

# 福尔摩斯

—— 经典探案集 ——

## 福尔摩斯新探案集

THE CASEBOOK  
OF SHERLOCK HOLMES

中英对照全译本

[英] 阿瑟·柯南道尔 著

*Arthur Conan Doyle*

盛世教育西方名著翻译委员会 译



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# 前言

通过阅读文学名著学语言，是掌握英语的绝佳方法。既可接触原汁原味的英语，又能享受文学之美，一举两得，何乐不为？

对于喜欢阅读名著的读者，这是一个最好的时代，因为有成千上万的书可以选择；这又是一个不好的时代，因为在浩繁的卷帙中，很难找到适合自己的好书。

然而，你手中的这套丛书，值得你来信赖。

这套精选的中英对照名著全译丛书，未改编改写、未删节削减，且配有权威注释、部分书中还添加了精美插图。

要学语言、读好书，当读名著原文。如习武者切磋交流，同高手过招方能渐明其间奥妙，若一味在低端徘徊，终难登堂入室。积年流传的名著，就是书中“高手”。然而这个“高手”，却有真假之分。初读书时，常遇到一些挂了名著名家之名改写改编的版本，虽有助于了解基本情节，然而所得只是皮毛，你何曾真的就读过了那名著呢？一边是窖藏了50年的女儿红，一边是贴了女儿红标签的薄酒，那滋味，怎能一样？“朝闻道，夕死可矣。”人生短如朝露，当努力追求真正的美。

本套丛书的英文版本，是根据外文原版书精心挑选而来；对应的中文译文以直译为主，以方便中英文对照学习，译文经反复推敲，对忠实理解原著极有助益；在涉及到重要文化习俗之处，添加了精当的注释，以解疑惑。

读过本套丛书的原文全译，相信你会得书之真意、语言之精髓。

送君“开卷有益”之书，愿成文采斐然之人。



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## Preface

## 序言

I fear that Mr. Sherlock Holmes may become like one of those popular tenors who, having outlived their time, are still tempted to make repeated farewell bows to their indulgent audiences. This must cease and he must go the way of all flesh, material or imaginary. One likes to think that there is some fantastic limbo for the children of imagination, some strange, impossible place where the beaux of Fielding may still make love to the belles of Richardson, where Scott's heroes still may strut, Dickens's delightful Cockneys still raise a laugh, and Thackeray's worldlings continue to carry on their reprehensible careers. Perhaps in some humble corner of such a Valhalla, Sherlock and his Watson may for a time find a place, while some more astute sleuth with some even less astute comrade may fill the stage which they have vacated.

His career has been a long one – though it is possible to exaggerate it; decrepit gentlemen who approach me and declare that his adventures formed the reading of their boyhood do not meet the response from me which they seem to expect. One is not anxious to have one's personal dates

我唯恐福尔摩斯先生也会成为那些流行的男高音歌手中的一分子，他们久居其位，一次又一次地向那些沉湎其中的观众行告别礼。退场的时刻已经到来，无论真实抑或虚构，福尔摩斯都必须说再见了。有人乐于设想有那么一个因天马行空的孩童而存在的神秘的中间地带——一个奇异的、不可能存在的地方，在那儿，菲尔丁的纨绔子弟依然可以向理查逊的美女们求爱；在那儿，斯科特的英雄们依然可以趾高气扬，狄更斯的讨人喜欢的伦敦佬也依然在插科打诨，萨克雷的市井之徒则继续兴风作浪。也许就在瓦尔哈拉殿堂的某个僻静的角落里，福尔摩斯和他的华生医生暂时尚能寻得一席之地，然而某个机敏的侦探正带着某个不那么精明的搭档登上了他们先前的舞台。

福尔摩斯的职业生涯旷日持久，这样说大概有点夸大其词了。如果有一些年老的绅士们跑过来告诉我说，他们少年时期的读物就是福尔摩斯探案集的话，他们是不可能得偿所愿获得我的恭维的。没有人会愿意让人恶意编派自己的私人



handled so unkindly. As a matter of cold fact, Holmes made his debut in *A Study in Scarlet* and in *The Sign of Four*, two small booklets which appeared between 1887 and 1889. It was in 1891 that *A Scandal in Bohemia*, the first of the long series of short stories, appeared in *The Strand Magazine*. The public seemed appreciative and desirous of more, so that from that date, thirty-nine years ago, they have been produced in a broken series which now contains no fewer than fifty-six stories, republished in *The Adventures*, *The Memoirs*, *The Return*, and *His Last Bow*, and there remain these twelve published during the last few years which are here produced under the title of *The Case Book of Sherlock Holmes*.

