

災対照英语沙龙徳兰English Salon Reading Series

神秘的外商 MYSTERIOUS MERCHANT



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内容提要:从瑞维威亚来了一位珠宝商,他来华既是为了做生意,也是为了旅游,某外贸公司派了一位很能干的女销售经理陪他到处游览,向他推销各地的特产。他来华后的一系列表现使人觉得此人既有趣,又捉摸不透。有一位瑞国女大学生,后来又有一位瑞国记者,一直跟踪他。这位外南究竟是何人?

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德兰,姓熊,我国享有盛名的英语语言学家和小说家。从 小在英国长大,曾人牛津大学攻读英国文学,获硕士学位。新 中国成立前夕回国,先后在北师大和外交部任教,常年从事 对外事翻译和外交官的英语培训工作。英语和汉语都是她的 母语。她习惯用英语思考与写作;德兰的英文作品文笔活泼, 语言地道,趣味浓厚,深受我国英语学习者的喜爱。

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Telex 电传

TO MR. CHEN HAI, YELLOW RIVER IMPORT AND EXPORT COMPANY, BEIJING, CHINA. FROM GEORGE GREEN OF GREEN JEWELLERY COMPANY, REDAN, REVIVIA. ARRIVING IN BEIJING AT 11 A.M. SEPT. 21 BY FLIGHT 204 FROM HONGKONG. PLEASE SEND SOMEONE TO MEET ME AT THE AIRPORT. I AM A MAN WITH GREY HAIR AND BEARD. R.S. V.P.

致中国北京市黄河进出口公司陈海先生:瑞维威亚国瑞旦市格林珠宝公司乔治·格林将从香港乘204 航班于9月21日上午11时抵达北京。请派人到机场接我。我,男性,须发皆白。请作复。

		·	



A Holmes Fan 一体格尔摩斯迷

It was one of those lovely autumn afternoons when the airliner landed at Capital Airport of Beijing. All the passengers gathered their belongings and got down from the plane--all except one. She was a well-dressed young lady with sunglasses still sitting on her seat, absorbed in a book.

A Chinese air hostess approached her, saying:

"Excuse me, madam, do you realize we've already arrived in Beijing?"

"Yes, I know." She

秋落 机己一外究轻自地看来在的行只是下京首都下个穿镜然上的行只是着太她位上,人机起飞人着的坐人上,一个穿镜然上。座本书上的一个。就是一个穿镜然上。座本书上,一个穿镜然上。

一位中国航空小 姐走过来对她说:

"对不起,女士, 您知道我们已经到达 北京了吗?"

"是的、我知

said calmly, closing her book and putting it into her handbag.

"But you don't seem to be ready to get off."

"The book is so fascinating!" explained the young lady. "It's about Sherlock Holmes' trip to China."

"You mean Holmes, the famous detective?"

"Yes, of course."

"How strange!" said the air hostess. "As far as I know, he never came to China."

"But he did. According to this book, Holmes became a businessman when he was old, and came to China to deal in Chinese native products. He may be in Beijing right now--who knows?"

"That would be fantastic! But it's no time for us to discuss Sherlock Holmes, madam. All the passengers have got off by

道。"她平静地说,并 把书合上,放进自己的 手提包里。

"可是您好像还没 做好下飞机的准备。"

"这本书太引人人 胜了!"年轻女士解释 说。"它写的是夏洛克· 福尔摩斯的中国之行。"

"您是说福尔摩斯,那位大名鼎 朝的侦探吗?"

"是的,就是他。"

"奇怪!"航空小姐 说。"据我所知,他从未 来过中国。"

"可是他的确来过。 这本书上说,福尔摩斯晚年成了商人,并在中国做过中国土产生意。 他没难这会儿就在北京——谁知道呢?"

"那太不可思议了! 不过这会儿可不是我们 讨论夏洛克·福尔摩斯 的时候,女士。除您之 外,所有旅客现在都已 now except you."

The Holmes fan stood up to look round, and found the plane empty except for the crew who were waiting for her at the door.

"Sorry to have kept you waiting," she said, "but somebody has to be the last to leave. I'll collect my baggage at once and off I'll go'!"

She looked for her luggage on the rack above her but found it missing

"Golly²! Where's my bag?" she asked.

"It's right in your hand, madam," said the air hostess.

"No! This is my handbag, It's the travelling bag that's missing."

She looked along the rack on the opposite side of the aeroplane and found a bag similar to her own, but bigger and darker in colour.

经下飞机了。"

这位福尔摩斯迷 站起来往四周看了 看,发现除了在机舱 门口等候她的机组人 员外,飞机上确已空 无一人了。

"对不起,让各位 久等了。"她说,"不过 总得有人最后一个离 开。我这就收拾行李, 马上下飞机!"

她在自己上方的 行李架上找行李,却发 现行李已不翼而飞了。

"天哪,我的包 呢?"她问。

"就在您手里拿着 呢,女士,"航空小姐说。

"不对呀!这是我 的手提包。我的旅行包 不见了。"

她向对面的行李 架抬眼依次扫视了一 通,发现一个和她的包 相似的旅行包,只是比 她的大,颜色也深。 "Is that yours?" asked the air hostess.

"No. Mine is a light brown one, and smaller than this."

"Someone must have taken yours by mistake."

"You mean the owner of this dark brown bag?"

"Yes, very likely. He must have mistaken your bag for his own. This sort of things often happen when you travel."

"If only Sherlock Holmes were here! I' m sure he could find my bag for me," the young lady said with giggles³.

"You're taking all this very calmly, madam. But other passengers would be flabbergasted if they find their luggage missing. Is there any money in that bag of yours?"

"No. There are some clothes, that's all. What's to be done?"

