

新课标必读英文原版名著

斑点带子案



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远方出版社

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

斑点带子案/梦飞等编. 一呼和浩特:远方出版社,2004.6(2007.11重印)

(新课标必读英文原版名著)

ISBN 978-7-80595-953-5

I.斑··· II.梦··· III.①英语—语言读物②侦探小说—英国—现代 IV. H319. 4:I

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字 (2007) 第 466555 号

新课标必读英文原版名著 斑点带子案

编 者 梦飞

出 版 远方出版社

社 址 呼和浩特市乌兰察布东路 666 号

邮 编 010010

发 行 新华书店

印 刷 廊坊市华北石油华星印务有限公司

版 次 2007年11月第2版

卯 次 2007年11月第1次印刷

开 本 850×1168 1/32

印 张 57

字 数 456 千

印 数 3000

标准书号 ISBN 978-7-80595-953-5

总定价 142.00元(共8册)

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前言

提起大侦探福尔摩斯可谓是举世闻名,他和华生医生 一系列的冒险、探案故事经英国作家柯南·道尔的讲述早 已被世人奉为侦探推理小说的经典。

虽然福尔摩斯只是作家笔下一个虚构的人物,但他那机智又不乏深沉的双眼,传统英国式的大烟斗,思维敏捷、逻辑严密的大脑,被一代代"福迷"们狂热地崇拜着。就连作者虚构的福尔摩斯的家"贝克街 221 号 B",也被英国人原封不动地仿造了出来。由此可见福尔摩斯在世人眼中的地位。在国外,"福尔摩斯"已经成为智慧的代名词。

为了使广大读者朋友们更好地认识、了解这位伟大的 侦探,提高广大英语爱好者的阅读水平,我们特编写了本套 图书。本套图书中的故事均来自原版的《福尔摩斯全集》, 我们只是将原有的故事进行了精心地筛选与重新组合,所 以呈现在你面前的是一个原汁原味的惊险刺激的福尔摩斯 探案故事。

通过对本套图书的阅读,不仅可以提高你的英语阅读 水平,开阔你的眼界,你还可以跟随福尔摩斯一起去学习观察、学习推理,有助于你形成缜密的判断推理能力。

好了,让我们赶快进入神秘的侦探之旅吧!

编者

• 2 •



The Adventure of	
the Speckled Band	
	(3)
The Five Orange Pips	
	(61)
The Adventure of	
the Noble Bachelor	
	(107)
The Boscombe Valley Mystery	
	(159)



斑点带子案

海伦·斯托纳和她的继父罗伊洛特医生住在斯托克莫 兰。罗伊洛特曾在印度加尔各答行医,由于家里几次被盗, 他在盛怒之下打死了管家,并遭到长期监禁。返回英国后, 他变成了一个性格暴躁的人。他只对吉卜赛人和印度动物 感兴趣。

罗伊洛特在印度时娶了海伦的母亲。海伦的母亲有一 笔相当可观的财产,她曾立下遗嘱把财产全部遗赠给罗伊 洛特,但附有一个条件,那就是在海伦姐妹结婚后,每年要 拨给她们一定数目的金钱。

两年前,海伦的姐姐在预定举行婚礼之前不到两周的某天晚上问海伦晚上可曾听见过微弱的口哨声。姐姐对半夜听到口哨声感到不解。就在那天晚上,姐姐离奇死亡,死因至今不明。姐姐临死前惊恐地喊着"带斑点的带子"。

现在海伦也快要结婚了,由于房子修缮的原因,她暂时 住进了姐姐原来的房间。晚上她也听到了那微弱的口哨 声。万分恐惧的海伦一大早就找到了福尔摩斯,并向他讲述了所有的事情。

福尔摩斯在仔细探查了海伦的家后发现了事情的真相,原来凶手是一条印度产带黄色斑点的毒蛇。而饲养它的人正是罗伊洛特医生。在福尔摩斯的帮助下海伦的生命得到保障,而心怀不轨的罗伊洛特医生被自己饲养的毒蛇咬死了。

