The Secret Garden

Based on

The Secret Garden

by Frances Hodgson Burnett

Mind Spark Press LLC

SHANGHAI
Now you can read books in Chinese that are fun and help accelerate language learning. Every book in the Mandarin Companion series is carefully written to use characters, words, and grammar that a learner is likely to know.

The Mandarin Companion Leveling System has been meticulously developed through an in-depth analysis of textbooks, education programs and natural Chinese language. Every story is written in a simple style that is fun and easy to understand so you improve with each book.

**Mandarin Companion Level One**

Level 1 is intended for Chinese learners at an upper-elementary level. Most learners will be able to approach this book after one to two years of formal study, depending on the learner and program. This series is designed to combine simplicity of characters with an easy-to-understand storyline that helps beginner grow their vocabulary and language comprehension abilities. The more they read, the better they will become at reading and grasping the Chinese language.

Level 1 is designed around the Mandarin Companion’s core set of 300 basic characters. These basic characters ensure that most of the vocabulary will be simple everyday words that the reader is most likely to know. This series contains approximately 400 unique words; a number low enough to make reading Chinese less intimidating, while also introducing new key words relevant
to the story.

Key words are added gradually over the course of the story. A numbered footnote indicates the first time a new word or character is introduced and the corresponding hyperlink references the glossary with pinyin and an English definition. Each additional instance of a new word is indicated by a hyperlink. All proper nouns have been underlined to help the reader distinguish between names and words.

**What level is right for me?**

If you are able to read this book with a high level of comprehension, then this book is likely at your level. It is ideal to have at most only one unknown word or character for every 40-50 words or characters that are read.

Once you are able to read fluidly and quickly without interruption you are ready for the next level. Even if you are able to understand all of the words in the book, we recommend that readers build fluidity and reading speed before moving to higher levels.

**How will this help my Chinese?**

Reading extensively in a language you are learning is one of the most effective ways to build fluency. However, the key is to read at a high level of comprehension. Reading at the appropriate level in Chinese will increase the speed of character recognition, help acquire vocabulary faster, allow readers to naturally learn grammar, and train the brain to think in Chinese. It also makes learning Chinese more fun and enjoyable. Readers will experience the sense of
accomplishment and confidence that only comes from reading entire books in Chinese.

For more information, please see Extensive Reading and Graded Readers
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Story Adaptation Notes

This story is an adaptation of British author Frances Hodgson Burnett's 1911 classic novel, *The Secret Garden*. This Mandarin Companion graded reader has been adapted into a fully localized Chinese version of the original story. The characters have been given authentic Chinese names as opposed to transliterations of English names, which sound foreign in Chinese. The locations have been adapted to well-known places in China.

The original story begins in India and later moves to Yorkshire, England when Mary Lennox becomes an orphan. In this adaptation, the locations have been adapted to Hainan and Nanjing, China.

Character Adaptations

The following is a list of the characters from *The Secret Garden* in Chinese followed by their corresponding English names from the original novel. The names below are not translations, they are new Chinese names used for the Chinese versions of the original characters. Think of them as all-new characters in a Chinese story.

李叶 (Lǐ Yè) - Mary Lennox

马阿姨 (Mǎ Āyí) - Mrs. Medlock

文先生 (Wén Xiānshēng) - Archibald Craven

文太太 (Wén Tàitai) - Mistress Craven
王乐心 (Wáng Lèxīn) - Martha Sowerby

林爷爷 (Lín Yéye) - Ben Weatherstaff

王乐天 (Wáng Lètiān) - Dickon Sowerby

文思远 (Wén Sīyuǎn) - Colin Craven
海南  Hǎinán  The southernmost province of China, Hainan is a large tropical island off the southern coast of mainland China. Today it is known as a popular tourist destination for its clear water and white sandy beaches.

南京  Nánjīng  A prominent place in Chinese history and culture, Najing has long been one of China's most important cities. Located in east-central China, it is recognized as one of the Four Great Ancient Capitals of China and today is one of China's largest cities and commercial centers.
没有人喜欢的女孩

