

## THE CASE OF THE LEFT ROUTE

‘Jim have you read today’s newspaper?’

‘You are awake. Hence it proves that sun rises in the west. At 6 AM you are awake just to ask for newspaper. God is known for his miracle. Wait for the miracle you will see in the newspaper no, wait for the newspaper to see the news of today’s miracle’ and Jim took a resting breath.

‘What!’ cried Crick watching the vibration of the pendulum in front of eyes ‘it’s only 6 AM. Hurry up, give me my pillow back’ and within the lapse of 5 minutes the cranium was forcing its weight on the soft and peaceful pillow.

‘You are asleep again. Hence it proves that sun rises in the east!’ and Jim went away laughing. At 7.30 the eyes of Crick opened and saw a newspaper was flying in the air, but after some verification it was realized that Jim was holding it and waking up Crick said it is looking very important.

‘How did you know?’

‘You are holding a page without the newspaper’s name which means it is not the front page and except front page others are unimportant but as you are holding it ,it becomes important’ replied a calm and subtle Crick.

‘Yeah you should have a look at it’ replied Jim.

The text went as such:

### THE ATTACK OF CANNIBALS

A worker of Yaskas bank named John Moore was caught by two cannibals near the Manukae forests which ended up in water. Luckily he survived the scare but he was badly injured and his car is totally distorted. Thus the routes which forked near Manukae forest is closed on left route.

‘So an attack of cannibals near the riverside. Something’s fishy is happening’ suggested Crick.

‘Thus I think we are going the left way?’ asked Jim

‘No dear, I have a tinge of fear in my heart and mind that are these real cannibals or fake ones’.

‘Shall, I call John today at our house?’

‘I fear he has already arrived’

‘How?’

‘Go down and check’

A thin muscular fellow was standing near the door. Jim called him in and asked if he can be of any help. John asked him to sit down and deduce anything he can get of his story.

‘Sorry but-‘

‘You have to listen me’ replied John.

‘Alright.’

‘After finishing my works at the bank I regularly go to the Manukae forest and then to the water to have a dip in it to feel fresh. Thus I take out my car and go to the forest and on the left route as I am favourable to my left hand. For two years I had gone through that forest and still there was not a single attack of cannibals. Also with me many of my friends and other people go through the left route, but I don’t know what happened yesterday.

I rode to the forest and then took the left route and to my surprise I felt alone after riding almost quarter the distance. I suddenly heard a sound enough to make one deaf but I survived. I again heard that noise and I finally stopped my car. I went down from that and thought of returning back but the road was not enough wide and thus as I turned back to see my car I was just going to faint. A fat person with a bald head was looking at my car. I saw his face. Just one feature struck me enough that he had three eyes and I shouted but he laughed and his teeth were not

white but pitch black. I started to run but another person came from the front and I was totally terrified.

The second person was holding an axe and started coming towards me. The first person was holding a saw and was looking as if he would pierce me with his eyes. I saw also that he was having six fingers on one hand and seven on other.

I was sweating but still I tried to keep calm. I had understood that I was going to be the food of these newly born cannibals in the forest. I thought of a way to escape but one was bully and other was fat. So I tried to run towards the second cannibal and I got near him I cut through his side to get enough cut on my right shoulder. I then saw that I was a bit safe but the fat cannibal just appeared in front of me and attacked with the saw. It was a close shave. I started retreating back but I remembered that the bully cannibal was in the back of my back. So I again cut through the fat one and ran a bit distance to look back, I saw that my poor car was being turned upside down to find anything but there was nothing in my car except for my salary.

I ran away from there and went to my bank and then to manager. He was ready to leave the bank. To be specified he leaves the bank at 6 PM but I at 5 PM. And then I asked him for my salary and described how I got the bruises and was devoid of my car now. But he sternly refused and rejected me from my work. I am now at my wit's end where to join in for another job though I have applied for another post in a bank some one km away from Yaskas bank. Still this fact is not known to anyone of my bank because manager is absent today. So can you help me to prove this story true to manager? I have shown up a bit fact in the newspapers but still I want your service Mr. Crick.

‘I am afraid I am not Crick’ replied Jim applied noting down all the points from John.

‘Who are you? Has all my energy in remembering and telling in vain?’

‘Don’t worry. I was listening all the time’ said Crick as he showed up to John.

‘Why didn’t you appear from the start?’

‘I saw Jim was all much interested in noting points from start and I thought it was good opportunity for him to sharpen his noting abilities of important points’ said a cheerful Crick.

‘So can you help me?’

‘I will try my best. Now you can leave’ said Crick.

John went away and the same slumber was produced on the face of Crick and after some quiet moments Crick opened his eyes and rushed to the door and said John is gone so I can talk to you freely.

‘One thing you marked Jim in his tale?’

‘What?’

‘The clearness and frankness and order of the tale’ said Crick.

