Two Year's Holiday

[法] Jules Verne 儒勒·凡尔纳/著

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远方出版社

导　读

在新西兰的奥克兰市，又一个假期开始了。蔡尔曼寄宿学校的十四名十多岁的孩子将要乘游船，开始一次为期几天的航海旅行。然而，当孩子们半夜惊醒时发现，他们已经漂荡在浩瀚的海面上。海面上狂风大作、波涛汹涌，而此时，船上的工作人员仅有一名也不过十几岁的少年见习水手。到底发生了什么事，游船漂到了海上？船长以及其他的水手们呢？孩子们以后的遭遇将会怎样？茫茫黑夜中，他们的船会不会被其它的船撞毁？风雨交加，船会不会被风浪掀翻？孩子们将漂向何处？他们能安全返家吗？读者自会从书中得到满意的答案，而孩子们惊险的遭遇，种种意料不到的事件，使得本书引人入胜，令人神往。

作者儒勒·凡尔纳被誉为"科幻小说之父"，他的历险小说也同样精彩。其作品不仅有很高的文学价值，更包含着丰富的社会、地理、航海、物理、化学、植物学等等诸方面的知识。本书中十五名孩子在一座荒无人烟的小岛上，克服了种种困难，最终平安健康地生存下来。孩子们的这些经历，对今天众多未经风雨的孩子们来说，实在是难得的经验。从中，读者们可以学到许多生存技能，如如何借助自然界所提供的种种宝贵资源来维持生存。当然，更重要的不在于此，而在于，让读者们明白，当身处艰难之境时，只要有热情、理性和勇气，终会摆脱困境的。这是书中这群孩子在经历种种困难后所体会到的，也是本书留给读者最大的启示。

需特别指出的是，虽然作者写的是一群十几岁的孩子所经历的故事，却并不是写一个单纯的孩子的世界，而是以小见大，同时借孩子们的言行写了许多成人的事。如以三个国

籍不同的孩子的个性——法国人布里昂,美国人戈登,英国人多尼范——来写三个国家人的性格。对法国人的柔情,美国人的实际,以及作者所处年代时英国人的高傲刻画得细致入微。

　　还有就是本书中为众人所称道的有关"少年政治"的描写。孩子们在小岛中选举长官、规定职权、任期,进行奖惩,以及选举时的各人反应等等,不正是成人世界的缩影吗?

　　总之,这是一部内容精彩丰富,令人受益匪浅,引人入胜的小说。环环相扣紧密发展的情节,可爱善良的主人公们使得读者会不自觉地为他们喜为他们忧。相信,当最后主人公们都平安返家时,读者虽明知必然如此,也会大舒一口气,这也正是本书的魅力所在。

写给读者的话

读小说可以划分为三个阶段。第一个阶段是以了解故事情节为主,读者关注的是书中形色各异的人物以及他们不同的遭遇和命运。第二个阶段的读者注重透过故事本身去体味它反映的社会现实和作者的情感,进而去品味人生的涵义。第三个阶段的读者则从纯文学的角度把握小说的构思、布局和创作技巧。

由于目的不同,阅读的方式也不同。所以,这三个阶段并没有层次高低的分别。英文小说的读者大多是以学习英语为目的,限于对语言的理解程度,不便也不可能按照后两个阶段的要求阅读。因此,读者们大可不必过高地要求自己,看懂大概内容既可。这样,阅读的负担便减轻了,学习的过程也回复了读书原本的目的——娱乐。

