

书虫·牛津
英汉双语读物



月亮宝石

4级

适合高一、
高二年级

The Moonstone

Wilkie Collins (英) 著

Merinda Wilson (英) 改写

外语教学与研究出版社

FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING AND RESEARCH PRESS

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AUTHOR

关于作者

Wilkie Collins

Wilkie Collins (1824—1889) was born in London, the son of a successful painter. He started writing in his twenties, and his first novel was published in 1850. Ten years later he published his first really successful book, *The Woman in White* (available in the Bookworms Series), a mystery thriller. *The Moonstone* (1868) is often described as the first detective novel, and has been filmed several times.

威尔基·柯林斯

威尔基·柯林斯 (1824—1889) 出生于伦敦，是一名成功画家的儿子。他在二十多岁的时候开始写作，第一本小说于1850年出版。十年后，出版了第一部真正成功的作品《白衣女人》(收于“书虫·牛津英汉双语读物”系列)，这是一本悬疑惊险小说。《月亮宝石》(1868年出版)则常被视为“第一本侦探小说”，并多次被搬上银幕。

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ACTIVITIES

BEFORE READING

1 Read about the characters from *The Moonstone* below. Complete the sentences with these words: *cousin, cousin, mother, parents, uncle, uncle and aunt*.

Rachel is the daughter of Lady Julia Verinder. Her father died when she was a child. John Herncastle is Lady Verinder's brother. He fought for Britain in India. Lady Verinder has two sisters. Her sister, Adelaide, married rich Mr Blake and they had a son, Franklin. Adelaide died when Franklin was a child. Lady Verinder's second sister, Caroline, married Mr Ablewhite, a banker. They have a son, Godfrey, and live in the town near Lady Verinder.



a Lady Verinder is Rachel's



b John Herncastle is Rachel's



c Franklin is Rachel's



d Mr and Mrs Ablewhite are Rachel's and , and Godfrey's



e Godfrey is Rachel's

2 The Moonstone is a mystery story about a diamond that brings bad luck. What do you think happens to the characters above in the story?

- a** Who steals the Moonstone diamond?
- b** Who does Rachel marry?
- c** Who dies in the story?

Prologue 引子

Seringapatam, India (1799)

I am writing to you, the family, from India to explain why I am no longer friendly with my cousin, John Herncastle.

Herncastle and I were here with the British **army**. We were staying near the Palace of Seringapatam in southern India. There were many mysterious stories about the palace. One of the wildest stories was about a yellow **diamond**. It was once part of a **statue** of the Moon God, and it was **guarded** day and night by three Indian **priests**. But a hundred years ago the diamond - called the Moonstone - was stolen and brought to the Palace of Seringapatam. People said that three priests were secretly still guarding the Moonstone at the palace. Herncastle was one of the few men in the army who thought that the Moonstone story was true.

On the 4th of May 1799, the British army attacked the palace. On the night of the attack, I found Herncastle in one of the palace rooms with a bloody knife in his hand. Lying across the entrance of the room there were the dead bodies of two Indians, and in front of him another Indian was falling to the floor. As the Indian lay dying, he looked at Herncastle and said: 'The Moonstone will have its **revenge** on you and yours!'

At that moment, the room filled with more men, the fighting went on, and I didn't see my cousin until the next morning.

'Tell me,' I said, 'how did the Indian die and what did his last words mean?'

'I know no more than you do,' said Herncastle.

I turned my back on him and we have not spoken since.

Please understand that I'm writing about my cousin in order to warn you. I did not see him kill the men with my own eyes, but I am quite sure that he did kill them. Not only this, but I am also sure that he stole the Moonstone. The Moonstone will have its revenge on Herncastle and any other person to whom he gives the diamond.

army *n.* a large number of people who fight for their country
部队

diamond *n.* a very bright, hard stone that looks like glass and is very expensive
钻石

statue *n.* a picture of a person made of metal or stone
雕像

guard *v.* to look after a place and stop people attacking it
守护

priest *n.* a man who works in a temple
祭司

revenge *n.* something that you do to hurt someone because they have hurt you
复仇

第一章 约克郡的印度宝石

On the twenty-fourth of May, 1848, Lady Verinder called her old **servant** Gabriel Betteredge into the sitting room of her family home in Yorkshire.

