

《钱行酒》选译
ONE FOR THE ROAD作者：哈罗德·品特
译者：李 晶 刘红卫NICOLAS Mid 40s
VICTOR 30
GILA 30
NICKY 7尼古拉斯……四十多岁
维克多……三十岁
吉拉……三十岁
尼吉……七岁

NICOLAS at his desk. He leans forward and speaks into a machine.

NICOLAS
Bring him in.

He sits back. The door opens. VICTOR walks in, slowly. His clothes are torn. He is bruised. The door closes behind him.

Hello! Good morning. How are you? Let's not beat about the bush. Anything but that. D'accord? You're a civilised man, So am I. Sit down.

VICTOR slowly sits. NICOLAS stands, walks over to him.

What do you think this is? It's my finger. And this is my little finger. This is my big finger and this is my little finger. I wave my big finger in front of your eyes. Like this. And now I do the same with my little finger. I can also use both ... at the same time. Like this. I can do absolutely anything I like. Do you think I'm mad? My mother did.

He laughs.

Do you think waving fingers in front of people's eyes is silly? I can see your point.

You're a man of the highest intelligence. But would you take the same view if it was my boot-or my penis? Why am

(尼古拉斯坐在桌边。探身向前，对着机器说道。)

尼古拉斯：把他带进来。

(他坐回去。门开了。维克多慢慢地走进来。他的衣服被扯破，身上伤痕累累。身后的门被关上。)

你好！早上好。还好吧？我们就不东扯西拉了，谈正事。同意吗？你是个文明人，我也是。坐下。

(维克多慢慢坐下。尼古拉斯站起来，朝维克多走去。)

你认为这是什么？是我的手指。这是我的小指。这是我的大拇指，这是我的小拇指。我的大拇指在你眼前挥动，就像这样。现在我把小拇指也在你眼前晃来晃去。我还可以……同时晃两个手指。就像这样。我绝对可以想做什么就做什么。你认为我疯了吗？我母亲认为我是疯了。

(他大笑。)

你是不是认为在别人眼前晃手指很蠢？我知道你的想法。

你的智商很高。但是，如果是我的靴子——或是我的“老二”在你眼前晃，你的想

I so obsessed with eyes? Am I obsessed with eyes? Possibly. Not my eyes. Other people's eyes. The eyes of people who are brought to me here. They're so vulnerable. The soul shines through them. Are you a religious man? I am. Which side do you think God is on? I'm going to have a drink.

He goes to sideboard, pours whisky.

You're probably wondering where your wife is. She's in another room.

He drinks.

Good-looking woman.

He drinks.

God, that was good.

He pours another.

Don't worry, I can hold my booze.

He drinks.

You may have noticed I'm the chatty type. You probably think I'm part of a predictable, formal, long-established pattern; i.e. I chat away, friendly, insouciant, I open the batting, as it were, in a light-hearted, even carefree manner, while another waits in the wings, silent, introspective, coiled like a puma. No, no. It's not quite like that. I run the place. God speaks through me. I'm referring to the Old Testament God, by the way, although I'm a long way from being Jewish. Everyone respects me here. Including you, I take it? I think that is the correct stance.

Pause.

Stand up.

VICTOR *stands.*

Sit down.

VICTOR *sits.*

Thank you so much.

Pause.

Tell me something...

Silence.

What a good-looking woman your wife is. You're a very lucky man. Tell me... one for the road, I think...

He pours whisky.

You do respect me, I take it?

He stands in front of VICTOR and looks down at him.

VICTOR *looks up.*

I would be right in assuming that?

法还一样吗?我为什么会对眼睛着迷呢?我是对眼睛着迷吗?可能是吧。不是对我的眼睛,是对别人的眼睛,是对那些被带到我这儿来的人的眼睛。他们都很脆弱。眼睛是心灵的窗户。你是一个信教的人吗?我是。你认为上帝站在哪边?我得去喝杯酒。

(他走到餐具柜前,倒了些威士忌。)

你大概正在想你的妻子在哪儿。她就在另外一个房间里。

(他喝口酒。)

漂亮的女人。

(又喝口酒。)

啊!真不错。

(他又倒了一杯。)

别担心,我知道我自己的酒量。

(他喝着酒。)

