

名家经典珍藏版

福尔摩斯探案经典故事

(英汉双语)

[英] 阿瑟·柯南·道尔◎著 余杰◎译

❖❖❖ THE ADVENTURE STORIES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES ❖❖❖



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出版说明

人类历史的发展过程也是思想文化不断积累和沉淀的过程。在几千年的人类历史发展长河中，先贤们或在人文社科领域，或在科学技术领域创作出了无数经典名著。这些著作所蕴藏的思想财富和学术价值，早已为世人所熟知，它们无不体现了作者所处的特定时代的思想和文化。通过这些经典名著，读者不仅可以欣赏到流畅的文笔、生动的描述和详细的刻画、深邃的思想，更可以领悟它们各自独特的历史与文化内涵。可以说，这些作品深深地影响了世世代代的读者，也引导着当今的学人以此来充实和丰富自己的头脑。有鉴于此，我们邀请了专门研究世界历史文化的专家学者，精心挑选代表世界历史文化不同领域的经典作品，采取英汉双语对照的形式出版，一方面为读者提供原汁原味的世界经典名著，让读者自由地阅读，在此过程中逐渐提升自己的英语水平；另一方面通过这种阅读，以达到对世界历史文化的整体了解，开阔自己的视野，打开通往世界的心灵之窗，同时又获得思想文化、个人修养、伦理道德等多方面的提升。

我们衷心期待这套书成为大家学习道路上不可或缺的好伙伴！如果您在阅读中发现有疑问或错误之处，请不吝指正，以便我们更加完善这套书。

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THE SPECKLED BAND

On glancing over my notes of the seventy odd cases in which I have during the last eight years studied the methods of my friend Sherlock Holmes, I find many tragic, some comic, a large number merely strange, but none commonplace; for, working as he did rather for the love of his art than for the acquirement of wealth, he refused to associate himself with any investigation which did not tend towards the unusual, and even the fantastic. Of all these varied cases, however, I cannot recall any which presented more singular features than that which was associated with the well-known Surrey family of the Roylotts of Stoke Moran. The events in question occurred in the early days of my association with Holmes, when we were sharing rooms as bachelors in Baker Street. It is possible that I might have placed them upon record before, but a promise of secrecy was made at the time, from which I have only been freed during the last month by the untimely death of the lady to whom the pledge was given. It is perhaps as well that the facts should now come to light, for I have reasons to know that there are widespread rumours as to the death of Dr. Grimesby Roylott which tend to make the matter even more terrible than the truth.

It was early in April in the year '83 that I woke one morning to find Sherlock Holmes standing, fully dressed, by the side of my bed. He was a late riser, as a rule, and as the clock on the mantelpiece showed me that it was only a quarter-past seven, I blinked up at him in some surprise, and perhaps just a little resentment, for I was myself regular in my

斑点带子案

在过去的八年中，我一直在研究我的朋友夏洛克·福尔摩斯的查案方法，记录下了七十个案例。我粗略地浏览了一下这些记录，发现这些案子中有一些是悲剧性的，有一些是喜剧性的，大部分只是情节离奇而已，却没有一桩是平淡无奇的。因为福尔摩斯查案与其说是为了赚钱，倒不如说是出于他对查案这门艺术的兴趣使然。只要不是独特甚至于离奇的案情，他是绝对不会接手调查的。然而，在各种各样的案子中，说到案情独特，我还真想不出有哪一个比罗伊洛特家族的案子更具代表性了。罗伊洛特家族在萨里郡斯托克莫兰非常有名。现在要说的这件事，在它发生时，我才刚刚开始和福尔摩斯交往。那时我们都是单身，在贝克大街合住一套寓所。我本有可能早些将此事记录下来，不过鉴于当时曾对女当事人承诺过要为她保守秘密，所以一直没有记叙。直到上月，那位女士不幸早逝，才解除了承诺的制约。现在应该将此事的真相公之于众了，因为近来对格里姆斯比·罗伊洛特医生之死的谣言传播甚广，使得此事似乎比当时的实际情况还要骇人听闻。

事情发生在一八八三年四月初。一天早晨，我被福尔摩斯叫醒，发现他穿得整整齐齐地站在我的床边。通常情况下，他起得很晚，而那天壁炉架上面的钟表告诉我当时刚七点一刻。我有点吃惊地看着他，还有点不高兴，因为平时我个人的生活

habits.

“Very sorry to knock you up, Watson,” said he, “but it’s the common lot this morning. Mrs. Hudson has been knocked up, she retorted upon me, and I on you.”

“What is it, then—a fire?”

