

Note to you!

This is only a small excerpt from the novel. It accounts for around 15 percent of the story in the book. If you want to read the main/interesting section of the narrative, you may buy it via the **Kindle** app, available on the **Google Play Store**.

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The Games Of Time

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THE GAMES OF TIME (HARSHAL WARADE) SAMPLE

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THE GAMES OF TIME

An adventurous story...

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CHAPTER I

The calamitous black smoke of hate was imbibed by the innocent sky. Pernicious splashes of fire were visible everywhere throughout the kingdom. The blowing wind was occupied with the smell of flaming destruction, with the land bearing war over it. The striking of swords and firing of cannons, resulting in the explosion of houses was terrifying to people. Women and children were on the blood-bathed paths, wailing for the dead. The dominating voice of enemy soldiers over the guiltless crowd was something that led our soldiers to drop their confidence. Enemy's swords were eager to taste the blood of our people. Though the people of our kingdom were feeble, they still had the will to witness the victory. After a long time, we won the war. The king was captured and given a chance to run away, he didn't. He pulled out his sword and attacked our king, who defended the kingdom. Our king, Williams, didn't die, but the other was murdered after his brave actions.

A few years after the war, our town was set on fire by the king's men after not paying all the taxes. It was a rude way of collecting taxes, but yes, we need to get through this type every time we pay the tax. We were three friends, who survived the fire, as we went out to have some walks outside the kingdom, but unfortunately lost our parents.

To forget the burning of our properties in Willidom (our kingdom) and the pain we bore in the loss, we decided to leave the

kingdom, as the king's men were not allowing us to leave anymore without paying all the taxes, including some advance tax for the next year. We decided to settle in a jungle near a beach because we don't need any money or gold, as everything to survive is available there. The jungle had a high source of food and water in it.

The next day reported itself with the sparkling shine of the sun, as it was about to smolder everything in the way. All of us bundled our required items. We were up on our rides, had a pleasant look at our kingdom before we head up to the ocean, and went off allowing our horses to blow the sand which passed by the way.

I was twenty-four years old and was the oldest amongst them, with the name of George from my childhood. Probably I had the "skills of survival" in the most strenuous situations. One of my friends was Joseph, the age twenty-one, and was the youngest amongst them. He knew every tree and its importance to human beings and their needs. One of us was Thomas, he was twenty-two years old and was the master in manipulating things, quite faultless in purloining that one for him.

We were around two miles from our burnt town, when Thomas remembered the non-appearance of ropes with him, as ropes can be used in the most difficult situations. Explaining his point to us, he went back to the village to get a few of them. When he came back, he found us sleeping under a tree with the welcoming support of our horses. He threw the ropes over our faces, to awake us. The journey continued by accepting the insult with the hope of getting little happiness, compared to the pains.

As a great distance passed, we left behind the vast spread of the kingdom and arrived at our allied neighborhood kingdom. We were dazed at its look. Everyone in it was wearing tons of gold around

their necks. It was so boundless that we couldn't cover it throughout the day, we had to spend the night in the city under a tree, which was not a good idea at all.

A new day arrived, the night did not pass as concluded, the mosquitoes were trying to have our skins for them and the persistent voice of the king's soldiers didn't contribute to our proper sleep. But anyhow, in the early morning, we left the kingdom.

After roaming a lot, we arrived at the rainforest. It was so massive that hundreds of trees were laid down in just an acre of land. The sunrays were unable to create proximity with the ground of the forest. The dense dark trees and their wide, congested leaves didn't permit the rays to drop on the ground. The air in the forest was packed with the sweetest melodies of birds and different winsome insects. We were unable to leave the forest due to its incredible and calming magnetic powers.

It was marked to spend for hours on end exploring the allure of the forest. The time began with the garnering of fruits under the most calming, peaceful, and sweetly smelled shadows of trees. The afternoon got quiet working on having fruits and chatting. It was evening when we began for a tree, the sun was about to hide beneath the horizon, and we continued getting eventful preparing a small base. To survive the night, a tall tree was chosen to get ready with.

