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The Stolen Letter

美爾爾僧 English-Chinese

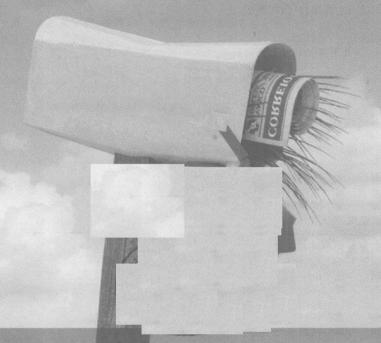
原著 Edgar Allen Poe 译者 党争胜 吴海利 钮西来 雷蕾



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图书在版编目(CIP)数据

失窃的信:英汉对照/艾伦坡著;党争胜等译. 一西安:西安交通大学出版社,2010.2

(世界名著经典阅读系列)

书名原文:The Stolen Letter

ISBN 978 - 7 - 5605 - 3193 - 9

[.失··· [[.①艾···②党··· [[].①英语-汉语-对照读物②侦探小说-英国-现代 [[V. H319.4:I

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2009)第 147993 号

书 名 失窃的信

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出版发行 西安交通大学出版社

(西安市兴庆南路 10 号 邮政编码 710049)

th http://www.xitupress.com

电 话 (029)82668357 82667874(发行中心)

(029)82668315 82669096(总编办)

传 真 (029)82668280

印 刷 陕西宝石兰印务有限责任公司

开 本 787mm×1092mm 1/32 印张 3.75 字数 63 千字

版次印次 2010年2月第1版 2010年2月第1次印刷

书 号 ISBN 978-7-5605-3193-9/H•956

定 价 9.80 元

读者购书、书店添货、如发现印装质量问题,请与本社发行中心联系、调换。

订购热线:(029)82665248 (029)82665249

投稿热线:(029)82664953 (029)82664981

读者信箱:cf_english@126.com

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总序

你想快速了解英语发音规则吗?

你想掌握地道的发音而又无需寻找外籍人士交流吗? 你想体味原汁原味的英文名著而又不必远涉重洋吗? 你想成为博览群书的人才而又不必天天苦读名著吗?

那就打开这套丛书,认真地放声朗读吧。这套世界名著正是为你量身打造的阅读素材。它能帮助你全方位提高英文水平,掌握更多的朗读技巧。

西安交通大学出版社曾成功引进韩国多乐园公司图书,出版了《"打开"你的耳朵——世界名著英文初级听力》系列丛书,以帮助读者提高英语听力水平。现在,我社再次与多乐园公司联手,隆重推出这套《世界名著经典阅读系列》,以帮助读者们在上套丛书"听"的基础上,再次出击,突破"读"的难关。

提高阅读能力最好的方法就是选择与自己水平相符的材料,坚持每天反复朗读,这样既可以熟悉英语的语音、语调和节奏,又可以锻炼划分意群的能力。如果朗读的内容又恰恰是读者所熟悉并感兴趣的题材,学习效果就会事半功倍了。

本套丛书的每种书里都收录了一篇或多篇大家耳熟能详的英文名著,使用的词汇也是日常生活中最基本、最常用的 700 个左右的单词。之所以这样设计,是为了让读者通过反复朗读这些浅显的句子,来熟悉并掌握英语的语音语调和节奏,以攻

克读者最头疼的语音问题。

本套丛书的正文部分采用英汉对照的形式,并且在每页的译文后都收录有选自原文的难度较大的单词、短语和句子,配有详细的注释和例句,以进一步帮助读者提高阅读理解能力。

另外,本套丛书的最大特点是,为读者总结提炼出了文中较难掌握和容易忽视的发音 key points。这些 points 包含读者在进行朗读训练时需要掌握的音的省略、同化、连读、不完全爆破、失去爆破等相关内容,让广大读者有依据地练习发音,流利朗读。

最后,衷心祝愿在这套丛书的陪伴和帮助下,广大读者的英文阅读水平能够更上一层楼!

西安交通大学出版社 2010年1月

The Stolen Letter

失窃的信

(2~25 页)

A Search for the Letter

t Paris, just after dark one evening in the autumn of 19th century, I was enjoying the company of an old friend, C. Auguste Dupin, in his small library2. The door of the room was opened suddenly and an old acquaintance³, Monsieur G., head of the Paris police, entered.

