

HAZARD RIVER 危机河

[澳] 朱莉·费森 (J.E. Fison) 著

朱银涛 译

SHARK FRENZY!

鲨鱼疯!

(英汉对照版)



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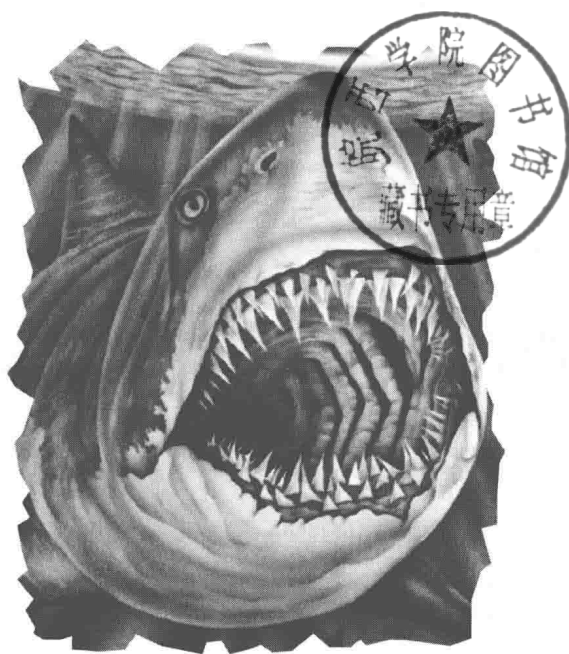
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作 者: [澳] 朱莉·费森

