

PUPPETEER

PLAYING HEARTS

At first I thought this writing would be some kind of a story or a novel. But it rather became a research paper on a social act, probably one of crimes that laws cannot punish.

Introduction:

The story goes around a couple of a guy and a girl who live in a Muslim country restricted by their laws and regulations, they cannot publicly meet, they can't marry their beloved, and they can't deny what they feel.

Tariq is a commoner from Amman*, who is a master candidate in Ecology; he attends Jordan University and happens to be the very best of students grade-wise, attitude-wise, and ethically.

He works in the weather channel as his part-time job, saving money for his promising future; at his 26th birthday he bought himself a car as the second errand he always wanted since he got his own house.

His family were happy for him, but he got a new errand to attain...

Tariq was still not married for many issues, aside being busy with his career, he did not want to get involved making any early commitments.

Like most people here they want to hangout live the most of their youth before getting enslaved by children, especially when your forced to marry a total stranger from a respective family and with deep pockets. Family reputation bullshit always comes in the way, he thought to himself "I don't want to be alone anymore".

Dating in Jordan is more shameful than naked Macarena dancing in a traffic jam audience, God bless technology he got himself an internet and lived online for about a year before he found someone.

A 24 years old Nura, comes from somewhat respective Lebanese family, she is a model working for Dior fashions, She came on a business trip to Jordan.

Tariq's thoughts about her were confused, "She's successful, cute, rich, and single, although she's still not married by her 24"

days passed by with them chatting online sharing pictures and moments, Nura wasn't

ready to any commitments either,
“I'm not planning on getting married I like the way my life is” she kept on saying.
A guy's psychology isn't any harder than reading a comic book for a girl.
They frequently talked in “What if” manner, Tariq never enjoyed being in a woman's company and fell in love, thou he was serious.
He told his family he found someone he wants to marry her, no one stood against.
About a year later, he confessed his feelings to her, and she could only confess what she felt in return. She loved him a bit too over-the-line, regret paid her often visits.

Tariq is an organized person he managed his time wisely and dedicated it evenly between his job, study, and new found attachment, internet was merely an aid to his study, Tariq and Nura's relationship flourished, and became more honest.

During his study he asked for assistance of a computer scientist to help him on his graduation project working on an innovative way to forecast weather.

On one day he borrowed his colleague's cell phone, and accidentally found Nura's number there under a different name, he was heartbroken to know that Nura, wasn't Nura.

His Colleague told him about Jasmine, who was a 22 years old computer scientist, and nothing what Nura is, he was in love and told his parents, he thought he found the one. But the music stopped. It was just a dream. It was a lie.

He contacted Nura and told her everything, he was afraid that if this would be true... it would be a shame for he had lived all that time in a lie.
His poor experience in the social field made him vulnerable to lies.

24 unmarried, stayed for over 6 months in Jordan for a model performance...?
those uncommon questions never came around him when he was a puppet in Jasmine's hands.

Jasmine truly had feelings towards him, but she was too much caring to tell him the truth earlier, it only took time that she realized Jordan is not so big that 2 people can't find about each other.

It wasn't her fault. All girls like to play, it's a habit most guys play along.
But in Jordan most people take the fall for being socially poor. Same goes around all of

middle-east.

Jasmine felt regret, thou she apologized, she wasn't ever really forgiven.
“I forgive you” Tariq said turning his back to her, but in distance he cried.
Jasmine heard...

neither of them was strong enough to get over it, Tariq's pain turned into suffer.
Suffer turned into anger, anger turned into hate... hate pleaded vengeance.

Tariq wanted to ease his heart, and express his hatred, let go of his pain, he called Jasmine “You took Nura away from me, I hate you, I want to see you suffer” he raged against her.

Jasmine couldn't bare not being forgiven, her regret grew deeper, life became torture, misery engulfed her soul, Tariq had lost it, his family laughing at him, he failed his study career, lost his job. Literally had nothing more to lose.

Although vengeance wouldn't bring anything back, he believed criminals should pay for their crimes. If Jordan had moral and mental abuse a punishable crime, Jasmine would be freed behind bars than being trapped behind a wall where there's no more hope for her grown love towards him.

Tariq can't cope that Nura and Jasmine are one person.
Did he fall in love with her for her social status, and money, or her kind and tender persona?

Tariq was convinced Nura is the image of his dream girl, Jasmine like Tariq, her grief and pity pushed her passion into falling for him.
She wanted to make it up for him, for pay for her sin...

Tariq knew he would carry this pain for the many coming years ahead, until for someone else to find his broken heart and fix it, but nobody likes broken stuff.
It is all Jasmine's fault and Jasmine knows it.

What do you think should Jasmine do to pay for her sin and unbreak his heart?
A question I have been asked, to me it's a hard assignment to play God's role in this. I can't answer prayers, I can only take away the pain, but not the misery.

What pains Jasmine more that she enjoyed playing Tariq around, that she still wants to play him, she likes him not as a man, more like a child, or a pet.

Evil cries huh...

Tariq is no angel either he can't forgive her, thus his heart rotten with darkness.

What once started as a play became a weapon, Jasmine looks at the rain and her tears get no less, the music plays.

All she can do is let go.

Time passes Tariq not trusting anyone he befriended others but his heart he could no longer trust.

In Jordan the heartbroken society lives most, everyone here shares the same misery, some have went through worse, some couldn't survive, some would never be able to love, but the minor some could forgive... If you can't let it go, you should forgive yourself.

When I'm sad I sing, I walk under the rain "but I wear a warm coat I'm not planning to add sickness to my misery list."

although Jasmine sinned she's a human, everyone of us sins, because if we're perfect we're not human. People have freedom, and if you can't forgive a person for not being what you want him to be. You should know you didn't earn it.

Nobody is evil, everybody gets hurt, you can always choose to heal yourself and everyone around you, Or hurt yourself and hurt everybody around you.

Tariq now doesn't want to forgive, Jasmine paid for her sin by asking forgiveness. But Tariq sinned by holding pain and hurting those around him.

Jasmine is hurt...

No one said it would be a good ending
but Jasmine learned her lesson not to do what you don't want to be done to you

The next step is Tariq's to learn forgiveness
All you can do Jasmine, is be there when he turns back
to look at you.

-THE END-