为此,我们特别提醒读者,在阅读时,切莫拘泥于生词,本丛书中任何一部英文小说的单词量均在 12,000 字左右,几乎包括了全部英语常用词汇。遇到生词是很正常的,一见生词就查字典的作法并不可取。过分地关注单词带来的只有扫兴和挫败感。为了保持阅读的兴趣和连续性,建议读者尝试着去抓句子的中心意思,对与中心意思联系不大的单词不必理会。只有与中心意思密切相关的生词才有查字典的必要。无论一页书上有多少生词,翻字典的次数也别超过三次,这是保持阅读连贯性的关键。假设每天看五页书,一页书上记三个单词,一天便掌握十五个单词,正是人脑每日能够熟记的单词量。照此速度,读者在两个半月内即能将本书轻松看完。如果需要将上述数字与英文水平挂钩的话,大学英语四级水平的读者在读完本书后,应能通过大学英语六级考试。而不足四级水平者,则可达到四级水平。

此外,读者应充分利用中文译文。本书的译文对照原文段落在同一页上配附,帮助读者方便和灵活地阅读,碰见生词和晦涩的句子时,读者即可与译文对照。对于个别难懂的段落,也不需费神推敲,可直接阅读译文。由于有了对照译文,读者免去了动辄查字典之苦,也能初探英语翻译之端倪。这正是我们精心设计的初衷。

当然,读者在这部小说中收获的不仅仅是英语,故事本身也给了

我们许多启迪。

我们相信，按照以上的建议阅读本书，读者会受益非浅。

目　录

Chapter 1
The Storm

It was March 9th, 1860, and eleven at night. The sea and sky were as one, and the eye could pierce only a few fathoms into the gloom. Through raging seas, whose waves broke with a livid light, a tiny ship was driving under almost bare poles.

She was a schooner of a hundred tons. Her name was the *Sleuth*, but it would have been sought in vain on her stern, for some accident had torn it away.

In this latitude, at the beginning of March, the nights are short. The day would dawn about five. But would the dangers that threatened the schooner grow less when the sun illumined the sky? Was not this vessel at the mercy of the waves? Undoubtedly; and only the calming of the billows and the lulling of the gale could save her from that most awful of shipwrecks—foundering in the open sea far from any coast where the survivors might find safety.

In her stern were three boys, one about fourteen, the two others about thirteen years of age; these, with a young negro some twelve years old, were at the wheel, and with their united strength they strove to check the lurches which threatened every instant to throw the vessel broadside on. It was a difficult task, for the wheel seemed as though it would turn in spite of all they could do, and hurl them against

第 一 章
风暴

1860 年 3 月 9 日夜间 11 点,夜色苍茫、海天一色,人们的肉眼只能看见几寻内的东西。在这波涛汹涌、云雾缭绕的海面上,一艘轻快的海船破浪而来,连风帆都尚未来得及扯起。

这是一艘百吨级游船,船名叫斯鲁吉号。在船尾牌子上已很难看出这个名号,一次意外事故将顶饰以下的牌子部分地掀掉了。

在这个纬度内,3 月初的黑夜依然很短。凌晨五点时就天已破晓了。可是,当太阳照耀天空时,威胁斯鲁吉号的危险会不会稍为减小? 脆弱的海船会不会仍在风浪中颠簸? 可以肯定,只有当怒浪平息、狂风暂止时,这艘船才有可能免遭最可怕的海难——在茫茫大洋中,远离幸存者兴许尚能获救的陆地而发生的海难!

在斯鲁吉号船尾上,站着三个男孩子——一个 14 岁,另外两个 13 岁——还有一个 12 岁左右的黑人少年见习水手,在坚守舵位。他们齐心协力,谨防出现将游船掀个底朝天的突然偏驶。这是一项十分吃力的操作,因为,舵轮随时会因失去控制而自行转动,把他们

the bulwarks. Just before midnight such a wave came thundering against the stern that it was a wonder the rudder was not unshipped. The boys were thrown backwards by the shock, but they recovered themselves almost immediately.

'Has she still got steerage way, Briant?' one of them asked.

'Yes, Gordon,' answered Briant, who had coolly resumed his place. 'Hold on tight, Donagan,' he continued, 'and don't worry. There are others besides ourselves to look after. You aren't hurt, Moko?'

