

英语阅读丛书

Three Men in a Boat

三人同舟



上海译文出版社

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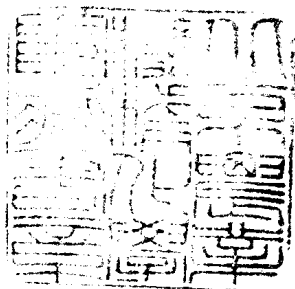
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(简写本)

〔英〕 J·K·杰罗姆 原著

G·霍斯利 简写

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注 释 者 的 话

本书作者杰罗姆(Jerome K. Jerome, 1859—1927)是英国著名幽默小说作家。他当过职员、校长和演员, 主要作品有《一个懒人的闲想》、《三人同舟》及其续篇《三人出游记》。

本书是《三人同舟》的简写本, 主要叙述三个青年带着一
条狗在泰晤士河上度假的经过, 中间穿插了许多幽默故事,
内容诙谐。现加汉语注释, 供初学英语的读者阅读。不妥之
处, 望批评指正。

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CHAPTER 1

WE PLAN A HOLIDAY (I)

There were four of us — George, and William Samuel Harris, and myself, and Montmorency, the dog¹. We were sitting in my room, smoking, and talking about how bad we were — bad from a medical point of view², I mean, of course.

We were all feeling unwell, and we were getting quite nervous about it. We sat there for half-an-hour, describing to each other our illnesses. I explained to George and William Harris how I felt when I got up in the morning, and William Harris told us how he felt when he went to bed; and George stood on the hearth-rug, and gave us a clever piece of acting³, as an example of how he felt in the night.

George fancies he is ill; but there's never anything really the matter with him⁴, you know.

At this moment, Mrs. Poppets knocked at the door to know if we were ready for supper. We smiled sadly

1. Montmorency, the dog——小狗蒙特莫伦西。 2. from a medical point of view——从医学观点来看。 3. a clever piece of acting——一次精彩的表演。 4. but there's never anything really the matter with him——可是他不会真有什么毛病。

Montmorency of *W.H.*

at one another, and said we supposed we had better try to swallow a bit. Harris said a little food often helped to check the disease; and Mrs. Poppets brought the tray in, and we sat down at the table, and tried to eat a little meat and onions. I must have been very weak at the time; because I know, after the first half-hour or so, I seemed to take no interest at all in my food — an unusual thing for me — and I didn't want any cheese.

This duty done¹, we lit our pipes and began again the discussion about our state of health. What it was that was actually the matter with us, we none of us could be sure²; but the general opinion was that it had been brought on by overwork.

“What we want is rest,” said Harris.

“Rest and a complete change,” said George. “Change of scene, and absence of the necessity for thought³, will restore the mental balance.”

I agreed with George, and suggested that we should seek out some quiet and old-world place, far from⁴ the holiday crowds, and dream away⁵ a sunny week among its peaceful lanes — some half-forgotten corner, out of reach of the noisy world⁶.

1. This duty done —— 这桩该做的事完了后。分词独立结构，作状语。

2. What it was that was actually the matter with us, we none of us could be sure —— 我们究竟闹什么毛病，大家都吃不准。这是倒装句，正常的词序应为：We none of us could be sure what it was that was actually the matter with us. 3. absence of the necessity for thought —— 无牵无挂。

(原意为：不去注意思考的必要性)。absence of: 不注意。 4. far from ——

远离。 5. dream away —— 虚度。 6. some half-forgotten corner, out of reach of the noisy world —— 一个几乎被忘却的远离喧嚣世界的角落。

of ch
discuss

Harris said he thought it would be awful. He said he knew the kind of place I meant; where everybody went to bed at eight o'clock and you couldn't get a newspaper, and had to walk ten miles for your tobacco.

"No," said Harris, "if you want rest and change, you can't beat a sea-trip¹."

I objected to the sea-trip strongly. A sea-trip does you good when you are going to have a couple of months of it, but, for a week, it is useless.

You start on Monday with the idea that you are going to enjoy yourself². You wave a proud good-bye to your friends on shore, light your biggest pipe, and walk about the deck³ as if you were Captain Cook, Sir Francis Drake, and Christopher Columbus all rolled into one⁴. On Tuesday, you wish you hadn't come⁵. On Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, you wish you were dead⁶. On Saturday, you are able to swallow a little beef tea, and to sit up on deck, and answer with a sickly smile when kind-hearted people ask you how you feel.

