

LIFE

Kishore went to one more interview and came back. He was very anxious about results. It will be there for another 48-72 hours for sure.

Mean while he received call from Sravanthi. He was expecting call from her because she was very much tensed more than him. He lifted the call and told her that he did it very well and this time he will succeed surely.

She asked him again "Is it sure?"

He said, "Yes, this time surely I will get good news".

She said "I have been waiting for the good news from a long time. God knows when it comes".

3 days passed. But but Kishore did not get call to join in job. Sravanthi was too much disappointed. Kishore knew the reason for her disappointment and in upset mood. He knew how much she was waiting for his success. In fact she was waiting for his success more than him.

If we want to know why, we have to go back to 18 years back. Their journey started 16 years back when he was 8 years old and Sravanthi was 5 years old. Sravanthi's parents purchased flat in the same apartment and shifted where Kishore and his parents were was living.

Kishore is 3 years older than Sravanthi when Sravanthi family shifted. Both were living in same apartment which is a 6 floors apartment in the city out skirts. Both were neighbors and Kishore was watching Sravanthi from childhood. He was observing her and she was observing him. It was not like too much rapport there between them. Both were simple and doing their work.

When she was around 16 years, one day she went to Kishore's home as they did some special food items for festival. Her mother told her to go and give to Kishore's mom. Kishore was not there in home that time. She met her mother and she was on some phone call. She had to wait in the hall. She saw some beautiful paintings in the hall fixed to walls. She liked them very much. They were really good and eye catchy. She told the same to her mother. She said that all those paintings were painted by Kishore only. Sravanthi really liked Kishore's painting skills.

Kishore's mother took her into his room and also showed the painting which he was doing. It was yet to complete. It was a painting of mother trying to hold her daughter who was taking her first steps of life. It was a nice painting in which there was a good combination of colors. She liked that painting too. Ever since she saw his paintings some kind of respect feeling started in her on Kishore. It increased with her age and became love. One the other hand Kishore used to see and observe her from backend. He saw her many times going to temple unlike many girls. She used to dress in traditional attire more than the modern fashions. She looked something special among other girls. Both were having feelings on each other but not able to express to each other.

Days were passing. One day Kishore's mother fell down on road when she and Kishore's dad were going to market. She had been admitted in hospital as her right hand was fractured. Some POP bandage was done to her hand for recovery. After 3 days she came back to home with a POP bandage to her right hand, it was difficult for Kishore's mother to handle house holding activities specially cooking. She was worried about house holding activities and food preparation as there were exams also to Kishore during those days.

Sravanthi's mother visited her along with Sravanthi being neighbors. Sravanthi's mother told her not to worry about cooking. She will be preparing food in their home and sending as she was not well. People should help each other when tough time comes.

Kishore's mother felt very happy on Sravanthi's mother for being good at heart. Kishore also liked Sravanthi's family due to their support. As assured, Sravanthi's mother sent home food to Kishore's family every day till Kishore's mother recovered. Kishore's family felt that they were really indebted to Sravanthi's mother for her help in their tough time. Kishore's feeling on Sravanthi increased with the help their mother did to his family. In fact he liked her whole family.

One day it Kishore was on terrace and reading his subject book. Sravanthi also came to terrace and met Kishore there. Kishore told thanks to Sravanthi and her family for big help they did. Sravanthi told being neighbors helping should be there among the people. Their conversation started from thanks but lasted long to too many talks. She expressed him how much she liked his paintings and how much beautiful they were. Kishore felt happy for her appreciation. He liked her company very much.

They used to meet on the terrace often in the evenings. They liked that terrace which was a good place to meet, sit and talk. It used to be in a very height place where especially their building was the taller one. From that terrace when any one sees only sky was visible. Both used to like that place as they could see only clouds in front of them and the cool breezes were touching them delicately while talking to each other. Both used to speak to each other every now and then and fell in love with each other.

