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剑桥双语分级阅读·小说馆

Two Lives

Helen Naylor 著

挚爱一生



北京语言大学出版社
BEIJING LANGUAGE AND CULTURE
UNIVERSITY PRESS



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原版系列编辑 Philip Prowse



Helen Naylor 著
王贵明 编译
王 欢 审订



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Preface 前言

“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

Part 1

Huw Thomas: a sixteen-year-old coal miner

Gareth Thomas: Huw's brother

David Thomas: Huw's father

Megan Jenkins: a sixteen-year-old schoolgirl

Harry Jenkins: Megan's father

Part 2

Beth Jones: Megan's daughter

Philip Jones: Beth's husband

Paul: Megan's fiancé

Mike: Huw's son

Rebecca: Mike's wife

第一部分

休·托马斯: 一名十六岁的矿工

加雷斯·托马斯: 休的哥哥

戴维·托马斯: 休的父亲

梅根·詹金斯: 一个十六岁的女学生

哈里·詹金斯: 梅根的父亲

第二部分

贝思·琼斯: 梅根的女儿

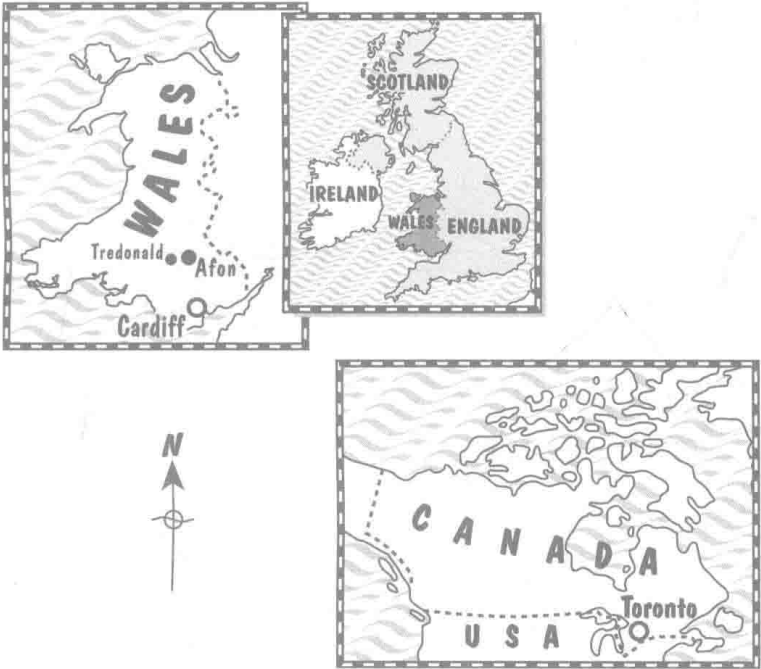
菲利普·琼斯: 贝思的丈夫

保罗: 梅根的未婚夫

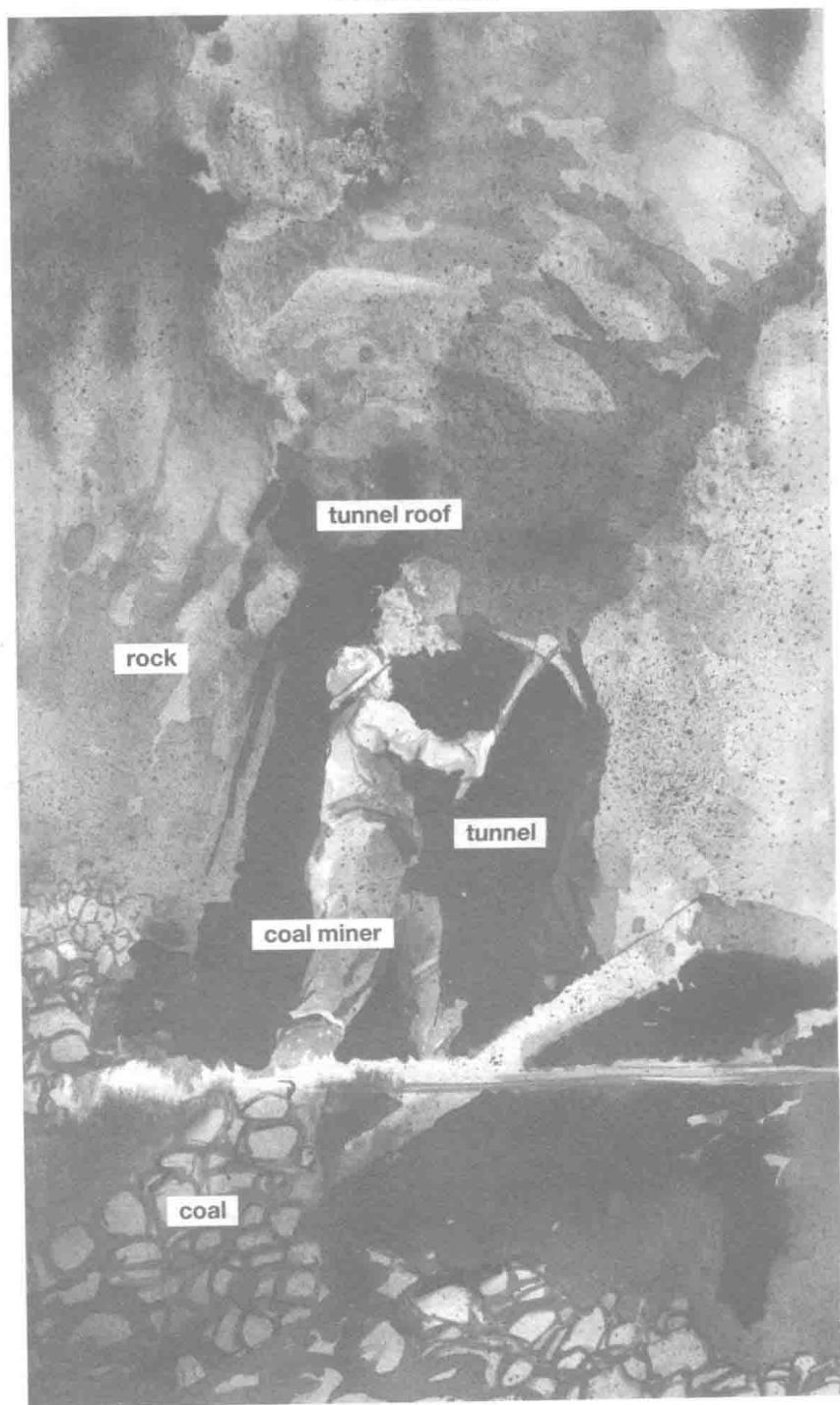
迈克: 休的儿子

丽贝卡: 迈克的妻子

故事中的地点



A coal mine



1. Look at the front cover. What sort of story is this?
2. Look at the maps on page 7. Where is the village of Tredonald?
3. Look at the picture of the miner on page 8. What do you know about this job?
4. Read the chapter titles on page 5. Can you say what will happen in the story?
5. If you have the recording, listen to the Prologue and Chapter 1.

Prologue

Tredonald

August 1996

My dear Huw

It was so good to get your letter. And thank you for the photos. It was good to see that even after all this time you haven't changed much. Wish I could say the same about myself!

Your letter produced a lot of different feelings in me – I was very happy to see how well you've done in life – I always said you could be a great artist! But I felt sad, too, that I hadn't been part of it. We had so many plans when we were younger, didn't we? But we mustn't think about the past. There's so much we have to talk about now. Beth and I are both very pleased that you've decided to come to Tredonald—let me know when you arrive in England.

With all best wishes

Megan

PS Here's a photo of Beth and me which was taken in the sitting room above the shop. Remember?

Part 1 Young love

Chapter 1 Two young lives

March 1945

'Megan, make me a cup of tea, will you?' shouted Harry Jenkins from the front of his small shop. 'And then come in here and talk to me.'

