

《月球之旅》

1 月光下

引子

宾夕法尼亚蛙溪镇夏日的一天，在树林里出现了一间神秘的树屋。

八岁的杰克和他七岁的妹妹安妮，爬上了树屋。他们发现里面装满了书。

杰克和安妮不久就发现了树屋是有魔法的。它能把他们带到书里的地方。只要他们指着书中的一幅图并许愿，树屋就会带他们去那儿。

杰克和安妮已经去过了恐龙的时代、骑士的时代、埃及王后的时代、海盗的时代、日本忍者的时代，还深入了亚马孙雨林。

沿途他们发现，这个树屋属于一个叫摩根·拉菲的人。摩根是亚瑟王时代里的一个会魔法的图书管理员。她可以在时间与空间中任意地穿梭，为她的图书馆收集图书。

一天，杰克和安妮发现了一张纸条，说摩根中了魔咒。于是他们立刻坐着神奇树屋出发，去寻找能够解救摩根的四样特殊的東西。

在一只名叫“花生”的老鼠的帮助下，杰克和安妮在古代的日本找到了第一样东西，在亚马孙的雨林里找到了第二样，又在冰河时代发现了第三样东西。

现在，杰克、安妮和花生又准备去寻找那最后的一样东西了……就在《月球之旅》的故事中。

1 月光下

“杰克！”一个声音轻声说。

杰克睁开眼睛，看到了月光下的一个身影。

“快醒醒，穿上衣服。”原来是他的妹妹安妮。

杰克打开灯，揉了揉眼睛。

安妮正穿着牛仔裤、汗衫站在他的床前。

“咱们去树屋吧。”她说。

“几点？”杰克问，并且戴上了眼镜。

“别看钟。”安妮说。

杰克看了看钟。“天啊，”他说，“才半夜，太黑了吧。”

“不黑，月光足够亮了，能看清。”安妮说。

“等到早晨再说吧。”杰克说。

“不行，就要现在。”安妮说，“我们必须找到第四个带有 M 的东西。我有种感觉，今晚的满月说不定能帮上我们呢。”

“别傻了。”杰克说，“我还想睡呢。”

“我们回来后你还可以睡嘛。”安妮说，“我们离开的时候时间是停顿的。”

杰克叹了口气，“天啊。”

不过他还是从床上爬了起来。

“耶！”安妮小声叫道，“我在后门等你。”说着她踮着脚尖走出了杰克的房间。

杰克打了个哈欠，穿上了牛仔裤、汗衫和球鞋。他把铅笔和笔记本放进背包，蹑手蹑脚地下了楼梯。

安妮打开后门，他们轻轻地走了出去。

“等等——”杰克说，“我们得拿个手电筒。”

“不用，我跟你说过了——月亮会为我们照亮的。”安妮说着便出发了。

杰克只好叹了口气，跟在安妮后面。

安妮是对的，杰克心想。月光是那么的明亮，他连自己的影子都能看见呢。一切似乎都镀上了一层银色。

很快，他们就离开了街道，由安妮带路进入了蛙溪树林。树阴下，可黑多了。

杰克抬头望着，想找到那个树屋。

“在那儿！”安妮叫道。

那个神奇的树屋在月光下熠熠闪光。

安妮抓住绳梯开始向上爬。

“小心，慢点爬！”杰克说。

他跟在安妮的后面沿着绳梯爬进了树屋。

月光从窗户透了进来，洒在木地板上，照亮了地上的字母 M。

同时，月光也照亮了字母 M 上放着的三样以英文 M 开头的东西：从忍者时代的日本带回的月亮石(moonstone)，来自亚马孙雨林的一个芒果(mango)，和从冰河时代带回来的猛犸的骨头(mammoth bone)。

“只要再找到一个 M 开头的东西就行了。”安妮说，“那样我们就可以把摩根从魔咒中解救出来了。”

吱吱。

“花生！”安妮叫道。

在昏暗的月光下，杰克看到了一只小老鼠正坐在一本打开的书上。

“没想到这么晚会见到我们吧。”安妮说。

她拎起小老鼠花生，而杰克拿起了那本打开的书。

“这次我们该去哪里了？”安妮问。

杰克拿着书，对着月光看着。

“哦。”他说，“我就说我们该带个手电筒吧。我简直什么都看不清。”

他只能依稀辨别出一个表格和一幅朦朦胧胧的图画，但却一个字也看不清。

“看看封面。”安妮说。

封面上的字要大得多。杰克眯着眼看着。

“这本书叫做《你好，月球》。”他说。

安妮倒吸了一口气。“难道我们要去月球吗？”

“当然不会。”杰克说，“没有成堆的设备根本就不可能去月球。”

“为什么？”

“那里没有空气，我们根本无法呼吸。不仅如此，白天我们会被高温烤死，而晚上又会被冻死。”

“啊呀！”安妮嚷道，“那么你觉得我们会去哪里呢？”

“也许去一个训练宇航员的地方。”杰克说。

“听上去挺棒的！”安妮说。

“是啊。”杰克说。他可是一直想见见宇航员和宇航科学家呢。

“那么许愿吧。”安妮说。

杰克再次打开书，指着一幅画有一个拱形建筑的图片说：“我希望我们能去那里。”

风吹了起来。

树屋开始打转。

转得越来越快，越来越快！

然后，一切都平静了。

绝对的平静！

四周一点声音也没有，任何细微的声音都没有。

1 月光下(2)

Prologue

One summer day in Frog Creek, Pennsylvania, a mysterious tree house appeared in the woods.

Eight-year-old Jack and his seven-year-old sister, Annie, climbed into the tree house. The tree house was filled with books and it was magic. It could go any place that was in a book. All Jack and Annie had to do was to point to a picture and wish to go there.

They visited dinosaurs, knights, an Egyptian queen, pirates, ninjas, and the Amazon rain forest.

Along the way, they discovered that the tree house belonged to Morgan le Fay. Morgan was a magical librarian from the time of King Arthur.

She traveled through time and space, gathering books for her library.

One day, Jack and Annie found a note that said Morgan was under a spell. Jack and Annie set out in the magic tree house to find four special things that would free her.

With the help of a mouse named Peanut, Jack and Annie found the first thing in old Japan, the second in the Amazon rain forest, and the third in the Ice Age.

Now Jack, Annie, and Peanut are ready to find the last thing...in Midnight on the Moon.

1

By Moonlight

“Jack!” whispered a voice.

Jack opened his eyes. He saw a figure in the moonlight.

“Wake up. Get dressed.” It was his sister, Annie.

Jack turned on his lamp. He rubbed his eyes.

Annie was standing beside his bed. She wore jeans and a sweatshirt.

“Let’s go to the tree house,” she said.

“What time is it?” asked Jack. He put on his glasses.

“Don’t look at your clock,” said Annie.

Jack looked at his clock. “Oh, man,” he said. “It’s midnight. It’s too dark.”

“No, it isn’t. The moon makes it bright enough to see,” said Annie.

“Wait till morning,” said Jack.

“No—now,” said Annie. “We have to find the fourth M thing. I have a feeling that the full moon might help us.”

“That’s nuts,” said Jack. “I want to sleep.”

“You can sleep when we come back home,” said Annie. “No time will have passed.”

Jack sighed. “Oh, brother,” he said.

