

外研社·剑桥英语分读读物 (英语) 第四册

# 海滨小屋

## *The House by the Sea*

外语教学与研究出版社  
剑桥大学出版社

**PATRICIA ASPINALL**

外研社·剑桥英语分级读物(英汉对照)

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Level 3

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## 海滨小屋

Patricia Aspinall (英) 著

任满申 译

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### 海滨小屋

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亲爱的老师们、同学们,由外语教学与研究出版社和英国剑桥大学出版社联合出版的这套《外研社·剑桥英语分级读物》终于与国内读者见面了。它集原创性、针对性、时代性和多样性于一体,是一套理想的英语学习读物。

本套读物是我国目前引进的第一套专为非英语国家读者撰写的英语故事性读物,作者全部是经验丰富的英语教学专家。读物依据难易程度共分六级,每级四本,每本独立成篇。题材涉及广泛,包括喜剧、历险记、侦探小说、浪漫爱情故事和短篇故事等。内容涉及东西方多种地域和文化,情节扣人心弦,极富吸引力。读者在提高自身英语水平的同时,还会享受到阅读的巨大乐趣。

本套读物分为英汉对照版和英文注释版两种版本,以适应不同读者的不同需要。其中,英文注释版附有练习及配套音带,为不同程度的英语学习者在阅读中提供了及时而必要的帮助。

如果你们喜欢这套读物,请把它推荐给你们的的朋友。如果你们对这套读物有什么意见和建议,也请告诉我们。

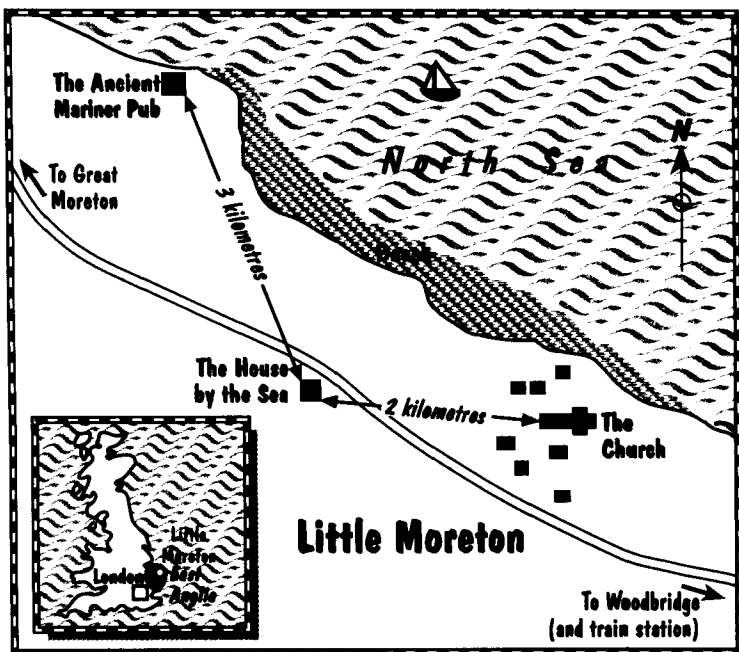
在此,我们谨向那些为这套读物的出版给予帮助和关切的老师们表示衷心的感谢!

