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CLASS - IX

ENGLISH

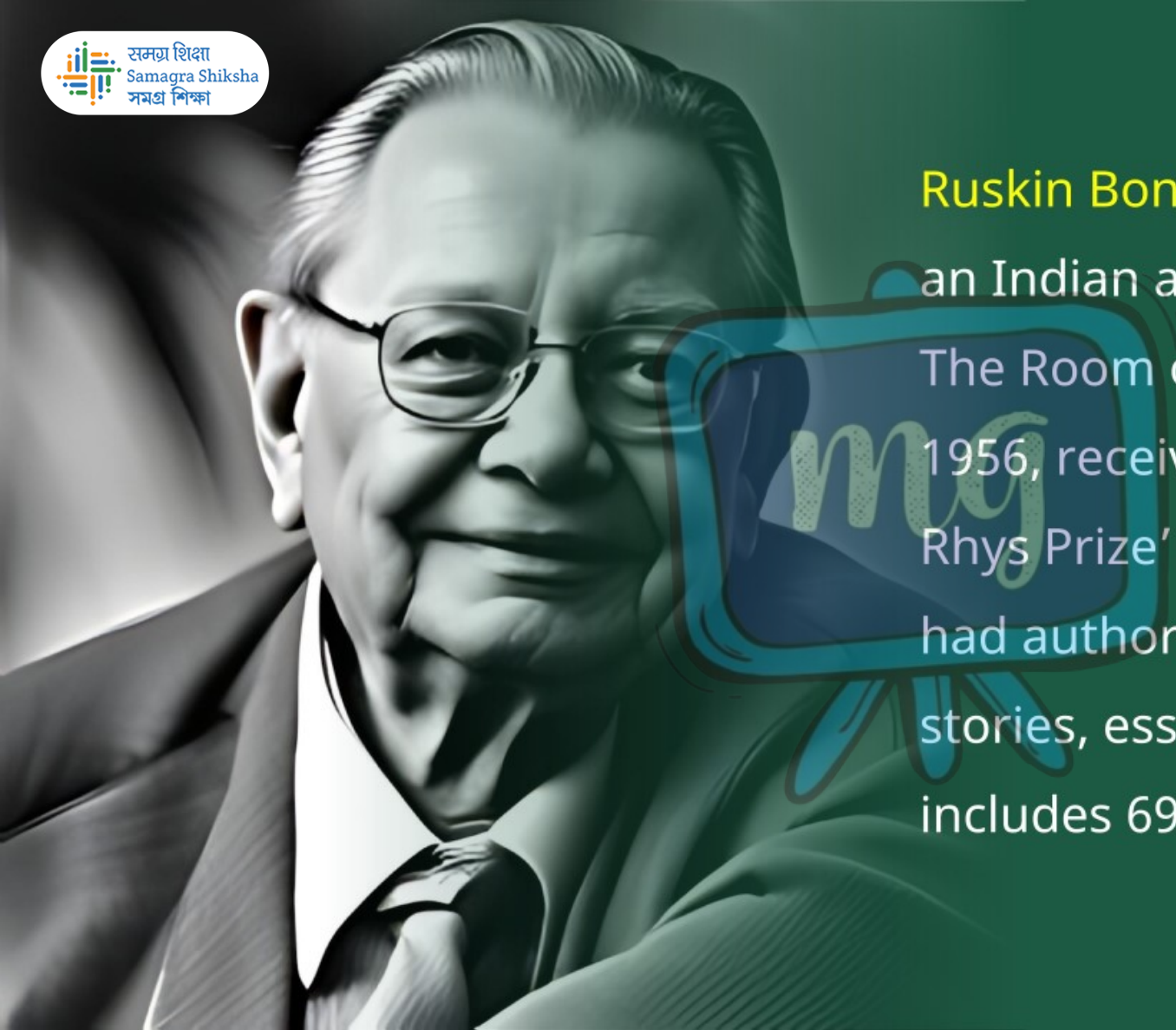
MOMENTS

CHAPTER - 1

THE ADVENTURES OF TOTO

Part – 1
The Mischievous Monkey - Toto's Adventures

Nipa Das



Ruskin Bond (born 19, May 1934) is an Indian author. His first novel, The Room on the Roof, published in 1956, received the 'John Llewellyn Rhys Prize' (literary award). Bond had authored more than 500 short stories, essays, and novels which includes 69 books for children.

