



Spider Boy

蜘蛛小子

Margaret Johnson 著



第1级

核心词汇量400

适合初一、初二年级学生
及同等水平的英语学习者



剑桥双语分级阅读

彩绘小说馆

原版系列编辑 Nicholas Tims

Spider Boy

蜘蛛小子

Margaret Johnson 著
王欢 编译

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Preface 前言

“剑桥双语分级阅读·彩绘小说馆”从剑桥大学出版社原版引进，是“剑桥双语分级阅读·小说馆”的彩色升级版。“彩绘小说馆”由英美著名语言教学专家及小说家合力创作，是专为非英语国家的青少年英语学习者打造的分级阅读系列读物。

“剑桥双语分级阅读”丛书总规模 100 余册，其中本系列 20 余册，出版以来深受世界各地英语教师和学习者的喜爱，已有多个读本荣获英国“语言学习文学奖”和“语言学习文学奖提名奖”。

“彩绘小说馆”具有以下突出特色：

1. 它的故事均以青少年为主人公，从孩子的视角讲述那些充满冒险与挑战、幻想与新奇、开心与失落的故事，充分满足孩子的心理需求，使小读者在欣赏跌宕起伏故事情节的同时不知不觉提升英语水平。

2. 它是专为非英语国家的英语学习者量身定制的读物，而非为英语母语者而写的大众读物。因此，本系列是中国读者首选的英语学习读物。

3. 它是英美知名小说家和英语语言教学专家合力创作的读物，小说家保障了读物的可读性与可欣赏性，英语语言教学专家保障了读物语言作为英语习得材料的科学性与可学性。因此，阅读本系列读物，我们会在欣赏小说的同时，自然而然地、有效地提高自己的英语水平。

4. 它的故事题材丰富多样，包括历险、悬疑、人文、奇幻、喜剧、历史、戏剧等，读者可以随心选择自己喜欢的类别进行阅读；它的故事内容生动有趣，故事情节引人入胜、扣人心弦，一旦开始阅读，就想一口气读完，使阅读真正升华到“悦读”。

5. 赠送原版配套单词互动游戏及剑桥原声真情朗读录音。所配音频不是普通英语母语者的朗读录音，而是专业配音员的演绎再创作。听着它，我们犹如在听广播剧、听评书，又仿佛是在听电影、听话剧……这种聆听英语的享受将彻底扫除学生对英语听力的畏难心理。

6. 读本中所使用的语言，既有英式英语，也有美式英语，对应的音频材料也相应分为英音和美音。读者可根据自己的喜好来选择。

7. 本系列读物根据“欧洲共同语言参考框架（CEF）”和“剑桥大学外语考试部（ESOL）”的标准来确定级别划分，是建立在科学研究和实践基础之上的分级。全套共分七个级别（与中国读者英语基础水平的大致对应关系，请参见图书封底表格），读者可根据自己的英语基础选择相应级别的读本来学习。

为了更好地帮助读者学习和欣赏，“彩绘小说馆”在阅读理解、文化扩展、词汇积累等方面进行了精心设计。

1. 增加适量辅助学习的内容。在章节中间设置了对页练习，包括 Looking back (前情回顾)、Activities (阅读活动)、Looking forward (情节预测) 三个板块，重点培养读者的阅读理解能力与思维判断能力。还增加了 Cultural note (文化点滴) 和 Words & expressions (词汇与表达) 板块，帮助读者扫除阅读障碍，提升鉴赏能力。

2. 增加了小说全文的参考译文。出于语言学习的考虑，译文尽量采用直译，保证两种语言句子的基本对应，避免文学式意译。值得一提的是，所增加的辅助学习内容和参考译文，均由来自全国不同省市著名中学（包括人大附中、北大附中、清华附中、黄冈中学、上海中学等三十余所中学）的一线英语教师完成，从而确保了所加内容与中国学生的英语学习特点和学习需求相吻合，为学生阅读和欣赏读物、提高英语水平给予恰到好处的助力。

