

THE 白衣女人 WOMAN IN WHITE

(简写本)

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英汉对照 世界文学丛书



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第一辑

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[英] W·柯林斯 原著

[英] G·C·索恩利 改写

周 令 仪 译

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故事梗概

十九世纪中叶，英国伦敦一位年轻的绘画教师华特·哈特赖，去坎伯兰郡的利默里奇府执教。临行前夕路遇一个刚从精神病院逃出的白衣女人，她自称童年时曾在利默里奇村求学。

华特的学生，利默里奇府的两位小姐玛丽安和劳拉，同母异父，容貌不同，性格相异，她们的父母都已去世，姐妹俩相依为命，感情极好。玛丽安得知华特路遇白衣女人之事后，翻阅母亲生前书信，证实当时曾有名安妮·卡瑟里克的女孩在利默里奇读书，因面貌酷似劳拉，而受母亲的钟爱。这个安妮便是白衣女人。

华特与劳拉开始相爱，但劳拉已根据父亲临终时的许配，将与珀西瓦尔从男爵结婚。这时，白衣女人安妮写信向劳拉劝阻婚事。而劳拉碍于父命，不得不让华特离开，而与从男爵结婚。华特悲愤出走国外。

度蜜月归来，从男爵便原形毕露，逼迫劳拉签字，以侵吞其财产，为劳拉所拒。这时，白衣女人又来到从男爵的黑水别墅附近，告诉劳拉从男爵有一件隐私。不料此事为从男爵及其江湖朋友、劳拉的姑父福斯科伯爵发觉。伯爵想从中渔利，便积极为从男爵出谋划策。他们的阴谋为玛丽安所知，但她不及与劳拉商量即病倒在床。两个恶棍找到了安妮，

将她骗至伦敦，安妮受惊死于心脏病。他们伪称劳拉去世，将安妮以劳拉的名义下葬，并将真正的劳拉经麻醉后关进精神病院以代替安妮。劳拉的财产也落入他们手中。

华特从国外归来，决心揭露这一阴谋。原来，多年前从男爵曾买通安妮的母亲，伪造其父母的结婚证明，为堵住安妮之口而将她关进精神病院。在华特的追索下，从男爵自知秘密败露，企图到教堂法衣室毁灭罪证，不意因失火而丧命。

华特继而寻找另一罪魁福斯科伯爵，了解到此人系意大利一秘密团体的叛徒，便迫使他写下坦白书，终于真相大白。

劳拉恢复了应有的地位。华特和她幸福地结合了，他们同玛丽安一起又回到了利默里奇府。

译 者

一九八〇年八月

《白衣女人》(*The Woman in White*) 是英国小说家威廉·威尔基·柯林斯 (William Wilkie Collins, 1824—1889) 的成名作。原著出版于1860年。这里根据英国朗门出版公司1977年 G.C. 索恩利的改写本译出。并附译者作的注释及词汇表。供中等程度英语学习者作泛读材料。

The story begun by Walter Hartright¹, Teacher
of Drawing

CHAPTER 1

This is the story of what a woman's patience can bear and of what a man's determination can do. The chief parts of it will be told by those who know them best, so that the truth may always be given as directly as possible. The events which formed its beginning were closely connected with me, Walter Hartright, aged twenty-eight, teacher of drawing; and therefore it is my pen that begins to describe the adventures in which the woman in white played an important part².

