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Beehive

9. The Bond of Love

by

Kenneth Anderson

1. Summary

The Bond of Love is a short story written by Kenneth Anderson. The story is about a bond of love between a sloth bear and the author's wife. The author was passing through the sugarcane fields in Mysore with his friends. Suddenly a black sloth bear came out of nowhere. So the author's companion shot her on the spot. Then they saw a baby bear making a pitiful noise around the dead mother. The author put the baby bear in a gunny bag, brought it to Bangalore, and presented it to his wife. She was delighted and named it Bruno. Bruno soon became a member of the household. He became very attached to the Alsatian dogs and to the children of the tenants living in the bungalow. He was left free in his younger days and spent most of his time playing, running, sleeping, eating and drinking. As the months rolled on, Bruno grew bigger and bigger. But he was just as mischievous and playful. The author's wife fondly began to call him Baba, a Hindustani word signifying 'small boy'.

When he grew too big to be kept at home, the author, his son, and friends advised his wife to send Baba to the zoo in Mysore. She agreed, very reluctantly. Friends visiting Mysore went to see Baba at the zoo. They reported that he looked very thin and sad. After three months, the author's wife visited Baba. He recognized her immediately and howled with happiness. When it was time to leave, she cried bitterly and requested the curator of the zoo to send Baba back to her. The curator said she had to speak to the superintendent regarding this matter. She managed to convince the superintendent and so he agreed to give Baba back. A special island was made for Baba in the author's compound. It was surrounded by a dry pit. Then coolies hoisted the cage onto the island and Baba was released. The wife would land on the island by swinging on a rope which was tied to the branch of a mango tree. The sloth bear and the author's wife were happy to be reunited.

Here is your introduction to sloth bears. Click on the link below.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U8xvImdWtMs>

2. Vocabulary

1. **Fascinating** – extremely interesting
The soldier told us a **fascinating** story about how he rescued his friend from an enemy camp.
2. **Account** – a written or spoken description of something that has happened
After listening to her **account** of the accident, we know that the car driver was at fault.
3. **Orphaned** – when both the parents are dead
I felt very sorry for the **orphaned** children and offered to take them to the shelter home.
4. **Rescued** – saved from a dangerous or unpleasant situation
We **rescued** the dog from the boys who were teasing it.
5. **Inhabit** – to live in a place
These dolphins **inhabit** the Ganga river.
6. **Elevations** – heights of places above sea level
Snow leopards are found at high **elevations** of the Himalayas.
7. **Sloth Bear** – a shaggy coated nocturnal Indian bear
We saw a **sloth bear** sleeping in his cage.
8. **Shaggy** – having or covered with long, rough and untidy hair
My dog has a **shaggy** coat and sheds hair all over the house.
9. **Muzzle** – the mouth and nose of an animal
The dog is white with a black **muzzle** and ears.
10. **Claws** – sharp curved nails at the end of the toes of some animals and birds
The cat scratched the table with its sharp **claws**.
11. **Termites** – insects that eat wood
Termites flourish in damp conditions.
12. **Panting** – to breathe quickly and loudly, often after physical effort
He was **panting** after running the marathon.
13. **Wantonly** – for no good reason
The teacher wantonly scolded the student, though she was not at fault.

14. **Unfortunately** – something that is sad, disappointing or has a bad effect
Unfortunately we could not find our pet cat and gave it up as lost.
15. **Companion** – a person or animal whom one spends a lot of time with like a friend or spouse
My family members are my best **companions** on long trips.
16. **Promptly** – action done at once or without delay
The bus arrives **promptly** at 8 a.m. every day.
17. **Prostrate** – lying on the ground, facing downwards
Students **prostrate** in the temple to pray, just before exams.
18. **Pitiful** – deserving pity
The refugees who arrived at the camp had very **pitiful** stories to tell.
19. **Capture** – to take someone as a prisoner, or to take something by force
They could not **capture** the runaway elephant who wrecked the entire village.
20. **Scooted** – ran away
The deer **scooted** into the jungle, when he heard the footsteps of the tiger.
21. **Scruff** – the back of a person or animal's neck
I grabbed the cat by the **scruff** of his neck.
22. **Snapped** – animal tried to bite someone
The guard dog was snarling and **snapping** behind the fence.
23. **Christened** – naming ceremony in the Christian religion
The baby was **christened** Andrea by the priest.
24. **Porridge** – a cereal boiled in water or milk
A bowl of **porridge** for breakfast every day is good for health.
25. **Condiments** – spices
A large number of **condiments** are used in Indian cooking.
26. **Aerated** – containing a gas such as carbon dioxide
Coca-Cola is an **aerated** drink.
27. **Relish** – make pleasant to taste
I **relish** my mother's meals that are cooked with great enjoyment.