1. You can't beat a sea-trip —— 你不能找出比海上旅行更好的了。这里的 beat 作“超越”、“比…更好”解。 2. enjoy yourself —— 自得其乐。

3. walk about the deck —— 在甲板上踱来踱去。 4. as if you were Captain Cook, Sir Francis Drake, and Christopher Columbus all rolled into one —— 你仿佛是库克船长，弗朗西斯·德雷克爵士和克里斯托弗·哥伦布三位一体的化身。詹姆斯·库克(1728—79)，英国海军船长，航海家，探险家，曾三次率领探险队前往澳大利亚，新西兰及南太平洋地区探险；弗朗西斯·德雷克爵士(1540—96)，英国航海家，曾数度赴西非及拉丁美洲大陆考察奴隶贸易，并环游世界；克里斯托弗·哥伦布(1451—1506)，意大利航海家，新大陆发现者。 5. you wish you hadn't come —— 你觉得不来这里就好了。虚拟语气。 6. you wish you were dead —— 你巴不得死掉。

On Sunday, you begin to walk about again, and take solid food. And on Monday morning, as¹, with your bag and umbrella in your hand, you stand waiting to step ashore, you begin to like it.

I remember my brother-in-law going for a short sea-trip once for the benefit of his health². He took a return ticket³ from London to Liverpool; and when he got to Liverpool, the only thing he was anxious about was to sell that return ticket.

Another man I knew went for a week's voyage round the coast, and, before they started, the steward came to him to ask whether he would pay for each meal as he had it, or arrange beforehand for the whole number.

The steward recommended the latter, as it would be so much cheaper. He said meals for the whole week would cost two-pounds-five⁴. He said for breakfast there would be fish, followed by a grill. Lunch was at one, and consisted of four courses⁵. Dinner at six — soup, fish, meat, poultry, salad, sweets, cheese, and fruit. And a light meat supper⁶ at ten. My friend agreed to pay the two-pounds-five, as he is a hearty eater⁷.

Lunch came just as they were near Sheerness. He didn't feel so hungry as he thought he should, and so contented himself with a bit of boiled beef, and some strawberries and cream. He thought carefully about

1. as — 连接词, 作“当…的时候”解。 2. for the benefit of his health — 为了他的健康。 3. a return ticket — 一张来回车票。 4. two-pounds-five — 二镑五先令。 5. four courses — 四道菜。 6. a light meat supper — 有少量肉的晚餐。 7. a hearty eater — 饕餮家。

things during the afternoon, and at one time it seemed to him that he had been eating nothing but boiled beef for weeks¹, and at other times it seemed that he must have been living on strawberries and cream for years. Neither the beef nor the strawberries and cream seemed happy.

At six, they came and told him dinner was ready. The announcement aroused no enthusiasm within him, but he thought of the two-pounds-five he had paid, and held on to ropes and things² and went down to the dining-room. A pleasant smell of onions and hot ham, mixed with fried fish and vegetables, greeted him at the bottom of the stairs; and then the steward came up and said:

“What can I get you, sir?”

“Get me out of this³,” was the feeble reply.

And they ran him up the stairs, propped him up, and left him⁴.

For the next four days he lived a simple life on thin biscuits and soda-water; but towards Saturday, he felt better, and began to eat dry toast and drink tea, and on Monday he was able to have a little chicken. He left the ship on Tuesday, and as it steamed away from the landing-stage he gazed after⁵ it sorrowfully.

1. at one time it seemed to him that he had been eating nothing but boiled beef for weeks —— 有时候, 他好象好几个星期只吃煮牛肉。 nothing but: 只。 2. held on to ropes and things —— 抓住绳索和其他东西。 3. Get me out of this —— 帮我离开这里。 4. they ran him up the stairs, propped him up, and left him —— 他们扶他走上梯子, 撑着他站稳, 然后就听之任之。 ran: run 的过去式, 在这里作“使…跑”解。 left: leave 的过去式, 在这里作“把…留在…”解。 5. gazed after —— 目送。

“There she goes,” he said, “there she goes, with two pounds’ worth of food on board that belongs to me, and that I haven’t had¹.”

So I refused to agree to the sea-trip. Not, as I explained, for my own sake. I was never sea-sick. But I was afraid George might be. George said he would be all right, and would like it², but he advised Harris and me not to think of it, as he felt sure we should both be ill. Harris said that, to himself, it was always a mystery how people managed to get sick at sea³; he said he had often wished to be, but had never been able. Then he told us stories of how he had gone across the Channel⁴ when the sea was so rough that the passengers had to be tied in their berths, and he and the captain were the only two living souls on board who were not ill. Sometimes it was he and the second officer⁵ who were not ill; but it was generally he and one other man. If not he and another man, then it was he by himself⁶.

It is a curious fact, but nobody ever is sea-sick on land. At sea, you come across⁷ plenty of people very ill indeed; but I never met a man yet, on land, who had ever been sick. Where the thousands and thousands of bad sailors that fill every ship hide themselves when

1. I haven’t had = I haven’t eaten. 2. would like it —— 会喜欢航海旅行的。这里的 it 指 sea-trip. 3. how people managed to get sick at sea —— 人们在海上怎么会晕船的。manage: 弄得。 4. the Channel —— 英吉利海峡。 5. second officer —— 二副。 6. If not he and another man, then it was he by himself —— 如果不是他和另一个人生病，那就是他自己生病。 7. come across —— 遇见。

they are on land is a mystery¹.

