~ 19 ~

This chapter is dedicated to SONALSAKSHI.

Author's POV:

A er a few months:

Arjun was sleeping in his room peacefully when his phone started to buzz. He opened his eyes and looked at the caller ID. It was his PA.

"Hello, Karthik!" Said Arjun.

"Sir, today you have to attend a college for the seminar. We have to reach there by 10 o' clock", said Karthik (Arjun's PA).

"Anything else", Arjun asked him.

"We have a meeting with the quality checking department. There are some complaints", said Karthik.

"Okay. I'll go the college and in the mean time, you make everything ready for the meeting. If I'm late, then tell Priya to handle and keep updating me with the details" , said Arjun.

"Okay, sir!" said Karthik.

Arjun got o the bed and stretched his arms lazily. He moved to the washroom and did his daily chores. He got ready in tracks and tee and moved to hit the gym for sometime.

He came back from the gym a er working out for an hour and checked his mobile. He replied to some important mails and saw some messages from his cookie.

Cookie: Good morning, Arjun. I may not reply to your messages or calls as I've a busy schedule today. Have a good day and rock the seminar (flying kisses).

He smiled, looking at her message.

" Good morning, cookie. Have a good day and don't toil yourself too much", Arjun replied to her message.

He moved to the bathroom to have a shower. He came out wiping his wet hair with the hand towel. He got ready in formals and moved down.

"Arjun, go and call Kittu", Vani told, Arjun.

Arjun nodded his head and moved to Avi's room. He knocked on the door but got no response. He found the room unlocked and peeped inside. He saw Avi looking at his mobile dreamily and smiling like a fool.

Arjun went inside the room and cleared his throat. Avi's fell from his hand and he looked at Arjun shocked.

"Don't you have manners to knock on the door before coming inside?" Avi asked, glaring at Arjun.

"Nah! I will learn it when you get married", Arjun said, with a cheeky smile.

"There is still time for it", said Avi.

"By the way, why are you smiling like a fool looking at your mobile? Looking at your girlfriend?" Arjun asked, narrowing his eyes at him.

"I don't have any girlfriend", Avi said, gritting his teeth.

"Then your boyfriend?" Arjun said, with a mischevious smile.

"What the hell?" Avi shouted at him and hit him with a pillow.

Arjun dodged and ran out of the room.

Gayatri, Shekar and Vani are sitting at dining table and waiting for Avi and Arjun. They saw Avi chasing Arjun.

"Idiot, stupid, donkey, du er", Avi was yelling at Arjun.

"Ayyo. What the hell is going on here?" Vani yelled at them.

"Atta, your son has a boyfriend", Arjun said, while running for his life.

"What?" Vani, Shekar and Gayatri shouted together.

"You stupid monkey face. Let me catch you, I'll show what can I do?" Avi said, throwing a vase at him.

"Is it true, Kittu?" Shekar said, looking at his son.

"I thought, I would get a beautiful daughter-in-law. I don't know that I'm going get a handsome son-in-law", Vani said, making a bad face.

"I thought, I could play with my great grandchildren. But it would remain as a dream now", said Gayatri.

Avi looked at his family weirdly, while Arjun was enjoying the show.

"Are you guys mad? For your information, I'm straight", Avi said, glaring at his family.

Arjun chuckled, looking at his face.

"Thank God!" Vani, Shekar and Gayatri said together.

"You just wait. You will be going to the seminar with three legs", Avi said, gritting his teeth.

"Umm, guys. I'll have breakfast on my way. Bye" , Arjun said, running out of the house.

"Okay leave him. Tell us, when are you going to get married. Or are you really interested in boys", Vani said, mischievously.

"Amma, stop it. It's really weird to even think", Avi said, scrunching his nose.

"Then, from when am I asking you? Aru and Yash are happy with their kids. Veeru and Arjun are engaged and will get married soon. What about you? You are 26 now. You were four-year-old kid when your father was 26-year-old. And Rishi Anna is also looking matches for Ammu", said Vani.

"Amma, bunny is just 22. And what's wrong them? I just can't understand your brother at all", said Avi.

"You know about him, right? If he takes a decision, then he is not going to back-o . And today a family is going to come to see her", said Shekar.

Avi felt his heart stopped beating. He felt as if someone snatched his life and su ocated. His eyes pooled with tears. Before anyone could notice them, he got up and le the place, making the rest of them look at him confused.

