

# 'A Childhood's Love Story'



Ajay yadiki

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*“With Love”*

# Story

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A boy of age 16, sitting at the window seat observing his co-passengers falls into memories of his childhood's journey in train....

*9 years ago....,*

The boy was going for summer vacation to his grand mother's house, along with his mom and dad. They were travelling in a train and had berth numbers 9, 10 & 11. It was evening, the Sun was setting down. It was spectacular view to see Sunset from the train at the station. Along the journey there were 3 co-passengers who were on opposite side of the same compartment with berth numbers 12, 13 & 14. The co-passengers were, a small cute girl of same age as the boy and her parents. They were also travelling to their relative's house for summer vacation.

The boy saw the girl and the girl saw the boy and both were silent. After sometime boy started mimicking the girl's actions. Then girl rubbed her eyes, boy did so. The girl was noticing and she left her foot wear and sat on the berth by folding her legs and boy just repeated it. Then the girl closed her eyes and so did the boy. And then girl opened one eye and saw and the boy again did the same. Now the girl with great attitude removed her ribbon and combed her hair with hands and again kept the ribbon and now the boy tried to do so but failed and then then boy felt that he became fool closed his face with hands and was looking from the gaps between the fingers. By the time their parents were keenly watching these two children actions finally laughed and then both children laughed. The girl raised her hand said her name is 'Ria' and the boy replied his name 'Rahul'. Then their parents made them to sit at opposite sides of window seats. Those 2 talked like very big fellows along the 6 hours they played, talked,

enjoyed together all the way, while their parents slept both bought pillows from their parents. After some time the boy got an idea to make drawings on the pillows with pen. Then the girl silently went near her father and just took his two pens from his pocket and came back near boy before any one notices that. Both started making drawings on their pillows. They actually removed covers of pillows so that their parents should not scold them. As time passed they were talking about stars and in mean while they slept.

As the station arrived early in the morning, their parents took their children and got down at stations and went to their respective houses without waking them up.

When both opened their eyes after waking from sleep, they were surprized and started crying. After a long time they became silent and only those 2 were knowing that they were missing each other. Then in the afternoon, Rahul along with his mother went to temple.

And coincidentally he found Ria with her mother and both jumped with happiness. Then they approached each other and Rahul's mother asked where about(s) to Ria's mother. Ria's mother said that they came for vacations and the house is near temple. Rahul and Ria asked that they will go and play in the garden and they just ran. Then Ria's Mother said that actually one of their family friends lived there and they collectively wanted to go to Calcutta trip tomorrow and she said that they are from Bangalore. Rahul was unaware about these things as well Ria was also don't know about where they are going and when. Ria's mother forced Rahul's mother to visit their house but Rahul's mother said some other time. Both the children became close friends and didn't wanted to leave each other. Then Rahul's mother said that Ria will be back till evening with Rahul's father. And Ria's mother looked at Ria and then accepted the proposal.

Both the children delighted and moved on to Rahul's grandmother's house with Rahul's

mother in an auto-rickshaw. Both were talking about the market, the shops, the road and finally Ria had a sight of lake and asked what is that and Rahul's mother said it's a beautiful lake and there are many fishes in the lake and Rahul always gets there whenever he is upset. Then Rahul says "I daily go there" as it is behind his grand mother's house. Ria got excited to see such a place. Then as they reached their grand mother's house Rahul just grabbed Ria's hand and ran towards the a small green gate besides old big two story wooden structure. As the gate was open they entered it and saw there were small stairs near a coconut tree and those stairs were to cross a one story height of sand-wall stood for the lake. Beside stairs there was steep which was modified into slide for children. Rahul and Ria got upstairs slowly and Rahul took her to near stone where he used to sit and wait for fishes to come. They sat on the stone and they were talking with each other and the sun was low as it was evening then they saw a fish coming



nearby then Rahul ran leaving Ria there alone. Ria alone at the stone was frightened and was just idle sitting without moving with great fear then all of sudden Rahul came back with few seeds in one hand. As Rahul appeared Ria got up and ran towards Rahul and hug him and gets relaxed then she asks” please don't leave me alone ever” and Rahul just promises “I will there always for you and never ever leave you alone”.



