



THE RAISE OF KALKI

World in Turmoil

RAVI KUMAR PARAMKUSAM

The Raise of Kalki
Timelines Merger
by Ravi Kumar Paramkusam
Sequel to
Kumar's Parallel Timelines
Series Developed by Ravikiran &
Characters Developed by R Kumar

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Kumar's Parallel Timelines Series of Books:

Peeping Tom by R Kumar

Unlucky in Love by R Kumar

Lucky in Love and Unlucky in Life by R Kumar

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Three Idiots and a Wise Man by Ravi Kiran

Three Idiots and a Brave Man by Ravi Kiran

Three Idiots and a Foolish Man by Ravi Kiran

Three Idiots and an Innocent Man by Ravi Kiran

My Love is a Mirage by Anne Reporter

Post-merger of timelines series:

Professor's Cousin by Anne Reporter

Attack of the Aliens: Sequel to Professor's Cousin by Anne Reporter

The Raise of Kalki: The World in Turmoil, by Ravi Kumar

Kalki vs Kalki: The Return of Kalki by Ravi Kumar

Other Books:

Trip to Mars by Ravi Kumar Paramkusam

Three Idiots and Ram by Ravi Kumar

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This book is dedicated to all my friends who have helped in writing this book and also to My Family who supported me and gave their invaluable opinions and Ideas for the story. And to Ravikiran for creating Kumar's Love Life Series and R Kumar for creating characters for this series.

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Preface

Kumar was called to meet with Indrasen at the Mars intermediate meeting place, to meet with Bob's boss to discuss the future. He wanted to test Kumar by offering him 10 billion in grants and wanted him to show what he could do for the welfare of the people of India; which Kumar already took up at a smaller pace. Indrasen wanted to see what Kumar could do with a grant of money.

Kumar agreed and Bob returned with Kumar to the earth.

Bob gives \$10B to Kumar and Kumar uses \$5B on various welfare projects and uses \$5B on research and building a spaceship to travel to Mars. He builds the spaceship with the help of consortium members and transfers it to Sriharikota for lift-off.

Now let us see what happens.

PART 1

Merging of Timelines

Chapter 1

First, to reach the Moon Base is Kumar who is a software businessman, who is from the first split timeline, who came with his wife Loveleen, Atul, Atul's wife Molly, Molly's daughter and his daughter Joy.

One person came to them and said I am Robert Fernandes, you can call me Bob. You were brought here because we are going to face a very serious danger and the first sign of the danger started with the coronavirus pandemic. Next, there will be financial upheaval worldwide, leading to wars and global-level destruction. You are one of the people who are selected to help us in the quest for peace in this world.

Kumar asked, "How can we help you?"

Bob said we have been experimenting with Timelines for the last 50 years. We have created many timelines with you and now we are going to combine those timelines to create a single group of people. When the timelines are combined you will achieve superhuman capabilities to stop this human destruction. You will be taken to the Moon and will stay in underground bunkers until the timelines are merged. We contemplated sending you to Mars while we combined the timelines, but due to the dearth of time, we have to send you to the moon. Now others from their timelines are gathering at the same venue in their timelines. From those timelines, you will be sent to the moon. There you will be kept in the underground bunkers.

Kumar asked how would we know when the timelines merger was completed.

Bob said we will come and remove you from the bunkers.

How we will be going to the moon Kumar enquired.

Bob said outside you will be provided with a car, if you sit there you will be taken to the Moon.

They came out and sat down in the car shown by Bob and they were flown away

The second to reach them was Kumar, a businessman from the second split timeline who came with Pauleen, Atul, Atul's girlfriend Molly and Joy.

The third to reach them was a businessman who was taken to court by Nandini and Joy, who now spends time with his family enjoying

life, he came with Sunitha, Loveleen, Atul, Reena and Dhruv. Nandini and Pauleen were also invited and they have come separately.

fourth to reach them was CA Kumar who is a Chartered Accountant, who came with Sahithi, Loveleen, Leena, Atul, Reena and Dhruv.

Pujari Kumar, now running a business empire, was the Fifth to reach them, who came with Sunitha, Reena, Atul, and Joy.

The sixth to reach them was young Kumar, sent from 1983 to 2917 who also ran a business empire and came with Sunitha, Sahithi, Loveleen, Reena, Atul, Joy Dhruv, and Mahira.

Next to reach them was a Businessman who was from the last split timeline Kumar who built a spaceship, and who came with Sahithi, Loveleen, Reena, Atul, Joy and Dhruv.

Also, Loveleen from the split timeline with Kumar was sent from 1983 to 2017. She was brought before the collapse of the timeline. She is very young compared to all other Loveleen.

