

### [Lesson 49] Episode 7\_1: Anything You Can Do (負けられない人々)

**Narrator:** Competition. It means different things to different people. In Suburbia, it means **keeping up with the Joneses**. On Wisteria Lane, that means keeping up with Bree Van de Kamp. Everyone knew Bree had the nicest lawn in the neighborhood. And no one **begrudged** her this. No one. That is, except Martha Huber, whose own lawn paled in comparison. No matter how carefully she trimmed, or how lovingly she watered, or how generously she fertilized, the grass was always greener on the other side of the fence.

**Mrs. Huber:** Hello, Victor. How are you today? Out jogging again?

**Victor:** I can't catch my breath.

**Mrs. Huber:** Would you like a slurp from my hose?

**Mrs. Huber:** Victor? Victor! Don't worry! I'm going to get an ambulance!

**Narrator:** Then one day, Mrs. Huber finally got the chance to **mow down** the competition.

**Mrs. Huber:** Help! Somebody, help!

**Bree:** What happened?

**Mrs. Huber:** He collapsed on your hydrangeas! Call 911!

**Narrator:** Yes. Mrs. Huber understood the first rule of competition. In order to win, you'd have to want it more.

When I was alive, my friends and I **came together** once a month for a meeting of The Wisteria Lane Book Club. We found the problems of literary characters so **absorbing...** the way they dealt with adversity, conducted **illicit affairs**, endured domestic dramas, and planned **romantic conquests**. But since my death, my friends had lost their interest in fiction.

**Woman:** So, what did everybody think?

**Narrator:** Their own problems had become absorbing enough.

**Lynette:** I thought the character of Madame Bovary was very inspirational.

**Woman:** Inspirational? She poisons herself with **arsenic**.

**Lynette:** Really?

**Woman:** You didn't read until the end?

**Lynette:** I stopped after page 50.

**Woman:** Am I the only one who read the book?

**Susan:** I saw the movie. It was really good.

**Woman:** Ladies, I'm sorry, but **what is the point** of having a book club if we don't read the book?

**Bree:** More wine? So, uh... Reba, Emma and Lorrie, why don't you girls come to the kitchen and help me with the snacks?

**Woman:** Sure.

**Bree:** I will be right in.

**Bree:** God! I couldn't wait to get rid of them! So, Lynette said that you found Zach.

**Susan:** He's at a rehabilitation center. Julie **snuck in** and actually talked to him.

**Lynette:** Did he say anything about his mother's suicide?

**Susan:** There wasn't enough time. He did say one thing that was kind of mysterious. He said something happened to someone named Dana, and that he could never ever talk about it.

**Gabrielle:** Who the hell's Dana?

**Lynette:** That's the mystery part.

**Susan:** I figure Dana **has something to do with** what Mary Alice was trying to hide.

**Lynette:** So, somebody found out Mary Alice's secret...

**Bree:** ...and sent the note.

**Gabrielle:** So, who the hell is that?

**Detective:** The stationary is particle #17, 100% cotton. It is made by Cyprus Office Products. In stores in twelve cities, including yours. We traced that postmark back to your local post office.

**Paul:** Meaning?

**Detective:** Meaning that the blackmailer is probably someone you know. A neighbor, milkman, pool boy, **soccer mom**...

**Paul:** Soccer mom?

**Detective:** Mr. Young, sometimes evil drives a minivan. I had this gig once, tracking down this PTA mom who was **hell-bent on** landing her daughter a spot on the parade float. She fed **antifreeze** to half the homecoming committee.

**Paul:** Did you catch her?

**Detective:** Mr. Young, the people who hired me didn't hire me to catch her.

(0:39 – 6:47)

### 1. Questions

\* Answer following questions. (質問に答えましょう)

- 1) Why is Mrs. Huber jealous of Bree? (なぜフーバーさんはブリーを妬んでいるのでしょうか?)
- 2) What happened to Victor? (ビクターに何が起きましたか?)
- 3) Why are the women gathered in Bree's house? (なぜ女性たちはブリーの家に集まったのですか?)
- 4) Has Lynette finished the club's book assignment? (リネットは読書会の宿題を終わらせましたか?)
- 5) Why has Paul hired an investigator? (なぜポールは探偵を雇ったのですか?)

### 2. Say It!

\* Read the following script aloud with emotion. (人物になりきってセリフを読んでみましょう。)

**Narrator:** No matter how carefully she trimmed, or how lovingly she watered, or how generously she fertilized, the grass was always greener on the other side of the fence.

**Bree:** I will be right in. God, I couldn't wait to get rid of them! So, Lynette said that you found Zach.

**Woman:** Ladies, I'm sorry, but what is the point of having a book club if we don't read the book?

### 3. Let's Summarize!

\* Summarize Today's part of the episode in your own words. (本日学習したストーリーを要約してみよう。)

### 4. Let's Discuss!

\* Pick one topic from below and talk about it with your tutor.

(以下から興味あるトピックを1つ選んでトークしましょう。)

- 1) Are you good at taking care of plants? Please explain.  
(あなたは植物の世話をするのが得意ですか?)
- 2) Are you interested in joining a book club? Why or why not?  
(あなたは読書会に参加することに興味がありますか?)
- 3) What was the last book you read? Tell your tutor all about it.  
(あなたが最後に読んだ本は何ですか? 講師に説明してください。)

### [ Words & Phrases ]

- keep up with the Joneses / 近所の人に負けないと見栄を張る[追いつこうとする]
- begrudge / ねたむ、うらやむ
- mow down / (草などを)刈り取る、なぎ倒す
- come together / 集合する、一体になる、友達と集まる
- absorbing / 吸収する、夢中にさせる、のめり込ませる
- romantic conquest / 恋を探すこと
- illicit affairs / 不倫
- arsenic / ヒ素
- What's the point of doing ~ ? / ~することに何の意味がありますか？
- sneak (過去形 snuck) in (into) / こそこそと入る、潜り込む、滑り込む
- have something to do with ~ / ~に関連する
- soccer mom / アメリカで子供にサッカーを習わせる教育熱心なアッパーミドル階級の母親
- hell-bent on doing ~ / ~しようと夢中[躍起、必死]になる
- land a spot on ~ / ~の仕事[地位]を得る
- antifreeze / ヘロイン、酒

Thank you and have a nice day!