

Ernst Theodor Amadeus Hoffmann

The Deserted House

[ze słownikiem]

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B1

Opuszczony dom

Z PODRĘCZNYM SŁOWNIKIEM ANGIELSKO-POLSKIM

dla osób znających język angielski co najmniej na poziomie B1

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Ruda Śląska, 2024

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The Deserted House

THE DESERTED HOUSE

You know already that I spent the greater part of last summer in X-
-, began Theodore. The many old friends and **acquaintances** I
found there, the free, **jovial** life, the **manifold artistic** and
intellectual interests-all these combined to keep me in that city.

I was happy as never before, and found rich **nourishment** for my
old **fondness** for **wandering** alone through the streets, stopping to
enjoy every picture in the **shop windows**, every **placard** on the
walls, or watching the **passers-by** and choosing some one or the
other of them to **cast** his **horoscope secretly** to myself.

There is one **broad avenue** leading to the -- Gate and lined with
handsome buildings of all descriptions, which is the **meeting place**
of the rich and fashionable world. The shops which **occupy** the
ground floor of the tall palaces are **devoted** to the **trade in** articles
of luxury, and the apartments above are the **dwellings** of people of
wealth and position.

The **aristocratic** hotels are to be found in this avenue, the palaces
of the foreign **ambassadors** are there, and you can easily imagine
that such a street would be the centre of the city's life and **gaiety**.

I had **wandered** through the avenue several times, when one day
my attention was caught by a house which contrasted **strangely** with
the others **surrounding** it. Picture to yourselves a low building but

acquaintances - znajomość, znajomy, znajoma
jovial - jowialny, wesoły
manifold - kolektor, powielać, różnorodny
artistic - artystyczny, kunsztowny
intellectual - intelektualny, inteligent, inteligentka,
intelektualista, intelektualistka

nourishment - pożywienie
fondness - uczucie sympatii, słabość
wandering - wędrowki, wędrowny, (wander),
włóczyć
shop windows - witryny sklepowe
placard - tabliczka, plakat, afisz
passers-by - przechodzień
cast - obsada, ciskać, cisnąć, miotać, rzucać,
zarzucić
horoscope - horoskop
secretly - potajemnie

broad - szeroki, wyraźny, ogólny
avenue - aleja, podjazd
handsome - piękny, przystojny
meeting place - miejsce spotkań
occupy - okupować
devoted - poświęcać, poświęcić, angażować,
zaangażować
trade in - oddać stary towar w rozliczeniu za
nowy ; opuścić żonę lub męża i poślubić kogoś
młodszego
dwellings - (dwell) zamieszkiwać, przebywać,
rezydować, spoczywać, zatrzymywać się, dom
wealth - zamożność, bogactwo, bogatość,
mnóstwo

aristocratic - arystokratyczny
ambassadors - ambasador, ambasadorka
gaiety - wesołość

wandered - wędrował, włóczyć
strangely - dziwnie, dziwacznie
surrounding - otoczenie, otaczający, (surround),
otaczać

four windows broad, crowded in between two tall, handsome structures.

Its one upper story was a little higher than the tops of the ground-floor windows of its neighbours, its roof was **dilapidated**, its windows **patched** with paper, its **discoloured** walls spoke of years of **neglect**. You can imagine how strange such a house must have looked in this street of wealth and fashion.

Looking at it more **attentively** I **perceived** that the windows of the upper story were **tightly** closed and curtained, and that a wall had been built to hide the windows of the ground floor. The entrance gate, a little to one side, served also as a **door-way** for the building, but I could find no sign of **latch**, lock, or even a bell on this gate.

I was convinced that the house must be **unoccupied**, for at whatever hour of the day I happened to be passing I had never seen the **faintest** signs of life about it.

you all, the good **comrades** of my youth, know that I have been **prone** to consider myself a sort of **clairvoyant**, claiming to have **glimpses** of a strange world of wonders, a world which you, with your hard common sense, would **attempt** to **deny** or laugh away. I **confess** that I have often lost myself in mysteries which after all **turned out** to be no mysteries at all.

And it looked at first as if this was to happen to me in the matter of the deserted house, that strange house which drew my steps and my thoughts to itself with a power that surprised me. But the point of my story will prove to you that I am right in **asserting** that I know more than you do. Listen now to what I am about to tell you.

One day, at the hour in which the fashionable world is **accustomed** to **promenade** up and down the avenue, I stood as usual before the deserted house, lost in thought. Suddenly I felt, without looking up, that some one had stopped beside me, fixing his eyes on me.

