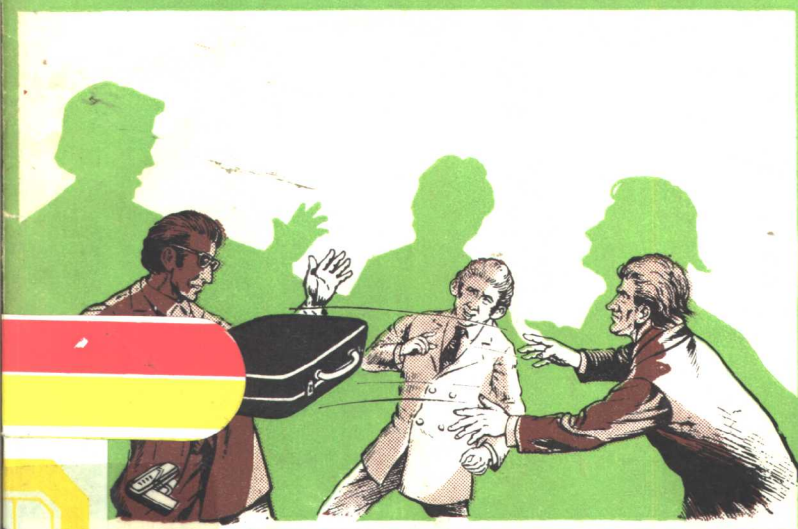


学生英语  
第2辑

# The Black Case

## 黑色提箱



EASY ENGLISH READERS  
STAGE 2

中学生英语读物

# The Black Case 黑色提箱

司延亭 注释

李惠乔 插图

人民教育出版社

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中学生英语读物  
第二辑  
**黑色提箱**

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## 内 容 简 介

大学生伊恩和德里克假期在旅馆当服务员时，发现克罗那等人行动诡秘，便想弄个明白。在了解情况过程中，伊恩不幸被克罗那抓住。德里克在警察等人的帮助下救出了伊恩，并将盗卖飞机图纸的克罗那等人捕获归案。

故事情节生动，文字浅显。对语言难点加了汉语注释，并配有插图，适合初中三年级学生和具有同等英语程度的读者阅读。

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## 1 The Grand Hotel<sup>1</sup>

'It isn't a very interesting job,' Ian<sup>2</sup> said to his friend Derek<sup>3</sup>. 'And that head waiter<sup>4</sup> doesn't like us. His nasty jokes about lazy

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1. the Grand Hotel 华丽饭店 grand *adj.* 豪华的; 雄伟的。

2. Ian [iən] 伊恩(人名)。 3. Derek ['derik] 德里克(人名)。

4. head waiter 领班(侍者)。 waiter ['waitə] *n.* 侍者, 服务员。

students with long hair make me sick.<sup>1</sup>

‘I know,’ said Derek, ‘but they pay us quite well, *and* they give us food. I want to save some money. I need a lot of new books next month.’

The two boys were going down in the lift<sup>2</sup> in the Grand Hotel. They were students, and they were working in the hotel during the summer holidays. Ian was tall and thin. He had big hands and feet and a lot of red hair. Derek was shorter and rather fat.

‘I need the money too,’ said Ian, ‘but this hotel’s such a quiet place. Nothing interesting ever happens here. I want some excitement<sup>3</sup>.’

‘I don’t,’ said Derek. ‘Excitement’s all right in books, but I prefer<sup>4</sup> a quiet life!’

The lift stopped at the ground floor<sup>5</sup>, and the boys went into the dining-room<sup>6</sup>.

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1. His nasty jokes ... sick. 他对留长发的懒学生的恶意取笑使我讨厌。nasty[ˈnɑːsti] *adj.* 恶意的; 令人厌恶的。 2. lift

*n.* 电梯。 3. excitement [ikˈsaɪtmənt] *n.* 刺激; 兴奋。

4. prefer [priˈfɜː] *vt.* 更喜欢。 5. the ground floor 一

层楼。 6. dining-room [ˈdaɪnɪŋrʊm] *n.* 餐室, 食堂。

‘Hurry up!’ the head waiter said to them. ‘The guests<sup>1</sup> want their lunch *now*, not next week. You’re not at the university here.’ He laughed nastily<sup>2</sup> and gave Ian and Derek twenty heavy plates each.