她叫李叶，是一个不太好看的女孩。

李叶出生在海南。海南在中国的最南边，很远很远。李叶的爸爸经常在外面，很少在家。李叶的妈妈是个很好看的女人，她有很多朋友，每天都和朋友一起玩。李叶的爸爸妈妈都很忙，他们没有时间理他们的女儿。还有，李叶的妈妈好像一点也不喜欢李叶，她觉得李叶一点也不像她。李叶出生以后，她就告诉家里的阿姨：“如果你们想让我开心，就不要让我看到这个孩子。”所以，李叶很少能见到她的爸爸妈妈。
李叶真的跟她的妈妈不一样，她看起来又瘦又小，还经常生病。她总是喜欢生气，生气的时候总是哭。如果李叶的妈妈听到她哭，就会很生气。所有的人都不喜欢这个孩子，他们从来没有见过这样的孩子。为了不让李叶哭，她的阿姨总是很听李叶的话。李叶喜欢什么，她的阿姨就给她什么。李叶觉得在这个家里只有她的阿姨关心她。

李叶还不到十岁的时候，有一天，她早上起来以后看到一个新的阿姨，又生气了，因为她想要以前的阿姨。阿姨告诉李叶：“她不会来了。”李叶更生气了，她让这个新阿姨马上出去，让以前的阿姨马上来。可是很长时间，她的新阿姨没有回来，她以前的阿姨也没来。
那一天和平时不一样，没有人跟她说话，也没有人跟她玩。她很不开心，不知道为什么今天只有她一个人。一定出事了！

后来，她听到妈妈和别人说话，才知道真的出事了。她家里很多人都生病了，不到两天就死了很多人。李叶很难过，因为所有人都不理她。她一个人回到房间里哭了一会儿，然后睡了很久。她起来的时候，还是没有人来看她。
“这儿有个孩子！”后来，几个人发现[20]了又生病又小的李叶，她一个人在房间里。

“孩子，你是谁？为什么在这里？”有个人问她。

“我叫李叶，我睡了很久。为什么我的阿姨不来？”李叶问。

“孩子，他们都死了。”

后来李叶才知道，她的爸爸妈妈和以前的阿姨都死了，别人都走了。没有人想到这个孩子，因为他们不喜欢她，所以没有人关心她。
去南京

李叶的爸爸妈妈死了以后，她在海南没有别的家人了，但是她有一个叔叔在南京。

他的叔叔是一个很有钱的人。知道李叶的事以后，叔叔让家里的阿姨带李叶来南京。

叔叔家的阿姨姓马，是一个又高又瘦的女人。李叶很不喜欢她，也不理她。

马阿姨好像也不喜欢李叶。她觉得孩子应该可爱听话，可是李叶又瘦又小，总是不理别人，她从来没有见过这么不可爱的孩子。

但是马阿姨很喜欢说话，看到李叶不理她，她就问：“你认识你的叔叔吗？”

“不认识。”李叶说。

“你的爸爸妈妈没有跟你说过他吗？”马阿姨又问。

“没有。”想到爸爸妈妈很少跟她说话，李叶更不开心了。
“你知不知道你要去一个很奇怪的地方？”马阿姨问。李叶不说话。马阿姨觉得这个孩子真奇怪，一点也不关心她要去哪儿。

看见李叶不说话，马阿姨又说：“文先生的房子很老，已经六百年了。房子里有一百个房间，房间里面 [26] 的东...
西都很贵。但是很多房间都关着，我们都不可以进去。房子里外面有好几个很大的花园，有很多树。”

李叶觉得叔叔的家很有意思，跟海南很不一样。但是她不想让马阿姨知道她的想法，所以还是不说话。

“你觉得怎么样？”马阿姨问。

“我没有想法。”李叶说。

“你跟文先生一样奇怪。我不知道你为什么要到南京，但是我知道文先生一定不会跟你说话，因为他从来不关心别人。文先生的身体有病，认识他的太太以前，他从来没有开心过。”马阿姨说。

李叶没想到这个奇怪的叔叔有太太，马阿姨觉得李叶很想听，又说：“他的太太是一个很好看的女人，文先生很爱他的太太，她死的时候……”

“什么？她死了？”李叶觉得很奇怪，马上问。

“对。太太死了以后，文先生又像以前一样奇怪了。他在家的时候，总是在房间里，不想见人，只有很少的人可以看到他。你也别想看到他，你只能自己玩。”马阿姨说。
李叶坐在车上，想了很久：叔叔家有很大的花园，花园里有很多树，很多花；还有一百个房间，但是不可以进去；叔叔是一个奇怪的人……她在南京会怎么样，她也不知道。