Everything was going very serene, we were relishing our deep and calming sleep on the tree until the clouds began shrinking their picturesque, trying to focus on the forest. The moon started passing from sight above the darkest clouds.

Eventually, a brawny shower of rain began with the expeditious winds blowing everything in their way, and the rain peevd

our sleep. For the first time, we thought we were dreaming, this can't be real, we couldn't visualize that rain could be so massive that would carry away even big trees. Within just a moment, water made its way to flow underneath our tree. We couldn't spot our horses. I was trying to get down the tree to check for them, but Joseph and Thomas gripped my hands and didn't allow me to do so as the water layers contained heavy power to take away everything. So, unfortunately, we had lost our horses. Our eyes could scarcely believe that scene. But besides this, we got alerted. The tree could fall at any time by the heavy speed of water and wind.

We settled on our tree base and waited for the rain to get diluted. In the early morning, the rain stopped, making way for us to get on our journey. It was wet everywhere, and now we could not locate our horses either. Where ever we want to travel; we need to use up our feet only. After a long time, the day was clear and the sun rays made their way through the broken and crooked woods of the tree and we were up for it to leave our base.

We made our way out from the jungle through the fractured woods and the occluding big stones. Simultaneously, we kept on collecting useful things such as medicinal herbs and all. After continuously walking for an even-stein of the day, we reached the beach. It was incandescently decorated by the sun rays after beautiful shower weather. The coconut trees were happily singing with the harmonic blowing winds. The crabs on the beach participated in their festival. Some turtles occupied a piece of land to have their holidays. Our eyes were glittering when we saw this paradise. We were chuffed. The only word that we were able to speak with a perfect frequency altogether was just a "wow".

It was ceaseless and fetching with lush verdant forest near it. The forest captured all of our attention. The luminous shadows of

trees and the blue heavens and the sweet faces of little flowers allowed us to fall in love with them. We decided to spend a huge time in this charming heaven.

After some time, the procedure for making a new base appeared. Some woods, planks, grass, and leaves were collected to make a proper plushy base. Everything was expanding smoothly, and the sun was much more keening in hiding itself below the horizon. The beauty of the sunset was appreciated with some fruits. The base was ready and the ropes helped in tightening up the stuff.

The sun was down and the moon appeared to enjoy the night, the gelid winds came to celebrate our joy, and the winds were so cold that we need to burn up the campfire early than the typical time. The campfire was burned and the space around it was cleared to cool off properly. We had some meat, which we hung up above the campfire. Under the silver light of the moon and the golden shades of the campfire, with a lovely touch of cold winds, the dinner took place having fruits and some meat on our special menu.

After enjoying our dinner with the light cricket sound, we headed to our base to get a night of proper sleep, as we were not able to sleep properly for the last two nights. We allowed our bodies to crash over the silky grass kept in the base to have better sleep, showing our eagerness to sleep. The beach got employed in listening out our snores. I hope the moon enjoyed it and the animals were not disturbed around.

The ecstasy of peaceful sleep was about to tend to infinity. We were delighted to have a soothing and uninterrupted sleep throughout the night. Again, the sun rays made their way through the little gaps of leaves of the trees, and the cloying voice of the birds

worked as an alarm for us. I went out of my busy sleep from the base to have a morning walk. But suddenly, spotted something which was not understandable. I quickly called out Thomas and Joseph to look for what happened the last night. The sticks of the campfire were randomly spread everywhere, someone had made its hand over the bones from the previous meal. The sand of the beach was printed with some unhackneyed vague footprints.

As it was early morning, we thought it would be a wild animal and didn't pay much attention to it, as we were not completely conscious. After having a peaceful bath, we got ready for breakfast. A small piece of land was cleared to settle down for a breakfast. The menu was invariably the same fruits and some meat, which all of us enjoyed with the same energy as earlier night.

By having a look at the dreamy illimitable ocean. We decided to explore the ocean more by taking a trip over it. I repudiate the idea as it was menacing, because if things don't go the way we want, then we're the only chance the ocean got or could be the prey of any aquatic animal. But somehow, they convinced me to come along with them to the ocean for more exploration.

