



Affection of the love ones

A Romantic Novella

BY
RAFEY KONAIN

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Preface:

This novella depicts the idea of affection and love, rejecting all the stereotypical and sociopolitical strands of loving. Writing shows leading character, Miss Fanny and her student Harry, who ended the story with an unexceptional full stop.

The reason behind writing this piece of art is to promote the idea that, true love always finds its way. All inspiration is from one of the famous works of

THOMAS HARDY
“Tess of the D'urbervilles”

In last, I want to dedicate my work and efforts to all those people who at some point in their life prioritize love over their own being.

Author:

This novelette is written by a student of Institute of English Studies (IES), University of the Punjab, Lahore name Rafey Konain, during his BS graduation program. His graduation session is (2023-2027).

Chapter 01

Harry was again late, when Miss Fanny heard that one of her students was outside the principal's office waiting for his turn to get a lecture or a punishment for being late. Miss Fanny reached the principal's office. Her face was somewhere in between questioning and worrying situation.

Teachers came out with their instructions from the office. Miss Aleix along with her friend Miss Dinmay frowned at Harry and Miss Fanny, they whispered slowly and moved away in laughter. Harry looked at Miss Fanny, who was still looking at Miss Aleix and Miss Dinmay who had just passed. Miss Fanny felt a sense of sadness, in no time a tear from her right eye felt a passage from the sliding curve of her cheek reaching to the tip of her upper lip. Before it could reach, made a path towards down she cleared the pathways by erasing them through the thumb of her right hand. Harry felt the sadness which raised the emotions of the little child.

He felt that single tear had the weight of whole ocean thrown on his soul whose weight those little shoulders couldn't up-lift. He felt his feet were on nails and his head erected towards Miss Fanny was actually supported by an arrow whose sharpness was cutting his throat.

" Harry in my office right now!"

A voice shouted out from the office which removed the curtains of imaginary world into reality. Both Harry and Miss Fanny, went into the office at once. Later, Miss Fanny said Harry in the lunch break to stay in class, when everyone had left the class to enjoy the lunch break. Miss Fanny took a biscuit out from her bag, went towards the desk where Harry was sitting. She took a seat beside him, putting that opened pack of biscuit on the desk she turned her face towards Harry and said:

" Oh! O, Harry look, I have no one whom I can share my meal with, my friends Oh! ... they don't like taking something from me. Why my friends are like that? I will not eat anything now."

Harry was looking at Miss Fanny who was pretending to be upset. A young lady with chocolate brown curls, fair complexion bright grey eyes hiding in a forest of big eyelashes was carrying an upset smile on her face. Harry spoke at once:

" Miss... Miss... I am your friend, I shall help you share your meal, I am feeling hungry too."

Miss Fanny's face sparked with a delightful smile. She placed that pack of biscuit in front of Harry. Harry took two biscuits in one hand and one in the other. Miss Fanny also took one and said while munching on that biscuit:

" Thank you so much Harry, you help me share my meal."

Harry passed a smile while looking into the eyes of Miss Fanny as his mouth was grinding the lunch. Miss Fanny put a hand on his shoulder and said:

" Harry, you know.... I love to sleep, but you know why I come to you and all your class fellows every day?"

"Why Miss?" Harry asked immediately.

"The reason is that I love my students." said Miss Fanny.

There was a little silence in the class when two friends of a long age gap were talking to each other, Miss Fanny broke it and said:

" Harry if you don't come at school time, whom I shall talk to? Whom I shall share my meal with?"

" No... No.... Miss, I shall be on time from tomorrow." said Harry.

" Promise?" asked Miss Fanny.

"Promise " replied Harry.

That's like a good boy, Miss Fanny patted Harry's shoulder. That little single child of his parents was only in 4th standard. His life had changed in a glimpse, Oh...! that boy, Oh...! that poor little boy.... Miss Fanny's eyes got filled with tears while she was looking at the moon from her window. Brightness of moonlight reflecting from the face of Miss Fanny gave a glowing texture to her face, however each tear in her eye interacting with the moon light gave a crystal appearance of a pearl, whose worth was no less than millions of dollars. Moonlight driving into pearl tears making thousands of galaxies in a single drop of tear, in which Harry was a shining star in every galaxy.

Miss Fanny gazed at a star that reminded him of Harry and then her nerve threw the flashback, how Harry's parents had passed in a road accident, how he managed to live with his uncle David, who was a worker at a local mill. When she closed her eyes thousands of galaxies struck with each other and million dollars pearls fell off the dark forest of eyelashes at the bank of deep grey ocean. Whole creation destroyed in no time.

"Harry, look at yourself. How are you looking today?" Leana said in a laugh.

Miss Fanny had heard what Leana had said as she entered the class. Class got an attention towards Miss Fanny, after greetings Miss Fanny immediately called out Harry and said in front of whole class

" My student's personality appeals me a lot but Harry your personality admires the most."

This sentence brought back Harry's smile or a smile of greater magnitude than before. Nobody asked Harry that day about his uniform. Although uniform wasn't ironed but every student was impressed by Miss Fanny's attitude towards Harry. Leana was an intelligent student of the class and also best-friend of many classmates. A slim girl with long hair, held by a band, and a cute face with big eyes got attention from every corner of the class.

Chapter 2

Cloudy Tuesday, of the last week of November. Air was cold, but very silent floating through the bald stems and branches of a huge tree. Emptiness was surrounding all over the sky. Miss Fanny's fingers were gripping her cup of tea on the table in front of her, although she had fallen in a valley of deep thoughts. A sudden noise of children broke her journey in between, which still had a very long route to cover. When Miss Fanny got her nerve back, she said:

"No, I can't let this happen!! I can't...!"

She got up from her seat, left her cup of tea which was neither hot nor cold at that moment. She went towards school playground. There was no student of Miss Fanny there except Harry. A golden curly hair boy with appealing light brown eyes, which had a definite attraction in them, was playing alone.

"Harry, here!!... Listen to me, Harry." said Miss Fanny.

Harry turned his head from the steps of the slide to that direction, where the sound was hitting his ears.

" Harry come here." said Miss Fanny.

Harry stepped back towards the ground and ran immediately towards Miss Fanny. Miss Fanny asked him,

" Harry, you know that your exams are just around the corner and I don't want my friend to lose even in a single subject. So, promise me that you will learn all lessons, I have taught. I want you in next standard my dear friend."

