



COMPASSION : The golden key

The morning was too chilling and John was very lazy to go for jogging. Somehow he woke up and wore his cosy fur coat. The town was silent and he heard the hummingbirds chirping. The cold weather made him hug his coat. He felt the absence of his neighbour Mr. Thomson. He walked slowly through the wet roads. He returned home and there sat his mother on the rocking chair pouring some hot vapourizing tea. Mother said, "Oh Johnny! Today you are too late, I think you forgot about your rendezvous in your office". "Yah, its true I have", replied John. He ran to his bedroom: "Dear please have this tea, afterwards you can go". Mother requested: "Oh mom I'm already late I'll have the tea later from my office". John rushed towards his bedroom. Mother sat gloomy and was very sad that her son hated her tea, earlier John used to ask his mother for her specially prepared lemon tea. She stood up and moved to the



kitchen:

John took the car's keys and went outside: "Johnny: - All the best for your presentation" Mother screamed from inside: John hesitated his mother's words and went on.

He reached his office, there stood his colleagues waiting for him: "Hey John the M.D. is waiting for your presentation, come fast" called Mike, one among his friends. John went to the conference hall and took his laptop for his performance. By mistake he forgot to take his pendrive and was unable to present the visuals: "John! What happened? Is anything wrong, should I wait here" M.D. became confused: "Sorry Sir, I can't present it, I forgot to take my pendrives" John replied helplessly: "How can you be such irresponsible, I am going and you are suspended for the week" M.D. ordered: John stood helplessly in front of the officers and all other



staffs. He went to his cabin and took his bag and went outside. He was not knowing what to do. He was helpless, confused and also angry. By that he forgot to take his keys from the cabin. Without knowing that he went outside, walking like a helpless, poor man. He went to the church and sat in front of the church, looking at the statue of Infant Jesus. Suddenly an unexpected call diverged him from his thoughts. "Son, please give me something, I haven't eaten anything since five days" a poor old lady pleaded to John. John observed the aged lady and started to search for money from his wallet. "Son, please feel pity on me, I don't want money, instead I want something to eat." the lady asked again. Her voice was very quite and her throat was as same as a drought field. "What's your name grandma?" asked John. The lady looked John surprisingly. "No one in the world called me grandma, I was named as a



beggar or the ugly woman., I think that you have a mind to help me. isn't it ?" "Surely grandma." John smiled at the lady.

John took the lady to a tea shop and offered her a cup of coffee and a packet of biscuit. While having it John noticed that the lady was watching him and there was a bit of smile on her lips: "You are having the same face of my son" the lady said: "What!" John was surprised: "Not exactly but somewhere, now he will be a man just like the features of yours." the lady stopped her eating: "What's his name? Where is he?" John untied a bunch of questions. "I don't know. I don't know." the lady stood up and walked. John ran behind her, "Grandma, I would like to hear your story, If you don't mind will you please"



The lady stopped. Both of them went to the church where they were before. "It's a short story but for me it was my life and dreams." the old woman started to relate the story: "I was married to a driver when I was just twenty and I was not knowing how to lead a peaceful life, unfortunately my husband died in an accident. I was helpless the only possession I had was my son and a house, which was half built. I did many jobs including as a home nurse, maid even as a road cleaner. It was all to educate my son. I didn't want my son to be illiterate like myself, doing household works and spoiling life. I worked day and night, to earn money was an herculean task for me. I educated my son and also made him an engineer. I sold my ornaments, his father's truck and also gave half part of our house for rent to pay his college fees. At last I was compelled by myself to see our house."

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He stayed in the hostel and I lived in a house where I worked as a maid. One day the master of the house told me that my son got a job. I, with surprising, merciful mind went to see him at his hostel. From the other hostlers I came to know that he had left. I contacted him, but no way. Seeing my situation my mistress searched about him. "the lady stopped." "Then what happened?" John was very anxious to know more. My mistress told me that he was working in a multinational company and had got married and is living in a mansion in the town. I was unable to control my tears the next day I went to see him but the watchman didn't permit me to enter inside and I couldn't see him. At last I decided to not to see him. I became old, I lost my job and I was thrown out into the street." the old lady wiped her tears and walked.

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“Grandma please wait, I'm having a better remedy for all your problems” John smiled. He called an autoriksha and asked the aged lady to get in. On the way the lady asked several times about the place where they are going. Atlast the riksha stopped infront of a big gate, John asked the lady to come with him. Both of them walked in, there were an uncountable numbers of toothless smile and faded lone. There were happiness, lone, caring and even friends.

“Is it an old age home?” questioned the grandma.

“Yes, this is best place for you, its safe than the street, the people here lone you more than your son does, there is no one here to scold you, torture you or even make you work day and night”

John's words relaxed the lady's mind. He registered her name and also gave her a promise that he will surely meet her on all weekends. The old lady's pleasant smile filled John's mind with



lone. He went back home. There stood his loving mother with a smiling face. "Johny Dear today you are earlier than the other days" Mother searched for his answer. John replied everything that happened that day except the matter about the old lady. Then after he hugged his mother and kissed her reddish cheeks. Mother was surprised to see it and she felt the sweet of his hug and understand that it was tastier than before.

"Mummy, I want some lemon tea and something to eat. I feel too tired". John's response exclaimed his mother: "Mom, this Sunday you are having a surprise". Mother went inside happily, her uncontrollable happiness made her eyes wet.

A few days later, a morning, Mother was questioning about the car and the keys and John stood as like as a kid without any response.



The most important people in our life are our parents. They are the blessings for god. Feeling compassion, love, respect is the valuable keys in our lives. Just like John in the story all should be respectful to elders and feeling compassion to others is the best method to reach god. The old lady was an angel of god who came to the world to make John understand the importance of love.