



**ATOMIC ENERGY CENTRAL SCHOOL**

**SUBJECT: ENGLISH**

**CLASS: IX**

**MODULE-2**

 **9. The Bond of Love**

**-KENNETH ANDERSON**

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## Glossary:

1. *Studebaker*: an old American car
2. *curator*: here, a person in charge of the zoo
3. *fretting*: worried; unhappy; not relaxed
4. *conjectured*: formed an opinion by guessing
5. the sump: the base of an internal combustion engine, which serves as a reservoir of oil for the lubrication system
6. Concealed: hidden
7. Restrain: stop



## THEMES:

- \* Another time Bruno (Baba)one gallon of old engine oil
- \* He was grown up bear
- \*He was very fond of all of them; he was named Baba (small boy)
- \*He soon learnt to follow orders
- \*Because of children he was chained most of the times
- \*He was getting too big to keep at home
- \*Baba was packed off for Zoo.
- \*His wife missed him greatly
- \*When she visited the zoo Baba recognised her



Another time Bruno found nearly one gallon of old engine oil which the author had drained from the sump of the Studebaker and was keeping as a weapon against the inroads of termites. He promptly drank the lot. But it had no ill effects whatever.



12. The months rolled on and Bruno had grown many times the size he was when he came. He had equalled the Alsatians in height and had even outgrown them. But was just as sweet, just as mischievous, just as playful. And he was very fond of us all. Above all, he loved author's wife, and she loved him too! She had changed his name from Bruno, to Baba, a Hindustani word signifying 'small boy'. And he could do a few tricks, too. At the command, 'Baba, wrestle', or 'Baba, box,' he vigorously tackled anyone who came forward for a rough and tumble. Give him a stick and say 'Baba, hold gun', and he pointed the stick at you. Ask him, 'Baba, where's baby?' and he immediately produced and cradled affectionately a stump of wood which he had carefully concealed in his straw bed. But because of the tenants' children, poor Bruno, or Baba, had to be kept chained most of the time.



Then the author and his son advised his wife, and friends advised her too, to give Baba to the zoo at Mysore. He was getting too big to keep at home. After some weeks of such advice she at last consented. Hastily, and before she could change her mind, a letter was written to the curator of the zoo. The zoo sent a cage from Mysore in a lorry, a distance of eighty-seven miles, and Baba was packed off. They all missed him greatly; but in a sense they were relieved. His wife was inconsolable. She wept and fretted. For the first few days she would not eat a thing. Then she wrote a number of letters to the curator. How was Baba? Back came the replies, "Well, but fretting; he refuses food too."



After that, friends visiting Mysore were begged to make a point of going to the zoo and seeing how Baba was getting along. They reported that he was well but looked very thin and sad. All the keepers at the zoo said he was fretting. For three months the author managed to restrain his wife from visiting Mysore. Then she said one day, "I must see Baba. Either you take me by car; or I will go myself by bus or train." So he took her by car.

Friends had conjectured that the bear would not recognise her. He had thought so too. But while she was yet some yards from his cage Baba saw her and recognised her. He howled with happiness. She ran up to him, petted him through the bars, and he stood on his head in delight.



*Thank You*