

# 【在人间】中英双语对照



《在人间》是俄国文学巨匠马克西姆·高尔基（1868年3月28日—1936年6月18日）创作的一部著名小说，这部作品是他“自传三部曲”的第二部，继《童年》之后，后续作品为《我的大学》。这些作品共同勾勒出了高尔基...年至青年时期的成长经历，深刻反映了19世纪末至20世纪初俄国社会的各种矛盾和冲突，以及个人在苦难中追求自由和理想的艰难历程。高尔基，原名阿列克谢·马克西莫维奇·佩什科夫，是俄国文学史上一位极具影响力的作家

高尔基 著

唐库学习 译

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I WENT out into the world as “shop-boy” at a fashionable boot-shop in the main street of the town.

我进入了世界，成为小镇主街上一家时尚靴店的“店童”。

My master was a small, round man. He had a brown, rugged face, greenteeth, and watery, mud-colored eyes. —

我的老板是一个矮小、圆胖的人。他有一张褐色粗糙的脸，绿色的牙齿，和水汪汪的泥色眼睛。

—

At first I thought he was blind, and to see if my supposition was correct, I made a grimace.

起初我以为他是盲人，为了确认我的想法是否正确，我做了个鬼脸。

“Don't pull your face about!” he said to me gently, but sternly. —

“别扭扭脸！”他温和却又严厉地对我说。 —

The thought that those dull eyes could see me was unpleasant, and I did not want to believe that this was the case. —

想到那双迟钝的眼睛也能看见我，让我感到不舒服，我不想相信这是事实。 —

Was it not more than probable that he had guessed I was making grimaces ?

难道不是很有可能他猜到我在做鬼脸吗？

“I told you not to pull your face about,” he said again, hardly moving his thick lips.

“我告诉过你不要扭扭脸了。”他再次说，嘴唇几乎没动。

“Don't scratch your hands,” his dry whisper came to me, as it were, stealthily. —

“别挠手。”他干瘪的低语如潜行般传来。 —

“You are serving in a first-class shop in the main street of the town, and you must not forget it.

—

“你在镇上主要街道上的一家一流店里工作，你不能忘记这点。 —

The door-boy ought to stand like a statue.”

门童应该像雕塑一样站立。”

I did not know what a statue was, and I couldn't help scratching my hands, which were covered with red pimples and sores, for they had been simply devoured by vermin.

我不知道雕塑是什么，我忍不住挠那被红疹和疮痍覆盖的手，因为它们简直被虱子咬得不像话。

“What did you do for a living when you were at home?” asked my master, looking at my hands.

“你在家的时候是靠什么为生的？”我的老板看着我的手问道。

I told him, and he shook his round head, which was closely covered with gray hair, and said in a shocked voice :

我告诉了他，他摇摇那密密覆盖着灰色头发的圆脑袋，用震惊的语气说：

“Rag-picking! Why, that is worse than begging or stealing!”

“拾破烂！这比乞讨或偷窃还要糟糕！”

I informed him, not without pride :

我不无自豪地告诉他：

“But I stole as well.”

“但是我也偷过。”

At this he laid his hands on his desk, looking just like a cat with her paws up, and fixed his eyes on my face with a terrified expression as he whispered :

于是他把手搁在桌子上，看起来就像一只把爪子举起来的猫，他惊恐地盯着我的脸，轻声说道：

“Wha — a — t? How did you steal?”

“怎么—怎么回事？你怎么偷的？”

I explained how and what I had stolen.

我解释了我是怎么偷的、偷了什么。

“Well, well, I look upon that as nothing but a prank. —

“嗯，嗯，我认为那只是一个恶作剧。” —

But if you rob me of boots or money, I will have you put in prison, and kept there for the rest of your life.”

但是如果你偷我的靴子或钱，我就会让你被关进监狱，一辈子都不放出来。”

He said this quite calmly, and I was frightened, and did not like him anymore.

