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CLASS - IX

ENGLISH

MOMENTS

CHAPTER - 4

A HOUSE IS NOT A HOME

Part – 2

Nipa Das

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The firemen wouldn't let us go back into the house that night. It was still too dangerous. Dead or alive, I couldn't imagine leaving without knowing about my cat.

Dangerous	:	বিপদজনক
Dead	:	মৃত
Alive	:	জীৱন্ত
Imagine	:	কল্পনা কৰা

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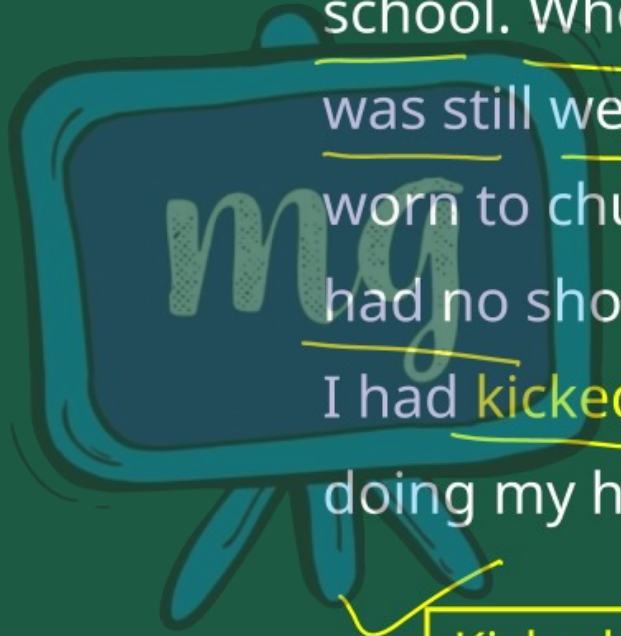
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Regardless, I had to go. We piled into the car with just the clothes on our backs and a few of the firemen's blankets, and made our way to my grandparents' house to spend the night.

Regardless	:	তৎস্বত্তেও
Piled	:	গোট খোৱা
Blankets	:	কম্বল

The next day, Monday, I went to school. When the fire broke out, I was still wearing the dress I had worn to church that morning but I had no shoes!

I had kicked them off when I was doing my homework.



Kicked : গুৰিয়াই

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They became yet another casualty of the fire. So I had to borrow some tennis shoes from my aunt. Why couldn't I just stay home from school? My mother wouldn't hear of it, but I was totally embarrassed by everything.

Casualty	:	বিধংস হোৱা, নিচ্ছিন্ন
Borrow	:	ধাৰে লোৱা
Embarrassed	:	বিব্রত হোৱা

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The clothes I was wearing looked weird, I had no books or homework, and my backpack was gone. I had my life in that backpack! The more I tried to fit in, the worse it got.

Weird	:	আচহুৱা
Backpack	:	পিঠিত লোৱা জোলোঙা (বেগ)
Worse	:	অধিক বেয়া

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Was I destined to be an outcast and a geek all my life? That's what it felt like. I didn't want to grow up, change or have to handle life if it was going to be this way. I just wanted to curl up and die.

Destined	:	ভাগ্যত
Outcast	:	বহিষ্কৃত
Geek	:	কেৱল পঢ়া শুনা বিজ্ঞানবা কম্পিউটাৰৰ প্ৰতি আগ্ৰহী
Curl	:	সংকীৰ্ণ হোৱা বা মেৰ খাই

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I walked around school like a zombie. Everything felt surreal, and I wasn't sure what was going to happen. All the security I had known, from my old school, my friends, my house and my cat had all been ripped away.

Zombie	:	খোজ কঢ়া মৃতক
Surreal	:	অধিবাস্তৱ
Security	:	সুৰক্ষা
Ripped away	:	আতৰাই লৈ যোৱা

When I walked through what used to be my house after school that day, I was shocked to see how much damage there was — whatever hadn't burned was destroyed by the water and chemicals they had used to put out the fire.

Shocked	:	আচৰিত হোৱা
Damage	:	ক্ষতি
Burned	:	জ্বলি যোৱা
Destroyed	:	ধ্বংস হোৱা

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The only material things not destroyed were the photo albums, documents and some other personal items that my mother had managed to heroically rescue. But my cat was gone and my heart ached for her.

Material	:	বস্তু
Destroyed	:	ধ্বংস হৈ যোৱা
Personal	:	ব্যক্তিগত
Heroically	:	নায়কৰ দৰে
Rescue	:	উদ্ধাৰ কৰা
heart Ached	:	অন্তৰে কান্দি উঠিল

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There was no time to grieve. My mother rushed me out of the house. We would have to find a place to live, and I would have to go buy some clothes for school. We had to borrow money from my grandparents because there were no credit cards, cash or even any

Grieve	:	শোক কৰা
Rushed	:	দ্রুত গতি
Borrow	:	ধাৰ কৰা

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identification to be able to withdraw money from the bank. Everything had gone up in smoke.

That week the rubble that used to be our house was being cleared off the lot.

