**Before the Show Starts**

Chapter 4:

A:Hello…Hello

B: Haven’t you seen the guy who was with me?

A:Who’s he?

B: The inspector.

A: I saw him running. I guess somebody annoyed him.I hope you haven’t bothered him.

B: No, I haven’t.

A:Come here. I need you.

B: what’s wrong?

A: Nothing. We need to drink coffee together.

B: Do we have to?

A: yep.come on!

B: What’s wrong with you? You bring me to an office that is not yours and…… I don’t feel comfortable.

A: Shame on you what you did.

B: What have I done?

A: You know what you did.

B: For sure I wouldn’t have asked if I knew what I Had done.

A: Look…. We used to steel together, and When it happened……

B: Why are you saying this now?

A: I don’t want to see your face again.

B: What?!!

A: As you heard… I don’t want to see your face again, even among the audience.

C: I want all those stands at the back. I don’t want anything in this area. alright? And those two red lamps, I don’t want them lit. alright ?

Oh! The director got you out of your room! And gave you a role! Cheer up! What’s wrong?! Did you forget what acting is like?!! You seem to have forgotten the theatre and acting. Come with me!

Look…..You will fall exactly between these two lines. You’ll say :”I want nothing from you” ,then you’ll fall dead. That’s it. Nothing more and nothing less. Don’t take much time nor change your tone, or else I swear to God I would come up on stage and push you down.

D: Have you finished that shitty work of yours?

E: I have. I met him and told him everything.

D: What about your sweet heart?

E: Forget about him. God has sent him what finishes him up.

D: I bet you don’t really mean what you just said.

E: I’ll tell you something. I don’t feel comfortable with this matter.

D: What’s wrong with you?!!

E: Why don’t you give him a call?

D: I’m trying to, but he’s not available. I think he’s at the airport. Don’t worry, He’s coming to you, beautiful.

C: What’s wrong, boss? Is everything alright? All right. I’ll go downstairs.

A: How long have you been in the ministry of culture?

F: Ten years.

A: Who do you know there?

F: Ms. Manal, Ms. Mona, and Mr Ezzat.

A:Did he have a wedding for his daughter?

F: Yes, last week. It was a great wedding.

A: Who are you?

F: I’m an inspector.

A: Come on!!

F: I’m a painter.

A: What’s your name?

F: My name’s Ali.

A:Did he bring you here?

F: yes, he did. He told me that there’s an easy job and gave me 50 pounds.

A: Look, Ali. There’s a door at the end of the corridor. You get through it, and go home.

Chapter three:

F: What’s all this big place!! It took me an hour to reach you.

B: Lower your voice, or you’ll make a scandal. And why are you late?

F: I felt hungry on my way to you, so I decided to eat.

B: Poor you!! What on earth are you wearing?!!

F: What’s wrong with it?!! I’m wearing classic.

B: Does this make you look like an inspector from the ministry?!!!

F: Yes, it does. Don’t you see them wearing like this?!!

B: Ali,you’re the only one I could find. God help us on this job. All I need is to make him feel scared.

F: Alright. I know exactly what you want. I will go straight to him and ask him about the documents. And as soon as I open them, I’ll tell that there’s money missing.

B: really !!!!.Right away?!

F: sure

B:Listen! Don’t mention any money. You’ll tell exactly what I’m going to tell you now. Alright?

F:Alright

B: You’ll say this: ”We need a copy of the budget to enclose it with the report against you in order to be checked at the ministry” . Alright?

F: Alright, boss.

B: Just give me a second to check where he is. ”our lovely director, Where are you now, boss? At the theatre? Alright. The inspector I told you about is here. I’ll bring him to you, ok? Right away, boss.”

Ali, I beg you. There’s a lot of money in this job.

F: Don’t worry ,boss.

B: If we get caught , we will be in a big trouble and a lot of doors will be closed.

F: Don’t worry. God be with us.

B: Alright. Suit yourself, and put off this cigarette . we are about to reach the stage.

Hello. How you are you, boss?

A: Hi.

B: This is Mr. Salah Abdul Salam, the inspector from the ministry.

A: Nice to meet you.

F: Nice to meet you, too.

A: How can I help you?

F: I was sent to check the budget of the play.

A: The Budget of the play?! Sure. Could you just wait for me here. I’ll fetch the budget.

F: Sure. No problem.

B: Have a seat, Mr. Salah.

F: It’s full.

B:What’s Full?

F: My stomach. I really need to go to the toilet.

B: Go ahead.

D: Have you finished? Look…You’ll divorce me. And concerning the kid, It’s up to you. You can give him back to his father , or even throw him away. And by the way, It’s easy to reach his father. If you search in the dressing room, you will find a document on which he confesses that the boy is his. By the way, His father is somebody you and me know well.

G: I’m not going to divorce you, Nany. You hear me? I’m not going to divorce you. And I’ll kill you, Nany.

