

WORLD FAMOUS FICTIONS

旅客所說的故事
TALES OF A TRAVELLER

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TALES OF A TRAVELLER

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作者傳略

伊爾文以一七八三年生於紐約。他的父親是長老會的一個教士；他的母親是一個和靄人，是一個有知識人。他只是在家讀英文及拉丁文，他所讀過的書卻是很多的。一八〇二年他當一個律師的書記。他因為體弱遊覽過許多地方。一八〇四年他渡海遊歷法蘭西，義大利，荷蘭，與英吉利。一八〇六年他回國，入律師公會。一八〇二年他初以著作登報。一八〇七年他與他的哥哥及一個朋友刊行『Salmagun』報，他所作的文章頗做 Addison 與 Goldsmith。一八〇九至一八一五年他做過好幾件事：他有意無意的當了幾時政客，他看見政客們那樣卑汙狡詐，不久他就不當了；他當過一個雜誌的主筆，當過紐約州長的軍事祕書，也當得不久。一八一五年他又到英國，於是在外十七年，一八一九年他的 Sketch Book 第一期出版。一八二〇至一八二六年他遊歷德法兩國，又刊行兩部著作。一八二六年他遊西班牙三年，注意於史學，撰了三部書。一八二九年他回英國，當美國使署的祕書；得文學會的寶星，與牛津大學的文學博士。一八三二年他回美國，又著了好幾部書。一八四二至一八四六年他當西班牙公使。一

八五五至一八五九年他的華盛頓傳出版。他終身不娶，死於一八五九年。他爲人和靄誠實，是一個最可愛的人；他的人格頗流露於他的著作裏頭。他很有機會可以當紐約市長，國會議員，及大總統的閣員，他因爲不喜歡政界生活，他都不就。他的著作並不討論什麼哲學問題，與深奧問題，他以歡樂，忠誠，高貴做他的哲學的基本元素。他的文章顯明雅健，音節諧和，最善用字與比喻，有諧趣而無毒螫，善引人入勝而不汙穢。今所譯的「旅客所說的故事」(Tales of a Traveller)是一八二四年出版的，敘事極有精神，又極其雍容大雅，據他自己說，及批評家說，這裏頭有他的最好文章。當他遊歷義大利的時候，他乘舟往 Genoa 往 Sicily 被海盜所劫，強盜們是有聲有勢的，手執大刀，腰間插小刀與手槍，他們好像是很談諧的，搶了東西之後，還寫一張收條交與船主，另外寫一封信給 Messina 的英國領事，請他照單償還船主。作者所寫的義大利強盜故事，大約是由這次閱歷得來的。

伍光建記

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THE ADVENTURE OF MY AUNT

My aunt was a lady of large frame, strong mind, and great resolution; she was what might be termed a very manly woman. My uncle was a thin, puny little man, very meek and acquiescent, and no match for my aunt. It was observed that he dwindled and dwindled gradually away, from the day of his marriage. His wife's powerful mind was too much for him; it wore¹ him out. My aunt, however, took all possible care of him; had half the doctors in town to prescribe for him; made him take all their prescriptions, and dosed him with physic enough to cure a whole hospital. All was in vain. My uncle grew worse and worse the more dosing and nursing he underwent, until in the end he added another to the long list of matrimonial victims who have been killed with kindness.

"And was it his ghost that appeared to her?" asked the inquisitive gentleman, who had questioned the former story-teller.

"You shall hear," replied the narrator. "My aunt took on mightily for the death of her poor dear husband. Perhaps she felt some compunction² at having given him so much physic, and nursed him into the grave. At any rate, she did all that a widow could do to honor his memory. She spared no expense in either the quantity or quality of her mourning weeds;³ wore a miniature of him about her

¹ wore, 折磨. ² compunction, 良心過不去. ³ weeds, 喪服.

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我的姨母(或伯母)所遇的奇事

「有幾個人冬夜圍爐閒談，先有一個人說他的姨丈(或伯父)的故事，隨後就有一个人接着說他的姨母所遇的奇事。——譯者注」我的姨母是一個身軀碩大，心性強硬，極有決斷的女人；我們可以稱她是一個很有男子氣概的女人。我的姨丈卻是一個身體短小孱弱的男人，性情柔順，很聽我姨母的話，不是姨母的敵手。有人說自從他結婚的那一天起，他就逐漸縮小，越縮越小。他受不了他的夫人的強硬心性，把他折磨壞了。我的姨母卻儘她的可能照應他；請本市鎮的醫生來看他，本市有許多醫生，有一半都開過藥方治他的病；她叫他把他們所開的方藥都吃遍了，她叫他所吃的藥，足夠治療全個醫院的病人。他只管吃了這許多藥，他的病還是治不好。姨母越叫他吃藥，越看護他，他的病越久越重，後來他竟死了，世人被夫人愛護死的犧牲很多，從此這種鬼錄上又添上一個人。

坐中有一個好問的人，他已經問過前一個說故事的人，現在又問這個說故事的人道，『死鬼曾在她面前出現麼？』

說故事的人道，『你聽後文。我的姨母因為她的可憐的寶貝丈夫死了，很傷心。也許她因為叫他吃那許多藥，又把他愛護到死，覺得良心有點過不去。無論她心裏怎樣難過，她卻盡了一個寡婦所能盡的力量，辦理他的後事。她毫不惜費置備許多的或各式各樣的喪服；她的頸子上



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neck as large as a little sundial, and had a full-length portrait of him always hanging in her bedchamber. All the world extolled her conduct to the skies; and it was determined that a woman who behaved so well to the memory of one husband deserved soon to get another.

It was not long after this that she went to take up her residence in an old country-seat in Derbyshire, which had long been in the care of merely a steward and a house-keeper. She took most of her servants with her, intending to make it her principal abode. The house stood in a lonely, wild part of the country, among the gray Derbyshire hills, with a murderer hanging in chains on a bleak height in full view.

The servants from town were half frightened out of their wits at the idea of living in such a dismal, pagan-looking place; especially when they got together in the servants' hall in the evening, and compared notes¹ on all the hobgoblin stories picked up in the course of the day. They were afraid to venture alone about the gloomy, black-looking chambers. My lady's maid, who was troubled with nerves, declared she could never sleep alone in such a 'gashly rummaging old building'; and the footman, who was a kind-hearted young fellow, did all in his power to cheer her up.

My aunt was struck with the lonely appearance of the house. Before going to bed, therefore, she examined well the fastenings of the doors and windows; locked up the plate with her own hands, and carried the keys, together with a little box of money and jewels, to her own room; for she was a notable² woman, and always saw to all things

¹ compared notes, 交換意見. ² notable, 善于理家.

丈夫的全身像，常掛在她的臥室裏。世人無不極力稱讚她；人家就得了結論，說一個寡婦對一個已死的丈夫既然這樣盡禮，她值得不久再嫁一個丈夫。

後來不久她遷居於 Derby 州的一所舊第宅，這所宅子久已無人居住，只有一個總管事與一個管家婆看守。她帶走一大部份她的僕人，意在拿這所房子作正宅。這所房子坐落在寂寞空曠地方，在該州的灰色山中，荒涼的山頂上用鐵鏈吊着一個殺人兇犯，四處都可以看見。

僕人們一想到住在這樣陰沉可怕的鄉下地方，害怕到糊塗了一半；當他們晚上聚集在僕人屋裏，彼此對於當天所聽說的妖怪故事交換意見的時候，他們更害怕。他們不敢獨自一人走入黑暗房子。太太的女僕犯了神經弱的毛病，她說她不能獨自一個在這樣一所有鬼的雜亂屋子裏睡覺，那個男僕原是一個好心的少年，竭力振作她的精神。

我的姨母也覺得這所宅子的孤寂情狀。所以她在未上床睡覺之先很細心查看門戶與窗子的門，親手鎖好她的金銀器皿，把一堆鎖匙與一小箱的銀錢及珠寶都放在她自己屋裏；因為她是一個善於理家的女人，無論什麼事

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herself. Having put the keys under her pillow, and dismissed her maid, she sat by her toilet arranging her hair; for being, in spite of her grief for my uncle, rather a buxom widow, she was somewhat particular about her person. She sat for a little while looking at her face in the glass, first on one side, then on the other, as ladies are apt to do when they would ascertain whether they have been in good looks; for a roistering country squire of the neighborhood, with whom she had flirted when a girl, had called that day to welcome her to the country.

All of a sudden she thought she heard something move behind her. She looked hastily round, but there was nothing to be seen,—nothing but the grimly painted portrait of her poor dear man, hanging against the wall.

She gave a heavy sigh to his memory, as she was accustomed to do whenever she spoke of him in company, and then went on adjusting her night-dress, and thinking of the squire. Her sigh was re-echoed, or answered by a long-drawn breath. She looked round again, but no one was to be seen. She ascribed these sounds to the wind oozing through the rat-holes of the old mansion, and proceeded leisurely to put her hair in papers, when, all at once, she thought she perceived one of the eyes of the portrait move."

"The back of her head being towards it!" said the storyteller with the ruined head,—"good!"

"Yes, sir!" replied dryly the narrator, "her back being towards the portrait, but her eyes fixed on its reflection in the glass. Well, as I was saying, she perceived one of the eyes of the portrait move. So strange a circumstance, as you may well suppose, gave her a sudden shock. To assure herself of the fact, she put one hand to her forehead

都要必躬必親的。她把鎖匙放在枕頭底下，打發她的女僕走了，坐在梳妝台畔，理她的頭髮，她雖然喪夫憂戚，卻是一個美貌寡婦，還是頗留意打扮的。她坐了一會照鏡子，起先坐在這邊，隨後坐在那邊，女人家要看看她自己美不美，都是這樣的；因為她當做閨女的時候，曾獻媚引誘過一個住在附近的一個好吵好吹的鄉紳，他當天曾來拜訪她，歡迎她到這裏住。

她忽然以為她聽見有東西在她背後動。她匆匆四圍一看，看不見什麼東西——只看見她丈夫的畫得可怕的像，掛在牆上。

她追想他，就重重的歎了一口氣，她向來當衆一提起她的丈夫，總歎一口氣的，她是歎慣的了，她隨即整理她的睡衣，卻想鄉紳。她的歎氣聲作回響，不然就是有一聲長歎作答。她再向四圍看看，看不見什麼人。她以為這樣的聲音是風從這所舊宅的老鼠洞穿過的聲音，她還是從從容容的把她的頭髮用紙包好，她又忽然以為看見畫像的一隻眼在那裏動。」

那個破頭的說故事人說道，「她的背向着那幅畫像呀！好嗎！」

說這段故事的人冷冷的答道，「是呀，她的背向着畫像，她的兩眼卻釘在鏡裏的影。我說她看見畫像的一隻眼睛動。你們很可以猜着這樣一件怪事使她忽然受了一驚。她為的是要曉得這是不是實在的事，她把手放在額上，好

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as if rubbing it; peeped through the fingers, and moved the candle with the other hand. The light of the taper gleamed on the eye, and was reflected from it. She was sure it moved. Nay, more, it seemed to give her a wink, as she had sometimes known her husband to do when living! It struck a momentary chill to her heart; for she was a lone woman, and felt herself fearfully situated.

The chill was but transient. My aunt, who was almost as resolute a personage as your uncle, sir (turning to the old story-teller), became instantly calm and collected. She went on adjusting her dress. She even hummed an air, and did not make even a single false note. She casually overturned a dressing-box; took a candle and picked up the articles one by one from the floor; pursued a rolling pin-cushion that was making the best of its way under the bed; then opened the door; looked for an instant into the corridor, as if in doubt whether to go; and then walked quietly out.

She hastened down stairs, ordered the servants to arm themselves with the weapons first at hand, placed herself at their head, and returned almost immediately.

Her hastily levied army presented a formidable force. The steward had a rusty blunder-buss, the coachman a loaded whip, the footman a pair of horse-pistols, the cook a huge chopping-knife, and the butler a bottle in each hand. My aunt led the van with a red-hot poker, and in my opinion she was the most formidable of the party. The waiting-maid, who dreaded to stay alone in the servants' hall, brought up the rear, smelling at a broken bottle of volatile salts, and expressing her terror of the ghostesses. 'Ghosts!' said my aunt, resolutely. 'I'll singe their whiskers for them!'

像要搓她的額；她一手移動蠟燭，一面兩眼從那隻手的指縫看過去。燭光照在那隻眼上，還有光反射出來。

她實在相信是那隻眼睛動啦。那隻眼睛不獨動，還對着她瞬一眼，當他丈夫在世的時候，她有過幾次曉得他同她這樣瞬眼！她的心有一會子冰冷了；因為她是一個孤獨的女人，覺得她所處的境地很可怕。

好在那一陣冰冷不過是暫時的。我的姨母是個很剛決的人，幾乎同你的姨丈一樣（他是掉過頭來對那個年老的說故事的人說），她立刻變作鎮定。她還是整齊她的衣服。她還哼一個調，一韻也不差。她偶然碰翻一個梳妝盒；她拿一枝蠟燭，把摔在地下的東西逐一拾起來；有一個針插滾到床下，她還趕着去拾；她隨後開了房門；看了過道一會子，好像在那裏遲疑是否走出去；隨後她很安靜的走出來。

她趕快下樓，吩咐僕人們執器械，那樣東西便就抓那樣，她先行，領着他們，幾乎立刻就回去。

她所匆匆募集的軍隊，現出是一枝很可怕的軍隊。總管抓住一枝生鏽的短身大膛的槍，車夫抓了一條帶着重物的馬鞭，跟人抓了一對小馬槍，廚子拿了一把大菜刀，管酒庫的侍役每手拿一個酒瓶。我的姨母當先鋒，拿了一根燒紅的鐵棒，據我看來，這堆人裏頭還是她最可怕。女僕不敢獨自一人在僕人的起坐屋子裏，只好殿後，一面嗅一個裝聞藥的破瓶子，她說她害怕女鬼。我的姨母很勇決的說道，「鬼呀！我將拿燒紅的鐵棒燻焦他們的鬍子！」

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They entered the chamber. All was still and undisturbed as when she had left it. They approached the portrait of my uncle.

'Pull down that picture!' cried my aunt. A heavy groan, and a sound like the chattering of teeth, issued from the portrait. The servants shrunk back; the maid uttered a faint shriek, and clung to the footman for support.

'Instantly!' added my aunt, with a stamp of the foot.

The picture was pulled down, and from a recess behind it, in which had formerly stood a clock, they hauled forth a round-shouldered, black-bearded varlet, with a knife as long as my arm, but trembling all over like an aspen leaf."

"Well, and who was he? No ghost, I suppose," said the inquisitive gentleman.

"A Knight of the Post,"¹ replied the narrator, "who had been smitten with the worth of the wealthy widow; or rather a marauding Tarquin, who had stolen into her chamber to violate her purse, and rifle her strong box, when all the house should be asleep. In plain terms," continued he, "the vagabond was a loose idle fellow of the neighborhood, who had once been a servant in the house, and had been employed to assist in arranging it for the reception of its mistress. He confessed that he had contrived this hiding-place for his nefarious purpose, and had borrowed an eye from the portrait by way of a reconnoitring-hole."

"And what did they do with him?—did they hang him?" resumed the questioner.

"Hang him!—how could they?" exclaimed a beetle-browed barrister, with a hawk's nose. "The offence was

¹ a Knight of the Post, 以當假見證爲生的人; 拐子; 騙子。

他們進臥室。屋裏並無動靜，並無擾亂，如同她出來的時候一樣。他們走近我的姨丈的畫像。

我的姨母喊道，「把這幅畫拉下來！」一陣很重的呻吟聲，與一陣如同牙齒戰動聲，從畫像出來。（說得來可怕，真像是有活鬼。——譯者註）僕人們往後退縮；女僕微微的叫了一聲，抓住跟人，以扶自己。

我的姨母踱腳說道，「立刻扯下來！」

果然把畫像扯下來。原來畫幅後面有一個牆洞，從前是掛鐘的地方，現在他們從牆洞拖出一個黑鬍子駝背的賊來，手執一把刀有我的手臂那麼長，渾身發抖，如同白楊樹葉一般。』

那個好詰問的人問道，「他究竟是什麼人，我猜並不是鬼。」

說故事的人答道，「是個騙子，曉得這個寡婦有錢，不然就是一個可怕的竊賊，〔Tarquin（塔爾昆）是一個極可怕的人，羅馬乳母用他的名字嚇小孩子。——譯者注〕偷偷走入臥室，等到衆人都睡了的時候，要搶她的錢袋，要打開她的結實箱子偷東西。」他接連說道，「我說句淡白話，這個流民就是附近地方的一個遊手好閒的人，從前在這個宅子當過僕人，前幾時曾用過他收拾屋子以便接待女主人。他供認他想出法子躲藏在洞裏以便行竊，借用畫像的一隻眼以便相度地勢。」

那個好問的人又問道，「他們怎樣處置他？他們會否把他吊死？」

有一個臥蟲眉鷹鉤鼻的律師喊道，「吊死他呀！——他們怎樣能吊死他呀？他所犯的罪不至死。他既不會犯搶

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not capital. No robbery, no assault had been committed. No forcible entry or breaking into the premises——”

“My aunt,” said the narrator, “was a woman of spirit, and apt to take the law in her own hands. She had her own notions of cleanliness also. She ordered the fellow to be drawn through the horse-pond, to cleanse away all offences, and then to be well rubbed down with an oaken towel.”

“And what became of him afterwards?” said the inquisitive gentleman.

“I do not exactly know. I believe he was sent on a voyage of improvement to Botany Bay.”

“And your aunt,” said the inquisitive gentleman; “I’ll warrant she took care to make her maid sleep in the room with her after that.”

“No, sir, she did better; she gave her hand shortly after to the roistering squire; for she used to observe that it was a dismal thing for a woman to sleep alone in the country.”

“She was right,” observed the inquisitive gentleman, nodding sagaciously; “but I am sorry they did not hang that fellow.”

