

《红楼梦》

Hónglóu Mèng,
A Dream of Red Mansions

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《红楼梦》绘本

导读问题 Lead-in Questions

1. 《红楼梦》的作者是谁？他有什么样的家庭背景（bāifēng, background）？
2. 《红楼梦》写的是谁人的生活？
3. 贾宝玉（Jiǎ Bǎoyù, a person's name）、林黛玉（Lín Dàiyù, a person's name）、薛宝钗（Xuē Bǎochāi, a person's name）是谁？他们各自都有什么经历？
4. 为什么贾宝玉没能跟林黛玉结婚？你觉得贾宝玉应该娶（qǐ, to marry）薛宝钗还是娶林黛玉？为什么？
5. 为什么《红楼梦》是一部悲剧（bēijù, tragedy）小说？



名著 míngzhù
masterpiece

红学 hōngxué
Redology, the study of *A Dream of Red Mansions*

主人公 zhǔréngōng
hero or heroine, protagonist,
leading character in a novel,
etc.

凄美 qīměi
poignant, beautiful and sad

堪比 kānbǐ comparable

莎士比亚 Shāshìbǐyà
Shakespeare

罗密欧与朱丽叶

Luómì'ōu Yǔ Zhūlièyè
Romeo and Juliet

出生 chūshēng to be born

富裕 fùyǔ rich

权势 quǎnshì
power and influence

看透 kāntòu
to see through

兴衰 xīngshuāi
rise and fall, vicissitude

荣辱 róngǔ
honor and disgrace

描写 miáoxiě
to describe

贵族 guìzú aristocracy

细腻 xīnì
fine and exquisite

《红楼梦》是中国古典文学四大名著之一，几百年来影响很大，还形成了一门专门的学问——红学^①。小说主人公贾宝玉和林黛玉凄美的爱情故事堪比莎士比亚的名剧《罗密欧与朱丽叶》，深受中国人的喜爱。

作者曹雪芹出生在晚清一个很富裕的大家庭里，但后来曹家失去了权势，变得十分贫穷。晚年的曹雪芹看透了兴衰荣辱，他以自己的亲身经历为基础，写成了这部伟大的作品。小说描写了四个大家族的兴衰，还描写了贵族和平民的生活，通过种种细腻的描述和对比，写出了个悲剧故事。



曹雪芹雕像

A Dream of Red Mansions is a masterpiece of classical Chinese literature. It has been very influential during the past several hundred years. The study of the masterpiece is called Redology. The poignant love story of the protagonists Jia Baoyu and Lin Daiyu is comparable to Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* and is particularly loved by Chinese people.

The author Cao Xueqin was born into a wealthy household during the late Qing Dynasty, but later on the Cao family lost its power and influence and became impoverished. Cao Xueqin in his later years was able to see through the vicissitudes of life, and used his own experiences as the basic to write this world-famous work. The author described the rise and fall of four great feudal families in this work. At the same time he described the lives of both the aristocracy and the common people. Through these finely detailed descriptions and comparisons he penned a tragic story.



《红楼梦》书籍



彼此 bǐcǐ each other
亲戚 qīnqi relative

心肝宝贝 xīngān bǎobèi
a sweetheart, the person that
one loves most

娇生惯养 jiāoshēng-guānyǎng
to spoil

养成 yǎngchéng
to develop, to cultivate

浪漫 làngmàn romantic

叛逆 pǎnnì to rebel

性格 xìnggé
characteristic

多愁善感 duōchóu-shànǎn
sentimental

发呆 fādāi
to daze, to be in a daze

叹息 tānxī to sigh

悲伤 bēishāng
sad, sorrowful

诗歌 shīgē poems

约束 yuēshù to restrain

小说中的四个大家族分别姓贾、王、史、薛。他们彼此都是亲戚，在当时也都很有权势。

贾家的贾宝玉因为生下来嘴巴里就含着一块玉，所以取名“宝玉”。宝玉的奶奶贾母非常喜欢他，把他当作心肝宝贝，从小对他娇生惯养，所以养成了宝玉自由、浪漫又有点儿叛逆的性格。

宝玉有一个表妹叫林黛玉，宝玉叫她“林妹妹”。黛玉很有才华，也非常美丽。她的父母在她小时候就去世了，所以黛玉住在姥姥家，也就是宝玉的奶奶家，和宝玉他们生活在一起。黛玉从小体弱多病，多愁善感。她常常一个人发呆、叹息、流泪，还写了很多悲伤的诗歌。尽管宝玉因为自由、叛逆的性格常受到父母和其他人的批评，但黛玉与宝玉性格相投，从来不约束他，所以宝玉和黛玉在一起觉得很自由。



贾宝玉



林黛玉

The story occurred in a big city where lived four big feudal families: the Jias, the Wangs, the Shis and the Xues. They were all related to each other and powerful in that area.

Jia Baoyu of the Jia family, who was found a piece of jade in his mouth when he was born, was given the name of *Baoyu* (precious jade). Lady Jia, Baoyu's grandmother, doted on Baoyu and took him as her sweetheart. He was pampered when he was small, and that developed Baoyu's willful, romantic and slightly rebellious nature.

