



EINFACH BESSER ENGLISH



AUDIO

Spotlight

3  
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# Spotlight



## VINTAGE LONDON

*Discover retro experiences  
in the British capital*

Spotlight Verlag

## Introduction

[1] **David:** Welcome to the March 2018 edition of Spotlight Audio. I'm David Creedon from Britain. Join me now for a 60-minute expedition around the English-speaking world — with stories, language tips and exercises.

Step into the British capital's cool past with a trip to vintage London.

Las Vegas has more to offer than casinos and big hotels. You can explore this desert city in the travel section.

And find out the importance of short and simple business communication in English at Work.

## In the Spotlight

### [2] Gary Oldman

**David:** He's one of the best actors in Hollywood never to have won an Oscar. But that might all change this month for Gary Oldman. The English actor has been nominated in the best actor category for his performance as British Prime Minister Winston Churchill in the film *Darkest Hour*. Listen now to find out more about Oldman.

Gary Oldman is good at playing bad guys. In fact, he may be a bit too good at it. Oldman, whose most famous characters include the Transylvanian vampire in *Bram Stoker's Dracula* and Lee Harvey Oswald in *JFK*, told *GQ* magazine that many people believe he really is a bad guy because of the characters he has played. "They go, 'You're crazy, man! You played them bad guys really good, you know, you must be.'" Born into a working-class family in London, Oldman was seven when his alcoholic father left. Oldman finished school when he was 16 and began acting about five years later. In 1986, he became famous for playing the Sex Pistols punk rocker Sid Vicious in the film *Sid and Nancy*. Since then, he has starred in many blockbuster films and even directed a semi-autobiographical film about a working-class family in London called *Nil by Mouth*.

Although he doesn't often talk about his private life, Oldman has admitted to being an alcoholic in the early 1990s. He said that giving up alcohol was "one of the hardest things I've had to do — and the most important thing, because without it, all the other things don't happen." Oldman, who married his fifth wife, Gisele Schmidt, last August, will be 60 on 21 March.

Source: *Spotlight* 3/2018, page 11

#### star

► eine Hauptrolle spielen

#### vintage

► alt, altmodisch, aus einer bestimmten Zeit

## A Day in My Life

### [3] Alexander Harris, musician

**David:** In our A Day in My Life section, we meet Alexander Harris. The 27-year-old lives in Brisbane, Australia, and is a part-time school music teacher. When he's not in the classroom, Harris works as a professional musician playing concerts around the Brisbane-Gold Coast area. In the first part of the interview, Harris tells us what a normal working day is like for him. He mentions packing his musical equipment into his "ute" — this is an informal Australian term for a utility vehicle or pickup.

Once I get to work, my first music lessons start at 8 a.m. I teach two kids at 8 a.m. until 8.30 [when] school officially starts. Once school starts, I run my normal, usual music lessons all the way until 3 p.m. in the afternoon with two lunch breaks. I normally get home about 4.30 p.m., and once I get home, I'll have a shower [and] change into my music gigging clothes. I'll pack my ute with my PA equipment, my instruments. And then I'll go and pick up my friend, or other friends, that I play in a band with, and then I'll head to the venue where I will be gigging that night. Once I get to the venue, it will be about 5.30 p.m. We will set up in time to play at 6.30, and we will play all the

way until 10.30. [We] pack up our gear around 11 o'clock [or] 11.30 and hopefully [get] home by around midnight.

**David:** Harris goes on to talk about the kind of music he and his bandmates play in the evening. By the way, a "patron" is a customer in a shop, restaurant or bar.

So, we play music like jazz, all covers, no original music. Jazz, soft rock, maybe a little bit of Irish folk, a tiny bit of country. I play guitar and I'm the lead singer, and my two duo partners, one of them is a guitarist and a fantastic saxophonist and flautist, and the other one plays guitar and is a beautiful singer. So, yeah, together we produce a pretty good sound, and it

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#### bandmates

- ▶ Bandmitglieder

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#### flautist

- ▶ Flötist(in)

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#### gear

- ▶ Ausrüstung

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#### head

- ▶ sich auf den Weg machen

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#### PA equipment

- ▶ PA-; Beschallungsanlage

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#### pickup

- ▶ Pritschenwagen, kleiner LKW

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#### set up

- ▶ aufbauen

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#### venue

- ▶ Veranstaltungsort

really fits the vibe of the bar well. So, it's a kind of mixture of background music, but it's also kind of like a performance because the bar is not very big, so it's quite an intimate setting. So, I really enjoy the combination of background music, but also you feel like you're really performing for the patrons.

See Spotlight 3/2018, pages 26–27

## Britain Today

### [4] Winnie-the-Manager

**David:** Are you familiar with Winnie-the-Pooh? The honey-loving, yellow bear was created by the British writer A. A. Milne and featured in two collections of stories published in the 1930s. When Disney turned the stories into a series of animated films, Pooh became a megastar. In fact, the character still brings in billions of dollars in sales every year for the company. Perhaps it's because of this financial success that Colin Beaven recommends rereading the Pooh stories for useful tips on workplace management.

Even a good manager can learn to be a better manager, so there's always a role for management training. There are short courses you can do, or qualifications you can get, like the

diploma in management studies. After a few years, you can even do an MBA.

That's a very high level, of course. With the letters MBA after your name, you can manage basically anything; in fact, "manage basically anything" is probably what MBA stands for. What comes next, though? If you're a manager, you can't just stagnate. You always have to try to become better. So once you've read all the usual management books, it's time to read *Winnie-the-Pooh*.

Yes, it's a children's classic, but the beginning is a brilliant summary of everyday working life. A reminder of the story: Winnie-the-Pooh (a teddy bear) is brought downstairs by Christopher Robin (the little boy to whom he belongs). Christopher Robin always drags his bear behind him, so Pooh bangs his head on every step. It's clearly rather painful — time to quote A. A. Milne directly:

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#### billion

► Milliarde

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#### drag: ~ sth. behind

► etw. hinter sich  
herschleifen

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#### reminder

► Erinnerung, Gedächtnisstütze

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#### stagnate

► stagnieren, nicht vorankommen

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#### vibe ifml.

