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https://www.100test.com/kao_ti2020/453/2021_2022__E4_B8_8A_E5_A4_96_E7_89_88_E5_c83_453656.htm Unit Seven Text It is often said that cats have nine lives , that they are lucky enough to escape from danger again and again. Here is a science fiction tale about how one such lucky escape by a cat led to a discovery that was able to change the course of peoples lives. The problems stemming from the discovery also make interesting reading. ZERITSKYS LAW Ann Griffith Somebody someday will make a study of the influence of animals on history. Among them , Mrs. Grahams cat should certainly be included in any such study. It has now been definitely established that the experiences of this cat led to the idea of quick-frozen people , which , in turn , led to the passage of Zeritskys Law. We must go back to the files of the Los Angeles newspapers for 1950 to find the story. In brief , a Mrs. Fred C. Graham missed her pet cat on the same day that she put a good deal of food down in her home deep-freeze unit. She suspected no connection between the two events. The cat was not to be found until six days later , when its owner went to fetch something from the deepfreeze. Much as she loved her pet , we may imagine that she was more horror-than grief-stricken at her discovery. She lifted the little ice-encased body out of the deepfreeze and set it on the floor. Then she managed to run as far as the next door neighbors house before fainting. Mrs. Graham became hysterical after she was revived , and it was several hours before she could be quieted

enough to persuade anybody that she hadn't made up the whole thing. She prevailed upon her neighbor to go back to the house with her. In front of the deep-freeze they found a small pool of water , and a wet cat , busily licking itself. The neighbor subsequently told reporters that the cat was concentrating its licking on one of its hind legs , where some ice still remained , so that she , for one , believed the story. A follow-up dispatch , published a week later , reported that the cat was unharmed by the adventure. Further , Mrs. Graham was quoted as saying that the cat had had a large meal just before its disappearance ; that as soon after its rescue as it had dried itself off , it took a long nap , precisely as it always did after a meal ; and that it was not hungry again until evening. It was clear from the accounts that the life processes had been stopped dead in their tracks , and had , after defrosting , resumed at exactly the point where they left off. Perhaps it is unfair to pull all the responsibility on one luckless cat. Had such a thing happened anywhere else in the country , it would have been talked about , believed by a few , disbelieved by most , and forgotten. But it happened in Los Angeles. There , and probably only there , the event was anything but forgotten ; the principles it revealed became the basis of a hugely successful business. How shall we regard the Zeritsky Brothers ? As archvillains or pioneers ? In support of the latter view , it must be admitted that the spirit of inquiry and the willingness to risk the unknown were indisputably theirs. However , their pioneering if we agree to call it that was , equally indisputably , bound up with the quest for a fast buck. Some of their first clients

paid as high as \$15 , 000 for the initial freezing , and the exorbitant rate of \$1 , 000 per year as a storage charge. The Zeritsky Brothers owned and managed one of the largest quick-freezing plants in the world , and it was their claim that converting the freezing equipment and storage facilities to accommodate humans was extremely expensive , hence the high rates. When the early clients who paid these rates were defrosted years later , and found other clients receiving the same services for as little as \$3 , 000 , they threatened a row and the Zeritskys made substantial refunds. By that time they could easily afford it , and since any publicity about their enterprise was unwelcome to them , all refunds were made without a whimper. \$3 , 000 became the standard rate , with \$100 per year the storage charge , and no charge for defrosting. 100Test 下载频道开通 , 各类考试题目直接下载。详细请访问 www.100test.com