He began his adventures in the very heart of the later Victorian era, carried it through the all-too-short reign of Edward, and has managed to hold his own little niche even in these feverish days. Thus it would be true to say that those who first read of him, as young men, have lived to see their own grown-up children following the same adventures in the same magazine. It is a striking example of the patience and loyalty of the British public.

I had fully determined at the conclusion of *The Memoirs* to bring Holmes to an end, as I felt that my literary energies should not be directed too much into one channel.

年龄。残酷的事实摆在面前，福尔摩斯的首次亮相是《血字的研究》和《四签名》，这两本小册子出版于1887年到1889年之间。随后1891年，《波希米亚丑闻》——他的系列短篇小说的第一篇，发表在《海滨杂志》上。小说得到了公众的青睐，以致需求越来越大，此后的39年间，系列故事时断时续地出版着，迄今为止已经收录了不下56个故事，并且在《历险记》、《回忆录》、《归来记》和《最后的致意》等书中再版。其中在最近几年里出版的这12篇短篇故事，现在收编在《福尔摩斯新探案集》中。

福尔摩斯探案生涯开始于维多利亚时代的后期中叶，其间经历了爱德华的短暂统治。即便是在那些动荡不安的日子里，他也依然坚持着他自己的事业。因此，如果我们说，那些年轻时第一次阅读过这些小说的人们现在又看到他们已经长成的子女在同一本杂志上读着同一个侦探故事，那也未尝不可能。而不列颠公众的耐心和忠诚由此可见一斑。

结束了《回忆录》的写作之后，我终于下定决心给福尔摩斯一个了结，因为我感觉我的文学能量不能向同一个方向投入太多。这位脸色

That pale, clear-cut face and loose-limbed figure were taking up an undue share of my imagination. I did the deed, but fortunately no coroner had pronounced upon the remains, and so, after a long interval, it was not difficult for me to respond to the flattering demand and to explain my rash act away. I have never regretted it, for I have not in actual practice found that these lighter sketches have prevented me from exploring and finding my limitations in such varied branches of literature as history, poetry, historical novels, psychic research, and the drama. Had Holmes never existed I could not have done more, though he may perhaps have stood a little in the way of the recognition of my more serious literary work.

And so, reader, farewell to Sherlock Holmes! I thank you for your past constancy, and can but hope that some return has been made in the shape of that distraction from the worries of life and stimulating change of thought which can only be found in the fairy kingdom of romance.

苍白、轮廓鲜明、四肢慵懒的人物，已经耗费了我过多的想象力。于是我真的把他了结了，不过所幸没有验尸官过来检验尸体，所以，在事隔很久以后，我才能毫不费力地满足读者贪婪的要求，并对我当初草率的行为作了解释。我并不后悔重修旧业，因为事实上我发现写这些轻松故事并没有妨碍我在历史、诗歌、历史小说、心理学和戏剧等其他文学样式里的探索活动，不仅如此，我还发现了自己在这些领域中所能达到的极限。即使福尔摩斯根本就没存在过，我也不可能有更大的成功，他的存在仅仅影响了公众对我的那些较为严肃的文学著作的认可而已。

所以，读者们，还是与福尔摩斯告别吧！感谢你们一直以来对我的不离不弃，谨以此书回报诸位，唯愿诸君在小说所呈现的浪漫幻境中避免俗世忧愁，激发思想变动！



## 1. The Illustrious Client

### 一. 显贵的主顾

“It can't hurt now,” was Mr. Sherlock Holmes's comment when, for the tenth time in as many years, I asked his leave to reveal the following narrative. So it was that at last I obtained permission to put on record what was, in some ways, the supreme moment of my friend's career.