28. **Alsatian** – a breed of large dogs commonly known as German Shepherd
Alsatian dogs are often used as police dogs.
29. **Tenants** – a person who occupies land or property rented from a landlord
Our **tenants** were very noisy; so we had to tell them to leave.
30. **Befell** – something bad that has happened to somebody
Bad times **befell** her as both her parents died in a car accident.
31. **Paralysis** – a loss of voluntary movement in the body, caused by injury or disease
Jim was **paralyzed** after a car accident.
32. **Extent** – the degree to which something happens or is likely to happen; amount
I am always surprised by the **extent** of my teacher's knowledge.
33. **Stumps** – parts of something such as trees, arms, or legs that are left after most of them have been removed
Many trees broke during the storm, and only the **stumps** were left.
34. **Vet** – short form of veterinarian, doctor for animals
I cannot find a good vet for my pet dog.
35. **Residence** – a home
The family **residence** was a lovely bungalow in the middle of a garden.
36. **Feverish** – having fever or showing symptoms of fever
I was feeling **feverish** after being out in the scorching heat all day.
37. **Reference** – look at a book, piece of paper, etc. in order to find information and help
He made the whole speech without reference to the notes in front of him.
38. **Index** – an alphabetical list, such as one printed at the back of a book showing which page a subject, name, etc. is on
I looked up the city in the **index** at the end of the book.
39. **Dash** – run or travel somewhere in a great hurry
He **dashed** out of the school the moment he got a phone call from home.
40. **Floundering** – struggling to move
The poor mouse was **floundering** when his leg got stuck in the mouse trap.

41. **Rapidly** – very quickly
My grades fell **rapidly** as I was focusing on sports rather than on my studies.
42. **Heaving** – moving up and down
After running fast, his chest was **heaving** and he was out of breath.
43. **Flanks** – the side of a person or animal's body between the ribs and the hip
She gently patted the bear's **flanks**.
44. **Hypodermic** – long needle used to give an injection right under the skin
A **hypodermic** injection is given to treat certain diseases.
45. **Antidote** – a medical substance that is used to prevent a poison from taking effect
Alcohol is often used as an **antidote** against a snake bite.
46. **Stertorous** – heavy and laboured breathing
My mother's breathing became **stertorous** when she had an asthma attack.
47. **Disdainfully** – disapprovingly
The teacher looked at the students **disdainfully** when they did not submit their homework.
48. **Gallon** – a unit for measuring volume, approximately 3.8 litres; a large amount of liquid
I love milk and can drink **gallons** of it.
49. **Drained** – to remove a liquid slowly
The water had to be **drained** from the flooded room.
50. **Sump** – a hole or container, especially in the lower part of an engine into which a liquid that is not needed can flow
There was a lot of dirty oil in the **sump** of the engine.
51. **Studebaker** – brand name of an American car
The **Studebaker** is a very impressive looking car.
52. **Inroads** – to start to have a direct or noticeable effect on something
Medical science has made great **inroads** in the treatment of cancer.
53. **Ill effects** – harmful effects
The villagers are feeling the **ill effects** of drinking polluted water from the pond.