Chapter 2

Bob went and gave orders to merge the timelines.

Slowly one by one started disappearing from the glass partitions. After completion of the merging, the glass partition was lifted and one of each persons remained. Youngest Kumar was the reminder of the seven Kumars merged. Youngest Loveleen remained. Young Atul remained.

Bob took each of them to check what powers they had attained. Kumar has become a know-all with tremendous memory power and intelligence. He could explain any event in history known to the world. He could answer any question, he could give a solution to any problem without thinking.

Atul became a tough person with the power of 100 men, the intelligence of 100 supercomputers and stamina comparable to Hanuman. His mind is connected with the Supercomputer developed by Kumar and he could search for anything on the internet and he could communicate with his mind using mind-controlling devices like others on the moon base.

Leena has become a scientist with knowledge of all the diseases of the world and knows how to prepare a medicine or a vaccine for any kind of disease known or unknown to humans.

Loveleen has acquired the knowledge of others and she is also the youngest of them.

Others according to their characters and knowledge have become superhumans.

Kumar asked what happened to the people after the merger. Bob Replied except for you all who have stayed here only the original timeline will persist or they are merged with other timelines, and then all other timelines would collapse. Leaving with the original timeline with people from other timelines who are better placed.

Kumar asked what is the original timeline.

Bob replied you don't have to worry about them. All the timelines combined assets and businesses are merged into a big business conglomerate for you. So, you will have unimaginable funds for your quest. Let us see the status of the world now. Many countries are reeling from the virus's effects. The Northern Hemisphere is most affected. Billions of people were affected by the virus.

Kumar asked how the virus came into the world.

Bob said China was conducting experiments on the virus to infect the Indian soldiers in the border areas. Especially those soldiers who are patrolling in the cold areas of the Himalayas. China found Indians have a special gene in their DNA which they want to target, instead, the virus escaped their labs by the foolishness of their scientists and infected their own people. Due to this, they had to quarantine cities. Due to the quarantine, many foreigners started to leave the country and went back to their countries. As those countries did not have proper knowledge of the virus, they started to accept their own citizens without proper quarantine and they mixed with the general population. Some of them have gone to their countries before the virus is known to the world. So, the virus has spread all over the world. Because of China's experiments, the virus has acquired superpowers and started to mutate very fast. A normal virus would not be able to spread so fast and would not mutate for millions of years. It is like Chinese scientists have removed the virus restrictions, due to which it escaped the lab very easily.

Kumar asked, "But, who are you and why Chinese are doing those experiments?"

Bob replied, "We are serving what you referred to previously as gods. They left the earth some five thousand years back. But a few of us remained to look after the world. We kept ourselves away from the public glare and would send timely reports to our heads. There is a splinter group from our people whom you referred to as Rakshasas. Lord Krishna destroyed their race but some people leftover and stayed hidden in China, mixed with Chinese people. In the past century, the same thing happened in the world. First, it was World War 1. Then Spanish Flu hit the world. Then there is the Wall Street crash of 1929. Then World War 2. Now some countries in Africa are reeling under famine. But all over the world, it is cyclones, floods and loss of life and crops. Then there is a war in the air. Then we don't know what they planned.

Kumar asked who are they.

Bob said I told you they are whom you refer to as Rakshasas or Demons. They must be planning something huge. They have links to a lot of terror organizations. Whatever major event happened in the world in the past, they would have some hand in it. Like the Twin

Towers attack, and the Mumbai terror attacks to name a few. Now the world is inching toward the Great Pralayams: The Great Flood. If it happens there is no way the world could recover from it and the total earth with mankind would be destroyed. There is no way we can recover mankind from such an event. We don't have the manpower to do that. We have requested extra manpower but our heads have refused to provide help saying this has to happen now or later. So, we are left with doing our own experiments to save mankind. Now our representative Kalki is supposed to be raised at this point, but we could not get our heads to send the required DNA for doing that. So, we created you and to make you stronger, we have created timelines and merged to make a stronger person. So, from today you will be called Kalki. You will be the saviour of the world. These people will be part of your entourage and will help you in many ways. Leena is a scientist in cellular biology, molecular biology, chemistry, biochemistry, and microbiology. She is a combination of three Leena's. Atul has varied skills, he is a superman like Hanuman. He has immense strength. He can think like 100 supercomputers combined. He can process any information in a microsecond. He will be very useful to help with Leena's experiments. He can analyse any medicine or vaccine and would tell its efficacy in a matter of a microsecond. He knows any of the items, where they are available and what the sources are to get them to you. His mind is connected to the internet and he can access any information or order things online too. He will be helpful when you are visiting and can provide information about those people. Now you can go and see how you can save the earth from further destruction."

