



轻松英语名作欣赏

小妇人

Little Women

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第三级
适合初三、
高一年级



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关于故事和说故事的人

路易莎·梅·奥尔科特 (1832~1888)

Louisa May Alcott



路易莎·梅·奥尔科特从小家境贫寒，没有得到良好的学校教育。不过，她还是成长为一位拥有坚强意志和丰富想象力的女孩。她很早就意识到父亲不切实际，不能维持妻子和四个女儿的生活。为了供养家庭，她教过书，当过佣人，最后从事写作。美国内战开始后，她志愿当了护士，在卫生条件很差的医院里染上伤寒，回家后一直没有完全康复。这些宝贵的经历都成为她日后写作的重要素材。

《小妇人》是奥尔科特在1868年出版的小说。小说的第一部在5月和7月间出版，第二部《好妻子》于同年年底出版。1869年4月，两部小说合集的面世大受欢迎，好评如潮。奥尔科特被视为美国妇女的代表，《小妇人》也成为了学生的必读小说和经典的文学作品。



《小妇人》使我们结识了马齐家的四位好女孩：善良、忍耐的长女梅格，热情、野丫头性格的次女乔，内向的贝丝以及美丽的小女儿埃米。父亲马齐先生是联邦军队中的牧师，母亲从事慈善工作，并用温暖的心灵培养女儿们的道德观。虽然女孩们之间因为误解和过错而产生了一些冲突，她们仍旧相互理解，怀着梦想生活。一天，女孩们认识了一个名叫劳里的男孩。他是马齐家的邻居，性格活泼，讨人喜欢。他们成为了像家人般的好朋友。她们分享欢乐，也一同面对贫穷与死亡的阴影。当马齐先生病愈回到家，他会在四姐妹身上看到怎样的改变呢？

这部小说没有刺激、惊险的情节，里面描述的都是最普通的日常生活。但正是书中充满的亲情、爱情和友情让我们淡淡地感动、会心地微笑……



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Little Women



小 妇 人

Before You Read

阅读准备



Meg 梅格

I'm the oldest of the four daughters in the March family. I'm sixteen years old, so I'm becoming a young woman now. My family is really poor, but some of my friends are rich. They have lots of pretty things, but I don't. I sometimes wish that I could be like my friends and have many things. Growing up poor is hard for a young woman.

我是马齐家四个女儿中的长女，今年16岁了，正在出落为一位年轻的淑女。我的家庭很贫穷，不过我的一些朋友很富有。她们拥有很多好看的东西，我都没有。有时候我真希望能像她们一样有那么多好东西。在贫困中长大对年轻的女士来说是很艰难的。



Jo 乔

I'm the second oldest daughter. I'm just one year younger than Meg. I love to play outside. Some people even call me a tomboy. And I really enjoy writing stories. I want to become a writer. Maybe the newspaper will print some of my stories. I'm curious about the Laurence boy next door. He looks lonely, so I feel sorry for him.

我是老二，只比梅格小一岁。我很喜欢在外面玩，有的人甚至叫我假小子。我也很喜欢写小说，我想成为一位作家。也许我写的故事能在报纸上刊登。我对邻居劳伦斯家的男孩很好奇。他看上去很寂寞的样子，我很同情他。



Beth 贝丝

I'm thirteen years old, and I'm really different from my sisters. My sisters all like to play with their friends and meet new people, but I don't. I'm really shy and afraid of talking to people. I love to play the piano though.

我今年13岁。我和姐妹们很不一样。她们都喜欢和伙伴们一起玩，结识新的朋友，但我不是。我很害羞，害怕和别人说话。不过我喜欢弹钢琴。



Amy 埃米

I'm the youngest daughter in the family. My sisters always forget about me and never take me with them when they go out. I get so angry when that happens. I usually just stay home a lot and draw since I want to be a painter.

我是家里最小的女儿。我的姐姐们总是不记得我，出去玩的时候从不带我去。这时我会非常生气。我一般都待在家里画画，因为我想成为一位画家。

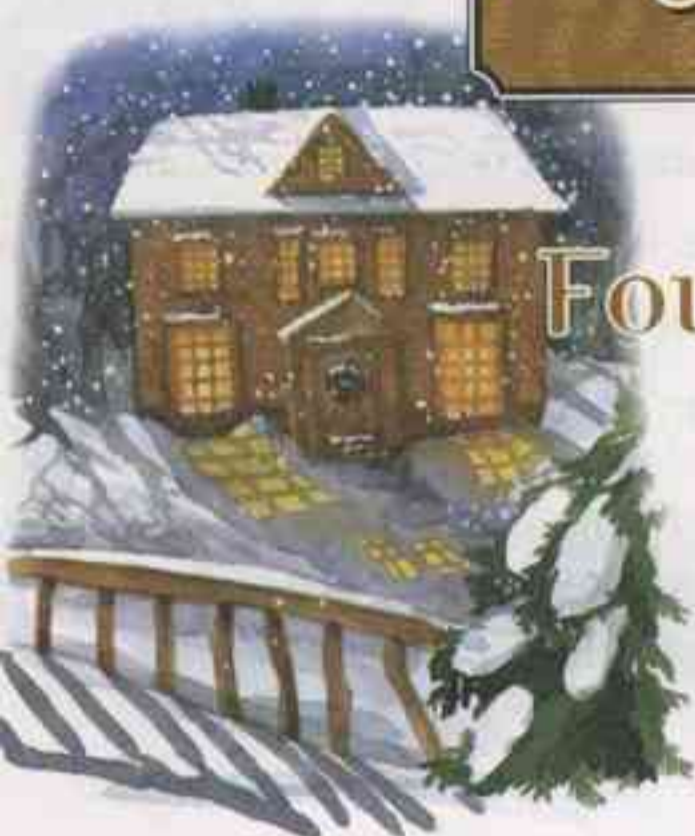


Laurie 劳里

I live with my rich grandfather Mr. Laurence. It's so lonely here because I don't have any friends.

We live next door to the March family. There are four daughters in that family. I don't know any of them, but I really hope that I can meet them someday soon.

我和富有的祖父劳伦斯先生住在一起。我在这儿很寂寞，因为我没有朋友。我们的邻居马齐家有四个女儿。我不认识她们，不过我真希望很快能有机会结识她们。



Four Sisters

四姐妹

“Christmas isn’t the same without gifts,” complained Jo.

“Being poor is terrible,” agreed Meg as she looked at her old dress.

“It’s not fair that some girls are rich and have everything they want while others have nothing,” said little Amy.

“But we’ve got our mother and father and each other,” said Beth, who always tried to see the bright side of things.

The four girls cheered up at this thought as they sat around the fire.

KEY WORDS

- ☐ gift *n.* 礼物
- ☐ complain *v.* 抱怨, 埋怨
- ☐ agree *v.* 同意, 赞同
- ☐ fair *adj.* 公平的, 合理的
- ☐ while *conj.* 然而, 而

- ☐ try to 试图, 努力
- ☐ bright *adj.* 光明的, 有希望的
- ☐ cheer up 高兴起来, 振奋起来
- ☐ thought *n.* 想法

"But we don't have Father," said Jo sadly. "And we won't for a long time."

Each of them worried silently about their father, who was away, fighting in the American Civil War.

"Mother said it would be wrong to waste money on gifts when our men are at war," said Meg.



KEY WORDS

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> for a long time 很长一段时间 | <input type="checkbox"/> the Civil War 美国内战 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> worry about 为……担心 | <input type="checkbox"/> waste v. 浪费 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> silently adv. 默默地, 不说话地 | <input type="checkbox"/> be at war 在战争中, 在打仗 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fight v. 打仗, 作战
(fight-fought-fought) | |

"But all we have is a dollar each," said Jo. "Four dollars won't help the army. Let's just buy what we want. We worked hard for that money."

"I wish we had the money our father lost when we were little," said Meg.

"If I was a boy, I'd go and fight with father," said Jo.

Meg was a beautiful sixteen-year old with big, round eyes and soft, brown hair. As a young



KEY WORDS

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> army <i>n.</i> 军队 | <input type="checkbox"/> tomboy <i>n.</i> 假小子, 野丫头 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> lose <i>v.</i> 失去
(lose-lost-lost) | <input type="checkbox"/> at heart 内心里, 本质上 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> soft <i>adj.</i> 柔软的 | <input type="checkbox"/> character <i>n.</i> 性格 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> be concerned with 关注, 关心 | <input type="checkbox"/> opposite <i>adj.</i> 相反的 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> appear <i>v.</i> 出现, 当众露面 | <input type="checkbox"/> seem to 好像, 似乎 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> neat <i>adj.</i> 整洁的 | <input type="checkbox"/> exist <i>v.</i> 存在, 生活 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ladylike <i>adj.</i> 贵妇人似的, 优雅的 | <input type="checkbox"/> curly <i>adj.</i> 卷曲的 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> at all times 总是, 永远 | <input type="checkbox"/> blond <i>adj.</i> 金发的 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> push back (头发) 往后梳 | <input type="checkbox"/> watery <i>adj.</i> (眼睛) 水汪汪的 |

woman, she was very concerned with appearing neat and ladylike at all times. Jo was fifteen, tall, and thin. She kept her hair pushed back. A true tomboy at heart, her character often fell on the opposite side of Meg's. Beth was thirteen and very shy. She seemed to exist in her own happy world. Amy was the youngest and thought she was a princess. She had curly, blond hair and watery, blue eyes.



One Point Lesson

I wish we had the money our father lost when we were little.
真希望我们小时候父亲损失的那些钱还在。

I wish (that) + 从句: 我希望……(指不太可能的事); 主句为现在时, 从句则用过去时, 表示虚拟语气。

e.g. **I wish I knew** how to swim. 真希望我会游泳。



By six o'clock, Meg lit the lamp to light their house. Beth put her mother's slippers by the fire to warm them. Jo looked at them and said, "These are too old. Mother needs a new pair."

"Let's use our dollars to buy gifts for Mother," said Beth.

"That's a good idea," said Jo. "We'll surprise her."

KEY WORDS

- ☐ light v. 点亮, 照亮
(light-lit-lit)
- ☐ slipper n. 拖鞋

- ☐ warm v. (使)暖和
- ☐ pair n. 一双, 一对
- ☐ surprise v. (使)惊奇

Soon their mother, Mrs. March, arrived home from work.

"A letter from your father came," Mrs. March said excitedly. The letter cheered them up, especially the message to the girls at the end:



Here's my love and a kiss for each of you. I think of you all every day. I know you are good to your mother, and when I come back, I'll be proud of my little women.

KEY WORDS

- ☐ excitedly adv. 激动地
- ☐ especially adv. 尤其, 特别
- ☐ message n. 信息, 消息

- ☐ at the end 最后
- ☐ be proud of 为……感到骄傲

On Christmas morning, the girls came downstairs. Meg asked, "Where's Mother?"

"I think she's down the street," said old Hannah. Hannah was a servant who had lived with them since Jo was born. She was more like a friend. "A poor woman came to the door, and your mother went off to help her."

Then there was a noise at the door. The girls pushed the basket of gifts for their mother back under the chair and ran into the dining room. They sat at the table, waiting for breakfast.

"Merry Christmas, Mother!" they shouted.

"Merry Christmas, my little women!" said Mrs. March. Then she stopped smiling. "Our neighbor

KEY WORDS

☐ downstairs *adv.* 往楼下
☐ servant *n.* 仆人, 佣人
☐ go off 离开, 出发
☐ noise *n.* 声响

☐ dining room 饭厅, 餐室
☐ wait for 等候
☐ neighbor *n.* 邻居



Mrs. Hummel is very poor and has a new baby. All six of her children are in one bed, trying to stay warm. Why don't we give them our breakfast as a Christmas present?"

KEY WORDS

- ☐ stay *v.* 保持
- ☐ as *prep.* 作为

- ☐ present *n.* 礼物

One Point Lesson

Why don't we give them our breakfast as a Christmas present?
我们何不把早餐作为圣诞礼物送给他们呢?

Why don't we/you...?: 我们(你们)何不……呢?(表建议)

e.g. Why don't we go skiing this weekend? 这周末我们何不去滑雪呢?

The girls thought for a moment.

"It's good you came back before we started eating," said Jo. Then the girls packed their breakfast into a basket.



KEY WORDS

□ for a moment 一会儿

□ pack v. 装进

With Hannah, they went to a miserable room in an old building. There they found a sick mother with a crying baby and a group of frightened children. Hannah brought wood and made a fire. Mrs. March gave the mother some tea and food. The girls gathered the children around the fire and fed them. Afterward, the March girls felt the inner warmth of satisfaction from their good deeds.

Mrs. March was pleased when she received her gifts later. They spent a long time laughing, kissing, and talking. Then the girls practiced a play that Jo had written. They were going to act it that evening.

