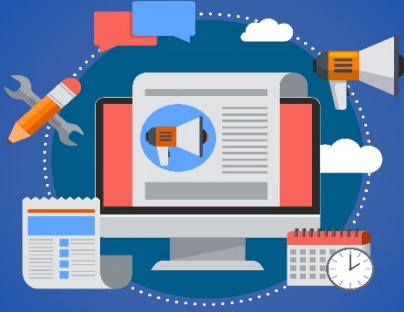


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The Birthday Present

Marand Rivya

One day to go, only one day, just one day and after that it was her birthday. Virat was speaking to himself while sitting in the room.

Mr Virat Singh was an employee in a company and was paid Rs 10,000 per month as his salary. Due to poor condition he was having only Rs 700 to buy a birthday present for his beloved wife, Heer. Tomorrow it would be her birthday and he had only Rs 700 with which he had to buy a present for Heer.

He used to save a little amount of money every month and Rs 700 was not much to buy a gift. When we look at the small and tidy compartment of the poor couple which consisted of a room and kitchen we could easily understand the low standard life of the couple. Tiles on the floor were unshiny, walls of the compartment seemed to be colorless and the windows of the house were damaged. There was a tiny cupboard in the room and a mirror beside it. One could not see his face clearly in it.

He had spent many hours to plan something awesome for her. Something which values as a diamond, something which would be as valuable as Heer herself was. He was having only Rs 700 so he thought, if he would buy a gift of Rs three or four crores, it would be not worthy as Heer. Suddenly Heer entered in the room and she warmly held him in her arms. Virat stood near to the window and viewed himself in the glass of the windows. His eyes were shining brightly, his face was pale and deep inside he was worried. He went near the door, took his black coat and a cap and moved towards the market. He informed Heer that he would be back very soon.

Where to go? What to do? many questions aroused in Virat's mind. He moved straight forward towards the market. At one shop he stopped and asked for any work but the shopkeeper refused him saying that he didn't have any work for him. Similarly Virat visited many shops but not any shopkeeper was ready to provide him any work.

It is said, when a person is fully dedicated to do something, he can cross every limit. Virat was tensed so he thought that he would steal something from a shop and then he would sell

it in the market. Then he will be able to buy a gift for Heer, so he visited one shop and tried to steal a small idol of lord Shri Krishna worth Rs 2000. But destiny was not on his side, owner of the shop caught him red handed. The owner threatened him by saying that he would call the police but Virat begged pardon from him and plead him to leave him. He also promised that he would never commit the same mistake again.

Virat was sad as he was not able to earn a single penny to buy a present for his beloved Heer. But he didn't loose hope. He went straight forward towards the jewellery market. He saw a shop with the board outside "All kinds of jewelries are available here under your budget", so he entered into the shop. He liked a ring worth Rs 700 so he purchased it and was happy that he had purchased something awesome for Heer. He knew that nothing is more precious than Heer, any expensive gift can't match the preciousness of Heer and gift is just a word which contains feelings and emotions for the person whom you love. So, he was satisfied with a gift which he had bought for her.

He moved towards his house. Heer heard the footsteps of Virat so she eagerly opened the door and removed his coat and cap. She finds that Virat was hiding something from her but Virat anyhow refuges her. The clock turns 11:55 pm and it was just five minutes left in 12:00'o clock. The clock stuck at 12:00 am. Virat greeted "Happy birthday sweetheart. Wish you a day full of joy and happiness dear honey". Heer replied "Thanks dear". Virat took out gift which he had brought for her. Heer opened the box and saw a ring which was as beautiful as her. So she was very happy, she again thanked Virat and kissed him gently on his forehead.

Virat informed her about the incident that happened in the market. And after hearing that she became upset. She convinced Virat that she doesn't want any type of precious gift. She wants only him. Nothing is more valuable for her than him. If he is with her, she had each and everything and without him the whole world seems to be useless for her. He is the only reason behind her happiness, she doesn't want anything for her happiness. She needs his love and nothing else.

We could easily see that what a true lover can do for his/her beloved. Virat and Heer loved each other spiritually, their bonding was strong. Nothing is more powerful than "love" in this world.

About the Writer:

Marand Rivya is the student of English Literature in TCAS. She is a contemporary English writer. She has written many poems and a novel in English. She has also written many poems in Gujarati. “He is Always with me”, “Family: The Backbone of Indian Society” and “My dearest Beloved Love” etc. are works written by her.