

新课标必读英文原版名著

蓝宝石



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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

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The Adventure of



蓝宝石

圣诞节,看门人在街上拣到一只上等大肥鹅和一顶破帽子。就在福尔摩斯忙着帮他找寻找失主的时候,看门人的妻子却在大肥鹅的嗉子中愕然发现一颗举世罕有的蓝宝石!

无论它是怎么发生的,至少有一点可以确认无疑,天上 也许会掉馅饼,肥鹅的肚子却绝对长不出警方巨额悬赏的 名贵宝石。其间七曲八折的秘密,让我们和福尔摩斯一道 去发掘吧。

福尔摩斯在报纸上刊登了一则招领启事,肥鹅的失主 亨利·贝克先生循着启事找到了贝克街,经过巧妙的问话, 福尔摩斯认为贝克与蓝宝石之事无关,也知道了肥鹅来源 于阿尔法小酒店。循着这条线索,他和华生来到阿尔法小 酒店进行调查,这只鹅原来是从推销员布莱肯里奇那里买来的,顺藤摸瓜,福尔摩斯用打赌的方法知道了鹅的最终来源。

非常凑巧的是,刚好遇到了非常关心那些鹅的去向的 詹姆斯·赖德,对赖德的调查使事情终于水落石出了,伴随 着一个圆满的结局,福尔摩斯又开始了新一轮的探案。

I had called upon my friend Sherlock Holmes upon the second morning after Christmas, with the intention of wishing him the compliments^① of the season. He was lounging upon the sofa in a purple dressing-gown, a pipe-rack within his reach upon the right, and a pile of crumpled^② morning papers, evidently newly studied, near at hand. Beside the couch was a wooden chair, and on the angle of the back hung a very seedy and disreputable^③ hard-felt hat, much the worse for wear, and cracked in several places. A lens and a forceps lying upon the seat of the chair suggested that

① compliment n. 称赞, 恭维, 致意, 问候, 道贺 vt. 称赞, 褒扬, 恭维

② crumpled adj. 摺皱的, 弄皱的

③ disreputable adj. 声名狼藉的, 破烂不堪的

the hat had been suspended $^{\bigcirc}$ in this manner for the purpose of examination.

"You are engaged," said I; "perhaps I interrupt you."

"Not at all. I am glad to have a friend with whom I can discuss my results. The matter is a perfectly trivial one"—he jerked his thumb in the direction of the old hat— but there are points in connection with it which are not entirely devoid of interest and even of instruction."

I seated myself in his armchair and warmed my hands before his crackling[®] fire, for a sharp frost had set in, and the windows were thick with the ice crystals. "I suppose," I remarked, "that, homely as it looks, this thing has some deadly story linked on to it—that it is the clue which will guide you in the solution of some mystery and the punishment of some crime."

"No, no. No crime," said Sherlock Holmes, laughing.

"Only one of those whimsical ittle incidents which will happen when you have four million human beings all jostling

① suspend v. 悬挂

② trivial adi. 琐细的,价值不高的,微不足道的

③ crackle n. 劈啪响, 裂纹 vi. (使)发劈啪声

④ whimsical adj. 反复无常的, 古怪的

each other within the space of a few square miles. Amid the action and reaction of so dense a swarm of humanity, every possible combination[®] of events may be expected to take place, and many a little problem will be presented which may be striking[®] and bizarre[®] without being criminal. We have already had experience of such."

"So much so," I remarked, "that of the last six cases which I have added to my notes, three have been entirely free of any legal crime."

"Precisely. You allude to my attempt to recover the Irene Adler papers, to the singular case of Miss Mary Sutherland, and to the adventure of the man with the twisted lip. Well, I have no doubt that this small matter will fall into the same innocent category. You know Peterson, the commissionaire[®]?"

[&]quot;Yes."

[&]quot;It is to him that this trophy belongs."

[&]quot;It is his hat."

① combination n. 结合, 联合, 合并, 化合, 化合物

② striking adj. 打击的,显著的,惊人的,罢工的

③ bizarre adj. 奇异的(指态度,容貌,款式等)

④ commissionaire n. 守门员,门警

"No, no; he found it. Its owner is unknown. I beg that you will look upon it not as a battered billycock but as an intellectual problem. And, first, as to how it came here. It arrived upon Christmas morning, in company with a good fat goose, which is, I have no doubt, roasting at this moment in front of Peterson's fire. The facts are these: about four o'clock on Christmas morning, Peterson, who, as you know, is a very honest fellow, was returning from some small jollification² and was making his way homeward[®] down Tottenham Court Road. In front of him he saw, in the gaslight, a tallish man, walking with a slight stagger⁵, and carrying a white goose slung over his shoulder. As he reached the corner of Goodge Street, a row broke out between this stranger and a little knot of roughs. One of the latter knocked off the man's hat, on which he raised his stick to defend himself and, swinging it over his head, smashed the shop window behind him. Peterson

① battered adj. 打扁了的, 敲碎的

② jollification n. 热闹,欢乐

③ homeward adj. 在归途上的,向家的 adv. 在归途上,向家地

④ tallish adj. 稍高的,身材较高的,有点夸张的

⑤ stagger n. 摇晃, 蹒跚

had rushed forward to protect the stranger from his assailants^①, but the man, shocked at having broken the window, and seeing an official-looking person in uniform rushing towards him, dropped his goose, took to his heels, and vanished amid the labyrinth^② of small sheets which lie at the back of Tottenham Court Road. The roughs had also fled at the appearance of Peterson, so that he was left in possession of the field of battle, and also of the spoils of victory in the shape of this battered hat and a most unimpeachable^③ Christmas goose."

