For Educational, Entertainment and Religious Purposes Only. Any similarity to actual persons, living or dead, is purely coincidental ⑤.

Hello everyone Thank You for Clicking the Link

For those just arriving to the party
This started out
As an email and text blast
To a large group of loyal customers

So as you read this
Imagine that a business
You frequented for many years
Out of the blue closed
And the next thing you know.....

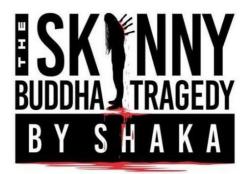
You looked down at your phone
To a text message or email alert
With a link that you decided to open
And then boom
You started reading
And word after word
You're slowly pulled into my world.....

Disclaimer
I didn't want to have to
Experience the emotions for too long
That the main character experienced
So I barely edited The Tragedy
Rereading this story for me
Is like reopening a scar

So I apologize for any errors...

They say an unpolished diamond Is still a diamond..... so hopefully dirty or clean...

You'll still find the Jewels there.



PART 1

"Stabbed without a knife, shot without a gun."

Wasup everybody it's Shaka.
Excuse my lack of communication.
I did not have access to this email list.
Somebody
via two factor authentication
is keeping me from being able
To log in
to communicate with you all

I heard a saying that I believe... It goes like this...

If we don't heal from people who hurt us... we may bleed on people who never cut us...

And so

Now bear with me on this one.

I know for most the question is..

When can I get my Sknny Buddha food again?

Sknny Buddha where are you?

Just tell me when I can get my favorites?

Well, after 13+ years of happily serving you all..

please for these next few emails

allow me to not just be the server

but also to be the receiver of the nourishment

This meal is just for me

This is a long writing so please wait until you have time to read through to the end

Thank you I know that your time is very valuable.

So what do I aim to achieve from sending a story like this.

well a few things

I have reluctantly come to the realization that
I need to heal from the wounds in the pic above.

I need to release a mix of emotions from anger to sadness to grief



to shock to every emotion in between...

Lastly I need to cleanse my soul

But Sknny Buddha was never about me it was

and is about us

so this writing will address many issues that are much bigger and historical wounds that are much deeper then those felt by the characters within the story...

As the story unfolds you will begin to understand...

Let me also say that this is my experiment
an experiment to see
if the world has really changed
from what it was
back when I was young
This is a little uncomfortable for me..
I am a very very private person..
but when I feel that there are larger issues to be addressed..

then I choose to open up my personal experiences to the public especially to the youth
just as I did
to over 1,000 people at our March a few years back



It's one thing to hear someone or to see someone..

but as you read through this story
I hope you feel where "the character"
is coming from...
for awhile he was numb

Now let us begin..

(begin disclaimer)

I am a writer and I am writing this email as a writer for entertainment purposes only.

Any resemblance to actual characters is by coincidence only (wink)
I would like for you guys to take a closer look at my work
and perhaps tell me what you think

Also I have a friend we nicknamed him "For Legal Reasons" (wink)

I have been friends with him for awhile and one thing about him is he is always very careful to protect himself from others. For Legal Reasons is such a good friend.

I repeat to

protect himself from others. For Legal Reasons
is such a good friend.

But anyways here is my short story.

(end disclaimer)

(Begin "Fictional Story)

There once was a guy named Shakyamuni and a girl named Aleeze.



Together they started a business called Mini Buddah. They would be 50/50 partners...

So off they went to both work-like dogs to build Mini Buddah into a business that impacted and saved the lives of many people both near and far...

During that process the two were inseparable slaving together, working day in and day out.

They were a team
and became known around town
as the embodiment of Mini Buddha.
They were always happy because no matter what,
they were together

They were two like-minded people Sharing the highest of highs



and the lowest of lows

During this process they grew so close
that it only made sense for them
to romantically be together
The two agreed that they must allow themselves
to become one as a couple

Now Shakyamuni was much younger than Aleeze and of another culture so that provided many challenges for the two of them.

Mannerisms needed to be decoded(and intentions regularly needed to be explained.

