

26/04/2023

Chapter - 1

The portrait of a lady

Notes:-

Grandmother:-

1. Old, wrinkled, short, fat, slightly bent
2. Walked with one hand on waist, other hand jelling rosary beads, lips moving in audible prayer.
3. Difficult for author to believe she was ever young.
4. Spotless white clothes; silver locks
5. An expanse of purity and peace as in snow covered winter landscape with mountains.

Grandfather:-

1. Portrait hanging above mantelpiece.
2. Looked hundred years old with white flowing beard. wore big turban and loose fitting clothes.

Easily bonding with grandmother in village:-

1. Grandmother woke up author in the morning, dressed and got him ready for school and plastered his slate, sang morning prayers.
2. Fed him breakfast of stale chapattis with butter and sugar.
3. Accompany author to the village school attached to the temple where priest taught the children.

4. Grandmother read holy scriptures in the temple while author studied alphabet and morning prayer in the school.

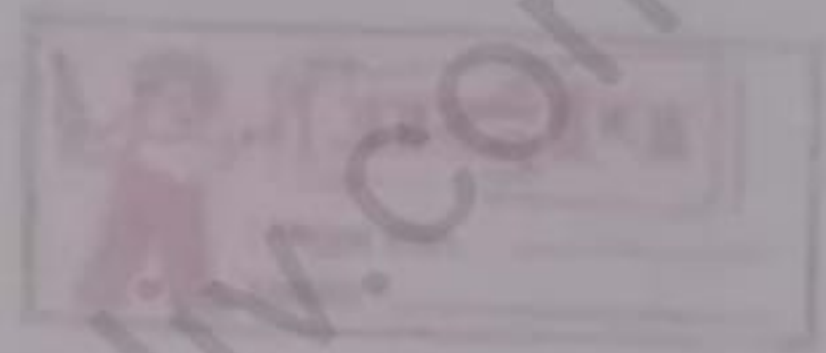
5. Both walked back home together feeding stale Chapattis to the village dogs.

Turning point in friendship:-

1. Author and grandmother shifted to city from village.
2. Author admitted to an English medium school, travelled to school in a motor bus.
3. Grandmother unhappy at author being taught English, Science and music.
4. Grandmother distressed at lack of religion based education in city school, started feeding the sparrows.

Common link of friendship snapped:-

1. Author given a separate room on joining university.
2. Grandmother quietly accepts her isolation devotes herself to spinning the wheel, reciting prayers from morning till evening.
3. Happiest half hour of the day when she fed bread crumbs to sparrows.
4. Author goes abroad for higher education and grandmother sees off at the author at the railway station.
5. Author returns after five years grandmother there to receive him at the station.



6. Next day grandmother gather neighbourhood women and sing songs beating an old drum, first time skips prayers.
7. Taken ill the next days aware of her approaching and insisted on praying dice with prayer and rosary in hand.
8. With setting, grandmother city friends the bird arrives to pay their last respect, sit silently without chirruping refuse bread & crum, fly away quietly when grandmother body is carried away.

Question/Answer

Mention

Ques - The three phases of the author's relationship with his grandmother before he left the country to study abroad.

Ans - → The first phase was when the author lived with his grandmother in the village. Both of them spent maximum time together his grandmother took great care of him.

→ The second phase of their relationship began when they shifted to the city. She did not go with him to school, she could not help him in his studies. She talk less to him and didn't say anything after the music lesson started.

→ Then came the third phase of their life when the author went to the university both of them, ^{isolated} didn't share the same room the grandmother accepted here,

Ques 2 - Three reasons why the author's grandmother was disturbed when he started going to the city school.

Ans 2 - Grandmother was unhappy with the city education there was no teaching about god and the scriptures which made her unhappy. She didn't like the music lessons according to her it was not meant for gentle folk.

Ques 3 - Three ways in which the author's grandmother spent her days after he grew up.

- Ans 3 -
1. She spent her day feeding the sparrows in afternoon.
 2. She spent her most of the time on spinning wheel.
 3. She spent her day on reciting the prayers.

Ques 4 - The odd way in which the author's grandmother behaved just ~~days~~ before she died.

Ans 4 - Before she died, a change came over her, she collected the women of the neighbourhood took a broken drum and sang of the home coming of the warriors whole day. She did not pray that day.

Ques 5 - The way in which the sparrows expressed their sorrow when the author's grandmother died.



Ans - The bird arrives to pay their last respect, sit silently without chirrupings refuse the bed crumpled flew silently when the grandmother's was carried away.

Ques 6 - The author's grandmother was a religious person what are the different ways in which we come to know this?

Ans 6 - The author's grandmother used to read religious scriptures sitting in the temple, she sang morning prayers while she dressed the author for the school when they moved to the city, she would always sing the prayers.

Ques 7 - Would you agree that the author's grandmother was a person strong in character? If yes, give instances that show this.

Ans 7 - Yes, it is a fact that she was strong in character. She was religious and had certain ideas of life. She didn't show her emotions at the station when she see off her grandson. She stuck to the end ideas till the end.