

Anthony Hope

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著 Anthony Hope 译 黄宏

简介

鲁道夫·拉森狄尔年轻富有,出生于一个历史悠久的英国家庭,可他却长着卢里塔尼亚王室所特有的深红色头发和长而笔挺的鼻子。这是多年前一个小小的家庭"意外"造成的结果。

鲁道夫决定去参加卢里塔尼亚新国王的加冕典礼。他到了曾达城,并在森林里漫步。第二天上午他却发现自己身陷意想不到的奇遇之中。他与新朋友萨普特上尉和弗里茨一起制定了营救曾达城堡中的囚徒的计划。很快他就与国王的死对头黑迈克和鲁帕特交上了手,而且爱上了国王的表妹,美丽的弗蕾维亚公主。

然后国王……然而,谁才是真正的卢里塔尼亚的国王 呢?

安东尼·霍普 1863 年生于伦敦, 1933 年去世。他的真名是安东尼·霍普·霍金斯爵士。他成为专职作家之前是一位律师。他最著名的作品有《曾达的囚徒》和《鲁帕特》。



1

The Rassendylls - and the Elphbergs

wonder when you're going to do something useful, Rudolf, 'my brother's wife said. She looked at me crossly over the breakfast table.

'But why should I do anything, Rose?' I answered, calmly eating my egg. 'I've got nearly enough money for the things I want, and my brother, Robert, is a lord - Lord Burlesdon. I'm very happy.'

'You're twenty-nine, and you've done nothing except...'

'Play about? It's true. We Rassendylls are a rich and famous family, and we don't need to do anything.'

This made Rose angry. 'Rich and famous families usually behave worse than less important families, 'she said.

When I heard this, I touched my dark red hair. I knew what she meant.

'I'm so pleased that Robert's hair is black! 'she cried.

Just then my brother, Robert, came in. When he looked at Rose, he could see that there was something wrong.

'What's the matter, my dear?' he said.

'Oh, she's angry because I never do anything useful, and because I've got red hair, 'I said.

'Well, I know he can't do much about his hair, or his nose...'Rose began.

'No, the nose and the hair are in the family, 'my brother a-



1 拉森狄尔家族与 艾尔弗伯格家族

"我在想你究竟什么时候才会做一些有用的事儿,鲁道夫。"我的嫂嫂说。她在餐桌的那头生气地望着我。

"但我干嘛要做事呢,罗丝?"我一边回答她,一边从容地吃着鸡蛋。"我的钱够多的,差不多想要什么就能买什么,再说我哥哥罗伯特又是一位贵族——伯利斯顿勋爵,我挺幸福。"

"可你都 29 岁了, 你还什么都没干, 除了……"

"除了胡闹?你说对了,我们拉森狄尔家的人又有钱又有名,而且我们什么也不用做。"

我这么说让罗丝生气了。"又有钱又有 名的人家通常比那些普通人家更不规矩!"

听了她的话,我用手摸摸我的深红色头 发。我懂她的意思。

"我真高兴罗伯特的头发是黑色的!"她 说道。

正在此时,我哥哥罗伯特走了进来,他 一看罗丝,就看出有些不对头。

"怎么了,亲爱的?"他问道。

"她生气了,因为我从没做过什么有用的事儿,而且我还长着红头发。"我说。

"当然,我知道他对他的头发和鼻子无能为力……"罗丝说。

"是的,这样的鼻子和这样的头发是祖

the Rassendylls, the Rassendyll family: 姓拉森狄 尔的,拉森狄尔家族。 crossly adv. angrily 4: 气,发怒。lord n. a nobleman of high rank. (less im portant than a duke) 助 爵,地位次于公爵。Lord Burlesdon, 伯利斯頓勋爵。 play about: to spend time having fun. 胡闹,鬼混。 in the family: (a quality) shared by several members of a family, or passed from purents to children. 指某种 性格特征等为某些家族成 员所共有的或祖辈相传 的。



greed. 'And Rudolf has both of them.'

In the room there were many family pictures, and one of them was of a very beautiful woman, Lady Amelia, who lived a hundred and fifty years ago. I stood up and turned to look at it.

'If you took that picture away, Robert.' Rose cried, 'we could forget all about it.'

'Oh, but I don't want to forget about it.' I replied. 'I like being an Elphberg.'

But perhaps I should stop for a moment and explain why Rose was angry about my nose and my hair – and why I, a Rassendyll, said I was an Elphberg. After all, the Elphbergs are the royal family of Ruritania, and have been for hundreds of years.

The story is told in a book about the Rassendyll family history.