But he got out of bed.

“Yay!” whispered Annie. “Meet you at the back door.” She tiptoed out of Jack’s room.

Jack yawned. He pulled on his jeans and sneakers and a sweatshirt. He put his notebook and pencil into his backpack. Then he crept down the stairs.

Annie opened the back door. Quietly, they stepped outside.

“Wait—” said Jack. “We need a flashlight.”

“No, we don’t. I told you—the moon will light our way,” said Annie. And she took off.

Jack sighed, then followed her.

Annie was right, thought Jack. The moon was so bright that he could see his shadow.

Everything seemed washed with silver.

Soon they left their street. Annie led the way into the Frog Creek woods. It was much darker

under the shadows of the trees.

Jack looked up, searching for the tree house.

“There!” said Annie.

The magic tree house was shining in the moonlight.

Annie grabbed the rope ladder and started climbing up.

“Careful—go slowly,” said Jack.

He followed her up the ladder and into the tree house.

Moonlight streamed through the window.

It shone on the letter M that shimmered on the wooden floor.

It shone on the three M things that rested on the M: a moonstone from the time of the ninjas, a mango from the Amazon rain forest, and a mammoth bone from the Ice Age.

“We need just one more M thing,” said Annie, “to free Morgan from her spell.”

Squeak.

“Peanut!” said Annie.

In the dim light, Jack saw a tiny mouse. She sat on an open book.

“You didn’t expect to see us this late, did you?” said Annie.

She picked up Peanut. And Jack picked up the open book.

“So where are we going this time?” Annie asked him.

Jack held the book up to the moonlight.

“Uh-oh,” he said. “I knew we should have brought a flashlight. I can’t read a thing.”

He could make out diagrams and shadowy pictures. But he couldn’t read a word.

“Look at the cover,” said Annie.

The letters were bigger on the cover. Jack squinted at them.

“It’s called Hello, Moon,” he said.

Annie gasped. “We’re going to the moon?”

“Of course not,” said Jack. “It’s impossible to go to the moon without tons of equipment.”

“Why?”

“There’s no air. We couldn’t breathe. Not only that, we’d boil to death if it was day and freeze to death if it was night.”

“Yikes,” said Annie. “So where do you think we are going?”

“Maybe a place where people train to be astronauts,” said Jack.

“That sounds neat,” said Annie.

“Yeah,” said Jack. He’d always wanted to meet astronauts and space scientists.

“So say the wish,” said Annie.

Jack opened the book again. He pointed to a picture of a dome-shaped structure.

“I wish we could go there,” he said.

The wind started to blow.

The tree house started to spin.

It spun faster and faster and faster.

Then everything was silent.

Absolutely silent. As quiet and still as silence could be.

2 太空旅馆

杰克睁开眼睛。

他看了看窗外，树屋已经降落在一个宽敞的白色房间里。

“这是个什么训练中心？”安妮问。

“我也不知道。”杰克说。

房间是圆形的，没有窗户。房里灯光明亮，地板全是白色，墙壁也是弧形的。

“有人吗？”安妮喊道。

没人回答。

宇航员和宇航科学家都去哪里了呢？杰克琢磨着。

“这里没人。”安妮说。

“你怎么知道的？”杰克问。

“我感觉到的。”安妮答道。

“我们还是看看这是哪里吧。”杰克说。

他开始读那本关于月球的书里翻开的那一页。在拱形建筑的图片下面，他读到这样的话：月球基地于 2031 年建成。拱顶可以开合，供宇宙飞船进出。

“哦，天啊！”杰克小声叫道。

“怎么了？”安妮问。

杰克的心因为激动而猛跳起来。他几乎说不出话来。“我们已经降落在月球基地了。”他说。

“就是说……？”安妮问。

“就是说这个月球基地就在月球上！”杰克说。

安妮睁大了双眼。“我们在月球上了？”她问道。

杰克点点头。“书上说月球基地建于 2031 年。”他说，“那就是说这本书是在这个时间以后写的！也就是说这本书来自于未来！”

“哦，天啊！”安妮说，“摩根一定是跨越了时间从未来的图书馆里借来的这本书。”

“是啊。”杰克说，“现在我们就在未来的月球上。”

吱吱，吱吱！

安妮和杰克看着花生，这小老鼠正绕着圈跑着。

“可怜的花生。”安妮说。

她试图拎起小老鼠。但花生却躲到了字母 M 上的芒果后面。

“也许它是因为到了月球而紧张吧。”安妮说。

“可不光它紧张。”杰克说着长舒了一口气，推了推眼镜。

“什么是月球基地呢？”安妮问。

杰克看了看书，大声地读道：

当科学家短期造访月球时，他们就在月球基地吃住。

“就是太空旅馆！”安妮说。

“我猜是的。”杰克说着继续读道：

在这个小小的基地里，有降落舱和专门储存宇航服的房间。室内的空气和温度都控制在适合呼吸的水平。

“所以我们才能够呼吸啊。”杰克说。

“我们开始找吧。”安妮说，“我们必须为摩根找到第四样东西。”

“不，我们得先研究一下这幅地图。”杰克说着拿出了笔记本。

“你来研究。”安妮说。

杰克照着地图画了一遍，然后把树屋也画了上去。

“好了。”他说，他指着图中打叉的地方说，“我们就在这里。”

杰克抬起头，却发现安妮不见了。

“哦，天啊。”杰克说。还是老样子，她又一声不吭地抛下了他，连计划都还没来得及制订呢。

杰克把月球的书和铅笔放回了背包。他拿着笔记本和背包爬出了窗户。

吱吱！吱吱！

杰克回头看看花生。那小老鼠正在字母 M 上来回跑着。

“呆在这，乖乖的。”杰克说，“我们马上就回来。”

杰克跳过窗台，落在了降落舱的地面上。

“安妮！”他大声喊着。

没人回答。

杰克看了看手上的图。

看起来只有一条路可走。杰克沿着弧形的白墙向楼梯走去。

他爬上楼梯，来到一条走廊。

“杰克——快点！”安妮站在走廊另一头的密封舱里，正从门上的窗户往外看。

杰克赶紧朝她跑去。安妮往旁边挪了挪，好让杰克也能从窗户往外看。

“哦，天啊。”杰克说。他看到的一切让他吃惊极了。

他看到一片布满岩石的灰土地。地上满是巨大的环形山和高山。太阳高挂在漆黑的天空上。

“和月球打声招呼吧。”安妮轻声地说。

2 太空旅馆(2)

2 Space Motel

Jack opened his eyes.

He looked out the window. The tree house had landed inside a large white room.

“What kind of training place is this?” asked Annie.

“I don’ t know,” said Jack.

The room was round. It had no windows. It had white floors and a curved wall lit by bright lights.

“Hello!” Annie called.

There was no answer.

Where were all the astronauts and space scientists? Jack wondered.

“There’ s nobody here,” said Annie.

“How do you know?” said Jack.

“I just feel it,” said Annie.

“We’ d better find out where we are,” said Jack.

He looked at the page in the moon book. He read the words below the picture of the dome.

A moon base was built on the moon in the year 2031. The top of the dome slides open to let spacecrafts enter and leave.

“Oh, man—” Jack whispered.

“What’s wrong?” said Annie.