"那是您的吗?"航 空小姐问。

"不是。我的是浅褐 色的,而且比这个小。"

"肯定是有人销拿 了您的包。"

"你指的是这个深 褐色旅行包的主人吗?"

"是的,很有可能。他一定是错把您的包当成是他自己的了。 这种事情在旅行中经常 发生。"

"要是夏洛克·福尔摩斯在这里就好了! 我肯定他会找到我的包,"年轻女士咯咯地笑

"您对这一切倒是 很冷静嘛,女士。换上其 他旅客,要是发现自己 的行李不见了,他们会 惊慌失措的。您的包里 有钱吗?"

"没有。只有一些衣服,没有别的。现在该怎么办呢?"

"Let me see... just follow me, and I'll take you to an office that will help you out of your problem."

The two of them got off the airliner together and went to the Lost Property Office with the dark brown bag.

On their way there, the air hostess explained, "If anyone goes to the office to claim this bag, he or she would be the person that has taken away your bag by mistake."

"Or on purpose. You never can tell. The person may have thought there were a lot of valuables in it."

The air hostess thought this young lady a bit too sophisticated for her age, and asked her: "Where are you from, madam?"

"I got on the liner in Hongkong."

"That I know. It was a

"让我想想看……跟我来,我带您去一个办公室,那儿的人会帮助您的。"

她们俩一起下了 飞机,带着那个深褐 色的旅行包向失物招 领处走去。

在路上, 航空小姐解释说:"如果有人到失物招领处去认领 这个包, 他或者她可能就是错拿了您的包 的人。"

"也可能是故意 拿错的,这可不好说。 那个人可能以为包里 有很多值钱的东西。"

航空小姐觉得, 这位年轻女士年龄不 大,但却老于世故,于 是就问她:"您是从哪 里来的,女士?"

"我是在香港上 的飞机。"

"这我知道,这是

Hongkong-Beijing flight. What's your nationality, if I may ask?"

"I'm a Revivian. Have you ever heard of a country by the name of Revivia?"

"No, I'm afraid not. Where is it?"

"It's one of those small insular⁵ countries on the Pacific Ocean. You know, I've always wanted to come and tour round China ever since I was a kid, and here I am at last!"

"I'm sorry you lost your travelling bag the moment you arrived here."

"It doesn't matter, really. There isn't anything valuable in it, so on second thoughts, I don't think I'll be bothered to get it back."

"You don't want it back?!" the Chinese air hostess asked in surprise. "But your clothes are in it. Don't you need them during your stay in China?"

"That's all right. I'll

香港至北京的航班。 如果你不在意的话, 请问您是哪国人?"

"我是瑞维威亚 人。你听说过这个国 家吗?"

"没有,没听说 过。它在哪儿?"

"它是太平洋上的一个小岛国。你知道,我从小就一直想来中国旅游。现在我终于来了!"

"真抱歉,您刚 到这儿,旅 行 包就 丢了。"

"没关系,真的。那里面没什么值钱的东西。这样再一想,我 觉得用不着费神去把它找回来。"

"您不想把它找 回来?"中国航空小姐 惊讶地问。"可是您的 衣服都在里面呢。难 道您在中国期间不需 要这些衣服吗?"

"没关系。我会

buy new ones in Beijing, as well as a new travelling bag. I think it must be great fun doing shopping in this new and old capital of China."

Now the air hostess was no longer surprised, for she had come to a conclusion.

"you can afford it easily. Maybe you are a millionairess, or at least daughter of a millionair."

"A millionairess?!"
The young lady laughed.
"I wish I were one! But
I'm sorry to say I'm a
poor student that's been
saving up for years for this
China trip."

It was the air hostess' turn to laugh heartily.

She said, "I don't believe a word you are saying. Since you don't want your luggage back, you needn't follow me to the Lost Property Office. You

在北京买新的,再买一个新的旅行包。我想在这个既新兴又古老的中国首都买东西一定很有意思。"

现在,航空小姐不 再感到惊奇了,因为她 已经得出了结论。

"显然,"她说,"花 这笔钱对您来说算不了 什么。也许您是个百万 富翁,至少也是百万富 翁的女儿。"

"百万富翁?!"年 轻女士笑了起来。"但 愿如此!但很遗憾,我 只是个穷学生,为了这 次来华旅游,我攒了好 几年的钱。"

这次轮到航空小姐 开怀大笑了。

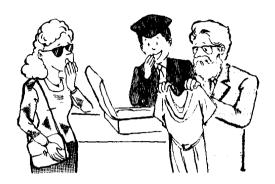
她说:"我才不信您的话呢。既然您不想找回您的行李,那您也就不必跟我到失物招领处去了。您最好马上去海

had better go to the Customs right away. That's the way to the Customs. Goodbye, madam!"

"Bye-bye!Thanks a lot."

"Don't mention it."
Then the Chinese air hostess added with a smile: "If I may say so, madam, next time you travel as a so-called 'poor student', you'd better be dressed as one, instead of wearing such a smart suit."

关。去海关往那边 走。再见,女士。"



Two Strange Strangers 两个奇怪的陌生人

While the Sherlock Holmes fan made her way to the Customs, another Revivian was busy going through the Chinese Customs, which was a thing every foreigner has to do soon after landing.

He was an old man with grey hair and beard. He showed the Customs officer his Revivian passport with his name, George Green, in it.

"Do you have anything to declare, Mr.

就在这位夏洛克主 福尔摩斯迷向海关走走成 的时候,另一位瑞维维 亚人正在中国海关忙者 办理手续,这是每个外 国人下飞机后都必须做 的事。

这是一位须发灰白 的老人。他向中国海关 官员出示了他的瑞维威 亚护照,护照上有他的 名字:乔治·格林。

"格林先生,您有什么需要申报的吗?"海关