

外研社·剑桥英语原创读物（4级）

【英汉双语】

The Amsterdam Connection



阿姆斯特丹匪帮

SUE LEATHER (英) 著

杨冰译



外语教学与研究出版社
FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING AND RESEARCH PRESS

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剑桥英语原创读物



Cambridge English Readers series 是特别为非英语国家的青少年学习者撰写的小说类读物。它不同于屡见不鲜的名著简写本，这套读物的作者都是英国具有多年教学经验的TEFL (Teaching English as Foreign Language) 教师，或者作者本人就是小说家。他们精心选用词汇和语法要点，按照由低到高、循序渐进的等级水平，用地道的英语，创作了这些引人入胜的作品。这套小说题材广泛，包括历险记、探案、科幻、浪漫、喜剧等等，而且主题现代，贴近生活，并涉及到东西方不同的地域文化，读来仿佛如身临其境、兴致盎然。

泛读一直是英语学习的最大秘密，它使学习者可以利用自己的时间，掌握自己的进度，而成功的关键就是——阅读的乐趣！外语教学与研究出版社从剑桥大学出版社引进了这套新型的原创小说类读物，并针对国内读者的不同需求，以英汉双语及英文注释两种形式出版。衷心希望读者朋友们在享受阅读乐趣的同时，进一步提高英语水平！

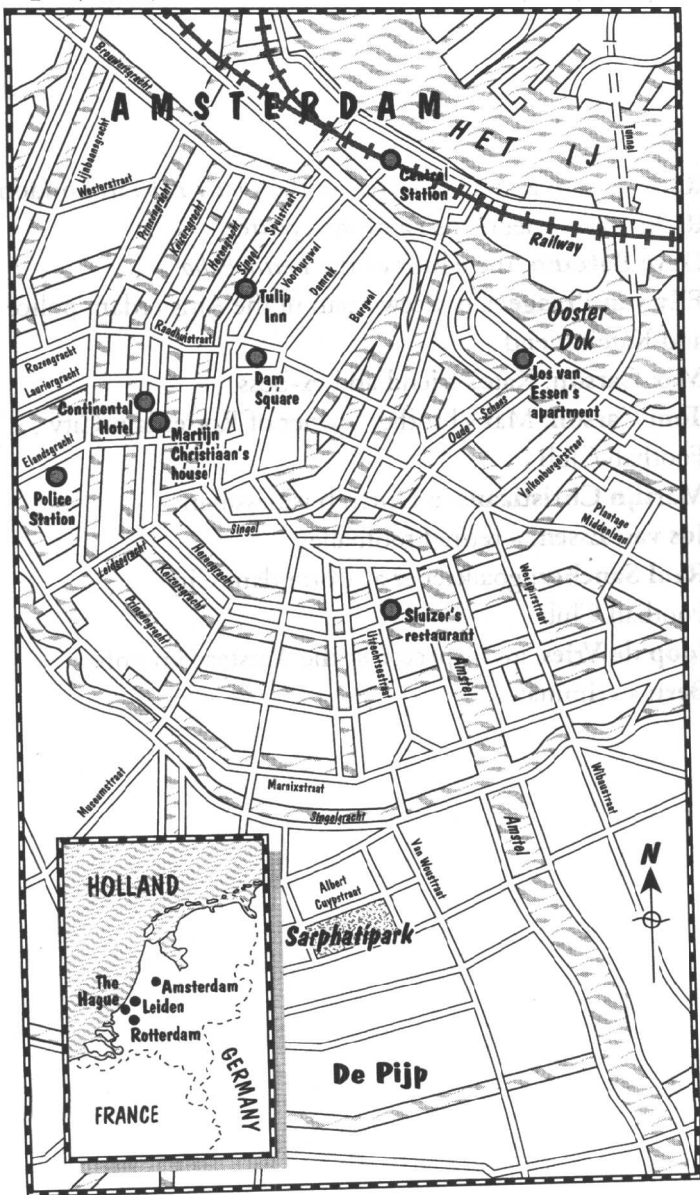
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Maps (地图)



Characters

Kate Jensen: a news reporter on the *Daily Echo* in London

Rick: Kate's friend, also a news reporter

Dave Balzano: the editor of the *Daily Echo*

Elly van Praage: a policewoman in the Amsterdam police and Kate's friend

Max Carson: Kate's friend and ex-boss

Tom Carson: Max's brother, owner of Rotterdam City Football Club

Martijn Christiaans: a Dutch businessman

Jos van Essen: a retired footballer

Raúl Sanchez: goalkeeper at Rotterdam City Football Club

Joop de Vries: an inspector in the Amsterdam police

Bert: a criminal

书中人物

凯特·詹森：伦敦《回音日报》的新闻记者

里克：凯特的朋友，新闻记者

戴夫·巴尔扎诺：《回音日报》的编辑

埃利·范普拉克：阿姆斯特丹警察局的女警察，凯特的朋友

马克斯·卡森：凯特的朋友和前任老板

汤姆·卡森：马克思的弟弟，鹿特丹城足球俱乐部的所有人

马丁·克里斯蒂安斯：荷兰商人

霍斯·范埃森：退役球员

劳尔·桑切斯：鹿特丹城足球俱乐部的守门员

约普·德弗里斯：阿姆斯特丹警察局的警官

伯特：犯罪分子

Chapter 1 *At the pub*

'You need a holiday, Kate,' said Max Carson. It was early evening and we were having a beer in the Queen's Head. 'A break from London,' he added.

