<b>Chinese Simplifie</b>
故事书

## 《卢德传》

### 前言

《卢德传》是犹太叙事文学作品中一颗璀璨的明珠。摩阿布的外 邦女子卢德嫁给了伯利恒的波阿次,后来她成为达味圣王的祖母。 在这个故事之外,我们还可以发现它的历史渊源,因为卢德是人们 信赖天主的模范。天主是美善和信实的上主,他的仁爱也普及到外 邦人的身上。

## 外邦女子

1

1 在民长执政时期,国内闹饥荒。2 有个名叫厄里默肋客的人,带着他的妻子纳敖米和两个儿子玛赫隆及基肋雍,从犹大白冷城迁居到了摩阿布。3 没多久,厄里默肋客就死了,留下了他的妻子和两个儿子。4 后来,玛赫隆和基肋雍分别娶了当地的摩阿布女子敖尔帕和卢德为妻。

他们在那儿住了十几年, 5 玛赫隆和基肋雍也相继去世了。失去 丈夫和儿子的纳敖米 6-8 便打算和两个儿媳回白冷城,因为她听说 天主垂怜城内的老百姓,赐给他们粮食。

在她们回犹大的路上,纳敖米对她的儿媳们说:"你们走吧,回自己的娘家去吧!愿主恩待你们,就像你们对待死者和我一样,9让他保佑你们各自在新夫家中,过上平安的日子。"

说完就与她们亲吻道别,敖尔帕和卢德哭着,10 对婆婆说: "不,我们要跟您回到您的族人那里去!"

11 纳敖米回答道:

"我的女儿,你们回家去吧!跟着我有什么好处呢? 难道我还能怀孕生子给你们做丈夫吗?

# **STORIES**

**English** 

## RUTH

#### Introduction

The book of Ruth is a jewel of Hebrew narrative. Ruth, the Moabite foreigner, will be the great-grandmother of King David, through her wedding to Boaz, a rich farmer from Bethlehem. Out of this story, that probably has a historical root, a beautiful model to trust on God is made; God's piety extends even to a foreigner, because of his goodness and fidelity.

## The foreigner girl

1 There was a famine in the land during the time of the Judges, and a man from Bethlehem in Judah departed with his wife and two sons to sojourn in the country of Moab. <sup>2</sup>The man was Elimelech, his wife Naomi, and his two sons Mahlon and Chilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem, Judah. A little later, after they had settled in Moab. <sup>3</sup>Naomi's husband Elimelech died. She was left with her two sons, <sup>4</sup>who married Moabite women, one named Orpah and the other Ruth.

After living in Moab for about ten years, <sup>5</sup>Mahlon and Chilion also died and Naomi was left bereft of husband and two sons. <sup>6</sup>Having heard that Yahweh had come to help his people by giving them food, Naomi prepared to return home. <sup>7</sup>With her two daughters-in-law, she took the road back to Judah.

<sup>8</sup>It was then that Naomi said to her daughters-in-law:

—Go back, each of you, to your mother's house. And may Yahweh be kind to you, as you have been to your dead and to me. <sup>9</sup>May he also grant each of you rest in the home of another husband.

She kissed them goodbye. But they wept aloud <sup>10</sup> and said to her:

- —No, we will go back with you to your people.
- <sup>11</sup>Naomi said:
- —Return home, my daughters. Why should you come with me?

- 12 孩子们,走吧!我老了,不能再嫁人了,就算我今晚嫁得出去,马上怀孕生子,13 你们还能一直不嫁等他们长大成人吗?别傻了,孩子们,跟着我,反而增加我的苦处,雅威已出手惩罚了我。"
- 14 她们于是又哭了起来。最后敖尔帕起身吻别她的婆婆,便回自己的家乡去了。但是卢德仍然留下来陪着婆婆。
  - 15 纳敖米对她说:
- "你怎么不跟着你嫂嫂,回自己的家乡和自己的神明那里去呢?"
  - 16 卢德回答:
- "求您别逼我离开。您到哪里我就跟到哪里,您住哪里我就住哪里;您的家乡就是我的家乡;您的天主就是我的天主;17 您死在哪里,我就死在哪里并葬在那里;要不是死才让我离开您的话,就让雅威重重地罚我!"
  - 18 纳敖米见她执意要跟着自己,也就不再劝她离开了。
- 19 于是两个人结伴到了白冷城。城里的人们一见她们来了,都很惊讶。妇女们惊奇地问道:
  - "这不是纳敖米吗?"