Both Holmes and I had a weakness for the Turkish bath. It was over a smoke in the pleasant lassitude of the drying-room that I have found him less reticent and more human than anywhere else. On the upper floor of the Northumberland Avenue establishment there is an isolated corner where two couches lie side by side, and it was on these that we lay upon September 3, 1902, the day when my narrative begins. I had asked him whether anything was stirring, and for answer he had shot his long, thin, nervous arm out of the sheets which enveloped him and had drawn an envelope from the inside pocket of the coat which hung beside him.

“It may be some fussy, self-important fool; it may be a matter of life or death,” said he as he handed me the note. “I know no more than this message tells me.”

It was from the Carlton Club and dated

“现在无碍了。”在这许多年来，我第十次要求将下面的这些故事公之于众时，夏洛克·福尔摩斯先生这样回应了我。于是最后我获得了他的许可，在某些方面把我朋友生命中最重要的一段经历如实记录了下来。

福尔摩斯和我都有一个嗜好，那就是洗土耳其浴。在蒸汽弥漫而舒适懒散的更衣间里，我总感觉他比在其他地方少了些沉默，多了些人情味。诺桑布兰街北部的楼上浴室里，有一个独立的角落，两排沙发并列排着，而我的记忆就从我们躺着的地方开始，在1902年9月3日。这天，我问他有没有什么令人振奋的案子。作为答案，他从裹住身子的床单里伸出他那瘦长却有力的胳膊，从挂在旁边的上衣内的口袋里掏出一个信封来。

“这可能是某个爱小题大做、自大妄为的愚蠢家伙，但也可能是个生死存亡的事宜，”他一边说着一边把信件递给我，“我也就只是知道信上所写的这么些。”

这封信是从卡尔顿俱乐部寄出

the evening before. This is what I read:

Sir James Damery presents his compliments to Mr. Sherlock Holmes and will call upon him at 4:30 to-morrow. Sir James begs to say that the matter upon which he desires to consult Mr. Holmes is very delicate and also very important. He trusts, therefore, that Mr. Holmes will make every effort to grant this interview, and that he will confirm it over the telephone to the Carlton Club.

“I need not say that I have confirmed it, Watson,” said Holmes as I returned the paper. “Do you know anything of this man Damery?”

“Only that this name is a household word in society.”

“Well, I can tell you a little more than that. He has rather a reputation for arranging delicate matters which are to be kept out of the papers. You may remember his negotiations with Sir George Lewis over the Hammerford Will case. He is a man of the world with a natural turn for diplomacy. I am bound, therefore, to hope that it is not a false scent and that he has some real need for our assistance.”

“Our?”

“Well, if you will be so good, Watson.”

“I shall be honoured.”

“Then you have the hour – 4:30. Until

的，日期是昨天晚上。信上写道：

詹姆斯·达默里爵士谨带去向夏洛克·福尔摩斯先生的问候，并将于明日下午4点半专程拜访他。詹姆斯爵士将会咨询福尔摩斯先生一件十分棘手也十分重要的事宜。他相信，福尔摩斯先生将会尽全力促成这次会面，并会通过电话与卡尔顿俱乐部进行确认。

“不用说，我已经确认了，华生，”当我把信递回给福尔摩斯时，他说道，“你知道任何关于达默里的情况吗？”

“我只知道这个名字在社交圈是家喻户晓的。”

“这样，我可以再多告诉你一些。他因擅长应付那些不能在报上刊登的棘手问题而名声远扬。你应该还记得在哈莫福特遗嘱案时，他和路易斯爵士的谈判吧。他是一个精通世事、有着天生外交手腕的人。因此，我敢肯定这次应该不会是虚张声势了，他确实需要我们的协助。”

“我们？”

“当然，华生，如果你愿意帮忙的话。”

“万分荣幸。”

then we can put the matter out of our heads.”