3. 提供配套网络资源。本系列读物配有专题网页，读者可以在网页上了解读物的基本信息、故事梗概、作者和编译者介绍；可以通过“在线测试” (http://cdextras.cambridge.org/Readers/RPT_last.swf) 帮助自己确定适合的阅读级别，再结合自己对题材和英式或美式英语的偏好，来选择具体的读本；还可以进行故事预览和试听，下载录音和拓展习题，与其他读者分享、交流读书心得。教师还可以分享教学经验并下载教案等相关资源 (<http://www.blcup.com> 和 <http://www.camstory.cn>)。

英语阅读是英语课堂的延伸和补充，也是培养英语语感、提高英语水平的有效途径。选择好的英语读物，收获的将不仅仅是语言的进步。欢迎年轻朋友们来到“剑桥双语分级阅读·彩绘小说馆”，打开一本本好书，品味一个个好故事，为实现梦想搭建桥梁。

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People in the story

故事中的人物

Kieran: a twelve-year-old boy

Mum: Kieran's mother

Dad: Kieran's father

Fred: Kieran's pet spider, a Chilean Rose tarantula

Connor O'Brien: a boy in Kieran's class

Mrs O'Brien: Connor's mother

Mr Robins: Kieran's science teacher

Miss Burton: Kieran's geography teacher

基兰：一个十二岁大的男孩

妈妈：基兰的母亲

爸爸：基兰的父亲

弗雷德：基兰的宠物蜘蛛，一只智利玫瑰狼蛛

康纳·奥布赖恩：基兰班上的一个男生

奥布赖恩夫人：康纳的母亲

罗宾斯先生：基兰的科学课老师

伯顿女士：基兰的地理课老师

BEFORE YOU READ

① Look at the pictures in Chapter 1. What do you think?

Answer the questions.

1 Who is climbing the building?

.....

2 Who does Kieran talk to in his room?

.....

Chapter 1

Christmas lights



‘Twenty seconds to go, everybody!’ said the DJ.

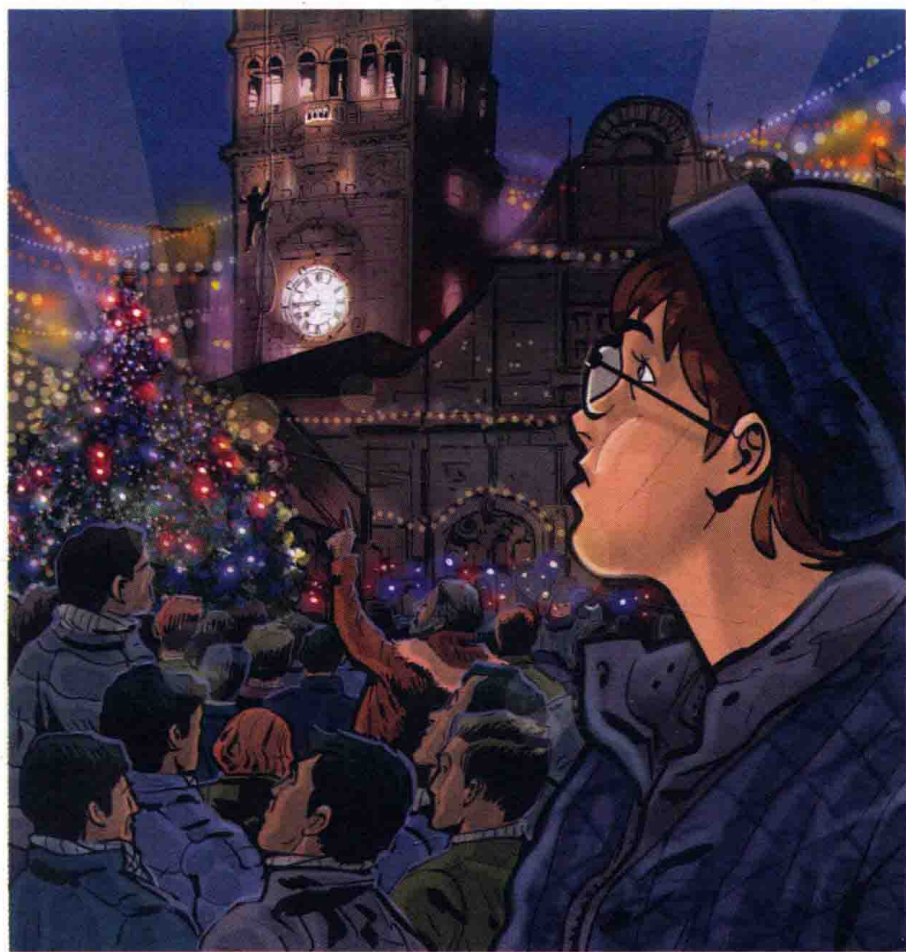
I was outside Sheffield Town Hall. Sheffield is a big city with lots of people, and thousands were there to see the Christmas lights go on. My dad was with me, but he said he had to do something. That was fifteen minutes ago.

