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说 明

本书选自英国朗门出版公司的 KERNEL LESSONS (1972年版)。

《逃犯》的故事叙述军官科克因被诬陷为间谍而下狱,为了寻找诬陷者,科克冒险越狱。在警方紧紧追赶下,科克历尽艰险,终于找到仇人,使真相大白,沉冤昭雪。

本书语言生动,文笔流畅,词汇丰富,适合初学英语者阅读。为便于理解,除中译文对照外,还对原文中一些较难的语法现象和习惯用语作了注释。



1

Edward Coke used to be an army officer¹, but he is in prison² now. Every day is exactly the same for him.

It is winter now and Coke and all the other men get up at six, when it is still cold and dark. They have breakfast at six thirty. Work begins at seven thirty. Some of the men work in the prison factory, where they make mail-bags, but Coke often works in the fields outside³.

The men have lunch at twelve. Lunch lasts an hour and then the men go back to work again. Dinner is at six. Coke usually goes to the prison library after dinner and reads until

爱德华·科克原先是个军官,现在却蹲在狱中, 每天过着毫无变化的生活。

目前正是冬天,清晨六点,科克和所有其他的 犯人就都起身了,这时天色尚未放明,寒气依然逼 人。他们六点半吃早饭,七点半开始干活。一部分 人在监狱工厂做工,缝制邮袋,科克却常常在野外 地里干活。

犯人十二点吃午饭。吃饭时间一小时,然后他 们再回去干活。六点开晚饭。饭后,科克通常到监



^{1.} 过去是一个军官. used to 后面跟动词不定式表示过去的习惯动作或状态,常含有与现在对比的意思. 2. 被监禁着. 3. 这里的 outside 是副词,作定语,修饰 the fields.

9.30. The lights go out1 at ten.

The day is long, hard, and boring and every man has a lot of time to think². They usually think about why they are there³. Coke does.⁴ He always thinks about two men.

One of the men is called Eric Masters. He used to be an army officer, just like Coke. Coke knows that Masters has a lot of money now. The second man's name is Hugo. That is all Coke knows about him⁵. Masters knows where and who Hugo is. but Coke doesn't.

Every night Coke lies in bed and thinks about Eric Masters and Hugo. There is another thing he thinks about, too. Escaping. He wants to escape and find Masters, and then the other man. Coke is in prison for something he did not do.6

2

It is six o'clock on a very cold winter evening. All over England, people are sitting down intheir living-rooms and are watching the news on television or are listening to it on the radio. There is one very important piece of news this evening. It is this.

京都を各のなるとは、南京都下の

^{1. (}灯火等)熄灭.
② 这里的动词不定式 to think 作定语,像饰 a lot of time.
③ to think about: 考虑: why they are there 是介词 about 的宾语从句。
4. = Coke usually thinks about why he is there.
5. Coke knows about him 是定语从句,修饰 all,中间省略了关系代词 that.
6. 原意为"科克为了他根本没做过的事而坐了牢"。
7. 全英国。

狱图书馆去看书,一直看到九点半。十点熄灯。

白天是漫长、劳累而又令人烦闷的。每个人都 有许多时间去思索。他们常常思考的是:自己怎么 会进了监狱的。科克也一样。他老是想到两个人。

其中一个叫埃里克·马斯特斯。他同科克一样,从前也是个军官。科克知道,马斯特斯现在很有钱。第二个名叫雨果——科克对雨果仅仅了解这一点。马斯特斯知道雨果是谁,住在哪里,科克却全然不知。

每天夜里,科克躺在床上,想着埃里克·马斯特斯和爾果。他还想另一件事:逃跑。他想逃出去, 找到马斯特斯,然后再找到另外那一个。科克是为 一桩他没作过的案件而被捕入狱的。

现在是一个非常寒冷的冬日夜晚六点钟。整个英国,人们全都坐在自己的起居室里,观看电视新闻,或是收听无线电的新闻广播。当晚有一条特别重要的新闻。它这样报导。

"In the West of England this evening, hundreds of policemen are looking for a man who escaped from Princeville Prison early this morning. The man's name is Edward Coke. He is 30 years old, six feet tall, and has black hair and blue eyes. He is wearing a dark blue prison uniform. The police do not think he can stay free very long.¹ It is only a few degrees above zero and it is snowing."

The radio is on³ in an expensive pub in Soho³, in the centre of London. Most of the people there are not very interested in the news programme, but one man is. His name is Eric Masters. He is about 45 and is wearing very expensive clothes. He is looking very afraid of something. There is another man standing next to him at the bar. Masters is asking him a question.