On glancing over my notes of the seventy odd cases in which I have during the last eight years studied the methods of my friend Sherlock Holmes, I find many tragic, some comic[®], a large number merely strange, but none commonplace; for, working as he did rather for the love of his art than for the acquirement[®] of wealth, he refused to associate himself with any investigation which did not tend towards the unusual, and even the fantastic. Of all these varied cases, however, I cannot recall any which presented more singular features than that which was associated with the well-known Surrey family of the Roylotts of Stoke Moran. The events in question occurred in the early days of my association with

① comic n. 滑稽演员 adj. 滑稽的,喜剧的

② acquirement n. 取得, 习得

Holmes, when we were sharing rooms as bachelors^① in Baker Street. It is possible that I might have placed them upon record before, but a promise of secrecy was made at the time, from which I have only been freed during the last month by the untimely death of the lady to whom the pledge was given. It is perhaps as well that the facts should now come to light, for I have reasons to know that there are widespread^② rumours as to the death of Dr. Grimesby Roylott which tend to make the matter even more terrible than the truth.

It was early in April in the year '83 that I woke one morning to find Sherlock Holmes standing, fully dressed, by the side of my bed. He was a late riser, as a rule, and as the clock on the mantelpiece showed me that it was only a quarter-past seven, I blinked[®] up at him in some surprise, and perhaps just a little resentment, for I was myself regular in my habits.

"Very sorry to knock you up, Watson," said he, "but it's the common lot this morning. Mrs. Hudson has been

① bachelor n. 单身汉, 文理学士, 幼雄兽

② widespread adj. 分布广泛的, 普遍的

③ blink v. 眨眼,闪亮,无视

knocked up, she retorted upon me, and I on you."

"What is it, then a fire?"

"No; a client^①. It seems that a young lady has arrived in a considerable state of excitement, who insists upon seeing me. She is waiting now in the sitting-room. Now, when young ladies wander about the metropolis^② at this hour of the morning, and knock sleepy people up out of their beds, I presume that it is something very pressing which they have to communicate. Should it prove to be an interesting case, you would, I am sure, wish to follow it from the outset. I thought, at any rate, that I should call you and give you the chance."

"My dear fellow, I would not miss it for anything."

I had no keener pleasure than in following Holmes in his professional investigations, and in admiring the rapid deductions, as swift as intuitions, and yet always founded on a logical basis, with which he unravelled the problems which were submitted to him. I rapidly threw on my

① client n.[计]顾客,客户,委托人

② metropolis n. 首都,主要都市,都会,大主教教区,大城市

③ unravel v.拆开

④ submit v. (使)服从, (使)顺从 vt. 提交, 递交

clothes and was ready in a few minutes to accompany my friend down to the sitting-room. A lady dressed in black and heavily veiled, who had been sitting in the window, rose as we entered.

"Good morning, madam," said Holmes cheerily. "My name is Sherlock Holmes. This is my intimate friend and associate, Dr. Watson, before whom you can speak as freely as before myself. Ha! I am glad to see that Mrs. Hudson has had the good sense to light the fire. Pray draw up to it, and I shall order you a cup of hot coffee, for I observe that you are shivering."

"It is not cold which makes me shiver," said the woman in a low voice, changing her seat as requested.

"What, then?"

"It is fear, Mr. Holmes. It is terror." She raised her veil as she spoke, and we could see that she was indeed in a pitiable state of agitation, her face all drawn and gray, with restless, frightened eyes, like those of some hunted animal. Her features and figure were those of a woman of thirty, but her hair was shot with premature gray, and her

① pitiable adj. 可怜的, 卑劣的

expression was weary and haggard.

Sherlock Holmes ran her over with one of his quick, all-comprehensive glances.

"You must not fear," said he soothingly^①, bending forward and patting her forearm. "We shall soon set matters right, I have no doubt. You have come in by train this morning, I see."

"You know me, then?"

"No, but I observe the second half of a return ticket in the palm of your left glove. You must have started early, and yet you had a good drive in a dog-cart, along heavy roads, before you reached the station."

The lady gave a violent $^{\textcircled{2}}$ start and stared in bewilderment $^{\textcircled{3}}$ at my companion.

