

WORLD FAMOUS FICTIONS

海上的勞工
THE TOILERS OF THE SEA

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海 上 的 勞 工

THE TOILERS OF THE SEA

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SECOND PART

BOOK III

V

GILLIATT HAS HIS CHOICE

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While the sloop had been anchored in the little creek of 'the Man Rock,' and as long as the machinery had been prisoned in the wreck, Gilliatt's position had been impregnable.¹ The sloop was in safety; the machinery sheltered. The Douvres, which held the hull of the *Durande* fast, condemned it to slow destruction, but protected it against unexpected accidents. In any event, one resource had remained to him. If the engine had been destroyed, Gilliatt would have been uninjured. He had still the sloop by which to escape.

But to wait till the sloop was removed from the anchorage where she was inaccessible; to allow it to be fixed in the defile of the Douvres; to watch until the sloop, too, was, as it were, entangled in the rocks; to permit him to complete the salvage, the moving, and the final embarkation of the machinery; to do no damage to that wonderful construction by which one man was enabled to put the whole aboard his bark; to acquiesce, in fact, in the success of his exploits so far; this was but the trap which the

¹ impregnable, 不能攻入.

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第二部

第三卷

第五回 吉利亞要決定去留

他的那條單桅船已經在人島的小港下了錨，只要那部機器（譯者作引槳）封鎖在破船上，吉利亞的地位是不能攻入的。單桅船在安穩地方；機器有了遮護。兩個杜伏島緊緊的架住杜蘭第的船身，這條船雖然被譴罰處於慢慢破壞地位，卻有兩島保護着，不會遇意外的危險。無論怎樣，他還有一條生路。設使機器破壞了，吉利亞是不會受傷的。他還有單桅船可以逃命。

但是要等到單桅船離開此不能到的下錨地方；讓這條單桅船永遠釘在兩個杜伏島間的隘峽；在那裏看守着，等到那條單桅船也被困在那堆石裏頭；讓他有時候完成搶護失事船上的東西，把機器搬走裝在船上；又要不毀壞那件奇異製造，只要一個人就能夠把全部機器搬上他們的小船；其實就是由得他享受他努力到這個的時候所得的成功；原來由他辦成這幾件事，不過是幾件元素（殆指風濤水石等等譯者

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elements had laid for him. Now for the first time he began to perceive in all its sinister characteristics the trick which the sea had been meditating so long.

The machinery, the sloop, and their master were all now within the gorge of the rocks. They formed but a single point. One blow, and the sloop might be dashed to pieces on the rock, the machinery destroyed, and Gilliatt drowned.

The situation could not have been more critical.¹

The sphinx, which men have imagined concealing herself in the cloud, seemed to mock him with a dilemma.

‘Go or stay.’

To go would have been madness; to remain was terrible.

VI

THE COMBAT

GILLIATT ascended to the summit of the Great Douvre.

From hence he could see around the horizon.

The western side was appalling. A wall of cloud spread across it, barring the wide expanse from side to side, and ascending slowly from the horizon towards the zenith. This wall, straight lined, vertical, without a crevice in its height, without a rent in its structure, seemed built by the square and measured by the plumb-line. It was cloud in the likeness of granite. Its escarpment, completely perpendicular at the southern extremity, curved a little towards the north, like a bent sheet of iron, presenting the steep slippery face of an inclined plane. The dark wall enlarged and grew; but its entablature never ceased for a moment to be parallel with the horizon.

¹ critical, 危險; 生死存亡所關.

注)設以害他的陷阱。到了這個時候他是第一次起首覺得這片大海所盤算日久的詭計的陰險性質。那部機器,那條單桅船,與這兩件東西的主人,現在全被困在許多石峽裏頭。這許多東西只成爲一個小點。只要來一陣大風,單桅船就可以碰石化爲碎塊,機器打破了,吉利亞自己被水淹死了。

