Grace Darling

格雷丝·达林

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> *The Times*   London, 19th September 1838
>
> On the afternoon of 6th September, the steamship
> *Forfarshire* began its journey from Hull to Dundee, in
> Scotland. There were 60 people on the *Forfarshire*,
> which was a big, comfortable, modern ship. There
> was a strong, north-east wind that afternoon, but at
> first no one was afraid...

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The *Forfarshire*

D aniel Donovan was a passenger on the *Forfarshire*.
He stood on the deck of the ship, and looked at the
sea. It was difficult to stand on the deck, because the wind
was so strong. The ship was moving up and down
uncomfortably and Daniel felt ill. Then a big wave hit the
side of the ship, and salt water flew into his face.

'The wind is getting stronger,' said a passenger
beside him. He was a tall, dark man with a black coat —
Mr Robb, a churchman. 'And it's getting darker, too.'

'Yes,' said Daniel. 'I can't see the land now.' He
looked to the west, but he could see no land, no lights.
Only water — big grey waves with white tops, which went
up and down, up and down.

《泰晤士报》　伦敦，1838 年 9 月 19 日

9 月 6 日下午，福法尔郡号轮船开始了从赫尔到苏格兰敦提的航行。福法尔郡号是一艘豪华舒适的新式大船，船上载有 60 人。那天下午刮着强劲的东北风，但是一开始并没有人感到害怕……

1.　福法尔郡号

丹尼尔·多诺万是福法尔郡号上的一名乘客。他站在船甲板上望着大海。由于风势强劲，人很难在甲板上站稳。船上下颠簸得很厉害，丹尼尔觉得很不舒服。接着一个大浪打在船侧，海水飞溅到他脸上。

"风力越来越强了，"他身边的一名乘客说。这位高大黝黑的黑衣男士是罗布先生，一位牧师。"而且天也越来越黑了。"

"是的，"丹尼尔说，"现在我已经看不见陆地了。"他向西望去，但是看不见陆地，也看不见任何亮光。他只看见海水——顶着白色浪尖的灰色巨浪不断地起伏汹涌。

steamship *n. non-military ship driven by steam power* 汽船，轮船
passenger *n. a person，not the driver，traveling in a public or private vehicle* 乘客，旅客 deck *n. a floor built across a ship over all or part of its length* 甲板，舱面

'But the *Forfarshire* is a good modern ship, ' said Mr Robb. 'Nothing can happen to a new ship like this. Listen to those fine strong engines!'

Daniel looked down at the big paddle wheel on the side of the ship. It went round and round, down under the white water, and up again... under the water, and up. Then he looked up at the black smoke which came from the *Forfarshire*'s funnel.

'Yes, ' he said. 'They're good, strong engines. ' But he was not really sure. He was an engineer, so he knew about engines. Sometimes the *Forfarshire*'s engines made strange noises, and the paddle wheels went round slowly. Then there was a crash, and they went quickly again. Daniel was not happy.

A sea-bird flew low across the white tops of the big, grey waves. Daniel watched it, and felt wind and rain on his face. Then a door opened behind him, and a woman screamed.

'Simon, come back! Come back at once!'

Daniel looked behind him, and saw a small boy. He was running across the deck. He was only three or four years old, and the wind was much too strong for him. He fell over on the deck and began to cry. Then another big wave hit the side of the ship. The white water came over the side and carried the boy along the deck.

'Help!' the woman screamed. 'Save my child!'

"但是福法尔郡号是一艘优良的新式海船，"罗布先生说，"这样一艘新船是不会出事的。听听那些精良有力的引擎发出的声音。"

丹尼尔低头看船侧的巨大桨轮，它们不停转动，时而深入白色的水下，时而钻出水面……周而复始。接着他抬起头来，看着福法尔郡号烟囱里冒出的黑烟。

"是的，"他说，"它们是强有力的引擎。"但他其实并不肯定。他是一名机械师，熟悉引擎。福法尔郡号的引擎时不时会发出异常的噪音，桨轮也转得缓慢。接着会发出撞击声，桨轮又恢复快速转动。丹尼尔忧心忡忡。

一只海鸟低空飞过灰色巨浪的白色浪尖。丹尼尔盯着它，感觉风雨打在自己脸上。突然他身后的一扇门打开了，一个女人在尖叫：

"西蒙，回来！马上回来！"

