

## *The Open Window*

1        “My aunt will be down presently, Mr. Nuttel,” said a very self-  
possessed young lady of fifteen; “in the meantime you must try  
and put up with me.”

2        Framton Nuttel endeavoured to say the correct something  
which should duly flatter the niece of the moment without unduly  
discounting the aunt that was to come. Privately he doubted more  
than ever whether these formal visits on a succession of total  
strangers would do much towards helping the nerve cure which he  
was supposed to be undergoing.

3        “I know how it will be,” his sister had said when he was  
preparing to migrate to this rural retreat; “you will bury yourself  
down there and not speak to a living soul, and your nerves will  
be worse than ever from moping. I shall just give you letters of  
introduction to all the people I know there. Some of them, as far as  
I can remember, were quite nice.”

4        Framton wondered whether Mrs. Sappleton, the lady to whom  
he was presenting one of the letters of introduction, came into the  
nice division.

5        “Do you know many of the people round here?” asked  
the niece, when she judged that they had had sufficient silent  
communion.

6        “Hardly a soul,” said Framton. “My sister was staying here, at  
the rectory, you know, some four years ago, and she gave me letters  
of introduction to some of the people here.”

7        He made the last statement in a tone of distinct regret.

8        “Then you know practically nothing about my aunt?” pursued  
the self-possessed young lady.

9 “Only her name and address,” admitted the caller. He was wondering whether Mrs. Sappleton was in the married or widowed state. An undefinable something about the room seemed to suggest masculine habitation.

10 “Her great tragedy happened just three years ago,” said the child; “that would be since your sister’s time.”

11 “Her tragedy?” asked Framton; somehow in this restful country spot tragedies seemed out of place.

12 “You may wonder why we keep that window wide open on an October afternoon,” said the niece, indicating a large French window that opened on to a lawn.

13 “It is quite warm for the time of the year,” said Framton; “but has that window got anything to do with the tragedy?”

14 “Out through that window, three years ago to a day, her husband and her two young brothers went off for their day’s shooting. They never came back. In crossing the moor to their favourite snipe-shooting ground they were all three engulfed in a treacherous piece of bog. It had been that dreadful wet summer, you know, and places that were safe in other years gave way suddenly without warning. Their bodies were never recovered. That was the dreadful part of it.” Here the child’s voice lost its self-possessed note and became falteringly human.

15 “Poor aunt always thinks that they will come back some day, they and the little brown spaniel that was lost with them, and walk in at that window just as they used to do. That is why the window is kept open every evening till it is quite dusk. Poor dear aunt, she has often told me how they went out, her husband with his white waterproof coat over his arm, and Ronnie, her youngest brother, singing ‘Bertie, why do you bound?’ as he always did to tease her, because she said it got on her nerves. Do you know, sometimes on still, quiet evenings like this, I almost get a creepy feeling that they

will all walk in through that window —”

16 She broke off with a little shudder. It was a relief to Framton when the aunt bustled into the room with a whirl of apologies for being late in making her appearance.

17 “I hope Vera has been amusing you?” she said.

18 “She has been very interesting,” said Framton.

19 “I hope you don’t mind the open window,” said Mrs. Sappleton briskly; “my husband and brothers will be home directly from shooting, and they always come in this way. They’ve been out for snipe in the marshes today, so they’ll make a fine mess over my poor carpets. So like you men-folk, isn’t it?”

20 She rattled on cheerfully about the shooting and the scarcity of birds, and the prospects for duck in the winter. To Framton it was all purely horrible. He made a desperate but only partially successful effort to turn the talk on to a less ghastly topic; he was conscious that his hostess was giving him only a fragment of her attention, and her eyes were constantly straying past him to the open window and the lawn beyond. It was certainly an unfortunate coincidence that he should have paid his visit on this tragic anniversary.

21 “The doctors agree in ordering me complete rest, an absence of mental excitement, and avoidance of anything in the nature of violent physical exercise,” announced Framton, who laboured under the tolerably widespread delusion that total strangers and chance acquaintances are hungry for the least detail of one’s ailments and infirmities, their cause and cure. “On the matter of diet they are not so much in agreement,” he continued.

22 “No?” said Mrs. Sappleton, in a voice which only replaced a yawn at the last moment. Then she suddenly brightened into alert attention — but not to what Framton was saying.

23 “Here they are at last!” she cried. “Just in time for tea, and don’t

they look as if they were muddy up to the eyes!”

24 Framton shivered slightly and turned towards the niece with a look intended to convey sympathetic comprehension. The child was staring out through the open window with dazed horror in her eyes. In a chill shock of nameless fear Framton swung round in his seat and looked in the same direction.