Identification	:	পৰিচয়
Withdraw	:	উলিওৱা
Week	:	সপ্তাহ
Rubble	:	ভগ্নাৱশেষ
cleared off	:	চাফা কৰি পেলোৱা

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Even though we had rented an apartment nearby, I would go over to watch them clear away debris, hoping that my cat was somewhere to be found. She was gone. I kept thinking about her as that vulnerable little kitten.

Rented	:	ভাড়াৰ বাবে
Debris	:	ধ্বংসাবশেষ
Thinking	:	ভাবিছিল
Vulnerable	:	দুৰ্বলতা

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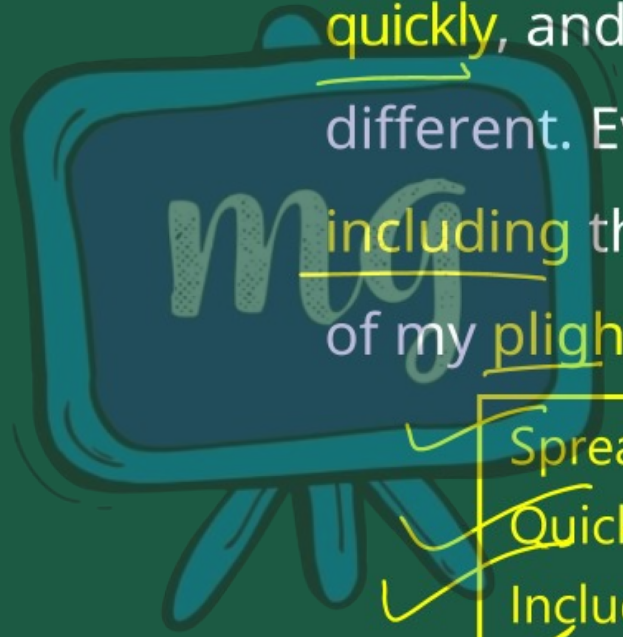
In the early morning when I would disturb her and get out of bed, she would tag along after me, climb up my robe and crawl into my pocket to fall asleep. I was missing her terribly.

Tag along	:	একেলগে খোজ কঢ়া
Climb up	:	ওপৰলৈ উঠা
Crawl	:	বগোৱাই অহা
Terribly	:	অতি

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It always seems that bad news spreads quickly, and in my case it was no different. Everyone in high school, including the teachers, was aware of my plight.



Spreads	:	বিয়পে
Quickly	:	বেগাই
Including	:	সাঙুৰি
Aware	:	জ্ঞাত
Plight	:	পৰিস্থিতি

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I was embarrassed as if somehow I were responsible. What a way to start off at a new school! This was not the kind of attention I was looking for.

Embarrassed	:	বিব্রত হোৱা
Responsible	:	দায়ত্বশীল

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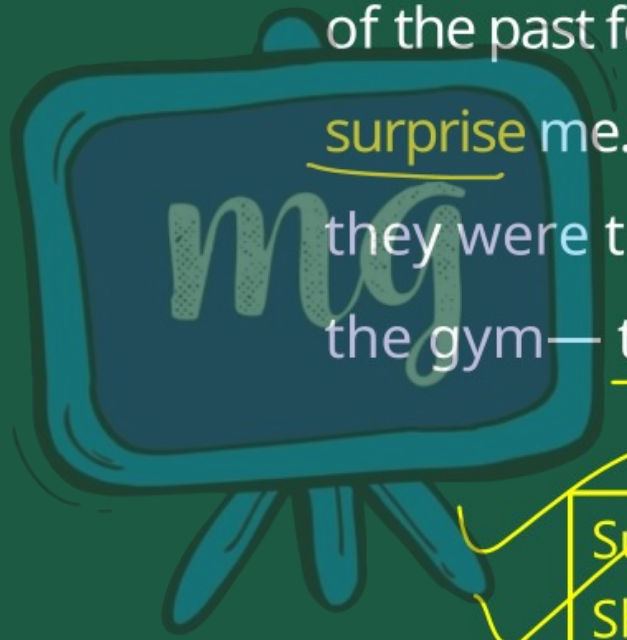
The next day at school, people were acting even more strange than usual. I was getting ready for gym class at my locker. People were milling around me, asking me to hurry up.

Usual	:	সাধাৰণ
Ready	:	সাজু

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I thought it strange, but in the light of the past few weeks, nothing would surprise me. It almost seemed that they were trying to shove me into the gym— then I saw why.



Surprise	:	আশ্চর্য
Shove	:	ঠেলা

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There was a big table set up with all kinds of stuff on it, just for me. They had taken up a collection and bought me school supplies, notebooks, all kinds of different clothes— jeans, tops, sweat suits.

Collection	:	সংগ্রহ
Bought	:	কিনা
Supplies	:	অত্যাৱশ্যকীয় বস্তু

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It was like Christmas. I was overcome by emotion. People who had never spoken to me before were coming up to me to introduce themselves.

Overcome by Emotion : আৱেগিক কৰি পেলালে ।

Introduce : চিনাকি হোৱা

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I got all kinds of invitations to their houses. Their genuine outpouring of concern really touched me.

