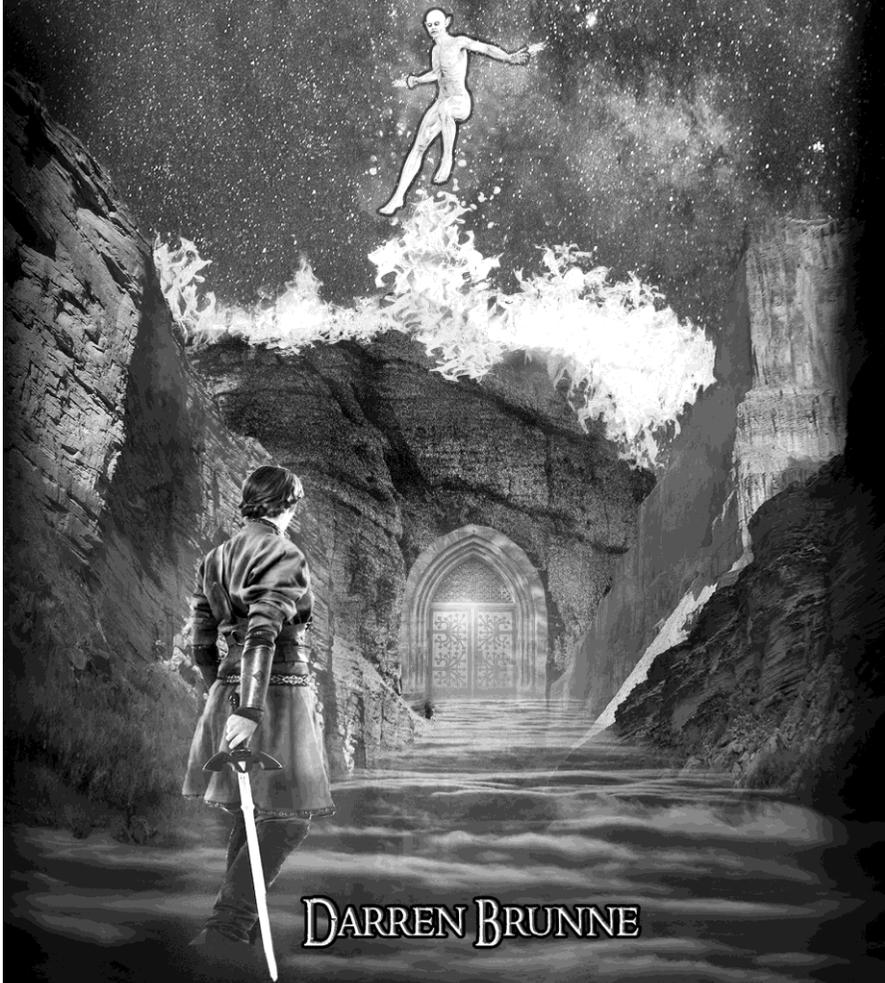


# SOUL WARRIOR

THE BATTLE BEGINS



DARREN BRUNNE

The Seven Steps to Mastering Happiness, Peace and Fulfilment

灵魂战士  
征战已经开始

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掌握幸福，平安与成就的七个步骤

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To  
all warriors  
who have dared  
to walk the spiritual path  
may your victories be many.

献给所有敢于踏上属灵道路的战士，祝愿你常胜！

Acknowledgements

致谢

## The Path of the Spiritual Warrior

### 属灵战士的道路

‘Life offers us the opportunity to become a Spiritual Warrior. A warrior is one who bravely goes into those dark areas within themselves to ferret out the Truth of their being. It takes great courage, stamina and endurance to become a Spiritual Warrior. The path is narrow, the terrain rough and rocky. You will walk alone: through the dark caves, up those steep climbs and through the dense thick forest. You will meet your dark side. The faces of fear, deceit, and sadness all await your arrival. No one but you can take this journey.

生命为我们提供了成为属灵战士的机会。战士是一个勇敢地进入他自己内心的黑暗区域，去搜寻那里存在之真相的人。成为一名属灵战士需要巨大的勇气、活力和耐力。小径狭窄，地形崎岖。你将独自行走：穿过黑暗的洞穴，爬上陡峭的山峰，穿过茂密的森林。你会遭遇你的阴暗面。恐惧、欺骗和悲伤等面相都在等着你的到来。唯有你自己才能踏上这征程。

There comes a time in each of our lives when we are given the choice to follow this path. Should we decide to embark on this journey, we can never turn back...our lives are changed forever. On this journey, there are many different places we can choose to slip into and hide, but the path goes on. The Spiritual Warrior stays the

course, wounded at times, exhausted and out of energy. Many times, the Warriors will struggle back to their feet to take only a few steps before falling again.

在我们每个人的生命中，总会有一段时间让我们选择走这条路。如果我们决定踏上这征程，就再也无法回头...我们的生命将永远改变。在这个征程上，有许多不同的地方，我们可以选择溜走和躲藏，但这征程还在继续。属灵战士会继续前进，有时会受伤，精疲力竭。很多时候，战士们会挣扎着站起来，踉跄几步，然后再跌倒。

Rested, they forge on, continuing the treacherous path. The journey continues. The Spiritual Warrior stays the course. Weakened, but never broken. One day, the battle, loneliness and desperate fights are over. The sun breaks through the clouds, the birds begin to sing their sweet melodies. There is a change in the energy. A deep change in the self. The warrior has fought the courageous fight. The battle of the dark night of the soul is won. New energy now fills the Warrior.

稍事休息，他们坚持前行，继续这艰难行程。征程还在继续。属灵战士坚持前进。他们疲累，但从未中断。终于有一天，争斗、孤独和绝望的征战结束了。太阳冲破云层，鸟儿开始唱起它们甜美的歌声。他们的自身发生了深刻的变化，能力也不一样了。战士勇敢的结束了战斗。赢得了灵魂黑暗之夜的战斗。如今战士充满了新的能量。

A new path is now laid before them. A gentler path filled with the inner- knowing of one who has personal empowerment. With their personal battle won, they are filled with joy. A new awareness that they are one with the Spirit, beams as they go forth to show others the way. They are not permitted to walk the path for others. They can only love, guide and be a living example of the Truth of their being.’

如今，呈现在他们面前的是一条新路，更加优美温和之路，充满了内在觉知，给人力量使之勇往直前。随着亲身征战的胜利，他们充满了喜悦，有了新的意识。如今他们是属灵之人，在前行的路上能照亮他人的光。他们不能替别人走这条路，而只能以爱、引领和自己活生生的榜样展示他们实在的真理。

~Author Unknown~

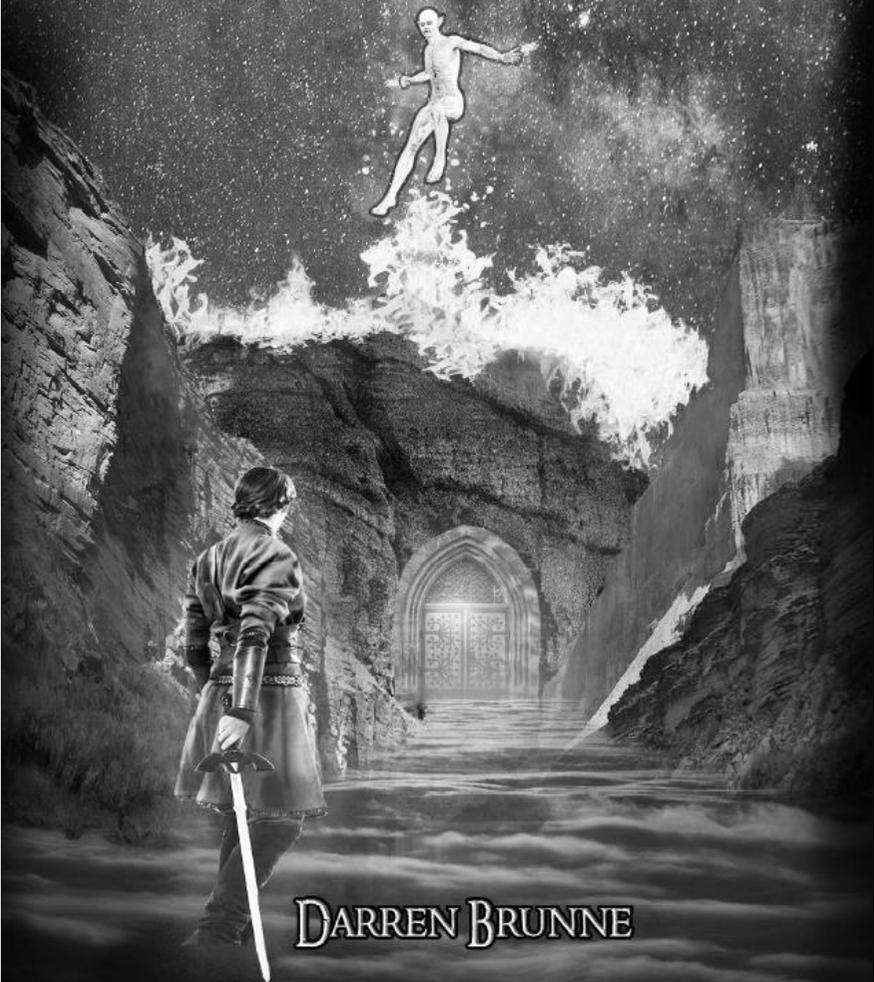
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# SOUL WARRIOR

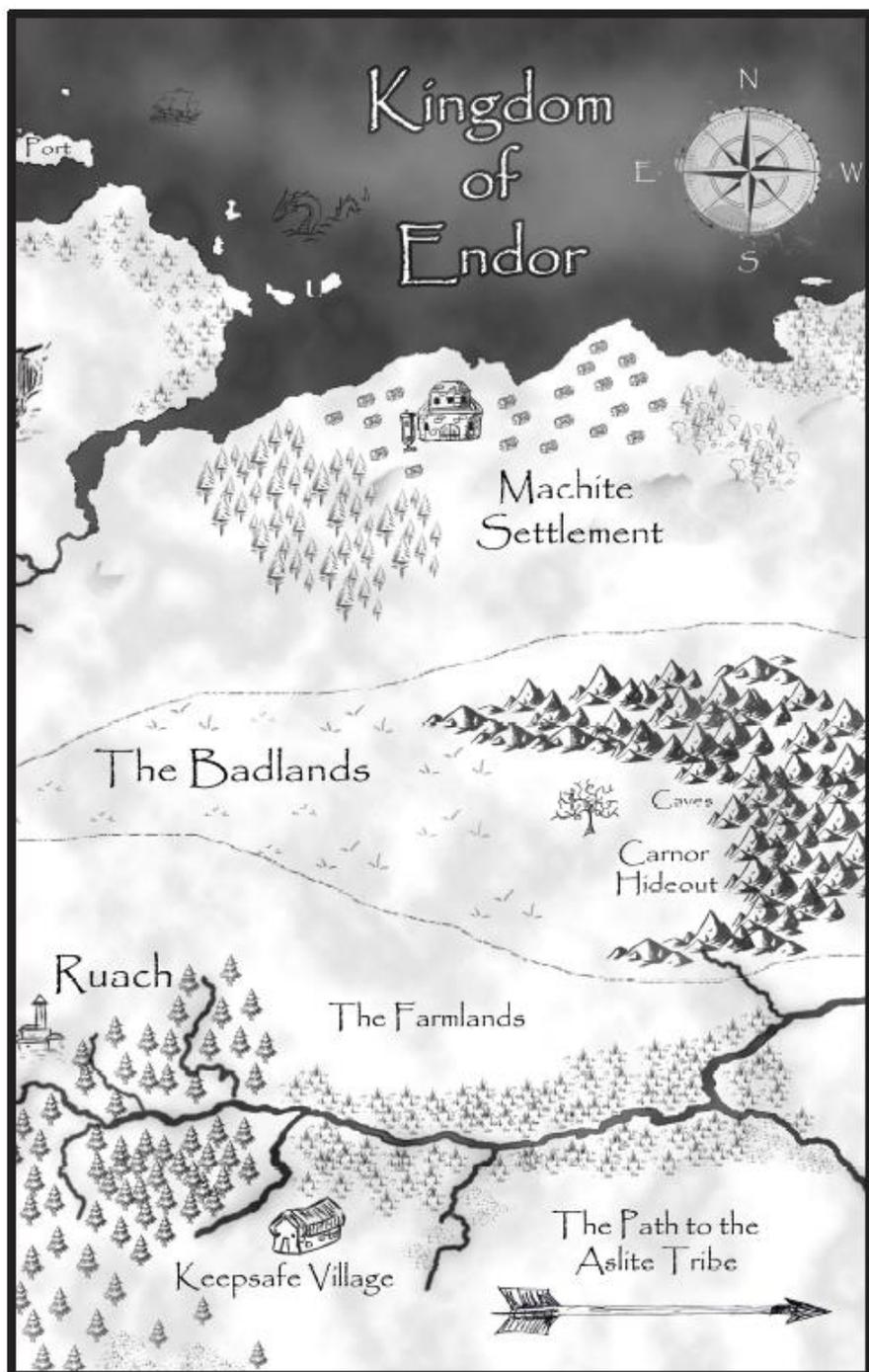
THE BATTLE BEGINS



DARREN BRUNNE

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# **The Whole Armor of God**

**A final word:**

**Remember that your  
strength must come from  
the Lord's mighty power within you.**

**Put on all of God's armour  
so that you will be able to stand firm  
against all strategies of darkness and evil.**

**For we are not fighting against enemies  
made of flesh-and-blood, but against evil  
forces of the unseen realm, against mighty  
powers in this dark world, and against evil  
spirits in hidden dimensions.**

**Ephesians 6:10-12**

## 主的全副军装

我还有未了的话：你们要靠着主，倚赖他的大能大力，作刚强的人。要穿戴神所赐的全副军装，就能抵挡魔鬼的诡计。因我们并不是与属血气的争战，乃是与那些执政的、掌权的、管辖这幽暗世界的，以及天空属灵气的恶魔争战。

以弗所书 6：10-12

## Preface

### A Close Encounter with Death

#### 前言

#### 与死亡擦肩而过

I started my car and reversed it out of the carpark onto the road. It was 8 o'clock on a Monday morning, and I had just completed a night shift of work and was heading home. My desire to get some rest was overwhelming, and I felt a slight anxiety about the possibility of falling asleep at the wheel. For this reason, I decided to drive home a different way to avoid any congestion on the roads and the frustration of traffic lights.

我把车发动起来，把它从停车场倒到马路上。现在是星期一早上8点，我刚刚上完夜班，正准备回家。我休息的渴望极其强烈。我感到有点担心，怕我可能会在方向盘上睡着了。因此，我决定从另一条路开车回家，以避免路上堵车和交通灯的麻烦。

The old road led out of town toward the recycling centre. It was a long windy road that followed an ancient dry river bed. I knew the way well, and that meant that I could push the speed limit to the maximum. I came flying around one long bend and then pressed hard on the brakes.

这条老路通往市区外，朝回收中心的方向走。路很长，风

很大，沿途是一条干涸的老河道。我对这条路了如指掌，这意味着我可以把速度开到最大。我绕着一个很长的弯道飞奔，然后努力踩刹车。

Up ahead in the distance was a large utility truck slowly moving along on the same side of the road. On the back of the truck was an open trailer with tall wire fencing. Most of the trailer was full of green waste and cuttings, but there were other pieces of waste metal and broken concrete. The speed limit on the road was 80km, but the vehicle dragged its way along at half that speed. To make matters worse, in the middle of the road were the double painted lines warning that any attempts to overtake a vehicle were dangerous and illegal.

前面远处有一辆大型货车，在路的同一侧缓缓地行驶着。卡车后面有一辆开式拖车，有高高的铁丝网围着。拖车里大部分都是绿色垃圾和切屑，但也有其他废金属碎片和破碎的混凝土。道路上的限速为 80 公里，但这车辆以一半的速度行驶。糟糕的是，道路中间有两条涂有油漆的线，警告说任何超车的企图都是危险和非法的。

My frustration increased as I sat close to the truck looking for the right opportunity to overtake a slow-moving obstacle. Kilometre after kilometre, the white lines refused to break, and my impatience crept up another level. I contemplated taking a risk by zipping past the truck to freedom.

我越来越沮丧，于是我靠近卡车，寻找合适的机会超越这

个慢吞吞的障碍物。一公里又一公里，白实线不肯中断，我的不耐烦又上升了一层。我想冒个险，从卡车旁挤过去，以获得自由。

Then, like a flash of light, a specific thought flowed into my mind  
这时，就像一道亮光一样，一个特别的念头进入我的脑海：  
“Remember your spiritual task.” I rummaged through my  
memory banks, ‘What is my spiritual task for the month?’

“记着你的属灵任务”。我在记忆里搜寻着，“这个月我的属灵任务是甚麽？”

For several years, I had been part of a group engaging in  
‘Logopraxis’. This group would gather together often to read  
portions of sacred text. Each person would pay close attention to  
whatever part of the text was ‘standing out’ or calling to them.  
For the next few days, each participant would meditate upon  
their chosen portion of text until a clear message would come to  
them. From this exercise, a practitioner could formulate a task or  
focus. For this month, my current task was to ‘slow down and be  
more in the now and to enjoy the process.’

几年来，我一直是一个叫“Logopraxis”的团体的成员。这个团体经常聚集在一起阅读神圣著作的一些内容。每个人都会密切关注著作的任何部分“跳跃出来或呼唤他们”。在接下来的几天里，每个参与者都会沉思他们选择的部分内容，直到一个明确的信息临到他们。从这个练习中，实践者可以制定一个任务或重点。在这个月里，我当前的任

务是“放慢脚步，更多地关注当前，乐享这个过程。

My attention snapped back to the vehicle in front of me. Now, fully conscious of my spiritual task, I pulled away from the truck until there were at least three to four car spaces between the vehicles. I relaxed into my seat and resolved just to enjoy the drive regardless of how slow we were travelling.

我的注意力又迅速回到前面的那辆车上。现在，我完全意识到了我的属灵任务，于是与卡车拉开距离，直到两辆车之间至少有三到四个车位的空间。我放松地坐在座位上，决定不管我们行进的速度有多慢，都要享受开车的乐趣。

Only seconds had past when a large old metal pole that looked a lot like a discarded street sign fell out of the back of the trailer. It bounced on the road, fully upright and then flew off harmlessly into the bank on the side of the road.

刚过去几秒钟，一根很大的旧金属杆从拖车的后面掉了下来，看起来很像废弃的道路标。它在路上翻滚颠簸，直立起来，然后又飞进路边的河岸，没有造成伤害。

Now, still in shock, I realised that if I had not remembered my spiritual task at that exact moment and then pulled away from the truck, the renegade pole would have smashed straight through my windscreen and most likely, I would now be dead.

此时我还在惊惧中！我意识到，如果我没有记起我的属灵任务，同时在那一瞬间从卡车边后退，失控的标杆必然已经直接打破了我的挡风玻璃。很可能，我现在已经死了。

Although this event occurred over five years ago, even today, I am grateful for the unseen guidance in my life. Just how often we brush against death while on this earthly journey, we may never honestly know, but higher forces, I believe, are holding us, leading us and seeking our best.

虽然这事发生在五年多前，但即使到了今天，我仍对我生命中那无形的引导深深感激。在这趟尘世旅途中，我们多少次与死亡擦肩而过！我们也许永远不会真正知道，但我相信，更高的权能正保护着我们，指引着我们，为我们寻求最佳结局。

In the living example just mentioned above, I believe, we find a perfect display of a spiritual process at work. This process is designed to help us, guide us and keep us safe. It was known to the ancient soul warrior as the ‘Cord of Enlightenment’.

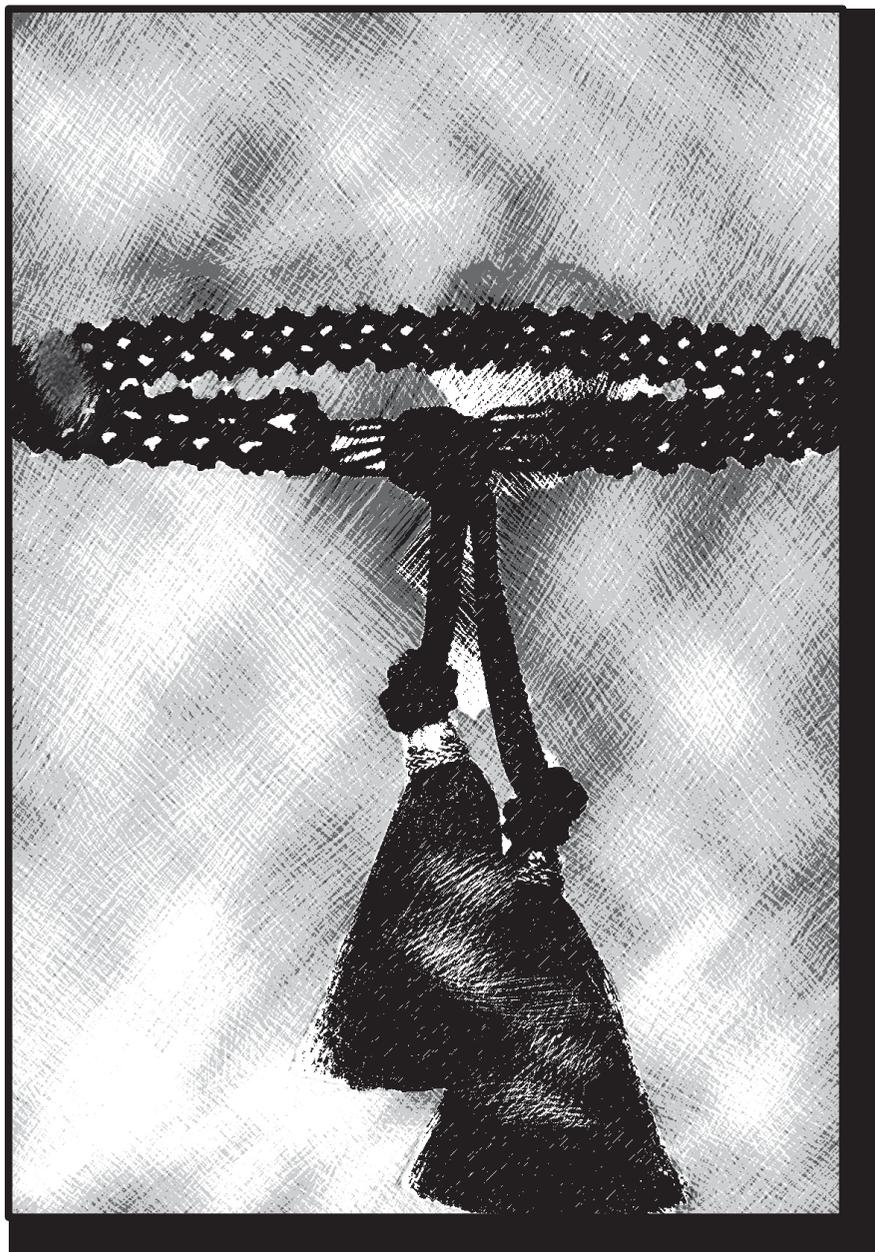
在上面提到的活生生的例子中，我相信，我们看见了实际运行的完美的灵性过程。这一过程旨在帮助我们，指导我们，保护我们的安全。古时的灵魂战士称之为“开悟之索”。

Chapter One

The Cord of Enlightenment

第一章

开悟之索



*Insight, Illumination, and Practice*



## Chapter One

### The Cord of Enlightenment

#### 第一章

#### 开悟之索

The young apprentice sat on the wooden bench beneath the old oak tree with a look of frustration spread across his face. In his hands, he was holding the heavy woven cord and turned the ends back and forth trying to remember the latest knot the Master had taught him. He brushed the long dark hair from his eyes and looked over at his teacher who was quietly reading one of the old texts oblivious to the boy's pain.

年轻的徒弟坐在老橡树下的木凳上，脸上流露出沮丧的神情。他手中握着那根沉重的编织索带，来回查看着两端，试图记住师父教他的最新绳结。他把长长的黑发从眼睛前面拨开，瞅瞅他的老师，老师正静静地读着一篇旧日文章，对男孩的痛苦漠不关心。

“Teacher, I can't do it”, cried Mathetis with an edge of torment to his voice.

“老师，我做不了。”马蒂斯用一种痛苦的声音喊道。

Mathetis glanced at his teacher waiting for a reply. The Master sat there like a statue with a determined stare focused on the book. The boy's teacher had the largest eyes of anyone he had ever met. Those orbs were full of kindness and profound wisdom. As an

instructor, the Master could be quite firm at times, but Mathetis knew the truth. His teacher's heart was large and full of softness. When the lingering silence overwhelmed the apprentice, he tried again, 'You have shown me over and over, and I just can't do it. Surely, I don't need to know this way of tying the cord? I have mastered the other five, isn't that enough?'

马蒂斯瞥了一眼他的老师，等待他的回答。师父坐在那里，像一尊雕像，全神贯注地读着书。在这孩子见过的人中，他师父的眼睛是最大的。那两个圆球充满了善良和深邃的智慧。作为一名师父，老师有时会很坚持，但马蒂斯知道底细。他师父的心胸很宽广，很温柔。被久久的沉默压抑着的徒弟，又试着说：“你一遍又一遍地教我，我就是做不了。我不是必需学会这种结索带的方法吗？我已经掌握了另外五个，那还不够吗？”

The Master lifted his head from the book and looked at his disciple with those all-knowing eyes.

师父抬起头离开书，用洞悉一切的眼神看着他的徒弟。

'What is our purpose, Mathetis?'

你的目的是什么，马蒂斯？

'To protect the village from pillages, those who would loot and kill us.'

“保护村庄，防范那些掠夺和杀害我们的人。”

'And how often do we do that?' 'Not very often, Teacher.'

“我们多久做一次这事呢？” “不经常，老师。”

‘And why is that?’

‘Because we are good at our job?’

“那为什么呢？” “因为我们的工作做的很好？”

‘Yes. We are thorough, and that is because we continually prepare for such events. But we also have another purpose too. Can you tell me what that is my apprentice?’

“是的。我们很全面，这是因为我们一直在为这事做着准备。但我们也有另一个目的。你能告诉我那是甚麽吗，我的徒弟？”

‘To uphold the sacred values and remember the ancient ways?’

“是维护神圣的价值观，传承古时的传统吗？”

‘Very well said, young one. And what are those values? Can you show me the ancient path?’

“说得很好，年轻人。这些价值观是什么？你能告诉我古时的路径吗？”

‘Not yet, teacher. You have not taught me.’

“还不能老师，你还没有教我”。

‘Ah, but you have been taught... only you have not yet the mind to recognise it. But today, your eyes are opening. For when you questioned my methods, it told me that you are now ready to be shown the hidden path.’

“噢，但是我教过你了...只有你没有留心注意而已。但今天，你的眼睛睁开了。因为当你质疑我的方法时，这就告

诉我，你现在已经准备好了，要知道隐密的路线了。”

At that moment, the Master closed his book and stood up from the table.

这时，师父合上书本，从桌旁站了起来。

‘Let us begin, shall we?’

然后我们开始吧，好吗？

Mathetis felt a surge of excitement. He had been waiting a long time for this moment, and now he was about to learn the secret path, the path of the spiritual warrior.

马蒂斯感到一阵兴奋。他已经为这一刻等了很久了。现在他就要开始学习属灵战士的秘密路线。

‘Clothing is a funny thing, my boy. Why do people wear cords and belts?’

“穿衣服是件有趣的事，我的孩子。为什么人们要穿索带和腰带呢？”

‘To stop their pants falling down?’

“防止裤子脱落下来吗？”

The Master let out a soft chuckle, ‘Yes, but more importantly, to stop the rest of their garments from getting in their way. When you are trying to work, you do not want your clothes to get in the way. And what about the warrior?’

师父说，“是的，但更重要的是，要防止他们衣服的其他部分碍它们的事。”当你准备做事时，你不希望你的衣服

碍你的事，那战士如何呢？

Mathetis imagined his pants caught around his ankles as an angry mob of bandits swarmed upon him.

马蒂斯想象着，当一群暴徒怒气冲冲地扑向他时，他的裤腿却缠在脚踝上。

‘What a terrible way to die.’

“这样去死太窝囊了。”

The boy stood up quickly, and a smile flashed across his face.

男孩很快站了起来，脸上露出一丝微笑。

‘Yes, exactly young one. The warrior is in danger if there is no belt. But when the belt is worn, it makes the warrior’s clothing more effective, especially in a fight.’

“是的，年轻人。如果没有腰带，战士就有危险。但是当束上腰带时，战士的衣服就会更贴切，尤其是在战斗中。

The Master reached for a book and then continued, ‘A cord or belt wraps around the waist or the chest and helps to pull in tight the outer garments, vest, and tunic. Imagine tripping over your clothes especially at the top of a hill or a set of steps. You would end up falling helplessly into a heap while sustaining severe damage. Your enemy would be upon you in moments.’

师父伸手拿起一本书，接着说：“索带或腰带束在腰间或胸膛上，有助于扣紧外袍、背心和上衣。想象一下，当你在山顶或台阶上攀登时却被衣服缠倒。你最终会倒在混乱的人群里，遭受严重伤害。你的敌人马上就到了。”

‘Yes, of course, Teacher. But what does that have to do with the secret path?’

“当然是的，老师。但这和秘密路线有什么关系呢？”

Mathetis had thought deeply about the secret path many times. He wondered if it would be something he would see with his own eyes. Would a portal open or might objects begin to glow and point the way forward? He wanted to ask his teacher on many occasions, but it was forbidden to talk about the subject, at least until the time of initiation.

马蒂斯曾多次思考这条秘密路线。他想知道这是不是他能亲眼看到的。会有一扇门打开呢，还是有个强大的东西突然发光指明前进的方向？好多次他想问他的师父，但是不许讨论这个问题，至少在开始阶段。

The Master took a step back and rubbed his face. ‘Hmm, the secret path itself, a good question young one and I see that I have gotten ahead of myself. I will come back to the path and the first piece of armour in a moment but first, let me lay a foundation for you. We need to discuss the Laws of symbology.’

师父后退一步，摸了摸脸。嗯，关于这个秘密路线，年轻人，这是个好问题。我发现自己已经走远了。我一会儿会回到这条路和第一套甲冑的事儿。但首先，让我为你打个基础。我们需要讨论象征的法则。

‘The Laws of symbology? I have heard you mention that before, but I have no idea what it means.’

“象征的法则？我以前听你提过，但我不知道那是什么意思

思。

‘You will need to master these Laws if you are to become a spiritual warrior and continue our spiritual traditions.’

“如果你想成为一名属灵战士，延续我们的属灵传统，你就需要掌握这些法则。”

‘Where to begin...?’

“从哪里开始呢？”

The Master stood very still and pulled on his beard. He often did this in moments of deep thought and for some strange reason it reminded the boy of the goats that grazed in the nearby fields.

师父稳稳站着，捋了捋他的胡子。他经常在深思的时候做这个动作。莫名其妙的，这让男孩想起在附近田间吃草的山羊。

‘Language. That’s a good analogy. All language is symbolic. I am referring to the actual words themselves. Every word we use is symbolic of an object, thought or feeling. The words are not the object but point to the object.’

“语言。这是一个很好的比喻。所有语言都是象征性的。我指的是实际的单词本身。我们使用的每一个词汇都是一个事物、念头或感觉的象征。单词不是事物，而是指向事物。

Mathetis sat down again, ‘I see...’ He was about to go on, but the Master continued before the boy could take over.

马蒂斯又坐了下来，“我明白了。。。 ”他正要说，但师父

不容他打断，继续说下去。

‘Through observed evidence, one could say that nature and the material universe are an outward result of the “almost” undetectable laws of the universe at work.’

通过观察到的证据，人们可以说自然界和物质宇宙是“几乎”无法测知的，正在运行的宇宙法则的外观结果。

‘We cannot see the wind, but we can detect its presence when we see the trees and other objects reacting to its power. We cannot see the soul nor can we prove its existence but we can see the influence of soul energy throughout creation. Everything in existence is held together by soul energy.’

“我们看不到风，但当看到树木和其他物体对风的力量做的反应时，我们就能察觉到它的存在。”我们不能看到灵魂，也不能证明它的存在，但是我们可以看到灵魂的能量在整个造物中的影响。存在的一切都是由灵魂的能量维系在一起的。

The Master stopped abruptly and looked down at the blank face of his apprentice. Perhaps the boy was too young to understand. After all, seventeen years did not offer much in the way of life experience.

师父突然停了下来，低头望着他徒弟那张茫然的脸。也许这孩子还太小，听不懂。毕竟，十七年的人生无法提供多少生命经历。

He continued, ‘What I am trying to say is that everything that takes form in our universe does so from a higher spiritual realm.’

All life is continually in communication with our souls if we learn how to listen. The spiritual warrior hears and sees the message clearly, and thus, the wise soul is protected and grows strong.’

他接着说，“我想说的是，我们宇宙中存在的一切事物都是由一个更高的灵性实在形成的。”如果我们学会倾听，所有的生命都在不断地与我们的灵魂沟通。属灵战士清楚地听到和看到这信息。从而，智慧的灵魂获得保护，变得强大。”

‘Mathetis, do you understand what I am telling you?’

“马蒂斯，你明白我说的意思吗？”

The young apprentice loved his teacher deeply, but he often struggled to follow everything the Master was saying. He turned his head up towards the teacher and a new smile spread across the young boy’s face.

这位年轻的徒弟深深地爱着他的老师，但他经常很难领会师父所说的一切。他抬起头转向师父，年轻男孩的脸上泛起新的笑容。

‘Yes, it makes sense. Please go on.’

“是的，这很有道理。请继续。”

‘Everything we do in the Order of the Warrior has great symbolic significance, especially our armour and weapons. The field of symbology best starts with the human form. You see, our bodies are like garments for the soul, and the clothes that we wear over our bodies are symbolic of this relationship we have between flesh and spirit.’

在武士团我们所做的每一件事，都具有重大的象征意义，特别是我们的甲冑和武器。在象征学的领域我们最好从人类结构说起。你看，我们的身体就像灵魂的衣服，我们与身上穿的衣服的关系，就象征着肉体 and 灵之间的关系。

‘The garments and weapons that we use in our Order, spiritually speaking, tell us about the nature of an advancing soul. We must remember that all life is an outward manifestation of inner realities. If you can grasp this finer point, you will easily master the laws of symbols.’

