



EUPHORIA
OF
ETERNITY

Viva La Vida

BY SHUBHAM SINGH

VIVA LA VIDA

(Life is Beautiful)

SHUBHAM SINGH

Published by
Amazon Kindle EBook Publisher

Copyrighted © Shubham Singh 2016

Lyrics on page 9 have been taken from the song 'Hey Angel' by One Direction (Columbia Records)

This book is a part of fiction. Names of persons, organization, business, characters, incidents, places and events are fictional and product of imagination of author. Any resemblance to the incident, places, business, locations and organization is purely coincidence.

All Rights Reserved

Dedicated To The Girl

Who always inspires me to be creative!

PROLOGUE

“This is the day that I’ve been waiting for since you’ve left me”, Alex said, squat on his bed and holding an old photo frame in his hand.

After brooding it over for a couple of minutes, he placed it back to the place and stepped off his bed. He moved towards window and moved the velvet curtains aside. The dazzling light from the distant skyscrapers of San Francisco paved its way into Alex’s magnificent mansion “Viva La Vida” and filled his dull and lethargic room with unknown serenity.

“Can I make it as amazing as I dreamed when I was 17”, the 24 year old Alex questioned the same question to himself for the nth time.

‘Bird’s chirps’, Alex phone alarmed.

Startled by the alarm, Alex grabbed the phone placed on study table and turned it off. Yet again, like every other morning Alex woke up before his alarm. It was 4 of early morning and the only

thing that has preoccupied Alex from the last 7 years was going to end this day. It was an ordinary Sunday for the rest of the world but for Alex it wasn't the same. It was the day he had a promise to place with someone special.

He scrolled his phone and checked his inbox and chats, which were filled with best wishes by those who once ignored him and tried their best to drag him down. Even his ex CEO played all his aces to kill his aspirations by increasing the work load but he ignored it and headed toward his dream like a bullet fired from a rifle. A gentle smile paved way to his face, like a trophy for all those hardships he underwent for one thing.

Because of lack of sleep he was feeling a bit dizzy and nauseated. He thought for few seconds for solution instead of *Googling* out the solution like the rest of the world. He took his hoodie, grabbed a pink colored diary from his study table, a carton of mix fruit juice and ran outside on his bicycle. It was little windy outside and the dark clouds brightened by the city lights were trying their best to hide the sparkling stars and gleam of moon, cautioning about the approaching storm.

As the time passed the atmosphere grew wilder. The once serene flowing wind, now, was roaring accompanied by thunders. Alex had no choice but to stop at a safe place. He cycled against the cruel wind. He parked his bicycle beside an electrical pole which was opposite to his favorite take away **GoodFella's Pizzeria & Bar.**

As soon he entered, the cheesy aroma acted as catalyst and made him feel ravenous. There were only three people including Alex. The restaurant had decadent leather sofas, dim lighting and song playing at low volume. It was One Direction's Hey Angel.

Oh wish I could be more like you

Do you wish you could be more like me!

"This is her favorite song, isn't it?" Alex whispered seated on one of the leather sofas beside a window. He looked outside and noticed that the wind had picked up outside as it howled through the gaps between buildings. Passing his ear towards the window he could hear the trees violently swaying in the wind, few cars running through water and a sign board thrown violently into the ground. Scenes of raging wind outside made their way into Alex's mind - roofs exposed to the roaring winds, empty roads, deserted building, cracking lights and Caroline, his best friend.

"Mr. Richard Branson of San Francisco, can I have your order?" Sarah, an Armenian high school student and part time worker in GoodFella's leaving for home from night shift asked Alex.

"So you're working late night too these days? I hope everything is alright", Alex said looking at menu; even though he's goanna order the same thing.

"Yeah. Fifty percent", she yawned.

“A cheese sandwich with two cups of cappuccino”, he ordered.

“Two cups? Are you accompanied with someone?” she looked around.

“I thought you would like to have a cappuccino with this geek”, Alex smiled.

“Okay, anyhow it’s been a longtime talking to you”, she answered swiftly.

She returned with Alex’s order within few minutes and sat opposite to him. Alex took a large bite of sandwich and was too engrossed to look at Sarah’s poignant face.

“I’ve seen you carrying that girlish pink diary every time you come here. If you don’t mind, can I know about it?” Sarah asked curiously.

“Hmmm”, Alex took a sip, “It belongs to my best friend”, he answered.

“She must be lucky, after all his best pal is owns one of the most creative companies in the world”, she smirked.

“You are right Ms. Sherlock Holmes! Actually she is the one who is responsible for where am I right now” Alex exclaimed.

“I don’t think I would be able to go home with such heavy rain out. I would be delighted if you share your story with me”, she said.

“Of course”, Alex said after a quick look at watch clock striking ten past five.

“So let’s Begin!” she exclaimed.

7 YEARS AGO

“What did she meant by that Spanish phrase ‘Viva La Vida’?”
Caroline murmured tossing herself on the sweat soaked bed.

