



阅读空间 · 新课标英语分级读物

· 英文注释版 ·

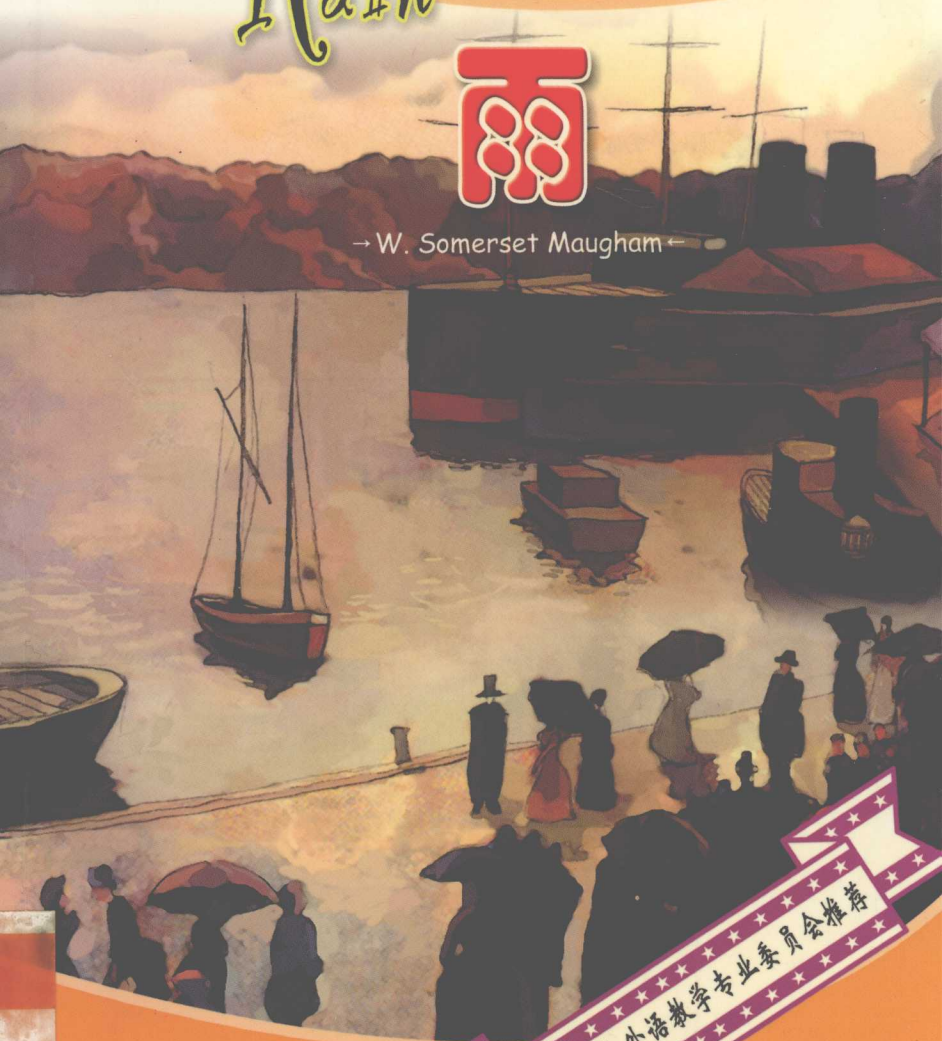
英语课程标准六级之一

6

Rain

雨

→ W. Somerset Maugham ←



中国教育学会外语教学专业委员会推荐

中国电力出版社
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CENTURY ORIENTAL 世纪东方

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— 第 6 级 —

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出版说明

这是一套针对英语为外语的学生而出版的世界文学名著分级读物。丛书的编写紧密结合新《英语课程标准》的要求,按难易程度分为8个级别,适合各阶段学生的阅读需求,帮助学生在语言技能、语言知识、学习策略和文化意识等方面达到新课标的培养目标。

丛书主要有以下特点:

