

In the name of of Allah the Merciful

The Living Dead!

By: The Protected by Allah "How did I get here?! .. This is a long story that requires two attentive ears and a conscious heart. If you have them, then listen carefully!

It all started when my friends John and Tim the captain and I were boarding a luxury passenger ship from England after we hatched a plan to rob one of its rich passengers during the voyage. We weren't planning to start from the beginning of the voyage so we had to spend beautiful spring days!

The sea breeze caressed our noses, the gentle rays of the sun showered us with the beauty of its kindness, while the richness of our victim - or our client, as we used to call him - pleasing our eyes, tempting our hearts, drooling and drowning us in rosy daydreams..!

The ship along its length was crowded with high-class passengers who were showing off and spending their time in entertainments and restaurants, but what caught my eye among the passengers was that blond young man

who was sitting in his luxurious clothes and respectable appearance alone all day, far from the young men and women and free looking at the sea and the sky.

The days passed while he was like this; He does not get bored or tired, and that's what inflamed my curiosity and kindles it.

One day, we went to a concert downstairs..

There the melodious melodies and the amazing smells were so crazy that I suddenly felt my friends laughing and winking around me, and when that doubted me, I realized that I had hit my glass of juice with my handkerchief and spilled it on my clothes, staining it pink.

I stood up ashamed among their sarcastical looks and went upstairs to the toilet, and here that twenty youngman took my eyes, he was alone and isolated, so I found myself going to him to heal my curiosity by hearing his logic and knowing his story..

- Hello!

He raised his black eyes and quickly examined me, answering:

- Hello..
- I present myself.. I am the merchant James Charles!
- Welcome..

His cold answer confused me, but I calmed myself down and asked him:

- I see you sad, my friend.. you spend the days staring at this blue while the wonderful colors around you??

He didn't answer, so I added:

- Maybe I can help you!
- How do you help me when you're dying?

His answer shocked me, but before I could answer him something, he sighed and replied:

- Two things baffle me..the first is that I am sad for you..
- for me?!

I was confused, but I said to myself: There is no need to be angry anyway, it is clear that he is mentally unstable. I softened my tone and said with a smile:

- It's okay.. Anyway, what's the second?
- In fact, it baffles me about that jeweler that you and your friends intend to loot.. Do you think I should warn him or not.. This is what really bothers me..

Here I became extremely angry while my face got red, because I had just heard what threatens my life and my reputation and throws me in prisons.

I hurried to him, caught his collar and his thin arm and threw him in the sea in spite of his resistance without any mercy or thinking..

On the cold water that got me when I threw it, my senses came back to me and realized that what I had done was a charge own right, so I lurked in the waves while the ship was running..

Fortunately, the roaring of the engine and the sounds of music covered his cries. My heart almost stopped while he was swimming to

catch up with the ship, but I calmed down after making sure that the ship had passed him, leaving him alone among all those waves..

I looked right and left, sure that no one had noticed what I had done, so I slipped back to the concert and sat panting because of anger, trying to regain my calm.

I really thought I had succeeded in that, and that no one noticed anything strange, but it surprised me when one of my friends asked me jokingly:

- Looks like you missed the point and went to the pool instead of the toilet!

I gave him a smirk, so he was confused, while another answered me:

- He means, what is all this water and sweat on your forehead and your clothes?.. it looks like you got out of the pool..
- I approached the fence and did not notice that the waves were a little rough as a result of the ship's running.

A third commented:

- And the juice?!.. It's still on your clothes!.. What were you doing, man?!

The three exchanged muffled smiles, so I got up angrily and left the stage, I entered my room and locked my door and started thinking about what happened..

Thousands of thoughts were roaring in my brain like thunder...I tried to sleep to escape from reality, but..

How did that madman know about us?.. and why did he tell me about that with all his naivety?.. is he really teched or is he a foolish astrologer?.. and what?.. he said that I was dying and he didn't know that he was the one who was actually dying!

I laughed in secret, but the sound of fast knocking on the door surprised me and made my heart trembles.. Do they know my secret so quickly?!

I pretended to open the door when it became clear to me that he was my friend and partner John, so the smile went out my face, as it was not necessary!

He got into the room and closed the door then said to me sadly:

- James, everything changed, a fatal change in plan.
- Why this?!.. what happened?
- A little while ago, they discovered the disappearance of the son of the ship's owner Mr. Charlotte the young man, they spent the night searching for him to no avail.. The owner of the ship got very angry, he decided to cancel the trip and return to the port immediately to inform the police that they may find a solution to this mystery.

It seemed that I could not hide the effects of my shock because he answered my looks:

- He is that blond young man who spends the day watching the sea and does not pay attention to anyone.. Did you know him?
- Of course, he caught everyone's attention.

- His father says that this is the height of strangeness, as he does not speak to anyone and does not approach anyone, just as he has a good heart, so how can anyone carry hostility towards him like this?!
- He seemed desperate for life.. Maybe he committed suicide..
- Perhaps, but this means that we have missed the opportunity and all our efforts have been in vain.. Ah.. if we had known!.. we would have rushed the plan at least a little..