Then they again go back to that stone where they saw fishes and Rahul throws some seeds into the water then there comes small fishes and after a moment they see a tortoise. They even notice that frogs also came to eat those seeds and they laugh at it.

After some time a sound is audible that's Rahul's mom calling both children for snacks and to come in five minutes. Then Rahul and Ria run towards the slide and just grabs each other's hand and slide down and run into the wooden bungalow from the back entry. Then there after sometime Rahul's mom asks Rahul's father to leave Ria back to her house as their parents would be concerned about her. Then Rahul's mom says that Rahul to go and get some vegetables from nearby store as Rahul will not allow Ria to go away. As Rahul goes out leaving Ria then Rahul's father amuses Ria and asks want to ride in new bike and Ria goes with excitement to explore the city but Rahul's father takes her to Ria's house and leaves her near her mother. Ria's mother

asks Ria to say bye to uncle. Then Ria just gets upset and goes inside the room and thinks that she became fool again. When Rahul comes back to home and searching for Ria, Rahul's mother says that she had left to her home and he becomes upset and goes near stone and sits. To make him calm her mother says that you can go to her house tomorrow morning to play with her. And on other side after some hours Ria's mother asks Ria for dinner but she was angry and Ria's mother lies her that tomorrow they will come to railway station as we are going back in the same train again, then Ria becomes happy and goes to dinner with her mother.

The very next morning Rahul just woke early at 7'0 clock and grabbing his pillow with one hand and pushing her mother to wake up, as she promised that he would be going to play at Ria's house then Rahul's mother tries to convince that they would had left for Calcutta. Rahul just runs away from the house to the lake at the stone, then Rahul's mom asks

Rahul's father to get back to Ria's parents immediately then Rahul's father goes behind the house and asks Rahul that will he want to go to Ria's house and asks him should not be angry anymore. Then they go to their house and came to know that they had left few minutes before to the railway station and then Rahul forces his father to go to Railway station. Then they go to Railway station and this time they were lucky because Ria was crying to see Rahul and her father took her away from all and went near door of their bogie. Then surprisingly they see Rahul's father at the station's entry and gets down the train to ask what happened. Then Rahul's father keeps his hand in the upper pocket of shirt and shows ear ring made of gold and says that Ria would had lost it yesterday while playing then returns it back to Ria's father. There the train whistles for leaving the station, in meanwhile Rahul says Ria that she should not cry ever because one day he will back to her and handovers the pillow which he was holding till now to her and

asks to keep it with her and says just grab it whenever she want to cry and just remember the promise. Then the train leaves and the Ria ran to her mother to ask pillow but her mother said it is kept inside and we will take it afterwards then she comes back near door with Rahul's pillow in hands and says bye. And the sight was just playing back in Rahul's mind always.....

At present.....(Tring tring the phone rings)

Rahul just wakes up from his memory and notices that his phone is ringing and answers to call, it's her mother asking where he had reached. Rahul says he don't know where he is but says that train is on time. After some time he just gets down at a station and walking to see anything interesting in the that station but finds a juice shop at the some distance of 3 bogies then he just walks near it and orders juice and for a while he notices that the station he reached was Vikarabad and while drinking the juice, the train whistles and he just get into

the bogie where he was standing and starts walking and notices that it still takes 30 min to the main station but the bogie is completely deserted and he just walks slowly and after 2 to 3 compartments, he notices a small pillow at the window seat and just goes near it looks by holding it in hand and in time he just uncovers some cloth from above and discovers that it was Ria's pillow and runs towards the door to see that someone would be at station for this but notices that the train already left that station and reached other station but this time the train didn't stopped and after some time he reached his station and got down as he has to change the train to reach his home town.