THE INN AT TERRACINA

Crack! crack! crack! crack! crack!

“Here comes the estafette¹ from Naples,” said mine host of the inn at Terracina; “bring out the relay.”

The estafette came galloping up the road according to custom, brandishing over his head a short-handled whip, with a long, knotted lash, every smack of which made a

¹ estafette, 遞信與另一個信差的信差。

劫，又不曾行兇。他並不會破門進去——』

說故事的人說道，『我的姨母原是一個有氣魄的人，她會自己執行法律的。她又有她自己的潔淨見解。她吩咐人們把這個賊放在洗馬池中，洗乾淨他的罪惡，還用橡木巾同他擦乾淨。（作者意思是說用橡木棒打他一頓。——譯者註）』

那個好問的人說道，『後來這個人怎麼樣呀？』

『我曉得不的確，我相信會遞解他往玻敦尼(Botany)海灣走一次，使他學好。』（這是說充軍當苦工。——譯者註）

那個好問的又說道，『我很有理由猜度你的姨母以後很小心要她的女僕在屋裏睡。』（這一問卻妙。——譯者註）

『先生，不是的，她的辦法，比你所猜度的好得多，她不久就嫁了那個好吵好吹的鄉紳；因為她常說，一個女人獨自睡在鄉下，是一件很寂寞無聊的事。』

那個好問的點頭表示他的聰明，說道，『她辦得很對；但是我很可惜他們不曾吊死那個人。』

特拉吉那(Terracina)的客店

喀啦！喀啦！喀啦！喀啦！喀啦！

特拉吉那的客店的店主東說道，『從那不勒斯(Naples)來的信差到了，把替換的驛馬帶出來。』

信差照着老規矩在路上飛跑前來，在頭上舞一條短柄馬鞭，綁上一條長而多結的軟鞭，每摔一次，作一次如

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report like a pistol. He was a tight, square-set young fellow, in the usual uniform: a smart blue coat, ornamented with facings and gold lace, but so short behind as to reach scarcely below his waistband, and cocked up not unlike the tail of a wren; a cocked hat edged with gold lace; a pair of stiff riding boots; but, instead of the usual leathern breeches, he had a fragment of a pair of drawers, that scarcely furnished an apology for modesty to hide behind.

The estafette galloped up to the door, and jumped from his horse.

“A glass of rosolio,¹ a fresh horse, and a pair of breeches,” said he, “and quickly, *per l'amor di Dio*,² I am behind my time, and must be off!”

“San Gennaro,” replied the host; “why, where hast thou left thy garment?”

“Among the robbers between this and Fondi.”

“What, rob an estafette! I never heard of such folly. What could they hope to get from thee?”

“My leather breeches!” replied the estafette. “They were brand-new, and shone like gold, and hit the fancy of the captain.”

“Well, these fellows grow worse and worse. To meddle with an estafette! and that merely for the sake of a pair of leather breeches!”

The robbing of the government messenger seemed to strike the host with more astonishment than any other enormity that had taken place on the road; and, indeed, it was the first time so wanton an outrage had been committed; the robbers generally taking care not to meddle with any thing belonging to government.

¹ rosolio, 紅酒. ² *per l'amor di Dio*, 爲愛上帝起見.

同放手槍的響聲。他是一個穿了很緊窄衣服，身材作方形的少年，穿着常穿的號衣——是一件漂亮藍色褂子，有別的颜色鑲的領襟與袖，還有金色花邊，褂子的後身卻是很短的，幾乎不到腰下，又是支起來的，有點像鷓鴣尾巴；頭上戴一頂尖長帽，鑲着金色通花邊；腳上穿一雙騎馬用的硬皮靴；向來是穿皮褲的，他卻只穿很短的小褲，幾乎蓋不嚴他的屁股，未免太過不雅觀。

信差跑到門口，跳下馬來。

他說道，『爲愛上帝起見，你趕快拿一鍾紅酒，一匹新馬，與一條褲子來，我已經誤了時候啦，我立刻就得走。』

店主東答道，『聖貞那祿(San Gennaro)，你的衣裳丟在那裏啦？』

『丟在在這裏與方第(Fondi)間的強盜手裏。』

『什麼呀！搶信差呀！我向來未聽見過這樣橫行的事。他們能夠希望得你什麼東西呀！』

信差答道，『他們要我的皮褲！我的皮褲是新的，如同黃金一樣閃光，被強盜頭目愛上了。』

『這些強盜們越鬧越壞啦，搶信差，不過爲的是一條皮褲！』

店主東很詫異強盜搶信差，以爲比在路上犯無論什麼案都重大得多；強盜們向來是不敢犯政府的，這誠然是第一次這樣大胆放肆。

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The estafette was by this time equipped, for he had not lost an instant in making his preparations while talking. The relay was ready; the rosolio tossed off; he grasped the reins and the stirrup.

“Were there many robbers in the band?” said a handsome, dark young man, stepping forward from the door of the inn.

“As formidable a band as ever I saw,” said the estafette, springing into the saddle.

“Are they cruel to travellers?” said a beautiful young Venetian lady, who had been hanging on the gentleman’s arm.

“Cruel, signora!” echoed the estafette, giving a glance at the lady as he put spurs to his horse. “*Corpo di Bacco!*¹ They stiletto all the men; and, as to women——” Crack! crack! crack! crack! The last words were drowned in the smacking of the whip, and away galloped the estafette along the road to the Pontine marshes.

“Holy Virgin!” ejaculated the fair Venetian, “what will become of us!”

The inn of which we are speaking stands just outside of the walls of Terracina, under a vast precipitous height of rocks, crowned with the ruins of the castle of Theodric the Goth. The situation of Terracina is remarkable. It is a little, ancient, lazy Italian town, on the frontiers of the Roman territory. There seems to be an idle pause in every thing about the place. The Mediterranean spreads before it—that sea without flux or reflux. The port is without a sail, excepting that once in a while a solitary felucca² may be seen disgorging its holy cargo of

¹ *Corpo di Bacco* (=body of Bacchus), Bacchus 酒神. ² felucca, 小快船.

信差現在打扮好了，因為他一面只管說話，一面卻一刻都不耽延，就穿戴起來，替換的新馬是預備好了，紅酒也吃了；他手抓馬韁，腳踏馬鐙。

有一個面黑好看的少年，從店門走上前，說道，『那一羣強盜有許多人麼？』

信差跳上馬鞍，說道，『如同我向來所看見的那麼可怕的一羣人。』

一個扶住這個男子的手的美貌少年的威尼斯女人說道，『他們虐待過客麼？』

信差一面用靴距催馬走，一面看了女子一眼，說道，『夫人！他們是暴虐的呀！酒神呀！他們用小刀把全數男子殺了，至於女人——』喀啦！喀啦！喀啦！喀啦！喀啦！只聽見馬鞭的響聲，不聽見他最後的那個話，信差就向旁太唔（Pontine）大窪走。

那個美貌威尼斯女人喊道，『聖母呀！我們怎樣得了呀！』

我們所說的客店，剛好是在特拉吉那城牆外，在一個很大很高的懸崖下，崖上有哥德人狄奧多利（Theodric the Goth）的堡壘的坍塌遺蹟。特拉吉那的地勢是很奇怪的。這是一個在羅馬城地方的邊界上的一個古老的，很小的，寂寞的城市。在這個城市裏頭，無論什麼都是寂靜的，無生發的。地中海就在面前，——這片海的水是平靜的，無漲無落的。海口並無一條船，只是過了許久有一條小快

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baccala,¹ or codfish, the meagre provision for the quaresima,² or Lent. The inhabitants are apparently a listless, heedless race, as people of soft sunny climates are apt to be; but under this passive, indolent exterior are said to lurk dangerous qualities. They are supposed by many to be little better than the banditti of the neighboring mountains, and indeed to hold a secret correspondence with them. The solitary watch-towers, erected here and there, along the coast, speak of pirates and corsairs that hover about these shores; while the low huts, as stations for soldiers, which dot the distant road, as it winds up through an olive grove, intimate that in the ascent there is danger for the traveller, and facility for the bandit. Indeed, it is between this town and Fondi that the road to Naples is most infested by banditti. It has several windings and solitary places, where the robbers are enabled to see the traveller from a distance, from the brows of hills or impending precipices, and to lie in wait for him at lonely and difficult passes.

The Italian robbers are a desperate class of men, that have almost formed themselves into an order of society. They wear a kind of uniform, or rather costume, which openly designates their profession. This is probably done to diminish its skulking, lawless character, and to give it something of a military air in the eyes of the common people; or, perhaps, to catch by outward show and finery the fancies of the young men of the villages, and thus to gain recruits. Their dresses are often very rich and picturesque. They wear jackets and breeches of bright colors, sometimes gayly embroidered; their breasts are

baccala, 鱈魚. ²quaresima (=Lent), 四旬齋期.

船在那裏卸鱉魚，這是四旬齋期的無甚活養料的食物。凡是陽光很盛的與溫和的地方的居民居多都是無精神的，無憂慮的，這裏的居民也是這樣，但是據說他們外面雖然是消極的，懶惰的，卻包藏着危險性質。有許多人說他們不比鄰近山上的強盜好，其實他們是同強盜串通的。沿岸建築許多孤立的望樓，這就表示海邊有許多海盜遊弋，同時遠遠有一條大路，穿過橄欖林，路上有些矮小兵房，這就表示行人登山是有危險的，強盜登山卻是很容易的。在這個城市與方第之間，在往那不勒斯的大路上，幾乎無處不有強盜。路上有好幾個轉灣，有好幾處寂靜的地方，強盜們就在這種地方遠遠的望見旅客，有在山上望的，亦有在懸崖上望的，他們在寂寞地方與難走的山隘等他。

義大利強盜是一種肯拚命的人，他們在社會中幾乎自成其爲一階級。他們穿號衣或制服，顯然表明他們是強盜。他們穿上制服，大約是要平常人看見，減輕偷偷摸摸的與目無法紀的性格，且使這種行業有點軍人氣味，不然就是要用外表的好看，引誘村中的少年，要他們入夥。強盜們所穿的衣服往往是很華麗的，很好看的。他們穿鮮豔顏色的褂褲，有的繡得很漂亮的；他們的胸前掛滿了寶星

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covered with medals and relics; their hats are broad-brimmed, with conical crowns, decorated with feathers, or variously-colored ribands; their hair is sometimes gathered in silk nets; they wear a kind of sandal of cloth or leather, bound round the legs with thongs, and extremely flexible, to enable them to scramble with ease and celerity among the mountain precipices; a broad belt of cloth, or a sash of silk net, is stuck full of pistols and stiletos; a carbine is slung at the back; while about them is generally thrown, in a negligent manner, a great dingy mantle, which serves as a protection in storms, or a bed in their bivouacs among the mountains.

They range over a great extent of wild country, along the chain of Apennines, bordering on different states; they know all the difficult passes, the short cuts for retreat, and the impracticable forests of the mountain summits, where no force dare follow them. They are secure of the good-will of the inhabitants of those regions, a poor and semi-barbarous race, whom they never disturb and often enrich. Indeed, they are considered as a sort of illegitimate heroes among the mountain villages, and in certain frontier towns where they dispose of their plunder. Thus countenanced¹ and sheltered, and secure in the fastnesses of their mountains, the robbers have set the weak police of the Italian states at defiance. It is in vain that their names and descriptions are posted on the doors of country churches, and rewards offered for them alive or dead; the villagers are either too much awed by the terrible instances of vengeance inflicted by the brigands, or have too good an understanding with them to be their betrayers. It is true they are now and then hunted and shot down like

¹ countenanced, 容納.

與古物；他們的帽子是寬邊尖頂的，有鳥羽與各色帶子作裝飾；他們有的用絲網攏他們的頭髮；他們穿呢鞋或皮鞋；用極其柔軟的皮條纏腿，以便他們容易與敏捷登山；圍腰是一條寬的呢帶子或絲網帶子，插滿手槍與小刀；背後掛一桿馬槍；身上鬆鬆的隨隨便便的披一領深黑色大衣，用以擋風雨，或在山上的賊營中當床用。

他們所到的空曠地方是很寬廣的，沿着那一排亞平寧大山，在幾國的邊界上行劫；凡各處山口，退藏的捷徑，與軍隊所不敢追逐他們的在山頂上的難行的樹林，他們都曉得。這些地方的居民都是貧窮的，又是半野蠻的，強盜們卻絕不騷擾他們，往往還使他們發財，所以他們很得着居民們的好感情。山間的鄉村，與他們所在分賊的邊境上的市鎮，都當他們是一種犯法的英雄。強盜們既被這些鄉村與市鎮所容留，又有山上的堅固巢穴做安穩藏身地方，所以他們膽敢與義大利諸邦的薄弱巡警抗拒。官吏方面只管在鄉下的教堂門口畫影圖形，指名喚姓，與出賞格，鼓勵人們活捉他們，或以死屍來獻，都無效果；鄉下人不是怕他們報仇（曾有過好幾次可怕的榜樣，）就是同他們有了很好的會意，所以不肯揭露他們的蹤跡。誠然有過幾次執械的巡警搜捕他們，槍殺他們，如同獵野獸一般，

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beasts of prey by the *gens-d'armes*, their heads put in iron cages, and stuck upon posts by the roadside, or their limbs hung up to blacken in the trees near the places where they have committed their atrocities; but these ghastly spectacles only serve to make some dreary pass of the road still more dreary, and to dismay the traveller, without deterring the bandit.

At the time that the estafette made his sudden appearance almost *in cuerpo*,¹ as has been mentioned, the audacity of the robbers had risen to an unparalleled height. They had laid villas under contribution; they had sent messages into country towns, to tradesmen and rich burghers, demanding supplies of money, of clothing, or even of luxuries, with menaces of vengeance in case of refusal. They had their spies and emissaries in every town, village, and inn, along the principal roads, to give them notice of the movements and quality of travellers. They had plundered carriages, carried people of rank and fortune into the mountains, and obliged them to write for heavy ransoms, and had committed outrages on females who had fallen into their hands.

Such was briefly the state of the robbers, or rather such was the account of the rumors prevalent concerning them, when the scene took place at the inn of Terracina. The dark, handsome young man and the Venetian lady, incidentally mentioned, had arrived early that afternoon in a private carriage drawn by mules, and attended by a single seryant. They had been recently married, were spending the honeymoon in travelling through these delicious countries, and were on their way to visit a rich aunt of the bride at Naples.

¹ *in cuerpo*, 只穿一半衣裳。

殺了他們的頭，放在鐵籠裏掛在路邊示衆，不然就是在他們犯事地方，把他們的四肢掛在樹上，被太陽曬黑了；但是這樣可怕的景象不過使寂寞的路徑變作更寂寞，只使行人害怕，並不能使強盜畏懼，不敢行劫。

再說當那個信差只穿着一半衣裳忽然出現的時候，強盜們正是膽子最大，鬧得最兇的時候，是從前所未有過的。他們勒令許多別業供給他們錢，他們發信與鄉下的市鎮，發信與商人及有錢的市民們，要他們供應錢財，或衣服，或奢華品，如敢違抗，定行報復。所有在要路上的市鎮，村莊，客店，無不有他們的偵探與報信人，報告行旅的舉動與貧富。他們劫過許多馬車，綁有位有錢的人入山，強逼他們寫信要很大的贖款，婦女落在他們手中的，曾被他們強姦。

當特拉吉那客店來了這個信差的時候，強盜的情形就是這樣，其實當時所流行的謠傳，就是這樣。我們所偶然說及的貌美而黑的少年男子，與那個威尼斯女人，是當天午後坐自己的驢車來客店的，只有一個僕人相隨。他們是新近結婚的，現在遊覽這許多勝地以度蜜月，要往那不勒斯探望新娘子的一個有錢的姨母。

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The lady was young, and tender, and timid. The stories she had heard along the road had filled her with apprehension, not more for herself than for her husband; for though she had been married almost a month, she still loved him almost to idolatry. When she reached Terracina, the rumors of the road had increased to an alarming magnitude; and the sight of two robbers' skulls, grinning in iron cages, on each side of the old gateway of the town, brought her to a pause. Her husband had tried in vain to reassure her; they had lingered all the afternoon at the inn, until it was too late to think of starting that evening, and the parting words of the estafette completed her affright.

"Let us return to Rome," said she, putting her arm within her husband's, and drawing towards him as if for protection. "Let us return to Rome, and give up this visit to Naples."

"And give up the visit to your aunt, too?" said the husband.

"Nay—what is my aunt in comparison with your safety?" said she, looking up tenderly in his face.

There was something in her tone and manner that showed she really was thinking more of her husband's safety at the moment than of her own; and being so recently married, and a match of pure affection, too, it is very possible that she was; at least her husband thought so. Indeed, any one who has heard the sweet musical tone of a Venetian voice, and the melting tenderness of a Venetian phrase, and felt the soft witchery of a Venetian eye, would not wonder at the husband's believing whatever they professed. He clasped the white hand that had been laid within his, put his arm round her slender waist,

這個女人少年，嬌嫩，膽怯。她沿路所聽的故事使她憂慮，他們結婚雖然將及一月，她還很愛他，當他是神明一般，她不獨爲自己憂，且爲她的丈夫憂。當她到了特拉吉那個時候，在路上所聽見的謠傳，越聽越多，使她很驚怖，況且她看見這個市鎮的舊街門兩邊各掛着一個鐵籠，籠裏放着兩個張口露齒的強盜頭，使她停留不敢前進。她的丈夫嘗試勸她不要害怕，也勸不來；他們在客店盤桓了全個下午，後來想動身，又太遲了，那個信差臨走時所說的話，使她更害怕。

她把手放在她的丈夫手裏，走近他，好像是要保護的，她說道『我們不如回羅馬，不往那不勒斯。』

丈夫說道，『也不去探望你的姨母麼？』

她很溫柔的看他的臉，說道，『我的姨母怎能同你的平安相比呀？』

她的腔調與她的態度當下表示她其實慮及她丈夫的平安，多過慮及她自己的平安；況且他們既是新婚，又是純粹出於彼此相愛才締婚的，很許她是更慮及丈夫的平安；她的丈夫至少是這樣想。無論什麼人，只要聽見過一個威尼斯人聲音的音樂腔調，聽見過一個威尼斯人話語的能軟化人的溫柔，見過一個威尼斯人眼睛的柔和的迷人眼色，就不會怪這個丈夫相信聲音眼色的表示。他捉住放在他手裏的雪白手，摟住她的細腰，他很愛她，把她

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and drawing her fondly to his bosom, "This night, at least," said he, "we will pass at Terracina."