“No; a client. It seems that a young lady has arrived in a considerable state of excitement, who insists upon seeing me. She is waiting now in the sitting-room. Now, when young ladies wander about the metropolis at this hour of the morning, and knock sleepy people up out of their beds, I presume that it is something very pressing which they have to communicate. Should it prove to be an interesting case, you would, I am sure, wish to follow it from the outset. I thought, at any rate, that I should call you and give you the chance.”

“My dear fellow, I would not miss it for anything.”

I had no keener pleasure than in following Holmes in his professional investigations, and in admiring the rapid deductions, as swift as intuitions, and yet always founded on a logical basis, with which he unravelled the problems which were submitted to him. I rapidly threw on my clothes and was ready in a few minutes to accompany with my friend down to the sitting-room. A lady dressed in black and heavily veiled, who had been sitting in the window, rose as we entered.

“Good morning, madam,” said Holmes cheerily. “My name is Sherlock Holmes. This is my intimate friend and associate, Dr. Watson, before whom you can speak as freely as before myself. Ha! I am glad to see that Mrs. Hudson has had the good sense to light the fire. Pray draw up to it, and I shall order you a cup of hot coffee, for I observe that you are shivering.”

还是很有规律的。

他说：“很抱歉把你叫醒，华生。不过今天早晨我们命该如此，先是哈德森太太被敲门声吵醒，然后她把我叫起床，最后我来把你叫醒。”

“怎么了？着火了吗？”

“不，是一位委托人。好像是一位情绪相当激动的年轻女士前来，执意要见我，她正在起居室等候。我觉得，一位年轻女士若是在早晨这个时辰在这个大都市中独自徘徊，还要把尚在梦中的人敲门叫起，那她一定是有紧急事情要找商量。如果这是个有趣的案子，那我确信你一定想从一开始就密切关注。所以我想不管怎样都要把你叫醒，给你这个机会。”

“老兄，我怎么也不会错过这个案子的。”

我最喜欢的就是观察福尔摩斯那技术含量很高的调查工作，欣赏他那和直觉一样迅速的推理，而所有问题确实是他通过逻辑推理解决的。我快速穿好衣服，几分钟后就已收拾妥当，陪着我的朋友来到楼下起居室。进门时，坐在窗前的一位女士站了起来，她身穿黑色衣服，脸上蒙着厚厚的面纱。

福尔摩斯爽朗地对她说：“早上好，小姐，在下福尔摩斯，这位是我的挚友兼搭档，华生医生，你完全可以在我们两人面前尽情讲话，不必顾虑。哈！很高兴哈德森太太想得这么周到，把壁炉生起来了。我看你还在发抖，请靠壁炉近些，我叫人给你端杯热咖啡来。”

那位女士听后顺从地换了个座位，嘴里小声地说：“其实我不是因为冷才发

“It is not cold which makes me shiver,” said the woman in a low voice, changing her seat as requested.

“What, then?”

“It is fear, Mr. Holmes. It is terror.” She raised her veil as she spoke, and we could see that she was indeed in a pitiable state of agitation, her face all drawn and gray, with restless, frightened eyes, like those of some hunted animal. Her features and figure were those of a woman of thirty, but her hair was shot with premature gray, and her expression was weary and haggard.

Sherlock Holmes ran her over with one of his quick, all-comprehensive glances. “You must not fear,” said he soothingly, bending forward and patting her forearm. “We shall soon set matters right, I have no doubt. You have come in by train this morning, I see.”

“You know me, then?”

“No, but I observe the second half of a return ticket in the palm of your left glove. You must have started early, and yet you had a good drive in a dog-cart, along heavy roads, before you reached the station.”

The lady gave a violent start and stared in bewilderment at my companion.

“There is no mystery, my dear madam,” said he, smiling. “The left arm of your jacket is spattered with mud in no less than seven places. The marks are perfectly fresh. There is no vehicle save a dog-cart which throws up mud in that way, and then only when you sit on the left-hand side of the driver.”

“Whatever your reasons may be, you are perfectly correct,” said she. “I started from home before six, reached Leatherhead at twenty past, and came in by the first train to Waterloo. Sir, I can stand this strain no longer; I shall go mad if it continues. I have no

抖的。”

“那是为什么呢？”

“是害怕，福尔摩斯先生。甚至说是恐惧。”她一面说着，一面掀起了面纱。只见她脸色苍白，面容憔悴，眼神中透着恐惧与不安，就像被追捕的小动物一样可怜兮兮，明显可以看出她正处于万分焦虑之中。看身材相貌，她大约三十岁，不过发间却过早地出现了白发，表情萎靡枯槁。

