

小书虫 点滴英语 简易英汉对照读物

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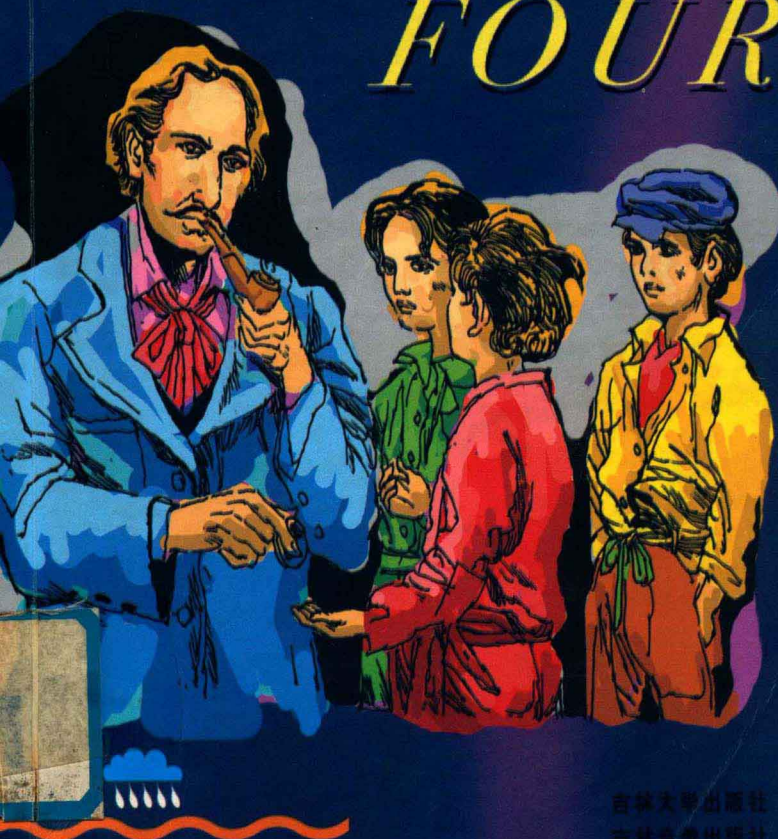
THE SIGN OF FOUR

四签名

(文学名著)

司树森 / 主编

熊德锐 / 审定



Many a little make a mickie.

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内容提要

《四签名》是英国著名的侦探小说家柯南道尔的中篇杰作。讲述的是私家侦探福尔摩斯以及他的助手华生探案的故事。

这个故事的独特之处在于它是以一个美丽的姑娘梅丽叹到陌生的珠宝开始，福尔摩斯陪伴她探寻珠宝的来源，而去了樱沼别墅，随即发现了谋杀案，以及凶手留下的写着“四个签名”的字条。追溯了一段与夺宝有关的异域往事。最后，虽然抓住了凶手，但宝物尽散的海里，不过幸好，天遂人愿，成全了穷军医华生和失去宝物的梅丽小姐的一段爱情，留下皆大欢喜的圆满结局。

文中节选部分情节生动、紧张，跌荡起伏。对话风趣、幽默，让您在跟随福尔摩斯巧分妙析的过程，也领略了英语的趣味和魅力。

前 言

学习英语,尤其是学好英语不存在速成的捷径,只有勤奋刻苦,循序渐进,日积月累,博览精思,大胆实践,打下坚实的语言、知识基础才可能达到英语学习的理想境界。正所谓“锲而不舍,金石可镂;驽马十驾,功在不舍。”

众多成功者的实践和经验证明:初、中级的广大英语学习者,尤其是中、小学生甚或大学生在打基础的阶段,应该听、说、读、写齐头并进,小学生可侧重听、说,扎扎实实打好基础。读书,读书,最重要的还是读书。学习英语,使用英语的整个过程就是一个不断接触、认真模仿和反复练习的过程,业精于勤,功成于练,而首先是阅读实践(应包括朗读、默读、精读和泛读)。无论古今中外,阅读都是培养语感,养成用英语思维,用英语流畅表达思想的最有效的途径之一。阅读的过程就是记忆单词、扩大词汇量和学习词汇用法的过程。大量阅读也是有效促进和提高其他各项听、说、写、译技能的好方法,而简易读物尤其是英汉对照简易读物对提高阅读理解能力、打好语言基础、全面提高综合运用能力极为有效。为此我们推出了《小书虫简易英汉对照读物》系列丛书。本丛书是为中学生、大学生和广大初、中级英语爱好者、自学者精心策划的一套英文原版课外读物。

