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前言



威廉·巴特勒·葉慈(William Butler Yeats, 1865–1939),愛爾蘭詩人和劇作家,曾擔任愛爾蘭國會參議員一職,並於1923年獲頒諾貝爾文學獎。

葉慈的早期創作,深受濫觴於十九世紀中葉的前拉斐爾派(Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood)的影響,為華麗風格的浪漫主義,活躍於愛爾蘭文藝復興運動。葉慈在中後期,接觸了法國象徵主義(Symbolism),



William Butler Yeats (1865-1939)

創作逐漸轉變為凝鍊的現代主義 (Modernism) 風格。

本書收錄了三個系列故事:

《紅髮翰拉漢故事集》(Stories of Red Hanrahan, 1897) 《神祕玫瑰》(The Secret Rose, 1897) 《玫瑰煉金術》(Rosa Alchemica, 1896) 《紅髮翰立漢故事集》的主角翰拉漢(Hanrahan), 是依據十八世紀兩位詩人 Owen Roe O'Sullivan(1748– 1782)與 Timothy O'Sullivan(1840–1882)流傳於鄉間 的生平故事,再加以葉慈的創作而寫成,書寫中保留了口 傳文學特色與吟遊詩人傳統。

《神祕玫瑰》為九篇各自獨立的民間傳說,時間自中世紀橫跨至十九世紀,內容探究自然與靈性間的對立與辯證,富含濃厚的象徵與神祕色彩。

《紅髮翰拉漢故事集》和《神祕玫瑰》是葉慈在奥 古斯塔·桂格瑞女士 (Lady Augusta Gregory, 1852-

1932)協助之下完成。桂格瑞女士為愛爾蘭民俗學者與劇作家,她在愛爾蘭文藝復興(Irish Literary Revival)扮演了舉足輕重的角色。 1899年,她與葉慈、艾華·馬丁(Edward Martyn, 1859—1923) 共同創立了愛爾蘭國家文學劇院(Irish Literary Theatre)。

桂格瑞女士以流傳於基爾泰坦 (Kiltartan) 一帶,帶有蓋爾語 (Gaelic) 語法的英語方言,和葉



Lady Augusta Gregory (1852–1932

慈一同改寫愛爾蘭的民間故事。對葉慈而言,基爾泰坦語 因其「未受浪漫主義的陳規和現代的抽象修辭所影響」, 因而能充分表達出愛爾蘭的古老智慧,而口傳文學也能 夠體現古老傳統,並展現未受英國與基督教影響的愛爾 蘭獨特性。葉慈與桂格瑞女士合作之下的成果,包括《愛 爾蘭鄉村的神話和民間故事集》(Fairy and Folk Tales of the Irish Peasantry, 1888)和多部劇作,其中最為知 名的為《胡拉洪之女凱瑟琳》(Cathleen Ni Houlihan, 1902)。

葉慈畢生對神祕學有濃厚的興趣,他深入研究布雷克(William Blake, 1757–1827)的詩作,也廣泛涉獵新柏拉圖主義(Neo-Platonism)、印度教、佛教、神智學(Theosophy)、靈學和占星學等思想。十九世紀末時,許多神祕學團體蓬勃發展,挑戰並質疑維多利亞時代的理性主義思維與物質主義。本書所收錄的《玫瑰煉金術》,內



William Blake (1757-1827)

容以葉慈 1890 年代所參加的黃金黎明會社 (Hermetic Order of the Golden Dawn) 的入會儀式為基本架構,

故事裡頭傳授靈性煉金術的麥可·羅巴特 (Machael Robartes) 這一角色,也是以黃金黎明會社的創建者之一麥克葛瑞格·馬特 (MacGregor Mathers, 1854-1918) 為原型,深入探究煉金術的精神面向。