But the communication between the two of them was honest & respectful so they were always able to traverse those rocky communication waters

A friend of Aleezes named NightinGaayul would marvel at the two of them, she'd look in awe, and regularly express that she wished that she could find someone

like Shakyamuni and be in a relationship as good as the two of them had She said what Shakyamuni & Aleeze had just seemed to work

Nightingaayul would pull
Shakyamuni's parents to the side
and express her feelings of what an amazing person Shakyamuni was
how they had raised him right and he was like no other.

Shakyamuni's parents would smile that wide happy smile only a mother and father could

Now Aleeze had three school aged children and when the relationship began Shakyamuni had to make the conscious decision of what proceeding with a relationship with Aleeze meant for his future and how the insertion into that family unit would ripple in effect

Shakyamuni said to himself.. no matter what, you must conduct yourself as a man would and be a positive influence on these innocent children as they journey through their developmental years

He knew that he must walk a tightrope
and be sure not to step on the toes of any family members
He would provide support and guidance to the children
via his perspective sent through the ears of Aleeze
never telling her what to do
because he had never raised children of his own
but by offering his perspective through the lens of his culture
that perspective would regularly be passed via Aleeze
onto whichever child needed to hear it

Often he would hear ideas that had been passed onto him from his family line

being expressed through the mouths of Aleeze's children This made him happy and he was pleased to be able to do his duty

Shakyamuni grew very fond of these children and smiled wide as he experienced the children, move succesfully through adolescence into adulthood From Birthdays to graduations to after party's Shakyamuni was always there smiling cheering the children on

Aleeze would write Shakyamuni love letters
(that which he always kept)
calling him an old soul and thanking him for the inspiration
love
support
kindness and care
that he showed both her, her loved ones, her culture, her everything.

For it was Shakyamuni
who lifted her up when she was down
who laughed with her
massaged away her pains,
and arm in arm danced with her and her loved ones

Everything was great for years on end but as the years progressed
Shakyamuni was still always hesitant to open up to Aleeze
completely and entirely
the way both parties in a relationship should

You see Shakyamuni has always been in tune on an emotional and spiritual level since he was a young boy.

He would very often be pulled to the side by strangers family and friends

and told of his special gifts and the light that he emitted for all to see

Shakyamuni always brushed these encounters to the back of his mind labeling them as either weird interaction or just simply nothing worth remembering.

But as the years passed he grew to recognize and rely on some of these same gifts the strangers spoke about, he would utilize them as a sort of inner Alarm System



Now throughout Shakyamuni's relationship with Aleeze to his despair that alarm system would sound often and frequently Aleeze's behavior would trigger his spiritual bell to ring

He noticed that people that Aleeze held up high on a pedestal and passionately praised day in and day out would eventually reach a point where at the drop of a hat they would end up being the same people that she detested

Shakyamuni would say to Aleeze hey that is so and so, you can't treat them like that do you remember what they did for you That is the same person you use to praise.

It's okay to step away
but you do not have to drag them as if they are garbage or a demon
It's one thing to protect yourself
it's another thing to label them what they are not.

Aleeze would agree and try to adjust her perspective... but this was a reoccurring theme.

This made Shakyamuni uneasy because he wasn't too arrogant to think that he was exempt from this same result.

He thought to himself, eventually it looks as if she will do the same to you Shakyamuni....

but there is a small chance that she will not.

Are you willing to press forward and take that risk?

There is a chance that you could be a bridge to the next destination.

A middleman of sorts there to still the troubled waters led by an ex and lead her into the new relationship for the mate that may present himself

as your time starts to fade out

But Shakyamuni said to himself, there is also a chance that your alarm system is misfiring

Shakyamuni picked the latter and with a hopeful spirit chose to continue on .

With Aleeze Shakyamuni also noticed that the weight of the admission of wrongdoing always proved to be too much for Aleeze to want to shoulder on her own

Every time she was faced with a situation in which she through irrefutable evidence would have to take responsibility for wrongdoing, she would deflect, and redirect the cause to Shakyamuni in an attempt to position herself as the victim

At the most she would,
as Shakyamuni chose to coin it..

"attempt to share the blame" with him
for a problem he did not cause
or in her apology's she would utilize sayings like
"maybe I was wrong for that"

"I'm sorry you feel that way"

Clever pieces of word play that when examined
would allow her to avoid taking full ownership
of the cause and effect of any discrepancy.

