Why was Rastus 'very dear' in more ways than one?

Kidnappers are rarely interested in animals, but they recently took considerable interest in Mrs. Eleanor Ramsay's cat.

Mrs. Eleanor Ramsay, a very wealthy old lady, has shared a flat with her cat, Rastus, for a great many years.

Rastus leads an orderly life.

He usually takes a short walk in the evenings and is always home by seven o'clock.

One evening, however, he failed to arrive.

Mrs. Ramsay got very worried.

She looked everywhere for him but could not find him.

Three days after Rastus' disappearance, Mrs. Ramsay received an anonymous letter.

The writer stated that Rastus was in safe hands and would be returned immediately if Mrs. Ramsay paid a ransom of £1,000.

Mrs. Ramsay was instructed to place the money in a cardboard box and to leave it outside her door.

At first, she decided to go to the police, but fearing that she would never see Rastus again—the letter had made that quite clear—she changed her mind.

She withdrew £1,000 from her bank and followed the kidnapper's instructions.

The next morning, the box had disappeared but Mrs. Ramsay was sure that the kidnapper would keep his word.

Sure enough, Rastus arrived punctually at seven o'clock that evening.

He looked very well, though he was rather thirsty, for he drank half a bottle of milk.

The police were astounded when Mrs. Ramsay told them what she had done.

She explained that Rastus was very dear to her.

Considering the amount she paid, he was dear in more ways than one!

Mrs. Ramsay received an anonymous letter three days after her cat's disappearance.

The writer of the letter demanded £1,000 for the return of the cat, and warned she would never see him again if she went to the police.

She had to put the money in a cardboard box and leave it outside her door.

After drawing £1,000 from her bank, she acted on the kidnapper's instructions.

The money disappeared the following morning, and Rastus returned at seven o'clock that evening.

In a bar one night, Mr. X was talking to a workman who told him that he often worked in Mrs. Ramsay's flat.

The workman added that Mrs. Ramsay was wealthy, and she lived alone with her cat.

Every day, Mr. X stood outside Mrs. Ramsay's block of flats.

As the cat took a short walk every evening, he saw that it had regular habits.

He found out as much as he could about Mrs. Ramsay and learnt that she loved this cat very much.

One evening, as the cat was leaving the block of flats, he kidnapped it.

He took the cat to a secret address.

During the next three days, he walked past Mrs. Ramsay's flat on several occasions and noticed that no other cat ever appeared.

Now he was sure he had the right cat, so he wrote a letter in which he stated his demands.

After we had visited the market, we returned home.

Mr. Griffiths, the Prime Minister, said that his party would win the next election.

I bought pens, pencils, and paper.

It was raining heavily, and I was sure no one would be at the racecourse.

There were, however, hundreds of people there.

The small boat, which took eleven weeks to cross the Atlantic, arrived at Plymouth yesterday.

Before going home, I went to the grocer's.

Bill Smith, the man who always serves me, was very busy.

This, however, did not worry me.

On the contrary, it gave me the opportunity to look around for several things I wanted.

By the time my turn came, I had already filled a basket with packets of biscuits, cans of fruit, bars of soap, and two large bags of flour.

Some kidnappers took considerable interest in Mrs. Ramsay's cat because Mrs. Ramsay could and would pay a lot to get her only companion back.

On what conditions did the kidnapper promise the safe return of Rastus? Mrs. Ramsay was not to inform the police and had to pay £1,000.

How was Rastus dear to Mrs. Ramsay in more ways than one? She was very fond of him and it had cost her a lot to get him back.

Mrs. Eleanor Ramsay is a very wealthy lady who has shared a flat with her cat Rastus for a great many years.

She searched for him but could not find him anywhere.

Her first reaction was to call the police.

But afraid of never seeing Rastus again, she changed her mind.

Rastus leads a disciplined life.