你可能已经注意到我是那种健谈的人。你可能认为我是那种老套的、正儿八经的、老资格的那类人吧。我随便聊聊的开场,友善,心平气和,好像很轻松,甚至无忧无虑,可对方却早在那儿候着了,静静地,就像一头蜷着的美洲狮。不,不,不可能是那样的。这儿,我说了算。我就是上帝的代言人。当然,我指的是旧约里的上帝,尽管我和犹太人还搭不上边。这儿的每个人都尊重我,包括你,我说的对吗?我想是对的。

(停顿。)

站起来。

(维克多站起来。)

坐下。

(维克多坐下。)

非常感谢。

(停顿。)

告诉我……

(沉默。)

你的妻子长得很好看。你很走运。告诉我……呃,再来一杯,我想……

(他倒了些威士忌。)

你确实尊重我,我说的对吗?

(他站到维克多的面前,俯视着他。维克多抬头望着他。)

我这么说是对的吧?

Silence.

VICTOR

(Quietly) I don't know you.

NICOLAS

But you respect me.

VICTOR

I don't know you.

NICOLAS

Are you saying you don't respect me?

Pause.

Are you saying you would respect me if you knew me better? Would you like to know me better?

Pause.

Would you like to know me better?

VICTOR

What I would like... has no bearing on the matter.

NICOLAS

Oh yes it has.

Pause.

I've heard so much about you. I'm terribly pleased to meet you. Well, I'm not sure that pleased is the right word. One has to be so scrupulous about language. Intrigued. I'm intrigued. Firstly because I've heard so much about you. Secondly because if you don't respect me you're unique. Everyone else knows the voice of God speaks through me. You're not a religious man, I take it?

Pause.

You don't believe in a guiding light?

Pause.

What then?

Pause.

So... morally... you flounder in wet shit. You know....like when you've eaten a rancid omelette.

Pause.

I think I deserve one for the road.

He pours, drinks.

Do you drink whisky?

Pause.

I hear you have a lovely house. Lots of books. Someone told me some of my boys kicked it around a bit. Pissed on the rugs, that sort of thing. I wish they wouldn't do that. I do really. But you know what it's like—they have such

(沉默。)

维克多 (平静地) : 我不认识你。

尼古拉斯: 但是, 你尊重我。

维克多: 我不认识你。

尼古拉斯: 你是不是说你不尊重我?

(停顿。)

你是不是说如果了解我多一点就会尊重我? 你想多了解我一点吗?

(停顿。)

想多了解我一点吗?

维克多: 我想做的……和这没有关系。

尼古拉斯: 不对, 有关系。

(停顿。)

我听说过很多你的事。我非常高兴见到你。当然, 我不确定“高兴”一词是否准确。对待语言需要处处小心。好奇, 我觉得好奇。首先, 是因为我已经听说很多关于你的事。其次, 是因为如果你不敬重我, 那你就很特别。其他的人都知道我就是上帝的代言人。你不是一个信教的人, 我说的对吗?

(停顿。)

你不相信上帝的指引吧?

(停顿。)

那你信什么?

(停顿。)

从道义上讲……你是在臭粪坑里挣扎, 嗯, ……臭得就像是吃了腐臭的煎蛋卷。

(停顿。)

我得再喝一杯。

(他倒酒, 喝下。)

你喝威士忌吗?

(停顿。)

我听说你的家很漂亮, 有很多书。有人告诉我, 我们有些弟兄把你家弄得有些乱, 还在地毯上小便, 或什么的。但愿他们没有那么做, 真的。但是, 你要知道——他们有责任这

responsibilities-and they feel them-they are constantly present-day and night-these responsibilities-and so, sometimes, they piss on a few rugs. You understand. You're not a fool.

Pause.

Is your son all right?

VICTOR

I don't know.

NICOLAS

Oh, I'm sure he's all right. What age is he.. seven...or thereabouts? Big lad, I'm told. Nevertheless, silly of him to behave as he did. But is he all right?

VICTOR

I don't know.

NICOLAS

Oh, I'm sure he's all right. Anyway, I'll have a word with him later and find out. He's somewhere on the second floor, I believe.

Pause.

Well now..

Pause.

What do you say? Are we friends?

Pause.

