MIRACLE

PLUTO. S

I want to thank myself and my best friends for having trust in me in every part of this writing journey.

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# The proposal led to confusion

“John! Wake up!! Its 7’o clock! Wake up!!”

“Oh my God! Look at your room! So Nasty!!” Mom rushed to John’s room.

The warm and golden sunlight through the windows was shining on his face when mom opened the curtains. She took the bed sheets from John who was sleeping on the bed and pulled his hands to wake him up.

“After 2 years, you finally have a job to go!” She whispered in John’s ear and patted his shoulders.

“Get ready! Don’t be late, I’m making breakfast for you!” She quickly left the room.

John opened his heavy eyes wide, yawned, and went to take a shower.

24 years old man with short black hair, was rough, most of the time. Good looking tall and had a decent-weight body, looked like he was hitting the gym. John got a job soon after he came out of college. Only God knew, how he got that job from that reputed company. Might be a bit of good luck or good time or might have talent, people praised him using one of these words. John felt he finally achieved something, though he never put effort to get what he got.

But after working for a year, he eventually ran out of enthusiasm and felt he was occupied with emptiness. Shrinking his days on tight office schedules was no longer fun. He couldn’t cope with the systematic life and felt it was boring and exhausting. And he resigned, thinking he would find a better interesting job. But after being jobless for next two years, he rejoined with his previous company.

As everyone gathered for breakfast, dad wanted to tease John,

“Just imagine, who would leave such a job that fell right on your hands?”

“Alpha man like your son would do!” John’s little brother quickly replied and both burst into laughter.

John turned to mom with his pity face, and she said “It’s okay!” with her eyes.

Once John entered the office, his friend Kevin pulled him behind.

“Hey Dude! Welcome back!”

John gave him a hive-five, “Hey Man! Good to see you! How’s your job? “

“I’m not gonna lie man! This Job sucks! But I’m so happy that you joined back with me!” Kevin laughed at John. He hit Kevin with an annoyed look while he gave his joining letter to the Receptionist.

“Mr. John, please go to wing A, first floor, and meet Ms. Sara.”

“Ok Thank you!”

“Wait, which Sara?” he asked Kevin.

“Of course! our Sara, the one with us, when we were freshers!”

“Oh no!!! Oh my God!! She’s gonna make fun of me!” John scratched his forehead.

With a big sigh, “You can’t avoid her, if you are reporting to her, then she might be your lead!” Kevin tapped his shoulder.

“Oh is she a lead now?? Wow!!”.

“Yeah, man!!

Okay! I have a meeting to attend, so... catch you later!” Kevin waved at John and rushed to get into the lift on the opposite.

After Kevin left, John went to the first floor. Before entering wing A, he saw Sara on the opposite.

“Ohh wow! Am I dreaming?? Who is this?? Is this you John? Can’t believe this!”

“Can you please stop teasing me!” He covered his face from Sara’s bugging.

“Okay! Okay! don’t cry!!” Sara chuckled.

“Go right, and in the first cabin, you would find Miracle. She is from our team and she’ll explain the process.” After directing John, on the way to Miracle’s cabin, Sara left.

John knocked on the door thrice and opened it once he got a stable ‘yes! ‘ from inside. He saw a young woman sitting in front of him. His eyes quickly scanned her black curly hair tied together as a messy bun, the rectangular red frame specs were sliding on the bridge of her sharp nose, and the navy-blue formal shirt looked so good on that brown business lady.

Miracle raised her head and was stunned once she saw John. She couldn’t take her widely opened hazel eyes off from John. The papers in her hands slipped on the table. Her body turned to stone. The cabin suddenly fell into a deadly and awkward silence.

John broke it with his intro, “Hi! I’m John, the newly joined!. Sara asked to meet you to discuss the process!” He gave her his right hand.

Miracle quickly came back to the moment and gave her soft, cold hand to John.

“Hi John!”

she managed to ask John to sit after trying so hard to bring her voice from her throat.

“So, can you please tell me what the process is? “

“What we are doing as a team?”

“What is my role in this project?”

“Where is my cabin?”

Miracle couldn’t answer any of his questions but had a steady gaze on him.

“Hellooo!!!” He was waving at her face.

“Can we get married?”

The question that was completely irrelevant to the situation ran out of Miracle’s lips.

# A journey to the PAST

“Wh… what?? Sorry? I… I guess I heard it wrong!!”

A sudden shock made John’s words stammer. He thought she was out of her mind and he thought she would admit that.