丹尼尔往身后一瞧，看到一个小男孩。他正从甲板那边跑过来。他只有三四岁，这风对他来说是太大了。他摔倒在甲板上，哭了起来。正在这时又一个巨浪击中船侧，白色的海浪冲过船舷，把小男孩沿着甲板冲出了一段距离。

"救命啊！"那女人尖叫道，"救救我的孩子！"

engine *n. a machine that changes energy into mechanical force or motion* 发动机，引擎 **paddle wheel** *a wheel with boards or paddles affixed around its circumference, usually driven by steam to propel a ship* 明轮，桨轮 **funnel** *n. a metal chimney for letting out smoke from a steam engine or steamship* （机车或轮船的）烟囱 **crash** *n. a sudden loud noise made e.g. by a violent blow, break, etc.* 碰撞声

Daniel put out a hand and caught the boy's coat. Then he carried him quickly back to his mother.

'Quick! Get back in, out of the wind, woman!' he shouted. He hurried through the door and closed it with a crash. 'It's too dangerous for children out there!'

'Yes, I know,' the woman said. 'Come here, Simon!' She sat down and held the boy with one arm. She had another child in her other arm — a little girl, about one or two years old. 'Thank you, sir,' she said.

The ship moved up and down very quickly, and Daniel sat down beside the woman. She smiled at him, but she looked very white and ill.

'I'm Daniel Donovan,' he said, 'What's your name?'

'Mary Dawson,' she said. 'This is my son Simon, and my daughter Sarah.'

'Isn't your husband with you?'

'No,' she said. 'He's in Scotland. We're going home to see him. It's good we're in a strong, modern ship.'

'Yes,' said Daniel. Then for a few seconds he said nothing. It was quiet in this room. Much quieter than outside.

'Mr Donovan,' said Mrs Dawson suddenly. 'What's happened to the engines? I can't hear them now. Can you?'

Daniel listened. 'My God,' he thought. 'She's right! The engines have stopped!' He could hear the noise of the wind and the sea, but not the engines. 'You're right, Mrs

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丹尼尔伸出一只手抓住了男孩的外套，然后飞快地把男孩抱还给他的母亲。

"快！回里面去，别待在风里，女士！"他喊道。他迅速走进舱门，使劲把门砰地关上。"孩子在外面太危险了！"

"是的，我知道，"女人说，"过来，西蒙！"她坐下来，用一只胳臂搂着男孩。她的另一只胳臂里还抱着一个孩子——一个一两岁的小女孩。"谢谢您，先生。"她说道。

船颠簸得厉害，丹尼尔在这个女人身边坐下来。她冲他笑了笑，但她看起来苍白而虚弱。

"我叫丹尼尔·多诺万，"他说，"您叫什么名字？"

"玛丽·道森，"她回答说，"这是我的儿子西蒙和女儿萨拉。"

"您丈夫没和您一起么？"

"没有，"她说，"他在苏格兰呢，我们现在就是回去看他。幸好我们坐的是一艘坚固的新式轮船。"

"是啊。"丹尼尔说。接着他沉默了几秒钟。客舱里很安静，比外面安静多了。

"多诺万先生，"道森夫人突然说，"引擎怎么了？我听不见响了，您能听见么？"

丹尼尔听了听。"天哪，"他想，"她说得对！引擎已经停了！"他能听到狂风和大海的喧嚣声，但听不到引擎的声音。"您说

hurry *v. to move or act with speed or haste* 快速地移动或行动

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Dawson,' he said. He stood up, and ran to the door. 'Excuse me. I...' But then he opened the door, and his words were lost in the wind.

Outside, he looked up at the ship's funnel. There was no smoke above it. He looked over the side of the ship, at the big paddle wheels. He watched them for two minutes, but they did not move. And all the time the big grey waves lifted the *Forfarshire* up and down, and white water blew over the deck.

'What's happening?' screamed Mr Robb. 'Why aren't we moving?'

'The engines have broken down!' shouted Donovan. 'This isn't a sailing ship — it can't move without its engines!'

A big wave hit the side of the paddle wheel and sent white water over their heads. Some sailors were trying to put up a small sail, but the wind belw it out of their hands, away across the sea into the night.

'There are women and children on this ship,' shouted Mr Robb. 'It's nearly dark, and the weather is getting worse. What can we do?'

Daniel looked at him. 'I don't know, my friend,' he shouted back. 'I can't do anything. Why not ask God — you're a churchman! Perhaps He'll send an angel to save us!'