福尔摩斯迅速地上下打量了她一番，略略弯身向前，拍了拍她的手臂安慰她说：“我们很快就会把事情处理好的，这点没有问题。我看今天早晨你是乘火车来的。”

“你认识我吗？”

“不，不过我看到了你左手手套里那张回程车票的后半截。你一定是动身很早，乘坐双轮小马车走了好长一段路才到车站。”

那位女士打了个激灵，惶惑地盯着我的伙伴。

福尔摩斯笑了笑，说：“这没什么神奇的，亲爱的小姐。你上衣左臂上沾着至少七八个泥点，都是新溅上去的。只有双轮小马车才会这样甩起泥水，并且只有你坐在马车夫的左面才会被溅到。”

“不管你是怎么推断出来的，你说的都很对，”她说，“我不到六点就从家动身了，用了二十分钟到达莱瑟黑德站，然后乘坐第一班到滑铁卢的火车来的。先生，我真的紧张得受不了了，再这样下去我会疯的。我无人可求，除了一个人，其

one to turn to—none, save only one, who cares for me, and he, poor fellow, can be of little aid. I have heard of you, Mr. Holmes; I have heard of you from Mrs. Farintosh, whom you helped in the hour of her sore need. It was from her that I had your address. Oh, sir, do you not think that you could help me, too, and at least throw a little light through the dense darkness which surrounds me? At present it is out of my power to reward you for your services, but in a month or six weeks I shall be married, with the control of my own income, and then at least you shall not find me ungrateful.”

Holmes turned to his desk and, unlocking it, drew out a small casebook, which he consulted.

“Farintosh,” said he. “Ah yes, I recall the case; it was concerned with an opal tiara. I think it was before your time, Watson. I can only say, madam, that I shall be happy to devote the same care to your case as I did to that of your friend. As to reward, my profession is its own reward; but you are at liberty to defray whatever expenses I may be put to, at the time which suits you best. And now I beg that you will lay before us everything that may help us in forming an opinion upon the matter.”

“Alas!” replied our visitor, “the very horror of my situation lies in the fact that my fears are so vague, and my suspicions depend so entirely upon small points, which might seem trivial to another, that even he to whom of all others I have a right to look for help and advice looks upon all that I tell him about it as the fancies of a nervous woman. He does not say so, but I can read it from his soothing answers and averted eyes. But I have heard, Mr. Holmes, that you can see deeply into the manifold wickedness of the human heart. You may advise me how to walk amid the dangers which encompass me.”

“I am all attention, madam.”

他人谁也不是真正关心我，可他也是个可怜人，帮不上我什么忙。后来我听人说了你，是费兰多斯太太告诉我的，在她急需帮助的时候你曾经帮过她。我就是从她那里知道了你的地址。噢，先生，你也帮帮我吧，为生活在黑暗中的我指条明路吧。目前我还无力给你提供报酬，不过一个月或者一个半月后我就要结婚了，那时我就能支配我的收入了，我一定会付给你报酬的，至少我不是一个知恩不报的人。”

福尔摩斯转身走向他的办公桌，打开锁，取出一个小小的案件记录簿，翻阅了一下，说：“费兰多斯，是的，我想起那个案子了，和一件猫眼石头饰有关。华生，我想那时候你还没来吧。小姐，我只能说我会跟解决你朋友的案子一样帮你调查。至于说报酬，我的职业本身就是对我的报酬，你只需要在最方便的时候把我可能会支出的费用付给我就行了。现在请你把一切对查案有利的事情告诉我们吧。”

我们的客人开始了她的叙说：“唉，我处境的可怕之处就在于我不清楚害怕的究竟是什么，我疑虑的几点在他人眼里可能都是微不足道的。就算是那个我最有权利去寻求帮助指点的人，也认为我告诉他的这件事纯粹是我神经质似的胡思乱想。他没有这样说，但我从他安慰我的话以及他闪避的眼神中能够看出来。不过，福尔摩斯先生，我听说你可以看出人们心中的种种邪恶，因此请你指点我如何躲过身前的种种危险。”

“你请讲，我正用心听着呢。”

“My name is Helen Stoner, and I am living with my stepfather, who is the last survivor of one of the oldest Saxon families in England, the Roylotts of Stoke Moran, on the western border of Surrey.”

Holmes nodded his head. “The name is familiar to me,” said he.