Crack! crack! crack! crack! crack! Another apparition of the road attracted the attention of mine host and his guests. From the direction of the Pontine marshes, a carriage, drawn by half a dozen horses, came driving at a furious rate; the postilions smacking their whips like mad, as is the case when conscious of the greatness or of the *munificence of their fare*. It was a landaulet with a servant mounted on the dickey. The compact, highly finished, yet proudly simple construction of the carriage; the quantity of neat, well-arranged trunks and conveniences; the loads of box-coats on the dickey; the fresh, burly, bluff-looking face of the master at the window; and the ruddy, round-headed servant, in close-cropped hair, short coat, drab breeches, and long gaiters, all proclaimed at once that this was the equipage of an Englishman.

"Horses to Fondi," said the Englishman, as the landlord came bowing to the carriage-door.

"Would not his Excellenza alight, and take some refreshments?"

"No—he did not mean to eat until he got to Fondi."

"But the horses will be some time in getting ready."

"Ah! that's always the way; nothing but delay in this cursed country!"

"If his Excellenza would only walk into the house—"

"No, no, no!—I tell you no!—I want nothing but horses, and as quick as possible. John, see that the horses are got ready, and don't let us be kept here an hour or two. Tell him if we're delayed over the time, I'll lodge a complaint with the postmaster."

撲在懷裏，說道，『我們今晚只好在特拉吉那過夜。』

喀啦！喀啦！喀啦！喀啦！路上又來了什麼，使店主要與他的兩個客人注意。原來是從旁太唔窪地那一方來了一部六馬大車，狂奔前來，駕車的人們如瘋如狂的摔馬鞭，他們好像曉得車裏的人是大人物，不然就是很富的人。原來是一部小的四輪車，有一個僕人坐在車後。這部車是造得結實，精緻，卻是很單簡的；車裏有幾件齊整與安放得很好的衣箱及使用的東西；僕人的坐處有許多馬夫的衣服；靠在車窗的主人的有精神的，肥大的，與粗率的臉；圓頭紅臉的僕人，一頭的短頭髮，穿了短衣，與褐色褲，長的鞋套，立刻表示這是一個英國人的行裝。

當店主東點頭鞠躬走到車門的時候，那個英國人說道，『換馬往方第。』

店主東說道，『大人不下車吃些點心麼？』

『大人要到了方第才吃。』

店主東說道，『要等一會兒，才能把馬匹預備好。』

英國人說道，『呀！在這個被天譴的國裏頭，常是這樣，無有不耽延的。』

『大人若走進屋子——』

『不進去，不進去，不進去，我告訴你，我不進去，我什麼都不要，我只要幾匹馬，馬來得越快越好。約翰，你去看他們把馬預備好，不要令我們等候一點鐘或兩點鐘。你告訴他，設使他耽誤我們的時光，我要在驛長那裏告他。』

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John touched his hat, and set off to obey his master's orders with the taciturn obedience of an English servant.

In the meantime the Englishman got out of the carriage, and walked up and down before the inn, with his hands in his pockets, taking no notice of the crowd of idlers who were gazing at him and his equipage. He was tall, stout, and well made; dressed with neatness and precision; wore a travelling cap of the color of ginger-bread; and had rather an unhappy expression about the corners of his mouth; partly from not having yet made his dinner, and partly from not having been able to get on at a greater rate than seven miles an hour. Not that he had any other cause for haste than an Englishman's usual hurry to get to the end of a journey; or, to use the regular phrase, "to get on." Perhaps, too, he was a little sore from having been fleeced¹ at every stage.

After some time, the servant returned from the stable with a look of some perplexity.

"Are the horses ready, John?"

"No, sir—I never saw such a place. There's no getting any thing done. I think your honor had better step into the house and get something to eat; it will be a long while before we get to Fundy."

"D——n the house. It's a mere trick—I'll not eat any thing, just to spite them,"² said the Englishman, still more crusty at the prospect of being so long without his dinner.

"They say your honor's very wrong," said John, "to set off at this late hour. The road's full of highwaymen."

"Mere tales to get custom."

"The estafette which passed us was stopped by a whole

¹ fleeced, 被人敲詐. ² to spite them, 同他們作對.

約翰摸摸他的帽子，帶着一個英國僕人的一聲不響的遵命，走去奉行他主人的命令。

當下這個英國人下了車，在客店面前走來走去，兩手插入袋裏，殊不理會那一堆遊手好閒的人在那裏看他與他的馬車。這個英國人身高體胖，是很結實的，穿得頗整齊，頭戴一頂薑餅色的旅行帽，兩邊口角露出有點不高興的意思；一部分是因為還未吃大餐，一部分是因為不能走得快，不能快過每點鐘走七哩。一個英國人向來是急於要趕快走到路程的盡頭，他不過也是這樣，並無其他着急的理由，我們若用慣用的話語，就是說他要『進行』。也許他是因為每到一站都被人敲詐，所以有點不高興。

過了一會，僕人從馬號回來，帶着有點疑惑神色。

『約翰，馬匹預備好了麼？』

『不曾預備好。我向來未見過這樣的一個地方。無論什麼事都辦不了。我看大人不如進客店找點東西吃；我們要很有一會子才能夠到方第。』

『天譴這個客店！這不過是耍把戲，我偏要同他們作對，我偏不吃東西。』這個英國人因為等了許久還沒得大餐吃，所以更生氣。

約翰說道，『他們說大人在這樣遲的時候動身，是很不對的。路上有許多強人。』

『這不過都是謠言，要做點買賣。』

約翰得到消息越多，說話越說得着重，他就說這，『剛才走過的信差，被全羣的強盜攔截了。』

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gang," said John, increasing his emphasis with each additional piece of information.

"I don't believe a word of it."

"They robbed him of his breeches," said John, giving at the same time a hitch to his own waistband.

"All humbug!"

Here the dark, handsome young man stepped forward, and addressing the Englishman very politely, in broken English, invited him to partake of a repast he was about to make.

"Thank'ee," said the Englishman, thrusting his hands deeper into his pockets, and casting a slight side-glance of suspicion at the young man, as if he thought, from his civility, he must have a design upon his purse.

"We shall be most happy, if you will do us the favor," said the lady, in her soft Venetian dialect. There was a sweetness in her accents that was most persuasive. The Englishman cast a look upon her countenance; her beauty was still more eloquent. His features instantly relaxed. He made a polite bow. "With great pleasure, Signora," said he.

In short, the eagerness to "get on" was suddenly slackened; the determination to famish himself as far as Fondi, by way of punishing the landlord, was abandoned; John chose an apartment at the inn for his master's reception, and preparations were made to remain there until morning.

The carriage was unpacked of such of its contents as were indispensable for the night. There was the usual parade of trunks and writing-desks, and portfolios and dressing-boxes, and those other oppressive conveniences which burden a comfortable man. The observant loiterers about the inn-door, wrapped up in great dirt-colored cloaks,

『我一字也不信。』

約翰說道，『強盜剝了他的褲子，』他一面說一面把他自己的腰帶鈎緊了。

『全是胡說。』

這時候那個面黑的美少年走上前，用不成片段的英國話，很有禮的同這個英國人說話，請他同享他正在要起首吃的點心。

這個英國人說道，『我謝謝你，』他一面把他的兩手插入他的衣袋，插得更深，偷偷看這個少年一眼，帶着懷疑神色，他見他這樣多禮，好像疑心他必定想他的錢。

那個少年女人用溫柔的威尼斯話說道，『你若肯給我們臉，我們是很歡樂的。』她的溫柔悅耳的聲音，是最能動人的。這個英國人看看她的臉；她的美貌比她的聲音更能動人。他的嚴厲面目，立刻變溫和了。他很有禮的鞠躬。他說道，『瑪當，我極歡喜同你們吃。』

說句單簡話，他本來是急於要『進行』的，現在忽然變作不着急啦，他本來打定主意要捱餓，捱到方第才吃東西的，以懲戒店主東，現在也拋棄這個主意啦；約翰挑了一間房子，以招待他的主人，預備在店裏住一夜。

凡是過夜所必要用的東西，都從車裏卸下來。於是取出常用的許多箱子，寫字桌子，護書，梳裝盒子，還有許多習慣舒服的人所要帶的累墜東西。那一堆在客店門口左右的留心察看的閒人們，披了顏色很髒的大衣，只露出

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with only a hawk's-eye uncovered, made many remarks to each other on this quantity of luggage, that seemed enough for an army. The domestics of the inn talked with wonder of the splendid dressing-case, with its gold and silver furniture, that was spread out on the toilet-table, and the bag of gold that chinked as it was taken out of the trunk. The strange *Milor's* wealth, and the treasures he carried about him, were the talk, that evening, over all Terracina.

The Englishman took some time to make his ablutions and arrange his dress for table; and, after considerable labor and effort in putting himself at his ease, made his appearance, with stiff white cravat, his clothes free from the least speck of dust, and adjusted with precision. He made a civil bow on entering in the unprofessing English way, which the fair Venetian, accustomed to the complimentary salutations of the Continent, considered extremely cold.

The supper, as it was termed by the Italian, or dinner, as the Englishman called it, was now served: heaven and earth, and the waters under the earth, had been moved to furnish it; for there were birds of the air, and beasts of the field, and fish of the sea. The Englishman's servant, too, had turned the kitchen topsy-turvy in his zeal to cook his master a beefsteak; and made his appearance loaded with ketchup, and soy, and cayenne pepper, and Harvey sauce, and a bottle of port wine, from that warehouse, the carriage; in which his master seemed desirous of carrying England about the world with him. Indeed, the repast was one of those Italian farragoes which require a little qualifying. The tureen of soup was a black sea, with livers, and limbs, and fragments of all kinds of birds and beasts floating

一隻鷹眼，互相談論這許多行李，足夠一支軍隊所用的。客店裏的夥記們也在那裏談論，很詫異的這個客人的華麗梳裝盒子，與擺在梳裝桌上的金銀器具，與從衣箱裏取出來的一袋叮噹響的金錢。當天晚上，特拉吉那地方所談的都是這個外國貴族隨身所帶的金錢與寶物。

這個英國人梳洗了好一會以便吃飯，他費了許多事，覺得舒服，才走出來，戴上硬的白領，身上的衣服是一塵不染的，穿得很整齊。他一進屋子，就用英國人的毫不作態的神色，很客氣的鞠一鞠躬，那個美貌的威尼斯女人，向來是受慣歐洲大陸恭維的，以為這個英國人是極端的冷落。

現在擺上義大利人所謂晚餐，英國人所謂大餐。店裏的人驚天動地，與擾及河海，以供給客人們這頓大餐，因為食品裏頭有空中的飛禽，有地上的走獸，還有海中的遊魚。英國人的僕人因為很熱烈的要製一味牛肉扒給他的主人吃，就把廚房鬧成一團糟，他走出來，裝了一盤辣醬油，豆醬油，紅胡椒，哈味汁，還有一瓶鮭打酒，這都是從馬車取出來的，他的主人出外遊歷世界，是要把英國帶在身邊的。這一頓飯其實是義大利人的一種雜湊吃食，我們要略為說說是些什麼東西。湯池裏是一個黑海，浮在那裏頭的是肝，腳與翼，還有飛禽及走獸的碎肉，浮在上面如

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like wrecks about it. A meagre-winged animal, which mine host called a delicate chicken, had evidently died of a consumption. The macaroni was smoked. The beef-steak was tough buffalo's flesh. There was what appeared to be a dish of stewed eels, of which the Englishman ate with great relish; but had nearly refunded them when told that they were vipers, caught among the rocks of Terracina, and esteemed a great delicacy.

Nothing, however, conquers a traveller's spleen sooner than eating, whatever may be the cookery; and nothing brings him into good-humor with his company sooner than eating together; the Englishman, therefore, had not half finished his repast and his bottle before he began to think the Venetian a very tolerable fellow for a foreigner, and his wife almost handsome enough to be an Englishwoman.

In the course of the repast the usual topics of travellers were discussed, and among others the reports of robbers which harassed the mind of the fair Venetian. The landlord and waiter dipped into¹ the conversation with that familiarity permitted on the Continent, and served up so many bloody tales as they served up the dishes, that they almost frightened away the poor lady's appetite. The Englishman, who had a national antipathy to every thing technically called "humbug," listened to them all with a certain screw of the mouth, expressive of incredulity.² There was the well-known story of the school of Terracina, captured by the robbers; and one of the scholars cruelly massacred in order to bring the parents to terms for the ransom of the rest. And another of a gentleman of Rome, who received his son's ear in a letter, with information that

¹ dipped into, 插嘴. ² incredulity, 不相信.

同海上遇風的與觸礁的破船。一隻薄翅東西，店主人稱爲嫩鷄，顯然是害癆病死的。麵條是煙熏的。牛肉扒是硬的水牛肉。桌上有一盤東西好像是紅燒鱔魚，這個英國人吃得很有味，有人告訴他是毒蛇，他幾乎全吐出來，這是在特拉吉那的石間捉的毒蛇，當地人以爲是極美的食品。

一個旅行家無論怎樣發脾氣，只要有得吃就不發了，亦無論所吃的東西烹調得好不好；只要他與同行的人們去一起吃，不久就與同行的人要好啦。所以這個英國人東西還未吃到一半，酒還未喝了半瓶，心裏就起首想這個威尼斯人雖然是個外國人，卻是一個很可以過得去的人，他的夫人面貌還美，可以夠得上一個英國女人。（作者的文章富有諧趣，頗像 Goldsmith，這一段就是好榜樣。——譯者註，）

當他們吃飯的時候他們討論旅行家所常討論的話柄，他們所談的就有所聽見的強盜消息，剛才使那個美貌威尼斯女人聽了心裏不安。大陸的習慣是許店主東及店裏的侍役插嘴的，他們就說了許多強盜行劫流血的故事，說了一段又一段，如同他們上菜一般，他們嚇壞了那個女人，使她幾乎吃不下東西。這個英國人原有一種英國人的特性，反對所謂『胡說』，一面聽，一面撇嘴，表示他不相信。他們說了一段許多人都曉得的故事，強盜怎樣擄特拉吉那的學校，很殘忍的殺了一個學生，強逼其餘的學生的父母們出錢取贖；又有一段說的是羅馬的一個紳士接着一封信，信裏有他兒子的一個耳朵，要他備款取贖，不然

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his son would be remitted to him in this way, by instalments, until he paid the required ransom.

The fair Venetian shuddered as she heard these tales, and the landlord, like a true narrator of the terrible, doubled the dose when he saw how it operated. He was just proceeding to relate the misfortunes of a great English lord and his family, when the Englishman, tired of his volubility,¹ interrupted him, and pronounced these accounts to be mere travellers' tales, or the exaggerations² of ignorant peasants and designing innkeepers. The landlord was indignant at the doubt levelled at his stories, and the innuendo levelled at his cloth;² he cited, in corroboration,³ half a dozen tales still more terrible.

"I don't believe a word of them," said the Englishman.

"But the robbers have been tried and executed!"

"All a farce!"

"But their heads are stuck up along the road!"

"Old skulls accumulated during a century."

The landlord muttered to himself as he went out at the door: "*San Gennaro! quanto sono singolari questi Inglesi!*"

A fresh hubbub outside of the inn announced the arrival of more travellers; and, from the variety of voices, or rather of clamors, the clattering of hoofs, the rattling of wheels, and the general uproar both within and without, the arrival seemed to be numerous.

It was, in fact, the *procaccio*⁴ and its convoy—a kind of caravan which sets out on certain days for the transportation of merchandise, with an escort of soldiery to protect it from the robbers. Travellers avail themselves

¹ volubility, 多話. ² cloth, 行業. ³ in corroboration, 贊助; 證實.
⁴ *procaccio* 卽 caravan, 結隊同行的商旅.

就是這樣陸續折割他的兒子寄還他。

那個美貌的威尼斯女人一面聽這些故事一面發抖，店主人好像一個真會說恐怖故事的好手，一看見她害怕，就說得加倍的可怕。他正在要說一個很闊的英國貴族與他的親族的不幸，這個英國人討厭他多話，就攔阻他，說這些都不過是旅行家所造的謠言，不然就是無知無識的鄉下人與心懷不良的店主東們的故意張大其詞的話。店主每聽見他不相信他所說的故事與暗譏他們的行業，就生氣；他就引六七段更可怕的故事，以證實他所說的故事是真的。

這個英國人說道，『我一字也不相信你所說的故事。』

『但是有過幾個強盜曾經被審訊與正法的。』

『全是把戲。』

『他們的頭卻是懸在路上示衆的。』

『這都是一百年來所積聚的舊人頭。』

店主人一面走出去，一面喃喃的說道，『聖貞那祿！這些英國人是多麼奇怪呀。』

門外又重新熱鬧起來，這就是報告又有許多行客到了，一聽見各式各樣的吵鬧聲，馬蹄聲，及車輪聲，與門外門內的吵成一片聲，來到的人們好像不在少數。

原來是按期出發的結隊同行的商旅，有兵隊護送貨

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of its protection, and a long file of carriages generally accompany it.

A considerable time elapsed before either landlord or waiter returned, being hurried hither and thither by that tempest of noise and bustle which takes place in an Italian inn on the arrival of any considerable accession of custom. When mine host reappeared there was a smile of triumph on his countenance.

