

MY PRINCE CHARMING

فارس أحلا مي

Written by

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FADE IN:

INT. RADIO DUBAI STUDIO - EVENING

Two women sit at the control room at RADIO DUBAI station. AMAL ALREFAI (41), long curly hair, and NAHEDA ALSHAMSI (38), wears a white scarf and a professional dark suit.

The background music fades.

AMAL ALREFAI

(into microphone)

Thank you for joining us again at Radio Dubai, this is your host Amal Alrefai, and we continue to take your calls this evening with our wonderful psychologist, doctor Naheda Alshamsi. She is here to answer all your questions about life, love and relationships.

NAHEDA

(into microphone)

Thank you Amal, and good evening again to all our listeners in Dubai and throughout the UAE.

AMAL ALREFAI

And our next caller this evening is Suha, from Abu Dhabi. Hi Suha.

SUHA (V.O.)

Hello Amal. Hello doctor Naheda.

NAHEDA

Hi Suha, what's on your mind this evening?

SUHA (V.O.)

Actually I'm calling to thank you for the advice you gave me last week, regarding the problems between me and my husband.

NAHEDA

Great. Give me the good news.

SUHA

We are divorced now.

NAHEDA

What?? Why??

SUHA (V.O.)

Well, like you said, it was about time for me to make the right decisions and stop listening to other people. So I asked for divorce, and got it.

Naheda slaps her forehead.

NAHEDA

(into microphone)

Well, if this is what's right for you, then you made the right decision. Congratulations my dear.

AMAL ALREFAI

(into microphone)

Thank you Suha, and good luck. Our next caller is Adnan from Dubai. Hello Adnan.

ADNAN (V.O.)

(sounds like an old man)

Yes, of course.

AMAL ALREFAI

Mister Adnan, can you tell us more about yourself, sir?

Naheda has a suspicious look in her eyes.

ADNAN (V.O.)

Oh, that's ok, no problem. I'm married and my wife is married...for a long time...just tell Naheda to bring eggs and milk on her way home.

Naheda suddenly sprints up as she feverishly motions to the sound engineer to CUT! CUT! CUT! He does.

AMAL ALREFAI

(to Naheda)

Who is this man??

NAHEDA

MY FATHER!!! He heard you say my name and heard the number and called!

Amal and the sound engineer burst out laughing.

AMAL ALREFAI

Oh my god, I LOVE you father!

NAHEDA

I'm sorry. He has been very forgetful lately.

AMAL ALREFAI

Oh no, I love, love him, please have him call every night!

NAHEDA

Uhh...NO!!

SOUND ENGINEER

Ok, ladies. Let's finish up. We're back on the air in 3, 2, 1...

They both go back to their seats, and the background music fades.

AMAL ALREFAI

(into microphone)

Thank you again for your lovely calls this evening. Now to our next caller...Ashraf from Dubai. Hello Ashraf.

ASHRAF (V.O.)

Thank you. Hello.

CUT TO:

INT. ROOM - EVENING - SAME TIME

A MAN stands in front of a large window, staring out at a purple night sky fringed with pink. He is holding a phone close to his face. We can't see anything else in the dimly lit room, except the Man's warm but commanding face, and his trimmed beard. He looks like a man of maturity yet who exudes a glow of enthusiasm. Aged about 55.

NAHEDA (V.O.)

Good evening Ashraf. This is doctor Naheda, what's on your mind tonight?

ASHRAF

(into phone)

A lot on my mind tonight.

Ashraf's voice is deep and crisp. He talks like a poet and with calm demeanor.

NAHEDA (V.O.)

Good things I hope?

ASHRAF

(into phone)

Things that you keep in a deep spot
in your heart, and rarely let it
out, and when you do, you regret
it.

NAHEDA (V.O.)

You shouldn't regret it, especially
when you share it with someone
special.

ASHRAF

(into phone)

And what if this special someone
doesn't exist.

NAHEDA (V.O.)

There is always someone special,
but sometimes we are too busy, or
too afraid, to see this
person...But you never know,
magical things can happen when you
open your heart, you just need the
courage to do it.

ASHRAF

(into phone)

I will take your word for it.

NAHEDA (V.O.)

Do you like to share something
special with us tonight, Ashraf?

ASHRAF

(into phone)

Yes...I Like to share a tender
moment, that is yet to be
lived...Warm feelings, that have
yet to be felt...And a love song,
that is yet to be written.

CUT TO:

INT. RADIO DUBAI STUDIO - SAME TIME

Amal and Naheda look at each other, both look very touched.
Naheda looks at the microphone for a long moment.

NAHEDA

(into microphone)

Thank you so much for sharing. I
know this came from your heart.

ASHRAF (V.O.)
It did, and you are welcome.

NAHEDA
(into microphone)
Would you like to tell us more
about yourself?

ASHRAF (V.O.)
Next time... Goodnight.

NAHEDA
(into microphone)
Ashraf...

AMAL ALREFAI
(looks at the monitor)
He's gone.

CUT TO:

INT. NAHEDA'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Naheda enters, takes off her scarf, throws her purse and keys on a small table by the door, then walks to the living room, and collapses on a chair.

WOMAN (O.S.)
Who is Ashraf??

HALA (25), Naheda's sister, walks in.

NAHEDA
I have no idea. He didn't say his
last name and didn't give any
information.

HALA
(almost to herself)
He's an enigma.

NAHEDA
Maybe he is.

HALA
You know you have over a thousand
comments on Facebook in the last
hour right?

NAHEDA
Really? So people DO listen to my
show.

HALA

Yes they do. But tonight it's ALL about this Ashraf, here listen to this...

She looks at her phone.

HALA (CONT'D)

Samia: is Ashraf single? Majeda: I think Ashraf is Mahmoud Yaseen

Naheda laughs.

HALA (CONT'D)

Samira: Can you give Ashraf the Oscars...Suhair: Can you post a picture of Ashraf.

NAHEDA

Wow...women are really desperate these days.

Hala laughs.

HALA

And baba has tons of fans too!

NAHEDA

OH MY GOD! DON'T REMIND ME!! What happened??

HALA

(still laughing)

We were listening to the show, then I went to the kitchen to get something, and when I came back he was on the phone.

NAHEDA

No doubt this was THE most embarrassing moment of my life!

HALA

I bet it was. Anyways, enough action for one night. I'm going to bed. Goodnight.

NAHEDA

Goodnight. I'll let you go dream about your prince charming.

HALA
 (laughs)
 Ok my love, goodnight.

CUT TO:

INT. HOUSE - BATHROOM - MORNING

The emotionless face of MAJED ALHIJAZI looks upon himself in the mirror, and we realize this is ASHRAF.

He moves an electric shaver around his neck, then shuts it off and wipes his face with a towel.

INT. MAJED'S HOUSE - MASTER BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

The bedroom is elegant and spacious. A large TV on the wall plays ALJAZEERA with no sound.

At a bedside table, Majed picks up a heavy, gold ROLEX, sliding it on, checking the time. 5:30.

INT. MAJED'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - MORNING

Majed, now in an expensive gray suit, stands by the kitchen counter, reading the morning paper.

WOMAN (O.S.)
 (Egyptian accent)
 Good morning mister Majed.

WAHIBA (65) a large woman with short gray hair, places a cup of coffee next to Majed.

MAJED
 (without looking up)
 Good morning, Wahiba.

He takes a long sip.

WAHIBA
 Would you like breakfast this morning?

MAJED
 No.

WAHIBA
 What would you like for dinner tonight?

He finally looks up from his paper.

MAJED

Dinner?

WAHIBA

Yes. It's the meal people usually eat at night, sir.

He looks at her for a moment, then picks up a set of keys and turns to leave.

MAJED

Surprise me.

Majed walks to the door.

WAHIBA

Why didn't you tell them your real name?

He stops.

MAJED

(without looking)

So you heard.

WAHIBA

Yes, the radio was on in my room, it's my favorite show, and I recognized your voice.

He turns and looks at her.

MAJED

They don't care about my real name.

WAHIBA

Of course they do.

He slowly shakes his head.

WAHIBA (CONT'D)

Mister Majed, there's nothing wrong with it...

MAJED

Nothing wrong with what?

WAHIBA

To talk about your true feelings. Not a lot of men know how to do that.

He slowly nods, then leaves.

CUT TO:

EXT. THE CITY OF DUBAI - DAY

Distinctive DUBAI skyline on the horizon.

A late model MERCEDES BENZ parks in front of a three-story glass building, in an upscale neighborhood.

Majed gets out and heads to the building.

INT. OFFICE BUILDING - CONTINUOUS

Majed enters the elevator and pushes the button for the second floor. At that moment, doctor Naheda Alshamsi rushes through the front door toward the elevator. But instead of holding the door for her, Majed, unaware of her presence, keeps looking at his phone, as the door closes.

NAHEDA
Unbelievable!

Naheda waits as she checks her watch. A Man walks in and stands next to her. SAEED MESHREF (62), a kind looking man in an elegant suit.

SAEED
(smiles)
Good morning, doctor Naheda.

NAHEDA
Good morning, mister Saeed.

SAEED
Welcome to the building, how do you like your new office?

NAHEDA
It's wonderful, thank you.

The elevator arrives. Saeed pushes two, Naheda pushes three.

INT. ELEVATOR - CONTINUOUS

SAEED
My wife said she loved your show last night.

NAHEDA

That's great. Please thank her for me.

SAEED

Sure. And please say hello to your lovely father from me.

She closes her eyes.

INT. SECOND FLOOR - MORNING

Majed pushes open a double glass door, a PLAQUE on the door reads: ALHIJAZI COMMUNICATIONS.

He enters the very busy and noisy floor.

There are employees sitting inside cubicles on both sides of the large room, some looking at computer screens, some talking on the phone.

The second Majed enters the floor, everything stops. No phones ringing, no heels clicking. Everything and everyone freeze.

Looking straight ahead, Majed makes his way across the room.

MAN (O.S.)

Good morning, sir.

Majed stops and looks to his left, at the direction of the voice, and sees a YOUNG MAN (23), standing next to his cubicle with a chocolate bar in his hand, one of many on his desk. Majed turns and walks to him.

Curious employees peer out of their cubicles, exchanging looks, some shaking their heads.

Majed stands facing the young man, who's starting to sweat.

MAJED

Are you the new guy?

The man nervously nods.

MAJED (CONT'D)

What's your name?

He has to think for a moment.

EMPLOYEE

Ahmad...My name is Ahmad.

Majed looks at him for a moment, then reaches with his hand to him. Ahmad quickly raises his arms in a defensive move. Majed reaches for Ahmad's loose tie and fixes it, then turns and continues to walk. Ahmad collapses on his chair.

Majed pushes open a glass door and enters his office.

Employees tilt their heads outward, watching Majed inside his office, and the second he turns to face them, the heads quickly disappear.

INT. MAJED'S OFFICE - MORNING

Empty walls. No distractions.

Three objects on Majed's desk: phone, laptop computer and a brass plaque which reads: "MAJED ALHIJAZI. CHAIRMAN.

He's on the phone, operating the computer with one hand.

MALE (V.O.)

I don't want to switch to a different company, mister Majed, unless I have to. I would like to stay with you, but you need to give me better prices. Your prices are much higher than your competitors, and with the current economic situation every dirham counts.

MAJED

That's true, Jamal, but you have to keep in mind, with my service you are getting quality not quantity...the best mobile and internet service in the UAE., You know your employees are very satisfied.

JAMAL (V.O.)

Trust me I know that, and that's why I called you. But the numbers are not adding up anymore.

Majed shakes his head.

MAJED

Imagine you are stuck in the middle of the desert, and you want to order pizza as your last meal, you look at your phone but there's no signal.

(MORE)

MAJED (CONT'D)

With my service you know you are guaranteed to order that pizza and die happy.

JAMAL

I don't like pizza... Please work with me, Majed. We are getting lots of offers from other companies but I like to stay with you, because your company is the best for my business.

MAJED

I'm sorry, there isn't much I can do to help you.

JAMAL (V.O.)

Well, this will leave me very disappointed, Majed. I was expecting a different outcome to this conversation. But obviously you don't believe in compromise.

MAJED

No sir, I don't. Have a nice day.

Majed hangs up, shuffling computer windows: stock quotes, graphs, lists.

He rubs his chin as his eyes land on SAMAR (22), the executive assistant. She stands ready with a large stack of papers, fully attentive.

MAJED (CONT'D)

Yes, Samar.

She quickly reads from a paper.

SAMAR

Sail Konchady called.

MAJED

Ok.

SAMAR

Amjad Alhijazi also called.

MAJED

Ok?

SAMAR

That's your brother.

MAJED

I know.

SAMAR

Should I schedule a call back?

MAJED

No.

She hesitates for a moment when she sees the next item on the list. He looks at her.

MAJED (CONT'D)

Yes?

SAMAR

Well, we are having a little birthday party for the new employee, Ahmad...and I think you should attend. Everyone will be there.

MAJED

Absolutely not.

SAMAR

(confused)

But...

MAJED

Samar, for how long have you been working for me now, three years?

SAMAR

Five.

MAJED

Ok, five. Have you ever seen me partying?

She shakes her head.

MAJED (CONT'D)

Have you ever seen me in a good mood?

SAMAR

No. Not at all.

MAJED

Thank you, Samar.