“在这个组织里，我们使用的装束和武器，在属灵意义上，讲述的是成长中的灵魂的特性。我们必须记住，所有的生命都是内心实在的外在表现。如果你能准确掌握这一点，你就很容易掌握象征的法则。 .

The Master walked past the young boy toward a tall round pillar buried in the dirt. From around five feet upwards were thick round pieces of timber sticking out from the post. On each section of wood were various pieces of armour, weapons and attachments.

师父从男孩身边走过，走向埋在泥土里的高圆台子。从大约五英尺高的地方，从台子上突出来一些粗大的圆木。每一根圆木上都挂有各样甲冑、武器和附件。

The Master selected several items and turned back to the boy. ‘These are your tools to protect yourself against your enemies. The soul needs its paraphernalia as well. The first and most important of these tools is the cord, and the reason for this is that

the spiritual belt influences every other piece of armour.’

师父挑选了几件物品，然后转向男孩。“这些是你保护自己免受敌人伤害的装备。灵魂也需要装备。这些装备中第一个也是最重要的是索带，因为属灵的腰带影响着甲冑的其他部分。”

Without warning, the Master flung a small sharp blade in the direction of the boy, and with perfect reflexes, the apprentice’s hand darted up and caught the knife in mid-air.

在无预警的情况下，师父朝男孩扔去一把锋利的小刀。徒弟反应敏捷地扬起手臂，在半空中抓住了刀子。

‘You are learning to be a well-trained warrior who knows the art of war, how to fight and how to always be ready to engage in battle. The same is true for the fully awakened soul who understands the precious nature of soul energy and the need to protect that soul life from the dark forces that seek to exploit soul energy for selfish and evil ends.’

“你正在学习成为一名训练有素的战士，懂得战争的艺术，如何作战，以及如何随时做好战斗的准备。对于完全觉醒的灵魂来说也是如此，他们理解灵魂能量的珍贵性质，以及保护灵性生命不受黑暗势力影响的重要性，这些势力试图利用灵魂能量来达到自私和邪恶的目的。”

The Master stretched out his hand, but it was empty. ‘May I see your belt?’

师父伸出手来，手里空无一物。“可以把你的腰带给我吗？”

Mathetis, a little surprised, untied the belt from around his waist

and handed it to his teacher.

马蒂斯有些惊讶，他把腰带从腰间解下，递给师父。

‘How do we make a cord like this?’

“我们如何制作这样的索带？”

‘We weave together many finer strands of thread to make them into a belt.’ Mathetis had never made a belt, but every student warrior was required to do so.

“我们把许多细线编织在一起，做成一条腰带是吗？”马蒂斯从来没有做过腰带，但每个学生战士都必须学会做。

‘Yes, and why do we do that?’

“是的，但是为甚麽那样做？”

‘I don’t know. I have never really thought about it. I suppose a simple rope could easily break and then your pants will fall down?’

“我不知道。我从未真正想过这件事。我想单纯的一根绳子很容易断，然后裤子就会掉下来是吗？”

The Master frowned for a short moment and then with a smile responded, ‘Perhaps... you are right in saying that it is to make the cord stronger. Now, the spiritual warrior also has a belt. It is called the “Cord of Enlightenment”. When the spiritual warrior uses the Cord of Enlightenment, such a soul has developed a strong interwoven understanding of wisdom.’

师父皱了皱眉头，然后笑着回答说：“也许...你说得是对的，是为了让索带更结实。现在，属灵战士也有一条腰带。

它被称为“开悟之索”。当属灵战士使用开悟之索时，这时灵魂已经形成了对智慧强有力的交互贯通的理解。

The apprentice's eyes squeezed into small slits, and his smile became a little crooked, 'So you're saying, that all the spiritual knowledge I am learning will one day turn into a cord?'

徒弟的眼睛眯成了一条缝，他笑容有些勉强，“所以你是说，我学到的所有属灵知识有一天会变成一条索带吗？”

'No need for silliness, young one. Pay careful attention. The cord that the soul wears could be called the "cord of spiritual knowledge" Mathetis. You may use that term if you find it more comfortable but know this, enlightenment is a far superior word for this spiritual belt.'

“不要糊涂年轻人，要小心点。灵魂披戴的索带可以称为“灵性知识的索带”。马蒂斯，你可以用这个词，如果你觉得合适的话。但要知道，对于属灵腰带来说，开悟是一个更好的词。”

'You see, enlightenment is more than just knowledge. Enlightenment can only occur when prior knowledge takes hold of the mind to such a degree that an irreversible change transpires. Enlightenment causes a permanent shift in the warrior's life view. The advancing soul develops an affection for those insights and wants to see them used. Thus, learning to wear the Cord of Enlightenment will be an ongoing process for you.'

“你知道，开悟不仅仅是知识上的。只有先前的知识主导心性，使之达到不可逆转的程度时，开悟才能发生。开悟

使战士的人生观发生永久的转变。成长中的灵魂对这样的觉悟产生了感情，并希望看到它们的益用。因此，学习穿戴开悟之索对你来说，是一个长久的任务。”

The Master took out a small piece of cloth from within his tunic and tied it around the apprentice's head making sure to cover his eyes fully. Mathetis sat very still as the teacher worked on the knot. He trusted the Master and even enjoyed his teaching style. So many past lessons remained with Mathetis because of the strange methods his teacher used.

师父从外衣里拿出一小块布，绑在学徒的头上，完全遮住了眼睛。当师父打绳结时，马蒂斯安安静静坐着。他信任师父，甚至喜欢他的教导风格。由于师父使用不同寻常的教导方法，所以许多过去的课仍然记在马蒂斯的脑海里。

‘The warrior can no longer see the world in the old way but must learn to increase the power of intuition and then act from a place of enlightenment. Life is wonderful and worthwhile Mathetis, but it is also fraught with dangers that a warrior must learn to overcome.’

战士不能以旧的方式看世界，而必须学会提升直觉能力，然后从开悟之处行动。马蒂斯，生命既美好又珍贵，但也充满了危险，一个战士必须学会制胜。

The Master, once again, retrieved the boy's belt and then, without warning, swung it towards the boy's head. Mathetis heard the whistling sound of the cord as it cut through the air and he knew what to do. He arched his back swiftly into a vertical

position and avoided the blow from the oncoming missile. The Master paused for a moment feeling satisfied that his student had absorbed the metaphor.

师父又一次拿起男孩的腰带，然后毫无预兆地向男孩的头部掷去。马蒂斯听到腰带穿经空气的唿哨声音，他知道该怎么做。于是敏捷地拱起背，直立起来，避开了迎面投射来的打击。师父停了一会儿，对他的徒弟领悟了这个比喻感到满意。

‘You are a good student, young one. You may take the blindfold off.’

“年轻人你是个好学生，你可以把眼罩取下来了。”

Mathetis blinked his eyes a few times until they had adjusted to the light. The Master’s eyes were glancing downward at the plain cord in his hand, “It is getting late. Head home, and I will see you early in the morning... Oh, and take this with you. It needs a wash.’

马蒂斯眨了几次眼睛，直到适应了光线。师父的眼睛朝下看了看手中那根普通的绳子，说：“太晚了，回家吧，我们明天一早晨见...哦，把这个带走，它需要洗一下。”

## WEARING THE CORD OF ENLIGHTENMENT

### 穿戴开悟之索

The next morning, Mathetis arrived on time, but he looked a little disorganised. His clothes were flapping around in the wind.

第二天早上，马蒂斯准时到了。但他看上去有点衣冠不整，衣服在风中凌乱。

‘Where is your cord?’ questioned the Master.

“你的索带呢？” ， 师父问。

Mathetis gave no reply but instead removed a bag from off his shoulder and then pulled out a wet sagging rope.

马蒂斯没有回答，从肩膀上卸下袋子，然后掏出一根湿漉漉的垂着的绳子。

‘Never mind. Hang it up over there in the wind. Your lack of a belt can work to our advantage. I have a gift for you.’

“没关系，把它挂在有风之处。你没有腰带对我们有好处。我有个礼物给你。”

The Master went back inside and quickly returned carrying a new intricately woven belt. Some of the threads were golden, others a deep red and the rest a sky blue.

师父回到屋里，很快带回来一条新的编织复杂的索带。里面有些线是金色的，另一些是深红的，其余的是天蓝色的。

‘It is beautiful!’ cried Mathetis.

“漂亮” ， 马蒂斯喊道。

‘I made it for you. It is yours to keep, young apprentice. Now come inside for your next lesson and make haste to tie up your garments. Always remember, armour serves no purpose when stored away. We must always be ready and dressed for action.’

“这是我为你制作的，你要留着它，小徒弟。现在进来上你的下一课，赶快把你的衣服束好。要永远记住，甲冑储存起来就没有用啦。我们必须时刻穿好衣服，准备行动。”

Mathetis ran his fingers over the cord. It was smooth and flawless. How many hours had his teacher spent creating this belt? He couldn't wait to show it to his mother.

马蒂斯用手抚摸着索带，它光滑完美。他的师父花了多少小时制作这条索带？他迫不及待地想把它拿给母亲看。

A slight twinge of pain shot through the boy's stomach as thoughts of his mother now made him think of his father. Five years had passed since he had lost his father to an attack on the road to Tharhorn. The thieves made off with 40 silver coins and a few clothes. Undoubtedly, a man's life was worth more than that. It was his father's senseless death that made him join the Order.

想到母亲的同时，他想起了父亲，他觉得腹中微微作痛。自他父亲五年前在去萨霍恩的路上遭到袭击，他就失去了父亲。窃贼抢走了40枚银币和几件衣服。毫无疑问，一个人的生命价值远不止于此。正是父亲的无谓的死亡使他加入了这一组织。

The boy's thoughts went to his teacher. When he had first asked

about the Order, the Master did not feel ready to take on an apprentice, but later, when the teacher learned of the boy's loss, he agreed without hesitation. In many ways, the Master had helped Mathetis through his grief. He only wished the Master was his father or that his father had been more like the Master. Then there would have been no death on that road those many years prior.

这男孩的思绪转向他的师父。当他第一次请求加入这个组织时，师父并没有觉得想收这个学徒。但后来当师父得知这个男孩的丧失时，他毫不犹豫地同意了。师父用了许多方法，帮助他度过悲痛。他多么希望当时师父是他的父亲，或者他的父亲更像师父一样。那样的话，在那条路上过去的许多年就不会有死亡了。

Mathetis entered the quarters and began the ancient ceremony of applying the cord, first from the front and then returning from the back on both sides. As he tied the final knot, the Master opened a nearby book and began to instruct him.

马蒂斯走进房里，开始了古老的使用索带的仪式，先从前面开始，然后从两边返回后背。当他打最后一个结时，师父打开手边的一本书，开始教他。

‘When the spiritual warrior wraps the soul with enlightenment, all the existing garments are pulled tight against the body. The warrior's garments are symbolic of spiritual insight. These insights, when applied to life, join together, and then the garments are said to take on the shape of the warrior.

Throughout the earthly journey, the awareness of the warrior

continues to grow, and one's inner garments change according to symbolic laws.'

“当属灵战士用开悟包裹灵魂时，所有穿着的衣服都被紧紧地束在身上。战士的装束是他属灵洞察力的象征。当这些洞察力在生命中发挥作用时，就会合成一体，从而使得装束呈现出战士的身形。在整个尘世的旅程中，战士的觉察力持续增长，按照象征的法则展示出此人的内心装束。

‘Teacher, where can I find these garments?’

“师父，我从哪里可以看出这些装束？”

The Master's eyes flashed as he focused in on Mathetis.

师父盯着马蒂斯，眨了眨眼。

‘Spiritual garments can be found in all sacred texts and wise sayings.’

“属灵装束可以在所有神圣著作和睿智话语中看到。”

‘Is that why you make me start each day in the library reading the old books?’ At first, Mathetis cared little for this practice. He did as he was told not wanting to disobey the Master. But now, he quite enjoyed the exercise. The old books had a smell that was intoxicating, and he always felt somehow more centred at the end.

“这就是为什么你让我每天开始从图书馆读旧书吗？”起初，马蒂斯对这种做法不太在意。他照要求的做，不想违抗师父的命令。但现在，他非常喜欢这项活动。这些旧书有一种令人陶醉的感觉，他觉得自己的注意力总是在结束时更

集中。

‘Yes, for the most part, but also to give you a discipline, young one. Although you have been unaware of the process, within your soul, you have been gathering insights meant for the spiritual path. There never comes the point where the warrior stops gathering insights.’

“是的，大多数情况下，但也是为了给你一个训练，年轻人。尽管你一直不明白这个过程，但在你的灵魂里，你已经正在增长属灵道路的洞察力。战士永远不会有停止增长洞察力的那一刻。”

The Master assembled many loose pages lying around on the table and rolled them into a scroll shape. He tied a small strand of reed around the papers and what he then did next seemed pointless at first. Only later, did it come back to the boy and he realised the significance. The Master lifted his hand containing the scroll high into the air and then dropped the newly formed bundle onto the surface of his table. The document bounced on the countertop and landed on the floor, but the sheets of paper remained together. Mathetis watched the demonstration aware that at any moment a question could be shot his way. The bound parchment made him once again think of the goats tied up in the nearby paddock.

师父把许多散乱的纸页堆在桌子上，然后把它们卷成卷轴状。他用一小束芦苇捆住这些纸。他接下来做的事，起初看起来似乎毫无意义。直到后来，才使男孩回过味来意识到其意义。师父举起手把卷轴高高地举到空中，然后把刚

捆扎成的卷轴扔到桌面上。卷轴在桌面上弹起，落在地板上，但纸页仍然在一起。马蒂斯看着这演示，意识到任何时候他都有可能提出一个问题。那捆起来的羊皮纸使他又想起那些被圈在附近围场里的山羊。

‘When you apply insights to everyday life then the warrior is born. In time, the soul will dress in fine garments suitable for the path. Those garments, if kept in place, will protect you well from the Sun, the Wind and the Cold of the spiritual path.’

当你在日常生活中运用洞察力时，就成为战士了。随着时间的推移，灵魂将穿着适合其道路的恰当装束。这些装束如果配置恰当，能很好地保护你，使你免受阳光、风和属灵道路的严寒侵袭。“

The Master paused for a moment, picked up a piece of charcoal and drew on some of the remaining loose pages. He lifted the drawing so that Mathetis could see it. Two wavy lines filled up the parchment making the impression of a pathway disappearing into the distance. In the top right was a glowing disk and to the left something that looked like snow or rain. The boy admired the teacher’s talent. How could a few simple lines create the illusion of a landscape?

师父停了一会儿，拿起一块木炭，在剩下的几页纸上画了起来。他画好后把它举起来，好让马提提斯能看见。两条波浪状线条占满了羊皮纸，似乎一条小路消失在远方。右上角有一个发光的圆盘，左侧看上去像是在下雪或下雨。这男孩钦佩师父的才能。简单的几笔线条怎么就能制造出景观来呢？

The teacher continued, ‘In the language of Symbol, the Sun represents Love and the Passion for life. Affections burn brightly in the heart, but they can also scorch the soul if one is not properly clothed.’ The Master then made some adjustments to the drawing.

师父继续说：“在象征语言中，太阳代表着爱和生命的激情。情感在心中熊熊燃烧，但如果没有装备停当，也会烧毁灵魂。”然后，大师对画做了一些调整。

‘And the Wind, Master, what does it represent?’

“那么师父，风代表甚麽呢？”

‘The Wind is one’s inner thought life which offers refreshment most of the time but may become a storm at any given moment. Let me show you.’

“风是人内在的思维活力，大多时间它能使人振奋，但在任何特别时刻也都可能成为一场风暴。”我展示给你看。

The Master took a cup of water and asked the boy to stretch out his hands. The teacher proceeded to pour the icy water over the apprentice’s arms. He then instructed the boy to walk over to the front door and open it. Immediately, a cold draught shook through the whole building. Mathetis stood firm as the icy chill crept up his arms.

师父拿起了一杯水，让男孩伸出手来。师父把冰冷的水倒在徒弟的手臂上。然后他要男孩走到前门，并打开它。立刻，一股冷风似乎吹动了整座大楼。当寒冷爬上他的手臂时，马蒂斯坚定地站着。

‘At any moment things can change, and the warrior is always prepared. To be prepared is to be dressed for battle and coldness can come upon us at any moment. It speaks of times when the warrior lacks motivation. If you are disciplined, you will be ready, while others may be sleeping or have carelessly left their post. Perhaps now, you are seeing how important it is for the soul to be properly dressed.’

“任何时候都可能发生变化，战士总要准备好。准备好就是准备好战斗，严寒随时都会降临我们。这说的是战士缺乏动力的时候。如果你训练有素，你就会做好准备，而其他人可能正在睡觉，或者轻率地离开他们的哨位。也许现在你正在意识到，对灵魂进行适当装备是多么重要。”

Mathetis nodded in affirmation.

马蒂斯点头肯定。

‘The warrior can weather the path, and all that may come one’s way. The well-trained soul can push on through difficult times to a place of pleasure and contentment.’

“战士能经受住这条路，经历一切该来的。受过良好训练的灵魂可以在艰难中坚持不懈，最后来到充满快乐和满足之处。”

‘Speaking of contentment Master, may I close the door?’

“说到满足，师父，我可否关上门？”

‘Yes, of course, and take a seat when ready. Ok... it is the Cord of Enlightenment, Mathetis, which offers the soul the power of a developed life view. It is the Cord that enables the warrior’s

insights to remain intact and working at their best. And when no cord is worn, the soul's insights into life, most often hinder rather than help. You see, learning but not doing is a dangerous path. One believes they are ready when in fact they are not. And thus, my friend, the Cord provides strength that aids the warrior's progress into the higher states and keeps one safe on the path.'

“是的，当然可以，好了就坐下吧。好的…这是开悟之索，马蒂斯，它为灵魂提供了成熟人生观的能力。这是使战士的洞察力维持完整，并以最佳状态行动的索带。当没有装束索带的时候，灵魂的洞察力对于生命往往是阻碍而不是助益。你看，只学习不行动就是行走在危险道路上。人们以为自己已经准备好了，而事实上还没有。因此，我的朋友，索带增强力量，帮助战士进入更高的状态，并在路上保护他的安全。

Mathetis looked down at his colourful new belt. A surge of joy and pride flowed through his heart.

马蒂斯低头看着他那五颜六色的新腰带，心中涌起一股喜悦和骄傲。

‘So, when I practice what I know to be true, then I am wearing the spiritual belt?’

“于是，当我按照自己所知的真理去行时，我就装备了属灵的腰带是吗？”

‘Yes, exactly.’

“是的，确实如此。”

‘Master, these colours mean something, don’t they?’

“师父，这些颜色也有其意义，是吗？”

‘A good observation, young one. I will leave it to you to see if you can discover the meaning of those colours. But this I will say, as your awareness grows, your belt will grow stronger and allow for the equipping of more powerful weapons. Now let me ask you a question. Do you have to tell people what your calling is?’

“很好的观察，年轻人。这问题留给你，看看你能否发现这些颜色的含义。但我要说的是，随着你觉察能力的增强，你的腰带将变得更加强大，能佩戴更强大的武器。现在我问你一个问题。你必须告诉别人你的使命是什么吗？”

‘No, of course not, teacher. They can tell what my occupation is and the Order I belong to, simply by the clothes I wear.’

“当然不必，师父。他们从我穿的服饰就能看出我的职业，我属于什么组织。”

‘And so, it is in the soul realm. One soul reads another intuitively, and they both understand each other’s level of growth. But it is the warrior that knows and sees these things consciously.’

因此，这是在灵魂领域。一个灵魂可以直观地读懂另一个灵魂，他们都明白对方的成熟程度。但战士却有意识地了解和观察这些事。“

‘Now tell me, when you wear the cloth of the warrior class, how does that affect your thoughts about yourself?’

“现在告诉我，当你穿上战士等级的服装时，这如何影响

你对自己的想法？”

‘I suppose it changes me.’

“我觉得这改变了我。”

Mathetis gazed down at his uniform lost in deep thought.

马蒂斯低头盯着自己的服装，陷入沉思。

‘Yes, it changes me a lot. I feel a responsibility to the Order.

People are looking to me to protect them, and so I try and act in a way that honours the call.’

“是的，这改变了我很多。我觉得对组织负有责任。人们期望我来保护他们，所以我努力使我的行动与使命相配。

‘Well said, young one. The very act of a soul viewing itself as a

warrior speaks of a growing and changing life view. The advancing soul understands that life is a quest full of exhilaration. However, such a soul also intuitively knows that there are many traps along the way.’ The Master struck two stones together several times until a flame appeared on the wick of a small lamp.

“说得好，年轻人。灵魂视自己为战士，这行为本身就反映了人生观的成长和变化。成长中的灵魂明白生命是一种充满喜悦的追求。然而，这灵魂也直觉地知道沿途有许多陷阱。”师父把两块石头碰撞了好几下，直到一盏小灯的灯芯上出现了火焰。

‘The Light seeks only to strengthen and make wise the soul in love, while darkness seeks to stop and if possible destroy the advancing soul. Here, take this with you.’

“光明只为加强灵魂，并使爱中的灵魂变得智慧，而黑暗则极力阻止，并在可能的情况下摧毁成长中的灵魂。给你，拿着这个。”

The Master passed the boy the lamp and then picked up the scroll. He closed one of his books with a dusty thud and turned back towards his apprentice, ‘Time to start your readings. And then I would like you to cut some wood. The weather looks like it might be turning.’

师父把灯递给男孩，然后拿起卷轴。他砰地一声关上了一本书，转身走向他的徒弟。“你该开始读书了。然后，我希望你砍些木头。天气看起来好像要变了。”

Mathetis said nothing but left the quarters immediately. His mind

was distracted by many thoughts, and he forgot about his readings. Instead, he headed directly towards the wood pile. An unusual feeling of happiness and contentment warmed through his chest as he swung the axe into large lumps of wood. Not only had his spiritual training begun, but the Master seemed to have forgotten entirely about that frustrating sixth knot. Most certainly, today looked like it was going to be a good day.

马蒂斯什么也没说，只是立刻离开了屋子。他的头脑被许多想法分散了注意力，他忘记了自己的阅读。相反，他径直朝木堆走去。当他挥舞斧头砍向一大块木头时，一种异常的快乐和满足感从他的胸膛里暖暖地发生。他的属灵训练不仅开始了，而且师父似乎完全忘记了那个令人沮丧的第六结。当然，今天看起来会是个好日子。

## Mathetis' Notes

### 马蒂斯的记录

Spiritual insights clothe my soul, and I can find them in sacred texts.

属灵洞察力为我的灵魂披上衣装，这我可以在神圣书籍中找到。

I am developing a 'Life View'.

我正在发展“世界观”。

If I practice what I know to be true, then I'm wearing the belt.

如果我按照自己所知的去行，我就是束上了腰带。

Any insights that I learn and practice become my own (well-fitting clothes for the soul).

我所学到并实践的洞察力将属于我自己的（灵魂的合适装束）。

Your pants falling down is a terrible way to die.

裤子脱落着去死的样式是可耻的。

A soul warrior is the same thing as an advancing soul.

灵魂战士与征程中的灵魂是一个意思。

It is dangerous to learn and not take action.

学习而不行动是危险的。

Don't ever mention the sixth knot.

永远不要再提第六个结了。

## Chapter Two

### 第二章

#### The Chest Guard of Goodness

#### 良善的贴身护卫

Many days passed since the Master, and Mathetis had first spoken about spiritual armour. The apprentice could only guess at why the Master had gone silent, but he knew better than to ask. Mathetis broke the long spell of silence, ‘I’m heading into the town centre to draw water from the well. Our supplies are getting low.’

自从师父和马蒂斯首次谈到属灵甲冑以来，许多天过去了。徒弟只能猜测师父为什么一直沉默，但他知道最好别问。马蒂斯终于打破了长时间的沉默，“我要到镇中心从井里打些水。我们的补给越来越少了。”

‘Sorry. What? Oh, water. Yes, that would be a good idea but don’t be too long. We only get twelve cycles of light this time of year, and I have plans to teach you a new defensive move today. Stay safe, travel well and as always keep watching.’

“对不起，什么？噢，水。是的，那是个好主意，但不要太久。每年这个季节一天只有 12 小时，我计划今天教你一个新的防护动作。保持安全，顺利旅行，像往常一样保持警惕。”

Mathetis gathered the leather bags and tied them to the horse while his teacher waved his hands in the air and continued his strange work.

马蒂斯捡起皮革包，绑在马上，而他的师父在空中挥动双手，继续他那奇怪的事。

The Market square was less than three thousand paces away, and it did not take long for the apprentice to arrive at the town centre. As he had hoped, the new stall was open and set up over to the far right of the market space. Every store seemed busy except for this little booth. There were a good number of people moving about but no-one that Mathetis recognised.

集市广场不到三千步远，徒弟很快就到了镇中心。正如他所希望的那样，一个新摊档开张了，设在集市广场的最右头。每家店铺似乎都很忙碌，只有这个小摊点例外。到处人来人去，但没有马蒂斯认识的人。

Ruach was a good-sized village with at least two thousand locals, and it was growing daily. The Order of the Warrior had over forty Masters in this town, each with a singular apprentice.

鲁奇是一个规模很大的镇点，至少有两千名当地人，而且每天都在增长。武士团这个镇上有四十多个师父，每人都单独有一个徒弟。

The boy walked past the well and stopped short of the stall to tie off the horse. He took a deep breath and approached the structure. He had only seen this booth once before, but now he was close enough to realise that the whole construction was a modified horse-cart.

男孩走过井边，停在小摊点旁边，系好马。他深深地吸了一口气，走近那建筑。他以前只看过这个店铺一次，但现

在他已经很久了。他看到整个建筑就是一辆改装过的马车。

'How clever. A mobile shop that you can move when and wherever you want.' Mathetis thought about making such a cart so that his teacher could more easily move around his equipment.

多聪明啊。一家移动商店，你可以随时随地移动。“马蒂斯想着也做一辆这样的车，这样他的师父就可以更容易地四处移动他的装备。

He took another deep breath and stepped right up to the front. Small boxes lay everywhere full of produce. His eyes fell on the strawberries glistening a vibrant red in the sunlight. He lifted his eyes up to the young girl behind the makeshift counter. She was the real reason he wanted to come into town.

他又深吸了一口气，走到正前方。装满货物的小盒子摆的到处都是。他的眼睛落在草莓上，在阳光下闪烁着鲜红的光芒。他把目光投到临时柜台后面的那年轻女孩身上。她是他想进镇的真正原因。

'Umm, ah... my name is Mathetis. And your name is?' 'That's nice sir, what would you like?'

“嗯，啊。。。我叫马蒂斯。你叫什么名字？” “很好，先生，你想要什么？”

'Oh... agh! Nothing.'

“哦，…啊！什么都不要”。

'If you don't want anything then can you please move out of the way. There is a line forming.'

“如果你什么都不要，那么你能不能让开点。有人正在排队。”

Mathetis frowned and his lips went tight. He looked about him, but the market square was empty over near the stall. There was one person behind him waiting, an elderly lady. Mathetis stepped aside.

他皱起眉头，嘴唇紧闭。他环顾四周，但集市广场在靠近店铺的地方空空如也。他身后有一个人在等着，一位上了年纪的女士。马蒂斯让开了。

‘Good morning, Miss Duffel. You go ahead.’

“早上好，达菲尔小姐。你往前走。”

The woman smiled and stepped up to the counter. After a short moment, she left. Mathetis once again breathed deep and stepped forward. He placed both of his hands on his hips and with a big smile said ‘I’m Mathetis. And your name is?’

女士笑了笑，走到柜台前。过了一会儿，她离开了。马蒂斯又一次深深地吸了一口气，走上前去。他把两只手放在胯上，笑着说：“我是马蒂斯。你叫什么名字？”

The young girl pulled her hair back and tied it with a cloth. She then pulled up the sleeves of her cream coloured shirt until they caught on her elbows. A nervous feeling crept over Mathetis. Her actions made him think for a moment that she was going to punch him fair in the face.

那个年轻女孩把头发往后拢了拢，用一块布扎了起来。然后，她卷起她奶油色衬衫的袖子，直到她的肘弯以上。一

种紧张的感觉悄悄地掠过了马蒂斯。一瞬间，她的行为使他觉察到，她要狠狠地揍他一顿。

‘Look here. I’m not in the mood to talk to anyone. Now if you are not going to buy anything, leave!’

“看这里。我没有心情和任何人说话。如果你不打算买东西，请离开！”

Mathetis, partly from nervousness and partly from stupidity, reached down and grabbed three apples. What he did next was a surprise, even to him. He tossed the apples into the air and juggled them.

马蒂斯，部分出于紧张，部分出于糊涂，他伸手拿了三个苹果。他接下来做的，甚至对他自己来说也是个惊奇的动作。他把苹果抛向空中，玩起了杂耍。

‘Stop that. You’ll damage the produce. If you drop that fruit, you can pay for...’ The girl never got to finish her sentence. One of the apples fell to the ground with a thud. The other two, Mathetis caught between his arms and his chest.

“停下来。你要把东西弄坏的。如果你把水果掉下来，你要赔…”这个女孩还没说完，一个苹果砰地一声掉在地上。另外两个，夹在马蒂斯的胳膊和胸膛之间。

‘I’m sorry, and I will pay for it. Only... I don’t think I have any money on me.’ The boy’s face glowed a soft red.

“对不起，我会赔的。只是…我想我身上没有钱。”男孩脸上泛着柔和的红光。

‘That’s half a silver coin. But I have a mind to charge you a full silver piece just for your rudeness. I expect payment before the day is out.’

“那值半块银币。但我因为你的无礼而必须向你索一块银币。我要求在今天关门之前付款。”

Mathetis said nothing but walked away defeated. He stopped long enough at the well to collect the water and then left, hoping not to run into anyone familiar. The boy felt exhausted and wanted to curl up and wish the day away, but he was also very angry with himself. Why had he acted that way? It was out of character for him. He would much rather be the quiet one slipping by unnoticed in a crowd. He didn’t like drawing unnecessary attention to himself. And yet, this girl, a stranger in the village, had surprisingly affected him.

马蒂斯什么也没说，气馁地走开了。他在井边停了很长时间取水，然后就离开了，希望不会碰到认识的人。男孩感到精疲力竭，想要蜷缩起来，希望这一天能远离自己。他很生自己的气。他为什么那样做？这不符合他的性格。他宁愿是在人群中悄悄溜走的那个安静的人。他不喜欢引起不必要的注意。然而，这村里的陌生女孩儿，竟然奇怪地打动了她。

The short trip back to the Master’s quarters left him thinking about the girl and how he had made a fool of himself. He avoided direct contact with the Master, using the horse as a shield but the teacher knew that something was amiss.

在回师父住处的短途上，他想着那个女孩，以及他如何显示自己的愚蠢。他以马为遮挡，避免与师父直接接触，但师父知道出了问题。

‘Young one, what troubles you?’

“年轻人，出了什么事？”

‘Nothing. Ahh, just a little tired after the trip to town.’

“没什么，只是去了趟镇里有些累。”

‘That is not exactly the truth, boy. I can see that your energy levels are low. They are reddish, suggesting you are in pain. Tell me, what has gone wrong.’

“这不全是实话，孩子。我看得出你萎靡不振。你的能量呈现红色，表明你有痛苦。告诉我，哪里出了问题。”

Mathetis was surprised by the Master’s comment. He knew that it was pointless to keep anything from his teacher but the shame he now felt made it difficult for him to tell the truth.

马蒂斯对师父的评论感到惊讶。他知道对师父隐瞒什么都没有意义，但他现在感到羞愧，很难说出真相。

‘I will make a deal with you, young one. I have another gift for you, but first, you must share your burden with me.’ At these words, Mathetis felt a little lighter. Once again, his teacher was acting more like a father than his Master.

“我和你打赌，年轻人。我还有一件礼物要给你，但首先，你得告诉我你的忧虑。”听了这话，马蒂斯感到有点释然。他师父又一次表现得更像个父亲，而不是他的师父。

‘Another gift? I’m not sure that I deserve it.’

“另一个礼物，我不知道我配不配得。”

‘Well, it is a gift. Gifts are given not earned. But you certainly have earned this one. Now tell me what happened.’

“嗯，这是一份礼物。礼物是赠送的，不是赚得的。但你确实挣得了这个。现在告诉我发生了什么事。”

‘Firstly, Master, I need to tell you that my motive in going to the town centre was not about collecting water.’

“首先，师父，我得告诉你，我去镇心的动机不是取水。”

‘Oh... do go on. Now you have me even more interested.’

“哦，继续，现在我更想知道原委了。”

The teacher moved in closer placing his hand on the boy’s shoulder and gave him a comforting smile.

师父走近一些，把手放在男孩的肩膀上，给他一个安慰的微笑。

‘Several days ago, when you sent me to collect the letters, I spotted a new stall in the market square. And there was this lovely young girl at the counter. Well, at least I thought she was lovely at the time...’

“几天前，当你派我去取信时，我在集市广场上发现了一个新店铺。柜台上有个可爱的女孩。嗯，至少我觉得那个时候她很可爱。”

‘Hmmm, she is the Carmel’s daughter. Her name is Karitas. I

know the family quite well. She is a lovely young lady, but she is not working here in our village by choice. A sad story that one. Her family have been transporting goods between the villages for many decades. Last month there was an attack on the convoy, and the looters killed some of the travellers, including both her parents. It looks like her extended family have fled to our village for safety and refuge.'

“嗯，她是卡梅尔的女儿，叫卡里塔斯。我很熟悉这个家庭。她是一位可爱的年轻女士，但她不是自愿来我们镇里工作的。那时一个悲伤的故事。几十年来，她的家人一直在两个村庄之间运输货物。上个月，车队遭到袭击，劫匪杀死了一些旅人，包括她的父母。看来她的大家庭已经逃往我们镇里，寻求安全和庇护。”

The knots inside of Mathetis' stomach churned. If only he had known of this tragedy, he would have been more sensitive and less frivolous towards the girl.

马蒂斯胸中的郁结翻腾起来。要是他早知道这场悲剧，他就会对那个女孩更加小心，也不会那么轻浮了。

'The part that troubles me the most, young one, is that the bandits were made up of three separate groups. The Carnors have never banded with any other groups before, let alone two separate groups, both from beyond the borders.'