54. **Rolled on** – to move forward; here time moved on
As time **rolled on** we realised that it would be impossible to complete the task on time.
55. **Outgrown** – grow too big for something
I have **outgrown** all my clothes as I have grown taller.
56. **Mischievous** – naughty
The students are very **mischievous** and trouble the teacher a lot.
57. **Command** – giving an order
My sister is very bossy and shouts **commands** at me all the time.
58. **Vigorously** – energetically
He exercised **vigorously** in the gym to lose weight.
59. **Tackled** – to deal with a problem
I **tackled** the math test with great ease.
60. **Rough and tumble** – a situation without any rules, like a violent fight
The **rough and tumble** of boys' fights sometimes leads to serious injuries.
61. **Produced** – made or manufactured components from raw materials
Darjeeling in West Bengal **produces** the best tea in India.
62. **Cradled** – hold gently and protectively
My baby sister wants to be **cradled** to sleep every night.
63. **Affectionately** – displaying extreme fondness or tenderness
I love to visit my grandparents because they always treat me very **affectionately**.
64. **Concealed** – hid
The government **concealed** the truth from the public.
65. **Advised** – guided
My parents **advised** me to study very hard for my board exams so that I could get into a good college.
66. **Consented** – agreed
Sita **consented** to marry Ram after he broke the bow.
67. **Hastily** – hurriedly
He walked **hastily** to the classroom since he was late.

68. **Curator** – a keeper or custodian of a museum; here, a person in charge of the zoo
I would love to be a **curator** as I love both art and history.
69. **Collection** – a group of objects of one type that have been collected by one person or in one place
The museum has a great **collection** of paintings.
70. **Packed off** – to send someone to a different place
My brother was **packed off** to a boarding school at a very early age.
71. **Relieved** – happy that something unpleasant has not happened, or has ended
We were all **relieved** when the storm ended and there was no major damage to the city.
72. **Inconsolable** – someone who cannot be comforted because they are extremely sad
She was **inconsolable** when her father passed away.
73. **Fretting** – worried
Rani **fretted** because she had not studied the entire syllabus before her exams.
74. **Restrain** – prevent someone from doing something
My father tried to **restrain** me from going to the concert.
75. **Conjectured** – formed an opinion by guessing
It has been **conjectured** that the world will come to an end one day.
76. **Recognised** – to know someone or something because you have seen or heard him or her or experienced it before
I hadn't seen my cousin for over twenty years, but I **recognised** him at once.
77. **Howled** – weeping and crying out loudly
The wolves **howled** last night as it was a full moon night.
78. **Delight** – great pleasure
I was **delighted** when my cousin had a baby.
79. **Lemonade** – a drink made with lemon juice, sugar and water
It is always refreshing to have a glass of **lemonade** in summer.

80. **Bitterly** – in an angry hurtful or resentful way
I cried **bitterly** when India lost the World Cup Cricket final.
81. **Hardened** – become hard or tough
Life has **hardened** me as I have faced many difficult situations since I was young.
82. **Reconciled** – accepted
I was **reconciled** to the fact that I would have to do all the housework.
83. **Hesitantly** – in a tentative or unsure manner
I joined my friends on the boat very **hesitantly**, as I was scared of drowning.
84. **Superintendent** – a person who manages an organization or activity
The police **superintendent** in our neighbourhood is a very honest man.
85. **Pleading** – showing in an emotional way that you want something urgently
The boy was **pleading** to be let into the house.
86. **Transporting** – moving goods or people from one place to another
The buses were used for **transporting** the students back to school.
87. **Armed** – equipped with guns or firearms
The robbers were **armed** with guns when they entered the bank.
88. **Hoisted** – raised by means of ropes or pulleys
The Indian flag is **hoisted** every year on Independence Day.
89. **Securely** – tightly
We lock the doors **securely** at night.
90. **Accomplished** – highly skilled or trained in a particular activity
I would like to be an **accomplished** singer one day.
91. **Squad** – a small group of people with a particular task
The bomb **squad** has one of the most difficult jobs in the police force.
92. **Engaged** – busy, occupied
I love to be **engaged** in different kinds of sports after school.
93. **Compound** – outer area in the house or school
Our school **compound** is very big.