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# Characters

**Carl Anderson:** a businessman. He lives and works in London.

**Linda Anderson:** Carl's wife. She buys the house by the sea.

**Mary Banks:** the owner of the Ancient Mariner pub in Little Moreton.

**Police Constable (PC) Grant:** the young policeman in Great Moreton.

**Melissa:** a friend of Linda's.

**John:** a journalist and old friend of Carl's – they went to university together.

**Tom Parker:** he lives in a car on the beach in Little Moreton.

**Bill Parker:** Tom's brother and a taxi driver in Little Moreton.



## 书中人物

**卡尔·安德森：** 一个商人，在伦敦生活、工作。

**琳达·安德森：** 卡尔的妻子，购买了海边的房子。

**玛丽·班克斯：** 小莫顿“古代水手”酒吧的拥有者。

**格兰特警官：** 大莫顿的一个年轻警员。

**梅利莎：** 琳达的朋友。

**约翰：** 一个记者，卡尔的老朋友，他们是大学同学。

**汤姆·帕克：** 住在小莫顿海边的一辆汽车内。

**比尔·帕克：** 汤姆的兄弟，小莫顿的一个出租汽车司机。

## Chapter 1    *Old friends*

It was lunchtime. I'd been in the *Jolly Sailor* pub in west London for about half an hour, when I saw a man sitting by himself in a corner of the room. Although I didn't know his name I was sure I knew him from somewhere. He had grey hair and he was looking out of the window at the River Thames.

I don't usually go to the pub at lunchtime, but it was the birthday of one of the other journalists at work. There were four of us. I asked them if they knew the man sitting in the corner. They looked over, but no-one knew him. I don't know why, but I just kept looking at him, trying to remember.

Finally, when we were all about to go back to work, the man turned round and looked straight at me. He knew me, I could see, because he smiled at me. Who was he? Then I realised it was someone I had been at university with five years ago. I couldn't remember his name immediately. He looked so old. He started to get up from his chair and I walked over to him. As I got closer I remembered his name.

'Carl,' I said, 'good to see you. What are you doing here?' I held out my hand.

'John, what a surprise! It's been such a long time.' He shook my hand and then put both hands on my arms. 'It's good to see you. You know, you're the first person I've seen

## 第一章 老朋友

吃午饭的时候，我走了约半小时的路来到伦敦西区的“快乐水手”酒吧，看见一个男人独自坐在一个角落里。尽管我不知道他的名字，却肯定以前在哪里见过他。他有一头灰发，正看着窗外的泰晤士河。

我通常不去酒吧吃午饭，但是今天是一个一起工作的记者的生日。我们共四个人。我问他们是否认识坐在角落里的那个人。他们看过去，但是没有一个认识他。不知为什么，我就一直看着他，试图想起什么。

最后，当我们要回去工作时，那个男人转过身来直盯着我。我能看出他认识我，因为他正向我微笑。他是谁？接着我想起五年前上大学时认识的一个人。我不能马上想起他的名字。他看上去很老。他从椅子上站起来，我也向他走去。当我走近他时，我想起了他的名字。

“卡尔，”我叫他，“真高兴见到你，你在这里干什么？”我伸出手。

“约翰，真是意外！我们已很久没见面了。”他握了握我的手，然后又双手放到我的双臂上。“看到你真高兴。你知道



from university for a long time. Those were good times, weren't they?

It was clear that Carl was pleased to see me, but at first he wasn't sure what to say to me. He looked so different from the young, happy student I used to know. We were the same age but he looked a lot older than me. His hair was going grey and his face had a worried look. He was also much thinner than I remembered him.

Carl pointed at the seat he had just left. 'Let's sit down,' he said. 'I'll get you a drink.' I had to go back to work, but Carl was an old friend, a good friend – we'd had a lot of fun together at university. I couldn't say no.

'Yes,' I said, 'OK.' I told my friends from work that I would come back to the office soon. They left and I waited while Carl bought two drinks. It was hard to believe this was the same man I had been to university with. He looked so white and thin. Had something happened to him? Maybe he's just been in hospital, I thought.

Because I'm a journalist I always ask questions, but when Carl came back with the drinks, I didn't say anything about the way he looked.

'So, Carl,' I said, 'I've just been trying to remember the last time we met. I think it was at your wedding. That was quite a day, wasn't it?' Carl just nodded his head and smiled in a sad way. I didn't know what else to say, so I kept talking.

