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【英汉双语】

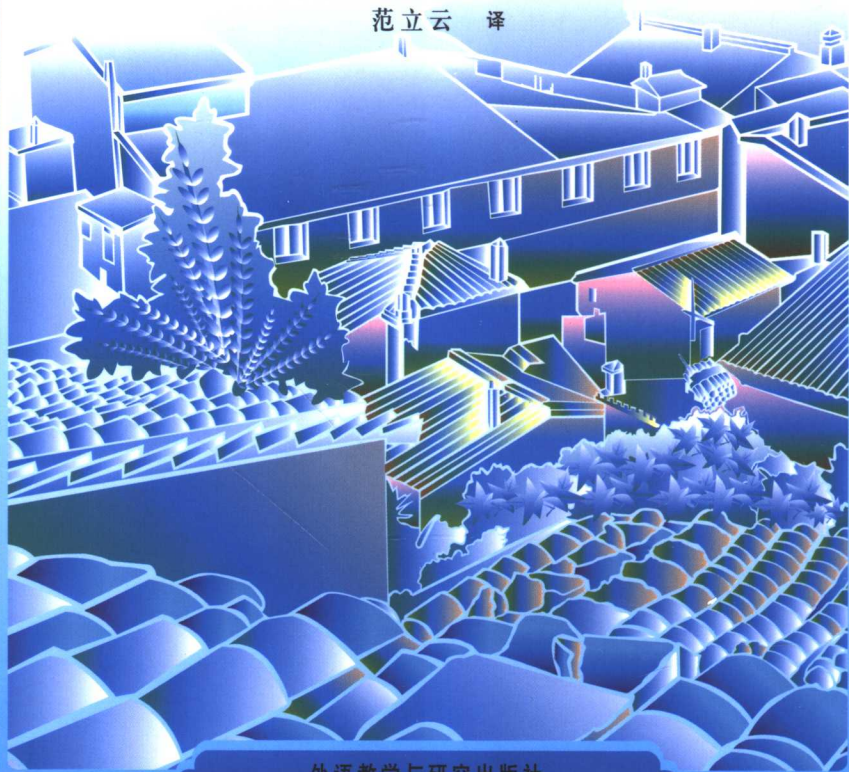
# *A Matter of Chance*



## 巧合

DAVID A. HILL (英) 著

范立云 译

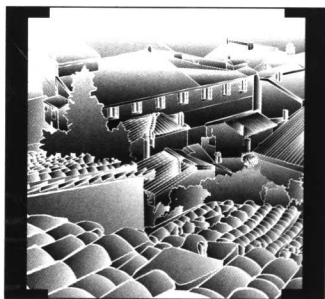


外语教学与研究出版社

FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING AND RESEARCH PRESS

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**Cambridge English Readers** series 是特别为非英语国家的青少年学习者撰写的小说类读物。它不同于屡见不鲜的名著简写本，这套读物的作者都是英国具有多年教学经验的 TEFL (Teaching English as a Foreign Language) 教师；或者作者本人就是小说家。他们精心选用词汇和语法要点，按照由低到高、循序渐进的等级水平，用地道的英语，创作了这些引人入胜的作品。这套小说题材广泛，包括历险记、探案、科幻、浪漫、喜剧等等；而且主题现代，贴近生活，并涉及到东西方不同的地域文化，读来仿佛如身临其境、兴致盎然。

泛读一直是英语学习的最大秘密，它使学习者可以利用自己的时间掌握自己的进度，而成功的关键就是——阅读的乐趣！外语教学与研究出版社从英国剑桥大学出版社引进了这套新型的原创小说类读物，并针对国内读者的不同需求，以英汉双语及英文注释两种形式出版。衷心希望读者朋友们在享受阅读乐趣的同时，进一步提高英语水平！

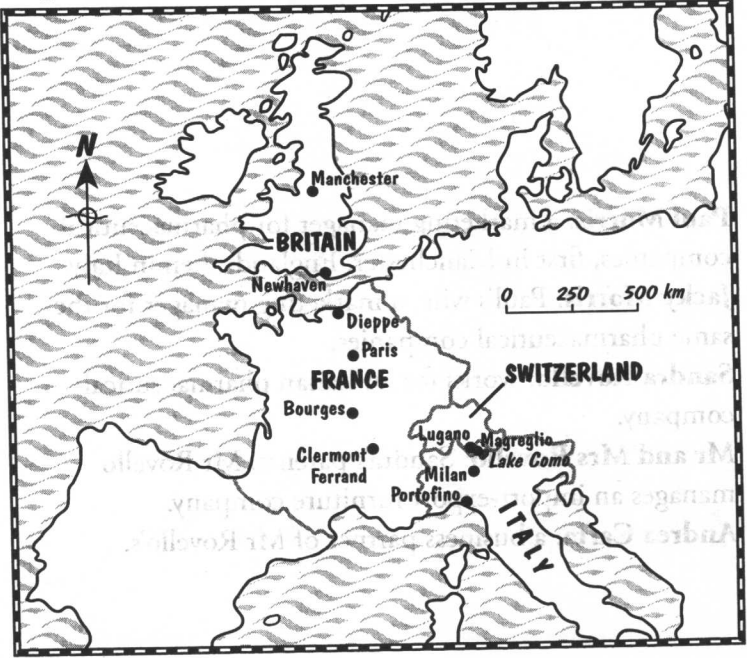
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Map(地图)



