

朗文英汉对照阶梯阅读丛书



第四级

Tales of Mystery and Imagination

埃伦·坡原著 罗兰·约翰 迈克尔·韦斯特改写 王敏华译

金甲虫——推理和幻想故事集

简写本



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金甲虫——推理和幻想故事集(简写本)

[美]埃德加·爱伦·坡著 罗兰·约翰 改写 王敏华译
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给读者的话

学好英语的关键之一是多读。读什么？英语大师们的回答是：读名著。倘若名著又长又难，怎么办？那么就从简写本开始。《朗文英汉对照阶梯阅读丛书》就是为满足这种需要编写的。这套丛书以循序渐进的方法、最浅显的英语词汇和最精美的全页彩图，给你讲世界上脍炙人口的经典故事。本套丛书有四大特色：

一、所选内容均为世界文学名著；

二、英语地道、纯正、流畅、清新，均出自英美名家手笔；

三、语言浅显易懂，可读性强。本丛书共分四级，所用英语单词分别为：第一级 500 个，第二级 900 个，第三级 1300 个，第四级 1800 个，非常适合不同程度的中学生、大学生及广大英语爱好者阅读；

四、英汉对照，帮助理解。汉语译文准确、优美。在符合汉语表达习惯的基础上，力图传达英语原文的意美和形美。

我们的宗旨就是向你打开通向英语名著世界的一扇扇小窗，让你轻轻松松地寓语言学习、文学欣赏和翻译练习于一体，一举而有三得。

Introduction

Edgar Allan Poe

Edgar Poe was born in Boston, Massachusetts, in the United States in 1809. His parents were actors in a travelling company. They died before their child was three, and John Allan, a merchant in Richmond, Virginia, took Edgar into his house. Edgar Allan Poe (the second name was added by his new father) did not seem unusually clever at school, although we do not know much about the five years (1815–20) when he was at school in England. In 1826 he entered the University of Virginia, but he had to leave after only one year, owing a great deal of money. His debts were the result of gambling – playing cards and risking money on other games.

Poe joined the United States army in 1828. He had already written, and printed at his own expense, *Tamerlane and Other Poems* (1827).

John Allan helped him to go to a training college for officers. Poe did not complete his training there, but some of his fellow cadets liked his poetry so much that they paid for the printing of a collection of his poems.

Poe saw himself as a poet, but his poetry did not earn enough to live on. He became a writer of articles and stories for magazines, and later a literary critic, one who points out the good and bad sides of writers' work. It was as a critic that he became well known. His criticism was usually sharp and far-seeing. He praised the young Charles Dickens when others had not yet seen the promise

前 言

埃德加·爱伦·坡

埃德加·坡于 1809 年出生于美国马萨诸塞州的波士顿。他的父母都是巡回演出剧团里的演员。父母过世时，埃德加尚不满三岁。一位弗吉尼亚州里士满的商人，名叫约翰·爱伦，把埃德加收养进自家家门。虽然我们对埃德加·爱伦·坡（当中的那个名字是他继父加上去的）在英格兰求学五年期间（1815-20）的情况知之甚少，但他在校期间似乎并非才智过人。1826 年，他进入弗吉尼亚大学，但是仅上了一学年，他就不得不离校，欠下许多钱。由于他赌博——玩纸牌和搞其他的赌钱活动，结果债台高筑。

坡于 1828 年参加美国陆军，当时他已经创作并且自费出版了《泰摩兰诗选》（1827）。

约翰·爱伦帮助他进了一所军官培训学院，但坡没有完成学业。不过他的几位军官候补生同学因为实在钟爱他的诗作，就为他支付了诗集出版的印刷费用。

坡自认为是诗人，其实他的诗作收入还不够他维持生计。他为各种杂志撰稿和写短篇小说。后来他当了文学评论家，评说作家作品中的优缺点，作为一位评论家坡才出了名。他的评论尖锐深刻，颇有远见卓识。在旁人尚未意识到年轻的查尔斯·狄更斯的作品时，坡已对他大加赞赏。但是坡抨击

of his work. But he attacked as valueless a good deal of the work of popular writers of his own time in the United States. More important, he gave people an idea of what to look for in their reading. He showed in his own short stories that the writer should aim for one single effect, not just a number of events, one following the other.

In his own writing, Edgar Allan Poe became more and more interested in mystery and horror.