We hope you enjoyed this sample! Please visit www.MandarinCompanion.com for a full copy of this book and to browse other titles in this series.
1. 玩 (wán)  v. to play
2. 理 (lǐ)  v. to pay attention to
3. 好像 (hǎoxiàng)  v. it seems
4. 阿姨 (āyí)  n. maid, housekeeper
5. 开心 (kāixīn)  adj. happy
6. 看起来 (kànqǐlai)  vc. to look (a certain way)
7. 瘦 (shòu)  adj. thin
8. 生病 (shēngbìng)  v. to get sick
9. 总是 (zǒngshì)  adv. always
10. 生气 (shēngqì)  vo. to get angry
11. 哭 (kū)  v. to cry
12. 为了 (wèile)  conj. for the purpose of, in order to
13. 听话 (tīnhuà)  vo. to obey, lit. "to listen to (someone's) words"
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Pinyin</th>
<th>English Definition</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>14.</td>
<td>关心</td>
<td>guānxīn</td>
<td>v. to be concerned about</td>
</tr>
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<td>15.</td>
<td>平时</td>
<td>píngshí</td>
<td>tn. usual; usually</td>
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<td>16.</td>
<td>一定</td>
<td>yīdìng</td>
<td>adv. definitely</td>
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<td>17.</td>
<td>出事</td>
<td>chūshì</td>
<td>vo. to have an accident</td>
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<td>18.</td>
<td>后来</td>
<td>hòulái</td>
<td>tn. afterwards</td>
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<td>19.</td>
<td>难过</td>
<td>nánguò</td>
<td>adj. to feel upset</td>
</tr>
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<td>20.</td>
<td>发现</td>
<td>fāxiàn</td>
<td>v. to discover</td>
</tr>
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<td>21.</td>
<td>家人</td>
<td>jiārén</td>
<td>n. family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22.</td>
<td>叔叔</td>
<td>shūshu</td>
<td>n. uncle, father's younger brother</td>
</tr>
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<td>23.</td>
<td>带</td>
<td>dài</td>
<td>v. to bring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24.</td>
<td>应该</td>
<td>yīnggāi</td>
<td>aux. should, ought to</td>
</tr>
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<td>25.</td>
<td>奇怪</td>
<td>qíguài</td>
<td>adj. weird, strange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26.</td>
<td>里面</td>
<td>lǐmiàn</td>
<td>n. inside</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27.</td>
<td>有意思</td>
<td>yǒuyìsi</td>
<td>adj. interesting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28.</td>
<td>想法</td>
<td>xiǎngfǎ</td>
<td>n. thinking, idea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29.</td>
<td>草地</td>
<td>cǎodi</td>
<td>n. lawn, grassy area</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
30. 记住 (jìzhu) vc. to remember, to memorize
31. 衣服 (yīfu) n. clothing
32. 健康 (jiànkāng) adj. healthy
33. 一直 (yīzhí) adv. all along
34. 学会 (xuéhuì) vc. to learn
35. 往前 (wǎngqián) phr. forward
36. 样子 (yàngzi) n. appearance
37. 种 (zhòng) v. to plant (a tree or other plant)
38. 不怎么 (bùzěnme) adv. not very
39. 做事 (zuòshì) vo. to do things
40. 墙 (qiáng) n. wall
41. 忘记 (wàngjì) v. to forget
42. 打理 (dǎlǐ) v. to take care of
43. 掉 (diào) v. to fall
44. 声 (shēng) n. noise, sound
45. 紧张 (jǐnzhāng) adj. nervous
46. 记得 (jìde)  v. to remember
47. 试 (shì)  v. to try
48. 打开 (dǎkāi)  vc. to open
49. 方向 (fāngxiàng)  n. direction
50. 不然 (bùrán)  conj. otherwise
51. 树林 (shùlín)  n. forest
52. 小心 (xiǎoxīn)  v. to be careful
53. 亮 (liàng)  adj. bright
54. 钥匙 (yàoshi)  n. key
55. 秘密 (mìmì)  n. secret
56. 关上 (guānshang)  vc. to close
57. 工具 (gōngjù)  n. tool
58. 问题 (wèntí)  n. problem
59. 种子 (zhǒngzi)  n. seed
60. 放心 (fàngxīn)  v. to relax, to be relieved
61. 办法 (bànfǎ)  n. way, method
62. 睡觉 (shuǐjiào)  vo. to sleep
63. 家具 (jiājù)  n. furniture
64. 左右 (zuǒyòu)  adv. about, more or less, lit. "left-right"
65. 常常 (chángcháng)  adv. often
66. 旅行 (lǚxíng)  v. to travel
67. 恨 (hèn)  v. to hate
68. 起床 (qǐchuáng)  vo. to get out of bed
69. 可能 (kěnéng)  adv. possibly, maybe
70. 走路 (zǒulù)  vo. to walk
71. 轮椅 (lúnyǐ)  n. wheelchair
72. 认真 (rènzhēn)  adj. serious, earnest
73. 有用 (yǒuyòng)  adj. useful
Part of Speech Key

adj.  Adjective
adv.  Adverb
aux.  Auxiliary Verb
conj.  Conjunction
mw.  Measure word
n.    Noun
on.   Onomatopoeia
part.  Particle
pn.   Proper noun
tn.   Time Noun
v.    Verb
vc.   Verb plus complement
vo.   Verb plus object
Chapter 1: 没有人喜欢的女孩

