

6级 适合高三、大学低年级



书虫·牛津英汉双语读物

■ Wilkie Collins (英) 著

■ Richard G. Lewis (英) 改写

The in Woman White 白衣女人



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- 王世庆 译

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内容简介

一个突然出现的白衣女人孤独地伫立在月下的荒野中。沃尔特·哈特里特一开始被她吓了一跳，但后来发现她非常害怕，头脑也不清楚，需要他的帮助。他温和有礼地同她交谈，陪她走了一段路，指给她前面应该怎么走。很快，她就又消失在了夜色里。

这次偶遇拉开了一连串事件的序幕，也把沃尔特、玛丽安以及她同母异父的妹妹劳拉、珀西瓦尔爵士和他的意大利朋友福斯科伯爵扯进一个似是而非的谜团之中。而谜团的核心就是那个悲伤孤独的白衣女人——她的生活、她的过去还有她急于在死前揭开的秘密。

这是一个有关贪婪与邪恶、无辜与背叛、身份混淆与无情欺骗的故事。这也是一个爱情故事——爱情的开始是伤心和痛苦，好像没有任何出路，更没有任何希望和将来。但是，爱情不会轻易灭亡；它能够战胜离别与绝望，甚至死亡……

THE WOMAN IN WHITE

She appears out of nowhere, a woman dressed all in white, standing in the moonlight on the lonely heath. Walter Hartright is at first alarmed, but then sees that she is frightened and confused, and needs his help. He speaks kindly to her, walks with her to show her the right road, and soon she disappears into the night again.

This strange meeting begins a chain of events that bring together Walter, Marian and her half-sister Laura, Sir Percival and his Italian friend Count Fosco in a mystery in which nothing is as it seems. And at the heart of the mystery is the sad, lonely figure of the woman in white — her life, her history, and the secret that she is desperate to reveal before she dies.

It is a story of greed and evil, innocence and betrayal, confused identities and cruel deceptions. And also love — a love that begins with heartbreak and misery, where there seems no way forward, no hope for the future. But love does not die easily; it can survive separation, and despair, and even death itself . . .

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The Woman in White

白 衣 女 人

PART ONE

THE STORY TOLD BY WALTER HARTRIGHT

1

A meeting by moonlight

It was the last day of July. The long hot summer was coming to an end, and I was feeling ill and depressed. I was also short of money, so I had little chance of escaping from the dusty London streets, and would have to spend the autumn economically between my rooms in the city and my mother's house.

My mother and my sister, Sarah, lived in a cottage in Hampstead, in the northern suburbs, and I usually went to see them twice a week. This evening I arrived at the gate of the cottage just as it was starting to get dark. I had hardly rung the bell before the door was opened violently, and my Italian friend, Professor Pesca, rushed out to greet me.

Pesca was a language teacher who had left Italy for political reasons and had made his home in England. He was a strange, excitable little man, who was always trying to be more English than the English. I had met him from time to time when he was teaching in the same houses as I was, and then one day I met him by chance in Brighton. We agreed to go for a swim together in the sea. He was

第一部分

沃尔特·哈特里特的讲述

1. 月下邂逅

那是7月的最后一天。漫长、炎热的夏季已经接近尾声，但我觉得身体不太舒服，心情也有些压抑。我没什么钱，不大可能离开尘土飞扬的伦敦，只得在伦敦的住处和母亲的家中将就这个秋天了。

母亲和妹妹萨拉住在伦敦北郊汉普斯特德的一所小房子里，我每星期会去看她们两次。今天我到那里的时候，天已经快黑了。刚一按门铃，我的意大利朋友，佩斯卡教授就用力打开了门，箭步冲出来迎接我。

佩斯卡由于政治原因从意大利来到英国，在这里做语言教师，安顿了下来。他个头不高，性格古怪而天真，极力表现出比英国人还地道的英国做派。我曾经和他在几个家庭里同为家庭教师，所以经常见面。有一天，我在布赖顿碰到他，两人说好一同到海滨游泳。他当时非常兴奋，

depressed *adj.* *dispirited*
or miserable 无精打采的
economically *adv.* *sparing*
in the use of resources 节
俭地 **violently** *adv.* *using*
aggressive physical force
用力地

very enthusiastic and it never for a moment occurred to me that he did not know how to swim! Fortunately, when he suddenly sank to the bottom, I was able to dive down and save him. From that day on he was my grateful friend, and that evening he showed his gratitude to me in a way that changed my whole life.