他说得很平静，我吓坏了，不再喜欢他了。

Besides the master, there were serving in the shop my cousin, Sascha Jaakov, and the senior assistant, a competent, unctuous person with a red face. —

除了主人之外，商店里还有我的堂兄萨沙雅科夫和一位资深助手，一个脸色红润、能干的人。

—

Sascha now wore a brown frock-coat, a false shirt-front, a cravat, and long trousers, and was too proud to take any notice of me.

现在萨沙穿着一件棕色的礼服外套，一块假的衬衫前胸，一条领带和长裤，太骄傲了，根本不理我。

When grandfather had brought me to my master, he had asked Sascha to help me and to teach me. —

当爷爷把我带到我师傅那里时，他让萨沙帮助我，教我。 ——

Sascha had frowned with an air of importance as he said warningly:

萨沙皱着眉头，带着一副重要的表情说道：

“He will have to do what I tell him, then.”

“他得听我的话。”

Laying his hand on my head, grandfather had forced me to bend my neck.

爷爷把手放在我的头上，强迫我低下头。

“You are to obey him; he is older than you both in years and experience.”

“你要听他的话；他比你年长，经验也更丰富。”

And Sascha said to me, with a nod :

而萨沙对我点点头，说道：

“Don't forget what grandfather has said.” He lost no time in profiting by his seniority.

“不要忘记祖父说过的话。”他立即利用自己的资历。

“Kashirin, don't look so goggle-eyed,” his master would advise him.

“卡什林，别那么瞪大眼睛看，”他的主人会劝告他。

“I—I 'm all right,” Sascha would mutter, putting his head down. ——

“我——我没事，”萨沙嘟囔着，低下头。 ——

But the master would not leave him alone.

但主人不会放过他。

“Don't butt; the customers will think you are a goat.”

“别顶头；顾客会以为你是只山羊。”

The assistant smiled respectfully, the master stretched his lips in a hideous grin, and Sascha, his face flushing, retreated behind the counter. ——

助手尊敬地微笑着，主人向他伸出丑陋的笑容，而萨沙脸红了，躲到柜台后面。 ——

I did not like the tone of these conversations. ——

我不喜欢这些对话的口气。 ——

Many of the words they used were unintelligible to me, and sometimes they seemed to be speaking in a strange language. ——

他们用的许多词对我来说是晦涩难懂的，有时候他们似乎在说一种奇怪的语言。 ——

When a lady customer came in, the master would take his hands out of his pockets, tug at his mustache, and fix a sweet smile upon his face — a smile which wrinkled his cheeks, but did not change the expression of his dull eyes. —

当一位女顾客进来时，主人会从口袋里抽出手来，拽着胡子，脸上挂上甜蜜的笑容——一种让他的面颊皱起来，但没有改变他那无趣眼神表情的笑容。 —

The assistant would draw himself up, with his elbows pressed closely against his sides, and his wrists respectfully dangling. —

助手挺胸抬起头，肘部紧贴在身体两侧，尊敬地摇摆着手腕。 —

Sascha would blink shyly, trying to hide his protruding eyes, while I would stand at the door, surreptitiously scratching my hands, and observing the ceremonial of selling.

萨沙羞怯地眨眼，试图隐藏凸出的眼睛，而我则站在门口，偷偷地挠着手，观察着销售的仪式。

Kneeling before the customer, the assistant would try on shoes with wonderfully deft fingers. —

助手跪在顾客面前，用灵巧的手指试穿鞋子。 —

He touched the foot of the woman so carefully that his hands trembled, as if he were afraid of breaking her leg. —

他那么小心翼翼地触摸女人的脚，以至于手颤抖着，仿佛他怕折断她的腿。 —

But the leg was stout enough. It looked like a bottle with sloping shoulders, turned neck downward.

但那条腿足够结实。它看起来像一个斜肩的瓶子，翻倒的瓶颈。

One of these ladies pulled her foot away one day, shrieking :

这些女士中的一位某天突然把脚缩了回去，尖叫道：

“Oh, you are tickling me!”

“哦，你在挠我！”

“That is — because — you are so sensitive,” the assistant explained hastily, with warmth.

“那是因为你很敏感，”助理匆匆解释道，带着热情。

It was comical to watch him fawning upon the customers, and I had to turn and look through the glass of the door to keep myself from laughing.