We were glad to see him, for we had not seen him for several years. Monsieur G. said that he had come to consult us, or rather to ask the opinion of my friend Dupin, about some official business which was causing him a great deal of trouble.

"I will tell you in a few words" what it is, "he said, "before I begin, let me tell you that this is a matter of the greatest secrecy¹² and I might lose my position¹³ if it became known that I had told someone about it."

[&]quot;Proceed14," I said.

[&]quot;Well, I have received confidential" information

关于那封信的调查

19 世纪某年秋天,在巴黎的一个傍晚,天刚刚黑,我和一位名叫 C·奥古斯丁·迪潘的老朋友呆在一起,在他的小书房里享受着美好时光。突然,房间的门开了,一位老熟人,巴黎警察局长 G 先生走了进来。

因为已分开很久,所以再次见到他时我们都非常高兴。G 先生说他是来向我们求助,或者干脆说,是向我朋友迪潘咨询一些最近给他造成很大麻烦的公事。

"我会尽可能简洁地告诉你们。"他说,"在我开始之前,我得说这件事可是最高等级的机密,如果有人知道我将它泄露了出去,我估计会职位不保。" "继续吧。"我说。

Notes

① company 密友;交际;集会;一行② library 图书馆③ acquaintance 认识的人;知识,认识。例如: have a wide acquaintance 交际面广④ monsieur 氏(法语,相当于英语里面的 Mr. 或 Sir)⑤ head of the Paris police 巴黎警察厅长 head=chief⑥ for=because⑦ consult 听取……的意见,参考⑧ or rather 更正确地说⑤ official bussiness 公务,公事⑩ a great deal of 很多⑪ in a few words简单地说⑫ a matter of the greateat secrecy 绝密事项; secrecy [si:krəsi] 秘密⑬ lose my position 丢了我的位子;被解雇(= be fired)⑭ proceed 继续说话⑤ confidential 机密的,隐秘的

Key Points

- in his small: 没有重音的 in his 中, his 的[h]不发音,发[inis]的音, his 的[z]和 small 的[s]相似,发音相连。
- and an old acquaintance: 边听边分析句子结构,要把握[ændən]就是 and an。old 的尾音[d] 和 aquaintance 的[t]很多时候不发音。
- in a few words; in a few 有连读现象, 听起来像 enough, 只有把握里面的 介词 in, 才能知道前面动词 tell 的宾语是 what it is, 而不是 words。

that a document¹ of great importance has been stolen from the royal² apartments. The thief is Minister³ D. The person from whom the letter was stolen⁴ needs the letter badly⁵. But, of course, he cannot proceed openly⁶. And he has asked me to take care of⁵ the problem."

"My first act," he went on8, "was to make a careful inspection9 of the minister's apartment. Of course, I had to do this secretly and without his knowledge10 because we do not want the minister to know that we suspect him. Fortunately, the daily habits of the minister helped me greatly. He is frequently 12 absent from home at night. He has only a few servants and they do not sleep in his apartment. I have keys, as you know, with which I can open any door in Paris. For three months, a night has not passed in which I have not been busy personally searching11 his apartment. It is now a question of my honor and my reputation¹⁵. In addition16, to mention a great secret, the reward is enormous¹⁷. Therefore I did not discontinue the Search

"好的。我收到了秘密情报,说皇宫里一份极其重要的文件被偷了。而 窃贼正是 D 部长。失信人急需那封被偷的信件。但当然了,他又不能公开处 理。所以他请求我来解决这个问题。"

"第一步,"他继续说,"就是去仔细了搜查部长的公寓。当然,我得秘密进行我的搜查,不能让他有所察觉。因为我们可不想让 D部长知道我们怀疑他。幸运的是,部长的生活习惯帮了我大忙。他晚上经常不在家,仆人也只有几个,且都不睡在公寓里。你也知道,我的那些钥匙是可以打开巴黎任何一扇门的。三个月以来,

Notes

① document 文件 ② royal 豪华的, 皇族的 ③ minister 长官, 圣职者 ④ the person from whom the letter was stolen 信被偷的人 ⑤ bally(=greatly) 非常, 不熟练地(poorly), 坏地(wrongly) ⑥ openly 公开地, 公然地 ② take care of 解决……; 照料…… ⑧ go on 继续 ⑤ make a careful inspection 做周密的调查 ⑩ without his knowledge 让他不知道 ⑪ suspect 疑心 ⑫ freqently 频繁地 ⑬ a night has not passed in which 沒有一晚是不做的, 每晚都做…… ⑭ be busy doing sth. 忙于做某事 ⑬ reputation 咸信, 名声 ⑯ in addition(=besides) 另外,还有 ⑰ enormous 巨大的, 莫大的