KEY WORDS

- ☐ miserable *adj.* 简陋的
- ☐ frightened *adj.* 惊恐的
- ☐ bring *v.* 带来
(bring-brought-brought)*
- ☐ make a fire 生火
- ☐ gather *v.* 集合, 聚集
- ☐ feed *v.* 喂食
(feed-fed-fed)

- ☐ afterward *adv.* 之后, 后来
- ☐ inner *adj.* 内心的
- ☐ satisfaction *n.* 满足, 快乐
- ☐ deed *n.* 行为, 行动
- ☐ receive *v.* 收到
- ☐ practice *v.* 练习
- ☐ play *n.* 戏剧
- ☐ act *v.* 表演, 演出

One Point Lesson

They **spent** a long time **laughing, kissing, and talking**.
大家互相亲吻、说笑了好一阵子。

spend + 时间 + doing sth.: 花时间做某事

e.g. I **spent** all day **watching** TV. 我一整天都在看电视。

On Christmas night, some friends watched the curtain rise on "Witch's Curse." As the four girls were acting, the tall castle they had made of paper fell down. Everyone laughed, but they stood it up again and kept acting.

There was a surprise for everyone when the play was finished. A late night feast! There were fruit, cake, ice cream, and French chocolate. There were even fresh flowers. The girls could not believe their eyes.

"Where did these come from?" asked Meg.

"Our wealthy neighbor, old Mr. Laurence, sent them!" said Mrs. March. "He heard about you girls giving away your breakfast and was really pleased.

KEY WORDS

- ☐ curtain *n.* 幕布, 帷幕
- ☐ rise *v.* 升起, 上升
(rise-rose-risen)
- ☐ witch *n.* 女巫, 巫婆
- ☐ curse *n.* 诅咒
- ☐ castle *n.* 城堡

- ☐ fall down 倒下
- ☐ feast *n.* 盛宴
- ☐ wealthy *adj.* 富有的
- ☐ send *v.* 送来
(send-sent-sent)
- ☐ give away 赠送, 捐赠



This afternoon he sent a note asking us to accept his treats.”

“The idea must have come from the boy who lives there,” said Jo. “I’m sure he wants to meet us. But he’s too shy.”

KEY WORDS

□ note *n.* 便条

□ accept *v.* 接受

□ ask...to 请求, 要求

□ treat *n.* 款待



选择适当的词填空。

curly
beautiful

shy
tomboy

soft
thin

blond

- ① Meg was a _____ sixteen-year-old girl with big round eyes and _____ brown hair.
- ② Jo was tall and _____ with pushed-back, red hair and a true _____ at heart.
- ③ Beth was thirteen years old and very _____.
- ④ Amy was the youngest with _____, _____ hair and watery, blue eyes.



下面的话分别是谁说的?

- ① It's not fair that some girls are rich and have everything they want while others have nothing. _____
- ② Being poor is terrible. _____
- ③ If I were a boy, I'd go and fight with father. _____
- ④ Let's use our dollars to buy gifts for Mother. _____

答案

A ① beautiful, soft ② thin, tomboy ③ shy ④ curly, blond

B ① Amy ② Meg ③ Jo ④ Beth

C 选择正确的答案。

- ❶ Why were the Marches so poor?
- (a) Because thieves took all of their money.
(b) Because their father lost lots of money when the girls were little.
(c) Because they gave all of their money to poor people.
- ❷ What did the Marches give to the Hummels as a Christmas present?
- (a) Their new toys. (b) Their dollars.
(c) Their breakfast.

D 选择适当的词填空。

cheered concerned satisfaction miserable

- ❶ As a young woman, she was very _____ with appearing neat and ladylike.
- ❷ The letter _____ them up, especially the message to the girls at the end.
- ❸ They went to a _____ room in an old building.
- ❹ The March girls felt the inner warmth of _____ from their good deeds.

答案

C ❶ (b) ❷ (c)

D ❶ concerned ❷ cheered ❸ miserable ❹ satisfaction

Why Did the Civil War Begin?

美国内战因何爆发?



The Little Women grew up during the American Civil War. Most historians believe that slavery was the main reason why this war began. They note that the South insisted on protecting slavery because it was vital to the South's economy. The North wanted to weaken slavery because many Northerners felt that slavery was morally wrong. Before the Civil War, the South's economy was based on cotton and tobacco. Cheap labor was needed to grow these crops. Southern plantation owners became very wealthy by using slave labor. However, the South did not have many voting citizens. There were more people who could vote in the North than in the South. Because of this, the

本书的小妇人们在美国内战期间长大。大多数历史学家认为，导致美国内战爆发的主要原因是奴隶制。他们指出，南方坚持维护奴隶制，因为它关乎南方经济命脉。北方则想削弱奴隶制，因为许多北方人认为奴隶制不合乎道德。内战之前，南方的经济建立在棉花和烟草种植上。种植这些作物需要廉价劳动力。南方的大庄园主靠使用奴隶赚了大钱。但是，南方有投票权的公民不多，其人数少于

South was slowly losing political power in the federal government. The North was becoming industrialized and its culture was quickly modernizing. Traditional values that the Southerners strongly believed in were being pushed aside in the North because of



modernization. Southern politicians decided to leave the American union and create their own national government. The North would not allow this and they declared war on the South. Because slavery was closely connected to the economic and cultural differences between the South and North, it is very difficult to isolate just one main reason why the war began.

北方。因此，在联邦政府中，南方渐渐失去了政治影响力。同时，北方正处于工业化的进程中，现代文化也在迅速发展。现代化使南方人所持的传统价值观在北方逐渐被抛弃。南方的政客决定脱离联邦，成立自己的政府。北方不能容忍这一

The Boy Next Door

邻家男孩

A few days later, Meg showed Jo a piece of paper. It was an invitation to a New Year's party at Sallie Gardiner's house.

"Mother says we can go, but what shall we wear?"

"Our cotton dresses are the best ones we have," said Jo. "Yours is in good condition, but there's a burn and a hole in the back of mine."

"Then you'll have to keep your back turned away from people," said Meg.

On the night of the party, Meg and Jo went to the Gardiners' house. Meg was happy to chat with

KEY WORDS

☐ invitation *n.* 邀请

☐ wear *v.* 穿戴

(wear-wore-worn)

☐ cotton *n.* 棉布

☐ be in good condition 处于良好的状态

☐ burn *n.* 烧灼的痕迹

☐ hole *n.* 洞, 孔

☐ turn away from 偏离, 避开

☐ chat with 和……聊天



Sallie Gardiner, but Jo wasn't interested in their girlish talk.

She stood with her back up against the wall, watching the other kids dance. When she saw a big boy coming toward her, she quickly went through a door into a small room. But another shy person was already hiding in there. He was "the Laurence boy" from the house next door.

KEY WORDS

- ☐ girlish *adj.* 女孩子的
- ☐ against *prep.* 紧靠, 倚着
- ☐ go through 穿过

- ☐ hide *v.* 躲藏, 隐蔽
(hide-hid-hidden)



“Oh dear, I didn’t know you were here,” said Jo.

“That’s okay,” the boy said. “Hey, you live next door to us, don’t you?”

“Yes,” said Jo.

“Just call me Laurie,” said the boy. “I like parties. But I don’t know how they do things over here. I’ve lived in Europe for many years.”

“I love to hear people talk about their travels,” said Jo. She asked Laurie questions about schools, holidays, and trips in Europe.

KEY WORDS

- ☐ dear *int.* 哎呀
- ☐ love to 喜欢
- ☐ travel *n.* 旅游, 旅行
- ☐ holiday *n.* 假期
- ☐ trip *n.* 旅行, 旅游
- ☐ tight *adj.* 紧的
- ☐ limp *v.* 瘸着走, 跛行

- ☐ hurt *v.* (使) 疼痛, 受伤
(hurt-hurt-hurt)
- ☐ ankle *n.* 脚踝
- ☐ offer to 主动提出
- ☐ give sb. a ride 捎某人一程
- ☐ carriage *n.* 马车

"Excuse me, Jo," Meg said to Jo while she was enjoying talking to Laurie. Meg's shoes were too tight, and soon she was limping. "I've hurt my ankle. I don't know how I'll get home."

Laurie heard her talking and offered to give them a ride home in his grandfather's carriage. When they got home, they thanked Laurie and said good night to him. Jo liked Laurie.



One Point Lesson

Hey, you live next door to us, **don't you?**

啊，你住在我们隔壁，对吗？

反意疑问句：前一部分是对人或事物的陈述，后一部分是简短的提问，既可以表示真实疑问，也可以表示强调或反问。

e.g. He came to the party, **didn't he?** 他来参加舞会了，对吗？

It is a big house, **isn't it?** 这座房子挺大，不是吗？

The next morning, Meg said, "It was so nice to ride home in a carriage. I wish we were rich enough to do that all the time."

"Well, we're not, so we must do our work with a smile like Mother does," said Jo.

Their father had lost his money helping a friend. When Jo and Meg had learned this, they wanted to earn money to help the family. Meg worked as a teacher for four small children. It was very difficult for her. Jo worked for their Aunt March. But she was an old lady who complained a lot.

KEY WORDS

- ☐ all the time 总是
- ☐ learn v. 得知

- ☐ earn v. 挣(钱)



Beth was too shy to go to school.
She studied at home and helped
Hannah keep the house clean.
She spent lots of time playing on
their old piano. Even though she
couldn't afford music lessons,

she practiced to become a better musician. Amy was
an excellent artist and hoped to become a
painter when she grew up.



KEY WORDS

- ☐ even though 虽然
- ☐ afford *v.* 负担……的开支
- ☐ musician *n.* 音乐家

- ☐ excellent *adj.* 极好的
- ☐ painter *n.* 画家
- ☐ grow up 成长, 长大

One Point Lesson

Beth was **too shy to go** to school.
贝丝太害羞了, 所以没去上学。

too + 形容词 + to do: 太……所以不能……
= **so + 形容词 + that + 主语 + can't do**

e.g. He is **too tired to visit** his parents.
= He is so tired that he can't visit his parents.
他太累了, 所以不能去看望父母。

One day, Jo went outside to clear the snow from the garden. She looked at the Laurences' large house next door. It seemed lifeless and lonely. Jo wondered what Laurie had been doing lately when suddenly she could see him looking out from an upstairs window.



KEY WORDS

□ clear v. 清除

□ lifeless adj. 没有生气的

□ lonely adj. 荒凉的, 孤单的

□ lately adv. 最近, 近来

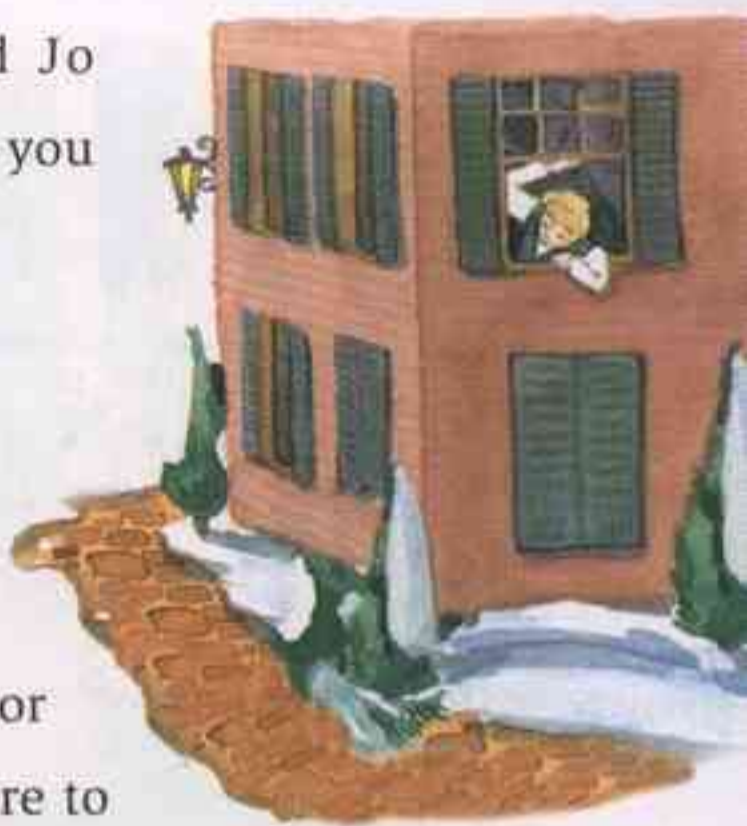
He opened the window, and Jo asked, "What's the matter? Have you been sick?"

"Yes, but I'm much better now. Why don't you come for a visit?"

"I will if Mother lets me," she said.

Soon his servant came to the door and said, "Sir, there's someone here to see you."

There was Jo, with a small box and three kittens. "Meg asked me to bring you some cake, and Beth thought you might like to play with her kittens."



KEY WORDS

□ let v. 允许, 让
(let-let-let)

□ kitten n. 小猫

One Point Lesson

Yes, but I'm **much** better now. 是啊, 不过我现在好多了。

much, far, even, still, a lot 等修饰形容词的比较级, 表示程度或数量。

e.g. She became **much** prettier than before. 她比以前漂亮多了。



"You are all so kind," Laurie said. "Is Beth the shy one who stays at home?"

"Yes, she's the good girl," answered Jo.

"And Meg is pretty, and Amy is the one with curly, blond hair, right?" said Laurie.

“How did you know?” Jo asked.

Laurie blushed with embarrassment, but answered, “Sometimes at night, when you forget to close your curtains, I can see you having fun. I can see you sitting around the fire with your mother. I don’t have a mother.”

“You should come and visit us,” said Jo.

The two talked and discovered that they both loved books.

“Come and see our library if you’re not afraid of my grandfather.”