看他巴结顾客实在太滑稽了，我不得不转身透过门上的玻璃来忍住不笑。

But something used to draw me back to watch the sale. —

但是总有什么让我回头去看销售。 —

The proceedings of the assistant were very interesting, and while I looked at him I was thinking that I should never be able to make my fingers move so delicately, or so deftly put boots on other people's feet.

助理的举止非常有趣，我看着他的时候在想我永远也不可能让我的手指如此灵巧地移动，或者如此娴熟地给别人穿上鞋子。

It often happened that the master went away from the shop into a little room behind it, and he would call Sascha to him, leaving the assistant alone with the customer. —  
经常有这样的情况，老板离开店铺走进后面的一个小房间，他会叫萨莎过去，把助理与顾客单独留在一起。 —

Once, lingering over the foot of a red-haired woman, he took it between his fingers and kissed it. “有一次，在红头发女人的脚部逗留时，他拿起她的脚在手指间亲了一下。

“Oh,” breathed the woman, “what a bold man you are!”  
“哦，”那女人喘着气说，“你是多么大胆的人啊！”

He puffed out his cheeks and emitted a long-drawn-out sound :  
他吹起他的脸蛋，发出一个长长的声音：

“O — O — hi”  
“哦——哦——喂”

At this I laughed so much that, to keep my feet, I had to hang on to the handle of the door. —  
此时我笑得太多了，为了站稳脚，我不得不抓住门把手。 —

It flew open, and my head knocked against one of the panes of glass and broke it. —  
门飞开了，我的头碰到了玻璃窗户的一块玻璃并把它打破了。 —

The assistant stamped his foot at me, my master hit me on the head with his heavy gold ring, and Sascha tried to pull my ears.  
助理朝我跺了脚，我的老板用他沉重的金戒指打我的头，萨莎试图拽我的耳朵。

In the evening, when we were on our way home, he said to me, sternly:  
“晚上回家的路上，他严厉地对我说：

“You will lose your place for doing things like that. —  
“像这样做事你会失去你的位置的。 —

I 'd like to know where the joke comes in.” And then he explained: —  
我想知道笑话出在哪里。”然后他解释说： —



"If ladies take a fancy to the assistant, it is good for trade. —

“如果女士对助手产生好感，对生意是有利的。 —

A lady may not be in need of boots, but she comes in and buys what she does not want just to have a look at the assistant, who pleases her. —

一位女士可能并不需要靴子，但她进来买她不想要的东西，只是为了看看她喜欢的助手。 —

But you — you can't understand! One puts oneself out for you, and — ”

但是，你——你无法理解！有人为你操心，而——”

This incensed me. No one put himself out for me, and he least of all.

这激怒了我。没有人为我费心，尤其是他。

In the morning the cook, a sickly, disagreeable woman, used to call me before him. —

早晨，那位厨师，一个病弱讨厌的女人，常常在他面前叫我。 —

I had to clean the boots and brush the clothes of the master, the assistant, and Sascha, get the samovar ready, bring in wood for all the stoves, and wash up. —

我得清理主人、助手和萨沙的靴子和衣服，准备好沙漏，为所有火炉添木，洗碗。 —

When I got to the shop I had to sweep the floor, dust, get the tea ready, carry goods to the customers, and go home to fetch the dinner, my duty at the door being taken in the meantime by Sascha, who, finding it lowering to his dignity, rated me.

到了店里，我得扫地、除尘，准备茶水，为顾客搬货物，回家做饭，门口的职责由此间萨沙接管，而他觉得这有损他的尊严，便责备我。

"Lazy young wretch! I have to do all your work for you."