再不能比這個地位更危險的了。

人們曾想想,以爲古埃及的獅身人面怪物是藏在雲裏的,現在好像說一句兩害無所選擇的話嘲笑他。

「還是去,還是留。」

去是瘋子所爲;留是可怕的。

第六回 相關

吉利亞爬上大杜伏島的頂上。

他從這裏能夠看四面天涯。

西面是可怕的。有如有一堵牆的雲攔住,把從這邊到那邊的一片大海阻住,從天涯起,慢慢向天頂上升。這一堵牆,如一條中垂線那樣直,直處既無罅隙,橫處又無裂縫,好像是用矩築造的,用錘繩量過的。只管是一堆雲卻好像花剛石。南盡頭的斷崖是完全直的,微曲向北,如同一片彎鐵,現出一個斜版的陡而滑的面。這片黑牆既變大又增長;但是盤柱的幾層平板總是與天涯綫平行的,這時候天色漸黑,幾

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line, which was almost indistinguishable in the gathering darkness. Silently, and altogether, the airy battlements ascended. No undulation, no wrinkle, no projection changed its shape or moved its place. The aspect of this immobility in movement was impressive. The sun, pale in the midst of a strange sickly transparence, lighted up this outline of the Apocalypse. Already the cloudy bank had blotted out one-half the space of the sky: shelving like the fearful talus of the abyss. It was the uprising of a dark mountain between earth and heaven.

It was night falling suddenly upon midday.

There was a heat in the air as from an oven door, coming from that mysterious mass on mass. The sky, which from blue had become white, was now turning from white to a slatey gray. The sea beneath was leaden-hued and dull. There was no breath, no wave, no noise. Far as eye could reach, the desert ocean. No sail was visible on any side. The birds had disappeared. Some monstrous treason seemed abroad.

The wall of cloud grew visibly larger.

This moving mountain of vapours, which was approaching the Douvres, was one of those clouds which might be called the clouds of battle. Sinister appearances; some strange, furtive glance seemed cast upon the beholder through that obscure mass up-piled.

The approach was terrible.

Gilliatt observed it closely, and muttered to himself, 'I am thirsty enough, but you will give me plenty to drink.'

He stood there motionless a few moments, his eye fixed upon the cloud bank, as if mentally taking a sounding of the tempest.

乎辨不清天涯綫。伸出空際的雉堞，不響的同往上升。並無起伏紋，皺紋，亦無突出地方改變其形像，或移動其地位。這樣不動的情狀是很能留深印像於人心的。太陽在這一片奇異帶着病容的光亮中，照耀啓示錄（新約的最末後一部書，最爲離奇悽詭譯者注。）的輪廓。這片多雲的懸崖已經遮掩半天了：如同深淵的可怕的亂石斜堆在那裏。這是在天與地之間往上升的一座黑山。

這是日中忽然變了天黑。

這空中有熱氣好像從神祕的一堆一堆的石頭裏出來，如同從灶門出來的一般。天本來是青的，已經變白了，現在又從白變作石板的灰色。腳下的海如同鉛色那樣慘淡。這時候無風，無浪，無聲。從這裏到眼所能見的遠處，只是一片如同沙漠一般的荒海。無論那一方面都無一片帆。鳥也潛踪了。好像有什麼怪異的陰謀要出現啦。

如一堵牆的雲越變越大啦。這堆如同走動的山一般的水氣快要走到杜伏島啦，這種雲可以稱爲打仗的雲。面目是很兇險的；好像有偷偷的一瞬從堆在上頭的那片黑暗中看這個看雲的人。

雲走近的時候是很可怕的。

吉利亞很細心的觀察，一面對自己喃喃道，我覺得很渴，你將給我許多水飲。

他站在那裏，一會子不動，他的眼釘住那堆雲，好像心裏要探大風的深淺。

His *galérienne*¹ was in the pocket of his jacket; he took it out and placed it on his head. Then he fetched from the cave, which had so long served him for a sleeping-place, a few things which he had kept there in reserve; he put on his overalls, and attired himself in his waterproof overcoat, like a knight who puts on his armour at the moment of battle. He had no shoes; but his naked feet had become hardened to the rocks.

This preparation for the storm being completed, he looked down upon his breakwater, grasped the knotted cord hurriedly, descended from the plateau of the Douvre, stepped on to the rocks below, and hastened to his store-cavern. A few moments later he was at work. The vast silent cloud might have heard the strokes of his hammer. With the nails, ropes, and beams which still remained, he constructed for the eastern gullet a second frame, which he succeeded in fixing at ten or twelve feet from the other.