I'm prepared to be frank, as a true friend should. I love death. What about you?

Pause.

What about you? Do you love death? Not necessarily your own. Others'. The death of others. Do you love the death of others,

or at any rate, do you love the death of others as much as I do?

Pause.

Are you always so dull? I understood you enjoyed the cut and thrust of debate.

Pause.

Death. Death. Death. Death. As has been noted by the most respected authorities, it is beautiful. The purest, most harmonious thing there is. Sexual intercourse is nothing compared to it.

He drinks.

Taking about sexual intercourse...

么做——他们认为是这样的——那些责任，义务，什么的，无时不在——不分白天黑夜——那些责任——所以，有时，他们会在地毯上小便。这些你应该能理解。你不是个傻子。

(停顿。)

你的儿子还好吧?

维克多: 我不知道。

尼古拉斯: 噢, 我肯定他很好。他多大……七岁……或大概是那么大? 大男孩了, 呃? 可他那样做很傻。他还好吗?

维克多: 我不知道。

尼古拉斯: 嗯, 我肯定他很好。过会儿, 我同他聊聊就知道了。我想, 他就在二楼某个地方。

(停顿。)

那么, 现在……

(停顿。)

你说什么? 我们是朋友吗?

(停顿。)

我打算坦诚一些, 像真正的朋友那样。我喜欢死亡。你呢?

(停顿。)

你呢? 你喜欢死亡吗? 并非得是你自己的。别人的, 别人的死亡。你喜欢别人的死亡吗?

或者, 至少你像我一样喜欢别人的死亡吗?

(停顿。)

你总是这么无趣吗? 我知道你特别喜欢直来直去的辩论。

(停顿。)

死亡。死亡。死亡。死亡。正如那些最受人敬重的大佬们说到过的, 死亡很美, 是世上最纯、最美的一件事。做爱都没法和它比。

(他喝口酒。)

我们来谈谈做爱吧。

He laughs wildly, stops.

Does she... fuck? Or does she...? Or does she... like.. you know... what? What does she like? I'm talking about your wife. Your wife.

Pause.

You know the old joke? Does she fuck?

Heavily, in another voice:

Does she fuck!

He laughs.

It's ambiguous, of course. It could mean she fucks like a rabbit or she fucks not at all.

Pause.

Well, we're all God's creatures. Even your wife.

Pause.

There is only one obligation. To be honest. You have no other obligation. Weigh that. In your mind. Do you know the man who runs this country? No? Well, he's a very nice chap. He took me aside the other day, last Wednesday, I think it was, he took me aside, at a reception, visiting dignitaries, he took me aside, me, and he said to me, he said, in what I can only describe as a hoarse whisper, Nic, he said, Nic (that's my name), Nic, if you ever come across anyone whom you have good reason to believe is getting on my tits, tell them one thing, tell them honesty is the best policy. The cheese was superb. Goat. One for the road.

He pours.

Your wife and I had a very nice chat but I couldn't help noticing she didn't look her best. She's probably menstruating. Women do that.

Pause.

You know, old chap, I do love other things, apart from death. So many things. Nature. Trees, things like that. A nice blue sky. Blossom.

Pause.

Tell me... truly... are you beginning to love me?

Pause.

I think your wife is. Beginning. She is beginning to fall in love with me. On the brink... of doing so. The trouble is, I have rivals. Because everyone here has fallen in love with your wife. It's her eyes have beguiled them. What's her name? Gila... or something?

(他狂笑,停下来。)

她……做爱吗?或者她……?或者她……喜欢……唔……喜欢什么?她喜欢什么?我是说你的妻子。你的妻子。

(停顿。)

你知道那个笑话?她做爱吗?

(低沉地,换了个腔调:)

她做!