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BEFORE YOU READ

Have you ever had a baby monkey as a pet? Toto is a baby monkey. Let's find out whether he is mischievous or docile.



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Grandfather bought Toto from a tonga-driver for the sum of five rupees. The tonga-driver used to keep the little red monkey tied to a feeding-trough, and the monkey looked so out of place there that

Tied : বান্ধি থোৱা

feeding-trough : জন্তুৰ খাদ্য খোৱা চৰিয়া

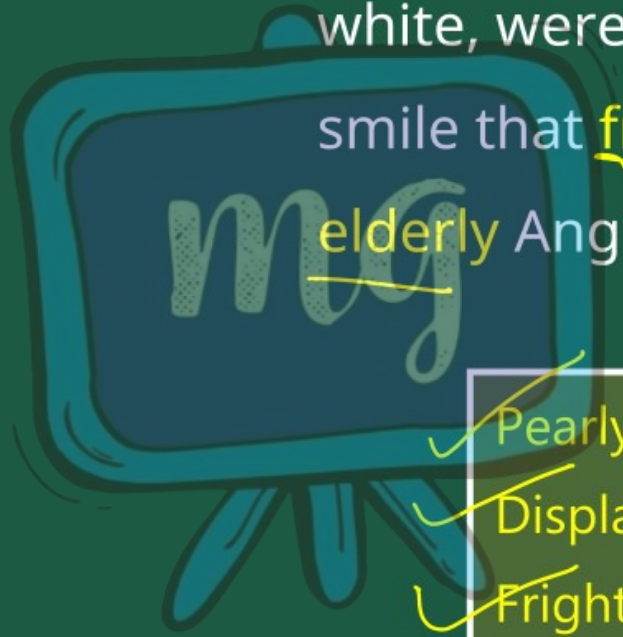
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Grandfather decided he would add the little fellow to his private zoo. Toto was a pretty monkey. His bright eyes sparkled with mischief beneath deep-set eyebrows,

Fellow	:	ব্যক্তি/জীৱ
Sparkled	:	জিলিকা
Mischief	:	দুষ্টামি

and his teeth, which were a pearly white, were very often displayed in a smile that frightened the life out of elderly Anglo-Indian ladies.



Pearly	:	মুকুতাৰ দৰে
Displayed	:	প্রদর্শনী
Frightened	:	ভয় খুৱা
Elderly	:	বয়োজ্যেষ্ঠ

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But his hands looked dried-up as though they had been pickled in the sun for many years. Yet his fingers were quick and wicked; and his tail, while adding to his good looks (Grandfather believed a tail would add to anyone's good looks),

Wicked : দুষ্ট

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also served as a third hand. He could use it to hang from a branch; and it was capable of scooping up any delicacy that might be out of reach of his hands.

Hang	:	ওলমা
Capable	:	সক্ষম
Scooping	:	ঘুঁকুটি উলিওৱা
Delicacy	:	সুস্বাদু খাদ্য

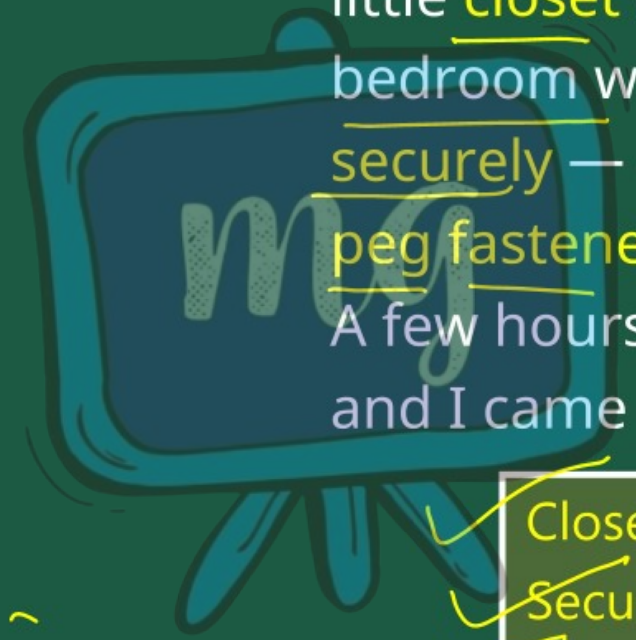
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Grandmother always fussed when Grandfather brought home some new bird or animal. So it was decided that Toto's presence should be kept a secret from her until she was in a particularly good mood.

