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# The House by the Sea

Patricia Aspinall 著

## 海边的别墅



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■ 原版系列编辑 Philip Prowse

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“剑桥双语分级阅读·小说馆”是一套从剑桥大学出版社引进的面向非英语国家英语学习者的分级系列读物，由英语语言教学专家及小说作家合力创作。创作过程历时二十余年，出版后受到世界各地英语教师和英语学习者的喜爱，许多读本再版十余次，二十余年来畅销不衰，成为全球英语学习者首选的优秀读本。

本系列读物具有以下突出的特色：

1. 它是原创英语读物，而非改编自普通作品的读物。因此，阅读本系列读物，我们读到的是原汁原味的原创英语，而非人为改编过的二手英语。

2. 它是当代优秀短篇小说，而非上个或上上个世纪的小说。因此，阅读本系列读物，我们读到的是当今活的、学了就能用的英语，而非穿越时空的、学了难以用的英语；了解的是与我们同时代英语国家人们的、而非隔代人的生活、文化、风土人情和价值观。

3. 它是专为非英语国家的英语学习者量身定制的读物，而非为英语母语者而写的大众读物。因此，本系列读物是最适合英语学习的读物。

4. 它是英美知名小说家和英语语言教学专家合力创作的读物，小说家保障了读物的可读性与可欣赏性，英语语言教学专家保障了读物语言作为英语学习得材料的科学性与可学性。本系列中的很多小说都曾获得国际广泛阅读教育学会颁发的“语言学习者文学奖 (Language Learner Literature Award)”。因此，阅读本系列读物，我们会在欣赏小说的同时，自然而然地、有效地提高自己的英语水平。

5. 它的故事题材丰富多样，包括侦探、情感、历险、悬疑、人文、科幻、喜剧等，读者可以随心选择自己喜欢的类别进行阅读；它的故事内容生动有趣，故事情节引人入胜、扣人心弦，一旦开始阅读，就想一口气读完，使阅读真正升华到“悦读”。

6. 随书附赠的音频材料内容精彩——它不是普通英语母语者的朗读录音，而是专业配音员的演绎再创作。听着它，我们犹如在听广播剧、听评书，又仿佛是在听电影、听话剧……这种聆听英语的享受将彻底扫除学生对英语听力的畏难心理。

7. 读本中所使用的语言，既有英式英语，也有美式英语，对应的音频材料也相应分为英音和美音。读者可根据自己的喜好来选择。



8. 本系列一百多本读物根据“欧洲共同语言参考框架 (CEF)”和“剑桥大学外语考试部 (ESOL)”的标准来确定级别划分,是建立在科学研究和实践基础之上的分级。全套共分七个级别(与中国学生英语基础水平的大致对应关系,请参见图书封底表格),读者可根据自己的英语基础选择相应级别的读本来学习。

为了更好地帮助中国学生学习和欣赏,“剑桥双语分级阅读·小说馆”从剑桥大学出版社原版引进后又增加了以下内容:

1. 增加了适量的辅助学习内容,包括“读前思考”“读后活动”“学习指导”三个板块,其中“学习指导”板块又包括生词、短语和表达、文化点滴、阅读练习四项内容。增加这些板块的宗旨是全方位帮助学生提升英语阅读能力,扩充词汇量,扫除阅读中的文化障碍,提高对英语小说的鉴赏能力。

2. 增加了小说全文的参考译文。出于语言学习的考虑,译文尽量采用直译,保证两种语言句子的基本对应,避免文学式意译。值得一提的是,所增加的辅助学习内容和参考译文,均由来自全国不同省市著名中学(包括人大附中、北大附中、清华附中、黄冈中学、上海中学等三十余所中学)的一线英语教师完成,从而确保了所加内容与中国学生的英语学习特点和学习需求相吻合,为学生阅读和欣赏读物、提高英语水平给予恰到好处的助力。目前,本系列中的读本在上海市教育委员会中小学图书馆工作委员会组织的第23届上海市中小学、幼儿园优秀图书评选活动中获得三等奖,并已纳入中国教育装备行业协会发布的《中小学图书馆(室)配备核心书目》。

3. 提供配套网络资源。本系列读物配有专题网页,读者可以在网页上了解读物的基本信息、故事梗概、作者和编译者;可以通过“在线测试”(http://cdextras.cambridge.org/Readers/RPT\_last.swf)帮助确定适合自己的阅读级别,再结合自己对题材和英式或美式英语的偏好,来选择具体的读本;还可以进行故事预览和试听,下载录音和拓展习题,与其他读者分享、交流读书心得。教师还可以分享教学经验并下载教案等相关资源(http://www.blcup.com和http://www.camstory.cn)。

英语阅读是英语课堂的延伸和补充,也是培养英语语感、提高英语水平的有效途径。选择好的英语读物,收获的将不仅仅是语言的进步。欢迎年轻朋友们来到“剑桥双语分级阅读·小说馆”,打开一本本好书,品味一个个好故事,为实现梦想搭建桥梁。

