

Rowena Akinyemi

Under the MOON 在月亮下面

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赵婴 译

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简介

太阳是一个巨大的燃烧着的火球。没有来自太阳的光和热,我们就不能在地球这颗行星上生存。在这颗行星周围有臭氧层保护着我们免受太阳之火的伤害。但是如果臭氧层破裂,将会怎样呢?现在臭氧层上已经有了小洞,有人说那些小洞会变得越来越大——直到有一天再没有任何东西挡在我们和太阳的火焰之间。

事情发生在 2222 年。地球人制造了 AOL——人工臭氧层。美丽的地球又有了 1000 年的生命。树又发芽了,下雨了,河里有了水……

但现在是 2522 年,人工臭氧层已经破裂。幼嫩的树林 开始枯萎,河流也逐渐干涸。凯和瑞拉从他们的宇宙飞船里 看到了这危险的情景,可他们又能做些什么呢? 月亮下面的 部族里住着他们的朋友,可是路途遥远,而地球首领高格又 不肯听从他们的指挥。

本书的作者罗维纳·阿金耶米是英国人。曾在非洲居住和工作了多年。现在她在剑桥工作和生活。



$\frac{1}{AOL}$

ive hundred kilometres over Europe, Ship OM-45 moved north. In a room at the back of the ship, Kiah watched the numbers on the computer in front of him.

'Time for dinner,' Rilla said.

The numbers changed quickly and Kiah's eyes didn't move. Rilla went across the room to his table. She began to watch the numbers, too.

'What's wrong with the satellite?' she asked. She was a beautiful girl, about twenty years old, with long black hair and big eyes.

'Nothing's wrong with the satellite,' Kiah answered quietly. 'It's the AOL.' He began to write the numbers in the book on his table.

Suddenly, the numbers stopped changing. Kiah looked at Rilla. 'Over Europe,' he said. 'It's happening. The AOL is breaking up. There are big holes in the AOL and they're getting bigger.'

'You're right! Shall we see Captain Seru now, before dinner?'

Kiah stood up. He was nearly two metres tall, with dark eyes and hair. 'Yes, come on,' he said.

Quickly, they went to Captain Seru's room. They waited at the door.



1 人工臭氧层

OM-45 号宇宙飞船在欧洲上空 500 公 里的高度向北飞行。飞船尾部的一个房间 里,凯注视着面前计算机屏幕上的数字。

"该吃饭了。"瑞拉叫他。

那些数字飞快地变换着,凯眼都不眨一下。瑞拉穿过房间走到他的桌旁。她也开始观察那些数字。

"卫星怎么了?"她问。她是个美丽的女孩,大约二十岁,黑黑的长发,大大的眼睛。

"卫星没问题,"凯平静地回答,"是人工 臭氧层。"他伏在桌上,开始往一个本子上记 录那些数字。

突然,那些数字停止了变换。凯转向瑞拉。"在欧洲上空,"他说,"已经开始了。人工臭氧层正在破裂。那上面本来就有大洞了,现在那些洞还在增大。"

"说得对,咱们现在去见塞鲁船长吧,待 会儿再吃饭好吗?"

凯站起身。他身高几乎有两米,眼睛和 头发都是黑色的。"好,走吧。"他说。

他们迅速朝塞鲁船长的房间走去。他 们等在船长的门外。



AOL artificial ozone layer 人工臭氧层。artificial adj. made by people 人造 的。 ozone layer dangerous light from the sun is stopped by the ozone layer before it can destroy living things on the Earth. 臭氧 层。computer n. an electronic machine that can quickly make calculations. 计算机。 quickly adv. with great speed. 迅速地。 satellite n. sth. made by people, moving round the Earth sending information back.卫星。 hole n. a hollow space in sth. solid, with an opening on one side. 洞. 洞穴。break up to break into small pieces. 破裂。



'Come in!' Captain Seru called. She was a little woman with a fat face. 'Come in! Would you like a drink?'

'No, thank you,' Kiah answered. 'I'd like you to look at these numbers.' Kiah gave Captain Seru his book.

Captain Seru looked at the numbers. Suddenly, her face changed. 'No, no,' she said. 'I don't want to talk. It's late and I'm tired. Sit down and have a drink.'

Kiah and Rilla sat down. There was a big window in Captain Seru's room. Kiah looked out of the window at the dark sky. He saw the Moon. It was cold and white in the dark sky.

'Captain Seru,' he began. 'It's important. Look at those numbers carefully. The AOL is beginning to—'

'Stop!' Captain Seru stood up and put her hands in her pockets. She went to the window and looked at the sky.