"There is no mystery, my dear madam," said he, smiling. "The left arm of your jacket is spattered $^{\oplus}$ with mud in no less than seven places. The marks are perfectly

① soothingly adv. 抚慰地,安慰地

② violent adj. 猛烈的,激烈的,暴力引起的,强暴的

③ bewilderment n. 困惑,迷乱,为难,慌张

④ spatter v. 溅污 n. 滴落

fresh. There is no vehicle^① save a dog-cart which throws up mud in that way, and then only when you sit on the left-hand side of the driver."

"Whatever your reasons may be, you are perfectly correct," said she. "I started from home before six reached Leatherhead at twenty past, and came in by the first train to Waterloo. Sir, I can stand this strain no longer; I shall go mad if it continues. I have no one to turn to—none, save only one, who cares for me, and he, poor fellow, can be of little aid. I have heard of you, Mr. Holmes; I have heard of you from Mrs. Farintosh, whom you helped in the hour of her sore need. It was from her that I had your address. Oh, sir, do you not think that you could help me, too, and at least throw a little light through the dense darkness which surrounds me? At present it is out of my power to reward you for your services, but in a month or six weeks I shall be married, with the control of my own income, and then at least you shall not find me ungrateful²."

Holmes turned to his desk and, unlocking it, drew out

① vehicle n. 交通工具,车辆,媒介物,传达手段

② ungrateful adj. 不领情的

a small case-book, which he consulted.

"Farintosh," said he. "Ah yes, I recall the case, it was concerned with an opal[®] tiara[®]. I think it was before your time, Watson. I can only say, madam, that I shall be happy to devote the same care to your case as I did to that of your friend. As to reward, my profession is its own reward; but you are at liberty to defray whatever expenses I may be put to, at the time which suits you best. And now I beg that you will lay before us everything that may help us in forming an opinion upon the matter."

"Alas!" replied our visitor, "the very horror of my situation lies in the fact that my fears are so vague, and my suspicions depend so entirely upon small points, which might seem trivial to another, that even he to whom of all others I have a right to look for help and advice looks upon all that I tell him about it as the fancies of a nervous woman. He does not say so, but I can read it from his soothing answers and averted eyes. But I have heard, Mr. Holmes, that you can see deeply into the manifold

① opal n. 「矿]蛋白石, 猫眼石, 乳色玻璃

② tiara n. 罗马教皇的三重冠,冠状头饰

wickedness $^{\oplus}$ of the human heart. You may advise me how to walk amid the dangers which encompass me."

"I am all attention, madam."

"My name is Helen Stoner, and I am living with my stepfather[®], who is the last survivor of one of the oldest Saxon families in England, the Roylotts of Stoke Moran, on the western border of Surrey."

Holmes nodded his head. "The name is familiar to me." said he.

"The family was at one time among the richest in England, and the estates extended over the borders into Berkshire in the north, and Hampshire in the west. In the last century, however, four successive heirs were of a dissolute and wasteful disposition, and the family ruin was eventually completed by a gambler in the days of the Regency. Nothing was left save a few acres of ground, and the two-hundred-year-old house, which is itself crushed under a heavy mortgage. The last squire dragged out his existence there, living the horrible life of an aristocratic pauper, but

① wickedness n. 邪恶, 不道德

② stepfather n. 继父

③ estate n. 状态,不动产,时期,阶层,财产

his only son, my stepfather, seeing that he must adapt himself to the new conditions, obtained an advance from a relative, which enabled him to take a medical degree and went out to Calcutta, where, by his professional skill and his force of character, he established[®] a large practice. In a fit of anger, however, caused by some robberies[®] which had been perpetrated[®] in the house, he beat his native butler to death and narrowly[®] escaped a capital sentence. As it was, he suffered a long term of imprisonment and afterwards returned to England a morose and disappointed man.

"When Dr. Roylott was in India he married my mother, Mrs. Stoner, the young widow of Major General Stoner, of the Bengal Artillery. My sister Julia and I were twins, and we were only two years old at the time of my mother's remarriage. She had a considerable sum of money-not less than L1000 a year and this she bequeathed[®] to Dr. Roylott entirely while we resided with him, with a provision that a

① established adj. 已制定的,确定的

② robbery n. 抢掠, 抢夺

③ perpetrate v. 做坏事,犯罪

④ narrowly adv. 勉强地,精细地

⑤ bequeath vt. 遗赠,遗留,把...传下去