

世界上最经典

品精选

科幻小说界的"莎士比亚",英国科幻小说家赫伯特·乔治·威尔斯,融讽刺与 批判于天马行空的科幻世界

美国著名科幻小说家哈里·哈里逊,用科幻语言对科学与社会进步进行哲学思考 美国最有影响力的科幻大师罗伯特·海因莱因,以科幻阐释美国的历史和文化

以动物的视角给人类以感动和反思



國防二華品版社



秘境追踪科幻小说中的动物

赫伯特・乔治・威尔斯 等 ◎ 著 康宁 车云宁 ◎ 译

M 产工集品版社 National Defense Industry Press

PREFACE

科幻小说 "Science Fiction",是以科学为基础而虚构的故事。"幻想"二字巧妙地道出了这一独特的文学体裁的真谛,即以科学理论为基础,让人类插上想象的翅膀,翱翔于广漠的时空。正如美国著名文学评论家伊哈布•哈桑所说:"科幻小说可能在哲学上显得天真,在道德上过于简单,在美学上有些主观或粗糙,但是就它最好的方面而言,它似乎触及了人类集体梦想的神经中枢,解放出我们人类这具机器中深藏的某些幻想。"奇幻小说"Fantasy",有别于"科幻"之处就在于"奇"字。这里的"奇"除了包含"神奇,奇异"的意思外,还可以解释为"传奇",因而奇幻小说就是"在幻想世界中发生的传奇故事"。西方奇幻小说大多离不开魔法和其他超自然特质,小说中的人物往往拥有超凡的法术、罕见的神技,有些小说的主角甚至不是人类,而是具有神奇力量的半兽半人、精灵等。

生活在"科幻"与"奇幻"的动物们是什么样子呢?翻开这本书,你就会发现它们活灵活现地走进我们的视野中来。拥有一套简单哲学的雄猫彼特,面对寒冷的冬季飞雪,竟然非要等到体内的"液体"积攒到无法忍受的程度才肯出门;狡黠精灵的不锈钢老鼠凭它那条"转身就逃,来日方长"的座右铭,实现了星际胜利大逃亡;智慧勇猛的军犬契普在军事演习中出色的表现,虽然没有赢得掌声(都是由于那个愚笨的战车驾驶员犯的错),但绝没有辱没它的"中士"军衔,而且它与上司戴阿尔中尉之间的灵犀之通,更让人动容不已;庞大凶猛的霸王龙撕咬着"咩咩"哀叫的山羊,让人不寒而栗,而这样一头食肉猛兽在咬死自己的猎物之后却变得异常警觉,居然"像一只小鸟一样警惕";海豚救人的故事在现实生活中屡见不鲜,而在大洋深处的海豚岛上,卡赞教授正在执着地进行着他雄心勃勃的计划——他要破

秘境追踪 Explore the Mystery

解这些"海洋人"的语言,想要弄清楚难道他们这样做是在向人类求助什么吗?可是,同样是在大洋深处的一座海岛上,一位曾经十分著名的生物学博士却在进行着一项残忍血腥的实验,实验场里夜夜传来山豹那撕心裂肺的哀叫……

生活在"科幻"与"奇幻"世界中的动物们向我们展现其聪明勇敢、憨厚忠诚或凶险诡诈性格的同时,也带给我们人类无尽的思考:同人类社会一样,科幻与奇幻的动物世界里也充满了生活的艰辛与拼搏,也弥漫着爱情的欢愉和幸福。故事的作者们将丰富的想象和深邃的哲理融为一体,给现实人类以深刻的反思。海豚"游吟诗人"讲述的古老传说向我们传达的深意,人魔岛上的"兽人"们为什么要返"兽"归真?……