They both thought about their money and said nothing.

Soon a lot of guests began to come into the dining-room, and both boys were busy. Derek hurried to a young man and his wife at a table in the corner. They smiled at him.

‘You’re new here, aren’t you?’ the young man asked. ‘Is it your holiday job?’

‘Yes,’ said Derek. ‘I’m really a student.’ He laughed. ‘I’m a good student, but I’m not a very good waiter!’

‘You’re doing very well!’ said the young man. ‘We’ll have some vegetable soup<sup>3</sup>, please.’

Derek went into the kitchen<sup>4</sup> and asked

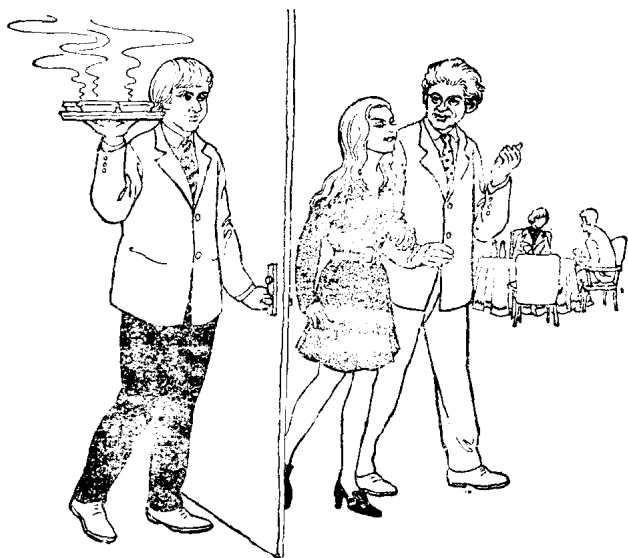
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1. guest [gest] *n.* 客人。 2. nastily [ˈnɑːstili] *adv.* 恶意地; 令人不快地。 3. soup [su:p] *n.* 汤。 4. kitchen [ˈkitʃin] *n.* 厨房。



for the soup. It was very hot and it smelt good. He carried the full bowls carefully.

As he came out of the kitchen, a big man walked into the dining-room. He was wearing an expensive<sup>1</sup>, grey<sup>2</sup> coat and trousers<sup>3</sup>. A woman in a bright, red dress with a silver belt was holding his arm.<sup>4</sup> She had long,



- 
1. expensive [iks'pensiv] *adj.* 昂贵的。      2. grey [grei] *adj.* 灰色的。      3. trousers ['trauzəz] *n.* (复数) 裤子。  
4. A woman in a bright, red dress ... arm. 一个身穿大红色裙腰系白带的妇女挽着他的胳膊。 silver ['silvə] *adj.* 银白色的。 belt *n.* 腰带。

yellow hair and dark eyes, and her mouth was very red. She was talking to the big man.

They were not looking in front of them, and they and Derek met. The big man knocked<sup>1</sup> Derek's arm, and some of the soup spilled<sup>2</sup> down the front of the woman's dress.

Her face was bright red. 'Stupid boy!' she shouted. 'Look at my dress! It cost £ 45, and now it's quite useless<sup>3</sup>!' She looked at the big man. 'What are we going to do about it?' she asked.

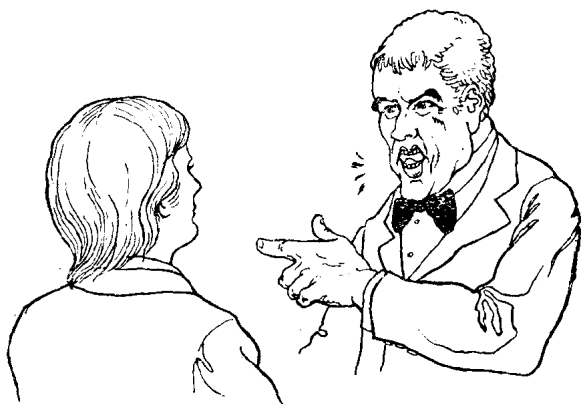
'Bring the head waiter, of course,' he said and he began to shout, 'Waiter! Waiter!' very loudly<sup>4</sup>.

