

加里·保尔森冒险世界丛书

SKYDIVE

中英对照学英语
阅读理解做练习

跳伞

[美]加里·保尔森 著 韦汉文 译

走，
体验一下
从天而降
的滋味！

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SKYDIVE

(中英对照)

[美]加里·保尔森 著

韦汉文 译

广西教育出版社

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

跳伞 SKYDIVE:英汉对照/(美)保尔森著;
韦汉文译。—南宁:广西教育出版社,2000.6
(加里·保尔森冒险世界丛书/孙梅主编)

ISBN 7-5435-3039-2

I. 跳... II. ①保... ②韦... III. 英语-对照读物,

小说-英、汉 IV. H319.4; I

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2000)第 37442 号

加里·保尔森冒险世界丛书

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广西教育出版社出版

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全国新华书店经销 广西南宁市社会福利印刷厂印刷

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开本 890×1240 1/32 4.875 印张 88 千字

2000 年 8 月第 1 版 2000 年 8 月第 1 次印刷

印数:1—5 000 册

ISBN 7-5435-3039-2/I·266 定价:7.30 元

如发现印装质量问题,影响阅读,请与承印厂联系调换

原书名:SKYDIVE

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原出版者:美国兰登书屋

Published by arrangement with Random House Children's Books

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中文版权所有:广西教育出版社 1999 年获美国兰登书屋授权独家出版发行

著作权合同登记号:桂图登字:20-2000-018 号



出 版 说 明

加里·保尔森(Gary Paulsen)是当今美国青少年读物畅销书作家,近年来创作了这套“冒险世界丛书”,共14本。这些书思想内容健康,故事曲折离奇,情节惊险紧张,文笔简练流畅,寓知识性及趣味性于一体,对培养青少年勇敢精神和启迪青少年的智慧大有裨益。

我们采用中英对照形式,对较难理解的语言点和文化背景知识作简要的注释。为增强读者的参与意识,每章末附精心编写的思考题和参考答案,既可供读者作课外读物,亦可供课堂作泛读材料,本丛书适合中学生和大学生使用。



内 容 简 介

跳伞俱乐部两个小学员杰西和罗宾一同游览机场,顺便拍几张照片。飞行员彼得·里夫斯对相片感兴趣,恰巧罗宾的相机被人砸坏,他们把余下的胶卷冲洗后,发现搭乘彼得飞机的乘客是中美洲毒品贩卖团伙的成员。他们跟踪侦查。但是彼得设圈套要杀害他们,企图用坏了的降落伞杀死罗宾,把杰西扔出飞机,想把他们犯罪的目击证人都杀死。经过一番曲折的较量,罗宾和杰西死里逃生,毒犯被抓了。



致 读 者

亲爱的读者：

真正的冒险故事包含很多方面——危险啦，勇敢啦，有时候甚至是生死搏斗。从狗拉雪橇横贯阿拉斯加的伊狄特洛越野大赛到在太平洋上航行，我都亲自经历了一些这样的冒险。在我的故事中我努力体现这一精神，在我每次坐下来着手写作时，这种挑战本身便是一场历险。

你们同样是这场冒险中的一分子。在过去的岁月中，我有幸在学校里同你们中许多人交谈，本书便是在直接倾听了你们最想读什么之后产生的，你们最爱读的便是带劲和刺激的故事。

既然您喜欢读，那么就请坚持读下去，同时让我们一起再跳进我的冒险世界中另一则动人心弦的故事中去吧。

加里·保尔森





CHAPTER 1

Thirteen-year-old Jesse Rodriguez emptied the contents of the rusty metal dustpan into the trash can and surveyed the room. Earlier the airport's small parachuting clubhouse had been full of excited students coming back from a training exercise. Now it was quiet. The only ones still here were Jesse and Buck.

