

18/05/2018

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It was Friday and last, final exam of fluid dynamics course in second semester of M.Sc. But this day was not like other exams. The most important thing was still waiting to be happened as it was neha's last day in department. Probably, she is not going to join next sem and still is kind of shivering reality for me to accept.

Last evening (On 17/05) she sent me a text saying "she has to leave early and probably can't meet. She has no issues if i can meet her before exam." I didn't have words to say that time, probably don't know what should i respond to her text. I texted back a simple "ok." because i wasn't ready for that bad moment when she'll say me "bye" for ever.

I reached department around 9:30 AM, i moved to notice board at ground floor for checking the seating arrangement (luckily it was same as last exam seating plan). I had little bit fear and was thinking that we should not have any face to face encounter right before exam and same happened. (later got to know that she was somewhere at second or third floor and saw me from there but didn't called me). After that, i moved to silence zone for last min revision but somehow i was thinking about her rather than revising. I was lost in thoughts about her and soon realized that i've exam too. I looked for time, it was already 10:05 AM and i rushed to Hall 1. Exam was already started. I rushed to my seat after getting sheet and question paper.

Around one and half hour later, i saw neha from my seat. (as it was window seat of exam hall). Her exam was over and was taking exit from main entrance of the department (hanging bag on one shoulder, phone in one hand, black suit without sleeves). i had answered half of the questions and was thinking to quit the hall but i didn't. Next one and half hour, neither i answered any other question nor i left the hall. I remained at my seat thinking about her.

After exam, as i switched on my phone, it rang as vivek was calling. I picked up and it was neha calling from that side. She said "kaha ho kapil, yha aa jao canteen ke paas" and i replied "ok". (She was still in the department and surely waited almost one and half hour and i was kind of moron who was thinking she will have gone) My heart started beating faster. Surely, I needed someone who can feel that heart beat and hug me that time as it was beating faster and faster. I don't know where the fucking hell abhishek was. I saw bhupali there beside me and bhupali and me started a simple discussion so that i could be normal. We both put our hands over each other's shoulders and were discussing. Suddenly, I saw neha near canteen waving her hand. I waved back too but somehow i wasn't ready to face her. My heart was still beating faster. I decided to take a little more time in the discussion with bhupali so that i can be normal. But it was perhaps the wrong decision..Just after few minutes, I was searching her and she was not there in the department. I asked vivek about her and he told me that she left to home.

I dialed her number and asked about her. She said “mai metro station hu, mai chali gyi yaar, maine tujhe awaj lagai lekin tu apne dosto mai busy tha”. I replied “koi baat nhi” thereafter we gently exchanged “bye”. I hanged up the phone but this was not the end. Just a few minutes later , i called her again asking if she has boarded the metro or not ? she replied “Nhi” , i said her to wait there for me as i’m also coming there and she said “okay but jaldi aana”. I rushed towards the main campus entrance and took e-rikshaw.

Finally , i reached there and saw her (she was just in front of the 2nd gate of metro station)..i was little bit nervous and she was little bit angry about whatever happened in the department. I said, “badi jaldi thi, jane kee”. She answered,”maine tujhe kal shaam hee bola tha ki mujhe jaldi nikalna hai aur tujhe awaj bhi lagai” (i could understand that she had waited a long for me, so getting angry was usual)..but whatever i reached to her finally.. She said ,” bta kya bolna hai , fir mujhe jana hai”. I replied,”mai bahut kuch keh chuka hu, ab aur kya kahu..lekin chal mai bhi chal rha hu metro se” (i was thinking , she has something to say for me .. i had already said many things before to her which she couldn’t understand)..we both recharged our metro card and boarded the train.

We discussed about many topics – “why hate to jaats?” , “Her new goals” , “Inter caste marriages” and many others that only my diary has the right to know. Each time , i talked to her about our marriage , she said “Papa kaat denge”. (meanwhile i was thinking – “tumhare papa kitne hee bade amresh puri kyu na ho ? unhe mai convince kar lunga lekin tumhara kya ?”). she was smiling meanwhile and this was the only thing i always cared for , a sweet and natural smile on her face. she made a promise to me. Focus and clear NET exam, she will spend a whole day with me. Trust me , i couldn’t believe at my ears (whatever i heard) that time. I asked her again to confirm that “is it a promise?”. She nodded her head and said “yes , promise”. Oh god , she just cared for me. My heart wasn’t beating faster anymore and it was calm & beating less than usual. She wanted me to focus on my goals. But i was thinking – “ i have to clear NET for spending a day out with her but what would be my goal if i had demanded to spend my remaining life with her instead of just one day.” Whatever it would be .. i always wanted to spend my remaining life with her but it’s okay and one day must be enough for me. I was happy that atleast for that day, she’ll be mine. Further she added , if we had a meeting in the department then “we both will have a clicked picture together”. (i’ve enough photos of her, many memories and such a great experience , do we still need a photo of us together ? - may be “yes” for her and “no” for me) so i replied that “ no, i don’t need a photo” (i thought – “it may hurt her”) so further i added “surely, we’ll have a clicked picture together that day when you’ll be there for me as in promise”. She nodded her head and replied (smiling) ,”till then she will have a new phone too (with DSLR camera)”. She had to deboard at “New Delhi Metro station”.

During whole journey , i was looking deep into her eyes and at her sweet smiling face without being noticed. Usually , i tried to avoid eyecontact to her as i was only one who knew that what i was feeling and didn’t wanted to let her know about whatever brewing inside me. But most difficult task for me was to say “bye” to her and it was yet waiting to happen. We were at new delhi station, (i just realized that i’ve a gift too). Before taking exit , i said her to stop, opened my bag and handed the wrapped packet to her. She was quite confused whether she should accept that or not ? but i said that there is something to read in it then she agreed.

(she was thinking , it would be my personal diary and was asked about what is inside the gift , i simply said – i don't know). Heart was beating faster now as it was the time to say her "bye" (she was the only one who made my heart beat faster as well as slower at the same time) and it all ended up with a handshake and a bye. That time, i wanted to hug her in my arms and wanna whisper that "she is very special to me and i'll miss her alot". (may be she knew all that). She was gone.

I was sad and silently steping down from staircase. My legs were shivering a little bit (don't know, why ?) I took a seat down there and relaxed for 5 mins. I was feeling my breath and heartbeats. Then, i boarded the metro but my mind was full of thoughts and questions. "when will we meet again ?" , "why did she make that promise to me ? (she was ready for spending a whole day out but mostly girls don't waste even a sec. on peeps whom they don't like) , " will i ever be happy without ever ? " , " what if i missed NET by few marks ?" and many more questions were there running in my mind. Soon, i realised that i had boarded the wrong train , going towards the reverse direction. (may be i was lost in her thoughts and even forgot that which train i have to board). I boarded the right train and during the remaining journey toward home , i was thinking about her promise and each time i closed my eyelashes , i saw her smiling face, her deep eyes..

I was at home and she texted me "thanks for beautiful gift, i liked it". I wasn't feeling well but my pillow was there waiting for me.