

ANSWER KEY
TO
INTENSIVE BULGARIAN
VOLUME 2

PART 1:
ENGLISH TRANSLATIONS
of
DIALOGUES
SAMPLE SENTENCES

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LESSON 16

pp. 3-4

HAVE YOU BOUGHT US A DOG, DAD?

// Petăr, Tanya and the children arrive home. Petăr unlocks the door. There is a dog barking somewhere. //

Petăr. Welcome, here we are – home at last.

Nadka. But where's the surprise?

Petăr. Don't you hear it?

Tanya. You mean that dog is barking here in this house?

Kamen. Dad, have you bought us a dog?

Nadka. Where is it?

Petăr. I shut it up in the bathroom, it's still very young.

// The children rush to the bathroom, and find a small fluffy black puppy. //

Nadka. What's his name, Dad?

Petăr. I haven't thought of a name for him yet. You think one up!

Tanya. Are you out of your mind? There's not enough room for us in this house, and [here] you've brought a dog!

Kamen. Mom, but look how sweet he is! His name is Bobby. Here Bobby! Look, Mom, he knows his name is Bobby!

Tanya. What is this "Bobby"?! Children's games!

Petăr. I've bought a manual. We can all train him together.

Nadka. Look at him, [see] how smart he is! He understands everything!

Tanya. [All right,] Peter, you choose. Either Bobby or me!

Petăr. I think Bobby likes you best of all. I bet he'll do everything you say.

Tanya. He's [only] an animal, but [already] he knows who to listen to. Not like some [I could name]...

Kamen. Let's take the dog out for a walk!

Petăr. Good, it's time for him [to go out]. I haven't taken him out since morning.

Tanya. OK, all of you – out. I'll get something [ready] for supper.

Kamen. We like chops, don't we Bobby?

Tanya. Weren't you not going to eat anything until morning?

Kamen. I'm hungry again.

Nadka. Me too.

Tanya. I don't know if there are any chops in the refrigerator ...

Petăr. There aren't any. There's only bread, eggs, tomatoes and yogurt. I didn't have time to do the shopping.

Tanya. But you had time for Bobby, eh?

Kamen. Mom, Bobby and I will eat fried eggs.

Tanya. Well, that's news! Since when do you eat fried eggs? Before now I couldn't even get you to try them.

Nadka. Since now.

Tanya. Well, it's not too clear who is training whom – you the dog, or he you. OK, off with you. Can't you see that he can't wait to get outside?

Petăr. You don't need to rush with supper. We'll most likely be out walking for an hour [at the least].

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1. He's never done any washing, how could you make him wash [things out] by hand?
2. Now that we're seated [here] so nicely, now [I wish we] each had a glass of wine.
3. They've already finished the construction of the house, [but] it still remains to be furnished.
4. You need to check the address again, in case they've changed the street name.
5. I haven't been in hospital (= hospitalized) since the operation.
6. She's finished secondary education, but not [anything] higher.
7. Don't cry, there's nothing to be afraid of.
8. Don't make [any] mistakes, and nobody will get after you.
9. Stop that laughing! I didn't say anything funny.
10. You've traveled abroad enough, stay at home a bit for a change.
11. Quit telling us what to do.
12. That's enough already, I can't bear any more.
13. Let your husband stay at home with the kids for once. You shouldn't be the only one to look after them.
14. To have such a house – I should have it so bad!
15. Let's tell him what Santa Claus brought us for a present.
16. "And if they ask you, what will you say?"
"Let them just dare to ask."
17. If you just get along, [all] the rest will be fine.
18. Go to bed! Look what time it's gotten to be!
19. Get going, or you'll be late – the stores will close.
20. Leave now, and you might make it.
21. Listen [up] to what I'm about to tell you.
22. Listen to the birds sing!

LESSON 17

(pp. 25-26)

IT'S HARD TO BE ALONE.

// The taxi ordered [by Pavlina] is waiting in front of the station. Dimităr, Milena and Pavlina get into it. //

Pavlina. The address is 32 Patriarch Euthymius. Do you know where that is?

Driver. Of course, madam.

Pavlina. You'll go the most direct way, right?

Dimităr. The man knows how to get there, don't worry.

Milena. What do the doctors say? How did the operation go?

Pavlina. People are born lucky or unlucky – and I'm one of the lucky ones. I chanced upon a very talented surgeon. A virtuoso, hands like a violinist. Other patients wait weeks to be operated on by him, but as for me – straight from my house into the operating room.

Dimităr. So you're all right now?

Pavlina. I'm better, but I'm not [yet] all right.

Milena. You have to be very careful now. Not lift anything heavy, not tire yourself out. It's good that we're here with you. We'll help you.

Pavlina. But Milena, aren't we going to speaking to each other as “ti”?

Milena. Yes, Mother, we are.

Pavlina. Bravo, that's the way I want you [to be].

// Veselin, Julie, David and Angel arrive at Julie's apartment building without having found a satisfactory restaurant. The building has been recently completed and there are still bits of leftover construction material strewn about. //

Julie. Wait down here while I go up to get the phone number from my landlady.

Veselin. I'll help you carry your bags up. What floor do you live on?

Julie. The fourth floor.

// Julie and Veselin climb up to the fourth floor. The stairway has been freshly painted and still smells of paint. //

Julie. Here we are. I'm sorry that my bag is so crammed full [of things]. Did it tire you out?

Veselin. Hah! Didn't you see how much luggage I have?! Your bag isn't even half as heavy as mine usually is. With my [sort of] work, I move about overburdened as a donkey. I used to work together with a friend who helped me carry the equipment.

Peter, his name was. He was a guy I got on with really well. We could travel around Bulgaria for weeks together and never have an argument. Now I'm by myself.

Julie. What happened to him?

Veselin. Nothing. He got married and found a better-paying job at another newspaper. A married man has different responsibilities. But on the other hand, family life has its joys. It's hard to be alone.

// They ring the doorbell. The landlady opens the door. //

Julie. Hello, Aunt Vanya!

Ivanka. Oh, Julie, welcome! How was it at the seaside? And who is this [young] man?

Veselin. I'm an acquaintance of [Miss] Julie's. I came up only to ask for your telephone number. Julie didn't have it noted down.

Ivanka. [Are you ready to] write it down? The number is 44-12-59.

Veselin. Thank you. So I'll be on my way now. Goodbye. Julie, until tomorrow.

Julie. Aunt Vanya, if anyone phones for me this evening, say I'm not here. I'm extremely tired and I want to go to bed early.

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1. He's not just anybody. You have to receive him appropriately, in a manner befitting [his status].
2. Ah, these office people, they never stay in one place. No matter who you're looking for, you won't be able to find him.
3. Whatever happens, don't be afraid. [You know that] I'm with you.
4. Animals are [just] the way nature created them.
5. He can allow himself that. He's got as much money as there are stars in the sky.
6. Stand straight and walk proud, as if there were no shooting all around.
7. It's as if you dropped out of [a clear blue] sky.
8. "Excuse me, I think I stepped on [your foot]."
"It's nothing."
9. Since he's abroad, he won't be paying taxes.
10. I don't feel right asking such a favor of him, even though I know him well.
11. Despite [the fact] that his parents are rich, he is very hardworking.
12. He keeps his mouth shut even though he knows all the answers.
13. Although he's still [quite] young, he's very well thought of.

14. Only a [political] party whose members are prepared for any sacrifice can count on success.
15. [You wouldn't believe] what sorts of machines they think up to make people's lives easier.
16. They (= our people) say all sorts of things about America here.
17. You say, "Watch what others do and do as they do." Why? If some person were to go naked down the street, should I do as he does?
18. Every time she wore a new dress, he would spill his drink all over it. No one ever knew if he did it on purpose or accidentally.
19. Lilyana used to be Maria's friend until Maria stole her husband from her. They aren't speaking [even] now, although her husband has long since died.

LESSON 18.