“I’m not afraid of anybody,” said Jo.

KEY WORDS

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> blush <i>v.</i> 脸红 | <input type="checkbox"/> have fun 玩得很高兴 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> embarrassment <i>n.</i> 不好意思 | <input type="checkbox"/> discover <i>v.</i> 发现 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> sometimes <i>adv.</i> 有时候 | <input type="checkbox"/> library <i>n.</i> 图书室 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> forget <i>v.</i> 忘记
(forget-forgot-forgotten) | <input type="checkbox"/> be afraid of 害怕 |

In the library, Jo was amazed by the Laurences' collection of books. Suddenly, the bell rang. The servant came and told Laurie that the doctor was there to see him. He left Jo for a moment. She stood, looking at a portrait of Grandfather Laurence, and spoke loudly, "I'm not afraid of him because he's got kind eyes, even though his mouth is hard and holds."

"Thank you," said a deep voice behind her.

Jo turned quickly to find old Mr. Laurence. Her face turned bright red.

"You're not afraid of me, are you?"

"Not really, sir,"

"Well, what have you been doing with my grandson?" he asked.

KEY WORDS

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> be amazed by 为……感到惊奇 | <input type="checkbox"/> hard <i>adj.</i> 严厉的, (轮廓) 生硬的 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> collection <i>n.</i> 收藏 | <input type="checkbox"/> hold <i>v.</i> (嘴) 紧闭着 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ring <i>v.</i> (铃、电话等) 响
(ring-rang-rung) | <input type="checkbox"/> deep <i>adj.</i> (嗓音) 低沉的 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> portrait <i>n.</i> 肖像, 画像 | <input type="checkbox"/> turn red (脸色) 变红 |

"Just cheering him up. He seems lonely," she answered.

They all had tea together. Old Mr. Laurence noticed how happy Laurie seemed.

"She's right," he thought. "He does need cheering up."



One Point Lesson

He does **need cheering up**. 他确实需要高兴起来。

need + doing: 相当于 need + to be done, 表示被动含义。

e.g. The battery in the camera **needs changing**.

= The battery in the camera needs to be changed.

照相机的电池需要更换了。



Laurie and the March girls quickly became great friends. Laurie's tutor, Mr. Brooke, complained that his student was always running away to play.

"Let him enjoy himself," said Mr. Laurence. "He'll catch up with his studies later."

Together they enjoyed many happy evenings. They would write and act plays and have little parties. Only Beth was too shy to go to the Laurences' big house.

KEY WORDS

- ☐ tutor *n.* 家庭教师
- ☐ run away 跑掉

- ☐ enjoy oneself 玩得很高兴
- ☐ catch up with 赶上, 跟上

Mr. Laurence heard this, and he went to speak with Mrs. March. He said that if any of the girls ever wanted to play his fine piano, they would be welcome to come over.

When Beth heard them talking about the piano, she couldn't resist. With her little hand, she touched Mr. Laurence's and said in a shaking voice, "I . . . I want to come very much."



KEY WORDS

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> be welcome to 可随意, 不受限制 | <input type="checkbox"/> touch v. 触摸, 碰 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> resist v. 抵挡, 忍住 | <input type="checkbox"/> shaking adj. 颤抖的 |

Beth began to go over to the Laurences' every day. Mr. Laurence and his servants enjoyed listening to her play very much.

She was so thankful that she sewed Mr. Laurence a new pair of slippers and left them in his study. The next day, when Beth came home from a walk, her mother told her there was a surprise for her. In the front room stood a lovely little piano. On top of it was a letter for her:



KEY WORDS

- ☐ thankful *adj.* 感激的
- ☐ sew *v.* 缝
(sew-sewed-sewn)

- ☐ study *n.* 书房
- ☐ front room 起居室, 客厅
- ☐ on top of 在……上

Dear Miss March,

I have had many pairs of slippers. But these are the best I've ever had. I want to thank you by sending you something that once belonged to my little granddaughter who died. With many thanks, I am your good friend.

James Laurence

Shy, little Beth went to thank Mr. Laurence immediately. For the first time in her life, she acted boldly. She entered his study and said, "I want to say thank you, sir," then she threw her arms around his neck and kissed him.

KEY WORDS

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> once <i>adv.</i> 曾经 | <input type="checkbox"/> for the first time 第一次 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> belong to 属于 | <input type="checkbox"/> boldly <i>adv.</i> 大胆地 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> granddaughter <i>n.</i> 孙女 | <input type="checkbox"/> enter <i>v.</i> 进入 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> immediately <i>adv.</i> 立刻, 马上 | |

A

根据故事内容判断正误，正确的选T，错误的选F。

- ① Beth and Amy were invited to a New Year's party at Sallie Gardiner's house. T F
- ② Jo met Laurie when they both hid in a room at the party. T F
- ③ Jo's dress had a burn and a hole in the back. T F
- ④ Laurie offered the girls a ride home in his father's car. T F
- ⑤ Mr. Laurence bought a small piano for Beth. T F

B

根据故事内容，将下列句子重新排序。

- ① Jo met Grandfather Laurence in the library.
- ② Beth began to go over to the Laurences' to play the piano.
- ③ Jo went to visit Laurie.
- ④ Laurie opened his window and talked to Jo.
- ⑤ Beth sewed Mr. Laurence a new pair of slippers.

_____ ⇒ _____ ⇒ _____ ⇒ _____ ⇒ _____

答案

A ① F ② T ③ T ④ F ⑤ F

B ② ⇒ ③ ⇒ ④ ⇒ ① ⇒ ⑤



C 写出划线词语的反义词。

❶ Beth was too bold to go to school.

⇒ _____

❷ Their father had earned his money helping a friend.

⇒ _____

❸ But another shy person was seeking in there.

⇒ _____

D 选择正确的答案。

❶ How did Laurie know so much about each of the March girls?

(a) Because he had known them for a long time.

(b) Because sometimes at night they forgot to close their curtains, and he would watch them.

(c) Because he researched their background information.

❷ What did Mr. Laurence do to have Beth come to visit?

(a) He allowed the girls to enjoy the books in his library.

(b) He had parties and invited the girls.

(c) He suggested the girls should come over and play the piano.

答案

C ❶ shy ❷ lost ❸ hiding

D ❶ (b) ❷ (c)

Amy's Accident & Meg's Parties

埃米的意外和梅格的舞会



One afternoon, Meg and Jo were getting ready to go out.

"Where are you going?" asked Amy. "I want to come along."

"You weren't invited," said Meg. "You can't come."

"You're going somewhere with Laurie," said Amy.

"That's right," said Jo. "Now stop bothering us."

"You're going to the theater," cried Amy. "I want to go, too!"

"We could take her with us," said Meg.

"No," said Jo. "Laurie invited just two of us."

KEY WORDS

- ☐ get ready to 做好准备
- ☐ come along 跟随
- ☐ somewhere *adv.* 某处

- ☐ bother *v.* 烦扰
- ☐ theater *n.* 剧院

“But Meg says I can go!” cried Amy.

“You just stay in the house!” said Jo angrily.

“You’ll be sorry for this, Jo March!” Amy shouted as the older girls left the house.

Jo and Meg enjoyed themselves at the theater with Laurie. But Jo couldn’t stop wondering what Amy would do to make her sorry.



KEY WORDS

□ angrily *adv.* 生气地

□ be sorry for 为……后悔

The next afternoon, Jo found out when she looked for her notebook of stories.

“Has anyone seen my notebook?” she asked.

Meg and Beth said, “No,” but Amy was silent.

“Amy, where is it?” Jo asked.

“You’re never going to see it again because I burned it!”



KEY WORDS

□ find out 发现

□ look for 寻找

Jo's face turned pale. "I worked so hard writing those stories."

"I said you'd be sorry, and now you are," shouted Amy.

Jo grabbed her shoulders and shook her.

"You are a wicked, wicked little girl!" Joe cried. "I'll never forgive you!"

When Mrs. March came home and heard the story, she said to Amy, "How could you do that? Those were stories Jo hoped to get printed in the newspaper."

Amy realized what a terrible thing she had done and started to cry. Later, she begged Jo to forgive her. But Jo answered, "I'll never forgive you!"

KEY WORDS

☐ grab v. 抓住

☐ shake v. 摇晃

(shake-shook-shaken)

☐ wicked adj. 坏的, 邪恶的

☐ forgive v. 原谅

(forgive-forgave-forgiven)

☐ realize v. 意识到

☐ beg v. 请求, 哀求

The next day, Jo went out to skate with Laurie. Meg told Amy to follow Jo and do something nice while she was in a good mood. So Amy went to the river and started skating, too. Jo turned away when she saw her.

"The ice in the middle isn't safe!" called Laurie. "Stay near the edge."

Jo heard the warning, but Amy didn't. She skated to the middle of the river.

Suddenly, the ice cracked. Amy fell through the ice with a loud cry. Then Laurie quickly skated past Jo. She tried to call to Laurie, but her voice was gone. "Bring a large piece of wood!" Laurie shouted. Jo got the wood and pushed it across the ice while Laurie held Amy's head above the water. They pulled her out and quickly took the frightened girl home.

KEY WORDS

- ☐ skate *v.* 溜冰
- ☐ follow *v.* 跟着
- ☐ in a good mood 心情好
- ☐ safe *adj.* 安全的
- ☐ edge *n.* 边缘

- ☐ warning *n.* 警告
- ☐ crack *v.* 破裂
- ☐ be gone 消失了
- ☐ pull out 拉出来



Mother wrapped Amy in blankets. She soon fell asleep. Then Jo asked her mother, "Are you sure she'll be okay?"

"Yes, it's a good thing you got her home so quickly."



KEY WORDS

□ wrap v. 包裹, 裹住
□ blanket n. 毯子

□ fall asleep 睡着

"Thanks to Laurie. Oh, it's my fault! I lose my temper so easily. Why can't I be more like you?"

"I get angry every day," said Mrs. March. "But I've learned to hide it. I don't allow all of those angry words to leave my lips. You'll learn to do the same one day."

Jo began to cry. This made Amy open her eyes and smile. Her smile hit Jo straight in the heart. They hugged one another. Everything was forgiven and forgotten.

KEY WORDS

- ☐ thanks to 多亏
- ☐ fault *n.* 过错
- ☐ lose one's temper 发脾气
- ☐ allow *v.* 允许
- ☐ lip *n.* 嘴唇
- ☐ hit *v.* 击中
(hit-hit-hit)

- ☐ straight *adv.* 直接地
- ☐ hug *v.* 拥抱
- ☐ one another 相互
- ☐ forget *v.* 忘记
(forget-forgot-forgotten)

In April, Meg accepted Annie Moffat's invitation to stay at her large house. There, the more time Meg spent admiring Annie's pretty things, the more she wished she could be rich.

Then came the evening of a party. While the girls were getting ready, a box of flowers arrived.

"These are for Miss March," said the servant. "There's a letter, too."

"How exciting!" said the girls. "Who are they from?"

"The letter is from my mother, and the flowers are from Laurie," Meg answered.

"Really?" Annie said with a strange look.



KEY WORDS

☐ admire *v.* 羡慕, 欣赏
☐ be from 来自

☐ strange *adj.* 奇怪的
☐ look *n.* 表情



At the party, Meg was asked to sing, and everyone said she had a beautiful voice. But then, while she was standing on the other side of a large table of flowers, she heard Annie Moffat and her older sister Belle gossiping about her.

KEY WORDS

□ on the other side of 在……的另一边 □ gossip about 说闲话

"It would be good for one of these poor March girls to marry young Laurence. He's very rich," said Annie.

"I think Mrs. March is probably planning something like that," said Belle.

Meg felt terrible about what she had heard. She cried silently to herself.

The next day, Belle offered to lend Meg a dress for Thursday. Meg tried to refuse it, but she couldn't. On that day, Belle painted Meg's lips and helped her into a beautiful, sky blue dress. Meg was shocked when she saw herself in the mirror because the neckline of the dress was cut so low.

KEY WORDS

- ☐ marry *v.* 和……结婚
- ☐ probably *adv.* 大概
- ☐ plan *v.* 计划
- ☐ lend *v.* 借给
(lend-lent-lent)
- ☐ refuse *v.* 拒绝
- ☐ paint *v.* 涂(唇膏)

- ☐ sky blue 天蓝色的
- ☐ shocked *adj.* 震惊的
- ☐ mirror *n.* 镜子
- ☐ neckline *n.* (女装的)领口
- ☐ uncomfortable *adj.* 不舒适的
- ☐ at first 一开始
- ☐ introduce *v.* 介绍

Meg felt uncomfortable in such fine clothes at first. But she soon found that people who usually didn't speak to her were suddenly very interested. Many young men were asking to be introduced to her.



One Point Lesson

It would be good for one of these poor March girls to marry young Laurence. 对这些贫穷的马齐家女孩来说，要是她们中的一个能和年轻的劳伦斯结婚，会是挺不错的事。

It is + 形容词 + for sb. + to do: 对某人来说，做……很……；it为形式主语，真正的主语为后面的动词不定式

e.g. It is difficult for me to understand the idea.
对我来说，要理解这个想法很困难。



Meg spotted Laurie across the room. He was staring at her unhappily. When she walked up to Laurie, she saw Belle and Annie watching and smiling at her.