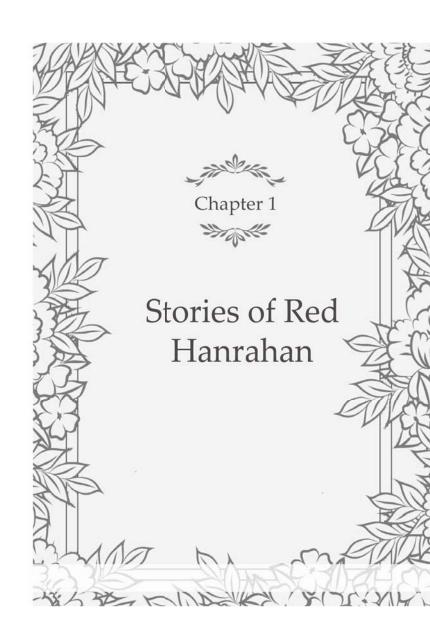
本書展現業慈早期的藝術美學,也傳達其對愛爾蘭文 藝復興的信念,儘管他的民族主義熱情在日後逐漸消退, 他仍十分熱衷於探索靈性與物質間的對抗與辯證,而他對 神祕主義的愛好,仍是文學生涯中不斷探討的主題。

PART 1

STORIES OF RED HANRAHAN

THE SECRET ROSE

ROSA ALCHEMICA



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I owe thanks to Lady Gregory, who helped me to rewrite The Stories of Red Hanrahan in the beautiful country speech of Kiltartan, and nearer to the tradition of the people among whom he, of some likeness of him, drifted and is remembered.

1. Red Hanrahan



Hanrahan, the hedge schoolmaster¹, a tall, strong, redhaired young man, came into the barn where some of the men of the village were sitting on Samhain Eve2. It had been a dwelling-house, and when the man that owned it had built a better one, he had put the two rooms together, and kept it for a place to store one thing or another.

There was a fire on the old hearth, and there were dip candles stuck in bottles, and there was a black quart bottle upon some boards that had been put across two barrels to make a table. Most of the men were sitting beside the fire, and one of them was singing a long wandering song, about a Munster man and a Connaught man that were quarrelling about their two provinces3.

Hanrahan went to the man of the house and said, 'I got your message; but when he had said that, he stopped, for

¹ hedge schoolmaster:指圍籬學校(hedge school)的老師。圍籬學校 是私人辦理的學校,始於十七世紀,常借用窯屋、農舍、泥炭屋 等來授課。

² Samhain Eve:薩溫節夜,意味著收穫時節的結束與冬天的開始, 通常是10月31日夜晚開始慶祝。

³ 指詩人 Raftery 和兩個死對頭 Peatsy、Marcas Callinain 之間的爭執。

an old mountainy man that had a shirt and trousers of unbleached flannel, and that was sitting by himself near the door, was looking at him, and moving an old pack of cards about in his hands and muttering.

'Don't mind him,' said the man of the house; 'he is only some stranger came in awhile ago, and we bade him welcome, it being Samhain night, but I think he is not in his right wits. Listen to him now and you will hear what he is saying.'

They listened then, and they could hear the old man muttering to himself as he turned the cards, 'Spades and Diamonds, Courage and Power; Clubs and Hearts, Knowledge and Pleasure.'

'That is the kind of talk he has been going on with for the last hour,' said the man of the house, and Hanrahan turned his eyes from the old man as if he did not like to be looking at him.

'I got your message,' Hanrahan said then; "he is in the barn with his three first cousins from Kilchriest," the messenger said, "and there are some of the neighbours with them."

'It is my cousin over there is wanting to see you,' said the man of the house, and he called over a young friezecoated man, who was listening to the song, and said, 'This is Red Hanrahan you have the message for.'

'It is a kind message, indeed,' said the young man, 'for it comes from your sweetheart, Mary Lavelle.'

'How would you get a message from her, and what do you know of her?'

'I don't know her, indeed, but I was in Loughrea yesterday, and a neighbour of hers that had some dealings with me was saying that she bade him send you word, if he met any one from this side in the market, that her mother has died from her, and if you have a mind yet to join with herself, she is willing to keep her word to you.'

'I will go to her indeed,' said Hanrahan.

'And she bade you make no delay, for if she has not a man in the house before the month is out, it is likely the little bit of land will be given to another.'

When Hanrahan heard that, he rose up from the bench he had sat down on.

'I will make no delay indeed,' he said, 'there is a full moon, and if I get as far as Gilchreist to-night, I will reach to her before the setting of the sun to-morrow.'

When the others heard that, they began to laugh at him for being in such haste to go to his sweetheart, and one asked him if he would leave his school in the old lime-kiln, where he was giving the children such good learning.