得对，道森夫人。"说着他站了起来，向门口跑去。"失陪一下，我……"但接着他打开门，话音随之消散在风里。

到了外面，他抬头看轮船的烟囱——上面没有冒烟。他从船侧探头察看巨大的桨轮，看了两分钟，但它们一动不动。而灰色的大浪一直载着福法尔郡号不断上下颠簸，白色的水花飞溅到甲板上。

"出什么事了？"罗布先生尖叫道，"为什么我们原地不动了？"

"引擎出毛病了！"多诺万大叫着说，"这不是帆船，没有引擎它就动不了！"

一个巨浪击中桨轮，激起的浪花飞过他们头顶。一些水手试图升起一面小帆，但大风将它从水手们手里刮了出去，飘向大海远处，最后消失于夜色中。

"船上还有妇女和孩子，"罗布先生喊道，"天快黑了，天气越来越糟。我们该怎么办？"

丹尼尔看着他。"我不知道，我的朋友，"他回喊道，"我无能为力。干吗不问问上帝——您可是一位牧师！也许上帝会派一位天使来救我们！"

lift *v. to direct or carry from a lower to a higher position* 举起，升高 sail *n. a piece of strong cloth fixed in position on a ship to move it through the water by the force of the wind* 帆，篷 angel *n. a messenger from God* 天使

2
The Lighthouse

When the engines stopped, the *Forfarshire* was about five kilometres east of St Abbs Head, in Scotland. The ship was travelling north, from Hull to Dundee. But the wind came from the north, so the *Forfarshire*, without her engines, began to go south again, back to England. It was dark, and the wind was very strong.

About thirty kilometres south-east of St Abbs Head is a group of small rocky islands not far from the mainland. These are the Farne Islands. On one of them, Longstone Island, there is a lighthouse. There were three people in the lighthouse that night — William Darling, his wife Thomasin, and their daughter Grace. Grace's brothers were usually there too, but that night they were in Bamburgh, on the mainland.

At seven o'clock that night, William Darling went up the long stairs of the lighthouse to light the big oil lantern. Grace went with him. William Darling was a thin, strong man about fifty years old. He moved quickly and quietly. He had a candle in his hand. Sometimes he turned to talk to Grace, and the candlelight lit up the big brown eyes in his kind, old face.

Grace was a young woman about twenty-two years old.

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2.　灯塔

　　当引擎停下来时，福法尔郡号正位于苏格兰圣阿布斯海角以东约五公里处。轮船由赫尔向北航行去往敦提。但是风从北面来，于是，失去了引擎的福法尔郡号开始往南漂移，那是回英格兰的方向。天黑了，风非常大。

　　在圣阿布斯海角东南面大约三十公里处靠近陆地的地方，有一片岩石小岛，是法恩群岛。在其中的长石岛上有一座灯塔。当晚，灯塔里有三个人：威廉·达林，他的妻子托马辛，还有他们的女儿格雷丝。平时格雷丝的哥哥们也在那儿，但是那天晚上他们去了陆上的班堡。

　　晚上七点钟，威廉·达林爬上灯塔长长的楼梯去点燃巨大的油灯。格雷丝和他同行。威廉·达林五十上下，瘦小精干，行动迅速而安静。他手里拿着一根蜡烛，不时转过头来和格雷丝说话，烛光照亮了他苍老和蔼的脸上那双棕色的大眼。

　　格雷丝很年轻，约二十二岁，长得不

lighthouse *n. a tall structure with a powerful light that guides ships or warns them of dangerous rocks* 灯塔　**lantern** *n. a lamp consisting of a metal or glass container surrounding a flame or light* 灯笼，提灯

She was not very tall or strong. She had big brown eyes like her father, and soft brown hair. She carried an oil can in one hand, and held the side of her long skirts with the other hand. She smiled at her father while they talked.

At the top of the lighthouse Grace and her father came into a small room. This room had no walls — just big windows all around. The noise of the wind and rain was terrible here, and they had to shout to hear each other.

Grace put oil in the big lantern in the middle of the room, and William lit it. When the lantern was burning, the big silver mirrors began to move slowly around it. William Darling and his daughter stood and watched them. The rain crashed against the windows, and the wind screamed like an animal in the night.

'God help the poor sailors to see this light, ' shouted William. ' It's as dark as death out there. No moon, no stars — nothing but wind and rain and wild white water. '

' Let us pray there are no ships near the rocks, ' shouted Grace. ' The storm will wreck any ship that comes near them tonight. '

'That's true, lass, ' said William. 'But we can do no more now. Let's go down to supper. '

The father and daughter went slowly down the dark, narrow stairs to the kitchen. Grace's mother, Thomasin, was putting the supper on the table. She was a white-haired woman of sixty-five.