By putting the meat above the properly arranged campfire, we went for a walk altogether to discuss how we should explore more. Thomas suggested the idea of making a big wooden raft that must be at least ten feet long and eight feet wide. So, we could have a comfortable ride. Accepting the idea, the walk continued with some more busy and intense chats. After a walk, we returned to our campfire but were shocked to see the meat was not there where we had kept it before the walk. It was surprising as we would need to collect more meat again. We were puzzled to see that situation, especially me, because, I was eagerly waiting for the meat to cook.

To look for what was going wrong here, we kept another small piece of meat to get the reason behind the lost one. We hide in our base. After watching it and spending some precious time, a thin kid came to get the meat. We were too shocked to see a little kid on this lonely beach. The kid was having his lunch clumsily. We tried to get close to him, but he was a little scared and took some steps back to protect himself. But Thomas came in front, and offer some more fruits to him, the kid got enormous joy and came running with a happy face to have the fruits. He seemed to be hungry.

We patiently asked him; how did he get in here. He dropped the fruits and went on explaining that, a few years ago, he and his parents came to enjoy holidays on the same beach. They had a big ship on which they were heading to this place. His parents were inside the ship and he was enjoying the best views of the ocean and that beach, they were too close to it. But suddenly, from nowhere a huge and destructive wave hit their ship and it got flipped by that massive force. He somehow managed to get out of that ship, but as his parents were inside the ship, they couldn't hold their breath and he lost them.

We were left with no words to say, Joseph quickly hugged the kid and put his head on his shoulders. We kept silent for a moment. The kid requested us to have him with us as he was eagerly waiting for help to come and receive him. We accepted his request without thinking about any second option.

The process of making a wooden raft took place. All of us got too busy collecting the stuff. Thomas was given the task of collecting some meat and a large number of fruits to have on our journey. The remaining went off to the jungle to collect a huge amount of wood for our raft. The birds, winds, and the sun got busy recording the time-lapse of our activities.

The rays were about to fall perpendicularly on our heads. It was getting noon and the time for lunch was at its peak. Till now, Thomas had collected a sufficient number of fruits and meat. We expected Thomas to join in our task. He joined.

The lunch was over and we suggested the kid have some rest in the base until we finish the task of completing our raft. Kid agreed and we moved on to our work. Big wooden logs were collected and tied together with some self-made handles to have a touch of safety. A little roof was made on it for the kid to overcome the heat of the sun. Finally, a big raft as imagined was ready to have a ride on the ocean. Further, some more time was invested to make it out of harm's way and more comfortable for our journey. I told them don't over-egg the pudding. It was about evening when we finished designing. The ropes were all set and our useful items were loaded on them. The kid was called out for having a look. He was too happy to see the hope of leaving that beach with the new elder friends. He also made a small wooden chest to carry some useful items. Everyone appreciated his crafting.

The sun got down. The campfire and the dinner were ready. The moon also joined, by offering its silver light for our last dinner on this beach. We all centered the campfire and contemplated the plan for the next day. The topic encountered was, where we should travel? We also asked the kid, where did he come from? The kid joined the talks by sharing his cradle. He lived in a city named Canaork, which was on the coastal side.

But as obvious, he didn't know the sea route to it, as it was a very far-away place from the beach. He also helped us by saying that we could get the necessary items from his sea-settled ship. Moreover, he added, we could get to the ship if we start straight from the coconut tree. Everyone again appreciated the kid for that help. Thanking the

kid, the dinner was over and our base waited for us to have a busy sleep.

The sun raised from the thick leaves of the huge trees and we were ready to get on the journey.

THE GAMES OF TIME (HARSHAL WARADE) SAMPLE

CHAPTER II

But before imperiling our existence in the uninterrupted girth of the ocean, we decided to traverse the jungle more. Because the place was not letting me get disconnected from it. They accepted the idea and chose to explore further. It was daytime and the most appropriate one to get in the woods.

We got some strong and long sticks to keep up with us if perceived something going erroneous. We began to march towards the jungle and were welcomed by the monkeys who were placidly eating bananas. They disregarded and ordered us not to agitate for their lunch. The affable blow of winds over the insubstantial grass was adding a special tang to it for the bunch of deer to graze over them.

