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Arthur Conan Doyle

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Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

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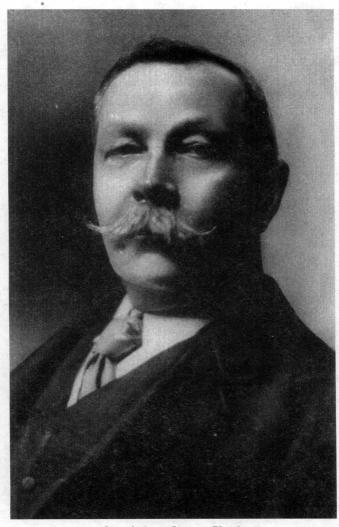
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Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

出版说明

英语学习是一个积累的过程,在这个过程中,大量的阅读至关重要,而英语原著无疑是最好的阅读材料。通过阅读英语原著,英语学习者能够巩固和增加词汇量,积累足够的句式,吸收、内化语言规律,从而能够用英语自由流畅地进行表达,还可获取文化背景方面的知识。

阅读英语文学原著既有益又有趣。但很多人在阅读过程中都会遇到一个难题:原著中的生词、难词极大地影响了阅读速度,查词典要花大量时间,且影响阅读的连贯性,不查词典又无法读通、读懂。为了帮助广大英语爱好者阅读原汁原味的英语文学作品,我们选择福尔摩斯探案故事中四部精彩的中篇小说,对其中的阅读难点从语言上或文化背景知识上详加注释,以期帮助读者在享受阅读趣味的同时,提高语言能力,汲取一定的文化背景知识。

福尔摩斯探案故事的作者柯南·道尔爵士由于成功 塑造了歇洛克·福尔摩斯这一侦探人物,成为侦探小说 历史上最重要的作家之一。柯南·道尔于 1859 年 5 月



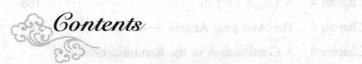
22 日出生于爱丁堡,1876 年至 1881 年间在爱丁堡大学学习医学,毕业后作为一名随船医生前往西非海岸,1882 年回国后在普利茅斯开业行医,在此期间道尔开始写作。柯南·道尔的第一部重要作品《血字研究》(A Study in Scarlet)发表在《1887 年比顿圣诞年刊》(Beeton's Christmas Annual for 1887)上,小说的主角歇洛克·福尔摩斯由此名声大噪,家喻户晓。柯南·道尔一生一共创作了五十六部短篇侦探小说和四部中篇侦探小说。他对人物的塑造独具匠心,心理刻画细致人微,场景描写和气氛营造都十分引人入胜,其作品具有较高的文学价值。

福尔摩斯探案故事布局严谨,伏笔巧妙,情节环环相扣,令人爱不释手,读者往往要到结局真相大白的时候,才能松一口气。《血字研究》、《四签名》、《巴斯克维尔庄园的猎犬》以及《恐怖谷》是福尔摩斯探案故事中最著名的四个故事。这四个故事不仅情节曲折、引人入胜,而且短小精悍、难度适中,极适合英语学习者使用。通过阅读这套丛书,英语学习者有望提高英语阅读、表达能力,并增加对英国文化的了解。

愿这套丛书能够带领广大英语爱好者走入一个多彩 的英语世界。

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PARTI

Being a Reprint from the Reminiscences of John H. Watson, M. D., Late of the Army Medical Department



Mr. Sherlock Holmes

Medicine of the University of London, and proceeded to Netley to go through the course prescribed for surgeons in the Army. Having completed my studies there, I was duly attached to the Fifth Northumberland Fusiliers^① as assistant surgeon. The regiment^② was stationed in India at the time, and before I could join it, the second Afghan war^③ had broken out. On landing at Bombay, I learned that my corps had advanced through the passes, and was already deep in the enemy's country. I followed, however, with many other officers who were in the same situation as myself, and succeeded in reaching Candahar in safety, where I found my regiment, and at once entered upon my

① fusiliers; 燧发枪团 ② regiment; 军团 ③ Afghan war: 阿富汗战争(1839~1842,1878~1880,1919;这是英国以印度为基地企图控制阿富汗以对抗俄国势力的三次战争。在第二次战争中,英国虽然得胜,但付出了重大牺牲)





new duties.

