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## 福尔摩斯探案故事: 绿玉王冠

## Sherlock Holmes: The Emerald Crown

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (英)著 Janet Hardy Gould (英)改写 Marsela Hajdinjak-Krec (克罗經)插图 张黎新 译

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### AUTHOR <sup>关于作者</sup>

#### **Sir Arthur Conan Doyle**

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (1859-1930), born in Edinburgh, Scotland, is best known as the creator of Sherlock Holmes. He started writing after working as a doctor and soon became one of the world's best-known authors. Four other books by Conan Doyle are also available in Bookworm Series: three Sherlock Holmes stories, *The Blue Diamond, The Norwood Mystery* and *The Sign of Four*, and an adventure story, *The Lost World*.

#### 阿瑟·柯南·道尔爵士

阿瑟·柯南·道尔爵士(1859-1930),出生于苏格兰的爱丁堡,因创造了夏洛克·福尔摩斯这一形象而闻名。他原为医生,后开始写作,并很快成为世界上最著名的作家之一。"书虫"系列另有四部柯南·道尔的作品,其中三本讲述夏洛克·福尔摩斯的故事:《蓝色宝石》、《诺伍德之谜》和《四签名》,另外一本为探险故事《失落的世界》。

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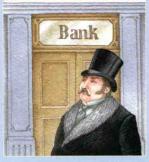
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## ACTIVITIES

#### **BEFORE READING**

1 Here are some of the people in The Emerald Crown. Who takes the crown?

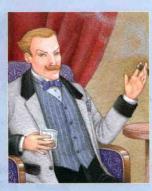
#### Holder & Stevenson Bank



a Alexander Holder,a banker



**b** Arthur Holder, Mr Holder's son



c Sir George Burnwell, Arthur Holder's friend



**d** Mary Holder, Mr Holder's niece



e Lucy, Mr Holder's maid



f Francis Prosper, Lucy's friend

#### 2 What does the criminal do with the crown?

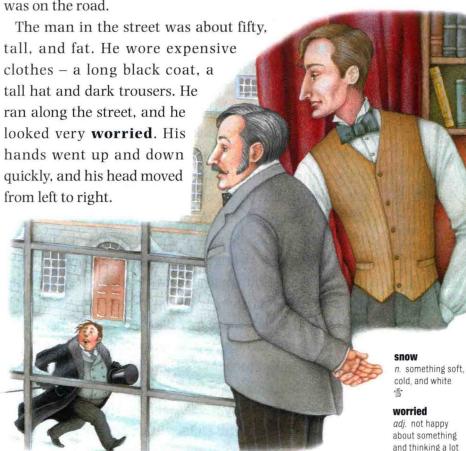
The criminal

- a takes the crown to a different country.
- b breaks the crown and takes some of the emeralds from it.
- sells the crown for a lot of money.
- d hides the crown in a tree for many years.
- 3 What do you think happens at the end of the story?

# ─ Chapter One ✓A strange man第一章 一个奇怪的人

Holmes,' I said one morning. 'Come over here to the window. There's a very strange man in our street.'

My friend, the famous detective Sherlock Holmes, got up slowly from his chair. He stood behind me, with his hands in his pockets, and looked down into Baker Street. It was a cold February morning, and the **snow** of the day before was on the road.



'There's a very strange man in our street.'

about it

焦虑的

'What's wrong with him?' I said. 'He's looking at the numbers on all the houses.'

'Watson,' said Holmes. 'He's coming here, I think.'

'Here?' I asked.

'Yes,' said Holmes. 'He's very unhappy about something, and he wants my help.'

Just then, the man stopped at our front door.

'There . . . I told you, Watson,' said Holmes with a smile. 'He's here to see me.'

Not long after that, the **maid** brought the man up to our room. Soon he stood in front of us. His head moved from left to right, and he put his hand up worriedly and **pulled** his hair from time to time. His mouth opened, but he couldn't speak.

