

LD FAMOUS FICTIONS

結 了 婚

MARRIED

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伍 光 建 選 譯

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WORLD FAMOUS FICTIONS

M A R R I E D

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作者傳略

斯特林堡(A. Strindberg)是瑞典國的一個製劇家，小說家，詩人。他以一八四九年生於瑞典國都。他的父親是一個有學殖的商人，他的母親是一個女僕，家道酷貧，環境極不歡樂。他酷好科學，入烏普沙拉 (Uppsala) 大學學醫，因貧輟業，當小學教員。後來有一個很有錢的醫生很關切他，擔任完成他的醫學教育。他說學校是籌備少年入地獄的，不是籌備他們處世的。他不務本業，最初以製劇為立足地。一八七〇年他撰一本獨幕劇，曾在戲院演過。他在國都當過戲子，又當過報館記者一兩年。一八七四年起他在國立圖書館當過八年館員；他學中國文以便為圖書館撰許多中文鈔本的目錄，又撰過一篇法文著作，專論瑞典與遠東的關係。其後數年他完成幾篇大劇。一八八二至一八八三年他撰幾篇短小說為「瑞典人的慘運及冒險事」，由是得名。一八七五年他變愛一個軍人的女人，她與丈夫離婚，他娶她為妻，一兩期後夫婦變作仇敵。一八七九年他所著的「紅屋」表示他憎惡女人。一八八四至一八八六年他刊行在瑞士所撰的第一批十二篇短小說為「結婚」，發揮他對於結婚的見解，被人控告，他回國對簿，法庭宣告他無罪。此後他又遊歷數國。此時又刊行第二批短篇小說，比第一批更激烈。一八八七至一八八八年

他的「父親」及朱理亞(Julia) 劇本先後出版，在歐洲的實寫主義歷史中成爲一個重要標記；此時又撰幾部小說，都是他生平的傑作。一八九一年他同她的夫人離婚；他說她是一個美貌妖精，吸盡他的心血，該實他害怕及憎惡女人是應該的。這時候他的景况極困難，愁苦到幾乎發狂。他却不能痛定思痛，他第二次娶妻，結果比第一次更慘，一八九六年離婚；他撰好幾部劇本寫他這幾年的慘運。後來他心境平復，回過頭來撰歷史劇本（一九〇〇年），都是富於創解，筆墨雄厚的著作。一九〇一年他第三次娶妻，娶的是一個女戲子，不久又離婚，他們夫婦所過的生活往往發露於他這個時期的散文著作中。他死於一九一二年。他的文章濃厚，乖僻，又不勻稱，我行我法，不管什麼派別。他是瑞典的最偉大摩登作者，有極深遠的潛力及於歐洲的小說與戲劇。瑞典所刊行他的著作共五十五冊。民國二十四年 伍光建記。

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LOVE AND BREAD

The assistant had not thought of studying the price of wheat before he called on the major to ask him for the hand of his daughter; but the major had studied it.

"I love her," said the assistant.

"What's your salary?" said the old man.

"Well, twelve hundred crowns, at present; but we love one another . . ."

"That has nothing to do with me; twelve hundred crowns is not enough."

"And then I make a little in addition to my salary, and Louisa knows that my heart . . ."

"Don't talk nonsense! How much in addition to your salary?"

He seized paper and pencil.

"And my feelings . . ."

"How much in addition to your salary?"

And he drew hieroglyphics¹ on the blotting paper.

"Oh! We'll get on well enough, if only . . ."

"Are you going to answer my question or not? How much in addition to your salary? Figures! figures, my boy! Facts!"

"I do translations at ten crowns a sheet; I give French lessons, I am promised proof-correcting . . ."

"Promises aren't facts! Figures, my boy! Figures! Look here, now, I'll put it down. What are you translating?"

¹ hieroglyphics, 符號

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瑞典國斯特林堡著

伍光建譯

戀愛與麵包

那個幫手的走去拜見少佐，求娶他的女兒爲妻，却不會先研究麥子的價錢，少佐却是研究過的。

幫手說道，『我愛她。』

老頭子問道，『你有多少工錢？』

『現在我有一千二百個克隆（瑞典幣名譯者注）；但是我們相愛……』

『你們相愛不相愛與我無干；一千二百克隆却是不夠的。』

『除了工錢外，我還可以多得一點，路易沙（Louisa）曉得我的心……』

『你不要說胡話！除了工錢之外你還可以多得多少？』

他把紙筆奪過來。

『我的感情……』

『除了工錢之外還可以多得多少？』

他在吸墨紙上畫符號。

『呀！我們將來很可以够過日子，只要……』

『你還是答我所問，抑或是不答我所問呀！除了工錢之外還可多得多少呀？我的孩子，你得給我數目，你得告訴我數目！我要的是事實！』

『我譯一頁東西可以得十個克隆；我還教法文，還有人答應我請我校對……』

『應不是事實呀！我的孩子，你得告訴我數目呀！數目呀！你看着，我要寫下來。你譯什麼東西』



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“What am I translating? I can't tell you straight off.”

“You can't tell me straight off?¹ You are engaged on a translation, you say; can't you tell me what it is? Don't talk such rubbish!”

“I am translating Guizot's *History of Civilisation*, twenty-five sheets.”

“At ten crowns a sheet makes two hundred and fifty crowns. And then?”

“And then? How can I tell beforehand?”

“Indeed, can't you tell beforehand? But you ought to know. You seem to imagine that being married simply means living together and amusing yourselves! No, my dear boy, there will be children, and children require feeding and clothing.”

“There needn't be babies directly, if one loves *as we love* one another.”

“How the dickens² do you love one another?”

“*As we love* one another.” He put his hand on his waistcoat.”

“And won't there be any children if people love as you love? You must be mad! But you are a decent, respectable member of society, and therefore I'll give my consent; but make good use of the time, my boy, and increase your income, for hard times are coming. The price of wheat is rising.”

The assistant grew red in the face when he heard the last words, but his joy at the old man's consent was so great that he seized his hand and kissed it. Heaven knew how happy he was! When he walked for the first time

¹ straight off, 立刻. ² dickens, 冤鬼.

『我譯什麼呀？我不能立刻告訴你。』

『你不能立刻告訴我麼？你說你正在譯書；你不能告訴我譯什麼嗎？你不要胡說啦！』

『我正在譯吉素特 (Guizot) 的「進化史，」二十五頁。』

『每頁十個克隆，二十五頁就可以得二百五十個克隆。還有什麼呀？』

『還有什麼呀？我怎樣能夠預說在先呀？』

『你當真不能預說在先麼？但是你該預先曉得。你好像妄想結了婚不過是同居，同消遣！我的寶貝孩子，不是的呀！將來會生子女的，子女是要吃東西和穿衣服的。』

『如我們那樣相愛，不一定就會有孩子的。』

『你們到底是怎樣相愛呀？』

『如我們兩人這樣相愛。』他把手放在他的背心上。

『倘若人們相愛如你們那樣相愛就不會生孩子嗎？你必定是瘋了！但因你是社會上的一個有規矩，體面的人，所以我答應你；我的孩子，你却要善用時機，增加你的收入，因為為難的時候快到啦。小麥長價啦。』

這個幫手的聽見末後這句話，臉紅起來，但是老頭子一答應他，他就極其歡樂，抓住老頭子的手，吻他手，天曉得他是多麼歡樂！當他的未婚妻扶着他的膀子第一次在

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down the street with his future bride on his arm, they both radiated light; it seemed to them that the passers-by stood still and lined the road in honour of their triumphal march; and they walked along with proud eyes, squared shoulders and elastic steps.

In the evening he called at her house; they sat down in the centre of the room and read proofs; she helped him. "He's a good sort," chuckled¹ the old man. When they had finished, he took her in his arms and said: "Now we have earned three crowns," and then he kissed her. On the following evening they went to the theatre and he took her home in a cab, and that cost twelve crowns.

Sometimes, when he ought to have given a lesson in the evening, he (is there anything a man will not do for love's sake?) cancelled his lesson and took her out for a walk instead.

But the wedding-day approached. They were very busy. They had to choose the furniture. They began with the most important purchases. Louisa had not intended to be present² when he bought the bedroom furniture, but when it came to the point she went with him. They bought two beds, which were, of course, to stand side by side. The furniture had to be walnut, every single piece real walnut. And they must have spring mattresses covered with red and white striped tick, and bolsters filled with down; and two eiderdown quilts, exactly alike. Louisa chose blue, because she was very fair.

They went to the best stores. They could not do without a red hanging-lamp and a Venus made of plaster of

¹ chuckled, 閉口笑. ² present, 在場.

街上走的時候，他們兩人歡樂到放光；他們好像看見過路的人們站列路旁不動，慶賀他們的得勝遊行；他們兩人在街上走，他們的眼露出得意神色，肩膀是方正的，脚步是有彈力的。（極力寫他們這時候的得意，以反跌下文，譯者注。）

到了傍晚他到她的家裏；他們坐在屋子中間校稿；她幫他的忙。老頭子笑說道，『他是一個好孩子。』等到他們校完稿的時候，他兩手抱她，說道：『我們賺了三個克隆啦，』他隨即吻她。第二天晚上他們兩人同去看戲，雇了一部小馬車送她回家，這就化了十二個克隆。

有時他晚上應該教書，他却不教，反同她出去散步（一個人爲戀愛起見，什麼事不肯做呀？）

結婚的日期快到啦。他們很忙。他們要選買家具。他們起首買最要緊的東西。路易沙當他買臥室家具的時候原不想在場的，但是到了去買的時候她同他一齊去。他們買了兩張床，將來自然是並排安放著。家具是要核桃木的，每件必要是真核桃木的。他們又必定要彈簧的臥褥，蓋上紅白柳條紋的褥單，枕頭是要塞滿鴨絨的；還要置兩個海鴨絨的被，一模一樣的兩個。路易沙揀的是藍色的，因爲她的皮膚很白。

他們走去最好的商店。他們不能不買一個紅色掛燈，又不能不買一座石膏製的愛神。他們隨後買了一套餐具：

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Paris.¹ Then they bought a dinner-service; and six dozen differently shaped glasses with cut edges; and knives and forks, grooved and engraved with their initials.² And then the kitchen utensils! Mama had to accompany them to see to those.

And what a lot he had to do besides! There were bills to accept, journeys to the banks and interviews with trades-people and artisans; a flat had to be found and curtains had to be put up. He saw to everything. Of course he had to neglect his work; but once he was married, he would soon make up for it.

They were only going to take two rooms to begin with, for they were going to be frightfully economical. And as they were only going to have two rooms, they could afford to furnish them well. He rented two rooms and a kitchen on the first floor in Government Street, for six hundred crowns. When Louisa remarked that they might just as well have taken three rooms and a kitchen on the fourth floor for five hundred crowns, he was a little embarrassed;³ but what did it matter if only they loved one another? Yes, of course, Louisa agreed, but couldn't they have loved one another just as well in four rooms at a lower rent, as in three at a higher? Yes, he admitted that he had been foolish, but what *did* it matter so long as they loved one another?

The rooms were furnished. The bedroom looked like a little temple. The two beds stood side by side, like two

¹plaster of Paris, 石膏. ²initials, 名姓的第一個字母. ³embarrassed, 不安.

還買了六打形式各有不同的刻邊玻璃盃；又買了若干刀叉，刻上花紋及他們的名姓的第一個字母。隨後置廚房的器皿。媽媽要陪他們去買。

此外他還要辦多少事呀！他要承認到期還許多債，往銀行好幾次，同商人及工人們面商許多次；還要租一層房子，還要掛窗簾。他每事都照應到。他既是這樣忙碌，自然要忽略許多事體不辦；但是他一結婚之後就會補辦他所忽略未辦的事。

他們一起首不過租兩間屋子，他們要很省儉的過日子。又因他們不過要兩間屋子，他們就能夠花錢把這兩間屋子鋪陳好。他在政府街租了兩間屋子一間廚房，同在第一層，租金六百克隆。路易沙說與其這樣，不如花五百克隆租第四層的三間屋子一間廚房，他聽了有點不安；他答道，只要他們兩人相親相愛，何必計較呀！路易沙說是呀，在租金賤的四間屋子裏頭相親相愛，不是同在三間租金貴的屋子裏相親相愛一樣的麼？他承認他糊塗了，只要他們相親相愛，租這裏或租那裏有什麼相干呀！

屋子是鋪陳好了。臥室好像一間小廟。兩張床並排放着，像兩部馬車。日光照在藍色的海鴨絨被上，照在很白

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carriages. The rays of the sun fell on the blue eiderdown quilt, the white, white sheets and the little pillow-slips which an elderly maiden aunt had embroidered with their monogram; the latter consisted of two huge letters, formed of flowers, joined together in one single embrace, and kissing here and there, wherever they touched, at the corners. The bride had her own little alcove, which was screened off by a Japanese screen. The drawing-room, which was also dining-room, study and morning-room, contained her piano, (which had cost twelve hundred crowns) his writing-table with twelve pigeon-holes, (every single piece of it real walnut) a pier-glass,¹ armchairs; a sideboard and a dining-table. "It looks as if nice people lived here," they said, and they could not understand why people wanted a separate dining-room, which always looked so cheerless with its cane chairs.

The wedding took place on a Saturday. Sunday dawned, the first day of their married life. Oh! what a life it was! Wasn't it lovely to be married! Wasn't marriage a splendid institution! One was allowed one's own way in everything, and parents and relations came and congratulated one into the bargain.²

At nine o'clock in the morning their bedroom was still dark. He wouldn't open the shutters to let in daylight, but re-lighted the red lamp which threw its bewitching light on the blue eiderdown, the white sheets, a little crumpled now, and the Venus made of plaster of Paris, who

¹ pier-glass, 照身鏡. ² into the bargain, 還有; 加上.

很白的被單及小枕套上，有一個年老未出嫁的姑母或姨母把他們姓名的第一個字母湊成一個單字，繡在枕套上。……新娘有她自己的一個小地方，用日本簾子遮住。他們的客廳就是飯廳又是書房及早上的起坐間，擺着她的鋼琴（花過一千二百克隆置的），他的寫字桌，這張桌上有十二個小格（每件都是真核桃木製的），一面照身鏡，幾把交椅；一座擺餐具酒食的櫥，一張飯桌。他們說道，「這間屋子好像是好講究的人們住過的，」他們不能明白人們爲什麼要另外有一間飯廳，擺上許多籐椅，常是很寂寞的。

他們結婚在星期六日。星期日破曉，這是他們過結婚生活的第一天。呀！這是什麼生活呀！結婚是多麼可愛呀！結婚豈不是一個極好的制度嗎！無論做什麼都可以自由，還有父母親戚來賀喜。

早上九點鐘他們的臥室還是黑暗的。他不肯開百葉窗讓陽光進來，他再點紅燈，這枝燈放迷人的光射在藍色的海鴨絨被上，照在白色被單上，被單現在有點摺縐了，又照在石膏製的愛神上，這個女神站在那裏渾身作玫瑰紅的顏色，絲毫不覺得羞恥（女愛神原是裸體的，譯者

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stood there rosy-red and without shame. And the red light also fell on his little wife who nestled in her pillows with a look of contrition,¹ and yet so refreshed as if she had never slept so well in all her life. There was no traffic in the street to-day for it was Sunday, and the church-bells were calling people to the morning service with exulting, eager voices, as if they wanted all the world to come to church and praise Him who had created men and women.

He whispered to his little bride to shut her eyes so that he might get up and order breakfast. She buried her head in the pillows, while he slipped on his dressing-gown and went behind the screen to dress.

A broad radiant path of sunlight lay on the sitting-room floor; he did not know whether it was spring or summer, autumn or winter; he only knew that it was Sunday! His bachelor life was receding into the background like something ugly and dark; the sight of his little home stirred his heart with a faint recollection of the home of his childhood, and at the same time held out a glorious promise² for the future.

How strong he felt! The future appeared to him like a mountain coming to meet him. He would breathe on it and the mountain would fall down at his feet like sand; he would fly away, far above gables and chimneys, holding his little wife in his arm.

He collected his clothes which were scattered all over the room; he found his white neck-tie hanging on a picture frame; it looked like a big white butterfly.

¹ contrition, 犯罪後悔. ² promise, 希望.

注)。紅光還照着他的新娘子，她縮在枕上，臉上帶着犯了罪要悔過的神色，却是很有光彩的，好像一生沒有過這次睡得那樣好。今天是星期日，街上無人來往的吵鬧聲，教堂鐘響，用歡樂及熱烈聲音喊人去行早上的祈禱禮，這些鐘聲好像要全個世界的人進教堂謝創造男女的上帝。

他低聲對他的小新娘說，叫她閉着兩眼，以便他起來，吩咐備早餐。她把頭藏在枕頭裏，他一面披上他的梳洗衣，走到簾後穿衣服。

一片大陽光照在起坐間的地板上；他不曉得現時是春天抑或是夏天，秋天抑或是冬天；他只曉得今天是星期日！他的獨身生活如同有一種醜惡及黑暗東西，退到背景裏啦；他的小家庭的光景擾動他的心，使他微微記憶他當孩子時代的家庭，同時覺得前程是很有光榮希望的。

他覺得他自己有多麼壯健呀！他的前程好像如一座山走來迎他。他會對山一吹，這座山就會跌在他腳下，如同沙一般；他會抱住他的夫人飛跑了，飛得很高，高過房子的三角頂及火爐的烟通。

他把亂擗在地板上的衣服收攏來；他找着他的白領帶掛在畫架上；領帶好像一隻白色大蝴蝶。

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He went into the kitchen. How the new copper vessels sparkled, the new tin kettles shone! And all this belonged to him and to her! He called the maid who came out of her room in her petticoat. But he did not notice it, nor did he notice that her shoulders were bare. For him there was but one woman in all the world. He spoke to the girl as a father would to his daughter. He told her to go to the restaurant and order breakfast, at once, a first-rate breakfast. Porter and Burgundy! The manager knew his taste. She was to give him his regards.

He went out of the kitchen and knocked at the bedroom door.

"May I come in?"

There was a little startled scream.

"Oh, no, darling, wait a bit!"