(pp. 53-54)

ANGEL, YOU'RE MY ONLY HOPE.

// Veselin comes out of the building, and sees Angel and David sitting on a bench in the garden across the street. //

Angel. I was just asking David where he's staying, so we can look for a pub somewhere in that direction.

David. My apartment is in the center, on one of [those] little streets behind the monument of the Tsar Liberator.

Veselin. Aha, behind the horse's tail. The Russian club is close to there, you can go there.

David. But aren't you coming with us?

Angel. Come on along, man! It won't be as much fun without you. Julie copped out, and now you ... Besides, I don't know where this club is.

Veselin. Unfortunately, I just remembered that a friend promised to drop by our place this evening.

Angel. Where did you dig up this friend [all of a sudden]? If I remember correctly, your plan was to be (you were supposed to be) in Gabrovo today. Isn't that right? But never mind.

// Angel and David say goodbye to Veselin at the tram stop. Veselin heads home, and the two new acquaintances decide nevertheless to have dinner together. //

Angel. It's good you aren't a vegetarian like Julie – where would we find you any meatless food at this hour?

David. Don't restaurants serve vegetarian dishes?

Angel. How should I know? I haven't asked. You tell me now, what sort of man is it that can get enough to eat of [just] grass?

David. Vegetables are very good for you.

Angel. No argument there. Ah, you don't know how I love a small rakia with a mixed salad. Or eggplant puree – you want to lick your fingers! But only if I know that grilled meat is coming up next.

David. Do you live alone?

Angel. Ah, if only! I live with my folks. Mother and Dad are already retired. In the evenings after work I help them out in the garden. If I'm not invited somewhere, that is. I have a lot of friends in Balchik.

David. I understand that Balchik is a very attractive city. It's too bad that Julie and I didn't know anything about it, which is why we didn't go to see it.

Angel. You can't see everything on one visit. Leave something for next year. You're coming to Bulgaria again, aren't you?

David. Maybe I will.

Angel. Come by all means! And come by to see me in Balchik. It'll make my mother happy.

David. I haven't yet decided what I'm doing next summer. It's too early to make plans.

Angel. Why do you have to think about [things] so much? Without thinking much about it, I became a tile-layer and I don't regret it a bit. I've got a touch for it. I've always got customers. Just the other day one of them phoned me and started right in to cry, "Angel, you're my only hope – no matter what I do, these damned tiles fall off, and there it is. Come at once!" Well, it's obvious what happened. They built that house the year before last. I did the tiles in the bathroom for them and it was pretty as a picture. But for the kitchen she couldn't find any nice tiles. Well, to tell the truth, it wasn't so much that there weren't any nice tiles but you know how women are – they don't want a single one of their neighbors to have tiles like theirs. They want to be unique. So while I was waiting for her to choose the tiles, I took on another job. When she finally called me, I had to refuse – I didn't have the time. People had been waiting for months. So she had to bring in someone else to do it and there you are. But then I took pity on her, you know? I went over on a Sunday afternoon and like a flash fixed up her kitchen for her.

David. Angel, look, there's a tavern over there. Let's go in there, OK?

Angel. Will we find a table?

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(pp. 72-73)

1. He who seeks finds [what he's looking for].
2. I've started to forget a lot. I can't remember where I put what. No matter what I start to look for, I can't find it.
3. You can't expect him to find you a book to translate. He'll be too lazy to look [for one]. He doesn't even search properly for himself, but translates whatever falls into his lap.
4. "Do your children study French at school, or English?"
"My children studied German for six years, but they didn't learn a thing."
"You can't learn a foreign language like that. You have to study at least two hours a day in order to get some sort of result."
5. Let's come to some sort of decision at last. We've been pondering [this] for a week and still haven't come up with anything. You arrive every morning with new ideas and in the evening you say, "I thought it over [and decided that] this idea is no good, we have to come up with something new."
6. Both of them knit beautifully. However, the mother is faster, and can finish off a sock a day. The daughter is slower – she needs two days to finish a sock.

7. Someone is knocking at the door. But I'm sitting here in my room quiet as a mouse and not answering. A strange person: he knocks once and then, after a long pause, once again. Just when I decide that he's gone, he knocks again. I wonder who he is? Should I go and open the door? There, he just knocked again.
8. After a long cold winter the sun came out and the [trees in the] forest once again began to put out leaves. The sun is shining [even] now.
9. The weather is very strange this summer: the sun is out briefly in the morning but in the afternoon it always starts to rain.
10. Strange people – in their family they swallow the pits along with the olives. First it was the father who started to swallow them. He swallowed two. He liked it. Then the others followed his example. But they don't let the children swallow many. They swallow only three each before breakfast. No more.
11. I used to go by their house often. The light in front of it was always on. The other day, though, it was dark in front of their house. Then all of a sudden the light went on. It shone a bit and then went out. Ever since then, it always goes on whenever I go by their house. It's probably saying hello to me.
12. Squirrels are great housekeepers. They take whatever they find to their holes. There, this one is carrying a nut too. Let's see if it takes it into its hole.
13. His eyes are open.
14. His eyes are [really] open.
15. The border guard took her passport and got off the train. When the train left, there was still no sign of either him or the passport. She was terribly upset.
16. The dean handed the diploma to the student and shook his hand.
17. Dear God, what a lovely little baby you are! Look at those sweet little blue eyes! And these darling little hands!
18. Kamen, if your head hurts, you need to have a little drink of this lovely warm milk.
19. "Mom, give me a little money for candy."
"Here's money for you."

LESSON 19

(pp. 81-82)

A WALK AROUND SOFIA

// Early in the morning on the next day, breakfast is over, the coffee is finished, and the dishes have been washed jointly by all three. Today Pavlina and Dimităr want to take Milena around Sofia. Pavlina also takes along her big dog. //

Pavlina. Milenche, how long has it been since you've been in Sofia?

Milena. Oh, a long time. It must be five or six years.

Dimităr. Sofia has changed a lot since then. You're not going to recognize it.

Pavlina. Yes. If it's been that long since the last time you were here, you will certainly notice many changes.

Milena. Where are we going?

Dimityr. I suggest we go down Rakovski to Ruski boulevard.

Pavlina. Not Ruski boulevard, but Tsar Liberator [boulevard]. They changed the name, you know.

Dimităr. It doesn't matter. They've changed the names of so many streets. I can't get used to all these new names. Then, from there along the yellow brick pavement past the Military Club to Parliament Square and Alexander Nevski [cathedral].

Pavlina. [Only] a few of the yellow bricks are left ... Every year or so you see yet another section replaced with asphalt.

Dimităr. Quite right! People can break a leg on those slippery bricks in the winter.

Pavlina. But the asphalt is nowhere near as pretty. Did you know, Milenche, that such bricks aren't to be found anywhere else in Bulgaria? My mother, God rest her soul, used to tell me that they were brought from the Czech lands at the turn of the century. In the newspapers of the time there are cartoons of the despondent Sofia coquettes lifting their skirts [only] up to their ankles. Poor things, they don't have any more excuse for showing their legs. No more mud, you see ...

Dimităr. From the University we can take the trolleybus to the Palace of Culture. Have you been inside?

Milena. No, I haven't, even though they had finished the construction [when I was last here]. There was a teacher's conference there once, but I wasn't able to get in.

Dimităr. Weren't you invited?

Milena. Of course they had invited me, but I had forgotten [and left] my invitation in the hotel.

Pavlina. I've been there many times, always through connections. Once I was at the opening of an exhibition, organized by a friend of mine. I had also left my invitation at home, but my friend knew everyone at the checkpoint ...

Milena. Oh, Mitko, look! Those people across the street, aren't they the ones from the train yesterday?

Dimităr. Yes indeed, that's them. And they have a dog too. Let's cross the street and say hello to them. I don't think they've seen us yet. Look how involved they are in their conversation.

Pavlina. Wait for the green light!