Days were passing. Sravanthi studied engineering and joined in a software job. She got opportunity to go abroad also as part of job but she intentionally missed it. She did not want to go far from Kishore. On the other hand Kishore did CA INTER and completed article ship also. He wrote his CA final exams but could not go through first time and 2nd time is due to write exams. It was in between and he started to join a job because of love he wanted to win. He did not want to miss Sravanthi in life. So he wanted to get a job and settle in career so that he can approach her parents and ask for marriage with her. But No good job was coming to him as he was about to write exams. He learned few courses also but not getting good opportunities. With every job interview he was getting de motivated. Sravanthi was encouraging and giving good support to him for every interview but nothing was going in favor of them.

One day Sravanthi called Kishore and was crying. Kishore asked her what happened?. But she was crying only. He got tensed very much and again asked her what happened?

She said "Everything is over now. Nothing is left for us. Forget me. Our marriage will not happen. Forget all our dreams, ambitions". She was sobbing.

He asked her again what happened "She told him to go to terrace and wait for her. She will come there and speak".

He went to terrace and sat there and was waiting for Sravanthi.

After 15 minutes Sravanthi went to terrace. She started crying more as soon as she saw him.

She said "Gone, everything is gone now. Nothing left for us. Our dreams, our ambitions, our future plans everything are going to collapse". He asked her again what exactly happened.

She started to tell "Kishore, dad started to look for matches to me. He really wants me to get married someone soon. Now I really can't stop him to postpone it. It is now becoming very difficult to stop him in

this regard. Till now I tried to post pone it but now it seems I can't stop him for his efforts towards my marriage with someone else". She was crying actually while telling these words.

Kishore became silent. He was a young guy like many boys but character wise he was little different. He used be silent, he used to be calm. He is a person with good attitude. Because of his attitude only Sravanthi fell in love with him at an early age. Whatever may be the age, any love would be so strong and long when it is established on the base of good attitude.

She said again, "I can't imagine someone in place of you. I really can't bear the punishment of some other person holding my hand and kissing me with a right of being my husband. I do not know what you do. Get that offer letter immediately which was standing between us from a long time and instruct me to get ready as a bride to marry you. I have been waiting for that golden moment from long time as you are aware".

She also said, "I really want to feel the Starting of our marriage rituals, cousins and friends teasing me about you, mom and dad getting tension about the marriage activities, my little brother moving here and there as part of marriage works, these are the things I really want to see and I really expect these things happening to me at the earliest possible. You really can't imagine how much weight I have been lifting. I am feeling like 100 atom bombs are there in my heart and they all will blow at a time".

She looked into sky and said, "oh love do not enter into any ones heart. You will really give the weight and burden of 100 atom bombs for sure. Can't really travel with them and can't really leave them too either".

Sravanthi told Kishore to close his eyes. He closed his eyes.

She came near to him in front of his face and started telling by looking his face, "I do not know what to say but I can say that my every moment of life I just want to spend with you. My every moment of life should be spent around you. It will give me lot of strength and security. It gives me lot of positive energy towards life. I really can't give any explanation for it why I would like to be with you ever. I think when one can't give any explanation or reason, that feeling only love it seems". She said so much beautifully with so many tiny lines.

After her words, she told him to open his eyes but He was still closing his eyes and reminding those beautiful lines what she said few minutes back. He loved the way she expressed those beautiful lines. He also liked those beautiful moments in which he was very near to her face where he could sense her exhale and inhale. That air which was coming out of her exhale was very worm and it gave so much nice feeling to him.

She started again "You will come into my dreams. You will come into my heart. You will stay in my inhale and exhale. You will stay in my breath. Your presence makes my heart weak. Your presence gives me immense mental support. Your presence fill my life with joy. Your presence gives me a completeness. Without you life will be like a sky without rainbow. Like a shore which has no waves to touch every now and then. Your thoughts will not let me sleep. The thoughts of you will be touching my heart like waves hitting the shore again and again. Neither they will not go away nor they stay back".

She took his right hand and got it very near to her lips and kissed it. She liked his hand by which he used to paint his paintings.

Kishore was not knowing what exactly was happening.

Sravanthi became very shy and she immediately went to home from there. She could not control herself that day and felt she was crossing some limits before marriage. So to control herself she escaped from terrace by scolding herself a million times.