"Perhaps," said he, as he cleared the table, "perhaps the signor has not heard of what has happened?"

"What?" said the Englishman, dryly.

"Why, the procaccio has brought accounts of fresh exploits of the robbers."

"Pish!"

"There's more news of the English Milor and his family," said the host, exultingly.

"An English lord? What English lord?"

"Milor Popkin."

"Lord Popkins? I never heard of such a title!"

"O sicuro!¹ a great nobleman, who passed through here lately with mi ladi and her daughters. A magnifico,² one of the grand counsellors of London, an almanno!"

"Almanno — almanno? — tut — he means alderman."

"Sicuro — Aldermanno Popkin, and the Principessa Popkin, and the Signorine Popkin!" said mine host triumphantly.

He now put himself into an attitude, and would have launched into a full detail, had he not been thwarted by the Englishman, who seemed determined neither to credit nor indulge him in his stories, but dryly motioned for him to clear away the table.

¹ sicuro 即 sure, 實在有的. ² magnifico, 大人物.

物，旅客們利用有兵保護，往往有一長串的車輛跟隨着走。

過了好一會店主人或侍役才回來，因為客人來得多，義大利客店就大熱鬧起來，侍役們東奔西走的招呼。當店主人進來的時候，臉上很有得意之色。

他一面收拾桌子，一面說道，『大人也許還未聽見發生了什麼事？』

這個英國人冷冷的說道，『出了什麼事？』

『這一羣客商帶來消息，說強盜又打劫啦。』

『呸！』

店主東很得意的說道，『我們得着關於英國貴族與他的親族的更多消息。』

『一個英國貴族麼？什麼英國貴族！』

『播普金(Popkin)貴族。』

『播普金貴族麼？向來不曾聽見過這樣的貴族！』

『實在有的；是一個很闊的貴族，他帶着他的夫人與她的小姐們新近路過此地。他是一個大人物——是倫敦的一個大參政——是一個阿爾曼諾！』

『阿爾曼諾(Almanno)——阿爾曼諾？——呀，他的意思是說市政會員。』

『當真的！市政會員播普金，爵夫人播普金，還有播普金小姐們，』店主人說得很得意。

假使不是這個英國人好像打定主義不相信他的說話，不然就是不容他再說他的故事，只冷冷的揮手，叫他把桌上的東西全拿走，他是會站在那裏，擺出鄭重態度來，要把行劫的事細說一番的。

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An Italian tongue, however, is not easily checked; that of mine host continued to wag with increasing volubility, as he conveyed the relics of the repast out of the room; and the last that could be distinguished of his voice, as it died away along the corridor, was the iteration of the favorite word, Popkin — Popkin — Popkin — pop — pop — pop.

The arrival of the procaccio had, indeed, filled the house with stories, as it had with guests. The Englishman and his companions walked after supper up and down the large hall, or common room of the inn, which ran through the centre of the building. It was spacious and somewhat dirty, with tables placed in various parts, at which groups of travellers were seated; while others strolled about, waiting, in famished impatience, for their evening's meal.

It was a heterogeneous assemblage of people of all ranks and countries, who had arrived in all kinds of vehicles. Though distinct knots of travellers, yet the travelling together, under one common escort, had jumbled them into a certain degree of companionship on the road; besides, on the Continent travellers are always familiar, and nothing is more motley than the groups which gather casually together in sociable conversation in the public rooms of inns.

The formidable numbers, and formidable guard of the procaccio had prevented any molestation¹ from banditti; but every party of travellers had its tale of wonder, and one carriage vied with another in its budget of assertions and surmises. Fierce, whiskered faces had been seen peering over the rocks; carbines and stilettos gleaming from among the bushes; suspicious-looking fellows, with

¹ molestation, 犯.

但是義大利人饒舌，是不容易阻止他不說話的；店主東一面把桌上的殘餘食品送出去，一面接連還在那裏饒舌，說話說得更多，當他從過道走出去的時候；走得越遠，聲音越微，最後卻還能聽見他所最喜歡說的『播普金——播普金——播普金——播普——播普——播普。』（寫得維妙維肖。——譯者注）

這羣客商到了，誠然塞滿了客店都是故事，如同塞滿了客店都是客人一般。這個英國人與他的同伴們吃完飯在大廳裏或客店的客屋裏走上走落，這所客廳穿過客店的中心。屋子是寬大的，卻有點不潔，各處放了桌子，有幾堆客人分坐在桌邊，也有在那裏閒走的，也有在那裏餓得不耐煩，等候晚飯的。

這一堆人是很雜的，各階級與各國人都有，是坐各式各樣的車來的。這許多客商雖然是分開幾堆的，卻因同在兵隊保護之下，在路上就混合起來，多少變作都是同伴了；況且在大陸上行客們是容易親密的，在客店的客廳裏偶然相與聚談的幾堆客人們是最雜不過的。

這次的人數既多又有兵隊保護，強盜們有所畏懼，不敢犯他們；但是每羣的行客都有他們這一羣的奇異故事；這一車的人們與那一車的人們比賽，試看那一個斷言與猜疑得更利害。有說看見兇惡的與有鬍子的臉，從石上往外望；有說看見樹林裏有馬槍與小刀閃光；有說看見面目

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flapped hats and scowling eyes, had occasionally reconnoitred a straggling carriage, but had disappeared on seeing the guard.

The fair Venetian listened to all these stories with that avidity with which we always pamper any feeling of alarm; even the Englishman began to feel interested in the common topic, desirous of getting more correct information than mere flying reports. Conquering, therefore, that shyness which is prone to keep an Englishman solitary in crowds, he approached one of the talking groups, the oracle of which was a tall, thin Italian, with long aquiline nose, a high forehead, and lively prominent eye, beaming from under a green velvet travelling-cap, with gold tassel. He was of Rome, a surgeon by profession, a poet by choice, and something of an improvisatore.¹

In the present instance, however, he was talking in plain prose, but holding forth with the fluency of one who talks well, and likes to exert his talent. A question or two from the Englishman drew copious replies, for an Englishman sociable among strangers is regarded as a phenomenon on the Continent, and always treated with attention for the rarity's sake. The improvisatore gave much the same account of the banditti that I have already furnished.

"But why does not the police exert itself, and root them out?" demanded the Englishman.

"Because the police is too weak, and the banditti are too strong," replied the other. "To root them out would be a more difficult task than you imagine. They are connected and almost identified with the mountain peasantry and the people of the villages. The numerous

¹ improvisatore, 不假思索. 出口成章的人.

可疑的人們頭戴軟帽，臉上兩隻兇惡眼，有的察看一輛落後的車，一看見護兵就走了。

這個美貌的威尼斯女人貪聽全數這樣的故事，我們常以此縱容我們的恐怖感覺；連這個英國人也起首覺得衆人所樂談的話柄很有趣，想得比流言更的確的消息。英國人怕羞，所以在人叢中是容易變作孤立的，他卻降伏他的畏羞，走近一羣說話的人們，這時候在那裏說話的是一個身長而瘦的義大利人，臉上一個長的鷹鼻，一片高額，一雙活潑突露閃光的眼，頭戴一頂有金縷的絲絨旅行小帽。他是羅馬人，是個外科醫生，卻寧願做個詩人，有時還是一個出口成章的人。

現在他卻並不吟詩，口裏只說散文，是個會說話的人，說得很流麗，喜歡賣弄他會說話的本事。這個英國人問他一兩句話，就引他說好些話答復，因為一個英國人在生人裏頭是不肯開口同人說話的，所以大陸當一個肯說話的英國人是一件很罕見的事，因為罕見所以常另眼相看這樣的人。這個出口成章的人所說的強盜故事，與我所貢獻與讀者的大略相同。

這個英國人問道，『巡警爲什麼不出力剿滅他們呀？』

那人答道，『因爲巡警太弱，強盜太強。剿滅強盜是很爲難，不是你所意想的那麼容易。強盜們與山上的人們及村鄉的人們都是有聯絡的，這些人們幾乎就是強盜。這

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bands have an understanding with each other, and with the country round. A gendarme cannot stir without their being aware of it. They have their scouts everywhere, who lurk about towns, villages, and inns, mingle in every crowd, and pervade every place of resort. I should not be surprised if some one should be supervising us at this moment."

The fair Venetian looked round fearfully, and turned pale.

Here the improvisatore was interrupted by a lively Neapolitan lawyer.

"By the way," said he, "I recollect a little adventure of a learned doctor, a friend of mine, which happened in this very neighborhood, not far from the ruins of Theodric's Castle, which are on the top of those great rocky heights above the town."

A wish was, of course, expressed to hear the adventure of the doctor, by all excepting the improvisatore, who, being fond of talking and of hearing himself talk, and accustomed, moreover to harangue without interruption, looked rather annoyed at being checked when in full career. The Neapolitan, however, took no notice of his chagrin, but related the following anecdote.

ADVENTURE OF THE LITTLE ANTIQUARY

My friend, the Doctor, was a thorough antiquary; a little rusty, musty old fellow, always groping among ruins. He relished a building as you Englishmen relish a cheese, —the more mouldy and crumbling it was, the more it suited his taste. A shell of an old nameless temple, or

一夥強盜與那一夥強盜都有照應，與附近地方，也有照應，彼此都是心照不宣的。一個執械的巡警，只要一動，強盜們就曉得。強盜到處都有偵探，偵探們躲在市鎮裏，鄉村裏，客店裏，混在人叢中，凡是娛樂場中都有他們的蹤跡。倘若這個時候有一個強盜偵探監視我們，我卻並不以為奇怪的。』

那個美貌的威尼斯女人很害怕的四圍望望，臉無人色。

這時候有一個很活潑的那不勒斯律師打這個出口成章的人的岔。

他說道，『你這番話使我想起一個有學問的博士的奇遇，他是我的朋友，這件事就是發現在這裏附近地方，離狄奧多利堡的坍塌遺蹟不遠，遺蹟就在市鎮那頭高大的山頂上。』

衆人自然說，要聽那個博士的奇遇，只有這個出口成章的人不說，因為他是喜歡說話，又喜歡聽自己說話的，況且他習慣於不停的滔滔不絕的發議論，所以當他說得起勁的時候被人攔阻，他就很不高興。那個那不勒斯人不管他生氣，就說下文的一段故事。

身材短小的考古家的奇遇

我的朋友，那位博士，是一個淵博的考古家——是一個身材短小的發黴的老古董，終日在遺蹟中摸索。他見着一所建築就覺得很有味，如同你們英國人覺得乳腐很有味——那所建築越古老越坍塌，他覺得越有味。他看見一

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the cracked walls of a broken-down amphitheatre, would throw him into raptures; and he took more delight in these crusts and cheese-parings of antiquity than in the best-conditioned modern palaces.

He was a curious collector of coins also, and had just gained an accession of wealth that almost turned his brain.

All these precious coins he carried about him in a leathern purse, buried deep in a pocket of his little black breeches.

The last maggot¹ he had taken into his brain was to hunt after the ancient cities of the Pelasgi, which are said to exist to this day among the mountains of the Abruzzi, but about which a singular degree of obscurity prevails. He had made many discoveries concerning them, and had recorded a great many valuable notes and memorandums on the subject, in a voluminous book, which he always carried about with him, either for the purpose of frequent reference or through fear lest the precious document should fall into the hands of brother antiquaries. He had, therefore, a large pocket in the skirt of his coat, where he bore about this inestimable tome, banging against his rear as he walked.

Thus heavily laden with the spoils of antiquity, the good little man, during a sojourn at Terracina, mounted one day the rocky cliffs which overhang the town, to visit the castle of Theodric. He was groping about the ruins towards the hour of sunset, buried in his reflections, his wits no doubt wool-gathering² among the Goths and Romans, when he heard footsteps behind him.

He turned, and beheld five or six young fellows, of rough, saucy demeanor, clad in a singular manner, half peasant,

¹ maggot, 古怪思想. ² wool-gathering, 忘其所以; 出神.

所無名的古廟的牆或一座坍塌的長圓戲園的破牆，就樂到發狂；他喜歡古老建築的外廊與碎塊，有過於完整的摩登宮殿。

他又是一個奇怪的收羅古錢人，他新近得了好些寶貝，這就幾乎令他變瘋了。（他找着許多古錢。——譯者註）

他用一個皮袋盛這些寶貝古錢，深藏在他的短小黑褲的一個袋子裏。

他的腦海裏所發生的最後的古怪思想是要找披拉士吉種 (Pelasgi 住在古希臘等處的很古的種族。——譯者注) 的古城，據說今日愛巴拉西 (Abruzzi) 山中還有這個種族，卻是很奇怪的無人曉得在那裏。他找出許多與這個種族有關的事物，他關於這件事體作了許多筆記，都寫在一本大書裏頭；他常把這本大書帶在身邊，也許是因為常要參考，也許是因為恐怕這本寶貝書會落在其他考古家們手中。所以他在褂子後邊作了一個大口袋，專放這本無價寶的書，他一面走這本大書一面碰他的屁股。

這個好好先生，身上拖着這樣很重的考古所獲的寶貝，住在特拉吉那，有一天他爬到本市鎮的高山上，探視狄奧多利堡。當太陽快要下山的時候，他正在坍塌遺蹟上摸索，正在那裏深思，大約是在那裏忘其所以的想從前的哥德人 (Goths) 與羅馬人，他聽見背後有腳步聲。

他掉過頭來，看見五六個少年，面目粗惡，裝束得很古怪，一半是鄉下人，一半是獵戶，手上拿着馬槍。他一看

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half huntsman, with carbines in their hands. Their whole appearance and carriage left him no doubt into what company he had fallen.

The Doctor was a feeble little man, poor in look, and poorer in purse. He had but little gold or silver to be robbed of; but then he had his curious ancient coin in his breeches-pocket. He had, moreover, certain other valuables, such as an old silver watch, thick as a turnip, with figures on it large enough for a clock; and a set of seals at the end of a steel chain, dangling half-way down to his knees. All these were of precious esteem, being family relics. He had also a seal-ring, a veritable antique intaglio, that covered half his knuckle. It was a Venus, which the old man almost worshipped with the zeal of a voluptuary. But what he most valued was his inestimable collection of hints relative to the Pelasgian cities, which he would gladly have given all the money in his pocket to have had safe at the bottom of his trunk in Terracina.

However, he plucked up a stout heart, at least as stout a heart as he could, seeing that he was but a puny little man at the best of times. So he wished the hunters a "*buon giorno*."¹ They returned his salutation, giving the old gentleman a sociable slap on the back that made his heart leap into his throat.

They fell into conversation, and walked for some time together among the heights, the Doctor wishing them all the while at the bottom of the crater of Vesuvius. At length they came to a small osteria² on the mountain, where they proposed to enter and have a cup of wine

¹ *buon giorno*, 請 畫 安. ² *osteria*, 小 客 店.

見他們的面目與態度就曉得他現在是與什麼人爲伍了。

這個博士是一個老弱短小的人，面貌是個窮漢，他的口袋更窮。他身上沒得多少金銀好搶，但是他有許多奇怪的古錢在褲袋裏。他還有別的值錢東西，他有一個舊銀表，如同蘿蔔那樣厚。表的面上有很大的字，足夠做鐘面，表鏈是鋼的，掛着一串印章，拖下來，幾乎及膝。這都是家傳的舊物，他是看得很寶貴的。他還有一個印章戒指，真是一個古老陰文圖章，半遮他的指節。這個圖章是一個女愛神，這個老頭子很熱心崇拜這件東西，幾乎如同一個好色人一般。但是他所最寶貴的還是他所搜輯關於披拉士吉城邑的無價寶的議論，他寧願把他口袋裏所有的錢獻與強盜，也不願把存在特拉吉那的箱子底下的無價寶的記載交出來。

他曉得他自己不過是一個老弱短小的人，大胆也是無用的，他就壯着他的胆，他同獵戶們請晝安，他們也同他請安，好意的拍拍老頭子的肩膀，這一拍使他的心跳上來，跳到他的喉嚨。

他們談話，在山上同走一會子，當下博士心裏望他們在維素維 (Vesuvius) 火山頂上。後來他們走到山上的一間小客店，他們提議進去同吃一鍾酒。博士贊成，他心裏

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together; the Doctor consented, though he would as soon have been invited to drink hemlock.

One of the gang remained sentinel at the door; the others swaggered into the house, stood their guns in the corner of the room, and each drawing a pistol or stiletto out of his belt, laid it upon the table. They now drew benches round the board, called lustily for wine, and hailing the Doctor as though he had been a boon companion of long standing, insisted upon his sitting down and making merry.

The worthy man complied with forced grimace, but with fear and trembling; sitting uneasily on the edge of his chair; eying ruefully the black-muzzled pistols, and cold, naked stilettos; and supping down heartburn with every drop of liquor. His new comrades, however, pushed the bottle bravely, and plied him vigorously. They sang, they laughed; told excellent stories of their robberies and combat, mingled with many ruffian jokes; and the little Doctor was fain to laugh at all their cut-throat pleasantries, though his heart was dying away at the very bottom of his bosom.

By their own account, they were young men from the villages, who had recently taken up this line of life out of the wild caprice of youth. They talked of their murderous exploits as a sportsman talks of his amusements: to shoot down a traveller seemed of little more consequence to them than to shoot a hare. They spoke with rapture of the glorious roving life they led, free as birds; here to-day, gone to-morrow; ranging¹ the forests, climbing the rocks, scouring the valleys; the world their own wherever they

¹ ranging, 遊行; 巡行.