A cute group of the foals ran over the smooth grasses, under the fresh, charming shadows of huge trees. Their parents allowed them to play with us. We invested a lot of time with them. That's what is called the love of nature, which is only given to the luckiest people.

After playing for a long time with them, we directed our feet away from our base, hoping for further discoveries. By walking a while in that direction, we detected that the bliss on our faces declined. We saw an enormous cave in front of us, full of possible darkness. It was the thing that fascinated me to get into it.

We went inside but were unable to see anything, not even

the person next to me. We decided to light up the torches in our base and come back again. We quickly headed back to our base, as it was settled in our minds that old caves full of hanging spiders has gold in them. It took a great time to prepare the torches. The most time-consuming thing was to produce fire. The stones were not supportive. But anyhow we build some torches for ourselves.

It was still the rule of the sun over the land. Hence, we made it clear to check out the cave. By the great speed of our walking, the grass was trying to come behind us. We let the grasses be at their respective places and reached the cave. Now it didn't seem that interesting when we entered the cave's depth. The huge stones were too chilled and had themselves a blanket of darkness.

The stone walls in the cave were painted with some weird techniques. It was representing a man killing another man. It was described in steps in the drawing how to do it. The first step was to just hit the opponent in a specific part of the neck. And the second showed the opponent getting grounded. The third pictured mentioned the opponent standing up. We thought about it for a long time and concluded an obvious thing, that this trick is not capable to kill anyone. We laughed. Thomas took his two fingers out and tried them on Joseph. But as soon as he touched the exact point on his neck, Joseph was dropped to the ground.

We started getting panicked and tried to shake him up as much as possible to wake him. We checked his heartbeat and pulse everything was fine. But the main question was, why is he not getting in the proper state of a human being? We sat in the cave for a long-time trying number of different things to wake him up.

Such as dropping a huge amount of water on him. Allowing

the smell of Thomas's and my feet to enter his nose. Beating loud claps very close to his ears. Not even the animal's dirtiest waste was able to wake him up. We even tried to throw him in the water so that by the fear of sinking he'll come out to proper consciousness, but it also didn't work.

He was not responding to any of our actions. So, we decided to get back to the cave and search for the solutions, if mentioned on the stones. But there were no proofs of remedies for it. The night passed in the dark cave holding the torch in our hands hoping to wake him up.

We were awake at the night but when the birds started alarming in the concerting caves, it was a clear sign of morning time. We came out of the cave to check what was going around and saw the sun over us. We slept the whole morning. Behind us, Joseph came and started rubbing his neck. He put both of his hands and both of our shoulders. I asked Thomas to remove his hands from my shoulder. He told me to remove mine first. I added that my hand is with me and I raised both of them in the air. Thomas did the same. But the pressure on our shoulders was as it is. We looked back and screamed, loudly enough to allow the bats to jump over our faces.

Joseph didn't react to the situation and went inside the cave again near the pictures drawn to illustrate the trick. He started to run out of the cave by looking at the picture, like a jumping deer.

"Does it take hold of the brain too?" Thomas predicted getting closer to me.

"Hope so it doesn't because it's not divulged on the walls," I remarked looking towards the walls of the cave.

We called Joseph back to the spot. He stood in the sunlight

and turned towards us.

“Promise, you won’t do that thing again to me,” Joseph spoke itching his neck.

“No man, not at all, just despaired of your survival,” replied Thomas with a stewing voice. “Never try this anymore”.

The torches were permanently kept inside the cave and we came out of it to go to our base. We verified Joseph’s behavior by asking him some questions about his existence. He succeeded in answering them and hence, his mental health was successfully verified. This trick was learned and mastered by Thomas. I just observed the drawings very carefully. Joseph was almost phobic of this trick.

We felt unsatisfactory vacating the cave. They asked me to get in it one more time. Because we didn’t get what we envisaged to have with us getting out of it. We had expected a huge bag of gold and diamonds waiting for us to make it see the sunlight. Through their mesmerizing talks, they prepared me to check in the cave again.