► Stimmung, Atmosphäre

“Sometimes he feels that there really is another way, if only he could stop bumping for a moment and think of it.”

This also describes one’s daily experience in the workplace, and it clearly inspired the concept of Total Quality Management. It’s only a short step from wanting to stop banging your head on the stairs to the introduction of quality circles — moments in a Japanese-style working week when workers meet to discuss ways of doing their jobs better.

Many of Pooh’s discussions with friends like Eeyore, Owl and Piglet are good examples of the kind of problem-solving that an efficient organization needs.

This is not the only way that Winnie-the-Pooh has influenced the world of work. He inspired a generation of spin doctors — people who work in public relations and who are paid to make you think that things aren’t as bad as they seem.

When Pooh, our management guru, visits his friend Eeyore on his birthday, he takes a pot of honey as a present. But since Pooh eats the honey on the way, he arrives carrying an empty pot. What does he say? “I’ve brought you a little present... It’s a Useful Pot... It’s for putting things in.” He’s not wrong either. It really is a useful pot. Eeyore uses it to keep his other presents in, such as a balloon that Piglet brought, but which burst when Piglet fell over.

Eeyore is certainly pleased, and Pooh does well to rescue the situation. But it’s an unconventional birthday party by modern standards. Today, people usually expect a bit more. They often put “PBAB” on a party invitation. It means “please bring a bottle”, and it certainly doesn’t mean you should bring an empty one. In the light of the story about Eeyore’s party, it might be better to write something on the invitation that makes this nice and clear. “MBA”, for example: “must bring alcohol”.

There we are: a bit of Total Quality Management. Who said it’s a thing of the past?

Source: Spotlight 3/2018, page 15

## Travel

### [5] Viva Las Vegas!

**David:** Las Vegas started the 20th century as a tiny railroad centre in the state of Nevada. But by the turn of the millennium, it had become the fastest-growing metropolis in the US. This transformation was thanks to business making the most of Nevada’s relaxed state laws, which led to

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**spin doctor** *ifml.*

→ PR-Berater(in),  
Schönredner(in)

Las Vegas earning the nickname “Sin City”. Nowadays, Las Vegas is a place of huge casinos, luxury hotels and incredible venues, all catering for the tens of millions of tourists that come each year. In the March Spotlight, correspondent Talitha Linehan takes a trip to this legendary adult playground to see how Las Vegas is changing with the times. You’re going to hear two excerpts from the magazine article. In the first excerpt, we visit the Mob Museum to find out about the history of organized crime in Las Vegas. As you listen, try to answer this question. What’s the name of the casino that gangster Bugsy Siegel opened in 1946?

My next visit is to the Mob Museum, which also opened in 2012 and is inside a 1930s’ building that was once the Las Vegas Post Office and Courthouse. This museum tells the story of organized crime in the US through exhibits on three floors. You can experience life on both sides of the law by taking part in a lineup, using real FBI surveillance equipment, and listening to recorded wiretaps. One of the most popular exhibits is the St. Valentine’s Day Massacre Wall, the wall where members of Bugs Moran’s gang were shot in Chicago, allegedly by Al Capone’s gang, on Valentine’s Day in 1929. I wander into the courtroom on the second floor just in time for a multimedia show about an important Mob

hearing that took place here and in other courtrooms across the US in the early 1950s. I feel as if I’m part of mobster history. I’m especially interested in exhibits about the connection between organized crime and Las Vegas. As the museum’s senior director of content, Geoff Schumacher, explains to me, organized-crime figures built some of the early resorts that exist today. The most famous

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**allegedly**

► angeblich

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**cater for sb.**

► jmdn. versorgen, auf jmdn. ausgerichtet sein

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**courtroom**

► Gerichtssaal

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**crime figure**

► Verbrecher, Gangster

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**excerpt**

► Auszug

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**exhibit**

► Ausstellungsstück

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**hearing**

► Anhörung

---

**incredible**

► unglaublich

---

**lineup**

► Gegenüberstellung

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**Mob** N. Am., *ifml.*

► (amerikanische) Mafia

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**mobster** *ifml.*

► Mafioso-

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**nickname**

► Spitzname

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**resort**

► Ferienort; *hier:* Hotel

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**sin**

► Sünde

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**surveillance equipment**

► Überwachungsanlage

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**venue**

► Veranstaltungsort

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**wiretap**

► Wanze, Abhörgerät

of these may be the Flamingo, which Bugsy Siegel opened on the Strip in 1946, six months before his business partners murdered him on suspicion of fraud. Most, if not all, of these crime figures operated their casinos illegally. From around the 1970s on, they were bought out by legitimate investors, resulting in the model of corporate-owned resorts that we know today.

**David:** Were you able to answer the question? What's the name of the casino that gangster Bugsy Siegel opened in 1946? It's the Flamingo. In the second excerpt, we travel along the Las Vegas Strip — the section of Las Vegas Boulevard that's become one of the most popular tourist attractions in the US. As you listen, try to answer this question. Which Canadian circus company has several productions on the Strip?

It's a funny fact that what most people think of as Las Vegas isn't actually in Las Vegas. The Strip, a section of Las Vegas Boulevard that is just over four miles long (6.8 km) and lined with towering megaresorts is actually south of Las Vegas, in two unincorporated towns. As I drive along it with my windows open, however, I feel as if I'm on a global adventure. There's the volcano at the Mirage — the Strip's first megaresort, which Steve Wynn opened

in 1989, heralding a new era of luxury. There's the "Eiffel Tower Experience," which is an imitation Eiffel Tower with observation deck at the Paris Las Vegas Hotel & Casino, and there are the dancing fountains at the Bellagio, and the glass pyramid that is the Luxor.

