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Before You Read

The characters from *Dracula* are going to introduce themselves. Please greet them with a warm welcome.



Dracula

For centuries¹, I have lived in the dark in my Transylvania castle². The villagers³ all around know me and fear me. It's time to travel to a new land where the people do not know me.

Therefore, I have sent for⁴ a young real estate⁵ lawyer⁶ from London. He will help me prepare to move there, but he will never leave my castle! Haha!

Jonathan Harker

I am a young lawyer in the real estate business. My boss has sent me to Transylvania to serve a very wealthy client named Count Dracula. This count⁷ wants to buy a property⁸ in London,



and he has very specific needs. I must leave my beautiful fiancee⁹, Mina, to attend to¹⁰ this business. When I return after several weeks, we will get married.

- 1. century ['sentʃəri] (n.) 世紀
- 2. castle ['kæsəl] (n.) 城堡
- 3. villager ['vɪlɪdʒər] (n.) 村民
- 4. send for 派人去叫
- 5. real estate 房地產

- 6. lawyer ['lɔːjər] (n.) 律師
- 7. count [kaunt] (n.) 伯爵
- 8. property ['pra:pərti] (n.) 財產
- 9. fiancee [ˌfiːoːnˈseɪ] (n.) 未婚妻
- 10. attend to 關心;注意

Mina

My darling¹¹ Jonathan has been called away¹² on business to a strange country I have never heard of. I do hope he will be safe! When he returns, we will marry! For now, I will help my best friend, Lucy, prepare for her own wedding to a nice English gentleman.

Arthur Holmwood

I am a wealthy English gentleman who has an estate¹³ in London. I am to¹⁴ be married soon, to a beautiful young lady named¹⁵ Lucy. However, she has fallen seriously ill. I would do anything to help her!



Van Helsing

I am a professor¹⁶ and doctor who lives in Amsterdam. I specialize in¹⁷ strange illnesses. One of my former students, Dr. John Seward has called me to London to help care for a sick young woman. I wonder what has happened to this young lady.

- 11. darling ['doːrlɪŋ] (a.) 親愛的
- 12. call away 叫走
- 13. estate [I'steIt] (n.) 資產
- 14. be + to 即將

- 15. name [neɪm] (v.) 名為;叫做
- 16. professor [prə'fesər] (n.) 教授
- 17. specialize in 專攻

CHAPTER ONE





_Journey¹ to Transylvania

In early 1897, the London lawyer² Jonathan Harker traveled from London to Transylvania to meet a client³ named Count Dracula. Harker worked in real estate⁴; the count wanted to buy

some property⁵ in London. This is Harker's journal⁶:

3 May

Count Dracula told me to stay at the Golden Krone Hotel in Bistritz. This is a scenic⁷ town in the shadow of the Carpathian Mountains. As soon as I arrived, the innkeeper's⁸ wife gave me a letter.

It read,

- 1. journey ['dʒɜːrni] (n.) 旅程
- 2. lawyer ['lɔːjər] (n.) 律師
- 3. client ['klaɪənt] (n.) 客戶
- 4. real estate 房地產

- 5. property ['prɑːpərti] (n.) 財產;產業
- 6. journal ['dʒɜːrnəl] (n.) 日誌
- 7. scenic ['siːmɪk] (a.) 風景秀麗的



4 May

When I asked the innkeeper about the Count, he acted strangely. Before, he understood my basic German well. But when I asked about Dracula, he told me he didn't understand. He and his wife gave each other frightened¹¹ looks. Finally, after I kept asking¹², they told me that they knew nothing. Then they made the sign¹³ of the cross. This was all very odd¹⁴.

- 8. innkeeper ['ɪnˌkiːpər] (n.) 旅館主人
- 9. coach [kout]] (n.) 馬車
- 10. reserve [rɪ'zɜːrv] (v.) 預約
- 11. frightened ['fraitnd] (a.) 驚恐的
- 12. keep V-ing 持續地做某事
- 13. sign [saɪn] (n.) 手勢;符號
- 14. odd [aːd] (a.) 詭異的;奇特的

Just as I had finished packing my suitcase for the trip, the old lady nervously came into my room.

"Young Herr², do you really have to go?" she asked.

I replied I had to go, as it was business. She asked me if I really knew where and what I was going to do. Finally, she got on her knees and begged me not to go. "What silliness³," I thought. I helped her stand up and told her firmly⁴ that it was my business to go, and nothing could interfere⁵ with that. She wiped⁶ tears from her eyes. Then she took off the



- 1. pack [pæk] (v.) 打包
- 2. Herr [hɛːr] (n.) 先生
- 3. silliness ['sɪlinɪs] (n.) 愚蠢
- 4. firmly ['fɜːɪmli] (adv.) 堅定地
- 5. interfere [Intər'fir] (v.) 妨礙;干涉
- 6. wipe [waɪp] (v.) 擦拭
- 7. crucifix ['kruːsɪfɪks] (n.) 十字架

- 8. for one's sake 為了……的緣故
- 9. townspeople ['taʊnzpiːpəl] (n.) 鎮民
- 10. Satan ['seɪtn] (n.) 撒旦; 魔鬼
- 11. vampire ['væmpaɪr] (n.) 吸血鬼
- 12. quaint [kweɪnt] (a.) 古怪的
- 13. superstition [ˌsuːpər'stɪʃən] (n.) 迷信