Harry was looking into the eyes of Miss Fanny; she was worried about Harry's progress to reach to next standard.

"I will.... Surely, I will learn all lessons. I will not break your trust in me." said Harry.

"That's like a good boy." said Miss Fanny.

After two weeks of exams. This was the time to announce the result. As, Miss Fanny entered the class there was an unusual fear and nervousness among students. Those fourth standard students were now about to rise towards the fifth level of the game. Miss Fanny had a certain satisfactory smile on her face. It seemed as if a farmer was looking at his ripened crop of wheat and it was shining more than gold, because of the bright sunshine and dancing in the joy of victory. Miss Fanny moved towards her table put the envelope of result cards on the table. Prior to announce the result, she said in a very pleasant tone:

" I am very glad to announce that all of my brave little soldiers have won the battle with their excellent performance."

A wave of happiness floated over the faces of children and they started talking to each other and Miss Fanny.

"Oh...! Harry, you are also in the race." Leana said in a very surprising tone.

" Will he be with us in next standard? Oh...! No, I don't want him."

Maclay made fun of Harry.

Miss Fanny asked everyone to be quiet and sat at their seats, as result was still needed to be distributed.

Blanket of winter had covered the ages. Seasons passed like loaded compartments of a train, through the eyes of a person on a station which had an image of happiness and sorrow of each loaded compartment of train saved in his age mind and eyes.

Miss Fanny was looking at a picture. A group picture of her with her students from a picture collection wall of the school.

"Oh...those brilliant students, where I will find them now?" said Miss Fanny to herself.

Those innocent faces got engraved in the brain of Miss Fanny. Leana, Mack, Jennifer, Carly and Harry, those all were very special to me. Today, Miss Fanny was remembering her old students when she caught an eye on the picture collection wall of school, when she was passing through the main corridor of the school. That picture made her emotional. At what moment, no one knows recollections raised the waves of deep grey ocean, some of those waves struck and fell outward on her cheek. Miss Fanny erased the canals of grey salted ocean, gazed at the captivating sight once again and went on.

She was getting late, she had to reach her class, where some new unorganized little flowers needed an understanding gardener.

Miss Fanny had an attraction towards teaching. She loved her passion and was loved, by the loved ones.

After the class, Miss sitting on her table struggling to come out from the memories of Harry's batch which had passed from the school last year. But Miss Fanny had not seen Harry for the last three years because, he had to left Austin as his uncle got his transfer to Orlando in between Harry's schooling. Because of the certain circumstances, he had to left his schooling in between. I hope Harry completed his schooling from Orlando thought Miss Fanny. I should get a progress report of Harry from his uncle.

" What was the name of Harry's uncle?" Miss Fanny was remembering aloud.

"Uncle David, Oh...! yes. I get it."

I would get his contact number from school administration after my classes, Miss Fanny determined her thought.

Chapter 3

Flowing streams through the mountains had their water drops striking with the rocks and the pebbles, making their ending thriller and dispersing. Just like the same a thrill ran throughout the body of Miss Fanny, when she heard that Harry's uncle had passed away two years ago.

What had happened in the last three years to Harry? Where will be Harry, now? Several fearing thoughts struck in and out her soul, that increased her heartbeat. She signed an application for an off for two days, at the same day when her application got an approval she went towards the bus station, luckily, she got a seat in the bus, travelling towards Orlando. On Thursday, Miss Fanny applied a leave for two days. So, she had a long weekend from Friday to Sunday. Once Harry had written a letter to Miss Fanny from his small apartment in Orlando. The main objective of that letter was that Harry and his uncle David had made their settlement in Orlando safely. These were the early days, when Harry had left Austin and moved towards Orlando, when he used to miss classmates and his teacher a lot. Miss Fanny had replied that letter in a very motivating way, she had mentioned a line. "Get a start, after a long start." However, no more pages travelled the cities again after that reply of Miss Fanny to his letter. In his letter, Harry had mentioned about their apartment with a very accurate address on that letter, which Miss Fanny saved in her cell phone too.

"65-B, street no 4, apartment no 321." Miss Fanny recited the address, in a low tone. She had reached Orlando. She was excited and a bit worried at the same moment. Miss Fanny reached at the mentioned address in the letter. She rang the doorbell, after a long wait the door was answered. It was Harry, a young boy with the masculine physique in a fitted vest, tan colored body with a good height. Miss Fanny did not recognize him, although Harry recognized Miss Fanny.

"I want to meet Harry."

Miss Fanny said to the young man. Harry's face cheered up with a big smile. He said to the young lady standing outside the door.

"Miss, I am Harry."

Miss Fanny got surprised.

"What...? What did you just say? Harry is it you?"

Miss Fanny asked again in a surprising and happy tone by looking at him again from head to toe.

"Please come inside."

Harry said in a very pleasant and welcoming way.

"Excellent coffee Harry, Hmm... It seemed that someone has improved my student's abilities. I will not be surprised now; you can better tell her name." Said Miss Fanny.

"That, her is no one." Harry said laughing.

Miss Fanny also laughed.

"So, you worked at the local departmental store, since your uncle had

passed. Why didn't you try to get a job in the mail where your uncle was working? I have heard about that mill, that would be a better job option didn't you think the same?" Asked Miss Fanny.

" Yes, Miss that would be a great option. But... " Harry stopped.

"But, what?" Asked Miss Fanny.

"Nothing Miss.,” said Harry.

"No, you have to tell me. Why didn't you work there?" Asked Miss Fanny.

" Actually Miss, that mill no doubt is one of the great yields producing mill of the country. But..." Harry stopped again.

"No Harry, But what? You have to tell me." Said Miss Fanny. It seemed as if Miss Fanny was ordering Harry to tell and tell only truth.

" They asked me that you are not at merit to be selected because of your incomplete education." Said Harry

Harry had not completed his schooling after his uncle had passed. Because he had to work to earn his bread and butter. In his job at the local departmental store all of his day got consumed in making a little income just to fill his stomach. How he could study? How he could get time to do so? From where, he would pay his school fee?

Harry had no one in the world, in fact he did not have many friends. The only person who knows about Harry in the world was Miss Fanny.

" You are going with me." Said Miss Fanny.

"Where?" Asked Harry.

"You are going with me, the city you had left three years ago." Miss Fanny ordered.