Jack’s heart pounded with excitement. He could hardly speak. “We’ve landed inside a moon base,” he said.

“So... ?” said Annie.

“So the moon base is on the moon!” said Jack.

Annie’s eyes widened. “We’re on the moon?” she asked.

Jack nodded. “The book says the moon base was built in the year 2031,” he said. “So this

book was written after that! Which means this book is from the future!”

“Oh, wow,” said Annie. “Morgan must have gone forward in time to borrow it from a future library.”

“Right,” said Jack. “And now we’re in the future, on the moon.”
Squeak, squeak!

Annie and Jack looked at Peanut. The mouse was running around in circles.

“Poor Peanut,” said Annie.

She tried to pick the mouse up. But peanut hid behind the mango on the letter M.

“Maybe she’s nervous about being on the moon,” said Annie.

“She’s not the only one,” said Jack. He let out a deep breath, then he pushed his glasses into place.

“So what’s a moon base?” asked Annie.

Jack looked at the book. He read aloud:

When scientists visit the moon for short periods, they eat and sleep in the moon base.

“A space motel!” said Annie.

“I guess,” said Jack. He read more:

The small base has a landing chamber and a room for storing spacesuits.

Air and temperature controls Make breathing possible.

“So that’s why we can breathe,” Jack said.

“Let’s explore,” said Annie. “We have to find the fourth thing for Morgan.”

“No, first we should study this map,” said Jack. He pulled out his notebook.

“You study it,” said Annie.

Jack copied the map. Then he drew in the tree house.

“Okay,” he said. He pointed at the X in his drawing. “We’re here.”

Jack looked up. Annie was gone.

“Oh, brother,” Jack said. As usual, she had left without him. Before they could even make a plan.

Jack put the moon book and pencil into his pack. Carrying his notebook and backpack, he started out the window.

Squeak! Squeak!

Jack looked back at Peanut. The mouse was running back and forth on the M.

“Stay here and be safe,” said Jack. “We’ll be back soon.”

Jack swung himself over the window sill. His feet touched the floor of the landing chamber.

“Annie!” he called.

There was no answer.

Jack looked at his diagram.

It showed only one way to go. Jack walked along the curved white wall to the stairs.

He climbed the steps to a hallway.

“Jack—hurry!” Annie was at the end of the hallway, standing in the airlock. She peered out a window in a giant door.

Jack hurried toward her. Annie stepped aside so he could look out the window, too.

“Oh, man,” said Jack. What he saw took his breath away.

He stared at a rocky gray land. The land was filled with giant craters and tall mountains. The sun was shining. But the sky was ink-black!

“Say hi to the moon,” Annie said softly.

3 芝麻开门！

“第四个关于 M 的东西一定就在那里。”安妮说。

门旁边有一个写着“开”的按钮，安妮伸出手想去按动按钮。

“等等！”杰克拽住安妮的手说，“月球上可是没有空气的，不记得了？”

“哦，是啊。但我们总得到外面去找那个关于 M 的东西吧。”

“咱们看看书上是怎麼说的。”杰克说。

他从背包里拿出书，翻到了画有月球表面的一页。他大声读道：

月球上的一天相当于地球上的 14 天。由于月球上没有空气可以隔断太阳光，因此白天月球表面温度可达到 260 华氏度〔注〕。

杰克看着安妮说：“我告诉你吧，如果到外面去，我们的血都会被煮开的。”

“是啊。”安妮说。

杰克又继续读道：

月球科学家身穿宇航服，其中的控制装置能保护科学家不致过冷或过热。他们还备有氧气罐，能保证两个小时的氧气补给。

“我们怎么才能弄到宇航服呢？”安妮问。她四周看了看，又跑回到走廊，说：

“也许是那里……？”

杰克则正在研究地图，说：“也许我们该去看看宇航服储存室。”

安妮说：“别看地图了，看这个真正的房间吧。”

杰克抬头瞟了一眼，看见安妮正往走廊另一侧的一道门里瞅。

她说：“那里有一大堆宇航用品呢。”

杰克也跑过去看。

衣架上挂着一些庞大的白色宇航服。氧气罐、头盔、手套和靴子都整齐地摆放在架子上。

“哇，这简直像是城堡里的盔甲陈列室。”杰克说。

“是啊，巨大的盔甲。”安妮应和道。

“咱们来挑件最小号的吧。”杰克说，“这宇航服可以直接套在我们的衣服外面。”

安妮找了件最小号的白色宇航服，杰克则挑了件稍大一点的套了进去。

然后安妮帮杰克把氧气罐固定好。

“谢谢。”杰克说着也帮安妮固定了氧气罐。

安妮也回应道：“谢谢。”

“还有手套？”杰克说。他和安妮都戴上了白色的手套。

“靴子？”安妮说。他们又各自套上了一双巨大的白色靴子。

“头盔？”杰克说着伸手拿了一个头盔。

“哇，真轻啊。”他说，“我还以为会像骑士的头盔一样重呢。”

杰克和安妮戴上头盔，并且相互为对方扣好了。

“我的头都没法往左右转了。”安妮说。

“我也是。”杰克说，“咱们试着走走吧。”

杰克和安妮笨拙地在房间里来回走着。杰克觉得自己简直就像是个胖雪人。

“关上你的面罩。”安妮说。

他们都关上了透明面罩。凉飕飕的空气顿时充满了杰克的头盔。

“我能呼吸了。”安妮叫道。她的声音对杰克来说简直震耳欲聋。

“哇。小声点。”杰克说，“我们的头盔里有双向无线电呢。”

“对不起。”安妮小声说。

杰克把关于月球的书放回背包里，然后把背包背在了肩上。

“好了！”他说，“记住，我们的氧气罐只能供两个小时之用，因此我们必须尽快找到那第四个关于 M 的东西。”

“希望如此。”安妮说。

“我也是。”杰克说。他明白只有找到了东西才能回家。

“出发！”安妮说着轻轻推了杰克一把。

“小心点，别乱来啊。我们可别穿着这身衣服摔跤。”

“出发吧！走啦！”安妮说着把杰克推出了房间。他们一起向密封舱走去。

“准备好了吗？”安妮问，“芝麻开门吧！”她按动了开门的按钮。一扇门在他们身后慢慢地关上了。另一扇门则在他们面前打开了。

杰克和安妮迈步出去，踏上了月球。

3 芝麻开门！(2)

3 Open Sesame!

“The fourth M thing must be out there,” said Annie.

Beside the door was a button with the word open on it. Annie reached for the button.

“Wait!” Jack grabbed her hand. “There’s no air on the moon. Remember?”

“Oh. Right. But we have to go out to find the M thing.”

“Let’s see what the book says,” said Jack. He pulled the book out of his pack. He flipped through it until he found a page that showed the surface of the moon. He read aloud:

It takes fourteen Earth days to equal one day on the moon, No air protects the moon from the sun’s rays, so daytime heat reaches 260 degrees.

Jack looked at Annie. “I told you our blood would boil if we went out there,” he said.

“Yuck,” she said.

Jack read from the book again:

Moon scientists wear spacesuits, which have controls to keep them from getting too hot or too cold. They have tanks, which provide air for two hours.

“Where do we get spacesuits?” asked Annie. She looked around then trotted back down the hall. “Maybe there...?”

Jack was studying his map. “Let’s try the spacesuit storeroom.”