Then he just goes with his luggage to a train which is about to start its journey in 15 min from scheduled time. Thereafter he just informs about the train and the timing to his mom on phone. Then there he asks some Railway authority, "is train standing in platform no. 3 departing on right time", then

he replies it may leave 15-20 min late as time required for clearance of track at next station. Then Rahul gets into the train and locks his luggage under his seat with pillow kept on his backpack and asks co-passenger to look after his luggage as he will be back soon after taking some food from the hotel at platform no. 1. He gets down from the train and goes to the hotel and orders some food. Then he just gets a seat near and keeps his phone on table and starts eating and he notice that a display board is kept about running time of trains at station and sees platform no. 3 the train will leave after 20 min as some railway authority also said the same. Then he is relaxed somewhat, then he just notices that the train is moving from the window and to his surprise the hotel owner just switches off the display panel and says it is under repair and then Rahul just runs to catch the train but there comes other train on platform no. 1. So, he runs for stairs and while he gets down the stairs the train catches speed, Rahul to his

maximum effort tries to catch the train but he just misses it. He is just not concerned about his valuable items in train but he is concerned about the pillow he just lost which he found just today.

Then Rahul gets an idea to get to station before the train reaches. Then he starts running to get out of the station and to catch some taxi that he could reach before the train reaches. While running he just looks into his wallet that he is having enough money to take a taxi or not, then he finds that he has enough money just to afford a bus, in a moment he just hit a girl as he was looking into the wallet and then falls and stands back soon and starts running by just saying sorry and the girl just replies stupid with anger at her face. There he just lost his identity card on path near girl whom he just collided accidentally and then girl collects it and calls Rohit. He doesn't notice anything just run and takes an auto-rickshaw to Bus terminal and he reaches Bus terminal in 15 min and again he starts running after giving



money to the driver and doesn't even take the balance money. And then he finds a bus just leaving and he runs and catches it with great difficulty, and he finds there is no seat available to sit. He just pays money to conductor a five hundred rupee note and the conductor says collect change when he reaches his town. There he just stands for 3 hours all along the journey and only thought in his mind is about the pillow. After reaching town again he starts running and catches an auto-rickshaw and asks him to go to station as soon as possible and as he reaches station he just gives a hundred rupee note to the driver and runs again and the driver just stand there itself shouting that he don't have change.

There at railway station he finds the train and runs for his bogie but notice that his bogie is completely vacant and Rahul asks cleaners "when did the train arrived" they reply that "the train had arrived an hour ago". With great sadness he just gets down and goes near a shop and orders a mineral water bottle and

then he notices that his wallet is empty. Then he return back the bottle and goes near a public tap and drink some water and wets his head. Then he starts walking slowly to home with empty pockets and this time he is lucky as home is near to the Railway station. When he reaches his home he is completely exhausted and taps the main door of his home. When his mother opens the door She notices that Rahul is completely wet in his own sweat. Rahul just walks silently to his room and falls on the bed. When he opens his eyes, Rahul notices that the sun has set down and the moon has come through his window. He just wakes up and sits on the bed. Then Rahul's mother comes and switches on the light and asks what had happened in the afternoon and where is the mobile phone. Then he explains everything and says sorry that he had lost luggage and the mobile phone. Then Rahul's mother says it's fine that you have reached home safely. Then Rahul's mother stands up and says you had lost only your phone not the luggage pointing

her hand to the corner of the room where the luggage is kept. And leaves the room asking if he want to have dinner, then reach dining hall within 5 minutes. Then Rahul just goes and searches for the pillow with eyes and he just finds it and then Rahul just jumps and dances as he had never been that much happy ever before. And holds the pillow and just gets into the past thoughts where he was playing with Ria near lake.

The story at another view....

At the Station Vikarabad, A train comes and halts at the station and a group hockey players get down as they came for semi-finals of hockey tournament (Girls) and walks away from the station after few minutes the train had left, two girls come running to the station to search for the lost object. First girl asks the other girl what she had lost in the train then the second girl says the pillow. Then first girl with surprize asks the Rahul's one which you always start telling about the story of childhood, then the second girl just says no it

was mine which I lost. Then the first girls with soothing voice says that she still have Rahul's pillow and don't be that much sad and says we have to go now else our teammates will get worried. After sometime they just start walking out of the station desperately.