Jesse smiled when he thought of^① Buck Sellman, the owner of the club and the small, rural airport. Buck was all right. Actually, he was more than all right^②. He had been airborne in the Vietnam War along with Jesse's dad. He'd lost his right leg to a land mine on the same mission during



第 一 章

13岁的杰西·罗德里格斯把装在满是锈的金属畚箕里的垃圾全部倒进了垃圾桶并察看了整个房间。早些时候,那些刚刚训练回来的学员兴高采烈地聚集在小机场的跳伞俱乐部室里,现在俱乐部却静悄悄的,仅有杰西和巴克尚在。

杰西想到巴克·塞尔曼,笑了起来。巴克是这个俱乐部及小机场的老板。他身体不错,实际上可以说是充满活力。他和杰西的父亲曾一同被空运至越南,参加越战。在执行同样的作战任务时,因踏地雷失去右腿,而

注:

① think of 是习语,意为“想起”、“想出”的意思。

② all right“没有什么”的意思。



which Jesse's father had lost his life^①.

Buck hadn't let his disability stop him, though. When the tall, lanky ex-sergeant had been discharged, he'd bought an out-of-the-way^② airfield near Seattle and set up shop teaching people how to fly and skydive. To help pay the bills he'd hired a couple of other pilots and started an air freight transport company on the side.

Jesse had been coming here almost every day for the past five years, working and learning everything about parachutes and skydiving that Buck would teach him. He already knew more about^③ rigging a chute and jumping than most of Buck's advanced students, and he lived for the day when he would be old enough to make his first jump.

The front door swung open, interrupting Jesse's thoughts. A man wearing an expensive double-breasted suit sauntered in. A pretty girl with long blond hair, who looked about the same age as Jesse, followed him. The man took off^④ his sunglasses and inspected the lobby.

Jesse leaned the broom against the counter. "Can I help you, mister?"

The man gave him a bored look. "I doubt it. Isn't



杰西的父亲在那次作战中丢了命。

伤残并没有使巴克向命运低头,这位瘦高的前空军中士退役后,在西雅图附近买下了一个偏远的飞机场,并办起培训班,教人们驾驶飞机及跳伞。为了满足开支,他还雇用了几个飞行员,在机场旁边经营了一家空运公司。

在过去的5年中,杰西几乎每天都来这儿干活,并向巴克学习跳伞。杰西现在的操作及跳伞技术超过巴克班上大多数高级学员。他现在要做的只是等候,等到参加跳伞的合法年龄。

前门打开的声音打断了杰西的思绪。一个穿着昂贵的、双排纽扣西服的男子走了进来,他的身边跟着一位与杰西年龄相仿的漂亮的金发女孩。这个男子摘下太阳镜并审视这间接待室。

杰西把扫帚斜靠在柜台,问道:“先生,能为你效劳吗?”

那人不耐烦地扫了他一眼:“难说。难道

注:

① lose one's life
“死”的意思。

② out-of-the-way
为“远离交通要道”的意思。

③ know about 知
道关于某人(或某物)的事情。

④ take off 意为
“摘下”。



there anyone here besides” — he cleared his throat —
“the janitor?”

Jesse ran his hand through his jet-black hair and frowned. “The janitor?” Then he remembered that the dustpan was still in his other hand. “Oh, you mean me.”

“Bright kid.” The man sighed and took the girl’s elbow. “Come on, Robin. We’ll come back later, when there’s someone besides the hired help around.”

“Wait a minute. I’m not —”

“Is there a problem here?” Buck had been in his office and had heard the whole exchange. He winked at Jesse and then stuck his hand out toward the man. “I’m Buck Sellman, the instructor. Is there something I can do for you?”

The man reluctantly shook Buck’s hand and then straightened his designer tie. “I’m J. W. Waterford the Fourth. This is my daughter, Robin. I understand that you teach skydiving here?” He didn’t wait for^① Buck to answer. “My daughter would like to take lessons as soon as possible^②.”

The girl glanced over at^③ Jesse, swallowed nervously, and then tightly closed her large blue eyes.