'Oh sure, Max.' I smiled. 'Go and tell Balzano. I'm sure he'll agree with you!'

Dave Balzano was an excellent newspaper editor, but he was often angry with his reporters. In fact, he was famous for his bad temper. The thought of Balzano giving me a holiday because I needed one was funny. I said this to Max.

'So Dave hasn't changed, then?' asked Max, laughing. Max knew Dave – and me – from some years ago when we all worked on the *Manchester Evening News*. Max was the editor and Dave was head of foreign news. Max gave me my first job. I was just a young reporter then, trying to make a name for myself. That was before I came to London.

'Er ... no,' I said. 'He certainly hasn't.' I smiled and drank some of my beer. 'But tell me about you,' I added.

I hadn't seen much of Max for a while, mainly because he lived in Holland now. He had been born there. His mother was Dutch, his father was English. He came to England when he was in his early twenties to train as a journalist and he stayed. But Max retired from the *Evening News* five years ago when he was fifty-five, and returned to Holland.

'I'm fine,' said Max.

第一章 在酒馆

“你需要休个假，凯特，”马克斯·卡森说道。正值黄昏时分，我们在女皇头像酒馆喝着啤酒。“离开伦敦一段时间，”他接着说道。

“噢，当然，马克斯，”我微笑着说，“去跟巴尔扎诺说，我相信他会同意你的！”

戴夫·巴尔扎诺是一位很出色的报纸编辑，但他总是对手下的记者发脾气。实际上，他脾气坏是出了名的。只因为我需要休个假，巴尔扎诺就会允许，这个想法真是滑稽，我这么对马克斯说。

“那么，戴夫还是老样子？”马克斯笑着问道。马克斯几年以前就认识我和戴夫，当时我们一起在《曼彻斯特晚报》工作，马克斯是编辑，而戴夫是国际新闻部的主管。马克斯给了我第一份工作，当时我还是个年轻的记者，正在为出人头地而奋斗。那是在我来伦敦以前的事了。

“呃……对，”我说，“他的确没变。”我笑了笑，喝了口啤酒，接着说道：“谈谈你的情况吧。”

我有一段时间不常见到马克斯了，主要是因为他现在住在荷兰。他出生在那里，母亲是荷兰人，父亲是英国人。他20岁出头就来到英国学习做新闻记者，然后就留了下来。不过五年以前，在他55岁的时候，他从《晚报》退休，回到了荷兰。

“我挺好的，”马克斯说。

Manchester *n.* 曼彻斯特（英国英格兰西北部港市）

Holland *n.* 荷兰 Dutch *n.* 荷兰人，荷兰语 retire *v.* 退休

'And the club?' I asked.

Max's brother, Tom, was the owner and manager of Rotterdam City Football Club and the Carson Football School. When Max left the *Manchester Evening News* he had joined his brother, to help him with his business. Max now had about twenty-five per cent of the shares and a nice income for his 'retirement'.

'It's OK,' said Max.

'Only OK?' I asked, surprised.

'Mmm ... yes,' said Max. I got the feeling that he didn't really want to talk about it, so we changed the subject.

Max didn't often come to England these days, except to see friends and to look for new players for Rotterdam City Football Club. When he did come to London he would come to the *Echo's* offices to see me and we usually had a beer at the Queen's Head. It was a typical central London pub, full of office workers with mobile phones. It was smoky and noisy at this time in the evening, but the beer was good.

'So what's happening here in London, Kate?' Max asked.

Max always asked me about my latest story; he liked to know what was happening. He still loved the newspaper business. He and Balzano were complete opposites, and not just because Balzano's father was Italian and Max's mother was Dutch. Balzano was a very good editor, but you never knew when he was going to explode. Max, though, was calm and easy to work with – he was one of the best.

I told him about my last story and the reason I was so exhausted.

'You just need a break,' Max said again.

