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在月亮下面

Under the Moon

1 AOL

1 人工臭氧层

Five hundred kilometres over Europe, Ship OM-45 moved north. In a room at the back of the ship, Kiah watched the numbers on the computer in front of him.

OM-45 号宇宙飞船在欧洲上空 500 公里的高度向北飞行。飞船尾部的一个房间里，凯注视着面前计算机屏幕上的数字。

‘Time for dinner, ’ Rilla said.

“该吃饭了。”瑞拉叫他。

The numbers changed quickly and Kiah’s eyes didn’t move. Rilla went across the room to his table. She

began to watch the numbers, too.

那些数字飞快地变换着，凯眼都不眨一下。瑞拉穿过房间走到他的桌旁。她也开始观察那些数字。

‘What’s wrong with the satellite?’ she asked. She was a beautiful girl, about twenty years old, with long black hair and big eyes.

“卫星怎么了？”她问。她是个美丽的女孩，大约二十岁，黑黑的长发，大大的眼睛。

‘Nothing’s wrong with the satellite,’ Kiah answered quietly. ‘It’s the AOL.’ He began to write the numbers in the book on his table.

“卫星没问题，”凯平静地回答，“是人工臭氧层。”他伏在桌上，开始往一个本子上记录那些数字。

Suddenly, the numbers stopped changing. Kiah looked at Rilla. ‘Over Europe,’ he said. ‘It’s happening. The AOL is breaking up. There are big holes in the AOL and they’re getting bigger.’

突然，那些数字停止了变换。凯转向瑞拉。“在欧洲上空，”他说，“已经开始了。人工臭氧层正在破裂。那上面本来就有大洞了，现在那些洞还在增大。”

‘You’re right! Shall we see Captain Seru now,

before dinner? ’

“说得对，咱们现在去见塞鲁船长吧，待会儿再吃饭好吗？”

Kiah stood up. He was nearly two metres tall, with dark eyes and hair. ‘Yes, come on,’ he said.

凯站起身。他身高几乎有两米，眼睛和头发都是黑色的。“好，走吧。”他说。

Quickly, they went to Captain Seru’s room. They waited at the door.

他们迅速朝塞鲁船长的房间走去。他们等在船长的门外。

‘Come in!’ captain Seru called. She was a little woman with a fat face. ‘Come in! Would you like a drink?’

“进来！”塞鲁船长喊道。她是个胖脸的小个子女人。

“进来！喝点什么吗？”

‘No, thank you,’ Kiah answered. ‘I’d like you to look at these numbers.’ Kiah gave Captain Seru his book.

“不用，谢谢，”凯说，“我想请您看看这些数字。”

凯把自己的笔记本递给塞鲁船长。

Captain Seru looked at the numbers. Suddenly, her face changed. ‘No, no, ’ she said. ‘I don’t want to talk. It’s late and I’m tired. Sit down and have a drink. ’

塞鲁船长看了看那些数字。突然，她的脸色变了。“不，不，”她说，“我不想谈。时候不早了，我也累了。坐下喝点什么吧。”

Kiah and Rilla sat down. There was a big window in Captain Seru’s room. Kiah looked out of the window at the dark sky. He saw the Moon. It was cold and white in the dark sky.

凯和瑞拉坐了下来。塞鲁船长的房间里有一扇大窗子。凯透过玻璃凝望黑色的天空。他看见了月亮。在黑色的天幕下月亮显得冰冷皎洁。

‘Captain Seru, ’ he began. ‘It’s important. Look at those numbers carefully. The AOL is beginning to—’

“塞鲁船长，”他开口了，“这事很重要。仔细看看那些数字。人工臭氧层已经开始……”

‘Stop! ’ captain Seru stood up and put her hands in her pockets. She went to the window and looked

at the sky.

“别说了。”塞鲁船长站起身把双手插进衣兜。她走到窗前注视着天空。

‘Three hundred years ago, Earth nearly died,’ Rilla said. ‘Earth stopped dying because of the AOL. But now, over Europe, the AOL is breaking up. We would like you to talk to Earth Commander.’

“300 年前，地球几乎毁灭，”瑞拉说，“因为有人工臭氧层地球才免于灾难。但是现在，在欧洲上空，人工臭氧层正在破裂。我们希望您能和地球司令高格谈一谈。”

Captain Seru did not move. ‘Do you remember Adai?’ she asked. She didn’t wait for an answer. ‘I was on his ship, two years ago. One evening, the satellite gave us interesting numbers about the AOL. We went back to Earth and saw Earth Commander.’ captain Seru stopped speaking.

塞鲁船长没有动。“你还记得阿岱吗？”她问。不等回答，她接着说：“两年前我在他的船上。一天晚上卫星发回了关于人工臭氧层的一些不寻常的数据。我们回到地球去见地球司令。”塞鲁船长停了下来。

Rilla looked at Kiah. ‘And then?’ she asked Captain Seru.

瑞拉看了一眼凯。“然后呢？”她问船长。

‘Gog was angry, very angry,’ captain Seru said. ‘In the end, he sent Adai to the Moon. Adai’s there now, Commander of the Moon colony, under the Moon.’

“高格生气了，特别生气，”塞鲁船长说，“最后，他把阿岱分配到了月球。阿岱现在还在那儿，在月亮下面作月亮部族的司令。”

Kiah waited for a second or two. ‘I know about Adai. But we need to talk to Earth Commander again. These numbers are worse.’

凯等了一两秒钟：“我知道阿岱的事。但是我们需要再和地球司令谈谈。这些数据比上次的还要糟。”

Captain Seru’s face went red. ‘You don’t understand. I’m not going to talk to Gog. Last time, he sent me to a weather ship in the Antarctic! This is my first Ship for two years!’ And Captain Seru began drinking.

塞鲁船长的脸涨红了：“你不明白。我不会去跟高格

说的。上次他把我发配到了南极的一艘气象飞船上。
我第一次在飞船上呆了两年。”塞鲁船长喝了一口水。

Kiah stood up. ‘Thank you, Captain Seru.’

凯站起身：“谢谢您，塞鲁船长。”

Captain Seru said nothing.

塞鲁船长没说话。

Kiah and Rilla left the room, and walked slowly downstairs. The Ship was dark and quiet. It was eight o’clock and every-body was at dinner.

凯和瑞拉出了门，脚步迟缓地下楼去了。飞船里寂静漆黑。8点钟了，大家都在吃饭。

‘What are we going to do next?’ Rilla asked.

“下一步咱们怎们办？”瑞拉问。

‘I need to talk to Adai,’ Kiah said.

“我得跟阿岱谈谈。”凯说。

‘OK, talk to Adai. But he’s far away on the Moon colony,’ Rilla said. ‘Let’s visit Commander Zadak.’

