

*Neha Singh*

*Soul*

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## *Acknowledgment*

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*“My soul is searching your soul.... May be tomorrow  
I am not there....The sorrow will remain...But my  
immortal soul will always be there... with its soul  
mate...”*

**I**t was 8 in the morning and I was still sleeping, my mom came and turned on the light and moved the curtains aside. God!!! It brought so much of sunlight directly on my face.

I shouted sweetly getting inside my super-soft comforter, ‘Who dared to switch on the lights?’

Mom replied pulling my comforter, ‘I dared sweetie.’ Her voice echoed all around.

I pleaded, ‘Mom, please switch it off and don’t disturb me’

She smiled at me and said, ‘look at the time sweetie and stop dreaming.’

‘Ohh.. mOOoom....’ I said yawning, ‘I m not dreaming.’

‘Come on; get up its 8:00 am’

‘Just 8:00 am???’ I smiled and closed my eyes but suddenly the fused bulb of my mind glowed and I remembered that I have a school today.

‘Shit!!! I’ll miss my school’ I said getting up from my bed and throwing my comforter down.

‘Mom, you need to leave now, go prepare my breakfast. I need to get ready,’ I said hurriedly, pushing her softly outside the room. I closed the door and then ran straight to the bathroom, thinking, will the time and the Sun ever compromise for my lovely sleep and me?

In just 5 mins (going down in the shower, which was surprisingly hot and rushing out without applying any kind of body washes, soaps, shampoo's etc) I came out in my room, pulled a black jeans out of my closet and wore it with a plain grey full sleeves hoodie.

I then rushed in front of the mirror, combed my long dark hair, made a pony and rushed downstairs for searching my sandals, which I brought last week , especially for my birthday, but I could not resist myself from wearing it.

I looked for them everywhere (in the shoe case, behind TV stand, under my mom's room bed and even bathroom.) completely like a moron. But when I couldn't find it, I finally shouted 'For God's sake, will somebody search my new sandals?'

Mom said, coming out of the kitchen, looking confused, 'Which sandals?'

I answered calmly, grinning, 'The one I brought for my birthday.'

Listening this, she raised her one eyebrow, kept one hand on her waist and said, 'Are you sure you wanna wear it?' Now her eyes narrowed. (God!!! She sometimes act like a star of a boring melo-dramatic movie.)

My mouth opened wide seeing her expressions but I hurriedly closed it and then finally said, 'Hey mom, just don't tell you won't allow me.'

She kept quiet for some time and then suddenly said, 'I will allow, go get it, it is near the dining table.' Listening to this, there came a glow on my face.

‘Thanks mom, love you.’ I said smiling broadly and then rushed towards my sandals.

‘Dining table...??? Huh!!!’ I sighed, wore them quickly, and took my purple, grey and black checkered bag, it did not look so great but one reason to buy it was.... I got two novels free with it and I die for reading books.

I walked to the center of the hall and peeped at mom through the window, she was busy in the kitchen. I shouted and rushed outside (to escape breakfast) ‘Bye mom, I m going’ and waved her good bye.

As I opened the door of my “Hyundai Sonata”, mom shouted rushing outside the house, ‘Gems you haven’t taken your breakfast.’

I thought to act like a deaf and run away but she shouted again, ‘Gems... I know you are hearing me, so don’t try to act like a deaf.’

‘Fine mom, I heard you but I m really in no mood to have anything. Please...’

‘God!!! This girl is never in a mood to have anything,’ she said pressing her forehead hard.

‘Ohh mom... please stop disturbing God. Don’t blame him for my mood’ I said sympathetically.

‘Okay. Whatever.’ She rolled her eyes and walked inside.

‘Bye mom, take care.’ I shouted and got inside my car.

She came running outside and yelled sweetly, ‘Gems, listen..., go and pick Oshin, she called.’

‘Sure, mom, I won’t forget to pick her up.’ I replied throwing my bag on the back seat.

I then threw the car in reverse and accelerated. I hit the speed of 45, before I was on the road, as I was already late. Mom saw me driving fast and there came a killing expression on her face, which was easily visible on the side-view mirror of my car.

I reached Oshin’s home and gave horn for more than two minutes but no one came out, so I rushed outside and rang the bell more than 8 times (see - I counted) continuously which was quite ill mannered. ‘Ting-tong... Ting-tong...’ Finally, a girl wearing dark blue pencil jeans and a black full sleeve, scoop neck top on which a quotation reflected in milk white colour “I m so poor, I can’t even pay *ATTENTION!*.” Answered the door, she was one and only, my best friend Oshin Greene.