In the year 1733 Prince Rudolf of Ruritania came to England on a visit and he stayed for several months. Like many of the Elphberg royal family, he had blue eyes, an unusually long straight nose and a lot of dark red hair. He was also tall and very good-looking.

During his stay here, he became friendly with Lady Amelia, the beautiful wife of Lord Burlesdon. They became very good friends indeed, which, naturally, did not please Lord Burlesdon. So, one cold wet morning, the two men fought. The Prince was hurt in the fight, but got better and was hurried back to



传的,"我哥哥同意她的话,"而且鲁道夫两 样都占了。"

房间里有很多家族成员的画像。其中一幅画着一位非常美丽的女人,阿米莉亚夫人,她生活在150年以前。我站了起来,转身去看她。

"如果你把那画像拿走,罗伯特,"罗丝说,"我们就可以把这件事忘掉。"

"哦,可是我并不想忘掉它。"我回答。 "我喜欢做艾尔弗伯格家族的一员。"

也许我应该停下来一会儿,解释一下为什么罗丝对我的鼻子和头发那么生气,究竟又为什么,我,一个姓拉森狄尔的,会说我自己是艾尔弗伯格家族的一员。毕竟艾尔弗伯格家族是卢里塔尼亚的王族,而且,几百年来一直如此。

这个故事在一本关于拉森狄尔家族史 的书里是这么描述的:

1733 年卢里塔尼亚王子鲁道夫前来英国访问,他逗留了几个月。像艾尔弗伯格王室的许多人一样,他长着蓝色的眼睛,一只不寻常的又长又挺的鼻子和很多深红色的头发。他个子很高,相貌英俊。

他在此地停留期间,与伯利斯顿勋爵美丽的妻子阿米莉亚夫人结识,事实上,他俩成了十分亲密的好友,这当然不会让伯利斯顿勋爵愉快。因此,在一个寒冷潮湿的早晨,两位男士决斗了。王子负了伤,怎很快

royal adj. for, belong to, or connected with a king or queen. 皇族的, 正室的。



Ruritania. There he married and became King Rudolf the Third. But Lord Burlesdon fell ill, and six months later he died. Two months after that, Lady Amelia had a baby son, who became the next Lord Burlesdon and the head of the Rassendyll family. The boy grew into a man with blue eyes, a long straight nose, and dark red hair.

These things can happen in the best of families, and among the many pictures of the Rassendylls at home, you can see that five or six of them have the same blue eyes, the same nose, and the same red hair.

So, because my hair was red and I had the Elphberg nose, Rose worried about me. In the end, to please her, I promised to get a job in six months' time. This gave me six free months to enjoy myself first.

And an idea came to me - I would visit Ruritania. None of my family had ever been there. They preferred to forget all about the Lady Amelia. But I saw in the newspaper that, in three weeks, the new young King, Rudolf the Fifth, would have his coronation. It would be an interesting time to visit the country.

I knew my family would not like my going, so I told them I was going walking in Austria.



好转并且匆匆返回卢里塔尼亚、在那里他结了婚,成了国王鲁道夫三世。但是伯利斯顿勋爵病了,六个月以后去世。他辞世之后两个月,阿米莉亚夫人生了一个儿子,这个男孩即成为新的伯利斯顿勋爵以及拉森狄尔家族的首领。他成人以后有着蓝色的眼睛,长而挺直的鼻子和深红色的头发。

这一类的事情可能在最上流的家庭发生。在拉森狄尔府上的许多画像中, 你能看见五六个人长着同样的蓝眼睛, 同样的鼻子, 同样的红头发。

因此,由于我的头发是红的,而且我长着艾尔弗伯格家的鼻子,罗丝为我发愁。结果,为了让她高兴,我保证六个月以内找到一份工作。这样起码我能在六个月的时间里过得快快乐乐的。

我有了一个主意——我要去卢里塔尼亚。我的家族从来没有一个人去过那里。他们更愿意忘记跟阿米莉亚夫人有关的事情。可是我看到报纸上说,在三周之内,卢里塔尼亚的年轻的新国王,鲁道夫五世,将会举行加冕典礼。这时候去这个国家看看一定很有意思。

我知道家里的人一定不喜欢让我去, 所以我告诉他们我要去奥地利走走。

to please sb.: to make sb. happy. 使……感到快乐。
to enjoy oneself: to be happy. 感到快乐。coronation
n the ceremony at which a king, queen, ruling prince, etc., is crowned. 国王、女王、王子等的加冕典礼。



2

The colour of men's hair

n the way to Ruritania I decided to spend a night in Paris with a friend. The next morning he came with me to the station, and as we waited for the train, we watched the crowds. We noticed a tall, dark, very fashionable lady, and my friend told me who she was.