想這就如同他們請他吃毒藥一般。

有一個人在門口把風，其餘的人大搖大擺的走進去，把馬槍豎在屋的角落，每人從腰帶拔出一桿手槍或小刀放在桌上。他們於是拖凳子圍着桌子，大聲喊要酒，請博士同飲，好像當他是一個多年的好朋友，一定要他坐下熱鬧一番。

老博士勉強放出鬼臉就坐下。心裏害怕，渾身發抖，很不安的坐在他的椅子邊上，垂頭喪氣的看看那些黑口的手槍與冒寒光的出鞘小刀，每滴酒入喉就燒他的心。他的新朋友們卻很熱鬧的把酒瓶子推到他的面前，力勸他喝。他們唱歌，他們大笑，說他們打劫與打架的極好聽的故事，中間還加上許多惡棍們的笑話，這個短小的博士聽了他們所說的殺人的笑話，只好大哭，他的心在他的胸膛底下，卻害怕到要死。

據他們自己說，他們是村裏的少年，新近因為少年的野性發作，才當了強盜的。他們談他們的殺人越貨的能事，如同獵人談他們打獵取樂一般；他們看開槍打死一個行客並不比開槍打死一隻兔子更要緊；他們談到他們所過的有光榮的雲遊生活就非常的高興——說他們如同鳥那樣自由；今天在這裏，明天就走了；在樹林裏遊行，爬山石，在山谷放哨找尋旅客；只要是他們所能夠得手的地方，就變作他們的世界；身上裝滿了錢，有的是快活的同伴與

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could lay hold of it; full purses—merry companions—pretty women. The little antiquary got fuddled with their talk and their wine, for they did not spare bumpers. He half forgot his fears, his seal-ring, and his family watch; even the treatise on the Pelasgian cities, which was warming under him, for a time faded from his memory in the glowing picture that they drew. He declares that he no longer wonders at the prevalence¹ of this robber mania among the mountains; for he felt at the time, that, had he been a young man, and a strong man, and had there been no danger of the galleys in the background, he should have been half tempted himself to turn bandit.

At length the hour of separating arrived. The Doctor was suddenly called to himself and his fears by seeing the robbers resume their weapons. He now quaked for his valuables, and, above all, for his antiquarian treatise. He endeavored, however, to look cool and unconcerned;² and drew from out his deep pocket, a long, lank, leathern purse, far gone in consumption, at the bottom of which a few coin chinked with the trembling of his hand.

The chief of the party observed his movement, and laying his hand upon the antiquary's shoulder, "Harkee! Signor Dottore!" said he, "we have drunk together as friends and comrades; let us part as such. We understand you. We know who and what you are, for we know who everybody is that sleeps at Terracina, or that puts foot upon the road. You are a rich man, but you carry all your wealth in your head; we cannot get at it, and we should not know what to do with it if we could. I see you are uneasy about your ring; but don't worry

¹ prevalence, 橫行. ² unconcerned, 不關心.

美貌女人。他們勸這個短小考古博士吃酒，不容他空過，他所聽的話與他所吃的酒，使他糊塗了。他一半忘記了他的害怕，他的印章戒指，與他的傳家寶的表；他所撰的披拉士吉城邑考，藏在他身上，這個時候也變熱了。他聽他們所說的熱鬧故事聽得入神，連這本著作也忘記了。他說山上有這許多強盜如瘋如狂的橫行，他並不以為怪，因為當下他也覺得設使他是個少年，是個強健的人，背景上並無犯了事要當苦工的危險，他也會有半情願當強盜的。

後來他們要分手啦。博士看見他們又把刀槍拿起來，他忽然明白過來，又很害怕。說在他為他的寶物發抖，尤其是為他的考古著作發抖。他卻努力裝作冷淡的與不關心的神氣，從他的深口袋裏掏出一個長瘦的皮製錢包來，這個錢包久已犯癆病的了，他手抖抖的拿着這個錢包，包底有幾個錢叮叮噹噹的響。

這羣人的頭目看見他的舉動，一手放在考古家的肩膀上，說道，『博士先生，你聽我說，我們如同好朋友同袍一般；同吃過酒；我們分手，還是好朋友。我們明白你的意思。我們曉得你是誰，曉得你是什麼人，凡是在特拉吉那睡覺的人，凡是在特拉吉那路上走的人，我們都曉得。你雖是個富翁，但是你的財寶都裝在你的頭腦裏。我們不能取你頭腦裏的財寶。設使我們能夠取出來，也不合用。我曉得你不放心你的戒指；我請你不必煩心，這個戒指值

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yourself, it is not worth taking; you think it an antique, but it's a counterfeit—a mere sham."

Here the ire of the antiquary rose: the Doctor forgot himself in his zeal for the character of his ring. Heaven and earth! his Venus a sham! Had they pronounced the wife of his bosom "no better than she should be," he could not have been more indignant. He fired up in vindication of his intaglio.

"Nay, nay," continued the robber, "we have no time to dispute about it; value it as you please. Come, you're a brave little old signor—one more cup of wine, and we'll pay the reckoning. No compliments—you shall not pay a grain—you are our guest—I insist upon it. So—now make the best of your way back to Terracina; it's growing late. *Buono viaggio!*¹ And harkee! take care how you wander among these mountains,—you may not always fall into such good company."

They shouldered their guns, sprang gayly up the rocks, and the little Doctor hobbled back to Terracina, rejoicing that the robbers had left his watch, his coins, and his treatise unmolested; but still indignant that they should have pronounced his Venus an impostor.

The improvisatore had shown many symptoms of impatience during this recital. He saw his theme in danger of being taken out of his hands, which to an able talker is always a grievance, but to an improvisatore is an absolute calamity; and then for it to be taken away by a Neapolitan was still more vexatious,—the inhabitants of the different Italian states having an implacable jealousy of each other in all things, great and small. He

¹ *buono viaggio*, 望你一路平安。

不得我們拿去。你以為這個戒指是一件古董，可惜是沖的——不過是假的。』

考古家聽見這句話就生氣；這位博士因為熱心要證明他這件東西真是古董，就忘其所以了。上有天下有地作證！他的愛神是假的麼？假使他們說他的懷抱中的太太『並不是個什麼好東西』，他還不會這樣生氣。他要替他的陰文印章表白，就很生氣。

那個強盜接連說道，『你不要生氣，我們沒得工夫同你辨駁；你只管寶貝你的東西。來，來，來，你是一個大胆的小老頭。再喝一鍾酒，我們就會帳。不必客氣，你是我們的貴客，我們不要你花一文。我必不讓你花錢。天已不早了，你好好的回去特拉吉那吧。望你一路平安！你聽我說，你以後在這些山裏遊行，你要小心呀；你也許不會常遇着如我們這樣的好同伴。』

他們背了槍，很快活的跳上山，短小的博士蹣跚回去特拉吉那，強盜不會搶他的表，他的錢，與他的著作，他很高興，但是他很怒他們說他的女愛神是假的。

當說這段故事的時候，那個出口成章的人表示不耐煩。他恐怕他人從他的手中奪了他的話柄，凡是一個能說話的都恐怕被人奪了話柄，從一個出口成章的人看來這簡直的是一件禍事；今被一個那不勒斯人奪去，他覺得更難堪，因為義大利各小部的人們彼此互相妒忌，妒忌到不能和解的，無論大小事都是這樣。他趁勢當這個那不勒

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took advantage of the first pause of the Neapolitan to catch hold again of the thread of the conversation.

“As I observed before,” said he, “the prowlings of the banditti are so extensive; they are so much in league with one another, and so interwoven with various ranks of society——”

“For that matter,” said the Neapolitan, “I have heard that your government has had some understanding with those gentry; or, at least, has winked at their misdeeds.”

“My government?” said the Roman, impatiently.

“Ay, they say that Cardinal Gonsalvi——”

“Hush!” said the Roman, holding up his finger, and rolling his large eyes about the room.

“Nay, I only repeat what I heard commonly rumored in Rome,” replied the Neapolitan, sturdily. “It was openly said that the Cardinal had been up to the mountains, and had an interview with some of the chiefs. And I have been told, moreover, that, while honest people have been kicking their heels in the Cardinal’s ante-chamber, waiting by the hour for admittance, one of those stiletto-looking fellows has elbowed his way through the crowd, and entered without ceremony into the Cardinal’s presence.”

“I know,” observed the improvisatore, “that there have been such reports, and it is not impossible that government may have made use of these men at particular periods: such as at the time of your late abortive revolution, when your carbonari¹ were so busy with their machinations all over the country. The information which such men could collect, who were familiar, not

¹ carbonari, 燒炭黨, 是義大利的祕密黨。

斯人第一次停頓，又奪回他所談的線索。

他說道，『我方才說過，強盜所哨探的地面是很寬廣的；他們都是串通的，與社會中各階級也是串通的——』

那個那不勒斯人說道，『關於這件事，我聽說你們的政府與強盜們是心照不宣的，不然，至少也是袖手旁觀，不管他們的胡爲。』

那個羅馬人不耐煩，說道，『我們的政府麼？』

『是呀，他們說紅衣大主教剛薩爾維』（Gonsalvi 或作 Consalvi，是一七五七至一八二四年間人，是個提倡自由與人道主義的。——譯者註）

那個羅馬人舉他的手指，睜着兩隻大眼四圍看看，說道，『你不要響。』

那不勒斯人毫不畏懼的說道，『不要緊，我不過述我在羅馬所聽見的普通謠傳。那裏的人當着衆人說紅衣大主教曾到過山裏，同幾個強盜頭目見面。我又聽說，良善的人們在紅衣大主教的候見室等候傳見，一等就是好幾點鐘，等得不耐煩，在那裏跳，一個面貌如小刀的強盜卻不必等，在人叢中擠過去，毫不客氣，一直進去見主教。』

那個出口成章的人說道，『我曉得有這樣的謠言，也許政府在特別的時期利用強盜們，例如當你們新近革命流產的時候，你們的燒炭黨在全國裏頭忙於施行他們的陰謀。強盜們不獨熟悉山上的幽深所在與祕密地方，而且

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merely with the recesses and secret places of the mountains, but also with the dark and dangerous recesses of society; who knew every suspicious character, and all his movements and all his lurkings; in a word, who knew all that was plotting in a world of mischief;—the utility of such men as instruments in the hands of government was too obvious to be overlooked; and Cardinal Gonsalvi, as a politic statesman, may, perhaps, have made use of them. Besides, he knew that, with all their atrocities, the robbers were always respectful towards the Church, and devout in their religion.”

“Religion! religion!” echoed the Englishman.

“Yes, religion,” repeated the Roman. “They have each their patron saint. They will cross themselves and say their prayers, whenever, in their mountain haunts, they hear the matin or the Ave-Maria bells sounding from the valleys; and will often descend from their retreats, and run imminent risks to visit some favorite shrine. I recollect an instance in point.

“I was one evening in the village of Frascati, which stands on the beautiful brow of a hill rising from the Campagna, just below the Abruzzi Mountains. The people, as is usual in fine evenings in our Italian towns and villages, were recreating themselves in the open air, and chatting in groups in the public square. While I was conversing with a knot of friends, I noticed a tall fellow, wrapped in a great mantle, passing across the square, but skulking along in the dusk, as if anxious to avoid observation. The people drew back as he passed. It was whispered to me that he was a notorious bandit.”

“But why was he not immediately seized?” said the Englishman.

深知社會裏頭的黑暗的及危險的祕密所在；凡是可疑的人他們都曉得，凡是這樣人的舉動與全數他們躲藏地方也曉得：說句單簡話，凡是一個作禍的世界的陰謀，他們全曉得；——政府手上有這樣的利器原是很有用的，這是顯然易見的事，政府自然不肯忽略的，紅衣大主教剛薩爾維是一個有手腕的政治家，也許會利用他們。況且他曉得強盜們雖然作惡多端，卻常是尊重教會的，又是虔誠奉行他們的宗教的。』

那個英國人說道，『宗教呀！宗教呀！』

羅馬人說道，『是的，宗教，他們各人有各人所崇拜的保護各人的聖賢，他們在深山的巢穴，無論什麼時候聽見山谷裏早上祈禱，或祈禱聖母的鐘聲，他們就在自己的胸前畫十字與誦祈禱文。往往還從山上下來，冒極大的危險，瞻拜他所最相信的寺廟，我還記得一件這樣冒險的事。

『有一天傍晚，我在法拉開提村 (Frascati)，這個村子坐落在坎帕那 (Campagna) 的一個小山的很好看的山頂，上頭就是愛巴拉西大山。我們義大利鄉村及市鎮的人，到了傍晚，居多在透空氣的地方休息，在廣場中三五成羣的談話。當我正在同一堆朋友說話的時候，我看見一個體高的人，披了大衣，在廣場走過，卻是在黑暗中躲躲閃閃的走過，好像是急於避免被人看見的。人們都避開讓他走過。有人附耳低聲對我說這個人是一個有名的強盜。』

英國人說道，『爲什麼不立刻擊住他？』

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“Because it was nobody’s business; because nobody wished to incur the vengeance of his comrades; because there were not sufficient gendarmes near to insure security against the number of desperadoes he might have at hand; because the gendarmes might not have received particular instructions with respect to him, and might not feel disposed to engage in a hazardous conflict without compulsion. In short, I might give you a thousand reasons rising out of the state of our government and manners, not one of which after all might appear satisfactory.”

The Englishman shrugged his shoulders with an air of contempt.

“I have been told,” added the Roman, rather quickly, “that even in your metropolis of London, notorious thieves, well known to the police as such, walk the streets at noon-day in search of their prey, and are not molested unless caught in the very act of robbery.”

The Englishman gave another shrug, but with a different expression.

“Well, sir, I fixed my eye on this daring wolf, thus prowling through the fold, and saw him enter a church. I was curious to witness his devotion. You know our spacious, magnificent churches. The one in which he entered was vast, and shrouded in the dusk of evening. At the extremity of the long aisles a couple of tapers feebly glimmered on the grand altar. In one of the side chapels was a votive candle placed before the image of a saint. Before this image the robber had prostrated himself. His mantle partly falling off from his shoulders as he knelt, revealed a form of Herculean strength; a stiletto and pistol glittered in his belt; and the light falling on his countenance, showed features not unhandsome,

因為捕盜不是我們的事；因為無人肯冒他的同夥報仇的危險；因為附近的執械巡警不多，不夠擔保他們能夠與他的或者相離不遠的許多亡命之徒對敵；因為執械的巡警們也許並未奉過特別訓令捉拿這個強盜，他們既未奉命就不願意冒險同他們打。我們政府的情形及我們的風俗，與他國不同。因此就發生一千種的理由，我只管全說出來給你聽，你還是覺得其中並無一個理由是能令你滿意的。』

這個英國人聳了肩，露出藐視神色。

那個羅馬人趕快說道，『有人對我說，在你們的國都倫敦，你們的巡警所很曉得的著名強盜們，膽敢白日在大街上找犧牲，強盜們若不動手搶劫，巡警們也不捉拿他們。』

英國人又聳了肩，卻露出與前不同的神色。

『先生，我就定睛看這個大膽的狼這樣在羊羣中走過，我看見他走入一間教堂。我好奇要親眼看他禮拜。你曉得我們的教堂是寬廣的，華麗的。強盜所進去的教堂是很寬廣的，籠罩在傍晚的黑暗中。在長的廊路盡頭就是一個大神座，座上有一對蠟燭閃暗淡的光。在旁邊的一所小教堂裏頭，在一個聖賢的神像前擺着一枝還愿的蠟燭。強盜跪在這個神像前。當他跪下的時候，他肩膀上的大衣卸下一部分，露出他的極有氣力的身體；腰帶上插着閃光的小刀與手槍；燭光照他的臉，照見他的後面，雖然並不是不好看，卻是強橫兇悍的。當他祈禱的時候，他變作受

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but strongly and fiercely characterized. As he prayed, he became vehemently agitated; his lips quivered; sighs and murmurs, almost groans, burst from him; he beat his breast with violence; then clasped his hands and wrung them convulsively, as he extended them towards the image. Never had I seen such a terrific picture of remorse. I felt fearful of being discovered watching him, and withdrew. Shortly afterwards I saw him issue from the church wrapped in his mantle. He recrossed the square, and no doubt returned to the mountains with a disburdened conscience, ready to incur a fresh arrear of crime."

Here the Neapolitan was about to get hold of the conversation, and had just precluded with the ominous remark, "That puts me in mind of a circumstance," when the improvisatore, too adroit to suffer himself to be again superseded, went on, pretending not to hear the interruption.

"Among the many circumstances connected with the banditti, which serve to render the traveller uneasy and insecure, is the understanding which they sometimes have with innkeepers. Many an isolated inn among the lonely parts of the Roman territories, and especially about the mountains, are of a dangerous and perfidious character. They are places where the banditti gather information, and where the unwary traveller, remote from hearing or assistance, is betrayed to the midnight dagger. The robberies committed at such inns are often accompanied by the most atrocious murders; for it is only by the complete extermination of their victims that the assassins can escape detection. I recollect an adventure," added he, "which occurred at one of these solitary mountain inns, which, as you all seem in a mood for robber anecdotes, may not be uninteresting."

了熱烈的激動，他的兩脣抖動，他歎氣，喃喃的說話，幾乎呻吟；他很兇的槌他的胸，隨即合手，當他伸手向神像時，他渾身抖動的扭他的兩手。我向來未見過這樣可怕的悔罪情景。我恐怕他看見我偷看他，我就退出。過了一會，我看見他披大衣從教堂出來。他又走過廣場；他既然懺悔從前的罪惡，大約帶着安泰的良心回山去了，預備將來重新再做犯法的事。』

這個那不勒斯人正在要插嘴說話，剛好先說一句話表示他要插嘴，說道，『這就使我追憶一件事，』不料那個出口成章的比他敏捷得多，不讓他再趕過他的前頭，裝作不聽見他打岔，就往下說道。

『與強盜們相干的原有許多事體，能使行客不放心，與不平安，其中有一件就是他們有時與店主們串通。在羅馬城屬下的許多寂寞地方的孤立客店，尤其是在山上的客店，居多都是危險的，陷害人的。強盜們就在這些客店裏打聽消息。不小心的旅客在這種地方既是呼天不應的，又是孤立無援的，半夜裏就會被人謀害吃小刀子。凡是在這種客店裏所犯的盜案，往往不獨謀財，並且行兇害命；因為行兇的強盜們只有完全殺絕了他們的犧牲以滅口，才能夠避免破案。我記得有一件事發生於一所這樣孤立的山上的客店，你們好像都願意聽強盜的故事，我所記得的，是頗有趣味的。』

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Having secured the attention and awakened the curiosity of the by-standers, he paused for a moment, rolled up his large eyes as improvisatori are apt to do when they would recollect an impromptu, and then related with great dramatic effect the following story, which had, doubtless, been well prepared and digested beforehand.