I was living in my own rooms in Queen Anne Street at the time, but I was round at Baker Street before the time named. Sharp to the half-hour, Colonel Sir James Damery was announced. It is hardly necessary to describe him, for many will remember that large, bluff, honest personality, that broad, cleanshaven face, and, above all, that pleasant, mellow voice. Frankness shone from his gray Irish eyes, and good humour played round his mobile, smiling lips. His lucent top-hat, his dark frock-coat, indeed, every detail, from the pearl pin in the black satin cravat to the lavender spats over the varnished shoes, spoke of the meticulous care in dress for which he was famous. The big, masterful aristocrat dominated the little room.

“Of course, I was prepared to find Dr. Watson,” he remarked with a courteous bow. “His collaboration may be very necessary, for we are dealing on this occasion, Mr. Holmes, with a man to whom violence is familiar and who will, literally, stick at nothing. I should say that there is no more dangerous man in Europe.”

“I have had several opponents to whom that flattering term has been applied,” said Holmes, with a smile. “Don’t you smoke? Then you will excuse me if I light my pipe.

“记好时间是4点半。在此之前我们先把这件事情置于脑后吧。”

那时我还在安妮皇后街的公寓里住，然而在约定的时间之前，我就已经来到了贝克街。时间刚好4点半，詹姆斯爵士也来了。大概没必要过多去描述他，因为我们都记得他那开朗、率直的性格，宽阔而清理得很干净的面容，尤其是他那令人愉快且柔和的声音。他那灰色的爱尔兰眼睛流露出坦率的光芒。他那表情丰富、微笑着的嘴唇闪烁出睿智的幽默感。他的透光的礼帽，乌黑的燕尾服，当然，他身上每一个细节，从镶嵌珍珠的黑绸缎带的别针一直到光亮的皮鞋上淡紫色的鞋罩，没有一样不显示出他那出名而一丝不苟的习惯。这位高大、雍容华贵的贵族完全占据了这个小小的房间。

“当然，我想到会见到华生医生的，”他十分礼貌地鞠躬说道，“有他的合作应该是很有必要的，福尔摩斯先生，因为我们要处理的这个案子，涉及了一位惯于使用武力、根本无所顾忌的凶残的人。我可以这样说，在整个欧洲，再没有比他更危险的人了。”

“我之前的好几个敌手都曾享有过这样的美名，”福尔摩斯露出淡淡的微笑说，“你难道不吸烟？那请原谅我点燃自己的烟斗。若是你说的这个人比已死去的莫利亚迪教

If your man is more dangerous than the late Professor Moriarty, or than the living Colonel Sebastian Moran, then he is indeed worth meeting. May I ask his name?"

"Have you ever heard of Baron Gruner?"

"You mean the Austrian murderer?"

Colonel Damery threw up his kid-gloved hands with a laugh. "There is no getting past you, Mr. Holmes! Wonderful! So you have already sized him up as a murderer?"

"It is my business to follow the details of Continental crime. Who could possibly have read what happened at Prague and have any doubts as to the man's guilt! It was a purely technical legal point and the suspicious death of a witness that saved him! I am as sure that he killed his wife when the so-called 'accident' happened in the Splugen Pass as if I had seen him do it. I knew, also, that he had come to England and had a presentiment that sooner or later he would find me some work to do. Well, what has Baron Gruner been up to? I presume it is not this old tragedy which has come up again?"

"No, it is more serious than that. To revenge crime is important, but to prevent it is more so. It is a terrible thing, Mr. Holmes, to see a dreadful event, an atrocious situation, preparing itself before your eyes, to clearly understand whither it will lead and yet to be utterly unable to

授,和现在还活着的赛巴斯迪恩·莫兰上校更危险的话,那么他倒也是有交手价值的。你能告诉我他的大名吗?"

"你听说过格鲁纳男爵吗?"

"你说的是那个奥地利的杀人犯吗?"

达默里上校举起戴着羊皮手套的双手,笑道:"任何事都瞒不过你的眼睛,福尔摩斯先生!太棒了!这么说来,你已经给他带上了杀人犯的罪名了?"