‘Where are you, Dad?’ I thought. ‘You’re not going to see the lights go on!’

Then the DJ said, 'OK, everybody! Ten, nine, eight, seven, six ...' We all said the numbers with him.

'... five, four, three, two, one!'

The Christmas lights went on all over the buildings. They were beautiful. Everyone said, 'Ah!' or 'Ooh!' And we all looked up at them.



That's when I saw Dad. He was on the side of the Town Hall. 'He's climbing up!' I thought. 'Oh no! Turn the lights off! Turn them off!' I didn't want people to see him.

But it was too late. ‘Wow!’ said the DJ. ‘Look, everybody! Someone’s climbing up the Town Hall!’

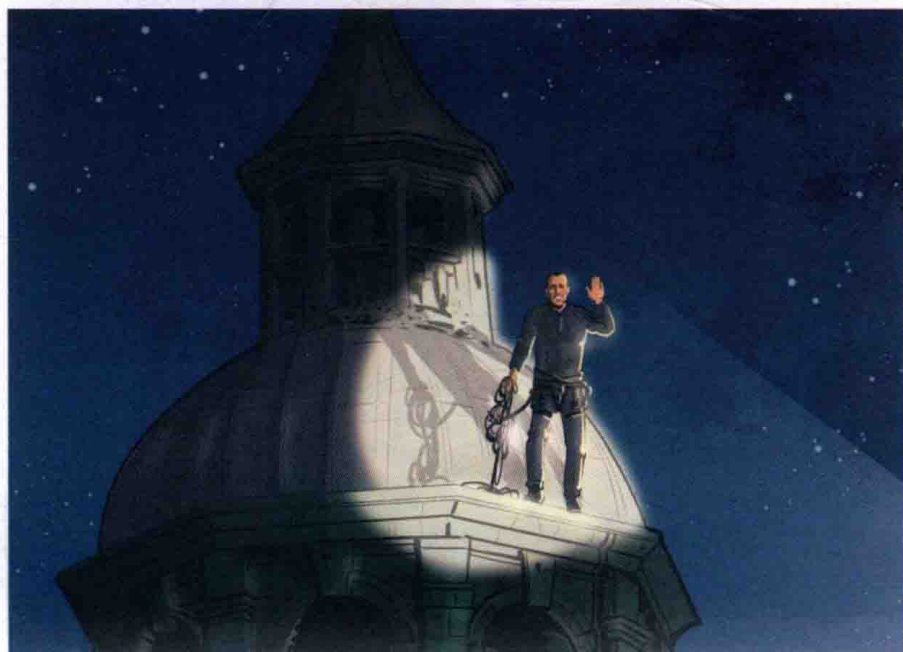
People said ‘Ah’ and ‘Ooh’ again, but this time they were afraid. Dad looked very small up there.

‘Is he going to fall?’ the woman next to me said. ‘I can’t look!’

I didn’t want to look. But I had to. Because that was my dad up there!