“好，跟阿岱谈谈。可是他现在在遥远的月亮部族，”瑞拉说，“咱们还是去见扎达克司令吧。”

‘Zadak? Commander of Australia? He’s famous!’

“扎达克？澳大利亚司令？他很有名气呢！”

‘Yes. He’s my father’s friend. He worked with my father in Brazil ten years ago. Perhaps he can help us. ’

“是的，他是我父亲的朋友。10年前他和我父亲一起在巴西工作。也许他能帮忙。”

Kiah smiled. ‘Good! We return to Earth next week. I can phone Adai from Kisangani and then we can go to Australia. But now, I’m hungry! Let’s get some dinner. ’

凯笑了，“好，咱们下周回地球后。我可以在基桑加尼给阿岱打个电话，然后咱们就去澳大利亚。现在嘛，我可饿了。咱们吃饭去吧。”

2 Visit to Australia

2 访问澳大利亚

On Friday, after three weeks in space, Kiah and Rilla finished work and left Ship OM-45 on a space plane to Kisangani. Kiah phoned Adai and Rilla phoned Commander Zadak in Australia. The next morning they took an aeroplane to Sydney. A taxi

took them from the airport to Commander Zadak's office, some kilometres north of Sydney.

这是个星期五，凯和瑞拉已经在太空飞行了三周。他们结束了工作，离开 OM-45 号宇宙飞船，乘航天飞机飞往基桑加尼。凯和瑞拉分别跟阿岱和在澳大利亚的司令扎达克通了电话。第二天早晨他们乘飞机来到悉尼。一辆出租车把他们从机场带到了悉尼以北几公里以外扎达克司令的办公室。

‘Wait for us here,’ Kiah said to the taxi driver.

“在这儿等我们。”凯吩咐出租车司机。

Kiah and Rilla walked to the gate. About ten guards stood in front of the gate. Across the road, a train waited.

凯和瑞拉朝大门走去。门口站着大约十几个卫兵。一辆火车正等在马路对面。

‘Rilla, OM-45,’ Rilla said. ‘To see Commander Zadak at four-thirty.’

“我叫瑞拉，OM-45 号的，”瑞拉说，“扎达克司令 4 点半要接见我们。”

‘Let me call the Commander's office,’ the guard said.

“我给司令办公室打个电话。”卫兵说。

Kiah and Rilla waited. It was hot and Kiah began to feel thirsty.

凯和瑞拉站在那儿等着。天气很热，凯感到口干舌燥。

The guard came back. ‘I’m sorry,’ he said. ‘The Com-mander can’t see you.’

那个卫兵回来了。“对不起，”他说，“司令不能见你们。”

‘But I talked to the Commander yesterday,’ Rilla said. ‘He wanted to see us at four-thirty.’

“可是我昨天跟司令说过，”瑞拉说，“他答应今天4点半见我们。”

‘The Commander is leaving on the train in three minutes,’ the guard said.

“再过三分钟司令就要坐火车出发了。”卫兵说。

‘Can we wait and see him here?’ Kiah asked.

“我们能不能在这儿等着见他一面？”凯问。

‘No!’ the guard shouted. ‘Get out of here!’

“不行！”卫兵喊了起来，“出去！”

Kiah and Rilla walked back to the taxi.

凯和瑞拉回到出租车那儿。

‘Where’s the driver?’ Kiah asked.

“司机哪去了？”凯问。

‘Look!He’s sitting under that tree,’ Rilla said.

“那不是嘛！在那棵树下坐着呢。”瑞拉说。

Just then, Commander Zadak came out of the gate. He was a very tall, big man with blue eyes and a lot of white hair. Two guards marched in front of him, and two guards marched be-hind him. They all carried guns.

正说着，扎达克司令出现在大门口。他高大魁梧，蓝眼睛，长着一头浓密的白发。四个卫兵两前两后阔步护卫着他。他们都带着枪。

‘There he is!’ Rilla cried. ‘Commander!’ And she began to run along the road to him.

“他在那儿！”瑞拉喊了起来，“扎达克司令！”她随即顺着马路朝他跑去。

‘Commander Zadak did not stop. A guard opened the door of the train and the Commander got in. Slowly, the train began to move.’

扎达克司令并没有停下脚步。一个卫兵打开火车门，

扎达克跨了进去。火车缓缓地开动了。

Kiah ran to the taxi and jumped in. Then he drove the taxi fast down the road. The taxi driver saw him and ran after him. The train began to move faster. Suddenly, Kiah drove the taxi off the road. He drove in front of the train and stopped. 凯奔向那辆出租车，迅速坐进车里。随即他开着车飞快地顺路而下。出租车司机看见了他，在后面紧追不放。火车在加速。突然，凯把出租车开下了马路。直驶到火车前头停了下来。

The train came nearer. And then the train stopped, very near the taxi, and some guards jumped off. Kiah opened the door and got out of the taxi.

火车越来越近了。在就要撞到出租车的时候，它停了下来。几个卫兵从车厢里跳了下来。凯打开车门从出租车里出来。

‘Put up your hands!’ the guards shouted.

“举起手来！”卫兵们朝他喊。

Two of the guards began to hit Kiah.

两个卫兵对凯一阵拳打脚踢。

‘Stop that!’ someone shouted. ‘Bring him over

here! ’ It was Commander Zadak.

“住手!”有人喊了一声,“把他带到这儿来!”是扎达克司令。

Kiah stood in front of the Commander. Just then, Rilla arrived.

凯站到了司令面前。正在这时,瑞拉赶到了。

‘Oh, it’s you!’ commander Zadak said. He did not smile. ‘Rilla, your father’s going to be angry.’

“噢,是你。”扎达克司令说话了。他不带一丝笑容:“瑞拉,你父亲会生气的。”

‘We want to talk to you, Commander,’ Rilla said. ‘It’s very important.’

“我们想和您谈谈,司令,”瑞拉说,“这事非常重要。”

‘Very well. I’m listening.’

“说吧,我听着呢。”

Kiah began to talk. ‘Two years ago, Adai told you about the holes in the AOL. Now they’re worse. The AOL is break-ing up over Europe. Please look at these numbers and this satellite picture.’

凯开口了:“两年前阿岱曾跟您谈过臭氧层上的洞。

现在情况更糟了。欧洲上空的臭氧层已经开裂。请您看看这些数据和这张卫星照片。”

He gave his book to Commander Zadak and the Commander looked at the numbers.

他把笔记本递给扎达克司令，扎达克看了看本子上的数据。

‘It’s important, Commander,’ Kiah said. ‘In ten years Earth is going to die.’

“这事非常重要，司令，”凯说，“10年后地球就要毁灭了。”

‘You stopped my train because of this?’ commander Zadak asked. ‘Two years ago Adai talked to me about the AOL. Then he talked to Earth Commander, and what happened? Where is Adai now? Is the Moon colony helping the AOL?’