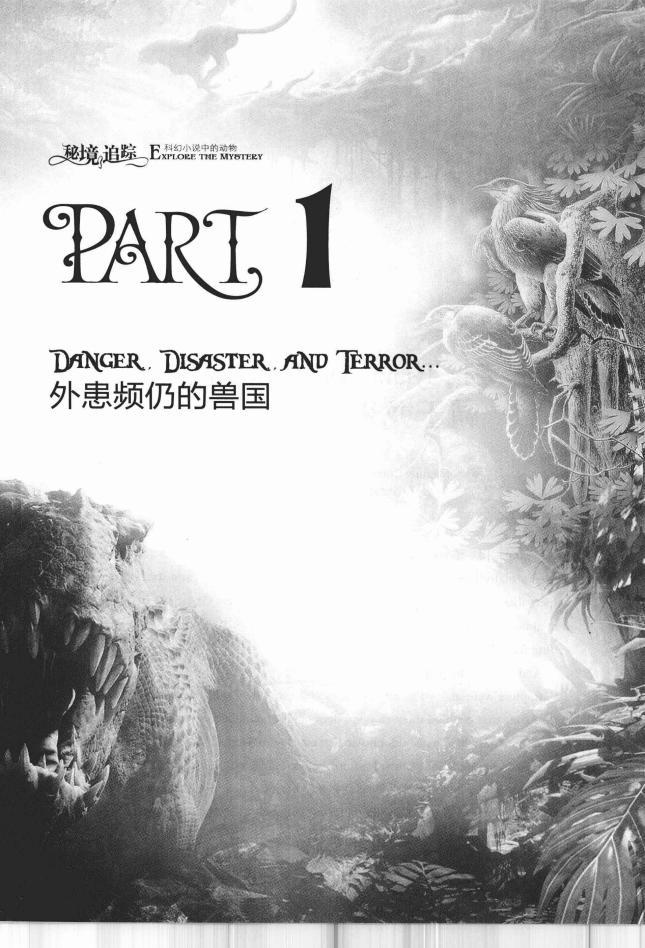
动物的世界蕴含着和人类社会同样复杂的哲理,让我们阅读这些从英美经典科幻、奇幻小说中撷来的文字,让我们爱上阅读,爱上动物。

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Michael Crichton 迈克尔・克莱顿

Every zoo expert knew that certain animals were especially likely to get free of their cages. Some, like monkeys and elephants, could undo cage doors. Others, like wild pigs, were unusually intelligent and could lift gate fasteners with their snouts¹. But who would suspect that the giant armadillo was a notorious cage-breaker? Or the moose²? Yet a moose was almost as skillful with its snout as an elephant with its trunk. Moose were always getting free; they had a talent for it.

And so did velociraptors³.

Raptors were at least as intelligent as chimpanzees. And, like chimpanzees, they had agile hands that enabled them to open doors and manipulate objects. They could escape with ease. And when, as Muldoon had feared, one of them finally escaped, it killed two construction workers and maimed a third before being recaptured. After that episode, the visitor lodge had been reworked with heavy barred gates, a high perimeter fence, and tempered-glass⁴ windows. And the raptor holding pen was rebuilt with electronic sensors to warn of another impending escape.

PART 1 Danger, Disaster, and Terror... 外患频仍的兽国

Muldoon wanted guns as well. And he wanted shoulder-mounted LAW-missile launchers. Hunters knew how difficult it was to bring down a four-ton African elephant—and some of the dinosaurs weighed ten times as much. Management was horrified, insisting there be no guns anywhere on the island. When Muldoon threatened to quit, and to take his story to the press, a compromise was reached. In the end, two specially built laser-guided missile launchers were kept in a locked room in the basement. Only Muldoon had keys to the room.

Those were the keys Muldoon was twirling⁵ now.

"I'm going downstairs," he said.

Arnold, watching the control screens, nodded. The two Land Cruisers sat at the top of the hill, waiting for the T-rex to appear.

"Hey," Dennis Nedry called, from the far console. "As long as you're up, get me a Coke, okay?"

Grant waited in the car, watching quietly. The bleating of the goat became louder, more insistent. The goat tugged frantically at its tether, racing back and forth.

Over the radio, Grant heard Lex say in alarm, "What's going to happen to the goat? Is she going to eat the goat?"

"I think so," someone said to her, and then Ellie turned the radio down. Then they smelled the odor, a garbage stench of **putrefaction**⁶ and decay that drifted up the hillside toward them.

Grant whispered, "He's here."

"She," Malcolm said.

The goat was tethered in the center of the field, thirty yards from the nearest trees. The dinosaur must be somewhere among the trees, but for a moment Grant could see nothing at

- 1. snout n. (猪等动物的)长鼻子,口鼻部
- 2. moose n. 麋鹿
- 3. velociraptor n. 迅猛龙(恐龙的一种, 可简写为raptor)
- 4. tempered-glass n. 钢化玻璃
- 5. twirl v. (使) 快速转动; (使) 快速旋转
- 6. putrefaction n. 腐败, 堕落

和境追踪 Explore THE MYSTERY

all. Then he realized he was looking too low: the animal's head stood twenty feet above the ground, half concealed among the upper branches of the palm trees.