“年轻人，最让我烦恼的是，这些强盗是三个不同的团伙。卡诺这帮人以前从来没和其他任何一帮在一起，更别提两帮了，这两帮人都是从境外过来的。”

‘Master, when were you going to tell me this?’

“师父，你打算什么时候告诉我这事？”

‘I was going to tell you after the meeting with the High Council next week when I can be confident about all the details. But I have just decided, you shall come with me to that meeting.’

The teacher moved over to the old familiar pillar and lifted off a leather chest guard. It was well worn, full of deep gouges and a dirty grey, white colour.

“我本打算下周与高级议会的会议结束后，再告诉你，届时我就掌握了所有细节。但是我刚刚决定，你和我一起去参加那个会议。”师父走到那根熟悉的旧台上，举起了一个皮革胸甲。它磨损得很厉害，到处都是深深的裂缝，还带着一种肮脏的灰色白色。

‘This is your chest guard, right?’ ‘Yes.’

“这是你的胸甲吗？” “是的。”

‘Please put it on. You are ready to learn the secret of the second piece of armour.’

“请穿上。你已经可以学习第二件甲冑的秘密了。”

Mathetis felt a touch of excitement as he slipped on the old guard and fastened it with a satisfying click.

马蒂斯滑动着旧胸甲，令人舒服的咔嚓声说明它已经扣紧了。马蒂斯感到一阵兴奋。

‘Now, I know you trust me, boy. But I want you to brace

yourself.'

“现在，我知道你信任我，孩子。但我要你振作起来。”

The Master moved around to the other side of the training pillar and removed a sizeable, powerful bow and a quiver of training arrows.

师父走到训练台的另一边，取下一个很大，强劲有力的弓和一支训练用的箭。

'Start your controlled breathing and take the alpha defensive stance. Feel yourself anchored to the ground.'

“开始控制呼吸，采取初级防御姿势。稳稳地站立地面。”

The Master lifted the bow, armed it and pulled the string back entirely. He let the arrow go with a sharp ping, and it hit the boy dead centre in the chest with a thud. The force of the shaft pushed the boy back slightly, and a faint grimace flashed across his face. The arrow landed at the boy's feet.

“师父拾起弓，拿在手里，拉满弓弦。一声尖啸他射出了箭，射中男孩胸部的死穴。箭的力道使男孩微微向后倒退，一个淡淡的苦相闪过他的脸庞。箭头落在男孩的脚边。

'Are you ok?'

“你还好吗？”

'Yes.' A sharp stinging pain persisted in his chest.

“是的”，他的胸部仍觉刺痛。

'Ok. You can take the chest guard off and hang it on the pillar so

that I may demonstrate my next point for you.’

“好了。你可以把胸甲卸下来，挂在台子上。然后我就可以为你展示下一点了。”

The next point? Mathetis did not get the first point except for the round tip arrow and the bruise on his chest. Where was the Master taking all of this?

下一点？除了圆箭头和胸口的擦伤外，马蒂斯还没有学到第一点。师父这些都指向哪里？

The apprentice hung the chest guard on the pillar and rubbed his chest in one swift action. He stepped back almost too late as the teacher came rushing past him and struck the chest guard with an axe. The weapon lodged in the post and the Master could not pull it back out. Mathetis was grateful that he was no longer wearing the chest guard.

徒弟把护胸挂在柱子上，迅速地摸了摸胸口。当师父从他身边冲过来，用斧头砍护胸时，他几乎来不及退后。武器卡在柱子上，师父无法拔出来。马蒂斯很庆幸他不用再戴这护胸了。

‘I’ll get that out later, young one.’ He disappeared into his quarters. ‘Why bother. I won’t be able to use that guard anymore. I think you split it into two pieces.’

“这我一会儿再说，年轻人。”他走进他的房间里。“为什么要费劲呢？我不能再用那个护胸了。我想你已经把它劈成两半了。”

When the Master returned, he was carrying a new chest guard.

The leather was clean and free of scratches with a uniformed bleach white appearance. The colour would match in well with the standard white linen uniform. He handed it to the boy.

当师父回来的时候，他带来一个新的护胸。皮革是干净的，没有划痕，清一色的漂白色外观。这种颜色与标准的白色亚麻制服很相配。他把它递给男孩。

‘For you.’

“给你的”

‘Oh... thank you. But the other one was fine before you parted it.’ ‘Look closely at this chest guard Mathetis. It is different to yours.’

“哦……谢谢。但另一个在你劈开之前还是很好的。”

“马蒂斯，仔细看看这个护胸甲。这与你那个不一样。”

A sense of wonder rose inside the boy. Something glistened from inside the guard. He ran his fingers over the concaved shiny surface. It was cold and smooth to the touch.

男孩心中产生了一种惊奇的感觉。护胸里面有东西闪闪发光。他用手指在凹凸不平的表面上划了一下。摸起来的感觉是寒冷光滑。

‘Teacher, this guard has a layer of metal on the inside.’

“师父，这个护胸里面有一层金属。”

‘Yes, a great improvement on your old guard. Your enemy will underestimate its true strength.’

“是的，比你的老护胸好的多了。你的敌人会低估它的真实

强度。“

‘Master, why don’t we use full metal armour?’

“师父，为甚麽我们不全部用金属制作呢？”

‘Too heavy. Our Order and training require a lighter and more mobile armour. This chest guard is a mid-weight armour and gives us a good balance between speed and strength. As you just saw, an arrow might not pierce your old guard, but an axe would kill you in one blow. This guard will survive many such blows.’

“太重了。我们的组织和训练需要更轻和更灵活的盔甲。这个护胸是个中等重量的盔甲，使我们在速度和力量之间达到很好的平衡。正如你刚才看到的，一支箭可能不会刺穿你的老护胸，但斧头一击就会杀了你。这个护胸能挺过多次这样的打击。

‘Now tell me, my apprentice, what is the spiritual significance of a warrior’s chest guard?’

“现在告诉我，徒弟，战士护胸的属灵意义是什么？”

‘It must have something to do with the heart as it covers that part of the body? Other than that, I have no idea.’

“一定和心脏有关是吗？因为它覆盖了身体的那一部分。除此之外，我就知道了。”

‘You are right about the heart, young one. The heart is the centre of all our soul energy. If darkness finds its way into the heart, there is little hope for the warrior. We must protect our heart at all cost. Even a small wound could be fatal.

“你说保护心脏是对的，年轻人。心脏是我们所有灵魂能量的中心。如果黑暗进入了心里，战士就没有希望了。我们必须不惜一切代价保护我们的心脏。即使一个小伤口也可能是致命的。

To put on the spiritual chest guard is a natural thing. But to keep it on always is a lifelong challenge. All you need to do to wear this piece of armour is lay down your desires and put other people first.’

穿上属灵护胸是顺理成章的事。但保持永远如此状态却是一项终生的挑战。穿上这件盔甲，你所要做的就是放下你的欲望，把别人放在第一位。”

‘I don’t understand. How is that wearing armour?’

“我不明白，那和穿盔甲有何关系？”

‘Whenever we go into a situation seeking others to fill us up, then our soul is an empty cup. We become desperate for the soul energy of others to make us feel whole. In truth, the Divine dwells in the heart of all souls, and we need to look no further than our own heart to find life. If you understand this, and you seek to fill others with the life of the Divine inside of you, your soul will never run dry.’

“每当我们陷入一种境地，需要寻找甚麽东西来充实我们

时，我们的灵魂就像一个空杯子。我们变得非常渴望其他的灵魂能量，以使我们感觉充实。事实上，神性存在于所有灵魂的心中，我们无需远眺，从自己的内心就能找到生命。如果你明白这一点，并且你试图用你内在神圣生命来充实别人，你的灵魂永远不会干涸。”

‘But Master, wait... How can this be? Will not every other soul seek to take advantage of me?’

“但是师父，等一下，…这怎么可能？难道不是每个其他灵魂都想利用我吗？”

‘Yes, that is true, but only because you lack wisdom. I am not asking you to give to everyone in every situation. I ask that you refrain from selfish pursuits. Give, do not take. You must master the selfish urges within and learn to give from a place of contentment. Look for opportunities to share but share wisely from the life of the Divine in you, not from your emptiness.’

“是的，不错，但那只是因为你缺乏智慧。我不是要求你在任何情况下都给予任何人。我要求你约束自私的追求。给予，而不是索取。你必须掌控内心的自私冲动，学会以知足之情给予。寻找机会分享，但要明智地从你内在的神圣生命中分享，而不是从你的空虚中分享。”

The boy collapsed into a chair as if he had received a hard blow. ‘This can’t be. It makes no sense. My instincts tell me that I must care for myself.’

男孩倒在椅子上，好像受到了沉重的打击。“这不可能。这毫无意义。我的直觉告诉我，我必须顾好自己。”

‘Yes, you should care for yourself, even as you care for others or even as you might care for one of the farm animals. But as for the fullness of your heart, look to the Divine for your needs.’

“是的，即使当你关心别人，或照顾一只农场的动物时，你也应该照顾自己。而为了你内心的充实，则需要你仰望神。”

The boy buried his face in his hands and let out a long sigh.

那男孩双手掩面，长长地叹了口气。

‘Mathetis, give it some time. Put into practice what I am teaching and you will see that within your soul is all the life, joy and happiness you will ever need. Use wisdom and share that life with others. When you give freely from your heart, you will not suffer, even from those who try to use you. You will also find the wisdom to deal with the empty souls.’

“马蒂斯，这需要点儿时间。把我教给你的东西付诸实践，你就会看到，在你的灵魂里，你将拥有你所需要的所有生命、快乐和幸福。用智慧与他人分享生命。当你发自内心的自由付出时，你将不会感到痛苦，即使是那些试图利用你的人。你也会找到对付灵魂空虚的智慧。”

The Master held the boy firmly by the shoulders and raised the volume of his voice slightly.

师父紧紧抓住男孩的肩膀，稍微提高了嗓音。

‘When you “live to give” my boy, your heart will be guarded with the highest defence. Darkness will fail to hurt you with every

attack it throws your way. Darkness is always hungry and empty.

“当你“活着就要付出”时，我的孩子，你的心将得到最高级的防护。黑暗的每一次攻击都不会伤害你。黑暗总是饥肠辘辘，一无所获。

It always seeks to deceive and to take. Remember that darkness will “fake to take”. It knows not how to give.’

它总是寻求欺骗和索取。记住黑暗会“以伪装去骗取”。它不知道如何给予。

‘Think of your adventures this morning. You were seeking to take not give, and the result was pain and suffering.’

“想想你今天早上的冒险经历。你在寻求获得而不是付出，结果就是痛苦和折磨。”

Mathetis lifted his head and stared long into the Master’s eyes.

马蒂斯抬起头，久久地盯着师父的眼睛。

‘You speak the truth, teacher. I was very focused on what I wanted.

“你说的对师父，我极为关注我的需要。”

I didn’t think about how you or that girl might be feeling. How can I make things right?’

“我没有关心你或那位姑娘的感受。我怎样做才是对的呢？”

‘That is easy. Head into town and buy some mushrooms, some leeks and a box of potatoes, all from the new stall.’

“很简单，到镇上去，买一些蘑菇，一些韭葱，一盒土豆，全部从新店铺买”

‘Oh... I almost forgot. Buy yourself an apple while you are there. And the rest, my boy, will come to you. You will know what to do.’

“哦，…我差点忘了。你去那里的时候给自己买个苹果。其余的事，我的孩子，你会知道该怎么做。”

‘Before I go, Master, please tell me, what do you do when you have let down your guard and end up wounded? How do you heal?’

“师父，在我走之前请告诉我，当你放松警惕，结果受伤时，你会怎么做？你是怎么痊愈的？”

‘That is an important question. Some wounds can be fatal. The first thing is not to own the pain. In the soul realm, the type of wound is determined by the weapon used. And the weapon tells you about the enemy that attacks. An arrow of depression is different to a blade of despair or a sword of vengeance, and so on. And every weapon is different, for example, there are arrows of shame, fear, resentment and the list goes on.’

“这是一个很重要的问题。有些伤害是致命的。首先不要自找痛苦。在灵性国度，创伤的类型取决于使用的武器。武器告诉你甚麽样的敌人在攻击你。沮丧之箭不同于绝望之刃或复仇之剑，等等。每一种武器都是不同的，例如，有羞耻、恐惧、怨恨之箭，还有许多。”

‘When an attack hits you, young one, the pain your soul feels

often comes from the very essence of those attacking. But you must remember that a hurting soul is not your real enemy. When darkness attacks a soul and inflicts a wound, it seeks to recruit that soul into its army. And thus, a hurting soul hurts others. Only light can heal, and only light can drive out darkness, Mathetis. All attacks come from a deeper, darker place.’

“年轻人，当袭击临到你时，你的灵魂所感受到的痛苦往往来自于攻击的本质。但你必须记住，来袭之灵并不是你真正的敌人。当黑暗袭击一个灵魂并造成伤害时，它的目的是征召这个灵魂到自己的队伍里。因此，一个来袭之灵会伤害别人。只有光才能治愈，只有光才能驱赶黑暗，马蒂斯。所有的袭击都来自一个更深、更黑的地方。”

‘And is that the reason why we should not own the pain?’

“这就是为甚麽你不能自找痛苦。”

‘Exactly, by not owning the pain or torment, you step away from the wound and become an observer. You detach from the false identity, and that is when light can enter, and healing can take place. Whenever you see something from another person’s point of view, a mild form of detachment has occurred within one’s self-identity. Then and only then, can the healing of the soul begin. At that moment, the Divine can now fill your soul.’

“确切地说，如果你没有痛苦或折磨，你就会远离伤害，成为一个观察者。你脱离了虚假身份，就使光可以进入，疗愈就会发生。每当你从他人的角度看某件事时，你的自我认同中就会出现一种温和的超然。只有这样，灵魂的疗

愈才能开始。在那一刻，神性便可以灌注你的灵魂。”

The teacher handed over a small pouch full of coins and then went back to wrestling with the axe wedged into the timber pillar.

师父递过来一个装满硬币的小袋子，然后又回去和钉在木柱上的斧头搏斗去了。

Mathetis untied the horse and walked swiftly towards the market square. He headed straight for the stall and looked firmly into the eyes of the young girl.

马蒂斯解开马，迅速向集市广场走去。他径直朝那店铺走去，坚定地望着那个年轻女孩的眼睛。

‘I am sorry about earlier this morning. Here is the cost of the apple.

“我为今早发生的事道歉，这是苹果的钱。”

May I also have mushrooms, leeks and potatoes.’

“我还想买些蘑菇，韭葱和土豆。”

The girl sprung immediately to action. This transaction was the best sale she had made in days.

那女孩立即行动起来。这笔交易是她几天来做的最好的买卖。

‘Karitas. I truly am sorry about this morning. May I make it up to you by fetching you some water?’

“卡里塔斯，今天早上的事我真的很抱歉。我可以帮你取些水来补偿你吗？”

The young girl froze like a broken wheel. How did he know her name? She bent down and retrieved an old wooden bucket. A broad smile spread across her face as she handed Mathetis the container.

年轻女孩僵住了，就像个坏了的轮子一样。他怎么知道她的名字？她弯下腰拿起一个旧木桶。当她把容器递给马蒂斯时，脸上露出灿烂的笑容。

‘You may.’

“好吧。”

(To read more on the Chest Guard of Goodness and its practical application see Tony Robbins and equipping people on page 109)

(欲了解更多关于“良善的护胸”及其实际应用，请参阅109页中的托尼·罗宾斯和装备人员之事)

## Chapter Three

### The Heel of Divine Foresight

#### 第三章

#### 追随神性预见

The sun had not entirely broken the surface of the horizon as Mathetis arrived at his Master's home. His teacher had already loaded the horse with supplies and now threw two rolled up sleeping pads on it's back and pulled tight on the fastening rope.

当马蒂斯来到他师父家时，太阳还没有完全从地平线上升起。他的师父已经把补给品装上马匹，正在把两个卷起来的睡垫扔上马背，并捆紧系绳。

'Good timing, young one. We need to go as soon as possible. We have much ground to cover. But before we go, I want you to change into your new armour. Collect your chest guard and see what I have here for you.'

“很准时，年轻人。我们需要尽快离开。我们要去很多地方。但在我们走之前，我要你换上新盔甲。收起你的护胸，看看我给你的是什么。”

Mathetis moved quickly, eager to see the new equipment. On the outdoor table, the Master lay a small bundle of linen. He pulled back the cloth to reveal several items. The boy's eyes fell on the boots. They were taller than his old pair but had the same familiar bleach white colour. Mathetis sifted through them and found two pieces of silver metal shielding on the inside of the leggings.

马蒂斯迅速行动起来，他渴望看到新的装备。在户外桌子上，主人放了一小捆布。他把布揭开，露出几件东西。男孩的眼睛落在靴子上。它们比他的旧靴子高，但有同样熟悉的漂白色。马蒂斯在它们中间浏览，发现在护腿的内侧有两块银质金属护罩。

‘They will protect both your shin and calf muscle from a blow with a heavy weapon. These are the next piece of armour I wish to discuss with you, but not now. Perhaps on the road, while we are travelling, if the time is right.’

“它们会保护你的小腿和小腿肌肉免受重武器打击。这是我要和你讨论的下一件盔甲，但不是现在。也许在路上我们旅行的时候，如果时机合适的话。”

The boy next examined the arm guards. He slipped them both on with ease. He was a little surprised at how well they fit. He lifted his arms, twisting them back and forth as he admired the weight of the braces. He smashed the insides of his forearms together as he had done so, many times before. There was a pop and snapping sound as each arm brace released two wings out at a right angle from the armour. His arm braces had now transformed into two small shields on each arm. A cheeky grin spread across the boy’s face, ‘The shielding in the arm braces also has the metal lining. Whoever built these has talent, Master.’

男孩接着检查护臂。他能轻松地滑动它们。他对它们的合身感到有点惊讶。他双臂举起，来回扭动，欣赏着吊带的重量。他像以前一样，用两前臂的内侧碰撞多次。当每个

护臂从盔甲中以一个直角的角度放出两个侧锋时，可以听见砰的响声。护臂现在成了他手臂上的两个小护甲。男孩脸上露出淳厚的笑容，“护臂的护罩也有金属衬里。不管是谁造的，都是天才，师父。”

‘I cannot take the credit, but I did have some input into their designs. I wanted something we could use for blocking heavy attacks and not just deflecting arrows. These will now have double, maybe even triple their use.’

“这不是我的功劳，但我确实对他们的设计提了一些建议。我希望能有材料可以阻挡重击，而不只是射来的箭头。它们现在将有两倍，甚至三倍的用途。”

‘And what do you think of this, Mathetis? The new metal lining is integrated into Your head protection as well.’

“你觉得这个怎么样，马蒂斯？新的金属衬里也被整合到你的头盔中。”

‘Master, there seems to be no weight difference.’

“师父，似乎重量没有变化。”

‘There is a slight difference, but it is unnoticeable. The metal is stronger and lighter than anything we have used before. Both your long blade and short blade are stronger than your previous set, although the long blade is slightly shorter. Now, I don’t mean to hurry you, but if you get dressed, we can be on our way.’

“有一点差别，但不明显。这种金属比我们以前用过的任何东西都坚固、轻便。你的长刀和短刃都比你的前一套坚

强，尽管长刀略短一些。现在我不打算催你，但如果你穿戴好了，我们就可以上路了。”

The Master and the apprentice took a different route into the town centre. They stopped briefly at old man Ginger's house to hire a second horse and then collected a few final supplies from the market square.

师父和徒弟从另一条路进入镇中心。他们短暂地停在金杰老人的房子那里，租了第二匹马。然后从集市广场上又采办了一些补给品。

'You'd best talk to your friend, Karitas and let her know that our journey will take us away for several days.' "Yes, Master.'

“你最好和你的朋友卡里塔斯谈谈，让她知道我们的旅程会使我们离开好几天。” “是的，师父。”

The sun was halfway towards the centre of the sky by the time they had escaped the village and ventured deep into the farmlands of Arna. Just ahead lay the badlands. The ground quickly changed from smooth grassy fields to a sea of reddish dirt with random clumps of naked round boulders poking through the surface. The rock formations speckled the landscape as far as the boy's eyes could see. Many of the rocks were three and four times the height of a man and offered good cover to hide from onlookers.

当他们离开村庄，涉险深入到阿尔纳的农区时，太阳向头顶方向已经走了一半。前面是荒地。地面迅速地从光滑的草地变成了大片红色的泥土，到处都是乱七八糟裸露的圆形巨石。男孩眼睛所看到的地方都是岩石点缀的风景。许

多岩石的高度是人的三倍和四倍，这为隐藏的窥探者提供了一个很好的掩护。

‘Are we safe in the badlands, Master?’

“我们在这荒地上安全吗，师父？”

‘If we stay near the edge, we should be fine. But it would be wise for us to remain watchful.’

“如果我们靠边走，就会没事的。但保持警惕是明智的。”

‘Is there no other way we could travel?’

“没有其他的路可以走吗？”

‘There is only one other way for us to get to Green Hill and that would add three days journey. The badlands cover a vast area, and we will only cross one small arm. Deep within the heart of the badlands, at their very core, are many cave formations, spreading deep underground. The best information we have suggests that the Carnor bandits have built a camp there. It is not likely that we will encounter any of their clan this far out, unless...’

“我们只有另一条路可以到达青山，但那将增加我们三天的路程。荒原延伸到广袤的大地，我们只穿过其中一小部分。在荒原的深处，在其核心区域，有许多洞穴的形成，蔓延到地下深处。我们得到的最准确消息表明，卡诺匪帮在那里建造了一个营地。我们不太可能在这么远的地方遇到他们这帮人，除非……”

‘Unless what Master?’

“除非甚麽师父？”

‘Unless they were planning an attack or a supply raid. But raider parties travel in large groups, and we would spot them from a long distance away. Keep your eyes open, and we should be fine.’

Mathetis loved the idea of travelling and seeing new places. He was proud to be travelling with the Master to partake in the High Council, but the barren surroundings were affecting his thoughts. A cold sensation shot through his chest, and he had a strange feeling like someone was watching them.

“除非他们计划发动袭击或抢劫补给。但是突袭者会成群结队，我们会在很远的地方发现他们。睁大眼睛，我们会没事的。”马蒂斯喜欢旅游和观赏新地方。他很自豪能和师父一起去参加高级议会，但是荒芜的四周影响着他的思绪。一种寒冷的感觉穿过他的胸间，他有一种奇怪的感觉，似乎有人在盯着他们。

‘How long should it take us to cross this patch of the badlands.’

“我们需要多长时间穿过这片荒原？”

‘The sun will be halfway across the afternoon sky by the time we exit this terrain. Then we will arrive at the Glen of Tharhorn. That is the village where I first learned of how cruel and evil bandits can be.’

“我们离开这个区域时，太阳将在午后的天上走了一半。然后我们将到达萨霍恩峡谷。从这个村庄我第一次了解到土匪是多么残忍和邪恶。”

‘What happened? Please, do tell me.’

“告诉我，发生了甚麽事”

‘Hmm, perhaps our travel will go easier with a story. I will tell you, but we must remain alert.’

“嗯，讲故事也许会使我们的旅行轻松一些。我会告诉你的，但我们必须保持警惕。”

‘I was your age, young one. My family were merchants, and I was sent to deliver an important book to the school established at the Glen. It was evening time when I arrived, and the school gave me a bed for the night.’

“当年我和你一样大，年轻人。我的家人是商人，我被派去送一本重要的书到建立在峡谷里的学校。我到的时候是晚上，学校给我安排了一张床过夜。”

‘I woke from a deep sleep, disorientated, hearing screams. I ran outside to see burning buildings and chaos. People were fleeing everywhere. Except for the odd fire, it was blindingly dark.’

“我从沉睡中醒来，分不清东南西北，只听到尖叫声。我跑到外面，看到燃烧的房子和一片混乱。人们四处逃命。除了这场奇怪的火灾，四周一片恐怖的黑暗。”

‘I ran into a man dressed in black. Unbeknown to me, it was the leader of the bandits. Ragg the ruthless, they all called him. We both fell to the ground and the knife he had in his hand sunk into his chest. His death was quick. I pushed his corpse off my body and hid till the raid was over. Among those of us who survived,

the word spread that I had slain the infamous Ragg.’

“我遭遇到一个穿黑衣服的人。当时我不知道他是匪徒的头目。他们都叫他无情瑞格。我们都倒在地上，他手里的刀插进了他的胸口。他很快就死了。我从身上推开他的尸体，躲藏起来直到突袭结束。在我们这些幸存下来的人中，消息传开了，说我杀死了那个臭名昭著的坏蛋。”

‘No matter what I said, the rumours grew and spread. Soon, amongst the thieves, there was a bounty on my head. I had several assassination attempts made on my life. So, I fled from my family and home and joined the Order of Warriors to learn how to protect myself and others. Because of the horrors of that night, my life took a drastic turn. I learnt of the great need to defend the people against darkness. You see, my apprentice, we all have our significant moments in life that are meant to lead us to the right path.’

“不管我如何解释，谣言都在不断地传播。不久，窃贼为了我的头悬赏一笔金钱。我的生命中经历了几次暗杀。于是，我逃离了家人和家园，加入了战士的组织，学习如何保护自己与他人。因为那天晚上的恐怖，我的生活发生了翻天覆地的变化。我知道极有必要保卫人们不受黑暗伤害。你看，徒弟，我们的生命都经历了重要时刻，是为了引导我们走上正确的道路。”

Mathetis remained silent listening in awe. All the while, he could not shake off the terrible feeling of unseen eyes watching them. From time to time, the boy would turn around and look behind

them.

马蒂斯仍然沉默着，敬畏地倾听着。他一直都无法摆脱可怕的感觉，觉得有隐蔽的眼睛正窥视他们。有时，这男孩会转过身去看他们的身后。

‘I feel it too, young one. Let us move a little faster and put these badlands behind us.’

“我也感觉到了，年轻人。让我们走快点，把这些荒地甩在身后。”

The sun sailed persistently across the sky and all the while, the two travellers spoke not a word. As predicted, they exited the badlands mid-afternoon. The atmosphere lightened almost immediately.

太阳继续在天空遨游。很长时间，两位旅行者一句话也没说。正如预料的那样，他们半下午走出荒原。气氛几乎立刻变淡了。

‘Now, it seems, would be a good time for us to discuss the secret of the third piece of armour, young one.’

“现在，看来是我们讨论盔甲第三部分秘密的好时机了，年轻人。”

Mathetis twisted sideways in his seat to more fully face the teacher. A smile lit upon his face for the first time since the marketplace earlier that morning.

马蒂斯在他的坐骑上扭转身子，以便更好地面对老师。自从早上离开集市以来，他脸上第一次露出微笑。

‘Let me start by saying that I struggled somewhat when I first learnt the symbolic meaning of a warrior’s footwear. I hope that I may teach its hidden wisdom to you rather than cloud your mind.’

“首先我要说，当我第一次学到战士靴子的象征意义时，我有些挣扎。我希望能把它隐藏的智慧教给你，而不是蒙蔽你的思想。”

‘It breaks down into two separate components. Knowing your enemy is the first, and the practice of the right defensive / offensive response to your enemy’s attacks is the second. I will come back to those in more detail. But let’s start with this, regarding where you use the armour on your body, what is the most outstanding difference about a warrior’s boots compared to every other piece of armour?’

“它分为两个独立的部分。了解你的敌人是第一部分，对敌人的攻击采取正确的防御/进攻反应是第二种。我会更详细地讲述这些问题。但是让我们从这个开始，就是你身上需要使用盔甲的地方，与盔甲的其他部分相比，战士的靴子最显著的区别是什么？”

Mathetis paused for a long time staring down at his boots swinging at the side of the horse.

马蒂斯停了很长时间，在马的两侧来回盯看他的靴子。

‘Teacher, they are always in contact with the earth?’

“师父，它们总是不离地面对吗？”

‘An excellent observation, my young one. And what does that mean for the soul?’

“很好的观察，我的小伙子。这对于灵魂意味着什么呢？”

‘Well... they are lower down so, they are of lesser value than the ones up higher?’

“嗯，… 它们处于低下位置，因此它们的价值要比处于高位的低？”

‘A good try, my boy. And it is sometimes true in the language of symbols, that lower things are of lesser value, but not in this case. For regarding the soul’s armour, the closer the piece of armour is to the centre of your body, the more interior it is and thus nearer to soul energy. The further out from your body, like the feet and hands, the more relevant the armour is to the outer world, but it is not less valuable or less powerful, in fact, the opposite. Armed with that knowledge, I would like you to try again.’

“好样的，我的孩子。有时候，在象征语言中，较低的东西价值较低，但这里的情况则不然。因为关于灵魂的盔甲，盔甲越靠近你身体中心的部分，它就越内在，因而更接近灵魂能量。离你身体中心越远，如脚和手，盔甲与外部世界的关联就越紧密。但它的价值和力量并不逊色，事实上，正好相反。有了这些知识，我希望你再试一次。”

Mathetis began to think aloud, ‘The feet are further from the body’s centre than even the hands and they meet with the earth. It makes sense that the earth represents our outward life.’

马蒂斯开始出声思考：“脚离身体的中心比手还远，它们接触大地。地球代表我们外在的生命，这是合理的。”

‘Very good. Keep going.’

“很好，继续。”

‘So, whatever the warrior’s boots represent must directly impact our outward life, but what that is, I have no insight.’

“所以，无论战士的靴子代表什么，都会直接影响我们的外在生命，但实际上，我还没有领悟。”

‘Fair enough, young one, fair enough. You have heard the stories of warriors who were mortally wounded and should have died, but they somehow survived and not only that but then recovered at an incredible rate. It is soul energy that sustained those warriors and caused their bodies to heal faster than normal. And thus, the advanced warrior knows how to direct soul energy to achieve many desirable results, but it is the use of soul energy to fight against the darkness that most interests the warrior.’ The teacher paused for a moment and gave the horse a nudge with his boots bringing the animal to a trot. Mathetis followed suit.

“很好，年轻人，很好。你已经听说过那些受了致命伤的战士的故事，他们本应该已经死了，但却不知为甚麽活了下来。不仅如此，还以难以置信的速度康复了。正是灵魂能量支撑了这些战士，使他们的身体比正常更快地愈合。因此，成熟的战士知道如何引导灵魂能量以获得更为理想的结果，但最令战士们感兴趣的是利用灵魂能量与黑暗作斗争。师父停了一会儿，用靴子轻轻地夹了一下马，让它

小跑起来。马蒂斯随着也这样做了。

The Master continued, 'The power available to the warrior through mastery of the first two pieces of armour can now flow down into the third piece, and here, it becomes even stronger.'

师父继续说：“战士通过掌控盔甲的前两部分从而获得的力量，现在可以作用到第三部分，从而使它变得更强大。”

The Master pulled on the horse's reins, steering the mare closer to the boy. 'These reins are separate from me, but they help me to connect with the horse and guide its steps. Our inner life and the outer life are inseparable, but they can appear to be different at times. That difference is called growth or deterioration. Soul energy is always flowing in one direction or the other. For the warrior, it is growth. For the empty soul, it is slipping further into the darkness. Unless, of course, the soul turns and longs for light.' The Master steered his horse off track and headed straight for a large rock. Once there, he pulled his mare to a halt.

师父拉住马的缰绳，使马转向靠近男孩。这些缰绳本来与我是分开的，但它们能帮我与马建立联系，引导它的步伐。我们内在的生命和外在的生命本是分不开的，但它们有时看起来不是一回事。这种差异被称为升华或堕落。灵魂能量总是向一个或另一个方向流动。对战士来说，这会是成长。而对空虚的灵魂来说，它却正在滑入黑暗。当然，除非这灵魂转向并渴望光明。主人驾驭着他的马离开路，径直朝一块大石头走去。一到那里，就使他的马停了下来。

'Look ahead of you. What do you see?'

“朝前看，你看到什么了？”

‘Not much. Lots of dirt and the odd boulder.’

“没有多少东西，只有很多泥土和怪石。”

‘Right. There is not much in your path, but you still need to keep looking to be sure that you are not in danger or that you are not about to run into something.’

“对了，你的路上没有太多东西，但你仍然需要不断地探索，以确保没有身陷危险，或者不会遭遇不测。”

‘All awakened souls understand that darkness is not just trying to stop them, it aggressively seeks to invade them. A warrior learns the strategies used by the darkness. This knowledge empowers the warrior with spiritual foresight. You learn to see the patterns and very steps that the darkness is taking in each of its attacks.’

“所有觉醒的灵魂都明白，黑暗不仅仅妄图阻止他们，还积极地侵袭他们。战士要认识黑暗所使用的策略。这种认知赋予战士灵性上的预见。使你能够看到黑暗在每一次攻击中所采取的方法和步骤。”

The Master moved his horse away from the boulder and resumed his previous path, ‘Every assault has a counter-attack which the warrior must learn and master until it becomes second nature. As you develop your foresight and counter attacks, the power of the cord and chest guard will combine to flow into the warrior’s boots. This piece of armour is all about the ability to move and counter move against the advancing darkness.’

师父骑着他的马离开巨石，走向他以前的路上，“每一次攻击都伴随一次反击，战士必须学会并掌握它，直到它成为自己的本能。当你发展你的预见并反击时，索带和护胸的力量将合并一起进入战士的靴子中。盔甲这一部分的作用完全是运动和反击，用来对付正在运行的黑暗。”

‘Master, this very helpful, but how will I learn to identify the strategies of the darkness?’

“师父，这很有帮助，但是我怎么才能学会识别黑暗所用的策略呢？”

‘I will teach you what I can. The rest can only come by working on the first two pieces of armour and by combating the darkness directly.’

“我会尽我所能教你。其余的只有在使用盔甲的前两部分，直接与黑暗作斗争时才能发挥作用。”

‘As you work on the Cord of Enlightenment, there is much written in sacred texts about the strategies of darkness. The sacred language of symbols both reveals and conceals the strategies used by the darkness.’

“当你运行开悟之索时，会发现在神圣经文中有很多关于黑暗策略的描述。象征的神圣语言既揭示也掩盖了黑暗势力所使用的策略。”

‘Why is that Master? Why not have the authors tell us in simple language?’