The silence was still profound. The blades of grass between the cracks of the rocks were not stirred.

The sun disappeared suddenly. Gilliatt looked up.

The rising cloud had just reached it. It was like the blotting out of day, succeeded by a mingled pale reflection.

The immense wall of cloud had changed its appearance. It no longer retained its unity. It had curved on reaching the zenith, whence it spread horizontally over the rest of the heavens. It had now its various stages. The tempest formation was visible, like the strata in the side of a trench. It was possible to distinguish the layers of the rain from the beds of hail. There was no lightning, but a horrible,

¹ *galérience*, (法文) 一種帽子.

他的帽子在他的衣袋裏；他取出來放在頭上。他隨即從洞裏（他久已利用這個地方作臥室）取出他放在那裏備用的不多幾件東西；他穿上外衣，披上雨衣，如同一個臨陣打仗的武士披甲一般。他沒得鞋子；但是他的赤腳久走石地已經變硬了。

他的抵禦風雨的籌備已經完全啦，他往下看他所築的柵欄，忽忽的抓住有許多結子的繩，從杜伏島的平原下降，腳踏底下的石，趕快走入他的收藏東西的石洞。過了一會他就動手做工。那一大堆不響的雲可以聽見他的錘子聲。

他利用剩下來的釘子，繩子，木柱，替東面的通槽製造第二個柵欄，他離那一架十尺或十二尺，打造成功了。

仍然是很寂靜的。石縫間的草葉不動。

太陽忽然看不見了。吉利亞抬頭看。

起來的雲剛好到了太陽所在的地方。好像是把白天遮住了，隨後就是亂雜的淡白反照。

那片很大的一堵牆的雲已經改變面目啦。這時候不復保存劃一的面目啦。升到天頂的時候，變作彎曲啦。從這裏起，平鋪伸展，蓋住其餘的天。現在有各式不同的程度了。現在能夠看見做成狂風暴雨啦，如同一個地溝邊上的石層。現在可以辨出那一層是雨，那一層是雹。那裏並無電光，只有

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diffused glare; for the idea of horror may be attached to light. The vague breathing of the storm was audible; the silence was broken by an obscure palpitation. Gilliatt, silent also, watched the giant blocks of vapour grouping themselves overhead forming the shapeless mass of clouds. Upon the horizon brooded and lengthened out a band of mist of ashen hue; in the zenith, another band of lead colour. Pale, ragged fragments of cloud hung from the great mass above upon the mist below. The pile of cloud which formed the background was wan, dull, gloomy. A thin, whitish transverse cloud, coming no one could tell whither, cut the high dark wall obliquely from north to south. One of the extremities of this cloud trailed along the surface of the sea. At the point where it touched the waters, a dense red vapour was visible in the midst of the darkness. Below it, smaller clouds, quite black and very low, were flying as if bewildered or moved by opposite currents of air. The immense cloud beyond increased from all point^s at once, darkened the eclipse, and continued to spread its sombre pall. In the east, behind Gilliatt, there was only one clear porch in the heavens, which was rapidly being closed. Without any feeling of wind abroad, a strange flight of gray downy particles seemed to pass; they were fine and scattered as if some gigantic bird had been plucked of its plumage behind the bank of cloud. A dark compact roof had gradually formed itself, which on the verge of the horizon touched the sea, and mingled in darkness with it. The beholder had a vague sense of something advancing steadily towards him. It was vast, heavy, ominous.¹

¹ ominous, 不祥; 兇惡.