# Characters

**Paul Morris:** a marketing manager for pharmaceutical companies, first in Manchester, England, then in Italy.

**Jacky Morris:** Paul's wife, a marketing manager for the same pharmaceutical companies.

**Sandra Rovello:** works for an Italian pharmaceutical company.

**Mr and Mrs Rovello:** Sandra's parents. Mr Rovello manages an import-export furniture company.

**Andrea Carta:** a business partner of Mr Rovello's.



## 书中人物

**保罗·莫里斯：**制药公司营销经理，先后在英国的曼彻斯特和意大利工作

**杰基·莫里斯：**保罗的妻子，同一制药公司的营销经理

**桑德拉·罗韦诺：**在意大利一制药公司工作

**罗韦诺夫妇：**桑德拉的父母；罗韦诺先生经营一家家具进出口公司

**安德列亚·卡尔塔：**罗韦诺先生的生意伙伴

## Chapter 1    *The roof-tile*

The roof-tile fell.

\*       \*       \*

After two or three hundred years of rain, ice, snow, wind  
and sun the roof-tile fell.

\*       \*       \*

After two or three hundred years of rain, ice, snow, wind  
and sun the roof-tile fell from its place down into the street  
of the old town.

\*       \*       \*

After two or three hundred years of rain, ice, snow, wind  
and sun the roof-tile fell from its place down into the street  
of the old town and hit my wife in the middle of her head.

\*       \*       \*

After two or three hundred years of rain, ice, snow, wind  
and sun the roof-tile fell from its place down into the street  
of the old town and hit my wife in the middle of her head,  
killing her instantly.

## 第一章

### 瓦 片

瓦片滑落下来。

\* \* \*

经过两三百年的日晒雨淋、风吹雨打、冰雪侵蚀，瓦片滑落下来。

\* \* \*

经过两三百年的日晒雨淋、风吹雨打、冰雪侵蚀，瓦片滑落下来砸向了古镇的街道。

\* \* \*

经过两三百年的日晒雨淋、风吹雨打、冰雪侵蚀，瓦片滑落下来砸向了古镇的街道，并击中了我妻子的头顶。

\* \* \*

经过两三百年的日晒雨淋、风吹雨打、冰雪侵蚀，瓦片滑落下来砸向了古镇的街道，并击中了我妻子的头顶，瞬间夺去了她的性命。

## Chapter 2 *Jacky*

Jacky.

What can I tell you about Jacky?

I can tell you how she looked that bright February morning when she stepped out into the new sun, as the snow was falling off all the roofs, as she went out to buy something for a dress she was making. For a special dinner – we had been married for three years.

I have a film library of her in the back of my head: in the office; our first Christmas together, skiing in Scotland; the wedding; the trip across France to our new home in Italy; and . . . and . . . I also have ten photographs of her that I took. Just ten out of the hundreds.

Afterwards, when I was able to, I looked through all the photos of our life together and carefully chose the ten I liked the best. I then had them enlarged, and put them in a special photo album. Which I have never opened since. All this was many years ago. I am an old man now.

An old man full of memories, and full of thoughts about what could have been. An old man who often thinks about the way that one tiny chance happening can change someone's life: the roof-tile falls a second earlier or a second later, she goes towards a different shop, she goes towards the same shop a different way, she meets a friend and stops to talk, she doesn't meet a friend and stop to talk, the traffic lights change as she gets to the crossing . . . or . . . or . . .

## 第二章

### 杰 基

杰基。

关于杰基，我能告诉你什么呢？

我只能告诉你：在那个明媚的2月清晨，她的音容笑貌。积雪从屋顶上落下来，她走进阳光里，要去买新做礼服的配饰。礼服是为了一次特殊的晚餐预备的——为我们结婚三周年。

她的身影至今还一幕幕存在于我的脑海深处：在办公室里；一起度过的第一个圣诞节——在苏格兰滑雪；婚礼；从法国漫游到意大利的新家……还有……还有十张我为她拍摄的照片，那只是数百张中的十张。

渐渐地，当我平静下来的时候，便开始翻阅我们在一起时的照片，还精心挑选出十张我最喜欢的，把它们放大，装入一本专门的影集中，但从此却再也未翻过那本影集。这一切都发生在多年以前，如今我已是一个老人了。

一个沉湎于回忆之中的老人，总是在捉摸事情原本可能怎样，总是在想一个小小的偶然怎么就会改变了人的一生：如果瓦片早落一秒或晚落一秒；如果她去的是另一家商店，或者走的是另一条路；如果她在路上碰到一位朋友聊上几句，或者她没有碰到朋友也没有停下来聊天，而是过马路时遇到红灯，或者……或者……

Such a little tiny chance that she was there then and the roof-tile was there then. Such a little tiny chance that left me, at twenty-seven years of age, alone in a foreign country. Italy. So much hope. Such a bright future. Such an exciting thing to do. An adventure. To go and start a new life in Italy.