He laid the breakfast table himself. When the breakfast was brought from the restaurant, he served it on her new breakfast set. He folded the dinner napkins according to all the rules of art. He wiped the wine-glasses, and finally took her bridal-bouquet and put it in a vase before her place.

When she emerged from her bedroom in her embroidered morning gown and stepped into the brilliant sunlight, she felt just a tiny bit faint; he helped her into the armchair, made her drink a little liqueur out of a liqueur glass and eat a caviare sandwich.

What fun it all was! One could please oneself when one was married. What would Mama have said if she had seen her daughter drinking liqueurs at this hour of the morning!

He waited on her as if she were still his fiancée. What

他走進廚房。那幾件新銅鍋等及新的錫壺等怎樣閃光呀！所有這些東西都是他與她的。他喊女僕，她只穿了裙子從屋裏出來，他不曾理會，他又不曾理會她是赤着肩膀的。在全個世界裏頭，他眼中只有一個女人。他對那個女孩子說話如同父親對他的女兒說話一般。他吩咐她立刻去館子叫早餐，叫頭等早餐。還要叫坡打酒及貝爾良第酒！館子的經理曉得他的嗜好。她還要對經理說他問候他。

他走出廚房，敲臥室門。

『我可以進來嗎？』

屋裏有人驚嚇了，小小的喊了一聲。

『小寶貝，你且在門外稍等一等，不要進來！』

他自己親手把早餐桌擺好。當館子送來早餐的時候，他放在她的新置的早餐器皿上。他按照摺疊方法把吃大餐的飯巾摺好。他搽酒鍾，最後拿她的結婚花球過來，放在瓶子裏，擺在她的坐位前。

當她從臥室走出來的時候，她穿了繡花的早服，走入華麗的陽光裏，她覺得有一點點要暈倒；他扶她坐在交椅上，叫她喝一小盃蜜酒，吃一塊麵包夾魚子。

這是多麼好玩呀！一個人結了婚就能够自由啦。假使她的母親看見她的女兒大清早起就喝蜜酒，她母親會說些什麼呀！

他服事她，好像當她還是他的未婚妻。他們結婚後

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a breakfast they were having on the first morning after their wedding! And nobody had a right to say a word. Everything was perfectly right and proper, one could enjoy oneself with the very best of consciences, and that was the most delightful part of it all. It was not for the first time that he was eating such a breakfast, but what a difference between then and now! He had been restless and dissatisfied then; he could not bear to think of it, now. And as he drank a glass of genuine Swedish porter after the oysters, he felt the deepest contempt for all bachelors.

“How stupid of people not to get married! Such selfishness! They ought to be taxed like dogs.”

“I’m sorry for those poor men who haven’t the means to get married,” replied his demure¹ little wife kindly, “for I am sure, if they had the means they would all get married.”

A little pang shot through the assistant’s heart; for a moment he felt afraid, lest² he had been a little too venturesome. All his happiness rested³ on the solution of a financial problem, and if, if . . . Pooh! A glass of Burgundy! Now he would work! They should see!

“Game? With cranberries and cucumbers!” The young wife was a little startled, but it was really delicious.

“Lewis, darling,” she put a trembling little hand on his arm, “can we afford it?”

Fortunately she said “we.”

“Pooh! It doesn’t matter for once! Later on we can dine on potatoes and herrings.”

“Can you eat potatoes and herrings?”

¹ demure, 很安靜. ² lest, 惟恐. ³ rested, 依靠.

第一個早上吃的是什麼早餐呀！無人有權利批評他們一句。無論什麼事都是全對的，正當的，他們能夠摩着良心享受，這是最可樂的一部分。這不是第一次他吃這樣的早餐，但是從前與現在是多麼不同呀！從前他心裏不得安寧，又不能滿意；現在他追想從前，簡直的是受不了。當他吃過燭房喝一鍾真正瑞典坡打酒的時候，他覺得很看不起全數不會娶妻的男子們。

『人們不娶親是多麼糊塗呀！不娶妻的人們太過自顧自啦！國家應該抽不娶妻的人的稅，如同抽狗稅一般。』

他的很安靜的小個子夫人很親愛的答道，『我很可憐無錢娶妻的貧人們，因為我深信他們只要有錢，他們個個都要娶妻的。』

這個幫手覺得一陣心痛；有一會子他覺得害怕，惟恐他有點太過冒險。全數他的歡樂依靠解決一個錢財問題，倘若……呸！且喝一鍾貝爾良地酒！現在他肯做工！他們只管看呀！

少年夫人有點驚訝，說道，『野味麼？還有紅莓苔子醬及黃瓜配着吃！』滋味其實是很好。

她把一隻發抖的小手放在他的臂上，說道，『留埃斯小寶貝，我們能夠吃花錢這樣貴重東西麼？』

好在她說的是『我們』。

『嗨！吃一次算不了什麼！往後我們能夠吃馬鈴薯及鱈魚過日子。』

『你能吃馬鈴薯和鱈魚麼？』

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"I should think so!"

"When you have been drinking more than is good for you, and expect a beefsteak after the herring?"

"Nonsense! Nothing of the kind! Your health, sweetheart! The game is excellent! So are these artichokes!"

"No, but you are mad, darling! Artichokes at this time of the year! What a bill you will have to pay!"

"Bill! Aren't they good? Don't you think that it is glorious to be alive? Oh! It's splendid, splendid!"

At six o'clock in the afternoon a carriage drove up to the front door. The young wife would have been angry if it had not been so pleasant to loll luxuriously on the soft cushions, while they were being slowly driven to the Deer Park.

"It's just like lying on a couch," whispered Lewis.

She playfully hit his fingers with her sunshade. Mutual acquaintances bowed to them from the footpath. Friends waved their hands to him as if they were saying:

"Hallo! you rascal, you have come into a fortune!"

How small the passers-by looked, how smooth the street was, how pleasant their ride on springs and cushions!

Life should always be like that.

It went on for a whole month. Balls, visits, dinners, theatres. Sometimes, of course, they remained at home. And at home it was more pleasant than anywhere else. How lovely, for instance, to carry off one's wife from her parents' house, after supper, without saying as much as "by your leave," put her into a closed carriage, slam the door, nod to her people and say: "Now we're off home,

「我當然能吃！」

「當你吃酒過量，你吃過鯪魚之後，還想吃一塊牛肉扒，是不是？」

「不要胡說啦！全不是的！愛人，我祝你的壽！野味是好極了！這些朝鮮薊也是好極了！」

「小寶貝，你瘋了，不是的吧！這個時候那裏會有朝鮮薊呀！你要還多少帳呀！」

「帳吧！你說這些朝鮮薊好不好？你看，活在世上，是不是頂快樂的？呀！好極了，好極了！」

午後六點鐘有一部馬車到了大門口。假使當他們慢慢趕到鹿圍的時候，他的少年夫人不是很舒服倒在柔軟的車墊上覺得很快樂。她當然會生氣的。

留埃斯附耳低聲說道，「這就如同躺在榻上一般。」

她鬧着玩的，用陽傘敲他的手指。他們所同認識的熟人們，在小路上對他們鞠躬。朋友們對他搖手，好像說道：

「哈哈！你這個光棍，你發了大財啦！」

他們覺得過路的人們是多麼小呀，街道是多麼平呀，他們坐在有彈簧及有軟墊子的馬車上，是多麼適意呀！

人生在世應該常像這樣。

他們過這樣的生活過了整一個月。跳舞，拜客，吃大餐，看戲。有時他們自然是在家裏。在家裏比在無論其他什麼地方更適意。譬如說，吃過晚飯後，用不着說一句「你可以許我麼，」就把他的夫人從她父母家裏拉走，放她在緊閉窗門的馬車上，把車門很用力的關了，點頭對她的父母說道：「現在我們走啦，到我們的家裏去啦，到我們自己的

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to our own four walls! And there we'll do exactly what we like!"

And then to have a little supper at home and sit over it, talking and gossiping until the small hours of the morning.

Lewis was always very sensible at home, at least in theory. One day his wife put him to the test by giving him salt salmon, potatoes boiled in milk and oatmeal soup for dinner. Oh! how he enjoyed it! He was sick of elaborate menus.

On the following Friday, when she again suggested salt salmon for dinner, Lewis came home, carrying two ptarmigans! He called to her from the threshold:

"Just imagine, Lou, a most extraordinary thing happened! A most extraordinary thing!"

"Well, what is it?"

"You'll hardly believe me when I tell you that I bought a brace of ptarmigans, bought them myself at the market for—guess!"

His little wife seemed more annoyed than curious.

"Just think! One crown the two!"

"I have bought ptarmigans at eightpence the brace; 'but——' she added in a more conciliatory tone, so as not to upset him altogether, "that was in a very cold winter."

"Well, but you must admit that I bought them very cheaply."

Was there anything she would not admit in order to see him happy?

She had ordered boiled groats for dinner, as an experiment. But after Lewis had eaten a ptarmigan, he regretted that he could not eat as much of the groats as he would

房子啦！我們在我們自己的家裏喜歡做什麼就做什麼！」

隨後在我們自己的家裏吃個小夜餐，坐在那裏談，閒談到夜深。

留埃斯在家常是很明白的，他姑勿論，在理想上至少也是這樣。有一天他的女人要試他，給他鹹鮭魚，牛奶煮馬鈴薯及油麥麵湯當大餐。呀！他多麼享受這頓大餐呀！他吃膩很費事的烹調了。

到了下星期五，那天她又提議鹹鮭魚充大餐，留埃斯帶了一對松雞回家！他從門檻喊她道：

「路！（即路易沙的簡稱譯者注）你試想看。有一件極其非常的事體發生啦！真是最非常的事！」

「好呀，什麼事呀？」

「我告訴你，你幾乎不肯相信的，我買了一對松雞，我自己在市場上買的——你猜呀！」

他的小個子夫人好像更生氣，不甚要曉得是多少錢買的。

「你試想呀！一個克隆買一對！」

「我曾買過一對松雞，不過花了八個便士，還是在很冷的冬天買的，但是——，」她說末後一句話是帶着更和氣的腔調，意在不要他難過。

「是呀，但是你必得承認我買得很便宜。」

她要看見他歡樂，她有什麼不肯承認呀？

她已經吩咐過煮雀麥當大餐，試試看。但是留埃斯吃了一隻松雞後，很追悔他不能吃許多雀麥以便給她看他其實

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have liked, in order to show her that he was really very fond of groats. He liked groats very much indeed—milk did not agree with him after his attack of ague. He couldn't take milk, but groats he would like to see on his table every evening, every blessed evening of his life, if only she wouldn't be angry with him.

And groats never again appeared on his table.

When they had been married for six weeks, the young wife fell ill. She suffered from headaches and sickness. It could not be anything serious, just a little cold. But this sickness? Had she eaten anything which had disagreed with her? Hadn't all the copper vessels new coatings of tin? He sent for the doctor. The doctor smiled and said it was all right.

"What was all right? Oh! Nonsense! It wasn't possible. How could it have been possible? No, surely, the bedroom paper was to blame. It must contain arsenic. Let us send a piece to the chemist's at once and have it tested."

"Entirely free from arsenic," reported the chemist.

"How strange! No arsenic in the wall papers?"

The young wife was still ill. He consulted a medical book and whispered a question in her ear. "There now! a hot bath!"

Four weeks later the midwife declared that everything was "as it should be."

"As it should be? Well, of course! Only it was somewhat premature!"

But as it could not be helped, they were delighted. Fancy, a baby! They would be papa and mama! What should they call him? For, of course, it would be a boy.

是很歡喜吃雀麥的。他其實很喜歡雀麥——他害過瘧疾後不能吃牛奶。他不能吃牛奶，他却喜歡每天晚上有雀麥放在桌上，只要她不同他生氣，每天晚上都要有雀麥的。

此後飯桌上永遠不見有雀麥啦。

他們結婚有六個星期啦，少年夫人病啦。她患頭痛及惡心。這不過是受了點涼，不能是什麼重病，但是爲什麼惡心呀？她吃了不對的東西麼？全數的銅鍋等等不都是裏面過了一層錫的麼？他請醫生。醫生微笑說，是不要緊的。

『什麼不要緊呀？胡說！不可能的。怎樣會可能的？不是的，必定是臥室所糊的紙不對。紙裏有砒霜。我們不如立刻撕一塊送給化學師試驗。』

化學師的報告說道，『完全沒有砒霜。』

『這是多麼奇怪呀！糊牆紙竟無砒霜麼？』

少年夫人還是病。他查看一本醫書，低聲問她一句話。『呀哈！用熱水洗浴吧！』

四星期後接生的宣言，『諸事進行得很好。』

『進行得好麼？自然是的！不過來得太早！』

這是無可奈何的事，他們很高興。試想看，原來是懷了孩子啦！他們要做爸爸與媽媽啦！他們該稱他什麼？當然是個男孩子。是個男孩子，這是無可疑的了。她同她的

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No doubt, it would. But now she had a serious conversation with her husband! There had been no translating or proof-correcting since their marriage. And his salary alone was not sufficient.

"Yes, they had given no thought to the morrow. But, dear me, one was young only once! Now, however, there would be a change."

On the following morning the assistant called on an old schoolfriend, a registrar, to ask him to stand security for a loan.

"You see, my dear fellow, when one is about to become a father, one has to consider how to meet increasing expenses."

"Quite so, old man," answered the registrar, "therefore I have been unable to get married. But you are fortunate in having the means."

The assistant hesitated to make his request. How could he have the audacity to ask this poor bachelor to help him to provide the expenses for the coming event? This bachelor, who had not the means to found a family of his own? He could not bring himself to do it.

When he came home to dinner, his wife told him that two gentlemen had called to see him.

"What did they look like? Were they young? Did they wear eye-glasses? Then there was no doubt, they were two lieutenants, old friends of his whom he had met at Vaxholm."

"No, they couldn't have been lieutenants; they were too old for that."

"Then he knew; they were old college friends from Upsala, probably P. who was a lecturer, and O. who was a

丈夫很認真的談過一回！自從他們結婚以來，既不會譯書，又不曾校對。只靠他的薪水是不夠的。

『是呀，他們只想今日絕不會想到明日。但是一個人不過有一度是少年的！現在的情形却要改變啦。』

這個幫手的第二天早上走去訪一個舊同學，是一個司冊籍的，求他作借款的擔保人。

『我的好朋友，你是曉得的，但凡一個人快要做父親就得考慮怎樣對付增加的費用。』

司冊籍的答道，『老朋友，可不是，所以我不能娶妻。你走好運，有錢娶妻。』

這個幫手的遲疑，不敢問他。他怎樣能夠大膽求這個窮的不娶妻的人幫他，為將來的事籌款呀！這個不會娶妻的人，既無力量組織家庭，怎樣能夠幫他呀！他不能求他幫助。

等到他回家吃飯的時候，他的夫人對他說，有兩個男客來找他。

『是兩個什麼樣的人？是少年人麼？他們戴眼鏡麼？無疑是兩個中尉，是他在華士賀林 (Vaxholm) 會過的兩個老朋友。』

『不是的，他們年紀太大了，不能是中尉。』

『他曉得啦；他們是從烏普沙拉 (Uppsala) 來的大學的老朋友，一個大約是某甲，他是一個講師，一個大約是

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curate, now. They had come to see how their old pal was shaping as a husband."

"No, they didn't come from Upsala, they came from Stockholm."

The maid was called in and cross-examined. She thought the callers had been shabbily dressed and had carried sticks.

"Sticks! I can't make out what sort of people they can have been. Well, we'll know soon enough, as they said they would call again. But to change the subject, I happened to see a basket of hothouse strawberries at a really ridiculous price; it really is absurd! Just imagine, hothouse strawberries at one and sixpence a basket! And at this time of the year!"

"But, my darling, what is this extravagance¹ to lead to?"

"It'll be all right. I have got an order for a translation this very day."

"But you are in debt, Lewis?"

"Trifles! Mere nothings! It'll be all right when I take up a big loan, presently."

"A loan! But that'll be a new debt!"

"True! But there'll be easy terms! Don't let's talk business now! Aren't these strawberries delicious? What? A glass of sherry with them would be tip-top. Don't you think so? Lina, run round to the stores and fetch a bottle of sherry, the best they have."

After his afternoon nap, his wife insisted on a serious conversation.

¹ extravagance, 浪費.

某乙，他是一個牧師。他們來看他們的老同伴當丈夫當得怎麼樣。』

『不是的，他們不是從烏普沙拉來的，他們是從京都來的。』

隨即把女僕喊來盤問一番。她說來訪的兩個人穿得很不整齊的，手上還拿着手杖。

『手杖麼？我不能想得出來他們能夠是什麼路數人。也罷，他們既說還要來，我們不久就會曉得了。但是我要談別的啦，我碰巧看見一籃熱屋子烘出來的葡萄，價錢實在是無理的便宜；實在是無理的便宜！你看呀，熱屋子烘出來的葡萄不過要六便士一籃！還是這個時候烘出來的。』

『我的小寶貝，這樣的浪費領我們到那裏去呀？』

『不要緊的。今天有人找我譯書。』

『留埃斯呀，你欠了許多債，是不是？』

『欠得不多！不算事的！不久我將大借款，諸事就會妥當的。』

『一筆借款呀！這是一筆新債呀！』

誠然是的！但是利息不會重的！我們現在不要談錢銀的事！這些草莓不是滋味極好的麼？什麼呀？吃一鍾舍理酒配草莓是好極了。你看是不是？利那，你走去雜貨店取一瓶舍理酒來，要頂好的。』

他睡過午覺後，他的女人一定要同他很認真的談談。

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"You won't be angry, dear, will you?"

"Angry? I! Good heavens, no! Is it about household expenses?"

"Yes! We owe money at the stores! The butcher is pressing for payment; the man from the livery stables has called for his money; it's most unpleasant."

"Is that all? I shall pay them to the last farthing to-morrow. How dare they worry¹ you about such trifles? They shall be paid to-morrow, but they shall lose a customer. Now, don't let's talk about it any more. Come out for a walk. No carriage! Well, we'll take the car to the Deer Park, it will cheer us up."

They went to the Deer Park. They asked for a private room at the restaurant, and people stared at them and whispered.