"What happened to him?" Shekar asked, looking at his son's disappearing figure.

"I don't know", Vani said, shrugging her shoulders.

"Don't worry, I'll talk to him", said Gayatri.

Vani and Shekar nodded their heads.

****

Arjun had his breakfast on his way and reached the college, where he was going to interact with students. He greeted the Principal and the sta and moved to the auditorium.

A er a little introduction, Arjun stood up and greeted the students.

"Good morning everyone. I'm neither going to give drag my introduction nor going to give a long speech. Today let's interact with each other. If you have any questions, then you can ask me, I'll answer them. But before that let me introduce myself. I'm Arjun Reddy, and a proud farmer", Arjun said, with a smile.

"Sir, why did you chose to become a farmer? I mean, your family owns one of the largest group of hospitals in the world. And also runs many businesses and is one of the top ten richest families in the world. Why did you choose farming out of the all?" Asked one of the student.

"Good question. So what if we are rich at the end of the day if we have to eat food only, right? I know the roots of the family. I had seen my grandfather, my father and my uncles doing farming and I followed their path", said Arjun.

"Sir, you look so handsome. Can I get selfie with you? And Can you say, why do you love agriculture?" Asked a girl.

"Ah! Thanks for your compliment. Sure, we will take a selfie a er this. You are lucky that my girl is not here, because she is very possessive about me and she would definitely not like it. Okay, I'm just kidding. She is the most understanding girl, but she can be dangerous sometimes" Arjun said, chuckling.

Everyone laughed, listening to him.

"And coming to your last question, you love your mother?" Arjun asked that guy.

"Of course, yes", said that girl.

"Why?" Arjun asked him.

She looked at Arjun as if he had grown two horns.

"Okay, don't look at me like that now. Our mother struggled a lot to give birth to us, didn't she? She goes through a lot of pain. It's like a second life for her. She goes through the end of death and comes back, while giving birth to a baby. Even a seed is the same. It goes through a lot before sprouting and becoming a plant. Some unique trigger-combination of temperature, moisture, light, and many other things is required to convince a seed to jump o the deep end and take its chance—to take its one and only chance to grow. So, I love being close to the plants and soil. I'm providing food to many people and removing the hunger. If a soldier is protecting our country by keeping his life at stake, then a farmer grows crops for people to survive. Both of them never stop their work regardless of hot summer, rain, or cold winter. But sadly, we don't acknowledge both of their hardwork properly", said Arjun.

"By listening to you even we are falling in love with the farming. But what is scope if we choose as a profession?" Asked another student.

"Again a good question. How many of your great grandparents are farmers?" Arjun asked them.

Almost all the people in the whole auditorium raised their hands.

"Good, what about your grandparents?" Asked Arjun.

Only a few persons dropped their hands.

"What about your parents?" Asked Arjun.

Most of them dropped their hands.

"See, more than half of you dropped your hands. And now coming to our generation. We could count on our fingers, right? I'm really proud of you all, you know why?" Arjun asked them."Because you chose a great field which is never acknowledged. All of you are pursuing Agricultural B.Sc or Agricultural Engineering. I don't need the reason why you have chosen this. Because in the future most of you are going to feed the people. Why someone works? The main reason is to survive, right? Then how are they going to survive? By eating the food that we cultivate. So, never thinks low about yourself. In olden they don't have technology and equipment which we have now. So, why don't we utilize them properly and grow food naturally without using any chemicals", said Arjun.

"Sir, you were in a relationship in the past and that girl le for your profession. Didn't you feel bad? Didn't you think of leaving farming at least once?" Asked a guy.

"Yes, I did feel bad. Do you know why?", said Arjun."For loving a girl who didn't understand me and my passion for my work. But not once I felt compelled to leave agriculture and feel ashamed of my profession. And I'm really thankful to that girl. If she hadn't walk away from my life that day, then I wouldn't have found a girl who understood me and respected me and my choices and beliefs. See, I thought to just say a few lines and go. But you made me give a long speech." Arjun said, chuckling.

"Anyways, joke apart. Look guys, I'm not saying to follow my path. Follow your heart. You will not be satisfied no matter how hard you work or what high position you achieve in your life if it is not what you wanted to do with your life. Chase your dreams and fight for them. If you have any doubts, you can contact me. I really love teaching people what I learn."