Fussed	:	হুলস্থল
Presence	:	উপস্থিতি
Secret	:	গোপনীয়
Particularly	:	বিশেষকৈ
Mood	:	মেজাজ

Grandfather and I put him away in a little closet opening into my bedroom wall, where he was tied securely — or so we thought — to a peg fastened into the wall.
A few hours later, when Grandfather and I came back to release Toto,

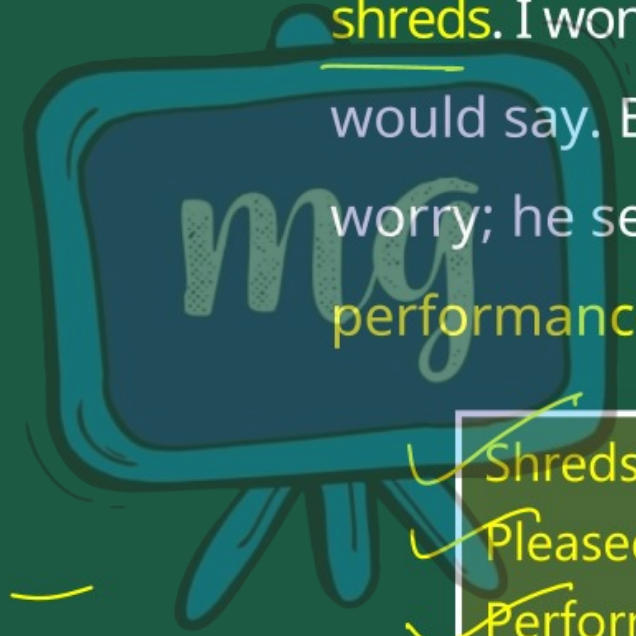


Closet	:	আলমাৰী
Securely	:	নিৰাপদে
Peg	:	হাঁকুটি
Fastened	:	বান্ধি থোৱা

we found that the walls, which had been covered with some ornamental paper chosen by Grandfather, now stood out as naked brick and plaster. The peg in the wall had been wrenched from its socket, and my school blazer,

Ornamental	:	অলংকাৰিক
Wrenched	:	টানি অনা

which had been hanging there, was in shreds. I wondered what Grandmother would say. But Grandfather didn't worry; he seemed pleased with Toto's performance.

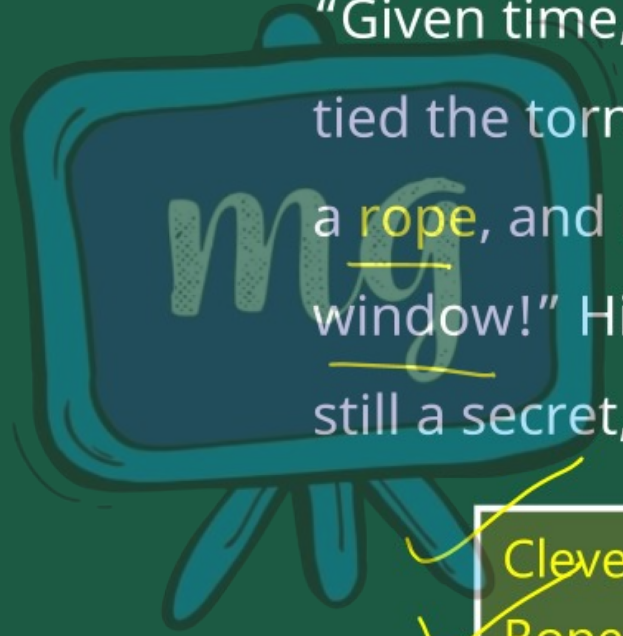


Shreds	:	টুকুৰা
Pleased	:	সুখী
Performance	:	প্ৰদৰ্শন

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"He's clever," said Grandfather. "Given time, I'm sure he could have tied the torn pieces of your blazer into a rope, and made his escape from the window!" His presence in the house still a secret, Toto was now transferred

