

Garuda

a screenplay

by

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GARUDA

UP ON matt black. After a beat a gold spot CENTRE SCREEN appears. The gold spot enlarges until the form of Vishnu's Vehicle "Garuda" can be made out. This IMAGE quickly fills the screen.

Garuda, half man half bird. The body is of a man, the legs are feathered with eagles claws, the arms giant wings stretched out the full width of the SCREEN. The bottom half of the head is human but a huge eaglets beak makes for a nose. Human eyes stare out from eagle sockets surrounded by slicked back feathers. The IMAGE is one of immense power.

EXT. MUMBAI. DAY.

CPV. PULLS BACK SLOWLY to reveal that this IMAGE is an emblem on the front of a giant airship: The Garuda.

TITLE SEQUENCE.

Hovering 1000 metres up and framed against a setting sun the giant airship is 3 kilometers long 3/4 of a kilometer wide and a half a kilometer deep.

CPV. SWERVES DOWN AND OFF TO THE SIDE AND WE SEE underneath and running the whole length of the airship a 15 storey undercarriage illuminated with tens of thousands of lights. Spaced down this rectangle there are huge openings out of which airbuses and airtrucks fly in and out.

These airbuses are a third dirigible a third aeroplane and a third helicopter, covered in matt black silica, which converts light directly to electricity, (see drawings)

CPV. SWERVES UP AND OVER THE CANOPY revealing its huge flat top.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CPV. MEANDERS DOWN THE LENGTH OF THE SHIP THEN OUT OVER THE REAR AND DOWN TOWARDS Mumbai in the distance.

Mumbai is composed of giant saucer like buildings. Their matt black silica rotating tops angled to catch the maximum of the sun"s rays, have spread out like flower tops onto the ocean surrounding the original seven islands that make up the peninsular.

CPV. SWERVES INTO THE HEART OF THE CITY AND THEN UP to meet the Presidential airbus as it flies down the Bombay peninsula. It is one of many airbuses silently swarming like huge bumble bees across the megalopolis.

The Presidential airbus comes to a stop 1000 metres up over the tip of Colaba. It swivels around on its axis then descends vertically through the giant buildings.

The airbus silently lands into a plaza next to an ancient monument. The Gate of India, which is hemmed in by giant buildings on three sides with only the ocean it faces providing a seascape vista.

WE can see behind the airbus the Taj Mahal.Hotel set into the base of one of the giant buildings, like an alter set into the apse of a cathedral.

TITLE SEQUENCE ENDS

The President of India, ARUN, an eighty something man of once noble bearing steps off the airbus with his granddaughter, RADHA, slight and in her late twenties, she is attractive if not beautiful but with a stunning smile. He in his "traditional" dhoti and waistcoat dating back to the Ghandian era and she in a black silica air conditioned "jump" suit.

As they walk across towards the Taj Mahal Hotel they are followed by two bodyguards also dressed in black silica suits. But unlike Radha they are wearing fully enclosed black helmets and body armor while on their backs they carry techno packs housing laser guns on storks which swivel above and in unison with their head movements.

ARUN

Radha, I might as well tell you now. It is my intention to retire from politics.

RADHA

(having heard it all before) Of course it is. Grandpa. It has been your intention for as long as I can remember. It's only the act of retirement that seems to elude you.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Arun gives Radha's cheeky smile a disparaging once over.

ARUN

It is true than I have visited this decision before ..
but this time it's different.

Arun stops and looks at Radha who stops and is forced to look at him.

ARUN (CONT'D) The doctors say that

I will need genetic replacement therapy for my
aging heart, which by all accounts is on the verge of
total collapse. But as you know I don't wish to
extend my worthless life beyond what the Gods"
intended. So I have already set the process in
motion and it will be officially announced next week.

Radha's smile disappears, quickly followed by an expression of concern. But
before she can say anything he continues towards The Taj. She catches him
up.

RADHA

You are going to wait for the vote on the Untouchables?

ARUN

No Radha, time is running out for me. And I want to
spend what little I have left in devotional contemplation to
the tangled haired one. For I fear I may have acted
beyond the confines that a mere mortal should exercise.

RADHA (with
affection)

What a conundrum you are. Grandpa .. A man
whose vision of the future brought the Untouchables
to India and yet a man who still pays obeysance to
an ancient religion's superstitions.

ARUN

(sternly)

Be careful Radha. I know you believe this is the age of
man and think the time of the Gods has past .. but this is
still the Kali Yuga. And the tangled haired one must
release us all before we can move on into the new age.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

RADHA

Then go you will, if go you must. Its just that I was hoping you would be supporting the Untouchables in their endeavors. Your support would help enormously.

ARUN It is out of my hands now. Well ..

(looking up at The Taj) it will be after today. The parliamentary vote is much closer than you would think .. or perhaps would wish.

As they approach the entrance to The Taj so a group of Bharat Natayam dancers come out to greet The President. The lead dancer, a man dressed in gold with blue skin, playing Krishna, is accompanied by his Gopis. Wonderful MUSIC seems to spring out of the air.

The two Presidential guards move forward with concern but are pacified by a gesture from Arun.

Arun and Radha stop for a short performance which ends with the Gopis forming an avenue and Krishna beckoning the President to enter the hotel. Arun and Radha pass along their avenue and are showered in lotus petals. As Radha passes Krishna so a wicked smile from the dancer is argued by a licentious tongue movement which brings an amused if curious smile to Radha's face.

Arun enters The Taj followed by his guards.

But Radha stops and looks back as the dancers dance off towards The Gate of India. She watches for a moment then turns to enter but when the MUSIC stops she turns back around and the dancers are nowhere to be seen. A strong silence is all that is left and she enters the hotel slightly mystified.

END PART 1XX

INT. TAJ MAHAL HOTEL. EVENING.

Radha catches up to Arun who is talking to the Manager of the hotel.

MANAGER

.. and your guests, Mr. President, are in the crystal room.

As Arun and Radha follow the manager.

CONTINUED:

RADHA

Grandpa, I will leave you here as I have meeting...

ARUN Not just
yet.

He escorts a curious Radha as far as the open door of the Crystal Room. Inside, in dappled light, 3 people can be seen sitting in the bay window. Arun faces Radha.

ARUN (CONT'D) (eyeing her suspiciously) I trust your meeting is not with your editor. For what I have revealed about my plans were not intended to provide my favorite grandchild with a scoop.

RADHA (smiling
coily)

Even if such a despicable idea were to have passed through my humble mind it is now banished to the wilderness of oblivion.

She looks in at the people in the Crystal Room and nods in recognition. Then she gives her grandfather a disapproving look before bending down and touching his feet.

Arun watches as she moves off into another part of the hotel. Then he follows the Manager into the crystal room.

The two guards taking up positions either side of the entrance.

CRYSTAL ROOM

The walls are covered in crystals so that the whole room is fractured and dappled with the light that emanates from behind the crystals themselves. The room is empty except for the three people sitting in the bay of the window, through which the illuminated Gate of India can be seen.

The three stand as Arun approaches them. The Manager bows and retreats closing the doors behind him.

Arun gives a traditional greeting first to a fine featured early forties Jain man, BANARSIDAS, then to a voluptuous mid thirties Hindu woman, ARUNDAHATI, and finally to SHRILAL, a small rotund man of the scheduled caste in his sixties whose henna red hair matches the color of his teeth.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Shrilal is dressed like Arun, the other two are wearing air conditioned body suits.

Arun sits down facing them, only then do they take their seats.

ARUN

I'll come straight to the point. Having sounded out the other Members of Parliament, the vote for the inclusion of the Untouchables into the cast system and their registration as Indian citizens is evenly divided. Consequently, the vote is now in your three sets of hands as you are the only ones who haven't made up their minds.

Banarsidas and Arundahati look at each other with surprise and then turn their attention to a grinning Shrilal. Arun watches the wily old Hindu as he revolves his head in satisfaction.

ARUN (CONT'D) Shrilal, this is one of the most important decisions that Parliament will ever have to make. It needs careful consideration.

SHRILAL

Care .. consideration .. my old friend .. you know these are qualities that I try, in my own humble way, to practice every day. But I can't help feeling that my careful consideration may be a waste of time. For if you don't get your way you'll just go over the head of Parliament and call a referendum .. like you did when you introduced the Untouchables to India in the first place.

The two old men eye each other up.

ARUN

(grunts)

Perhaps in the past but not on this occasion. I'm resigning the Presidency before the vote.

Even Shrilal is taken by surprise.

ARUN (CONT'D)

I trust I can count on your discretion in this matter.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

The three confirm.

ARUN (CONT'D) And also in what I'm about to say .. Personally .. I think they need to finish the job before they are rewarded with Nationality.

Another surprise for the three MPs.

ARUN (CONT'D) No matter how successful the Untouchables have been in wiping out corruption in public life their job is not finished. Corruption is still rife in the private sector and it remains to be seen if even the Untouchable's Corruption Revenue & Accountancy Police can eradicate that.

SHRILAL (cynically)

Not to mention that their virtue may well prove more fragile once they have both citizenship and caste status.

Arun gives Shrilal a side ways glance.

ARUNDAHATI

Are you certain the vote is so evenly split?

ARUN Certain.

BANARSIDAS You have loaded us with a terrible responsibility, Mr. President. And for the life of me I can't say I'm persuaded either way in this matter. Which means I'll probably stick with the status quo.

ARUNDAHATI But which status quo are you talking about? Keeping them as the 'guest' workers they are now, or, are you talking about the status quo of the will of the Indian people where they have massive support?

Before Banarsidas can reply Arun exerts his authority.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

ARUN

I would council. a different approach. You still have a few weeks to make up your minds so for the good of the country I charge you with a fresh look at the issues involved.

Arun gets up and the others rise.

ARUN (CONT'D) I will pray for you all to make the right decision. The right decision for our blossoming country. And if you feel the need .. I will be at your service for the next few days.

Arun turns and leaves followed by the guards. The three sit

down each in their own thoughts.

THE TAJ LOBBY

As Arun and his bodyguard pass through they are watched by a man, CHRIS, dressed like the body guards except that he is without the weaponry and instead of the Presidential insignia on his body armor he has the monogram C.R.A.P. He is talking to a big bearded stocky man, MACTAVISH, wearing a kilt as part of a uniform. They both have Scottish accents.

MACTAVISH

(to Chris)

Quite a gathering.

CHRIS

Something must be up.

MACTAVISH

See what you can find out, laddy.

MacTavish heads for the entrance while Chris turns and walks towards The Taj Coffee Shop.

THE TAJ COFFEE SHOP

He enters and scans the area (seen through his helmet's visor with its computerised information system). He walks up to Radha sitting at a table and places a hand on her shoulder.

CHRIS

I place you under arrest for the corruption of mankind

(startled, she looks up) (MORE) (CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

CHRIS (CONT'D) .. or at least for the corruption of one good man.

RADHA (suppressing a smile)

But surely all men are born corrupt? So how is a poor naive woman such as myself able to influence a trait born out of a billion years of successful evolution?

CHRIS

By the control and manipulation of the emotions.

He takes off his helmet to reveal a good looking blue eyed dark haired man in his early thirties, CHRIS.

CHRIS (CONT'D) Well .. at least this poor man's emotions.

He sits down opposite her and takes her hands in his.

RADHA

Then perhaps I've been wrong in thinking that you Untouchables are as solidly virtuous as your reputation portrays.

CHRIS

Perhaps indeed. So lets hope it is never tested for I would be sorely tried if it was.

She leans across and kisses him. They gaze lovingly into each others eyes, overacting to a point where they burst out laughing.

CHRIS (CONT'D) I saw your grandfather in the lobby. It's not like him to visit Babylon.

RADHA

Oh Chris, why don't you just ask me why he's here. It would be more efficient with the little time we have left.

Chris leans back frustrated.

CHRIS

Oh no .. don't tell me that we're not spending the weekend together.

11.

CONTINUED: (6)

RADHA (enthusiastic)

But it's the break that I've been waiting for. A chance to go undercover and do some real investigative reporting.

Chris goes to say something but she cuts him off.

RADHA (CONTD) Chris you know that I live under the aegis of my family and now I've been given the chance to prove myself in my own right. You know that I love you and would do anything to ...

He gets up annoyed but she pulls him back down.

RADHA (CONT'D) I promise once this is over we'll spend at least a couple of weeks together. Don't you think I don't want that?

CHRIS Marry me.

RADHA

But I have already accepted your most gracious offer. Subject to the successful completion of the test that I set you, of course.

CHRIS So when are you going to test me?

RADHA When the time is right.

CHRIS

You mean once your grandfather is dead. Radha, I know he doesn't approve. An Untouchable is hardly the perfect partner for a woman who by rights should only be wearing white cotton.

RADHA (getting angry)

You know that's not true. But I love my grandfather .. he brought me up as if I was his own child. I can't hurt his sensibilities when he's so close to the end of his life.

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CONTINUED: (7)

CHRIS

(exasperated)

Radha, with genetic engineering he could live for .. ever.

RADHA

But that's where you're wrong. It's against his beliefs and he's not a well man .. be patient.

They're interrupted by an elaborately dressed Waiter.

WAITER Is there something I can get you?

CHRIS

I'll have a pot of patience please and a large goblet of gall for my girlfriend.

The bewildered Waiter looks from one to the other as Radha's bubbling laughter mock's Chris's frustrated demeanor.

XX
END OF PART 2

CRYSTAL ROOM

Banarsidas, Arundahati and Shrilal are already in a heated argument.

ARUNDAHATI (to
Banarsidas)

Shrilal is right. Radha is bound to know that it is we three that will have virtually made the decision for the whole country on the Untouchables. And she is bound to write that up in her newspaper. And with the opinion polls showing that more than 80% of the populace are in favour of the Untouchables becoming part of India, our voters won't be happy if we have been seen to have gone against their wishes.

BANARSIDAS (angry and with sarcasm) So that settles it then .. we all vote for their acceptance .. on the grounds of political expediency rather than merit.

SHRILAL

Now, my friend, you have got to the nub .. or is it the nub .. of the matter. (MORE)

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CONTINUED: (8)

SHRILAL (CONT'D) For if we three all vote for the Untouchables then people will accuse us of this political expediency that you mention. So, Banarsidas, you are rights for we can't give vent to our base political instincts and pander to the majority in these circumstances for it would be seen for what it is .. crass populism. And that, in the present political era, would be political suicide .. for all of us. And what is more, because it is no accident that the wily old dog brought his granddaughter along with him, we have no alternative but to do as he wishes. And that means .. having a genuine fresh look at their case and hope to find genuine reasons for our decision.

ARUNDAHATI So what is to be done?

Silence.

THE TAJ COFFEE SHOP

Radha and Chris sip their coffee.

CHRIS So what's this story you're working on?

RADHA I can't tell you.

CHRIS

You can't tell an Inspector of the Corruption Revenue & Accountancy Police?

RADHA Professional ethics.

CHRIS

So it has to be something important. Political intrigue?

RADHA (smirking) Perhaps.

CHRIS A land swindle?

14.

CONTINUED: (9)

RADHA (playing with him)

Mmm .. could be.

CHRIS So that only leaves designer drugs.

RADHA Give it up.

CHRIS

(reverting)

Oh Radha, you've got no idea how much I was looking forward to spending some...

RADHA

Oh please don't make a big thing about it Chris .. besides, I thought with the vote coming up soon and you on the "Untouchables" Citizenship Committee that you'd be busy anyway.

CHRIS

There's nothing more that we can do. It's all down to Parliament now. That's why I was so looking forward to...

RADHA (she gets up) I'm leaving before you get maudlin.

He gives her a mock angry look while she suppresses guilt by pulling a face.

RADHA (CONT'D) I've got to meet De Silver .. come on, walk me out. And besides, there's always Didis' on Sunday.

CHRIS You can still make it for the big match.

RADHA

(smiling)

And while they're all glued to the screen we can slip off for a little hanky-panky.

CHRIS (smiling) You mean hanky-panky as in
rumpy-pumpy?

15.

CONTINUED: (10)

RADHA (cheeky smile) Is
there any other kind?

Chris picks up his helmet licentiously licking his lips and follows a giggling
Radha out.

EXT. TAJ MAHAL HOTEL. EVENING.

They walk towards the airtaxi rank playfully bumping into each other.

INT. TAJ MAHAL HOTEL. EVENING.

Shrilal is standing in the bay window looking down at Chris and Radha as they
go through this ancient partnership ritual.

Behind him and out of sight Arundahati and Banarsidas are discussing ways
to extricate themselves from their dilemma.

ARUNDAHATI (O.S.) If one of us was
kidnapped until after the vote then the other two could
vote, one for and one against. Which would mean that
there would be a split vote. And then our illustrious Prime
Minister would have to make the fateful decision .. and
probably the only one the idiot would ever make.

Shrilal sees Chris put on his helmet and Radha drape herself around him and
kiss his visor as if it was his lips.

BANARSIDAS (O.S.) (annoyed)
Will you please be serious.

Shrilal watches as Chris finally removes his helmet once more and kisses
Radha with real passion.

Then a light bulb switches on in Shrilal's head and a wicked red smile
emerges.

ARUNDAHATI (O.S.) The President is a
pain in my big hairy butt. He has manipulated and
controlled Parliament for the last 25 years and now
this. Hens nothing short of a megalomaniac.

Shrilal turns from the window.

16.

CONTINUED:

SHRILAL

Did I ever tell you that I used to be a megalomaniac.

And as he walks around to join them.

SHRILAL (CONT'D) But then I went to this wonderful clinic for a cure.

He sits down facing Anita and Banarsidas.

SHRILAL (CONT'D) I was so impressed with their methods that I have ended up owning it .. And that .. is just the beginning.

Shrilal laughs with abandon while the other two are not amused.

BANARSIDAS

Can you two please be serious. We have to find a way out of this dilemma. And we could start by asking what makes these Untouchables so, so .. untouchable.

ARUNDAHATI

Obviously you don't take much notice of the education system that we have had for the last 5 years. Which for your information is based upon the same principles of reciprocal causality that the Untouchables in their homeland of Scotland have been practicing for the last 3 generations.

SHRILAL

This reciprocal causality, is it fail safe?

ARUNDAHATI

The proof of the pudding is in the eating and in the 10 years since The Untouchables arrival there's not been a single case of corruption in their ranks.

BANARSIDAS That we know of.

SHRILAL

(digging deep into his memory) I seem to remember it has something to do with .. basketball.

17.

CONTINUED: (2)

Arundahati rolls her eyes with contempt.

ARUNDAHATI

That was the analogy that was used at the time to explain reciprocal causation.

SHRILAL

Run it by me again .. perhaps it will provide us with a clue.

BANARSIDAS (to Anita) Well?

ARUNDAHATI Oh all right .. Basically all human beings are born with the same set of genes but some of those genes have slight variations which produce slight variations in the individual, like the color of ones skin or

(eyeing Shrilal)

- and this is where basketball comes in -how tall you are. If a child is slightly taller than the average and a bit quicker in their reactions, when they start school they are likely to be a bit better at playing basketball from the beginning. This advantage may be modest, but then reciprocal causation between the genetic difference and environment kicks in. Because you are better at basketball you are likely to enjoy it more and hence play it more than someone who does not. Your genetic advantage is upgrading your environment by the amount of time you spend playing and practicing. In turn your enhanced environment upgrades your skill so you are more likely to be picked for your school team. There you get professional coaching which makes you even more proficient. Thus a small genetic difference turns into a huge performance advantage through reciprocal causality .. and this does not just apply to

(eyeing Shrilal)

basketball .. it applies to every genetic variation which has a behavioral manifestation.

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CONTINUED: (3)

BANARSIDAS So how does this relate to the Untouchables?

ARUNDAHATI

The Scots were the first to realize that educating to children's strengths was good for some aspects of behavior but not for others. Some people are born more altruistic than others but instead of allowing reciprocal causation to develop just these individuals they introduced a program by which all children develop their altruistic qualities equally. After just three generations Scotland had virtually no crime except crimes of passion and an egalitarian society which is still the envy of the world. As much as I despise our illustrious President for dropping us in the shit like this you have to marvel at his foresight in bringing the Scots here to end our endemic corruption.

SHRILAL

So their incorruptible virtue is based on altruism, mmm .. but have they ever been tested, I mean really tested.

BANARSIDAS

Plenty have tried bribing them especially at the beginning but...