Holmes took him by the arm and smiled. 'Please sit down,' he said, and he took him across the room to one of the chairs, and sat down next to him. 'You'd like to tell us your story. Is that right? You are tired. We can wait a minute, and when you are ready, we can begin.'

The man sat for a minute or two. Holmes and I waited quietly. Then, when he was ready, the man looked up and began. 'I look very strange, I know,' he said quietly.

'No, no,' said Holmes. 'You want to tell me something important, that's all.'

'Why did this happen to me? It's the worst thing . . . the very worst,' said the stranger.

'Please tell me your name, sir, and then you can tell me your story,' said Holmes.

'Perhaps you know my name,' said our visitor slowly. 'I am Alexander Holder of the Holder and Stevenson **Bank** of Threadneedle Street.'

#### maid

n. a woman who works in a rich person's house 女仆

#### pull

v. to move something strongly towards you 址

#### bank

n. people put money and expensive things here 银行 'Ah yes,' said Holmes. 'One of the oldest banks in London.'

'I'm sorry, sir,' said Holder. 'They told me about you and said, "You must speak to Sherlock Holmes. He can help you!" I came to see you at once. I ran from Baker Street **station** to get here more quickly. It looked strange, I know, because I don't usually go running. Thank you for waiting. I am ready now to begin.'

Holder then started to tell us his story:

Yesterday morning I was in my office at the bank when a man came to see me. When I saw him, I was very **surprised**. He was a very famous man. I'm sorry, but I can't tell you his name — because he's one of the British **royal family**.

'Mr Holder,' he said. 'People come to you to **borrow** money, I hear.'

'Yes, they do,' I said. 'And we always give it to them when we can.'

'I see,' said the man. 'Well, I need to borrow fifty thousand pounds from you at once.'

'Fifty thousand?' I said.

'Yes. I can borrow that money many times over from my friends, of course. But I wanted to come to a bank for it. It's not good to borrow from friends. After you give the money back to them, they always ask you for things later to say "thank you".'

'And how long do you need this money?' I asked.

'For six days,' said the man. 'Someone is going to give me a lot of money on Monday, so I can give back the fifty thousand pounds to you then. But I need the money now.'

'Well, for the bank to give out fifty thousand pounds, you need to leave something expensive with us,' I said.

#### station

n. people get on and off trains here 车站

#### surprised

adj. feeling that something very new is suddenly happening 吃惊的

#### royal family

the family of the king or queen 王室

#### borrow

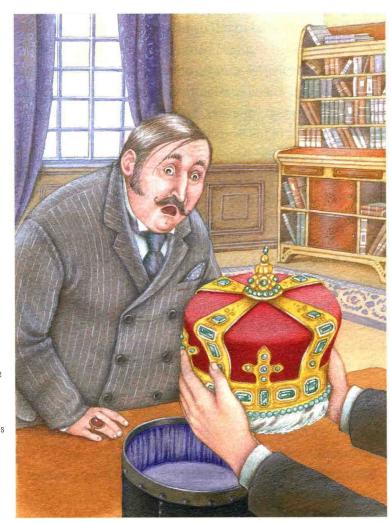
v. to take for a short time 借 The man then took out a big black box and put it on the table. I was very surprised when he opened it.

'Do you know the Emerald Crown?' he said.

'It's one of the most famous crowns in England,' I answered.

Well, this man took the Emerald Crown out of the box. It's  ${\bf gold}$  with thirty-nine large emeralds — all of the most beautiful green colour.

'Do you know the Emerald Crown?'



#### emerald

n. a very expensive green stone 绿宝石

#### crown

n. a king wears this on his head 王冠

#### gold

n. an expensive yellow metal 全子 He told me, 'Please be very careful with it, and don't take it away from the bank.'

He also said, 'Please don't tell any of your friends or family about it.'

He was afraid of a **scandal** for the royal family, I think.