Kumar asked, "But why did you choose us?"

For that, I have to tell the story of 17th-century Bharath Khand. You were born as Surya Deva Raya, nephew to Venkatapati Deva Raya, who ruled from 1685 to 1714. Your father was cousin brother to Venkatapati. You were given the parts where Telugu is spoken to look after as administrator. These are the Krishna and Godavari basin areas. You were based in Vijayawada and you had your palace at the present Kothagullu(New Temples) area of 10 acres of land. That could be the reason you were always fascinated by the bungalows in the Juhu area.

You daily used to climb the Durga temple steps to visit Durga Malleswara Swamy and do puja there. You were the temple's administrator and looked after the temple and surrounding temples.

One day when you were returning from puja a girl of perhaps 20 years came in front of you. At first sight, you fell in love with her. She was fair and of average height and was the most beautiful girl you ever encountered. You asked your soldier to get the details of the girl.

He came back to inform you that she is the city's administrator Jayabheri's daughter. From that day onwards, you were looking for her when she would visit the temple.

Unable to see her again, you went with your soldiers to where she stays on the pretext of checking the people's grievances.

Jayabheri invites you into his house to explain what he would expect from you to look after the administration of the city.

His daughter brings a glass of buttermilk for you and Jayabheri introduces her as his daughter Seetha. She greets you and goes inside.

The next day she comes to your office to hand over written requests from her father, as he is away.

You sit her down and ask for her details.

She tells you she is the lone child of her parents and she is learned and helps her father in his day-to-day activities.

You invited her to help in the administration of the region and she is knowledgeable and helped her father.

She said she would take her father's permission and inform you and go away.

She obtains her father's permission and comes to work with you and your friendship flourishes. She comes to the temple with you every morning and accompanies you whenever you go on visits to other cities for administrative work.

Seetha's father Jayabheri accepted you and let her accompany you.

One day your father called you to Chandragiri where he was based as an advisor to the King.

He called you so he could marry you to a daughter of one of the queens to solidify his position in the kingdom.

As a son who can't refuse his father, you marry Bhavani and bring her to Vijayawada.

Seeing you returning married, Seetha's heart breaks and she stops visiting your office and refuses to work with you.

You did not love Bhavani as you loved Seetha, but for your father, you had to marry the queen's daughter.

But you did not leave Seetha and took a house in Kondapalli and started to live with Seetha as husband and wife after marrying her in the presence of god.

Bhavani burned with jealousy and got you killed. That is your story.

On instructions from my masters, I was keeping an eye on you but could not anticipate your wife would get you killed. I was put on your service as a personal bodyguard by my masters as you would be doing a great service to the world by eliminating the demons. By not saving you I have failed our masters and the world.

That Surya Deva Raya was born now as Reyansh Kumar and you were all his alter egos came from splitting timelines.

Note: Readers to know his full story can read it in the Prequel, Surya Deva Raya by the same writer.

PART 2
Raise of Kalki

Chapter 1

Kumar

Now we were sent to the earth and we reached the house in Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad. I decided to make this house our headquarters.

I checked the equipment received from their manufacturing company. There are mind communication devices that can be placed in the ear and it will allow others who have the same devices to communicate with each other through the mind or it will work as a mobile telephone device.

Teleportation devices that one can use to move from place to place. Anti-gravity devices allow lifting any heavy items to move from place to place easily. And also, can be used to attach a person and he can move in the air with the help of thrusters.

However, I did not find any time travel device in the equipment. Maybe they have not thought it prudent to provide them with that. I told them to collect the mind communication devices and start to use them immediately. Then we will have a meeting and discuss further action on the matters at hand.

“When the meeting started if you want to speak with others you can use the communications device. If you want to speak with everybody you can talk freely. First, let us see what tasks are in front of us. According to what Bob says we have very bad times ahead of us. There could be war possibly a third world war, which could lead to the total destruction of the earth as we know it. There could be floods in one place and famine in other places. Due to these conditions, there could be food shortages. I don't know what level of floods we had to face, so I have chosen this bungalow as our head office as this is on a small hill. Now the teleportation devices are placed all over India in our offices. I want them to be placed in our ashrams all over the state. We should have a direct connection to the weather bureau. One person should be monitoring the weather from our office. Now it is evident from the recent weather events there were floods in Kerala in 2018 and many parts of the country have faced floods in the recent past. You must be aware of the Kedarnath floods of 2013. They must have taken note of the situation then. Maybe the death of Kumar in 2015 had some serious setbacks for them. It might be they needed some set of people for this operation merger. That could be the reason for bringing Kumar

from 1983 to 2017. Maybe he needs to stay in his time for some time to acclimatize before he can be used in the merger. As you saw there were eight chambers and only seven were used. We have to see if that could mean any shortcomings for us.

