



Hi! Society

By MONET LU

# And I Love You So...A Tender Love Story

ONCE again, I'm grateful for the amazing feedback from readers. There have been positive and somewhat negative reactions, I'm thankful for both.

I'd like to stress that my column is all about our leading men and women in the community, high-profile personalities and their noteworthy contributions. *Hi! Society* is also about beauty, fashion, style and trends.

I received feedback from an anonymous sender who had issues about a high-profile personality I'd written about recently. This anonymous sender was pointing out some "loopholes" in the character of the high-profile personality I had featured, relating to legal issues and such.

While I admit that I'm not exactly well-versed in the legal woes, if any, of all our leading men and women in the community, I would like to respond by saying that this column is about upliftment.

After all, who among us who have reached a certain degree of success has not had to deal with challenges and the occasional legal issue in the past?

My column tries to focus on beauty and the positive things that we should celebrate.

We are already bombarded with depressing things everyday on the news and on TV. My column does not wish to promote that theme.

There's so much goodness in each and every one of us. We've all made mistakes. But as long as we are trying to correct those mistakes and move forward, past

events shouldn't hold as much importance as the present and the future.

I will never use this column to put down anybody. If this column does not please certain individuals, there is always the option to NOT read it.

If one seeks to read about controversy, scandal and unearthing skeletons in someone's closet, I guess this is not the material one should read. Might as well skip this column.

Anyway, on to non-controversial topics...

Last Tuesday, while in Las Vegas, I happened to catch the US theatrical release of the much-talked about movie *And I Love You So* starring Bea Alonzo, Sam Milby and Derek Ramsey.

My friends and I planned to see the 7:30pm showing but when we saw the long lines and SRO seating at the Regal Cinemas, we had to face reality and wait for a later showing.

*Naloka ako!* The movie was completely sold out on a Tuesday night!

Beforehand, I'd been hearing a lot of great buzz about this movie. My friend Ruffa Gutierrez texted me that I should go see it.

I now see what the fuss is all about. The lead stars Bea, Sam and Derek are so good in it!

Beautiful acting with background scenes that feature the best of the Philippines. The story is sweet and delicate. Of course, it has the typical love story formula—predictable. But it hits the target. It does what it's supposed to do—make us *kilig* and cry at the right parts. *Kuhang-kuha ang pulso ng masa.*

There are titillating scenes. You will see a more mature and bolder Bea bearing a more svelte body that she worked hard to achieve. As an actress, Bea has arrived.

The revelation was Sam Milby. He's become a more sensitive actor on this film. You can feel the emotions emanating from his character. He was vulnerable and a little bit rough around the edges. His acting has really come a long way.

I was truly impressed. No doubt when this movie makes its rounds in California, it will also draw a monster crowd!

I congratulate *Derek* Laurenti Dyogi for this effective, tender love story. There should be more movies like this!

P.S. This is not a paid endorsement. Rather, I'm just giving credit where credit is due.

Be sure to go and see *And I Love You So* in a theatre near you! I hear it will be shown in Cerritos this weekend or so.

**So last year!**

I got calls and emails last week from people who were so sweet to offer me their best wishes amid news that I had been robbed of all my "naipon." Apparently, it was published in the SEEN SCENE section of the *Philippine Star* on August 20, 2009.

While I don't deny that this happened, the news is so last year! It occurred last December 2008 right before Christmas. I came home to my Studio City condo and found my living room window forced open and my things in disarray.

Many of my prized possessions were stolen, including jewelry, designer bags and cash. I was most saddened about the loss of some designer luggage that were given to me as gifts by dear friends. They were rich in sentimental value.

Anyway, I'm thankful to people who expressed their concern for me. God bless you for thinking of me!



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The author is a Marikina-born, award-winning celebrity beauty stylist with his own chain of salons across Southern California and Las Vegas, Nevada. Ultimately, Monet is known as an all-around artist who produces sold-out fashion and awards shows as well as unforgettable marketing campaigns. Monet is also the founder of the revolutionary all-natural beauty products available at [www.skinbymonet.com](http://www.skinbymonet.com). He supports many humanitarian efforts to include projects in his native Marikina, The Bantay Bata Foundation, and many more. To contact Monet, please visit [www.monetsalon.com](http://www.monetsalon.com) for more information.

## On becoming a savvy survivalist

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with the exception of the cockroach, the human capacity to adapt and improvise is foremost among all living things.

The age of the immigrant during which he moves is a determinant as to how fast he adapts, acculturates and assimilates. It seems that borne of anecdotal evidence, the ones that seem to do well fairly early are the ones who come in when they are young adults, armed with college education and with some work experience, between the ages of 24 to 34 when inflexibility and rigidity in their ways of thinking and doing have not yet congealed. The more

pliant the attitude and the personality, the higher the survival rate, particularly during the first few years. The older ones have difficulty getting on track, constantly hankering for the good old days when it becomes clear to them that they are unable to recreate the successes of a previous life.

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