Aleeze was also a master at telling half-truths,
manipulating Shakyamuni's words
and deleting the context of occurrences
in a way that eliminated her
from having to assume FULL responsibility for her actions.
Regularly Shakyamuni could be heard saying...

NO I didn't say that

I said something similar to that

but you are altering it to change the meaning, and make it better suit your point....

a half truth is a full lie.....

But Shakyamuni could deal with Aleeze's need to "share the blame" or her word manipulation,

but her praise them to detest them pattern haunted his soul.



Fast forward the clock
It's now about 10,11 years in
and Shakyamuni is starting to notice a change in Aleeze's behavior.
For some reason the advice and perspective
that was once invited and appreciated by Aleeze
is now always being interpreted as criticism.
Shakyamuni finds himself
explaining his intentions
more and more
through many of their interactions.

It's as if
he is beginning to be positioned
as the bad guy
the new villain



All of a sudden
when providing the same perspective
regarding Aleeze's children
that he has in the past
he is being met with hostility
Aleeze is often manipulating his words
to make it seem as if
he is telling her what to do with her children
or demanding to know private information

Aleeze now randomly tells Shakyamuni info about her children and when he inquires the same way he has in the past he is met with hostility

His questions are taken as if he is forcing her to open up

He finds this very strange but he takes note of it and presses the snooze button on his internal alarm



Family wise
Aleeze's kids have moved through the school system
and she now only has one child left
that is set to graduate and go off to school

Shakyamuni is a personal trainer and a massage therapist so through his conversations with women the same age or older than Aleeze he sees a consistent pattern.

When the last kid goes off to school



it is time for a change

Mommy is free now



Free to lighten the load
Free to throw out the trash and fly
The question that haunted Shakyamuni was...

Are you the trash????



Meanwhile the bad guy interactions continued It's as if Aleeze needs Shakyamuni to be the villain in order to justify......

Shakyamuni pushes the snooze button once again...



Friend wise Aleeze's friend NightinGaayul
has finally hit the jackpot
and stumbled into a relationship with a man from down county
he seems to be a fun, kind-hearted man that checks her biggest boxes

He is older, more established, has disposable income and NightnGaayul's lifestyle has changed drastically She no longer has to work as much as she currently has and she has moved into her boyfriend's new house situated on a golf course.

Shakyamuni watches Aleeze and listens to her beam about this in awe from the sidelines

FAST FWD BOOM!

The world has just been hit with a unforeseen catastrophe A pandemic!!!



Businesses are struggling to survive
Shakyamuni and Aleeze are back-to-back working like dogs again
Staff is disappearing
people are getting sick
people are in the hospitals dying
Mini Buddah is still open serving health to the people
and through it all..

Aleeze seems to still be staring at NightinGaayul's new lifestyle with increased awe whilst unloading all of her frustration & discomfort on the new villain...

Shakyamuni...



What else is going on..

Aleeze's youngest is in college now is mommy now free to take out the trash?

Shakyamuni takes note of this and proceeds to continue doing what he has been doing.

Work as hard and as smart as possible and not give up

You see Shakyamuni comes from a poor Jamaican family his parents are aging and require more of his financial support.

For years
Shakyamuni has taken as little money as possible
from the business
kept almost nothing for himself
and used the rest of the money
to pay his parents bills
and send money to his family in Jamaica when needed

Aleeze being much older more established post marriage and the product of a few generations here on this land she didn't have the same worries

Shakyamuni's care for his parents was known by Aleeze and through her own admission, deeply respected.

If you ask Aleeze she would repeat that Shakyamuni is the best son a parent could have •

Well Shakyamuni thought
If he could just scramble as fast as possible and work as hard as possible
he could give his parents a better life,

and be able to create a better life for Aleeze by the time she was ready to send her youngest off to school.

But he couldn't... the pandemic hit and Shakyamuni ran out of time.... and all the while...

Aleeze just couldn't help staring at NightinGaayul in awe. In Aleeze's words NightinGaayul is about NightinGaayul and the many times when Aleeze would run to Shakyamuni distressed about NightinGaayul's treatment of her

Shakyamuni would throw water on the flames and say

hey that is your friend
she is the way that she is
just stand up for yourself
Tell NightinGaayul how she is making you feel
and try to work it out.
Aleeze would listen
they would talk,
and their bond would eventually grow stronger.

