

THE ICONIC STORY TELLER!

Ms. Valentina Trivedi

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Reporters, Modern School Life Magazine

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It was a great moment for the reporters of Life Magazine to have a talk with one of the most inspiring story teller- Mrs. Valentina Trivedi. Three of the reporters went on Saturday Sept. 29, 2018 to interview her.

Parneet: Good morning ma'am, we have heard that you are a story teller and that is your main interest but ma'am we would like to know if you have any other interest too.

Valentina Trivedi: The thing about being a story teller is that when you connect with stories, then the whole world becomes the object of interest. Everything around you becomes magical and your interest becomes unlimited. I like to read books, write stories and I like to watch movies. I like to talk to children too.

Parneet: Story telling is a very unique profession, what is about this, that influenced you?

Valentina Trivedi: You know the best kind of profession is where you find your passion. I would also encourage you to first find your passion, what you enjoy doing and then make it your profession. You just figure out what you enjoy doing and you will find your profession.

Kajal: Ma'am how long have you been telling stories?

Valentina Trivedi: Oh! I think since I was a child, but if you ask formally then I realize that in the last 20 years whatever work I have done it's been storytelling in some way or the other. For the last 10 years I have done a lot of stories.

I write scripts for making films, hold workshops, perform on stage and work with advertising agencies also.

Mansi: Did you always know you wanted to become a storyteller?

Valentina Trivedi: No... It just grew.

Parneet: Who inspired you the most?

Valentina Trivedi: My teachers and my parents have inspired me the most. They inspired me not by saying that I must read stories or have good marks; they inspired me by saying think freely. Basically thinking freely is worth more than it.

Kajal: Mam what about your school life?

Valentina Trivedi: When I was a child of appx. 4-5 years I hated going to school and there was a tussle; my father would take me to school and as my teacher would hold my hand I wouldn't let go my father's hand...

Then I studied at Doon school in Dehradun. Where we were staying in a big campus and it was nice.

Parneet: Your father was a teacher by profession and you are a story teller. How did it occur?

Valentina Trivedi: See story telling is related to teaching; it is a tool for facilitating learning. Being a teacher you just complete the syllabus but you don't know how much of that a student has learnt. Storytelling is an expressive way of teaching.

Mansi: Do you have any favorite story?

Valentina Trivedi: Not really, because there are so many. It's like when somebody has 5 children and u ask if you do have any favorite child. They are all favourite.

You tell me about your favorite story. Do you have any?

Kajal: Yes mam every story I read, I enjoy reading it.

Valentina Trivedi: Do you go to the library and read books?

Kajal: Yes mam we get books from there.

Parneet: Actually, when I was a small kid I was crazy about fairytales, I used to read the fairytales in the school library and then when I grew up this fairytale story craze decreased.

Kajal: Mam any incident which you cannot forget?

Valentina Trivedi: There are too many, as a storyteller, every incident becomes memorable. But what I do is, I don't spend too much of time thinking about past, like here I am sitting with you all, I am not thinking about my past moments I am just completely here.

Parneet: If you get a chance to become a film star, and you're given the role of a storyteller. Then how will you react?

Valentina Trivedi: Oh! They are not going to take me in the film they'll say that your teeth are broken; your eyes are too small; your hairs are gray hahaha.....

But if I got a chance I will do it, I have done dramas in school as a storyteller like narrating stories in a dramatized way. I was a solo character in the drama.

Kajal: Mam if any person wants to become a storyteller, what advice do you want to give him/her?

Valentina Trivedi: I would say read a lot of stories. Sometimes teacher don't tell you to read stories, they encourage you to read textbooks but actually story reading gives you more knowledge and you realize that in your future. Reading helps in your cognitive mind development. So read stories in your free time.

Parneet: Who supported you the most for being a storyteller?

Valentina Trivedi: Everyone supported me .I think! Like I said my parents, my husband and my son also. My son is a reader too, we sometimes exchange story ideas.

Parneet: Have you written any story book?

Valentina Trivedi: Ohh! This is very touchy topic because I tell you why, I have a lot of stories but half written. Hahaha....

You know when you start writing anything and you stop and start again. For completing it you need a more discipline.

Parneet: How many are there?

Valentina Trivedi: The number of stories is it's about 50. If I won't complete them they would not get out in the world. This year I have decided to collect all of them and complete at least 2 of them and take them to a publisher. That is my resolution.

Parneet: Do you prefer to narrate religious stories?

Valentina Trivedi: I don't choose stories specifically but I have seen that the stories of the Puranas are amazing.

Parneet: And do you only prefer Indian folktales or the folktales from any area?

Valentina Trivedi: I prefer folktales from any area. See the benefit of folktales is that they tell you about the culture of that area. They add to your knowledge also you come to know about their culture and you also enjoy them in the stories.

It was a great pleasure meeting you ma'am. May you have a great day! Thank you very much for sharing your thoughts with us.