~ 45 ~

The Light to His Darkness

Author's POV:

It's been fifteen days since Arjun and Diya got married. They came to their village three days ago, and everyone got busy with their work. Arjun came back from the field and moved towards his room. He opened his room door to find Diya sitting near the window, writing a diary.

"Hey!" Arjun greeted her, going towards her.

"Hey! When did you come?" Diya said, getting down of the window.

"Just now," said Arjun.

"You look tired, Arjun. You lie down on the bed for some time. I'll go and bring coffee for you," said Diya.

"Hmm," Arjun said, lazily.

"First go and take a warm shower. It will relax your muscles," said Diya.

"Okay!" Arjun said, jumping on the bed.

Diya shook her head and moved to the kitchen. She saw Seethalu (maid) and Ramana (maid) working.

She greeted them and asked,"Where are the others?"

"Hari Sir and Revathi Mam are in their room. Janaki hadn't returned from the hospital yet. Jai Sir and Yash Sir went out on some work. Arpita mam and babies are at their house," said Seethalu.

"Okay!" Diya said, while preparing coffee.

She poured hot brewed coffee into six mugs and gave two to the workers. She took a wooden tray and put two coffee mugs on it, along with Arjun's favourite muffins. She placed sugar-free and oat cookies made especially for the elderly on another tray and placed two cups of coffee on it.

"Give this to Thathayya and Nanamma," Diya said to Seethalu and moved to her room with another tray.

She opened the door and saw Arjun sleeping peacefully on his stomach, hugging her pillow. She placed the tray on the bedside table and sat beside him.

She ruffled his hair and whispered in his ears,"Arjun, wake up. I brought coffee for us.

He stirred in his sleep and slowly opened his eyes. He sat on the bed and stretched his arms.

"We will sit in the balcony," said Arjun.

Diya nodded her head, and both of them moved to their balcony. They sat on the swing, which Arjun had bought after their engagement, as Diya liked swings. They sat there enjoying the sunset while having their coffee with muffins.

"Did you pack your bags?" Arjun asked, breaking the silence between them.

"Yeah!" mumbled Diya.

"Did you pack your hoddies?" Arjun asked her.

"Umm, no," Diya said, after thinking for a while.

"I've placed them on the bed, right?" Arjun asked, looking at her.

"I've to check again then," Diya said, smiling sheepishly.

Arjun sighed, listening to her, and said,"Come, I'll see what you have packed."

"We can check later. Now just sit and relax for some time, enjoying nature," said Diya.

Arjun nodded his head and asked her,"When is everyone going to come?"

"Tomorrow morning," said Diya.

"For how many days do you have to be there?" Arjun asked her.

"Two or three weeks," Diya said, sighing.

Arjun took a deep breath. Damn, he is going to miss her badly. How is he going to sleep without cuddling her? How will he be without fighting with her and teasing her? He will miss her cute pouts and her complains to her Kannaya (Lord Krishna). He got used to her within these two weeks.

"Arjun?" Diya said, placing her hand on his shoulder.

"Huh!" Mumbled Arjun.

"Where are you lost?" Diya asked him.

"Umm, nothing," said Arjun.

"Okay!" Diya said, sighing.

"Here she is thinking about how to be without him for three weeks. There he has gotten lost in himself. Hmph!" Diya thought in her mind.

"What if he is thinking about you? What if he is also feeling the same as you?" said Diya's heart.

"Come, come. I'm just thinking how come you didn't come yet," mocked Diya's mind.

"Are you mocking me?" asked her heart.

"Any doubts?" Her mind said, smirking.

"Will you both stop it?" shouted Diya.

"Sorry!" Said her heart and mind.

"I agree with you, my dear heart. Let's suppose that he is thinking about me, but why can't he tell me the same? Why does he have to hide every damn thing within himself?" Diya said, frustrated.

"Why don't you ask him the same?" Questioned her heart.

"What? I'm not getting what you are saying," said Diya.

"Why don't you ask him to open up to you? You can take the intiation, right?" Asked her heart.

"Why only me? Every time, it is me who takes the initiation. Why can't he take at least once," said Diya.

"And why can't you take it one more time?" Questioned her heart.

Diya remained silent, listening to her heart's question.

