

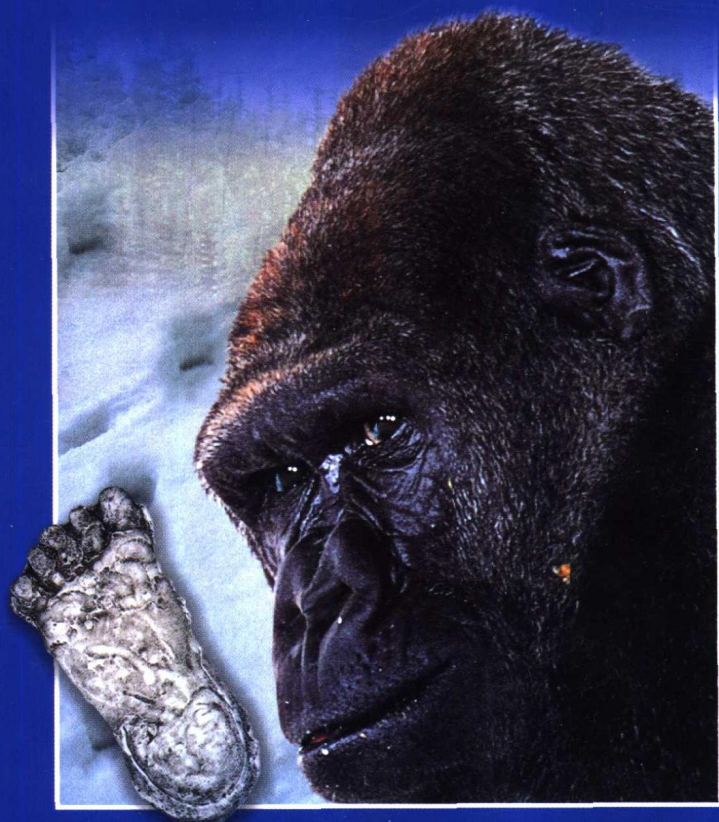
外研社·DK 英汉对照百科读物

ELEMENTARY B 初级 B

神秘动物传说

BEASTLY TALES

Sarah Woolard (英) 著



外语教学与研究出版社



英国 DORLING KINDERSLEY 公司

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致读者

欢迎阅读外研社·DK 英汉对照百科读物！这是第一套专门为非英语国家学习者编写的非小说类读物。这些缤纷多彩的读物揭示了我们周围世界的各个侧面：历史、地理、科技、体育……还有许许多多其他的事情。它们还为我们展示了现在和过去人们各种各样的生活方式。

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本套丛书按语言难度分为 5 个级别：入门级、初级 A、初级 B、中级、中高级，词汇量分别为 300 词、600 词、800 词、1300 词和 2000 词，非常适合中学生、大学生和剑桥考试参加者使用。

丛书的编排也颇具特色，书中图文穿插，彩色印刷，逼真的视觉效果将使您拥有更加美妙的阅读感受。

希望本丛书能令您读得开心！

外研社·DK 英汉对照百科读物(第三辑)

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Believe it or not!

All around the world, people tell stories – or tales – about strange monsters. Have you ever heard any of these stories? Usually, when they see these monsters, people are alone and far away from villages and cities. When they come back and tell their stories, everybody laughs. “It is only a story!” they say. “Perhaps you were dreaming!” Nobody believes them. But sometimes, the stories are true – and we discover strange new things in the world.

Or, perhaps, things that are new to us.

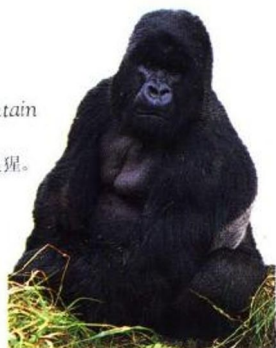
信不信由你!