'No, Massa Briant,' answered the boy. 'But we must keep the yacht before the wind, or we'll be pooped.'

At this moment the door of the companion leading to the saloon was thrown open. Two little heads appeared above the level of the deck, and with them came the face of a dog, who gave a loud 'Whough! whough!'

'Briant! Briant!' shouted one of the youngsters. 'What's the matter?'

'Nothing, Iverson, nothing!' returned Briant. 'Get down again with Dole, and look sharp!'

'We're awfully frightened down here,' said the other boy, who was a little younger.

'All of you?' asked Donagan.

'Yes, all of us!' said Dole.

'Well, get back again,' Briant told them.

从舷墙上面抛出去。临近子夜时分，一个海浪扑向船侧，幸亏游船没失去控制，这简直是个奇迹。这几个孩子因剧烈颠荡而被摔倒，但他们又一骨碌地都爬起身来。

"舵稳得住吗，布里昂?"其中一个孩子问。

"稳得住，戈登，"布里昂重回原来的位置，镇静如初地答道。接着，布里昂对另一个孩子说:"紧紧把住，多尼范，别泄气!除我们外，还有别的人需要救啊!""你没受伤吧，莫科?"布里昂又转向少年见习水手:

"没有，布里昂先生，"少年见习水手答道，"我们一定得让游船顶住海浪，要不，我们会被掀翻的。"

突然，通往纵帆船客厅的楼梯口的门被猛地撞开，两个小脑袋出现在甲板上，接着是一条小狗，"汪、汪"大叫了几声。

"布里昂? 布里昂?"一个九岁的孩子喊道，"究竟出什么事了?"

"没事，艾弗森，没事!"布里昂答道，"你快跟多尔下去，快点!"

"我们呆在下面害怕极了!"另一个更小一些的孩子补充了一句。

"其他人呢?"多尼范问。

"我们都一样!"多尔应道。

"喂，你们统统回去!"布里

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'Shut up; get under the bed-clothes; shut your eyes; and nothing will hurt you. There's no danger!'

'Look out,' exclaimed Moko. 'Here's another wave!'

A violent blow shook the vessel's stern. Fortunately the wave did not come on board, for if the water had swept down the companion, she would have been swamped.

'Get back, will you?' shouted Gordon. 'Go down, or I'll come after you!'

'Look here,' Briant told them, rather more gently. 'Go down. you young'uns.'

The two heads disappeared, and at the same moment another boy appeared.

'Do you want us, Briant?'

'No, Baxter,' said Briant. 'You and Cross and Webb and Service and Wilcox stop with the kids; we four can manage.'

Baxter shut the door from within.

'Yes, all of us,' Dole had said.

But were there only boys on board this storm-driven schooner? Yes, only boys! And how many were there? Fifteen, counting Gordon, Briant, Donagan, and the negro. How did they come to be here? That you shall know shortly.

昂说,"把门关起来,躲进被窝里,闭上眼睛,就什么事都没了。我们很安全!"

"注意! 莫科喊了一声,"又一个海浪!"

船尾被猛烈地撞击了一下。这一回,幸亏海水没涌上甲板,要是海水从楼梯口灌进船舱,游船将会因负载过重而无法在狂风怒浪中漂浮。

"快回去啊!"戈登喊道,"快回去,要不,我给你们好看了!"

"喂,回去,小家伙!"布里昂以更为温和的口吻补充道。

两个脑袋缩回去了,但在这会儿,另一个小孩又从楼梯口钻了出来,说:

"你不需要我们帮忙吗,布里昂?"

"不需要,巴克斯特,"布里昂答道,"克罗斯、韦布、塞维斯、威尔科克斯,还有你,你们跟小家伙呆在一起! 我们四个能行!"