“Don’t look at the map,” said Annie. “Look at the real room!”

Jack glanced up. Annie was peering through a doorway off the hall.

“There’s a ton of space stuff in here!” she said.

Jack went to look.

Bulky white suits hung from hangers. Air tanks, helmets, gloves, and boots sat in neat rows on shelves.

“Wow, it’s like the armor room in a castle,” said Jack.

“Yeah, with huge armor,” said Annie.

“Let’s pick out the smallest stuff,” said Jack, “The suits can go over our clothes.”

Annie found the smallest white suit. And Jack found the next smallest.

They stepped into them.

Then Annie locked Jack’s air tank into place.

“Thanks,” he said. And he did the same for her.

“Thanks,” she said.

“Gloves?” said Jack. He and Annie pulled on white gloves.

“Boots?” said Annie. They each pulled on a pair of huge white boots.

“Helmets?” said Jack. He reached for a helmet.

“Wow, they’ re pretty light,” he said. “I thought they’ d be like knights’ helmets. ”

Jack and Annie put the helmets on. They locked each other’s into place.

“I can’ t move my head right or left,” said Annie.

“Me neither,” said Jack. “Let’ s try walking. ”

Jack and Annie moved clumsily around the room. Jack felt like a fat snowman.

“Close your visor,” said Annie.

They both closed their see-through visors. Cool air filled Jack’s helmet.

“I CAN BREATHE!” Annie yelled. Her voice boomed in Jack’s ears.

“Ow!Talk quietly,” Jack said. “We have two-way radios inside our helmets. ”

“Sorry,” whispered Annie.

Jack put the moon book back in his pack. Then he slung the pack over his shoulder.

“Okay!” he said. “Remember, we only have two hours of air in our tanks. So we need to find the fourth M thing really fast. ”

“I hope we can find it,” said Annie.

“Me too,” said Jack. He knew they could not go home until they did.

“Let’ s go,” said Annie. She gave Jack a little push.

“Watch it. No goofing off,” he said. “We don’ t want to fall over in these suits. ”

“Just go—go!”said Annie. She pushed him out of the room. They walked back to the airlock.

“Ready?”said Annie. “Open sesame!”She pressed the OPEN button. A door slowly slid closed behind them. A door opened in front of them.

And Jack and Annie stepped out onto the moon.

4 月宫玉兔

“哦，哇！”安妮说着又往前迈了一步。

但杰克却一动不动。他想先好好看看周围所有的一切。

他盯着地面看，发现自己正站在一层像粉末一样细的灰土上。

到处都是脚印，杰克不禁想，这都是谁的脚印呢。

他把手伸进背包去拿那本关于月球的书。令他吃惊的是，那本书居然轻如鸿毛。

他找到了一幅画着月球上的脚印的图片。他读道：

月球上没有雨没有风，不会将灰尘吹起。因此月球上的足印是不会自然消失的，哪怕是经过数十亿年也不会。

“哦，天啊！”杰克说。

月球是他去过的最宁静的地方了，宁静得简直就像是一幅画，而且这种宁静将直到永远，永无止境。

杰克凝视着漆黑的天空，远方的一个可爱的白蓝色的星球正闪耀着光芒。

那是地球。

杰克的心头第一次被触动了，他们真的是在外太空啊。

“看！”安妮一面喊，一面笑道。

她弹跳着经过杰克身边——几乎是在空中飞。她双脚着陆，然后又弹了起来。

“我是一只月宫玉兔。”她大叫着。

杰克笑了起来。她为什么能这样呢？杰克琢磨着。他翻了一页，读了起来：

在月球上，人会变轻。因为月球上重力小，又缺少空气。如果你在地球上的重量是 60 磅，那么在月球上大约只有 10 磅重。

“别光站在那儿看书了！”安妮说着一把把书从杰克戴着手套的手里抢了过来，把它扔向空中。

书飞得远远的。

杰克跟在后面追着。

他上下弹跳着：砰，砰，砰。现在他觉得自己也像羽毛一样轻呢。

“看，我也是一只月宫玉兔呢。”他冲安妮喊道。

当杰克的靴子撞击到地面时，月球表面的灰尘优雅地溅了起来。

那本书落在了一个浅浅的环形山边上。

杰克想停住脚步伸手去拿那本书，可是脚下突然一滑。

他摔倒了，侧身摔在了地上。他试图站起来，却失去了平衡。

杰克再次试图站起来，但灰尘太深了，而且他那身宇航服太笨拙了。

“你没事吧？”安妮问。

“我起不来了。”杰克说。

“你不该乱来的。”安妮得意地说。

“是你先捣乱的。”杰克说，“赶紧帮我起来。”

安妮向他走了过去。

“别摔倒了。”杰克提醒她。

“我不会的。”安妮缓慢地走着。她简直是一半飘一半走。

“把手给我。”安妮说。

安妮抓住了杰克的手，用自己的靴子顶住杰克的靴子，把他拽了起来。

“谢谢！”杰克说。

“不用谢。”安妮回答说，“小意思，你可真够轻的。”

“谢天谢地。”杰克说，“要想自己站起来还真难呢。”

他拾起那本关于月球的书，书上满是灰尘，他赶紧拍了拍。

“哦，哇！你看！”安妮站在环形山口吃惊地说。

“什么啊？”杰克说。

“一辆月球车。”安妮说。

那辆月球车就停在环形山里，有着四个巨大的轮子。

“咱们开车去逛逛吧。”安妮说。

“不行。”杰克说，“我们的氧气只够两个小时，你忘了？”

“我敢打赌如果我们乘着月球车的话，一定能更快地找到那个关于 M 的东西。”安妮一下子跳进了环形山。

“但是我们不会开啊！”杰克说。

“我敢打赌我会开。”安妮说，“看起来很容易呢，来吧。”

安妮跳着坐到了驾驶员的位子上。“你可没有驾照哦。”杰克说。

“谁会管啊？”安妮说，“月球上又没有道路，也没有红灯，更没有警察。”

她是对的，杰克想。

“好吧，慢慢来啊。”杰克说着便爬进了月球车，坐在了安妮旁边。

安妮按动了一个标有“启动”的按钮。

月球车立刻向后开动了。

“啊呀！”安妮说。

“踩刹车！”杰克喊道。

安妮踩住了一个踏板，月球车顿时猛地停了下来。

“呜。”安妮舒了一口气。

“那一定是倒挡。”杰克说，“让我研究一下——”

但是他还没来得及研究，安妮就又按动了另一个按钮。

月球车开始向后倾斜，前轮抬了起来。

“我要下车！”杰克说。

安妮又按了别的按钮。

月球车的前轮开始降了下来，落在了地面，并且月球车开始前进了。

“慢一点！”杰克说。

“我没法慢。”安妮说，“我也不知道怎么慢下来。”

安妮驾着车沿着地面上的车痕前进着。车子宽大的轮子使得它不至于陷入厚厚的灰土之中。

“小心点！”杰克说。

月球车开出了环形山坑。

小车在月球表面行进着，一路扬起了一片尘土。

4 月宫玉兔(2)

4 Moon Rabbits

“Oh, wow!” said Annie. She took a step forward.

But Jack stood frozen. He wanted to get a good look at everything first.

He stared at the ground. He was standing in a layer of gray dust as fine as powder.