世界各地的人们都会讲述着关于神秘怪物的故事或传说。你是不是也听到过这种故事呢？目击者在看到那些怪物时，一般都是独自一人，而且远离村镇或者城市。当他们回来把这些见闻讲给别人听的时候总是受到嘲笑。“你不过是在讲故事罢了！”听的人说。“也许你是在做梦！”没有人相信这些目击者。但是，有的时候他们的故事却是真实的——我们总会在大千世界里发现稀奇古怪的新事物。

或许应该说是我们以前未知的事物。

Europeans first discovered mountain gorillas in 1902.

1902年，欧洲人首次发现了山地大猩猩。



The Komodo dragon is a meat-eating lizard that can grow bigger than a person. But scientists didn't know about it before 1912.

科莫多巨蜥是一种肉食蜥蜴，其体型可以超过人类。但是直到1912年科学家才知道有这么一种动物。





People think that the Kraken in old stories from Norway was really a giant squid – it can grow twice as long as a bus.

现在人们认为挪威古老传说中的北海巨妖实际上就是巨型乌贼，一种可以长到两辆公共汽车那样长的乌贼。

Everyone has stories like this. There were stories in Africa about a gorilla that looks like a man. In Indonesia, people told stories about a strange creature like a dragon, and in Norway, there were stories about a huge sea monster with very long arms and legs – or tentacles. Most people laughed when they heard these things. They didn't believe them.

But we now know that these “monsters” were not just in stories – they were real! These “monsters” were really the African mountain gorilla, the Indonesian Komodo dragon, and the Norwegian giant squid.

Are there any more large creatures to discover in the world today?

每个人都能讲一个这样的故事。非洲的一些传说提到一种长得很像人类的大猩猩。在印度尼西亚，人们讲述着关于一种像龙的奇异生物的传说，而在挪威的一些故事里也有一种巨型海怪，它们有着很长的胳膊和腿——或触手。大多数人在听到这些故事的时候都会一笑了之。他们并不相信这些是真的。

但是我们现在知道这些“怪物”不仅存在于故事里——它们还是活生生的！这些“怪物”实际上是非洲山地大猩猩、印度尼西亚科莫多巨蜥和挪威巨型乌贼。

今天的世界上是否还有更多的大型生物等待人们的发现呢？



The Loch Ness Monster

“Dad! Dad! What’s that in the loch?” shouted Jim Ayton.

It was 1963, and Jim was working on his father’s farm near Loch Ness – a large lake in Scotland. When Jim’s father looked up, he saw a strange creature moving down the lake. It was huge – and it did not make any noise. It was a warm evening in summer, and there was no wind. Jim and his father could see the water moving around the creature. And it looked very strange from where they stood!

“What is it?” shouted Jim again.

“I don’t know,” said his father. “I’ve never seen anything like it before, in the loch or anywhere else.”



Loch Ness is in the north of Scotland, in the UK.

尼斯湖位于英国苏格兰北部。

尼斯湖怪兽

“爸爸！爸爸！湖里面是什么东西？”吉姆·艾顿喊道。

那是1963年，吉姆正在位于苏格兰的一个大湖——尼斯湖边他父亲的农场上干活。吉姆的父亲抬头望去，看见一个奇怪的动物正在湖里移动。它很大——而且没有发出任何声响。这是一个温暖的夏日夜晚，四周没有风。吉姆和他的父亲能够看到那个动物移动时漾开的水纹。从他们站的地方看去，这一切真是怪异极了！

“它是什么？”吉姆再一次叫道。

“我不知道，”他的父亲回答说。“我以前从没在湖里或其他任何地方见过这种东西。”

Loch Ness

Loch Ness is a long, thin lake in the mountains of Scotland. Not many people live in this part of Scotland.

尼斯湖

尼斯湖是苏格兰群山之间一个狭长的湖泊。居住在这一带的人并不多。



Two men were working nearby, and they heard Jim's shouts. They stopped, and came across to Jim and his father. "What's the problem?" they asked.

And then they saw the creature in the water. Everyone was excited — and no-one knew what the creature was. "We have to get closer," said Jim's father, "to see what kind of fish or creature it is."

There was a small motor boat in the water, and the men got in. They started the motor and went straight towards the strange creature.