25 In the deepening twilight three figures were walking across the lawn towards the window; they all carried guns under their arms, and one of them was additionally burdened with a white coat hung over his shoulders. A tired brown spaniel kept close at their heels. Noiselessly they neared the house, and then a hoarse young voice chanted out of the dusk: “I said, Bertie, why do you bound?”

26 Framton grabbed wildly at his stick and hat; the hall-door, the gravel-drive, and the front gate were dimly-noted stages in his headlong retreat. A cyclist coming along the road had to run into the hedge to avoid an imminent collision.

27 “Here we are, my dear,” said the bearer of the white mackintosh, coming in through the window; “fairly muddy, but most of it’s dry. Who was that who bolted out as we came up?”

28 “A most extraordinary man, a Mr. Nuttel,” said Mrs. Sappleton; “could only talk about his illnesses, and dashed off without a word of good-bye or apology when you arrived. One would think he had seen a ghost.”

29 “I expect it was the spaniel,” said the niece calmly; “he told me he had a horror of dogs. He was once hunted into a cemetery somewhere on the banks of the Ganges by a pack of pariah dogs, and had to spend the night in a newly dug grave with the creatures snarling and grinning and foaming just above him. Enough to make anyone lose their nerve.”

30 Romance at short notice was her speciality.

## The Open Window 分析と解説

1

[“[My aunt<sup>1</sup> will be down (presently), Mr. Nuttel,]”] said [a very  
 O1 s' v' c' adv' V  
 self-possessed young lady (of fifteen)]; [“(in the meantime) you must  
 S adj O2 adv' s'  
try and put up with me.”]  
 v'1 v'2 o'

・self-possessed (*adj*) 冷静な ・meantime (*n*) 合間 ・put up with [句動 ⅳ] 我慢する

### 解説

*l.1*: down は副詞が補語として(形容詞的に)働いている用法。

*l.3*: try and put up with me の and は come and see me 「私に会いに来て」などと同様の用法で、to と置き換えられます。直訳では「私に我慢してみてください」→「私におつきあいください」

### 試訳

「伯母はじきに降りてまいります、ナトル様」とても落ち着いた、15歳の若い女性が言った。「それまでの間、わたくしにおつきあいくださいね」

2

[Framton Nuttel]<sup>1</sup> endeavoured [to say [the correct something]<sup>1</sup> [which  
 S V adv /v' o' ^adj' s'  
 should (duly) flatter [the niece (of the moment)]<sup>1</sup> [without (unduly)  
 adv" v" o" adj" adv" adv"  
discounting the aunt [ that was [to come]]<sup>1</sup>]]. (Privately) he doubted  
 /v"" o"" ^adj"" s"" v"" c"" adv S V  
 (more than ever)]whether [these formal visits (on a succession (of  
 adv O s' adj' adj'  
 total strangers)]<sup>1</sup> would do (much) [towards helping [the nerve cure]<sup>1</sup>  
 v' adv' adv' /v"" o' ^

[ which he was supposed [to be undergoing] ]].  
 adj'' o''' s''' v''' c''' /v'''

- ・endeavour (vi) 努力する、試みる ・duly (adv) 適切に ・flatter (vt) お世辞を言う
- ・unduly (adv) 過度に、不当に ・discount (vt) 割引く、軽視する ・succession (n) 連続

**解説**

l.3: that was to come の was to は予定「～することになっている」の意。be to は助動詞的に働き、予定・義務・可能などの意を表します。

l.4: more than ever は熟語で、「ますます、これまで以上に」の意。

l.4: whether these formal visits on a succession of total strangers would do much... は SVO 型の文の目的語 O に当たる名詞節で、these formal visits が節の主語、would do が述語です。will do は熟語的に「役に立つ」といった意味。節の主語を修飾する on a succession of total strangers は直訳すれば「まったく見知らぬ人々の連なりへの」→「まったく見知らぬ人々へのつづげさまの(儀礼的な訪問)」

**試訳**

フラムトン・ナトルは、これから来る予定の伯母をあまりにも軽んじることなしに、いま向かい合っている姪のご機嫌を十分とれるような、なにかその場にふさわしいことをつとめて言おうとした。いっぽう内心では、これらの、まったく見知らぬ人々へのつづげさまの儀礼的な訪問が、彼が受けているはずの神経の治療のために、はたして大いに役立つかどうか、これまで以上に疑っていた。

3

[“I know [how it will be],”] [his sister<sup>1</sup> had said [when he was preparing [to migrate (to this rural retreat)]]; [“you will bury yourself