It was the last day of July, and we, the tired people of London, were beginning to think of the cloud shadows on the corn-fields and the gentle winds on the seashore. The long, hot summer had left me out of health, out of spirits and, to tell the truth, out of money too. I had not been able to save as much as usual, and it seemed likely that I should have to stay in London and spend my time between my mother's

1. Walter Hartright ['wɔ:lɪtə 'hɑ:traɪt]: 华特·哈特赖特。

故事由绘画教师华特·哈特赖开始叙述

第一章

这个故事所讲的是女人的耐心能够承受，男人的决心能够做到的那种事情。它的主要部分将由那些最知情的人来讲述，这样，就可以始终做到尽可能直接地向你们提供事实。我叫华特·哈特赖，二十八岁，是一个绘画教师，由于最初的事件与我密切相关，因此首先由我执笔，来记述这个以白衣女人为重要角色的离奇故事。

那是七月的最后一天，我们这些疲惫不堪的伦敦人，开始怀念起麦地里的云影和海岸边的柔风。漫长炎热的夏季使我健康不佳，情绪不高，还有，说实在的，手头也很拮据。我没能积起象往常那样多的钱。看来，我可能还得待在伦敦，往来于我母

2. played an important part: 担任重要角色. to play a part: 扮一个角色; 起作用.

cottage at Hampstead¹ and my own rooms in town.

The evening was still and cloudy and the London air was heavy. I put down my book and set out for my mother's cottage, as I was accustomed to do twice a week. My father had now been dead for some years, but he had left enough money for my mother and sister to live on in comfort.

When I reached the house and rang the bell in the gathering darkness, the door was opened, not by a servant, but by my dear Italian friend, Professor Pesca²; who ran out joyfully to receive me; and as accident has made him the starting-point of these adventures, he deserves the honour of a proper introduction.

I had first met him at the great houses where he taught his own language and I taught drawing. He had once held a position at the University of Padua³ but had left Italy for political reasons, the exact nature of which he would tell no one. Now, for many years, he had taught languages in London, and was filled with gratitude for the country that had given him work and protection. He was a very small and a very remarkable man. Thinking that he ought to live as the English live, he adopted their habits in every possible detail. He always carried an umbrella and wore a white hat. Finding us distinguished, as a nation, by our love of exer-

1. Hampstead ['hæmpstid]: 汉普斯特德(英国伦敦西北部一自治区). 2. Pesca ['peskə]: 帕斯卡.

亲在汉普斯特德的小屋和我自己在城里的寓所之间，消磨时光。

夜晚静寂，暮云霭霭，伦敦天色阴沉。我放下书本，动身上母亲那儿去。通常我一星期去看望她两次。我父亲已去世多年，但是他给母亲和妹妹留下足够的钱财，使她们可以舒适度日。

在愈来愈浓的夜色中，我来到母亲的住所，按了门铃。来开门的不是仆人，而是我亲爱的意大利朋友，帕斯卡教授。他兴高采烈地出来迎接我。由于偶然的机缘，使他成了引起这个离奇故事的人，他应该有幸获得一番适当的介绍。

我第一次碰到他，是在他教他的本国语，我教绘画的那些大府第中。他原在帕多亚大学任教，后来，为了某些政治上的、他不肯对人说实情的原因，而离开了意大利。如今，他在伦敦教授语言，已有许多年了，对给予他工作和保护的这个国家，充满了感激之情。他个子瘦小，而才华出众。他认为自己应该象英国人那样地生活，于是就在一切细节上尽可能地沿袭了英国人的习惯。他总是拿着一把伞，戴着一顶白色礼帽。他发现我们这个民族以

3. the University of Padua: 帕多亚大学。Padua ['pædjʊə]: 帕多亚(意大利东北部一城市)。

cise, he gave himself up to¹ all kinds of sports whether he was fitted for them or not. He did not hesitate to risk his limbs on the hunting field, or his life in the sea, because he saw Englishmen riding and swimming.

He and I met accidentally at Brighton² one day, and he went happily into the water, knowing nothing at all about swimming. Soon after we had set out from the shore, I turned round to look for my friend and was deeply shocked to see nothing between myself and the land but two waving white arms, which soon disappeared under the surface of the sea. I dived to look for him and found him lying on the bottom looking smaller than ever. I was luckily able to take him back to the shore, where he slowly recovered from his misfortune; and as soon as he felt well again, he poured out his thanks in excited words, declaring that I had saved his life and that in the future it was entirely at my service. He said he would never be happy again until he had repaid me in some way that I would remember to the end of my days.

