Eufie Unazna



Cliche as it may sound, nobody is perfect. And that rings true inside the pages of Letters for Karina. Daniel, our Filipino-Chinese protagonist, seems to be a perfect man having a seemingly perfect life. A successful, talented, financially secure, mature gentleman, he is indeed the dream husband. And in this perfection, we are immersed inside his imperfect story -- the struggle and toil to maintain perfection with his wife and maid...

Letters for Karina

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Letters for Karina

A Novella by

Eufie Unazna

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To Michelle . . . Thanks for your friendship and love. Your passion, zest in life, happiness, and smile are contagious. Thank you for helping me write a new chapter in my life, for helping me once again embrace and enjoy life, and for letting me fall crazily in love once again.

1 April 2016

My Dearest Karina,

I looked back to the day you stepped in our home. At that time little did I know that such a moment would set in motion events that would change the direction of my life. Almost four years of our time together have been some of the best years of my life and have honestly changed my life forever. Though this may seem to be my first letter to you, it actually is my last letter to you, as I look back and run through the events that happened years ago.

You see, at the time when I first met you, you were a very petite, eighteen-year-old, bright and beautiful young girl from one of the poorest places in our country. You came to our home searching for a job as a housemaid. You came to us because your parents could not support you. You are here because you had a dream to become a nurse. You had a dream to become the first member of your family to graduate from college. You had the desire, the fire, and the passion to fulfill your dreams, but your parents could not support your schooling because they lacked the means to do so. I caught a glimpse of you when you were first washing the dishes in our kitchen. Initially I found you attractive, but I never considered reaching out to you during the early days that you were with us. I had wished that I had reached out to you during the first two years that you were in our house. Our friendship would have blossomed further and we could have known each other more deeply and intimately. Our friendship has become so special that I wanted to share it with the whole world! Some people might not find it unique but it is very special to me, and I hope it is to you, too. Regardless of the

ending which the readers of this story may soon find out, I want you to know that I have never regretted the decisions I made, nor have I blamed you for the decisions you made.

I wanted to tell this story to the whole world because I want them to be inspired and to learn from it. I want them to laugh, to cry, to feel my pain, and to understand what I went through. I want them to know that, regardless of what one is going through life, life can in the end turn out to be more beautiful than we first thought of it to be when we first experienced the pain. I want them to know that no matter the pain that they are experiencing, the Almighty never makes a mistake. He always has a plan for our lives and is always in control. We might not see it at first and may even doubt the plan, most especially if all we see in our lives are pain and despair, but in these times of trouble we should bear in mind that He knows best and we only need to trust His heart. I wanted them to know that during the times when all seems lost, the Almighty always sends an angel to help them along the way, a beacon of light to guide them, and a guiding star to help them sail through the rough seas of life.

Thank you for being a light to my path during the most dark and difficult times in my life. I will always be forever indebted to you.

Wishing you the best in life,

Daniel

8 March 2012

My Dearest Karina,

Today, I consider myself a very happy man. More than a year after you came into our home, I have finally made a meaningful connection with you. Thanks to technology we were able to make an initial deep, meaningful contact. Although we live under just one roof, considering that I am a married man, it would not be very proper that we would be seen talking to each other for a long period of time, as it would be considered by most as inappropriate.

But because of technology, more specifically through social networking, we were able to have a long chat and I was glad to have gotten to know you much better. We may have said our "hi's" and "hello's" during our short encounters within the four walls of our home, but we never got into a meaningful, long and deep conversation.

I considered this a breakthrough in what I saw as a deep and meaningful friendship. I was glad you opened up today and trusted me about the deep issues that had meaning to you. You talked about how your father had left your family and how you longed for the return of your father, but that you had later on accepted the fact that he would never return to you and your mother. You confided to me how you yearned that your family will become whole once again, and although you think this is impossible because your father already had another family, you still expressed a little bit of hope that someday this might become a reality. Most girls in your situation would try to cope with the emptiness of not having a father through rebellion,

running away, or trying to find a lover at an early age. You mentioned that you did had relationships, but those were short-lived, and that it was very hard for you to trust men or to fall truly in love because of what your father did. If I could apologize on behalf of your father I would. But life has to go on. You also talked about the hardships that you have to undergo through life, such as financial problems and how you ended up here with us.

Despite the trials that life has thrown at you, I was impressed how you have managed to fight back. I called you a "fighter," as based on our conversation you seemed very tough and strong-willed.

I could only wish you the best in life and that I would do my best to help you the best way I could, in order that you might fulfill your dreams of being able to finish your schooling, in order that you could help your family. I looked forward to further conversations with you both online and offline.

Sincerely,

Daniel

1 April 2012

My Dearest Karina,

It had been several days now and I had waited for you to be online, yet it seemed that fate had not permitted us, as of this

Letters for Karina

time, to have another meaningful conversation online. Sure, we had our short chit-chats and small talks both online and offline, but I longed for the deep and meaningful conversation that we last had

However, I was glad that you had initiated another way wherein we could have a meaningful conversation and that was through text messaging. Although I initiated our contact online, I was glad you initiated contact through text messaging by sending me a beautiful quote. It was only when I got that quote that I got the idea of having the same long and meaningful conversation with you, this time through text messaging. It still bugged me as to why I hadn't thought about it, considering the popularity of text messaging.

Our first conversations via text messages were really not that serious. What I mean is, the contents were not. We joked a lot and we had plenty of comic relief, but later on I realized that it already serious because I found it very enjoyable conversing with you. You made me laugh a lot and you literally relieved me of the daily stress I was experiencing, both from work and from personal and family problems. We also had our serious conversations through text messages. I got to know you a little bit more when we played the game "truth or dare" via text messages, although both of us always chose to reveal the "truth" for the most part of the game. I got to know some revealing facts about you, and I disclosed some intimate secrets as well. I got to know both nonessential facts and important facts about you, including your favorite color and what you are looking for in a man. You said that the greatest attribute you are looking for in a man is openness and truthfulness. I could understand why these attributes were very important to you, considering that these were the qualities that were very much missing from your own father, and that you desired these qualities in your lover and your future husband.

It is amazing to me how we enjoyed conversing with each other, although through text messaging only. For several nights now we slept until as long as two or three in the morning. I did not want to make a rash judgment but I thought it was not farfetched to conclude that our personalities were somewhat compatible, or, as they say in modern lingo, we "clicked." I was so glad that I had gotten to know you much deeper now and that our friendship had truly blossomed. If I had a choice, I would have preferred that we had our deep conversations in the early months or years that you first came to our home; that way I could had gotten to know you better by now. But no regrets. Besides there were still months and even years ahead of us wherein we could further get to know each other. I truly looked forward to the days ahead.

Until next time,

Daniel

7 May 2012

My Dearest Karina,

I had been placed by the Almighty in a very special situation and instead of griping about the situation and shaking my fist at Him, which I often do because of the burden that I had been



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