

2025年 新年の物語 いとうえいお



One rainy evening, Hana was walking home. She had a long, bad day at work. Her boss did not listen to her ideas, and she felt very tired.

As she walked, she saw a small box on the ground. Curious, she opened it and found a snake inside. It was alive but hurt. There was a cut on its side.

"Oh no, poor thing," Hana said. She carefully picked up the snake and carried it home. At her apartment, she cleaned the snake's wound and gave it some water.

Every evening, Hana talked to the snake while it rested in a box. "My boss never listens to me," she said, sighing.

The snake seemed to watch her closely.

After a few days, the snake was healthy again.

"You are better now," Hana said. "It's time for you to go." She opened the window, and the snake slithered outside. It stopped at the edge of the balcony, looked back at her, and then disappeared into the night.

Two weeks later, Hana got a strange letter in the mail. It was an invitation for a job interview at a famous company. She did not apply for the job, but she went to the interview.

The interview was successful, and Hana decided to change jobs.

At the company, she met a man named Sora. He was tall and kind, with green eyes that seemed to sparkle.

Sora helped Hana learn how to share her ideas. He gave her advice and taught her how to speak with confidence. After a few months, Hana's career improved. She got a promotion and felt very happy.

One evening, after a big meeting, Hana asked Sora, "Why do you help me so much?" Sora smiled. "You helped me first. This is my way to say thank you." Hana stared at him, confused.

Sora stood up to leave. As he walked away, his shadow looked like a snake for a moment. At the door, Sora turned and said, "I'm glad you needed help with work. If you had asked me to make a kimono, I would not know how to do it!"

Hana laughed, but when she looked back, Sora was gone.

#### 日本語訳と単語 1/5

One rainy evening, Hana was walking home. She had a long, bad day at work. Her boss did not listen to her ideas, and she felt very tired.

boss (上司)

ある雨の晩、ハナは家に帰る途中でした。仕事で長くて嫌な一日を過ごしていました。上司は彼女のアイデアを聞かず、とても疲れていました。

As she walked, she saw a small box on the ground. Curious, she opened it and found a snake inside. It was alive but hurt. There was a cut on its side.

Curious (好奇心旺盛な) alive (生きている) a cut (傷) side (横)

歩いていると、地面に小さな箱を見つけました。気になって開けてみると、中に蛇が入っていました。蛇は生きていましたが、傷を負っていました。横腹に切り傷がありました。

"Oh no, poor thing," Hana said. She carefully picked up the snake and carried it home. At her apartment, she cleaned the snake's wound and gave it some water.

carried (運んだ) cleaned (きれいにした) wound (傷)

「なんてこと、かわいそうに。」ハナは言いました。彼女は慎重に蛇を拾い上げ、自分の家に連れて帰りました。アパートに着くと、ハナは蛇の傷をきれいにし、水を与えました。

#### 日本語訳と単語 2/5

Every evening, Hana talked to the snake while it rested in a box. "My boss never listens to me," she said, sighing.

rested (休んだ) sighing (ため息をついている)

毎晩、ハナは蛇が箱の中で休んでいる間に話しかけ、「上司は私の話を聞いてくれないのよ。」とため息をつきました。

The snake seemed to watch her closely.

蛇はじっと彼女を見ているようでした。

After a few days, the snake was healthy again.

数日後、蛇は元気を取り戻しました。

"You are better now," Hana said. "It's time for you to go." She opened the window, and the snake slithered outside. It stopped at the edge of the balcony, looked back at her, and then disappeared into the night.

slithered(這った) edge(端) balcony(バルコニー) disappeared(消えた)

「もう大丈夫ね。」ハナは言いました。「もう行っていいわよ。」彼女は窓を開け、蛇は外に這い出しました。蛇はバルコニーの端で止まり、振り返って彼女を見た後、夜の中に消えていきました。

#### 日本語訳と単語 3/5

Two weeks later, Hana got a strange letter in the mail. It was an invitation for a job interview at a famous company. She did not apply for the job, but she went to the interview.

mail(メール、郵便) invitation(招待状) interview(面接) apply(応募する)

2週間後、ハナは郵便で奇妙な手紙を受け取りました。それは有名な会社の仕事の面接の招待状でした。ハナはその仕事に応募していませんでしたが、面接を受けに行きました。

The interview was successful, and Hana decided to change jobs.

decided (決めた) change jobs (仕事を変える)

面接は成功し、ハナは転職することにしました。

At the company, she met a man named Sora. He was tall and kind, with green eyes that seemed to sparkle.

sparkle (輝く)

会社で、彼女はソラという名前の男性に会いました。彼は背が高く、親切で、キラキラと輝く緑色の目をしていました。

#### 日本語訳と単語 4/5

Sora helped Hana learn how to share her ideas. After a few months, Hana's career improved. She got a promotion and felt very happy.

taught (教えた) confidence (自信) improved (改善した) promotion (昇進)

ソラはハナが自分のアイデアをうまく伝える方法を学ぶ手助けをしました。数ヶ月後、ハナのキャリアは向上しました。昇進し、 とても幸せを感じました。

One evening, after a big meeting, Hana asked Sora, "Why do you help me so much?" Sora smiled. "You helped me first. This is my way to say thank you." Hana stared at him, confused.

stared (じっと見た) confused (混乱した)

ある晩、大きな会議の後、ハナはソラに尋ねました。「どうしてこんなに私を助けてくれるの?」 ソラは笑顔で言いました。「君が最初に僕を助けてくれたからだよ。これが僕なりのお礼さ。」 ハナは混乱して彼を見つめました。

#### 日本語訳と単語 5/5

Sora stood up to leave. As he walked away, his shadow looked like a snake for a moment. At the door, Sora turned and said, "I'm glad you needed help with work. If you had asked me to make a kimono, I would not know how to do it!"

Hana laughed, but when she looked back, Sora was gone.

shadow (影) kimono (着物)

ソラは立ち上がり、出て行こうとしました。歩きながら、彼の影が一瞬蛇のように見えました。 ドアのところで、ソラは振り返り言いました。「君がビジネスのことで助けを必要としてくれてよかったよ。もし着物を作ってくれていたら、どうしようかと思っていたんだ!」 ハナは笑いましたが、振り返るとソラはもういませんでした。

#### 注) I would not know how to do it!

「それをどうやってやるか、わからないだろう」

「I would not」には「できないだろう」「やれないだろう」というニュアンスが含まれています。翻訳では、このニュアンスを踏まえ、物語の流れに合わせて文章を調整することで自然な表現にしています。なお、別の意訳としては「やり方が全然わからなかったろう」とすることもできます。



# 多読で 英語回路ができる!!

単語力アップ、リーディングやライティングもパワ

ーアップ!英語を楽しく身につけよう!

## **1万語の多読シリーズ**があなたの学びを加速する



2025年もよろしくお願いいたします。