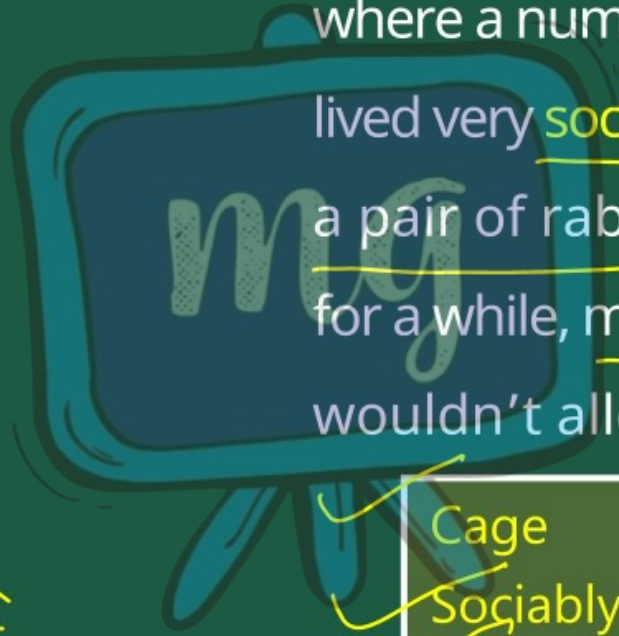


Clever	:	টেঙৰ
Rope	:	ৰছী
Transferred	:	স্থানান্তৰ

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to a big cage in the servants' quarters where a number of Grandfather's pets lived very sociably together — a tortoise, a pair of rabbits, a tame squirrel and, for a while, my pet goat. But the monkey wouldn't allow any of his companions



Cage	:	সঁজা
Sociably	:	সামাজিকভারে
Tame	:	পোহনীয়া জীৱ
Companions	:	সংগী

to sleep at night; so Grandfather, who had to leave Dehra Dun next day to collect his pension in Saharanpur, decided to take him along. Unfortunately I could not accompany Grandfather on that trip, but he told me about it afterwards.

Unfortunately	:	দুর্ভাগ্যবশতঃ
Accompany	:	লগত যোৱা
Trip	:	যাত্রা

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A big black canvas kit-bag was provided for Toto. This, with some straw at the bottom, became his new abode. When the bag was closed, there was no escape.

Toto could not get his hands through the opening, and the canvas was too strong for him to bite his way through.

Abode : বাসস্থান

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His efforts to get out only had the effect of making the bag roll about on the floor or occasionally jump into the air — an exhibition that attracted a curious crowd of onlookers on the Dehra Dun railway platform.

Occasionally	:	কেতিয়াবা
Exhibition	:	প্রদর্শন
Attracted	:	আকর্ষিত
Curious	:	আগ্রহী

ASSESSMENT



1 What did Grandfather use to secure Toto in the closet?

- A A rope
- B A peg fastened to the wall
- C A cage
- D A leash

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ASSESSMENT

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2 Why was Toto’s presence kept a secret from Grandmother?

A Because Toto was sick.

B Grandmother didn’t like monkeys.

C Grandmother was allergic to animals.

D Grandmother was in a bad mood.

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3 How did Toto react to being locked in the closet?

A He stayed calm and silent.

B He chewed through the walls and tore up the blazer.

C He escaped through the window.

D He cried loudly.

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4 Toto's hands looked ___ as though they had been pickled in the sun for many years.

A soft

B dried-up

C wet

D smooth

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5 When Grandfather and I returned to release Toto, we found that the walls, which had been covered with ornamental paper, now stood out as ___.

A wood

B naked brick and plaster

C painted walls

D tile