George said:

“Let's go up the river².”

He said we should have fresh air, exercise and quiet; the constant change of scene would occupy our minds, and the hard work would give us a good appetite, and make us sleep well.

Harris said that he didn't think George ought to do anything that would make him sleepier than he always was, as it might be dangerous. He said he didn't understand how George was going to sleep any more than he did now, when there were only twenty-four hours in each day, summer and winter alike; but thought that if he did sleep any more, he might just as well be dead, and so save his board and lodging³.

Harris said, however, that the river would suit him perfectly. It suited me too, and Harris and I both said it was a good idea of George's; and we said it in a tone that seemed to suggest⁴ that we were surprised that George should have thought of anything so sensible⁵. The only one who did not like the idea was Montmorency, the

1. Where the thousands and thousands of bad sailors that fill every ship hide themselves when they are on land is a mystery——各条船上成千上万常晕船的人上了岸在何处藏身是个谜。Where...on land, 主语从句, bad sailor: 常晕船的人。 2. go up the river——逆流而上。 3. if he did sleep any more, he might just as well be dead, and so save his board and lodging ——他如果一定要再睡的话, 那倒不如死去, 这样倒可以省下他的一份膳宿了。 4. suggest——这里作“暗示”解。 5. George should have thought of anything so sensible——乔治竟然想出了如此聪明的事。

dog. He never cared for the river.

"It's all very well for you fellows," he seemed to say; "you like it, but I don't. There's nothing for me to do. I am not interested in scenery, and I don't smoke. If I see a rat, you won't stop; and if I go to sleep, you begin fooling about with the boat¹, and throw me overboard². If you ask me, I call the whole thing completely foolish."

We were three against one³, however, and the motion was carried⁴.

CHAPTER 2

WE PLAN A HOLIDAY (II)

We pulled out the maps, and discussed plans.

We arranged to start on the following Saturday from Kingston. Harris and I would go down⁵ in the morning, and take the boat up to Chertsey⁶, and George, who would not be able to get away from the City till the afternoon⁷ (George goes to sleep at a bank from ten to four each day, except Saturdays, when they wake him.

-
1. fooling about with the boat —— 摇着船闲荡。 fool about: 闲荡。
2. throw me overboard —— 把我抛入水中。 3. three against one —— 三比一。
4. the motion was carried —— 这动议通过了。 5. go down —— 去下游。
6. take the boat up to Chertsey —— 乘船去彻特西。
7. who would not be able to get away from the City till the afternoon —— 他下午才能离城。非限制性定语从句。 get away: 离开。 the City: 指伦敦商业区。

up and put him outside at two), would meet us there.

Should we “camp out”¹ or sleep at inns?

George and I wanted to camp out. We said it would be so wild and free².

Slowly the golden memory of the dead sun fades from the hearts of the cold, sad clouds³. Silent, like sorrowing children, the birds have ceased their song. From the dim woods on either bank, Night's ghostly army⁴, the grey shadows, creep out noiselessly, and pass, with unseen feet, above the waving river grass; and Night, upon her gloomy throne, folds her black wings above the darkening world, and, from her ghostly palace, lit by the pale stars, reigns in stillness⁵.

Then we run our little boat into some quiet spot, the tent is pitched, and supper cooked and eaten⁶. Then our pipes are filled and lighted, and we talk pleasantly together; while⁷, in the pauses of our talk, the river, playing round the boat⁸, murmurs strange old tales and secrets; or sings low⁹ the song that it has sung for so many thousands of years.

We sit there, while the moon stoops down to kiss

1. “camp out”——“在野外宿营”。 2. wild and free —— 无拘无束。
3. Slowly the golden memory of the dead sun fades from the hearts of the cold, sad clouds —— 落日的金色余晖慢慢地消失在冷酷的愁云中。 memory: 留在记忆中的事物。 4. Night's ghostly army——夜神的冥冥中的大军。 5. reigns in stillness —— 静悄悄地主宰着世界。 6. supper cooked and eaten——晚饭烧好, 吃好。被动语态, 过去分词 cooked 前省略助动词 is。 7. while —— 连接词, 作“而”解。 8. playing round the boat —— 拍打着船的四周。现在分词短语, 作状语。 9. sings low——低声哼着。

the river with a sister's kiss, and throws her silver arms around it; and we watch it as it flows, ever singing, ever whispering, out to meet its king, the sea — till our voices die away¹ in silence, and the pipes go out² — till we, ordinary young men as we are, feel strangely full of thoughts, half sad, half sweet³, and do not care or want to speak — till we laugh, and, rising, knock the ashes from our burnt-out pipes⁴ and say "Good night." Then we fall asleep beneath the great, still stars, and dream that the world is young again.