“你们拦住我的火车就为这事？”扎达克司令问，
“两年前阿岱跟我谈过臭氧层的事。然后他又跟地球司令谈了这件事。之后又怎么样了呢？阿岱现在在哪？月亮部族能帮助修复臭氧层吗？”

‘We know about Adai, Commander,’ Rilla said. ‘But someone needs to talk to Earth

Commander again. ’

“我们知道阿岱的事，司令。”瑞拉说，“但是得有人再去跟地球司令谈谈。”

‘I’m going to talk to Gog about rain, I can tell you that. Earth needs rain: there was no rain last winter. Half of Australia has no water and my trees here are dying. Without rain, many people are going to die. Is Gog going to understand that? I don’t know!’

“我可以告诉你们，我正准备去跟高格谈谈雨水的事。地球需要雨水：去年冬天没下雨。澳大利亚有一半地区没有水，我们的树都要枯死了。假如没有水的话很多人都要活不下去了。高格会理解这一切吗？我不知道。”

Commander Zadak began to walk back to his train. ‘Move that taxi!’ he called to his guards. 扎达克司令朝他的火车走去。“把那辆出租车弄走！”他朝卫兵们喊。

Some guards moved the taxi back to the road and then they jumped on to the train again. The train began to move.

几个卫兵把出租车推到了公路上，然后跳上了火车。
火车启动了。

‘OK, ’ the taxi driver shouted. ‘What are you going to do next? Drive my taxi into the river? ’

“好啊，”出租车司机喊道，“你们还想干什么？把我的出租车开到河里去？”

Kiah smiled. He took some money from his pocket and gave it to the taxi driver.

凯笑了。他从衣兜里拿出一些钱递给出租车司机。

The taxi driver looked at the money. ‘OK, OK, ’ he said. ‘Where now? Back to the airport? ’

出租车司机看了看那些钱。“好吧，好吧。”他说，“现在去哪？回机场？”

Kiah took Rilla’s hand, ‘Yes, ’ he said. ‘Let’s get back to Kisangani. We can phone Adai again tomorrow. ’

凯拉住瑞拉的手。“是的，”他说，“咱们回基桑加尼去。我们明天再给阿岱打个电话。”

3 Earth Commander

3 地球司令

The next day in Kisangani, Kiah and Rilla waited quietly in an office in Gog's house. Suddenly, Commander Zadak came into the office and gave some letters to the man behind the table. He saw the two young people and stopped in front of them.

第二天在基桑加尼，凯和瑞拉在高格住处的一间办公室里静静地等待着。突然，扎达克司令走进办公室，递给办公桌后面的那个人一些信件。他看见了两个年轻人，在他们面前站住了。

‘You again! ’ he said. ‘What are you doing here? ’

“又是你们！”他说，“你们在这儿干嘛？”

Kiah stood up. ‘Good morning, Commander. We’re here because we want to see Earth Commander. ’

凯站了起来：“早晨好，司令。我们来这儿是为了见地球司令。”

‘I saw Earth Commander some minutes ago and talked to him about rain, ’ Zadak said quietly. ‘But he didn’t listen. Your captain, Seru, was here earlier this morning and began to tell him about the holes in the AOL. But Gog doesn’t

want to hear about our planet. He's always talking about Mars. In the end, he's going to destroy Earth. '

“几分钟前我见到了地球司令，还跟他谈了雨水的事。”扎达克平静地说，“但是他不听。你们塞鲁船长今天早晨来过，并且告诉他人工臭氧层有了洞。可是高格不想听我们这颗星球的事。他总是谈论火星。最终他会毁了地球。”

'Please help us!' Rilla cried. 'Come and see Gog with us! '

“请您帮帮我们！”瑞拉喊着，“和我们一起去看高格吧！”

'No.' Zadak looked at Kiah and then at Rilla with his blue eyes. 'I'm not talking to Gog again. And you—Gog isn't going to listen to you. Be careful—and good luck! '

“不，”扎达克用他蓝蓝的眼睛看了看凯，又看了看瑞拉，“我再也不去跟高格谈了。而你们——高格不会听你们的。小心点——祝你们好运！”

Commander Zadak opened the door and left the office.

扎达克司令打开房门走出了办公室。

Rilla looked at Kiah. ‘Earth Commander is a difficult man. I don’t understand him.’

瑞拉看了看凯：“地球司令是个不好相处的人。我真不知道他是怎么想的。”

‘Everyone is afraid of him,’ Kiah said. ‘And Commander Zadak isn’t going to help us.’

“大家都怕他，”凯说，“扎达克司令也不准备帮助我们。”

Kiah and Rilla waited. They waited and waited. At nearly twelve o’clock, a guard came into the office.

凯和瑞拉等待着。他们等啊等。快12点时，一个卫兵走进办公室。

‘Come!’ he said.

“来吧。”他说。

Kiah and Rilla went with the guard. The house was big and old, with big windows and many doors. The guard went downstairs and opened one of the doors. There was nobody in the room.

凯和瑞拉跟在卫兵后面。这是座宽敞的旧房子，有许

多大窗户，许多门。卫兵下了楼，打开了一扇门。房间里一个人也没有。

‘Wait here, ’ the guard said, and left.

“在这儿等着。”卫兵说了一句就离开了。

Kiah and Rilla sat down on the expensive green and black chairs and looked at the expensive flowers on the tables. There were no windows in this room. Suddenly, the door opened and a tall, fat woman came in. Her name was Bel, and she was Gog's wife. She had a lot of long red hair and she wore an expensive blue dress. Bel liked expensive things. She carried a cat. The cat was black and white: half its face was black and half was white; half its body was black and half was white.

凯和瑞拉在昂贵的绿黑相间的椅子上坐了下来，观赏着桌子上那些名贵的鲜花。这个房间没有窗子。突然，门开了，一个身高体胖的女人走了进来。她叫贝尔，是高格的妻子。她有一头浓密的红色长发，穿着一件昂贵的蓝色裙子。贝尔喜欢昂贵的东西。她抱着一只猫。那是只黑白相间的猫：猫脸一半黑一半白；猫身也是一半黑一半白。

‘Why are you here? Why do you want to see Earth Commander?’ she asked.

“你们来这儿干嘛？你们为什么要见地球司令？”她问，

Rilla stood up. ‘How do you do?’ she said. ‘We want to talk to Earth Commander about the AOL. We have new numhers from the satelllite.’

瑞拉站起身。“你好，”她说，“我们要和地球司令谈谈人工臭氧层的事。我们从卫星上获得了新数据。”

Bel’s face was red. ‘The AOL! Earth Commander knows about the AOL, and he is the best man—’
贝尔的脸涨红了：“人工臭氧层。地球司令知道人工臭氧层的事。他是最——”

‘Excuse me,’ Kiah said quietly. ‘We want to help Earth Commander.’