She stands for a moment, as if trying to find the courage to say what's on her mind.

SAMAR

Sir, I truly think you should come, it will be good for the morals of the employess, especially the new ones.

He gets up and walks to her. She takes a step back.

MAJED

What do you mean?

SAMAR

What I means is...employees feel like they are in prison, here in this place, sir. And that's not a good thing.

MAJED

Prison?

SAMAR

Yes. You don't allow music, you don't allow us to talk to each other, or have any kind of fun activity. It really feels like prison.

MAJED

Maybe you're right. But I disagree about the music part. Remember the classical music CD I gave you? That music was allowed.

SAMAR

That was funeral music.

MAJED

What??

SAMAR

Yes sir.

Majed looks at her for a long moment, then slowly nods.

CUT TO:

INT. NAHEDA'S OFFICE - DAY

Naheda sits behind an elegant desk, Looking at a computer screen. The wall behind her is littered with colorful family pictures. She looks up from the computer at the ARAB COUPLE sitting across from her.

A SCARFED WOMAN in her early twenties, and A MAN dressed in traditional Arab clothing, in his mid twenties. They are MR. AND MRS. AJMANI.

NAHEDA

So, Mrs. Ajmani, how would you describe your son's behavior since your last visit?

MRS. AJMANI

Well...

Suddenly, a medium size BALL flies across the room and hits Naheda in the head. She screams.

Mr. Ajmani bursts out laughing as his son, NEDAL (6) come running after the ball.

MRS. AJMANI (CONT'D)

(soft and calm)

Nedal, habeebi. Please don't throw the ball on the doctor's head.

Naheda is fuming, as Mr. Ajmani continue to laugh.

NAHEDA

Not much improvement I guess.

Mrs. Ajmani slowly shakes her head.

MR. AJMANI

But his hand is stronger.

NAHEDA

Listen, both of you, there isn't much I can help you with, if you're not willing to help yourselves. Encouraging this type of behavior doesn't help you much, and you will continue to struggle.

MRS. AJMANI

But I'm trying...

NAHEDA

You're not trying hard enough. Take away all his toys if you have to, and only give it back if he behaves good. Do not reward bad behavior.

(she looks at the man)

FROM ANYONE!

MRS. AJMANI

He just doesn't listen and doesn't pay attention at all. I was having the same problem with my husband when we first got married.

NAHEDA

I bet.

Mr. Ajmani stops laughing and looks at his wife.

MR. AJMANI

What problem?

MRS. AJMANI

Paying attention problem, you forgot? You always paid attention to OTHER people, but not to me.

MR. AJMANI

That is NOT true. How can you accuse me of such things?

Naheda's eyes are darting between them.

MRS. AJMANI.

Don't think I don't know. I know everything.

MR. AJMANI

Oh really? Tell me. Come on say it.

Naheda has had enough. She gets up.

NAHEDA

Ok. Ok please stop. We can have a special session to talk about your marital problems, but now let's focus on your son. Ok?

They both nod.

NAHEDA (CONT'D)

It was good seeing you. Please remember, NO REWARDING BAD BEHAVIOR! I'll see you next time.

The couple get up. Naheda checks her watch.

NAHEDA (CONT'D)

Let's go. I'm leaving too.

INT. ELEVATOR - DAY

Naheda and Al Ajmanis are in the elevator. It stops at the second floor, and Majed walks in. Nedal takes notice of Majed and takes a step closer to him.

NEDAL

My dad used to have a beard like yours, but I cut it with the scissors when he was asleep.

Majed looks at Nedal, then at Mr. Ajmani, who nods his approval.

MR. AJMANI

(laughs)
He did.

Majed nods. As the elevator door opens.

MAJED

Such a...lovely family. I hope to see you here more often, you need it.

Majed steps out. Naheda smiles.

CUT TO:

EXT. ALHIJAZI COMMUNICATIONS BUILDING - DAY

About twenty five employees have gathered in a grassy area on the side of the building, near A CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND, talking and laughing, including Naheda, Saeed and ASMA (59), a large, scarfed woman, later we will know her as a member of the board.

A small party table had been set up with various types of foods and drinks, in addition to a half-eaten chocolate birthday cake.

NAHEDA

(to Saeed and Asma)
Thank you for inviting me. This is so much fun.

ASMA

You are welcome my dear. Me and my daughters listen to your show ALL the time, in fact, my youngest daughter doesn't believe we work at the same building, do you mind taking a selfie with me to show her?

NAHEDA

(smiles)

Of course, Asma.

Asma takes out her phone, puts her arm around Naheda's shoulder and CLICKSj. She looks at the picture and seems very surprised.

ASMA

Something is wrong with this camera! That's NOT how I look like.

She is three times the size of Naheda.

NAHEDA

You know, there's a new diet called Keto. Everyone I know is on it, including me.

Asma looks at her up and down.

ASMA

Why are YOU on a diet?

NAHEDA

Well, just to stay in shape.

SAEED

Only one time in my entire life I went on a diet, and ended up gaining more weight.

ASMA

That happens to me all the time.

Majed walks over to them.

MAJED

Hello everyone. Hello doctor Naheda.

NAHEDA

Hello mister Majed. Thank you for this lovely party.

MAJED

It wasn't really my idea. But
you're welcome.

NAHEDA

(smiles)

It's a wonderful idea, regardless.

They look at each other for a moment, he then nods to her,
and walks away.

ASMA

We don't have too much fun in this
company. This is a rare moment.

NAHEDA

But why is there a playground here?
I don't think your boss put it in,
he doesn't look like the type who
likes to have fun.

SAEED

Oh no, he isn't. This building used
to be an elementary school before
we move in, and the building owner
never removed it.

NAHEDA

I see.

Ahmad, the birthday boy, wears a party hat, and stands
talking to Samar, as he bites on a piece of chocolate.

AHMAD

He is so lucky I was in a good mood
this morning, otherwise I would've
showed him some of my karate moves.

He starts swinging his arms and shadowing awkward karate
moves in the air.

SAMAR

(sarcastic)

Sure. That was obvious.

AHMAD

What? You don't believe me? I'll
show what I'm going to do to him
when I see him, just wait.

Samar suddenly freezes as she looks over Ahmad's shoulder.
Majed is standing behind him.

AHMAD (CONT'D)
I will turn him into an exercise
bag and...

He just noticed the look in her eyes.

AHMAD (CONT'D)
And...He is behind me right?

Samar slowly nods.

AHMAD (CONT'D)
Thank you, Samar.

Ahmad slowly turns to face Majed, who stands there for a moment staring at him, then takes a step back.

MAJED
I like you all to form a line in
front of me, please.

Employees quickly form a line and stand attentive, especially Ahmad...Naheda and Saeed stand on the side watching.

MAJED (CONT'D)
Most of you have worked with me for
years, and those of you who know me
well, know that I take my work very
seriously, right?

EMPLOYEES
Yes sir!

MAJED
Great. But I'm noticing some of you
are unaware that I am also capable
of having fun.

He steals a look at Ahmad, who drop his eyes to the ground.

MAJED (CONT'D)
Therefore, I have decided to prove
to you, right here, right now, that
I AM a fun person, when I choose to
be one.

Employees raise their brows as they see him head to the playground in his expensive suit and tie...full of confidence. Saeed rubs his chin.

SAEED
God help us.

NAHEDA
What is he going to do?

SAEED
Wait and see.

BACK TO MAJED.

He turns and looks at Samar.

MAJED
Samar, come here please.

She walks over to him.

MAJED (CONT'D)
(quietly)
I haven't done this in years, I
might need some help.

SAMAR
I'm sure you can do it sir.

He slowly takes off his jacket and places it onto Samar's open arms, then slowly proceeds toward the ladder. Everyone is watching.

The playground consists of a high slide on one side, and a vertical ten-step ladder on the other, with a small enclosure between them, and on the other side is multiple single seat SWINGS.

Majed starts to climb up the ladder slowly, step by step, holding on tightly to the bars without looking up.

MAJED
Samar.

SAMAR
Yes?

MAJED
Am I close?

SAMAR
Yes sir. You're almost there.

MAJED
Thank you.

He then reaches the small enclosure and enters it on his hands and knees, then sits for a moment on top of the slide, and finally lets go.

Because of his weight and size, he flies down, overshooting the end of the slide, and landing awkwardly on the grass, butt first.

The employees and Naheda can hardly contain themselves from laughing at this very awkward scene, of which Majed had managed to accomplish without a single laugh or smile, all business.

He then simply gets up on his feet, takes his jacket from Samar, nods to his audience, then walks away.

NAHEDA

(to Saeed)

This man needs to come see me at the office, he really seems to have major issues.

Saeed laughs.

CUT TO:

INT. NAHEDA'S HOUSE - EVENING

Naheda enters, takes off her scarf, throws her purse and keys on a small table by the door, then walks to the living room, and collapses on a reclining chair.

WOMAN (O.S.)

Naheda, dinner is ready.

NAHEDA

(her eyes closed)

Ok. Give me a minute.

HAYAT walks into the living room. She is a kind looking woman in her mid fifties.

HAYAT

Are you ok?

NAHEDA

Yes, mama. I'm fine. I just had a long day.

HAYAT

Come let's eat before the food gets cold.

INT. NAHEDA'S HOUSE - DINING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Dinner in progress.

NAHEDA

Hello everyone.

Naheda follows her mother to the dining room, and gives quick hugs to her younger sister Hala, and her father ADNAN AL SHAMSI (70), (who we already heard on the phone). He wears thick glasses, and a hearing aid.

There is baked chicken, soup, and a large bowl of salad on the table.

Adnan picks out a piece of chicken with his hand, and places it on his plate. Hayat is watching.

ADNAN

Why are we having chicken again? We just had it yesterday.

Hayat shakes her head.

HAYAT

No, Adnan. Yesterday we had kufta and potatoes, did you forget?

ADNAN

(clueless)
We did?

Hala is laughing silently. Hayat sits next to her husband, picks up a tongue and uses it to take out pieces of chicken, places one for Naheda, and another for Hala.

HAYAT

Yes we did. I really think you should go see a doctor. You seem to be very forgetful lately my darling...And please use the tongue.

Hala laughs.

ADNAN

Salt. Where's the salt?

Hayat rolls her eyes. Hala picks up the salt shaker and hands it to him.

HALA

Here you go, baba.

HAYAT

(to Naheda)
So, Naheda, how was your day?

Naheda shrugs.

NAHEDA

Just another long day, except for watching a grown man making a fool of himself.

HALA

(smiles)

Another day dealing with the crazies of the world.

NAHEDA

Hey, we never use this word, ok? They are mentally challenged, that's all.

HALA

(teasing)

No, they are crazy and you chose to work with them.

NAHEDA

Whatever. Maybe I should work with YOU then.

Hala makes a face, then sticks out her tongue to Naheda.

HAYAT

So...Naheda...I need you to be home early, tomorrow evening...

Everyone stops eating and look at Hayat, as if they know what she's going to say next.

HAYAT (CONT'D)

Abdulla's mother called me...they're coming to see you.

Naheda closes her eyes, and takes a very deep breath.

NAHEDA

Mama, we talked about this man, and I told you...

HAYAT

Told me what?

NAHEDA

I told you he's NOT the right one for me, ok?

Hayat looks at Naheda, trying to contain her anger.

HAYAT
 NO IT'S NOT OK!
 (she imitates Naheda)
 Abdullah is not right because he's
 a mechanic, Samir is too old,
 Khalil is too short, Isam is
 overweight.

NAHEDA
 Yes, exactly. I'm glad you
 remember.

Hayat finally losses it.

HAYAT
 I have had it with you. There isn't
 a man in the city of Dubai that is
 good enough for you, right??

NAHEDA
 (firm)
 RIGHT!

Hayat trying to contain herself.

HAYAT
 Well that's not how the world
 works! Do you understand? You can't
 go against our traditions and think
 you can stay single all your life!
 Stop making up excuses because I am
 done hearing them!

Naheda has heard enough. She tosses her fork on the table and
 sprints up.

HAYAT (CONT'D)
 Abdullah's mother keeps calling me
 and I need an answer from you,
 soon.

Naheda leaves the room. Hayat follows her. Adnan looks
 confused.

ADNAN
 Wait a minute, is your mother
 getting engaged?

HALA
 BABA, EAT YOUR CHICKEN!!

Hala goes after her mother and sister. Adnan adjusts his
 hearing aid.

ADNAN
(to himself)
Looks like I will need to buy a new
suit for the party.

CUT TO:

INT. MAJED'S OFFICE - DAY

Majed is looking at his phone. A knock on the door, Ahmad walks in, and stands ready like a soldier.

AHMAD
You called for me, sir?

Majed looks at him.

MAJED
Yes I did.

Majed lights and smokes a cigarette, and walks over to him, then offers him one, Ahmad takes it. Majed lights it for him.

MAJED (CONT'D)
So, Ahmad. I'm going to...

Ahmad takes a drag, and immediately his face turns red and starts to cough profusely.

MAJED (CONT'D)
Are you ok?

Ahmad nods.

AHMAD
I'm sorry. I don't smoke.

MAJED
Then why did you take it??

AHMAD
I forgot.

Majed shakes his head.

MAJED
Ok listen. Can I trust you with
something?

AHMAD
Absolutely.

MAJED
I wanna send you on a secret mission.

