CLEARLY,

SHE WAS PULLING MY STRINGS!

Maria Sheikh

“When I left South Africa and moved to a small town in Washington, I knew everything was going to be different. But this much different, I was never prepared for…With people looking down at my religion, values and beliefs, I felt as if I’m losing my real self, my actual Identity. But I could not possibly let my inner self pull my strings off like that! I hoped it would understand that silence isn’t empty; it’s full of words…

By the help of the gawky teenage boy next door, who eventually takes the place of my elder brother whom I left behind, Will I ever be able to get back the real me, the real Nancy? ”

“Her smile was like armor every day she went to war”

The Times

“She is a brave soldier in the battle against herself”

Islington Gazette