巴克斯特从里面将门掩上。

"其他人也害怕!"多尔刚才这样说过。

可是,难道在这只被风浪卷走的纵帆船上只有孩子吗?对,只有孩子! 船上一共有几个? 15 个,连戈登、布里昂、多尼范和少年见习水手在内,他们是在什么情况下上船的? 大家很快便会知道了。

Was there no man on the yacht? Not a captain to command her? Not a sailor to give a hand in controlling her? Not a helmsman to steer in such a storm? No! Not one!

And more than that—there was nobody on board who knew her position! And on what ocean? The largest of all, the Pacific.

What, then, had happened? Had the schooner's crew disappeared in some catastrophe? Had the Malay pirates carried them off and left on board only this batch of boys? A yacht of a hundred tons ought to have a captain, a mate, and five or six men, and of these all that had been left was the negro boy! Where did the schooner hail from? How long had she been at sea? Whither was she bound? The boys might have been able to answer these questions had they been asked them by any captain hailing the schooner on her course; but there was neither steamer nor sailingship in sight, and, if there had been, she would have had quite enough to do to look after herself without assisting this yacht that the sea was throwing about like a raft.

Briant and his friends did their utmost to keep her straight ahead.

'What's to be done?' asked Donagan.

'All we can to save ourselves, Heaven help-

船上怎么会没有一个大人？船长呢？海员呢？甚至也没有一个舵手来掌舵？没有！一个也没有！

更糟的是船上兴许没一个人能说出斯鲁吉号在这个大洋中的准确方位！船在哪个大洋上？在太平洋上，所有大洋中最辽阔的一个！

到底出了什么事？纵帆船上的船员遇到了什么样的灾难？难道是马来西亚的海盗将他们掠走，船上仅留下年纪最大也不过才刚满14岁的少年乘客在指挥全局？一艘百吨级游船至少需要一位船长，一位水手长和五、六个船员，可是，在操纵游船所必不可少的这批人马中，如今却只剩下一个少年见习水手！这艘纵帆船究竟从何而来？在海上飘流了多久？要驶向何方？任何一位船长要是在这无边无际的海洋中遇着斯鲁吉号，兴许都会提出这样的一些问题，而这班孩子无疑也会一一作出回答；可是，放眼看去，既不见货船也没有客轮。更何况，即使有船，但驶入这片海域，也得全力小心应对风暴，无暇顾及这艘像块破船板在风浪中颠簸的游船。

布里昂和他的伙伴竭力把住舵，使这艘纵帆船能笔直前行。

"怎么办？"多尼范问。

"有神明相助，我们完全可

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ing us,' answered Briant, although now even the most energetic man might have despaired, for the storm was increasing in violence.

The gale was blowing in thunderclaps, as the sailors say, and the expression was only too accurate. The schooner had lost her mainmast, so that no trysail could be set under which she might have been more easily steered. The foremast still held, but the shrouds had stretched, and every minute it threatened to crash on to the deck. The fore-staysail had been split to ribbons, and kept up a constant cracking like rifle-fire. All that remained sound was the foresail, and this seemed as though it would go every moment, for the boys had not been strong enough to reef it. If it were to go, the schooner could not be kept before the wind, the waves would board her and she would go down.

Not an island had been sighted; and there could be no continent to the east. To run ashore would be terrible, but the boys did not fear its terrors so much as those of this interminable sea. A lee shore, with its shoals, its breakers, the terrible roaring waves beaten into surf by the rocks, would be at least firm ground, and not this raging ocean, which any minute might open under their feet. And so they looked ahead for some light to which they could steer.

But there was no light in that thick darkness!