"I'm so happy you came," Meg said in her most mature voice.

"Jo asked me to come and tell her how you looked."

"What are you going to say?" Meg asked.

KEY WORDS

- ☐ spot v. 看见
- ☐ stare at 盯着看

- ☐ mature adj. 成熟的

"That you look so different that I didn't recognize you."

"The girls wanted to dress me up. Don't you like it?"

"No, I don't," he replied coolly.

This made Meg angry, "Then I won't stay with you!"

Later at dinner, Meg drank a lot of wine with some boys. Laurie warned her, "You're going to be sick tomorrow if you drink too much."

But Meg kept drinking and dancing and laughing. On the following day, Meg was very sick.

When she returned home on Saturday, she told her mother and Jo about the fancy dress she had worn and all the wine she had drunk. She told the story as if it was funny, but her face looked worried by the end.

KEY WORDS

- ☐ recognize *v.* 认出
- ☐ dress up 盛装打扮
- ☐ coolly *adv.* 冷淡地
- ☐ drink *v.* 喝酒
(drink-drunk-drunk)

- ☐ return *v.* 返回
- ☐ fancy *adj.* 华丽的
- ☐ as if 好像
- ☐ funny *adj.* 有趣的, 滑稽的

“Is there something you’re not telling us?” asked Mother.

Meg’s cheeks became red.

“I hate those people for the terrible things they said about us and Laurie!” she said. Then she told them about the gossip she had overheard.



KEY WORDS

□ cheek *n.* 脸颊

□ hate *v.* 讨厌, 憎恨

□ overhear *v.* 无意中听到

(overhear-overheard-overheard)

"That's garbage!" cried Jo. "Laurie will laugh when I tell him about the plans."

"No, you must never repeat that wicked gossip," Mother said to Jo.

"Do you have plans?" Meg asked Mother.

"All mothers have plans, my dear. But mine are different from what the Moffats think. I want my daughters to be loved, and I want them to be respected by the community. I'd rather you be poor if it means you have a peaceful life. Your father and I will always be proud of you, whether you get married or stay single."

"We will make you proud of us," said Meg and Jo together.

KEY WORDS

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> garbage <i>n.</i> 无聊的话, 废话 | <input type="checkbox"/> mean <i>v.</i> 意味着
(mean-meant-meant) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> repeat <i>v.</i> 重复 | <input type="checkbox"/> peaceful <i>adj.</i> 平静的 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> be different from 和……不同 | <input type="checkbox"/> whether...or 不管……还是…… |
| <input type="checkbox"/> respect <i>v.</i> 尊重 | <input type="checkbox"/> single <i>adj.</i> 单身的 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> community <i>n.</i> 社区 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> would rather 宁愿 | |

A 下面的话分别是谁说的?



Mrs. March



Jo



Amy



Laurie

- ① You'll be sorry for this, Jo March! _____
- ② The ice in the middle isn't safe! _____
- ③ I lose my temper so easily. _____
- ④ I'll never forgive you. _____
- ⑤ I get angry every day, but I've learned to hide it. _____

B 选择适当的词填空。

bothering uncomfortable warned gossip recognize

- ① "Now stop _____ us!" said Jo.
- ② You must never repeat that wicked _____.
- ③ Meg felt _____ in such fine clothes at first.
- ④ You look so different that I didn't _____ you.
- ⑤ Meg drank a lot of wine, so Laurie _____ her.

答案

A ① Amy ② Laurie ③ Jo ④ Jo ⑤ Mrs. March

B ① bothering ② gossip ③ uncomfortable ④ recognize ⑤ warned

C 选择正确的答案。

- ❶ What did Amy do to make Jo sorry?
(a) She burned a hole in Jo's dress.
(b) She burned Jo's story notebook.
(c) She pushed Jo through a hole in the ice.
- ❷ How did Laurie and Jo save Amy after she crashed through the ice?
(a) They called the police.
(b) They jumped in the water and helped her swim.
(c) They pulled her out with a piece of wood.

D 选出用词正确的句子。

- ❶ (a) Those were stories Jo hoped to get printed in the newspaper.
(b) I'll never be able to get printed with you.
- ❷ (a) Meg spoke* in her most spotted voice.
(b) Meg spotted Laurie across the room.
- ❸ (a) Many young men were wondering to be introduced to Meg.
(b) Jo couldn't stop wondering what Amy would do to make her sorry.

答案

- C ❶ (b) ❷ (c)
D ❶ (a) ❷ (b) ❸ (b)

Puritan Lessons in American Literature

美国文学作品中的清教徒教义

Mr. March, the father of the main characters in *Little Women* is a very religious man. He was once wealthy, but because of his religious beliefs, he loses most of his money by helping friends. This is why the little women grow up in poverty. Their father's religion leads him to leave the family and serve as a chaplain in the Union Army during the Civil War. Mr. March is a Puritan, a type of Christian who is very strict in leading a moral life.



《小妇人》主角们的父亲马奇先生是一位很虔诚的教徒。他曾经很富有，不过出于他的宗教信仰，他为了帮助朋友们而损失了大部分的钱，因此小妇人们是在贫困中长大的。马奇先生的信仰还促使他在美国内战时离开家，到联邦军队中当了一位牧师。他是一名清教徒，属于基督教徒的一种，主张严格的合乎道德的生活方式。

Puritans strongly believe that each individual should continually fight off any temptation of sin. According to the Puritans, life is a test. In the novel *Little Women* this idea is a constant theme. Each of



the little women has some flaw: Meg is greedy; Jo has a short temper; Beth is painfully shy; and Amy is selfish. The girls overcome their flaws through difficult lessons learned by living a simple life. These Puritan ideals are commonly found in many other works in American literature. Many American stories focus on characters who must make choices in life. Lessons are learned the hard way and the main characters become better people morally after learning these lessons.

清教徒们坚信，每个人都应不断地抵制罪恶的诱惑。在清教徒看来，生活就是一场考验，这种思想贯穿在小说《小妇人》中。每个小妇人都有性格上的缺陷：梅格贪心，乔脾气暴躁，贝丝过于内向，艾米则自私。简朴的生活让女孩们吃了不少苦头，帮助她们克服了自身的缺陷。这些清教主义的信念在美国文学作品中比比皆是。许多美国小说着重于描写必须在生活中做出抉择的人物角色。主人公们克服重重困难，吸取了经验教训，从而成为了道德上更高尚的人。



The Hardest Days

最艰苦的日子

One afternoon in October, Jo took the bus into town. From the bus stop, she walked up to a building on a busy street. She was so nervous that she ran in and out of the building several times. On the fourth time, she finally walked up the stairs. Ten minutes later, she came out. Laurie, who happened to see her from the beginning, was waiting for her.

“What are you doing here?” she asked, surprised.

“I’m waiting for you. I have a secret to tell you. But first tell me yours,” he said.

KEY WORDS

- ☐ bus stop 公共汽车站
- ☐ nervous *adj.* 紧张的
- ☐ finally *adv.* 最后
- ☐ stairs *n.(pl.)* 楼梯

- ☐ happen to 碰巧
- ☐ from the beginning 从一开始
- ☐ secret *n.* 秘密



“Okay, but don’t tell anybody. I’ve given two of my stories to the newspaper. I’ll find out next week if they’ll be printed.”

“Jo March, the famous writer!” Laurie said excitedly. Jo was happy. “What’s your secret?”

“Do you remember the glove that Meg lost at the picnic last summer? Well, I know who has it,” smiled Laurie.

KEY WORDS

☐ famous *adj.* 著名的
☐ writer *n.* 作家

☐ glove *n.* 手套
☐ picnic *n.* 野餐



Laurie whispered a name in Jo's ear. She looked displeased.

"I saw it in his pocket. But remember that you mustn't tell anyone."

"I didn't promise not to tell," said Jo.

"Aren't you pleased?" asked Laurie.

"The idea of someone taking Meg away doesn't please me," Jo said seriously.

Two Saturdays later, Meg saw Laurie chasing Jo all over the garden. Then the two of them fell on the grass. They were laughing, and Jo was waving around a newspaper.

KEY WORDS

- ☐ whisper *v.* 耳语, 小声说
- ☐ displeased *adj.* 不高兴的
- ☐ pocket *n.* 口袋
- ☐ promise *v.* 答应, 承诺

- ☐ seriously *adv.* 严肃地
- ☐ chase *v.* 追赶
- ☐ grass *n.* 草地
- ☐ wave around 挥舞

Jo brought the newspaper into the house and began to read it.

"Is there anything interesting in the paper?" asked Meg.

"Just a story," said Jo.

"Read it aloud," said Amy. "It might be funny."

Jo read it very quickly. It was a story about two lovers named Viola and Angelo. Most of the characters died in the end, but the girls enjoyed it. Meg even cried during the sad parts.



KEY WORDS

☐ aloud *adv.* 出声地, 大声地
☐ lover *n.* 情人

☐ character *n.* 角色, 人物
☐ in the end 最后

"Who wrote it?" asked Beth.

Jo's eyes were bright and shining.

"I did," she said.

Meg was surprised, "You?"

"It's wonderful," said Amy.

"I knew it was yours," cried Beth. She hugged Jo and said, "Oh, I'm so proud."

Mrs. March was also very proud when they told her about the story. That evening, there was no happier or prouder family than the Marches.



KEY WORDS

- ☐ shining *adj.* 闪耀的, 闪亮的
- ☐ dull *adj.* (天气) 阴沉的
- ☐ hurry into 匆匆走进
- ☐ telegram *n.* 电报

- ☐ drop *v.* 掉, 落
- ☐ floor *n.* 地面
- ☐ pick up 拾起
- ☐ at once 立即, 马上

It was a dull November afternoon, and Mrs. March and the girls were sitting with Laurie. Suddenly, Hannah hurried into the room with a telegram. Mrs. March read it and dropped it to the floor. Her hands were shaking, and her face was white. Jo picked it up and read it to the others in a frightened voice.

*Mrs. March,
Your husband is very sick.
Come to Blank Hospital at once.*

Dr. Hale



The girls cried together while Hannah prepared Mrs. March's things for the long trip.

"How can I help?" asked Laurie.

"Please send a telegram to tell the doctor that I'm coming as soon as possible," said Mrs. March. "The next train leaves early in the morning. Jo, give me a pen and paper. I must write Aunt March a note asking to borrow some money for the journey."

Mr. Brooke came to their house as they were busy helping their mother prepare.



KEY WORDS

- ☐ prepare v. 准备
- ☐ borrow v. 借入

- ☐ journey n. 旅行

"I'm sorry to hear the bad news," Mr. Brooke said gently. "Mr. Laurence thinks it would be a good idea if I travel with Mrs. March."

"How kind!" Meg said. "I'd be happy to know there is someone to take care of Mother. Thank you so much," she said, holding his hand and looking into his warm, brown eyes.



KEY WORDS

- ☐ gently adv. 温和地, 轻柔地
- ☐ look into 凝视
- ☐ take care of 照顾



Jo went out to buy something and returned late in the afternoon. Then she gave her mother some money.

“That’s to help make Father well and to bring him home.”

“Twenty-five dollars!” said Mrs. March. “How did you get this?”

Jo took off her hat.

KEY WORDS

□ well *adj.* 健康的

□ take off 摘下

"Where is your beautiful hair?" cried Amy.

All of Jo's thick hair was cut off. She had sold her hair to a wig-maker.

All of the women began to cry at Jo's sacrifice.

"Don't cry," said Jo. "I really wanted to help. And it will grow back soon. In the meantime, it'll be easier to keep tidy."

But that night the other girls heard Jo crying a little bit.

"The selfish part of me is making me cry for my hair," said Jo. "I'll be all right in the morning."



KEY WORDS

- ☐ thick *adj.* (头发) 浓密的
- ☐ cut off 剪掉
- ☐ sell *v.* 卖掉
(sell-sold-sold)
- ☐ wig-maker *n.* 做假发的人

- ☐ sacrifice *n.* 牺牲, 付出
- ☐ in the meantime 与此同时
- ☐ tidy *adj.* 整洁的
- ☐ a little bit 一小会儿
- ☐ selfish *adj.* 自私的



While Mother and Mr. Brooke were away, Meg and Jo went back to their jobs. Beth and Amy helped Hannah keep the house clean. Everyone tried very hard to work, be good, and be helpful.

When news of their father first came, it said that he was dangerously ill but slowly starting to get better.

Ten days after Mother left, Beth came home late one night. She had been visiting Mrs. Hummel's sick baby at their house. She went straight into Mother's room and closed the door.

KEY WORDS

☐ go back to 回到, 继续

☐ get better 好转

Half an hour later, Jo came in. Beth looked very sick.

"What's wrong with you?" asked Jo.

Beth put her hand out to keep her away.

"You've had scarlet fever before, haven't you?" she said.

"Yes, years ago Meg and I both got it," Jo answered. "But why do you ask that?"



KEY WORDS

□ put out 伸出

□ scarlet fever 猩红热



“Oh, Jo,” cried Beth, “Mrs. Hummel was out, and her baby died in my arms.”

Jo put her arms around Beth, “Oh, how terrible! What did you do?”