"They think we are out on a spree,"² he laughed "What fun! What madness!"

But his wife did not like it.

They had a big bill to pay.

"If only we had stayed at home! We might have bought such a lot of things for the money."

Months elapsed. The great event was coming nearer and nearer. A cradle had to be bought and baby-clothes. A number of things were wanted. The young husband was out on business all day long. The price of wheat had risen. Hard times were at hand. He could get no translations, no proof-correcting. Men had become materialists. They didn't spend money on books, they bought food.

¹ worry, 麻煩. ² on a spree, 放縱亂鬧; 酗酒.

『寶貝，你不會生氣麼？』

『生氣麼？我呀！我不會生氣的！你是不是要談家用呀？』

『是的呀！我們欠雜貨店許多錢！賣肉的逼着我們還債；馬車房的人會來要錢；這是極難過的事。』

『不過是討債麼？我明天把他們的帳還清，一文也不少。他們怎敢這樣大膽因為不多的帳目就來麻煩你呀？明天我就還他們錢，但是他們卻失了一個主顧。現在我們不如不再談這件事。你出來，我同你散步。不坐大馬車嗎！也好，我們坐一部兩輪小車到鹿園，這就能使我們高興。』

他們果然去逛鹿園。他們在飯館要了一間屋子，人們瞪眼看他們，低聲私語。

他大笑道，『他們以為我們縱容自己亂鬧一番，這有多麼好頑呀！我們是多麼瘋狂呀！』

但是他的女人不喜歡這樣頑。

他們要付一筆很大的帳。

『假使我們在家裏不出來，這筆錢就可以買許多東西。』

過了幾個月。那件大事越來越近啦。他們要買嬰孩睡的搖床及嬰孩衣服，他們還要許多東西。少年丈夫終天出外辦事。小麥價錢長啦。為難的日子快到啦。他不能得着什麼書繙譯，又無稿可校。人們全變作物質派啦。他們不花錢買書，他們只肯花錢買食物。我們所在的是什麼庸俗

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What a prosaic¹ period we were living in! Ideals were melting away, one after the other, and ptarmigans were not to be had under two crowns the brace. The livery stables would not provide carriages for nothing for the cab-proprietors had wives and families to support, just as everybody else; at the stores cash had to be paid for goods. Oh! what realists they all were!

The great day had come at last. It was evening. He must run for the midwife. And while his wife suffered all the pangs of childbirth, he had to go down into the hall and pacify the creditors.

At last he held a daughter in his arms. His tears fell on the baby, for now he realised his responsibility, a responsibility which he was unable to shoulder. He made new resolutions. But his nerves were unstrung. He was working at a translation which he seemed unable to finish, for he had to be constantly out on business.

He rushed to his father-in-law, who was staying in town, to bring him the glad news.

"We have a little daughter!"

"Well and good," replied his father-in-law; "can you support a child?"

"Not at present; for heaven's sake, help us, father!"

"I'll tide you over your present difficulties. I can't do more. My means are only sufficient to support my own family."

The patient required chickens which he bought himself at the market, and wine at six crowns the bottle. It had to be the very best.

¹ prosaic, 庸俗; 鄙陋; 無詩意的.

時代呀！理想一個挨一個的全化去啦，松雞非兩個克隆不能買一對啦。馬車房不肯白供人車子用啦，因為車主們同餘人一樣也要養妻室及家族；雜貨店要現錢交易啦。嘩！人們全變了事實派啦！

後來那件大事發生啦。是傍晚發生的。他必得跑去請接生的人來。當他的女人正在受生產的痛苦時候，他還得跑入堂屋用好言安慰討債的人們。

後來他兩手抱住一個女兒。他的眼淚滴在嬰孩臉上，現在他體會他的責任啦，他不能擔負這樣的責任。他定了新計劃。他的神經鬆懈了。他正在譯書，但好像不能脫稿，因為他常出外辦事。

他跑去見他的岳父，報告喜信，岳父正住在市鎮裏。

『我們有了一個小女兒啦！』

他的岳父答道，『很好，你能供養一個孩子麼？』

『現在不能；父親，你得幫助我們！』

『我肯暫時助你，免得你受眼前的為難。我只能這樣做。我的力量只够養我自己的家。』

病人要吃雞，他自己到菜市上買。他還要買六個克隆一瓶的葡萄酒。他要買頂好的。

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The midwife expected a hundred crowns.

“Why should we pay her less than others? Hasn't she just received a cheque for a hundred crowns from the captain?”

Very soon the young wife was up again. She looked like a girl, as slender as a willow, a little pale, it was true, but the pallor suited her.

The old man called and had a private conversation with his son-in-law.

“No more children, for the present,” he said, “or you'll be ruined.”

“What language from a father! Aren't we married! Don't we love one another? Aren't we to have a family?”

“Yes, but not until you can provide for them. It's all very fine to love one another, but you mustn't forget that you have responsibilities.”

His father-in-law, too, had become a materialist. Oh! what a miserable world it was! A world without ideals!

The home was undermined, but love survived, for love was strong, and the hearts of the young couple were soft. The bailiff, on the contrary, was anything but soft. Distrain¹ was imminent,² and bankruptcy threatened. Well, let them distraint then!

The father-in-law arrived with a large travelling coach to fetch his daughter and grand-child. He warned his son-in-law not to show his face at his house until he could pay his debts and make a home for his wife and child. He said nothing to his daughter, but it seemed to him that he

¹ distraint, 強逼變賣家產還債. ² imminent, 大難臨頭.

接生的人要一百克隆。

『我們爲什麼比別人少給她呀？她不是才從船主手裏收受一張一百個克隆的支票麼？』

他的少年妻室不久又起床啦。她像一個女孩子，同楊柳那麼柔弱，臉色誠然稍爲發白，她卻宜於發白。

老頭子來訪，同他的女婿密談。

他說道，『暫時不要再養孩子啦，不然，你就毀了。』

『岳父說的是什麼話！我們不是結了婚的嗎？我們不是相愛嗎？我們不是要有子女嗎？』

『不錯的，不過你要等到你能够有力量養他們，才好養許多子女。夫婦相愛原是很好的事，你卻切勿忘記你有許多責任。』

他的岳父也變了一個物質派了。哎！這是一個多麼愁苦的世界呀！是一個全無理想的世界！家庭雖然是被陷，愛情卻還活着，因爲愛情是很有力量的，少年夫婦的心腸是軟的。衙役卻是相反的，是毫不柔和的。眼前就要變賣財產還債，又受破產的恐嚇。既是這樣，隨他們來變賣。

岳父帶了一部遠行的大車來接他的女兒及外孫回去。他警告他的女婿，要等到他能够還債，能够養他的妻子，才好到他這裏露面。他對他的女兒並不說什麼，他好像接一個走差路的女子回家一般。他好像把他這個善良孩子

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was bringing home a girl who had been led astray. It was as if he had lent his innocent child to a casual admirer and now received her back "dishonoured." She would have preferred to stay with her husband, but he had no home to offer her.

And so the husband of one year's standing was left behind to watch the pillaging of his home, if he could call it his home, for he had paid for nothing. The two men with spectacles carted away the beds and bedclothes; the copper kettles and tin vessels; the dinner set, the chandelier and the candlesticks; everything, everything!

He was left alone in the two empty, wretched rooms! If only *she* had been left to him! But what should she do here, in these empty rooms? No, she was better off where she was! She was being taken care of.

Now the struggle for a livelihood began in bitter earnest. He found work at a daily paper as a proof-corrector. He had to be at the office at midnight; at three in the morning his work was done. He did not lose his berth, for bankruptcy had been avoided, but he had lost all chance of promotion.

Later on he is permitted to visit wife and child once a week, but he is never allowed to see her alone. He spends Saturday night in a tiny room, close to his father-in-law's bedroom. On Sunday morning he has to return to town, for the paper appears on Monday morning. . . He says good-bye to his wife and child who are allowed to accompany him as far as the garden gate, he waves his hand to them once more from the furthest hillock, and succumbs to¹

¹succumbs to, 讓步於; 忍受.

借與一個偶然愛她的人，現在接她回來，她卻是已經被人『糟塌』了。她很想同她的丈夫同居，可惜他的丈夫不能給她一個家。

有一年資格的丈夫就是這樣留在後頭，眼見他的家被人搶掠，他既不會花錢置買東西造成一個家，他能否稱爲他的家。那兩個戴眼鏡的人用車把床及被褥裝走；把銅鍋與錫器；把餐具，與分枝的燈及燭台，及無論什麼東西全裝走了。

只剩他一個人在兩間空的，愁慘的屋子裏！設使她還在這裏陪他，也還罷了！但是她在這兩間空屋裏頭怎樣過呀？不必啦，她還是走開的好！她有了照應啦。

現在起首很痛心疾首的認真奮鬥，以謀生活啦。他在一個日報館裏當一個校對人。他要半夜到公事房；早上三點鐘公事才辦完。他不曾失丟位置，因爲破產是避免了，但是他失了高升的全數機會啦。

後來許他每一星期探望他的妻子一次，卻絕不許他單見他的女人。星期六晚上他住在與他的岳父臥室很近的一間小屋子裏。星期日早上他就得回去市鎮，因爲日報是星期一日早出現的……岳父許他的女人及女兒陪他走到花園大門，他同他們話別，他在最遠的小山上搖手再同

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his wretchedness, his misery, his humiliation. And she is no less unhappy.

He has calculated that it will take him twenty years to pay his debts. And then? Even then he cannot maintain a wife and child. And his prospects?¹ He has none! If his father-in-law should die, his wife and child would be thrown on the street; he cannot venture to look forward to the death of their only support.

Oh! How cruel it is of nature to provide food for all her creatures, leaving the children of men alone to starve! Oh! How cruel, how cruel! that life has not ptarmigans and strawberries to give to all men. How cruel! How cruel!

¹prospects, 前程.

他們告別，不得不忍受難堪，愁苦，及屈辱。她的不歡樂並不亞於他。

他曾計算過，要二十年才能夠把他的債還清。還清之後又怎麼樣？到了那個時候他還是不能養一個女人及一個孩子。他有什麼前程？他沒得前程！他的岳父若死，他的女人和他的孩子就無家可歸啦；他不敢放膽看見將來他們的惟一依靠死了。

哎！天是多麼殘忍呀！供給食料與全數天所造的物，惟撇下人類的兒女們不顧，讓他們捱餓！哎！多麼殘忍呀，多麼殘忍呀！人生在世，不是人人都可以得着松雞及草莓吃。多麼殘忍呀！多麼殘忍呀！

UNNATURAL SELECTION OR THE ORIGIN OF RACE

The Baron had read in *The Slaves of Life* with disgust and indignation that the children of the aristocracy were bound to perish unless they took the mothers' milk from the children of the lower classes. He had read Darwin and believed that the gist¹ of his teaching was that through selection the children of the aristocracy had come to be more highly developed representatives of the genus "Man." But the doctrine of heredity made him look upon the employment of a foster-mother with aversion; for might not, with the blood of the lower classes, certain conceptions, ideas and desires be introduced and propagated in the aristocratic nursling? He was therefore determined that his wife should nurse her baby herself, and if she should prove incapable of doing so, the child should be brought up with the bottle. He had a right to the cows' milk, for they fed on his hay; without it they would starve, or would not have come into existence at all.

The baby was born. It was a son! The father had been somewhat anxious before he became certain of his wife's condition, for he was, personally, a poor man; his wife, on the other hand, was very wealthy, but he had no claim to her fortune unless their union was blest with a legal heir, (in accordance with the law of entail chap. oo

¹gist, 精華.

不自然的選擇

(非天然的淘汰譯者註)

男爵讀過「人世的奴隸，」見得貴族的兒女們必得吃下等人的子孫的奶，不然就必定死，他就厭惡與生氣。他讀過達爾文(Darwin)的著作，他相信他的學說的精華就是貴族的子孫經過選擇就變作『人』類的更高等發展的代表。但是遺傳學說使他極不願意雇乳娘；因為較下級的人們的血，及某某幾樣概念，意想，和欲望不可以輸入於她所乳哺的貴族嬰孩身體內，及在裏頭繁殖麼？所以他決計要他的夫人自己乳哺她的嬰兒。倘若她不能乳哺，只好用乳瓶養大這個嬰兒。他有權利用牛乳，因為母牛吃他的乾草；牛沒得乾草就會餓死，或不會生出來。

他的夫人產下孩子啦。是一個男孩子！這個父親一向頗着急，等到他確實曉得他夫人的情形他才放心，因為他本人原是一個貧人；他的夫人卻是很有錢的，他們若生有法定的嗣子他才可以用她的資財，不然是不能的（見遺產律某章某條）。所以他很快樂，當真的快樂。嬰兒是一

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par. 00). His joy was therefore great and genuine. The baby was a transparent¹ little thoroughbred, with blue veins shining through his waxen skin. Nevertheless his blood was poor. His mother who possessed the figure of an angel, was brought up on choice food, protected by rich furs from all the eccentricities² of the climate, and had that aristocratic pallor which denotes the woman of noble descent.

She nursed the baby herself. There was consequently no need to become indebted to peasant women for the privilege of enjoying life on this planet. Nothing but fables, all he had read about it! The baby sucked and screamed for a fortnight. But all babies scream. It meant nothing. But it lost flesh. It became terribly emaciated. The doctor was sent for. He had a private conversation with the father, during which he declared that the baby would die if the Baroness continued to nurse him, because she was firstly too highly strung, and secondly had nothing with which to feed him. He took the trouble to make a quantitative analysis of the milk, and proved (by equations) that the child was bound to starve unless there was a change in the method of his feeding.

What was to be done? On no account could the baby be allowed to die. Bottle or foster mother? The latter was out of the question. Let us try the bottle! The doctor, however, prescribed a foster mother.

The best Dutch cow, which had received the gold medal for the district, was isolated and fed with hay; with dry hay of the finest quality. The doctor analysed the milk,

¹ transparent, 一眼看透. ² eccentricities, 不正的改變.

條小良駒，一見就看得出是的，從他的如蠟那麼光的皮膚就可以看見他的藍色血管。可惜他的血衰弱。他的母親有安琪兒的身材，吃精美食物長大的，有值錢的皮衣保護她的身體不使被氣候的不正更變所侵，臉色青白，這就表示她是貴族之後。

她自己乳哺嬰兒。所以用不着依賴鄉下女人以求得活在地球的特別權利。凡是他所讀過乳哺孩子的書全不過是謠言！嬰孩吃了兩星期的奶，哭了兩星期。但是嬰孩無不哭的。嬰兒哭算不了什麼。但是嬰孩日見其瘦。後來變作可怕的瘦。於是請醫生來看。醫生同這個父親密談一會，醫生說，男爵夫人若接連乳哺孩子，孩子會死的，第一層因為她的神經太受過激刺，第二層因為她無以哺孩子。他曾費點事驗她的乳汁，證實（用方程式）孩子必定會餓死的，除非變換他乳哺孩子的方法。

怎麼辦呢？無論怎樣是絕不能讓嬰兒餓死。用牛乳瓶好，抑或是雇乳娘好？他不肯雇乳娘。我們不如試用牛奶喂孩子！醫生卻主張雇乳娘。

他於是買一條頂好的荷蘭母牛，是曾在本區得過金獎牌的，他隔離這條牛，用乾草喂她；用的是頂好的乾草。醫生驗過牛奶，驗得樣樣都好。這個辦法是多麼單簡呀！

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everything was all right. How simple the system was! How strange that they had not thought of it before! After all, one need not engage a foster mother a tyrant before whom one had to cringe, a loafer one had to fatten; not to mention the fact that she might have an infectious disease.

But the baby continued to lose flesh and to scream. It screamed night and day. There was no doubt it suffered from colic. A new cow was procured and a fresh analysis made. The milk was mixed with Karlsbad water, genuine Sprudel, but the baby went on screaming.

"There's no remedy but to engage a foster mother," said the doctor.

"Oh! anything but that! One did not want to rob other children, it was against nature, and, moreover, what about heredity?"

When the Baron began to talk of things natural and unnatural, the doctor explained to him that if nature were allowed her own way, all noble families would die out and their estates fall to the crown. This was the wisdom of nature, and human civilization was nothing but a foolish struggle against nature, in which man was bound to be beaten. The Baron's race was doomed; this was proved by the fact that his wife was unable to feed the fruit of her womb; in order to live they were bound to buy or steal the milk of other women. Consequently the race lived on robbery, down to the smallest detail.

"Could the purchase of the milk be called robbery? The purchase of it!"

"Yes, because the money with which it was bought was produced by labour. Whose labour? The people's! For the aristocracy didn't work."

他們從前不曾想到這個辦法，這是多麼奇怪呀！到底用不着雇乳娘，乳娘是一個最霸道的女人，還要諂媚她，乳娘又是一個懶惰人，還得供養她到肥肥胖胖的；姑且勿論她還許有傳染病。

但是嬰兒接連的變瘦，還是哭。日夜的哭。孩子得了肚痛病，這是無可疑的了。於是買一條新的母牛，重新驗牛奶。在牛奶裏頭攪點真正斯普度(Sprudel)的卡爾斯巴(Karlsbad)水，但是嬰兒還是哭。

醫生說道，『無法可治，只好雇一個乳娘。』

『哎！無論什麼都可以，只是不用乳娘！我不要奪了其他孩子們的母奶，這是反對自然的，況且還有遺傳性的問題麼？』

男爵起首談自然，及不自然，醫生就解說給他聽，假使任從自然橫行，全數貴族都會死絕了，他們的財產就落在君主手上。這原是自然的明智，人類進化不過是同自然反對的一種糊塗奮鬥，人類必定失敗。男爵的一族就會死絕的；他的夫人不能乳哺她所生的孩子，這件事實就證明他會絕嗣；他們若要這個孩子不死，就不得不買其他女人們的奶，或偷她們的奶。所以這一族是靠盜劫爲生，上至乳哺孩子下至最小的瑣事，全靠盜劫。（此與陰符經所說略同。譯者注。）

『花錢買奶，能够說是盜劫麼？我是花錢買來的呀！』

『是呀。因爲你買奶的錢是勞力所產生的，是誰們的勞力呀？是人民的勞力呀！因爲貴族是不做工的。』

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"The doctor was a socialist!"