The campaign brought honours and promotion to many, but for me it had nothing but misfortune and disaster. I was removed from my brigade and attached to the Berkshires, with whom I served at the fatal battle of Maiwand. There I was struck on the shoulder by a Jezail[®] bullet, which shattered the bone and grazed the subclavian artery[®]. I should have fallen into the hands of the Ghazis[®] had it not been for the devotion and courage shown by Murray, my orderly, who threw me across a packhorse[®], and succeeded in bringing me safely to the British lines.

Worn with pain, and weak from the prolonged hardships which I had undergone, I was removed, with a great train of wounded sufferers, to the base hospital at Peshawar. Here I rallied, and had already improved so far as to be able to walk about the wards, and even to bask a little upon the veranda when I was struck down by enteric fever^⑤, that curse of our Indian possessions. For months my life was despaired of, and when at last I came to myself and became convalescent^⑥, I was so weak and emaciated^⑦

① Jezail: 阿富汗长滑膛枪 ② graze the subclavian artery: 擦破領骨下的动脉 ③ Ghazis: 穆斯林英雄 ④ packhorse: 驮马,役马 ⑤ enteric fever: 伤寒 ⑥ convalescent: 恢复的,康复的 ⑦ emaciated: 消瘦的,憔悴的



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that a medical board determined that not a day should be lost in sending me back to England. I was despatched accordingly, in the troopship *Orontes*, and landed a month later on Portsmouth jetty^①, with my health irretrievably ruined, but with permission from a paternal government to spend the next nine months in attempting to improve it.

I had neither kith nor kin[®] in England, and was therefore as free as air — or as free as an income of eleven shillings[®] and sixpence a day will permit a man to be. Under such circumstances I naturally gravitated to London, that great cesspool[®] into which all the loungers and idlers of the Empire are irresistibly drained. There I stayed for some time at a private hotel in the Strand, leading a comfortless, meaningless existence, and spending such money as I had, considerably more freely than I ought. So alarming did the state of my finances become, that I soon realized that I must either leave the metropolis and rusticate[®] somewhere in the country, or that I must make a complete alteration in my style of living. Choosing the latter alternative, I began by making up my mind to leave the hotel, and take up my

① jetty: 突码头, 登岸码头 ② kith and kin: 亲友 ③ shilling: 先令 (1971 年前英国货币单位, 20 先令为 1 镑) ④ cesspool: 化粪池; 藏污纳垢之地 ⑤ rusticate: 在乡村定居





quarters in some less pretentious and less expensive domicile $^{\textcircled{1}}$.

On the very day that I had come to this conclusion, I was standing at the Criterion Bar, when someone tapped me on the shoulder, and turning round I recognized young Stamford, who had been a dresser under me at Bart's. The sight of a friendly face in the great wilderness of London is a pleasant thing indeed to a lonely man. In old days Stamford had never been a particular crony[®] of mine, but now I hailed him with enthusiasm, and he, in his turn, appeared to be delighted to see me. In the exuberance of my joy, I asked him to lunch with me at the Holborn, and we started off together in a hansom[®].

"Whatever have you been doing with yourself, Watson?" he asked in undisguised wonder, as we rattled through the crowded London streets. "You are as thin as a lath⁴ and as brown as a nut."

I gave him a short sketch of my adventures, and had hardly concluded it by the time that we reached our destination.

"Poor devil!" he said, commiseratingly, after he had

① domicile: 住处,住宅 ② crony: 至友,密友 ③ hansom: (驾座位于车后的)双轮双座马车 ④ thin as a lath: 骨瘦如柴,皮包骨头



listened to my misfortunes. "What are you up to now?"