After few months, Rahul gets admission in USA as he is qualified for the graduation there. Rahul is going to States along with his parents and they will come back after 4 years. So, he just removes the cover of pillow and sees the drawings on it and smiles. Then keeps all his belongings and the uncovered pillow in a Wardrobe and locks it securely. Then they keep all other luggage in store room and locks the store room. And Rahul's father hand over the house keys to a broker who will give house for rent for some other party for few years. Then they move to Airport and then board to their flight. After taking off Rahul just thinks that he is going to come back after 4 years until he will not able to see his mother country again. Then after few minutes he just gets into

the thoughts about Ria and thinking how would be she looking now as she used to be cute at childhood and falls into thoughts and sleeps.

After graduation he gets job there in States in a Multinational corporation. Then after working hard for 2 years he just gets an accelerated carrier life and becomes the team leader of the company. Then Rahul's parents say that they want to go back to India as they no more want live there in States and they say that they will be moving to Bangalore. Then Rahul asks his mom about to take care of the pillow especially. Then he just gets back into his busy professional life and focuses on more clear objectives of carrier life.

After 4 years of working in a multinational corporation he just gets offer to go to Bangalore and to look after the company's branch by becoming Managing Director (M.D) there in Bangalore. Then he flies back to India after 8 years. And the news at Bangalore hits

viral that he is one of the youngest M.D(s) in India in a multinational corporation. After few days as a M.D he brings many changes, the company used to work and makes company progressive within few months.

After few days the M.D needs a new team to expand the company's objectives and held recruitment rounds for selection process with some criteria. Then there comes huge crowd for selections. With-in a day the criteria for selection eliminates 20,000 thousand people and selects only 20 of them for second round which will be the next day and within evening the needed 10 persons will only be recruited from selected 20. After office hours, while going out of office, M.D observes that there is a girl sitting and waiting at reception. She is one of the 20 people selected for the next rounds and she wanted to meet the M.D says the receptionist. Then he himself goes near her and asks why she is waiting for M.D. Then she says that to return back something which M.D had lost years ago at a station's exit when he

hit some girl while running and removes I.D card from her bag and handovers it to him. M.D smiles and moves his hand out of his pocket to greet her by shaking hand and says his name is Rohit. She replies that her name is Ria. After listening her name Rahul aka Rohit spontaneously asks her that ever she met some Rahul at her childhood in train. She says No, then Rohit just smiles and asks her to come into car that he will leave her to house as it is night. Ria with fear steps into the car. Then Rohit asks where she lives and she says is staying in some hotel and she didn't found a good house still yet. Then Rahul says that she is going to his house now. Ria in herself asking herself with fear "is it good to go to some stranger's house i.e. M.D. of the company in which I dreamt to get a job" and says nothing to Rohit. Then all the way she fears asking herself many questions. When he reaches home and asks to come inside house her fear multiples and then Rohit just takes her hand walks to the door. Then Rohit calls her mom

and says she is guest for tonight and walks away upstairs. Then she gets relaxed after seeing Rohit's mother. Then Rohit's mother takes Ria to Guest room and asks to come back quickly for Dinner. After some time she gets down at dining hall and finds that Rohit had sat along with his mother and father for dinner and becomes a bit nervous. Rohit's father says that "just feel this as your home and come and join us for dinner". After dinner, Ria asks Rohit about job and while she is going to ask more Rohit just says let's talk about this tomorrow in the office.

It's morning, Rohit's mother goes to guestroom and knocks the door to wake up Ria. And asks her to get ready for interview and says there are few dresses kept for her select from those to wear for office. Ria asks from where these dresses came then she replies actually they were bought few days ago for Rohit's bride in advance but Rohit still doesn't want to marry now, so they are kept there. After few hours Ria at Rohit's office