Malcolm whispered, "Oh, my God. ... She's as large as a bloody building. ..."

Grant stared at the enormous square head, five feet long, mottled reddish brown, with huge jaws and fangs. The tyrannosaur's jaws worked once, opening and closing. But the huge animal did not emerge from hiding.

Malcolm whispered: "How long will it wait?"

"Maybe three or four minutes. Maybe--"

The tyrannosaur sprang silently forward, fully revealing her enormous body. In four bounding steps she covered the distance to the goat, bent down, and bit it through the neck. The bleating stopped. There was silence.

Poised⁷ over her kill, the tyrannosaur became suddenly hesitant. Her massive head turned on the muscular neck, looking in all directions. She stared fixedly at the Land Cruiser, high above on the hill.

Malcolm whispered, "Can she see us?"

"Oh yes," Regis said, on the **intercom**⁸. "Let's see if she's going to eat here in front of us, or if she's going to drag the prey away."

The tyrannosaur bent down, and sniffed the carcass⁹ of the goat. A bird chirped: her head snapped up, alert, watchful. She looked back and forth, scanning in small jerking shifts.

"Like a bird," Ellie said.

Still the tyrannosaur hesitated. "What is she afraid of?" Malcolm whispered.

"Probably another tyrannosaur," Grant whispered. Big carnivores¹⁰ like lions and tigers often became cautious after a kill, behaving as if suddenly exposed. Nineteenth-century zoologists imagined the animals felt guilty for what they had done. But contemporary scientists documented the effort behind a kill—hours of patient stalking

^{7.} poise v. 保持(某种姿势); 抓紧; 使稳定

^{8.} intercom n. 内部通话系统

^{9.} carcass n. (动物的) 尸体

^{10.} carnivore n. 肉食动物

PART 1 Danger, Disaster, and Terror... 外患频仍的兽国

before the final lunge—as well as the frequency of failure. The idea of "nature, red in tooth and claw" was wrong; most often the prey got away. When a carnivore finally brought down an animal, it was watchful for another predator, who might attack it and steal its prize. Thus this tyrannosaur was probably fearful of another tyrannosaur.

The huge animal bent over the goat again. One great hind limb held the carcass in place as the jaws began to tear the flesh.

"She's going to stay," Regis whispered. "Excellent."

The tyrannosaur lifted her head again, ragged chunks of bleeding flesh in her jaws. She stared at the Land Cruiser. She began to chew. They heard the sickening crunch of bones.

"Ewww," Lex said, over the intercom. "That's disgusting."

And then, as if caution had finally gotten the better of her, the tyrannosaur lifted the remains of the goat in her jaws and carried them silently back among the trees.

译欣赏

每一位动物园专家都清楚,有些动物极有可能逃出兽笼。像猴子和大象这样的动物,居然会打开笼子门。野猪之类的动物,也是智力超凡,它们可以用口鼻部位把笼门的扣锁拱开。还有那巨大的犰狳,有谁会怀疑它也是臭名昭彰打破兽笼的高手呢?还有谁会怀疑麋鹿呢?而麋鹿利用起口鼻部位的技术,毫不逊于大象使用其长鼻子的本事。麋鹿总是能逃脱兽笼,这是他们的特长。

而迅猛龙也是这样的动物。

迅猛龙的智商至少和黑猩猩一样高。它们像黑猩猩一样拥有一双灵巧的双手,能够打开房门,摆弄物件。它们能够轻而易举地逃脱兽笼。正如玛尔顿所担心的那样,有一次,一只迅猛龙逃了出来,在把它抓回来之前,它先后杀死了两名建筑工人,另外一名工人受伤致残。事件发生后,游客旅舍重新安装了带栏杆的厚重铁门,周围还圈了一道高高的栅栏,窗户也换上了钢化玻璃。迅猛龙围场也重新配置了电子感应器,这样当它再次逃脱时会立即发出报警。

玛尔顿还希望能配备枪炮武器。他需要肩扛式火箭发射器。猎手们都知道要击倒一头四吨重的非洲象有多么困难,何况某些恐龙的体重是大象的十倍之多。管理部门听说要配备火箭炮惊骇不已,他们坚决不允许在岛上任何地方配置枪炮。对此玛尔顿以辞职相威胁,并声称要把事情向媒体曝光,双方不得不达成妥协。最终,

