

Engine Trouble -R.K. Narayan

R.K. Narayan's Engine Trouble is a witty tale told by the Talkative Man, who unintentionally wins a lottery at a carnival. The lively fair, Gaiety Land, offers various attractions, and the Talkative Man's lottery ticket matching the winning number, 1005 makes him an unexpected owner of a peculiar prize, the road engine. Since he could not move the road engine, he left it at Gymkhana Grounds until the carnival season ended.

After the carnival ended the municipality instructed the talkative man to remove the road engine or pay a monthly rent of ten rupees. He reluctantly accepts it because he could not find a buyer or move it. This leads to financial strain and the pawning of his wife's jewellery. Multiple attempts to sell or dispose off the road engine failed, including a chaotic attempt involving an elephant and 50 coolies. The Talkative Man faces arrest, financial difficulties, and marital strain.

The talkative man felt relieved when a Swamiji expressed interest in taking it away. The Swamiji's assistant who has been trained to handle the engine agrees to drive it. When they were about to take the engine a police inspector arrived and issued a court order that prohibited the act, causing the Swamiji to leave the town angrily.

An unexpected twist occurred when an earthquake caused the road engine to fall into an unused well. The well owner is relieved, as the engine accidentally solves his municipality-related problem. The owner agreed to cover expenses, withdraw complaints, and to seal the well with cement. Months later, the Talkative Man found a solution to end his misadventures with the troublesome road engine.

This humorous narrative unfolds with irony, showcasing the unpredictable turns life can take, providing a blend of comedy and social commentary within the backdrop of a carnival and the peculiar challenges faced by a small town.

Engine Trouble by R.K. Narayan (Short Essay)

R.K. Narayan's Engine Trouble is a funny story told by the Talkative Man, who wins a strange prize at a carnival called Gaiety Land. The Talkative Man's lottery ticket matches the winning number, 1005, and he becomes the owner of a road engine. Since he cannot move the engine, he leaves it at Gymkhana Grounds. After the carnival ends, the town authorities tell him to remove the engine or pay a monthly rent of ten rupees.

The Talkative Man tries many ways to get rid of the engine, including using an elephant and fifty workers, but nothing works. He feels hopeful when a Swamiji shows interest in taking the engine. However, just as they are about to move it, a police officer stops them with a court order. The Swamiji leaves angrily.

An unexpected earthquake solves the problem when the engine falls into an unused well. The well's owner feels happy because the engine helps fix a problem with the town authorities. This funny story shows how life's problems can take surprising turns.