Footprints were everywhere. Jack wondered who had made them.

He reached into his pack for the moon book. To his surprise, it was as light as a feather!

He found a picture of footprints on the moon. He read:

The moon has no rain or wind to blow the dust around. So footprints will never wear away naturally, not even in a billion years.

“Oh, man,” Jack said.

The moon was the stillest place he had ever, ever been. It was as still as a picture. And its stillness would never, ever end.

Jack stared at the ink-black sky. A lovely blue-and-white ball glowed far away. Earth.

For the first time, it really hit Jack. They were in outer space.

“Look!” Annie cried, laughing.

She bounded past Jack—almost flying through the air. She landed on her feet. Then she jumped again.

“I’ m a moon rabbit,” she called.

Jack laughed. How does she do that? he wondered. He turned a page and read:

A person weighs less on the moon because of the moon’s low gravity and lack of air. If you weigh 60 pounds on Earth, you would only weigh 10 pounds on the moon.

“Don’ t just stand there reading!” said Annie, grabbing the book from Jack’ s gloved hand. She tossed it into space.

It flew far away.

Jack started after it.

He bounded up and down. Boing!Boing!Boing!Now he felt as light as a feather.

“Look!” he called to Annie. “I’ m a moon rabbit, too. ”

Where Jack's boots hit the ground, moon-dust gracefully sprayed into space.

The book had landed at the edge of a shallow crater.

When Jack reached it, he tried to stop. But his feet slipped.

He fell right over and lay on his side. He tried to stand. But he was off-balance.

He tried again. But the dust was just too deep. And his spacesuit was too clumsy.

"You okay?" asked Annie.

"I can't get up," said Jack.

"You shouldn't have been goofing off," said Annie wisely.

"You goofed off first," said Jack. "Now, help me up, please."

Annie started toward him.

"Don't fall, too," warned Jack.

"I won't." Annie moved very slowly. She half floated, half walked.

"Give me your hand," she said.

Annie grabbed Jack's hand. She pressed her boot against his and pulled him up.

"Thanks," he said.

"No problem," she said. "It was easy. You were really light."

"Thank goodness," said Jack. "It's impos-sible to get up alone."

He picked up the moon book. It was covered with dust. He brushed it off.

"Oh, wow! Look!" said Annie. She stood at the edge of the crater.

"What is it?" said Jack.

"A moon buggy!" said Annie.

The buggy was parked in the crater. It had four huge wheels.

"Let's go for a ride," said Annie.

"We can't," said Jack. "We just have two hours of air in our tanks. Remember?"

"I bet we'll find the M thing faster if we take the moon buggy!" Annie bounded into the crater.

"But we can't drive!" said Jack.

"I bet I can drive this," said Annie. "It looks easy. Come on!"

She jumped into the driver's seat.

"But you don't have a license!" said Jack.

"Who cares?" said Annie. "There aren't any roads on the moon, or stoplights, or policemen either."

She was right, Jack thought.

"Well, go slow," he said. And he climbed in beside her.

Annie pushed a button labeled ON.

The moon buggy lurched backward.

"Yikes!" said Annie.

"Step on the brake!" said Jack.

Annie pressed a pedal on the floor. The buggy stopped with a jerk.

"Whew," she said.

"It must be in reverse," said Jack. "Let me study this—"

But before he could study anything, Annie pushed another button.

The buggy tilted back. Its front wheels started to rise into the air.

"Let me out of here!" said Jack.

Annie pushed more buttons.

The buggy's front wheels landed back on the ground. And the buggy leaped forward.

"Slower!" said Jack.

"I can't," said Annie. "I don't know how!"

Annie steered the buggy over the tracks on the ground. The wide wheels kept it from sinking into the deep dust.

"Careful!" said Jack.

The buggy zoomed out of the crater.

Gray clouds of dust rose behind them as they took off across the moon.

5 抓好！

安妮驾着月球车在起伏不平、满是坑洞的月球表面穿行着，仿如一匹野马横冲直闯。

“我要开到那里去！”安妮指着两座山之间的一个缺口说。

杰克紧紧地抓住仪表盘。

月球车一路颠簸着冲向两山之间的缺口，一下子穿了过去。

山外的地面愈发崎岖。

“注意找那第四个关于 M 的东西啊！”安妮说着，身子被颠得上下晃动。

杰克哼了一声，在这么颠簸的车上想找任何东西几乎都是不可能的。

“慢点！”他说。

“怎么慢？”

“你试着踩刹车踏板嘛。在你脚下！慢慢踩！”

安妮踩了踩刹车踏板。

月球车慢了下来。杰克也终于放松下来，长舒了一口气。路面依然颠簸，但他现在至少可以好好看看这个星球了。

他还从没有到过这样单调而荒凉的地方。没有绿色，没有蓝色，也没有红色。

没有水，没有树，也没有云。

有的只是一些巨大的灰色石块和环形山——还有一面美国国旗。

“哦，天啊。”杰克说，“那就是第一批登月的宇航员插的国旗。”

“看——还有一个望远镜。”安妮说。

她把车开到国旗和望远镜旁，使劲踩住了刹车，月球车彻底停了下来。

随后安妮按动了一个标有“关闭”的按钮，并和杰克一起跳出了车子。

他们迈着又大又慢的步子走向人类首次登月的地点。

在美国国旗旁边有一个牌子，安妮大声读着上面的文字：

公元 1969 年的 7 月，在这里，地球上的人类第一次踏上了月球。我们是为全人类的和平而来。

“写得真不错。”杰克说。

他把那本关于月球的书递给安妮。自己则拿出笔记本和铅笔开始抄录牌子上的文字。

“我们也留下我们的话吧。”安妮说。

“写点什么呢？”杰克问。

“就照那牌子写吧。”安妮说，“不过改成我们是第一批登月的孩子。”

杰克把笔记本翻到空白的一页，用大大的字写下了他们的留言。

“现在该咱们签名了。”安妮说。

杰克签下了他的名字。

然后他把笔记本和铅笔递给安妮，安妮也签了名，又把本子还给了杰克。

杰克把那一页撕了下来，摆在国旗旁边。纸上是这样写的：

今天第一次有来自地球的孩子登上了月球。我们是为所有孩子的和平而来的。

杰克 安妮

没有风会把这张留言纸吹走，也不会有雨把它浇湿。

它会永远留在那里，除非有人把它拿走。

一想到“永远”，杰克简直觉得有点晕眩。他摇了摇头，好让自己整理一下思绪。这时，他突然想起了时间的问题。两个小时过去了吗？

“要是有点表就好了。”他说着站了起来，“我们的时间可能不够了。”

“哦，天啊，一个月球人！”安妮说。

“什么？”杰克转过身来看着她。

安妮正用望远镜往远处看。

杰克走到望远镜旁，安妮往旁边挪了挪，好让杰克也能看到望远镜里的东西。

杰克惊呆了。在远处，有个东西正在地面上方飞行。

看起来像是一个穿着宇航服的巨人。

5 抓好！(2)

5 Hang On!

Annie drove the moon buggy over bumps and hollows. It bucked like a bronco.

“I’m going through there!” She pointed to an opening between two mountains.

Jack held on to the dashboard.

The buggy bumped toward the opening and shot through.

On the other side, the ground was even rockier.

