A BORING LIFE

Episode 72

Small Town Spanish Teacher

There is a man named Stan. Stan lives in a boring house. It is a typical house with white, boring walls. Everyday Stan gets up and goes to work in his boring car. Stan has a boring job: he is an accountant. He sits in a boring office and counts other people's money. All day he looks at the computer and counts money. Stan doesn't have an interesting life; he has a boring life.

One day Stan celebrates his birthday. It is an important birthday: Stan is turning 40 years old. The people in the office buy him a big cake and sing to him.

While they eat the cake, many people ask Stan how he is going to celebrate his birthday, because turning 40 is something big. Stan was planning to go home and watch a movie, but now his plan seems boring.

Stan thinks about his life. Everything that he does is boring. His house is boring, his routine is boring, his work is boring…his life is boring!

Stan wants to change. He doesn't want a boring life anymore, he wants an interesting life. That's why Stan decides that to celebrate his birthday he is going to do some extreme activities. He searches "extreme sports" on the internet and finds a skydiving place near his house. Skydiving is very extreme. In skydiving, a person jumps from a plane with a parachute on their back.

Stan decides that skydiving is exactly what he needs to have a more interesting life. He makes an appointment to go skydiving.

The day of his appointment, Stan is very nervous. Skydiving is very extreme for him. He watches a presentation and boards the plane. He will not skydive alone, he will be tied to a professional skydiver, but he is still very nervous.

The moment arrives. The professional skydiver connects to Stan and jumps from the plane. Stan yells. They are very high in the air and Stan is terrified. They fall quickly towards the earth, and Stan feels very scared. After a minute, the skydiver pulls a cord and the parachute opens. Stan and the professional skydiver descend more slowly for four more minutes. When they arrive on land, Stan throws up. The other skydivers have huge smiles and are full of adrenaline, but Stan is not happy. He doesn't like skydiving.

Maybe skydiving is too extreme for Stan, but that doesn't mean that he can't do another extreme sport. He returns to his computer and looks up the term "extreme sports" again. He sees another option near his home. It is bungee jumping. In bungee jumping, there is an elastic cord that connects a person to a structure. Then the person jumps from a high point, like a bridge. They rise and fall with the elastic cord. Stan decides that bungee jumping is too similar to skydiving, and since he was very scared skydiving, he decides that it is not for him. He keeps looking for extreme sports.

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There is a sport that seems safer than jumping from a high point. It is car racing. In car racing, you are in a car that goes very fast around a track. Professionals participate in races with a lot of cars, but people like Stan can pay to drive on a private track. Stan decides that race car driving is exactly what he needs to have a more interesting life. He makes an appointment to ride in a fast car.

The day of his appointment, Stan takes a class about race cars. After the class, he puts on a helmet and gets in a car with a professional race car driver. The race car driver drives very fast. Stan yells. They are going really fast and Stan feels very scared. They drive fast around the curves of the track and Stan is terrified.

When the car stops, Stan gets out and throws up. The race car driver has a big smile and is full of adrenaline, but Stan is not happy. He doesn't like race car driving.

Maybe race car driving is too extreme for Stan, but that doesn't mean that he can't try another extreme sport. He returns to his computer and looks up "extreme sports" again. There is an activity in the mountains not very far from his house. It is spelunking, or cave exploration. In spelunking, you explore small sections of caves. It is very dark, so you need to have a lamp connected to a helmet to see and protect your head. Stan decides that spelunking is perfect for him, since he will not be high up or going very fast. He makes an appointment to go spelunking.

The day of his appointment, Stan watches an educational video about spelunking. He puts on a helmet, lamp, and harness. With the harness, he can go up and down in the cave without getting lost.

Stan enters the cave with two professionals. He follows the spelunkers through a big cave. Then they crawl through a tunnel and enter a small cave. Stan goes up and down. It is very dark and he is in very small spaces. He feels claustrophobic. Stan doesn't like the sensation of claustrophobia. After an hour in the darkness of the caves, he finally sees the light of the sun.

When he leaves the cave, Stan breathes deeply. The spelunkers have big smiles and are full of adrenaline, but Stan is not happy. He doesn't like spelunking.

Maybe spelunking is too extreme for Stan, but that doesn't mean that he can't try another extreme sport. He goes back to his computer and looks up the term "extreme sports". He doesn't want to do anything high up, or in small spaces. He doesn't want to do anything fast either. After a lot of searching, Stan decides to go scuba diving.

In scuba diving, you swim in the water with an air tank. In the water, you see plants and fish that live in coral reefs. Stan decides that scuba diving is perfect for him since it isn't fast, high up in the air, or in a small space. He makes an appointment to go scuba diving.

The day of his appointment Stan watches an educational video about scuba diving. He puts on a special suit, a mask, an air tank, and fins. He goes on a boat to a coral reef with other tourists and professional scuba divers.

Stan enters the water. He practices using the fins and when he is comfortable, he follows the scuba divers through the water. At first, his time in the water is relaxing. He sees plants and small fish. Suddenly, he sees a shark! Stan is scared of the shark. Then a sea turtle passes. The turtle is very big and scares Stan. Other big fish come and pass Stan. The other tourists think that the fish are fantastic, but Stan doesn't. Stan is surprised and scared by the fish and wants to get out of the water.

When he leaves the water, Stan breathes deeply. The other tourists and professional scuba divers have huge smiles and are full of adrenaline, but Stan is not happy, he doesn't like scuba diving.

Maybe scuba diving is too extreme for Stan. He is starting to think that there isn't an extreme sport for him, but he goes back to the computer to search. He doesn't want to do anything high in the air, or under the water, or anything in small spaces, or anything too fast. Stan looks and looks. He finally sees a sport that seems fun. It is skiing. In skiing, you go down a mountain covered in snow. Many people ski, so Stan decides that it can't be too bad. He makes an appointment to ski.

The day of his appointment, Stan puts on warm clothing, a big coat, snow pants, and gloves. He rents skis, poles, and a helmet. Since it is his first time, he decides to take a lesson. The instructor is very patient and teaches that to go fast the skis are parallel, like French fries, and to go slow, the skis form a triangle, like a pizza.

Stan practices "pizza" and "French fries" on a small hill. He falls a few times, but he gets up and keeps going. When he is comfortable, he goes up the mountain to a higher point on the chairlift. The chairlift is high off the ground, but not as high up as a skydiving plane or bungee. From the chairlift, he can see for miles. The view is impressive and he doesn't feel claustrophobic like in spelunking.

Then, Stan goes down the mountain. Sometimes he goes fast, but not as fast as race car driving. There are other people on the mountain and sometimes they surprise Stan, like the fish in scuba diving, but Stan focuses on the space in front of him, he breathes deeply, and he feels better.

After a few hours, Stan starts to have fun on the mountain. He likes skiing! He likes the sensation of cold air on his face and the adrenaline from going down the mountain. Stan finally found a fun sport to change his boring life.

Simple Stories in English

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