

## Reading -1

A man staying in the cool and calm atmosphere of his house can hardly know what heat can do to a person. We sometimes do feel hot in spite of the fan but that heat is bearable. What about the man on the road? Only a person who has had an experience of this can know the difference and appreciate the comfort which we find only by staying within our four walls. It is difficult to know A Hot Summer Day.

I dread heat and cold equally. But once on an exceptionally hot day, I had to remain out of doors on business. I started at eight in the morning, when the heat was somewhat bearable.

I thought I would finish whatever I had to do before it got unbearably hot. But alas! I had not taken into account the hurdle that was to come that day before me. Every step threw me behind schedule. At noon, worn hot and miserable, I still found me on the road.

During these hours my clothes got wet with perspiration and dried up so many times that I made quite a clumsy figure. During this period I had drunk water like a fish.

Now I thought once again to refresh myself with cold drink. I entered a restaurant. I demanded a cold drink and the bearer there must have taken me for a mad man as they watched me consume some four or five glasses of it. You cannot imagine how much at ease I felt inside that air conditioned restaurant. I almost thought of sitting down there for the rest of the day. But I had to move out to finish my work the day.

Here on the road, for the first time in the day, I saw a man who was in a greater trouble than myself and who looked more uneasy than I. He was a bald-headed middle-aged man. As he went along I saw to my horror that he went with a bundle on his head. I could not be mad but he was surely almost mad with heat. I cannot say whether he actually went mad by the item he reached home. It made me almost nervous when I realized that my conditions were much better. The next thing I did was to take a bus and return home.

That day was a day I spent in hell. Next day I read in the newspaper that man had died due to heat. Such was the intensity of summer.