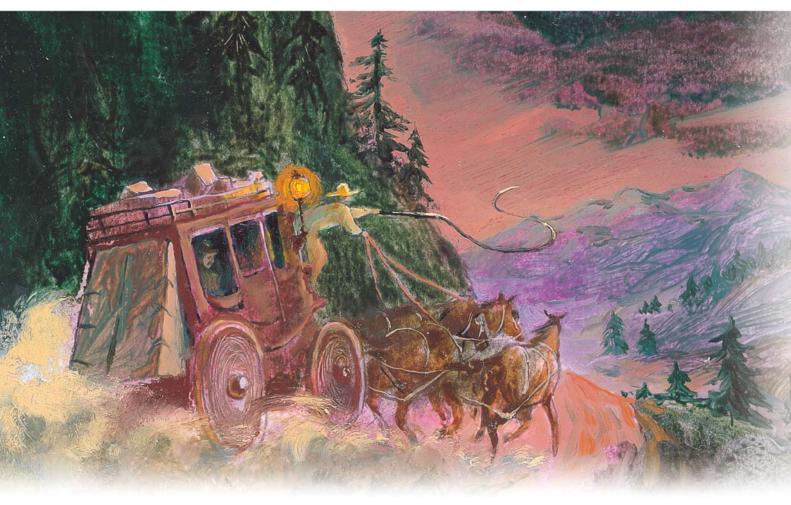
crucifix⁷ that hung around her neck and put it around my neck.

"For your mother's sake," she said before leaving my room.

I am writing this as I wait for the coach. There are many townspeople⁹ around the inn talking about me. I looked up in my dictionary the few words I could catch. If I am right, these words are "Ordog," which means Satan¹⁰, and "vrolok," which means something that is either wolf or vampire¹¹. These are quaint¹² superstitions¹³.

Here comes the coach now. Better late than never!

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5 May

I am at Count Dracula's castle¹ now. The journey took many hours, and it was a strange one.

We soon left the inn behind and entered a wild and beautiful countryside. Before us lay a green sloping² land full of forests and woods, with steep³ hills to the right and left. The afternoon sun brought out all the glorious⁴ colors of this

- 1. castle ['kæsəl] (n.) 城堡
- 2. sloping ['slɑːpɪŋ] (a.) 坡度的;斜的
- 3. steep [stiːp] (a.) 陡峭的
- 4. glorious ['gləːriəs] (a.) 壯麗的;極好的
- 5. sink [sɪŋk] (v.) 沉沒

- 6. passenger ['pæsɪndʒər] (n.) 乘客
- 7. urge [3:rd3] (v.) 催促
- 8. lash [læʃ] (v.) 鞭打
- 9. unmercifully [ʌn'mɜːrsɪfəli] (adv.) 冷酷地;無情地
- 10. whip [wɪp] (n.) 鞭子

beautiful range.

Soon the sun sank⁵ low behind us. At dark, the passengers⁶ became excited, and it seemed they were urging⁷ the driver to go faster. He lashed⁸ the horses unmercifully⁹ with his long whip¹⁰ to pick up their speed¹¹. Then the mountains closed in on either side. We were entering the Borgo Pass.

It was obvious¹² that something very exciting was expected, but though I asked each passenger, no one would give me the slightest¹³ explanation¹⁴. I was looking for a driver who would take me to the Count. I expected to see lamps through the blackness¹⁵, but all was dark.

I was thinking about what I was going to do when the driver, looking at his watch, said, "There is no coach waiting for you here. Perhaps the Count does not expect you after all¹⁶. You should come on to Bukovina and return tomorrow or the next day, or even better, the day after that."

^{11.} pick up one's speed 加速

^{12.} obvious ['aːbviəs] (a.) 明顯的

^{13.} slightest ['slaɪtɪst] (a.) 最不重要的

^{14.} explanation [ˌeksplə'neɪʃən] (n.) 解釋

^{15.} blackness ['blæknɪs] (n.) 黑暗

^{16.} after all 到底;結果

But no sooner had he spoken these words than another coach came up from behind us. This caused our horses to become agitated¹, and my fellow passengers all shouted and made the sign of the cross. Four beautiful horses pulled the new coach alongside² our own. The driver was a tall man with a long brown beard³. A large black hat hid his face from view⁴, but his eyes seemed to glow⁵ red in the light of our lamps.



- 1. agitate ['ædʒɪteɪt] (v.) 使激動;使焦慮
- 2. alongside [ə'lɔːŋ'saɪd] (adv.) 與······並排
- 3. beard [bird] (n.) 鬍鬚
- 4. view [vjuː] (n.) 視野 ; 觀察
- 5. glow [glou] (v.) 發光;發紅
- 6. stammer ['stæmər] (v.) 結巴地説
- 7. suppose [sə'poʊz] (v.) 猜想;認為
- 8. deceive [dɪ'siːv] (v.) 欺騙;蒙蔽

- 9. swift [swift] (a.) 快速的
- 10. reveal [rɪ'viːl] (v.) 暴露;顯露
- 11. hand out 分給
- 12. leap [liːp] (v.) 跳躍 (leap-leapt-leapt)
- 13. grip [grɪp] (n.) 緊握, 夾住
- 14. rein [reɪn] (n.) 韁繩
- 15. lurch [lɜːrtʃ] (v.) 搖晃; 蹣跚
- 16. hurtle ['hs:rtl] (v.) 猛衝; 飛馳