After driving along the Strip, I decide to walk along it, only to discover that the megaresorts are a lot further away from each other than they look. Fortunately, many of them are connected by free trams and pedestrian bridges, one of which I follow into the MGM Grand. The world's biggest hotel complex when it opened in 1993, the MGM has five outdoor pools, rivers, waterfalls, boutiques, restaurants, and a luxury spa. I walk through its casino, which is so well ventilated that I hardly notice the smoke, and into its steampunk-themed

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#### corporate-owned

- unternehmenseigen

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#### herald

- ankündigen, einläuten

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#### lined

- gesäumt

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#### observation deck

- Aussichtsplattform

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#### pedestrian

- Fußgänger-

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#### spa

- Wellness-Einrichtung

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#### suspicion of fraud

- Betrugsverdacht

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#### towering

- hoch aufragend

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#### unincorporated

- gemeindefrei

theater for the 7 p.m. showing of *Ka*. This coming-of-age story is one of several Cirque du Soleil productions on the Strip, and it is told with the help of enormous moving platforms and fantastic visual effects. The performers dance, fight, and fly through the air. I'm totally blown away by the spectacle.

**David:** Were you able to answer the question? Which Canadian circus company has several productions running on the Strip? The answer is Cirque du Soleil.

Source: *Spotlight* 3/2018, pages 28–35

## [6] The Mob Museum

**David:** While visiting the Mob Museum in Downtown Las Vegas, *Spotlight* correspondent Talitha Linehan talked to the museum's Senior Director of Content, Geoff Schumacher. Las Vegas owes much of its early success to the involvement of organized crime in the gambling business. Listen as Schumacher explains why the city was so attractive for criminals.

Organized crime figures were involved in illegal gambling around the United States for a long time before they discovered Las Vegas, and essentially what happened is Nevada legalized gambling, wide-open gambling, in

1931. Around the same time, or a little after, you started seeing cities and states cracking down on organized crime and being involved in gambling, so at one time, gangsters had paid off all the cops and all the politicians so that they could run gambling halls all over the country. In the 30s, there was a big reform movement and this continued into the 40s, and they shut down a lot of these illegal casinos around the country. As cities and states started cracking down on illegal gambling across the country, a light bulb went off for organized crime figures to say, you know what, we could just build a casino in Las Vegas and we can go legit, we can do what we've been doing, make money, and nobody's going to shut us down. So these were the early pioneers of Las Vegas gambling.

**David:** But despite earning a lot of money legally from gambling, the crime bosses couldn't help

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**coming-of-age**

► Entwicklungs-

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**cop** *ifml.*

► Bulle

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**crack: ~ down on sth./sb.**

► gegen etw./jmdn. hart vorgehen

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**legit (imate): go ~**

► etw. Legales machen

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**light bulb**

► Glühbirne; hier: Licht

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**pay off sb.** *ifml.*

► jmdn. schmieren, bestechen



getting involved in criminal activity in Las Vegas.

Now, one of the problems with their scheme was a lot of them were awfully greedy. They could have run casinos legitimately and lived quietly for the rest of their lives, but instead they decided to start skimming off the top of the profits and then sending that money to the Mob families back in Kansas City and Chicago and Detroit and New York, and this money was owed to the government, this was untaxed revenue and eventually, you know, government regulators discovered what was happening, in the 1960s and 70s, and started cracking down on the Mob. In that way, it was really a self-destructive move. But they skimmed a whole lot of money, millions and millions of dollars, out of Las Vegas before they were stopped.

**David:** Schumacher believes that without Mafia investment in Las Vegas, the city could never have developed like it did.

Organized crime members were critically important to the growth of Las Vegas, and there's a simple reason for that: they took a chance on Las Vegas. They're the ones who invested their, of course, ill-gotten gains, but they invested those ill-gotten gains in Las Vegas to build casinos and to attract people to Las Vegas at a time when legitimate businesses and corporations

and banks did not want to put money into Las Vegas for casinos. What bank in 1945 is going to loan somebody \$200,000 to build a casino? Casinos are illegal all over the country. Many people considered it at that time to be a sin to gamble. Well, today it's kind of laughable, but at the time, that was a sin just like a lot of other sins in religious history. So banks were not going to go out on a limb to give people money. So you needed these ill-gotten gains to invest. Now later, corporate America did discover Las Vegas and, you know, the investments became so high, we're talking billions of

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### billion

- Milliarden

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### critically important

- von entscheidender Bedeutung

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### eventually

- irgendwann, schließlich

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### government regulators

- staatliche Aufsichtsbehörden

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### greedy

- gierig

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### ill-gotten gains

- unrechtmäßiger Gewinn

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### limb: go out on a ~

- sich aus dem Fenster lehnen

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### revenue

- Einnahmen

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### scheme

- Plan, Prinzip

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### skim off

- abschöpfen

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### untaxed

- unversteuert

dollars in every resort, that it really priced the Mob out of business here. But it would not be the same if the Mob had not made those initial investments here.

See Spotlight 3/2018, pages 28–35

## Everyday English

### [7] At the hairdresser's

**David:** Going to the hairdresser can be confusing for non-native speakers of English — from different cuts and styles to equipment and products, there's a lot of vocabulary to remember. In Everyday English, we're looking at words and phrases you may need when getting your hair cut. In the first of two dialogues, Kerry is at the hair salon. She has an appointment with her hairdresser, Hanna, for a cut and colour. As the dialogue starts, Hanna has just washed the colour out of Kerry's hair and is about to cut it. Before you listen, you should know these words. You can ask for a “trim” if you just want a small amount of hair cut off. A “fringe” is the front part of somebody's hair that hangs over the forehead. As you listen to the dialogue, try to answer this question. What does Hanna suggest to Kerry instead of giving her a fringe?

**Hanna:** Did you just want a trim, yeah?

**Kerry:** Yes, just a bit of a tidy-up. Although I was thinking about getting a fringe. It would cover up my wrinkly forehead.

**Hanna:** There's nothing wrong with your wrinkly forehead. I'm not sure a fringe would suit you, to be honest. Why don't we layer the front a bit to create a softer look?

**Kerry:** Yeah, OK. I trust you.

**Hanna:** Are you going out tonight?

**Kerry:** I am, actually. I'm meeting some friends for dinner in that new Italian place next to the river.

**Hanna:** Very nice! I haven't been there yet, but it's on my list. Would you like me to do your make-up for you?

**Kerry:** Oh, yes! Good idea!

**David:** Were you able to answer the question? What does Hanna suggest to Kerry instead of giving her a fringe? She suggests she cuts the front in layers to create a softer look. In the second dialogue, Hanna has nearly finished doing Kerry's hair. Here's some important vocabulary. To “blow-dry” hair is to dry and style it with a handheld dryer. The term “hair

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**appointment**

• Termin

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**forehead**

• Stirn

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**layers**

• hier: Stufen

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**wrinkly**

• faltig

straighteners” describes an electrical device with two parts that you heat and use to make hair straight. And “highlights” are areas of hair that have been made a lighter colour than the rest. Try to answer this question. What idiom means to have an important effect on somebody or something?