“那是为什么呢师父？为什么作者不用简单的语言告诉我

们呢？”

‘There are many reasons. Here are two. Firstly, Darkness at its core is soul energy distorted from its original intention. Therefore, as a form of soul energy, it too is the unseen and unknowable. Thus, how do you describe it in human language except through human ways, thoughts and actions? Take senseless killing, we all agree that it is from the darkness, but to understand why a soul would act in this way is incomprehensible. Such soul energy is unknowable except through its outward expression in the act of killing. Thus, the ancients write their insight in the language of symbols for us, not for them.’ The Master wiped away a trickle of sweat pooling around his eyes.

“有很多原因。这里是两个。第一，黑暗的核心是扭曲了初衷的灵魂能量。作为灵魂能量的一种形式，它也是看不见和不可知的。因此，除了通过人类的方式、思想和行动之外，你如何用人类的语言来描述它呢？以愚蠢的杀戮为例，我们都知道这来自黑暗，但却无法理解为什么一个灵魂会以这种方式行事。这样的灵魂能量，除非在杀戮行为中表现出来，否则无法知道它。因此，古人用象征的语言写下他们的领悟，是给我们看的，而不是为了他们。”师父擦去了他眼睛周围的一滴汗珠。

‘Secondly, by hiding the truth in symbols, the Divine who is the source of all soul energy, has wisely protected the truth from the attacks of the darkness. The wisdom of the darkness cannot penetrate into the wisdom of truth hidden in symbols. Thus, the darkness cannot attack the truth hidden. All that darkness can do

is lie about the true nature of symbols. But to the awakened soul, the truth is all around them, confirmed in all of life and most sublimely in sacred texts.’

“第二，通过将真理隐藏在象征中，作为所有灵魂能量之源的神性，智慧地保护真理不受黑暗的攻击。黑暗的机巧无法穿透入隐藏在象征中的真理智慧。因此，黑暗无法攻击隐藏的真理。黑暗所能做的就是撒谎以扭曲象征的真理本性。但对于觉醒的灵魂来说，真理就在他们身边，在生命中处处都有见证，在神圣经文中也得到最高的证实。

‘Look out, boy!’ The teacher pointed to the ground in front of Mathetis and off to the left. The boy brought his horse to a halt just in time as a large sandy coloured snake sliced its way through the red dirt. They waited patiently for the silent killer to disappear into some nearby rocks.

“小心点，孩子！”老师指了指马蒂斯前面的地面，然后指向左边。那男孩停下他的马，此时一条大沙色蛇正在穿过红色的泥土地。他们耐心地等待这沉默的杀手消失在附近的岩石里。

The Master’s eyes remained fixed on the trail left by the snake as he continued, ‘Many of the hidden truths become apparent to the warrior once they have engaged in warfare with the darkness.’

主人的眼睛一直盯着蛇留下的痕迹，他接着说：“战士一旦与黑暗交战，许多隐藏的真理就会显现出来。”

‘Tell me, boy, why do we continually train for battle?’

“告诉我，孩子，我们为什么要不断地为战斗而训练呢？”

‘So that we are ready for the real thing.’

“是为实战做好准备。”

‘Do we always train in our boots?’

“我们总是穿着靴子训练吗？”

‘Yes, always... oh, that depends, if our times of study are considered training then the correct answer would be “no”.’

“是的，总是…哦，这取决于情况，如果我们当时只是训练，那么正确的答案将是“不”。”

‘Very wise answer, young one. It is important to train in our full armour, but it is not necessary for it to always be that way. However, no warrior would ever dream to enter the battlefield without armour on their feet.’ He reached down and tapped his left foot.

“非常聪明的回答，年轻人。全副武装的训练是很重要的，但是没有必要总是这样。然而，没有一个战士会梦想在脚下没有盔甲的情况下进入战场。”他伸手拍了拍左脚。

‘And so, it is, that in the soul realm, we fight and win, and then we fight and loose, but all the while we are learning more about our true enemy, the darkness. We may lose a battle here and there, but if we do not give up we will win the war for we will become wise in all the strategies the darkness brings against us.’

“因此，在灵界，我们有时战而胜之，然后我们又会战败失利。但我们一直都在更多地了解我们真正的敌人，黑暗。”

我们可能会在这里和那里输掉一场战斗，但如果我们不放弃，我们将赢得这场战争，因为我们将在黑暗用来和我们作对的所有策略上变得聪明起来。”

Mathetis pulled out a small leather book and began to write. ‘May I ask what you have there?’

马蒂斯拿出一本小皮书开始写字。

“我可以问问你那里有什么吗？”

‘Just taking notes, Master’

“仅仅做个笔记，师父”

The Master sat up a little taller.

师父坐的稍微高了一些。

‘Ha, I did the same thing. Remind me, and I will show it to you. Enough learning, for now, young one. Look up ahead. It is the Glen of Tharhorn.’

“哈，我也是这样做的。提醒我，我会给你看的。现在学习结束。年轻人，往前看。这就是萨霍恩峡谷。”

Mathetis leaned forward as he stared out in front of him. To his surprise, he saw no buildings but only two long barren hills and a sharp valley. Jutting up out of the ground on the side of the mountains were countless shards of destruction. Each piece, as tall as a man, looked like a sharp tooth on some strange beast. They rode on into the heart of the desolate valley and then halted. The odd wall, here and there, stood proudly amongst the rest of the rubble.

马蒂斯倾身向前，凝视着前方。令他惊讶的是，他没有看到任何建筑物，只有两座长长的小荒山和一个陡峭的峡谷。在山的一侧，从地面露出的处处是毁坏后的残垣败壁。每一块人一样高的东西，看起来就像怪兽身上的一颗锋利的牙齿。他们骑马进入荒凉峡谷的中心，然后停了下来。到处是奇形怪状的墙，傲慢地耸立在四周的遗迹上。

A sad expression hung on the face of the Master as he gazed at the ruins. For a moment, Mathetis thought that he saw an inky blue fog surrounding the Master's form. He blinked a few times, and the mist was gone.

师父凝视着废墟，脸上呈现出悲伤的神情。过了一会儿，马蒂斯似乎看到一团深蓝色的雾围绕在师父身形周围。他眨了几下眼睛，雾就消失了。

‘We cannot stay long, and there is little light left. We have many steps ahead of us before we arrive at Green Hill.’

“我们不能待太久，而且天已经很暗了。在我们到达青山之前，我们还有很多路要走。”

The Master guided his horse up the centre of the valley towards the left ridge. Mathetis faithfully followed along while admiring what once must have been a flourishing river bed but now was nothing more than a random pool of water. At the top of the ridge, they were confronted by a ghastly sight. The landscape rolled on endlessly before them. In the distance, where the ground met the sky, twisting blue and black clouds formed rapidly, threatening to block their progress forward.

师父驾驭他的马沿着山谷的中心向左山脊走去。马蒂斯忠实地跟随着他，一边欣赏着曾经繁花茂盛的河床，但现在却成了一片随机荒乱的水潭。在山脊的顶端，他们面前是一幅恐怖的景象。无边的大地在他们面前起伏着。远方天地相接处，蓝色和黑色的云团快速翻腾着，威胁着他们前进的路程。

‘Can we ride through it, Master?’

“我们能骑过去吗，师父？”

‘Not likely. First, we would lose our light. And then we would be riding blindly into the wind and rain. Our best option is to camp in the Glen, up the hill a little and wait out the storm. Let’s look at the ruins and select a wall that will give us the best shelter.’

“不太可能。首先，我们会失去光明。然后我们就会在风雨中盲目走。我们最好的选择是在峡谷里扎营，爬上山坡一些，等待风暴过去。让我们看看废墟，选择一堵墙，为我们提供最好的庇护。”

They settled upon a site where two walls met and a part of the second floor remained intact creating a small but useable roof. By the time the Master had a fire burning the wind had already increased, threatening to extinguish their light. The darkness struck quickly changing the valley’s recent appeal into a dark swamp of unknown danger.

他们在一个地方安顿下来。那里有两面墙，第二层的一部分仍然完好无损，构成一个小但可用的屋顶。到师父点着火的时候，风已经变大了，威胁到熄灭他们的光。黑暗很

快地把山谷刚才的景象变成了一片莫测又危险的困境。

‘We best try and sleep. After the storm has passed, if there is enough moonlight, we will continue our travel.’

“我们最好试着睡觉。暴风雨过后，如果有足够的月光，我们就继续旅行。”

Mathetis lay on the ground thinking he would never fall asleep. The ache in his legs and back outweighed the distraction of the storm. But sure enough, sleep descended upon him suddenly and unexpectedly.

马蒂斯躺在地上，以为他不可能睡着。他腿部和背部的疼痛超过了风暴的干扰。但他竟然很快入睡，意外地睡了一觉。

When the boy awoke, the storm was still raging, and the fire had gone out. His Master was crouching over him, gently shaking his shoulders. He was trying to say something, but the boy struggled to hear over the wind.

当男孩醒来时，暴风雨还在肆虐，火已经熄灭了。他的师父俯伏在他身上，轻轻地摇着他的肩膀。他在说着什么，但男孩在风中很难听清。

‘Mathetis, we must get up and go. We are not alone here. At least three men are moving about in the valley.’

“马蒂斯，我们必须起来走了。这里并不是我们自己，至少有三个人在山谷里走动。”

A rush of adrenaline shot through the boy’s stomach. Within

moments he was on his feet, attempting to roll up his bed in the darkness. After crudely attaching it to his horse, the boy groped for the animal's reins.

一阵振奋的冲动来到那男孩的胸腹。他很快站起来，摸索着在黑暗中卷起他的铺盖，把它粗略地附在他的马上后，摸索着寻找这匹马的缰绳。

They couldn't mount in this sort of weather, so the boy, leading his horse carefully, began to follow the faint image of his Master as he moved from the shelter. Mathetis stepped out into the open air, and a wall of wind and rain hit him hard. A thunderous roar echoed inside his head, making the world around him seem distant.

他们在这种天气下不能骑马，所以男孩小心翼翼地牵着他的马，开始跟着他师父的模糊形象离开遮蔽之所。马蒂斯走到空地，一阵风雨交加像一堵墙似的狠狠地向他压来。咆哮的雷鸣在他脑中激荡，使周围的世界显得很遥远。

There was a crash to their left as the wind sent something thrashing to the ground, startling the boy's mare. She whinnied, tugging with her massive body on the reins. It took every drop of his strength to keep her from bolting.

当风吹塌了他们左边的什么东西，砰然倒在地上时，把男孩的母马吓了一跳。她呜呜嘶鸣着，用她巨大的身体扯拉着缰绳。他用尽力气使她不致挣脱。

Out of the darkness came a shout. Mathetis could barely make out the words, 'Over there!' He swung around frantically to find

the orator, but he couldn't locate the source in the darkness.

从黑暗中传来一声喊叫。马蒂斯几乎听不出来说的是“那边！”。他疯狂地四处探寻发声的人，但在黑暗中却找不到源头。

There was a loud thump followed by the sound of metal clashing. A faint glint of movement ahead of him caught the boy's eye. Mathetis drew his blade and stepped forward to assist his Master. As he leapt forward, a terrible cracking noise emanated from beneath his heel. A horrible dreaded rush went through his whole body as the ground beneath him gave way.

随着一声巨响，紧接着是金属碰撞的声音。前面一阵模糊的动作吸引了那男孩的眼神。马蒂斯拔出他的刀刃，走上前去帮助他的师父。当他往前猛冲时，脚跟下面发出了一声可怕的爆裂声。当他下方的地面垮塌时，他的全身感到了一股可怕的冲击。

Mathetis felt himself falling into the darkness below, and the horse's reins in his hand pulled tight. The mare retaliated unexpectedly, ripping the lead from out of his grip. He hit the ground hard.

马蒂斯觉得自己掉进了下面的黑暗中，马的缰绳在他手里绷得很紧。母马出其不意地往回挣扎，试图从他的手中挣脱出来。他重重地摔倒地上。

The boy's head began to throb. He heard the whinny of a horse in distress even over the clashing thunder.

那男孩的头开始抽痛。即使在剧烈的雷声中，他也听到了马的哀鸣。

A voice shouted over the storm. 'The boy is getting away.'

一个声音在暴风雨中喊道：“那孩子跑了。”

'Let him go. We have the one we are after.'

“让他走了吧，我们逮住了我们要的人。”

And then the spinning in his head increased until there was nothing but darkness...

他头部的抽搐更强了，直到除了黑暗甚麽也没有了。。。

(To read more on the Heel of Divine Foresight and its practical application see Dr Wayne Dyer and the Heel of Foresight on page 107)

(欲知“追随神性预见”及其应用，请见107页的韦恩·戴尔博士与先见之明。)

## Mathetis' Notes

### 马蒂斯的记录

Darkness can blind you and overwhelm you.

黑暗能使你盲目并压垮你。

Must learn about the strategies that darkness uses to attack warriors.

必须知晓黑暗用以攻击战士的策略。

Every attack has a counter attack.

每个攻击都有应对之策。

Do not be hard on yourself if you lose a battle. Instead, learn from it, and do not give up the fight.

如果战斗失败，不要沮丧。相反要从中学习，绝不投降。

My long-term goal is to win the war.

我的长远目标是赢得征战。

Strategies against the darkness make the warrior's boots. Think 'move and countermove'.

对抗黑暗的策略构成战士的靴子。思考‘运动和反击’。

When I practice my insights and guard my heart, it empowers my strategies against the darkness. When I use a spiritual approach, I am wearing my soul boots.

当我实践洞察力和守护自己的心，我对抗黑暗的策略就获得更大能力。当我用属灵的方式时，就穿上了灵魂的靴子。

## Chapter Four

### 第四章

#### The Shield of Celestial Conviction

#### 属天信念之盾

Mathetis stirred from the blackness. His head throbbed with a sharp stabbing sensation. Above him, apart from the occasional noise from the wind, there was silence.

在黑暗中警醒起来，他的头部感觉到强烈的刺痛。在他上面，除了偶尔从风中传来的响声外，只有一片寂静。

How long had he been out? The boy sat up and looked around.

他离开多久了？男孩坐起来环顾四周。

There was darkness in every direction except upwards. A small square of light shone from above suggesting that Mathetis had fallen into an underground chamber. It wasn't small enough to be a well. A storage room perhaps? Many homes had cold rooms buried under their houses. He searched the surrounding floor with his hands looking for any clues on how to escape.

除了上面，每个方向都是黑暗的。一小束光线从上面照射下来，表明马蒂斯掉进了一个地下室。它不是一口狭窄的井。也许是储藏室？许多家庭的房子下面都有冷室。他用手搜索周围的地面，寻找如何逃出的任何线索。

Something cold brushed against his hand. He cautiously reached out and felt the object. With a sigh of relief, the item remained

stationary. It was his blade lying on the floor. He picked it up and stored it away in its sheath. He then stood to his feet and explored the rest of the room.

有冷的物件碰到他的手。他小心翼翼地伸出手，摸到了那个物体。松了一口气，这东西没有动。那是他的刀子躺在地面上。他拿起它来，放在鞘里。然后，他双脚站起来，摸索房间的其余部分。

Close to the far wall, his foot brushed against something hard. He squatted next to the article, running his hands along its raw invisible form. The smooth, well-worn timber slid through his fingers, occasionally threatening to pierce him with a fragment of wood. Dragging the object into the moonlight, he discovered a reasonable length ladder.

在走近远处的墙时，他的脚碰到了什么硬东西。他蹲在那物体旁边，把手摸它那看不见的形状。光滑、破旧的木质从他的手指间滑过，偶尔感觉到一根木刺威胁要刺穿他。他把物体拖到月光下，发现是一具长度合适的梯子。

Some of the rungs were in poor condition, cracked or broken. One was completely gone. But the ladder was still sturdy enough to allow Mathetis to escape.

梯子的有些蹬阶状况很差，有裂缝或坏了。其中一个完全不见了。但梯子仍然坚固，足以使马蒂斯逃脱。

In moments, his head emerged through the opening above. The storm had broken enough to allow moonlight to spill across the entire valley. The ghostly devastation that littered the village gave

everything a dim but living quality. The boy imagined himself as a small vulnerable animal escaping the jaws of a gigantic prehistoric beast. The urge to get out of the ruins was suffocating.

过了一会儿，他的头从上面的开口冒了出来。暴风雨已经肆虐够了，此时月光撒遍整个山谷。村子里到处都是幽灵般的残迹，处处都呈现出黯淡，但曾经生活过的品性。男孩想象自己就像一个易受伤害的小动物，逃脱了一只巨大的史前野兽的嘴。急切走出废墟的冲动压迫着他。

There was no sign of movement nor the sound of any people nearby. How long had he been unconscious? Perhaps a few moments or at worst a whole cycle?

附近没有运动的迹象，也没有人的声音。他失去知觉多久了？也许是几分钟，也许最坏是整整一天？

The boy urgently climbed to the top of the valley to get a better perspective. He arrived at the same hilltop where his Master had first spotted the storm earlier in the evening.

男孩急急忙忙爬到山谷的顶端，以便能更佳地观察四周。他到达了山顶，昨晚早些时候师父在那里首先发现的风暴。

Mathetis looked to the north where the storm had originated and then searched to the south plains. Confusion and fear rose through his chest, flooding his head. He looked one more time to the north and spied a dark shape moving in the distance. He thrust his head forward and opened his eyes wide but couldn't make out any details.

马蒂斯向北看了看，那里是风暴袭来的地方，然后向南部

平原探索。困惑和恐惧从他的胸中冒出，直冲头脑。他再往北看一看，发现远处有一个黑暗的形状在移动。他把头伸向前方，睁大了眼睛，但看不清任何细节。

It must be them. The boy needed to set off in their general direction immediately if he hoped to catch them, but the thought of encountering a group of bandits alone made his fear intensify. Mathetis took a few deep breaths and focussed his energy until the fear passed. No matter what may come, he was determined to go after his Master.

一定是他们。男孩要想抓住他们，就必须立即朝他们的方向走去。但一想到要单独对付一群强盗，他的恐惧就加剧了。马蒂斯做了几次深呼吸，集中精力，直到恐惧消失。无论发生什么事，他都决心去追寻师父。

The boy set out at a good pace, not too fast, but enough that he could maintain the speed for some time. The ground fell downwards towards the northern plain making his travel easy at first. Once in the plain, he stopped his pursuit to assess his progress. He could now see the moving figures a little clearer. There were several men on horseback but, to his surprise, they were heading in his direction. Could they have seen him and were now coming back to finish him off?

这个男孩以合适的速度出发，不太快，但足够使他保持速度一段时间。地面向北部平原倾斜下去，使得他的行进一开始很容易。一旦进入平原，他就停止了追赶，评估一下进度。他现在可以更清楚地看见那几个移动的身影了，几个人骑在马背上。令他惊讶的是，他们朝他的方向走来。

是他们发现了他，现在回来干掉他吗？

Mathetis pushed the thoughts away and resolved himself to face them no matter what may come. He owed that to his Master.

马蒂斯丢开思绪，决心不管发生什么，都要勇敢面对。他要报答师父。

He moved ahead and hid behind a small mound of dirt. He would wait for them to approach and give himself a slight advantage. Perhaps, if he could take out one or two of the men, he might have a fighting chance.

他向前走去，躲在一个小土堆后面。他等着他们走近，使自己处于优势。也许，如果能干掉一两个人，他可能会有赢得战斗的机会。

He lay there peering over the mound and focused on raising his energy levels. The horsemen approached and showed no sign of slowing. The boy braced himself for the surprise attack and was about to launch when he saw the riders in the moonlight. One traveller was a male and the other a female, both followed by two young boys. All four of them bore the uniform of the warrior.

他爬在那里，凝视着山丘，专注于积累自己的能量。骑马的人走近了，丝毫没有放慢的迹象。男孩准备好要突然袭击，正准备进击时，他在月光下看到了骑马者。一个是男的，另一个是女的，两个年轻男孩紧随其后。他们四个都穿着战士的制服。

Mathetis leapt to his feet and called out to them, 'Over here.'

马蒂斯站立起来向他们喊：“这里。”

The riders came to a halt and turned in his general direction.

骑马的人停了下来，转过方向来。

‘Who goes there? Identify yourself.’

“那是谁？报上名来。”

‘I am Mathetis of the Order of the Warrior from the village of Ruach.’

“我是马蒂斯，来自鲁奇村的武士团”

The male rider spoke, ‘I am Master Emeth from Green Hill. We are here to offer assistance to Master Lubenik and his apprentice. We saw the storm headed his way and were sent by the High Council. Where is your Master?’

男骑手说：“我是青山的伊梅斯师父。”我们是来帮助卢本尼克师父和他徒弟的。我们看到风暴向他袭来，高级议会就派我们来了。你的师父呢？”

The boy hesitated before answering, ‘Some bandits ambushed us during the storm not one cycle ago. Please, we must go after them and free my Master.’

男孩迟疑了一下，然后回答说：“几个土匪在不到一个小时前在风暴中袭击了我们。请求你，我们必须去追他们，救回我的师父。”

‘How many were there?’

“他们几个人？”

‘I am not completely sure, but it sounded like three or four men

at the most.'

“我不十分清楚，但是听起来似乎有三或最多四个人。”

There was a short discussion among the warriors.

武士们之间进行了简短的商量。

‘We will go after them. Quickly! You can ride with one of the apprentices.’

“我们要追他们，快点儿！你可以和一个徒弟同行。”

Mathetis moved towards the nearest horse carrying a young lad, and in one swift move, the boy was on the back of the horse.

马蒂斯向最近的一匹马走去，那匹马载着一个年轻的小伙子，他迅速地往上一攀，就骑上了马背。

‘I am apprentice Dewi, and that is Master Amana. She is my teacher and the bravest woman in all of Green Hill.’

“我是徒弟德维，那是阿玛娜师父。她是我的师父，也是全青山最勇敢的女人。”

Dewi was pointing ahead to the female rider. He then turned his gaze towards the other young lad, 'That is apprentice Samu. He trains with Master Emeth.'

德维指着前面的女骑者。然后他把目光转向另一个年轻小伙子，“那是徒弟萨穆。他跟着伊梅斯师父学武艺。”

'Enough talk. Let's ride. Which way did they go?'

“说够了。我们走吧。他们往哪走了？”

'I am not sure, but I believe they went south. We think the bandits followed us from the badlands.'

“我不确定，但我相信他们往南走了。我们认为土匪是从荒原追随我们来的。”

'You're not sure of much, are you boy. Never mind, we will find their trail. Let's hope that we are not too far behind. If they are already in the badlands, there is nothing we can do. All Green Hill warriors are forbidden to enter the badlands. Get moving now.' Master Emeth kicked his horse into action and sped up the hill vehemently, followed by the others.

“你不太确定，是吗孩子？没关系，我们会找到他们的踪迹的。希望我们不会落后太远。如果他们已经到达荒原上，我们就没办法了。所有青山武士都禁止进入荒原。现在开始行动。”伊梅斯师父踢了踢马，迅猛地跑上山去，其他人跟在后面。

Once in the Glen, Master Emeth easily found the bandit's trail heading towards the south, just as Mathetis had anticipated.

一旦进入峡谷，伊梅斯师父很容易就找到了匪徒向南行进的踪迹，就像马蒂斯预料的那样。

Young Samu looked over his shoulder at Mathetis.

年轻的萨穆扭头看着马蒂斯。

‘What kind of an apprentice lets his Master be taken captive? Tell me, you didn't flee from the fight?’

“什么样的徒弟能让他的师父被俘虏？告诉我，你没有从战斗中逃跑吗？”

‘No, I didn't flee. I fell into a storage room below one of the ruins and passed out.’

“不，我没有逃跑。我掉进废墟下面的一间储藏室里，后来才逃了出来。”

Mathetis felt a growing anger burning through his veins. Samu's air of superiority disturbed him.

马蒂斯感到他的血管里有一股怒火在升腾。萨穆的居高临下感使他很不舒服。

‘So, you're not a coward, just incompetent.’ ‘There is no need for that Samu,’ responded Dewi.

“所以，你不是懦夫，只是无能。” “没有必要那样萨穆，” 德维回答。

Mathetis could hold back no longer, ‘You are speaking out of darkness, Samu. My Master and I were ambushed in the middle of a terrible storm. Tell me what you would have done O Great One? And I do not appreciate your attempts to lower my energy

levels.’

马蒂斯再也忍不住了，“你是完全出自黑暗说这话的，萨穆。我和我师父在一场可怕的风暴中遭到伏击。告诉我你会做什么，大人物？我不接受你这样贬低我的能力。”

‘Did you hear that Master Emeth? This incompetent just called us darkness.’

“伊梅斯师父你听到说的话了吗？这种无能的人称我们为黑暗。”

Master Emeth turned his horse and snapped at Samu, ‘Enough Foolishness. We are in a dangerous situation. Keep your mouths shut and your thoughts to yourselves.’

伊梅斯师父把马转过来，对萨穆厉声说：“够傻了。我们正处于危险的境地。闭上你的嘴，把你的想法藏在心里。”

Samu glared at Mathetis, ‘Yes Master.’

萨穆怒目盯着马蒂斯，“好吧师父。”

Master Emeth steered his horse back into the lead. At the same time, Master Amana slowed her horse down and rode parallel with her apprentice.

伊梅斯师父驾驭他的马回到领先位置。与此同时，阿玛娜师父放慢了她的马，与她的徒弟并驭平行。

‘Dewi, if you can bring your horse to a stop, I would like to ask apprentice Mathetis to ride on my horse so that we may talk.’

“德维，如果你能让你的马停下来，我想请马蒂斯徒弟骑上我的马，这样我们就可以说话了。”

Both horses came to a stop and Mathetis, like a feather, glided over to Master Amana's horse. He had never met a female Master before. He had no idea that there were women in the Order. He felt a slight anxious knot inside him at the thought of talking to her.

两匹马停了下来，马蒂斯像一根羽毛飘到阿玛娜师父的马前。他以前从未见过女师父。他不知道组织中有女性。一想到要和她说话，他心里就感到有点紧张。

'Mathetis, I know your Master well. I have the greatest respect for him. Many years ago, he was asked to be the Grand Master and lead the high council for the Prince. But he refused, claiming that he had other important business to attend to.'

“马蒂斯，我很熟悉你的师父。我非常敬佩他。多年前，他被要求成为首席师父，并领导国君的高级议会。但他拒绝了，声称他还有其他重要的事情要处理。”

Mathetis listened carefully. Her voice was soft but commanding. What other business could his Master have? All his time was spent training Mathetis. Unless... taking on an apprentice was the other business? The knot of anxiety inside the boy grew into a feeling of guilt.

马蒂斯仔细地听着。她的声音轻柔但威严。他的师父还有什么事呢？他所有时间都花在训练马蒂斯上了。除非，教徒弟就是其他重要事吗？这男孩心中紧张的结逐渐变成了一种负罪感。

'It is clear to me young apprentice that Master Lubenik has

begun your training in spiritual warfare. How unusual. The Order requires us to wait until all apprentices are at least eighteen, and even then, a Master might deny training. Clearly, your Master has great faith in you.'

“我很清楚，年轻的徒弟，鲁本尼克师父已经开始了你的属灵征战训练。非比寻常啊。组织要求我们等到每一个学徒至少年满十八岁才能开始，即使这样，师父也可能会拒绝这训练。显然，你的师父对你很有信心。”

‘Why are you telling me this, Master Amana?’

“你为甚麽告诉我这些呢，阿玛娜师父？”

‘Well, you must be prepared for the least desirable outcome. If we cannot catch up to the bandits before they enter the badlands, Master Emeth will insist that we return to Green Hill. He will not break the general order to avoid the badlands, and he most certainly will not risk the lives of these young apprentices. They are both sixteen and have limited combat experience.’

“嗯，你必须为最坏的结果做好准备。如果我们在土匪进入荒原之前赶不上他们，伊梅斯师父会坚持让我们回到青山。他不会因为违反了总体规令而避开荒原，他也肯定不会拿这些年轻学徒的生命去冒险。他们都才十六岁，作战经验有限。”

Master Amana quietly moved her horse away, not wanting the others to hear the conversation, ‘It is also clear to me that you will resist returning with us and will continue into the badlands in search of your Master.’

阿玛娜师父悄悄地把她的马挪开，不想让其他人听到这番话，“我也很清楚，你会拒绝和我们一起回去，会继续到荒原去寻找你的师父。”

‘You remind me of my teacher, and you are correct in your assessment of me Master Amana. I will not abandon my Master, even if I die.’

“你提醒了我关于我师父的事，阿玛娜师父，你对我的评价也是正确的。即使我死了，我也不会不管我的师父。”

‘Very well. I have thought about coming along with you, but Master Emeth will protest and assuredly the Order will expel me. Still, if you insist, I will come with you.’

“很好。我曾想过要跟你一起去，但伊梅斯师父会反对，而且组织肯定会开除我。不过，如果你坚持的话，我也会和你一起去。”

Mathetis sat up taller, ‘Even though I would like your help; I cannot ask you to break an order and face expulsion. I may be afraid, but I will not accept your offer of help, Master.’

马蒂斯坐得更高一些，“即使我需要你的帮助，我也不能要求你违反命令，面临被逐。我可能胆怯，但我不愿接受你的帮助，师父。”

‘You have a good strong spirit, young apprentice. If you belonged to any other Master, I would think you are unwise, and that you are going to get yourself killed. What if your Master is injured? ...Still, the light has a strange way of leading us. And, perhaps I can help you after all. How far have you gone with your

spiritual training?’

“你有坚强的灵性，年轻徒弟。如果你跟从任何其他师父，我会认为你是不明智的，那样的话你会被杀。如果你的师父受伤了怎么办？…然而，光明用神奇的方式引导我们。也许终究我能帮你。你的属灵训练已经到哪个地步了？”

‘We have covered three pieces of armour.’

“我们已经涉及了盔甲的三个部分。”

‘I see. Then I will reveal to you the secret of the fourth piece of armour, the shield of hope and inward conviction. You will need it if you are called to go on alone…

“我知道了。那么我要向你揭示盔甲第四部分的秘密，希望的护甲和内在的信念。你需要这些，如果你被召唤独自前行的话。。。 ”

You may have realised that there is a building process in the six pieces of armour. The first armour is about our habits and how to apply insights to our lives. The second is about our attitudes and guarding our heart. The third is about learning strategies and developing regular practices that keep us aware of the enemy and the Divine life. This third armour builds on the first armour through the second. And now, the fourth – the shield of hope – is about understanding and protecting your belief systems.’

你可能已经意识到，六部分盔甲的建造有一个过程。第一部分是关于我们的习惯和如何将洞察力运用到我们的生活中。第二个是关于我们的态度和守护我们的心。第三是学习策略和发展规律性的实践，使我们意识到敌人和神圣的

生命。这第三部分盔甲建立在从第一到第二部分的基础上。现在，第四个-希望的护甲-是关于理解和保护你的信仰系统。”

Mathetis leaned in close to the teacher so he could speak softly, ‘Master Amana, I’m not sure that I yet have any belief systems?’ 马蒂斯靠近师父身边，这样他才能轻声地说：“阿玛娜师父，我不知道我是否有甚麽信仰系统？”

‘We all have belief systems, my young friend. Most souls are unaware of those systems. The shield teaches us to have awareness and to grow in right and wholesome beliefs.

“我们都有信仰系统，我的年轻朋友。大多数灵魂都不知道这些系统。护甲教导我们要有觉知，要在正确和健全的信念中成长。

All our beliefs about the world around us, both good and bad, are built up from our convictions, our feelings and our practices. But what is most important is that each soul’s belief systems can lead one further into the light, or they can corrupt soul essence. The dark ones wish only to distort your view of life. They want you to lose all faith in the Divine.

我们对周围世界的所有信仰，无论是好的还是坏的，都是从我们的信念，感受和实践中建立起来的。但最重要的是，每一个灵魂的信仰系统都可以引导人走向更加光明，或者腐蚀其灵魂之本性。黑暗势力只希望扭曲你的生命观。它们想让你对神失去所有信心。

Our ability to draw on love from the Divine is deeply affected by

our belief systems, and when the dark ones can affect us on that level, they can cut us off from source essence. It is so much easier for the dark ones to control us when we fail to draw on the Divine love.

我们从神性中汲取爱的能力，受到我们信仰系统的深刻影响，当黑暗势力能够在这个层面上影响我们时，它们可以切断我们与源头本体的联结。当我们无法汲取神圣之爱时，黑暗势力就更容易控制我们。

My little friend, there is a far more important side to the shield, so listen carefully. As we search through and remove wrong beliefs, our soul shield grows larger and stronger. Less and less of the dark and poisoned arrows can penetrate the soul. And then the most amazing thing occurs, we experience deep and lasting peace. This inward harmony allows for the Architects to communicate with our souls and guide us into our higher call.’

我的小朋友，护甲还有更重要的一面，所以仔细听。当我们寻求并驱除谬误的信仰时，我们灵魂的护甲就会变得越来越强大。黑暗有毒的箭穿透灵魂的能力就越来越少。然后，最令人惊奇的事情发生了，我们会经历深刻而持久的平安。这种内在的和谐使灵魂训导师能够与我们的灵魂沟通，引导我们响应更高的呼召。”

‘Wait... Master Amana, I’ve never heard of these Architects. Who are they?’

“等等。。。阿玛娜师父，我从没听说过灵魂训导师。他们是谁？”

‘The ancient ones called them the Soul Architects because they help us fight against the dark ones. They wisely look over the development of our souls and guide us when we need it most.’

“古人称他们为灵魂训导师，因为他们帮助我们对抗黑暗势力。他们智慧地审视我们灵魂的发展，并在我们最需要的时候指导我们。”

‘How do they guide us? I need their help now more than ever.’

“他们如何引导我们呢？我现在比以往任何时候都更需要他们的帮助。”

‘It is a wise thing to look for their help and guidance, even in things that don’t seem so important. When you learn to follow their guidance in small matters and at quiet times, you will know how to be led in grand battles and great matters. The Architects guide us mostly through the peace in our souls. When you lose that peace, if you look for it’s return, you will encounter their guidance. When you are moving in the right direction, your peace will be restored, a little at first but with more illumination as you move along the correct path. If you can faithfully practise this, your shield will grow.’

