



# Unit 4 Lions and Tigers and Bears





## Bill Buford

### Structure

Part One: Warm-up

Part Two: Background Information

Part Three: Text Appreciation

Part Four: Language Study

Part Five: Extension





# Part One Warm-up

## Warm-up questions

- 1. Why do you think the author wrote this passage?
- 2. Why was the story called Lions and Tigers and Bears?
- 3. Why can't ordinary people wander around Central Park at night?
- 4. How does the essay end? Do you find the ending interesting ? What kind of effect did the author want to create by describing the raccoons





# PART TWO BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- Contents

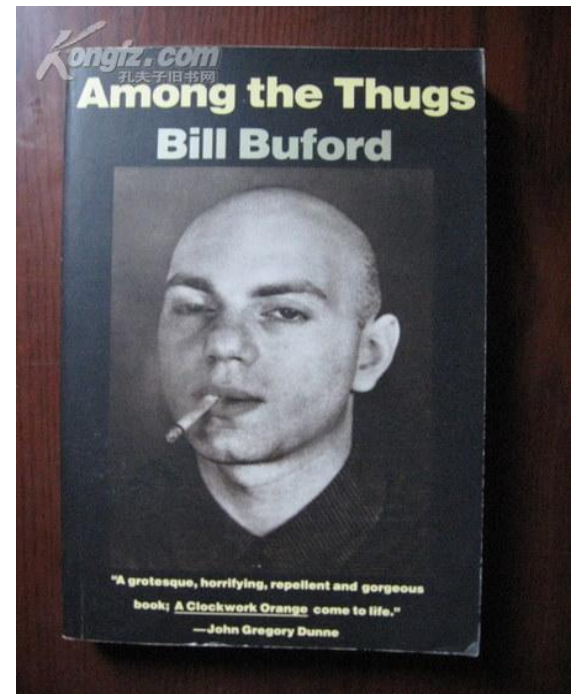
- I. Author

- II. Background Information



# I. Author

Bill Buford(1954--) Bill Buford is a staff writer for *The New Yorker*. He was the fiction editor of *The New Yorker* for eight years, from April 1995 to December 2002. Before that he edited *Granta* magazine for sixteen years. He has edited three anthologies: *The Best of Granta Travel*, *The Best of Granta Reportage*, and *The*





## II. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

### *The Delacorte Theatre*

The open-air theater in Central Park that serves as home to free summertime performances which, during the months of June, July and August, include at least one Shakespeare production. The summertime performance are one of the New York City's most beloved cultural events.



# *Belvedere Castle*



# Shakespeare Garden





# PART THREE TEXT APPRECIATION

- Contents

- I. Text Structure

- II. Theme

- III. Detailed Analysis



## i STRUCTURE

- Part 1 (para.1-2) decision to camp
- Part 2 (para.3-6) his feeling and the fear in the first or two hours
- Part 3 (para.7-12) the Park's history and another scare
- Part4 (para.13-25) his sleep in the wood
- eg. He was on fire with excitement at this marvelous sight.



## ii **THEME**

- ★ There is love and pride one has for the cultural richness and the beauty the Park offers.
- ★ The crime and fear people associate with the Park.



## iii DETAILED ANALYSIS

- 1. ... *and, having stuffed my small rucksack with ...*
- **to stuff sth with sth else:** to fill or overfill a container or space with sth,
- e. g.
- It's cheaper to stuff the pillow with foam than with feathers.
- The cook stuffed the chicken with rice and sausage.
- Compare:
- **to stuff sth into sth else:** to push sth into a space or a container, e. g.
- Don't stuff anything else in, or the bag will burst.
- Just stuff the laundry into the machine and turn on power. It is fully automatic.
- **rucksack:** (*BrE*) a bag used for carrying things on your back (*backpack* in *AmE*)
- For the commonly used variety of bags, see the picture on Page 82 of the *Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English* (1995 edition).





- *2. I arrived one heavy, muggy Friday evening in July to do just that:*
- I arrived one hot and humid Friday evening in July to spend the night in Central Park.
- Both "**heavy**" and "muggy" mean (weather) hot in a humid and unpleasant way, esp. before or after rain or a storm, just like Beijing in July.



- 3. ... and drop off to a peaceful, outdoorsy sleep.
- **to drop off:** (*informal*) to start to sleep, e.g.
- I often drop off while watching TV. The programs are so boring.
- Compare:
- Can you drop me off at a supermarket? I have to buy some groceries.
- Can you drop the folder off at Lao Wang's house on your way home? It's urgent.