Jacky and I had met at work in Manchester. We had started at the same time. We enjoyed being together at first because we were both new there, and it was good to have someone in the same situation to talk to. Talk at work led to talk in pubs, days out at weekends, and by November we were in love and planning a first skiing holiday in Scotland . . . the first time together, the first time away with someone I really loved.

After that things moved quickly. We got engaged to be married on her twenty-fourth birthday (January 20) and got married at Easter. We then spent two more years working in Manchester, during which time we decided that we wanted a change. We'd visited Italy twice in those years. Once we'd toured around the northern lakes in a car, and once we'd stayed in a farmhouse in Umbria.

We fell in love with Italy the first moment we got there, for all the usual romantic reasons – the sun, the scenery, the food and wine, the people, the buildings. It seemed right for us. We went to Italian evening classes in Manchester, and got quite good at the language.

*'Io mi chiamo Paul Morris, e tu sei la mia moglie, Jacky'* I used to sing around the house. We watched Italian films at the Arts Centre, and we went to Italian restaurants regularly.

We wanted a change. Three years in Manchester was

一个多么偶然的巧合，偏偏她在那儿的时候瓦片就落了下来。就这么一个巧合，让 27 岁的我孤苦零丁，独处异乡。我在意大利，本来充满了希望，有那么光明的未来，有令人激动的事情要做，要在那里历险，开始新生活。

我和杰基是在曼彻斯特工作时认识的，我们同时喜欢上了对方。最先我们喜欢在一起是因为我俩都是新来的，能跟处境相同的人交谈真好。工作时的交流发展为在酒吧聊天，周末约会，到 11 月份，我们已坠入爱河，计划着在苏格兰的第一次滑雪度假了……那是我们第一次在一起，和我真正爱的人一起外出。

在那之后，一切进展迅速。在她 24 岁生日时(1 月 20 日)我们订了婚，在复活节我们就结婚了。然后我俩在曼彻斯特又工作了两年，在这期间我们决定做一下改变。在相识相爱的这些年中我们去过意大利两次，一次是驾车环游北部湖区，另一次是住在翁布里亚的农家小院。

一踏上意大利，我们就爱上了这个国家，为所有的浪漫缘由而感动——阳光、风景、美酒佳肴、人物和建筑，这一切正合我们的口味。我们在曼彻斯特参加了意大利语的夜校培训，而且学得十分出色。

*‘Io mi chiamo Paul Morris, e tu sei la mia moglie, Jacky’* (我是保罗·莫里斯先生，你是杰基·莫里斯夫人)我常常在屋里这样唱。我们到艺术中心观看意大利电影，还定期去意大利餐馆。

我们都想改变一下，在曼彻斯特待上三年已足够了。杰基来自

---

adventure *n.* 历险，冒险    situation *n.* 情况，处境    get engaged 订婚  
farmhouse *n.* 农庄住宅    romantic *adj.* 浪漫的    regularly *adv.* 定期地，经常地

enough. Jacky came from Norwich and I came from Bedford, so neither of us had any reason to stay in Manchester except the job and each other. And then that special day came. One Friday evening I was reading the 'Abroad' part of the APPOINTMENTS section in the weekly company newspaper, when one advertisement jumped off the page at me:

### **CORVO PHARMACEUTICALS**

Well-established company in Como needs two enthusiastic young marketing managers to start September 1st.

Accommodation provided.

Return airfare paid.

Tel: Mrs Robinson on  
0183-7674321 for further details.

I remember running into the kitchen with the paper shouting 'Jacky! Jacky! Como!' and nearly knocking her down in my excitement.

We'd been to Como two years earlier and we'd loved both the town and the lake. And now here was a job in that wonderful place!

Jacky was soon more excited than me, and phoned Mrs Robinson at once. We couldn't sleep that night, talking about all the wonderful possibilities if we could get the job. The following Monday the application forms and details about the job arrived. It all sounded perfect. The company



诺里奇，我来自贝德福德，要不是为了工作和对方，我们两人都不会常驻曼彻斯特。终于有一天，在一个周五的晚上，我正浏览公司周报的“海外”任职部分，一则广告映入我的眼帘：

**科尔沃制药公司**  
**科莫知名公司急需两名年轻热诚的营销经理**  
**9月1日开始上班**  
**提供住宿**  
**往返机票**  
**联系电话：了解详情请致电鲁滨逊夫人**  
**0183 - 7674321**

我还记得当时手拿报纸冲进厨房大喊：“杰基！杰基！科莫！”激动得差点儿把她撞倒。

两年前我们去过科莫，那时就爱上了这座小镇和当地的湖泊。而现在有了在这个美丽的地方工作的机会！

杰基很快就显得比我还激动，立刻给鲁滨逊夫人打了电话。那天晚上我们都难以入睡，讨论着获得这份工作后的所有美好前景。接下来的星期一我们收到了申请表和有关这份工作的详细说明。

---

**appointment** *n.* 任命，委派    **advertisement** *n.* 广告  
**possibility** *n.* 可能的事    **application form** 申请表