“懒惰的小混蛋！我得替你做所有的工作。”

This was a wearisome, dull life for me. —

对我来说，这是一种疲倦乏味的生活。 —

I was accustomed to live independently in the sandy streets of Kunavin, on the banks of the turbid Oka, in the fields or woods, from morning to night. —

我习惯独自生活在昆纳文沙乡，靠近混浊的奥卡河，从早到晚在街道、田地或树林里。 —

I was parted from grandmother and from my comrades. —

我与祖母和伙伴们被分开了。 —

I had no one to speak to, and life was showing me her seamy, false side. —

我没有可以交谈的人，生活展示给我她肮脏虚伪的一面。 —

There were occasions on which a customer went away without making ' a purchase, when all three would feel themselves affronted. —

有时候，顾客没购买而离开，这时三人会感到受侮辱。 —

The master would put his sweet smile away in his pocket as he said :

主人会把他的甜美的微笑装进口袋里说道：

“Kashirin, put these things away.” Then he would grumble :

“Kashirin, 把这些东西放好。”然后他会抱怨：

“There's a pig of a woman! The fool found it dull sitting at home, so she must come and turn our shop upside down! —

“这真是头猪似的女人！这个傻瓜觉得待在家里无聊，所以必须来店里把我们搞得乱七八糟！ —

If you were my wife, I 'd give you something!”

如果你是我的妻子，我会给你点教训！”

His wife, a dried-up woman with black eyes and a large nose, simply made a doormat of him.

—

他的妻子，一个干瘪的女人，黑眼睛，大鼻子，把他当成门垫一样对待。 —

She used to scold him as if he were a servant.

她常常像对待仆人一样责骂他。

Often, after he had shown out a frequent customer with polite bows and pleasant words, they would all begin to talk about her in a vile and shameless manner, arousing in me a desire to run into the street after her and tell her what they said. —

经常在他客气地为一个人送行后，他们会开始用下流和不要脸的方式毫不留情地谈论她，引起我想冲到街上告诉她他们说的话的冲动。 —

I knew, of course, that people generally speak evil of one another behind one another's backs, but these spoke of every one in a particularly revolting manner, as if they were in the front rank of good people and had been appointed to judge the rest of the world. —

我当然知道，人们通常在背后议论彼此的坏话，但这几个人以一种特别令人作呕的方式议论每个人，仿佛他们是最正直的人，被任命评判世界其他人一样。 —

Envious of many of them, they were never known to praise any one, and knew something bad about everybody.

他们对许多人心怀嫉妒，从不赞扬任何人，对每个人都挖掘出一些坏话。

One day there came to the shop a young woman with bright, rosy cheeks and sparkling eyes, attired in a velvet cloak with a collar of black fur. —

有一天，一个容光焕发、面色红润、眼睛闪烁的年轻女人来到了店里，穿着一件带黑色毛领的天鹅绒斗篷。 ——

Her face rose out of the fur like a wonderful flower. ——

她的脸从皮草里冉冉升起，像一朵美丽的花朵。 ——

When she had thrown the cloak off her shoulders and handed it to Sascha, she looked still more beautiful. ——

她脱掉斗篷，递给萨沙时，看起来更加美丽。 ——

Her fine figure was fitted tightly with a blue-gray silk robe; diamonds sparkled in her ears. ——

她身穿蓝灰色丝质袍子，身材修长玲珑；她耳边闪烁着钻石。 ——

She reminded me of "Vassilissa the Beautiful," and I could have believed that she was in truth the governor's wife. ——

她让我想起了“美丽的瓦西丽莎”，我几乎相信她真的是州长的妻子。 ——

They received her with particular respect, bending before her as if she were a bright light, and almost choking themselves in their hurry to get out polite words. ——

他们对她特别尊重，弯腰礼貌地对待她，几乎忘乎所以地争着说客气话。 ——

All three rushed about the shop like wild things : ——

三个人在店里像疯了一样乱跑： ——

their reflections bobbed up and down in the glass of the cupboard. ——

他们的倒影在橱柜玻璃中上下晃动。 ——

But when she left, after having bought some expensive boots in a great hurry, the master, smacking his lips, whistled and said :

但当她匆匆离开，买了一双昂贵的靴子后，店主啧啧赞叹，嘴里发出啪嗒声，说道：

“Hussy!”

“贱人！”

“An actress — that sums her up,” said the assistant, contemptuously.

“一个演员——这就是她的全部，”助手轻蔑地说。

They began to talk of the lovers of the lady and the luxury in which she lived.

