

Dictation 34.

Rupa and Priya try to figure out some local fauna.

रूपा - तुम फिर बातों में फँस गई? भाग नहीं सकी पन्त जी सः

प्रिया - पन्त जी कःसाथ सप्ताह भर कःसमाचारों कःविषय में बातें कियःबिना मुझसःरहा नहीं जाता।

रूपा - वाह! लगता है कि तुम उन्हें अपना गुरु मान बैठी हः। अब तःतुम्हारी भाषा पर भी उनका असर पड़नःलागा है। मुझसःतःउनकी बातें बरदाश्त नहीं की जाती॥ निहायत ही अजीब किस्म कः आदमी हैं।

प्रिया - ओहः तुम तःसाधारण व्यक्ति और दिमागःवाला व्यक्ति में अंतर तक नहीं जानती। पन्त जी बहुत बढ़िया और लःकःप्रिय कवि हैं।

रूपा - हाँ, क्यों नहीं॥ तुम्हें अचानक गंभीर बातें जःसमझ में आनःलगी हैं। यह तुम्हारी नई छात्रवृत्ति का असर हःगा।

प्रिया - लगीः लड़नः॥ तुम तःएकदम आग की तरह जल उठी॥ भई, बिगड़ःमत। पन्त जी की वजह सःहमारी दःस्ती कःतःसमाप्त न हःमाःदः।

रूपा - तुम्हें बढ़िया और लःकःप्रिय लःखःकों में फ़र्क करना नहीं आता। और उतर पड़ी हःसाहित्य कः मैदान में। हम एक बार पन्त जी कःघर में घुस पड़ःथः॥ हमारी साहित्य की प्रःसर नःपन्त जी सः हमारी रूबरू भेंट करवाई थी। कहनःलागः (चिढ़ाकर) “मुझःखद है, मैं लःखःचर दःनःही जा सकता। मैंनः सारा निबःख लिख रखःथः॥ लःकिन आज मैंनःउनकःफाड़ ःला। इधर प्रकाशकों नःज्ञाक में दम कर रखा है। भई, एक ही आदमी हूँ, दःही हाथ हैं, कःई समझता ही नहीं॥ उफ़, यह लःखक हःनः का कष्ट!” लः अब तुम भी हँस पड़ी।

प्रिया - बच्ःारःपन्त जी। शायद उन्हें आर्थिक कष्ट हः हःसकता है कि प्रकाशक नःन्हें किसी विशः समय पर किताब खत्म करनःकःलिए कहा हः और लःख खत्म न हुए हों? वःइतना बुरा भी नहीं हैं, रूपा।

Rupa: You got caught in a conversation again? Couldn't you run from Pant ji?

Priya: I can't do without talking to Pant ji about the week's news.

Rupa: Vah! Wonderful! It seems that you have accepted him as your guru. Now your language has also come under his influence. I can't bear his talk. He is a very strange kind of person.

Priya: Oh no! You don't know how to distinguish between an ordinary person and an intelligent person. Pant ji is a fine and popular writer.

Rupa: Yes, why not. You, after all, have suddenly begun to understand deep things. This must be the effect of your new scholarship.

Priya: You've started a fight, haven't you? You lit up like a fire there. Friend, don't be annoyed. Don't cause our friendship to end on account of Pant ji.

Rupa: You don't know how to distinguish a fine writer from a popular one. And you have entered ('alighted') into the arena ('field') of literature. We had got into Pant ji's house once. Our literature professor had arranged for us to meet him face to face. He began to say: (Mimicking) "I am sorry; I can't go to lecture [at your college]. I had written a heap of essays. But today I tore them up. The publishers are causing me a lot of trouble. [Look,] I am a single individual, I have two hands [only]; no one seems to understand [my plight]. Oh! What a pain it is to be a writer!" Look, now you are laughing too.

Priya: Poor Pant ji. Perhaps he is in financial trouble? It is possible that the publisher asked him to finish the book by a certain time, and that the essays weren't ready [by that time]. He is not such a bad sort, Rupa.