‘Yeah he was extremely clear. That was of great help for us I hope so’ replied a doubtful Jim.

‘Still you are lagging behind Jim.’

And simply that day passed without any action. The next day again Jim went out to collect the paper and saw that the newspaper was not there.

‘I will not give a penny to the news seller this time. What is the fun going? Not giving newspapers at time in a situation where it is the most reliable resource of a case’ Jim was just disgusted.

‘Don’t worry I will pay him. He had done a great job by providing me the half solution of the case’ said a familiar voice.

‘What Crick! You are already out of bed. I thought I would have an insight first to the paper then at you to provide any incident or any matter regarding the cannibals and their victim’ said Jim sinking his head and attaching it to chest.

‘You should better try to wake up earlier than me. But are you ready to go to the police station near the Manukae forest’ said Crick taking a drop of water into his dried throat.

‘But why?’ asked Jim.

‘That would suggest me the clear solution of the case and that would another gem in your box of gems’ suggested Crick and started wearing the shoes.

‘Wait for me. You can’t leave me drowning in the middle of silence in the howling thoughts of your mind’ shouted Jim and locked the door following the steps of Crick.

Crick waited outside the house for a cab and Jim. And Jim proved to be lucky enough as when Jim put his hand on Crick’s shoulder, a cab arrived. After a bit of bargain the cab drove away with the two passengers eagerly counting each seconds of the arrival and departure of the long multi-wheeler speedster. The cab reached the station in the nick of time and both Crick and Jim caught the correct train and went towards the Manukae station.

‘What forced you to make a decision to visit the police station near Manukae forest?’

‘Read today’s newspaper and you would understand it clearly. I was waiting for such news and you were cursing the news seller. Shame on you Jim’ said Crick and looked through the windows as the train travelled through various halts and fields.

Jim then read the newspaper in the close and compact cell of the smoke emitter.

#### **BAD LUCK PREVAILS ON YASKAS BANK**

A robbery happened in the Yaskas bank. A huge amount of Rs. 20 Crore has vanished from the bank and the guard on duty is removed from his job. All the bank staff members are worried as a

recent attack of cannibal on John has brought ill omen on the whole bank. Also due to this the bank members are asked not to join the bank for three days and John has resigned from the bank and is now a jobless fellow.

‘So what, no more great news is given. Only John is out of the job and a robbery at the bank. What connection there can be of the attack of cannibals and disappearance of money from the Yaskas bank?’ asked Jim.

‘Just have patience and think a bit, you will get your answer Jim’ said Crick who didn’t wanted to take away his eyes from the lush green fields singing under the sun.

After a few moments the train arrived at the Manukae station. Crick and Jim went to the police station and Crick saw that there was not a single person available in the area. He was utterly surprised.

‘Is anyone here, I fear no cannibal is here!’ shouted Jim.

‘No sir, we just awaited your service. Most have resigned from their office and I and Sam are working here’ said the cop Jaskon.

‘For how many hours?’ asked Crick.

‘We completely have made this home. We wake here up and sleep up here only’ said Sam shaking hands with both Jim and Crick.

‘So have you seen any entry or exit on the left way to the Manukae Forest?’ asked Crick.

‘No one dares to go in and hence no one comes out from the forest’ replied Jaskon.

‘Really’ asked Crick.

Sam replied affirmatively.

‘Can you show us the list of members working in the Yaskas bank?’ asked Crick.

‘No, better you should visit the Yaskas bank’ replied Jaskon.

‘Nice meeting both of you. Hope we meet again’ said Crick and smoothly left his foot out of the stony police station.

‘I think these two are symbolizing the two cannibals’ asked Jim in a mute voice.

‘You always sway away from the true path leading to enlightenment. Just wait for few days every drop of water would vanish from the pitcher’ replied Crick and took a cab to the Yaskas bank.

‘Why do you want the member’s list?’ asked Jim sitting inside the cab.

Crick remained silent and just waited to visit the bank. When they reached the bank Crick went inside the bank and asked for the member’s list. After a few searches he saw the bank’s list and went inside the bank which was suffering a great trouble from the loss of money. Crick searched each and every nook and corner of each room. He then went near the room where the money is kept in separate lockers. He searched the floors and then exclaimed.

‘What happened sir?’ asked the manager of the Yaskas bank.

‘Can you just tell me when this room was last repaired?’ asked Crick but Jim was just standing as everything went out of his head.

‘Last year.’

‘Do a lot of people to and fro in this room?’ again a direct question was asked by Crick.

‘No not at all. Only the bank people visit this room rarely’ replied the manager.

‘Jim note these. Thank you very much’ replied Crick in a pleasing manner.

‘Jim wait for three days and you will see that the Rayas Bank has also been looted. In a pond three fishes have started creating nuisance. The three should be caught and thrown out of the clean and cool pond’ said Crick and took the train ticket inside his pocket.