“对不起，”凯平静地说，“我们想帮助地球司令。”

Bel began to laugh. ‘Help? You?’ the cat jumped down and walked across the room. ‘How can you help? Why can’t you understand? Listen. Earth Commander is working on the spaceship for Mars. It’s difficult and expensive work.’ the cat

jumped on to Rilla's chair and looked at her with its yellow eyes. 'Two years ago, Adai wanted more money for the AOL—and Earth Commander sent him to the colony under the Moon. Now you're talking about the AoL. Do you want to go to the Moon, too? '

贝尔笑了：“帮助？你们？”那只猫跳了下来走到房间的另一头。“你们怎么帮他？你们怎么不明白呢？听着，地球司令正忙着制造去火星的飞船。这可是既费力又费钱的工作。”那只猫跳到瑞拉的椅子上，黄色的眼睛看着她。“两年前，阿岱想为人工臭氧层要更多的钱——地球司令把他送到了月亮下面的部族。现在你们又在谈人工臭氧层，你们也想到月亮那儿去吗？”

The door opened again and a different guard came in. 'Excuse me. Earth Commander is ready now. '

门又开了，另一个卫兵走了进来：“对不起，地球司令可以接见了。”

Bel stood up. 'You can see Earth Commander now, ' she said coldly. 'But you're going to be sorry!'

贝尔站起身。“你们现在可以去见地球司令了，”她

冷冰冰地说，“可你们会后悔的！”

The guard opened a different door, and Bel and the cat went into a beautiful room with expensive, very old tables and chairs. Rilla and Kiah went in behind them. There were no windows in the room, but a lot of pictures. There was Gog! The richest man on Earth; and the worst man on Earth. He was tall and fat, and without much hair. He sat behind a big table with a television, three computers and five telephones. He watched the television and didn't look at Kiah or Rilla. Two guards with guns stood behind him and two more guards stood near the door.

卫兵打开另外一扇门，贝尔和那只猫走进一个摆满非常古老、昂贵的家具的房间。瑞拉和凯跟在他们后面。这间屋子也没有窗户，墙上挂满了图画。高格就在里面！这个世界上最富也最坏的人。他又高又胖，头发稀疏。他坐在一张大桌子后面，桌上放着一台电视，三台电脑，五部电话。只见他注视着电视屏幕，根本不看凯和瑞拉。两个持枪的卫兵站在他身后，还有两个站在门边。

‘Here they are!’ Bel said. ‘They aren’t friends, oh no! They want to talk about the AOL, of course. No one understands about Mars—’

“他们来了，”贝尔说，“他们不是朋友，噢，不是。当然，他们要谈谈人工臭氧层的事。没人懂得火星——”

‘That’s all right, that’s all right,’ Gog said quickly. And then he looked up, first at Rilla and then at Kiah. His eyes were cold and green. ‘I know about you two,’ he said. ‘Your captain told me about you. You’re famous! Two children! You want to help planet Earth, is that right?’ He waited. The cat jumped on to his table and sat down in front of the television.

“行了，行了，”高格不耐烦地打断她。之后他抬起头看看瑞拉又看看凯。那是一双冷漠的绿眼睛。“我知道你们俩，”他说，“你们船长跟我说起过你们。你们名气不小啊！两个孩子！你们想拯救地球，是不是？”他等着回答。那只猫跳上他的桌子坐在电视机前。

‘Yes, Commander,’ Kiah began. ‘The AOL is

breaking up—’

“是的，司令，”凯开口了，“人工臭氧层正在破裂——”

‘When? Tonight? Tomorrow?’ Gog said angrily. ‘I heard this old story two years ago, from Adai. Everyone comes here and wants money—money for the AOL, money for rain, money for the Moon colony. But I am Earth Commander, and you are nobody! I know about the AOL and the AOL is good for a hundred years!’

“什么时候？今天晚上？明天？”高格生气地说，
“两年前我就听阿岱说过这个老掉牙的故事。每个人都到这儿来要钱——为人工臭氧层，为下雨的事，为月亮部族。但是我是地球司令，你们什么也不是！我知道人工臭氧层，它能坚持一百年！”

‘But the satellite—’ Kiah began again.

“可是卫星——”凯又开口了。

‘Be quiet!’ Gog cried. ‘I am Earth Commander! I’m not going to give money for the AOL! Or for rain! Or for the Moon!’ Gog looked at the guards near the door. ‘Take them—take them away. I don’t

want to hear them. ’

“少废话！”高格叫了起来，“我是地球司令！我不会为人工臭氧层花钱！也不为下雨的事花钱！也不为月亮！”高格看了一眼门口的卫兵，“把他们——把他们带走。我不想听他们讲话。”

The guards moved behind Kiah and Rilla, and Bel began to laugh. ‘Goodbye!’ she said. ‘You’re not going to the Moon, you’re going to prison! You can talk about the holes in the AOL there!’

卫兵们在凯和瑞拉身后行动起来，贝尔笑了：“再见了！”她说，“你们去不了月球，你们要去的地方是监狱！你们可以在那儿谈论人工臭氧层上的洞！”

4 Prison 888

4 888 号监狱

Commander Zadak was in his room at the biggest hotel in Kisangani. Suddenly, he heard the phone. 在基桑加尼最大的饭店，扎达克司令正呆在他的房间里。突然，电话铃响了。

‘Commander?’ someone said, very quietly. ‘A man and a woman—from Ship OM-45—in prison 888.’ the

phone went dead. Zadak put the phone down, stood up, and left his room.

“司令吗？”有人非常平静地说，“一个男的和一个女的——从 OM-45 号飞船上来的——正在 888 号监狱里。”电话挂断了。扎达克放下听筒，站起身，离开了他的房间。

Prison 888 was a big white building without windows, near Gog's house. There were a lot of guards at the gate, and some more guards marched past the bulding. All the guards carried guns. 888 号监狱座落在高格家附近，是座没有窗户的高大的白色建筑。监狱门口有许多卫兵，还有更多的卫兵从监狱门口走过。所有的卫兵都带着枪。

Commander Zadak walked across the road to the prison. ‘I want to visit someone. My name is Commander Zadak.’

扎达克司令穿过马路来到监狱门前：“我是扎达克司令。我要见一个人。”

‘I'm sorry, Commander,’ a guard said. ‘We can't open the gate. Nobody can go in without a letter from Earth Commander.’

“对不起，司令，”一个卫兵说，“我们不能开门。没有地球司令的信谁也不能进去。”

‘That’s all right,’ Zadak said, and walked along the road, past the prison.

“好吧，”扎达克说。他顺着马路从监狱旁边绕了过去。

A guard ran behind him. ‘Excuse me, Commander,’ he said quickly. ‘Please come back tonight. I can open the back gate at midnight. You can see the two people from Ship OM-45.’