“寻求他们的帮助和指导是明智的，即使在看起来不那么重要的事情上也是如此。当你学会在小事情上和平静时跟随他们的指引，你就会知道如何在伟大的征战和重大的事件中接受引导。灵魂训导师们主要通过我们灵魂的祥和引导我们。当你失去祥和时，如果你想要找回它来，你就会经历他们的指引。当你朝着正确的方向前进时，你会恢复祥和，起初可能是一点儿，但当你沿着正确的道路前进时，

你会得到更多的光照。如果你忠实地如此实践，你的护甲就会成长。”

‘Master Amana, you said that the Architects mostly use peace inside our souls to guide us, but there is another way, yes? You see, I don't have much peace right now, and I don't think I can.’

“阿玛娜师父，你说灵魂训导师们大多通过我们灵魂里的祥和来引导我们，但是否还有另外的途径？你看，我现在没有什么祥和，我想我也做不到。”

Master Amana let out a soft laugh, ‘I see why Master Lubenik has placed his confidence in you. Your question shows wisdom. As a warrior's shield grows, there will come moments of intense clarity, or there will be a voice inside your head that sounds just like you, but with great confidence, it will speak to your soul. Sometimes a warrior sees an image or an unfolding event will flash through the mind. I have had guidance come to me through my dreams.’

阿玛娜师父轻声笑道：“我明白卢本尼克师父为什么对你有信心了。你的问题显示了智慧。当一个战士的护甲成长的时候，会有一个时刻变得非常清晰，或者在你的脑海里会有一个声音，听起来像是你的一样，但是带着极大的信心，对你的灵魂说话。有时，战士会在脑海中闪现出异象或正在展开的事件。我曾经在梦里获得过指引。”

The boy's voice sounded frail, ‘Is it possible that my finding you and the other Master is a form of guidance?’

男孩的声音听起来很孱弱，“是不是我能找到你和另一位师

父也是一种引导？”

‘Yes, that is true. But that does not mean that you should blindly follow the council we give you. Test everything and ultimately let the inward peace guide your steps.’ She fell silent for a moment as if listening to someone else talking.

“是的，那是真的。但这并不意味着你应该盲目遵循我们给你的建议。考察每一件事，直到内心的祥和指引你的脚步。她沉默了一会儿，似乎在听别人说话。

‘I have another question. What is the higher call?’

“我还有一个问题，甚麽是更高呼召？”

‘My apologies, Mathetis. Sometimes I assume too much. Your earthly calling is to train in the way of the warrior. The calling of your soul, the higher call, may take you in a different direction. It is never clear at the beginning. However, it will manifest in stages to you. I, for example, could see myself having a family of my own one day, but for now, I am content to serve others through my commitment to the Order.’

“对不起，马蒂斯。有时候我的思想走的太远。你世上的呼召是训练你成为武士。你灵魂的呼召，就是更高的呼召，可能带你去一个不同的方向。这一开始从来都是不清楚的。然而，它将按阶段向你显现。以我为例，我看到将来可以有自己的家庭，但就目前而言，我乐于服务他人，履行对组织的承诺。”

‘But your higher call might require you to stay in the Order?’

‘It may. And I trust in the light to guide me where I need to go.’

Understand though; it is a law of soul essence that one soul cannot dictate the higher call of another. It is for the Architects in their higher wisdom to make the path of the higher call known to each soul through enlightenment.’ She fell silent for a second time. The boy looked around him and understood the reason for her stillness.

“但要明白，灵魂本质的法则是一个灵魂不能支配另一个人的更高呼召。灵魂训导师以他们更高的智慧，通过启示打开通道，使每个灵魂明白更高的呼召。”她又陷入了沉默。那男孩环顾四周，明白了她沉默的原因。

‘Mathetis, look... the others have stopped. Let us join them.’ Master Amana and the boy had ridden on several paces ahead.

“马蒂斯，你看，…其他人停下来了，让我们赶上他们。”阿玛娜师父和那个男孩紧赶几步，已经走到前面了。

She turned her horse around to join the other three. Master Emeth dismounted from his horse and crouched next to a small dark obstruction.

她调转马匹，加入其他三匹马的行列。伊梅斯师父从马上下来，蹲在一个小小的黑色物体旁边。

‘They stopped here for a moment, possibly to eat.’ ‘Their path continues that way.’ He pointed west.

“他们在这里停了一会儿，可能是吃东西。他们沿着路继续这样走下去。”他指向西方。

‘But I am sorry to say, we can go no further. We are already several thousand paces into the badlands, and I will not place our

lives in any more danger. Apprentice Mathetis, you can accompany us back to Green Hill.'

“但我很抱歉地说，我们不能再往前走了。我们已经进入荒原几千步了，我不能再把我们的生命置于危险之中。马蒂斯徒弟，你可以和我们回青山去。”

‘No, Master Emeth. I will not be coming back with you. I must go on and find my Master.’

“不，伊梅斯师父，我不会和你一起回去的。我必须去找我的师父。”

The force and tone of Master Emeth’s voice revealed a level of agitation, ‘I am not giving you a choice. We are about to go to war. The word from the High Council is that all our southern villages will suffer a multitude of attacks at the same time. We have but days to prepare and we will need every hand available. We cannot allow you to throw your life away on some foolish quest.’

伊梅斯师父声音的力度和语调显示相当的激动：“我不能给你选择的余地。我们就要开战了。来自高级议会的消息是，我们南部的所有村庄都将同时遭受多起袭击。我们只有几天的准备时间，我们需要所有可用的人手，不能让你把生命丢在鲁莽的追索上。”

Master Amana moved her horse in closer and spoke with a firm but quiet voice, ‘It is not your choice Master Emeth. You have no jurisdiction over another man’s apprentice. It is a violation of the law.’

阿玛娜师父骑马靠近他，用坚定而安静的声音说：“这不是你的选择，埃梅斯师父。你对别人的徒弟没有管辖权。这是违法的。”

‘Don’t quote rules to me, Amana. He must come back.’ A new tension filled the air.

“不要用法令压我，阿玛娜。他必须回去。”空气中弥漫着新的紧张气氛。

The words of the female Master softened a little, ‘Stop for a moment and search your heart. The peace is telling us to let him go. I don’t fully understand it. I don’t even like it, but this is meant to be.’

女师父的话音稍微柔软了一些，“等一会儿，仔细问问你的心。平安要求我们让他去。我虽然不完全理解，我甚至不愿意，但这就是那意思。”

Master Emeth pushed his horse back into a trot, ‘Fine, go and die in the badlands boy. Leave the fighting to the real warriors!’

伊梅斯师父催他的马往回开始小跑，“好吧，去死在荒地吧，小伙子，让真正的战士去战斗吧。”

‘Wait...’ Master Amana took out some items from a pouch attached to the horse, ‘Mathetis can take my ride. I will travel with my apprentice.’

“等等...”阿玛娜师父从马背上的袋子里拿出一些东西。  
“马蒂斯可以骑我的马。我和我的徒弟一起走。”

‘This is insanity. You wish to throw away yet another resource.’

You're both mad.'

“真荒唐，你想再丢一些资源吗。你们两个都疯了。

'Our way is not to question the leading of the Architects, Master Emeth. You know that to be true.' She slipped off her horse and approached Dewi.

“我们不应该质疑灵魂训导师的引导，伊梅斯师父。你知道这是真的。”她从马上下来，向德维走去。

'Go well, young Mathetis, and may the light of the Architects be with you.'

“走好，年轻的马蒂斯，愿灵魂训导师的光照与你同在。”

## Mathetis' Notes

### 马蒂斯的记录

I need to discover what my belief systems are.

我需要弄清楚我的信仰系统是什么。

Right beliefs shield me and keep me safe.

正确的信仰系统保护我，使我得平安。

My insights, my feelings and my actions affect my beliefs, and my expectations change perceptions.

我的觉悟，感受和行为影响我的信仰，我的期盼改变我的认知。

Each piece of armour affects the other parts. They strengthen each other or weaken each other.

盔甲的每一部分都会影响其他部分。它们或者相互加强，或者相互削弱。

When I let peace guide me, I am being protected by my spiritual shield.

当我被平安指引时，就得到我的灵性护甲保护。

Soul Architects help us fight against the dark ones.

灵魂训导师帮助我们战胜黑暗势力。

I need guidance on the small things as well as the big stuff.

无论大事小事，我都需要引导。

If I am listening, the Architects can speak into my mind through

conviction, visions and dreams.

如果我倾听，灵魂训导师会通过信念，异象和异梦对我的心灵说话。

They can help me find my high call.

他们能帮我发现我的更高呼召。

Master Emeth has attitude, and so does his apprentice Samu.

伊梅斯师父有他的风格，他的徒弟撒穆也一样。

## Chapter Five

### 第五章

#### The Helmet of Guidance

#### 引领之头盔

#### Hope, Perception, and Clarity

#### 希望，认知和明白

The boy had been riding for cycles in the same general direction. The moon was close to the edge of the sky and the first signs of morning were now showing on the opposite side of the heavens. His focus was razor sharp, looking for any clues or signs of human activity. Perhaps, his determination to find his Master was the reason, but he was feeling so calm that nothing seemed to be bothering him. He had not allowed himself the luxury of worrying about his situation, although negative thoughts had repeatedly tried to invade his head. His time spent with Master Amana had affected him on some deeper level, and he felt his thoughts being more focused than ever before.

这男孩沿着一个基本方向骑了几个小时。月亮远远地挂在天边，清晨的第一缕曙光出现在天际的另一侧。他聚精会神寻找有人活动的线索或迹象。也许，正是他找到师父的决心，使他感到如此平静，似乎没有什么能困扰他。他不愿为自己的处境担忧，尽管不安的念头不断地侵入他的脑海。他和阿玛娜师父的相处，在更深的层次上影响了他，他感到自己的思绪比以往任何时候都更加集中。

For the last short while, the ground sloped ever so slightly upwards. Ahead, in the distance, Mathetis could see volcanic rock formations with the same sterile qualities found throughout the badlands. He reined in his steed for a moment to survey his location, when behind him, he heard a small scurrying noise. He darted his eyes backwards in time to see a little furry animal racing up the trunk of a nearby tree. His heart was beating faster now, but he realised he was in no immediate danger.

在最后一段时间里，地形一直缓缓向上。在前方远处，马蒂斯可以看到火山岩的构造，荒凉贫瘠在整个荒原上处处可见。他勒住坐骑一会儿，察看他所处的位置。这时身后传来一阵细小的声音，他立即回过头来，看见一只毛茸茸的小动物跑上了附近一棵树的树干。他的心跳现在加快了，但他意识到自己并没有面临即刻的危险。

The tree became clearer in his sight as he gave it attention. It glowed a soft, vibrant green. How had he not noticed it moments earlier as he rode past? In fact, Mathetis could not remember seeing any trees since he had entered the badlands for the second time. Slowly, he dismounted and approached the tree, fascinated by its beauty. He stopped at the foot of the tree and searched its branches for the little animal, but he could not see it anywhere. Mathetis' eyes traced the trunk all the way down to the base, and then his gaze moved off to the right towards something artificial. Less than one step away from the base of the tree, the ground dropped away into a cliff face.

当他注意到这棵树时，它就变得清晰了。它散发着一种柔

和、生机勃勃的绿色。当他骑马经过的时候，他怎么没有注意到这一点呢？事实上，自从他第二次进入荒原后，他就不记得见过一棵树了。他慢慢地下了马，走近那棵树，被它的美丽迷住了。他停在树脚下，在树枝上寻找那只小动物，但他什么也看不见。马蒂斯的眼睛顺着树干一直往下看，然后他的目光转向右边的人造物体上。离树底不到一步的地方，地面就从悬崖陷落。

A knotted rope clung to the ground at the top of the slope with a large steel pin. The boy's eyes traced the dangling rope downward, and then he froze. Around twenty paces below, the rope ended at a small clearing. Stretched out on the floor was the body of an adult dressed in the familiar garb of the Carnor tribe. He knew this to be true because the familiar emblem of a red snake glistened in the early morning light on the back of the dead man's shirt. A dead bandit? Was he alive? Perhaps he had fallen to his death? Mathetis held his breath and watched quietly for any movement or signs of life.

一根打结的绳子被一个大钢钉紧栓在斜坡顶部的地面上。男孩的眼睛向下追踪悬挂的绳子，然后他僵住了。在下面大约二十步处，绳子悬落在一小片空地上。地面上躺着一个成年人的身体，穿着熟悉的卡诺帮服装的。他知道这是真的，因为在死者的内衣背面，一条熟悉的红蛇标志在清晨的光线下闪闪发光。这是一个死强盗，还是活的？也许他摔下来死了？马蒂斯屏住呼吸，静静地观察着任何动作或生命迹象。

An idea came into the boy's mind. If the bandit was dead, he

could use the corpse's black uniform to help hide his identity as he ventured further into their territory. He might even be able to get close enough to the group who had abducted his Master and then take them by complete surprise.

这男孩想到了一个主意。如果强盗已经死了，他可以借助尸体的黑色制服隐藏自己的身份，便于探险进入他们的领地。他甚至可以接近绑架他师父的那群人，然后攻其不意。

Mathetis decided to risk it and climb down to investigate the body. After securing his steed to a knob on the tree's trunk, he examined the integrity of the rope. He descended the cliff with ease, keeping his eyes fixed on the body below. Before he had even reached the ground, Mathetis could see that the poor lifeless soul had taken a nasty and fatal blow to the head.

马蒂斯决定冒这个险，他爬下来检查尸体。把他的马在树干上打了一个结拴牢后，他检查了绳子是否牢靠，然后从容地攀下悬崖，眼睛一直盯着下面的尸体。还没到地面的时候，马蒂斯就看出这个可怜的无生命的灵魂在头部受到了严重而致命的打击。

The boy wasted no time removing the uniform and fitting it to himself. He tried not to think about the dead man. The Carnor suit was a little loose, but it helped to conceal the sleek armour he wore. He finished the macabre ritual by pulling the black hood over his white head protection.

男孩不慌不忙地剥下制服，把它穿在自己身上。他尽量不去想那个死人。这套卡诺服装有点宽，但正好帮助掩盖他

穿的那件光滑的盔甲。他把黑色的兜帽盖在他的白色护头上，完成了毛骨悚然的程序。

Mathetis was about to climb back up the cliff when he noticed, off to his right, a well-worn path broad enough for two riders to pass through. It wasn't exactly a road, but it was not a natural formation. The boy began to marvel. How easy could he have missed this path and the dead body? Was he being guided by the Architects?

马蒂斯正要爬上悬崖，突然他注意到，在他的右边有一条残破的路，可以容两名骑手通过。准确地说这不是一条路，但也不是自然形成的。那男孩开始惊奇起来。他多么容易就会和这条路擦身而过？是训导师在引导他吗？

He decided to examine this trail further which led away forty paces before ending at a T-junction. A much larger path coming from the east and travelling deep into the west was now emerging from the camouflaged landscape. He started up the westerly path towards the bald, rocky mountains.

他决定进一步审视这条小路。这条小径向前约有四十步处，到达一个T形路口。一条更大的路从东而来，向西深入下去，正脱下伪装浮现在他眼前的大地上。他沿着西边的路向光秃秃的岩石山走去。

This new pathway was more spacious and appeared well made, as though it had been dug out in places to allow for large groups to travel. An army could pass through here if it needed to and Mathetis now felt sure he was heading in the right direction. His

pace quickened as he ventured further east.

这条新路更宽敞，而且看起来修得很好，在一些地方好像是挖出来的，以便大队人通行。如果需要的话，一支军队可以从这里经过，马蒂斯现在确信他正朝着正确的方向前进。当他向东探险行进时，他的步伐加快了。

Several cycles past and the morning sunlight was filling up the sky, but it had not yet ascended above the nearby mountains.

Mathetis, now tired, moved a little slower. There had been no sign of anyone. The boy pushed away a mild sense of anxiety. At one point the feelings became so intense that his inner thoughts began to scream 'you have failed.' He stopped and leaned against a tall smooth bolder. His eyes closed as he took several deep breaths and sent out a prayer to the Architects, 'I will do whatever it takes. Just let me find my Master and help me to free him.' He stood still for a long time listening to the silence.

Surprisingly, a warm wave of peace came over him and much of his tiredness lifted.

转了一个弯走下来，晨光铺满天空，但还没有攀爬到附近的山上。马蒂斯现在累了，行动得慢了点。没有任何人的迹象。男孩排除了轻微的焦虑。有一刻这感觉变得如此强烈，以至于他内心的念头开始尖叫“你失败了”。他停下来，靠在一个高大、光滑的石头上。他闭上眼睛，做了几次深呼吸，向训导师们祈祷，“我会竭尽全力，让我找到我的师父，帮我解救他。”他静静地站了很长一段时间，听着空谷。令人惊讶的是，一股温暖的平安向他笼罩过来，他大部分疲倦都消除了。

Ahead, the pathway went narrow, and on each side of the trail, the rocks grew into towering walls. The path turned sharply to the left and Mathetis heard voices beyond the turn. He crept up closer and peered around the corner.

前面的路变窄了，在路的每一边，岩石都高耸成墙。路急转直下地向左拐去，马蒂斯拐弯后听到了声音。他悄悄地走近，朝拐角望去。

He had found the bandit's base. Just beyond the bend, the path ended at a cliff face. A large iron gate clung to the side of the cliff preventing anyone from entering, and a guard sat slavishly beside the monstrous steel jaws. Mathetis observed and noticed that the guard held a cup in one hand and a pouch in the other. His movements were sluggish, and he almost fell off his chair. Occasionally he belted out some obscenity to someone else located beyond the gate.

他找到了匪帮的基地。弯路的尽头是悬崖。一个巨大的铁门紧贴着悬崖的一侧，阻止任何人进入，一个奴隶样的守卫坐在阴森的铁嘴旁边。马蒂斯观察着并注意到，警卫一手拿着一只杯子，另一只手拿着一个袋子。他行动迟缓，差点从椅子上摔下来。偶尔，他也会向门内的其他人抛一些淫秽的话语。

Mathetis felt confident that his Master was here but how could he get inside the stronghold undetected? Even with the fake uniform on, if he merely tried to enter, he would be exposed.

马蒂斯确信他的师父在这里，但他怎么能进入这个据点而

不被发现呢？即使穿着假制服，如果他只想进去，也会暴露的。

Suddenly there was a rumble of noise coming from the other direction. Someone or something was approaching from the west, and now Mathetis was trapped between the iron jaws and the approaching foreigners. In moments, they would discover him. If only he had somewhere to hide?

突然，从另一个方向传来一阵隆隆的声音。有人或什么东西正从西边向这里移动，现在马蒂斯被困在铁嘴和趋近的未知者之间。他们很快就会发现他。要是他有个藏身之处就好了？

He searched the enormous rock walls. They were all too smooth and tall to be climbed. He had no other options. He would have to fight. He was about to remove his blade when he noticed a small gap behind a rock, jutting out from the wall, only a few paces away. He slipped into the crevice just in time to escape being seen. A large horse pulling an oversized makeshift cart driven by a lone bandit emerged out of the western rocky labyrinth.

他探查了巨大的岩壁。它们都太光滑，太高，无法攀爬。他别无选择，不得不战斗了。他正要拔出刀刃时，注意到一块岩石后面有一个小裂缝，从石壁向外伸出，就在几步远的地方。他及时溜进了裂缝，没有被看见。一匹大马拉着一辆特大号的拼凑马车，由一个单独的强盗驾馭，从西部岩石的迷宫中走出来。

An overwhelming urge came over the boy to take a quick peek to see how many were coming. Something within him told him to be patient. He lay still and waited as the clip-clop noise got louder

and closer.

一种强烈的冲动涌上了男孩的心头，要他快速地看一眼，看看有多少人来了。他内心有种东西告诉他要有耐心。他一动不动地贴着，听着叮当的声音越来越响，越来越近了。

Eventually, the horse passed and then the driver and then the cart. And that was it. No one else. No mob of evildoers, just a driver. Here was the perfect opportunity.

马终于走过去了，然后是驭手，然后是车身。就这些了，没有其他人。没有邪恶的匪徒，只是一个驭手。这是个绝佳的机会。

Mathetis leapt from his hiding place and onto the back of the cart, pulling anything he could find over his body to hide his presence.

马蒂斯从他的藏身之处跳上了马车的后部，把能找到的任何东西都拉出来盖在身上，以隐藏自己。

The cart made its way up to the gate, and the drunken guard bellowed out some more abuse.

马车驶向大门口，醉醉醺醺的门卫又咆哮着骂了几句。

‘Hurry up and open me gates Ashro. Me team is waiting for me, and they will kill me if I ain’t quick.’

“快点，给我开门，阿什罗。我的队伍在等我，如果我不快点，他们会杀了我的。”

‘Why are you alone, Jeril? You know the rules, everyone must travel in teams.’

“你为什么一个人，杰瑞尔？你知道规则的，每个人都必

须结队而行。”

‘Me leader sent me back with this load and wants me to return for the second lot. We got lucky with this last raid. So much stuff, I don’t think me can get it all with two hauls.’

我的头让我运这些东西回来，再让我回去运第二批。我们这次突袭很幸运，得了这么多东西，我看两趟也拉不玩。

‘Whatever, you fool. Your crew are always taking advantage of you, and if you end up dead, you deserve it. Now you’re the one who needs to hurry up and get back out there, or you will end up dead by my sword.’

“随便啦，你这个傻瓜。你的队友总是利用你，如果你死了，那你活该。现在你需要动作快点，赶快从这里滚回去，否则你会死在我的剑下。”

The guard waved his weapon around in the air for a moment trying to look menacing, but the sword slipped out of his hand and struck the ground with a clunk.

门卫在空中挥舞着他的武器，做出威胁的架势，但剑从他手中滑了出来，砰的一声掉落在地面。

The cart inched forward slowly into the mouth of the mountain and then with a bump, it rode over something. Mathetis peered out from under some garments just in time to see the gate close. He didn't wait for the cart to stop again but slipped out and quietly moved behind some old timber crates full of junk. He glanced around the yard to take in everything.

马车缓慢地向前驶入山口，然后颠簸地压过了什么东西。

马蒂斯从几件衣服下面朝外观望，正好看到门关上了。他没有等马车停下来，就悄悄地溜了出去，蹑手蹑脚走到一些装满垃圾的旧木箱后面。他把院子里扫视一遍，想把所有东西都看清楚。

They had entered a large court-like area which reminded the boy of a deep underground cave, except that there was no roof. A thin slice of blue sky could be detected way above. It was more like a narrow valley inside two closely hugging mountains. The cart finally pulled to a halt around thirty paces away, and the driver unpacked all the spoils.

他们进入了一个大院子一样的区域，这让他想起了一个深入地下的洞穴，只是没有屋顶。上面可以看到一片薄薄的蓝天。它更像是一座狭窄的山谷，位于两座紧紧相连的山之间。车子终于在三十步外停了下来，驭手把所有的掠物都卸下来。

Directly opposite Mathetis, only twenty paces from his hiding spot, was an unusual opening gouged into the side of the mountain. Except for the occasional flaming torch attached to the walls, the entrance looked ominously dark and foreboding. This gateway had to be the access to the underground tunnels and the location of his missing Master.

就在马蒂斯对面，离他的藏身点只有二十步远的地方，在山的一侧凿出了一个不寻常的洞口。除了挂在墙上偶尔闪烁的火把外，入口看上去阴森黑暗，提示着这是不祥之处。这必定是通往地下隧道的通道，和他失踪的师父所在之处。

He darted across the courtyard and into the cave, removed a torch and slowly advanced into the dark. Inside, the roof was barely visible amongst all the stalagmites. The walls dripped with moisture like the mouth of some hungry beast. What looked like a central hallway led off from the middle of the cavern and deeper into the mountain. The boy crept further into the darkness listening intently for any clue or sign of danger. All he could hear was the drip, drip, drip of the salivating walls. Many small shafts led off from the primary passageway, but nothing looked or felt right.

他快速穿过院子，闪进山洞，取下一个火把，慢慢地走入黑暗中。在里面所有的石笋中间几乎看不到顶。墙壁上湿漉漉的，就像饥饿的野兽的嘴。有一处上去像是中央走廊，从洞穴的中央延伸到更深的山里。男孩悄悄地潜入黑暗中，专心地听着任何危险的线索或迹象。他所能听到的只是渗水的墙壁滴落水滴的滴、滴、滴声。许多小竖井从主通道开出来，没有一个看上去或感觉是正常的。

The pressure in the boy's throat increased, and his chest felt like bands of steel wire wrapped around him. Was the air okay down here? Undoubtedly, the torches were sucking the life out of these tunnels.

男孩觉得喉咙里的压力增加了，他的胸部感觉就像一条钢丝缠绕在他身上。这里的空气还可以吗？毫无疑问，火炬正在从这些隧道中吸取生命。

The cave floor rose up suddenly, and the boy had to use his hands to climb over the obstacle. He reached for the torch which

was lying on its side and almost out. That is when he noticed that up ahead, a small amount of light was flicking on the bottom of the cave walls.

洞穴地面突然升高了，男孩不得不用手爬过障碍物。他伸手拿起那支躺在旁边的火把，它快熄灭了。这时，他注意到前面洞壁的底部闪烁着微弱的光线。

He silently crawled his way towards the light which came from a well-cut hole in the wall on the right side. Mathetis could see an open door attached to the shaft. The entire structure seemed weird for an underground hideout. And for that matter, where was everyone? This camp was supposed to be the hideout for the whole Carnor tribe.

他悄悄地向右边发出的光线爬去，那是壁上一个很深的洞发出的光。马蒂斯可以看到竖井上有一扇开着的门。整个结构在这地下隐蔽处似乎很奇怪。在这里，人都去哪儿了？这个营地应该是整个卡诺匪帮的藏身之地。

Unless...

除非。。。

‘Hey, you.’

“嘿，你！”

Mathetis turned to face the voice.

马蒂斯面向声音的方向。

“Are you the one we’ve been waiting for?”

“你是我们等的人吗？”

Before Mathetis stood the shortest, fattest man, the boy had ever seen. How on earth did this grunt become a bandit? Mathetis doubted if the grunt could walk a thousand paces let alone run to save his life. His beard twitched like a nervous cat dancing in the light of the lamp in his gnarly hand.

在马蒂斯面前站着的，是这男孩所见过的最矮、最胖的人。这个轱辘人到底是怎么变成强盗的？马蒂斯怀疑这个轱辘人是否能走一千步，更不用说跑去逃命了。他的胡须抽搐着，就像一只神经质的猫，在他那粗糙手中的灯光下跳舞。

Mathetis tried to use his deepest voice, ‘Arrh yeah, that’s me.’  
‘Well, it’s about time. You were supposed to be here before sunrise.

马蒂斯努力用他最深沉的声音说：“啊，是的，就是我。”  
“好吧，时间还好。你应该在日出前到这里的。”

So much for being our fastest runner. Magot doesn’t like surprises and nor do I.’ It dawned on Mathetis that the clothes he was now wearing must belong to this runner.

我们跑得最快的人也不过如此了。马格特不喜欢惊奇，我也不喜欢。马蒂斯突然意识到，他现在穿的衣服一定是这位快跑者的。

The short man hobbled past the boy and pushed his way into the room. He struggled his way over to a table full of papers and long strips of parchment. Scraps of black and white drawings covered the walls. The dwarf of a man picked up a massive long roll of manuscripts and slammed them into the boy’s chest.

那个矮个男人蹒跚地从男孩身边走过，挤进了房间。他挣扎着走到一张满是纸和长条羊皮纸的桌子上。墙上贴满了黑白的废弃图画。这个侏儒拿起一卷厚厚的手稿，甩向男孩的胸膛。

‘You’d best be going with those if you value your life. Magot is not the forgiving kind.’ The boy stuffed the parchments away.

“如果你要命的话，最好和他们一起去。马格特不是那种宽容的人。男孩把羊皮纸塞到了别处。

Mathetis, almost under the dwarf’s spell turned to leave the room but froze before he could complete his exit. Crumpled on the floor, against the wall was his Master, eyes closed, unconscious or worse... dead. His feet were bare and his clothes a dirty mess. A rope cut tight into his hands and ankles and from there it clung to a metal hoop attached to the wall. His armour and weapons were gone. Worse still, the teacher’s face was almost unrecognisable. Even in this light, Mathetis could see bruises, swelling and the deep cuts.

几乎在侏儒的诅咒下，马蒂斯转身离开房间，但在他还没离开房间的时候就僵住了。靠墙躺在地面上的是他的师父，眼睛闭着，失去知觉，甚至更糟的是…死了吗。他光着脚，衣服脏得乱七八糟。一条绳子紧紧地捆在他的手和脚踝上，绳子栓在墙上的一个金属箍上。他的盔甲和武器不见了。更糟的是，师父的脸几乎认不出来了。即使在这种光线下马蒂斯也能看到瘀伤、肿胀和深深的伤口。

‘Don’t mind him. He is one of those vile warrior scum. We

taught him a lesson. And by tomorrow, he will be no more. We're just waiting for Magot to confirm he is the one who killed the mighty Ragg. When he is dead, we will have proved the prophecy wrong.'

“别管他。他是那些卑鄙的勇士渣滓之一。我们教训了他一顿。到明天，他就甚麽也不是了。我们只是在等马格特确认，是他杀了那个强大的瑞格。当他死了，我们就会证明预言的谬误。

Mathetis felt a rage explode inside of him. In his mind, everything slowed down, and his vision blurred. It was no use; he could not contain his anger. A cry leapt from the boy's lips, and he swung his right arm as hard as he could against the dwarf's skull. The arm guard struck hard, and the stump of a man fell to the ground unconscious like a lump of wood. The boy snatched a clay mug from off the table and struck the dwarf one more time, to make sure he was out cold.

马蒂斯感到一阵怒火在胸中爆发。他脑海里一切都变慢了，视力也模糊了。他无法控制自己的怒气。男孩嘴里发出一声怒吼，他拼尽全力抡起右臂，甩向矮人的头骨。护臂重重地一击，那人像个树墩子一样倒在地上，失去知觉。男孩从桌子上抓起一个黏土罐子，又砸了侏儒一下，以确认他变冷了。

The Master awoke. His face stretched long, and his jaw fell open, his words slow but deliberate, 'That was a dangerous gamble, young one. What if he had not passed out. We would now both be surrounded by guards.'

师父醒了。他的脸拉的很长，下巴张开，他有意慢慢地说，“这是一场危险的赌博，年轻人。如果他没有死呢。我们现在都会被守卫包围。”

‘I couldn't help it, Master. The rage took over. Besides, other than stumpy here, I have only seen two other souls.’

“我管不了啦，师父。我怒不可遏。此外，除了这个继子，我只看到另外两个恶人。”

By now the boy was already at the feet of his Master cutting the ropes free. He helped his teacher to stand and cradled him from the side.

这时，男孩已经来到师父脚边，割断绳子。他从侧面扶着师父，帮他站起来。

‘Listen to me carefully son. We would be wise to get out of here immediately. You made quite a noise just then, and the three men who captured me are somewhere in these tunnels, most likely now awake.’

“仔细听我说，儿子。我们最好马上离开这里。你刚才发出了很大的动静，抓我的那三个人就在这些隧道里的某个地方，很可能现在已经醒了。”

They shuffled towards the door when the Master stood still.

他们向门口挪动脚步走去，师父站着不动了。

‘Over against the far wall, hanging from a hook is a linen bag with all of my belongings.’ The boy collected the bag and then returned to his Master's side.

“远处墙上，有一个亚麻布袋挂在钩子上，里面是我的所有东西。”男孩拿到袋子，然后回到师父身边。

‘I feel my strength returning just by being in your presence, young one. Give me but a moment and I think I can walk on my own.’

“自从你来后，我觉得我的力量开始回来了，年轻人。给我一点时间，我想我可以自己走。”

Mathetis respectfully stepped back as his Master began the ancient technique of centring. The boy watched on as his teacher raised his arms into a cross formation and took a slow deep breath. The boy’s attention was momentarily distracted by what he thought was movement coming from a piece of parchment pinned to the wall. It looked as if an undetected breeze had stirred the paper. He moved in closer to examine it. Drawn on its rough surface was a map of various underground tunnels. Up near the top of the chart was a small circle containing the words ‘the map room’.

马蒂斯恭敬地退了一步，因为他的师父开始了古老的定神术。那男孩注视着师父，他把手臂交叉起来，缓缓地深吸一口气。男孩的注意力暂时移到墙上的动静，那里看似钉着一张羊皮纸。好像是一股难以察觉的微风搅动了那张纸。他走近去查看。发现那粗糙的纸面上画着地下各个隧道的地图。在地图顶部附近有一个小圆圈，上面写着“各室地图”。

Mathetis turned around to inspect all the papers covering every

surface. The map room... that's where they were right now. He plucked the parchment from off the wall and stuffed it into his vest and then turned to face his Master.

马蒂斯转过身来，查看摆在桌面的所有纸张。各室地图…这就是他们现在所在之处。他把羊皮纸从墙上摘下来，塞进护胸里，然后转身面向师父。

'I am ready to go, young one.' The Master was already halfway through the opening. The boy had to run a little to catch up.

“我准备好了，孩子。”主人已经走向出口的半路了。男孩得小跑才能赶上。

They made their way down the darkened ramp and into the main cavern when abruptly, the Master froze.

他们走下昏暗的坡道，进入主洞时，师父突然立定在那里。

'Listen, I can hear the sound of men beyond the cave opening. A group of raiders must be returning from an incursion. We need to find a way to escape.'

“听，我能听到洞口外面的人声。一群劫匪肯定刚袭击回来。我们得想办法逃走。”

'Or we could use this map I found in the map room to search for another way out or maybe just a good hiding spot, at least until it is safe.'

“或者，我们可以利用我在地图室找到的这张地图，寻找另一条出路，或者至少在安全之前找到一个好的藏身之处。”

'Let me see that.'

“让我看看。”

The Master plucked the parchment from the boy's hand and studied the map momentarily before pointing to a section at the bottom left.

师父从男孩手里接过羊皮纸，看了地图一会儿，然后指向左下角的一处。

‘Here, it looks like another way out, but it leads to the top of the mountain above us.’

“这里，看起来像是另一条出路，它通向我们上面的山顶。”

For over a cycle, they clambered through the tunnels continually ascending.

大概一个小时多的时间，他们爬着隧道不断向上走。

‘Master, according to this map, we should be in the last tunnel, but why haven't we found the exit yet?’