THE BELATED TRAVELLERS

It was late one evening that a carriage, drawn by mules, slowly toiled its way up one of the passes of the Apennines. It was through one of the wildest defiles, where a hamlet occurred only at distant intervals, perched on the summit of some rocky height, or the white towers of a convent peeped out from among the thick mountain foliage. The carriage was of ancient and ponderous construction. Its faded embellishments spoke of former splendor, but its crazy springs and axle-trees creaked out the tale of present decline. Within was seated a tall, thin old gentleman, in a kind of military travelling-dress, and a foraging-cap trimmed with fur, though the gray locks which stole from under it hinted that his fighting days were over. Beside him was a pale, beautiful girl of eighteen, dressed in something of a northern or Polish costume. One servant was seated in front, a rusty, crusty-looking fellow, with a scar across his face, an orange-tawny *schnurbart*,¹ or pair of moustaches, bristling from under his nose, and altogether the air of an old soldier.

It was, in fact, the equipage of a Polish nobleman; a wreck of one of those princely families once of almost

¹ *schnurbart*, 鬍子.

他已經得到他們的注意，又激動他們的好奇心，他稍停一回，瞪着兩隻大眼，凡是出口成章的人們當追憶他們一段隨口亂謔的故事時候，都會做出這樣態度的，他於是如演戲一般，說下列的一段故事。他是事前預備好與布置好的，這是無疑的了。

遲到的旅客們

有一天在傍晚頗遲的時候，有一輛騾車很辛苦的爬上亞平寧山上的一個山口。騾車所走的是一條最空最僻的山隘，相離很遠才有小村落，坐落在山石頂上，不然，也是要相離很遠才有一所寺院的白樓，在山上的密林中露出來。這是一部古老笨重車。車的裝飾剝落了，表示從前的華麗，但是車子的破壞彈簧與車軸嘎吱嘎吱的響，表示這部車現在是很殘舊的了。車裏坐着一個身材高瘦的老人，穿着一種軍人的旅行衣服，頭戴一頂粗料所造的鑲皮軍帽，帽下露出白頭髮，這卻表示他打仗的日子是過去了。有一個十八歲臉色淡白的美貌女子坐在他身邊，穿的好像是北方的或波蘭的衣服。有一個僕人坐在前頭，好像是一個性情不好的老人，臉上有一條刀傷痕，兩撇橘黃色的鬍子，在鼻子下支出來，滿臉都是一個老軍人的神氣。

這是一個波蘭貴族的馬車；從前原是王公的家世，幾

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oriental magnificence, but broken down and impoverished by the disasters of Poland. The count, like many other generous spirits, had been found guilty of the crime of patriotism, and was, in a manner, an exile from his country. He had resided for some time in the first cities of Italy, for the education of his daughter, in whom all his cares and pleasures were now centred. He had taken her into society, where her beauty and her accomplishments gained her many admirers; and had she not been the daughter of a poor broken-down Polish nobleman, it is more than probable many would have contended for her hand. Suddenly, however, her health became delicate and drooping; her gayety fled with the roses of her cheek, and she sank into silence and debility. The old count saw the change with the solicitude of a parent. "We must try a change of air and scene," said he; and in a few days the old family-carriage was rumbling¹ among the Apennines.

Their only attendant was the veteran Caspar, who had been born in the family, and grown rusty in its service. He had followed his master in all his fortunes;² had fought by his side; had stood over him when fallen in battle; and had received, in his defence, the sabre-cut which added such grimness to his countenance. He was now his valet, his steward, his butler, his factotum. The only being that rivalled his master in his affections was his youthful mistress. She had grown up under his eye, he had led her by the hand when she was a child, and he now looked upon her with the fondness of a parent. Nay, he even took the freedom of a parent in giving his blunt opinion

¹ rumbling, 嶙嶙. ² fortunes, 盛衰.

乎有東方王公的富麗，波蘭滅亡他就倒了，變窮了。這個伯爵與其他慷慨激昂的人一般，犯了愛國的罪，總算是被貶出國了。他在義大利的重要都會住了幾年，以便他的女兒受教育，他的疑慮與他的歡樂全聚在他女兒身上。他曾領着他的女兒入社會應酬，她的美貌與她的才藝贏得許多讚美她的人；假使她不是一個貧窮與墜落的波蘭貴族的女兒，必定會有許多人向她求親的。不知爲了什麼，她的體氣忽然變弱了，變作萎靡不振了，她的快樂與她的玫瑰臉色，同時消滅了，她變作不喜歡說話，身體很孱弱。老頭子以爲父的關切，看出這樣的改變。他說道，『我們必要嘗試改換空氣與環境。』過了幾天，這部古老的家族出遊的馬車就在亞平寧山上嶙嶙的走。

他們只有一個老僕，就是這老兵，名卡斯帕爾（Casper），他是在伯爵家裏生長的，在這個家庭當僕人當到老。無論主人得意或失意他總是追隨主人的左右：他在主人身邊打過仗；當他主人打敗仗倒在戰場的時候，他還是站在他的左右；他因護衛主人，臉上曾受過刀傷，傷痕使他的面貌更可怕。他現在是他主人的隨身的僕人，又是他的總管事，是他的管酒庫與金銀器皿的人，又是無事不管的一個打雜的。他忠於他的主人，此外只有這位小姐能分得他的忠心。他眼見她自小長到大，小姐小的時候，他曾抓住她的手領她走，現在他親愛她，如父愛女一般。他不獨親愛她，有時還教訓她，只要他以爲是有益於她的。他胆

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on all matters which he thought were for her good; and felt a parent's vanity at seeing her gazed at and admired.

The evening was thickening; they had been for some time passing through narrow gorges of the mountains, along the edges of a tumbling stream. The scenery was lonely and savage. The rocks often beetled over the road, with flocks of white goats browsing on their brinks, and gazing down upon the travellers. They had between two and three leagues yet to go before they could reach any village; yet the muleteer, Pietro, a tippling old fellow, who had refreshed himself at the last halting-place, with a more than ordinary quantity of wine, sat singing and talking alternately to his mules, and suffering them to lag on at a snail's pace, in spite of the frequent entreaties of the count and maledictions of Caspar.

The clouds began to roll in heavy masses along the mountains, shrouding their summits from view. The air was damp and chilly. The count's solicitude on his daughter's account overcame his usual patience. He leaned from the carriage, and called to old Pietro in an angry tone.

"Forward!" said he. "It will be midnight before we arrive at our inn."

"Yonder it is, Signor," said the muleteer.

"Where?" demanded the count.

"Yonder," said Pietro, pointing to a desolate pile about a quarter of a league distant.

"That the place?—why, it looks more like a ruin than an inn. I thought we were to put up for the night at a comfortable village."

Here Pietro uttered a string of piteous exclamations and ejaculations, such as are ever at the tip of the tongue of a delinquent muleteer. "Such roads! and such mountains!

敢以父執自居，很坦白的教訓她；他看見有許多人看她，讚美她，就覺得歡樂，如同他是她的父親一般。

這時候天快黑啦；他們沿着急流的山溪，穿過山上的山隘，走了好幾時。山上是寂寞的險惡的。路上往往有山石突出來，懸崖上有成羣的白色山羊在那裏吃草，瞪眼往下看過往的人。他們還得走十哩八哩才能夠走到村落；那個騾夫披特魯（Pietro）原是一個好吃酒的老頭子，在最後休息的地方已經吃過許多的酒，這時候卻坐在車上對着他的幾頭騾子一會唱歌，一會說話，隨騾子如蝸牛一般慢慢的走，伯爵只管屢次苦勸他，卡斯帕爾只管詛罵他，他還是不肯快走。

山上起首來了許多濃雲，山頂被雲籠罩都看不見了。空氣變作潮溼與寒冷。伯爵因為顧慮他的女兒的體氣，就變作不耐煩，他從車上伸出身子來，很生氣的對老披特魯說話。

他說道，『你往前趕呀！不然，我們要到夜半才能到客店。』

騾夫說道，『大人，那裏就是客店。』

伯爵問道，『在那裏呀？』

披特魯指着在前面約一哩路的一所寂寞屋子，說道，『就是那裏。』

『就是那裏嗎？那一堆東西只像一堆坍塌遺蹟，不像一所客店。我原以為今天晚上在一個舒服村子過夜。』

這時候披特魯信口說了一長篇可憐的話，還歎了好幾聲，凡是趕不到站的騾夫們總要說這種話的。他說道，『這樣的路！這樣的山！可憐他的牲口走乏了。腿走不動

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and then his poor animals were way-worn, and leg-weary; they would fall lame; they would never be able to reach the village. And then what could his Excellenza wish for better than the inn; a perfect castella—a palazza—and such people!—and such a larder!—and such beds!—His Excellenza might fare as sumptuously, and sleep as soundly there as a prince!”

The count was easily persuaded, for he was anxious to get his daughter out of the night air; so in a little while the old carriage rattled and jingled into the great gateway of the inn.

The building did certainly in some measure answer to¹ the muleteer's description. It was large enough for either castle or palace; built in a strong, but simple and almost rude style; with a great quantity of waste room. It had in fact been, in former times, a hunting-seat of one of the Italian princes. There was space enough within its walls and out-buildings to have accommodated a little army. A scanty household seemed now to people² this dreary mansion. The faces that presented themselves on the arrival of the travellers were begrimed with dirt, and scowling in their expression. They all knew old Pietro, however, and gave him a welcome as he entered, singing and talking, and almost whooping, into the gateway.

The hostess of the inn waited, herself, on the count and his daughter, to show them the apartments. They were conducted through a long gloomy corridor, and then through a suite of chambers opening into each other, with lofty ceilings, and great beams extending across

¹ answer to, 相符. ² to people, 居住.

了：牲口會走跛倒下來的；那就絕不能走到村子。這樣客店還不好，大人要住什麼更好的客店；這所客店是一所無美不備的堡——是一所宮殿——店裏的人是很好的！——飲食又是很好的——床鋪是很舒服的！——大人很可以飲食得很飽的，睡得很甜的，如同一個王公一樣！』

伯爵很容易相信他的話，因為他急於要他的女兒入客店，不受霜露所侵；所以不到多時，這部古老大車就進了客店的閘門。

這所房子果然有多少與驛夫所說的話相符。房子是很寬大的，夠得上一所堡砦或宮殿；蓋造得結實，不過簡單些，粗些；有許多槽塌地方的房子。這所客店其實是從前一個義大利王公的打獵的別業。圍牆裏是很寬廣的，牆外還有許多房子，足夠住一支小軍隊。這所荒涼大宅現時只有不多的人居住。客人們到店的時候，出來迎接的人們都是很髒的，面目是兇惡的。他們都認得老披特魯，當他唱着，說着，大喊着，走進來的時候，他們很歡迎他。

店主婆親身招呼伯爵與他的小姐，領他們看屋子。她領他們穿過一條黑暗的長廊，隨後穿過幾間套房，天花板很高，牆與牆之間還有大橫樑穿過。屋裏無論什麼東西

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them. Every thing, however, had a wretched, squalid look. The walls were damp and bare, excepting that here and there hung some great painting, large enough for a chapel, and blackened out of all distinction.

They chose two bedrooms, one within another; the inner one for the daughter. The bedsteads were massive and misshapen; but on examining the beds so vaunted by old Pietro, they found them stuffed with fibres of hemp knotted in great lumps. The count shrugged his shoulders, but there was no choice left.

The chilliness of the apartments crept to their bones; and they were glad to return to a common chamber or kind of hall, where was a fire burning in a huge cavern, miscalled a chimney. A quantity of green wood, just thrown on, puffed out volumes of smoke. The room corresponded to the rest of the mansion. The floor was paved and dirty. A great oaken table stood in the centre, immovable from its size and weight. The only thing that contradicted this prevalent air of indigence was the dress of the hostess. She was a slattern of course; yet her garments, though dirty and negligent, were of costly materials. She wore several rings of great value on her fingers, and jewels in her ears, and round her neck was a string of large pearls, to which was attached a sparkling crucifix. She had the remains of beauty, yet there was something in the expression of her countenance that inspired the young lady with singular aversion. She was officious and obsequious in her attentions, and both the count and his daughter felt relieved, when she consigned them to the care of the dark, sullen-looking servant-maid, and went off to superintend the supper.

Caspar was indignant at the muleteer for having,

都是破爛的，汗穢的。牆是潮溼的，牆上是光的，並無裝飾，只有這裏與那裏掛幾幅大畫，其大足可以掛在教堂裏，卻是全黑的，辨不出什麼東西。

他們挑了相通的兩間房子；裏間給小姐住。床是很大的，卻走了樣子啦；老披特魯很誇過床鋪好，他們留心一看，才曉得是用麻塞滿作褥墊的，都糾成團了。伯爵聳聳兩肩，只好將就些，挑不出更好的了。

屋裏的寒氣刺骨；他們樂於回去一座客廳，牆洞裏燒着火，店裏的人誤稱這樣的牆洞作牆爐。才把許多青綠的樹枝摔入洞裏，一陣一陣的冒煙。這間房子與這所大宅的其餘部分相稱。地板是鋪石的，卻是汗穢的。中間放了一張橡木大桌，又大又重，是不能挪動的。大宅裏全是一派寒酸氣，只有店主婆的衣服不寒酸。她自然是個不整潔的女人；但是她的衣服雖然是醜醜的，不整齊的，衣料卻是很值錢的。她的手指戴了好幾個值錢的手指，耳上戴了值錢的珠寶，頸子上掛了一串大珠，拖着一個閃光的耶穌釘十字架的像。她還有殘餘的美貌，但是伯爵小姐見了她的面貌，就特別的不喜歡她。她卻令人討厭的周旋與諂媚他們，後來她走去監督晚膳，叫一個臉黑含怒的女僕招呼他們，他們才覺得得了解放。

卡斯帕爾同驛夫生氣，因為他由於忽略或由於有意，

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either through negligence or design, subjected his master and mistress to such quarters; and vowed by his moustaches to have revenge on the old varlet the moment they were safe out from among the mountains. He kept up a continual quarrel with the sulky servant-maid, which only served to increase the sinister expression with which she regarded the travellers, from under her strong dark eyebrows.

As to the count, he was a good-humored, passive traveller. Perhaps real misfortunes had subdued his spirit, and rendered him tolerant of many of those petty evils which make prosperous men miserable. He drew a large broken armchair to the fireside for his daughter, and another for himself, and seizing an enormous pair of tongs, endeavored to rearrange the wood so as to produce a blaze. His efforts, however, were only repaid by thicker puffs of smoke, which almost overcame the good gentleman's patience. He would draw back, cast a look upon his delicate daughter, then upon the cheerless, squalid apartment, and, shrugging his shoulders, would give a fresh stir to the fire.

Of all the miseries of a comfortless inn, however, there is none greater than sulky attendance; the good count for some time bore the smoke in silence rather than address himself to the scowling servant-maid. At length he was compelled to beg for drier firewood. The woman retired muttering. On re-entering the room hastily, with an armful of fagots, her foot slipped; she fell, and striking her head against the corner of a chair, out her temple severely.

The blow stunned her for a time, and the wound bled profusely. When she recovered, she found the count's

把他的主人與小姐送到這樣地方來；他指着他的鬍子發誓，只要他們平安離開大山，他就要在這個老奴才身上報復。他不停的同那個含怒的女僕爭吵，只令她臉上更露怒容，她的黑色濃眉下的兩眼，見着旅客們，就露出惡意。

伯爵原是一個好脾氣的，隨隨便便的旅行家。也許是實在的不幸壓伏他的精神，使他忍受許多小不如意的事，若是興旺的人們受了是會難過的。他拖一張破的交椅過來，放在火爐邊給他的女兒，又拖一張給他自己，抓住一把大火鉗，嘗試重新擺好爐裏的木頭，使其發火。他雖然這樣用力，爐裏反噴出一陣一陣更濃的烟，幾乎使這個老伯爵不耐煩。他往後略退，看看他的嬌嫩女兒，隨後看看這間令人不歡的污穢房子，聳聳兩肩，又攪動爐裏的木頭。

一間不舒服的客店有種種令人難受的事，其中最難受的就是滿面怒容的僕人；這個好伯爵寧願不響的忍受爐烟一會子，也不肯對那個滿面怒容的女僕說話。後來他不能不求那個女僕拿更乾的柴來。那個女僕嘴裏叨叨的走出去。她一手夾着些乾柴，匆匆走進來，失足，跌倒在地，頭碰椅角，她的太陽傷得很重。

這一碰使她昏迷了一會，流了許多血。等到她醒轉來的時候，也看見伯爵的小姐同她裹傷，用她自己的手帕

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daughter administering to her wound, and binding it up with her own handkerchief. It was such an attention as any woman of ordinary feeling would have yielded, but perhaps there was something in the appearance of the lovely being who bent over her, or in the tones of her voice, that touched the heart of the woman, unused to be administered to by such hands. Certain it is, she was strongly affected. She caught the delicate hand of the Polonaise, and pressed it fervently to her lips.

"May San Francesco watch over you, Signora!" exclaimed she.

A new arrival broke the stillness of the inn; it was a Spanish princess with a numerous retinue. The courtyard was in an uproar, the house in a bustle. The landlady hurried to attend such distinguished guests, and the poor count and his daughter, and their supper, were for a moment forgotten. The veteran Caspar muttered Polish maledictions enough to agonize an Italian ear, but it was impossible to convince the hostess of the superiority of his old master and young mistress to the whole nobility of Spain.