他们开始谈论这位女士的情人和她所生活的奢华生活。

After dinner the master went to sleep in the room behind the shop, and I, opening his gold watch, poured vinegar into the works. ——

晚饭后，店主去店后的房间睡觉了，我打开他的金表，倒入了醋。 ——

It was a moment of supreme joy to me when he awoke and came into the shop, with his watch in his hand, muttering wildly:

当他醒来进入店里时，手里拿着他的表，一边嘀咕着，表情狂乱，那一刻对我来说是无比的快乐：

“What can have happened? My watch is all wet.

“究竟发生了什么事？我的表全湿了。

I never remember such a thing happening before. It is all wet; it will be ruined.”

我前所未有地记得这样的事。它全湿了；它会被毁了。”

In addition to the burden of my duties in the shop and the housework, I was weighed down by depression. ——

除了在店内负担我的工作和家务外，我也被沮丧压得喘不过气来。 ——

I often thought it would be a good idea to behave so badly that I should get my dismissal. ——

我经常想要表现得如此糟糕，以至于被解雇。 ——

Snow-covered people passed the door of the shop without making a sound. ——

覆盖着雪的人们悄无声息地经过店的门。 ——

They looked as if on their way to somebody's funeral. ——

他们看起来好像在前往某人的葬礼。 ——

Having meant to accompany the body to the grave, they had been delayed, and, being late for the funeral procession, were hurrying to the graveside. ——

本想要随同尸体到坟墓的人，由于被耽搁了，现在迟到了，匆匆赶往坟地。 ——

The horses quivered with the effort of making their way through the snow-drifts. ——

马在努力通过积雪，颤抖着。 ——

From the belfry of the church behind the shop the bells rang out with a melancholy sound every day. ——

每天从商店后面的教堂钟楼里，哀伤的铃声响起。 ——

It was Lent, and every stroke of the bell fell upon my brain as if it had been a pillow, not hurting, but stupefying and deafening, me. ——

那是四旬斋期，钟声一次次地击中我的脑袋，就像是枕头一样，没有疼痛，只是让我昏昏沉沉、失聪。 ——

One day when I was in the yard unpacking a case of new goods just received, at the door of the shop, the watchman of the church, a crooked old man, as soft as if he were made of rags and as ragged as if he had been torn to pieces by dogs, approached me.

有一天，当我在院子里在商店门口拆开一箱新货时，教堂的钟声看守，一个弯曲的老人，软绵绵的，就像是由破布制成的，身上那么破烂，就像是被狗撕碎了一样，走向我。

“Are you going to be kind and steal some goloshes for me?” he asked.

“你要慷慨点偷点防水鞋给我吗？”他问道。

I was silent. He sat down on an empty case, yawned, made the sign of the cross over his mouth, and repeated:

我保持沉默。他坐在一只空箱子上，打个哈欠，用手指在嘴上划了个十字，重复道：

“Will you steal them for me?”

“你要为我偷吗？”

“It is wrong to steal,” I informed him.

“偷是不对的，”我告诉他。

“But people steal all the same. Old age must have its compensations.”

“但是人们还是偷。年老应该有报偿。”

He was pleasantly different from the people among whom I lived. —

他和我所生活的人们有着明显的不同。 —

I felt that he had a firm belief in my readiness to steal, and I agreed to hand him the goloshes through the window.

我感觉到他坚信我愿意去偷，于是我同意透过窗户把防水鞋递给他。

“That’s right,” he said calmly, without enthusiasm. —

“做得好，”他平静地说，没有热情。 —

“You are not deceiving me? No, I see that you are not.”

“你没有欺骗我？不，我看得出你没有。”

He was silent for a moment, trampling the dirty, wet snow with the soles of his boots. —

他沉默了一会儿，用鞋底踩着脏湿的雪。 —

Then he lit a long pipe, and suddenly startled me.

然后点燃了一支长烟斗，突然吓了我一跳。

“But suppose it is I who deceive you? —

“但假如是我在欺骗你呢？ —

Suppose I take the goloshes to yourmaster, and tell him that you have sold them to me for half a ruble? —

假设我把 goloshes 带给你的主人，并告诉他你以半卢布的价格卖给我了？ —

Whattthen? Their price is two rubles, and you have sold them for half a ruble. —

那又怎样？它们的价格是两卢布，你却以半卢布的价格卖了。 —

As a present, eh?”