waiting for her personal interview round, She thinks that she would be the first one to go into the rounds. As the round starts some other guy name is announced. Ria just waits for her turn excitedly, but even after 15<sup>th</sup> person she is left over there sitting idle. Then again 16, 17, 18 and 19 but her name is not announced and she feels very low. This time again she waits for Rohit and wants to know why she didn't got the job. In the evening, 10 persons who got selected from 19 were announced. Among those 10, a person is appointed as team leader of that new team and his name is Rahul. Rahul is youngest team leader of the company. These all updates are shown on the screen at the room where all 20 persons were sitting. Everyone among 20 were greeting Rahul for the selection as a youngest team leader. Ria is sat quietly and talking to herself. Rahul notices it, after few minutes all others gets busy in their talks, Rahul goes and asks why Ria is sad. She replies that she had not selected for the job, then Rahul says "no

matter if you are not selected but your talent still lies with you, it is not stolen from you and you can still try other time” after listening it Ria just gets anger and walks away. She just walks to Reception and was just going to demand receptionist that she needs an appointment to meet M.D. The receptionist just delivers an envelope and a small box of chocolates and says congratulations. Then she just drags out the paper from envelope and unfolds it read it. Ria in herself reading the heading, ‘Appointment letter’ and then she searches for job position. She finds assistant to M.D and before she gets shocked Rohit comes near and says that from today she will not complain that she don't have a home and hand overs a key and says that it is company's flat for her and a car will come to her daily to pick up to the office. Before Ria gets out from shock the M.D walks away.

After 6 months....

Rohit becomes a good friend to Rahul and their friendship multiplies daily. Even how close

they are in their life but in company Rahul always respects Rohit as his boss and does job. And one fine day Rahul gets promotion to co-director in company. This time Rahul asks Rohit a favour for him that he doesn't want to leave his team so appoint his friend in that team at his previous position. Rohit gives permission to him and just walks away from there. On the next day, at the parking lot Rohit sees a girl shouting at the guard with a backpack with her. After parking car, Rohit goes near the arguments and listens to the shouting. The girl is asking in loud voice that she will complain it to M.D and he will fire you out of job. Rohit just goes near and asks the guard what had happened. As Rohit walks near guard saluting to Rohit and says "sorry sir that I had misplaced the sign board for parking". Then the girl shouting at Rohit "are you senior to this guard" and demands his name and says that she will complain about both to the M.D and he will fire both. Rohit starts laughing and in meanwhile Rahul comes on bike near the

same location. Rahul just walks near her and whisper Deepika don't shout he is our M.D. Then the girl becomes silent and turns around. Rohit after completing his laughing says that "this should never happen in office" and walks away from there. Rahul asking Deepika what she had done on very first day of her new job.

After few days Rohit just don't get to the office as he is having headache and takes rest at home. Ria after working for few hours as M.D, she just gets irritated and feels that she can't take Rohit's position as M.D even for one day. So she just goes to Rohit's house and there he is not at all ill but just playing with her mom. Rohit saying that he will not apply oil on his head and mom is running behind him just to apply oil on his head. Finally mother gets tired and sits down on the sofa and Rahul just comes and sleeps in her lap. Then after applying oil Rohit's mother says Rahul now go and take bath after some time (as Rohit's name at home is Rahul). Then he just goes upstairs, then Ria comes and asks Rohit's

mother what had happened to Rohit. Then she says nothing to be concerned much but just he was having some headache in the morning. Then Rohit's mother say "I had became old and now it's time for Rahul to play like that with his wife" and asks Ria "do you like to marry Rohit" then Ria replies "we are only good friends". Then Ria goes back to office and gives a half day leave for all employees.

Rohit's mother asks Rahul why can't he marry Ria as she is good looking, well-mannered and as she is concerned about him. Rohit says mom you know that I love someone else. Rohit's father comes and comments the girl whom you met in childhood and smiles. Rohit says "off-course I love her and I am waiting for her". Rohit's parents just force Rohit to listen to them and accept to marry Ria and says that "we shouldn't live in our past and come back to present to accept the present". Rohit just says "as you wish" and gets away from home Rohit drives car to nearby lake and sits on wooden bench, looking at the sunset and

