

The annotation of the song “ Qissatul al-Ams ” (yesterday events) by UmmuKulthum the Egyptian Lady Singer

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Abstract

Fatimah Ibrahim as-Sayyed al-Bitagi (UmmuKalthum) was born on 30 December 1898 and died on 3 February 1975 (aged 76). She has musically mastered the Arabic classical music and her occupation is nationally and internationally as a singer and actress. Her active years is between 1924-1973. She has generally been internalized and musically labelled in EMI Arabia.

“ Qissatul al-Ams ” has lyrically composed by the poet Ahmad Fathi and melodised by RiyadSanbati.

Translation

analana ‘udailaikamahmaistarhamatdaqquqalbi

I never come back to you again even your heartbeats is in the plea of mercy.

anta llazibadaa al-malalatawa al-sududawakhanahubbi

You have started the weariness and turning away from me then betrayed my love.

faizadaauta al-yaumaqalbilittasaafilanyulabbi

If you invite my heart today to peaceful settlement, it would not obey.

kunta li ayyama kana al-hubbu li amala al-dunyawadunyaamali

You are mine for a while, the love is the hope of a world and it is also like the world of hope.

henaghannaitukalahna al-ghazalibainaafraahi al-gharami al-awwali

When I sing you the love -melody- the happiness of first love.

wakunta ‘ainiwa ‘alanurihalaahatazahir al sabawa al-futuni

You are my eyes, through its gleam, appears the blossoms of desire and seduce.

wakuntaruihaama fi sirrihaqalbiwalamtudrikmadaahu al-zununu
You are my soul, my heart secretly captivated by you, the uncertainty does not reach its range/target.

wa'adtanian la yakuna al-hawa ma bainanailla al-ridawa al-sofa'
You promised me that the love between us is only based on calmness and honesty.

waqulta li inna 'azab al-nawabushratuwafinabiqurbi al-liqa'
You said to me that the suffering of remoteness is good news, meets us, in the vicinity of get-together.

thummaakhlaftawu'udantobafihakhatiri
You broke the sweet promise, my memory deeply embedded in it.

haltawassamtajadidan fi gharamennadhiri
Are you expecting the new blooming love.

fagharamiraahayatouladhira'atilaahi
Then my love has gone away, because of long begging for it.

wanshighali fi layaali al-sahdiwa al-wajdu 'alaihi
My anxiety and my ecstasy of love in the sleepless nights.

kana 'indiwalaissaba'daka 'indinikmatun min tasawwuraatiwawujdi
I enjoyed myself, with you, but I have no fantasy and passion after your departure.

yatara ma taquuluruuhukaba'di fi ibti'adiwakibriyaiewazuhdi
Oh – you would see, what your soul would say about me later, my separation, my arrogance and my abstemiousness.

'eiskamatahwaqariban aw ba'idan
Let live, as we are in love either near or far.

hasbaayyamijirahanwanuwahanwawu'udan
In accordance with my daytime, suffering, wailing and promising.

walayalindhaya'anwajuhudan
and in accordance with nighttime, lost of desire and evasion.

waliqaanwawada'anyatruku al-qalbawahidan
Reunion and separation leave the heart lonely.

yasharu al-misbahuwa al-aqdahuwazzikrama'ie
The lamp, drinking bowl and memory spent a long sleepless night with me.

wa'uyunun al-lailiyakhbunuruha fi admu'ie
The stars dim the lights in my teardrop.

yalazikraakallati 'ashatbiharuhi 'ala al-wahmisinina
Oh- your memory, my soul lives with it, delusively for several years.

zahabat min khatiriillasodanya'tadunihenanfahena
All of it have gone from my heart except its echoes repeatedly come to me.

qissotul al-amsiunaajihawaahlamughadiwaamanihisaninraqasot fi ma'badī

Yesterday events, I have secretly conversed, my tomorrow dreams, my sweet hopes dance at my place of worship.

wajirahunmush'ilatunnaruha fi marqadiwasahaabaatukhayalinghaieminkalabadie

The flaming hurt, its light is near my bedside and the cloudy clouds of dream is forever.

analana'udailaikamahmaistarhamatdaqquqalbi

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Annotation

The singer promises emotionally that she would not come back to her beloved. She has logically had several reasons such as she became the prey of love. Ummu Kulthum lyrically questioned the endless love by describing her past desire and events. Furthermore she has musically portrayed the happiness of first love by sweet promising, dating and recalling memory. Moreover she has slowly presented the emotional dialogue between herself and the beloved by picturing the meeting and separation witnessed by pleiades, stars and nature.

The singer has beautifully ended the lyrical song by presenting her flaming hurt and the cloudy clouds of dream. Therefore, all the events that she has spiritually been occasioned by her beloved, lead her to sing "I never come back to you again even your heartbeats is on the plea of mercy. But the love and the futuristic desire is a favour of God that we cannot spiritually deny it coming naturally and going easily. We never say never again for that. The future is usually full of promise.

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