(他大笑。)

当然,这个意思很含糊,既可指她爱做得不得了,也可指她一点都不想做。

(停顿。)

是啊,我们都是上帝创造的。包括你的妻子。

(停顿。)

我们只有一种义务,那就是诚实。你没有别的义务。你得用脑子好好想一想。你知道是谁统治着这个国家吗?不知道?唔,他是个不错的人。那天,他把我拉到一边,就是上个星期三,我想是,他把我拉到一边,是在一个招待会上,招待一些来访的高官,他把我拉到一边,对我说,他的声音有些嘶哑,尼克,他说,尼克(是我的名字),尼克,如果碰到某些你确信会让我心烦的人,你就告诉他们,你告诉他们,诚实是最佳的做人原则。那儿的奶酪非常棒。山羊奶酪。再喝一杯。

(他倒了些酒。)

你的妻子和我很谈得来,但是我注意到她不是在最佳状态。她大概正来例假。女人们都会来。

(停顿。)

老伙计,你要知道,除了死亡,我也喜欢其他的東西。太多了,大自然,树木,或类似的,很美的蓝天,盛开的花儿。

(停顿。)

告诉我……老实地……你是不是开始喜欢我了?

(停顿)

我觉得你的妻子开始喜欢我了。刚开始,她刚开始喜欢上我了,几乎就快爱上我啦。可麻烦的是,我的对手很多,这儿的每个人都喜欢上了你的妻子。他们被她的眼睛迷惑住了。她叫什么来着?吉拉……或什么?

Pause.

Who would you prefer to be? You or me?

Pause.

I'd go for me if I were you. The trouble about you, although I grant your merits, is that you're on a losing wicket, while I can't put a foot wrong. Do you take my point? Ah God, let me confess, let me make a confession to you. I have never been more moved, in the whole of my life, as when-only the other day, last Friday, I believe-the man who runs this country announced to the country: We are all patriots, we are as one, we all share a common heritage. Except you, apparently.

Pause.

I feel a link, you see, a bond. I share a commonwealth of interest. I am not alone. I am not alone!

Silence.

VICTOR

Kill me.

NICOLAS

What?

VICTOR

Kill me.

NICOLAS *goes to him, puts his arm around him.*

What's the matter?

Pause.

What in heaven's name is the matter?

Pause.

Mmmnnn?

Pause.

You're probably just hungry. Or thirsty. Let me tell you something. I hate despair. I find it intolerable. The stink of it gets up my nose. It's a blemish. Despair, old fruit, is a cancer. It should be castrated. Indeed I've often found that that works. Chop the balls off and despair goes out the window. You're left with a happy man. Or a happy woman. Look at me.

VICTOR *does so.*

Your soul shines out of your eyes.

Blackout

Lights up. Afternoon.

NICOLAS *standing with a small boy.*

(停顿。)

你更愿意是谁? 是你自己还是我?

(停顿。)

如果我是你, 就会说是喜欢我。我承认你有许多可称道之处, 可问题是, 你现在麻烦大得很呢, 而我不能够容忍走错一步。你明白我的意思吗? 哦, 上帝啊, 我承认, 我得承认, 我这辈子从来没有比那天更感动的了, 就是那天, 就是上个星期五, 我觉得是我这辈子最感动的一天。那天, 我们国家的领袖对全国宣布: 我们都是爱国者, 有着同样的传统, 就像一家人一样。当然, 不包括你。

(停顿。)

我感受得到一种联系, 唔, 一种纽带。我是和国家的共同利益相连的。我不是一个人。我不是一个人!

(沉默。)

维克多: 杀了我。

尼古拉斯: 什么?

维克多: 杀了我。

(尼古拉斯走向他, 搂住他。)

尼古拉斯: 怎么回事?

(停顿。)

你到底是是怎么回事?

(停顿。)

嗯……?

(停顿。)

你可能只是饿了。或是渴了。我告诉你, 我讨厌绝望。绝望的臭味让我恶心, 真让我生气, 是个不能容忍的污点。老伙计, 绝望是一个肿瘤。必须除掉它。我发现那样确实管用。把这瘤子去除了, 绝望也就会随之烟消云散, 你就成了一个快乐的人, 或一个快乐的女人。看着我。

(维克多看着他。)

你的灵魂正在你的眼睛里闪耀呢。

(灯灭。)

(灯亮。下午。)

(尼古拉斯和一个小男孩站在一起。)

NICOLAS
What is your name?
NICKY
Nicky.
NICOLAS
Really? How odd.
Pause.
Do you like cowboys and Indians?
NICKY
Yes. A bit.
NICOLAS
What do you really like?
NICKY
I like areoplanes.
NICOLAS
Real ones or toy ones?
NICKY
I like both kinds of ones.
NICOLAS
Do you?
Pause.
Why do you like aeroplanes?
Pause.
NICKY
Well... because they go so fast. Through the air. The real
ones do.
NICOLAS
And the toy ones?
NICKY
I pretend they go as fast as the real ones do.
Pause.
NICOLAS
Do you like your mummy and daddy?
Pause.
Do you like your mummy and daddy?
NICKY
Yes.
NICOLAS
Why?
Pause.
Why?