‘Gabriel,’ she said. ‘Here is news that will surprise you. Franklin Blake has come back from **abroad**. He is coming tomorrow to stay until next month, and will be here for Rachel’s birthday. You must get a room ready for him.’

Franklin Blake was Lady Verinder’s **nephew**, her eldest sister’s only son. He had lived with his aunt and his cousin Rachel Verinder in Yorkshire as a boy, until he went to school in Germany. This was Franklin’s first visit back, and everyone was excited about seeing him again.

The next morning, Lady Verinder and Miss Rachel drove out to lunch with some friends because Franklin had told them he wasn’t arriving until dinner time. Betteredge was getting the room ready for Franklin when he heard a noise in the garden. He went outside and saw three dark-skinned Indians looking at the house. With them was a small, fair English boy. They wanted to see the lady of the house but left politely when they were told that she was out.

Shortly afterwards, Betteredge’s daughter, Penelope, came in a hurry to see her father. She also worked at Lady Verinder’s house as Rachel’s servant.

‘Father,’ she cried, ‘Where are those Indians? They want to do something **wicked**, I’m sure.’

Penelope had followed the Indians when they entered the garden. One Indian made the small boy hold out his hand. He put some black ink on it, and asked:

‘Will the English gentleman travel to this house this evening? Has the English gentleman got *it* with him?’

servant

n. a person who works for someone rich
仆人

abroad *adv.* in or to another country
在(到)国外

nephew *n.* your sister’s (or brother’s) son
外甥; 侄子

wicked

adj. very bad
邪恶的

The boy's answer to both questions had been 'Yes'.

Betteredge promised his daughter to ask Franklin Blake what the 'it' in the conversation was. Then he went to fetch the **housemaid**, Rosanna Spearman, for lunch. Rosanna was quiet and hardworking, and Betteredge liked her. He also knew her secret. Rosanna had been a thief, and she had been to prison. But Lady Verinder had felt sorry for her and had given her a job as a housemaid, so Rosanna didn't need to steal in order to get money any more.

Betteredge followed Rosanna's favourite walk to a lonely beach not far from the house. The place was known as the **Shivering Sand** because the moving sands there were dangerous when the sea was low. When Betteredge reached the beach, he saw Rosanna in her big grey coat. She was crying.

'Come and sit down,' he said kindly, 'and tell me why you always come to this miserable place.'

'I try to keep away, but I can't,' she said in a low voice.

Suddenly there was a shout from behind them. 'Betteredge! Where are you?'

Rosanna looked around. 'Oh! Who is it?' she asked softly.

A bright-eyed young gentleman came up to them. He was not a tall man, but he was very good-looking. He had brown hair and a

housemaid

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

(尤指负责客厅和卧室的)女仆, 女佣

shiver

v. to move quickly from side to side, often because something makes you feel afraid or cold

颤抖

'Betteredge!
Where are you?'



beard, and he wore fashionable, foreign clothes. He came and sat down on the sand next to the old man. It was Franklin Blake, and he was four hours early!

‘Welcome back, Mr Franklin,’ the old servant said.

Betteredge was pleasantly surprised to see the man whom he had last seen as a boy. But Rosanna Spearman’s face turned deep red. She seemed suddenly uncomfortable and she ran back to the house.

‘You have arrived early,’ continued Betteredge.

‘I have a reason for that,’ the young man answered. ‘I wanted to lose a dark stranger who has been following me.’

Betteredge, told Franklin about the visit by the three Indians. He was surprised by Franklin’s reply.

