

## Play 1

*I love him***SCENE THREE**

*A serene green space with scattered concrete benches and well maintained green lawn, Rosie sits in one of the benches alone facing a water fountain browsing her smartphone.*

ROSIE: [*Staring at the splashing water fountain*] Why did I do that? Did I show too much desperation? That look at his face . . . an empathetic one [*Embarrassment rushes her face*] Oh my God! That was not supposed to come from me. [*Self-judging and angrily*] I acted stupid, and this would draw him even further from me. Rather than being cooler, engaging, and attractive than Jade [*Chuckling*] On the contrary, I send wrong signals that put him off assuming MILO might have been thinking about her. [*Face twitching in anger*] He seems happy and savors any moment with Jade; that smile and grin must have won his heart. [*In a revelation mood*] Just like the way water is life to humans, the girl must be the source of life to his heart . . . But I would be the beat of his heart. I love him so much... [*Graciously, removes her phone, looks for his snap and hugs the phone*] He will not even look at me the next time we get to see each other. I will appear like a desperate and confused lassie to him. [*Confused*] Rather than seeing the deep love I have for him, he will think I am infatuated, and it's all about fantasy. That might be true considering the slap I gave him without any reason. Having pissed him off, I need to rethink my actions and see how soon I am supposed to apologize to him. It seems my original plan was poorly devised and executed. I allowed infatuation and blood rush to cloud that rational decision in my head to make attract and make him happy. He needs a woman who loves him dearly. I am madly in love with him but "at a distance."

END OF SCENE THREE

**SCENE FOUR**

*Milo, Jack, and Shane have a friendly discourse during free over lunch hour break. They are casually dressed and sitting in one of the school benches.*

JACK: [*Thoughtfully*] What was that for bro?

SHANE: [*Chuckling*] MILO this girl is into you and you are not taking the chance man! They rarely come twice. Can't you at least give her a second?

MILO: Guys, remember I told you that this secret admirer would never leave me alone [*frowns*]

SHANE: However, I think she did that out of the intense feeling of love she has for you...you know women do the opposite

JACK: [*Sarcastically*] True Shane. I would take Rosie's action as the opposite of what she did...instead of a hug; it came as a slap

MILO: Guys! I don't want to hear that crap anymore. As I told you, Jade is my girl

JACK: [*Gazes at MILO*] We know this lady will come running and apologize to you...you are into her bones [*Shane and Jack chuckle*] since that v-card swipe.

SHANE; [*Creatively pretends to read a lengthy apology from Rosie*] Hi babe, I don't know how to express my apologies for that stupid stunt. I have always wanted to be your lily like the sexy

and aromatic myrrh in the Solomon's Garden. Please, don't put me on your blacklist because of the slap. It was an expression of intense love (not infatuation) that I have for you. You are like the Dog Star glittering my night sky and a fresh breath of aura in my lungs. Still, my conviction is that the perfect person to fill this vacuum is you. I want to be all yours, and we walk this journey of intimacy together forever... always in love with you. Rosie. [*Milo gives Jack an alas! look*]

*Shortly, we see Jade arrive with a beaming smile and catches up with the three of them. Wow! That glorious look cannot go unnoticed as the three glances at each other quickly. After a while, Rosie appears clutching books at her bosom greeting the four casually. Looking straight at MILO, she apologizes shyly while others are silent. Jade gives that 'what's up' look at MILO and he knows he has to explain it to her later. Lights out.*

#### END OF SCENE FOUR

#### SCENE FIVE

*In the Pink room, ironing and arranging her clothes for the coming school week. In a separate room, MILO and JADE talking over what happened last. The spotlight alternates between two scenarios.*

ROSIE: [*Murmuring and smiling briefly to herself*] Yes! I feel good that I did it. I had to. He has to know that I meant what I did — that apology, not the slap. [*Pause. Looks at the ironing board*] I think my plan should be starting to work. Jade needs to know what I feel for MILO too. I love him so much. There is a special feeling that I cannot let go and I had to do what I did. [*Resumes ironing*] I liked the attention the four gave me. It was an assurance that they were reading my heart. [*Surprisingly*] Oops! But Jade must have read some mischief. The man I love must be in trouble, but I have to defend him because I love him. [*Thoughtfully*] I know her girlfriend is going to apprehend him and he will get stressed. In such a moment, MILO needs reassurance that somebody loves him and support. Maybe, I can send him a short text to show him that I together with him in this. Let me do it right away!

JADE: [*Bursts in anger*] Why did you not tell me? What is all this about?

MILO: [*Angrily*] What do you want me to tell you? Nothing about that crap...

JADE: [*Judgemental*] I could see it in her eyes... [*Cursing and murmuring Rosie's name*] That bitch! That bitch! I just want to get her and crash her neck.

MILO: I have nothing to answer about that...I was with my pals [*Sighs*] when you came and then she bumped on us.

JADE: She apologized straight to your face...she was only interested in you [*Confusingly*] Does she love you more than I do?

MILO: [*Defensively*] Listen to me babe, Listen to me, my love. I had nothing to do with anything. As I told you she just popped into us and then whatever followed.

JADE: I don't believe you...I am not convinced. I think I am going to get her to explain everything to me. Or you call her here. I want to know everything.