‘Now, my good friends,’ he said, when we were all in my mother’s sitting-room. ‘I have some wonderful news for you. I have been asked by my employer to recommend a drawing teacher for a post with a rich family in the north of England. And who do you think I have recommended? The best drawing teacher in the world — Mr Walter Hartright!’

‘My dear Pesca! How good you are to Walter!’ exclaimed my mother. ‘How kind, how generous you are!’

As for myself, although I was certainly grateful for his kindness, I still felt strangely depressed. I thanked him warmly, however, and asked to see the conditions. The note he gave me said that a qualified drawing teacher was wanted by Mr Frederick Fairlie of Limmeridge House, Cumberland, to teach his two young nieces for a period of at least four months. The teacher was to live at Limmeridge House as a gentleman and receive four pounds a week. Letters to show he was of good character would be required.

The position was certainly an attractive one, and I

我根本没想到他竟然不会游泳！幸好他突然沉下去的时候，我潜进水里把他救了上来。从那以后，他对我感激不尽，我们成了朋友，而这天晚上他的感恩之举改变了我的一生。

大家齐聚客厅时，他说：“嘿，朋友们，我有一个好消息要告诉你们。我的东家让我为英格兰北部一个富有的人家推荐一名绘画教师。你们猜我推荐了谁？我推荐的是世界上最好的绘画教师——沃尔特·哈特里特先生！”

“亲爱的佩斯卡，你对沃尔特真是太好了！”母亲说道。“你真是好心又慷慨！”

我本人也很感激他的好意，但是总觉得有一种莫名的不安。不过我还是热情地跟他道谢，向他打听一些具体情况。他给我的条子上说坎伯兰郡利默里奇庄园的弗雷德里克·费尔利先生要聘请一位优秀的绘画教师，教他的两个侄女画画，聘期至少四个月。受聘教师将住在利默里奇庄园，薪水是一星期4英镑。应聘教师必须出具品行良好的证明信。

这的确是一份令人心动的工作，但不

gratitude *n.* a feeling of being grateful to someone because they have given you something or done something for you 感激之情；知恩图报之心 **recommend** *v.* suggest as fit for some purpose or use 推荐 **exclaim** *v.* cry out suddenly *esp.* in anger, surprise, pain etc. (出于气愤、惊讶、痛苦等) 大喊；惊叫 **character** *n.* the collective qualities that distinguish a person or thing 特点；品行

could not understand why I felt so little enthusiasm for it. However, since my mother and sister thought it was a great opportunity, and I had no wish to hurt Pesca's feelings, I agreed to apply for the job.

The next morning I sent my letters of recommendation to the Professor's employer, and four days later I heard that Mr Fairlie accepted my services and requested me to start for Cumberland immediately. I arranged to leave the next day, and in the evening I walked to Hampstead to say goodbye to my mother and Sarah.

When I left them at midnight, a full moon was shining in a dark blue, starless sky, and the air was soft and warm. I decided to take the long route home, and walk across Hampstead Heath before joining the road into the centre of the city. After a while I came to a crossroads and turned onto the London road. I was lost in my own thoughts, wondering about the two young ladies in Cumberland, when suddenly, my heart seemed to stop beating. A hand had touched my shoulder from behind.

I turned at once, my hand tightening on my walking stick.

There, as if it had dropped from the sky, stood the figure of a woman, dressed from head to foot in white clothes. I was too surprised to speak.

'Is that the road into London?' she said.

I looked at her carefully. It was then nearly one

知为什么我就是兴奋不起来。不管怎样，既然母亲和妹妹都认为这是个好机会，我也不愿伤害佩斯卡的感情，于是我答应应聘。

转天早晨，我把推荐信寄给佩斯卡的雇主，四天之后传来消息说，费尔利先生接受了我的应聘，要我立即动身前往坎伯兰郡。我做好了第二天动身的准备，晚上我步行到汉普斯特德向母亲和妹妹道别。