I did my best to stop the flow of exclamations and tears by treating the whole thing as a joke. Little did I think then³ that the opportunity of serving me was soon to come to him, and that he would then change the whole direction of my life.

1. gave himself up to: (他) 热心参加, to give oneself up to: 埋头于... 2. Brighton [braɪn]: 布赖顿 (英国南部一城市, 著名海滨浴场).

爱好运动而著称，就热心参加各种体育活动，也不管这些体育活动对他合适不合适。在狩猎地，他不怕跌断胳膊腿儿；在大海里，他不怕冒生命危险，因为他看到英国人都骑马和游泳。

一天，我与他在布赖顿不期而遇。他乐呵呵地进入水中，却根本不会游泳。我们离岸不久，我转身寻找我的朋友，但是，在海岸与我之间的水面上，除了两条挣扎着的白臂，什么也看不到。一转眼，这两条白臂也消失在水面下了。我不禁大吃一惊，潜入水中去找他，只见他躺在水底，看上去比以往更瘦小了。幸好，我总算把他带回到岸上，他慢慢地从这场灾祸中恢复了过来。一当他又感到完好如初时，他便使用了许多激动的字眼，向我倾吐感激之情，声明我救了他的命，他将一辈子听凭我的使唤。他说，要是他不能用某种使我永生永世难以忘怀的方式报答我，他就再也不会感到幸福了。

我把整个事情当作区区小事，以此竭力阻止他那滔滔不绝的感叹与眼泪。当时我一点没有想到他会很快就获得了报效我的机会，而且后来他竟会改变我生活的整个方向。

3. Little did I think then ...: 当时我一点没有想到…。 当一个句子以“never”, “hardly”, “little”等词开头时，句子多用倒装语序。

Pesca's face, when he met me at the door of my mother's cottage that evening, was more than enough to show that something extraordinary had happened, and when we reached the sitting-room my mother said that he had brought some wonderful news, but had refused to mention what it was until my arrival. While she was speaking, Pesca pulled a large armchair to the end of the room and, jumping into it on his knees, began to speak to us.

"Now, my dears," he began in an excited voice, "listen to me. The time has come to speak at last."

"He will break the back, of the armchair," said my sister.

"I have often said that my life belongs to my dear friend, Walter," he continued, "and that I should never be happy again until I had done something for him. Now," cried the little man at the top of his voice, "how happy I am! For the something is done at last!"

We declared that we were deeply interested in what he had to say.

He told us that at one of the fine London houses where he taught Italian, he had been asked by the father of his pupils to find a drawing-master to go to a house in the country. He had said that he knew the very¹ man and had then been given a letter which explained what the

1- very *adj.* (与 *the*, *this* 或 *my*, *your* 等连用, 以加强语气)正是所要的。

那天晚上，当帕斯卡在我母亲的小屋门口碰到我时，他的脸色足以说明有什么不同寻常的事情发生了。我们来到起居室，母亲说帕斯卡带来了非常好的消息，但他非要等我到来才肯说出是什么。母亲讲着话的当儿，帕斯卡把一只大扶手椅拖到房间的一头，跳上去跪在那儿，开始对我们讲了起来。

“现在，亲爱的”，他声音激动地说道，“听我说吧，终于到了可以说的时候啦。”

“他会把椅子背弄断的，”我妹妹说。

“我常常说，我的生命是属于我亲爱的朋友华特的，”他继续说道，“只有我为他做了点什么，我才会重新感到幸福。现在，”那小个子人高声叫道，“我是多么幸福啊！因为我终于为他做了这一点事啦！”

我们表示对他要说的话很感兴趣。

他告诉我们，在他教意大利文的一座豪华的伦敦府第中，学生的父亲托他物色一位绘画教师，去一所乡村府第执教。他说他恰好认识一个这样的绘画教师，于是他就得到了一封信，信上写明了绘画

drawing-master would have to do. This letter he now handed to me with a wave of his hand.

