

Introducing

Neha

from

A

Thing

Called Destiny

Love story with a *Dharmic* Twist

A Thing Called Destiny

‘How do you guys know each other?’ Vidushi asked.

‘I knew Vinay as one of Anvesh’s friends in college,’ Neha began her tale. ‘Or rather, Anvesh was the only friend he had in college. But it wasn’t until recently he began treating me as his friend. At least, I hope so.’

‘You too?’ Vidushi asked.

‘Ya,’ Neha replied, running her hand through her bushy hair to tuck it behind her ears. ‘Back in our college days, the moment I came, Vinay would find some excuse and get away, giving us our privacy. Initially, it was all good; being in our private space to get to know each other. But as we were getting serious about our relationship, I felt we shouldn’t compromise on our friendships. Because there were times, I felt he was left alone because the two of us were together. And Anvesh had the terrible habit of canceling plans with him at the last moment.’

‘But Vinay was highly understanding and never really complained about it, even though I later realized that he would have felt bad about it and changed my habit of last-minute cancellations.’ Anvesh added as Vidushi wondered what Vinay had gone through when his only friend ditched him.

‘Sometimes it appeared that we were only using him to get what we needed without valuing him,’ Neha said.

‘However, he was the only one who gave me the right kind of ideas to surprise her,’ Anvesh added.

‘I agree to this,’ said Neha. ‘It was Vinay who asked him to make a huge happy birthday on the sand when viewed from the top of Chapora Fort overlooking Vagator beach. In fact, he was the reason for us finally getting married.’

‘What do you mean by *finally*?’ Vidushi asked as her eyebrows drew together.

‘Not again,’ Anvesh said and tried stopping Neha.

‘I definitely have to share this one now,’ Neha said, as she was in no mood to give in to Anvesh’s request.

‘This gentlemen cadet was way too sacrificial and wanted to let go of me after he met with a tragedy,’ Neha said. ‘And you

A Thing Called Destiny

have to hear his iconic dialogues.’

‘Like what?’ Vidushi asked.

“*Mere saath woh kush kaise reh payegi, main us pe bojh nahin banna chahta,*” was the first one,’ Neha said.

“*Dhoond lene de use koi aur pyaar apne liye jo mujhse zyada kaabil ho,*” was another gem.’

‘*Waise*, who told you all those things?’ Vidushi enquired.

‘Who else?’ she replied. ‘Vinay.’

‘He helped me get back to him. Otherwise, this gentleman went completely underground,’ Neha said, punching him on his shoulder before continuing her tale.

‘After college, Anvesh joined the army, and I took up a position at a corporate firm. A year later, I got an onsite opportunity and went abroad. Due to the difference in our work timings, our communication was limited. There were a couple of instances when he informed me that he wouldn’t be able to contact me as he was going on some covert operation. But he used to call me the moment he was back. He used to narrate his various exploits proudly, without going into the specifics. And even then, he never spared me from the typical Bollywood dialogues, “*Is thand main yeh tumhari yaad hi thi jo mere jeene ki wajah ban ke reh gayi.*”

‘*Waise*, you could’ve made a good *shaayar* too,’ Vidushi attempted to tease Anvesh.

‘Likewise, there was one instance when he told me he was going on some James Bond-type operation, but this time, I never got a call from him even after a couple of months. It extended to six months. This made me fretful, and I could not focus on anything while in a foreign land. I tried calling his army friends, and none of them could give me any clue of his whereabouts. As time passed, I became more anxious and finally decided to come to India to find answers myself.’

A Thing Called Destiny

I know that I have stopped midway, without shedding any light on *Operation Sambhav* or the details of what I have done for my love that Vidushi was very much impressed with.

If you want to know more about my journey, please consider buying the novel. After all, you have stayed with us for so long.

And I will surely keep you posted about its release.

By the way, can you share some impressive manner in which your friends or your partner surprised you for your birthday?

OR

To what extent have you gone in order for your love?

You can either **tweet** about it using **#ATCD** and tag me **@iBharatiyaRiter**

Or you can share your answer on **Instagram** using **#ATCD** through a reel or a post and tag me **@iBharatiyaWriter**

Or you can write to me at

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Also, I would like to hear from your friends and families too. Please, spread the love. I know you will.

In the meanwhile, you can get to know more about the wonderful people whom I have come into contact with because of Vinay here:

www.ibharatiyawriter.com/characters/



And needless to say, please do stay connected at:

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