离开她们已是子夜时分，深蓝的天空满月高悬，看不见一颗星星，空气温暖宜人。我决定走那条稍远一点的路回家，先穿过汉普斯特德荒地，再走通往市中心的那条路。不一会儿，我来到十字路口，踏上了通向伦敦的大路。我满脑子在想着坎伯兰郡两位小姐的事，突然一只手从后面拍了拍我的肩膀，吓得我心跳都快停止了。

我猛地转过身，攥紧了手杖。

我眼前站着一个白衣女人，仿佛从天而降。我惊得一句话也说不出。

“那条路是去伦敦的吗？”那女人开口问道。

我仔细打量着她。这时已将近凌晨 1

apply for make a formal request for something to be done, given etc. 申请 **be lost in** be engrossed in 全神贯注于…… **tighten** v. make or become tight or tighter 握紧；攥紧

o'clock. All I could see in the moonlight was a young colourless face, large sad eyes, and light brown hair. Her manner was quiet and self-controlled. What sort of woman she was, and why she was out so late alone, I could not guess. But there was nothing evil about her — indeed, a kind of sad innocence seemed to come from her.

‘Did you hear me?’ she said, quietly and rapidly.

‘Yes,’ I replied, ‘that’s the road. Please excuse me—I was rather surprised by your sudden appearance.’

‘You don’t suspect me of doing anything wrong, do you?’

‘No, no, seeing you so suddenly gave me a shock, that’s all.’

‘I heard you coming,’ she said, ‘and hid behind those trees to see what sort of man you were, before I risked speaking. May I trust you?’ Her eyes searched my face, anxiously.

Her loneliness and helplessness were so obvious that I felt great sympathy for her. ‘Tell me how I can help you,’ I said, ‘and if I can, I will.’

‘Oh, thank you, thank you. You are very kind.’ Her voice trembled a little as she spoke. ‘I don’t know London at all. Can I get a cab or a carriage at this time of night? Could you show me where to get one, and will you promise not to interfere with me? I have a friend in London who will be glad to receive me. I want nothing else — will you promise?’

点了。借着月光只能看出一张年轻却没有血色的脸，一对哀伤的大眼睛和淡棕色的头发。她看上去镇定自若。我猜不出她是个什么样的女人，这么晚了为什么孤身一人在外面。可是她看上去没有恶意，实际上还流露出一丝哀伤和纯真。

“你听见我说话了吗？”她很快地轻声说。

“是的，”我赶忙回答，“是那条路。请原谅，你出现得太突然，吓了我一跳。”

“你不会怀疑我在做什么坏事吧？”

“不，不是。只不过突然看到你，吓了一跳。”

“我听到你走过来，”她说，“就先躲在树后看你是什么样的人，然后才敢同你说话的。我能信赖你吗？”她不安地看着我的脸。

她看起来实在是非常孤独和无助，这大大地激起了我的同情。“说吧，我能为你做什么，”我说，“只要我能做的，一定帮忙。”

“哦，谢谢，谢谢。你真是个好人。”她的声音有些颤抖。“我对伦敦一无所知，这时候还有出租马车吗？你能告诉我哪里能找辆车吗？你能保证不要多问吗？我在伦敦有朋友，她会帮我的，就是这样——你能保证吗？”



colourless *adj.* without colour 没有颜色的 **suspect** *v.* be inclined to accuse mentally 怀疑 **shock** *n.* a sudden disturbing effect 震惊；吃惊

She looked nervously up and down the road, then back at me.

How could I refuse? Her fear and confusion were painful to see.

‘Will you promise?’ she repeated.

‘Yes.’

We set off together towards the centre of London. It was like a dream — walking along that familiar road, with so strange and so mysterious a companion at my side.

‘Do you know any men of the rank of Baronet in London?’ she asked suddenly.

There was a note of suspicion in the strange question, and when I said I knew no Baronets, she seemed relieved. I questioned her further, and she murmured that she had been cruelly used by a Baronet she would not name. She told me she came from Hampshire and asked if I lived in London. I explained that I did, but that I was leaving for Cumberland the next day.

‘Cumberland!’ she repeated softly. ‘Ah! I wish I was going there too. I was once happy in Cumberland, in Limmeridge village. I’d like to see Limmeridge House again.’

Limmeridge House! I stopped, amazed.

‘What’s wrong?’ she asked anxiously. ‘Did you hear anybody calling after us?’

‘No, no. It’s just that I heard the name of Limmeridge