译 者: 朱银涛

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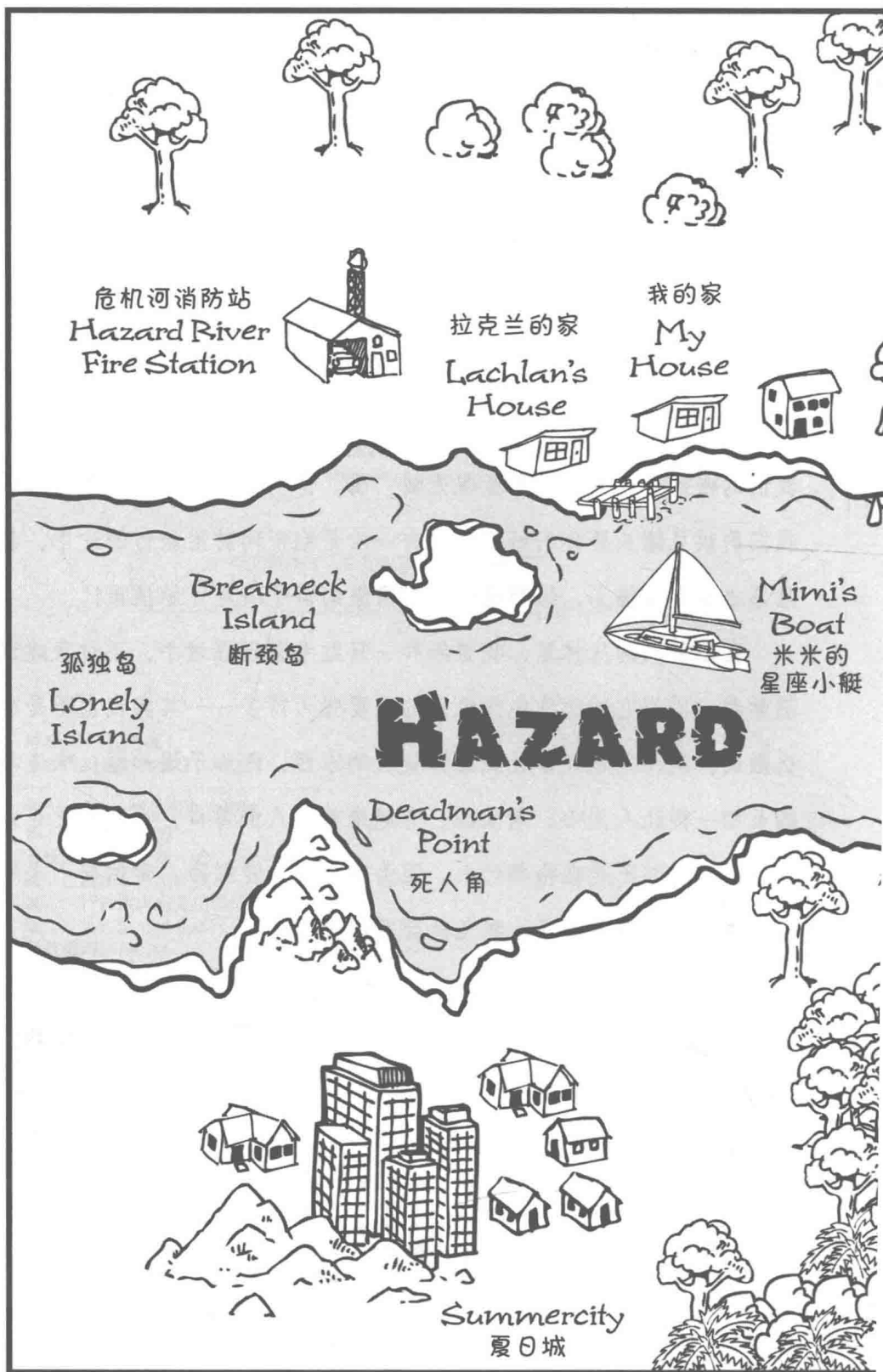
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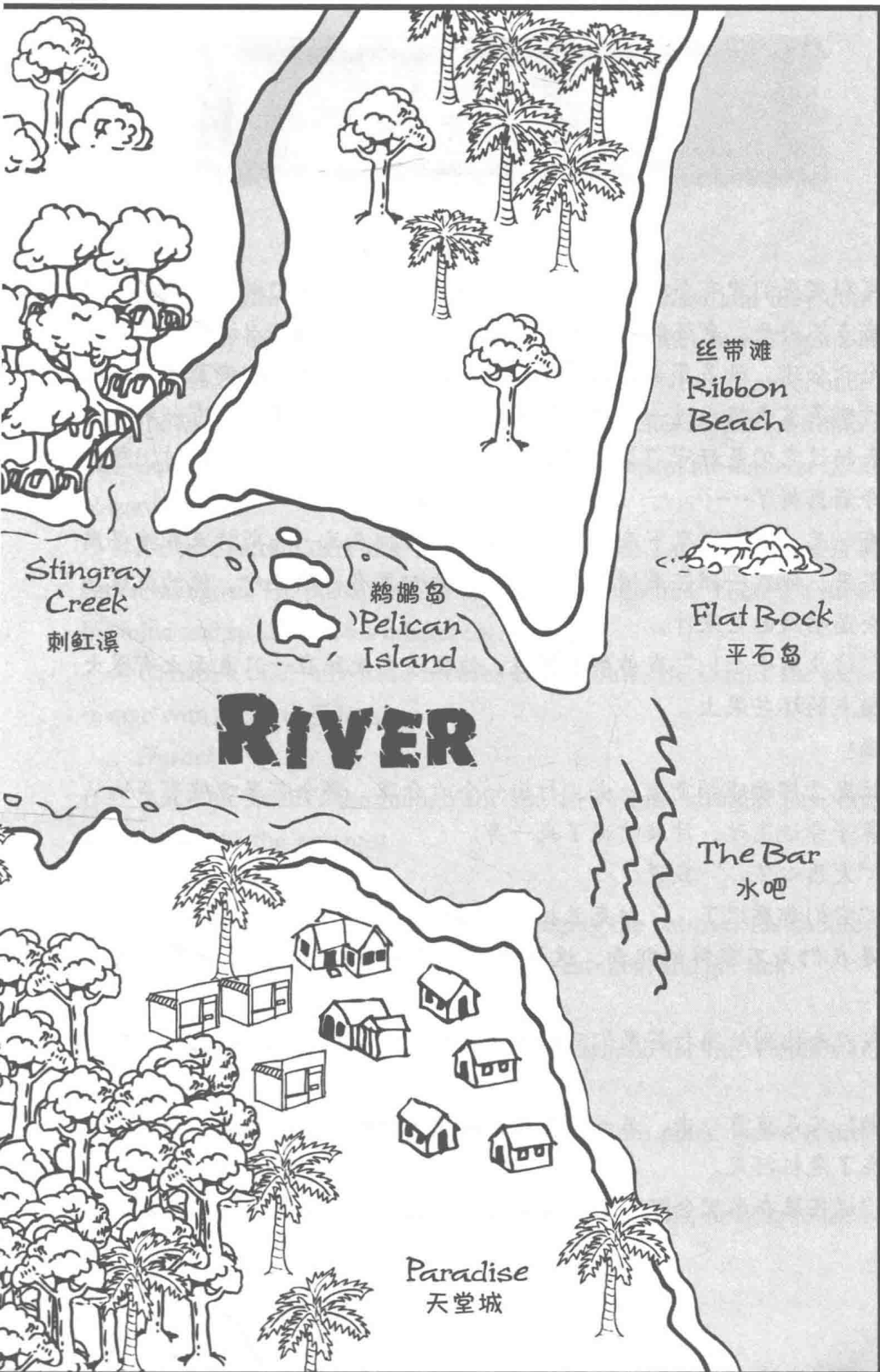
朱莉·费森绝不是个没有见识过危险的人……