可怕分散的光；因為可怕的意思可以附於光上。這時候可以聽見大風的空洞的呼聲；寂靜被一種暗晦的跳動所打破。吉利亞也不響，觀察大塊的水氣在頭上堆在一起，成為無定形的雲堆。一片灰色霧懸在天涯，又伸長了；在天頂上另是一片鉛色的霧。淡白破碎的雲片，從上頭一大堆的雲垂到下頭的霧上。造成背景的雲堆是灰白的，黑暗的。一片薄而微白的橫雲走來，無人能曉得往那裏走，從北至南斜割那塔高而黑的牆。這一片雲的一端拖在水面。在雲與水相切的地點，就能看見在黑暗中有一堆濃厚紅色的水氣。在下有較小的雲，很黑很低，正在那裏飛，好像被對方的風所打亂或打動。在那邊的極大的雲堆同時四面八方的增加，把所遮掩的地方變作黑暗，接連鋪張其陰沉的柩衣。在吉利亞的背後就是東方，天上只有一片清明開朗地方，很快的關起來了。這時候並不覺得外面有風，只覺得有很奇怪的一陣灰色的如同鳥羽一般的碎點子好像飛過；這是很細的，又是分散的，好像在那一塔的雲背後有一隻大鳥的羽毛被拔一般。有一層黑暗密實的房頂逐漸造成其自身，在天涯邊上與海相切，混合成為一片黑暗。觀看的人模糊影響的覺得有什麼東西一直向他走來。這件東西厚重，兇惡。忽然霹靂一聲空中打一

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Suddenly an immense peal of thunder burst upon the air.

Gilliatt himself felt the shock. The rude reality in the midst of that visionary region has something in it terrific. The listener might fancy that he hears something falling in the chamber of giants. No electric flash accompanied the report. It was a blind peal. The silence was profound again. There was an interval, as when combatants take up their position. Then appeared slowly, one after the other, great shapeless flashes; these flashes were silent. The wall of cloud was now a vast cavern, with roofs and arches. Outlines of forms were traceable among them; monstrous heads were vaguely shadowed forth; rocks seemed to stretch out; elephants bearing turrets, seen for a moment, vanished. A column of vapour, straight, round, and dark, and surmounted by a white mist, simulated the form of a colossal steam-vessel engulfed, hissing, and smoking beneath the waves. Sheets of cloud undulated like folds of giant flags. In the centre, under a thick purple pall, a nucleus of dense fog sunk motionless, inert, impenetrable by the electric fires; a sort of hideous foetus in the bosom of the tempest.

Suddenly Gilliatt felt a breath moving his hair. Two or three large spots of rain fell heavily around him on the rock. Then there was a second thunder-clap. The wind was rising.

The terror of darkness was at its highest point. The first peal of thunder had shaken the sea; the second rent the wall of cloud from top to base; a breach was visible; the pent-up deluge rushed towards it; the rent became like a gulf filled with rain. The outpouring of the tempest had begun.

個很大的雷。

吉利亞自己覺得雷震。在這樣夢境的地方裏頭發生這樣的粗野事實，是有點可怕。聽見雷聲的人可以臆度他是在巨入屋裏聽見有東西墜下來。雷聲並無電光相陪。這是一陣無光（原文作盲目）的霹靂。響後又是一片很幽深的寂靜。中間有片時相隔，如同兩個對打的人正在各站地步一般。隨後慢慢發現無定形的閃電，發了一陣又一陣；發電的時候卻無聲響。那一堵如牆的雲現在是一個大洞，有洞頂有拱弧。還可以看出各種形像的輪廓；有模模糊糊突出的怪頭；好像有許多大石突出來；看見有背台壘的象，俄頃間又看不見了。有一柱水氣，直而圓，色黑，頂上有一層白霧，裝作被困的一條大輪船的形狀，在波濤底下冒氣冒煙。成片的雲或起或伏，如同大旗的摺紋。在一層濃厚紫色霧之下的中心，沉着一團厚霧，懸着不動，電火不能透入；這是在狂風懷裏的一種可怕的禍胎。（這篇大文章用許多事物比喻風雲雷電奇詭狀態，是狀物的好手。譯者注。）

吉利亞忽然覺得有一陣氣，吹動他的頭髮。兩三點大雨很重的落在四圍的石上。隨即第二陣霹靂。風也起啦。

這時候黑暗的可怕到了最高點。第一陣雷撼動大海；第二陣雷把從頂至底的雲牆打裂了；能够看見破裂地方；被困不能發洩的大雨向那裏衝；那條裂縫變作一個裝滿雨水的海灣。狂風大雨起首直衝出來啦（寫得的確有力。譯者注）。

The moment was terrible.

