma's thoughts all the evening. **How** it might be considered by the rest of the party, she could not tell. **They**, in their different homes, and their different ways, might be looking back on it with pleasure; but in her view it was a morning more completely misspent, more totally bare of rational satisfaction at the time, and more to be abhorred in recollection, 前往博克斯山这个糟糕的计划在爱玛心头萦绕了整个夜晚。**至于**其他同行者如何看待这次出游，她无从知晓。**他们**或许正身处各自家中，以不同的方式回味着那段愉快时光；但在她看来，这个早晨完全虚度了，当时没有获得丝毫理智的满足，事后回

than any she had ever passed. **A** whole evening 想起来更令人憎恶——这是 of back-gammon with her father, was felicity 她度过的最不堪的时光。即 to it. **_There_**, indeed, lay real pleasure, 便是陪父亲玩整整一晚双陆棋，都比这快活得多。**那才** is for there she was giving up the sweetest hours of the twenty-four to his comfort; and feeling 真正的愉悦：她将一天中最 that, unmerited as might be the degree of his fond affection and confiding esteem, she could 美好的时光奉献给父亲的安 not, in her general conduct, be open to any severe reproach. **As** a daughter, she hoped she 乐；虽然父亲那份深情厚爱与深信不疑的看重她未必当之无愧，但至少自己的日常 was not without a heart. **She** hoped no one 行为经得起严格检视。作为 could have said to her, “How could you be so 女儿，她自问并非铁石心肠。 unfeeling to your father? —**I** must, I will tell 但愿不会有人对她说：“你怎 you truths while I can. ”**Miss** Bates should 能对父亲如此冷漠？趁着还能 never again—no, never! **If** attention, in fu- 能开口，我必须也定要向你ture, could do away the past, she might hope 说明真相。”**再也不能**— to be forgiven. **She** had been often remiss, her 绝不能再让贝茨小姐遭受这 conscience told her so; remiss, perhaps, more in 般对待！若今后的关切能弥补 thought than fact; scornful, ungracious. **But** 过往的过失，她或许还能 it should be so no more. **In** the warmth of 指望获得宽宥。她深知自己 true contrition, she would call upon her the 时常疏失——诚然多是意念 very next morning, and it should be the be- 上的怠慢而非实际行动，带着轻蔑与无礼。但这样的日子必须终结。怀着真诚悔悟 ginning, on her side, of a regular, equal, kindly intercourse.

的热忱，她决定次日清晨便去登门拜访，这将是她建立

规律、平等、友善往来的开端。

She was just as determined when the morrow came, and went early, that nothing might prevent her. **It** was not unlikely, she thought, that she might see Mr. **Knightley** in her way; or, perhaps, he might come in while she were paying her visit. **She** had no objection. **She** would not be ashamed of the appearance of the penitence, so justly and truly hers. **Her** eyes were towards Donwell as she walked, but she saw him not.

次日一早她便动身前往，唯恐受到任何阻碍。她心想，路上说不定会遇见奈特利先生，或者他会在她登门拜访时也过来。她并不介意。她并不介意。她不为自己的悔悟之情感到羞愧，这本就是她应得的。她一路朝唐维尔走去，目光所及之处却并未见到他的身影。

“**The** ladies were all at home.” **She** had never rejoiced at the sound before, nor ever before entered the passage, nor walked up the stairs, with any wish of giving pleasure, but in conferring obligation, or of deriving it, except in subsequent ridicule.

“太太小姐们都在家。”她以前从未对这声音感到过欣喜，也从未在走进门廊、踏上楼梯时，怀着给予他人欢愉的愿望——除非是出于施恩的意图，或是为了事后取乐而佯装欢欣。

There was a bustle on her approach; a good deal of moving and talking. **She** heard Miss Bates’s voice, something was to be done in a hurry; the maid looked frightened and awk-

她一走近便听见忙乱的动静；人们来回走动、语声纷杂。她听见贝茨小姐的声音，似乎正急着张罗什么事。女

ward; hoped she would be pleased to wait a 佣面带惶恐，神色局促，请她
moment, and then ushered her in too soon. 稍候片刻，却又过早地将她
The aunt and niece seemed both escaping into 引了进去。那姨母与外甥女
the adjoining room. **Jane** she had a distinct 正慌忙要躲进隔壁房间。她
glimpse of, looking extremely ill; and, before 分明瞥见简面色极差，在房
the door had shut them out, she heard Miss 门尚未完全掩上之际，听见
Bates saying, “Well, my dear, I shall say 贝茨小姐急切道：“唉，亲爱
you are laid down upon the bed, and I am sure 的，我就说你在床上躺着呢，
you are ill enough.” 你病得确实不轻啊。”

Poor old Mrs. **Bates**, civil and humble as 可怜的老贝茨太太，一如既往
usual, looked as if she did not quite understand 往地谦恭有礼，却仿佛不太
what was going on. 明白眼前发生着什么。

“I am afraid Jane is not very well,” said she, “我担心简身体不太舒服，”
“but I do not know; they tell me she is well. 她说道，“可我也不清楚；他
I dare say my daughter will be here presently, 们告诉我她很好。我敢说我
Miss Woodhouse. I hope you find a chair. I 的女儿马上就会来了，伍德
wish Hetty had not gone. I am very little able 豪斯小姐。希望您有椅子坐。
—Have you a chair, ma’am? Do you sit where 真希望赫蒂没有走。我实在
you like? I am sure she will be here presently. 没什么力气——您有椅子坐
” 吗，夫人？您随便坐哪里都行吗？我肯定她马上就会来的。”

Emma seriously hoped she would. She had 爱玛真心希望她会的。她一

a moment's fear of Miss Bates keeping away from her. **But** Miss Bates soon came—"Very happy and obliged"—but Emma's conscience told her that there was not the same cheerful volubility as before—less ease of look and manner. A very friendly inquiry after Miss Fairfax, she hoped, might lead the way to a return of old feelings. **The** touch seemed immediate.

度担心贝茨小姐会躲着她。
但贝茨小姐很快就来了——
”非常高兴，不胜感激”——
不过爱玛的良心告诉她，贝茨小姐已不像从前那样活泼健谈，神色举止也不如往日从容。她心想，若是亲切问候一下费尔法克斯小姐，或许能让彼此重拾往日情谊。这招似乎立竿见影。

“Ah! Miss Woodhouse, how kind you are! —I suppose you have heard—and are come to give us joy. This does not seem much like joy, indeed, in me—(twinkling away a tear or two)—but it will be very trying for us to part with her, after having had her so long, and she has a dreadful headache just now, writing all the morning:—such long letters, you know, to be written to Colonel Campbell, and Mrs. Dixon. ‘My dear,’ said I, ‘you will blind yourself’—for tears were in her eyes perpetually. One cannot wonder, one cannot wonder. It is a great change; and though she is amazingly fortunate—such a situation, I suppose, as no young woman before ever met with

“啊！伍德豪斯小姐，您真是太好啦！——想必您已经听说了——是来向我们道喜的吧。说实在的，这在我身上可看不出多少喜色——（眨去一两滴泪珠）——毕竟我们相处这么久，要和她分开实在叫人难舍。她这会儿正头痛得厉害，整个上午都在写信：您知道，要给坎贝尔上校和迪克森夫人写那么长的信。‘亲爱的，’我说，‘你会把眼睛写瞎的’——因为她眼里一直噙着泪水。这也难怪，这也难怪。这真是个重大转折；

on first going out—do not think us ungrateful, Miss Woodhouse, for such surprising good fortune—(again dispersing her tears)—but, poor dear soul! **if** you were to see what a headache she has. **When** one is in great pain, you know one cannot feel any blessing quite as it may deserve. **She** is as low as possible. **To** look at her, nobody would think how delighted and happy she is to have secured such a situation. **You** will excuse her not coming to you—she is not able—she is gone into her own room—I want her to lie down upon the bed. ‘**My** dear,’ said I, ‘I shall say you are laid down upon the bed:’ but, however, she is not; she is walking about the room. **But**, now that she has written her letters, she says she shall soon be well. **She** will be extremely sorry to miss seeing you, Miss Woodhouse, but your kindness will excuse her. **You** were kept waiting at the door—I was quite ashamed—but somehow there was a little bustle—for it so happened that we had not heard the knock, and till you were on the stairs, we did not know any body was coming. ‘**It** is only Mrs. **Cole**,’ said I, ‘depend upon it. **Nobody** else would come so early.’ ‘**Well**,’

虽说她运气好得惊人——我想哪个姑娘第一次出门谋事也遇不上这样好的位置——伍德豪斯小姐，可别觉得我们不知感恩——（又抹了抹眼泪）——不过，这可怜的孩子！您要是看到她头痛的模样就知道了。人在剧痛时，总没法好好体会福分。她现在情绪低落极了。看她的样子，谁也想不到她得了这样好的差事有多高兴。还请原谅她不能来见您——她实在撑不住——回自己房间去了——我想让她在床上躺会儿。‘亲爱的，’我说，‘我就说你躺下了。’可她偏不躺，还在屋里走来走去。不过她说信写完了，马上就会好起来。没能见到您，她一定特别过意不去，伍德豪斯小姐，还请您多多包涵。刚才让您在门口久等了——我真是羞愧——不过刚才有点忙乱——恰巧没听见敲门声，直到您走上楼梯，

said she, ‘it must be borne some time or other, and it may as well be now.’ **But** then Patty came in, and said it was you. ‘**Oh!**’ said I, ‘it is Miss Woodhouse: I am sure you will like to see her.’ — ‘I can see nobody,’ said she; and up she got, and would go away; and that was what made us keep you waiting—and extremely sorry and ashamed we were. ‘**If** you must go, my dear,’ said I, ‘you must, and I will say you are laid down upon the bed.’”

我们才知道有人来了。‘肯定 是科尔太太，’我说，‘准没错。别人不会这么早来。’唉，’她说，‘迟早要面对的，不如就现在吧。’可这时帕蒂进来说是你。‘哦！’我说，‘是伍德豪斯小姐，你肯定愿意见她。’——‘我谁也不能见，’她说着立刻起身要走。这才让您久等了——我们实在抱歉又难为情。‘既然非走不可，亲爱的，’我说，‘那你就走吧，我就说你躺下了。’”

Emma was most sincerely interested. Her heart had been long growing kinder towards Jane; and this picture of her present sufferings acted as a cure of every former ungenerous suspicion, and left her nothing but pity; and the remembrance of the less just and less gentle sensations of the past, obliged her to admit that Jane might very naturally resolve on seeing Mrs. **Cole** or any other steady friend, when she might not bear to see herself. **She** spoke as she felt, with earnest regret and solicitude—sincerely wishing that the circum-

爱玛此刻的关切再真诚不过。她对简的好感早已与日俱增；眼前这幅凄楚景象，恰似良药治愈了先前所有狭隘的猜忌，只余满心怜惜。想到自己往日那些有失公允、有欠温和的揣测，她不得不承认：当简·费尔法克斯连面对自己都需要勇气时，选择去见科尔太太或任何可靠的朋友实属人之常情。她言辞恳切，满怀歉疚与牵挂——

stances which she collected from Miss Bates to be now actually determined on, might be as much for Miss Fairfax's advantage and comfort as possible. "It must be a severe trial to them all. She had understood it was to be delayed till Colonel Campbell's return." 由衷希望从贝茨小姐那里听来的既定安排，能尽可能让费尔法克斯小姐得到裨益与慰藉。”这对她们全家都是严峻考验。原先听说要推迟到坎贝尔上校回来再办的。”

"So very kind!" replied Miss Bates. "But you are always kind." "真是太客气了！"贝茨小姐答道，“不过您向来都这么体贴。”

There was no bearing such an "always;" and to break through her dreadful gratitude, Emma made the direct inquiry of— "永远"这个词实在叫人受不了；为了打断她那令人难堪的感激之情，爱玛直截了当地问道——

"Where—may I ask? —is Miss Fairfax going?" "请问——我能否问一下——费尔法克斯小姐要去哪里？"

"To a Mrs. Smallridge—charming woman —most superior—to have the charge of her three little girls—delightful children. Impossible that any situation could be more replete with comfort; if we except, perhaps, Mrs. Suckling's own family, and Mrs. Bragge's; but Mrs. Smallridge is intimate with "去一位斯莫尔里奇太太家——多么可爱的女人啊——极其出众——负责照看她的三个小女儿——都是讨人喜欢的孩子。再找不到比这更称心如意的差事了；或许除非是萨克林太太本家或布拉

both, and in the very same neighbourhood:— lives only four miles from Maple Grove. **Jane** will be only four miles from Maple Grove. ”

基太太家能胜过一筹。但斯莫尔里奇太太与这两家都交好，而且就住在同一带——离枫林园只有四英里。简离枫林园也将只有四英里路。”

“**Mrs. Elton**, I suppose, has been the person to whom Miss Fairfax owes—”

“我想，埃尔顿太太就是费尔法克斯小姐应当感激的那位恩人——”

“**Yes**, our good Mrs. **Elton**. **The** most indefatigable, true friend. **She** would not take a denial. **She** would not let Jane say, ‘No;’ for when Jane first heard of it, (it was the day before yesterday, the very morning we were at Donwell,) when Jane first heard of it, she was quite decided against accepting the offer, and for the reasons you mention; exactly as you say, she had made up her mind to close with nothing till Colonel Campbell’s return, and nothing should induce her to enter into any engagement at present—and so she told Mrs. **Elton** over and over again—and I am sure I had no more idea that she would change her mind! —**but** that good Mrs. **Elton**, whose judgment never fails her, saw farther than I did. **It** is not ev-

“是啊，就是我们那位好心的埃尔顿太太。最热心真诚的朋友。她容不得别人推辞。她不让简说‘不’字；因为简第一次听说这事时（就是前天，我们在唐维尔宅的那天上午），简第一次听说这事时，打定主意不接受这个提议，理由和你说的完全一样——正像你说的，她决心要等到坎贝尔上校回来再说，眼下什么也不能诱使她答应人家——她把这些话对埃尔顿太太讲了一遍又一遍——我敢说，我丝毫没想到她会改变主意！可是那位好心的

ery body that would have stood out in such a kind way as she did, and refuse to take Jane's answer; but she positively declared she would not write any such denial yesterday, as Jane wished her; she would wait—and, sure enough, yesterday evening it was all settled that Jane should go. **Quite** a surprize to me! I had not the least idea! —**Jane** took Mrs. Elton aside, and told her at once, that upon thinking over the advantages of Mrs. Smallridge's situation, she had come to the resolution of accepting it. —I did not know a word of it till it was all settled. ”

埃尔顿太太真有眼力，比我看得远。**天下**没有几个人能像她那样，和和气气地坚持自己的主张，拒不接受简的答复；她昨天还一口咬定，决不像简希望的那样，写一封表示拒绝的信，她非要等一等——果不其然，昨天晚上事情全定下来了，简答应去了。**我**大为惊讶！**我**丝毫没有料到！**简**把埃尔顿太太拉到一边，马上告诉她说，她考虑了斯莫尔里奇太太家的有利条件，便打定主意接受这个职位。**我**直到事情全部定下来了，才听说了这件事。”

“**You** spent the evening with Mrs. Elton? ” “你昨晚是和埃尔顿太太一起度过的？”

“**Yes**, all of us; Mrs. Elton would have us come. **It** was settled so, upon the hill, while we were walking about with Mr. Knightley. ‘**You** must all spend your evening with us,’ said she—‘I positively must have you all come. ’”

“是的，我们都要去；埃尔顿太太非要我们都去不可。这是我们在山上跟奈特利先生散步时就说定了的。‘你们务必都来我家消磨这个晚上，’她说——‘我无论如何都要请

你们全体光临。”

“Mr. Knightley was there too, was he? ”

“奈特利先生也在那儿，是吗？”

“No, not Mr. Knightley; he declined it from the first; and though I thought he would come, because Mrs. Elton declared she would not let him off, he did not—but my mother, and Jane, and I, were all there, and a very agreeable evening we had. Such kind friends, you know, Miss Woodhouse, one must always find agreeable, though every body seemed rather fagged after the morning’s party. Even pleasure, you know, is fatiguing—and I cannot say that any of them seemed very much to have enjoyed it. However, I shall always think it a very pleasant party, and feel extremely obliged to the kind friends who included me in it. ”

“不，奈特利先生没有去；他一开始谢绝了。虽然我以为他会去，因为埃尔顿太太说过绝不让他推辞，可他终究没去——不过我母亲、简和我都去了，晚上过得很快。伍德豪斯小姐，您知道，这样和善的朋友们总是令人愉快的，尽管大家似乎都被上午的聚会弄得有些疲惫。您知道，即便是娱乐也是累人的——而且我也不能说他们中有谁显得特别尽兴。不过，我永远会觉得这是个非常愉快的聚会，并且深深感激那些把我算在内的好心朋友们。”

“Miss Fairfax, I suppose, though you were not aware of it, had been making up her mind the whole day? ”

“我想，费尔法克斯小姐虽然自己并未察觉，其实一整天都在心里打定主意了吧？”

“I dare say she had.”

“我敢说她准是那样。”

“**Whenever** the time may come, it must be unwelcome to her and all her friends—but I hope her engagement will have every alleviation that is possible—I mean, as to the character and manners of the family.”

“无论何时到来，这消息对
她和她的朋友们都必定是令
人不快的——但我希望她的
婚约能够尽量减轻这种不快
——我指的是，在男方家人
的品格和教养方面。”

“**Thank** you, dear Miss Woodhouse. **Yes**, indeed, there is every thing in the world that can make her happy in it. **Except** the Sucklings and Bragges, there is not such another nursery establishment, so liberal and elegant, in all Mrs. Elton’s acquaintance. **Mrs. Smallridge**, a most delightful woman! —A style of living almost equal to Maple Grove—and as to the children, except the little Sucklings and little Bragges, there are not such elegant sweet children anywhere. **Jane** will be treated with such regard and kindness! —It will be nothing but pleasure, a life of pleasure. —**And** her salary! —I really cannot venture to name her salary to you, Miss Woodhouse. **Even** you, used as you are to great sums, would hardly believe that so much could be given to a young

“亲爱的伍德豪斯小姐，多谢您关心。**是啊**，说真的，这差事样样都称心如意。**在**埃尔顿太太的交际圈里，除了萨克林家和布拉格家，再没有谁家能有这样气派又雅致的育儿房了。**斯莫里奇夫人**真是个讨人喜欢的妙人儿！——那生活方式简直跟枫林庄园不相上下——至于那几个孩子嘛，除了萨克林家和小布拉格家的孩子，哪儿也找不着这样文雅可爱的小人儿了。**简**准会受到敬重和善待！——这简直是福气，一辈子的福气。——再说她的薪水！——我真不敢把具体

person like Jane. ”

数目告诉您，伍德豪斯小姐。像您这样见惯大数目的人，恐怕也很难相信像简这样的年轻人能拿到如此丰厚的酬劳。”

“Ah! madam,” cried Emma, “if other children are at all like what I remember to have been myself, I should think five times the amount of what I have ever yet heard named as a salary on such occasions, dearly earned. ”

“啊！夫人，”爱玛嚷道，“倘若别的孩子都像我记忆中自己小时候那般顽皮，那么即便支付五倍于这类场合迄今所闻的酬金，我也觉得是理所应当的。”

“You are so noble in your ideas! ”

“你的想法真是高尚！”

“And when is Miss Fairfax to leave you? ”

”费尔法克斯小姐何时离开府上呢？”

“Very soon, very soon, indeed; that's the worst of it. Within a fortnight. Mrs. Smallridge is in a great hurry. My poor mother does not know how to bear it. So then, I try to put it out of her thoughts, and say, Come ma'am, do not let us think about it any more. ”

”快了，真的快了；这正是最糟糕的地方。不出半个月。斯莫里奇太太催得紧。我那可怜的母亲简直不知如何是好。所以，我就尽量让她不去想这件事，对她说：好啦，夫人，咱们别再想这事了。”

“Her friends must all be sorry to lose her; and “她的朋友们一定都会为失

will not Colonel and Mrs. **Campbell** be sorry to find that she has engaged herself before their return?" 去她而感到遗憾；坎贝尔上校夫妇回来时，发现她已经订了婚，难道会不感到遗憾吗？"

"**Yes**; Jane says she is sure they will; but yet, this is such a situation as she cannot feel herself justified in declining. **I** was so astonished when she first told me what she had been saying to Mrs. **Elton**, and when Mrs. **Elton** at the same moment came congratulating me upon it! **It** was before tea—stay—no, it could not be before tea, because we were just going to cards—and yet it was before tea, because I remember thinking—Oh! **no**, now I recollect, now I have it; something happened before tea, but not that. **Mr. Elton** was called out of the room before tea, old John Abdy's son wanted to speak with him. **Poor** old John, I have a great regard for him; he was clerk to my poor father twenty-seven years; and now, poor old man, he is bed-ridden, and very poorly with the rheumatic gout in his joints—I must go and see him to-day; and so will Jane, I am sure, if she gets out at all. **And** poor John's son came to talk to Mr. **Elton** about re-

"是啊；简说她相信她们会去的；不过，这样的处境又让她觉得不便推辞。她刚告诉我她跟埃尔顿太太说了些什么，紧接着埃尔顿太太就过来向我道贺——我当时真是大吃一惊！那是在用茶点之前——等等——不对，不可能在茶点前，因为我们正要打牌——不过确实在茶点前，因为我记得当时在想——哦！不，现在我想起来了，我记起来了；茶点前发生了件事，但不是那件。是埃尔顿先生被叫出房间，老约翰·阿布迪的儿子要跟他说话。可怜的老约翰，我向来很敬重他；他给我过世的父亲当了二十七年文书。如今这可怜的老先生卧病在床，患着风湿性痛风，关节

lief from the parish; he is very well to do himself, you know, being head man at the Crown, ostler, and every thing of that sort, but still he cannot keep his father without some help; and so, when Mr. **Elton** came back, he told us what John ostler had been telling him, and then it came out about the chaise having been sent to Randalls to take Mr. **Frank** Churchill to Richmond. **That** was what happened before tea. **It** was after tea that Jane spoke to Mrs. **Elton.** ”

疼痛难忍——我今天得去看
看他；简肯定也会去的，只
要她出得了门。**可怜**的约翰
的儿子来找埃尔顿先生商量
教区补助的事；他自己日子
过得挺宽裕，你知道的，在
皇冠旅馆当领班，马夫之类
的活儿都管，可要是没有些
补助，他还是没法赡养父亲。
后来埃尔顿先生回来，把约
翰马夫告诉他的事说给我们
听，接着就提到派了马车去
兰德尔斯的消息，要接弗兰
克·邱吉尔先生去里士满。
那才是茶点前发生的事。简
跟埃尔顿太太谈话是在茶点
后。”

Miss Bates would hardly give Emma time to say how perfectly new this circumstance was to her; but as without supposing it possible that she could be ignorant of any of the particulars of Mr. **Frank** Churchill's going, she proceeded to give them all, it was of no consequence.

贝茨小姐几乎没给爱玛留出时间，说明自己对此事全然不知；但她想当然地认为，弗兰克·邱吉尔先生动身的种种细节，爱玛不可能毫无所闻，于是径直讲了下去，这也就无关紧要了。

What Mr. Elton had learned from the ostler on the subject, being the accumulation of the ostler's own knowledge, and the knowledge of the servants at Randalls, was, that a messenger had come over from Richmond soon after the return of the party from Box Hill—which messenger, however, had been no more than was expected; and that Mr. Churchill had sent his nephew a few lines, containing, upon the whole, a tolerable account of Mrs. Churchill, and only wishing him not to delay coming back beyond the next morning early; but that Mr. Frank Churchill having resolved to go home directly, without waiting at all, and his horse seeming to have got a cold, Tom had been sent off immediately for the Crown chaise, and the ostler had stood out and seen it pass by, the boy going a good pace, and driving very steady.

埃尔顿先生从马夫那里听来的消息，综合了马夫本人的见闻和兰德尔仆人们的话，大致是：里士满派来的信使在众人从博克斯山返回后不久就到了——不过这信使原也在意料之中；邱吉尔先生给外甥写了封短笺，总体上说邱吉尔夫人病情尚可，只希望他次日清晨务必赶回；但弗兰克·邱吉尔先生决意即刻动身，不愿再作耽搁。因他的马匹似乎着了凉，汤姆当即被派去冠冕旅店雇马车，马夫亲眼看见马车经过，那伙计赶得又稳又快。

There was nothing in all this either to astonish or interest, and it caught Emma's attention only as it united with the subject which already engaged her mind. **The** contrast between Mrs. Churchill's importance in the world, and Jane Fairfax's, struck her; one was

这一切既无惊人之处也无趣味可言，之所以能引起爱玛的注意，无非是因为与她心中盘桓的思绪不谋而合。邱吉尔太太与简·费尔法克斯在世间地位的悬殊令她震撼

every thing, the other nothing—and she sat ——一个享尽尊荣，一个微 musing on the difference of woman's destiny, 不足道——她静坐着思索女 and quite unconscious on what her eyes were 性命运的差异，目光茫然凝 fixed, till roused by Miss Bates's saying, 视前方，直到贝茨小姐的话语将她惊醒。

“**Aye**, I see what you are thinking of, the pi- “啊，我明白你在想什么了， anoforte. **What** is to become of that? — 是那架钢琴。它该怎么处置 **Very** true. **Poor** dear Jane was talking of it 呢？——说得极是。可怜的 just now. — ‘**You** must go,’ said she. ‘**You** 简刚才还说起它呢。‘你得 and I must part. **You** will have no business 走了，’她说，‘你我必须分 here. —**Let** it stay, however,’ said she; ‘give it 离。你在这里没有用处了。 houseroom till Colonel Campbell comes back. —不过就让它留着吧，’她 I shall talk about it to him; he will settle for 又说，‘给它个安身之处，等 me; he will help me out of all my difficulties. 坎贝尔上校回来。我会跟他 ’ —**And** to this day, I do believe, she knows 商量这事；他会替我安排； not whether it was his present or his daughter’ 他会帮我解决所有困难。’ s. ” —直到今天，我确信她还不知道这礼物究竟是上校送的，还是他女儿送的。”

Now Emma was obliged to think of the pi- **此刻**，爱玛不得不想到那架 anoforte; and the remembrance of all her for- 钢琴；回想起自己先前种种 mer fanciful and unfair conjectures was so little 异想天开又不公正的猜测实 pleasing, that she soon allowed herself to be 在令人不快，她很快就觉得 lieve her visit had been long enough; and, with 这次拜访已经够长了。于是，

a repetition of every thing that she could venture to say of the good wishes which she really felt, took leave.

在重复了所有敢于表达的、发自内心的美好祝愿之后，她便告辞离去。

CHAPTER IX

第九章

Emma's pensive meditations, as she walked home, were not interrupted; but on entering the parlour, she found those who must rouse her. **Mr. Knightley** and Harriet had arrived during her absence, and were sitting with her father. —**Mr. Knightley** immediately got up, and in a manner decidedly graver than usual, said,

爱玛步行回家，一路上的沉思默想并没有受到打扰；可是刚一走进客厅，她就发现她不得不从中醒来了。她不在家时，奈特利先生和哈丽特来到了她父亲那儿，正跟他坐在一起。**奈特利先生**立即站起身，而且已经是用显然比往常郑重的神态在说：

“I would not go away without seeing you, but I have no time to spare, and therefore must now be gone directly. I am going to London, to spend a few days with John and Isabella. **Have** you any thing to send or say, besides the ‘love,’ which nobody carries? ”

不见你一面我是不会走的，可我眼下一点时间也抽不出来，因此只得这就告辞。我要去伦敦，同约翰和伊莎贝拉住几天。你要我带什么或捎什么口信吗？当然“问候”除外，那是不需要带的。

“**Nothing** at all. **But** is not this a sudden scheme? ”

”没什么。不过，这不是太突然了吗？”

“Yes—rather—I have been thinking of it some little time.” “是的——确实——我已经考虑这件事有一小段时间了。”

Emma was sure he had not forgiven her; he looked unlike himself. **Time**, however, she thought, would tell him that they ought to be friends again. **While** he stood, as if meaning to go, but not going—her father began his inquiries.

爱玛确信他并未原谅她；他的神情与往常判若两人。不过她心想，时间会让他明白他们理当重归于好。正当他驻足似欲离去却又迟疑不决时——她的父亲开始了他的问话。

“Well, my dear, and did you get there safely? “啊，亲爱的，你平安到了吗？—**And** how did you find my worthy old friend and her daughter? —I dare say they must have been very much obliged to you for coming. **Dear** Emma has been to call on Mrs. and Miss Bates, Mr. **Knightley**, as I told you before. **She** is always so attentive to them!”

——你觉得我那可敬的老朋友和她女儿近来怎样？——我敢说她们一定非常感激你前去探望。奈特利先生，爱玛刚才去拜访了贝茨太太和贝茨小姐，正如我之前告诉你的。她总是对她们关怀备至！”

Emma’ s colour was heightened by this unjust praise; and with a smile, and shake of the head, which spoke much, she looked at Mr. **Knightley**. —It seemed as if there were an

这阵过誉使爱玛羞红了脸；她带着意味深长的微笑摇了摇头，朝奈特利先生望着。似乎立刻产生了对她有利的印

instantaneous impression in her favour, as if 象，仿佛他亲眼从她眼睛里 his eyes received the truth from hers, and all 看到了真情，她心底的美好 that had passed of good in her feelings were 情感立刻得到了他的理解和 at once caught and honoured. —**H**e looked at 尊重。他怀着无限欣慰注视 her with a glow of regard. **S**he was warmly 着她。这番公开的赞扬使她 gratified—and in another moment still more 满心欢喜，紧接着，他又做 so, by a little movement of more than common 出一个比寻常更加友善的举 friendliness on his part. —**H**e took her hand; 动，使她越发感到快慰。他抓—whether she had not herself made the first 住了她的手——究竟是不是 motion, she could not say—she might, per- 她先伸出手来的，她也说不haps, have rather offered it—but he took her 上。她或许在情不自禁地做 hand, pressed it, and certainly was on the point 出了那个动作，不过他却抓 of carrying it to his lips—when, from some 住了她的手，紧紧地握住，想 fancy or other, he suddenly let it go. —**W**hy 要亲吻它——就在这时，不 he should feel such a scruple, why he should 知他心里产生了什么念头， change his mind when it was all but done, she 他突然松开了手。他为何这 could not perceive. —**H**e would have judged 般拘谨，为何在眼看要吻到 better, she thought, if he had not stopped. — 的时候又改变了主意，她不得而知。她心想，他若不是 **T**he intention, however, was indubitable; and 停下来，岂不是判断得更准 so little gallantry, or however else it happened, 确些。然而，他的意图是毋 but she thought nothing became him more. 庸置疑的，究竟是因为他一 —**I**t was with him, of so simple, yet so dig- 般说来缺乏献殷勤的风度, nified a nature. —**S**he could not but recall 还是因为别的什么缘故，她 the attempt with great satisfaction. **I**t spoke 只是觉得他这样做再恰当不

such perfect amity. —**H**e left them immediately afterwards—gone in a moment. **H**e always moved with the alertness of a mind which could neither be undecided nor dilatory, but now he seemed more sudden than usual in his disappearance.

过了。他的天性就是如此质朴，又如此高尚。她一想到这番意图，心里就说不出的满意。这说明他们完全重归于好了。他随即离开了他们，转眼就走出了屋子。他一向行动敏捷，既不犹豫，也不拖拉，但是这一次似乎比平常走得更突然。

Emma could not regret her having gone to Miss Bates, but she wished she had left her ten minutes earlier;—it would have been a great pleasure to talk over Jane Fairfax's situation with Mr. **K**nightley. —**N**either would she regret that he should be going to Brunswick Square, for she knew how much his visit would be enjoyed—but it might have happened at a better time—and to have had longer notice of it, would have been pleasanter. —**T**hey parted thorough friends, however; she could not be deceived as to the meaning of his countenance, and his unfinished gallantry;—it was all done to assure her that she had fully recovered his good opinion. —**H**e had been sitting with them half an hour, she found. **I**t was a

爱玛并不后悔去拜访了贝茨小姐，只是心想若能早十分钟离开就好了——她本可以趁此机会与奈特利先生好好聊聊简·费尔法克斯的境况。她也不懊恼他将要去往布鲁姆斯伯里广场，因为她深知他的到访会带来多少欢欣——只是这行程若能安排得更合时宜些，若能更早些得知消息，想必会更令人愉快。不过两人终究是尽释前嫌地分别了；他眉宇间未竟的殷勤之意，她绝不会错认——这全然是为了让她确信，自己已重新赢得他的全

pity that she had not come back earlier!

部好感。后来才知他已在她们那儿坐了半个钟头。可惜她没能早些回来！

In the hope of diverting her father's thoughts from the disagreeableness of Mr. **Knightley'**s going to London; and going so suddenly; and going on horseback, which she knew would be all very bad; Emma communicated her news of Jane Fairfax, and her dependence on the effect was justified; it supplied a very useful check, —interested, without disturbing him. He had long made up his mind to Jane Fairfax's going out as governess, and could talk of it cheerfully, but Mr. **Knightley'**s going to London had been an unexpected blow.

为了让父亲不再想着奈特利先生要去伦敦这件不愉快的事——而且走得这么突然，又是骑马去，她知道这些都会让父亲非常难受——爱玛便说起了简·费尔法克斯的消息。这一招果然奏效，既引起了父亲的兴趣，又没有让他感到不安，起到了很好的遏制作用。他早就料到简·费尔法克斯要做家庭教师，因此能愉快地谈论这件事，可是奈特利先生要去伦敦，却是个意外的打击。

“I am very glad, indeed, my dear, to hear she is to be so comfortably settled. **Mrs. Elton** is very good-natured and agreeable, and I dare say her acquaintance are just what they ought to be. I hope it is a dry situation, and that her health will be taken good care of. It ought to be a first object, as I am sure poor Miss

“亲爱的，听说她能得到如此安逸的安置，我实在欣慰。埃尔顿太太性情温厚，待人可亲，我相信她交往的也都是规规矩矩的人家。但愿那地方气候干燥，有人能悉心照料她的健康。这原是最要

Taylor's always was with me. **You** know, my dear, she is going to be to this new lady what Miss Taylor was to us. **And** I hope she will be better off in one respect, and not be induced to go away after it has been her home so long.

”

紧的事，就像当初可怜的泰勒小姐在我这儿始终受到悉心照料一样。**亲爱的**，你要知道，她要去侍奉那位新太太，就像当年泰勒小姐侍奉我们一般。**但愿**在这一点上她能比泰勒小姐幸运些——不会在那户人家住了那么久之后，又被劝说着离开。”

The following day brought news from Richmond to throw every thing else into the background. **An** express arrived at Randalls to announce the death of Mrs. **Churchill!** **Though** her nephew had had no particular reason to hasten back on her account, she had not lived above six-and-thirty hours after his return. **A** sudden seizure of a different nature from any thing foreboded by her general state, had carried her off after a short struggle. **The** great Mrs. **Churchill** was no more.

次日从里士满传来的消息，把其他一切事情都抛到了脑后。**一封**快信送到兰德尔斯的府上，宣布了丘吉尔太太的死讯！**尽管**她的外甥为了她的事赶回去并无特殊理由，但他在返回后，她只活了不到三十六个小时。**一次**与她平常状况所预示的截然不同的突然发作，在短暂的挣扎之后便夺去了她的生命。**显赫**的丘吉尔太太与世长辞了。

It was felt as such things must be felt. **Ev-** **ery** body had a degree of gravity and sorrow; **此事**带来的感受，正如这类事情必然引发的感受一样。

tenderness towards the departed, solicitude for the surviving friends; and, in a reasonable time, curiosity to know where she would be buried. **Goldsmith** tells us, that when lovely woman stoops to folly, she has nothing to do but to die; and when she stoops to be disagreeable, it is equally to be recommended as a clearer of ill-fame. **Mrs. Churchill**, after being disliked at least twenty-five years, was now spoken of with compassionate allowances. **In** one point she was fully justified. **She** had never been admitted before to be seriously ill. **The** event acquitted her of all the fancifulness, and all the selfishness of imaginary complaints.

每个人都带着几分庄重与哀戚——对逝者怀有柔情，对在世亲友饱含关切；过不多时，便又生出合乎常理的好奇，想知道她将安葬何处。**哥尔德斯密斯**曾告诉我们：当可爱的女子堕入荒唐，除了一死别无他途；而当她变得惹人厌烦时，死亡同样值得推荐，可作为洗刷恶名的良方。**丘吉尔**夫人被世人厌弃至少二十五载之后，如今人们提起她时都带着体谅的宽容。有一点她完全得到了正名：此前从未有人当真认为她病入膏肓。这场变故洗清了她所有臆想症般的怪癖，以及无病呻吟的自私性情。

“**Poor Mrs. Churchill!** no doubt she had been suffering a great deal: more than any body had ever supposed—and continual pain would try the temper. It was a sad event —a great shock—with all her faults, what would Mr. Churchill do without her? Mr. Churchill’s loss would be dreadful indeed.” 可怜的邱吉尔太太！不用说，她一定忍受了巨大的痛苦：比任何人想象的都要多——持续的病痛最是折磨人的性情。这真是件令人悲痛的事——沉重的打击——尽管她有种种缺点，可邱吉尔

Mr. Churchill would never get over it. ”先生没了她该怎么办呢? 邱吉尔先生的损失确实可怕。他永远也走不出这个阴影。”

—Even Mr. Weston shook his head, and looked solemn, and said, “Ah! poor woman, who would have thought it! ”and resolved, that his mourning should be as handsome as possible; and his wife sat sighing and moralising over her broad hems with a commiseration and good sense, true and steady. How it would affect Frank was among the earliest thoughts of both. It was also a very early speculation with Emma. The character of Mrs. Churchill, the grief of her husband—her mind glanced over them both with awe and compassion—and then rested with lightened feelings on how Frank might be affected by the event, how benefited, how freed. She saw in a moment all the possible good. Now, an attachment to Harriet Smith would have nothing to encounter. Mr. Churchill, independent of his wife, was feared by nobody; an easy, guidable man, to be persuaded into any thing by his nephew. All that remained to be wished was, that the nephew should form the attachment, as, with all her goodwill in the cause, Emma could feel no certainty of its be-

连韦斯顿先生都摇着头,神情肃穆地说:”唉! 可怜的女人,谁能想到呢!”并打定主意要置办最体面的丧服;他的妻子坐在那儿一边缝着宽褶边,一边叹息着发表充满怜悯与理智的感慨,真挚而持重。这件事对弗兰克会产生什么影响,成为夫妇俩最先考虑的问题。爱玛也很快开始思忖起来。邱吉尔太太的为人、她丈夫的悲痛——这两种思绪带着敬畏与怜悯在她心中掠过——随后便以轻松的心情思量起弗兰克可能受到的影响:他会获得多少益处,得到多少自由。她立刻看到了种种可能的好局面。如今,他对哈丽特·史密斯的爱慕不会再有任何阻碍。邱吉尔先生离开了妻子,便没人会惧怕他;他是个随

ing already formed.

和温顺的人，外甥怎么说他就会怎么做。唯一尚待期盼的，就是那位外甥能萌生这份爱慕——尽管爱玛对此事满怀热忱，却不敢断定这份情意是否已然存在。

Harriet behaved extremely well on the occasion, with great self-command. **What** ever she might feel of brighter hope, she betrayed nothing. **Emma** was gratified, to observe such a proof in her of strengthened character, and refrained from any allusion that might endanger its maintenance. **They** spoke, therefore, of Mrs. **Churchill**' s death with mutual forbearance.

哈丽特在这件事上表现得极为得体，自持力惊人。无论她内心可能怀着怎样光明的希望，表面上都未泄露分毫。**爱玛**欣慰地观察到她性格愈发坚毅的证明，便刻意避开任何可能动摇这份持守的暗示。**于是**她们谈论丘吉尔太太去世的消息时，彼此都保持着心照不宣的克制。

Short letters from Frank were received at Randalls, communicating all that was immediately important of their state and plans. **Mr.** **Churchill** was better than could be expected; and their first removal, on the departure of the funeral for Yorkshire, was to be to the house of a very old friend in Windsor, to whom Mr. **Churchill** had been promising a visit the last

兰德尔斯的宅邸里不时收到弗兰克寄来的短信，信中及时通报了他们近况与打算中最为紧要的内容。**邱吉尔**先生的状况比预期要好得多；待送葬队伍启程前往约克郡后，他们首先要迁往温莎一位老友的宅邸——十年来

ten years. **A**t present, there was nothing to be done for Harriet; good wishes for the future were all that could yet be possible on Emma's side.

邱吉尔先生一直许诺要去拜访这位故交。眼下对于哈丽特之事，爱玛尚无法施以援手，唯有寄予美好祝愿以待来日。

It was a more pressing concern to shew attention to Jane Fairfax, whose prospects were closing, while Harriet's opened, and whose engagements now allowed of no delay in any one at Highbury, who wished to shew her kindness —and with Emma it was grown into a first wish. **S**he had scarcely a stronger regret than for her past coldness; and the person, whom she had been so many months neglecting, was now the very one on whom she would have lavished every distinction of regard or sympathy. **S**he wanted to be of use to her; wanted to shew a value for her society, and testify respect and consideration. **S**he resolved to prevail on her to spend a day at Hartfield. A note was written to urge it. **T**he invitation was refused, and by a verbal message. “**M**iss Fairfax was not well enough to write;” and when Mr. **P**erry called at Hartfield, the same morning, it appeared that she was so much indisposed as to

眼下更迫切的是要对简·费尔法克斯表示关怀，因为哈丽特的前途光明起来，而简的前途却黯淡了；而且她眼看就要离去，海伯里任何一个想向她表示好意的人，都得赶快才行。而爱玛首先就想表示这种好意。她早已为过去的冷淡感到不胜懊悔。几个月来她一直怠慢了这个人，如今她要向她倾注满腔的关切与同情。她要让她高兴，要表明她多么器重她，同她交朋友多么荣幸。她打定主意要劝她到哈特菲尔德来玩一天，还为此写了封信，可是却收到了推辞的信，传来的是口信：“费尔法克斯小姐身体不好，不能写信。”那天早晨，佩里先生来到哈

have been visited, though against her own consent, by himself, and that she was suffering under severe headaches, and a nervous fever to a degree, which made him doubt the possibility of her going to Mrs. **Smallridge**' s at the time proposed. **Her** health seemed for the moment completely deranged—appetite quite gone—and though there were no absolutely alarming symptoms, nothing touching the pulmonary complaint, which was the standing apprehension of the family, Mr. **Perry** was uneasy about her. **He** thought she had undertaken more than she was equal to, and that she felt it so herself, though she would not own it. **Her** spirits seemed overcome. **Her** present home, he could not but observe, was unfavourable to a nervous disorder:—confined always to one room;—he could have wished it otherwise—and her good aunt, though his very old friend, he must acknowledge to be not the best companion for an invalid of that description. **Her** care and attention could not be questioned; they were, in fact, only too great. **He** very much feared that Miss Fairfax derived more evil than good from them. **Emma** lis-

特菲尔德，说是她病得很厉害，虽然她自己不愿意，他还是去看了她。她头痛得厉害，还发着高烧，他担心她是否能按预定时间到斯莫尔里奇太太家去。眼下，她的身体似乎完全垮了——胃口一点也没有——虽说没有什么十分 alarming 的症状，没有什么让家里人真正担心的肺病征兆，佩里先生还是为她担忧。他估计她承受不了这副重担，她自己也有这个感觉，只是不肯承认罢了。她的精神似乎垮了。他不得不指出，她现在的家不利于她患的神经性疾病——总是关在一间屋子里——他巴不得不是这样一种状况——而她那好心的姨妈，虽说跟他也是老朋友，他不得不承认，对这样的病人来说，并不是个最好的伴侣。她的关心和照料是无可置疑的，事实上是太周到了。他非常担心，费尔法克

tened with the warmest concern; grieved for her more and more, and looked around eager to discover some way of being useful. **To** take her—be it only an hour or two—from her aunt, to give her change of air and scene, and quiet rational conversation, even for an hour or two, might do her good; and the following morning she wrote again to say, in the most feeling language she could command, that she would call for her in the carriage at any hour that Jane would name—mentioning that she had Mr. **Perry's** decided opinion, in favour of such exercise for his patient. **The** answer was only in this short note:

“**Miss Fairfax's** compliments and thanks, but is quite unequal to any exercise.”