一个卫兵从后面赶了上来。“对不起，司令，”他说得很快，“请您今天晚上来吧。午夜的时候我可以打开后门。您能见到从 OM-45 号宇宙飞船来的那两个人。”

Zadak looked at the guard. ‘Your captain’s going to kill you.’

扎达克注视着那个卫兵：“你们队长会杀了你的。”

The guard smiled. ‘My captain phoned you about the two people from OM-45. He’s the brother of Captain Seru.’

那个卫兵笑了：“是我们队长给您打电话，告诉您

OM-45 号那两个人的事的。他是塞鲁船长的哥哥。”

Zadak didn't smile. 'The prison commander is going to kill you and your captain. '

扎达克没有笑：“监狱长会把你和你们队长都杀掉的。”

'It doesn't matter, ' the guard said. 'We want to help. '

“没关系，”那个卫兵说，“我们愿意帮忙。”

'Midnight, ' Zadak said, and walked away.

“午夜。”扎达克说了一声就走了。

At midnight there were four guards at the front gate of prison 888, and there was one guard at the back gate. The guard opened the gate and Zadak went in. The guard said nothing. They walked downstairs into a big room. A lot of prisoners slept on the floor because there were no beds or chairs. Kiah and Rilla sat on the floor near the door.

午夜时分，888 号监狱正门前有四个卫兵，还有一个卫兵守在后门。那个卫兵打开后门，扎达克走了进去。卫兵什么也没说。他们走下楼梯进了一个大房间。那个房间里没有床也没有椅子，许多犯人睡在地板上。

凯和瑞拉坐在门边的地板上。

‘You can talk for five minutes,’ the guard said quietly. ‘The next guard arrives at 12. 15.’

“你们可以谈五分钟，”那个卫兵悄悄说，“下一班卫兵十二点一刻来。”

Kiah and Rilla stood up. ‘Good evening, Commander,’ they said.

凯和瑞拉站起身：“晚上好，司令。”他们说。

Zadak looked at the prisoners. ‘Why are all these people here?’ he said to Kiah and

Rilla. ‘They’re in prison because Gog doesn’t like them. I talk to Gog about rain, I talk to him about the AOL, but he never listens. Today, someone told me about some fires in the new forest here in Africa; but Gog doesn’t want to hear about those fires.’ Zadak laughed angrily. ‘And he doesn’t want to hear about my trees in Australia. He never listens to me. He’s always thinking about Mars, Not about our beautiful planet Earth.’

扎达克看了看那些犯人：“这些人为什么被关在这儿？”他问凯和瑞拉。“高格不喜欢他们，所以把他

们关了起来。我跟高格说了下雨的事，还有人工臭氧层的事，可是他根本不听。今天有人告诉我非洲那些幼林失火了，可是高格根本不想听火灾的事。”扎达克愤怒地冷笑了一声：“他也不想知道澳大利亚我那些树林的事。他从来不听我的。他总想着火星，从来不想想我们美丽的地球。”

Kiah listened carefully. ‘Take it easy, Commander,’ he said quietly. ‘Please talk to Adai. Adai wants to help. He can come back from the Moon and help you.’

凯认真听着。“别太在意，司令，”他平静地说，“请您和阿岱谈谈。他会帮忙的。他可以从月球回来帮助您。”

‘No,’ Zadak said. ‘I phoned Adai this afternoon. He’s a good man and he wants to help. But I don’t need help. I’m going to stop Gog: I’m going to kill him.’

“不行，”扎达克说，“今天下午我给他打了电话。他是个好人，也愿意帮忙。可我不需要帮助。我要阻止高格；我要杀了他。”

Kiah closed his eyes for a minute. ‘Gog’s guards

have guns. They can kill you, Commander, ' he said. 'You need more people to help. Wait for Adai. He can help you to look for more people. '

凯闭目凝神了一会儿。“高格的卫兵有枪。他们会杀了您的，司令。”他说，“您需要多一些帮忙。等等阿岱。他能帮您找更多的人。”

'No, Kiah' , Zadak said quietly. 'I don't want more people. Adai can come back to Earth after Gog is dead—after I am dead, perhaps. I don't want Adai to die, too. '

“不，凯，”扎达克平静地说，“我不需要更多的人。阿岱可以在高格死了以后——也许我死了以后再回来。我不希望阿岱也来送死。”

'Excuse me, Commander, ' the guard said. He looked at the clock near the door.

“对不起，司令。”那个卫兵说。他看了看门边挂着的表。

'OK. Let's go, ' Zadak said to the guard. He looked at Rilla and then at Kiah. His eyes were very blue. 'Goodbye, ' he said.

“好吧，咱们走。”扎达克对卫兵说。他看了看瑞拉

又看了看凯。他的双眼晶莹碧蓝。“再见了。”他说。

‘Goodbye, Commander, ’ Kiah said.

“再见，司令。”凯说。

‘Be careful! ’ Rilla cried. ‘And good luck! ’

“要小心！”瑞拉喊着，“祝您好运！”

Early that morning, Earth Commander’s house was quiet. A guard opened the door.

那天清晨，地球司令的家里非常安静。一个卫兵打开房门。

‘Good morning, Commander Zadak, ’ he said. ‘Earth Commander isn’t in his office. ’

“早晨好，扎达克司令，”他说，“地球司令不在办公室。”

‘That’s all right, ’ Zadak said. ‘I can wait. ’

“没关系，”扎达克说，“我可以等。”

Zadak went upstairs and waited.

扎达克来到楼上开始等待。

At eight o’clock Bel came into the room. ‘Good morning, Commander, ’ she said. ‘You’re early this morning. Are you happier today? Earth Commander was very angry with you yesterday. Don’t begin

talking about rain or the AOL today. ’

8 点钟的时候贝尔走了进来。“早晨好，司令，”她说，“今天您可真早。您今天高兴点了吗？因为您地球司令昨天非常生气。今天可别上来就谈什么雨水或者人工臭氧层的事了。”

Zadak smiled, but his blue eyes were cold. ‘No,’ he said. ‘I’m not going to talk about rain today. ’

扎达克笑了，可他的蓝眼睛里透着寒光。“不会的，”他说，“今天我不准备谈雨水的事。”

Just then, Gog came into the room. He looked at Zadak. ‘What’s wrong? Why are you here at eight o’clock in the morning? ’

正说着，高格走了进来。他看着扎达克：“这是怎么了？你为什么早晨 8 点钟就来这儿？”

Zadak took his gun from his pocket. Gog saw the gun and his face went white. His eyes were dark and afraid. For a sec-ond nobody moved.

扎达克从衣兜里掏出了枪。高格看见了那支枪，脸色煞白。他目光灰暗，充满恐惧。一时间大家都僵在了那儿。

Suddenly, Bel's black and white cat ran into the room.

突然，贝尔那只黑白相间的猫跑了进来。

‘Guards! Guards!’ Bel shouted.