囊括西方经典文学名著,在帮助学生提高语言水平的同时,能通过阅读与自己外语水平相当的简写本一窥文学名著之全貌。

按新课标分级,词汇量从150词到3500词,满足中小学生的阅读需要。语言难度循序渐进,有助于教师拓展学生的语言知识和文化背景信息,提升学生的英语阅读技能。

第1至第5级一页一练,练习量大,测试题型丰富多样,非常有利于学生和教师以量化的方式考核和检测阅读能力与水平,是课堂教学的较好补充。

语言浅显、生动、地道,以英文注释的形式出版,既保留了英文的原汁原味,中英文双语注释又为读者在阅读英文时扫除了语言障碍,能够充分调动读者的阅读兴趣,使英语阅读更轻松。

希望本丛书能够增强我国学生的英语阅读能力,提升他们的文学素养。



序

随着国家《英语课程标准》的颁布和实施，中小学英语教学进入了一个新的阶段。新课标对学生课外阅读量和阅读目标都提出了更高的要求。作为课堂阅读的继续和延伸，课外阅读是中学英语阅读教学中的一个重要环节。新课标对课外阅读的新要求需要广大英语教师更好地解决以下三个问题：

❶ 如何激发和持久地保持学生的阅读兴趣？

❷ 如何将课外阅读活动与课堂阅读活动有效地结合？

❸ 如何在有限的课堂教学指导下监控和评价学生的课外阅读效果？

要解决上述问题，可以从以下几个方面考虑：

阅读选材 阅读材料的题材和难度是影响学生阅读兴趣的主要因素，因此教师在选择和推荐课外阅读材料时，首先应注意阅读材料是否符合学生的认知水平和语言水平，并在两者间找到平衡点。许多材料容易读懂，但对该年龄段的学生可能内容太过浅显，引不起学生的兴趣；也许材料符合学生的心理和认知水平，但语言太难，使学生望而却步。另外，阅读材料还应给学生提供更多的英语国家文化背景知识。许多英语文学名著、寓言故事等在英语国家家喻户晓，人们在言谈、写作时往往予以引用，如同我们引用古诗词和成语一样。如果学生对此毫不了解，就会造成交流和理解上的困难。这套百本之巨的《阅读空间·新课标英语分级读物》（西方文学名著系列）是在《英语课程标准》推广以来出版规模最大的—套中小学生学习英语阅读丛书，选题的设计者严格按照新课标的各个级别遴选阅读材料，提倡让英语阅读更轻松、更系统、更高效，这样的主导思想和策划方案无疑是正确的。这套丛书分级明确，语言浅显、地道，且与《英语课程标准》的分级标准相匹配，教师可以根据学生的外语水平和兴趣爱好帮助学生选择。

练习活动 阅读的练习和活动形式也是影响学生阅读兴趣的另一个重要因素。在以往的阅读教学中，由于教学时间的限制和应试的压力，阅读的练习和活动形式往往局限于单一的限时应试练习，给学生带来很强的压迫感，严重地影响了他们的阅读兴趣。因此，教师应该设计类型丰富、形式活泼的练习与活动，使学生从被动的阅读者转变为积极的参

与者，并使学生获得更多实践英语和使用英语的机会，如此才能激发和增强他们的阅读热情和兴趣。《阅读空间·新课标英语分级读物》丛书检测方式灵活，其多样化的阅读训练题型，对有意识地培养学生正确的学习策略很有意义。这套丛书的检测训练层级清晰，从初级的看图配话、趣味学用、拼字游戏、常识判断，到较深层的读前思考、推论归纳、背景探索，加上组对练习与互动讨论，明确地突出了学生语言应用能力的培养。

系统性与连续性 阅读材料的系统性，是指根据《英语课程标准》，从语言知识、语言技能、文化意识和学习策略等几个方面，对阅读材料进行科学分级，使学生能够循序渐进，拾级而上。阅读材料的连续性，则是指阅读材料的篇幅和内容的关联性能够让课堂阅读活动延续并拓展到课外。阅读教学中经常采用的短篇限时阅读，虽然容易控制时间，提高阅读速度，但是因学生的阅读能力存在差异而不能“面向全体”，且阅读限时和单一的应试练习形式也很难将课堂阅读活动延伸到课外。市面上的英文名著简写本版本虽多，但像《阅读空间·新课标英语分级读物》这样内容系统、分级明确，并配有大量形式多样、活泼的分项练习的，确实不多。它弥补了短篇阅读理解内容相对独立，不具有连续性的缺陷，使阅读活动能够从课堂延伸到课外。学生可以自己选择他们喜欢的、适合自己水平的读本，教师可以通过诸如写故事梗概、预测故事情节、进行小组讨论等多样、互动的阅读练习与活动，将学生在课堂中的思维延伸到课外，并在下一次课堂教学中检验和评价学生上一次课外阅读活动的结果。