// After they wait for the light at the intersection to change, they cross the street. //

Milena. Kamen, Nadka, hi!

Dimităr. Hello, Tanya!

Tanya. Oh, what a surprise! Hello, hello.

Milena. Tanya, may I present my mother[-in-law].

Tanya. I'm very pleased to meet you.

Kamen. Mom, look at this lady's dog!

Nadka. What's his name?

Pavlina. Bart. It's short for Bartholomew. He's a pedigree.

Nadka. Mom, does a pedigree bite?

Pavlina. He doesn't bite, sweetheart. Bart loves small children.

Dimităr. So you've come out for a stroll too? Why not go together? We're going towards Parliament Square.

Tanya. Let's go.

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1. You probably don't know him. When you got to Sofia, he had already left.
2. Tanya had already purchased the strawberries when she remembered that there was no sugar in the house.
3. The shops had already closed when you called. What could I do?
4. Before the encounter at Milena's family's house they had seen each other a few times but had never spoken. Once they had even traveled together for several hours in the same compartment without greeting each other.
5. She had heard of this library but had never gone there.
6. Ivan had invited her but she was not able to come.
7. Ivan had invited her but she was not able to come.
8. He had invited her but she was not able to come.
9. Didn't you have a bit of that money left? Wasn't some of that money of yours left?
10. They'd told them about it but they'd forgotten it.
11. What's been lived through will not be forgotten.
12. The decision was reached by us all. We can't change it just like that.
13. The proposal was made by the Union of Writers.
14. "The table is set. Let's eat!"
"But who set it? You've been with us the whole time."

15. Everything you see around [you] is the work of the industrious hands of our pupils.
16. I had washed the window and until recently it sparkled clean in the sunlight. Now, however, I see on it traces of little hands. It appears that my small friend has been to visit again while I was not here.
17. “Did you sew this button on yesterday?”
“Hardly. It’s missing. When I do something, I do it [right]. If I’ve sewed on a button, it stays sewed even after the shirt [itself] is torn [to rags].”
18. They constantly invite him to international conferences and symposia. He was invited to the Amsterdam congress as well. I saw his name on the list of honored guests.
19. Nadka is all washed, and her hair is combed. She’s wearing her new dress. Her shoelaces are tied. She’s standing by the door and waiting impatiently for someone to take her to the zoo.

LESSON 20

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DO YOU KNOW HOW DOGS ARE TRAINED?

// Milena and Dimităr are walking along Patriarch Euthymius street hand in hand. Several yards behind them come Tanya and Pavlina with the two children. The dogs are gamboling about them. //

Nadka. Auntie, our Bobby will look like Bart when he grows up, won't he?

Pavlina. How can Bobby become like Bart? They are different breeds.

Nadka. Well, he'll learn. We have a manual at home for training dogs.

Pavlina. And do you know how dogs are trained?

Nadka. How?

Kamen. You take a stick and throw it far away. Then you make the dog fetch it.

Nadka. But what if he doesn't want to? Do you beat him? I'm not going to let you beat our Bobby!

Pavlina. That's not how it's done. Dogs love their masters very much and want to please them. You just have to explain to them what's allowed and what's not.

Nadka. Mom, Bobby's my dog, isn't he?

Kamen. He's not yours, he's mine. I'm bigger.

Tanya. It looks like I'll have to put my foot down again. How many times have I told you that you mustn't fight? Bobby is your father's dog. He bought him, didn't he?

Kamen. He bought him, but we are going to train him. Besides, Dad is never home.

Tanya. Your father doesn't have time to waste. He has to earn a living for us all.

Pavlina. What does your husband do?

Tanya. He is a sports reporter and travels a great deal. He goes all over Bulgaria on assignment. Last year the editors even sent him abroad to cover the Olympics.

Pavlina. Really? Maybe they knew my late husband. He had many friends in the TV sports bureau. Velemir Karastoyanov, surely you've heard of him?

Nadka. Hey Mom! If I say, "Bobby, that's not drinking water", won't he obey me?

Kamen. It's obvious you don't know anything about dogs.

Nadka. And if I call him [by name]?

Kamen. Calling [his name] won't help. Why should he listen to you if he's thirsty? If I were [thirsty], I wouldn't listen either.

Pavlina. And you'd be wrong. A well trained dog doesn't touch anything that he's not allowed to. You're not more stupid than a dog, are you?

Dimityr. Look! Bart and Bobby seem to have become friends.

Milena. They just met each other and are already playing together, while you two are fighting.

Tanya. Kamen! Nadka! We can't hear ourselves speak because of you. Walk ahead and act properly. If you behave yourselves, I'll buy you some ice cream on the way back.

Nadka. I don't want ice cream. I feel like eating popcorn.

Kamen. Well, I want both ice cream and popcorn. And Bobby surely wants a soft drink.

Pavlina. Drinking carbonated beverages is bad for dogs.

Kamen. Well then, I'll drink Bobby's.

Nadka. I want a soft drink too.

Tanya. Quiet! It's not at all clear if there will be any soft drinks at all if you continue trying to outshout each other. We're not going to listen to you only.

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1. These mushrooms are poisonous. They're not edible.
2. "How are you?"
"Don't ask – you don't want to hear."
3. This water is not for drinking.
4. I don't have any money to spare.
5. Cooking takes a lot of time. You just finish cooking something and it's all gone (eaten up) already.
6. My job as a child was washing the dishes.
7. Rakia is made from plums, grapes and – more rarely – other fruits. In the mountain regions, where grapevines don't grow, they make rakia from plums.
8. The valleys in Bulgaria are very fertile. They grow all sorts of fruits and vegetables there.
9. Not everyone is of the opinion that it's nicer to summer at the seashore than in the mountains.
10. Our seaside resorts are frequented by visitors from different countries.
11. "Granny Pena, do they make kachamak in your village?"
"Of course, how could they not? They make it with suet cracklings, with feta cheese, with all sorts of things."
12. We are not obliged to wear ties at work. They do oblige us to come to work each day, however.
13. The sun has set and is no longer visible on the horizon.
14. "Excuse me for [arriving] late. I got lost."
"Didn't they tell you where the University was?"
15. "You look a bit down to me. You're not sick, are you?"
"I've got something of a cold. My back is stiff and my head hurts a bit."
16. This writer has been highly esteemed in cultural circles. His books sell out in a flash. He's won many prizes, both here and abroad.

17. Inasmuch as I was not informed of the exam results in time, I missed the deadline for submitting my documents.
18. They were amazed to see [what happened to] their new T-shirts after the first wash. They had shrunk two sizes, and the inscription was almost completely gone.
19. The circumstances do not require immediate reaction.
20. They've had to close off this street to traffic because of the repairs.

LESSON 21

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DON'T YOU REMEMBER ME?

// The telephone rings at Mrs. Petrov's house. //

Ivanka. Hello!

Veselin. Good morning! This is Veselin Hristov. Is it convenient to speak with Julie? She hasn't gone out yet, has she?

Ivanka. Hello. Veselin, is it? Veselin who? I didn't know that Julie knew some[one named] Veselin.

Veselin. You saw me yesterday. I was carrying Julie's bag [for her].

Ivanka. You don't say! So you're that bearded one, then ... You tell me, now, what [is the point of] these new fashions? It's as if you were brought up in the wild.

Veselin. It's easier with a beard. You get up in the morning, splash a few handfuls of water on your face, and you're ready [to go]. And there's also no chance of cutting yourself. But we can talk of that some other time, I'm in a hurry now. Can you please call Julie?

Ivanka. I'll go see if she's gone out. I didn't hear her go out, anyway. But I've gotten very deaf lately. She's probably in her room. Wait a bit.

Julie. Hello?

Veselin. Hello, Julie! It's Veselin. You remember me from the trip yesterday, don't you?

Julie. Yes. Yes, of course I remember. How are you?

Veselin. Fine, thank you. I'm calling to make good on my promise.

Julie. What promise?