"关注大陆上的犯罪案件是我的本职。只要是可能读过布拉格事件报道的人,谁会怀疑这个人所犯的罪行呢!完全是一条纯技术的法律条款和一位目击证人不明不白的死亡救了他!当史普鲁根要隘刚发生所谓的'事故'时,我就十分确定是他杀害了自己的妻子,就如同亲眼看到一般。我知道是他做的,我也知道他已经逃到了英国,而且我也预感到他迟早会给我找点麻烦让我解决的。那么,格鲁纳男爵现在在忙什么?我想这次应该不会让这个悲剧重演吧?"

"不是,这回比之前更糟糕。惩罚罪犯虽是重要的,但阻止犯罪的发生更加重要。福尔摩斯先生,这是一件麻烦的事情啊,一个可怕、残忍的情景就在你眼前,明明知道它肯定要发生怎样可怕的后果,而又不能去遏制它。难道一个人还有

avert it. Can a human being be placed in a more trying position?"

"Perhaps not."

"Then you will sympathize with the client in whose interests I am acting."

"I did not understand that you were merely an intermediary. Who is the principal?"

"Mr. Holmes, I must beg you not to press that question. It is important that I should be able to assure him that his honoured name has been in no way dragged into the matter. His motives are, to the last degree, honourable and chivalrous, but he prefers to remain unknown. I need not say that your fees will be assured and that you will be given a perfectly free hand. Surely the actual name of your client is immaterial?"

"I am sorry," said Holmes. "I am accustomed to have mystery at one end of my cases, but to have it at both ends is too confusing. I fear, Sir James, that I must decline to act."

Our visitor was greatly disturbed. His large, sensitive face was darkened with emotion and disappointment.

"You hardly realize the effect of your own action, Mr. Holmes," said he. "You place me in a most serious dilemma for I am perfectly certain that you would be proud to take over the case if I could give you the facts, and yet a promise forbids me

比在这样的处境更难受的吗？”

“也许没有！”

“那你也就会同情这位主顾了吧，我就是代表他前来找你的。”

“我没想到你竟然只是一个中间人。谁是委托人？”

“福尔摩斯先生，我必须恳求你不要追问了。确保主顾的名字不被牵连进这个命案里去是我的重要使命。他的动机是非常令人敬佩而充满正义感的，但他不肯让他的名字被大家知道。不用说你的酬金是绝对没有问题的，而且你可以完全按你的思路行动。当然，主顾的真实姓名无足轻重的吧？”

“十分抱歉，”福尔摩斯说，“我习惯的是案子的一端是谜，如果两端都是谜，就太令人困惑了。詹姆斯爵士，如果那样，我恐怕只能谢绝接手这个案子了。”

我们的客人震惊了。他那阳光、敏感的面容阴沉了下来，并且非常失望。

“福尔摩斯先生，你几乎没有意识到你的行为的后果，”他说道，“你让我陷入窘境了。我可以把实情告诉你，我相信你会为接手这个案子而感到自豪。但是我的承诺不允许我把一切都告诉你。至少，可

from revealing them all. May I, at least, lay all that I can before you?"

"By all means, so long as it is understood that I commit myself to nothing."

"That is understood. In the first place, you have no doubt heard of General de Merville?"

"De Merville of Khyber fame? Yes, I have heard of him."

"He has a daughter, Violet de Merville, young, rich, beautiful, accomplished, a wonder-woman in every way. It is this daughter, this lovely, innocent girl, whom we are endeavouring to save from the clutches of a fiend."

"Baron Gruner has some hold over her, then?"

"The strongest of all holds where a woman is concerned – the hold of love. The fellow is, as you may have heard, extraordinarily handsome, with a most fascinating manner, a gentle voice and that air of romance and mystery which means so much to a woman. He is said to have the whole sex at his mercy and to have made ample use of the fact."

"But how came such a man to meet a lady of the standing of Miss Violet de Merville?"