“卫兵！卫兵！”贝尔喊了起来。

The cat jumped at Zadak, and Zadak hit the cat away from him. Bel ran across the room to Gog and Zadak, at that second, shot at Gog. But Bel was between him and Gog. She gave a cry and fell to the floor. Her hair looked very red on the black floor.

那只猫朝扎达克扑过来，扎达克把猫抢到一边。贝尔朝房间另一头的高格跑去，就在这时，扎达克朝高格开枪了。可是贝尔正好跑到他和高格之间。她叫了一声就倒在了地板上。在黑色地板的映衬下她的头发显得越发红艳。

‘No!’ Gog cried. ‘You shot Bel!’

“不！”高格大喊，“你打死了贝尔！”

Three guards ran into the room with their big guns and stood in front of Gog.

三个拿着长枪的卫兵跑了进来，站在高格面前。

‘Kill him!’ Gog shouted, and began to help Bel.

“杀了他！”高格叫着，一边去扶贝尔。

Zadak looked at the guards and then at Bel and Gog. Kiah was right: he was going to die.

扎达克看了看那几个卫兵，又看了看贝尔和高格。凯说得对：他活不成了。

‘I’m sorry, Kiah. I’m sorry, Adai, ’ he said quietly. The guards shot Zadak. Slowly, he fell to the floor.

“凯，阿岱，我对不起你们。”他平静地说。

卫兵们朝扎达克开了枪。他缓缓地倒在地板上。

5 Forest fires

5 森林大火

Later that morning, four guards took Rilla to Gog’s of-fice. His face looked tired and his eyes were red.

那天上午发生了这些事情之后，四个卫兵把瑞拉带到了高格的办公室。高格一脸疲惫，眼睛红红的。

‘Leave us, ’ he said to the guards. Then he looked at Rilla. ‘Tell me about Kiah. When did you first

meet him? Is Zadak his friend? What do they talk about? ’

“出去吧。”他吩咐卫兵。之后他转向瑞拉：“跟我说说凯。你第一次见到他是什么时候？扎达克是他的朋友吗？他们都谈些什么呢？”

Rilla looked down at the floor and said nothing. 瑞拉低头看着地板，一言不发。

‘Come on, tell me!’ Gog said angrily. He waited, but Rilla said nothing. ‘Tell me about Zadak, then. Your father and Commander Zadak were friends. Now, you’re talking to Zadak about the AOL. I know that. What is Zadak saying?’

“说呀，告诉我！”高格生气地喊。他等待着，瑞拉仍旧什么也没说。“那就说说扎达克吧。你爸爸和扎达克司令是朋友。现在你把人工臭氧层的事告诉了他。我知道这些。扎达克他怎么说？”

‘Why? Why do you want to know about Commander Zadak?’ Rilla asked.

“为什么？为什么你想知道扎达克司令的事？”瑞拉问。

‘I’m asking the questions, not you,’ Gog

said. ‘Did you see Zadak yesterday?’

“是我在提问，不是你，”高格说，“昨天你见到扎达克了吗？”

‘The AOL is important, not Commander Zadak,’ Rilla said.

“人工臭氧层才是重要的，不是扎达克司令。”瑞拉说。

Gog watched Rilla carefully. ‘Zadak is dead.’
高格凝视着瑞拉：“扎达克死了。”

‘No!’ Rilla cried.

“不！”瑞拉叫了起来。

‘He is dead,’ Gog said again. ‘You lost your friend, here in this building, early this morning. My guards shot him.’

“他死了，”高格重复了一遍，“你失去了你的朋友。就在这座楼里。今天清晨，我的卫兵开枪打死了他。”

Rilla’s face went white. ‘What happened? Tell me!’

瑞拉的脸白了：“出了什么事？告诉我！”

‘I’m going to tell you one thing,’ Gog said angrily. ‘I’m going to destroy Australia. I’m

going to burn Zadak's new forest there. You can tell all your friends! Zadak wanted to kill me, but I killed him. He wanted money for rain, money for the AOL, and now he's dead. You can tell all those prisoners in prison 888. They wanted to stop me, but they can't now. I'm going to Mars! Bel always wanted to go to Mars. ' He began to hit the table with his hand. 'I'm going to leave this dead planet! Nobody can stop me! '

“有一件事我得告诉你，”高格恼怒地说，“我要毁掉澳大利亚。我要把扎达克新栽的树木烧毁，你可以告诉你所有的朋友。扎达克想杀死我，可我杀了他。他想为下雨的事，为人工臭氧层要钱。可现在他死了。你可以告诉 888 号监狱里所有的人。他们想阻止我，可现在他们不可能了。我要去火星。贝尔一直想去火星的。”他用手敲打着桌面，“我要离开这个死亡的星球！没人能阻拦我！”

‘You're crazy,’ Rilla said. ‘You killed Zadak, but one day someone is going to kill you.’

“你疯了，”瑞拉说，“你杀了扎达克，但总有一天也会有人把你杀掉的。”

Gog stood up. His face was tired and he looked ill. ‘Be quiet!’ he said. ‘Guards! Take her away. Back to 888.’

高格站起身。他面色疲惫，憔悴不堪。“住嘴！”他喊着，“卫兵！把她带走。带回 888 号监狱去。”

The guards came in and took Rilla out.

卫兵们把瑞拉带走了出去。

‘What happened?’ she asked them. ‘Commander Zadak is dead; why is Gog angry?’

“出了什么事？”她问他们，“扎达克司令死了，高格为什么那么生气？”

The guards said nothing. But after they returned to the gate of 888, a guard said to Rilla, very quietly: ‘Bel is dead. Zadak didn’t shoot Gog, but he shot Bel, before the guards shot him.’

卫兵们什么也没说。可是到了 888 号监狱门口，一个卫兵小声告诉瑞拉：“贝尔死了。扎达克没打着高格，可他打死了贝尔，然后卫兵才朝扎达克开的枪。”

A guard took Rilla into the prison, and soon she was with Kiah again.

一个卫兵把瑞拉带进监狱，很快瑞拉就回到了凯身边。

‘What happened?’ Kiah asked. ‘Tell me.’

“出了什么事？”凯问，“告诉我。”

Rilla put her hands over her face and began to cry. ‘Zadak is dead,’ she began. ‘He didn’t kill Gog. He killed Bel before the guards shot him, and now Gog is going to destroy Australia.’

瑞拉捂着脸哭了起来。“扎达克死了，”她说，“他没能杀死高格。他打死贝尔之后那些卫兵杀了他，现在高格要毁掉澳大利亚。”

Kiah sat down on the floor next to Rilla. His face was sad. ‘Don’t cry,’ he said quietly.

凯在瑞拉身边坐了下来。“别哭了。”他轻轻对瑞拉说，脸上流露出悲伤的神情。

Three or four prisoners came across the room.

三四个犯人走了过来。

‘What’s the matter?’ they asked.