“The family was at one time among the richest in England, and the estates extended over the borders into Berkshire in the north, and Hampshire in the west. In the last century, however, four successive heirs were of a dissolute and wasteful disposition, and the family ruin was eventually completed by a gambler in the days of the Regency. Nothing was left save a few acres of ground, and the two-hundred-year-old house, which is itself crushed under a heavy mortgage. The last squire dragged out his existence there, living the horrible life of an aristocratic pauper; but his only son, my stepfather, seeing that he must adapt himself to the new conditions, obtained an advance from a relative, which enabled him to take a medical degree and went out to Calcutta, where, by his professional skill and his force of character, he established a large practice. In a fit of anger, however, caused by some robberies which had been perpetrated in the house, he beat his native butler to death and narrowly escaped a capital sentence. As it was, he suffered a long term of imprisonment and afterwards returned to England a morose and disappointed man.

“When Dr. Roylott was in India he married my mother, Mrs. Stoner, the young widow of Major-General Stoner, of the Bengal Artillery. My sister Julia and I were twins, and we were only two years old at the time of my mother’s remarriage. She had a considerable sum of money—not less than £1000 a year—and this she bequeathed to Dr. Roylott entirely while we resided with him, with a provision that a certain annual sum should be allowed to each of us in the event of our marriage. Shortly after our return to England my mother

“我叫海伦·斯托纳，我和我的继父生活在一起，他是英国最古老的萨克森家族之一的罗伊洛特家族的最后一个生存者，居住在萨里郡西部边界的斯托克莫兰。”

福尔摩斯点点头说：“这个名字我很熟悉。”

“这个家族曾经是英国最富有的家族之一，地产面积北至伯克郡境内，西至汉普郡境内。然而，在过去的一百年间，四代继承者无不放荡挥霍，终于在摄政时期（指一八一一至一八二〇年间，英王乔治三世被认为不适于统治，而他的儿子，之后的乔治四世被任命为他的代理人作为摄政王的时期。——译者注）被一个赌棍弄得倾家荡产。除了几亩土地和一座已有二百年历史的古老宅院外，其他什么也没留下，而那座宅院也已经典当出去了。庄园的最后一个‘老爷’苟延着他那落魄的贵族生活，而他的独子，也就是我的继父，意识到必须主动去适应新的形势，从一个亲戚那里借了些钱，获得了医学学位，还去加尔各答行医治病，在那里他凭借自己的医术和坚强的个性，开了一个很大的诊所。然而，由于家里几次遭抢，他盛怒之下把一个当地管家打死，差点被判死刑。就这样，他受到了长期监禁，后来回到英国时，就成了个脾气暴躁、郁郁寡欢的人。

“罗伊洛特医生在印度时和我母亲结婚。当时我母亲还很年轻，却不幸守寡。我生父是孟加拉的炮兵司令斯托纳少将。我和我姐姐茱莉亚是孪生姐妹，母亲再嫁时，我们刚刚两岁。她有一笔相当可观的财产，一年收入至少有一千英镑。在我们和罗伊洛特医生住在一起后，母亲就立遗嘱把所有财产转赠给他，附加条件是，我

died—she was killed eight years ago in a railway accident near Crewe. Dr. Roylott then abandoned his attempts to establish himself in practice in London and took us to live with him in the old ancestral house at Stoke Moran. The money which my mother had left was enough for all our wants, and there seemed to be no obstacle to our happiness.

“But a terrible change came over our stepfather about this time. Instead of making friends and exchanging visits with our neighbours, who had at first been overjoyed to see a Roylott of Stoke Moran back in the old family seat, he shut himself up in his house and seldom came out save to indulge in ferocious quarrels with whoever might cross his path. Violence of temper approaching to mania has been hereditary in the men of the family, and in my stepfather’s case it had, I believe, been intensified by his long residence in the tropics. A series of disgraceful brawls took place, two of which ended in the police-court, until at last he became the terror of the village, and the folks would fly at his approach, for he is a man of immense strength, and absolutely uncontrollable in his anger.

“Last week he hurled the local blacksmith over a parapet into a stream, and it was only by paying over all the money which I could gather together that I was able to avert another public exposure. He had no friends at all save the wandering gypsies, and he would give these vagabonds leave to encamp upon the few acres of bramble-covered land which represent the family estate, and would accept in return the hospitality of their tents, wandering away with them sometimes for weeks on end. He has a passion also for Indian animals, which are sent over to him by a correspondent, and he has at this moment a cheetah and a baboon, which wander freely over his grounds and are feared by the villagers almost as much as their master.

