

三十九级台阶 The Thirty-Nine Steps

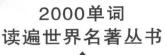
约翰•巴肯著 陈志杰编译

2000单词 读遍世界名著丛书



现代美语改编 世界名著变简单了 用词精纯生动 彻底强化英语能力 中英双语对照 方便学习轻松阅读 阅读、写作、翻译与考试绝对得心应手

中国书籍出版社





中学生英文读物

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"2000单词读遍世界名著丛书"是一套经过改编的文学名著,以浅显易懂的现代美语改写并保留原著精神,带领读者突破原著中趋近文言的用字遣词及冗长篇幅的隔阂,重新开启一扇轻松领略世界文学之美的窗口。

本套书精选实用性高的美语词汇,不论是单词、词组或语法,都展现出当今美国日常生活语言的特色,对提高中学生英语阅读水平大有裨益。



2000单词 读遍世界名著丛书



《红色英勇勋章》

《茵梦湖》

《三个火枪手》

《汤姆叔叔的小屋》

《白鲸默比•迪克》

《西方童话选粹》

《绑架》

《王尔德童话精选》

《王子与贫儿》

《三十九级台阶》



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2000 单词

读遍世界名著



CHAPTER I The Man Who Died

My name is Richard Hannay and I am thirty-seven years old. I was born in Scotland, but in 1883 my family moved to Rhodesia[®], where I grew up and worked hard for twenty years. Then in March 1914 I came back to Britain with a great sum of money, since I wanted to have a good holiday. It was five months before the First World War began. Britain was the center of all my dreams and plans, and I hoped to stay there to spend the rest of my life.

In May I was living in London in a flat which I had bought. One evening I was reading the newspaper there alone. There was some trouble in the East, and I also read a story about Karolides, the Greek Prime Minister.

I thought he was a good and honest. He may be the strongest Prime Minister in Europe, but the Germans hate him.

① Rhodesia:罗得西亚,津巴布韦的旧称



第一章 死去的人

我叫里查德·亨内,今年三十七岁,出生于苏格兰。 1883年我们全家搬到了罗得西亚。我在那儿长大,辛辛苦苦 地工作了二十年。第一次世界大战爆发前的五个月,也就是 1914年3月我带着一大笔钱回到了英国,想好好地度个假。 英国就是我所有梦想和计划中的一切,我希望能在那儿度过 我的余生。

五月份我在伦敦买了套公寓住下。一天晚上,我独自一人 正在看报,上面说东部出了些乱子,我还读到了一篇关于希腊 首相卡洛利得斯的文章。

我觉得他是个诚实的好人,他也许是欧洲最强硬的首相, 但是德国人却恨他。

Suddenly I heard someone knocked at the door quickly. I put down the newspaper and opened the door. A man was standing outside, and I recognized him at once. I did not know his name, but he lived on the top floor. He was a thin fellow with small bright blue eyes.

"I live on the top floor," he said. "Can I speak to you? May I come in?"

I invited him in and shut the door.

"I'm very sorry," he said. "But I'm in trouble. Will you help me?"

"Well, I'll listen to you," I said. "But I won't promise before I know what you ask me to do."

I could see that he was nervous since he could not stand still. I mixed a strong drink[®] for him, and he drank it at once. When he put down the glass, he broke it.

"Excuse me,"he said. "I'm rather nervous tonight and there's a good reason for it. Now you seem honest, sir, and you look brave too. Well, I'm in great trouble and I need a friend."

"Tell me about it," I said, "and then I'll tell you whether I'll help you."

① a strong drink:烈酒



突然我听见有人急切地敲门,于是放下报纸,打开门,看到一个男人正站在门口。我立刻认出他来了,虽然不知道他的名字,但我知道他住在顶楼。他是个瘦瘦的小伙子,一双蓝眼睛虽然很小却很明亮。

"我住在顶楼,"他说,"能跟你谈谈吗?我能进来吗?" 我邀请他进来,随后关上了门。

"非常抱歉。我遇到麻烦了,您能帮帮我吗?"

"哦?说来听听,"我回答说,"但我还不能事先答应你什么。"

看得出他非常紧张,坐立不安。我给他调了一杯烈酒,他 一口就喝了下去。当他放玻璃杯时,却一不小心把它打碎了。

"对不起,我今晚太紧张,但这是有原因的。先生,你看起来诚实而勇敢。嗯,我遇到了一个大麻烦,非常需要一位朋友的帮助。"他说。

"说来听听,"我说,"然后我才知道能否帮你。"

"I'm an American," he said. "A few years ago I came to Europe to work for an American newspaper. I learned several languages and discovered quite a lot about European politics. I also found out the German plans for war and I know a group of German spies. Well, these spies are hunting me now, and that's my trouble. If you know anything about politics, sir, you'll know this. Europe is very near to war, and there's only one man who can stop it."