秘境追踪 ЕхРІОКЕ ТИЕ МУБТЕКУ

两门特制的激光制导火箭发射器被放置在地下室里一间上锁的房子中,只有玛尔顿 掌握房间的钥匙。

此刻玛尔顿手指上旋转着的就是房间的钥匙。

"我到楼下看看去。"他说道。

阿诺德正在观察监视器屏幕,他点了点头。两辆"陆地巡洋舰"越野车停在山顶, 等着霸王龙的出现。

"嗨。"丹尼斯·尼得瑞从远端的控制台那边大声喊道,"你上来时,给我带一罐 可乐, 好吗?"

格兰特在车里等着,静静地观察外面的动静。山羊"咩咩"的叫声越来越大, 越来越急。同时它像发了疯一样来回冲撞,拉扯着系绳。格兰特从无线电通话系统 中听见莱柯丝惊恐地问:"这只山羊会遇到什么事?她会把山羊吃掉吗?"

"我想会的。"有人告诉她说,接着爱莉把无线电的音量调低。这时他们闻到了 一股气味,一股从山坡向他们袭来的腐烂垃圾发出的恶臭。

格兰特小声说:"这个雄性的大家伙马上就要过来了。"

"不,是雌性的。"马尔科姆纠正道。

山羊被绑在野地中央,离最近的树丛要有三十码(将近三十米)远。恐龙一定 是藏在树丛中的什么地方,可是格兰特一时什么也看不到。接着他便意识到,其实 是他的视线太低了: 这头巨兽的头高高扬起在距离地面二十英尺(六米多)高的半空, 半遮半掩在棕榈树冠的枝丫之中。

马尔科姆轻声嘀咕道:"哦,天啊……她简直就是一座大楼,高得要命……"

格兰特瞪着眼睛,凝视着那颗庞大的方块头,长度得有五英尺,布满红褐色的 斑点,巨大的嘴岔呲着狰狞的巨齿。这时,这头霸王龙动了一下嘴巴,张开又合上。 可是这头巨兽没有马上从藏身处走出来。

马尔科姆低声问:"它要等多久才出来?"

"也许三四分钟。也许——"

突然,霸王龙神不知鬼不觉地朝前一跳,完全暴露出它那庞大的身躯。接着她 只跳跃了四步,便到了山羊面前,然后弯下身子,对着山羊的脖子就是一口。"咩咩" 声停止了。旷野中一片寂静。

霸王龙在被杀死的猎物前调整了一下姿态,突然变得踌躇不定。那颗硕大的脑 袋在健壮的脖子上左右转动,向四处张望。然后直勾勾地盯着停在山顶上的那辆"陆 地巡洋舰"越野车。

马尔科姆压低声音问:"它能看见我们吗?"

"哦,能。"里吉斯通过车内通话系统回答道,"让我们来看看它是要当着我们的 面吃呢,还是要把猎物拖走。"

只见这只霸王龙弯下身,在山羊的尸体上嗅来嗅去。一只鸟在叽叽喳喳叫着。 霸王龙猛然抬起头,非常警觉。她的头微微颤动,前前后后仔细观察着每一处。

"她像一只鸟一样警惕。"爱莉说。

霸王龙还在犹豫。"她害怕什么呢?"马尔科姆悄声问道。

"也许是担心另一只霸王龙吧。"格兰特低声说。狮子、老虎这类大型食肉猛兽常常在捕杀猎物之后变得异常谨慎,好像它们突然暴露在危险之中。十九世纪的动物学家们把这想象成动物们在为自己的行为感到内疚。然而当代的动物学家们却记载了猛兽们每次捕杀到猎物背后所付出的努力,即在最后一击之前要花上几个小时,耐着性子偷偷接近猎物,而且经常会遭遇失败,空手而归。那种"自然界中的一切都会在尖齿利爪之下变得鲜血淋漓"的看法是错误的。在很多情况下,猎物会逃之夭夭。因此当一只食肉野兽好不容易扑倒一只动物时,它会变得异常警觉,提防其他食肉动物前来偷袭它的猎物。这样看来,这只霸王龙很可能是在担心另一只霸王龙的出现。