"Look, my dear owner. He might not have expressed his feelings about you openly. But didn't you notice his gestures. He introduced you to his little friends as their sister-in-law. He understood your insecurities and announced to the world that he was yours. He surprised you on your birthday and spent the whole day with you. He remembered your love for dogs and gifted you with Aura. He punished that guy who proposed to you in the hospital and warned you. Though he had ignored you after that kiss, he never forgot to text you whether you had eaten anything or not. He made sure that you were safe and appointed guards around you. He never failed to take a stand for you whenever that old witch tried to demean you and your family. And don't forget that he and Taara are the reason that Zaheer Mamu attended your wedding. If he and Amma are in talking terms then it's because of them. And they have also made him understand that he was not a bad omen," told her heart.

Diya got lost in her thoughts. Arjun looked at Diya, who seemed to be thinking something deep and frowning.

"Cookie," Arjun said, holding her hand.

"Huh!" Diya said, looking at him in a daze.

"Is everything okay?" Arjun asked her.

Diya looked at him and said,"Umm, yes!"

"Is it?" Arjun asked, raising his eyebrow.

Diya sighed and said,"I'll miss you, Arjun."

She hugged him tightly, making him surprised.

"I'll miss you, too, cookie," Arjun said, kissing her forehead and pulling her close to him.

"Then, why are you not stopping me from going?" Diya asked, raising her head a little and looking at him.

"Cookie, it's your duty. You are going to treat people and save their lives. Who am I to stop you when you are doing the work you love? You have worked from childhood to become a doctor. Who knows it better than me? Even I'm also going to be full busy with farm works and office this month. So, don't be guilty," Arjun said, caressing her cheeks.

Diya gave him a small smile, looked at him with adoration, and thought,"I love you, Jun."

"Come let's go down," said Arjun.

Diya nodded her head, and both of them moved down.

They went to the living room and saw Harinath and Raghu talking. Revathi and Radha were playing with Varsha and Vansh. They greeted them and sat down to play with the twins.

"Atta, when will Aura come here?" Varsha asked Diya, pouting cutely.

"Tomorrow. Meera ammamma will bring Aura with her," Diya said, with a smile.

"Otay (okay)," Varsha said, pecking her cheeks.

"Where is your Amma?" Arjun asked Vansh.

"Kitchen," Vansh said, while watching Roll No. 21 on Arjun's mobile.

"I'll just come now," Arjun said, looking at Diya, who was trying to teach numbers to Varsha.

"Okay!" Said Diya.

Arjun moved to the kitchen and saw Arpita and Yash laughing over something while cooking. He stood at the entrance and smirked as he saw his sister blushing as Yash whispered something in her ears.

"Ahem!" Arjun said, clearing his throat and moved towards them.

"Man, why are you still roaming behind your sister when you have your wife?" Yash said, glaring at him.

"I've kept the aim of interrupting my brother-in-law's romance with my sisters," Arjun said, smiling cheekily.

"What can I expect more from a dumb man like you?" Yash said, sighing.

"Did you just call me dumb?" Arjun asked, narrowing his eyes.

"Of course. Learn to do something productive, man," Yash said, while mixing the curry that he was preparing.

Arpita coughed, listening to her husband.

Arjun rolled his eyes and said,"I know about your productive work, man."

"By the way, what are you cooking?" Arjun said, peeping inside the dish.

He made a face looking at it as Yash was cooking ridge gourd masala curry.

"Didn't you get any other vegetables to cook?" Arjun asked, scrunching his nose.

"Mamayya brought them freshly from our farm and asked to cook them," Yash said, shrugging his shoulders.

Arjun thought for a while and said,"Why don't you add dry prawns to it?"

Arpita slapped his arm and said,"Today is Saturday, my dear brother."

"Then, I'm going to do fasting today," Arjun said, making a crying face.

"Don't do overaction. I've made dough for rotis and prepared palak panner curry," said Arpita.

"I love you, Akka," Arjun said, kissing Arpita's cheeks.

"I love you more, Aru," Yash said, kissing her cheeks from the other side

"Why don't you accept that all you want is a chance to romance my Akka?" Arjun said, rolling his eyes.

"Of course, I utilise every opportunity to romance with my lovely wife. We will also see how many things we have to see in this kitchen in the future," Yash said, winking at him.

Arjun looked at him wide-eyed and said,"I'm not shameless like you."

"Tell me the same dialogue after a few months," Yash said, shrugging his shoulders.

"What's going on here?" Janaki asked, standing at the entrance of the kitchen.

"Amma, I missed you," Arjun said, going towards her.

