

My
Shadow
If You Loved Once



D RAJESHWAR RAO (BARRY)

My Shadow

Publishing-in-support-of,

FSP Media Publications

RZ 94, Sector - 6, Dwarka, New Delhi - 110075
Shubham Vihar, Mangla, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh - 495001

Website: *www.fspmedia.in*

© Copyright, Author

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form by any means, electronic, mechanical, magnetic, optical, chemical, manual, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior written consent of its writer.

ISBN: 978-81-19927-15-9

Price: ₹ 289.00


The opinions/ contents expressed in this book are solely of the author and do not represent the opinions/ standings/ thoughts of Publisher

Printed in India


My Shadow


If You Loved Once

D. Rajeshwar Rao




*Dedicated to,
My Friends with
My Family*






*Special Thanks to,
Dr. Soniya Jadaji
As she motivated me to
finish my Novel*



About The Author



I had never thought of becoming an author, it's my one year of unemployment, which made me think about writing a novel. A few years back, one of my friends said that our group doesn't have any creative person. We all are working like a machine in sales, marketing, accounting and so on. So I started writing within a few days and I got my story, thanks to my friend's suggestions on the same. People may say that its easy to write a novel, but completing it, is a big task and I have completed my first task. The second task for me is to reach the people who believe in their first love and I am sure they will find their love story in my book. I completed my primary and middle schooling from EMMS 5, then secondary education from SSS 4, and senior secondary from happy public school. I am not good in studies and changed three colleges to complete my graduation. Presently, I am working at Shri Venkatesh (stock broker services India Pvt .Ltd) as a sales executive.



Act 1



My First Love

It was the last day of my summer vacation. On the next day, I had to go school, so I wanted to sleep for long hours. Suddenly “Trin Trin”, the alarm rang I opened my eyes and saw the clock. It was 6 am, my father as usual was going for a walk. It was only for two seconds while I opened my eyes, and again I went into a deep sleep. A “Tak Tuk” noise made me wake up again. My father had gone for a walk and that was the only sound I used to hear in the morning.

I just turned around to see the clock, it was 6:30. I heard the voice of peoples coming around and a truck with a loud horn of “beep beep”. With my half-opened eyes, I walk towards balcony to find out from where the noise was coming. It was our new neighbour, shifting to our block. I saw four labours lifting furniture and a tall man directing them. I thought he must be the house owner. It was impossible for me to sleep with that disturbance. So, I decided to sit in the balcony, after a long time I could see the sunrise.

I heard a loud sound of “Ritu”, the tall man shouted. I turned around to find whom the tall man

was looking for. “Beautiful”, the word came out of my mouth once I saw Ritu. She was looking like an angel in the morning. I could not divert my eyes from her face. She was wearing a pink salwar suit.

She said, “Yes papa”.

Her father pointed his finger to the cycle and told her to take it inside.

She nodded and took the cycle inside her home.

It had been half an hour I was waiting for her to come outside, but it was my father, who was coming back from his walk, I knew, if he saw me sitting in the balcony, he would shout at me as sitting without a book is a waste of time in his opinion, so I quickly went to my room.

My father always used to say, “Get up early in the morning, it will be good for your health”. Today I realised that my father was right.

It was 11 o'clock, when I got ready to go market for purchasing books. I went to my garage, it's in front of Qrt-no. B. Ritu was cleaning her cycle. I saw her, but she was busy in cleaning her lady bird, so I went to Ranjeet's house. He was my best friend, we both decided to purchase books together so that we could get a discount. Because we were expecting to purchase new bat and ball with that saved amount.

In evening, we all friends used to play cricket in a small ground, at the middle of our colony., I saw Ritu and her mother going somewhere. Her mother was looking around the colony, but Ritu's eyes stuck on the road, she was not looking at anyone. I thought it was the third time I was stayingr her, but she didnt noticed me once. Suddenly, I realised that all boys

were looking at her while playing. At the end of every day, we used to sit for a while and talk. I knew today's topic so I remained quiet. Suddenly, Ravi said, "look" – all boys turned – it was Ritu and her mom coming back from market. They went inside their house, "she went to your block, who is she?", Ravi asked.

"I don't know, she is new to our block, leave it and let's talk about today's match", I said.

Ravi replied, "Now your block will shine". All boys responded with a laugh.

What yaar! Our schools have opened, so we will play late from tomorrow.

All responded positively by shaking their heads.

* * * * *

The next morning, I was standing at my balcony. I saw Ritu polishing her shoes and setting her socks in sunlight, which means she also had day shift for school. At 11:30, I got ready for school, so I went to the garage first and found Ritu's cycle. That means she was still at home.

Slowly I went Ranjeet's home as we always used to go school together. He was not at home, so I had to go school alone. I saw Ritu, cycling to her school, and came to know from her school uniform that she was from N.N.S. School, which was near to my school. So I followed her. Suddenly at Lal Maidan, she stopped and started looking at the cycle's chain, as it came off from its place. She picked up a small stick and was trying to put the chain back to its place. She tried repeatedly but failed to fix it. I was looking at her from a distance and decided to help her. It was

her first day of school, and nobody wants to reach school late.

