

加里·保尔森冒险世界丛书
RODOMONTE'S REVENGE

博克“巨人王”复仇

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嘿！
来吧，尝尝
我们的厉害！



出版说明

当今美国青少年读物畅销书作家加里·保尔森(Gary Paulsen)近年来创作了这套“冒险世界丛书”,共14本。这些书思想内容健康,故事曲折离奇,情节惊险紧张,文笔简练流畅,寓知识性及趣味性于一体,对培养青少年的勇敢精神和启迪青少年的智慧大有裨益。

我们采用中英对照形式,对较难理解的语言点和文化背景知识作简要的注释。为增强读者的参与意识,每章末附精心编写的思考题和参考答案,既可供读者作课外读物,亦可供课堂作泛读材料。本丛书适合中学生和大学生使用。



内 容 简 介

布雷特和汤姆是中学生，顶级的电脑游戏玩家。这次他们要玩的是一种全新的电视游戏——搏杀“巨人王”罗多蒙特。要想打败罗多蒙特，他们必须先过四关：跨过大平原中宽长的、汹涌澎湃的火焰河，并抵挡怪物——嗡嗡飞虫的飞行袭击；在狂风中攀越陡峭的群山；冲出凶残的隧道蜘蛛的重重包围，穿过厚而坚实的城堡墙；冒着在王位宫前厅被强力电场化为蒸气的危险，快速进入王位宫。最后到达第五关：“巨人王”罗多蒙特。罗多蒙特巨大无比，刀枪不入。一双大脚快速凶猛，几乎将布雷特和汤姆踩成肉饼。为了杀死罗多蒙特，他俩出生入死，历尽千难万险，竭尽全力，最终用智慧将罗多蒙特送上西天。然而，他俩怎么也高兴不起来，你想知道这是为什么吗？



致 读 者

亲爱的读者：

真正的冒险故事包含很多方面——危险啦，勇敢啦，有时候甚至是生死搏斗。从狗拉雪橇横贯阿拉斯加的伊狄特洛越野大赛到在太平洋上航行，我都亲身经历了一些这样的冒险。在我的故事中，我努力体现这一精神。在我每次坐下来着手写作时，这种挑战本身便是一场历险。

你们同样是这场冒险中的一分子。在过去的岁月中，我有幸在学校里同你们中许多人交谈，本书便是在直接倾听了你们最想读什么之后产生的，你们最爱读的便是带劲和刺激的故事。

既然您喜欢读，那么就请坚持读下去，同时让我们一起再跳进我的冒险世界里另一则动人心弦的故事中去吧。

加里·保尔森

加里·保尔森冒险世界丛书

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CHAPTER 1

“If life were a video game,” Brett Wilder asked, “do you know how easy we’d have it?”

“We’d cruise^①,” Tom Houston said. “Nothing could be better.”

Brett and Tom were standing in line in the Downtown Mall^② outside the locked security gate of a new virtual reality arcade^③. Neither liked standing in line, even if they were at the head of it, but Rodomonte’s Revenge promised to be something different from anything they had ever played before. Brett thought it would be worth the wait.



第 一 章

“若生活是一场电视游戏,”布雷特·怀尔德问道,“你知道我们会很轻松地玩一玩吗?”

“我们将自由自在地飞翔。”汤姆·休斯敦说,“没有什么比这更好玩的了。”

布雷特和汤姆正站在城市商业区,在一间新建的计算机游戏室的安全门外排队等候。门还锁着。虽然他们俩排在最前头,但谁也不愿这样等着。不过,《搏杀“巨人王”罗多蒙特》肯定跟他们以前玩过的所有游戏都不一样。因此布雷特想值得等一等。

注:

① cruise [kru:z]
v. 旅行; 周游。
此处引申为飞翔。

② Downtown Mall
城市商业区。

③ virtual reality
arcade [ɑ:'keid]
计算机游戏室。
下文只用 arcade
指代这个词组的意思。



He poked^① his fingers through the grating, separating the links for a better view. He had long, agile^② fingers, fingers that Tom said danced above game controls like moths around a streetlight. Brett craned^③ his neck to get a better look.

"See anything?" Tom was built like his dad, a professional utility^④ infielder^⑤; wide shoulders, with strong, quick arms and legs. He won video games by daring, not agility. He and Brett were best friends, or were during the winter, when Tom wasn't playing baseball.

"It's too dark in there. It might help if I knew what to look for."

"I told you. A big, empty room."

"That doesn't sound like a video game to me."

"It isn't, really."

