

Revenge Will Soothe My Sorrow

"Well, Mr. Winter, here's the result of the police investigation. The final report says that the other people's fault hasn't been proved. Everything was merely an unlucky coincidence. As a consequence of this finding, your case has been put over," said the police inspector.

The inspector's strict statement kept running around in Henry's head and it didn't leave him in peace even at night. Every particle of his being fought against accepting the fact that his life had simply been destroyed by a misfortune. 'I'll never come to terms with the conclusion of the police investigation. I can't just live with it. Coincidence. How gently this word sounds. As if it concerned something common, something absolutely unimportant. Purely by chance my wife and my unborn son have died. Only by coincidence my life has got one and only one point all of a sudden. To prepare the same coincidence for someone who's responsible for their death,' he thought excitedly.

Suddenly painful memories started whirling around in his head. He recalled the moment when Hannah had told him she was expecting a baby. It had been just a few weeks before finishing their house. Both of them were looking forward to moving into a new home and enjoying the country peace and contentment. "You'll only be lazing in the shade of the sweet-smelling lime tree in the garden and observing our baby growing slowly inside you," Henry told his wife with a smile on his face. What a sweet image it was! They were both in love so much and looked at life through rose-tinted spectacles. The memories of the flitting itself and the first days spent in their new home were rather indistinct in Henry's mind. He didn't remember exactly what had been going on a few days before the unlucky coincidence. There were just slivers of memories left in his tortured mind. There was Hannah dust stained and boxes full of baby clothes in the nursery. The scent of Hannah's shampoo wafting in the bathroom towards the evening. The heat which emanated from the red-hot fireplace.

'The fireplace, yes, it was the cause of our first row,' remembered Henry. Hannah wanted an open hearth. "I'd like to feel the flames at close range," she said. But he wanted the flames harnessed behind glass. He tried to persuade her that it would be much cleaner and safer and romantic enough, but in vain. She stuck to her opinion and so in the end he gave way to her wish. He'd never been able to put up resistance to her very long. He loved her so much. She was his complete world. He'd always done everything as she wanted and for the sake of her beautiful smile. Therefore he decided to oblige her again. He managed to find a reliable firm and had the fireplace installed, exactly according to her desire. When they moved into the new house, the fireplace had already been on its place. Hannah was entirely enchanted by the magic of the flames and she made a fire every evening. Then she was always falling asleep contentedly buried in pillows nearby the fire while Henry was sitting in an armchair watching over her happy sleep.

One evening, however, Henry had to stay in his office longer than usual. He took part in an important meeting and couldn't arrange to be free. Although he longed for being with his wife as soon as possible, he stayed with his business partners in a restaurant well after midnight.

When he was coming then to his house late at night, he felt strangely uneasy. His anxiety even increased when he was driving past a fire engine on a narrow road not far from their house. He was completely knocked out by his foreboding. 'Heaven forbid that something bad has happened to Hannah. For Heaven's sake, I hope it won't be anything serious,' he begged in spirit. Suddenly he caught

Pomsta utiší můj žal

„Tak tedy, pane Wintre, poslechněte si výsledek policejního vyšetřování. Závěrečná zpráva říká, že cizí zavinění nebylo prokázáno. Všechno byla pouze nešťastná náhoda. V důsledku tohoto zjištění byl váš případ odložen,“ řekl policejní inspektor.

Inspektorovo strohé prohlášení neustále znělo Jindřichovi v hlavě a nedoprálo mu klid ani v noci. Celou svou bytostí se bránil přijmout skutečnost, že jeho život jednoduše zničila nešťastná náhoda. Nikdy se nevyrovnám se závěrem policejního šetření. Prostě se s ním nemůžu smířit. Náhoda. Jak lehce to slovo zní. Jakoby šlo o něco obyčejného, něco naprosto bezvýznamného. Čirou náhodou zemřeli moje žena a můj nenarozený syn. Jenom náhodou můj život zčistajasna dostal jeden jediný smysl. Přichystat stejnou náhodu pro toho, kdo je zodpovědný za jejich smrt, uvažoval vzrušeně.