Emma felt that her own note had deserved something better; but it was impossible to

斯小姐从她姨妈那儿得到的好处还不如坏处多。**爱玛**极其关切地听着，越听越为她难过，便四下张望，急于想找一个什么办法帮帮她的忙。把她接出来——哪怕只是一两个钟头——离开她姨妈，让她换换空气，换换环境——安安静静地、合情合理地谈一谈——哪怕只是一两个钟头，也许会对她有好处。**第二天**早晨，她又写了一封充满感情的信，用她最能打动人心的语言，说她要乘马车去接简，什么时候简说一声就行，并说佩里先生明确表示，赞成他的病人出去换换空气。**回信**只有这么短短的一封：

费尔法克斯小姐的问候与感谢，但她实在无法参与任何活动。

爱玛觉得自己的信理应得到更好的回复；但面对这样一

quarrel with words, whose tremulous inequality shewed indisposition so plainly, and she thought only of how she might best counteract this unwillingness to be seen or assisted. 封字迹颤抖、明显透着病容的回信，她实在无法计较，只想着该如何化解对方不愿见人、不肯受助的心结。于是不顾回信里的推辞，她仍

In spite of the answer, therefore, she ordered the carriage, and drove to Mrs. **Bates'** s, in the hope that Jane would be induced to join her—but it would not do;—Miss Bates came to the carriage door, all gratitude, and agreeing with her most earnestly in thinking an airing might be of the greatest service—and every thing that message could do was tried—but all in vain. **Miss** Bates was obliged to return without success; Jane was quite unpersuadable; the mere proposal of going out seemed to make her worse. —**Emma** wished she could have seen her, and tried her own powers; but, almost before she could hint the wish, Miss Bates made it appear that she had promised her niece on no account to let Miss Woodhouse in. “**Indeed**, the truth was, that poor dear Jane could not bear to see any body —any body at all—Mrs. **Elton**, indeed, could not be denied—and Mrs. **Cole** had made such a point—and Mrs. **Perry** had said so much 旧吩咐备车，径直赶往贝茨太太家，期盼能说服简与她同行——可惜未能如愿。贝茨小姐来到车门前，满口感激之情，万分赞同爱玛认为透透气对简大有好处的看法——凡是口信能传达的关切都已试过——却全然无济于事。贝茨小姐只得无功而返；简根本劝不动，单是提议出门就似乎让她病情加重。爱玛暗忖若能亲自见面，或可施展些本事；可还没等她透出这层意思，贝茨小姐就表明已答应外甥女绝不让伍德豪斯小姐进门。”说实话，可怜的简实在见不得人——任谁都不行——当然，埃尔顿夫人是推不掉的——科尔太太又那般坚持——佩里太太

—but, except them, Jane would really see nobody.” 也劝了那么多——但除了这几位，简当真谁都不愿见。”

Emma did not want to be classed with the Mrs. **Eltons**, the Mrs. **Perrys**, and the Mrs. **Coles**, who would force themselves anywhere; neither could she feel any right of preference herself—she submitted, therefore, and only questioned Miss Bates farther as to her niece's appetite and diet, which she longed to be able to assist. **On** that subject poor Miss Bates was very unhappy, and very communicative; Jane would hardly eat any thing:—Mr. **Perry** recommended nourishing food; but every thing they could command (and never had any body such good neighbours) was distasteful.

爱玛不愿与那些硬要往任何地方钻的埃尔顿太太、佩里太太和科尔太太之流为伍，她自己也觉得没有什么权利自视高人一等——因此她只好顺从，只是进一步向贝茨小姐询问她外甥女的胃口和饮食情况，一心想能在这方面帮点忙。**在这个话题上**，可怜的贝茨小姐非常伤心，说起来滔滔不绝。简几乎什么东西也不吃。**佩里**先生建议她吃营养丰富的食物；可是她们能搞到的东西（而且从来没有人有过这么好的邻居）全不合她的口味。

Emma, on reaching home, called the housekeeper directly, to an examination of her stores; and some arrowroot of very superior quality was speedily despatched to Miss Bates with a most friendly note. **In** half an hour the arrowroot was returned, with a thousand

爱玛一到家，立刻唤来管家娘子检视家中储藏，随即挑了一包上等葛粉差人送往贝茨小姐处，并附上一封极为恳切的短笺。**不料**半小时后葛粉竟被原封退回，贝茨小

thanks from Miss Bates, but “dear Jane would 姐千恩万谢地说” 简非要让
not be satisfied without its being sent back; it 把东西送回来不可，她说这
was a thing she could not take—and, more- 礼物断不能收——还非要我
over, she insisted on her saying, that she was 转告，她眼下什么都不缺”。
not at all in want of any thing. ”

When Emma afterwards heard that Jane 后来爱玛听说，就在简·费尔
Fairfax had been seen wandering about the 法克斯以身体不适为由断然
meadows, at some distance from Highbury, on 拒绝与她一同乘车出游的那
the afternoon of the very day on which she had, 个下午，有人看见简在离海
under the plea of being unequal to any exercise, 伯里不远处的草场上独自徘
so peremptorily refused to go out with her in �徊。她把所有线索串联起来，
the carriage, she could have no doubt—putting 便确信简是打定主意不肯接
every thing together—that Jane was resolved 受她的任何好意了。她感到
to receive no kindness from her. **She** was 难过，非常难过。这种因情
sorry, very sorry. **Her** heart was grieved for a 绪激荡而行为反复、因体力
state which seemed but the more pitiable from 不济而举止失常的境况，原
this sort of irritation of spirits, inconsistency of 本就令人格外怜惜——她为
action, and inequality of powers; and it morti- 这样的心境感到痛心；而对
fied her that she was given so little credit for 方既不认可她的真挚情感，
proper feeling, or esteemed so little worthy as 也不珍视她的友谊，这更让
a friend: but she had the consolation of know- 她感到屈辱。但她可以自慰
ing that her intentions were good, and of being 的是，她知道自己的心意是
able to say to herself, that could Mr. **Knight-** 诚恳的，她可以对自己说：
ley have been privy to all her attempts of as- 若是奈特利先生得知她帮助
sisting Jane Fairfax, could he even have seen 简·费尔法克斯的全部努力，

into her heart, he would not, on this occasion, have found any thing to reprove.

若是他能看透她的内心，那么即便在此刻，他也找不出任何可以指责的地方。

CHAPTER X

第十章

One morning, about ten days after Mrs. Churchill's decease, Emma was called downstairs to Mr. Weston, who "could not stay five minutes, and wanted particularly to speak with her."—He met her at the parlour-door, and hardly asking her how she did, in the natural key of his voice, sunk it immediately, to say, unheard by her father,

丘吉尔太太去世大约十天后的一个早晨，爱玛被请下楼见韦斯顿先生。这位客人连五分钟也待不住，但特别想跟她谈谈”。他在客厅门口迎着她，几乎没按平时的声调问候她安康，就立刻压低嗓音说道——这些话没让她父亲听见：

"Can you come to Randalls at any time this morning? —Do, if it be possible. Mrs. Weston wants to see you. She must see you."

“今天早上你能抽空来兰道尔斯一趟吗？——若有可能，务必前来。韦斯顿太太想见你。她非得见你不可。”

"Is she unwell?"

“她不舒服吗？”

"No, no, not at all—only a little agitated. She would have ordered the carriage, and come to you, but she must see you alone, and that you know—(nodding towards her fa-

“不，不，没什么——只是有点心绪不宁。她本想吩咐备车亲自来找您，但必须单独见您，这您明白——（朝她

ther)—Humph! —**Can** you come? ”

父亲的方向点了点头) 嘿! 您能来吗?”

“**Certainly.** This moment, if you please. It ”当然可以。就此刻, 如果您是 impossible to refuse what you ask in such a 愿意的话。用这样的方式请求, 实在令人无法拒绝。可 way. **But** what can be the matter? —**Is** she 究竟出了什么事? ——她当 really not ill? ”真没有生病吗? ”

“**Depend** upon me—but ask no more questions. **You** will know it all in time. **The** most unaccountable business! **But** hush, hush! ”

“尽管相信我——但别再追问了。到时候你自然会明白。这真是最离奇的事情! 嘘, 嘘, 别声张!”

To guess what all this meant, was impossible even for Emma. **Something** really important seemed announced by his looks; but, as her friend was well, she endeavoured not to be uneasy, and settling it with her father, that she would take her walk now, she and Mr. Weston were soon out of the house together and on their way at a quick pace for Randalls.

要猜透这一切究竟意味着什么, 就连爱玛也办不到。他的神色似乎宣告着某件真正重要的事情; 但既然她的朋友安然无恙, 她便努力不让自己感到不安。和父亲说定现在要去散步后, 她很快便和韦斯顿先生一同走出屋子, 沿着通往朗道尔宅邸的小径快步前行。

“Now,” —**said** Emma, when they were fairly beyond the sweep gates,—“now Mr. Weston,

“现在,” ——当他们完全驶出了旋转门之后, 爱玛说道

do let me know what has happened. ”

——“现在，韦斯顿先生，请务必告诉我发生了什么事。”

“**No**, no,”—he gravely replied. — “**Don’t**” 不, 不,”他严肃地答道, “别问我。我答应过妻子全由她来转告。她比我更懂得如何向你透露。别着急, 爱玛; 这事很快就要全盘托出的。”

ask me. I promised my wife to leave it all to her. She will break it to you better than I can. Do not be impatient, Emma; it will all come out too soon.”

“**Break** it to me,” cried Emma, standing still with terror. — “**Good God!** —**Mr. Weston**, tell me at once. —**Something** has happened in Brunswick Square. I know it has. Tell me, I charge you tell me this moment what it is.”

“快告诉我吧,”爱玛吓得呆立不动, 嚷道, “天哪! 韦斯顿先生, 立刻告诉我吧。布伦瑞克广场出事了。我知道准是。告诉我, 我命令你马上告诉我出了什么事。”

“**No**, indeed you are mistaken. ”—

”不, 您真的弄错了。”

“**Mr. Weston** do not trifle with me. —**Consider** how many of my dearest friends are now in Brunswick Square. **Which** of them is it? —I charge you by all that is sacred, not to attempt concealment.”

“韦斯顿先生, 请别跟我开玩笑——想想看, 我多少最亲密的朋友此刻都在布鲁克逊广场。究竟是其中哪一位? ——我以一切神圣之物的名义请求您, 切莫试图隐瞒。”

“**Upon** my word, Emma. ”—

“说真的, 爱玛。”—

“**Your** word! —**why** not your honour! — “你的保证! ——为何不说你

why not say upon your honour, that it has nothing to do with any of them? **Good Heavens!** —**What** can be to be broke to me, that does not relate to one of that family?"

的名誉! ——为何不凭着你的名誉起誓, 说这事与他们家任何人都无关? **老天爷啊!** ——究竟有什么需要向我透露的隐情, 竟会与那家人毫不相干?"

"**Upon** my honour," said he very seriously, "it does not. **It** is not in the smallest degree connected with any human being of the name of Knightley."

"我以名誉担保,"他非常认真地说道, "绝无此事。这跟姓奈特利的任何人都扯不上丝毫关系。"

Emma's courage returned, and she walked on.

爱玛的勇气又回来了, 她继续向前走去。

"I was wrong," he continued, "in talking of its being broke to you. I should not have used the expression. In fact, it does not concern you —it concerns only myself,—that is, we hope. —**Humph!** —In short, my dear Emma, there is no occasion to be so uneasy about it. I don't say that it is not a disagreeable business —but things might be much worse. —If we walk fast, we shall soon be at Randalls."

"我刚才说把它‘透露’给你听,"他接着说道, "这说得不对。我不该使用这个字眼。事实上, 这件事与你无关——只关系到我个人——也就是说, 我们但愿如此。——嗯! ——总之, 亲爱的爱玛, 你不必为此事如此不安。我并不是说这件事不令人不快——但情况本可能糟糕得多。我们走快些, 很快就能到兰德

尔兹了。”

Emma found that she must wait; and now it required little effort. **She** asked no more questions therefore, merely employed her own fancy, and that soon pointed out to her the probability of its being some money concern—something just come to light, of a disagreeable nature in the circumstances of the family,—something which the late event at Richmond had brought forward. **Her** fancy was very active. **Half** a dozen natural children, perhaps—and poor Frank cut off! —**This**, though very undesirable, would be no matter of agony to her. **It** inspired little more than an animating curiosity.

“**Who** is that gentleman on horseback? ”**said** she, as they proceeded—speaking more to assist Mr. **Weston** in keeping his secret, than with any other view.

“I do not know. —**One** of the Otways. —**Not** Frank;—it is not Frank, I assure you. **You** will not see him. **He** is half way to Windsor by this

爱玛发觉自己必须等待；此刻这倒不怎么费劲。**于是她**不再追问，只运用自己的想象力，很快就觉得这很可能是某桩金钱方面的纠葛——刚暴露出来的有损家庭利益的不愉快事件——里士满事件引出来的问题。**她的想象力**非常活跃。**说不定**是半打私生子——可怜的弗兰克被剥夺了继承权！**这**虽然很不光彩，却不会引起她多大痛苦。**只不过**激起了她强烈的好奇心。

“**那位**骑在马背上的先生是谁？”**她**问道，一边往前走——这话与其说是出于别的意图，不如说是为了帮韦斯顿先生保守秘密。

“**我**不知道。——是奥特威家的一个。——不是弗兰克；——我向你保证，不是弗兰

time. ”

克。你不会见到他的。这会儿他该走到温莎的半路了。”

“Has your son been with you, then? ”

”那么，令郎来过您这儿了?

”

“Oh! yes—did not you know? —Well, well, never mind. ”

“哦！是的——你难道不知道吗？——好吧，好吧，没关系。”

For a moment he was silent; and then added, in a tone much more guarded and demure,

他沉默了片刻，随即用一种审慎得多的语调补充道，

“Yes, Frank came over this morning, just to ask us how we did. ”

“是的，弗兰克今早特意过来问候我们的近况。”

They hurried on, and were speedily at Randalles. — “Well, my dear,” said he, as they entered the room—“I have brought her, and now I hope you will soon be better. I shall leave you together. There is no use in delay. I shall not be far off, if you want me.”—And Emma distinctly heard him add, in a lower tone, before he quitted the room,—“I have been as good as my word. She has not the least idea. ”

他们匆忙赶路，很快就到了兰德尔斯的宅子。”好啦，亲爱的，”走进房间时他说，”我把她带来了，希望你这就能好起来。我让你们单独谈谈。拖延没有意义。我就在附近，需要随时叫我。”——爱玛清楚地听见他离开房间前又压低声音补充道：”我兑现了承诺。她至今毫无察觉。”

Mrs. Weston was looking so ill, and had an air of so much perturbation, that Emma's uneasiness increased; and the moment they were alone, she eagerly said,

韦斯顿太太的脸色如此难看，神情又显得如此惶惶不安，爱玛不由得更加忧虑起来。等到只剩下她们两人时，她便急切地问道：

"What is it my dear friend? Something of a very unpleasant nature, I find, has occurred; —do let me know directly what it is. I have been walking all this way in complete suspense. We both abhor suspense. Do not let mine continue longer. It will do you good to speak of your distress, whatever it may be."

"我亲爱的朋友，究竟出了什么事？我发觉准是发生了什么不愉快的事——快告诉我吧。我这一路走来心里七上八下的。我们俩都最讨厌悬着心。别让我再提心吊胆了。不管你有什么烦恼，说出来总会好受些。”

"Have you indeed no idea?" said Mrs. Weston in a trembling voice. "Cannot you, my dear Emma—cannot you form a guess as to what you are to hear?"

"你当真猜不出吗？"韦斯顿太太声音发颤地说。“我亲爱的爱玛——你难道就猜不出要听到什么消息吗？”

"So far as that it relates to Mr. Frank Churchill, I do guess."

“就这封信与弗兰克·丘吉尔先生有关的部分而言，我确实有所猜测。”

"You are right. It does relate to him, and I will tell you directly;"(resuming her work, and seeming resolved against looking up.) "He

“你说得对。这事确实与他有关，我这就告诉你；”(她重新拿起针线活，似乎打定主

has been here this very morning, on a most extraordinary errand. **It** is impossible to express our surprize. **He** came to speak to his father on a subject,—to announce an attachment—”

意不抬眼)“他今天早上刚来过,为着一桩极不寻常的事。我们当时的惊讶简直难以形容。他来是为了对他父亲说明一件事——宣告一段恋情——”

She stopped to breathe. **Emma** thought first of herself, and then of Harriet.

她停下来喘了口气。爱玛先想到了自己,接着又想到了哈丽特。

“**More** than an attachment, indeed,” resumed Mrs. **Weston**; “an engagement—a positive engagement. —**What** will you say, Emma— what will any body say, when it is known that Frank Churchill and Miss Fairfax are engaged; —nay, that they have been long engaged! ”

”何止是爱慕,“韦斯顿太太接口道,“简直是私订终身——确确实实订了婚。等大家知道弗兰克·邱吉尔和费尔法克斯小姐已经订了婚,而且早就订了婚,爱玛,你听了会怎么说,别人听了会怎么说!”

Emma even jumped with surprize;—and, horror-struck, exclaimed,

爱玛惊得几乎跳了起来;
——她惊恐万状,失声喊道,

“**Jane** Fairfax! —**Good** God! **You** are not serious? **You** do not mean it? ”

“简·费尔法克斯!——天哪!
你不是认真的吧?你该不会
是这个意思吧?”

“**You** may well be amazed,” returned Mrs. Weston, still averting her eyes, and talking on with eagerness, that Emma might have time to recover—“You may well be amazed. **But** it is even so. **There** has been a solemn engagement between them ever since October—formed at Weymouth, and kept a secret from every body. **Not** a creature knowing it but themselves—**It** is so wonderful, that though perfectly convinced of the fact, it is yet almost incredible to myself. **I** can hardly believe it. —**I** thought I knew him. ”

“你当然会大吃一惊，”韦斯顿太太答道，她仍然避开目光，急切地往下说，好给爱玛留出恢复镇定的时间——“你当然会大吃一惊。但事实就是如此。他们早在十月就郑重订了婚——是在韦茅斯订的，一直瞒着所有人。除了他们自己，谁都不知道——无论是坎贝尔家、她家里的人，还是他家里的人。——这事太不可思议了，虽然我完全确信事实如此，可连我自己都觉得难以置信。我简直不敢相信——我还以为很了解他呢。”

Emma scarcely heard what was said. — Her mind was divided between two ideas—her own former conversations with him about Miss Fairfax; and poor Harriet;—and for some time she could only exclaim, and require confirmation, repeated confirmation.

爱玛几乎没听见他说了些什。——她的心思在两个念头之间徘徊——她先前与他关于费尔法克斯小姐的谈话；以及可怜的哈丽特——有好一阵子，她只能连连惊叹，要求对方再三确认，反复确认。

“Well,” said she at last, trying to recover herself; “this is a circumstance which I must think of at least half a day, before I can at all comprehend it. **What!** —engaged to her all the winter—before either of them came to Highbury? ”

“Engaged since October,—secretly engaged. —**It** has hurt me, Emma, very much. **It** has hurt his father equally. Some part of his conduct we cannot excuse. ”

Emma pondered a moment, and then replied, “I will not pretend not to understand you; and to give you all the relief in my power, be assured that no such effect has followed his attentions to me, as you are apprehensive of. ”

Mrs. Weston looked up, afraid to believe; but Emma’s countenance was as steady as her words.

“That you may have less difficulty in believing this boast, of my present perfect indifference,” she continued, “I will farther tell you, that there was a period in the early part of our

“唉,”她终于说道，试图让自己镇定下来，“这件事我至少得琢磨半天，才能完全明白。什么！——整个冬天都和她订了婚——在他们俩都没来海伯里之前？”

“自十月便已订婚——秘密订婚。——这真叫我伤心，爱玛，伤心得很。他父亲也同样伤心。他行为中的某些部分，我们实在无法谅解。”

爱玛沉吟片刻，随即答道：“我不愿假装听不懂你的话。为了让你彻底安心，我向你保证，他对我献殷勤并未产生你担心的那种后果。”

韦斯顿太太抬起头来，几乎不敢置信；但爱玛的神情却和她的言语一样坚定。

“为了使您更容易相信我此刻全然无动于衷的豪语，”她继续说道，“我不妨再告诉您：在我们初识之时确曾有过一

acquaintance, when I did like him, when I was very much disposed to be attached to him—nay, was attached—and how it came to cease, is perhaps the wonder. **Fortunately**, however, it did cease. I have really for some time past, for at least these three months, cared nothing about him. **You** may believe me, Mrs. Weston. **This** is the simple truth. ”

段时期，我喜欢过他，甚至一度几乎倾心于他——不，确实倾心过——而这段情愫如何消逝反倒令人费解。不过万幸的是，它终究消逝了。说真的，这三个月来我早已将他置之度外。**韦斯顿太太，请您务必相信，这全是肺腑之言。”**

Mrs. Weston kissed her with tears of joy; and when she could find utterance, assured her, that this protestation had done her more good than any thing else in the world could do.

韦斯顿太太喜极而泣地亲吻她，待能说出话来时，便向她保证说，这番表白比世上任何事物都更令她欣慰。

“**Mr. Weston** will be almost as much relieved as myself,” said she. “**On** this point we have been wretched. **It** was our darling wish that you might be attached to each other—and we were persuaded that it was so. —**Imagine** what we have been feeling on your account. ”

“**韦斯顿先生差不多会和我一样感到宽慰，”她说。“在这一点上，我们一直忧心忡忡。我们最殷切的愿望就是你们能情投意合——而且我们一直深信事实正是如此。想想看，我们为你们操了多少心啊。”**

“I have escaped; and that I should escape, may be a matter of grateful wonder to you

“**我总算脱身了；我能脱身，对你我二人或许都值得庆**

and myself. **But** this does not acquit him, 幸。但这并不能开脱他的过
Mrs. **Weston**; and I must say, that I think 错, 韦斯顿太太; 我必须说,
him greatly to blame. **What** right had he to 我认为他实在难辞其咎。他
come among us with affection and faith en- 既已心有所属情有所钟, 凭
gaged, and with manners so very disen- 什么还摆出这般无拘无束
gaged? **What** right had he to endeavour to 的姿态混迹于我们之间? 他
please, as he certainly did—to distinguish any 凭什么要这般刻意讨好—
one young woman with persevering attention, 事实确是如此——凭什么要
as he certainly did—while he really belonged 对某位年轻姑娘坚持献殷
to another? —**How** could he tell what mis- 勤——事实确是如此——而
chief he might be doing? —**How** could he tell 实际上早已另有所属? 他怎
that he might not be making me in love with 知自己会酿成怎样的祸端?
him? —**very** wrong, very wrong indeed. ” 又怎知不会令我对他倾心?
——大错特错，真是大错特
错。”

“**From** something that he said, my dear “从他说的某些话里, 我亲爱
Emma, I rather imagine—” 的爱玛, 我倒觉得——”

“**And** how could she bear such behaviour! “她怎能忍受这般行径! 还摆
Composure with a witness! **to** look on, 出一副镇定自若的模样! 眼
while repeated attentions were offering to 睁睁看着别人在自己面前对
another woman, before her face, and not resent 另一个女人大献殷勤, 居然
it. —**That** is a degree of placidity, which I 毫不愤慨——这种逆来顺受
can neither comprehend nor respect. ” 的性子, 我既无法理解, 也
不敢恭维。”

“**T**here were misunderstandings between them, Emma; he said so expressly. **H**e had not time to enter into much explanation. **H**e was here only a quarter of an hour, and in a state of agitation which did not allow the full use even of the time he could stay—but that there had been misunderstandings he decidedly said. **T**he present crisis, indeed, seemed to be brought on by them; and those misunderstandings might very possibly arise from the impropriety of his conduct.” “他们之间有过误会，爱玛；他明明白白这样说过。他来不及细说原委。他在这里只待了一刻钟，当时心绪不宁，连能够停留的短暂时间都无法充分利用——但他确实明确表示存在误会。眼下的危机，看来正是由这些误会引起的；而这些误会很可能源于他行为失当。”

“**I**mpropriety! Oh! Mrs. Weston—it is too calm a censure. **M**uch, much beyond impropriety! —**I**t has sunk him, I cannot say how it has sunk him in my opinion. **S**o unlike what a man should be! —**N**one of that upright integrity, that strict adherence to truth and principle, that disdain of trick and littleness, which a man should display in every transaction of his life. ” “不成体统！哦！韦斯顿太太——这指责太轻描淡写了。岂止是不成体统！——这使他堕落，我无法形容他在我的心目中堕落到何等地步。全然不符男子汉应有的品格！——毫无那种刚正不阿的操守，那种恪守真理与原则的坚持，那种对诡诈卑微行径的鄙弃，这些本应是男子立身处世时处处展现的品格。”

“**N**ay, dear Emma, now I must take his part; for though he has been wrong in this instance, I

“不，亲爱的爱玛，这回我要替他辩护几句了；尽管他

have known him long enough to answer for his having many, very many, good qualities; and —” 在这件事上做得不对，可我认识他这么久，深知他有许多许多优点；而且——”

“Good God! ”cried Emma, not attending to her. —“Mrs. Smallridge, too! Jane actually on the point of going as governess! What could he mean by such horrible indelicacy? To suffer her to engage herself—to suffer her even to think of such a measure! ” “天哪！”爱玛叫道，根本没听她说话——“还有斯莫里奇太太！简居然真的要去当家庭教师了！他怎么能做出这么可怕的不体面的事？竟容忍她答应这份差事——甚至容忍她动这种念头！”

“He knew nothing about it, Emma. On this article I can fully acquit him. It was a private resolution of hers, not communicated to him—or at least not communicated in a way to carry conviction. —Till yesterday, I know he said he was in the dark as to her plans. They burst on him, I do not know how, but by some letter or message—and it was the discovery of what she was doing, of this very project of hers, which determined him to come forward at once, own it all to his uncle, throw himself on his kindness, and, in short, put an end to the miserable state of concealment that had been carrying on so long. ” “关于这件事，他毫不知情，爱玛。在这一点上我可以完全替他辩白。这是她私下做的决定，并未告知他——至少没有以令人信服的方式告知。直到昨天，我知道他还说对她的计划一无所知。不知怎的，这消息突然传到他耳中——许是某封信或口信——而正是发现她的所作所为，发现她这个计划本身，促使他当即挺身而出，向舅父坦白一切，恳求他的宽厚，总之要结束这场持续已久的痛

苦隐瞒。”

Emma began to listen better.

爱玛开始更用心地听了。

“I am to hear from him soon,”continued Mrs. Weston. “He told me at parting, that he should soon write; and he spoke in a manner which seemed to promise me many particulars that could not be given now. Let us wait, therefore, for this letter. It may bring many extenuations. It may make many things intelligible and excusable which now are not to be understood. Don’t let us be severe, don’t let us be in a hurry to condemn him. Let us have patience. I must love him; and now that I am satisfied on one point, the one material point, I am sincerely anxious for its all turning out well, and ready to hope that it may. They must both have suffered a great deal under such a system of secrecy and concealment.”

”我很快就能收到他的信了，韦斯顿太太继续说道，”分别时他告诉我，他不久就会写信来。他说话的神情仿佛向我保证，会有许多现在不便说明的细节将在信中透露。那我们就等候这封信吧。或许信中会有不少情有可原的说明，许多现在令人费解的事情到那时都能说得通且情有可原。我们不要苛责，不要急于定他的罪。我们得有耐心。我必须疼爱他。既然我在最关键的一点上已经放下心来，我就衷心希望一切都能圆满解决，也愿意相信定会如此。他们俩在这样遮遮掩掩的状况下，一定都吃了不少苦头。”

“His sufferings,”replied Emma dryly, “do not appear to have done him much harm.

“他的痛苦，”爱玛干巴巴地答道，“看来并没给他造成多大

Well, and how did Mr. Churchill take it? ” 伤害。那么，邱吉尔先生对此作何反应？”

“Most favourably for his nephew—gave his consent with scarcely a difficulty. Conceive what the events of a week have done in that family! While poor Mrs. Churchill lived, I suppose there could not have been a hope, a chance, a possibility;—but scarcely are her remains at rest in the family vault, than her husband is persuaded to act exactly opposite to what she would have required. What a blessing it is, when undue influence does not survive the grave! —He gave his consent with very little persuasion.” 对他侄儿极为有利——几乎没有费什么周折就应允了。想想看，短短一周里这户人家经历了怎样的变故！可怜的丘吉尔夫人在世时，想必连一丝指望、半分可能都未曾有——可她的遗骨刚在家族墓穴里安息，她丈夫就被说服做了与她意愿全然相悖的事。墓土掩埋之余竟能终结不当的掌控，这何尝不是一种福分！——几乎没怎么劝说他就答应了。”

“Ah! ”thought Emma, “he would have done as much for Harriet.” “啊！”爱玛心想，“他也会为哈丽特这么做的。”

“This was settled last night, and Frank was off with the light this morning. He stopped at Highbury, at the Bates’s, I fancy, some time—and then came on hither; but was in such a hurry to get back to his uncle, to whom he is just now more necessary than ever, that, as 这件事昨晚就定下了，弗兰克今天天一亮就动身。我猜他在海伯里的贝茨家逗留了一阵子，然后才来到这儿。但他急着要赶回舅父身边——眼下舅父比任何时候都更需

I tell you, he could stay with us but a quarter of an hour. —**H**e was very much agitated —very much, indeed—to a degree that made him appear quite a different creature from anything I had ever seen him before. —**I**n addition to all the rest, there had been the shock of finding her so very unwell, which he had had no previous suspicion of—and there was every appearance of his having been feeling a great deal. ”

要他——所以正如我所说，他只陪我们待了一刻钟。他显得心绪不宁——确实非常不宁——那副模样简直与我以往见到的他判若两人。除了其他种种烦忧之外，又猝不及防地发现她病得如此严重，这对他打击很大——种种迹象都表明，他内心正承受着巨大的煎熬。

“**A**nd do you really believe the affair to have been carrying on with such perfect secrecy? —**T**he Campbells, the Dixons, did none of them know of the engagement? ”

“你真的相信这件事进行得如此隐秘吗? ——坎贝尔家、狄克逊家，难道他们谁都不知道这桩婚约?”

Emma could not speak the name of Dixon without a little blush.

一提起迪克逊的名字，爱玛脸上就不由得泛起淡淡的红晕。

“**N**one; not one. **H**e positively said that it had been known to no being in the world but their two selves. ”

“一个也没有；一个也没有。他明确说过，这世上除了他们两人之外，再没有旁人知晓。”

“**W**ell,” said Emma, “I suppose we shall gradually grow reconciled to the idea, and I wish

“也罢，”爱玛说，“我想我们总会慢慢接受这个事实的，

them very happy. **But** I shall always think it a very abominable sort of proceeding. **What** has it been but a system of hypocrisy and deceit,—espionage, and treachery? —**To** come among us with professions of openness and simplicity; and such a league in secret to judge us all! —**Here** have we been, the whole winter and spring, completely duped, fancying ourselves all on an equal footing of truth and honour, with two people in the midst of us who may have been carrying round, comparing and sitting in judgment on sentiments and words that were never meant for both to hear. — **They** must take the consequence, if they have heard each other spoken of in a way not perfectly agreeable! ”

我祝他们幸福。但我始终认为这种做法极其可恶。这难道不是彻头彻尾的虚伪欺诈——暗中窥探、背信弃义吗？他们表面上装得坦率单纯，暗地里却结成同盟来评判我们所有人！整整一个冬春，我们都已被蒙在鼓里，自以为彼此以真诚相待，却不知身边竟有两个人一直在暗中传递信息，对我们从未打算让双方都听见的情感和话语品头论足——若是听到对方被说得不堪入耳，那也是他们自作自受！”

“I am quite easy on that head,” replied Mrs. Weston. “I am very sure that I never said any thing of either to the other, which both might not have heard. ”

“关于这一点，我十分坦然，”韦斯顿太太答道。“我确信，我从未当着其中一位的面说过任何不便让另一位听见的话。”

“You are in luck. —Your only blunder was confined to my ear, when you imagined a certain friend of ours in love with the lady. ”

”你真是走运。——你唯一的差错只在我耳边犯过，当时你竟以为我们那位朋友爱

上了那位小姐。”

“**True.** **But** as I have always had a thoroughly good opinion of Miss Fairfax, I never could, under any blunder, have spoken ill of her; and as to speaking ill of him, there I must have been safe.” “确实如此。不过我一向对费尔法克斯小姐评价极高，所以即便一时糊涂，也绝不会说她的坏话；至于说他的坏话，那我是绝对保险的。”

At this moment Mr. **Weston** appeared at a little distance from the window, evidently on the watch. **His** wife gave him a look which invited him in; and, while he was coming round, added, “Now, dearest Emma, let me intreat you to say and look every thing that may set his heart at ease, and incline him to be satisfied with the match. **Let** us make the best of it—and, indeed, almost every thing may be fairly said in her favour. **It** is not a connexion to gratify; but if Mr. **Churchill** does not feel that, why should we? **and** it may be a very fortunate circumstance for him, for Frank, I mean, that he should have attached himself to a girl of such steadiness of character and good judgment as I have always given her credit for—and still am disposed to give her credit for, in spite of this one great deviation from the

就在这时，韦斯顿先生出现在离窗口不远的地方，显然正在守候着。他的妻子递了个眼神邀他进来，趁着他绕路过来的工夫，又继续说道：“现在，最亲爱的爱玛，我恳求你在言行举止间都要让他安心，使他满意这门亲事。我们尽量往好处想吧——说实话，几乎每件事都能替她说句公道话。这门亲事虽不能令人称心如意，但既然邱吉尔先生都不以为意，我们又何必计较呢？对他——我是指弗兰克而言，能钟情于这样一个性格稳重、见识明达的姑娘，或许反倒是他的幸运——尽管她这次严重违

strict rule of right. **And** how much may be said in her situation for even that error! ” 背了正当原则，我始终认为她具备这些品质，现在也仍然愿意相信。况且就她的处境而言，那桩过错又何尝没有许多可原宥之处呢！ ”

“**Much**, indeed! ” cried Emma feelingly. “**If** a woman can ever be excused for thinking only of herself, it is in a situation like Jane Fairfax’s. —**Of** such, one may almost say, that ‘the world is not their’s, nor the world’s law. ’” “确实如此！”爱玛动情地大声说道，“倘若说一个女人可以原谅她只考虑自己，那也只有处在简·费尔法克斯这般境况下。——对这样的人，我们几乎可以说：‘这世界不是她们的，世间的法律也管不着她们。’”

She met Mr. **Weston** on his entrance, with a smiling countenance, exclaiming, 她一见他走进来，便笑盈盈地迎上前去，高声说道：

“**A** very pretty trick you have been playing me, upon my word! **This** was a device, I suppose, to sport with my curiosity, and exercise my talent of guessing. **But** you really frightened me. **I** thought you had lost half your property, at least. **And** here, instead of its being a matter of condolence, it turns out to be one of congratulation. —**I** congratulate you, Mr. **Weston**, ” 你这可真是跟我开了个天大的玩笑！我猜这准是你故意要戏弄我的好奇心，试试我猜谜的本领。可你真把我吓坏了。我还以为你至少损失了一半家产呢。谁知现在非但不是件需要安慰的事，反倒是一件值得庆贺的喜事

with all my heart, on the prospect of having one of the most lovely and accomplished young women in England for your daughter.”

——韦斯顿先生，我衷心祝贺你，即将迎娶英格兰最可爱最多才多艺的年轻姑娘做你的儿媳。”

A glance or two between him and his wife, convinced him that all was as right as this speech proclaimed; and its happy effect on his spirits was immediate. **H**is air and voice recovered their usual briskness: he shook her heartily and gratefully by the hand, and entered on the subject in a manner to prove, that he now only wanted time and persuasion to think the engagement no very bad thing. **H**is companions suggested only what could palliate imprudence, or smooth objections; and by the time they had talked it all over together, and he had talked it all over again with Emma, in their walk back to Hartfield, he was become perfectly reconciled, and not far from thinking it the very best thing that Frank could possibly have done.

他与妻子交换了一两个眼神，便确信这番话所言不虚；这对他情绪产生的愉快效果立竿见影。他的神态和声音恢复了往日的轻快：他热情而感激地握了握她的手，接着讨论起这件事的态度已然表明，如今他只需要时间和劝说，便会认为这门亲事并非坏事。同伴们提出的建议无非是缓和轻率行为的影响，或是化解反对意见；等到大家一同把这件事谈透彻，在返回哈特菲尔德的路上他又与爱玛重新商议之后，他已完全想通，几乎认为这绝对是弗兰克能做的最好的选择了。

CHAPTER XI

第十一章

“**Harriet**, poor Harriet! ”—**Those** were the “哈丽特，可怜的哈丽特！” words; in them lay the tormenting ideas which ——这几个字反复萦绕在爱 Emma could not get rid of, and which consti- 玛心头，其中蕴含的折磨人 tuted the real misery of the business to her. 的念头她怎么也摆脱不了， **Frank** Churchill had behaved very ill by her- 这构成了整件事真正令她痛 self—very ill in many ways,—but it was not so 苦的核心。**弗兰克·邱吉尔** much his behaviour as her own, which 待她确实很恶劣——方方面面都够恶劣的——但比起他的 made her so angry with him. **It** was the scrape 行径，更让她愤怒的却是 which he had drawn her into on Harriet’s ac- 自己的所作所为。**最令**她痛 count, that gave the deepest hue to his of- 恨的是他竟诱使她陷入为哈 fence. —**Poor** Harriet! **to** be a second time 丽特牵线的窘境。**可怜的哈** the dupe of her misconceptions and flattery. **Mr. Knightley** had spoken prophetically, 丽特！**竟**再次成为她错误判断 when he once said, “Emma, you have been no 断和奉承言辞的牺牲品。**奈 friend to Harriet Smith. ”—**She** was afraid she 特利先生曾预言般说过：“爱 had done her nothing but disservice. —**It** was 玛，你从来就不是哈丽特· true that she had not to charge herself, in this 史密斯真正的朋友。”**如今 instance** as in the former, with being the sole 她惶恐地意识到，自己带给 and original author of the mischief; with hav- 这姑娘的恐怕只有伤害。虽 ing suggested such feelings as might otherwise 然这次不同于上次，她不必 never have entered Harriet’s imagination; for 自责是这场灾祸唯一的始作 Harriet had acknowledged her admiration and 俑者——不必自责将那些本 preference of Frank Churchill before she had 不会出现在哈丽特脑海的情 ever given her a hint on the subject; but she felt 懾灌输给她；因为在她就此 completely guilty of having encouraged what 事暗示哈丽特之前，这姑娘**

she might have repressed. **She** might have prevented the indulgence and increase of such sentiments. **Her** influence would have been enough. **And** now she was very conscious that she ought to have prevented them. —**She** felt that she had been risking her friend's happiness on most insufficient grounds. **Common** sense would have directed her to tell Harriet, that she must not allow herself to think of him, and that there were five hundred chances to one against his ever caring for her. — “**But,** with common sense,” she added, “I am afraid I have had little to do.”

早已承认对弗兰克·邱吉尔的仰慕与偏爱；但她仍深感自己罪孽深重——她本可以遏制的感情却任其滋长。她完全有能力阻止这种情感的蔓延与深化，她的影响力足以做到这一点。此刻她清醒地意识到自己早该阻止这一切——她竟在极不牢靠的基础上拿朋友的幸福去冒险。按常理本该告诉哈丽特：决不能对他存有幻想，他对她产生情意的可能性微乎其微。“可是，”她叹道，“我行事何曾遵循过常理呢？”

She was extremely angry with herself. If she could not have been angry with Frank Churchill too, it would have been dreadful. —**As** for Jane Fairfax, she might at least relieve her feelings from any present solicitude on her account. **Harriet** would be anxiety enough; she need no longer be unhappy about Jane, whose troubles and whose ill-health having, of course, the same origin, must be equally under cure. —**Her** days of insignificance and

是连对弗兰克·丘吉尔也生不起气来，那才叫糟糕呢。——至于简·费尔法克斯，她至少可以不必再为简感到揪心了。单是哈丽特就够她焦虑的；她不必再为简的不幸而难过，简的烦恼和病弱既然同出一源，想必会同步痊愈。——她那些卑微不幸

evil were over. —**She** would soon be well, 的日子即将结束。——她很快就会恢复健康，获得幸福， and happy, and prosperous. —**Emma** could now imagine why her own attentions had been slighted. **This** discovery laid many smaller matters open. **No** doubt it had been from jealousy. —**In** Jane's eyes she had been a rival; and well might any thing she could offer of assistance or regard be repulsed. **An** airing in the Hartfield carriage would have been the rack, and arrowroot from the Hartfield store-room must have been poison. **She** understood it all; and as far as her mind could disengage itself from the injustice and selfishness of angry feelings, she acknowledged that Jane Fairfax would have neither elevation nor happiness beyond her desert. **But** poor Harriet was such an engrossing charge! **There** was little sympathy to be spared for any body else. **Emma** was sadly fearful that this second disappointment would be more severe than the first. **Considering** the very superior claims of the object, it ought; and judging by its apparently stronger effect on Harriet's mind, producing reserve and self-command, it would. —**She** must communicate the painful truth, however, and as soon

过上优渥的生活。——爱玛现在才明白自己先前为何受到冷落。这一发现让许多细枝末节都豁然开朗。毫无疑问是出于嫉妒。——在简眼中她一直是个情敌；而她提出的任何帮助与关怀自然都会遭到拒绝。乘坐哈特菲尔德的马车兜风无异于酷刑，食用哈特菲尔德里珍藏的木薯粉简直如同服毒。她全明白了。在摆脱愤懑情绪中的不公与自私之后，她不得不承认：简·费尔法克斯应有的地位与幸福，原本就不会超越她应得的范畴。但可怜的哈丽特却是如此沉重的负担！她实在分不出多少余裕去同情他人。爱玛忧心忡忡地预感，这第二次打击会比第一次更沉重。考虑到对象条件的悬殊，本应如此；而从哈丽特明显更强烈的反应

as possible. **A**n injunction of secrecy had been among Mr. **Weston**' s parting words. “**F**or the present, the whole affair was to be completely a secret. **M**r. **C**hurchill had made a point of it, as a token of respect to the wife he had so very recently lost; and every body admitted it to be no more than due decorum. ”— **E**mma had promised; but still Harriet must be excepted. **I**t was her superior duty.