Brett turned from the gate. "Then what are we doing here?"

"I've heard that Rodomonte's Revenge^⑥ goes way beyond video games. It's supposed to^⑦ make them look like checkers^⑧."



为了看得更清楚,布雷特把手指伸进窗格里,将它们拨开。他手指很长,而且很灵活。汤姆说他的手指玩游戏时就像蛾子在街灯周围飞舞一样。布雷特伸长脖子,想看得更清楚。

“看到什么吗?”汤姆长得跟他爸一样,一副职业全能型的棒球内场手模样:肩膀宽大,胳膊和腿壮实而灵活。但他在电视游戏中取胜靠的是勇敢,而不是灵活。他和布雷特是最好的朋友,或者说大约是在那年的冬季,汤姆没有打棒球时他们好上的。

“那里面太暗了。如果我预先知道该找什么,这也许有帮助。”

“我跟你说过,这是一间大而空的屋子。”

“对我来说,听起来不像是一间电视游戏室。”

“不像,真的。”

布雷特转身背对着门。“那我们站在这几干嘛?”

“我听说《搏杀“巨人王”罗多蒙特》比其他电视游戏都难玩,据说玩那些游戏就像玩跳棋一样。”

注:

① poke *v.* 伸出(头、手指等)。

② agile [*'ædʒail*] *adj.* 灵活的。

③ crane *v.* 伸着脖子(看)。

④ utility *adj.* 各种工作都会做的;全能型的。

⑤ infielder *n.* (棒球等的)内场手。

⑥ Rodomonte's Revenge 直译为:《罗多蒙特复仇记》,但从本书的实际内容看,译为《搏杀“巨人王”罗多蒙特》较好。

⑦ be supposed to 要;应该。

⑧ checker *n.* 跳棋。



Brett turned back to the gate. "I hope you're right."

The arcade lit up. A tall, thin man with black hair and skin the color of olive oil^① hustled in^②. He sat at a computer beside a window that opened onto a large white room. He pushed a few keys on the keyboard, then studied the monitor^③.

"When do you open?" Tom called.

The man didn't look up. "As soon as you let me finish initiating^④ the system."

Tom let him go back to work. Brett looked away from the computer and studied both Tom and the kids in the line stretching back behind them. Tom was rich — his dad made eight hundred thousand dollars a year — he wasn't afraid of anything, and he hardly had a friend in the world. Baseball teams bounced his dad between them like a Ping-Pong ball, so Tom never lived anywhere long enough to make many friends^⑤. Brett had met him at an arcade two days after he'd moved to town, three months before. It had been during a heated video game tournament^⑥. They decided they'd better be friends because they would be spending a lot of time together. No one else in town came close to offering either of them competition^⑦.



布雷特又转身对着门。“我希望你说得对。”

游戏室的灯亮了。一个瘦高个、黑头发、皮肤呈橄榄色的男人在里边忙着。他坐在一台靠窗子的计算机前，窗户朝一间大白屋子开着。他按了键盘上的几个键，然后盯着监控器。

“你什么时候开门？”汤姆问道。

那人没有抬头。“你们一让我完成启动系统就开门。”

汤姆让他继续工作。布雷特将目光从计算机上移开，打量着汤姆和他俩身后排得长长的孩子们。汤姆很有钱——他爸爸一年挣80万美元——他什么都不怕。然而，他在这个世界上几乎没有一个朋友。他爸爸像个乒乓球在各棒球队间跳来跳去，所以汤姆从没有在一个地方呆足够长的时间来结交许多朋友。三个月前汤姆搬到城里的第二天，布雷特在一个游戏室里认识了他，当时正在进行激烈的电视游戏比赛。他俩决定成为朋友，因为这样一来他们将有很多时间在一起。城里没有别的人来找他们，对他们任何一个人

注：

① olive oil 橄榄油。

② bustle in *v.* 忙碌。

③ monitor *n.* 监控器。

④ initiate *v.* 开始；启动。

⑤ make friends (with) 交朋友。

⑥ tournament *n.* 比赛；联赛。

⑦ competition *n.* 竞争；竞赛。



The man rose from the computer and walked to the gate. He wore a name tag^① that read "Willie^②." "Are you two ready to play?"

Tom nodded and handed the man a twenty-dollar bill to pay for the game. "We're ready."

"Then let's get to it."

Willie opened the gate, then led them toward the empty room. His big hands swung from his shoulders like bowling^③ balls on strings^④. He opened the door to the room and motioned for them to enter.

