

MINOTAURUS

Patrick Craddock

A modern reworking of the Greek Minotaur Legend

Characters:

DAVID - European male. Late 20s

FRIENDS - male/female

ARTHUR - European male. Middle aged

POLICE OFFICERS - male/female

JUDGE - male/female

HOSTESS - young woman

ALICE - European female, middle aged

JASMINE - European female. Young

AMINA - European female. Teens.

MINO - child

BIMAD - Indian male, middle aged.

SHAKUNTALA - Indian woman, middle aged

AYAH - elderly Indian woman

NURSE - male/female

DONNA - female

TRAVEL AGENT - male/female

MAN ONE - male

HINDU PRIEST - male

PRIEST - male/female

1

EXT.DAY.HOUSE OF BIMAD.DELHI.INDIA

1

BIMAD and SHAKUNTALA, both Indian, are sitting at a small table drinking tea.

SHAKUNTALA

I'm having a big doubt now.

BIMAD

We can call it off. I've said so many times. I'll cancel our air tickets.

SHAKUNTALA

Each time we come to this point, Bimad, I think of my mother. I wish Ma was here to talk with me.

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BIMAD
What would she say?

SHAKUNTALA sobs.

SHAKUNTALA
The dead don't speak?

BIMAD
She did. Her death did.

SHAKUNTALA
Suicide. I was only a child. Oh,
Ma, Ma.

She continues to sob.

BIMAD
Shakuntala. My dear.

2 **INT. DAY. HOME. ENGLAND** 2
ALICE and AMINA are drinking tea.

ALICE
It's Dorothy's birthday tomorrow.
I'm collecting her favourite
flowers. We'll go together.

AMINA
I miss her so much, Ma.

3 **INT. NIGHT. HOUSE OF BIMAD .DELHI. INDIA** 3
SHAKUNTALA finishes writing a letter on mauve decorated
paper. She puts it in an envelope of the same colour, writes
the address and places it with a small pile of similar
looking letters, all sealed in envelopes. She calls out.

SHAKUNTALA
Badi ma?

AYAH, an elderly Indian woman enters.

SHAKUNTALA
Bimad and I are leaving tomorrow.
I want you to post these letters.
One every month. On the same day.

SHAKUNTALA points to the pile of letters.

4 **INT. NIGHT. A HOTEL BAR. ENGLAND** 4
DAVID, a European male in his late 20s is in a bar drinking
with friends. He is drunk and happy.

FRIEND
David. Your Dad's outside, going
crazy. Talking, waving his arms.
He's shouting for you.

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DAVID
Shit. Ok.

DAVID goes outside. His father, ARTHUR is in his car and extremely agitated.

ARTHUR
It's Amina. Some bastard got to her.

DAVID
What you talking about, Dad!

ARTHUR
Amina, Amina!

DAVID
Yeah. Yeah. What's happened?

ARTHUR
Your sister's been got at. The bastard.

DAVID
What you saying...got at? Where is she?

ARTHUR
At home. Get in the car. You drive. We'll get him. We'll catch him. Quick.

DAVID
Dad, I've been drinking. I'm pissed. I can't drive.

ARTHUR
Fuck it. I don't care. We've got to get him. Get in and drive.

DAVID gets into the car.

DAVID
Where to?

ARTHUR
He ran down this road. Start driving. We'll get him?

DAVID
What the hell's happening, Dad?

ARTHUR
Don't piss about, just drive. Go.

DAVID starts driving.

DAVID
This way?

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ARTHUR
Yes, Faster, faster.

He drives faster.

DAVID
Ok, ok. What does the guy look like?

ARTHUR
I only saw his back. Young guy.
Long hair. Wearing jeans. Faster.

ARTHUR tries to grasp the steering wheel and there is a minor tussle between DAVID and his father.

DAVID
Fuck Dad. Stop. We'll crash. The guy. Describe him. What...

ARTHUR
..faster, David. We'll never get him at this pace.

DAVID
I'm trying Dad. Jesus, Dad. Let me drive.

A vehicle approaches them. There is a loud crash.

5 **INT.NIGHT.BIMAD HOUSE IN DELHI**
SHAKUNTALA is writing at a desk.

5

BIMAD
We both need a good sleep before our flight to London.

SHAKUNTALA
Five minutes, more.

6 **EXT.NIGHT.OUTSIDE HOUSE OF DAVID**
A police car stops. Two police officers walk to the door and ring the door bell. The door is opened by ALICE. She asks them in and then suddenly collapses to the floor. A police officer helps her. AMINA, a teenage girl emerges from her bedroom. She is bedraggled, upset and crying. She kneels down beside ALICE, her mother.

6

7 **INT.DAY.INSIDE AN AEROPLANE**
BIMAD and SHAKUNTALA have just finished a meal and are talking.

7

SHAKUNTALA
Bimad, He will be punished.

8

EXT. DAY. CEMETERY

8

ARTHUR's funeral is taking place. ALICE, his wife is looking vacant and distraught. The priest is speaking. ALICE starts to wander away. DAVID, with bandages around his arm and head goes to help her. She tries to break away, but then gives in and returns to the graveside. She wanders away again. AMINA is also distressed and starts to walk away. DAVID grabs her hand.

DAVID

Amina. For God's sake. It's Dad's funeral. Please, please. Amina. Mum! Fuck, fuck, fuck.

Two police officers watching the funeral go to help.

DAVID

Oh Dad. Dad. Why? Crazy fucking car drive. Why? Mum, what's happening?

The police officers gently lead ALICE and AMINA back to the graveside and the funeral service continues.

9

EXT. NIGHT. MOTEL. UK

9

BIMAD and SHAKUNTALA are looking at a map

SHAKUNTALA

I checked online. The family still live in the family home in this city. Arthur and Alice Johnston.

BIMAD

Will you recognise him?

SHAKUNTALA

All I have are two old photos. Ma told me he has a small scar on his face. I want us to drive past the house. Then we come back. I need time to compose myself.

10

EXT. DAY. HOUSE OF DAVID

10

AMINA is helping ALICE into a car. DAVID is sitting in the driver's seat looking distraught. AMINA holds ALICE's handbag. ALICE grabs it from her and gets into the car.

11

EXT. DAY. OUTSIDE. NURSING CARE HOME

11

The car pulls up at the front door. DAVID opens the door to help his mother out. ALICE is distressed. She stumbles and DAVID and AMINA catches her.

DAVID

Mum, Let me hold your handbag. You nearly fell and hurt yourself.

DAVID escorts her into the Nursing Home.

DAVID
Ok, Mum. Don't get upset.

As they enter a NURSE in uniform comes towards them. She has been waiting.

NURSE
Hello Alice, I'm Mary, one of the nurses here.

The NURSE helps Alice.

NURSE
You have a lovely room facing the garden. In the morning you are the first to get the sun. I'm sure you'll enjoy it. Your son chose it.

ALICE is unresponsive.

DAVID
I looked at all the rooms, Mum.

NURSE
Shall I carry your handbag, Alice? It's catching on your legs.

DAVID
She hasn't talked since her husband..Dad...my Dad died.

NURSE
It's alright Mr Johnston. We'll look after her. I have your phone number and I'll contact you if there is any change. Alice. This is your room.

They enter a large room with a bed and simple furniture. It looks out over a large grassy area with a garden.

12

INT.DAY.HOTEL BAR

12

DAVID is drunk and morose and arguing with a fellow drinker, who is trying to ignore him. DAVID orders a drink at the bar and spills it as he makes his way back to his seat.

DAVID
Fuck,I say. Fuck.

FRIEND
And what else, David? How about fuck the drinking... you've had enough.

DAVID
Have I?
(MORE)

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DAVID (CONT'D)

Not my bloody fault my Dad got
killed trying to stop a rapist.
I'll drink till I bloody well
want to stop. He was good,
good...my Dad... too bloody good
for this stinking world.

FRIEND TWO

Ok. We know. A good man.

FRIEND

We'll take you home.

DAVID

I'll drink as much as I fucking
well can.

FRIEND TWO

You already have.

A WOMAN comes over from a group drinking in another part of
the bar.

WOMAN

His sister's waiting at the door.
She been there for ages.

FRIEND

David. You've got to go. Your
sister's waiting.

DAVID

Sister. Yeah. Used to have two of
them. One's dead and the other
doesn't talk. Doesn't even open
her fucking mouth. You know that?
My Mum's in the looney bin. Dad's
gone. What's the bloody hurry?

FRIENDS take him outside towards a car. AMINA, his sister
watches as they help DAVID into the car. They look around to
ask her to get in too, but she's gone.

13

INT.DAY.HOUSE OF DAVID

13

AMINA is looking out of her bedroom window. She watches the
car arrive.

14

EXT.DAY.NURSING CARE HOME

14

ALICE is sitting outside on the garden in her wheelchair. She
is crying and tightly holding a small plastic bag. The NURSE
comes towards her.

NURSE

Alice, my dear. Time for you to
go inside. What's that you're
holding?

ALICE puts it back in her handbag. She says nothing.

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NURSE
That's okay, dear.

DAVID arrives and greets ALICE.

DAVID
Hi Mum.

There is no answer.

DAVID
Enjoying the sun?

ALICE is silent. She seems unaware that DAVID is present.

DAVID
Mum. Say something. Please.
Anything.

There is still no answer.

DAVID
Fuck. Everything's gone wrong.

ALICE does not answer.

DAVID
Oh, Mum. Dad's gone. You're....
and Amina won't talk. What am I
to do? Our family's finished.

15 **EXT.DAY.DELHI.POST OFFICE**
Ayah is posting a letter.

15

16 **INT.DAY.A COURTROOM.UK**
DAVID is standing in the dock.

16

JUDGE
The facts are not disputed. You
were drinking alcoholic beverages
in a hotel bar with friends. A
friend informed you that your
father, Arthur Johnston was
outside the bar in his car. He
was distressed. You get into the
car with him and drive after an
unidentified man. Your father
asserts this man has raped your
sister. You drive at an excessive
speed and cause a serious
accident. Your father is killed
and two passengers in the other
vehicle are injured. A medical
report confirms that alcohol in
your blood was above the legal
limit for safe driving.
(MORE)

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JUDGE (CONT'D)

When the police inform your mother about the accident, she collapses. After medical assessment she is placed in a nursing care home and appears to have lost her memory. Your sister, Amina, was raped by an unknown assailant. A medical report confirms this. I also have a second medical report confirming your sister has not spoken to anyone since the attack and she does not respond to questions.