“师父，根据这张地图，我们应该到达最后一个隧道了，但为什么我们还没有找到出口呢？”

‘It's not exactly to scale, young one. I'm sure we will come out soon. If you take a moment, you will sense, even as I do, that everything feels right.’

“这尺寸不完全成比例，年轻人。我相信我们很快就会出来。如果你用心体会，就像我感觉到的那样，一切都没错。”

‘You're referring to the peace that comes from our spiritual

shield, Master?’

“您是指属灵护卫带给我们的平安吗，师父？”

‘Yes, but how did you know that?’ He turned to face his apprentice.

“是，但你怎么知道的？”他转过身来面对他的徒弟。

I’m not surprised though. I can sense how much stronger you are in soul energy. Tell me what happened and how you came to find me.’

“不过我一点也不惊讶。我能感觉到你的灵魂能量有多强大。告诉我发生了什么事，你是怎么来找我的。”

‘Firstly Master, before I entered the badlands, I ran into two other teachers from Green Hill, Master Emeth and Master Amana.’

“首先，师父，在我进入荒原之前，我遇到了另外两位来自青山的父师，伊梅斯和阿玛娜师父。”

‘Master Amana, it has been a while since I have seen her. How is she?’

“阿玛娜师父，我好久没见过她了。她怎么样了？”

‘She is doing well, Master, and she is a great teacher. I learnt the secret of the fourth piece of armour from her.’

“她很好，师父，她是一位伟大的师父。我从她那里学到了第四部盔甲的秘密。”

‘This is a beautiful turn of events. Amana is a magnificent

warrior, and her grasp of the secret path is excellent. Look... That is natural light up ahead. I told you we were close.’

“这是事件的精美转折。阿玛娜一位高贵的武士，她对秘密之路的把握是极佳的。看…前面就是自然光了。我告诉过你我们熟悉。”

The tunnel opened out wide, and fresh air filled their lungs. The light was intense, and they both sat for a moment to adjust. The sun was high in the middle of the sky.

隧道敞开了，新鲜空气充满了他们的胸膛。光线很强，他们都坐了一会儿来调整。太阳高高地位于天上。

‘So where are Master Amana and Emeth now?’

“那么，阿玛娜和伊梅斯师父现在在哪里？”

‘They returned to Green Hill. And from there, they were heading south immediately with many warriors. Master Amana wanted to join me in finding you, but the High Council have forbidden access to the badlands for all Green Hill warriors.’

“他们回青山了。他们从那里会立刻和许多武士一起向南运动。阿玛娜师父想和我一起来找你，但是高级议会禁止所有青山武士进入荒原。

‘Yes, of course. And you came in after me alone?’

“是的，那是当然。于是你一个人来找我？”

‘Yes Master, ...well not quite alone. I have Master Amana’s horse... that gives me an idea. Wait here.’

“是的师父，…但并非很孤独。我有阿玛娜师父的马…这

使我有了主意。在这等着。”

The boy ran off to his left, darting between rocks and climbing them where necessary. In moments, he was out of sight. The Master took a deep breath and collapsed against a boulder in the shade of the cavern entrance.

男孩跑向左边，在岩石之间飞奔，必要时攀爬着。不一会儿就不见了。师父深深地吸了一口气，在洞口的树荫下躺在一块巨石上。

Some time passed before the boy returned. His Master's eyes were closed, so he approached quietly. The apprentice's face went white, and a look of disbelief came over him. Perhaps it was the fresh sunlight, or maybe the darkness in the caves tricked his eyes, but the boy could not believe how well his Master now looked. There was no swelling in his face, and the cuts seemed a lot smaller. Even the bruises seemed less aggressive in colour than when Mathetis first found the Master earlier in the day.

过了一段时间男孩才回来。他师父的眼睛闭着，于是他悄悄地走近。徒弟的脸变白了，流露出一种难以置信的神色。也许是鲜明的阳光，也许是洞里的黑暗蒙蔽了他的眼睛，但这男孩无法相信他师父现在看上去有多好。他脸上的肿胀消退了，伤口似乎小了很多。就连瘀伤在颜色上似乎也减轻了，没有今早马蒂斯第一次见到师父时那么严重。

With a whisper, the boy spoke, 'Master, I found it.'

男孩低声说：“师父，我找到了。”

The Teacher's senses came alive, 'What exactly did you find?'

师父的神情活跃起来，“你到底发找到了什么？”

‘The tree, Master. Let me show you.’ The boy helped Master Lubenik to his feet, and they walked to the southern side of the mountaintop.’

“那棵树师父，我指给你看。”男孩扶着卢本尼克师父站起来，他们走到山顶的南边。

Mathetis continued, ‘When I came looking for you in the badlands, I reached a spot where a beautiful tree clung to the side of a cliff. I knew that this tree growing in the midst of all this wasteland was a sign and it helped me find you. Anyway, I left Master Amana’s horse there, tied to the tree. Do you see it? Way off in the distance there...’

马蒂斯接着说，“当我在荒原上找你的时候，我到达了一个地方，那里有棵美丽的树紧贴在悬崖边上。我知道长在荒野中的这棵树是一个征兆，它帮助我找到了你。总之，我把阿玛娜师父的马留在那里，绑在树上。你看到了吗？远处的…”

‘I see the tops of a tree, my young friend. And you’re sure that is the right tree?’

“我看到了一棵树的顶端，我年轻的朋友。你确定就是那颗树吗？”

‘I’m sure it is the only tree. If the horse is still there, our escape is certain. Secondly, from that tree, I can easily navigate our way out of the badlands.’

“我相信这是唯一的一棵树。如果马还在那里，我们确定

能逃出去。另外，从那棵树我可以轻松地找出走出荒原的路。”

‘Well, that settles it. Let us make our way to that tree.’

“好吧，这就没问题了。让我们走向那棵树吧。”

The climb down proved hard but not impossible. The occasional glimpse of the sparkling green beacon, out beyond the valley, filled the warriors with hope.

事实证明，往下爬很难，但并非不可能。偶尔瞥见山谷外闪闪发光的绿色灯塔，使得武士们充满了希望。

Their progress was slow but steady.

他们缓慢但稳定地向前行进。

‘Mathetis, it has become clear to me that you have discovered the meaning of the fifth piece of Armour, all on your own.’

“马蒂斯，我清楚地知道，你找到了第五部分盔甲的含义，全都是你自己找到的。”

‘I have? I certainly couldn’t tell you if you asked me. Please do tell. What is the secret of our headdress?’

“是吗？如果你问的话，我肯定无法告诉你。请告诉我。我们头饰的秘密是什么？”

‘Yes, of course, I will tell you, and yes, granted you cannot tell me its secret, but I see that you have been living from its power. The colours in the field of your soul reveal the truth in what I say.’

“是的，我当然会告诉你。如果你不能告诉我它的秘密的

话，但我看到你一直依靠这力量生存。你灵界的色彩揭示了我所说的真理。”

The Master appeared to move with even more strength as he spoke.

师父说话的时候，显得更有力气了。

“The Shield and the Helmet work together much like the Cord and the Chestguard. The Cord grants you wisdom and insight while the Chest Guard protects your feelings and motives. The Boots ensure that your skills are strong and always ready. They provide an overall link between these essential pieces of Armour.’ The Master was walking faster now, and the boy had to increase his own pace.

“护甲和头盔协同工作，就像索带和护胸一样。索带赋予你智慧和洞察力，而护胸保护你的感情和动机。靴子确保你的技能强大，并时刻准备就绪。它们提供这些基本武器之间的整体联系。”师父现在走得更快了，男孩不得不加快脚步。

“The shield provides your soul with a safe place through inward peace, and that allows you to receive guidance through your feelings. The Helmet offers you protection in your thoughts, and that allows you to receive guidance through your convictions, hopes and dreams.’

“通过内在的平安，护甲为你的灵魂提供了一个安全处所，并使你通过感觉接受指导。头盔为你提供思维的保护，让你在信念、希望和梦想中得到指引。”

The Master halted for a moment, resting upon a smooth rock, half shaded by the mountain above. Mathetis sat down next to him.

师父停了一会儿，靠在一块光滑的岩石上休息，上面的山体遮住了岩石的一半。马蒂斯坐在他旁边。

‘The helmet gives you determination boy, in whatever task or guidance you receive. It keeps you in your hour of testing. And you, my wonderful friend, did not give up on me in my hour of difficulty. Sacrifice always brings hope and goodness.’

“孩子，无论你接受什么任务或指引，头盔给你决断力。它会使你保持警醒。而你，我的好朋友，在我艰难的处境里并没有放弃我。献身总能带来希望和美好。

The boy had a contagious smile on his face, ‘It is I who needs to thank you, Master. You are the one who has given me all this training and made my calling clear. You have given me a reason to go on living.’ The Master placed his left arm upon the shoulder of his student and showed his approval with an enormous reciprocal smile.

男孩脸上带着一丝勇敢的微笑，“是我应该感谢你，师父。是你给了我所有的培养，让我的呼召更加清晰。你给了我活下去的动力。”师父把他的左臂放在他徒弟的肩膀上，相互以深沉的微笑表示赞同。

‘Look Mathetis. Up ahead, it is your guardian tree.’

“看，马蒂斯，上面就是你的标志树。”

## Mathetis' Notes

### 马蒂斯的记录

Beware of how my thoughts can steal my peace.

要清楚思绪何以能窃取平安。

Listen to those thoughts that lead to peace.

倾听那些导致平安的意念。

Remember you owe Master Amana a horse.

记着要归还阿玛娜师父的马。

If darkness is attacking my thoughts, it is a good sign and if I persist the answer will present itself.

如果黑暗势力正在攻击我的思维，这是一个好迹象，如果我坚持不懈，答案就会出现。

Remember to ask for help and guidance from the Architects.

请记住向训导师寻求帮助和指导。

When the light leads me in a specific direction, I must stand by my convictions and expect some level of resistance.

当光明将我引向一个特定的方向时，我必须坚守自己的信念，并预期会面临某些抵制。

One day, when I get a place of my own, I must plant one of those trees in the courtyard.

当有一天我有了自己的住所时，我要在院子里种一棵这样的树。

## Chapter Six

### 第六章

#### The Sword of Soul Essence

#### 灵魂精华之剑

A great relief and wild excitement came over Mathetis.

一种深度的宽慰和强烈的兴奋涌上了马蒂斯的心头。

‘Master, the horse is still here. That means we are saved for sure.’

‘It means we have a fast way of escaping. But the badlands are full of traps and hidden dangers. We must stay sharp and look for any guidance sent our way’.

“师父，马还在这儿。这意味着我们一定会得救的。这意味着我们能快速逃离。但荒原上到处都是陷阱和隐患。我们必须保持警觉，并寻找引导我们的任何迹象。”

They mounted the steed and made haste towards the west. The surface of the ground made it hard for them to move at any great speed.

他们上了马，急忙向西走去。地面使他们很难快速行动。

The Master, having more experience, took the lead steering the horse while Mathetis sat behind. The boy leaned in to talk.

师父经验丰富，骑在马前面，而马蒂斯坐在后面。男孩靠过来说话。

‘When we come out of the badlands, do we head for Green Hill

or do we go back home? Master Emeth said that all our southern villages were in immediate danger. Something about a combined attack.'

“我们走出荒原后，是去青山，还是回家？伊梅斯师父说我们南部的村庄都处于危险之中。将有一场联合袭击。”

'We head to Green Hill, son. There are enough warriors at home to take care of Ruack and the surrounding villages. The council needs to know what I have found out.' The Master pushed the steed a little harder attempting to gain more speed.

“我们去青山，孩子。家里有足够的武士照看鲁克和周围的村庄。议会需要知道我的发现。”师父使劲地催着马匹，试图走得更快一些。

'The information I received weeks ago was confirmed by conversations I heard amongst the Carnor bandits. The Machites and the Aslites have agreed to fight alongside the Carnors to wipe out Endor and its Prince forever. Their real objective is to demolish the Endorian Order of the Warrior. Without our Order, there is nothing to stand in the way of complete chaos.'

“我听到卡诺匪帮之间的谈话，证实了我几周前收到的消息。麻赤特和阿斯利特同意与卡诺并肩作战，根除恩多人和它的国王。他们的真正目标是毁灭恩多人武士团。没有了我们的组织，天下大乱就无可避免了。”

'Won't the High Council have disbanded by now?'

“难道高级议会现在已经解散了吗？”

‘Yes, but we must try. I have received no other guidance. Have you?’

“是的，但我们必须努力。我没有收到任何其他的指示，你呢？”

‘No Master. I am happy to go to Green Hill. Besides, I would like to return Master Amana’s horse.’ Both warriors smiled, and the mood lifted a little.

“我也没有，师父。我很高兴去青山，此外我还想归还阿玛娜师父的马。两位武士都笑了，心情也好了许多。”

‘Are you hungry? There are some rations in my bag.’ The Master diverted his eyes for a moment as he rummaged through his dusty sack.

“你饿了吗？我的包里有一些干粮。师父眼睛注视着，翻遍他那满是灰尘的麻袋时。”

‘Master, stop the horse...’, a noticeable panic rang through the boy’s voice.

“主人，拦住马…” 男孩的声音带着明显的恐慌。

The horse came to a halt. ‘What is it, Mathetis?’

马停了下来。“怎么了，马蒂斯？”

‘Look... ahead of us.’ A dozen men on horses dressed in sandy brown uniforms were heading their way.

“看…我们前面。”十几个人穿着沙褐色制服，骑着马正朝他们的方向走来。

‘Machites... and I’m equally sure they have seen us. There are too many of them for us to fight and we cannot outrun them. They will easily overtake one horse carrying two men.’

“麻赤特…我确信他们看到我们了。他们太多，我们无法战斗，我们无法逃过他们。他们很容易就能追上骑着两个人的马。”

‘I have an idea Master, but you will need to trust me.’ ‘I trust you son. What is the plan?’

“我有个主意师父，但你得信任我。” “我相信你孩子。你打算怎么办？”

‘Just follow my lead. I need you to act like you’re my prisoner.’ Mathetis took the reigns from his Master and guided the horse towards the Machite soldiers.

“跟着我走就行了。我需要你假装是我的囚犯。马蒂斯从他师父手中取过缰绳，驾驭着马向麻赤特士兵们走去。

The boy took one deep breath and forced the horse to move even faster towards the horsemen.

男孩深深地吸了一口气，催促马向骑兵们更快走去。

‘What do we have here? An Endorian Warrior and a Carnor bandit out for a frolic. How lovely.’

“看我们找着了什么？一名恩多人的武士和一名卡诺帮外出游玩。多可爱啊。”

Mathetis sat up a little taller, ‘Watch your tongue, Machite. We

may be working together, but I still like the taste of blood.’ The boy then pushed his Master’s head down towards the horse’s neckline revealing a sharp knife pointing at his teacher’s throat.

‘This here is my prisoner. None other than the killer of Ragg. I have orders to deliver him to my master, Magot. I am his prized runner. Now kindly, get out of our way and let us through.’

马蒂斯坐的直一点，“当心你的舌头，麻赤特人。我们可能一起做事儿，但我仍然喜欢血腥的味道。”然后，男孩把师父的头压到马脖子上，露出一把锋利的刀指着他师父的喉咙。“这是我的俘虏。不是别人，就是那个杀死瑞格的凶手。我奉命把他交给我的师父马格特。我是他的最高信使。现在请让开，别挡路，让我们过去。”

‘Oh, the killer of Ragg you say. How about I take him from you and deliver him to Magot myself. I’m sure he would see that as a good sign of our new alliance.’

“哦，你说是那个杀死瑞格的杀手。不如我把他带走，送给马格特。这样他会认为这是我们新联盟的一个好证据。”

‘Magot is not a patient man. If I do not deliver him before the sun sets, then I am a dead man. If you want this warrior scum, then come and get him. But I tell you now. You will be dead before you have even touched this Endor filth. And when I wipe your blood from off my sword, I will be on my way. Ask yourself this, Machite, how is it that I have taken the killer of Ragg my prisoner unless I possess some skill at killing.’

“马格特不是个好脾气的人。如果我不在天黑前把他送到，我就得死。如果你想要这个武士人渣，那就来夺他。但我告诉你。在你摸到这个恩多脏东西之前就已经死了。然后我把你的血从剑上擦掉，继续上路。问问你自己，麻赤特人，除非我有相当的杀人能耐，否则怎么能抓住这个残害瑞格的人，成为我的囚犯呢？”

Mathetis threw his knife gracefully through the air, and it penetrated deeply into the ground next to the front hoof of the Machite horse. The beast reared backwards putting the Machite leader off guard. Before the animal had even settled, Mathetis had another knife gripped in his hand suggesting he was ready to use it without notice.

马蒂斯优雅地把刀子扔向空中，深深地插入麻赤特人马前蹄旁边的地面。牲畜向后倒退几步，使这麻赤特头领放松了警惕。在这牲畜安静下来之前，他手里紧握着另一把刀，他已经准备好出其不意地用它。

‘Very well, my new Carnor friend. We are not brutes, and unlike you, we know the meaning of honour. You may pass unharmed, but I warn you, be careful, many a great man has fallen in these troubled lands, let alone a mere thief.’

“很好，我的卡诺新朋友。我们不是野蛮人，不像你，我们知道荣誉的意义。你可以无害通过，但我警告你，要小心点，许多大人物已经在倒在这些混乱之地上，更不用说一个小偷了。”

The Machite leader forced his horse to move over to the side. His men followed suit making a narrow path for Mathetis and his prisoner. Slowly they etched their way through the pass, each movement deliberate and filled with tension. As the two groups separated, the boy resisted the urge to glance behind him. Within moments, the Machites were out of sight.

麻赤特首领拨转马向一边走去。他的人跟着他，为马蒂斯和他的犯人让开一条窄窄的路。他们慢慢地穿过这窄道，每一个动作都是深思熟虑的，充满了紧张。当这两群人分开后，男孩克制住自己的冲动，不回头看身后。不一会儿，麻赤特人就看不见了。

‘Mathetis, that was amazing.’

“马蒂斯，太棒了！”

‘That was luck combined with a lot of desperation.’

“这是运气，其间多次几乎绝望。”

‘No, you don’t understand. That was the power of the Sword at work.’

“不，你还不知道。这就是运行中的剑的力量。”

‘How can that be when I don’t even know what the Sword is?’

“如果我连剑是什么都不知道，那怎么可能呢？”

‘It makes sense, young one. Each piece of armour builds on the last. All on your own, you found a way to exercise power contained in the Helmet of guidance, and now you have

intuitively released the power of the Sword.' The Master resumed control of the reins.

“这是有道理的，年轻人。每一件盔甲都是最终建立的。全靠你自己，你找到了一种方法来行使引领之头盔中所包含的力量，现在你直觉地释放了剑的力量。师父勒了一下马缰绳。

‘Let me explain. The Sword represents the power of words, but not just any words - those that contain soul essence. As a warrior learns to use soul energy, it builds from insights into affections. From there it flows into our actions and then into our thoughts as guidance, intuition, conviction filled with clarity and finally into visions of potential future outcomes. The Architects guide us into these visions, and we must then pray those visions forward. When soul energy is building and flowing through us, it can manifest in many ways.

“让我解释一下。这把剑代表着语言的力量，而不是任何语言-只是那些包含灵魂本质的语言。当一个战士学会使用灵魂能量时，它就由洞察力建立起情感。并从那里流入我们的行动，然后进入我们的思想，成为指导。直觉，信念变得充分清晰，最后达到对未来可能结果的洞见。训导师引导我们进入这些洞见，然后我们必须祈祷这些洞见发展。当灵魂能量在我们中间建立和运行时，它可以多种方式显现出来。

When you confronted that Machite leader, soul energy flowed through you with great intensity. I was mesmerised by the level of

concentration flowing out of you. In the soul realm, your essence was in communication with the Machite's essence. He knew deep within that he would indeed be killed if he fought with you. I have no doubts that if you had engaged him in battle, your discipline and dedication to mastery over soul energy would have overcome him in moments.'

当你面对那个麻赤特首领时，灵魂能量以极大的强度流过你。我被从你释出的专注程度迷住了。在灵界，你的本性与麻赤特的本性沟通。他内心深处知道，如果他和你战斗的话，他真的会被杀。我毫不怀疑，如果你让他参战，你的训练和对掌握灵魂能量所作的努力，在瞬间就会战胜他。

“

As the Master spoke, a new level of clarity awoke within the boy's mind, 'So if that's the case, when we pray to the Divine and ask for help from the Architects, we are using the Sword of the soul warrior?'

当师父说话时，男孩头脑中似乎更明白了一些，“如果这样的话，当我们向神祈祷并寻求训导师的帮助时，我们是在使用灵魂战士的剑吗？

'It is not just prayer, son, but prayer that has arisen out of soul essence. But more specifically, soul essence building and coursing its way through all the soul armour in a harmonious and disciplined way.

“孩子，这不仅仅是祈祷，而是灵魂本性里发出的祈祷。

但是更具体的说，灵魂本性以一种和谐和自律的方式在所有的灵魂盔甲中建立和传播自己。

We must be careful though. You understand that our Order requires us to kill as a last resort. Most times, we can overcome simply by using the light to overpower the dark. If we seek punishment or revenge, we are distorting soul essence from its true purpose. And that is why, only one piece of armour out of the six, is for attacking and the rest are primarily for defence.'

“不过我们得小心。你知道我们的组织要求，杀人只能是最后不得已的手段。大多数时候，我们可以简单地用光明战胜黑暗。如果我们寻求惩罚或报复，就是扭曲灵魂的本性，背离它的真正方向。这就是为什么盔甲的六个部分只有一件是用来进攻的，其余的基本用来防御。”

The Master fell silent, and Mathetis chose to ask no more questions. The sun moved restlessly across the sky with the occasional cloud providing a rare break from the heat. They chanced upon a small pool of water and paused long enough to let the horse drink. The Master lifted his hand to his forehead, creating a small pocket of shade as he stared off into the horizon.

'Good news. Up ahead, I can see the edge of the badlands.'

师父沉默了下来，马蒂斯也不再提问题。太阳继续在天上运行，偶尔有云飘过，提供了少见的荫凉。他们偶然遇到一小池水，停了足够长的时间让马喝水。师父把手举到前额头，搭起小小的凉棚，他盯着远处的地平线。“好啦，

前面我可以看到荒原的边缘了。”

Mathetis played with the parchments stored under his shirt. The black uniform was making him uncomfortably hot, and the papers were digging into his lower ribs. He removed them from his shirt and thought about discarding them when an inner voice said, ‘Look at them before you throw them away.’ He had to use both hands to unfurl the documents as they were rolled up tightly. He managed to roll the papers open, no more than one hand span, when he saw the words ‘Green Hill Palace.’

马蒂斯摆弄藏在他衬衫里面的羊皮纸。黑制服让他感到不舒服，羊皮纸戳着他的肋旁。他从衬衫里取出它们，准备扔掉。这时内里一个声音说：“在你仍它们之前，看看它们。”文件卷得很紧，他不得不用双手展开。刚展开一部分就看到“青山宫殿”几个字时。

‘Master, you need to look at this. It is a map of the entire area surrounding Green Hill.’

“师父，你得看看这个。这是青山周围整个地区的地图。”

‘Where did you get these?’

“你从哪里得到的？”

‘That stumpy dwarf gave them to me, right before you woke up.’

“就在你苏醒之前，那个侏儒塞给我的。”

They climbed off the horse to spread the maps out to inspect them. The burning sun made Mathetis twitch with discomfort.

He pulled back the black hood and went to remove the rest of the Carnor uniform when he thought to himself they might again need the disguise if they ran into their enemies.

他们从马上下来，把地图摊开来检查。灼热的太阳使马蒂斯因不适而扭动着。他脱下黑色头套，并准备去除剩下的卡诺制服时，突然想到，如果他们遇到敌人，可能会再次需要伪装。

‘Look here boy. On the map is marked the abandoned quarry outside of Green Hill. And this here looks like a tunnel which leads from the quarry right into the main grounds of the Palace through the underground drainage system.’ The Master’s hand trailed down to the right side of the map. There were several paragraphs of tiny handwriting. He read it in silence.

“看这里，孩子。地图上标有青山外废弃的采石场。这里看上去就像一条隧道，从采石场通过地下排水系统直接进入宫殿的主场。”师父的手一直划到地图的右边。有几段很小的手写字迹。他默默地念着。

He lifted his head towards his apprentice with a pale look of dread.

他抬起头朝向徒弟，脸色苍白，带着恐惧的神色。

‘These are instructions to invade Green Hill Palace. The so-called attacks on the southern villages are a diversion designed to lead our warriors away from Green Hill. It appears someone has deliberately misled the High Council. The Carnor bandits believe

that they will crush the spirit of the warriors by assassinating the Prince. And once they have taken Green Hill from within, the rest of Endor's warriors will be locked out. With the help of the Machites and the Aslites, they will attempt to surround the warriors and finish them off. You see this tunnel here leading from the quarry into the city,' the Masters' finger glided over the map, 'they've already finished excavating it, and the tunnel is large enough to hold an army of hundreds.'

“这些都是入侵青山宫殿的指引。所谓的对南部村庄的袭击是为了把我们的武士从青山引开。似乎有人故意误导最高议会。卡诺匪帮相信他们会通过刺杀国王来粉碎战士的意志。一旦他们从内部夺取了青山，恩多的其他武士就会被锁在外面。在麻赤特和阿斯利特人的帮助下，他们将计划包围武士并结果他们。“你看，这条隧道从采石场通往城里，”师父的手指滑过地图，“他们已经挖通了隧道，而且隧道足够大，足以容纳一支上百人的军队。”

‘Does it say, Master, when they plan on making this attack?’

‘Yes, it does. Tomorrow morning at sunrise.’

“师父，这说了没有，他们打算什么时候发动这次袭击？”

“是的，说了。明早日出的时候。”

‘Then we need to ride all night, if necessary, to Green Hill and warn them.’

“那么必要的话，我们需要走一整夜，到青山给他们报信”

‘Agreed, my young warrior.’

“同意，我的小勇士。”

The two warriors, with aching bones and dry mouths, pushed the steed for many cycles across the land. The sun disappeared, and a pale, partial moon took its place. They came to the top of a hill and stopped momentarily. They could now see the city of Green Hill, glowing with a thousand lights less than one cycle away.

这两位武士，身体疼痛，口干舌燥，催着马在大地上走了许多时辰。太阳下山了，苍白的残月取而代之。他们来到山顶，停了一会儿。他们现在可以看到青山城了，数千灯光闪烁在一个弯路的远处。

‘Master, I have been thinking. For the Carnor bandits to make this plan work, they must have men gathering in the quarry and tunnels right now.’

“师父，我一直在想，为了实施这一计划，卡诺匪帮们这时必然已经派人聚集在采石场和隧道里了。”

‘Yes, that would be true.’

“是的，很可能是这样。”

‘What if we had a way to trap them there somehow before they could enter the city?’

“如果想办法在他们进城之前把他们困在那里就好了”

‘That could work. But with so few warriors available within the city, I don’t see how we could trap them.’

“那可能管用。但是城里的武士寥寥无几，我不知道怎么

能困住他们。”

‘Rather than using men, we could use something altogether different?’

“我们可以用完全不同的方法，而不用人吗？”

‘Go on. What exactly are you thinking?’

“继续，你到底怎么想的？”

‘Well... you once told me about your friend from Green Hill. The archimest or something?’

‘好的，你曾经跟我说过，你青山的朋友，是个炼金士甚么来着？’

‘Tang, the Alchemist. What of him?’

“唐，炼金术士。他怎么办呢？”

‘You once told me that he nearly killed himself when he was experimenting with a powder I think, and everything shot across the room with fire.’

“你曾经告诉我，当他在试验甚么粉末时，他差点杀死自己，房子里的所有东西都起了火。”

‘Hmm, I see. And you think we might be able to use Tang's 'firepower,' to trap the bandits in the tunnels... It might just work Mathetis.’

“嗯，我明白了。你认为我们可以用唐的‘火药粉’，使道里的匪徒陷入圈套，这也许会有效，马蒂斯。”

The Master kicked the horse into action, ‘We don’t have much time. We will go directly to Tang and get this powder.’

师父催马上路，“我们时间不多了。我们将直接去唐那里取这火药粉。”

They arrived at the high gates of Green Hill city moving as fast as the tired steed could carry them. Mathetis felt a new kind of wonder flood over his whole being. Adorning the entrance to the city, were columns, four paces thick, each made of white marble. Carved into these pillars were the forms of two gigantic warriors, one facing the other. Their arms stretched out, each holding a sword with the tips forming an arch where the two gates met in the centre.

催动着疲惫的马尽可能快走，他们终于到达青山城高高的大门前。马蒂斯感觉到新奇的潮流，充满了他整个人。这座城的入口处的柱子有四步宽，每根柱子都是白色大理石的。这些柱子上雕刻着两个巨形武士的形象，面对彼此。他们伸出双臂，每人拿着一把剑，剑尖在两门交汇处形成一个拱门。

‘Gatekeeper, open the door immediately.’

“门卫，立即开门。”

‘I will not. No Carnor may enter the great city of Green Hill.’

“不开，卡诺人不得进入伟大的青山城”

Mathetis glanced down at his uniform, ‘Arrrh, this stupid thing.’

马蒂斯向下看了一眼他的制服“啊，这真是傻事。”

He stripped the black disguise from his body.

他从身上脱去黑色伪装服。

‘He is no Carnor. He is my apprentice, and I am his teacher, Master Lubenik.’

“他不是卡诺人，他是我的徒弟，我是他的师父，卢本尼克师父。”

‘How do I know that this is not a trick?’

“我咋知道这不是个骗局呢？”

The boy felt a ripple of energy rush over his teacher's body,

男孩感觉到一股能量波掠过他师父的身体，

‘Good gatekeeper. Get yourself down here, and I will show you the Endorian seal. Now hurry up. We have no time left.’

“好门卫，你下来，我给你看恩多人的印章。快点，我们没有时间了。”

A small window flung open on the left gate, and a ruddy faced dark- haired man pushed his head out of the opening. The Master partially removed his chest guard and opened his shirt enough to reveal the warrior's emblem seared into his chest, off to the left, close to his heart.

左边的大门上开了一扇小窗户，一个脸色红润的黑发男子把头伸出洞口。师父部分地脱下护胸，解开衬衫，露出他

胸前的徽章烙印，在左侧靠近他的心脏。

There was a clunk, followed by a click, click, as both gates inched their way open. The Master did not wait for them to expose the city within entirely but bolted through the narrow opening and disappeared into the maze of streets. The Gatekeeper turned to his assistant, 'Let the Prince know immediately.'

当两扇门慢慢打开时，发出一声响声，接着是一声咔嚓声。师父没等他们把城里面完全显露出来，就穿过窄窄的门洞，消失在迷宫般的街道上。门卫转身对他的助手说：“立刻让国王知道。”

The door burst open, and the Master rushed in.

门砰的一声开了，师父冲进来。

'Tang, Tang, where are you, friend? I need your powder.'

“唐，唐，你在哪里？我需要你的火药粉”

The dark, little room carried a strange smell. Books and benches cluttered the walls. Not one single space remained blank. Every surface contained some weird inexplicable object. A short pale man darted out from another room with a sharp squeaky voice, 'Who the salt are you? Do you know how late it is? The height of rudeness...'

黑暗的小房间散发着一种奇怪的气味。书和长椅杂乱无章地靠墙堆着。一点儿空地都没有。地面上处处是一些奇怪的、莫名其妙的物件。一个脸色苍白的小个子从另一间房里飞跑而出，尖声叫着说：“你是甚麽人呐？你知道现在

多晚了吗？太差劲了吧……”

Mathetis had never met a foreigner before. He had only read about them in the Master's books. The man's eyes were like no other set of eyes. Mathetis tried not to stare.

马蒂斯以前从未见异乡人。他只是在师父的书里读到过他们。那人的眼睛和别人都不一样。马蒂斯尽量不看他。

'Tang, it is your old friend Lubenik.' The strange man held up a fine glassy object to his right eye. He pulled Lubenik in real close and examined him. He pushed him away with a satisfied grunt,

唐，这是你的老朋友卢本尼克。那个怪人把一个漂亮的玻璃物件举到右眼处。他把卢本尼克拉得很近，仔细查看一下他。然后满意地咕哝着把他推开。

'You still haven't returned my book.'

“你好没有归还我的书呢。”

The Master ignored his comment, 'We are all in great danger, the whole city needs your help.'

师父不理他的说辞，“我们都面临极大的危险，整个城市都需要你的帮助。”

The Master rushed to explain the dilemma to his friend. Tang took them immediately to where he had the powder safely stored.

'Is that all you have?' The master pointed to the three barrels of powder.

师父急忙向他的朋友解释这个艰困的险境。唐立刻领他们

到他安全存放火药的地方。“你就只有这些吗？”师父指着那三桶火药。

‘It is enough. You will pay for these, I hope?’ The Master sounded desperate.

“这就够了。你会为此付钱吗，我希望？”主人听起来很绝望。

‘Tang, we need to collapse the entire cave entrance to the Quarry.’

“唐，我们得把通往采石场的整个洞口都炸塌。”

‘One barrel will more than do that.’ Tang smiled revealing several missing teeth.

“一桶就绰绰有余了。”唐笑着露出几颗牙豁口。

The Master interrupted, ‘Fine. We will use two barrels.’ The smile completely dropped from Tang’s face.

师父打断他的话，“好吧。我们要用两桶。”唐脸上的笑容完全消失了。

The teacher continued, ‘Mathetis, I need you to lower the last barrel into the sewers at this point here...’ He tapped on the map.

师父继续说：“马蒂斯，我要你把最后一桶放进下水道的这里…”他指着地图。

‘You need to be as close to the tunnel exit as possible. I want you to set it on fire, but wait until you hear our two barrels go off. We

will kindle our pair right before sunrise.’

“你要离隧道出口越近越好。我要你点着它，但要等听到我的两个桶爆炸后再点。我们将在太阳升起前点燃我们的两桶。”

‘I hope I can hear it from here inside the city, Master?’

“我得能在城里这地方听见它，是吗师父？”

‘If it is half as good as Tang says it is, you will not only hear it but see it too.’