Ahmad get extremely excited.

AHMAD
Me? Secret mission??

Majed nods.

MAJED
Yes. Top secret.

AHMAD
Sir, thank you for trusting me. I LOVE TOP SECRET MISSIONS!

MAJED
This is the question. Can I trust you?

Ahmad gives him a very serious look.

AHMAD
Mister Majed, look at me...Do I look like a smart guy to you?

MAJED
Well, to be honest...no, not too smart, maybe just a little.

AHMAD
And that's exactly what my mother used to say.

They look at each other.

MAJED
Ok? So?

AHMAD
Just give me a chance to prove myself, please.

Majed slowly nods.

MAJED
First of all, whatever I say will stay between us, and if I find out you told anyone...

AHMAD
I swear I will not tell anyone.

MAJED

Ok...I want to send a gift...to a special lady friend of mine...and I would like you to deliver it to her...without her knowing...can you do it?

AHMAD

YES SIR!!

Majed takes out his wallet, and hands him money.

MAJED

There's a flower shop around the corner. Go there and buy the biggest bouquet of red roses...

He takes out a folded paper and hands it to him.

MAJED (CONT'D)

Tape this paper to it and leave it by her door, and DO NOT LET ANYONE SEE YOU.

AHMAD

YES SIR!!!

He turns and leaves. Majed takes a deep breath as he stands motionless, waiting.

Ahmad walks back in, scratching his head.

AHMAD (CONT'D)

You know, it will be helpful if you tell me who the lady is.

Majed slowly shakes his head.

MAJED

She was at your birthday party yesterday.

Ahmad smirks and nods his head.

AHMAD

I know exactly who she is.

MAJED

You do?

AHMAD

Sir. Forgive me for saying this, but it was very obvious from the way you were talking to her that...that there is something special there.

MAJED

Really?

AHMAD

Absolutely, and, if you allow me again, you two were a perfect, perfect match to each other, like two love birds.

Majed is genuinely surprised.

MAJED

You know, for a moment I underestimated you, Ahmad. But you are definitely a smart guy, smarter than you look.

AHMAD

I told you so.

Majed nods with admiration.

MAJED

Do it first thing in the morning...again, no one on earth should know, especially her.

AHMAD

YES SIR!!!

CUT TO:

EXT. MAJED'S HOUSE - NIGHT

The MERCEDES's headlights sweep the massive house with the three car garage. One of the garage doors opens, and the car pulls in.

INT. MAJED'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Majed sits on a comfortable chair, facing a large TV mounted on the wall, watching the news. He takes a sip of coffee, then lights and smokes a cigarette.

Wahiba enters.

WAHIBA
Dinner is ready in the kitchen.

MAJED
Thank you.

WAHIBA
How was your day?

A long moment.

MAJED
Amjad called the office, and my
cellphone.

WAHIBA
I know. He called here too...Are
you going to call him back?

MAJED
No.

She slowly nods. She then hands him a CD.

WAHIBA
I found this, when I was cleaning
the closet.

Majed looks at it, flips it. Nothing is written on it. He
gets up and inserts it into a DVD player by the TV.

ON SCREEN

A home movie.

A happy seven-year-old Majed, in a party hat, runs toward A
PLAYGROUND, followed by other happy kids in suits and
dresses. He climbs up the slide, then slides back down, and
heads toward a swing.

YOUNG MAJED
Baba, come push me.

A MAN appears on screen, KHALIFA AL HIJAZI (30), looks like
an identical twin of Majed, walks behind the swing and starts
pushing it.

WOMAN (O.S.)
Khalifa, be careful don't push him
too hard.

Then, a WOMAN (25) appears, carrying a two-year-old boy. She
walks toward the swing as it stops, then starts to fix
Majed's hair.

WOMAN (CONT'D)
Come, Majed, let's go inside, the party is about to start.

THE MOVIE CUTS INTO ANOTHER CLIP

A BIRTHDAY BOY MAJED spins round and round. The hands of other children keep him spinning. A young girl runs over to him, takes his hand and they both walk over to a table with a large BIRTHDAY CAKE with lit candles.

The words " HAPPY BIRTHDAY MAJED " appear on top of the cake.

The same WOMAN shows up from behind, still carrying the baby. She holds Majed tight, as they both BLOW OUT THE CANDLES.

MAN (O.S.)
Laila, Majed, Amjad, look here.

They all look into the CAMERA and wave. Then, Khalifa shows up into frame.

He holds Majed and stamps a kiss over his cheek.

KHALIFA
(big smile)
Happy birthday Majed!

YOUNG MAJED
Thank you baba! I love you.

KHALIFA
I love you too my boy!

Majed pushes a button on the remote control, and the picture freezes. He stares at it, expressionless.

WAHIBA
Do you miss them?

MAJED
Sometimes.

WAHIBA
I do, all the time. They were good people. May God have mercy on their souls.

Majed slowly nods.

WAHIBA (CONT'D)
You know, there is one thing I would love to see before I die.

He looks at her.

WAHIBA (CONT'D)
Your children.

He looks a bit surprised, then shakes his head.

MAJED
It's too late for me.

WAHIBA
It's never too late, you're a man,
a successful man. Any woman dreams
of someone like you.

He forces a faint smile, then shakes his head again.

MAJED
Thank you, Wahiba.

WAHIBA
I'm going to my room. Do you need
anything?

MAJED
No.

WAHIBA
Goodnight.

MAJED
Goodnight.

His cellphone rings. He picks it up, looks at the screen,
then pushes the SPEAKER button.

MAJED (CONT'D)
Kazem, how are you brother?

KAZEM (V.O.)
(on phone, Indian accent)
Hello old man, how's life treating
you?

MAJED
It's fine. How's Mumbai these days?

KAZEM (V.O.)
Oh, crazy as usual. How about you,
how's the telecom business?

MAJED
Up and down, you know how it is.

KAZEM (V.O.)

Oh absolutely. It's been tough lately for us. Every damn kid with an IPAD thinks he's a telecom expert and wants to start his own company. I'm so sick and tired of it.

MAJED

I know. It's the same here.

KAZEM (V.O.)

Listen, I'm coming to Dubai soon, and would like to see you.

MAJED

Sure. Call me when you arrive.

KAZEM (V.O.)

Ok my friend. Talk soon. Bye.

MAJED

Bye.

CUT TO:

INT. MAJED'S OFFICE - MORNING

Majed is typing something on the computer. He suddenly hears LOUD SCREAMS coming from the main room. He runs out.

INT. MAIN ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Majed runs out of his office, and is absolutely shocked to see Ahmad, pinned down on the floor by Asma, as she smacks him repeatedly by a bouquet of RED ROSES. A group of employees, including Samar, had made a circle around them as they cheer Asma.

MAJED

What's going on here??

AHMAD

MISTER MAJED HELP ME!!

ASMA

(furious)

THIS...THIS CRAZY MAN!!

MAJED

What about him??

ASMA
I SAW HIM LEAVING THIS BOUQUET ON
MY DOOR THIS MORNING!

MAJED
What?? I'm sure it's a mistake.
Please take it easy Asma, and get
off him, he can't breath.

ASMA
Mistake?? What about this!!

She flashes the paper which Majed had given to Ahmad. Majed quickly snatches it from her hand.

MAJED
Ok, ok please let me handle this.
Everyone get back to your work,
please. Ahmad come to my office.

INT. MAJED'S OFFICE - LATER

Ahmad stands in the middle of the room, beaten and battered. Majed is calmly searching for something in the drawers, then on the shelves.

AHMAD
Sir...

Majed motions for him to wait, as he continues the search.

AHMAD (CONT'D)
Sir, can I help you find something?

MAJED
Sure. I'm looking for a gun, a
knife, a tank...anything I can kill
you with.

AHMAD
Want me to look outside?

Majed takes a deep breath, then finally explodes.

MAJED
YOU STUPID MORON WHY WOULD YOU GIVE
THE ROSES TO ASMA WHY, WHY, WHY???

AHMAD
(calm)
Because you told me to. The secret
mission, remember?

Majed is trying very hard to contain himself.

MAJED

I told you to give roses to Asma???

Ahmad nods.

MAJED (CONT'D)

Wait a minute, so when you said we are a perfect match, you meant me and Asma?? Me and Asma are two love birds??

AHMAD

Well, on a second thought, maybe not. She's crazy...and heavy.

MAJED

You are an absolute idiot. I don't know what else to say.

(to himself)

Me and Asma perfect match. You know she has seven children AND A HUSBAND right??

AHMAD

Oh, no sir I didn't.

MAJED

WELL SHE DOES!

AHMAD

May I ask you something, who was it then, if not Asma?

MAJED

I was talking about Naheda you idiot! DOCTOR NAHEDA!

AHMAD

Oh, the crazy people doctor??

MAJED

Yes, the who should be YOUR DOCTOR!!

Ahmad scratches his head.

AHMAD

I don't know about her sir. I don't see you two together.

Majed can't take it anymore. He suddenly places his hands around Ahmad's neck, and starts to choke him. Samar walks in. Majed lets go.

SAMAR

Please don't stop!! He deserves it.

MAJED

Absolutely!

SAMAR

Thank you sir. Thank you for standing up to ALL THE WOMEN IN THE WORLD!

MAJED/AHMAD

Ha??

SAMAR

And let me know if you need help. Asma is not done with him yet.

MAJED

Sure. Please leave us, I want to finish punishing this idiot.

Samar gives Ahmad a "look" then leaves.

MAJED (CONT'D)

Any last wish before I choke you?

AHMAD

Yes. Give me a second chance.

MAJED

Absolutely not.

AHMAD

Mister Majed, please. I beg you.

Majed looks at him for a long moment.

MAJED

What if you screwed up again?

AHMAD

Then I will buy you a gun to shoot me.

Majed takes a deep breath, then takes out his wallet and hands Ahmad money.

MAJED
 Red roses, a nice bouquet...FOR
 DOCTOR NAHEDA UPSTAIRS.

Ahmad keep nodding like a doll.

MAJED (CONT'D)
 This is your last chance.
 (he hands him the paper)
 And don't forget this.

Ahmad takes it.

AHMAD
 Thank you for trusting me, sir.

MAJED
 Get out of my face.

CUT TO:

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - MORNING

Majed looks out from a large window at the beautiful Dubai skyline in the distance, then turns to face his BOARD MEMBERS, a very serious group of people--three MEN and two WOMEN, seated around a conference table, all dressed in expensive suits and elegant dresses.

The five board members are: SAEED. HAMDI (49). OMAR (45). ASMA. SALWA (scarfed, 50).

Majed takes a seat at the head of the table.

MAJED
 Good morning ladies and gentlemen.

BOARD MEMBERS
 Good morning, sir.

MAJED
 Let's get to the point. As you all know, our company have suffered some financial losses in the past few months, and I like to hear your thoughts, so, please speak up.

They all nod.

OMAR
 How do you see our future?

MAJED

I see us bouncing back, with the right strategy of course.

HAMDI

Bouncing back, how? We just lost three of our best accounts. Majed, things have changed, and obviously we are not the only player in town like we used to be. We are losing to our competitors.

MAJED

And?

HAMDI

Well, we can cut our prices and still make profit, why aren't we doing that?

MAJED

Because of our principles. This is how my father operated from day one and I'm planning to continue on the same path. Sure, we can offer cheap services like everyone else, and double our profits, but this will go against everything we believe in. My father started this company to offer people the absolute best service with the best coverage, that's how we became number one.

OMAR

But things have changed. There are new companies in the market who offer decent services for much cheaper prices than ours.

MAJED

I don't agree. Our services are still the best in the country.

SALWA

So what is the right strategy?

ASMA

Yes, what is the right strategy moving forward?

MAJED

We have been in this business for over thirty five years.

(MORE)

MAJED (CONT'D)

Had many ups and downs, but we always managed to survive, and come out on top, because we offer the highest quality service. My plan is to follow the same strategy, and expand our marketing.

Hamdi shakes his head.

HAMDI

This is not going to work, we have to be more flexible.

MAJED

It WILL work.

Saeed, obviously the peacemaker in the group, raises his arm to speak.

SAEED

Everyone, please, please calm down. We are all on the same team here and we have to help each other, instead of arguing.

SALWA

We just want to make sure we are on the right track. We all have families to support. This company means so much to us like it means to you, Majed. That's why we are here.

Majed slowly nods.

MAJED

Thank you for your feedback. I would also like to apologize to Asma for what happened. I'm sure you all heard.

The all nod.

ASMA

Thank you Majed. Samar told me what you did to this crazy kid.

Majed nods respectfully.

SALWA

The workplace should always be a safe place for women.

ASMA
Especially the pretty ones.

The men quickly exchange looks. Hamdi covers his mouth to hide a laugh.

SALWA
I agree.

MAJED
Thank you all.

Everyone gets up and file slowly out of the room. Saeed stays.

SAEED
Is everything ok?

MAJED
Yes. And thank you for your support, Saeed.

Saeed places his arm gently on Majed's shoulder.

SAEED
Of course. You know you can count on me at any time.

MAJED
I know.

A moment.

MAJED (CONT'D)
Saeed...Are you afraid?

SAEED
Of what?

MAJED
Of me, making the wrong decisions?

SAEED
Absolutely not. Working with a man like you, I have no fear.

MAJED
Thank you.

