



## 第 106 期

### *Little Women*

#### 小婦人

*Little Women* by American Louisa May Alcott was published in 1868 and remains one of the most beloved children's novels of all time. The story begins in winter in a town somewhere in New England during the time of the American Civil War. It follows the lives of four sisters in a poor family, Meg, Jo, Beth, and Amy, as they transition from childhood to womanhood over the course of several years.



美國作家露意莎·梅·奧爾科特（Louise May Alcott）在1868年所發表的小說「小婦人」，一直是最受到喜愛的童書的其中之一。這本故事的開始於冬天，在新英格蘭的某一個小鎮，發生於美國內戰期間。講述著某個貧困家庭中的四姐妹梅格（Meg），喬（Jo），貝絲（Beth）及艾梅（Amy），當她們從孩童時期轉變成女人的數年光陰。

Throughout the story, the four 'little women' face all manner of difficulties and challenges, including the **absence** of their father, who is at war and also falls ill, sickness among themselves, getting in trouble at school, **gossip** among the community, and working at a young age to **contribute** to their family's rough financial situation. One of the four, Beth, even passes away from disease. The young women also achieve beautiful things, from falling in love and marrying to publishing books and finding **companionship** in their sisterhood. In sum, *Little Women* is a real-life tale that **highlights** both the good and the bad in the female experience of reaching adulthood.



在故事之中，這四位「小婦人」會面臨著各種的困難及挑戰，包括上戰場而生病的父親不在、她們的病症、在學校遇到麻煩、社群中的謠言、年紀輕輕就必須為家中的困難的經濟狀況出力。四姐妹中的其中一位，貝絲，甚至因病逝世。這些年輕的小婦人也有美好的事，從戀愛結婚，到出版書籍及發現姐妹相伴之情。簡言之，「小婦人」是一則真實生活中的故事，並凸顯出女孩在轉變成女人時所遇到的起起伏伏。

The novel ends in a rather **unresolved** manner. The reader never learns who some of the women will marry. At a time when marriage was considered the main goal for women, it is

thought that Alcott's decision to leave the reader hanging was one of the book's greatest **appeals**. Readers could also identify with the domestic setting of the novel and the four personality types of the women, Meg being the beautiful one, Jo the **tomboy**, Beth the musician, and Amy the artist.

這本小說的最後結局是開放式的狀態。讀者們永遠不會知道哪一位會結婚。在一個結婚被視為女性最終目標的時代，奧爾科特決定吊吊讀者胃口，這也是這篇故事最迷人的部分。讀者們也能和小說的家庭背景及這四位個性鮮明的女子得到共鳴，梅格是最美麗的一位、喬很男孩子氣、貝絲是音樂家、而艾梅是藝術家。

### **Vocabulary 好字精選**

1. absence (n) the condition of not being in a place 不在，缺席

The students often misbehaved in the absence of the teacher.

老師不在的時候，學生們常常會行為不當。

2. gossip (n) conversation about others when they are not around, especially about matters that aren't confirmed to be true 閒話，聊天；流言蜚語

Dave is not a fan of gossip so he doesn't say much when we talk about others.

Dave 不是一位喜愛討論八卦的人，所以當我們在談論其他人時，他不會說太多話。

3. contribute (v) to give some money for something 捐（款）；捐獻；貢獻

The government will contribute \$1 million to the organization.

政府將會捐獻一百萬元給這組織。

4. companionship (n) a feeling of friendship 友誼；交往；伴侶關係

Jerry really enjoyed Lisa's companionship when they traveled to Egypt together.

在他們一起去埃及旅行時，Jerry 非常享受 Lisa 的陪伴。

5. highlight (v) focus on or emphasize 使顯著，使突出；強調

The CEO highlighted the company's recent successes in his presentation.

總裁在簡報中強調公司近期的成功事蹟。

6. unresolved (adj) not fixed or resolved 未果；未解決

Even after the long talk, the couple still had many unresolved problems.

儘管在這麼漫長的討論之後，這對情侶依舊有許多未解決的問題。

7. appeal (n) the quality of being attractive or interesting (usually for a thing or activity) 吸引力，感染力

Nicolas really doesn't see the appeal of American football.

Nicolas 對於美式橄欖球吸引人之處並無共鳴。

8. tomboy (n, slang) a girl/woman who is boyish/manly 男孩氣的姑娘

The students sometimes call Chloe a tomboy because she has short hair and loves sports.

學生們有時候會稱 Chloe 男孩子氣，因為她留著一頭短髮且又熱愛運動。

### **Phrases and Sentence Patterns**句型解析

1. sth. happens + over the course of + period of time (sentence pattern) 發生在…(時間)

The mom gave the chocolates to her son one at a time over the course of several weeks.

這位媽媽幾個星期才會給她兒子一次巧克力。

2. all manner of (phr) all kinds of 各式各樣的，各種的

All manner of household goods are sold at this chain store.

這間連鎖商店售有所有種類的家用物品。

3. pass away (phrasal verb) die (委婉語) 過世，逝世

The boy's hamster passed away when it was two years old.

這男孩的倉鼠在滿兩歲的時候過世了。

4. leave sb. hanging (phr) to leave somebody waiting and wanting to finish something (or know the rest of something) 吊某人胃口；賣關子

Don't leave me hanging, Frank! Please tell me the rest of your story!

Frank，不要吊我胃口！請告訴我接下來的故事！

5. sb. + identify with + sb. (sentence pattern) sb. can feel the same way as sb. (often a character in a story/movie) 感同身受

Olivia really identifies with the main character in the movie because she has faced similar struggles in her life.

Olivia 對於這部電影主角的經歷感同身受，因為他們的生活中都有著類似的掙扎。



## 平台的特色

- ◆ 提供英日文數位化的學習和測驗資源
- ◆ 簡單的操作介面，讓學習者學習更有效率
- ◆ 實用的後台功能，讓管理更加方便
- ◆ 支援 PC、MAC、IOS、安卓作業系統使用
- ◆ 目前已有上百所的學校使用，提供客戶最好和專業的服務

## 版權宣告

本內容版權為驛鉅數位科技有限公司所擁有，未經授權請勿作商業使用。

轉載時請勿修改圖片文字內容等資訊，並保留版權宣告的相關訊息，否則將視為侵權使用。

© Huachu Digital Technology Limited Company. All Rights Reserved.

Please do not change any contents and information when you forward this newsletter, and keep all messages of COPYRIGHT. Or you will infringe the rights of Huachu Digital Technology Limited Company.