His interest in mystery led him to produce the earliest examples of detective stories. Indeed many people say that his *Murders in the Rue Morgue* was the first of the detective stories that are so popular today.

In this book we have two examples of Poe's interest in horror: *Down into the Maelstrom* is about the fear that (it is supposed) can turn a man's hair white in a few hours; *The Pit and the Pendulum* has a terrible death creeping nearer and nearer to a helpless man.

Perhaps the horror in his own imagination was too much for Edgar Allan Poe. He was only forty when they found his dead body in a Baltimore street. Death was probably caused by heavy drinking, but the newspapers, out of respect, called it a sudden illness of the brain.

The stories

"You are the man" (1841) – The title of this story comes from an account in the Bible (2 Samuel 12:7) in which a messenger from God accuses King David of wrongdoing, saying: "You are the man!" The narrator uses these words to accuse the real murderer.

The Gold Bug (1843) – A skull and cross bones was the usual mark of the seventeenth- and eighteenth-century pirates, the sea robbers who attacked ships and took their goods. On

与他同时代的一些广受欢迎的美国作家，认为他们的许多作品毫无价值。尤为重要的是，他向人们提示，在阅读时应寻求什么。坡在自己所创作的短篇小说中表明，作家必须追求一种独特的效果，而不只是一连串事件的堆砌。

埃德加·爱伦·坡在自己的写作过程中，对推理侦探和恐怖作品越来越感兴趣。

他对推理侦探的兴趣致使他创作出侦探小说最早的范本。说实在的，不少人认为他写的《芸香阁街谋杀案》是如今深受欢迎的侦探小说中的第一本。

在这本书中，我们收集了坡对恐怖感兴趣的 two 篇故事：《卷进大漩涡》写的是那种恐惧，（据说）它能使人的头发在数小时内变白；《深渊和吊摆》说的是骇人的死亡正在逐渐逼近一个求助无门的人的故事。

兴许对恐怖的幻想使埃德加·爱伦·坡不堪忍受，在他年仅四十岁时，就横尸于巴尔的摩的街头。他的死显然是因过度酗酒，但是出于对他的尊重，报界称之为脑部突然发病致死。

关于本集的故事

《你就是那个人》(1814)——该短篇小说的书名出自《圣经》的一段故事（《撒母耳记》下卷，12章7小节）。上帝的信使指控大卫王犯下的罪行，他说：“你就是那个人！”故事叙述者引用这句话来指控真正的谋杀凶手。

《金甲虫》(1843)——骷髅下加交叉股骨的图形曾是十七和十八世纪海盗通用的徽记。海盗袭击过往船只，掠夺财

their own ships they flew a flag with the skull and cross bones in white on a black background.

Captain Kidd was a real pirate captain. He was taken prisoner in 1699 and was hanged as a pirate. For nearly three hundred years people have hunted for his hidden treasure, but it has never been found.

The Stolen Letter (1845) – The very clever detective, Dupin, solves the mystery in a number of Poe's stories. His methods are described by a narrator who is far from clever, just as Sherlock Holmes's cases are described by a not very intelligent Dr Watson in Conan Doyle's stories.

The Murders in the Rue Morgue (1841) – This was the Dupin story that made Poe's detective mysteries so popular.

At the time the story was written, there was great interest in the apes, and especially in the orang-utan from Borneo and Sumatra.

Down into the Maelstrom (1841) – The word *maelstrom* is used in English for any very dangerous whirlpool, a stretch of water moving round in a strong circular movement which can suck objects down. But you will find the Maelstrom in the place described in Poe's story. On a good map of Norway, you may find it called Moskenesstraumen. It is still dangerous, but the stories about its pulling ships to the bottom were never fact.

The Pit and the Pendulum (1841) – This story describes events that might have happened a hundred and fifty, or more, years ago. In those days, men in some countries were punished, often very cruelly, if their religious beliefs did not agree with the beliefs of the church. The judges were leaders of the church. Such religious courts came to an end in 1834.