SAEED

I care about this company, Majed. I was here from day one, when your father, God have mercy on his soul, started it, and I want to see it succeed as always, and I trust your leadership.

Majed manages a faint smile as he slowly nods.

Majed's cellphone rings, he quickly answers.

MAJED

(into phone)

Where are you?...ok, Stay there.
I'm coming.

SAEED

Everything ok?

MAJED

Yes...I...I Need to take care of some business.

He quickly leaves.

CUT TO:

EXT. ALHIJAZI COMMUNICATIONS - MAIN DOOR.

Majed walks out and finds Ahmad, standing there with a large BOUQUETTE OF RED ROSES in one hand, and a brown bag in the other.

AHMAD

(proud)

What do you think?

Majed quickly ushers him to the side of the building.

MAJED

It looks great.
(points to the bag)
What is this?

Ahmad reaches inside the bag and takes out a cucumber. Majed takes it from him.

MAJED (CONT'D)

I don't understand. Why did you buy cucumbers?

AHMAD

I thought it would be nice to give her cucumbers with the roses. Great idea, no?

MAJED

Cucumbers?? Want me to give her cucumbers with the roses, you idiot??

AHMAD

Mister Majed, don't be cheap, ok? They were on sale.

Majed strikes him on his head multiple times with the cucumber.

MAJED

(screams)
NO! NO CUCMBERS!

AHMAD

(rolls his eyes)
Fine.

He reaches into the bag, takes one out and bites it. Majed snatches the bag out of his hand.

MAJED

JUST GO! Don't use the elevator, go up from the side door.

AHMAD

Ok.

MAJED

(looks up at the sky)
God, please give me patience, please, please.

CUT TO:

INT. BUILDING HALLWAY - LATER

Ahmad emerges from a door, holding the bouquet. He makes his way slowly down the hallway, and stops at the third door, then carefully scans around. He then places the bouquet on the floor. He is about to turn when he sees the door opening. He freezes. Then, NEDAL AJMANI suddenly peers out, holding his ball. The two stare at each other for a moment, both completely taken by surprise.

NEDAL

THIEF!

Ahmad suddenly turns and starts running towards the door. At that moment, Nedal runs after him a few steps, then suddenly throws the ball hard, striking Ahmad in the back of the head. Ahmad loses balance and falls down hard on his face.

NEDAL (CONT'D)

(laughs)

YES!!

Ahmad manages to get up on his feet and stumbles toward the door. At that moment, Naheda shows up at her office door, and manages to get a glimpse of the back of Ahmad as he runs through the door.

NAHEDA

(to Nedal)

What happened? Who was that guy??

She then notices the bouquet, picks it up and takes it inside the office.

MRS. AJMANI

What's going on?

NEDAL

I saw a thief, and hit him with the ball.

MR. AJMANI

(laughs and claps)

Good job, son.

Naheda looks at the bouquet, and notices the folded paper taped to one of the stems. She takes it, unfolds it and silently reads: "MAGICAL THINGS CAN HAPPEN WHEN YOU OPEN YOUR HEART" signed: ASHRAF.

Naheda is in absolute shock. Her mouth is wide open.

MRS. AJMANI

These are such pretty roses.

NEDAL

Can I eat one?

MRS. AJMANI

No, Habeebi. They're not ours, we can't eat them.

NAHEDA

Nedal, how did the man look like?

Nedal shrugs.

NAHEDA (CONT'D)
Listen, it's very important that
you tell me!

NEDAL
I don't want to tell you.

MRS. AJMANI
See how he is? Always stubborn.
(to Nedal)
Nedal, Habeebi, tell the doctor how
the man look like.

NEDAL
I don't want to.

He then looks at Naheda and sticks his tongue to her. Naheda suddenly snatches the ball from his hand.

NEDAL (CONT'D)
Give me my ball!

NAHEDA
Only if you tell me what the man
looked like.

NEDAL
Ok. Fine. He looked like baba.

Naheda looks at him in disbelief. Mr. Ajmani laughs.

NAHEDA
Do you mean he was the same age
like your father?

Nedal nods.

NEDAL
He looked like a stupid guy. He
fell on the ground after I hit him
with the ball.

MRS. AJMANI
Nedal, Habeebi, your father doesn't
look like a stupid guy.

NAHEDA
(almost to herself)
This doesn't make any sense.

NEDAL
I want to go home.

NAHEDA

Listen, guys. We need to cut this session short. I'm sorry but I have to do something.

MRS. AJMANI

Oh, that's ok, don't worry.

NAHEDA

Next session will be free, and will be all for Mr. Ajmani. I promise.

MRS. AJMANI

That's wonderful news, doctor Naheda.

Al Ajmanis leave. Naheda reads the note one more time, then looks up at the bouquet, and notices a BUSINESS CARD dangling from one of the roses, and quickly takes it, picks up her phone, and dials a number on the card.

GIRL (V.O.)

(Indian accent)

Bliss flower boutique, can I help you?

NAHEDA

(into speaker)

Yes, hello. I just received a bouquet of roses and I...

GIRL (V.O.)

Bliss flower boutique can I help you?

NAHEDA

Yes, can you hear me? I said I just received a...

GIRL (V.O.)

Yes, I hear you. Would you like to send flowers?

NAHEDA

No. I just received...

GIRL (V.O.)

What is the address you are sending to?

NAHEDA

I'm not sending anything, I...

GIRL (V.O.)
Then why are you calling?

NAHEDA
LISTEN TO ME!!! I just received a bouquet of roses and I just want to know if you know the person who...

GIRL (V.O.)
Hold please.

She's on another call.

NAHEDA
(to herself)
God...give me patience...please.

GIRL (V.O.)
Bliss flowers boutique, are you sending flowers?

Naheda takes a deep breath, trying very hard to contain herself.

NAHEDA
(giving up)
Yes... to Mars. I'm sending flowers to Mars.

GIRL (V.O.)
What is the address on Mars?

Naheda is about to slam her cellphone on the ground, but changes her mind, and pushes the END button as the girl repeats the name of the store.

CUT TO:

INT. MAJED'S OFFICE - DAY

Ahmad walks in, again, beaten and battered. Majed sprints up from his chair and walks to him.

MAJED
What happened??

AHMAD
Mission accomplished...except for...

MAJED
Except for what??

AHMAD

After I put the roses at her door,
SUPER BOY came out and attacked me
with a ball.

He scratches the back of his head.

MAJED

What?? How??

AHMAD

I don't know. He came out of
nowhere this little monkey. I swear
he is stronger than RAMBO!

MAJED

What about Naheda did she see you?

AHMAD

No. Only the kid.

Majed scratches his chin, then nods.

MAJED

That's ok then, as long as she
didn't see you. I don't care about
the kid.

He pats Ahmad on the back.

MAJED (CONT'D)

Well done!

AHMAD

Any more secret missions for me?

MAJED

Soon.

CUT TO:

EXT. OUTDOOR CAFE - DAY

Naheda and Hala sit at a small table at the patio of a cafe,
sipping iced coffee. Naheda looks out at the busy shopping
street, and sees a pregnant woman walking with her husband,
another woman with two small children, and another one
pushing a stroller with a baby in it. Hala notices.

HALA

That's how it should be.

Naheda is lost in a deep thought.

NAHEDA

What?

HALA

Women getting married and having babies. It's natural.

Naheda takes a very deep breath. Then slowly nods.

NAHEDA

I know.

HALA

Then what are you waiting for?

Naheda slowly shakes her head.

NAHEDA

Prince charming.

HALA

Ashraf?

NAHEDA

I know it's crazy, but I can't stop thinking about him, the things he said, it's what I dream of...and by the way, I haven't told anyone yet, but he brought flowers to my office.

HALA

What?? How? When?

NAHEDA

He left a bouquet of red roses at the door...but...

HALA

But what?

NAHEDA

He was attacked by one of my patients, and ran away.

Hala looks at her for a moment, then burst out laughing.

NAHEDA (CONT'D)

It's NOT funny. Poor guy fell on his face. I bet you he has a bump on the back of his head.

HALA

Who is this patient??

NAHEDA
Some psycho kid, with a psycho
father.

HALA
(still laughing)
I swear this is like a movie.

Naheda takes a deep breath and closes her eyes.

HALA (CONT'D)
And then what happened?

NAHEDA
Nothing. I tried calling the flower
shop to see if they know who he is,
but the girl who answered also had
some real psychological problems...

Hala rubs her chin.

HALA
Why can't he just knock on your
door and say: "Hello Naheda, I'm
your prince charming and I brought
you roses". That's what normal
people do, instead of playing
games, don't you think?

NAHEDA
I don't know. I'm sure he has his
reasons.

HALA
Maybe he's a beast?

NAHEDA
Excuse me?

HALA
You know, like the movie Beauty and
the Beast. Maybe he looks like the
beast.

Naheda rolls her eyes.

HALA (CONT'D)
(teasing)
Maybe he has a very big head, much
bigger than his body?

NAHEDA
Ok, now you're being ridiculous. I
think he's just shy.

HALA

Listen, we don't know who he is or where he is, and, forgive me for saying this, but you're not getting any younger, and time is not on your side, Naheda. Maybe waiting for Ashraf is not the best idea.

NAHEDA

It's my fault.

HALA

Why?

NAHEDA

I have watched too many romantic movies in my life, and still do.

HALA

Naheda, these are only movies. The real world is different.

NAHEDA

You're right. It's only movies and fantasies.

HALA

I'm not asking you to marry anyone, I'm just saying you have to be fair and realistic, that's all.

NAHEDA

Will see.

Hala smiles. They both get up and leave.

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE BUILDING - MORNING

Majed walks into the elevator and pushes the button for the second floor. At that moment, Naheda walks into the building. The elevator door is still open. They look at each other. Majed reaches with his hand, and holds the door for her.

NAHEDA

Thank you.

He nods respectfully.

MAJED

You're welcome.

NAHEDA
How's work?

MAJED
It's ok.

She slowly nods, as the elevator door opens, and Majed walks out.

INT. ALHIJAZI COMMUNICATIONS - CONTINUOUS

Majed looks around at the usually busy main room. It's quieter than normal. Some of the cubicles are empty. He makes his way to his office, Saeed is waiting for him.

MAJED
What's going on? How come some of
the offices are empty?

Saeed shakes his head as he takes a seat.

SAEED
Few employees quit.

MAJED
That's not good.

SAEED
No it isn't. They think we are
going out of business soon, and go
work somewhere else.

Majed slowly shakes his head.

MAJED
Fine. Let them go. I don't need
cowards working for me.

SAEED
Yes Majed, but we can't lose all of
our employees, we have to find a
way to keep them.

MAJED
Any ideas?

SAEED
Can you pay them a little more?

MAJED
It's impossible now.

SAEED

Well then, maybe we should make it more fun, more attractive in here. This place can be depressing sometimes.

MAJED

What do you want me to do, bring belly dancers, or a music band?

SAEED

You know that's not what I meant. Let's think of something.

Majed nods. Samar knocks on the door then walks in.

SAMAR

Good morning. Someone is here to see you.

A MAN (45) walks in. Majed gets up to greet him.

MAJED

Saeed, please meet mister SAIL KONCHADY. Sail, please meet Saeed, he is one of our senior board members and a good friend.

They all sit.

MAJED (CONT'D)

(to Saeed)

Sail will be making a commercial for us.

SAEED

Commercial?

MAJED

That's right. The first step of our COMEBACK, our revitalization.

(to Sail)

So, what do you have for me?

SAIL

Well, since the market is driven by the younger generation, your commercial will be about a young man traveling around the country, exploring different sites. And will show that by using your quality service, his signal will never drop.

(MORE)

SAIL (CONT'D)

He will always be connected to those he loves, no matter how far...This will be your new slogan.

Both Majed and Saeed nod.

MAJED

I like it. It sends a clear message. Let's do it.

SAIL

Sure. And in the end, we will have a shot of you walking out of the building, repeating the slogan: with us, you will always be connected to those you love, no matter how far.

MAJED

Sounds good.

SAIL

Actually we are planning to do this shot today, if you're ready. I brought the whole crew.

EXT. ALHIJAZI COMMUNICATIONS - DAY

Sail and his crew are ready with their cameras and equipment. They all gather outside the building. Sail is doing his best to coach Majed.

SAIL

What I will have you do, is walk out the main door with a big smile, and repeat the slogan. You think you can do it?

MAJED

Absolutely.

A female makeup artist walks up to Majed, and attempts to apply some make up on his face. He stops her.

MAJED (CONT'D)

Are you crazy??

MAKE UP ARTIST

But sir, we have to add few touch ups, you will look better on camera.

At that moment, Naheda walks out of the building, then steps to the side, and watches from a distance.

MAJED

Absolutely not. Make up is for women only.

SAIL

Sir, she's right, adding a few touch ups will make a big difference. Please.

Majed thinks for a moment.

MAJED

Fine. But no pink lipstick. Red, maybe, but not pink.

MAKE UP ARTIST

Lipstick? Who said anything about lipstick? I'm only brushing some powder on your cheeks, that's all.

MAJED

Oh...

Naheda slowly shakes her head.

IN A SERIES ON INTERCUTS

A crew member stands by the main door of the building, operating a large light from a small crane. Another crew member holds a microphone hanging from a pole. Sail stands ready with his large video camera.

SAIL

AND...ACTION!