Regularly when Shakyamuni noticed work stress was weighing heavy on Aleeze's shoulders

Shakyamuni would secretly text NightinGaayul and ask her if she could stop by the kitchen to say hi to Aleeze.

He knew that her presence usually lifted her spirits
Kitchen work is hard work
especially when big catering orders have come in
and Aleeze was a hard worker

Shakyamuni knew he wasn't financially able to free her of that burden.

So he tried to do the best that he could with little resources.

NightinGaayul would swing by
laugh with Aleeze
raise her spirits
hug her
and then Shakyamuni and NightinGaayul
would wink at each other
as she walked out the Mini Buddha door

Now NightinGaayul being the same age as Aleeze appeared to be changing as well.

She seemed to be in search of a partner in crime to buddy along with her in her new phase of life

Her boyfriend was often busy so who could she get to keep her company or give her comfort in her new social circle

Suddenly Aleeze had begun to spend more and more time at NightinGaayul and her boyfriend's new place

Going over for dinner going over to workout... just being around NightinGaayul more

Shakyamuni's alarm was blaring so he avoided NightinGaayul & her new life he felt that Aleeze would hate to admit it.. but NightinGaayul had begun to influence Aleeze.

Aleeze was run down and felt that she was in need of a change,
They say the best time to reprogram ideas into someone
is when they are worn down
as they are open to suggestion

Regardless there was something weirdly manipulative & possessive about NightinGaayul & her relationship with Aleeze.

Aleeze agreed with this idea and called it to Shakyamuni's attention.

If asked NightinGaayul would write it off as a love for her friend To Shakyamuni it reminded him of the same manipulative & possessive traits that NightinGaayul described that her sister portrayed when it came to her relationship with NightinGaayul

Perhaps it was in the DNA and NightinGaayul was doing the same to Aleeze that had been done to her by her sister....

One day Shakyamuni came home happy as ever and overheard Aleeze on the phone describing her personal transition stages

and how she has been putting feelers out via social media so people will begin to know that she is out there as a personal Chef.....

but Aleeze hears Shakyamuni coming through the door and says HI startled.....

Shakyamuni brushes it off as if nothing happened He walks away and Aleeze continues her conversation that was once loud, now in a whispered tone.

Shakyamuni wonders why the startled look followed by the whispers....

had they not discussed eventually utilizing their skills to transition together in the Mini Buddha name...

Together right.....

Shakyamuni hits the snooze button ...



FAST FWD THE PANDEMIC WON'T LET UP

The MINI BUDDHA location has closed the Mini Buddha's are exhausted and a shift to a delivery business model is planned

All of the Mini Buddha products are all over the house inside & outside and packed securely in the newly designed garage loaded with commercial freezers and refrigerators

But this night inside the house
Shakyamuni is bringing to Aleeze's attention
the hypocrisy of Aleeze's friend NightinGaayul
as she feeds Aleeze negativity
in the form of I love Shakyamuni BUT lines
that further create a divide in the relationship of the Mini Buddha's.

NightinGaayul has come back from a girls trip with Aleeze with new inspiration to finally have her "soul sista" available to her

The argument proceeds and Aleeze yells "WE CANNOT RECONCILE"

Shakyamuni stops shakes his head and says ok then I am leaving

As Shakyamuni stomps around quickly packing his stuff in Garbage bags
Aleeze says

this is a big house you can stay upstairs.

Shakyamuni says

Lam not going to stay anywhere Lam not wented

I am not going to stay anywhere I am not wanted ...

(then there is silence.....Aleeze says nothing)

So Shakyamuni grabs his stuff and starts to head out the door..

As Shakyamuni heads out the door

Aleeze yells out her last words to him before he leaves..

"What are we going to do about the food in the Garage"

Shocked, Hurt, Angry, and Distraught Shakyamuni slams the door shut.



Tonight Shakyamuni will sneak into the old Mini Buddha building and sleep on the floor

The next night he will bundle up and sleep in the Mini Buddha van behind the Westchester Countee Center to avoid detection

No word from Aleeze.

To be continued....

(Fictional story ends)

Thank You All For Reading
If you enjoyed what you read
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The remaining Installments of The Sknny Buddha Tragedy Book 1