Key Points

the letter was stolen; lettter 的[t]发[r], was 的尾音[z]不发音并与 stolen 相连。stolen 的[t]发浊辅音[d]。

went on: 要注意 went 的[t]不发音, on 不发[ən]的音。

frequently: [t]只做出口型。

the reward is enormous; reward 的重音在第二个音节,所以容易漏掉第一个音[ri]。enormous 的重音也在第二个音节中,首音[i]与前面的 is 相连,所以很难把握动词 is,容易产生错觉,以为有发[iso;məs]的一个单词存在。

until¹ I was completely satisfied² that the thief is a more clever man than I am³. I am sure that I have examined every corner of the apartment in which it is possible that the paper can be hidden⁴."

"But is it not possible"," I suggested, "that although the minister has the letter, he has hidden it somewhere out side the apartment?"

"Oh, no!" said the police officer. "Twice he has been stopped on the street by my own men⁶, pretending to⁷ be thieves, and they have searched him carefully under my own inspection."

"Tell us,"said I, "exactly what you did in your search of the apartment."

"I have had long experience in these matters," answered the police officer. "Thus, I examined the apartment room by room, spending an entire week," in each room. We examined the furniture, we opened every drawer, and I suppose you know that for an experienced police officer such a thing

我每夜都独自一人仔细搜查他的公寓。这现在已经成为了关乎我荣誉和名声的事儿了。另外,由于是机密任务,酬劳也很诱人。因此,我的搜寻一直继续,直到我不得不对那个比我聪明一百倍的窃贼佩服得五体投地。我保证,我已经搜寻了他公寓里任何一处可能藏着那份文件的角落。"

"但这样是不是也有可能,"我说,"虽然那封信在部长手里,但他已经将 其藏在公寓之外的地方呢?"

"噢,不会的。"警长说道,"他在路上已经被假扮成抢劫犯的我的部下截住了两次,并且在我监控下被严密搜身了。"

"告诉我们你在搜寻他的公寓时都做了些什么,"我说。

"这方面我可是行家。"警长说,"因此,我一个房间接一个房间地搜查,每个房间都花上了一星期。我们还搜查了家具。我们把每个抽屉打开来查。我估计你也知道,对于有经验的警官来说,卖弄什么'秘密'抽屉

Notes Notes

- ① not...until... 直到……才……, discontinue 停止, 中止 ② be satisfied 确信的, 满足的 ③ more clever than I am (clever) 比我明智 ④ it is... be hidden 有可能把信藏起来了(it 是形式主语, 真正主语是 that 后的从句)
- ⑤ not possible = impossible ⑥ my own men 我的部下 ⑦ pretend to 假装
- ⑧ room by room 每个房间 ⑨ an entire week 一整周 ⑩ furniture 家具

Key Points

- **discontinue**: 虽然是一个单词,但也容易听成 this continue 这个实际上 并不存在的词组。
- completely: [t]只在嘴中做口型,几乎不发音。
- that I have: 在没有重音的部分出现严重的连音现象,很难把握主语和 谓语的时态。
- what you did in your search: what 的[t]与 you 连在一起变为[tju:], did 的尾音[d], 和后面的 in 连起来。
- spending an entire week; spending 的[p]受前面辅音[s]的影响,变为浊辅音[b]。因为 entire 的重音在第二个音节中,所以 an entire 容易听成是由[ænə]和[tàiə]两部分组成的。要根据句子构造和句子意思来区别 week 和 weak。

as¹ a secret drawer is impossible. Next, we examined the chairs. We removed² the tops³ from all the tables."

"But," I said, "you were not able to take apart¹ all the pieces of furiture. That would be impossible."

"Of course," he answered. "But we did better. We examined every sections of each piece of furniture under a very powerful microscope - and we found no indication? or marks that the furnd or marks that the furniture had been touched or disturbed in any way to create a hiding place fot the letter. After we had examined the furniture, we examined the apartment itself. We divided the entire surface into sections100, and gave a number110 to each section so that we could not possibly miss any¹². Then we inspected each square13 inch of the apartment."