“Read!” said the little man like a king. And so I read.

The letter was clear and short. It said that Frederick Fairlie Esquire¹, of Limmeridge House², Cumberland³, wished for the services of a drawing-master for four months to instruct two young ladies in drawing and painting, and to clean and arrange a valuable collection of pictures. He would be paid four guineas a week and would live on equal terms with the family at Limmeridge House. No one need apply for this position unless his character and abilities were above criticism.

The offer was certainly attractive, and it came at a time when I was least occupied⁴ in London. I knew that I should be very lucky to obtain the employment — and yet I felt unwilling, for some unexplained reason, to apply for it. Only the persuasions of Pesca, my mother and my sister at last overcame my doubts and made me agree to send in my application. But the doubts remained in my mind.

True to my promise, the next morning I sent in my application, and a letter which I received four days later told me that Mr. Fairlie accepted my services and begged me to start for Cumberland immediately. Towards the evening of the

1. Frederick Fairlie Esquire ['fredrik 'feali is'kwaɪə]: 弗雷德里克·费尔利先生。 2. Limmeridge ['liməridʒ] House: 利默里奇府。

教师要做些什么。说着，他一挥手就把那封信交给了我。

“请念吧！”那小个子人说，俨然如同一位国王。我就照直读了起来。

信写得简捷明瞭。信上说坎伯兰郡利默里奇府的弗雷德里克·费尔利先生希望聘请一位绘画教师，以指导两位年轻小姐学习素描和水彩画，并清理一批收藏着的绘画珍品。聘期为四个月，酬金为每周四块金币。绘画教师与利默里奇府一家人的关系，则是平等的。倘若不具备无可指摘的品性和能力，就不必对这个职位提出申请。

这无疑是一项十分吸引人的提议，而且它的来临又正是我在伦敦最清闲无事的时候。我明白，要是获准受聘，这将是十分幸运的。但是，也说不上是什么原因，我却不愿去申请这个职位。只是帕斯卡、母亲和妹妹的劝说才最后使我克服了犹豫，同意将申请书送去。但是，我的心中依然是疑疑惑惑的。

我遵守了诺言，第二天早晨把申请书送去了。四天之后我收到了一封信，信上说费尔利先生已接受我的申请，并请我即刻前往坎伯兰郡。当天傍晚，帕

3. Cumberland ['kambələnd]: 坎伯兰郡(英格兰西北部一郡)。
4. was least occupied: 最清闲无事的时候。to be occupied: 忙碌, 没空。least 是 little 的最高级, 意为最少, 副词, 修饰 occupied。



"Is that the road to London?"

"去伦敦是走这条道吧?"

same day Pesca looked in¹ to see me, and after he had gone I went to my mother's cottage to take my farewell.

My mother and sister said so many last words that it was nearly midnight when I left them. The moon was full, and I decided to take the longest and loneliest road home so as to spend as much time as possible in the fresh air. I was walking along, thinking of the future and imagining as well as I could my coming life at Limmeridge House, when I was suddenly startled by the touch of a hand laid lightly on my shoulder from behind me.

I turned round at once, with my fingers tightening round the handle of my stick.

There in the middle of the road stood the figure

斯卡来看望我。他走后，我就上母亲的小屋去道别。

母亲和妹妹对我说了许许多多告别的话，我走的时候，已快半夜了。这时，圆圆的月亮十分皎洁，为了能在清新的空气中尽可能多待些时候，我决定走最远、最僻静的那条道回家。我边走边憧憬着未来，尽可能地想象着我即将要在利默里奇过的生活。突然，我吓了一跳，有人在后面把手轻轻地搭在我的肩上。

我立刻转过身去，手指紧紧抓住我的手杖柄。

路中央站着一个女人，从头到脚

1. looked in: (顺便)看望。