'Three hundred years ago, Earth nearly died,' Rilla said.
'Earth stopped dying because of the AOL. But now, over Europe, the AOL is breaking up. We would like you to talk to Earth Commander.'

Captain Seru did not move. 'Do you remember Adai?' she asked. She didn't wait for an answer. 'I was on his ship, two years ago. One evening, the satellite gave us interesting numbers about the AOL. We went back to Earth and saw Earth Commander.' Captain Seru stopped speaking.

Rilla looked at Kiah. 'And then?' she asked Captain Seru.

'Gog was angry, very angry,' Captain Seru said. 'In the end, he sent Adai to the Moon. Adai's there now, Comman-



"进来!"塞鲁船长喊道。她是个胖脸的小个子女人。"进来! 喝点什么吗?"

"不用,谢谢,"凯说,"我想请您看看这些数字。"凯把自己的笔记本递给塞鲁船长。

塞鲁船长看了看那些数字。突然,她的 脸色变了。"不,不,"她说,"我不想谈。时 候不早了,我也累了。坐下喝点什么吧。"

凯和瑞拉坐了下来。塞鲁船长的房间 里有一扇大窗子。凯透过玻璃凝望黑色的 天空。他看见了月亮。在黑色的天幕下月 亮显得冰冷皎洁。

"塞鲁船长,"他开口了,"这事很重要。 仔细看看那些数字。人工臭氧层已经开始 ……"

"别说了。"塞鲁船长站起身把双手插进 衣兜。她走到窗前注视着天空。

"300 年前,地球几乎毁灭,"瑞拉说,"因为有人工臭氧层地球才免于灾难。但是现在,在欧洲上空,人工臭氧层正在破裂。我们希望您能和地球司令高格谈一谈。"

塞鲁船长没有动。"你还记得阿岱吗?" 她问。不等回答,她接着说:"两年前我在他的船上。一天晚上卫星发回了关于人工臭 氧层的一些不寻常的数据。我们回到地球 去见地球司令。"塞鲁船长停了下来。

瑞拉看了一眼凯。"然后呢?"她问船 长。

"高格生气了,特别生气,"塞鲁船长说, "最后,他把阿岱分配到了月球。阿岱现在 还在那儿,在月亮下面作月亮部族的司令。"

suddenly adv. quickly and unexpectedly. 突 然 地。 pocket n. small bag sewn into and forming part of an artical of clothing, for carrying things in. 衣袋。 important adj. very significant, valuable, or necessary. 重要的。Commander n. man or woman in . charge of many others. 司 \diamondsuit or remember v. be able to keep sth. in memory. 记 得,记起。colony n. place lived in by people from a different country. 殖民地, 聚居于某一特定地区的一 群人。



der of the Moon colony, under the Moon.'

Kiah waited for a second or two. 'I know about Adai. But we need to talk to Earth Commander again. These numbers are worse.'

Captain Seru's face went red. 'You don't understand. I'm not going to talk to Gog. Last time, he sent me to a weather ship in the Antarctic! This is my first Ship for two years!' And Captain Seru began drinking.

Kiah stood up. 'Thank you, Captain Seru.'

Captain Seru said nothing.

Kiah and Rilla left the room, and walked slowly downstairs. The Ship was dark and quiet. It was eight o'clock and everybody was at dinner.

'What are we going to do next?' Rilla asked.

'I need to talk to Adai,' Kiah said.

'OK, talk to Adai. But he's far away on the Moon colony,' Rilla said. 'Let's visit Commander Zadak.'

'Zadak? Commander of Australia? He's famous!'

'Yes. He's my father's friend. He worked with my father in Brazil ten years ago. Perhaps he can help us.'

Kiah smiled. 'Good! We return to Earth next week. I can phone Adai from Kisangani and then we can go to Australia. But now, I'm hungry! Let's get some dinner.'



凯等了一两秒钟:"我知道阿岱的事。 但是我们需要再和地球司令谈谈。这些数 据比上次的还要糟。"

塞鲁船长的脸涨红了:"你不明白。我不会去跟高格说的。上次他把我发配到了南极的一艘气象飞船上。我第一次在飞船上呆了两年。"塞鲁船长喝了一口水。

凯站起身:"谢谢您,塞鲁船长。"

塞鲁船长没说话。

凯和瑞拉出了门,脚步迟缓地下楼去了。飞船里寂静漆黑。8点钟了,大家都在吃饭。

"下一步咱们怎们办?"瑞拉问。

"我得跟阿岱谈谈。"凯说。

"好,跟阿岱谈谈。可是他现在在遥远的月亮部族,"瑞拉说,"咱们还是去见扎达克司令吧。"

"扎达克? 澳大利亚司令? 他很有名气呢!"