Invitations	:	নিমন্ত্ৰণ
Genuine	:	সঁচা
Outpouring	:	আৱেগিক শব্দৰ প্ৰবাহ
outpouring of concern	:	যত্নৰ বৰ্হিপ্ৰকাশ
Touched	:	অন্তৰ চুই গ'ল

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In that instant, I finally breathed a sigh of relief and thought for the first time that things were going to be okay. I made friends that day.

Instant	:	ততালিকে
Finally	:	অৱশেষত
Breathed	:	মই উশাহ ল'লোঁ
Sigh of relief	:	স্বস্তিৰ নিশ্বাস

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A month later, I was at my house watching them rebuild it. But this time it was different — I wasn't alone. I was with two of my new friends from school.

Rebuild : পুনৰ নিৰ্মাণ কৰা

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It took a fire for me to stop focusing on my feelings of insecurity and open up to all the wonderful people around me.

Focusing	:	মনোনিৱেশ কৰা
Feelings	:	আৱেগ
Insecurity	:	নিৰাপত্তাহীনতা
Wonderful	:	আশ্চৰ্যজনক

Now I was sitting there watching my house being rebuilt when I realised my life was doing the same thing.

While we sat there on the curb, planning my new bedroom, I heard someone walk up to me from behind and say, “Does this belong to you?”

Sitting	:	বহি থকা	Planning	:	পৰিকল্পনা কৰা
Realised	:	উপলব্ধি	Bedroom	:	শোৱনি কোঠা
Curb	:	কেকুৰী	Heard	:	শুনা

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When I turned around to see who it was, I couldn't believe my eyes. A woman was standing there holding my cat! I leapt up and grabbed her out of the woman's arms.

Turned around	:	ঘূৰি চোৱা
Believe	:	ভৰসা
Grabbed	:	খামুচী ধৰা
Arms	:	হাত

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I held her close to me and cried into that beautiful orange fur. She purred happily. My friends were hugging me, hugging the cat and jumping around.

Cried	:	কান্দিলে
Beautiful	:	ধুনীয়া
Happily	:	আনন্দৰে
Hugging	:	সাৱটি ধৰি

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Apparently, my cat had been so freaked by the fire that she ran over a mile away. Her collar had our phone number on it, but our phones had been destroyed and disconnected.

Apparently	:	আপাতদৃষ্টিত
Freaked	:	ভয় খোৱা
Destroyed	:	ধ্বংস হৈ গ'ল

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This wonderful woman took her in and worked hard to find out whose cat it was. Somehow, she knew this cat was loved and sorely missed.

Wonderful	:	আশ্চর্যজনক
Sorely	:	যন্ত্রণাদায়কভাৱে
Missed	:	মনত পৰিল

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As I sat there with my friends and my cat curled up in my lap, all the overwhelming feelings of loss and tragedy seemed to diminish.

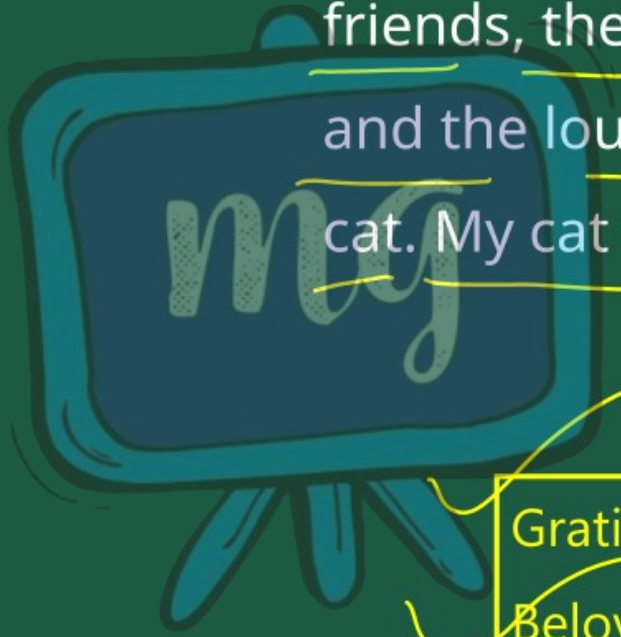
Overwhelming	:	অতি শক্তিশালী
Feelings	:	আৱেগ
Loss	:	ক্ষতি
Tragedy	:	দুখৰ ঘটনা
Diminish	:	নোহোৱা হোৱা

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I felt gratitude for my life, my new friends, the kindness of a stranger and the loud purr of my beloved cat. My cat was back and so was I.

ZAN GAUDIOSO



Gratitude	:	কৃতজ্ঞতা
Beloved	:	মৰমৰ

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ASSESSMENT

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1 The Narrator borrowed the Tennis Shoes from his ..Aunt.....



ASSESSMENT



2 The narrator found his lost cat at last.

A True

B False

ASSESSMENT



3 How did Prashant navigate through the flooded area on his way to his village?

A By boat

B By following a guide

C With a long, sturdy stick

D By car