And They Lived Happily Ever After

It was around late June or beginning of July - the rains had arrived. Nandu, an old friend of mine, visited me in my office. I knew Nandu for many years. He had a wonderful personality. He was very bright. He had studied M.Sc. and was someone who would strive to do his utter best in any undertaking. He was a photographer, a musician, and an excellent translator with several German translations under his belt.

I was thrilled with this unexpected visit. “Good to see you, have a seat,” I went up to welcome him.

“Today, I have come to you for guidance, I am in big trouble,” he responded. He wasn’t quite sure how to proceed. “Have a seat, let’s talk,” I suggested.

“I would like you to read my palm today and tell me what is going to happen in the next few years of my life.”

I studied his palm and realized that he was facing many difficulties in his married life. His wife was a bank officer in a nationalized bank. Her father was a senior military official. Having grown up in a defence background, she was quite modern for her times around 25 years ago. At the time, middle-class women, typically, did not go to clubs. But she did. She was quite modern all around - in her choice of clothing, her lifestyle and her thinking. I realized that the two of them were not getting along.

“Let us first look at your married life and we can move on to the rest after that,” I suggested.

He agreed. In fact, it was exactly what he was hoping for. Examining his palm further, I realized that there existed a great divide in thinking and outlook between him and his wife. The environment
in which she was brought up was very different compared to his. Nandu came from a very wealthy family, his dad was a successful engineer, but their life-style was quite traditional.

Nandu’s wife felt that Nandu should listen to her while Nandu felt that since she had married him, she should conform to his way of thinking. They were at an impasse.

Their confrontations continued for a week. His wife felt that she could no longer continue to live like that. It was her opinion that they would both be happier living apart.

I asked Nandu if it would be possible to read his wife’s palm. “That seems very difficult,” he replied.

“Alright, let us answer the question based on what I see on your palm.”

“My wife has issued an ultimatum. She is in love with an army officer and wishes to spend the rest of her life with him. He is a Punjabi bachelor. He is up for a transfer soon and keeps telling my wife to file for divorce and spend the rest of her life with him.” In response, Nandu’s wife had issued the ultimatum with a one week deadline. She had told Nandu to make his decision within a week. At the end of the stipulated time, she was simply going to leave with no regard for what she left behind. She was adamant and Nandu was at his wit’s end.

“Your palm tells me that you will not divorce your wife, neither will she leave you. If she is too modern for you, if you are not on the same page regarding life-style, you just have to be more willing to listen. If you can manage to get along with her, the rest of your life will be wonderful. My science does not tell me that the two of you will separate.”

Nandu seemed a little relieved. “Your marriage will not fall apart, although there may be some obstacles along the way. These are not great times for you, there are indications of mental stress. You need to be more understanding for the next couple of years. Don’t behave in any way that might offend or insult her, don’t make huge objections to everything she wishes to do and I guarantee that you will not be drawn apart from each other.”

Nandu felt much better. The week of decision making passed
but I did not hear from him. He returned, ten days later. “What happened?” I was curious yet confident of my prediction. I knew her imposed time limit would pass and she would not go anywhere. “You were right. That day, I went home and sat down for a good talk with her. She trusts you. When I explained to her what you had told me, she decided to put her decision on hold and stay, albeit temporarily. But, she warned me that if the time came again, she would revisit the decision. I am worried about the future.”

“There is no need to worry. I see no possibility that she will leave you,” I reassured him.

Over two decades have passed since this incident. Nandu and his wife are still happily married. They have a daughter, who is herself very well educated.

When they came to see me a while ago, things were going great. Nandu’s wife had opted for voluntary retirement from her bank job and their daughter was married.

I was very happy to hear that. I was even happier to see the two of them together, their joy evident in their conversation with each other and with me. By the grace of God, my advice had a hugely positive and long-term effect. This knowledge gave me great satisfaction!