作为一份礼物，嗯？

I gazed at him dumbly, as if he had already done what he said he woulddo; —

我目瞪口呆地盯着他，仿佛他已经做了他说要做的事； —

but he went on talking gently through his nose, looking at his boots, andblowing out blue smoke.

但他继续柔声抽着烟，看着靴子，从鼻子里说话。

“Suppose, for example, that your master has said to me, ‘Go and try thatyoungster, and see if he is a thief? What then?’”

“比如，你的主人对我说，‘去试试那小家伙，看看他是不是个小偷？’那又怎样？”

“I shall not give you the goloshes,” I said, angry and frightened.

“我不会给你 goloshes，”我愤怒又害怕地说。

“You must give them now that you have promised.”

“既然你答应了，你就得给。”

He took me by the arm and drew me to him, and, tapping my foreheadwith his cold fingers, drawled:

他抓住我的胳膊，拉过来，用冰冷的手指敲了一下我的额头，啰嗦地说：

“What are you thinking of, with your ‘take this’ and ‘take that’ ?”

“你在想什么，提着这个，提那个？”

“You asked me for them yourself.”

“是你自己要的。”

“I might ask you to do lots of things. I might ask you to come and rob thechurch. —

“我可能要你做很多事情。我可能要你来抢教堂。 —

Would you do it? Do you think you can trust everybody? —

你会做吗？你觉得每个人都可信吗？ —

Ah, you young fool!" He pushed me away from him and stood up.

啊，你这个年轻的傻瓜！”他把我推开，站了起来。

"I don't want stolen goloshes. I am not a gentleman, and I don't wear goloshes. —

“我不要偷来的 goloshes。我不是绅士，也不穿 goloshes。 —

I was only making fun of you. For your simplicity, when Easter comes, I will let you come up into the belfry and ring the bells and look at the town."

我只是在取笑你。复活节时，我会让你上钟楼敲钟，看看整个城镇。

"I know the town."

我认识这个镇。

"It looks better from the belfry."

从钟楼上，它看起来更好。

Dragging his broken boots in the snow, he went slowly round the corner of the church, and I looked after him, wondering dejectedly and fearfully whether the old man had really been making fun of me, or had been sent by my master to try me. —

他在雪地里拖着破烂的靴子慢慢走过教堂的转角，我望着他，沮丧而恐惧地想着老人到底是在取笑我，还是被我的主人派来考验我。 —

I did not want to go back to the shop.

我不想回到商店去。

Sascha came hurriedly into the yard and shouted:

萨沙匆匆走进院子，喊道：

"What the devil has become of you?"

“你到底哪儿去了？”

I shook my pincers at him in a sudden access of rage. —

我突然暴怒地朝他摇了摇镊子。 —

I knew that both he and the assistant robbed the master. —

我知道他和助手都偷师主人。 —

They would hide a pair of boots or slippers in the stovepipe, and when they left the shop, would slip them into the sleeves of their overcoats. —

他们会把一双靴子或拖鞋藏在炉管里，当他们离开店时，会把它们塞进大衣袖子里。 ——

I did not like this, and felt alarmed about it, for I remembered the threats of the master.

我不喜欢这样，感到很担心，因为我记得主人的威胁。

“Are you stealing?” I had asked Sascha.

“你在偷东西吗？”我问萨沙。

“Not I, but the assistant,” he would explain crossly. “I am only helping him. ——

“不是我，是助手，”他生气地解释道，“我只是帮他。 ——

He says, ‘Do as I tell you,’ and I have to obey. If I did not, he would do some mischief. ——

他说‘照我说的做’，我只能听从。要是我不听，他会对我恶作剧。 ——

As for master, he was an assistant himself once, and he understands. ——

至于主人，他也曾经是助手，他懂的。 ——

But you hold your tongue.”