两个在附近干活的人听到了吉姆的喊声。他们停下手里的工作，走向吉姆和他的父亲。“出了什么事？”他们问道。

这时，他们看到了水中的那个动物。每个人都很兴奋——没有人知道那究竟是个什么动物。“我们必须靠近它，”吉姆的父亲说，“这样才能看清它是什么鱼或是其他什么生物。”

于是几个人登上一艘泊在水边的摩托艇。他们开动马达，直奔那个奇怪的动物驶去。



Soon they got a closer look – and it was huge! The creature's head looked like the head of a horse – but bigger! Its neck was nearly two metres long – the same size as a man. The body of the creature was like a snake, but it was a very, very long snake – the size of a bus! Was this the Loch Ness monster?

Everyone on the boat knew the story of the Loch Ness monster – and now they couldn't believe their eyes. They didn't know what to do next.

很快他们就能够在近处观察了——它真大呀！这个动物的头看起来像马头——但是大很多！它的脖子将近两米长——和一个人的身高差不多。它的身体像一条很长很长的蛇——有公共汽车那么长！这是否就是尼斯湖怪兽呢？

船上的每一个人都知道尼斯湖怪兽的故事——现在他们简直不敢相信自己的眼睛，他们不知道接下来应该做些什么。

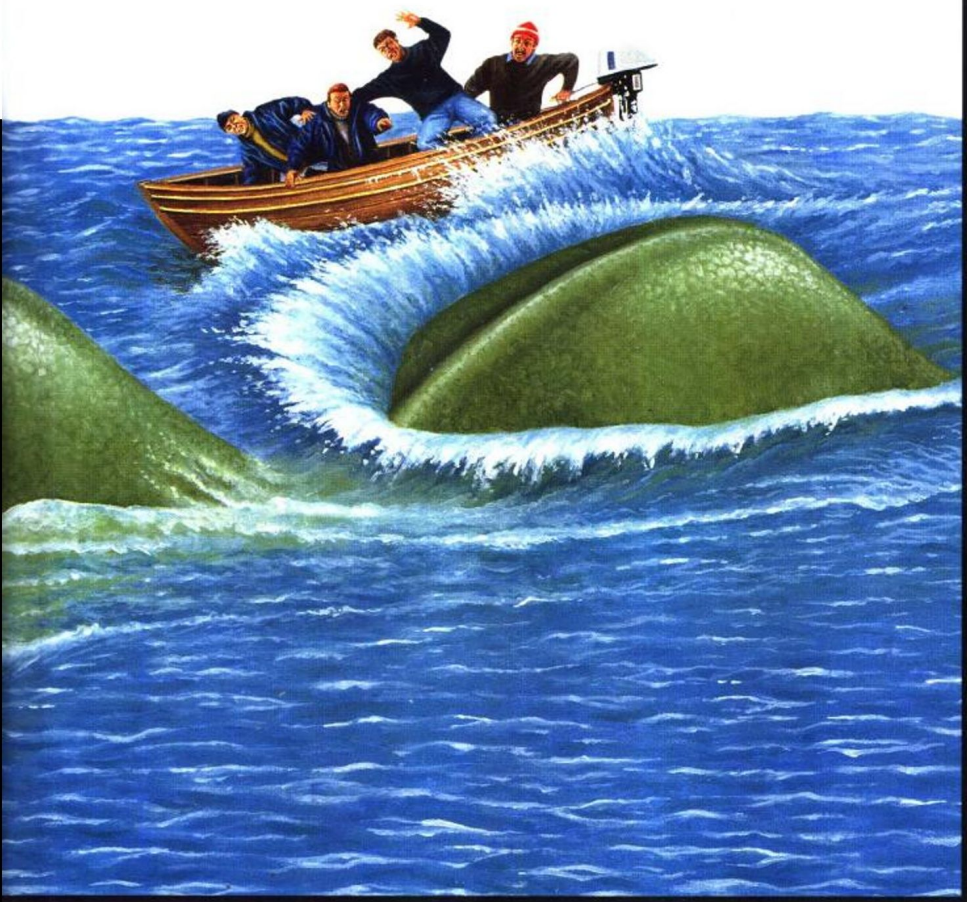


Suddenly, the creature's head came up out of the water – and then it dived down again with a splash! This was a dangerous situation, and the men were beginning to feel worried. Then, after the creature disappeared under the water, a huge wave hit the small boat. Jim thought they were all going to fall into the water, and he held on tightly to the side of the boat.

