

The background features abstract, overlapping green geometric shapes, primarily triangles and polygons, in various shades of green, creating a modern and dynamic visual effect.

A QUESTION OF TRUST by VICTOR CANNING

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- ▶ To read the lesson with proper intonation
- ▶ Not to trust anyone blindly

Summary

Horace Danby had a good reputation in the society. He was about fifty and unmarried. He made locks and had two helpers. He loved rare and expensive books and to purchase the books he robbed a safe every year. He was now out on committing a robbery.

For two weeks Horace had studied the house of Shotover Grange. He had to burgle this house. When Horace Danby saw the two servants, who remained in the house while the family was away in London, leave for the movie, he entered the house . Horace was allergic to flowers ; he started sneezing. Then he heard a voice. The voice told him that he could cure the sneeze. It was the voice of a woman.

She stood in the doorway. She was young and pretty. His first thought was to run.

The lady told him that she would telephone the police.

She would tell them about him.

Horace Danby told him to let him go and forget she ever saw him. The lady put one condition for letting Horace go.

She told him that she had promised her husband to take her jewel to the bank. She had, however, left jewels in the safe . She told him that she wanted to wear the jewels in a party that night. She came down to get them. But she had forgotten the numbers to open the safe . So she needed his help and Horace opened the safe for her.

After two days a policeman arrested him for the jewel robbery at Shotover Grange . Danby's fingerprint were found all over the room. He had opened the safe without gloves. He said to the police that the landlady of the house had asked him to open the safe. But the lady was 60 years old woman . She said Danby's story is a nonsense.

Horace is now in prison. He often thinks of the charming and clever young lady. She was in the same profession. She had simply tricked him. Danby gets angry when anyone talks about “honour among thieves”.

MORAL

- ▶ NEVER TRUST ANYONE BLINDLY.