After travelling through quite a number of stations they at last reached their home and Crick said after three days you must remember me about the case. Two days passed away simply and third day came and Crick said just wait till the next day.

Next day the newspaper highlighted:

#### ANOTHER THEFT IN THE RAYAS BANK

A huge amount of money has been stolen from the Rayas bank near the Yaskas bank. All the banks are now worried about the theft and cannibals. A sudden and strong action must be planned by the cops near the Manukae forest.

‘What you have told is correct Crick. But how?’ Jim just was wondering.

‘I now need to call two persons- one is obvious that is John and second is Mr. Robert who is the cop of our locality. He is strong enough but he should come with two to three cops extra for precaution’ said Crick and called upon Mr. Robert and after the arrival of Mr. Robert; Crick whispered quite a lot of things and then called upon John.

John was about five minutes late than the scheduled time and when he rang the bell Crick said him to come inside. As soon as John stepped inside the room Crick pounced upon him with his words.

‘You have joined the Rayas bank without informing us. How can you be silent in such a situation demands quite a lot of anticipation from each one involved in the case. Why, please can you explain?’

‘But how did you know that I had joined in Rayas bank after leaving Yaskas bank?’

‘Because a robbery had happened in the Rayas bank’ replied Crick with a lot of confidence.

‘What do you mean, where there is robbery there I am working’ thundered John.

‘The security guard of Yaskas bank told quite a lot of things’



‘What do you mean by quite a lot of things?’ enquired John.

‘Now I would like to provide a short interview of mine and guard about which Jim is unaware-

Crick: Had John gone inside the room on the night of robbery?

Guard: Yes

Crick: For what reason you allowed him?

Guard: He said that he had left his money purse.

Crick: After how much time he came back?

Guard: The previous night after a lot of time because he said he had kept in the locker and had forgotten and the night of robbery quite early because it he searched first in the locker.

Crick: Have you said these things to anyone else.

Guard: Yeah to everyone who had asked me.

And then I left him alone.’

‘So what?’

‘The first night you had gone to cut the floor and second night to cover the tunnel made in the floor’ replied Crick smiling.

‘What is the proof?’ shouted John.

‘The floor has cut marks though repaired a year ago and those are serious ones although a few people pass through that room. Moreover, you have the thread of the cannibals. First there was a lot of clearness in the description that created doubt that you were trying to escape or just telling a tale. Secondly, they sprang inside the forest suddenly which means they were surviving inside the forest earlier and must have needed food like human flesh. But who ever went inside came outside perfectly. This means they are not real but virtual ones. The problem is now who are they?’

But I can answer this also. They are the Hink brothers, to be perfect they are G. Hink and H. Hink. All the fishy things had happened after the disappearance of them from the jail near the Manukae forests itself and they must have a good hiding in the forest but they needed something to fill up their basic needs that are to eat and to steal.

When they saw you they must have first caught you and somehow or other have made you agreed to their terms and condition of stealing ideology. There is a reason that you must have accepted their thought because you were not getting your proper salary and hence this served as an alternative to your mind. They then damaged your car and made you an aid to spread the idea of Cannibals and then hide the money they stole from bank in the left route of the forest.

You then started your work of cutting the floor the night before stealing because till that time they had made the tunnel to the bank but the floor was to cut outside and the key of lockers were needed for a silence robbery. These two works were done by you and the next day when you entered the room the stealing work was over and just the final covering was needed as the Hink brothers had already stolen the money and had left the lockers' keys on the floor and this was a cakewalk which took quite a lot much less time than the previous night.

Again when you were out of that bank you searched the nearest bank and then found Rayas as the perfect next target. Similar things happened and you were successful in the second work, this was also simply informed to me about your going inside the room in night by the guard but I cautioned him not to follow you as you may shoot him.

Thus two things were done and the third bank was in the next city and the same cannibals would have attacked you in Driter forest but you would have changed your name and it would have been a chain reaction. This part comes out of mind as instinctive. So I think I have described everything without any doubt, Mr. Robert' said Crick on a proud note.

‘Yeah everything is perfect’ replied Mr. Robert and laughed looking at the rate of perspiration of John.

‘You first catch the Hink brothers with the help of John and keep them under strong security.

Then leave John to me’ said Crick and started going back to his room.

‘But why to leave John?’ asked Mr. Robert.

‘I think he is going to be a good help for me in the future. Just leave him to me and you please leave me alone. I am going to sleep’ said Crick.

‘At this eleventh hour of morning?’ exclaimed Mr. Robert.

‘You all are talking and I am sitting mum. I should open my mouth’ complained Jim.

‘You have already opened it’ said Crick.

‘Wait tell me what would be it- The Case Of ...’ Jim coughed and Crick took the chance,

‘THE CASE OF THE LEFT ROUTE. Don’t disturb me anymore I am going to sleep’ said Crick and fell on his bed.