Kishore sat there only for some more time. For him also it was like a dream things happening. Not really knowing how to react. He filled those golden moments in his heart and went to home.

Kishore thought very much about how to proceed further and approach Sravanthi's parents and convince them for marriage. He just wanted to present himself in front of them and convince them. He thought that no more delay should be happening in approaching her parents specially her father who was more eager for her marriage.

For some good things, solutions will come by finding address some times. The same thing happened to Kishore and Sravanthi. From many days Kishore was planning to display his paintings in an art exhibition and that exhibition was confirmed and about to start in few days. He thanked god for this opportunity.

He sent all his paintings for display in that exhibition to coordinators one day before and ensured that they will be arranged surely in exhibition.

He informed Sravanthi to send her father somehow to this exhibition. He will meet him at this exhibition and speak to him. Sravanthi showed the invitation to her mom and told her to convince her father to go there. Luckily on that day Sravanthi's father was in city and he went to that art exhibition. There he saw many paintings. He was very much impressed with so many good paintings at a place. Being a writer himself he was getting so much content to write many stories. Each painting was so special and unique. Each painting was beautiful than one another and competing with each other. Few people were interacting with the painters and telling how beautiful the pictures were.

Mohan, Sravanthi's father saw Kishore at a corner place. He was talking to few people and explaining about his paintings. He was shocked to see Kishore there. He checked once again and confirmed. It was Kishore only. Mohan again went to the paintings and checking which were painted by Kishore. Previously he saw paintings but not checked painter's name carefully. Now he was checking carefully specially where Kishore's name was mentioned.

He stopped at one of Kishore's a painting. It was a painting of a sun rise. It was so beautiful. In that painting the sky was in a mixture of orange and black color and sun was rising from the earth was looking like as he was coming from the earth in real. The color combination really felt so beautiful and realistic. In that painting a caption was written "Every sun rise brings a new day, new hopes, new dreams and new beginnings. Make it purposeful". Mohan liked that comment very much.

He went further to see Kishore's another painting. It was a painting of mother and child. In that painting a mother was welcoming her child who was taking her first step in life. Mother stretched her hands and inviting the girl child and the child was like putting steps one by one and reaching the mother's hands. It was also beautiful with good color combination. First steps of a daughter of her life are always so precious moments to capture for any mother. Kishore painted those beautiful moments in a beautiful way in that painting. Again a caption mentioned on it. "A child's First steps in life will be always to wards his/ her mother because the child knows it that his/her mother will be always there to hold and give support not to fall down".

Mohan went to another painting. It was a painting of sky covered with stars. The sky was there with a mix of black and light blue color and the stars were in white color which were twinkling as if they were

real stars. Again the painting was very beautiful indeed. And caption mentioned, “The sky is infinite as infinite as thoughts. Thoughts should be like glittering stars to be raised to the heights of stars which should make life beautiful as beautiful as they make sky”.

He went further to another painting. It was a painting of a girl who was enjoying a swing. Yet again good color combination used and an equally beautiful caption mentioned. “Life is like a swing which is to be balanced with the grips of hard work and dedication and no short cut is there for it. Otherwise falling down is sure”.

What Mohan liked in Kishore’s paintings were the captions. Good painting with a good caption made the paintings even more beautiful. He checked Kishore from a corner of eye. He was very calm and speaking to the people so gentle. Mohan was thinking about Kishore, “Is he the same person whom he saw many times playing some cricket game and sometimes listening to some music with ear phones in the ears”. Mohan was admiring Kishore very much. Not only for his paintings but also for his thoughts.

In Mohan’s view now Kishore’s image is very high.

He went further to another painting. It was a painting of a garden with so many flowers and plants. It was also looking beautiful with multi color flowers. He read the caption, “Life is like a garden with good plants and weeds. Always remove the weeds and nurture good plants of good thoughts. They will surely make life beautiful and obviously spread the Fragrance of Love, Care and Friendship”.

Mohan was really mesmerized with the thoughts of Kishore. He really admired Kishore very much internally. He was going further to another painting. Kishore came to Mohan and wished him. Mohan also wished him back. Mohan spoke to Kishore the same what he felt. “Young man, every painting is wonderful one with equally good caption. The caption really doubled the beauty of your paintings. Wish you good luck. You will definitely have a wonderful and good life ahead”.