"Looking for lodgings," I answered. "Trying to solve the problem as to whether it is possible to get comfortable rooms at a reasonable price."

"That's a strange thing," remarked my companion; "you are the second man today that has used that expression to me."

"And who was the first?" I asked.

"A fellow who is working at the chemical laboratory up at the hospital. He was bemoaning himself this morning because he could not get someone to go halves with him in some nice rooms which he had found, and which were too much for his purse."

"By Jove²!" I cried; "if he really wants someone to share the rooms and the expense, I am the very man for him. I should prefer having a partner to being alone."

Young Stamford looked rather strangely at me over his wineglass. "You don't know Sherlock Holmes yet," he said; "perhaps you would not care for him as a constant companion."

"Why, what is there against him?"

① go halves with: (和某人)平均分摊费用 ② By Jove: [表示惊讶,赞同或强调等]啊,哎呀



"Oh, I didn't say there was anything against him. He is a little queer in his ideas — an enthusiast in some branches of science. As far as I know he is a decent fellow enough."

"A medical student, I suppose?" said I.

"No — I have no idea what he intends to go in for. I believe he is well up in^① anatomy, and he is a first-class chemist; but, as far as I know, he has never taken out any systematic medical classes. His studies are very desultory^② and eccentric, but he has amassed a lot of out-of-the-way^③ knowledge which would astonish his professors."

"Did you never ask him what he was going in for?" I asked.

"No; he is not a man that it is easy to draw out, though he can be communicative enough when the fancy seizes him."

"I should like to meet him," I said. "If I am to lodge with anyone, I should prefer a man of studious and quiet habits. I am not strong enough yet to stand much noise or excitement. I had enough of both in Afghanistan to last me for the remainder of my natural existence. How could I

① be well up in: 对……了解得很清楚 ② desultory: 杂乱的,无条理的 ③ out-of-the-way: 不寻常的,奇特的



meet this friend of yours?"

"He is sure to be at the laboratory," returned my companion. "He either avoids the place for weeks, or else he works there from morning till night. If you like, we will drive round together after luncheon."

"Certainly," I answered, and the conversation drifted away into other channels.

As we made our way to the hospital after leaving the Holborn, Stamford gave me a few more particulars about the gentleman whom I proposed to take as a fellow-lodger.

"You mustn't blame me if you don't get on with him," he said; "I know nothing more of him than I have learned from meeting him occasionally in the laboratory. You proposed this arrangement, so you must not hold me responsible."

"If we don't get on it will be easy to part company²," I answered. "It seems to me, Stamford," I added, looking hard at my companion, "that you have some reason for washing your hands of³ the matter. Is this fellow's temper so formidable, or what is it? Don't be mealymouthed⁴ about it."

① luncheon: 午餐,便餐 ② part company: (与……)分手 ③ wash one's hands of: 对……不承担责任 ④ mealymouthed: 拐弯抹角的



"It is not easy to express the inexpressible," he answered with a laugh. "Holmes is a little too scientific for my tastes — it approaches to cold-bloodedness. I could imagine his giving a friend a little pinch of the latest vegetable alkaloid, not out of malevolence, you understand, but simply out of a spirit of inquiry in order to have an accurate idea of the effects. To do him justice, I think that he would take it himself with the same readiness. He appears to have a passion for definite and exact knowledge."

"Very right too."

"Yes, but it may be pushed to excess. When it comes to beating the subjects[®] in the dissecting-rooms with a stick, it is certainly taking rather a bizarre shape."

"Beating the subjects!"

"Yes, to verify how far bruises may be produced after death. I saw him at it with my own eyes."

"And yet you say he is not a medical student?"

"No. Heaven knows what the objects of his studies are. But here we are, and you must form your own impressions about him." As he spoke, we turned down a narrow lane

① a little pinch of: 一小撮,少量 ② alkaloid: 生物碱 ③ to do sb justice: 给某人说句公道话 ④ subject: 尸体