“‘Has the English gentleman got *it* with him?’ I suppose that “it” means *this*,’ he said, and he pulled something out of his pocket. ‘My uncle’s famous Indian diamond.’

‘Oh, sir! Why do you have your wicked uncle’s diamond with you?’ asked Betteredge.

‘My uncle has left his diamond as a birthday present to his **niece**, my cousin Rachel,’ said Franklin. ‘And my father asked me to bring it here. But, Betteredge, why do you call my uncle wicked? What do you know about him?’

‘Lady Verinder’s brother, John Herncastle, was in India with the army, and returned to England with a large diamond. From the moment of his return, all his family refused to see him, and no one ever knew the true story of how he had got his diamond.’

‘Your uncle never tried to sell the **jewel** and he never showed it to anyone. Twice in India he nearly died, and he thought that the Moonstone held a terrible secret.’

Betteredge told Franklin all this as they sat near the Shivering Sand. He also spoke of a visit from Herncastle two years before, on Rachel’s birthday. At that time Lady Verinder had refused to let her brother into the house. ‘I shall remember my niece’s birthday!’ Herncastle laughed wickedly and he left.

niece

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

jewel

n. an expensive
stone
珠宝

Franklin listened with greater and greater interest to Betteredge's story.

'Now let me tell you what I know,' Franklin said. 'My father's business with the Herncastle diamond is a strange story. My uncle gave my father some important papers, and in return, my father put the jewel in his bank and told his **lawyer**, Mr Bruff, that he would get a note from Herncastle once a year. If Bruff didn't get a note on an agreed date, it was because someone had murdered Herncastle. Bruff then had orders to read a letter which was left with the diamond.'

'After my uncle died in his sleep six months ago, Bruff opened the letter. It told him to take the Moonstone secretly to Amsterdam and have it cut into four to six stones. I think my uncle's life had been in danger from people who were looking for the Moonstone. And he thought he could stop the danger if the diamond were no longer a single stone.'

'But then, in his **will**, my uncle left the Moonstone as a birthday present to his niece, but only if her mother, Lady Verinder, was still alive. Why? For me the important question is: Does the terrible secret of the Moonstone continue after Herncastle dies?'

'Did Herncastle say why he left the diamond to Miss Rachel?' Betteredge asked.

'Oh, yes,' replied Franklin, 'His will says that it is to show that he **forgives** Lady Verinder. But remember that Lady Verinder refused to see her brother for years!'

'I don't know what to do for the best,' said Franklin. 'What do you think, Betteredge?'

Betteredge's idea was to put the diamond into a bank at Frizinghall, the nearest town. It was a month until Miss Rachel's birthday, and in this way they could wait and see what happened.

'A wonderful idea,' Franklin said and he jumped up. 'Get the best horse ready for me. I shall take the diamond to Frizinghall before the ladies come back.'

lawyer

n. someone who works to help people with the law

律师

will

n. the paper that you write and sign, which says how you want to divide your money between people in your family when you die

遗嘱

forgive

v. (forgave, forgiven) to stop being angry with someone for something bad that they did

原谅

ACTIVITIES

READING CHECK

Tick the boxes to complete the sentences.

- a** The story begins in ...
- ☐ Germany.
 - ☒ India.
 - ☐ Yorkshire.
- b** The Moonstone is a valuable jewel that belonged to ...
- ☐ Franklin Blake.
 - ☐ John Herncastle.
 - ☐ an Indian priest.
- c** Franklin Blake is Lady Verinder's ...
- ☐ nephew.
 - ☐ son.
 - ☐ uncle.
- d** Before Rosanna Spearman came to work at Lady Verinder's house she ...
- ☐ worked in a bank.
 - ☐ lived in India.
 - ☐ was in prison.
- e** Lady Verinder refused to speak to her brother, John Herncastle, because ...
- ☐ he had attacked the Palace of Seringapatam.
 - ☐ he had done wicked things in India.
 - ☐ his life had been in danger.
- f** Franklin Blake was told to give the Moonstone to Rachel as a birthday present from ...
- ☐ John Herncastle.
 - ☐ Franklin's father.
 - ☐ Mr Bruff.
- g** Franklin and Betteredge decide to take the Moonstone ...
- ☐ back to London.
 - ☐ to the Shivering Sand.
 - ☐ to the bank in Frizinghall.

