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CLASS-11,SUBJECT-ENGLISH

“The Address”

---Marga Minco

Summary:-

‘The Address’ is a moving short story of Marga Minco. The story is divided into pre-War and post-War. The war in Holland proved to be a disaster for Mrs S, the mother of the narrator. Mrs S was forced to part with all her precious and nice belongings. She was forced to flee from home with the narrator to a safer place for their survival. The war uprooted her and her family. Before leaving her home, she handed over her precious things and belongings to Mrs Dorling, some acquaintance of Mrs S who assured her

that all her 'nice things' would remain intact in her safe hands.

After her mother's death, the narrator came back to her town to meet the woman (Mrs Dorling) with whom her mother had left all her belongings. The woman not only refused to recognise her but also showed no any intention of returning the things she had in her possession. She had to come back empty handed.

After some time she again decided to pay a second visit to see Mrs Dorling. This time she found Mrs Dorling's fifteen year-old daughter in the house. She stayed there waiting for Mrs Dorling. The narrator was pained to see that all her own things were arranged tastelessly. She came across all the cutlery, knives, forks and spoons which

were made of silver. When her mother was alive, she had told her about them.

Finally, she decided not to wait Mrs Dorling for she had to catch the train and was sure that the woman was deceiving her. She came out and read the number—46, Marconi Street. The address was quite correct.

All the 'nice things' aroused nostalgic feelings of former times in the narrator. The true owner, her mother, was not in the world. She decided better to forget those precious belongings and uncharitable Mrs Dorling. She also resolved to forget the address which symbolised a tragic past.