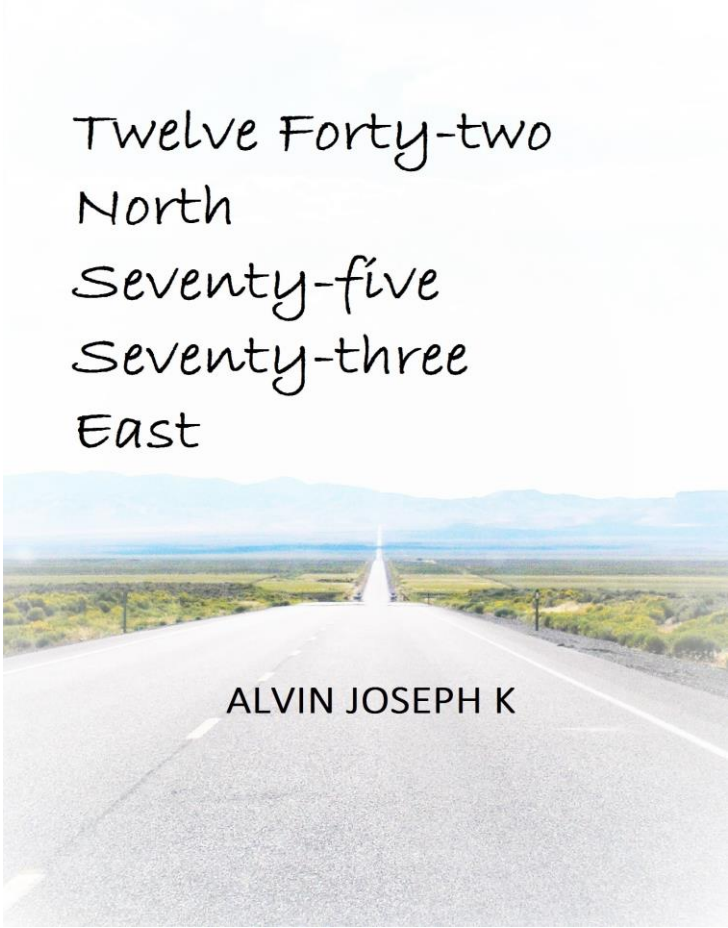


Twelve Forty-two North Seventy-five Seventy-three East

Twelve Forty-two
North
Seventy-five
Seventy-three
East



ALVIN JOSEPH K

Twelve Forty-two North Seventy-five Seventy-three East

Twelve Forty-two

North

Seventy-five Seventy-three

East

ALVIN JOSEPH K

Twelve Forty-two North Seventy-five Seventy-three East

All rights reserved. No parts of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without the prior permission of the author.

© Alvin Joseph K

Twelve Forty-two North Seventy-five Seventy-three East

To my beloved nephews

Evan and Ethan

Twelve Forty-two North Seventy-five Seventy-three East

“Ask, and it will be given to you. Seek, and you will find. Knock, and it shall be opened for you.”

Mathew 7:7

Table of Contents

CHAPTER 1: THE MEETING.....	8
CHAPTER 2: THE INVITE.....	13
CHAPTER 3: JOY FILLED HEART.....	18
CHAPTER 4: UNTOLD.....	23
CHAPTER 5: JOLLY VILLA.....	30
CHAPTER 6: UNEXPECTED.....	36
CHAPTER 7: TH E CAT AND MOUSE GAME.....	46
CHAPTER 8: SAFE HAVEN.....	55
CHAPTER 9: WALKING IN THE SUNLIGHT.....	64
CHAPTER 10: FRIENDS AND FOES.....	74
CHAPTER 11: THE SECRET OF THE CROSS.....	85
CHAPTER 12: THE CONFESSION.....	95
CHAPTER 13: THINGS NEVER TOLD HER.....	103
CHAPTER 14: SHOULD HAVE SEEN THAT COMING.....	108

Twelve Forty-two North Seventy-five Seventy-three East

CHAPTER 15: A NAME AND A FACE.....	113
CHAPTER 16: LISA CALLING.....	118
CHAPTER 17: THE FALL.....	122
CHAPTER 18: IT'S NEVER THE END.....	130

CHAPTER 1

THE MEETING

JOE drove through numerous hairpin curves before he found the signboard that said ST. Thomas church is 200 m to the right. That was the place in Lisa's mail. . It was rather strange. She had called him to a church. He wondered why she had chosen a church. Wasn't there any other place they could meet? He had found it hard to accept the fact he was meeting her in a church. He eventually convinced himself to consider that she would bear a proper reason for selecting a church. It wasn't long after that he saw an old church with a creepy looking gate. He had been riding for hours now, but he did not feel tired. He liked driving and he often went on long road trips. Also, his excitement to meet her suppressed any feeling of exhaustion.

