



OF STAND-BY

DIBAKAR PAL ¹

¹ RETIRED EXECUTIVE MAGISTRATE (CIVIL SERVANT) & PHD STUDENT, DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS MANAGEMENT, UNIVERSITY OF CALCUTTA, INDIA.

ABSTRACT:

Stand- by means extra. Someone uses fiancée as stand-by. Someone uses wife as stand- by. Someone has many fiancées. Then every fiancée is stand- by. Someone has many wives. Then every wife is stand- by. Every fiancée or every wife may not get equal visit. It depends on the appeal and more particularly on allurements. The demand of fiancée or wife depends either on glamour or on money or on cocktail of both simultaneously. Here lies the uniqueness of stand-by rather than unique stand-by.

KEYWORDS:

STAND-BY, SUBSTITUTE, ASSIST, FAITHFUL, PROMISE, READY, WAIT, SUPPORT, PROMISE, RELY.

INTRODUCTION

Creative writing is based more on manifestation rather than on expression. It does not inform, rather it reveals. So it bears no reference. The best creative writing is critical, and the best critical writing is creative. This article is an outcome of thinking about creative writing meant for a general readership. As such, I have adopted a free style methodology so that everyone can enjoy the pleasure of reading. As you might know, Francis Bacon (1561-1626), the immortal essayist, wrote many essays namely 'Of Love', 'Of Friendship', 'Of Ambition', 'Of Studies', and so on. The multiple-minded genius correctly pointed out that all the words of the dictionary can be used as themes for essays. But little has been done since his death to continue or finish his monumental task. Bacon's unique individual style of presentation ignited my imagination and encouraged me to write creative essays as a method of relieving a wide range of emotions through catharsis.

ARTICLE

Stand-by is a person or thing available as a substitute or in an emergency e.g. a stand-by electricity generator. It is to be ready to act or assist.

Stand- by is to be faithful to, as in trouble. It is to adhere to a promise or the like. It is to stand ready. It is readiness for duty on stand-by. It is ready for immediate use e.g., dried meat, a good stand-by for trekkers; a number of stand-by gas masks/oxygen cylinders. A plain dark suit is a reliable stand-by for most formal occasions.

Stand-by is to be near and ready to act if or when needed. It is to wait to go aboard. It is to aid or support. It is to make good a promise, etc. It is to maintain a policy. It is to be near or present, especially in a passive manner or as a mere onlooker. For example: How could stand by when your colleague was being beaten up. Two volunteers stood by for odd jobs.

Stand-by is that which or one whom, one relies on or readily resorts to. It is something, someone, available for use in an emergency. For example: He stood by me during my dark days. I stand by what I have said.

Stand-by is to stand nearby. It is to look on without interfering e.g. will not stand by and see him ill-treated. It is to uphold, support, side with a person. It is to adhere to, abide by terms or promises. It, nautically, is to stand ready to take hold of or operate an anchor etc.

Radio, TV to remain tuned in, as for continuance of a program, or to remain ready to transmit without actually doing so.

On stand-by is an idiom is in a state of being ready to act, take part, etc. For example: Hendry was put on stand-by for Scotland's last match. The troops are on 24-hour stand by i.e. ready to move within 24 hours of receiving the order. The civil defence personnel are on dusk-to-dawn stand-by.

Stand-by ticket is a cheap ticket available when not all the tickets for a flight, theatre seats, etc. have been sold, usually with some price-reduction, at the time of departure.

Stand- by is a curse to an intelligent person. It is a blessing to a dull-headed person who only knows to wait and watch without any movement.

Someone does not and someone cannot stand-by. It depends upon character and stamina.

Stand-by is a great virtue. All cannot wait. It needs practice. Some communities are noted for this job. A less educated person is suitable for this job. An intelligent but lazy person will argue and claim for right more than duty.

Stand-by is an emergency service. So the person must be ready and wait for engagement round the clock without any fail. Similarly, the thing must have to keep in safe

custody for urgent immediate use. It is seen in fire-brigade or hospital. Also, the soldiers must be ready for 24 hours for action.

Service of stand-by must be as sincerely as possible. A person seeks and takes help of stand-by during emergency or while the person is in danger. This help is a must when the main source is unavailable. As such its outcome must be sure and certain. It must keep its commitment. It must follow an ethics. It must serve instant without any delay. Its motto will be impartial that will remain as constant. It must not discriminate. It must be strict. There should not be any ambiguity or lack in transparency. It must serve who will pay.

Stand-by causes tension. It is a boring job. If stand-by is not kept then the whole project or program may be frustrated. So its use can be realized during crisis period only. An important use of stand-by is seen in case of kidney failure. Man has two kidneys. One kidney acts and other one remains inactive as stand-by. If the first kidney becomes inactive or goes out of order then the second kidney starts functioning automatically. Thus it saves life being a stand-by.

Similarly, an aero plane has two engines. If the first engine goes out of order in the mid sky then the second stand-by engine starts automatically and reaches the destination safely.

Man keeps something as stand-by as substitute. Man uses new machine. An intelligent person does not sell the old machine as scrap. Rather he keeps the old machine as substitute for future use. Stand-by machine is more valuable than sale-proceeds of scrap. It saves life. It saves money and men. A friend in need is a friend indeed. Stand-by stands for that very indeed.

A serious person always keeps stand-by. Exactness is very difficult. Some persons keep excess money or thing. A miser keeps exact amount. If the food packet is less than the guest then it punctures the prestige of the miser host who seldom cares for it. That very miser gets a lesson when money in hand is less than the price of ticket. The miser cannot purchase the ticket and fails to avail the vehicle and cannot reach the destination.

Stand-by is used when service of the main thing or person is not available. At that crucial period if stand-by does not and cannot serve the purpose then it is rejected mercilessly and thrown away out of anger. A judicious person removes this alternative arrangement permanently so that same event does not recur during crisis period. A fool keeps that rejected scrap for future use in vain. A useful thing should be kept for use, seldom a scrap that causes irritation in crisis period for its inability. They say, value of a thing lies in uses not in decoration.

CONCLUSION

Stand-by means extra. Someone uses fiancée as stand-by. Someone uses wife as stand-by. Someone has many fiancées. Then every fiancée is stand-by. Someone has many wives. Then every wife is stand-by.

In case of single wife or single fiancée stand-by is not possible. Singleness implies goodness. Also singleness confirms dictatorship. But in case of plural stand-by is guaranteed. Democracy is too good for its plurality. But in case of love and marriage plurality is too bad for conjugal life. For happy married life whip of dictatorship is a must.

In case of many every fiancée or every wife may not get equal visit. It depends on the appeal and more particularly on allurements. The demand of fiancée or wife depends either on glamour or on money or on cocktail of both simultaneously. Here lies the uniqueness of stand-by rather than unique stand-by.

REFERENCES

No reference, since the present article is an outcome of Creative Writing