"Which surely he restored to their owner?"

"My dear fellow, there lies the problem. It is true that 'For Mrs. Henry Baker' was printed upon a small card which was tied to the bird's left leg, and it is also true that the initials "H. B.' are legible upon the lining of this hat, but as there are some thousands of Bakers, and some hundreds of Henry Bakers in this city of ours, it is not easy to restore lost property to any one of them."

① assailant n. 攻击者

② labyrinth n. 迷路, 迷宫, 难解的事物

③ unimpeachable adj. 无懈可击的, 无可指责的, 无过失的, 无可怀疑的

④ initial n. 词首大写字母

"What, then, did Peterson do?"

"He brought round both hat and goose to me on Christmas morning, knowing that even the smallest problems are of interest to me. The goose we retained until this morning, when there were signs that, in spite of the slight frost, it would be well that it should be eaten without unnecessary delay. Its finder has carried it off, therefore, to fulfil the ultimate[®] destiny of a goose, while I continue to retain the hat of the unknown gentleman who lost his Christmas dinner."

"Did he not advertise?"

"But you are joking. What can you gather from this old battered felt?"

"Here is my lens. You know my methods. What can

[&]quot;No."

[&]quot;Then, what clue could you have as to his identity ?"

[&]quot;Only as much as we can deduce."

[&]quot;From his hat?"

[&]quot;Precisely[®]."

① ultimate adj. 最后的, 最终的, 根本的

② identity n. 同一性,身份,一致,特性,恒等式

③ precisely adv. 正好

you gather yourself as to the individuality of the man who has worn this article?"

I took the tattered^① object in my hands and turned it over rather ruefully. It was a very ordinary black hat of the usual round shape, hard and much the worse for wear. The lining^② had been of red silk, but was a good deal discoloured. There was no maker's name, but, as Holmes had remarked, the initials "H. B." were scrawled^③ upon one side. It was pierced in the brim for a hat-securer, but the elastic was missing. For the rest, it was cracked, exceedingly dusty, and spotted^④ in several places, although there seemed to have been some attempt to hide the discoloured patches by smearing^⑤ them with ink.

"I can see nothing," said I, handing it back to my friend.

"On the contrary, Watson, you can see everything. You fail, however, to reason from what you see. You are too timid in drawing your inferences."

"Then, pray tell me what it is that you can infer from

① tattered adj. 破烂的, 褴褛的

② lining n. 加衬里, 内层, 衬套

③ scrawl vt. 乱涂,潦草地写 vi. 乱写

④ spotted adj. 有斑点的, 弄污的, 斑纹的

⑤ smear v. 弄脏,弄污

this hat?"

He picked it up and gazed at it in the peculiar introspective fashion which was characteristic[®] of him. "It is perhaps less suggestive than it might have been," he remarked, "and yet there are a few inferences which are very distinct, and a few others which represent at least a strong balance of probability. That the man was highly intellectual is of course obvious upon the face of it, and also that he was fairly well-to-do within the last three years, although he has now fallen upon evil days. He had foresight, but has less now than formerly, pointing to a moral retrogression[®], which, when taken with the decline of his fortunes, seems to indicate some evil influence, probably drink, at work upon him. This may account also for the obvious fact that his wife has ceased to love him."

"My dear Holmes!"

"He has, however, retained some degree of self-respect," he continued, disregarding[®] my remonstrance[®].

① characteristic n. 特性,特征,特色

② retrogression n. 后退,衰退,退化,退步

③ disregard v. 不理漠视 n. 漠视, 忽视

④ remonstrance n. 抗议

"He is a man who leads a sedentary life, goes out little, is out of training entirely, is middle-aged, has grizzled hair which he has had cut within the last few days, and which he anoints^① with lime-cream. These are the more patent facts which are to be deduced from his hat. Also, by the way, that it is extremely improbable that he has gas laid on in his house."

"You are certainly joking, Holmes."

"Not in the least. Is it possible that even now, when I give you these results, you are unable to see how they are attained?"

"I have no doubt that I am very stupid, but I must confess that I am unable to follow you. For example, how did you deduce that this man was intellectual?"

For answer Holmes clapped² the hat upon his head. It came right over the forehead and settled upon the bridge of his nose. "It is a question of cubic capacity," said he, "a man with so large a brain must have something in it."

"The decline of his fortunes, then?"

"This hat is three years old. These flat brims curled at

① anoint vt. 涂以油或软膏, 施以涂油礼

② clap v. 鼓掌, 轻拍