“I just held it until Mrs. Hummel returned with the doctor. Her children Heinrich and Minna were getting sick, too. The doctor said it was scarlet fever. He told me to come home and take medicine quickly, or I’ll catch it, too.”

KEY WORDS

□ take medicine 吃药

□ catch v. 感染 (疾病)
(catch-caught-caught)

"I'll get Hannah," said Jo.

"Don't let Amy come up here," said Beth. "She hasn't had scarlet fever, and I don't want to give it to her."

Later they sent Amy to stay with Aunt March for her protection. As Beth became sicker, everyone worried about her. They decided not to tell Mrs. March about her in their letters. Beth's sickness became so bad that she didn't know who Jo was, and she called out for her mother.

KEY WORDS

- ☐ protection *n.* 保护
- ☐ as *conj.* 随着

- ☐ decide *v.* 决定

The girls got a letter from Mother saying that Father had gotten worse, so she wouldn't come home for a long time. The girls worked hard while the shadow of death was over their house. Meg began to understand that she had been rich in the truly important things, such as love, peace, and good health. Jo thought about how unselfish Beth was and that she had always lived for others. Amy was sad and lonely at Aunt March's house and just wanted to help Beth.

On December 1st, the doctor came to see Beth. He looked at her and quietly said, "I think someone should tell Mrs. March to come home now."

KEY WORDS

- ☐ get worse 恶化
- ☐ shadow *n.* 阴影
- ☐ death *n.* 死亡
- ☐ be rich in 大量拥有, 富有

- ☐ truly *adv.* 真正地
- ☐ important *adj.* 重要的
- ☐ such as 例如, 比如

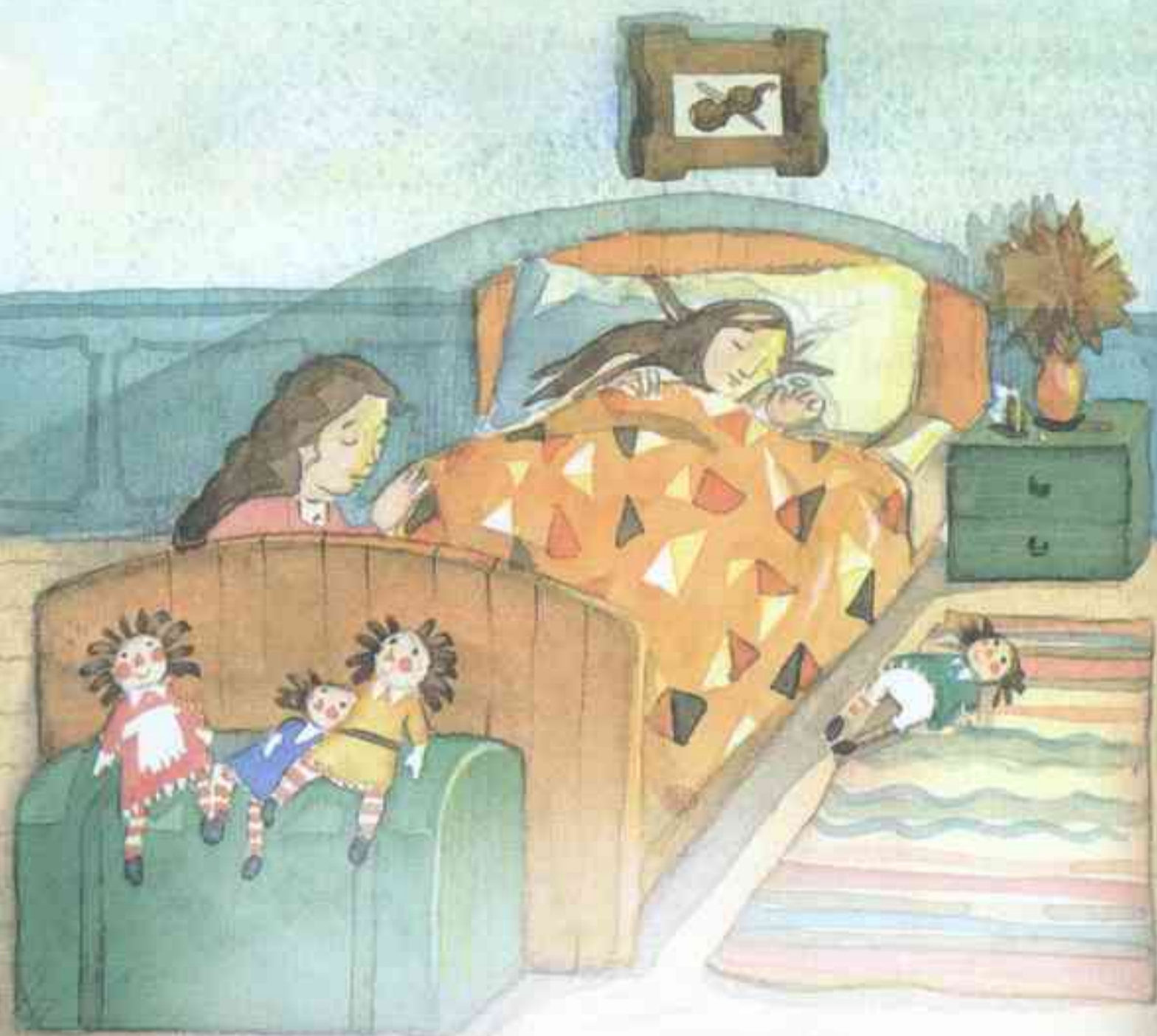


Jo ran out into the snow to send a telegram. When she got back, Laurie brought a letter from Mr. Brooke that said Mr. March was getting better again.

Jo did not seem to be happy at this good news and then began to cry, "Beth doesn't recognize us anymore. I sent a telegram to Mother."

Laurie held her hand and said, "Don't worry. Mr. Brooke said that your mother would be back tonight and would take care of everything."

Jo hugged Laurie.



KEY WORDS

- not...anymore 不再
- rest *n.* 剩余部分

- change *n.* 变化

For the rest of the day, the hours went slowly. The doctor said a change, for better or for worse, would come very soon. No one was able to sleep while they waited.

At two o'clock Jo stood at the window while Laurie went to the station to get Mrs. March. She turned to see Meg kneeling by Beth's bed. She feared that Beth was dead. She ran to the bed.



KEY WORDS

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> for better or for worse 不论好坏 | <input type="checkbox"/> kneel v. 跪着
(kneel-knelt-knelt) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> be able to 能够 | <input type="checkbox"/> fear v. 害怕 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> station n. 火车站 | |

There was a change. Beth's fever was gone. The color was coming back to her cheeks. Meg and Jo hugged each other. They were too happy to speak. Then they heard the door open, and Laurie shouted, "She's here! She's here!"

When Beth woke up, she saw her mother's face and smiled. Mrs. March held her little hand. Hannah made breakfast for everyone while Mother told the girls about their father's recovery. Mr. Brooke was still with him and had promised to stay until he was better.



KEY WORDS

- ☐ color *n.* 颜色
- ☐ each other 互相
- ☐ wake up 苏醒

- ☐ recovery *n.* 恢复, 康复
- ☐ until *conj.* 直到……为止



At Aunt March's house, Amy was beginning to write a letter to her mother, but when she looked out the window, she saw her mother coming toward the house. Amy was so happy to see her.

"Everyone loves Beth because she's unselfish," said Amy. "If I was sick, people wouldn't feel so bad for me. I'm going to try to be more like Beth."

That night, Jo spoke with her mother. "I want to tell you something," she said.

"Is it about Meg?" asked Mrs. March.

"Yes, you guessed so easily," remarked Jo. She told all about Meg's lost glove.

"Do you think Meg might be interested in John?" Mother asked.

"Who is John?" asked Jo.

"Mr. Brooke . . . John Brooke," said Mother. "I began calling him John because we became good friends at the hospital."

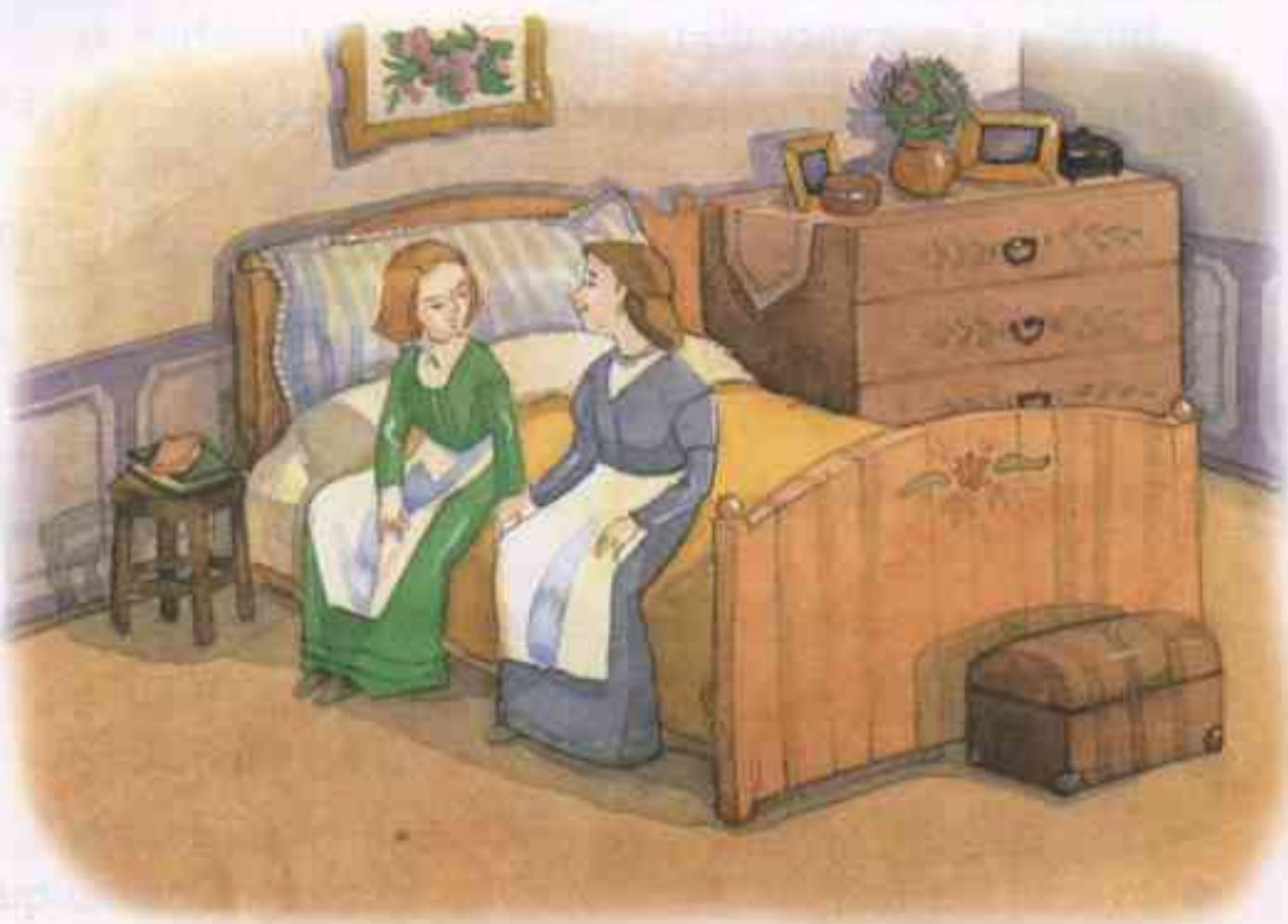
"Oh my!" exclaimed Jo. "He helped you take care of Father, and now you're going to give Meg to him if he wants her."

KEY WORDS

- ☐ guess v. 猜, 猜中
- ☐ remark v. 说

- ☐ exclaim v. 惊叫

“Don’t be angry,” said Mother. “John told us that he loves Meg. He said he would save enough money to buy a comfortable house before he asks her to marry him. But Father and I decided that we don’t want her to marry until she’s at least twenty.”



KEY WORDS

□ save v. 攒 (钱)

□ at least 至少

你读懂了多少

A

根据故事内容判断正误，正确的选T，错误的选F。

- ① Laurie's secret was that he knew who had the glove Meg lost at the picnic. T F
- ② The newspaper refused to print Jo's stories. T F
- ③ Mrs. March received a telegram that her husband was very ill. T F
- ④ Mrs. March went to her husband to take care of him. T F
- ⑤ Meg didn't want to marry until she was twenty. T F

B

将下列两栏相关的内容连线。

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| ① All of the women began to cry | • ③ for her mother's journey. |
| ② They sent Amy to stay with Aunt March | • ⑥ to get Mrs. March. |
| ③ Jo sold her hair to get money | • ④ to take medicine quickly. |
| ④ Laurie went to the station | • ⑤ at Jo's sacrifice. |
| ⑤ The doctor told Beth | • ② for her protection. |

答案

A ① T ② F ③ T ④ T ⑤ F

B ① - ③ ② - ⑥ ③ - ④ ④ - ⑤ ⑤ - ②

C 选择适当的词填空。

telegram several recovery unselfish

- ① She was so nervous that she ran in and out of the building _____ times.
- ② Suddenly, Hannah hurried into the room with a _____.
- ③ Jo thought about how _____ Beth was.
- ④ Mother told the girls about their father's _____.