但你闭嘴。”

As he spoke, he looked in the glass and set his tie straight with just such a movement of his naturally spreading fingers as the senior assistant employed. ——

他说话时朝镜子里看了一眼，用助理主任那样抚平领带，展开手指的动作。 ——

He was unwearying in his demonstrations of his seniority and power over me, scolding me in a bass voice, and ordering me about with threatening gestures. ——

他总是不知疲倦地展示自己的资历和对我的权威，在低沉的嗓音中责骂我，用威胁的手势命令我。 ——

I was taller than he, but bony and clumsy, while he was compact, flexible, and fleshy. ——

我比他更高，但是瘦骨嶙峋，笨拙，而他 compact, 灵活，丰满。 ——

In his frock-coat and long trousers he seemed an important and substantial figure in my eyes, and yet there was something ludicrous and displeasing about him. ——

他穿着长褂和长裤，我眼中，他仿佛是一个重要而可靠的人物，但是却也有些荒谬和令人不悦。 ——

He hated the cook, a curious woman, of whom it was impossible to decide whether she was good or bad.

他厌恶厨师，一个古怪的女人，令人无法判断她是好是坏。



“What I love most in the world is a fight,” she said, opening wide her burning black eyes. —  
“我最喜欢的事就是打架，”她说，睁着燃烧的黑眼睛。 —

“I don't care what sort of fight it is, cock-fights, dogfights, or fights between men. —  
“我不在乎是什么样的打架，赛鸡，斗狗，还是人与人之间打，对我来说都一样。” —

It is all the same to me.”

“我看待他们都一样。”

And if she saw cocks or pigeons fighting in the yard, she would throw aside her work and watch the fight to the end, standing dumb and motionless at the window. —

如果她看见院子里的公鸡或鸽子打架，她会抛下手头的工作，站在窗前一动不动地看完整场比赛。 —

In the evenings she would say to me and Sascha:

晚上，她会对我和萨斯哈说：

“Why do you sit there doing nothing, children? You had far better be fighting.”  
“你们为什么坐在那里什么也不做，孩子们？你们最好去打架。”

This used to make Sascha angry.

萨斯哈听了以后常常生气。

“I am not a child, you fool; I am junior assistant.”

“我不是孩子，你这个白痴；我是初级助理。”

“That does not concern me. In my eyes, while you remain unmarried, you are a child.”

“那跟我没关系。在我眼里，只要你还没结婚，你就是个孩子。”

“Fool! Blockhead!”

“白痴！傻瓜！”

“The devil is clever, but God does not love him.”

“恶魔很聪明，但上帝不爱他。”

Her talk was a special source of irritation to Sascha, and he used to tease her; but she would look at him contemptuously, askance, and say:

她的谈话让萨沙特别恼火，他常常拿她开玩笑；但她会轻蔑地斜视着他，说道：

“Ugh, you beetle! One of God's mistakes!”

“呸，你这只甲虫！上帝的一个错误！”

Sometimes he would tell me to rub blacking or soot on her face when she was asleep, stick pins into her pillow, or play other practical jokes on her; —

有时他会让我在她熟睡时往她脸上擦鞋油或灰烬，往她枕头上插针，或者对她玩其他恶作剧；——

but I was afraid of her. Besides, she slept very lightly and used to wake up frequently. —

但我害怕她。而且，她睡觉很轻，经常会醒来。——

Lighting the lamp, she would sit on the side of her bed, gazing fixedly at something in the corner. —

点亮灯，她就坐在床边，凝视着角落里的某物。——

Sometimes she came over to me, where I slept behind the stove, and woke me up, saying hoarsely :

有时她会走到我身边，在炉子后面的地方叫醒我，嘶哑地说道：

“I can't sleep, Leksyeka. I am not very well. Talk to me a little.”

“我睡不着，莱克谢卡。我不太舒服。跟我聊会儿吧。”

Half asleep, I used to tell her some story, and she would sit without speaking, swaying from side to side. —

我半睡半醒地给她讲了一些故事，她就坐着不说话，左右摆动。——

I had an idea that her hot body smelt of wax and incense, and that she would soon die. —

我以为她发烫的身体闻起来像蜡和香，她很快就会死去。——

Every moment I expected to see her fall face downward on the floor and die. —

我时刻都觉得她会俯身在地板上倒下去死去。——

In terror I would begin to speak loudly, but she would check me.