高也不强壮。她有一双和父亲一样的棕色大眼睛，以及柔软的棕色头发。她一只手拎着一个油罐，另一只手提着长裙的裙摆。她一边说着话，一边冲着父亲微笑。

到了灯塔顶上，格雷丝和父亲走进一个小房间。这个房间没有墙壁，四周都是大窗户。这里的风雨声大得吓人，他们必须大声喊才能听见对方在说什么。

格雷丝将油倒进屋子中央的大灯里，威廉把它点燃。当灯燃烧起来，银光闪闪的大镜子开始围着它缓慢转动。威廉·达林和女儿站在一边看着。雨水撞击着窗户，狂风如同黑夜中的野兽一般咆哮着。

"愿上帝帮助可怜的水手们看到这亮光，"威廉喊道，"外面死黑死黑的，没有月亮，没有星星——除了风雨和汹涌的海浪，什么也没有。"

"让我们祈祷暗礁附近没有船只吧。"格雷丝喊道，"今晚所有靠近暗礁的船只都会被风暴摧毁。"

"没错，女儿，"威廉说，"但除了祈祷我们也无能为力。我们下去吃晚饭吧。"

父女俩缓缓走下黑暗狭窄的楼梯，来到厨房。格雷丝的母亲托马辛正把晚饭端上桌子。她是一位六十五岁的白发妇人。

can *n. a usually round metal container* 金属制的圆柱形容器 wreck *v. to undergo ruin or disaster* 使毁灭, 使遇难

'Did you see anything?' she asked.

'No, my love, nothing,' William answered. 'Only the rain on the windows.'

'Thank God,' she said. 'You couldn't help anyone tonight, William. If there is a shipwreck, you can do nothing. The boys aren't here.'

'But, mother,' Grace said. 'Father has to try to save people. It's his job. He can't leave them to die.'

'Grace, no man could row a boat by himself in this wild sea,' said Thomasin. 'So let us thank God that there are no poor ships near us, on this terrible night.'

'Yes, Grace, let us thank God for that,' said William. And so the three people sat quietly around their table in the warm kitchen, and put their hands together to pray. In the black night outside, the wind screamed, and the big waves crashed against the rocks, again and again and again.

"你们看到什么了吗?"她问。

"没有,亲爱的,什么也没有,"威廉回答说,"只有窗户上的雨水。"

"感谢上帝,"她说,"今晚你谁也帮不了,威廉。如果有船只失事,你无能为力。儿子们都不在。"

"但是妈妈,"格雷丝说,"爸爸必须尽力救人,这是他的工作,他不能见死不救。"

"格雷丝,今天大海这么凶猛,没人能独自划船出海,"托马辛说,"就让我们感谢上帝,保佑在这样可怕的夜晚我们附近没有可怜的船只。"

"是的,格雷丝,我们求上帝保佑吧。"威廉说完,三个人安静地围坐在温暖的厨房的桌旁,合起手来祈祷。屋外的黑夜中,大风呼啸,巨浪撞击着礁石,一遍、一遍又一遍。

shipwreck *n. the destruction of a ship , as by storm or collision* 船只失事,海难 **row** *v. to propel（a boat）with or as if with oars*（用桨或桨状物）划船

3
In the Engine Room

'**M**r Donovan!'

'Yes.'

'The captain wants to see you. You're an engineer, aren't you? Come this way, please.' The sailor opened a door and Daniel went quickly inside. They went down some stairs. He opened another door, and a great cloud of steam came out. Daniel followed the young sailor into the room. It was very hot in here, and there were clouds of steam everywhere. A tall, red-faced man came up to him.

'Mr Donovan? My name's Humble, Captain Humble. We need you, sir. You're an engineer, I understand. One of these engines has already stopped, and the other is working very badly. There's too much steam in this room, sir, and not...'

A big wave hit the ship with a terrible crash and Daniel, Captain Humble and the young sailor held onto the wall. Daniel saw a big man in a blue coat, and shouted to him.

'Are you the ship's engineer?'

'Yes!' The man looked angry, tired, and frightened.

'What's the matter? Why has this engine stopped?'

'Why? Because it's too old, of course! Look here! See this? And this...' For five minutes the two engineers moved