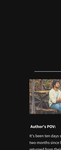

Author's POV:

It's been ten days since Diya returned from the medical camp and two months since both couples got married. Veera and Tiara returned from their one-month long honeymoon two weeks ago. Diya decided to take a break for some time and stay at home. Though Arjun was not happy with her decision, Jai and Janaki made him understand.

Diya was sitting on the kitchen counter cutting veggies while swaying her legs, and Asrani was preparing corn chaat for them.

Arjun took a spoonful of chaat and fed it to Diya and asked how it is?

"Add some salt and lemon juice," said Diya.

"Okay," said Arjun.

"Do you know this?" asked Diya.

"What?" Arjun said, looking at her.

"Vishal and Vidhi's parents are planning to get them engaged. Kavitha Aunty called me yesterday and asked me to talk with them once," said Diya.

"That's good then. By the way, how did they fall in love? I mean, both of them always fight with each other," asked Arjun.

"I also think about that sometimes. You know, when they came to me and told me that they were in a relationship, I burst out laughing, thinking that they were playing a prank on me. I took me some time to understand the depth of their love," said Diya.

"Did I tell you about this?" asked Arjun.

"About what?" asked Diya.

"When we were in 11th grade, Ajay had a crush on our chemistry lecturer. So, he planned to propose to her. One fine day, she conducted a surprise test for us. Do you know what he wrote in that paper? He's our male of the culture, gold, and titanium! The reason is because you are Bella Ft Ad. You are the HCl to my NaOH. With our sweet love, we could make an ice cream together." Arjun said, smiling.

"What happened next?" asked Diya.

"She wrote, "NaCrCA, you have failed, chemically. (Near Radium, Sulphur, Carbon, and Aluminum, you failed.) He used to sit on the back bench, but from then on, she made him sit on the front bench and used to ask him questions every day. She had chosen that tattoo to hurdy at the parent meeting, and hurdy made him do all the house chores for a month," Arjun said, laughing.

"Oh God!" Diya said, laughing.

"By the way, don't you miss any crushes?" Diya asked, stu ng a spoonful of chaat in her mouth.

"Umm, I had. Did you remember, Cherry?" Arjun asked, looking at Diya.

"Which Cherry?" Diya asked, confused.

"Hey, don't you remember her? The one who used to ask me to give my notes. That girl with two pigtails who used to give me chocolates every day?" asked Arjun."She used to look cute while blushing."

Diya made an "Oh" face and asked"Do seem to remember a lot about her."

Arjun looked at Diya, who was pouting at him. He gave her a nervous smile and said"Umm, I'll just come now. I have to attend an important call."

With that, he ran out of the kitchen, while Diya burst out laughing. Diya rinsed corn chaat in two bowls and moved out of the kitchen. When she entered their room, she noticed him muttering something to himself.

"Arjun, if your self-talk is over, then come and have this," she said, giving him his bowl.

"Yeah!" Arjun said, rubbing his nape.

"Ayan, Jovi! It's Ahlu Annayya and Ammu's birthday a er five days," said Diya.

"Shit! I totally forgot about it. And it's their first birthday a er their marriage. But what to do when that stupid boy is not here. He and Akka went to London for a project," Arjun said, sighing.

"Yeah I know that. So what? Don't you want to celebrate Ammu's birthday? Aadhi Hothinal Hei Bhaiya Ini is a bad mood these days. So, we have to cheer her up," said Diya.

"We will talk with Ammu and Ranna during dinner. If possible, we will go tomorrow morning," said Arjun.

"Hmm, okay! What are g…Eeee!" said Diya.

"I don't have any ideas. We will do one thing. We will go to Murty Mansion first and then go shopping. Is it okay with you?" asked Arjun.

"Yah! That would be perfect," said Diya.

"By the way, Cookie. Some time ago, you just called me Jun," Arjun said, smirking.

"Uh! I just slipped out like that. So what? You are my Jun and I think I have that right to call you whatever I wish," Diya said, narrowing her eyes at him.