It was Count P--, who told me that the old house contained nothing **more mysterious** than a cake **bakery** belonging to the **pastry cook** whose handsome shop **adjoined** the old structure. The windows of the ground floor were walled up to give **protection** to the ovens, and the heavy curtains of the upper story were to keep the **sunlight** from the wares laid out there.

dilapidated - zniszczyć, zniszczony
patched - załatany, latać, lata, przepaska, grządka, bruzda, skrawek
discoloured - odbarwiony, odbarwiać
neglect - zaniedbywać, zaniedbać

attentively - uważnie, bacznie
perceived - postrzegane, dostrzegać, dostrzec
tightly - mocno, ciasno
door-way - drzwi; wejście, przejście
latch - zatrzask, ucześcić się, wykorzystać, pojąć, zasuwka

unoccupied - niezamieszkane
faintest - zasłabnąć, zemdleć, omdlenie, słaby

you all - wy
comrades - kamrat, kompan, towarzysz, kolega, koleżanka, druh, towarzysza
prone - skłonny, leżący na brzuchu
clairvoyant - jasnowidz
glimpses - mignąć, pojąć, zrozumieć, mignięcie, przeblask
attempt - próbować, spróbować, próba, podejście, zamach
deny - zaprzeczyć
confess - przyznawać się, przyznać się, spowiadać się
turned out - okazać się; przychodzić, pojawiać się, pójść gdzieś (w jakimś celu, np. żeby zagłosować); zwlec się z wyra, wstawać; wyłączać (światło)

asserting - twierdzić, zapewniać, utrzymywać, bronić

accustomed - przyzwyczajając, przyzwyczaić
promenade - promenada, przechadzać się, spacerować

more mysterious - bardziej tajemniczy
bakery - piekarnia
pastry cook - cukiernik
adjoined - przyległy, dołączyć, przylączyć, przylegać, sąsiadować
protection - ochrona
sunlight - światło słoneczne, światło

When the Count **informed** me of this I felt as if a **bucket** of cold water had been suddenly **thrown over** me. But I could not believe in this story of the cake and **candy** factory. Through some strange **freak** of the **imagination** I felt as a child feels when some **fairy tale** has been told it to **conceal** the truth it **suspects**.

I **scolded** myself for a silly fool; the house remained **unaltered** in its appearance, and the **visions faded in** my brain, until one day a chance **incident** woke them to life again.

I was wandering through the avenue as usual, and as I passed the deserted house I could not **resist** a **hasty** glance at its **close-curtained** upper windows. But as I looked at it, the curtain on the last window near the **pastry shop** began to move. A hand, an arm, came out from between its folds.

I took my **opera glass** from my pocket and saw a **beautifully** formed woman's hand, on the **little finger** of which a large diamond **sparkled** in unusual **brilliancy**; a rich **bracelet glittered** on the white, rounded arm. The **hand set** a tall, **oddly** formed **crystal** bottle on the **window ledge** and disappeared again behind the curtain.

I stopped as if frozen to stone; a **weirdly pleasurable sensation**, **mingled** with **awe**, **streamed** through my being with the warmth of an **electric current**. I stared up at the **mysterious** window and a sigh of longing **arose from** the very **depths** of my heart. When I **came to** myself again, I was **angered** to find that I was **surrounded** by a crowd which stood **gazing** up at the window with **curious** faces.

informed - poinformowany, informować, powiadamiać
bucket - wiadro, kubel, ceber, czerpak, łyżka, rzech
thrown over - rzucony, przerzucony; narzucony (coś na kogoś, np. koc); porzucony
candy - słodycze, cukierek
freak - dziwoląg, dziwak, maniak, anomalia
imagination - fantazja, imaginacja, wyobraźnia, urojenie, wyobrażenie
fairy - wróżka, wila, ciota, pedzio
tale - opowieść, historia, baśń, bajka
conceal - chować, schować, ukrywać, ukryć
suspects - podejrzewać, podejrzany, podejrzana

scolded - zbesztany, lajać, karcić, rugać, besztąć, ganić, strofować
unaltered - niezmieniony
visions - widzenie
faded in - wzmocniony, rozjaśniony (np. dźwięk, obraz); wpleciony (np. scena)
incident - wydarzenie, incydent, wynikający, towarzyszący, padający

resist - opierać się; stawiać opór, sprzeciwiać się; odpierać (np. atak)
hasty - pochopnie, pośpieszny
close-curtained - zamknięte
pastry shop - cukiernia

opera glass - lornetka teatralna
beautifully - pięknie
little finger - mały palec u ręki
sparkled - skrzyć się, lśnić, błyszczeć, blask
brilliancy - błyskotliwość, blask
bracelet - bransoletka
glittered - blask, brokat, błyszczeć
hand set - słuchawka (z mikrofonem); zestaw ręczny
oddly - dziwnie, osobliwie, cudacznie
crystal - kryształ
window ledge - parapet okienny, podokiennik

weirdly - dziwnie
pleasurable - przyjemne
sensation - czucie, sensacja
mingled - przylaczać, mieszać
awe - podziw, groza, trwoga, zachwyt
streamed - streamowane, strumień, potok, rzeczka, ciek, płynąć
electric current - prąd elektryczny
mysterious - tajemniczy, zagadkowy
arose from - powstało z
depths - głębia, głębokość
came to - przyjść

I **stole away inconspicuously**, and the demon of all things **prosaic** **whispered** to me that what I had just seen was the rich **pastry** cook's wife, in her Sunday **adornment**, placing an empty bottle, used for **rose-water** or the like, on the window **sill**. Nothing very **weird** about this.

Suddenly a most sensible thought came to me.

I turned and entered the shining, **mirror-walled** shop of the pastry cook.