物。他们在自己的船上挂着一面有白色骷髅和交叉股骨的黑旗。

“船长基德”是过去一名确有其人的海盗船长。1699年他被捉拿入狱，并因海盗罪被判处绞刑。约三百年来，人们一直在搜寻他藏匿的财宝，但至今未被人发现。

《失窃的信件》(1845)——在坡的许多小说中，杜宾这个才智过人的侦探侦破了这起疑案。但故事叙述者的才智却极为平庸，叙述起杜宾的侦破之道来，简直就像在柯南·道尔小说中才具平平的华生医生叙述夏洛克·福尔摩斯侦破疑案时一样。

《芸香阁街谋杀案》(1841)——正是这篇杜宾的故事，使坡的推理侦探小说广受读者喜爱。

在小说创作期间，人们对猿猴极感兴趣，尤其青睐产自婆罗洲和苏门答腊岛的猩猩。

《卷进大漩涡》(1841)——英文中用 maelstrom 这个词来指险象环生的大漩涡。一望无际的海水，以强劲的环形运动旋转着，它能够把物体吸入海中。不过你会在坡的故事中所描绘的地方找到大漩涡。在一幅详细的挪威地图上，你可以找到称为大漩涡的地方。诚然它十分凶险，不过有关它把船只拖入海底的说法纯属虚构。

《深渊和吊摆》(1841)——故事中描写的事情可能在一百五十年前，或更久远一些的年代里发生过。当时，在某些国家里，假如有人在宗教信仰上背叛教堂的信仰，要受刑罚，这些刑罚往往是极为残酷的。审判官都是教堂的头目，这类宗教法庭在 1834 年以后已不再存在。

