

**ENGLISH**

## THE BOND OF LOVE

~Summary~

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### The Narrator Finds an Orphaned Bear Cub

The narrator found a bear cub by chance when he and his friends were passing through the fields of sugarcane near Mysore. People were driving away the wild pigs from their fields by shooting at them. Then they spotted a sloth bear. His friend shot towards the bear and it died. After the sloth bear died, her cub (which was riding on her back) ran around her dead body making a sad noise. The narrator caught the bear cub and gifted him to his wife.

The narrator's wife felt so happy on seeing the bear cub and named him Bruno. She treated him as her own child and took good care of him. She gave him many things to eat and drink. He ate porridge, vegetables, fruits, nuts, meat, rice, eggs, etc, and drank tea, milk, beer, coffee, etc.

He spent his time in playing with the pet dogs of the narrator and his tenant's children. He slept in their beds.

### Incidents with Bruno

Once an incident took place in the house. The narrator had put down a rat poison in the library and Bruno ate it and suffered a stroke of paralysis. He dragged himself to the narrator's wife. They took him to the veterinary doctor and he recovered after some time. Another time, Bruno drank one gallon of old engine oil but it had no ill-effect on him.

### Baba : New Name of Bruno

As Bruno grew, he learnt some tricks and at the narrator's wife's command, he could perform them. He could hold a stick like a gun. When she said wrestle or box, he did the same. She changed his name to Baba when he grew up. Baba had to be chained most of the time because of the children of narrator's tenants'.

As time passed, baba grew in size and equalled the two dogs in height, so the narrator and his friends advised the narrator's wife to send him to the zoo in Mysore because he needed a bigger and open space. She was not ready to send him initially but later she agreed and sent him to the zoo.

## Effect of Separation on Narrator's Wife and Baba

The narrator's wife was in grief for weeks after Baba left. She wrote a letter to the curator (custodian) of the zoo to know about Baba.

The curator replied that he was fretting and not eating food. The narrator tried to keep her away from the zoo for about three months but after knowing Baba's condition, she decided to meet him.

## Reunion of the Narrator's Wife and Baba

The narrator took his wife to the zoo. Some of her friends told her that Baba would not recognise her but when she went to the zoo, Baba recognised her at once and became very happy. They sat together for three hours.

She gave him food. She urged the curator to send Baba with her but he was helpless and suggested her to ask the superintendent for that.

## Baba Returns Home Happily

The superintendent allowed her to take Baba and he was hoisted on the top of the narrator's car. At home, a twenty feet long and fifteen feet wide island was made for him.

A wooden box was kept for Baba to sleep. He was happy to be at home again. The narrator's wife and Baba spent hours sitting there.

## A Bond of Love Between a Human and an Animal

The affection and love between the narrator's wife and Baba, the sloth bear, was a symbol of true love. The story shows that animals also feel love and express their feelings to them who love them. Baba showed so many qualities like that of humans like love, affection, care and loyalty; and shared a bond of love with the narrator's wife.

## Conclusion of The Bond of Love

The chapter – The Bond of Love teaches students that a true bond of love is not restricted to humans only, even pet animals understand the care and love that we share with them. Being loved is one of the most prized gifts that can be felt by anyone.