

THE TATTERED BLANKET

Explanation:

Kamala was sitting huddled up on the thinna on the veranda covering her head and ears with a bath towel while Amma was resting on the chair. It was then suddenly a car stopped near the gate. Seeing this Kamala reluctantly moved towards the gate peering into the darkness. She was shocked to see Gopi there and she enquired of his unexpected visit. It was after five long years that Gopi visited his home at the countryside on his way from

Thiruvananthapuram. Amma asked Kamala about who was there at the gate. Kamala with a startled voice told her mother if it was the first time she has seen Gopi. Amma couldn't recognise Gopi. Rather you can say she was surprised to see her Gopi and said she can't believe him to be there. She also asked if his school has closed for vacation.

We can see, Amma couldn't recognise Gopi even though Gopi standing in front of him. Amma probably has forgetfulness but sometimes her memory is quite sharp. Kamala narrates Gopi about Amma enquiring of his letters to which she says that Gopi sends letter everyday as she knew Amma would become sad if she comes to know Gopi had never written to her in the last one year.

Gopi stands quietly and cold while Kamala narrates him all these. Gopi replied that he had got a promotion and since then he had always been on his toes. Kamala simply asked him about Vimala, if she too didn't get time to write. Amma was on the other hand kept asking who was there at the gate in the car. But she couldn't recognise Gopi inspite of Gopi saying her that he had come from Delhi. But Amma instead asked Gopi, whom did her son marry.

We can see, how age has affected Amma that he can't even recognise her own son.

Kamal was disheartened seeing this. She lamented about if she could ever bring back her memory. Gopi was quiet as if nothing had any affect on him. Gopi placed his briefcase on the thinna and pulled out the contents from it.

Amma asked Gopi again if he knows him or not. Also, she narrated him about Gopi being a Government officer and how well-settled he is and what amount of salary he draws. When Gopi replied his mother that he knew her son, then Amma very innocently asked Gopi to tell him to send her a blanket as the previous one had become tattered. Gopi quietly replied that he would let her son. After that Amma complained about her neck pain and left for stretching out for something.

Kamala put Amma to bed and came back to veranda. After that Kamala charged Gopi for not coming to see her. Gopi replied Delhi to be quite expensive and he had four children. And so, he wasn't able to meet both the ends with his salary. So, he had come there to sell his share of property.

Kamala was astonished to know that and told him that he would sale the property and leave and never would come back to see them again, specially Amma. Gopi replied that he would come and meet them whenever he would get time. Listening to this, Kamala was extremely irritated and that was visible on her face. Gopi could see that on her face. Kamala also said that it took more than five years for him to come and visit them and already Amma was already eighty three years then.

Gopi silently said that Amma couldn't even remember him that he was only Gopi with a feeble smile on his face. But Kamala on the contrary asked Gopi if he remembered his aged Amma.

We can see very clearly in this lesson how a son forgets his Amma and just thinks about his profit. He could not visit his Amma in the last five years but he could visit them for property.