1. 李叶是一个什么样的女孩？为什么没有人喜欢李叶？

2. 你知道海南吗？海南是什么样的地方？

3. 李叶的妈妈好像一点也不喜欢李叶。你觉得真的有这样的妈妈吗？

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2. 你喜欢文先生这样的家吗？为什么？

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2. 你觉得王乐心的家和李叶的家有什么不一样？

3. 如果王乐心和李叶经常在一起，你觉得她们会有什么变化（biànhuà）？

4. 你有王乐心这样的朋友吗？说一说他们是什么样的人。

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2. 如果你是李叶，你会用什么办法进秘密花园？

3. 为什么文太太死了以后，文先生关了秘密花园？

Chapter 5: 秘密花园

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2. 如果你是李叶，马阿姨总是生气，你会听她的话吗？

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2. 李叶为什么会告诉王乐天她找到了秘密花园的钥匙？

3. 如果你是李叶，你会告诉王乐天花园的秘密吗？为什么？

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2. 文先生为什么很少去看文思远？

3. 你觉得李叶应该让文思远知道秘密花园的事吗？为什么？

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2. 如果你是李叶，看到文思远那么生气，你会怎么做？

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2. 你觉得秘密花园会让文思远发生什么变化？

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2. 秘密花园让文思远和李叶学会了什么？

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1. 如果你是文思远，看到文先生的时候，你会说什么？

2. 文先生看到现在的秘密花园以后，他的想法有什么变化？
Extensive Reading

After years of studying Chinese, many people ask, “why can’t I become fluent in Chinese?” Fluency can only happen when the language enters our “comfort zone.” This comfort comes after significant exposure to and experience with the language. The more times you meet a word, phrase, or grammar point the more readily it will enter your comfort zone.

In the world of language research, experts agree that learners can acquire new vocabulary through reading only if the overall text can be understood. Decades of research indicate that if we know approximately 98% of the words in a book, we can comfortably “pick up” the 2% that is unfamiliar. Reading at this 98% comprehension level is referred to as “extensive reading.”

Research in extensive reading has shown that it accelerates vocabulary learning and helps the learner to naturally understand grammar. Perhaps most importantly, it trains the brain to automatically recognize familiar language, thereby freeing up mental energy to focus on meaning and ideas. As they build reading speed and fluency, learners will move from reading “word by word” to processing “chunks of language.” A defining feature is that it’s less painful than the “intensive reading” commonly used in textbooks. In fact, extensive reading can be downright fun.

Graded Readers

Graded readers are the best books for learners to “extensively” read. Research
has taught us that learners need to “encounter” a word 10-30 times before truly learning it, and often many more times for particularly complicated or abstract words. Graded readers are appropriate for learners because the language is controlled and simplified, as opposed to the language in native texts, which is inevitably difficult and often demotivating. Reading extensively with graded readers allows learners to bring together all of the language they have studied and absorb how the words naturally work together.

To become fluent, learners must not only understand the meaning of a word, but also understand its nuances, how to use it in conversation, how to pair it with other words, where it fits into natural word order, and how it is used in grammar structures. No textbook could ever be written to teach all of this explicitly. When used properly, a textbook introduces the language and provides the basic meanings, while graded readers consolidate, strengthen, and deepen understanding.

Without graded readers, learners would have to study dictionaries, textbooks, sample dialogs, and simple conversations until they have randomly encountered enough Chinese for it to enter their comfort zones. With proper use of graded readers, learners can tackle this issue and develop greater fluency now, at their current levels, instead of waiting until some period in the distant future. With a stronger foundation and greater confidence at their current levels, learners are encouraged and motivated to continue their Chinese studies to even greater heights. Plus, they’ll quickly learn that reading Chinese is fun!
Credits

Original Author: Frances Hodgson Burnett

Series Editor: John Pasden

Lead Writer: Yang Renjun

Content Editor: Yu Cui

Proofreader: Zhang Pei

Illustrator: Hu Shen

Producer: Jared Turner

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A special thanks to Rob Waring to whom we refer to as the "godfather of extensive reading" for his encouragement, expert advice, and support with this project.