‘Hey, are you ready or you want me to leave you here and go to school, alone’ I said hurriedly, looking at her, she looked perfect like always, just simple and beautiful... Like *me*.

‘Yup, come let’s go, we are already late’ she replied picking her pink and black *diesel* bag with few beautiful badges on it, which really looked awesome.

We sat inside the car. I started driving. Although we were in speed, still we reached the school 5 minutes late and the main gate of “the school without walls of Washington D.C.” was closed, I asked the gatekeeper to open the gate but he said straight forward, ‘*no*’ which sounded quite rude.

Finally, Oshin and I decided to go on our plan no 7 (Yes, we have our own series of plans, completely like kids). We used this plan in our middle school whenever we were late. The plan was to 'emotionally blackmail and make the victim believe in whatever we said', we got outside the car, I thought that Oshin will start first but instead doing something helpful she looked at me and gave a blank look which really made my mind go completely and absolutely blank. I then pleaded, 'Sir, please we have our practical today and we have worked complete night for that, please let us go inside.' I knew this white lie will not work but still I kept my fingers crossed.

Oshin then carried on sharply, not giving the "victim" (okay, I agree, he is not a victim) any chance to recover. 'Yes we worked really hard, but unfortunately we ran out of petrol on our way to school.'

'And we had to walk 1.5 km for petrol, which was very difficult for us...' I added hurriedly. 'And ....' I said, thinking what to say next.

'Promise we won't ever be late.'

'Please let us go inside,' I made a sad face. If he would not let us inside, my mom will eat me raw.

Now the worst part, we both went completely blank and thought everything was over.

Finally, the gatekeeper opened his mouth said, 'Okay...okay... Stop it girls, I understand...now go inside fast and do not be late from tomorrow.' Hearing this, I rushed towards my car. God!!! It was easier than I thought; he was convinced so easily.

‘Thank you, Sir... God will always bless you and your family too.’ Oshin got inside the Car and said going completely melodramatic.

We both gave high five to each–other and said together smiling, ‘Mission accomplished.’

Poor gatekeeper, he was so good hearted and gullible. I laughed to myself. He opened the gate and I drove the car into the parking lot, and from there we rushed towards our classroom.

It was our geography class going on. When we reached near the door of the class, running, Miss Stern, our geography teacher was already teaching, she saw us and automatically said in a tone that gave a false alarm of danger, ‘Get inside.’ We entered the classroom and sat immediately on our seat, which was in the third row and the third bench. Miss Stern was staring at us as if she wanted to suck our blood, she reminded me of the “Vampire Diaries” which I saw every Thursday and Friday. I gave a sincere look and she turned towards the board again and continued making diagram of nuclear energy, I said under my breath to Oshin, ‘She looks like a vampire, look at her skin with wrinkles seems like she is alive since several 100 years.’

Listening to this, her mouth opened wide and air rushed out ‘Nice comment, but now please try to concentrate otherwise she is going to kill both of us together.’ Oshin replied making the situation quite humorous.

Half an hour passed but still she was confused from where to make the nuclear reactor in nuclear energy diagram. Meanwhile she was busy with her diagram, half of the class slept, and other half was busy in their gossips. Finally, she rubbed the entire

diagram and seemed in a good mood of talking which was bad for us. The thing, which I came to know in past few days, was that, Miss Stern was teaching us everything literally, apart from the main syllabus. She told us about what her best friend, an astrologer sees in her dreams like wizards, magic, vamp, vampires etc....etc.... all those stuff. We do not know about others but these things do not rule over me and Oshin because we know it was all unrealistic things in short “bullshit”.

She said with perfect expressions trying to delude my innocent classmates and of course, me too, but unfortunately, it did not work ‘Do you know students....The day before my friend told me about her dream... that she saw, some creatures flying in the sky... with huge wings...’

‘If it was a dream, why the hell she is telling us???’ I looked at Oshin, she grinned at my annoyed tone and replied giggling , ‘I don’t know, if you have a doubt you can go and clear with Miss Stern.’

‘Stop giggling, it’s looks so silly.’

She raised her eyebrows together, ‘okay Miss Perfectionist.’

“Ttrrii... ii...” the bell rang, everyone started escaping out, Miss Stern said trying to stop everyone, ‘Wait students... wait, the interesting part is still left.’

‘You better tell these stories to your grand children.’ A boy shouted from outside the class and ran away.

‘Yes, the bell rang’ Oshin said with a grin which was quite loud enough to be heard by Miss Stern but fortunately, she did not. I could easily recognize from her face that she felt a great

relief knowing that this irritating, lecture class ended as said by someone, “After every dark night there is a bright day,” and we too ran outside, trying to escape Miss Stern glances.