Veselin. What [do you mean], "what [promise]"? I promised to get you in touch with Professor Popov and to set up a meeting with him for you. I'm a serious person. If I say [I'll do] something, then I do it. As the proverb [says], I'm a man of my word.

Julie. Yes, well, what happened?

Veselin. Well, I phoned them last night even, but at first no one picked up the phone.

Julie. Probably there was no one at home.

Veselin. I was about to hang up when his wife answered. She said that Sasho had gone to bed early and she didn't want to wake him. He'd been testing students all day and was dead on his feet. We agreed that I would call again early this morning before he left for work.

Julie. I feel bad that you've wasted so much time arranging this meeting. [But] it really is [an] important [one] for David and me ...

Veselin. Don't worry. What do you mean, "waste of time"? I'm happy to be able to do something for you. So, early this morning I picked up the phone and caught Sasho at the door. He was just on his way out. He said that today he was going to be working in his office at the University. He said to bring you straight up to him. The best time to go is in the afternoon. Is around three o'clock [a] good [time]?

Julie. Yes, that's a very good time.

Veselin. So, [I'll see you] at a quarter of three at the University?

Julie. Where exactly?

Veselin. On the steps in front of the main entrance. Between the statues of the brothers Evlogi and Hristo Georgiev.

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1. They haven't set foot in our meetings.
2. I haven't the heart to tell him that I've decided not to go on the trip.
3. We haven't happened to hear of that verbal form.
4. Worse things have happened to him.
5. Will you see if they've gone off yet?
6. If you hear them start singing loud again, call the police.
7. "We've never had Chinese food."
"We tried it once, but we didn't like it."
8. I studied Russian, but I've forgotten everything.
9. "Do you play the piano?"
"No. I studied it for ten years, but to no avail."
10. He used to come by often, but he hasn't put in an appearance for five years [now].
11. They haven't been in our region since their mother died.
12. There's this "law": you wash the windows, and it starts to rain.
13. Whenever I heard rustling in the kitchen, my heart would [start to] beat fast.
14. Every time we meet her, we greet her pleasantly.
15. Every time they got together, they would go off to have a rakia.
16. Be careful what you say in her presence: she immediately tells him whatever she hears.
17. Nothing [ever] goes my way: if I decide to take a bath, the hot water runs out.

LESSON 22

(pp. 147-148)

WEREN'T YOU GOING TO COME TOGETHER?

// Veselin is waiting in front of the University. Julie appears, out of breath. //

Veselin. Hello, Julie! But where's David? Weren't you going to come together?

Julie. Hello! Excuse me, please, I'm a little late. I didn't want to leave the house before David came. But as it turned out, he didn't come.

Veselin. I hope nothing bad has happened to him?

Julie. It depends on your point of view. We were supposed to meet this morning already. We were going to go to the library. I waited and waited but there was no sign of him. I called him on the phone around noon and woke him up. I suspect he would have slept until evening if I hadn't called.

Veselin. I hope he's not ill?

Julie. It would be better if he were ill. Last night he and Angel decided that every kofte had to be washed down with a bottle of Suhindol red wine. So today he's "resting".

Veselin. Everybody knows that you don't drink red wine on an empty stomach.

Julie. Well, now David knows it too.

Veselin. Should we put off the appointment with the professor, then?

Julie. I don't know. David was going to ask him so many things. But on the other hand, the meeting is all arranged and the man is expecting us. I don't really feel like putting it off.

Veselin. Indeed. Let's go up then.

// Julie slips on the stairs. Veselin catches her by the arm. //

Julie. I almost fell.

Veselin. Julie, why don't you come over to the café "Crystal" after your appointment with the Professor? By that time I will just have finished my work in the editorial office. We can drink a cup of coffee at leisure. You know where the café Crystal is, don't you?

Julie. Yes, I know where it is. In the city park on Rakovski. I'll be happy to come.

// Julie and Veselin arrive at Professor Popov's office. Veselin knocks, but there is no answer. //

Veselin. Where could he have gone? Wasn't he going to wait for us? Ah, the door is open. He didn't hear us. Sasho, hello. Look who I've brought you.

Alexander. Hello. Come in, please.

Veselin. Let me introduce you to Julie Baker. She is a student, from America.

Alexander. Pleased to meet you. Popov. Alexander Popov.

Julie. I am Julie Baker.

// They shake hands. //

Veselin. Julie will tell you what she's interested in, and I'll be on my way. I'll leave you to have a chat.

Alexander. Sit down, man! I was under the impression that two American students were coming [to see me].

Julie. My colleague David Boyd indeed was to have been present for [this] appointment but at the last minute he was detained.

Veselin. I can't stay. I'm off. I'm afraid they're expecting me at the office.

Alexander. What's the hurry? Sit down. Work isn't a rabbit, it's not going to run away.

Veselin. No, no. I'll be going [now]. Sasho, thank you. I'll call you one of these days.

Julie, I'll see you at five at the "Crystal".

=====

(p. 158)

1. By the time we get home he will already have made dinner.
2. Set out early. By the time the sun comes up, you'll already have reached the mountaintop.
3. You [live] very far away [from us]. The children will be all grown up before we're able to come your way again.
4. It's early. They won't have gone to sleep [yet] when we call.
5. We can call even later [than this]. They won't be asleep [yet].
6. The guests are taking their time; we'll have drunk all the wine and eaten up all the sweets by the time they get here.
7. Weren't you going to go to Bulgaria?
8. The feta cheese would have run out long ago if everyone had been eating it.
9. The child pulled the tablecloth off and the vase just missed falling.
10. Everything would have been clear if you'd/[s]he'd explained it properly.
11. Wouldn't you have been sad if you hadn't come with us to the concert?
12. They wouldn't have thrown the flowers out if they hadn't [all] withered.
13. She would have done better / made a better impression at the exam if she'd been prepared.
14. This appointment was for (was to have taken place) tomorrow, wasn't it?
15. [If you'd been] in their class, you would have been the tallest. The other girls in that class are shorter.
16. Everything would have been completely different if war had not broken out.

17. Come at five o'clock. I'll just have gotten through work.

LESSON 23

(pp. 166-167)

UNDER THE SHINING SUN OF A SUMMER AFTERNOON

// Tanya and Pavlina catch up with Dimităr and Milena at the corner of Patriarch Euthymius and Rakovski. Under the shining sun of a summer afternoon the newlyweds look particularly happy. The dogs are gamboling about, yapping gaily. The children dissolve in laughter. //

Tanya. I hear that you weren't able to attend your son's wedding?

Pavlina. Alas, I took ill. That was to have been the most important day of my life, and I spent it in the hospital. I had had a white linen suit made especially for the occasion. Friends were to have driven me to Varna in a Mercedes.

Dimităr. The wedding pictures will be ready any day, and I'll show them to you. Things would have been more fun with you there, but what can you do? [That's] fate ...

Pavlina. I am so photogenic. I would have come out very nicely in the photos if I had made it to Varna.

Milena. Just think, Mother, how much more terrible it would have been if the crisis had occurred on the road.

Tanya. What crisis?

Pavlina. Appendicitis. It hit me the day before the wedding. They rushed me to the hospital and operated the same day. If I had known something was wrong, I would have taken preventive measures.

Tanya. An inflamed appendix can have very serious consequences. Be happy that you got off so easily.

Pavlina. While I was in the hospital, a neighbor looked after Bart. He was in such agony without me that he would have died if I hadn't returned quickly. He suffers a lot when I am not around. And then the neighbor doesn't know what to feed him. Giving him chicken livers, I ask you! If I had spent a few more days in the hospital, I would have lost him.

Tanya. Do you feel better now?

Pavlina. I'm fine, thank you. If I were not well, would I be out strolling along Rakovski? I look after my health. Health is the greatest treasure a person can own.

Milena. While you have it, you ignore it, but woe to the one who loses it.