Well, I gave the man the fifty thousand pounds. He thanked me, and quickly left the bank. He's going to come back on Monday morning for the crown.

But then I started to feel worried. One night last week somebody went into a bank not far from us in Threadneedle Street, and took a hundred thousand pounds from the building. I was unhappy about leaving the Emerald Crown at the bank. So last night I took it home with me.

I left work at about six o'clock. I closed the door of the bank behind me and I looked carefully up and down Threadneedle Street. In the dark nobody saw me put the black box under my coat. I then took a **carriage** back to my house in Streatham. It was, of course, a cold, snowy evening and the carriage drove along very slowly. There was only one man in the carriage with me and he didn't see the box, I know: I had it under my coat all the time.

I felt pleased when I arrived home. I ran upstairs to my office and put the black box into the **desk** there. I **locked** the desk with a **key** and then went over to the window. Just then, I saw somebody — a stranger — in the front garden.

I couldn't see his face. He wore a hat and a long coat. When he saw me at the window, he suddenly walked away. I remember one thing about him: when he walked, one of his legs moved strangely.

I then ran quickly downstairs and out into the garden. 'Hello.' Who's there?' I called.

#### scandal

n. something that a lot of people talk about, in an angry or interested way 丑闻

#### carriage

n. an old kind of car that horses pull 马车

#### desk

n. a table in a study or in an office 书桌

#### lock

v. to close with a key 锁

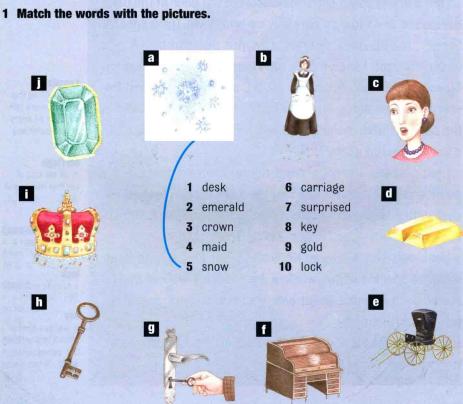
#### key

n. you can open or close a lock with this 钥匙

#### **READING CHECK**

Are these sentences true or false? Tick the boxes.		True	False
a	It was a cold day in February, with snow on the road.	<b>/</b>	
b	Mr Holder looked worried when he spoke to Holmes.		tam i
C	The Holder and Stevenson Bank is one of the newest London banks	3.	pas Di
d	A man from the Spanish royal family came to the bank.		1412 D.M
е	The man was afraid of a scandal.		
f	The man borrowed five hundred pounds from Holder.		
g	Holder took the Emerald Crown to his house.		
h	Holder saw a strange woman in the front garden.		

#### **WORD WORK**



# ACTIVITIES

#### 2 Use the words from Activity 1 to complete these sentences.

- **b** The royal family had a big ...... with six white horses.
- c When they arrived at the house, the ...... answered the door.
- **d** When you leave, please ...... the front door with this big .....
- e She needed a pen and some paper, so she looked in the ...... for them.
- f Anastasia wore a beautiful ...... on her head. It had a big green ...... at the front.
- **g** He bought an expensive ...... watch for his wife last Christmas.
- h She looked very ...... when we suddenly arrived at her house.

#### **GUESS WHAT**

What does Alexander Holder do in the next chapter? Read the sentences and write Yes or No.

Holder ...



a talks to the strange man in the garden. .....



c talks to the people in his family about the Emerald Crown. .....



**b** hits the strange man. .....



d runs away with the Emerald Crown.

9

#### ~ Chapter Two ~ Holder's story 第二章 霍尔德的故事

#### continue

v. to start again after stopping 继续

#### wild

adj. not doing what someone wants 不听管教的

#### gambling club

a place where you can play games and win money 赌场

#### play cards

to play a game (like poker) with a pack of cards 打牌

A nd did you find this man in the long coat and hat?' I asked.