The next point is about the Rakshasas Bob mentioned. There are always bad people in this world. Maybe Bob wants to target his enemies through us. We know about the terrorists who were targeting our country. Pakistan also supports these terrorist groups. There are talks about the US military evacuation of Afghanistan. At present, we don't know how it will affect the balance of power in this region. How Russia will react to that? How the Afghanistan government will react and how the opposition Taliban will react to that? These are all questions about the future of this region.

Next is China and Pakistan's friendship, which could only be meant for attacking India from both sides. Pakistan does not have enough resources to run its own country and they want to attack India. China has a massive population, they could have massive military power. Normal Chinese lack guts, they are called yellow by Western countries, because they are scared easily. What they show in movies are just gimmicks. The lack of strength they want to replace with numbers. Last year's clashes along the border are proof of that. They have equipment but lack the experience of the Indian soldiers in the hilly regions along the borders. We don't know what PM thinks of these issues. He knows that the Chinese want a fight in that region because they don't care about the casualties. That could be the only reason for not attacking them there. They will try to make it an international incident. Or they might have a secret weapon, they want to use on India in case of a war. This possibility can't be ruled out.

Now, who will take up which part of the operations? As Sunitha was head of the operations she should head the operations now. Now Atul and I work as a team to see what can be done. We need to see what kind of extra staff we need for our operations. First, we have to check what companies we have retained and what we lost in the merger."

After thorough auditing, we found our software companies in Bombay, Future India, and Kumar's International have survived. We also have some more software companies from other timelines.

From Swamy's timeline, the chain of Super bazaars and other factories run by Sunitha. Offices in Cyber Towers we have retained, with our flat and Interior designing offices near Rao's Hospital and this bungalow.

The next flat that belonged to Doctor Rohan was up for sale and we will get it. Nandini has set up a trust with Rao's hospital and her bungalow, we have to get the details of this. Sakshi with her daughters Rachana and Disha are having problems with their Hotel. Sakshi is putting her hotel for sale and decided to come and stay in Hyderabad. She has a house in her name.

Original timeline Kumar, his wife Anita, and daughters Leena and Rashmi were retained in this timeline. This Kumar, with Nandini and her twins Atul and Reena, was sent over to the USA with others. They are Sunitha with her daughter Anjali, Loveleen with Dhruv from CA Kumar timeline, my sister Revathi with her daughter Shravani, and Joy who was married to Raj and divorced.

About the allotment of personnel, Nandini with her son Vivek Kumar Rao was shifted here, I am sending her to Bombay to look after the finances of Future India. I with Loveleen and Atul will start with the training for the Mars trip. Then we will check for Bob's enemies.

It has taken six months to consolidate our position in this timeline. It can't be termed as a timeline as it is the original timeline. We found many of our known people but they were from different timelines.

The Sakshi I knew had one daughter Disha, but now this Sakshi has two daughters. Disha has an elder sister Rachana from some other timeline. We found Leena and Rashmi and their mother Anita from the original timeline, thinking their father Kumar was missing after going abroad. They had no idea he was abroad hiding from our enemies. We could not contact them with security concerns. We all had to hide our identities. But first, we want to find our enemies.

Second, we have to send the spaceship to Mars. We have identified some people to be sent to Mars and we have to select others for the trip. We have a go-ahead from the government, we will be the first country in the world to send a manned ship to Mars. We have already sent a Mars Probe and we started receiving images of Mars.

We really don't need the images, Bob gave us permission to use their centre for landing and starting our operations there.

It seems the grant of 10 billion dollars is only a test, the work we put up to upgrade agriculture, and the education system mostly reversed or it was not carried into the original timeline. There is no sign of those 5 billion dollars or its effects. The 5b spent on space ship was not gone in vain.

Some of the people in our lives are not what we expected. I thought I would see Nandini with our two children. But I had just a glance at them before the merger. Now Nandini with Vivek Kumar has emerged after the merger. I put her as a finance head with our Future India.

Sakshi has left her hotel in Manali and came to live in Hyderabad in the house I bought for her. There was an earthquake at the time of the merger and her hotel was damaged, so Sakshi sold it off. She is not a part of our life and we don't want to trouble her with our security concerns. We later came to know that after coming to Hyderabad, she had married off Archana to Raj, whose alliance was brought by one of our cousins who had come into contact with her when she came over to Hyderabad. I could not interfere in the marriage on two points of too late information and we don't want to break our identities.

We kept our eyes on the people in our lives but kept a little distance from them. Another problem we faced was that we had two Leena's on the earth. One is the Original timeline of Kumar and Anita's daughter and merged Leena from different timelines.