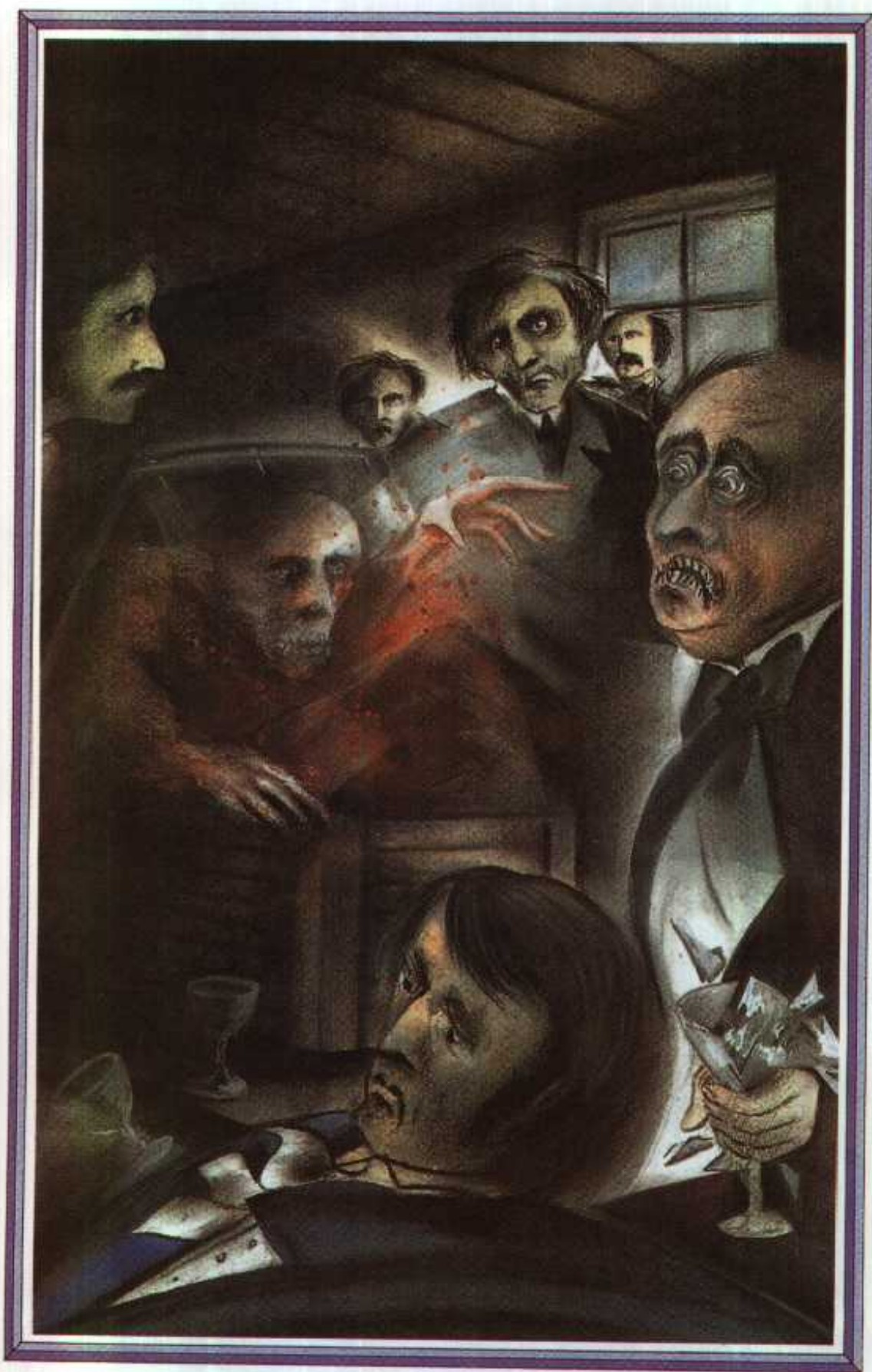
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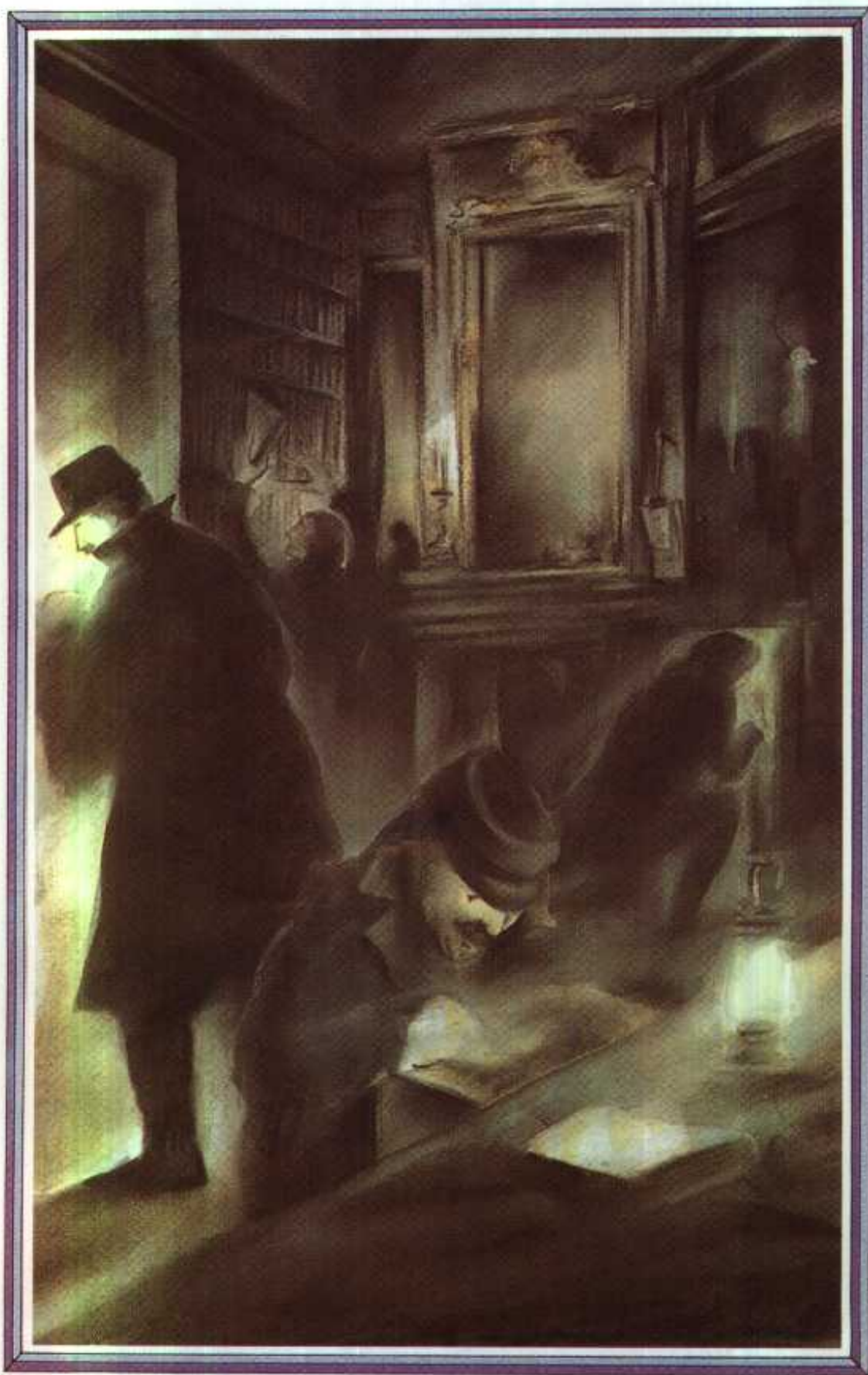
"You are the man!"