The door opens, and Majed storms out of the building, like a soldier going to battle, then raises his arm as if saluting.

MAJED

YOU WILL ALWAYS...

SAIL

Geez...CUT!

Majed looks at him.

MAJED

Good?

SAIL
No.

MAJED
Bad?

SAIL
Yes...Can I ask you a personal
question: do you ever smile?

MAJED
No.

ANOTHER CUT

Majed walks out of the building. He is about to raise his arm again, but stops.

MAJED
YOU...YOU ALWAYS WILL...

SAIL
CUT, CUT, CUT!

MAJED
I think I messed up again.

Naheda shakes her head again, then turns and leaves.

SAIL
I have an idea. We have been here
for three hours and we accomplished
nothing. I think we should use a
professional actor.

MAJED
I think so too.

CUT TO:

THREE MONTHS LATER.

INT. THE SUM OF US CAFE - DAY

A trendy restaurant. Naheda sits alone at a corner table,
sipping tea.

AMAL (O.S.)
Hello beautiful.

Amal walks over to the table with a big smile, gives Naheda a hug, then sits. She has a cup of Starbucks coffee.

AMAL (CONT'D)
So...We Reached thirty.

NAHEDA
Thirty what?

AMAL
The number of people who called so far, claiming to be Ashraf, in the last three months.

NAHEDA
What?? That's crazy!

AMAL
Actually, thirty one. The extra one turned out to be a woman.

NAHEDA
A woman??

AMAL
Yes. But she sounded like a man.

Naheda rolls her eyes.

NAHEDA
Are people really THAT desperate and lonely?

AMAL
Yes. And crazy. We live in a crazy society, my love.

NAHEDA
But why? Why everyone wants to be Ashraf?

AMAL
Recognition, that's all. People are desperate for attention and recognition because their lives are empty.

NAHEDA
This is really sad.

AMAL

Absolutely. Sad and pathetic, take me for example, I stood for twenty minutes in line at Starbucks just to get this.

She flashes her coffee cup.

NAHEDA

What's your point?

Amal thinks about it.

AMAL

I don't know. I don't why I gave you this example. Maybe I'm crazy too.

Naheda laughs.

NAHEDA

So, the big question remains, where is Ashraf?

AMAL

I wish I can tell you. Did he bring anymore flowers?

Naheda shakes her head.

NAHEDA

Nothing.

And just at that moment, Majed walks in, and sits at a table near by. He looks at Naheda and nods his head respectfully. Naheda smiles.

NAHEDA (CONT'D)

That's my office neighbor.

AMAL

What does he do?

NAHEDA

He owns Alhijazi communications.

AMAL

Oh ok, I used to have their service, but I switched, they're too expensive, even though they have the best coverage.

NAHEDA

Yes I know.

AMAL

This the first time I see him. He looks nice and mature.

NAHEDA

He's a nice man. But very strict and has major issues.

AMAL

What issues?

NAHEDA

I can't put my finger on it, it's like he didn't go through childhood, and became an adult at the age of 3.

Amal laughs as she takes a big sip of coffee.

AMAL

So, Naheda, tell me, who is the ideal man in your opinion?

Naheda sighs.

NAHEDA

Call me old fashioned, but I like the man to be sensitive and romantic, someone who buys me flowers and opens the car door for me.

Amal laughs.

AMAL

And we know you got the flowers.

Naheda sighs and nods.

AMAL (CONT'D)

So you are saying your ideal man is the prince charming that we see in the movies.

NAHEDA

Yes.

AMAL

And for how long are you planning to wait for him, my love?

NAHEDA

I don't know.

AMAL

Ok, listen to me, I, married my prince charming...I fought all my family for him...that was fifteen years ago, do you know what's left of my prince now? Five hairs on each side of his big head, and he's hanging on to them like a monkey hanging on to a banana. He gained 50 kilos in the first year of marriage, and things went down hill from there.

Amal's phone rings. She looks at the screen, then gets up and walks away from the table.

Naheda steals a look at Majed. He is eating and looking at his phone. Amal walks back.

AMAL (CONT'D)

I have to go. It looks like I will have a surprise for you.

NAHEDA

What surprise?

AMAL

You'll see later. Let's go.

They both get up. Naheda looks at Majed.

NAHEDA

Take care.

MAJED

You too.

They leave. A MAN (45) walks in and walks over to Majed's table.

MAN

Hello Majed.

Majed shakes hands with the man, who places a small briefcase on the table, then sits.

MAJED

Hello Tawfeeq.

TAWFEEQ

How are you?

MAJED

You tell me.

Tawfeeq scratches his head.

TAWFEEQ

Well, it's not good.

MAJED

Don't tell me it's not good. Show me numbers.

TAWFEEQ

Majed, I'm your accounting manager, when I say it's not good, I know what I'm talking about because I give you real numbers from the real world.

MAJED

Fine. Give me real numbers from the real world.

Tawfeeq opens the briefcase and takes out a tablet, then shows Majed an EXEL sheet.

TAWFEEQ

Look. In 2012 your company had almost 3 million Mobile subscribers, which is almost 30% of the market share, and over 70 thousand businesses using various services that you offer. This is when you made your millions.

MAJED

I know that. I have those numbers. We were named the best broadband network in the Middle East.

TAWFEEQ

That's right. But as of yesterday, those numbers are down by almost 80%...And that's not good.

Majed takes a deep breath.

MAJED

We will bounce back.

TAWFEEQ

How? Your ad has been running for the past three months and didn't make a difference. What else are you going to do?

MAJED

How much longer can the company survive?

TAWFEEQ

At this rate? A month. Maybe two, no more. You were approved for the new loan, that's why. But you have to start paying back very soon.

MAJED

This company is all I have, Tawfeeq. I can't let it go.

TAWFEEQ

Then you have to find ways to generate business.

Majed slowly nods, then gets up and leaves.

CUT TO:

INT. RADIO DUBAI STUDIO - EVENING

Amal and Naheda are in the studio. Background music is playing.

AMAL

So. I told you I have a surprise for you. Wanna know what it is before we go on the air?

NAHEDA

Sure.

Amal looks at her for a long moment.

AMAL

We found Ashraf.

Naheda is stunned.

NAHEDA

What?? How?? Where??

AMAL

He called in and said his name is Ashraf, and said he is the man who called that night. Of course we thought he was one of those people who kept calling.

(MORE)

AMAL (CONT'D)

But our sound engineer compared his voice to the recording that we have of Ashraf, and it's a match.

Naheda's mouth is wide open, still looking at Amal in disbelief.

AMAL (CONT'D)

So we invited him here to the studio...tonight.

NAHEDA

You did??

AMAL

Yes. He's outside, do you want to meet him?

Naheda slowly nods. Amal gets up and ushers Naheda to a side door. One worker opens the door, and a MAN walks in. He is in his mid 50s, short, overweight, only few hairs left on each sides of his head, and has a big silly smile over his lips.

MAN

Hello ladies.

His voice is very similar to Ashraf's voice. Naheda is about to faint.

AMAL

Hello Ashraf. My name is Amal and this is doctor Naheda...the one you talked to.

ASHRAF

Oh, yes, yes, hello. We finally meet right?

Naheda slowly nods.

AMAL

So, Ashraf, why did you wait all this time to call us?

He clears his throat.

ASHRAF

I was sick. But now I feel MUCH better.

AMAL

I see.

Naheda keeps looking at him in disbelief.

ASHRAF

By the way, I brought something to show you.

He reaches into his pocket and takes out a photo, then flashes to Naheda and Amal.

ASHRAF (CONT'D)

I want to show you how I looked like few years ago, before I got married, when I was young and beautiful.

They both look at the picture, it's of a younger version of Ashraf, a little thinner, a head full of hair, but still the same silly smile.

AMAL

(while stealing a look at Naheda)

So you gained about 50 kilos, and you refuse to get rid of those leftover hairs, even though your wife is begging you to.

ASHRAF

(surprised)

How did you know?

She laughs.

AMAL

So, Ashraf, would you like to join us live on the air? All our fans have been asking about you.

ASHRAF

Absolutely!

Amal puts her hand over his shoulder and ushers him toward the control room.

INT. RADIO DUBAI STUDIO - CONTROL ROOM

Ashraf sits in the middle between Naheda and Amal.

AMAL

(into microphone)

Thank you for joining us again at Radio Dubai, this is your host Amal Alrefai.

(MORE)

AMAL (CONT'D)

I'm here this evening with doctor Naheda Alshamsi, and a very special guest of whom we talked to few nights ago, and this guest is ASHRAF!!

Naheda doesn't look too well, her eyes are half closed and looks like she is about to faint.

AMAL (CONT'D)

(into microphone)

Ashraf, please say hello to our audience.

He waves.

ASHRAF

Hello everyone, this is Ashraf.

AMAL

Can you tell us more about yourself?

ASHRAF

Oh sure. My name is Ashraf and I own a jewelry store in the mall of Dubai, we have the best prices in town...

Naheda had enough. She gets up slowly, leaning over her chair, and stumbles away. Ashraf doesn't even notice her, but Amal does, and follows her, as Ashraf continues to talk.

ASHRAF (CONT'D)

We are located on the second floor....

Amal runs to Naheda, who has just picked up her purse.

AMAL

Naheda, are you ok?

She shakes her head.

NAHEDA

No, I'm not ok. I have to go.

AMAL

I'm so sorry. I know how you feel.

NAHEDA

Good. Because I don't know how I feel. Goodbye.

Amal looks at the sound engineer and motions to him to CUT,
CUT.

CUT TO:

INT. MAJED'S HOUSE - NIGHT

It's quiet. The living room is dimly lit. Majed sits on his chair, eyes half closed. Wahiba enters, holding a cup.

WAHIBA

I brought you hot chocolate.

He slowly nods as she places it next to him.

WAHIBA (CONT'D)

What's the matter?

MAJED

Just some headache. Work headache.

She sits on a chair facing him.

WAHIBA

Are you going to let that crazy man get away with it?

MAJED

What man?

WAHIBA

The one who went on the radio claiming he was you. You didn't listen to the show?

He shakes his head.

MAJED

What did he say?

WAHIBA

Some stupid stuff. Majed what are you waiting for? Why don't go and talk to Naheda?

MAJED

And tell her what?

WAHIBA

Tell her you love her and want to marry her.

He looks genuinely surprised.

MAJED

I can't.

WAHIBA

Yes you can. Let me ask you something, why did you call the show that night?

MAJED

To talk to her.

WAHIBA

And you did. And you made an impression, so, what are you waiting for?

MAJED

The right time.

WAHIBA

There is no right time or wrong time when it comes to love. It just hits you out of nowhere, and turns your whole life around.

MAJED

Wow, Wahiba, where is this coming from?

WAHIBA

Coming from the bottom of my heart. Love is the most beautiful thing, and it only comes to us once in a life time.

He looks at her, then slowly nods.

MAJED

I have problems at work. I need to focus on them, otherwise I will lose everything. It's very serious this time.

WAHIBA

And that's another reason to marry Naheda. You need someone close to you to help you and give you motivation.

After a long moment, he reaches and touches her hand.

MAJED

Thank you.

WAHIBA
You're welcome.

CUT TO:

INT. NAHEDA'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - EVENING

Naheda and Hala sit on bed.

HALA
What made you change your mind
about Abdullah?

Naheda slowly shakes her head.

NAHEDA
I didn't change my mind.

HALA
Then what happened?

NAHEDA
I decided to live with the rest of
you... in the real world, that's
what happened.

Naheda and Hala look at Hayat walking in, holding a plastic cone. Hayat grabs Naheda's hand, and with the plastic cone that's clipped at the tip, she quickly sets to work. The HENNA oozing from the tip meandered across Naheda's wrist, leaving coil-like designs on the way. It tickles. Naheda chuckles.

HAYAT
You need to sit still.

A petal or two here, a few dots there, and Naheda now has an oriental bracelet etched on her wrist. Hala is very impressed.

HALA
Mama, when did you learn all this??

HAYAT
The school of life.

INT. NAHEDA'S HOUSE - DINING ROOM

Two women in their 50s are seated by the dining table without head covers. Opposite of them is Hayat and Hala.

Professional smiles in place. Naheda walks in from the kitchen, holding a large tray. She is dressed in a long-sleeved red dress made from silk and linen. Her shiny dark hair reaches her mid back. Everyone looks at her, she drops her eyes to the floor.

Naheda knows the rules of the game. She knows this is all about her. She knows these women are here to study her every move. It is a watershed moment in her life. The tray she is holding has five small coffee cups on small saucers, and three bronze kettles. The two women are looking at her, studying her every move.

HAYAT

Naheda, meet madam Safaa,
Abdullah's mother, and her sister
madam Baheeja.

NAHEDA

Welcome to our house.

Both women seem mesmerized as they nod and smile.

Naheda places the tray on the dining table. She then picks up one of the bronze kettles, and pours hot coffee into the small cup, and places the cup on a small saucer, then proudly presents it to Safaa, and does the same to Baheeja. Safaa quickly takes a small sip, and for a long moment there is only silence as everyone looks at her, as if waiting for her opinion on an important scientific experiment.

She looks at Naheda with a bright smile.

SAFAA

I love it.

Hayat breaths a sigh of relief.

INT. NAHEDA'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM

Adnan and Abdullah sit on the couch close from each other.