'Here you are, Dad,' said Megan, giving him a big cup of hot tea and trying to smile. Every day it was the same. As soon as Megan got home from school, her father asked for his tea and then he wanted to know everything about her day – what she had done at school, if the teachers were pleased with her work, who she walked home with. She was sixteen years old and she was fed up with it all. Why did he have to be so interested in her?

'So, Megan, how was school today?'

'OK,' said Megan.

'Did the teacher tell you about last week's exam, then?'

'Yes.'

'And?' asked Mr Jenkins.

'And what?' said Megan, knowing very well what he wanted to know.

'And, how did you do? Come on, girl, if you're going to go to college, it's important that you do well at school.'

Nobody from Mr Jenkins' family had ever gone to college, but now there might be a chance for Megan. He wanted her to get away. The Welsh village of Tredonald where they lived was a coal mining village. Nearly all the men worked down the mine, getting the dirty black coal out of the ground. Mr Jenkins didn't want his daughter to marry a coal miner, or even to spend her life working in the shop – she was too good for that. He hadn't asked Megan what she wanted.

At the other end of the village, Megan's friend, Huw Thomas, was finishing his work for the day.

Huw was also sixteen years old and already tired of life. He worked eight hours a day, five days a week in the village coal mine. There was nothing much else for people in the village. You either worked underground, or you didn't work at all. That was it. But it was better than being a soldier and fighting in some foreign country, like a few of the men in the village. The prime minister in London kept saying the war was nearly over, but Huw wasn't sure if he believed it.

Huw got into the lift at the bottom of the mine with a group of other tired-looking men. Their faces were black from the coal and at first he didn't see his older brother, Gareth, standing opposite him. They smiled at each other, but didn't speak. The lift climbed slowly and noisily up from the dark underground world. Ten dirty faces looked up towards the light.

At the top, it took a few seconds for their eyes to get used to the daylight. They walked over to the bath house, taking in the fresh air. For Huw this was the best moment of the day. He had only been a miner for six weeks, but it felt like longer.