首先我得承认，作为一名资深国际探险家，我也曾遇到棘手的时刻：例如，有一次在非洲大草原露营，半夜醒来时我发现两只巨大的公象就在我们的帐篷外打架——于是我大喊：嗨，你们这俩家伙，小心点，踩坏了我们的烘豆罐头要你们好看！还有一次是在夜间狩猎旅行的途中，我们的敞篷吉普车抛锚了，恰巧这时一群骄傲的狮子决定开始捕猎！

在婆罗洲的丛林里，我曾经和一只红毛猩猩握过手，不过我建议你可别学我，因为它们比你能想象到的还要强大得多——其实我也不是有意那么做的。我还吃过许多让我后悔莫及的东西，例如干煸蚱蜢，味道和它们的长相一样让人恶心；老鼠汤，听起来就让人倒胃口，吃起来更让人受不了。不过我并不是在抱怨什么，因为我真的热爱探险，哪怕接下来给我端上一道生拌水母的凉菜，我还是会欣然受用。

朱莉·费森





Stingray
Creek
刺紅溪

鵜鶘島
Pelican
Island

丝带滩
Ribbon
Beach

Flat Rock
平石岛

RIVER

The Bar
水吧

Paradise
天堂城

第1章 约 定

我和鲨鱼们曾有个约定：我不在它们附近游泳，它们则不打板球。这可能有点不公平，我还能游泳（去其他地方），而它们却永远没有希望击出一个六分球。很多年来我们都遵守着这样的约定，彼此相安无事。我从未见过哪条鲨鱼投出过一个快速弹跳球，也没有人因为鲨鱼们有一对安全鳍而表扬过它们是好守门员。但在我和家人一起在危机河度暑假时，整个约定分崩离析了……

有一天，天渐渐黑下来的时候，我的邻居拉克兰·马斯特正在搜寻腐烂的芒果。他在一棵芒果树下刺探着。他的心里有一项使命，他的板球拍上则全是喷溅的芒果汁。

“这儿有一个！”我弟弟本叫道，他把手电光照在一只表面上有很大黑色斑点的坏芒果上。

啪！

拉克兰挥动球拍重重一击，打出一个六分球。那个芒果嗖嗖有声地从我的鼻子旁边飞过，汁液喷溅了我一身。

“太恶心了。”我说。

“它们都腐烂了，”拉克兰把板球拍扛到肩膀上，接着说道，“除掉它们是我们义不容辞的职责，这样动物们就不会因为吃了烂芒果而生病了。”

我以为他到处痛打芒果们只是为了好玩，真不知道他原来是要拯救地球啊。

啪！又是重重一击，另一只芒果宇航员飞向了太空，然后“啪哒”一声掉在了危机河里。

“烂芒果在水里会沉下去还是漂着？”我弟弟叫喊着跑向了河边。

CHAPTER 1

A DEAL

I made a deal with sharks. I don't swim near them and they don't play cricket. It may be a little unfair. I can swim, whereas they haven't got a hope of hitting a six. The arrangement worked well for many years. I never once saw a shark bowl a bouncer. And no one ever praised a wicket keeper for a safe pair of fins. But the whole deal fell apart when my family spent the summer holidays at Hazard River ...