Inside, the padded^⑤ walls and floor reminded Brett of the wrestling mats^⑥ he got his face mashed^⑦ into in gym; unlike Tom, he wasn't much good at sports. Two sets of gloves, boots, and helmets^⑧ with visors^⑨ lay on the floor. They all were made of white plastic, with silver metal lines^⑩ covering their surfaces like spiderwebs.

"Welcome to the world of Rodomonte's Revenge," Willie said.

Tom shrugged^⑪. "It doesn't look so tough."

"You just don't know where to look." Willie picked



提出挑战。

那个男人从电脑旁站起身向大门走来。他身上戴着一个写着“威利”的名字牌。“你们俩准备玩?”

汤姆点了点头,递给他一张 20 美元的钞票,作为游戏费。“我们准备好了。”

“那就让我们进去吧。”

威利打开门,把他俩领到那间空房间。他的两只大手从肩膀垂下,就像两个系在绳子上的保龄球。他打开游戏室的门,示意他们进去。

屋里面,装有衬垫的墙和地板使布雷特想起在体育馆里摔跤用的垫子,他的脸经常被压在垫子上面。不像汤姆,他不太擅长体育。地上摆着两副手套、两双靴子和两个带面罩的头盔。它们都是用白色塑料做成的,用银色金属线盖着表面,像蜘蛛网一样。

“欢迎到《搏杀“巨人王”罗多蒙特》的世界来,”威利说。

汤姆耸了耸肩膀。“看起来不是那么难对付。”

“你根本不知道往哪里看。”威利抬起一

注:

① tag *n.* 标签; 牌子。

② Willie 人名, 游戏室的老板。

③ bowling *n.* 保龄球。

④ string *n.* 绳子。

⑤ padded *adj.* 装有衬垫的。

⑥ wrestling
[ˈresliŋ] *mat* 摔跤用的垫子。

⑦ mash *v.* 撞碎。
此处指他的脸被压在垫子上。

⑧ helmet *n.* 头盔。

⑨ visor *n.* 面罩。
⑩ silver metal line 银色金(属)线。

⑪ shrug *v.* 耸肩。



up a helmet. "With this on, everything changes. This room becomes a vast plain with swollen rivers of fire. If you live long enough, you reach a mountain range where the winds are so strong they can blow you off a thousand-foot cliff^①."

"We'll live long enough," Tom said. "What comes after the mountains?"

"Rodomonte's castle." Willie smiled. "I wouldn't worry about reaching that. This is your first game."

Brett picked up a glove. "What are these for?"

"The gloves and boots have transmitters^② that relay^③ limb positions to the computer. When you move, the visor landscape changes. Are you guys ready to give it a try?"

Tom already had his gloves and boots on. "Let's do it," he said as he slipped on^④ his helmet.

"All right." Willie walked to the door. He stopped with his hand on the knob. "Since this is your first game, I'll talk you through it. You'll see printed messages, some from the computer and some from me, run across the top of your visor screen^⑤. To stay in the game, pay attention to^⑥ them. You get only three lives, and you don't want to



个头盔，“戴上这个，一切都变了。这屋子会变成一片大平原，上面流着无数条沸腾的火焰河。如果你们能活得够久的话，你们将到达一条山脉。那儿的风非常大，会把你们从一千英尺高的悬崖上吹下去。”

“我们会活得够久的，”汤姆说，“山后面是什么？”

“罗多蒙特城堡。”威利微笑着，“我不担心你们能否走到那里。这是你们第一次玩。”

布雷特拿起一只手套。“这些是干什么用的？”

“手套和靴子都有发射器，它们会把你们四肢的位置传送到计算机。你们移动时面罩里的景色就会变化。你们两位准备试一下？”

汤姆已经戴好手套和穿好靴子。“让我们干吧！”他边说边戴好头盔。

“好的，”威利走到门旁，把手停放在旋钮上，“由于这是你们第一次玩，我会从头到尾跟你们讲解的。从面罩的屏幕上方你们将看到打印的文字信息。有的是计算机发出的，有的是我打的。待在游戏里面，注意发生的一切。你们只能活三次。即使不知道会发生

注：

① cliff *n.* 悬崖。

② transmitter *n.*
发射器。

③ relay *v.* 传送。

④ slip on 一下子穿上。

⑤ visor screen 面罩上的屏幕。

⑥ pay attention to 注意。



waste them by not knowing what is going on. Are you ready?"

Brett nodded^①. "We're ready." He tugged^② on the boots, gloves, and helmet as Willie left.