"But ma'am...,” said Harry.

" Not a word Harry, you understand what I am saying?" Said Miss Fanny.

" You better first complete your education, then if you want you can come back." Said Miss Fanny.

"But, where will I live there? How would I pay my fee? Where can I get a job there to manage all these things?" Said Harry in a tense and low voice.

"You will live at our school’s hostel. First, you complete your studies. I shall try to get you a job there in the school. I think you should better fit at the fitness club of the school. What do you think young man?" Said Miss Fanny.

"Me?" Asked Harry.

It seemed as if someone had made a joke.

"Yes, you." Said Miss Fanny.

" But how this could be possible." Asked Harry.

"Everything is possible charm, but first you have to believe. I want to see you as the brightest in the night and glaring sun at daytime, so no one can stand you like that, ever again. Said Miss Fanny.

Chapter 4

Wind pressurized the flying bird, when that little bony flesh started measuring the sky in direction opposite to the air.

Harry's brain had fallen in the oceanic depth of memories. He felt himself standing under a stormy rain of recollections, in which every single drop was rising a stem of emotional attachment in Harry's body, which was binding his soul from head to toe, as he looked outside from the bus screen on which he was travelling to Austin from Orlando. A big salted aqueous drop had fallen from a light brown waterfall, straight on the hand of Miss Fanny, who was sitting beside him in the bus.

"Harry! What happened? Is everything alright?" Miss Fanny asked affectionately.

"Thank you, Miss. Thank, you so much. I can't return back this kindness." Said Harry while his face was representing canals of salted river dripping downward from the face towards his shirt and on the right hand of Miss Fanny, who was sitting next to him in the bus.

"Harry, calm down. Relax." Miss Fanny put her arm around his shoulder, made a rest to his neck and clear his face through her hands.

"Harry, have I ever asked you to return back anything to me at any moment? Then, why are you feeling so? Oh! my Champ. I thought my little warrior is now a grown-up soldier. Oh! Harry, don't take worry about anything. I am with you. Said Miss Fanny and for the remaining distance of their journey, Miss didn't let her arm off from his shoulder.

Miss Fanny met Harry after three years. He was just the same, he used to be, three years back. However, he had changed physically that could be an ultimate result of his hard work at the departmental store where he was working for a long time.

"Get up boy, we have reached." Miss Fanny said to Harry as he had fallen asleep, resting his neck and shoulder over her arm.

"Right now, we can't go to school as you see it is dark outside. Tonight, you are going to stay with me in my apartment. Give me a chance to serve you Sir". said Miss Fanny.

"Sir." Harry smiled while his eyes were on Miss Fanny.

Next morning, Harry went to his school along with Miss Fanny. Miss Fanny went to the principal's office and after fifteen minutes. She came out with a satisfactory smile on her face to call Harry inside the office. Although, Harry was somewhere feeling the precious moments he had spent few years back. It seemed like a dream.

"Okay Harry, I have heard everything from Miss Fanny. So, tell me do you really want admission back?" Said Ma'am Franklin Rosa.

Harry was looking at her; she was just as same as she was a few years ago. A middle-aged woman with wrinkled face and a seriousness surrounding her tone.

"Yes ma'am, I want admission back." Harry said firmly despite of lacking his confidence at any word.

"Okay, well you will start from eight standard which you had left in between. As far as the question of your accommodation is concerned, go meet Sir William Carly. I will make a call to him and he will guide you towards your hostel. Miss Fanny told me that your uncle had passed. I really feel sorry for you. We have decided that as you are a student so, you will be in the premises of building only. You are the new trainer of the fitness club of school from now on. This is what we have decided. If you have any question you can ask." Said Ma'am Franklin Rosa.

"No ma'am." Said Harry.

"Okay, then best of luck!" Said Ma'am Franklin Rosa.

Harry looked at Miss Fanny, who was looking at ma'am Franklin Rosa. He felt himself in the shade of a huge tree. A shade which was protecting him, protecting him against every little opposition. Miss Fanny was like the sun, her shine, her warmness was immense to stand against and she was protecting Harry like the heightened mountains of any hilly area protecting and supporting beautiful valleys in them. Harry was no less than a poignant sight of a Fascinating valley. Fascinating but silent, after that incident which took away his parents. Clouds of silence covered that beautiful valley. Dull flowers of the valley, finally got a rise, got a sun after a long season of dark clouds.

Harry felt a great relief, a relief which could be felt after covering a long journey of stress, pressure, loneliness and a stamp of quietness to express, explore and expose the hidden meanings of joy. His soul could fly now and could fly as high as to reach above the seven sky's and his roots had grown strong cutting layers of crust.

Chapter 05

Brightness and warmth of the sun caused ice-caps to melt, and felt the unexamined excitement of new journey.

One week had passed, since Harry came to Austin again, Miss Fanny was thinking of this lying on her bed. It was about 9 o'clock, she looked at the hanging clock on the wall of her room, which had its small hand on 9 and big hand on 12.

"Thank God, I can relax today. I had a very busy weekend last time." Said Miss Fanny.

She turned left to stretch her arms and shoulders, grabbed her pillow tightly, pushed herself in it to get a comfortable nap after her sleep. After fifteen minutes, she felt that her stomach was crying for meal. She got up to calm down her stomach, otherwise her eyes also started accompanying her stomach.

Harry had written a thankyou letter, which had representation of true respective gratitude towards the most caring character in his life. It was about 5 o'clock. Sky was filled with the scattered rays of sun dispersing in limitless boundaries of the oceanic crust. Harry from his school hostel went to give that letter to Miss Fanny, at her apartment. He had decided that, he will only give that letter to Miss Fanny on her doorstep and convey his special gratitude to Miss Fanny and then immediately made his way back towards his hostel. He did not desire to get any hospitality in return. He did not want to be a burden on Miss Fanny, at least not on a weekend. When he reached to his destination, he rang the doorbell.

"Coming...," said Miss Fanny.

Harry felt a spell as being caught into the depth of melodious voice of Miss Fanny, until she opened the door with her casual smile, which she carried in her regular behavior in school.

"Harry you...!" Miss Fanny's smile got a length.

"Come inside." Miss Fanny said warmly.

"Actually Miss... I don't want to disturb you. I only came to give a thankyou letter to you." Said Harry.

"Oh, come on Harry... When will you stop regarding me? Come inside, have a cup of tea." Said Miss Fanny very delightfully.

