4. A New World

After the war, Edda worked as a volunteer in a rest home for Dutch soldiers. The soldiers were hurt and tired. Edda wanted to help them, for the war had taught her how important people are. She was happy working at the home. The soldiers, too, were happy, and in thanks they gave her food and chocolates. For Edda, who had lived hungry, it was like a dream. Chocolate, especially, she wanted to eat and eat. One day she ate seven bars of chocolate all at once.

For the Baroness and her family, however, life was not the same as before. The Nazis had taken nearly everything. The van Heemstras had very little money left. Their house at Arnhem was all broken. For Edda, too, the future did not look good. She was offered a scholarship at the famous Rambert School of Ballet in London, but she had to say "no." There was not enough money for that.

Still, there were good things. The family were all together again. Alexander had come back from his German camp. Ian was alive, too. So the Baroness decided to move to Amsterdam. There she found a job as a cook-housekeeper. From her wages, a little money was left over. Edda, thinking about her future, wanted more than ever to become a dancer. The Baroness agreed, and the extra money was used to pay for Edda's ballet classes. In this way, Edda was able to start training again.

Training was hard work. Edda's teacher was a Russian, and very strict. Every day Edda sweated. She had to dance for two or three hours without stopping. When she felt tired and wanted to stop, her teacher shouted at her. This life went on for three years. But the strict Russian teacher thought highly of Edda, and told the Baroness, "For Edda, ballet is as natural as drinking water."

One day, Edda asked her mother to let her go to London. She wanted to train at the Rambert School of Ballet. The Baroness thought about it and agreed to Edda's idea.

Edda and her mother then got ready for the big journey. They needed passports and visas. With Edda's Belgian-Irish-Dutch background, this was not easy. There were many problems on the Dutch and English sides. But the Baroness and Edda did not give up. One by one, they got over the difficulties. In the end they were given their visas, and Edda got a new name. From now on she would be called --- Audrey Hepburn. (We, too, shall call her Audrey from now on.)

Soon, Audrey left for England. When her boat reached England, she went straight to the Rambert School of Ballet in London. It was a big moment in her life. She had dreamed of this many times in the past. And yet, when the big moment arrived, she did not feel really happy. The trouble was, she and her mother did not have enough money.

"I was always short of money," Audrey recalled later. "I did all sorts of little jobs outside of school hours. My first class was at 10 a.m. and my last was at 6 p.m., so it was work, work all day and into the night." It was not easy to find jobs. She tried the West End musicals, but could not get in. She taught some French. Mostly, she worked as a model for fashion and beauty photographers. She had long legs and a special kind of face. There was something about her that photographers liked. That is how her face first appeared on fashion magazines.

Then, one day, Audrey's life changed. A Broadway hit musical, High Button Shoes, was to appear in London. Dancers were needed for the front-line chorus. 3,000 girls went for the audition. Audrey went too, and was chosen. But should she say yes? If she did, it would mean less time for ballet. What to do? In the end, two things helped her decide: money and her height. From the musical she would get a salary, and she needed the money badly. She was also too tall to get the best parts in ballet, and she knew it. So she chose the musical. And from that moment a new world opened its doors to her.

EXERCISES (4)

Ａ　（　）に適切な日本語を入れ、本文のあらすじを完成させなさい．

　戦争が終って兄たちが戻ると、一家は（ア　　　　　　　　　）へ移り、母はそこで（イ　　　　　　　　　　　）として働いた．苦しい家計の中から少しずつたくわえたお金で、エダは（ウ　　　　　　　　　）を再開でき、（エ　　　）年後、ロンドンに渡る決心をした．複雑な（オ　　　　　）のため、オードリー・ヘプバーンという新しい名前でようやく（カ　　　　）を発給してもらい、渡英した．そこで写真などの（キ　　　　　）をしながら練習に励むうちにブロードウェイの（ク　　　　　　　）のオーディションに合格し、新しい世界が開かれた．

Ｂ　本文の内容に合うものにはＴ、合わないものにはＦを書きなさい．

　(1) Edda worked in a rest home because she wanted to be given chocolates by the soldiers. （　）

　(2) Edda insisted on going to London but her mother did not say "yes." （　）

　(3) Edda worked hard to earn money while she was training at the Rambert School of Ballet. （　）

　(4) Edda wondered which to choose, ballet or musicals. （　）

Ｃ　（　）内に適切な前置詞を入れなさい．

　(1) They stood up all (　　 ) once.

　(2) Are you ready (　　 ) the exam?

　(3) I hope she will get (　　 ) her illness.

　(4) One (　　 ) one, they left the stage.

　(5) We are short (　　 ) water this summer.

　(6) There is something (　　 ) her that attracts everybody.