Kishore said thanks to Mohan for admiring his paintings. Mohan heart was filled with happiness. It was really a beautiful day in his life. He was about to leave the exhibition hall and Kishore started conversation with Mohan. “Uncle, I studied many of your stories which were published in magazines. They were also really good. Never really able to meet you and tell these words to you. Your work is also very good. In one of your stories you said very good which really motivated me moulding myself in a good positive way. Mohan was astonished asked what are the lines.

Kishore said, “Life is not a profit and loss account to calculate profit or loss earned rather it is a balance sheet which is to be balanced with love and career and bonds with responsibilities”. Those great words really gave me an inspiration, motivation and a direction in which life has to be moulded”. Thankyou very much for such a beautiful and inspiring words.

Mohan was very much delighted. It is natural that if any one praises, it always give a nice feeling but here this young man giving all his career success to him for some good lines which he wrote in one of his stories. He was like in clouds.

Now Kishore’s image is at peaks in Mohan’s view. They spoke some more admiring words mutually and departed.

Mohan went to home and speaking to his wife and admiring Kishore very much. Sravanthi was really not knowing what was happening. She did not see her dad admiring any one so much but today he was admiring Kishore very much and it was like chanting Kishore’s name. She was in her room and doing

some work on laptop and the door was closed but she could hear their parents' conversation. She was very happy and delighted that Kishore got good image in her father's view. She thought that all the hurdles which were there in between her and Kishore were gone. She came to balcony and called Kishore and told to be there on terrace. She really wanted to speak to him immediately.

Kishore went to terrace and waiting for Sravanthi. She came there almost running and almost hugging him. He stopped her and said wait till marriage to hug him. She was very happy and almost like crying with happiness. She said to him how much her father was admiring him and asked him,

She also said, "What is the magic you have done on my father. He is chanting your name almost every time. He really liked you very much".

He started telling "I won your father's heart with the same art which you liked. It was my paintings which said everything about me and I presented myself with those paintings in front of your dad. Not only that I also gave credit to your father how his words really gave him motivation to develop a good character and attitude. I read your father's writings which were very good indeed and had good impact on me to mould myself in a good manner". She was astonished.

She asked, "How did you know about my father's writings?"

He said, "Your mother used to tell my mother that in some magazine your dad's story published. She almost gave all information about his stories when and where they are published. He listened all the words. So he surfed internet and studied all her father's writings".

She said surprisingly "Kishore, you did not tell me this any time".

You never told me that your father is a writer and he wrote stories. Hence I did not think to discuss with you". Kishore further said, "An artist only knows the greatness of another artist and an artist only can inspire another artist whether it is music or poetry or any music instrument playing or writing stories or drawing or painting". Hence I appreciated his work when I met him.

She said, "She knew that her father writes stories but never really knew that they will be an inspiration to many people".

Kishore said to her, "An artist always need a motivation and recognition specially from home so respect an artist always my dear".

"Ok my dear would be, I learn this from you now on wards". She said. Both laughed.

There was silence for some time and after few minutes she told Kishore to meet her father and ask permission to marriage with her as this is the great time to speak to her father and mother about their marriage.

He assured her that he would certainly come to their home and speak to her father about marriage on coming Sunday.

Sravanthi was very happy as all the things were going in positive way. She went home and studied her father's stories. They were really good and she said to father, "Dad, your stories which are published are very good indeed. Your work is very great dad". He said thanks to his daughter as she read them now at least. He also said "I would have been lot more happy if you have read them in the past itself.

Nevertheless you studied and appreciated me. You started recognizing an artist. It is a great thing to me". All three people laughed.

Sunday came and Kishore called Mohan and he said he wanted to meet him personally.

He said to Kishore to come in the evening.

Kishore called Sravanthi that he will be meeting her father in the evening and told her not to be in home at that time. He said her to go to some temple nearby or visit her friend. She said ok.

In the evening Sravanthi went to temple and her parents were waiting for Kishore. Kishore went to Sravanthi's home and met her parents. All sat in the living room.