David Johnston. This court finds you guilty of manslaughter. A punishment is required but so is compassion. The court has been told that you are now fully responsible for the care of your sister. You have accepted this responsibility and are executing a duty of care.

I sentence you to three years for manslaughter with a suspended sentence.

17

EXT.DAY.A STREET

17

AMINA is distraught and running along a road towards a park. She falls, gets up again and continues running. A young woman, JASMINE, sees what is happening and goes after her. She catches up with AMINA who is terrified and sobbing. JASMINE embraces her.

JASMINE

It's Ok, it's O.K No-one will hurt you.

AMINA looks at JASMINE.

JASMINE

I'm Jasmine. I'll help you.
What's your name, sweetheart?
Hold me. You're safe, you're safe.

As AMINA quietens down, JASMINE holds her hands.

JASMINE

What's your name, sweet?

AMINA says nothing.

JASMINE

Don't be scared?

JASMINE hears the sound of running feet and a male voice.

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DAVID
Amina, Amina?

JASMINE
Who are you?

DAVID
I'm her brother. She ran away
from the house.

JASMINE
She's shaking.

DAVID
Amina's like that.

JASMINE
Something scared her.

DAVID
Nothing happened. I'll take it
from here. Come Amina. She's
okay.

AMINA does not move.

JASMINE
What do you mean...nothing. She's
terrified.

DAVID
It's normal. Stay out of this.

JASMINE
Normal? A teenage girl. Where are
her parents?

DAVID
There dead. Its only Amina and
me.

JASMINE is silent as she takes in this information.

DAVID
I look after her... she ran away.

JASMINE
Why?

DAVID
I told you, I don't know. She
just runs away. Look. She ran
away. You found her. Don't bloody
interfere. I'm taking her home.

AMINA is holding on tightly to JASMINE.

JASMINE
She doesn't want to go.

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DAVID

Fuck, fuck, fuck. How do I deal with this? Amina, come with me. It's over, whatever it was. Come with me? Fuck you!!!!

He takes her by the arm. AMINA hangs on tightly to JASMINE

JASMINE

Ok.Ok. Let me come home with her. She's shaking. Amina, I'll stay with you until you feel better. Come, let's go.

DAVID is not happy about JASMINE accompanying AMINA, but sees he can do nothing about it. He walks on ahead. JASMINE and AMINA follow him..

18

INT.DAY.BIMAD HOUSE IN DELHI.INDIA

18

AYAH picks up a letter from SHAKUNTALA's desk and leaves the house.

19

INT.DAY.POLICE STATION.UK

19

DAVID is talking with two police officers in a small room.

POLICE OFFICER

We're still looking for the assailant who attacked your sister.

POLICE INSPECTOR

In the last six months we have examined all the surveillance videos we can... CCTV in public places, restaurants, bars and cafes. We interviewed over a hundred people, but have little to nothing to work on. Your late father's description of the assailant was vague... it could have fitted many young men.

POLICE OFFICER

We need to ask you again about your house TV security system. We checked. It is working, but we can't find any of the recording tapes. They're all missing. The company who installed the CCTV confirm they put recording tapes in when they signed off on the new installation.

POLICE INSPECTOR

We spoke with the manager and technicians. We talked with clients of this firm. All speak highly of their work. Who authorised the installation?

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DAVID

My mother. I was never part of it. Dad would know about the tapes, but he's gone.

POLICE INSPECTOR

Had there ever been a break-in?

DAVID

No. But Mum was getting anxious. That's why she had the cameras put in.

POLICE INSPECTOR

Is your mother a nervous person?

DAVID

She got nervous after Dorothy died.

POLICE INSPECTOR

Dorothy?

DAVID

My older sister. She committed suicide.

POLICE INSPECTOR

We have no record of it.

DAVID

She was away. At university. In another city.

POLICE INSPECTOR

When did this happen?

DAVID

Over a year ago. My mother got nervous and started talking about cameras. Dad didn't want them, but Mum insisted.

POLICE OFFICER

You have four cameras. Two outside the house, two inside. All the recording tapes are missing. Have you talked with your mother about it?

DAVID

Can't. She's in a nursing care home now. Her brain went looney after Dad died. She doesn't even recognise me.

The police stand up to leave

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POLICE INSPECTOR
We will continue with our
inquiries, thank you.

As they leave DAVID opens a bottle of whisky, looks at a wedding photograph of his parents and pours a large glass.

20

INT.DAY.HOUSE OF DAVID

20

AMINA is sitting quietly outside in the garden, DAVID and JASMINE are looking at her through the window.

DAVID
After Dad died, Mum went odd,
Amina became silent. The medicos
thought she'd improve and she'd
get back to normal. They're wrong
as bloody usual.

JASMINE
I'd like to know her better. May
I come again? I don't live far
from here.

DAVID
Really... yeah. Yeah. Amina
responds to you. I work at home
much of the time, computer
programming. Sometimes I go away
for conferences and meetings.
That's my life. Amina used to be
bright and bubbly before this
bloody mess. I get angry with
her, but it's not her fault.

JASMINE
I could be with her.

DAVID
That would help, I guess.

JASMINE
I'll go and sit with her now.

DAVID
Do that. I've work to do.

JASMINE goes into the garden.

21

EXT.DAY.HOUSE OF BIMAD.DELHI.INDIA

21

Ayah picks up a letter from Shakuntala's dressing table.

22

EXT.DAY.HOUSE OF DAVID.ENGLAND

22

DAVID sees AMINA and JASMINE through a window holding two tennis racquets. He rushes outside.

DAVID
Where are you going with those?

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JASMINE
Play tennis of course. Down the
park. Should be fun.

DAVID
You can't do that?

JASMINE
Why not. Two old racquets. I
found them in the shed.

DAVID
No, you can't.

JASMINE
We'll be back in an hour.

DAVID
I don't want you to take those
racquets.

JASMINE
For heaven's sake, David. What's
up?

DAVID
They belonged to Dad. They're
special.

AMINA drops her racquet and runs inside the house.

JASMINE
Now, you've upset her. Damn. We
were going to the park, two
women, two racquets and an old
tennis ball and you're throwing
male macho around.

DAVID
Dad. We used to play tennis
together.

JASMINE
So.

DAVID
Dad was special. Always kind.
Always thinking of all of us and
of Mum. I miss him.

JASMINE
I know. But Amina's still here.
Your sister. She's not in a good
space.

She looks at a framed photograph of her father and mother.

24 **INT.DAY.TAXI.** 24
The Indian couple pass David's house.

25 **EXT.DAY.A PARK.** 25
JASMINE and AMINA are walking together.

JASMINE
Look. The flowers. So lovely.
Come.

She takes Amina's hand.

26 **INT.DAY. CAFE.** 26
The Indian couple are sitting at a table.

SHAKUNTALA
I worry, Bimad.

BIMAD
We've talked about this for so
long.

SHAKUNTALA
Then what, then what?

BIMAD
We confront him. We go to his
house.

SHAKUNTALA
Yes, yes. When we meet him, we
politely ask if he will talk with
us.

BIMAD
And if he refuses?

SHAKUNTALA
We go away and come back again.

BIMAD
He can still refuse.

SHAKUNTALA
By that time the letters will
start arriving.

BIMAD
What letters?

SHAKUNTALA
I wrote a number of letters about
what my mother told me about him,
how we lived and how she died?
(MORE)

SHAKUNTALA (CONT'D)

Ayah is posting one letter a month...all to Arthur Johnston. He will read them, then he'll remember.

BIMAD

Shakuntala. What have you done?

SHAKUNTALA

What is right, that's what I have done. I promised my dead mother to confront Arthur Johnston. If he ignores us, the letters will talk for us.

27 INT.DAY.HOUSE OF DAVID

27

DAVID is working at the computer. He hears a cracking noise and looks out of the window to the garden. AMINA is by herself. She is smashing one of the two tennis racquets against a rock. DAVID rushes outside. One racquet is already broken. The other is lying on the ground. AMINA sees DAVID coming and runs away. He picks up the broken racquet.

28 INT.NIGHT.HOUSE OF DAVID

28

JASMINE and DAVID are sitting on the couch holding hands. JASMINE is looking at photographs on the wall.

JASMINE

Who's the pretty young woman?

DAVID

That was my older sister, Dorothy.

JASMINE

Was...that's a strange way of talking about your sister.

DAVID

Not really. She's dead. Committed suicide.

JASMINE

Oh, my God. How horrible. Do you know why?

DAVID

No idea. She was here and then she was gone. We never found a note or anything?

JASMINE

And your Mum and Dad, did they have any idea what happened?

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DAVID

They were distraught. Dad in particular. Dorothy was bright. The smart one in the family.

JASMINE

What did she study?

DAVID

Biochemistry. Top marks. She was home, went back to university and then she was gone. Dead. Suicide.

JASMINE

Oh.

DAVID

The police found her body in the river. Mum was crying for days. Dad smashed furniture. He was screaming. Calling out her name... Dorothy, Dorothy. We had to get a doctor to sedate him.

JASMINE

How did Amina cope?

DAVID

She was staying overnight with a friend when it happened. Dorothy and her were close. They used to talk a lot together. But, enough of this. Are you going to move in?

JASMINE

I'd like that.

DAVID

Good. You and Amina get on well. We're good together too. It's settled then.

JASMINE

Not quite.

DAVID

A problem?

JASMINE

I do have something?

DAVID

Something?

JASMINE take DAVID's hand and places it on her stomach

JASMINE

Feel here. No. Lower.

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DAVID
You're pregnant.

JASMINE
You were there when it happened.

29 **EXT.DAY.NURSING CARE HOME** 29
AMINA comes out of the front door of the Nursing Home. She looks around to see if anyone is looking and starts running. We follow her home.

30 **INT.DAY.HOUSE OF DAVID** 30
AMINA enters.

JASMINE
Amina. You looked puffed out.

JASMINE embraces her.

JASMINE
Where have you been?

There is no answer from AMINA

JASMINE
If you want to go running, I'll get us some sneakers.