I sighed with anger and said:

- Not when the mastermind has spoken!... However, we won't reach the port before two or three hours so quickly... We have a chance!
- What will you do?
- I will not tell you, but I will show you!.. All you have to keep the jewelries in your luggage..
- Keep them?! .. What if the police searched us?! .. This is the height of recklessness and madness!

- Then you or Tim won't share with me..
- Of course not! .. Do you think we are crazy like you?!
- Then the spoils are mine alone!
- Yes, prison is for you alone.. Yes!

John came out laughing sarcastically, but I proceeded to carry out my malicious plan at once.. Now my greed increased.. I will prove to John that reason is stronger than elves and madmen alike, certainly they will be angry enough when they see me rich in my palace after I build a profitable business from my spoils as I always dreamed!

The surprise factor in my new plan was not their inattention but rather their intensity of motivation, for they did not, in any case, expect the troublemaker to provoke a problem with such rudeness, but he is wicked enough to do so!

After two hours I returned from the room of my old victim -who was stunned and occupied with others- after the plan had been closed, and the case was closed with it!

I took care to hide my booty neatly in my bag, after leaving the jewelry boxes empty but closed as if no one had opened them, indeed not even the owner of the jewels noticed that they had disappeared in the midst of the mysterious case of that young man!

We arrived at the port and the police took their place in the search, investigation and exact question until the passengers were bored and bored; they all wished that they had stayed in their homes tired instead of this embarrassing situation!

Unfortunately for the police; there is no evidence and no accused!.. they did not report the disappearance of the jewelries at all, so their presence with me didn't caught their attention, then they finally had to release us..

And as soon as I reached safety, I hid it in a safe place and stayed a little bit so as not to raise suspicions around me, then I took a plane heading to America taking leave Europe to forget it with its memories and those in it

while dreams of wealth and glory tickled my mind..!

Five years after that, my young wife and I were in our luxury villa, when she coquettishly coddled me and wanted to visit Europe, so I reluctantly agreed after writing to my trusted friends and making sure that it was safe for me there.

So we took the plane and landed at Paris airport, actually our tourism began throughout Europe, from Paris and the Eiffel Tower to England and Buckingham Palace, riding by sea to Italy and Rome in a large, luxurious steamer.. And here was the story; In a big luxury ship..

Although I intended to ride in a different ship by all standards than the one that was five years ago, so as not to return to the crime scene, as they say, to the extent that my wife became angry and curious, but I said to her cheerfully: - Since we got acquainted, I told you that I am a man of the strangest style and you have agreed. You have to bear!

She laughed and held my hand until we boarded the ship, but she said to me:

- At least your eccentric taste has yielded sweet fruit... This huge ship is amazing!

I gave her a smile of pride when I heard:

- Welcome, Mr. Charles! If I'm not mistaken...

I turned to see an unsettlingly familiar face!... It was the ship's owner, Mr. Charlotte, and what a strong memory he had!

On the other hand, what luck he had; During the past five years, his profession flourished to such a degree that his ship became one of the most luxurious ships in the country!

But of course, I answered:

- Hello..hello..Mr. Charlotte!..I liked to reminisce about the cruises in your ship again!

Here, my wife gasped:

- Oh!..so you're looking for this particular ship!

We exchanged looks.. although she understood the subject in the opposite way, but the important thing was that I was relieved of her curiosity!

We went upstairs while ideas were floundering in my head. If he knew what I did to his son, would he greets me with this cheerfulness or would he...?!

My chest was filled with a strange feeling that I tried my best to suppress, but when we got to the deck, it became stronger and stronger that I could no longer find a way to get rid of it except...

Except by laughing!.. hysterical laughing rather!.. I started giggling madly, drawing everyone's surprised looks at me.

- Please, James!.. what happened to you?.. try to calm down.. please!

But there is no use; Every time I tried, I had another seizure.. My wife took me to an empty corner of the ship and brought me some water.

A few minutes passed before I calmed down slowly with drinking water. I took my eyes away from her eyes when she said to me:

- Strange!.. you see what happened to you, my dear?.. what should we call this?

I did not answer it with my tongue, but I answered it with my heart:

- If you knew the reason, you would not be wonder!

In any case, who would have thought that laughter may be used for something other than happiness.. But the truth is that a person may cry when happy and laugh when sad!

Then we went to our room, trying to ignore what had happened. the days -after- passed as they were, and we had the best times on the board of that large ship, in its various halls.

It caught my attention that most of the old crew is still there, but everyone was kind with me.. Fortunately, my reputation got all suspicions away from me, but one thing was bothering me every night; One day I woke up and went to the rooftop to have breakfast with my friends

when.. when a young man appeared to me sitting at the fence..

His hair was blond and his eyes were black, immediately I recognized him, and when I wanted to throw him into the sea again, I had another fit of laughter, so they all looked at me angrily and pointed by fingers at me. Suddenly Mr. Charlotte appeared to me,

He laughs cunningly.. and with him were the policemen who took me rudely, so my wife hated me and ran away from me, saying:

- If I knew, I would never laugh at you!

I followed her and said to her:

- But you told me from the beginning that you loved me for my personality!

You promised me that you will be with me on the sweet and the bitter.

I ran after her to America and ran until I could no longer see her, but I suddenly heard her say to me:

- And who said that I changed?! .. I still love you as I used to, James!

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