94. **Moat** – a deep, broad ditch, either dried or filled with water
Most of the zoos have **moats** in the enclosures for large and dangerous animals.
95. **Housed** – gave a person or animal a place to live; or a place to store something
The shoe-box **housed** a mouse.
96. **Fowls** – hen, chickens or ducks
We have **fowls** in our backyard; they lay eggs regularly.
97. **Gnarled** – rugged, twisted
Buddha was enlightened under the **gnarled** Bodhi tree.
98. **Sentimentally** – appealing to tender emotions and feelings
I am very **sentimentally** attached to my grandmother's home.
99. **Preserved** – conserve or maintain in its original state
I **preserved** my childhood toys carefully.
100. **Released** – freed
Sunita opened the cage and **released** the bird.
101. **Hindlegs** – the rear legs of an animal
My old dog limps because his hind legs are very weak.
102. **Overhanging** – hanging or extending outwards over something
The **overhanging** branches are full of flowers and look very beautiful!
103. **Constitutes** – be a part of
The Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha **constitute** the parliament.
104. **Surrounding** – All around a particular person or thing
The area **surrounding** the house was littered with garbage.
105. **Affection** – a gentle feeling of fondness or liking
The whole family gives my baby sister a lot of **affection**.
106. **Individual** – of a single person
Animals live in groups or as **individuals** depending upon the species.
107. **Characteristics** – a feature or quality belonging to a place, person, or thing
Animals adapt their **characteristics** to the climate and area they live in.

3. Questions

- I. Given in the box are some headings. Find the relevant paragraphs in the text to match the headings.

An Orphaned Cub; Bruno's Food-chart; An Accidental Case of Poisoning; Playful Baba; Pain of Separation; Joy of Reunion; A Request to the Zoo; An Island in the Courtyard

- II. Answer the following questions.

1. "I got him for her by accident."
 - (i) Who says this?
 - (ii) Who do 'him' and 'her' refer to?
 - (iii) What is the incident referred to here?
2. "He stood on his head in delight."
 - (i) Who does 'he' refer to?
 - (ii) Why was he delighted?
3. "We all missed him greatly: but in a sense we were relieved."
 - (i) Who does 'we all' stand for?
 - (ii) Who did they miss?
 - (iii) Why did they nevertheless feel relieved?

- III. Answer the following questions in 30 to 40 words each.

1. On two occasions Bruno ate/drank something that should not be eaten/ drunk. What happened to him on these occasions?
2. Was Bruno a loving and playful pet? Why, then, did he have to be sent away?
3. How was the problem of what to do with Bruno finally solved?

4. Grammar

I.

1. Find these words in the lesson. They all have ie or ei in them.

f__ld	ingred__nts	h__ght	misch__vous
fr__nds	__ghty-seven	rel__ved	p__ce

2. Now here are some more words. Complete them with ei or ie. Consult a dictionary if necessary.

bel__ve	rec__ve	w__rd	l__sure	s__ze
w__ght	r__gn	f__gn	gr__f	p__rce

(There is a popular rule of spelling: 'i' before 'e' except after 'c'. Check if this rule is true by looking at the words above.)

- II. Here are some words with silent letters. Learn their spelling. Your teacher will dictate these words to you. Write them down and underline the silent letters.

knock	wrestle	walk	wrong
knee	half	honest	daughter
hours	return	hornet	calm
could	sign	island	button

- III. How to look at an Index

An index is a list of names or topics that are to be found in a book. It is a list arranged in alphabetical order at the end of a book.

The following paragraph shows that the doctor is consulting the index of a medical book to find out which injection is appropriate for Bruno.

“Out came his medical books, and a feverish reference to index began: What poison did you say, sir?” “Barium carbonate”. “Ah yes—B—Ba— Barium Salts—Ah! Barium carbonate! Symptoms—paralysis— treatment—injections of ... Just a minute, sir. I’ll bring my syringe and the medicine.”

1. You have read about the French Revolution and you want to know more about the Third Estate in the context of the French

Revolution. You can refer to the index of the book *Living World History* by T. Walter Wallbank and Arnold Schrier:

Page no. 813

French-Algerian War, 696
 French and Indian War, 370, 401
 French Revolution, 393, 404 – 405, 408, 427, 489
 Freud (froid), Sigmund [1856 – 1939], 479, *illus.* 477
 Frobisher (frō'bish ə), Martin [1535? – 1594], 321, 338

Page no. 826

Third Coalition, 415
 Third Communist International. *See* Comintern
 Third Estate (France), 404, 405
 Third Reform Bill, 454
 Third Reich (rīn), 641, 643, 652, 653

On which pages in this book will you find information about the French Revolution and the Third Estate?