Náhle mu hlavou začaly vířit bolestné vzpomínky. Vybavil si chvíli, kdy mu Hana oznámila, že čeká dítě. Bylo to zrovna několik týdnů před dokončením jejich domu. Oba se těšili, až se přestěhují do nového domova a budou si užívat klidu a pohody venkova. „Budeš jenom lenořit ve stínu voňavé lípy na zahradě a sledovat, jak v tobě pomalu roste naše dítě,“ říkal Jindřich manželce s úsměvem na rtech. Jaká to byla sladká představa! Byli oba tak zamilovaní a dávali se na svět růžovými brýlemi. Vzpomínky na samotné stěhování a první dny strávené v jejich novém domově byly v Jindřichově mysli poněkud matné. Nepamatoval si přesně, co se dělo několik dnů před nešťastnou náhodou. V jeho utýrané mysli zbyly jen střípky vzpomínek. Byla tam Hana ušpiněná od prachu a krabice plné dětského oblečení v dětském pokoji. Vůně Hanina šampónu, která se k večeru linula v koupelně. Teplo, které vyzařovalo z rozpáleného krbu.

„Ten krb, ano, ten byl příčinou naší první hádky,“ vzpomínal Jindřich. Hana chtěla otevřené ohniště. „Chtěla bych cítit plameny zblízka,“ říkala. Ale on chtěl plameny spoutané za sklem. Snažil se ji přesvědčit, že by to bylo mnohem čistší a bezpečnější a dost romantické, ale marně. Trvala na svém, a tak nakonec podlehl jejímu přání. Nikdy jí nedokázal dlouho odporovat. Tak moc ji miloval. Byla pro něho vším. Vždycky dělal všechno, jak chtěla a pro její krásný úsměv. Proto se rozhodl jí znovu vyhovět. Podařilo se mu najít spolehlivou firmu a dal nainstalovat krb přesně podle jejího přání. Když se nastěhovali do nového domu, krb už byl na svém místě. Hana byla naprosto očiřovaná kouzlem plamenů a rozdělávala oheň každý večer. Potom vždy spokojeně usínala zabořená do polštářů blízko ohně, zatímco Jindřich seděl v křesle a hlídal její spokojený spánek.

Jednou večer však musel Jindřich zůstat v kanceláři déle než obvykle. Účastnil se jedné důležité schůzky a nemohl se uvolnit. Přestože toužil být se svou ženou co nejdříve, zůstal se svými obchodními partnery v restauraci dlouho přes půlnoc.

Když potom přijížděl pozdě v noci ke svému domu, cítil se podivně neklidný. Jeho úzkost ještě vzrostla, když míjel na úzké cestě nedaleko jejich domu hasičský vůz. Neblahé tušení mu úplně vzalo dech. „Bože chraň, aby se Haně stalo něco zlého. Pro všechno na světě, ať to není nic vážného,“ prosil v duchu úpěnlivě. Najednou ucítil závan kouře. Sálh nervózně po mobilním

a whiff of smoke. He grabbed for his mobile phone nervously but then he put it down again. It was flat. Actually, he'd found it out a few hours ago when he'd been sitting in the restaurant. He'd wanted to call Hannah that he would stay there a little longer. Henry stepped on the accelerator restlessly. Then all of a sudden the whole tragic scene turned up in front of him. A commotion outside their house, charred windows and doors, the policemen, flashing beacons and a black hearse. Two men had just walked out of the house. Henry made out what they were carrying. He leant against his car and vomited out his luxury dinner. 'No, this can't be true. The coffin they are carrying,' he thought with horror and started running towards the hearse. One of the policemen blocked his way. Henry kept staring dumbly at the coffin which the men were putting into the hearse. As if from a distance and only with difficulty he perceived the words which someone was saying to him. "I'm very sorry about it but your wife is dead. The fire destroyed the whole ground floor and it spread up to the bedroom. She didn't have chance to escape. Most likely she fainted and had died before the flames reached her. There's a strong possibility that the fire spread from the open fireplace."

During the next few weeks Henry was bereft of speech. He didn't feel like talking to anybody. When he'd got over it a little finally, his first idea was to go to the police headquarters. He wanted to have the disaster investigated soundly so that the culprit who'd caused the death of his love would be punished.