- 4. *Of course, anybody who knows anything about New York knows the city's essential platitude—that you don't wander in Central Park at night—and in that, needless to say, was the appeal : it was the thing you don't do.*
- Everybody who knows New York knows that you should not wander in Central Park at night because it is too dangerous. This is known to all and has been said over and over. However, precisely because of the risk, it is natural that people often want to do it.
- **appeal**: the power of attracting or arousing interest



- 5. ... *ever since the Park's founding commissioners, nearly a hundred and fifty years ago* ...
- ***the founding commissioners***: the city officials who were appointed to establish Central Park  
Commissioners are officials in government, esp. those in charge of departments. The founding commissioners of Central Park were the landscape architects Frederick Law Olmsted and Calvert Vaux. The two designed and oversaw the first-phase construction of the Park which began in 1858 and ended in 1878.





- **6. *If you should happen after dark to find yourself in Central Park ...***
- "Should" is used after "if ", "in case" or with subject and verbs inverted to suggest that an event is not likely to happen.
- More examples:
- If you should change your mind, do let me know.
- Should Tom phone, can you tell him I'll phone back later?
- He could persuade her to stay should this be necessary.



- **7. Even now, when every Park official, city administrator, and police officer ...**
- **city administrator:** a person who works for the city's public affairs, for example those on the city council



- **8. Or a purse-snatcher, loon, prostitute, drug dealer, murderer—not to mention bully, garroter, highway robber.**
- This sentence presents a good opportunity for learners to learn terms for different law or regulation offenders.
- **to snatch:** to pull or take sth away quickly, e. g.
- The thief snatched the handbag and ran away.
- I had 10 minutes to snatch some food before the class began.
- **not to mention:** used to add sth that makes the situation even more difficult, interesting, surprising, etc
- More examples:
- The city offers tourists scenic spots, beautiful weather and delicious food, not to mention the famous shopping malls.
- Dave has to look after his ninety-five-year-old mother, not to mention his five kids.



# PART FOUR LANGUAGE STUDY

oContents

oI. Glossary

oII. Useful Phrases and Expressions





# I. GLOSSARY

- 1. rip
- 2. jerk
- 3. embolden
- 4. element
- 5. sense



## ○ rip

- rip sth off 撕掉某物; 偷窃某物
- rip sb off 敲诈某人
- Rip out ... ...1) 拽出、扯出、狠狠地发出
- Rip from ... ...1) 从...撕下
- She ripped the page from the magazine.
- Rip a letter open=rip open a letter拆信
- Rip into... ... 1) 把...撕成...
- The magician ripped the cloth into small pieces.
- Shall I sew up the rip in your shirt?
- (要不要我把你衬衫上的口子缝好)



# jerk

V

to move or to make sth move with a sudden short sharp movement 急拉，猛推，猝然一动

N

1 a sudden quick sharp movement 急拉；猛推；猝然一动

2 a stupid person who often says or does the wrong thing 蠢人；傻瓜；笨蛋



- **embolden**

- V
- 1 to make sb feel braver or more confident  
使增加勇气；使更有胆量；使更有信心
- 2 将（文字）变成粗体



## ○ element

- a necessary or characteristic part of something 要素；基本部分；典型部分
- a suggestion or trace of something 建议；踪迹
- any of the substances which cannot be spilt by ordinary chemical method 元素
- (usually plural) basic principles of a subject or a part that can be learned first 基本原理
- in one's element 得心应手
- out of one's element 处于不适应环境；不得其所





## **sense**

Bring someone to their senses

Come to one's senses

In a (one) sense

In one's senses

Make sense(of)

Out of one's senses

A sense of direction

Take leave of one's senses

Her dress sense is appalling.

她穿衣打扮的品味实在糟透了！

May her death bring these people to their senses.

但愿她的死能让这些人醒悟！

Suddenly you got this sense that people were drawing themselves away from each other.

突然间你就有这样一种感觉：人们正在彼此疏远。



# EXPRESSIONS

- stay away from sth
- do yoga
- camp out
- snatch a purse

- whip round
- set out for a place
- escape punishment
- keep one's head down



# PART FIVE EXTENSION

oContents

Translation





## TRANSLATION

Occasionally, life can be undeniably, impossibly difficult. We are faced with challenges and events that can seem overwhelming, life-destroying to the point where it may be hard to decide whether to keep going. But you always have a choice. Jessica Heslop shares her powerful, inspiring journey from the worst of life to the new life she created for herself:



**THANK YOU !**