ABDULLAH (39), very large, dressed in traditional Arab clothing. Adnan wears a dark suit and tie.

ABDULLAH

I'm very honored to finally meet
you, sir.

ADNAN

Sure, sure. Me too very honored to
meet me.

Adnan reaches for his right ear to adjust his small ear piece, but it comes out, and falls on the couch behind him. He quickly turns and scans. Nothing. He turns back and looks at Abdullah.

ABDULLAH
Is everything ok?

ADNAN
Oh, my, ear. It fell down.

Abdullah looks confused as he looks at Adnan's ear.

ABDULLAH
Your ear fell down? But I see it.

ADNAN
You see it? Where?

He turns around again and looks.

ADNAN (CONT'D)
I don't see it.

A very confused Abdulla points at Adnan's head.

ABDULLAH
It's on your head.

ADNAN
Oh great. Good to know.

ABDULLAH
Thank you...sir. I just wanted to say that I heard great things about you and your family.

ADNAN
(shakes his head)
Oh, not at all. I don't think so, but that's ok.

ABDULLAH
Ha?

Hayat walks in with a tray with two cups of coffee, wearing a white scarf. Abdullah gets up to greet her.

HAYAT
Welcome to our house, mister Abdullah.

ABDULLAH
Thank you so much, madam.

And just now, she looks at Adnan and notices his ear piece is missing. She points at his ear.

HAYAT
 Adnan, where is your ear piece?
 (to Abdullah)
 He doesn't hear very well without
 it.

Adnan understands what Hayat meant when she pointed at his ear. He turns and start looking behind.

ADNAN
 It fell down here.

She bends and starts to look under the couch. Abdullah bends next to her and scans around.

ABDULLAH
 What color is it?

HAYAT
 White.

Adnan looks at them and smiles.

ADNAN
 You two look great together,
 Mabrook!

They both look at him.

INT. NAHEDA'S HOUSE - DINING ROOM

SAFAA
 So, Naheda, you are phycology
 doctor?

NAHEDA
 I'm a phycologist, yes.

BAHEEJA
 Why?

NAHEDA
 Excuse me?

Hala covers her mouth, trying to hide her laugh.

SAFAA
 She means why did you choose
 phycology instead of regular
 medicine?

NAHEDA

Oh ok. Well, because just as the body needs healing, the soul also needs the same thing.

Baheeja

(surprised)

So you treat souls?

She exchanges a quick look with Safaa.

NAHEDA

That's not exactly what I meant, madam Baheeja. I treat people with psychological issues, or who are mentally challenged.

BAHEEJA

There is doctor for these things?

NAHEDA

(proud)

And you are looking right at her.

BAHEEJA

But do you know how to cook and clean also?

Hala can hardly contain herself. She is about to burst in laughter.

NAHEDA

What??

HAYAT (O.S.)

Of course she does.

Hayat walks in quickly, just in time to stop the imminent confrontation.

HAYAT (CONT'D)

She makes the best baked chicken in Dubai, InshaAllah next time you will try her cooking.

Naheda shoots her mother with a deadly glare.

HAYAT (CONT'D)

So how about we go join the men in the living room?

INT. THE LIVING ROOM - LATER

The women walk in to join Adnan and Abdullah. All wearing scarves, except Hala.

A very nervous Abdullah quickly gets up, pumping into Adnan's shoulder in the process, causing the ear piece to fall out of his ear one more time.

Hayat does the introductions:

HAYAT

Madam Safaa and madam Baheeja,
please meet my husband Adnan.

(to Abdullah)

And this is my daughter, doctor
Naheda.

(to Naheda, with a big
smile)

This is Abdulla.

Abdullah can't keep his eyes off Naheda, he nervously nods.

ABDULLAH

Very nice to meet you doctor
Naheda.

BAHEEJA

(rolls her eyes)

She is a soul doctor.

ABDULLAH

What?

They all sit. Naheda stays close to her mother, away from Abdullah.

SAFAA

Very nice to meet you mister Adnan.

ADNAN

(nodding)

Sure.

SAFAA

My son Abdullah has been the man of
the family since his father passed
few years ago.

HAYAT

Oh, may he rest in peace.

ADNAN

That's great news.

Hayat quietly signals to Hala to go sit by Adnan to keep him quiet.

SAFAA

Thank you...and since then, my son has been taking care of us. He has the biggest mechanic shop in Dubai, everyone knows him.

HAYAT

God bless you Abdullah.

ABDULLAH

Thank you, madam.

SAFAA

And the only thing missing from his life is a good wife to take care of him.

BAHEEJA

And take care of us too.

Naheda and Hala exchange a quick look. Hala rolls her eyes. Adnan looks at the large Abdullah.

ADNAN

You like chicken?

Everyone is stunned with the question. Hayat closes her eyes, praying silently for Adnan to stop.

ABDULLAH

Well, yes...but...

BAHEEJA

Yes. He has a great appetite. He is a real man.

ADNAN

Because she makes great baked chicken...

HAYAT

Adnan...

ADNAN

And soup and salad...

NAHEDA

Baba...

ADNAN

But you always have to look for the salt...Mabrook!

Hayat makes feverish signals to Hala, to take Adnan out. Hala gets up, and gently helps Adnan to get up.

HAYAT

I'm sorry. My husband is tired, he needs to go rest.

Adnan makes his way out of the room, ushered by Hala. He suddenly turns and walks to Hayat, extending his hand to her, she takes it.

ADNAN

Mabrook!

He then turns and walks out.

HAYAT

(embarrassed)

I'm so sorry

BAHEEJA

Don't worry. My husband was crazy too.

Naheda suddenly gets up.

NAHEDA

Watch your mouth. My father is NOT crazy...I know A CRAZY person when I see one, you understand?

Baheeja and Safaa are stunned. Abdullah looks very confused. Hayat's mouth is wide open as she sees her marriage plan faltering right in front of her eyes.

HAYAT

Naheda, sit down!

But a very defiant Naheda stands her ground, as she stands with her arms crossed over her chest.

SAFAA

I'm sorry. My sister didn't mean to disrespect anyone.

She quickly gets up, and give signals to her sister and her son that it's time to leave. Everyone gets up.

SAFAA (CONT'D)
 Madam Hayat, doctor Naheda, it was
 very nice meeting you. We will be
 in touch.

CUT TO:

INT. MAJED'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - NIGHT

It's dark and quiet. The moonlight cast tiny silver beams on
 Majed's face, sitting on his chair, staring out his large
 window.

CUT TO:

INT. RADIO DUBAI STUDIO - EVENING

Naheda and Amal sit at their usual spots at the control room.
 The background music fades.

AMAL
 Good evening again to all our loyal
 listeners, this is your host Amal
 Alrefai and joining us again this
 evening out lovely doctor Naheda
 Alshamsi to take your calls about
 life, love and relationships.

NAHEDA
 Thank you Amal, and good evening
 everyone.

AMAL
 Our first caller this evening is...

Amal looks at Naheda.

AMAL (CONT'D)
 ...Ashraf, from Dubai.

Naheda looks suspicious, surprised, shocked...and everything
 in between.

NAHEDA
 Hello...Ashraf.

ASHRAF (V.O.)
 Hello.

Amal and Naheda exchange a look. Amal shrugs.

NAHEDA
What's on your mind this evening?

ASHRAF (V.O.)
A lot on my mind tonight.

NAHEDA
Ashraf...Please feel free to share
with us.

Naheda can hear him take a deep breath. The sound engineer purposely plays romantic background music, as Ashraf talks.

ASHRAF (V.O.)
The red rose speaks of love
silently, in a language known only
to the heart.

Naheda suddenly sprints up.

NAHEDA
(to sound engineer)
Put me on a private line with him.

The sound engineer points to a phone on table in a far corner. Naheda runs to it and picks up the handle.

NAHEDA (CONT'D)
Ashraf, we're on a private line
now.

ASHRAF
Ok.

NAHEDA
I know you're not that stupid guy
who came to the station.

ASHRAF
No, I'm not.

NAHEDA
Then who are you?

ASHRAF
You know who I am.

NAHEDA
No I don't.

ASHRAF
Soon you will, I promise.

After a moment.

NAHEDA
Don't do this. Don't be stubborn,
please Ashraf.

ASHRAF
Goodbye.

He hangs up. Naheda slams the handle on the table.

CUT TO:

INT. NAHEDA'S HOUSE - DINING ROOM - EVENING

Dinner time.

They all eat silently. There is tension in the house after last night's events. Naheda steals a look at Hayat, who was just looking at her. They both drop their eyes and continue eating.

HALA
What's wrong with everyone?

No answer.

Naheda looks at Adnan. He is eating without a care in the world. She puts her fork down, then slides to the chair next to him. He looks at her. She slowly runs her fingers through his hair, then stamps a kiss on his forehead. He closes his eyes.

NAHEDA
I love you baba.

ADNAN
I love you Naheda.

NAHEDA
I swear, if anyone says one bad
word about you, I will cut off
their tongue and feed it to them.

Hayat gets up and sits next to Naheda.

HAYAT
Safaa called. I told her we're not
interested.

Naheda slowly nods.

NAHEDA
Thank you. And I'm sorry.

HAYAT

You don't need to be sorry. You and Hala are the most precious thing in my life, and you mean the world to me, single or married I will always love you.

They hug.

HAYAT (CONT'D)

Come Adnan, let's go take your medicine.

Adnan gets up, places his hand over Naheda's shoulder.

ADNAN

I will call you later.

NAHEDA

What? NO!! No calling.

ADNAN

(on his way out)

Ok, I will write you a letter.

Naheda and Hala laugh.

HALA

So, what's going on, tell me.

Naheda looks at her for a long moment.

NAHEDA

I'm going to find Ashraf.

HALA

What?? What do you mean? We know who Ashraf is.

NAHEDA

No we don't. That stupid guy is NOT Ashraf.

HALA

How do you know that?

NAHEDA

My instinct. And if I'm wrong, then I will burn my psychology diploma and forget it ever existed. I talked to the real Ashraf, the real prince, and he is out there and I will find him.

HALA

This is crazy, Naheda. So what if you were right and you went and found the real prince charming, what are you going to do?

She hangs her down.

NAHEDA

I have absolutely no idea.

CUT TO:

INT. NAHEDA'S OFFICE - MORNING

Naheda is typing something on her computer. A door knock, and Majed walks in. Naheda looks very surprised.

NAHEDA

(gets up)

Mister Majed, come in please.

He clears his throat in an attempt to disguise his voice as much as possible.

MAJED

Good morning. I was...

NAHEDA

I'm actually very happy you finally decided to come.

He is stunned.

MAJED

What do you mean?

NAHEDA

Not a lot of people have the courage to do it on their own. Please have a seat.

He looks confused as he sits.

MAJED

Thank you.

NAHEDA

Absolutely. Listen, we both know you need help, and that's half the battle.

MAJED

Yes, that's true. I need help.

She looks at him for a long moment, then smiles and shakes her head.

MAJED (CONT'D)

What?

NAHEDA

I'm just surprised, never in my wildest dreams I imagined us, you and I, sitting here having this conversation.

MAJED

Really?

She nods.

NAHEDA

So let's start with your childhood. Tell me everything you remember as a child.

He takes a deep breath.

MAJED

My childhood...well...

NAHEDA

(quick)

You became an adult at three, didn't you?

MAJED

Ha? But why is my childhood important?

NAHEDA

It's the best way to analyze your personality to try and understand what went wrong.

He looks at her for a long moment. He finally gets it.

MAJED

You think I'm crazy?

NAHEDA

NO! NO! We never use this word here. We say mentally challenged.

MAJED

I see. So you think I'm...mentally
Challenged.

She is starting to sense that something is wrong.

NAHEDA

Mister Majed, isn't this...isn't
this why you came?

He slowly shakes his head.

MAJED

No.

She closes her eyes for a moment, trying to come up with
words.

NAHEDA

So you're not here seeking my
help...

MAJED

(calm)

I'm here seeking your help on how
to change my office environment,
not because I'm crazy...or mentally
challenged.

She is very, very embarrassed, and out of words.

NAHEDA

I am very, very, very sorry,
Majed...sir...I...

MAJED

No worries. This is not the first
time I was called crazy, as a
matter of fact, half of my
employees think I am.

This relaxes her a little.

NAHEDA

So you're not mad at me?

He shakes his head.

MAJED

Not at all.

She smiles, a very bright smile.

NAHEDA

Tell me then, what can I do for you? What's going on with your employees?

MAJED

Well, I'm trying to find ways to make the office a happier place. I think this will make my employees more productive, and will improve business.

NAHEDA

Absolutely. You know, the company Google, in the US, they offer their employees playgrounds, free meals and even free massages. All to make them happy and more productive, so you're on the right track.

MAJED

I'm not giving my employees massages!

She laughs, and, he actually manages a smile, for the first time in this story he really smiles.

NAHEDA

So. In an office environment, employees always react to their managers-- if you come to work happy with a big smile, your employees will immediately react to you and feel great. But if you walk in as if going to a funeral home, then it will be the same for them. So it all starts with you. Your words and actions will always reflect on them.

MAJED

So I have to learn how to smile?

NAHEDA

Unfortunately, yes.

She laughs. He manages another smile.

NAHEDA (CONT'D)

Yes, exactly like this.