'That's Madame Antoinette de Mauban. She's travelling on the same train as you, but don't fall in love with her.'

'Why not?' I asked, amused.

'Ah, 'said my friend, 'all Paris knows that she's in love with Duke Michael of Strelsau. And he, as you know, is the half-brother of the new King of Ruritania. Although he's only the second son and will never be king himself, he's still an important man and very popular, I hear, with many Ruritanians. The lovely Madame Antoinette won't look twice at you, Rudolf.'

I laughed, but he had woken my interest in the lady. I did not speak to her during the journey, and when we arrived in Ruritania, I left the train at Zenda, a small town outside the capital. But I noticed that Madame de Mauban went on to Strelsau, the capital.

I was welcomed very kindly at my hotel. It belonged to a fat old lady and her pretty daughter. From them I learned that the coronation was to be on the day after next, and not in three



2 头发的颜色



去卢里塔尼亚的途中我决定在巴黎的一个朋友处过一夜。第二天早晨他跟我一起来到火车站,等车时我们看着站台上的人群,我们看到一位个子高、肤色棕黑。非常时髦的女士。我的朋友告诉我她的身份。

"那位是安东纳特·德·莫班女士,她和 你坐同一列火车,但是你可别爱上她。"

"为什么不行?"我觉得很有意思。

"哎呀,"我的朋友说,"全巴黎都知道她爱着斯特莱索的迈克尔公爵,他是卢里塔尼亚新国王同父异母的兄弟。虽然他只不过是次子,他也决不能当国王,他仍然是个重要人物,而且我听说他也受到许多人的爱戴。鲁道夫,那位可爱的安冬纳特女士不会朝你看第二眼的。"

我笑了,但他的话引起了我对那位女士 的兴趣。旅途中我没跟她说话。我们到达 卢里塔尼亚以后,我在靠近首都的小城曾达 下了车,但我注意到莫班女士去了首都斯特 莱索。

在旅店我受到了很热情的接待。这家旅店是一位胖老太太和她可爱的女儿开的。 从她们那儿我听说加冕典礼是后天而不是 三星期后举行。

fashionable adj. (made, dressed, etc.) according to the latest fashion. (打扮、 服装等)流行的、时髦的。 to fall in love (with); become filled with love、爱上 某人。 amuse v. make (sb) laugh or smile, (使 人)感到好笑,有趣。duke n. nobleman of high rank (next below a prince). 公 爵 地位仅次于王子。half brother: brother by one parent only, 同父异母(或 同母异父)的兄弟。popular adj. well liked. 受欢 迎的,受爱戴的。pretty adj. pleasing and charming without being beautiful or grand. 可爱的,悦目的 (并非华丽堂皇)。



weeks.

The old lady was more interested in Duke Michael of Strelsau than in the new King. The Castle of Zenda and all the land around it belonged to the Duke, but the old lady said, 'It's not enough. Duke Michael should be king. He spends all his time with us. Every Ruritanian knows him, but we never see the new King.'

But the daughter cried, 'Oh no, I hate Black Michael. I want a red Elphberg – and the King, our friend Johann says, is very red. Johann works for the Duke and he's seen the King. In fact, the King's staying just outside Zenda now, 'she added. 'He's resting at the Duke's house in the forest before going on to Strelsau on Wednesday for his coronation. The Duke's already in Strelsau, getting everything ready.'

'They're friends?' I asked.

'Friends who want the same place and the same wife, 'the pretty girl replied. 'The Duke wants to marry his cousin, Princess Flavia, but people say she's going to be King Rudolf's wife and the Queen.'

Just then their friend, Johann, entered the room.

'We have a visitor, Johann, 'the girl's mother said, and Johann turned towards me. But when he saw me, he stepped back, with a look of wonder on his face.

'What's the matter, Johann?' the daughter asked.

'Good evening, sir, 'Johann said, still staring at me. He did not seem to like what he saw.

老太太对迈克尔公爵比对新国王更感兴趣。虽然曾达城堡和附近所有的土地都属于这位公爵,老太太却说,"这些还不够,迈克尔公爵应该当国王。他总是和我们在一起,每个卢里塔尼亚人都认识他,而新国王我们却从来没见过。"

她女儿却说,"哦,不,我讨厌黑迈克尔! 我希望一个红头发的艾尔弗伯格当国王。 听我们的朋友约翰说,新国王的头发非常 红。他见过国王。事实上,国王现在就在曾 达。"她又说,"他星期五去斯特莱索加冕。 在此之前,他呆在公爵的林中住地休养。公 爵已经去了斯特莱索,为国王准备好一切。"

"他们是朋友吗?"