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## 故事中的人物

**Carl Anderson:** a businessman who lives and works in London

**Linda Anderson:** Carl's wife who buys the house by the sea

**Mary Banks:** the owner of the *Ancient Mariner* pub in Little Moreton

**Police Constable (PC) Grant:** the young policeman in Great Moreton

**Melissa:** a friend of Linda's

**John:** a journalist and old friend of Carl's – they went to university together

**Tom Parker:** he lives in a car on the beach in Little Moreton

**Bill Parker:** Tom's brother and a taxi driver in Little Moreton

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卡尔·安德森：一位在伦敦居住和工作的商人

琳达·安德森：卡尔的妻子，她买了海边的别墅

玛丽·班克斯：小莫顿村“老水手”酒吧的主人

格兰特警员：大莫顿村的年轻警察

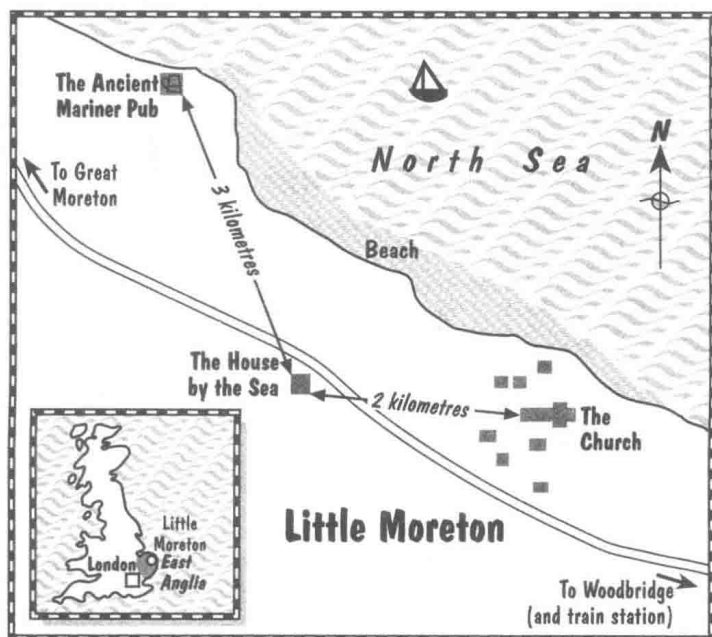
梅利莎：琳达的朋友

约翰：一名记者，卡尔的老朋友——他们是大学同学

汤姆·帕克：他住在小莫顿村海滩上的一辆车里

比尔·帕克：汤姆的哥哥，小莫顿村的一位出租车司机







1. Look at the front cover. What sort of story is this?
2. Read the contents page. Can you imagine what is going to happen in the story?
3. Match the chapter titles with the sentences from each chapter.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter 1 Old friends
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter 2 Waiting for Linda
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter 3 Mad Tom
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter 4 A voice in the dark
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter 5 The smell of death
  - a) 'Will you come down on the train? I'll meet you at the station.'
  - b) I tried to remember where I had heard his voice before.
  - c) There was blood on the blankets. There was somebody in the bed!
  - d) All that I could think about was that madman's face.
  - e) I realised it was someone I had been at university with five years ago.
4. If you have the recording, listen to Chapter 1.



# Chapter 1 Old friends

It was lunchtime. I'd been in the *Jolly Sailor* pub in west London for about half an hour, when I saw a man sitting by himself in a corner of the room. Although I didn't know his name I was sure I knew him from somewhere. He had grey hair and he was looking out of the window at the River Thames.

I don't usually go to the pub at lunchtime, but it was the birthday of one of the other journalists at work. There were four of us. I asked them if they knew the man sitting in the corner. They looked over, but no-one knew him. I don't know why, but I just kept looking at him, trying to remember.

Finally, when we were all about to go back to work, the man turned round and looked straight at me. He knew me, I could see, because he smiled at me. Who was he? Then I realised it was someone I had been at university with five years ago. I couldn't remember his name immediately. He looked so old. He started to get up from his chair and I walked over to him. As I got closer I remembered his name.

'Carl,' I said, 'good to see you. What are you doing here?' I held out my hand.

'John, what a surprise! It's been such a long time.' He shook my hand and then put both hands on my arms. 'It's good to see you. You know, you're the first person I've seen from university for a long time. Those were good times, weren't they?'



It was clear that Carl was pleased to see me, but at first he wasn't sure what to say to me. He looked so different from the young, happy student I used to know. We were the same age but he looked a lot older than me. His hair was going grey and his face had a worried look. He was also much thinner than I remembered him.

Carl pointed at the seat he had just left. 'Let's sit down, he said. 'I'll get you a drink.' I had to go back to work, but Carl was an old friend, a good friend – we'd had a lot of fun together at university. I couldn't say no.

