

《VANITY FAIR(ISBN=9780679405665)》

书籍信息

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内容简介

(Book Jacket Status: Jacketed) Introduction by Catherine Peters A panoramic satire of English society during the Napoleonic Wars, *Vanity Fair* is William Makepeace Thackeray's masterpiece. At its center is one of the most unforgettable characters in nineteenth-century literature: the enthralling Becky Sharp, a charmingly ruthless social climber who is determined to leave behind her humble origins, no matter the cost. Her more gentle friend Amelia, by contrast, only cares for Captain George Osborne, despite his selfishness and her family's disapproval. As both women move within the flamboyant milieu of Regency England, the political turmoil of the era is matched by the scheming Becky's sensational rise--and its unforeseen aftermath. Based in part upon Thackeray's own love for the wife of a friend, *Vanity Fair* portrays the hypocrisy and corruption of high society and the dangers of unrestrained ambition with epic brilliance and scathing wit.

作者简介

William Makepeace Thackeray, whose satiric novels are often regarded as the great upper-class counterpart to Dickens's panoramic depiction of lower-class Victorian society, was born on July 18, 1811, in Calcutta, India. His father, a prosperous official of the British East India Company, died four years later, and at the age of six Thackeray was sent to England to be educated. After graduating from the Charterhouse School in London, he entered Trinity College, Cambridge, in 1829 but left the following year without taking a degree. After reading law for a short time at the Middle Temple he moved to Paris in 1832 to study art. Although he eventually abandoned the idea of painting as a career, Thackeray continued to draw throughout his life, illustrating many of his own works. When financial reversals wiped out his inheritance, he resettled in London and turned to journalism for a livelihood. By then he had married Isabella Shawe, a young Irishwoman with whom he had three daughters.

媒体评论

"I do not say there is no character as well drawn in Shakespeare [as D'Artagnan]. I do say there is none that I love so wholly."

--Robert Louis Stevenson

"The lasting and universal popularity of *The Three Musketeers* shows that Dumas, by artlessly expressing his own nature in the persons of his heroes, was responding to that craving for action, strength and generosity which is a fact in all periods and all places."

--Andre é Maurois

From the Hardcover edition.

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