2. To know what 'Food Security' and 'Minimum Support Price' mean in the context of the economic growth of a country you can go to the subject index given below from *Poverty and Famines — An Essay on Entitlement and Deprivation* by Amartya Sen. Under which heading in the index are you likely to find these topics?

Famine relief, 43, 57, 87–8, 96–8, 116–17, 131–2
 Fishermen, 51, 67–9, 71, 72–3, 78, 119
 Finland, 213
 Floods, 52–3, 58, 131–2, 147–8
 Food availability decline (FAD thesis), 6–7, 7–8, 41–2, 43–4, 53, 57–63, 80–1, 82–3, 88–93, 111, 117–20, 125, 137, 141, 153, 154–6, 157–8, 162
 Food countermovement, 94, 138, 160–2
 Food habits, 12–3, 25–6, 45, 50, 164

3. Given below is a portion of an index page from the book, French's Index of Differential Diagnosis, edited by F. Dudley Hart M.D., F.R.C.P.

- - pulmonary fibrosis .. 346	- chronic, associated with
- - - osteo-arthropathy .. 271	yellow nail syndrome 519
- - pyrexia .. 636, 643	- - bacterial infection
- - rigors 669, 671	complicating .. 729
- - vomiting 804	- - causing cough
Bronchitis, acute, causing	179, 182, 223
cough 178	- - - dyspnoea 222, 223, 229
- - - haemoptysis .. 322	- - - haemoptysis .. 322
- associated with costo-	- - - nutmeg liver .. 463
chondral swellings .. 133	- - cigarette smoking
- - emphysema 131	causing 223
- - mediastinal emphy-	- - heart failure due to .. 82
sema 605	Bronchitis, chronic, <i>contd.</i>
- capillary, causing head	- - simulating indigestion 583
retraction .. 325, 328	- - sputum of, during
- casts in sputum .. 728	smog 728
- causing epistaxis .. 240	- - - production in 727, 729
- in children, pertussis	- complicating incomplete
distinguished from .. 178	sternal fusion 130
	- coughing in, causing
	surgical emphysema .. 235

Study the entries and find out whether the following topics are discussed in the book.

- (i) bronchitis due to cigarette smoking
- (ii) heart failure due to bronchitis
- (iii) bronchitis in children

IV.

1. The Narrative Present

Notice the incomplete sentences in the following paragraphs. Here the writer is using incomplete sentences in the narration to make the incident more dramatic or immediate. Can you rewrite the paragraph in complete sentences?

(You can begin: The vet and I made a dash back to the car. Bruno was still floundering ...)

- (i) A dash back to the car. Bruno still floundering about on his stumps, but clearly weakening rapidly; some vomiting, heavy breathing, with heaving flanks and gaping mouth.

Hold him, everybody! In goes the hypodermic—Bruno squeals — 10 c.c. of the antidote enters his system without a drop being wasted. Ten minutes later: condition unchanged! Another 10 c.c. injected! Ten minutes later: breathing less stertorous — Bruno can move his arms and legs a little although he cannot stand yet. Thirty minutes later: Bruno gets up and has a great feed! He looks

at us disdainfully, as much as to say, 'What's barium carbonate to a big black bear like me?' Bruno is still eating.

- (ii) In the paragraphs above from the story the verbs are in the present tense (e.g. hold, goes, etc.). This gives the reader an impression of immediacy. The present tense is often used when we give a commentary on a game (cricket, football, etc.), or tell a story as if it is happening now. It is, therefore, called the narrative present.

You will read more about the present tense in Unit 10.

2. Adverbs

To remind you what adverbs are click on the link below.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b3RaBB7IDZc>

Find the adverbs in the passage below. (You've read about adverbs in Unit 1.)