"It was on a Mediterranean yachting voyage. The company, though select, paid their own passages. No doubt the

以让我把能说的都说给你好吗？”

“无论如何，只是有一点你要明白，我并没有承诺你什么。”

“明白。首先，你肯定听说过德·梅尔威尔将军吧？”

“是在卡波尔战役中赫赫有名的德·梅尔威尔吗？是的，我有所耳闻。”

“他有个叫做维奥莱特·德·梅尔威尔的女儿——年轻，富有，漂亮，才华横溢，从哪方面来说都是一位十分完美的女人。而需要 we 尽全力从魔爪中营救出的，正是这位可爱、纯真的女孩。”

“这么说来，格鲁纳男爵可能已经将她控制住了？”

“是对于女人最强大的控制——用爱控制。他这个浑蛋，你应该有所耳闻，长得十分帅气，举止温文尔雅，声音富有磁性，又拥有那种女人所喜好的浪漫而神秘的气质。大多数女人都心甘情愿任他摆布，在实际中，他也充分运用了这一点。”

“但是他这样的男人究竟是如何遇到像维奥莱特小姐这种身份的女士呢？”

“那是在一次地中海游艇旅行中。公司对登船游客有限制，都是自己承担旅费的。很肯定的是举办

promoters hardly realized the Baron's true character until it was too late. The villain attached himself to the lady, and with such effect that he has completely and absolutely won her heart. To say that she loves him hardly expresses it. She dotes upon him, she is obsessed by him. Outside of him there is nothing on earth. She will not hear one word against him. Everything has been done to cure her of her madness, but in vain. To sum up, she proposes to marry him next month. As she is of age and has a will of iron, it is hard to know how to prevent her."

"Does she know about the Austrian episode?"

"The cunning devil has told her every unsavoury public scandal of his past life, but always in such a way as to make himself out to be an innocent martyr. She absolutely accepts his version and will listen to no other."

"Dear me! But surely you have inadvertently let out the name of your client? It is no doubt General de Merville."

Our visitor fidgeted in his chair.

"I could deceive you by saying so, Mr. Holmes, but it would not be true. De Merville is a broken man. The strong soldier has been utterly demoralized by this incident. He has lost the nerve which never failed him on the battlefield and has become a weak, doddering old man, utterly

者根本不知道这位男爵的性格，等他知道的时候已经来不及了。这个坏蛋纠缠住了维奥莱特小姐，通过一番努力，他彻底地、毋庸置疑地赢得了她的芳心。她几乎无法表达她对他的一往情深，她完全被他吸引住了。好像世界上除了他什么都不存在了。她听不进任何人说他的坏话。我们绞尽脑汁去治疗她的疯狂，但都是徒劳的。总之，她计划下个月跟他结婚。因为她已经到了法定的结婚年龄，并且有钢铁般的决心。真不知该如何才能阻止她。”

“她了解那个奥地利案件吗？”

“这个狡诈的恶魔已经把他过去的所有声名狼藉的公众丑闻告诉她了，但同时，他总把他自己说成是一个无辜的人。她彻底地相信了他的谎言，而且一点儿也听不进别人的话。”

“上帝！但是你在无意识中已泄露了你那秘密主顾的名字！无疑他是梅尔威尔将军。”

客人在椅子上坐立不安起来。

“我本来可以顺着你的话来瞒过你，但福尔摩斯先生，你的猜测不是真的。梅尔威尔已经是一位精神潦倒的人了。这位曾经强壮的战士已被这件事弄得完全没有斗志了。他已经失去了久经战争考验的勇气，突然变为了一个颓废、衰弱

incapable of contending with a brilliant, forceful rascal like this Austrian. My client however is an old friend, one who has known the General intimately for many years and taken a paternal interest in this young girl since she wore short frocks. He cannot see this tragedy consummated without some attempt to stop it. There is nothing in which Scotland Yard can act. It was his own suggestion that you should be called in, but it was, as I have said, on the express stipulation that he should not be personally involved in the matter. I have no doubt, Mr. Holmes, with your great powers you could easily trace my client back through me, but I must ask you, as a point of honour, to refrain from doing so, and not to break in upon his incognito.”