来看——那种刻意保持的疏离与自制——也确实如此。这残酷的真相必须告知哈丽特，且愈快愈好。**韦斯顿先生**临别时特意叮嘱要保密。”**目前**整件事必须完全守密。**丘吉尔先生**特别强调这点，作为对刚刚去世的妻子的尊重；大家都认为这是应有的礼节。”爱玛虽然承诺保密，但哈丽特必须例外。这是她更崇高的责任。

In spite of her vexation, she could not help feeling it almost ridiculous, that she should have the very same distressing and delicate office to perform by Harriet, which Mrs. **Weston** had just gone through by herself. **T**he intelligence, which had been so anxiously announced to her, she was now to be anxiously announcing to another. **H**er heart beat quick on hearing Harriet's footstep and voice; so, she supposed, had poor Mrs. **Weston** felt when she was approaching Randalls. **C**ould the event of the disclosure bear an equal resemblance! —**B**ut of that, unfortunately, there

尽管满心懊恼，她却几乎忍不住觉得荒唐——自己竟要对着哈丽特履行方才韦斯顿太太对她履行过的那种令人难堪的微妙职责。那则令她如此焦灼不安的消息，此刻竟要由她向另一个人焦灼不安地传达。听见哈丽特的脚步声与话音时，她的心跳骤然加快；她想，可怜的韦斯顿太太方才见她走近兰德尔斯的宅门时，想必也是这般心境。难道这次吐露实情的

could be no chance.

结局也会如出一辙吗? ——可惜这种事绝无可能重演。

“Well, Miss Woodhouse!” cried Harriet, coming eagerly into the room—“is not this the oddest news that ever was?”

“哎呀，伍德豪斯小姐！”哈丽特急匆匆跑进房间喊道，“这难道不是天底下最古怪的新闻吗？”

“What news do you mean?” replied Emma, unable to guess, by look or voice, whether Harriet could indeed have received any hint.

“你指的是什么消息呢？”爱玛答道，无论是从神情还是语气里，她都捉摸不透哈丽特是否当真得到了什么风声。

“About Jane Fairfax. Did you ever hear any thing so strange? Oh! —you need not be afraid of owning it to me, for Mr. Weston has told me himself. I met him just now. He told me it was to be a great secret; and, therefore, I should not think of mentioning it to any body but you, but he said you knew it.”

“关于简·费尔法克斯。你听过这么奇怪的事吗？哦！——不必担心对我承认，因为韦斯顿先生亲口告诉我了。我刚才遇见他。他说这原本是个天大的秘密，因此我本不该对旁人提起，但他说你早已知情。”

“What did Mr. Weston tell you?” —said Emma, still perplexed.

“韦斯顿先生跟你说了些什
么？”爱玛依然困惑不解地问
道。

“Oh! he told me all about it; that Jane Fair-

“哦！他把一切都告诉我了；

fax and Mr. **Frank** Churchill are to be married, and that they have been privately engaged to one another this long while. **How** very odd! ” 简·费尔法克斯和弗兰克·丘吉尔先生即将成婚，原来他们早就私订终身了。这多么奇怪啊！”

It was, indeed, so odd; Harriet's behaviour was so extremely odd, that Emma did not know how to understand it. **Her** character appeared absolutely changed. **She** seemed to propose shewing no agitation, or disappointment, or peculiar concern in the discovery. **Emma** looked at her, quite unable to speak. 这确实太奇怪了；哈丽特的行为实在古怪至极，爱玛简直不知该如何理解。她的性情仿佛彻底变了个人。在真相揭露后，她似乎打定主意不流露丝毫激动、失望或特别的在意。爱玛注视着她，半晌说不出话来。

“**Had** you any idea,” cried Harriet, “of his being in love with her? —**You**, perhaps, might. — **You** (blushing as she spoke) who can see into every body's heart; but nobody else—” “你可曾想到，”哈丽特嚷道，“他会爱上她？——你或许想得到——你（说这话时脸红了）能看透每个人的心思，可别人就——”

“**Upon** my word,” said Emma, “I begin to doubt my having any such talent. **Can** you seriously ask me, Harriet, whether I imagined him attached to another woman at the very time that I was—tacitly, if not openly—encouraging you to give way to your own feel- “说真的，”爱玛说，“我都开始怀疑自己是否有这种眼力了。哈丽特，你当真要问我，在我——即便没有明说，至少也是默许——鼓励你放任自己感情的时候，我是否察

ings? —I never had the slightest suspicion, till 觉到他另有所爱? 直到刚才 within the last hour, of Mr. **Frank** Churchill's 这一个小时之前, 我对弗兰 having the least regard for Jane Fairfax. **You** 克·丘吉尔先生心属简·费尔 may be very sure that if I had, I should have 法克斯这件事都毫无察觉。 cautioned you accordingly.” 你尽可相信, 若我早有所知, 定会提醒你的。”

“**Me!** ”cried Harriet, colouring, and astonished. “**Why** should you caution me? — “我!”哈丽特叫道, 脸一红, 吃了一惊。“你为什么要劝我小 **You** do not think I care about Mr. **Frank** 心? ——你总不会以为我喜欢 Churchill. ” 弗兰克·邱吉尔先生吧。”

“I am delighted to hear you speak so stoutly on the subject,” replied Emma, smiling; “but you do not mean to deny that there was a time—and not very distant either—when you gave me reason to understand that you did care about him?” ” 听你这样理直气壮地谈论这件事, 我真高兴,” 爱玛微笑着回答, ” 不过你总不能否认——而且时间隔得并不太久——你曾经让我觉得你是关心他的吧? ”

“**Him!** —never, never. Dear Miss Woodhouse, how could you so mistake me? ”turning away distressed. ” “他! ——绝不可能, 绝不可能。亲爱的伍德豪斯小姐, 您怎么会这样误解我呢? ”她苦恼地别过脸去。

“**Harriet!** ”cried Emma, after a moment’s pause—“What do you mean? —Good Heaven! what do you mean? —Mistake ——天哪! 你这是什么意思? ” “哈丽特! ”爱玛停顿片刻后叫道——“你这是什么意思? 天哪! 你这是什么意思? ”

you! —**A****m** I to suppose then? —”

——误会你！——难道要我猜想？——”

She could not speak another word. —**H**er 她一个字也说不出来了—— voice was lost; and she sat down, waiting in 声音哽在喉间；她颓然坐下， great terror till Harriet should answer. 满心惊惶地等待着哈丽特的回应。

Harriet, who was standing at some distance, and with face turned from her, did not immediately say any thing; and when she did speak, it was in a voice nearly as agitated as Emma' 玛同样明显的激动。

s.

“I should not have thought it possible,”she began, “that you could have misunderstood me! I know we agreed never to name him—but considering how infinitely superior he is to every body else, I should not have thought it possible that I could be supposed to mean any other person. **M**r. **F**rank Churchill, indeed! I do not know who would ever look at him in the company of the other. I hope I have a better taste than to think of Mr. **F**rank Churchill, who is like nobody by his side. **A**nd that you should have been so mistaken, is amazing!

哈丽特站在稍远处，背对着她，一时没有作声；待她开口时，声音里带着几乎与爱

我简直不敢相信，”她开口说道，“您竟会误解我的意思！我们确实约定过绝不提他的名字——可是考虑到他比世上所有人都要优秀得多，我原以为您绝不会认为我指的是别人。弗兰克·丘吉尔先生！天知道有谁在另一位在场时还会瞧他一眼。我自认品味还不至于差到去考虑弗兰克·丘吉尔先生——站在那位身边，他简直黯然失色。

—I am sure, but for believing that you entirely approved and meant to encourage me in my attachment, I should have considered it at first too great a presumption almost, to dare to think of him. **At** first, if you had not told me that more wonderful things had happened; that there had been matches of greater disparity (those were your very words);—I should not have dared to give way to—I should not have thought it possible—But if you, who had been always acquainted with him—”

您竟会产生这样的误会，实在令人吃惊！说真的，若不是确信您完全赞同并有意鼓励我的这份情意，我起初几乎要认为这是痴心妄想。若不是您当初告诉我更不可思议的事情都发生过，说世间早有更不相称的姻缘（这确实是您的原话）——我绝不敢放任自己——我绝不敢相信这是可能的——但既然是您这样始终了解他的人……”

“**Harriet!**” cried Emma, collecting herself resolutely—“Let us understand each other now, without the possibility of farther mistake. **Are** you speaking of—Mr. **Knightley?**”

“哈丽特！”爱玛强自镇定地喊道，“现在让我们把话说明白，免得再产生误会。你指的是——奈特利先生吗？”

“**To** be sure I am. **I** never could have an idea of any body else—and so I thought you knew. **When** we talked about him, it was as clear as possible.”

”我当然是这样。我从来不可能想到别人——所以我以为你知道呢。我们谈起他的时候，那意思不是再明白不过了。”

“**Not** quite,” returned Emma, with forced

“不尽然，”爱玛强作镇定地答

calmness, "for all that you then said, appeared to me to relate to a different person. I could almost assert that you had named Mr. **Frank** Churchill. I am sure the service Mr. **Frank** Churchill had rendered you, in protecting you from the gipsies, was spoken of."

道,“因为您当时所说的那些话,在我看来似乎指向的是另一个人。我几乎可以断定您当时提到了弗兰克·丘吉尔先生。我确信您说起过弗兰克·丘吉尔先生为您击退吉普赛人解围的事迹。”

"**Oh!** Miss Woodhouse, how you do forget!"

“哦！伍德豪斯小姐，您怎么这样健忘！”

"**M**y dear Harriet, I perfectly remember the substance of what I said on the occasion. I told you that I did not wonder at your attachment; that considering the service he had rendered you, it was extremely natural:—and you agreed to it, expressing yourself very warmly as to your sense of that service, and mentioning even what your sensations had been in seeing him come forward to your rescue. —**T**he impression of it is strong on my memory."

“我亲爱的哈丽特，我完全记得当时那番话的要旨。我告诉过你，我毫不惊讶你会产生这样的依恋；考虑到他为你提供的帮助，这种感情的产生极其自然——你也认同这点，并十分热切地表达了你对那次相助的感激，甚至提到当他挺身相救时你内心的感受——这番情景在我记忆中印象鲜明。”

"**O**h, dear," cried Harriet, "now I recollect what you mean; but I was thinking of something very different at the time. It was not the gip-

“天哪，”哈丽特叫道，“这下我想起你说的是什么了；可我当时心里想的完全是另一回

sies—it was not Mr. **Frank** Churchill that I meant. **No!** (**with** some elevation) I was thinking of a much more precious circumstance —of Mr. **Knightley**'s coming and asking me to dance, when Mr. **Elton** would not stand up with me; and when there was no other partner in the room. **That** was the kind action; that was the noble benevolence and generosity; that was the service which made me begin to feel how superior he was to every other being upon earth. ”

事。我说的不是那些吉普赛人——不是弗兰克·丘吉尔先生。**不是!**(带着几分昂扬)我想的是一件珍贵得多的事——是埃尔顿先生不肯陪我跳舞，屋里又找不到其他舞伴时，奈特利先生过来邀我共舞。**那才**是善举；那才是真正高尚的仁慈与慷慨；正是这份恩情让我开始感受到，他是多么超凡脱俗啊。”

“**Good** God! ”**cried** Emma, “this has been a most unfortunate—most deplorable mistake! —**What** is to be done? ”

“天哪！”爱玛叫道，“这真是个极其不幸——极其可悲的误会！——现在该怎么办呢？”

“**You** would not have encouraged me, then, if you had understood me? **At** least, however, I cannot be worse off than I should have been, if the other had been the person; and now—it is possible—”

“那么，倘若你明白我的意思，就不会鼓励我了？至少，我现在的情形总不会比当初看中另一个人的时候更糟吧——而现在——这倒还有可能——”

She paused a few moments. **Emma** could not speak.

她停顿了片刻。爱玛说不出话来。

“I do not wonder, Miss Woodhouse,”she re-

“伍德豪斯小姐，”她继续说

sumed, "that you should feel a great difference between the two, as to me or as to anybody. **You** must think one five hundred million times more above me than the other. **But** I hope, Miss Woodhouse, that supposing—that if—strange as it may appear—. **But** you know they were your own words, that more wonderful things had happened, matches of greater disparity had taken place than between Mr. **Frank** Churchill and me; and, therefore, it seems as if such a thing even as this, may have occurred before—and if I should be so fortunate, beyond expression, as to—if Mr. **Knightley** should really—if he does not mind the disparity, I hope, dear Miss Woodhouse, you will not set yourself against it, and try to put difficulties in the way. **But** you are too good for that, I am sure."

道，“您觉得他们两位在我——或任何人——眼里有着天壤之别，我一点都不奇怪。您必定认为其中一位比另一位高出我五亿倍。**不过**我希望，伍德豪斯小姐，倘若——万一——虽然这事看来荒唐——但您总记得自己说过的话，您说更不可思议的事情都发生过，比弗兰克·丘吉尔先生与我更不般配的姻缘都有过；所以看起来，就连这样的事或许也曾有过先例——倘若我竟能幸运得难以言表，得以——倘若奈特利先生当真——倘若他本人都不介意这种差距，我希望，亲爱的伍德豪斯小姐，您不会反对，也不会从中作梗。**不过**我相信您心地善良，断不会这样做的。”

Harriet was standing at one of the windows. **Emma** turned round to look at her in consternation, and hastily said,

哈丽特正站在一扇窗前。爱玛惊惶地转过身来望着她，急忙说道：

“Have you any idea of Mr. Knightley’s” “你觉得奈特利先生会回报
returning your affection?” 你的感情吗?”

“Yes,” replied Harriet modestly, but not fear- “是的,”哈丽雅特谦逊而不怯
fully—“I must say that I have.” 懦地答道,“我必须说我确实
有。”

Emma’s eyes were instantly withdrawn; and 爱玛立刻收回目光, 默默坐
she sat silently meditating, in a fixed attitude, 着陷入沉思, 半晌保持着固
for a few minutes. A few minutes were suffi- 定的姿态。短短几分钟就足
cient for making her acquainted with her own 以让她认清自己的心。像她
heart. A mind like hers, once opening to suspi- 这样的头脑, 一旦萌生猜疑,
cion, made rapid progress. She touched—she 进展便极为迅速。她触及
admitted—she acknowledged the whole truth. ——她承认——她完全明白
Why was it so much worse that Harriet should 了真相。**为什么**哈丽特爱上
be in love with Mr. Knightley, than with 奈特利先生比爱上弗兰克 ·
Frank Churchill? **Why** was the evil so dread- 丘吉尔糟糕得多?**为什么**哈
fully increased by Harriet’s having some hope 丽特怀有得到回应的希望,
of a return? It darted through her, with the 就让这桩祸事可怕地加剧?
speed of an arrow, that Mr. Knightley must 一个念头如离弦之箭般穿透
marry no one but herself! 她的心房: 奈特利先生非她
不娶!

Her own conduct, as well as her own heart, 短短几分钟里, 她同时看清
was before her in the same few minutes. She 了自己的行为和自己的心
saw it all with a clearness which had never 境。**她**以从未有过的清醒目

blessed her before. **How** improperly had she been acting by Harriet! **How** inconsiderate, how indelicate, how irrational, how unfeeling had been her conduct! **What** blindness, what madness, had led her on! **It** struck her with dreadful force, and she was ready to give it every bad name in the world. **Some** portion of respect for herself, however, in spite of all these demerits—some concern for her own appearance, and a strong sense of justice by Harriet—(there would be no need of _compasion_ to the girl who believed herself loved by Mr. **Knightley**—**but** justice required that she should not be made unhappy by any coldness now,) gave Emma the resolution to sit and endure farther with calmness, with even apparent kindness. —**For** her own advantage indeed, it was fit that the utmost extent of Harriet's hopes should be enquired into; and Harriet had done nothing to forfeit the regard and interest which had been so voluntarily formed and maintained—or to deserve to be slighted by the person, whose counsels had never led her right. —**Rousing** from reflection, therefore, and subduing her emotion, she turned to

光洞察了一切。她对哈丽特的做法是多么不妥当！多么轻率，多么粗俗，多么不合情理，多么麻木不仁！是何种盲目、何种疯狂驱使她走到这步田地！这念头以可怕的力量冲击着她，她恨不得用尽世间所有恶毒的词汇来谴责自己。然而——尽管有这诸多过失，某种自尊尚存，某种对体面的顾虑，以及对哈丽特强烈的责任感（这位相信奈特利先生钟情于自己的姑娘并不需要怜悯——但正义要求此刻不能因冷漠而令她痛苦），使爱玛下定决心要沉住气继续坐着，甚至要表现出亲切的模样。为了自身利益着想，她确实应当探究哈丽特希望的极限；而哈丽特也从未做过任何事，足以辜负这份主动建立并维系的情谊——更不该遭受这位从未给过她正确指引之人的轻慢。于是她从沉思中振作

Harriet again, and, in a more inviting accent, renewed the conversation; for as to the subject which had first introduced it, the wonderful story of Jane Fairfax, that was quite sunk and lost. —**Neither** of them thought but of Mr. **Knightley** and themselves.

起来，克制住情绪，重新转向哈丽特，用更柔和的语调继续交谈。**至于**最初引起这场谈话的简·费尔法克斯那个奇妙故事，早已沉没无踪——此刻她们心中所念，唯有奈特利先生与她们自己。

Harriet, who had been standing in no unhappy reverie, was yet very glad to be called from it, by the now encouraging manner of such a judge, and such a friend as Miss Woodhouse, and only wanted invitation, to give the history of her hopes with great, though trembling delight. —**Emma**' s tremblings as she asked, and as she listened, were better concealed than Harriet's, but they were not less. **Her** voice was not unsteady; but her mind was in all the perturbation that such a development of self, such a burst of threatening evil, such a confusion of sudden and perplexing emotions, must create. —**She** listened with much inward suffering, but with great outward patience, to Harriet's detail. —**Methodical**, or well arranged, or very well delivered, it could not be expected to be; but it contained, when

哈丽特方才正沉浸在并非不愉快的遐思中，此刻被伍德豪斯小姐这样一位评判者兼朋友鼓舞的态度唤醒，不由得满心欢喜。**她**只需对方稍加邀请，便带着激动而颤抖的喜悦，准备倾诉自己的满怀希冀。**爱玛**在询问与倾听时虽比哈丽特更善于掩饰战栗，内心的震荡却丝毫未减。**她的**嗓音不曾颤抖，思绪却早已被这般自我剖白、这般汹涌而至的威胁、这般纷至沓来的迷乱情感搅得波涛翻涌。**她**强忍着内心的煎熬，以极大的耐心听完了哈丽特的叙述。**这番**叙述固然谈不上条理清晰、措辞得体，但若

separated from all the feebleness and tautology of the narration, a substance to sink her spirit—especially with the corroborating circumstances, which her own memory brought in favour of Mr. **Knightley'**s most improved opinion of Harriet.

剔除那些软弱重复的赘言，其中蕴含的实质内容足以令她心沉似海——尤其当她自己记忆里那些佐证纷至沓来时，更印证了奈特利先生对哈丽特与日俱增的青睐。

Harriet had been conscious of a difference in his behaviour ever since those two decisive dances. —**Emma** knew that he had, on that occasion, found her much superior to his expectation. **From** that evening, or at least from the time of Miss Woodhouse's encouraging her to think of him, Harriet had begun to be sensible of his talking to her much more than he had been used to do, and of his having indeed quite a different manner towards her; a manner of kindness and sweetness! —**Lat-terly** she had been more and more aware of it. **When** they had been all walking together, he had so often come and walked by her, and talked so very delightfully! —**He** seemed to want to be acquainted with her. **Emma** knew it to have been very much the case. **She** had often observed the change, to almost the same extent. —**Harriet** repeated expressions of ap-

自从那两次决定性的舞会后，哈丽特就察觉到他态度发生了变化——爱玛知道，那次他确实发现她比预想的出色得多。从那个夜晚起，或者说至少从伍德豪斯小姐鼓励她考虑他以来，哈丽特开始觉察到他与自己交谈的次数远胜往昔，待她的态度也全然不同——那是一种温柔体贴的态度！近来她对此感受愈发深切。当众人一同散步时，他总特意走来与她并肩而行，谈吐又那般令人心醉！——他仿佛渴望与她相知。爱玛深知确实如此。她也时常注意到这种转变，程度几乎不相上下。哈丽特转述着他那些赞许之词——

probation and praise from him—and Emma 爱玛觉得这些评价与她所
felt them to be in the closest agreement with 知的他對哈丽特的看法完全
what she had known of his opinion of Har- 吻合。他称赞她毫不矫揉造
riet. **H**e praised her for being without art or 作，性情纯朴真诚、宽厚大
affectation, for having simple, honest, gener- 方——她知道他确实在哈丽
ous, feelings. —**S**he knew that he saw such 特身上看到了这些优点，他
recommendations in Harriet; he had dwelt on 不止一次向她细细说过。而
them to her more than once. —**M**uch that 驻留在哈丽特记忆里的许多
lived in Harriet's memory, many little particu- 细节——他投来的目光、说
lars of the notice she had received from him, 过的言语、为她挪动座椅的
a look, a speech, a removal from one chair 举动、含蓄的恭维、暗含的偏
to another, a compliment implied, a prefer- 爱——都因爱玛未曾起疑而
ence inferred, had been unnoticed, because un- 未被察觉。这些琐碎在亲历
suspected, by Emma. **C**ircumstances that 者口中能铺陈半小时，对见
might swell to half an hour's relation, and con- 证者而言更是层层佐证，却
tained multiplied proofs to her who had seen 未被此刻的听闻者洞察；不
them, had passed undiscerned by her who now 过最后提及的两件事，对哈
heard them; but the two latest occurrences to 丽特最具希冀的这两桩，倒
be mentioned, the two of strongest promise to 并非完全没有爱玛的见证。
Harriet, were not without some degree of wit- 其一是在唐维尔寺的椴树
ness from Emma herself. —**T**he first, was 林荫道上，他特意引她离开
his walking with her apart from the others, 众人独处——在爱玛到来之
in the lime-walk at Donwell, where they had 前他们已散步多时，他显然
been walking some time before Emma came, (她确信) 费心将她引到身边
and he had taken pains (as she was convinced) ——起初他用从未有过的特

to draw her from the rest to himself—and at first, he had talked to her in a more particular way than he had ever done before, in a very particular way indeed! —(Harriet could not recall it without a blush.) He seemed to be almost asking her, whether her affections were engaged. —But as soon as she (Miss Woodhouse) appeared likely to join them, he changed the subject, and began talking about farming:—The second, was his having sat talking with her nearly half an hour before Emma came back from her visit, the very last morning of his being at Hartfield—though, when he first came in, he had said that he could not stay five minutes—and his having told her, during their conversation, that though he must go to London, it was very much against his inclination that he left home at all, which was much more (as Emma felt) than he had acknowledged to her. The superior degree of confidence towards Harriet, which this one article marked, gave her severe pain.

别方式同她交谈，确实极其特别！（哈丽特回想时不禁脸红。）他几乎像是在探问她是否心有所属。但一见伍德豪斯小姐可能走近，他便立即转换话题，谈起农事来。其二是在他离开哈特菲尔德前最后的早晨，趁爱玛外出访友时，他竟坐着与她闲谈近半小时——尽管刚进门时他说连五分钟都不能停留——谈话间他还告诉她，虽必须去伦敦，实则极不愿离家远行。这推心置腹的程度（爱玛感觉）远胜他对自己的坦白。这一事所体现的对哈丽特的超常信任，令她深感刺痛。

On the subject of the first of the two circumstances, she did, after a little reflection, venture the following question. “Might he not? —Is

对于头一件事，她略微思索了一下，便大胆地提出了这个问题：“他会不会呢？——

not it possible, that when enquiring, as you thought, into the state of your affections, he might be alluding to Mr. **Martin**—he might have Mr. **Martin**' s interest in view? **But** Harriet rejected the suspicion with spirit.

有没有这样的可能，当他像你认为的那样探问你的情感状况时，他或许是在暗示马丁先生——他心中或许惦记着马丁先生的利益呢？”可是哈丽特立刻情绪激动地否定了这个猜测。

“**Mr. Martin!** **No** indeed! —**There** was not a hint of Mr. **Martin**. I hope I know better now, than to care for Mr. **Martin**, or to be suspected of it. ”

“**马丁先生！才不是呢！——压根儿没提马丁先生。但愿我现在已经懂事了，不至于还会惦记马丁先生，或是被人疑心有这回事。”**

When Harriet had closed her evidence, she appealed to her dear Miss Woodhouse, to say whether she had not good ground for hope.

哈丽特陈述完毕，便转向她亲爱的伍德豪斯小姐，问她是否有充分理由抱有希望。

“I never should have presumed to think of it at first,” said she, “but for you. **You** told me to observe him carefully, and let his behaviour be the rule of mine—and so I have. **But** now I seem to feel that I may deserve him; and that if he does chuse me, it will not be any thing so very wonderful. ”

“我起初绝不敢有此奢望，”她说道，“全因有你。你嘱咐我仔细留意他的举止，以他的行为作为我自己的准则——我便这样做了。可如今我似乎觉得，自己或许配得上他；倘若他当真选中我，倒也算不得什么天大的奇事。”

The bitter feelings occasioned by this speech, the many bitter feelings, made the utmost exertion necessary on Emma's side, to enable her to say on reply, 这番话激起的苦涩情绪——那许许多多的苦涩情绪——迫使爱玛不得不竭尽全力，才能勉强回应对答。

“**Harriet**, I will only venture to declare, that Mr. **Knightley** is the last man in the world, who would intentionally give any woman the idea of his feeling for her more than he really does.” “哈丽特，我只敢断言，奈特利先生是世上最不可能故意让任何女子对他产生非分之想的男人。”

Harriet seemed ready to worship her friend for a sentence so satisfactory; and Emma was only saved from raptures and fondness, which at that moment would have been dreadful penance, by the sound of her father's footsteps. **He** was coming through the hall. **Harriet** was too much agitated to encounter him. “**She** could not compose herself—Mr. **Woodhouse** would be alarmed—she had better go;” —with most ready encouragement from her friend, therefore, she passed off through another door—and the moment she was gone, this was the spontaneous burst of Emma's feelings: “Oh God! **that** I had never seen her!” 哈丽特听到这句令人满意的話，简直要把她的朋友奉若神明；爱玛此刻若被迫承受狂喜与亲昵，将是可怕的折磨，幸而这时传来父亲的脚步声，他正穿过门厅走来。哈丽特过于激动，不便与他相见。”她无法镇定下来——伍德豪斯先生会受惊的——她最好离开。”——在朋友极力怂恿下，她便从另一扇门溜走了。她刚消失，爱玛便情不自禁地脱口而出：“天哪！但愿我从未见过她！”

The rest of the day, the following night, were hardly enough for her thoughts. —She was bewildered amidst the confusion of all that had rushed on her within the last few hours. Every moment had brought a fresh surprize; and every surprize must be matter of humiliation to her. —How to understand it all! How to understand the deceptions she had been thus practising on herself, and living under! —The blunders, the blindness of her own head and heart! —she sat still, she walked about, she tried her own room, she tried the shrubbery —in every place, every posture, she perceived that she had acted most weakly; that she had been imposed on by others in a most mortifying degree; that she had been imposing on herself in a degree yet more mortifying; that she was wretched, and should probably find this day but the beginning of wretchedness.

To understand, thoroughly understand her own heart, was the first endeavour. To that point went every leisure moment which her father's claims on her allowed, and every moment of involuntary absence of mind.

这一天剩下的时光和接下来的整个夜晚，都不足以让她理清思绪。——过去几小时内涌上心头的纷乱念头令她茫然无措。每一刻都带来新的震惊；而每一次震惊都必然成为她的屈辱。——这一切该如何理解！她竟如此自欺欺人地生活了这么久！——她头脑与心灵的种种谬误与盲目！——她时而静坐，时而踱步，时而待在卧房，时而在灌木丛中徘徊——无论身处何地，无论何种姿态，她都意识到自己的行为何等软弱；她遭受他人蒙蔽的程度令人难堪；而更令人难堪的是她自我欺骗的程度；她痛苦不堪，或许还将发现今日不过是痛苦的开始。

要彻底了解自己的内心，是她首先要做的努力。每当父亲不需要她陪伴的闲暇时刻，每当她不由自主地走神时，她的思绪都会飘向这个

方向。

How long had Mr. **Knightley** been so dear to her, as every feeling declared him now to be? **When** had his influence, such influence begun? —**When** had he succeeded to that place in her affection, which Frank Churchill had once, for a short period, occupied? — **She** looked back; she compared the two—compared them, as they had always stood in her estimation, from the time of the latter's becoming known to her—and as they must at any time have been compared by her, had it—oh! **had** it, by any blessed felicity, occurred to her, to institute the comparison. —**She** saw that there never had been a time when she did not consider Mr. **Knightley** as infinitely the superior, or when his regard for her had not been infinitely the most dear. **She** saw, that in persuading herself, in fancying, in acting to the contrary, she had been entirely under a delusion, totally ignorant of her own heart—and, in short, that she had never really cared for Frank Churchill at all!

奈特利先生是从何时起在她心中变得如此珍贵? 每分情感都在宣告他此刻的地位。他的影响力是何时开始滋生的? 他又是何时取代了弗兰克·丘吉尔在她心中那短暂停留的位置? 她回溯往事,将两人放在天平上衡量——从后者闯入她生命那一刻起,他们在她心中的分量始终如此悬殊。其实她早该作此比较,若是当初——唉! 若是当初蒙上天眷顾,她曾动过这般念头该多好! 她恍然发觉,自己始终将奈特利先生视作无与伦比的至高存在,他对她的情意始终是她最珍视的瑰宝。而先前那些自欺欺人的臆想、那些违心的举动,不过是沉溺于幻梦,对自己的心懵然无知——简而言之,她何曾真正倾心过弗兰克·丘吉尔!

This was the conclusion of the first series of reflection. **This** was the knowledge of herself, on the first question of inquiry, which she reached; and without being long in reaching it. —**She** was most sorrowfully indignant; ashamed of every sensation but the one revealed to her—her affection for Mr. **Knightley**. —**Every** other part of her mind was disgusting.

这便是她第一轮沉思的结论。这便是她在探究第一个问题时，对自身获得的认知——而且是不费多少工夫便获得的。**她**感到既悲伤又慷慨，羞愧难当，除了那一种向她袒露无遗的情感——她对奈特利先生的爱恋——之外，其他一切感受都令她作呕。

With insufferable vanity had she believed herself in the secret of every body's feelings; with unpardonable arrogance proposed to arrange every body's destiny. **She** was proved to have been universally mistaken; and she had not quite done nothing—for she had done mischief. **She** had brought evil on Harriet, on herself, and she too much feared, on Mr. **Knightley**. —**Were** this most unequal of all connexions to take place, on her must rest all the reproach of having given it a beginning; for his attachment, she must believe to be produced only by a consciousness of Harriet's;—and even were this not the case, he would never have known Harriet at all but for her folly.

她曾怀着令人难以忍受的虚荣心，自以为洞悉每个人的情感；又以不可饶恕的傲慢姿态，妄图安排每个人的命运。**事实证明**她完全错看了所有人，而她并非毫无作为——因为她确实酿成了祸患。**她**给哈丽特带来了不幸，给自己带来了苦果，更让她惶恐不安的是，恐怕也给奈特利先生带去了灾殃。**若**这段极不般配的姻缘当真成就，开启这段孽缘的全部罪责必将归咎于她——因为她不得不相信，他对哈丽特的

情意不过是出于察觉到哈丽特对他的倾慕；即便事实并非如此，若不是因她的愚行，他根本永远不会结识哈丽特。

Mr. Knightley and Harriet Smith! — 奈特利先生与哈丽特·史密斯！——这桩姻缘足以令所有同类佳话黯然失色。弗兰克·丘吉尔与简·费尔法克斯的恋情相形之下变得平淡无奇、索然无味，既激不起惊异，也显不出悬殊，更引不起任何议论与遐想。——奈特利先生与哈丽特·史密斯！她竟能攀此高枝！他竟会屈尊俯就！想到这桩婚事将使他身价骤跌，预见人们会因此窃笑讥讽、幸灾乐祸，料到他兄长必将深感屈辱与鄙夷，他本人亦将陷入重重窘境——爱玛简直不寒而栗。这怎么可能？不，绝无可能。然而转念一想，又绝非完全不可能。难道才智超群的男子被平庸之辈俘获芳心是史

It was a union to distance every wonder of the kind. —**The** attachment of Frank Churchill and Jane Fairfax became commonplace, threadbare, stale in the comparison, exciting no surprise, presenting no disparity, affording nothing to be said or thought. —**Mr. Knightley** and Harriet Smith! —**Such** an elevation on her side! **Such** a debasement on his! **It** was horrible to Emma to think how it must sink him in the general opinion, to foresee the smiles, the sneers, the merriment it would prompt at his expense; the mortification and disdain of his brother, the thousand inconveniences to himself. —**Could** it be? —**No**; it was impossible. **And** yet it was far, very far, from impossible. —**Was** it a new circumstance for a man of first-rate abilities to be captivated by very inferior powers? **Was** it new for one, perhaps too busy to seek, to be the

prize of a girl who would seek him? —**Was** it 无前例? 难道无暇寻偶的俊
new for any thing in this world to be unequal, 杰被主动追求的女子俘获是
inconsistent, incongruous—or for chance and 闻所未闻? 难道世间万事有
circumstance (as second causes) to direct the 哪一桩不是参差错落、矛盾
human fate?

百出? 难道机缘际遇 (作为
次要因果) 左右人类命运不
是亘古如常?

Oh! had she never brought Harriet forward! 唉! 当初她若不曾把哈丽特
Had she left her where she ought, and where 推到台前该多好! 若是由着
he had told her she ought! —**Had** she not, 她待在原本该待的位置——
with a folly which no tongue could express, 正如他告诫过她的那样! 若
prevented her marrying the unexceptionable 不是她怀着言语无法形容的
young man who would have made her happy 愚蠢, 阻挠了那门与体面青
and respectable in the line of life to which she 年的婚事——那本该让哈丽
ought to belong—all would have been safe; 特在她应属的生活轨道上获
none of this dreadful sequel would have been. 得幸福与体面——如今一切
都会安然无恙; 这可怕的后
续也绝不会发生。

How Harriet could ever have had the pre- 哈丽特怎敢如此不自量力,
sumption to raise her thoughts to Mr. 竟将心思动到奈特利先生身
Knightley! —**How** she could dare to fancy 上! 怎敢在未得明确表示前,
herself the chosen of such a man till actually 就妄想被这样一位人物选中!
assured of it! —**But** Harriet was less humble, ——只是如今的哈丽特已不
had fewer scruples than formerly. —**Her** in- 似从前谦卑, 顾虑也少了许多

feriority, whether of mind or situation, seemed little felt. —**She** had seemed more sensible of Mr. **Elton**' s being to stoop in marrying her, than she now seemed of Mr. **Knightley**' s. —**Alas!** was not that her own doing too? **Who** had been at pains to give Harriet notions of self-consequence but herself? —**Who** but herself had taught her, that she was to elevate herself if possible, and that her claims were great to a high worldly establishment? —**If** Harriet, from being humble, were grown vain, it was her doing too.

多。她似乎浑然不觉自己在才智或地位上的差距——当初她与埃尔顿先生成婚时尚知是高攀，如今对奈特利先生反倒显得心安理得。唉！这难道不也是她爱玛一手造成的吗？除了她，还有谁费尽心机让哈丽特自视甚高？除了她，还有谁教导这姑娘要尽可能攀附高枝，声称她完全配得上跻身上流社会？若说哈丽特从谦逊变得虚荣，这又何尝不是她的杰作？

CHAPTER XII

第十二章

Till now that she was threatened with its loss, Emma had never known how much of her happiness depended on being first with Mr. **Knightley**, first in interest and affection. — **Satisfied** that it was so, and feeling it her due, she had enjoyed it without reflection; and only in the dread of being supplanted, found how inexpressibly important it had been. —**Long**, very long, she felt she had been first; for, having no female connexions of his own, there had

直到此刻受到威胁时，爱玛才意识到自己的幸福有多少是建立在奈特利先生心中首屈一指的地位上——那份首要的关切与眷注。她向来心安理得地享受着这份殊荣，从不曾深思；唯有在面临被人取代的恐惧时，才惊觉这地位何等珍贵。长久以来，她始终确信自己占据着这

been only Isabella whose claims could be compared with hers, and she had always known exactly how far he loved and esteemed Isabella. **She** had herself been first with him for many years past. **She** had not deserved it; she had often been negligent or perverse, slighting his advice, or even wilfully opposing him, insensible of half his merits, and quarrelling with him because he would not acknowledge her false and insolent estimate of her own—but still, from family attachment and habit, and thorough excellence of mind, he had loved her, and watched over her from a girl, with an endeavour to improve her, and an anxiety for her doing right, which no other creature had at all shared. **In** spite of all her faults, she knew she was dear to him; might she not say, very dear? —**When** the suggestions of hope, however, which must follow here, presented themselves, she could not presume to indulge them. **Harriet** Smith might think herself not unworthy of being peculiarly, exclusively, passionately loved by Mr. **Knightley**. **_She_** could not. **She** could not flatter herself with any idea of blindness in his attachment to **_her_**. **She**

个位置——由于他没有女性亲属，唯有伊莎贝拉能与她相提并论，而她始终清楚他对伊莎贝拉的喜爱与敬重分寸几何。**这些年来**，她确实是她最珍视的人。**她**本不配得到这般厚待：她时常疏忽任性，轻视他的劝诫，甚至故意与他作对，对他一半的优点视而不见，还因他不肯认同她狂妄自负的自我认知而与他争执——但出于家族情谊、长久习惯，以及他本身品性高洁，他始终关爱着她，从她少女时代起就悉心照拂，努力引导她向善，为她的品行操碎了心，这份关切是旁人从未给予的。**尽管**有诸多缺点，她明白自己在他心中是珍贵的；难道不能说，是极其珍贵的吗？**然而**当希望的萌芽随之浮现时，她不敢纵容自己沉溺其中。**哈丽特·史密斯**或许会自以为配得上奈特利先生独特专一

had received a very recent proof of its impartiality. —**How** shocked had he been by her behaviour to Miss Bates! **How** directly, how strongly had he expressed himself to her on the subject! —**Not** too strongly for the offence—but far, far too strongly to issue from any feeling softer than upright justice and clear-sighted goodwill. —**She** had no hope, nothing to deserve the name of hope, that he could have that sort of affection for herself which was now in question; but there was a hope (at times a slight one, at times much stronger,) that Harriet might have deceived herself, and be overrating his regard for her. —**Wish** it she must, for his sake—be the consequence nothing to herself, but his remaining single all his life. **Could** she be secure of that, indeed, of his never marrying at all, she believed she should be perfectly satisfied. —**Let** him but continue the same Mr. **Knightley** to her and her father, the same Mr. **Knightley** to all the world; let Donwell and Hartfield lose none of their precious intercourse of friendship and confidence, and her peace would be fully secured. —**Marriage**, in fact, would not do for the热烈爱慕，但她爱玛绝不能。她无法自欺欺人地认为他对自己的眷顾存在盲目性——不久前才刚领教过他的公正无私。他对她对待贝茨小姐的态度何等震惊！就此事的表态何等直率强烈！这强烈并非过分——但远远超出了除却正直公道与清明善意之外的其他情感可能产生的程度。她不敢奢望，完全不敢奢望他能对自己怀有此刻讨论的这种情愫；但尚存一丝希望（时而微弱，时而强烈），或许哈丽特错估了他对她的情意。为了他，她必须如此期盼——哪怕代价是她自己永远失去他，哪怕他终身不娶。若能确信他永不婚娶，她相信自己定能全然知足。只要他继续做她与父亲认识的那个奈特利先生，继续做全世界认识的那个奈特利先生；让唐维尔与哈特菲尔德之间珍贵的友谊与信任

her. **It** would be incompatible with what she owed to her father, and with what she felt for him. **Nothing** should separate her from her father. **She** would not marry, even if she were asked by Mr. **Knightley**.

永存，她的心境便能完全平和。事实上，婚姻于她并不相宜。这既与她对父亲应尽的责任相悖，也违背了她对父亲的感情。任何事物都不该让她与父亲分离。即便是奈特利先生求婚，她也不会应允。

It must be her ardent wish that Harriet might be disappointed; and she hoped, that when able to see them together again, she might at least be able to ascertain what the chances for it were. —**She** should see them henceforward with the closest observance; and wretchedly as she had hitherto misunderstood even those she was watching, she did not know how to admit that she could be blinded here. —**He** was expected back every day. **The** power of observation would be soon given—frightfully soon it appeared when her thoughts were in one course. **In** the meanwhile, she resolved against seeing Harriet. —**It** would do neither of them good, it would do the subject no good, to be talking of it farther. —**She** was resolved not to be convinced, as long as she could doubt,

她衷心期盼哈丽特能遭受挫折；她希望等再次见到两人相处时，至少能确知这事还有几分希望。从此她要以最敏锐的目光观察他们——虽然迄今为止她对自己观察的对象都产生了可悲的误解，但她不愿承认这次也会看走眼。他随时可能回来。她很快就能获得观察的机会——当思绪朝着这个方向奔涌时，她只觉得这机会来得太快，简直令人心惊。在此期间，她打定主意不见哈丽特。再谈论这件事对她们双方都无益，对事情本身也无益。只要还存在疑虑，她就不愿被说

and yet had no authority for opposing Harriet' 服，可她又没有权利阻止哈
s confidence. **To** talk would be only to irritate. 丽特向她吐露心事。交谈只
—**She** wrote to her, therefore, kindly, but de- 会激起怒火。于是她写了封
cisively, to beg that she would not, at present, 信，措辞亲切但态度坚决，恳
come to Hartfield; acknowledging it to be her 请哈丽特暂时不要来哈特菲
conviction, that all farther confidential discus- 尔德。她在信中坦言，相信她
sion of one topic had better be avoided; and 们最好避免再就某个话题私
hoping, that if a few days were allowed to pass 下交谈；并表示希望，如果她
before they met again, except in the company 们能隔几天再见面——她只
of others—she objected only to a tête-à-tête— 反对单独会面——或许就能
they might be able to act as if they had forgot- 装作忘记了昨天的谈话。哈
ten the conversation of yesterday. —**Harriet** 丽特顺从了，表示赞同，并
submitted, and approved, and was grateful. 表达了感激之情。

This point was just arranged, when a visitor arrived to tear Emma's thoughts a little from the one subject which had engrossed them, sleeping or waking, the last twenty-four hours —Mrs. **Weston**, who had been calling on her daughter-in-law elect, and took Hartfield in her way home, almost as much in duty to Emma as in pleasure to herself, to relate all the particulars of so interesting an interview.

这个安排刚刚敲定，便有位访客到来，将爱玛的思绪从那个占据了她过去二十四小时——无论睡时醒时——全部心神的唯一话题上稍稍扯开。韦斯顿太太刚去拜访了她未来的儿媳，回程顺道来到哈特菲尔德，既是为向爱玛尽义务，也是为让自己高兴，要把这次极有意思的会面细节统统说给她听。

Mr. Weston had accompanied her to Mrs. **Bates'** s, and gone through his share of this essential attention most handsomely; but she having then induced Miss Fairfax to join her in an airing, was now returned with much more to say, and much more to say with satisfaction, than a quarter of an hour spent in Mrs. **Bates'** s parlour, with all the encumbrance of awkward feelings, could have afforded.