希望有更多的一线教师积极总结自身的教学经验，广泛开展和参与阅读教学的课题研究与探讨，总结出更好、更有效率的阅读教学方法。

中国教育学会外语教学专业委员会理事长
人民教育出版社外语分社社长



龚亚夫

2004年4月18日

第 6 级

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简

介

威廉·萨默赛特·毛姆(1874-1965)出生于中上流阶层的家庭。他聪明,充满了想象力。但在儿时,父母的先后去逝带给他沉重的打击,他被送给在英国肯特郡的叔父抚养。那里的生活使他落落寡欢,他得了口吃,且一生都没能治好。

从少年时代开始毛姆便喜欢读书和去剧院看演出。就在此时他开始实现他梦寐以求的理想——成为作家。他的第一本小说《兰贝斯的丽莎》于1897年面世,受到广泛欢迎。之后,他的剧作《弗雷德里克女士》在英国引起轰动,并给他带了名望和财富。

毛姆以法国画家保尔·高更为原型的小小说《月亮与六便士》1919年出版后受到普遍欢迎。他最有影响力的作品都是后期创作的,其代表作《人性的枷锁》(1915)是他四十几岁时完成的,随后有1928年的短篇小说集《艾兴顿》和1944年创作的《剃刀边缘》。

《雨》写于1927年,出版前刊登在杂志上。这篇作品的发表标志着经过20年的空白之后毛姆又开始了短篇小说的写作。《雨》是毛姆和海克斯顿1916年南洋之行的产物。他的目的地之一是萨摩亚群岛。

在毛姆和海克斯顿去往东萨摩亚首府帕果的同船旅客中,包括一名传教士和他的妻子及一位要去西萨摩亚当酒吧女招待的汤普森小姐。汤普森小姐带了一部留声机,她整天在房间里放音乐开舞会,吵得其他人不得安宁。其实毛姆从来没和汤普森小姐说过话,他也仅仅和传教士夫妇说过一次话。他开始编造出了一个故事,故事中汤普森小姐和传教士发生了冲突,他写道:

一名妓女从夏威夷飞来,降落在帕果-帕果。这里还有传教士和他的妻子,还有笔者。由于爆发麻疹,他们都来此地避难。传教士认为妓女的职业毁掉了她,认为她是个可怕而可耻的女人……

异国情调加大了人物之间的陌生感和隔绝感,热带气候增加了紧张感。麦克菲尔医生是读者的参照物,他站在戴维森先生的正直和汤普森小姐的世俗之间。他开始关注其他人物的行为,他像医生一样冷漠地观察着每个人,只有在重要的事情才有所评价。其实麦克菲尔医生是第三人称的叙述者,这充分表明了毛姆的间接写作手法:故事中有许多问题——为什么汤普森小姐不想回到旧金山?戴维森先生“拯救”她的真正原因是什么?——只有一些偶然的线索(毛姆使用预示的手法)和对话才能引导读者来回答这些问题。



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Rain

It was nearly bed-time and when they awoke next morning land would be in sight. Dr. Macphail lit his pipe and, leaning over the rail, searched the heavens for the Southern Cross. After two years at the front and a wound that had taken longer to heal than it should, he was glad to settle down quietly at Apia for twelve months at least, and he felt already better for the journey. Since some of the passengers were leaving the ship next day at Pago-Pago they had had a little dance that evening and in his ears hammered still the harsh notes of the mechanical piano. But the deck was quiet at last. A little way off he saw his wife in a long chair talking with the Davidsons, and he strolled over to her. When he sat down under the light and took off his hat you saw that he had very red hair, with a bald patch on the crown, and the red, freckled skin which accompanies red hair; he was a man of forty, thin, with a pinched face, precise and rather pedantic; and he spoke with a Scots accent in a very low, quiet voice.