MAJED

Well, my dear lady. Thank you for making me smile. Not a lot of people can do that.

NAHEDA

(smiles)

Glad to know I earned my degree.

He gets up.

MAJED

Thank you again. It was a pleasure talking to you, doctor Naheda.

NAHEDA

Same here, I'm really happy we had this conversation. It's so strange, I feel like I have known you for a long time, even though this is the first time we sit and talk.

MAJED

I feel the same way. By the way, how's the radio show?

She sighs.

NAHEDA

It's a whole, whole different issue, but I don't wanna give you a headache.

MAJED

No that's ok. Maybe we can talk about it sometime. If you like.

She looks at him for a long moment, as if seeing him for the first time, and liking what she sees.

NAHEDA

Sure.

MAJED

Ok, will see you soon.

She smiles and nods. He leaves.

NAHEDA

(to herself)

Majed Alhijazi.

CUT TO:

INT. ALHIJAZI COMMUNICATIONS - MORNING

Majed walks in through the double doors, and makes his way towards his office. He has a completely different demeanor and energy, something we've never seen before. He stops at the door and turns, then scans the room. His employees watching his every move.

MAJED

Good morning everyone.

Completely taken by surprise. They wait few moments before they answer, then;

EMPLOYEES

Good morning sir.

He nods to them, then walks in.

INT. MAJED'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

A door knock, and Samar walks in, with her usual stack of papers and notes. Majed is standing behind his desk with his back to her.

SAMAR

Good morning, sir.

He slowly turns to face her, looking straight at her.

MAJED

Good morning, Samar.

Then, his lips slowly move, and form an awkward, almost fake smile. Samar is in shock.

SAMAR

Are you ok, sir?

Like a kid excited about a new toy, he points to his lips.

MAJED

You like?

She looks confused.

SAMAR

Of course, sir. I honestly think this is the first time in my life I see you smile.

He looks genuinely surprised.

MAJED
Really? That long?

She nods.

SAMAR
Looks like your visit to doctor
Naheda paid off.

MAJED
Yes. We had a great conversation.

SAMAR
Isn't she wonderful? We all love
her.

MAJED
All love her?

SAMAR
Yes. Few of our employees go to
visit her on regular
basis...including me.

MAJED
Oh, this is great...but why?

SAMAR
To seek advice.

MAJED
I see. Advice about family
issues...good Idea.

She slowly shakes her head.

SAMAR
Actually advice on how to...deal
with you.

He looks at her for a moment. She drops her eyes to the
floor.

MAJED
That bad, ha?

She nods.

MAJED (CONT'D)
From now on, things will change.

SAMAR
Change? How?

He gets up and walks around the office, looking at the walls.
A knock on the door, and Saeed walks in.

SAEED
Good morning everyone.

SAMAR
Good morning, mister Saeed.

MAJED
Saeed, good timing.

SAEED
Ha?

Majed looks at Saeed, then gives him that same awkward smile.
Saeed and Samar exchange a quick look.

SAMAR
Mister Majed talked to doctor
Naheda.

Saeed quickly nods, he gets it.

MAJED
Saeed, remember when you said we
need to make this place more fun?

SAEED
Of course, and more attractive.

MAJED
This is exactly what we're going to
do
(he scans around the room)
And we will start with this office.
I want paintings and photographs
all over these walls. Samar, work
on that please.

SAMAR
What kind of paintings?

MAJED
Happy ones. Maybe..hmmm...horses
and camels?

Saeed and Samar exchange another look. Saeed shrugs.

SAMAR
Yes sir. I will go buy paintings of
horses and camels. Anything else?

MAJED

No, that's good for now. Thank you.

She turns to leave.

MAJED (CONT'D)

Samar.

She looks at him...and yet again, the strange smile.

MAJED (CONT'D)

Thank you.

Samar leaves.

As Samar makes her way through the main room, Ahmad and two other employees walk up to her.

AHMAD

(whispers)

Samar, what is happening??

SAMAR

What do you mean?

AHMAD

With the boss. He's acting very strange.

SAMAR

Well, looks like he had a great meeting with doctor Naheda.

He looks very surprised.

BACK TO MAJED AND SAEED

SAEED

Looks like you had a great visit with the doctor.

Majed nods.

MAJED

Saeed, I want to ask you a personal question, if I may.

SAEED

Sure.

MAJED

How many times have you...have you been in love?

Saeed scratches his BALD head.

SAEED
Once, maybe...with my wife.

MAJED
Maybe?

SAEED
Well, I lost most of my hair after the first year of marriage, only few left on the side, and I wouldn't get rid of them, that made her upset...and after I gained about 50 kilos, things went downhill from there. Life was never the same after that.

MAJED
Who's fault was it, yours or hers?

SAEED
Hers, of course. She's a great cook!

Majed slowly nods. Saeed looks at his watch.

SAEED (CONT'D)
Time for the board meeting.

MAJED
I have an idea. I want to have a meeting downstairs, by the playground.

SAEED
What??

MAJED
Yes. Bring them downstairs and I will meet you there in a minute.

Saeed shakes his head and leaves. Ahmad walks in.

MAJED (CONT'D)
Yes?

AHMAD
Sir, I heard you had a conversation with doctor Naheda?

MAJED
Yes I have.

AHMAD
You told her about the...

MAJED
No. I did not...but get ready for
another delivery.

AHMAD
But what if that little monster
attacked me again?

MAJED
Don't worry, we will make sure
she's alone this time.

Majed gets up.

MAJED (CONT'D)
I have a meeting. Get ready...
Tomorrow morning.

AHMAD
YES SIR!

CUT TO:

EXT. ALHIJAZI COMMUNICATIONS - PLAYGROUND - DAY

All board members gather in the playground. Majed walks over
to them.

MAJED
Hello everyone.

BOARD MEMBERS
Hello mister Majed.

HAMDI
What are we doing here?

MAJED
Well, I thought it would be nice to
have our meeting here, in open air,
enjoy the great weather, instead of
being locked up in a room. What do
you think?

Some nod. Some raise their eyebrows.

SALWA
Sure, why not.

ASMA
No chairs?

MAJED
We have some over there.

He points to the three side by side SWINGS that are attached to the slide and the stairs. Asma hesitates for a moment, then walks over and sits on one of the swings. Others follow.

SALWA
Absolutely NOT! This is crazy!

Asma, Omar and Hamdi, each sit on a swing. Saeed and Salwa watch.

ASMA
Salwa, if you don't want to sit,
then come push me.

SALWA
Excuse me??

ASMA
Come on. Don't be shy.

MAJED
How about you, Saeed?

He shakes his head.

OMAR
Saeed, come push me.

Finally, Saeed and Salwa walk over to the swings. Salwa pushes Asma, Saeed pushes Omar, and Majed pushes Hamdi. Asma giggles like a little girl.

MAJED
(as he pushes)
So, ladies and gentlemen, as you
can see, we are following a new
strategy which will...

SALWA
(to Asma)
My turn.

ASMA
No. I'm not done yet.

SALWA
Stop it. I'm tired of pushing.

ASMA
Ok, fine!

The ladies switch. Salwa giggles as Asma starts to push.

SALWA
Harder!

ASMA
I can't! I have arthritis,
remember?

SAEED
(to Omar)
Didn't you have enough, mister
Omar?

OMAR
No.

SAEED
Stop it. Come on let's switch.

ASMA
(to Majed)
Majed, how was the slide?

MAJED
Wanna try?

She nods like a little girl. Asma runs from the swing to the ladder.

ASMA
Salwa, come here.

SALWA
But I'm not done.

ASMA
I said come!

Salwa walks over and helps push Asma up the stairs.

SALWA
You're too heavy, Asma. I thought
you were on diet.

ASMA
Shut your mouth and push!

Asma makes it to the top, then sits on top of the slide. The rest walk over to the bottom of the slide and watch her. Asma hesitates.

HAMDI
Come on, Mrs. Asma, you can do it.

SALWA
Come on, coward.

Asma finally let's go, and just like Majed, she overshoots the end and lands hard on her butt. She giggles, the rest laugh.

ASMA
Hey boys and girls, does anyone
have a lollipop?

Everyone looks at her.

INTERCUTS OF BOARD MEMBERS

Some going down the slide, clapping their hands. Some playing catch on the grass, as the rest of the employees cheer them on from their windows.

CUT TO:

INT. HALLWAY - MORNING

Ahmad emerges from the door at the end of the hallway, holding a bouquet of RED ROSES. He makes his way slowly toward Naheda's office, eyes scanning everywhere. He then places the bouquet at the door, then quickly turns, and finds himself FACE TO FACE WITH NAHEDA. Her arms crossed over her chest.

CUT TO:

INT. NAHEDA'S OFFICE - LATER

Ahmad is seated on a chair, watching Naheda pace back and forth.

NAHEDA
Are you going to talk?

AHMAD
No.

NAHEDA
Fine. Consider yourself my prisoner of war, until you tell me what I want to know.

AHMAD
Ok, first, give me a cigarette.

NAHEDA
I don't smoke.

AHMAD
Me neither. How about food? I'm hungry.

She looks at him for a moment, then nods.

NAHEDA
You're right. Food. I'm hungry too.

She reaches inside one of her drawers, takes out a large piece of chocolate, and takes a bite.

NAHEDA (CONT'D)
Yummy this sooo good.

AHMAD
Please don't. Not chocolate.

She brings it closer to his nose.

NAHEDA
Smells so good, doesn't it?

AHMAD
Yes! Please give me some.

NAHEDA
After you start talking.

AHMAD
Doctor Naheda, please don't make me do this. I can't betray mister Majed, please.

Naheda freezes.

NAHEDA
WHO???

He takes the chocolate from her hand, and takes a big bite.

AHMAD
Mister Majed.

She keeps looking at him, her mouth is wide open.

NAHEDA

Majed? Majed is the one sending me
flowers??

He keeps nodding like a doll. His mouth and face full of
chocolate.

NAHEDA (CONT'D)

MAJED IS ASHRAF???

He stops chewing.

AHMAD

No. Mister Majed is actually mister
Majed.

Naheda suddenly gets up, picks up the roses, pulls Ahmad off
the chair, and drags him to the door.

INT. ALHIJAZI COMMUNICATIONS - DAY

Naheda makes her way slowly through the main room, holding
the bouquet. Ahmad is behind her. Asma comes running,
pointing at Ahmad.

ASMA

Look! This crazy man is going after
the doctor, after he gave up on me.

She suddenly takes off her shoe and strikes Ahmad on his
head, sending him flying to the ground, then jumps on top of
him.

INT. MAJED'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Majed works on his computer. The office looks much different
now with paintings of camels and horses hanging on the walls.

NAHEDA (O.S.)

(calm)

Hello Ashraf.

Majed looks up, and finds Naheda standing by the door with
the bouquet, staring at him. He gets up.

She walks in slowly. Her eyes focused on him. He looks a bit
confused, and completely out of words.

NAHEDA (CONT'D)

So, we finally meet, right?

MAJED

Naheda, I can explain...

NAHEDA

Explain what?? That you have been treating me like a fool all this time?

MAJED

No I wasn't.

She takes one rose and flashes it in his face.

NAHEDA

"The red rose speaks of love silently, in a language known only to the heart".

(she wipes a tear)

Do you even HAVE a heart??

MAJED

Naheda please...

NAHEDA

Why didn't you tell me? You see me everyday, why didn't you say anything to me?

He is looking for words.

MAJED

I'm sorry.

NAHEDA

Sorry? That's it? You have been lying to me all this time and all you can say is sorry?

A knock on the door. It's Tawfeeq. He walks in holding his briefcase. A grim look on his face.

TAWFEEQ

Hello everyone.

MAJED

Tawfeeq, please not now.

TAWFEEQ

I'm sorry Majed. This can't wait.

Board members file into the office. Employees stand by the door looking in. Everyone feels something is about to happen.

Tawfeeq turns and looks at the employees and the board members, then looks at Majed.

TAWFEEQ (CONT'D)

I know you are making changes,
Mister Majed. But...I'm afraid it's
too little too late.

MAJED

What do you mean?

Tawfeeq reaches into his briefcase and takes out few papers.

TAWFEEQ

Alhijazi communications has been
generating very little revenue for
a long time, not enough to pay the
bills and cover the costs. Your
debt has accumulated to SEVEN
MILLION DOLLARS.

Employees exchange looks. Board members, and Naheda, look on in disbelief.

TAWFEEQ (CONT'D)

The bank was going to take over the
company immediately, to liquidate
it and pay the debt, but, due to
your good name and reputation, they
agreed to give you two weeks to
come up with the money.

SAEED

And what happens if he doesn't?

TAWFEEQ

(to Saeed)

The company and all it's assets
becomes property of the bank.

Tawfeeq looks at Majed, who is staring out, stone faced.

TAWFEEQ (CONT'D)

I'm so sorry, Majed.

Tawfeeq gets up and turns to leave. Shocked board members and employees make way for him, as he heads to the door.

Everyone gather around the desk, waiting for Majed to react. Saeed walks to Majed and places his hand over his shoulder.

SAEED

(to employees)

Please give us a minute.

MAJED

No. Everyone please stay.

He slowly shakes his head..

MAJED (CONT'D)

I want to say...thank you everyone...for your hard work...thank you very much from the bottom of my heart...but...it looks like everything comes to an end, even the things that are most dear to us.

