

# THE CITY OF WINTER DREAMS

**genre: romantic Christmas tragicomedy**

This is a story about young artistic guys and girls ages 20 to 25 years old; all of them are smart and talented in their own way, and all of them are filled with dreams and the passions of youth..

Max - a computer programmer, who arrived in Moscow from a provincial city for a career in IT and to find his dream girl. Ira - a dancer skilled in Irish folk dances, who is preparing for a European dance championship; she is looking for her soul mate and tries to restore the love of her father who deserted her when she was a child. Jacob - a Jewish novice screenwriter, bursting with self-confidence, obsessed with his impure Jewish ancestry, trying to sort out his relationship with Marina. Marina - the former sweetheart of Jacob - incredibly talented, beautiful, artistic, and “very Jewish”. Stan - a Russian Neo-Nazi and windbag, pestering everybody with his ideologies and propaganda. Narine - the simple Armenian shop-girl, going through prolonged teen-age rebellion against her father. Eugene - a talented musician in Marina’s folk-band, smitten with Marina and dreaming of marrying her. And a “gang” of folkies building the first folk-club in Moscow. Their lives become intertwined before New Year in Moscow's concrete jungle.

Max gets to know Ira and a little spark flares up between them, even though he really fancies the southern charms and looks of Narine. Jacob writes his first really strong screenplay to prove his talent to Marina. Marina meanwhile drills her folk-band for the forthcoming opening of the club. Romantically, she is trying to decide who she likes better, Jacob or Eugene. And Stan is still pestering one and all.

Max burns the candle at both ends – working hard by day and romancing Ira and Narine in his free time around underground rock-clubs and jazz-cafes, taking romantic strolls through Moscow, and studying dances at the Irish dance school.

But then tragedy strikes. Narine dies in an accident brought about unwittingly by Stan. Max is heartbroken.

Meanwhile the folkies finish building the club. Marina and her folk-band play at the opening. Jacob finishes his screenplay. Ira goes to Ireland and takes first place at the dance championship.

After reading Jacob’s screenplay, Marina is left without any doubt and convinces him he has no literary talent. Jacob loses Marina and faith in his ability to write. But he’s still looking for a way to splash out the fire burning in his heart. And in quest of “his own frontier” Jacob repatriates to Israel. Marina marries Eugene. And Ira in a phone call with her father after the championship understands that he never loved her.

Max, brought down by events and burnt out by his hectic big city life, quits his job and plans to return to his native city. But, at the airport he meets Ira, freshly landed from Ireland. Now they are two adults who have tasted the bitterness of loss. They talk heart to heart and realize they were meant for each other.

A close-up of the kiss.

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