AMINA goes to her room. We hear a car draw up outside. It's DAVID. He enters.

DAVID
Where's Amina?

JASMINE
In her room.

DAVID
Okay. Got something to tell you. I saw our lawyer today. Mum and Dad have left us money.

JASMINE
But your Mum's still alive.

DAVID
Yeah. But she's in the looney bin.

JASMINE
In a nursing care home! Don't be so nasty, David.

DAVID
Whatever. The lawyer said she can't do anything. She's lost it. Her head's gone. Dad's dead.

(MORE)

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DAVID (CONT'D)

Dorothy's dead. Amina doesn't talk. I'm the only bloody one who can do anything. After some discussion with doctors, I've now got power of attorney. I'm in charge. Do you fucking know what that means?

JASMINE

David. I don't like you swearing.

DAVID

I've got the money. It's in the bank. All legal. And. I've got an idea.

JASMINE

What are you talking about?

DAVID

I've got enough money to fix the old motel.

JASMINE

What motel?

DAVID

Years ago, Mum and Dad bought a big old house and planned to turn it into a motel. They were going to make money...much money. But they never got started. Dad didn't want to do the work. Mum said she it wouldn't work if Dad didn't help. So buggar all got done? We own it.

JASMINE

Amina. It's hers too!

DAVID

Of course. But she's still a kid and she's gone loopy too. Fuck it, Jasmine.

JASMINE

You are so... so arrogant. Where is the place?

DAVID

Close by. A few minutes walk from here. But....but?

JASMINE

Yes. Problem?

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DAVID

The same one Mum and Dad faced. I can't run it. Got a job. I don't want to be a landlord day after day changing sheets and cleaning toilets.

JASMINE

I don't want to do that either.

DAVID

I thought we were partners?

JASMINE

Not as far as I can see. You own the place.

DAVID

I'll pay you.

JASMINE

Typical male answer. I do the work, you keep the profits.

DAVID

I didn't mean it like that. I love you, Jasmine. Forever.

JASMINE

Possibly. Or for just a few weeks or months or for a few years after our baby is born and then you get tired and unhappy. Our child will cost money and take up our time. Neither of us get much sleep. You'll buggar off.

DAVID

No, No. Stop. You're so bloody awkward.

JASMINE

And you? Our baby will be awkward too?

JASMINE starts to walk away from DAVID.

DAVID

I'm not finished?

JASMINE

I am. I'm going out for a walk with Amina. I like her more than you.

DAVID

Damn it, Jasmine. Don't do that to me. I'm trying to talk sensibly.

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JASMINE

Sensibly. Try again. Later.

DAVID

I want to be fair. Mum... her head's gone. Dad's dead too and I miss him. We were such good mates. He helped me. And Amina. Her head's been gone for ages too. What should I do? Talk with me, Jasmine!

JASMINE

Ok. You have the old house.... motel. What's it like anyway?

DAVID

Ten rooms. One long corridor. Each room has two doors. One to the corridor. Another door inside each room linking it to the next room.

JASMINE

What... all the rooms are connected to each other by a second door. That's odd.

DAVID

Yeah. Needs to be seen to be understood. It's was built by a rich man who had been in a war. Never met him. The guy had been in a concentration camp and was always thinking of escape routes. That why the place has so many doors.

JASMINE

What sort of motel was it?

DAVID

Never was one. Except in name. The guy lived in one room for a while and moved to another and another. He kept all the doors open...so he could escape.

JASMINE

What happened to him?

DAVID

Died. Found dead in the corridor. Been dead for weeks before the smell alerted strangers who called the police. The guy had no relatives. Dad bought the place for a song.

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JASMINE

I need to see it, before I say anything else.

- 31 **EXT.DAY.NURSING CARE HOME** 31
 ALICE is in the garden crying. She takes a crumpled photo out of her pocket. Looks at it. It's of Dorothy, her daughter, a smiling young woman.
- 32 **EXT.DAY.HOUSE OF DAVID** 32
 AMINA goes to the letterbox and picks up a mauve coloured letter. She goes inside the house and places the letter on the table in DAVID'S office.
- 33 **INT.DAY.THE MOTEL** 33
 DAVID and JASMINE are exploring the rooms and the numerous doors.

JASMINE

You're right. It's a maze. I feel as if I get lost, I'll never find my way out. It needs decorating. New furnishings.

DAVID

What do you say then, Jasmine? There's money to be made here. For all of us. I can't do it alone. I need you.

JASMINE

Will you come to a lawyer and put the money and motel in all our names... including our baby.

DAVID

Don't you trust me, Jasmine?

JASMINE

Men say that all the time. And women trust them. Men can be such bastards.

DAVID

I'm different.

JASMINE

Are you?

DAVID

Of course.

JASMINE

We'll go to a lawyer.

DAVID

We don't need that extra cost. I'm not a bastard.

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JASMINE
I want a legal document.

DAVID
You are so suspicious.

JASMINE
You're like many men. Tunnel vision. The only light is at your end of the tunnel.

DAVID
Do you want a contract about having the baby too?

JASMINE
I've got it. A hundred percent. All here. Feel.

DAVID
I want a boy.

JASMINE
I want a girl.

DAVID
A boy.

JASMINE
I haven't got twins. Next time, maybe.

34 **EXT.DAY.GARDEN AT NURSING CARE HOME.** 34
AMINA is walking with her mother ALICE. Neither are talking. They sit on a bench. ALICE is holding her handbag. She opens it and takes out a photo of Dorothy. They both look at it.

35 **INT.DAY.HOME OF DAVID** 35

JASMINE
It's unfair, I know. Amina and your Mum were okay until your Dad died. But they may both come right.

DAVID
Fucking oath. Mum's head gone, Dad's dead, Amina's still round the fucking bend. She never talks... and you expect me to ...

JASMINE
.... Ok, OK, Ok. David. Stop please. I'm upset and you're upsetting our baby. My stomach aches.

DAVID
My fault. Babies. Blobs of jelly.

JASMINE
Stop it. Stop.

She breaks into tears. AMINA has overheard the conversation and comes from her room. She goes to JASMINE. DAVID glares at her and storms out of the room. AMINA leads JASMINE to a table. There is silence. DAVID re-enters.

DAVID
Jasmine, Amina. Fucking conspirators. Jasmine. We'll go to the lawyer about the money and the motel. I'm sorry. I've got work...paid work...a conference to attend. Overseas. You'll be on your own for a few days.

JASMINE
There's plenty to do. Decorating it.. the maze. That's what I'm calling it now.

DAVID
Shit. You can't do that. No-one wants to stay at a place called the maze. You may as well call it a labyrinth. Maze. Same fucking meaning.

JASMINE
Stop swearing.

DAVID
We'll find a better name. But... it's a labyrinth.

JASMINE
And a maze. And the lawyers?

DAVID
Bloody hell. Trust me, Jasmine. Trust me.

36

INT.NIGHT.INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT.

DAVID is checking in for his flight.

36

CHECK-IN ASSISTANT
That's everything Sir. Your flight back is in four days. It's confirmed. Have a good journey.

- 37 **INT.NIGHT.HOUSE OF DAVID.** 37
JASMINE is sitting with AMINA at the dining table.
- JASMINE
I'll make your favourite meal
Amina. What did your Dad like?
- AMINA upset,rushes to her room
- 38 **INT.NURSING CARE HOME** 38
ALICE is in her room looking at the photo of Dorothy.
- 39 **EXT.DAY.A PARK** 39
JASMINE and AMINA are walking together.
- JASMINE
Look. Did you see that bird?
There. On the big branch. David
said you and Dorothy used to come
here.
- There is no reply from Amina.They keep walking. After a while
Amina takes Jasmine's hand.
- 40 **INT.DAY.CITY.HOTEL.ITALY** 40
DAVID goes to the reception. He is handed a key.
- 41 **INT.DAY.NURSING CARE HOME** 41
AMINA and her MOTHER are holding hands.The look at each other
without speaking.
- 42 **EXT.DAY.HOUSE OF DAVID** 42
JASMINE takes a coloured letter from India out of the
letterbox and takes it inside to David's office.
- 43 **INT.DAY.HOTEL** 43
DAVID completes dressing and goes down in the lift for the
hotel breakfast.
- 44 **EXT.DAY. NURSING CARE HOME** 44
AMINA arrives at the NURSING Home. She meets her mother who
is in a wheelchair and takes her into the garden.
- 45 **INT.EVENING.A LARGE AUDITORIUM.ITALY** 45
DAVID is sitting next to other men. There is a round of
applause and people then start to exit.
- MAN
That's it then. It's over. Time
to booze.
- MAN ONE
My plane leaves in three hours.
I'll have to get to the bloody
airport.

DAVID

I've got another night before I fly home. Time to explore the town.

MAN ONE

Lucky you. If you want a good time go to El Toro - the Nightclub. Good food, good drinks, good girls.

MAN

Good girls?

MAN ONE

Good girls who are bad girls, if you know what I mean. Ask for Pasiphae.

DAVID

Pasiphae?

46

INT.DAY.HOUSE OF DAVID

46

AMINA enters. JASMINE is preparing a meal.

JASMINE

Where you been love?

There is no answer from AMINA.

47

EXT.NIGHT.NIGHTCLUB.ITALY

47

A taxi arrives and stops at the door of a night club with its huge neon sign saying EL TORO. DAVID gets out of the taxi and enters the nightclub. He is met by a young woman. Other young women arrive and ask him what he wants to drink. He orders a drink and looks around. There are signs of the "Toro" bull image everywhere. A band is playing Spanish or mock Spanish bullfight music.

48

INT.DAY.HOUSE OF DAVID

48

The front door bell rings. JASMINE goes to answer and when she opens she sees BIMAD and SHAKUNTALA.

SHAKUNTALA

Is this the home of the Johnston family?

JASMINE

It is?

SHAKUNTALA

May we talk with Mr.Arthur Johnston?

JASMINE

I'm sorry. Its not possible.

Made in Highland

BIMAD

We were so hoping to meet him?

JASMINE

I'm sorry, but he is dead. He was killed in a road accident.

SHAKUNTALA

Oh. Oh.

JASMINE

It happened some time ago.

BIMAD

Is Mrs. Johnston in?