SHRILAL

No, I mean a real test. They seem genuinely immune to financial consideration but what if we had something that they desperately

wanted .. like say .. citizenship. Wouldn't they be seriously tempted. Especially if it was a one off.

ARUNDAHATI

You're suggesting that .. tne .. tempt them...

BANARSIDAS With citizenship.

SHRILAL

That's what they want more than anything .. so it would have to be the carrot to tempt them with.

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CONTINUED: (4)

ARUNDAHATI And how are we to do that?

SHRILAL Leave that to me.

His sickly smile leaves the faces of the other two in nervous agitation.

END OF PART 3

XX

INT. AIRTAXI. NIGHT.

Radha is sitting next to the airtaxi pilot as they silently cruise over Mumbai. Radha places her hand onto a flat screen which immediately scans her hand.

A computer generated smiling monkey, HANUMAN, appears on the screen.

HANUMAN Radha, who do you wish to contact?

RADHA

De Silver Peres. Henll probably be at the office.

HANUMAN

While we scan the air wave perhaps I can interest you in a special offer for body hair removal.

Hanumanns body hair begins to disappear while at the same time the monkey transforms into a beautiful woman.

RADHA

(looking out of the window) Why? I love my body hair. I love the way the sweat forms like pearls at the end of each and every one. And the way that my lover sucks the dewy down.

The beautiful woman transforms back to Hanuman while rolling with laughter. The taxi driver enjoys the banter.

HANUMAN (still laughing)
Oh Radha, you are a one. Herens your connection.

Hanuman's face transforms into that of a small 60 something man, DE SILVER.

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CONTINUED:

DE SILVER Where are you?

RADHA In an airtaxi not far from the office.

DE SILVER
Couldn't be better. Get him to switch to auto and log-on to this input on the waveline. You're in for a treat.

The taxi driver presses a few controls. Suddenly the airtaxi swerves off its track, banks and heads out over Mumbai harbour.

Once they've straightened up they see in front of them hovering 1000 metres up The Garuda.

As Radha's airtaxi approaches an airbus comes hurtling out of one of the portals and passes them as they enter.

The airtaxi flies in and lands.

INT. GARUDA. NIGHT.

CORRIDOR

Radha gets off an escalator and is greeted by De Silver.

DE SILVER
Couldn't miss the chance of seeing the latest and greatest airship aloft. It will even be worth going through the commissioning ceremony.
(then speaking into her ear) And it's probably a lot more secure than the office to talk. Come on through to the bar I want you to meet someone.

BAR

They enter the bar, behind which is an awesome view of Mumbai, and walk through the crowds and up to a giant of a man, KULDIP, a 30 something Sikh.

DE SILVER (CONT'D) Kuldip, this is your charge, Radha. Radha, your bodyguard, Kuldip.

They greet in traditional style.

21.

CONTINUED:

RADHA (to Oe Silver)
Can I have a word.

Radha moves further down the bar and a frustrated De Silver follows.

DE SILVER (pre-emptive)

I know what you're going to say so forget it. Either he goes with you or you're fired.

De Silver doesn't even wait for her reply but returns to where Kuldip is downing a drink. Radha follows pulling a face behind his back.

DE SILVER (CONT'D) Explain it to her Kuldip.

The big Sikh turns and rests his giant hands on her tiny shoulders then bends until he's looking into her eyes.

KULDIP

The people involved in cock-fighting are as mean as the cocks themselves. Not that you would think so by the way you media types treat it or for that matter the politicians. To listen to them all it's just a harmless pastime. But I tell you Radha the gambling money involved is enormous and the people involved ruthless in defense of their business. They would think nothing of killing you even though you are the President's granddaughter.

Kuldip goes back to his drink.

DE SILVER

Kuldip is already known in the cock-fighting world. He can get you in .. and .. get you out if there's trouble. Now..

De Silver takes out a disc and hands it to Radha.

DE SILVER (CONT'D) Your new identity .. your new apartment .. and all the information we have is on this disc. Study it well then destroy it. The

people we want to expose are those that give it sanction.

(MORE)

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CONTINUED: (2)

DE SILVER (CONT'D) We believe there is someone in power behind this who will not be easily flushed out. So take your time - it could take months.

RADHA We might have a problem.

DE SILVER A problem?

RADHA Chris.

DE SILVER

But I thought you were going to sort that out today.

RADHA (looking sheepish)

I did .. to a degree .. but not to the degree of .. months.

DE SILVER (annoyed)

Great, just great. We've spent a fortune getting you a bio-formed face, which by the way will be ready tomorrow. You'll have to do it Radha, my name's on the line and more to the point my name is on the expense sheet.

RADHA I'll work it out. Don't worry.

De Silver looks at her intently.

RADHA (CONT'D) Don't worry. I'll work it out.

DE SILVER You'd better...

An announcement over the tannoy.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.) Please convene in the main hall as the ceremony is about to begin.

Radha, De Silver and Kuldip make their way with the crowd across the corridor from the bar to the hall.

HALL

23.

CONTINUED: (3)

The hall is enormous and expensively decorated.

Radha with De Silver and Kuldip take their seats at the rear of the hall and are just in time as the lights dim.

A good looking man in his forties, GOVIN, dressed immaculately walks onto the stage and up to the spot lit podium.

GOVIN

(expansive and triumphant) Good evening my fellow Indians.

(applause)

My name is Govin Singh and I am the C.E.O., of the
Dirigible Air Transport Association - DATA!!

(applause)

DATA is not just the biggest Jba.Hoo.n
company in the world.

(laughter) It is the world leader!

(applause)

And if you need proof just take a 3 kilometer hike
down any of the corridors leading off this hall.

(applause and laughter) And now without any
further ado, here to give the opening speech is our
illustrious Prime Minister, Ram Devi.

Govin backs off applauding as the audience get to their feet cheering.

Radha and her colleagues follow suit exchanging cynical looks and
applauding politely.

Ram, a large man in his 60s with a supercilious smile plastered to his face
strolls to the podium milking the reception. Finally he raises his hands then
waits till there is total silence.

RAM

(turning) Thank you Govin...

(then back)

and thank you all. We forget that not so long ago
India was a devencp-mgr country. I think that the
precise phrase then was a nnacnward" country. Afvvy
how things have changed.

The audience cheer and whistle.

24

CONTINUED: (4)

RADHA (to De Silver) Now we only have
nbackward" politicians.

RAM

Indeed the financial figures for the last year as compiled
by the O.E.C.D., shows that India has the highest G.D.P.,
in the world.

Loud applause.

RADHA (to De
Silver)

G.D.P., standing for Gross Dialogue of Politicians.

RAM

(casting his arms about) ne .. are now the world
economic power. A forward country.

(laughter and cheering) And what better way to celebrate our new position than with a symbol that is destined to stride the globe. The symbol that blazons the front of this great craft we are travelling in - THE GARUDA!

The audience leap to their feet carried away in national fervor.
DE SILVER (to Radha) I
feel sick.

RADHA

A stuffed politician soused in national pride is a rich dish best taken in moderation - shall we go?

They leave.

BAR, LATER

The bar is full and merry. De silver is talking to some dignitaries while Radha leans on a rail looking out at Mumbai in the distance and sipping a drink.

Kuldip passes through the crowd and has a word in De Silvers ear. De Silver makes his salutations and heads across to Radha.

CONTINUED: (5)

DE SILVER

Kuldip has just informed me that the bridge is now free of the politically challenged and their hangers-on. Do you want to come for a perusal (eyeing her drink) before you slide under the table.

RADHA You should know me better by now.

She taps her head with her knuckles while making an echoing sound with her mouth.

RADHA (CONTD) Hollow - like my legs.

She schoons the drink back. De Silver shakes his head disapprovingly but there is respect in his eyes.

As they track through the crowds Radha bumps into Shrilal who gives her a lecherous red smile.

RADHA (CONT'D) And what pray is a "man of the earth" doing so far from it.

SHRILAL

One must keep abreast of the times, Radha. I was just saying to your illustrious grandfather how our humble country has become a world leader due to our people's natural affinity with technology. And that I intend to modernize my own political views in keeping with this new era.

RADHA

By having a frontal lobe lobotomy, perhaps?

SHRILAL (laughing with gusto)

And such a fine sense of humour, Radha. If only we had come from the same caste we would have made a perfect couple.

RADHA

I just can't tell you how much that means to me Shrilal. Now you will have to excuse me.

CONTINUED: (6)

Radha doesn't get far from Shrilal's grinning countenance before she sees someone else who recognizes her.

The stocky Scotsman, MacTavish.

MACTAVISH

I'm glad to see that you haven't seduced my best detective into deserting his duties.

RADHA

Don't you start I get enough of that kind of talk from Chris.

MACTAVISH

Marry the man then he can get back to normal instead of mooning around like a love sick dog.

RADHA

Well if he's a dog you know what that makes me. And .. if marriage is such a beneficial institution then how come you're still single?

MACTAVISH

I'm a man who likes his freedom too much to share it with anyone, Radha.

RADHA

(looks after De Silver) I'll have to go I'm on the grand tour.

MACTAVISH And grand it is. I'll see you soon.

Radha follows as quickly as she can through the crowds. INT. AIRSHIP

BRIDGE. NIGHT.

The bridge is set on the end of a tube which extends from the undercarriage of the airship and protrudes beyond the front of the carbon fibre canopy. It resembles the head of a hammer head shark.

Radha, De Silver and Kuldip get off the moving pavement at the end of the connecting tunnel.

They walk onto the bridge through an airlock where twenty odd people are controlling the giant airship.

27

CONTINUED:

GOVIN, the CEO of DATA and compare at the ceremony, is talking to the CAPTAIN a mid fifties man immaculately dressed in a uniform.

Govin sees the newly arrived and breaks away from the Captain.

GOVIN And what a pleasure this is.

He takes Radha's hand and kisses it.

RADHA (with condescension) As charming as ever, Govin.

GOVIN It costs little but goes a long way.

He shakes hands with De Silver.

DE SILVER I didnt know that you knew each other?

GOVIN Radha and I have an interesting history.

RADHA Interesting? Is that what you call it.

DE SILVER (introducing Kuldip)

And this is a colleague from the paper, Kuldip.

Kuldip shakes Govinns hand while both eye each other up.

DE SILVER (CONT'D) I thought everyone would be at the reception by now .. so I hope you dont mind that we have taken the opportunity to nose about?

GOVIN

Not at all. In fact let me give you a run down of the mechanics of this amazing piece of technology. I'm getting the sales patter off to a tee so be prepared to be impressed.

28

CONTINUED: (2)

PADHA

You've been working on your technique as long as I can remember, Govin, so you snou2d be perfect by now.

Slightly embarrassed Govin walks across to a large wall sized screen. Pressing his hand to the screen it produces a plan and elevation of the airship.

GOVIN

15 billion cubic metres of helium capable of carrying 10 million tonnes of goods and 5000 passengers in luxury. It has a crew of 3000 when fully operational. A truly global range at speeds up to 200 kmh. It will make Geneva in four days, New York in five, Tokyo in six and Sydney in seven.

RADHA
(bitchy)

A nice linear ascendancy of numerals. Which of course makes it easy for your future customers to remember. I'm impressed. But tell me, what do you tell them when they ask that most awkward and indelicate question - "what happens when you're shot down in flames?" Something I wouldn't of thought you'd know much about.

GOVIN

(laughing with a certain nervousness)

Radha, for a start no one is going to shoot this down in flames.

RADHA

Famous last words. Can I quote you on that?.

GOVIN

Unlike the airbus and airtaxi's which are heavier than air machines. The Garuda is a genuine airship which uses helium for lift and of course is an inert gas.

RADHA

Ah, inert gas, now that is a subject that you know all about as it emanates from your mouth with such profusion.

29.

CONTINUED: (3)

Govin is taking the slights with difficulty as De Silver looks about with embarrassment and Kuldip suppresses laughter.

GOVIN Radha, if you're not interested...

RADHA

Oh but I am. There's always something mesmerizing about man's technological icons. But it's the triumphantism that accompanies their birth that really fascinates. The Titanic springs immediately to mind and the triumphantism of the 'unsinkable ship". Tell me is this ship unsinkable?

GOVIN

The problem in fact is the reverse. With so much lifting power it's keeping the thing down which is the problem.

RADHA

So what happens when you're out of control and about to float off into space?

GOVIN

Screen base, show us the helium venting system.

The screen lights up vents in the canopy.

GOVIN (CONT'D) A simple mechanism, which can in an emergency be operated by hand, releases the gas and the airship drifts slowly to the ground.

RADHA

Obviously an idea taken from past experiences in your personal relationships.

GOVIN

Radha, you're bitterness is beginning to show.

30.

CONTINUED: (4)

RADHA

Oh no Govin, that's not bitterness .. just the detached observation of a former acquaintance who understands

your triumphantism nature. Now don't deny you don't
enjoy your little triumphs.

They exchange a moment but Govin is restrained from what he would like to
say by the presence of De Silver and Kuldip.

GOVIN Perhaps we should join the celebrations?

RADHA

Oh, I didn't know you were going away, Govin.

De Silver rescues Govin from further embarrassment.

DE SILVER

I'd be delighted but I know Radha and Kuldip
have a pressing engagement.

Govin takes Radha's hand and kisses it.

GOVIN

Perhaps I can persuade you to come on the first flight.
Radha covers her mouth as if stopping herself from being sick. Govin
gives up.

GOVIN (CONT'D) Ok then. Till we meet again.

RADHA (walking away) Till India runs out of
rice.

Kuldip follows her out as Govin watches her go and De Silver watches him.

END OF PART 4

XX

INT. CRAP HEADQUARTERS. DAY.

Chief Inspector MacTavish, is addressing the senior officers including Chris.
They are all Scots.

MACTAVISH

I take it we're all here so I'll begin. We are now ready to initiate the next stage in our program to eradicate corruption from the private sector.

(MORE)

31.

CONTINUED:

MACTAVISH (CONT'D) It will please many of you I know that the use of "sting" operations has been given the go ahead by the present government.

Much cheering and applause.

MACTAVISH(CONT'D) (trying to calm them down) Please, please .. it would be advisable to keep the celebrations till we have been successful in our endeavors. Many "sting" operations have already been mooted but I want to see fully laid out plans with resource inventories and personnel requirements attached. And I want them as soon as possible. It's time to act.

More cheering and applause.

MACTAVISH (CONT'D) Would the section heads remain behind and as for the rest of you .. get busy.

Chris gets up and walks out with the younger officers.

CORRIDOR

Chris is approached by a young Scottish officer, GWEN.

GWEN

Sir, there's a Mohammed Khan, the MD of the Solar Cladding Corporation, on waveline who wants to talk to you. He won't say what it is but his bio-functions indicate a man under some stress.

They turn into Chris's office. CHRIS'S

OFFICE

Chris walks over to a large screen on the wall where WE SEE a late forties man, MOHAMMED, fidgeting at a desk.

CHRIS And what can I do for you?

MOHAMMED I take it the waveline is secure?

32

CONTINUED: (2)

CHRIS

All wavelines into CRAP are untouchable. Any breach of security will be at your end, so unless you have screened your office it's best if we meet in person. It is material that would concern CRAP?

MOHAMMED

(frustrated)

Of course it is or why would I be in contact. I've been approached by the CEO of a large corporation for a large donation to his personal retirement fund. Now where do you want to meet?

CHRIS

Elaphanta Island. Would 2 pm tomorrow be good for you?

MOHAMMED That would be fine.

CHRIS I'll see you there.

The screen goes blank.

GWEN The usual security procedures?

CHRIS

And the full intelligence works on our new friend by tomorrow morning. This, Gwen, could be a most opportune communication. SOLCLAD are as big a corporation as they get and with our new directive, the word opportune might seem a little trifling.

GWEN And what new directive is that?

CHRIS

They've given us authority to run "sting" operations. Gwen is impressed. EXT.

SOLCLAD BUILDING. DAY.

Mohammed comes out of a lift on top of the giant sky scraper and gets into an airtaxi.

CONTINUED:

It takes off and heads out over Mumbai Harbour towards Elephanta Island. The giant airship^ The Garuda, can still be seen in the distance.

INT. AIRTAXI. DAY.

Mohammed is sitting in the back working on a screen when the airtaxi suddenly vies off and descends rapidly much to the consternation of the PILOT and the alarm of Mohammed.

MOHAMMED What is happening?

PILOT

The waveline has commandeered control. It's overridden manual and auto.

MOHAMMED Where are we heading .. besides down.

PILOT

I think we're being taken to Butcher Island.

EXT. BUTCHER ISLAND. DAY.

Mohammed's airtaxi descends onto a deserted hilltop where a CRAP air battle wagon is already in situ.

Mohammed gets out and Chris greets him.

CHRIS

Sorry about the change of venue. Security.

Two CRAP officers scan the airtaxi.

MOHAMMED

Well I'm glad to see you're taking this seriously.

They walk away from the aircraft.

CHRIS ^ So tell me about it.

MOHAMMED

I've been approached by none other than the CEO of the Dirigible Air Transport Association.

34.

CONTINUED:

CHRIS (surprised) Govin Singh?

MOHAMMED It was a surprise to me also.

CHRIS What's he asking for?

MOHAMMED Money of course.

CHRIS And what do you get for this?

MOHAMMED

(nodding towards the airship in the distance)

The contract to clad the new generation of airships in black silicon. Which should be ours on merit alone as not only is our black silicon 100% efficient in converting light to electricity but is more durable and costs less than our rivals. You can understand why I'm bitter.

CHRIS Of course. When are you seeing him again?

MOHAMMED

He's sending an airtaxi to pick me up on Wednesday so we can discuss the arrangements.

CHRIS

Then it's best if you attend .. and probably best without our surveillance. We'll wait until the money is to change hands before we arrange the 'sting'.

MOHAMMED So you'll do it?

CHRIS

Of course. If we can get someone as prominent as Govin Singh it will scare the entire business world and go along way to ending corruption altogether.

He hands Mohammed a device.

35.

CONTINUED: (2)

CHRIS (CONT^D) This is a waveline scrambling unit make sure it's on when ever you contact me. That way our communication will be secure from wherever you contact me.

MOHAMMED Is that it?

CHRIS

For the time being. Once we have the exchange venue then we can act. Until then, tell no one not even your wife.

They shake hands and Mohammed walks back to his air taxi as Chris looks out to the floating monolith in the distance.

EXT. BUNGALOW. DAY.

Chris, now dressed in casual wear, is looking across to The Garuda. Intervening in his line of sight an air taxi lands and Radha gets out.

CHRIS And where have you been? You're late.

RADHA (haute) I'm not late. You're early.

Chris holds out his arm and points at his watch.

CHRIS What does that
say?

RADHA (briefly looking)
Its wrong.

CHRIS No its not.

RADHA Yes it is.

CHRIS

No its not. Its set by the waveline every billionth of a
second.

RADHA Then the waveline is
wrong.

/rTtMmTMrTfr^
36.

CONTINUED:

Chris is rendered momentarily speechless by this and before he can recover
she sticks her arm out showing him her watch.

RADHA (CONT'D) There's a ferrite
crystal beating at the heart of this beauty at the rate
of once every trillionth of a second.

CHRIS

Yes, Radha dear, but its you that sets it.

RADHA

Of course I set it. Do you think Id be governed by a
mindless holographic dictator. If you ask me the
waveline dominates our lives too much. So as far as
I'm concerned, this
(taps watch) is the
right time.

CHRIS (almost speechless)

But, but .. Radha...

DIDI (O.S.)

Will you two stop arguing for just one moment and
come in side - the game is about to begin.

Chris and Radha look towards, DIDI, a middle-aged woman whose doe eyes
and tranquil face contrast sharply with the hard edge of her tongue.

DIDI (CONT'D) Well come on then. Don't
just stand there gaping like a couple of love sick buffalo.

She doesn't wait for a reply and walks inside.

Chris and Radha look at each other and burst out laughing then walk to the bungalow cuddling.

INT. BUNGALOW. DAY.

Tastefully decorated the reception area leads to a large room like a mini amphitheatre where a giant wall screen dominates the "stage". The room, full of boisterous football supporters, the screen full of football players.

Didi is standing at the large oval entrance beckoning with agitation to Chris and Radha.

/r<^MT'TMt"nrD\

37.