"朋友,只不过两人想得到同样的地方和同一个女人。"漂亮姑娘回答,"公爵想和他的表妹弗蕾维亚公主结婚,可是据说弗蕾维亚会成为国王鲁道夫的妻子和王后。"

就在这时,她们的朋友约翰走进了房间。

"我们来了个客人,约翰。"姑娘的母亲说。约翰就转向我。当他看见我后,他后退了一步,脸上露出惊奇的表情。

"怎么啦?"姑娘问。

"晚上好,先生。"约翰说,仍然紧盯着我。他看上去不喜欢他所看见的东西。

cousin n. the child of one's uncle or aunt. 表兄弟或妻姐妹, 堂兄弟或堂姐妹。 look n. facial expression. 表情。stare (at) v. to look fixedly with wide-opened eyes. 紧紧盯



The girl began to laugh. 'It's the colour of your hair, sir,' she explained. 'We don't often see that colour here. It's the Elphberg red - not Johann's favourite colour.'

The next day I decided to walk through the forest for a few miles and take the train to Strelsau from a little station along the road. I sent my luggage on by train and after lunch, I started out on foot. First, I wanted to see the Castle of Zenda and in half an hour I had climbed the hill to it. There were two buildings—the old one, with a moat around it, and the new, modern building. Duke Michael could have friends to stay with him in the new castle, but he could go into the old castle when he wanted to be alone. The water in the moat was deep, and if he pulled up the drawbridge over the moat, no one could get to him.

I stayed there for some time and looked at the castle, and then I walked on through the forest for about an hour. It was beautiful and I sat down to enjoy it. Before I knew what had happened, I was asleep.

Suddenly I heard a voice say, 'Good heavens! He looks just like the King!'

When I opened my eyes, there were two men in front of me. One of them came nearer.

'May I ask your name?' he said.

'Well, why don't you tell me your names first?' I replied. The younger of the two men said, 'This is Captain Sapt, and



姑娘笑了起来。"是因为你的头发,先生。"她解释道。"我们在这儿不常见到这种颜色的头发。这是艾尔弗伯格家族的红色。 这可不是约翰最喜欢的颜色。"

第二天,我决定步行数英里穿过森林,然后从路边的一个小站上火车去斯特莱索。我把行李交火车托运了。午饭后我开始后行。首先我想看看曾达的城堡。半小时后我爬到了城堡所在的山上。那儿有两幢建筑物,一旧一新,旧的被一道护城河所环绕,新的是一座现代的建筑。迈克尔公爵可以和朋友一起呆在新城堡里,但假如他想要一个人呆着,他可以去旧城堡。壕沟里的水能靠近他。

我在那儿呆了一会儿,看着城堡,然后 我走了差不多一个小时穿过森林。森林很美,我坐下来欣赏。一会儿我就睡着了。

突然间我听到一个声音说:"天哪,他真像国王!"

我睁开眼睛,面前站着两个人,其中一个走近我。

"请问您尊姓大名?"

"可是,您干吗不先告诉我您的姓名 呢?"我回答。

两人中年轻的一位说:"这位是萨普特

favourite n. something or someone that is loved above all others. 最喜爱的人或物。decide v. think about and come to a conclusion. 决定, 下决心。moat n. deep, wide ditch filled with water, round a castle, etc., as a defence. 壕沟, 护城河。drawbridge n. bridge that can be pulled up at the end by chains. 活动桥, 吊桥。



I am Fritz von Tarlenheim. We work for the King of Ruritania.

'And I am Rudolf Rassendyll, 'I answered, 'a traveller from England. My brother is Lord Burlesdon.'

'Of course! The hair! 'Sapt cried. 'You know the story, Fritz?'

Just then a voice called out from the trees behind us. 'Fritz! Fritz! Where are you, man?'

'It's the King! 'Fritz said, and Sapt laughed.

Then a young man jumped out from behind a tree. I gave a cry, and when he saw me, he stepped back in sudden surprise. The King of Ruritania looked just like Rudolf Rassendyll, and Rudolf Rassendyll looked just like the King!

For a moment the King said nothing, but then he asked, 'Captain...Fritz...who is this?'

Sapt went to the King and spoke quietly in his ear. The King's surprise changed slowly to an amused smile, then suddenly he began to laugh loudly. 'Well met, cousin!' he cried. 'Where are you travelling to?'

'To Strelsau, sir - to the coronation.'

The King looked at his friends, and, for a moment, he was serious. But then he began to laugh again. 'Wait until brother Michael sees that there are two of us!' he cried.

'Perhaps it isn't a very good idea for Mr Rassendyll to go to Strelsau, 'Fritz said, worried, and Sapt agreed with him.

'Oh, we'll think about the coronation tomorrow, 'the King