## 富裕的波阿次

2

- 1 纳敖米丈夫的家族中有个有钱有势的亲戚叫波阿次。2 有一天,卢德对她婆婆说:
  - "让我到田里去,我蒙谁的恩,就跟在谁的后面拾些麦穗。" 她的婆婆回答她说:
    - "女儿,你去吧!"
- 3 她就到田里去,跟在收割工人们的后面捡麦穗。正巧,她去的那里,就是厄里默肋客家族人波阿次的田地。
  - 4 这天,波阿次也从白冷来到田里。他问候那些工人们:
    - "愿主与你们同在!"

他们也回礼说:

- "愿主赐福给你!"
- 5波阿次问监督收割的仆人:

<sup>14</sup>Again they sobbed and wept. Then Orpah kissed her mother-in-law goodbye, but Ruth clung to her.

15Naomi said·

—Look, your sister-in-law returns to her people and her gods. You too must return. Go after her.

<sup>16</sup>Ruth replied:

—Don't ask me to leave you. For I will go where you go and stay where you stay. Your people will be my people and your god, my God. <sup>17</sup>Where you die, there will I die and be buried. May Yahweh deal with me severely if anything except death separates us.

<sup>18</sup>Realizing that Ruth was determined to go with her, Naomi stopped urging her.

<sup>19</sup>So the two went on till they reached Bethlehem. Their arrival set the town astir. Women asked:

—Can this be Naomi?

### The rich man from town

- **2** <sup>1</sup>Naomi had a well-to-do kinsman, Boaz, from the clan of her husband Elimelech. <sup>2</sup>And Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi:
- —Let me go to pick up the left-over grain in the field whose owner will allow me that favor.

Naomi said:

- -Go ahead, my daughter.
- <sup>3</sup>So she went to glean in the fields behind the harvesters. It happened that the field she entered belonged to Boaz of the clan of Elimelech.
  - <sup>4</sup>When Boaz came from Bethlehem, he greeted the harvesters:
  - —Yahweh be with you.

They returned the greeting:

- —Yahweh bless you.
- <sup>5</sup>Noticing Ruth, Boaz asked the foreman of his harvesters:

"这是谁家的女子?"

## 6 监工回答:

"就是那个才跟纳敖米从摩阿布回来的摩阿布女子,7她清早来时请求过我,让她跟在工人们的身后捡麦穗,一直干到现在还没休息过呢!"

8波阿次于是对卢德说:

"我的孩子!你不必去别人的田里捡麦穗了,就留在我这里吧,要常同我的侍女们在一起。9你看仆人们在哪里收割,你就跟在他们后面,我已吩咐他们不要为难你,要是口渴了,就到水罐里喝仆人们打来的水。"10卢德听了,就向波阿次俯首跪拜说:

"我怎能蒙你如此地善待?"

### 11 波阿次答道:

"因为我听说你自守寡后,非常孝敬你婆婆。为了她,甚至离 开自己的父老乡亲,来到这个对你完全陌生的民族中;这一切 事,大家都一一告诉了我。12 愿雅威报答你的功德,愿你投奔其 翼下的雅威、以色列的天主,赐给你的报偿是丰厚的!"

### 13 卢德答说:

"我主!我连你的一个婢女都不如,竟蒙您如此好意安慰我, 对您的婢女说出这么令人感动的话!"