"Stop right there, Arjun. I haven't taken a shower yet," said Janaki.

Arjun rolled his eyes and said,"You just know how to spoil my mood, Amma. Don't know how Nanna has romanced with this cleanliness freak. My poor Nanna."

"Arjun," Janaki shouted, while throwing daggers at him.

"I was just kidding, Amma." Saying that, he ran from the other door of the kitchen.

"This boy is shameless just like his father." Saying that, Janaki too went from there.

Yash and Arpita burst out into laughter, looking at the scene.

After having their dinner, the elderly retired to their respective rooms. The twins were sleeping with their grandparents while the youngsters settled themselves on the huge balcony of the first floor. Arjun and Yash spread mattresses on the floor while Diya and Arpita brought blankets, pillows and water bottles with them.

"I'll just come now." Saying that, Arjun moved down.

"What happened to him now?" Yash asked, looking at Diya and Arpita, who shrugged their shoulders.

"So, Diya, when are you going to leave for the camp?" Arpita asked her.

"After two days. But I have to go to Vizag the day after tomorrow as I've to collect my things at the hospital and also have to complete the transfer formalities," said Diya.

"Okay!" said Arpita.

"Diya, why do Arjun and Veeru tease you in the name of cooking?" Yash asked her.

"I also don't know about it properly. Haven't you tried cooking before? I mean, your coffee's taste is so perfect, then why didn't you try to cook something else," said Arpita.

Diya gave them a nervous smile while listening to their questions. That's the most embarrassing story of her life.

"I guess I was in plus two at that time. Our school planned a picnic at that time and asked us to bring a food item cooked by us. That was the first time I've ever stepped into the kitchen for cooking," said Diya.

"So, what happened next?" asked Yash.

"My friends challenged me that I couldn't cook. Especially Abhay and Vidhi. So, I challenged them that I'd cook butter chicken and rotis and invite them to my home for lunch," said Diya.

"Why are you stopping in the middle? Continue," said Arpita.

"What's going on here?" Arjun said, coming towards them with a tray in his hand.

"Your wife is telling her first cooking experience," said Yash.

Arjun burst out laughing, listening to him while Diya was glaring at him.

"First, take this hot chocolate. I'll tell you about that story," Arjun said, serving them hot chocolate.

"Hmm, now continue," said Yash.

"Yeah! First tell me how much she has told you," Arjun said, sitting beside Diya.

"Till cooking butter chicken and rotis," said Arpita.

"Okay, on that day, Attayya called me and asked how I became friends with her dumb daughter. I asked her what happened. Then she told me that Diya had asked her to teach her to cook butter chicken. She asked Diya to take tomatoes from the refrigerator," said Arjun, and started to laugh.

Yash and Arpita looked at him weirdly and asked,"What is to laugh at it? We didn't find anything funny."

Arjun looked at Diya teasingly and asked,"Shall I tell them or will you tell?"

"You continue," Diya said, gritting her teeth.

"She searched in the whole refrigerator and told Attayya that they didn't have non-veg tomatoes in the house. They only had veg tomatoes and asked someone to bring them," said Arjun.

Arpita and Yash burst out laughing, listening to Arjun while Diya hid her face with a pillow, embarrassed.

"That didn't end there. Aunty asked her to prepare dough for rotis. And this madam, with her smartness, tried to prepare it in the mixer. And you can guess the rest," Arjun said, controlling his laughter.

"Oh my God! I can't laugh more," Yash said, holding his stomach.

"Diya, did you seriously not know that there are no separate tomatoes for veg and non-veg," Arpita said, trying to control her laughter

"No," Diya said, smiling sheepishly.

"Her experiments didn't end there. She tried to cook potato manchurian. Instead of adding corn flour, she added icing sugar. That's why Attayya gets afraid to allow this girl into the kitchen even now," said Arjun.

"That's enough, Arjun. I can't laugh more, okay," said Arpita.

"No wonder, why Ammamma says that you remind her of my Amma," Yash said, smiling.

"Is it?" Diya asked, looking at him amused.

"Yeah! My amma is also poor in the cooking department like you. She only knew how to cook rice, plain dal, and rasam. If by chance, there was no one at home, Rasam was the first thing she used to cook," Yash said, remembering his mother.

"And Yahvi used to nag every time. She is a big tantrum queen and Varsha got all her traits," said Arpita, while thinking about her best friend.