SHAKUNTALA

Alice, I think her name was Alice.

JASMINE

I'm sorry. She is in a nursing home. After the accident she lost her memory.

SHAKUNTALA

Oh, that is dreadful?

BIMAD

Mr and Mrs Johnston have children. The oldest boy is David, I believe.

JASMINE

Yes. He's my partner, but he's overseas at the moment on work. Would you like to come in? You obviously know the family?

BIMAD

No, no thank you. We must go now. We will come back later when David returns. When does he get back?

JASMINE

Next week.

BIMAD

We will call again. Come Shakuntala. We must not be late for our next appointment?

JASMINE

Please stay. I can offer you a cup of good English tea.

BIMAD

Thank you. But we have another appointment to look at our accommodation?

JASMINE

May I ask how you know the family?

BIMAD

Through a friend, who lived near Mr. Johnston when he worked in India.

JASMINE

I'm sure David would like to meet you. He's never met anyone who knew his father in India.

BIMAD

We must go now.

JASMINE

Please come back when you have time to meet David.

- 49 **INT.NIGHT.NIGHTCLUB.ITALY** 49
David is dancing and drinking.
- 50 **EXT.DAY.NURSING CARE HOME** 50
AMINA arrives. She goes to her mother's room. ALICE is asleep in her chair. AMINA kisses her and she awakes. They smile at each other.
- 51 **EXT.DAY.BIMAD HOUSE IN DELHI.** 51
Ayah picks up another letter from the table and leaves the house.
- 52 **EXT.DAY.HOUSE OF DAVID** 52
JASMINE, SHAKUNTALA and BIMAD are sitting at a table.

JASMINE

David's been delayed and won't be back home for another two days.

BIMAD

I do hope to meet your husband when he returns.

JASMINE

Of course.

SHAKUNTALA

I see you are expecting a child.

JASMINE

This will be our first.

Made in Highland

BIMAD

You wish for a son?

JASMINE

A son or daughter. A healthy child. Do you have children?

BIMAD

Alas. No. We tried for years. We wanted children but the Gods have not answered us. And I'm a trained midwife, I love children.

JASMINE

A midwife. So you have seen many babies?

SHAKUNTALA

Oh yes. My mother was a midwife too. In the village. I used to help her. When I became a teenager I went to Delhi and trained as a midwife at a large hospital.

BIMAD

Jasmine. May I call you that?

JASMINE

Of course.

BIMAD

A child is the greatest gift.

JASMINE

Thank you. And what is your work, Bimad.

BIMAD

I am a doctor.

SHAKUNTALA

Jasmine, we will both be pleased to help if you and your baby need it.

53

INT.NIGHT.THE NIGHTCLUB.ITALY

53

DAVID is with the women hostesses from the club. One woman signals to the others to go away. DAVID is left with the woman who takes him by the hand and leads him upstairs to a room. She starts to undress him.

DAVID

This club is so busy. The bull. It's everywhere. El Toro. El Toro. What's your name?

Made in Highland

HOSTESS
Pasiphae.

DAVID
So you're the Pasiphae?

HOSTESS
All the girls are called
Pasiphae. And all men are bulls.
Toros. You're a bull. You're a
strong man. Mount me, mount me.
El Toro. Mount Pasiphae.

She starts taking off her clothes.

54 **INT.NIGHT.THE CLUB.ITALY** 54
DAVID wakes up. He is still drunk. Images of a bull and a woman flash through his head as he dresses. He completes dressing and looks around. There is no sign of PASIPHAE, the hostess. He sees a neon exit sign and goes through it and realises he is outside the nightclub. All around him are bright neon signs. He starts to cross the road and hears brakes screeching. He is hit a car.

55 **INT.DAY.HOUSE OF DAVID** 55
JASMINE is sleeping in a chair. AMINA is reading. The door bell rings. AMINA opens it. She sees a policewoman. AMINA runs away. JASMINE comes to the door.

POLICEWOMAN
Is the young woman alright. She
saw me and ran away?

JASMINE
It's okay. She has been unwell
recently. I think your uniform
shocked her. How may I help?

POLICE WOMAN
Is this the home of David
Johnston?

JASMINE
Yes.

POLICE WOMAN
May I come in?

She enters

POLICE WOMAN
You are Jasmine? David Johnston's
wife.

JASMINE
Partner. Oh, my God. David!
What's happened?

POLICE WOMAN

Mr. Johnston has been seriously injured in a car accident. He is in hospital in Trieste, Italy. I understand he was attending a computer conference there.

JASMINE

Yes.

POLICE WOMAN

Our report says Mr. Johnston... David... has lost the use of his legs. He also has severe lacerations to the rest of his body.

JASMINE

Oh, David.

POLICE OFFICER

The report says he will be in hospital for several weeks. As he recovers doctors will give a more detailed assessment. When they are satisfied with his progress he will be flown home.

AMINA comes out of her room. JASMINE takes her hand.

JASMINE

David's been in a car accident.
But he's alive and in hospital.

56

INT. DAY. CLINIC

BIMAD and SHAKUNTALA are talking.

56

SHAKUNTALA

I had a call from Jasmine.
David's been in an accident.
Serious. Suspected spinal damage.

57

INT. DAY. NURSING CARE HOME

AMINA is crying with her mother.

57

58

EXT. DAY. CAFE.

BIMAD and SHAKUNTALA are drinking tea. SHAKUNTALA sees JASMINE.

58

SHAKUNTALA

Jasmine. Jasmine!!

BIMAD

Come my dear. Sit down. Join us
for a cup of tea.

Made in Highland

JASMINE

I will. Baby is making me so tired.

SHAKUNTALA

I am so pleased to see you. When is baby due?

JASMINE

I'm already a week late.

SHAKUNTALA

Nothing to worry there. A first baby takes its time.

JASMINE

My regular doctor is overseas. I'm with a locum. I wish I wasn't, but that's the way it is.

BIMAD

Then you must let us help you. We both work at a local clinic.

SHAKUNTALA

Thank you. I will.

BIMAD

How is David?

JASMINE

The doctors say he won't be back for another two weeks.

SHAKUNTALA

Here is our phone number. My personal number and the clinic. Shall we make a date? Tomorrow? Ten o'clock?

JASMINE

Yes, thank you. I am so tired.

SHAKUNTALA

Your cup of tea. Sugar too? And tell us more about David.

59

EXT.DAY.AIRPORT.UK

59

JASMINE is waiting for DAVID. She is in late pregnancy. She sees him being wheeled by an airport hostess and shows her anguish as DAVID gets closer. She embraces him. He doesn't want to respond, but does so, grudgingly.

60

EXT.DAY.HOUSE OF DAVID

60

AMINA collects another coloured letter from the letter box and takes it to DAVID's office. She places it on the small pile of other unopened letters from India.

Made in Highland

61

EXT.DAY.NEAR THE TOP OF A CLIFF BY THE SEA

61

AMINA is pushing DAVID in a wheelchair. He is sullen.

JASMINE

David. Look at the sea today. So bright. Like the great glass ocean Theseus sailed on in the Mediterranean sea when he was off to do something exciting, to rescue a maiden, to kill a tyrant.

DAVID

Not for me. You read too much. There never was a Theseus or any other Greek heroes. Myth, magic, a muddled brain, that's what you've got. I've got this!!!!

JASMINE

Be happy, I am. Our baby is due soon.

DAVID

I can't be a father.

JASMINE

You already are. Baby's growing inside me just waiting to emerge. Our little baby is enjoying the sunshine.

DAVID

Our baby already has problems. A crippled father.

JASMINE

No matter. I love him. And so will you.

DAVID

From a wheel chair?

JASMINE

Yes, yes.

DAVID

Jasmine!

JASMINE

Look. Birds.

She careful pushes the wheelchair closer towards the cliff, so that they can both see the birds. JASMINE leaves DAVID for a moment and moves toward the cliff to watch a bird diving. She slips and falls to the ground. DAVID tries to leap from his wheelchair in an attempt to help her. He falls heavily and can't move. The wheelchair rolls a short distance towards the cliff and stops. JASMINE rises and goes to help DAVID.

Made in Highland

DAVID
The baby?

JASMINE
It's okay. I didn't hurt myself.

DAVID
I was frightened. You were so close to the edge.

62 **EXT.DAY.NURSING CARE HOME**
A nurse is taking ALICE outside.

62

NURSE
You could leave your handbag inside, Alice.

ALICE says nothing. She holds the bag close to her body.

63 **EXT.DAY.TAXI**
The medical clinic. JASMINE and AMINA get out and enter the clinic. We soon hear the sound of a baby crying and SHAKUNTALA saying, " *Jasmine. You have a beautiful boy. Hold him. He is yours forever.*"

63

64 **INT.DAY.HOUSE OF DAVID**
DAVID is angry.

64

DAVID
Fuck, fuck. Jasmine where are you? Bloody wheelchair from hell.

He goes to a cupboard and takes out a bottle of wine. It falls to the floor and smashes. He gets another.

65 **EXT.DAY.HOUSE OF DAVID**
JASMINE and AMINA get out of a taxi and enter the house with the new baby, MINO.

65

JASMINE
David, David. Where are you? Come and look at our Mino. He is so sweet.

She looks around. DAVID can't be seen. JASMINE goes into the kitchen and sees a bottle of wine open, a dirty glass and two unopened bottles of wine. She goes into the garden. DAVID is asleep in his wheelchair. She goes to wake him up. He is drunk.

JASMINE
Darling. Look at our little Mino. He's already smiling. David!!!

66 **INT.DAY.NURSING HOME**
ALICE is writing a letter.

66

Made in Highland

Beside her we see the photo of Dorothy. ALICE tears up the letter.

67

INT. DAY. CLINIC

67

BIMAD and SHAKUNTALA, both in medical uniforms, are examining MINO.

JASMINE

David doesn't seem to care much about him. I do my best to make sure that Mino doesn't wake David at night.

SHAKUNTALA

Mino's not putting on much weight. How old is he?

JASMINE

Four months.

SHAKUNTALA

That's what I thought.

JASMINE

Sometimes his face looks blue. Especially around the lips.

BIMAD

How long has this been going on?

JASMINE

For weeks. Sometimes his breathing is rapid.

SHAKUNTALA

Amina. Have you noticed this too?