“Look for the fo-fourth M thing!” said Annie, bouncing up and down.

Jack groaned. Looking for anything on this wild ride was impossible.

“Sl-slow d-down!” he said.

“How?”

“Try pressing on the b-brake pedal. On the f-floor—slowly!”

Annie pressed on the brake.

The buggy slowed down. Jack sighed with relief. The ride was still bumpy. But now, at least, he could take a good look at the moon.

He had never been to such a colorless, barren place. There was no green, no blue, no red.

No water, no trees, no clouds.

Only giant gray rocks and craters—and an American flag.

“Oh, man,” said Jack. “That’s from the first astronauts who landed on the moon!”

“And look—a telescope!” said Annie.

She drove near the flag and telescope. Then she put her foot on the brake until the buggy stopped.

She pressed a button that said OFF. Then she and Jack hopped out.

They took slow giant steps to the site of the first moon landing.

Beside the flag was a sign. Annie read it aloud:

HERE MEN FROM THE PLANET EARTH

FIRST SET FOOT UPON THE MOON,

JULY 1969 A. D.

WE CAME IN PEACE

FOR ALL MANKIND.

“That’s a good message,” said Jack.

He handed the moon book to Annie. Then he took out his notebook and pencil to copy the sign.

“Let’s leave our own message,” said Annie.

“What should we say?” said Jack.

“The same thing,” said Annie. “But say we are the first kids.”

Jack turned to a new page in his notebook. In big letters he wrote their message.

“Now we have to sign it,” Annie said.

Jack signed his name.

Then he passed the notebook and pencil to Annie. She signed her name and passed the notebook back.

Jack tore out the piece of paper. He put it by the flag.

Today the first kids from the planet Earth came to the Moon. We came in peace for all children.

Jack

Annie

No wind would ever blow the message away. No rain would ever fall on it.

It would be there forever, unless someone moved it.

Thinking of “forever” made Jack feel dizzy. He shook his head to clear his thoughts. Then he remembered the time. Had two hours passed yet?

“I wish I had a watch,” he said, standing up. “We might be running out of time.”

“Oh, wow. A moon man!” said Annie.

“What?” Jack turned to look at her.

She was staring through the telescope.

Jack walked over to the telescope. Annie stepped aside so he could look, too.

Jack gasped. In the distance, something was flying above the ground.

It looked like a giant man in a spacesuit.

6 跳高

“那个人是谁啊？”杰克说。

“我也不知道。”安妮说。“但我们很快就会知道的！”她开始冲着那人挥手。

“别！”杰克说，他一把抓住安妮的胳膊。“我们回基地吧——在他到我们这里之前。”

“为什么？”安妮问。

“我们不知道他是谁。”杰克说，“我们不知道他是朋友还是敌人或是其他什么的。”

“但是我们不能回去啊。”安妮说，“我们还没找到第四个关于 M 的东西呢，是不能回去的。”

“没关系。我们可以锁上月球基地的门，等他走了再出来。”杰克说，“那样我们还可以换两罐氧气。”

杰克赶紧回到月球车里。“快来！”他说着坐到了驾驶位子上。

安妮又冲着远方空中的那个小点挥了挥手，就坐进了月球车。

月球车启动了。

“小心点！”安妮说。

杰克把车调了个头，小车在岩石上碰来碰去，接着他们就朝来时经过的缺口开了过去。

杰克驾着车绕过一座座环形山和岩石，不止一次，月球车几乎要翻倒了。

“哇！慢点！”安妮说。

他们差不多要到那个两山之间的缺口了。突然，在他们面前扬起了一大片灰土。

地面也在震颤。

“小心!” 安妮说。

杰克什么也看不见。

他踩住了刹车。月球车猛地停了下来。

尘埃落定。

原来是一个大石块落在了那个狭窄的缺口处，刚好堵住了去路。他们被困住了。

杰克很快就在关于月球的书里找到了一幅关于巨大石块的图片。他大声读道：

各种大小的石块会从外太空撞击月球。这些石块被称为陨石。

“好在这个陨石没有砸到我们。” 杰克说。

“是啊，我想这玩意儿也太大了，不会是那个关于 M 的东西。” 安妮说。她已经从月球车里爬了出来，站在了陨石旁。

这个石块几乎有两个安妮那么高。

杰克看了看漆黑的天空。那个飞行的小点已经不见了。

“我们得跳过去。” 安妮说。

“跳？不可能。” 杰克说。“它太高了。”

“反正我要试一试。” 安妮说。

“等等，咱们先想想。” 杰克说。

但是安妮已经开始后退准备助跑了。

“一、二、三、跳!” 她喊着，一面迈大步冲向那个陨石。

当安妮靠近石块时，她用力一蹬地面，一下子飞上了天，消失在了陨石后面。

“安妮!” 杰克喊道。

没人回答。

“哦，天啊!” 杰克说。他也后退几步，冲着陨石块跳了过去。他尽了最大的力量，使劲往高处跳。他发现自己已经在空中飞了起来。

杰克重重地摔在地上，脸朝下摔在了灰土里。

杰克试图站起来。但是他的衣服体积太大了。他想翻个身，但那庞大的衣服使得他连这一点也做不到。

“哦，不。” 他呻吟着，“又是这样。”

“你在吗？” 安妮问道。“你跳过来了吗？”

“是的!” 听到安妮的声音，杰克终于舒了口气。但是他却无法转头去看她，只能从无线电里听到她的声音。

“你能帮我站起来吗？” 杰克问。

“不行。” 安妮说。

“为什么？”

“因为我也摔倒了。” 她回答道。

“哦，天啊。” 杰克叹了口气，“现在我们可有麻烦了。”

他想站起来，可还是失败了。

“你能看到什么吗？” 杰克问安妮。

“只能看到天空。” 安妮说，“哇，还真是奇怪呢……”

“我担心的是我们的氧气罐。” 杰克说，“我感觉已经有两个小时了。”

“杰——克!” 安妮说。

“那个月球人呢？” 杰克说，“他去哪里了？”

“杰克!” 安妮轻声喊道。

“什么？”

“他在这里。”安妮答道。“那个月球人就在这里。”

“什么？”

“他就站在我面前。”

6 跳高(2)

6 High Jump

“Who is that?” said Jack.

“I don’ t know,” said Annie. “But we’ ll soon find out!” She started waving.

“No!” said Jack. He grabbed her arm. “Let’s go back to the base—before he gets here!”

“Why?” said Annie.

“We don’t know who he is!” said Jack. “We don’t know if he’s friendly or mean or what.”

“But we can’ t go back,” said Annie. “We haven’ t found the fourth M thing yet. We won’ t be

able to go home.”

“It doesn’ t matter. We can lock the door at the moon base until he goes away,” said Jack.

“Then we can get new air tanks!”

Jack hurried to the moon buggy. “Come on!” He jumped into the driver’s seat.

Annie gave a little wave to the dot in the sky. Then she climbed into the moon buggy.

The buggy took off.

“Careful!” said Annie.

They bumped over the rocks as Jack turned the buggy around. Then they zoomed toward the pass.

Jack steered around craters and rocks. More than once the buggy nearly tipped over.

“Whoa! Slow down!” said Annie.

They were almost at the mountain pass. Suddenly, a cloud of dust flew up in front of them.

The ground trembled.