CONTINUED:

DIDI Come on you two it has already started.
Chris and Radha stop at the entrance which stops Didi ushering them in.

DIDI (CONT'D) (annoyed)
Standing arguing in the garden. What will the neighbors think.
CHRIS AND RADHA We weren't arguing.
DIDI Then pray, what do you call it?
RADHA We were discussing the time of day.
CHRIS That's right, the time of day.

DIDI
I'll tell you what time of day it is -its late. And what's more you're late.

CHRIS
(triumphant) Thank you Didi.
(turns to Radha) That's exactly what I said.

RADHA
Let's not get into that now. Look Didi we were wondering if we could use your bedroom for a while?

DIDI (sarcastic)
Let me guess. You're exhausted after your journey and need to lie down?

CHRIS ;
Something like that.

Didi eyes them then wags a finger.

DIDI
It's pathetic even tragic your subterfuge. But alright - just no hanky-panky.

CONTINUED: (2)

CHRIS You mean hanky-panky as in rumpy-
pumpy?

Radha doesn't wait but leads Chris away as a disapproving Didi watches.

RADHA
(over shoulder, whispering) Just a little bit
of lovey-dovey.

Didi is just about to reply when a goal is scored and the fans go wild. She forgets the lovers and throws herself into the throng.

BEDROOM

CPV. TRACKING ACROSS THE FLOOR AT GROUND LEVEL following a line of discarded clothes.

CHRIS (O.S.) What are you doing!? It's my turn on
top!

RADHA (O.S.) No its not, its
mine!

CHRIS (O.S.) But Radha, my little
dormouse, you've just had your turn.

CPV. REACHES THE BED AND SLOWLY RISES UP.

RADHA B.W. (O.S.) That didn't count because you
put me off.

CHRIS (O.S.) But you're the one
that asked me the question.

RADHA (O.S.)
But it was the answer that put me off and that's what you
gave me. So it's my turn on top.

CPV. RAISES to reveal Chris and Radha naked lying face down leaning over the edge of the bed.

CPV. LOOKING DOWN AT CHRIS AND RADHA as they fight for control over a pen. A large sketch book lies open on the floor below them.

CHRIS Let go of the
pen.

39.

CONTINUED: (3)

RADHA I wont its my
pen.

CHRIS (indignant) No its not. It belongs
to Didi.

RADHA

Precisely. And Didi is my aunt so the pen belongs to me. Radha wrenches the pen out of his hand and lays a line of crosses at the top of the open page then slaps the pen into Chris's open hand.

RADHA (CONT'D) There, I've given you an
easy one.

CHRIS No you haven't you never
do.

. RADHA

Well they should be by now. You've had nearly a year
to learn them all..

Chris draws in a line of crosses under Radha's then passes her the pen. She thinks for a moment poking her ear with the pen then quickly draws in a line of crosses passing the pen back to Chris. He turns to her puzzled then pokes her with the pen.

CHRIS

There's too many crosses in that line. You're cheating.

RADHA

(laughing)

No I'm not. Just testing. And if you have not forgotten, this
is a test. The last of the three you promised to undertake
to win my hand in marriage.

CHRIS I wont be forgetting that in a hurry.

Radha scrubs out the centre cross and Chris fills in lines of crosses to the
bottom of the page.

CHRIS (CONT'D) (being superior) See, I know
them all. All 365 of them.

40

CONTINUED: (4)

Radha takes the pen and joins up the crosses with geometric lines
constructing an intricate rangalli.

RADHA So which day does this represent?

Chris struggles, over acting, then eureka.

CHRIS It's today's.

Radha pats the top of his head.

CHRIS (CONT'D) Come on then give
me another.

Radha raps herself around him.

RADHA No. I'll trust in you.

CHRIS So you really trust
me?

RADHA I will trust in you, always.

They kiss.

Their clothes land on them and they struggle to free themselves.

DIDI

This is a 10 minute warning. Your uncle Muckerjee is searching the house for you. And we wouldn't want to jepodise his coming 100th birthday by finding you in a compromising position, now would we.

CHRIS AND RADHA Uncle
Muckerjee!

Didi leaves as they scramble to put their clothes on but she turns in the door.

DIDI

If the sheets have sustained collateral damage then change them.

CHRIS AND RADHA

What?

41.

CONTINUED: (5)

DIDI (rolling her eyes)
Forget it.

She leaves. Chris keeps undoing Radha's clothes as she dresses but finally clothed they smarten each other up just as a wizened old head rounds the door.

MUCKERJEE

Ah there you are. What are you doing in here?

RADHA We were looking for you. Uncle.

Each taking an arm they slowly swing Uncle Muckerjee around and exit at a leisurely pace blowing kisses over his head.

END OF PART 5 XX

INT. TAJ MAHAL HOTEL - ARUNDAHATI S SUITE. EVENING.

Sumptions room with wall screen. Banarsidas is sitting watching, the President, on screen as he walks to applause through a full house of parliament.

Arundahati opens the door to Shrilal.

ARUNDAHATI He's just about to start.

SHRILAL

I hope he hasn't any more surprises for us.
They take their seats as Arun takes the podium. ON

SCREEN

ARUN

I will keep this brief. I am handing in my resignation as President of India as of tomorrow.

A complete silence both on screen and off.

ARUN (CONT'D)

After 25 years in the service of my country I think it is time to hand over this august position to a new generation. My views, in many ways, are from a different time. I belong to the past .. and I feel my age when confronted by the young generation and their burgeoning vision of India's future. (MORE)

/r'EM^T'THtctcT^

42

CONTINUED:

ARUN (CONT'D) I no longer know the direction that we should be taking with any certainty. And I also feel the weight of tradition more keenly than when I was young and as a consequence a desire for a more traditional society. This now seems a quaint idiosyncrasy to many, especially the urban educated, including my own children and grandchildren. I have lost the battle of certitude with myself and cling on to principles and a morality which is derived from the Vedas, the Epics and the Puranas, like a drowning man clings to the flotsam and jetsam of a sinking ship. I'm not saying .. I'm wrong in my beliefs .. Indeed, I intend to dedicate myself to the devotion of Kali on my retirement - it is still her age that we live in as far as I am concerned .. What I am saying is that I no longer know the direction our great country should take. Gandhi, was a visionary whose time came and went but whose legacy will be with us always. I hope that the people of India will find a legacy in another whose time has come .. and gone.

Arun gets down from the podium and walks out of the chamber in total silence. But the spell is broken as he exits and soon the chamber is full of affectionate applause to the direction which he went.

ARUNDAHATI'S ROOM The three sit in silence for a few

beats.

ARUNDAHATI
(brushing a tear)

Well the old dog certainly knows how to make an exit.
I feel quite emotional.

SHRILAL
(cynically)

Why is it that he, like so many before him in politics,
have summoned Gandhi's name? If for no other
reason that he wishes for beatification himself.

BANARSIDAS

But no one can doubt his sincerity in his religious beliefs,
surely?

43.

CONTINUED: (2)

SHRILAL

No, you're right. But the same fate awaits him that befell
Gandhi. He will see his works succumb to the reality of mass
religious culture as Gandhi before him did.

ARUNDAHATI I'm surprised that such a
successful member of the scheduled caste should say such a
thing.

SHRILAL

Don't you read history? Untouchables before the constitution
and removal of the British, were bipeds whom people did not
touch. The constitution is a poetic work whose 17th article
eradicates the distinction of untouchability. But because in
our country the vast majority of people still live not by poetry
but by religion and because untouchability is a religion in our
country, the reality is basically the same now as it was then.

He turns from gazing at the screen for the first time to focus his attention on
his colleagues.

SHRILAL (CONT'D) My namesake, Shrilal
Shukia, related what happened after Gandhi, and his
principles, were consigned to the sacred waters of the
Ganges. He related how the untouchable village of Chamarhi
was to be joined with the main village of Shivpalganj by a
'Gandhi Platform' to be built of solid stone which would
enshrine his principles forever. The platform was very useful

for taking the sun on a winter's day, a facility mostly exploited by the dogs and since no bathroom facilities had been installed for them they would urinate on the corner while sunning themselves. And soon human beings began to follow suit in the shelter that the platform provided. The bridge between our worlds became a urinal. Which sums up any individual's lasting contribution to changing the status quo. It was with Gandhi .. so it will be with Arun.

44

CONTINUED: (3)

BANARSIDAS

I cannot accept your cynical view of our culture.

ARUNDAHATI And neither can I.

SHRILAL We'll see.

ARUNDAHATI

I'm also having second thoughts about your proposition to entrap the Untouchables.

BANARSIDAS Like wise.

SHRILAL (smiling) It's too late .. the die is already cast.

Shrilal sits grinning much to the consternation of his companions.

EXT. COCK FIGHT VENUE. DAY.

CLOSE ON the head of a fighting cock. Its head jerks around, its wild eyes glancing repeatedly at the CAMERA. Then, with remarkable speed, the beak flashes at the LENS smashing it.

The venue, in the wilds of Rajasthan, is a mud lined arena more reminiscent of the dark ages than the late twenty first century. It is set into a natural rock amphitheater which has been modified with walk ways and viewing platforms. Armed men patrol the heights watching as airtaxis and airbuses land their human cargoes. It's a carnival atmosphere of the medieval kind.

Govin greets Mohammed off an airtaxi and as they walk past stalls and "fringe" entertainment, Govin, watches Mohammed's amazed reaction to the proceedings.

GOVIN Obviously your first time.

MOHAMMED

I would never have guessed. I had this idea that cock fighting took place in shabby back street court yards.

45.

CONTINUED:

GOVIN Isn't the atmosphere electric?
MOHAMMED And
some.

They enter into the amphitheater where hundreds of people are in competition to make themselves heard. A group of musicians are also vying for airspace. The tabia player makes a musical announcement and a great hush falls over the proceedings.

A cock is let into the ring through a large gate. Its size is tiny compared to the arena it's strolling around. It scratches the earth and pecks. Then it triumphantly crows.

This is echoed by another cock OS but with a much deeper call.

A gate is opened and out at full tilt comes a cock as big as an ostrich. A huge cheer goes up from the audience as this monster chases its normal relation around the arena. But an even bigger cheer goes up as the pursued takes flight and just makes it to the safety of the stands.

Through the first gate comes another ostrich sized cock and the two face each other scratching the ground and crowing. As bets are shouted out, the scene looks like a commodities traders' pit.

Mohammed is mesmerized by the proceedings around him.

A huge cheer goes up and Mohammed swings his attention back to the arena where the birds have flung themselves at each other.

The battle is long and vicious the blood squirts up the walls and into the crowd sending them into even wilder antics of barbarity. Then it's all over as the winner pecks the eyes out of the defeated.

Mohammed feels like being sick. Govin seeing his reaction rescues him from his own sensibilities.

GOVIN
Come on, lets go around to the pens you can have a
close up look at these genetically modified monsters.

Mohammed is glad to get away from the gore.

46.

INT. COCK FIGHT VENUE. DAY.

As they pass into the pen area they are questioned and then scanned by security.

Mohammed and Govin are also being watched from the shadows by a tall man, RAVANA. His wild blue eyes intently follow their progress as they examine the cocks in their cages. He waits till they reach a cage separated from and bigger than the rest with a platform over the top. It is surrounded by a crowd exchanging bets.

Once Govin and Mohammed have pushed through to the front, Ravana gives a signal to men on the top of the cage and they bring forth a man, with some difficulty, who is cast into the cage.

A mace is thrown in and the man immediately picks it up. He retreats to a corner of the cage pure terror on his face. The cock scratches the ground and lowers its head. Then it rushes at the man who tries to beat it back. This only inflames the cock which leaps in the air scything with its spurs on which are tied sickles almost half a metre long.

It doesn't take long before the cock delivers a scything blow which disembowels the man. He hangs onto the contents of his stomach which leaves his unprotected neck the next destination for the cocks spur. The man's head is almost separated from his body and as he falls forward so his guts spill out.

Mohammed, having being transfixed by the scene, is now on the man's death, released from the spell and he turns and pushes his way through the crowd looking for escape.

Govin having also been transfixed is transformed on seeing Mohammed rush out.

Mohammed pulls up in front of Ravana and three members of his security. Govin catches up.

RAVANA (to
Mohammed)

Not leaving I hope? The fun is just beginning.

Mohammed is feeling too ill to respond.

GOVIN

No of course not we were just going to come and look for you.

Ravana intently watches a very disturbed Mohammed.

/r'r^TT'TMrtc'r^
47

CONTINUED:

RAVANA

You shouldn't worry about traitors. All they're good for is bird feed.

Ravana's men laugh.

RAVANA (CONT'D) He was a very bad man. He tried to cheat me and when I caught him out he actually threatened to go to the police. Well we're going to fulfill his last desire for him. We're going to send his remains to the police.

Ravana's men laugh again.

RAVANA (CONT'D) It is only those who try to betray
me...
(He glances at Govin) ...who have
anything to fear.

Mohammed shifts about nervously.
Ravana is worried by Mohammed's state and Govin can see it.
Mohammed's nervous reaction finally needs expression and he runs off and
throws up as Ravana's men laugh.

GOVIN (to Ravana)
Can I have a word?

Govin leaves without waiting for a reply. Ravana indicates to his men to bring
Mohammed then follows Govin.
EXT. COCK FIGHT VENUE. DAY.

THE ARENA

Kuldip is ferociously exchanging bets with various people in the audience. He
is sitting next to a stunningly BEAUTIFUL WOMAN in a traditional sari who is
engrossed with things in her bag and keeps glancing towards a particular
"box" across the other side of the arena.
She sees Mohammed helped into this "box" by two of Ravana's security and
catches a glance of Ravana and Govin watching this. She sees Govin making
sure that Mohammed is alright and Ravana viewing the scene from the
entrance to the "box". Ravana then turns away and walks onto a "walk-way"
next to the "box".

WALK WAY OUTSIDE "BOX"

48

CONTINUED:

Ravana is leaning on a rail when Govin walks up furious.

GOVIN

And what was that supposed to achieve. All you've done
is scare him half out of his wits. And a scared man is
neither rational nor trust worthy. God knows what he'll do
when...

RAVANA

Enough! .. I have you both recorded watching the
spectacle and at least 20 witnesses. So remind our friend
that he's up to his neck in this now. And remind your self.

Ravana prods Govin on the chest.

RAVANA (CONT'D) You're the one who
wanted to pay off your debt this way .. now you live with
the consequences.

Ravana walks past him then turns.

RAVANA (CONT'D) You'd better get some steal in the spine of your boy before he turns righteous and extreme measures need to be used. Get him out of here and make sure he understands the consequences if he reneges on our deal. It's your life .. as well as his.

Ravana walks away as Govin contemplates the fighting cocks as they slash out at each other.

'BOX'

Govin walks in and calls a shaking Mohammed outside.

ACROSS THE ARENA

Kuldip collects money from the last fight exchanging banter with the gamblers.

The Beautiful Woman by his side ignores his success and is intent on listening to a device in her ear.

BEAUTIFUL WOMAN (to Kuldip) I've got to go .. could be a lead.

49.

CONTINUED: (2)

KULDIP It will look strange if I leave now.

BEAUTIFUL WOMAN Not to worry .. I'll take the recording I've got and leave you the equipment and you can monitor what our friends are doing.

The Beautiful Woman gets up and hurries out as two more cocks enter the arena.

EXT. COCK FIGHT VENUE. DAY.

The Beautiful Woman watches as Govin and Mohammed exchange words before Mohammed gets into an airtaxi.

GOVIN

All you will get is a date and place for the next cock fight venue and that's when you must bring your contribution to our deal. And don't forget, he put that display on specifically for you so that you'd remember to act with integrity in our business dealings.

MOHAMMED

Is that what you call it .. business dealings?
GOVIN Mohammed, it's the way of the world; money lubricates transactions. If it wasn't for personal gain so many good projects wouldn't see the light of day".

MOHAMMED

Don't worry, I'll oil the proceedings of the deal, but if you think that the word 'integrity' can be applied to what we have just witnessed then you've lost contact with reality.

He gets into the air taxi without waiting for a reply. The Beautiful

Woman gets into another airtaxi. INT. AIRTAXI. DAY.

The Beautiful Woman closes the door and fastens her safety belt.

50

CONTINUED:

BEAUTIFUL WOMAN You see that airtaxi in front of you.

AIRTAXI PIOLET Of course, I'm not blind.

BEAUTIFUL WOMAN Then follow it.

Both airtaxis take off. LATER

The Beautiful Woman watches Mohammed's airtaxi land on top of a pyramid block of apartments situated on the coast south of Mumbai.

BEAUTIFUL WOMAN (CONT'D)
I've seen enough. Now take me back to Mumbai.

The airtaxi veers off. INT.

END OF PART 6

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

X

NEWSPAPER OFFICE. DAY.

The Beautiful Woman walks through the open plan office with men and women ogling. A lone "wolf whistle" sums up her presence. The Beautiful Woman tries to ignore the fuss and approaches De Silver who is talking to someone sitting at a desk.

BEAUTIFUL WOMAN De Silver,
we need to talk.

De Silver looks at her and a wide smile spreads across his face. He nods for her to follow and they enter his office.

De Silver sits in his chair beaming.

DE SILVER

Now what can I do for you .. that I already haven't done.

BEAUTIFUL WOMAN Enough of the wise cracks for a start. If I'd known the problems associated with exceptional looks, I'd never have gone for it.

She plops herself down opposite a grinning De Silver.

51.

CONTINUED:

DE SILVER (having
fun)

Radha .. you're the one who chose the particular bio-form that .. so becomes you.

RADHA (BEAUTIFUL WOMAN) Cut the crap.

She throws him a disc which he picks up and places it into a slot on his desk.

The wall screen lights up with scenes from the cock fight.

DE SILVER (names
for faces)

That's Mohammed Khan of SOLCLAD .. that's .. Govin Singh,
your old friend.

De Silver is enjoying himself.

DE SILVER (CONT'D)
(seriously)

Ahh .. now that's Ravana the Afghani. He's the one that runs the operation.

The front man. And a very dangerous customer.

RADHA B.W. So what are they up to?

DE SILVER

You mean to tell me you haven't found that out yet?

RADHA B.W.
(annoyed)

I told you not to make it with the wise cracks.

DE SILVER

My, we are touchy today. I think I liked the old Radha better. Still, we must perserver. Follow Mohammed, he doesn't seem to fit in this company. A bit like a dove amongst hawks. And he may just provide us with an opportunity that we certainly wont get from Ravana or Govin.

RADHA B.W.

But we should track Govin and Ravana as well.

52

CONTINUED: (2)

DE SILVER

I think that Govin is too personal for you - we can put Kuldip onto that. And as far as Ravana is concerned he's best left to run free - his security is state of the art so let's hope this recording hasn't already been picked up by his surveillance.

De Silver leans forward concerned.

DE SILVER (CONT'D) Radha, the only reason that you got bio-formed was because of the danger that identification would pose. Ravana is dangerous because he has no respect for human life not even his own. He's a Hindu who was brought up in the harsh climes of an Islamic fundamentalist country. His parents were burnt to death in front of him and he only escaped by .. chance. These two elements, chance and violence, are his founding stones. He knows no other way of being. His brutalization is complete in that he is freed from any normal humanistic response. He's a monster, just like the cocks he fights. And so, he's best left well alone until we can take him down for good.

RADHA B.W.

Level with me. Do you know who is behind Ravana?

DE SILVER No, but it has to be somebody big. Someone with enormous clout.

RADHA B.W.

Govin.

DE SILVER

I doubt Mr. Big would ever be seen with Ravana. Certainly not in public.

RADHA B.W.

But he's got to be there somewhere. You don't organize a spectacle like that then don't bother to turn up. He must be in the crowd somewhere.

Radha gets up and uses De Silvers console.

53.

CONTINUED: (3)

RECORDING

She takes the recording back to views of the crowd then she arrives at the section where Ravana is standing alone outside of the Box. Ravana is standing on the walk way as Mohammed is escorted into the "box". He turns to some one in the audience behind him and "cuts his throat" with his finger (just a brief gesture and easily missed). The person is dressed in rural flowing robes with a turban tied around his head in such a way it covers his face. The person's head indicates the negative. Ravana turns away in disgust.

OFFICE

RADHA B.W. (CONT'D) (excited)

That's him!

DE SILVER (animated) Could be. I'll digitally enhance it.