“You can imagine from what I say that my poor sister Julia and I had no great pleasure

和姐姐结婚后，他每年要分给我们一定数目的财产。我们返回英国后不久母亲去世，她是在八年前克鲁附近发生的火车事故中不幸离世的。在这之后，罗伊洛特医生放弃了来伦敦开诊所的想法，带着我们姐妹俩一起到斯托克莫兰的祖宅里生活。母亲遗留下来的钱财足以满足我们的需求，看来再没有什么阻碍我们的幸福生活了。

“可是，大约就是从那时起，继父的性情大变，变得非常可怕。起初，斯托克莫兰的邻居们还因为看到罗伊洛特家族的后人返回老宅居住而感到十分高兴，可是他却不愿和他们交友往来，只是把自己关在家里，几乎从不出门，一旦出门见谁都会冲着人家凶狠吵嚷。这种近乎狂躁的脾气是这个家族遗传下来的，而我的继父，我想可能是因为长期在热带居住的缘故，脾气更加暴烈。后来发生了一连串不光彩的吵闹，有两次都去警局法庭了。又因为他强健有力，发起怒来谁也拦不住，结果最后他成了村里的讨厌鬼，人们遇到他都恨不得从他头上飞过去。

“上周，他把当地的铁匠从栏杆上扔进了河里，最后我东拼西凑，花光了我所有的钱才没让那件丑事张扬出去。除了那些到处流浪的吉卜赛人，他没有朋友，他允许那些人在他的一片长满荆棘的土地上居住，还去他们的帐篷里喝酒，有时跟他们一起出去流浪，一去就是好几周。他还热衷于养印度动物，那些动物都是一个记者送给他的。现在他还养着一只印度豹，还有一只狒狒，这两只东西就在他的土地上随意乱跑，村民们很害怕它们。

“通过我说的这些，你可以想象可怜的茱莉亚和我的生活中是没什么乐趣的。

in our lives. No servant would stay with us, and for a long time we did all the work of the house. She was but thirty at the time of her death, and yet her hair had already begun to whiten, even as mine has.”

“Your sister is dead, then?”

“She died just two years ago, and it is of her death that I wish to speak to you. You can understand that, living the life which I have described, we were little likely to see anyone of our own age and position. We had, however, an aunt, my mother’s maiden sister, Miss Honoria Westphal, who lives near Harrow, and we were occasionally allowed to pay short visits at this lady’s house. Julia went there at Christmas two years ago, and met there a half-pay major of marines, to whom she became engaged. My stepfather learned of the engagement when my sister returned and offered no objection to the marriage; but within a fortnight of the day which had been fixed for the wedding, the terrible event occurred which has deprived me of my only companion.”

Sherlock Holmes had been leaning back in his chair with his eyes closed and his head sunk in a cushion, but he half opened his lids now and glanced across at his visitor.

“Pray be precise as to details,” said he.

“It is easy for me to be so, for every event of that dreadful time is seared into my memory. The manor-house is, as I have already said, very old, and only one wing is now inhabited. The bedrooms in this wing are on the ground floor, the sitting-rooms being in the central block of the buildings. Of these bedrooms the first is Dr. Roylott’s, the second my sister’s, and the third



没有仆人愿意跟我们相处，好长一段时间，我们都是自己打理所有家务的。她死的时候才三十岁，可是她的头发早就开始白了，简直和我现在差不多了。”

“那么说，你姐姐已经去世了？”

“她两年前就死了，我就是想跟你说说她的死。你知道，过着我说的那样的生活，我们很难见到和我们年纪相仿、地位相似的人。不过好在我们还有个姨妈，霍诺里亚·韦斯特法

尔小姐，她尚未结婚，居住在哈罗市附近。偶尔，继父允许我们去她那里小住几日。两年前的圣诞节，我姐姐到她家去，在那里认识了一位领半薪的海军上校，并和他订立了婚约。我姐姐回家后，继父知道了订婚的事，并没有表示反对。可是，就在还有两周就要举行婚礼的时候，恐怖的事情发生了，它夺去了我唯一的伙伴——我的姐姐。”

福尔摩斯之前一直靠在椅背上，闭着眼睛，头躺在椅背的靠垫上。这时，他半睁开眼睛，看了看他的客人，说：“请把细节说精确点。”

“这很容易，那个可怕的时刻发生的每一件事都已深深地烙在了我的记忆里。我刚才说过，老宅太古老了，只有一侧的房间还能住人，布局是卧室在一楼，起居室在房子中间位置。卧室的第一间是罗伊洛特医生的，第二间是我姐姐的，第三间

my own. There is no communication between them, but they all open out into the same corridor. Do I make myself plain?"

"Perfectly so."

"The windows of the three rooms open out upon the lawn. That fatal night Dr. Roylott had gone to his room early, though we knew that he had not retired to rest, for my sister was troubled by the smell of the strong Indian cigars which it was his custom to smoke. She left her room, therefore, and came into mine, where she sat for some time, chatting about her approaching wedding. At eleven o'clock she rose to leave me, but she paused at the door and looked back.