韦斯顿先生陪她到贝茨太太家，尽了他那份必不可少的殷勤礼数，态度十分得体；不过她后来又劝说费尔法克斯小姐与她一同乘车出游，此刻归来时便有了更多可谈之事，也比在贝茨家客厅里枯坐一刻钟——还要受着尴尬情绪的拘束——能获得更称心如意的谈资。

A little curiosity Emma had; and she made the most of it while her friend related. **Mrs. Weston** had set off to pay the visit in a good deal of agitation herself; and in the first place had wished not to go at all at present, to be allowed merely to write to Miss Fairfax instead, and to defer this ceremonious call till a little time had passed, and Mr. **Churchill** could be reconciled to the engagement's becoming known; as, considering every thing, she thought such a visit could not be paid without leading to reports:—but Mr. **Weston** had thought differently; he was extremely anxious to shew his approbation to Miss Fairfax and her family, and did not conceive that any suspicion could

爱玛确实怀有几分好奇；当友人叙述时，她将这好奇心发挥到了极致。韦斯顿太太出发去拜访时，自己就相当心绪不宁；起初她根本不愿即刻前往，只希望被允许先给费尔法克斯小姐写封信，将这场礼节性拜访推迟到时机成熟，待丘吉尔先生对婚约公开之事稍能释怀之后——毕竟通盘考虑之下，她认为这样的拜访难免会引发流言。但韦斯顿先生持不同看法：他急于向费尔法克斯小姐及其家人表明赞许之

be excited by it; or if it were, that it would be of any consequence; for "such things," he observed, "always got about." **Emma** smiled, and felt that Mr. **Weston** had very good reason for saying so. **They** had gone, in short—and very great had been the evident distress and confusion of the lady. **She** had hardly been able to speak a word, and every look and action had shewn how deeply she was suffering from consciousness. **The** quiet, heart-felt satisfaction of the old lady, and the rapturous delight of her daughter—who proved even too joyous to talk as usual, had been a gratifying, yet almost an affecting, scene. **They** were both so truly respectable in their happiness, so disinterested in every sensation; thought so much of Jane; so much of every body, and so little of themselves, that every kindly feeling was at work for them. Miss Fairfax's recent illness had offered a fair plea for Mrs. **Weston** to invite her to an airing; she had drawn back and declined at first, but, on being pressed had yielded; and, in the course of their drive, Mrs. **Weston** had, by gentle encouragement, overcome so much of her embar-

意, 认为这不会引起任何猜疑; 即便真有流言, 也无足轻重, 因为“这类事情,”他说, “总归会传开的。”**爱玛**闻言莞尔, 觉得韦斯顿先生此言着实有理。**总之**他们还是去了——那位小姐显然陷入了极大的窘迫与慌乱。**她**几乎说不出一句完整的话, 每个眼神每个动作都显露出她正因心事被察觉而深受煎熬。**老太太**恬静而由衷的欣慰, 女儿喜不自胜以至于一反常态的静默——这幕景象令人感动又欣慰。**母女**二人在幸福中依然保持着可敬的体面, 全然不计较个人感受, 处处为简着想, 为所有着想, 唯独不顾自己, 这怎能不唤起人们最温柔的关切?**费尔法克斯**小姐近日身体不适, 正好给了韦斯顿太太邀她乘车出游的恰当理由。**她**起初退缩推辞, 但在再三恳请下终于应允。**途中**, 韦斯

rassment, as to bring her to converse on the important subject. **Apologies** for her seemingly ungracious silence in their first reception, and the warmest expressions of the gratitude she was always feeling towards herself and Mr. **Weston**, must necessarily open the cause; but when these effusions were put by, they had talked a good deal of the present and of the future state of the engagement. **Mrs. Weston** was convinced that such conversation must be the greatest relief to her companion, pent up within her own mind as every thing had so long been, and was very much pleased with all that she had said on the subject.

顿太太温和引导，渐渐消解了她的局促，使她终于能就那桩重大事情交谈起来。首先自然是致歉——为初次见面前失礼的沉默致歉，又热烈表达始终深藏对韦斯顿夫妇的感激——这些话自然引向了正题。待这些心绪倾吐完毕，她们便深入谈论了婚约的现状与未来。韦斯顿太太深信，对于长久将心事紧锁的同伴而言，这样的交谈无疑是莫大解脱；而对方就此事所言种种，都令她倍感欣慰。

“**On** the misery of what she had suffered, during the concealment of so many months,” continued Mrs. **Weston**, “she was energetic. **This** was one of her expressions. ‘I will not say, that since I entered into the engagement I have not had some happy moments; but I can say, that I have never known the blessing of one tranquil hour:’—and the quivering lip, Emma, which uttered it, was an attestation that I felt at my heart.”

“在被迫隐瞒的这许多月里我所遭受的痛苦，”韦斯顿太太继续说道，“她讲得十分激动。这是她的原话之一：‘我不想说，自从我订婚以来，我从未有过快乐的时刻；但我可以说，我从未享受过片刻安宁的福分’——而她说这话时颤抖的嘴唇，爱玛，便是直抵我心灵深处的印证。”

“Poor girl! ” said Emma. “She thinks herself “可怜的姑娘！”爱玛说，“那
wrong, then, for having consented to a private 么，她认为自己同意私订终
engagement? ” 身是做错了？”

“Wrong! No one, I believe, can blame her “错！我相信谁都不会比我
more than she is disposed to blame herself. 更严厉地责备自己了。‘结
‘The consequence,’ said she, ‘has been a state 果，’她说，‘就是让我陷入
of perpetual suffering to me; and so it ought. 无休止的痛苦；这实在是罪
But after all the punishment that misconduct 有应得。虽然行为失当带来
can bring, it is still not less misconduct. Pain 的惩罚已足够沉重，但失当
is no expiation. I never can be blameless. I 终究是失当。痛苦并不能抵
have been acting contrary to all my sense of 偿过错。我永远无法洗清罪
right; and the fortunate turn that every thing 责。我的所作所为完全违背
has taken, and the kindness I am now receiv- 了自己的是非观；而今事态
ing, is what my conscience tells me ought not 侥幸出现转机，诸位待我如
to be. ’ ‘Do not imagine, madam,’ she con- 此宽厚，这反而让我的良心
tinued, ‘that I was taught wrong. Do not let 更觉不安。’‘请别认为，夫
any reflection fall on the principles or the care 人，’她继续说道，‘是别人教
of the friends who brought me up. The error 唆我行差踏错。请不要让培
has been all my own; and I do assure you that, 育我成长的亲友蒙受非议，
with all the excuse that present circumstances 质疑他们的为人准则或教养
may appear to give, I shall yet dread making 心血。这一切过失全系我一
the story known to Colonel Campbell. ” 人之过；虽然眼下情形似乎
能提供诸多开脱理由，但我
仍要坦言——待要向坎贝尔
上校禀明此事时，我依然会

惶恐难安。”

“Poor girl!” said Emma again. “She loves him then excessively, I suppose. It must have been from attachment only, that she could be led to form the engagement. Her affection must have overpowered her judgment.”

“Yes, I have no doubt of her being extremely attached to him.”

“I am afraid,” returned Emma, sighing, “that I must often have contributed to make her unhappy.”

“On your side, my love, it was very innocently done. But she probably had something of that in her thoughts, when alluding to the misunderstandings which he had given us hints of before. One natural consequence of the evil she had involved herself in,” she said, “was that of making her unreasonable. The consciousness of having done amiss, had exposed her to a thousand inquietudes, and made her captious and irritable to a degree that must have been — that had been — hard for him to bear. ‘I did not make the allowances,’ said she, ‘which I

“可怜的姑娘!”爱玛又说，“那么说，她是非常爱他了。想必她只是出于爱慕，才订下这门亲事。她的感情一定压倒了她的理智。”

“是的，我毫不怀疑她对他极为依恋。”

“恐怕，”爱玛叹了口气，答道，“我准是常常惹得她不高兴。”

“亲爱的，你这一方倒是做得全无心机。可她提起先前他暗示过的那些误会时，心里恐怕早存了这样的念头。她说，自己陷入的这桩孽缘带来一个必然的后果，就是让她变得不可理喻。意识到行为失当使她备受焦虑煎熬，变得吹毛求疵、暴躁易怒，那种程度定然叫他——确实叫他难以忍受。‘我未能体谅，’她说，‘我本该体谅他的脾气

ought to have done, for his temper and spirits 和心境——他那令人愉悦的
—his delightful spirits, and that gaiety, that 心境，那种欢快活泼的性情。
playfulness of disposition, which, under any 若在别的境遇下，我确信这
other circumstances, would, I am sure, have 种性情会像最初那样，始终
been as constantly bewitching to me, as they 令我神魂颠倒。’接着她开始
were at first. ’**She** then began to speak of 谈及你，说起她卧病期间你
you, and of the great kindness you had shewn 待她的深情厚谊。她脸上泛
her during her illness; and with a blush which 起红晕，让我明白这一切的
shewed me how it was all connected, desired 关联，嘱我得了机会定要向
me, whenever I had an opportunity, to thank 你致谢——说无论怎样感谢
you—I could not thank you too much—for ev- 都不为过——感谢你为她康
ery wish and every endeavour to do her good. 复付出的每份心意与努力。
She was sensible that you had never received 她心里清楚，自己从未给过
any proper acknowledgment from herself. ” 你应有的答谢。”

“**If** I did not know her to be happy now,” said “倘若我不知道她如今很快
Emma, seriously, “which, in spite of every little 乐，”爱玛认真地说道，“尽
drawback from her scrupulous conscience, she 管她那谨小慎微的良心总有
must be, I could not bear these thanks;—for, 些许不安，但她必定是快乐
oh! **Mrs. Weston**, if there were an account 的——否则我实在承受不住
drawn up of the evil and the good I have done 这些感激。唉！韦斯顿太太，
Miss Fairfax! —**Well** (checking herself, and 若是要把我带给费尔法克斯
trying to be more lively), this is all to be for- 小姐的种种好坏列个清单！
gotten. **You** are very kind to bring me these —好了（她克制住自己，
interesting particulars. **They** shew her to the 努力振作精神），这些都该
greatest advantage. I am sure she is very good 被遗忘。您真好，告诉我这

—I hope she will be very happy. It is fit that the fortune should be on his side, for I think the merit will be all on hers. ”

些有趣的细节。这些事展现了她最美好的一面。我确信她非常善良——愿她永远幸福。财富理应由男方承担，因为我认为所有美德都在女方身上。”

Such a conclusion could not pass unanswered by Mrs. **Weston**. **She** thought well of Frank in almost every respect; and, what was more, she loved him very much, and her defence was, therefore, earnest. **She** talked with a great deal of reason, and at least equal affection—but she had too much to urge for Emma's attention; it was soon gone to Brunswick Square or to Donwell; she forgot to attempt to listen; and when Mrs. **Weston** ended with, “We have not yet had the letter we are so anxious for, you know, but I hope it will soon come,” she was obliged to pause before she answered, and at last obliged to answer at random, before she could at all recollect what letter it was which they were so anxious for.

韦斯顿太太对这样的结论自然要予以辩驳。她几乎在各方面都对弗兰克评价很高，而且更重要的是，她非常疼爱他，因此她的辩护显得格外恳切。她说得合情合理，充满深情——但她的论据实在太多，爱玛的注意力早已飘向不伦瑞克广场或当维尔别墅；她忘了要专心聆听。当韦斯顿太太以这句话作结：“你知道，我们至今还没收到那封叫人望眼欲穿的信呢，不过希望很快就来了”，爱玛不得不停顿片刻才作答，最后只能含糊其辞地应付，因为她根本想不起来他们如此期盼的究竟是哪封信。

“Are you well, my Emma? ”was Mrs. Weston’s parting question.

“你还好吗，我的爱玛？”韦斯顿太太临别时问道。

“Oh! perfectly. I am always well, you know. Be sure to give me intelligence of the letter as soon as possible.”

“哦！完全没事。你知道，我身体一向很好。收到信务必立刻告诉我消息。”

Mrs. Weston’s communications furnished Emma with more food for unpleasant reflection, by increasing her esteem and compassion, and her sense of past injustice towards Miss Fairfax. She bitterly regretted not having sought a closer acquaintance with her, and blushed for the envious feelings which had certainly been, in some measure, the cause. Had she followed Mr. Knightley’s known wishes, in paying that attention to Miss Fairfax, which was every way her due; had she tried to know her better; had she done her part towards intimacy; had she endeavoured to find a friend there instead of in Harriet Smith; she must, in all probability, have been spared from every pain which pressed on her now. —Birth, abilities, and education, had been equally marking one as an associate for her, to be received with gratitude; and the other—what was she? —

韦斯顿太太这番话给爱玛带来了更多不愉快的思量，使她愈发敬重、愈发同情简·费尔法克斯，也愈发意识到自己以往待她不公。她深感懊悔，当初没有主动与简亲近，一想到自己那带有几分嫉妒的心理，不由得羞红了脸。当初她若是遵照奈特利先生的心愿，给予简·费尔法克斯应有的关心；若是她尽力去多了解她；若是她主动与她亲近些；若是她尽力在简那里而不是在哈丽特·史密斯那里找个朋友——她现在也就不会遭受眼下这般痛苦了。论出身、天赋和教养，她与简旗鼓相当，而简也会对她心怀感激，至于另一

Supposing even that they had never become intimate friends; that she had never been admitted into Miss Fairfax's confidence on this important matter—which was most probable —still, in knowing her as she ought, and as she might, she must have been preserved from the abominable suspicions of an improper attachment to Mr. **Dixon**, which she had not only so foolishly fashioned and harboured herself, but had so unpardonably imparted; an idea which she greatly feared had been made a subject of material distress to the delicacy of Jane's feelings, by the levity or carelessness of Frank Churchill's. **Of** all the sources of evil surrounding the former, since her coming to Highbury, she was persuaded that she must herself have been the worst. **She** must have been a perpetual enemy. **They** never could have been all three together, without her having stabbed Jane Fairfax's peace in a thousand instances; and on Box Hill, perhaps, it had been the agony of a mind that would bear no more.

位——她又算得了什么? 即使假设她们从没成为亲密朋友; 假设简从没向她透露这件事要紧事——这倒很有可能——但就她对简应有的、可能的了解而言, 她也不至于产生那可恶的猜疑, 认为简与迪克森先生之间有不正当的恋情。这个念头不仅被她愚蠢地臆想出来, 深藏于心, 还不可原谅地泄露了出去。她十分担心, 由于弗兰克·邱吉尔的轻率或疏忽, 这个念头已经给简敏感的情感带来了极大的痛苦。自从简来到海伯里, 爱玛确信, 在困扰简的种种祸根中, 她自己准是那最可恶的一个。她准是时时在与简为敌。她们三人每次在一起时, 她总要无数次地刺痛简·费尔法克斯的心。而在博克斯山上, 她也许因为再也忍受不了, 心灵上受尽了煎熬。

The evening of this day was very long, and **哈特菲尔德**这天的黄昏显得

melancholy, at Hartfield. **The** weather added what it could of gloom. A cold stormy rain set in, and nothing of July appeared but in the trees and shrubs, which the wind was despoiling, and the length of the day, which only made such cruel sights the longer visible.

格外漫长而阴郁。天气也平添了几分应有的沉闷。凄风冷雨肆虐着，除了被狂风摧折的林木灌木，以及白昼的绵长——这徒然令残酷的景象更久地呈现在眼前——全然寻不见七月的踪影。

The weather affected Mr. **Woodhouse**, and he could only be kept tolerably comfortable by almost ceaseless attention on his daughter's side, and by exertions which had never cost her half so much before. **It** reminded her of their first forlorn tête-à-tête, on the evening of Mrs. **Weston**'s wedding-day; but Mr. **Knightley** had walked in then, soon after tea, and dissipated every melancholy fancy. **Alas!** **such** delightful proofs of Hartfield's attraction, as those sort of visits conveyed, might shortly be over. **The** picture which she had then drawn of the privations of the approaching winter, had proved erroneous; no friends had deserted them, no pleasures had been lost. —**But** her present forebodings she feared would experience no similar contradiction. **The** prospect before her now, was

天气影响了伍德豪斯先生，只有女儿几乎不间断地照料才能让他勉强舒适，这番操劳远胜从前。这情景让她想起韦斯顿太太婚礼当晚父女俩初次凄清相对的时光；那时刚用过茶点，奈特利先生便踱步而入，驱散了所有阴郁的遐想。唉！这类拜访所昭示的哈特菲尔德宅邸的魅力，恐怕转瞬即逝。她当时对即将来临的寒冬萧索的描绘，后来证明是谬误的；朋友们未曾疏远，欢愉也未曾消逝。但此刻不祥的预感，恐怕再难得到同样的反证。眼前的光景已蒙上浓重阴翳，既无法全然驱散，甚至难觅微

threatening to a degree that could not be entirely dispelled—that might not be even partially brightened. **If** all took place that might take place among the circle of her friends, Hartfield must be comparatively deserted; and she left to cheer her father with the spirits only of ruined happiness.

The child to be born at Randalls must be a tie there even dearer than herself; and Mrs. **Weston'**s heart and time would be occupied by it. **They** should lose her; and, probably, in great measure, her husband also. — **Frank** Churchill would return among them no more; and Miss Fairfax, it was reasonable to suppose, would soon cease to belong to Highbury. **They** would be married, and settled either at or near Enscombe. **All** that were good would be withdrawn; and if to these losses, the loss of Donwell were to be added, what would remain of cheerful or of rational society within their reach? **Mr. Knightley** to be no longer coming there for his evening comfort! —**No** longer walking in at all hours, as if ever willing to change his own home for their's! —**How** was it to be endured? **And** if he were to be

光——若友朋圈中可能发生的变故尽数成真，哈特菲尔德必将门庭冷落，唯留她强撑破碎的欢欣慰藉老父。

即将在兰德尔庄园诞生的那个孩子，必将成为比她自己更牢固的纽带；韦斯顿太太的心思与时光都将被这孩子占据。他们将失去她，或许在很大程度上也会失去她的丈夫——弗兰克·丘吉尔不会再回到他们中间；而费尔法克斯小姐，按理推测很快也将不再属于海伯里。他们将成婚，定居在恩斯康比庄园或附近。所有美好的人都将离去——若是在这些损失之外，再失去唐威尔宅邸，他们还能接触到什么欢愉理性的社交生活呢？奈特利先生再也不会在黄昏时分来此寻求慰藉！再也不会随时信

lost to them for Harriet's sake; if he were to be thought of hereafter, as finding in Harriet's society all that he wanted; if Harriet were to be the chosen, the first, the dearest, the friend, the wife to whom he looked for all the best blessings of existence; what could be increasing Emma's wretchedness but the reflection never far distant from her mind, that it had been all her own work?

步而入，仿佛永远愿意用他自己的家来换这里的家！这叫人如何忍受？若是他为了哈丽特而离开他们；若是将来人们提起他时，都认为他在哈丽特的陪伴中找到了人生所求的一切；若是哈丽特真成了他的选择，成为他生命中首位、最珍爱、最知心的伴侣，成为他寄予所有幸福期望的妻子——那么除了那个始终萦绕心头的念头之外，还有什么能加剧爱玛的痛苦呢？这一切全是她亲手造成的啊。

When it came to such a pitch as this, she was not able to refrain from a start, or a heavy sigh, or even from walking about the room for a few seconds—and the only source whence anything like consolation or composure could be drawn, was in the resolution of her own better conduct, and the hope that, however inferior in spirit and gaiety might be the following and every future winter of her life to the past, it would yet find her more rational, more

事情发展到这个地步，她不由得浑身一颤，重重叹了口气，甚至在屋里来回踱步了几秒钟——而唯一能带来些许慰藉与平静的源泉，便是她立志改善自身行为的决心。她怀着这样的希望：尽管今后每个冬天的精神与欢愉都比不上往昔，但往后的岁月会让她变得更明事理，更

acquainted with herself, and leave her less to 了解自己，待到岁月流逝时，
regret when it were gone. 也能让她少些追悔。

CHAPTER XIII

第十三章

The weather continued much the same all the following morning; and the same loneliness, and the same melancholy, seemed to reign at Hartfield—but in the afternoon it cleared; the wind changed into a softer quarter; the clouds were carried off; the sun appeared; it was summer again. With all the eagerness which such a transition gives, Emma resolved to be out of doors as soon as possible. Never had the exquisite sight, smell, sensation of nature, tranquil, warm, and brilliant after a storm, been more attractive to her. She longed for the serenity they might gradually introduce; and on Mr. Perry's coming in soon after dinner, with a disengaged hour to give her father, she lost no time in hurrying into the shrubbery. — There, with spirits freshened, and thoughts a little relieved, she had taken a few turns, when she saw Mr. Knightley passing through the garden door, and coming towards her. — It was the first intimation of his being returned

翌日上午，天气依旧如昨，哈特菲尔德宅邸里弥漫着同样的孤寂与忧郁。但到了午后，云开雾散，风势转柔，阳光破云而出，夏日重临大地。这般天气转晴带来的雀跃，使爱玛决意要立刻到户外去。风雨过后那份宁静、温煦、绚烂的自然景致——那赏心悦目的色彩、沁人心脾的气息、令人舒畅的感触，从未像此刻这般令她神往。她渴望这恬静景致能渐渐抚平心绪。佩里先生刚用过正餐便来了，正好有一小时空闲陪她父亲闲谈，她便毫不耽搁地匆匆走进灌木丛。在那里呼吸着清新空气，思绪稍得宽解，才徘徊了几圈，便望见奈特利先生穿过园门朝她走来——这方知他已从伦敦归来。片

from London. **She** had been thinking of him the moment before, as unquestionably sixteen miles distant. —**There** was time only for the quickest arrangement of mind. **She** must be collected and calm. **In** half a minute they were together. **The** “How d’ye do’s” were quiet and constrained on each side. **She** asked after their mutual friends; they were all well. — **When** had he left them? —**Only** that morning. **He** must have had a wet ride. —**Yes.** — **He** meant to walk with her, she found. “**He** had just looked into the dining-room, and as he was not wanted there, preferred being out of doors.” —**She** thought he neither looked nor spoke cheerfully; and the first possible cause for it, suggested by her fears, was, that he had perhaps been communicating his plans to his brother, and was pained by the manner in which they had been received.

刻前她还在惦念着他，认定他必在十六英里之外。此刻唯有急速整饬心神，务必要显得从容镇静。半分钟后两人便相聚一处，彼此间“近日可好”的问候显得平淡而拘谨。她问起共同友人们的近况，得知众皆安好。又问他何时离开伦敦——“今晨方归”。路上定然遇雨了吧——“正是”。她察觉他是特意来陪她散步的，因听他说道：“我刚去餐室张望过，见那里无需作陪，倒不如到户外走走。”她见他神色言语间都带着郁结，心中最先掠过的担忧便是：或许他已将计划告知兄长，却因对方反应不如预期而深感痛心。

They walked together. **He** was silent. **She** thought he was often looking at her, and trying for a fuller view of her face than it suited her to give. **And** this belief produced another dread. **Perhaps** he wanted to speak to her, of his attachment to Harriet; he might be watching

他们一同走着。他一言不发。她觉得他时常在看她，并且试图更清楚地端详她的面容，这叫她颇不自在。这个念头又引起另一重忧虑。或许他想和她谈谈他对哈丽特的

for encouragement to begin. —**She** did not, 爱慕；他或许正在等待鼓励
could not, feel equal to lead the way to any such 好开口——她觉得自己没有
subject. **He** must do it all himself. **Yet** she 力量，也没有勇气率先引出
could not bear this silence. **With** him it was 这个话题。这一切必须由他
most unnatural. **She** considered—resolved— 自己来做。然而她又无法忍
and, trying to smile, began— 受这样的沉默。这在他是最
不自然的。她思索着——下定决心——便强作笑颜，开口说道——

“**You** have some news to hear, now you are 你这一回来，可要听到一件
come back, that will rather surprize you.” 让你相当吃惊的新闻呢。

“**Have I?** ”**said** he quietly, and looking at her; “是吗?”他平静地说道，一面
“of what nature? ” 注视着她，“是什么性质的事呢?”

“**Oh!** the best nature in the world—a wed- “哦！世上最美好的事——一
ding.” 场婚礼。”

After waiting a moment, as if to be sure she 稍等片刻，仿佛要确认她确
intended to say no more, he replied, 实无话可说了，他才答道：

“**If** you mean Miss Fairfax and Frank “倘若你指的是费尔法克斯
Churchill, I have heard that already.” 小姐和弗兰克·邱吉尔先生，
这事我早有耳闻。”

“**How** is it possible? ”**cried** Emma, turning “这怎么可能呢?”爱玛嚷道，

her glowing cheeks towards him; for, while she spoke, it occurred to her that he might have called at Mrs. **Goddard's** in his way. 把涨得通红的脸转向他；原来她一面说话的时候，一面想到他也许顺路到高达德太太家去拜访了一下。

“I had a few lines on parish business from Mr. **Weston** this morning, and at the end of them he gave me a brief account of what had happened.”

Emma was quite relieved, and could presently say, with a little more composure,

“You probably have been less surprised than any of us, for you have had your suspicions. —I have not forgotten that you once tried to give me a caution. —I wish I had attended to it—but—(with a sinking voice and a heavy sigh) I seem to have been doomed to blindness.”

For a moment or two nothing was said, and she was unsuspecting of having excited any particular interest, till she found her arm drawn within his, and pressed against his heart, and heard him thus saying, in a tone of great sensibility, speaking low,

“今早我收到韦斯顿先生关于教区事务的几行字笺，他在末尾简略告知了事情经过。”

爱玛顿感释然，这才稍定心神说道：

“你大概比我们谁都少些惊讶，因为你一向就有所猜疑。——我至今还记得你有一回想要提醒我。——我悔不该当初没有留意——可是——(声音低沉地一叹) 我仿佛注定是瞎了眼睛的。”

一时间，两人都沉默不语。她并未察觉自己引起了什么特别的关注，直到他轻轻将她的手臂挽入自己臂弯，紧紧贴在他心口。这时她才听见他用充满深情的声音低语道

“**T**ime, my dearest Emma, time will heal the wound. —**Y**our own excellent sense—your exertions for your father’s sake—I know you will not allow yourself—.” **H**er arm was pressed again, as he added, in a more broken and subdued accent, “The feelings of the warmest friendship—Indignation—Abominable scoundrel!” —**A**nd in a louder, steadier tone, he concluded with, “He will soon be gone. **T**hey will soon be in Yorkshire. I am sorry for her. **S**he deserves a better fate.”

“时间，我最亲爱的爱玛，时间会治愈创伤——你卓越的理智，为你父亲所做的种种努力——我知道你不会让自己沉溺于——”他更紧地握住她的手臂，用愈发断续压抑的声调补充道：“这炽热的友情——愤怒——卑鄙的无赖！”随后提高音量，以沉稳的语调结束这番话：“他很快就要离开。他们不久便会去约克郡。我替她感到难过。她本应得到更好的归宿。”

Emma understood him; and as soon as she could recover from the flutter of pleasure, excited by such tender consideration, replied,

爱玛明白了他的意思；她心头涌起一阵喜悦的波澜，因这体贴入微的关怀而悸动不已，待稍稍平复心绪便答道：

“**Y**ou are very kind—but you are mistaken—and I must set you right. —I am not in want of that sort of compassion. **M**y blindness to what was going on, led me to act by them in a way that I must always be ashamed of, and I

“您真是太好了——但您误会了——我必须纠正您。我并不需要那种怜悯。我先前对正在发生的事视而不见，导致自己做出那些永远该为

was very foolishly tempted to say and do many things which may well lay me open to unpleasant conjectures, but I have no other reason to regret that I was not in the secret earlier. ”

之羞愧的举动。当时我愚蠢地受诱惑说了许多话、做了许多事，足以招致令人不快的揣测——但除了未能早些知情之外，我实在没有其他值得懊悔的理由。”

“Emma! ”cried he, looking eagerly at her, “are you, indeed? ”—but checking himself—“No, no, I understand you—forgive me—I am pleased that you can say even so much. —He is no object of regret, indeed! and it will not be very long, I hope, before that becomes the acknowledgment of more than your reason. —Fortunate that your affections were not farther entangled! —I could never, I confess, from your manners, assure myself as to the degree of what you felt—I could only be certain that there was a preference—and a preference which I never believed him to deserve. —He is a disgrace to the name of man. —And is he to be rewarded with that sweet young woman? —Jane, Jane, you will be a miserable creature. ”

“爱玛！”他热切地望着她喊道，“真是这样吗？”——却又克制住自己——“不，不，我明白你的意思了——请原谅我——你能说出这番话已让我欣慰。——他确实不值得留恋！但愿不用太久，你内心深处的情感也能像理智这般认清现实。——幸好你没有陷得更深！——说实话，从你的态度我始终无法确定你用情多深——只能肯定你对他有所偏爱——而这种偏爱，我向来认为他根本不配。——他简直辱没了男子汉的声名。——难道竟要让他娶走那位可爱姑娘？——简啊简，你将来定会痛苦不堪。”

“Mr. Knightley,” said Emma, trying to be lively, but really confused—“I am in a very extraordinary situation. I cannot let you continue in your error; and yet, perhaps, since my manners gave such an impression, I have as much reason to be ashamed of confessing that I never have been at all attached to the person we are speaking of, as it might be natural for a woman to feel in confessing exactly the reverse.—But I never have.”

“奈特利先生，”爱玛强作欢快地说，实则心乱如麻，“我此刻的处境实在非同寻常。我不能让您继续误解下去；可话说回来，既然我的举止给人这般印象，那么坦白承认自己从未对谈及的那位先生生过情——这本该是女子坦言相反心意时才该有的自然反应——倒叫我同样该感到羞愧了。但我确实从未动心。”

He listened in perfect silence. She wished him to speak, but he would not. She supposed she must say more before she were entitled to his clemency; but it was a hard case to be obliged still to lower herself in his opinion. She went on, however.

他默默倾听着，一言不发。她希望他能开口，他却始终沉默。她想自己必须再说些什么，才能获得他的宽宥；可要她继续在他心目中贬低自己，终究是件难堪的事。然而她还是说了下去。

“I have very little to say for my own conduct. —I was tempted by his attentions, and allowed myself to appear pleased. —An old story, probably—a common case—and no more than has happened to hundreds of my sex before; “我实在无法为自己的行为辩解——我被他殷勤的态度所诱惑，竟放任自己流露出欣喜之情。这大概是个老掉牙的故事——寻常得很——

and yet it may not be the more excusable in one who sets up as I do for Understanding. **Many** circumstances assisted the temptation. **He** was the son of Mr. **Weston**—**he** was continually here—I always found him very pleasant—and, in short, for (with a sigh) let me swell out the causes ever so ingeniously, they all centre in this at last—my vanity was flattered, and I allowed his attentions. **Latterly**, however—for some time, indeed—I have had no idea of their meaning any thing. —**I** thought them a habit, a trick, nothing that called for seriousness on my side. **He** has imposed on me, but he has not injured me. **I** have never been attached to him. **And** now I can tolerably comprehend his behaviour. **He** never wished to attach me. **It** was merely a blind to conceal his real situation with another. —**It** was his object to blind all about him; and no one, I am sure, could be more effectually blinded than myself—except that I was not blinded—that it was my good fortune—that, in short, I was somehow or other safe from him.”

在我之前早有成百上千的女性经历过；但对我这样自诩明理的人而言，却未必更能获得宽宥。诸多境况都助长了这种诱惑。他是韦斯顿先生的儿子——他时常来此做客——我始终觉得他讨人喜欢——总之（轻叹一声），纵使我再如何巧妙地为自己的行为开脱，归根结底都指向一点——我的虚荣心得到了满足，便默许了他的殷勤。然而近来——其实有段时日了——我全然未察觉这些举动有何深意。我以为这只是他的习惯，是他的伎俩，根本不值得我认真对待。他确实蒙蔽了我，但并未伤害我。我从未对他动过真情。如今我总算能稍许理解他的所作所为了。他从未想过要与我缔结良缘。这不过是遮掩他另有所属的烟幕弹——他的目的就是要蒙蔽周遭所有人；而我确信，再没有人比我更深

陷其中了——除却一点：我终究不曾真正迷失——这实属我的幸运——总而言之，我不知怎的竟得以从他布下的罗网中脱身。”

She had hoped for an answer here—for a few words to say that her conduct was at least intelligible; but he was silent; and, as far as she could judge, deep in thought. **At** last, and tolerably in his usual tone, he said,

她原指望能得到一句回应——哪怕只是寥寥数语，说明她的行为至少是可以理解的；但他始终沉默着，而且据她判断，正陷入深深的沉思。**最后**，他用相当平常的语调开口说道：

“**I** have never had a high opinion of Frank Churchill. —**I** can suppose, however, that I may have underrated him. **My** acquaintance with him has been but trifling. —**And** even if I have not underrated him hitherto, he may yet turn out well. —**With** such a woman he has a chance. —**I** have no motive for wishing him ill—and for her sake, whose happiness will be involved in his good character and conduct, I shall certainly wish him well.”

“我对弗兰克·邱吉尔向来评价不高——不过或许我低估了他。我与他的交情实在浅薄。即便我此前并未低估他，他终究也可能变得出色。有那样一位女子相伴，他确实有机会改过。我没有任何盼他不好的理由——为了她，她的幸福将系于他的品德与言行，我定会诚心盼他好。”

“**I** have no doubt of their being happy to-

”我毫不怀疑他们在一起会

gether," said Emma; "I believe them to be very happy, " said Emma; "I believe them to be very happy, " she said, " I believe they are very sincerely attached. " They are very sincerely attached. "

"He is a most fortunate man! " returned Mr. Knightley, with energy. "So early in life—at three-and-twenty—a period when, if a man chuses a wife, he generally chuses ill. At three-and-twenty to have drawn such a prize! What years of felicity that man, in all human calculation, has before him! —Assured of the love of such a woman—the disinterested love, for Jane Fairfax's character vouches for her disinterestedness; every thing in his favour,—equality of situation—I mean, as far as regards society, and all the habits and manners that are important; equality in every point but one—and that one, since the purity of her heart is not to be doubted, such as must increase his felicity, for it will be his to bestow the only advantages she wants. —A man would always wish to give a woman a better home than the one he takes her from; and he who can do it, where there is no doubt of her regard, must, I think, be the happiest of mortals. —Frank Churchill is, indeed, the favourite of fortune. Every

“他真是个幸运儿！”奈特利先生激动地回应道，“这么年轻——才二十三岁——这个年纪的男人若选择妻子，往往眼光欠佳。二十三岁就能赢得这样的珍宝！按常理推算，这个人未来该有多少年的幸福光景啊！——能确信获得这样一位女子的爱情，而且是无私的爱情，因为简·费尔法克斯的品格足以担保她的无私；所有条件都对他有利——地位相当，我指的是就社交圈而言，以及所有重要的生活习惯和礼仪；除了某一点之外完全平等——而这一点，既然她心灵的纯洁毋庸置疑，反而会增添她的幸福，因为这将由他赐予她唯一欠缺的优越条件。男人总希望给妻子一个比原生家庭更美满的家园；当确信

thing turns out for his good. —**H**e meets with a young woman at a watering-place, gains her affection, cannot even weary her by negligent treatment—and had he and all his family sought round the world for a perfect wife for him, they could not have found her superior.

—**H**is aunt is in the way. —**H**is aunt dies. —**H**e has only to speak. —**H**is friends are eager to promote his happiness. —**H**e had used every body ill—and they are all delighted to forgive him. —**H**e is a fortunate man indeed!

”

“**Y**ou speak as if you envied him. ”

“**A**nd I do envy him, Emma. **I**n one respect he is the object of my envy. ”

获得她的真情时，能实现这个愿望的人，想必是世间最幸福的凡人。——弗兰克·丘吉尔确实是命运的宠儿。**万事**皆为他造福。——他在温泉胜地邂逅一位年轻女子，赢得她的芳心，即便怠慢相待也未曾令她生厌——即便他和家人踏遍世界为他寻找完美妻子，也不可能找到比她更出众的人。——原本有姑妈阻挠。——姑妈离世了。——他只需开口表白。——亲友们热切促成他的幸福。——他曾亏待过所有人——而大家却都欣然原谅他。——他当真是个幸运儿！”

“听你这话，倒像是羡慕他似的。”

“我真羡慕他呢，爱玛。在某一方面，他确实是我羡慕的对象。”

Emma could say no more. **They** seemed to 爱玛一时语塞。他们仿佛再
be within half a sentence of Harriet, and her 有半句话就要扯到哈丽特身
immediate feeling was to avert the subject, if 上，她顿时觉得必须尽可能
possible. **She** made her plan; she would speak 避开这个话题。她打定主意
of something totally different—the children in 要说些全然不相干的事——
Brunswick Square; and she only waited for 比如不伦瑞克广场的孩子们；她刚缓过气要开口，奈
breath to begin, when Mr. **Knightley** star- 特利先生却突然说道：
tled her, by saying,

“**You** will not ask me what is the point of envy. —**You** are determined, I see, to have no cu- “你也不会问我嫉妒从何而
riosity. —**You** are wise—but I cannot be 起。——我看你是打定主意不好奇了。——你很明智
wise. **Emma**, I must tell you what you will —可我却明智不了。爱玛，
not ask, though I may wish it unsaid the next 我得告诉你你不想问的事，
moment.” 尽管我可能话一出口就后悔。”

“**Oh! then**, don’t speak it, don’t speak it,” she “哦！那就别说了，千万别说了，”她急切地喊道，“先缓一
eagerly cried. “**Take** a little time, consider, do 缓，仔细想想，别急着表态。”
not commit yourself.”

“**Thank** you,” said he, in an accent of deep “多谢，”他说道，语气里带着
mortification, and not another syllable fol- 深切的屈辱，便再没有吐露
lowed. 只言片语。

Emma could not bear to give him pain. **He** 爱玛不忍心让他痛苦。他渴
was wishing to confide in her—perhaps to con- 望向她倾诉——或许是想征

sult her;—cost her what it would, she would listen. **She** might assist his resolution, or reconcile him to it; she might give just praise to Harriet, or, by representing to him his own independence, relieve him from that state of indecision, which must be more intolerable than any alternative to such a mind as his. —**They** had reached the house.

求她的意见；无论付出什么代价，她都愿意倾听。**她**或许能帮助他下定决心，或者让他安于现状；她可以恰如其分地赞美哈丽特，或者通过提醒他保持独立自主，将他从优柔寡断的困境中解救出来——对于他这样心性的人而言，这种犹豫不决必定比任何抉择都更难忍受。——这时他们已走到了房前。

“**You** are going in, I suppose? ”**said** he.

“我想，您要进去了吧？”他说道。

“**No,**”—**replied** Emma—quite confirmed by the depressed manner in which he still spoke —“I should like to take another turn. **Perry** is not gone. ”**And**, after proceeding a few steps, she added—“I stopped you ungraciously, just now, Mr. **Knightley**, and, I am afraid, gave you pain. —**But** if you have any wish to speak openly to me as a friend, or to ask my opinion of any thing that you may have in contemplation—as a friend, indeed, you may command me. —**I** will hear

“不，”爱玛回答——见他说话时仍带着沮丧的语气，她便更坚定了——“我想再走一圈。**佩里**先生还没走呢。”往前走了几步后，她又说道：“奈特利先生，我刚才失礼地拦住了您，恐怕让您难过了。但倘若您愿意像朋友般对我开诚布公，或是想就您正在考虑的事情征询我的意见——作为真正的朋友，

whatever you like. I will tell you exactly what 您尽管吩咐我。您想说什么
I think.” 我都愿意听，也定会如实相告。”

“As a friend!”—repeated Mr. Knightley. “作为一个朋友！”奈特利先
—“Emma, that I fear is a word—No, I have 生重复道，“爱玛，恐怕这个
no wish—Stay, yes, why should I hesitate? — 说法——不，我并不想——
I have gone too far already for concealment. 等等，是的，我何必犹豫呢？
—Emma, I accept your offer—Extraordinary 我既已说到这个地步，再隐
as it may seem, I accept it, and refer myself to 瞒反倒虚伪了。爱玛，我接
you as a friend. —Tell me, then, have I no 受你的提议——尽管这听起来
chance of ever succeeding?” 多么不可思议，我还是要接受，就让我以朋友的身份
向你倾诉吧。那么请告诉我，难道我永远没有成功的希望了吗？”

He stopped in his earnestness to look the question, and the expression of his eyes overpowered her.

他急切地停下脚步，用目光追问着这个问题，那眼神里的情意让她招架不住。

“My dearest Emma,” said he, “for dearest you will always be, whatever the event of this hour’s conversation, my dearest, most beloved Emma—tell me at once. Say ‘No,’ if it is to be said.” —She could really say nothing.

“我最亲爱的爱玛，”他说 道，“无论此刻谈话的结果如何，你永远是我最亲爱的人，我最亲爱的、最心爱的爱玛——立刻告诉我吧。倘

— “**You** are silent,” he cried, with great animation; “absolutely silent! **at** present I ask no more. ”

若注定要说‘不’，就请直说。”——她实在说不出话来。“你沉默不语，”他激动地大声说道，“完全沉默！眼下我不再多问了。”

Emma was almost ready to sink under the agitation of this moment. **The** dread of being awakened from the happiest dream, was perhaps the most prominent feeling.