D 根据故事内容，将下列句子重新排序。

- ① Beth didn't know who her family was any more.
- ② Beth told Jo that Mrs. Hummel's baby died in Beth's arms.
- ③ Beth came home and went straight upstairs to her mother's room.
- ④ Jo feared Beth was dead.
- ⑤ The doctor said someone should tell Mrs. March to come home.

_____ ⇨ _____ ⇨ _____ ⇨ _____ ⇨ _____

答案

C ①several ②telegram ③unselfish ④recovery

D ⑤⇨①⇨③⇨④⇨②



Together Again!

重聚

Christmas Day that year was very different from the year before. Beth was feeling better. She looked out the window at a snowman Laurie and Jo had made for her. In the snowman's hands were a basket of fruit, flowers, and a new piece of music. Laurie brought in the presents, and Jo sang a silly song.

"I'm so happy!" said Beth. "I wish Father was here."

Half an hour later, Laurie opened the front door and said, "Here's another Christmas gift for the March family!"

KEY WORDS

- ☐ snowman *n.* 雪人
- ☐ music *n.* 乐谱

- ☐ silly *adj.* 可笑的

Then two tall men appeared. One of the men was leaning on the other man's arm.

Beth came running through the door and leapt into her father's arms.

"Father!" cried Meg and Jo.

Mr. March was covered in hugs and kisses. In the confusion, Mr. Brooke and Meg accidentally kissed.



KEY WORDS

- lean v. 靠, 倚
- leap v. 跳
(leap-leapt-leapt)

- be covered in 被……覆盖
- confusion n. 混乱
- accidentally adv. 意外地

When all the excitement calmed down, Mrs. March thanked Mr. Brooke for helping her husband.

Later, Mr. Laurence, Laurie, and Mr. Brooke came over to the March's house again, and they all had Christmas dinner together.

"A year ago we were complaining about Christmas," said Jo.

"It's been a wonderful year," said Meg, who was thinking about John Brooke.

"It was a hard one, too," said Amy. "I'm glad it's over since Father's back now."

"I've learned a few things about you ladies today," said Mr. March.

"Oh, tell us," cried Meg.

Mr. March took Meg's hand, "Here's one. Look

KEY WORDS

- ☐ calm down 平静下来
- ☐ thank...for 为……感谢……
- ☐ callus *n.* 茧子

- ☐ smooth *adj.* 光滑的
- ☐ hardworking *adj.* 勤劳的

at the small burn on the back and the calluses on the front. I can remember when this hand was smooth and white. But now this is a pretty, hard-working hand. I'm proud of you, Meg."



One Point Lesson

I'm glad it's over **since** Father's back now.
我很高兴一切都结束了，因为现在父亲回来了。

since: ①因为 ②从……开始

e.g. I didn't do my homework **since** I was sick. 我没做功课，因为我生病了。

I've been wearing glasses **since** I was ten. 我从10岁起就一直戴眼镜。



“What about Jo?” asked Beth. “She’s tried very hard, too.”

Mr. March smiled at Jo. “Her hair may be short, but I can see a young lady now. I’ll miss my wild girl, but I’ll love the kind and gentle woman who’s taken her place.”

KEY WORDS

- miss v. 想念
- wild adj. 缺乏管教的

- take one's place 取代某人

Jo blushed, and Amy said, "Now Beth!"

"Beth's not so shy any more." Then he looked at Amy, "And I've noticed Amy helps others more. She's learned to think about others and less about herself."

Beth went to the piano and began to play. Soon everyone began to sing a happy Christmas song together.

It was the next afternoon, and Laurie and Jo were teasing Meg about how she would answer Mr. Brooke when he asked her to marry him.

"When he asks you, you'll cry or act stupidly instead of saying no," said Jo.

"No, I won't," said Meg. "I'll say, 'Thank you, Mr. Brooke, but I'm too young to get married.'"

"I don't believe it," said Jo.

KEY WORDS

□ less *adv.* 更少

□ tease *v.* 逗, 取笑

□ stupidly *adv.* 不知所措地

□ instead of 而不是

Suddenly, there was a knock at the door. It was Mr. Brooke.

"I left my umbrella here yesterday," he said.

Meg moved toward the door.

"I'm sure Mother will want to see you. Let me get her."

"Meg, don't run away from me," said Mr. Brooke. "Are you afraid of me?"

"How could I be afraid of you when you've been so good to Father?" Meg answered.

Then he took Meg's hand. "I just want to know if you love me a little. I love you so much."

This was the moment to repeat the response she had told Jo. But instead, she answered softly, "I don't know. I'm too young . . ."

"I'll wait until you learn to like me," he said. "Will it be difficult?"

"Not if I choose to learn," she said.

KEY WORDS

□ umbrella *n.* 伞

□ response *n.* 答复

□ softly *adv.* 轻轻地

□ choose *v.* 选择

(choose-chose-chosen)

□ annoyed *adj.* 恼怒的, 生气的



“Please choose to, Meg,” he said. “I can teach you. It will be easier than teaching Laurie.”

At that moment, Meg felt annoyed because he was smiling.

“I don’t choose!” she said, “Please go away!”

“I hope you will have some time to think. I’ll wait,” Mr. Brooke said.

Now Meg felt bad to see him so sad as he left the room.

One Point Lesson

I just want to know **if** you love me a little.
我只是想知道你是不是有一点爱我。

if: ①如果 ②是否

e.g. I will marry him **if** he loves me. 如果他爱我，我会嫁给他。

I wonder **if** he loves me or not. 我想知道他是否爱我。

Then Aunt March came in. "What is all this?" she cried.

"He's just a friend of my father's," Meg said nervously. "Mr. Brooke and I were just. . ."

"Mr. Brooke, the Laurence boy's tutor? He just wants to marry you to get some of my money! Well, he won't get one bit of it!"



It was the worst thing she could have said to Meg.

"Aunt March, I'll marry whomever I want, and you can keep your money! We won't need it!" shouted Meg.

"You'll regret this!" shouted Aunt March. "You should marry a rich boy and help your family!"

"Don't say that!" shouted Meg. "My John wouldn't marry for money. We'll work hard and save our own money! I'll be happy with him because he loves me!"

Aunt March was very angry and stormed out of the room. Meg didn't know whether to laugh or cry.

KEY WORDS

- ☐ whomever *pron.* 无论谁
- ☐ regret *v.* 后悔

- ☐ one's own 自己的
- ☐ storm out of 气呼呼地冲出

Mr. Brooke came back from the other room and put his arms around her.

"Oh, Meg, you do love me! I heard everything you said!"

Jo came back and found them together. Mr. Brooke laughed and kissed Jo on the cheek and said, "Oh, Sister Jo, wish us luck!"

That night, everyone ate dinner together. Laurie brought some flowers for "Mrs. John Brooke." When he saw Jo, he said, "What's the matter? You look sad."

"Nothing will ever be the same again," Jo said. "I've lost my dearest friend."

"You've got me," said Laurie. "I'll always be your friend. I'll come back from university in three years, and we'll take a trip together."

KEY WORDS

□ wish sb. luck 祝某人好运

□ university *n.* 大学

Jo looked around the room. Mother and Father sat happily together. Amy was drawing a picture of John and Meg. Beth was talking to her old friend, Mr. Laurence. Jo and Laurie smiled at one another and dreamed about their future.



KEY WORDS

□ look around 环顾四周
□ dream v. 想象, 梦想

□ future n. 未来

你读懂了多少

A 将下列两栏相关的内容连线。

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| ① I just want to know . | • ③ and help your family. |
| ② I can remember .
when this hand | • ④ was smooth and white. |
| ③ A year ago we were . | • ⑤ if you love me a little. |
| ④ You should marry a .
rich boy | • ⑥ complaining about
Christmas. |
| ⑤ Mrs. March thanked .
Mr. Brooke | • ⑦ for helping her husband. |

B 根据故事内容判断正误，正确的选T，错误的选F。

- | | |
|---|---|
| ① Christmas Day was the same as the year before. | <input type="checkbox"/> T <input type="checkbox"/> F |
| ② Meg repeated the answer that she had told Jo. | <input type="checkbox"/> T <input type="checkbox"/> F |
| ③ On Christmas Day, Mr. March arrived home. | <input type="checkbox"/> T <input type="checkbox"/> F |
| ④ Laurie and Jo never teased Meg. | <input type="checkbox"/> T <input type="checkbox"/> F |
| ⑤ Aunt March thought Meg and John Brooke
should get married. | <input type="checkbox"/> T <input type="checkbox"/> F |

答案

- A ①-③ ②-④ ③-⑤ ④-⑥ ⑤-⑦
B ① F ② F ③ T ④ F ⑤ F





译文

第1章 四姐妹

p. 4-5

“没有礼物，圣诞节完全不一样了。”乔抱怨道。

“对啊，贫穷真是一件可怕的事情。”梅格看着自己的旧裙子附和道。

“这不公平。有的女孩很有钱，要什么有什么，而有的女孩却什么都没有。”小埃米也说。

“不过，我们有母亲、父亲，还有大家。”贝丝说。她总是尽量向好的方面看。

四个女孩围坐在火炉边，想到这儿都高兴了起来。

“但现在父亲不在家，”乔难过地说，“而且之后很长一段时间他都不会在家。”大家沉默了，开始为离家在外的父亲担心。他正在美国内战中作战。

“母亲说，男人们在打仗，我们却把钱浪费在礼物上是不对的。”梅格说。



p. 6-7

“可是我们每人只有一块钱，”乔说，“四块钱帮不了军队什么忙。我们还是去买自己想要的东西吧。大家工作都非常努力才挣到这些钱的。”

“真希望我们小时候父亲损失的那些钱还在。”梅格说。

“如果我是男孩，我就和父亲一起去打仗。”乔说。

梅格今年16岁，是个美丽的姑娘，有着又圆又大的眼睛和柔软的棕发。她已长成一位窈窕淑女，时刻注意保持整洁，举止优雅。乔15岁，身材高瘦，头发总是往后梳。她的性格和梅格截然不同，本质上是一个假小子。贝丝13岁，非常害羞，似乎只生活在自己快乐的小世界里。埃米是最小的妹妹，她老觉得自己是位公主。她有着金色的卷发和水汪汪的蓝眼睛。



p. 8-9

六点不到，梅格点亮了灯，给屋子照明。贝丝在火炉前把母亲的拖鞋烘暖。乔看着拖鞋说：“它们太旧了，母亲需要一双新的。”

“用我们的钱给母亲买礼物吧。”贝丝说。

“好主意，”乔说，“我们要给她一个惊喜。”

没过一会儿，母亲马齐夫人下班到家了。

“你们的爸爸来信了。”马齐夫人激动地说。女孩们都很高兴，尤其是信的末尾父亲对她们说的话令她们开心不已。

“这是我给你们每一个的爱和亲吻。每天我都想念你们。我知道你们很孝顺母亲，我回来的时候，会为我的小女孩们感到骄傲的。”



p. 10-11

圣诞节早上，女孩们下楼后，梅格问：“母亲在哪里？”

“我想她到街上去了。”老汉娜说。她是马齐家的佣人，自乔出生后就一直住在她们家。她其实更像一位朋友。“一个可怜的女人来找她，你们母亲去帮助她了。”

这时门口传来了声响。女孩们把送给母亲的一篮礼物推回到椅子下，然后跑进饭厅，在桌边坐好，等着开早饭。

“祝母亲圣诞快乐！”女孩们一齐喊。

“圣诞快乐，孩子们！”马齐夫人说，接着她的微笑消失了，“我们的邻居赫梅尔夫人很穷，刚才又生下了一个婴儿。她的六个孩子都挤在一张床上取暖。我们何不把早餐作为圣诞礼物送给他们呢？”

p. 12-13

女孩们想了想。

“幸亏您在我们开吃之前就回来了。”乔说。然后女孩们便把早餐放进篮子里。

她们和汉娜一起来到了一座老房子中的一间破屋子里。她们看到一位生病的母亲、一个哇哇大哭的婴儿和一群惊恐的孩子们。汉娜用带来的木头生火，马齐夫人给了那位母亲一些茶和食物，女孩们则把孩子们领到炉火前，喂他们吃的。干完了这些，马齐家的女孩们从内心由衷地感到了做好事带来的满足和暖意。

之后，马齐夫人收到了女孩们的礼物，她非常高兴。大家互相亲吻、说笑了好一阵子。接着女孩们排练了一场乔写的戏剧，她们晚上要表演这出戏。

p. 14-15

圣诞夜时，几个朋友观看了《女巫的诅咒》的演出。四个女孩正在表演的时候，用纸糊的高大城堡倒塌了，大家大笑不止，不过女孩们还是重新把它竖了起来，继续表演。



演出结束时，大家收到了一个惊喜——一顿深夜的盛宴！其中有水果、蛋糕、冰淇淋和法国巧克力，甚至还有鲜花。女孩们简直不敢相信自己的眼睛。

“这些东西是从哪里来的？”梅格问道。

“我们富有的邻居老劳伦斯先生送的！”马齐夫人说，“他听说了你们把早餐送给了别人的事情，非常高兴。今天下午，他差人送来一张便条，说请我们接受他的款待。”