She received the thankyou letter in her right hand and both went into the house for tea.

"Okay, so have you adapted the new environment? How are the things going on? Do you like the change or not?" Miss Inquired Harry in a way of deep interest.

"Yes, yes everything is going amazing." Said Harry.

"Sounds beautiful." Replied Miss Fanny.

That beautiful valley was finally getting a sight of rainbow, a clear and a pleasant sight, a sight of freedom to rewrite, rewrite the incomplete dreams broken by the thunder of deprivation and depression in horrible midnights or in daytime, when a traveler in dazzling sunshine lose his path in the

middle of a desert, dying with consciousness and nervousness.

Harry's affection for Miss Fanny risen to an immense level. It seemed, as if Harry had invested seeds of emotion in a very fertile land and each seed was planting a huge tree, a tree carrying a big shadow against dazzling sunshine and a protective covering against every roar of thunder.

"I shall go now." Said Harry, while looking at the clock in the living room of Miss Fanny's house, which was hitting 7 o'clock by time.

"Okay fine." Said Miss Fanny, while she was enjoying the last sip of the tea.

Harry got up from the sofa, Miss Fanny went along with him towards the main door.

Harry stepped out saying "Goodbye" to Miss Fanny.

Miss Fanny said the same words. When Harry had crossed the doorstep, just a few steps forward. He looked back. Miss Fanny was still watching him, standing in between the doorstep of her house with an eye of affection on him. Harry looked at Miss Fanny again and spoke.

"Thank you Miss, for your hospitality."

Miss Fanny's eyes were completely drowned in the beautiful, deep light brown oceanic eyes of Harry. Her smile, her facial expressions were still and she felt the pleasure of drowning that was giving her an immense satisfaction of dying. Harry broke the imaginary bridge, which was linking the feelings of both ends.

Miss Fanny got her nerve back. Despite of anything she just said:

"Goodbye Champ."

Harry's step started measuring his way to hostel. Harry had an attraction in him undoubtedly, but on the other edge Miss Fanny was a young lady with gravitational beauty to attract all attractions around her.

Chapter 06

Fragile arms of a vine were growing along with the support of a huge tree. With the passage of time, those supple branches attained the strength of a bone.

Harry had the same attachment towards Miss Fanny, which had strengthened him and Miss Fanny, the supporting stairs in the life of Harry got her heart bounded strongly with an emotional and possessive attachment with the young boy.

Time turned over the pages of seasons. Harry was now in 10th standard. In the last three years, mutual sharing of feelings and emotions had developed a covalent bond between Harry and Miss Fanny. That school was now like home for Harry. Students started loving him and regarding him with respect, as he was holding a vacancy in fitness club of the school. "Who's that?" Inquired Miss Fanny when Harry and Miss Fanny were sitting in school cafeteria, having a cup of tea. Harry's phone was on table and someone called him. He immediately silent it and put it in his pocket. "No one, actually some students from college want an extra session of training." Said Harry while his words were not matching up with the current situation.

"Who wants? If you please tell me the name, Sir Harry." Miss Fanny asked in a very official attitude.

"Oh no one... just forget it." Said Harry while his eyes were scrolling down on the ground.

"Well, as you wish Sir." Miss Fanny was at the peak of her professional behavior.

"I shall leave for my class now." Said Miss Fanny while standing from her chair.

"I also have to go to admin block of college as being called." Said Harry while getting on his feet.

Later, that day Miss Fanny went home late in the evening, after visiting her closest friend, Caral.

"Her name is Jessica." Said Miss Fanny.

"Are you sure?" Caral asked to Fanny in way of engaging herself emotionally.

Miss Fanny's childhood friend Caral, who was not only her old pal, but also her neighbor was worried for Fanny as she was so depressed and tensed because of that girl Jessica.

"Are you fine?" Caral asked affectionately.

"Who? Me? Yes, what will happen to me?" Miss Fanny passed a broken smile, while looking into the eyes of Fanny.

Eyes never lie. Rising tides of beautiful grey ocean was reflecting her emotional instability.

Jessica, a young girl. Slim and smart figure with long straight hair reaching her thighs, had a cream colored complexion with honey colored eyes. She was the most recent admission, in college. Miss Fanny had seen Jessica's

name several time on Harry's cell phone, but she had not seen her in real. One day, Miss Fanny was called from the admin block of the college for some reason that was related to her professional life. She called Harry, when she reached the administration block to ask the exact floor for Sir Leo's cabin. She waited for a while but Harry didn't pick-up her call. In between the situation, a tan moderate height man in a formal outfit, came to her, when he saw her standing confused in the corridor and looking into her phone after little sections of passing time.

"How may I help you lady?" Asked that man.

"Oh! Actually, I am looking for the cabin of Sir Leo." Said Miss Fanny.

"You are then Miss Fanny, most probably." Said that man.

"How do you know? It means you are Mr. Leo." Asked Miss Fanny surprisingly.

Yes, yes, I am Leo Roger. Why are we talking here? Please accompany me in my cabin". Said Mr. Leo Roger with a warm welcoming behavior. After an hour of discussion, Miss Fanny and Mr. Leo Roger ended up their discussion at a cup of tea, which they took in the pleasant breeze of college cafeteria.

"Well. What have you decided Miss Fanny?" Asked Mr. Leo Roger.

"I shall take a deep meditation regarding this. Teaching at an advance level is not a difficult decision to take. But I have to think of my students, who are more like family to me." Replied Miss Fanny.

"Miss Fanny, no one is trying to break your family. If you teach here, in college, you can develop a more responsible family here. After all, we all are at the same institution." Said Sir Leo Roger who was the program coordinator of the college.

Mr. Leo Roger wanted Miss Fanny to teach at an advance level. He knew very well about her passion to teach and groom.

"I shall tell you later." Said Miss Fanny with a smile on her face, which immediately flew off when she saw Harry with a girl in college uniform as they walked in a laugh.

"She may be Jessica." A nerve clicked in her mind.

"Where have you lost?" Asked Sir Leo Roger while waving in front of her eyes, that broke crystal reflection of Harry and Jessica from the tides of grey ocean.

"Nowhere." Said Miss Fanny gathering her voice.