Everyone stopped eating and looked at him. The head waiter ran across<sup>5</sup> the room. He tried to clean the woman's dress with a cloth, but the big man pushed<sup>6</sup> him away.

'I'm terribly sorry, Mr Kroner<sup>7</sup>, sir,' the

- 
1. knock [nɒk] *vt.* 碰撞; 敲打。      2. spill *vt.& vi.* 溢出, 溅出。      3. useless ['ju:slis] *adj.* 无用的。      4. loudly ['laʊdli] *adv.* 大声地。      5. across [ə'krɒs] *prep.* 穿过。  
6. push *vt.* 推。      7. Kroner ['krəʊnə] 克罗那(人名)。

head waiter said. 'I'm very sorry, madam<sup>1</sup>.' He looked angrily at Derek. 'The manager's going to hear about this!<sup>2</sup>' he said fiercely<sup>3</sup>. 'He'll soon send you back to your university. Lazy, useless student!'



Derek was angry too, but he said nothing. He brought some more soup and took it to the corner table.

'That was an accident<sup>4</sup>,' said the young man. 'Those people knocked against you.'

'I know,' said Derek, 'but the manager

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1. madam ['mædəm] *n.* 女士, 太太(对妇女的尊称)。 2. The manager's...this: 经理应当知道这件事; manager ['mænɪdʒə] *n.* 经理。 3. fiercely ['fiəsli] *adv.* 恶狠狠地。 4. accident ['æksɪdənt] *n.* 意外的事; 事故。

won't listen to me. I'm going to lose my job.'

'Speak to the head waiter, Michael<sup>1</sup>,' said his wife.

'All right,' said the young man, and he waved<sup>2</sup> to the head waiter. Derek went away. He was feeling a little happier.

At last the boys' work was finished, and they met in the hall<sup>3</sup>.

'I'm going to lose my job,' said Derek. 'That head waiter never liked me and now he's going to speak to the manager.'

'But Mr Kroner knocked against you,' Ian said angrily. 'I'll tell him. I'm not afraid of him!'

The head waiter came up to the boys.

'You're lucky<sup>4</sup> this time,' he said to Derek. 'One of the guests has spoken to me. The gentleman<sup>5</sup> knocked against you, he

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1. Michael ['maɪkl] 迈克尔(人名)。

2. wave *vi.* 挥手

示意。 3. hall [hɔ:l] *n.* 大厅; 走廊。

4. lucky ['lʌki] *adj.*

幸运的。 5. gentleman ['dʒentlmən] *n.* 绅士, 先生。

thinks. So I won't tell the manager this time ... But don't let it happen again!' and he walked away.

'It was nice of the young man to do that,' said Derek.<sup>1</sup>

'What young man?' Ian asked.

'The one at the corner table. He and his wife were very kind, although I spilled his soup!'

## 2 Caught!

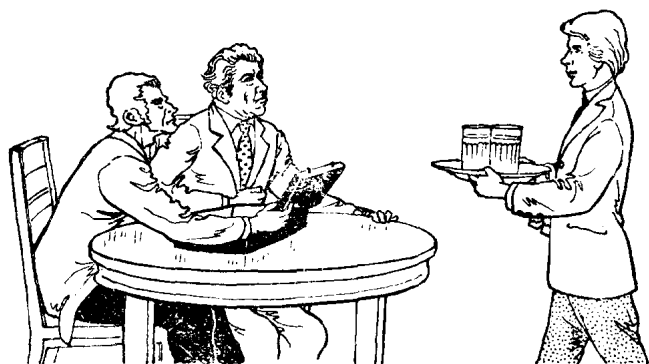
The next day the boys were working in the middle of the morning.