Dimităr. Ah, no – simply to be healthy is like living with an illness. Without money life is no fun, no matter how healthy a person can be.

Tanya. If you're healthy enough to work, then you'll have money too.

Milena. That's how it is ...

Tanya. And where did you go on your honeymoon?

Milena. Our wedding sponsors have a villa in Balchik, on the seashore. The veranda is constructed so as to have shade at all times of day. You can walk to the beach in your swimsuit – the windows [of the villa] look right out on it. We spent ten days there.

Dimităr. Milena enjoyed the sun so much that if I hadn't forced her to come into the shade she would have been burnt to a crisp by evening. Even still, she was red as a lobster the next day, and I had to smear her with yogurt.

Tanya. Was it your first time in Balchik?

Dimităr. I was going to go there on vacation a number of years ago with some friends, but something came up and our plans didn't work out.

Milena. I had been there several times and I knew Mitko would like it.

Dimităr. I had never seen so many cactuses in one place as they have there in the botanical garden.

Pavlina. Look how far ahead the children and the dogs have gone. By the time we get to the park near "Crystal", they'll have drunk water from the fountains. And Bart mustn't drink cold water.

Dimităr. Let's hurry, then, and catch up with them.

=====

(p. 181)

1. As he flies over your beautiful country, the president sends you his hearty greetings and wishes for a bright future.
2. Emphasizing the importance of additional capital investment, the minister thanked the bankers in attendance for their participation in the project.
3. On the basis of these and other data, the committee decided to shut the factory down temporarily.
4. Extending his negative attitude from father to son, the rich uncle decided to deprive the latter of an inheritance.
5. All official letters in Bulgaria must have an "outgoing number".
6. We cannot accept their letter because it has no "outgoing number".
7. People who read know this author well.
8. Everyone leaving the country must fill out a customs declarations.
9. In the house next door there are two dogs that are constantly barking.
10. Unable to bear the attacks of his colleagues, he left the [lecture] hall.
11. People who have the flu are a threat to the health of those around them.
12. The train [arriving] from Plovdiv will be an hour late.
13. "What do you think, has he been here while we were gone?"
"I don't think so. Had he been here, he would have seen the announcement. But he didn't know anything about it when I talked with him this morning."

14. Dimityr would have changed his name three times by now if it hadn't cost so much.
15. Those who survived the war hardly suspected that five years later life in the cities would have stagnated and that many of them would have failed to reestablish the homes they had lost.

LESSON 24

(pp. 190-191)

THERE'S SUPPOSED TO BE AN INTERESTING SITE [THERE].

// Julie is in the park before "Crystal" and looks around the tables at the café for Veselin.
Veselin gets up from his table and waves to attract her attention. //

Veselin. Julie! Over here!

Julie. Hello. How pleasant it is here outdoors.

Veselin. How did your talk with the professor go?

Julie. I was terribly nervous because David wasn't there, but the professor was very kind. He showed me some of his books, and told me about the newest finds. He said that he was intending to leave for a dig in Topolnitsa next week and that he could take David and me with him.

Veselin. Where is this Topolnitsa supposed to be? In the Petrich region?

Julie. Yes, right on the border between Bulgaria and Greece. There's supposed to be an interesting site there.

Veselin. I think I may have heard something about it. Didn't they find gold there?

Julie. No. There's a prehistoric village and a necropolis there. Then the professor took me around the department to introduce me to some of his colleagues. The day after tomorrow one of them is going to take me around the archaeological museum.

Veselin. In the Black Mosque, right? I haven't been there since grade school.

Julie. David will be very pleased when I tell him about the professor's invitation.

Veselin. If Angel hasn't outmaneuvered you and invited him somewhere to gather grapes.

Julie. What do you mean, gather grapes? It's still summertime.

Veselin. And autumn is coming. More to the point, how do you like your coffee? With sugar or without? And aren't you tired of speaking to each other as "vie"?

Julie. With one spoonful of sugar, please. Look at those children over there by the fountain – aren't they Nadka and Kamen?

Veselin. Not "look" in the formal form, but "look" in the familiar one. Yes, that's them. With their mother. And also that couple from Varna.

Julie. Let's invite them over to our table.

// Veselin brings Tanya, the children, and the others over. The dogs curl up under the table. //

Dimităr. What a small world! This is our second chance meeting of the day. Mother, this is Julie, who traveled with us [yesterday]. She is from America, but speaks Bulgarian very well.

Milena. Confess now, how did you two find each other? I bet *that* wasn't a chance meeting!

Tanya. Don't embarrass the young man, now you see he's blushing.

Veselin. I'm not blushing. It's just hot here.

Julie. Veselin arranged a meeting for me with Professor Popov.

Veselin. Julie was just telling me that next week she's going on a dig. Her meeting with the professor went really well, though David never showed up. The professor even showed her his books and told her about the newest finds. One of his colleagues is going to take her around the museum the day after tomorrow.

Dimităr. What about David – why didn't he come?

Julie. Apparently he and Angel were drinking red wine well into the night, and today David has a hangover.

Tanya. Julie, so that means that on Sunday you'll still be in Sofia?

Julie. It looks that way.

=====

(p. 203)

1. He claimed that he was going to read all afternoon, but when I called he wasn't there.
2. They tried to convince us that the news wouldn't get around [but we weren't so sure].
3. They convinced us that the news wouldn't get around.
4. She tells everyone that she reads all day long but I regularly see her smoking for hours [at a time] on the balcony.
5. He says that he was working. If you call that work, I wonder what they do when they take time off?
6. Petăr thinks that the peppers need more vinegar.
7. She thinks that the competition was fixed.
8. Did you hear that her grandmother is [said to be] ill?
9. I've been told that they have the best grilled meats in Samokov and the best yogurt is said to be available in Yablanitsa. Is it true?
10. He said that he wasn't going to go out before dinner.
11. In Russia people are said not to like Bulgarian feta.
12. They say the prices of airline tickets are going to go up.
13. We're "lazy" – at least that's what people are saying behind our backs.
14. According to the conversation that was overheard, it appears that no one wants to undertake union leadership.
15. Did you know that lizards are supposed to grow a new tail at the very spot where an old one was cut off?

16. During Turkish times, Bulgarians didn't serve in the army.
17. At that time my parents' friends led a very pleasant life in Marseilles.
18. In 1933 Georgi Dimitrov spent nine months in prison on the charge that he had set fire to the Reichstag.
19. In families where children died young, it was the custom to give children "ugly" names so that Death would not take a liking to them.
20. They said they would come if they found someone to leave the children with.

LESSON 25

(pp. 211-212)

WELL, YOU'RE QUITE THE GENTLEMAN!

Tanya. I've got an idea. Why don't we all go to Vitosha together? My husband was just telling me that he doesn't have to work on Sunday.

Kamen. I'll show Bobby the moraines. Bobby, wake up! Haven't you slept enough? We're going to Vitosha tomorrow!

Nadka. And I'll show Auntie Julie my dolls. Mom, we're going to take them all with us, aren't we?

Tanya. They'll just be a bother on [a trip to] Vitosha. We can take them but [only] if you promise to carry them yourself.

Kamen. Just listen to what she's going to say! he'll "promise", and then later on when it gets hard she'll say she didn't promise after all and she'll give them to you to carry.

Pavlina. But won't you help your dear little sister carry her dolls?

Kamen. They're hers, let her carry them. I'm going to carry Bobby if he gets tired.

Milena. Well, you're quite the gentleman, young Kamen. If you help your wife this much when you grow up, I pity her.

Kamen. If she's blonde, then I'll help her.

Tanya. Julie, you must absolutely bring David.

Julie. I don't know whether he will want to come. He was saying that he recently broke his leg, that he gets tired quickly, and that he can't walk for long distances.

Veselin. Probably he said it as an excuse so as to sit in some bar.

Milena. Oh, that's mean of you. It happens once to the poor fellow to overindulge in red wine and then all of a sudden everybody "knows" that he's a souse.