Chapter 7

Deadly silence, of a cold night had exposed the soul to hear the heartbeat of a partial dead person in the midnight, when blood passing through the veins and air moving through the lungs was at a speed of a creeping snail in a garden, where bushes intentionally disturbed its way to progress. A time when soul confessed its crimes to a partially dead anatomy.

Miss Fanny invested not only her good efforts in Harry, but a part of her life. A bed of floral emotions, a floating river of strength, which helped that little vine to stand and an overwhelming attachment, which should be respected.

"What he thinks of himself?" Miss Fanny cried out, while she was lying on her bed at midnight, when everything was at a pin drop silence. Only the sound of a running cold air could be heard.

"Now, I shall tell him how far I can go heartless? He will repent... He will surely repent on what he has done."

Miss Fanny took a sigh, a deep sigh. Her tears fall-out from her deep oceanic eyes and absorbed in her curly chocolatey hair.

Next day, Miss Fanny went to the admin block despite being called from the administration.

"Good to see you again, Miss Fanny." Said Mr. Leo Roger delightfully.

"I have decided." Miss Fanny said firmly.

"Oh! So, you decide within one night. That's very quick." Said Mr. Leo Roger.

Harry had seen Miss Fanny sitting in Mr. Leo's cabin and they were having conversations with smiles on their faces. This was the first time when, Harry was jealous of Mr. Leo for taking Miss Fanny's time, attention and in return spreading laughter on her face with his useless jokes, which actually felt like a punishment on Miss Fanny in return.

Harry waited for Miss Fanny to come out, so that he could ask her that what was the reason, for her visit to admin block. Finally, after half an hour, Miss Fanny came out. Harry was still waiting outside, he had not gone anywhere, nor he sat for about half an hour. Miss Fanny's eyes glitter-up with an unusual happiness, when her eyes caught a sight of Harry, even her lips found a real reason to smile, but immediately she suppressed what was coming out.

"Miss, did college administration call you?" Harry asked, while walking beside Miss Fanny.

"Miss, Is there an issue? Anything unusual happened?" Asked Harry.

Miss Fanny did not answer any question. After a pause, Harry again tried to ask, but this time Miss Fanny proposed a counter question.

"Harry, are you preparing for your finals of 10th standard? Exams are about to hit you within a week. Better focus on them."

"Yes, Miss I am preparing." Harry responded at once to Miss Fanny's question.

Within their cold fight discourse, both had reached the classroom, second

building, sixth floor, room no 5. Finals of 10th standard was drawing near. Miss Fanny will switch from the school to the college after the finals, this year.

After the class, Harry immediately went after Miss Fanny. He asked Miss Fanny for a tea in cafeteria. She stopped and stared like a ferocious tigress to him for a while and said:

"You should better take tea with your classmates or with the students of your fitness club of college. I am going home, for some reason and for the rest of the day, I will not take any class with you. Also inform this in class."

Harry was just speechless. He hardly spoke "Right Miss.", although Miss Fanny had turned around in between his words and went away.

Harry felt himself buried in layers of crust, or lying in the blind depth of ocean.

"What happened to Miss? Is she not really well today or the matter is something else? But why I am feeling so bad with that little statement? She said the very obvious things. But, even why I am too much thinking about it? Why I should feel jealous, when I see Miss Fanny talking to Mr. Leo Roger? They were just having a conversation, nothing else. Even if there is something else, why I am so much bothering about these things?" Harry thought, while sitting alone in the school cafe. Questions were hitting, Harry's mind like a continuous firing of bullet in a battle field, where soldiers were fighting with a great zeal.

In the same moment, when he was in cafe, losing all of his mental peace, his concentration and his energy, his cell phone rang. He immediately picked up the phone, without putting an eye on the screen.

"Hello." Said Harry in a partial aggressive and partial broken tone.

"Hello Sir." The sound from the other side was refreshing enough to bloom the inner graveyard of dead and broken emotions to a floral piece of heaven. She was Jessica Edwards. Daughter of Mr. Edward James.

"Yes Jessica, what happened?" Harry asked in an official manner.

"Actually Sir, my mom wants to invite you for dinner today. It will be a great pleasure Sir, if you come. Please don't refuse Sir."

"Jessica please listen, today I have to" Harry was saying. But Jessica interrupted in between and said:

"No Sir, please don't refuse."

"Okay, I will come." Said Harry while he felt some elements of happiness and smiles on his face.

Chapter 8

Feeble branches of that little vine, which was supported by the tree, made an extension towards other trees as well. However, the initial support had become a permanent partner now.

"Welcome Sir." Said Jessica, as she opened the main door of her home along with her mother.

"Hello Mrs. Edward James, hello Jessica." Said Harry as he entered through the doorstep.

"This way Sir." Said Mrs. Edward James, as she was leading Harry and Jessica from the hallway towards the dining and Harry and Jessica were following Mrs. Edward James by walking behind her, parallel to each other. During the dinner, Mrs. Edward James said:

"Sir please take something else. You have eaten a very small portion of the meal."

"No, no ma'am actually I eat this much." Said Harry.

"But Sir, you have not even tasted every dish." Jessica interrupted in-between.

"Jessica, I am good and everything looks so perfect. But I don't have enough appetite." Said Harry, while complimenting the minor details of different dishes.

"Our pleasure Sir." Said Mrs. Edward James.

"Jessica told me that you people have recently shifted to Europe and are quite new in the city." Asked Harry.

"Oh...! Yes, yes that's true." Confirmed Mrs. Edward James.

"Your daughter is brilliant in academic field and also in extracurricular activities." Said Harry, while Jessica was really shocked to hear these statements about her.

"So, what are your future plans, Jessica." Asked while looking directly towards her, who was still eating.

Mrs. Edward James immediately replied:

"Sir actually, she wants to become an English professor and a secondary coach in the fitness club of the college."

"Fantastic! That sounds really great. But why second coach? You can even become the professional one. By the way, who is your motivation or inspiration? Asked Harry.

Mrs. Edward James replied to the text at once.

"You, actually Sir she is really impressed by you. She talks all the time at home, that Sir has a compassionate personality. The way he pays attention to his job and studies at the same time is the most fascinating attribute of Sir."

"Compassionate personality."

Said Harry and then took a deep breath.

"I am not self-managed, my teachers contributed a lot, managed me to follow the right path. Despite the compliments, no need to get inspired by me Jessica, you understand. You will be far better than me." Said Harry.