本丛书编排形式活泼新颖,文章短小精悍,图文并茂,英汉对照,既方便阅读又宜于携带。

本丛书选材广泛,纵横古今中外,品类齐全,丰富多彩,包罗世界文学名著、优美动人的童话、广为流传的名人轶事和人们所喜闻乐见的影视文(章)网(络)的精彩片段。坚持阅读既可开阔视野、陶冶心灵又可激励人生、奋勇向前。

本丛书的实用性极强,通过阅读增加词汇量,提高阅读理解能力,最重要的是可以受到纯正地道英语情境的熏陶,从而增强语感。

最后,在本丛书的成书过程中,许多中、外朋友都付出了大量的时间和辛勤的劳动。我们在此向他们表示由衷的感谢。

本丛书由司树森教授担任主编,熊德轭教授审订。

尽管我们在尽最大努力做好每一件事,但是不妥之处或错误仍在所难免。敬请广大读者不吝指教,以便修正。

司树森

2006年5月

Learn English By Reading Original Works

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主 编 司树森

副主编 周海燕

审 订 熊德轶



Chapter 5

The Tragedy of Pondicherry Lodge

...

"I cannot understand it," he said. "There must be some mistakes. I distinctly ^{明白地}^① told Bartholomew that we should be here, and yet there is no light in his window. I do not know what to make of it."

...

"There is something devilish ^{古怪}^② in this, Watson," said he, more moved than I had ever before seen him. "What do you make of it?"

I ^{弯腰}stooped to the hole and recoiled in horror. Moonlight was streaming into the room, and it was bright with a vague and shifty radiance. Looking straight at me and suspended^③, as it were, in the air, for all beneath^④ was in shadow, there hung a face—the very face of our companion Thaddeus. There was the same high, shining head, the same circular bristle of red hair, the same bloodless ^{无血色}countenance. The features were set, however, in a ^{可怕}horrible smile, a fixed and unnatural grin (which in that still and moonlit room ^{固定} was more jarring to the nerves than any scowl or contortion.) So like ~~was the face to~~ that of our little friend that I looked round at him to make sure that he was indeed with us. Then I recalled to mind that he



第五章

樱沼别墅里的悲剧

.....

“我不明白，”他说，“一定是出什么错了。我很明白地告诉巴塞罗缪说我们会来这儿，可是他的窗户里没有灯光。我不知道这是怎么一回事儿。”

.....

“这里面有古怪，沃特森。”他说，比我以往所见到的任何时候都更激动。“你知道是怎么回事儿吗？”

我弯腰向那个洞探视，吓得缩了回来。月光照进屋子里，反射出模糊的光隐。约有一张脸挂在半空中向我注视着，脸以下都浸在黑影里。这张脸和我们的伙伴塞迪厄斯的脸完全一样，既高又亮的秃顶和一撮红头发，脸无血色。不过表情死板，是一种可怕的狞笑，一种不自然的咧嘴笑。在这样沉寂和月光照耀的屋里，看到这样的笑脸，比看到愁眉苦脸的样子更使人毛骨悚然。这张脸和小个子朋友那么相像，以致于我回头去看了一眼，好肯定一下他是不是真的和我们在一起。然后我就想起了他曾提到他的兄弟



New Words

- ①distinctly [dis'tɪŋktli] *adv.* 坦白地
- ②devilish ['devəlɪʃ] *adj.* 恶毒的
- ③suspend [sə'spend] *v.* 吊，悬挂
- ④beneath [bi'ni:θ] *prep.* 在……下方



had mentioned to us that his brother and he were twins.

“This is terrible! ” I said to Holmes. “What is to be done?”

“The door must come down,” he answered, and springing against it, he put all his weight upon the lock.

It creaked^① and groaned but did not yield^②. Together we flung ourselves upon it once more, and this time it gave way with a sudden snap, and we found ourselves within Bartholomew Sholto’s chamber.

...

By the table is a wooden armchair^③, the master of the house was seated all in a heap, with his head sunk upon his left shoulder and that ghastly, inscrutable smile upon his face. He was stiff and cold and had clearly been dead many hours. It seemed to me that not only his features but all his limbs were twisted and turned in the most fantastic fashion. By his hand upon the table there lay a peculiar instrument—a brown, close-grained stick, with a stone head like a hammer^④, rudely lashed on with coarse twine. Beside it was a torn sheet of note-paper with some words scrawled upon it. Holmes glanced at it and then handed it to me.