AMINA nods

JASMINE

We didn't say anything. We don't want to upset David.

SHAKUNTALA

He'll soon get to love Mino. The first child for a father is also traumatic.

JASMINE

No matter what I say, David jumps at me. He says Mino cries all the time.

BIMAD

I'll give him a checkover to see all is okay. Crying is normal.

Made in Highland

JASMINE

Mino sometimes looks like a pale blue flower.

SHAKUNTALA

While Bimad's checking Mino, we'll have a cup of tea and afterwards, tell me about your motel.

JASMINE

The labyrinth? The maze!

SHAKUNTALA

You said you wanted each room to look different to represent a different culture. I could help with the India room!

JASMINE

I've got ideas on the decor, but not enough. And colours. India has so many, I don't know how to choose. But, I do want some saffron!!!!

68

EXT. DAY. CAFE

68

DAVID is sitting in his wheel chair with a drink. AMINA is with him.

DAVID

We'll go home a few minutes. You ready?

AMINA appears to be indifferent. Across the square a woman is looking at DAVID. She comes towards them.

DONNA

I thought it was you, David. But, the wheelchair. I hope it's only temporary.

DAVID does not want to see or talk with the woman.

DAVID

Hi Donna.

DONNA

I'm sorry.

DAVID

You live hundred of miles away. How come you're here?

DONNA

Shopping. What happened?

Made in Highland

DAVID

Got caught up in a road accident.
Crossing the road. In Trieste. A
stupid Italian hit me.

DONNA

That's awful. I hope you get
better.

DAVID

Here for life.

DONNA

It must be awful for you and a
shock to your parents. How are
they?

DAVID

Dad died in an accident. Sometime
ago. Dorothy's dead. Only me and
Amina now.

DONNA

Oh, my Gawd. Amina. It's you. I
didn't recognise you. You've
grown up.

AMINA doesn't answer.

DONNA

I'm Donna. I was the noisy girl
who lived next door when you were
small.

AMINA says nothing.

DAVID

Amina doesn't talk anymore. It
happened after Dad died and Mum
went crazy.

DONNA

What. Alice?

DAVID

She's in a Nursing Care Home. She
went fucking loopy after Dad
died. I couldn't cope.

DONNA

But....

DAVID

I have to go. Now.

DONNA

Oh, oh.

DAVID
Bloody hell, Donna. Leave me alone. Piss off.

DONNA
We were friends. Talk with me.

DAVID
I've changed.

DONNA
I haven't.

DAVID
Haven't you noticed? I'm a cripple cared for by a fucking mute.

DONNA
David. She's your sister. What an awful thing to say? How can you....

DAVID
...with ease. Amina take me home. Get me out of here.

DONNA
David, Stay. Please talk with me. And Dorothy?

DAVID
Committed suicide. Amina, let's go. Go!!!!

AMINA gets behind the wheelchair and pushes DAVID away. She does not look back. DONNA is shocked.

69

INT.DAY.CAR.

69

DONNA is with her husband.

DONNA
David, he lived next door to us. He's in a wheelchair. Car accident. His father's dead and his mother's in a Nursing Care home. Dorothy the eldest daughter committed suicide... and... and... it's awful...Amina. David changed. He used to be carefree. He's becomes hard. Bitter.

70

EXT.DAY.GARDEN. HOUSE OF DAVID

70

MINO is asleep in his cot. JASMINE is looking at him. DAVID is in his wheelchair working on a laptop.

JASMINE

David. Come here for a moment,
look at our beautiful boy.

DAVID

No thanks. I'm busy.

JASMINE

Don't be like that. Come, he's
asleep. I love his face.

DAVID

He's got big ears.

JASMINE

He's got big ears! So. You are
envious.

DAVID

Have you looked at him recently?

JASMINE

All the time. All the time.

DAVID

His ears are abnormal. Huge.
Pointed. Like little horns. I'm
sick of him crying, so I've
worked out a solution?

JASMINE

To a crying baby? The only
solution is love and care.

DAVID

I know that. But I'm going
someone else to work. Got to get
some quiet. I can't work at home.

JASMINE

What? Why....

DAVID

We have the maze. There's rooms
there. I'll set up an office.
Away from the noise and him?

JASMINE

He's yours too.

DAVID

I've got to earn money to feed us
all. No-one seems to care anymore
whether I'm here or not. You
spend your time with the bloody
baby and that Indian couple...
what's their names.....

(MORE)

Made in Highland

DAVID (CONT'D)

B... and something else...sounds like a handshake. Who cares? Amina doesn't speak. Life is shit, shit, shit.

JASMINE

Their names are Bimad and Shakuntala. They are caring people and they helped me bring Mino into the world. They wanted to meet your father as they knew he had worked in India. They wanted to meet you too, but you don't want to meet them. So rude.

DAVID

Why should I? Dad was in India thirty years ago. Boring. Boring. I want nothing to do with them.

JASMINE

Well, I do. They've helped me. Shakuntala and I are going to decorate an Indian room at the labyrinth? You'll should be interested in that anyway?

DAVID

Well, I'm not. Fuck them.

JASMINE

You too then, fuck off. Fuck off to the maze and stay there.

71

INT.DAY.HOUSE OF DAVID

71

AMINA is sitting alone in the garden reading a book. She hears a noise and jumps up, as if frightened. She cautiously looks over their fence and sees two teenagers talking and embracing. She clutches her face in fear and runs into the house.

72

EXT.DAY.NEAR A CHURCH

72

Sunny afternoon. A church bell is ringing. A small group of people has gathered outside the church. A couple emerge. They have just been married and are being watched by David in a wheelchair. JASMINE is with him.

JASMINE

What a bonus. Seeing a wedding couple on a warm sunny day.

DAVID

After a few fucks and greasy breakfasts they'll start to separate. Mankind. Womankind. Dull kind.

Made in Highland

JASMINE

You are so bitter? Be happy for them.

DAVID

Happy! In a wheelchair. Damn. Damn. Damn. There are no more happy days.

JASMINE

What would you like me to do?

DAVID

Bloody cure me. This fucking chair. I'm here for life. And you can't even stop Mino crying all night. Where is the little brat anyway?

JASMINE

He's not a brat. He's your son and mine and I love him even if you don't?

DAVID

I didn't say that. Of course, I love him. But he cries and cries and cries. It's bloody awful.

JASMINE

He's got teeth coming. That's why.

DAVID

I'm a cripple. Can't be a father.

JASMINE

David, you are. I help and push you wherever and when you want to go somewhere, don't I? And I look after Mino. I don't complain?

DAVID

I feel helpless. Mino makes it worse.

JASMINE

Good. Because I'm going home to be with him now. You can bloody well push yourself home. Your arms work and the chair has big wheels.

DAVID

Tell Amina to come and get me?

JASMINE

No. She's busy. With Mino.

(MORE)

Made in Highland

JASMINE (CONT'D)

Our son. Fuck off and then push
off. Home is that way.

73 INT.NURSING CARE HOME

73

ALICE is sitting with her handbag open. She takes out a plastic bag with some small video tapes in it. She handles them and puts them back in the plastic bag and then into her handbag. She then takes out a picture of Dorothy. At that moment AMINA enters. They hold hands. Alice holds the picture of Dorothy and shows it to Amina.

74 INT.DAY.MAZE HOTEL.

74

DAVID is with JASMINE. She opens a door in the corridor. They both enter a room and look around. DAVID says nothing and gestures to her to move to the next room. She does so and locks the outgoing room behind her. After going through four rooms that all look the same they stop.

JASMINE

So which room do you want for
your study?

DAVID

Don't know. Give me the keys. Go
home. I'll look at the rooms and
decide.

JASMINE

We've just looked at them.

DAVID

I'll choose.

JASMINE

They're the same. With a table,
chairs and those odd looking
second doors that link the
rooms . All the rooms are old,
scruffy and need to be
redecorated.

DAVID

I'll choose a room.

JASMINE

You can't have the Indian room.

DAVID

Why would I want to have an
Indian room? It would just remind
me of my father who.... you never
met. He's dead or have you
forgotten that? Fuck the Indian
room and all who sail in her?

JASMINE

I'm off. Make your own way home
for dinner. I might make it for
you...might!!!!

75 INT.DAY.CLINIC

75

BIMAD and SHAKUNTALA are looking at medical reports.

BIMAD

It's serious.

76 INT.DAY.HOUSE OF DAVID

76

JASMINE is feeding the baby. She picks up the phone and
dials.

77 INT.DAY.CLINIC

77

SHAKUNTALA answers

SHAKUNTALA

Jasmine. I'll meet you and Mino
at the cafe for lunch, and then
you both come to the clinic.

78 INT.MAZE HOTEL.ROOM

78

DAVID is on a bed resting. A half full bottle of wine by his
side. His phone rings.

DAVID

Yes.

79 INT.DAY.HOUSE OF DAVID

79

JASMINE

David,Where are you? I've been
searching for you for hours.

DAVID

Its okay. I'm in town at the
moment. Looking at a couple of
shops. Bought nothing. I'll take
a taxi home.

JASMINE

I'm worried. You keep going away
without telling me. Mino needs
food and there's the maze to deal
with and renovations. I'm so
busy.

DAVID

Ok.Ok. I'm just leaving now. Be
home in under an hour.

80

EXT.DAY.HOUSE OF DAVID

80

A taxi arrives. JASMINE comes to greet him and checks the letter box. There is a coloured letter there. She goes to give it to DAVID.

DAVID

Another fucking Indian letter.
Put it in the room with the
others.

JASMINE

Aren't you going to even look at
one of them? They keep coming. And
they're all addressed to your
father.

DAVID

Why should I bother? That Indian
stamp on them. Begging letters.
Wanting money. Fuck them!

JASMINE

You don't know that, David. Your
father worked in India for three
years. It might be a letter from
an old friend of his. You said he
helped people there.

DAVID

Sure did. Worked there for
nothing. He said there were
beggars everywhere. Came home
with fuck all except malaria.

JASMINE

He could have made good friends.

DAVID

Not from what he told me. Take,
take, take. That's what he told
me. Beggars. Millions of them.
And cows everywhere that eat more
than the beggars.

JASMINE

I still think you should read at
least one letter. They keep
coming. You may find out more
about India and your father.