"No, no Sir how can I be better than you. I will always be at a step back

from you." Jessica said in a very regarding manner.

"Okay enough for this. Let's talk something else. So, Jessica your father is business man, right?" Asked Harry.

"Right Sir." Replied Jessica in a pleasant sound.

"How long will you stay here or move back to your father in France?" Asked Harry.

"Sir actually, we are not supposed to go back until my bachelors. Right mom?" Jessica replied and confirmed her statement through her mom also.

"You are right Jessica." Replied Mrs. Edward James.

"I told you Jessica is always right." Said Jessica to her in mom, which made the three different fellows on the table smiled with a laugh.

"Sir, what are your future plans?" Asked Mrs. Edward James.

Harry took a sigh, paused for a long moment and then he replied:

"My future plans is to sustain my life, at least." Said Harry melancholy.

There was a long silence at the dining table after that. Mrs. Edward James broke the silence which was making both mother and daughter embarrassed on their question, with every passing moment.

"Sir, you will surely secure a bright future and there is no doubt in it." Said Mrs. Edward James.

" Absolutely Right mom." Jessica contributed to the betterment of the situation.

"Hope so." Said Harry and passed a broken smile.

Jessica told her mother that this year, Sir will be graduated from 10th standard to the first semester of the college.

"Isn't it Sir?" Jessica confirmed from Harry.

"Yes, it is." Replied Harry, while his face glitter up with an unusual happiness.

"Congratulations Sir." Said Mrs. Edward James.

"It means we shall be class fellows, within the end of this year." Jessica said in a very great excitement.

"Class fellows, I think you and your friends will be my seniors." Harry said to Jessica with a calculated expression.

"Oh! yes, yes you are right Sir." Said Jessica with a smile on her face.

Time was floating like waves of an ocean, which were changing their direction along with the fast-moving air.

"How was your exam Sir?" Asked Jessica to Harry very interestingly.

It was just one day, after the last paper of 10th standard exams. Harry's classmates, hostel friends were enjoying their holidays with ease. But Harry was in college next day, because he cannot enjoy. He had a job to do. He had to earn to feed something to himself. All of his thoughts got vanished with that sudden question.

"Oh! that exam. That was good." Replied Harry very politely.

After one week of vacations. College administration started admission for freshers. Harry applied for his admission, at the same day, as he was coming regularly even in vacations. So, he did not waste even a single day in applying to further studies. Miss Fanny joined the college faculty, the very next day after finals of 10th standard. Harry whenever saw Miss

Fanny, something from inside stopped him from communicating to her, may be some inner broken feelings for being so rude with him. Whenever, Miss Fanny saw Harry and Jessica together, she felt broken pieces of glass cutting her throat and crushing her soul.

Chapter 9

Time had passed, several months within a single blink of an eye. Seasons left, a permanent impression of sadness on the souls. Harry's eyes unintentionally fell for, Miss Fanny, however Miss Fanny found it difficult to pay attention to anyone in the class except Harry. Both ends of the frame, faced an invisible wall of resistance to present their true self.

Miss Fanny's emotions got shattered in the rain of woe. Although, her eyes were showering a number of questions, just like rain drops. Miss Fanny's behavior made Harry realized that, she did not like the girl Jessica.

"Are you sure? Do you really wanna do that?" Asked Caral.

"Yes, I am sure." A deadly voice shouted out from the body of Miss Fanny.

"We can find another way. You may talk to him at least once." Asked Caral.

"What should I say? And even why I should say? If he had not felt anything, I am not going to make him feel so. I shall marry. I shall leave, leave my job, my city or even my country." Said Fanny, while her voice was shivering and her words fall out broken into parts, with her each single rising breath.

"Relax, please relax Fanny, everything will be fine. You should not take worry of anything. I am here. I am with you always."

Said Caral and immediately gave a hug to her childhood friend, placed her head on her shoulder, cleared her tears, which had fallen from her eyes during the course of her talk.

"Caral." Fanny looked into the eyes of her beloved friend, while her head was near to her shoulder.

"I am dying, I am dying of a pain as if being crushed. I can't see him with anyone else. How someone can take my place, my worth within just a couple of months?" Said Fanny.

"I shall talk to him." Said Caral to give Fanny a sign of hope.

"No, you will not. If he doesn't care, I don't think of him since now." Replied Fanny at once.

Next day, when Harry entered the class. Students were talking about a rumor. A doubtful truth, that Miss Fanny was going to marry Mr. Leo Roger, just at the end of this month. Harry felt a destruction to his mental peace with a sudden shock, so he went out from the class to cafe. Where he sat with his foot frozen to ground and observed his soul to shrink with an unusual fear.

"Harry, have you heard today's hot news?" Jessica asked while taking a seat in front of him in the cafe.

"No, what are you taking about?" Harry intentionally behaved of being unaware of anything.

"Miss Fanny and Mr. Leo Roger are going to get married by the end of this month. They are getting married. Don't you get surprised?" Jessica asked with a great zeal.

"Oh really, I can't believe my ears. This is really a big news." Said Harry

with deceiving intention of showing excitement.

Harry had said the right statement. It was really a big news for him, but big in aspect of destroying his peaceful breaths. He felt, he had lost. Lost his pride, his strength to stand and face the circumstances. It could be observed, that news had broken him to the core.

"Does Miss Fanny really get married or I heard wrong?" Harry thought while lying on his bed quite motionless and opened eyes.

"She did not even tell me at least once. How can she be so conservative towards me? She knew me from my childhood. I have shared my every little happiness and sorrow with her. Then why? Why she did this to me?"

Day after that day, Harry was absent from the class and Miss Fanny came to know, when she called his roll call.

"Harry role no. 58"

His classmates replied:

"Ma'am, he is absent."

"Oh! Okay fine." Said Miss Fanny. She was a little curious because Harry had not taken any leave, nor any of his class fellows knew the reason, that why he did not take today's class.

Third day after the big news, Miss Fanny asked Harry after talking the roll call that why he had not attended the yesterday's class? Where was he?

"Miss, I had severe fever last night." Harry replied, that was after a very long time, Harry and Fanny communicated verbally.

Chapter 10

Trees had dropped their own leaves. Autumn was reaching to its peak, with an air of loneliness. When supporting tree had dropped its own leaves, what loyalty the climbing vine would be expecting? Vine without leaves looked like a rope binded all over the tree, to prevent it from being stolen by anyone for any reason.