But he said the children would be glad enough in the morning to find the place empty, and no one to keep them at their task; and as for his school he could set it up again in any place, having as he had his little

PART 2

紅髮翰拉漢故事集

神祕玫瑰

玫瑰煉金術



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感謝桂格瑞女士的協助, 讓我能夠以優美的基爾泰坦方言, 來改寫《紅髮翰拉漢故事集》,得以更貼近鄉間傳說。 翰拉漢的形象,傳流民間, 留存在人們的記憶裡。

²¹© COSMOS CULTURE LTD

1. 紅髮翰拉漢

翰拉漢是一位私塾先生,他年輕、高大、強壯,一頭 紅髮,薩溫節夜這一晚,他走進一間坐著一些村裡男人的 穀倉。這間穀倉原本是住家,屋主另外蓋了間比較好的房 子,就把這裡的兩間房間打通,用來存放雜物。

老舊的壁爐燃著火,瓶子裡插著浸製蠟燭,兩個木桶上擱著幾塊板子,充作桌子,上頭擺了一個黑色的夸脫罐。屋內的人大多圍坐在火爐旁,當中有個人正在唱著一首長曲子,那是一首漂泊之歌,內容講一個芒斯特人和一個康諾特人,為自己的家鄉地在爭吵。

翰拉漢走向屋主,說道:「我收到你的通知了。」話 說完就打住,因為有個山裡來的老人正盯著他看,老人穿 著襯衫和一條原色的法蘭絨長褲,獨自坐在門邊,兩隻手 摸著一副舊紙牌,嘴裡唸唸有詞。



「別理他。」屋主說:「不知道他是誰,他剛剛才來 到這裡,今天是薩溫節夜,我們讓他進來。但我想他精神 不太正常,你現在聽聽看,就能知道他在講什麼。」

他們側耳傾聽,老人一邊翻動紙牌,一邊喃喃自語 說:「黑桃和方塊,勇氣與力量;梅花和紅心,知識與喜 悅。」

「他就這樣一直唸了個把鐘頭。」屋主說完,翰拉漢 便將眼神從老人的身上移開,一副不想看到他的樣子。

翰拉漢接著說:「我收到你的通知了。傳話的人說: 『那個人在穀倉,夥同三個奇魁司來的堂兄弟,還有幾個 鄰居跟他們在一起。』」

「那是我堂弟在那裡,他要找你。」屋主說道,然 後把一個正在聽著歌曲、穿著起絨粗呢外套的年輕人叫過 來,對他說道:「這就是你要帶話給他的人,紅髮翰拉 漢。」

「我帶來的口信,可感人了,是你的情人瑪莉.拉維 要我帶話給你的。」年輕人說。

「你怎麼會有她的口信?你怎麼認識她的?」

「我並不認識她。我昨天在灰湖鎮,跟她的鄰居做 買賣,她交代那鄰居說,如果在市集遇到從我們這邊去的 人,就請對方帶個口信給你,說是瑪莉的母親過世了,已 經離她而去,要是你還有心要跟她在一起,她願意信守對 你的承諾。」

「我一定會去找她。」翰拉漢說。

「她要你立刻去找她,因為在月底之前,如果屋子裡沒有個男人,她的那小塊地很可能會被讓給別人。」

翰拉漢一聽,便從剛坐下的長凳上起身。

「我立刻出發,今天是滿月,今晚要是能趕到奇魁 司,就可以在明天日落之前趕到她那裡。」他說。

眾人聞言,揶揄他這麼急著去找情人。有人問他,他 該不會丟下舊石灰窯私塾吧,孩子們在那裡學到了很多學 問。

但是他說,孩子們早上去上課,要是發現那裡空蕩蕩的,沒有人會逼他們寫作業,一定會樂壞了。至於私塾,只要他的脖子上還掛著小墨水罐、外套的衣襬裡還塞著維吉爾的大部頭著作和識字讀本,他處處都可以開個私塾。



有人要他喝一杯再走,還有個年輕人抓住他的外套, 要他唱完他寫的那首歌頌維納斯和瑪莉·拉維的歌曲,方 可離開。翰拉漢喝了一杯威士忌,說他不會耽擱,要動身 啟程了。

「時間還很充裕,紅髮翰拉漢。等你結婚了,多的是時間不去鬼混,我們恐怕要很久以後才能見到你了。」屋 主說。

「我不拖延了,我的心已經上路了,帶我去招喚著我 的女子身邊。她的寂寞芳心,正引頸期盼我的到來。」翰

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1. 紅髮翰拉漢 213