尼古拉斯：你叫什么名字？
尼吉：尼吉。
尼古拉斯：真的吗？很奇怪。
(停顿。)
你喜欢玩“牛仔与印第安人”吗？
尼吉：嗯，有点喜欢。
尼古拉斯：你真的喜欢什么？
尼吉：我喜欢飞机。
尼古拉斯：是真飞机还是玩具飞机？
尼吉：两种都喜欢。
尼古拉斯：是吗？
(停顿。)
你为什么喜欢飞机？
(停顿。)
尼吉：唔……因为他们很快。真飞机在天上飞得很快。
尼古拉斯：那玩具的呢？
尼吉：我假装他们和真的一样快。
(停顿。)
尼古拉斯：你喜欢妈妈、爸爸吗？
(停顿。)
你喜欢妈妈爸爸吗？
尼吉：喜欢。
尼古拉斯：为什么？
(停顿。)
为什么？

Pause.
Do you find that a hard question to answer?
Pause.
NICKY
Where's mummy?
NICOLAS
You don't like your mummy and daddy?
NICKY
Yes, I do.
NICOLAS
Why?
Pause.
Would you like to be a soldier when you grow up?
NICKY
I don't mind.
NICOLAS
You don't? Good. You like soldiers. Good. But you spat
at my soldiers and you kicked them. You attacked them.
NICKY
Were they your soldiers?
NICOLAS
They are your country's soldiers.
NICKY
I didn't like those soldiers.
NICOLAS
They don't like you either, my darling.
Blackout
Lights up. Night.
NICOLAS *sitting. GILA standing. Her clothes are torn.*
She is bruised.
NICOLAS
When did you meet your husband?
GILA
When I was eighteen.
NICOLAS
Why?
GILA
Why?
NICOLAS
Why?
GILA
I just met him.

(停顿。)
你觉得很难回答吗?
(停顿。)
尼吉：妈妈在哪儿?

尼古拉斯：你不喜欢妈妈爸爸?

尼吉：不是的，我喜欢。

尼古拉斯：为什么?

(停顿。)
你长大了想成为一个士兵吗?
尼吉：无所谓。

尼古拉斯：你不在意？那你就是喜欢士兵，好得很。但是，你向我的士兵们吐吐沫，还踢他们。你攻击了他们。
尼吉：他们是你的士兵吗?

尼古拉斯：他们是你的国家的士兵。

尼吉：我不喜欢他们。

尼古拉斯：他们也不喜欢你，宝贝。

(灯灭。)
(灯亮。晚上。)
(尼古拉斯坐着。吉拉站着。她的衣服被扯破了，身上青一块，紫一块。)
尼古拉斯：你什么时候认识你丈夫的?

吉拉：18岁的时候。

尼古拉斯：为什么?

吉拉：什么为什么?

尼古拉斯：然后呢?

吉拉：我就遇到他了。

NICOLAS

Why?

GILA

I didn't plan it.

NICOLAS

Why not?

GILA

I didn't know him.

NICOLAS

Why not?

Pause.

Why not?

GILA

I didn't know him.

NICOLAS

Why not?

GILA

I met him.

NICOLAS

When?

GILA

When I was eighteen.

NICOLAS

Why?

GILA

He was in the room.

NICOLAS

Room?

Pause.

Room?

GILA

The same room.

NICOLAS

As what?

GILA

As I was.

NICOLAS

As I was?

Pause.

GILA

(Screaming)

As I was!