The noise of the arrival had attracted the daughter to the window just as the new-comers had alighted. A young cavalier sprang out of the carriage and handed out the princess. The latter was a little shrivelled old lady, with a face of parchment and sparkling black eyes; she was richly and gayly dressed, and walked with the assistance of a golden-headed cane as high as herself. The young man was tall and elegantly formed. The count's daughter shrank back at the sight of him, though the deep frame of the window screened her from observation. She gave a heavy sigh as she closed the casement.

包起來。只要是一個有平常感覺的女人，都會這樣照應受傷的人的，女僕向來不會受過這樣的照應，心裏很爲所動，也許是在那裏低頭看着她的美貌女子臉上露出什麼來，不然就是她的聲音的腔調有點不同，所以感動她。她誠然是很受了感動。她抓住波蘭小姐的手，拉到脣邊，熱烈的吻這隻手。

她道道，『小姐，我但願聖佛蘭西士保護你。』

一幫新客人到了，打破客店的沉寂；來的是一個西班牙的王爵夫人帶了許多扈從。院子裏鬧成一片，屋裏是忙到了不得。店主婆趕快過來招呼這樣的闊客，店裏的人們暫時忘記了那個窮伯爵與他的女兒，和他們的晚餐。老卡斯帕爾嘴裏喃喃的說了許多罵人的波蘭話，足夠使義大利人聽了難受，但是這許多話卻不能使店主婆相信他的老主人與少女主比西班牙的全體貴族高貴得多。

客人到店的吵鬧聲音引這位小姐到窗口往外望，看見新到的客人們剛下車。一個少年騎士從車上跳下來，扶王爵夫人下車。這位夫人是個臉皮乾繃的老夫人，臉色像羊皮紙，兩隻黑眼睛閃光；她穿得很富麗，走路扶着一桿金頭杖，高與身齊。那個少年身材既高又是好看的。伯爵的小姐一看見他就往後退縮，其實窗架是很深的，遮得住她，使外人看不見，她用不着躲。她關了窗門，深歎一聲。

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What that sigh meant I cannot say. Perhaps it was at the contrast between the splendid equipage of the princess and the crazy rheumatic-looking old vehicle of her father, which stood hard by. Whatever might be the reason, the young lady closed the casement with a sigh. She returned to her chair,—a slight shivering passed over her delicate frame; she leaned her elbow on the arm of the chair, rested her pale cheek in the palm of her hand, and looked mournfully into the fire.

The count thought she appeared paler than usual.

“Does any thing ail thee, my child?” said he.

“Nothing, dear father!” replied she, laying her hand within his, and looking up smiling in his face; but as she said so a treacherous tear rose suddenly to her eye, and she turned away her head.

“The air of the window has chilled thee,” said the count, fondly, “but a good night’s rest will make all well again.”

The supper-table was at length laid, and the supper about to be served, when the hostess appeared, with her usual obsequiousness, apologizing for showing in the newcomers; but the night air was cold, and there was no other chamber in the inn with a fire in it. She had scarcely made the apology when the princess entered, leaning on the arm of the elegant young man.

The count immediately recognized her for a lady whom he had met frequently in society, both at Rome and Naples, and at whose *conversazione*,¹ in fact, he had been constantly invited. The cavalier, too, was her nephew and heir, who had been greatly admired in the gay circles, both for his merits and prospects, and who had once been

¹ *conversazione*, 談話會.

我不能說，她爲什麼歎氣。也許是因爲王公夫人的馬車華麗，她父親的馬車破舊走不動，停在很相近的地方，相形見劣，所以歎氣。無論她究竟是爲着什麼，這個少年女子關窗的時候歎了一聲。她回來坐下——她的嬌嫩身體輕輕的發了一陣抖；她一隻手肘靠住椅子，用掌托住她的淡白臉，很憂悶的看火。

伯爵見得她的臉色比向來淡白些。

他說道，『我的孩子，你覺得體中不適麼？』

她答道，『父親，我並無不適，』她一面把手放在父親手裏，抬頭微笑，看他父親的臉；不料當她說這句話的時候，忽然眼中含一滴不替她遮瞞的眼淚，她就掉轉她的頭。

伯爵很親愛的說道，『從窗子進來的風使你受涼，你好好的休息一夜就好了。』

後來把晚餐桌子擺好，正在快要送出晚餐的時候，店主婆走來，帶着向來的諂媚態度，說許多抱歉話，她說晚上天氣寒冷，別的屋子無火，只好把新到的客人也請進這裏來。她的話幾乎還未說完，那個王爵夫人就走進來，扶着那個美少年的手。

伯爵立刻認得她，他在羅馬與那不勒斯的社會中屢次會過她，並且她屢屢請過他到她的談話會。他又認得那個少年是她的姪子，又是她的承繼產業人，熱鬧場中的人們都很讚美他的長才與他的前程，並且有過一次，他父女

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on a visit at the same time with his daughter and himself at the villa of a nobleman near Naples. Report had recently affianced him to a rich Spanish heiress.

The meeting was agreeable to both the count and the princess. The former was a gentleman of the old school, courteous in the extreme; the princess had been a belle in her youth, and a woman of fashion all her life, and liked to be attended to.

The young man approached the daughter, and began something of a complimentary observation, but his manner was embarrassed, and his compliment ended in an indistinct murmur; while the daughter bowed without looking up, moved her lips without articulating a word, and sank again into her chair, where she sat gazing into the fire with a thousand varying expressions passing over her countenance.

This singular greeting of the young people was not perceived by the old ones, who were occupied at the time with their own courteous salutations. It was arranged that they should sup together; and as the princess travelled with her own cook, a very tolerable supper soon smoked upon the board. This, too, was assisted by choice wines, and liquors, and delicious confitures brought from one of her carriages, for she was a veteran epicure, and curious in her relish for the good things of this world. She was, in fact, a vivacious little old lady, who mingled the woman of dissipation with the devotee. She was actually on her way to Loretto to expiate a long life of gallantries¹ and peccadilloes by a rich offering at the holy shrine. She was, to be sure, rather a luxurious penitent, and a contrast to

¹ gallantries, 風流事.

二人與這個少年，同時探望住在離那不勒斯不遠一所的別業的一個貴族。他新近聽說他與一個西班牙的有錢的承斷產業的女子定婚。

現在伯爵與這位王爵夫人在這裏相會，彼此都是很高興的。伯爵是個舊派，是極其多禮的；這位夫人當少年時原是個美人，終身都是一個好在社會應酬的，所以喜歡人家招呼她。

那個少年走近伯爵的小姐，起首說幾句恭維話，態度卻是很不自然的，他的恭維話說到後來是吞吞吐吐聽不清楚的；伯爵小姐一面鞠躬，卻不抬頭，兩脣只管動，卻說不出一句話來，又倒在椅子裏，她坐在那裏兩眼看火，臉上卻有一千種不同的變態。

那兩個老人並不看見這兩個少年見面時的奇怪態度，這時候兩個老年人正在忙於彼此說客氣的歡迎話。店裏人原已布置好請他們同在一桌吃晚飯；因為這位貴夫人帶着自己的廚子旅行的，所以不久就有熱烘烘的很過得去的晚飯擺在桌上。此外還從夫人的另一部馬車上拿出許多好酒，飲料，與精緻甜食，她原是一個好飲好食的老行家，很講究嘗遍這個世界上的好東西。她其實是一個很活潑的短小老夫人，她既是一個專好吃喝頑樂的，又是一個奉教虔篤的女人。她這次是專誠往洛禮圖 (Loretto 相傳這裏有聖母當日在拿撒勒 Nazareth 的所住的房子，一二九四年安琪兒們搬運到這裏。——譯者注) 要獻許多財寶給這裏的廟，以贖她一生的風流罪過及可恕的小罪過。她誠然是一個奢華的懺悔人，與簡陋的瞻拜人不同，

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the primitive pilgrims, with scrip and staff and cockle-shell; but then it would be unreasonable to expect such self-denial from people of fashion, and there was not a doubt of the ample efficacy of the rich crucifixes, and golden vessels, and jewelled ornaments, which she was bearing to the treasury of the blessed Virgin.

The princess and the count chatted much during supper about the scenes and society in which they had mingled, and did not notice that they had all the conversation to themselves; the young people were silent and constrained. The daughter ate nothing in spite of the politeness of the princess, who continually pressed her to taste of one or other of the delicacies. The count shook his head.

"She is not well this evening," said he. "I thought she would have fainted just now as she was looking out of the window at your carriage on its arrival."

A crimson glow flushed to the very temples of the daughter; but she leaned over her plate, and her tresses cast a shade over her countenance.

When supper was over they drew their chairs about the great fireplace. The flame and smoke had subsided, and a heap of glowing embers diffused a grateful warmth. A guitar, which had been brought from the count's carriage, leaned against the wall; the princess perceived it. "Can we not have a little music before parting for the night?" demanded she.

The count was proud of his daughter's accomplishment, and joined in the request. The young man made an effort of politeness, and taking up the guitar, presented it, though in an embarrassed manner, to the fair musician. She would have declined it, but was too much confused to do so; indeed, she was so nervous and agitated that she

這樣的瞻拜人隨身只帶着一個小袋，一根拐杖，與一片海扇殼子(帽子上放一片這樣的殼子，以表示曾到某廟裏瞻拜過，且可以治邪。——譯者注)；但是我們無理由能夠希望這樣熱鬧場中人會這樣克己，況且她帶去供獻與聖母的貴重的釘在十字架的耶穌像，黃金器皿，有珠寶的裝飾品，也會很有效力，這是無疑的了。(譏刺得很有趣。——譯者注)

當吃晚飯的時候，這位王爵夫人與伯爵談了許多話，談他們從前所同見的情景，與所同在的社會，卻不留意他們兩個人獨享談話的權利，那兩個少年都不開口，且覺得很不安的。王爵夫人只管很客氣的勸小姐吃，小姐卻什麼都不吃。伯爵搖頭。

他說道，『今晚她不舒服。當你的馬車走到這裏，她從窗口往外看的時候，我以爲她會暈倒的。』

小姐滿面通紅，紅到兩太陽；但是她的身子往前靠，頭在碟子上，她的頭髮就遮住她的臉。

他們吃完晚飯，把椅子拖到火爐邊。火焰與烟都冒完了，只剩一堆發亮的炭，散布令人舒服的煖氣。有一個六絃琴是從伯爵的馬車裏取出來的，靠在牆邊；王爵夫人看見。她問道，『當我們未分手各去安歇之前，不可以奏點音樂麼？』

伯爵很以他的女兒善於音樂爲榮，他要他的女兒奏樂。那個美少年很努力做客氣事，把琴拿起來，送與美貌的音樂家，他的態度卻是很不自然的。她本來想婉拒的，但是她現在很糊塗了，不曉得婉拒；其實她的神經很受了

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dared not trust her voice to make an excuse. She touched the instrument with a faltering hand, and, after precluding a little, accompanied herself in several Polish airs. Her father's eyes glistened as he sat gazing on her. Even the crusty Caspar lingered in the room, partly through a fondness for the music of his native country, but chiefly through his pride in the musician. Indeed, the melody of the voice, and the delicacy of the touch, were enough to have charmed more fastidious ears. The little princess nodded her head and tapped her hand to the music, though exceedingly out of time; while the nephew sat buried in profound contemplation of a black picture on the opposite wall.

"And now," said the count, patting her cheek fondly, "one more favor. Let the princess hear that little Spanish air you were so fond of. You can't think," added he, "what a proficiency she has made in your language; though she has been a sad girl, and neglected it of late."

The color flushed the pale cheek of the daughter. She hesitated, murmured something; but with sudden effort collected herself, struck the guitar boldly, and began. It was a Spanish romance, with something of love and melancholy in it. She gave the first stanza with great expression, for the tremulous, melting tones of her voice went to the heart; but her articulation failed, her lips quivered, the song died away, and she burst into tears.

The count folded her tenderly in his arms. "Thou art not well, my child," said he, "and I am tasking thee cruelly. Retire to thy chamber, and God bless thee!" She bowed to the company without raising her eyes, and glided out of the room.

驚擾，不敢相信她的聲音說籍口不彈琴的話。她手抖抖的彈琴，她先彈了一點開場，就自彈自唱幾支波蘭調。她的父親兩眼一面看她，一面樂到兩眼閃光。連那個粗野的卡斯帕爾也在屋裏徘徊不忍去，有一小部分的理由是因為他喜歡聽本國的音樂，大部分的理由卻因為他以這位小姐善於音樂為榮。她的聲音悠揚，她的手法精妙，其實足以迷了比卡斯帕爾更知音的兩耳。王爵夫人在那裏點頭，隨着音樂用手拍桌子。可惜拍得太過不合音節；當下她的姪子坐在那裏，注視對牆的一幅黑畫。

伯爵很親愛的拍拍他女兒的臉說道，『你再彈再唱一調。你把你所最喜歡的西班牙曲子彈唱與王爵夫人聽聽。』他隨即對夫人說道，『我的女兒雖然是一個憂悶的女子，新近又荒疎了她的西班牙文，你想不到她那樣精通西班牙文。』

她女兒的淡白臉變作通紅了。她遲疑一會，吞吞吐吐的說些什麼話；但是她忽然掙扎，鎮定她自己，很放胆的彈琴，就起首彈唱啦。她所彈唱的是一段西班牙的故事，內中有點愛情，有點愁悶。她所彈唱的第一章詩很能表情，因為她的抖抖的，能感動人的腔調能夠直入人心；但是她說不出字句來，她的兩唇抖動，隨後她唱不成聲，眼淚滾滾的流出來。（文章亦真能動人。——譯者註）

伯爵很親愛的抱住她。他說道，『我的孩子，你不好過，我太難為你了。你回房去，上帝保佑你！』她並不舉目，對衆人鞠鞠躬，就溜出去了。

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The count shook his head as the door closed. "Something is the matter with that child," said he, "which I cannot divine. She has lost all health and spirits lately. She was always a tender flower, and I had much pains to rear her. Excuse a father's foolishness," continued he, "but I have seen much trouble in my family; and this poor girl is all that is now left to me; and she used to be so lively——"

"Maybe she's in love!" said the little princess, with a shrewd nod of the head.

"Impossible!" replied the good count, artlessly. "She has never mentioned a word of such a thing to me."

How little did the worthy gentleman dream of the thousand cares, and griefs, and mighty love concerns which agitate a virgin heart, and which a timid girl scarcely breathes unto herself.

The nephew of the princess rose abruptly and walked about the room.

When she found herself alone in her chamber, the feelings of the young lady, so long restrained, broke forth with violence. She opened the casement that the cool air might blow upon her throbbing temples. Perhaps there was some little pride or pique mingled with her emotions; though her gentle nature did not seem calculated to harbor any such angry inmate.

"He saw me weep!" said she, with a sudden mantling of the cheek, and a swelling of the throat,—“but no matter!—no matter!”

And so saying, she threw her white arms across the window-frame, buried her face in them, and abandoned herself to an agony of tears. She remained lost in a reverie, until the sound of her father's and Caspar's voices

當堂屋門關了的時候，伯爵搖搖頭。他說道，『這個孩子有什麼事，我猜不出來。她新近失了全數的健康與興致。她向來是一朵嬌嫩的花，我曾費了許多事培養她。我請你勿怪一個爲父的傻氣，我卻親眼見過我家中的許多患難；我現在只有這個女兒了；她一向是很活潑的——』

小個子王爵夫人點點頭，表示她的精明，說道，『也許她戀愛什麼人！』

這個好伯爵老老實實的答道，『不能！她始終不會對我露過一字，說她戀愛什麼人。』

其能擾動一個閨女的心，與一個胆怯女子幾乎不肯對自己說的，何止有一千種的憂慮，及與愛情相關極重大的事，可惜這個老實伯爵卻不會夢想到。

王爵夫人的姪子忽然站起來，在屋裏走來走去。

當這個少年女子到了她自己的屋子裏的時候，她所壓制許久的感情，就很猛烈的湧將出來。她打開窗子，使冷氣吹她的亂跳的兩邊太陽。也許還有一點傲氣或怨恨，與她的情緒夾雜在一起；她的溫柔性情卻好像不容有這樣憤怒的。

她忽然滿面通紅，喉嚨漲大，說道，『他看見我啼哭！——不要緊！——不要緊！』

她一面說一面伸出她的兩隻白膀子放在窗架上，兩手握住她的臉縱情大哭。她就是這樣失神，如在夢中一般，後來她聽見她父親的聲音與卡斯帕爾的聲音在隔壁

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in the adjoining room gave token that the party had retired for the night. The lights gleaming from window to window showed that they were conducting the princess to her apartments, which were in the opposite wing of the inn; and she distinctly saw the figure of the nephew as he passed one of the casements.

She heaved a deep, hard-drawn sigh, and was about to close the lattice, when her attention was caught by words spoken below her window by two persons who had just turned an angle of the building.

“But what will become of the poor young lady?” said a voice, which she recognized for that of the servant-woman.

“Pooh! she must take her chance,” was the reply from old Pietro.

“But cannot she be spared?” asked the other, entreatingly; “she’s so kind-hearted!”

“Cospetto!¹ what has got into thee?” replied the other, petulantly; “would you mar the whole business for the sake of a silly girl?” By this time they had got so far from the window that the Polonaise could hear nothing further. There was something in this fragment of conversation calculated to alarm. Did it relate to herself?—and if so, what was this impending danger from which it was entreated that she might be spared? She was several times on the point of tapping at her father’s door, to tell him what she had heard, but she might have been mistaken; she might have heard indistinctly; the conversation might have alluded to some one else; at any rate, it was too indefinite to lead to any conclusion. While in this

¹ cospetto! [ɔ] zounds!