MILO: [*Sounds alarmed*] No! No! No! Don't do that. Just listen to me. Babe! You know I love you and trust you. I have always given you my time and attention.

JADE: But I could see how she was rolling her eyes. [*Gazes at MILO sadly*] You seemed comfortable with everything and did not get surprised that I would be bothered.

MILO: Don't say that...you know I did not want a brawl out of that with Shade and Jack and people around us.

JADE: [*Punching MILO's chest and almost in tears*] I don't know what I think now. I don't know what to say! [*Shouting*] go and bring that bitch here.

MILO: Love! Love! I cannot do that. There is nothing between us. All along, she has been trying to push herself on me. I was finding a way to inform you.

*Ting! Ting! Milo's phone beeps indicating an incoming text message. Jade manages to grab it and checks to see the sender. Voila! Rosie has sent an apology laced with lovely wordings. Milo cannot do anything, and he appears fixed and helpless but determined to explain himself out.*

JADE: Just shut up! Don't talk or call me until you do that.

MILO: [*Sounds Poignant*] Hey! Please, why judge me that fast? I want to explain myself so that you know the truth.

*He tries to hold Jade, and a small scuffle ensues*

JADE: Goodbye!!

*Jade is seen clutching at her handbag moving towards the door behind her. Milo tries to convince her to remain calm so that they reason out, but she hears none of that. She bangs the door on his face. On the other hand, Rosie feels that she has achieved something and she can go further to behave in a cool manner towards that. She has just finished doing her stuff and slips into her bed ready for a promising and sound sleep.*

END OF SCENE FIVE

### SCENE SIX

*Milo meets Rosie along one of the pavements while she is chatting with some of her friends. Once he notices her, he grabs her arm and pulls her to an adjacent solitary place.*

MILO: [*Fuming with anger*] Do you know the messed you have brought me into? What the hell is wrong with you [*seethes furiously with a contorted expression*]

ROSIE: [*Smiling*] But you know I love you...I love you so much, Milo...I will do anything for you

MILO: Shut the f\*\*k up!! I don't want to hear any of your nonsense [*literary shouting*]. I don't want to see your face and texts again. There is nothing between us.

ROSIE: Hey, don't say that. [*Backs off slightly and surprised*] Please give me a chance and I will show how much I love you.

MILO: [*Remembering the altercation with Jade*] I am not that desperate, stupid las...Okay? I have someone that I already love...you just sound filthy and desperate. [*Rebuking*] You are just evil bullshit!! Brat and spoiler.Do you hear me?

*After the altercation and Milo starts to walk away, Jade tries to clutch at his hand. Angrily, he gives her backhand. The thrust is too much that she falls back and begins to curse him and to sob. On the hand, Milo shows her the mid-finger and appears less concerned as he walks away. Lights out.*

## END OF SCENE SIX

### Commentary

The mastery of literature and prose is depicted superbly in the script '*I love him.*' The theme of love as portrayed in Shakespeare's '*Romeo and Juliet*' plays out fantastically though one seems to be 'passive' while the other is 'active.' From the script's scenes, Rosie (a young girl) secretly admires Milo who in return does not have any affection for her. Amir (2001) argues that love is laced with an impetus and that "our life is a continuous search for things that will satisfy and fulfill our needs" (p. 7). Essentially, the prayer and desire of Rosie are to get that satisfaction from Milo at the expense of his relationship with Jade. This is in addition to the literature prowess portrayed in the dramatic monologue and presentation in the first scene. For instance, it is good to highlight the significance of tone flowing through the scenes even as the theme of the play is spelled out to people. In the dialogue between Milo and his friends, the same theme is treated casually and a shift from how love seems to be valued by Rosie to a perception that it is a way of just having fun. A well-set tone comes with an emotional attachment as seen from the play.

Borrowing from the insights of '*The Tell-Tale Heart,*' the concept of the first-person narrative is explicitly illustrated by Rosie who shows mental instability, infatuation, and obsession. Considering the first scene, she has meditative monologue as to how she can replace Jade's position as Milo's true lover. Another distinct element that emerges from the first and last scene is how love and hurt are inseparable as indicated by Edgar Allan Poe's essay '*The Imp of the perverse.*' In the essay, there is a thin line between love and hurt. It pains to love somebody and not be able Rosie would do anything to ensure her 'imaginary,' and intense feeling becomes a reality. Her psychological attributes and conscious mind try to convince her that love can be forced on somebody and she has the rights to love Milo. In fact, Rosie's screaming and slapping illustrates this well. Shakespeare put it better in '*Romeo and Juliet*' and '*Sonnets*' (Ma, 2014) where they treat it as a passionate and consummating feeling that can lead to somebody doing bad things.

Coming up with this work was quite arduous especially combining light, sound, and tone effects. More so, presenting human feelings, conscious, and psychological attributes through mastery of language and choreography was a task worthy trying. There were issues like having writer's block, getting a matching topic, and drafting scenes. Knowing that love is part and parcel of our lives, I had to find a way in and out; at least with something. This was made possible by doing extensive research including literature, science, and essay material. Amazingly, the theme of this play is a reality in our contemporary society and lifestyle. People are doing all sorts of bad things to the point of breaking existing relationships and families in the name of love but manifesting more inform of infatuation; no wonder somebody claimed that love is the root of all evil.

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