“Where is it?” asked Jim. “Did it see us? Perhaps we were too close and it got angry – now it’s going to attack us!”

突然，那个动物的头露出了水面——然后又啪的一声扎入水中，溅起很大的水花！形势很危险，人们开始担心。那个动物消失在水里以后，一个巨大的浪头打在了小船上。吉姆以为他们都会跌进水里，赶忙紧紧地抓住了船舷。

“它在哪儿？”吉姆问。“它是不是看到我们了？也许我们离得太近，把它激怒了——现在它要攻击我们啦！”



A few seconds later, they saw the creature's head again. It was not very close now; perhaps it was going away. And it didn't look dangerous – in fact, it looked a little frightened! Then, suddenly, the head went down into the water again. The men looked and looked for the creature for a long time. They went up and down the lake in the boat, but it was no good – they never saw the “monster” again.

After that, the men couldn't work that evening. They talked together for some time, and then they went home – but they didn't tell anyone their story. “It's best to say nothing,” they said. “Everyone will laugh at us. They will say we are all crazy!”

And the men kept quiet – in fact, they did not speak about seeing the monster for twenty years!

But the Aytons and their friends are not the only people who have seen the monster. Other people say they have seen a strange creature in the waters of Loch Ness. People have talked about a monster there for many, many years.

几秒钟以后，他们又看到了那个动物的头。现在，它离得不是那么近了；可能它正在离开这里。而且它看起来也不危险——实际上，它看上去有些受惊！这之后，那个头倾又突然没入了水中。几个人乘船在湖里继续寻找了很长时间，但是毫无收获——他们从此再也没有见到这个“怪物”。

此番经历过后，人们在那天晚上都无心干活。他们在一起谈论了一会儿，然后各自回家了——但是他们没有把这件事告诉任何人。“最好什么也别说，”他们异口同声地说。“人人都会嘲笑我们的。他们会说我们全都疯了！”

于是，这些人一直保持沉默——实际上，他们在以后的20年里对看见怪兽的事只字未提！

但是，看到过那个怪兽的人不只艾顿父子和他们的朋友。也有别的人说他们在尼斯湖看到了奇怪的动物。人们对那里怪兽的谈论一直持续了很多年。

A deep, dark lake

Loch Ness looks like a normal lake. But it is very, very deep – more than 213 metres. That is deep enough for a 40-storey building.

深邃幽暗的湖

尼斯湖看上去就像一个普通的湖。但是它非常深——深度超过213米，相当于一座40层楼房的高度。



Anthony Shiels took this picture at Loch Ness, 14 years after the Aytons saw the "monster". It looks like the creature they saw.

安东尼·希尔斯于艾顿父子看到“怪兽”14年后在尼斯湖拍摄到的照片。照片中的形象很像他们曾看到的那个动物。



One of the first stories about the Loch Ness monster was more than 1,400 years ago, in AD 565. A very religious and holy man from Ireland called Saint Columba was travelling in Scotland at this time.

The old stories say that Saint Columba saw a “water monster” in Loch Ness. We do not know exactly what the creature looked like, but this monster was very big, and it was attacking someone who was swimming in the water of the loch. When Saint Columba saw this, he wasn’t afraid. He told the monster to stop – and the amazing thing is that it did! The stories say that the water monster stopped attacking the swimmer and went away.

关于尼斯湖怪兽最早的故事之一是在1400年前，即公元565年。当时，圣哥伦巴正在苏格兰旅行，他是一位很虔诚的爱尔兰圣徒。

古老的故事讲述圣哥伦巴在尼斯湖看到一个“水怪”。我们不知道它究竟是什么样子，不过这个怪兽很大，而且它正在攻击湖里的游泳者。当圣哥伦巴看到这个情景，他没有害怕。他叫怪兽停下来——而令人惊异的是它居然真的这样做了！故事中说水怪停止攻击游泳者，然后离开了。



This is a picture of Saint Columba on a stained glass window in the church of a Scottish castle.

