

# POSSESSED BY DEMONS

ONE STUDENT'S TERRIFYING EXPERIENCE.... A TRUE STORY

## Part 1

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The air was still and the not a sound was heard in the nearly empty library, except the voice of my companion. Though it was quite warm outside, the tale I was hearing sent a shivery chill down my spine. It was one of mystery and terror, one filled with intrigue and unanswered questions. I marveled at the calmness with which he related his experience, knowing very well from reliable sources that he had neither made it up, nor was it a figment of his imagination.

The student, Ahmed Rasheed of year 12, says he had been to hell and back. Truly, the ordeal he has been through was terrible. He had spent three months in bed, not knowing where he was, what was happening or even who he was. He felt himself being taken back in to the days of the past and transported by some means to the future. He saw himself as various people, at various places. Gear up for an account of his experience as he related it....

“It was during the Interschool Quran recitation competition, and I was busy with practice. I frequented my sister’s house to teach her children, and it was the last day I would go there before the competition began. As it was, her house was near the Maafannu cemetery, and my nephews usually teased me saying that I was scared of the ‘ghosts’ inside. That particular day, I knew they were watching me, and I wanted to show them I was not scared of the trees or the graves or anything. So I slowly strolled down by the cemetery, looking up at the trees and being very calm about it all. At that moment I felt something that I could not explain, and suddenly there was a cluster of leaves falling on my upturned face. I carelessly brushed them away, not knowing it was to be something I was going to regret badly....”

“It was only later that I came to know the truth behind all this. This little event brought about the most fearful days of my life. As many soothsayers revealed later, the trees at which I had been staring was where some demons gathered, and they had felt that I was mocking at them. I hadn’t seen a thing but the leaves, but it was how they took it. so they had sent down the leaves to annoy me. But unknowingly I had brushed them at the same demons who went blind. Supposedly these particular leaves were threatening to the demons because it could blind them. Then it was that all the sinister things began to happen. The demons were outraged and they wanted to get back at me. I was of course, most unaware of what was about to happen.”

“I had already finished my recitation at the competition. It was the last day, and I was on my way to the Islamic Centre to give moral support to a colleague who was reciting that night. I had almost reached the Islamic Centre when I heard a voice call out to me. I looked around. There was no one to be seen. I proceeded, but a second later I started having a weird feeling. My mind seemed to be telling me not to go in. I changed direction, and walked to the shop where my father worked. I don’t know why I went there, but I did it out of my will. I spoke to my father, and I could sense there was something wrong with me. My father also noticed it and urged me to go home and rest. I decided to go home, but as I got out of the shop, my mind directed me to my sister’s house. It was a long way to her place from the shop, and I was on foot, but I didn’t have any control over my actions....”

“My sister also noticed I looked strange and she gave me a pill to calm me down. I hadn’t stopped chattering all this while. I chattered away like a parrot. I stayed there

for a while, and once again thought I would go home. But the instant I go out to the street, I found myself walking towards the house of classmate of mine. I had been taking Biology tuitions with her before I took a break for the competition practices. I wanted to start the lessons again, but it was certainly not a time I would have opted to go and discuss tuitions.

When I went there, her father was also home. I usually am very soft-spoken in her house, and don't stray far from my lessons. But that night, it didn't matter that her father was there. It didn't matter what I said. I just went on talking, and I couldn't stop even if I wanted to. I was totally out of control, and by then quite tired as well. It was very late when I made my way out, thinking firmly to myself that I would go home directly from there."

"But that was not to be. I even had to go down to the beach before I could go home. It seemed that whatever was controlling my mind intended to totally tire me out. I met a couple of teachers from another school, and I launched into another big talk with them. I don't know why I said half the things I said that night. But what I surely know is that I wouldn't have acted like that normally..."

"I reached home very late in the night and I was exhausted. But I didn't feel any fatigue because I was overwhelmed with fear. I couldn't place my finger on what was bothering me yet I seemed to have a dreadful premonition of something bad. I couldn't sleep because of fear and a nervous feeling in the pit of my stomach. I was shivering and sweating, and had run a high fever as well. My parents were very worried. It was almost morning when I fell into a restless sleep."

"I woke up again at almost 4 in the morning. My father had told me never to go out of the house at that time, but I couldn't help myself. I dressed and left the house, and walked down the silent road. Everything was so still and lifeless that it was beyond eerie. I stared right down at my feet and walked ahead until I came to a house I knew. The inhabitants reared a lot of birds in that house,

and there were all sorts of trees towering over the walls. My heart started thumping wildly, and the hairs at the back of my neck stood on end. I felt a presence there and involuntarily turned around. I gasped in amazement and stood rooted. There was a man standing by the side...he was not looking at me, but at the trees. The scary thing was, his feet did not touch the ground! I recovered from my shock, and fear gripped me, but I was fortunate enough to recall verses of the Holy Quran at that moment. I started reciting and scurried towards home. I had a feeling and looked back over my shoulder. The man was gone. Vanished! Just like that. I hadn't got over it when I went to school that day..."

"When I went to school, everything felt strange. I felt disoriented and out of place. It seemed that everyone on the road was looking at me in a strange way. The other students seemed to stare at me as if they knew something I didn't. I saw their looks as accusing and pinpointing. It made me feel really uncomfortable. I had always been very polite to everyone, but that particular day, I found myself behaving a bit rudely even to some of the teachers. Of course, nobody was staring at me in any peculiar way. They were not accusing me of anything either. I just saw it that way. Or rather, my mind made me perceive it in that manner. It made me feel even more nervous than I was, what with the previous encounter and all. I went home and didn't attend the rest of my classes that day."

"By night, I had significantly calmed down. I was trying to make some sense and reach a reasonable conclusion for the strange events. I wanted to go to the toilet, and since the toilet was situated at the far end of the house, we always took someone else along with us - not only because it was far away, but because the huge tree that grew there was said to be haunted. Several people claim to have seen small children among its branches... I went alone, and even then I was not scared so I know what I saw and heard can not have been brought about by fear...However, I was in this toilet brushing my teeth under the jutting out roof when I felt the same strange queasy

feeling. The roof does not cover the whole toilet and I could see the open sky. I did not look anywhere else, and continued my brushing....

“Suddenly, I heard the sound of heavy footsteps on the roof. I stood very still. It seemed to be getting closer and closer and closer... and then the sound stopped. I knew it was directly above my head....

(TO BE CONTINUED IN THE NEXT ISSUE)