

# SEAFRET

TELL ME IT'S REAL



# Something for THE LOVESICK

MAHEJABEEN HOSSAIN NIDHI

Seafret's latest album, released on January 29, *Tell Me It's Real*, is a collection of lyrics and music that for the most part make you want to fall in, and be in, love. The tracks on this album, like those in the former albums of the band, are perfect background music for pondering love – romantic or otherwise.

One of the most mesmerising aspects of the album isn't its consistency in theme but rather how the track list plays out as a story and tells a beautiful narrative. Through the lyrics of every song, the ups and downs of a relationship are explored.

The first track, *Missing*, sets the tone for the entire album. The song, about craving for some form of affection to feel whole again, has an almost intricate haunting essence. The same atmosphere of wanting to be cared for is carried on with the next song, *Give Me Something*.

The tension of longing for love, which is never easy and often depressing, is broken by the next song; *Wildfire* is an upbeat song focusing on the thrill of finally finding love. It's the kind of song that deserves a spot on the playlist of every romantic.

*Breathe* is a nervous song about starting something new with another person. It's anxious and apologetic but hopeful all at the same time, and the terrifying combination of all these contrasting feelings is wrapped up in just over three minutes. Almost heart wrenchingly afterwards, *Oceans*, is a cry for affection while struggling to get over communicating emotions.

*Over* speaks volumes about how it is borderline amusing to watch someone "in a gambling mood" and hoping the next throw of the dice doesn't decide the end of a relationship. Sharing the title of the album, the next track, *Tell Me It's Real*, has a more somber tone stating the significance of the veracity of the moment regardless of whether it stands the test of time.

An eerie silence descends with the beginning of the track, *Be There*, which is arguably the most powerful song in the album. The song dwells on how it's possible to be ever present for the people or things that we love even if our passion isn't always quite requited.

*Atlantis* reminds us of the recurring fear of not being enough to be with someone. The song probes into why things might not work. After the almost dismal song comes *Skimming Stones*, a song that revives the listeners. It's a more hopeful track longing to get back to better times.

The remaining songs in the album, *Out of Nowhere*, *Beauty on the Breeze* and *Overtime*, conclude it with a sweeter tinge. In less than an hour, the album as a whole gives a delicate preview on the elusive emotion we know as love. The album as a whole is an amazing listen when in the mood for love and longing.

*With a keen eye and a broken brain to mouth filter, Mahejabeen Hossain Nidhi has a habit of throwing obscure insults from classic novels at random people who may or may not have done anything to warrant them. Drop her a line at mahejabeen.nidhi@gmail.com*

# Anatomy of an Average Episode of SUITS

ARMAN R. KHAN

Season 5 of *Suits* came to an end a few days back, and being a follower, I have come to deduce that the show has become quite formulaic in its five years. The plot may vary but almost every episode of *Suits* has some common elements, which I present to you (in no particular order).

**1. Mike and/or Louis screw up.**  
Mike Ross and Louis Litt have two things in similar – they both aspire to be Harvey Specter, and will stop at nothing to prove their worth. In order to achieve the latter, they pull off stunts that end up complicating things even more. I guess we all have friends like that, don't we?

**2. Harvey and/or Donna to save the day.**  
The one thing Harvey is good at is winning cases, and he does not rest until he wins. So when Mike and/or Louis mess up, it's Harvey who goes out there and cleans the mess. Donna Paulsen always has a trick or two up her sleeves that can get anybody out of trouble – at times even Harvey is a train-wreck without her. No wonder she is the best secretary in the world and a subject of dispute between Harvey and Louis.

**3. Crying Rachel.**  
Despite being a strong, independent woman who claims that Jessica Pearson is her role model, Rachel Zane cries in almost all of the episodes. It doesn't matter why - she just does. It was cute at first; now it's just "Oh no, not again."

**4. "Whatever it is, I don't have time for it."**  
Jessica Pearson, Harvey Specter, Louis Litt – the (current) name partners of an esteemed law firm. Of course they don't have time for you and your silly office

gossip. What's unfortunate is Jessica and Harvey often don't have time for Louis who has a history of complicating things. The hostility doesn't affect Louis, or any third person, and they go on to proceed with whatever they want to talk about. The result? See next.

**5. "Now get the hell out of my office."**  
After their guest forcefully informs the name partners about their worries, they get an earful in return from the host. But the story doesn't end there. The host then goes on to show the door and since Mike is Harvey's mentee, he picked up on the habit as well.

**6. A confrontation ensues between friends, usually in the bathroom.**  
Misunderstanding and acting on whim are major elements in *Suits*. As a result, confrontation and blame game is a given – often multiple times in one episode. But you know things have gone down when said confrontation takes place in a restroom. The restroom, my friend, is the *Suits* equivalent of Dhanmondi Road 9.

**7. At the end of the day, they're one big family.**  
Regardless of the numerous washroom "genjams" or the crying or the tension, people at Pearson Specter Litt always have each other's backs – at least the important ones do. They realise their mistakes, apologise and make up, and live happily ever after - till the next episode.

In any case, the plot took an unexpected turn at the end of Season 5. I really don't know how things will unfold in the next season, but I'm eagerly waiting for that.

*Arman R. Khan is an engineer, a caffeine addict, a dreamer and a culture enthusiast who takes life one day at a time. Correspond with him at fb.com/arman.r.khan or tweet @ArmanRK*

