riends **PENNY HANCOCK** 

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# Just Good Friends 仅仅是好友

Penny Hancock (英) 著

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## 外研社・剑桥英语分级读物

亲爱的老师们、同学们,由外语教学与研究出版社和英国 剑桥大学出版社联合出版的这套《外研社·剑桥英语分级读 物》终于与国内读者见面了。它集原创性、针对性、时代性和多 样性于一体,是一套理想的英语学习读物。

本套读物是我国目前引进的第一套专为非英语国家读者 撰写的英语故事性读物,作者全部是经验丰富的英语教学专家。读物依据难易程度共分六级,每级四本,每本独立成篇。题 材涉及广泛,包括喜剧、历险记、侦探小说、浪漫爱情故事和短篇故事等。内容涉及东西方多种地域和文化,情节扣人心弦,极富吸引力。读者在提高自身英语水平的同时,还会享受到阅读的巨大乐趣。

本套读物分为英汉对照版和英文注释版两种版本,以适应不同读者的不同需要。其中,英文注释版附有练习及配套音带,为不同程度的英语学习者在阅读中提供了及时而必要的帮助。

如果你们喜欢这套读物,请把它推荐给你们的朋友。如果 你们对这套读物有什么意见和建议,也请告诉我们。

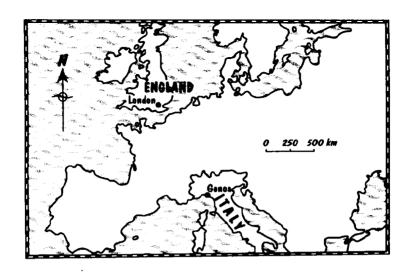
在此,我们谨向那些为这套读物的出版给予帮助和关切的老师们表示衷心的感谢!

## Contents

Characters		2
Chapter 1	In Camden Town	4
Chapter 2	In Genoa	12
Chapter 3	A good friend	18
Chapter 4	I don't trust Stephany	22
Chapter 5	In a village by the sea	26
Chapter 6	The two couples meet	34
Chapter 7	A difficult dinner	44
Chapter 8	A long way from the truth	54
Chapter 9	On Bianca beach	60
Chapter 10	In love with two people	68
Chapter 11	The perfect holiday	80
Chapter 12	A bad argument	90
Chapter 13	An unwanted invitation	96
Chapter 14	Back in the bar	106
Chapter 15	Lovers or friends?	116
Level Chart		120
Grammatical Grading		121

## 目 录

书中人物		3
第一章	在坎登镇	:
第二章	在热那亚	13
第三章	一位好朋友	19
第四章	我不信任斯蒂法妮	23
第五章	在海边渔村	27
第六章	两对情侣的会面	35
第七章	难堪的晚餐	45
第八章	远离真相	55
第九章	在比安卡海滩	61
第十章	爱上两个人	69
第十一章	<b>直</b> 完美的假日	81
第十二章	<b>董 无益的争吵</b>	91
第十三章	重 不受欢迎的邀请	97
第十四章	重 重返酒吧	107
第十五章	重 情人还是朋友?	117
读物分级标准		120
每级针对的语法重点		121



## Characters

Stephany: a language teacher, lives in London.

Max: an architect, lives in London.

Carlo: a friend of Stephany's, lives in Genoa, Italy.

Ruth: Carlo's wife, lives in Genoa, Italy.

Luigi: a waiter.

Carlo's parents.

## 书中人物

斯蒂法妮:语言教师,住在伦敦。

马克斯:建筑师,住在伦敦。

卡洛: 斯蒂法妮的朋友,住在意大利的热那亚。

鲁思:卡洛的妻子,住在意大利的热那亚。

路易吉: 侍者。

卡洛的父母。

## Chapter 1 In Camden Town

'I know where we can go on holiday!' said Stephany. She was lying on the sitting room floor of her London flat. There were newspapers and holiday magazines all over the floor.

All the hotels Stephany liked were too expensive. And she didn't want to spend her holiday in a cheap hotel with a lot of other English people.