**Hanna:** How would you like me to dry your hair, Kerry?

**Kerry:** Just like last time, please — with a bit of a wave.

**Hanna:** Yes, of course. I’ll blow-dry it on the big round brush and then smooth it with the straighteners.

**Hanna:** Right. There you go. And what do you think of the colour? Is it OK for you?

**Kerry:** I love it. The highlights make all the difference.

**Hanna:** They aren’t too light either. Are you happy with the layers, or would you like me to cut them a little shorter?

**Kerry:** No. If they were any shorter, I think they’d annoy me when I wear my hair up.

**Hanna:** True. OK, then. Let’s do your make-up and get ready for tonight.

**David:** What idiom means to have an important effect on somebody or something? The answer is “to make all the difference”.

Source: Spotlight 3/2018, pages 46–47

## American Life

### [8] Asking too much?

**David:** In October of 2017, a huge scandal shocked the American film industry. The producer Harvey Weinstein was accused by over 80 women of sexual abuse. Soon allegations were made against many other famous men — not just in Hollywood, but also in other areas including the music industry, journalism and politics. Using the hashtag “Me Too”, millions of people shared their experiences of sexual assault and harassment. Since then, the “Me Too” movement has spread around the world. In American Life, correspondent Ginger Kuenzel wonders why some men still aren’t getting the message.

The times, they are a-changing. As has always been the case in history, some changes are good and some are not. One example of a good change is that women today feel freer to speak

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#### allegation

► Anschuldigung

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#### assault sb.

► Angriff, Übergriff

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#### device

► Gerät

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#### harassment

► Belästigung

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#### sexual abuse

► sexueller Missbrauch

out against men who sexually harass or assault them. Men from all walks of life are resigning their positions as allegations are made against them: senators, congressmen, Hollywood moguls, actors, and newscasters — the list goes on. That's just the tip of the iceberg, though. How many women still do not feel safe in rejecting the advances of a boss or someone else in a position of power for fear of retaliation? The women who have come forward are courageous and have sometimes had to endure a lot of bad publicity. Their honesty is often called into question, not just by the men they are accusing, but also by the general public.

Some female friends have actually told me that women shouldn't be so thin-skinned about a guy joking around with them. Of course, nothing is ever black and white. If a man tells a woman colleague that she looks good in a dress, is that harassment? How about if he hugs her when she is wearing a strapless dress and thus touches her bare skin? It depends on the situation. But most of the women who are coming forward are not complaining about just a hug. Without going into salacious detail, the men who stand accused put these women in extremely uncomfortable situations — in one way or another.

I have male friends who say they are now hesitant to give a woman a quick kiss on the cheek or a hug. My advice to them: Read the woman's

body language, and if there is any doubt, don't touch. This is especially true in business situations. A woman might be uncomfortable with a kiss from a male colleague or business partner, but not want to seem rude by rejecting that person. The best strategy is simply not to put women in that position.

There are also some women who surprise me. I recently told a female supervisor that we need sensitivity training in our workplace to address sexual harassment. I mentioned one male colleague in particular. The other women in the room agreed, but the supervisor seemed surprised. I told her that he kisses colleagues

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**accuse**

- ▶ anklagen, beschuldigen

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**endure**

- ▶ ertragen, aushalten

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**hesitant: be ~ to do sth.**

- ▶ Bedenken haben, etw. zu tun

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**hug**

- ▶ umarmen

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**resign**

- ▶ aufgeben, zurücktreten

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**retaliation**

- ▶ Vergeltung

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**rude**

- ▶ unhöflich

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**salacious**

- ▶ schlüpfriig

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**sensitivity training**

- ▶ Bewusstseinstaining

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**strapless**

- ▶ schulterfrei

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**thin-skinned**

- ▶ empfindlich

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**walks: from all ~ of life**

- ▶ aus allen Gesellschaftsschichten

— on the lips — as a greeting. “Oh, that!” she said. “He’s just being friendly.” I remarked that, although I have told him repeatedly that his behavior makes me uncomfortable, he has not changed. The supervisor’s reply was that I just needed to get over it, and that “boys will be boys.”

My response was that girls will be girls — with every right to be protected from inappropriate behavior. In fact, how about if we all grow up, learn to act as adults, and show respect for each other? In the end, the supervisor agreed to look into a training session for employees. At least we’re taking some baby steps on the way to becoming adults.

Source: Spotlight 3/2018, page 36

## Replay

### [9] A look at recent news events

**Inez:** Welcome to Replay, the listening exercise in which we look at a recent news story, its background and language. In this edition:

A recent criminal case in Britain shows how easily the entire legal system can fail the victims of sexual assaults.

### [10] Verdict on a system in crisis

**Inez:** The case of John Worboys is one of the worst examples of legal incompetence in recent British history. In 2009, taxi driver Worboys was jailed for drugging and sexually assaulting a series of female passengers in the back of his black cab. Worboys, from south-east London, gave them drinks mixed with sedatives. Despite denying all charges, Worboys was found guilty of one rape, five sexual assaults, one attempted assault and 12 drugging charges committed from July 2007 to February 2008.

