

親に向かってそういうものの言い方はしないものだ。

You shouldn't use such language to your parents.

借りた金はちゃんと返すものだ。

You should return money you borrow.

わからないもんですねえ、あんが元気だった人が急に逝ってしまうんですから。

One never knows, does one. Someone that healthy suddenly dies like that.

うれしいもんですよ、孫から電話をもらうっていうのは。

It's so nice, you know, to get a phone call from one's grandchildren.

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分からなかったら黙っていないでちゃんと質問するんだぞ。

If you don't understand, you mustn't keep quiet; you must ask.

ホームステイをさせていただく時はご迷惑にならないようにするんですよ。

When they do you the favour of taking you for a homestay, you mustn't be a nuisance.

Lesson 19 Being even-handed

2

身勝手な夫に離婚されようとしている経済力のない妻に人々の同情が集まった。

The wife, who had no economic support of her own and who was about to be divorced by her selfish husband, attracted a lot of sympathy.

村八分にされようとしている男の言い分に耳を傾ける者は一人もいなかった。

Absolutely no one listened to the case of the man who was about to be ostracized by the whole village.

同僚の間で自分がつんぼさじきに置かれているだけではなくて解雇されようとしていることに気付いて彼は愕然とした。

When he realised that not only was he being left in the dark by his colleagues but he was also about to be sacked, he was stunned.

3

核実験反対の署名を求める若い学生の声に、通り掛かりの人々は無関心そうな視線をチラリと向けただけだった。

The people passing by just cast uninterested glances at the young students who were soliciting signatures [for a petition] against nuclear tests.

車がパンクして困っていたら、通りがかったバイクのお兄さんがとても親切にタイヤを換えるのを手伝ってくれた。

When I got into difficulties with a puncture, a biker who happened to be passing by very kindly helped me change my tyre.

3.1

彼女が象に殺されかかったっていう話、本当でしょうかね。

Is it really true that she was nearly gored by an elephant?

そんなくさりかかった魚を食べたらおなかをこわしますよ。

You will get a stomach ache if you eat that fish that's just about to go off.

その大工さんはこわれかかった工具箱を大事そうにかかえてやって来た。

The carpenter came carrying with great care a tool box that was on the verge of falling apart.

山道にさしかかったところで夕立ちにあつてずぶぬれになった。

Just as we hit the mountain path, there was a sudden shower and we got soaked.

3.2

災難は思わぬ時に降りかかるものですね。

Disasters strike one without warning, don't they!

ほら、網にたくさん魚がひっかかっているよ。

Look! There's a lot of fish caught in the net.

すいません。ラッシュにひっかかってしまったもので遅れてしまいました。

I'm sorry. I'm late because I got stuck in the rush hour.

彼の話にはどうもひっかかるところがあるんですよ。

There's something not quite right about his story, you know.

3.3

あそこの壁によりかかっているのが弟です。

The one leaning against the wall over there is my younger brother.

そんなに何から何まであなたにもたれかかられたら私の方がたまらないわ。

I'm fed to the teeth with the way you rely on me for absolutely everything.

3.4

さあ、おしゃべりはこのくらいにして仕事にとりかかりましょう。

All right, let's cut the cackle and get down to work.

その犬は入ってきた郵便配達のおじさんにいきなり飛びかかってかみついた。

The dog suddenly jumped up at the postman who had just come in, and bit him.

5

孫が私をばかにしていることには、おばあさんの考えなんて時代遅れで全然役に立たないっていうんですから、私はもうあの世代の子供達とは話をする気がなくなりました。

My grandson made a fool of me and said that Grandma's ideas were out of date and totally useless, so I lost interest in talking to children of that age any more.

主人が私をあてにしていうことには、三十万ぐらいいつでも何とかなるだろうっていうんですから、開いた口がふさがりません。

My husband really counts on me: it shouldn't be too difficult to come up with 300,000 yen, he said.

My mouth fell open.

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弟が行けば兄も行くはずだ。

If my younger brother goes, I'd expect my elder one to go as well.

弟が行けば兄も行ったと思う。

I think if my younger brother had gone, my elder one would have gone too.

ここで待っていれば彼を見逃すことはないと思うわよ。

If you wait here, I'm sure you won't miss him.

ここで待っていれば彼を見逃すことはなかったのに。

If only I had waited here, I would not have missed him.

前もって分かればちゃんと用意をしておきます。

If I know about it ahead of time, I'll get it all ready.

前もって分かればもう少しきちんと用意出来ただけだな。

If I had only known about it in advance, I would have been able to have prepared for it properly.

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彼はなまじ勉強したために変な劣等感をもつようになってしまったみたいですね。

It would seem that actually he ended up with a strange inferiority complex because he had studied.

こんな仕事をなまじっか始めたのが間違いだった。

Actually, it would have been better not to have started this job.

なまじ知らない方が楽なこともありますね。

Actually, it's sometimes easier to remain ignorant.

なまじ親からの遺産などなければあの人も身を持ちこずさなかったんじゃないでしょうか。

Actually, if he hadn't inherited something from his parents, he wouldn't have gone to the dogs.

14.1

十月になって学生がもどってくると、ケンブリッジの街の雰囲気は一変する。

When the students come back in October, the atmosphere in Cambridge changes completely.

14.2

昼間は割に暖かかったが、夕方から気温がぐっと下がって雪が降りだした。

During the day it was fairly warm, but in the evening the temperature plummeted and snow began to fall.

子供が泣き叫んで困った。

I was troubled by the child's screams.

14.3

駅の喫茶店で時間をつぶしている間、父はコーヒーを飲んで母は紅茶を飲んだ。

While filling in time at the station coffee shop, Father drank coffee while Mother drank tea.

子供のころはいつも一緒に遊ぶ仲のよい兄弟だったが、兄が医学の道に進んで、私が小説を書き出しからは会って話をする事もほとんどなくなってしまった。

When we were young we always played together and got on well, but then my elder brother took up medicine and I started writing novels, and since then we've hardly ever managed to get together and talk.

15

政府の高官であるだけにそういう行動は慎んで当然なんじゃありませんか。

He is a high government official so isn't it only to be expected that such activities should be circumscribed?

その批判が的をついているだけに受ける側としては痛いんですよ。

It really hurts to be on the receiving end of such criticism, precisely because it hits the mark.

能力もあるし一生懸命勉強もしていただけに、試験に落ちた時のショックは並大抵のものではなかったんだと思う。

Precisely because he was clever and worked really hard, failing in the exam must have come as a real shock, I shouldn't wonder.

Lesson 20 Who's who?

I

It happened rarely, but one evening I was at home drinking beer upstairs together with Kamei Yūjirō the musician and Sonoda Shūkichi the artist, with the wife serving, when we heard a child's voice downstairs calling for someone. The wife went down and then called me from the stairs. 'It's that woman. She's asking for you.' Apparently she had come as far as the front of the grocer's on the corner and had sent the child over with a message to summon me, she said looking hard and unyielding, her face white with heavy make-up. But, I thought to myself, hadn't it been she herself who, at some stage or other, had seen the woman's photograph and had knowingly suggested I might amuse myself with a little fling. But I couldn't be bothered to say anything, so just shouted down: 'Who the hell cares? I don't care who she's waiting for; if she wants to wait, let her wait!' 'But she's totally shameless. First she sends letter upon letter and now she comes to call you out!' 'Anything wrong?' asked the musician with a serious look on his face, at which my wife plonked herself down and in a bitter tone told them all about the woman

From Uno Chiyo, *Irozange*.