She stood up, took a breath, and asked, “Can we get married?” this time, her voice was sharp and steady, confirming to John that she was right on her mind.

He couldn’t help his raised eyebrows and lowered jaws.

He turned red when their eyes locked for a few seconds.

He raised from his chair, and his hand scratched his confused head. He felt a sudden shower of sweat soaking his cream formal shirt and his heartbeat was so loud, even Miracle would have heard it in that silent cabin.

“umm… Actually… I guess you mistook me for someone. I… I don’t know what’s going on! and.. and don’t know how to handle this!” He tried to clear his cracked throat twice, but no luck.

I’m… I’m leaving!!” He quickly picked up his file from the table and left the cabin.

*It was 6 in the evening.*

John was in the cafeteria at the back of his office building. He couldn’t stop thinking about the incident happened. He was there in the cafe since morning as he didn’t want to see her again.

“Hey, Dude!!” Kevin tapped John’s shoulders behind.

“Hey, Kevin!!” His drained voice replied.

“What happened John, why your voice is so low?” Kevin sat beside John.

“What to say, so many things happened.”

“That’s okay!! First Day job! I got you! “

“I don’t think it’s about the job.” John sighed while his hands were on his cheeks.

“John!!” Sara snapped.

“Who do you think you are, John? Where you were for the entire day? See! I’m your friend only, but I have responsibilities here, and you are my teammate and you need to do some job. Do you think you’d be paid while roaming like this? Do you think I’ll cover this for you?

I told you to meet Miracle, and what the hell you did to her? She was crying and she even asked for a day off and gone.”

“Ohh seriously? I don’t know why you are asking this to ME! Ask her, Sara! Ask her what she did to me! I’m the victim here! “

“Bro! what’s going on? I didn’t get that!” Kevin thought they were speaking gibberish.

“Sara, can you please sit here? I have so many things to say!” John asked Sara.

“I haven’t got anything from Miracle, but I just want to check with you first. Let me ask you directly, did you flirt with her?” Sara was quick, while she sat on the chair, opposite to John.

“What??? NOO WAYY!!”

“John I know her! We’ve been friends for 3 years. I’ve never seen her crying like this!”

“Oh WOW! So this is how she turned tables!

Look, Sara! Believe me or not! I didn’t flirt with her, but she did! She was the one who was flirting with me! She… She even asked me to marry her! I… I don’t know why she did that to me! I was so shocked, and I ran out of her cabin. I still couldn’t take that scene out of my head!”

Sara and Kevin shared a frowned look.

John felt he was wasting his energy on this useless argument as there is no way they would believe him; he ended his talk with a sigh and turned to the TV in the café.

Kevin noticed the news and pointed, “Sara, did you see this news today, that famous CBI officer Michael died?”

“Yeah! I was so shocked, he had cancer! He was the very loyal guy I have ever seen! He was my hero in my school days! You know right, he resigned from his job when he couldn’t find the murderer of a 3-years-old’s parents?”

“Yeah, I know, that case was closed after 10 years of search. The fun part is, they already had that killer's fingerprints also, but still, your hero couldn’t find him.” Kevin chuckled.

“Shut up! They couldn’t find a match anywhere and we didn’t have much technologies 20 years back.”

“That was a better excuse!”

“SHUT UP!” Sara was pissed off.

“Guys! I’m leaving! It’s enough for today! See you!” John stood, and took his back bag.

“John! Lets sort this out with Miracle tomorrow! Okay?”

He waved at both Kevin and Sara with two nods and left the cafe.

The drizzling night breeze was so refreshing. John was standing on the balcony; his mind was so busy rewinding the scenes, that happened in the morning.

“Mom! I’m going for a walk!” He put on his black cotton jacket and left the room.

When he walked towards the gate, mom screamed through the window,” John, can you please put this toolbox in the store room?”

John picked up the toolbox from his mom and went near the store room, a small room in the backyard.

He opened the old green wooden door of the room and searched for the light switch on the wall beside the door.

It was a 6ft wide by 8ft long room with a metal shingle roof and had long shelves all over the walls. When John was a kid, it was his hiding room. He used to hide here whenever he played hide and seek. It was the place where he used to hide all his comic books and all his test papers he failed. It was the place where he used to hide and cry, whenever he felt sad.

