

FOOTPRINTS WITHOUT FEET

STD-X

SUBJECT :	ENGLISH
CHAPTER NUMBER:	2 (Period-1)
CHAPTER NAME :	THE THIEF'S STORY
	BY Ruskin Bond

CHANGING YOUR TOMORROW

INTRODUCTION TO THE WRITER

Ruskin Bond was at a book release function in Bangalore (6 June 2012)	
Born	19 May 1934 (age 86) Kasauli , Punjab States Agency , British India
Occupation	Author, poet
Nationality	Indian
Alma mater	Bishop Cotton School
Period	1951 – present
Notable works	Our Trees Still Grow in Dehra A Flight of Pigeons The Blue Umbrella



Ruskin Bond was born on 19 May 1954. He is an Indian author/writer of British descent. He spent four years in London where he started writing his first novel, 'The Room on the Roof'. He presently lives in Mussoorie, India. Bond is now recognized as a leading writer in English, particularly known for his short stories.

THEME OF THE STORY



The story deals with basic human values and relationship. 'The Thief's Story' tells how love and happiness can change a thief or criminal. The whole story revolves around the act of thief- Hari Singh and Anil- his benefactor. Finally the thief was metamorphosed into a good human being. Apart from this, the story also covers the theme of aspirations, trust, betrayal, friendship, guilt and honesty. The story also highlights the importance of learning and education.

CHARACTERS OF THE STORY

Hari Singh- a thief

He is just fifteen but an experienced and fairly successful hand.

A good judge of men and situations.

Robbed Anil but finally realised his mistake and returned to Anil.

Anil

He is a 25 year old, tall and lean man.

A struggling writer.

Not steady income.

Earns money by fits and starts.

A very kind, simple and easy going man.



EXPLANATION (PAGE- 8,9,10)

Hari Singh's meeting with Anil

The narrator was a thief.

He was only 15, but experienced and successful in his work.

He introduced himself to Anil as Hari Singh.

Vocabulary

Approached- went near

Lean – weak and thin

Confidence- trust



Hari Singh wanted to work for Anil

Anil had no money to pay him regularly

Anil agreed to feed him.

Hari Singh agreed to cook.

Vocabulary

Terrible- very bad

Stray-wandering

Hung around-remained there

HARI SINGH- GRATEFUL FOR GETTING EDUCATION



- Anil taught Hari Singh to write his name and promised to teach him to write whole sentences and to add numbers.
- It was quite pleasant for Hari Singh to work for Anil.
- He made a rupee a day from buying the daily supplies.

QUESTIONS

1. Why did Hari Singh approach Anil?
2. How did Anil make his living?
3. Why did Hari Singh change his name every month?
4. Why was it difficult for Hari Singh to rob a trusting person like Anil?
5. Why did Hari Singh justify himself to rob Anil?

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