在恐惧中我开始大声说话，但她制止了我。

“S-sh! You will wake the whole place up, and they will think that you are my lover.”

“嘘！你会把整个地方都吵醒的，他们会以为你是我的情人。”

She always sat near me in the same attitude, doubled up, with her wrists between her knees, squeezing them against the sharp bones of her legs. —

她总是坐在我旁边，保持同样的姿势，蜷缩着身体，手腕夹在膝盖间，用力挤压着她纤细的腿骨。——

She had no chest, and even through the thick linen night-dress her ribs were visible, just like the ribs of a broken cask. —

她没有胸部，即使穿着厚厚的亚麻睡衣，她的肋骨也是清晰可见，就像破桶的肋骨一样。——

After sitting a long time in silence, she would suddenly whisper:

经过长时间的沉默后，她突然低声说道：

“What if I do die, it is a calamity which happens to all. ——

“如果我死了，那是所有人都会遇到的灾难。”——

” Or she would ask some invisible person, “Well, I have lived my life, haven’t I?” “Sleep! ——

她会问某个看不见的人，“好吧，我已经过完了我的人生，对吧？——

” she would say, cutting me short in the middle of a word, and, straightening herself, would creep noiselessly across the dark kitchen.

“睡着吧！”她会说，突然间打断我说话，然后挺直身子，悄无声息地穿过黑暗的厨房。

“Witch!” Sascha used to call her behind her back.

“巫婆！”萨绍在她背后这样称呼她。

I put the question to him:

我向他提出问题：

“Why don’t you call her that to her face?”

“为什么你不当面这样称呼她呢？”

“Do you think that I am afraid to?” But a second later he said, with a frown: ——

“你认为我会害怕吗？”但一秒钟后，他皱着眉头说：——

“No, I can’t say it to her face. She may really be a witch.”

“不，我无法当面这样说。她可能真的是个巫婆。”

Treating every one with the same scornful lack of consideration, she showed no indulgence to me, but would drag me out of bed at six o’clock every morning, crying:

对待每个人都带着蔑视和冷漠，她对我也一样严厉，总是在清晨六点就把我从床上拽起来，大声喊道：

“Are you going to sleep forever? Bring the wood in! ——

“你难道要永远睡下去吗？把木柴拿进来！——

Get the samovar ready! Clean the door-plate!”

准备好煮火器！擦一擦门牌！”

Sascha would wake up and complain:

萨绍会醒来抱怨道：

“What are you bawling like that for? I will tell the master. —

“你为什么大声喊叫？我会告诉主人的。 —

You don't give any one a chance to sleep.”

你不给任何人留有睡觉的机会。”

Moving quickly about the kitchen with her lean, withered body, she would flash her blazing, sleepless eyes upon him.

她迅速在厨房里忙碌，瘦弱的身体迅速动着，她会在萨绍身上闪现着她那炽热、不眠的眼睛。

“Oh, it's you, God's mistake? If you were my son, I would give you something!”

“哦，是你，上帝的错误？如果你是儿子，我会给你一些东西的！”

Sascha would abuse her, calling her “accursed one,” and when we were going to the shop he said to me: —

萨莎会虐待她，称她为“被诅咒的人”，当我们去商店时，他对我说： —

“We shall have to do something to get her sent away. —

“我们必须想办法让她被送走。 —

We'll put salt in everything when she's not looking. —

当她不注意时我们会在所有食物里撒盐。 —

If everything is cooked with too much salt, they will get rid of her. —

如果所有食物都加了太多盐，他们就会把她赶走。 —

Or paraffin would do.

或者用煤油也行。

“What are you gaping about?”

你在呆呆地干嘛？”

“Why don't you do it yourself?”

“为什么你自己不去做呢？”

He snorted angrily :

他生气地哼了一声：

“Coward!”

“懦夫！”

The cook died under our very eyes. She bent down to pick up the samovar, and suddenly sank to the floor without uttering a word, just as if some one had given her a blow on the chest. —