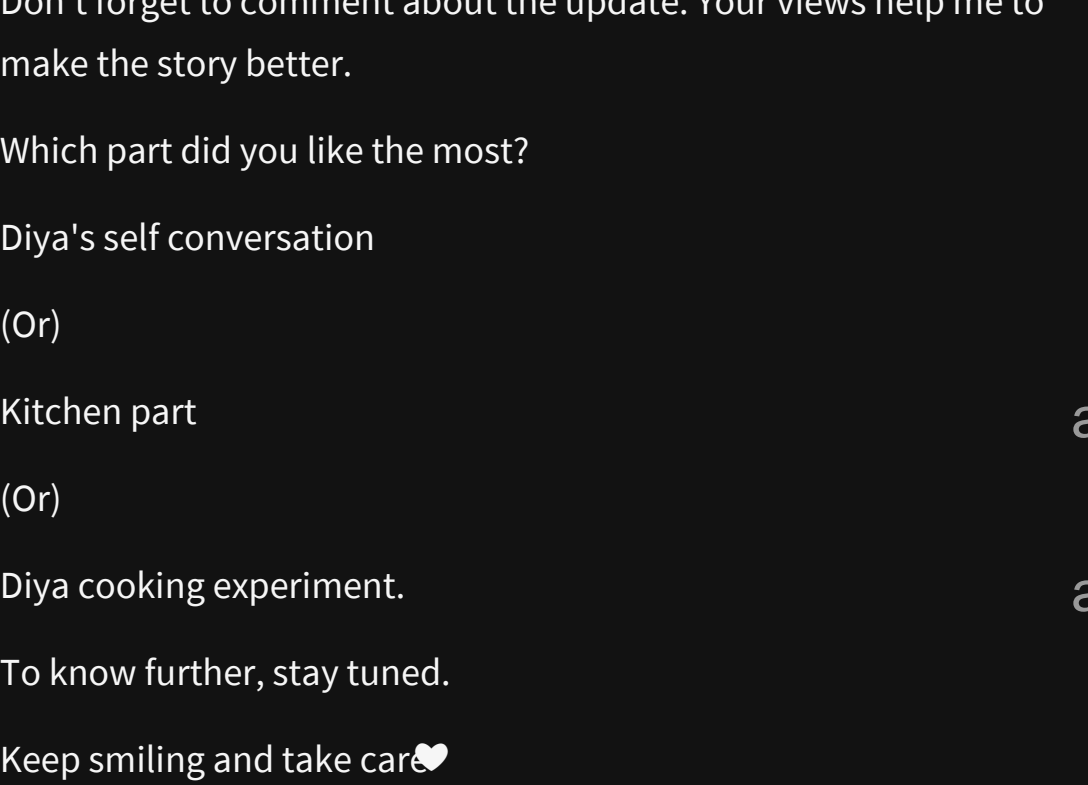
"Anna, don't you miss them?" Diya asked Yash.

"Of course, I miss them a lot. Yahvi was more than a sister to me. She is my best friend and holds a special place in my life. We were there together in our mother's womb for nine months. You know, she is actually older than me by one hour. But she used to call me Anna. When I asked her, she used to say that it's an elder brother's duty to pamper her little sister. So, you are my Anna. And if she wanted to demand something, she would say that I'm the elder one. So, you have to listen to my words," Yash said, thinking about the moments he spent with Yahvi.

"I'm my father's champ. My Amma is a big prankster, and Yahvi is her updated version. Both of them used to play pranks on us. My paternal grandparents never used to allow anyone to scold Yahvi, as she was the first girl in our family after two generations. She is their little princess. They used to pamper my mother and Yahvi a lot. While Ammamma and Thatha are in mine and my father's team. Everything was going fine, until that day," Yash said, getting emotional while remembering the day he lost his family.

Arpita and Arjun too got emotional remembering the moments they spent with them, while Diya's eyes pooled with tears remembering her father and her Aadil Mamu's family.

After awhile, four of them drifted into sleep after talking for some more time.



Memories and thoughts age, just as people do. But certain thoughts can never age, and certain memories can never fade.

Haruki Murakami

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Hey guys!!

How is the update?

I hope you guys have liked the update.

Don't forget to comment about the update. Your views help me to make the story better.

Which part did you like the most?

Diya's self conversation

(Or)

Kitchen part

(Or)

Diya cooking experiment.

To know further, stay tuned.

Keep smiling and take care❤

Thank you for reading!
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