14 到了吃饭的时候,波阿次叫她:

"你上前来,把饼浸在酸酒里吃。"

她就坐在收割的人旁边,波阿次递给她烘烤过的麦饼。卢德吃 饱了,还有些剩下的。

15 就马上又起身去拾麦穗了。波阿次于是吩咐他的工人们说: "她就是在麦捆里拾麦穗,你们也要让她去,不要难为她。16 而且要从麦捆中抽出些来,丢在地上让她捡,不可责骂她。"

17 卢德在田里捡了一天的麦子,晚上将所拾的麦穗打了约有一 "厄法"重的大麦。18 她就背着麦子回城了,拿回家给婆婆看, 并且把中午吃剩下的食物,拿出来给婆婆。

### 19 婆婆问她:

"你今天在哪里捡的麦穗?在哪里工作?愿那照顾你的人蒙受 祝福!"

卢德便把自己在田里工作的事告诉了婆婆,

—To whom does that young woman belong?

<sup>6</sup>The foreman replied:

—She is the Moabite who came back with Naomi from the country of Moab. <sup>7</sup>She came this morning and asked leave to glean behind the harvesters. Since then she has been working without a moment's rest.

<sup>8</sup>Boaz said to Ruth:

—Listen, my daughter. Don't go away from here to glean in anyone else's field. Stay here with my women servants. <sup>9</sup>See where the harvesters are and follow behind. I have ordered the men not to molest you. They have filled some jars with water. Go there and drink when you are thirsty. <sup>10</sup>Bowing down with her face to the ground, she exclaimed:

—Why have I, a foreigner, found such favor in your eyes?

<sup>11</sup>Boaz answered:

—I have been told all about you: what you have done for your mother-in-law since your husband's death, how you have gone with her, leaving your own father and mother and homeland, to live with a people you knew nothing about before you came here. <sup>12</sup>May Yahweh reward you for this! May you receive full recompense from Yahweh, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come for refuge!

<sup>13</sup>Ruth said:

—May I prove worthy of your favor, my lord. You have consoled your servant with your kind words, though I am not the equal of your maidservants.

<sup>14</sup>Boaz called her at mealtime:

—Come over, have some bread and dip it in the wine.

As she sat among the reapers, he handed her some roasted grain. She ate her fill and had some left over.

15When she rose to glean, Boaz instructed his men:

—Let her glean even among the sheaves and do not scold her. <sup>16</sup>And pull some stalks from the bundles; leave them scattered for her to glean.

<sup>17</sup>She worked until evening and when she threshed what she had gleaned it amounted to about an ephah. <sup>18</sup>Ruth carried back to town the threshed barley, which she showed to her mother-in-law. She also gave her what she had left over from lunch.

<sup>19</sup>Naomi asked her daughter-in-law:

—Where did you glean today? Where did you work? May the man who took notice of you be blessed.

Ruth told her mother-in-law about the owner of the field where she had worked.

### 并且说:

"我今天在一个名叫波阿次的人的田里工作。"

20 婆婆对儿媳说:

"如果真是波阿次的话,愿那眷顾生者和死者的雅威祝福他! 这人是我们的亲戚,而且是位对我们有至亲义务的人。"

21 卢德接着说:

"他还叫我常和他的收割仆人在一起,直到收割结束。"

22 纳敖米便对卢德说:

"这样更好,我的女儿,你就常和他的仆女在一处干活,如此,免得你去别人的田里遭欺负。"

23 于是,卢德就紧跟着波阿次的婢女们一起拾麦穗,一直到大 麦和小麦的收割结束。卢德继续和婆婆住在一起。

### 打谷场的夜晚

3

8 到了半夜,波阿次醒来,惊见一位女子睡在脚旁,忙转身问 道:9 "你是谁?"

她回答说: '"我是你的仆人卢德。现在请你掀开你的衣襟盖上我吧,因为你有义务帮助我的。"

10 "愿雅威祝福你!我的孩子!" 他答道:

"你现在行这样的善德,远胜于以前所做的,因为村里的青年,不论贫富,你都没有选择!11 我的孩子,尽管放心,你所要求的,我一定都做到。全村的人都知道你是个贤德的女人。12 不错,我的确是你的至亲,但是还有一个亲戚比我更近。13 今晚你就暂时睡在这里,明早且看那位至亲是否愿意对你尽义务,如果他不愿意,那么,奉天主之名,我必定负责照顾你。你安心地睡吧!"14 天还未亮,在人们尚未看清前,卢德便起身了。波阿次心想:可别让人知道卢德昨晚在这里过了夜。

15 然后对卢德说:

"摊开你的披肩,拿好。"

就往卢德的披肩里倒了六斗大麦,放在卢德肩上,她就背着回 城去了。

16 回到家,婆婆问她:

Ruth said:

—His name is Boaz.

