

Adam woke up early on February 24, before the dawn prayer, because of terrible sounds of explosions.

He saw his parents frantically collecting documents and the most necessary things. They put them in the car. Adam began to look for his cat, who, apparently, went out for a walk at night, but still has not returned.

His younger brothers and sisters had not yet realized what was happening, but he and his father understood immediately that the evil neighbouring country, the embodiment of the evil that hung over their country for the last 8 years, and before that - at least 300 years, has just activated and decided to destroy everything, what was dear to him, his family and all the inhabitants of his homeland.

- Hurry, get in the car! - Adam's father shouted, - he knew that huge traffic jams would soon form on the roads, and it would be difficult to get anywhere, - we will go to a detour of our highway, because a column of enemy tanks is already approaching there.

Everyone sat down, but Adam continued to run around the yard and call the cat:

- Patron, Patron!

- Leave the cat, - said the mother, - do not stress the animal.

But Adam did not calm down. He loved this cat so much that if he had been told to take something with him, besides his passport, he would have taken only Patron.

Finally, when the car was already leaving the yard, Patron jumped right onto the hood – he was a large, shiny black cat with large green eyes and a long slightly fluffy tail. He was ideal - not only handsome, but also intelligent and relatively kind.

Adam pulled him close to him, and the car moved on.

Sirens were heard, explosions were happening in the distance. The more they moved west, the more cars got on the road. The phone was bursting with messages, and with each such message, Adam's father was convinced that he had done the right thing, not waiting and not hoping that everything would end soon.

Finally, after about a day's journey, they reached the Islamic Cultural Centre. It was the very west of the country, further there was only a Polish cordon.

Everyone was hungry, cold, tired, but, oddly enough, Adam and his siblings took it for granted. Adam thought that for many years he had been living with his family and Patron safely and happily, and now he can be patient and should be so.

They were among the first to settle temporarily in the Islamic Cultural Centre. Adam and his father went to look for a property to rent while it was still possible.

“Amani, look after Patron,” Adam said to his sister as he left.

A whole day of searching brought certain results. They could find an apartment almost in the centre of Lviv.

Adam was happy. But when he entered the Islamic Centre, which became a shelter for many Muslims, Amani ran out to him:

- Adam, Patron escaped somewhere, I was looking for him everywhere, but he is nowhere to be found!

Adam frowned. Patron was more than a cat. Sometimes Adam even reproached himself because he loved this cat more than his phone, computer and all his stuff. Sometimes he caught himself thinking that Patron was like a little brother to him, so he became very worried.

- Where could he go? Come on, let's search together.

- Air alert, let's go down to the basement! shouted the imam of the mosque.

They sat there for a couple of hours, and during all this time, Adam was thinking: "Maybe now our house has already been bombed, and I'm still thinking about my cat!" But it was really not a simple cat, but an ideal cat.

Finally, the air alert has been cancelled and everyone went outside. In his search for the Patron, Adam reached a storeroom and heard a piercing sound.

Then everything was like in a movie: he saw a recently arrived girl standing in the storeroom, and two fat rats jumping on her. Apparently, she abruptly entered the room, and the rats were frightened, so they decided to attack her.

After a couple of seconds, Patron jumped from somewhere above. Landing gracefully, he killed the first rat in the blink of an eye. The second one ran away, but Adam blocked her path. Patron lunged at the second rat and gnawed its throat.

Adam thought it was one of the best moments of Patron's life. The cat looked proudly at Adam and even winked at the girl condescendingly.

"Is this your cat?" she asked.

"Yes, it's Patron. The ideal cat," Adam replied quietly.

"I wish I had such a cat," the girl said thoughtfully.

In general, this girl called Rima, turned out to be very purposeful. In less than two weeks, Adam made a marriage proposal from her father, and then they had a nikah ceremony at the same Islamic Centre, in the midst of the war. They even took a few photos of the wedding, and all of them were with Patron.