“Watch it!” cried Annie.

Jack couldn’t see a thing.

He stepped on the brake. The buggy jerked to a stop.

The dust settled.

A giant rock had fallen into the narrow pass. It was stuck between two walls of rock. They were trapped!

Jack quickly found a picture of a giant rock in the moon book. He read aloud:

Rocks of all sizes crash into the moon from outer space. These rocks are called meteorites.

“We’ re lucky that meteorite didn’ t land on us,” said Jack.

“Yeah, and I guess it’ s too big to be the M thing,” said Annie. She had climbed out of the moon buggy and was standing by the meteorite.

It was more than twice as tall as she was.

Jack looked at the black sky. The flying thing was nowhere in sight—yet.

“We’ ll have to jump over it,” Annie said.

“Jump? I don’ t think so,” said Jack. “It’ s too high.”

“I’ m going to try anyway,” said Annie.

“Wait. Let’ s think first,” said Jack.

But Annie was already backing up.

“One, two, three—go!” she shouted, and took giant, leaping steps toward the meteorite.

When Annie got close to the rock, she pushed off the ground. Then she flew through space and disappeared behind the meteorite.

“Annie!” Jack called.

There was no answer.

“Oh, brother,” Jack said. He backed up and took off toward the rock.

He jumped as high as he could. Then he was flying through space.

Jack hit the ground and fell facedown into the dust.

Jack tried to stand. But his suit was too bulky. He tried to roll over. But his suit made even that impossible.

“Oh, no,” he groaned. “Not again.”

“Are you here?” asked Annie. “Did you make it?”

“Yes!” Jack was relieved to hear her voice. But he couldn’t turn his head to see her. He could only hear her over the radio.

“Can you help me up?” he asked.

“Nope,” said Annie

“Why not?”

“I fell down, too,” she said.

“Oh, brother,” Jack sighed. “Now we are really in trouble.”

He tried to stand again. And failed.

“Can you see anything?” he asked.

“Just the sky,” said Annie. “Wow, is it weird...”

“I’m worried about our air tanks,” said Jack. “I feel like it’s been two hours.”

“Ja-ack...” said Annie.

“And what about that moon man?” said Jack. “Where did he go to?”

“Jack!” whispered Annie.

“What?”

“He’s here,” she said. “The moon man is here.”

“What?”

“He’s standing above me.”

7 月球人

杰克的心几乎都停止了跳动。

他能听到安妮说话的声音。

“你好。”她说，“我们是为和平而来的。”

接下来是一片寂静。然后杰克就听到安妮说：“谢谢你。我现在该去帮忙把我哥哥拉起来了。”

过了一会，安妮帮助杰克翻过身来，仰躺在地上。

她拉着杰克的手，把他拽了起来。

“谢谢。”杰克站起身来赶忙说。

月球人离他们只有几英尺远。他的脸藏在一个金属面罩后面。

他看起来就像一个宇航员，一个巨大的宇航员——身后背着一个庞大的氧气罐。

那罐子几乎和冰箱一样大。

“那是个喷气式背包！”杰克说，“我在图画里见过未来的宇航员带着这样的东西飞来飞去。就像是个小型的宇宙飞船一样，是吧？”

月球人没有回答。

“我想他听不到我们说话。”安妮说。“他又没有联到我们的无线电。”

“哦，是啊。”杰克说，“我来写给他看。”

“好主意。”安妮说。

杰克拿出笔记本和铅笔，写道：

我们是杰克和安妮。我们是为了和平从美国来的。你是谁？

杰克把本子和铅笔递给了月球人。在他的大手里，这些东西显得那么的小。

月球人看了看那些字，又看了看那支小铅笔，随后把笔记本翻了过来。

杰克和安妮在一旁看着月球人拿着铅笔在纸上仔细地写着什么。

终于，他把笔记本还给了杰克。

杰克和安妮看到的是一些标记。

“星星。”安妮说，“他画的是星星。”

“也许是一幅宇宙地图。”杰克说。

“宇宙地图？”安妮说，“嘿，杰克，地图这个字(map)可是个以 M 开头的东西哦。”

“哦，哇。”杰克说，“这一定就是那第四个关于 M 的东西。”

“咱们来问问他，他的地图是什么意思。”安妮说着转过身去。

“没法子知道了。”她又说。

“为什么？”杰克将视线从地图上移开。

“你看，那就是原因。”安妮指着前面。那月球人已经飞远了，飞过山的那一边了。

“谢谢！”安妮大声喊道。

7 月球人(2)

7 The Moon Man

Jack's heart nearly stopped.

He could hear Annie talking.

“Hi,” she said. “We come in peace.”

There was silence. Then Jack heard Annie say, “Thank you. I have to help my brother up now.”

A moment later, Annie rolled Jack onto his back.

She grabbed his hand and pulled him up.

“Thanks,” said Jack, once he was standing.

The moon man was a few feet away. His face was hidden by a metal visor.

He looked like a spaceman. A huge spaceman—with a giant tank on his back. It was as big as a refrigerator.

“That's a jet pack!” said Jack. “I've seen pictures of future astronauts flying with those things. It's like a mini-spaceship. Right?”

The moon man didn't answer.

“I don't think he can hear us,” said Annie. “He's not hooked up to our radio.”

“Oh, right,” said Jack. “I'll write him a message!”

“Good idea,” said Annie.

Jack pulled out his notebook and pencil. He wrote:

We're Jack and Annie. We come in peace from Ame-rica. Who are you?

Jack handed the notebook and his pencil to the moon man. They looked tiny in his big hands.

The moon man looked down at the message. He looked at the tiny pencil.

Then he turned the notebook over.

Jack and Annie watched as the moon man put the pencil to the paper. He was writing something very carefully.

Finally he gave the notebook back to Jack.

Jack and Annie stared at the marks.

“Stars,” said Annie. “He drew stars.”

“Maybe it’s a space map,” said Jack.

“Space map?” said Annie. “Hey, Jack, map starts with M!”

“Oh, wow,” said Jack. “This must be the fourth M thing!”

“Let’s ask him what his map means,” said Annie. She turned around.

“We’ll never know now,” she said.

“Why?” Jack looked up from the map.

“That’s why.” Annie pointed. The moon man was flying over the mountains.

“Thanks!” Annie cried.