“But it sounds good, ‘Viva La Vida’”, she smirked.

Caroline removed the now - dried wet towel from her forehead and with her frail and feverish body walked out of her room and headed towards balcony.

She unlocked the balcony door and a chilling but a serene breeze embraced her. She leaned over the parapet of the balcony of her apartment on the twentieth floor. She looked upon the sky in hope to find the star she was looking for since she was eight but the dirty grey clouds from south west direction were busy covering the sky as if a famous pop star was going to perform on them. Suddenly, a drop of rain from that infinite high sky falls on her right cheek. Soon it started to rain and the clouds which were busy setting stage for approaching monsoon a while ago lowered their heights to mock at Caroline in for of ear deafening thunders. Caroline stepped aside, placed her hand out to feel the cold tears of cloud and enjoyed the petrichor.

“How I wish you’d be here with me to enjoy this onset of monsoon, Alex”, a tear slid from her smooth cheeks and fall on the floor.

This was the last thing she remembered before awakened by her grandma.

“How many time I told you not to leave room unless it’s very important but you never listened. Have you vowed that you’d never listen to me?” Grandma said angrily, sitting on a rocking chair placed beside Caroline’s bed.

“Its brain freezing”, Caroline murmured when her grandma placed an ice bag on her forehead.

“You don’t remember falling unconscious, do you?” grandma shot another question.

“No”, Caroline said closing her eyes.

“Take these medicines and don’t dare to step off from this room”, grandma warned her placing a dozen tablets in Caroline’s hand and was about to leave room when Caroline called her back.

“Granny, I want to go to college today”, Caroline said.

Granny stood at the door for few seconds and got out of room without uttering a single word. She knew that its waste of energy to argue with stubborn Caroline. On the other side Caroline too

knew that her granny, though always try her best to be strict to her never deny her mundane wishes.

Though she took few minutes to fresh up, she almost took 20 minutes to select outfit and finally settled for grey sweater over white shirt. She spent next 5 minutes to admire herself in front of full length vintage dressing mirror. Though her face had turned little clumsy because of her long illness, her blue eyes still dazzled as bright as stars, determined to change the perspective of world around her from negativity to positivity, colorless to colorful and from lethargic to animated.

After quick breakfast and bidding farewell to her grandma, she left for college. Even though she lived at twentieth floor she chose stairs instead of elevator. She was confident that she can reach ground floor without using elevator but her frail body gave up at fifteenth floor, leaving her helpless to take lift to touch the ground. Mrs. Fernandez, wife of Deputy Mayor of Panaji closed her door as soon as Caroline waved at her. Caroline didn't minded and entered the lift and pushed ground floor button.

The watchman of the building gave a weird look at her which she ignored as she exited the gates of apartments. She was amazed by the view outside of her apartment blocks. Every single thing soaked in rain. She jumped over from the water filled pot holes, enjoyed the chirping of sparrows and sounds of unknown birds, squeals of new born puppies sheltered under a rusted Ambassador car on her way. The choirs from Moira Church

made her a bit more spiritual than before. She felt enchanted by nature's beauty and fresh breeze from sea.

On the other side, may be couple of miles away from Xavier's junior college where Caroline is heading, a guy named Alex was in turmoil whether to go to college AKA jail or just bunk as day before yesterday.

"I hate this route as well as this climate. Gloomy, selfish and mundane", he sighed as soon as he stepped out of bus.

"Still, I've got a reason to go. A soul to take care of", he murmured taking right turn from Raghavan green valley.

"I've already missed many classes. I have to attend the class ", he pushed himself into the Xavier's college gate. Everyone around him was too busy preparing themselves for mathematics and physics exam they are going to write in next fifteen minutes.

"Revise that second problem from complex number and sixth, seventh and tenth from Combination", he heard couple of geek girls whispering behind him.

"Nerds never change", he thought.

"So you finally showed up, ha! I thought you're busy drawing your another masterpiece", Rohan, Alex's class monitor chuckled and his friends joined him.

Alex turned back, returned an awkward smile, checked his roll number and headed straight to his exam hall. He didn't want to reciprocate to those who teased him for his unconventional behavior and sense of humor. When he entered the class it was empty. He went to his allotted seat and looked out of its window. He took his sketch book out but found nothing to be lucrative to draw.

As soon as examiner placed question paper in front of him, he was hundred percent sure that he is goanna fail, again! So instead of checking out the questions he flipped the question paper and started to draw the scene of examination of hall. He added interesting elements to his creation such as adding hair to bald examiner, replacing green board with LED TV and roof with floating candles similar to that of Harry Potter's movie.

He was in a trance of imagination that he didn't even notice that examiner was standing right beside him.

“What are you doing, idiot”, examiner yelled at him.

The concentration of people writing exam was shifted from solving question paper to Alex. Examiner snatched the paper from Alex and started to scan it as if Alex forged his sign on his property papers. He gave a solemn look at Alex and then on paper.

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