It's just getting dark one night. My neighbour Lachlan Master is hunting rotten mangoes. He pokes around under the mango tree. There's a mission on his mind and splatter on his cricket bat.

'There's one!' my little brother Ben shouts. He shines the torch on a mango with really big black spots.

Thwack.

Lachlan smacks the mango for six. It whizzes straight past my nose, spraying me on the way past.

'That's gross,' I say.

'They're rotten,' Lachlan replies, swinging the bat over his shoulder. 'It's our duty to get rid of them, so animals don't eat them and get sick.'

I thought he was just bashing mangoes around for fun. I didn't know he was saving the planet.

Thwack. Another mango astronaut heads into outer space. It drops into Hazard River with a splash.

'Do rotten mangoes sink or float?' my brother calls, running to the edge of the river.

“谁在乎这个啊！？”拉克兰回答道。

本就在乎！他喜欢收集臭烘烘的东西。我们刚来危机河度假一周，他就已经有了相当多的藏品：三只死螃蟹，一只老水母（恶臭难闻），一只在窗户上被挤扁了的蜥蜴，还有一只小鸟儿的遗体（令人难以置信的恶臭难闻）。

如果他把这些收藏品带到学校课堂上去卖弄，全班的同学不惊呆了才怪。那难闻的气味没准还会把他们都熏死。

“我发现了什么东西！”本在河岸那边叫喊道，“快！快来这儿！”

“没有人会对一只掉到河里的烂芒果感兴趣的，”我对他喊道，“本，别管它了。”

“不是芒果，”本说，“这是……这是……珍宝！”

我和拉克兰向本跑了过去。我们都看见了，一堆巨大的什么东西躺在浅水滩上。

有那么一会儿我真的相信了这就是珍宝，并开始计划着怎样花掉我自己的那一份儿——也许我可以买一套完整的足球运动员卡片，这可是我整整一年都在祈祷并为之不懈努力的梦想。

但随着我们一步步接近那堆东西，我的美梦开始破灭了。在手电的灯光下我辨认出了一只眼睛，一个长长的尖鼻子，一张张得大大的血盆大嘴和一排排锋利的牙齿。

这不是一张通往财富之门的票，也不是一大袋子珍宝。这是一条鱼，而且是最坏的那种。

“鲨鱼！”我尖声喊道。

河水拍打着鲨鱼庞大的灰色身体，可它一动也不动。

它不动是因为死了？还是只是在等待一个毫无戒心的10岁孩子靠近，然后突然扑上河岸发动袭击？本和拉克兰走向前去。

我却往后退了几步。

鲨鱼的眼神似乎在跟着我，我又后退了几步，那双眼睛却仍然紧紧盯着我。

我不喜欢被这么盯着。

‘Who cares!?’ Lachlan calls back.

Ben cares. He collects smelly things. We’ve been at Hazard River for a week and already he’s got quite a stockpile going – three dead crabs, an old jelly fish (very pongy), a flat lizard that was squashed on the window and the remains of a dead bird (unbelievably pongy).

Ben’s class will be in for a big surprise when he takes that lot in for show and tell. The smell will probably kill them.

‘I found something!’ Ben shouts from the riverbank. ‘Quick! Come down here!’

‘No one’s interested in a splattered mango,’ I call back. ‘Just leave it alone, Ben.’

‘It’s not a mango,’ Ben says. ‘It’s ... it’s ... treasure!’

Lachlan and I run to join Ben. We can all see it now. A great big lump of something is lying in the shallow water.

For a moment I let myself believe it is treasure. I start to plan how I’ll spend my share of the fortune. Perhaps I could buy the complete set of footy player cards that I’ve been trading and praying for all year.

But my dreams vanish as we get closer. In the torchlight I can make out an eye, a long pointy nose and a massive gaping mouth with rows of sharp teeth.

This isn’t a ticket to riches. This isn’t a bag of treasure. It’s a fish. And it’s the worst kind.

‘A shark!’ I scream.

The water is lapping against the shark’s big grey body. It doesn’t move.

