

外研社·剑桥英语原创读物 (5级)

【英汉双语】

Jungle Love

★★★★★

丛林爱情故事

MARGARET JOHNSON (英) 著

陈红梅 译



外语教学与研究出版社

FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING AND RESEARCH PRESS

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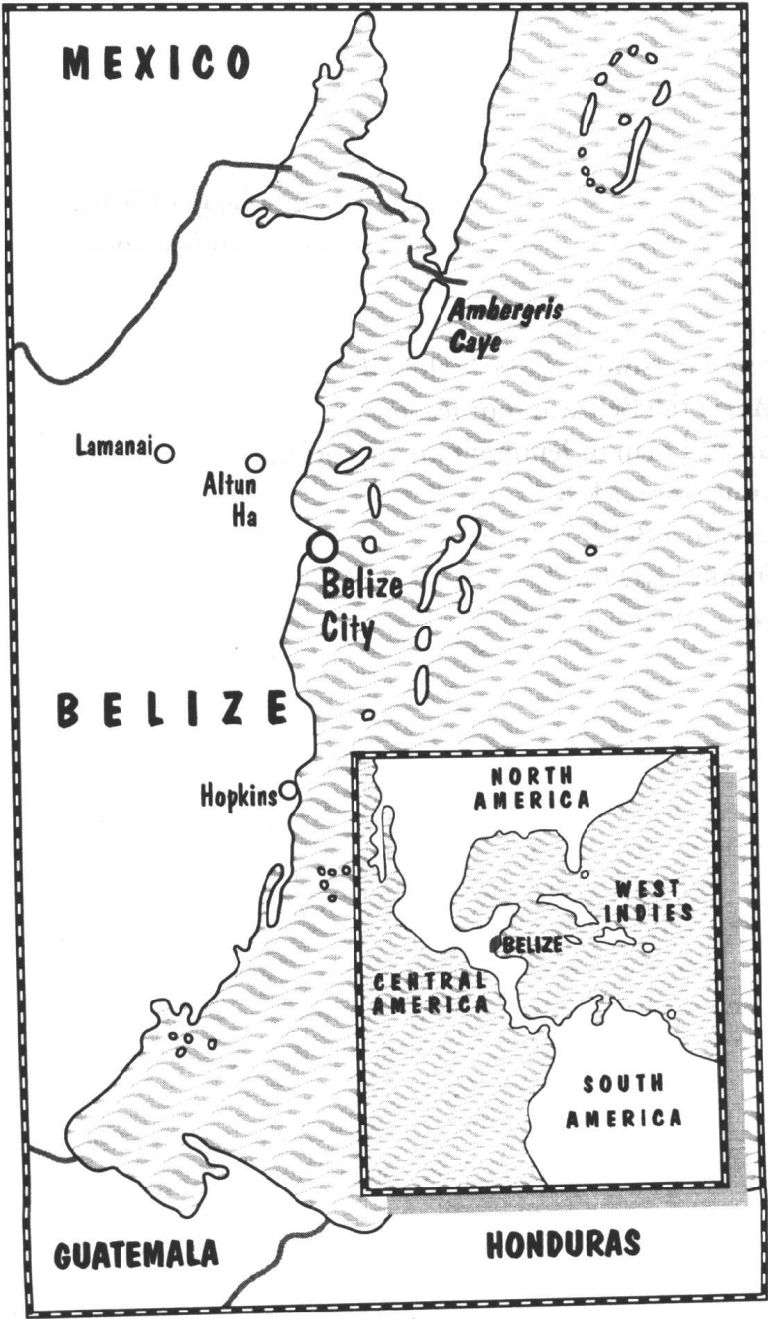
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Maps (地图)