Kishore started his words, "Uncle I do not know how to start it but somewhere and somehow it should start. I read all your writings and got good direction to mould myself. Your writings are very good. indeed. They are also an inspiration to my paintings as I said earlier. I liked Sravanthi very much. It is not that we are in love with each other from long time and telling you now rather we hardly met and spoke to each other very less too. In that less time I could understand her soft character and good attitude. I really liked her very much. If a good person like Sravanthi stays with me life long, then life would be a great gift. Moreover she is a daughter of good parents who nurtured her in a good manner. She will be a great gift to any person. I just want to become that lucky person to get that gift. I am sure that life with her and with your blessings will be great one to me. I can't ask any better things in my life. If you feel that only Professional development is the only criterion to win her, professionally I did CA intermediate and in another 6 months my final exams there. If I pass my CA finals, I would be a chartered accountant and you know how many good opportunities are there for a chartered accountant. This time I would be definitely passing my CA finals for sure". Kishore sat some more time there. He further said, if they give consent, his parents would come and talk other formalities and went back to his home.

Sravanthi's parents were in shock. They did not know what was happening. Kishore went to them said everything in 10-15 minutes. Sravanthi's father came out of shock first and he discussed with his wife and gave his consent. He actually very much liked Kishore. He was like dream son in law. He was only thinking about Sravanthi's marriage with Kishore and how to proceed it, Kishore himself came and asked Sravanthi's hand for marriage. So Mohan was double happy. Sravanthi's parents were happy and accepted to Kishore and Sravanthi's wedding.

Sravanthi came back from temple. She saw her parents very happy. She asked her mother innocently, "What happened". Her mother said whatever happened when she went to temple. She said all things, how Kishore came and spoke about her and how he requested for marriage with Sravanthi.

She asked, "What is the dad's opinion?"

She said with smile "Dad has given consent. Moreover dad himself was thinking about your marriage with Kishore. Where as Kishore himself came and requested for marriage with you. He is very much delighted and gave consent".

Sravanthi was on cloud nine when she heard that her father gave consent. Tears rolled from her eyes. She never expected all the things will be happening so fast and their marriage will be soon on the cards.

She called Kishore and said about the green signal from her parents. She was very happy indeed.

Kishore expressed his wish to his parents about marriage with Sravanthi. They also accepted his decision. 8 months completed and Kishore completed his CA final exams and he passed those exams and became a qualified CA. Kishore also got a good offer letter too from a Multinational financial consulting firm. Both the parents of Kishore and Sravanthi were happy and started marriage proceedings.

Everything was smoothly going and their engagement was scheduled and completed on one fine day. After engagement, that day evening, they sat on their regular place on the terrace. Both were putting hands in one another.

Sravanthi was telling that she is still in dream like. She never really thought that these happy moments will come so soon. Kishore was always confident that these happy moments will come for sure. They spent some more time there and went back to home.

Another month passed and their marriage also completed with all the formalities. They became husband and wife. After 2 days of marriage they went to terrace again first time as a couple and sat there. Both discussed their journey of life from their childhood to till the marriage once again and became very emotional. Both became silent for some time.

After some time when they were talking, one flight was travelling in the sky. He showed that flight to her and said, "Pretty soon we are going to America in the flight obviously holding your hand in my hand with a right of being a husband".

She was astonished and excited and asked "really?"

"Yes" he said.

She again asked "Why and how this happened?"

He said, "He won a ticket to go to USA along with spouse in the painting competition and his painting of mother and child won the privilege to be displayed in the international painting competition which would be held in America. So it is a double bonanza for both of us". Sravanthi was very very happy indeed. After some time, they left to home. They looked beautiful as couple.

After 5 days Kishore along with Sravanthi boarded the flight to America. Both were sitting side by side. Sravanthi held his hand in her and closed her eyes. For her it was still like dream.

Kishore was watching outside of window. Clouds were moving like cotton yarns.

He reminded those special words in his heart which really inspired him by which he is in such a good position, "Life is not a profit and loss account to calculate profit or loss earned rather it is a balance sheet which is to be balanced with love and career and bonds with responsibilities".



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