DAVID

No. I said no!!!! I know what he
did in India. He helped people.
That's the sort of guy he was.
They exploited him. He told me
many times.

81

EXT.DAY.NURSING CARE HOME

81

ALICE is sitting outside in her wheelchair. AMINA approaches and greets her with a kiss. She kneels beside her. ALICE, who has not talked since the death of her husband begins to cry softly. AMINA holds her hands. ALICE takes a photograph from her handbag of Dorothy. She shows it to AMINA and we hear ALICE saying softly.

ALICE
Your father.

She continues looking at the photograph. AMINA has not heard her mother speak since before the death of her father. She is surprised.

ALICE
Arthur, Arthur.

She throws her handbag on the ground, holds the photo close to her and calls out.

ALICE
Dorothy. Arthur. Arthur.

She goes into a convulsive sob. AMINA tries to console her while ALICE keeps repeating the name of her eldest daughter, Dorothy. ALICE tries to pick up her handbag and almost falls out of her wheelchair.

AMINA
Ma, Ma.

ALICE
I....I....

AMINA picks up the handbag and gives her to her sobbing mother.

AMINA
Oh, Ma.

ALICE holds AMINA close to her.

ALICE
I knew, I knew.

AMINA
Ma. Ma.!!!!

ALICE
I knew, I was frightened.

AMINA
Mum. Mum.

ALICE suddenly drops her head as if she has fainted. AMINA holds her and calls out

AMINA
Nurse! Nurse!

A NURSE rushes towards them. She seems bewildered as ALICE is slumped in her chair and she has never heard AMINA or ALICE talk.

NURSE
I'll take her inside.

She pushes the wheelchair with ALICE to her room. AMINA follows. Inside the room the NURSE puts ALICE in her bed. ALICE is still mumbling.

AMINA
Mum. I'm with you.

82 **INT.DAY.MAZE HOTEL** 82
DAVID opens a bottle of wine. Fills a glass. Gets his phone and dials. It rings. No answer.

DAVID
Damn you Jasmine. You don't
deserve a husband, fuck you.

83 **INT.DAY.HOUSE OF DAVID** 83
MINO is crying and being held by AMINA. JASMINE is getting a clothes change ready for him.

JASMINE
Poor wee soul. He's been crying
so much today. I'm going to made
another appointment to see Bimad
and Shakuntala.

She starts changing the baby.

JASMINE
David. Will you help me?

DAVID
I'm busy. Later.

84 **INT.DAY.NURSING CARE HOME** 84
AMINA is sitting by her mother who is asleep. She wakes.

ALICE
Amina.

AMINA
Yes, Mum.

ALICE
My love. Will you get my handbag
I want to show you something?

As AMINA gets her handbag, ALICE collapses.

AMINA
Nurse! Nurse!

She kneels by her mother who is motionless.

85

INT.DAY.NURSING CARE HOME

85

JASMINE, AMINA and MINO are in the main office of the NURSING HOME. A NURSE enters. She is carrying a card box box.

NURSE
Amina, these are your mother's
personal belongings. I am so
sorry for your loss.

AMINA takes the box and says nothing.

JASMINE
My husband will come tomorrow to
finalise the funeral matters.

NURSE
Thank you. Your child is sleeping
so peacefully.

JASMINE
He's asleep now, but he cries a
lot. I have many sleepless
nights.

NURSE
It happens to mothers, Jasmine.
I've had three. One good baby
and two restless ones. They're
all teenagers now and they find
it difficult to get up in the
morning. It's even more difficult
to get them to go to bed at a
reasonable hour.

86

INT.DAY.HOUSE OF DAVID

86

DAVID is working in his room on a computer. There is a knock on the door and after a few seconds AMINA comes in. She sits down next to him holding her mother's handbag. DAVID says nothing and keeps on working. AMINA waits for a while.

AMINA
David?

DAVID turns and look at her in surprise.

DAVID
You spoke, Amina. You spoke!

He looks at her in amazement.

DAVID
Amina, Amina.

DAVID gets up and embraces her. AMINA is crying softly,

DAVID
I thought you would never speak
again. Amina. Amina. Amina.

AMINA
Mum.

DAVID
Oh, sweet, sweet Amina.

AMINA
I miss Mum.

DAVID
I thought I had lost you too. Oh,
Amina. I'm so happy for you. I
wish Mum had talked again too.

AMINA
She did.

DAVID
When?

AMINA
Just before she died.

DAVID
Mum talked!

AMINA
A little. She kept repeating odd
words. I didn't know what they
meant.

DAVID
Did she mention Dad?

AMINA
Her words were about Dad and
Dorothy.

DAVID
What did she say?

AMINA
I couldn't make sense of it, but
her handbag had a letter in it.

DAVID
A letter?

AMINA
From Dorothy.

DAVID
What!!!!!! We searched the house.
Again and again.

(MORE)

Made in Highland

DAVID (CONT'D)

I took her room apart to find a clue about what happened. A letter! Dad was crying. Mum was hysterical. I don't understand.

AMINA

I've got the letter here.

AMINA gives the letter to DAVID. They look at each other.

87

INT.NIGHT.BEDROOM.HOUSE OF DAVID

87

JASMINE is helping DAVID into bed. It's slow and difficult. Eventually DAVID is in bed. JASMINE goes to the other side of the bed, pulls back the curtains and we see a full moon. She gets into bed.

JASMINE

Look love. A full moon.
Beautiful.

DAVID

Close the curtain. I want to sleep.

JASMINE

Ok. But let's look at it for a few minutes. A clear night and a full moon. We don't get that often. Be romantic.

DAVID

Close the curtain, please?

JASMINE

It's the moon. A lovely full moon.

DAVID

When I see it, I see car lights coming towards me. First Dad, then me. I hate it.

JASMINE

Everyday you make another funeral.

JASMINE pulls the curtains to obscure the moon.

88

EXT.DAY.DELHI POST OFFICE

88

AYAH is posting a letter.

89

INT.DAY.HOUSE OF DAVID

89

Jasmine dialling. Repeatedly. No answer

90

INT.DAY.MAZE HOTEL

90

DAVID is asleep. Drunk. His phone rings. He does not answer.

91

EXT.DAY.HOUSE OF DAVID

91

JASMINE gets into car with MINO

JASMINE

Amina. I'll be at the clinic if David comes home.

AMINA

I don't know where he is. He won't answer his phone. What does he do in that place?

JASMINE

The Maze. I don't know. Not much work. It full of empty full wine bottles.

92

EXT.DAY.NEAR A CLIFF

92

DAVID is pushing himself along the path. His phone rings.

93

INT.DAY. HOUSE OF DAVID

93

AMINA

Where are you David, I've called you several times.

DAVID

I'm at the Maze.

AMINA

Ok. I'll ask Jasmine to pick you up, after she comes back from the clinic

DAVID

What the hell is she doing there?

AMINA

With Mino and chatting with Shakuntala about the decor for the India room.

DAVID

Fucking waste of time?

AMINA

You are getting meaner everyday, David. Mum would be so upset?

DAVID

And Dad too? Don't you think about him anymore?

AMINA

Of course I do. Stop it. Jasmine will pick you up at the maze in an hours's time.

Made in Highland

DAVID

Tell her not to come. You get that. I'll make my own way home. Got important work to finish. You stay with Jasmine and her howling child.

AMINA

Huh. Mino is yours too. Being independent are you, David. So you won't need me anymore to push you around town. Will you? Good bye.

AMINA is angry and abruptly ends the phone call.

94

EXT.NIGHT.GARDEN. HOUSE OF DAVID

94

JASMINE and AMINA are sitting in the garden on a warm night looking at the moon. DAVID comes out in his wheelchair.

DAVID

What you both doing?

JASMINE

Enjoying nature. The moon is smiling. Wishing us good luck.

DAVID

You'll be lucky. Cold bloody moon. Borrows her light from the sun.

JASMINE

David. Is there no romance left in you?

DAVID

Not much.

JASMINE

No. But you are alive, David, and I love you. You have a beautiful sister and we have a beautiful small son, Mino. He loves you too.

DAVID

He needs to sleep more, so I can sleep more.

JASMINE

His tears are nothing? Children cry.

DAVID

Nothing. I've looked at him crying. He's like a wild animal when he howls.

Made in Highland

JASMINE
That's spiteful.

DAVID
Ask the cold moon to talk to him.
I don't have time.

JASMINE
....I ...I...It's always you. We
gave Mino the gift of life. Now
you offer him coldness, ice. Why
so cruel?

DAVID
Like the fucking moon I reflect
on the real world. You live in
dreamland.

JASMINE
Go inside. Leave us alone.

DAVID
I will. It's warm inside.

95 INT.DAY.CLINIC 95
SHAKUNTALA dials on a phone. It is answered.

SHAKUNTALA
Jasmine. It's Shakuntala. We've
got the results back on Mino. Can
you come to the clinic. Ok. See
you both here this afternoon.

96 INT.DAY.CLINIC 96

BIMAD
Mino has a small hole in his
heart.

JASMINE
Oh, my God. Will he live....

BIMAD
....of course, of course. A hole
in the heart means a small gap
between ventricles. It can be
remedied. The success rate is
high in young children.

JASMINE
He will need surgery?

BIMAD
Yes. I have already put him on
the waiting list.

Made in Highland

JASMINE
How long will he wait?

SHAKUNTALA
I'm afraid it's long. Six months
to a year.

BIMAD
But there is something else.
Mino's legs. I sensed something
wrong and ordered a scan.

SHAKUNTALA
A scan?

BIMAD
He has a more serious illness.

JASMINE
What?

BIMAD
It's cancer in the spine.

SHAKUNTALA
That might be why Mino cries so
much.

JASMINE
Oh, oh. How do I tell David?

SHAKUNTALA
I could be with you.

BIMAD
We will help

JASMINE
He'll dislike Mino even more.

- 97 **EXT.DAY.GARDEN.HOUSE OF DAVID** 97
DAVID is sitting in his wheelchair reading the letter from
Dorothy. He is upset.
- 98 **EXT.DAY.HOUSE OF DAVID** 98
AMINA is with MINO who is crying. She tries to play with him.
DAVID comes into the room.

DAVID
Where's Jasmine?