"是的,他是我父亲的朋友。10 年前他和我父亲一起在巴西工作。也许他能帮忙。"

凯笑了,"好,咱们下周回地球后。我可以在基桑加尼给阿岱打个电话,然后咱们就去澳大利亚。现在嘛,我可饿了。咱们吃饭去吧。"

worse adj. bad to a greater degree or less good. 更坏,更差。weather n. the condition of the atmosphere, for example whether it is raining, sunny, hot, or windy in an area at a particular time. 天气。famous adj. very well known. 著名的。

2 Visit to Australia

n Friday, after three weeks in space, Kiah and Rilla finished work and left Ship OM-45 on a space plane to Kisangani. Kiah phoned Adai and Rilla phoned Commander Zadak in Australia. The next morning they took an aeroplane to Sydney. A taxi took them from the airport to Commander Zadak's office, some kilometres north of Sydney.

'Wait for us here,' Kiah said to the taxi driver.

Kiah and Rilla walked to the gate. About ten guards stood in front of the gate. Across the road, a train waited.

'Rilla, OM-45,' Rilla said. 'To see Commander Zadak at four-thirty.'

'Let me call the Commander's office,' the guard said.

Kiah and Rilla waited. It was hot and Kiah began to feel thirsty.

The guard came back. 'I'm sorry,' he said. 'The Commander can't see you.'

'But I talked to the Commander yesterday,' Rilla said.
'He wanted to see us at four-thirty.'

'The Commander is leaving on the train in three minutes,' the guard said.

'Can we wait and see him here?' Kiah asked.

'No!' the guard shouted. 'Get out of here!' Kiah and Rilla walked back to the taxi.



2 访问澳大利亚

这是个星期五,凯和瑞拉已经在太空飞行了三周。他们结束了工作,离开OM-45号宇宙飞船,乘航天飞机飞往基桑加尼。凯和瑞拉分别跟阿岱和在澳大利亚的司令扎达克通了电话。第二天早晨他们乘飞机来到悉尼。一辆出租车把他们从机场带到了悉尼以北几公里以外扎达克司令的办公室。

"在这儿等我们。"凯吩咐出租车司机。

凯和瑞拉朝大门走去。门口站着大约 十几个卫兵。一辆火车正等在马路对面。

"我叫瑞拉,OM-45 号的,"瑞拉说,"扎达克司令 4 点半要接见我们。"

"我给司令办公室打个电话。"卫兵说。

凯和瑞拉站在那儿等着。天气很热,凯 感到口干舌燥。

那个卫兵回来了。"对不起,"他说,"司令不能见你们。"

"可是我昨天跟司令说过,"瑞拉说,"他 答应今天4点半见我们。"

"再过三分钟司令就要坐火车出发了。" 卫兵说。

"我们能不能在这儿等着见他一面?"凯问。

"不行!"卫兵喊了起来,"出去!" 凯和瑞拉回到出租车那儿。



space n. far from Earth where there is no air. 太空。aeroplane n. flying machine with one or more engines. 飞机。syn. plane kilometre n. 1000 metres. 公里。gate n. a door in a fence or wall. 大门。guard n. a man or woman watching for danger. 卫兵。thirsty adj. feeling caused by a desire to drink. 渴的,口渴。



'Where's the driver?' Kiah asked.

'Look! He's sitting under that tree,' Rilla said.

Just then, Commander Zadak came out of the gate. He was a very tall, big man with blue eyes and a lot of white hair. Two guards marched in front of him, and two guards marched behind him. They all carried guns.

'There he is!' Rilla cried. 'Commander!' And she began to run along the road to him.

'Commander Zadak did not stop. A guard opened the door of the train and the Commander got in. Slowly, the train began to move.'

Kiah ran to the taxi and jumped in. Then he drove the taxi fast down the road. The taxi driver saw him and ran after him. The train began to move faster. Suddenly, Kiah drove the taxi off the road. He drove in front of the train and stopped.

The train came nearer. And then the train stopped, very near the taxi, and some guards jumped off. Kiah opened the door and got out of the taxi.

'Put up your hands!' the guards shouted.

Two of the guards began to hit Kiah.

'Stop that!' someone shouted. 'Bring him over here!' It was Commander Zadak.

Kiah stood in front of the Commander. Just then, Rilla arrived.

'Oh, it's you!' Commander Zadak said. He did not smile.