“这准是住在那里的那个男孩的主意，”乔说，“他肯定很想认识我们，不过他太害羞了。”

第2章 邻家男孩

p. 20-21

几天后，梅格拿了一张纸给乔看，是到萨莉·加德纳家参加新年舞会的邀请函。

“母亲说我们可以去，可是我们穿什么好呢？”

“我们最好的衣服就是棉布裙子，”乔说，“你的还好，但我的裙子后面有一块烫痕，还有一个小洞。”

“那你只能别让人看见你的背面了。”梅格说。

舞会那天晚上，梅格和乔去了加德纳家。梅格和萨莉·加德纳聊得很开心，但乔对这种女孩间的闲谈毫无兴趣。

乔背贴着墙站着，看着其他年轻人跳舞。当她看到一个高大的男孩向自己走来时，她连忙穿过一扇门躲进一个小房间。不过另一个害羞的人早已躲在那里，正是住在隔壁的“劳伦斯家的男孩”。



p. 22-23

“哎呀，我不知道你在这儿。”乔说。

“没关系，”男孩说，“啊，你住在我们隔壁，对吗？”

“对。”乔说。

“叫我劳里吧，”男孩说，“我喜欢舞会，但我不知道在这里是怎么开舞会的。我在欧洲住了很多年。”

“我爱听别人的旅行经历。”乔说。她问了劳里许多关于欧洲学校、假期和旅行的问题。

“打扰一下，乔，”乔和劳里谈得正高兴的时候，梅格对乔说，“我的脚踝扭伤了，不知道该怎么办回家呢。”梅格的鞋子太紧，没一会儿她就一瘸一拐的了。

劳里听了，主动提出用他祖父的马车把她们俩捎回家。她们到家后，感谢了劳里并道了晚安。乔喜欢这个男孩。



p. 24-25

第二天早上，梅格说：“坐马车回家的感觉真好，真希望我们能有多钱总能坐马车。”

“呃，我们没钱，所以我们得像母亲那样，面带微笑地工作。”乔说。

她们的父亲因为帮助一个朋友，损失了很多钱。乔和梅格知道后，便想挣钱补贴家用。梅格给四个小孩子当教师，这对她来说是很困难的工作。乔为她们的姑妈工作，可她是位爱发牢骚的老太太。

贝丝太害羞了，所以没去上学。她在家学习，帮助汉娜打理家务。她花很多时间在家里的旧钢琴上练习。虽然她付不起钢琴课的费用，但还是努力练习想成为一名更好的音乐家。埃米很有艺术天赋，长大后她想成为一名画家。



p. 26-27

一天，乔出去清扫花园的积雪。她看了看隔壁劳伦斯家的大房子，它看起来孤零零的，而且毫无生气。她正在想近来劳里在干什么，突然发现劳里

正从楼上的窗户往外看着她。

他推开窗，乔问他：“你怎么了？是生病了吗？”

“是啊，不过我现在好多了。不如你来看看我吧？”

“如果母亲允许的话，我会去的。”她说。

不久仆人来到劳里门前说：“少爷，有人来看您。”

来的是乔，带着一个小盒子和三只小猫，她说道：“梅格让我带了一些蛋糕给你，贝丝觉得你也许想和她的小猫玩玩。”



p. 28-29

“你们都那么好心，”劳里说，“贝丝就是那个待在家里的害羞女孩吗？”

“对，她是个好女孩。”乔答道。

“梅格很漂亮，埃米长着金色卷发，对吗？”劳里说。

“你怎么知道的？”乔问。

劳里不好意思地脸红了，不过他还是答道：“有时候晚上你们忘了拉窗帘，我能看到你们和母亲一起围坐在火边，玩得很高兴。我没有母亲。”

“你应该来我们家串门。”乔说。

两个人聊了一会儿，发现他们都喜欢看书。

“来我家的图书室看看吧，如果你不怕我祖父的话。”

“我谁也不怕。”乔说。

p. 30-31

在图书室里，劳伦斯家的藏书让乔大为惊奇。突然铃响了，仆人告诉劳里，医生来看他了。劳里暂时离开了一会儿。乔站在屋里，看着劳伦斯祖父的画像，大声说：“我不怕他，因为虽然他的嘴紧闭着，看起来很严厉，但他的眼睛很和善。”

“谢谢。”她身后一个低沉的嗓音说。

乔猛地转过身，发现是老劳伦斯先生。她的脸变得通红。

“你不怕我，对吗？”

“是的，先生。”

“嗯，你和我的孙子在做什么呢？”他问。

“只是想让他高兴一点罢了，他看起来很寂寞。”她回答。

他们三人一起用了茶，老劳伦斯先生察觉到劳里的心情很好。

“她是对的，”他想，“他确实需要高兴起来。”

p. 32-33

劳里和马齐家的女孩们很快成了好朋友，劳里的家庭教师布鲁克先生则抱怨自己的学生总是跑出去玩。

“让他痛快玩吧，”劳伦斯先生说，“他的学习以后会跟上来的。”

他们在一块儿编写和表演戏剧，开小型舞会，一起度过了许多愉快的夜晚。只有贝丝太害羞了，不敢去劳伦斯家的大房子。

劳伦斯先生得知后，便去对马齐夫人说，如果她的女孩子们想弹他的高级钢琴，他会很欢迎她们过来。

贝丝听他们说到钢琴，忍不住了。她用小手碰了碰劳伦斯先生的手，用发颤的声音说：“我……我很想去。”



贝丝开始每天去劳伦斯家。劳伦斯先生和仆人们都很喜欢听她弹琴。

贝丝很感激劳伦斯先生，于是她为他缝制了一双新拖鞋，把它们留在他的书房里。第二天，贝丝散步回来，母亲告诉她有一个惊喜在等着她。在客厅立着一架可爱的小钢琴，上面是给她的一封信：

亲爱的马齐小姐：

我有过很多双拖鞋，但这双是最好的。为了谢谢你，我把曾经属于我去世的小孙女的一件东西送给你。非常感谢你，我是你的好朋友。

詹姆斯·劳伦斯

害羞的小贝丝立即去向劳伦斯先生道谢。她生平第一次做了一件大胆的事，她走进他的书房，说：“我想跟您说声谢谢，先生。”然后她搂着他的脖子，亲了他一下。



第3章 埃米的意外和梅格的舞会

一天下午，梅格和乔正准备外出。

“你们去哪里？”埃米问，“我也想去。”

“你没被邀请，”梅格说，“不能来。”

“你们要和劳里一起出去吧。”埃米说。

“对，”乔说，“现在别再烦我们了。”

“你们是去看戏，”埃米叫道，“我也要去！”

“我们可以带她去。”梅格说。

“不行，”乔说，“劳里只邀请了我们俩。”

“可是梅格说我能去！”埃米嚷着。

“你就待在家里！”乔生气地说。

“你会后悔的，乔·马齐！”姐姐们出门时，埃米大叫道。

乔和梅格在剧院里和劳里度过了愉快的时光。但乔忍不住猜想埃米会做什么让她后悔的事情。



这一点，乔第二天下午在找她的故事本时便明白过来了。

“有人看到我的故事本了吗？”她问。

梅格和贝丝都说：“没有。”但埃米没出声。

“埃米，故事本在哪里？”乔问。

“你再也看不到它了，因为我已经把它烧掉了！”

乔的脸色变得苍白。“我花了这么多精力写那些故事。”

“我说过你会后悔的，现在你的确后悔了吧！”埃米大声说。

乔抓住她的肩膀，用力摇晃。

“你这个可恶至极的小女孩！”乔叫道，“我永远不会原谅你！”

马齐夫人回家后听说了这件事，对埃米说：“你怎么能这样做？那些故事

是乔希望能登在报纸上的啊。”

埃米意识到自己做了件多么可怕的事，不禁哭了起来。之后她求乔原谅她，但乔回答道：“我永远不会原谅你！”

p. 42

第二天，乔和劳里一起出去溜冰。梅格叫埃米也跟着去，等乔心情好的时候做些让她高兴的事。于是埃米也来到了河上溜冰。乔看到她就转身走开了。

“中央的冰层不安全！”劳里大声叫道，“靠边上滑！”

乔听到了警告，但埃米没有，她往河中间滑去。

突然，冰面裂开了，埃米大叫一声掉了下去。劳里迅速地从乔身边滑过去。乔想叫劳里，但发现自己出不了声。“带一大块木头过来！”劳里吼道。乔找到了木头，从冰面推过去，劳里把埃米的头部托出水面。他们把她拉了出来，马上把这个备受惊吓的女孩送回了家。



p. 44-45

母亲用毯子裹住埃米，她很快就睡着了。然后，乔问母亲：“您确定她没事吗？”

“是的。你做得很好，这么快就把她送回了家。”

“多亏了劳里。哎，这都是我的错！我太容易发脾气了。为什么我不能多像您一点呢？”

“我每天都会生气，”马齐夫人说，“不过我已经学会了控制，不让那些愤怒的话语全从嘴里冒出来。总有一天你也会学会的。”

乔哭了起来。埃米听到哭声，睁开了眼睛，朝她微笑。她的笑容一下子击中了乔的心。她们拥抱在一起，发生过的一切都被原谅和遗忘了。



p. 46-47

到了4月，梅格接受安妮·莫法特的邀请，去她家的大房子小住。在那里，梅格越羡慕安妮的漂亮东西，就越渴望自己能有钱。

一天晚上，女孩们在为舞会作准备时，有人送来了一盒鲜花。

“这是给马齐小姐的，”仆人说，“还有一封信。”

“太让人激动了！”女孩们说，“谁送的？”

“信是我母亲写的，花是劳里送的。”梅格回答。

“是么？”安妮说，表情有点奇怪。

在舞会上，梅格应邀唱歌，大家都说她的嗓音非常美妙。不过，她站在摆满了鲜花的一张桌子旁时，听到安妮·莫法特和她姐姐贝尔在另一边议论自己。

p. 48-49

“对这些贫穷的马齐家女孩来说，要是她们中的一个能和年轻的劳伦斯结婚，会是挺不错的事。他很有钱嘛。”安妮说。

“我想马齐夫人很可能正有那样的计划吧。”贝尔说。

梅格听到这些话，心里非常难受，她无声地暗自哭了。

第二天，贝尔主动要借给梅格一条裙子在周四穿。梅格想拒绝，不过没成功。那天，贝尔为梅格涂了唇膏，帮她穿上一件漂亮的天蓝色裙子。梅格看着镜中的自己惊呆了，因为裙子的领口开得非常低。

穿着这么精致的裙子，梅格一开始觉得很别扭。但她很快发现，平常不和她说话的人们突然都变得对她感兴趣起来，许多年轻人都要求被介绍给她。

p. 50-51

梅格在屋子的另一头看到了劳里，他正不高兴地盯着她。她朝他走过去时，发现贝尔和安妮微笑地看着自己。

“我真高兴你来了。”梅格用她最成熟的声音说。

“乔让我过来看看你的样子，然后告诉她。”

“你会怎么说？”梅格问。

“你看起来太不一样了，我都认不出你了。”

“女孩们想好好打扮我。你不喜欢吗？”

“对，我不喜欢。”他冷淡地说。

梅格被激怒了：“那么我就不和你待在一起了！”

接下来的晚宴上，梅格和一些男孩喝了很多酒。劳里告诫她：“喝太多酒明天你会不舒服的。”

但梅格一直喝，一直跳舞，一直大笑。第二天，梅格觉得身体很难受。

星期六梅格回到家，告诉了母亲和乔她穿的那条华丽的裙子还有喝酒的事。她把这当作一件趣事来说，但说到最后，她的样子一点也不开心。



p. 52-53

“还有什么事你没有告诉我们吗？”母亲问。

梅格脸红了。

“我讨厌那些拿我们和劳里说事儿的人！”她说。然后她告诉了她们自己无意中听到的那些闲言碎语。

“胡说八道！”乔大声说，“如果我告诉劳里这些所谓的计划，他会大笑的。”

“不行，不准你再把这些坏话说给别人听。”母亲对乔说。

“您有计划吗？”梅格问母亲。

“每位母亲都有计划，亲爱的。不过我的计划和莫法特姐妹以为的不一样。我要让我的女儿们被关爱，受邻里尊重。如果贫穷意味着平静的生活，那我宁愿你们贫穷。我和你们的父亲永远以你们为荣，无论你们是嫁人还是单身。”

“我们会让你们以我们为傲的。”梅格和乔齐声说。



第4章 最艰苦的日子

p. 58-59

10月的一个下午，乔坐公共汽车进了城。到站后，她走到位于一条繁华大街的一幢楼前。她非常紧张，进去了又出来，如此反复了好几次。到第四次，她终于走上了楼梯。十分钟后，她出来了。劳里碰巧从一开始就看到了她，正在外面等着。

“你在这儿做什么？”乔惊讶地问。

“等你啊。我有一个秘密要告诉你，但你要先把你的秘密告诉我。”他说。

“好吧，不过别告诉别人。我把自己写的两篇故事交给了报社，下周就知道他们会不会采用了。”

“名作家乔·马齐！”劳里兴奋地说。

乔很高兴，问道：“那你的秘密是什么？”