Characters

Jennifer Wilson: a young woman on holiday in Belize

Lisa Casey: the young woman sharing Jennifer's room

Ian: another member of the holiday group

Caroline: Ian's girlfriend

Pete Dobson: engaged to Jennifer

Mary: the Belizean tour leader

Gary: a man in Jennifer's life in England

Aunt Rose: Mary's aunt

Ocean: a Belizean man

Frank: Lisa's brother

Sam: a Belizean guide

书中人物

珍妮弗·威尔逊：到伯利兹度假的一住年轻女子

莉萨·凯西：和珍妮弗同住一个房间的年轻女子

伊恩：同在一个旅行团的成员

卡罗琳：伊恩的女朋友

皮特·多布森：珍妮弗的未婚夫

玛丽：伯利兹的一位导游

加里：珍妮弗在英国的男友

罗斯姑妈：玛丽的姑妈

奥切安：一个伯利兹当地的男子

弗兰克：莉萨的弟弟

萨姆：伯利兹的一位导游

Chapter 1 *In the jungle*

Jennifer

At eleven o'clock this morning, I was standing at the edge of a rain forest with my eyes closed. The smell of the warm, wet leaves was so strong it was quite delicious and the sounds were magical; hundreds of different birds were singing unfamiliar songs in the treetops all around me. Somewhere, out in the heart of the jungle, wild animals were hunting for food. Belize is so mysterious and exciting – a place where anything could happen. And I, Jennifer Wilson, am here, a part of it all.

Unfortunately, so is Lisa. There we were today in this magical place and Lisa started her usual complaining.

'How could I be so stupid as to pick a tour with only one other single person on it?'

'What?' I turned unwillingly to look at her, not wanting to lose the magic of the ancient forest.

Lisa was looking at me moodily. 'Of all the tours in all the holiday brochures in all the world, I had to pick this one,' she complained. 'Six happy couples and you and me. It isn't fair; you should be a man.'

I had heard this statement at least three times before, so I closed my eyes to see if the magic would return. 'I'm sorry I'm such a disappointment to you.'

I heard Lisa sigh heavily. 'Oh, it isn't your fault, I suppose,' she said generously. 'I blame the holiday

第一章 在丛林中

珍妮弗

今天早上 11 点，我闭着眼睛站在热带雨林的边沿地带。树叶散发出的暖融融、湿润的气味是这样地浓烈，很好闻。树林里的声音听起来很神奇，数百只不同的鸟儿在周围的树梢上唱着我不熟悉的歌儿。远在丛林的深处，野生动物正寻觅着食物。伯利兹是如此的神秘而又令人激动——一个可能发生任何事情的地方。而我，珍妮弗·威尔逊，在这里成为所有这一切中的一部分。

不幸的是，莉萨也在这里。今天我们都来到了这个神奇的地方，莉萨又开始像往常一样抱怨起来。

“我怎么这么傻，竟然选了一个只有两个单身游客的旅行团？”

“什么？”我很不情愿地转过头去看她，不想失去这古老森林的神奇魅力。

莉萨忧悒地看着我。“在整个世界上所有假日手册的所有旅游路线中，我却选了这条，”她抱怨道，“六对幸福的夫妇，再加上你和我，真不公平；你应该是个男人。”

这话我以前至少听她讲过三遍了。所以我又闭上眼睛，想看看森林的魔力是否能再回来。“真对不起，我让你失望了！”

我听到莉萨重重地叹了口气。“这也不是你的错，我想，”她倒是很大方地说，“我是说这个旅游公司。我的意思是他们应该组织得更

delicious *adj.* 美味的 **magical** *adj.* 有魔力的，神奇的
mysterious *adj.* 神秘的，不为人所知的 **unfortunately** *adv.* 不幸地，倒霉地
complain *v.* 抱怨，指责 **moodily** *adv.* 忧悒地
brochure *n.* 手册，小册子 **statement** *n.* 陈述，声明

company. I mean, they should have arranged it better. Everybody knows a single person doesn't book onto a trip like this just to see the sights.'

I opened my eyes again, giving up on magic for a while.

'A single person on holiday alone is looking for a partner,' Lisa continued. 'It's obvious.'

'Well, I'm not,' I said, but Lisa didn't seem to believe me.

'Don't be silly,' she said. 'Of course you are.'

I knew there wasn't any point in trying to argue with her, so I shut up. Which is exactly what I wish Lisa would do from time to time. She loves talking, you see. About everything and everyone, but especially about herself. In the two weeks we've been travelling together, I've heard about: her family – her mum and a brother; her job – a manager in a London restaurant; and her flat – living room, kitchen, large bathroom and two bedrooms. I also know every tiny detail of every other holiday she's ever been on and about most of her ex-boyfriends. It's only too clear that Lisa *needs* to talk.