He tries to get up, but falls back on his chair. Naheda hangs her head down. Majed uses Saeed's hand for support and is finally able to get up, then walks around the desk.

MAJED (CONT'D)

I want to ask you to please forgive me. I ran this business the best way I can, the best way I know, just like my own father taught me. I knew things have changed, and I knew that I needed to be more flexible...but I didn't. I stuck to what I knew because I was afraid to make changes, I was afraid from failure...and in the end I failed. Again, please forgive me.

SAEED

Majed...

Majed slowly makes his way out.

CUT TO:

INT. RADIO DUBAI STUDIO - NIGHT

Background music fades.

Amal and Naheda are behind the microphone.

NAHEDA

(into microphone)

Good evening my friends, my very dear friends....This is Naheda Alshamsi...I Have been with you on the air for the past two years, sharing your good and bad moments, your laughs and your cries.

(MORE)

NAHEDA (CONT'D)

But now the show has come to an end, like everything in this life. This will be my last broadcast.

CUT TO:

INT. MAJED'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - SAME TIME

Majed sits on his chair, in his dimly lit bedroom.

NAHEDA (V.O.)

I'm ending the show because I need to go find something, of which I know I will not find. I need to go look for a moment, of which I know I will never live, and I need to go look for a love, of which I know doesn't exist. But I'm going to try, otherwise I will spend the rest of my life wondering, what if?... Thank you everyone, and I love you, and I will miss you. Goodnight.

Majed slowly shakes his head.

CUT TO:

INT. MAJED'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - MORNING

Wahiba knocks on a door. No answer. She quietly pushes open the door and walks in. She makes her way to the window, then pulls the curtains open.

Wahiba gently pulls back the covers and peers down at Majed's face.

WAHIBA

Good morning.

He looks at her for a moment, then closes his eyes again.

WAHIBA (CONT'D)

Your coffee is ready.

MAJED

Wahiba, please leave me.

She looks at him for a long moment, then leaves.

CUT TO:

INT. ALHIJAZI COMMUNICATIONS - MORNING

The main floor is empty, except for Saeed, Samar and Ahmad. They sit on chairs in the middle of the room. Each lost in his own thought.

MAN (O.S.)

Hello.

They all look. A MAN (54), stands by the door. Has dark hair, dressed in an elegant suit. Saeed looks at him for a long moment.

SAEED

Kazem?

KAZEM

(Indian accent)

Mister Saeed how are you old friend? Where is everybody?

Saeed gets up and shakes hands with Kazem.

SAEED

It's a long story. What are you doing in Dubai?

KAZEM

I told Majed I was coming. Where is he?

Saeed shakes his head.

SAEED

I honestly don't know. I have been trying to reach him but...

Kazem looks around.

KAZEM

Why is the office empty? What's going on here?

SAMAR

We are closed

KAZEM

What?

SAEED

I don't know what to tell you, Kazem. Business has been very slow, and it looks like the bank will be taking over the company.

AHMAD

Unless we come up with seven dollars. Do you have it?

SAMAR

Seven million, you idiot.

AHMAD

Really??

Kazem looks at Saeed, who slowly nods.

KAZEM

I can't believe they're doing this to him. Times have really changed. This used to be the number one company when his father started it.

SAEED

And he ran it the way his father did, refused to change anything, that's the problem.

KAZEM

We are all suffering one way or the other. That's why I'm here to propose a business deal to Majed.

SAEED

What kind of a deal.

KAZEM

A merger. His excellent service with my great promotions, and expand to India. This way we take over the market by offering superior service with a great price.

SAMAR

Why can't we still do it?

Kazem shakes his head.

KAZEM

It's very tough. If the bank is taking over the company, there isn't much we can do unfortunately. Seven million dollars is a large number. We simply don't have it.

SAEED

So what do we do?

KAZEM

I don't know what to tell you, Saeed. I really feel for Majed, he's a great business man. But his hands and mine are tied at this point. Anyway, I will be in town for a couple more days, let me know if anything happens.

He hands Saeed a business card, then turns and leaves.

SAMAR

(wipes a tear)

Mister Saeed what do we do? This place is like our second home...we can't just let it go. Please do something.

Saeed scratches his head, then takes out his cellphone and stares at the screen.

CUT TO:

INT. NAHEDA'S OFFICE - DAY

Naheda sits behind her desk, and seems lost in a deep thought.

A knock on the door. Wahiba walks in.

WAHIBA

Hello doctor Naheda.

NAHEDA

(surprised)

Hello, can I help you?

WAHIBA

Yes, you can. May I sit?

Naheda gets up.

NAHEDA

Oh, yes please.

Wahiba sits. Naheda sits on a chair across from her.

WAHIBA

My name is Wahiba. You can consider me Majed's second mother.

Naheda is shocked. She looks at Wahiba for a long moment, then reaches and touches her arm.

NAHEDA
How's he doing?

Wahiba shakes her head.

NAHEDA (CONT'D)
I'm so sorry.

WAHIBA
Doctor Naheda, Majed needs you.
Please help him.

Naheda looks at her for a long moment.

NAHEDA
I'm so sorry, but I really can't.
You have no idea how hurt I am. You
know, this might sound crazy, but I
really fell in love with Ashraf,
and I thought I had finally found
my prince charming, but when I knew
it was Amjad, I was shocked and
upset, knowing that he deceived me
all this time. I just couldn't
forgive him.

WAHIBA
That's how he is. That's his
personality. He opened up to you on
the radio, but he can never express
his true feelings in person. That's
just how he is. Part of it is that
he had to grow up fast and take on
a lot of responsibilities at a very
young age after his father passed.
He never had time for social life
or to even make friends. Even his
own brother, Amjad, he refuses to
talk to.

NAHEDA
This explains a lot.

Wahiba takes a very deep breath.

WAHIBA
The business became his life. Just
get up every morning and go to
work.

NAHEDA
Why doesn't he talk to his brother?

WAHIBA

Like I said, when mister Khalifa passed, Amjad didn't want anything to do with the business. He was a spoiled kid and refused to go to work and help his brother, instead, he moved to America and lived with a distant relative. Majed resented him ever since.

NAHEDA

I see.

Wahiba moves closer, and kisses Naheda's forehead.

WAHIBA

You two would have been the best couple.

Naheda's eyes blink.

Wahiba get up, and walks to the door, stops and looks at Naheda.

WAHIBA (CONT'D)

Do you love him?

NAHEDA

I love Ashraf.

Wahiba slowly nods, and leaves.

CUT TO:

INT. MAJED'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Majed walks slowly down the stairs. The living room looks empty. Bare walls and floors, barely any furniture left. Wahiba walks to him.

WAHIBA

How do you feel?

He looks around the house.

MAJED

Empty.

He walks closer to her.

MAJED (CONT'D)

Wahiba...I want to...I want to tell you...

WAHIBA

What?

MAJED

You don't have to be here...if
you...

WAHIBA

STOP! Don't ever say this again, do
you hear??

(she wipes a tear)

I spent half of my life in this
house. I'm NOT going anywhere. We
eat bread and drink water and
breath air. Whatever happens to
you, happens to me.

He takes her hand and kisses it.

A knock on the door. Wahiba opens. Saeed walks in...and to
Majed and Wahiba's surprise, Naheda follows.

SAEED

Hello everyone.

Wahiba looks like the happiest woman in the world, as she
takes Naheda's hand, and leads her inside.

WAHIBA

Welcome to your home.

Naheda's face turns red.

MAJED

How do you two know each other?

WAHIBA

We just do.

NAHEDA

How are you Majed?

He looks at her for a long moment.

WAHIBA

Say it!!

MAJED

Now...I'm much better.

Naheda's face turns more red.

WAHIBA

But I'm mad at doctor Naheda for canceling the show.

NAHEDA

I've been hearing the same thing on Facebook and twitter all day.

WAHIBA

Well, my sweet love, I hope you find what you're looking for.

Majed and Naheda look at each other.

NAHEDA

I hope so too.

Saeed looks around the house.

SAEED

So, what's going on here? Where is the furniture and the paintings?

MAJED

I sold everything. You know what's funny, my father's collection of paintings were actually worth something.

SAEED

What are you planning to do?

MAJED

Start from zero, and take it day by day, will see what happens.

NAHEDA

Majed, I'm...we're here for you. Please let us know if you need something.

He shakes his head.

MAJED

I'm fine. Thank you.

Naheda lowers her head, then looks at him.

NAHEDA

Take care of yourself, please.

She turns and walks to the door.

SAEED

Majed, I need you to come to the office tomorrow.

MAJED

Why?

SAEED

I'm selling the office furniture and the computers. I need you to be there. First thing in the morning.

CUT TO:

EXT. ALHIJAZI COMMUNICATIONS BUILDING - DAY

Majed's Mercedes pulls up and parks. He gets out and walks slowly toward the main door. Saeed is waiting for him.

MAJED

Good morning.

SAEED

Good morning.

Majed points to his car.

MAJED

Are you interested? I'm selling it.

SAEED

(smiles)

I can't afford it.

MAJED

Neither do I...what's going on? Who's buying the furniture?

SAEED

Let's go upstairs, you will see.

CUT TO:

INT. ALHIJAZI COMMUNICATIONS - MAIN ROOM

Majed and Saeed walk through the main door. Majed is shocked to find all twenty five employees, and all members of the board, standing in the middle of the room.

MAJED

Saeed, what's going on?

Saeed ushers him towards his old office, and when the employees clear the way, Majed sees Kazem, sitting at his desk.

Majed and Saeed walk in.

MAJED (CONT'D)

Kazem?

Kazem gets up and greets him.

KAZEM

(laughs)

How are you old man?

MAJED

(very confused)

I'm...I'm ok.

Majed gives Saeed a questioning look.

SAEED

Mister Kazem made us an offer, to merge your company with his. Our quality service with his great offers, and expand to India...and we, the board members, accepted the offer on your behalf.

Majed's mouth is wide open.

MAJED

But...the seven million?

MAN (O.S.)

It's been taken care of.

Majed turns and sees a MAN (48), standing at the door.

MAJED

Amjad?

AMJAD

Yes, my brother.

Majed is in a complete state of shock and disbelief, as his eyes dart between Kazem, Saeed, and back to Amjad.

MAJED

How?

AMJAD

Saeed called me and told me everything.

MAJED

But where did you get this money
from?

AMJAD

(smiles)

I own two software companies in
America, and I just opened one here
in Dubai. I can afford seven
million dollars.

(voice cracking)

The only thing I can't afford, is
for you to still be mad at me.

Majed looks at him for a moment, then takes his brother into
a very tight embrace, as employees cheer and whistle.

CUT TO:

INT. NAHEDA'S HOUSE - EVENING

Naheda walks in, throws her scarf and keys on a side table
and throws herself on a chair. Hayat comes running from the
kitchen.

HAYAT

Keep your scarf on, we have guests.

Naheda looks very surprised.

NAHEDA

Guests? Who?

HAYAT

Listen, I know I promised I will
never pressure you into this, but
these people called and insisted on
coming to see you.

NAHEDA

What?? Why didn't you tell me
before?

HAYAT

I swear they called an hour ago. I
didn't have time to do anything.

NAHEDA

(mad)

Well, you need to tell
them...actually, let me handle it.

Naheda puts on her scarf, then walks into the living room, and is absolutely shocked to see Majed, Amjad and Wahiba, sitting there with Hala, along with Saeed, Asma and Salwa. Adnan sits next to Majed.

Majed gets up when he sees her. Naheda's mouth is wide open. Hayat walks in with a large tray of coffee.

HAYAT

Hello, welcome to our house.

(to Naheda)

This is mister Ashraf.

Naheda looks at Majed. He blinks and smiles.

MAJED

I brought with me some family and friends. I hope you don't mind.

Naheda takes a deep breath, trying hard to collect herself.

MAJED (CONT'D)

(to Adnan)

Mister Adnan. My name is Majed Alhijazi, the proud owner of Alhijazi communications, the biggest company in the UAE and India. I'm here to ask for your daughter's hand, doctor Naheda.

ADNAN

Take it. You're not the only one.

Adnan gets up and walks to Asma and takes her hand.

ADNAN (CONT'D)

I just bought a new suit. I'm ready, if you are.

Asma giggles, while the rest laugh, a very big laugh.

Majed walks to Naheda, and extends his hand to her. She takes it.

MAJED

Looks like the moment will be lived, and the feeling will be felt.

Naheda blinks.

ADNAN

And I will write the song.

CUT TO:

INT. RADIO DUBAI STUDIO - NIGHT

Amal and Naheda are back at their usual spots behind the microphone.

AMAL ALREFAI

(into microphone)

Thank you for joining us again at Radio Dubai, this is your host Amal Alrefai, and we are joined this evening by a very special friend, doctor Naheda Alhijazi...Yes, you heard right, Naheda Alhijazi, the wife of a very dear friend, mister Majed Alhijazi, known to many of you as Ashraf.

NAHEDA

Good evening everyone. It's so good to be back with you for one last time...what can I say... The past few months were like a dream. The most beautiful dream. I have finally found the love of my life. My prince charming... And I just wanted to tell you, men and women, never give up on your dreams, always look for that special someone, always be ready for that magical moment, because you never know when it will come...This is Naheda Alhijazi, and I love you all.

THE END