AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A TIGER “Oh! I’m so happy to be back, where I was born!” I was delighted. Before that telling you more about me, I belong to the cat family and am the king of the forest. Yes, you got it right, I am a tiger. My journey of life has been with many pleasant and unpleasant experiences. I often recall the experiences that shaped my life. I was born to the leader of pride. Everyone loved me and I too loved everyone - my friends, my parents and everyone! There were big trees in the jungle with birds twittering. My mother taught me how to catch preys. I was living in a cave. I looked magnificent with yellowish orange hair. I was marked with beautiful black stripes. I had a round head with thick padded feet with strong claws and sharp teeth.

But, these things didn’t last long. On a very cold day, my mother and father decided to stay back and rest as we had leftovers of the last day. I took permission from my mother and went out to roam around. Once I started roaming around, I didn’t realize I reached pretty far from my cave and there, bad luck was waiting for me! I was trapped in a hunter’s net. I growled loudly but due to the long distance no one could hear me! For a week or two, I was put in a cage. How unhappy I felt, standing still behind the bars! After a fortnight, I could hear someone say that they’d be sending me too a zoo just because they were being paid a lot. So, after 5 days I was sent to the zoo. The children who used to come to visit me threw stones on me and irritated me but I couldn’t do anything because I was inside that cage! I was now 8 years old.

I felt worthless because no one cared for me, they just used me. What makes me sad is that I have been deprived of my freedom. Every day a crowd of visitors came and stared at me. Some of them even harassed me by pushing sticks and rods into my cage. If only I were free, I would have taught them a good lesson! How I wished I could go back to my forest home and enjoy my freedom once again! Nothing could make me happier than that. Then one day this man came into my life. His name was Ryan. I never thought that after my parents someone would love and take care of me so much! Every day he used to come and spend hours with me. I thought that finally I could live my life again. He liked spending time with me and I liked spending time with him. Ryan used to supervise the work of the people over there and whenever he was off duty he came to see me. He came and informed me that after two weeks he would be transferred somewhere else. I was never so heartbroken and dispirited before, not even when I was taken away from my parents! I started feeling lonely and now that Ryan started spending more time he could see that I was no longer feeling good about staying there. He could see it on my face that I wanted to go back home! He asked me the same and I nodded. Since he was supervising there he came up with a plan. He tried to remove me out of that place and told me that in his shift he’ll make some arrangements by keeping the guards away so that I won’t have any problem leaving.

This plan was supposed to be executed a night before Ryan was getting transferred. The day arrived! It was time for us to perform! Soon Ryan came and told me that everything was ready and we had to hurry. I followed him briskly and soon without anyone noticing us, we were out! I never imagined all of it could go so smoothly. It all happened because of him! I just thought how much I am going to miss him! Soon he called friend who had this van. He put me in there and the van left me in the forest. And here I am, meeting all my friends once again! It felt so lively and I was glad to come back where I belonged. Seemed everything was back to normal and life came where it started. I’ll remember Ryan throughout my life. He made me realize that there are people who could love us too! And now I’m enjoying my life to the fullest!