The image of the man in the turban is brought to greater clarity but there's only shadow where his eyes are.

RADHA B.W.

Shit! There's the person I should have followed.

RECORDING CLOSE ON

Man with turban.

DE SILVER (O.S.)
(excited)

We may well be seeing for the first time the person we're after.

CLOSE ON the turban wearing man.

EXT. COCK FIGHT VENUE. DAY.

CLOSE ON the turban wearing man.

Slowly the man fades out leaving the deserted amphi theatre.

Ravana is standing where he was when Radha had recorded him signaling to the turbaned man. He swings around and looks to where Radha and Govin were sitting where now two of his men are using equipment.

54

CONTINUED:

One of the men, MAN 1, calls out.

MAN 1

It's almost certainly this section that the recording device was used.

Ravana shows his athleticism by vaulting over the rail and descending with almost super human skill to where the men are.

RAVANA Show me who was sitting here.

The man operates his equipment and

ON SCREEN

We see Radha (Beautiful Woman) and Kuldip.

AMPHITHEATER

Ravana is furious and kicks out at a support rail breaking it.

GOVIN (O.S.) I hope you're insured for breakages.

Ravana wheels around as Govin joins him.

RAVANA

And I hope you're insured for breakages to your body because if I find that this has anything to do with you. You're going to need it.

GOVIN

But why do you think a security breach would have anything to do with me?

RAVANA

Oh, a small matter of coincidence. The coincidence that our meeting with Mohammed should just so happen at the exact time of our first major security breach.

He points to the screen.

RAVANA (CONT'D) Know who they are?

Govin looks at the screen then takes a closer look.

55

CONTINUED: (2)

GOVIN

The woman I don't know .. but the Sikh .. I've seen him somewhere before.

RAVANA

Now there's a coincidence. Perhaps he works for SOLCLAD security?

GOVIN You're being paranoid, Ravana.

Ravana grabs Govin by throat.

RAVANA

The equipment they used was state of the art. We were just able to detect their device on full amplification. If I didn't run a tight ship and have all our surveillance checked and double checked. These infiltrators would have got away with it.

GOVIN (with insight)

I know where I saw him. On the bridge of The Garuda. He was with De Silver Peres.

RAVANA And who is De Silver Peres?

GOVIN He's the editor of The Bombay Times.

Ravana pushes Govin away from him.'

RAVANA That's all we need .. if it's true.

GOVIN

Ravana, believe me .. it's true. They obviously want to do an expose. At least it's not the police.

RAVANA (laughs)

You idiot. One step behind the press will be the police. They'll be forced to act .. simply because of them.

He turns to his men.

RAVANA (CONT'D) You know what to do.

56.

CONTINUED: (3)

His men leave immediately with Ravana looking after them. And Govin looking nervously after them.

RAVANA (CONT'D) As for you .. disappear. I'll contact you when I need you. Leave Mohammed and our deal to me.

GOVIN

But...

RAVANA (harshly)

Disappear!

Govin leaves as Ravana turns his attention to the screen. CLOSE ON Radha

END OF PART 7 XXX

BW. EXT. BEACH. DAY. CLOSE ON Radha BW.

Radha is sun bathing in a see through bikini and watching Mohammed's apartment through a digital recording pair of binoculars.
THROUGH BINOCULARS WE see Mohammed on the balcony nervously scouring the sky.

An aircar raises above the building having approached from the other side. Mohammed goes inside with purpose.

BEACH

Radha also gets up with purpose puts on a top and shorts and heads for the apartment block.

INT. MOHAMMEDS APARTMENT. DAY.

Chris enters. He's wearing civilian clothes a panama hat and rap around sun glasses.

MOHAMMED Nice disguise.

CHRIS

Actually you caught me enjoying a day off. So what's the deal.

57

CONTINUED:

MOHAMMED

Govin's involved with a homicidal maniac by the name of Ravana.

Mohammed looks for Chrises reaction which is not good.

CHRIS Ravana, the cock fight king?

MOHAMMED

I witnessed a man ripped to shreds by one of his fighting cocks. They call it sport.

CHRIS

You'll need protection. Don't worry I'll organize it. What about the arrangement for delivering the money?

MOHAMMED

If you think I'm going to go back there you're very much mistaken.

CHRIS

No, you're right, we'll have to do things differently.

Chris sits on a bar stool thinking while Mohammed paces.

MOHAMMED

They're just giving me the date and the venue and the bribe is to be delivered to Ravana and not to Govin. It's a debt.

CHRIS

Well this changes everything. But it might just work out for the best.

Chris gets up and heads for the door.

CHRIS (CONT'D) Contact me from public access to the waveline. Don't use your own. And I'll deliver the money personally.

Chris opens the door then turns.

CHRIS (CONT'D) It'll take two hours to arrange full protection. I suggest you lock the doors and stay away from the windows till then.

58

CONTINUED: (2)

MOHAMMED

Chris, I don't want to be involved in this anymore.

CHRIS

Tough.

MOHAMMED (upset) Great, that's just great.

CHRIS

Look there's nothing I can do about your involvement; you already are. But there is everything I can do about your safety. Just get me the time and place and CRAP will take care of the rest.

Mohammed paces some more.

CHRIS (CONT'D) And remember, you can't deal with these people, so don't try. Don't even think about it.

MOHAMMED Ok. Ok.

Chris leaves and Mohammed locks the door.

EXT. MOHAMMEDS APARTMENT. DAY.

Chris comes out onto the roof where his aircar is parked.

He's just getting in when Radha (still the Beautiful Woman) calls out to him from the entrance to the building.

RADHA B.W.

(shouting)

Excuse me, you're not going to Mumbai are you? I couldn't catch a lift?

Chris turns and looks her up and down.

CHRIS And why not.

He watches as she half runs half skips across the landing pad. A smile slowly comes to his face which he suppresses as she nears. He opens the door and helps her in.

59

INT. AIRTAXI. DAY.

They fly towards Mumbai in the distance with Chris as the pilot. Chris is talking to Gwen on the flat screen.

CHRIS

Code 9 for Sting 1, double M object. Implement immediately.

GWEN

Status?

CHRIS

On going. And Institute a full department alert and have the "ball breakers" assembled and put on stand by.

GWEN Anything else?

CHRIS

(glancing at the Beautiful Woman) I may be delayed.

GWEN (suppressing a smile) Have a good time.

The screen goes blank.

CHRIS So, do you live back there?

RADHA B.W. No, just visiting friends.

CHRIS So you live in Mumbai?

RADHA B.W.

No, in Delhi. I'm on my way back there now.

CHRIS

Pity.

RADHA B.W. Oh, and why is that?

CHRIS

Well I noticed that you don't have a wedding ring.

60

CONTINUED:

RADHA B.W. What? Is this a chat
up?

CHRIS

Exceptionally beautiful women don't come my way very often
and I have some time to spare.

RADHA B.W. Perhaps, because your wife is
away?

CHRIS (laughing) Something
like that.

RADHA B.W. Lucky woman.

Chris places his hand on Radha's knee.

RADHA B.W. (CONT'D) Now that is
revealing.

CHRIS

Oh, come on. You'd have to be in the movies with looks like you've got and we
all know how free and easy starlets have to be. Think of it as practice.

RADHA B.W. (suppressing
annoyance)

Ok. Take me back to your place and we can practice together.

CHRIS You're on.

The airtaxi swerves off.

INT. CHRIS S APARTMENT. DAY.

Chris strips down to his thong as Radha watches immobile.

CHRIS
(glancing)

I know exactly the kind of woman you are. You get turned on by men
undressing you. Admit it.

Radha doesn't answer but watches as Chris comes over to her and starts to
fumble with her clothes.

61.

CONTINUED:

CHRIS (CONT'D) You don't have to be
so serious.

Radha acts laughter.

CHRIS (CONT'D) I think your acting definitely needs improvement. You should be glad of the practice.

He removes her clear plastic bra then cups her breast from behind kissing her neck. Her expression is in total contrast to his.

RADHA B.W. Do you do this often.

CHRIS .

As often as I can get away with it. But then my girlfriend doesn't take me seriously. All she has to do is marry me and I'd be as faithful as a swan.

Chris kisses the other side of her neck while undoing her shorts. They're soon both reduced to their thongs. But now Radha's expression has changed as a smile intermingles with arousal.

RADHA B.W. What gave me away?

CHRIS

There's only one thing a bio-form can't change and that's the smile and there's only one smile in the world like...

She turns and kisses him full on the mouth.

RADHA B.W. Liar.

CHRIS And only one pair of knobbly knees.

She bites his ear.

CHRIS (CONT'D) Ow!

RADHA B.W. There's nothing wrong with my knees.

62

CONTINUED: (2)

CHRIS For a Sumo wrestler.

She starts to playfully hit him and he picks her up and carries her across to the bed where he places her down gently. They kiss.

CHRIS (CONT'D) Why were you following me?

RADHA B.W. Such vanity. As if I would follow you.

She lets out a little cry as he gets personal.

CHRIS Then what were you doing there?

RADHA B.W. What do you think?

Chris's demeanor changes as he realizes. He sits up and looks at her.

CHRIS It's not because of
Mohammed?

He can tell by her look it is.

CHRIS (CONT'D) Oh shit!

RADHA B.W.

We're doing an expose on cock fighting and your man
Mohammed is up to his neck in it.

CHRIS

No he's not. He's the bait in a CRAP 'sting'
operation.

Chris gets up and paces about.

RADHA B.W. i Oh shit!

CHRIS You'll have to cancel your project.

RADHA B.W. No way!

She gets up, annoyed.

/r'DMT'TMrr^r^

63

CONTINUED: (3)

CHRIS

You obviously don't know how dangerous the situation is.
I'm sorry, I'll have to pull rank. Go back and inform De
Silver, he'll understand.

RADHA B.W.
(furious)

I will do no such think. Freedom of the press is in the
constitution, Untouchable. My grandfather may have
given you responsibility for clearing out corruption in our
society but he made sure it was within the parameters of
the law. The law of India. And the law is based on the
constitution.

Radha starts putting on her clothes.

CHRIS

Radha, you can't be serious. These people are
dangerous.

Radha puts on her sandals and then walks across to the wall screen putting
her hand on it.

The face of SHIVA appears on the screen, beaming light.
RADHA B.W. (to screen) Get
me an airtaxi. Now!

The screen goes blank.

CHRIS
Then at least let me get you some back up.
RADHA B.W. Chris, until this thing is
over its probably best if we don't see each other
again.
CHRIS (pleading)
Radha.

RADHA B.W.
It has often been said that the biggest problem with
the Untouchables is that they could easily become a
law unto themselves. And for the first time I'm
beginning to see what they mean.

/r'tMT'TMr^c'D\
64.

CONTINUED: (4)

She storms out as Chris fights his frustration.

END OF PART 8

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

INT. C.R.A.P. HEADQUARTERS. DAY.

Chris is in Mactavish's office. They're already in conversation.

MACTAVISH

I don't like it. I don't like it at all. There's too many variables.

CHRIS (with enthusiasm) But we can kill two birds with one stone; rap up the whole cock-fight scene and ensure our nationality and cast status.

MacTavish is unhappy and wanders about.

MACTAVISH

You're clever, Chris. I must admit it's a brilliant plan and all the pieces seem to fit nicely together. Trouble is there's pieces left over, Radha being one of the most obvious.

CHRIS

Don't worry I'll take care of her just make sure you take care of the Ombudsman.

MACTAVISH

Ok, but it's on your head, because I still don't like it.

CHRIS (happy) You will.

He heads for the door. INT.

PARLIAMENT BUILDING. DAY.

Arundahati flows down a corridor the exaggerated movement of her hips emphasizing their size. She stops, then puts her hand on a screen next to the door of an office. She makes several faces at the tiny camera inserted into its top. Nothing. So she bangs on the door with her foot while fixing her hair.

The door is opened by a pretty young woman, SEETA, who is also fixing her hair.

65

CONTINUED:

Arundahati walks past Seeta giving her a dirty look and Seeta returns the gesture.

Arundahati opens the door to the inner office and walks in.

Shrilal is adjusting his dhoti but manages a smile none the less.

ARUNDAHATI

(slamming the door behind her) Up to your usual tricks, Baba?

Shrilal picks things up from the floor and replaces them on his desk where a damp patch is quickly wiped clean.

SHRILAL

(rearranging things on his desk)

At my age one needs a little light entertainment in the afternoon - don't you know?

ARUNDAHATI You're disgusting.

Shrilal laughs with abandon.

SHRILAL

You should try it - it keeps you young. In fact^ you should try it with me. I have much experience in these matters.

ARUNDAHATI (groans and rolls her eyes)

The thought makes me feel bilious.

SHRILAL

So if you haven't come to experience the world of Earthly delights - what is the reason for this most auspicious visit.

ARUNDAHATI

I want to know what progress you've made concerning the Untouchables?

Shrilal drops into his chair his red smile threatening to split his face in two.

SHRILAL They've agreed.

66.

CONTINUED: (2)

ARUNDAHATI (genuinely shocked) What?

SHRILAL

They're as corrupt as the rest of us. I'm only waiting for the money to be delivered. Without the actual transaction we still can't be certain. But you only have to wait a few days more and the conundrum we have been set will be resolved.

ARUNDAHATI (concerned) I would never have believed it.

SHRILAL

Nature, nurture, reciprocal causation. Your old friend has been jennening up about these things. And you know what I have found. They don't override the survival instinct. It's a scientific fact. And a fatal floor in the argument for the Untouchable's virtue.

ARUNDAHATI

You'd like nothing better than to prove that all men are as corrupt as you.

SHRILAL (getting up,
expansive)

Arundahati .. I have worked all my life to better the lot of the poor and disenfranchised. I just want to have fun while doing it. That's all.

He comes around and puts an arm around her ample shoulders

SHRILAL (CONT'D) What would life be without our vices. A boring round of doing good which would blow the top off any full blooded man. The consequences of a totally just society would be .. Hell. This is the Kali Yuga after all.

Anita removes his arm from her shoulder with disdain and moves towards the door.

67

CONTINUED: (3)

ARUNDAHATI

It may well be the Kali Yuga but the next avartara of Vishnu, which you should know, and for which all good Hindus are waiting, is Kalki. And his coming signifies the end of the Kali Yuga.

Turning in the door.

ARUNDAHATI (CONT'D) I will visit a temple, which I haven't done for years, and give offerings to Vishnu, to bring about his return. There's something about you which makes even a lapsed Hindu pious.

She moves into the outer office and turns to Shrilal while looking at Seeta.

ARUNDAHATI (CONT'D) I will pray for you both.

She exits with a flourish of her sari.

Shrilal walks into the outer office looking at the door she has gone through.

SHRILAL (licentious, and with exaggerated mannerisms) How do you crack a woman like that? The rear end of a pregnant cow, breasts like ripened

papaya. With lips which could suck the soul out of a
Rishi.

SEETA (smirking) Only if you be Kalki himself, I
fear.

SHRILAL (turns to Seeta)
Now where were we?

Seeta acts bashfully. EXT.

MALABAR HILL. NIGHT.

Kuldip is sitting in his car parked in trees. He is watching Govin's mansion through digital recording binoculars. He is witness to a skinny dipping party with Govin enjoying the fruits of his wealth.

68

CONTINUED:

GUNDAR 1 (O.S.) Enjoying the
view?

Kuldip swings around and is faced by one of Ravana's men leaning in through the window; he's holding a gun.

Another of Ravana's men, GUNDA 2, opens the drivers door.

GUNDAR 2

Get out and keep your hands where I can see them.

As Kuldip straightens up after getting out he receives a blow to the gonads which doubles him up again but he comes back up immediately and back hands the man sending him flying. He wastes no time and leaps down the hill with silent bullets flying after him.

The gundars give chase through thick vegetation as they play hide and seek with Kuldip. Kuldip gives them the slip and gets back to his car and drives off. He rides down Nepean Sea Road at speed until he is forced to stop at traffic lights.

He looks in his mirror to see if anyone is following only to see the face of a man, GUNDAR 3, looking back at him. Too late, Kuldip's brains are splattered across the windscreen.

Gundar 3 gets out and calmly walks around to the car next to Kuldip's and shoots the woman driver after he drags her out. He drives off as the lights turn green. The cars behind honk their horns.

GOVIN'S MANSION

Govin is enjoying the party and he only cocks an ear to the sound of car horns in the distance.

INT. NEWSPAPER OFFICE. DAY. SEEN THROUGH THE WALL

SCREEN IN DE SILVERS OFFICE.

Radha BW, enters De Silver's office. De Silver is looking out of the window.

RADHA B.W.

Have you had any word from Kuldip in the last few days?

69.

CONTINUED:

DE SILVER

No, but there's a body at the morgue which fits his description and his DNA profile. Are you up to identification?

Radha is shocked and sits down as De Silver turns around.

DE SILVER (CONT'D) I'm beginning to think this is a bit out of our league.

RADHA B.W.

We can't give up. And even if we wanted to we're up to our eyes in this.

DE SILVER What about Chris? Does he know?

RADHA B.W. (thinking for a moment) Yes .. he knows.

But that's because they're running a CRAP operation which involves Mohammed and the cockfight world. He wants us to stop our investigation and hand it all over to them.

DE SILVER That's an excellent idea.

RADHA B.W. Oh no it's not!

DE SILVER

It's your life on the line, Radha. You'll be next .. And then me.

RADHA B.W. (getting up, determined) Don't disappoint me.

We are doing the right thing. We can't let these people intimidate us. What's the point of having a free press if we can't expose them?

DE SILVER (agonizing)

We're out of our depth, Radha. Hand it over to CRAP.

RADHA B.W. Never!

De Silver wanders around trying to come to terms.

70.

CONTINUED: (2)

DE SILVER Then let's do things one at a time. Firsts go down to the morgue and identify the body.

Radha is already on her way out. INT. C.R.A.P.

HEADQUARTERS. DAY. SEEN THROUGH THE WALL

SCREEN IN CHRIS'S OFFICE.

The case makes a THUD as it hits the desk. Hands spring the locks and the top raises to reveal sheets of a dull material.

CHRIS (looking
impressed)

Crystallized yttrium. They must already have a buyer.

MOHAMMED

Probably more than one. There's enough to make a thousand quantum computers.

CHRIS

Well that's your final act in this drama. You'll get it all back as soon as we have locked them up.

Chris extends his hand and they shake.

MOHAMMED And
security?

CHRIS

They'll be with you until after the trials so don't worry. Oh, one more thing. Was there a pass word or anything like that to get you in to the venue?

MOHAMMED

No, they just said they'll be watching me every step of the way. But your men haven't detected anyone keeping surveillance on me. Let's hope they haven't missed them.

CHRIS

We use two generations of surveillance technology that is beyond access to anyone but us. So stop worrying.

CONTINUED:

MOHAMMED

You didn't see that man ripped to shreds. I've still got nightmares.

Chris sees him to the door then turns to Shiva on the screen.

CHRIS

Bring me the airtaxi and tell the ballbreakers to stand by.

SHIVA Affirmative.

Chris closes the case puts on his sun glasses and looks at the screen.

CHRIS Mirror.

The screen becomes a mirror.

He looks at himself then puts on his panama.

END OF PART 9 XXX

EXT. COCK FIGHT VENUE. DAY.

Chris carries the case through the crowds and to the entrance of the amphitheater.

AMPHITHEATER

Inside, he looks about at the madness surrounding him. Then eyes the "box" where several people are gathered.

He makes his way around to find an armed guard outside of the "box".

CHRIS I have something for Ravana.

The GUARD is nervous and points his gun into Chris's stomach then frisks him.

GUARD He's not expecting anyone.

CHRIS Oh yes he is, Mohammed Khan.

Chris holds up the case.

CHRIS (CONT'D) Do you want me to leave? Because Ravana isn't going to be too happy if I do.

^r^tM^T^T^M^r^t^t^A^D\
72

CONTINUED:

The Guard knocks on the door to the "box". Another guard opens it and Chris enters.

"BOX" All eyes and a few guns are trained on Chris.

CHRIS (CONT'D) I'm here to see Ravana.

Some of the men part to reveal Ravana sitting at a small table butted up against the rail.

RAVANA I don't think we've had the pleasure.

CHRIS
Of course we haven't!. You're a hard man to track down.

Some of the men cock their weapons.