Thank you to Heather Turner for being the inspiration behind the entire series and never wavering in her belief. Thank you to Song Shen for supporting us, handling all the small thankless tasks, and spurring us forward if we dared to fall behind.

Moreover, we will be forever grateful for Yuehua Liu and Chengzhi Chu for pioneering the first graded readers in Chinese and to whom we owe a debt of gratitude for their years of tireless work to bring these type of materials to the Chinese learning community.
About Mandarin Companion

Mandarin Companion was started by Jared Turner and John Pasden who met one fateful day on a bus in Shanghai when the only remaining seat left them sitting next to each other. A year later, Jared had greatly improved his Chinese using extensive reading but was frustrated at the lack of suitable reading materials. He approached John with the prospect of creating their own series. Having worked in Chinese education for nearly a decade, John was intrigued with the idea and thus began the Mandarin Companion series.

John majored in Japanese in college, but started learning Mandarin and later moved to China where his learning accelerated. After developing language proficiency, he was admitted into an all-Chinese masters program in applied linguistics at East China Normal University in Shanghai. Throughout his learning process, John developed an open mind to different learning styles and a tendency to challenge conventional wisdom in the field of teaching Chinese. He has since worked at ChinesePod as academic director and host, and opened his own consultancy, AllSet Learning, in Shanghai to help individuals acquire Chinese language proficiency. He lives in Shanghai with his wife and children.

After graduate school and with no Chinese language skills, Jared decided to move to China with his young family in search of career opportunities. Later while working on an investment project, Jared learned about extensive reading and decided that if it was as effective as it claimed to be, it could help him learn Chinese. In three months, he read 10 Chinese graded readers and his language ability quickly improved from speaking words and phrases to a conversational level. Jared has an MBA from Purdue University and a bachelor in Economics.
from the University of Utah. He lives in Shanghai with his wife and children.
The Monkey’s Paw 《猴爪》

by W.W. Jacobs

Mr. and Mrs. Zhang live with their grown son Guisheng who works at a factory. One day an old friend of Mr. Zhang comes to visit the family after having spent years traveling in the mysterious hills of China’s Yunnan Province. He tells the Zhang family of a monkey’s paw that has magical powers to grant three wishes to the holder. Against his better judgement, he reluctantly gives the monkey paw to the Zhang family, along with a warning that the wishes come with a great price for trying to change one’s fate…

The Sixty-Year Dream 《六十年的梦》

Based on "Rip Van Winkle" by Washington Irving

Zhou Xuefa (Rip Van Winkle) is well loved by everyone in his town, everyone except his nagging wife. With his faithful dog Blackie, Zhou Xuefa spends his time playing with kids, helping neighbors, and discussing politics in the teahouse. One day after a bad scolding from his wife, he goes for a walk into the mountains and meets a mysterious old man who appears to be from an ancient time. The man invites him into his mountain home for a meal
and after drinking some wine, Zhou Xuefa falls into a deep sleep. He awakes to a time very different than what he once knew.

The Country of the Blind 《盲人国》

By H.G. Wells

“In the country of the blind, the one-eyed man is king” repeats in Chen Fangyuan’s mind after he finds himself trapped in a valley holding a community of people for whom a disease eliminated their vision many generations before and no longer have a concept of sight. Chen Fangyuan quickly finds that these people have developed their other senses to compensate for their lack of sight. His insistence that he can see causes the entire community to believe he is crazy. With no way out, Chen Fangyuan begins to accept his fate until one day the village doctors believe they now understand what is the cause of his insanity… those useless round objects in his eye sockets.

Sherlock Holmes and the Curly Haired Company 《卷发公司的案子》

Based on "Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Red-Headed League" by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

Mr. Xie was recently hired by the Curly Haired Company. For a significant weekly allowance, he was required to sit in an office and copy articles from a book, while in the meantime his assistant looked after his shop. He had
answered an advertisement in the paper and although hundreds of people applied, he was the only one selected because of his very curly hair. When the company unexpectedly closes, Mr. Xie visits Gao Ming (Sherlock Holmes) with his strange story. Gao Ming is certain something is not right, but will he solve the mystery in time?

Mandarin companion is producing a growing library of graded readers for Chinese language learners. For the newest releases, visit www.MandarinCompanion.com