“出了什么事？”他们问。

‘Zadak is dead,’ Kiah said. ‘But Bel is dead, too.’

“扎达克死了，”凯说，“贝尔也死了。”

‘What’s going to happen next?’ someone

asked. But nobody answered.

“以后还会出什么事呢？”一个人问。可是没人回答。

The next afternoon, Captain Seru's brother took Kiah and Rilla to a little room at the back of the prison. They sat down, and five minutes later Captain Seru arrived. Nobody smiled.

第二天下午，塞鲁船长的哥哥把凯和瑞拉带到监狱后面的一个小房间。他们坐了下来，5 分钟后，塞鲁船长来了。大家都很严肃。

‘You were right, Captain,’ Kiah said. ‘Gog sent us to prison because we told him about the holes in the AOL.’

“船长，不出您所料，”凯说，“我们告诉高格人工臭氧层有洞的事，他就把我们送进了监狱。”

Seru smiled. ‘You were right, Kiah,’ she said. ‘Those satellite numbers were very bad. I began to tell Gog, but he didn't listen to me.’

塞鲁笑了。“你说得对，凯，”她说，“那些卫星数据的确很糟糕。我试着跟高格说，可他根本不听我的。”

‘Would you like some coffee? And some

sandwiches? ’ seru’s brother asked.

“要点咖啡吗？还有三明治？”塞鲁的哥哥问。

‘Yes, please, ’ seru said. ‘I’m hungry. ’ she looked at Kiah and Rilla. ‘Things are very bad. ’

“好吧，要一点，”塞鲁说，“我饿了。”她看着凯和瑞拉：“情况非常糟糕。”

‘What’s happening? ’ Rilla asked.

“出了什么事？”瑞拉问。

‘You know about Zadak? And Bel? ’

“你知道扎达克的事吗？还有贝尔？”

‘Yes. Gog told Rilla yesterday, ’ Kiah said.

“瑞拉知道，高格昨天告诉她了。”凯说。

Seru smiled, but her eyes were not happy. ‘Gog talked to me this morning, ’ she said. Her brother came in with the coffee and sandwiches and Seru began to eat. ‘Gog wants to know about Zadak, and about you, ’ she said. ‘He’s going to kill us all, I think, before he goes to Mars. ’

塞鲁笑了，可她的目光中却没有喜悦的神情。“高格今天早晨跟我谈过了。”她说。她哥哥拿着咖啡和三明治走了进来，塞鲁边吃边说：“高格想知道关于扎

达克的情况，他也想知道关于你们的情况。”她说，

“我想，他要把我们大家都杀掉，然后再去火星。”

Suddenly, Rilla felt ill. ‘I can’t eat now!’ she cried. But she took some coffee and began to drink. ‘Let’s get out of here,’ she said. ‘Perhaps we can get a plane to Brazil and go to my family.’

突然，瑞拉感到很难受。“我现在吃不下去！”她喊着，一边倒了杯咖啡喝起来。“咱们出去吧，”她说，“也许我们能搭上去巴西的飞机回我家去。”

‘Difficult,’ seru said. ‘Last night fires began in the new forest in Europe, and they’re moving across Europe. The fires in Africa are burning fast. Gog began to destroy Zadak’s forest in Australia yesterday.’

“很困难，”塞鲁说，“昨天夜里欧洲的新森林起了火，火势正向整个欧洲蔓延。非洲的大火越烧越猛。昨天高格开始摧毁扎达克在澳大利亚的森林。”

‘Did you phone Adai?’ Kiah asked.

“你给阿岱打电话了吗？”凯问。

‘Adai! You never stop talking about Adai. What

can he do? ’ Rilla said. She felt angry.

“阿岱！你怎么老是说起他，他能干什么呢？”瑞拉非常生气。

Seru looked at Rilla for a minute. ‘Yes, I phoned Adai be-fore I came here. I told him about Zadak and Bel, and about the fires. He asked about you, Kiah. He can’t come down at Kisangani airport because Gog is there with a lot of his guards. Ship MARS 4 is nearly ready and Gog is watching it. He wants to leave Earth tomorrow. ’

塞鲁注视了一阵瑞拉：“是的，我来之前给阿岱打过电话。我告诉了他扎达克和贝尔的事，还有火灾。他还问到你，凯。他不能降落在基桑加尼机场，因为高格在那儿，他还布置了许多士兵。火星4号宇宙飞船已经基本准备就绪，高格正密切关注着它的进展。他想明天离开地球。”

‘How can Adai help us? ’ Rilla asked. ‘He can’t shoot all the guards here. ’

“阿岱怎么帮助我们呢？”瑞拉问，“他也不能把这儿所有的卫兵都打死。”

Captain Seru finished the last sandwich. ‘Let’s

leave that to Adai, ' she said. 'We can do nothing. '

塞鲁船长吃完了最后一个三明治。“这个问题就留给阿岱吧，”她说，“我们什么也做不了。”

'Are you going to stay here?' Kiah asked.

“您准备呆在这儿吗？”凯问。

'Yes, 'seru answered. 'Adai is coming to the prison after he arrives on Earth. '

“是的，”塞鲁说，“阿岱降落在地球上之后就会到这座监狱来的。”

'Oh yes?' Rilla said tiredly. 'But when? Gog can kill us before Adai comes. '

“噢，真的吗？”瑞拉疲惫地说，“可是什么时候呢？阿岱来之前高格可能就把我们杀了。”

'No, he can't, ' seru's brother said. 'You can stay here, in this room. Gog's guards are all afraid—afraid of the fires, afraid of the people. They aren't going to look for you here. '

“不，他不会，”塞鲁的哥哥说，“你们可以呆在这儿，在这个房间里。高格的卫兵都害怕——怕那些火灾；怕那些人。他们不会到这儿来找你们的。”

6 Spaceship to the Moon

6 飞往月球的宇宙飞船

And so they waited. And waited. Rilla slept in her chair. Kiah and Seru talked quietly. Seru's brother came and went. Most of the prison guards ran away with the prisoners. Seven or eight people—some prisoners and some guards—didn't want to run away, so they came into the room and waited, too.

于是他们等待着。等了又等。瑞拉蜷在她的椅子上睡着了。凯和塞鲁悄悄地谈着什么。塞鲁的哥哥进来一趟又出去了。监狱里的大部分卫兵都和犯人一起逃走了。只有大约七八个人——包括犯人和卫兵，不愿意逃走，于是也到这个房间里一起等待。

Ten o'clock came, then eleven o'clock. It was very quiet. Seru walked up and down the room. Kiah sat next to Rilla. Seru's brother came into the room again.

10 点钟， 11 点钟。房间里安静极了。塞鲁在房间里走来走去。凯坐在瑞拉身边。塞鲁的哥哥又走了进来。

'It's after midnight, ' he said.