With that, Arjun finished his speech, thanking everyone and got down o the stage.

****

It was night, Arjun was lying on the couch, with his head in Vani's lap, while she was caressing his hair.

"What happened to that alliance?" Arjun asked his aunt.

"Simple, your sister rejected him", said Vani.

"I heard that he is good guy and also looks handsome. Why did she reject him?" Arjun asked her.

"Why don't you go and ask your sister?" Vani asked him.

"That girl is angry at me as I'm not with her today", said Arjun.

"He smokes. So your sister rejected him", said Vani.

"What? Such a crazy girl she is", said Arjun.

"Just like her brother", Vani teased him.

Arjun pouted, listening to her.

"It's good that she rejected him. Otherwise your son would have become a Devdas", Gayatri said, coming towards them.

"What are you saying, attayya?" Vani asked her mother-in-law.

"You are searching for a daughter-in-law, right?" Gayatri asked her.

"Yes", said Vani.

"Our Ammu will be perfect for our Kittu. Both of them know each other from their childhood and also they are best-friends. She knows how to handle my stupid grandson perfectly. And mostly your idiot son is madly in love with her", said Gayatri.

"I know it", said Arjun and Vani together.

"What do you know?" Gayatri asked them.

"I've caught them secretly exchanging glances at each other many times. Even in the morning, he was admiring her picture", Arjun said, grinning.

"Even I noticed the same thing. He acts completely di erent in front of her, and he is possessive about her. I thought to ask Anna about their marriage a long time ago. But her studies weren't completed then. And also neither this idiot told us about his feelings towards her nor that stupid girl", said Vani.

"Between where is our lover boy?" Arjun asked Gayatri.

"He slept. That boy is crying buckets when I went to his room and messed up his whole room in anger. And you guys don't tell him that I told about his love", said Gayatri.

"Okay", Arjun and Vani said with a bored look.

"By the way, where is my dumb son?" Gayatri asked Vani.

"I'm here, maa. And may I know why you are calling me dumb?" Shekar said, coming towards them.

"Your son found a daughter-in-law for you, mavayya", said Arjun.

"Who is that poor girl?" Shekar asked him.

"My sister", Arjun said, grinning.

"What he loves Siri? That means I have wait for a long time to play with my grandkids", Shekar said, pouting.

"No wonder, why ammamma called you dumb", Arjun said, with a sad smile, while Vani and Gayatri glared at Shekar.

"He is talking about, Maya. You idiot", said Gayatri.

Shekar a "Oh!" face, listening to his mother.

"So when are you going to ask my pedananna and peddamma?" Arjun asked, getting excited.

Of course, why won't he be. His little sister and his hulk are getting married.

"Slow down, young man. First, let me talk with my sister. Then both of us will go and ask our brothers to give their daughter hand for our son", said Vani.

"Then what are you waiting for? Call Jhansi atta", said Arjun, making others chuckle.

"Don't fly high, we don't know about her feelings. What if she rejects him?" Said Gayatri.

"She won't", Arjun said confidently.

"Let's see. And don't you dare tell about his feelings to her", Vani warned him.

Arjun nodded his head.

"Let's retire to our rooms then, we have a lot of things to do", said Vani.

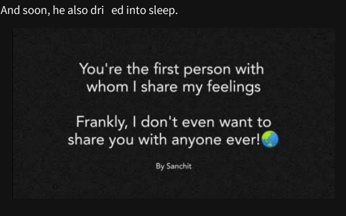
Everyone nodded their heads and retired to their respective rooms.

****

As soon as Arjun reached his room, he dialled Diya's room. He waited for her to answer the call.

And she li ed the call a er the sixth ring and said lazily, "Hello, whoever it is. Call me tomorrow. I'm busy sleeping".

With that, she cut the call, making him chuckle. He thought that she must be tired from all the work. So, he messaged her, "Good night." And soon, he also dri ed into sleep.



Hi guys!!

I'm back with another update.

Actually, I thought of updating it tomorrow. But my first book "Her Heart Keeper" has reached 10K votes. I'm literally on cloud nine. So, I thought to share my happiness with this update.

Hope you guys have liked the update.

Keep smiling and take care🤍

Continue reading next part