“We had spent a huge amount of time in it,” I mentioned, “It’s our luck that we have successfully come out of it because the cave might contain some really dangerous wild animals, that would have teleported us to the heavens”.

There was a silence for a moment.

“He is petrified of animals, and if we saw any of them, we’ll run away,” Thomas chuckled.

They began getting in the way when I shouted from behind them.

"I'm on," I announced.

They laughed and I joined. The monkeys didn't want us to disturb their forever-running lunch. Hence, they ignored us two times in a row. The horses were not visible. But the place was surrounded by a lot of deer. When we went towards them, they started jumping high over the smooth grasses. The small branches and leaves in the way showed us their hugging nature. Joseph was busy explaining the importance of every tree. Hope so, his words were at least captured by the blowing chilled winds. Because I and Thomas were not interested in this thing.

We approached the cave and saw a snake with the darkest grade of shade possible on its skin. Joseph started retracing his path. I went behind him, gripped his shoulders, and pulled him back to the spot. We have to wait until the snake clears the way. It was poisonous enough to kill us in its one bite.

"I am not afraid of the snake. Just leave me," whined Joseph in a busy voice, "I know a tree whose leaves would help us to get rid of this snake. I talked about it in the way, how could you boys forget this so fast?".

"Yeah, we do remember the thing, but just slightly forget the whole thing," Thomas joked.

I laughed. He traced back his path, went to a tree, and plucked up some leaves. He started coming back to us by talking to the tress.

"It's difficult for this type of people to survive in this world," I informed Thomas.

"Yes, he's talking with trees," Thomas replied with confusion on his

face.

He made it possible to come back to us. The leaves in his hands were smelling the worst. He asked us to pick up one leaf each and store it in our pockets to use in the future if needed. The remaining leaves were properly thrown near the head of the snake. It lost its consciousness, Joseph picked it up with a stick and placed it on the other stone available nearby.

“Is it dead?” I gulped.

“No, I can’t kill any animal,” Joseph replied in anger, “It’ll be fine after some time”.

“Okay, okay, you do your work,” said I.

The way in front of us was clear to welcome us into the cave. We found our torches burning. We picked them up and went to see more inside it. The deeper we go, the more the fear was raising its bar. The dropping of huge big stones in the cave sometimes made us scream like mad.

There were many pictures visible on the wall of the cave. But we promised not to look and learn them. We didn’t pay any attention to it. The cave was occupied with an unknown smell, which was too fetching and made us follow it towards the end. Thomas somehow controlled us.

“We must get back to our place because the fragrance is magnetizing us,” Thomas alerted, “If we walked further, we would be unable to get out due to its deep smell”.

“Yes, you’re correct,” we replied.

We took a huge breath in the sweetest smell ever known. Joseph picked up a stone from the cave to later smell it on the way. I snatched the stone from him and threw it into the darkest depth of the cave.

“Is it an addiction?” asked I.

We left the place and went out of the cave. The snake was waiting in front of the cave to welcome us getting out of the cave. Joseph smiled at us and we understood what he wanted to say. We gave him the remaining leaves from our pockets and he threw them properly towards the head of the snake. Again, it lost its consciousness and we left the place ignoring the monkeys. But this time, Thomas ran towards them and picked up a huge bunch of bananas. Monkeys didn't care about their food being taken away.

It was already getting dark. We decided to get to our base and check all the items necessary for the journey over the ocean. The ocean was more fascinating than getting inside the cave.

CHAPTER III

The night went on, holding the curiosity of elegant voyaging. All of us were too curious to have a visit over the infinitely spread ocean. I got too busy spreading the knowledge of “surviving in most difficult situations” if our journey went wrong. Joseph invested his time to collect some medicinal herbs and some useful sticks that would burn for a long time. The kid started a curious patrolling from the raft to Thomas, as he was just near the base, counting and numbering up the things. We were assiduous in pointing out the necessary things.