“已经过了午夜了。”他说。

Just then, they heard the noise of a plane. Kiah stood up. ‘Come on,’ he said. ‘Let’s get out of the building.’

就在这时，他们听到一阵飞机的轰鸣。凯站起身。“来啊，”他说，“咱们到楼外面去。”

Quietly, they left the building. It was a dark, hot night. There were no guards in front of the prison, so they went to the gate and waited there. Suddenly, they saw the plane. It was a little plane, and it was going to come down on the road in front of the prison!

他们悄悄地离开了大楼。这是个漆黑闷热的夜晚。监狱前面没有卫兵，于是他们来到大门口，在那儿等着。突然，他们看到了一架飞机。那是一架小飞机，正准备在监狱门前的马路上降落。

Rilla took Kiah’s hand. ‘You were right,’ she said. ‘I’m sorry.’

瑞拉抓住凯的手。“你说得对，”她说，“我很抱歉。”

Kiah smiled. He began to feel happy. ‘That’s all right. I understand. I know Adai very well, and

you don't. '

凯笑了。他高兴起来：“没关系，我明白。我非常了解阿岱，而你并不了解他。”

The plane stopped and someone opened the door. Kiah ran across to the plane.

那架飞机停了下来，有人打开了舱门。凯朝飞机跑了过去。

'How many can you take?' he called. 'There are twelve of us. '

“你们能带多少人？”他喊着，“我们一共12个人。”

'That's all right,' someone said. 'Quickly, the spaceship is waiting. '

“没问题，”有人答道，“快点，宇宙飞船正等着呢。”

The twelve people got into the little plane, and the plane began to move. Rilla looked at the captain of the plane. He was tall, with brown hair. He looked nice. Was this the famous Commander Adai?

12个人都上了那架小飞机，飞机启动了。瑞拉看了看机长。他身材高大，头发是棕色的。这个人看上去很不错。他是不是那位著名的阿岱司令？

‘Where is the spaceship?’ Kiah asked.

“宇宙飞船在哪儿？”凯问。

‘At the old airport,’ the man said. ‘One of the fires is moving very quickly across the new forest. It’s going to arrive at the west of Kisangani before tomorrow, I think. But the old airport is OK.’ then the man looked at Kiah and smiled warmly. ‘My brother’, he said. ‘My little brother, in prison 888!’

“那个老机场，”那人说，“一股大火正掠过新森林。我想明天之前这火就会烧到基桑加尼西部。好在那个老机场还能用。”说完，那人注视着凯，脸上带着亲切的笑容。“我的弟弟，”他说，“我的小小弟弟，住进了 888 号监狱！”

‘Your brother? Commander Adai?’ Rilla asked. ‘But you didn’t tell me that!’

“他是你哥哥？阿岱司令？”瑞拉问，“可你从来没跟我说过！”

Kiah smiled. ‘Nobody knew,’ he said. ‘But now—it doesn’t matter now. Everyone can know.’

凯笑了。“以前没人知道，”他说，“可是现在——

现在没关系了。大家都可以知道。”

The little plane came down at the old airport,
south of the town.

小飞机在城南的飞机场降落了。

‘Let’s be careful,’ Adai said. ‘We don’t want
someone to shoot us before we leave.’

“咱们要小心，”阿岱说，“可不能在出发之前中了
别人的枪子儿。”

The spaceship was dark. Quickly, everyone jumped
down from the plane and ran across to the
spaceship. Soon, the spaceship left Earth, and
everyone looked down at the burning planet. They
saw the dark smoke over Africa, and here and there,
through the smoke, the red, angry fires.

宇宙飞船笼罩在一片黑暗中。大家迅速跳下飞机朝飞
船跑去。很快，飞船离开了地球，大家俯视着下面这
颗燃烧着的星球。他们看到了非洲上空的黑烟，以及
黑烟下面到处肆虐的愤怒的烈焰。

‘The fires are destroying the forest very
quickly,’ seru said.

“大火很快就会把森林烧毁。”塞鲁说。

Adai put his hand on Kiah's arm. 'I'm sorry about Zadak,' he said.

阿岱把手搭在凯的臂膀上。“扎达克的事真让我难过。”他说。

'I wanted him to wait,' Kiah said. 'I wanted him to talk to you.'

“我曾希望他再等等，”凯说，“我本来想让他和你谈谈。”

Adai's face was sad. 'He didn't want me to die,' he said quietly. 'He was a good man. And now he's dead.'

阿岱神情悲切。“他不想让我送死，”他低声说，“他是个好人。可现在他死了。”

'And Gog is going to Mars,' seru said.

“还有，高格要到火星去。”塞鲁船长说。

'Mars? He's crazy! Mars isn't ready for people,' Adai said.

“火星？他疯了！火星还不能住人。”阿岱说。

'But Gog wants to go, and so he's going,' seru said. 'Tell us about the Moon colony. That isn't ready: you need more money.'

“可高格要去，他马上就要出发了。”塞鲁说，“跟我们讲讲月亮部族吧。它还不成形，你还需要很多钱。”

‘No, I don’t,’ Adai said. ‘The Moon colony is ready. I asked for more money because of Zadak: I wanted to give him money for rain. But Gog didn’t listen; he wanted all Earth’s money for the spaceship to Mars.’

“不，我不需要，”阿岱说，“月亮部族已经准备就绪。我要更多的钱是为了扎达克：我想给他钱解决雨水的问题。可是高格不听；他要把地球所有的钱都用在去火星的宇宙飞船上。”

‘I don’t want to leave Earth,’ Rilla said sadly. She felt tired and afraid.

“我不想离开地球。”瑞拉忧伤地说。她感到又累又恐惧。

Adai smiled warmly at Rilla. ‘Nobody wants to leave Earth,’ he said. ‘But under the Moon is the best home for us now. Wait and see. The Moon colony is a beautiful, wonderful country, with rivers and rain, forests and flowers,

buildings—and the first town. You can visit Earth again soon, and bring more people to the Moon colony. We all want to help Earth, because it's our first home. I know that. At the same time, you are going to be happy under the Moon. '

阿岱对瑞拉温和地笑了笑。“没有人愿意离开地球，”他说，“可是现在我们最好的家园在月亮下面。等着看吧。月亮部族是个美丽迷人的国家，有河流，有雨水，也有森林和鲜花，还有楼房——第一座城镇。你很快就可以再回到地球去。然后带更多的人到月亮部族去。我们都想帮助地球，因为它是我们的第一个家。我理解你。同时，你也一定会在月亮下面生活得愉快的。”

Suddenly, someone cried: 'Look at the Moon! '

突然，有人喊了一声：“快看月亮！”

And through the window of the spaceship they saw the Moon before them, cold, white and beautiful; and under the Moon, there was the Moon colony!

透过飞船的玻璃窗，他们看到了眼前的月球：冰冷，洁白，美丽；而在月亮下面，他们看到了月亮部族！