I moved close to her.

Can I help you?

“Can you put my cycle’s chain back to its place?”, she replied. Her voice was as sweet as a singer.

Without wasting a moment, I put the chain back. Because of the grease, my hand got totally black. I looked at Ritu.

“Oh! Your hand got dirty because of the grease, it’s all my fault. I have given you trouble”, Ritu said.

“No problem!”, I said and picked some grass from roadside and cleaned my hands.

“It’s getting late, you should go to your school”, I said.

“You too, which school you are studying in?”

“N.C.C. School”, I replied back.

She thanked me and left for her school.

I was late to reach my school by five minutes. I was punished to stay back at the gate for an hour. I thought, “She also might not have reached the school on time”. So, I decided to check.

Thank god! She reached on time.

I came back to my school. At five the bell rang, it was the end of first day. I reached home and saw Ritu’s cycle which confirmed that she had also reached home.

* * * * *

The next day, Ranjeet came to my place for going school together. I thought, if I would go with him,

I wouldn't see Ritu. So, I said, "It will take time to get ready, you go now, I will meet you in school". Ranjeet left and I was waiting for Ritu and decided to go school following her.

Ritu put her bag in basket of her cycle, I went to my garage quickly and followed her. When we crossed our colony, I went near her. I was sure that she would talk with me. She saw me but didn't talk. The whole day, I was thinking the reason behind it.

The whole week, I followed her to school, but we didn't talk. After a week, I decided to talk with her and was waiting at Lal Maidan. It was 11:30 am, I knew her time of school, so reached five minutes before. I saw her coming and was going to pass from my side.

"Hello!", I said.

"Yes?", she replied with innocence.

"You remember me?"

"Yes, one day you helped me".

"I want to know your name", I said. I knew her name but it was the only way to start conversation.

"Why?"

"I want to be your friend, my home is just upstairs to your home".

"I never saw you there".

"If you lift up your head, then, only you can see me", I thought.

"Yes! My garage is in front of your house".

"My name is Ritu, we are new to this city, I don't know anyone here".

“Don’t worry, within a few days you will feel better in our city, this place is very nice and the peoples are good too”.

“Let’s talk on the way, otherwise we will be late for our school”. She said.

It was the first time she was talking frankly with me. Within a few days, we became good friends and started going school together. We used to meet at Lal Maidan daily and go to school by walking. Both of us were in 10th standard; the only difference, I was from English medium and she, from Hindi. Our time tables of the first term examination were announced but were different from each other. So, we could not meet for the next seven days.

* * * * *

After exams, we met again.

“So how was your exams?”, I asked.

Ritu: “Good and what about yours?”.

“If I am through, it would be a big achievement for me”.

Ritu: “It means, you are not sure about your results”.

“Yes, it’s very hard to predict my results but these exams don’t matter, we have board exams this year”.

Ritu: “Which subjects do you want to opt in 11th class?”

“Not yet decided, but I hate maths, science and biology”.

Ritu: “The only subject left is commerce”.

“Yes, I will select that”.

In a small conversation, we both decided to take commerce in class 11, without any objective or goal.

As I had predicted, I failed in both subjects – science and mathematics, and Ritu secured good marks. She was good in studies. My father warned me, If I fail, I would be sent to my sister's place. My sister got married two years back and is very strict about studies. She had taught me till eighth and after that no one was there to guide me. I used to study only when I didn't have any work, which used to happen only once in a week.

It had been six months for Ritu and me going to school together. I started liking her a lot but did not know much about her feelings, but she used to discuss everything with me. It was the month of October and winter vacation started. From that very day, we were not able to meet because she was not allowed to go anywhere except school.

* * * * *

The next day was my birthday, and the Diwali was on the same day. I got new jeans and T-shirt from my mom.

I thought Ritu would be the first one to wish me, but it was Ranjeet who came in the morning. At 9 am, I was standing in the balcony, I saw Ritu, washing the veranda. She saw me and whispered, I got my birthday wish from a distance of 20 metres. I was extremely happy, she remembered my birthday! In evening, she made a beautiful rangoli, and the puja was completed at 7 pm. I moved towards the ground to burn crackers. For the last two years, I was not celebrating my birthday. My sister used to make

My Shadow

If You Loved Once

"You can't forget your first love" the word you have heard by many people. But, how many of you remember this for a lifetime. It starts from the first sight when you saw her. Firstly, you want friendship, it happens! Secondly, you want love, it happens! But when you want to marry her then things changes. You meet many girls in your life, but it's only one who get placed in your heart forever. The time when you meet different girls in your life you start finding similarities between her and your first love. Being someone's first love is great, but to be her/his last love is beyond perfect. The love which started from school time got the tag of marriage after 8 years. Ritu and Kaveri loves Rajesh, Rajesh loves Ritu. But it's because of Ritu, Rajesh started loving Kaveri. But he has only 1 choice for marriage and he makes the decision.



You may reach Author at:
drajeshwar31@gmail.com