" 'Tell me, Helen,' said she, 'have you ever heard anyone whistle in the dead of the night?'

" 'Never,' said I.

" 'I suppose that you could not possibly whistle, yourself, in your sleep?'

" 'Certainly not. But why?'

" 'Because during the last few nights I have always, about three in the morning, heard a low, clear whistle. I am a light sleeper, and it has awakened me. I cannot tell where it came from—perhaps from the next room, perhaps from the lawn. I thought that I would just ask you whether you had heard it.'

" 'No, I have not. It must be those wretched gypsies in the plantation.'

" 'Very likely. And yet if it were on the lawn, I wonder that you did not hear it also.'

" 'Ah, but I sleep more heavily than you.'

" 'Well, it is of no great consequence, at any rate.' She smiled back at me, closed my door, and a few moments later I heard her key turn in the lock."

是我的。这些房间之间彼此互不相通，不过卧室门都开向同一条走廊。我讲清楚了吗？”

“非常好。”

“三个房间的窗户都是朝着外面的草坪开的。在那个不幸的晚上，罗伊洛特医生早早就回了卧室，可是我们知道他并没有入睡，因为姐姐被他强烈的印度雪茄烟味熏得非常不适，他已经习惯了抽那种烟。因此姐姐来我房间待了一会儿，我们还聊起她即将举行的婚礼。十一点钟，她起身回屋，在门口又停住了，回头问我：

‘告诉我，海伦，在夜深人静的时候，你有没有听到过有人吹口哨啊？’

“我说：‘从来没有。’

“ ‘你睡着的时候不会吹口哨吧？’

“ ‘当然不会了，怎么了？’

“ ‘好几天了，大约三点钟，我总会听到一阵低沉却又清晰的口哨声。我睡觉很轻，总会被吵醒。我说不准口哨声从哪里传来的，好像是从隔壁房间，又好像是从草坪上。我当时就想问问你有没有听到过。’

“ ‘没，我没听到过。一定是种植园里那些讨厌的吉卜赛人。’

“ ‘很有可能。不过要是从草坪上传来的，你怎么没听到呢？’

“ ‘呃……我一般睡得比你沉啊。’

“ ‘算了，不管怎么说，这没多大关系。’她回头冲我笑笑，把我的门带上，不一会儿，就听到她的钥匙在门锁里转动的声音。”

“Indeed,” said Holmes. “Was it your custom always to lock yourselves in at night?”

“Always.”

“And why?”

“I think that I mentioned to you that the doctor kept a cheetah and a baboon. We had no feeling of security unless our doors were locked.”

“Quite so. Pray proceed with your statement.”

“I could not sleep that night. A vague feeling of impending misfortune impressed me. My sister and I, you will recollect, were twins, and you know how subtle are the links which bind two souls which are so closely allied. It was a wild night. The wind was howling outside, and the rain was beating and splashing against the windows. Suddenly, amid all the hubbub of the gale, there burst forth the wild scream of a terrified woman. I knew that it was my sister’s voice. I sprang from my bed, wrapped a shawl round me, and rushed into the corridor. As I opened my door I seemed to hear a low whistle, such as my sister described, and a few moments later a clanging sound, as if a mass of metal had fallen. As I ran down the passage, my sister’s door was unlocked, and revolved slowly upon its hinges. I stared at it horror-stricken, not knowing what was about to issue from it. By the light of the corridor-lamp I saw my sister appear at the opening, her face blanched with terror, her hands groping for help, her whole figure swaying to and fro like that of a drunkard. I ran to her and threw my arms round her, but at that moment her knees seemed to give way and she fell to the ground. She writhed as one who is in terrible pain, and her limbs were dreadfully convulsed. At first I thought that she had not recognized me, but as I bent over her she suddenly shrieked out in a voice which I shall never forget, ‘Oh, my God! Helen! It was the band! The speckled band!’ There was something else which

“真的吗？”福尔摩斯问，“你们是不是都习惯睡觉时把房门锁上？”

“一直如此。”

“为什么要这样呢？”

“我刚才说过，医生养了一只印度豹，一只狒狒。不锁门，我们感觉不安全。”

“确实如此，请继续。”