尼古拉斯：然后呢？

吉拉：我没想到会遇见他。

尼古拉斯：为什么没有？

吉拉：我那时不认识他。

尼古拉斯：为什么不认识他？

(停顿。)

为什么不认识他？

吉拉：我那时不认识他。

尼古拉斯：为什么不认识他？

吉拉：我是碰见他的。

尼古拉斯：什么时候？

吉拉：我 18 岁的时候。

尼古拉斯：然后呢？

吉拉：他在那个房间里。

尼古拉斯：房间？

(停顿。)

什么房间？

吉拉：同一个房间。

尼古拉斯：同一个什么房间？

吉拉：和我在同一个房间。

尼古拉斯：和我在同一个房间？

(停顿。)

吉拉(尖叫)：和我在同一个房间！

NICOLAS

Room? What room?

GILA

A room.

NICOLAS

What room?

GILA

My father's room.

NICOLAS

Your father? What's your father got to do with it?

Pause.

Your father? How dare you? Fuckpig.

Pause.

Your father was a wonderful man. His country is proud of him. He's dead. He was a man of honour. He's dead. Are you prepared to insult the memory of your father?

Pause.

Are you prepared to defame, to debase, the memory of your father? Your father fought for his country. I knew him. I revered him. Everyone did. He believed in God. He didn't think, like you shitbags. He lived. He lived. He was iron and gold. He would die, he would die, he would die, for his country, for his God. And he did die, he died, he died, for his God. You turd. To spawn such a daughter. What a fate. Oh, poor, perturbed spirit, to be haunted forever by such scum and spittle. How do you dare speak of your father to me? I loved him, as if he were my own father.

Silence.

Where did you meet your husband?

GILA

In a street.

NICOLAS

What were you doing there?

GILA

Walking.

NICOLAS

What was he doing?

GILA

Walking.

尼古拉斯：房间？什么房间？

吉拉：一个房间。

尼古拉斯：什么房间？

吉拉：我父亲的房间。

尼古拉斯：你父亲？你父亲同这有什么关系？

（停顿。）

你父亲？你怎么敢提你父亲？蠢货。

（停顿。）

你父亲是一个了不起的人。他的国家都为他而自豪。他已经去世了。他是一个值得尊重的人。他已经不在了。你打算给你父亲的脸上抹黑？

（停顿。）

你打算诋毁，玷污你父亲的名声？你父亲是捍卫他的国家的。我了解他。我敬重他。每个人都敬重他。他是信上帝的。他不乱想，不像你们这些没用的东西。他过日子。他只过日子。他有坚定的信念，很难得。他愿意牺牲，他愿意牺牲自己的生命。为了他的国家，为了他的上帝，他愿意牺牲自己的生命。而且他的确牺牲了自己的生命，他牺牲了自己的生命，为了他的上帝，他牺牲了自己的生命。你这个白痴。他怎么会生了你这么个女儿。命呐。哦，可怜的，不得安宁的灵魂，总是被这些社会渣滓败类纠缠着。你怎么敢在我的面前提你的父亲？我爱他，他就像是我自己的父亲。

（沉默。）

你是在哪儿遇见你丈夫的？

吉拉：在大街上。

尼古拉斯：你在那儿干什么？

吉拉：散步。

尼古拉斯：他在干什么？

吉拉：散步。

Pause.
I dropped something. He picked it up.
NICOLAS
What did you drop?
GILA
The evening paper.
NICOLAS
You were drunk.
Pause.
You were drugged.
Pause.
You had absconded from your hospital.
GILA
I was not in a hospital.
NICOLAS
Where are you now?
Pause.
Where are you now? Do you think you are in a hospital?
Pause.
Do you think we have nuns upstairs?
Pause.
What do we have upstairs?
GILA
No nuns.
NICOLAS
What do we have?
GILA
Men.
NICOLAS
Have they been raping you?
She stares at him.
How many times?
Pause.
How many times have you been raped?
Pause.
How many times?
He stands, goes to her, lifts his finger.
This is my big finger. And this is my little finger. Look. I
wave them in front of your eyes. Like this. How many times
have you been raped?
GILA
I don't know.

