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## Caged Birds

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We were born in a farm to a single mother hen. My siblings including myself were twenty in number. We were happy to be secured at the wings of our mother. On the second day the farm owner came to us with a young man. He visited to the farm to buy a hen with his younger brother. We listened to their conversation. We understood clearly that our owner was not ready to sell hens. There was huge demand for eggs among the visitors to buy. He told them that he can not sell hens. But he was ready to sell us. Already five of my siblings were sold. We were scared to see one more visitor. We thought that some of us will be sold. They came near us. We were scarcely hearing the conversation.

“See these are the chickens, if you are willing buy them” said the owner by bringing us from the secured place.

“I would like to buy a hen, or at least please give me a young one” replied the man.

“No, I cannot sell even a young one; you know I have more visitors for each and every day. They are eagerly coming to here to buy eggs. I may not be able to manage my business if I sell hens”, explained the owner.

The bargaining was going on for some time. Later the visitor decided to buy some of us. The owner took two of my siblings and gave them to the visitor. He would like to sell minimum ten on other hand the visitor liked to buy only five.

“See I don’t want to buy ten, I can’t manage them” argued the young man.

“I normally sell chickens only in bulk, what can I do with the remaining few chickens ?”, questioned our owner.

“But it will be difficult for me to manage then and also my mom won’t accept large numbers of chickens”, explained the man.

“It is your part dear young man, but you have to understand my situation. If you buy only five I can’t sell remaining five easily. Whereas if you buy all the ten then I will incubate another time with the same hen”, replied our owner.

Finally he accepted the offer. Our owner sold us to that young man. We all were kept in a carry bag. We really missed our mother. I could still remember her gloomy face when we were separated from her. I wish she would live a long life with healthy mind. We only heard the vehicle’s sound but were kept safely by the younger brother. We felt shivering as the climate was chill. It was late evening when we landed our future house. We felt severe fatigue when we reached home. We heard the conversation between the two brothers. They were discussing seriously how to convince their mother. She told them to buy a hen. She had also contributed half of the amount to buy a hen.

“How can we convince our mom?, bro” asked the younger one.

“Let’s hide them at the first floor without the knowledge of our mom” said the elder.

“But it is impossible to hide them all the time from mother’s knowledge bro”, explained the younger one.

“We need to mange only for few days then mom will be okay; she won’t say anything”, replied his brother.

They were surprised to see the house locked when they reached home. It was a Saturday evening so their mother had gone to the west side of the street. She regularly goes to that house in the west side for listening to Islamic religious speech. They were lucky enough to find the house empty. It was so easy for them to hide us from their mother’s knowledge. They brought us to the first floor and kept us under the cot by placing us inside a small box.

As far as the elder brother's conduct is concerned he never keeps the secret longer. Elder one already knows this. As usual he let the cat out of bag when mother came back to house. It was time for longest argument. Their mother won’t accept anything easily. It is not so easy to mange and convince her.

“I have asked you to buy a hen instead you’ve bought ten chickens, how can you raise them up without their mother?, they can't survive at this cool climate, you should go back to the farm and return them” the mother said angrily.

“No mom I won't give them back, I will raise them on my own, I take it as a challenge mom just wait and see how I am doing?” said the son.

“You can’t man; just tell me how is possible?, questioned the mother.

“Mom you don’t worry I have good plan to raise them up safely; I will do it mom”, replied our new owner.

We didn’t know that his challenge would play a dangerous role in our lives. Without realizing the true natural law he simply challenged with his mother. Our bodies were shivering due to cold climate. We thought that it was time for the end. But the only plus point was we had each other's companion. Only three of us were cock chickens remaining seven were hen chickens. We had full safety by the challenge of our new owner with his mother. We were never brought outside the room, which was located at the upstairs. Tasted food items were served on time. We liked a particular food item made up of fish particles. We had a beautiful environment at home and didn't aware of the difficulties and challenges of outside. In short unknowingly we had become caged birds.

Months passed we felt that we have grown up physically. We failed to realize that we haven't grown up mentally. Each and every day seemed to be a memorable day with cute experiences. After few months unexpectedly we were transferred from the room. A small store room was given to us at the back side of the house. We encountered eagles and crows on the sky. We ran inside the room whenever we felt the shadow of a bird. It was a strange thing for us to stand in an open place.

The first shocking day for us was when three of my siblings were suddenly separated from us at night. We thought they were sold to someone else. I hope they would be fine now. We met with lot of different things. Each and every day became very challenging. One fine day we were brought into a queer place. It was surrounded by trees. It looked like a small forest. Fear surrounded our mind. We weren't dared enough to go to that place. But one of my younger brothers and sisters went happily. They ate everything they saw. Every day early morning and

evening we were brought to that place. It continued for some time. Finally another day our new owner brought us to other side of the place. He never allowed us to follow him. He wanted us to stay there for whole day.

Things went well and we began to like the place. We considered that the whole forest belonged to us. On the fifth day we saw our end. A strange animal came to our place. We didn't know that it was our enemy. My elder brother made an alert signal. We had friendship with dogs. They also barked by seeing that animal. We didn't bother the alert signal of our friendly dog. It came near us and suddenly caught one of my brothers and began to taste his blood. We saw his end. At that time we realized that it was our enemy. Each of us ran to different places. I jumped into a house and saved my life but five of my siblings were killed terribly by that monster. I thought I was only alive but happy to see my younger sister. She had hidden herself into the branches of trees.

I could still remember the terrible attack by that monster. My innocent new owner failed to realize that he made us cowards. He acted against nature. Nature would give the power to all the creatures. When nature is omitted then it will be difficult to survive at this dangerous world. Because he had raised us by keeping into a larger size cage thinking that it was safe. It became the reason for the death my five siblings. Things will definitely be abnormal when creatures are not allowed to live along with the nature. The lives of my siblings become the best example for this.

Our new owner didn't know that my five siblings had died. He seemed to be busy at his work. Only after two days he came to the store room to see us. He was shocked to find that only two of us were staying at the room. He shouted at every one. He thought that my siblings were sold to someone without his knowledge. His mother hesitated to inform him the real cruel incident took place.

“Mom what did you do with the five hens? Where are they?”, he asked angrily.

“Don't get too emotional”, said his father.

“They were killed by mangoes two days ago it was accidental. Please control yourself”, replied the mother.

“What the hell happened mom. How can you say that all were killed. I knew they were safe. I myself went to the place every one hour and confirmed their safety. Then how could it happened”, he cried.

“It’s all fear my dear son. Keep yourself patience. Don’t lose it”, advised his mother.

“I knew it, I knew it. It’s all because of me. I kept them at home. I failed at letting them to live along with nature. Oh, almighty I made a sin by disobeying nature and I am punished for it”, said the son realizing his mistake. But it was late. Most of the time people fail to realize the reality at the earliest. Only after the cause they realize but what is the use?, it can’t bring back the lost thing. It’s all over. I have also learnt a great lesson I should never disobey nature that means we are disobeying the almighty. Let’s learn a lesson from the loss of my siblings’ lives.