'Look,' I said, trying to escape, 'I'll see you later on, OK? I want to look for hummingbirds.'

But as usual Lisa didn't seem to want to be on her own. 'No, it's alright,' she said. 'I'll come with you. Although I don't understand why you're so interested in hummingbirds.'

'We don't get hummingbirds in England,' I reminded her.

'Well, you certainly do here in Central America!' she said. 'Thousands of them. Millions of them! There are six pages of them in Mary's bird book.' Mary's our tour leader,

好一点儿。谁都知道一个单身游客订这样一趟旅行并不完全是为了看风景的呀!”

我又睁开双眼,暂时放弃享受森林的魔力。

“单身一个人去度假就是为了寻找伴侣,”莉萨接着说,“这是很显然的。”

“噢,我就不是这样的,”我说,但是莉萨似乎不太相信我。

“别犯傻了,”她说,“你当然是。”

我知道试图和她争论没有一点儿意义,所以我闭上嘴不说话了。我有时真希望莉萨也会闭上嘴。你知道,她喜欢唠叨。唠叨所有的事,唠叨所有的人,特别是她自己。在一起旅行的这两个星期里,我已经听她说过了:她的家人——妈妈和弟弟;她的工作——伦敦一家餐厅的经理;还有她住的公寓——客厅、厨房、大卫生间和两个卧房。我还知道了她以前所有假期的几乎每一个细节,听说了她的大多数前任男朋友。太明显不过,莉萨需要唠叨。

“哎,”我说,试图避开她的唠叨,“我过一会儿来找你,好吗?我想去看看蜂鸟。”

但是和往常没什么两样,莉萨看来又不想一个人待着。“不,没关系,”她说,“我和你一起去。不过我真的不明白你为什么对蜂鸟这么感兴趣?”

“英格兰没有蜂鸟,”我提醒她道。

“在中美洲这里当然有!”她说,“成千上万的蜂鸟!无数的蜂鸟!玛丽的鸟类图书上就有六页都是介绍蜂鸟的!”玛丽是我们旅行团的领队。一个和我们差不多年纪的女孩儿,她在伯利兹出生,是一个

book v. 预定; 预约 **obvious** *adj.* 显然的, 明显的

there is no point/use/meaning in doing sth. 意为“……是没有意义的”

hummingbird *n.* 蜂鸟 **Central America** (地名) 中美洲

a girl of about our own age. She was born here in Belize and she's really nice.

'Speaking of Mary,' Lisa said, 'I think she's trying to get our attention. Hey, Mary! We're over here!' As Lisa shouted – very loudly – I watched every bird, including all the hummingbirds, fly away into the forest.

'You girls are going to miss what Sam has to tell you about the Mayan people!' Mary shouted back.

'Looks as if your hummingbirds will have to wait,' Lisa said.

I looked at her, doing my best to keep my feelings from my face. 'They've gone now anyway,' I pointed out.

'Oh well,' said Lisa with a little laugh, 'that's all right then, isn't it?'

* * *

'The ancient Mayans believed that everything in the jungle had power,' Sam, the guide, told us when we were all gathered together. 'Every animal, every tree, even the smallest insects on the ground, everything had power. They were all gods. And these gods could choose whether to be kind or angry to the people of the forest. Of course the Mayans wanted the gods to be kind to them so they gave them gifts to make them happy.'

'What sort of gifts?' someone asked.

'They gave the gods the gift of their lives,' Sam said, looking round at us all. 'Thousands of people have died right here to keep the gods happy.'

'How horrible!' someone else said.

I thought it was horrible too, but I also thought it was really interesting. I work as an illustrator, painting pictures

很好的女孩儿。

“说到玛丽，”莉萨说，“我觉得她是竭力想引起我们的注意。嗨，玛丽！我们在这儿！”在莉萨大声嚷嚷的当儿，我看着一只只小鸟，包括所有的蜂鸟，都飞入了大森林。

“你们要错过萨姆关于马雅人的讲解了！”玛丽大声喊道。

“看来你的蜂鸟得等等了！”莉萨说。

我看了看她，尽力控制自己的情绪不在脸上显露出来。“不管怎样，它们现在已经飞走了，”我挑明了。

“噢，嗯，”莉萨轻笑了一下，“那很好，不是吗？”