"Yes, that's right. Coke ... Edward Coke. Why? Do you know him?"

"Pardon?"

"Do you know him?"

"No ... no, I don't know him ... I ... I justs wanted to know the man's name, that's all."

In another part of London, a young detec-

"今晚在英格兰西部,数以百计的警察正在追捕一个今天凌晨从普林斯威尔监狱逃跑的犯人。此人名叫爱德华·科克。年三十岁,身高六英尺,黑发、蓝眼,身穿深蓝色囚衣。警方认为,犯人无法脱逃很久。现在气温仅零上几度,并且正在下雪。"

伦敦市中心苏霍地方一家豪华的酒店里,无线电播放着。酒店里大多数人对这段新闻并无多大兴趣,但是有一个人却很有兴趣。他名叫埃里克·马斯特斯。他年约四十五岁,穿着非常华贵的衣服。他看上去好象在为什么事提心吊胆似的。另有个男子站在柜台前他的身旁,马斯特斯在向他询问。

- "他们说那人的名字叫科克吗?"
- "是啊,没错。科克……爱德华·科克。怎么,您认识他吗?"
 - "您说什么?"
 - "您认识他吗?"
- "不……不,我不认识他……我……我只不过想知道那人的名字罢了,就这么回事。"

在伦敦另一个地区, 伦敦警察厅内, 一个年轻

^{1.} 这里的 stay 含有"保持某种状态"的意思, stay free 意为"保持自由(的状态)"。 2. 无线电开着. 这里的 on 是副词。 3. 伦敦一地名。 4. 这里意为没听清楚对方的话,希望他重复一遍。5. just 在这里作"仅仅"、"只是"解。

tive is standing in the office of his chief at Scotland $Yard^1$. The young detective's name is Richard Baxter.

"You knew Coke, didn't you, Baxter?"
"Yes, sir. I arrested him four years ago."

Baxter's chief is nodding his head.

"Yes, I know that, Baxter. That's why I'm giving you this order, now. Find Coke again! You must find him immediately!"

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It is 6.30 in the evening now, and the wind is still blowing. It is getting colder. About ten miles away from Princeville Prison a man is hiding in a field. The wind is cutting through his thin prison uniform like a knife.

A dog is barking somewhere in the distance³. Is it a police dog perhaps? The man in the field does not know. There is only one idea in his mind at the moment³. He must find food and some warm clothes, but where?

Two hundred miles away in London, Baxter's train is standing at platform 9 in Paddington Station. Baxter is sitting in a comfortable compartment. There is another man oppo-

^{1.} 伦敦警察厅,又名"苏格兰警场"。 2. 远处。 3. 那时。

^{. 8 .}

的警探正站在他上司的办公室里。这个年轻警探的 名字叫理查德·巴克斯特。

- "巴克斯特, 你是认识科克的, 对吗?"
- "是, 先生, 四年前我逮捕过他。"

巴克斯特的上司点点头。

"唔,这我知道,巴克斯特。这就是现在我要给你下这个命令的原因。再去捉拿科克!你必须立即把他找到!"

Ξ

现在是傍晚六点半钟,风还在刮。天气越来越冷了。距离普林斯威尔监狱约摸十英里地,一个男子正躲藏在野地里。风象一把利刃,穿透了他那身单薄的囚衣。

远处什么地方,一条狗在吠叫。它也许是警犬吧? 躲在野地里的那个人不得而知。此刻,他心里只有一个念头:必须找到食物和一些御寒的衣服。但是上哪儿去找呢?

在二百英里外的伦敦,巴克斯特乘坐的火车正 停在帕丁顿车站的九号月台上。巴克斯特坐在一个 舒适的车厢小间内。他对面坐着另一位旅客。巴克 site him. Baxter does not know the man but he can see he wants to talk. The man is holding a newspaper in his hands.

"I see1 someone escaped from Princeville Prison this morning."

"Oh, really?"

"Yes ... Would you like to read about it? It's all here in the paper."

"No, thank you."

The train is leaving the station now. Baxter is looking out of the window. He can see a thousand bright lights in the windows of pubs, cafés, houses and flats. Everywhere people are sitting down to warm meals and hot cups of tea. The world looks warm and comfortable.

The man opposite Baxter is still talking.

"The paper says the man was a spy ...he gave important military secrets away². I hope the police catch him!"

"Yes, so do I."