“那天晚上，我怎么也睡不着。模模糊糊有一种灾难临头的感觉压抑着我。你应该记得，我和姐姐是孪生姐妹，你知道这样两个有着如此密切联系的人之间，心灵的相通是多么的微妙。那天晚上暴风雨袭来，外面狂风怒号，雨点‘啪啪’地拍打着窗户。突然，嘈杂的风雨声中传来一声女人惊恐的尖叫声。我听出那是我姐姐的声音，便一下从床上跳起来，裹上一块披巾就冲向了走廊。我在打开自己的房门时，似乎听到了一阵低沉的口哨声，跟我姐姐说的一样。稍后又传来‘当啷’一声，好像是一块金属掉在了地上。我冲过走廊，发现姐姐的门锁已经打开，房门也在慢慢地敞开。我吓坏了，盯着房门，不知道会从里面跑出什么来。借着过道的灯光，我看到姐姐出现在房门口，她的脸吓得煞白，双手摸索着寻求救助，整个身体就像醉汉一样摇摇晃晃。我跑上前去，双臂抱住她，可是就在那一刻，她似乎双腿无力，一下跌倒在地上，非常痛苦地扭动着身体，四肢可怕地抽搐。开始我以为她没认出我来，可就在我弯下身去时，只听到她厉声喊道：‘噢，上帝啊！海伦！带子！带着斑点的带子！’那叫声我一辈子也忘不了。她好像还有话要说，戳起手指

she would fain have said, and she stabbed with her finger into the air in the direction of the doctor's room, but a fresh convulsion seized her and choked her words. I rushed out, calling loudly for my stepfather, and I met him hastening from his room in his dressing-gown. When he reached my sister's side she was unconscious, and though he poured brandy down her throat and sent for medical aid from the village, all efforts were in vain, for she slowly sank and died without having recovered her consciousness. Such was the dreadful end of my beloved sister."

"One moment," said Holmes; "are you sure about this whistle and metallic sound? Could you swear to it?"

"That was what the county coroner asked me at the inquiry. It is my strong impression that I heard it, and yet, among the crash of the gale and the creaking of an old house, I may possibly have been deceived."

"Was your sister dressed?"

"No, she was in her night-dress. In her right hand was found the charred stump of a match, and in her left a match-box."

"Showing that she had struck a light and looked about her when the alarm took place. That is important. And what conclusions did the coroner come to?"

"He investigated the case with great care, for Dr. Roylott's conduct had long been notorious in the county, but he was unable to find any satisfactory cause of death. My evidence showed that the door had been fastened upon the inner side, and the windows were blocked by old-fashioned shutters with broad iron bars, which were secured every night. The walls were carefully sounded, and were shown to be quite solid all round, and the flooring was also thoroughly examined, with the same result. The chimney is wide,

指着医生的房间，不过抽搐再次发作，堵住了她的嘴。我冲过去，大声呼叫着我的继父，正迎上他穿着睡衣快步从他房间出来。他赶到我姐姐身边时，她已经昏迷不醒了。尽管他给她灌了一些白兰地，还从村里请来了医生，可一切努力都已白费，她没了呼吸，再也没有恢复意识。这就是我挚爱的姐姐的悲惨结局。”

“稍等，”福尔摩斯说，“你确定听到口哨声和金属撞击声了吗？你能保证吗？”

“郡里的验尸官调查时也是这么问我的，我清楚地记得我是听到了，不过在暴风雨的嘈杂声还有老房子嘎嘎吱吱的声音中，我也有可能听错。”

“你姐姐着装整齐吗？”

“不，她穿的是睡衣。在她的右手里发现了一段烧焦了的火柴棒，左手里有个火柴盒。”

“这说明，事发时她划过火柴四下照过，这很重要。那个验尸官得出了什么结论呢？”

“他调查得很仔细，因为罗伊洛特医生的品行在郡里早就臭名昭著了。不过他始终没有找到令人信服的死因。我证实，房门是从里面锁住的，窗户上挡着宽铁条做成的老式百叶窗，每天晚上都关得紧紧的。墙壁仔细敲打过，发现四面都很坚固；地板也做了彻底检查，结果一样。壁炉烟囱的确是很宽，可是也用了四个大锁环封住了。因此可以肯定，我姐姐身亡时确实是一个人在房内，并且她身上没有被暴力袭击的痕迹。”

but is barred up by four large staples. It is certain, therefore, that my sister was quite alone when she met her end. Besides, there were no marks of any violence upon her.”

“How about poison?”

“The doctors examined her for it, but without success.”

“What do you think that this unfortunate lady died of, then?”

“It is my belief that she died of pure fear and nervous shock, though what it was that frightened her I cannot imagine.”

“Were there gypsies in the plantation at the time?”

“Yes, there are nearly always some there.”

“Ah, and what did you gather from this allusion to a band—a speckled band?”

“Sometimes I have thought that it was merely the wild talk of delirium, sometimes that it may have referred to some band of people, perhaps to these very gypsies in the plantation. I do not know whether the spotted handkerchiefs which so many of them wear over their heads might have suggested the strange adjective which she used.”

Holmes shook his head like a man who is far from being satisfied.