“你就是那个人” (参见第 20~21 页)



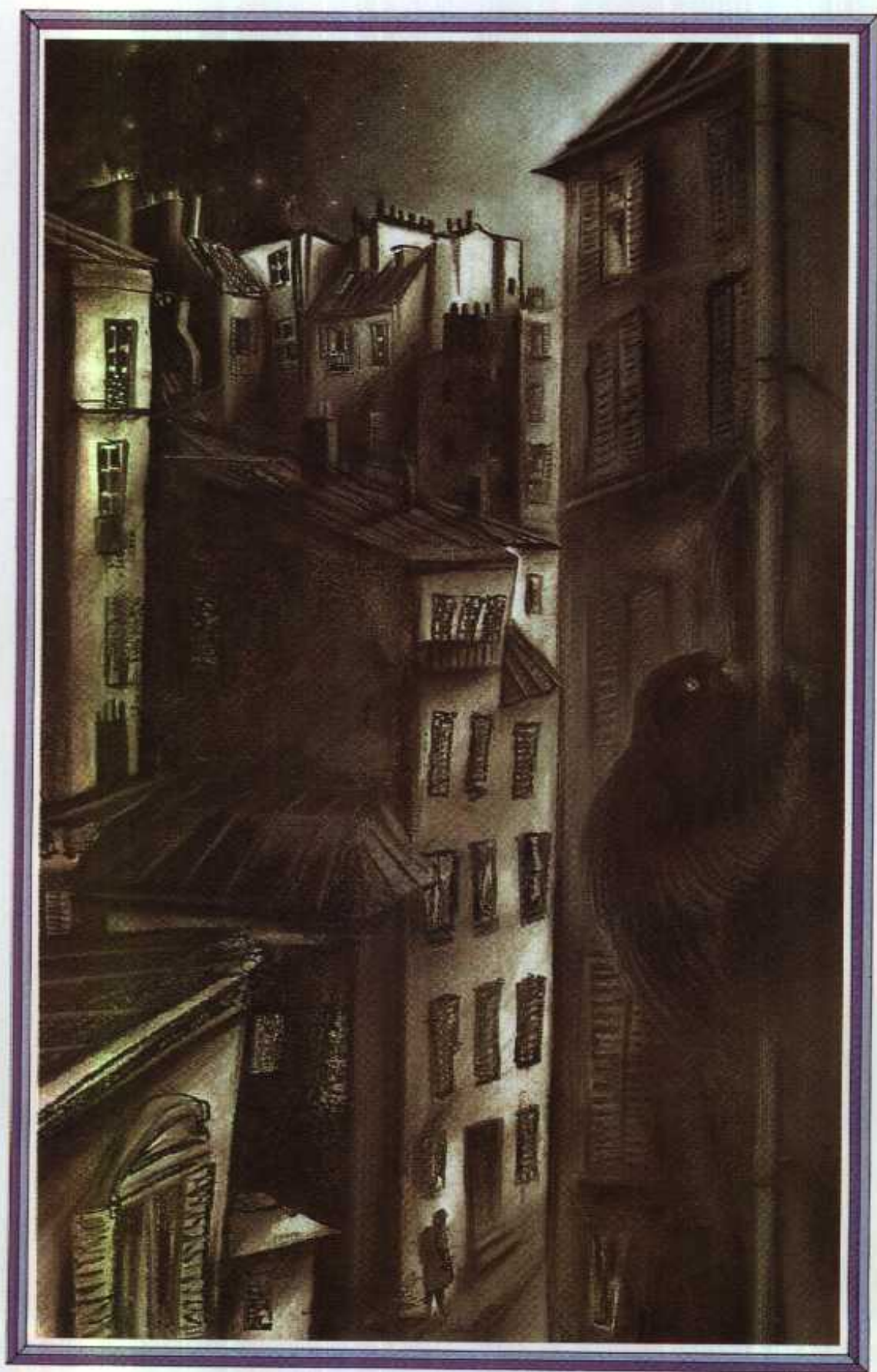
Jupiter drops the bug through the eye of the skull