Max came out of the kitchen with a plate of *sushi* and a bottle of cold Chardonnay wine. He knew this was the kind of food and drink Stephany enjoyed. Stephany looked up at the tall handsome man. His good looks made her heart jump.

The first time she saw Max, she thought he was a cold, unfriendly person. She could not believe that a person could be so good-looking and nice as well.

But now Stephany knew that Max was just shy, not unfriendly. He also thought about other people and tried to help them when it was possible. Stephany thought he was the perfect man.

He sat down beside Stephany and touched her black hair.

'Show me,' he said, nodding his head at the pictures of white beaches in the magazines.

'No,' said Stephany. 'This place isn't in the magazines. I don't know why I didn't think of it before!'

## 第一章在坎登镇

"我知道我们去哪儿度假了!"斯蒂法妮说。她这时正躺在 她在伦敦公寓起居室的地板上。报纸和假日杂志散放在地板 上到处都是。

斯蒂法妮喜欢的旅馆都过于昂贵。她又不想在廉价旅店 里和一大群其他的英国人挤着度假。

马克斯端着一盘寿司和一瓶冰镇的夏敦埃酒走出了厨房。他知道这是斯蒂法妮偏爱的饭食和饮料。斯蒂法妮抬头看着这个高大、英俊的男人。他俊美的容貌让她心动不已。

第一次见到马克斯的时候,她以为他是个冷漠,不友善的 人。她不相信一个人能品貌兼优。

但是,斯蒂法妮现在了解马克斯只是有点腼腆,并非待人 冷淡。他对别人体恤有加,可能的时候会尽力帮助他们。斯蒂 法妮觉得他是个完美的男人。

他坐在斯蒂法妮的身边,摩挲着她的黑发。

"指给我看看,"他说,冲着印有白色海滩照片的杂志点头示意。

"不是的,"斯蒂法妮说。"这地方杂志里没有。以前我怎么 就没想到呐!"



'Where is it? Tell me!' said Max. He was pouring the wine into two tall glasses.

'Carlo's flat!' said Stephany with a big smile. She took her wine and bit into the *sushi*.

'Sushi! My favourite! I love Japanese food,' she said. 'When did you get this?'

'I went into the supermarket on Camden Road on the way here,' said Max. 'I knew you would be pleased. Now tell me more. Who's Carlo, and where is his flat?'

'Carlo's a good friend. I taught him English five years ago when he was in London. He has a flat in a beautiful village on the Ligurian Sea in Italy, near Genoa. He said I can stay in it. I've been there a couple of times. It's perfect. You'll love it!'

'Slow down,' said Max. 'If it was five years ago, do you think he still wants you to stay in his flat?'

'Oh, yes, I'm sure. Carlo's a very kind person. He doesn't live in the flat now, it's empty most of the year. He only uses it for weekends sometimes.'

'Well . . . ,' Max didn't know much about Italians or Italian men. He didn't know if they really were good at being 'good friends' with women. It would be difficult for any man to be 'just friends' with Stephany – she was very pretty. He watched her now as she walked into the kitchen. She was just as pretty as when he first met her one night at the Jazz Café in Camden with some friends. They had been going out for two months now. Max had had a lot of girlfriends, but now he wanted to have a serious relationship.

It was easier said than done.

Some women were too interested in their jobs, other

"那地方在哪儿?告诉我!"马克斯一边说,一边把酒倒进两个高脚杯里。

"卡洛的公寓!"斯蒂法妮开心地笑着说。她端起酒杯,吃了一口寿司。

"寿司!我最喜欢吃啦!我爱吃日本饭,"她说。"你什么时候买的?"

"来这儿的路上我进了坎登大街的超级市场,"马克斯说。"我就知道你会喜欢的。跟我再说详细点。谁是卡洛,他的公寓在哪儿?"

"卡洛是个好朋友。五年前他在伦敦的时候我教过他英语。他在意大利的利古里亚海边一个美丽渔村里有一套住房,那地方靠近热那亚。他说我可以住那儿。我曾去过两次。那地方美极了。你会喜欢的。"

"别着急,"马克斯说。"如果那是五年前的事,你觉得他还 会让你住他的房子吗?"

