

# DANCING WITH DESTINY

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*They travelled great distances to be together, broke through barriers to love one another but will destiny force them apart?*

Raj tried to pull away. She was too close and he couldn't control himself. He couldn't let anything happen, it couldn't happen. He pushed her down trying to loosen her grip on his shirt. She wouldn't budge. She looked at him, longing for his strong arms to hold her. But he was pulling away, she kept holding tightly.

"Anna, get up" he said gently as he tried to pry her hands off his shirt again.

"Raj...."

She pulled at him harder until his knees gave away and he was down on the ground on top of her.

"Anna, I can't!" He whispered pulling her arms off.

She felt rejected, but shrugged it off. She pulled away and started to force a laugh.

"You got really scared didn't you?" She said laughing. It hurt her so much that she could feel tears threatening at the periphery of her eyes.

He stood up and looked at her. "Are you serious? You were faking?" He felt a little disheartened but he had no right to feel this way. He pushed her away and he had to be relieved that she was joking. He really didn't want to hurt her feelings.

"I'm really tired Raj. Are we done for today?" Anna just wanted to get out of there.

"If your tired we can finish up for today" Raj offered  
"Yes please" She quickly gathered her belongings and rushed to the exit. "I'll see you soon" She yelled out as she got out of the front doors.

"Sure" he said almost to himself as she went, too far to hear him. He felt guilty because he had accepted to teach her dancing. He knew if he hadn't this would not happen. He felt so strongly for her, too strong.

Anna ran to her car and sat panting for awhile. She couldn't let that happen again, she would not do this to herself if he didn't want her. Why didn't he want her? Horrible thoughts filled her mind and made her feel horrible about herself.

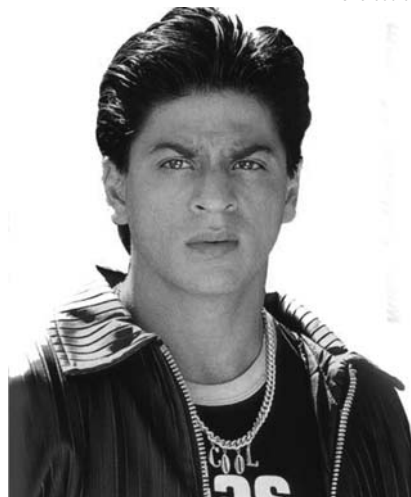
"No Anna, stop thinking stupid things. You

are worth it, you are a good person. Forget him" She spoke to herself, she had never felt so self conscious and unconfident before.

She started the car and drove away. She couldn't shrug the thoughts out of her mind. They hit her like daggers.

"I'm not beautiful enough for him? I'm not smart enough? Good enough? He has someone else!!!?" With that final thought she stopped her car abruptly not leaving enough time for the car behind to stop. They collided. Anna was in shock but she wasn't hurt. She quickly got out to exchange insurance information with the driver behind. The driver was a young girl, about the same age as Anna.

"I'm so sorry" Anna said running to the car behind.



The other girl got out rubbing her forehead. She didn't look happy as she approached Anna.

"It's okay; At least no one was hurt." She replied stiffly noticing Anna's lack of injury. "Your car is badly damaged. Give me you information and my insurance will pay for it" Anna said holding out a pen and a paper.

She roughly took the paper and scribbled

down the information and handed it back. "I hope you can pay up soon, I need to my car to get to work!"

"I'm Anna by the way" she said holding her hand out.

The girl just stared at her and didn't offer her hand in return, she looked annoyed. Anna pulled her hand back.

"Well, I'll get going then" Anna walked back to her car

"Wait! Give me your phone number or something so I can contact you if you don't pay up" the girl called out.

After writing down her mobile number she handed it to the girl and got in the car. This was definitely not a good day! Anna concentrate and don't be an idiot for a man. A man who doesn't care at all!

She drove home and went straight to bed, her body aching from the dancing. Her heart aching because of the lesson she had learned, he didn't love her.

Anna's father had suggested she take up the job at the office as soon as possible. To distract herself she decided to go into the office the very next day and get a feel for things. Her father owned a couple of offices in the main city and she would be keeping the accounts for one of them. She would be the head of an entire department. She was feeling scared at the thought of leading others.

She was driven by her father on Tuesday for she could take up her seat at the office. The day went well and she caught on well. Everyone seemed to like her carefree nature and found her easy to work with. At lunch Anna decided to go out and walk around to get familiar with the surrounding city. Wanting to have some lunch she walked into a small café amidst the busy city atmosphere. She wasn't used to all this hustle and bustle and felt hot and stuffy. She noticed a woman sitting alone in front of her frantically looking through a map; she knew she couldn't help as the streets were all too new. Picking up the menu she started thinking about what she wanted.

"Excuse me" Anna lowered the menu was looked up. It was her!  
"Oh! It's you." The girl rudely said

"Can I help you?" Anna politely asked. She had set up the insurance and that process was well under way. The girl didn't need to be so rude, Anna thought.

"No! No more help from you"

"I sent the insurance information today; they'll be in touch with you. Your provider has to tell mine the costs. Then they will pay" Anna replied. She was feeling angrier.

"Oh okay, thanks! Well maybe you could help me"

an address on it. It was the address to Anna's fathers company. She almost laughed when she saw it.

"I can show you if you want"  
"No no just give me directions, I'll be fine" She snapped.

Anna shrugged and told her some simple streets to get to the office. The girl left. After eating lunch she decided to head back to the officer herself. She reached the waiting area of the building and saw the girl sitting and waiting. Anna shrugged to herself and took the lift up to the 5th floor – accounting department, that girl was not her worry anymore!

After a couple of minutes someone knocked on her office door.

"Come in" Anna said without looking up

"Miss Sharma, Sir asked me to introduce

## A novel

By  
**Shanali Edirisinghe**



you to the new accountant – she'll be working here as of today"

"Yup sit" she gestured to the chairs in front of her desk, distracted by the paper work she was studying.

The door to the office closed and Anna looked up to speak to the accountant. It was her! Oh my god, not again! But soon Anna wanted to laugh; the look on the girls face was priceless.

"What's your name" Anna asked casually  
"Mahi"

"Right, so get to work then – I'm sure everyone's shown you around"

"Miss, I'm sorry...."

"For what?"

"For being rude earlier on. The car was brand new, my parents worked hard to buy it for me"

"I'm not angry at you. Really, it's ok" Anna replied cooling down.

"Thanks" Mahi got up to leave the office

"How about lunch tomorrow by the way – My shout to say sorry for smashing your car?" Anna offered.

"Sure miss, thanks"  
"It's Anna"

Anna got home exhausted after a busy day of work. Day one down, she thought to herself. Her phone started ringing. Raj. She didn't pick up. Her heart ached to pick up but she had to resist. Before she went to bed she decided to call Jai.

"Heya Anna"  
"Jai! It feels like forever, hows your job? Forgotten us already haven't you!

He laughed "I could never forget you! I was busy with some shoots. Next week im going to Goa for an add campaign"

"Yup sure" She was brisk and straight forward now, all sense of friendliness gone

"I'm trying to find this place" She showed Anna a piece of paper with

"Aww for how long?"  
"just two days!"  
"Wait what if you have to go on the day of the ball?"  
"I will come to that ball even if I have to fly there myself"

Just for those moments she spoke to Jai her mood lifted and she forgot her heart ache. But she retired to bed that night and couldn't stop thinking about him again.

*to be continued*

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New Member  
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