“You see,” he said with a significant^⑤ raising of the eyebrows.

In the light of the lantern I read with a thrill of horror, “The sign of the four”.



和他是双胞胎。

“这太可怕了！”我对福尔摩斯说，“该怎么办？”

“必须把门弄开。”他边回答边撞门，把全身的重量都压到了锁上。

门吱咯吱咯地响着，却没有开。于是我们又一次一起朝它撞去，这一次，它突然啪地一声开了，我们则跌进了巴塞罗缪·舒尔托的房间里。

.....

桌子旁边的木质扶手椅上，房子的主人像堆烂泥一样坐着，头耷拉在左肩上，脸上带着凄惨的笑容。他的身体僵硬冰凉，显然死了数小时。我觉得他的五官和四肢以一种极为出奇不意的方式扭曲着、翻转着。他那只搁在桌子上的手旁边，放着一件奇怪的工具——粗糙的棕色木棒，上面用粗麻线捆着一块石头，像把锤子。旁边放着一张从记事簿上撕下来的纸，上面潦草地写着几个字。福尔摩斯扫了它一眼，然后就把它递给我。

“你看。”他说着，眉毛往上重重地一挑。

在灯光下，我看了那几个字，浑身不寒而栗，那几个字是：“四个签名”。

New Words

- ① creak [kri:k] v. 咯吱作响
- ② yield [ji:ld] v. 屈服，屈从
- ③ armchair [ɑ:m'tʃeə] n. 扶手椅
- ④ hammer ['hæmə] n. 锤子
- ⑤ significant [sig'nifikənt] adj. 有特殊意义的



“In God’s name, what does it all mean?” I asked.

“It means murder^①,” said he, stooping over the dead man. “Ah! I expected it. Look here! ”

He pointed to what looked like a long dark thorn stuck in the skin just above the ear.

“It looks like a thorn^②,” said I.

“It is a thorn. You may pick it out. But be careful, for it is poisonous.”

I took it up between my finger and thumb. It came away from the skin so readily that hardly any mark was left behind. One tiny speck of blood showed where the puncture had been.

“This is all an insoluble mystery to me,” said I. “It grows darker instead of clearer.”

“On the contrary^③,” he answered, “it clears every instant. I only require a few missing links to have an entirely connected case.”

We had almost forgotten our companion’s presence since we entered the chamber. He was still standing in the doorway, the very picture of terror, wringing^④ his hands and moaning^⑤ to himself. Suddenly, however, he broke out into a sharp, querulous^⑥ cry.

“The treasure is gone! ” he said. “They have robbed him of the treasure! There is the hole through which we lowered it. I helped him to do it! I was the last person who saw him! I left him here last night, and I heard him



“天啊，它到底是什么意思？”我问。

“它意味着谋杀。”他说着，朝死者弯下腰去。“啊！我想是。看这里！”

他指着耳朵上面一点儿看着像又黑又长的刺一样的东西。

“看起来像是一根刺。”我说。

“它是一根刺。你可以把它挑出来。但是要小心，因为它有毒。”

我用两根手指把它取出来。它很容易就从皮肤里拔了出来，几乎没有留下任何痕迹。一小滴血珠说明了伤口的所在。

“这一切对我都是未解之谜。”我说，“它变得更难以理解了。”

“恰恰相反，”他回答道，“它每一瞬间都在变清楚。我只需要几个丢失的环节就能得出完整的案子了。”

自从我们进到屋子里之后，我们几乎已经忘了我们同伴的存在。他还在过道里站着，还是那样地哆嗦和悲叹着。忽然间，他失望地尖叫了起来。

“财宝不见了！”他说，“他们抢了他的财宝！就在那个洞，我们就是从那个洞里把它放下去的。我帮着他干的！我是最后一个看见他的人！我昨天夜

New Words

- ①murder [ˈmɜːdə] *n.* 谋杀
- ②thorn [θɔːn] *n.* 刺，棘
- ③contrary [ˈkɒntrəri] *n.* 相反
- ④wring [rɪŋ] *v.* 拧，绞出
- ⑤moan [məʊn] *v.* 呻吟
- ⑥querulous [ˈkwɜːjələs] *adj.* 抱怨的



lock the door as I came downstairs.”

“What time was that?”

“It was ten o’clock. And now he is dead, and the police will be called in, and I shall be suspected of having had a hand in it. Oh, yes, I am sure I shall. But you don’t think so, gentlemen? Surely you don’t think that it was I? Is it likely that I would have brought you here if it were I? Oh, dear! Oh, dear! I know that I shall go mad! ”

He jerked his arms and stamped his feet in a kind of convulsive frenzy^①.