Holmes gave a whimsical smile.

“I think I may safely promise that,” said he. “I may add that your problem interests me, and that I shall be prepared to look into it. How shall I keep in touch with you?”

“The Carlton Club will find me. But in case of emergency, there is a private telephone call, ‘XX.31.’”

Holmes noted it down and sat, still smiling, with the open memorandum-book upon his knee.

“The Baron’s present address, please?”

“Vernon Lodge, near Kingston. It is a large house. He has been fortunate in some rather shady speculations and is a rich man,

的老头儿，他完全没有实力和这位聪明、有魄力的奥地利人比拼了。然而我的主顾是这位将军认识多年的朋友，从梅尔威尔将军的女儿小的时候起，他就像父亲般地、无微不至地关爱着她。看着这个悲剧的发生，他不能无动于衷。对这件事情，苏格兰场又没有能力管辖。把你邀请来加入这个案子，这是他自己的提议。但是，正如我之前所说，他有一个特别要求，那就是这个案件不能牵扯到他。我不怀疑，福尔摩斯先生，以你的能力，你可以轻而易举地通过我所说的找出我的主顾到底是谁；不过我恳求你以你的名誉作担保，绝对不会这样做，不要拆穿这个隐姓埋名的谜。”

福尔摩斯露出了奇怪的笑容。

“我想我可以答应你，”他说道，“我还要加一句，你的案子让我很感兴趣，我准备立马着手进行。我该如何与你保持联络呢？”

“你到卡尔顿俱乐部就可以找到我。但是在紧急情况下，你可以拨打这个私人电话：‘xx. 31.’”

福尔摩斯记了下来，然后坐下，仍然保持着微笑，他把翻开的通信录放在双膝上。

“请问男爵目前的住址是？”

“金斯敦附近的弗农宅邸。那是一座个大宅子。他通过一些非法的投机，走运成了富翁，这也使他



which naturally makes him a more dangerous antagonist.”

“Is he at home at present?”

“Yes.”

“Apart from what you have told me, can you give me any further information about the man?”

“He has expensive tastes. He is a horse fancier. For a short time he played polo at Hurlingham, but then this Prague affair got noised about and he had to leave. He collects books and pictures. He is a man with a considerable artistic side to his nature. He is, I believe, a recognized authority upon Chinese pottery and has written a book upon the subject.”

“A complex mind,” said Holmes. “All great criminals have that. My old friend Charlie Peace was a violin virtuoso. Wainwright was no mean artist. I could quote many more. Well, Sir James, you will inform your client that I am turning my mind upon Baron Gruner. I can say no more. I have some sources of information of my own, and I dare say we may find some means of opening the matter up.”

When our visitor had left us Holmes sat so long in deep thought that it seemed to me that he had forgotten my presence. At last, however, he came briskly back to earth.

“Well, Watson, any views?” he asked.

“I should think you had better see the

变成了更加危险的对手。”

“他现在在家住吗？”

“嗯。”

“除了你告我的这些，你是否可以给我提供一些关于这个人更进一步的信息？”

“他有一些费钱的爱好。他极其爱养马。他一度经常在英国马球总会打马球，但后来他那个布拉格事件传得沸沸扬扬，被迫离开了。他还收藏书籍和画作。他是个在艺术方面很有天赋的人。我相信，他是一个大家认同的中国陶瓷权威，他还就这方面出过一部著作。”

“复杂的才华，”福尔摩斯说，“有名的罪犯都有这种复杂的才能。我的老朋友查理·皮斯是一位小提琴演奏家，文来特也是个一般的艺术家，我可以列举出很多这样的人。好吧，詹姆斯爵士，麻烦你通知你的主顾，就说我会立即着手研究格鲁纳男爵。目前我只能说这些了。我还有个人的一些情报来源，我敢保证我们总会找出一些办法来打破僵局的。”

当我们的客人走后，福尔摩斯坐在那里沉思了很久，看上去已经忘记了我的存在。不过最后，他突然回过神来。

“华生，你有什么观点？”他问道。