爱玛几乎要被此刻的悸动压垮。唯恐从最甜美的梦境中惊醒，这大概是她此刻最鲜明的心绪。

“I cannot make speeches, Emma:” he soon resumed; and in a tone of such sincere, decided, intelligible tenderness as was tolerably convincing. — “If I loved you less, I might be able to talk about it more. **But** you know what I am. —**You** hear nothing but truth from me. —I have blamed you, and lectured you, and you have borne it as no other woman in England would have borne it. —**Bear** with the truths I would tell you now, dearest Emma, as well as you have borne with them. **The** manner, perhaps, may have as little to recommend them. **God** knows, I have been a very indifferent lover. —**But** you understand me. —**Yes**, you see, you understand my feelings—and will

“我不会说甜言蜜语，爱玛。”他很快又开口，语气里带着真挚、坚定而明晰的柔情，令人信服——“倘若我对你的爱意少几分，或许反倒能多说些漂亮话。可你深知我的为人——从我这里你只能听到真话。我曾责备你、规劝你，而全英格兰再没有第二个女子能像你这般容忍。——我最亲爱的爱玛，此刻我仍要对你说些逆耳忠言，但愿你像从前那般包容。或许我的表达方式依旧笨拙。天知道，我实在是个不解风情的爱人

return them if you can. **At** present, I ask only ——但你是懂我的。**是啊,**
to hear, once to hear your voice. ”**你明白我的心意——若你愿**

意, 也定会以同样的心意回
应。此刻, 我只求亲耳听你
说一句, 只听你说一句。”

While he spoke, Emma's mind was most busy, and, with all the wonderful velocity of thought, had been able—and yet without losing a word—to catch and comprehend the exact truth of the whole; to see that Harriet's hopes had been entirely groundless, a mistake, a delusion, as complete a delusion as any of her own—that Harriet was nothing; that she was every thing herself; that what she had been saying relative to Harriet had been all taken as the language of her own feelings; and that her agitation, her doubts, her reluctance, her discouragement, had been all received as dis- courage from herself. —**And** not only was there time for these convictions, with all their glow of attendant happiness; there was time also to rejoice that Harriet's secret had not escaped her, and to resolve that it need not, and should not. —**It** was all the service she could now render her poor friend; for as to 在他说话之际, 爱玛的思绪飞速运转, 以惊人的思考速度——却未曾漏听一字——已然捕捉并领悟了全部真相: 她明白哈丽特的希望全然是空中楼阁, 是误会, 是幻觉, 完全如同她自己先前的错觉一般——哈丽特根本无足轻重; 她自己才是真正的主角; 她方才关于哈丽特的种种言辞, 全被当作了她内心情感的剖白; 而她的激动、迟疑、抗拒与沮丧, 也全被解读成她自身的踌躇不决。这些顿悟伴随着炽热的欢欣涌上心头, 不仅让她有充分的时间消化, 更让她庆幸哈丽特的秘密未曾泄露, 并决心永远守住这个秘密——这是此刻她能为这位可怜友人做的唯

any of that heroism of sentiment which might have prompted her to entreat him to transfer his affection from herself to Harriet, as infinitely the most worthy of the two—or even the more simple sublimity of resolving to refuse him at once and for ever, without vouchsafing any motive, because he could not marry them both, Emma had it not. **She** felt for Harriet, with pain and with contrition; but no flight of generosity run mad, opposing all that could be probable or reasonable, entered her brain. **She** had led her friend astray, and it would be a reproach to her for ever; but her judgment was as strong as her feelings, and as strong as it had ever been before, in reprobating any such alliance for him, as most unequal and degrading. **Her** way was clear, though not quite smooth. —**She** spoke then, on being so entitled. —**What** did she say? —**Just** what she ought, of course. A lady always does. —**She** said enough to shew there need not be despair—and to invite him to say more himself. **He** _had_ despaired at one period; he had received such an injunction to caution and silence, as for the time crushed every hope;—

一补偿。至于那种可能促使她恳求对方将情感从自己身上转移到哈丽特那里的高尚情操（因她认定哈丽特远比她更配得上这份爱），或是更为单纯的决绝——因他不能同时娶她们二人便当即永远拒绝他而不作任何解释的凛然气度，爱玛丝毫不具备。**她**为哈丽特感到痛心与愧疚，但并未让疯狂的慷慨冲昏头脑，做出任何违背常理之事。**是**她误导了朋友，这将成为她永久的负疚；但她的理智与情感同样坚定，正如她始终认为的那样——这门亲事于他极不般配，更有辱他的身份。**前路**虽非坦途，方向却已明朗。**于是**当对方恳切相询时，她开口了——她说什么？自然是恰如其分的话。**淑女**向来如此。她的话既给予希望不至令人绝望，又引导他继续倾诉。**他**确实曾一度绝望——当时她

she had begun by refusing to hear him. —**The** change had perhaps been somewhat sudden;— her proposal of taking another turn, her renewing the conversation which she had just put an end to, might be a little extraordinary! —**She** felt its inconsistency; but Mr. **Knightley** was so obliging as to put up with it, and seek no farther explanation.

勒令他谨慎沉默，彻底击碎了他的期待；她起初拒绝听他表白。这转变或许略显突兀——她刚结束谈话又提议再走一圈，重新开启刚被中止的对话，确实有些异乎寻常！她觉察到其中的矛盾，但奈特利先生如此体贴地包容了这一切，未再深究。

Seldom, very seldom, does complete truth belong to any human disclosure; seldom can it happen that something is not a little disguised, or a little mistaken; but where, as in this case, though the conduct is mistaken, the feelings are not, it may not be very material. —**Mr. Knightley** could not impute to Emma a more relenting heart than she possessed, or a heart more disposed to accept of his.

人类在表露心迹时，鲜少能完全吐露真情实相；言语间难免稍加掩饰或略出差池，这本是常情。但像眼下这般，行为虽有偏差，情意却无虚假，倒也无伤大雅。奈特利先生对爱玛的估量恰如其分：她此刻柔软的心绪正堪承受他的情意，那心扉原就为他敞开着。

He had, in fact, been wholly unsuspicuous of his own influence. **He** had followed her into the shrubbery with no idea of trying it. **He** had come, in his anxiety to see how she bore Frank Churchill's engagement, with no selfish

事实上，他完全没有意识到自己的影响力。他随她走进灌木丛时，压根儿没想过要试探什么。他前来只是出于关切，想看看她对弗兰克·

view, no view at all, but of endeavouring, if she allowed him an opening, to soothe or to counsel her. —**The** rest had been the work of the moment, the immediate effect of what he heard, on his feelings. **The** delightful assurance of her total indifference towards Frank Churchill, of her having a heart completely disengaged from him, had given birth to the hope, that, in time, he might gain her affection himself;— but it had been no present hope—he had only, in the momentary conquest of eagerness over judgment, aspired to be told that she did not forbid his attempt to attach her. —**The** superior hopes which gradually opened were so much the more enchanting. —**The** affection, which he had been asking to be allowed to create, if he could, was already his! —**Within** half an hour, he had passed from a thoroughly distressed state of mind, to something so like perfect happiness, that it could bear no other name.

丘吉尔订婚的消息作何反应——不带半点私心，毫无企图，只想着若得她应允，或可劝慰开导一番。而后种种皆是情急之举，是听闻她心声后的自然流露。得知她对弗兰克·丘吉尔全然无意，那颗心完全未受羁绊，这令人欣喜的确认使他萌生希望：假以时日，或能赢得她的芳心——但这并非即刻可期的奢望，不过是急切一时压倒了理智，渴望听她说一句不反对他博取她的欢心。而逐渐展现的更大希望，才更令人心醉神迷——他方才恳请应允、欲悉心培育的情意，竟早已属于他了！不过半个时辰，他已从满心困顿转为近乎完美的幸福境地，除此再无更恰当的称谓。

Her change was equal. —**This** one half-hour had given to each the same precious certainty of being beloved, had cleared from each the same degree of ignorance, jealousy, or dis-

她的转变同样巨大。——这半个钟头里，两人都同样确信自己被对方深爱着，同样摆脱了长久以来的蒙昧、嫉

trust. —**O**n his side, there had been a long-standing jealousy, old as the arrival, or even the expectation, of Frank Churchill. —**H**e had been in love with Emma, and jealous of Frank Churchill, from about the same period, one sentiment having probably enlightened him as to the other. **I**t was his jealousy of Frank Churchill that had taken him from the country. —**T**he Box Hill party had decided him on going away. **H**e would save himself from witnessing again such permitted, encouraged attentions. —**H**e had gone to learn to be indifferent. —**B**ut he had gone to a wrong place. **T**here was too much domestic happiness in his brother's house; woman wore too amiable a form in it; Isabella was too much like Emma —differing only in those striking inferiorities, which always brought the other in brilliancy before him, for much to have been done, even had his time been longer. —**H**e had stayed on, however, vigorously, day after day—till this very morning's post had conveyed the history of Jane Fairfax. —**T**hen, with the gladness which must be felt, nay, which he did not scruple to feel, having never believed Frank 妒与猜疑。在他这一方，嫉妒早已生根——自弗兰克·丘吉尔将至未至之时便已萌芽。他爱上爱玛与嫉妒弗兰克·丘吉尔几乎同时发生，一种情愫照亮了另一种。正是这份嫉妒促使他离开乡间。博克斯山之游更坚定了他远走的决心。他不愿再目睹那些被默许甚至被鼓励的殷勤。他要去学会无动于衷——却选错了地方。兄长家中充盈着天伦之乐，女性形象都太过温婉；伊莎贝拉太像爱玛——偏偏处处不及爱玛的灵秀，反而让妹妹的身影更鲜明地浮现在眼前。尽管时日不长，这种对比已足够强烈。可他仍日复一日坚持逗留——直到今早的邮差送来简·费尔法克斯的讯息。那一刻，他心中涌起理所当然的欢欣——他从不认为弗兰克·丘吉尔配得上爱玛，此刻更毫无顾忌地为此庆幸。

Churchill to be at all deserving Emma, was there so much fond solicitude, so much keen anxiety for her, that he could stay no longer. **H**e had ridden home through the rain; and had walked up directly after dinner, to see how this sweetest and best of all creatures, faultless in spite of all her faults, bore the discovery.

但对爱玛的牵挂与担忧如潮水般涌来，令他再难停留。他冒雨策马而归，晚餐后便径直前来，只为探望这可爱的人儿——这集世间美好于一身的存在，纵然有瑕仍不失完美——如何承受这真相的冲击。

He had found her agitated and low. —**F**rank Churchill was a villain. —**H**e heard her declare that she had never loved him. **F**rank Churchill's character was not desperate. — **S**he was his own Emma, by hand and word, when they returned into the house; and if he could have thought of Frank Churchill then, he might have deemed him a very good sort of fellow.

他发现她心绪不宁、神情沮丧——弗兰克·丘吉尔真是个卑鄙小人——他亲耳听见她声称从未爱过那人。弗兰克·丘吉尔这人倒还不算无可救药。当他们回到屋内时，她依然是他亲手盟誓的爱玛；倘若那时他还能想起弗兰克·丘吉尔，或许会认为那家伙其实算个不错的人。

CHAPTER XIV

第十四章

What totally different feelings did Emma take back into the house from what she had brought out! —**s**he had then been only daring to hope for a little respite of suffering;—she was now

爱玛回到屋里时的心情与她出门时多么不同啊！——出去时，她只敢奢望能稍稍缓解痛苦——此刻却沉浸在极

in an exquisite flutter of happiness, and such happiness moreover as she believed must still be greater when the flutter should have passed away.

致的幸福悸动中，而且她相信，当这阵悸动平息后，这份幸福必将愈发醇厚。

They sat down to tea—the same party round the same table—how often it had been collected! —**and** how often had her eyes fallen on the same shrubs in the lawn, and observed the same beautiful effect of the western sun! —**But** never in such a state of spirits, never in any thing like it; and it was with difficulty that she could summon enough of her usual self to be the attentive lady of the house, or even the attentive daughter.

他们坐下来喝茶——还是原班人马围着那张桌子——这样的聚会已有过多少回！——她的目光曾多少回落 在草坪上那片灌木丛上，欣赏西沉夕阳那同样绚烂的余晖！——却从未像此刻这般 心潮澎湃，从未有过类似的心境；她几乎难以调动平日的从容，来扮演殷勤周到的女主人，甚至连做个体贴入微的女儿都显得力不从心。

Poor Mr. Woodhouse little suspected what was plotting against him in the breast of that man whom he was so cordially welcoming, and so anxiously hoping might not have taken cold from his ride. —**Could** he have seen the heart, he would have cared very little for the lungs; but without the most distant imagination of the impending evil, without the slight-

可怜的伍德豪斯先生丝毫未察觉，这位他热诚欢迎、并忧心忡忡地担心对方骑马着凉的客人，胸中正酝酿着针对他的计谋。倘若他能窥见那颗心的动向，便绝不会在意肺部的安危；然而他对迫近的祸事毫无预感，对两人神

est perception of any thing extraordinary in the looks or ways of either, he repeated to them very comfortably all the articles of news he had received from Mr. **Perry**, and talked on with much self-contentment, totally unsuspecting of what they could have told him in return.

色举止的异常也全未觉察，仍自得其乐地向他们复述着从佩里先生那里听来的种种消息，絮絮叨叨说得心满意足，全然不知对方本可向他透露怎样的真相。

As long as Mr. **Knightley** remained with them, Emma's fever continued; but when he was gone, she began to be a little tranquillised and subdued—and in the course of the sleepless night, which was the tax for such an evening, she found one or two such very serious points to consider, as made her feel, that even her happiness must have some alloy. **Her** father—and Harriet. **She** could not be alone without feeling the full weight of their separate claims; and how to guard the comfort of both to the utmost, was the question. **With** respect to her father, it was a question soon answered. **She** hardly knew yet what Mr. **Knightley** would ask; but a very short parley with her own heart produced the most solemn resolution of never quitting her father. —**She** even wept over the idea of it, as a sin of thought. **While** he lived, it must be only an engage-

只要奈特利先生与他们在一起，爱玛的激动情绪便持续着；但等他走后，她便开始平静和缓下来——整整一个不眠之夜，这个不眠之夜是那个晚会带来的后果，她发现有一两个非常严肃的问题需要考虑，让她感到甚至自己的幸福也必然带有瑕疵。她父亲——还有哈丽特。她不能独自一人而不感觉到他们各自的要求带来的全部压力；问题在于如何尽可能保护他们两人的舒适。关于她父亲，这问题很快就有了答案。**她**甚至还不知道奈特利先生会问什么，但是她在心里稍一思索，便作出了决不离开父亲的庄严决定。**她**甚

ment; but she flattered herself, that if divested of the danger of drawing her away, it might become an increase of comfort to him. —**H**ow to do her best by Harriet, was of more difficult decision;—how to spare her from any unnecessary pain; how to make her any possible atonement; how to appear least her enemy? —
On these subjects, her perplexity and distress were very great—and her mind had to pass again and again through every bitter reproach and sorrowful regret that had ever surrounded it. —**S**he could only resolve at last, that she would still avoid a meeting with her, and communicate all that need be told by letter; that it would be inexpressibly desirable to have her removed just now for a time from Highbury, and—indulging in one scheme more—nearly resolve, that it might be practicable to get an invitation for her to Brunswick Square. —**I**s-
abella had been pleased with Harriet; and a few weeks spent in London must give her some amusement. —**S**he did not think it in Harriet's nature to escape being benefited by novelty and variety, by the streets, the shops, and the children. —**A**t any rate, it would be a

至为产生离开他的念头而伤心落泪，认为那是一种罪恶的念头。只要他活着，她就只能保持订婚关系；但是她暗自对自己说，假如没有将她从他身边引诱开的危险，或许能增加他晚年的舒适。如何为哈丽特做到最好，则是个比较困难的决定——如何使她避免不必要的痛苦？如何对她作出补偿？如何尽量不显出与她为敌的样子？在这些问题上，她感到深深的困惑和苦恼，她的脑子里不得不一再重温所有那些令人痛苦的责备和遗憾。最后，她只能打定主意，仍然避免与她见面，要交流的内容均通过书信进行，现在要她离开海伯里一段时间是再好不过的事情，于是她几乎作出决定，设法从不伦瑞克广场搞到一份邀请。**伊莎贝拉**一直喜欢哈丽特，在伦敦住上几个星期肯定会让她感到愉

proof of attention and kindness in herself, from whom every thing was due; a separation for the present; an averting of the evil day, when they must all be together again.

快。她认为，以哈丽特的性格，新鲜感和多样化，街道、商店和孩子们准会让她感到喜悦。无论如何，那将证明她自己对她的关心和善意，因为她欠着她那么多情；暂时分别一段时间，避免她们重新相聚时那不可避免的难堪日子。

She rose early, and wrote her letter to Harriet; an employment which left her so very serious, so nearly sad, that Mr. **Knightley**, in walking up to Hartfield to breakfast, did not arrive at all too soon; and half an hour stolen afterwards to go over the same ground again with him, literally and figuratively, was quite necessary to reinstate her in a proper share of the happiness of the evening before.

她一早起身，给哈丽特写信；这件事做得她神情严肃，近乎悲伤起来，因此奈特利先生上哈特菲尔德来吃早饭时，并没有到得太早；饭后要偷出半个小时来陪他再走一趟，实地和象征性地重温一下昨晚走过的地方，这对恢复她昨晚的那份快乐心情，是完全必要的。

He had not left her long, by no means long enough for her to have the slightest inclination for thinking of any body else, when a letter was brought her from Randalls—a very thick letter; —she guessed what it must contain, and dep-

他离开她还不久——实在短得不足以让她产生丝毫想念别人的念头，这时兰德尔庄园便送来一封信——一封厚厚的信；她猜得出里面会写

recated the necessity of reading it. —**She** was now in perfect charity with Frank Churchill; she wanted no explanations, she wanted only to have her thoughts to herself—and as for understanding any thing he wrote, she was sure she was incapable of it. —**It** must be waded through, however. **She** opened the packet; it was too surely so;—a note from Mrs. **Weston** to herself, ushered in the letter from Frank to Mrs. **Weston**.

些什么，实在不愿拜读。此刻她对弗兰克·丘吉尔已毫无芥蒂；她不需要任何解释，只愿独自思忖——至于要理解他写的任何内容，她确信自己无能为力。然而这封信终究得硬着头皮读完。她拆开信封——果然不出所料——韦斯顿太太写给她的短笺，引出了弗兰克寄给韦斯顿太太的那封长信。

“I have the greatest pleasure, my dear Emma, in forwarding to you the enclosed. I know what thorough justice you will do it, and have scarcely a doubt of its happy effect. —I think we shall never materially disagree about the writer again; but I will not delay you by a long preface. —We are quite well. —This letter has been the cure of all the little nervousness I have been feeling lately. —I did not quite like your looks on Tuesday, but it was an ungenial morning; and though you will never own being affected by weather, I think every body feels a north-east wind. —I felt for your dear father very much in the storm of Tuesday afternoon

“我亲爱的爱玛，随信附上此函，心中不胜欢喜。深知你必能妥帖处置，对其圆满成效亦深信不疑——想来此后你我于作者一事上当无根本分歧。余不赘言，以免延宕。阖府安好。此函恰治愈了我近日些许忐忑——周二见你气色欠佳，然当日天气阴郁；虽你素来不认受天气影响，然东北风之凛冽，人皆共感。周二午后与昨晨风雨交加之际，我甚为令尊担忧，幸昨晚佩里先生告知未致贵体违

and yesterday morning, but had the comfort of 和，方得宽慰。”
hearing last night, by Mr. **Perry**, that it had
not made him ill.

“**Yours** ever, “A. W.”

你永远的，A. W.

[To Mrs. Weston_.]

[致韦斯顿太太。]

Windsor—July.

温莎——七月。

MY DEAR MADAM,

亲爱的夫人：

“**If** I made myself intelligible yesterday, this letter will be expected; but expected or not, I know it will be read with candour and indulgence. —**You** are all goodness, and I believe there will be need of even all your goodness to allow for some parts of my past conduct. —**But** I have been forgiven by one who had still more to resent. **My** courage rises while I write. **It** is very difficult for the prosperous to be humble. **I** have already met with such success in two applications for pardon, that I may be in danger of thinking myself too sure of yours, and of those among your friends who have had any ground of offence. —**You** must all endeavour to comprehend the exact nature 若是我昨日的表白尚称明晰，此信当在预料之中；然不论预料与否，我深知您必以宽厚之心展读。——您向来慈悲为怀，我深信即便倾尽您全部的美德，亦需用来宽宥我过往行止的某些部分。——然而我已被一位更该恨的人所宽恕。我书写时勇气渐生。顺遂之人实难保持谦卑。我已两度乞得宽宥，皆蒙应允，故不免担忧自己是否过于笃定能获得您及诸位友人的谅解——但凡曾因我而心生不快者。——务请诸

of my situation when I first arrived at Randas; you must consider me as having a secret which was to be kept at all hazards. **This** was the fact. **My** right to place myself in a situation requiring such concealment, is another question. **I** shall not discuss it here. **For** my temptation to think it a right, I refer every caviller to a brick house, sashed windows below, and casements above, in Highbury. **I** dared not address her openly; my difficulties in the then state of Enscombe must be too well known to require definition; and I was fortunate enough to prevail, before we parted at Weymouth, and to induce the most upright female mind in the creation to stoop in charity to a secret engagement. —**Had** she refused, I should have gone mad. —**But** you will be ready to say, what was your hope in doing this? —**What** did you look forward to? — **To** any thing, every thing—to time, chance, circumstance, slow effects, sudden bursts, perseverance and weariness, health and sickness. **Every** possibility of good was before me, and the first of blessings secured, in obtaining her promises of faith and correspondence. **If** you位体察我初访朗道斯时的处境；须知我当时怀揣着必须誓死守护的秘密。此乃实情。**至于**我是否有权置身于这等需要隐匿的境地，则另当别论。**此处**我不欲置辩。**若**有人诘问我何以“自认”有此权利，请其移步海伯里那幢砖屋，楼下是竖框窗，楼上为窗扉窗。**我**不敢公然向她表白；我在恩斯康伯宅第当时的处境所引发的种种困窘，诸位想必早已了然，无需赘言。**幸而**在威茅斯分别前，我终得说服那世间最正直的芳心，屈尊与我缔结隐秘婚约。——倘若她当时拒绝，我必会癫狂。——然您定要追问：此举所冀为何？——所图何在？——凡有所冀，皆在所求：时光、机缘、境遇、缓进之功、骤发之势、锲而不舍与心力交瘁、康健与疾病。**种种**良机俱在眼前，而首要之福祉已得——她应允以信

need farther explanation, I have the honour, 守与书信相托。若需更详尽
my dear madam, of being your husband's son, 的剖白，亲爱的夫人，我荣
and the advantage of inheriting a disposition to 幸地告知您：我乃尊夫之子，
hope for good, which no inheritance of houses 且承袭了永怀希冀的性情，
or lands can ever equal the value of. —See 这份禀赋远胜于房舍田产之
me, then, under these circumstances, arriving 继承。——请设想如此境遇
on my first visit to Randalls;—and here I am 下的我，初访朗道斯时的情
conscious of wrong, for that visit might have 形；——此处我自知有亏，因
been sooner paid. **You** will look back and 这本该是更早的拜访。您回
see that I did not come till Miss Fairfax was 溯往事便会发现，我直至费
in Highbury; and as you were the person 尔法克斯小姐抵达海伯里后
slighted, you will forgive me instantly; but I 才方现身；您既是受怠慢之
must work on my father's compassion, by re- 人，定会即刻宽恕我；然我
minding him, that so long as I absented myself 必须借由提醒家父来唤起他
from his house, so long I lost the blessing of 的慈心：我离家的时日，便
knowing you. **My** behaviour, during the very 是无缘结识您的时光。与您
happy fortnight which I spent with you, did 共度的那欢愉的半月里，我
not, I hope, lay me open to reprehension, ex- 之所为，窃以为除却一事，当
cepting on one point. **And** now I come to the 不致招致责难。此刻我便要
principal, the only important part of my con- 谈及那段时日里最紧要、唯
duct while belonging to you, which excites my 一需深自惴惴并恳切陈情的
own anxiety, or requires very solicitous expla- 行止。我怀着至高的敬意与
nation. **With** the greatest respect, and the 最炽热的友情提及伍德豪斯
warmest friendship, do I mention Miss Wood- 小姐；家父或以为我当附上
house; my father perhaps will think I ought 最深切的愧怍。——他昨日

to add, with the deepest humiliation. —**A**寥寥数语已道出其见解，我承认理应受些责备。——我待伍德豪斯小姐的举止，恐已逾越分寸。**为**维系于我至关重要的隐秘，我不得不恣意利用了我们骤然建立的亲密关系。**我**无法否认伍德豪斯小姐是我表面追求的目标——但我深信您必会认同此言：若非确知她心无所属，我断不会为私欲所驱而至此。——伍德豪斯小姐虽温婉可人，却从未令我觉其是易陷入情网的女子；她绝无倾心于我的可能，既是我所确信，亦是我所企盼。——她以从容、友善、愉悦的诙谐接纳我的殷勤，正合我意。**我们**似心意相通。**以**我们相对的身份，这些殷勤是她应得之礼，众人亦作如是观。——那半月将尽时，伍德豪斯小姐是否已真正识破我心，我不得而知；——只记得向她辞行之际，我几欲吐露真相，当时便

—**She** received my attentions with an easy, friendly, goodhumoured playfulness, which exactly suited me. **We** seemed to understand each other. **From** our relative situation, those attentions were her due, and were felt to be so.

—**Whether** Miss Woodhouse began really to

understand me before the expiration of that fortnight, I cannot say;—when I called to take leave of her, I remember that I was within a moment of confessing the truth, and I then fancied she was not without suspicion; but I have no doubt of her having since detected me, at least in some degree. —**She** may not have surmised the whole, but her quickness must have penetrated a part. **I** cannot doubt it. **You** will find, whenever the subject becomes freed from its present restraints, that it did not take her wholly by surprize. **She** frequently gave me hints of it. **I** remember her telling me at the ball, that I owed Mrs. **Elton** gratitude for her attentions to Miss Fairfax. —**I** hope this history of my conduct towards her will be admitted by you and my father as great extenuation of what you saw amiss. **While** you considered me as having sinned against Emma Woodhouse, I could deserve nothing from either. **Acquit** me here, and procure for me, when it is allowable, the acquittal and good wishes of that said Emma Woodhouse, whom I regard with so much brotherly affection, as to long to have her as deeply and as happily in

觉她并非毫无猜疑；但我确信她其后必已察觉端倪，至少部分如此。她未必猜透全盘，然以其慧心，必已窥见一斑。**我**对此深信不疑。待此事不再受当前束缚时，您将发现她并未全然意外。她常予我暗示。记得舞会上她便提醒我，应感激埃尔顿夫人对费尔法克斯小姐的关照。——愿您与家父能因我此番自白，而对您所见之过失略加宽宥。若您认定我辜负了爱玛·伍德豪斯，我便不配获得二位任何谅解。但求在此处还我清白，并在我获允之时，代我求得那位爱玛·伍德豪斯的宽恕与祝福——我对她怀着手足般的深情，殷切期盼她亦能如我一般，深陷爱河，幸福美满。——那半月间我所有乖张言行，您今已得钥匙。**我**心系海伯里，所图无非是尽可能常使躯壳前往，且不惹疑窦。若您忆

love as myself. —**Whatever** strange things I said or did during that fortnight, you have now a key to. **My** heart was in Highbury, and my business was to get my body thither as often as might be, and with the least suspicion. **If** you remember any queernesses, set them all to the right account. —**Of** the pianoforte so much talked of, I feel it only necessary to say, that its being ordered was absolutely unknown to Miss F—, who would never have allowed me to send it, had any choice been given her.

—**The** delicacy of her mind throughout the whole engagement, my dear madam, is much beyond my power of doing justice to. **You** will soon, I earnestly hope, know her thoroughly yourself. —**No** description can describe her. **She** must tell you herself what she is—yet not by word, for never was there a human creature who would so designedly suppress her own merit. —**Since** I began this letter, which will be longer than I foresaw, I have heard from her. —**She** gives a good account of her own health; but as she never complains, I dare not depend. **I** want to have your opinion of her looks. **I** know you will soon call on her; she is

起任何古怪之处，皆可归因于此。——至于那架备受议论的钢琴，我以为只需申明：订购之事费尔法克斯小姐全然不知，她若有选择余地，断不容我相赠。——订婚期间她心思之缜密，亲爱的夫人，实非我拙笔所能尽述。我热切期盼您不久便能亲自深入了解她。——任何描述皆难绘其真貌。须由她亲自向您展现——然非凭言语，因从未有人如她这般刻意敛藏自身美德。——动笔时未料此信竟如此冗长，书写间刚收到她的来信。她自述安好，然因她从不抱怨，我不敢尽信。亟盼知您对她气色的评判。知您不久将往访；她正惴惴不安等候此访。或许您已去过。望即复，我渴盼万千细节。请念及我在朗道斯停留之短暂，心境之迷乱如狂；此刻我亦未好转，仍因极乐或苦痛而神思恍惚。思

living in dread of the visit. **Perhaps** it is paid 及所蒙恩宠、她的贤德与忍
already. **Let** me hear from you without de- 耐、舅父的慷慨，我便欣喜
lay; I am impatient for a thousand particulars. 若狂；然忆及我予她的种种
Remember how few minutes I was at Ran- 烦忧，及我之不堪受恕，又
dalls, and in how bewildered, how mad a state: 憤懣欲狂。但得再见她一面！
and I am not much better yet; still insane ei- ——然此刻尚不可妄求。舅
ther from happiness or misery. **When** I think 父待我太厚，我不可得寸进
of the kindness and favour I have met with, 尺。——对此长信尚需补充。
of her excellence and patience, and my uncle' 您所知尚未周全。昨日我未
s generosity, I am mad with joy: but when 能连贯陈述；此事爆发之突
I recollect all the uneasiness I occasioned her, 兀，从某方面看亦不合时宜，
and how little I deserve to be forgiven, I am 需得说明：虽如您所料，上月
mad with anger. **If** I could but see her again! 二十六日之事立时为我开启
—**But** I must not propose it yet. **My** un- 至福前景，我本不敢贸然如此急进，实因特殊境况迫我
cle has been too good for me to encroach.
—**I** must still add to this long letter. **You** 刻不容缓。我自身原亦怯于
have not heard all that you ought to hear. **I** 这般仓促，而她必会以加倍
could not give any connected detail yesterday; 的敏锐体察我的重重顾虑。
but the suddenness, and, in one light, the un- ——然我别无选择。她与那
seasonableness with which the affair burst out, 妇人所立草率之约——写至
needs explanation; for though the event of the 此，亲爱的夫人，我不得不戛
26th ult. , **as** you will conclude, immediately 然止笔，以平复心绪。——
opened to me the happiest prospects, I should 我已在乡间漫步良久，望此
not have presumed on such early measures, but 刻神思清明，足将此信后续
from the very particular circumstances, which 写得妥帖。——此番回顾于

left me not an hour to lose. I should myself 我实属难堪。我行止失当。
have shrunk from any thing so hasty, and she 此处我愿承认，我待伍德豪
would have felt every scruple of mine with mul- 斯小姐的举止令费尔法克斯
tiplied strength and refinement. —**But** I had 小姐不悦，确应受重责。她
no choice. **The** hasty engagement she had en- 不赞同此等行径——这本已
tered into with that woman—Here, my dear 足够。——她认为我以隐匿
madam, I was obliged to leave off abruptly, to 实情为由不足取。——她心
recollect and compose myself. —**I** have been 生不悦；我当时以为她不近
walking over the country, and am now, I hope, 情理：我觉她在诸多事上过
rational enough to make the rest of my let- 分谨慎猜疑；甚至以为她冷
ter what it ought to be. —**It** is, in fact, a 漠。然她始终是正确的。若
most mortifying retrospect for me. **I** behaved 我当时遵从她的判断，收敛
shamefully. **And** here I can admit, that my 心性以合其规范，便可避开
manners to Miss W., **in** being unpleasant to 平生最大的苦难。——我们
Miss F., **were** highly blameable. —**She** 争执起来。——您记得唐威
disapproved them, which ought to have been 尔宅第共度的那个上午吗？
enough. —**My** plea of concealing the truth —彼时所有积郁的不满终
she did not think sufficient. —**She** was dis- 至爆发。我迟到了；遇她独
pleased; I thought unreasonably so: I thought 行返家，欲与之同行，她却
her, on a thousand occasions, unnecessarily 坚拒。我当时认为这极不近
scrupulous and cautious: I thought her even 情理。而今看来，那不过是
cold. **But** she was always right. **If** I had fol- 极其自然且一贯的审慎。当
lowed her judgment, and subdued my spirits to 我为掩饰婚约，一时对另一
the level of what she deemed proper, I should 女子表现出惹嫌的亲昵时，
have escaped the greatest unhappiness I have 她岂能在下一刻应允那足以

ever known. —**W**e quarrelled. —**D**o you remember the morning spent at Donwell? —
There every little dissatisfaction that had occurred before came to a crisis. **I** was late; I met her walking home by herself, and wanted to walk with her, but she would not suffer it. **S**he absolutely refused to allow me, which I then thought most unreasonable. **N**ow, however, I see nothing in it but a very natural and consistent degree of discretion. **W**hile I, to blind the world to our engagement, was behaving one hour with objectionable particularity to another woman, was she to be consenting the next to a proposal which might have made every previous caution useless? —**H**ad we been met walking together between Donwell and Highbury, the truth must have been suspected. —**I** was mad enough, however, to resent. —**I** doubted her affection. **I** doubted it more the next day on Box Hill; when, provoked by such conduct on my side, such shameful, insolent neglect of her, and such apparent devotion to Miss W., as it would have been impossible for any woman of sense to endure, she spoke her resentment in a form of

令先前一切谨慎付诸东流的提议? ——若我们被人遇见并肩行于唐威尔与海伯里之间, 真相必遭疑猜。——然而我当时昏愦至极, 竟心生怨怒。——我疑她情薄。**次日**博克斯山之行, 此疑更甚; 当时我言行失当, 可耻地怠慢她, 公然向伍德豪斯小姐献媚——凡有识女子皆难容忍——她遂以清晰言辞表露愤懣。——总之, 亲爱的夫人, 这场争执她无过, 罪全在我。**我**当夜便返回里士满, 虽本可留至翌晨, 纯因欲与她赌气。**即便**那时, 我亦非愚钝至不图和解; 然我自视为受屈之人, 怨她冷漠, 决意要她先示软。——我永当庆幸您未参与博克斯山之游。**若**您亲见我当日行止, 恐再难垂青于我。**此事**对她的影响, 立时显现为一项决断: 她一知我确已离开朗道斯, 便接受了那位好事者埃尔顿夫人

words perfectly intelligible to me. —**I**n short, 的提议。顺言，埃尔顿夫人
my dear madam, it was a quarrel blameless 待她之种种，向来令我义愤
on her side, abominable on mine; and I re- 填膺。我自身既蒙如此宽宥，
turned the same evening to Richmond, though 不便苛责；然则，我定要大
I might have staid with you till the next morn- 声抗议那妇人所享的容忍。
ing, merely because I would be as angry with ———竟直呼”简”！——您
her as possible. **E**ven then, I was not such a 当留意，即便对您，我亦未
fool as not to mean to be reconciled in time; 敢贸然如此相称。试想，亲
but I was the injured person, injured by her 耳听闻埃尔顿夫妇以粗俗的
coldness, and I went away determined that she 重复、虚妄的优越感肆意呼
should make the first advances. —**I** shall al- 唤此名，我情何以堪。望您
ways congratulate myself that you were not of 耐心，即将终篇。——她接
the Box Hill party. **H**ad you witnessed my be- 受了那份差事，决意与我彻
haviour there, I can hardly suppose you would 底了断，次日便来信告知永
ever have thought well of me again. **I**ts effect 不再见。——”她深感此婚
upon her appears in the immediate resolution 约于彼此皆为悔恨与痛苦之
it produced: as soon as she found I was really 源：兹解除之。”——此信送
gone from Randalls, she closed with the offer of 达时，正值我可怜的舅母去
that officious Mrs. **E**lton; the whole system 世当晨。我一小时内即作复；
of whose treatment of her, by the bye, has ever 然因心绪纷乱，诸事猝至，我
filled me with indignation and hatred. **I** must 的回信未随当日众多函件一
not quarrel with a spirit of forbearance which 同寄出，反被锁入书桌。我自
has been so richly extended towards myself; 忒虽仅数行，已足令她释怀，
but, otherwise, I should loudly protest against 便未再挂心。——未速得回
the share of it which that woman has known. 音，我略感失望；但我为她

— ‘Jane,’ indeed! — You will observe that I have not yet indulged myself in calling her by that name, even to you. Think, then, what I must have endured in hearing it bandied between the Eltons with all the vulgarity of needless repetition, and all the insolence of imaginary superiority. Have patience with me, I shall soon have done. — She closed with this offer, resolving to break with me entirely, and wrote the next day to tell me that we never were to meet again. — She felt the engagement to be a source of repentance and misery to each: she dissolved it. — This letter reached me on the very morning of my poor aunt’s death. I answered it within an hour; but from the confusion of my mind, and the multiplicity of business falling on me at once, my answer, instead of being sent with all the many other letters of that day, was locked up in my writing-desk; and I, trusting that I had written enough, though but a few lines, to satisfy her, remained without any uneasiness. — I was rather disappointed that I did not hear from her again speedily; but I made

寻由开脱，且自身过于忙碌，再者——可否坦言？——过于乐观而不愿挑剔。——我们迁居温莎；两日后我收到她的包裹——我全部去信尽数退回！——同时附一短笺，言及她对未获只字回复深感诧异，并称此事上之沉默不容误解，既双方皆望尽早了结各项琐务，现经由稳妥途径退还我所有信函；若我一周内未能将其信函径送海伯里，则请此后转寄至——总之，斯莫里奇先生府上（近布里斯托尔）的详细地址赫然在目。我知其名，知其地，洞悉其谋，立时明了她的作为。这完全符合我素知的她那果决性情；她前信对此计划秘而不宣，亦足见其焦虑中的细致体贴。她绝不愿令我觉其有胁迫之意。——试想这打击之重；试想在我察明自身失误前，曾如何迁怒邮差之失。——当如何是好？——

excuses for her, and was too busy, and—may I add? —**too** cheerful in my views to be captious. —**We** removed to Windsor; and two days afterwards I received a parcel from her, my own letters all returned! —**and** a few lines at the same time by the post, stating her extreme surprize at not having had the smallest reply to her last; and adding, that as silence on such a point could not be misconstrued, and as it must be equally desirable to both to have every subordinate arrangement concluded as soon as possible, she now sent me, by a safe conveyance, all my letters, and requested, that if I could not directly command hers, so as to send them to Highbury within a week, I would forward them after that period to her at—: in short, the full direction to Mr. **Smallridge's**, near Bristol, stared me in the face. I knew the name, the place, I knew all about it, and instantly saw what she had been doing. It was perfectly accordant with that resolution of character which I knew her to possess; and the secrecy she had maintained, as to any such design in her former letter, was equally descriptive of its anx-

唯有一途。——我必须面禀舅父。**无其允准，休望再得她聆信。**——我陈情了；境况于我有利；新近变故已柔化他的固执，他较我预期更早地全然谅解并应允，最终，这可怜人！深叹一声，祝我婚姻生活如他一般美满。——我觉我的幸福将别有天地。

——您会因我向他坦白时的煎熬，及大局未定时的悬虑而怜恤我吗？——不；且待我抵达海伯里，亲见她因我而形容憔悴时再予怜恤吧。**且待我见她面色苍白、病容恹恹时再予怜恤吧。**我择日抵达海伯里，依其所惯迟的早餐时辰，确信多半能独遇她。

——我未失望；此番行程的最终目的亦未落空。**我须化解大量合情合理的怨愤。然终得功成；我们和解了，较以往更亲密，百倍亲密，往后不会有片刻芥蒂。**亲爱的夫人，我将就此搁笔，然

ious delicacy. **For** the world would not she have seemed to threaten me. —**Imagine** the shock; imagine how, till I had actually detected my own blunder, I raved at the blunders of the post. —**What** was to be done? —**One** thing only. —**I** must speak to my uncle. **Without** his sanction I could not hope to be listened to again. —**I** spoke; circumstances were in my favour; the late event had softened away his pride, and he was, earlier than I could have anticipated, wholly reconciled and complying; and could say at last, poor man! **with** a deep sigh, that he wished I might find as much happiness in the marriage state as he had done.

—**I** felt that it would be of a different sort. —

Are you disposed to pity me for what I must have suffered in opening the cause to him, for my suspense while all was at stake? —**No**; do not pity me till I reached Highbury, and saw how ill I had made her. **Do** not pity me till I saw her wan, sick looks. —**I** reached Highbury at the time of day when, from my knowledge of their late breakfast hour, I was certain of a good chance of finding her alone. —**I** was not disappointed; and at last I was not disap-

此前实难终篇。为您历来所赐厚爱，我感激不尽；更为您将倾心予她的关照，我叩谢万遍。——若您认为我幸福超乎所应得，我深以为然。——伍德豪斯小姐称我为幸运宠儿。望其所言不虚。——至少在一事上，我的好运确凿无疑，即能署名为您感恩图报的谦卑仆人 F. C. 韦斯顿·邱吉尔

pointed either in the object of my journey. **A** great deal of very reasonable, very just displeasure I had to persuade away. **But** it is done; we are reconciled, dearer, much dearer, than ever, and no moment's uneasiness can ever occur between us again. **Now**, my dear madam, I will release you; but I could not conclude before. **A** thousand and a thousand thanks for all the kindness you have ever shewn me, and ten thousand for the attentions your heart will dictate towards her. —**If** you think me in a way to be happier than I deserve, I am quite of your opinion. —**Miss W. calls** me the child of good fortune. **I** hope she is right. —**In** one respect, my good fortune is undoubted, that of being able to subscribe myself,

Your obliged and affectionate Son,

F. C. WESTON CHURCHILL.

CHAPTER XV

This letter must make its way to Emma's feelings. **She** was obliged, in spite of her previous determination to the contrary, to do it all the justice that Mrs. **Weston** foretold. **As**太太预料的那样，还它一个

您感恩而深情的儿子，

F · C · 韦斯顿 · 丘吉尔。

第十五章

这封信必然要打动爱玛的心。尽管先前打定主意不予理会，她却不得不照韦斯顿太太预料的那样，还它一个

soon as she came to her own name, it was irresistible; every line relating to herself was interesting, and almost every line agreeable; and when this charm ceased, the subject could still maintain itself, by the natural return of her former regard for the writer, and the very strong attraction which any picture of love must have for her at that moment. **She** never stopt till she had gone through the whole; and though it was impossible not to feel that he had been wrong, yet he had been less wrong than she had supposed—and he had suffered, and was very sorry—and he was so grateful to Mrs. **We-ston**, and so much in love with Miss Fairfax, and she was so happy herself, that there was no being severe; and could he have entered the room, she must have shaken hands with him as heartily as ever.

公道。一见到自己的名字，她就再也抗拒不了。每一行关于她的话都饶有趣味，几乎每一行都令人欣然。等到这股魔力过去之后，由于她先前对写信人的一片深情又自然而然地复萌了，加上当时任何描绘爱情的话都具有强烈的吸引力，她依然对写信的内容兴致勃勃。她一直把信看完，看得津津有味。虽说不可能不感到他做错了事，但是他的过错没有她想象的那么严重——他既吃了苦头，又感到后悔——再说，他也万分感激韦斯顿太太，十分挚爱费尔法克斯小姐，加上她自己眼下也很愉快，所以就没有那么耿耿于怀了。假若他这时走进屋来，她一定会像以前一样热情地同他握手。

She thought so well of the letter, that when Mr. **Knightley** came again, she desired him to read it. **She** was sure of Mrs. **Weston**'

她对此信极为满意，待奈特利先生再次登门时，便请他展读一观。她深信韦斯顿太

s wishing it to be communicated; especially to one, who, like Mr. **Knightley**, had seen so much to blame in his conduct. 太必定希望将此信公之于众，特别是要让奈特利先生这般曾屡次指摘其行为失当的人过目。

“I shall be very glad to look it over,” said he; “but it seems long. I will take it home with me at night.” “我很乐意拜读一下，”他说道，“不过这似乎挺长的。我晚上带回家去看吧。”

But that would not do. **Mr. Weston** was to call in the evening, and she must return it by him. 但这可不行。韦斯顿先生晚上要来拜访，她必须托他把书带回去。

“I would rather be talking to you,” he replied; “but as it seems a matter of justice, it shall be done.” 他答道：“我宁愿跟你谈谈；不过既然这像是件公道事，那就这么办吧。”

He began—stopping, however, almost directly to say, “Had I been offered the sight of one of this gentleman’s letters to his mother-in-law a few months ago, Emma, it would not have been taken with such indifference.” 他开了口——然而，几乎立刻又停住说道：“爱玛，若是几个月前有人让我看这位先生写给他岳母的信，我绝不会像现在这般无动于衷。”

He proceeded a little farther, reading to himself; and then, with a smile, observed, “Humph! a fine complimentary opening: But it is his way. **One** man’s style must not be the rule of

他又往前走了几步，自顾自地读着；然后含笑说道：“哼！好一段恭维的开场白。不过这就是他的风格。一个人的

another's. **We** will not be severe. ”

文风不能成为另一个人的准则。我们不必苛求。”

“**It** will be natural for me,” he added shortly afterwards, “to speak my opinion aloud as I read. **By** doing it, I shall feel that I am near you. **It** will not be so great a loss of time: but if you dislike it—”

”这对我来说是很自然的，”他随即补充道，”朗读时把想法说出来。这样做，我会觉得离你更近些。耽误不了多少时间——但倘若你觉得不妥——”

“**Not** at all. **I** should wish it. ”

“一点也不。我正求之不得呢。”

Mr. Knightley returned to his reading with greater alacrity.