Dimităr. Well, you're quite "democratic" when it comes to other peoples' business. If it were me, who knows how you'd haul me over the coals!

Pavlina. But Mitentse, you don't drink do you? It's never been the case in our family that men have been drinkers.

Dimităr. But how about women?

Pavlina. What sort of stories are you talking about?! Aunt Mariyka, may God rest her soul, used to like to sip a liqueur or two when guests came. But no more than that ...

Dimităr. And then she would sleep all afternoon, saying "her head hurt".

Pavlina. Yes, she used to have terrible headaches, poor thing.

Tanya. I can't tell you how long I've been dreaming of a trip to Vitosha. We'll take blankets with us. We'll make shishkebobs and salad. The children will have some clean air to breathe, and we'll sit and chat and have a nice rest. Work, work, all the time. No end of work.

Julie. I thought that you were proposing we all carry knapsacks and climb up to Black Peak.

Pavlina. If we're going to Black Peak, then I can't come. The doctors don't allow me to overexert myself or get tired.

Tanya. If we go to Black Peak, it'll be with the gondola lift. Children also tire quickly.

Dimităr. So what's the decision?

Tanya. Let's meet tomorrow at eight A.M. at the last stop on the tram line 5 in Knyazhevo.

Milena. OK. We'll all three come, right, Mother?

Pavlina. If you insist. And now it's time to be going.

Tanya. We're leaving too. Until tomorrow.

=====

(pp. 223-224)

1. You're a big liar, fellow!
2. He looked me straight in the eyes, I tell you, and lied: he said he's "always defended me" from my colleagues' attacks!
3. She's going to become a movie actress! Stuff and nonsense!
4. The reason she is late is that she [supposedly!] forgot her wallet at home and had to go back to get it.
5. When the performance began, there was no sign of him. He had been dying for a cup of coffee and was going to go to the café across the street, supposedly "just for a bit". But then he met some friends and completely forgot that we were waiting for him here.
6. They all claimed that they were against, but when it came time to vote, they all voted for.
7. Radiation apparently causes cancer.
8. When they accused him of plagiarism, he announced that he had written the book many years ago and had given it to numerous colleagues to read.
9. It's claimed that these are his words but I think that it was Mark Twain who said them.
10. Have you heard that they've apparently already finished the film we were talking about?
11. Is it true that white bread is bad for you?
12. He [said he] couldn't bear [even] to hear of meat, but then he goes off to make ham sandwiches when he thinks that no one is looking.
13. Airline tickets are supposedly going to go up in price before next week.
14. She tells everyone that she "has read" all the Russian classics.
15. I looked for him in his office and found only books strewn all about, [from which I deduce that] he got tired of working and left.
16. You won't believe what a stunt he pulled on them yesterday! He apparently just got tired of work and left!

LESSON 26

(pp. 230-231)

I WONDER WHAT SORT OF PRESENT TO GET HIM.

Veselin: Julie, will you have some juice, or maybe a pastry? Look, they're getting a parfait at the next table.

Julie. No. No, thank you. I don't want to spoil my supper. I have to call David and see how he's feeling after he's slept it off.

Veselin. There's a phone on the corner. I'll come with you.

// Julie dials David's number. //

Julie. It's ringing, but nobody answers. Could he have gone out somewhere?

Veselin. Try again. Maybe it's the wrong number.

// Julie looks in her address book. //

Julie. No, that's the number.

Veselin. Let me try. Ah, good. Someone's picking up the receiver. David, hello.

David. Hello.

Veselin. This is Veselin. We met in the train yesterday. I was carrying a lot of luggage: a video camera, a tape recorder, a camera.

David. Oh, yes. I remember. Angel helped you bring them into the compartment.

Veselin. Julie was worried about you.

David. There's nothing wrong with me. I'm fine. I was just getting ready to go out.

Veselin. Where are you going?

David. I'm going to meet Angel at 7:00 at a pub on Graf Ignatiev street. He promised to bring me a detailed map of Bulgaria, [one on which] I'll be able to find all the villages where they have archaeological digs. I'm wondering what sort of present to get for him.

Veselin (to Julie). David is going out pub-crawling with Angel again.

// Julie looks at him in horror. //

Julie. Tell him that I want to come too.

Veselin. David, Julie and I will come to the pub too.

David. Come along. We'll wait for you.

// Veselin and Julie set off slowly towards Graf Ignatiev. There are many people on the streets. A young man with long hair is handing out leaflets to passersby. His gaze is fixed on Julie. An old woman is selling tulips. Two gudulka players are trying to outplay each other. One, dressed in folk costume, is playing very loud. Julie looks him over with interest. Veselin buys a tulip and gives it to Julie. //

Julie. Thank you. I love tulips. In America we have a big garden. My mother plants different flowers in it every year, but most often [she plants] tulips. She puts the bulbs out early in the spring, and later on she plants them in various parts of the garden.

Veselin. Well, my mother plants onions, tomatoes and peppers. I go during the spring to help her set them out in the garden.

Julie. So you're not from Sofia. Where are you from?

Veselin. From a village not far from here, in the Kyustendil region. They grow lots of fruits and vegetables in our parts.

Julie. It's already 7:30. Is it much farther to the pub?

Veselin. No, it's just a step or two away. Don't worry, David and Angel aren't going to get away from us.

=====

(p. 243)

1. The Danube flows into the Black Sea.
2. The children had thought up a new game. From the balcony, they poured water from bottles onto the heads of passersby.
3. One of the most moving plots in Bulgarian folk poetry tells of Master Manol, who immured his young bride into the church he was building in order to assure that the building would last.
4. They ran after him to tell him that he had dropped his driver's license.
5. The dog took off after the wolf and chased it until it drove it away.
6. Only icon lamps can be topped off [with oil]. Wine is added to cups only after that which had been poured out before has been drunk up.
7. The boys were racing each other all day.
8. Women have a longer life expectancy than men and regularly outlive them.
9. My copy of the book is inscribed, it won't get confused with yours.
10. I read the letter through once more, and then signed it.
11. She's on her feet and bustling about all day long.
12. Gossip like this undermines the foundations of our social structure.
13. Put something under the tablecloth to protect the table from stains in case we spill something.
14. They used to behead the unrepentant, now they just criticize them.

15. It was a terrible defeat: first the one army advanced but then it had to retreat under pressure from the other one.
16. The lance pierced him straight through the heart.
17. I'm spearing the olive with my fork.
18. If you don't watch out, you'll prick yourself with the needle.
19. I had already drifted off into sleep when the telephone suddenly rang.
20. We resolved this question even before you spoke to us of it.
21. The boy pulled a hair out of the horse's mane.

LESSON 27

(pp. 251-252)

YOU WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO MANAGE WITHOUT ME.

// Already through the window [of the pub] Veselin and Julie see that David and Angel have taken a corner table. //

Veselin. David doesn't look at all like a foreigner. If I ran into him on the street, I would never suppose that he comes all the way from America.

Julie. And me? Do I look like an American?

Veselin. Oh, yes. Blonde women are a rare thing in Bulgaria. I would gaze at myself all day in the mirror if I had such beautiful blue eyes.

// Finally Angel and David notice Veselin and Julie. They wave to them. //

Angel (to the group of young people at the next table). Excuse me, could you move aside a bit so the young lady can get through?

David. Welcome!

Veselin. Well found. I see that you haven't lost any time. You're already halfway through the bottle.

Angel. We've been here a whole hour. We're not going to stand here like [patient] horses before an empty feed bin, now are we?

Veselin. If I were expecting a lady, I'd hold out until she came.

Angel. What if she didn't show up at all? What would you do then?

Julie. Well, we're here. David, I have news for you – some good news and some bad news. Which do you want first?

David. Let's start with the good news.

Julie. Professor Popov is inviting us to go on a dig next week in Topolnitsa. He said that he would show us other sites [if he could] but at the end of the month he has to go abroad to a conference.