Is it still because it’s dead? Or is it just waiting for an unsuspecting ten-year-old to come too close, then launch itself up the bank and attack? Ben and Lachlan move towards it.

I step back.

The shark’s eyes seem to follow me. I step back further. The eyes are still on me.

I don’t like the look of this.

我转过身，背对着它那张开的大嘴、锋利的牙齿和死死盯着我的眼睛，准备逃跑。

突然……

“啊！！！”

什么东西拉住了我的腿！

I turn my back on the gaping mouth, the rows of sharp teeth and staring eye. I am ready to run.

Then ...

‘Ahhhh!!!!’

Something grabs my leg.

第2章 灾难大师

“它咬住我了！”我大声尖叫。

我能感觉到那种好像一千把匕首刺进肉里的疼痛，我的脑袋开始眩晕，我的血液正在抛弃我的身体。我虚弱得都快站不住了，打算就这么屈服于我的命运。

这时，我突然想起了妈妈答应明天要给我买一个冰淇淋的——两种口味的、顶上撒调味粉末的那种。

我必须和这个野兽战斗！

我往下看了看，却发现拉克兰正躺在我脚边，他的指甲正插在我的小腿肚上。

跳跃的香蕉松饼！我怎么会上这样的当！

“你真以为被鲨鱼咬到了！”拉克兰尖声笑道，“太搞笑了。它死了，谁都看得出来。”

它可能是死了，但还是一条鲨鱼！这是一条无论活着还是死了都能吓坏你的鱼。

为什么我爸妈不预订去澳大利亚动物园里的鳄鱼园？在那里度暑假都会比在这里要安全。

但我爸妈不这么看，他们认为危机河风景优美、平静如画，就像天堂一样。但他们搞错了，天堂在河的对岸——天堂城，那里有商店、有餐馆，还有有人巡逻的海滩，那才是我们应该去度假的地方。甚至在河的另一边也有一个差不多可以说是城市的地方，叫夏日城，那里有电影院、保龄球馆，一切应有尽有。

我敢打赌鲨鱼们肯定不会被冲到河的那边，它们全都在这里，还有致命的毒蛇、毒蜘蛛……以及拉克兰·马斯特。

拉克兰从五岁起就开始来危机河度假，他曾戴着水下呼吸管与刺鲀一

CHAPTER 2

MASTER OF DISASTER

‘It’s got me!’ I scream.

I can feel the pain of a thousand daggers in my flesh. My head starts to spin. Blood is deserting my body. I’m too weak to stand. I am ready to submit to my fate.

Then I remember Mum promised to buy me an ice-cream, with two flavours and sprinkles, tomorrow.

I must fight this beast off.

I look down to find my neighbour Lachlan lying at my feet. His fingernails are buried into my calves.

Bouncing banana muffins! How did I fall for that one!

‘You thought you’d been bitten by a shark,’ Lachlan shrieks. ‘That was so funny. It’s dead. Anyone can see that.’

It might be dead, but it’s a SHARK. It’s the one fish that can scare you whether it’s alive or dead.

Why didn’t my parents just book the crocodile enclosure at Australia Zoo? That would be a safer place to spend the summer holidays.

But my parents don’t see it like that. They think Hazard River is peaceful and picturesque. They think Hazard River is paradise. But they’re wrong there. Paradise is just across the river. The holiday town of Paradise, with shops, restaurants and a patrolled beach is where we should be on holidays. There’s even a proper city on the other side of the river. Summercreek has a cinema and a bowling alley. It’s got everything.

I bet sharks don’t wash up on that side of the river. They’re all over here, with the deadly snakes, venomous spiders ... and Lachlan Master.

Lachlan has been visiting Hazard River since he was five. He’s snorkeled

起潜水，也跟水母一起游过泳。有一次他差点儿踩到一条虎蛇，还被一只鹈鹕咬到过（它们比看起来要凶猛得多）。什么危险他都见过，什么冒险的事他都做过，所以他自称危机河之王，喜欢被人称为“拉克兰大师”。

灾难大师——倒更符合实际些。

“看起来它应该死了有一段时间了。”拉克兰说着用板球拍戳了戳鲨鱼，“我还从来没有在这条河里见过这么大的鲨鱼呢，它起码有两米多长。”