We thought that everything was over when suddenly a black sloth bear came out panting in the hot sun. Now I will not shoot a sloth-bear wantonly but, unfortunately for the poor beast, one of my companions did not feel that way about it, and promptly shot the bear on the spot.

- (i) Complete the following sentences, using a suitable adverb ending in -ly.
- (a) Rana does her homework _____.
 - (b) It rains _____ in Mumbai in June.
 - (c) He does his work _____.
 - (d) The dog serves his master _____.
- (ii) Choose the most suitable adverbs or adverbial phrases and complete the following sentences.
- (a) We should _____ get down from a moving train. (never, sometimes, often)
 - (b) I was _____ in need of support after my poor performance. (badly, occasionally, sometimes)

(c) Rita met _____ with an accident. The doctor examined her _____.
(suddenly, seriously, immediately)

3. Take down the following scrambled version of a story that your teacher will dictate to you, with appropriate punctuation marks. Then, read the scrambled story carefully and try to rewrite it rearranging the incidents.

A grasshopper, who was very hungry, saw her and said, "When did you get the corn? I am dying of hunger." She wanted to dry them. It was a cold winter's day, and an ant was bringing out some grains of corn from her home. She had gathered the corn in summer.

"I was singing all day," answered the grasshopper.

"If you sang all summer," said the ant, "you can dance all winter."

"What were you doing?" asked the ant again.

The grasshopper replied, "I was too busy."

"I collected it in summer," said the ant. "What were you doing in summer? Why did you not store some corn?"

5. Writing

Pets have unique care and handling requirements and should only be kept by those with the commitment to understand and meet their needs. Give your argument in support of or against this statement.

or

There is an on-going debate on whether snake charmers should continue in their profession. You can get some idea about the debate from the newspaper clipping (The Hindu, 16 June 2004) given below. Read it, discuss in pairs or groups, and write either for or against the profession of snake charmers.

Report comes in support of snake charmers

NEW DELHI, JUNE 15. Over 30 years after the introduction of the Wildlife Protection Act (WPA) that banned the catching of snakes in India, a small community of snake charmers continues to practise the trade catching over 400,000 snakes every year — which ultimately die — in defiance of the law.

A report based on new research by the Wildlife Trust of India (WTI), however, has strongly recommended that the traditional knowledge of the snake charmers and skills be now utilised for education and medicine by setting up sapera centres. This is mainly because the community has

virtually no access to land, education or employment opportunities. They are dependent on snake charming to earn a livelihood. They trade around as vendors of traditional medicine, snake catchers and musicians. Ignorance about the law is quite common.

The report entitled 'Biodiversity, Livelihoods and the Law: The Case of the Jogi-Nath Snake Charmers of India' based on path-breaking research was formally released by the Inspector General of Forests, V.K. Bahuguna, along with a presentation by members of the sapera community in the Capital on Monday.

"Despite thirty years of the law being in existence, over 70 per cent of the Jogi-Naths are still dependent on snake charming to earn a livelihood. Ignorance about the law was quite common. None of them own land, even though they would like to," said Bahar Dutt, who led this research. Notably, most of those practising the trade in the current generation are all under 35 years of age.

Trapping occurs throughout the year and during their travels, though this activity increases during the monsoons. According to the data, each family on an average collects at least seven snakes.

Most snakes were force-fed and snake husbandry methods and health were found to be poor. "The snake charmers community council imposes a heavy fine on a person if the snake dies in his custody as it is considered an extremely bad omen. As a result, the snakes are released when the charmers realise that their condition is deteriorating," said Dutt. Their ambition to showcase the reptiles and earn money was not fulfilled, as they flouted four WPA provisions, for illegally possessing the animals, not feeding them properly, causing injuries by extracting teeth unscientifically and killing snakes for the valuable snake parts and bones. Their offence generally invites imprisonment for three to seven years and a fine up to Rs 25,000 in each case.

"On the positive side researchers found that the snake charmers possess a unique ability to handle venomous snakes with a tremendous knowledge of the different species and their behaviour. They are also called by local farmers to retrieve snakes, who would otherwise just kill them, from agricultural fields or human inhabited areas," she said.