So, we planned to send Anita's daughter Leena on the Mars trip.

Chapter 2

Kumar

We decided to send the spaceship to Mars, and then take up destroying the enemies. If we start targeting the enemies they could sabotage our space mission. I don't want to spoil our life mission with some revenge drama.

I put Atul and Molly in charge of selecting candidates for the trip.

We selected Disha as the coordinator to select candidates. We sent invitations to some people we had already pre-selected.

Those are Anita's daughter Leena, IT professor Nancy, and Reetu Khanna who is the niece of Loveleen. Doctor Mithali Sharma and Doctor Dhruv Khanna Kumar. Shreya Singhania who is Sunitha's daughter. Finally, Preethi Kumar is Swamy's goddaughter.

Then we gave Disha the work of selecting candidates from different fields as per requirements.

The selected candidates will be sent for Medical tests and DNA tests to find the special gene that will make space travel easier for them and to stay on the surface of Mars.

After clearing the medical, they will be sent to the training centre near Vizag. The virus lab was converted into research space travel.

Which is now set up with an artificial environment and with different gravity floors for training. We set up a small lab to test the candidates. The same type of lab is also installed on the spaceship.

It has come to our knowledge that some people are using a house in the Srisailam forest for their illegal operations. It has come to our knowledge when a team of YouTubers went to the house to record videos of ghosts. It was rumoured that ghosts existed in that place. Disha was part of the team and they recorded that people were looking for me. They are also using our technology there. They even have a transporter installed there. They only come and go through the transporter and they only operate at night, giving the impression that no one lives there, and they only operate in the night to give the impression of ghosts.

So, we started monitoring those people from the video. They even reached Anita's flat. Luckily Anita was at her parent's place at that time and Leena was at work and Rashmi was at university.

Then they tried to target the trainees at the space training centre. The security personnel brought to our notice someone was clicking

photos of the trainees. When this was brought to our notice, we installed cameras on the gangway from the quarters to the main building. Two trainees who entered as a couple were trying to avoid going to the training and then when they were forcefully sent, they tried to avoid the cameras by walking near the walls. When we checked their belongings, we found the camera they used to take photos and a couple of invisibility cloaks. We know some of the items developed by our companies, came into our enemies' possession, and now we are certain they are using those technologies to try to find us.

So, to give the impression that we are going on the space trip, we went with the selected candidates. We got on the spaceship and came out with the maintenance crew. When we were certain they were satisfied I and Loveleen were on the spaceship, and we gave permission to lift off.

I let the government announce, that I am flying as a Pilot and Loveleen would accompany me as a Co-Pilot. In fact, the spaceship would run on AI and we created avatars of us as pilots and co-pilots running the spaceship, also we put another team of Kumar and Loveleen in charge of the spaceship and their son Dhruv was flying to Mars as a doctor.

Now our next step is finding the people targeting the world, whom Bob referred to as Rakshasas.

We caught the duo, who were searching for us when they went to Nandini's flat. They must have been following Rashmi when she went to meet Nandini at her house.

We interrogated them, but we did not find anything important except knowing the person who commands the house in the forest is the second in command by the name of Kwon Cho from North Korea. They don't have any idea who is the number one in command. They never heard about him and there is no chance they would have laid their eyes on him.

Further interrogations revealed that there is one more 2nd in command working with terrorists in the Muslim world. He had tie-ups with major terrorist organisations and he is one of the persons supporting them with money and munitions. Like our Bob, he seemed to have unlimited access to money and power. We could not ascertain what kind of technology he has access to until now.

We know he laid hands on our products stored at different places. One of them could be at the house in the Srisailam jungle. The house could have landed from another timeline. He is known as Mama Ali in their circles. We could not ascertain his original name. The second wave of the coronavirus pandemic in India started in March 2021. Now it has subsided, but daily cases have spiked to more than 4 lakhs. This is the time the government rolled out vaccines first for senior citizens, then for others free. After coming to this timeline after the merger we all got the vaccine developed by our lab, which is better than the one rolled by the government. This second wave really tested the healthcare system in India. Reported deaths from these were more than 5 lakhs, but there could be an equal number of deaths from other causes induced by corona.

By now the second wave has come under control. People took control of their lives by working from home. The Internet came to be the most used for connectivity. Then mobile telephony and video communications. Many small companies were closed down, same with small business houses.

When we took stock of the situation our production was affected, but we did not incur major losses. Maybe due to the merger, we did not know what resources we were holding. We will have a clear idea after the accounts for 2020 and 2021 are finalised.