However, detectives later admitted that the Hackney cab driver was the prime suspect in more than 100 attacks dating back as far as 2002. As more details of the police investigation became public knowledge, the Independent Police Complaints Commission admitted

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#### cab

- Taxi

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#### charge

- Anklage, Vorwurf

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#### criminal case

- Strafverfahren

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#### inappropriate

- unangemessen, unangebracht

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#### prime suspect

- Hauptverdächtiger

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#### rape

- Vergewaltigung

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#### sedative

- Beruhigungsmittel

that a proper inquiry could have prevented some of the attacks. Five police officers were in fact disciplined, but all were allowed to keep their jobs. On 4 January 2018, it was announced that Worboys would be released after serving not even nine years in prison. Campaign groups immediately criticized the decision, as did senior politicians, like London Mayor Sadiq Khan, who called it “astonishing and deeply concerning”. In an editorial from Britain’s *Guardian* newspaper, the writers examine the implications of the Worboys case. In a moment you can listen to three excerpts from the editorial. Before that, let’s look at some of the language used in the first excerpt. “To demean” is to do something that makes people lose respect for someone or something. And the adjective “callous” describes not caring that other people are suffering. Now listen to the first extract.

The release of the “black cab” rapist John Worboys, a man who drugged, sexually assaulted and raped perhaps as many as 200 women is incomprehensible. ...

At every turn, decisions have been taken that might have been choreographed to demean his victims and diminish every woman’s faith in the system. First there was the litany of errors by the Metropolitan police investigation. ... Dozens of women may have been assaulted

or raped because the police missed chances to stop him. This disaster was compounded by the most callous disregard for his victims; an investigation by the Independent Police Complaints Commission reported officers lying to and laughing at victims. Some of them were on a squad set up to create a safe environment for the reporting of rape. ...

Source: © Guardian News & Media 2018

**Inez:** The second excerpt from the editorial talks about the discrepancy between Worboys’ crimes and the length of his sentence. A “sentence” is a punishment that a judge gives

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### compound

- verschlimmern

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### diminish

- schwächen, vermindern

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### disregard

- Missachtung

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### editorial

- Leitartikel

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### excerpt

- Auszug

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### implications

- Auswirkungen

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### inquiry

- Ermittlung

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### rapist

- Vergewaltiger(in)

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### release

- entlassen

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### senior

- führend

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### squad

- Polizeieinheit, Kommando

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### turn: at every ~

- an jeder Ecke, überall

to someone who's guilty of a crime. And if something "beggars belief", it's impossible to describe or believe it. Here's the second excerpt.

The court process equally beggars belief. The average sentence for a convicted rapist in 2009, when Worboys was sentenced at Croydon crown court, was eight years. And that was what he got. But there was nothing average about John Worboys. Posing as a trustworthy older man with all the confidence lent by being at the wheel of a London black cab, he appeared to take pity on women going home on their own late at night. Then he lied to them, and drugged them, and assaulted or raped them. By the time he was convicted, the police said almost a hundred women had made allegations against him. Yet he was charged and convicted of just one rape and 14 sexual assaults.

Source: © Guardian News & Media 2018

**Inez:** In the final excerpt, the *Guardian* writers describe the process by which Worboys was released from prison so early. When a sentence is "indeterminate", it doesn't have a specific length. And a "parole board" describes a group of people who decide whether a prisoner should be allowed to leave prison. Now listen to the third excerpt.

The judge at the trial, Mr Justice Penry-Davey, sentenced Worboys to an indeterminate sentence for the protection of the public. That meant that he had to serve a minimum of eight years...

Now comes the parole board decision to release him on licence. That means that three experienced people, which included one woman, are satisfied on the basis of expert evidence that he will not be a threat to women again. Yet their reasons remain confidential...

Source: © Guardian News & Media 2018

## [11] Words and phrases

**Inez:** Let's see if you can remember the meanings of some of the words and phrases from the text. I'm going to give you a definition. Do you know the word or phrase that fits? Ready?

---

**allegation**

➤ Anschuldigung

---

**charge**

➤ anklagen

---

**convicted**

➤ überführt, verurteilt

---

**crown court** England, Wales

➤ etwa: Strafammer

---

**on licence** UK

➤ auf Bewährung

---

**trustworthy**

➤ vertrauenswürdig

What group of people decide if a prisoner should be allowed to leave prison? A parole board

This verb describes doing something that makes people lose respect for someone or something. Demean

What noun is a punishment that a judge gives to someone who's guilty of a crime? A sentence

When a sentence doesn't have a specific length, it is... indeterminate.

If something is impossible to describe or believe, it... beggars belief.

What adjective describes not caring that other people are suffering? Callous

With that, we end Replay for this month. We hope you've found our explanations useful. Till next month: goodbye.

See Spotlight 3/2018, page 73

## Society

### [12] Vintage London

**David:** Few cities offer such an enjoyable vintage experience as London. Just think of all the wonderful fashion and trends from the Swinging Sixties, the new wave and punk explosion of the 1970s and 80s or the Cool Britannia of the 1990s. In the March Spotlight, we tour the best retro destinations the British capital has to offer. To talk about the article, we're joined in the studio by members of the Spotlight team.

**Claudine Weber-Hof:** In the March issue of Spotlight magazine, we bring you a Society feature called "Vintage London". You may be asking yourself, well, what is "Vintage London"? What exactly does that mean? We think that you'll be pleased with what you see of the pages of Spotlight magazine, but here to explain the difference between vintage and retro is Spotlight's Editor-in-Chief, Inez Sharp. Hi Inez!

**Inez Sharp:** Hi Claudine! Thanks for that. For

---

#### Cool Britannia

► Wortspiel auf das patriotische Lied „Rule, Britannia“

---

#### editor-in-chief

► Chefredakteur(in)



the March issue, we did an interview with Lord March, and he gave us a very specific definition of the two words, retro and vintage. He says vintage is something old that's the real thing, whereas retro is an imitation of something that's old. So that's a good and clear definition. And I think we have both of those things in the feature, as well.

**Claudine:** When you think on what we've focused on in the feature, does something special spring to mind?

**Inez:** Actually, because I've spent a lot of time in London, I always think more of the general atmosphere. In fact, I was in London a few weeks ago, and I was at Putney Bridge Tube station. And I stood on the platform, with its green wooden panelling and cream detail, and I thought, my grandfather, a Londoner, could be standing here and he probably wouldn't notice much difference. He may think the ads have changed a little bit, and they have. But there's so many corners of London that are so full of a true vintage atmosphere, because they haven't changed, that it's like being on a film set.

**Claudine:** Well, also with us today is Ian McMaster, the editor-in-chief of *Business Spotlight*. Ian, we wanted to ask you, what's your impression of this topic, and what do you know about London in this regard?