Now that he'd known the police verdict, Henry kept repeating it from morning till night. 'Coincidence, it was only an unlucky coincidence,' the inspector's words sounded in his head. In spirit he started to visualize the whole unhappy event as it had probably happened. 'Hannah went to sleep and she let the fire go out. Some embers jumped out of the hearth and fell on the pillows around the fireplace. The varnished wooden floor started burning very quickly. No coincidence. The firm that installed the fireplace is to blame for it. The police are not going to do anything, so it's I who must obtain justice,' decided Henry. He rose immediately and went to the safe. He took his gun for which he had a licence out of it. He'd got himself the gun shortly before their moving into their new house so that he could protect Hannah.

When Henry arrived at the firm, he felt as if he were dreaming. He was unflappable when he entered the shop. "My name's Winter, Henry Winter," he said to a shop assistant. "Can I speak to your boss?" he asked. The shop assistant recognized their customer and he obliged him. In a few minutes the manager came in the shop. "Oh, it's you," he told Henry. Almost at once he recollected the customer to whom they'd installed an expensive family hearth a few weeks ago. He remembered he'd recommended a different model with a fireplace inset to that client but he'd wished the open hearth. He'd warned him that it could be rather dangerous. Before the manager could ask any question, Henry had aimed his gun and without saying a word he shot at him. The man sank to the floor. The shop assistant stayed standing and quite shocked he was staring at the shootist who'd just liquidated his boss without any explanation. He'd hardly opened his mouth to protest when Henry pointed the gun at him too. A second shot rang out. The shot was spot on again.

Henry put down his gun. He stayed alone in the shop. 'Someone must have heard the gunshots. The police are going to arrive any minute,' he thought. Then he didn't think of anything any more. He felt tired so much.

telefonu, ale pak ho zase položil. Byl vybitý. Zjistil to vlastně už před pár hodinami, když seděl v restauraci. Chtěl zavolat Haně, že se zdrží trochu déle. Jindřich neklidně sešlápl plyn. Pak se náhle před ním objevil celý tragický výjev. Rozruch před jejich domem, ohořelá okna a dveře, policisté, blikající majáčky a černý pohřební vůz. Dva muži právě vyšli z domu. Jindřich poznal, co nesou. Opřel se o své auto a vyzvracel svou luxusní večeři. „Ne, to nemůže být pravda. Ta rakev, kterou nesou,“ pomyslel si s hrůzou a rozběhl se k pohřebnímu vozu. Jeden z policistů mu zastoupil cestu. Jindřich stále němě zíral na rakev, kterou muži kladli do pohřebního vozu. Jakoby z dálky a jen obtížně vnímal slova, která mu kdosi říkal. „Je mi to moc líto, ale vaše žena je mrtvá. Oheň zničil celé přízemí a rozšířil se až do ložnice. Neměla šanci uniknout. Nejspíš omdlela a zemřela předtím, než ji zasáhly plameny. Je velmi pravděpodobné, že se požár rozšířil z otevřeného krbu.“

Během příštích několika týdnů Jindřich nebyl schopen promluvit. Neměl chuť si s nikým povídat. Když se konečně trochu vzpamatoval, jeho první myšlenka byla jít na policejní komisařství. Chtěl dát neštěstí důkladně vyšetřit, aby viník, který zavinil smrt jeho lásky, byl potrestán.

Nyní, když už znal verdikt policie, si ho Jindřich neustále od rána do večera opakoval. „Náhoda, byla to jen nešťastná náhoda,“ zněla mu v hlavě inspektorova slova. V duchu si začal představovat celou nešťastnou událost, jak se pravděpodobně stala. „Hana šla spát a nechala oheň dohořet. Několik žhavých uhlíků vyskočilo z ohniště a spadlo na polštáře kolem krbu. Nalakovaná dřevěná podlaha začala velmi rychle hořet. Žádná náhoda. Firma, která instalovala krb, na tom nese vinu. Policie nic neudělá, takže jsem to já, kdo musí zjednat spravedlnost,“ rozhodl Jindřich. Ihned se zvedl a šel k trezoru. Vyndal z něho svou legálně drženou pistoli. Pořídil si tu zbraň krátce předtím, než se přestěhovali do jejich nového domu, aby mohl chránit Hanu.

