WOMAN ASPIRATION IN ANDALEEB WAJID’S KITE STRINGS

By

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Abstract:

Andaleeb Wajid one of the contemporary Indian Women Writers is a Bangalore-based writer, she has written on diverse topics like food, relationships, weddings etc. She weaves all of these in a Muslim context. She has spoken about how she wants to challenge the stereotypical representation of Muslim lives through her stories. In her debut Novel “Kite Strings” she had projected her protagonist Mehnaz with a different psychic perspective. This paper attempts to show the protagonist’s realisation towards the changes in life. Life has unexpectedly opened up new possibilities and she wanted to explore each one of them. This paper also studies the aspiration of the young Indian Muslim women in attaining her accomplishment with a realistic vision.

Key Words: Individuality, Career Choice, Accomplishment, Self Realization, Realistic Vision.

Imtiaz the lover of Mehnaz called her and expressed that his mother was very happy. She told that she would try and arrange their wedding really soon as they had planned. She could hear the excitement in his voice and it ignited something in her briefly. But she couldn’t felt the real happiness because of her present state of mind. When Mehnaz was silent, he realized that she was in some trouble. He anxiously asked about her difficulty and she replied that she would tell him when they had a chance to meet directly.

Imtiaz revealed that he was in Bangalore and wished to meet her. They finally met at the Coffee House and she started to converse, he replied only with a prolonged smile. Mehnaz inquired him the reason for his smile and he finally retorted that he was astonishing to see the future Mrs. Imtiaz. It made Mehnaz to feel irritated and he asked the reason for her sadness. She revealed everything about Mateen’s sexual abuse in his school and Imtiaz consoled her by saying that everything would be fine for her very soon. He took her hand and kissed her which relieved her psyche to a little extend.

She decided not to respond so he started talking about their marriage plans. He expressed that his mother was trying to get a December date for their marriage and she was very eager to talk about it with her parents. Imtiaz’s mother was hoping to have an engagement the next month and then the wedding the following month. She stared at him and realized that both he and his mother was presumptuous.
Mehnaz revealed that she couldn’t marry him very soon as she had her own desires to do something. She also expressed that she wanted a year to carry out her achievements. Imtiaz convinced her that she would do it after their marriage. But Mehnaz looked confused with his words. Because she was in a position to take care of her little brother who had the psychological imbalance. She couldn’t leave her home in such a situation.

When Mehnaz expressed about her family, Imtiaz felt disappointed. She concerned only for her family but not for him. He was caring the most for her but she didn’t had it for him. Mehnaz expressed that it was very important to her. Her brother wished her company. She couldn’t abandon him for any cause. He looked hurt and she wanted to assuage it without giving in to his unreasonable demands. Imtiaz finally asked that she was really interested to marry him which shocked Mehnaz.

Mehnaz expressed that she really liked him and wanted to marry him. She comforted him that it won’t create any difference in a year. He finally consoled himself and asked her that she would thought that 6 months would be enough for her. She felt that she was negotiating her freedom and her desires with him. He was willing to give her only six months. She finally agreed with him and he shared his phone number when they left the Coffee House.

When she returned to her house she sat down on her bed and remembered the conversation with Imtiaz. He agreed to wait for only six months. But she felt that she was bargaining away her freedom after six months. Mehnaz couldn’t understand about the happenings in her own life. She was puzzled about her own direction in life. The confused nature of her thoughts spins around in her head, weaving and weaving and she felt there wasn’t any solution.

Mehnaz received a phone call from Imtiaz and he was in a hurry to express something important to her. He uttered that his mother refused to give time for six months. Mehnaz got angry when she heard those words and she asked him the reason for his mother’s disagree. He was not ready to state the cause and inturn he informed her that his mother urged him to marry her without any delay or he had to marry another girl of her own choice.
Mehnaz didn’t understand the reason for his urgency and she asked him about the cause for his mother’s proposal. He revealed that his parents had a plan to go Hajj and so they wanted to carry out their responsibility very soon. He also added that she had to answer him immediately that she was ready to marry him and in angry she replied that he was the first to express a wish to marry her and she led the matter to his own decision. He immediately hung up and Mehnaz psyche was puzzled and she couldn’t thought that it was really Imtiaz.

Mehnaz waited for his call again for many hours and suddenly she had a thought that she had his Bangalore number. She immediately called him and her confused mind made her to utter that she was willing to marry him at any time that he wished. Imtiaz revealed his apology that he couldn’t marry her. He also uttered her that his mother was not really interested for their marriage proposal and he forced her to arrange for it.

Mehnaz psyche didn’t understood his words clearly. He also added that his mother got angry with him when she knew about their terrace meetings. She refused to speak with him for many days. But his father was on his side to support him and they have arranged for their marriage proposal. When she visited Mehnazs house his mother liked her very much, but she didn’t liked the way that this was arranged by their terrace plans.

Imtiaz revealed that he had greater attraction towards her. When he met her, he would grew more intrigued. After their last meeting, he spoke with his mother about her. He told her that he wanted to marry only Mehnaz. She was shocked but, he convinced her and made her to speak to Mehnaz’s mother. She wanted to know that how Imtiaz got her phone number. So, he was forced to reveal her about their terrace meetings. She wasn’t happy to hear about it.

Imtiaz’s mother was really angry when she found out that he had spoken with Mehnaz and she wanted to wait for six more months. Mehnaz didn’t knew his mother’s notions. She demanded to know what was the reason for the delay and so, he told her that Mehnaz wanted some time for herself, especially to adjust to the situation that her family was undergoing through, she wanted to know about that too. So he told her about Mateen’s incident at school.
Mehnaz got angry and in furious rage she asked him that he would tell his mother everything that would happen to him. He got angry when she uttered those words and he protested her for it. Mehnaz asked him that it was the reason that his mother refused to accept herself as her daughter-in-law. Imtiaz was silent which made Mehnaz to realize that it was the true reason. She was not able to tolerate the narrow mentality of his mother.

Imtiaz expressed that his mother also thought that Mehnaz’s mother had given too much freedom to Mehnaz and she hated the very qualities that he liked about Mehnaz. He didn’t thought that their marriage would be very peaceful or happy. When she heard about Mehnaz’s brother, she thought her family scandal would affect their family too. Mehnaz failed to utter a word as unspoken emotions blocked in her throat.

He told her that he loved her. She was the only girl he had ever had such strong feelings. But if she had answered yes in the previous phone call which he had contacted her then it would had been their engagement. He couldn’t believe his engagement was happening with another girl, but there was nothing more he could do. He did his best to convince his mother, but she refused to listen. His father also felt that getting him married to her was not such a good idea.

Imtiaz finally uttered that he didn’t thought that they were meant to be together. He also added that that she need someone who could really understood her dreams. He had a hope that she would find him in her life and ended the call. She dropped the receiver and walked back to her room without any sensation. She wanted to collapse on the bed, scream, cry, and brought the roof down. Her psyche twisted her heart and mind as she couldn’t endure her sorrow.

Mehnaz thought that if she had said her acceptance when he asked in his hurried phone call things would be completely different for her. There were some implicit aspects inside her, she was glad that it had happened. Her psyche made her to rationalise the situation and she was able to see the good in it. Her psyche concluded that Imtiaz was not really worthy of her. She also thought she was better off without him.

Mehnaz had a spark of thought about her career as her friend encouraged to involve herself in writing and she finally decided to become a writer to project her hidden world. Her passion for her career made her to realize that the boy she was in love wouldn’t seemed to be nothing before her aspiration.

Work cited

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