



Class - 12th

The Rattrap

Best notes
for
100/100
by

MBC – Mridul Bhaiya Classes



THE RATTRAP

About the Author : Selma Lagerlof

- Swedish author and teacher
- 1st woman to win Nobel Prize in Literature.
- Her Stories were translated into many languages.
- Story is narrated in the **manner of a fairy tale**.



The Rattrap Peddler

- Sells small rattraps; unprofitable buisness.
- Used to beg and even steal to survive.
- Clothes were in rags (torn piece of cloth)
- Sunken cheeks & poor
- The world is a big rattrap. Just like rattrap traps a rat with cheese and porks as a bait, the world offers comfort and joy as a bait and traps us.

Robbery at The Crofter's house

- Sought The Crofter's shelter for one dark night.
- Happy Crofter to receive a guest, since he had no family.
- Talkative Crofter shared all information about him – being an ex-worker at Ironwork, only cow supports him & earned 30 Kronors by selling milk.
- Next morning, 30 Kronors were stolen by peddler by smashing the window pane.
- The vagabond (homeless person) realised himself being trapped by the bait (30 kronor).

Met The Iron Master



- The peddler was lost in the woods with no energy left.
- Found an iron mill and entered there to get some warmth.
- The iron master mistook him for an old Regimental comrade and addressed him as Nils Olof and invited him to his house.
- The peddler declined the invitation, neither tried clear his doubt.

Met Ironmaster's daughter – Edla

- The ironmaster asked his daughter Edla to persuade the Peddler.
- Edla sensed him to be either a thief on run or an escaped prisoner.
- Despite of knowledge, Edla convinced the peddler to come to their home for Christmas.

Christmas Eve

- Iron master was happy to spend time with his old friend.
- Fed the Rattrap seller and gave him time to groom himself.
- Exposed face made the Ironmaster realise the reality of the Peddler.
- The iron master accused the peddler for hiding his reality & said he would call the cops
- Agitated peddler, said that the world was like a big rattrap & someday iron master would also be doomed.
- The iron master asked peddler to leave but Edla convinced him to stay at least for Christmas.
- The peddler had sound sleep & received the suit as a gift

Changed Heart of the peddler

- The ironmaster along with his daughter went to the Church, leaving the peddler at home.



- Heard robbery news of 30 Kronors at Church and learned that the rattrap peddler was the thief.
- Asked valet about the thief escaping the house
- The peddler escaped the house but left a package in a rattrap.
- Package had 30 kronors notes & a letter.
- Signed the letter as 'Captain von stahle' and a thank you note for Edla who treated him really nice.

Theme – Goodness lies in the hearts of everyone which first need to be awakened through understanding and love.

SUMMARY

This story is about a person, who see the world as a rattrap. His condition is very poor as he is dressed in rags. He lives alone & his life is a misery. To keep the pot boiling, he started stealing and begging. The world is rattrap which offers baits to trap the people. Those baits are materialistic things. So one day he was looking for a shelter and found a cottage owned by an old Crofter. The Crofter lived alone, so he allowed the peddler to let in. The old man welcomed him with porridge for supper and gave him tobacco for his pipe, while playing games. He got taken into account to get into talking and showed his guest, the 30 kronors, that he had earned last month. Next morning the old man left his house to tend his cow. The peddler made hay while the sun shined and stole those 30 kronors. He escaped the house and reached to an iron mill. It was cold, so he sat near the furnace to get some warmth. In the meantime, the owner of the mill arrived and mistook him for his old friend Nils Olof. Peddler had beard & untangled hair. The peddler initially denied but was later allured for more money, if he went with. Also the ironmaster's daughter invited him home for Christmas eve even after knowing that her father has mistaken him



for someone else. The ironmaster assumed that the peddler felt embarrassed because of his untidy condition, but his daughter noticed that the man was afraid either he had stolen something or he escaped from prison.

Next day was Christmas Eve, the ironmaster came into dining room for breakfast they asked him to get clean & dressed up and then right after that came a good-looking man, all groomed. They both got shocked because now they realised, that the father mistook him for being an old comrade of his. The peddler was not at fault but was accused of hiding his own identity. He requested the ironmaster to let him stay in the forge.

The ironmaster wanted to call cops, but the peddler started explaining his theory about the world being a rattrap. The daughter had her father allow him to stay and have rest.

In the evening, the family found out the news of stolen money in his absence. On returning the manor, the rattrap seller already left the place and left behind 30 kronor to ironmaster's daughter as a gesture. The heart of the peddler changed & instead of stealing he gifted the stolen money in a rattrap to ironmaster's daughter. Also, she found a letter of thanks with the gift. The kindness and generous behaviour of ironmaster's daughter changed the heart of the peddler.



This Chapter Ends here !! But not your work

Go to Practice Questions, Solve Dpps attend MCQs and revise the notes
after some 2nd 4th and 7th day

To get 95+ you have to keep on revising what you studied.

[Remember Consistency and HardWork Gives Great Result]

NOTES MADE BY



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