以脱险!"布里昂信心十足地答道。虽然在这种情况下,即使最有能耐的成人也难免悲观绝望,因为风暴还在不断地增强。

风,正像海员们所说的那样,如霹雳般猛烈。这种说法实在恰当不过了。斯鲁吉号的主桅早就折断了,他们始终未能扯起一幅短帆以便更稳妥地进行操纵。船的前桅尚能顶得住,但支撑它的横桅裹正在慢慢松开,它每分钟都有倾倒在甲板上的危险。船艏的支索帆已经被撕成布条。全部风帆只剩前桅帆还管用了,而这块前桅帆也支撑不了多久,因为这群小孩实在无力作最后一次缩帆以减少受风的面积。前桅帆一旦被撕裂,纵帆船将再也无法继续顺风航行,海浪将会横扫过来,使它倾覆而至下沉。

直到现在,海面上仍没出现过一个海岛,东方也没显露出一片大陆。触岸搁浅是件非常可怕的事,然而,这些孩子可不认为,触岸搁浅比这无边无际、呼啸怒吼的大海更可怕。一处避风的海岸,尽管有浅滩,有岩礁,有排空袭来的涌浪,有拍岸击礁的激浪,但在他们的心目中,这线海岸便是陆地,总比随时会在他们脚下裂开的浩瀚大洋要安全得多! 因此,他们迫切地希望能看到一点火光,可将船驶过去。

但夜色深重,并无一点火

Suddenly, about one o'clock, a fearful crash was heard above the roaring of the storm.

'There goes the foremast!' exclaimed Donagan.

'No,' Moko corrected him, 'it's the foresail blown clean away!'

'We must clear it,' said Briant. 'You stay at the wheel, Gordon, with Donagan; you, Moko, come and help me.'

Briant was not quite ignorant of things nautical. On his voyage out from Europe he had learnt a little seamanship, and that was why his companions, who knew none whatever, had left the schooner in his and Moko's hands.

Briant and the negro rushed forward. At all costs the foresail must be cut adrift, for it had caught and was bellying out in such a way that the schooner was in danger of capsizing. If that happened she could never be righted, unless the mast were cut away and the wire shrouds broken, and how could the boys manage that?

Briant and Moko set to work with remarkable judgment. Their object was to keep as much sail on the schooner as possible, so as to steer her before the wind as long as the storm lasted. They slacked off the halliards and let the sail down to within four of five feet of the deck: then they cut off the torn strips with their knives, secured the lower corners and made all snug. Twenty times, at least, they

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光!

凌晨一时许,突然一个可怕的撕裂声压过狂风的呼啸声传出来。

"前桅帆的桅杆折断啦!"多尼范喊了一声。

"不!"莫科更正道,"是前桅帆被扯裂了!"

"必须把它扯下来,"布里昂说,"戈登,你留下跟多尼范掌舵,你,莫科,来帮帮我!"

布里昂对航海知识略知一二。他在从欧洲到大洋洲的旅行中,稍稍学了一些航海知识。正因如此,对航海一窍不通的其他孩子便将驾驭纵帆船的责任托付给他和莫科。

布里昂和少年见习水手敏捷地冲向游船的船艏。前桅帆裂下的部分形成一个口袋,兜住了风,这使得船都快翻了,为避免游船被掀翻,无论如何得扯掉前桅帆。游船一旦倾倒,便再也无法恢复正位,除非砍断侧支钢索后从底部截断前桅帆的桅杆;但这几个半大孩子怎能办到?

布里昂和莫科果断地处理了这个险情。他们尽可能地多保留了一点风帆,以便在狂风持续下去时使斯鲁吉号能继续顺风航行。他们终于成功地将横桁升降索松开,使横桁降至离甲板四、五尺高。接着他们用小刀割掉了前桅帆的碎片,将它的下角用两根副转桁索系

were in danger of being swept away by the waves.

Under her very small spread of canvas, the schooner could still be kept on her course, and though the wind had so little to take hold of, she was driven along at the speed of a torpedo-boat. The faster she went, the better. Her safety depended on her outspeeding the waves, so that none could follow and board her.

Briant and Moko were making their way back to the wheel when the companion door again opened and a boy's head again appeared. This time it was Jack, Briant's brother, and three years his junior.

'What do you want, Jack?' asked his brother.

'Come here! Come here!' said Jack. 'There's water in the saloon.'