(停顿。)
我的东西掉了，他帮我捡起来。
尼古拉斯：你掉了什么东西？

吉拉：晚报。

尼古拉斯：你喝醉了。

(停顿。)
你吸毒了。
(停顿。)
你从医院里偷跑出来了。
吉拉：我没有在医院里。

尼古拉斯：你现在在哪儿？

(停顿。)
你现在在哪儿？你认为你是在医院里吗？
(停顿。)
你认为这儿楼上有修女吗？
(停顿。)
我们楼上有些什么人？
吉拉：没有修女。

尼古拉斯：那是什么人？

吉拉：男人。

尼古拉斯：他们一直在上你？

(她瞪着他。)
几次？
(停顿。)
你被干了几次？
(停顿。)
几次？
(他起身，朝她走过去，举起手指。)
这是我的大指。这是我的小指。看着，我
在你眼前晃手指，就像这样。你被干了几次？

吉拉：我不知道。

NICOLAS

And you consider yourself a reliable witness?

He goes to sideboard, pours drink, sits, drinks.

You're a lovely woman. Well, you were.

He leans back, drinks, sighs.

Your son is... seven. He's a little prick. You made him so. You have taught him to be so. You had a choice. You could have encouraged him to be a good person. Instead, you encouraged him to be a little prick. You encouraged him to spit, to strike at soldiers of honour, soldiers of God.

Pause.

Oh well... in one way I suppose it's academic.

Pause.

You're of no interest to me. I might even let you out of here, in due course. But I should think you might entertain us all a little more before you go.

Blackout

Lights up. Night.

NICOLAS *standing*. VICROR *sitting*. VICROR *is tidily dressed*.

NICOLAS

How have you been? Surviving?

VICTOR

Yes.

NICOLAS

Yes?

VICTOR

Yes. Yes.

NICOLAS

Really? How?

VICTOR

Oh...

Pause.

NICOLAS

I can't hear you.

VICTOR

It's my mouth.

NICOLAS

Mouth?

VICTOR

Tongue.

NICOLAS

What's the matter with it?

尼古拉斯：你以为你自己是个可靠的证人？

（他走向餐具柜，倒酒，坐下，喝酒。）

你是个可爱的女人。当然，曾经是。

（他向后靠，喝酒，叹了口气。）

你儿子……7岁了。他是个讨厌的小东西。都是你们教的。是你们把他教成那个样子的。你们本可以选择鼓励他做个好人，可到头来却把他教成了一个讨厌的小东西，还教唆他吐吐沫，攻击那些品德高尚的士兵，那些上帝的士兵。

（停顿。）

嗯，我想可能是书看多了的缘故。

（停顿。）

我对你没什么兴趣。在适当的时候，我会让你离开这里的。但我觉得你应该在离开之前犒劳我们大家一下。

（灯灭。）

（灯亮。晚上。）

（尼古拉斯站着。维克多坐着，衣着整齐。）

尼古拉斯：你还好吧？挺过来了？

维克多：是的。

尼古拉斯：是吗？

维克多：是的。是的。

尼古拉斯：真的？怎么挺过来的？

维克多：嗯，嗯……

（停顿。）

尼古拉斯：我听不到。

维克多：我的嘴。

尼古拉斯：嘴？

维克多：舌头。

尼古拉斯：你的舌头怎么啦？

Pause.

What about a drink? One for the road. What do you say to a drink?

He goes to bottle, pours two glasses, gives a glass to VICTOR.

Drink up. It'll put lead in your pencil. And then we'll find someone to take it out.

He laughs.

We can do that, you know. We have a first class brothel upstairs, on the sixth floors, chandeliers, the lot. They'll suck you in and blow you out in little bubbles. All volunteers. Their daddies are in our business. Which is, I remind you, to keep the world clean for God. Get me? Drink up. Drink up. Are you refusing to drink with me?

VICTOR drinks. His head falls back.

Cheers.

NICOLAS drinks.

You can go.

Pause.

You can leave. We'll meet again, I hope. I trust we will always remain friends. Go out. Enjoy life. Be good. Love your wife. She'll be joining you in about a week, by the way. If she feels up to it. Yes. I feel we've both benefited from our discussions.

VICTOR mutters.

What?

VICTOR mutters.

What?

VICTOR

My son.

NICOLAS

Your son? Oh, don't worry about him. He was a little prick.

VICTOR straightens and stares at NICOLAS.

Silence.

Blackout

(停顿。)

喝点酒? 最后一杯酒。要不你也来一杯?