奈特利先生重又捧起书来，精神比先前更足了。

“**He** trifles here,” said he, “as to the temptation. **He** knows he is wrong, and has nothing rational to urge. —**Bad.** —**He** ought not to have formed the engagement. — ‘**His** father’s disposition:’ — he is unjust, however, to his father. **Mr. Weston**’ s sanguine temper was a blessing on all his upright and honourable exertions; but **Mr. Weston** earned every present comfort before he endeavoured to gain it. — **Very** true; he did not come till Miss Fairfax was here. ”

“他这是在轻描淡写地谈论诱惑，”他说道，“他明知自己理亏，也找不出合乎情理的理由来辩解——实在恶劣。他本就不该许下这门亲事。至于‘他父亲的性情’——这说法对他父亲有失公允。韦斯顿先生乐观的性情确实助他成就了所有正直体面的事业，但韦斯顿先生是凭实力赢得今日的安乐，而非坐享

其成——说得极是；他直到费尔法克斯小姐来此之后才出现。”

“**And** I have not forgotten,” said Emma, “how sure you were that he might have come sooner if he would. **You** pass it over very handsomely —but you were perfectly right.”

“我也没忘记，”爱玛说，“你当时多么肯定地说，只要他愿意，他本可以早点来的。你这话说得非常得体——但你完全正确。”

“I was not quite impartial in my judgment, Emma:—but yet, I think—had you not been in the case—I should still have distrusted him.”

“我的判断并非全然公正，爱玛——不过我想——即使没有你牵涉其中——我依然会对他心存疑虑。”

When he came to Miss Woodhouse, he was obliged to read the whole of it aloud—all that related to her, with a smile; a look; a shake of the head; a word or two of assent, or disapprobation; or merely of love, as the subject required; concluding, however, seriously, and, after steady reflection, thus—

当他走到伍德豪斯小姐面前时，不得不把整封信都念出声来——凡是与她相关的段落，总要伴着微笑、眼神、摇头、一两句赞同或反对的点评，或是根据内容需要单纯流露爱慕之情。不过最后他严肃起来，经过一番沉静的思索，这样说道——

“**Very** bad—though it might have been worse. —**Playing** a most dangerous game. **Too**

糟透了——尽管本来可能更糟。——他玩的是一种最

much indebted to the event for his acquittal. 危险的把戏。能够脱罪实属
—**No** judge of his own manners by you. — 侥幸。——他根本不能通过
Always deceived in fact by his own wishes, 你来判断自己的举止。——
and regardless of little besides his own convenience. —**Fancying** you to have fathomed 事实上总是被自己的愿望
his secret. **Natural** enough! —**his** own mind 所蒙蔽，除了自身便利外什
full of intrigue, that he should suspect it in oth- 么都不顾及。——以为你已
ers. —**Mystery**; Finesse—how they pervert 经看透了他的秘密。这再自
the understanding! **My** Emma, does not every 然不过了！——他自己满腹
thing serve to prove more and more the beauty 诡计，自然怀疑别人也是如此。——故弄玄虚，工于心计
of truth and sincerity in all our dealings with —这些把戏多么容易扭曲
each other? ” 人的判断力啊！我的爱玛，这
一切难道不都在愈发证明，人与人交往时坦诚相待的美好可贵吗？”

Emma agreed to it, and with a blush of sensibility on Harriet's account, which she could not give any sincere explanation of.

爱玛同意了，想到哈丽特，脸上不禁泛起一阵红晕，她自己也无法真诚地解释这种感受。

“**You** had better go on,” said she.

“你最好还是说下去吧，”她说

He did so, but very soon stopt again to say, “the pianoforte! **Ah!** **That** was the act of a

他照办了，但很快又停下来，说道：“那架钢琴！啊！那真

very, very young man, one too young to consider whether the inconvenience of it might not very much exceed the pleasure. A boyish scheme, indeed! —I cannot comprehend a man's wishing to give a woman any proof of affection which he knows she would rather dispense with; and he did know that she would have prevented the instrument's coming if she could."

是一个极其年轻的年轻人的举动，年轻得全然不曾考虑这桩事带来的不便或许远甚于快乐。**十足的孩子气！**我实在无法理解，一个男子明知女子宁愿免除这种殷勤的表示，却偏要以此证明自己的爱慕；而他确实知道，倘若可能，她是会阻止那架钢琴送来的。”

After this, he made some progress without any pause. **Frank** Churchill's confession of having behaved shamefully was the first thing to call for more than a word in passing.

此后，他毫不间断地继续说了下去。**弗兰克·邱吉尔**承认自己行为可耻，这首先就值得好好议论一番。

"**I** perfectly agree with you, sir,"—was then his remark. "**You** did behave very shamefully. **You** never wrote a truer line." **And** having gone through what immediately followed of the basis of their disagreement, and his persisting to act in direct opposition to Jane Fairfax's sense of right, he made a fuller pause to say, "This is very bad. —**He** had induced her to place herself, for his sake, in a situation of extreme difficulty and uneasiness, and it should

“我完全同意您的看法，先生，”他随即说道，“您的行为确实极不光彩。您这句话说得再正确不过。”在剖析了两人分歧的根源，以及他如何执意违背简·费尔法克斯的是非观之后，他停顿片刻，更加沉痛地说：“这实在恶劣——他诱使对方为他的缘故陷入极端困窘的境地，而他

have been his first object to prevent her from suffering unnecessarily. —**She** must have had much more to contend with, in carrying on the correspondence, than he could. **He** should have respected even unreasonable scruples, had there been such; but hers were all reasonable. **We** must look to her one fault, and remember that she had done a wrong thing in consenting to the engagement, to bear that she should have been in such a state of punishment. ”

的首要责任本应是避免让她承受无谓的痛苦。维持这段通信关系时，她需要克服的困难远比他多。即便她有过分的顾虑，他也应当尊重，更何况她的顾虑全都合情合理。我们必须看到她的一个过错，记住她同意私定终身确实做了错事，由此才能理解她为何会陷入这般受罚的境地。”

Emma knew that he was now getting to the Box Hill party, and grew uncomfortable. **Her** own behaviour had been so very improper! **She** was deeply ashamed, and a little afraid of his next look. **It** was all read, however, steadily, attentively, and without the smallest remark; and, excepting one momentary glance at her, instantly withdrawn, in the fear of giving pain—no remembrance of Box Hill seemed to exist.

爱玛知道他此刻正读到博克斯山聚会那段，不由得局促起来。她自己的行为实在太不得体！她深感羞愧，又有些害怕看到他的下一个表情。然而他始终平稳而专注地读着，未作任何评论；除了因怕引起痛苦而迅速收回的短暂一瞥外，似乎对博克斯山的往事毫无记忆。

“**There** is no saying much for the delicacy of our good friends, the Eltons,” was his next observation. — “**His** feelings are natural. —

“我们那些好朋友埃尔顿夫妇的雅量，可真不敢恭维，”他接着说道。“他的感情是自

What! actually resolve to break with him entirely! —**She** felt the engagement to be a source of repentance and misery to each—she dissolved it. —**What** a view this gives of her sense of his behaviour! —**Well**, he must be a most extraordinary—”

然的。什么！居然决定跟他彻底决裂！她觉得订婚对双方都是懊恼和痛苦的根源——她解除了婚约。她对他的行为作何看法，由此可见一斑！唔，他一定是个极不寻常的人——”

“**Nay**, nay, read on. —**You** will find how very much he suffers. ”

“别，别停下，继续念吧——你会看到他有多么痛苦。”

“I hope he does,” replied Mr. **Knightley** coolly, and resuming the letter. “ ‘**Smallridge!** ’ —**What** does this mean? **What** is all this? ”

“但愿如此，”奈特利先生冷冷地应道，重新拾起信纸。“斯莫尔里奇！——这指的是什么？这究竟是怎么回事？”

“**She** had engaged to go as governess to Mrs. **Smallridge’s** children—a dear friend of Mrs. **Elton’s**—a neighbour of Maple Grove; and, by the bye, I wonder how Mrs. **Elton** bears the disappointment? ”

她已应允去斯莫尔里奇太太家当家庭教师——这位太太是埃尔顿夫人的挚友，住在枫林园附近。说来我倒想知道，埃尔顿夫人对这番失望作何感想？

“**Say** nothing, my dear Emma, while you oblige me to read—not even of Mrs. **Elton**. **Only** one page more. **I** shall soon have done. **What** a letter the man writes! ”

“我亲爱的爱玛，你让我读信的时候，请什么也别说——连埃尔顿太太也别提。只剩一页了，我马上就看完。这

人写的信可真够长的！”

“I wish you would read it with a kinder spirit towards him.”

“但愿你能以更宽容的心来读这封信，对他多几分体谅。”

“Well, there is feeling here. —He does seem to have suffered in finding her ill. —Certainly, I can have no doubt of his being fond of her. ‘Dearer, much dearer than ever. ’ I hope he may long continue to feel all the value of such a reconciliation. —He is a very liberal thank, with his thousands and tens of thousands. —‘Happier than I deserve. ’ Come, he knows himself there. ‘Miss Woodhouse calls me the child of good fortune. ’ —Those were Miss Woodhouse’s words, were they? —And a fine ending—and there is the letter. The child of good fortune! That was your name for him, was it?”

“唉，这里头倒真有几分真情实感——发现她病倒时，他确实显得痛苦万分。毫无疑问，他定是深爱着她的。比以往更珍贵，珍贵千万倍。但愿他永远珍视这般破镜重圆的缘分——他这感激之辞可真够贵重的，动辄便是成千上万。’比我应得的更幸福’。瞧，他倒有自知之明。’伍德豪斯小姐称我为幸运的宠儿，——这真是伍德豪斯小姐的原话？结尾写得真妙——信到此为止。幸运的宠儿！这雅号原是您赐予他的？”

“You do not appear so well satisfied with his letter as I am; but still you must, at least I hope you must, think the better of him for it. I hope it does him some service with you.”

“你似乎不像我这样满意他的信；不过你至少——我希望你至少——会因此对他印象好一些。我希望这封信能

让你对他有所改观。”

“Yes, certainly it does. He has had great faults, faults of inconsideration and thoughtlessness; and I am very much of his opinion in thinking him likely to be happier than he deserves: but still as he is, beyond a doubt, really attached to Miss Fairfax, and will soon, it may be hoped, have the advantage of being constantly with her, I am very ready to believe his character will improve, and acquire from hers the steadiness and delicacy of principle that it wants. And now, let me talk to you of something else. I have another person's interest at present so much at heart, that I cannot think any longer about Frank Churchill. Ever since I left you this morning, Emma, my mind has been hard at work on one subject.”

”确实如此。他犯过不少错，考虑不周、行事轻率的过错；在认为他可能比应得的更幸福这一点上，我十分赞同他的看法。不过既然他确实倾心于费尔法克斯小姐，而且很快——但愿如此——就能获得与她朝夕相处的良机，我完全相信他的品性会有所改善，从她那里习得他所欠缺的稳重与原则的雅正。现在，让我们谈谈别的事吧。此刻我心里装着另一个人的福祉，实在无法再继续思考弗兰克·丘吉尔了。爱玛，自从今晨与你分别后，我的思绪就始终萦绕在一个主题上。”

The subject followed; it was in plain, unaffected, gentlemanlike English, such as Mr. Knightley used even to the woman he was in love with, how to be able to ask her to marry him, without attacking the happiness of her father. Emma's answer was ready at the

话题随之展开；这番话用平实、真挚而绅士风度的英语道出——正是奈特利先生即便对心爱之人说话时也保持的措辞。他探讨如何在向她求婚的同时，不惊扰她父亲

first word. “**W**hile her dear father lived, any change of condition must be impossible for her. **S**he could never quit him. ”**P**art only of this answer, however, was admitted. **T**he impossibility of her quitting her father, Mr. **K**nightley felt as strongly as herself; but the inadmissibility of any other change, he could not agree to. **H**e had been thinking it over most deeply, most intently; he had at first hoped to induce Mr. **W**oodhouse to remove with her to Donwell; he had wanted to believe it feasible, but his knowledge of Mr. **W**oodhouse would not suffer him to deceive himself long; and now he confessed his persuasion, that such a transplantation would be a risk of her father’s comfort, perhaps even of his life, which must not be hazarded. **M**r. **W**oodhouse taken from Hartfield! —**N**o, he felt that it ought not to be attempted. **B**ut the plan which had arisen on the sacrifice of this, he trusted his dearest Emma would not find in any respect objectionable; it was, that he should be received at Hartfield; that so long as her father’s happiness—in other words, his life—required Hartfield to continue her home, it 的安宁。爱玛一听便立即回应：”只要她亲爱的父亲在世，她的处境就绝不能有任何改变。她永远不能离开他。”然而这个回答只有部分被接纳。她不能离开父亲——这点奈特利先生与她同样坚信不疑；但若说其他任何改变都不可行，他断不能同意。他曾经极其深刻、专注地思虑此事：最初曾希望说服伍德豪斯先生随她迁往唐维尔，一度以为这个方案可行，但深知伍德豪斯先生脾性的他很快清醒过来。此刻他坦承自己的判断——这样的迁居将会危及她父亲的安适，甚至可能危及生命，万万不可冒险。让伍德豪斯先生离开哈特菲尔德！不，他认为这个念头根本不该有。但在放弃这个方案后形成的新计划，他深信他最亲爱的爱玛绝不会反对——即由他迁入哈特菲尔德居住；只要她

should be his likewise.

父亲的幸福——换言之他的生命——还需要哈特菲尔德作为家园，这里也必将成为他的归宿。

Of their all removing to Donwell, Emma had already had her own passing thoughts. **Like** him, she had tried the scheme and rejected it; but such an alternative as this had not occurred to her. **She** was sensible of all the affection it evinced. **She** felt that, in quitting Donwell, he must be sacrificing a great deal of independence of hours and habits; that in living constantly with her father, and in no house of his own, there would be much, very much, to be borne with. **She** promised to think of it, and advised him to think of it more; but he was fully convinced, that no reflection could alter his wishes or his opinion on the subject. **He** had given it, he could assure her, very long and calm consideration; he had been walking away from William Larkins the whole morning, to have his thoughts to himself.

对于他们全家都搬到唐威尔去，爱玛自己也曾有过一闪而过的念头。和他一样，她也曾考虑过这个计划又打消了；但这样的变通办法却从未在她脑海中出现过。她体会得出这其中饱含的深情厚意。她感到，离开唐威尔，他必然要牺牲许多时间与习惯上的自主；长期与她父亲同住，又没有自己的宅子，其中会有许多、非常多的不便需要忍受。她答应会考虑这件事，也劝他再多加斟酌；但他深信不疑，任何深思熟虑都不会改变他在这件事上的心愿或主张。他可以向她保证，这件事他已经冷静地考虑了很长时间；他整个上午都在独自散步，就是为了能静心思考，特意避开了威廉·

拉金斯。

“Ah! there is one difficulty unprovided for,” “啊！还有一个难题没考虑到
cried Emma. “I am sure William Larkins will 呢，”爱玛嚷道，“我敢说威廉·
not like it. You must get his consent before 拉金斯准不乐意。你得先征
you ask mine.” 得他的同意，再来问我。”

She promised, however, to think of it; and 不过，她答应会考虑这件事；
pretty nearly promised, moreover, to think of 而且几乎更进一步承诺，会
it, with the intention of finding it a very good 抱着认为这是个绝妙主意的
scheme. 心态去考虑。

It is remarkable, that Emma, in the many, 值得注意的是，爱玛从这许
very many, points of view in which she was 多许多方面来考虑登威尔
now beginning to consider Donwell Abbey, was 时，却从来没有想到过对她的
never struck with any sense of injury to her 外甥小亨利有什么不公平的
nephew Henry, whose rights as heir-expectant 地方，这个孩子本来一向是
had formerly been so tenaciously regarded. 她认为有权继承的。她本来

Think she must of the possible difference to 应该想到这对那可怜的小男
the poor little boy; and yet she only gave her- 孩可能有什么不利；可是，
self a saucy conscious smile about it, and found 除了顽皮地暗自一笑之外，
amusement in detecting the real cause of that 她丝毫也没把这件事放在心
violent dislike of Mr. Knightley's marrying 上；她过去对奈特利先生娶
Jane Fairfax, or any body else, which at the 简·菲尔费克斯或任何别人
time she had wholly imputed to the amiable 时的那种强烈厌恶，当时她
solicitude of the sister and the aunt. 完全归因于她做妹妹和姨妈

的亲切关怀，现在她觉察到那真正原因，觉得十分好笑。

This proposal of his, this plan of marrying and continuing at Hartfield—the more she contemplated it, the more pleasing it became. His evils seemed to lessen, her own advantages to increase, their mutual good to outweigh every drawback. Such a companion for herself in the periods of anxiety and cheerlessness before her! —Such a partner in all those duties and cares to which time must be giving increase of melancholy!

他这提议——这计划在哈特菲尔德成婚并长住的安排——她越是思量，便越是觉得称心。他的种种缺点似乎消减了，她自身的益处却越发彰显，两人共同的好处足以抵消所有缺憾。往后那些焦虑愁闷的岁月里，能有这样一位伴侣相随！在那些随着时光流逝必然愈发沉重的责任与烦忧中，能有这样一位同道分担！

She would have been too happy but for poor Harriet; but every blessing of her own seemed to involve and advance the sufferings of her friend, who must now be even excluded from Hartfield. The delightful family party which Emma was securing for herself, poor Harriet must, in mere charitable caution, be kept at a distance from. She would be a loser in every way. Emma could not deplore her future absence as any deduction from her own enjoy-

若不是为了可怜的哈丽特，她本会欣喜若狂；但自身的每一分幸福似乎都牵连并加剧着朋友的痛苦——如今这位朋友连哈特菲尔德都要被隔绝在外了。爱玛为自己张罗的这个欢乐家宴，出于善意的谨慎，反倒必须让可怜的哈丽特避而远之。无论从哪方面看，哈丽特都是损失

ment. In such a party, Harriet would be rather a dead weight than otherwise; but for the poor girl herself, it seemed a peculiarly cruel necessity that was to be placing her in such a state of unmerited punishment.

者。爱玛不能把她的缺席视为自己欢愉的减损。在这样的聚会中，哈丽特非但不能增色反倒会是个累赘；但单就这可怜姑娘自身而言，被置于这般不应承受的惩罚境地，实在堪称格外残酷的必要之举。

In time, of course, Mr. **Knightley** would be forgotten, that is, supplanted; but this could not be expected to happen very early. Mr. **Knightley** himself would be doing nothing to assist the cure;—not like Mr. **Elton**. Mr. **Knightley**, always so kind, so feeling, so truly considerate for every body, would never deserve to be less worshipped than now; and it really was too much to hope even of Harriet, that she could be in love with more than three men in one year.

当然，奈特利先生迟早会被遗忘，或者说被取代；但这事不可能指望发生得太早。奈特利先生本人绝不会做任何助长这种遗忘的事——他可不像埃尔顿先生。奈特利先生总是那么和善，那么体贴，真心实意为每个人着想，永远值得人们像现在这般敬重；即便是对哈丽特，若指望她一年内爱上超过三个男子，也实在太奢求了。

CHAPTER XVI

第十六章

It was a very great relief to Emma to find Harriet as desirous as herself to avoid a meeting.

爱玛发现哈丽特与自己一样渴望避免见面，心头顿时轻

Their intercourse was painful enough by letter. How much worse, had they been obliged to meet! 松不少。单是书信往来已足够令人难堪，倘若被迫相见，那该是何等尴尬的局面！

Harriet expressed herself very much as might be supposed, without reproaches, or apparent sense of ill-usage; and yet Emma fancied there was a something of resentment, a something bordering on it in her style, which increased the desirableness of their being separate. — It might be only her own consciousness; but it seemed as if an angel only could have been quite without resentment under such a stroke. 哈丽特表达情绪的方式正如预料那般，既无责备之辞，亦无遭受委屈的明显迹象；然而爱玛却隐约察觉到她的语气里含着某种怨怒——某种近乎怨怒的情绪，这更使得两人暂时分开显得合宜。或许这只是她自己的心虚使然，但遭受如此重击之后，恐怕唯有天使才能全然不生怨尤吧。

She had no difficulty in procuring Isabella's invitation; and she was fortunate in having a sufficient reason for asking it, without resorting to invention. —**There** was a tooth amiss. **Harriet** really wished, and had wished some time, to consult a dentist. **Mrs. John Knightley** was delighted to be of use; any thing of ill health was a recommendation to her—and though not so fond of a dentist as of a Mr. **Wingfield**, she was quite eager to have Harriet表达情绪的方式正如预料那般，既无责备之辞，亦无遭受委屈的明显迹象；然而爱玛却隐约察觉到她的语气里含着某种怨怒——某种近乎怨怒的情绪，这更使得两人暂时分开显得合宜。或许这只是她自己的心虚使然，但遭受如此重击之后，恐怕唯有天使才能全然不生怨尤吧。

她毫不费力就为伊莎贝拉争取到了邀请；更幸运的是，她提出这个请求时有着充分的理由，完全无需杜撰托词——哈丽特确实有颗牙齿不太妥帖。这位姑娘早就有意想找牙医诊治，约翰·奈特利夫人向来乐于助人，但凡涉及健康问题总能引起她的关切。虽然她对牙医的推崇

riet under her care. —**W**hen it was thus settled on her sister's side, Emma proposed it to her friend, and found her very persuadable. —**H**arriet was to go; she was invited for at least a fortnight; she was to be conveyed in Mr. **Woodhouse'**s carriage. —It was all arranged, it was all completed, and Harriet was safe in Brunswick Square.

不及对温菲尔德先生那般热忱，但仍迫不及待地要将哈丽特纳入自己的照拂之下。等姐姐这边安排妥当，爱玛便向好友提出这个建议，发现她果然从善如流。哈丽特这就要启程了，受邀至少小住半月，伍德豪斯先生的马车将负责接送。诸事皆已商定，诸般皆已齐备，哈丽特安然住进了布鲁姆斯伯里广场的宅邸。

Now Emma could, indeed, enjoy Mr. **K**nightley's visits; now she could talk, and she could listen with true happiness, unchecked by that sense of injustice, of guilt, of something most painful, which had haunted her when remembering how disappointed a heart was near her, how much might at that moment, and at a little distance, be enduring by the feelings which she had led astray herself.

如今，爱玛确实能够享受奈特利先生的来访了；如今她可以畅所欲言，也能够满心欢喜地倾听，再不会像从前那样，每当想起身边那颗心曾何等失望，想起在不远处可能正有人因她亲手引入歧途的情感而备受煎熬时，总被那种不公、愧疚与锥心之痛纠缠着。

The difference of Harriet at Mrs. **G**oddard's, or in London, made perhaps an unreason-

哈丽特在戈达德太太家与在伦敦时的差异，或许在爱

able difference in Emma's sensations; but she could not think of her in London without objects of curiosity and employment, which must be averting the past, and carrying her out of herself.

玛心中引发了不合情理的感触；然而她无法想象哈丽特置身伦敦却缺乏新奇事物与日常消遣——那些必然能让她淡忘过往、摆脱自我沉溺的寄托。

She would not allow any other anxiety to succeed directly to the place in her mind which Harriet had occupied. **There** was a communication before her, one which she only could be competent to make—the confession of her engagement to her father; but she would have nothing to do with it at present. —**She** had resolved to defer the disclosure till Mrs. **Wester**ton were safe and well. **No** additional agitation should be thrown at this period among those she loved—and the evil should not act on herself by anticipation before the appointed time. —A fortnight, at least, of leisure and peace of mind, to crown every warmer, but more agitating, delight, should be hers.

她不容许其他焦虑立刻占据哈丽特在她心中留下的位置。**眼前**有一桩必须由她亲自去做的沟通——向父亲坦白她已订婚的消息；但此刻她不愿着手处理。**她**已决定等韦斯顿太太平安康健后再公开此事。**在这段时期**，不应给她所爱的人们增添更多纷扰——也不该在既定时刻来临前，让这份隐忧通过预想先扰乱自己的心绪。**她**应当拥有至少两周闲暇安宁的时光，为那些更炽热却也更令人心潮澎湃的欢愉，戴上圆满的冠冕。

She soon resolved, equally as a duty and a pleasure, to employ half an hour of this hol-

她很快打定主意——既是出于责任也是出于愉悦——要

iday of spirits in calling on Miss Fairfax. — 趁着这兴致勃发的假日，抽
She ought to go—and she was longing to see 半小时去拜访费尔法克斯小
her; the resemblance of their present situations 姐。**她**应当去，也渴望见到
increasing every other motive of goodwill. **It** 她；两人当下处境的相似，更
would be a secret satisfaction; but the con- 让这份善意增添了理由。**这**
sciousness of a similarity of prospect would cer- 将是种隐秘的慰藉；但意识
tainly add to the interest with which she should 到彼此前景的相仿，定会让
attend to any thing Jane might communicate. 她对简可能吐露的每句话都
报以更殷切的关注。

She went—she had driven once unsuccessfully 她去了——先前曾驾车到过
to the door, but had not been into the house 一次门口，却吃了闭门羹；
since the morning after Box Hill, when poor 自博克斯山之行次日上午以
Jane had been in such distress as had filled 来，她再未踏进过这幢房子。
her with compassion, though all the worst of 那天可怜的简正深陷苦痛，
her sufferings had been unsuspected. —**The** 虽不知最糟的境况，却已令
fear of being still unwelcome, determined her, 她满心怜悯。此刻唯恐仍不
though assured of their being at home, to wait 受欢迎，虽确知她们在家，她
in the passage, and send up her name. —**She** 还是决定在门廊等候，先让
heard Patty announcing it; but no such bustle 仆人通报姓名。她听见帕蒂
succeeded as poor Miss Bates had before made 禀报的声音，却没有响起当
so happily intelligible. —**No;** she heard noth- 初贝茨小姐那般欢欣雀跃的
ing but the instant reply of, “Beg her to walk 喧嚷——没有；她只听见即
up;” —and a moment afterwards she was met 刻的回应：“请她上楼。”片刻
on the stairs by Jane herself, coming eagerly 之后，简亲自赶到楼梯口相
forward, as if no other reception of her were felt 迎，急切地走上前来，仿佛

sufficient. —**Emma** had never seen her look so well, so lovely, so engaging. **There** was consciousness, animation, and warmth; there was every thing which her countenance or manner could ever have wanted. —**She** came forward with an offered hand; and said, in a low, but very feeling tone,

觉得寻常的接待远不足以表达心意。爱玛从未见她气色如此动人，这般可爱，这般惹人怜爱。她神情里带着羞怯、灵动与热忱，仪态间透着往日不曾有过的温婉。她伸出手迎上前来，用低沉却饱含深情的嗓音说道——

“**This** is most kind, indeed! —**Miss** Woodhouse, it is impossible for me to express—I hope you will believe—Excuse me for being so entirely without words.”

“这真是太客气了！——伍德豪斯小姐，我实在无法表达——希望您能相信——请原谅我竟这般语无伦次。”

Emma was gratified, and would soon have shewn no want of words, if the sound of Mrs. **Elton**’ s voice from the sitting-room had not checked her, and made it expedient to compress all her friendly and all her congratulatory sensations into a very, very earnest shake of the hand.

爱玛满心欢喜，若不是客厅里传来埃尔顿太太的说话声使她欲言又止，她立刻就会滔滔不绝起来，此刻只好把满腹的友好情意与祝贺热忱都凝聚在极其诚挚的握手之中。

Mrs. Bates and **Mrs. Elton** were together. **Miss Bates** was out, which accounted for the previous tranquillity. **Emma** could have wished **Mrs. Elton** elsewhere; but she

贝茨太太和埃尔顿太太正聚在一处。贝茨小姐外出了一——这才解释了先前的宁静。爱玛本希望埃尔顿太太

was in a humour to have patience with every body; and as Mrs. **Elton** met her with unusual graciousness, she hoped the rencontre would do them no harm.

不在场才好，但她此刻心境颇佳，对谁都能耐住性子。见埃尔顿太太竟以异乎寻常的殷勤态度相迎，她便暗忖这次邂逅应当无妨。

She soon believed herself to penetrate Mrs. **Elton's** thoughts, and understand why she was, like herself, in happy spirits; it was being in Miss Fairfax's confidence, and fancying herself acquainted with what was still a secret to other people. **Emma** saw symptoms of it immediately in the expression of her face; and while paying her own compliments to Mrs. **Bates**, and appearing to attend to the good old lady's replies, she saw her with a sort of anxious parade of mystery fold up a letter which she had apparently been reading aloud to Miss Fairfax, and return it into the purple and gold reticule by her side, saying, with significant nods,

她很快便自信看穿了埃尔顿太太的心思，明白她为何像自己一样兴高采烈——那是因为她得到了费尔法克斯小姐的信任，自以为掌握了旁人尚不知晓的秘密。**爱玛**立刻从她眉飞色舞的神情中窥见端倪。**当爱玛向贝茨太太寒暄，佯装倾听这位慈祥老妇人答话时，她瞧见埃尔顿太太带着故作神秘的不安神态，将一封显然刚给费尔法克斯小姐朗读过的信件仔细叠好，重新收进身旁那金银线绣成的紫色手袋里，一面意味深长地点着头说道：**

“**We** can finish this some other time, you know. **You** and I shall not want opportunities. **And**, in fact, you have heard all the essential already.

“**这事儿咱们改天再谈也不迟，你我有的是机会。其实要紧处你早已听明白了。我**

I only wanted to prove to you that Mrs. S. **admits** our apology, and is not offended. **You** see how delightfully she writes. **Oh!** **she** is a sweet creature! **You** would have doated on her, had you gone. —**But** not a word more. **Let** us be discreet—quite on our good behaviour. —**Hush!** —**You** remember those lines—I forget the poem at this moment:

不过想让你瞧瞧，斯太太接受了咱们的致歉，并未心存芥蒂。瞧她信写得多么亲切可人！啊！她真是个可爱的。人儿！你若去了准会迷上她——不过且住，咱们得谨言慎行，千万要规规矩矩的。嘘！你还记得那几句诗么——此刻我倒想不起是哪首诗里的了：

“**For** when a lady’s in the case, “You know all other things give place.”

”但凡淑女在场时，”万物皆须退避之。”

Now I say, my dear, in our case, for lady, read——mum! **a** word to the wise. —I am in a fine flow of spirits, an’t I? **But** I want to set your heart at ease as to Mrs. S. —My representation, you see, has quite appeased her. ”

那么，我亲爱的，就咱们这件事来说——把”夫人”两个字换成——嘘！你知我知就好。——瞧我兴致多高？不过我是想让你对斯太太放宽心。——你看，我这番解释不是让她完全消气了吗？

And again, on Emma’s merely turning her head to look at Mrs. Bates’ s knitting, she added, in a half whisper,

艾玛刚转过头去看贝茨太太织毛衣，她便又压低了声音补充道：

“**I** mentioned no names, you will observe.

“我可没提任何人的名字

—Oh! no; cautious as a minister of state. I ——你瞧——哦！没有；谨慎得像个国务大臣。我处理 managed it extremely well. ” 得极为巧妙。”

Emma could not doubt. It was a palpable display, repeated on every possible occasion. When they had all talked a little while in harmony of the weather and Mrs. Weston, she found herself abruptly addressed with,

爱玛无法怀疑。这是一种显而易见的展示，在任何可能的场合都会重复上演。当众人就天气和韦斯顿太太的话题融洽地交谈片刻后，她突然听见有人对她开口说道：

“Do not you think, Miss Woodhouse, our saucy little friend here is charmingly recovered? —Do not you think her cure does Perry the highest credit? —(here was a side-glance of great meaning at Jane.) Upon my word, Perry has restored her in a wonderful short time! —Oh! if you had seen her, as I did, when she was at the worst! ”—And when Mrs. Bates was saying something to Emma, whispered farther, “We do not say a word of any _assistance_ that Perry might have; not a word of a certain young physician from Windsor. —Oh! no; Perry shall have all the credit.”

“伍德豪斯小姐，您不觉得我们这位活泼的小朋友恢复得讨人喜欢吗？——您不觉得她的痊愈给佩里先生带来了最高荣誉吗？（说着意味深长地瞟了简一眼）说真的，佩里在极短时间内就让她康复了！——哦！您要是像我那样见过她最糟糕时的情形就好了！”——趁着贝茨太太正对爱玛说话时，她又压低声音补充道：“我们绝口不提佩里可能得到的任何帮助；半个字都不提那位从温莎来的年轻医生。——哦！当然不；

功劳全要归佩里。”

“I have scarce had the pleasure of seeing you, Miss Woodhouse,” she shortly afterwards began, “since the party to Box Hill. **Very** pleasant party. **But** yet I think there was something wanting. **Things** did not seem—that is, there seemed a little cloud upon the spirits of some. —**So** it appeared to me at least, but I might be mistaken. **However**, I think it answered so far as to tempt one to go again. **What** say you both to our collecting the same party, and exploring to Box Hill again, while the fine weather lasts? —**It** must be the same party, you know, quite the same party, not one exception.”

“伍德豪斯小姐，”她稍后便开口说道，“自从博克斯山聚会之后，我就难得有幸见到您了。那次的聚会真叫人愉快。不过我觉得似乎还缺了点什么。事情看起来不太——就是说，有些人的兴致似乎蒙着一层薄雾。——至少在我看来是这样，不过也许是我弄错了。不过无论如何，我觉得那次聚会还算成功，让人想再去一次。趁现在天气这么好，我们再把原班人马聚起来，重游一次博克斯山如何？——必须是原班人马，您知道的，完完全全的原班人马，一个都不能少。”

Soon after this Miss Bates came in, and Emma could not help being diverted by the perplexity of her first answer to herself, resulting, she supposed, from doubt of what might be said, and impatience to say every thing.

不久，贝茨小姐便走了进来。爱玛见她回答自己第一句话时那种左右为难的窘态，不由得觉得好笑。她猜想，这种窘态大概是出于既怕稍有不慎说漏了嘴，又恨不得把

心里话一股脑儿全说出来。

“**Thank** you, dear Miss Woodhouse, you are all kindness. —**It** is impossible to say— Yes, indeed, I quite understand—dearest Jane’s prospects—that is, I do not mean. —**But** she is charmingly recovered. —**How** is Mr. **Woodhouse**? —I am so glad. —**Quite** out of my power. —**Such** a happy little circle as you find us here. —**Yes**, indeed. —**Charming** young man! —**that** is—so very friendly; I mean good Mr. **Perry**! —**such** attention to Jane! ”—**And** from her great, her more than commonly thankful delight towards Mrs. **Elton** for being there, Emma guessed that there had been a little show of resentment towards Jane, from the vicarage quarter, which was now graciously overcome. —**After** a few whispers, indeed, which placed it beyond a guess, Mrs. **Elton**, speaking louder, said,

“亲爱的伍德豪斯小姐，您真是太客气了——我真不知该怎么说——是啊，确实，我完全明白——最亲爱的简的前程——我是说，我并不是那个意思——不过她已经恢复得讨人喜欢了。伍德豪斯先生可好？我真高兴——我实在无能为力——您看我们这儿是个多么快乐的小圈子啊——是啊，确实——讨人喜欢的年轻人！我是说——那位和善的佩里先生！对简这般关心！”从她对于埃尔顿太太在场表现出异常强烈的感激之情中，爱玛猜到牧师府上对简曾有过些许不满的表示，现在总算宽宏大量地化解了。果然，几句低语之后，埃尔顿太太便提高了嗓门说道——

“**Yes**, here I am, my good friend; and here I have been so long, that anywhere else I should

“是啊，我来了，我的好朋友；而且我在这儿待了这么久，

think it necessary to apologise; but, the truth is, that I am waiting for my lord and master. **H**e promised to join me here, and pay his respects to you. ”

若是在别处，我早该觉得有必要致歉了；不过，实情是——我在恭候我的老爷兼主人。他答应过要来这儿与我会合，并向您致意。”

“**W**hat! are we to have the pleasure of a call from Mr. **E**lton? —**T**hat will be a favour indeed! **f**or I know gentlemen do not like morning visits, and Mr. **E**lton’ s time is so engaged.”

“什么！埃尔顿先生要光临寒舍？——那可真是莫大的荣幸！我知道先生们都不喜欢上午串门，而埃尔顿先生的时间又那么宝贵。”

“**U**pon my word it is, Miss Bates. —**H**e really is engaged from morning to night. —**T**here is no end of people’s coming to him, on some pretence or other. —**T**he magistrates, and overseers, and churchwardens, are always wanting his opinion. **T**hey seem not able to do any thing without him. — ‘**U**pon my word, Mr. **E.**, ’I often say, ‘rather you than I. —**I** do not know what would become of my crayons and my instrument, if I had half so many applicants.’ —**B**ad enough as it is, for I absolutely neglect them both to an unpardonable degree. —**I** believe I have not played a bar this fortnight. —**H**owever, he is coming, I assure

”说真的，贝茨小姐，他确实是早忙到晚。总有人用这样那样的借口来找他，简直没完没了。那些地方法官、教区委员、教堂执事，总来征求他的意见。他们离了他好像就寸步难行。”说真的，埃尔顿先生，’我常这么说，’您可真比我强多了。要是我也像您这样应接不暇，真不知道我的彩铅和乐器会落得什么下场。”现在这样已经够糟了，这两样我都疏忽到了不可原谅的地步。相信我

you: yes, indeed, on purpose to wait on you all. ”**And** putting up her hand to screen her words from Emma—“A congratulatory visit, you know. —**Oh! yes**, quite indispensable.”

已经整整半个月没碰过琴键了。不过他说准会来的，真的，是特地来拜访诸位的。”她抬手掩着嘴不让爱玛听见——”是来道喜的，您明白。哦！是的，这可万万不能少。

”

Miss Bates looked about her, so happily—!

贝茨小姐环顾四周，喜不自胜——！

“**He** promised to come to me as soon as he could disengage himself from Knightley; but he and Knightley are shut up together in deep consultation. —**Mr. E.** is Knightley’s right hand.”

他答应我，一能从奈特利先生那儿脱身就过来；但他和奈特利先生正关着门密谈呢——埃尔顿先生可是奈特利先生的左膀右臂。

Emma would not have smiled for the world, and only said, “Is Mr. **Elton** gone on foot to Donwell? —**He** will have a hot walk.”

爱玛无论如何也不肯露出笑容，只是说道：“埃尔顿先生是步行去唐维尔的吗？——他这一路可要走得够热的。”

“**Oh! no**, it is a meeting at the Crown, a regular meeting. **Weston** and Cole will be there too; but one is apt to speak only of those who lead. —**I** fancy Mr. **E.** and Knightley have every thing their own way.”

“哦！不，这是在皇冠酒店举行的聚会，一场正式聚会。韦斯顿和科尔也会到场；不过人们总爱只提领头的人物——我猜埃尔顿先生和奈特

利先生把一切都安排得称心如意。”

“**Have** not you mistaken the day?” said “你莫非把日子记错了吧?” Emma. “I am almost certain that the meeting at the Crown is not till to-morrow. — **Mr. Knightley** was at Hartfield yesterday, and spoke of it as for Saturday.” 爱玛说道，“我几乎可以肯定，克朗旅店的聚会要到明天才举行——奈特利先生昨天还在哈特菲尔德，说起是星期六呢。”

“**Oh! no**, the meeting is certainly to-day,” was the abrupt answer, which denoted the impossibility of any blunder on Mrs. Elton’s side. — “I do believe,” she continued, “this is the most troublesome parish that ever was. We never heard of such things at Maple Grove.” “哦! 不, 会面肯定是在今天,”这突兀的回答表明埃尔顿太太绝无可能出错——“我确实相信,”她继续说道, “这是有史以来最麻烦的教区。我们在枫林园可从没听说过这种事。”

“**Your** parish there was small,” said Jane. “你那儿的教区很小,”简说。

“**Upon** my word, my dear, I do not know, for I never heard the subject talked of.” “说真的, 亲爱的, 我可说不上来, 因为我从没听人议论过这件事。”

“**But** it is proved by the smallness of the school, which I have heard you speak of, as under the patronage of your sister and Mrs. ” 不过从学校的规模就能看出来——我听你说过这是你姐姐和布拉吉太太资助的学

Bragge; the only school, and not more than five-and-twenty children.” 校，本地仅此一所，总共不过二十五个学生。”

“Ah! you clever creature, that's very true. What a thinking brain you have! I say, Jane, what a perfect character you and I should make, if we could be shaken together. My liveliness and your solidity would produce perfection. —Not that I presume to insinuate, however, that some people may not think you perfection already. —But hush! —not a word, if you please.” “啊！你这机灵鬼，说得真对。你的脑子转得可真快！听着，简，要是能把咱俩揉碎了重捏，该塑造出多完美的人儿啊。我的活泼配上你的沉稳，简直是天作之合——当然我可不是暗指有些人已经觉得你十全十美了。不过嘘——劳驾，可别再提这茬啦。”

It seemed an unnecessary caution; Jane was wanting to give her words, not to Mrs. Elton, but to Miss Woodhouse, as the latter plainly saw. The wish of distinguishing her, as far as civility permitted, was very evident, though it could not often proceed beyond a look.

这似乎是一种不必要的提醒；简想与之交谈的并非埃尔顿太太，而是伍德豪斯小姐——这一点后者看得清清楚楚。尽管受制于礼数只能止于眼波流转，但那份想要特别关照她的心意却昭然若揭。

Mr. Elton made his appearance. His lady greeted him with some of her sparkling vivacity.

埃尔顿先生露面了。他的夫人以她那种闪烁的活泼劲儿迎接了他。

“Very pretty, sir, upon my word; to send me ” 真是妙极了，先生，说真的！

on here, to be an encumbrance to my friends, so long before you vouchsafe to come! —**But** you knew what a dutiful creature you had to deal with. **You** knew I should not stir till my lord and master appeared. —**Here** have I been sitting this hour, giving these young ladies a sample of true conjugal obedience— for who can say, you know, how soon it may be wanted? ”

早早把我打发到这里，让我在朋友们跟前碍手碍脚，您倒好整以暇迟迟不来！可您心里清楚自己使唤的是个多么循规蹈矩的人儿。您料定我非要等到主子驾到才肯挪窝——这不，我整整坐了一个钟头，给这几位年轻小姐示范什么叫真正的夫唱妇随。要知道，谁能说得准她们几时就用得上这规矩呢？”

Mr. Elton was so hot and tired, that all this wit seemed thrown away. **His** civilities to the other ladies must be paid; but his subsequent object was to lament over himself for the heat he was suffering, and the walk he had had for nothing.