“鲨鱼跑到河里来干什么？”我咕哝道，“它们为什么不待在海里？”

拉克兰甩给我一个鄙视的眼神——意思是“你什么也不懂”，他非常擅长这个。

“这条河里有很多公牛鲨，”拉克兰告诉我，“它们喜欢淡水。你不用担心那些小个的，但我估计像这么大的鲨鱼可以在一瞬间就撕掉你的腿。”

我毫不怀疑他说的话。不过，这条河里竟然有一种什么东西能够足够大或足够凶猛到把一条两米长的鲨鱼打败了？我甚至都不愿去猜想那可能是什么！

但本正在猜着呢。

“这肯定是海盗们干的。”本宣布道，他一只手拿着手电，一只手捂着鼻子，检查着鲨鱼，“看，他们切掉了它的大鳍。”

直到这时我才注意到这条鲨鱼看上去确实很奇怪，它的背鳍，那个能警告大家海洋里最可怕的鱼来了的鳍不见了，而且其他的鳍也都不见了。

“可能是海盗，也可能是另一种鲨鱼或者是霸王乌贼干的。”拉克兰说。

拉克兰挤着眼睛，把舌头顺着下巴伸出来好长，做了一个非常不像的霸王乌贼的样子。

“你真的认为是霸王乌贼干的？”本说。

“我想我们应该去调查清楚。”拉克兰说着又用球拍捅了一下死鲨鱼。

with sting rays. He's swum with jellyfish. He's almost stepped on a tiger snake. And he's been bitten by a pelican. (They are a lot more ferocious than they look.) If it's dangerous, he's seen it. If it's risky, he's done it. He's the self-proclaimed King of Hazard River. 'Master Lachlan' as he likes to be called.

Master of Disaster-more like it.

'Looks like it's been dead awhile,' Lachlan says, giving the shark a prod with his cricket bat. 'Never seen a big one like that in the river before. It has to be over two metres.'

'What are sharks doing in the river anyway?' I whimper. 'Why aren't they in the sea?'

Lachlan shoots me one of his 'don't you know anything' looks. He's very good at those.

'There are plenty of bull sharks in the river,' Lachlan informs me. 'They like a bit of fresh water. You don't have to worry about the small ones. But I reckon a big one like that would rip your leg off without a second thought.'

I have no doubt he's right. But someone or something in the river is big enough or ferocious enough to take on a two-metre shark and win. I don't even want to guess what that might be.

But Ben is guessing.

'This is the work of pirates,' Ben declares. He inspects the shark with one hand on the torch and the other on his nose. 'Look. They've cut off its big fin.'

It's then that I notice the shark does look strange. The dorsal fin, the fin that should warn everyone that the scariest fish in the ocean is on its way, is missing. So are its other fins.

'Could be pirates. Maybe it was another shark or maybe it was a giant squid,' Lachlan says.

Lachlan crosses his eyes and drops his tongue from the side of his mouth. It's a very unconvincing impression of a giant squid.

'Do you really think a giant squid did this?' Ben says.

'I think we should find out,' Lachlan says, giving the shark another poke with his bat.

“你们想想，如果真能在危机河里抓到一只霸王乌贼，我们会名扬天下的，也许还能上电视呢。”

“我可以把它带到学校吗？”本问，“如果我们真的发现了一只霸王乌贼，我能带到学校去吗？”

“本，你不能把霸王乌贼带到学校里。”拉克兰回答道，“每个学校都有这样的规定，不准奔跑，不准喧哗，不准恃强凌弱，不准带霸王乌贼——只准带普通的。每个校长的办公室外都有这样的警示牌。你可以带着它去上电视，但不能带去学校。”

本皱了皱眉头，看来他准备把他所收集的那堆死东西全都带到学校去，只是霸王乌贼不行。

我必须承认我也很想追捕杀死鲨鱼的凶手，这样我就能名利双收，有钱、有荣誉，还有加长的豪华轿车——这一切听起来真的很诱人。

“我们回去找一张大网，明天再来这附近好好看看吧。”我说，“看看那边有什么东西。”

我不知道我们要找什么，不过找到了我们就知道了。

“不行。”拉克兰说。

他拿过了本的手电，向河面照过去。

“我们今晚就开始。”