

Heaven sent..

It had been almost an hour, Arun hadn't stopped staring at the wall. "Young entrepreneur 2012", "Forbes India leadership award" and a dozen more lined up on it. He had achieved almost everything that a 25 year old could ever think of. Despite all these, he always felt something was missing, neither his wealth nor his wisdom could tell him what he lacked. He again realized that he didn't have time for these. He was about to witness his company's biggest merger this weekend. All those sleepless nights he spent for it, he was just too tensed.

He began going through his email storm, one of which caught his eye. It was an invitation for the grand alumni meet of his college, "let's get together to reminisce...." he smiled as soon as he read those words. As an introvert he always loathed such meetings, he found his happiness in solitude. But his reaction was different this time. He knew that she would be attending the meet. It had been almost five years since he saw her.

He returned to his home in small hours, it was a matter of minutes before sleep took control over him, he was completely exhausted. But those minutes, all he could think of was her, those days he spent with Meera. He was excited to meet her the next day.

Arun arrived at his college the next day, it had been a long time since he met his friends. He went to greet his mentor, the person who shaped his world. The welcome ceremony had already started, still there was no sign of her. He left the hall, came out and rolled his sleeves. He never liked that formal attire. He took a walk around the lobby, he frowned as he reread those inspirational quotes on the wall.

Minutes passed as he stood still looking at those. His silence was broken by a pat on his shoulder. "Hey Arun" said a familiar voice. It was her, it was Meera. With a big smile on his face he looked up at her and said "hi Meera, how are you" with his soothing voice. "You have changed a lot Arun, it's been a long time isn't it?" Replied Meera. Both of them exchanged words and went back to attend the meet.

Arun was totally lost in his thoughts. A wave of memories rushed through his brain. "October 13" he said to himself with a grin on his face. It was on that day he talked to her for the first time. He could still recall that incident as if it happened yesterday. He still regrets not telling her those magical words during college, maybe he thought he wasn't ready for it.

"Hey Arun, what happened, where are you lost?.. Hey! Look at sandhya, see how she is now! People change a lot don't they?" Before Arun could say anything Meera got up from her seat seeing her gang, those five people who she always used to hang out with. Arun too greeted them with a smile. She went along with them to have coffee. Arun, no matter how hard he tried couldn't take his gaze off her. He was totally confused, he knew he wouldn't get another chance. But a voice inside him warned him not to spoil the moment. It was already noon it was time for him to leave, given his tight schedule.

He took a last mental picture of her, she was looking gorgeous in her red saree, he always felt red suits her the most. He left to the parking lot. And When he was about to start his car, "so, this is what you have learnt in five years! Abandon a friend without even saying a good bye" said a furious voice. "Hey not like that, just little busy with office work" said Arun trying to explain himself to Meera. He got out of the car, held her hand and said "nice meeting you today". "Same here" said Meera with a smirk on her face.

Meera walked back slowly. When she was about to disappear from his sight, she heard a voice. "Hey Meera, may I tell you something?" asked Arun with a gentle tone. Meera turned back and gave him a slight nod. "Always keep smiling Meera. Never let anything take that away from you. Never!" said Arun. He couldn't make eye contact with her anymore, he sat back in his car.

Meera understood. She knew, she always knew that Arun had feelings for her since the beginning. She went back to him. she could grasp the puzzled expression on Arun. Before Arun could say anything, "Arun, I'll be in town for few more days, I was thinking maybe we could have dinner this weekend. Of course only if you are free "said Meera. Arun didn't know what to say, something he always dreamt of finally happened and there was nothing but a blunt expression on his face. He stumbled but after a long pause he blustered "absolutely.. Blue terrain @ 7? What do you say" .her expression was beatific, she nodded happily. She asked for his number so did he, despite knowing each and every digit by heart, he never forgot. She headed back to her car.

Arun couldn't believe what just happened, before he could even cherish that moment he realized that his company's merger was on the same date. His efforts, his hard work. He was back to square one. But not for long, he realized one thing at that very moment, the missing piece, it was her, it was her all along. He understood why his wealth didn't make him happy. He accelerated his car like never before, reached his office, took a printout of Meera's picture and stuck it alongside his certificates. He stepped back, took a look at his wall again, now it all made sense. She was missing from his life.

He took his phone texted her "ill pick you up at 7".he sat back on his armchair with a grin on his face. He couldn't wait for Sunday. Maybe one of the most cherish able Sunday that he is going to have in his life .

A story by :

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