KOLORS
make life better

Class-XII

English

Vistas

Chapter-2

The Tiger King

Part - 4

Neha Rajvanshi



Kalki

KOLORS
make life better

shoved : धक्का देना

At midnight when the town slept in peace, the dewan and his aged wife dragged the tiger to the car and shoved it into the seat. The dewan himself drove the car straight to the forest where the Maharaja was hunting. When they reached the forest the tiger launched its satyagraha and refused to get out of the car.

KOLORS
make life better

exhausted : थका हुआ
haul : खींचना
supplication: प्रार्थना करना

The dewan was thoroughly exhausted in his efforts to haul the beast out of the car and push it down to the ground. On the following day, the same old tiger wandered into the Maharaja's presence and stood as if in humble supplication, "Master, what do you command of me?" It was with boundless joy that the Maharaja took careful aim at the beast.

elation: उत्साह/खुशी

procession: जुलूस

hastened : जल्दी जाना

The tiger fell in a crumpled heap. "I have killed the hundredth tiger. My vow has been fulfilled," the Maharaja was overcome with elation. Ordering the tiger to be brought to the capital in grand procession, the Maharaja hastened away in his car. After the Maharaja left, the hunters went to take a closer look at the tiger.

KOLORS
make life better

bafflement: उलझन/ विस्मित होना

whizzing : तेजी से पास से गुजरना

The tiger looked back at them rolling its eyes in bafflement. The men realised that the tiger was not dead; the bullet had missed it. It had fainted from the shock of the bullet whizzing past. The hunters wondered what they should do. They decided that the Maharaja must not come to know that he had missed his target. If he did, they could lose their jobs.

KOLORS
make life better

tomb : मकबरा

One of the hunters took aim from a distance of one foot and shot the tiger. This time he killed it without missing his mark.

Then, as commanded by the king, the dead tiger was taken in procession through the town and buried. A tomb was erected over it.

KOLORS
make life better

A few days later the Maharaja's son's third birthday was celebrated. Until then the Maharaja had given his entire mind over to tiger hunting. He had had no time to spare for the crown prince. But now the king turned his attention to the child. He wished to give him some special gift on his birthday.

KOLORS
make life better

He went to the shopping centre in Pratibandapuram and searched every shop, but couldn't find anything suitable. Finally he spotted a wooden tiger in a toyshop and decided it was the perfect gift. The wooden tiger cost only two annas and a quarter.

rare : दुर्लभ

But the shopkeeper knew that if he quoted such a low price to the Maharaja, he would be punished under the rules of the Emergency. So, he said, "Your Majesty, this is an extremely rare example of craftsmanship. A bargain at three hundred rupees!"

offering : भेंट
unskilled : अकुशल
slivers : छोटा टुकड़ा
quills : पंख

"Very good. Let this be your offering to the crown prince on his birthday," said the king and took it away with him. On that day father and son played with that tiny little wooden tiger. It had been carved by an unskilled carpenter. Its surface was rough; tiny slivers of wood stood up like quills all over it.

KOLORS
make life better

suppurating : पस भर जाना
sore : दर्दनाक

One of those slivers pierced the Maharaja's right hand. He pulled it out with his left hand and continued to play with the prince. The next day, infection flared in the Maharaja's right hand. In four days, it developed into a suppurating sore which spread all over the arm. Three famous surgeons were brought in from Madras.

KOLORS
make life better

revenge : बदला

After holding a consultation they decided to operate. The operation took place. The three surgeons who performed it came out of the theatre and announced, "The operation was successful.
The Maharaja is dead."
In this manner the hundredth tiger took its final revenge upon the Tiger King.