His car entered the gate, but he didn't find any other vehicles. He suspected whether it was the right place. He parked the car and

walked towards the church. It was not a very big church, but seemed to be very old. Google said it was Neo-Gothic architecture. And he believed Google. It was mostly made of stone. Very tall. He stepped inside the church walking through a small veranda. At the far end of the church, he saw a young woman kneeling in front of the altar. That very instant he realized it was her. It was his Lisa. The person he came to meet driving all the way.

Joe walked towards her. He was happy like never before. He was living his dream. It was all completely unexpected for him. He never, even in his wildest dreams imagined her to reach out to him.

Joe knelt beside her. He couldn't take his eyes off her. Her small brown eyes, thin eyebrows, broad forehead and silky smooth, bouncy hair, It was all as it was. Seeing her, he even forgot that he was in a holy place. Lisa was praying with her eyes closed and hands folded. He felt she had become more beautiful. She was wearing a Blue jeans and a white top with a scarf around her neck. . Strands of hair covered part of her face like it used to.

"Stop staring me and thank God for this moment," said Lisa without even opening her eyes but moving the hair on her face to the back of her ear. It was then it struck Joe that he was in a church. Without any more hesitation, he closed his eyes and thanked God for making him be with her again. God had made his biggest wish come true. Why wouldn't he pray??

Twelve Forty-two North Seventy-five Seventy-three East

When he opened his eyes again, she was not there. He was breathless for a moment.

"Was I imagining all that ", he said to himself.

He was back on his feet instantly and paced toward the door. To his relief, he found her sitting on the steps of the veranda having dairy milk

"You thought I was gone?" Asked Lisa without turning back

"Obviously, yes. Who Wouldn't?"

"Come sit. You would have a lot of questions"

"I sure do. But I want the answer to only one question now." Joe said as he sat down beside Lisa.

"Go on". Lisa said without looking at him.

"When?"

"Thought you might ask that. Well....Convocation day"

"You are seriously telling me that you actually got that?". Joe was absolutely taken aback. "But how? I saw it falling into the water"

"You didn't see what happened after that. Did you? "

"No"

"I came back for it. I had seen you throwing it" said Lisa giving Joe rest of the chocolate.

"I had understood your feelings for me long before. I know you became friends with me just because of that." Lisa paused to wipe off the chocolate. "Why did you wait for the last minute? Why didn't you do it earlier? ". Lisa's eyes met with Joe's eyes for the first time since the convocation day a year ago.

"I.....uh!!!!" Joe never thought she would ask that question.

"By the time I realized what I had for you was love it was too late. And I didn't want it to be a talk in the campus like with all those pass time lovers. Besides You were always surrounded either by your friends gang or boys who were flirting with you whenever I want to tell you how I felt about you . Do you how difficult it was for me to keep myself from punching them. Plus, I didn't know how you would react. Unlike you I was not able to recognize your feelings for me. I had assumed the convocation day to be a perfect time, but it didn't turn out as I had planned. That Shruthi ruined everything."

"You know, why don't we get to my place and talk. It's getting dark. We have to go. "Lisa interrupted Joe's narrative and stood up.

Joe also stood up eating the last bite of the chocolate and searched the area for a place to dispose of the cover. He found a waste bin

Twelve Forty-two North Seventy-five Seventy-three East

not far from where he stood. He dumped the cover in it, took the car key out of his pocket and walked towards the car.

"May I" Lisa broke the silence.

"Sure" said Joe tossing the key to her with a pleasant smile on his face.

"Be nice with my car, Lisa. It's new"

"I know, I know." Said Lisa as she started the car and drove away

CHAPTER 2

THE INVITE

Earlier that morning.....