After a long time, everything was packed and loaded on the raft with some heavy talks and suggestions. It was now the time to say ‘goodbye’ to the beach and ‘hello’ to the ocean. The waves were welcoming us. Joseph was sitting, while we were standing with a huge smile on our faces over the raft. The kid was standing at the very start of the raft by opening his arms in the hugging sweet wind of the ocean. I and Thomas were standing to give the raft a proper speed.

The first destination planned was the kid’s ship, which was sunk some years ago. The plan was to get some useful items. The raft was stopped near the ship and everyone except the kid dived in the water to get some useful items. The kid was a little bit upset. After a very busy time, which got invested in searching, we successfully found some useful items. I also got two swords and some ropes, the swords

looked too old and antique. We were unable to find the dead bodies. Joseph was told to have a rest on the raft as he had exhausted his energy in the water while swimming throughout the ship.

Now the ship was left behind and we all headed away from it. The kid gave a very emotional look to the ship. Joseph observed and kept his hand on his shoulder and breathed out. The kid wiped his eyes and hugged him.

The journey went on peacefully. We were rafting over lovely fishes and other aquatic animals. Our raft was also enjoying the ride over the dancing waves. We could see our beach decreasing its size.

Everyone was enjoying their ride over the ocean but Joseph was a little upset. Thomas asked him the reason for his sadness. Joseph replied to Thomas that he doesn't know why, but he is getting a feeling that something bad is going to happen with us. I explained to Joseph not to think in that way. Just enjoy every moment and nothing will go wrong. The mighty God is with us.

Joseph gave a pleasant little smile and started eating the orange in his hand. It was now noon. We were ready to have our lunch over the gorgeous ocean, our lunch was again fruits and some raw fish. Everyone enjoyed their lunch and was now ready for rafting, the child was advised to get in the hut that was made on the raft to protect himself from the dehydrating rays of the sun.

"Should we go back to the beach again?" asked the kid. "Because we didn't have any perfect direction to go in and none of us knows the proper route".

Joseph interrupted the talks by adding he knows, that if we traveled in the west direction for about one continuous day, we would reach the other part of our continent. From there we could leave the

kid at his home by traveling further. The kid agreed and the journey went on.

Now the raft was shifted to go in the west direction. The weather was quite sultry. The clouds started to get darker as we continued to go in the west direction. Now the beach was invisible and the tides also contributed to scaring us with their continuously increasing height.

The kid grabbed the safety handle on the raft and screamed. Everyone turned around and saw the darkest clouds of the destructive storm over the ocean. A capricious storm was heading towards us from the north. We were able to spot the massive amount of rain that was taking place in the north. Now we cannot go back to the beach, as it was darker than the north at the beachside. We started to launch our raft in the west as fast as possible. Everyone integrated their forces to give the raft maximum momentum.

The raft was now negotiating over the huge curves of waves. It was becoming difficult to balance the raft due to the huge amount of force of the waves. The storm was approaching us with double the speed of the raft. We could not see the sun, as the clouds were surrounded in every direction with their monstrous look. The waves misguided the direction of our raft. We could not identify the west direction, as it was dark in every direction.

The rain started and we could not guess the direction from where the rain is coming. As the waves were continuously manipulating our directions. But we somehow started the raft in a random direction. The rain got more intense and the winds were about to carry away the raft with it. We were unable to manage the speed and the balance over it. Everyone grabbed each other's hands. I and

Thomas clasped the safety handles on it. We lost everything on the raft. Everyone settled down on it. We didn't leave the safety handles. The kid also didn't break out our confidence to survive by crying or shouting anymore. He somehow helped us to save our team.

The rain got more intense and with the increase of rain, the height of the waves gradually started to increase. An unnoticeable and huge tide got smashed over our raft and it got flipped. I and Thomas got the highest force on our hands, as we were holding the handle and the hands of other members. We somehow need to get to the surface of the water to breathe in. We left the handles and threw the kid over the empty flipped raft. Joseph got up to recede us on the raft.

But nature didn't accept it. Another huge tide collided with our raft and it was destroyed into three pieces. Joseph and the kid grabbed the one piece while I and Thomas got a piece each. I shouted to hold each other's hand and not to leave at any cost. Everyone gripped each other's hands. We ran out of energy for any swimming activity and allowed the heavy rain and huge tides to carry us wherever they want.