Dad went slowly up the building. He loves climbing and he knows what he’s doing. But the building was very tall and there were lots of people. He stopped to look at us. ‘Think about what you’re doing, Dad!’ I told him in my head. That’s what he always said to me when we went climbing. ‘Think about what you’re doing, Kieran!’

Dad started climbing again. After five minutes he got to the top.



‘How about that, everybody?’ the DJ said. ‘Make some noise for the climber!’

Everyone shouted and called out. But I didn’t. I saw two policemen – they were going into the Town Hall.

‘What are they going to do?’ I thought.

After five minutes, the policemen came out again – with Dad. They took him away, and he shouted over to me: ‘Go home, Kieran. Mum finishes work at nine o’clock.’

‘That’s his son!’ the woman next to me said. Then everyone looked at me. I wanted to die.

* * *


Mum wasn’t back from work when I got home. I went up to my bedroom and told Fred all about Dad. Fred’s my pet spider. I tell him everything.

‘Why did he climb up there, Fred?’ I asked. ‘Why?’

Fred walked over my hand. He wanted his dinner.

‘The TV people were there!’ I told Fred. ‘Now everyone at school is going to know about it. Connor O’Brien is going to know about it!’

Fred walked up my arm. I knew he understood. I also knew he was hungry. I put him back in his home and gave him his food. I watched him eat. After a minute, I put my computer on and started to write. I write something every day – about spiders or about how I feel.

Young spiders aren't very easy to see. This is because they don't have much colour. I want to be a young spider. I don't want people to see me. 



LOOKING BACK

- 1 Check your answers to *Before you read* on page 6.

ACTIVITIES

- 2 Complete the sentences with *Kieran, Dad* or *Fred*.

- 1 Kieran is outside the Town Hall.
- 2 is watching the Christmas lights go on.
- 3 is climbing up the Town Hall.
- 4 tells everything.
- 5 is hungry.
- 6 writes something every day.

- 3 Underline the correct words in each sentence.

- 1 The Christmas lights go on / *off* all over the buildings.
- 2 Kieran *wants* / *doesn't want* people to see Dad.
- 3 Kieran *watches* / *doesn't watch* Dad climb the Town Hall.
- 4 Dad climbs *quickly* / *slowly* up the building.
- 5 The Town Hall is *tall* / *not very tall*.
- 6 Kieran is *happy* / *unhappy* about Dad.
- 7 Mum *is* / *isn't* at home when Kieran gets home.
- 8 *No one* / *Everyone* at school is going to know about Kieran's dad.

- 4 Match the questions with the answers.

- 1 Why was Kieran outside the Town Hall? b
- 2 Who goes into the Town Hall?
- 3 Who does Kieran talk to when he gets home?

4 What does Kieran write about?

- a Fred, his pet tarantula.
- b He was watching the Christmas lights go on.
- c About spiders or the way he feels.
- d Two policemen.

5 Who or what do the underlined words refer to?

the DJ	Dad (x2)	the Christmas lights
the policemen (x2)	Fred (x2)	

- 1 We all said the numbers with him. *the DJ*
- 2 I didn't want people to see him.
- 3 And we all looked up at them.
- 4 'Is he going to fall?'
- 5 'What are they going to do?'
- 6 They took him away.
- 7 I knew he understood.
- 8 I watched him eat.

LOOKING FORWARD

6 Tick (✓) the things you think are true in Chapters 2 and 3.

- 1 Connor O'Brien says bad things to Kieran at school.
- 2 Dad tells Kieran he's sorry.

Cultural notes 文化点滴

Christmas lights: 西方国家在庆祝圣诞节来临时会在圣诞节前夜 (Christmas Eve) 点亮灯饰, 以象征新年的到来。这些灯饰中, 有的装饰在圣诞树 (Christmas tree) 上, 有的装饰在建筑物上。

Sheffield: 谢菲尔德, 坐落于英格兰的中心位置, 位于南约克郡 (South Yorkshire), 是英国的第四大城市。著名的谢菲尔德大学以及谢菲尔德哈勒姆大学就坐落在这里。