WORD WORK

- 1** Use the words round the statue to complete the sentences on page 9.



ACTIVITIES

- a I was alone at home, and the noise of the wind made me ...shiver...
- b My brother's going to join the and fight for his country.
- c We prefer to go for our holidays.
- d This is an old pen; you need to fill it with before you can write with it.
- e The on the beach wasn't yellow, it was white.
- f Tom died without a, so they didn't know how to divide his money.
- g Herncastle wanted on his family for the bad things they had done to him.
- h Last week in our street someone was and his money was stolen.
- i If you say sorry for losing my diamond ring, then I'll you.

2 Use words from Chapter 1 to complete the definitions.

- a A lawyer works with the law and tells people what they can and cannot do.
- b A is someone who works in a temple or a church.
- c A is a young woman who looks after a rich person's house.
- d A looks after a building and stops other people stealing things from it.
- e A is a man or woman who works for a rich person.
- f A is the son of your sister or brother.
- g A is the daughter of your sister or brother.

GUESS WHAT

What do you think happens in the next chapter? Match the names with the sentences.

Betteredge Franklin Lady Verinder Rachel Rosanna

- a falls in love with Franklin.
- b wears the Moonstone on her dress.
- c is angry about John Herncastle's birthday gift to Rachel.
- d stops smoking to please Rachel.
- e and want to send Rosanna away.

Chapter 2 The diamond disappears

第二章 失踪的钻石

Betteredge and Franklin hurried back to the house, and found a good horse to take Franklin to Frizinghall. He rode away at once to take the Moonstone to the bank there.

When Lady Verinder and Miss Rachel came back later that afternoon, they were surprised to hear that their **guest** had arrived early and then left for Frizinghall. Being careful not to say anything about the diamond, Betteredge explained that Franklin had suddenly changed his plans.

Just then, Betteredge's daughter, Penelope, came to talk to him. 'Father,' she said. 'Since Rosanna Spearman returned from the Shivering Sand, she has been **behaving** very strangely. Has she ever met Mr Blake before?'

'No, never,' replied Betteredge.

'Then I think,' said Penelope, 'that Rosanna has fallen in love with Franklin Blake!'

Betteredge laughed loudly. How could a poor housemaid like Rosanna fall in love with a gentleman like Franklin?

But Penelope wasn't laughing. 'Father! You're wicked to make fun of Rosanna,' she said angrily, and left the room.

When the diamond was safely in the bank, Franklin returned from Frizinghall. The ladies were pleased to have him with them that evening. Rachel took special care to get ready for dinner, and after dinner she sang with Franklin while Lady Verinder played the piano. At the end of the evening, Betteredge brought Franklin some **brandy** and water to his room. He could see that Franklin was no longer worried about the diamond.

'Miss Rachel is the most **charming** girl that I have seen since I came back to England!' said Franklin dreamily.

There was still nearly a month until Rachel's birthday party. To pass the time, Franklin gave Rachel the idea of **painting** the door into her **sitting room**, the room next to her bedroom. Franklin and

guest

n. a person that you invite to your home
客人

behave

v. to do or say things in a certain way
表现

brandy

n. a strong alcoholic drink
白兰地(酒)

charming

adj. very attractive and pleasant
迷人的

sitting room

a room in a house where people sit and talk
起居室



Rachel started painting flowers, birds, and small animals around the door. While the two of them were busy painting every day, the servants were busy talking about them. Everyone could see that Franklin was in love with Rachel. He had even stopped smoking to please her. But what did Rachel feel for him?