**Ian McMaster:** Well, hi, Claudine. Yes, I lived in London in the 1980s — so for ten years, from 1980 to 1990. And I didn't come from London originally, so it was when I left university. It was a big change to me, coming to this enormous city that was full of tradition, full of history, and, of course, the River Thames. But I've picked out a couple of venues in South London because I lived south of the river. There's a big divide between those who live in the north and those who live in the south. I was a south Londoner, and I lived south of the furthest Tube stop, which was Brixton. So I was in Brixton, which is a very lively area [with] a lot of people from the West Indian community. But [there were] two venues, which were vintage venues, that I used to go to regularly: one was a cinema called the Ritzy Cinema. It's

---

#### ads

- Werbung

---

#### cream

- cremefarben

---

#### divide

- Trennlinie, Kluft

---

#### focus: ~ on sth.

- einen Schwerpunkt auf etw. legen

---

#### panelling

- Wandverkleidung

---

#### platform

- Bahnsteig

---

#### Tube UK

- U-Bahn

---

#### venue

- Veranstaltungsort

a listed building, it's a protected building, that was built in 1911 as the Electric Pavilion. And it's still there today, the Ritzy Picture House, and it's a very different cinema experience from the multiplex, modern cinemas.

**Claudine:** Oh, I bet.

**Ian:** The other one in Brixton which is kind of just across the road is the Brixton Academy — now branded the 02 Brixton Academy. This started life back in 1929 as The Astoria. And over the years it's changed its name and changed its usage. When I was there in the 80s, it was the venue for reggae concerts. But a lot of rock bands, the biggest rock bands, have used it as a venue or used it for rehearsals. It's still in its inside in its original form, and has an Italian Renaissance interior. You go into a bizarre world when you're in there, and I think it's a lovely place. So those two places: the Brixton Academy for music, the Ritzy Cinema, the Ritzy Picture House, for films, would be my two recommendations.

**Claudine:** Those are just fantastic.

**Inez:** Yeah, that sounds really good.

**Ian:** Great place, Brixton.

**Inez:** Your phrase about sort of going into a completely different world, I think that's something that big cities can sometimes offer, and certainly London offers again and again. You step off the street, where life is modern, people are walking around with their mobile

phones and so on, and suddenly you're somewhere 100 years ago, 50 years ago, in a completely different environment. That's just magical.

**Ian:** I think the way to discover that is to walk London. Forget the underground. Throw away the Tube map.

**Inez:** Yes, the London Underground is vintage in every sense of the word!

**Claudine:** Don't know if that's always a good thing!

**Ian:** And just walk. Because if you walk [and you] follow your nose, you'll suddenly come into a courtyard where, as you say, you're transported back 100 years away from the main street, and you'll discover buildings, and then you'll see a blue plaque on the wall, you'll have no idea what it is, and you'll discover every time, somebody new who lived there or spent one night there.

**Inez:** Absolutely.

---

**bet:** I ~

► da bin ich mir sicher

---

**building:** listed ~

► denkmalgeschütztes Gebäude

---

**courtyard**

► Innenhof

---

**plaque**

► Gedenktafel

---

**rehearsal**

► Probe

---

**sort of**

► irgendwie, praktisch

**Claudine:** Indeed. Very vintage. Inez, I had one question for you: what it is about British style that makes the idea of having a vintage or retro experience so attractive, do you think?

**Inez:** This comes from the clothing that was worn by the British elite, the English elite, over the centuries. They wore sporting clothes, so jackets for riding, trousers for riding, boots for riding and for hunting and so on and so forth. And these turned into very stylish clothing elements, and, of course, they then later became fashion items and they are reworked almost every season in another way. And if you go around London and you go to Savile Row and you see the kind of suits — which also are historical clothes, in a sense — interpreted in a modern way, they're reinterpreted again and again. And that's a very, very strong force in British fashion, and one that British people can relate to.

**Claudine:** Well, I wanted to thank you both for joining us today, and I hope our readers will enjoy themselves as they turn the pages of Spotlight magazine: the story is called "Vintage London". Thank you both.

**Inez & Ian:** Thank you, Claudine.

See Spotlight 3/2018, pages 16–25

## [13] Vintage London quiz

**David:** Thanks to its long and exciting past, London is a treasure trove of vintage delights. Let's test your knowledge on vintage London now with a quiz. Are you ready? Let's start.

Which street in London was at the heart of the Swinging Sixties?

Mile End Road, Carnaby Street, Kensington High Street

The answer is Carnaby Street. Many popular fashion designers such as Mary Quant had boutiques on this street. Pop groups including the Rolling Stones and The Who shopped on Carnaby Street.

Here's the next question. In 1936, film studios opened in Buckinghamshire near London. Famous for making James Bond films, the studios are called:

Holyrood, Beechwood, Pinewood

The answer is Pinewood. The first 007 film, Dr. No, was produced there in 1962.

Here's the next question. Around London there are plaques on buildings to show where

---

**rework**

← umarbeiten

famous people once lived. What colour are these plaques? Are they red, blue or white?

They're blue. Now run by English Heritage, the blue plaque scheme was started in 1866 and is thought to be the oldest of its kind in the world. Though it no longer exists, the first plaque was awarded to the poet Lord Byron in 1867.

Now try this one. What is the name of the tall black hats worn by the guards at Buckingham Palace? Are they called trilbies, bearskins or deerstalkers?

They're called bearskin hats and, despite years of protests and high costs, are made from the skins of North American black bears.

Here's another question. Actor Gary Oldman plays this famous politician in the film *Darkest Hour*. Who is he?

Winston Churchill, Tony Blair, Harold Wilson. The answer is Winston Churchill. There's also a statue of this former prime minister on Parliament Square in London.

And here's the final question. Which famous pop group was photographed walking across Abbey Road in north London in 1969?

Small Faces, The Beatles, or The Monkees? The answer is the Beatles, who recorded their eleventh album, also called *Abbey Road*, in the

EMI studios located on the street.

See Spotlight 3/2018, pages 16–25

## English at Work

### [14] Keep it short and simple

**David:** Each month, business communication expert Ken Taylor joins us in the studio with tips on using English at work. This time Ken has tips on keeping business communication short and simple.