“You have no reason for fear, Mr. Sholto,” said Holmes kindly, putting his hand upon his shoulder, “take my advice and drive down to the station to report the matter to the police. Offer to assist them in every way. We shall wait here until your return.”

The little man obeyed in a half-stupefied fashion, and we heard him stumbling^② down the stairs in the dark.



里把他留在这儿,我下楼时听见他锁门。”

“那是什么时间?”

“10点。可是他死了,而且警察会来,我会被怀疑的。噢,是的,我肯定会受到怀疑。但是你们不这样想吧,先生们?你们不会认为那是我干的?如果是我的话,我可能带你们到这儿来吗?噢,天哪!噢,天哪!我要疯了!”

他的胳膊抽搐着,脚在地上跺着,像发了疯一样。

“您没有理由害怕,舒尔托先生。”福尔摩斯亲切地说着,把手放在他的肩上。“听话,坐车到警察局去,把这件事情报告给警察。在各方面向他们提供帮助。我们在这儿等到您回来。”

这个小个子男人半痴半呆地遵从了,我们听见他在黑暗中跌跌撞撞地下楼。

New Words

- ①frenzy [ˈfrenzi] *n.* 狂怒,暴怒
②stumble [ˈstʌmbl] *v.* 摇晃



Chapter 8

The Baker Street Irregulars

“What now?” I asked. “Toby has lost his character^① for infallibility.”

“He acted according to his lights,” said Holmes, lifting him down from the barrel and walking him out of the timber-yard. “If you consider how much creosote^② is carted about London in one day, it is no great wonder that our trail should have been crossed. It is much used now, especially for the seasoning of wood. Poor Toby is not to blame^③.”

“We must get on the main scent again, I suppose.”

“Yes. And fortunately, we have no distance to go. Evidently what puzzled the dog at the corner of Knight’s Place was that there were two different trails running in opposite directions. We took the wrong one. It only remains to follow the other.”

There was no difficulty about this. On leading Toby to the place where he had committed his fault, he cast about in a wide circle and finally dashed off in a fresh direction.

“We must take care that he does not now bring us to the place where the creosote barrel came from,” I observed.

“I had thought of that. But you notice that he keeps



第八章

贝克街的非正规军



“现在怎么办呢？”我问道，“托比已经失去了它不败的特征。”

“它是根据它的见解行动的。”福尔摩斯说着，把它从桶上抱下来，走出了这个存放木材的院子。“如果你知道一天当中伦敦市里到处有多少烟油被运输着，就不奇怪我们要追踪的会被搅乱了。这东西现在很多，尤其是在木材旺季。可怜的托比没错儿。”

“我想我们得找到主要的气味。”

“对。而且幸运的是，我们走得并不太远。显然在骑士广场让狗迷惑不解的是那里有两个方向相反的踪迹。我们选择了错误的一个。剩下的事就是去追另外一个了。”

这一点没有任何困难。托比被带到它犯错误的广场上之后，它就开始到处绕着大圈子，最后朝着一个新的方向冲了出去。

“我们一定小心，不要让它把我们带到烟油桶出来的地方。”我发着议论。

“我已经想到这一点了。但是你注

New Words

- ①character [ˈkærəktə] n. 特征
- ②creosote [ˈkriəsəʊt] n. 杂酚油，碳酸
- ③blame [bleim] v. 责怪



on the pavement, where as the barrel passed down the roadway. No, we are on the true scent now."

It tended down towards the riverside, running through Belmont Place and Prince's Street. At the end of Broad Street it ran right down to the water's edge, where there was a small wooden wharf^①. Toby led us to the very edge of this and there stood whining, looking out on the dark current^② beyond.

"We are out of luck," said Holmes. "They have taken to a boat here."

Several small punts and skiffs were lying about in the water and on the edge of the wharf. We took Toby round to each in turn, but though he sniffed earnestly, he made no sign.

Close to the rude landing-stage was a small brick house, with a wooden placard slung out through the second window. "Mordecai Smith" was printed across it in large letters, and, underneath, "Boats to hire by the hour or day". A second inscription above the door informed us that a steam launch was kept—a statement which was confirmed by a great pile of coke upon the jetty^③. Sherlock Holmes looked slowly round, and his face assumed an ominous^④ expression.

"This looks bad," said he. "These fellows are sharper than I expected. They seem to have covered their tracks. There has, I fear, been preconcerted management here."