It was a warm October morning. Joe woke up hearing the annoying sound of the alarm on his phone. He took the phone and switched off the alarm. Joe sat on the bed half asleep. His eyes were heavy with sleep. He found it hard to keep his eyes open. He looked at the phone for the time. It was 4:30 in the morning. He realized with regret that he had once again forgotten to turn off his daily alarm on a holiday. He was having a beautiful dream about someone he had not seen or heard for a long time. He fell back on the bed hoping to go back to sleep again and continue with the same dream. But he couldn't go back to sleep. He got out of his bed cursing himself. He washed his face with some cold water. That made him feel so much better.

Joe now sat on the chair in his room and wondered what he would do now. He couldn't help thinking about the dream. It felt so real. He tried to recall the dream that he had. It was rather unusual. He could remember every little detail.

She was in front of the hospital waiting for him. She dressed herself in black like Marvel's Black Widow. Her hair was cut from the shoulder level. Together they entered the hospital. He saw their reflection in the glass door. He wore a white shirt. They walked around in the hospital. His arm was around her all the time. She told something with her hand pointed at an old man and a child. But it was not clear to him.

He now ran alone through a dark tunnel. Cars came against him in groups. Whenever the cars came, he moved to the side of the tunnel and would go back to running in the middle of the road till the next wave of cars came.

Another wave of cars came against him. But this time a car broke out of formation and hit the other cars creating a chain reaction which ended with an explosion. He raced backwards to protect himself from the detonation. There was a phone in his hands, which started ringing and he woke up.

It was too early for anything in his To-do list for the day. As he didn't have anything else to do, He thought maybe he would take a look at the To-do list. Joe took his phone and searched for the list. It was then he saw a notification from Gmail. He opened Gmail

app on his phone. He was startled by what he saw there. It was from someone, whom he thought, he would never hear from again. He froze for a moment. The phone almost dropped from his hands. He read the name again. It was Lisa Maria John. He was completely awestruck. She was the last person that he expected to get a mail from. Days after the convocation day, she had disappeared from both Facebook and WhatsApp.

After a minute, he became normal. He opened the mail, but he was disappointed. The mail which he supposed to be a love letter turned out to be lots of random numbers save an N and an E. He felt as if someone took him to the zenith of happiness and pushed him down from there. He said to himself, 'Why would she mail me these numbers after all this time?' He figured it must have some significance. He knew that Lisa is not someone who likes to pull pranks.

Joe looked at the numbers again. But this time he saw it like a puzzle. She loved puzzles. He observed that each of numbers had even number of digits. If each set is further divided into sets of two, each set was a two digit number between 65 and 90, both inclusive.

"Holy shit, its ASCII." Joe cried, jumping out of the chair... Like all those who have studied a computer programming language, he also knew what ASCII is. A set of numbers that represent text in computers.

Twelve Forty-two North Seventy-five Seventy-three East

He searched for a pen and paper. He started decoding the message. When he finished, there was a small paragraph on the paper in front of him which went like this.

*HAI I ASSUME THAT YOU HAVE NOT FORGOTTEN ME IF I
STILL OCCUPY A PLACE IN YOUR HEART I WANT YOU
TO COME FIND ME AT ST THOMAS CHURCH*

Joe understood that the last eight digits were not part of the code because it had an N and an E written as alphabets itself and the numbers were outside the 65-90 range.

1242N7573E

This was that last part of Lisa's mail. It gave Joe some trouble initially, but suddenly the thought came to his mind. He typed it into Google, but the result seemed too absurd. He figured there must be something wrong in what he typed. So he searched for examples of latitude and longitude. Then he realized if there are dots after 12 and 75 and also degree sign before N & E. But he couldn't find the degree sign on the keyboard so he added the dots and Googled it. This time the result showed a map with Madikeri written on it. He searched for that in Google. It was a small hill station town, also known as Mercara, the district headquarters of Kodaguss. He now knew where to find her. He was on cloud 9.

He did not have to think much as he had already decided to go find her. He immediately wrote a reply informing Lisa that he is

Twelve Forty-two North Seventy-five Seventy-three East

starting right away. He started making preparations for the long journey ahead of him. Being born into a rich family, he was not exactly used to packing all by himself. But that day it didn't matter.

Thank You for previewing this eBook

You can read the full version of this eBook in different formats:

- HTML (Free /Available to everyone)
- PDF / TXT (Available to V.I.P. members. Free Standard members can access up to 5 PDF/TXT eBooks per month each month)
- Epub & Mobipocket (Exclusive to V.I.P. members)

To download this full book, simply select the format you desire below