4

Baxter got on the train³ at 5 o'clock. An hour later, at 6, he was asleep in the warm train compartment. Coke was still in his hiding-place in a field, 100 miles away. The winter evening got darker and colder. The wind cut

^{1.} 我从报上知道. 这里的 sec 意为"(从报刊等)获悉". 2. to give away: 泄露(秘密等). 3. 乘上火车。

斯特不认识他,可是他看得出那人挺想同他攀谈。 那人手里捏着一张报纸。

"我从报上知道,今晨有个犯人从普林斯威尔监 狱逃走了。"

"哦,真的吗?"

"是真的……您高兴读一读吗?全都在这 张 报 上。"

"不了,谢谢您。"

此刻火车正驶离车站。巴克斯特凭窗眺望。他望见许许多多的明灯在酒店、咖啡馆、住宅和公寓的窗户内亮着。到处有人们坐着进热餐,啜热茶。 世界显得又温暖,又惬意。

巴克斯特对面的那个人还在喋喋不休。

"报上说那人是个间谍……他泄露了重要 的 军事机密。希望警察逮住他!"

"唔,我也一样。"

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巴克斯特五点钟上的火车,一小时后,即六点钟,他已经在那个暖和的车厢小间里进入了梦乡。 而一百英里以外,科克仍旧躲在他野地里的藏身处。 冬天的夜晚愈来愈黑,愈来愈冷。寒风犹如利刃, through Coke's thin uniform like a knife. Coke was hungry and tired, and his arms and legs were so cold that he could hardly feel them. He knew he had to find food, warm clothing, and a warm place somewhere. "I have to make a move! I can't just stay in this field and die of the cold 1?" he thought.

Coke got up and began to walk. "Where am I? Which direction am I walking in? Am I going back towards the prison?" he asked himself. A few minutes later, the moon came out and Coke could see better. He stopped and looked around. Suddenly he saw a small light not far away. "What can it be? It can't be a car." It isn't moving! It must be a house!" he said to himself and began to walk towards it. The light got larger. It was a house. He could see the form of the roof in the darkness.

Ten minutes later he was outside the house. He stopped and listened. "Strange!" he thought. "I can't hear anything, not even a radio or a television, but there must be someone in there! There's a light on!" Just at that moment, a thought struck him. "This is probably the only house around for miles! The police know I'm probably around here somewhere; and if they're anywhere, they're in that house, waiting for me!"

^{1.} 陈死. 2. 这里的 can 表示"猜测", "怀疑", 主要用在否定句或疑问句中。

穿透了科克那身单薄的囚衣。科克又饿又乏,双臂和两腿都冻得几乎失去知觉。他明白自己必须搞到食物和御寒的衣服,找到一处温暖的地方。"我得挪个地方!我可不能一味地呆在野地里冻死!"他想。

科克站起身,开始移动脚步。"我这是在哪儿?我在往哪个方向走?是回监狱吗?"他问着自己。过了几分钟,月亮出来了,科克才看得清楚些了。他停下步来环顾四周。忽然,他望见不远处有一星灯光在闪亮。"它会是什么?不可能是辆汽车。灯光不动呵!一定是幢房子!"他自言自语地说,一边朝灯光挪步。灯光越来越清晰了,果然是幢房子。在黑暗中,他已能辨清屋顶的轮廓了。

十分钟以后,科克已来到屋外。他站定下来侧耳细听。"奇怪!"他想,"里面悄然无声,甚至连无线电或电视机的声音也全听不到。可是屋里肯定有人,亮着一盡灯呢!"就在这一刹那,他脑海里猛地闪过一个念头,"这可能是方圆几英里内仅有的一所房子,警察知道我或许就在这一带的某个地方,如果有警察派到什么地方的话,他们就准会在那所房子里守候着我呢!"

Coke did not move. The wind became colder. His feet and hands felt like ice in the snow. "I have to take the chance! I have to! This is the only place I can find warm clothes and food!" he thought.

5

Coke listened for several seconds but he could not hear anything at all1. And yet there was smoke coming from the chimney and there was a light on in the front room! "Why is it so quiet? Is it a trap? Are the police waiting for me in there?" he asked himself. He went to the front door and pushed it. To his surprise it was open! He went in very quietly. In the front room there was a fire burning in the fireplace. The room was clean, small and very warm. There was very little furniture in it—only a couch and a table in front of the fire and two old-fashioned chairs. There were also some photographs on the shelf above the fire. They were yellow and old. One of them was of a young man in a World War I uniform. There were also a few of the same young man and also a woman in old-fashioned wedding-clothes.

Suddenly Coke froze. There was someone else in the room. He knew it. He could feel it! He turned around³ quickly and, at the same time, put his hand in his pocket. There was a