'Isn't it terrible that we haven't seen each other since then?' I said. 'How's Linda? Have you got any kids yet?' Carl stopped smiling and looked at me strangely. I knew I'd said the wrong thing, but I had to ask about his wife Linda. Linda went to the same university as us and she was

吗,你是我从大学毕业后多年来见到的第一个同学。那段时光是多么美好啊,不是吗?”

很明显,卡尔见到我是高兴的,但一开始他不知道对我说些什么好。他看上去与我原来认识的那个年轻、快乐的大学生是如此的不同。我们同岁,但看上去他比我老得多。他头发灰白,神情忧郁,比我记忆中的他瘦多了。

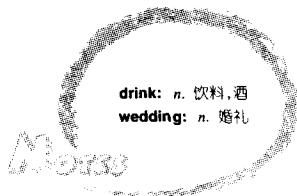
卡尔指着 he 刚才坐的座位,“让我们坐下,”他说,“我请你喝一杯。”我应该回去工作,可卡尔是我的老朋友、好朋友——上大学时我们在一起有过许多乐趣。我不能说不。

“好吧,”我说,“我同意。”我告诉同事我一会儿就回办公室。他们离开后我等了一会儿,卡尔买来两杯酒。我很难相信这就是曾与我一起上大学的那个人。他是那样的苍白和消瘦。他遇到了什么事?我想他可能刚刚住过院。

我是一个记者,所以总喜欢提问题,但是当卡尔拿着两杯酒回到座位上时,我没有提任何有关他现状的问题。

“那么,卡尔,”我说,“我刚才想起我们上一次相逢的情景。我想那是在你的婚礼上。那天真棒,不是吗?”卡尔只点了一下头,面带愁容地笑了一下。我不知道还有什么别的可说的,只好继续往下说。

“自从那次见面到现在已经很长时间了,这真糟糕,不是吗?”我说,“琳达怎么样?你们有孩子了吗?”卡尔不再微笑,而且奇怪地看着我。我知道自己说错了什么,但是我不得不问到他的妻子琳达。琳达与我们上一所大学,而且她很漂亮。我们



beautiful. We were all good friends and we'd had a lot of fun together at university. Linda was fun to be with.

Carl had always been a serious person. He'd worked very hard and did well in his exams. When I used to try and make him go out for the evening he often said that he had too much work to do. I thought that Linda would soon get tired of him. Sometimes Linda and I went out together to have fun and left Carl with his books.

She must have liked the fact that he was serious because a year after they had finished at university Carl and Linda got married. It was a great wedding and they both looked so happy. They were obviously very much in love.

Had something happened to their marriage? Something must have happened to them since then, but I was afraid to ask.

Carl now looked at me in a serious way. I could see he wasn't happy. He was wearing a suit, but he wasn't wearing a tie and I wanted to ask him if he was working at the moment. But I didn't ask him and, as we drank our beer, I told him about what I'd been doing for the last four or five years. I told him how I'd found it difficult to get a job when I first left university.

'You know, Carl, I was never able to study like you did, and when I had to go and get a job I found it really hard. For a couple of years I worked on small newspapers all over the place. I spent two years in Devon. Beautiful but very quiet . . .'

I thought that Carl might want to know how I moved to a big national newspaper, how hard I now worked, but I could see he wasn't very interested. He kept looking out of the window at the river.

都是好朋友。在大学时我们一块儿玩,有过许多趣事。和琳达在一起令人愉快。

卡尔是一个严肃认真的人。他学习非常努力,而且考试成绩优秀。每次我拉他晚上出去,他总是说他有很多事要做。我想琳达不久会对他感到厌烦。有时琳达和我一块儿出去玩,留下卡尔和他的书在一起。

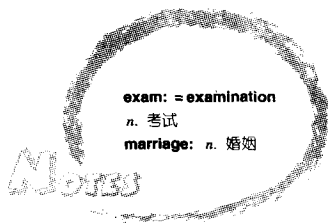
实际上,她一定喜欢他的认真劲儿,因为卡尔和琳达在大学毕业一年后就结婚了。他们举行了盛大的婚礼,而且看上去俩人都那么幸福。显然,他们非常相爱。