Briant rushed down the companion-stairs. The saloon was confusedly lighted by a lamp, which the rolling swung backwards and forwards. Its light revealed a dozen boys on the couches. The youngest—there were some as young as eight—were huddling against each other in fear.

'There's no danger,' Briant assured them, wanting to give them confidence. 'We're all right. Don't be afraid.'

Then, holding a lighted lantern to the floor, he saw that some water was washing from side to side.

住,然后固定在舷墙的系索拴上。在做这些时,他们曾几度险些被海浪卷走。

借助这一点点风帆,纵帆船得以继续它原来的航向。而且虽然船帆只受到那么一点风,但游船仍能像鱼雷快艇似地高速前进。它航行得越快越好,只要他总能溜在风浪前,就不必担心风浪的袭击了。

之后,布里昂和莫科返回戈登和多尼范身边协助他俩掌舵。突然,楼梯口的门又一次被打开了。一个孩子探出头来。这是雅克,布里昂的弟弟,比布里昂小三岁。

"有什么事吗,雅克?"他哥哥问他。

"天啦! 天啦!"雅克答道,"客厅也进水啦!"

布里昂赶紧扑向楼梯口,三步并作两步地下去了。一盏前后晃荡的灯发出微弱的光照亮客厅。借着灯光,可看见十来个躺在斯鲁吉号的长沙发或吊铺上的孩子。年纪最小的几个——有些才八、九岁——都吓得挤成了一团。

"没事! 不用担心!"布里昂向他们保证,好让他们放心,"我们大家在一起! 不用害怕!"

然后,他提起搁在地板上的一盏舷灯各处照了照,发现客厅地面上正流淌着大量的海水。

Where had this water come from? From a leak? That must be seen to at once.

Forward of the saloon was the day-saloon, then the dining-saloon, and then the crew's quarters.

Briant went through these in order, and found that the water came from the seas dashing over the bows and down the fore-companion, which had not been quite closed, and that it had been run aft by the pitching of the ship. There was no danger here.

He stopped to cheer up his companions as he went back through the saloon, and then returned to his place at the helm. The schooner was very strongly built, and had only just been re-coppered, so that she might withstand the waves for some time.

It was then about one. The darkness was deeper than ever, and the clouds still gathered; and more furiously than ever raged the storm. The yacht seemed to be rushing through a liquid mass that flowed above, beneath, and around her. The shrill cry of the petrel was heard. Did its appearance mean that land was near? No; for the petrel is often met with hundreds of miles at sea. And these stormbirds found themselves powerless to struggle against the aerial current and were swept along like the schooner.

An hour later there was another report from the bow. What remained of the foresail had been split to ribbons, and the strips flew off into space like huge seagulls.

水从哪来？是从船板的裂缝中渗进来的吗？这得立刻搞清楚。

客厅前面是一间大厅，再往前是餐厅和船员舱房。

布里昂依次查看了这几间房，发现水是从船头打上甲板而从舱房顶盖渗进来，并流淌到船尾的，看来没什么危险。

布里昂重新穿过客厅，顺道停下来安慰一下他的小伙伴们好让他们放心。然后便回到船舵的位置上。这艘纵帆船建造得十分牢固，新近还重新装备了一层质量上乘的铜护衬，因而或许能顶得住海浪的袭击。

这时是凌晨一点左右。浓云密布，夜显得格外漆黑；狂风呼啸，游船仿佛整个儿埋入水中似地航行着。海燕尖厉的叫声划破长空。既然看见海燕的身影，是不是可以断言陆地已经不远？不能，因为，人们在离海岸几百里远的海面上也常常遇到这些海燕。况且，这些风暴中的鸟儿无力抵抗空中的气流，也像纵帆船那样随风飘荡。

一小时后，船上又响起了一声撕裂声。前樯帆剩下的帆布被撕碎了，帆片宛若一群巨大的银鸥，在空中四散飞舞。

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