The details surrounding the conflicts that occurred on the Indo-Sino borders in 2020, resulting in the deaths of numerous soldiers from both sides, have not yet been fully disclosed. We need to analyse the situation and determine China's involvement in creating disruptions on the border. Are they attempting to divert attention from the global situation surrounding Corona, or do they have other hidden motives?

Chapter 3

Loveleen

For the last five years, I have been studying Law at London University. I did a one-year stint as a Junior Lawyer with a small firm dealing with criminal cases. I have been picked up by these people and they took me to their moon base of all places. I did not know what was happening until they put us all underground with glass partitions. In our partition was Reyansh Kumar. He was very old he seemed to be the age of my grandfather. With him was Nandini, she told me she was working as a hospital administrator and Kumar works as a software engineer specialising in hospital software, Nandini had twins named Atul and Reena.

I asked her why we were brought here. Nandini said she came there so she could return to her husband who is in another timeline. Showing the other partitions, she said he was there somewhere.

I asked her what is the name of her husband?

Nandini replied, "He is Kumar he looks like this Kumar, but a lot younger."

One by one all the partitions were filled by people who are similar looking as others in other partitions. Some age differences can be seen otherwise they are the same.

Then the man who brought us said we were starting the merging and the lights dimmed in the enclosure.

When the lights came back, there were fewer people in the enclosure.

What I observed is that duplicate people have disappeared one of each left in the glass partitions.

The men took one by one and came back again taking someone else. At first, when they came to our partition, I was scared of what they would do to me.

They did some physical tests. And then they asked me questions about what I remember about myself and what kind of memories I am carrying. When they took me to the test, I felt like I was bombarded with memories. Slowly my mind must have sorted out them and I could remember some of them. Slowly clarity came to me about my own existence and others.

I felt like I lived many lives. I felt like in some of my memories I have been married to the person Nandini mentioned as Kumar. In one of

them, I had two kids Atul and Joy. Then few others I married someone else and he turned out to be either impotent, and I had taken the help of Kumar in conceiving a son by the name of Dhruv. In one memory Nandini was the wife of Kumar and Kumar promised to make my father Chief Minister, we had a relationship for some time and when she went missing we married and I had a son from him. Then I got so immersed in politics, I started to ignore him.

The man said, whatever memories you have are the past. Put them aside and live life as you deem fit. We wanted to get a young consort for the young Kumar who has emerged from the merger. So, we had you readied for this transformation.

From there he sent all of us to Earth. Kumar said, "We have a house in Jubilee Hills we will go there and start our new life here."

I remember staying there with Dhruv, Sunitha, Anjali, Atul and Reena. After they went away abroad, we three myself, Sunitha and Anjali.

I looked around there was Kumar who was a little older than me, and Sunitha, and Joy, who were much older. Sunitha's daughter Anjali. And Dhruv and he looked a little younger than I knew him. I learned he is a doctor now. The Dhruv I know was a software engineer.

Nandini was different from the one I met on the moon base. She has a son named Vivek.

Except for me, they all seemed to know the businesses they were up to.

They sent away Nandini to look after business in Mumbai.

Kumar took me to the flat on the seventh floor. Leena and Reena have come with us to stay there. They did not look like Kumar's daughters, but instead like his younger sisters.

I did not feel like I was Kumar's wife. I did not marry him, whatever I have only memories. So, I kept a little distance from Kumar, now they are calling him Kalki instead of Kumar. I was told he was given a new name by the people on the moon base.

He seemed different from what I remembered him from my memories. He is always thinking, I felt like he was scanning the universe, trying to find information.

I heard him saying suddenly, see that person there, go and bring him here. Or he might be getting on a flight to go somewhere, keep tabs on him.

If we were going outside, he would give me a coat and a dress to go with it. I would go into my room and change and come out. I would look like a different person. He says don't remove the hair kept in the pocket. If you remove it you will lose the look of the person you look like and become your original self.

The problem with this is I can't see how I look. Even looking in the mirror, I see myself only. Over that, I see all the people using the shapeshifting devices look like their original selves.

The only way I can see them after using the shapeshifting devices is to check after taking a photo of them.

Kumar says it could be a blessing in disguise. I have the power to see the original self even in disguise, in this case, shapeshifted persons. It is a year since the merger, but we kept our physical distance.

Sunitha

I have been working from Hyderabad for the last few years. I have been different after the merger. I had a daughter Anjali and now I have another daughter Shreya. I was told she has two cousins Disha and Rachana. Even though we are not in direct contact with them, their mom Sakshi is supposed to be my sister-in-law. I was married to Kumar who came from the year 1987 to 2000. He died in his sleep in the year 2015. Another Kumar came from the year 1983 and took over our companies in the year 2020. Now the Kumar who became Kalki is a replica of that Kumar. He looks to be around 25 years of age. His mission is to find the enemies of mankind. According to Bob, they are trying to bring great floods before time. Other things support them too, like climate change. We can see the change in the climate for the last two years. Heatwaves in the summer floods in the rainy season and cold lower than normal. Temperatures are reaching record highs. Rain dumps in a local area, creating flood-like situations. Record low temperatures in the northern hemisphere, which are knocking down power stations, creating unbearable situations. There is a fear of Russia using nuclear weapons on Ukraine.