"Is it? So, I'm your Jun, hmm," Arjun said, pulling her close to him.

"Of course. You are mine. See this," Arjun said, pointing at his ring finger, which was adorned with their engagement ring."I'm yours," she said, showing her ringed finger.

Arjun smiled at her and kissed her forehead. They were talking when Diya got a call from Abiya. Arjun made a bad face and mentally cursed her.

Phone Conversation:

"Hey, Abhya! How are you?" greeted Diya.

"I'm fine, Kutkutti. How are you guys?" asked Abiya.

"We are fine," said Diya.

"Actually, my brother's marriage has fixed. It's his engagement a er two days. So, you and your family must definitely come," said Abiya.

Arjun nuzzled his face in the crook of her neck, making her perplexed. She glared at him while he just shrugged his shoulders.

Diya took a deep breath to control herself and saidThats' We will come."

Arjun kissed her earlobe, making her gasp.

"Is everything okay, Kutkutti?" asked Abiya.

"Yeah! Abhya, I'll call you a er some time." Saying that, Diya cut the call.

"What the hell was that, Arjun?" Diya asked, glaring at him.

"What?" Arjun asked, making an innocent face.

"Now, don't act innocent. Why are you acting like this?"

"How?" Arjun asked, playing with her hands.

"Ahhh," Diya said as she stood to leave.

Arjun held her hand and pulled her towards him, making her land on his lap. He encircled his arms around her waist, making her shiver. He nuzzled his face in the crook of her neck, inhaling her lavender fragrance.

"Arjun, what are you doing?" Diya asked, stammering badly.

"Hmm," Arjun hummed.

"The door is open, Arjun. Someone might come," said Diya.

"Hmm." Arjun again hummed, making her irritated.

She slapped his arm and tried to free herself from Arjun's hold, but Arjun held her waist tightly and saidShh, stay still."

Diya cla ed the bed part tightly as Arjun kissed her earlobe sensually. He turned her face toward him and was about to kiss her when Janaki entered the room.

"Aiyo, Diya, select one from these jewellery sets," Janaki said, coming inside the room."Oh, I didn't see anything."

Arjun and Diya moved away from each other embarrassed. Arjun rubbed his nape while Diya looked here and there.

"Umm, Amma, do you need something?" Arjun said, breaking the silence.

"Yeah! Jai bought three neck pieces for Ammu as her birthday is coming. So, choose the one that will suit her," said Janaki.

"Both of them are beautiful, Attaiyo. So…g for both," said Diya.

"Okay!" said Janaki.

"What are you going to g my Boss?" Arjun asked.

"I don't know. Jai said that he would take care of it. By the way, Ajju I have talked with the head of the orphanage. She said that some of the solar panels are not working. So, look into that matter quickly," said Janaki.

"Okay, Amma. You don't worry. I'll talk with her. And also, Diya's friend, Abhay, has just called. He invited our whole family to his brother's engagement ceremony. We are planning to go to Shuag tomorrow. So, when will you and Ranna come?" asked Arjun.

"When is the engagement ceremony?" asked Janaki.

"Day a er tomorrow, Attaiyo," said Diya.

Janaki thought for a while and said, "I had two surgeries lined up for that day. Sorry, guys, I can't make it up."

"It's okay, Attaiyo. But when will you guys come?" asked Diya.

"On the day before their birthday, okay, I have some work. We will talk a bit more," said Janaki. She walked out and stood at the door, saying"And from now on, please lock the door. We don't want to see what is ames."

Arjun and Diya got embarrassed listening to her. A er Janaki le the room, Diya took a pillow from the bed and hit Arjun.

"Ouch! What the hell was that Cookie? Why did you hit me now?" Arjun asked, pouting.

"It's all because of you. Didn't I tell you that the door is open and someone might come in? Now, see what happened? What will Amayya think now?" Diya said, glaring at him.

"She will think that her son is shameless like her husband. Do you know how many times I have caught my Amma and Ranna romancing? So, just chill," said Arjun.

"Whatever. I'm going down," said Diya.