埃尔顿先生又热又累，早已无心欣赏这番俏皮话。他对其他几位女士的礼节性问候不得不敷衍一番，但随后便只顾着哀叹自己饱受酷热之苦，白白走了这一趟冤枉路。

“**When** I got to Donwell,” said he, “Knightley could not be found. **Very** odd! **very** unaccountable! **after** the note I sent him this morning, and the message he returned, that he should certainly be at home till one. ”

”我到达唐威尔时，”他说，”奈特利先生竟不见踪影。真是蹊跷！实在令人费解！明明今早我给他送了便笺，他也回了口信，说一点钟前必定会在家。”

“Donwell! ”cried his wife. —“My dear Mr. “当维尔！”他的妻子嚷道。
E. , you have not been to Donwell! —You ——“亲爱的埃尔顿先生，你
mean the Crown; you come from the meeting 根本没去当维尔！——你指
at the Crown. ”
的是克朗旅馆；你是从克朗
旅馆的聚会回来的。”

“No, no, that's to-morrow; and I particularly “不，不，那是明天的事；我
wanted to see Knightley to-day on that very 今天特别为这个缘故要见奈
account. —Such a dreadful broiling morning! 特利先生。——这么个大热
—I went over the fields too—(speaking in a 天！——我还特地穿过田野
tone of great ill-usage,) which made it so much 走过去——（说话时带着十
the worse. And then not to find him at home! 足受委屈的腔调）——这更
I assure you I am not at all pleased. And no 叫人受不了。结果竟没见到
apology left, no message for me. The house- 他！说真的，我很不高兴。连
keeper declared she knew nothing of my being 张道歉的条子都没留，也没
expected. —Very extraordinary! —And no 给我捎个口信。女管家硬说
body knew at all which way he was gone. Per- 根本不知道我要来。太不像
haps to Hartfield, perhaps to the Abbey Mill, 话了！——谁也不知道他往
perhaps into his woods. —Miss Woodhouse, 哪儿去了。也许是去哈特菲
this is not like our friend Knightley! —Can 尔德了，也许是去修道院磨
you explain it? ”
坊了，也许是钻进他的树林里了。——伍德豪斯小姐，这
可不像我们的朋友奈特利先生呀！——你能解释这是怎
么回事吗？”

Emma amused herself by protesting that it was very extraordinary, indeed, and that she had not a syllable to say for him. 爱玛自得其乐地抗议说，这确实太不寻常了，她实在找不出半句话来为他辩解。

“I cannot imagine,” said Mrs. **Elton**, (feeling the indignity as a wife ought to do,) “I cannot imagine how he could do such a thing by you, of all people in the world! **The** very last person whom one should expect to be forgotten! —My dear Mr. **E.**, **he** must have left a message for you, I am sure he must. —**Not** even Knightley could be so very eccentric;—and his servants forgot it. **Depend** upon it, that was the case: and very likely to happen with the Donwell servants, who are all, I have often observed, extremely awkward and remiss. —I am sure I would not have such a creature as his Harry stand at our sideboard for any consideration. **And** as for Mrs. **Hodges**, Wright holds her very cheap indeed. —**She** promised Wright a receipt, and never sent it.”

“我简直无法想象，”埃尔顿太太说道（她作为妻子，感受到这种轻慢理所当然），“我简直无法想象他竟会这样对待你，偏偏是你！这世上最不该被遗忘的人！——我亲爱的埃尔顿先生，他准是给你留了口信，我敢肯定他一定留了。即便是奈特利也不可能这般古怪——准是他的仆人们忘了。相信我，准是敦维尔的仆人们很可能这样，我早就注意到他们全都笨手笨脚、粗心大意。我敢说，不管给多少钱，我都不会让他家哈里那样的仆役来我家餐具柜前伺候。至于霍基斯太太——赖特简直瞧不上她。她答应给赖特一张收据，结果压根没寄来。”

“I met William Larkins,” continued Mr. Elton, “as I got near the house, and he told me I should not find his master at home, but I did not believe him. —William seemed rather out of humour. He did not know what was come to his master lately, he said, but he could hardly ever get the speech of him. I have nothing to do with William’s wants, but it really is of very great importance that I should see Knightley to-day; and it becomes a matter, therefore, of very serious inconvenience that I should have had this hot walk to no purpose.”

“我快到宅子时遇见了威廉·拉金斯，”埃尔顿先生继续说道，“他告诉我他主人不在家，可我不信——威廉当时似乎心情不太好。他说近来不知道主人怎么了，简直连说句话都难。威廉有什么难处不关我的事，可我今天非见奈特利不可，这事实在要紧。结果白跑这一趟冤枉路，顶着这么大太阳，真是叫人恼火。”

Emma felt that she could not do better than go home directly. In all probability she was at this very time waited for there; and Mr. Knightley might be preserved from sinking deeper in aggression towards Mr. Elton, if not towards William Larkins.

爱玛觉得最好还是直接回家。此刻家里多半已在等她；而奈特利先生或许也能免于对埃尔顿先生——即便不是对威廉·拉金斯——说出更伤人的话。

She was pleased, on taking leave, to find Miss Fairfax determined to attend her out of the room, to go with her even downstairs; it gave her an opportunity which she immediately made use of, to say,

临别之际，她欣喜地发现费尔法克斯小姐执意要送她出房门，甚至陪她下楼；这立刻给了她一个可乘之机，她便当即说道：

“It is as well, perhaps, that I have not had the possibility. **Had** you not been surrounded by other friends, I might have been tempted to introduce a subject, to ask questions, to speak more openly than might have been strictly correct. —**I** feel that I should certainly have been impertinent.”

”或许，我没有这样的机会反倒是件好事。倘若您身边没有其他朋友相伴，我恐怕会忍不住提起某个话题，提出各种问题，说出些未必完全合乎礼数的话来——我深感自己定然会失礼冒犯的。”

“Oh!” cried Jane, with a blush and an hesitation which Emma thought infinitely more becoming to her than all the elegance of all her usual composure—“there would have been no danger. **The** danger would have been of my wearying you. **You** could not have gratified me more than by expressing an interest—. **In-deed**, Miss Woodhouse, (speaking more collectedly,) with the consciousness which I have of misconduct, very great misconduct, it is particularly consoling to me to know that those of my friends, whose good opinion is most worth preserving, are not disgusted to such a degree as to—I have not time for half that I could wish to say. **I** long to make apologies, excuses, to urge something for myself. **I** feel it so very due. **But**, unfortunately—in short, if your compassion does not stand my friend—”

“啊！”简叫了一声，脸颊绯红，说话也结结巴巴——在爱玛看来，这比她平日里的优雅镇定更显得动人——“根本不会有危险。要说危险，那只会是我让您感到厌烦。您能表示关心，实在是让我再高兴不过了. 说真的，伍德豪斯小姐，(说到这里她稍镇定些) 我深知自己行为有失检点，实在荒唐至极，如今得知那些我最珍视的朋友们并未对我厌恶到极点. 这对我真是莫大的安慰。我多想致歉，辩解，为自己说几句话。我觉得这实在很有必要。但不幸的是——总之，若是您不能发发

慈悲体谅我——”

“Oh! you are too scrupulous, indeed you are,” cried Emma warmly, and taking her hand. “You owe me no apologies; and every body to whom you might be supposed to owe them, is so perfectly satisfied, so delighted even—”

“哦！你真是太过多虑了，实在是多虑了，”爱玛热切地嚷道，一面握住她的手，“你完全不必向我道歉；而所有你以为该道歉的人，都那么心满意足，甚至欢天喜地——”

“You are very kind, but I know what my manners were to you. —So cold and artificial! —I had always a part to act. —It was a life of deceit! —I know that I must have disgusted you. ”

“你太客气了，但我自知待你态度何等恶劣——那般冷漠虚伪！我始终在扮演一个角色——这简直是欺诈的人生！我知道自己必定让你心生厌恶。”

“Pray say no more. I feel that all the apologies should be on my side. Let us forgive each other at once. We must do whatever is to be done quickest, and I think our feelings will lose no time there. I hope you have pleasant accounts from Windsor? ”

“请别再说了。我觉得该道歉的完全是我。让我们立刻互相宽恕吧。该做的事情必须尽快去做，我想我们的感情在这方面是不会耽搁的。但愿你从温莎得到的消息是令人愉快的？”

“Very. ”

“非常。”

“And the next news, I suppose, will be, that “那么，我猜想接下来就会听

we are to lose you—just as I begin to know
you. ” 说你要离开我们了——偏偏
在我刚刚开始了解你的时候。”

“**Oh!** as to all that, of course nothing can
be thought of yet. I am here till claimed by
Colonel and Mrs. **Campbell.** ” “哦！至于那些事，自然还无
从考虑。在坎贝尔上校夫妇
来接我之前，我都会留在此
地。”

“**Nothing** can be actually settled yet, per-
haps,” replied Emma, smiling—“but, excuse
me, it must be thought of. ” “也许眼下还定不下来什么
事，”爱玛微笑着答道，“不过，
恕我直言，这件事必须考虑
起来了。”

The smile was returned as Jane answered, 简回答时也回以微笑，

“**You** are very right; it has been thought of. ” 你说得很对；这事已经考
And I will own to you, (I am sure it will 虑过了。我实话对你说吧（我
be safe), that so far as our living with Mr. 知道这话绝不会外传），我们
Churchill at Enscombe, it is settled. **There** 跟丘吉尔先生住在恩斯康比
must be three months, at least, of deep mourn- 的事，已经定下来了。至少
ing; but when they are over, I imagine there 要有三个月的重孝期；但等
will be nothing more to wait for. ” 这段时间过去，我想就再没
什么需要等待的了。”

“**Thank** you, thank you. —**This** is just what “谢谢，谢谢——这正是我想
I wanted to be assured of. —**Oh!** if you knew 听到的保证。——哦！您若
how much I love every thing that is decided 知道我多么喜爱一切明朗果

and open! —Good-bye, good-bye. ”

决的态度该多好！——再见，
再见。”

CHAPTER XVII

第十七章

Mrs. Weston’s friends were all made happy by her safety; and if the satisfaction of her well-doing could be increased to Emma, it was by knowing her to be the mother of a little girl. **She** had been decided in wishing for a Miss Weston. **She** would not acknowledge that it was with any view of making a match for her, hereafter, with either of Isabella’s sons; but she was convinced that a daughter would suit both father and mother best. **It** would be a great comfort to Mr. **Weston**, as he grew older—and even Mr. **Weston** might be growing older ten years hence—to have his fireside enlivened by the sports and the nonsense, the freaks and the fancies of a child never banished from home; and Mrs. **Weston**—no one could doubt that a daughter would be most to her; and it would be quite a pity that any one who so well knew how to teach, should not have their powers in exercise again.

韦斯顿太太平安生产的消息令所有亲友欣慰不已；而让爱玛尤为欢喜的是，她生下的是个女孩。她早就一心盼着有个韦斯顿小姐。她不愿承认这是为了日后撮合这孩子与伊莎贝拉任何一个儿子结亲，但她深信女儿最合父母心意。等韦斯顿先生年事渐高——即便十年后他也未必显老——有个永远不离家的孩子用嬉闹、稚语、奇想和童趣活跃他的炉边，该是多大的慰藉啊。至于韦斯顿太太——谁都看得出女儿对她最为珍贵；像她这般深谙教养之道的人，若不能再次施展才能，实在是桩憾事。

“She has had the advantage, you know, of practising on me,” she continued—“like La Baronne d’Almane on La Comtesse d’Ostalis, in Madame de Genlis’ Adelaide and Theodore, and we shall now see her own little Adelaide educated on a more perfect plan.”

“你要知道，她早在我身上练过手了，”她接着说道，“就像热莉夫人《阿德莱德与西奥多》里达尔玛内男爵夫人对奧斯塔莉伯爵夫人所做的那样。现在咱们倒要瞧瞧，她按更完善的方案教育自家小阿德莱德会是怎样光景。”

“That is,” replied Mr. Knightley, “she will indulge her even more than she did you, and believe that she does not indulge her at all. It will be the only difference.”

奈特利先生答道：“也就是说，她会比当初纵容你更加纵容她，却自以为根本没有纵容。这将是唯一的差别。”

“Poor child! ” cried Emma; “at that rate, what will become of her? ”

“可怜的孩子！”爱玛嚷道，“照这样下去，她将来会落到什么地步呢？”

“Nothing very bad. —The fate of thousands. She will be disagreeable in infancy, and correct herself as she grows older. I am losing all my bitterness against spoilt children, my dearest Emma. I, who am owing all my happiness to you, would not it be horrible ingratitude in me to be severe on them? ”

“没什么大不了的——成千上万孩子都这样。小时候惹人讨厌，长大自然就懂事了。亲爱的爱玛，我现在对娇惯坏的孩子完全恨不起来了。我所有的幸福都拜你所赐，若是对这些孩子苛责，岂不是成了忘恩负义之徒？”

Emma laughed, and replied: “But I had the assistance of all your endeavours to counteract the indulgence of other people. **I** doubt whether my own sense would have corrected me without it.” 爱玛笑着答道：“不过，多亏您百般努力来抵消别人对我的纵容，否则我怀疑单凭自己的理智是改不过来的。”

“**Do** you? —**I** have no doubt. **Nature** gave you understanding:—Miss Taylor gave you principles. **You** must have done well. **My** interference was quite as likely to do harm as good. **It** was very natural for you to say, what right has he to lecture me? —**and** I am afraid very natural for you to feel that it was done in a disagreeable manner. **I** do not believe I did you any good. **The** good was all to myself, by making you an object of the tenderest affection to me. **I** could not think about you so much without doating on you, faults and all; and by dint of fancying so many errors, have been in love with you ever since you were thirteen at least.” “是吗? ——我毫不怀疑。天性赋予你聪慧——泰勒小姐则教会你准则。你必然品行端正。我的干涉恐怕弊大于利。你会质问‘他有何权利训导我?’实属理所当然——而你认为这种规劝方式令人不快，恐怕也情有可原。我并不认为自己曾给你带来任何裨益。所有的获益皆在于我自身——是你让我将最温柔的眷恋倾注于你。当我不停地惦念你时，便情不自禁地溺爱着你，连同你的缺点也一并包容；由于总在臆想你种种的不是，我至少从你十三岁起就深陷爱河了。”

“I am sure you were of use to me,” cried Emma. “**I** was very often influenced rightly by you—” “我确信你对我大有裨益，”爱玛嚷道，“我时常受到你正确

oftener than I would own at the time. I am very sure you did me good. **And** if poor little Anna Weston is to be spoiled, it will be the greatest humanity in you to do as much for her as you have done for me, except falling in love with her when she is thirteen. ”

的引导——比当时愿意承认的还要频繁。我深信你使我受益良多。若是可怜的安娜·韦斯顿将来要被宠坏，你对她若能像对我这般悉心引导——当然除了在她十三岁时爱上她这件事——便是你最大的仁慈了。”

“**How** often, when you were a girl, have you said to me, with one of your saucy looks—‘Mr. **Knightley**, I am going to do so-and-so; papa says I may, or I have Miss Taylor’s leave’—something which, you knew, I did not approve. **In** such cases my interference was giving you two bad feelings instead of one. ”

”你小时候常常带着那种调皮的神情对我说——’奈特利先生，我打算如此这般；爸爸说可以，泰勒小姐也同意了’——你明知那些事我是不赞成的。每逢这种情形，我的干涉总是让你平添双重不快，而非消除一分。”

“**What** an amiable creature I was! —**No** wonder you should hold my speeches in such affectionate remembrance. ”

“我那时是多么讨人喜欢的人儿啊！难怪你把我那些话如此深情地记在心里。”

“‘**Mr. Knightley.** ’ —**You** always called me, ‘**Mr. Knightley;** ’ and, from habit, it has not so very formal a sound. —**And** yet it is formal. **I** want you to call me something

“‘奈特利先生。’ —你一向都叫我‘奈特利先生’；出于习惯，这称呼听起来倒也不算太生分。 —可终究还是

else, but I do not know what. ”

生分了。我盼着你换个称呼，却又不知该换什么好。”

“I remember once calling you ‘George,’ in one of my amiable fits, about ten years ago. I did it because I thought it would offend you; but, as you made no objection, I never did it again.”

“我记得大约十年前，有一次我脾气发作时曾唤你作‘乔治’。当时那么叫是因为觉得会惹你生气；可你并未反对，我便再也没那样叫过。”

“And cannot you call me ‘George’ now? ”

“你如今还能叫我‘乔治’吗？”

“Impossible! —I never can call you any thing but ‘Mr. Knightley.’ I will not promise even to equal the elegant terseness of Mrs. Elton, by calling you Mr. K. —But I will promise,” she added presently, laughing and blushing—“I will promise to call you once by your Christian name. I do not say when, but perhaps you may guess where;—in the building in which N. takes M. for worse.”

“不可能！——除了‘奈特利先生’，我永远没法用别的称呼叫你。我甚至不能像埃尔顿太太那样，用优雅简洁的‘奈先生’来称呼你——不过我可以答应，”她立刻笑着补充道，脸颊泛起红晕，“我答应会叫一次你的教名。我不说什么时候，但或许你能猜到在哪里——就在那栋 N. 与 M. 永结同心的建筑里。”

Emma grieved that she could not be more openly just to one important service which his better sense would have rendered her, to

爱玛暗自感到难过，不能更公开地肯定他凭自己的清醒头脑帮过她一个大忙，不能

the advice which would have saved her from the worst of all her womanly follies—her wilful intimacy with Harriet Smith; but it was too tender a subject. —**She** could not enter on it. —**Harriet** was very seldom mentioned between them. **This**, on his side, might merely proceed from her not being thought of; but Emma was rather inclined to attribute it to delicacy, and a suspicion, from some appearances, that their friendship were declining. **She** was aware herself, that, parting under any other circumstances, they certainly should have corresponded more, and that her intelligence would not have rested, as it now almost wholly did, on Isabella's letters. **He** might observe that it was so. **The** pain of being obliged to practise concealment towards him, was very little inferior to the pain of having made Harriet unhappy.

更公开地承认他给过她一个忠告，使她避免了一时感情用事干出最荒唐的事——与哈丽特·史密斯保持亲密关系。**不过**，这事实在太微妙了，她无法提及。他们俩很少谈到哈丽特。他之所以如此，也许仅仅是因为没有想到她，但是爱玛却认为这是出于一种委婉的心理，从某些迹象看，她怀疑他们的友情在渐渐淡漠。**她**意识到，他们俩如果在另一种情况下分手，肯定会多通信，她有什么事也不至于像现在这样，几乎完全依赖伊莎贝拉的来信。**他**也许想看看情况是否如此。**不得不向他隐瞒事情真相**，这种痛苦并不亚于使哈丽特感到失望的痛苦。

Isabella sent quite as good an account of her visitor as could be expected; on her first arrival she had thought her out of spirits, which appeared perfectly natural, as there was a dentist to be consulted; but, since that business had

伊莎贝拉传来的消息正如预期般令人欣慰：她初到时觉得这位客人情绪低落，这原是情理之中的事——毕竟要去看牙医；但自从那桩心事

been over, she did not appear to find Harriet
different from what she had known her before.
—Isabella, to be sure, was no very quick ob-
server; yet if Harriet had not been equal to
playing with the children, it would not have
escaped her. **Emma**' s comforts and hopes
were most agreeably carried on, by Harriet's
being to stay longer; her fortnight was likely to
be a month at least. **Mr. and Mrs. John**
Knightley were to come down in August, and
she was invited to remain till they could bring
her back.

解决后，哈丽特的表现与从
前并无二致。诚然伊莎贝拉
算不得目光敏锐之人，可若
是哈丽特连陪孩子们嬉戏的
精力都没有，断然逃不过她
的眼睛。最令爱玛称心如意
的是，哈丽特将延长作客的
时日——原定两周的拜访至
少会延续到一个月。**约翰·奈**
特利夫妇定于八月返乡，届
时正好请他们顺道将哈丽特
带回。

“**John** does not even mention your friend,” said
Mr. Knightley. “**Here** is his answer, if you
like to see it.”

“**约翰**甚至没有提及你的朋
友，”奈特利先生说，“这是他
的回信，你愿意的话可以看
看。”

It was the answer to the communication of his
intended marriage. **Emma** accepted it with a
very eager hand, with an impatience all alive
to know what he would say about it, and not
at all checked by hearing that her friend was
unmentioned.

这是对他那桩计划中婚事的
回信。爱玛迫不及待地接过
信，满心急切地想知道他对
此事的说辞，听到信里丝毫
未提及她的朋友也全然没有
在意。

“**John** enters like a brother into my happy- “**约翰**是以兄弟之情真心为

ness,"continued Mr. **Knightley**, "but he is no complimenter; and though I well know him to have, likewise, a most brotherly affection for you, he is so far from making flourishes, that any other young woman might think him rather cool in her praise. **But** I am not afraid of your seeing what he writes."

我高兴的，"奈特利先生继续说道，“但他不会说恭维话。虽说我知道他对你也有着最深挚的兄弟情谊，可他远不会说那些花哨话，换作别的年轻姑娘，说不定会觉得他夸奖得不够热烈。不过我倒不担心你会看不懂他信里的真意。”

"**H**e writes like a sensible man," replied Emma, when she had read the letter. "**I** honour his sincerity. **It** is very plain that he considers the good fortune of the engagement as all on my side, but that he is not without hope of my growing, in time, as worthy of your affection, as you think me already. **H**ad he said anything to bear a different construction, I should not have believed him."

“他这封信写得像个通情达理的人，”爱玛读完信后说道，“我敬重他的真诚。很显然，他认为这段婚约的幸运全在我这一边，但他并非不指望我有朝一日能配得上您对我的钟爱——就像您现在认为我配得上那样。倘若他方才的言辞有丝毫弦外之音，我断然不会相信他。”

"**M**y Emma, he means no such thing. **H**e only means—"

“我的爱玛，他绝无此意。他只是想说——”

"**H**e and I should differ very little in our estimation of the two," interrupted she, with a sort

“在对于他们两人的评价上，我和他的分歧其实很小，”

of serious smile—"much less, perhaps, than he is aware of, if we could enter without ceremony or reserve on the subject."

她带着一种严肃的微笑插嘴道，“若是我们能不拘礼节、毫无保留地讨论这个问题，或许会发现我们的分歧比他意识到的还要少得多。”

"Emma, my dear Emma—"

“爱玛，我亲爱的爱玛——”

"Oh!" she cried with more thorough gaiety, "if you fancy your brother does not do me justice, only wait till my dear father is in the secret, and hear his opinion. Depend upon it, he will be much farther from doing you justice. He will think all the happiness, all the advantage, on your side of the question; all the merit on mine. I wish I may not sink into 'poor Emma' with him at once. —His tender compassion towards oppressed worth can go no farther."

“哦！”她嚷了起来，神情更加快活，“倘若你觉得令兄待我不够公道，那就等我亲爱的父亲知晓内情后，听听他的见解吧。放心吧，他定会觉得你更受委屈。在他看来，这桩婚事的所有福分和好处都在你那边，所有美德都在我这边。但愿我不会立刻被他归入‘可怜的爱玛’之列。——他那颗怜惜受屈贤良的慈悲心，怕是再没有更深的去处了。”

"Ah!" he cried, "I wish your father might be half as easily convinced as John will be, of our having every right that equal worth can give, to be happy together. I am amused by one part

“啊！”他嚷道，“但愿令尊能像约翰那样容易被说服，相信我们凭着彼此相当的品格，完全有权利幸福地结合。约

of John's letter—did you notice it? —**where** he says, that my information did not take him wholly by surprize, that he was rather in expectation of hearing something of the kind. ”

翰信里有句话让我觉得怪有趣的——你注意到了吗？他说我透露的消息并不完全出乎他的意料，他早就料到会听到这类风声了。”

“**If** I understand your brother, he only means so far as your having some thoughts of marrying. **He** had no idea of me. **He** seems perfectly unprepared for that. ”

“如果我理解得不错，你哥哥的意思只是指你可能有结婚的打算。他完全没想到我。他对此似乎毫无准备。”

“**Yes**, yes—but I am amused that he should have seen so far into my feelings. **What** has he been judging by? —**I** am not conscious of any difference in my spirits or conversation that could prepare him at this time for my marrying any more than at another. —**But** it was so, I suppose. **I** dare say there was a difference when I was staying with them the other day. **I** believe I did not play with the children quite so much as usual. **I** remember one evening the poor boys saying, ‘Uncle seems always tired now. ’”

“是啊，是啊——不过他能把我的心思看得这么透彻，倒让我觉得有趣。他是凭什么判断的呢？——我自己并未察觉在情绪或言谈上有何变化，能让他觉得我此时比往常更适宜结婚。但事实确是如此，想必如此。敢说前些日子住在他们家时，我确实有些异样。记得那几天陪孩子们玩耍不像往常那般尽兴。有个傍晚还记得可怜的小家伙们说过：‘舅舅现在好像总是很疲倦。’”

The time was coming when the news must spread farther, and other persons' reception of it tried. As soon as Mrs. Weston was sufficiently recovered to admit Mr. Woodhouse's visits, Emma having it in view that her gentle reasonings should be employed in the cause, resolved first to announce it at home, and then at Randalls. —But how to break it to her father at last! —She had bound herself to do it, in such an hour of Mr. Knightley's absence, or when it came to the point her heart would have failed her, and she must have put it off; but Mr. Knightley was to come at such a time, and follow up the beginning she was to make. —She was forced to speak, and to speak cheerfully too. She must not make it a more decided subject of misery to him, by a melancholy tone herself. She must not appear to think it a misfortune. —With all the spirits she could command, she prepared him first for something strange, and then, in a few words, said, that if his consent and approbation could be obtained—which, she trusted, would be attended with no difficulty, since it was a plan to promote the happiness of all—she and Mr. Weston were to go to Bath together.

消息迟早要传开，让其他人也来接受考验的时刻就要到了。韦斯顿太太身体刚一恢复了。原，能够接待伍德豪斯先生的拜访了，爱玛立即想借她婉言相劝促成好事，便决定先在家里宣布，然后再去朗道斯宣布。可是如何向她父亲最后摊牌呢！她决定趁奈特利先生不在家的时候，自己先拿出个主意来，否则到了节骨眼上，她会胆怯不敢开口，只好推迟这件事。可是奈特利先生偏偏在这时候来了，她只好当即开口。不过，她必须说得喜气洋洋的，决不能让他觉得这是件痛苦的事，因而露出一副悲伤的样子。她决不能让人觉得她把这件事看成是不幸。她鼓足了勇气，先让他有个思想准备，知道要发生什么不寻常的事，然后便三言两语地说道：如果他的许可和赞成——她相信这不会有什

Knightley meant to marry; by which means Hartfield would receive the constant addition of that person's company whom she knew he loved, next to his daughters and Mrs. **We-ston**, best in the world.

么问题，因为这是个促进大家幸福的计划——她能获得的话，那她和奈特利先生打算结婚。这样一来，哈特菲尔德可以一直增添这样一个伴侣，她知道除了女儿和韦斯顿太太以外，世界上他最喜爱的就是这个人了。

Poor man! —**it** was at first a considerable shock to him, and he tried earnestly to dissuade her from it. **She** was reminded, more than once, of having always said she would never marry, and assured that it would be a great deal better for her to remain single; and told of poor Isabella, and poor Miss Taylor. — **But** it would not do. **Emma** hung about him affectionately, and smiled, and said it must be so; and that he must not class her with Isabella and Mrs. **Weston**, whose marriages taking them from Hartfield, had, indeed, made a melancholy change: but she was not going from Hartfield; she should be always there; she was introducing no change in their numbers or their comforts but for the better; and she was very sure that he would be a great deal

可怜的人！——这消息起初对他是个多大的打击，他竭力劝她打消这个念头。他一再提醒她，说她过去总是宣称终身不嫁，还向她保证独身对她要好得多；又提起可怜的伊莎贝拉和可怜的泰勒小姐。——可是这一切都无济于事。**爱玛**亲亲热热地缠住他，笑吟吟地说非要这样做不可。还说决不能把她和伊莎贝拉、韦斯顿太太相提并论，因为她们一结婚就离开了哈特菲尔德，确实引起了令人伤心的变化。可她并不离开哈特菲尔德，她要永远守在这儿。她家人不会减

the happier for having Mr. **Knightley** always at hand, when he were once got used to the idea. —**Did** he not love Mr. **Knightley** very much? —**He** would not deny that he did, she was sure. —**Whom** did he ever want to consult on business but Mr. **Knightley**? — **Who** was so useful to him, who so ready to write his letters, who so glad to assist him? —**Who** so cheerful, so attentive, so attached to him? —**Would** not he like to have him always on the spot? —**Yes. That** was all very true. **Mr. Knightley** could not be there too often; he should be glad to see him every day; —but they did see him every day as it was. —**Why** could not they go on as they had done?

少，而只会增多，日子不会过得不如以前舒适，只会过得比以前更加舒适。她深信，等父亲习惯了这件事，他一定会更加幸福的。他不是非常喜欢奈特利先生吗？她知道他不会否认这一点。他有事不是总跟奈特利先生商量吗？奈特利先生对他多么有用处啊！谁像他那样，随时准备给他写信，乐意帮他办事呢？谁像他那样快活，那样体贴，那样关心他呢？难道他不喜欢奈特利先生待在他身边吗？是的。一点不假。奈特利先生来得再勤，他也不会嫌多。他天天都巴不得见到他。可事实上，他们现在已经天天见到奈特利先生了，为什么不能一如既往地继续下去呢？

Mr. Woodhouse could not be soon reconciled; but the worst was overcome, the idea was given; time and continual repetition must do the rest. —**To** Emma's entreaties and as-

伍德豪斯先生一时难以释怀；但最难受的时刻总算熬过去了，对方倒也没有死缠烂打。只要假以时日，再稍

surances succeeded Mr. **Knightley**' s, whose fond praise of her gave the subject even a kind of welcome; and he was soon used to be talked to by each, on every fair occasion. —**They** had all the assistance which Isabella could give, by letters of the strongest approbation; and Mrs. **Weston** was ready, on the first meeting, to consider the subject in the most serviceable light—first, as a settled, and, secondly, as a good one—well aware of the nearly equal importance of the two recommendations to Mr. **Woodhouse**' s mind. —**It** was agreed upon, as what was to be; and every body by whom he was used to be guided assuring him that it would be for his happiness; and having some feelings himself which almost admitted it, he began to think that some time or other—in another year or two, perhaps—it might not be so very bad if the marriage did take place.

加劝解，事情定能圆满解决。——爱玛的恳求与保证刚落音，奈特利先生便接上话茬，他那满含深情的夸赞竟让这桩亲事显出几分可喜来。没过多久，这位老先生便习惯了听他们二人每逢适当场合就要提起这桩婚事。**伊莎贝拉**寄来的信件也鼎力相助，字里行间尽是极力赞同之辞。**韦斯顿**太太初次见面时，便以最务实的态度看待这桩婚事——其一，此事已成定局；其二，实乃良缘。**她**深知这两点对伍德豪斯先生具有几乎同等分量。**既然**众人都认定这门亲事势在必行，平素那些能左右他想法的人们又都信誓旦旦说这必会给他带来幸福，加之他心底也隐约生出几分认同，这位老先生便开始觉得：或许再过一两年——待到明年或后年，倘若这桩婚事真要落实，倒也不至于糟糕到哪儿去。

Mrs. Weston was acting no part, feigning no feelings in all that she said to him in favour of the event. —She had been extremely surprised, never more so, than when Emma first opened the affair to her; but she saw in it only increase of happiness to all, and had no scruple in urging him to the utmost. —She had such a regard for Mr. Knightley, as to think he deserved even her dearest Emma; and it was in every respect so proper, suitable, and unexceptionable a connexion, and in one respect, one point of the highest importance, so peculiarly eligible, so singularly fortunate, that now it seemed as if Emma could not safely have attached herself to any other creature, and that she had herself been the stupidest of beings in not having thought of it, and wished it long ago. —How very few of those men in a rank of life to address Emma would have renounced their own home for Hartfield! And who but Mr. Knightley could know and bear with Mr. Woodhouse, so as to make such an arrangement desirable! —The difficulty of disposing of poor Mr. Woodhouse had been always felt in her husband's plans and

韦斯顿夫人在对他表示赞同这件事时所说的话，丝毫没有做作或假装感情的成分。她感到非常意外，再没有比爱玛最初向她透露这件事时更令她惊讶的了。不过，她只是觉得这件事会给大家带来更多幸福，因此毫不迟疑地竭力劝他快办。她十分敬重奈特利先生，认为他甚至配得上她最亲爱的爱玛。这是一门无可挑剔的亲事，从哪方面都很相配，都很合适，而且在至关重要的一点上，更是特别恰当，特别幸运，现在看起来，爱玛要是跟了别人，就不可能这样安然无恙，而她自己以前居然没有想到这一点，没曾抱有这个愿望，真是愚蠢至极。凡是有资格向爱玛求爱的男人，有几个肯为了哈特菲尔德而放弃自己的家呢！除了奈特利先生以外，又有谁能这么了解并容忍伍德豪斯先生，而作出这

her own, for a marriage between Frank and Emma. **How** to settle the claims of Enscombe and Hartfield had been a continual impediment—less acknowledged by Mr. **Weston** than by herself—but even he had never been able to finish the subject better than by saying—“Those matters will take care of themselves; the young people will find a way.” **But** here there was nothing to be shifted off in a wild speculation on the future. **It** was all right, all open, all equal. **No** sacrifice on any side worth the name. **It** was a union of the highest promise of felicity in itself, and without one real, rational difficulty to oppose or delay it.

样理想的安排呢！她丈夫和她本人在筹划弗兰克和爱玛的亲事时，感到为难的总是如何处置可怜的伍德豪斯先生。如何协调恩斯库姆和哈特菲尔德的要求，一直是个难题——韦斯顿先生不像她看得那么清楚——但是他也不能拿出更好的办法，只能这样说：“那些问题自会解决的，年轻人总有办法解决的。”可现在呢，没有什么问题要推到未来去解决了。一切都说得明明白白，双方都是自由自愿的，谁也不吃亏。这是一门本身充满最大幸福希望的美满姻缘，没有丝毫真正的、合理的困难来阻挠或延误它。

Mrs. Weston, with her baby on her knee, indulging in such reflections as these, was one of the happiest women in the world. If anything could increase her delight, it was perceiving that the baby would soon have outgrown its first set of caps.

韦斯顿太太膝上抱着婴儿，沉浸在诸如此类的遐想中，堪称世间最幸福的妇人。如果说还有什么能增添她的喜悦，那便是察觉这婴孩眼看就要戴不下初生的襁褓帽

了。

The news was universally a surprize wherever it spread; and Mr. Weston had his five minutes share of it; but five minutes were enough to familiarise the idea to his quickness of mind. —He saw the advantages of the match, and rejoiced in them with all the constancy of his wife; but the wonder of it was very soon nothing; and by the end of an hour he was not far from believing that he had always foreseen it.

这消息无论传到何处都令人惊诧不已；韦斯顿先生也经历了五分钟的惊异时刻；但以他敏捷的思维，五分钟已足够消化这个讯息。他看出这门婚事的好处，便以不亚于妻子的坚定态度表示欣喜；不过这种惊奇很快就烟消云散，不出一个时辰，他几乎要以为自己早就预见了这段姻缘。

“It is to be a secret, I conclude,” said he. “These matters are always a secret, till it is found out that every body knows them. Only let me be told when I may speak out. —I wonder whether Jane has any suspicion.”

“我猜，这事还得保密吧，”他说道。“这种事总是要保密的，直到后来发觉人人都知道了才算完。不过请告诉我，什么时候我才能说出去。——我纳闷，简是否有点起疑心了。”

He went to Highbury the next morning, and satisfied himself on that point. He told her the news. Was not she like a daughter, his eldest daughter? —he must tell her; and Miss

翌日早晨他去了海伯里，将这件事弄了个明白。他把消息告诉她时，她难道不像他的女儿——他的长女吗？他

Bates being present, it passed, of course, to Mrs. Cole, Mrs. Perry, and Mrs. Elton, immediately afterwards. It was no more than the principals were prepared for; they had calculated from the time of its being known at Randalls, how soon it would be over Highbury; and were thinking of themselves, as the evening wonder in many a family circle, with great sagacity.

必须告诉她。当时贝茨小姐在场，这消息自然立刻传给了科尔太太、佩里太太和埃尔顿太太。当事人对此早有准备。他们早就估算过，从消息在兰德尔斯的传播时间，到它传遍海伯里需要多久，并且以非凡的洞察力预料到，自己会成为许多家庭晚间热议的话题。

In general, it was a very well approved match. Some might think him, and others might think her, the most in luck. One set might recommend their all removing to Donwell, and leaving Hartfield for the John Knightleys; and another might predict disagreements among their servants; but yet, upon the whole, there was no serious objection raised, except in one habitation, the Vicarage. —There, the surprise was not softened by any satisfaction. Mr. Elton cared little about it, compared with his wife; he only hoped “the young lady’s pride would now be contented;” and supposed “she had always meant to catch Knightley if she could;” and, on the point of living at Hart-

总体而言，这门婚事颇受认可。有人认为他最幸运，也有人觉得她最走运。有人建议他们全家迁往当维尔，把哈特菲尔德留给约翰·奈特利一家；也有人预言他们两家的仆从会闹矛盾。不过总的来说，除了牧师宅邸那户人家，倒也没有谁真正提出反对意见。唯独在牧师家里，惊愕并未因任何欣慰之情而稍减。埃尔顿先生对此事远不及他太太在意，只是嘀咕着“但愿那位大小姐的虚荣心如今能满足了”，又揣测“她向

field, could daringly exclaim, "Rather he than I!" —**But** Mrs. Elton was very much discomposed indeed. — "**Poor** Knightley! **poor** fellow! —**sad** business for him." —**She** was extremely concerned; for, though very eccentric, he had a thousand good qualities. — "**How** could he be so taken in? —**Did** not she think him at all in love—not in the least. — "**Poor** Knightley! —**There** would be an end of all pleasant intercourse with him. —**How** happy he had been to come and dine with them whenever they asked him! **But** that would be all over now. —**Poor** fellow! —**No** more exploring parties to Donwell made for her. —**Oh! no;** there would be a Mrs. **Knightley** to throw cold water on every thing. —**Extremely** disagreeable! **But** she was not at all sorry that she had abused the housekeeper the other day. —**Shocking** plan, living together. **It** would never do. **She** knew a family near Maple Grove who had tried it, and been obliged to separate before the end of the first quarter.

来就存着要攀上奈特利的心思"; 提及要在哈特菲尔德长住, 他竟敢公然嚷道: "他情愿就好, 反正我绝不!" 但埃尔顿太太确实气急败坏——"可怜的奈特利! 可怜人! 他这摊上的叫什么事啊。" 她忧心忡忡, 虽说这人古怪, 可浑身都是优点。怎会被人这般蒙骗? 压根没看出他有半分动情——丝毫都没有。可怜的奈特利! 往后与他所有的愉快往来都要断了。从前每次相邀, 他总是欣然来赴宴呢! 如今这般光景都要结束了。可怜的人! 再也不能为她组织去当维尔探幽的聚会了。唉! 可不么, 往后会有个奈特利太太给所有事泼冷水。实在叫人恼火! 不过她丝毫不后悔前几日责骂了那位管家——同住一个屋檐下的安排太离谱, 绝对行不通。她认得梅普尔格罗夫附近有户人家就这么试过, 不

到三个月就不得不散伙。

CHAPTER XVIII

第十八章

Time passed on. A few more to-morrows, and the party from London would be arriving. It was an alarming change; and Emma was thinking of it one morning, as what must bring a great deal to agitate and grieve her, when Mr. Knightley came in, and distressing thoughts were put by. After the first chat of pleasure he was silent; and then, in a graver tone, began with,

时光流逝。再过几个明天，伦敦来的客人就要到了。这真是个令人不安的变化；一天早晨，爱玛正思忖着这件事必将带来诸多烦扰与伤感时，奈特利先生走了进来，那些令人沮丧的思绪便被搁置一旁。互道欢欣的寒暄过后，他沉默片刻，随即用更凝重的语气开口说道：

“I have something to tell you, Emma; some news.”

“我有件事要告诉你，爱玛；是个消息。”

“Good or bad?” said she, quickly, looking up in his face.

“是好是坏？”她抬眼望着他的脸，急切地问道。

“I do not know which it ought to be called.”

“我也说不清这该叫什么。”

“Oh! good I am sure. —I see it in your countenance. You are trying not to smile.”

“哦！我敢肯定这是好消息。——我从你脸上看出来了。你正强忍着不笑呢。”

“I am afraid,” said he, composing his features, “我恐怕，”他定了定神说

“I am very much afraid, my dear Emma, that you will not smile when you hear it.” 道，“我亲爱的爱玛，恐怕你听了会笑不出来。”

“Indeed! but why so? —I can hardly imagine that any thing which pleases or amuses you, should not please and amuse me too.” “真的！可这是为什么呢？——我简直难以想象，任何能让你高兴或觉得有趣的事，竟会不让我也同样高兴和觉得有趣。”

“There is one subject,” he replied, “I hope but one, on which we do not think alike.” He paused a moment, again smiling, with his eyes fixed on her face. “Does nothing occur to you? —Do not you recollect? —Harriet Smith.” “有一个话题，”他答道，“我希望只有一个话题，我们的想法不尽相同。”他停顿片刻，再度微笑，目光凝视着她的脸庞。“你没想到什么吗？——你不记得了吗？——哈丽特·史密斯。”

Her cheeks flushed at the name, and she felt afraid of something, though she knew not what. 一听见这名字，她脸颊就泛起红晕，心里感到一阵莫名的恐惧。

“Have you heard from her yourself this morning?” cried he. “You have, I believe, and know the whole.” “今早你收到她的信了么？”他嚷道，“我想你准收到了，什么都清楚了吧。”

“No, I have not; I know nothing; pray tell me.” “不，我还没听说；我都不知道；请快告诉我。”

“**You** are prepared for the worst, I see—and very bad it is. **Harriet** Smith marries Robert Martin.”

“看来你已做了最坏的打算——而这确实糟糕透顶。哈丽特·史密斯要嫁给罗伯特·马丁了。”

Emma gave a start, which did not seem like being prepared—and her eyes, in eager gaze, said, “No, this is impossible! ”**but** her lips were closed.

爱玛吃了一惊，似乎毫无准备——她热切的目光仿佛在说：“不，这不可能！”但双唇却紧闭着。

“**It** is so, indeed,”continued Mr. **Knightley**; “I have it from Robert Martin himself. **He** left me not half an hour ago.”

“确实如此，”奈特利先生继续说道，“我是听罗伯特·马丁亲口说的。他离开我还不到半个钟头。”

She was still looking at him with the most speaking amazement.

她依然带着最难以言表的惊愕神情望着他。

“**You** like it, my Emma, as little as I feared.—I wish our opinions were the same. **But** in time they will. **Time**, you may be sure, will make one or the other of us think differently; and, in the meanwhile, we need not talk much on the subject.”