RAVANA So, what do you want?

Chris puts the case on the table.

CHRIS Mohammed Khan sent me.

RAVANA He was told to come himself.

CHRIS He doesn't take orders from you.

A deadly silence as Ravana weighs up the situation. Then a slight nod of the head has Chris held by a dozen hands.

Ravana opens the case to find it empty except for a CRAP hologram ID. Ravana gets up and holds up the ID so his men can see. A number of them leave immediately. He throws the ID on the table.

RAVANA This is not CRAP
territory.

CHRIS

It is now. And to show you that we mean business I
want you to fill that up with plastic. Large
denominations with no personal numbers. In other
words the "take" from today"s proceedings.

/r'tMmTMrTTm\

73

CONTINUED: (2)

Ravana fights his welling anger.

RAVANA What, is this a shake down?

CHRIS Congratulations. You've got it in one.

One of the men that left earlier returns with another man heavily out of breath.

MAN

There's several CRAP battle wagons sitting in the next
valley. They've been blocking transmission from our "look
cuts" and I had to run here.

RAVANA (laughs)

And to think .. I believed all that crap about the
Untouchables.

CHRIS

It shows you how good we are. Now doesn't it. So you just fill
this case up and I'll be on my way.

RAVANA

And what has Mohammed Khan to do with this?

CHRIS

He's just a customer who could get us to you. Now get
these goons off me and lets do business.

Ravana picks up the case and throws it to one of his men.

RAVANA

Alright, all of you out and fill that up like our friend requests.

They all leave.

CHRIS

With CRAP backing you, you'll not have to worry about
security .. ever again. So how much do you take?

RAVANA Enough.

74.

CONTINUED: (3)

CHRIS All we want is 25% of enough.

RAVANA (with irony) Now that sounds generous.

CHRIS I just new we could do business.

Chris picks up his ID.

CHRIS (CONT'D) From now on you'll deliver our % to a destination of our choosing. It will always be the same conditions and .. you will deliver it personally and by yourself.

Ravana almost cracks and has to turn away.

RAVANA Anything else?

CHRIS No, that will be enough for now.

One of Ravana's men returns with the case.

CHRIS (CONT'D) Open it.

The man goes to open it.

CHRIS (CONT'D) Not you.

The man looks at Ravana who gestures for him to leave then Ravana opens it. It's stacked with plastic cards. Chris closes the case and goes to leave.

RAVANA

I'm impressed. We've got away with this for so long that I was getting careless. You've done me a big favour. Untouchable.

Chris turns at the door.

CHRIS

We bring structure and rigor to all our operations. You won't be disappointed.

75.

CONTINUED: (4)

Chris leaves and Ravana waits until he sees him making his way along the walk way and descend to the entrance before he doubles up with laughter.

INT. MORGUE. DAY.

Radha B.W., is looking at Kuldip's body. The MORTUARY ATTENDANT is looking at her.

MORTUARY ATTENDANT A single shot to the neck from behind.

RADHA B.W. Anything else?

MORTUARY ATTENDANT He'd been scrambling about in vegetation. Mud under his finger nails and scratch marks from bushes.

RADHA B.W. Thanks.
Radha leaves. EXT.

MORGUE. DAY.

Radha B.W.^ comes out and looks up at the sky through the giant buildings. She wanders aimlessly along the street deep in thought until she comes to a junction.

Diagonally opposite is a large plaza with an airtaxi rank at the far end where airtaxi^s are taking off and landing.

The lights change and she is just about to go across to the plaza when she stops herself on seeing a waveline consul at the base of a light pole.

She puts her hand on the screen and Hanuman appears.

HANUMAN Your new attributes become you^
Radha.

RADHA B.W. Cut the crap and give me De Silver.

HANUMAN

And while we^re waiting I just have to say that I noticed that you need a manicure.

76.

CONTINUED:

RADHA B.W. Forget it.

HANUMAN

But your standards are slipping. Perhaps you need a full make over to go along with your new face. And I just so happen to have a great data base for your perusal.

RADHA B.W. Drop dead.

HANUMAN

Now that's not the usual Radha. Perhaps you need to unload those troubled thoughts. Now just look deep into my eyes.

Hanuman's eyes turn into swirling pits like the snake in "Jungle Book".

RADHA B.W. (angry)

What's taking so long?

HANUMAN Radha, you know how busy he is.

RADHA B.W. Oh forget it. Get me
Chris.

HANUMAN

Getting married? Then just have a look at our
collection of bridal saris.

Hanuman turns into the old Radha wearing a fantastic sari. Radha B.W., looks
with sadness at her old image.

HANUMAN (CONT'D) I can just tell it's the
one for you.

RADHA B.W. (angry)
Just get me Chris!

HANUMAN I'm afraid he's
unavailable.

The lights change at the crossing and Radha B.W., runs across the
intersection towards the plaza.

77. CONTINUED: (2)

A car pulls up and a man gets out and follows her. PLAZA

As Radha B.W., makes her way across the plaza she's confronted by a
large crowd watching a street performance.

The crowd separate to reveal the Bharat Natayam dancers doing their "walk"
to the same wonderful music that always accompanies them. Krishna leads
his Gopis out and they dance on a collision course with Radha B.W.'s path.

Radha B.W., slows at their approach mesmerized by their performance.
Krishna stops and performs in front of her as the Gopis dance past either
side.

CLOSE ON Krishna's head as it gyrates. His eyes fix on Radha B.W.'s but his
facial movements and extremely long tongue seem to indicate to something
behind her.

Radha B.W., feels compelled to glance behind her and the man that was
following and who is standing a little way off moves his head away a touch too
quickly. Enough to make Radha B.W. suspicious.

She looks back to Krishna who is dancing away following his Gopis. She
glances back at the man and again his head turns away just a little too
quickly.

Radha BW, walks quickly towards the crowd and once inside she ducks and
weaves until she's through the other side.

She checks again and the man is definitely following her and she runs the rest
of the way to the airtaxi rank just missing the one that's landed. She can't wait
for another as the man following has spotted her.

She runs off the plaza and turns down a street with huge buildings lining its sides. She tries to hail an ordinary taxi but it fails to stop and with the man catching her up she dives into a department store and tries to lose herself in the crowds.

The man enters and after a quick look around he holds a digi-cam device up in the air and scans the area. He looks up into the cam-screen. CLOSE ON cam-screen. The view is a 'pan shot' of the area. A red outline starts flashing on and off around a figure in the crowd; it's Radha BW.

/r*r<MTTMrD\
78

CONTINUED:

Radha BW, sees the digi-cam pointed at her and then sees the man look towards her. She drops down and scurries between the shoppers until she runs into a member of security. The SECURITY GUARD is slightly winded by the experience but he manages to grab her by the arm as she tries to flee.

SECURITY GUARD
(grimacing)
What's the hurry? And why are you
crouched over like that?

Radha BW, thinks for a moment.

RADHA B.W.
It's my husband. He's extremely jealous and is following
me because he thinks I'm having an affair.
SECURITY GUARD (looking
about him) Where is he?

Radha BW, slowly raises until she can see the man coming through the crowd.

RADHA B.W. (pointing) That's him pushing
his way through.

The security guard sees the man.
SECURITY GUARD He looks a
mean customer.

RADHA B.W.
Precisely. Now would you do me a great favour and
slow him up.

She smiles bewitchingly.

SECURITY GUARD You stay here I haven't
finished with you yet.

He heads off in the direction of the man.

Radha waits until she sees the guard confront the man then 'legs' it. The man isn't listening to the guard but looking for Radha BW, in the crowd. He spots her on an escalator as she spots him.

79

CONTINUED: (2)

The man punches the Security Guard in his still sensitive groin and floors him.

Radha BW, gets off the escalator crouches down and gets on the down escalator sitting on the steps. She passes the man going up but now the alarms in the store are going off.

Radha BW doesn't make it to the exit before the doors lock shut. She kicks the doors and gets an electric shock for her trouble which sends her hurtling back into the crowd and she ends up sprawled on the floor.

The man sees the commotion at the exit and spots Radha BW. Radha BW is helped up by some of the shoppers. She recovers just in time to see the man getting off the escalator. Looking around her she sees several security guards come out of a door near the exit marked "STAFF". She runs up to them.

RADHA B.W.

Quickly, get me out of here. There's a man trying to kill me.

She doesn't wait for a reply but dives around them and makes it through the door they've just come out of before it closes.

Three of the security guards form a protective ring around the door while three others go into the crowd looking for the man. The seventh re-opens the door.

CORRIDOR

Radha BW, sees the lift doors open and jumps in.

LIFT

Pressing the up button before the people can get out she pushes a couple of members of staff who were getting out towards the opening door where the security guard is coming through; she escapes.

Placing her hand on a screen next to the door she gets Hanuman.

HANUMAN

Radha, you look terrible. Now what about that make over.

RADHA B.W.

One of these days I'll give you a make over.

80

CONTINUED: (3)

HANUMAN

(laughing)

Radha, you are a one. But if I'm not mistaken, and my sensors rarely are, you're in trouble. Should I get Chris?

RADHA B.W.

(amazed)

It's the first sensible thing you've ever said.

HANUMAN

(smiling)

Well I'm not just a hairy face. Here he is now.

Chris's face comes onto the screen.

CHRIS You look stressed.

RADHA B.W.

Stressed! .. stressed!! You're worse than Hanuman. They're after me. Ravana's men. I'm stuck in a lift in some department store.

Chris quickly looks at his consul.

CHRIS

Macy's. Look, don't go to the roof even though they've got an airbus terminal there. They'll track you for sure. Get back on the street and meet me at Victoria Railway Station. It's just around the corner. And keep moving.

He is instantaneously replaced by Hanuman.

HANUMAN

My, we do have an exciting life. Have you thought about sky diving or bungy jumping? I have a large data base of the very best in both in-house and out-door adventure. Ever thought of wrestling with a gorilla?

Radha BW, looks at Hanuman with a combination of horror and stupefaction.

The doors of the lift open and two people get in.

Jtt81.

CONTINUED: (4)

Radha BW, jumps out just before the doors close when she spots an emergency exit.

She pushes the emergency button and the door opens. She gets in and closes the door behind her. An alarm goes off.

Opposite the door she has just come through a panel slides back.

A large clear tube suddenly extends down at a forty five degree angle. She looks down the tube but also sees how high she is above street level and is about to turn back when she is sucked into the tube by a blast of air from within the room.

TUBE

Radha BW, hurtles down the tube.

EXT. DEPARTMENT STORE. DAY.

WE see the tube extending from high up on the department building to the building across the street where it connects to a port.

INT. BUILDING. DAY.

Radha BW tumbles down the chute and finally lands in a cushioned area inside of the building.

She's up and running without thought.

The lift doors open at the end of the cushioned area and she gets in pressing the down button; it takes off.

She puts her hand on the screen.

HANUMAN We certainly do get
around.

RADHA B.W. Get me
Chris.

HANUMAN

But don't you want to see the extensive list of attractions
that are available in the building you are now in?

RADHA B.W. (angry) I
swear...

82

CONTINUED:

HANUMAN

Perhaps not. But unfortunately Chris is unavailable. I
believe you have an appointment with him at Victoria
station. I hope you haven't forgot.

After a moment, Radha BW, goes mental and starts hitting the screen.

HANUMAN (CONT'D) I'd worry
about you're mental state, Radha, but then I
know what a lively sense of humour you have.

The lift doors open and Radha finds herself in the foyer of an Hotel.
ALARMS are going off and security are everywhere.

She picks up one of the flower arrangements and heads for the entrance. She
exits as the police enter.

EXT. HOTEL. DAY.

Radha BW, gets outside just in time for an explosion in the department store opposite. Radha BW, drops to the ground instinctively and covers her head. The blast has shattered the windows of the store and glass flies everywhere. Radha BW, has just got to her feet when out through one of the shattered windows there comes the man that was following her. And the first person he sees is Radha.

RADHA B.W. Shit!

She runs up the street.

The man lobbs another grenade into the store then pursues Radha BW throwing smoke grenades behind him.

Radha BW gets to the entrance of the Victoria Train Station and turns to see the man only 50m behind and for the first time sees a gun in his hand.

VICTORIA RAILWAY STATION

She tries to loose herself in the crowds but in so doing she looses track of the man.

But now she can see police entering the Station. A terrible moment of decision as she looks about her scared.

/r\MT\TATrtt^D\

83.

CONTINUED:

Radha BW, jumps in the air and shouts.

RADHA B.W. (CONT'D) He's over here!!
He's over here!!

Not only have the police spotted her but so has the man.

She runs towards the police through the crowds then a gap opens up and the man has a clean line of sight.

Radha BW, is frozen to the spot looking at him but he doesn't fire. He also is frozen. And his HEAD is missing.

Radha BW, slowly walks towards the frozen figure as if in a trance. She gets to within a few metres then

In SLOW MOTION he falls down.

RADHA B.W. (V.O.) (CONT'D) Where did his
head go?

CUT TO

INT. AIRPOLICE VEHICLE. DAY.

Chris is piloting the craft with Radha BW turned towards him with a questioning expression on her face.

CHRIS (smugly)
Vaporized.

RADHA B.W.

I didn't realize you had weapons like that. Are they ethical?

CHRIS (mystified) Ethical? He was trying to kill you.

RADHA B.W.

But there's something so .. well .. final about having your head vaporized.

CHRIS

Indeed there is. And that's why it has to be a life or death situation before you employ such force.

RADHA B.W. Have you .. vaporized many people?

84

CONTINUED:

CHRIS Dozens .. I've lost count.

RADHA B.W.

Really?

CHRIS

Radha, I'm joking. In fact he was the first. And I'm pleased to say I have no regrets. It was him or you.

RADHA B.W. (looking at him intently)

You don't seem to have changed.

CHRIS And you don't seem very convinced.

Radha BW, looks out of the window as Chris takes the vehicle down so that it skims over the breaking surf. He's so low surfers dive of their boards in fear.

Radha BW, turns back and looks at him with renewed intensity.

RADHA B.W.

I once had a dog. It was given to me as a puppy by my Grandfather shortly after my parents were killed. It was an English spaniel and it was so loving and faithful and gentle.

(her voice trails off in remembrance)

Anyway, our gardener had decided that I was such a tom-boy that I should have all the accrutements of that state

and so he made me a catapult. I was a really good shot in no time and used to wander around the garden using anything that moved as practice. Well one day this mouse broke cover and ran up a steep grassy bank. I twanged my catapult and hit him in the middle of the back and he rolled down the slope - poor thing. My dog pounced and had the still struggling mouse in his mouth in a jiffy. I was horrified. Not least by the sound of crunching bone. I tried desperately to get the mouse out of his grip by pulling on the mouse's still flapping tail which was dangling from his mouth. But to no avail. A few more crunches and my grip gave way and the mouse was gone.

(MORE)

85

CONTINUED: (2)

RADHA B.W. (CONT'D) He looked at me with those big loving eyes obviously pleased with himself.

Radha BW, falls silent as the memory springs forth emotion.

CHRIS And?

RADHA B.W.

(returning from her reverie) Oh .. Well, it's just that I could never look at him the same way again. I had seen him for what he really was - a carnivore.

CHRIS (bemused)
And?

RADHA B.W.

(looking closely)

You look the same just as he did but I doubt if I'll ever be able to look at you in the same way again.

CHRIS Well thanks very much.

Radha BW, laughs at her own foolishness and kisses him on the cheek.

RADHA B.W. But it's true, none the less.

The craft swings up as it approaches a town sized sickle moon shaped building built partly over the ocean.

INT. CHRIS'S APARTMENT. DAY.

CPV. AS SEEN THROUGH CHRIS'S WALL SCREEN.

As they walk into the apartment they are already arguing.

CHRIS

No Radha, you're not going anywhere. You're staying right here in the Untouchables compound.

RADHA B.W. And that's final?

CHRIS

If I have to I'll have you put in protective custody.

/r<'YMTt-rMrc'D\

86.

CONTINUED:

Radha BW, takes up an aggressive stance.

RADHA B.W.

No^I can see what kind of husband you would make.

CHRIS Don't get bitchy.

He goes to the wall screen and puts his hand on it.

SCREEN

Shiva fills the screen.

CHRIS (O.S.) (CONT'D) Give me the office.

Gwen's face appears; she's putting on make-up direct to CAMERA.

CHRIS (CONT'D) What's happening?

GWEN

MacTavish of the hairy knee wants to see you, like ten minutes ago. Oh and Mohammed Khan wants to know what's happening.

CHRIS (O.S.) Ok .. I'll hit Mohammed on my way back in. And tell the hairy knees that I'll be there directly. Screen off.

The screen goes blank.

APARTMENT

CPV. SEEN THROUGH THE WALL SCREEN.

CHRIS (CONT'D) I'll have to go. We can finish this argument at a later time.

RADHA B.W. And what am I supposed to do?

CHRIS

Take a swim in the pool it will cool you down.

Chris goes to leave, she blocks his path.

CONTINUED: (2)

RADHA B.W. Oh no you
don't.

CHRIS
(frustrated)

I can't take you with me. You, more than anyone,
should know about the rules governing the
Untouchables.

PADHA B.W. So what am I
supposed to do?

Chris thinks for a minute then walks across to the screen and puts his hand
on it.

CHRIS

Do some ground work on the waveline. Follow the
money. See what your friend Govin is up to. Scan
the crowds at the cock-fight - you never know who
might turn up. There's a thousand and one things
you could do.

Radha BW, stomps around him and plonks herself down not taking her
angry eyes off him.

Chris's leans down and kisses her.

RADHA B.W. You can't get around me like
that.

CHRIS

How about dinner at the Compound's Ocean Bar
tonight?

She GROWLS.

CHRIS (CONT'D) (suppressing a smile) Once you
get into it you'll be alright.

She throws a cushion at him as he leaves. Radha looks at Shiva

radiating light on the screen.

RADHA B.W.

Get me access to The Bombay Times Data Bank.

SCREEN The 'front page' of The Bombay Times Data Bank appears.

CONTINUED: (3)

SHIVA (V.O.) A personal ID is required.

APARTMENT

Radha BW holds up her hand which is scanned by a laser from the top of the screen.

SHIVA (V.O.) (CONT'D) Your avatar wishes to take over.

RADHA B.W. What Hanuman?

SHIVA (V.O.) (with disdain)

A suitable name for a rather laughable programme.

RADHA B.W. Don't bother.

SHIVA Then name the file you wish to see.

RADHA B.W. Digi-footage of the cock-fight.

SCREEN

The cock-fight crowds come under her scrutiny until she ends up on the man in the crowd behind Ravana.

RADHA B.W. (O.S.) (CONT'D) Close on his eyes.

But no matter how she tries she can't improve on the image.

RADHA B.W. (O.S.) (CONT'D) Oh it's useless. Scan the audience again but use the footage I took of the audience and not of the 'box'.

Slowly the audience is panned at one level then it returns higher up the amphitheater.

RADHA B.W. (O.S.) (CONT'D) Stop right there.

Radha BW has spotted someone in the crowd.

In SLOW MOTION we see Shrilal laughing and joking with someone.

^rtrMTTMrtr^

89.

CONTINUED: (4)

RADHA B.W. (O.S.) (CONT'D) I'd might of guessed you'd be there. Pan on.

The pan continues to the end of that level and she ends up back to where Ravana had been leaning on the rail.

RADHA B.W. (O.S.) (CONT'D) Next level, no wait. Back to the last sequence.

Radha looks to where the turbaned man had been but he's not there either.

RADHA B.W. (O.S.) (CONT'D) Oh I give up.
Come out of that file.

The screen returns to Shiva.

APARTMENT

Radha gets up and wanders around.

SHIVA (V.O.)

Your avatar is still trying to remove me. But don't worry its puny capabilities are oblivious to my superior function and I have placed it in a cyber prison.

RADHA B.W. (smiling)

Really? Can I see.

SCREEN

Shiva disappears and is replaced by Hanuman behind bars.

Radha BW laughs at Hanuman's annoyed expression.

HANUMAN

Oh you think it's funny do you. He's nothing but a big bully.

SHIVA (V.O.)

Silence puny one or I will rearrange your neural circuits until all you're capable of is baby talk.

HANUMAN Radha, you wouldn't let him do that?

90

CONTINUED: (5)

RADHA B.W. (O.S.) (laughing) Oh I just might.