Chapter two:

D: You do all this to me!! I swear I will make you regret that. What could she need know ?!! I will force you to confess that the boy is yours. I trapped myself with such an old man…..

What do you want?

L: I have a job for you.

D: I don’t want anything from you.

L: just listen to me, and think about it. Do you remember that guy from the gulf who loves you? Whose name is Mazen?

D: Why should I remember him?!!

L: Because he used to pay well. He is coming within two days and he wants to marry you.

D: I don’t want him , and I don’t want any other man.

L: How Come! Listen to me. He wants to officially marry you. He also wants to take you to his own country to live a life of luxury, instead of your old man who’s a junk.

D: What about my son? What should I do with my son?

L: What Son !! I’m talking to you about a wealthy life. You are used to being pregnant and having abortion.

D: Let me think about it. Then I’ll give you my answer.

L: Get a divorce , and leave him the boy. It’s a good job for all of us. You could spend two or three years with the rich guy, make some money, and then come back for your son. Bye,sweety.

A: Saed, how long have we known each other?

H: How can I help you?

A: I want you to play a role.

H: A role!!! Do you remember when you were young and came up to me and begged me to act? Remember?

A: Yes, I remember.

H: I gave you a role. You were so happy. Remember?

A: I remember.

H: I thought you had forgotten.

A: No, I haven’t forgotten.

H: I’ll carry out whatever you ask me to do.

A: I want you to meet Mostafa, and see what he wants.

H: That could happen long time ago.

A: what about now?!

H: Now? Nany does this now. Look… I’ll play the role that you want me to, but This maybe the last time you see me.

Chapter One:

X: Good evening.

Y: Good evening.

X: How can I get to the director’s office?

Y:Who’s asking about him?

X: Tell him the Ministry Inspector.

B: Mr Tarek? How are you?

X: Hey, Ihab. I was sure I will find you here.

B:What’s wrong?

X: Yes. A director or an actor called Saeed complained about the director and is accusing him of embezzlement.

B: Embezzlement?! Look ,Mr Tarek… I’m sure that the director knows about this issue and knows that you are here, and for sure he prepared everything not to get caught. Why don’t you leave him for me?

X: But……

B: No “buts”. You go home, and don’t worry about anything. I will sort out this issue myself.

X: Will you write the report yourself?!!

B:Pasha, you will sign it yourself.

X: Bye bye.

B: Good bye.

B: Aloo, Ali. Where are you? It’s important to do exactly what I told you to do on time.

Z: Good evening,boss.

B: Finish the rehearsal and tell me. Hi, Anas. How are you?

Z: I’m ok. Thank God. I need to talk to you.

B:Sure. How can I help you?

Z: I’m going through hard time these days, and Nany doesn’t stop asking for money. Can I have a raise?

B: Sure,Anas. No problem.

Z: Thank you so much, boss. I appreciate it.

B: Where is the decoration staff?

K: Hi, boss. How are you?

I just have one comment.

What so-called Mr Anas is over acting.

A: What !! What’s your job again?!!

K: I’m the one who brings glass for the decoration.

A: Glass for the décor?!! Ok. Go away.

A: Where’s Decoration staff?

D: Are you pretending to be a Saint? No problem. No shame in that. But you need to officially marry me, and admit that the boy is yours.

A: you don’t have anyone else except me?!

D: I do. I have a lot.

A: Aha.. Concerning the boy,When I first met you, I met you at Hamam’s. Do you remember Hamam?

D: I do remember her. Also I remember that I agreed to get married to that old man in order to avoid any problems in case your wife knew about us.

A: Aha.

D: You have no excuse. I’m not asking for too much. Just marry me and I will get divorced from Anas, and I will bring Yousef and we all live together.

A: Is it possible for us not to see each other again? I don’t want to see your face again. Is it possible or not? ….. Go away… Go away.

D: Alright.

B: What’s up, boss? Why do you make chicks angry?

A: Oh My God ! Hello, Mr Ihab.

B: Hello, big boss. I miss you so much.

A: I miss you , too. How’s everything?

B: Fine. I thought I would come check on you since you don’t.

A: I’m so busy. I have no free time.

B: God be with you.

A: How are you?

B: I’m fine.

A: Have a seat.

B: I want to talk to you about something.

A: Sure. Go ahead.

B: An actor from your cast complained that you embezzled money from the budget. Honestly, I didn’t believe that you would do that individually. But……. They will send an inspector from the ministry to look into the budget.

A: They’re free to do whatever they want. I didn’t embezzle any money. I want this issue to come to an end.

B: Ok.Since you want the issue to end, tell me if you have taken any money, and I will sort it out as we have always done. It’s not our first time.

A; Why don’t you believe me? I have quit.

B: Quit what? What’s wrong with you, boss? Satan himself calls you “uncle”. Suddenly, you became an honest decent man !!

A: God is so powerful.

B: He Sure is.ok. That way, you suit yourself in this issue.

A: I will. We will see.

B: ok.

A: Close the curtains.