The foregoing night passed on the inattentive support of the detached chunks of the raft. No food, water, or equipment was left with us. We were completely cream cracked by the storm. Our bodies were ineffectual to give us the ability for aimless swimming. Somehow, we had made ends meet our previous night by floating and allowing ourselves to fall as dead over the pieces of the broken raft.

It was morning, the sun was daring to allow its rays to fall on the infinitely large ocean. Thomas with his barely opening eyelids was able to spot an island with his blur vision. He alerted us about it. No one among us was in the state to swim towards it. But due to the fear of wild aquatic animals, which kept quiet in the storm, we forcefully

need to get to the island as soon as possible.

We slowly made our way to the island. The kid was on Joseph's shoulders, while I and Thomas were using the pieces of our raft to swim. It took a huge time to reach the island. We were able to locate some fruits on the trees, but our bodies didn't show any interest in them. Till noon, we allowed our body for an unruffled sleep on the newly found island. We also cannot go back to our beach, as we had lost the direction but knows that the beach is in the east direction. We didn't know the exact abscissa of the beach.

The kid woke up with a little energy and managed to get some fruits for us. He climbed the tree to have them. He was shocked to see a kingdom on the far side of this lonely island. He quickly grabbed some fruits and informed us about the kingdom. Thomas climbed and check, whether it was an illusion or real. He was confused to see the kingdom on the far side of the island. We quickly had our lunch without concentrating on the taste of the fruits and headed towards it.

We made our way directly to the kingdom. It was big enough for us to settle for some days. Suddenly, some soldiers came, trapped us, and tied our hands altogether, they took us to the castle. A quite busy time went on explaining our story and the situation to the king and also taking the most important permission to settle in the kingdom from him. He was a great person with the presence of merciful nature and had a sense of fair play. He didn't suspect us of treachery. He welcomed us to his kingdom. With the approval of the king, we got an old house present in it, the space was enough for us to spend some days investigating our original village. Food for us was supplied by the neighbors. The king, Henry, permitted us to live forever. As our old king was cruel and never cared for us.

The day went busy and the night wore no change over it. It was a general night with the campfire decorated by the busy chats around it. The same usual ladies' group which was as busy as bee in chatting aimless talks. We thanked the neighbor again for the delicious dinner, as for many days we were eating just fruits, and meat, and now we got a new taste.

The campfire was too happy to spread its golden light on the happy faces of the people in the kingdom. We also attended this golden moment. But if seen from Joseph's eyes, some other face was shining the most, with some kinship generating in between. It was mellifluous. Her smile made Joseph crazy. That face and her mannerisms stunned him; he did not want to come out from this moment. That moment was very special for him, in which he had forgotten everything.

The usual campfire session ended and everyone headed their way home for a peaceful sleep. Joseph was unable to leave that campfire. He got magnetized by her beauty. He could not share this with us as he didn't know her. At last, somehow, he managed to get to our new home as everyone amongst us left for it.

For us, Joseph was behaving somewhat differently. We could neither know the exact reason nor were interested to dig out one. We assumed it to be the anguish of the difficult weather over us, hence ignoring him. The huge cracking bed was inviting us for a pleasant sleep. Everyone headed to the bed and allowed their body to fall over it. Joseph's mind was completely occupied with the sweet memories of that face. He somehow managed to attend the sleep and succeeded after a long time.

It was around midnight when I heard the loud sound of breaking something in front of our house. First, I observed my friends,

everyone was sleeping, I quickly went out of the house to see what was wrong with it. I saw a girl running towards our temporary home. She threw a stone to break the pot outside of the house to produce the noise for the opening of the doors. She hastily came inside the house and asked me to close the door immediately.

I was too shocked to hear the words, “Close the doors” and got stunned for a while. She pushed me in and closed the doors with a huge force. By the loud sound of the closing of the doors, all my friends woke up except the kid. She was the same girl who had captured Joseph’s mind.

THE GAMES OF TIME (HARSHAL WARADE) SAMPLE