裘彼得将甲虫穿过骷髅的眼窝放下来 (参见第 35~36 页)

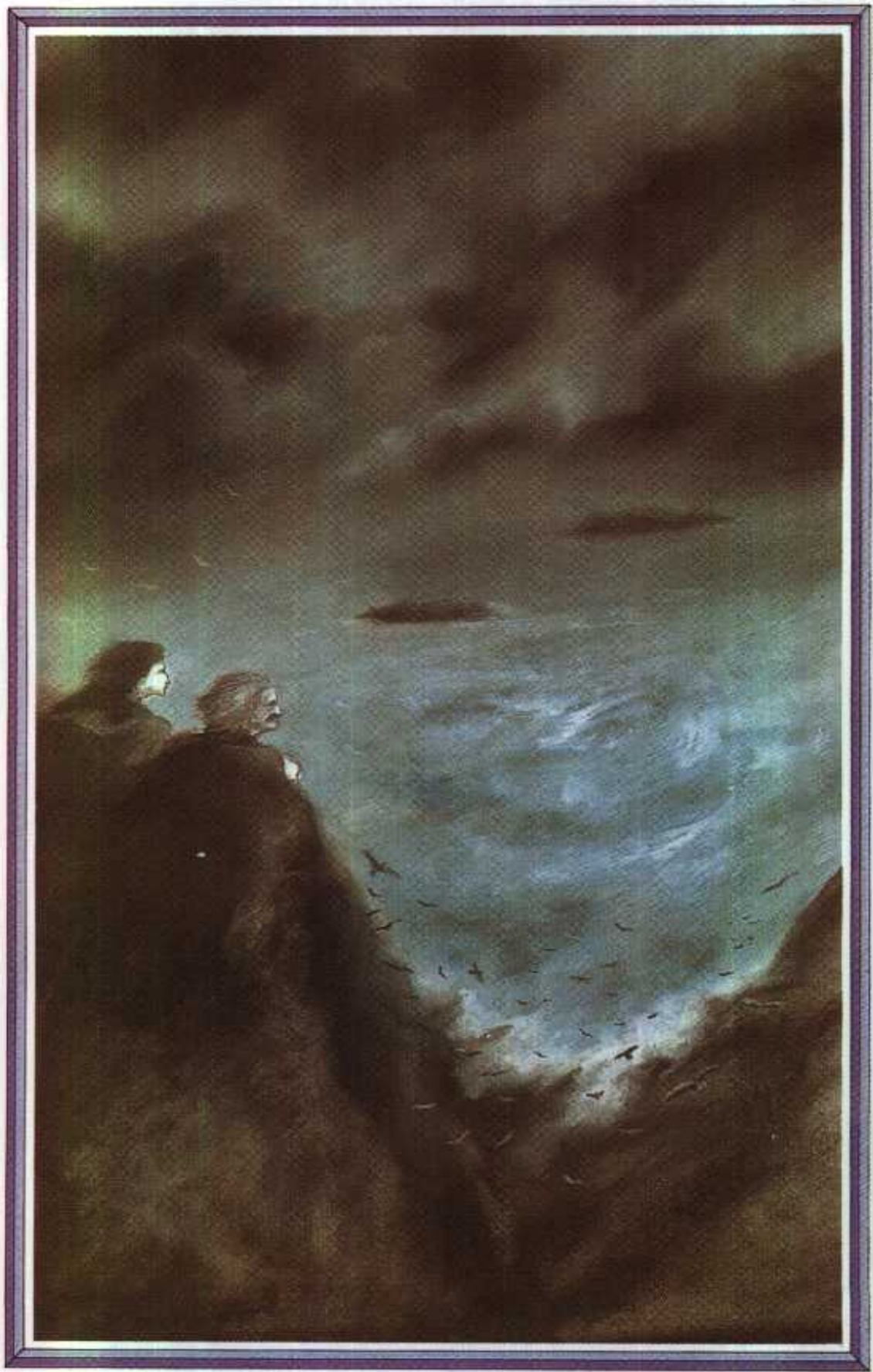


The policemen search Lebrun's house

警察搜查莱勃伦的寓所 (参见第 55~56 页)



The orang-utan climbs the pipe
猩猩爬上水管子 (参见第 95~96 页)



The Moskoe-strom begins

摩斯可大漩涡兴起 (参见第 101~102 页)