(他拿起酒瓶, 倒了两杯酒, 递给维克多一杯。)

喝光。喝酒会让你精神抖擞, 金枪不倒啊。而且我们这儿也会有人帮你解决问题的。

(他大笑。)

我们做得到。我们楼上有一流的妓院, 就在六楼, 还有烛灯, 应有尽有。她们都是自愿来的。她们会满足你的一切所需。她们的老子都是为我们做事的。你记住, 得为了上帝保持这个世道的干净。明白了? 干了。干了。你想拒绝跟我喝酒?

(维克多一仰脖子, 把酒喝干。)

干杯。

(尼古拉斯喝干酒。)

你可以走了。

(停顿。)

你可以出去了。我希望我们后会有期。相信我们永远都会是朋友。出去后, 要好好过日子。好好地, 别捣乱, 要爱你的妻子。她一个星期后会和你团聚, 只要她能照做。是的, 我认为我们俩从交谈中都有所获。

(维克多嘟哝着。)

什么?

(维克多嘟哝着。)

怎么啦?

维克多: 我的儿子。

尼古拉斯: 你儿子? 噢, 别担心他。他曾经是个讨厌的小东西。

(维克多身子一僵, 瞪着尼古拉斯。)

(沉默。)

(灯光暗下来。)

(全剧终)

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译者按: 在全球化语境下, 中国语境下的戏剧文学研究无疑极大丰富和拓宽了对英国现当代戏剧的相关研究, 体现出中国学者为该领域研究做出的重要贡献。“在戏剧学术批评研究方面, 戏剧作品汉译以及译本研究构成了中国的英国戏剧研究体系中不可或缺的重要组成部分”(刘红卫, 2021: 113)。英语原文剧作文本、戏剧发展史、戏剧理论著述、剧作家传记和访谈等汉译, 都是中国学者独特的研究成果, 客观地反映出英国戏剧家及其作品在中国语境中的一种积极接受状态。同时, 这些中译本不仅具有较高的学术参考价值, 而且为国内的英国戏剧研究提供了重要的一手文献资料, 充分说明国内学界对这一领域的研究评价更加深入、全面和客观。客观而言, 汉译工作在一定程度上直接影响到国内研究水平的提高, 研究范围和视野的拓宽, 研究方法的更新等各方面。

戏剧《钱行酒》是英国戏剧家、诺贝尔文学奖获得者哈罗德·品特写于1983年的一部独幕剧。该剧于1984年3月13日在英国伦敦汉姆斯密斯的利瑞克剧场首演, 同年, 剧本由梅休因(Methuen)出版社首发。英国《卫报》著名剧评家迈克尔·比林顿评论认为这部剧作不仅“证明品特已度过了长达三年的戏剧创作危机”, 同时也证明他“找到了一条能将其政治观点和艺术创作结合的途径”(Billington, 2007: 293)。然而, 剧中有关暴力的描写也使不少人认为“整部戏让人绝望”(Trussler, 1993: 85), “充满暴力, 令人不安”(Billington, 2007: 297)。1985年该剧在美国纽约上演时, 一些观众在演出中途就退场, 抱怨说这部剧充满了暴力, 没有任何艺术价值, 有的只是说教(尼古拉斯·赫恩, 2012: 197)。剧中的主要人物尼古拉斯更被视为“恶魔”和“邪恶”的化身, 备受争议。如何处理艺术与现实的关系问题一直是哈罗德·品特所关注的。面对批评和质疑, 品特认为, “如果你明明知道野蛮残暴的行径是件坏事, 你该怎么办? 仅仅只是说‘野蛮残暴的行径是件坏事’吗?”(Billington, 2007: 294)当然不行。“你必须让那些邪恶的势力不受束缚地去展现自身”, “了解他们的真实, 弄清楚他们到底是什么样的, 而不试图去谴责他们, 当然也不为他们辩解——只是去描述他们”(安妮—玛丽·库萨克, 2006: 190)。从《钱行酒》这部作品中, “观众和受害者感受到的最大威胁其实不在眼前呈现出来的暴力行为, 而是耳闻话语中对于暴力的感受和想象。运用戏剧语言和暴力行为的刻意疏离, 品特艺术化地再现出现实社会中的不公正现象, 促使读者、观者能够思考作品所呈现的暴力现实背后的伦理启示。”(刘红卫, 2014: 72)