The room was pitch dark. He couldn’t find the switch, so he dropped the toolbox and went in. When he moved forward and within two steps, his head felt a wall in front of him. He rubbed the wall with his hands and found it was a wooden wall. Strangely, there were no shelves, and not much space, like the room used to have. The door, from where he came in was no longer there behind.  He suddenly felt suffocating as if he was in a coffin. He gathered all his power to push the wooden wall in front of him, but to his surprise, the wall turned into a door of a wardrobe, so he fell out.

He found himself in a bedroom. John slightly opened his eyes and was flashed by the sunshine through the windows in front of him. The sky was bright and clean blue, there was not a single white cloud. He slowly woke up and started looking around. The room had a tiny bed on the left side of the window and a small kid’s study table beside it. A big wooden wardrobe was attached to the concrete wall opposite the windows. The wardrobe had two sections separated by a thin concrete wall and two doors to open. The right side was from where John came out.

# The miraculous misery

He was stunned. It was night when he entered the store room and all of a sudden the store room changed into a wardrobe and he ended up here. He tried to figure out what happened. He again went into that wardrobe and closed the door. He thought he would go back to the store room again. He tried to push the wall of the wardrobe from inside, but nothing worked. He came out.

He was confused and suddenly heard a lady screaming from the room above.

“Please, leave me and my daughter, I’m begging you!!! “

“ Oh really? Do you think I would leave two of you like this? I’m a gentleman, married a widow with her little daughter.” A terror laugh echoed.

“I gave all of my properties and money to you, we have nothing left, please leave us” The lady was crying her lungs out.

“Are you sure? Are you sure that you gave everything?

Not really!!

Your lives!!

I heard it is worth 20 million each!!!“

He took his pistol and loaded all the three bullets he had.

“Please leave us!!! “

John’s heart skipped a beat when he heard a loud gunshot from the ceiling.

His face turned pale, his hands and legs were shaking. He felt his stomach fluttering. He couldn’t think straight.

Sudden thin mourning was raised from the wardrobe. John quickly opened the left door of the wardrobe, he thought someone came as he did, but he saw a small girl hiding. A little girl with a little bottle green dress was sitting inside, dumped her face on her knees.

John bent and quickly lifted her face. Her 3 years old face was swollen and had a wound with a band-aid on the right corner of her forehead. Her hands and legs were overwhelmed with bruises. She was scared once she saw John, but her small hazel eyes were still craving help.

“Hey! Are you okay? What happened? where are we? What is going on? “With a low voice, he asked her.

The poor little girl didn’t have any answers, started sobbing, and fell into his arms.

“Jane!!! My dear little daughter! Where are you cutie pie? Dad is coming!! “ A dreadful voice raised.

Her face turned frightened blue, that voice chilled her bone. Her silent yet painful cry came out from her shivering lips.

John quickly hid her back into the wardrobe and hid behind the room door.

A steady footfall approached the door. John saw the vein full hand opening the door from the other side and the opened door covered John’s body standing behind. The middle-aged man with a grey T-shirt entered the room. He had a bald back head and broad shoulders. He was tall but not as much as John. He scanned around the room and went near the wardrobe. John swiftly came out, pulled his T-shirt behind, and threw him out of the room. When the man raised his hand to shoot John, he pushed the door with all his power, so the man’s hand got stuck in the gap of that white wooden door. As he couldn’t see John, he blindly shot the gun and a bullet went through the glass windows on the opposite. As his nerves were squeezed, he lost his grip, so his pistol fell from his hand.

“WHO THE HECK ARE YOU???

HOW DARE YOU SNEAK INTO MY HOUSE AND HIT ME?? “His roar echoed all over the house.

John released the door and before that man opened it from the other side, he quickly took the pistol from the ground.

John was terrorized, he didn’t have time to think about what he was doing. He didn’t even bother to raise his head to see the shot. His index finger hit the trigger 8 times but the pistol fired only once.

Within a fraction of seconds, the bullet from the pistol pierced the man’s chest and the fat body collapsed to the ground, leaving a vibration on the floor for a moment.

A ghostly silence occupied the room. John’s hands were shaking and lost their grip over the pistol. Everything happened before realizing what was going on.

He quickly opened the wardrobe and grabbed the little girl out. He covered his jacket around her and took her out of the bizarre.

He didn’t know where to go, whom to ask.

There were no people on the roadside but the road still had houses on two sides. He was scared to knock on someone’s door and confess what happened. He thought no one can understand. He started running on the road to find something hopeful.