As the final bell rang, we moved outside the classroom. It was a complete teenage atmosphere, few guys were fighting around, and some were running in the corridor, others were walking hand in hand with their girl friends. Girls were busy in their talks; some were making issues of an unimportant topic, and some busy impressing cool boys, others planning to hang out somewhere and few exceptional boring personalities busy in their own topics.

‘Wow! Our school campus looks so beautiful,’ I said looking around.

‘Yeah,’ Oshin replied looking at me as if she saw something amusing, which made me think that, ‘is anything gone wrong with me?’

We were walking (*Actually* I thought we were walking but when I saw beside me no one was there.) Oshin was standing near the staircase and was grinning at a guy like a moron. God!! This *girl* has gone crazy.

I walked to her and stood there waiting for her to notice me but she didn’t. It made me feel like pulling my hair out. ‘Listen, mom asked me to come home soon’ I yelled at her sweetly but loudly.

She shot a glance at me and said, quite confusingly, ‘Do I look deaf?’

‘No’ I answered quickly.

‘Have you gone *crazy* Gems??? What was the need to shout??’

‘Need??’ I gritted my teeth, ‘cause you were grinning continuously at that moron.’ I said pointing at the guy. He saw me pointing at him and gave me a “whatever look”. I ignored him and pulled Oshin with me.

‘Stop!!!’

‘What???’ I sighed seeing her face.

‘He is not a moron.’

I winked at her, ‘He is.’

Hearing it, her mouth opened wide and air rushed out and she started fanning herself as if she was feeling too hot and said, ‘somebody is jealous.’

‘For God’s sake, shut up Gems, come let’s go home.’ This time I said pulling my hair completely like a nerd.

‘Okay,’ she replied sweetly, squeezing me softly with her right hand.

We walked to the parking lot, sat inside the car and I started driving. I turned on the music system and played Avril Livegne’s “My happy ending” which is my all time favourite song. Suddenly, Oshin turned it off. I looked at her in a confused manner and she asked with a big question mark on her face ‘Gems do you believe in those things about which Miss Stern was talking about?’ saying this she pressed her lips.

I asked myself, ‘M I dreaming???’ Have Oshin got answers to all the questions in the world that she was asking me such an idiotic

question. I could not believe that Oshin was asking this. I was not even listening to Miss Stern and she took it so seriously that she is asking me about that stuff.

“Hell! Oshin you took it seriously?” She blinked twice as I looked at her blank face, ‘No..., I don’t believe in these things. I just don’t waste my time on all that stuff.’ I said smiling, driving and at the same time thinking that what was the reason for asking this question.

‘Okay... I was expecting the same answer and I got it.’ She replied with a grin and turned the music system on, again. Thank god!! She was *finally* back to normal now.

Soon I dropped Oshin at her home and drove back to my home. I parked my car and rang the bell-“Ting-tong; ting-tong”

‘Welcome home’ mom greeted me, quite tired, seemed like she had a lot of work at office. I stepped inside, yawning.

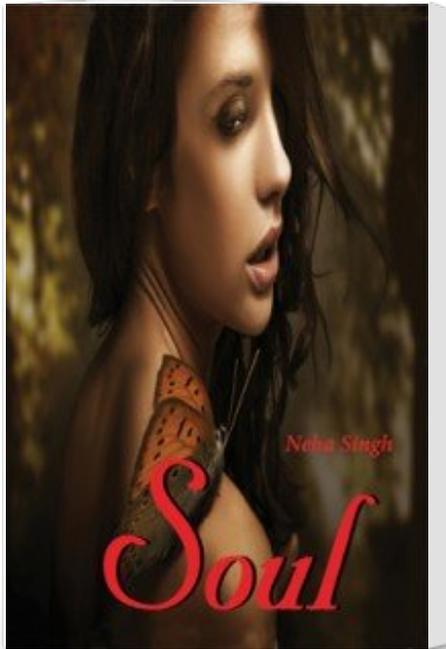
‘How was your day?’ she asked quite curiously. I looked at her face, it seemed like mom’s tiredness was washed away, seeing my face.

‘Quite good, but the geography class was very boring, out of *tolerance*, I felt like the clock was stuck, it was such a long period...’ I replied, quite tired, throwing my bag and myself, too...on the sofa.

‘Was the class boring or the teacher?’ Mom asked smiling, as she knew that I took time to adjust with them.

‘Both mom’ I replied, switching on the TV and changing the channels, in search of something good for entertainment.

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