"Wait. First come and sit," Arjun said, making her sit on the bed.

Diya sighed and sat on the bed, knowing his stubbornness.

"Now put your legs on the bed," said Arjun.

"What?" asked Diya.

"Shh, put your legs on the bed," said Arjun.

Diya put her legs on the bed while Arjun took anklets from his pocket. He was about to touch her feet when she moved her legs back.

"What are you doing, Arjun?" asked Diya.

"Nothing. Sit silently like a good girl for some time." Arjun said, sternly.

He made her wear the anklets and kissed her feet, making her shiver. A few tears brimmed in her eyes, as her father used to do the same when she was a kid.

"Now, your feet look more beautiful," said Arjun.

"Thanks," Diya said, wiping a few tears before he could notice them. But it was already late as Arjun saw her wiping her tears but.

"Didn't you like them?" Arjun asked her, sadly.

"No, they are beautiful," said Diya.

"Then why are you crying, Cookie?" Asked Arjun.

Diya looked here and there and saidDistating, Arjun. Something went into my eyes. So, I'm just rubbing my eyes."

Arjun gave her an "Are you serious look?"

She sighed and said"Fine. I just remembered Papa. When he used to come home for every holiday, he used to bring two pairs of anklets with him. One for Ammu and the other for me. He only made a wear them and kiss our feet the way you do now."

"He didn't go anywhere, Cookie. He is with us in our hearts. Now, stop crying and give me my Cookie's beautiful smile, or else my Amayya will come into my dreams and kick my a3 for making his precious cry," Arjun said, holding her hands.

Diya chuckled, listening to him, and hugged him while he kissed her forehead lovingly. She broke the hug and placed her head on his shoulder. Slowly, he is becoming her addiction, and now she is scared to think of a life without him.

The next day, Arjun and Diya went to Shuag. Both of them ordered the Murthy Mansions and moved inside with Aura in Diya's arms. They saw an empty living room as they came inside. Diya asked one of the workers about her family.

"Veera Sir is out of the town and Meena Ram went to Ice Ice, Madam. Raman Sir is resting in his room. Ragini Madam and Tiara Madam are in the kitchen," said that worker.

"Thank you, Kaka," said Diya.

"Arjun, you sit here. I'll just come now," said Diya.

Arjun nodded his head and sat on the couch with Aura in his lap, while Diya moved to the kitchen. She saw Ragini and Tiara cooking while laughing over something. She tiptoed silently, making sure that they didn't hear the sound of her anklets. She hugged Tiara from the back and shouted "Boo" in Ragini's ears, making her flinch.

Diya laughed out loud, making them look at her.

"Ah! Rakshasi (Devil). What the hell was that?" Ragini asked, turning her ear.

"Ayyo! Old lady, leave my ear. It is paining." Diya said, wincing, while Tiara giggled, looking at them.

"Then, why did you shout like a crow in my ears?" Ragini asked, glaring at her.

"I'll complain to my Jun about you," Diya said, pouting.

"Abbot Go and complain. I'll see what he would do," Said Ragini.

"When did you come?" asked Tiara.

"Just now. We and Arjun have come," said Diya.

"Where is Arjun then?" Asked Ragini.

"He is in the living room with Aura," said Diya.

"Tiara, you come with us." said Ragini.

"What about me?" asked Diya.

"You make co-ee and bring it for us," Ragini said, while Diya looked at her grandmother with an eyes-mouth.

"Hello! I'm your guest, remember," said Diya.

"You just got married and want to pour in-laws' house. That's it. Sit, now be a good girl and prepare co-ee for all of us, else, it'll be your punishment for scaring us," said Raghi.

With that, Ragini moved out of the kitchen, dragging Tiara with her, while Diya cursed herself. She made co-ee for all of them and moved out with the tray.

I really get scared sometimes when I think my life without you.

Hey guys!

Wish you a Happy Diwali to everyone.

May this festival of lights bring peace, prosperity to all, and fill happiness in your lives.

Keep smiling and take care

Continue reading next part ⇨