



Nandita - my childhood friend

During childhood , when adults and elder siblings treated me as a kid whose thoughts and opinions were inconsequential, my clearest memory of Uncle Attreya is that he treated me as a VIP or a mini adult. He was always interested in knowing what made me tick and had a unique perspective to everything. One incident that I recall clearly concerns my reading habit. While my talent in being absorbed in books to the exclusion of the world irritated most adults around me, Uncle wanted to know exactly how fast I read and what technique I used to read, could I improve my reading speed etc, etc. He made me read in front of him while he timed me, so that he could check exactly what I was doing and gave me hints to increase my reading speed. He put into practice all the management skills he taught and is certainly the best listener that I know. After my tenth standard, he gave me my first summer job at his office. I do not know if I was of any help to him, but the whole experience of traveling to work, being treated by him as a responsible and valued assistant was most rewarding and wonderful. He holds a very special place in my memories.

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