“These are very deep waters,” said he; “pray go on with your narrative.”

“Two years have passed since then, and my life has been until lately lonelier than ever. A month ago, however, a dear friend, whom I have known for many



“那会不会是下毒呢？”

“医生们做过检查，但没查出来。”

“那你觉得这位不幸的女士的死因是什么呢？”

“我认为她纯粹是因惊恐震惊而死亡的，不过我不知道她在害怕什么。”

“当时种植园里有吉卜赛人吗？”

“有，那里几乎一直都有。”

“呃，她提到过带子，带斑点的带子，从这一点你得出什么了吗？”

“有时我以为这不过是她精神错乱时说的胡话罢了，有时觉得她可能是在指一帮人，也许就是种植园里的那帮吉卜赛人。他们中间有好多人戴有斑点的头巾，我不知道她使用的那个奇怪的词是不是就是指这个。”（原文为“The Speckled Band”，其中“Band”既含有“带子”的意思，也有“一帮一群”的意思。

“Speckled”的意思是“有斑点的”。另外文中提到吉卜赛人，一些吉卜赛人喜欢戴“有斑点”的头巾，因此才有文中提到的福尔摩斯起初误认为是吉卜赛人作案的情况出现。——译者注）

“不只这么简单，”福尔摩斯说，“请继续。”

“如今两年过去了。这两年中，我的生活比以往更加孤单。直到一个月前，我有幸得到了一位认识多年的好友的求婚。他的名字叫阿米蒂奇，珀西·阿米蒂奇，

years, has done me the honour to ask my hand in marriage. His name is Armitage—Percy Armitage—the second son of Mr. Armitage, of Crane Water, near Reading. My stepfather has offered no opposition to the match, and we are to be married in the course of the spring. Two days ago some repairs were started in the west wing of the building, and my bedroom wall has been pierced, so that I have had to move into the chamber in which my sister died, and to sleep in the very bed in which she slept. Imagine, then, my thrill of terror when last night, as I lay awake, thinking over her terrible fate, I suddenly heard in the silence of the night the low whistle which had been the herald of her own death. I sprang up and lit the lamp, but nothing was to be seen in the room. I was too shaken to go to bed again, however, so I dressed, and as soon as it was daylight I slipped down, got a dog-cart at the Crown Inn, which is opposite, and drove to Leatherhead, from whence I have come on this morning with the one object of seeing you and asking your advice.”

“You have done wisely,” said my friend. “But have you told me all?”

“Yes, all.”

“Miss Roylott, you have not. You are screening your stepfather.”

“Why, what do you mean?”

For answer Holmes pushed back the frill of black lace which fringed the hand that lay upon our visitor’s knee. Five little livid spots, the marks of four fingers and a thumb, were printed upon the white wrist.

“You have been cruelly used,” said Holmes.

The lady coloured deeply and covered over her injured wrist. “He is a hard man,” she said, “and perhaps he hardly knows his own strength.”

There was a long silence, during which Holmes leaned his chin upon his hands and

他是住在雷丁附近克伦华特地区的阿米蒂奇先生的次子。我继父对这桩婚事没有表示反对，于是我们商定在春季结婚。两天前，我们家房子西侧也就是我们住的那一侧的房间进行修葺，我的卧室的墙壁被钻了些洞。因此我只能搬进我姐姐丧命的那间屋子里去住，睡在她生前睡过的床上。昨天晚上，我睁着眼睛躺在床上，想着她那悲惨的命运，突然听到寂静的深夜里传来一阵低沉的口哨声，就是那曾经预示过她的死亡的口哨声，你一定能想到我当时吓成了什么样子。我一下从床上跳起来，点着了灯，不过在房间里面什么都没看到，然而我吓得再也不敢上床睡觉。于是，我穿好衣服，天一亮就悄悄溜了出来，在对面的王冠旅馆找了辆双轮小马车，赶到莱瑟黑德，从那里坐火车来找你，就是想听听你的看法。”

“你这样做很明智，”福尔摩斯说，“不过，你向我说明一切了？”

“是的，毫无保留。”

“罗伊洛特小姐，你没有。你庇护了你的继父。”

“呃，你这话的意思是？”

福尔摩斯没有直接回答，他拉起了我们的客人搭在膝头的那只手上的黑色袖边，白皙的手腕上可见五小块青色的瘀痕，明显是五指留下的痕迹。

“你受过虐待。”福尔摩斯说。

那位女士涨红了双颊，遮住受伤的手腕说：“他身体健壮，也许是不知道自己使的力气有这么大。”

接下来，大家沉默了好长一段时间，福尔摩斯用手托着下巴，盯着噼啪作响