<sup>20</sup>Naomi exclaimed:

—May Yahweh bless him! God indeed is merciful both to the living and the dead. This man is a close relative, one with a right of redemption over us.

<sup>21</sup>Ruth continued:

—He even told me to stay with his servants until they finish harvesting the grain.

<sup>22</sup>Naomi said:

—It will be better for you, my daughter, to go out with his maidservants than to go working in some other field where harm might come to you.

<sup>23</sup>Ruth, therefore, stayed close to the maidservants of Boaz, gleaning until the end of the wheat and barley harvests. And she continued living with her mother-in-law.

# The night on the threshing floor

**3** <sup>9</sup>Boaz asked:

—Who are you?

The answer came:

—I am Ruth, your servant. Spread the corner of your cloak over me for you are a kinsman who has right of redemption over me.

<sup>10</sup>Boaz said:

—May Yahweh bless you, my daughter! This kindness of yours now is even greater than that which you have shown earlier, for you have not gone after young men, rich or poor. <sup>11</sup>Have no fear, my daughter; I will do for you all that you ask, since all my townsmen know that you are a worthy woman. <sup>12</sup>It is true that I am a close relative, but there is another still closer. <sup>13</sup>Stay here for the night. In the morning, if he wants to claim you—good! But if not—as surely as Yahweh lives—I will claim you myself. Lie here till morning.

15Then turning to Ruth, Boaz said:

—Hold out the mantle you are wearing.

She did so and he poured into it six measures of barley. He helped her lift the bundle, then went back to town.

<sup>16</sup>Ruth returned home to her mother-in-law, who asked:

"事情办得怎么样了?"

她便将事情的经过:17 他为她做了什么,

他给她这些大麦以免空手回家见婆婆等等,一五一十全告诉了 婆婆。

18 纳敖米听了之后对她说:

"我女,你等着吧!我相信他今天若不料理此事,必不会心安。"

#### 婚宴

**4** 1 波阿次就到城门口去,坐在那里等那个他对卢德提起过的亲戚。那人一经过,

波阿次便叫住他,

邀他一起坐下,

2 波阿次又找来了城中十位长老,要他们一起来同席。3 一切准备 就绪,波阿次便对那位亲属说:

"咱们的亲戚厄里默肋客已经过世了,纳敖米是他的妻子,刚从摩阿布回来。她想把厄里默肋客留下的田地卖掉。4 我想我应该在诸位长老面前把整件事告诉你。如果你愿意尽义务,那最好,若是不愿意,那么也告诉我一声,因为在你之后,该负责的就是我了。

"这位亲戚答道"好的,我愿意尽这义务!"5 波阿次继续刚才的话:"如果你愿意从纳敖米手中买下这块地,就该同时娶咱们亲戚在摩阿布留下的遗孀卢德为妻,这样他的子孙才能继承其祖先的产业。"

6 "这么说来,我便不能答应了,免得我自己子孙的权益受害。就由你担负这个责任吧!"那亲戚对他说。

7以色列当时有个习俗,即双方进行一项买卖或交易时,其中 一方必须把自己的鞋子脱下来,交给另一方,如同契约一般,以 确定双方达成协议。

8 于是, 那位至亲便把鞋子脱下来, 对波阿次说:

—How did you fare, my daughter?

She told her everything <sup>17</sup> and added:

—He gave me these six measures of barley because, as he said, he did not want me to go back to my mother-in-law empty-handed.

<sup>18</sup>Naomi said:

—Wait, my daughter, till you learn what happens, for he will not rest until it is settled today.