AMINA does not reply.

DAVID
Oh, well. She'll turn up. Gawd. I
wish he would bloody shut up.
Noise, it's all he ever does.
(MORE)

DAVID (CONT'D)
Fucking nightmare. Let's see his
miserable face.

AMINA is angry with him and pulls the child away from him.

DAVID
Please yourself. As if I care.
Baby fucking big ears.

DAVID goes back inside the house.

99

EXT. DAY. GARDEN. HOUSE OF DAVID

99

JASMINE is with MINO. AMINA comes out of the house.

AMINA
I've just seen David. Angry
again. He just arrived home. Says
he been at the labyrinth working.
He's drunk and he lying to me.

JASMINE
It's getting worse. When he's at
home I go to the labyrinth to
clean it up. Empty bottles.
What's happened? I'm losing him,
Amina. I'm losing him? Is it
Mino?

AMINA
It happened after Mum died? He
loved and trusted her and he
still misses Dad too.

JASMINE
The other night he was talking in
his sleep about someone called
Pasiphae and a Minotaur. Made no
sense. Then he mentioned Mino.
Several times. I tried talking
with him in the morning. He shut
up and then spent two days in the
maze rather than talk with me.

100

INT. NIGHT. FLAT. UK

100

BIMAD and SHAKUNTALA are talking.

BIMAD
The hospital are talking about
COVID. It's spreading.

SHAKUNTALA
But it's just a flu isn't it?

BIMAD
A new strain. Severe. COVID. It's
killing many people.

Made in Highland

SHAKUNTALA
Is there a vaccination?

BIMAD
No.

SHAKUNTALA
But there will be one soon?

BIMAD
Soon! You know how long it takes
to develop one?

SHAKUNTALA
But....

BIMAD
Hospital management say the labs
are working on it, but.. there's
no vaccine. COVID's spreading
around the whole world.

101 INT.DAY.THE MAZE 101
DAVID is going from room to room. He opens one door and sees
the Indian room, partly finished. He slams the door.

102 INT.DAY.CLINIC 102
BIMAD has just finished checking MINO.

BIMAD
Jasmine. Give Mino two drops of
this medicine every night. Same
time. After his last meal. It
will ease his pain and help him
sleep.

103 INT.DAY.HOUSE OF DAVID 103
DAVID is in his room. He goes to a cupboard and looks for
something. He sees his mother's handbag and opens it. There
are a number of items there including a small dark plastic
bag. He opens it revealing four small video tapes. He
examines them by hand and puts them back.

104 INT.DAY.CLINIC 104
SHAKUNTALA and BIMAD are talking.

BIMAD
Mino will need two operations.
And he's not strong.

SHAKUNTALA
He can't wait for a year. He'll
be dead by then.

105 **INT.NIGHT.HOUSE OF DAVID** 105
 DAVID is drunk. He has a laptop computer open and is viewing a video tape. It shows Amina's bedroom door and a video of ARTHUR, her father coming out of the door tying up the front of his trousers. He looks around and hurries off. We then see AMINA coming to the door of her bedroom, half naked and crying. DAVID views the tape again.

106 **INT.DAY.THE CLINIC** 106
 JASMINE,MINO and AMINA are sitting in the clinic.

BIMAD
 I have no power to get Mino to
 the top of the list. I am so
 sorry.

107 **INT.EARLY MORNING.HOUSE OF DAVID** 107
 AMINA enters.

AMINA
 David, David.

There is no sign of him. AMINA keeps looking and calling.

AMINA
 Where are you, David?

She sees the computer, an empty bottle, a wine glass and the video tapes. One video is in the computer. She looks at it and sees what DAVID saw. Immediately, she ejects the tape and puts it and the other tapes in her pocket. She is distraught and calls out for David and goes from room to room looking for him. She sees the veranda doors are open and David's wheelchair is missing. So is David. Amina runs outside and sees wheel marks on the path. The front gate is open and there is no sign of David or the wheelchair. AMINA howls.

108 **EXT.DAY.CLIFF FACE** 108
 A young couple are jogging. They stop for a rest at the top of the cliff and are looking down. One of them sees something and points to it. They are shocked. The women takes out her cell phone.

JOGGER
 Hello. Police. I want to report
 an accident. By the cliff face
 near Rosco beach. I can see a
 wheelchair with a person in it at
 the bottom of the cliff. Yes, of
 course. I'll stay here.

109 **INT.DAY.HOUSE OF DAVID** 109
 AMINA, JASMINE and MINO are sitting together. They are silent. The doorbell rings. AMINA goes to the door. Two police officers are there. She invites them in.

POLICE INSPECTOR
May we sit down?

POLICE INSPECTOR
I'm sorry we have to call again.
We have more information on the
death of Mr. Johnston. A walker
on the beach has found this photo
frame with a photo of a married
couple. We believe it may be
related to Mr. Johnston.

AMINA
Yes. It's my parents. Their
wedding photograph. I noticed it
was missing from David's room.

110 INT.EVENING.FLAT OF BIMAD AND SHAKUNTALA
Dinner.The couple are talking.

110

SHAKUNTALA
The health system here is so
slow.

BIMAD
It would be different if we were
in Delhi. I know doctors at the
hospital.

SHAKUNTALA
I have savings. We can use them.

BIMAD
What are you saying?

SHAKUNTALA
I have savings. In the bank.

BIMAD
You have money I do not know
about?

SHAKUNTALA
Bimad. We are a modern couple. We
both earn. It is...was family
money.

BIMAD
You should have told me you had
savings from before your
marriage. You have been
dishonest. That is bad.

SHAKUNTALA
Bimad, my love. We are in the
21st century. We are modern
people.

Made in Highland

BIMAD

You are not understanding me, Shakuntala. I do not want your money. But you should have told me about it. Of course, I am a modern man. I love you as my wife. We are equals. But you have not been honest about this money.

SHAKUNTALA

The money was a dowry. From my family. They were old fashioned.

BIMAD

When we were to be married I made it clear I did not require a dowry.

SHAKUNTALA

I know. But my family wanted me to have the money. Just in case.

BIMAD

Just in case what?

SHAKUNTALA

Bimad, Bimad. Be realistic. I have enough money to get all of us to Delhi. Jasmine, Mino and Amina. And to pay for Mino's operations.

BIMAD

Yes. That is good. We can do that. But...

SHAKUNTALA

But what, Bimad?

BIMAD

I am troubled about you keeping your money a secret. I am not happy about your relatives saying...just in case. Just in case...I leave you. That is bad thinking. I am an honest man. We have been married for over twenty years. And still, you did not tell me!!!!

SHAKUNTALA

Bimad! Bimad! Let us talk like real people. David is dead. Two women we love have a sick child and you are arguing with me about money. We must help them.

BIMAD

Yes, yes. We will help them. But you lied to me.

SHAKUNTALA

I did not lie. I did not tell you anything. The money is ours. It belongs to us both.

BIMAD

Shakuntala. Am I being wrong and traditional?

SHAKUNTALA

You are being a good Indian man.

111 INT.DAY.HOUSE OF DAVID

111

AMINA is in the kitchen making coffee. JASMINE enters.

JASMINE

He's gone to sleep at last. But, its such a worry, He looks so pale and bluish. I'm going to take him to see Bimad again. And I keep thinking about David. Why did he kill himself? Why? What did I do wrong?

112 INT.NIGHT.HOUSE OF DAVID

112

AMINA is by herself sitting by a fire. She takes a letter out from DAVID'S desk. It's the letter from Dorothy. She looks at it and burns it. Then she takes out the video tapes from her pocket and throws them one by one into the fire. She notices a photo album and opens it. Photographs are missing. She looks around the room and sees torn photographs on the floor. She picks the pieces up. They are of her father. AMINA burns them.

113 INT.DAY.TRAVEL AGENT

113

BIMAD is with a travel agent.

BIMAD

I wish to purchase five air tickets to Delhi, One way. First class. On the next flight. This is urgent. One passenger will be a small child in a wheelchair. When will the tickets be ready?

TRAVEL AGENT

This afternoon.

BIMAD

And when does the next plane go.

TRAVEL AGENT

Late tonight. I can get you seats.

114

INT.DAY. HOUSE OF DAVID

114

JASMINE, AMINA and SHAKUNTALA are sitting together.

SHAKUNTALA

Our tickets are booked. Bimad says he has information that the British government is soon going to implement its COVID policy. We are booked to fly to Delhi tonight. It may be the last flight out of the country before the COVID restrictions begin.

JASMINE

I'll pack for Mino.

AMINA

And I'll pack our clothes.

115

EXT.NIGHT.HOUSE OF DAVID

115

BIMAD, SHAKUNTALA, JASMINE, MINO and AMINA are in a taxi.

AMINA

I wonder when I will see our home again.

JASMINE

After Mino gets well we will come back. This house belongs to all of us.

EXT.INT.AEROPLANE

Boarding plane in UK. JASMINE is with MINO.

116

EXT.NIGHT.DELHI AIRPORT

116

Mino is on a stretcher and being wheeled to an ambulance. JASMINE, AMINA and SHAKUNTALA are distressed.

BIMAD

I'll go with the ambulance.

AMINA

This is terrible. Poor Mino. The flight must have been too much for him.

SHAKUNTALA

Bimad knows the hospital. He worked there for many years.

BIMAD

Jasmine. Please. Go with Amina and Shakuntala. There is nothing you can do at the hospital. I will be with Mino.

117 INT.NIGHT.HOUSE OF BIMAD

117

The three women enter the house.

JASMINE

Bimad wants us to rest. But I can't.

AMINA

He'll be with Mino.

SHAKUNTALA

Ayah will show you your bedrooms. Then we eat.

AMINA

Jasmine. May I sleep with you? I don't want to be alone.

JASMINE

Nor do I.

118 INT.WARD.DELHI HOSPITAL

118

BIMAD is talking with two doctors

DOCTOR

I'm sorry. The child also has viral pneumonia. We have given him antibiotics.

DOCTOR TWO

The next twenty four hours are crucial to his recovery.

BIMAD

And if not?

DOCTOR

Bimad, old friend. There is no hope of operating. He is so weak. His cancer, the hole in the heart and now viral pneumonia mean the odds of survival are all against him.