“如果有唐说的一半那样好，你就不仅会听到它，还会看到它。”

They rushed to the location marked on the map and found the opening going down into the sewer system. It took all three of the men to lift the oversized lid. A gust of hot odorous stench hit them hard causing coughs and sputters. The barrel was placed carefully next to the hole. The Master poured a vaporous fluid over the wooden drum, ‘Just push the barrel in and drop this lamp on top of it. But make sure you ran as far away from the opening as you can. That should take care of our intruders at this end. Now we must be off. Remember to wait for our powder to burn first.’

他们冲到地图上标明的位置，发现洞口盖快要掉进下水道里了。三个人合力抬起这个超大的盖子。一阵热哄哄的臭味猛烈地冲到他们身上，引起咳嗽和恶心。他们小心地把桶放在洞旁边。师父把一种挥发性液体倒在木桶上，“把

桶推进去，把这盏灯倒在上面就行了。”但要确保你从洞口跑得越远越好。这应该能从这一端照顾好我们的侵略者了。现在我们得走了。记得先等我们的火药点着。”

Tang looked surprised.

唐看似有些奇怪。

‘Why do you say burn. It booms.’ The Master waved him away.

“你为什么说烧呢。它要剧烈爆炸的。”师父挥手示意他离开。

‘OK, Mathetis, wait for our boom.’

“好吧，马蒂斯，等我们的天崩地裂。”

Mathetis nodded in affirmation, ‘Hurry Master, there can only be half a cycle before sunrise’.

马蒂斯点头首肯，“快点师父，离太阳升起只剩半个时辰了。”

Mathetis sat quietly by the sewer opening and watched the two men disappear with the barrels strapped to Master Amana’s steed.

马蒂斯静静地坐在水道口边，看着他俩牵着阿玛娜师父的马消失了，木桶绑在马身上。

Mathetis felt a real struggle to control his thoughts as he waited. He stood to his feet and began to pace. He sent a soft prayer to the Architects ‘Guide my Master and Tang as they work. Keep them from harm and help us to keep this city safe.’

在等待的时候，马蒂斯感觉到要控制自己的思绪十分艰难。他站起身来，开始走几步。他柔和地向训导师祈祷：“请保佑我师父和唐的进展顺利，保护他们不受伤害，帮助我们保护这座城市。”

The boy was interrupted by the sound of footsteps approaching. He had no time to prepare. A dozen city guards came around the corner followed by the Prince. The men pulled out their swords and surrounded the boy. The captain stepped forward.

男孩被走来的脚步声打断。他还没来得及准备。十几个城卫来到拐角，后面跟着王子。这些人拔出剑，围住男孩。队长走上前去。

‘You are under arrest by order of the Prince.’

“依照国王的命令，你被捕了。”

‘Wait. I am here to help. We are all in great danger. An army of Carnor bandits will soon enter the city and destroy it.’

“等等，我是来协助的。我们都处于极大的危险之中。一队卡诺土匪很快就会进入并摧毁这座城市。”

‘More like one lone bandit disguised as a warrior.’ The Captain kicked the barrel away from the hole. It fell over with a thud and shot away in a bouncing blur, smashing into a wall. The precious powder puffed into the air covering the wall and surrounding floor.

“更像是一个伪装成武士的独匪。”队长把桶从洞边踢开。它砰地一声倒下，滚动开来，撞到了墙上。珍贵的火药粉

喷撒弥漫在空气中，覆盖在墙壁上和周围地面上。

‘You fool,’ cried Mathetis, ‘You have killed us all.’ The Captain pulled back his arm to strike the boy for his insolence. Mathetis could have easily avoided the blow, but he chose to stand still and take the hit as a kind of declaration of his despair.

“你这个傻瓜，”马蒂斯喊道，“你杀了我们所有人。”队长向后抡圆他的胳膊，因他的无礼而打他一拳。马蒂斯本可以轻易地避开这一击，但他选择站着不动，把这一击当作他绝望的一种宣示。

‘Stop.’ The voice of the Prince was firm, authoritative and a lot younger than Mathetis had expected.

“住手”王子的声音坚定，威严，比马蒂斯预料的要年轻得多。

‘Let the boy speak.’

“让这男孩儿说！”

Mathetis turned to face the young Prince. The boy closed his eyes and centred himself looking for the peace deep within. He waited until it flooded his soul.

马蒂斯转过身来面对年轻的国王。男孩闭上眼睛，集中精力求索内心深处的平安，直等到它充溢了他的灵魂。

Opening his eyes, he addressed the Prince, ‘My Lord and my Prince. Master Lubenik and I have uncovered a plot to assassinate you. The attacks to the south are a diversion.’

他睁开眼睛，对国王说：“我的主人我的国王。卢本尼克师父和我发现了一个暗杀你的阴谋。对南部的攻击是一个佯攻圈套。”

A wave of clarity washed over the Prince. His senses filled with a distant but familiar impression, like a child safely in the arms of a loving parent.

一阵清晰的浪潮涌向国王。他充分感觉到了一种遥远但熟悉的感觉，就像一个孩子被慈爱的父母抱在怀里。

‘I believe you, young warrior. What do you need?’

“我相信你，年轻的武士。你需要甚麽？”

At that moment, everything faded, like Mathetis was falling asleep. Time seemed to disappear, along with the city, the soldiers and the young Prince. Mathetis found himself somewhere else, but at the same time, he was still beside the opening. A vision flashed before his eyes. He watched himself surrounded by the soldiers. He saw himself picking up the lamp and casting it into the sewer hole. Almost like slow motion, a column of fire erupted from the vent stretching high into the dawn sky.

一瞬间，一切都消失了，马蒂斯就像睡着了一样。似乎时间、城市、士兵和年轻的国王一并消失了。马蒂斯发现自己在别的地方，但同时，他仍然在洞口旁边。他眼前闪过一个异象。他看着自己被士兵包围。他看见自己拿起灯，把它扔进下水道的洞里。就像慢动作一样，一股火柱从通风口喷射入黎明的天空。

Mathetis came back to his senses.

他的知觉又回来了。

‘Young warrior, what do you need?’ repeated the Prince.

“年轻的武士，你需要什么？”国王重复道。

He had no time to respond. An enormous crack shrieked across the sky followed by a loud, slow rumble. The ground beneath their feet shook for several moments.

他还来不及回应，一阵巨大的爆炸在天空隆隆响起，接着是一声巨大缓慢的轰隆声。他们脚下的地面震动了好一会儿。

Mathetis spoke first, ‘It’s all right. That was meant to happen. I need everyone to get right back. I know what I must do.’

马蒂斯马上说，“好了，这就是要发生的事。我要大家马上退后，我知道该做什么。”

No-one questioned him, but all nervously stepped back as far as possible. Mathetis picked up the lamp, just as he had seen in the vision. He threw it carefully towards the drain hole. He turned and fled as fast as he could. An invisible wave of pressure lifted him off the ground throwing him forcibly into a building. At the same time, pieces of projectile slammed into his body causing sharp points of pain to flood his consciousness. Then everything faded, including the agony.

没有人质疑他，但大家都紧张地退到了尽可能远的地方。

马蒂斯拿起灯，就像他在异象中看到的那样。他小心地把它扔向下水道口，转过身尽可能快地逃跑。一股无形的气浪把他从地面上举起，把他狠狠地抛入一栋建筑。同时，一片弹射起的东西猛击到他的身体，造成的剧烈疼痛淹没了他的意识。然后一切都消失了，包括痛苦。

Nothing seemed right. Everything was disproportionate. Mathetis tried to open his eyes, but the light made his head throb. He struggled to move his body, but every attempt led to further punishment.

似乎一切都不对了，一切都不成比例。马蒂斯想睁开眼，但光线使他的头抽痛。他挣扎着移动自己的身体，但每一动都会更加疼痛。

‘He’s waking up!’ Came a soft and familiar female voice. Who was it that just spoke? The answer was just out of his reach, teasing him to explore further.

“他醒了！”一个温柔而熟悉的女声。刚才谁在说话？他一时无法找到答案，在脑海里努力思索着。

‘Master Lubenik, Mathetis is awake!’ Came the voice again. Mathetis couldn’t quite figure it out. He needed to open his eyes and find out who it was.

“卢本尼克师父，马蒂斯醒了！”又是这个声音。马蒂斯还是没有完全明白。他需要睁开眼睛看看是谁。

He forced his eyelids open despite the pain. Sure enough, a female figure sat beside him, but her features would not come

into focus. A few more moments passed, and he saw her purer than a clear sky. It was Karitas. What was she doing here? And for that matter, where was 'here'? He managed to lift his left hand, and Karitas took hold of it.

他忍住疼痛，睁开眼睛。果然，一个女子坐在他旁边，但看不清她的容貌。又过了片刻，他看清楚她了，比晴朗的天空还要清晰，是卡里塔斯。她在这里做什么？她为甚麽来这里？这是在哪里？他设法抬起左手，但卡里塔斯握住它。

'Don't move. You need to rest some more.' 'Where am I? How long have I been out?'

“别动。你需要多休息。” “我在哪儿？我睡了多久？”

'You're in Green Hill's finest healing room. You have been out for over a week.'

“你在青山最好的治疗室里。你失去意识已经一个多星期了。”

'Out for a week? The last thing I remember was talking to the Prince. Is everyone safe...?'

“一星期？我记得最后一件事就是和国王说话。每个人都安全吗，...？”

'Yes, yes. You did it. The bandits were trapped. None of them survived. They believe that the gases trapped down there smothered all the air. It would have been a quick way to go.'

“是的，是的。你干得好。匪徒被困在里面，一个都没活下来。他们相信爆炸的气浪窒息了所有的空气。这是很快的方式。”

‘Oh...’ said Mathetis with an unmistakable tone of sadness.

“哦，…” 马蒂斯的语气带着明显的悲伤。

‘Don’t be upset Mathetis. You saved a lot of innocent lives. You’re a hero.’

“不要纠结马蒂斯。你救了很多无辜的人。你是个英雄。”

‘I’m sorry Karitas. It’s just all those lives gone. I don’t mean to be down. I am delighted to see you. How has your work been?’

“对不起，卡里塔斯。只是那些生命都消失了，我不是故意的。很高兴能见到你。你的事情怎么样？”

‘Just fine, thank you. But more importantly, I’m glad you are ok. I’ve been here for the last three days waiting and hoping you would wake up.’

“很好，谢谢。但更重要的是，我很高兴你没事。我已经在这里等了三天了，希望你能醒过来。”

The Master entered the room, ‘Good to see you awake son. You’ve had us all a little worried.’ Mathetis smiled just at the sight of his Master.

师父走进房间，“很高兴见到你醒了，儿子。你让我们大家都有点担心。” 马蒂斯一见到他师父就笑了。

‘You’ve missed all the celebrations, young one. The Machites and

Aslites have all returned to their respective lands. The threat is all but over.’

“你错过了所有的庆祝活动，年轻人。麻赤特人和阿斯利特人都已返回各自的土地。威胁几乎结束了。”

The teacher moved in closer and placed his hand on the boy's arm, ‘You get some rest. I have one more surprise for you. We'll talk again soon.’

师父走近一些，用手摸着男孩的手臂，“你休息一下。我还有一个惊喜要给你。我们回头再说。”

Mathetis' Notes

马蒂斯的记录

Soul words are swords of power.

灵魂语言是能力之剑。

I must learn to pray for insight, intuition, guidance and soul vision.

我必须学会祈求洞察力、直觉、引领和灵魂异象。

When I speak from inward conviction, I am using the power of Soul Essence.

当我以内在的信念说话时，我是在使用灵魂本质的力量。

The Sword of Soul Essence is powerfully dangerous because it mostly attacks unlike the other pieces of armour which defend.

灵魂精华之剑是极度危险的，因为它主要用于攻击，不像盔甲的其他部分是为了防御。

Use it for good and not for selfish reasons.

要用之于良善而不要为了私欲。

Beware of the powder. It is more dangerous than the Soul Sword.

小心火药。它比灵魂之剑更危险。

On the other hand, the powder might be dangerous, but It got Karitas' attention. (use sparingly).

另一方面，火药虽然可能很危险，但却有卡里塔斯的关照。(因而很少用)。

Prepared, Listening, and Resting

准备好，倾听，休息。

## Chapter Seven

### The Watchman

#### 第七章

#### 守望者

Death is not the end but just another beginning.

死亡不是结束，而是另一个开始端。

Several weeks had passed, and Mathetis finally returned home. He couldn't move around fast due to the splint attached to his right leg. There was some concern that he might never get full use of his leg back. They would not know for sure until the healers removed the splint. Even then, several more months of exercise would be required to understand the exact condition of his injuries.

几个星期过去了，马蒂斯终于回家了。由于右腿上的夹板，他不能快速行动。人们担心他的腿可能永远也无法完全恢复了。治疗师移除夹板前，人们还无法确定。甚至还需要几个月的锻炼，才能知道他伤势的确切情况。

Every day, Karitas would come by with fresh supplies at sunset. Her deliveries became a rather fond habit for both her and the boy. She wisely kept reminding Mathetis that his leg needed rest and that she enjoyed the trip through the farmlands.

每天日落时，卡里塔斯都会带着新的补给品过来。她来送东西成了习惯，她和男孩都很喜欢。她明白地不断提醒马蒂斯，他的腿需要休息，她很喜欢走过田野来到这里。

Master Amana insisted on Mathetis having use of her horse for the next two seasons. She said something about the horse having an attachment to him. He nervously laughed, not quite sure how to refuse Amana's offer.

阿玛娜师父坚持让马蒂斯在接下来的两季时间里使用她的马。她说那匹马对他有感情。他不好意思地笑着，不知道如何谢绝阿玛娜的好意。

Everywhere he went, people would stop and talk to him. He didn't mind. He accepted the fact that stories had a way of becoming legends. It didn't help that the so-called 'prophecy' had come to pass, but that was a matter of interpretation. He heard the prophecy so many times now that he knew it off by heart –

无论他走到哪里，人们都会停下来和他说话，他也很乐意。他接受了这样一个事实：故事有可能成为传奇。所谓的“预言”的到来与离去未必有多大意义，但这是一个解释的问题。他听了那么多预言，所以都记在心里了：

When the lands have become troubled, the red leader will take a sudden blow. The One who cuts will keep a child, and together they will cleanse the motherland forever.

无情瑞格的突然袭击，使家园面临危难。奋起反抗的卢本尼克师父收留了徒弟马蒂斯，他们共同击溃卡诺匪帮，从而给家园带来永久的和平。

Master Lubenik was proud of Mathetis and sought the High Council's permission to move ahead with the full initiation.

There was no objection despite the early nature of the request. Many of the neighbouring warriors had descended upon Ruach to celebrate the moment, including the High Council itself. Later in the afternoon, the ceremony would be held.

卢本尼克师父为马蒂斯感到骄傲，他请求最高议会的许可，以加快授命仪式。尽管这一请求有些早，但没有人反对。许多邻近的武士，包括最高议会都聚集到鲁奇这里来庆祝这一时刻。下午晚些时候，将举行仪式。

The locals had made preparations for a massive feast, and everyone looked forward to the event as an opportunity for festivity. That meant the delivery of many barrels of ale. During one of these shipments, a special gift was found addressed to Master Lubernik. It was a flask of ancient fortified wine. The name of the benefactor baffled the Master, but in the end, everyone agreed that he should not decline the offer. The Master finally accepted, insisting the gift was beyond expectation. It was his favourite wine, and he had not tasted such a vintage for over a decade. Still, he was determined to wait until after the ceremony to sample the wine.

当地人已经为这场盛会做好了准备，每个人都期待着这场盛会的到来。运来了好多桶啤酒。在其中一批货物中，发现了一份送给卢本尼克师父的特别礼物。那是一瓶古老的强化葡萄酒。捐助人的名字使师父感到困惑，但最终，大家都说他不应该拒绝这份礼物。师父一直说这礼物出乎意料，但还是接受了它。这是他最喜欢的酒，他已经十多年没尝过这样的葡萄酒了。尽管如此，他还是决定等到仪式

结束后再来品尝这酒。

The time for the initiation came, and all the friends and family of Mathetis gathered around. Many of the people of Ruach were already carried away in their celebrating making considerable noise, but when the Grand Master stood up, a sudden calm swept over the entire event.

授命的时刻到了，马蒂斯的所有朋友和家人都聚在一起。许多鲁奇人已经开始在场面上兴高采烈，但当师父站起来时，突然间整个场子静了下来。

An impressive platform several steps high, constructed by local builders, stood in the middle of the ceremonial grounds. The Grand Master placed himself in the centre of the platform, in full military dress with a colourful belt much like the one given to Mathetis. Over his uniform draped a white silk robe and around his neck was a golden sash with elaborate writing made from deep red stitching. As the speaker lifted his arms to address the crowd, his shimmering robe rippled in the evening light and tiny yellow sparkles reflected in the people's eyes from the light of nearby fires. All this colour and light stood in stark contrast to the Grand Master's long grey beard and his frizzy hair.

仪式场地中间是一个由本镇人建起来的很醒目的平台，有几步台阶高。总师父本人站在台子中央，全副武装，带着五颜六色的绶带，就像送给马蒂斯的那套一样。他的军服上披着一件白丝绸长袍，脖子上挂着一条金色的绶带，上面用深红色线绣制出精细的文字。当演讲人举起双臂对人群讲话时，他那闪闪发光的长袍在夜色中飘动，被附近的

火光反射到人们的眼睛里，闪烁着细美的黄光。所有这些色彩和光线与总师父长长的灰色胡须和蓬松的头发形成了鲜明的对比。

As custom dictated, many things were said before the Grand Master turned to Mathetis and spoke to him directly.

按照惯例，许多人先上来发言，然后总师父才面向马蒂斯与他直接说话。

‘My young friend. It is my greatest pleasure to enact upon you the highest commission and solemn call of the Guardian Warrior. To you, we owe the nonrepayable gratitude of our lives and that of all the citizens of Green Hill. Even before the time of initiation, you demonstrated the heart of a true warrior. I am privileged to now count you among the Warrior Masters of the Endorian Order. May your days be many, and your victories countless in the service of the Prince of Endor and may your soul be always guided by the Divine and the Architects at your side.’

“我的年轻朋友，我非常高兴地向你颁发守护武士的最高委任和庄严称号。对于你，我们青山所有公民怀着感激之情，感谢你为保护我们的生命所做的贡献。甚至在授命之前，你就展示了一个真正战士的心灵。我很荣幸现在把你列入恩多武士团的武士师父之列。愿你常常久久，在效力恩多国王中战无不胜，愿你的灵魂永远获上帝和你身边的训导师指引。”

Mathetis was then made to stand as the Grand Master placed a deep sky-blue sash around the boy’s neck.

马蒂斯然后站起来，总师父把一条深蓝的绶带挂在男孩的脖子上。

The crowds let out a cry which morphed into an enduring cheer followed by the sound of the seven silver trumpets of Endor.

人群爆发出一声呼喊，接着是一阵欢呼声经久不息，然后恩多的七支银号吹响。

A long line of warriors stood either side of the crowd creating a channel for Mathetis to walk down. The boy then experienced the long tradition of greeting each warrior as they gave his or her blessings.

长长的一队武士站立着，把人群分成两边，形成一个通道让马蒂斯走下来。然后按照久远的传统，男孩接受每一个武士的祝福，并彼此互致问候。

A little over halfway, Mathetis encountered Master Emeth and apprentice Samu. Master Emeth looked firmly into Mathetis' eyes, 'I am sorry for doubting you. Well done Master Mathetis.'

走到一半时，马蒂斯遇到了伊梅斯师父和徒弟萨穆。伊梅斯师父沉稳地看着马蒂斯的眼睛，“对不起，我曾质疑过你。干得好，马蒂斯师父。”

Without warning Samu stuck his head in between the two Masters, 'I was wrong about you. Thank you for saving our city.'

在毫无预兆的情况下，萨穆把头挤进两位师父之间，“我看错你了，谢谢你拯救了我们的城。”

With a smile, Mathetis gently shook the apprentice, 'Thanks for

giving me a hard time and adding to my adventure.’

马蒂斯微笑着轻轻地摇了摇徒弟，“谢谢你给我加码，为我的征程增添能力。”

Mathetis continued along the line for some time. To his great relief, the line ended with Master Amana and apprentice Dewi shadowed by Master Lubenik and Karitas.

马蒂斯沿着这条人廊继续走了一段时间。令他大为宽慰的是，人廊的结尾是阿玛娜师父和徒弟德维，陪在他们旁边的是卢本尼克师父和卡里塔斯。

Lubenik placed his arm around Mathetis, ‘You must all come back to my place and celebrate. We can escape this noise and people. Besides, I am keen to try this gift.’ He lifted the flask of old wine.

卢本尼克把手臂放在马蒂斯的背上，“你们都必须到我那里去庆祝。我们可以避开这噪音和人。此外，我也很想常常这份礼物。”他举起那瓶旧酒。

The travel back to Master Lubenik's home was deliberately slow as they made room for the boy's horse. Mathetis convinced Karitas to ride with him on the back of the steed using the rough road and the increasing darkness of night as his excuse. The young pair traversed the road home discussing the day's events. Karitas excitedly described the unusual food she had eaten earlier in the day when Mathetis interrupted her.

在回卢本尼克师父家的路上，他们有意走的慢些，给男孩的马让出一些空间。马蒂斯用道路崎岖和夜色渐暗作为借

口，说服卡里塔斯和他一起骑在马背上。这对年轻情侣在回家的路上，议论着当天的事情。卡里塔斯兴奋地描述她当天早些时候吃的不寻常食物，这时马蒂斯打断了她。

‘Did you see that?’ ‘Did I see what?’

“你看见了吗？” “我看见什么？”

‘Up ahead, over there.’ He pointed off into the darkness.

“前面，在那里。” 他向夜色之中指着。

‘What is it? What did you see?’

“那是什么？你看见甚麽了？”

‘I’m not quite sure how to describe it. It looked like the outline of a person. Only, it had a faint glow. A dark red glow. It was there for a moment, and then it was gone.’

“我不完全确定该怎么描述。它看起来像一个人的轮廓。它只有微弱的光，暗红色的光。在那里呆了一会儿，然后就不见了。”

‘Perhaps you had a bit too much to drink?’ she said with a giggle as she hit him affectionately in the arm.

“也许你喝得太多了？” 她一边咯咯地笑着，一边亲切地敲他的胳膊。

‘No. I haven’t had anything. I didn’t think it was the right thing to do with the ceremony and all,’ said Mathetis with a concerned edge to his voice.

“不，我什么都没喝。我觉得不正常，考虑今天的仪式和

其他一切。”他的语气有些忧心忡忡。

'I'm sure it was nothing,' Her voice was soft and reassuring.

“我觉得没事。”她的声音柔和安慰。

Mathetis fell silent, but his eyes refused to move from the darkness on the road ahead. To make matters worse, he had an uneasy feeling in the pit of his belly. The horse flicked its head back as if to say, 'I sensed something wrong too.' Slowly the group inched forward until they passed the point where Mathetis thought he had seen something, but all was clear.

马蒂斯沉默了下来，但他的眼睛却不离前面黑暗的道路。更糟糕的是，他胸中有一种不安的感觉。马把头往后一摆，好像在说：“我也感觉到有什么不对劲。”这群人慢慢地向前走，直到走过马蒂斯觉得他看到了什么东西的地方，但甚麽都没有。

They entered the Master's courtyard, and a massive glowing fire greeted them. The Master had set up a number seats around the fire, made up of logs suspended between stumps. A calmness came over Mathetis as he entered the safety of familiar surroundings.

他们走进师父的院子，一堆炽热的火炭迎接着他们。师父在火炉周围放了几把座椅，都是由树桩围着圆木做成的。当马蒂斯进入熟悉的安全环境时，一种平和的感觉掠过他的心头。

'Young man. Take Karitas and Dewi inside and help yourselves to the food and drink. I'm going to catch up with Master Amana.'

小伙子，带着卡里塔斯和德维进去，自己随便吃，喝东西。  
我去招待阿玛娜师父。

Amana and Lubenik sat for some time in the faint firelight and talked.

阿玛娜和卢本尼克在暗弱的火光中坐了一会儿，聊着。

'Would you like to try some of this old wine?'

“你要尝尝这瓶老酒吗？”

'I'm alright. I have chosen to fast from food and drink for a few days.'

“我就不喝了，我几天来一直禁食和戒酒。”

'You're looking for special guidance for something?'

“你在为甚麽事寻求特别的指引吗？”

'Yes, but that is not important right now. Tell me, how did you know that Mathetis was ready?'

“是的，但这现在并不重要。告诉我，你怎么知道马蒂斯已经准备就绪？”

Master Lubenik removed a cap from off the flask and filled it to the brim, 'A fine wine this is. Look at that colour.' He leaned the cap towards the firelight and stared at the reflection before emptying the contents into his mouth.

卢本尼克师父揭开酒瓶的盖子，倒满一盖，“这是一瓶好酒。看看这颜色。”他倾身朝向火光，凝视着倒影，然后一饮而尽。

‘I see... You’re avoiding my question.’

“我知道，你在回避我的问题。”

Master Lubenik proceeded to fill the cap a second time. He then turned and faced Master Amana, ‘You asked me how I knew what I was doing with the boy was right? The answer is that I didn’t know. Just like when I turned down the offer of Grand Master. The truth is Amana; I have a deep-seated fear of letting anyone near me. It seems like every time I let someone get close, things go wrong.’

卢本尼克师父又一次倒满盖子，然后转过身来，面向阿玛娜师父，“你问我，我怎么知道我对那个男孩做的是正确的？”答案是我不知道。就像我拒绝总师父的任命一样。阿玛娜，真相是我有深深的恐惧，不让任何人靠近我。似乎每次我让人靠近，麻烦就会出现。”

‘But you took that risk with Mathetis?’

“但是你和马蒂斯一起冒险。”

‘Well yes... and no. What I mean is that it seemed right to look after the boy. But I have questioned myself many times. He nearly ended up dead on many occasions.’

“噢，是，也不是。我的意思是，看顾这个男孩似乎是对的。但我质疑自己很多次了，他好多次差点就死了。”

Master Amana moved in closer to Lubenik, ‘But he didn’t die, Ben.

阿玛娜师父移动一些靠近卢本尼克，“但他没有死，本。”

‘In fact, he saved your life. All our lives for that matter. Sometimes you have to take risks.’

“事实上，他救了你的命，也在这事上救了我们的命。有时你必须冒险。”

The teacher drank again from the cup and a short awkward silence fell over the fireplace.

师父又喝了一盖，一阵尴尬的沉默笼罩着壁炉。

Lubenik reached over and gently held Amana’s hand. ‘You are right my dear Amana. I need to be able to take the risk of letting people near me. I am sorry. Tomorrow is a new day, and we never know how many days we have left. I promise to confront the fear and never let it hold me again.’

卢本尼克伸出手，轻轻地握住阿玛娜的手。“你说得对，亲爱的阿玛娜。我需要冒险让别人靠近我。很抱歉，明天是新的一年，我们永远不知道我们还有多少天。我保证要直面恐惧，再也不让它掌控我。”

Off to the left, the cabin door opened, and the light inside flooded the courtyard. It was Mathetis.

小屋左边的门打开了，里面射出的灯光洒满院子，是马蒂斯。

‘Master Amana, may I have a word with you for a moment.’

“阿玛娜师父，我可以和你说几句话吗？”

‘Yes, of course.’ She turned back to Lubenik, ‘Excuse me, Ben. We can talk more about this later.’ He nodded and drank again

from the cap. She moved over to the entrance of the cabin, but did not go in.

“是的，当然。她转身面向卢本尼克，“对不起本，我们可以稍后再谈这个。”他点点头，又用瓶盖喝了一口。她走到小屋的门口，但没有进去。

Mathetis was quick to apologise, ‘I’m sorry to take you away from Master Lubenik. I’m going to take Karitas home soon, but I have this burning question. It just didn’t seem right to ask my Master and all day long I have thought of asking you. Do you mind?’

马蒂斯立即道歉：“很抱歉把你从卢本尼克师父身边带走。”我马上要送卡里塔斯回家，但我有个急迫的问题。似乎不该问我师父，我一整天都在想问你。你介意吗？”

‘Not at all. Ask away.’

“没问题，问吧。”

‘Some time ago, my Master mentioned that there were seven spiritual steps for the warrior to overcome... And yet there are only six pieces of Armour. I feel like I am missing something.’

“以前我师父提到，武士需要战胜七个属灵步骤…然而盔甲只有六部分。我觉得我错过了什么。”

‘Yes, that is a little strange. I wonder why Master Lubenik has refrained from explaining this to you? There must be a reason,’ She looked over her shoulder towards Lubenik. He had slumped to the floor and was now loudly snoring. She turned back to the boy.

“是的，这有点奇怪。我不知道卢本尼克师父为什么不向你解释这事，这一定是有原因的”。她回头望着卢本尼克。他正倒在地上鼾声大作。她转过身面对男孩。

‘I can’t see any reason to not explain it to you. We call the final defence The Watchman.’

“我看不出有什么理由不向你解释。我们称最终防御为守望者。”

Mathetis lifted his eyes up towards the night sky. ‘I do remember reading something about this.’

马蒂斯抬头仰望夜空。“我记得确实读到过这方面一些事。”

‘Think of it this way Mathetis. The last step is also the first step. I like to imagine it as a circle closing in on itself. And yet, it is more like a spiral that keeps on climbing higher each time you return to the start.’

“这样想想马蒂斯。最后一步也是第一步。我喜欢把它想象成一个自我回归的圆圈。当然，这更像是一个螺旋，每次你回到起初位置时，其实都上升到了更高的层次。”

‘I’m sorry Master. I’m not following what you are saying.’

“对不起，师父。我还没有听懂你的话。”

‘Oh... what I am saying is that all spiritual warriors need to learn the art of being a watchman. It is the final step to master, but once we become a watchman, we need always to be the watchman. And in that way, the dark ones can never take us by

surprise.

‘哦，…我想说的是，所有的属灵武士都需要学习成为一名守望者的能力。这是掌控的最后一步，但一旦我们成为一名守望者，就必需永远是守望者。这样的话，黑暗势力就永远不能突袭得逞。

‘So, what you’re saying is that we need always to be watchful for the attacks of the darkness?’ ‘Yes.’

“那么你的意思是，我们需要时刻警惕黑暗势力的袭击？”  
“是的。”

‘How is that different to the armour provided by the spiritual boots?’

“这和属灵靴子提供的盔甲有什么区别”

‘The Warrior’s boots speak of learning the strategies of the dark ones and how to defeat their every attack, while being a watchman is a deeper discipline of always being in the state of listening. Inner awareness involves always listening to the Divine deep within your soul. Once we have developed the art of continual watching, it is so much easier to be led by the Divine. Every warrior finds the greatest delight in being led. They understand that not to be led by the Divine is to be led by self and darkness. All dark ones are led purely by self. That is what creates the darkness.’

“武士的靴子讲的是认识黑暗势力的策略，以及如何战胜他们的每一次攻击。而作为一名守望者则是更深层次的训练，他要始终处于倾听的状态。内在意识包括始终倾听你

灵魂深处的神。一旦我们发展了不断观察的能力，顺从神的引导就容易多了。每一个武士都能因得到引导而获得最大喜悦。他们明白，不被神引导，就是被自我和黑暗势力引导。所有的黑暗势力都是纯粹由自我引导的。这就是黑暗产生的根源。”

‘Why is being led by the Divine such a delight for the warrior?’

“为什么神的带领对武士来说是一种喜悦呢？”

‘Each day is a gift, young friend, and we are free to waste it, but such waste is a form of darkness. It will only lead to destruction. If the light leads me, then good can come from this day. Once I have spent the day, I cannot get it back. The spiritual warrior wants each day to be gain, not a loss, good, not evil, usage not waste.’

“每天都是恩典，年轻的朋友，我们可以随心所欲地耗费它，但这种耗费就是一种黑暗。它只会导致毁灭。如果光明指引着我，那么这一天就会达致良善。当一天过去了，我就取不回来了。属灵武士希望每一天都有收获，而不是丢失；良善，而不是邪恶，有用而不致耗费。”

For some reason unknown to the boy, Master Amana turned and glanced briefly at Master Lubenik. She then gently took the boy's arm and moved them both two steps closer to the fire where he lay.

这男孩不知道为甚麽，阿玛娜师父转过身来，瞥了一眼卢本尼克师父。然后，她轻轻地拉住男孩的手，两人都朝他躺在身边的火走去。

She continued, ‘Being a watchman means that we also intuitively know when to retreat from a battle and when it is the right time to rest.’

她接着说：“做一个守望者意味着我们也直觉地知道什么时候该从战场上撤退，什么时候适合休整。”

Mathetis, still a little confused by Amana’s previous action, interrupted, ‘I don’t understand. How can you always be watching but sometimes you are resting? Isn’t that a contradiction?’

马蒂斯仍然对阿玛娜之前所做的有点困惑，于是插口问她，“我不明白，你怎么能始终观察，却能时有休息？这不矛盾吗？”

‘Paradox, yes. A contradiction, no. When you develop a discipline of being led by the Divine, that leading also shows you times of rest. Without that Divine leading, we are all left to guess when it is safe to retreat or to rest and the dark ones find ways to discover that our defences are down.’

“悖论，是的；矛盾，不！当在神引导下发展你的能为时，这引导也会指示你何时休息。如果没有神的指引，我们就只能猜测什么时候撤退或休整是安全的，而黑暗势力就会有办法发现我们的防御能力减弱了。”

‘I see,’ responded Mathetis. ‘So, a spiritual watchman is one who is always listening in spirit, and that is how they know when it is safe to rest or retreat?’

“我明白了。”马蒂斯答道。“所以，一个属灵守望者是

一个总是在灵里倾听的人，这就使他们知道，什么时候可以安全的休息或撤退？”

‘Yes, Mathetis. All of this is a little oversimplified but know that it is an essential process for the defence of the soul, much like breathing for the body. Every moment of life requires breathing, and yet often we are unaware of this function. The spiritual warrior works on the awareness of Divine leading and seeks for this to become a fluid and organic progression in all life’s activities.’

“是的，马蒂斯。这些说的有点过于简单，但要知道这是一个灵魂护卫的基本过程，就像身体的呼吸一样。生命中的每一刻都需要呼吸，然而我们往往觉察不到这功能。属灵武士致力于清楚理解神的引领，并寻求使之成为他所有生命活动里，通畅且有序的过程。”

Mathetis listened intently, endeavouring to grasp the subtler points of Master Amana’s explanation but something alarming caught his eye. Behind Amana, about fifteen paces away were the faint outlines of the old oak tree. The dying light of the fire danced on its thick trunk. In its branches, Mathetis saw a strange movement. It was the same red glow from earlier in the evening, only now it was smaller and circular.