Between the Macphails and the Davidsons, who were missionaries, there had arisen the intimacy of shipboard, which is due to propinquity rather than to any community of taste. Their chief tie was the disapproval they shared of the men who spent their days and nights in the smoking-room playing poker or bridge and drinking. Mrs. Macphail was not a little flattered to think that she and her husband were the only people on board with whom the Davidsons were willing to associate, and even the doctor, shy but no fool,

Southern Cross: the smallest group of stars in the southern sky (the constellation of Crux). 南十字星座

Apia: the capital of Western Samoa, on the north coast of the island Upolu. 阿皮亚(南太平洋岛国西萨摩亚首府)

Pago-Pago: the capital of Eastern (American) Samoa, on the south coast of the island Tutuila. 帕果-帕果(东萨摩亚首府)

pedantic: characterized by a narrow, often ostentatious concern for book learning and formal rules. 书生气

missionary: person sent to do religious or charitable work in a territory or foreign country. 传教士

propinquity: proximity; nearness. 接近, 临近; 近似

associate: be often in the company of. 结交





half unconsciously acknowledged the compliment. It was only because he was of an argumentative mind that in their cabin at night he permitted himself to carp.

"Mrs. Davidson was saying she didn't know how they'd have got through the journey if it hadn't been for us," said Mrs. Macphail, as she neatly brushed out her transformation. "She said we were really the only people on the ship they cared to know."

"I shouldn't have thought a missionary was such a big bug that he could afford to put on frills."

"It's not frills. I quite understand what she means. It wouldn't have been very nice for the Davidsons to have to mix with all that rough lot in the smoking room."

"The founder of their religion wasn't so exclusive," said Dr. Macphail with a chuckle.

"I've asked you over and over again not to joke about religion," answered his wife. "I shouldn't like to have a nature like yours, Alec. You never look for the best in people."

He gave her a sidelong glance with his pale, blue eyes, but did not reply. After many years of married life he had learned that it was more conducive to peace to leave his wife with the last word. He was undressed before she was, and climbing into the upper bunk he settled down to read himself to sleep.

When he came on deck next morning they were close to land. He looked at it with greedy eyes. There was a thin strip of silver beach rising quickly to hills covered to the top with luxuriant vegetation. The coconut trees, thick and green, came nearly to the water's edge, and among them you saw the

carp: complain fretfully. 抱怨

put on frills: appear so self-important. 装腔作势, 摆架子

exclusive: excluding some or most, as from membership or participation. 限制慎严的, 排外的

luxuriant: producing or yielding in abundance. 丰产的

coconut: a coconut palm. 椰子树



grass houses of the Samoans; and here and there, gleaming white, a little church. Mrs. Davidson came and stood beside him. She was dressed in black and wore round her neck a gold chain, from which dangled a small cross. She was a little woman, with brown, dull hair very elaborately arranged, and she had prominent blue eyes behind invisible pince-nez. Her face was long, like a sheep's, but she gave no impression of foolishness, rather of extreme alertness; she had the quick movements of a bird. The most remarkable thing about her was her voice, high, metallic, and without inflection; it fell on the ear with a hard monotony, irritating to the nerves like the pitiless clamour of the pneumatic drill.

"This must seem like home to you," said Dr. Macphail, with his thin, difficult smile.

"Ours are low islands, you know, not like these. Coral. These are volcanic. We've got another ten days' journey to reach them."

"In these parts that's almost like being in the next street at home," said Dr. Macphail facetiously.

"Well, that's rather an exaggerated way of putting it, but one does look at distances differently in the South Seas. So far you're right."

Dr. Macphail sighed faintly.

"I'm glad we're not stationed here," she went on. "They say this is a terribly difficult place to work in. The steamers' touching makes the people unsettled; and then there's the naval station; that's bad for the natives. In our district we don't have difficulties like that to contend with. There are one or two traders, of course, but we take care to make them behave, and if they don't we make the place so hot for them they're glad to go."

Samoans: inhabitants of Samoa, a group of islands in Polynesia. 萨摩亚人

pince-nez: eyeglasses clipped to the bridge of the nose. 夹鼻眼镜

alert: being alert or prompt. 警戒, 机敏

monotony: lack of variation in pitch, intonation, or inflection. 单调

pneumatic: spiritual. 精神的

facetiously: jokingly. 开玩笑地, 打趣地

exaggerate: represent as greater than is actually the case. 夸张



Fixing the glasses on her nose she looked at the green island with a ruthless stare.