"司机哪去了?"凯问。

"那不是嘛!在那棵树下坐着呢。"瑞拉说。

正说着,扎达克司令出现在大门口。他 高大魁梧,蓝眼睛,长着一头浓密的白发。 四个卫兵两前两后阔步护卫着他。他们都 带着枪。

"他在那儿!"瑞拉喊了起来,"扎达克司令!"她随即顺着马路朝他跑去。

扎达克司令并没有停下脚步。一个卫 兵打开火车门,扎达克跨了进去。火车缓缓 地开动了。

凯奔向那辆出租车,迅速坐进车里。随即他开着车飞快地顺路而下。出租车司机看见了他,在后面紧追不放。火车在加速。突然,凯把出租车开下了马路。直驶到火车前头停了下来。

火车越来越近了。在就要撞到出租车的时候,它停了下来。几个卫兵从车厢里跳了下来。凯打开车门从出租车里出来。

"举起手来!"卫兵们朝他喊。

两个卫兵对凯一阵拳打脚踢。

"住手!"有人喊了一声,"把他带到这儿来!"是扎达克司令。

凯站到了司令面前。正在这时,瑞拉赶到了。

"噢,是你。"扎达克司令说话了。他不带一丝笑容:"瑞拉,你父亲会生气的。"

gun n. sth. that sends bullets from a metal tube. 枪。ran vi. past tense of "to run", move with quick steps. 跑步。drove vt. past tense of "to drive"; control a car or a bus. 驾驶。hit vi. vt. past tense of "to hit"; give a blow or stroke to. 打,打击。



'Rilla, your father's going to be angry.'

'We want to talk to you, Commander,' Rilla said. 'It's very important.'

'Very well. I'm listening.'

Kiah began to talk. 'Two years ago, Adai told you about the holes in the AOL. Now they're worse. The AOL is breaking up over Europe. Please look at these numbers and this satellite picture.'

He gave his book to Commander Zadak and the Commander looked at the numbers.

'It's important, Commander,' Kiah said. 'In ten years Earth is going to die.'

'You stopped my train because of this?' Commander Zadak asked. 'Two years ago Adai talked to me about the AOL. Then he talked to Earth Commander, and what happened? Where is Adai now? Is the Moon colony helping the AOL?'

'We know about Adai, Commander,' Rilla said. 'But someone needs to talk to Earth Commander again.'

'I'm going to talk to Gog about rain, I can tell you that. Earth needs rain: there was no rain last winter. Half of Australia has no water and my trees here are dying. Without rain, many people are going to die. Is Gog going to understand that? I don't know!'

Commander Zadak began to walk back to his train. 'Move that taxi!' he called to his guards.

Some guards moved the taxi back to the road and then they



"我们想和您谈谈,司令,"瑞拉说,"这 事非常重要。"

"说吧,我听着呢。"

凯开口了:"两年前阿岱曾跟您谈过臭氧层上的洞。现在情况更糟了。欧洲上空的臭氧层已经开裂。请您看看这些数据和这张卫星照片。"

他把笔记本递给扎达克司令,扎达克看 了看本子上的数据。

"这事非常重要,司令,"凯说,"10年后 地球就要毁灭了。"

"你们拦住我的火车就为这事?"扎达克司令问,"两年前阿岱跟我谈过臭氧层的事。然后他又跟地球司令谈了这件事。之后又怎么样了呢?阿岱现在在哪?月亮部族能帮助修复臭氧层吗?"

"我们知道阿岱的事,司令。"瑞拉说, "但是得有人再去跟地球司令谈谈。"

"我可以告诉你们,我正准备去跟高格 谈谈雨水的事。地球需要雨水:去年冬天没 下雨。澳大利亚有一半地区没有水,我们的 树都要枯死了。假如没有水的话很多人都 要活不下去了。高格会理解这一切吗?我 不知道。"

扎达克司令朝他的火车走去。"把那辆 出租车弄走!"他朝卫兵们喊。

几个卫兵把出租车推到了公路上,然后 跳上了火车。火车启动了。 understand v. to know why someone behaves in the way that he does. 理解,明白。dying adj. 快死的,行将完结的。die v. to stop living.死。



jumped on to the train again. The train began to move.

'OK,' the taxi driver shouted. 'What are you going to do next? Drive my taxi into the river?'

Kiah smiled. He took some money from his pocket and gave it to the taxi driver.

The taxi driver looked at the money. 'OK, OK,' he said. 'Where now? Back to the airport?'

Kiah took Rilla's hand, 'Yes,' he said. 'Let's get back to Kisangani. We can phone Adai again tomorrow.'