# The wedding

- **4** <sup>1</sup>Meanwhile Boaz went to the town gate and sat there waiting for the closer relative about whom he had spoken to Ruth. When he saw him coming, he called him by name and said:
  - —Come here and sit down.

And so he did.

<sup>2</sup>Boaz picked out ten from the city elders and asked them to sit with them, which they did. <sup>3</sup>Then he said to the other man who also had right of redemption:

—Naomi, who has come back from Moab, is selling the piece of land that belonged to our brother Elimelech. <sup>4</sup>I thought of bringing this matter to you before our elders here, because as the closer kin you have more right to lay claim to it. But if you have no wish to redeem it, let me know because I am next to you in line.

The man replied:

- —I am willing to put in my claim. I will redeem it. <sup>5</sup>Boaz continued:
- —If you buy the land from Naomi, you will also have to take the Moabite Ruth, widow of the late heir, and her sons will inherit the name and the land of the dead.

<sup>6</sup>The man said·

—Then I cannot redeem it, because I might endanger my own estate. Redeem it yourself.

<sup>7</sup>It used to be the custom in Israel that for a contract of redemption or exchange to become binding, one party had to take off his sandal and give it to the other. This act legalized transactions.

<sup>8</sup>So the man took off his sandal and said to Boaz:

"就由你买下吧!"

9波阿次见此,便对长老及所有在场的人说道:

"今天我从纳敖米手中买下她丈夫厄里默肋客和她儿子所有的产业,各位就是我的见证人。10 同时,我也娶玛赫隆的遗孀即摩阿布女子卢德为妻,好让死者在嗣业上留名,免得他的名字在兄弟门户间失传。"

## 11 在场的民众及长老都说:

"我们愿为此作见证。愿雅威使你的妻子像那两位建立了以色列家族的辣黑耳和肋阿一样,愿你在厄弗辣大强大,名扬白冷城! 12 愿你的家族因雅威应允的少妇给你所生的后裔,如同塔玛尔给犹大所生的儿子培勒兹的家族一般,得享盛名。" 达味族谱

13 于是,波阿次就娶了卢德,蒙主恩赐,卢德怀孕并且生了一个儿子。

### 14 妇女们向纳敖米道贺说:

"赞美主!他没让你家断了子嗣。愿他在以色列得享圣名。15 这个孩子是你心灵的安慰,你年老的依靠。因为这个孩子是敬爱 你的儿媳所生。你有卢德这样的儿媳,实胜过有七个儿子。"

16 纳敖米把婴儿接过来抱在怀里,做了他的保母。 17 街坊 领居的妇女们都说:

"纳敖米得了个儿子。"

她们给他取名叫敖贝得。敖贝得就是叶瑟的父亲,达味的祖 父。 —Buy it yourself.

<sup>9</sup>Boaz turned to the elders and all those present.

—This day you are witnesses that I buy from Naomi all the holdings of Elimelech, Chilion and Mahlon. <sup>10</sup>I also take Mahlon's widow, Ruth the Moabite, as my wife to raise up a family for her late husband, so that the name of the dead will be restored to his inheritance and be present among his brothers when they gather at the gate of his town. Do you witness this today?

11The elders and all those at the gate answered:

—We witness. May Yahweh make the woman coming into your house like Rachel and Leah, who together built up the house of Israel. May you prosper in Ephrathah and be of good standing in Bethlehem. <sup>12</sup>And through the offspring Yahweh will give you by this woman, may your house become like that of Perez whom Tamar bore to Judah.

<sup>13</sup>So Ruth was taken by Boaz and became his wife. Yahweh made her conceive and give birth to a son.

<sup>14</sup>The women said to Naomi:

—Blessed be Yahweh who has provided you today with an heir. May he become famous in Israel! <sup>15</sup>He will be your comfort and stay in your old age, for he is born of a daughter-in-law who loves you and is worth more than seven sons.

<sup>16</sup>Naomi took the child as her own and became his nurse. <sup>17</sup>And the women of the neighborhood gave him his name, saying:

—A son has been born for Naomi.

They named him Obed. He was the father of Jesse, who was David's father.