屋子裏，這才曉得人們都去安息了。她看見有燈光在接連幾個窗子走過，就曉得他們領王爵夫人到她的屋裏，這是在客店裏對過的那一排；她還很清楚的看見夫人的姪子的影子在一個窗子邊走過。

她深深的歎了一口氣，是很費事才歎出來的，她正在要關格子窗的時候，聽見窗下有兩個人說話聲音，他們是剛從房子的一角轉過來的。

她聽見一個人說道，『那個可憐的小姐怎麼樣呢？』她認得這是那個女僕的聲音。

老披特魯說道，『她算什麼！隨她與衆人同死吧。』

那一個苦苦的哀求道，『她是個心地很慈祥的人，還不能饒了她麼？』

那一個帶着怒意答道，『噍！你心裏想什麼啦？難道你因為一個傻女子就破壞了全局麼？』到了這個時候那兩個人走到離窗子很遠的地方，這個波蘭女子聽不見他們再說什麼了。她所聽見的零碎談話，使她恐怖。難道他們所說的女子就是她自己麼？——倘若是的，女僕苦勸他饒了她，不使受危險，這樣就在眼前的危險究竟是什麼？她有好幾次要敲她父親的房門，把她所聽見的話告訴他，但是她一想也許是她聽錯了；也許是她聽得不清楚；也許那兩個人所談的不是她自己；無論怎麼樣，她所聽說的話太過空泛，不能得着什麼結論。她正在遲疑不決的時

state of irresolution, she was startled by a low knock against the wainscot in a remote part of her gloomy chamber. On holding up the light, she beheld a small door there, which she had not before remarked. It was bolted on the inside. She advanced, and demanded who knocked, and was answered in the voice of the female domestic. On opening the door, the woman stood before it pale and agitated. She entered softly, laying her finger on her lips in sign of caution and secrecy.

"Fly!" said she: "leave this house instantly, or you are lost!"

The young lady, trembling with alarm, demanded an explanation.

"I have no time," replied the woman, "I dare not—I shall be missed if I linger here—but fly instantly, or you are lost."

"And leave my father?"

"Where is he?"

"In the adjoining chamber."

"Call him, then, but lose no time."

The young lady knocked at her father's door. He was not yet retired to bed. She hurried into his room, and told him of the fearful warnings she had received. The count returned with her into the chamber, followed by Caspar. His questions soon drew the truth out of the embarrassed answers of the woman. The inn was beset by robbers. They were to be introduced after midnight, when the attendants of the princess and the rest of the travellers were sleeping, and would be an easy prey.

"But we can barricade the inn, we can defend ourselves," said the count.

候，忽然聽見有人輕輕的敲她所住的黑暗臥室的遠遠的護牆，她嚇了一跳。她舉燈看看，就看見那裏原有一道小門，是她從前所未曾留意的。這道邊門是在裏頭上門的。她走上前，問誰敲門，外面答應的是女僕聲音。她開門，看見女僕站在門外，臉無人色，很有驚惶神氣。她用輕輕的脚步走進來，一隻手指放在唇上，表示小心祕密的意思。

她說道，『你趕快逃走，你立刻離開這所客店，不然你的性命難保！』

這位小姐恐怖到發抖，要女僕解說。

那個女人說道，『我沒得工夫解說，我又不肯解說——我若逗留在這裏，他們是要找我的——你立刻逃走，不然，你的性命難保。』

『難道我捨我的父親獨自逃走麼？』

『他在那裏？』

『在隔壁臥室。』

『既是這樣，你去喊醒他，卻不要耽誤。』

小姐就敲她父親的房門。原來他還未上床睡。她急忙走進他的屋子，把她所得的可怕警報告訴他。伯爵同她回到她的臥室，卡斯帕爾跟進來。他問女僕幾句話，立刻使女僕吞吞吐吐的把真情吐露出來。原來是強盜們圍住客店。等到王爵夫人的從人們及其餘的客人們都睡了的時候，在夜半後強盜進來，客人們就很容易的做了強盜們的犧牲。

伯爵說道，『但是我們能夠堵住客店大門，我們能夠保護我們自己。』

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“What! when the people of the inn are in league with the banditti?”

“How then are we to escape? Can we not order out the carriage and depart?”

“San Francesco! for what? to give the alarm that the plot is discovered? That would make the robbers desperate and bring them on you at once. They have had notice of the rich booty in the inn, and will not easily let it escape them.”

“But how else are we to get off?”

“There is a horse behind the inn,” said the woman, “from which the man has just dismounted who has been to summon the aid of part of the band at a distance.”

“One horse; and there are three of us!” said the count.

“And the Spanish princess!” cried the daughter, anxiously. “How can she be extricated from the danger?”

“Diavolo! what is she to me?” said the woman, in sudden passion. “It is *you* I come to save, and you will betray me, and we shall all be lost! Hark!” continued she, “I am called—I shall be discovered—one word more. This door leads by a staircase to the courtyard. Under the shed, in the rear of the yard, is a small door leading out to the fields. You will find a horse there; mount it; make a circuit under the shadow of a ridge of rocks that you will see; proceed cautiously and quietly until you cross a brook, and find yourself on the road just where there are three white crosses nailed against a tree; then put your horse to his speed, and make the best of your way to the village—but recollect, my life is in your hands—say nothing of what you have heard or seen, whatever may happen at this inn.”

女僕說道，『什麼呀？客店的人與強盜們串通，你們能夠作什麼呀？』

『我們怎樣能夠脫逃呀？我們不能吩咐備好馬車逃走麼？』

『聖佛蘭西斯！備車輛幹什麼？你要警告強盜們，說你們窺破他們的計劃麼？這不過使強盜們拚命，他們立刻要動你的手。他們已經得了消息，知道客店裏有很值錢的東西，是不肯容易放手讓寶物脫逃的。』

『既是不能，我們怎樣逃走呀？』

女僕說道，『客店後面有一匹馬。先前曾打發一個人騎馬去遠處，求助於那裏的一羣強盜，這個人才回來，下了馬，就是這匹馬。』

伯爵說道，『只有一匹馬，我們卻有三個人！』

小姐很着急的說道，『還有那位西班牙王爵夫人哩！我們怎樣能夠拔她出險呀？』

女僕忽然發怒說道，『魔鬼！我與她有什麼相干？我所以來報警，原爲的是救你，你卻要陷害我，我們全要失敗啦！你聽呀！他們喊我啦——他們會看破我報信啦——我還要說一句話。從這道小門出去就是樓梯，下樓就可以走進院子。院子後有一個棚，棚下有小門，出了小門就是田野。那裏就有一匹馬；騎上馬；你們會看見一堆山石，你們繞着山石的黑影走；你們必要小心的快走，走到一條小溪，過溪就是大路，那裏有三個白十字架釘在樹上；你們拍馬，快跑，跑到村子——你們卻要記得，我的性命在你們手上——無論客店可以發生什麼事，你們切勿說看見什麼，或聽見什麼。』

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The woman hurried away. A short and agitated consultation took place between the count, his daughter, and the veteran Caspar. The young lady seemed to have lost all apprehension for herself in her solicitude for the safety of the princess. "To fly in selfish silence, and leave her to be massacred!"—A shuddering seized her at the very thought. The gallantry of the count, too, revolted at the idea. He could not consent to turn his back upon a party of helpless travellers, and leave them in ignorance of the danger which hung over them.

"But what is to become of the young lady," said Caspar, "if the alarm is given, and the inn thrown in a tumult? What may happen to her in a chance-medley affray?"

Here the feelings of the father were aroused; he looked upon his lovely, helpless child, and trembled at the chance of her falling into the hands of ruffians.

The daughter, however, thought nothing of herself. "The princess! the princess!—only let the princess know her danger." She was willing to share it with her.

At length Caspar interfered with the zeal of a faithful old servant. No time was to be lost—the first thing was to get the young lady out of danger. "Mount the horse," said he to the count, "take her behind you, and fly! Make for the village, rouse the inhabitants, and send assistance. Leave me here to give the alarm to the princess and her people. I am an old soldier, and I think we shall be able to stand siege until you send us aid."

The daughter would again have insisted on staying with the princess——

"For what!" said old Caspar, bluntly. "You could do no good—you would be in the way;—we should have to take care of you instead of ourselves."

女僕趕快走了。伯爵父女二人及老兵卡斯帕爾都受了驚擾，商量了一會子。小姐因為要救王爵夫人好像全把她自己忘了。『只顧爲己，一聲不響的就逃走，留下王爵夫人受強盜們屠殺！』——她一想到這裏就渾身發抖。伯爵是一個以拯危扶弱自命的英雄，也反對這樣的思想。他不肯撇開一羣無助的旅客就逃走，使他們不曉得眼前就有危險。

卡斯帕爾說道，『我們若報警，使客店大鬧起來，小姐怎麼樣呢？在客店裏亂打起來，我們怎樣能料小姐會受什麼危險呀？』

這兩句話激動伯爵愛女之情啦；他看看他的美貌無助的女兒，一想到她會落在強人之手，就渾身發抖。

小姐卻並不爲自己想。她說道，『王爵夫人！王爵夫人！——只要讓夫人曉得她的危險。』她願意與夫人分受危險。

後來卡斯帕爾用一個忠義老僕的熱心從中干預。現在是一刻都不能耽誤的了——第一件先要送小姐出險。他對伯爵說道，『你騎馬，小姐坐在你背後，你們就逃命！你們逃到村子，驚醒村人，派人來救。留下我在這裏警告王爵夫人與她的隨從。我是一個老軍人，我想我們能夠堅守到派救兵來。』

小姐原要再說她必定同王爵夫人在一起——

老卡斯帕爾很坦率的說道，『這是爲什麼！你不能做什麼事——你只會礙手礙腳；——我們就不能照應我們自己，只好照應你。』

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There was no answering these objections; the count seized his pistols, and taking his daughter under his arm, moved towards the staircase. The young lady paused, stepped back, and said, faltering with agitation—"There is a young cavalier with the princess—her nephew—perhaps he may——"

"I understand you, Mademoiselle," replied old Caspar, with a significant nod; "not a hair of his head shall suffer harm if I can help it."

The young lady blushed deeper than ever; she had not anticipated being so thoroughly understood by the blunt old servant.

"That is not what I mean," said she, hesitating. She would have added something, or made some explanation, but the moments were precious, and her father hurried her away.

They found their way through the courtyard to the small postern gate where the horse stood, fastened to a ring in the wall. The count mounted, took his daughter behind him, and they proceeded as quietly as possible in the direction which the woman had pointed out. Many a fearful and anxious look did the daughter cast back upon the gloomy pile; the lights which had feebly twinkled through the dusky casements were one by one disappearing, a sign that the inmates were gradually sinking to repose; and she trembled with impatience, lest succor should not arrive until that repose had been fatally interrupted.

They passed silently and safely along the skirts of the rocks, protected from observation by their overhanging shadows. They crossed the brook, and reached the place where three white crosses nailed against a tree told of some murder that had been committed there. Just as

小姐駁不倒他這兩句反對的話；伯爵一手抓住兩把手槍，一手夾住他的女兒的膀子，就向樓梯走。小姐停下來，回頭踏步，她很受了擾動，吞吞吐吐的說道，『有一個少年壯士同王爵夫人在一起——他是她的姪兒——也許他可以——』

卡斯帕爾點頭表示會意，答道，『小姐，我明白你的意思，倘若我能夠做得到，我絕不讓強盜傷害他一根頭髮。』（畢竟還是老僕聰明，曉得小姐意在那個美貌少年。——譯者註）

小姐面上變作更紅；她原不會料到這個坦率老僕曉得她的意思這樣深透。

她遲疑着說道，『這不是我的意思。』她原想再說幾句話，或說兩句解說話，但是時光要緊，她的父親催她趕快走。

他們果然找着路穿過院子走到小後門，那裏果然有一匹馬，綁在牆上的一個環。伯爵上馬，把他女兒放在背後。他們就靜悄悄的前進，向女僕所指示的方向走。小姐很害怕很着急的屢次回頭看看那所黑暗房子；從黑暗窗子射出來的微光陸續滅了，這就表示店裏的人逐漸睡了；她因為着急，渾身發抖，惟恐救兵未到，他們的休息先受了阻攔。

他們靜靜的沿着山石的脚下，平安走過，山石的影遮住他們，沒得人看見。他們渡過山溪，走到釘了三個白十字架的那棵樹，這是表示這裏有人犯過殺人的罪惡。他們

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they had reached this ill-omened spot they beheld several men in the gloom coming down a craggy defile among the rocks.

“Who goes there?” exclaimed a voice. The count put spurs to his horse, but one of the men sprang forward and seized the bridle. The horse started back, and reared; and had not the young lady clung to her father, she would have been thrown off. The count leaned forward, put a pistol to the very head of the ruffian, and fired. The latter fell dead. The horse sprang forward. Two or three shots were fired, which whistled by the fugitives, but only served to augment their speed. They reached the village in safety.

The whole place was soon roused; but such was the awe in which the banditti were held, that the inhabitants shrunk at the idea of encountering them. A desperate band had for some time infested that pass through the mountains, and the inn had long been suspected of being one of those horrible places where the unsuspecting wayfarer is entrapped and silently disposed of. The rich ornaments worn by the slattern hostess of the inn had excited heavy suspicions. Several instances had occurred of small parties of travellers disappearing mysteriously on that road, who, it was supposed at first, had been carried off by the robbers for the purpose of ransom, but who had never been heard of more. Such were the tales buzzed in the ears of the count by the villagers, as he endeavored to rouse them to the rescue of the princess and her train from their perilous situation. The daughter seconded the exertions of her father with all the eloquence of prayers, and tears, and beauty. Every moment that elapsed increased her anxiety, until it became agonizing.

剛好走到這個不祥的地點，就看見黑暗中有幾個人，在山石中的一條崎嶇的山隘走下來。

有一個人喊道，「來的是誰？」伯爵拍馬上前，不料有一個人跳過來抓住馬韁。這匹馬往後跳，昂起後身，假使小姐不是緊緊的抱住她父親，她是會摔下馬來的。伯爵身子向前倚，把手槍放在惡棍頭上，就放槍。那個人倒地，死了。馬向前跳。對面放兩三槍，槍子在逃命的人們身邊呼呼飛過，並無什麼效果，只催他們加快的逃走。他們平安到了村子。

全村子的人不久都起來；但是他們是很怕強盜的，一聽見要他們出去同強盜對敵，他們就畏縮不前。有一夥肯拚命的強盜盤踞這個山隘許久了，人們久已疑心這所客店是一個可怕的地方，不疑心的客人們落了圈套，無聲無響的就被人謀害了。穿得不整潔的店主婆身上所戴的價值首飾很令人疑心。有過好幾次，人數不多的好幾隊的行客們，不知怎樣就在路上失蹤了，原先人們猜度行客們被強盜擄走勒贖，始終杳無消息。當伯爵極力激動村人們前去打救伯爵夫人與她的隨從們出險的時候，村人就是這樣在伯爵的耳朵邊轟轟的說這番話。小姐幫她的父親，也在那裏用她的哀求，眼淚，及美貌，激動他們。越延遲越使她着急。後來她變作心痛難忍。好在有一隊執械巡警歇在

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Fortunately there was a body of gendarmes resting at the village. A number of the young villagers volunteered to accompany them, and the little army was put in motion. The count having deposited his daughter in a place of safety, was too much of the old soldier not to hasten to the scene of danger. It would be difficult to paint the anxious agitation of the young lady while awaiting the result.

The party arrived at the inn just in time. The robbers, finding their plans discovered, and the travellers prepared for their reception, had become open and furious in their attack. The princess's party had barricaded themselves in one suite of apartments, and repulsed the robbers from the doors and windows. Caspar had shown the generalship of a veteran, and the nephew of the princess the dashing valor of a young soldier. Their ammunition, however, was nearly exhausted, and they would have found it difficult to hold out much longer, when a discharge from the musketry of the gendarmes gave them the joyful tidings of succor.

A fierce fight ensued, for part of the robbers were surprised in the inn, and had to stand siege in their turn; while their comrades made desperate attempts to relieve them from under cover of the neighboring rocks and thickets.

I cannot pretend to give a minute account of the fight, as I have heard it related in a variety of ways. Suffice it to say, the robbers were defeated, several of them killed, and several taken prisoners, which last, together with the people of the inn, were either executed or sent to the galleys.

村裏。有幾個少年鄉下人願意陪他們，於是這一小队人就向前走，伯爵先把他的女兒安置在一個安穩地方，他原是一個老軍人，不肯不趕快走入險地。當這位小姐在那裏等候結果的時候，她的擾亂不寧的情狀是筆墨所難以形容的。

這一隊人走到客店，正是時候，強盜們曉得他們的計劃被人窺破，客人們預備對付他們，就公然發狂怒的攻打客人們。王爵夫人的一幫人已經在相通的套間房子堆了許多東西以作守禦，從門口及窗口打退強盜們。卡斯帕爾顯出一個老將的軍略，王爵夫人的姪子顯出一個少年軍人的奮激的勇敢。（讀者宜注意原文是對仗很工的偶句，用老將的謀反襯少年的勇。——譯者註）但是他們的子彈幾乎用完了，假使不是執械的巡警放槍，給他們救兵到來的好消息，他們就會見得難以再堅守幾時。

兩方隨即很兇猛的奮鬥，因為有一部分的強盜在客店裏被襲，輪到他們反攻為守；同時他們的同夥拚命的奮鬥，嘗試救這一部分躲在附近的山石與樹林的強盜。

我聽見好幾個人告訴我這場奮鬥，各人的說話不同，我不能說詳細情形究竟是什麼樣。總而言之，強盜大敗，有幾個被殺，有幾個被擒，被擒的與客店的人們，有正法的，有解去做苦工的。

〔後來不久伯爵小姐與王爵夫人的姪子結婚。——譯者註〕



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英漢對照名家小說選
旅客所說的故事

Tales of A Traveller

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