这是在一座苏格兰城堡教堂彩色玻璃窗上的一幅圣哥伦巴像。

Loch stories

There are many stories of water-monsters in other Scottish lakes. The Scottish people call these monsters “kelpies”.

湖的故事

苏格兰其他的湖里也流传着各自的水怪故事。苏格兰人称这些怪兽“马头水鬼”。

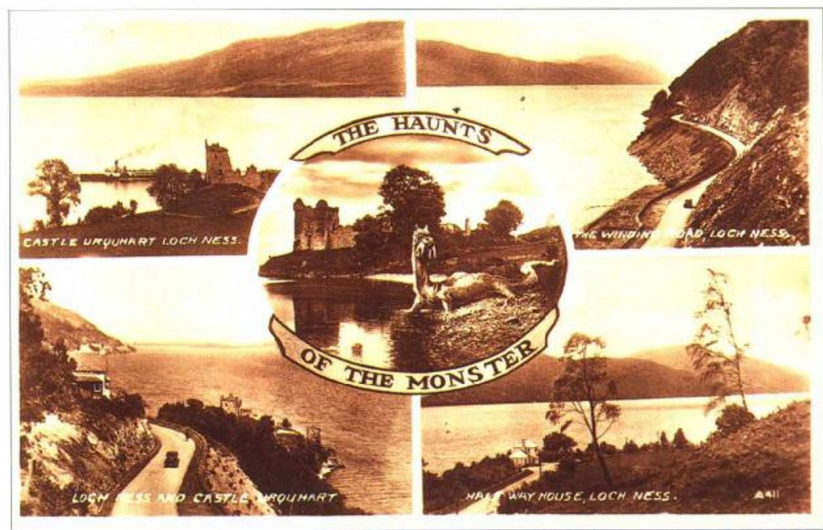


There are some very old stories about the Loch Ness monster – like the story of Saint Columba – but most of the stories we hear started in 1933. At this time, a road was built along the side of the loch for the first time. Before that, not many people went there, but now tourists could travel around the loch – and look for the monster!

People started telling stories about seeing the monster – and the newspapers were interested. Soon, you could read these monster stories in newspapers all over the world. Everybody knew about the Loch Ness monster!

和圣哥伦巴的故事一样，还有许多很古老的故事都是关于尼斯湖怪兽的，但是大部分我们所听到的故事却是始于1933年。当时，那里修建了第一条沿湖公路。在那以前，很少有人去到那里，但是现在旅游者可以沿湖观光——并寻找那个怪兽了！

人们开始讲述关于看到怪兽的故事——而且报纸对这也很有趣。很快，你就能在世界各地的报纸上读到这些怪兽故事了。每个人都知道尼斯湖怪兽了！



A Loch Ness monster postcard from the 1930s.

20 世纪 30 年代发行的尼斯湖怪兽明信片。



Everyone wanted to see the Loch Ness monster – and to get the first photograph of the strange creature. Newspapers from all over the world would pay a lot of money for a “monster” photograph – good photographs and bad ones!

A lot of different people visited Loch Ness in the summer. Some people wanted to take a photograph and make a lot of money; some were interested in all kinds of monsters, and some were scientists who wanted to discover and study this strange creature. Loch Ness was now a popular place to be.

每个人都想看到尼斯湖怪兽——并拍摄到这个奇异动物的第一张照片。世界上有许多家报纸愿意为“怪兽”照片出大价钱——不论照片好坏!

许多形形色色的人在夏天来到尼斯湖。一些人希望能拍到照片，赚一大笔钱；一些人对各种各样的怪兽感兴趣；还有一些是科学家，他们希望发现并研究这个奇异的动物。尼斯湖现在成了一个很受人们欢迎的去处。