Angel. Hey, there's nothing nicer than a dig at Topolnitsa. They make a really nice Melnik red wine there ... Ah David – you wouldn't be able to manage there without me ... But then I'm busy, I can't come with you.

David. And what's the bad news?

Julie. Today we ran into our traveling companions from yesterday on the train. They're inviting us to Vitosha tomorrow. You're invited too, but no doubt you won't be able to come. You'll linger here in Sofia in this heat.

David. Why won't I be able to come?

Julie. But can you manage? Is your leg completely healed?

David. Oh, I've forgotten about that a long time ago. I wouldn't miss a chance to go to Vitosha tomorrow for anything in the world.

Angel. If I knew that such plans were afoot for tomorrow, I would have told my brother to put off laying the foundation until next Sunday.

Julie. What work is this?

Angel. My brother is building a villa near Kurilo. He's made a bargain with some workmen for tomorrow. They're going to pour the cement for the foundation. Well, I promised to help. We're brothers, one can't do otherwise ... You know how they say: you can't live in your brother's pocket, but he's there when you need him.

Veselin. Never mind. Vitosha's right next door. You can go another time.

Angel. You don't seem to get it at all. What counts for me is the company, man, not those Vitosha rocks! I'd give my soul [to have] good people [around].

David. Veselin, would you tell me what I need to bring tomorrow?

Veselin. Bring a sweater just in case it gets chilly. We'll take care of the rest.

David. If I'd brought my camera along, I'd have taken terrific photos on Vitosha.

Veselin. I could bring mine.

Julie. So we've agreed to meet Tanya, Dimităr and Milena at 8 A.M. at the last stop on the tram line 5, at Knyazhevo. We should [try to] be on time.

=====
(pp. 261-262)

1. Would you pass me the salt?
2. Excuse me, would you close the window? I feel a draft.
3. I am certain that you would like him very much.
4. It would be strange to suppose that no one heard him go out.
5. Could you tell me the time, please?
6. He could easily deal with one thug, but two are too much for him.
7. They would have accepted him more readily if he hadn't been so old.
8. Would you give my kindest regards to your husband?
9. They'd know what to do with him if they caught him on their own territory.
10. We would be more comfortable with separate housing.
11. It wouldn't surprise me if he turned out to be a spy.
12. I wouldn't be able to do that [even] if my life depended on it.
13. It wouldn't have mattered if it had happened in another age.
14. If I could deal with the situation myself, I wouldn't have asked you for this favor.
15. You don't mean [to say] that you went to see him?
16. There's nobody here. Could they have forgotten that we're coming?
17. Could you please move aside so I can get by?
18. You ought to have offered the lead to her. She would never have created such problems for you [as this other person].

LESSON 28

(pp. 268-269)

WHEN WOULD WE HAVE ANOTHER CHANCE TO SHOW THEM?

// Dimităr, Milena, Pavlina and the dog are waiting at the tram stop in Knyazhevo. It is exactly eight o'clock. //

Pavlina. Are we the earliest risers? Wouldn't it have been better if you'd left me in peace to finish my coffee instead of hanging around here and waiting?

Dimităr. I bet they'll come any minute [now]. [I'm sure that] they've already gotten on the tram.

Pavlina. [I'm sure that] they have not gotten on yet, because they're not here.

Milena. If the sun weren't shining right in my eyes, I'd be able to see whether or not some of our people are in that tram that's coming now.

Dimităr. Look, darling, that tall one over there, isn't that Veselin?

Pavlina. It's him. What a big knapsack he has on his shoulders! As if he were going to stay on Vitosha for good.

Veselin. Good morning! My alarm clock is broken and I didn't sleep a wink all night for fear that I'd miss you all.

Pavlina. Never fear, your heart-throb isn't here yet.

Milena. We brought only Russian salad, bread, salami and coffee in a thermos. What is all that you've dragged along?

Veselin. I've brought a little bit of everything. If we don't do it now, when are we ever going to have another chance to show these Americans what Bulgarian hospitality is?

Pavlina. What could you surprise them with? They've got everything there.

Veselin. I'm not sure that they have quite everything. And even if they do, it's one thing to have it there and completely another thing [to have it] here.

// David appears suddenly from behind their backs. //

David. Good morning. I would have gotten lost if I hadn't taken a taxi. Thank God the driver knew where Knyazhevo was.

// At that moment the next tram arrives and from its front door emerge Petăr, Tanya, Bobby and the children. From its back door emerges, last of all, Julie. //

Julie. Good morning. Had I known that you were in the same tram, I'd have come so we could chat along the way.

Tanya. I thought the whole tram had heard us. Shouting, squealing ... Kamen tried to tie Bobby's ears in a knot, and Bobby and Nadka were resisting.

Veselin. Who do my eyes see? It simply can't be true!

Petăr. Vesko, can that be you?

Veselin. Pesho, I nabbed you at the scene of the crime! No matter how many times I see you these last years, we never have a chance to talk enough. You say you're always busy, either you're heading off on a business trip or just getting back from a business trip and your wife is expecting you ...

Petăr. But it's all true.

Veselin. But then you find time to go on outings, huh?

Tanya. I can't [even] remember the last time we had a chance to go somewhere all together.

Veselin. The other day when I met your wife, it didn't even cross my mind that this could be the same Tanya that my friend got married to. Julie, do you remember I was telling you about a friend that I got on so well with? You know, Pesho, if you'd stayed at that editorial job, with your gifts you'd have made such a career by now ...

Tanya. He's fine where he is, too. The head editor thinks a great deal of him. And the pay is better.

Pavlina. This attractive young man must be your husband, Tanya.

Tanya. Oh, yes. Let me introduce you Petyo, may I present Pavlina, Dimităr's mother.

Petur. Pleased to make your acquaintance. I have already heard about you from my wife. You made quite an impression on her.

Dimităr. It looks like we're all here. We're not expecting anyone else, are we?

Julie. Everyone seems to be here.

Milena. Let's get underway then.

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(p. 283)

1. We were climbing up towards the summit. It was raining. I slipped and nearly fell.
2. He is such an experienced mountain climber. He couldn't have taken (I can't imagine him taking) such an absurd fall to his death.
3. It's a pity your daughter doesn't sing in the choir. She would have performed this song much better [than the one who did].
4. Buy yourself a songbird. It would cheer you up each morning with its singing.
5. It's good that I came back early from work, otherwise the cat would have eaten the canary.
6. This cat is so spoiled. It wouldn't [stoop to] smell out a mouse, not to speak of food.
7. If we'd forgotten to ask Aunt Vanya to water the flowers, they would all have wilted.
8. The flowers might wilt if someone doesn't water them.
9. You're late. The tea would have gotten cold if I hadn't put the teakettle on the stove.
10. We could do it this way. I'll make the tea and keep it warm on the stove. It probably wouldn't get cold for half an hour or an hour. You [just] come when you can.

11. I would have come, but at the last moment I ran out of energy.
12. Might you be able to answer this question?
13. If he knew, he would have come.
If he had known he [probably] would have come.
14. Our ancestors would have given an honorable response to that question.
Our ancestors would have answered that question properly.
15. Had I born him myself, he would not have resembled me so much.
16. Which would you prefer: to be healthy and rich or to be poor and sickly?
17. Would you ever wear (have worn) such a dress?
Would you have worn such a dress?
18. Just a bit more and I might have believed his story.
I nearly believed his story.
19. It's good it didn't go on any longer. He might have died of agony.
It's good it didn't go on any longer. He would have died of agony.
20. We would be interested to hear your report.
It would have been interesting for us to hear your report.
21. He's been in Moscow for five months, his Russian will certainly have improved.
22. They were here just ten minutes ago, they won't have made it to the movies yet.
23. I don't know how long I've known him, but it's certainly quite some time, because I remember him with hair.
24. He must have been in a great hurry this morning – his bed isn't even made.