**Ken:** Hello. This is Ken Taylor from London. Native speakers often use complicated language that's difficult for second-language speakers to understand. One key skill of the good speaker of international English is to KISS the message — Keep It Short and Simple. Let's test your ability to KISS. I'll give you a complicated phrase. You'll then hear a sentence that you could see in a business email or hear in a meeting that includes the phrase. In the pause, repeat the sentence but replace the complicated phrase with just one or two words. Then you'll hear our version. OK? We'll start.

At this point in time

"I can't give you the information at this point

in time.”

“I can’t give you the information now.”

Due to the fact that

“John can’t come to the meeting due to the fact that he’s on a business trip.”

“John can’t come to the meeting because he’s on a business trip.”

At your earliest convenience

“Please reply to this mail at your earliest convenience.”

“Please reply to this mail soon.” Or “Please reply to this mail ASAP.”

Make every effort to

“We’ll make every effort to get the shipment to you by Friday.”

“We’ll try to get the shipment to you by Friday.”

We ask you kindly to

“We ask you kindly to let us know your travel arrangements.”

“Please let us know your travel arrangements.”

With reference to

“With reference to your mail dated 15 April...”

“Thank you for your mail dated 15 April.”

In the course of

“I’ll let you know the result in the course of the

next few days.”

“I’ll let you know the result during the next few days” or “within the next few days.”

In the event of

“Please don’t use the lifts in the event of a fire.”

“Please don’t use the lifts if there’s a fire.”

We acknowledge with pleasure

“We acknowledge with pleasure the receipt of your payment.”

“Thank you for your payment.”

Don’t hesitate to

“Don’t hesitate to contact me if you need further information.”

“Please contact me if you need further information.”

How was that? Were you able to keep it short and simple? Keeping your messages short and simple usually means that they are easily understandable. And this is the key to good international communication.

---

**ASAP (as soon as possible)**

• sobald wie möglich

---

**receipt**

• Erhalt

---

**shipment**

• Lieferung

**David:** If you have a question for Ken, send it by email to [language@spotlight-verlag.de](mailto:language@spotlight-verlag.de). If Ken chooses your question to print in *Spotlight* magazine, you'll receive a free copy of his book, *Dear Ken... 101 answers to your questions about business English*.

See *Spotlight* 3/2018, page 49

## Peggy's Place

### [15] A turn-up for the books

**David:** Now it's time for *Spotlight's* soap opera set in a London pub. In this episode, pub owner Peggy has decided to start a book club with some of the pub regulars. However, Peggy's choice of books is not to everybody's taste. Let's find out more as we visit Peggy's Place.

**Sean:** We just got a big dinner booking for the eighth.

**Peggy:** Excellent! The dining is really taking off — thanks to your cooking skills, Sean. Wait, though! Did you say the eighth?

**Sean:** Yes. Is that a problem?

**Peggy:** No, not really. It's just that Helen and I have decided to start a book club, and our first meeting was going to be on that Thursday.

**Sean:** And where are you holding the meetings?

**Peggy:** Actually, here — and the eighth is

International Women's Day, so that seemed like a good omen.

**Sean:** So it's a women's only book club, is it?

**Peggy:** Well, we asked a lot of men, but no one was interested.

**Sean:** You didn't ask me.

**Peggy:** I didn't think you'd be able to come. Our meetings are in the early evening, and that's your busiest time.

**George:** Just take a look at the reading list, Sean, and you'll be glad you weren't invited to join.

**Peggy:** Hey, George! I asked you, and you didn't want to join. I asked Phil, too, but he hasn't picked up a book in at least ten years. So I wasn't surprised about that.

**Sean:** What will you be reading?

**Peggy:** Everyone was asked to make a suggestion, so we have five books. There's one called *Women & Power: A Manifesto* by Mary Beard...

**Sean:** Isn't Mary Beard the one who does those history programmes on TV?

**Peggy:** That's right. Then there's a book by an Italian writer, Elena Ferrante...

**George:** See! All women!

---

#### take off

► einen Aufschwung erleben; hier: immer besser angenommen werden

---

#### turn: a - up (for the books)

► ein bemerkenswertes Ereignis

**Helen:** All women what?

**Peggy:** Hi, Helen! We're talking about the book club.

**Helen:** When did we say we'd start?

**Peggy:** Next week.

**Helen:** So we're definitely meeting here?

**Peggy:** Yes.

**George:** Funny place to have a book club. Shouldn't you be meeting in a cafe, or at home?

**Helen:** I think the pub is a perfect place. If the word gets round, it'll bring in more people. That should be good for business, shouldn't it?

**Sean:** Will you be reading only works of fiction?

**Peggy:** No. I think *Women & Power* is what you call an essay. Why do you want to know?

**Sean:** You wouldn't be reading cookery books, then?

**George:** If you did, I'd consider joining.

**Peggy:** So that's your secret passion, is it, George?

**George:** Absolutely! I love looking at recipes and reading those hilarious tips on how to slice a mango, or what the best type of frying pan is.

**Sean:** I asked about cookery books only because...

**Peggy:** Yes, Sean?

**Sean:** The thing is, before I came here, I did a lot of travelling. I collected recipes from all over the world, and I've been putting them together to make a book.

**George:** You are writing a cookery book? That's ambitious. It's a very crowded market. Hard to find a publisher, I'm sure.

**Sean:** So I was wondering... If I were to tidy up the manuscript a bit, would you and the others take a look at it in one of your book club meetings and give me some feedback?

**Peggy:** I can't see why not. I mean, we're not editors, but we all love good food and reading about it. In fact, I think it would be a lot of fun. When would you have the manuscript ready?

Source: Spotlight 3/2018, page 14

## Short Story

### [16] "Starting over"

**David:** It's almost time to say goodbye. Before then, why not sit back and listen to this month's short story. In "Starting over", a man looks back on his many experiences and wonders if it's too late for him to begin a new chapter of his life.