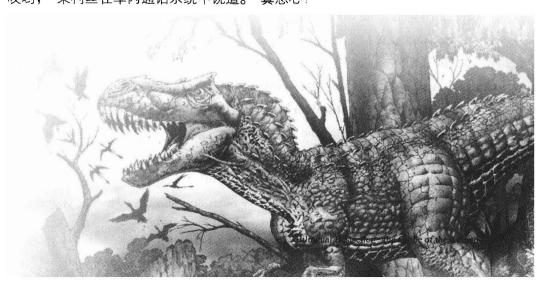
就在这时,谨慎似乎终于在霸王龙心中占了上风,只见她衔起残余的山羊,悄 无声息地把猎物带回树林中。

这时,这头巨兽再次弯下身体,一只巨大的后肢压住山羊的尸体,嘴巴开始撕 咬羊身上的肉。

"她不走了,"里吉斯轻轻说道。"太棒啦!"

霸王龙又一次抬起头来,嘴里叼着撕得血淋淋的肉块。她紧盯着越野车,开始大口咀嚼,发出令人恶心的"嘎吱嘎吱"的嚼骨头声。

"哎哟,"莱柯丝在车内通话系统中说道。"真恶心!"





轮船失事,"我"漂流到了一座孤岛上,蒙哥马利把我救起,然而岛上的一切让我困惑不解,长着尖尖耳朵的古怪侍从,蒙哥马利闪烁其辞,更奇怪而又更可怕的是从房屋后面的围场里传来山豹那一阵阵凄惨的哀叫……

2 The Crying of the Puma 山豹的哀叫



H. G. Wells 赫伯特・乔治・威尔斯

Montgomery's coming interrupted my tangle¹ of mystification and suspicion about what just happened, and his grotesque attendant followed him with a tray bearing bread, some herbs and other eatables, a flask of whiskey, a jug of water, and three glasses and knives. I glanced askance² at this strange creature, and found him watching me with his queer, restless eyes. Montgomery said he would lunch with me, but that Moreau was too preoccupied with some work to come.

"Moreau!" said I. "I know that name."

"The devil you do!" said he. "What an ass I was to mention it to you! I might have thought. Anyhow, it will give you an **inkling**³ of our—mysteries. Whiskey?"

"No, thanks; I'm an abstainer4."

"I wish I'd been. But it's no use locking the door after the steed is stolen. It was that infernal stuff which led to my coming here,—that, and a foggy night. I thought myself in luck at the time, when Moreau offered to get me off. It's queer—;"

"Montgomery," said I, suddenly, as the outer door closed, "why has your man pointed

ears?"

"Damn!" he said, over his first mouthful of food. He stared at me for a moment, and then repeated, "Pointed ears?"

"Little points to them," said I, as calmly as possible, with a catch in my breath; "and a fine black fur at the edges?" He helped himself to whiskey and water with great deliberation. "I was under the impression—that his hair covered his ears."

"I saw them as he stooped by me to put that coffee you sent to me on the table. And his eyes shine in the dark."By this time Montgomery had recovered from the surprise of my question.

"I always thought," he said deliberately, with a certain accentuation of his flavouring of lisp⁵, "that there was something the matter with his ears, from the way he covered them. What were they like?"

I was persuaded from his manner that this ignorance was a pretence. Still, I could hardly tell the man that I thought him a liar.

"Pointed," I said; "rather small and furry,—distinctly furry. But the whole man is one of the strangest beings I ever set eyes on."

A sharp, hoarse cry of animal pain came from the enclosure behind us. Its depth and volume testified to the puma. I saw Montgomery wince⁶.

"Yes?" he said.

"Where did you pick up the creature?"

- - 1. tangle n. 杂乱, 乱糟糟的一堆
 - 2. askance adv. 斜着(看)
 - 3. inkling n. 想法; 暗示; 迹象
 - 4. abstainer n. 戒酒者, 节制者
 - 5. lisp n. 咬舌, 口齿不清 (把s音发成th音)
 - 6. wince v. 赶紧避开, 畏缩
 - 7. diabolical adj. 恶魔的; 残忍的
 - 8. vivisect v. 活体解剖
 - 9. Horace n. 贺拉斯 (奥古斯都时代最著名的诗人)
 - 10. exquisite adj. 精致的; 敏感的; 剧烈的
 - 11. phantasm n. 幻觉, 幻影



"San Francisco. He's an ugly brute, I admit. Half-witted, you know. Can't remember where he came from. But I'm used to him, you know. We both are. How does he strike you?"