Harris said:

"What shall we do when it rains?"

You can never rouse Harris. There is no poetry about Harris⁵. If his eyes fill with tears, you can be sure it is because he has been eating raw onions.

On this occasion, however, his practical view of the matter came as a timely warning⁶. Camping out in rainy weather is not pleasant.

It is evening. You are wet through⁷, and there is two inches of water in the boat, and all the things are damp. You find a place on the bank that is not quite so muddy as other places you have seen, and you land

1. die away——(声音) 渐渐消失. 2. go out——熄灭. 3. full of thoughts, half sad, half sweet —— 充满忧喜参半的想法. 4. rising, knock the ashes from our burnt-out pipes —— 站起来叩掉烧尽的烟斗中的烟灰. rising: 站起来. 现在分词, 作伴随状语. 5. There is no poetry about Harris —— 对哈里斯来说, 无所谓诗意. about: 对于. 6. his practical view of the matter came as a timely warning —— 他对事物的实际看法成了及时的警告. 7. wet through——浑身湿透.

and pull out the tent, and two of you begin to fix it.

It is soaked and heavy, and it falls heavily about you, clings round your head, and makes you mad¹. The rain is pouring steadily down all the time. It is difficult enough to fix a tent in dry weather; in wet, the task becomes almost impossible for a human being². Instead of helping you, it seems to you that the other man is simply playing the fool³. Just as you get your side beautifully fixed, he gives it a pull from his end, and spoils it all.

"Here! What are you doing?" you call out.

"What are you doing?" he replies; "let go⁴, can't you?"

"Don't pull it; you've got it all wrong, you stupid ass!" you shout.

"No, I haven't," he yells back; "let go your side!"

"I tell you you've got it all wrong!" you roar, wishing that you could get at him⁵; and you give your ropes a pull that brings all his pegs out.

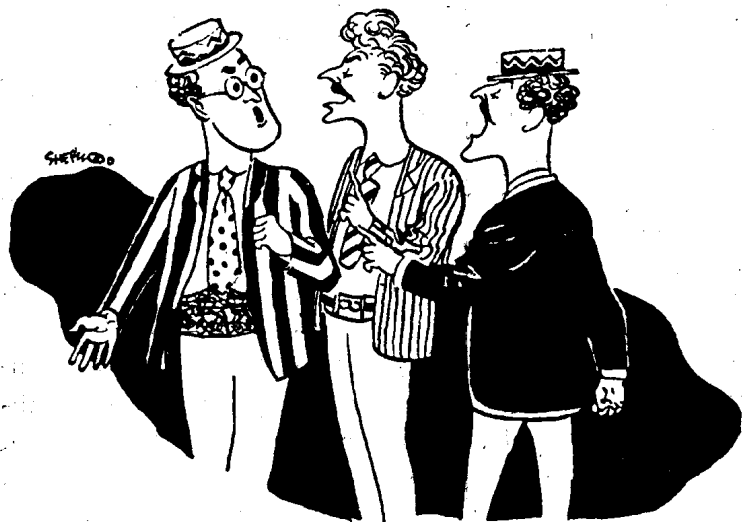
"Ah, the donkey!" you hear him mutter to himself; and then comes another savage pull which unfastens all your side. You start to go round⁶ to tell him what you think of the whole business, and, at the same time, he starts round in the same direction to come and explain his views to you. And you follow each other

1. it falls heavily about you, clings round your head and makes you mad
—— 它沉重地倒在你身边，缠住你的头，使你很恼火。 2. human being
—— 人。 3. is simply playing the fool —— 简直在干蠢事。 4. let
go —— 放手。 5. wishing that you could get at him —— 想弄清他的
意思。现在分词短语，作状语。 get at: 了解。 6. go round —— 绕道。

round and round¹, getting angrier and angrier, until the tent falls down in a heap², and leaves you looking at each other across its ruins.

At last, somehow or other, it does get up and you land the things³. It is hopeless attempting to make a wood fire, so you light the stove, and crowd around that.

Supper consists mainly of rainwater. The bread is two-thirds rainwater, the beefsteak-pie is rich in it⁴, and



We had talked enough for one night

1. you follow each other round and round——你们互相绕来绕去。 2. falls down in a heap——倒下来堆在一起。 3. somehow or other, it does get up and you land the things——不知怎么, 帐篷确实竖好了, 你便将东西捞起来。 it does get up 是强调句, 强调谓语。 4. The bread is two-thirds rainwater, the beefsteak-pie is rich in it——面包三分之二浸入雨水, 很多牛排饼泡在雨水里。