"Who is he?" I asked.

"Karolides, the Greek Prime Minister."

"Oh, I've just been reading about him," I said. "There's a story in the evening paper."

"Yes. Well, the Germans want to kill him," he said.
"They would kill me too if possible. Karolides will be coming to London next month. He has been invited to the Foreign Office on June 15th, and they've chosen that date to kill him. I'm the only man who can save him."

"And how can I help you, Mr. ...?"

"Scudder, "he said. "Franklin P. Scudder. I've just told you, sir, that these spies want to kill me. I thought that I was quite safe in London. I was sure that my enemies couldn't find me here. But yesterday evening I found a card in my letter-box, and there was a man's name on it. It was the name of my worst enemy."



"我是个美国人,几年前来到欧洲,在一家美国报社工作。 我学会了几国语言,而且对欧洲的政治有了相当的了解。我还 发现德国正在为战争做准备,我认识几个德国间谍,而现在这 伙间谍正在到处追杀我,这就是我遇到的麻烦。先生,如果您 懂政治的话,就一定明白我的意思。欧洲已经到了战争的边 缘,只有一个人能阻止这场战争。"

- "这人是谁?"我问道。
- "卡洛利得斯、希腊首相。"
- "哦,我刚刚还读到关于他的报道呢,"我说,"今天的晚报上有篇关于他的文章。"

"对。可是,德国人想杀了他!如果可能的话,他们也会杀了我。下个月,也就是 6 月 15 日卡洛利得斯应英国外交部邀请将会来伦敦。他们选择在那个时候动手。我是唯一可以救他的人。"他说。

"那么我该怎么帮助你呢, 您是……"

"司卡德,"他说,"福兰克林·司卡德。我刚说过,那些间谍想杀了我。我原本以为在伦敦会很安全,我以为那些人在这里会找不到我。但昨天晚上我在信箱里发现了张名片,上面是我最大的敌人的名字。"

"You ought to tell the Foreign Office," I said. "They'll help you and they may save Karolides too."

"There's no time for that. My enemies know that I'm in this building. They may be waiting outside to kill me. Do you think that I can hide in your flat, sir?"

"Well, I'd better prove what you said first," I said "I'll go outside and look around. If I see anything unusual, I'll agree to help you. Is that all right?"

I left the flat and went out into the street. A man was standing outside the building. He raised his hand when he saw me. I looked around quickly and noticed a face at a window across the street. The man's signal was answered immediately, and the face disappeared. I bought another newspaper at the corner of the street and then went back to the flat.

"All right, Mr. Scudder." I said. "You can stay here tonight. I've proved what you said is true. There's a fellow outside who looks rather questionable. Your enemies may be staying in the house across the street. I saw a face at the window but it soon disappeared."

① questionable:有问题的,可疑的

三十九级台阶



"你应该告诉外交部,"我说,"他们可以帮助你,也能救 卡洛利得斯。"

"没时间了。我的敌人知道我在这座楼里。他们可能正在外边等着要杀我。我可以躲在你的房间里吗?"

"哦,我想最好还是先证实一下你所说的话。"我说道, "我到外面去看看,如果发现什么不对劲的,我就帮你,可 以吗?"

我离开了公寓,走到大街上。一个男人正站在公寓外面,他一看到我就立即抬起手来。我迅速地观察了一下周围,注意到街对面的窗户后有张面孔,这个人发出的信号立刻得到了回应,那张脸消失了。我到街角又买了份报纸,然后回到房间。

"好的,司卡德先生。今晚你可以留在这儿。我已经证实了你说的话。外面有个相当可疑的人。你的敌人可能正呆在街对面的房子里。我看到窗边闪过一张脸,但很快就不见了。" 我说。

Scudder stayed quietly in my flat for several days. When I went out, he was very nervous. I noticed that someone was always standing outside the building. I saw the face at the window a few times, but no one came to the flat.

Scudder wrote a lot of short notes in a little black notebook. He counted the days to June 15th and marked them off in the book.

One day he said, "The time is going quickly, Hannay. If they're still watching the house, I won't be able to leave here. If anything happens to me, will you carry my work on?"

I liked Scudder's adventures[®], and his story was exciting. But I had no interest in politics, and I did not listen to him carefully. He continued to talk.

He told me about a woman named Julia Czechenyi who was one of the spies. "she's a terrible enemy, Hannay," he said, "but the old man is worse."

This old man was Scudder's chief enemy, and he described him in detail. "It's strange," he said, "but he has the voice of a young man. And his eyes, Hannay! If you see his eyes, you'll never forget them. They're small and bright, like a bird's eyes."

D adventures:冒险,历险