"He's unnatural," I said. "There's something about him—don't think me fanciful, but it gives me a nasty little sensation, a tightening of my muscles, when he comes near me. It's a touch—of the diabolical, in fact."

Montgomery had stopped eating while I told him this.

"Rum!" he said. "I can't see it." He resumed his meal. "I had no idea of it," he said, and masticated.

Suddenly the puma howled again, this time more painfully. Montgomery swore under his breath. I had half a mind to attack him about the men on the beach.

Then the poor brute within gave vent to a series of short, sharp cries.

"Your men on the beach," said I; "what race are they?"

"Excellent fellows, aren't they?" said he, absentmindedly, knitting his brows as the animal yelled out sharply.

I said no more. There was another outcry worse than the former. He looked at me with his dull grey eyes, and then took some more whiskey. He tried to draw me into a discussion about alcohol, professing to have saved my life with it. He seemed anxious to lay stress on the fact that I owed my life to him. I answered him distractedly.

Presently our meal came to an end; the misshapen monster with the pointed ears cleared the remains away, and Montgomery left me alone in the room again. All the time he had been in a state of ill-concealed irritation at the noise of the **vivisected**⁸ puma.

I found myself that the cries were singularly irritating, and they grew in depth and intensity as the afternoon wore on. They were painful at first, but their constant resurgence at last altogether upset my balance. I flung aside a crib of **Horace**⁹ I had been reading, and began to clench my fists, to bite my lips, and to pace the room. Presently I got to stop my ears with my fingers.

The emotional appeal of those yells grew upon me steadily, grew at last to such an **exquisite**¹⁰ expression of suffering that I could stand it in that confined room no longer. I stepped out of the door into the slumberous heat of the late afternoon, and walking past the main entrance—locked again, I noticed—turned the corner of the wall.

The crying sounded even louder out of doors. It was as if all the pain in the world

had found a voice. Yet had I known such pain was in the next room, and had it been dumb, I believe—I have thought since—I could have stood it well enough. It is when suffering finds a voice and sets our nerves quivering that this pity comes troubling us. But in spite of the brilliant sunlight and the green fans of the trees waving in the soothing sea-breeze, the world was a confusion, blurred with drifting black and red **phantasms**¹¹, until I was out of earshot of the house in the chequered wall.

译成赏

蒙哥马利的到来打断了我对于刚刚发生的事情的神秘而又充满疑惑的杂乱思绪。 在他身后跟着那个丑陋怪异的随从,手里托着一个盘子,上面放着一些面包、香草和别的一些吃的东西,还有一瓶威士忌,一罐子水,三个杯子和刀子。我斜着眼睛瞟了一下这个古怪的家伙,发现他也正在用奇怪不安的眼神盯着我。蒙哥马利说,他要和我一起吃午饭,而莫罗先生正忙于一些工作而来不了。

"莫罗!"我说,"我听说过这个名字。"

"噢!你看看我,"他说。"我真是个傻瓜,跟你提起这个名字来!我不该提他。不管怎么说,这会让你略微觉察到我们的——秘密。来点威士忌?"

"不,谢谢,我从来不喝酒。"

"我也是个戒酒的人就好喽。可是俗话说,贼走关门,为时已晚。正是这恶魔般的东西把我引到这儿来的。一个浓雾笼罩的夜晚,莫罗主动出手把我救出,我觉得自己红运当头。这真是奇怪——"

"蒙哥马利,"外边的门被关上了,我突然问道,"你的随从耳朵为什么是尖尖的?" "他妈的!"他吞咽着第一口满嘴的食物,咒骂着。他注视了我一会儿,然后重 复着我的话:

"耳朵尖尖的?"

"是,耳朵上有尖,"我顿了顿,尽可能平静地说,"而且耳朵边上还有黑色的细毛。" 他从容地给自己倒了杯威士忌和水。"我的印象,嗯,他的头发盖着了耳朵。"

"在他弯腰把你送给我的咖啡放在桌子上时,我看到的。而且他的眼睛在黑暗中闪着光。"此时,蒙哥马利已经从因我的问题而造成的惊愕之中清醒过来了。

"我也一直想,"他说话不紧不慢,咬着舌头强调道,"他的耳朵确实有点问题, 他总是遮掩着耳朵。他的耳朵到底什么样子呢?"他的言行告诉我,他不过是装糊