(down) (there) and not speak (to a living soul), and [your nerves<sup>1</sup>

will be worse (than ever) (from moping).] I shall (just) give you [letters

(of introduction) (to all the people [ I know (there) ])]<sup>1</sup>. [Some (of adj adj adj s' v' adv' S adj

them)]<sup>1</sup>, [as far as I can remember], were (quite) nice.”  
 adv s' v' V adv C

- ・migrate (vt) 移住する ・retreat (n) 静養地 ・moping (n) ふさぎこもこと

**解説**

l.1: 回想シーンです。述語が過去完了形なのを見逃さないこと。

l.3: a living soul は「生きている魂」で、人間のこと。not a living soul という形で nobody を言い換える慣用表現もあります。

l.4: than ever は比較級構文における熟語的表現。than ever before とも。「今までよりも、ますます、かつてないほど」といった意味。

l.6: as far as は制限の副詞節を導く従属接続詞「～の限り(では)」。

**試訳**

「どんなことになるか私には分かってるわ」彼がこの田舎の静養地へ引っ越す準備をしていた時、彼の姉は言ったものだ。「あなたはそこですっかり引きこもってしまって、誰とも話をしなくなる。そしてふさぎこんでしまって、神経の具合も今までより悪くなるに違いないんだわ。今すぐあなたに、私があそこで知っている人全員にあてた紹介状を書いてあげる。そのうち何人かは、思い出せる限りではとてもいい人だったわよ」

4

Framton wondered [whether [Mrs. Sappleton<sup>1</sup>, (the lady [(to whom)

he was presenting [one (of the letters (of introduction) )]]], came

(into the nice division).  
 adv

**解説**

l.3: the nice division の division は辞書には「分割、部分、相違」などとあり解釈しづらい部分です。手がかりは定冠詞 the で、the

は既出の、特定された事物に冠せられるのが決まりです。そこで以前の文を見ると、先の段落で姉が “Some of them, as far as I can remember, were quite nice.” と言っています。つまり the nice division とは、姉の知人のうちの「いい方の部類の人々」を指していることが分かります。

**試訳**

フラムトンは、彼が紹介状を手渡そうとしている相手のご婦人、サプルトン夫人が、そのいい人たちの部類に属しているだろうかと思った。

## 5

[“Do you know 「many (of the people (round here))<sup>1</sup> ?”] asked the  
O s' v' o' adj' adj' V  
niece, [when she judged [that they had had 「sufficient silent  
S adv s' v' o' s" v" o'  
communion<sup>1</sup>]].

・sufficient (adj) 十分な ・communion (n) 交流、親交

**解説**

l.2: they had had sufficient silent communion. の直訳は「かれらがもう十分に静かな交流をもってしまった」

**試訳**

「あなたはこのあたりの人たちをたくさんご存知でいらして？」だんまりにおつきあいするのもそろそろ十分な頃合いだと判断して、姪は訊ねてきた。

## 6

[“(Hardly) a soul,”] said Framton. “My sister was staying (here),  
O adv' o' V S S1 V adv  
(at the rectory), [you know], (some four years ago), and she gave me  
adv int s' v' adv S2 V iO  
「letters (of introduction) (to some of the people (here))<sup>1</sup>.”  
dO adj adj adj

・hardly (adv) ほとんど〜ない ・rectory (n) 牧師館 ・you know [間投詞] ご存じの通り ほう

**解説**

l.1: Hardly a soul. は前段落の問いへの応答で、I hardly know a soul. の略。soul は段落3と同様の用法です。

l.2: some four years ago の some は「およそ、大体」の意。

l.3: 文末の here は副詞の形容詞的用法。直前の people を修飾します。

**試訳**

「ほとんど一人も知りません」フラムトンは言った。「私の姉が当地に滞在していたのです、ほう、あの牧師館に、だいたい四年ほど前のことですが。それで、私にこちらの幾人かの方々への紹介状を持たせてくれたというわけです」

## 7

He made 「the last statement<sup>1</sup> (in a tone (of distinct regret)).  
S V O adv adj

・statement (n) 声明、発言 ・distinct (adj) 明確な

**試訳**

彼はその最後の言葉を、明らかに残念そうな口調で言った。

## 8

“(Then) you know (practically) 「nothing (about my aunt)<sup>1</sup> ?”  
adv S V adv O adj  
pursued 「the self-possessed young lady<sup>1</sup>.  
V S

**解説**

せりふと地の文からなる直接話法の文では、せりふ(被伝達部)を地の文(伝達部)の目的語として捉えますが、この文ではそれが困難です。述語 pursue には「～を追求する、従事する」という他動詞用法もありますが、その場合、目的語となるのは追求される対象であり、この文のようなせりふ部分ではないからです。従ってこの文の述語 pursue は自動詞「続ける」で、せりふ部分は目的語で