

《FAR FROM THE MADDING  
CROWD 《远离尘嚣》 ( ISBN=9780553213317 ) 》

书籍信息

版次：1  
页数：458  
字数：  
印刷时间：1983年06月01日  
开本：32开  
纸张：胶版纸  
包装：平装  
是否套装：否  
国际标准书号ISBN：9780553213317

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## 内容简介

Graced with the splendid illustrations executed by Helen Paterson for the first edition of the novel, this special Collector's Edition of *Far from the Madding Crowd* also features handwritten letters and drawings by Hardy, as well as rare and intimate portraits of the author and his first wife, Emma. Here, too, readers are granted a fascinating and touching glimpse of how two great imaginative writers interact with one another: This edition reproduces the handwritten pages from Virginia Woolf's diary in which she recounts her now-famous visit with the very aged Thomas Hardy at his home, Max Gate, in 1926.

## 作者简介

Margaret Drabble edited *The Oxford Companion to English Literature* and *The Genius of Thomas Hardy*. Her novels include *The Waterfall* and *The Gates of Ivory*, and, most recently, *The Witch of Exmoor* and *The Peppered Moth*. She lives in England.

## 在线试读部分章节

### Chapter I Description of Farmer Oak—An Incident

When Farmer Oak smiled, the corners of his mouth spread till they were within an unimportant distance of his ears, his eyes were reduced to chinks, and diverging wrinkles appeared round them, extending upon his countenance like the rays in a rudimentary sketch of the rising sun.

His Christian name was Gabriel, and on working days he was a young man of sound judgment, easy motions, proper dress, and general good character. On Sundays he was a man of misty views, rather given to postponing, and hampered by his best clothes and umbrella: upon the whole, one who felt himself to occupy morally that vast middlespace of Laodicean neutrality which lay between the Communion people of the parish and the drunken section,—that is, he went to church, but yawned privately by the time the congregation reached the Nicene creed, and thought of what there would be for dinner when he meant to be listening to the sermon. Or, to state his character as it stood in the scale of public opinion, when his friends and critics were in tantrums, he was considered rather a bad man; when they were pleased, he was rather a good man; when they were neither, he was a man whose moral colour was a kind of pepper-and-salt mixture.

Since he lived six times as many working-days as Sundays, Oak's appearance in his old clothes was most peculiarly his own—the mental picture formed by his neighbours in imagining him being always dressed in that way. He wore a low-crowned felt hat, spread out at the base by tight jamming upon the head for security in high winds, and a coat like Dr. Johnson's,<sup>4</sup> his lower extremities being encased in ordinary leather leggings and boots emphatically large, affording to each foot a roomy apartment so constructed that any wearer might stand in a river all day long and know nothing of damp—their maker being a conscientious man who endeavoured to compensate for any weakness in his cut by unstinted dimension and solidity.

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