

THE THIEF'S STORY

STUDY-NOTE

- In the chapter – The Thief's Story focuses on human values and relationships which are significant in our lives and those values have the power to change an individual. The story deal with a valuable relationship.
- Anil was 25 years old writer. He was living his life very carelessly. He was struggling to write for earning the money to run his life. One day Anil was watching the wrestling match. He mates Hari.
- Hari used his old formula to flatter the person. Anil impressed and promised him that he would teach him how to write, add numbers and how to cook tasty food. Now both were living together happily.
- One day Hari saw that Anil had brought a bundle of notes. He saw him keep them under the mattress. As Hari saw the bundle of notes, so his evil spirit aroused in his mind. He decided to rob Anil that night. After taking dinner Anil slept calmly.
- Hari crept to the bed and slipped his hand under the mattress. He got the notes and ran away from there. He left for the railway station to board a train to Lucknow. But, he missed it.
- He wandered through the bazaars. It was raining and Hari Singh was completely wet. It was midnight. The notes were damp. He felt that it was Anil's money.
- In the morning he would probably have given him two or three rupees. It was for the cinema. Now he had it all. He couldn't cook his meals and learn to write.
- The narrator had forgotten these things in the excitement of the theft. He felt that writing could bring him more than a few hundred rupees. It was simple to be a thief. But to be really a big man, clever and respected, was something else. He decided to go back to Anil to learn to read and write.
- He hurried back to the room. He was feeling very nervous. He opened the door and stood in the doorway. Anil was still asleep. He slipped the notes back under the mattresses.

- He awoke late next morning. Anil had already made the tea. He offered a fifty-rupee note to the narrator.
- The narrator's heart sank. He felt that he had been discovered. Anil told him that he had made some money the day before. Now he would pay the narrator regularly. He also told them that they would start writing sentences.
- The narrator smiled at Anil in his most appealing way. Anil knew the theft but he did not say anything to him about it.
- The message of the chapter is a person's life can be changed if he meets a mentor who can guide and help him to choose right path in life.

CHARACTER SKETCHES

Hari Singh

- Hari Singh was a 15 years old boy who was an experienced and a successful thief. He was successful because of his cleverness and intelligence. He carefully planned everything before choosing his victims.
- He went to places where people would not suspect him and win their confidence to get a job. After sometime he would run away stealing money from there. Thus he used to change his name to fool the police and his former employers. Thus he was a lair.
- He was cruel enough to rob a simple and trusting man like Anil. He managed to steal six hundred rupees from his house.
- Later there is a transformation in the end of this story where he decides to come back to Anil and keep his trust alive.
- This shows that there is good in every bad person. He wanted to become an educated person in the future. He wanted to mend his ways and become a clever and respected man and earn his livelihood honestly without stealing.