的伎俩是行不通的。接下来,我们搜查了椅子。我们甚至都把桌面拆下来看了。"

- "但是,你们还没能把所有家具都拆开来看呢。那是不可能的啊,"我说。
- "当然没可能。"他说,"但我们做得更好。我们用非常先进的显微镜仔细检测了每件家具的每一部分,但却没能找到任何家具被触碰或是被拆卸以用来藏信的痕迹。检查完家具后,我们开始搜寻公寓本身。我们把房子整个表面分成若干部分,给每部分编号,以做到万无一失。接着我们研究了房子的每一个平方。"

Notes

① such a thing as 和…一样的东西 ② remove 去掉,清除,移除 ③ top 上面的,上面的部分 ④ take apart 分解;指责 ⑤ section 部分;短篇 ⑥ microscope 显微镜 ② indication 标出;暗示,征兆,指示 ⑧ disturbed in any way 无论怎样看都被弄乱了的 ⑨ hiding place 藏起来的地方,隐匿处 ⑩ divide A to B 把 A 分成 B ⑪ gave a number 贴上号码 ⑫ so that ~ miss any(section) 一个部分也不漏掉 ⑬ square 平方的,正方形的

Key Points

take apart:要一边听一边分析句子构造,把 apart 看做副词,否则会误解成 take a part。

We divided the: divide 的重音在第二个音节。
miss: 要边听边分析句子构造,知道这里的 miss 是用作动词的。



A FurtherSearch

 \mathbf{Y}^{ou} examined the grounds around the house?"

"Yes—but that gave us little trouble¹. The grounds are paved with² bricks³. We examined each brick and also the grass between the bricks and found no indication that anything had been touched or moved."

"You looked among the minister's papers, of course, and into the books of his library?"

"Certainly, we opened every package⁴. We not only opened every book but turned every page⁵ in each volume⁶. We also inspected carefully the cover⁷ of each book with our microscope."

- "You examined the floors beneath the carpets?"
- "Certainly! We removed every carpet and examined every board" beneath the carpets."
 - "And the paper on the walls"?"

进一步的调查

- "你们检查房子周围的空地了吗?"
- "是的,这部分没什么麻烦。地面上都铺满了砖。我们搜查了每一块砖, 也搜查了砖之间的草,但还是没有任何碰过或移动过的痕迹。"
 - "你们当然也搜查了部长的文件,以及他书房里的藏书,是吧?"
- "当然,我们打开了每一个包包裹裹。我们不仅打开了每一本书,还连每个日录下的每一页都翻过了。我们还用放大镜详细查看了每本书的封面。"
 - "你们查过地毯下的地板了么?"
 - "当然!我们移开每一块地毯,检查了下面的每一块地板。"
 - "墙纸呢?"

Notes

① that gave us little trouble 那个沒给我们带来什么麻烦; little 表示几乎没有,否定意义② pave with 用……铺路③ brick 砖头④ package 串儿,捆儿⑤ not only opened every book but turned every page 不仅打开了所有的书,还翻了每一页⑥ volumn 书,(书的)本,量;音量⑦ cover 封面⑧ beneath ……的下面⑨ board 板,板子⑩ the paper on the walls 壁纸

Key Points

The grounds are paved with bricks; are 是句子的重音,与前面的单词连读,发音短而弱,而且 paved 的尾音[d]几乎不能听到,所以容易把 are 漏掉,paved 容易听成 pay。

had been touched or: 只有把握好没有重音的 had been 和 or,对于句子构造的理解才能清晰。

in each volumn: 要注意 in 和 each 的连读,还要注意 volumn 的发音不是 [lum]。

certainly: [t]的发音几乎听不到,所以很容易误解为 suddenly。

- "Yes."
- "You looked in the cellar¹?"
- "We did."
- "Then," I said, "you have been making a mistake², and the letter is not in the apartment."
 - "I am afraid you are right," said the officer.
- "And now, Dupin, what would you advise me to3 do?"
- "I would advise you to make a second careful search of the apartment," said Dupin.
- "But I am sure the letter is not in the apartment," said the officer.
- "I have no better advice to give you," said Dupin. "of course, you have an accurate description of the letter."
- "Oh, yes," said the officer. Then, producing⁷ a memorandum⁸ book he began to read aloud a detailed⁹ description of the missing letter¹⁰. Soon afterward¹¹ he left, more sad in spirit than I had ever seen him before.

About12 a month later he visited us again. We were