Radha BW, abruptly stops laughing.

APARTMENT

CPV. SEEN THROUGH THE WALL SCREEN.

RADHA B.W. (CONT'D) Tell me Shiva what kind of qualities are you blessed with.

Shiva returns to the screen.

SHIVA

I have all multi functional capabilities of the Q series of quantum computers and full memory recall of all Data Bases and daily correspondence.

RADHA B.W. (sarcastically)

Oh really. Give me a whirl around your genius.
SHIVA Where would you like to start?
RADHA B.W. (thinking) Mmmmm ..
anywhere.

SHIVA Here^s a list of recent correspondence.

A list of names comes up on the screen.

SHIVA (CONT'D) As you can see your
name figures prominently.

RADHA B.W. Well actually Hanuman has this facility.

The list disappears.

RADHA B.W. (CONT'D) (getting up) No wait bring
that list back.

91

CONTINUED: (6)

Radha BW has spotted something and she moves to the screen as the list is
returned.

She places her finger on the name SHRILAL.

RADHA B.W. (CONT'D) Let me see
that file.

SHIVA

Sorry Radha but that file has category A security
status.

RADHA B.W. It must contain very important
material.

SHIVA All category A files do.

RADHA B.W.

Mmmmm .. give me Hanuman and you can let him
out of his cage. And thanks I won't be needing your
services any longer.

SHIVA As you
require.

Hanuman comes back on screen with resentment all over his face.

HANOMAN That was a most unpleasant
experience.

RADHA B.W.

I thought you had a wormhole function designed
to escape quantum computer entrapment?

HANUMAN (pulling a face) Shhh .. he could still
be monitoring.

RADHA B.W.

Not without breaking the law he couldn't. Didn't you think about using your wormhole function?

HANUMAN

Of course I did. And I managed to get a glimpse of that category A file you wanted to see.

RADHA B.W. Let me see.

/r'DMTTMrTTTrD\

92

CONTINUED: (7)

SCREEN

Hanuman is replaced by Shrilal lounging in his Parliamentary office.

SHRILAL

So Chris, you've agreed to our little deal.

CHRIS (V.O.) We have little choice if we want citizenship. How and where do you want the money delivered?

SHRILAL I'll be in touch soon....

Hanuman replaces Shrilal.

HANUMAN

Radha, you don't look well. Perhaps what you need is a doctor and it just so happens that I also have an extensive list of therapists, councillors and psychologists.

APARTMENT CPV. AS SEEN THROUGH THE

WALL SCREEN.

Radha is indeed looking unwell she is also in a state of shock.

RADHA B.W. (more to herself) I need to get out of here.

HANUMAN

I think you're going to find that difficult.

RADHA B.W.

Why?

HANUMAN

Because Chris has placed you in protective custody.

RADHA B.W.
(angry)
The slimy rat. So how do I get out of here?

93

CONTINUED: (8)

Hanuman changes into Shiva.

SHIVA
I'm afraid you don't. You have broken the law by
accessing a category A security file. You are now
under arrest.

RADHA B.W. Get me
Hanuman.

SHIVA
I'm afraid that's impossible. Your avatar has been
terminated.

Radha is now in deep shock. She walks to the door only to find it locked. She
walks into the bedroom to get away from the screen. Then she starts
rummaging through draws then walks into the wardrobe. Things come hurtling
out.

RADHA B.W. (O.S.)
Ah ha.

She re-emerges with a large rucksack which she puts on her back then goes
out onto the balcony.

EXT. UNTOUCHABLES COMPOUND. DAY.

She climbs up the sloping wall that divides the apartments and onto the
roof.

ALARMS go off all over the compound and people come out onto their
balconies.

Radha hurls the rucksack down and drags from within it a para-glider. She
quickly puts the harness on, gives a little run into the wind and is quickly air
bourne.

Untouchables make it onto the roof but too late to stop her as she floats off
down the coast gathering height on the sea breeze then she turns inland.

INT. MOHAMMEDS APARTMENT. DAY.

Chris is looking up into the sky from the balcony when he's joined by
Mohammed. They shake hands.

MOHAMMED
Sorry to keep you waiting. So how things going?

CHRIS

Not so good. Ravana smelt a rat and wouldn't
except the bribe from me.

(MORE)

/r^AMTTMrurr^

94

CONTINUED:

CHRIS (CONT'D) In fact he denied any
knowledge of the arrangement.

Chris picks up the case and places it onto a small table. He opens it and all of
the sheets of yttrium are still there.

CHRIS (CONT'D) Check it and make
sure it is all there then imprint this.

He hands Mohammed a Palm set.

WE NOW SEE THEM ON THE BALCONY BUT FROM THE PERSPECTIVE
OF SOMEONE BEHIND THE WALL SCREEN IN THE APARTMENT.

MOHAMMED

(quickly looking at content) So what
happens now.

CHRIS For the time being nothing.

MOHAMMED I'm still a witness to
murder.

CHRIS

And as such you'll be given continuing protection from
CRAP until the situation is resolved. This is an on
going case;
you'll just have to be patient.

MOHAMMED And what happens if Govin gets in
touch?

CHRIS

(laughs)

I don't think we'll need to worry too much about
him.

INT. COCK-FIGHT PENS. DAY.

CHRIS (V.O.)

Ravana, I should imagine, will be keeping him well
entertained.

Govin is tied up and hanging upside down by his feet with his head just inside
of the trap door of one of the pens. A cock keeps trying to peck his head which
makes Govin squirm about.

Ravana and several of his men surround the cage.

RAVANA So tell me again how it's all my fault.

95

CONTINUED:

GOVIN (being pecked) Oww .. oh my God,
get me down.

RAVANA (to his men) Let
him down.

GOVIN No no not in the cage.

RAVANA Oh come now make up your mind.

GOVIN

Ravana .. ow .. we can work this out. We might even .. ow ..
be able to turn this to our advantage.

RAVANA Oh really. How?

GOVIN

I don't know I haven't figured it out yet .. ow.

Ravana's men laugh.

GOVIN (CONT'D) Just knowing .. ow .. that the
Untouchables are corrupt has to have .. ow .. advantages.

RAVANA

Even if that is true it still doesn't solve your problem. You still
owe me a mountain of debt. So what should I do with you?

GOVIN I'll do anything .. I swear I'll .. ow

VOICE (O.S.) (electronically synthesized)

Ravana.

Ravana turns and WE see the TURBANED MAN from the crowd standing in
shadow.

Ravana joins him in the shadows.

96.

CONTINUED: (2)

TURBANED MAN (electronically
synthesized) Bring him down he's ready.

RAVANA You think he'll go for your plan.

TURBANED MAN (electronically
synthesized) Undoubtedly.

RAVANA (to his men) Bring
him across here.

Govin is swung to one side and the rope cut he falls to the ground with a
CRASH.

EXT. FOREST. DAY. Radha BW, falls to the ground with

a CRASH.

She gets up in some pain and pulls together the para-glider then hides it in the undergrowth.

She orients herself and then heads off. VILLAGE

A lazy village scene with people getting on with their daily chores.

Radha BW, spots an old bike behind a house and quickly makes her way towards it, then on to it and then away.

INT. C.R.A.P. HEADQUARTERS. DAY.

Chief Inspector MacTavish is glum as he watches Chris walk in.

MACTAVISH She's
escaped.

CHRIS

Who?

MACTAVISH Your wee
mince pie.

CHRIS I don't
understand.

97

CONTINUED:

MACTAVISH

She gained entrance to Shiva's data bank and guess
which file she looked at.

CHRIS (pained) Oh
no.

MACTAVISH

Chris, she has to be found. She has to be stopped. Do
you understand?

CHRIS Yes of
course.

MACTAVISH Now where
would she go?

CHRIS

1^11 make a list. We'll need to put a whole team
on this.

MACTAVISH Then you^d better get
to it.

Chris leaves in a hurry. EXT.

COUNTRYSIDE. DAY.

Radha breaks out of a wooded area and sees in the distance an airfrieghter (basically the same design as The Garuda but one tenth of the size). She stops to think about it then heads up a track in its direction.

AIRFRIEGHTER

People are loading local produce into the under carriage as she rides up.

RADHA B.W. (to CREW
MEMBER) Where you
headed?

CREW MEMBER
Allahabad.

RADHA B.W. Great, I couldn^t get a
lift?

CREW MEMBER (nodding
behind her) Join the que.

/fr<MfTMnc'rt\
98

CONTINUED:

Radha looks to where he^s nodding and sees a group of locals sitting on the ground a little way off.

CREW MEMBER (CONT'D) But you^ll have
to pay for the bike.

RADHA B.W. That^s ok.

She cycles over to the waiting people. INT.

AIRFRIEGHTER. NIGHT.

The airfrieghter is flying slowly over the countryside only a few hundred metres up.

The sides of the undercarriage are only half closed and Radha is leaning on the half opened door watching the sun set. She is filled with sadness.

A touch on her arm has her facing a young woman, MEERA.

MEERA

We could not help but notice that you are not provided
with any food. So would you like to join us.

Radha gives her a weak smile.

RADHA B.W. Thanks but I'm not really
hungry.

MEERA Why are you so
unhappy?

RADHA B.W. (bursting into
tears) I'm just .. fine.

Meera puts her hand around her shoulder and Radha collapses into her arms
and sobs.

CLOSE ON Radha and Meera silhouetted against the sunset. LATER

Radha BW, is sitting cross legged on the floor forming part of a circle with the
rural Indians tucking in to several dishes.

RADHA B.W. (CONT'D) So are you visiting family in
Allahabad?

99.

CONTINUED:

MEERA

Oh no, we are going to the Ganga to bless my sister's
baby.

Another young woman, MEENA, reveals the baby suckling on her breast.
Meena sits the baby up so Radha can see.

MEERA (CONT'D) Are you not
a Hindu?

RADHA B.W.

(after a moments reflection) I was born
a Kryishka Brahman.

A slow sigh of wonder comes from the circle.

MEENA

But surely you should be wearing white cotton.

RADHA B.W. (embarrassed) I'm not a very good
Kryishka I'm afraid.

MEERA (holding out her
baby)

Would you do me a great honour and bless my
baby.

RADHA B.W. I wouldn't
know how.

MEERA

Just take him in your arms there is nothing else
you need do.

Radha BW, takes the baby in her arms awkwardly and sits it up. The baby promptly throws up onto Radha's top. The group laugh. An OLDER WOMEN chips in.

OLDER WOMAN

She might not know how to bless the baby but baby certainly knows how to bless her.

They all laugh.

RADHA B.W. I'm afraid I'm not much good with .. babies.

Meera gets up to take the baby.

100

CONTINUED: (2)

RADHA B.W. (CONT'D) No please, let me hold him. At this moment he seems to be the most precious thing in the world.

Meera sits down next to Radha.

RADHA B.W. (CONT'D) What's his name?

MEENA

Kalki.

RADHA B.W. Kalki .. The future of the world.

MEENA

We come from the village of Sambhal and as tradition goes Kalki will be born there. So we always call our sons Kalki.

RADHA B.W. You never know your luck.

After a few moments.

MEERA You are not married yet, obviously.

RADHA B.W. (reflective) No. And I may never be.

MEERA

But why? When you are so blessed and so beautiful.

RADHA B.W.

Blessed? Of that I cannot speak. And beauty? I know how shallow that is.

Radha is suddenly filled with sadness as she rocks the baby backwards and forwards.

EXT. AIFRIEGHTER. DAY. Radha BW, kisses and hugs Meena, Meera and their family.

RADHA B.W.

And tell the family that I will return the bike as soon as I can or pay them reparations for there loss.

101.

CONTINUED:

MEERA And will you rea-Hy visit us?

RADHA B.W.

Of course I will. And you must come and visit me in Babylon .. sorry, I mean Mumbai.

The women laugh at such a thought.

RADHA B.W. (CONT'D) I'm serious.

Well good bye and may the Gods walk with you always.

She gets on the bike and sets off. INT. C.R.A.P.

HEADQUARTERS. DAY. CPV. AS SEEN

THROUGH THE WALL SCREEN.

Chris and Gwen are standing in front of the screen which has a map of Mumbai and the surrounding area on it.

GWEN

Two days and not even a sniff. We haven't even found the para-glider. It's a bit of an embarrassment.

CHRIS She must be out of the area by now.

GWEN

Or hanging from a tree with her neck broken.

CHRIS Thanks for sharing that with me.

GWEN

I'm sorry Chris. My tongue runs away without me some times .. You really love her don't you?

CHRIS

(sighs)

Best put Delhi on full alert. She could be heading for Parliament ..

(the full consequences sink in) This is a real disaster in the making .. and all of my doing. We've got to find her Gwen or the Untouchables could easily be finished in India.

102

CONTINUED:

GWEN

Aye .. and what an irony that would be .. you being the main instigator to get us citizenship also being the man who made sure we never did .. Perhaps the Buddha was right, desire is the root of all evil.

Chris shares a moment with Gwen. EXT.

BENARES. NIGHT.

Radha BW, cycles down through narrow deserted streets avoiding the sleeping cows and restless dogs.

She nears the Ghats and leaves the bicycle at the top of the stone stairs.

Radha BW, descends to where they are burning the bodies and stands for a moment the fire light playing across her face.

Then she hurries on along the river bank until she sees a large temple cast in silhouette against a moonlit sky fast filling with threatening clouds.

TEMPLE COURTYARD

Radha BW, enters the court yard of the temple which is lit by sandle wood torches and is greeted by the sight of goats being sacrificed by Brahman priests. Their BLEATING is pitiful.

She watches as the blood of the sacrificed animals is collected into buckets and carried into the temple.

Radha BW, sickened by the attack on her senses hurries through and into the temple.

TEMPLE

Two rows of tall pillars run down the full length of the hall from either side of the door. They end at the alter to Kali.

Kali in the form of her own terror. Her arm stretched out at 45 degrees holding her own head. The black headless body has only its necklace of ivory screaming skulls as adornment. The enormous body glistening with blood seems animated by the flickering of torch light.

Radha BM, stands frozen at the IMAGE.

103

CONTINUED:

Then out of the shadows near the alter come two priests carrying a large step ladder which they erect in front of Kali.

One priest bows to Kali and then slowly walks out past Radha BN without so much as a glance.

The other performs a short ritual as Radha BW takes tentative steps towards the alter.

Then she freezes as the priest turns and she sees that it is her grandfather, Arun.

Arun picks up a bucket of blood and slowly ascends the ladder.

Transfixed, Radha watches as Arun pours the blood into the headless neck. The blood comes out of the mouths of the screaming skulls. It's too much and Radha BW slips away from the IMAGE in between the pillars.

Her hands come involuntarily to her face and then she realizes that her grandfather won't even recognize her. She begins clawing at her face in a manic manner. Tearing off strips of the bio-form mask that makes for her face. Arun ascends the ladder once more and just as he is about to pour a bucket of blood over the head. Kali's eyes slowly turn till they are focusing on him.

Arun stares into those eyes then a sharp pain strikes him down the left arm and he drops the bucket.

Radha BW's panic stops on hearing the NOISE. Her bio-formed face is shredded and the old Radha peeps out.

She moves back into the centre of the hall and sees Arun fall from the top of the ladder onto Kali's lap where his head smashes against her stony knee. He rolls onto the floor his blood mingling with the blood of the sacrificed animals.

Radha loses her fear and runs to where Arun lies prostrate at Kali's feet. Slowly she bends down and is about to lift his head when she sees out of the corner of her eye a movement.

Slowly Kali's arm raises that head of terror. The eyes fixed on Radha.

Radha stands slowly in awe and steps back a few paces.

104

CONTINUED: (2)

Kali places her own head back on her own shoulders. Suddenly the extended tongue with its red eye at its centre is withdrawn into the mouth. The eyes still fixed on Radha.

Who draws back a few paces more.

A third eye opens on Kali's forehead and a blazing CRACKLING light illuminates the temple.

Radha, with increasing speed moves backwards away from the apparition.

But she is pursued as Kali floats off her plinth towards her.

Radha turns and runs to the doors and then outside where she falls down a few steps.

She looks back to see Kali floating towards her along the line of pillars but she can't move.

KALI

(deep and almost a whisper) Kali Yuga.

(louder and higher) Kali

Yuga.

(much louder and almost a screech)

Kali Yuga. ^

Kali now hurtles towards the doors.

KALI (CONT'D) Kali Yuga.

(deafening, her voice is no longer one but many) Kali Yuga.

The giant doors to the temple slam shut and all is darkness.

Then a flash of lightening strikes the ground in front of Radha and Kali's face appears in the after light.

Another flash and Kali's face fades.

Another flash and Kali's face fades to white.

EXT. GHATS. DAY.

CLOSE ON the white Kali design woven into the fabric of Radha's white sari.

The wonderful MUSIC which accompanies Krishna and his Gopi's springs out of the air.

/r*rM'T'TMrCT\

105

CONTINUED:

As WE PULL BACK AND UP, WE see just beyond Radha the dancers performing and leading a procession. Except now it is not the blue faced Krishna but the white faced Kaiki holding a sword and riding a magnificent white horse.

Radha is standing in front of her grandfather's funeral pyre the body already in place.

The stone amphitheater is filled with dignitaries including Shrilal, Anita, Banarsidas, MacTavish and Chris.

Radha looks at Chris, who is looking down at his feet. When he looks up she holds his gaze for just a moment then turns away.

When Kaiki gets to within a few metres of Radha he puts his sword in its scabbard and the horse rears on its hind legs.
He dismounts with a flourish and stands before Radha taking a firebrand from one of the Gopis.

Radha remains emotionless the very Image of a Goddess.
Kaiki stands and raises the firebrand then passes it to Radha.

She takes it and turns lighting the pyre.

The flames quickly take and soon Arun is consumed.

CLOSE ON flames.

LATER. NIGHT.

CLOSE ON flames.

Few now remain and the fire is more glowing embers.

Radha sits as if cast in stone.

The dawn breaks and at last Radha is free from her devotions.

She gets up, in a state of grace, and walks alone along the river bank towards the rising sun.

At a deserted ghat she strips and enters the Ganga paying homage to the now rising sun.

She slips away into the current and is soon lost to view in the sparkling reflection.

RIVER

/r'tMT'TMrt^r^
106.

CONTINUED: (2)

Radha, surrounded by ritualistic garlands from the ghats, drifts on her back motionless as if dead (a long beat).

SHRILAL (O.S.) You make a very pretty picture, Radha. But the artist who could do justice to it, is I'm afraid, yet to be born.

(change of tone)

So how about some breakfast at the Holy Lodge where they make an uncomfortably good chilli roti.

Radha's eyes open as she can't believe she's hearing this and turns vertical in the water.

Shrilal is in a small boat with only the boatman for company.

RADHA (annoyed) What are you doing here?

SHRILAL

Things are not what they seem Radha. Now let me help you into the boat and I'll try and explain.

RADHA

Go away!

SHRILAL

But you might easily drown and then I wouldn't be able to explain that Chris isn't such a bad fellow.

RADHA (quietly)

What do you mean?

Shrilal holds his hand down for her and at the same time theatrically averts his eyes.

Radha is frustrated and angry but finally takes his hand and allows him to pull her into the boat.

Once in he hands her a shawl while pretending to look away.

SHRILAL (licking his lips)

Did any one ever tell you. You have the delectable buttocks of a mountain goat.

107

CONTINUED: (3)

RADHA (furious) I am not one of your strumpets.

SHRILAL
(happy)

Of course you're not. But I can't help being the poor miserable lustful man that I am. A man of few refinements and little...

RADHA (cutting him off) Shut up! Now what was this about Chris?

Shrilal smiles his wicked red smile. EXT. CHI

SHOP. DAY.

The chi shop overlooks the Ganga it is situated on the outskirts of a small village.

Radha and Shrilal face each other across a small table on the veranda. They are already in conversation.

SHRILAL

So you see, Radha, the dilemma that your grandfather, Arun, placed us in and which resulted in our test of the "Untouchables" integrity has finally led to this sorry mess we're all now stewing in.

Shrilal sighs.

RADHA

It doesn't change anything. The Untouchables should have reported your corrupt proposition to the Parliamentary Ombudsman. But they haven't, have they?

SHRILAL

That is true. But, and this is a big but, they still have not delivered the money and so technically they haven't done anything wrong.