"It's almost a hopeless task for the missionaries here. I can never be sufficiently thankful to God that we are at least spared that."

Davidson's district consisted of a group of islands to the North of Samoa; they were widely separated and he had frequently to go long distances by canoe. At these times his wife remained at their headquarters and managed the mission. Dr. Macphail felt his heart sink when he considered the efficiency with which she certainly managed it. She spoke of the depravity of the natives in a voice which nothing could hush, but with a vehemently unctuous horror. Her sense of delicacy was singular. Early in their acquaintance she had said to him:

"You know, their marriage customs when we first settled in the islands were so shocking that I couldn't possibly describe them to you. But I'll tell Mrs. Macphail and she'll tell you."

Then he had seen his wife and Mrs. Davidson, their deck-chairs close together, in earnest conversation for about two hours. As he walked past them backwards and forwards for the sake of exercise, he had heard Mrs. Davidson's agitated whisper, like the distant flow of a mountain torrent, and he saw by his wife's open mouth and pale face that she was enjoying an alarming experience. At night in their cabin she repeated to him with bated breath all she had heard.

"Well, what did I say to you?" cried Mrs. Davidson, exultant next morning. "Did you ever hear anything more dreadful? You don't wonder that I couldn't tell you myself, do you? Even though you are a doctor."

Mrs. Davidson scanned his face. She had a dramatic eagerness

canoe: a light, slender boat that has pointed ends. 独木舟

depravity: moral corruption or degradation. 堕落

vehemently: strongly. 猛烈地, 强大地

unctuous: characterized by affected, exaggerated, or insincere earnestness. 假意殷勤的, 假意热心的

agitated: excited. 激动的

dreadful: extremely unpleasant; distasteful. 十分令人不快的; 可恶的

dramatic: arresting or forceful in appearance or effect. 引人注目的



to see that she had achieved the desired effect.

"Can you wonder that when we first went there our hearts sank? You'll hardly believe me when I tell you it was impossible to find a single good girl in any of the villages."

She used the word good in a severely technical manner.

"Mr. Davidson and I talked it over, and we made up our minds the first thing to do was to put down the dancing. The natives were crazy about dancing."

"I was not averse to it myself when I was a young man," said Dr. Macphail.

"I guessed as much when I heard you ask Mrs. Macphail to have a turn with you last night. I don't think there's any real harm if a man dances with his wife, but I was relieved that she wouldn't. Under the circumstances I thought it better that we should keep ourselves to ourselves."

"Under what circumstances?"

Mrs. Davidson gave him a quick look through her pince-nez, but did not answer his question. "But among white people it's not quite the same," she went on, "though I must say I agree with Mr. Davidson, who says he can't understand how a husband can stand by and see his wife in another man's arms, and as far as I'm concerned I've never danced a step since I married. But the native dancing is quite another matter. It's not only immoral in itself, but it distinctly leads to immorality. However, I'm thankful to God that we stamped it out, and I don't think I'm wrong in saying that no one has danced in our district for eight years."

But now they came to the mouth of the harbour and Mrs. Macphail joined them. The ship turned sharply and steamed slowly in. It was a great land-locked harbour big enough to hold

averse: having a feeling of opposition; distaste. 反对的; 反感的

stand by: stand there doing nothing. 袖手旁观

immoral: contrary to established moral principles. 不道德的



a fleet of battleships; and all around it rose, high and steep, the green hills. Near the entrance, getting such breeze as blew from the sea, stood the governor's house in a garden. The Stars and Stripes dangled languidly from a flagstaff. They passed two or three trim bungalows, and a tennis court, and then they came to the quay with its warehouses. Mrs. Davidson pointed out the schooner, moored two or three hundred yards from the side, which was to take them to Apia. There was a crowd of eager, noisy, and good-humoured natives come from all parts of the island, some from curiosity, others to barter with the travellers on their way to Sydney; and they brought pineapples and huge bunches of bananas, tapa cloths, necklaces of shells or sharks' teeth, kavabowls, and models of war canoes. American sailors, neat and trim, clean-shaven and frank of face, sauntered among them, and there was a little group of officials. While their luggage was being landed the Macphails and Mrs. Davidson watched the crowd. Dr. Macphail looked at the yaws from which most of the children and the young boys seemed to suffer, disfiguring sores like torpid ulcers, and his professional eyes glistened when he saw for the first time in his experience cases of elephantiasis, men going about with a huge, heavy arm or dragging along a grossly disfigured leg. Men and women wore the lava-lava.