"No, a follower of Darwin. However, he didn't care in the least if they called him a socialist. It made no difference to him."

"But surely, purchase was not robbery! That was too strong a word!"

"Well, but if one paid with money one hadn't earned!"

"That was to say, earned by manual labour?"

"Yes!"

"But in that case the doctor was a robber too!"

"Quite so! Nevertheless he would not hold back with the truth! Didn't the Baron remember the repenting thief who had spoken such true words?"

The conversation was interrupted; the Baron sent for a famous professor.

The latter called him a murderer straight out, because he had not engaged a nurse long ago.

The Baron had to persuade his wife. He had to retract¹ all his former arguments and emphasize the one simple fact, namely, the love for his child, (regulated by the law of entail).

But where was a foster mother to come from? It was no use thinking of looking for one in town, for there all people were corrupt. No, it would have to be a country girl. But the Baroness objected to a girl because, she argued, a girl with a baby was an immoral person; and her son might contract a hereditary tendency.

The doctor retorted that all foster mothers were unmarried women and that if the young Baron inherited from

¹ retract, 收回; 否認.

『醫生原來是一個社會黨!』

『不是的，是達爾文的徒黨。雖是這樣說，人家若稱他爲一個社會黨，他是絲毫不介意的。據他看來，是沒得什麼差別的。』

『但是既花錢買，就不是盜劫!盜劫字眼太重些。』

『好嗎，但是他所花的錢卻不是他自己所博來的呀!』

『這就是說，用勞力博來的麼?』

『是呀!』

『既是這樣，醫生也是一個強盜呀!』

『確是這樣呀!他卻不能爲這件事實收回所說的真正道理。男爵不記得說過這樣真實話的後悔的竊賊麼?』

他們的談話被截斷了;男爵請一個有名的教授來。

教授一開口就說男爵是一個殺人的兇犯，因爲他不曾在許久以前雇一個乳娘

男爵得勸他的夫人。他得否認全數他從前的理論，還要著重一件簡單事實，就是愛他的兒子(有遺產律調整這樣的愛情。)

但是從那裏找一個乳娘呀?在市鎮裏找是無用的，因爲住在市鎮的人全是腐敗的。只好到一個鄉下找乳娘。但是男爵夫人反對用姑娘，因爲她的理論說，有了嬰孩的姑娘就是一個失德的人;她的兒子或許可以染了一種遺傳的趨勢。

醫生駁她，說全數乳娘都是不曾出嫁的女人倘若小男爵從她染了遺傳性，偏好女人，他會長成一個好人的;

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her a preference for the other sex, he would grow into a good fellow; tendencies of that sort ought to be encouraged. It was not likely that any of the farmers' wives would accept the position, because a farmer who owned land, would certainly prefer to keep his wife and children with him.

"But supposing they married a girl to a farm labourer?"

"It would mean a delay of nine months."

"But supposing they found a husband for a girl who had a baby?"

"That wasn't a bad idea!"

The Baron knew a girl who had a baby just three months old. He knew her only too well, for he had been engaged for three years and had been unfaithful to his fiancée by "doctor's orders." He went to her himself and made his suggestion. She should have a farm of her own if she would consent to marry Anders, a farm labourer, and come to the Manor as foster mother to the young Baron. Well, was it strange that she should accept the proffered settlement in preference to her bearing her disgrace alone? It was arranged there and then that on the following Sunday the banns should be read for the first, second and third time, and that Anders should go home to his own village for two months.

The Baron looked at her baby with a strange feeling of envy. He was a big, strong boy. He was not beautiful, but he looked like a guarantee of many generations to come. The child was born to live but it was not his fate to fulfil his destination.

Anna wept when he was taken to the orphanage, but the good food at the Manor (her dinner was sent up to

這樣的趨勢是應該鼓勵的。農夫們的女人大約不肯當乳娘的，因為一個有田地的農人當然更情願要他的妻子在身邊。

『譬如他們把一個姑娘嫁與一個田工，怎麼樣呢？』

『這不過耽延九個月。』

『譬如他們替一個有了孩子的姑娘找一個丈夫，又怎麼樣呢？』

『這卻是一個好主意！』

男爵曉得一個姑娘三個月前纔生過一個孩子。他很同她相熟，因為他同她定婚已經有了三年啦，他聽『醫生的命令』不忠於他的未婚妻。他自己去見她，提議這件事。她若肯嫁一個田工名安達斯(Andus)，來伯爵的府第當小伯爵的乳娘，她自己就會有了田地啦。她寧願承受這樣的特別安排，不願獨自一人含羞忍垢，有什麼奇怪呀！於是安排好在下一个星期日讀第一二三次的結婚公告，安達斯回去他的村莊兩個月。

男爵帶着一種奇異的妒忌神色，看她的（乳娘的，譯者注）嬰孩。他是個強壯的大孩子。他的相貌並不好看，卻好像能够擔保會留下好幾代的子孫。孩子生下地本來是要活在世上的，不料他的命運不好，不能活在上。

當把孩子送往孤兒院的時候安娜(Anna)啼哭，但是男爵府第的好飲食（從飯廳送飯食給她，她要喝多少坡

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her from the dining-room, and she had as much porter and wine as she wanted) consoled her. She was also allowed to go out driving in the big carriage, with a footman by the side of the coachman. And she read *A Thousand and One Nights*. Never in all her life had she been so well off.

After an absence of two months Anders returned. He had done nothing but eat, drink, and rest. He took possession of the farm, but he also wanted his Anna. Couldn't she, at least, come and see him sometimes? No, the Baroness objected. No nonsense of that sort!

Anna lost flesh and the little Baron screamed. The doctor was consulted.

"Let her go and see her husband," he said.

"But supposing it did the baby harm?"

"It won't!"

But Anders must be "analysed" first. Anders objected. Anders received a present of a few sheep and was "analysed."

The little Baron stopped screaming.

But now news came from the orphanage that Anna's boy had died of diphtheria.

Anna fretted, and the little Baron screamed louder than ever. She was discharged and sent back to Anders and a new foster mother was engaged.

Anders was glad to have his wife with him at last, but she had contracted expensive habits. She couldn't drink Brazilian coffee, for instance, it had to be Java. And her health did not permit her to eat fish six times a week, nor could she work in the fields. Food at the farm grew scarce.

打酒及葡萄酒就喝多少)就安慰了她。他們還許她坐在大馬車上出外,帶着一個跟人坐在車夫旁邊。她還看「天方夜談。」她一生從未享過這樣舒服日子。

安達斯走開兩個月又回來啦。他並不會做什麼事,只是吃喝與休息。他把田舍拿過來,但是他還要他的安娜。難道她有時不能來看看他麼?不能的,男爵夫人反對。不許這樣胡來!

安娜日見其瘦,小男爵哭。於是請教醫生。

醫生說道,「讓她去看她的丈夫。」

「譬如她去見丈夫,不利於嬰兒,怎樣是好呀?」

「不會的!」

但是先得檢驗安達斯的身體。安達斯反對。於是送安達斯幾條綿羊,安達斯肯受檢驗啦。

小男爵不哭啦。

不料這個時候得了孤兒院的報告,說安娜的兒子犯白喉死了。

安娜暴躁不安,小男爵比一向哭得更兇。於是不要安娜,打發她回去安達斯那裏,另雇一個新乳娘。

安達斯得了女人回來很高興,不料她沾染了富貴人的習氣。姑且說一件事,現在她不能喝巴西咖啡了,她必得喝爪窪咖啡。她的體氣不容她每星期食六次魚,她又不能在田上做工。田地所產的糧食變少啦。

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Anders would have been obliged to give up the farm after twelve months, but the Baron had a kindly feeling for him and allowed him to stay on as a tenant.

Anna worked daily at the Manor and frequently saw the little Baron; but he did not recognise her and it was just as well that he did not. And yet he had lain at her breast! And she had saved his life by sacrificing the life of her own child. But she was prolific¹ and had several sons, who grew up and were labourers and railway men; one of them was a convict.

But the old Baron looked forward with anxiety to the day on which his son should marry and have children in his turn. He did not look strong! He would have been far more reassured if the other little Baron, the one who had died at the orphanage, had been the heir to the estates. And when he read *The Slaves of Life* a second time, he had to admit that the upper classes live at the mercy of the lower classes, and when he read Darwin again he could not deny that natural selection, in our time, was anything but natural. But facts were facts and remained unalterable, in spite of all the doctor and the socialists might say to the contrary.

¹prolific, 多子; 善生養.

安達斯過了十二個月之後就覺得不能不拋棄這個田舍，好在男爵待他還好，讓他住在那裏，當個住戶。

安娜天天在男爵府第做事，往往看見小男爵；他卻不認識她，幸而他不認得她。但是他卻曾在她懷中吃過奶的呀！她犧牲她自己兒子的性命，救他的性命。幸而她善於生養，生了幾個兒子，長大成人，有當勞工的，有當鐵路工人的；有一個做了罪犯。

老男爵卻很着急的盼望將來有一天他的兒子結婚，輪到他生兒子。小男爵卻不像強健的！假使死在孤兒院的那一個小男爵是繼承財產的嗣子，他當然會覺得更放心。等到他第二次讀「人世的奴隸」時，他只得承認上等階級的人們依靠下等階級的人們過活，等到他再讀達爾文的著作時，他不能不承認在我們這個時代，自然選擇並不自然。但是事實是事實，無論醫生及社會黨們說什麼話反對，事實仍然是不能改變的。

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He was a supernumerary¹ at the Board of Trade and drew a salary of twelve hundred crowns. He had married a young girl without a penny; for love, as he himself said, to be no longer compelled to go to dances and run about the streets, as his friends maintained.² But be that as it may, the life of the newly-wedded couple was happy enough to begin with.

"How cheaply married people can live," he said one day, after the wedding was a thing of the past. The same sum which had been barely enough to cover the wants of the bachelor now sufficed for husband and wife. Really, marriage was an excellent institution.³ One had all one's requirements within one's four walls: club, café, everything; no more bills of fare, no tips, no inquisitive⁴ porter watching one as one went out with one's wife in the morning.

Life smiled at him, his strength increased and he worked for two. Never in all his life had he felt so full of overflowing energy; he jumped out of bed as soon as he woke up in the morning, buoyantly, and in the highest spirits, he was rejuvenated.⁵

When two months had elapsed, long before his new circumstances had begun to pall, his wife whispered a certain piece of information into his ear. New joys! New cares!

¹ supernumerary, 額外職員. ² maintained, 說; 堅持其說.
³ institution, 制度. ⁴ inquisitive, 好打聽; 好管閒事. ⁵ rejuvenated, 返老還童.

多子

他在商部當一個額外職員，領一千二百克隆薪俸。他娶了一個莫名一錢的少年女子；他自己說他因為愛她纔娶她的，他的朋友們說，他此後不必被逼走去跳舞，亦不必在大街上亂跑啦。這種事也許是有的，新婚的兩口子初時過活是够歡樂的。

等到結婚變作一件既往的事的時候，他有一天說道，『結了婚的人們能够很便宜的過活。從前一筆錢不過只够供給一個不娶親的男子的需要的，現在足供一夫一婦的用度。結婚其實是一個極好的制度。在一個人的四壁裏頭，要什麼有什麼：有聯歡社，有小館子，無所不有；用不着菜單，小帳，當一個人早上同女人出門的時候，又無好管閒事的看門人留心察看。

生活過他微笑，他的精力增加，他一個人能够做兩個人的事。他一生不曾覺得這時候那樣精力充足到外溢；他早上一醒就跳下床，跳得很鬆快，又極其有精神，他是返老還童啦。

過了兩個月，遠在他的環境起首令他厭倦之前，他的女人附耳低聲告訴他一件消息。新歡樂來了！新憂慮來

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But cares so pleasant to bear! It was necessary, however, to increase their income at once, so as to receive the unknown world-citizen in a manner befitting his dignity.¹ He managed to obtain an order for a translation.

Baby-clothes lay scattered about all over the furniture, a cradle stood waiting in the hall, and at last a splendid boy arrived in this world of sorrows.

The father was delighted. And yet he could not help a vague feeling of uneasiness whenever he thought of the future. Income and expenditure did not balance. Nothing remained but to reduce his dress allowance.

His frock coat began to look threadbare at the seams; his shirt front was hidden underneath a large tie, his trousers were frayed. It was an undeniable fact that the porters at the office looked down on him on account of his shabbiness.

In addition to this he was compelled to lengthen his working day.

"It must be the first and last," he said. But how was it to be done?

He was at a loss to know.

Three months later his wife prepared him in carefully chosen words that his paternal joys would soon be doubled. It would not be true to say that he rejoiced greatly at the news. But there was no alternative now; he must travel along the road he had chosen, even if married life should prove to be anything but cheap.

"It's true," he thought, his face brightening, "the younger one will inherit the baby-clothes of his elder

¹ dignity, 身分.

了！卻是耳所樂聞的憂慮！他卻必得立刻增加他的收入，以便歡迎那個尚不知名的世界公民，還要辦得同他的身分相稱。他設法得着譯書的事。

嬰孩衣服摔在全數的家具上，一張搖床放在堂屋裏等候着，後來有一個極可愛的男孩子光降這個愁苦世界。

父親很高興。無論什麼時候，他一想到將來，他就不能不空泛的覺得心裏不安。出入不能相抵。他無法可想，只得減省衣服的費用。

他的褂子起首裂縫啦；他的內衣前幅藏在一個大衣領底下，他的褲子穿破啦。因為他穿了這樣的破舊衣服，公事房的看門人們就看不起他，這是一件不能不承認的事實。

此外他還要每天多作工。

他說道，『必定不再要孩子啦，這個孩子是最初的一個，又是最後的一個啦。』他怎樣能辦到呀？

他完全不曉得。

三個月後他的女人用小心選過的字句先告訴他，他爲父的歡樂不久又要加倍啦。若說他得了這個消息很快樂，就是一句不實的話。但是到了現在沒得別的辦法；他必得走他所要走的路，即使結婚生活證實是並不便宜的，也只好忍受着。

他的臉略帶喜色，想道，『年紀小些的誠然可以繼承他的哥哥的嬰孩衣服。這就節省許多費用啦，將來有東西

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brother. This will save a good deal of expense, and there will be food enough for them—I shall be able to feed them just as well as others.”

And the second baby was born.

“You are going it,” said a friend of his, who was a married man himself, but father of one child only.

“What is a man to do?”

“Use his common-sense.”

“Use his common-sense? But, my dear fellow, a man gets married in order to . . . I mean to say, not only in order to . . . but yet in order to . . . Well, anyhow, we are married and that settles the matter.”

“Not at all. Let me tell you something, my dear boy; if you are at all hoping for promotion it is absolutely necessary that you should wear clean linen, trousers which are not frayed at the bottom, and a hat which is not of a rusty brown.”

And the sensible man whispered sensible words into his ear. As the result, the poor husband was put on short commons in the midst of plenty.

But now his troubles began.

To start with his nerves went to pieces, he suffered from insomnia and did his work badly. He consulted a doctor. The prescription cost him three crowns; and such a prescription! He was to stop working; he had worked too hard, his brain was overtaxed. To stop work would mean starvation for all of them, and to work spelt death, too!

He went on working.

One day, as he was sitting at his desk, stooping over endless rows of figures, he had an attack of faintness, slipped off his chair and fell to the ground.

够他們吃的——我當能够如同他人一般養大他們。』

第二個孩子出世啦。

他的一個朋友說道：『你養孩子養得很快呀，』這個朋友也是娶過親的人，不過只生了一個孩子。

『有作什麼法子呀？』

『他得運用他的常識。』

『他得運用他的常識麼？我的好朋友，一個人娶妻豈不爲的是——我的意思說，不獨爲的是——但是既爲的是——好呀，無論怎樣，我們是結了婚了，事體豈不是完了嗎。』

『並不曾完呀。讓我告訴你幾句話，我的好孩子；你若希望高升，你絕對要穿乾淨內衣，更穿褲襠不破的褲子，還要戴一頂不是舊到變了棕色的帽子。』

這個有知識的人附耳對他說了幾句有知識的話。結果就是他在豐穰之中反要捱餓（說得含蓄。譯者注。）

不料他的許多爲難現在起首啦。

第一件，他的神經壞了，他得了失眠症，辦事辦得很不好。他請教一個醫生。醫生開一個藥方，要他三個克隆；還是一個很難辦到的藥方！藥方要他停止工作；他做工太過，他的神經吃不住啦。停止工作就是全家捱餓，工作卻是尋死！』

他還是工作。

有一天他坐在書桌旁低頭看着無窮盡的帳目，被一陣暈眩所攻，從椅上溜在地下。

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A visit to a specialist—eighteen crowns. A new prescription; he must ask for sick leave at once, take riding exercise every morning and have steak and a glass of port for breakfast.

Riding exercise and port!

But the worst feature of the whole business was a feeling of alienation from his wife which had sprung up in his heart—he did not know whence it came. He was afraid to go near her and at the same time he longed for her presence. He loved her, loved her still, but a certain bitterness was mingled with his love.

“You are growing thin,” said a friend.

“Yes, I believe I’ve grown thinner,” said the poor husband.

“You are playing a dangerous game, old boy!”

“I don’t know what you mean!”

“A married man in half mourning! Take care, my friend!”

“I really don’t know what you’re driving at.”

“It’s impossible to go against the wind for any length of time. Set all sails and run, old chap, and you will see that everything will come right. Believe me, I know what I’m talking about. You understand me.”

He took no notice of the advice for a time, fully aware of the fact that a man’s income does not increase in proportion to his family; at the same time he had no longer any doubt about the cause of his malady.

It was summer again. The family had gone into the country. On a beautiful evening husband and wife were strolling along the steep shore, in the shade of the alder trees, resplendent in their young green. They sat down on the turf, silent and depressed.

