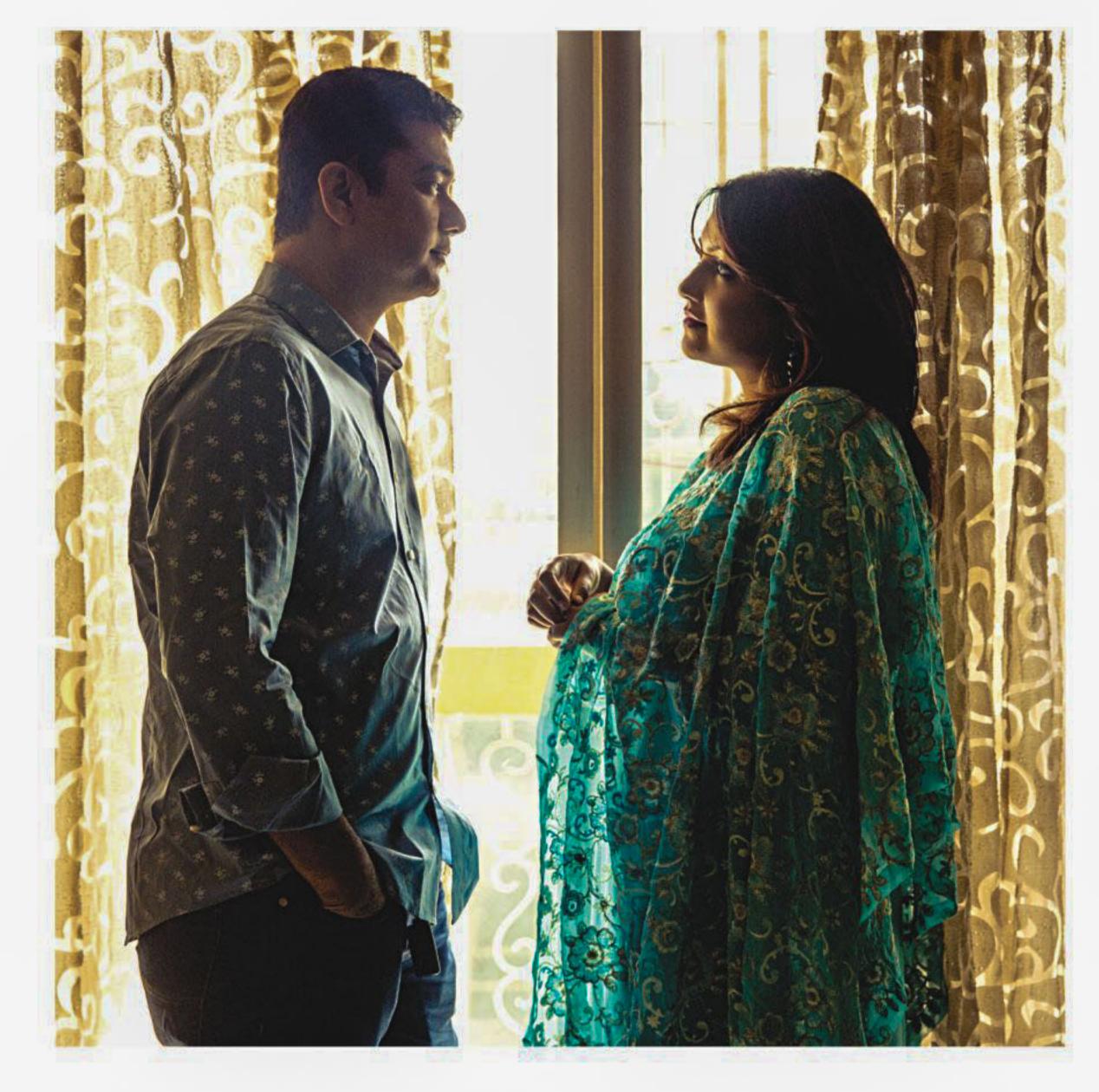
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Despite marrying people of your own choices, your previous marriages did not sustain for too long. Why do you think love marriages end up on bad terms so often? Hillol: When we take the decision of marrying someone, we promise to stay beside him/her for the rest of our life. But life doesn't go as smoothly as we want it to. Accidents happen and that's to be expected. My life has gone through a similar accident, that's why my first marriage didn't last long.

Nowshin: I preferred my parents' choices for my first marriage; they certainly wanted the best for me. I married him knowing very well how life after marriage would be. We had a son together. When a woman becomes a mother, she prioritizes her husband and children above all else. She compromises many things that she never thought of abandoning before. I did the same thing for my family; but unfortunately it didn't work out. I never blame myself for that. I believe in destiny and it was predestined for me. Since my parents married me off at an early age, I used to blame them right after my separation. But eventually I understood that it was never entirely my parents' or my own fault. Today I have a new family, which I love a lot, and that happened because my previous marriage didn't end up lasting too long.

Did you think of sharing your life with someone more compatible after your separation?

Nowshin: Honestly speaking, I haven't promised Hillol to be with him for the rest of my life. We do not know what we have in the future and we cannot count on it. I did not think of resettling with someone after my separation. I was busy with my



child, trying and dealing with the situation I was facing back then. I had to focus on the soundness of his physical and mental health. After securing a healthy environment for my son, I concentrated on my career. I started working in media. And after a long break I met Hillol during the shooting of a TV drama. That's how we started talking and knowing each other better. It took me a while to settle my mind for the second marriage. I had to reconsider everything: our lifestyle, children, career and priorities.

Hillol: We were never responsible for each

other's divorce. I didn't think of remarrying someone either. A separation is very difficult to deal with, and I had to reconsider many situations simultaneously. Nowshin was a very good friend of mine when I first met her. After working in a number of TV dramas together I got the chance to know her better. Her personality, experience and expectations from life somewhat matched mine. That is when we took the decision of coming into a commitment.

Nowshin: We prioritized each other's personality and expectations more than

beauty or smartness. There are more things to count on when you engage in a relationship at this age. I considered what I didn't get in my previous relationship, and Hillol looked for what he felt was missing for him. If I found the same insouciance in Hillol, I wouldn't have married him. Hillol: I would like to add one more thing here. I found mental peace in Nowshin's company. Suffice to say, that was a good reason behind me taking this decision!

Having been married for a long time, do you feel any change of emotion at this point of life?

Hillol: Everything changes with time, so does a relationship. We have matured as time passed by. We are more like a responsible couple than a romantic one now! (Laughs)

Nowshin: I don't want to reveal anything personal here but one thing should be mentioned. We had a fight a couple of days ago. I called my parents and told them I wanted to move out. My parents were fine with my decision. After a while he talked to his brother and sister-in-law and they replied with the same response. Do you know why did these people remained so calm back then? Because they knew it was a very whimsical decision and they knew better than to treat such random impulses so sternly. Even though we were both angry with each other, things turned normal a short while after. This change of emotion was nothing but the result of our love for each other and our family. We both need each other in our lives. We have become quite habituated with each other's company.

Hillol: It's not that the love and romance have been entirely missing; but we truly have become habituated with our lifestyle. Goes to show, love does triumph!

Interviewed by Sanjida Chowdhury