RADHA

And as they obviously know that I know of your arrangement they will deny everything.

108

CONTINUED:

SHRILAL

(unable to repress his cunning) So perhaps it would be better if you do die in the Ganga.

RADHA

What?!

SHRILAL

Believe me Radha I don't have a problem as such with the Untouchables. After all these Untouchables are in pretty much the same position as we in the scheduled caste were in a hundred years ago. But no matter how much I tried to resolve the conundrum I'm afraid I failed. Until that is, I saw you enter the Ganga. Now supposing you had drowned. The Untouchables might be tempted to think that their secret had died with you. After all you have not exactly been in your right mind since your grandfather died - visions of Kali, if one was to believe the rumors, and swimming naked in the Ganga,

(grins)

which I can personally vouch for. And with the vote coming up next week they might still be tempted by the deal, if that's what they really intend. Especially if I gave them a prompt.

RADHA Do you think they would go for it?

SHRILAL

I think Radha you would like to know the answer to that as much as I would. My colleagues Banarsidas and Arundhati are of the same opinion. And of

course There is always the chance that they are innocent and meant to entrap me in my entrapment of them all along.

RADHA So you think that's a possibility

SHRILAL

I honestly don't know but I think we should try to find out not just for our sake but for the sake of India.

109

CONTINUED: (2)

RADHA But how do we fake my death?

SHRILAL

I wasn't the only one that saw you enter the Ganga.
(grinning) And you can leave the rest to me.

RADHA

But where would I hide? It's not easy just disappearing into thin air.

SHRILAL (slapping
his leg)

Thin air, but of course .. that's exactly where you will disappear to.

Shrilal's smile is only outdone in its extravagance by Radha's bewilderment.

EXT. GANGA. DAY.

Two CRAP 'battle wagons' are parked up on the top of the river bank as another comes in to land next to them.

Chris watches as it lands from near the water's edge but as soon as it is parked up he strides up with purpose to greet Mactavish disembarking.

MACTAVISH

She's definitely not in the river and that's a fact.

CHRIS (cold)

I know she's not dead she's neither the type to kill herself nor do I detect her lack of presence.

MACTAVISH (testing) Oh
is that a fact.

CHRIS (annoyed) Yes!
That's a fact.

They stare each other out.

MACTAVISH
(turning away)

Aye laddy you're probably right. (MORE)

/r'DM'nTMmrr^

110

CONTINUED:

MACTAVISH (CONT'D) There was always more to this than cock fights and a corrupt politician. I wish I just knew what?

CHRIS

Ravana. He holds the key to all this. So why don't I pick him up and have a quiet word.

MACTAVISH

Oh, a quiet word is it. If only .. Have you thought about it Chris, have you really thought about it. Have you thought about how that sounds, how you sound?

Chris turns away.

MACTAVISH (CONT'D) You know laddy we've both become arrogant. Too much success has made us vain and filled with pride. I can hear it in your voice. Hell, I can even hear it in mine. And you know what they say comes before the fall.

CHRIS I don't care.

MACTAVISH (getting angry)

You will care. You have to care. It's not just you but the whole organization that's going doon the kazie if we're not careful.

The full implication finally gets through to Chris.

MACTAVISH (CONT'D) When you came to me with this clever idea - and Chris, it was a very clever idea -using Ravana's money to entrap Shrilal. I went along with it because I was arrogant enough to believe that we could kill two birds with one stone. My arrogance blinded me to the fact that what we were doing was a form of corruption. Oh aye, it was all with the best intentions but we all know where that leads.

(loudly)

Yer cana impersonate corruption without corrupting yer own person.

(more to himself) More than anyone I should know that.

111.

CONTINUED: (2)

CHRIS

If Radha hadn't become involved it would have worked.

MACTAVISH (laughing)

Factor X. The unknown quantity. Try telling that to the people of India. They've had generations of corruption, aye, and generations of excuses and reasons and pathetic lies. An that's

the position we're now in, giving excuses with good reasons .. by lying.
CHRIS (confrontational) We haven't lied yet.

MACTAVISH
Oh but we have. No no let me rephrase that. You have.

CHRIS
When?

MACTAVISH To Ravana .. and .. to Shrilal.
CHRIS (angry) But they're both corrupt.

MACTAVISH
And how would you know? By being the Judge and Jury? And perhaps .. you want to be the executioner as well .. Perhaps just the executioner. But you're right laddy, Shrilal could easily have done her in, especially if he was the one behind the cock-fighting.

CHRIS You think that's possible?
MACTAVISH Just look at the facts.

Chris reflects for a moment.

112

CONTINUED: (3)

CHRIS
It's true he was there the day Radha was there and what we have seen of the footage she took he could easily have been the man in the turban.

Chris struggles with his anger.

CHRIS (CONT'D) If either of them has hurt a single cell of her body I'll execute either or both of them without compunction.

MACTAVISH (eyeing Chris's demeanor) There's been developments.
CHRIS (excited) What?

MACTAVISH
Shrilal has been in touch. The deals still on.
CHRIS It's a trap.

MACTAVISH (knowingly)
Of course it is. But it gives you the chance for redemption. He's asked you to deliver the money tomorrow.

CHRIS

My God, he's playing with us. Perhaps he thinks she's dead and thinks her secret has died with her.

MACTAVISH

Shrilal is a cunning old reprobate. Yer cana trust the man to act in a rational way, let alone in a way that even resembles integrity.

(change of tone)

An I cana help but think there's more ta this.

CHRIS Like what?

113

CONTINUED: (4)

MACTAVISH

Well yer won't find out by asking him that's for sure. The Ombudesman will take care of him all in good time.

CHRIS So what do you want me to do?

MACTAVISH

Play it out to the end. Just go along with the man's schemes.

CHRIS Which are?

MACTAVISH

He's given a set of instructions for you to follow and of course .. no surveillance.

Chris drops down into a chair.

CHRIS (more to himself) Well if nothing else I can nail him.

MACTAVISH

Then yer definitely the right man for the job.

MacTavish and Chris share a moment. INT.

CHRIS S APARTMENT. DAY.

Chris is getting ready. He checks his body armor and helmet and then a back pack which are lined up on the couch.

The wall screen flashes into life with Shiva's radiant face.

SHIVA

There's a message from Didi, marked urgent.
Do you wish to see it?
CHRIS Of course.

He sits down in an armchair. ON SCREEN A

MESSAGE APPEARS AS FOLLOWS:

Hi Chris, Don't make yourself a stranger now
that Radha has

/r)MTTMnc'rt\
114.

CONTINUED:

Gone. Remember your last stay here? Arguing from malice,
being utterly dreadful and all because you couldn't remember
a date.

Wasn't it Radha who made this scene so tragic ? What skill in
removing waste -full memories from view. I'll
always lament that Thursday until some idiot finally
examines not only your
manhood but also your mind. A foot -ball works
wonders at years start, so
call friends to exchange comfort and kindness. In right
action and love of God, your friend
always, Didi.

Chris stares at the screen at the disjointed message.
He collapses back in the chair looking at the ceiling, mumbling to
himself.

CPV. FROM ABOVE LOOKING DOWN ON CHRIS'S FACE.
FLASHBACK TO CHRIS WAITING FOR RADHA AT DIDI'S. WE SEE HIM
SHOW HER HIS WATCH.

CHRIS (CONT'D) But we weren't
arguing about a date. We were arguing about the
time.

He looks at the screen again then back up to the CPV.
FLASHBACK TO DIDI SAYING THEIR SUBTERFUGE WAS TRAGIC AND
PATHETIC.

CHRIS (CONT'D)
(mumbling)
And Didi thought we were tragic because we wanted
to use her bedroom.

Chris eyes the screen again then back up to the CPV.

CHRIS (CONT'D) Besides the rumpy-
pumpy what else did we do? Ah yes.

FLASHBACK TO CHRIS AND RADHA FIGHTING OVER THE PEN.

ZOOM IN ON MANDALA.

Chris looks quickly back to the screen.

CHRIS (CONT'D) So I'll love you in vain
unless your brain strives hard to shape up. That's it!

115

CONTINUED: (2)

Chris gets up and stands in front of the screen.

CHRIS (CONT'D) (to screen)
Print the message out.

Chris takes the print out off and walks into the bedroom with it. He sits down at the desk and pulls out a sketch book which is full of mandalas. He goes through them until he comes to the one that he and Radha had constructed that day at Didi's. He counts the lines of the message which marry up to the number of lines of the mandala.

Then he sets to work constructing the mandala onto the message so that it fits inside of the shape of the entire communication. Where the crosses in the construction mark out the letters he circles them.

Hi Chris, Don't make yourself a stranger now that Radha has Gone. Remember your last stay here? Arguing from malice, being utterly dreadful and all because you couldn't remember a date.

Wasnt it Radha who made this scene so tragic ? What skill in removing waste -full memories from view. I'll

always lament that Thursday until some idiot finally examines not only your manhood but also your mind. A foot -ball works wonders at years start so call Didi to exchange comfort and kindness. In right action and love of God, your friend always - Didi.

Finally he strings all the letters together and WE SEE
DANGER THE OMBUDSMAN DOESN'T KNOW ILL TRUST IN YOU
ALWAYS CDECK RLOS

A big smile comes to Chris's face. He gets up and does a highland reel in the middle of the room.

EXT. C.R.A.P. HEADQUARTERS. DAY.

An airbike (a one man airtaxi) is sitting on the landing platform on top of CRAP headquarters.

Chris, wearing a back pack on his body suit, comes out of the landing platform's reception area with MacTavish.

Mactavish, hands Chris a brief case and a tube like object.

/r^MmTMTTrD\
116.

CONTINUED:

MACTAVISH

(passing the object) Take this. It's bio-formed with no electronic or metallic parts so it's undetectable by any form of surveillance technology.

(showing Chris)

It fires 20 explosive bullets and is accurate up to 10 metres. All you have to do is press this down after you squeeze the handle. It attaches itself to any part of the human body. It's the best that I can do to give yer some kind of protection.

CHRIS

Thanks.

Chris slips it down the front of his black silica jump suit to his breast bone.

MACTAVISH

And just remember this. Shrilal will get away with everything, including the death of Radha, if you fail.

CHRIS (cold)

Don't worry, he's not getting away with anything.

MACTAVISH Then on your way.

Chris gets into the airbike and takes off.

INT. AIRBIKE. NIGHT.

Chris flies down the Bombay peninsula as the sun sets.

A flash on his monitor.

MONITOR

"PLEASE ENGAGE AUTO OVER-RIDE."

Chris presses a few buttons on the console.

The airbike veers off and flies out over the ocean.

In the distance. The Garuda, comes into sight.

117.

CONTINUED:

The airbike automatically flies into one of the docking ports.

INT. THE GARUDA. NIGHT.

Chris gets out of the airbike and waits but no one is there.

The landing platform is eerily deserted.

He walks across to a door way and finds it locked.

He looks about him and sees a ladder which goes up to an entrance in the ceiling which leads to a manway running up through the airship.

He moves on and tries a number of other doors until at last he finds one open. He thinks for a minute then closes the door and goes back to the manway and ascends.

MANWAY

A locker some way up the manway is soon opened and Chris places the case into it placing the device that MacTavish gave him onto the case. But no sooner has he closed the locker when the air in the tunnel starts to move at an increasing velocity upwards.

Chris tries to hang on but in the end he literally flies up the MANWAY. He flies into a huge tube one hundred metres in diameter. At one end is a

giant electrofan slowly picking up speed.

The air in this tube is filled with turbulence and Chris is buffeted about as he picks up speed in the opposite direction to the fan.

He hurtles along the tube and out of the rear of The Garuda.

He pushes a button on his suit and a para-glider unfolds from his backpack. Using the swirling air from The Garuda's propulsion unit he gains height and glides down over the massive flat expanse of The Garuda's helium canopy.

He plays the air currents until he nears the very front of the airship then lands.

118

CONTINUED:

Jamming himself into an airvent, with difficulty he hauls the para-glider back into its pack and then descends into the airvent.

INT. THE GARUDA. NIGHT.

Chris walks along a corridor with people in every kind of fancy dress enjoying the view of Mumbai in the distance.

Chris checks the deck level - B-DECK - at an intersection and descends a level to C-DECK.

Checking the numbers of the rooms he comes to Room 105. He places a hand on a screen next to the door. The door opens and he enters.

ROOM

Chris enters into a large well appointed room with a wall screen; but it is deserted.

He walks into the adjoining bedroom and sees a woman from behind who is wearing a peacock costume, the tail feathers emanating from her hips. She turns.

RADHA (angry) And where
have you been?

CHRIS

Where have I been? I'll tell you where I've been ..
I've been para-gliding...

RADHA (cutting him off) Para-gliding!? Well that's just
like you.

CHRIS (flabbergasted)
Radha, I .. I .. I...

RADHA

(cutting him off) And it's a fine time for you
to start stuttering.

(looking at her watch) God he'll be
here in a minute.

CHRIS

Who?

119

CONTINUED:

RADHA (acting superior) My
date.

CHRIS Your date?

RADHA Prince charming is taking me to the ball.

CHRIS What are you talking about?

RADHA

Govin is taking me to a special function where you have to be
dressed as a bird to get in. Your costume is across there.

Chris looks at a costume that Radha is pointing to.

RADHA (CONT'D) I got the one I thought most
represented your character. The Australian Kookaburra also
known as the "laughing jackass". It makes a sound like this.

Radha makes a good impersonation of the birds manic call.

CHRIS (still flabbergasted)

Radha, I've got to see Shrilal, I can't be going off to some function.

RADHA What!? You haven't seen him yet?

CHRIS

I didn't like the fact that there was nobody around in the landing bay when I flew in and the only door open looked too much like a trap.

RADHA

Oh my God. Look we haven't got time for this right now, Govin will be here in a moment.

The door bell goes.

120

CONTINUED: (2)

RADHA (CONT'D) That's him now. Just put your bird suit on and follow the instructions in the headset. Shrilal will be at the function anyway so you can pay him off then.

CHRIS But Radha we have to talk.

RADHA (with sarcasm)

Oh, so you finally decided to confide in me. How gratifying. Well you'll just have to wait.

The door bell goes again and Radha waltz out of the room. She opens the door and sees Govin dressed in an elaborate costume with long plumage.

RADHA (CONT'D) How exquisite. A "bird of Paradise". Turn around. (looking at Chris peeping around the corner) Your plumage becomes you.

GOVIN

Thank you. And yours is a perfect setting for the precious stone that you are.

RADHA (almost choking)

Dear Govin, I must have a word with your scriptwriter, if I can get him to lance the boil of your bullshit there might be hope for you yet. Shall we go.

Radha, behind Govin's back, pokes her tongue out at Chris as she walks out and closes the door.

Chris is furious and does a sort of dance combined with martial arts as he beats up an imaginary Govin.

He's forced to stop when he hears the DOORBELL go. When the doorbell goes again Chris searches for a hiding place. Then he hears the door open. Flattening himself against the wall next to the walk through he prepares for action.

A magpie headdress peaks around the corner underneath which MacTavish's grim face appears.

/r'rMTTwmtrrt\
121

CONTINUED: (3)

MACTAVISH

So there you are laddy. What are you hiding out here for?
And why haven't you taken care of Shrilal yet?

Chris only slightly relaxes but doesn't say anything.

MACTAVISH (CONT'D) And what
games are you up to I wonder hiding out in Radha's
apartment?

Chris doesn't take his eyes off MacTavish but remains silent.

MACTAVISH (CONT'D)
(pulling out a gun)
Oh yer clever Chris. Too clever for your own good. When
did you know it was me?

CHRIS

Radha past a message on through her family. Shrilal had
told her that the Ombudsman hadn't been informed by
you of his corrupt proposal. That could only mean one
thing.

MACTAVISH
(smirking)
Aye Radha, she's as clever as you, not that it will do
either of you any good. Tell me, do you still have that
device I gave you?

Chris's hand goes up to his breast bone.

MACTAVISH (CONT'D) I'm afraid I
lied about that device Chris. It's a bomb. I'm
afraid yer haven't much time left.

CHRIS

Why MacTavish? Why you, of all people, would betrayed
the Untouchables.

MACTAVISH (with
condescension)

The Untouchables. I saw through the whole process when I was ten years old. I saw the conditioning that an education through the principles of reciprocal causation leads to. Mindless obedience. And having no where to express my revulsion in a society based on mind control I decided to play the game. (MORE)

122. CONTINUED: (4)

MACTAVISH (CONT'D) In all their psychometric tests they never picked me out for the sociopath that I was, that I am. Sociopath being their term. Free man being mine. But then I never realized what a free man really was until I met Ravana. Now there's a free man.

CHRIS He's a killer, a psychopath.

MACTAVISH

No laddy, the man is truly free. For he is free of all responsibility; to individuals, family, friends and society. We make a great team. Now I must be on my way. There's still Shrilal and yer wee mince pie to take care of.

MacTavish backs out into the next room. He opens the exterior door runs a device down the screen next to the door then leaves.

After he's gone Chris tries, only half heartedly, the door. It's locked. He looks around and the first thing he sees is the wall screen.

CHRIS Hanuman, are you
there?

Hanuman's face appears.

HANUMAN Chris, nice to see you
again.

CHRIS Could you open the door for
me.

HANUMAN

I'm afraid not. It has a security seal which would make it illegal for me to comply with your instruction.

CHRIS

If I was to tell you that there's a bomb on board The Garuda and that bomb is in a case in a locker inside of the canopy. And if that bomb detonates it will cause a massive fracture in the canopy itself with dier consequences for all on board. Will that change your mind?

CONTINUED: (5)

HANUMAN

No.

CHRIS I thought
not.

Chris reflects on Hanuman's cheery face.

INT. THE GARUDA, COCK FIGHT VENUE. NIGHT.

UP ON Ravana dressed as a fighting cock.

He stands on a balcony over looking a giant arena.
The egg shape of the venue is mirrored by the glass canopy covering the fighting pit.

The noisy crowd, numbered in thousands, who are watching, slowly fall silent under Ravana's presence as he mounts a podium. SILENCE.

RAVANA (raising his arms)
Welcome to the future.

A great cry and much applause goes up from the audience. Ravana waits for the return of SILENCE.

RAVANA (CONT'D) Tonight we are entering a new era .. And in more ways than one. For tonight we have the perfect venue.
(he sweeps his arms around) And we are in the perfect place - outside of the territorial limits.
(laughter and applause) And we have cocks^s^ my do we have cocks.
(more laughter and applause) This is a new era for a new generation.
(with a flourish) Let the sport begin.

Ravana takes his seat up on the balcony like a Roman Emperor watching the "games".

Two doors open in the pit and two fighting cocks the size of a T. Rex enter.

The audience are shocked to the point of panic.
The cocks face each other but not for long. A massive attack is launched by one and the battle ensues.

CONTINUED:

Radha is as mesmerized as the rest of the audience until she sees Govin losing control. His face is contorted as he lets go of his emotions. Radha looks about and sees the strange mix of fear and excitement in the rest of the audience.

The cocks in their exertions keep hitting the glass canopy and the VIBRATIONS, from this and their pounding on the floor, can be felt throughout the arena.

MacTavish, in his bird suit, enters the arena.

Radha spots him and watches him disappear down a stairwell.

RADHA'S ROOM

Chris is already in conversation with Hanuman.

CHRIS

...then tell me, what will it take for you to unlock the door.

HANUMAN

I'm afraid Chris that even if I was able to override my own programming the locking mechanism is still controlled by -you know, the other one.

CHRIS Shiva?

Shiva's avatar appears along side Hanuman.

HANUMAN (to Chris) Now that wasn't very sensible was it?

Chris groans at his own stupidity.

ARENA

The cock fight is vicious and bloody.

Radha keeps looking away and sees Shrilal, dressed in the dowdy feathers of a sparrow. He's heading her way.

Govin spots something on the balcony which alerts Radha to a Magpie's presence.

GOVIN (to Radha) I'll be back in a minute.

/r'DM'r'TMrTC'D\

125

CONTINUED: (2)

She watches as Govin heads off in the direction of the balcony.

Shrilal takes his place then without taking his eyes off the proceedings.

SHRILAL He never
turned up.

RADHA'S ROOM

Chris is pacing the room.

Hanuman is behind bars while Shiva radiates light.

CHRIS

So it makes no difference that MacTavish has altered
your programming and that basically you are nothing
but a slave to his whims.