feeling sorry for what he has promised to his childhood friend. After some time he sees a couple coming nearby and finds that it is Deepika and Rahul. They come near with surprise and sit on the same wooden bench and ask why he is sitting there alone. Rohit says that "it is my favourite place to sit here and look at the lake". Rahul spontaneously replies it is favourite place to someone else and says "even Deepika likes to sit all alone like this, I have been observing her from 6 years". Rohit asks '6 years' and gives a long pause. Rahul says since from our graduate school we are good friends and Rahul leaves saying that he will bring something to eat together. Deepika asks sorry for her behaviour at the first time when they met. Rohit says it was fun to meet someone like her. Then she asks I don't see Ria around here, Rohit replies that they are just good friends and he is going to marry her after few days. After saying that Rohit just stands up and says have nice time and goes away. When Rahul comes back with

some eatables in hands and asks where our M.D is, Deepika says he has gone home few minutes before.

A few days after Rohit takes Rahul to a Bar and Rahul says that he don't drink. Rohit says that even he didn't ever tried but wanted to drink once before marriage. Then Rohit orders one glass wine and Rahul just takes a cool drink after some time Rohit takes few more glasses of wine become crazy and after that he is near to Rahul and whispers in his ears that he don't even love Ria and laughs. Then Rahul thinks that Rohit had gone mad needs to drop him home he says we have to go now. Then Rohit asks "is Deepika waiting for you, why don't you marry her". Then Rahul says that he had proposed her before but she denied his proposal and Deepika is only a good friend of him. And Rahul says "She loves some from her childhood and she had met him in train". Then Rohit shouts "everyone had got one childhood love story" and falls down. Rahul takes Rohit to home and knocks the door. Rohit's mother

opens door and gets shook to see Rohit in such a situation. Rohit's mother asks Rahul what had happened to his Rahul and he understands that Rohit's name at home is Rahul. Rahul says that Rohit had drank very much and lost his consciousness. Then they take him to bed and makes him sleep and Rahul goes away. In the morning, Rohit's mother comes near Rohit and asks whether he wants to marry Ria or not then he just says "I had already accepted it". Then her mom walks away from the room to final the dates as Ria came along with their parents to Rahul's house for marriage discussion.

On the marriage day, Deepika comes to Rohit's house to attend the marriage ceremony along with Rahul. Then Deepika send Rahul back to house to get back to her backpack as she forgot at home. And Rahul asks why then Ria replies "once I lost my favourite thing in school age and I never want to lose the other ever". Then Rahul leaves to Deepika's house. Then Deepika sees Rohit's mother and thinks that



she had met her before, then goes to bride's room to help others in decorating bride. Then Rohit's mother asks Deepika to go Rohit's room and bring the jewellery set from his wardrobe. Then she visits Rohit's room and finds a wardrobe and opens it and just starts searching for Jewellery set then suddenly she drops an album of photos, and when she leans down to take it, she observes a pillow in the wardrobe at lower section and when she just see the photos which dropped from album then she just pulls the pillow out from the wardrobe and hugs it with happiness and becomes unconscious with happiness. When Rohit comes for his bridegroom's dress he observes that Deepika had fallen down on floor with one hand grabbed that childhoods pillow and in other hand his childhood photo. Then he just lifts her and runs to the car in the way he see Rahul is coming with a backpack. Then he just goes near Rahul and asks him to take her to hospital. But Rahul denies it and removes the other pillow from backpack and

gives it to Rohit and says it's your wish where you want to take his childhood love. Then Rohit just gets confused and realises that he is holding his childhood friend.

Then he just drives to lake and takes her to the bench where Deepika used to sit alone and wait for someone. When Deepika opens her eyes she see is sleeping in Rohit's lap and holding two pillows of childhood and finds herself on the wooden bench near lake.

Then she just wakes up and sees Rohit aka Rahul and Rohit asks "Were you going to wait for me your entire life?" she replies "till death". Rohit says "I should had never broken the promise" and Deepika aka Ria replies "you had not yet broken your promise" Then Rahul hugs her and says "I will be there always for you, no matter whatever situation is **'I Love You'**".



***“Love is Ageless” anyone can fall in love at any time. And once fallen in love, one can wait for their entire lifetime just to be with their love i.e. “Love is forever”***