119 INT.DAY.HOUSE OF BIMAD

119

The three women are having breakfast.

JASMINE

Have you heard from Bimad?

Made in Highland

SHAKUNTALA

He phoned twice. Late last night and this morning. There is no change yet in Mino. He's in a special ward. Bimad is been talking with two different specialists. Everything that is possible is being done.

The phone rings and SHAKUNTALA answers

SHAKUNTALA

Yes, Bimad. We are all here. Of course.

She ends the call.

SHAKUNTALA

Mino is coming home. The ambulance will be here any moment now.

The women get ready and watch through a window. An ambulance arrives. The three woman go to meet it. MINO, is asleep is on a stretcher carried by two orderlies

JASMINE

He looks so calm.

MINO is taken into a bedroom. JASMINE and AMINA follow him. BIMAD and SHAKUNTALA watch.

SHAKUNTALA

Oh, Bimad. Life is but pieces of chaos in a puzzle we can't solve.

BIMAD

He's asleep.

SHAKUNTALA

When will you tell Jasmine and Amina?

BIMAD

As soon as I can. I have no good news.

SHAKUNTALA

How much time has Mino?

BIMAD

A few days. A week.

SHAKUNTALA

How can we tell them that Mino will die in India after we brought him here to heal him.

BIMAD
I feel responsible.

SHAKUNTALA
At least Mino will never know
what his grandfather did to young
girls?

BIMAD
What are you saying?

SHAKUNTALA
Seduction, rape. Many times.

BIMAD
What have you kept from me?

AMINA and JASMINE come into the lounge

SHAKUNTALA
Not now.Later.

JASMINE
He's asleep.

BIMAD
Please sit down. We need to talk.

JASMINE
Bimad. We already know.

BIMAD
How can you?

JASMINE
I realised in England that Mino
might die.I knew. Or, I sensed
it. Am I right?

BIMAD
You are right.

JASMINE
How long has he?

BIMAD
A few days. Perhaps a week.

JASMINE
It's his birthday soon.

AMINA
In two days.

JASMINE
I want Mino to have a birthday
party. Just with us. Like a
family

SHAKUNTALA

Of course.

JASMINE

I want him to be happy.

BIMAD

There is medicine to ease his pain.

JASMINE

I want to talk about his party now. Can he have an elephant ride? Can he have a real elephant ride?

121 **EXT.DAY.DELHI.AN ELEPHANT PARK** 121
MINO is being helped onto a decorated elephant. He is in the arms of JASMINE. BIMAD is taking photographs. AMINA and SHAKUNTALA are watching.

SHAKUNTALA

He is so happy.

AMINA

He has little time.

122 **EXT.DAY.GARDEN DELHI.HOUSE OF BIMAD** 122
Decorated. Balloons. Tinsel decorations. Flowers.

123 **INT.DAY.LOUNGE.DELHI.HOUSE OF BIMAD** 123
There is a big TV in the room. Suddenly it lights up. We see the elephant ride again with Mino and Jasmine. Mino's face is pale. The faces of the adults watching the screen keep shifting from worry to happiness. As the ride ends, the adults cheer Mino.

124 **INT.DAY.DELHI.HOUSE OF BIMAD** 124
BIMAD is in a room with SHAKUNTALA and checking medical equipment.

125 **EXT.DAY.DELHI. GARDEN.HOUSE OF BIMAD** 125
The birthday party for MINO continues. MINO is surrounded by gifts. JASMINE is holding a huge toy elephant. AMINA helps MINO to hold a balloon. BIMAD and SHAKUNTALA enter with a huge cake. The adults cheer as the cake is placed in front of MINO. JASMINE cuts the first small piece for MINO. He has trouble holding it and JASMINE feeds him. After a few moments, she tries again to feed him. It is difficult. We see signs of pain on the child's face. BIMAD comes close to the boy. He is holding a syringe hidden from sight. AMINA starts singing "Happy birthday to Mino". The others join in. As the song ends we see Mino's face.

126 EXT.DAY. FUNERAL SETTING.DELHI 126
MINO's body is being burnt in a traditional Hindu ceremony.
BIMAD, SHAKUNTALA, JASMINE, AMINA and a HINDU PRIEST are
present.

127 INT.NIGHT.DELHI.HOUSE OF BIMAD 127
BIMAD is sitting on the porch. He is by himself. SHAKUNTALA
is inside the room reading.

SHAKUNTALA
You are quiet tonight, Bimad.

BIMAD
It's been a sad day.

SHAKUNTALA
I saw him smile.

BIMAD
Yes. Yes. But Mino is dead.

SHAKUNTALA
Bimad. As a doctor you have seen
many people die.

BIMAD
This was different. He was like
the son we never had.

SHAKUNTALA
It was the will of our Gods.

BIMAD
Our Gods. Yes. I wonder if the
Gods care for us. The only child
to enter this house was Mino. And
now he is dead. Is that the will
of our Gods?

SHAKUNTALA
You saved the lives of many
children. That was the will of
the Gods.

BIMAD
Tomorrow I must go to a medical
conference. I'm presenting a
paper. I'll be away for nearly
two days.

SHAKUNTALA smiles and takes BIMAD's hand

SHAKUNTALA
Badi mai is here. She is company.

BIMAD
And Jasmine and Amina?

SHAKUNTALA

They already have their tickets
to return home. It is fate,
Bimad.

BIMAD

We will never see them again.

SHAKUNTALA

I owe Amina the truth about what
her father did, but I cannot
reach for my courage.

BIMAD

When they have left India it
won't matter anymore. Now, we
must sleep. Come. It's over.

They hold hands and go to the bedroom.

128 **EXT.DAY.DELHI AIRPORT**

128

BIMAD is on the tarmac walking towards the plane.

129 **INT.NIGHT.DELHI.HOUSE OF BIMAD**

129

SHAKUNTALA is in her dressing gown and completing a letter at
her desk.

SHAKUNTALA

Badi ma, badi ma?

Ayah enters the room.

AYAH

You called for me.

SHAKUNTALA

Bibiji. Come. Sit. I have a
special letter for Bimad. It is
important. When he comes home you
will give it to him. Immediately.

130 **INT.DAY.CONFERENCE ROOM**

130

BIMAD dials phone.It is answered

BIMAD

Jasmine. Where are you?

JASMINE (at airport hotel)

We are getting ready to go to the
airport. Checking out from the
hotel. We want to say thank you
and goodbye. If Mino was here, he
would thank you too in his small
way. Amina and I saw Shakuntala
this morning.

BIMAD

Both of us feel you are part of our family. We hope you will return one day.

JASMINE

We will sell the labyrinth. We're thinking of starting a flower shop. I must go now. Our taxi is waiting.

BIMAD

I'll be going home in a few hours. Shakuntala will be there waiting for me. Goodbye.

132

INT.NIGHT.DELHI.HOUSE OF BIMAD

132

SHAKUNTALA is dressed for bed. AYAH is with her.

SHAKUNTALA

Bimad will want you to stay here.
This is your home too.

The Ayah starts to cry and holds on tightly to SHAKUNTALA

SHAKUNTALA

Now, go. I must do this alone. Go

The old AYAH leaves. SHAKUNTALA gets ready for bed. Beside her bed she places a glass of water and from her pocket takes out several pills. After swallowing all the pills she prays, takes a photograph of Bimad and lays it beside her on the bed. She lies down and closes her eyes. During this scene we hear her voice starting to read from her letter to Bimad. We only hear a few words.

Bimad. Dear husband. When we married you wanted children, but I lied to you. I can't have children.....

133

INT.DAY.DELHI AIRPORT

133

JASMINE

Why are you suddenly changing your mind, Amina.

AMINA

I will come later. I need to stay here. Bimad and Shakuntala have offered me a home until I decide to leave.

JASMINE

Why Amina, why stay?

AMINA

I need to do something with my life. Shakuntala is a mid-wife. I will learn from her. I want to help mothers and babies.

JASMINE

How long will you stay?

AMINA

As long as Shakuntala wants me. My family are all dead, my parents, David and Dorothy.

JASMINE

We can be together.

AMINA shakes her head and kisses her. JASMINE goes through the security check. AMINA turns, leaves the airport and gets into a taxi.

134

INT.NIGHT.DELHI.HOUSE OF BIMAD

134

BIMAD is at home. He is reading the letter from SHAKUNTALA (WE HEAR HER VOICE READING)

*Bimad. Dear husband. When we married you wanted children, but I lied to you. I can't have children. **

**My mother was raped repeatedly by Arthur Johnston and she became pregnant. I am the child of Arthur Johnston. When I became a teenager and started my monthly bleeds my mother told me about my birth father. Soon after that she committed suicide. *

I grew bitter and wanted to punish Arthur, but he was in England and had probably forgotten his crime. I was now an orphan. I studied to become a mid-wife. As a young woman I felt so ashamed of my birth that I had my ovarian tubes cut to become sterile. It gave me peace, until I met you and we married. Then I wanted our child.

Each year my hatred against this white man grew stronger. I wanted to punish Arthur. I wrote many angry letters about how my mother suffered. They sat on my desk until we went to England. Before leaving I instructed Ayah to post one letter each week to Arthur. I was going to hurt him, to make him remember his crime. But he was dead and I didn't know that. The letters arrived and were read by his son, David. He never knew I wrote them. With each letter that arrived he took on the guilt of his dead father until he too committed suicide.

Bimad, I helped to kill my half-brother David with my venomous letters. He was part of my family. So was Mino. Forgive me Bimad, forgive me.

135

EXT.DAY. A TAXI.THE HOUSE OF BIMAD.DELHI

135

AMINA gets out of the taxi and rings a door bell. It is opened by the AYAH who invites her in.

Made in Highland

She sits down in the lounge and waits. BIMAD enters and he is clearly distressed. He is holding the letter written by SHAKUNTALA. He sits down beside AMINA, hands her the letter and she begins to read it.

136 **EXT.DAY.UK.MOTEL.LABYRINTH** **136**
Sign saying "For Sale"

137 **INT.DAY.UK.INSIDE MOTEL.LABYRINTH** **137**
JASMINE is sorting out various items in preparation for the sale of the building. On DAVID'S desk are the unopened letters from India. She picks up the pile, looks at them, opens one and starts reading.

THE END

THE END

THE END