'Take these drinks to Room 312,' the head waiter said to Ian, 'and be quick! They're for Mr Kroner, and he doesn't like waiting!'

Ian took the drinks and went up in the small lift, the one for the hotel waiters only.<sup>2</sup>

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1. 'It was nice of the young man to do that,' said Derek. 德里克说：“那个年青人真好，为我说了话。” that 指那个年青人为他说了话这件事。 2. Ian took ... only. 伊恩端着饮料乘专门为旅馆服务员开的小电梯上去了。



He got out at the third floor and knocked at the door of Room 312. Then he opened it and went in.

Two men were sitting at a round<sup>1</sup> glass table. One was Mr Kroner, and the other was a thin man with grey hair. He was putting a small, black case<sup>2</sup> on the table. The woman was not there.

Mr Kroner looked up.

‘I didn’t say, “Come in,”’ he shouted. ‘Get out at once, do you hear me?’

The thin man moved in front of the table.

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1. round [raund] *adj.* 圓的。

2. case *n.* 箱子, 盒子。

‘I’m sorry,’ said Ian. ‘I’ve brought your...’

‘Stay outside!’ Mr Kroner roared<sup>1</sup>. ‘When I want you, I’ll tell you.’

Ian went outside and closed the door. A minute later the man shouted, ‘Come in!’ and Ian took the drinks in. The two men were sitting near the glass door on the other side of the room. The black case was not on the table, so Ian put the drinks down there and gave the big man the bill<sup>2</sup>.

Mr Kroner put his name on it. ‘Remember,’ he said. ‘Keep out of here until I tell you.’<sup>3</sup>

‘Yes, Mr Kroner,’ Ian said quietly as he went out of the room.

The two boys met again in the afternoon. Ian was excited<sup>4</sup>. He told Derek about Kroner.

‘There was a black case on the table when I went in. Then he sent me out and

---

1. roar [rɔ:] *vi.* 吼叫; (马达等)轰鸣。 2. bill *n.* 账单。

3. Keep out of here until I tell you. 走开, 等我叫你再进来。  
keep out of 置身于……之外。 4. excited [ik'saitɪd] *adj.*  
激动的, 兴奋的。

when I came in again, the case wasn't there.'

'They took it off the table because they wanted you to put the drinks there.'

'No,' said Ian. 'They didn't want me to see it. Perhaps they stole it! I'm going to find that case and look inside!'

'Don't be stupid,' said Derek. 'They'll catch you, and you'll lose your job.'

Ian did not listen. 'It'll be easy,' he said. 'We're free tonight. I'll put my waiter's coat on and, at dinner<sup>今晚</sup> time, when they're in the dining-room, I'll get into their room.'

'But perhaps they'll come back while you're there,' said Derek.

'I'll say, "I've come for the empty glasses,"' said Ian. 'Will you stand outside the door, watch the lift and knock on the door as soon as you see them coming?'

Derek wanted to spend his free evening in his room with a book—but he also wanted to help his friend.<sup>2</sup>

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1. dinner ['dina] n. 正餐, 晚餐。

2. Derek wanted ... friend. 德里克想用晚上空闲时间在屋里看书——然而他也想帮朋友的忙。



‘All right,’ he said at last. ‘I’ll help you. But Kroner’s a dangerous man. He’ll make a lot of trouble for us<sup>1</sup>. I don’t like this, Ian. Why don’t you forget about that black case, and let me have a quiet life?’

At eight o’clock that evening Derek and Ian took the key and went up in the small lift. Ian knocked at the door of Room 312 and waited. There was no answer. He knocked again. There was still no answer. He put the key in the lock<sup>2</sup> and opened the door. Derek waited outside.

Ian went into the room. The light was not on, but some light came through the glass door at the other end of the room. Behind the glass door was a balcony<sup>3</sup>.

Ian looked round the room, but he did not see the black case.

‘They’ve hidden it,’ he thought. He

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1. make a lot of trouble for us 给我们找很多麻烦。 2. lock  
n. 锁; vt. 锁上。 3. balcony [ˈbælkəni] n. 阳台。