这里就只有你一人?”他清了清嗓子——“看门的?”

杰西用手梳理一下他那乌黑的头发,皱眉道:“看门的?”这时他才想起他的另外一只手上还拿着畚箕,“噢,你是说我是看门的?”

“聪明的孩子。”那人叹了一口气,挽起女孩的胳膊说,“好了,罗宾。当管事的人在时,我们再来。”

“等一等,我不是——”

“发生了什么事?”坐在办公室里面的巴克已经听到了整个谈话,他向杰西使了个眼色,然后把手伸向那人,“我叫巴克·塞尔曼,这儿的教官,可以为你效劳吗?”

那人勉强握了握巴克的手,并紧一紧他的领带说道:“我是 J.W. 沃特福德四世,这是我的女儿罗宾。我知道你在这儿教跳伞,是吗?”未等巴克回答,他接着说:“我女儿想尽快学会跳伞。”

那女孩看了杰西一眼,紧张地咽了一口口水,然后合上她那双大大的蓝眼睛。

注:

① wait for 意为“等候”,“等待”。

② as ... as possible “尽量”、“尽可能”的意思。

③ glance at “晃眼一看”的意思。



She doesn't look like she wants lessons, Jesse thought. I'd say she's scared stiff at the whole idea.

Buck scratched under the collar at the back of his orange jumpsuit. "I give lessons, and I'd be happy to teach Robin. The only problem is, according to regulations, a minor has to be sixteen before she can make her first real jump."

"I see." The man raised one eyebrow. "Perhaps you could recommend a club that would take younger members?"

Buck shook his head^①. "I'm afraid^② that's the rule at every legitimate club. But if you're still interested in joining, we can teach her everything she'll need to know to make her first jump. That way when she's old enough, she'll practically be a professional."

Mr. Waterford folded^③ his arms. "I don't know...."

Buck smiled and showed them to the door. "Don't let me pressure you. Go home and think about it. If Robin decides to join, her age group meets on Tuesdays and Fridays at two o'clock all through the summer."

He closed the door behind the Waterfords and turned to Jesse. "Well, what did you think?"



“她看起来不像是很喜欢学跳伞，”杰西想，“我看这个想法会吓坏她。”

巴克拧着他那橙黄色跳伞服后领下的纽扣，说：“跳伞课是我上的，我很高兴教罗宾。惟一的问题是，根据规定，未成年人要到16岁才能开始第一次实跳。”

“我明白。”那人扬起眉毛，“可以介绍一个招收未成年学员的俱乐部吗？”

巴克摇了摇头：“恐怕不能，每个合法的俱乐部都必须遵守这个规定。但如果你仍有兴趣练习，我们可以教会她做第一次实跳前所要掌握的一切知识，这样，当她到了合法的年龄，她就会像职业选手那样老练。”

沃特福德交叉双臂道：“我不知道……”

巴克微笑着把他们送出门口：“我不会强迫你学，回家想一想，如果罗宾决定要学，像她那样年龄的学员一般是整个夏天的星期二和星期五两点钟集中。”

沃特福德父女走后，巴克关上门，转身对着杰西问：“你刚才想什么？”

注：

① shake one's head 意为“摇头”（表示否定）。

② be afraid 意为“恐怕”（客套话）。

③ fold [fəʊld] *vt.* “交（臂）”；“叉（手）”



“Why ask me?” Jesse tried not to laugh. “I’m just the hired help.”

“That’s where you’re wrong.” Buck playfully^① punched^② his young friend on the shoulder. “I don’t remember ever saying this job paid anything.” The tall man walked down the corridor toward the practice hangar, the limp from his prosthetic leg barely noticeable. He looked over his shoulder^③. “Are you coming? I could sure use some help packing parachutes.”

Jesse stored the broom and dustpan in a narrow closet and called after^④ his friend, “Does this mean I’m being promoted from janitor?”

“Shut up^⑤ and get in here,” Buck said with a laugh.