“那俱乐部呢？”我问道。

马克斯的弟弟汤姆是鹿特丹城足球俱乐部和卡森足球学校的老板和经理。马克斯离开《曼彻斯特晚报》后加入了弟弟的事业，帮助他打理生意。现在马克斯拥有大约 25% 的股份和一份不错的“退休”收入。

“也不错，”马克斯说。

“仅仅是不错？”我惊讶地问道。

“嗯……是的，”马克斯答道。我感到他其实不想谈论俱乐部的事情，所以我们换了个话题。

这段日子里，除了来看朋友或者为鹿特丹城足球俱乐部物色新球员以外，马克斯并不常来英国。当他来伦敦时，他就会到《回音日报》报社的办公室来找我，然后我们通常在女皇头像酒馆喝啤酒。这是一家典型的伦敦市区酒馆，坐满了带着手机的办公室职员。在傍晚的这个时候，酒馆里烟雾缭绕，人声鼎沸，不过这儿的啤酒确实不错。

“伦敦这边有什么事情吗，凯特？”马克斯问道。

马克斯总会问我最近的情况，他想了解发生了什么事情，他仍然热爱着新闻报业。他和巴尔扎诺正好完全相反，这不仅仅是因为巴尔扎诺的父亲是意大利人，而马克斯的母亲是荷兰人。巴尔扎诺是一位优秀的编辑，但是你却从不知道他什么时候会大发脾气，而马克斯则很冷静，很容易相处——他也是很优秀的人。

我跟他说了我最近的经历，还有我为什么这么精疲力竭。

“你只需要休个假，”马克斯又一次说道。

Rotterdam *n.* 鹿特丹(荷兰西南部港市) **typical** *adj.* 典型的，象征性的
explode *v.* 爆发，迸发 **exhausted** *adj.* 精疲力竭

Max was right, I did need a holiday. Life in the city had been really tough for the past few months. I had had some difficult murder stories, the usual zero information from the London police and Balzano pushing me as usual. I was beginning to feel tired and the idea of getting away from London was a very attractive one.

'You like Holland, don't you?' asked Max suddenly.

I laughed. 'Well, yes, but ...' I'd been to Amsterdam once, chasing a story, and I'd loved it.

'And you know something about sport,' he added.

'Well, I know about karate and a bit about boxing,' I said. 'I don't know that much about other sports.' I had trained in karate for ten years and my father had been a boxer when he was young.

I looked at Max, waiting for the rest.

'Listen,' he said, 'why don't you come and write a story about our club in Holland?'

Rotterdam City Football Club was one of the top clubs in Europe now. Many of the young men who had been trained at the school – the Carson Football School – played for Rotterdam City. The club took kids who could play football off the streets and trained them to be the best. Football schools like theirs were one reason why Holland had so many great footballers. It was perfect: the school and the club.

Max had always been crazy about football. When he was editor of the *Evening News* he spent all his free time watching football matches. He even took me to see Manchester United once. He was one of those guys who knew the name of every footballer in Europe.

马克斯是对的，我的确需要休假。在过去几个月中，城里的日子实在不好过。我手头上有几篇非常难写的谋杀案报道。和往常一样，从伦敦警方那里得不到任何信息，马尔扎诺又一如既往地催逼着我。我开始感到厌倦，离开伦敦去度假是一个很吸引人的主意。

“你喜欢荷兰，不是吗？”马克斯突然问道。

我笑了起来。“喔，是的，不过……”我曾经去阿姆斯特丹追踪过一桩新闻，我喜欢那里。

“你也了解一些体育方面的事情，”马克斯接着说道。

“喔，我了解空手道，也知道一点儿拳击，”我说道，“其他的体育运动我了解得就不多了。”我曾经练过十年空手道而且，我父亲年轻时是一位拳击手。

我看着马克斯，等着下文。

“听着，”他说道，“为什么你不来写一篇关于我们在荷兰的俱乐部的报道呢？”

鹿特丹城足球俱乐部现在是欧洲顶级俱乐部之一，很多在卡森足球学校受过训的年轻人在为鹿城队效力。俱乐部从在街上踢球的孩子中选出优秀人才，并把他们培养成最好的球员。荷兰拥有众多优秀球员的原因之一就是有像他们这样的足球学校。学校和俱乐部都非常完美。

马克斯一直为足球着迷，他还是《晚报》的编辑时，就把全部的空闲时间用来观看足球比赛，甚至还带我去看过曼联队的比赛。他是那些能对所有欧洲球员的情况如数家珍的人之一。

‘What me?’ I laughed. ‘A sports reporter? You know me, Max, I only write about crime.’

Max smiled. ‘I know, Kate, and you’re great. But it would be a holiday for you!’

Max looked at his watch and finished his beer quickly. He had arranged to have dinner with a friend that evening and he had to leave immediately. He was already late. He got up, promising that he would ring me in a few days.

But Max never rang. In fact, I never saw him again. Two days later, he was found lying dead in an Amsterdam street with twenty knife wounds in his body.

“我?”我笑着说,“体育记者?你了解我,马克斯,我只报道犯罪事件。”

马克斯微笑道:“我知道,凯特,你很棒。但是对你来说这是一个假期!”

马克斯看了看手表,很快喝完了他的啤酒。他安排好与一位朋友在那天晚上共同进餐,必须立即离开,他已经晚了。他站起身来,保证过几天会给我打电话。

但是马克斯再也没有打电话来,实际上,我再也没能见到他。两天之后,有人发现他死在阿姆斯特丹的街头,身上有 20 处刀伤。