fleet: a group of vessels. 舰队, 舰队

Stars and Stripes: the national flag of the United States of America. 星条旗, 美国国旗

bungalows: a thatched or tiled one-story house surrounded by a wide verandah. 有凉台的平房

schooner: a fore-and-aft rigged sailing vessel. 纵帆船

tapa cloth: cloth (typical of the Pacific islands) made from the paper mulberry tree. 塔帕纤维布

kava-bowls: bowls for the Polynesian drink "kava", a narcotic sedative made from the crushed roots of a plant belonging to the pepper family. 盛酒的碗

yaws: a contagious skin disease of tropical climates. 雅司病(人体内一种热带传染病)

elephantiasis: a kind of chronic disease. 象皮病

lava-lava: loincloth, wrapped around the hips. 系在臀部的缠腰带



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"It's a very indecent costume," said Mrs. Davidson. "Mr. Davidson thinks it should be prohibited by law. How can you expect people to be moral when they wear nothing but a strip of red cotton round their loins?"

"It's suitable enough to the climate," said the doctor, wiping the sweat off his head.

Now that they were on land the heat, though it was so early in the morning, was already oppressive. Closed in by its hills, not a breath of air came in to Pago-Pago.

"In our islands," Mrs. Davidson went on in her high-pitched tones, "we've practically eradicated the lava-lava. A few old men still continue to wear it, but that's all. The women have all taken to the Mother Hubbard, and the men wear trousers and singlets. At the beginning of our stay Mr. Davidson said in one of his reports: the inhabitants of these islands will never be thoroughly Christianised till every boy of more than ten years is made to wear a pair of trousers."

But Mrs. Davidson had given two or three of her bird-like glances at heavy grey clouds that came floating over the mouth of the harbour. A few drops began to fall.

"We'd better take shelter," she said.

They made their way with all the crowd to a great shed of corrugated iron, and the rain began to fall in torrents. They stood there for some time and then were joined by Mr. Davidson. He had been polite enough to the Macphails during the journey, but he had not his wife's sociability, and had spent much of his time reading. He was a silent, rather sullen man,

costume: clothe, dress. 服装, 服饰

prohibit: ban. 禁止

eradicate: get rid of. 清除

Mother Hubbard: (American English) a shapeless woman's dress. 一种女士服装

inhabitant: resident. 常住居民

Christianized: make sb. become Christian. 使成基督徒



and you felt that his affability was a duty that he imposed upon himself Christianly; he was by nature reserved and even morose. His appearance was singular. He was very tall and thin, with long limbs loosely jointed; hollow cheeks and curiously high cheek-bones; he had so cadaverous an air that it surprised you to notice how full and sensual were his lips. He wore his hair very long. His dark eyes, set deep in their sockets, were large and tragic; and his hands with their big, long fingers, were finely shaped; they gave him a look of great strength. But the most striking thing about him was the feeling he gave you of suppressed fire. It was impressive and vaguely troubling. He was not a man with whom any intimacy was possible.

He brought now unwelcome news. There was an epidemic of measles, a serious and often fatal disease among the Kanakas, on the island, and a case had developed among the crew of the schooner which was to take them on their journey. The sick man had been brought ashore and put in hospital on the quarantine station, but telegraphic instructions had been sent from Apia to say that the schooner would not be allowed to enter the harbour till it was certain no other member of the crew was affected.

"It means we shall have to stay here for ten days at least."

"But I'm urgently needed at Apia," said Dr. Macphail.

"That can't be helped. If no more cases develop on board, the schooner will be allowed to sail with white passengers, but all native traffic is prohibited for three months."

"Is there a hotel here?" asked Mrs. Macphail.

Davidson gave a low chuckle.

affability: kindness. 和蔼, 亲切

cadaverous: of corpse-like pallor; pallid. 苍白的; 无血色的

epidemic: an outbreak of a contagious disease. 爆发疾病

measles: an acute, contagious viral disease. 麻疹

Kanaka: Pacific islanders. 夏威夷及南洋群岛的土人

quarantine: a place for isolation and detention. 检疫所, 隔离所

