

# THINGS THAT SNEAK UP



## Some Things Do Not Arrive Suddenly

“It’s behind you.”

The timeless pantomime warning works because everyone is in on it except the person who most needs to know.

“Man on,” roars the crowd, alerting a footballer to danger he cannot see.

But what about the things that sneak up on us quietly, with no warning voice from the stalls or the stands?

A few extra kilos. A slow drift into poor health. The quiet erosion of our finances. A relationship left unattended.

These things rarely announce themselves. They creep in slowly, almost politely, until one day they are no longer small.

In a world where our attention is constantly pulled elsewhere, it is easy to let the urgent take precedence over the important.

Perhaps that is why we need to scan the pitch from time to time. To notice what is closing in. To see what has been left too long. To act before the weight, the worry, or the distance becomes harder to shift.

Some things do not arrive suddenly. They gather.

And that may be why we need to look around more often.

Tony Bennett

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