A few days were left after which, Miss Fanny was going to be Mrs. Leo Roger. For Harry, the world seemed to come to an end after few days.

Miss Fanny signed an application for the leave of her wedding ceremony. She announced, the duration of her leave in class as well, to facilitate her students from any difficulty regarding their class and syllabus. Harry was looking at Miss Fanny during, her last precious moments with the class. He felt those moments were cutting his roots and taking his ground. After, her golden words with the class. Harry went to Miss Fanny's office. He entered after knocking and getting permission by Miss Fanny to come in: "Congratulations Miss! I am very happy for you. Accept my best wishes." It seemed time had stopped; Miss Fanny was not expecting this. After a pause, Harry continued:

"I am not feeling well for many days. I think, I should travel back now. Now, I shall surely get job in that mill. Now, I am graduated enough to stand in my practical life as well and there is no reason for me to stay here for long."

His eyes were questioning for such a conduct with him. What had happened to him? What brought him at this? Miss Fanny got intense worried about Harry, not because he was thinking of travelling back. But, because of his present situation. Bloody nerves of his eyes were dripping tears over his face, which completely fall faint with a continuous shiver running throughout his body. Unintentionally Miss Fanny said:

"No, you can't go anywhere." Miss Fanny said so affectionately. Tears filled her eyes too. She immediately turned over her face. Paused her emotions, after a long silence of affectionate recollections, Miss Fanny broke it by saying:

"I think you should not go unless your bachelor." She said that, while her face was in opposite direction to that of Harry. She didn't want to show her tears to him.

Harry postponed his decision of stepping back, unless his bachelor only because of the single sentence of Miss Fanny. A huge tide of seasons washed away an year. Summer vacations were ending. Harry was about to be in third semester. Jessica and Harry had become very close friends. Despite of the time had passed so far but, Harry had lost his real smile. He had left, his best part somewhere in the past. Harry had not given that affection to anyone, after that day. That day, when he had lost his pride, his affection for someone.

Miss Fanny joined the college, after one year of her marriage. She didn't continue teaching, after her wedding because she wanted a break from her

routine. Now, when she joined the faculty again, she was not coming alone but with her beautiful little reflection Alice. A newly born baby girl, which completely reflected Miss Fanny's personality in her, beautifully gorgeous and attractively innocent. Miss Fanny was just the same, as she was at Harry's first day at school. There was not a change of an inch in her personality, her voice and her style. Harry was now a grown-up young boy of nineteen tall and masculine.

Miss Fanny entered the class of third semester, to give a lecture on the subject, she was teaching since Harry was in school. Students were really amazed to see Miss Fanny again. They greeted Miss Fanny with respect and love. On the other hand, Miss Fanny was also very happy to see her students.

As, Miss Fanny took her vacancy back. Mr. Leo Roger, who was the program coordinator of the college, got expelled. Expelled, but for what reason? No one knows. There was a rumor that, Mr. Leo Roger was expelled, because of taking bribe for admission below merit. However, this could be one sided argument. Nobody, knew the actual reason, except her wife, who was really admired for her come-back, by every section she was teaching and every department she was associated with.

What was the actual reason, behind which someone was trying to hide the dark secret? As, there were no admissions in the last two months. How someone had found, Mr. Leo Roger taking bribe for admission below merit, to a well-known institute, which had a famous name in England?

Chapter 11

There is a rainbow after emotional droplets of every thunder, which cleared the atmosphere of heart, giving a pleasant environment for soul to breath. "Leo, what's your problem? Why are you doing this?" Miss Fanny said to her husband, who was still drinking early in the morning, since last night. "You do your work. Don't you try to teach me? I shall do whatever, I want to do and you are not supposed to tell me, what to do and what not, understand?" Said Mr. Leo Roger aggressively, in a shouting manner. His voice was too loud, and could be easily heard, even from the main door of the house.

"Please lessen your voice." Miss Fanny said in a very requesting manner. "I am not going to slow down. Do whatever you can do of me." Said Leo Roger.

Miss Fanny's mental peace was ruined completely, because of her husband's bad habit of continuous drinking. Mr. Leo Roger was expelled from college, for the same reason. As, one day he was found drinking in the college. He was warned several times, but now he was expelled permanently. Miss Fanny came to know of her husband's bad habit of drinking after her marriage. But that time it was not too much advanced and now it had risen to an immense level. It was disturbing her married life as well.

"How someone can live with such a man." Said Miss Fanny, so helplessly to Caral while her eyes were showering tears.

"I think, I can't even breath anymore. Why I am still? I wish I can die. Die in a road accident, like Harry's parents died so early. I should not do that with Harry. I should at least tell him once. Tell him, what I actually felt for him. Why I didn't do that? Why?" Miss Fanny was throwing her inner self out, her affection, her reflection, in different aspects of the colors of her life, in an organized pattern to draw, draw again the abstract art of her life, where the canvas was purely signified with true representation of every little emotion.

"Why don't you take a separation from him?" Asked Caral.

"This isn't so easy. He will not let me go so easily and I don't want to see the face of court. I don't want a bad impression on my whole life carrier." Replied Fanny.

"Oh! I see. Don't you worry. Be patient there will be a way." Caral said, moral rising lines to give her a sign of hope.

Things instead of becoming good, went on becoming as worst as they could. Mr. Leo Roger instead of recovering back, fall to the worst stage, as his liver got disturbed within the next six months. He was on a complete bed rest, Miss Fanny took much care of him, but his health was not recovering. She saw different hardship, but she managed to face all of them. Alice was just one year and a few months old, when her father, Mr. Leo Roger passed away. That incident, caused a great affect on the mind of Miss Fanny. It changed her, inside out. She started sitting alone, for

most of the time. Even, she was found absent in regular meeting sessions of college. Within two years of her marriage, she was the most changing person. She had forgotten the way to inhale a lively breath.

"Fanny, how long will you live like this?" Asked Caral, in a worried tone. "I don't know. I think forever." Replied Fanny with no emotion in her voice. Her response showed someone had dragged out her sense to feel anything.

"Fanny, please don't say that. Look at yourself, you are still a piece of perfection." Said Caral.

"I am nothing. I am really nothing now." Said Fanny, tears fall out from her eyes. It seemed as if her eyes, that beautiful grey ocean would dry out today.