Blowing the **steaming foam** from my cup of chocolate, I **remarked**: "You have a very useful addition to your **establishment** next door.

" The man **leaned** over his **counter** and looked at me with a questioning smile, as if he did not understand me.

I repeated that in my opinion he had been very clever to set his bakery in the neighbouring house, although the deserted appearance of the building was a strange sight in its contrasting **surroundings**. "Why, sir," began the pastry cook, "who told you that the house next door belongs to us?

Unfortunately every attempt on our part to **acquire** it has **been in vain**, and I fancy it is all the better so, for there is something **queer** about the place.

"

You can imagine, dear friends, how interested I became upon hearing these words, and that I **begged** the man to tell me more about the house.

"I do not know anything very definite, sir," he said.

angered - rozgniewany, złość, gniew, wkurw, złościć, złościć się, gniewać się

surrounded - otoczony, otaczać

gazing - wpatrywać się intensywnie, patrząc, spojrzenie

curious - ciekawy

stole away - okraść; wymknąć się

inconspicuously - niepozornie

prosaic - prozaiczny

whispered - szept, szeptać, szepnąć

pastry - ciasto, pieczywo cukiernicze, wypiek

adornment - ozdoba

rose-water - woda różana

sill - próg, parapet

weird - dziwny, dziwaczny

mirror-walled - lustrzane ściany

steaming - parowanie, gotowanie na parze, (steam), para wodny

foam - pianka, piana, pienie się

remarked - zauważyć, komentować, napomknąć, uwaga

establishment - założenie, zakładanie, ustanowienie, ustanawianie

leaned - pochylony, opierać się, przechylić się, odchylić się, szczupły, chudy

counter - opierać, odpierać, lada, bufet, licznik, okienko

surroundings - otoczenie, otaczający

acquire - nabywać, nabyć

been in - być w; być dostępnym, urzędować; być w domu lub biurze; wpłynąć (dokument)

vain - próżny, daremny

queer - dziwaczny, dziwny, queerowy

begged - błagać, prosić, żebrać

"All that we know for a **certainty** is that the house belongs to the **Countess** S--, who lives on her **estates** and has not been to the city for years.

This house, so they tell me, stood in its present shape before any of the handsome buildings were raised which are now the **pride** of our avenue, and in all these years there has been nothing done to it except to keep it from **actual decay**.

Two living **creatures** alone **dwell** there, an aged **misanthrope** of a **steward** and his **melancholy** dog, which **occasionally howls** at the moon from the back **courtyard**.

According to the general story the deserted house **is haunted**.

In very truth my brother, who is the owner of this shop, and myself have often, when our business kept us **awake** during the **silence** of the night, heard strange sounds from the other side of the walls.

There was a **rumbling** and a **scraping** that frightened us both.

And not very long ago we heard one night a strange singing which I could not describe to you.

It was **evidently** the voice of an old woman, but the **tones** were so sharp and clear, and ran up to the top of the **scale** in **cadences** and long **trills**, the like of which I have never heard before, although I have heard many singers in many lands.

It seemed to be a French song, but I am not quite sure of that, for I could not listen long to the mad, **ghostly** singing, it made the hair stand **erect** on my head.

And at times, after the street noises are quiet, we can hear deep **sighs**, and sometimes a mad laugh, which seem to **come out of** the earth.

But if you lay your ear to the wall in our **back room**, you can hear that the noises come from the house next door.

"He led me into the back room and pointed through the window.

"And do you see that iron **chimney coming out of** the wall there?"

certainty - pewność

countess - hrabina

estates - posiadłość, majątek ziemski

pride - pycha, zarozumiałość, duma, stado

actual - rzeczywisty, właściwy, prawdziwy, aktualny

decay - rozpad, rozkład, degradacja

creatures - istota, stworzenie

dwell - mieszkac, zamieszkiwać

misanthrope - mizantrop

steward - steward, organizator

melancholy - melancholia

occasionally - od czasu do czasu, okazjonalnie

howls - wycie, wyć

courtyard - dziedziniec, podwórze, dwór

is haunted - nawiedzony (np. zamek); udręczony (np. przez wspomnienia)

awake - budzić się, uświadomić sobie, obudzić, przebudzony

silence - cisza, milczenie, uciszyć, uciszać

rumbling - (rumble) grzmieć, huk, dudnienie, burczenie, bulgotanie

scraping - (scrap) pobić się, strzęp, resztki, skrobanie, skrawek, wycinek, szarpanina

evidently - najwyraźniej, ewidentnie, zauważalnie

tones - dźwięk, ton

scale - wdrapać się, skala, łuska, wagowy

cadences - kadencja, tempo, rytm

trills - tryle, trel (ptaków), wibrujący śpiew

ghostly - upiorny, widmowy, zmorowaty

erect - wznosić, stawiać, rozbijać, podniesiony, wyprostowany

sighs - wzdychać, westchnąć, zaszeleścić, zaszumieć, westchnienie

come out of - odzyskać przytomność

back room - zakulisowy; pokój od tyłu; pomieszczenie na zapleczu

chimney - komin, dymnik

coming out of - odzyskać przytomność