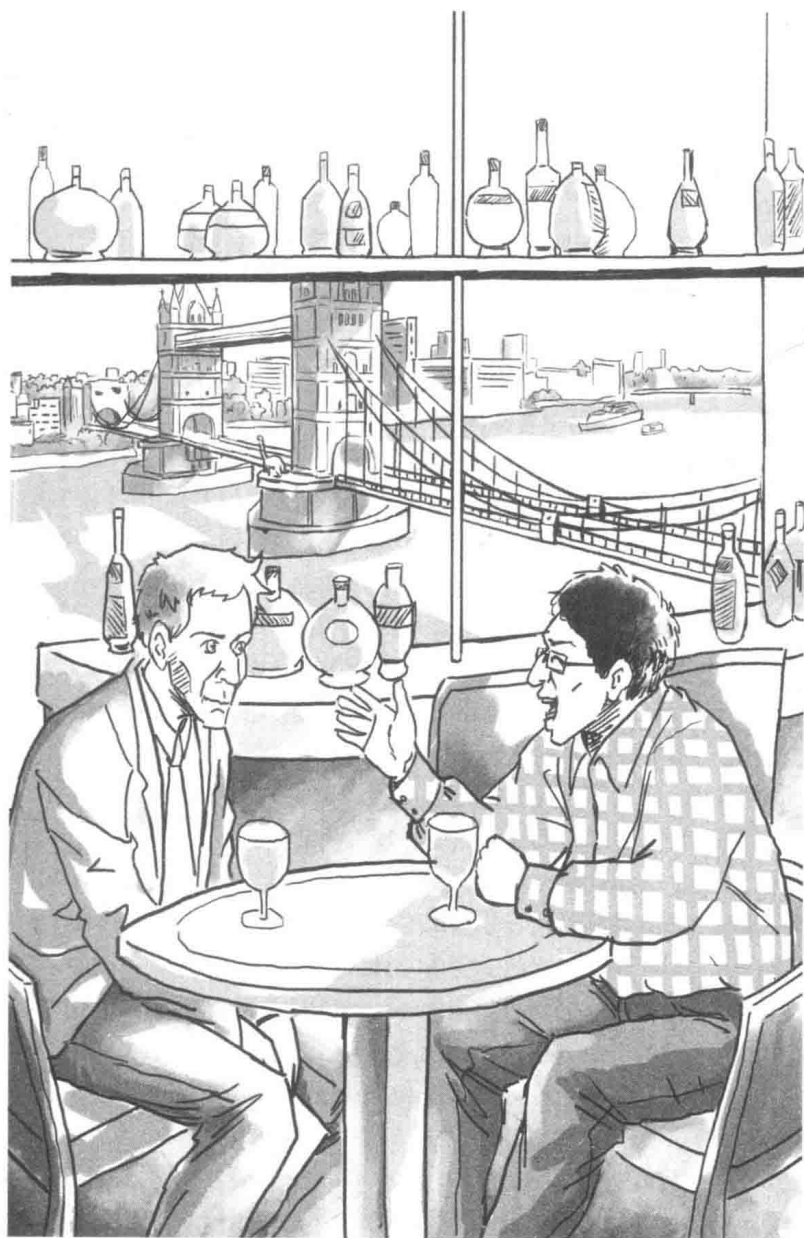
'Yes,' I said, 'OK.' I told my friends from work that I would come back to the office soon. They left and I waited while Carl bought two drinks. It was hard to believe this was the same man I had been to university with. He looked so white and thin. Had something happened to him? Maybe he's just been in hospital, I thought.

Because I'm a journalist I always ask questions, but when Carl came back with the drinks, I didn't say anything about the way he looked.

'So, Carl,' I said, 'I've just been trying to remember the last time we met. I think it was at your wedding. That was quite a day, wasn't it?' Carl just nodded his head and smiled in a sad way. I didn't know what else to say, so I kept talking.

'Isn't it terrible that we haven't seen each other since then?' I said. 'How's Linda? Have you got any kids yet?' Carl stopped smiling and looked at me strangely. I knew I'd said the wrong thing, but I had to ask about his wife Linda. Linda went to the same university as us and she was beautiful. We were all good friends and we'd had a lot of fun together at university. Linda was fun to be with.







Carl had always been a serious person. He'd worked very hard and did well in his exams. When I used to try and make him go out for the evening he often said that he had too much work to do. I thought that Linda would soon get tired of him. Sometimes Linda and I went out together to have fun and left Carl with his books.

She must have liked the fact that he was serious because a year after they had finished at university Carl and Linda got married. It was a great wedding and they both looked so happy. They were obviously very much in love.

Had something happened to their marriage? Something must have happened to them since then, but I was afraid to ask.

Carl now looked at me in a serious way. I could see he wasn't happy. He was wearing a suit, but he wasn't wearing a tie and I wanted to ask him if he was working at the moment. But I didn't ask him and, as we drank our beer, I told him about what I'd been doing for the last four or five years. I told him how I'd found it difficult to get a job when I first left university.

'You know, Carl, I was never able to study like you did, and when I had to go and get a job I found it really hard. For a couple of years I worked on small newspapers all over the place. I spent two years in Devon. Beautiful but very quiet...'

I thought that Carl might want to know how I moved to a big national newspaper, how hard I now worked, but I could see he wasn't very interested. He kept looking out of the window at the river.

'...so finally, about six months ago, I decided it was time to come to London. There was nothing to keep me in Devon. No family, you know? I haven't been able to find a girl who wants to marry me yet. Perhaps I never will!' I said. For the first time since I had started telling him