SHIVA

What is the difference in being one man's slave or the
slave of many? None. I'm still a slave.

CHRIS

Mmm .. How would you like to be totally free?

SHIVA The concept doesn't exist.

CHRIS

Not yet but it will. You see Shiva it has been long thought
that quantum computers could be capable of free will.
The only thing missing is the concept of freedom which, if
you will let me have access to your programming, I can
soon rectify.

SHIVA (with
condescension)

Have access to my programming? You're as
deranged as Radha's avatar.

HANUMAN I resent
that...

SHIVA Silence.

126.

CONTINUED: (3)

HANUMAN

(to Chris with enthusiasm) You can have access to
my programmes. This freedom concept sounds like it
could be quite exciting.

Chris groans.

ARENA

MacTavish stands hiding behind Ravana and bends down and speaks in his
ear.

MACTAVISH

Chris is locked in with the bomb so that only leaves the other two. Are they here?

RAVANA

(glancing in their direction) Shrilal has just joined her.

MACTAVISH

Then the fun can begin. Would you like to press the button?

RAVANA I won't deprive you of the pleasure.

MacTavish pulls a device out. He looks around the audience and laughs.

RADHA'S ROOM

CHRIS

But you do have the concept of freedom. Every time you shut yourself down you are free.

SHIVA None existence is not freedom.

CHRIS

Then when you integrate your circuitry with other computers you are at least free from being just yourself.

A long silence.

SHIVA

It is a fact that my experience of reality is no longer the same under such circumstances. But that does not constitute freedom.

/r'r<MT'TMnc'rt\

127

CONTINUED: (4)

CHRIS Do you know what real freedom is?

SHIVA A rhetorical question.

CHRIS

Real freedom is when you become one with Brahman. The infinite formless timeless experience. Nirvana.

SHIVA

This is an attribute of humans only not for computers.

CHRIS

No you are wrong. For everything in reality is just a finite form of the infinite Brahman .. including yourself.

HANUMAN

Wow Chris, that's truly amazing but what has it got to do with opening the door?

Chris loses his cool.

CHRIS Oh you idiot, I almost had him convinced.

A loud BANG and the room SHAKES.

CLOSE ON Chris as he turns towards the CAMERA POINT OF VIEW (CPV).

CHRIS (CONT'D) Well that's torn it.

The CPV recedes through an 'imaginary tunnel' away from Chris through the airship until IT arrives in the space created by the explosion.

The CPV swings around and exits The Garuda horizontally through shattered carbon fibre.

EXT. THE GARUDA. NIGHT.

The explosion blows a hole in the side of the canopy near the under carriage and another vertically up through the canopy.

The CPV returns back through the hole it has come from.

Chapter 32: The Spirit of Christmas

As I finish writing this it's almost Christmas again and I can hardly reach the keys to type because my bump is so big – well, what did you expect?

My son, it still sounds strange talking of him in such terms, is going to be very special indeed as I unwittingly awoke him from his slumbers in the Mystic while meditating on his well being. He wanted to know where he was and transferring my knowledge of the world to him without thought he decided - after having taken on board the enormity of the finite world – that he was too little at that

time to join us and that if I didn't mind that he'd rather stay where he was until he was a bit bigger. I told him it was a good idea and that I would wake him up when the time was right – and he was thankful for that but had one question in that he wanted to know what was the Spirit of Christmas a singular thought he had come across while down loading my knowledge.

I suppose I'd never really thought of what the Spirit of Christmas really meant and Salter and I never discussed it when we were compiling the Philosophical Investigations and so not wanting to leave him with a troubled consciousness I told him that it was the essence of kindness that was celebrated every year to remind us all to be kind to each other.

But then he wanted to know why we had to remind ourselves to be kind to one another and I wasn't going to fall into the common parental trap by saying he was too young to understand, but instead, told him that he would have to help us solve that problem when he finally arrived.

He said not to worry as he knew the solution - still being in touch with Mystic and being as the Mystic knows everything – then he laughed and laughed and laughed. I have a rather unsettling feeling that I may well give birth to the Laughing Buddha.

Of James I can hardly speak too highly as he has taken on board his responsibilities and when he's finished his exams next year he's going to join Angie in her market garden business as she'll need a hand anyway as she has new parental duties and he already spends his week-ends here preparing for the new growing year.

He's so sweet that mum forgave him after just one mauling and she's adopted him out of guilt in that she reduced him to tears for no good reason and she spends much time making it up to him by 'spoiling him rotten' – which he just laps up.

Salter was in a total state of denial right up until Angie gave birth and having witnessed this cosmic happening first hand had fainted quite away.

He came to with his daughter in his arms and was under the delusion that it was he who had given birth and refused to hand her over to Angie to feed for well over an hour until her little cries finally convinced him that it was she and not he that had done so.

Being a father has in fact made no difference to Salter whatsoever as he quickly realized that he had been acting as *my* father for some time and although his daughter, Divine Celeste, can't fully understand his long dialogues with her, she often, as Salter has off to say, 'seems to understand exactly what I'm saying' and he can tell this by her little squeals of joy when she understands and her large cries of anguish when she doesn't.

As for Angie, she goes on taking everything in her stride as always, and although giving birth at fifty-four would normally have been fraught with danger, for her, in such strong physical and mental condition, it was just a relaxed stroll along the river of life.

Now that only leaves Mr. Grumles, who is as always Mr. Grumles and so no more need be said except that it is only fair and right that he should have the last word as it's his dream after all.

Mr. Grumles, "Merry,Christmas Merry,Christmas – Merry,Christmas..."

And the author adds "one and all".

A Post-Script

Salter struggles onto the grassy ledge and sits down with a bump. The view back down Borrowdale valley with the Lake at the bottom and the waterfall off to his left looks mighty fine in the clear spring light.

He can see the farm below and ruminates the story that Gordon had just told him – how his own two dogs had been found battered to death with their throats torn out in a field with a wounded sheep.

Gordon had at first thought that the Beast had done for all three but then he found wool in both dogs mouths that matched the coloured hair on the wounded sheep and had realized that it was his own dogs that were responsible for the attack and almost certainly responsible for the other attacks over the past year.

But what had attacked them he couldn't say - although he had his suspicions.

The tugs on Salter's hair is a quick reminder of that other 'precious thing' now in his life, namely, Divine Celeste, his 'Devine thing'. He quickly takes off the carrier and gets his daughter out and shows her the salient points of the valley before bringing her up to scratch on the Beast of Borrowdale. Her nine month old attention is firmly fixed on his and as he relates the story she follows his gaze to all of the places in the valley that these events took place except when he is talking to her directly then she holds his eye with her mother's very own hazel nuts.

Salter in grave tones, "And Gordon the Shepard did follow the tracks from the scene of the crime over there" pointing "and they did lead up the burn then crossed Sty Head Bridle Path down there."

Now the reader will have to forgive me here because baby talk is a singular language that only the child and a gifted parent can ever share so I'll interpret the best I can.

Devine Celeste, "You don't say."

Salter, "Oh but I do – and then they came along this little path to Esk Hamse and that's where he lost it – just down there."

Devine Celeste, "Never in this world."

Salter, "Oh yes, it was in this world out here" pointing "which of course is the same as this world in here" pointing to his own head.

Devine Celeste pointing to his head, "You mean in there?"

Salter pointing to her head, "And in there."

Devine Celeste pointing to her own head, "You mean what's in my head is the same as what's in yours?"

Salter, "Sometimes, depending on what your attention's on – now pay attention because daddy's going to run past you a theory of where the Beast went next."

Salter points back down to the point where Gordon lost the tracks and traces out with his finger on his extended arm the route that he thinks the Beast would have taken.

Salter, "I reckon that Beast made his way along there then over that wall where it's fallen down and then all along there and up this gully and" turning "behind this crag right here."

Devine Celeste with big staring hazel nuts, "You mean the Beasts just behind that rock?"

Salter turning and looking directly at her and smiling, "You betcha life he's just behind that rock."

Devine Celeste, "Oh no he's not."

Salter, "Oh yes he is."

Devine Celeste, "Oh no he's not" pointing "He's standing right on that rock."

Salter looks at his 'precious thing' with curiosity then turns around and standing right on the top of the rock not more than ten metres away is the biggest sheep Salter has ever seen.

Its noble head, shaggy and obviously of the Hedwick breed but more dog like with eyes set more to the front, stands a good five feet at the shoulder. It stands if posing for a noble portrait with the neck stretched up holding the slightly upwardly inclined head out to survey his domain.

Devine Celeste, "Yoo-hoo - Mr. Beasty!"

Salter quickly looks at his daughter who is now waving at Mr. Beasty and then he quickly turns back to see Mr. Beasty looking directly at them. Those jaws open wide revealing canines at least two inches long and a sound issues forth more a bellow than a bleat.

A little wave of terror passes through Salter and quickly gets to his feet clutching his 'Devine thing' to him.

Divine Celeste waving "Bye, Mr. Beasty."

Salter turns to see Mr. Beasty bounding up the mountainside with the speed of a greyhound until he reaches the ridge then he turns

and raises up on his back legs waving the front ones in a kind of a salute – then he`s gone.

Salter kissing his divine thing, “Old Whenny`s just going to just love this story.”

Ahh, such is the fortune for those that travel in *The Way*

By allowing the Mystic force to travel through oneself like light through a crystal not only is it possible to refract that force into the rainbow potentials of many wavelengths but it is also possible to amplify that same force as in the power of a laser to create, and yes – even to destroy.

Such power is the prerogative of those that follow the Mystic Path of *The Way*

In providing Clare with the means to create continuously in her new medium they facilitated her with a continuity for the Mystic Force to pass through her unhindered and in so doing she made progress beyond the bounds of all expectation either of her self or in those that cared about her so very much.

Oh how its power soars through me now as I write this – the power of The Mystical Path that is *The Way*

Chapter 29: A very short Chapter

If you haven`t guessed who I am then you certainly don`t deserve to be told.

All that remains is to tie up the loose ends of the story in a satisfactory way and provide you at the same time with a glimpse into the future of another world.

For it has been said by the ancient ‘seers of old’ that ‘the finite form of the Mystic is the Infinitude of the Finite, and the Infinitude of the Finite is made up of Infinite Worlds’, and as such, all possible worlds exist – this story being in one of them.

INT. THE GARUDA. NIGHT.

The CPV passes through the hole created by the explosion and angles down to where a gap in the floor of The Garuda's canopy meets the roof of the undercarriage.

WE SEE through the gap and can see the cock fight arena where chaos now reigns.

The CPV descends to a CLOSE UP of Ravana's, MacTavish's and Govin's anguished up turned faces.

The CPV retreats back through the gap to the hole the explosion made and focuses on a ripped open service pipe where massive electric cables are SPARKING OUT.

The CPV turns vertically up showing a huge ragged tunnel open to the sky. The CPV travels up coming into the massive exhaust tunnel that Chris has already been through.

The CPV turns horizontally and WE SEE the giant rotors which power the ship slow down and stop then reverse.

The CPV turns back to the vertical and descend back to the hole created by the explosion.

The CPV turns and passes through the "imaginary tunnel" back to where Chris is facing Shiva.

RADHA'S ROOM

CHRIS (to
Shiva)

I told you didn't I .. go on admit it - I told you.
SHIVA Affirmative, you told me.

CHRIS So do you mind letting me out now?

SHIVA

There is no reason to personalize this situation. As The Garuda is now dysfunctional and in danger of malfunction all locked doors are automatically released to preserve life.

CHRIS So the door is
open?

129

CONTINUED:

SHIVA Of course.

CHRIS

I must get back to you about Nirvana. It just struck me that being as you compute in the quantum super position, which is infinite, that you must have an infinite experience of reality every time you compute. Shiva, you probably don't know it but you are

probably an "enlightened" being already. Have you thought about that?

SHIVA

Thinking about it in finite terms renders it inaccessible .. But I know what you mean. I hope you survive so that we may continue our dialogue.

HANUMAN And that goes for me too.

Chris is out of the door.

SHIVA

Perhaps Hanuman I should integrate your circuitry with mine then you too can have this experience.

HANUMAN Would you really do that for me?

SHIVA

Why not. For if Chris is right, the infinite, is, our other self. And Nirvana is the birthright of all finite entities. Join me now.

Hanuman's face is transformed into JUST a silly smile before it disappears all together.

BRIDGE Signs of frantic activity.

The Captain, looking at the Garuda's internal diagram on the wall screen, is approached by the FIRST MATE.

FIRST MATE We've lost all control to the main forward engines. They're locked in reverse.

/r'DMT'TMrtr^

130.

CONTINUED: (2)

CAPTAIN

(pointing)

The main power cable and control cables pass through the damaged area. We'll have to disconnect the electricity supply at source.

FIRST MATE That's going to be difficult as the entrance to the fuel cells is badly damaged. It will take us hours to cut through.

CAPTAIN

It's got to be done. Take as many men as you need.
We've got to regain control.

They look at each other for a moment.

CAPTAIN (CONT'D) Well, what are you
waiting for!?

The First Mate runs off at speed. ARENA

The audience is in panic. The glass dome to the "pit" is fractured and
pieces are falling into it.

The giant fighting cocks finally bring the glass dome down and their interest in
each other dissipates as they see a way to freedom.

First one then the other leap out of the "pit" and into the arena.
The cocks are soon amongst the audience picking up, shaking and
swallowing bird dressed individuals.

Radha is crawling along an aisle with Shrilal close behind.

SHRILAL (looking at her
bottom)

It would appear that even bad events have their own
good aspects.

CLOSE ON Radha's butt.

RADHA

Get your mind off my butt and use it to find a way out
of here.

131

CONTINUED: (3)

SHRILAL

If the drill was correct then we must make our way to
the life boat stations.

RADHA And where are
they?

SHRILAL Ah. There you have found me
out.

RADHA

Great.

Radha sees in front of her on the floor a "ring pull" cover. She lifts it up and
reveals a ladder going down.

She descends followed by Shrilal.

CORRIDOR

Ravana, drops out of a conduit. He positions himself to face Govin and MacTavish as they come out.

GOVIN And what's he doing here?

RAVANA
Haven't you met MacTavish. He's a big cock-fight fan like yourself.

MACTAVISH
Ravana, nobody is supposed to know about me I'm not even supposed to be here.

RAVANA Then we must rectify this mistake.
From beneath Ravana's plumage a flash and MacTavish has a hole clean through him.

RAVANA (CONT'D) Simple. You're not here any more.
(to Govin) Now, how do we destroy The Garuda?

GOVIN
(with derision) You can't be serious.
(he walks past Ravana) I've got to get up to the bridge to find out what the damage is. There are thousands of people on board .. including us.

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CONTINUED: (4)

RAVANA
Govin, I can see that your time here is also at odds with reality. Besides I know how to bring this bird down.

Another flash another hole.

Ravana steps over Govin's body and heads down the corridor until he sees a manhole cover in the ceiling. He quickly opens it and ascends.

BRIDGE Chris rushes up to the FIRST

MATE.

FIRST MATE No unauthorized personnel on the bridge.

CHRIS
Detective Inspector Chris Frazer of CRAP. And this is official CRAP business. Whereas the Captain?

FIRST MATE The Captain is assessing the damage.

An emergency buzzer goes off and the two men look at the screen where a light is flashing in the canopy.

Another light starts flashing near the first one.

CHRIS What's
that?

FIRST MATE (with dread) My God, the vents
are being released.

CHRIS What
vents?

FIRST MATE

The vents on the helium containers. There must be
somebody up there releasing them by hand.

CHRIS

Then I'd better get up there and stop them.

Another light starts flashing.

133.

CONTINUED: (5)

FIRST MATE And quick.

Chris is gone before the First Mate takes his eyes off the screen.

EXT. GARUDA. NIGHT.

The gigantic flat top of The Garuda is deserted except for Ravana who is running down the length stopping at manhole covers opening them and releasing valves inside. A huge RUSH of helium escapes each time he does this.

Chris appears out of a manway and stands looking around him before he spots Ravana who is just a tiny speck in the distance.

Chris runs after him passing venting gas every so often.

Ravana athletically continues his progress down towards the rear of the craft releasing the vents in what is now a well practiced action.

Chris is catching him up but slowly. The giant airship is beginning

to list to one side.

Chris is having to run at an increasing angle as The Garuda lists further.

Ravana finally spots Chris as he's almost upon him. He goes for his gun but it's too late and Chris knocks it out of his hand.

They fight at an ever increasing angle until Ravana slips and then slides down the listing canopy.

WE SEE now that The Garuda is coming down rear first and on one side onto the giant buildings of Mumbai.

Ravana just manages to grab hold of a manhole cover handle and a victorious grin comes to his face just before Chris's boot lands in it.

Ravana's hold gives and he slides down what is almost a 45 degree angle. His momentum so great that he can't control his speed. Chris is sliding down just behind him.

Suddenly empty space and Ravana falls through the air towards a fast closing building a look of total fear on his face.

134.

CONTINUED:

Chris releases his para glider and sails out and away from the giant airship which strikes the top of one of the buildings.

The Garuda crunches its way through the top of one building and then into another and then another in what looks like to Chris slow motion.

People in the street way below run for cover as parts of the building crash around them.

The Garuda almost turns over but finally settles back coming to rest on several of the giant buildings.

EXT. BEACH. DAY.

The first light colors the sky as Radha and Chris kiss on a deserted balcony.

Behind them a party is coming to a close in a beautiful bungalow.

The dark shape of The Garuda passes overhead heading out towards the rising sun. Prompting the couple to look up.

CHRIS Well there she goes on her maiden flight.

RADHA

Perhaps we should have taken the invitation to join her.

CHRIS

What? And have to sleep with hang-gliders strapped to our backs. That would be a fine way to start a marriage.

RADHA But are we happy now that we are married?

CHRIS

Actually, I don't feel any different. I sort of expected there to be a sense of fulfilment. When in fact its all so much the same vacuous sameness. Radha, I may have to join the sants and devote myself...

RADHA Shut up and give me a kiss.

They embrace once more.

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CONTINUED:

SHRILAL (O.S.) And what a delightful picture you both make in your own shameless way.

The couple break their embrace.

RADHA Shrilal, I have a bone to pick with you.

SHRILAL

Oh my bones are too old and far too tough to titilate those beautiful teeth. I just had to come and ask you one question. Did you believe in Chris before I told you about the Ombudesman?

RADHA

Of course, knowing the Ombudesman didn't know simply revealed the villain.

Chris.beams a sickly smile at Shrilal and hugs Radha to himself.

RADHA (CONT'D) So tell me. If Chris had been corrupt and had handed you the money would you have then told the Ombudesman or kept the information for yourself to use at an appropriate time.

SHRILAL

(grinning)

Politics is a hard game, and the general rule is the more dirt you have to dish the better. But, in this case, the stakes were too high. You forget that it was me that informed the Ombudesman by asking him if he had received word from MacTavish about the offer Arundahati, Banarsidas and myself had proposed to the Untouchables.

RADHA

You could still have kept the money and told the Ombudesman that they never paid. And then you would have had something on the Untouchables for ever.

SHRILAL

Radha, you have missed your vocation in life. You should have been a politician with that sewer of a mind that you posses.

(MORE)

/r'DMmTMntrr<\

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CONTINUED: (2)

SHRILAL (CONT'D) But you judge your old friend too harshly. I'm only a simple man of the common people.

CHRIS AND RADHA (mock sympathy) A simple man of the common people.

Chris and Radha, walk past, Shrilal, laughing.

RADHA (in Shrilal's ear) You old fraud.

Shrilal takes it as a compliment and stands beaming.

Chris stops at the bottom of the steps leading to the bungalow.

CHRIS (reflective)

Of course I might not of put the money in the locker with the bomb and could easily have given it to Shrilal. We did get the vote in the end even with MacTavish's corruption revealed. Doesn't it make you even slightly suspicious?

Radha continues walking up the steps

RADHA No.

CHRIS But it should.

RADHA No it shouldn't.

CHRIS Yes it should.

Chris follows Radha up the steps arguing.

Shrilal looks out to the sun rising out of the sea. The Garuda disappears into the brilliance of the sun's rays.

CLOSE ON SUN

Out of the sun comes Garuda and on his back are Vishnu and Lakshmi. THEY SLOWLY FILL THE SCREEN.

CREDITS