他找一個專門名家看病——花了十八個克隆。醫生開一個新方子；他必得立刻告病假，每早必得騎馬當體操，早餐要食一塊牛肉扒，喝一盃坡打酒。

騎馬當體操與坡打酒呀！

但是這件事體的最不好方面就是他覺得他的心裏發生與他的夫人乖離的一種感覺——不知是從那裏來的。他怕走近她，同時卻又想她在他的眼前。他愛她，現在還是愛她，但是在他的愛情裏頭攪着一種痛苦。

有一個朋友說道，『你長得很瘦。』

這個可憐的做丈夫的說道，『是呀，我相信我更瘦了。』

『老朋友，你要一種危險的把戲呀！』

『我不曉得你說些什麼！』

『一個娶妻的人死了半個妻！我的朋友，你得小心呀！』

『我實在不曉得你說些什麼。』

『逆風駛船是不能長久的。老朋友，你不如滿帆風順，只管向前駛，你將見得諸事都是順手的。你得相信我的話，我曉得我說的是什麼。你明白我的意思麼。』

他有一會子不理會朋友相勸的話，他很曉得一個人的收入不是同人口增加作正比例的；同時他很曉得他自己得病的原因。

又到夏天啦。全家到了鄉下啦。有一天很美的傍晚，夫婦兩人在陡岸上赤楊陰樹下散步，新葉在那裏閃光。他們坐在草地上，愁悶不說話。

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He was morose and disheartened; gloomy thoughts revolved behind his aching brow. Life seemed a great chasm which had opened to engulf all he loved.

They talked of the probable loss of his appointment; his chief had been annoyed at his second application for sick leave. He complained of the conduct of his colleagues, he felt himself deserted by everyone; but the fact which hurt him more than anything else was the knowledge that she, too, had grown tired of him.

"Oh! but she hadn't! She loved him every bit as much as she did in those happy days when they were first engaged. How could he doubt it?"

"No, he didn't doubt it; but he had suffered so much, he wasn't master of his own thoughts."

He pressed his burning cheek against hers, put his arm round her and covered her eyes with passionate kisses.

The gnats danced their nuptial dance above the birch tree without a thought of the thousands of young ones which their ecstasy would call into being; the carp laid their eggs in the reed grass, careless of the millions of their kind to which they gave birth; the swallow made love in broad daylight, not in the least afraid of the consequences of their irregular liaisons.

All of a sudden he sprang to his feet and stretched himself like a sleeper awakening from a long sleep, which had been haunted by evil dreams, he drank in the balmy air in deep draughts.

"What's the matter?" whispered his wife, while a crimson blush spread over her face.

"I don't know. All I know is that I live, that I breathe again."

他既憂鬱又灰心；沉悶的思想在他的發痛的眉心後盤旋。生活好像一個大陷坑，裂開來沉埋全數他所愛的。

他們談及他很許會失了他的席位；他的上司怒他第二次請病假。他不滿足於他的同事們的行爲，他覺他無人不拋棄他；但是使他最傷心的還是他曉得她也厭棄他啦。

『呀！她卻不會厭棄他。她愛他還同他們初定婚的歡樂時節一般。他怎樣能夠疑心她不愛他呀？』

『不是的，他不曾疑心；但是他受過許多苦，他節制不了他的思想。』

他把他的其熱如火燒的臉靠她的臉，一手摟住她，用熱烈的吻吻她的兩眼。

蒼蠅在赤楊樹上跳他們結婚的跳舞，他們絕不想到他們的狂樂會產生萬千個小蒼蠅；鯉魚在水草間下蛋，不管他們所產生的幾百萬小魚；燕子白晝戀愛，毫不害怕他們的無規則交合的效果。

他忽然跳起來，伸得直直的，好像一個長睡人初醒，這次長睡做了許多惡夢，一醒過來，深深的吸收怡人的空氣。

他的女人附耳低聲問道，『你爲什麼跳起來呀？』她一面說，一面臉紅。

『我不曉得爲什麼。我只曉得我活在世上 我只曉得我又呼吸啦。』

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And radiant, with laughing face and shining eyes, he held out his arms to her, picked her up as if she were a baby and pressed his lips to her forehead. The muscles of his legs swelled until they looked like the muscles of the leg of an antique god, he held his body erect like a young tree and intoxicated with strength and happiness, he carried his beloved burden as far as the footpath where he put her down. ❀

"You will strain yourself, sweetheart," she said, making a vain attempt to free herself from his encircling arms.

"Never, you darling! I could carry you to the end of the earth, and I shall carry you, all of you, no matter how many you are now, or how many you may yet become."

And they returned home, arm in arm, their hearts singing with gladness.

"If the worst comes to the worst,¹ sweet love, one must admit that it is very easy to jump that abyss which separates body and soul!"

"What a thing to say!"

"If I had only realised it before, I should have been less unhappy. Oh! those idealists!"

And they entered their cottage.

The good old times had returned and had, apparently, come to stay. The husband went to work to his office as before. They lived again through love's spring time. No doctor was required and the high spirits never flagged.

After the third christening, however, he came to the conclusion that matters were serious and started plying his

¹ If the worst comes to the worst, 倘有最不妙的事體發生。

他很快樂，滿面笑容，兩眼發光，他向她伸出兩手，好像當她是個嬰兒，抱起她來，他的兩唇緊壓她的額。他兩脛上的肌肉發漲好像一個古時的神的脛上的肌肉一般，他把身子挺得直直的好像一株小樹，他覺得有氣力，又覺得歡樂，如醉如癡，他抱住他的愛人走到小路上，纔把她放下來。

她說道，『我的愛人，你會用力過猛，傷了你自己，』她嘗試從他的兩手牢抱中，擺脫她自己，卻擺脫不了。

『你這個小寶貝，我絕不會用力太猛的！我能够抱住你走到世界的盡頭，我將把你們全抱走，我不問你們現在是多少人，也不問你們將來會變作多少個。』

他們手拉手回家，他們的心裏很高興的唱歌。

『我的甜美愛人呀，倘有最不妙的事體發生，我必得承認很容易跳過分隔靈魂與軀體的深坑！』

『你說的是什麼話呀！』

『假使我體會在先，我當然不會那樣不歡樂的。噫！可恨那些理想家們！』

他們走進他們的鄉下房子。

從前所過的好日子回來了，從外表看來，既回來就不會再走的了。當丈夫的同從前一樣去公事房辦事。他們又過互相戀愛的春天啦。用不着醫生啦，他的高興絕不會稍減。

第三個孩子命名之後，他盤算過之後就曉得事體是很嚴重的，起首要他的老把戲，得了必不能免的結果：他

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old game with the inevitable¹ results: doctor, sick-leave, riding-exercise, port! But there must be an end of it, at all costs. Every time the balance-sheet showed a deficit.²

But when, finally, his whole nervous system went out of joint,³ he let nature have her own way. Immediately expenses went up and he was beset with difficulties.

He was not a poor man, it is true, but on the other hand he was not blest with too many of this world's riches.

"To tell you the truth, old girl," he said to his wife, "it will be the same old story over again."

"I am afraid it will, my dear," replied the poor woman, who, in addition to her duties as a mother, had to do the whole work of the house now.

After the birth of her fourth child, the work grew too hard for her and a nursemaid had to be engaged.

"Now it must stop," avowed the disconsolate husband. "This must be the last."

Poverty looked in at the door. The foundations on which the house was built were tottering.

And thus, at the age of thirty, in the very prime of their life, the young husband and wife found themselves condemned to celibacy. He grew moody, his complexion became grey and his eyes lost their lustre. Her rich beauty faded, her fine figure wasted away, and she suffered all the sorrows of a mother who sees her children growing up in poverty and rags.

One day, as she was standing in the kitchen, frying herrings, a neighbour called in for a friendly chat.

"How are you?" she began.

¹ inevitable, 必不能免的. ² deficit, 入不敷出. ³ out of joint, 擾亂.

又請醫生看病，又要告病假，又要騎馬當體操，又要喝坡打酒！無論怎樣犧牲，必定要治好他的病。每次的收支清單總是入不敷出的。

等到後來他的全個神經系都擾亂了，他就讓自然走她自己的路（這是說他從前節制自己得了病，現在只好聽其自然，不加節制。譯者注。）費用立刻增長，他就被種種為難所窘。

他誠然不算是個貧人，但是在那一方面，他卻並無許多這個世界的財產。

他對他的女人說道，『老姑娘，我把實情告訴你吧，這樣一來，不過又是舊事重提。』

那個可憐的女人答道，『我的寶貝，我恐怕是的，』她現在不獨要盡她為母之責照應孩子們，還要照應全個家務。

生了第四個孩子之後，她忙不過來，只好雇一個照應孩子的女僕。這個鬱鬱不樂的丈夫鄭重說道，『現在必得停止啦。這個孩子必定是最後一個啦。』

窮鬼來探望他們啦。這所房子的基礎搖動啦。

這一對少年夫婦，到了三十歲，正在盛年的時候，就是這樣見得他們被譴，罰作鰥夫與寡婦了。他變作抑鬱，他的臉色變灰，他的兩眼無光。她的豐豔變殘了，她的好看身材日見消滅了，她受盡全數的愁苦，眼見她的兒女在貧困中穿着破舊衣服長大。

有一天她站在廚房裏炸鯪魚，一個鄰居走來閒談。她問道『你好麼？』

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"Thank you, I'm not up to very much. How are you?"

"Oh! I'm not at all well. Married life is a misery if one has to be constantly on one's guard."

"Do you think you are the only one?"

"What do you mean?"

"Do you know what my husband said to me the other day? One ought to spare the draught cattle! And I suffer under it all, I can tell you. No, there's no happiness in marriage. Either husband or wife is bound to suffer. It's one or the other!"

"Or both!"

"But what about the men of science who grow fat at the expense of the Government?"

"They have to think of so many things, and moreover, it is improper to write about such problems; they must not be discussed openly."

"But that would be the first necessity!"

And the two women fell to discussing their bitter experiences.

In the following summer they were compelled to remain in town; they were living in a basement with a view of the gutter, the smell of which was so objectionable that it was impossible to keep the windows open.

The wife did needlework in the same room in which the children were playing; the husband, who had lost his appointment on account of his extreme shabbiness, was copying a manuscript in the adjoining room, and grumbling at the children's noise. Hard words were bandied through the open door.

It was Whitsuntide. In the afternoon the husband was lying on the ragged leather sofa, gazing at a window on the

『我不見得怎樣好，謝謝你，你好麼？』

『哎！我覺得很不好。一個人結了婚之後若要時時刻刻隄防，結婚的生活不過是愁苦罷了。』

『難道你以為只有你一個是這樣麼？』

『你說這句話是什麼意思呀？』

『你曉得那一天我的丈夫對我說什麼嗎？一個人應該讓拉重車的馬休息休息！（說得蘊藉。譯者注。）我可以告訴你，我因此就很受苦啦。其實結婚並無歡樂。夫婦之間，必定有一個受苦。不是夫受苦，就是妻受苦！』

『也許兩個全受苦！』

『許多科學家受政府豢養，養得很肥，他們有什麼法子呀！』

『他們要想許多事體，況且寫東西討論這些問題原是不正當的事；他們必不肯公開討論。』

『但是這卻是第一件要緊事呀！』

這兩個女人於是討論她們的痛苦閱歷。

到了下一個夏天，他們只好仍住在市鎮裏；他們住在地窖裏，前面就是溝，氣味難聞，不能開窗。

女人就在孩子們遊戲的屋子裏作針線；男人因為他的衣服穿得太過破爛，沒得席位了，只好在隔壁屋子抄寫，因為孩子們吵，嘴裏說不滿意的話。中間的門是打開的，兩面相對說互相責備的話。

到了聖靈降臨節啦。當天下午男人躺在破的皮榻上，瞪眼看對街的一個窗子。他留心觀察一個名譽不好的女

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other side of the street. He was watching a woman of evil reputation who was dressing for her evening stroll. A spray of lilac and two oranges were lying by the side of her looking-glass.

She was fastening her dress without taking the least notice of his inquisitive glances.

"She's not having a bad time," mused the celibate, suddenly kindled into passion. "One lives but once in this world, and one must live one's life, happen what will!"

His wife entered the room and caught sight of the object of his scrutiny. Her eyes blazed; the last feeble sparks of her dead love glowed under the ashes and revealed themselves in a temporary flash of jealousy.

"Hadn't we better take the children to the Zoo?" she asked.

"To make a public show of our misery? No, thank you!"

"But it's so hot in here. I shall have to pull down the blinds."

"You had better open a window!"

He divined his wife's thoughts and rose to do it himself. Out there, on the edge of the pavement, his four little ones were sitting, in close proximity of the waste pipes. Their feet were in the dry gutter, and they were playing with orange peels which they had found in the sweepings of the road. The sight stabbed his heart, and he felt a lump rising in his throat. But poverty had so blunted his feelings that he remained standing at the window with his arms crossed.

All at once two filthy streams gushed from the waste pipes, inundated the gutter and saturated the feet of the children who screamed, half suffocated by the stench.

人，她正在穿衣服，預備出去逛街。一枝紫丁香和兩個橘子，放在她的鏡子旁邊。

她扣衣服，毫不理會他那樣留心觀察她。

這個齷夫忽然發怒，心裏說道：『她所過的並不是不好的日子。人生在世不過只活一次，無論會有什麼事體發生，一個人必得過活這一世！』

她的女人走進屋子，看見他所留心看的人物。她的兩眼放光；她的死了的愛情的最末後幾點微弱的火星，在死灰下復燃啦，在暫時一陣的醋意中表現出來。

她問道：『我們不如帶孩子們往動物院，好不好？』

『使衆人看見我們的愁苦麼。謝謝你，不必啦。』

『但是這裏太熱，我得落下百葉窗。』

『你不如打開一個窗子。』

他猜着他女人的意思，自己起來開窗，他的四個小孩子在外面街邊坐着，同穢水管很相近。他們的腳在乾的溝上，他們頑橘子皮，是在垃圾堆上找出來的。他一看見這樣光景，心裏如同刀刺一般，覺得有一塊東西堵住他的喉嚨。但是貧窮把他的感覺變鈍了。他兩手交加站在窗口。

忽然有兩股穢水從穢水管衝出來，泡滿那條溝，孩子們們的腳被穢水浸透了，他們被臭氣所灌，堵住半喉嚨，就大喊。

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"Get the children ready as quickly as you can," he called, giving way at the heart-rending scene.

The father pushed the perambulator with the baby, the other children clung to the hands and skirts of the mother.

They arrived at the cemetery with its dark-stemmed lime-trees, their usual place of refuge; here the trees grew luxuriantly, as if the soil were enriched by the bodies which lay buried underneath it.

The bells were ringing for evening prayers. The inmates of the poorhouse flocked to the church and sat down in the pews left vacant by their wealthy owners, who had attended to their souls at the principal service of the day, and were now driving in their carriages to the Royal Deer Park.

The children climbed about the shallow graves, most of which were decorated with armorial bearings and inscriptions.

Husband and wife sat down on a seat and placed the perambulator, in which the baby lay sucking at its bottle, by their side. Two puppies were disporting themselves on a grave close by, half hidden by the high grass.

A young and well dressed couple, leading by the hand a little girl clothed in silk and velvet, passed the seat on which they sat. The poor copyist raised his eyes to the young dandy and recognised a former colleague from the Board of Trade who, however, did not seem to see him. A feeling of bitter envy seized him with such intensity that he felt more humiliated by this "ignoble sentiment" than by his deplorable condition. Was he angry with the other man because he filled a position which he himself had coveted? Surely not. But possibly his envy was the reverse of a sense of justice, and his suffering was all the

他看見這樣傷心情景，受不住了，喊道，『你趕快把孩子們收拾好了。』

小車上放着嬰孩，父親推車，其餘的孩子們抓住母親的手與裙。

他們走到有黑樹枝的菩提樹的墳地，這是他們向來的退步地方，這裏樹木長得茂盛，土壤好像被埋葬在地下的屍體所壅肥了。

教堂的晚禱鐘響。住在貧人院的人們成羣走入教堂，坐在椅上，椅子的有錢的主人們，已經爲救護他們的靈魂，來祈禱過啦，他們現在坐大馬車遊鹿園啦。

孩子們在淺葬的墳上爬，最多數的墳墓有徽章有碑文作裝飾。

夫妻兩人坐在椅子上把嬰孩睡的小車放在身邊，嬰孩躺在車裏吮奶瓶。有兩條小狗在近在身邊的一座墳上嬉戲，有一半被長得很高的青草遮住。

有一對少年夫婦穿得很好看，用手領着一個小女孩在他們所坐的凳子邊走過。這個貧窮的鈔寫手舉目看這個穿得很漂亮的少年，認得他是商部的一個舊同事，那個人卻好像不看見他。他覺得極其怨恨的妒忌那個人，他自己這樣的可憐情形使他不甚覺得屈辱難堪，²使他更難堪的還是他自己的妒忌心（能寫極其曲折的意思。譯者注。）他同那個人生氣，是不是因爲那個人補了他所望得的席位？的確不是的。但是他的妒忌很許是適與公道相反，他更深受痛苦，因爲是全個無產階級所分受的。他深信住在

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deeper because it was shared by the whole class of the disinherited. He was convinced that the inmates of the poorhouse, bowed down under the yoke of public charity, envied his wife; and he was quite sure that many of the aristocrats who slept all around him in their graves, under their coats of arms, would have envied him his children if it had been their lot to die without leaving an heir to their estates. Certainly, nobody under the sun enjoyed complete happiness, but why did the plums¹ always fall to the lot of those who were already sitting in the lap of luxury? And how was it that the prizes always fell to the organisers of the great lottery? The disinherited had to be content with the mass said at evening prayers; to their share fell morality and those virtues which the others despised and of which they had no need because the gates of heaven opened readily enough to their wealth. But what about the good and just God who had distributed His gifts so unevenly? It would be better, indeed, to live one's life without this unjust God, who had, moreover, candidly admitted that the "wind blew where it listed"; had He not himself confessed, in these words, that He did not interfere in the concerns of man? But failing the church, where should we look for comfort? And yet, why ask for comfort? Wouldn't it be far better to strive to make such arrangements that no comfort was needed? Wouldn't it?

His speculations were interrupted by his eldest daughter who asked him for a leaf of the lime-tree, which she wanted for a sunshade for her doll. He stepped on the seat and raised his hand to break off a little twig, when a constable

¹plums, 富貴榮華; 優差; 美缺.