Když Jindřich dorazil do firmy, cítil se jako ve snu. Byl ledově klidný, když vešel do prodejny. „Jmenuji se Winter, Jindřich Winter,“ řekl prodavači. „Můžu mluvit s vaším šéfem?“ zeptal se. Prodavač poznal jejich zákazníka a vyhověl mu. Za několik minut vstoupil do prodejny ředitel firmy. „Ach, to jste vy,“ řekl Jindřichovi. Téměř okamžitě si vybavil zákazníka, kterému před několika týdny instalovali drahý domácí krb. Vzpomněl si, že doporučoval tomuto klientovi jiný model s krbovou vložkou, ale on si přál otevřené ohniště. Varoval ho, že to může být dost nebezpečné. Než se ředitel mohl na cokoli zeptat, Jindřich zacílil svou zbraň a mlčky na něho vystřelil. Muž se zhroutil k zemi. Prodavač zůstal stát a naprosto v šoku zíral na střelce, který právě bez jakéhokoli vysvětlení zlikvidoval jeho šéfa. Stěží otevřel ústa, aby protestoval, když Jindřich namířil pistoli také na něho. Třeskl ještě druhý výstřel. Rána byla opět přesná.

Jindřich sklopil svou zbraň. Zůstal v prodejně sám. „Někdo určitě slyšel výstřely. Policie přijede každou minutu,“ blesklo mu hlavou. Potom už na nic nemyslel. Cítil se tak moc unavený.

Points for understanding:

1. 'To prepare the same coincidence for someone who's responsible for their death,' he thought excitedly.

What did Henry actually mean by the words 'to prepare the same coincidence'?

2. Did Hannah tell Henry that she was pregnant before or after their moving to their new house?
3. What did their first quarrel concern?
4. Therefore he decided to oblige her again.

How do you understand this sentence? What did Henry actually decide to do?

5. Why didn't Henry call Hannah from the restaurant?
6. Why was Henry frightened when he was coming to his house late at night?
7. What could Henry see outside their house?
8. Why wasn't Henry able to accept the police verdict?
9. Whom did Henry blame for his disaster?
10. What did Henry finally do to take his revenge and to soothe his sorrow?

Grammar:

The phrase **for sb's sake**(= **for the sake of sb**) and **for the sake of sth**

Vazba **kvůli komu** a **kvůli čemu**

Look at these examples:

He'd always done everything as she wanted and **for the sake of her beautiful smile**.

'**For Heaven's sake**, I hope it won't be anything serious,' he begged in spirit.



The phrase **get/have something done**

Vazba **dát (si) něco udělat**

Look at these examples:

He managed to find a reliable firm and **had the fireplace installed**, exactly according to her desire.

He wanted **to have the disaster investigated** soundly.



So that can be used **for purposes** in negative sentences, with can, could, and in sentences with different subjects. After so that we can use the present simple, will, shall, can, or may (after the past simple we use would, could, should, might).

So that můžeme používat **pro vyjádření účelu** v záporných větách, se slovesy *can, could* a v souvětích s odlišnými podměty. Po spojce *so that* můžeme použít přítomný čas, *will, shall, can* či *may* (po slovese v čase minulém užíváme tvary *would, could, should, might*).

Look at these examples:

He wanted to have the disaster investigated soundly **so that the culprit** who'd caused the death of his love **would be punished**.

He'd got himself the gun shortly before their moving into their house **so that he could protect** Hannah.



We use **hope + will (won't)** to express **future wishes**.

Budoucí přání vyjadřujeme slovesem **hope + budoucím časem will (won't)**.

Example: I **hope you'll be** happy together.

Kéž jste spolu šťastni.

Ať jste spolu šťastni.

Look at this example:

'For Heaven's sake, I **hope it won't be** anything serious,' he begged in spirit.



Indefinite article before ordinal numeral in the meaning **another**.

Neurčitý člen před řadovou číslovkou ve významu **další, ještě druhý**.

Look at this example:

A second shot rang out.