Kumar

Mostly we are using shape-shifting devices to move around to hide from enemies. They must be thinking we are on the spaceship. We kept them in a false security so that no one could stop their activities. But I am keeping an eye on their activities by planting CC TV cameras in the jungle house and connecting them to a DVR hidden secretly, which we dump in the daytime. I sent two of our persons in the guise of the two persons we got arrested using shape-shifting technology.

We got a mobile tower installed near the house on the main road, near enough to pick up signals at the house. So, we could connect the CC TV cameras to watch the proceedings at night live.

We got our breakthrough after a week of patiently watching the live feed from our cameras. I should thank Disha and her team for finding out the place.

Mama Ali came to meet Kwon Cho at the house. Even though they used coded words for the places and actions, it is apparent they are planning some kind of attack on the Indian subcontinent.

They are planning to trouble the three countries on the borders of India. Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, and Pakistan. I thought, "Why Pakistan, why a Muslim country, and Bangladesh also a Muslim country?"

Then a thought struck me, by troubling these three countries they would create an influx of refugees to India, which would put pressure not only on the country recovering from the coronavirus pandemic but also create a situation for the terrorists to enter the country without check.

They must have got this idea from the Rohingya conflict in Myanmar. How they became refugees in the neighbouring countries, and how it is affecting the border areas.

It is clear from their talks their head is from China and he is working from there to bring these changes to the Indian subcontinent.

Mama Ali reiterated his support for the cause and explained how he wanted to increase terrorist activities in the world.

Ali took leave of Kwon Cho and went through the transporter with his men.

At first, I didn't know how to manage the situation. If I had been in that Kumar's timeline who went to Mars, I could have contacted the government even the RAW head. Now I don't have contact with anyone, not even a consortium.

I took the matter to the party office in Hyderabad. I explained the position and showed them the videos. Through them, I got a visit to the Home Minister.

The state head said, "The minister had given a time after 1 hour, how can you fly there? Get a person from Delhi to visit the minister and hand over the details."

I said, "It is not a problem, we have advanced travelling systems. I can be there in an hour, please fix the appointment, and I will personally visit him."

I took leave of him and went to the nearest transporter, which was at our flat. Within half an hour, I was at the office of the Home Minister. After showing my ID, I was told to wait there in the visiting room.

I had to wait for more than an hour and the Home Secretary, Mr Mehta called me to come to his cabin. I showed him the videos, I explained to him how I came to the information about the house and how we put cameras and recorded the details. I told him it was one of our godowns, and they took it over forcefully. When he saw the men appearing from the lift, Mr Mehta asked where they were coming from the lift.

I explained to Mr Mehta, that we have been developing this technology for the last few years. We tried to sell them in the market but we were not successful. We are working on a few other technologies, which could be useful for the government.

I removed from my folder pamphlets of the products we have.

After looking at them, he called his secretary and asked to bring the Mars Trip file.

After looking at the file, he asked, "Aren't you the one who sent the Mars spaceship?"

I said yes, our firm developed the technology and built the spaceship.

Mr Mehta asked, "Then why did you not approach through them?"

I said, "This work is different from our official business. I was tasked to find those responsible for the destruction of mankind."

Mr Mehta asked, "What do you mean by that?"

"We have been planning for the last thirty years for this day."

Mr Mehta looked me up and down and asked your age doesn't seem to be more than 25, how can you be planning for the last 30 years?

"what do you think my age is, I am 58 and I have been given a new lease on life."

Mr Mehta said, "We are not worried about the neighbouring countries as they were coming down like a pack of cards. But we will look into these Kwon Cho and Mama Ali. We heard about Mama Ali, this is the first time we could put a face to his name. We will send the details to intelligence agencies."

"Did you think there is a possibility that Pakistan would put up for sale those nuclear weapons in such a situation?"

Mr Mehta said, "I don't think except for Gulf countries, there is any other buyer in the market for those nuclear weapons."

"OK, I will continue my work to gain more knowledge from these people. We already have two members in their ranks as undercover agents. They will only contact us on emergency matters. We will let them work for the time being."

I got up and walked out of the room. I am convinced they would not take my warning seriously. They may inform the RAW about Mama Ali's details, but that is all they would act up to.

I came out and called Loveleen and informed her, "I am in Delhi, and would you like to come over."