貧民院的人們，被公家賑濟的桎梏所屈辱，妒忌他的女人；他很曉得許多睡在他四面有徽章的墳墓裏的貴族們，假使他們無人繼承產業而死，當然會妒忌他有這許多孩子。天下誠然無享受完全幸福的人，但是爲什麼富貴榮華常落在已經在那裏席豐履厚的人們呀！凡是組織大彩票的人們常得頭彩，這又是怎麼講呀？無產階級只好聽了晚禱的經文就滿意；富貴人家所看不起的道德及種種美德，反要無產階級奉行，富貴人家原用不着什麼道德，因爲他們有錢，天門趕快大開，請他們進去。那個善良與公道的上帝分派他的賞賜，分派得這樣不公平，又是怎樣說呀？其實我們過我們的生活反不如不要這個不公的上帝，況且上帝會坦白的承認『風喜歡向那裏吹就向那裏吹』（悲憤之極，譯者注）；上帝在這句說話裏頭豈不是承認他不曾干預世人的事麼？但是若無教堂，叫我們往那裏求安慰呀？我們卻爲什麼要求安慰呀？反遠不如努力安排，使世人無須安慰？是不是？

他的一番思辨被他的大女兒所打斷，她問他要一塊菩提樹葉做她的偶人的陽傘。他站在凳上，舉手折一小

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appeared and rudely ordered him not to touch the trees. A fresh humiliation. At the same time the constable requested him not to allow his children to play on the graves, which was against the regulations.

"We'd better go home," said the distressed father. "How carefully they guard the interests of the dead, and how indifferent they are to the interests of the living."

And they returned home.

He sat down and began to work. He had to copy the manuscript of an academical treatise on over-population.

The subject interested him and he read the contents¹ of the whole book.

The young author who belonged to what was called the ethical school, was preaching against vice.

"What vice?" mused the copyist. "That which is responsible for our existence? Which the priest orders us to indulge in at every wedding when he says: Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth?"

The manuscript ran on: Propagation, without holy matrimony, is a destructive vice, because the fate of the children, who do not receive proper care and nursing, is a sad one. In the case of married couples, on the other hand, it becomes a sacred duty to indulge one's desires. This is proved, among other things, by the fact that the law protects even the female ovum, and it is right that it should be so.

"Consequently," thought the copyist, "there is a providence for legitimate children, but not for illegitimate ones. Oh! this young philosopher! And the law which protects

¹ contents, 內容.

枝，一個巡警走來，很無禮的命令他不許動這些樹木。他又受屈辱。同時巡警叫他不要讓孩子們在墳上嬉戲，這是違犯規則的。

這個受了窘的父親說道，『我們不如回家吧。他們保護死人的利益有多麼小心呀，他們對於生人的利益是多麼冷淡呀？』（索性痛罵，譯者注。）

他們回家。

他坐下起首做工。他要鈔一篇學校裏討論生齒過繁問題的稿子。

這個問題使他注意，他讀全書的內容。

這個少年作者屬於所謂倫理派，發議論反對罪孽。

這個寫手尋思道，『什麼罪孽？我們所依賴以有生的罪孽麼？每逢有人結婚，教士必說道：願你們多生子女，塞滿大地，教士分明命令我們縱情所做的是，就是做孽麼？』

這本稿子說道：非神聖結婚的生產就是破壞的罪孽，因為孩子們得不着正當的照應及看護，他們的命運是很慘的。在那一方面，正式結婚的夫妻們縱慾卻變作一件神聖不可侵犯的本務。有許多事實證實這句話，其中有一件事很能證實法律連女人的卵也保護到，這是應該的。

這個鈔寫手想道：『所以為保護合法律的兒女們都有了安排，不合法律的兒女就無安排。這個少年哲學家呀！還有法律保護女人的卵！既是這樣，為什麼每月使這些惟

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the female ovum! What business, then, have those microscopic things to detach themselves at every change of the moon? Those sacred objects ought to be most carefully guarded by the police!”

All these futilities¹ he had to copy in his best handwriting.

They overflowed with morality, but contained not a single word of enlightenment.

The moral or rather the immoral gist of the whole argument was: There is a God who feeds and clothes all children born in wedlock; a God in His heaven, probably, but what about the earth? Certainly, it was said that He came to earth once and allowed himself to be crucified, after vainly trying to establish something like order in the confused affairs of mankind; He did not succeed.

The philosopher wound up by screaming himself hoarse in trying to convince his audience that the abundant supply of wheat was an irrefutable² proof that the problem of over-population did not exist; that the doctrine of Malthus was not only false, but criminal, socially as well as morally.

And the poor father of a family who had not tasted wheaten bread for years, laid down the manuscript and urged his little ones to fill themselves with gruel made of rye flour and bluish milk, a dish which satisfied their craving, but contained no nourishment.

He was wretched, not because he considered water gruel objectionable, but because he had lost his precious sense of humour, that magician who can transform the dark rye into golden wheat; almighty love, emptying his horn of

¹ futilities, 無用的議論. ² irrefutable, 不能駁倒.

有用顯微鏡才能看見的小卵脫離母身出來呀？這些神聖不可侵犯的東西，應該受巡警極其小心的保護才是呀！』
（妙語解頤。譯者注。）

他要用最好的書法，鈔全數這樣無用的議論。

這許多議論塞滿了道德，滿到流出來，卻無一個能啓迪人的字。

全篇理論的道德的精華，其實是不道德的精華如下：有一個上帝衣食結婚所生的全數兒女；上帝大約是在他的天上，但是地下怎麼樣？的確有人說過，上帝到過地下一次，任由他自己被人釘在十字架上，他起初曾在人類的擾亂的世事中嘗試設立多少秩序，卻無效果；他不曾成功。

那個哲學家用大聲疾呼作結論，他喊叫到喉嚨啞了，嘗試使他的聽者相信地土很豐穰的出產小麥，這就是不能駁倒的憑據，證明世上並無人口過多的問題；證明摩勒塔（Malthus）的人口論不獨是虛偽的，以社會及道德而言，還是違犯法律的。

這個許多兒女的貧窮父親有好幾年不曾嘗着小麥麵包，把論稿放下來，逼他的孩子們吃黑麥麵煮的粥，與青藍色的牛奶，這種東西能夠充他們的飢，卻無任何滋養料。

他愁苦到了不得，並不是因為他反對稀粥，只是因為他失丟了很可寶貴的能夠領略諸趣，那個魔術家能夠把黑麥變作黃金色的小麥不知去向了；最有力的愛情，把裝

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plenty over his poor home, had vanished. The children had become burdens, and the once beloved wife a secret enemy despised and despising him.

And the cause of all this unhappiness? The want of bread! And yet the large store houses of the new world were breaking down under the weight of the over-abundant supply of wheat. What a world of contradictions!¹ The manner in which bread was distributed must be at fault.

Science, which has replaced religion, has no answer to give; it merely states facts and allows the children to die of hunger and the parents of thirst.

¹ contradictions, 自相矛盾的事.

得滿滿一口袋的好東西倒在他的貧窮屋子裏，也走得無影無蹤了。孩子們變作重累，他曾經有一度戀愛過的女人變作一個私仇，他看不起她，她也看不起他。

爲什麼會發生全數這樣的不歡樂呀？只是因爲沒得麵包！但是新世界的大廩倉堆滿了過於豐穰的小麥，堆得過重，廩倉正在要坍塌啦。這是什麼自相矛盾的世界呀！俵分麵包的方法必定是有毛病了。

科學既奪了宗教的地位，也無答復；科學不過說幾件事實，且任由孩子們捱餓，父母們捱渴。

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She was plain and therefore the coarse young men who don't know how to appreciate a beautiful soul in an ugly body took no notice of her. But she was wealthy, and she knew that men run after women for the sake of their wealth; whether they do it because all wealth has been created by men and they therefore claim the capital for their sex, or on other grounds, was not quite clear to her. As she was a rich woman, she learned a good many things, and as she distrusted and despised men, she was considered an intellectual young woman.

She had reached the age of twenty. Her mother was still alive, but she had no intention to wait for another five years before she became her own mistress. Therefore she quite suddenly surprised her friends with an announcement of her engagement.

"She is marrying because she wants a husband," said some.

"She is marrying because she wants a footman and her liberty," said others.

"How stupid of her to get married," said the third; "she doesn't know that she will be even less her own mistress than she is now."

"Don't be afraid," said the fourth, "she'll hold her own in spite of her marriage."

What was he like? Who was he? Where had she found him?

He was a young lawyer, rather effeminate in appearance,

決鬥

她長得不好看，所以粗鄙的少年男子們不曉得怎樣領略一個醜陋的身體包藏一個美麗靈魂，就不理她。她卻是很有錢的，她曉得男人們因為女人有錢就追逐她們；她卻不曉得他們是否因為全數的財富都是男人們所創造的，所以他們為男人們要求資本，抑或依據別的理由，才追逐她們的。因為她既是一個有錢的女人，她就學會許多事體，又因她不信任男人，看不起男人，人們都以為她是一個富於知識的少年女人。（語帶譏刺。譯者注。）

她長到二十歲啦。她的母親還活着，她卻不肯再等五年才變作她自己的女主人。所以她忽然宣告她已經定了婚，她的朋友們聽了很詫異。

有一個朋友說道：『因為她要一個丈夫，所以她快要結婚。』

其他幾個朋友說道：『因為她要有一個跟班，又要自由，所以她快要結婚。』

第三個說道：『她要結婚，這是多麼愚蠢呀，她不曉得結了婚之後，她更不能自己作主，更不如不嫁的時候那麼自由。』

第四個說道：『你們不要替她擔憂，她雖然嫁了人，她還是維持她自己的地位的。』

他像個什麼？他是什麼樣人？她從那裏找着他的？

原來他是一個少年律師，面貌有點像女人，臀部很寬，

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with broad hips and a shy manner. He was an only son, brought up by his mother and aunt. He had always been very much afraid of girls, and he detested the officers on account of their assurance, and because they were the favourites at all entertainments. That is what he was like.

They were staying at a watering place and met at a dance. He had come late and all the girls' programmes were full. A laughing, triumphant "No!" was flung into his face wherever he asked for a dance, and a movement of the programme brushed him away as if he were a buzzing fly.

Offended and humiliated he left the ball-room and sat down on the verandah to smoke a cigar. The moon threw her light on the lime-trees in the Park and the perfume of the mignonette rose from the flower beds.

He watched the dancing couples through the windows with the impotent yearning of the cripple; the voluptuous rhythm of the waltz thrilled him through and through.

"All alone and lost in dreams?" said a voice suddenly. "Why aren't you dancing?"

"Why aren't you?" he replied, looking up.

"Because I am plain and nobody asked me to," she answered.

He looked at her. They had known each other for some time, but he had never studied her features. She was exquisitely dressed, and in her eyes lay an expression of infinite pain, the pain of despair and vain revolt against the injustice of nature; he felt a lively sympathy for her.

"I, too, am scorned by everybody," he said. "All the rights belong to the officers. Whenever it is a question

人又羞怯。他是個獨子，是他的母親及姨母（或舅母等等譯者注）教養成人的。他向來是很怕女孩子的。他憎惡軍官們，因為他們自以為是，又因為他們是全數宴會場中的驕子。他就是這樣路數的一個人。

他們暫住在海邊，在跳舞場中會面的。他到得遲，全數女子們都有男人同她們跳啦。他走去求無論那一個女子同他跳，她們都很得意的大笑答他，『不能同他跳！』輪到第某次跳舞，人們走動，把他推開了，當他好像是一隻飛來飛去的蒼蠅。

他被人無禮相待，他受了屈辱只好走出跳舞廳，坐在廊下吸雪茄。月光照在大園裏的菩提樹上，花哇噴出木犀玫瑰的香。

他帶着一個渴想跳舞卻四肢殘廢不能跳舞的人的神色，從窗子看他人成雙成對的跳舞；旋舞的動人肉慾的節奏，使他渾身發顫。

忽然有人說道，『你單獨一個人在這裏作夢麼？你為什麼不跳呀？』

他抬頭，答道，『你為什麼不跳呀？』

她答道，『因為我長得醜，無人請我同他跳。』

他看看她。他們相識有幾時了，他卻不曾細看她的面貌。她穿得極華麗，她的兩眼含着無限痛苦的神色，是反對老天不公道的絕望的痛苦，還帶着反對無效的痛苦；他覺得很要憐憫她。

他說道，『人人都看不起我。全數權利都屬於軍官們。無論什麼時候發生自然選擇問題，權利就到了強健的人

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of natural selection, right is on the side of the strong and the beautiful. Look at their shoulders and epaulettes . . .”

“How can you talk like that!”

“I beg your pardon! To have to play a losing game makes a man bitter! Will you give me a dance?”

“For pity’s sake?”

“Yes! Out of compassion for me!”

He threw away his cigar.

“Have you ever known what it means to be marked by the hand of fate, and rejected? To be always the last?” he began again, passionately.

“I have known all that! But the last do not always remain the last,” she added, emphatically. “There are other qualities, besides beauty, which count.”

“What quality do you appreciate most in a man?”

“Kindness,” she exclaimed, without the slightest hesitation. “For this is a quality very rarely found in a man.”

“Kindness and weakness usually go hand in hand; women admire strength.”

“What sort of women are you talking about? Rude strength has had its day; our civilisation has reached a sufficiently high standard to make us value muscles and rude strength no more highly than a kind heart.”

“It ought to have! And yet—watch the dancing couples!”

“To my mind true manliness is shown in loftiness of sentiment and intelligence of the heart.”

“Consequently a man whom the whole world calls weak and cowardly . . .”

“What do I care for the world and its opinion!”

及美麗的人手上。你試看他們的肩膀及肩章……。」

『你怎樣能夠這樣說呀！』

『我求你勿怪！一個人常是輸的，就會使這個人痛恨！你肯同我跳麼？』

『爲的是可憐你麼？』

『是的！爲可憐我！』

他摔丟他的雪茄。

他很生氣的說道，『你一向可曉得被命運的手作下一個記號，被命運所棄，有多麼難受麼？永遠是末後一個！』

『我全曉得！但是末後一個並不見得永遠還是末後一個呀！她很着重的說這句話。把美貌放在一邊，此外還有許多其他好處都要計算在內的。』

『你最看重男子的什麼好處？』

她毫不遲疑的說道，『仁愛。這是男子所罕有的好處？』

『仁慈與懦弱居多是同時並有的；女人所稱讚的是氣力。』

『你所說的是什麼路數的女人呀？蠻力是已經過時啦；我們的文化已經達到一個夠高的標準，使我們看重肌肉及蠻力不能高過一個仁愛的心地。』

『一個仁愛的心地應該有這樣的價值！但是你試留心察看成對跳舞的人！』

『據我看來，真正男子漢的美德只在見識高超，與心地明白。』

『所以全世界所稱爲怯懦……我管什世人，與輿論！』

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"Do you know that you are a very remarkable woman?" said the young lawyer, feeling more and more interested.

"Not in the least remarkable! But you men are accustomed to regard women as dolls . . ."

"What sort of men do you mean? I, dear lady, have from my childhood looked up to woman as a higher manifestation of the species man, and from the day on which I fell in love with a woman, and she returned my love, I should be her slave."

Adeline looked at him long and searchingly.

"You are a remarkable man," she said, after a pause.

After each of the two had declared the other to be a remarkable specimen of the species man, and made a good many remarks on the futility of dancing, they began to talk of the melancholy influence of the moon. Then they returned to the ball-room and took their place in a set of quadrilles.

Adeline was a perfect dancer and the lawyer won her heart completely because he "danced like an innocent girl."

When the set was over, they went out again on the verandah and sat down.

"What is love?" asked Adeline, looking at the moon as if she expected an answer from heaven.

"The sympathy of the souls," he replied, and his voice sounded like the whispering breeze.

"But sympathy may turn to antipathy; it has happened frequently," objected Adeline.

"Then it wasn't genuine! There are materialists who say that there would be no such thing as love if there weren't two sexes, and they dare to maintain that sensual

這個少年律師覺得越談越有意味，就說道，『你曉得麼，你是一個極奇的女子？』

『殊不見得奇呀！但是你們男子們習慣當女人是木偶玩具……』

『你說的是何等樣的男人呀？小姐，我從小時起就高捧女人，當女人是人類的一個更高等的表現，我若愛上一個女人，那個女人若以愛情報我，我從這一天起就甘作她的奴隸。』

阿狄林 (Adeline) 看他許久，看得很詳細的。

過了一會，她說道，『你是一個奇男子。』

這兩個人互相恭維是人類的一個奇異標本之後，還說了幾句跳舞無用的話，就起首談到月亮的悽慘潛力。他們隨後回到跳舞廳裏，同着衆人作四班的跳舞。

阿狄林原來是個美備的跳舞家，因為律師跳得如同一個善良老實女子一般，完全贏得她的心。

這一班跳完之後，他們又走出去，坐在廊下。

阿狄林問道：『什麼是愛情？』她抬頭看月，好像盼望有句答復話從天上來。

他答道：『兩個靈魂相憐就是愛情，』他的聲音好像低聲的風。

阿狄林反對他這句話，說道，『相憐會變作相恨的；這樣的事情曾屢次發生過。』

『既是會變，相憐就是不真的。世上有許多物質派說，設使無男女兩性，就不會有戀愛這件事，他們還敢主張肌

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love is more lasting than the love of the soul. Don't you think it low and bestial¹ to see nothing but sex in the beloved woman?"

"Don't speak of the materialists!"

"Yes, I must, so that you may realise the loftiness of my feelings for a woman, if ever I fell in love. She need not be beautiful; beauty soon fades. I should look upon her as a dear friend, a chum. I should never feel shy in her company, as with any ordinary girl. I should approach her without fear, as I am approaching you, and I should say: 'Will you be my friend for life?' I should be able to speak to her without the slightest tremor of that nervousness which a lover is supposed to feel when he proposes to the object of his tenderness, because his thoughts are not pure."

Adeline looked at the young man, who had taken her hand in his, with enraptured eyes.