The phrase **recommend something to somebody**

Vazba **doporučit něco někomu**

Example: Can you **recommend a good restaurant to us?**

Můžete nám doporučit nějakou dobrou restauraci?

Look at this example:

He remembered he'd **recommended a different model with a fireplace inset to that client**.



“**Enough**” is used before nouns, but after adjectives.

„**Enough**“ (**dost**) je ve větě před podstatnými jmény, ale za přídavnými jmény.

Examples: Have you got **enough money**?

Máte **dost peněz**?

He's not **clever enough** to answer my question.

Není **dost chytrý**, aby odpověděl na mou otázku.

Look at this example:

He tried to persuade her that it would be much cleaner and safer and **romantic enough**, but in vain.



Remember these **phrasal verbs** from the story:

be bereft of speech nebýt schopen promluvit

be to blame for sth zavinit co

be spot on být přesný

emanate from vycházet, vyzařovat z

fall asleep usnout

feel like doing sth mít chuť něco dělat, chtít co

fight against sth bojovat proti čemu

give way to sth ustoupit před čím,
podlehnout čemu

go on dít se, konat se

go out vyhasnout (oheň)

knock sb out vzít komu dech

live with sth smířit se s čím

long for toužit po

look forward to těšit se na

make out rozeznat, poznat

move into přestěhovat se do

obtain justice zjednat spravedlnost

put sth down položit, odložit co

put sth over odložit co na pozdější dobu

put up resistance to sb odporovat komu

run around in one's head znít komu v hlavě

shoot at sb vystřelit na koho

sink to the floor zhroutit se

stick to one's opinion trvat na svém (názoru)

take part in sth účastnit se čeho

turn up objevit se

vomit out vyzvracet

watch over sth dohlížet na co, hlídat co

Exercises:

9.1 Complete the sentences using the appropriate forms of the verbs in brackets.

Example: The walls are rather dirty. You should have the room decorated. (decorate)

1. "I don't quite understand the grammar."

"Why don't youit.....?" (explain)

2. "Where are you now, Eve?"
"I'm sitting at the hairdresser's. I'm justmy hair " (cut)
3. "It's Jack's birthday on Saturday, isn't it?"
"Oh, you're right. And I haven'tthe birthday cake yet." (make)
4. "The text of the English letter is rather difficult for me to understand."
"You couldit " (translate)
5. "I fell off a ladder the day before yesterday and I hurt my knee. It's still swollen."
"I think you should havethe knee " (X-ray)

9.2 Make one sentence from two using so that.

Example: I'll leave the letter on the table. You can read it.
I'll leave the letter on the table so that you can read it.

1. I closed the window. My wife didn't catch a cold.
I closed the window so that
2. I'll make the refreshments myself. You can talk to your guest.
I'll make the refreshments myself so that.....
3. I can lend you the textbook. You don't have to buy it.
I can lend you the textbook so that.....
4. I got home before six o'clock. I could watch my favourite TV serial.
I got home before six o'clock so that
5. I must hurry. I don't want to be late.
I must hurry so that
6. Helen stopped buying sausages. She wanted to eat healthy food.
Helen stopped buying sausages so that

9.3 Translate these sentences from Czech into English.

1. Pomůžu ti jen kvůli našemu přátelství.
2. Udělám to kvůli svým dětem.
3. Kéž jsou spolu šťastni!
4. Mohu si vzít ještě druhý zákusek?
5. Existuje dokonce ještě třetí možnost.
6. Který hotel byste nám doporučil?
7. Doporučuji vám hotel Evropa, který je uprostřed náměstí.
8. Máte s sebou dost peněz?
9. Nejsem v tomto ohledu dost zkušený, abych vám mohl radit.

9.4 Match the phrasal verbs to the correct definitions below.

- a. be bereft of speech
 - b. be spot on
 - c. fall asleep
 - d. give way to
 - e. live with
 - f. long for
 - g. put over
 - h. put up resistance to
 - i. take part in
-
- 1. relent
 - 2. desire
 - 3. participate in
 - 4. be unable to start speaking
 - 5. start sleeping
 - 6. come to terms with
 - 7. resist
 - 8. postpone
 - 9. be accurate



Suddenly she didn't know what to do. Quite confused, she ran out of her flat and began screaming.