"是的,我肯定。卡洛是个非常友善的人。他现在不住那房子,一年大部分时间它都空着。他只是有时周末才用。"

"那么……"马克斯不大会讲意大利语,意大利人他也不熟悉。他不知道他们是否真的擅长只是作女人的"好朋友"。对任何男人来讲,只作斯蒂法妮的"一般朋友"不是件容易事——她长得很漂亮。他看着她走进厨房。她还像他和几个朋友去坎登的爵士咖啡厅第一次见到她时那么漂亮。如今,他们约会已经有两个月了。马克斯有过许多女朋友,但他现在想确定严肃的恋爱关系。

这种事说起来容易做起来就难了。

有些女人对工作过于

投入,有些只追求享乐。



women just wanted to have a good time. Some were too serious, others were not serious enough.

Stephany, however, seemed just right. She was intelligent and serious, and she liked her job. She was a language teacher and she worked hard. But she also liked to enjoy herself. She liked going to clubs and parties and doing sport. She did a lot of swimming and was very strong.

Max didn't really like sport. In fact he didn't like taking exercise. He was an architect and he enjoyed looking at buildings and paintings. But Max liked the fact that they were different and he liked her more because of it.

'I'm so pleased I thought of Carlo,' Stephany said, sitting down next to Max again. 'We'll have a great time. I love you, Max.'

It was the first time she had spoken so warmly. Although they had been going out for a couple of months now, she had never said she loved him before.

Max pulled her close to him.

'I love you too,' he said. They kissed.

Then Stephany began to describe the village where Carlo's flat was to Max.

'It's beside the sea. It's on Italy's north-west coast, near Genoa. The houses are built on the hills and are all different colours! And the country is beautiful – full of places where they grow fruit and vegetables. It's so pretty Max, and there are good restaurants with fresh fish, or you can get fresh pasta or pizza.'

'It's beginning to sound very nice,' said Max.

'We can walk, and swim, and water-ski . . .'

'Hey, slow down,' said Max. 'I can't water-ski.'

'Well, anyway, we can eat good food!'

有的过分呆板,有的失于检点。

斯蒂法妮则表现得恰到好处。她天资聪颖,庄重大方,喜爱自己的工作。她是位语言教师,工作勤奋努力。但她也热中于享受娱乐。她喜欢参加夜总会、各种聚会和健身运动。她常去游泳,体态十分健美。

马克斯不太喜欢运动。事实上,他平时很少活动。他是个建筑师,喜欢欣赏建筑和绘画。但是,马克斯喜欢他们之间的这种差异,他之所以迷恋她多半缘于这种差异。

"想到卡洛我太高兴了。"斯蒂法妮说着,重又坐到马克斯身边。"我们将玩得非常愉快。我爱你,马克斯。"

她还是第一次这么热烈地表白。虽然他们到现在已经交 往两个多月了,但是她以前从未说过爱他之类的话。

马克斯把她拉到跟前。

"我也爱你,"他说道。他们开始亲吻。

然后,斯蒂法妮开始向马克斯描述卡洛公寓所在村庄的 情况。

"它紧靠海边,在意大利的西北海岸,热那亚附近。建在小山上的房子颜色各异!田野风光迷人——遍地的水果和蔬菜。那地方可美了,马克斯,那儿还有提供鲜鱼的上好餐馆。另外,你可以吃到新鲜的意大利面食或比萨饼。"

"那地方开始听起来蛮有意思的。"马克斯说。

"我们可以聊天,游泳,滑水……"

"嗨,且慢,"马克斯说:

"我可不会滑水。"

"好了,不管怎么说,我 们能品尝到美味呀!"



Max put his arm round Stephany. He thought she was lovely when she was like this.

'OK, telephone Carlo,' he said, 'but not until later.' And he began to kiss her again.

马克斯拥抱了斯蒂法妮。他觉得她现在的样子太可爱 了。

"好吧,打电话给卡洛,"他说,"不过现在不着急。"接着, 他又开始亲吻她。