"You are an idealist," she said, "and I agree with you from the very bottom of my heart. You are asking for my friendship, if I understand you rightly. It shall be yours, but I must put you to the test first. Will you prove to me that you can pocket your pride² for the sake of a friend?"

"Speak and I shall obey!"

Adeline took off a golden chain with a locket which she had been wearing round her neck.

"Wear this as a symbol of our friendship."

"I will wear it," he said, in an uncertain voice; "but it might make the people think that we are engaged."

¹ bestial, 屬於獸性的. ² pocket pride, 忍辱.

膚之愛比靈魂之愛更能經久。一個男人只注意他所愛的女人是個女性，你難道不以爲下作及只顧獸性麼？』

『你不必提物質派的人們！』

『是呀！我卻必要提及他們，以便你可以體會，我若愛一個女人，我對於女人有怎樣高貴的感情。她用不着美貌；美貌不久是會變殘的。我願當她是一個可貴的朋友，是一個密友。我同一個平常女子在一起是會羞怯的，我同這個密友在一起，是絕不會羞怯的。我毫不害怕就走近她身邊，如我現在走近你的身邊一般，我就會說：你願意做我的終身朋友麼？我就能夠毫不害怕到發抖同她說話，世人猜度當一個愛人對他所愛的人提親的時候，因爲他的思想不乾淨就會害怕到發抖。』

阿狄林用狂樂的眼看看這個少年男子，他已經抓住她的手啦。

她說道，『你是一個理想家。我從我心的最深處與你表同意。我若不曾誤會你的意思，你要同我做朋友。我肯做你的朋友，但是我必要先試你。你肯證實給我看，你因爲一個朋友起見能夠忍辱麼？』

『你只管發命令，我就服從！』

阿狄林把她所掛在她頸子上的一條帶着一個小盒子的金鏈除下來。

『你戴上這個，作爲我們做朋友的表記。』

他說道，『我願戴上，』他說話的聲音有點遲疑；『但是這會令人們思維我們定了婚啦。』

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"And do you object?"

"No, not if you don't! Will you be my wife?"

"Yes, Axell I will! For the world looks askance at friendship between man and woman; the world is so base that it refuses to believe in the possibility of such a thing."

And he wore the chain.

The world, which is very materialistic at heart, repeated the verdict of her friends:

"She marries him in order to be married; he marries her because he wants a wife."

The world made nasty remarks, too. It said that he was marrying her for the sake of her money; for hadn't he himself declared that anything so degrading as love did not exist between them? There was no need for friends to live together like married couples.

The wedding took place. The world had received a hint that they would live together like brother and sister, and the world awaited with a malicious grin the result of the great reform which should put matrimony on another basis altogether.

The newly married couple went abroad.

When they returned, the young wife was pale and ill-tempered. She began at once to take riding-lessons. The world scented mischief and waited. The man looked as if he were guilty of a base act and was ashamed of himself. It all came out at last.

"They have *not* been living like brother and sister," said the world.

"What? Without loving one another? But that is—well, what is it?"

"A forbidden relationship!" said the materialists.

『你反對麼？』

『你若不反對，我就不反對！你肯做我的夫人麼？』

『阿舍爾 (Axel)，我肯做呀！我肯呀！因為世人看見男女做朋友就帶着輕蔑意思；世人是很卑劣的，不肯相信男女做朋友是一件可能的事。』

他果然戴上鏈子。

世人的心裏果然是很有物質主義的，述她的朋友們的批判：

『她爲的是要嫁人，所以肯嫁他；他爲的是要娶妻，所以娶她。』

世人還說難聽的話。世人說他要娶她爲的是她有錢；他自己不是曾說過，他們兩人並無如愛情那樣降低人格的事在？做朋友原用不着同居如結婚的夫婦。

他們行結婚禮。世人得着一種暗示，他們同居如兄妹，世人帶着不存好意的微哂，等候大改革的結果，這種大改革要把結婚置在另一基礎上。

新婚的夫婦出外遊歷。

當他們回來的時候，少年夫人臉色灰白，脾氣不好。她立刻起首學騎馬。世人曉得有點不妥，等候着。男子的神氣好像犯了做過卑劣事的罪過，自己覺得慚愧。後來全揭露出來了。

世人說道：『他們並未曾如兄妹同居。』

『什麼呀？他們並不相愛麼？到底爲什麼呀？』

物質主義派說道：『是一種犯禁的關係呀！』

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"It is a spiritual marriage!"

"Or incest," suggested an anarchist.

Facts remained facts, but the sympathy was on the wane.¹ Real life, stripped of all make-believe, confronted² them and began to take revenge.

The lawyer practised his profession, but the wife's profession was practised by a maid and a nurse. Therefore she had no occupation. The want of occupation encouraged brooding, and she brooded a great deal over her position. She found it unsatisfactory. Was it right that an intellectual woman like her should spend her days in idleness?

Once her husband had ventured to remark that no one compelled her to live in idleness. He never did it again.

"She had no profession."

"True; to be idle was no profession. Why didn't she nurse the baby?"

"Nurse the baby? She wanted a profession which brought in money."

"Was she such a miser, then? She had already more than she knew how to spend; why should she want to earn money?"

"To be on an equal footing with him."

"That could never be, for she would always be in a position to which he could never hope to attain. It was nature's will that the woman was to be the mother, not the man."

"A very stupid arrangement!"

¹ on the wane, 日見衰弱. ² confronted, 面面相對.

『是一種精神上的結婚呀!』

有一個無政府派說道,『不然,就是至親犯姦。』

事實仍然是事實,但是相憐相愛卻日見衰落啦。真實的生活除卻全數虛偽,與他們面面相對,起首要報仇啦。

律師操他的行業,但是他女人的行業是一個女僕及一個看護代行的。所以她無事可做。無所事事就會鼓勵深念,她很深念她的地位。她見得她的地位不能滿意。一個如她這樣有知識的女人,該不該過無所事事的日子呀?

有一次她的丈夫胆敢說,無人逼她過無事做的日子。他再也不敢說這種話啦。

『她無行業。』

『果然是的;過遊手好閒的日子,原不是行業。她爲什麼不看護嬰孩呀?』

『看護嬰孩麼?她要執行一個有收入的行業。』

『這樣看來,難道她很是一個鄙吝人麼?她已經很有許多錢,不曉得怎樣花是好;她爲什麼還要賺錢呀?』

『她要同他處相等地位。』

『這是絕不能辦到的,因爲她所處的地位是他所絕不能希望達到的。天意是要女人做母親,不要男人做。』

『這是很蠢笨的安排。』

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"Very likely! The opposite might have been the case, but that would have been equally stupid."

"Yes; but her life was unbearable. It didn't satisfy her to live for the family only, she wanted to live for others as well."

"Hadn't she better begin with the family? There was plenty of time to think of the others."

The conversation might have continued through all eternity; as it was it only lasted an hour.

The lawyer was, of course, away almost all day long, and even when he was at home he had his consulting hours. It drove Adeline nearly mad. He was always locked in his consulting-room with other women who confided information to him which he was bound to keep secret. These secrets formed a barrier between them, and made her feel that he was more than a match¹ for her.

It roused a sullen hatred in her heart; she resented the injustice of their mutual relationship; she sought for a means to drag him down. Come down he must, so that they should be on the same level.

One day she proposed the foundation of a sanatorium. He said all he could against it, for he was very busy with his practice. But on further consideration he thought that occupation of some sort might be the saving of her; perhaps it would help her to settle down.

The sanatorium was founded; he was one of the directors.

She was on the Committee and ruled. When she had ruled for six months, she imagined herself so well up in

¹ match, 敵手.

「很許是的！其實未嘗不可以對調，但是對調過來，還是一樣蠢笨的。」

「是呀；不過她的生活是不能忍受的。她只爲家室而過活，她不滿意，他還要爲他人而過活。」

「何不先從室家起呀。很有時候爲他人想呀。」

這樣的對談原可以繼續到許久許久；好在這次不過談了一點鐘。

律師自然幾乎終天都是不在家的，當他在家的時候還有見客商量事體的鐘點。這就逼阿狄林幾乎發狂。他常關着公事房的門，同其他女人商量事體，這些女人們把事情告訴他，他不能不嚴守祕密。這許多祕密成爲夫婦間的阻隔，使她覺得她不是他的敵手。

這就激動她的心裏發生一種含怒的怨恨；她反對他們的交互關係的不公；她想法子要拖他下來。她必定要他跌下來，他們兩個人才能夠平等。

有一天她提議要設一個療養病院。他說盡他所能說的話，反對她的提議，因爲他執行律師職務已經是很忙碌的了。但是他一經再深考慮，他就想到她若有事做，她也許可以覺得滿意些；還許會助她安生下來。

果然開設一所療養病院；他是幾個董事之一。

她在管理會裏頭，她當總經理。她管理了六個月，她以爲很會治病啦，她見病人，告訴他們怎樣辦法。

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the art of healing that she interviewed patients and gave them advice.

"It's easy enough," she said.

Then it happened that the house-surgeon made a mistake, and she straightway lost all confidence in him. It further happened that one day, in the full consciousness of her superior wisdom, she prescribed for a patient herself, in the doctor's absence. The patient had the prescription made up, took it and died.

This necessitated a removal to another centre of activity. But it disturbed the equilibrium.¹ A second child, which was born about the same time, disturbed it still more and, to make matters worse, a rumour of the fatal accident was spreading through the town.

The relations between husband and wife were unlovely and sad, for there had never been any love between them. The healthy, powerful natural instinct, which does not reflect, was absent; what remained was an unpleasant liaison founded on the uncertain calculations of a selfish friendship.

She never voiced the thoughts hatched behind her burning brow after she had discovered that she was mistaken in believing that she had a higher mission, but she made her husband suffer for it.

Her health failed; she lost her appetite and refused to go out. She grew thin and seemed to be suffering from a chronic cough. The husband made her repeatedly undergo medical examinations, but the doctors were unable to discover the cause of her malady. In the end he became

¹equilibrium, 均勢.

她說道：『這是很容易的。』

有一次駐院的外科醫生弄錯了，她立刻不信任他。又有一天她滿心以為她的智識過人，當醫生不在院的時候，她自己給一個病人開方。病人配好藥，服了就死啦。

這就不能不換一個地方活動啦。不過這樣一來就擾亂均勢啦。約在這個時候，產生第二個孩子，更擾亂均勢啦，那時候全個市鎮都傳說她治死一個人，情形更不堪設想啦。

夫婦間的關係很惡很苦，因為他們始終不曾相愛過。這樣康健的，很有力量的自然本能（這是指色慾譯者注），原是不會反省的，並不存在；所餘的不過是一種不適意的交合，以自私自利的友誼的無定計算作基礎。

她一看出她當初相信她是奉行高等使命的原是想錯了，她絕不發表蘊釀在她的火燒的眉心後的思想，不過使她的丈夫受苦。

她的健康失敗啦；她沒得胃口，不肯出門。她變瘦啦，好像犯了老咳病。她的丈夫叫她屢次找醫生診治，醫生不能找出她的病原。後來他聽慣她永遠說這裏不好過，那裏

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so accustomed to her constant complaints that he paid no more attention to them.

"I know it's unpleasant to have an invalid wife," she said.

He admitted in his heart that it was anything but pleasant; had he loved her, he would neither have felt nor admitted it.

Her emaciation¹ became so alarming, that he could not shut his eyes to it any longer, and had to consent to her suggestion that she should consult a famous professor.

Adeline was examined by the celebrity. "How long have you been ill?" he asked.

"I have never been very strong since I left the country," she replied. "I was born in the country."

"Then you don't feel well in town?"

"Well? Who cares whether I feel well or not?" And her face assumed an expression which left no room for doubt: she was a martyr.

"Do you think that country air would do you good?" continued the professor.

"Candidly, I believe that it is the only thing which could save my life."

"Then why don't you live in the country?"

"My husband couldn't give up his profession for my sake."

"He has a wealthy wife and we have plenty of lawyers."

"You think, then, that we ought to live in the country?"

"Certainly, if you believe that it would do you good.

¹emaciation, 消瘦.

又不好過，他就不再理會啦。

她說道，「我曉得一個人有了一個常病的女人是不會歡樂的。」

他心裏承認原是令人不歡的；假使他是愛她的，他是不會覺得的，亦不肯承認的。

她消瘦到很可怕，他再不能閉目不管啦，不能不答應她的提議，要請教一個有名的教授啦。

這個名人考驗阿狄林。他問道，「你病了多久啦？」

她答道，「我原是生長在鄉下的。自從我離開鄉下以來，始終是不很強健的。」

「你在市鎮不覺得舒服麼？」

「怎麼呀？誰管我覺得舒服不舒服呀？」

她的臉上有一種神氣，令人見了不容疑惑；她是一個犧牲。

教授接着問道，「你以為鄉下空氣會使你的身體好麼？」

「我坦白對你說，我相信惟有鄉下空氣能夠救我的命。」

「既是這樣，你為什麼不住在鄉下呀？」

「我的丈夫不能為我拋棄他的執業。」

「他有的是一個有錢的夫人，我們有的是許多律師。」

「你以為我們應該住在鄉下麼？」

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You are not suffering from any organic disease, but your nerves are unstrung; country air would no doubt benefit you."

Adeline returned home to her husband very depressed.
"Well?"

"The professor, had sentenced her to death if she remained in town."

The lawyer was much upset. But since the fact that his distress was mainly caused by the thought of giving up his practice was very apparent, she held that she had absolute proof that the question of her health was a matter of no importance to him.

"What? He didn't believe that it was a matter of life and death? Didn't he think the professor knew better than he? Was he going to let her die?"

He was not going to let her die. He bought an estate in the country and engaged an inspector to look after it.

As a sheriff and a district-judge were living on the spot, the lawyer had no occupation. The days seemed to him as endless as they were unpleasant. Since his income had stopped with his practice, he was compelled to live on his wife's money. In the first six months he read a great deal and played "Fortuna." In the second six months he gave up reading, as it served no object. In the third he amused himself by doing needle-work.

His wife, on the other hand, devoted herself to the farm, pinned up her skirts to the knees and went into the stables. She came into the house dirty, and smelling of the cowshed. She felt well and ordered the labourers about that it was a pleasure to hear her, for she had grown up in the country and knew what she was about.

『你若相信住在鄉下會使你的身體變好，你就應該住在鄉下。你並不患什麼本症，但是你的神經弛懈；鄉下空氣有益於你，這是無可疑的。』

阿狄林回家見丈夫，覺得很不高興。

『怎麼樣啦？』

『教授說她若仍然住在市鎮裏是會死的。』

律師很不安。但是她顯然見得他之所以爲難原爲的是要他拋棄他的執業不當律師，她以爲得了絕對不能駁倒的憑據，證實他不看重她的健康問題。

『什麼呀？他不相信這是一個生死交關的問題麼？他不以爲教授比他曉得更清楚麼？難道他隨她死麼？』

他不是隨得她死。他在鄉下置了產業，雇了一個視察人管理。

那裏既有一個州長，又有一個本區的裁判官，律師沒得事做。他在那裏度日如年，過得煩悶，過得難受。他不當律師就無收入，只好靠他夫人的錢度日。在第一批六個月裏頭，他看了許多書，玩“Fortuna”。在第二批六個月裏頭他不看書了，因爲看書無目的。到了第三批六個月，他作針線消遣。

他的夫人卻很有事做，用全副精神管理田產，她把裙腳提起來，用針別在膝上，她走入馬棧。她滿身污穢就走入屋裏來，還帶着牛棚的氣味。她覺得很舒服，她吩咐工人們做這個做那個，聽見她發號施令會使人快樂的，因爲她生長在鄉下，她曉得做些什麼事。

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When her husband complained of having nothing to do, she laughed at him.

"Find some occupation in the house. No one need ever be idle in a house like this."

He would have liked to suggest some outside occupation, but he had not the courage.

He ate, slept, and went for walks. If he happened to enter the barn or the stables, he was sure to be in the way and be scolded by his wife.

One day, when he had grumbled more than usual, while the children had been running about, neglected by the nurse, she said:

"Why don't you look after the children? That would give you something to do."

He stared at her. Did she really mean it?

"Well, why shouldn't he look after the children? Was there anything strange in her suggestion?"

He thought the matter over and found nothing strange in it. Henceforth he took the children for a walk every day.

One morning, when he was ready to go out, the children were not dressed. The lawyer felt angry and went grumbling to his wife; of the servants he was afraid.

"Why aren't the children dressed?" he asked.

"Because Mary is busy with other things. Why don't you dress them? You've nothing else to do. Do you consider it *degrading*¹ to dress your own children?"

He considered the matter for a while, but could see nothing degrading in it. He dressed them.

¹ degrading, 失身分; 降低人格.

當她的丈夫因為無事可做說不滿意話的時候，她笑他。

『你在家裏找事做呀。在我們這樣的人家裏，用不着遊手好閒呀。』

他原想提議在外面做些事，他卻無這樣的膽。

他吃飯，睡覺，出門散步。他若偶然走入糧倉或馬房，他必定是礙手礙腳的，被他的夫人責罵。

有一天，乳娘不管孩子們，孩子們正在亂跑，他說不滿意的話，比向來說得多，她就說道：

『你爲什麼不照應孩子們？你就有了事做啦。』

『他瞪眼看她。難道她當真要他照應孩子們麼？』

『怎麼樣呀，他爲什麼不該照應孩子們呀？她的提議有什麼奇怪呀？』

他想了一會，果然見得並無什麼奇怪。從此以後他每天領着孩子們去散步。

有一天早上，他正在預備出去散步，孩子們卻不會穿好衣服。律師生氣，走去叨叨他的夫人；他卻不敢惹女僕們。

他問道，『爲什麼孩子們還不會穿好衣服呀？』

『因爲瑪理忙於做別的事。你爲什麼不同孩子們穿衣服呀。你並沒得別的事做呀。你以爲替你自己的孩子們穿衣服，失了你的身分麼？』

他又把這件事考慮了一會，卻不能見得有什麼失身分。他就替孩子們穿衣服。

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One day he felt inclined to take his gun and go out by himself, although he never shot anything.

His wife met him on his return.

"Why didn't you take the children for a walk this morning?" she asked sharply and reproachfully.