* * *

“古代马雅人相信丛林中的万物都有力量，”旅行团的导游萨姆在大家都聚到一起时对我们说道，“每一种动物、每一棵树、甚至是地上最小的虫子，任何一种事物都有力量。它们都是神灵。所有这些神灵都能决定对森林里的人们是和善还是愤怒。马雅人当然希望这些神灵对他们和善，所以他们献礼物给神灵以取悦它们。”

“什么样的礼物？”有人问道。

“他们把自己的生命献给神灵们，”萨姆边说边看着我们大伙，“为了让神灵们高兴，成千上万的人就在这里献出自己的生命。”

“多么可怕！”另外有人感叹道。

我也觉得很可怕，但是同时我还觉得很有意思。我的工作

Mayan *n.* 马雅人; *adj.* 马雅(人)的
insect *n.* 昆虫 **illustrator** *n.* 插图画家

for children's books, and as I listened to what Sam was telling us, I was almost painting pictures in my mind.

'To the Mayan Indians, it was an honour to be chosen for this sacrifice,' Sam continued. 'They did not fear it, as you or I would do. And sometimes they did not need to die. Sometimes the people were only asked to wound themselves to provide blood for the gods. Even the kings did this. Imagine it ladies and gentlemen; imagine thousands of people standing here where you are standing now, as the king climbed to the very top of this hill. Everyone watched the king as he slowly took a knife from his pocket,' Sam continued, using his hands to demonstrate the actions he was describing, 'a knife made from the spine or backbone of a fish, the stingray. This bone was sharp, ladies and gentlemen; very, very sharp. The king held the knife high above his head, and then he opened his clothes and quickly brought it down to make a wound in his body.'

'Was it always a king?' Lisa wanted to know now. 'Or were there queens in the days of the Mayans?'

'Yes,' Sam told her, 'sometimes there were queens, and yes, sometimes they had to make a sacrifice of their blood. They did this by using the spine of the stingray to make a wound in their tongue.'

'Oh no! How awful!' Lisa said, and, watching her, I couldn't help smiling.

Ian, one of the men in our group, was smiling too. 'No, Lisa,' he said, 'that wouldn't suit you at all, would it?'

Then Mary started to laugh. 'You're right, Ian. Lisa wouldn't be able to talk all the time!'

And suddenly everyone was laughing at Lisa.

图画家，给儿童读物画插图。听着萨姆给我们解说的同时，我在脑子里几乎都能画出画来。

“对马雅人来说，能被选中去做这种牺牲是一种很荣耀的事，”萨姆接着说，“和你我不一样，他们并不害怕。而且有时候他们不需要去死。有时候他们只需弄伤自己给神灵们献上他们的鲜血。国王甚至都这样做。想像一下吧，女士们，先生们！想像一下国王爬到这座小山的山顶的时候，在你们现在站着的地方站着成千上万的人。每一个人都看着国王慢慢地从口袋里掏出他的小刀来，”萨姆边说边打着手势，演示着他正在描述的动作，“那把刀是用一种鱼——黄貂鱼的脊椎骨做成的。这种骨头很锋利，女士们，先生们！非常非常的锋利。国王把这把刀高高地举过头顶，然后掀开衣服，很快地在自己的身体上划开一条口子。”

“一直都是有国王吗？”莉萨现在就想知道，“在马雅人的时代是不是还有过女王？”

“是的，”萨姆告诉她，“有时候也曾有过女王，而且有时候她们也得献上自己的鲜血。她们用黄貂鱼的脊椎骨在舌头上刺出伤口取血。”

“哦，不！太可怕了！”莉萨说。看着她，我禁不住笑了。

伊恩，我们旅行团里的一位男士，也笑了。“是啊，莉萨，”他说，“这可不是你干的事，是吧？”

玛丽听着笑了。“对啊，伊恩。那样的话莉萨就没法不停地说话了！”

突然间所有的人都看着莉萨大笑起来。

sacrifice *n.* 牺牲献祭；祭品 **demonstrate** *v.* 演示，说明
spine *n.* (鱼鳍的)刺；脊椎 **stingray** *n.* 黄貂鱼
bring down 皮下去；击毁