Rachel was indeed a charming young woman. She was small and very pretty, with black hair, dark eyes, and the most beautiful smile.

The two of them were busy painting every day.

But Rachel was different from most of the young women of her age, because she was strong and **determined**. She was able to decide things for herself, and did not need to ask other people what to do. She was also very honest, and had never told a lie in her life. But it was impossible to find out who Rachel loved; Rachel did not tell her secrets to anyone, not even her mother.

Another guest who was coming to the party was Rachel's cousin, Godfrey Ablewhite. He was a tall, fine-looking man with long, fair hair. He worked in London as a lawyer, but was also well-known for his **charity** work which helped poor women. He was a good speaker at meetings and people were happy to give him lots of money for charity. In fact, Godfrey was popular with everyone. Rachel had a photograph of him beside her bed.

A few days before the party, the housemaid Rosanna Spearman was behaving very strangely and looked ill. Lady Verinder told Betteredge to send her away for a rest. But Rosanna cried and cried, and refused to leave. Finally, Lady Verinder agreed with Betteredge that it was better to let Rosanna stay on at the house.



It was the 21st of June; the day of Rachel's eighteenth birthday. After he had painted the door all morning with Rachel, Franklin rode off to Frizinghall to fetch the Moonstone. He returned with Godfrey Ablewhite and his two sisters, who had also been invited to the party. They were talking excitedly as they entered the house.

'Have you got the diamond safe?' Betteredge asked Franklin quietly.

'Yes, it's here in my pocket,' replied Franklin.

'Did you see any Indians?' continued Betteredge.

'No,' said Franklin calmly, and he walked across the hall to look for Rachel.

Half an hour later, there were loud cries of excitement from the library. In the middle of the room sat Rachel with **Colonel** Herncastle's diamond in her hand. Franklin had just given it to her, and Godfrey and his sisters were staring at it.

determined

adj. having a strong desire to do something, so that you will not let anyone stop you

意志坚定的

charity

n. helping poor people

慈善事业

colonel

n. someone who has a high rank in the army

上校

‘How wonderful!’ the sisters cried.

‘Beautiful! Beautiful!’ said Godfrey softly.

The diamond was the size of a small bird’s egg. A beautiful yellow light shone from the centre of the jewel like bright sunlight.

Lady Verinder was standing by the window, with her back to the others. Why had her brother left this gift for Rachel? Had he forgiven Lady Verinder, or was he looking for revenge?

That afternoon Rachel and Godfrey took a walk in the garden. They had not seen each other for some time, and they walked arm-in-arm, laughing. But when they returned to the house half an hour later, they walked separately, and they were not laughing. Godfrey had asked Rachel to marry him, but Rachel had refused; she had explained to him that she was in love with another man.

Later that evening, Rachel wore the diamond at the dinner party. As the guests came in, they looked at Rachel and her diamond with great excitement and interest. The fact that Rachel had chosen to wear the diamond at the party only made Lady Verinder more worried.

When all the guests had arrived, they took their places at the dinner table. The guest on Rachel’s left was Dr Candy, the doctor at Frizinghall.

‘I would like to do an **experiment** on your diamond, Rachel,’ said Dr Candy. ‘If I burn your diamond, it may disappear, and you won’t need to worry about keeping it safe!’ he laughed.

But the guest who was sitting on Rachel’s right was much more serious. Mr Murthwaite was a tall, thin, quiet man. He had travelled all over India for many years, and he knew everything about the country and its people. He did not speak much during the party, but when he did speak, it was to say something about the diamond.

‘Be very careful, Miss Rachel,’ he said. ‘If you ever go to India, don’t wear that diamond. In a certain Indian city, if the priests see you with the Moonstone, they will kill you.’

experiment

n. something that you try to see what will happen
实验