TRINITY COLLEGE FOR WOMEN
NAMAKKAL
Department of English

SOUTH ASISAN LITERATURE
17UEN11 - EVEN Semester

Presented by
Mrs.A.REVATHI
Assistant Professor
Department of English
http://www.trinitycollegenkl.edu.in/

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Author Introduction

Maki Kureshi was born in 1927 in Calcutta in a parsee family.. she is a Pakistani poet. Her farther is a psychiatrist . Her mother , Shireen Vacha had grown up in Germany. Kureshi's husband was a Muslim. She was the first female poet of Pakistan. She worked as an Associate Professor in Department of English at Karachi University. she was a patient of polio.

Her works For My Grandson, The Far Thing and someother works. She used to describe sensitive and unsentimental things in her works. Her famous poems are " Snippers in Karachi", "Elegy for Karachi" and "Curfew summer"

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The Kittens

There are too many kittens.
Even the cat is dismayed
at this overestimation
of her stock and slinks away.
Kind friends cannot adopt them all.
My relatives say: take them
to a bazaar and let them go
each to his destiny. They'll live
off pickings. But they are so small
somebody may step on one
like a tomato.

Or too fastidious to soil
a polished shoe will kick it
out of his path. If they survive
the gaunt dogs and battering heels,
they will starve gently, squealing
a little less each day.

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The European thing to do
is drown them. Warm water
is advised to lessen the shock.
They are so small it takes only
a minute. You hold them
and turn your head away.

Then the water shatters. Your hands
are frantic eels. Oddly
like landed fish, their blunt pink mouths
open and shut. Legs strike out.
Each claw, a delicate nail
paring, is bared.
They are blind and will never know
you did this to them. The water
recomposes itself.
Snagged
by two cultures, which
shall I choose?

-Maki Kureshi

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The poem “kittens” written by Maki is an extended poem written in free verse. In kitten, Kureishi contemplates the true image of our society. The way we regale the vulnerable and the way we tarnish the basic liberties of man in the street are portrayed in the poem. The poem is a lamentation on the demeanor of man. It’s mourning on the attitude of the most exemplary creation of Earth, humans.

The poet characterizes the destitute and unarmed people of the society by depicting the helpless kittens.

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The poem " Kitten" amazingly explains the contemporary as well as the antique mentality of the people. The consciousness of the poet contemplates "flimsy lives" as valuable asset. She effectively gives the details of light on one of the most critical realities of society by the manifestation of stray kittens.

At the beginning of the poem the poet tells about the fraction of kittens. Though it wasn't even anticipated by the cat itself, the occurrence of so many kittens has made her reckless . Then the author demonstrates her apprehensions about the kittens.

The speaker said that they were so many kittens, all could not be adopted by the kind of friends.

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Her relatives suggest forsaking kitties and leaving them in a bazaar, where they may surpass their preordain fortunes.But the poet wants to relieve them, it doesn't happen. Somebody wants to seize them.

Even if they withstand with this disaster, they could't survive. They also tells her that the kittens will survive with leftvers. But the poet feels that they all so small and could be stepped upon like tomato by passing people and get killed.

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In the successive paragraph the poet specified the “warm water” might aggravate the injury of the kittens. This is called Europeans process of drenching in warm water. Further she elaborates on the mechanism to drown them by clasping them within the water for a moment. The killer is worried with fear and anxiety and feels the kitten is like an eel that tries to slip from his hands. The kittens leg shake out. The delicate claws show the soft nails of the kitten. The kitten inside water cannot see the killer who does this horrible act. Soon everything is over and the watere regains its composure. Now the poet asks a question to herself, “By two culture, which shall I choose?
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