LESSON 29

(pp. 291-292)

THEY'RE CARRIED AWAY WITH MEMORIES OF THE GOOD OLD DAYS.

// Our travelers have stretched out in the dappled shade of a meadow on Vitosha. Veselin and Petăr are all carried away with memories of the good old days. //

Petăr. Ah, what we went through in those five years when we were working together ...

We were like brothers.

Veselin. More than that. There wasn't a day that we didn't meet.

Petăr. You call it "meeting" – from morning till night we were together.

Veselin. Tanya, did you know that your husband saved my life? It's to him that I owe the ability to enjoy your company here today.

Tanya. Petyo is so modest. He has never mentioned anything to me about it.

Petăr. Drop it, it's an old story...

Veselin. Don't for a minute count on my silence. Let your wife know what a hero she has by her side.

Tanya. But what happened? You've really intrigued me.

Veselin. Well, as we often used to travel to far-out places, where roads are bad and passenger cars can't negotiate them, the paper had two jeeps at its disposal. It was presumed that they would be driven not by us journalists but by one of the drivers working for the paper. I don't remember exactly what happened on that particular day, but there was no driver for us. Petăr had just finished driving lessons, and I passed for an experienced driver. I'd had a license for two years, but since I didn't have a car, I'd only had the occasion to drive a few times during that whole period. And our job was in the Razlog region. Wintertime, when it gets dark early. Curves in the road, you wouldn't believe it. And slippery roads ... And cold ... You know what kind of heating there is in a jeep – none at all! But I didn't give up. I wouldn't say "Pesho, I'm not a driver for such roads, let's stay over in Razlog, tomorrow's another day, we'll get to the village eventually." All around us, not a living soul. And naturally I hit a tree. I don't remember anything [else]. Later Pesho told me what happened.

Petăr. If you only knew how scared I was. Blood was running down Vesko's head. "He's going to die," I said to myself. It was at least twenty kilometers to the nearest village, and we couldn't go forward, or back. The jeep was still in one piece, though. So – here goes, I said, and I decided to drive onward. I had to find a doctor for Vesko fast, you know. For the life of me, I can't remember how many hours I drove. Finally some lights flickered ahead. In fact it wasn't that late, seven or eight in the evening, if that. People came running out to us, they found a paramedic – where would you get a doctor in such a tiny village ... The paramedic looked him over and bound up his wounds. A good man, he was, he stayed up all night with Veselin.

Veselin. It turned out that the wound was superficial. There was some danger of concussion, but it passed. While I was unconscious, I apparently groaned in such a

frightening manner that the children of the people who had taken us in burst into tears and their mother couldn't comfort them at all.

Pavlina. Nothing like that would have happened if you had learned how to drive properly.

Veselin. It doesn't matter if you learn or if you don't learn. If you don't have a car, you don't get the practice. You forget fast what you learn in driving classes.

David. In America these days everybody drives. It's impossible without a car. I already have ten thousand miles on my car.

Julie. Not everyone used to have a car. You got your driver's license at sixteen, but parents often didn't allow their children to drive until they finished high school. Sometimes children used their parent's cars, more rarely they had their own cars. My father bought his first car when he was twenty-five years old. As for me, Mom and Dad gave me a car for my eighteenth birthday.

Veselin. What make of car was it?

Julie. A Toyota, they're less expensive. They'd bought it used.

Tanya. Ever since I can remember, Petyo's been behind the wheel. I can't think of a time when he didn't know how to drive.

Petyr. You see what you did, Vesko? They call that a "doubtful service".

Veselin. Why? What happened?

Petyr. Now my wife, thanks to your luck, will think that even the sun has spots.

Veselin. And you're the sun?

Petyr. Who else?

Veselin. Tanya, if you invite me over to your house, I can tell you all sorts of stories about your lord and master.

Tanya. We will for certain invite you.

Petyr. I knew I shouldn't introduce you two. Right away you ganged up on me ...

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(pp. 302-303)

1. Do you remember him ever carrying a big black bag?
2. I don't know if she ever said such a thing.
3. He knows a thing or two. He's lived both in a hut and a palace.
4. At that time they were said to have been living very modestly.
5. You surely know this part of town well. I remember that you used to live near here once.
6. They lived long and happily.
7. They were on scholarships while they were living there.
8. If you hadn't given up your place in line, by now you would have forgotten that you were ever waiting in that line.
9. "You won't be able to forgive yourself if you miss the beginning of the film."
"Don't worry. You don't know the things I've been able to forgive myself."

10. The sun has always shined and will continue to shine.
11. The sun used to shine more strongly.

12. We didn't know that he had made dinner.
13. We didn't know that he has been doing all the housework up till now.

14. He was saying that he remembered his grandfather's war stories well up till recently.

15. He'd forgotten [his] books at the institute another time as well, and so decided that he must have left them there.
16. I sewed with a needle this big once when I was at my grandmother's in the country.

17. His father was a great tailor. He used to sew clothes for all the Sofia grande dames before the war.
18. He'd been in more unpleasant situations, but can't remember when.

LESSON 30

pp. 310-311

WILL WE MEET AGAIN NEXT YEAR?

// It's already afternoon. The fire on which the group had cooked their shishkebabs, potatoes and peppers, has gone out. The grownups are drinking wine, beer and various cold drinks, each to his taste. The children and the dogs are running about after a ball. //

Tanya. Julie, how much longer will you be staying in Bulgaria?

Julie. Our plane is on August 31st. In just ten days. But it leaves from Frankfurt, so first we have to get there.

David. We're leaving Bulgaria in a week.

Veselin. Why don't you stay longer?

David. Our vacation's coming to an end. The school year is starting. Julie's and my last year.

Pavlina. What are your majors in school?

Julie. We've finished college, now we're graduate students.

Petăr. Really? And what are you writing dissertations on?

David. I'm an archaeologist, and Julie's field is ethnomusicology.

Veselin. Why didn't you tell me that you're interested in Bulgarian folk music, Julie? I could have made copies of all sorts of recordings from the radio archives. It's still not too late ...

Julie. That's interesting. Anyway, I've already made a lot of nice recordings in various villages in the Dobruzhda region. Maybe next year ...

Veselin. That means you're coming again next year?

David. It would be nice, but it's not clear yet whether it will be possible.

Pavlina. Ah, Veselin, Veselin. The world is so large and is full of folk music. Why should Julie always come each summer to the same place?

Dimităr. Why not? Where are you going to find nicer folk music than ours?

Milena. Come again, Julie. Come together with David. We'd love to see you next summer.

Veselin. There's not only music to see and hear. People are important, too ...

Petăr. Especially some of them, Vesko, isn't that it?

Veselin. Come on with you! All people are important ...

Pavlina. Who knows, Julie, how your mother must miss you. And yours, too, David. You don't understand anything yet, but when you have your own children then you will.

David. Our parents are used to being without us. I moved out to my own apartment as soon as I finished high school. My other friends also live on their own.

Pavlina. You can't tell me that your parents have gotten used to your absence. American mothers also have feelings. They're mothers, aren't they? I know what it's like. My son's going off to Varna to live. Varna's not all that far, but still it's hard on me.

Milena. Mother, we'll write, we'll call.

Dimităr. Twice a day.

Pavlina. That's a laugh! You may remember to pick up the phone once a week, and you may not. All my hope is in you, Milena.

Veselin. How about you, Julie, will you write me twice a day, or once a week?

Petăr. Is it possible more rarely, or have all other frequencies run out?

David. How can a frequency run out?

Petyr. You know how the joke goes. The waiter says to the drunkard who had ordered a small rakia, "We're out of the small ones, there's only big ones." You get it, don't you – the guy was tired of running to get another rakia for him every five minutes.

Dimităr. In short, to sum up in two words what all other speakers have said: if we don't see each other, we'll correspond.

Pavlina, Julie and Veselin [all at once]. Yes! Yes! We'll correspond!