'No.' answered Holder. 'I looked in the front and back garden, but nobody was there.'

He stopped talking, and thought for a minute. 'But before I continue with my story, I must tell you about my family, and all the different people in the house.'

'Ah yes,' said Holmes, and he moved his chair nearer.

'My family isn't very big,' said Holder. 'My wife died ten years ago and I've got only one son, Arthur. I'm sorry to say it, but he isn't a very good son.

'When my wife died, Arthur was the most important thing for me. I wanted to make him happy, so when he asked for something, I gave it to him. I was wrong to do it.

I know that now.

'I wanted Arthur to work with me at the bank, but he was no good with money.

> was eighteen, he started going to a gambling club. He made friends there – all rich young men with a lot of time and money. With these new friends he learned to play cards but, of course, he often lost. He came to me nearly every week and asked, "Can I borrow some more money from you, father?"



'He was a wild young man.'

'And did you give it to him?' I asked interestedly.

'Yes.' said Holder. 'Arthur often told me, "Father, I'm going to leave the club!" And from time to time he stopped going there. But he always went back after a week or two. There was one friend at the club with a lot of **power** over Arthur, an older man – Burnwell.'

Burnwell

'Burnwell?' asked Holmes.

'Yes, Sir George Burnwell. Do you know him?'

'I know his name, I think,' said Holmes. He looked quickly over at me.

'When Burnwell first came to our house. I liked him.' continued Holder. 'He's a tall. handsome man. When he walks into a room, everybody looks at him. He's a wonderful talker: he can tell the most interesting stories for hours and hours.

#### power

n, being able to make somebody or something do what you want 影响力

#### handsome

adj. good-looking 英俊的

#### niece

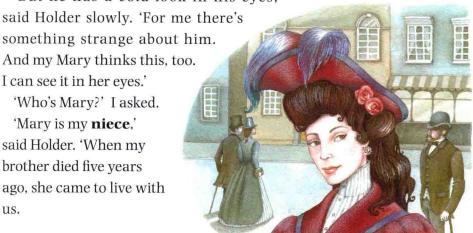
n. your sister's (or brother's) daughter 侄女;外甥女

'But he has a cold look in his eyes.' said Holder slowly. 'For me there's something strange about him.

I can see it in her eyes.'

'Who's Mary?' I asked.

'Mary is my niece,' said Holder. 'When my brother died five years ago, she came to live with us.



Mary

'Lucy, our most important maid.'



'She's a wonderful girl,' continued Holder, 'and she does everything for me at home. I call her my "right hand", you know." Holder looked out of the window and smiled. But the smile suddenly left his face.

'Only one thing makes me unhappy,' said Holder. 'Arthur loves Mary very much. Last year, he asked Mary to marry him, but she said "no". I feel very sorry about this, because Arthur needs a good wife. And Mary is the most wonderful girl.'

Holder stopped talking and then, after a minute or two, began again. 'Now, where was I?' he asked. 'Ah, yes . . . yes. Of course, there are the maids in the house, too. There are three of them – good young girls, and all of them started with me a number of years ago. And then there's Lucy, our most important maid. She came to us two months ago. We're very happy with her. But the only thing is . . . '

'What's that?' I asked.

'She's very beautiful, and she has many admirers. Sometimes they come to the kitchen door in the evening . . .' Holder then stopped. 'Well, that's everybody at home. I think.'

'And what about yesterday evening?' asked Holmes.

'Oh, yes, my story,' said Holder. 'When I came back into the house, it was time for dinner. And after dinner. Lucy brought in some coffee for Arthur, Mary, and me. Over coffee, I told Arthur and Mary all about the Emerald

#### marry

v. to make someone your wife or husband 与 …… 结婚

#### admirer

n. an old word for a person who likes or loves another person, often secretly 追求者

#### kitchen

n. the room in the house where people make things to eat 厨房