“你还记得今年夏天野餐时，梅格丢的那只手套吗？呵呵，我知道在谁那儿。”劳里微笑着说。



p. 60-61

劳里在乔耳边小声说了一个名字，乔听后显得并不高兴。

“我看见那只手套在他的口袋里。记住，不要告诉别人啊。”

“我可没保证不说。”乔说。

“你不高兴吗？”劳里问。

“想到梅格要被人带走，我可高兴不起来。”乔严肃地说。

两周后，梅格看见劳里追着乔满花园跑，接着两人倒在草地上，一起大笑。乔的手里挥舞着一张报纸。

乔把报纸带进屋，看了起来。

“报纸上有什么好玩的？”梅格说。

“只是有个故事。”乔说。

“读来听听吧，”埃米说，“也许会有意思。”

乔读得很快。这是关于一对情人薇奥拉和安杰洛的故事。故事中大部分的角色最后都死了，但女孩们很喜欢这个故事，梅格听到悲伤的部分时甚至哭了。

p. 62-63

“这是谁写的？”贝丝问。

乔的眼睛闪闪发亮。

“我写的。”她说。

梅格惊道：“你？”

“太棒了！”埃米说。

“我就知道是你写的。”贝丝嚷道。她抱着乔说：“噢，我太为你骄傲了。”

马齐夫人知道后，也深感骄傲。那天晚上，没有比马齐家更高兴、更自豪的家庭了。

☆☆☆

11月一个阴沉的下午，马齐夫人、女孩们和劳里正在屋里坐着，忽然汉娜拿着一封电报匆匆走了进来。马齐夫人读了后，手一松，电报落到了地上。她的双手颤抖，脸色变得苍白。乔把电报捡起来，用恐惧的声音读道：

马齐夫人：

您的丈夫病重。

请速来布兰克医院。

黑尔医生

p. 64-65

汉娜为马齐夫人收拾出远门的行李，女孩们则在一旁哭泣。

“我能帮什么忙吗？”劳里问。

“请你发一封电报给医生，告诉他我会尽快赶到，”马齐夫人说，“下一班火车在清晨出发。乔，给我笔和纸，我得给马齐姑妈写张便条，请她借点钱给我作旅费。”

在她们忙着帮母亲作准备时，布鲁克先生来了。



“听到这个坏消息我很难过，”布鲁克先生轻声说，“劳伦斯先生觉得让我陪马齐夫人一起去会比较好。”

“他人真好！”梅格说，“知道有人能照顾母亲让我很欣慰，太感谢你了。”她握住他的手，凝视着他温暖的棕色眼睛。

p. 66-67

乔出去买东西，下午很晚才回来。然后她递给母亲一些钱。

“这些钱用来帮助父亲康复并带他回家。”

“二十五块！”马齐夫人说，“你怎么弄到的？”

乔摘下帽子。

“你漂亮的头发哪儿去了？”埃米叫道。

乔浓密的头发全被剪掉了。她把头发卖给了做假发的人。

大家都为乔的付出哭了。

“别哭别哭，”乔说，“我真的很想帮点忙。头发很快会长出来的，而且在这段时间里，打理头发更容易了。”

可是那天晚上，姐妹们听到乔哭了一小会儿。

“这是我身上自私的部分让我为失去头发哭了，”乔说，“到早上就会没事的。”

p. 68-69

母亲和布鲁克先生离开后，梅格和乔继续工作，贝丝和埃米帮汉娜收拾房子。大家都努力干活，乖乖听话，尽力为家里分忧。

她们收到的关于父亲的第一则消息，是说他一度病危，但开始慢慢好转。

母亲离开十天后的一个晚上，贝丝很晚才到家。她去赫梅尔夫人家看望生病的婴儿了。回来后她直接进了母亲的房间，关上了门。

半小时后，乔进了房间，发现贝丝看起来病得很厉害。

“你怎么了？”乔问。

贝丝抬起手，不让她靠近。

“你以前得过猩红热，对吧？”她说。

“对，几年前梅格和我都得过，”乔回答，“可是你问这个干什么？”



p. 70-71

“噢，乔，”贝丝哭了，“赫梅尔夫人出门了，她的宝宝死在了我的怀里。”

乔搂住贝丝，说：“噢，太可怕了！你接着怎么做的？”

“我只是抱着他，直到赫梅尔夫人和大夫一起回来。她的孩子海因里希和明娜也病了，大夫说他们得了猩红热。他让我立即回家吃药，要不然我也会染上的。”

“我叫汉娜过来。”乔说。

“别让埃米上来，”贝丝说，“她还没得过猩红热，我不想传染给她。”

之后，为了保护埃米，她们把她送到马齐姑妈那里。贝丝的病越来越严重，大家都很担心。她们决定不在信里告诉马齐夫人这件事。到后来贝丝病得已经认不出乔了，还叫着要母亲。

p. 72-73

女孩们收到母亲的信，信里说，父亲的病情恶化了，所以她很长一段时间都没法回家。女孩们都拼命工作，而死亡的阴影则笼罩在家庭上空。梅格



开始认识到，以前的她其实很富有，她拥有那些真正重要的东西，例如爱、安宁及健康。乔想着贝丝的无私，她总是为他人而活着。埃米在马奇姑妈家既孤单又难过，她只希望能帮帮贝丝。

12月1日，大夫来看贝丝。他看着她，轻声说：“我想是时候叫马奇夫人回家了。”

乔冒着雪跑出去发电报。她回来的时候，劳里带来了布鲁克先生的一封信，说马奇先生的病情又有好转了。

p. 74-75

乔听到这个好消息，似乎并没有高兴起来，反而哭着说：“贝丝认不得我们了。我发了一封电报给母亲。”

劳里握住她的手说：“别担心。布鲁克先生说你母亲今晚回来，她会处理好一切的。”

乔给了劳里一个拥抱。

这天剩下的时间过得很漫长。大夫说，贝丝的病情很快就会有变化，不管是好还是坏。大家等待着，都无法入睡。

凌晨两点，劳里去车站接马奇夫人，乔站在窗前，转身看到梅格跪在贝丝床前。她怕贝丝已经断气，赶紧跑过去。

p. 76-77

病情果然有了变化。贝丝退烧了，脸颊又有了颜色。梅格和乔抱在一起，高兴得说不出话来。接着她们听到开门的声音，劳里大叫：“她到了！她到了！”

贝丝醒来时，看到母亲的脸色，她笑了。马奇夫人一直握着她的小手。汉娜给大家做早饭时，母亲把父亲恢复的状况告诉女孩们。布鲁克先生仍留在那里，他答应陪着父亲直到他好转。

在马奇姑妈家，埃米正动笔给母亲写信，她往窗外看时，却发现母亲正朝房子走来。埃米高兴极了。

“每个人都喜欢贝丝，因为她很无私，”埃米说，“如果生病的是我，大家就不会那样难受了。我要向贝丝学习。”



p. 78-79

那天晚上，乔和母亲谈话，她说：“我想告诉您一些事情。”

“是关于梅格的吗？”马奇夫人问。

“对，您一下就猜中了。”乔说。她把梅格丢失手套的事情告诉了母亲。

“你觉得梅格会不会对约翰感兴趣呢？”母亲问。

“谁是约翰？”乔问。

“布鲁克先生……约翰·布鲁克，”母亲说，“我们在医院的时候成了好朋友，所以我开始叫他约翰了。”

“噢，天哪！”乔叫道，“他帮忙照顾了父亲，所以现在如果他想要，您就会把梅格送给他。”

“别生气，”母亲说，“约翰告诉我们他爱梅格。他说他会存下足够的钱，买一所舒适的房子，然后才请求梅格嫁给他。不过你父亲和我决定要等梅格至少满20岁才让她出嫁。”

p. 62-63



那年的圣诞和前一年的很不一样。贝丝的身体日渐好转，她看着窗外劳里和乔为她堆的一个雪人，雪人手里有一篮水果、鲜花以及一份新乐谱。劳里带来了礼物，然后乔唱了一首可笑的歌。

“我真高兴！”贝丝说，“真希望父亲也在这儿。”

过了半小时，劳里打开前门，说：“这是给马齐家的另一件圣诞礼物！”

接着，两位高个子男士出现在门口，其中一位靠在另一位的胳膊上。贝丝向门口跑去，跳进父亲的怀抱里。

“父亲！”梅格和乔叫道。

马齐先生被拥抱和亲吻淹没了。混乱中，布鲁克先生不小心吻到了梅格。

p. 64-65

大家平静下来后，马齐夫人向布鲁克先生致谢，感谢他对她丈夫的帮助。后来，劳伦斯先生、劳里和布鲁克先生又来到马齐家，一起享用了圣诞晚餐。

“一年前的今天，我们还在抱怨圣诞节呢。”乔说。

“这是很精彩的一年。”梅格说。她正想着约翰·布鲁克。

“也是很艰难的一年，”埃米说，“我很高兴一切都结束了，因为现在父亲回来了。”

“今天我了解到了几件关于你们几位女士的事情。”马齐先生说。

“哦，告诉我们吧。”梅格叫道。

马齐先生执起梅格的手，说：“这是其中一件。看看这手背上的小烫伤和手心的茧子。我还记得这只手曾经光滑又白皙，不过，现在它已经是一只美丽而勤劳的手了。我以你为荣，梅格。”

p. 66-67

“那么乔呢？”贝丝说，“她也非常努力。”

马齐先生微笑地看着乔。“她的头发短了，不过现在看到的是一位年轻的淑女。我会想念我的野丫头，但我会喜爱取代了她的这位体贴、温柔的女士。”

乔脸红了。埃米说：“轮到贝丝了！”

“贝丝不再害羞了，”然后父亲看着埃米，“我也发现埃米更乐于帮助他人了。她学会了多为他人着想，更少只顾着自己。”

贝丝走到钢琴前弹了起来，很快大家开始合唱一首快乐的圣诞歌曲。

第二天下午，劳里和乔正逗着梅格，说起当布鲁克先生向梅格求婚时，她会如何回答。

“他向你求婚时，你不会说‘不’，而是会哭起来或者手足无措。”乔说。

“不，我不会那样，”梅格说，“我会说，‘谢谢，布鲁克先生，不过我还没到结婚的年纪呢。’”

“我才不信呢。”乔说。



p. 88-89

突然，门外响起了敲门声，是布鲁克先生。

“昨天我把伞忘在这儿了。”他说。

梅格向门口走去。“母亲会想见到你的，我去叫她。”

“梅格，不要逃走，”布鲁克先生说，“你怕我吗？”

“你对我父亲那么好，我怎么可能怕你呢？”梅格回答。

于是，他握住她的手说：“我只是想知道你是不是有一点爱我。我是那么地爱你。”

这时候，梅格应该按她对乔说的那样回答。可是，她却轻声地说：“我不知道，我还小……”

“我会等你学会喜欢我的，”他说，“这会很难吗？”

“如果我选择去学的话，不难。”她回答。

“那么请你选择这么做吧，梅格，”他说，“我可以教你，这要比教劳里容易。”

这时梅格看到他在微笑，不禁有些恼怒。

“我不选！”她说，“请你离开吧！”

“我希望你能花时间好好考虑，我会等你。”布鲁克先生说。

梅格看着他伤心地离开，又觉得心里不好受了。



p. 90-91

这时马齐姑妈进来了。“这是怎么回事？”她叫道。

“他只是父亲的一个朋友，”梅格紧张地说，“布鲁克先生和我只是……”

“布鲁克先生，劳伦斯家男孩的家庭教师？他只是想通过娶你来得到我的钱！哼，他一个子儿也拿不到！”

对梅格来说，简直没什么话比这更过分了。

“马齐姑妈，我想和谁结婚就和谁结婚，您可以留着您的钱，我们不需要！”梅格大声地说。

“你会后悔的！”马齐姑妈嚷道，“你应该和有钱人结婚，来帮助你的家庭！”

“别说了！”梅格叫道，“我的约翰不会为了钱而结婚。我们会努力工作，靠自己的能力攒钱！我和他在一起会很幸福，因为他爱我！”

马齐姑妈怒气冲冲地走出房间，梅格感觉哭笑不得。

p. 92-93

布鲁克先生从另一个房间走回来，抱住了梅格。

“噢，梅格，你确实是爱我的！我什么都听到了！”

乔回来了，发现他们俩在一起。布鲁克先生笑着亲了亲乔的脸颊，说：“噢，乔妹妹，祝我们好运吧！”

那天晚上，所有人在一起共进晚餐。劳里给“约翰·布鲁克太太”带来了鲜花。他看到乔时，问道：“怎么了？你看起来很伤心的样子。”

“一切都不再一样了，”乔说，“我失去了最亲密的朋友。”

“你有我啊，”劳里说，“我永远是你的朋友。三年后我读完大学回来，我们一起去旅行吧。”

乔环顾着房间。母亲和父亲幸福地坐在一起，埃米在给约翰和梅格画像，贝丝正和她的老朋友劳伦斯先生聊天。乔和劳里相视一笑，开始想象他们的未来。



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
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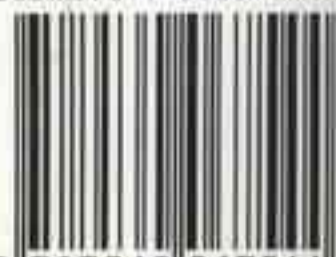


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