

Reading -5

I have been deeply moved on three occasions in my life. The first was when I stood on the top of a snowy peak in the Nilgiris. My first sight of the sea was another occasion which moved me very deeply. But my first flight in the air was the most exciting experience in my life. I took A Journey By Air.

I was travelling from Chennai to Maldives by air. I entered the aeroplane in the morning. At first it was no better than getting into a car or bus. The noise of the machine made me feel that it was different. Soon the plane took off and rose in the air higher and higher. The buzzing sound which had fascinated me from ground now belonged to me. The things below looked so tiny.

The plane flew very fast rushing through the air without a bump or a jolt when all of a sudden bad weather overtook us. The plane began to swing from side to side and the pilot was a little troubled in controlling it. But I felt happy like a bird swigging in the air. Some of the passengers moved about and felt sick. Some slept in their seats but I sat still with great attentions. I took the greatest pleasure in looking at the scenery of the different places as we passed over.

After an hour's flight we were told that we were passing over Indian Ocean which looked like a meadow from high in the air. It was a lovely sight. The sun was just setting. The ships below looked like toys which float in a tub of water. The blue sea on the right and left was simply enchanting.

We had our dinner at our seats and I was introduced to the members of the plane crew. There was the chief pilot who commanded the plane. Then there was a co-pilot, a navigator and three belonging to the plane. One of them was an engineer, another radio expert and the third radioman. There were also pursers and air hostesses to look after the passengers.

I do not know when I fell asleep. My father woke me up. It seemed to be a big dash through the air. I was very anxious to get a glimpse of main land. But when we were approaching the landing zone, strong winds overtook us. Fog blinded our views. I was badly disappointed. Our plane finally touched down at the airport from where we drove off to a hotel in the heart of city of Chicago. The whole flight had taken us nearly five hours. It was a very interesting and exciting one indeed.