

## <<弗吉尼亚人>>

### 图书基本信息

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### 前言

从1895年美国《书商》杂志开启“按销量排序的图书目录”，美国的“畅销书”至今已有百年发展史，其间荣登年度榜的图书达上千册。

阅读这些畅销书，可以学习各时代美国最畅销图书中的语言，了解当时的阅读旨趣，领略当时的社会习俗和风土人情，何乐而不为？

不过，阅读畅销书也需精选。

畅销书只是显现读者的阅读旨趣，并不区分它的高下，读者真实的阅读旨趣是雅俗共存的；登上畅销书排行榜的并不总经得起时间的冲刷，许多名噪一时的畅销书早已销声匿迹，尘封在历史的沟壑中。

然而畅销书中自然也有大量经典得以长久流传。

我们今天重读美国百年畅销图书，有着以往不曾有的优势。

一是，时间的冲刷保证了今日重读之畅销书的经典。

能留存至今的多是能够让人细细品读出些许感悟的，而不仅是出于猎奇心理、名人效应。

二是，时空的距离感让我们能更好地反思畅销书中所折射出的社会现象。

多了一分思考的冷峻，少了一分身处当局的迷惑，我们能以一个旁观者的角色更加清醒地审视。

鉴于以上宗旨，本系列所选的畅销书都历经淘洗，至今光彩斐然，甚具代表性。

成功类的书籍诸如《白手起家的商人给儿子的信》、《罗斯福总统给子女的信》和《如何度过一天的24小时》；文学类的书籍众多，包括赫赫有名的《马克·吐温自传》，开创了美国西部牛仔小说先河的《弗吉尼亚人》，反映纽约上层社会生活的《纯真年代》，表现女性自我探索的《满溢之杯》，讲述一战之后生死与重建的《贫穷的聪明人》，扣人心弦、探求正义的《公平与不公平》，文字优美、充满真挚情感的爱情小说《百分之一的机会》和表现纽约曼哈顿贫民区生活的《明确的目标：纽约爱情故事》等；此外还有文化类书籍——世界史研究界几乎无人不知的H.G.威尔斯的《历史的概要（世界史纲）》。

每本读来都会有不一样的收获，可以满足读者对不同类型书籍的偏好。

阅读美国百年畅销图书，浸润美国最地道的语言，了解美国原汁原味的文化。

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### 内容概要

欧文·韦斯特（1860～1938），美国作家，“西部牛仔小说之父”。

提起美国，我们头脑中闪现的众多形象中必然有西部牛仔。

欧文·韦斯特的代表作《弗吉尼亚人》开创了美国西部牛仔小说的先河，小说中塑造了一个全新而典型的牛仔形象。

韦斯特笔下的弗吉尼亚人自立、冒险、乐观、正义，他不仅具有男子汉气概，而且有绅士风度，身上体现着美国人所珍视的边疆精神，在面对严苛的自然时能够把握机会实现自己的梦想。

如果您想了解真正的牛仔生活，更好地解读美国的牛仔小说，揭开牛仔备受美国人崇拜的原因，深入理解美国的牛仔文化，一起到《弗吉尼亚人》的世界中来探索真相吧。

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### 作者简介

欧文·威斯特（1860～1938），美国作家，“西部牛仔小说之父”。

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## 章节摘录

Hm !

well, it don't seem to be. She come here with that reputation. But there's been general disappointment." "Then she ain't lacked suitors any ?

" "Lacked !

Are you acquainted with cow-boys ?

" "And she disappointed 'em ?

Maybe she likes her husband ?

" "Hm !

well, how are you to tell about them silent kind ?

" "Talking of conductors," began the drummer. And we listened to his anecdote. It was successful with his audience; but when he launched fluently upon a second I strolled out. There was not enough wit in this narrator to relieve his indecency, and I felt shame at having been surprised into laughing with him. I left that company growing confidential over their leering stories, and I sought the saloon. It was very quiet and orderly. Beer in quart bottles at a dollar I had never met before; but saving its price, I found no complaint to make of it. Through folding doors I passed from the bar proper with its bottles and elk head back to the hall with its various tables. I saw a man sliding cards from a case, and across the table from him another man laying counters down. Near by was a second dealer pulling cards from the bottom of a pack, and opposite him a solemn old rustic piling and changing coins upon the cards which lay already exposed. But now I heard a voice that drew my eyes to the far corner of the room. "Why didn't you stay in Arizona ?

" Harmless looking words as I write them down here. Yet at the sound of them I noticed the eyes of the others directed to that corner. What answer was given to them I did not hear, nor did I see who spoke. Then came another remark. "Well, Arizona's no place for amateurs." This time the two card dealers that I stood near began to give a part of their attention to the group that sat in the corner. There was in me a desire to leave this room. So far my hours at Medicine Bow had seemed to glide beneath a sunshine of merriment, of easy-going jocularity. This was suddenly gone, like the wind changing to north in the middle of a warm day. But I stayed, being ashamed to go. Five or six players sat over in the corner at a round table where counters were piled. Their eyes were close upon their cards, and one seemed to be dealing a card at a time to each, with pauses and betting between. Steve was there and the Virginian; the others were new faces. "No place for amateurs," repeated the voice; and now I saw that it was the dealer's. There was in his countenance the same ugliness that his words conveyed. "Who's that talkin' ?

" said one of the men near me, in a low voice. "Trampas." "What's he ?

" "Cow-puncher, bronco-buster, tin-horn, most anything." "Who's he talkin' at ?

" "Think it's the black-headed guy he's talking at." "That ain't supposed to be safe, is it ?

" "Guess we're all goin' to find out in a few minutes." "Been trouble between 'em ?

" "They've not met before. Trampas don't enjoy losin' to a stranger." "FeUo's from Arizona, yu' say ?

" "No. Virginia. He's recently back from havin' a look at Arizona. Went down there last year for a change. Works for the Sunk Creek outfit." And then the dealer lowered his voice still further and said something in the other man's ear, causing him to grin. After which both of them looked at me. There had been silence over in the corner; but now the man Trampas spoke again. ....

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