马蒂斯全神贯注地听着，努力抓住阿玛娜师父解释的微妙之处，但他警觉的注意到一件事。在阿玛娜身后，大约十五步远的地方有棵老橡树的模糊轮廓。火的微弱光线在它粗大的树干上闪烁。透过树枝马蒂斯看到了一个奇怪的动静。那是傍晚早些时候的红光，只是现在变小了，而且是

圆形的。

Mathetis glanced away from Amana to focus in on it. The red glow became clear, as if materialising, and Mathetis saw plainly the source of the dull light. The red glow was an energy of some kind, emanating from the body of a man or woman crouched in the tree's branches. His eyes returned to Amana. Quietly, he spoke to her.

马蒂斯的目光离开阿玛娜，集中注意着它。红光变得清晰起来，仿佛是在聚集成形，马蒂斯清楚地看到了暗光的来源。红光是一种能量，从蜷缩在树枝里的男人或女人的身体发出。他的目光又回到了阿玛娜身上，悄悄地跟她说：

‘Master Amana, I need you to step aside immediately without question.’ His left arm was now on her shoulder softly pushing her to the right.

“阿玛娜师父，我要你立刻移到旁边去，请不要问。”他的左臂放在她的肩膀上，轻轻地把她推到右边。

She had seen the boy's eyes diverted only moments earlier and knew that something was not quite right. She did not hesitate but moved swiftly to the side.

她刚才看到男孩的眼神转移了一下，知道有些事情不太对劲。于是毫不犹豫，迅速地向旁边走去。

Mathetis, at lightning speed, reached with his right hand for his small blade and sent it flying blindly into the dark towards the red glow.

马蒂斯以闪电般的速度，掷出他右手握着的小匕首，飞一

样地投到黑暗中，向着红光飞去。

The blade hit its mark satisfyingly, and a loud groan emanated from the tree top. A body fell through the branches and landed in a crumpled heap on the ground with a final thud.

匕首正中目标，树梢上发出明显的呻吟。一个身体从树枝上掉了下来，最后砰的一声落在地上。

Both the boy and Amana rushed to the base of the tree. A young man clothed in black lay there groaning with the boy's blade embedded into his shoulder. His head and face, except for a thin slot for the eyes, were completely covered with the same black cloth.

男孩和阿玛娜都冲到树根那里。一个穿黑衣服的年轻人躺在那里，呻吟着，匕首插在他的肩膀上。他的头和脸，除了一个狭小的眼睛缝，全部蒙着同样的黑布。

Mathetis hunched over the moaning form. 'Who are you and why are you here?'

马蒂斯弯下腰来对着呻吟的人。“你是谁？为什么在这里？”

'You should be more worried about your Master. In a few moments, I will have my revenge.'

“你应该更担心你的师父。过一会儿，我的仇就要报了。”

Amana moved from the intruder to the side of Master Lubenik. He was no longer snoring but lay motionless on the dirt floor. She checked for a pulse but could find none.

阿玛娜从强盗身边走到卢本尼克师父身边。他不打鼾了，而是一动不动地躺在肮脏的地板上。她摸了摸脉搏，没有找到。

‘Mathetis, something is wrong with Ben.’

“马蒂斯，不好了。”

The black figure sat up a little, ignoring his pain.

黑衣人不顾疼痛坐起来一点儿。

‘It is the arsenic, a fast-acting poison. Lethal and impossible to stop. I placed it in the wine.’

“那是砒霜，快速起效的毒药，是致命的也是无药可救的。我放进酒里的。”

Mathetis, now desperate, pressed the dark figure for information.

马蒂斯现在绝望地摁着黑衣人问：

‘Why? Why did you do this?’

“为甚麽，你为甚麽这样做？”

The stranger remained silent. Mathetis clenched the handle of the embedded blade and leaned down on it. The stranger let out a cry.

强盗不做声。马蒂斯抓住插入他身体的匕首柄往下按。陌生人大叫起来。

‘OK. Stop... I will tell you. I am Gnaff, son of Ragg. Your Master killed my father. I have now repaid the debt and restored my honour.’ Mathetis leaned again on the blade.

“好啦，住手……我告诉你。我是瑞格的儿子戈纳夫。你的师父杀了我父亲。我现在报了仇，夺回了我的荣誉。”  
马蒂斯又把刀柄往下压了压。

‘Tell me how to reverse the poison.’

“告诉我怎么解毒。”

Gnaff squealed like an animal. ‘There is no cure. No way to reverse the poison. He will die as my father died. There is nothing you can do.’

戈纳夫像动物一样嚎叫着。“没有救了，没有办法解毒。他会像我父亲一样死去，你什么也做不了。”

Mathetis let go of the blade and pushed Gnaff away. He stood up to face Amana.

马蒂斯松了匕首，推开戈纳夫。他站起来走向阿玛娜。

‘Master, there must be something we can do?’

“师父，我们要做些什么呢？”

‘I know of no cure, Mathetis.’ She clutched the boy by the shoulders and made efforts to move him away. He wrenched himself free of her hands and kneeled at the side of his teacher.

“我知道没有救了。她抓住男孩的肩膀，努力把他推开。他掰开她的手，跪在师父身边。”

‘Mathetis, there is nothing we can do. I think he is already gone.’

“马蒂斯，我们救不了他，他已经走了。”

The first signs of dawn appeared as the High Council gathered

around the body of Master Lubenik. Mathetis held tight to his bound prisoner. A cocktail of pain, fear, and confusion surged through his body and mind. Why had this happened? It made no sense. How could the light have led them this far only to take his Master away from him? The whole event was an attack, an onslaught to his faith in the Architects and the leading of the Divine. Master Amana must have sensed his agony. She stood close behind him with her arm on his shoulder. The Grand Master stood up.

黎明的微曦出现时，最高议会的人聚集在卢本尼克师父的遗体周围。马蒂斯紧紧抓着他捆起来的罪犯。痛苦、恐惧和迷茫，种种感情五味交集，冲击着他的身心。为什么发生这种事？这没有道理呀。光明怎么能引领他走这么远，却让师父离开他呢？整个事件是一个沉重打击，打击了他对训导师和神的引领的信心。阿玛娜师父一定觉察到了他的痛苦。她紧紧地站在他身后，胳膊搭在他的肩上。总师父站了起来。

‘Master Mathetis. Please bring forward this criminal for our examination.’ Mathetis cringed at being called Master. He felt that he neither deserved it nor wanted the title. All he wanted was his teacher back. The death of his father and now the loss of his Master was too much for him to bare.

“马蒂斯师父，请把这个罪犯带来给我们审问。”马蒂斯觉得被称为师父很羞愧。他觉得他既不配得，也不想要这个头衔。他只想要他的师父回来。他父亲的死，以及现在他师父的离去，使他不堪重负。

A blank look hung on Mathetis' face as he pushed Gnaff forward into the presence of the Council.

马蒂斯一脸茫然的表情，把戈纳夫推到议会面前。

‘You are charged with the death of Master Lubenik. How do you plead?’

“你被指控杀了卢本尼克师父。你为此有无辩解？”

‘I did it. And I would do it a thousand times again. He killed my father, and I have enacted justice on him.’

“是我干的，我会再做一千次。他杀了我父亲，我给他伸张了正义。”

‘Justice you say. Strange how darkness can defend itself with the very act of injustice it inflicts on others. Your father was a murderer and a thief. You know well, as many do, that Master Lubenik did not take your father's life, but he died by his blade, self-inflicted, in the act of Divine impartiality. As for your claim to justice, your father was guilty of breaking many of our highest laws.’

“你竟然说正义。好奇怪，黑暗势力竟然为自己辩解，说它给人们造成的伤害不该伸张正义。你父亲是个凶手和盗贼。和许多人一样，你很清楚，卢本尼克师父并没有取你父亲的性命，他是在上帝明察秋毫的昭彰天理之下，被自己的刀刃自裁而死。至于你说的正义，实际上你父亲因违反我们许多最高法律是有罪的。”

‘Your laws... pfffft.’ Gnaff spat on the ground as he spoke.

“你们的法律。”戈纳夫说着往地上啐了一口。

‘You collect money from the people until there is nothing left. We merely took what we needed to survive.’

“你们横征暴敛，使得民众一无所剩。我们只不过为活命取了一点点而已。”

‘Enough. You have admitted to the crime, and we must now decide your fate.’ The Grand Master turned to the rest of the Council and discussed the matter quietly. Moments later, he stood again and addressed Gnaff publicly.

“够了，你已经认罪，我们现在必须决定你的命运。”总师父转向议会的其他成员，静静地讨论这件事。过了一会儿，他又站了起来，当众对戈纳夫讲话。

‘We have determined by the High law of Endor that your life will be forfeited this day. The verdict is a sad matter. I wished that we might only need to expel you, but your actions prove that the lives of others will be at risk if we allow you to live. This day your life will be taken by...’ A strange voice interrupted the Grand Master.

“我们已经决定了，按照恩多最高法律，今天将要剥夺你的性命。这个判决是可悲的。我本希望只是驱逐你，但你的行动证明，如果允许你活着，别人的生命将处于危险之中。今天你的生命将被剥夺。。。 ”一个奇怪的声音打断了总师父。

‘Wait... What in the name of Endor is going on here?’

“等等，以恩多的名义在做甚麽事情？”

Everyone turned to face the unexpected voice, and to their shock and confusion, they saw Master Lubenik sitting up rubbing his face.

每个人都转过脸来，面对着那意外的声音，令他们震惊和困惑的是，卢本尼克师父坐在那里揉他的脸。

‘My head hurts. That was not good wine. I mean, it tasted good, but I feel terrible. I must write a note to the maker and let him know. Somebody, please tell me what is going on here?’

“我头疼，那不是好酒，我是说，味道不错，但我感觉糟透了。我必须给酿酒人写个信让他知道。哪位告诉我，你们在做甚麽？”

Gnaff pulled away from Mathetis and stepped towards Lubenik. 戈纳夫挣脱马蒂斯，向卢本尼克走去。

‘No!... You are meant to be dead. I put enough arsenic in that wine to kill a horse.’

“不！你应该已经死了，我放了杀死一匹马的砒霜在酒里。”

Mathetis knocked out the legs of Gnaff from behind to put him safely on the ground. His sword was already withdrawn and pointing at Gnaff’s chest. He then addressed his Master with a grin and a look of shock.

马蒂斯从后面打戈纳夫的腿，使他倒在地上，没有伤他。他的剑已经出鞘，指着戈纳夫的胸膛。然后，以震惊的表情面对师父笑着。

‘You’re alive. How can that be?’

“你活着，这怎么回事？”

‘Well, don’t seem so disappointed,’ Lubenik said with a smirk as he tried to stand up.

“好啦，别看上去那么失望，”卢本尼克得意地笑着，他想站起来。

‘Did this infidel just say that he poisoned my wine with arsenic?’

“这个不信神者不是说他把砒霜放进我的酒吗？”

‘Yes, that is correct. Tell us, how are you alive?’

“是的，对呀。告诉我们，你怎么还能活着？”

‘Ah yes... well, the short answer is, ever since the first attempts on my life, I received some important advice. It now appears that advice saved my life.’ He took another shaky step forward and let out a soft groan.

“啊，是的，简单的回答是，自从我在生命中做了第一次尝试后，就得到了重要提示。现在看来，这提示救了我的命。”他又摇摇晃晃地向前走了一步，轻轻地呻吟了一声。

‘Every day, I have taken tiny amounts of arsenic as a precautionary step. My body is somewhat tolerant to the poison. A good thing too, last year, I almost gave up on the practice, but some habits are hard to stop.’ Everyone, except Gnaff, let out a thunderous laugh.

“每天，我都会进食少量的砒霜作为预防措施。于是我的身体对毒品有一些抗力。幸运的是，去年，我差点儿不再

这样做，但有些习惯很难终止。”除了戈纳夫之外，每个人都发出雷鸣般的笑声。

Mathetis, himself on the verge of tears, stepped over to aid his teacher. He held his Master under the arms as they walked away from the crowd. Gnaff was dragged off screaming to be incarcerated by the Council.

马蒂斯几乎要哭了，他走过去搀扶着师父，用双臂护拥着师父离开人群。戈纳夫尖叫着被拖走，被议会监禁起来。

‘Mathetis.’ ‘Yes, Master.’

“马蒂斯。” “是，师父。”

‘I don’t think I ever want to drink wine again.’ They both chuckled as they moved further away.

“我想我再也不喝酒了。”他们都笑了起来，走远了。

‘It also appears that I have failed you as a teacher by letting down my guard.’

“作为一名导师放松了警惕，看来我也辜负了你。”

‘You have never failed me, Master. I am the most blessed apprentice in all of Endor.’

“你从来没有辜负我，师父。我是所有恩多人中最蒙祝福的徒弟。”

‘Oh, about that subject of being an apprentice, it appears that I almost forgot to complete your training. Let me teach you about being a Watchman.’ The Master paused for a moment, ‘Perhaps, you have learned it already?’

“哦，关于当徒弟这个话题，我差点儿忘了完成你的训练了。让我教你如何做守望者。”师父停了一会儿，“也许你已经学到了？”

The happiest smile spread across the boy's face.

男孩的脸上荡漾着极其幸福的笑容。

THE END

故事结束

## Mathetis' Notes

### 马蒂斯的记录

It takes wisdom to know when to retreat and when to rest.

知晓何时退却，何时休整需要智慧

To be a spiritual watchman means that you are always ready for anything and everything.

作为一名属灵守望者，你需要准备好应对各种事，一切事。

Being led by the Divine is the way of the Watchman.

守望者之路就是被神引领。

Being led by 'self' brings darkness and sadness.

被自我引领就是黑暗与悲惨。

Never drink wine given to you by a stranger.

永远不要喝陌生人递过来的酒。

## APPENDIX

### 附录

#### Six More Modern Day Examples of Armour for Your Soul

##### 灵魂盔甲的六个现代例子

##### Dr Wayne Dyer and The Heel of Foresight.

韦恩·戴尔博士和先见之明。

Self-examination leads to self-realisation and in those realisations, we discover some of the strategies of negativity at work. At these moments in life, we can begin the real work of removing destructive patterns in our lives and replacing them with thoughts, feelings, and actions that empower our lives.

自省导致认识自我。在这认识过程中，我们发现一些消极的东西在起作用。在生命中的这些时刻，我们可以开始真正的工作，消除我们生命中破坏性的因素，用思想、感觉和行动取代它们，从而增强我们的生命力。

Martin Kipp found himself at the bottom of a pit. His work as a music manager in Hollywood led to a lifestyle of drugs and parties and ultimately to being jobless with nowhere to call home. He turned to the Divine for help and found an entirely new life filled with hope and bliss through teaching and serving others in self-acceptance.

马斯廷·奇普曾发现自己处于坑底。他在好莱坞担任音乐经理时，陷入了毒品和派对的生活，最终导致失业，无家可

归。他转向神寻求帮助，找到了全新的生活，通过教导和服务他人使自己被接受，从而充满了希望和幸福。

His journey to Grace, however, was not without pain. At first, Mastin became addicted to Adderall while conquering his appetite for cocaine. Over time, he overcame the Adderall but substituted it for food. It was not until he found Dr Wayne Dyer's teaching material that he moved forward through addiction. It was at this stage that Mastin deeply understood how forming new belief systems could help lead towards freedom from old patterns and beliefs.

然而，他的恩典之旅并非没有痛苦。起初，马斯廷在克服自己的可卡因毒瘾时，沾上了对药品 adderall 的依赖。随着时间的推移，他终于克服了 Adderall，但却食物成瘾。直到他找到韦恩·戴尔博士的教材，他才脱离成瘾怪圈。正是在这一阶段，马斯廷深刻地理解了，新的信仰体系的形成，是如何帮助人们摆脱旧的模式和信仰，走向自由的。

The next battle against darkness Mastin encountered was pride. He developed a mystical conceit being caught up in superiority and the world of the spiritual egoist. In his own words 'someone who has read a bunch of books and learned a new vocabulary—but whose consciousness has not yet changed.'

马斯廷遇到的下一场对抗黑暗的战斗是他骄傲。他发展出一种神秘奇思，被属灵的自我主义者的优越感及其世界所吸引。用他自己的话说，“一个读过一堆书，学过新词汇的人—但他的意识形态还没有改变。”

The journey to Grace and true humility came for Mastin when he realised that ‘doing’ is more important than ‘knowing’. Mastin has learned through his battles that mentors who have gone before him, offer strength and insight towards victory. But even there, Mastin warns people not to place your mentors on pedestals. They are real people with real challenges who are a little further down the road and are merely pointing the way forward.

当马斯廷意识到“行”比“知”更重要时，他的旅程开始走向恩典和真正谦卑。马斯廷从他的战斗中了解到，走在他前面的导师为他取胜提供了力量和洞察力。但是即使到了这一步，马斯廷仍告诫人们不要把导师奉为神明。他们也是实在的人，面临挑战，只是他们走得远一些，只是指明前进的方向而已。

‘There are two kinds of pain that I’ve seen: the pain of staying asleep, and the pain of waking up. When we stay asleep—or choose not to examine our lives—pain is inevitable. An unexamined life will always bring pain because we’ll spend most of our time avoiding that which is uncomfortable.’

我看到两种痛苦：一种是麻木的痛苦，另一种是清醒的痛苦。当我们保持麻木—或者选择不省察我们的生命—痛苦就无可避免。一个未经省察的生命总会带来痛苦，因为我们得花大部分时间去躲避那些令人不安之事。

Mastin Kipp

马斯廷·奇普

## Tim McGraw and the Shield of Conviction

### 提姆·麦格劳与信念之盾

If you have a dream, hold on to your convictions and let them shield you and carry you through the storms.

如果你有一个梦想，坚持你的信念，让他们保护你，带你度过风暴。

Country music star Tim McGraw revealed to Oprah Winfrey in a Master Class interview, how one producer, early on in his career made him doubt himself.

乡村音乐明星提姆·麦格劳在接受大师班的一次采访时，向奥普拉·温弗瑞透露，作为一名制作人，他在职业生涯的早期如何对自己充满了怀疑。

Over the years, Tim has proved himself an incredible artist, topping the music charts with song after heartfelt song. But it wasn't always this way.

多年来，提姆证明自己是一位才华卓著的艺术家的，以一曲曲发自内心的歌，登上音乐排行榜榜首。但他并非总是如此。

Tim explained to Oprah how one of his first times in a studio ended in disaster. With nothing to show for their hard work, the producer told him that he should reconsider being a singer. The advice affected Tim significantly, and he lost confidence in his dream. But he couldn't see himself doing anything else, so he persisted.

提姆向奥普拉介绍，他在录音室的第一次经历，是怎样的彻底失败。他们的辛勤努力根本无法展示，制作人告诉他，他应该重新考虑是否还要作一名歌手。这话严重地影响了提姆，他对自己的梦想失去了信心。但他看不出自己还能做别的什么，所以就坚持了下来。

Producer after producer knocked him back. It took the mentoring of Bryon Gallimore to restore Tim's confidence in his vision for his life.

一个又一个制作人拒绝了他。终于在布莱恩·加利莫尔的指导下，提姆恢复了对自己人生前途的信心。

'Anything that you do is peppered with doubt, and it is also peppered with belief. What you have to do, is not let the doubt win... You have to make yourself go forward. You have to push yourself through... I wasn't going to let the doubt overcome the belief I had and what I could do.'

“你所做的任何事情都撒满了怀疑，却也充满了信心。你必须做的是，不要让怀疑得胜。你必须使自己前进，必须逼迫自己走过去。。。我不会让怀疑压倒我的信心和我能为之事。”

Tim McGraw

提姆·麦格劳

Tony Robbins and equipping people with the  
Chest Guard of Goodness.

托尼·罗宾斯给人们装备良善的护胸。

Happiness does not come by making other people fulfil your needs but by letting go of ego and helping others find fulfilment. Through this process, others will inadvertently meet your needs.

幸福不会来自别人满足你的需要，而要通过放弃自我和帮助他人获得满足来实现。在此过程中，其他人会无意间满足你的需求。

In a four thousand strong conference, Tony helped a man to see the real struggle and conflict he felt in his marriage. The battle lay between his needs and the needs of his wife. The resolution to this conflict came when the man agreed to let go of his own identified needs, even for the short period of ninety days, and honestly fulfil the needs and soul longings of his wife.

在一个4000多人的会议上，托尼帮一个男人认识了他婚姻中所感受到的真正的斗争和冲突。这场战争是他的需要和他妻子的需要之间的冲突。解决这场冲突的办法是，男人同意放弃他自己认为的需要，即使在短短的90天内，并且诚实地满足他妻子的需要和灵魂的渴望。

Tony's team checked in on the married couple five months later, and they were ecstatically happy and in love. But Tony's commitment did not end there.

五个月后，托尼的团队核查了这对婚姻夫妇，他们欣喜若狂，坠入爱河。但托尼的努力并没有就此结束。

Five years later, his organisation checked up on this couple and the principle of complete surrender to meeting the needs of the

other was still enriching their marriage and helping them to be a happy family.

五年后，他的团队走访了这对夫妇，完全顺服对方需求的原则仍然在充实着他们的婚姻，帮助他们成为一个幸福的家庭。

‘The only time you have pain is when you withhold your gift.’

“你唯一感到痛苦的时候，是你不付出关爱时。”

‘Emotions are faster than thought.’

“行动比思维更快”

‘I have never met a human on earth that left a relationship where their partner was meeting all their needs.’

“我在世上从来没有遇到过一个人，他的伴侣在婚姻关系中满足了他们所有的需求。”

Tony Robbins.

托尼·罗宾斯

Elizabeth Lesser and her experience with The Helmet of Guidance.

伊丽莎白·莱塞和她在引领之头盔方面的经历。

When fear and doubt attack us in our thought life, our mind can be shielded by truths. The ongoing effect of this shielding is that we can enter into new spiritual states and experiences.

当恐惧和怀疑在我们的思想生活中攻击我们时，我们的心灵可以被真理庇护。这种庇护的持续效果是，我们可以进

入新的灵性状态和体验。

‘You are a Human Being, not a human doing.’

“你是本质的人，而不是人形动物”

Eckhart Tolle

埃克哈特·托利

‘You are a Human Being, not a human doing... I’ve tattooed those words into my consciousness. They serve me every time I doubt myself, every time I am challenged, every time I lose my way. I come back to my human Being so that I can pull off my human doing with the wind of the soul at my back.’

“你是本质的人，不是人形动物。。。已经把这些话镌刻在我的意识里了。每当我怀疑自己，每次我遭遇挑战，每次我迷失方向，它们都会激励我，使我回归我的人性本质，这样我就可以在灵魂之风的吹拂下摒弃我的动物之人。”

‘I’ve found my strength in my Being and allowed my doing to come from the truth of who I am—of who we all are. Call it what you like—soul, core, essence—but beneath the fearful, chattering mind is your indestructible, eternal, powerful Being, who can serve you in everything you do if you only listen. If you drop your shoulders down from your ears, relax your tight belly, take a sweet, deep breath, and pay attention to the inner you.’

“我已经在我的本质中找到了力量，并使我的行为符合我是谁，以及我们都是谁的真理。按照你的意愿去称呼它 -

灵魂，核心，本质都可以。但在可怕的、喋喋不休的心灵之下，是你坚不可摧、永恒、强大的本质。只要你倾听，这本质就能在你所做的每件事上为你效力。请垂下双肩，放松你紧绷的肚腹，舒服地深深呼吸，聚焦在你的内心。”

Elizabeth Lessor

伊丽莎白·莱瑟

Elizabeth found herself thrust into a whole new adventure when her book *The Seeker's Guide* came to the attention of Oprah Winfrey.

当她的书“探索者指南”引起奥普拉·温弗瑞的注意时，伊丽莎白发现自己进入了全新的探险。

In 2008, Oprah launched the first live worldwide webcast to promote Eckhart Tolle's book *A New Earth*. Oprah believed that Elizabeth was the right person to help her write the online curriculum for what Elizabeth fondly refers to as 'the largest classroom on earth' – live webinars. These webcasts reached millions of people every Monday evening for the next ten weeks.

2008年，奥普拉推出了第一次全球直播，以推广埃克哈特·托勒的书“一个新的地球”。奥普拉认为，伊丽莎白是合适人选，能帮她撰写在线课程。伊丽莎白深情地称这课程为“地球上最大的教室” – 直播网络会议。在接下来的十周里，每周一晚上，这些网络直播都会覆盖数百万人。

Since the launch of this webinar, over 35 million views of webcasts have transpired through Oprah.com. Part way through this project, Oprah asked Elizabeth to be a guest host on her

Sirius/XM radio channel and thus bring A New Earth to even more people. The offer proved to be a challenge that Elizabeth nearly declined. In the end, it was the words of Eckhart Tolle quoted to her by Oprah that gave her the strength of mind to accept the challenge – ‘You are a Human Being, not a human doing.’

自从这个直播启动以来，通过 oprah.com 已经有超过 3500 万的网络直播浏览量。通过这个项目的一部分，奥普拉邀请伊丽莎白作她的天狼星/XM 广播频道的客座主持人，从而为更多的人带来新的世界。这个提议是一个挑战，伊丽莎白几乎拒绝了。最后，奥普拉引用埃克哈特·托尔的话给了她接受挑战的勇气：“你是本质的人，不是人形动物。”

Jim Carrey and The Sword of Soul Essence.

吉姆·凯利和灵魂精华之剑。

In an interview with Oprah Winfrey, Jim talked about his experience with visualisation. Oprah started the conversation by making the statement/question ‘Obviously, you knew somewhere inside yourself, you were destined to be famous?’

在接受奥普拉·温弗瑞的采访时，吉姆谈到了他在可视化方面的经验。奥普拉在开始谈话时提出了这样一个问题：“你自己内心的某处是否很明显认为你注定要出名呢？”

The observation is such an important issue being brought up by Oprah. The Sword of Soul Essence can only work, in a non-destructive manner, when the individual aligns with their higher

calling. This alignment comes through searching and self-examination. The result is that the individual experiences peace and joy on the inside.

这个观察是奥普拉提出的一个非常重要的问题。灵魂精华之剑只有在个人与他更高的呼召相协调时，才能以一种无害的方式发挥作用。这个协调是通过探索和自省实现的。其结果是，个人在内心体验到平安和愉悦。

Jim described feeling better when he engaged in the visualisation and affirmation. It is also important to note that Jim would declare out loud his belief statement. Why this is important is that words release soul essence and help to formulate one's thinking. In other words, positive thinking and visualisation or reprogramming negative belief systems intrinsically involve words. Language and specific words make up the coding for new thoughts and beliefs.

吉姆说他在参与观想并被认可时感觉更好。同样重要的是，吉姆能大胆宣布他的信仰声明。这为什么重要呢？因为言语反映灵魂本质，并帮助人调整其思维。换句话说，积极的思考和观想或重新规划消极的信仰系统，本质上涉及到语言。语言和特定词汇构成了新思维和信仰的编码。

Jim described to Oprah going up daily to Mulholland drive in Beverly Hills and visualising directors wanting him and showing interest in his work. He envisioned people saying that they liked his work. He also wrote himself a check for \$10 million for services rendered and dated it Thanksgiving 1995. That gave him three years for the dream to manifest. He placed the check in his

wallet where it eventually deteriorated. By storing the affirmation/check in his bill folder, it prompted him to see it daily and thus, to remind his subconscious about his goal/dream. He discovered right before Thanksgiving of 1995 that he was going to receive the sum of \$10 million for his role in the movie ‘Dumb and Dumber’.

吉姆向奥普拉描述说，他每天都驾车去贝弗利山庄的穆赫兰，想象着导演们想要他，并对他的工作感兴趣。他设想人们说他们喜欢他的工作。他还给自己开了一张 1000 万美元的支票，上面写着 1995 年感恩节。三年的时间里他一直梦想将会显现。他放在钱包里的支票，最后烂在里面了。他每天通过确认/检查他账单文件夹中所存的物品，从而在潜意识里提醒自己的目标和梦想。就在 1995 年感恩节之前，他因在电影“蠢中之蠢”中扮演的角色将获得 1000 万美元的收入。

Dr Wayne Dyer and his experience of The Watchman state of Being

韦恩·戴尔博士和他对守望者本质状态的体验

Dr Dyer in his book *Excuses Begone* goes into detail of how at sixty-five years of age, he spent an entire year immersed in the ancient teachings of Lao-tzu, studying the 81 verses of the Tao Te Ching. He wrote an essay on each of the stanzas while meditating on how to think and practice those teachings.

戴尔博士在他的《滚开，借口》一书中，详细讲述了他在六十五岁时，如何花了整整一年的时间，沉浸在老子的古

典教诲中。他学习了“道德经”八十一章经文，写了文章讲述其每一章节的同时，思考如何理解和实践这些教导。

In *Excuses Begone*, Wayne describes ‘awareness of awareness’ as a spiritual practice for identifying the Ego’s chatter and all the limiting beliefs and mind viruses that it throws at us. When we become aware of the ego’s attacks, it is easy to deflect its lies and live, instead, through Divine guidance. Here are more descriptions of this process in his own words –

在《滚开，借口》中，韦恩把“觉知的觉知”描述为一种灵性实践，用来识别自我唠叨，及其抛向我们的病毒，限制我们所有的信念和心理。当我们意识到自我的攻击时，很容易改变它的谎言，而通过神的指引而活下去。这里有更多关于这个过程的描述，用他自己的话来说-

‘I know that I see myself as an immortal being who receives guidance on awareness especially because I let go and dissolve most of my ties to the world of duality, conflict and dogma. The excitement of living from this perspective is beyond anything I can describe. It reminds me that I do exist in a place of “all things are possible” and I apply this consciousness to all my old thinking habits and I encourage you to do the same.

“我知道自己是一个永恒的人，得到指导使我得以脱离蒙昧，特别挣脱了二元论、冲突和教条世界的大部分束缚。从而达到的生命振奋状态已经非言语所能描述。它提醒我，我确实存在于一个“万事皆为可能”之处。我把这个觉悟落实在我所有的旧思维习惯上，并鼓励你也这样做。”

Know that you are a soul with a body rather than the reverse and understand that this knowledge is your ticket to changing beliefs that keep you stuck in what Lao-tzu calls “your shallow worldly ambitions” ... Awareness allows me to perceive possibilities rather than difficulties, to feel connected to my source of being and see the outcome as working rather than failing...’

“要知道你是存在于身体内的灵魂，而不仅仅是肉体。还要明白，这些知识是你改变信仰的钥匙，这些旧的信念使你固守老子所讲的“浅薄的世俗野心”。觉悟使我能够感知各种可能性而不是困难，感受到与我生命根源的结合一体，并常常看到成绩而不是失败。”

As a spiritual practitioner, I strongly resonated with Dr Dyer’s advice –

作为一名灵性实践者，我非常赞同戴尔博士的建议：

‘...practice giving rather than asking for more. Practice being nonjudgmental and offering help where you previously offered criticism. Want what you want for yourself even more for someone else and observe how much better you are at eliminating those old "Me First" thoughts that demanded your attention in the past.’

“践行给予而不是索取。在从前你常常批评之处，努力不再评判而只提供帮助。将你喜欢的施予他人，留心一下，在你驱除了过去那些“我优先”的思维后，自己有了多大进步。

Dr Dyer also explains how alignment works to bring us into

Divine guidance around the battle to overcome the Ego and its attacks on our spiritual processes –

戴尔博士还解释了和谐如何引领我们进入神的引领，从而战胜自我及其对我们灵性成长的攻击：

‘Stay aligned with Source and enjoy exploring an excuse-free life. At this very moment, you can begin to practice alignment. First, notice your thoughts and watch out for any of those habitually misaligned ones. Then just implement a different way of thinking that replaces the old habit. When you shift your thinking to align with an awareness of your essential nature, the energy is actually measurable... when you perceive that a thought is out of alignment, you can correct it. By doing so, you activate Divine guidance because you are now thinking at the same frequency as source energy. Again, in the words of Lao-tzu some twenty-five hundred years ago “Relinquish the notion that you are separated from the all-knowing mind of the universe. Then you can recover your original pure insight and see through all illusions. The breath of the Dao(Divine) speaks and those who are in harmony with it, hear quite clearly.” ...Excuses are all misalignments.’

Dr Wayne Dyer

“坚持与源头保持一致，享受无悔的人生。至此阶段，你可以开始练习和谐。首先，关注你的思维，并注意那些习惯性地偏离和谐的想法。然后，用另一种思维方式来取代旧的习惯。当你改变想法，使之与你的本体意识和谐一致时，就可预见你的能力。当意识到一个念头背离和谐时，你可以纠正它。经由如此的实践，你便激活了神的引导，

因为你现在的思维频率和能量源泉一致。再说一下，用大约二千五百年前老子的话来说，‘放弃使你背离宇宙全知之灵性的念头。然后你就可以恢复原有的纯真洞察力，看穿一切幻像。然后就很清楚地听见道(神)呼出的话语，以及与之和谐的事物。’追悔皆由于失了和谐。”

韦恩·戴尔博士

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

### 关于作者

Darren Brunne is a spiritual teacher and a thought leader in the Swedenborgian movement both within Australia and internationally. His first awakening occurred at 14yrs through the rich Vedic literature of the East. Another awakening occurred at 19yrs through Esoteric Christianity. He has spent the last two decades working in the field of spiritual faith healing and unlocking the inner code of the Bible. Currently, he is working on a spiritual development course titled The Advancing Soul. Darren, his wife Renee and their seven children live in Brisbane, Australia.

达伦·布鲁尼在澳大利亚和国际上，都是一位史威登堡运动的属灵教师 and 思想领袖。他 14 岁时，通过阅读丰富的东方吠陀文献而发生了首次醒悟。而 19 岁时，深刻的基督教使他获得第二次醒悟。在过去的二十多年里，他一直致力于灵性信仰、疗愈和圣经内在密码的开释。目前，他正在从事一门名为“升华灵魂”的灵性发展课程。达伦、他的妻子蕾妮和他们的七个孩子生活在澳大利亚的布里斯班。

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