Rain, wind, lightnings, thunder, waves swirling upwards to the clouds, foam, hoarse noises, whistlings, mingled together like monsters suddenly unloosened.

For a solitary man, imprisoned with an over-loaded vessel, between two dangerous rocks in mid-ocean, no crisis¹ could have been more menacing. The danger of the tide, over which he had triumphed, was nothing compared with the danger of the tempest.

Surrounded on all sides by dangers, Gilliatt, at the last moment, and before the crowning peril, had developed an ingenious strategy. He had secured his basis of operations in the enemies' territory; had pressed the rock into his service. The Douvres, originally his enemy, had become his second² in that immense duel. Out of that sepulchre he had constructed a fortress. He was built up among those formidable sea ruins. He was blockaded, but well defended. He had, so to speak, set his back against the wall, and stood face to face with the hurricane. He had barricaded the narrow strait, that highway of the waves. This, indeed, was the only possible course. It seemed as if the ocean, like other despots, might be brought to reason by the aid of barricades. The sloop might be considered secure on three sides. Closely wedged between the two interior walls of the rock, made fast by three anchorings, she was sheltered from the north by the Little Douvre, on the south by the Great one; terrible escarpments, more accustomed to wreck vessels than to

¹ crisis, 危機. ² second, 幫手.

這個時候真是可怕。

風，雨，電，雷，波浪旋轉向雲頭上衝，海沫，沙啞的吵鬧聲，嘯叫聲，如同忽然出柙的怪物鬧成一團。

一個孤零的人，同一條裝載過量的船，被困在海中的兩個危險的島間。再沒有能够比這樣的危機更可怕的了。潮水的危險已經被他打勝了，同狂風暴雨的危險比較，卻算不了什麼。

吉利亞四面八方全被危險所圍困，在最後的俄頃間，在危險還未臨頭之先，曾想出一個巧妙計策。他曾在敵軍的土地取得作戰的底綫；他曾強逼石島替他出力。這兩個杜伏島本來是他的仇敵，在這次的無量大的相鬭中，變作他的幫手。他取材於那塊葬身之地，築造一個礮臺。他在這許多可怕的海上的坍塌遺蹟上築造。他誠然是被困了，但是他得了很好的保護。他好像背靠着牆，站着同大風雨面面相向。他已經攔住窄水道，這是海水衝入的大道。其實只有這個方法是可能辦到的。大海好像其他專制帝王一般，只要人民築起保障來，就可以叫他講理。這條單桅船可以算是三面都安穩的了。緊緊的擠在石島的兩堵內牆中間，有三個錨釘住她，北邊有小杜伏島遮護，南邊有大杜伏島遮護；這都是很可怕的懸崖，更習慣於碰破船隻，不甚習慣於救護她們。西邊有

save them. On the western side she was protected by the frame of timbers made fast and nailed to the rocks—a tried barrier which had withstood the rude flood-tide of the sea; a veritable citadel-gate, having for its sides the columns of the rock—the two Douvres themselves. Nothing was to be feared from that side. It was on the eastern side only that there was danger.

On that side there was no protection but the breakwater. A breakwater is an apparatus for dividing and distributing. It requires at least two frames. Gilliatt had only had time to construct one. He was compelled to build the second in the very presence of the tempest.

Fortunately the wind came from the north-west. The wind is not always adroit in its attacks. The northwest wind, which is the ancient 'galerno,' had little effect upon the Douvres. It assailed the rocks in flank, and drove the waves neither against the one nor the other of the two gullets;¹ so that, instead of rushing into a defile, they dashed themselves against a wall.

But the currents of the wind are curved, and it was probable that there would be some sudden change. If it should veer to the east before the second frame could be constructed, the peril would be great. The irruption of the sea into the gorge would be complete, and all would probably be lost.

The wildness of the storm went on increasing. The essence of a tempest is the rapid succession of its blows. That is its strength; but it is also its weakness. Its fury gives the opportunity to human intelligence, and man

¹ gullets, 咽喉; 通漕.