"Because I didn't feel inclined to do so."

"You didn't feel inclined? Do you think I want to work all day long in stable and barn? One ought to do *something* useful during the day, even if it does go against one's inclination."

"So as to pay for one's dinner, you mean?"

"If you like to put it that way! If I were a big man like you, I should be ashamed to be lying all day long on a sofa, doing nothing."

He really felt ashamed, and henceforth he established himself the children's nurse. He never failed in his duties. He saw no disgrace in it, yet he was unhappy. Something was wrong, somewhere, he thought, but his wife always managed to carry her point.

She sat in the office and interviewed inspector and overseer; she stood in the store-room and weighed out stores for the cottagers. Everybody who came on the estate asked for the mistress, nobody ever wanted to see the master.

One day he took the children past a field in which cattle were grazing. He wanted to show them the cows and cautiously took them up to the grazing herd. All at once a black head, raised above the backs of the other animals, stared at the visitors, bellowing softly.

The lawyer picked up the children and ran back to the fence as hard as he could. He threw them over and

他雖然一向不會打過什麼東西，有一天他想拿他的鳥槍，獨自出去打鳥。

他回來的時候剛好碰見他的女人。

她帶着責罵神色，厲聲問他道，「今早你爲什麼不領孩子們散步呀。」

「因爲我不願領他們去。」

「你不願麼？你以爲我要終天在馬房及糧倉做工麼？一個人每天總應該做點有用的事，即使是不願意，也是要做的。」

「你的意思，難道以爲我吃你的飯，就得作工相抵麼？」

「你若要這樣說法，也無不可！假使我是你這樣大的一個人，我若終天無所事事躺在榻上，我會覺得慚愧的。」

他當真覺得慚愧，從此以後，他自己就做了孩子們的奶媽。他始終不瀆職。他並不見得當奶媽有什麼羞辱，他卻覺得不歡樂。他想必定在什麼地方有點舛錯，但是他的夫人常有話說，他總說她不過。

她在公事房裏見視察人及管理人；她站在棧房裏稱東西給鄉下人們。凡是到田上來的人只要見女主人，無人要見男主人。

有一天他領着孩子們走過一片草地，有許多牛正在田上吃草。他要孩子們看母牛，他很小心地領着他們走到吃草的那一羣牛。忽然有一個黑頭抬起來，高出他牛的背上，瞪眼看他們，低聲的叫。

律師領着孩子們儘他的所能，跑回去籬笆。他把孩子們摔在籬外，他自己嘗試跳過去，被籬頂阻住，跳不出去。

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tried to jump it himself, but was caught on the top. Noticing some women on the other side, he shouted:

"The bull! the bull!"

But the women merely laughed, and went to pull the children, whose clothes were covered with mud, out of the ditch.

"Don't you see the bull?" he screamed.

"It's no bull, sir," replied the eldest of the women, "the bull was killed a fortnight ago."

He came home, angry and ashamed and complained of the women to his wife. But she only laughed.

In the afternoon, as husband and wife were together in the drawing-room, there was a knock at the door.

"Come in!" she called out.

One of the women who had witnessed the adventure with the bull came in, holding in her hand the lawyer's gold chain.

"I believe this belongs to you, M'm," she said hesitatingly.

Adeline looked first at the woman and then at her husband, who stared at the chain with wide-open eyes.

"No, it belongs to your master," she said, taking the proffered chain. "Thank you! Your master will give you something for finding it."

He was sitting there, pale and motionless.

"I have no money, ask my wife to give you something," he said, taking the necklet.

Adeline took a crown out of her big purse and handed it to the woman, who went away, apparently without understanding the scene.

他看見有幾個女人在籬笆外，就大聲叫喊道：

「公牛來啦！公牛來啦！」

那幾個女人只是大笑，走去把孩子們從溝裏拖出來，他們的衣服沾了許多泥。

他叫道，「你們不看見公牛麼？」

年紀最長的女人答道，「先生，那條並不是公牛，上兩星期已經殺了公牛了。」

他回家，既生氣又慚愧，對他的夫人說兩句不滿意於那幾個女人的話。她只是大笑。

下午夫婦同在客廳裏，有人敲門。

她喊道，「進來呀！」

原來是親眼看見律師害怕公牛的幾個女人中之一走進來，手上拿着律師的金鏈。

她遲疑着說道，「瑪當，我相信這是你的東西。」

阿狄林先看了這個女人，隨後看了她的男人，他睜大兩眼，瞪着金鏈。

她拿着遞過來的鏈子，說道：「不是我的，是你的男主人的。謝謝你！你的男主人會賞你點東西，報答你拾起這條金鏈。」

他坐在那裏，臉色發白，動也不動。

他拿着小頸串說道，「我無錢，你同我的夫人要賞吧。」

阿狄林從她的大錢袋掏出一個克隆，交與那個女人，她走出外，好像不明白這一幕戲。

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“You might have spared me this humiliation!” he said, and his voice plainly betrayed the pain he felt.

“Are you not man enough to take the responsibility for your words and actions on your own shoulders? Are you ashamed to wear a present I gave you, while you expect me to wear yours? You’re a coward! And you imagine yourself to be a man!”

Henceforth the poor lawyer had no peace. Wherever he went, he met grinning faces, and farm-labourers and maid-servants from the safe retreat of sheltered nooks, shouted “the bull! the bull!” whenever he went past.

Adeline had resolved to attend an auction and stay away for a week. She asked her husband to look after the servants in her absence.

On the first day the cook came and asked him for money for sugar and coffee. He gave it to her. Three days later she came again and asked him for the same thing. He expressed surprise at her having already spent what he had given her.

“I don’t want it all for myself,” she replied, “and mistress doesn’t mind.”

He gave her the money. But, wondering whether he had made a mistake, he opened his wife’s account book and began to add up the columns.

He arrived at a strange result. When he had added up all the pounds for a month, he found it came to a lispound.¹

He continued checking her figures, and the result was everywhere the same. He took the principal ledger and

¹ lispound, 瑞典等國重量名。

他說道，「你其實可以免我受這樣的羞辱！」他的聲音顯然表示他所覺得的痛苦。

「難道你無丈夫氣，不夠擔負你所說的話及你所做的事的責任麼？你一面要我戴你的禮物，你戴我所給你的禮物，難道你以為羞辱麼？你是一個懦夫！你還妄想以為你自己是一個男子漢！」

從此以後，律師沒得安寧日子啦。無論他走到那裏，他總碰着許多人露齒笑他，還碰着許多女僕們及田工們躲在有遮護的角落裏的平安躲藏地方，無論他什麼時候從那裏經過，他們就大聲喊道，「公牛呀！公牛呀！」

阿狄林決計往拍賣場，離家住一個星期。她請她的丈夫當她不在家的時候管着僕人們。

第一天廚子就來問他要錢買糖買咖啡。他給她錢。三天後她又來要錢買這兩樣東西。她把他前次所給的錢全花光了，他就表示詫異。

她答道，「我並不是全為我自己要的，女主人並不以此煩心的。」

他給她錢。他卻要曉得他是否辦錯了，他就打開他夫人的帳本，起首把一行一行的數目加起來。

他得到一個奇異的結果。他把一個月內所用的磅數加起來，他所得的結果是一個利司磅。

他接連查對她的數目，無論在那裏，結果總是一樣的。

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found that, leaving the high figures out of the question, very stupid mistakes in the additions had been made. Evidently his wife knew nothing of denominate quantities or decimal fractions. This unheard of cheating of the servants must certainly lead to ruin.

His wife came home. After having listened to a detailed account of the auction, he cleared his throat, intending to tell his tale, but his wife anticipated his report:

“Well, and how did you get on with the servants?”

“Oh! very well, but I am certain that they cheat you.”

“Cheat me!”

“Yes; for instance the amount spent on coffee and sugar is too large.”

“How do you know?”

“I saw it in your account book.”

“Indeed! You poked your nose into¹ my books?”

“Poked my nose into your books?” No, but I took it upon me to check your . . .”

“What business was it of yours?”

“And I found that you keep books without having the slightest knowledge of denominate quantities or decimal fractions.”

“What? You think I don't know?”

“No, you don't! And therefore the foundations of the establishment are shaky. Your book-keeping is all humbug, old girl!”

“My book-keeping concerns no one but myself.”

“Incorrect book-keeping is an offence punishable by law; if you are not liable, then I am.”

¹ poked your nose into, 你無端干預.

他查總帳冊，把大的數目撇開不計，他查出在加數上頭有許多極糊塗的錯誤。他就顯然見得他的女人既不曉得分開錢幣的名目亦不曉得小數。向來不曾聽見過僕人們這樣欺騙，她既被他們這樣朦騙，必定要破家的。

他的女人回家。他聽她詳細說過拍賣情形之後，他就清清他的喉嚨，意在要告訴她一番話，不料他的女人預先料到他的報告。

『你同僕人們對付得怎麼樣呀？』

『呀！我對付得還好，但是我確曉得他們騙你。』

『騙我呀！』

『是呀！我姑且說一件。咖啡與糖花錢太多啦。』

『你怎樣會曉得的？』

『我在你的帳本上看出來的。』

『當真的呀！你無端干預我的帳本麼？』

『無端干預你的帳本麼？不是的，我要查對你的……。』

『你爲什麼要干預呀？』

『我查出你管帳是全不曉得分別錢幣名目，亦不曉得十進小數？』

『什麼呀？你以爲我不曉得麼？』

『你不曉得；所以我們這個田舍的基礎動搖啦，老姑娘，你的簿記是一篇糊塗帳！』

『我的簿記只與我相干，不與他人相干。』

不正確的簿記是犯法的，要受懲罰的，若不是你受懲罰，就是我受懲罰。

MARRIED

"The law? I care a fig for the law!"

"I daresay! But we shall get into its clutches, if not you, then most certainly I! And therefore I am going to be book-keeper in the future."

"We can engage a man to do it."

"No, that's not necessary! I have nothing else to do."

And that settled the matter.

But once the husband occupied the chair at the desk and the people came to see *him*, the wife lost all interest in farming and cattle-breeding.

A violent reaction set in; she no longer attended to the cows and calves, but remained in the house. There she sat, hatching fresh plots.

But the husband had regained a fresh hold on life. He took an eager interest in the estate and woke up the people. Now he held the reins; managed everything, gave orders and paid the bills.

One day his wife came into the office and asked him for a thousand crowns to buy a piano.

"What are you thinking of?" said the husband. "Just when we are going to re-build the stables! We haven't the means to buy a piano."

"What do you mean?" she replied. "Why haven't we got the means? Isn't my money sufficient?"

"Your money?"

"Yes, my money, my dowry."

"That has now become the property of the family."

"That is to say yours?"

"No, the family's. The family is a small community,

『法律麼？我看法律不值一文錢！』

『我相信你是不管的！但是我們將陷入法網，若不是你，必定就是我！所以我以後要管帳。』

『我們能夠雇一個人管帳。』

『不必！我沒得別的事體做。』

這句話就決定歸他管帳。

但是丈夫一旦坐了那把交椅，人們自然是來見他，他的夫人無心管理田園及牧畜啦。

於是就發生很猛烈的反應；她終日在家，不復照應母牛及犢。她坐在家裏蘊釀新詭計。

但是丈夫卻重新得了生命啦；他很熱心管理田產，振作人們的精神。現時他執掌大權啦；無論什麼都管到，他發號施令及還帳。

有一天他的女人走進公事房間他要一千克隆買一架鋼琴。

丈夫說道，『你想些什麼呀？我們正在重建馬房！我們無錢買一座鋼琴呀。』

她答道，『你說什麼呀？我們爲什麼沒得錢呀？我的錢還不夠嗎？』

『你的錢嗎？』

『是呀，我的錢，我的粧奩。』

『你的粧奩現在已經變作我們這一家人的財產了。』

『這是說你的錢，不是麼？』

『不是的，是我們這一家人的錢。一家人就是一個小

MARRIED

the only one which possesses common property which, as a rule, is administered by the husband."

"Why should he administer it and not the wife?"

"Because he has more time to give to it, since he does not bear children."

"Why couldn't they administer it jointly?"

"For the same reason that a joint stock company has only one managing director. If the wife administered as well, the children would claim the same right, for it is their property, too."

"This is mere hair-splitting. I think it's hard that I should have to ask your permission to buy a piano out of my own money."

"It's no longer your money."

"But yours?"

"No, not mine either, but the family's. And you are wrong when you say that you 'have to ask for my permission'; it's merely wise that you should consult with the administrator as to whether the position of affairs warrants your spending such a large sum on a luxury."

"Do you call a piano a luxury?"

"A new piano, when there is an old one, must be termed a luxury. The position of our affairs is anything but satisfactory, and therefore *it* doesn't permit you to buy a new piano at present, but *I*, personally, can or will have nothing to say against it."

"An expenditure of a thousand crowns doesn't mean ruin."

"To incur a debt of a thousand crowns at the wrong time may be the first step towards ruin."

"All this means that you refuse to buy me a new piano?"

社會，只有一家人有公共的財產，向例是歸丈夫管理的。』

『爲什麼該是丈夫不該是女人管理呀？』

『因爲他不產生兒女，因爲他有較多的時光照應這些事。』

『爲什麼不歸夫妻同管呀？』

『一個合股公司只有一個經理，就是因爲同此理由。倘若女人也要管理，兒女們也就會要求管理，因爲一家的財產，兒女們原是有分的。』

『這不過是強作微妙的分辨。錢是我的，我還要求你的允許，才能夠買一座鋼琴，未免太難了。』

『當初原是你的錢，現在不復是你的錢了。』

『難道說是你的錢麼？』

『不是的，也不是我的，是我們這一家人的。你剛才說你，要求我允許，這句話你說差了；我是管理財產的人，惟有我曉得我們的景況是否能夠許你花一筆錢買一個奢華品，你該先同我商量，這不過是爲慎重起見。』

『你說鋼琴是一件奢華品麼？』

『你既有一座舊鋼琴，又要買一座新的，必定要說是奢華品。我們的景況殊不能令人滿意，所以不容你現在買一座新鋼琴，但是我自己本人能夠或願意不說什麼話反對這件事。』

『花一千克隆，並不見得就會毀了我們。』

『欠一千克隆的債，欠得不是時候，就許是走向破產的第一步。』

『你說了這許多話，不過是你不許我買一座新鋼琴麼？』

MARRIED

"No, I won't say that. The uncertain position of affairs . . ."

"When, oh! when will the day dawn on which the wife will manage her own affairs and have no need to go begging to her husband?"

"When she works herself. A man, your father, has earned your money. The men have gained all the wealth there is in the world; therefore it is but just that a sister should inherit less than her brother, especially as the brother is born with the duty to provide for a woman, while the sister need not provide for a man. Do you understand?"

"And you call that justice? Can you honestly maintain that it is? Ought we not all to share and share alike?"

"No, not always. One ought to share according to circumstances and merit. The idler who lies in the grass and watches the mason building a house, should have a smaller share than the mason."

"Do you mean to insinuate that I am lazy?"

"H'm! I'd rather not say anything about that. But when I used to lie on the sofa, reading, you considered me a loafer, and I well remember that you said something to that effect in very plain language."

"But what am I to do?"

"Take the children out for walks."

"I'm not constituted to look after the children."

"But there was a time when I had to do it. Let me tell you that a woman who says that she is not constituted to look after children, isn't a woman. But that fact doesn't make a man of her, by any means. What is she, then?"

『不是的，我不肯說這樣的話。我們的景況無定……。』

『嗨！等到幾時才會有這麼一天，有夫之妻能夠管理她自己的事務，不必求她的丈夫？』

『等到她自己做工。有一個男人，就是你的父親，賺了你現時所有的錢。男人們把世上所有的財富全贏得來；所以一個姊妹承受遺產要比她的兄弟少，這是公道辦法，尤其是因為天生男子要擔負供養一個女人的任務，姊妹卻用不着供養男人，你明白麼？』

『你稱這種辦法為公道麼？你能夠出於至誠的主持這是公道麼？我們不該平等分受遺產麼？』

『不該，不能常是平分。一個人應該照着環境及才能分受。一個無所事事的人 躺在青草地上看石匠們蓋造一所房子，只應享小分，小過石匠所得的。』

『難道你暗示我遊手好閒，無所事事麼？』

『哼！我莫如不談這件事。但是當我常躺在榻上讀書的時候，你當我是一個遊手好閒的人，我很記得你用很淺白的話說我是一個遊手好閒的人。』

『但是我該做什麼呀？』

『你帶孩子們出去散步。』

『我生成不是照應孩子們的。』

『但是有過一度，我得照應孩子們。讓我來告訴你，一個女人說她生成不是照應孩子們的，她就不是是一個女人。但是這種事實絕不會使她成爲一個男人。她到底是什麼呢？』

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"Shame on you that you should speak like that of the mother of your children!"

"What does the world call a man who will have nothing to do with women? Isn't it something very ugly?"

"I won't hear another word!"

And she left him and locked herself into her room.

She fell ill. The doctor, the almighty man, who took over the care of the body when the priest lost the care of the soul, pronounced country air and solitude to be harmful.

They were obliged to return to town so that the wife could have proper medical treatment.

Town had a splendid effect on her health; the air of the slums gave colour to her cheeks.

The lawyer practised his profession and so husband and wife had found safety-valves for their temperaments which refused to blend.

『你把你的孩子們的母親說成這樣，你不難爲情呀！』

『一個男人不肯理女人們，世人會稱這個男人是什麼東西呀？還不是頂難聽的麼？』

『我不肯聽你再說一句話。』

她就走開，把她自己關在她的屋裏。

她覺得有病。那個無所不能的醫生，當教士不管她的靈魂的時候，接着照應她的身體，醫生說鄉下空氣及孤寂有害於她的健康。

夫婦兩人只好回去市鎮，以便他的女人能夠得着正當的醫治。

市鎮有絕好的效果及於她的健康；汙濁民居的空氣使她的臉上得了顏色。

律師執行他的行業，夫婦就是這樣爲他們不肯互相遷就的脾氣，找着平安的發洩機關。



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英漢對照名家小說選

結 了 婚

M a r r i e d

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