"Fanny, please calm down. Buddy, please calm down. I am with you always." Caral said these satisfactory lines to Fanny and patted her shoulder gently, while she was crying on Caral's shoulder.

"Look at your daughter. She is just two years old. You have to be strong, not only for yourself but for her also." Said Caral.

"Miss, are you alright?" Said Harry, when he entered the class, before time early in the morning and he saw Miss Fanny sitting on student desk, resting her head against desk while her arms were covering her face and a ray of light coming through the window, struck her chocolate curly brown hair. Miss Fanny immediately looked up into the eyes of Harry, who was standing at the corner of the desk looking at Miss Fanny affectionately. Miss Fanny gazed the young boy for a while and in her mind, there was a continuous flashback of the most fascinating moments. The time, when Harry was sitting on the desk, time had repeated the moment but this time characters had exchanged their positions.

"Nothing to me. I am fine." Said Miss Fanny and turned her face in opposite direction.

"Miss, I am sorry." Harry said immediately, when he saw Miss Fanny was changing her face and eyes from him.

"Sorry, sorry for what?" Miss Fanny immediately turned her eyes again on Harry.

"I don't know why, but I am sorry." Replied Harry, while his breath getting higher.

"You don't know why?" Said Miss Fanny surprisingly.

"I know, I think I know." Replied Harry at once.

Miss Fanny was about to ask what did you know, that you were sorry for? But Harry interrupted in between and said:

"I have an affection towards you. I can't see you like that. I can't stop thinking of you. I truly love you. I promise, I am not lying. I really, really love you."

Harry stared shivering throughout, his voice was quite broken because of the nervousness. He did not look up, nor raised his eyebrows. He then, immediately went out from the classroom and went straight towards his hostel. Miss Fanny captured the moment, when Harry left, Miss Fanny's eyes also remained wet for most of the time that day.

Chapter 12

Love considered to be the universal language of communication, a central idea to create heaven on earth and a final decision to promote peace and harmony in the world.

Harry did not come to college, for the next two days. Even, Miss Fanny did not ask any student why Harry was not coming? Or why he was absent? On Sunday, Miss Fanny along with her daughter Alice was invited for lunch at Caral's house. Caral was giving this lunch because, she wanted to spend time with her best friend, her childhood friend. So, that she could help her to come out from the sufferings of past, which had passed so far. At noon, when both neighbors were having lunch together.

"Everything, you made is so delicious with an excellent presentation." Said Fanny with an unusual happiness in her tone.

"Oh! Thank you so much for your compliments." Replied Caral, while she was looking at Fanny. There was a new glow on her face, a brightness, just as sunshine struck with a snowy mountain and illuminated it with glow.

"You are blooming enough today. What's the reason?" Caral asked with a smile on her face and noticeable eyes were on the captivating sight.

Fanny looked at Caral and smiled, not only with lips but also with her eyes and then she said:

"Someone has confessed to me."

"Confessed?" Caral said surprisingly. She could not wait so, she spoke at once.

"Who? Don't say anyone's name except Harry."

Fanny passed a smile, while her eyes were saying yes.

"Really? I mean, when did this happen?" Asked Caral.

"This Thursday." Replied Fanny, while she started blushing.

"What did he say?" Asked Caral.

"He said, what he wanted to say and then he immediately went out. He did not wait for my reply. Nor he was coming for last two days." Replied Fanny.

"Girl, you made him fall for you." Caral said in a teasing way. Fanny just laughed at Caral's words.

"I think you should talk to him." Caral advised.

"Yes, I do think so." Fanny accepted the advice.

Next week, on Monday after the class, Miss Fanny said:

"Harry, please wait I want to talk to you." at the end of her lecture, when everyone went out from the class to enjoy the lunch break.

Harry felt so confused and nervous. He observed himself stuck on his seat. It looked like someone had dragged all of his potential with a single sentence. When all the students were out from the class, Miss Fanny took a seat beside Harry on his bench. For a long and considerable moment, there was complete silence. Neither Harry, nor Fanny spoke a word. Miss Fanny broke that moment by saying:

Harry, look I have no one, whom I can share my feelings with. I feel

myself, so filled with sentiments that, now I feel hard to breath."

Harry looked up at once, and unintentionally he said:

"I am." He stopped for a while and then continued:

"I am your student. You can share with me, Miss." Then, he immediately turned his eyes from Miss Fanny towards the desk.

"Only student?" Miss Fanny asked softly, while looking at him, who was still looking at desk.

"A friend?" Harry said hesitantly.

"Yes, you are my friend too." Miss Fanny confirmed and then she said:

"Okay Harry listen, there is a man I like. One day, he came up to me and confessed his feelings for me. I also like him. What do you think, I should tell him in reply? As, you know I was married before and also have a daughter. What do you think? What should be my answer?"

Miss Fanny said it in a way if that person was very unknown to Harry. A shiver ran throughout Harry's body. His heartbeat increased and he felt himself shrink with the question.

"Ah... I don't know Miss. I am sorry." Replied Harry gathering his confidence.

"Oh! Harry, I forget to tell you that young man just like you say sorry a lot and I really don't know why he is so sorry towards me, as if he has not done anything wrong. He just say's what actually there in his heart. Said Miss Fanny.

"I think, I should go now and say yes to him. Look at the clock, lunch break is about to end and then, I have another lecture. So, I think I should go now and tell him right now. Said Miss Fanny.

Harry was surprised by the statement of Miss Fanny and irrespective of anything he just said:

"Right Miss."

Miss Fanny stood up and gave a hand to Harry. When Harry and Miss Fanny both were standing in front of each other. Harry was looking down on the floor and Miss Fanny's eyes were on him. She immediately holds both of his hands and said:

"Harry, I really like you and I love you too."

Harry immediately looked into the eyes of Fanny, which were filled with the tears, tears of happiness, joy and affection. Her face was representing an outcome of her inner happy emotions.

"I love you, Harry. Will you marry me?" Miss Fanny's voice was trembling, as she had sunk into her emotional realm.

"I shall. I shall marry you." Replied Harry while his face glitter with joy of fulfilling of an unconscious dream.

Eyes in eyes. Hands in hands, that moment had healed all the sufferings of past. Dark clouds of thunder, left the sky of that beautiful valley forever, which was in the heart of mountains. Things went straight; Alice flower of that beautiful valley bloomed in the shadow of his loving parents after that.