“你果然如我所担心的那样不喜欢它，我的爱玛。但愿我们的看法能一致。不过迟早会的。时间，你尽可相信，会使我们当中有一方改变想法；在此期间，我们不必多谈这个话题。”

“**You** mistake me, you quite mistake me,”she

“你误会我了，你完全误会我

replied, exerting herself. “**It** is not that such a circumstance would now make me unhappy, but I cannot believe it. **It** seems an impossibility! —**You** cannot mean to say, that Harriet Smith has accepted Robert Martin. **You** cannot mean that he has even proposed to her again—yet. **You** only mean, that he intends it. ”

了，”她强打精神回答道，“并非说现在发生这种事会让我不快，而是我根本不能相信。这简直不可思议！——你该不是说哈里特·史密斯已经接受了罗伯特·马丁吧。你该不是说他居然又向她求婚了——就在眼下。你只是说他有这个打算罢了。”

“**I** mean that he has done it,” answered Mr. **Knightley**, with smiling but determined decision, “and been accepted. ”

“我的意思是，他已经这么做了，”奈特利先生带着笑意却斩钉截铁地答道，“而且被接受了。”

“**Good God!** ”she cried. — “**Well!** ”— “天哪！”她喊道，“哎呀！”— **Then** having recourse to her workbasket, in excuse for leaning down her face, and concealing all the exquisite feelings of delight and entertainment which she knew she must be expressing, she added, “Well, now tell me every thing; make this intelligible to me. **How**, where, when? —**Let** me know it all. I never was more surprised—but it does not make me unhappy, I assure you. —**How—how** has it been possible? ”

随即她借故俯身向针线篮，以掩饰脸上必定流露出的那份欣喜与愉悦的微妙神情，接着说道：“好了，快把来龙去脉都说给我听。让我弄明白这是怎么回事。怎么发生的，在哪儿，什么时候？——我要知道全部细节。我从未这般吃惊过——不过你放心，我一点儿也不难过。这

"It is a very simple story. He went to town on business three days ago, and I got him to take charge of some papers which I was wanting to send to John. —He delivered these papers to John, at his chambers, and was asked by him to join their party the same evening to Astley's. They were going to take the two eldest boys to Astley's. The party was to be our brother and sister, Henry, John—and Miss Smith. My friend Robert could not resist. They called for him in their way; were all extremely amused; and my brother asked him to dine with them the next day—which he did—and in the course of that visit (as I understand) he found an opportunity of speaking to Harriet; and certainly did not speak in vain. —She made him, by her acceptance, as happy even as he is deserving. He came down by yesterday's coach, and was with me this morning immediately after breakfast, to report his proceedings, first on my affairs, and then on his own. This is all that I can relate of the how, where, and when. Your friend Harriet will make a much longer history when you see her.

事情再简单不过了。三天前他进城办事，我托他带几份文件给约翰。他在事务所把文件交给约翰时，约翰邀他当晚同去阿斯特利剧场——他们夫妇要带两个大儿子看马戏。同行的人有我哥哥嫂子、亨利、约翰，还有史密斯小姐。我的朋友罗伯特推辞不得。他们顺路接上他，众人都玩得尽兴。次日我哥哥又邀他共进晚餐——他果真去了——席间（据我所知）他寻得机会与哈丽特交谈，这番谈话自然没有白费。她的应允让他得偿所愿，这般圆满正配得上他的真心。他昨儿乘驿车回来，今早用过早饭便立刻来找我，先汇报我托付的事，再说他自己的情形。这就是整件事的来龙去脉。等您见到您的朋友哈丽特，她会把这段故事说得详尽得多——那些纤毫细节

—**She** will give you all the minute particulars, which only woman's language can make interesting. —**In** our communications we deal only in the great. —**However**, I must say, that Robert Martin's heart seemed for him, and to me, very overflowing; and that he did mention, without its being much to the purpose, that on quitting their box at Astley's, my brother took charge of Mrs. **John** Knightley and little John, and he followed with Miss Smith and Henry; and that at one time they were in such a crowd, as to make Miss Smith rather uneasy. ”

经女儿家娓娓道来才格外动人，我们男人叙述起来总是三言两语。不过我必须说，罗伯特·马丁这颗心在我看来实在是情意深重。他还特意提到——虽然与正题无甚关联——那晚离开阿斯特利剧场时，我哥哥照顾着约翰·奈特利太太和小约翰，他则陪着史密斯小姐和亨利同行。有段路上人群拥挤，让史密斯小姐颇受了些惊吓。

He stopped. —**Emma** dared not attempt any immediate reply. **To** speak, she was sure would be to betray a most unreasonable degree of happiness. **She** must wait a moment, or he would think her mad. **Her** silence disturbed him; and after observing her a little while, he added,

他停住了。——爱玛不敢马上回答。她一开口，只怕会泄露出她那过分快活的心情。她得稍等片刻，不然他会以为她发疯了。她的沉默使他不安起来；他瞅了她一会，又继续说道，

“**Emma**, my love, you said that this circumstance would not now make you unhappy; but I am afraid it gives you more pain than you expected. **His** situation is an evil—but you must

“爱玛，我亲爱的，你说过这件事现在不会让你难过了；但我担心它给你带来的痛苦超出了你的预期。他的处境

consider it as what satisfies your friend; and I 固然不尽如人意——可你必
will answer for your thinking better and better 须考虑到这正符合你朋友的
of him as you know him more. **His** good sense 心意；我敢说随着你对他了
and good principles would delight you. —**As** 解越深，会越来越发现他的
far as the man is concerned, you could not wish 可贵。**他的**见识与品德定能
your friend in better hands. **His** rank in soci- 让你欣慰——就男方而言，
ety I would alter if I could, which is saying a 你总不愿让你朋友找到比他
great deal I assure you, Emma. —**You** laugh 更可靠的归宿了。若是我能
at me about William Larkins; but I could quite 改变他的社会地位，我定会
as ill spare Robert Martin. ” 去做，这话的分量你可要明
白，爱玛——你总笑我提起威廉·拉金斯；可要我舍弃
罗伯特·马丁，同样会让我
难以忍受。”

He wanted her to look up and smile; and 他想要她抬起头来笑一笑；
having now brought herself not to smile too 而此刻她已克制住自己不笑
broadly—she did—cheerfully answering, 得太过开怀——便果真抬起
眼来——欣然应道：

“**You** need not be at any pains to reconcile ” 你无需费心劝我接受这门
me to the match. I think Harriet is doing 亲事。我认为哈丽特嫁得极
extremely well. Her connexions may be 好。她的门第或许还不及他
worse than his. In respectability of char- 呢。若论品性端正，她的家人
acter, there can be no doubt that they are. I 自是无可指摘的。我方才沉
have been silent from surprize merely, exces- 默不过是出于惊异，极度的

sive surprize. **You** cannot imagine how suddenly it has come on me! **how** peculiarly unprepared I was! —**for** I had reason to believe her very lately more determined against him, much more, than she was before. ”

惊异。你想象不到这事对我来得多么突然！我尤其没有心理准备——因为我有理由相信，就在不久前她对他的抗拒比以往更坚决得多呢。”

“**You** ought to know your friend best,” replied Mr. **Knightley**; “but I should say she was a good-tempered, soft-hearted girl, not likely to be very, very determined against any young man who told her he loved her. ”

“你应当最了解你的朋友，”奈特利先生答道，“不过依我看，她是个性情温婉、心地柔善的姑娘，对任何向她示爱的年轻男子，都不至于斩钉截铁地回绝。”

Emma could not help laughing as she answered, “Upon my word, I believe you know her quite as well as I do. —**But**, Mr. **Knightley**, are you perfectly sure that she has absolutely and downright _accepted_ him. I could suppose she might in time—but can she already? —**Did** not you misunderstand him? —**You** were both talking of other things; of business, shows of cattle, or new drills—and might not you, in the confusion of so many subjects, mistake him? —**It** was not Harriet’s hand that he was certain of—it was the dimensions of some famous ox. ”

爱玛回答时不禁笑了起来：“老实说，我觉得你和我一样了解她。不过，奈特利先生，你当真能确定她已经彻彻底底地接受了他吗？我原以为她迟早会答应——但哪能这么快？该不会是你误会了他的意思吧？你们俩当时尽在谈别的事——生意啦，牲畜展览啦，新式播种机啦——这么多话题混在一起，你难道不会听错吗？他说的准保不是哈丽特的手，而

是某头名牛的尺寸。”

The contrast between the countenance and air of Mr. **Knightley** and Robert Martin was, at this moment, so strong to Emma's feelings, and so strong was the recollection of all that had so recently passed on Harriet's side, so fresh the sound of those words, spoken with such emphasis, “No, I hope I know better than to think of Robert Martin,” that she was really expecting the intelligence to prove, in some measure, premature. **It** could not be otherwise.

此刻，奈特利先生与罗伯特·马丁在仪态气度上的对比，在爱玛心中形成了如此鲜明的映照——哈丽特方才那番激烈言辞犹在耳畔，”不，我总还不至于糊涂到会考虑罗伯特·马丁”这句话说得那般斩钉截铁，以致她真心期盼这消息多少来得为时过早。事情断不可能如此。

“**Do** you dare say this? ”cried Mr. **Knightley**. “**Do** you dare to suppose me so great a blockhead, as not to know what a man is talking of? —**What** do you deserve? ”

“你竟敢这么说?”奈特利先生嚷道，“你竟敢把我当成连别人说话都听不懂的大傻瓜? ——你说你该当何罪?”

“**Oh!** I always deserve the best treatment, because I never put up with any other; and, therefore, you must give me a plain, direct answer. **Are** you quite sure that you understand the terms on which Mr. **Martin** and Harriet now are? ”

“哦! 我理应受到最好的对待，因为我向来容不得半点怠慢；所以，你必须给我一个明确直白的答复。你当真清楚马丁先生和哈丽特现在的关系究竟如何吗?”

“I am quite sure,” he replied, speaking very distinctly, “that he told me she had accepted

“我十分确信，”他回答，字句清晰地说道，“他告诉我她

him; and that there was no obscurity, nothing doubtful, in the words he used; and I think I can give you a proof that it must be so. **He** asked my opinion as to what he was now to do. **He** knew of no one but Mrs. **Goddard** to whom he could apply for information of her relations or friends. **Could** I mention any thing more fit to be done, than to go to Mrs. **Goddard**? I assured him that I could not. **Then**, he said, he would endeavour to see her in the course of this day. ”

已经接受了他的求婚；他用的字眼毫不含糊，没有任何可疑之处。而且我想我能向你证明事实必然如此。他征求我的意见，询问现在应当怎么做。除了戈达德太太之外，他不知道还能向谁打听她亲友的情况。我能否提出比去找戈达德太太更合适的做法？我明确告诉他不能。于是他说，他会在今天之内设法去见那位太太。”

“I am perfectly satisfied,” replied Emma, with the brightest smiles, “and most sincerely wish them happy.”

”我完全满意了，”爱玛答道，脸上洋溢着最灿烂的笑容，”并衷心祝愿他们幸福。

”

“**You** are materially changed since we talked on this subject before.”

”自我们上次谈及此事以来，你已判若两人。”

“I hope so—for at that time I was a fool.”

但愿如此——因为那时候我真是个傻瓜。

“**And** I am changed also; for I am now very willing to grant you all Harriet’s good qualities. I have taken some pains for your sake,

”我自己也变了；因为我现在很愿意承认哈丽特的所有优点。为了你，也为了罗伯特·

and for Robert Martin's sake, (whom I have always had reason to believe as much in love with her as ever,) to get acquainted with her. I have often talked to her a good deal. You must have seen that I did. **Sometimes**, indeed, I have thought you were half suspecting me of pleading poor Martin's cause, which was never the case; but, from all my observations, I am convinced of her being an artless, amiable girl, with very good notions, very seriously good principles, and placing her happiness in the affections and utility of domestic life. — **Much** of this, I have no doubt, she may thank you for. ”

马丁（我一直有理由相信他一直对她的爱始终不渝），我特意花了不少工夫去了解她。我常和她长谈，你必定注意到这一点。说真的，有时我甚至觉得你怀疑我在为可怜的马丁说项，其实从未有过这种事。但通过观察，我确信她是个纯真可爱的姑娘，见解不俗，品性端良，把幸福寄托于家庭生活的温情与务实——这一切，我毫不怀疑，多半要归功于你。”

“**Me!** ”cried Emma, shaking her head. — “**我!**”爱玛摇摇头，嚷道，“唉！
“**Ah! poor Harriet!** ” 可怜的哈丽特！”

She checked herself, however, and submitted quietly to a little more praise than she deserved. 她克制住了自己，安静地接受了略高于应得的赞美。

Their conversation was soon afterwards closed by the entrance of her father. **She** was not sorry. **She** wanted to be alone. **Her** mind was in a state of flutter and wonder, which 她们的话才说到这里，父亲就走进来了，打断了她们。她并不觉得遗憾。她想一个人呆着。她心里又激动又惊异，

made it impossible for her to be collected. **She** was in dancing, singing, exclaiming spirits; and till she had moved about, and talked to herself, and laughed and reflected, she could be fit for nothing rational.

没有办法镇定下来。她简直要跳跳蹦蹦、唱唱歌、叫叫嚷嚷；只有走动走动，安安静静地自言自语地笑一阵，回想一阵，才能想出一个头绪来。

Her father's business was to announce James' s being gone out to put the horses to, preparatory to their now daily drive to Randalls; and she had, therefore, an immediate excuse for disappearing.

她父亲过来是为了通知一声，詹姆斯已经出去套马，准备他们每日例行的兰德尔之行；她因此立刻有了脱身的借口。

The joy, the gratitude, the exquisite delight of her sensations may be imagined. **The** sole grievance and alloy thus removed in the prospect of Harriet's welfare, she was really in danger of becoming too happy for security.

—**What** had she to wish for? **Nothing**, but to grow more worthy of him, whose intentions and judgment had been ever so superior to her own. **Nothing**, but that the lessons of her past folly might teach her humility and circumspection in future.

她此刻的欣喜、感激与酣畅淋漓的欢愉实非言语所能描摹。随着横亘在哈丽特幸福前景前的唯一阴翳烟消云散，她几乎要被这过于汹涌的喜悦淹没。——她还有什么不满足的呢？唯愿自己能愈发配得上他，那位始终在见识与决断上远胜于她的良人；唯愿过往的荒唐教训能教会她日后谦逊审慎，不再重蹈覆辙。

Serious she was, very serious in her thankfulness, and in her resolutions; and yet there was no preventing a laugh, sometimes in the very midst of them. **She** must laugh at such a close! **Such** an end of the doleful disappointment of five weeks back! **Such** a heart—such a Harriet!

她郑重其事地表达了感激之情，郑重其事地立下决心，可说者说着仍不免笑出声来——有时甚至在郑重其事的当儿。**这样**一场结局！**五个**星期前那么令人沮丧的失望，竟得到这样的终结！**这样**的一个痴心人——这样的一个哈丽特！

Now there would be pleasure in her returning —Every thing would be a pleasure. **It** would be a great pleasure to know Robert Martin.

如今她回来将令人愉快——事事都会令人愉快。**认识**罗伯特·马丁也将是一大乐事。

High in the rank of her most serious and heartfelt felicities, was the reflection that all necessity of concealment from Mr. **Knightley** would soon be over. **The** disguise, equivocation, mystery, so hateful to her to practise, might soon be over. **She** could now look forward to giving him that full and perfect confidence which her disposition was most ready to welcome as a duty.

在她最为严肃和由衷的快乐中，有一项高居首位——想到不久之后，就再也无需对奈特利先生隐瞒任何事了。**那**种令她深恶痛绝的伪装、含糊其辞和神秘莫测，很快就要结束了。**她**现在可以期待向他倾吐全部心声，这种彻底的信任正符合她天性中最愿视为责任的本能。

In the gayest and happiest spirits she set for-

她怀着最欢快、最喜悦的心

ward with her father; not always listening, but always agreeing to what he said; and, whether in speech or silence, conniving at the comfortable persuasion of his being obliged to go to Randalls every day, or poor Mrs. Weston would be disappointed.

情，陪着父亲出发了；她并不总是在听父亲说话，却总是对他的话表示赞同；无论开口还是沉默，她都纵容着他那种舒心的想法，认为他每天都非去兰多尔斯不可，否则可怜的韦斯顿太太就会失望。

They arrived. —Mrs. Weston was alone in the drawing-room:—but hardly had they been told of the baby, and Mr. Woodhouse received the thanks for coming, which he asked for, when a glimpse was caught through the blind, of two figures passing near the window.

他们到了。韦斯顿太太独自坐在客厅里；——他们刚听说了那孩子的事，伍德豪斯先生也刚刚接受了他所要求的感谢之辞，这时百叶窗外忽然闪过两个人影，正从窗边经过。

“It is Frank and Miss Fairfax,” said Mrs. Weston. “I was just going to tell you of our agreeable surprize in seeing him arrive this morning. He stays till to-morrow, and Miss Fairfax has been persuaded to spend the day with us. — They are coming in, I hope.”

“是弗兰克和费尔法克斯小姐，”韦斯顿太太说道。“我正要告诉你，今早看到他到来，我们真是又惊又喜。他要待到明天，费尔法克斯小姐也被说服来和我们共度今日——他们这就进来了，但愿如此。”

In half a minute they were in the room. **Emma** was extremely glad to see him—but there was a degree of confusion—a number of embarrassing recollections on each side. **They** met readily and smiling, but with a consciousness which at first allowed little to be said; and having all sat down again, there was for some time such a blank in the circle, that Emma began to doubt whether the wish now indulged, which she had long felt, of seeing Frank Churchill once more, and of seeing him with Jane, would yield its proportion of pleasure. **When** Mr. **Weston** joined the party, however, and when the baby was fetched, there was no longer a want of subject or animation—or of courage and opportunity for Frank Churchill to draw near her and say,

不到半分钟工夫，他们便走进屋来。**爱玛**见到他十分高兴——但也不无几分尴尬。许多令人难堪的回忆涌上各自心头。**他们**当即笑眯眯地见了面，两人都有些赧颜，起初不知说什么好。**大家**重新坐定之后，有片刻沉默，爱玛不禁心想，她早就盼望再见到弗兰克·邱吉尔，而今见了面，又跟简在一起，她怕是高兴不起来了。**等**韦斯顿先生来到大伙中间，等把娃娃抱来，大家这才不再无话可说，不再无动于衷——弗兰克·邱吉尔也有了勇气和机会，走到爱玛身边，说道：

“I have to thank you, Miss Woodhouse, for a very kind forgiving message in one of Mrs. **Weston**’ s letters. I hope time has not made you less willing to pardon. I hope you do not retract what you then said.”

“**伍德豪斯**小姐，我得感谢你通过韦斯顿太太的信中传来的那番宽厚仁慈的寄语。但愿时光流逝并未消减您宽宥的意愿，更望您不曾收回当日所言。”

“**No**, indeed,” cried Emma, most happy to begin, “not in the least. I am particularly glad to see and shake hands with you—and to give you joy in person.” “哪里的话，”爱玛叫道，她正求之不得，“一点也不。我特别高兴见到您，和您握手——并亲自向您道喜。”

He thanked her with all his heart, and continued some time to speak with serious feeling of his gratitude and happiness. 他由衷地向她道谢，又满怀真挚的感激与喜悦之情继续倾诉了片刻。

“**Is** not she looking well?” said he, turning his eyes towards Jane. “**Better** than she ever used to do? —**You** see how my father and Mrs. Weston doat upon her.” “她看上去气色不好吗?”他说着，将目光转向简。“比从前任何时候都要好吧? ——您瞧我父亲和韦斯顿太太多么疼爱她。”

But his spirits were soon rising again, and with laughing eyes, after mentioning the expected return of the Campbells, he named the name of Dixon. —**Emma** blushed, and forbade its being pronounced in her hearing. 但他的情绪很快又高涨起来，带着含笑的双眼，在提到坎贝尔夫妇即将归来之后，他说出了狄克逊的名字——爱玛脸红了，不许他在她面前提起这个名字。

“**I** can never think of it,” she cried, “without extreme shame.” “我一想到这件事，”她叫道，“就羞愧得无地自容。”

“**The** shame,” he answered, “is all mine, or ought to be. **But** is it possible that you had no “羞愧的，”他答道，“全在于我，或者说应该全在于我。不

suspicion? —I mean of late. **Early**, I know, you had none. ” 过, 难道你竟毫无察觉? ——我是指最近。我知道, 早些时候你是毫无察觉的。”

“I never had the smallest, I assure you. ”

“我向你保证, 连一丝一毫都不曾有过。”

“**That** appears quite wonderful. I was once very near—and I wish I had—it would have been better. **But** though I was always doing wrong things, they were very bad wrong things, and such as did me no service. —**It** would have been a much better transgression had I broken the bond of secrecy and told you every thing. ”

“这听起来真是奇妙。我曾一度非常接近——但愿我当时 ——那样会更好。虽然我总在做错事, 但那些都是极其糟糕的错事, 对我毫无益处。若当时我能打破保密的承诺, 把一切向你和盘托出, 那倒算是更有价值的过失了。”

“**It** is not now worth a regret,” said Emma.

“如今已不值得惋惜了,”爱玛说道。

“I have some hope,” resumed he, “of my uncle’s being persuaded to pay a visit at Randalls; he wants to be introduced to her. **When** the Campbells are returned, we shall meet them in London, and continue there, I trust, till we may carry her northward. —**But** now, I am at such a distance from her—is not it hard, Miss Woodhouse? —**Till** this morning, we have not

“我有些希望, ”他接着说
道, “能说服我舅父到兰德
尔家来作一次访问; 他想同
她认识。等坎贝尔夫妇回来
以后, 我们将在伦敦跟他们
会面, 我想, 我们会在那儿
住下去, 直到能带她北上为
止。可是现在, 我离她这么远

once met since the day of reconciliation. **Do** ——真太痛苦了，伍德豪斯小姐——今天早上以前，自从和好的那天起，我们还没见过面呢。**你不可怜我吗？”**

Emma spoke her pity so very kindly, that with a sudden accession of gay thought, he cried,

爱玛说话时，语气里充满了真挚的同情，他突然心头一喜，高声说道：

“**Ah! by** the bye,” then sinking his voice, and looking demure for the moment—“I hope Mr. **Knightley** is well? ”**He** paused. —**She** coloured and laughed. —“I know you saw my letter, and think you may remember my wish in your favour. **Let** me return your congratulations. —**I** assure you that I have heard the news with the warmest interest and satisfaction. —**He** is a man whom I cannot presume to praise.”

“啊！顺便说一句，”他随即压低嗓音，故作庄重地顿了顿，“但愿奈特利先生身体安康？”他停顿片刻。她顿时飞红了脸，笑出声来。“我知道您看过我那封信，料想您该记得我那份成全美意的心愿。请允许我奉还您的祝贺——实不相瞒，听闻这消息时，我怀着最热切的关切与欣慰。这位先生的品格，实在不敢妄加赞誉。”

Emma was delighted, and only wanted him to go on in the same style; but his mind was the next moment in his own concerns and with his own Jane, and his next words were,

爱玛听了满心欢喜，只盼他继续用这种口吻说下去；不料转眼间他的心思又转到了自己的事情和亲爱的简身

上，紧接着便说道：

“**Did** you ever see such a skin? —**such** smoothness! **such** delicacy! —**and** yet without being actually fair. —**One** cannot call her fair. **It** is a most uncommon complexion, with her dark eye-lashes and hair—a most distinguishing complexion! **So** peculiarly the lady in it. —**Just** colour enough for beauty.”

“你可见过这样的肌肤? ——如此光滑! 如此细腻! ——却并非真正白皙。——我们不好说她白皙。配上她那乌黑的睫毛与秀发，这肤色实在稀罕得很——真是独具风韵的肤色! 这般恰到好处的淑女气质。——这点红晕正是美之所需。”

“**I** have always admired her complexion,” replied Emma, archly; “but do not I remember the time when you found fault with her for being so pale? —**When** we first began to talk of her. —**Have** you quite forgotten?”

“我一向羡慕她的肤色，”爱玛调皮地回答道，“可我怎么记得你曾嫌她过于苍白呢? ——就是我们刚开始谈起她的时候。——你难道全忘了吗?”

“**Oh! no—what** an impudent dog I was! —**How** could I dare—”

“哦! 不——我真是个厚颜无耻的家伙! ——我怎敢如此——”

But he laughed so heartily at the recollection, that Emma could not help saying,

但一想起这事，他便忍俊不禁，笑得那样开怀，以至于爱玛不禁说道：

“I do suspect that in the midst of your perplexities at that time, you had very great amusement in tricking us all. —I am sure you had. —I am sure it was a consolation to you. ”

“我怀疑你当时在百般困惑之中，倒把捉弄我们大家当作极大的乐趣——我确信你是这样的——我确信这对你是一种安慰。”

“Oh! no, no, no—how can you suspect me of such a thing? I was the most miserable wretch! ”

“哦！不，不，不——您怎能这样猜疑我？我那时可是天底下最可怜的倒霉蛋！”

“Not quite so miserable as to be insensible to mirth. I am sure it was a source of high entertainment to you, to feel that you were taking us all in. —Perhaps I am the readier to suspect, because, to tell you the truth, I think it might have been some amusement to myself in the same situation. I think there is a little likeness between us. ”

”倒也不至于惨到全然不识谐谑。我敢说，当您意识到将我们所有人都蒙在鼓里时，定是觉得妙趣横生吧。——或许我如此轻易起疑，是因为实不相瞒，若处在同等境况，我自己大概也会觉得颇有意思。想来我们二人之间，倒真有几分相似呢。”

He bowed.

他鞠了一躬。

“If not in our dispositions,” she presently added, with a look of true sensibility, “there is a likeness in our destiny; the destiny which bids fair to connect us with two characters so much superior to our own. ”

“即便性情各异，”她随即带着真挚的感伤神情补充道，“我们的命运却何其相似；这命运注定要将我们与两位远胜于我们的人物紧密相连。”

“**True**, true,” he answered, warmly. “**No**, not **确实**，确实，”他热切地回答。“**You** can have no superior, but most true on mine. —**She** is a complete angel. **Look** at her. **Is** not she an angel in every gesture? **Observe** the turn of her throat. **Observe** her eyes, as she is looking up at my father. —**You** will be glad to hear (inclining his head, and whispering seriously) that my uncle means to give her all my aunt’s jewels. **They** are to be new set. I am resolved to have some in an ornament for the head. **Will** not it be beautiful in her dark hair?”

答。“不，在你看来并非如此。你不可能有比你更高贵的人了，但在我看来却是千真万确——她是个十足的天使。瞧瞧她。她的一举一动都不像个天使吗？看她脖颈的曲线。看她抬眼望向我父亲时的眼神——（他低下头，认真地悄声说）您听了一定高兴：我叔父打算把我姑妈所有的珠宝都给她。要重新镶嵌。我决定挑几件做成头饰。戴在她乌黑的头发上岂不很美？”

“**Very** beautiful, indeed,” replied Emma; and she spoke so kindly, that he gratefully burst out,

“确实非常美，”爱玛答道；她的语气如此和善，令他感激不已，脱口而出：

“**How** delighted I am to see you again! **and** “再次见到您，我是多么高兴啊！而且看到您气色这么好！not have missed this meeting for the world. **I** ——我无论如何也不愿错过 should certainly have called at Hartfield, had you failed to come.”

啊！而且看到您气色这么好！——我无论如何也不愿错过这次会面。倘若您不来，我必定会去哈特菲尔德登门拜访的。”

The others had been talking of the child, Mrs. Weston giving an account of a little alarm she had been under, the evening before, from the infant's appearing not quite well. She believed she had been foolish, but it had alarmed her, and she had been within half a minute of sending for Mr. Perry. Perhaps she ought to be ashamed, but Mr. Weston had been almost as uneasy as herself. —In ten minutes, however, the child had been perfectly well again. This was her history; and particularly interesting it was to Mr. Woodhouse, who commended her very much for thinking of sending for Perry, and only regretted that she had not done it. “She should always send for Perry, if the child appeared in the slightest degree disordered, were it only for a moment. She could not be too soon alarmed, nor send for Perry too often. It was a pity, perhaps, that he had not come last night; for, though the child seemed well now, very well considering, it would probably have been better if Perry had seen it.”

其余的人都在谈论那个孩子，韦斯顿太太讲述了昨晚她感到的一阵小小的惊恐，那婴儿好像不太舒服。她相信自己是太傻了，可是她真的感到惊恐，差点儿就派人去请佩里先生。也许她应该感到羞愧，不过韦斯顿先生当时也跟她一样感到不安。可是，不到十分钟，那孩子就变得十分正常了。这就是她的故事。伍德豪斯先生特别感兴趣，他非常赞赏她想到请佩里，只可惜她没有真的去请。“要是那孩子有一丝一毫的不舒服，哪怕仅仅是一分钟，你都该派人去请佩里。她怎么尽早惊恐都不为过，请佩里的次数再多也不过分。昨晚他没来，也许是个遗憾，因为，虽然那孩子现在看上去很好，可要说好，要是佩里先生来看过，她肯定会更好的。”

Frank Churchill caught the name.

弗兰克·丘吉尔听见了这个

名字。

“Perry! ”said he to Emma, and trying, as he spoke, to catch Miss Fairfax’s eye. “My friend Mr. Perry! What are they saying about Mr. Perry? —Has he been here this morning? —And how does he travel now? —Has he set up his carriage? ”

“佩里! ”他对爱玛说，一边说一边试图引起费尔法克斯小姐的注意。“我的朋友佩里先生！他们都在议论佩里先生生什么？——他今早来过吗？——现在他出门用什么交通工具？——是不是已经置办了马车？”

Emma soon recollect, and understood him; and while she joined in the laugh, it was evident from Jane’s countenance that she too was really hearing him, though trying to seem deaf.

爱玛立刻回想起来，明白了他的意思；当她跟着一起笑时，从简的面容可以明显看出，她其实也听见了他的话，尽管竭力装作没听见。

“Such an extraordinary dream of mine! ”he cried. “I can never think of it without laughing. —She hears us, she hears us, Miss Woodhouse. I see it in her cheek, her smile, her vain attempt to frown. Look at her. Do not you see that, at this instant, the very passage of her own letter, which sent me the report, is passing under her eye—that the whole blunder is spread before her—that she can attend

“我做了一个多么离奇的梦啊！”他嚷道，“我一想起来就要发笑。她听见我们的话啦，她听见我们的话啦，伍德豪斯小姐。你看她的脸颊，她的微笑，她那徒然想皱起的眉头，都说明了这一点。瞧瞧她吧。你难道没有看出，此时此刻，她正在看她那封信

to nothing else, though pretending to listen to
the others? ”

里写给我听的那段话？整个
纰漏都摆在她面前——她装
作在听别人说话，其实什么
也听不进去，难道不是这样
吗？”

Jane was forced to smile completely, for a mo-
ment; and the smile partly remained as she
turned towards him, and said in a conscious,
low, yet steady voice,

简不由得粲然一笑，那笑意
在她转向他时仍未完全收
敛，她用一种自觉、低沉而
又镇定的声音说道：

“**How** you can bear such recollections, is as-
tonishing to me! —**They** will sometimes
obtrude—but how you can court them! ”

”你竟能忍受这样的回忆，真
叫我吃惊！——它们有时会
不请自来——可你竟还主动
去招惹它们！”

He had a great deal to say in return, and
very entertainingly; but Emma’s feelings were
chiefly with Jane, in the argument; and on
leaving Randalls, and falling naturally into
a comparison of the two men, she felt, that
pleased as she had been to see Frank Churchill,
and really regarding him as she did with friend-
ship, she had never been more sensible of Mr.
Knightley’ s high superiority of character.
The happiness of this most happy day, re-

他在应答时也说了许多妙趣
横生的话；不过爱玛一边争
论，一边主要在想简。等到离
开兰多尔斯，自然而然地把
两个男人比较一番时，她感
到，看见弗兰克·邱吉尔虽
然高兴，但她打心眼里把他
仅仅看作一个朋友，她从来
没有像现在这样看得清楚，
奈特利先生的人品要高尚得

ceived its completion, in the animated contemplation of his worth which this comparison produced.

多。这天过得快活极了，眼下正是这样欣喜地在思忖着奈特利先生的功德，使这天圆满地结束了。

CHAPTER XIX

第十九章

If Emma had still, at intervals, an anxious feeling for Harriet, a momentary doubt of its being possible for her to be really cured of her attachment to Mr. **Knightley**, and really able to accept another man from unbiased inclination, it was not long that she had to suffer from the recurrence of any such uncertainty. A very few days brought the party from London, and she had no sooner an opportunity of being one hour alone with Harriet, than she became perfectly satisfied—unaccountable as it was! —**that** Robert Martin had thoroughly supplanted Mr. **Knightley**, and was now forming all her views of happiness.

倘若爱玛还不时地为哈丽特感到焦虑，偶尔怀疑她是否真能从对奈特利先生的依恋中解脱，是否真能毫无偏见地接纳另一个男人，那么这种不确定性的反复并未让她煎熬太久。不出几日，伦敦的访客便抵达了。她刚获得与哈丽特独处一炷香的机会，便彻底释然了——虽难以言喻！——罗伯特·马丁已完全取代了奈特利先生，此刻正构筑起她所有关于幸福的憧憬。

Harriet was a little distressed—did look a little foolish at first: but having once owned that she had been presumptuous and silly, and self-deceived, before, her pain and confusion

哈丽特起初确实有些窘迫——显得有几分傻气；但一旦承认了自己先前过于狂妄、愚蠢、自欺欺人，那些痛

seemed to die away with the words, and leave her without a care for the past, and with the fullest exultation in the present and future; for, as to her friend's approbation, Emma had instantly removed every fear of that nature, by meeting her with the most unqualified congratulations. —**Harriet** was most happy to give every particular of the evening at Astley's, and the dinner the next day; she could dwell on it all with the utmost delight. **But** what did such particulars explain? —**The** fact was, as Emma could now acknowledge, that Harriet had always liked Robert Martin; and that his continuing to love her had been irresistible. — **Beyond** this, it must ever be unintelligible to Emma.

苦与困惑便随着话语渐渐消散,使她不再为过往烦忧,全然沉浸在当下与未来的狂喜中——至于朋友的认可,爱玛当即用毫无保留的祝贺消除了她所有顾虑。**哈丽特**兴奋高采烈地细说起那晚在阿斯托利剧院的种种,以及次日的午宴;她满心欢喜地回味着每个细节。然而这些细节又能说明什么?——事实正如爱玛此刻不得不承认的:**哈丽特**始终钟情于罗伯特·马丁,而对方持之以恒的爱意终究令人难以抗拒。**除此之外**的种种,对爱玛而言将永远是个谜。

The event, however, was most joyful; and every day was giving her fresh reason for thinking so. —**Harriet'**s parentage became known. **She** proved to be the daughter of a tradesman, rich enough to afford her the comfortable maintenance which had ever been hers, and decent enough to have always wished for concealment. —**Such** was the blood of gentil-

然而这件事终究令人欣喜;每一天都给她带来新的理由,越发觉得如此。——哈丽特的出身已然明朗。**她**原来是一位商人的女儿,家资足以供给她一直享有的舒适生活,门第也算体面,始终不愿张扬。——这就是爱玛

ity which Emma had formerly been so ready to vouch for! —**It** was likely to be as untainted, perhaps, as the blood of many a gentleman: but what a connexion had she been preparing for Mr. **Knightley**—or for the Churchills—or even for Mr. **Elton**! —**The** stain of illegitimacy, unbleached by nobility or wealth, would have been a stain indeed.

先前急于担保的贵族血统啊！
这般血统或许与许多绅士的血统同样纯净无瑕：可她当初竟差点为奈特利先生——或为丘吉尔家——甚至为埃尔顿先生缔结怎样的姻亲啊！
私生子的污点，若无贵族头衔或万贯家财漂白，那才真是洗刷不净的污渍。

No objection was raised on the father's side; the young man was treated liberally; it was all as it should be: and as Emma became acquainted with Robert Martin, who was now introduced at Hartfield, she fully acknowledged in him all the appearance of sense and worth which could bid fairest for her little friend. **She** had no doubt of Harriet's happiness with any good-tempered man; but with him, and in the home he offered, there would be the hope of more, of security, stability, and improvement. **She** would be placed in the midst of those who loved her, and who had better sense than herself; retired enough for safety, and occupied enough for cheerfulness. **She** would be never led into temptation, nor left for it to find her

做父亲的这方面没有提出任何异议；年轻人受到了宽厚对待；一切都顺理成章。**当**爱玛结识了罗伯特·马丁——如今他已被引荐到哈特菲尔德做客——她完全承认这位年轻人展现出的见识与品格，足以配得上她那位小朋友。**她**从不怀疑哈丽特与任何好脾气的男子结合都能幸福；但与他在一起，在他提供的家园里，还能期待更多——安稳、可靠与进步。**她**将置身于爱她且比她更有见识的人群中，既远离尘嚣足以保障安全，又事务充实足以

out. **She** would be respectable and happy; and Emma admitted her to be the luckiest creature in the world, to have created so steady and persevering an affection in such a man;—or, if not quite the luckiest, to yield only to herself.

保持愉悦。她永远不会被引入歧途，也不会放任自己误入歧途。她将活得体面而幸福；爱玛承认她是世上最幸运的人儿，能在这样的男子心中唤起如此坚定执着的爱慕——若说并非最幸运，那也仅次于她自己罢了。

Harriet, necessarily drawn away by her engagements with the Martins, was less and less at Hartfield; which was not to be regretted.

—**The** intimacy between her and Emma must sink; their friendship must change into a calmer sort of goodwill; and, fortunately, what ought to be, and must be, seemed already beginning, and in the most gradual, natural manner.

哈丽特因与马丁一家的往来而不得不时常外出，到哈特菲尔德宅邸的次数便愈来愈少；这倒也无须惋惜。——她与爱玛的亲密关系必然要淡去；她们的友谊必须转化为一种更为平淡的善意；所幸的是，那本该发生且必然要发生的转变，似乎已然在最为循序渐进、自然而然的方式中初露端倪。

Before the end of September, Emma attended Harriet to church, and saw her hand bestowed on Robert Martin with so complete a satisfaction, as no remembrances, even connected with Mr. **Elton** as he stood before

九月底前，艾玛陪着哈丽特走进教堂，怀着心满意足的心情看着她与罗伯特·马丁携手成婚。**即便**眼前站着埃尔顿先生，往日的记忆也丝

them, could impair. —**Perhaps**, indeed, at that time she scarcely saw Mr. **Elton**, but as the clergyman whose blessing at the altar might next fall on herself. —**Robert** Martin and Harriet Smith, the latest couple engaged of the three, were the first to be married.

毫未能减损这份圆满——事实上，此刻她眼中的埃尔顿先生，或许不过是那位将来可能在圣坛前为自己赐福的牧师罢了。**罗伯特·马丁与哈丽特·史密斯**虽是三对订婚新人中最晚缔结婚约的，却最先举行了婚礼。

Jane Fairfax had already quitted Highbury, and was restored to the comforts of her beloved home with the Campbells. —**The** Mr. **Churchills** were also in town; and they were only waiting for November.

简·费尔法克斯已经离开了海伯里，回到了她心爱的坎贝尔家舒适的怀抱中。——**丘吉尔夫妇**也已在城里；他们只待十一月来临。

The intermediate month was the one fixed on, as far as they dared, by Emma and Mr. **Knightley**. —**They** had determined that their marriage ought to be concluded while John and Isabella were still at Hartfield, to allow them the fortnight's absence in a tour to the seaside, which was the plan. —**John** and Isabella, and every other friend, were agreed in approving it. **But** Mr. **Woodhouse**—**how** was Mr. **Woodhouse** to be induced to consent? —**he**, who had never yet alluded to their

中间这个月是爱玛和奈特利先生敢于商定的最早婚期——他们决定趁约翰和伊莎贝拉还在哈特菲尔德时完婚，以便按计划去海边度两周蜜月。**这个安排得到约翰夫妇与其他亲友的一致赞同。但伍德豪斯先生——该**如何劝说他同意呢？**他至今每次提及这门婚事，总把它看作遥远的未来。**

marriage but as a distant event.

When first sounded on the subject, he was so miserable, that they were almost hopeless. —**A** second allusion, indeed, gave less pain. —**H**e began to think it was to be, and that he could not prevent it—a very promising step of the mind on its way to resignation. **S**till, however, he was not happy. **N**ay, he appeared so much otherwise, that his daughter's courage failed. **S**he could not bear to see him suffering, to know him fancying himself neglected; and though her understanding almost acquiesced in the assurance of both the Mr. **K**nightleys, that when once the event were over, his distress would be soon over too, she hesitated—she could not proceed.

初次提及此事时，他显得痛苦不堪，几乎让人看不到希望。待到第二次暗示时，痛苦确实减轻了些——他开始意识到这事已成定局，自己无力阻止，这倒是心境转向顺从的吉兆。然而他依然郁郁寡欢。非但如此，他的神色竟如此哀戚，连女儿都失去了勇气。她不忍目睹他受苦，不想到他自认遭受冷落；虽然理智几乎要让她认同两位奈特利先生的说法——待婚事既成，他的苦闷自会很快消散，但她还是犹豫不决——迟迟不敢进行下去。

In this state of suspense they were befriended, not by any sudden illumination of Mr. **W**ood-**house**'s mind, or any wonderful change of his nervous system, but by the operation of the same system in another way. —**M**rs. **W**eston's poultry-house was robbed one night of all her turkeys—evidently by the ingenuity

他们正悬着这心，左右为难的时候，事情却有了转机，这倒不是因为伍德豪斯先生突然心明眼亮，或是神经一下子恢复了正常，而是因为他的神经出了另一种毛病。原来有一天夜里，韦斯顿太太

of man. **Other** poultry-yards in the neighbourhood also suffered. —**Pilfering** was housebreaking to Mr. **Woodhouse'**s fears. —**He** was very uneasy; and but for the sense of his son-in-law's protection, would have been under wretched alarm every night of his life. **The** strength, resolution, and presence of mind of the Mr. **Knightleys**, commanded his fullest dependence. **While** either of them protected him and his, Hartfield was safe. —**But** Mr. **John** Knightley must be in London again by the end of the first week in November.

家的鸡棚给掏了，所有的火鸡全给偷走了——干这种事的显然是老手。附近的人家也有不少遭了殃。伍德豪斯先生一听吓坏了。他一想到干这种坏事的人说不定哪一天夜里会闯进哈特菲尔德偷东西，就胆战心惊。他惶恐不安，要不是有女婿保护，恐怕天天夜里都要担惊受怕。奈特利先生兄弟俩力气大，有主意，能临危不惧，他完全信得过。有他们俩中任何一个在哈特菲尔德守护，他都会感到安全。可是，约翰·奈特利先生在十一月的第一个周末以前，非得回伦敦不可。

The result of this distress was, that, with a much more voluntary, cheerful consent than his daughter had ever presumed to hope for at the moment, she was able to fix her wedding-day—and Mr. **Elton** was called on, within a month from the marriage of Mr. **and** Mrs. **Robert Martin**, to join the hands of Mr. **Knightley**

这番苦恼的结果是——她竟得到了女儿连此刻都不敢奢望的应允，那应允远比她预想的更心甘情愿、更令人欣喜。于是她得以敲定婚期——在罗伯特·马丁夫妇成婚后不出一个月，埃尔顿先

and Miss Woodhouse.

生便受命为奈特利先生和伍德豪斯小姐主持了婚礼。

The wedding was very much like other weddings, where the parties have no taste for finery or parade; and Mrs. Elton, from the particulars detailed by her husband, thought it all extremely shabby, and very inferior to her own. — “Very little white satin, very few lace veils; a most pitiful business! — Selina would stare when she heard of it. ”— But, in spite of these deficiencies, the wishes, the hopes, the confidence, the predictions of the small band of true friends who witnessed the ceremony, were fully answered in the perfect happiness of the union.

这场婚礼与其他婚礼并无二致，毕竟新婚夫妇向来不喜铺张浮华。而埃尔顿太太根据丈夫描述的细节，觉得这场婚礼实在寒酸至极，远不及她自己当年那般风光——“白缎礼服少得可怜，蕾丝头纱更是寥寥无几！简直是丢人现眼！塞利娜听说后准会惊得目瞪口呆。”然而尽管存在这些缺憾，当那支见证婚礼的小小挚友团所怀的祝愿、期盼、信心与预言，终在这段姻缘的圆满幸福中悉数得偿。

FINIS

完

*** END OF THE PROJECT GUTENBERG EBOOK EMMA ***

*** 古登堡计划《爱玛》电子书至此结束 ***

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