Baoyu had a younger cousin named Lin Daiyu; he called her "Little Sister Lin". Daiyu was talented and extremely pretty but her parents died when she was very young, so she lived together with Baoyu and the others at the home of her maternal grandmother, who was Baoyu's paternal grandmother. Daiyu, from a very young age, was frail and often ill, and was an emotional and sensitive person. Even though Baoyu's parents often criticized him for his willful and rebellious nature and other people in the family also tried to restrain him, Daiyu and Baoyu however, were of the same nature, and she never constrained him, so Baoyu and Daiyu felt free when they were together. The two of them would often read, compose poetry together,



黛玉葬花



锁 suǒ lock
和尚 héshang
Buddhist monk

开朗 kāilǎng
cheerful, open and clear
相处 xiāngchǔ
to get along

融洽 róngqiè harmonious

吟诗 yín shī
to recite poetry

嬉笑 xīxiào
to laugh, to smile

玩耍 wánshuǎ to play

擅长 shàncháng
to be good at

宝玉还有一个表姐，叫薛宝钗。宝钗比宝玉大一点儿，所以宝玉叫她“宝姐姐”。宝钗长得也很漂亮，她戴着一个金锁，据说是一个和尚给的，那个和尚还说她以后必须和有玉的人结婚。谁有玉呢？自然是贾宝玉。宝钗虽然年纪不大，但聪明伶俐、开朗大方，和贾家的人相处得很融洽，大家都很喜欢她。



薛宝钗

宝玉、黛玉和宝钗居住的地方叫“大观园”，这里还住着其他几个姐妹。



宝黛共读

他们常常一起吟诗作画，一起嬉笑玩耍。黛玉和宝钗的诗总是写得最好。可是黛玉不太会和

别人相处，常常发脾气，而宝钗很擅长与人相处，更受大家喜欢。

and play together. As the days passed they developed an adoration of one another.

Baoyu had an older cousin named Xue Baochai. Baochai was a little older than Baoyu, so Baoyu called her "Elder Sister Bao". Baochai was also very pretty. She wore a gold locket; it was said to be given to her by a Buddhist monk, who said that when she grew up she must marry someone with jade. Who had jade? Jia Baoyu naturally. So her mother brought her to the Jia family. Although Baochai was quite young, she was smart and clever, cheerful and generous and got along well with the Jia family; everyone liked her, and felt she and Baoyu were a natural pair.



“金陵十二钗”邮票

The place where Baoyu, Daiyu and Baochai lived was called *Daguan Yuan* (Prospect Garden). Several other cousins lived here as well. They often recited poetry or painted together, and would play and amuse themselves together. Daiyu and Baochai's poems were always the best. But Daiyu was not able to get along very well with others, while Baochai was good at it and was even more liked by them.

Baoyu and Little Sister Lin often recited poetry and play together. With



婚姻 hūnyīn marriage

势力 shìlì
force, power, influence

孤独 gūdú lonely

糊里糊涂 hūlǐhūtú
confused, be in a fog,
be all abroad

新娘 xīnniáng bride

顿时 dūnshí suddenly

悲痛欲绝 bēitòng yù jué
distraught, sorrowful

潇洒 xiāosǎ
chic, natural and unrestrained

美若天仙 měi ruò tiānxiān
beautiful like a fairy

心灰意冷 xīnhuī-yìlěng
downhearted, dispirited,
disheartened

宝玉和黛玉常常一起读书作诗，一同游戏，天长日久，彼此产生了爱慕之情。可是在那个时代，婚姻是由父母决定的。贾家的人更喜欢开朗大方、家庭背景更有势力的宝钗，所以要让宝玉和宝钗结婚。黛玉知道后非常伤心，一下子就病倒了。就在宝玉和宝钗举行婚礼的当天，林黛玉就孤独地病死了。其实那天宝玉也正在生病，他糊里糊涂地还以为是和林妹妹结婚呢。当他发现新娘不是林妹妹，又得知林妹妹已经死了的时候，顿时觉得非常难过，悲痛欲绝。

多情潇洒的贾宝玉和美若天仙的林黛玉相亲相爱，最终却没有在一起。后来，有人说贾宝玉心灰意冷，出家当了和尚，跟着一个和尚和一个道士不知去了哪里。



宝玉出家剧照

time passing by, they fell in love with each other. But in those days marriage was decided by the parents. Baochai's family had much more power than Daiyu's family, and Baochai is more cheerful and brighter than Daiyu. So Baoyu's parents wished Baoyu and Baochai to marry. When Daiyu learned of it she was heartbroken, and was immediately struck down by illness. On the day when Baoyu and Baochai were married, Lin Daiyu died of illness, all alone. On that day Baoyu also became ill. He confusedly thought that he was marrying Little Sister Lin. When he found out that his bride was not Little Sister Lin and that in fact she had already died, he suddenly felt extremely sad and distraught.

Jia Baoyu, who was dashing and romantic, and Lin Daiyu, who was beautiful as a fairy, loved each other but in the end did not marry. Later on, there were people who said that Jia Baoyu lost all hope and left home to become a Buddhist monk, following a monk and a Daoist somewhere.



宝钗扑蝶