The sun turned dull and the afternoon sky became cloudy but still, the air was suffocating. He was sweating all over his face. After half a kilometer, he found a hospital. He stopped for a moment, had mixed feelings about what would happen if he enters the hospital but he didn’t want to hesitate to get any help from them as it would somehow save this poor child.

He opened the door and walked through the narrow hallway, he found the receptionist’s desk opposite. He raised his jacket, pulled out the little girl, and made her sit on the desk. He wiped her face with the jacket tip of his hand and adjusted her messy hair. The girl was calm and silent, her gaze was fixed on John.

“Excuse me, Sir! How can I help you? “

A lady receptionist with a blue uniform asked John.

“ Hey! Ummm.. actually! I found this little girl crying on the roadside. It looks like she doesn’t have parents so I want to put her in an orphanage. I’m new to this town, so I don’t know, whom to check, so I came here. Can you please let me know if there is an orphanage nearby?” The words were quickly thrown out.

“ Ohh! Okay! Can you please wait for some time, so that our chief doctor would come and help you out? “ She pointed to the chairs next to the hallway.

“Okay Thank you! “

John and the little girl sat on the chairs.

Ten minutes passed, and the girl felt relaxed and started playing in the hallway.

# The reunion

“What the hell I’m doing?

“How did I kill that person? “

“What would happen to me? “

“Would they put me in Jail?”

So many questions raised, made John’s head ache. He closed his eyes and rested his head on the wall behind.

“Did you see this guy? I feel strange! ” The receptionist asked her clueless coworker.

“Why? Why you are saying that? “

“He told he found this girl on the roadside, but look at him, he is so tired, and look at this kid’s face, full of wounds! Things are not connecting. And he wants to put this kid in an orphanage? How does he know she doesn’t have parents? “

“ Wait!! What?? Oh my God! You are right! But.. but look at the kid, she looks so calm around him! I don’t think she’s scared! “

“ yeah, that’s right! “

The two receptionists stopped their chit-chat when a family entered the hospital.

The curious small boy of that family ran into the hospital through the hallway, and stopped once he saw John.

By the sound of that little guy’s footsteps, John opened his eyes and quickly caught him standing in front of him.

The poor boy looked like he felt sorry for waking John up but John’s pupils were growing as they would burst out from his eyes when he realized the little boy was the 5 years old version of himself.

The curious, naughty little John. His childhood memories were flashed in front of him where John and his family used to visit his grandparent’s house and used to visit this Children’s hospital every month to give them lunch and snacks. He remembered how they lost connection to this town after his grandparents died.

The girl noticed this little guy while she was standing near the receptionist’s desk and tried to walk toward him to play.

The poor little John felt awkward after a few seconds of eye contact with this big guy and ran back to the entrance where his family was walking towards the desk.

“Hello! Welcome! “ The receptionist greeted the family.

John quickly woke up from the chair and tried to hide from his family, he rushed to the restroom on his left opposite. When he tried to open the door, the little girl eyed him and ran to him. She grabbed his leg, and her eyes suddenly flooded.

“Please don’t leave me! “

The words melted from this little girl’s quivering lips.

“ Heyy!! I’m not going anywhere! I'm just using the restroom, I’ll be back” John whispered, wiping her tears.

“Honey! He will be back!

Come! Let’s have some snacks!”

The receptionist picked the girl out from John and brought her to the family.

John used the break and quickly got into the room, his heart was racing. A big sigh relieved from his lips, and his head rested behind for a while. With his left hand, he searched for the restroom's light and turned it ON.

Boooom!

The store room! The store room with big dusty Shelves! Paint buckets! Rusty thin metal wires!!

His tired eyes named them.

“Oh NO!

Noooo! This is not the time! “ Both his hands grabbed his head.

He had no idea whether he should be happy as he escaped killing someone or should be sad as he didn’t know what happened to that little girl.

He came out of the store room and ran to the road. He was not at all bothered by the thin rain. He felt all the clouds in his mind were cleared. Though it was raining, he felt a warm, dazzling sun, shining inside. His lips were smiling widely when he realized whose those hazel eyes were.

He called Sara to get Miracle’s address and caught a cab. He found 3 mails with the name “Miracle Jane Wilson” on the floor in front of Miracle’s apartment door. He threw a brief “I knew it” laugh as he rang her doorbell.

She opened, the reddish tired eyes were staring at John and his jacket, soaked in sweat and rain. She smiled, and the tears of delight fell on her cheeks.

John wiped her face with his jacket tip, smiled, and brought her forehead towards his.

The words calmly came out,

“I’m sorry!! I’m Late! “

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