8 星星图

“他是谁？”杰克说，“他的星星图是什么意思呢？”

“我也不知道。”安妮说，“不过让我们看看它有没有用。”

杰克深吸了一口气。“是啊，我们最好快点回去。我觉得我快没有氧气了，呼吸越来越困难了。”

“我也是。”安妮说。

“慢点，别呼吸得太快。”杰克说。

他和安妮迈着漂浮的大步子向月球基地奔去。杰克仿佛置身水底一样屏住了呼吸。

当他们到达那个白色穹顶的建筑时，杰克几乎要憋坏了。

安妮按动了那扇大门旁的一个按钮。门滑开了，他们急忙走进了密封舱。门在他们身后关上了，通往门厅的门则打开了。

杰克打开了自己头盔上的面罩。他长长地、深深地吸了口气，然后又吐出来——“啊！”

“咱们把这身衣服脱了吧。”安妮说。

“好主意。”杰克真是急着要放松一下自己的胳膊腿了。

当他们笨拙地走向宇航服储存室时，杰克开始感到周身又沉重起来了。

他和安妮互相为对方解开了头盔、手套和靴子，把所有的装备都脱了下来，从沉重的宇航服里走了出来。

“嗯！”杰克舒了口气。他摘下眼镜揉了揉双眼。

自由自在的感觉真是太好了——虽然他再也不觉得自己像羽毛那么轻巧了。

“快点！花生还等着我们呢！”安妮说。

她在前面带着路，走下台阶，跑到了明亮的降落舱。

“耶！”安妮轻声地欢呼着。

杰克看到树屋还在那里也放心了。他们很快就要回家了，他几乎都等不及了。

杰克和安妮爬进了树屋的窗户。

“我们回来了，花生！”安妮说。

“吱吱！”花生跑到了树屋地板上的字母 M 上。

“我们好想你啊！”安妮说。她拍了拍小老鼠的头。“我们遇见了一个月球人呢。”

“对不起，花生，你得挪挪地方。”杰克说，“我们得把这幅星星图放在字母 M 上。”

安妮轻轻地把小老鼠从 M 上拎了起来。

杰克从笔记本上把画着星星图的那一页撕了下来，放在了字母 M 上，正摆在猛犸骨头、芒果和月亮石旁边。

他叹了口气，然后跪坐在了自己的脚跟上。“把那本宾夕法尼亚的书给我。”他说。他们需要那本书才能回家。

可是没人回应。

杰克转过身来，看着安妮。

“没有啊，杰克。”她说，“那本书不在这里。”

“什么？”难道这星星图不是他们要找的东西？

他们在树屋里四处寻找。

“肯定不在这里。”安妮说。

“哦，不。”杰克的心直往下沉。他捡起那幅星星图仔细地看。

吱吱，吱吱。花生从安妮的怀抱里跳了出来，急匆匆地跑到了字母 M 上。

“我有个主意了。”杰克说。他把手伸进背包，拿出了铅笔。

“你在干什么？”安妮问。

“你知道怎么画星座吗？”杰克说，“要把所有的星星都连接起来。咱们试试看这样一来会怎么样？”

“我看看。”安妮说。

杰克把纸摆得远一点，好让他们俩能一起看星星图。

“看起来像只老鼠。”安妮说。

“对。”杰克说。

“有这样的老鼠星座吗？”安妮问。

“我想没有。”杰克说。

吱吱。

安妮和杰克看着花生，它正站在字母 M 上。

“哦，哇。杰克。”安妮小声地说。“我想我知道这第四样东西是什么了——”

杰克笑了起来。“我也知道了。”他说，“就是——”

“老鼠！”(mouse)他们异口同声地说。

吱吱，吱吱！

“也许那个魔咒就是——月亮石，芒果，猛犸骨头，老鼠！”安妮说。

杰克依次触摸了每一个关于 M 的东西，嘴里念着：“月亮石，芒果，猛犸骨头，老鼠。”

“咱们反复地说吧，看看会发生什么。”安妮说。

他们两人一起念着：

“月亮石，芒果，猛犸骨头，老鼠。月亮石，芒果，猛犸骨头，老鼠。”

突然，一道亮光照亮了树屋。

这亮光越来越亮，越来越亮。

这亮光简直令人目眩，把眼睛刺得什么都看不清了。

空气仿佛都因为这光亮而旋转了起来。

随后一切都恢复了清晰。

只是小老鼠花生不见了。

而摩根·拉菲则站在了杰克和安妮面前。

8 星星图(2)

8 One Star to Another

“Who was that guy?” said Jack. “What does his map mean?”

“I don’ t know,” said Annie. “But let’ s see if it works. ”

Jack took a deep breath. “Yeah, we’ d better hurry back. I think I’ m running out of air. It feels harder to breathe.”

“For me, too,” said Annie.

“Go slow. Don’ t breathe too much,” said Jack.

He and Annie took long, floating steps toward the moon base. Jack held his breath as if he were underwater.

By the time they got to the white dome, he was ready to burst.

Annie pushed a button beside the huge door. It slid open. They hurried into the airlock. The door closed behind them and the door to the hallway opened.

Jack opened the visor of his helmet. He took a long, deep breath—and let it out. “Ahhhh!”

“Let’ s get out of these suits,” said Annie.

“Good idea.” Jack was dying to free his arms and legs.

As they moved clumsily into the spacesuit storeroom, Jack felt heavy again.

He and Annie unlocked each other’ s helmets, gloves, and boots, and pulled everything off.

Then they stepped out of their bulky suits.

“Whew!” Jack said. He took off his glasses and rubbed his eyes.

It was great to be free—even if he no longer felt as light as a feather.

“Hurry!Peanut’s waiting!” said Annie.

She led the way down the steps to the bright landing chamber.

“Yay, ” she said softly.

Jack was relieved to see the tree house still there. Soon they’d be heading home. He couldn’t wait.

Jack and Annie crawled through the tree house window.

“We’ re back, Peanut!” said Annie.

Squeak!Peanut ran to the letter M.

“We missed you!” said Annie. She patted the mouse’s head. “We met a moon man.”

“Sorry, Peanut, but you have to move,” said Jack. “We have to put the map on the M.”

Annie gently lifted the mouse off the M.

Jack tore the star map out of his notebook. He placed it on the M, next to the mammoth bone, the mango, and the moonstone.

He sighed, then sat back on his heels. “Hand me the Pennsylvania book,” he said. They needed the Pennsylvania book to get back home.

There was silence.

Jack turned and looked at Annie.

“It’ s not working, Jack,” she said. “The book’ s not here.”

“What?” Was the map the wrong thing?

They looked around the tree house.

“It’ s definitely not here,” said Annie.

“Oh, no.” Jack’ s heart sank. He picked up the star map and stared at it.

Squeak, squeak. Peanut jumped out of Annie’ s arms and scurried back to the letter M.

“I’ ve got an idea,” said Jack. He reached into his pack and took out his pencil.

“What are you doing?” said Annie.

“You know how you draw a constellation?”said Jack. “You connect all the stars. What happens if we try that?”

He drew a line from one star to another. He kept drawing, until all the stars were connected.

“Let me see,” said Annie.

Jack held the paper out so they could both study it.

“It looks like a mouse,” said Annie.

“Yeah,” said Jack.

“Is there such a thing as a mouse constellation?” said Annie.

“I don’t think so...” said Jack.

Squeak.

Annie and Jack looked at Peanut. She was standing on the M.

“Oh, wow. Jack,” Annie whispered, “I think I know what the fourth thing is—”

Jack grinned. “Me too,” he said. “It’s a—”

“Mouse!” they said together.

Squeak! Squeak!

“Maybe the spell is—Moonstone, mango, mammoth bone, mouse!” said Annie.

Jack touched each M thing in turn as he whispered, “Moonstone, mango, mammoth bone, mouse.”

“Let’s say it over and over and see what happens,” said Annie.

Together, they chanted:

“Moonstone, mango,

mammoth bone, mouse.

Moonstone, mango,

mammoth bone, mouse. ”

Suddenly, a bright light filled the tree house.

The light got brighter and brighter and bright-er.

The brightness was blinding and whirling.

The air spun with brightness.

Then everything was clear.

Peanut the mouse was gone.

And Morgan le Fay stood before Jack and Annie.