他们的婚姻出什么问题了?他们结婚以后一定发生了什么事,但是我不敢问。

卡尔现在严肃地看着我。我能看出他不高兴。他穿着西装,但是没有系领带,我想知道他此刻是否有工作,但我没有问他。在我们喝啤酒时,我告诉他这四五年来我都干了些什么。我告诉他大学刚毕业时找一份工作是如何的困难。

“你知道卡尔,我从来没有像你那样学习过。我毕业找工作时是非常困难的。接连几年我都在各地的报社工作。我在德文待了两年。那地方很美而且很安静……”

我想卡尔可能想知道我是如何找到一个全国性大报社的工作的,我现在的工作又是如何辛苦,但是我看他对这些并没有太多兴趣。他一直看着窗外的河。



‘. . . So finally, about six months ago, I decided it was time to come to London. There was nothing to keep me in Devon. No family, you know? I haven’t been able to find a girl who wants to marry me yet. Perhaps I never will!’ I said. For the first time since I had started telling him about myself Carl seemed to be listening.

‘Don’t work too hard if you do get married . . .’ Carl said. ‘I worked too hard and it finished my marriage.’

‘Oh dear,’ I replied. ‘What happened, Carl? You don’t look very happy. Where’s Linda?’

‘Happy? You’re right, John. No, I’m not happy and I’m not sure I ever will be again . . .’ He stopped talking and looked out of the window again. He finished his beer and then said, ‘But you don’t want to hear my story . . .’

But I *did* want to hear his story. After all, I was a journalist. I wrote stories as a job. I was always interested in stories. And I was especially interested in Carl’s story. He was my friend. So was Linda. Of course I wanted to know.

‘Tell me what happened with you and Linda,’ I said. He looked at me for a minute to see if I was serious and then said, ‘You know, when Linda agreed to marry me I thought I had everything. It was wonderful. I got a good job in London as soon as we left university. It was hard work – I was working most weekends – and for a couple of years we didn’t take a holiday. But it was good money and we soon had enough to buy a flat. Linda had her friends and she seemed to like her job as well. We liked doing the same things, I thought, and I hoped that I’d soon have more time for us to spend together . . .’ He stopped talking for a few seconds.



“……后来,大约在六个月以前,我决定到伦敦来。在德文没有什么可以留住我的。我没有家庭。你知道吗?我还没能找到愿意和我结婚的姑娘。可能我永远也找不到!”我说。自我开始告诉他关于我自己的事情以来,卡尔似乎第一次在听我说。

“如果你真的结婚了,不要太忙于工作……”卡尔说,“我曾经因为太过忙于工作而断送了我的婚姻。”

“哎呀,”我回答说,“发生了什么,卡尔?看起来你不是很开心。琳达在哪儿?”

“快乐?你是对的,约翰。不,我不快乐,也可能再也不会有以前的快乐了……”他停下来不再说什么,而且又一次看着窗外。他喝完啤酒接着说道:“但你不会想听我的故事……”

可我的确很想听听他的故事。毕竟,我是一个记者,写故事是我的一项工作。我对故事总是感兴趣的,而且我对卡尔的事格外关切,他是我的朋友,琳达也是。所以我当然想知道。

“告诉我你和琳达之间发生了什么。”我说。他看了我一会儿以确定我是否是认真的,然后才说:“你知道,琳达答应同我结婚的时候,我想我拥有了一切。那感觉太棒了。我们一离开大学我就在伦敦找到了份好工作。这是一份很辛苦的工作——多数周末我都在工作——并且几年来我们都没有度过假。但是薪金很高,而且我们很快就有足够的钱买一套房子了。琳达有她的朋友,而且她似乎也喜欢她的工作。我想我们喜欢做同样的事,并且我希望不久我们能有更多的时间一起度过……”他停了片刻。