---

**frying pan**

► Bratpfanne

---

**hilarious**

► komisch, höchst amüsant

---

**slice**

► aufschneiden

Joe's alone. The park bench beckons, but he chooses to stand. He feels more natural that way: he can see what's coming if he's on his feet, surveying the winter landscape around him. Rosemary's gone, passed away a year back. Life without her — the very idea of it — was unfathomable. The day-to-day had become so empty, so meaningless without the warmth of the woman he'd loved for a lifetime. Could Alice bring him back? There's a chance, Joe thinks to himself.

Alice had lived in the same apartment building as Joe and his wife. They'd met socializing, either playing bridge or celebrating the holidays. Back then, Alice was on her own. She'd lost her husband years before. The chain smoking that Fritz had picked up in the Army as a combat medic had caught up with him: A parting gift from World War II, which he had spent in the jungles of Burma — a grapefruit-sized tumor he never imagined was there till it was too late. Joe walked up and down the path, waiting. He stopped, then bent his legs a little to avoid locking his knees. Lock your knees, and down you go! Every soldier knows that. At least the cold was letting up. Alice was in a shoe shop about a block away. Joe wanted to avoid all that: the hell of shopping, the awful aisles of tall boots and high heels, the chemical smell of leather, glue, plastic. He wanted to wait in the cool air of the afternoon. His friend Daniel was

on his way to meet him. He'd be good company for a bit, Joe thought to himself. They could shoot the breeze.

Shooting hunters all around. The sounds of their rifles in the forest near the house in Versailles. How he loved France. He and Rosemary had lived there with their children back when he was stationed overseas. In those days, it seemed like everyone was in the service. And

---

**aisle**

- Gangreihe

---

**beckon**

- locken, einladen

---

**catch up**

- hier: einholen

---

**combat medic**

- Sanitäter(in) in einer Kampfeinheit

---

**day-to-day**

- Alltag

---

**glue**

- Klebstoff

---

**jungle**

- Dschungel

---

**let up** *ifml.*

- nachlassen

---

**lock**

- hier: überstrecken

---

**parting gift**

- Abschiedsgeschenk

---

**pass away**

- versterben

---

**pick up**

- hier: anfangen

---

**rifle**

- Gewehr

---

**shoot the breeze**

- N. Am. *ifml.*
- belanglos reden, plaudern

---

**unfathomable**

- unbegreiflich



if you had a European assignment — especially as an officer — life was good. He took the family to Germany for skiing in the winter, and they experienced the joy of Paris in the spring. It was a fine assignment. He'd never seen Rosemary so happy.

Their return to the States was hard, or at least much harder than he had imagined. The children grew up. He changed professions. In what seemed like no time at all, he learned the ins and outs of Congress, how to influence the massive apparatus of the US government in subtle, lucrative ways. His brains and his friendly manner promoted him to toast of the town — and, oh, how he loved to sing! His wry Texas humor and his rich, full voice had made him popular on the DC social circuit. Square-dance calling was his passion. He had performed this cowboy art at the US Pavilion of the 1958 Brussels World's Fair. *The Stars & Stripes* had run an article back then.

He smiled at the memory. Still, not worth a damn without Rosemary. What about Alice? Well, he thought, at least I know she likes my singing.

“What you got cookin' there, Joe?”

“There you are. What took you so long?”

Joe reached out and gave Daniel his hand, pleased at the sight of his friend. Not even 40. My goodness, Joe thought. Forty was a long time ago.

“You look like you have something on your mind.”

“No, Danny, not much at all — much less than I should, I'd guess.”

Daniel laughed, looked at the bench.

“Are we sitting?”

“Too cold.”

The frost on the bench glinted at the two men, its fine crystals melting a little in the weak sunlight.

“Well, I'll ask you then,” Joe said.

“All right — ask me.” Daniel looked at the older man, one eyebrow raised.

“Do you think Alice is happy with 'our arrangement'?”

Now I've done it, Joe thought. Gone and made an ass of myself. He bent his legs at the knees

---

### ass: make an ~ of oneself

N. Am. *ifml.*

- sich zum Narren machen

---

### assignment

- Einsatz

---

### cooking *ifml.*

- hier: los sein

---

### glint

- schimmern, funkeln

---

### ins and outs *ifml.*

- alle Einzelheiten

---

### subtle

- subtil, raffiniert

---

### toast *ifml.*

- hier: Berühmtheit

---

### wry

- schräg

again, trying to bounce the nervousness away. He didn't want to ask for advice. But he did want an answer.

"What arrangement is that?"

"Well, the fact that we're married now. Me and Alice. Do you think she's happy?"

Joe could see that Daniel was surprised, visibly surprised. Everyone he knew was thrilled about the match. How many people got married in their eighties?

"Maybe I shouldn't have asked after all."

"Oh, come on, now, Joe. It's a perfectly good question."

Daniel went quiet, then sat down on the bench.

"You're worried because it's so soon after Rosemary's passing?"

"Well, yes," Joe replied, unsure of what else to say.

"I think the answer's simple."

"All right, then. Don't hold back."

Daniel smiled.

"If you ask me, life's too short to spend it alone. Let me put it another way: If you don't have to be alone, why would you be?"

Joe nodded. He sat down on the bench next to his friend and played with his handkerchief. It was nice to take a load off, relax — despite the cold of the bench beneath his rear.

"If you ask me, Joe, Alice seems happy."

"OK, then," he said. "That's settled."

Just then, Alice came into view. She was still a way off, walking slowly and carrying a big square shopping bag. When she saw the men, she waved.

Someone like Alice, Daniel thought, examining his ringless fingers. That's who we're looking for.

Source: *Spotlight* 3/2018, pages 66–67

## Conclusion

**[17] David:** Thanks for joining us for Spotlight Audio. You'll find more information about becoming a regular subscriber to either our CD or download at [www.spotlight-online.de/hoeren](http://www.spotlight-online.de/hoeren) Join us again next month, won't you? Until then: goodbye.

---

### bounce

➤ federn, hüpfen

---

### Handkerchief

➤ Taschentuch

---

### hold back: don't ~

➤ nur keine Hemmungen!

---

### rear ifml.

➤ Hinterteil

---

### settled: that's ~

➤ das wäre erledigt

---

### subscriber

➤ Abonnent(in)

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