Loveleen said, "I would come over."

I said, "I would wait at our office, you come over transporter to the office."

She came in 15 minutes. I went with her and sat in the conference room. I looked her over. She looked exactly like when I first met her at my 25th birthday party. I remembered how I had brought her to my confidence by using her father's ambition of becoming CM.

"After coming over here, we have not met your parents. Why don't we meet them and explain our situation?"

We went to Loveleen's bungalow and she called the watchman from her mobile to let two visitors at the gate.

We went to the main door and switched off the shape-shifting device. We were back to our original selves.

We entered the house and Loveleen's mother Daljit Kaur came out from the inside room.

Daljit said, "I got a message from the watchman, some visitors have come, I did not know you had come from London. When did you come back? Why did you not call us about your visit?"

Loveleen said, "We came to Delhi on a business. Meet Mr. Kalki Kumar, he has many businesses and I am working with their firm."

Daljit asked, "Is he from South India?"

"Yes, Mom. He is my boss."

Daljit said, "OK, I will call your dad", and went inside.

Loveleen said, "Please sit down, let us see what Dad says."

Loveleen's father Rajveer Khanna came from inside. I stood up and shook his hands. He looked as he was when I met him when he came to visit me at my birthday party.

We sat down and Rajveer asked, "So, what do you do?"

I said, "You must have read about sending a spaceship to Mars?"

Rajveer said, "Yes, our government sent it."

"No, not the government, we have sent the spaceship, we just gave the government credit for that."

Rajveer looked at Loveleen and me and said, "Don't you both supposed to be on that ship? We saw the two of you getting on the spaceship."

Daljit said, "When we saw it on the TV, I thought Loveleen was going on the spaceship, she did not even inform us. Then thought she must be someone else, otherwise, why would she go to Mars without our permission."

"We played a drama of going to Mars."

Rajveer asked, "So what businesses do you have?"

"We have many businesses, we have many companies, Kalki Software Services, Kalki Future India, Kalki Kumar's International, Kalki Vaccine Lab, etc."

Rajveer asked, "So what business brought you here?"

Loveleen said, "We want to get married, we came to ask for your blessings."

Daljit said, "But we fixed her wedding with Gurvinder Singh ji."

Loveleen said, "You don't know what kind of person he is."

Daljit said, "But you know they have money, political backup. It would help your dad in his political aspirations."

Loveleen said, "What is the use of having money? Guru is impotent."

Daljit asked, "What do you mean?"

Loveleen said, "he can't give an offspring. Over that, he is a psychopath. Kumar has more money and political clout than them. Can they make Dad CM? Kumar can make it happen."

Rajveer asked, "Kumar, how much did you spend on the spaceship?"

Loveleen replied, "It cost more than 20 billion dollars and Kumar spent 5 billion dollars from his grant and the rest was chipped by other companies."

Daljit asked, "So you don't want to marry Guru, instead you want to marry Kumar?"

Loveleen said, "We were already married in London, we came to you for your blessings."

Daljit looked at Rajveer and said, "Come inside ji, I want to have a word."

They went to the inside room and came out after 10 minutes.

Rajveer asked, "How do you know about Guru?"

Loveleen replied, "Kumar made enquiries, he suspected something like that about Guru."

Daljit said, "If you are already married, what can we do? We will arrange a reception. Let us make arrangements, and then we will inform you."

Loveleen said, "Thanks Mom and Dad for understanding me. You fix a date and give me a call. At present, I am staying in Hyderabad."

Loveleen got up and said come to Kumar, they both went to her room and she opened the lock and went over to the cupboard standing in a corner.

Daljit and Rajveer came behind them and looked at what they were doing.

Loveleen switched on the transporter and said, "Mom and Dad this is a travelling machine developed by Kumar's company. Using this machine, we can travel anywhere in a matter of seconds. We kept it switched off for security fears. After we go away, switch this off, when I want to return here, I will call you to ask to switch it on. Ok." We got in and selected Hyderabad and reached Hyderabad.

Loveleen called her mom and told her to switch the transporter off.

After a week I received a call from Defence Ministry to come and meet the minister.

I went over to Delhi with Loveleen and Atul.

We went to the Defence Minister's office. We were seated in the meeting room.

One by one ministers walked in. Defence minister, Home Minister and Minister of External Affairs. The Prime minister is the last to walk in. I was surprised PM joined the meeting. But I kept that to myself.

The Defence Minister spoke first. "This meeting is regarding finding the identity of Mama Ali. We enquired with our agencies and we could find him attending many meetings, and he even attended his sister's Nikah a few days back in Dubai. But we could not find his travelling plans, nor did we find him getting into any vehicle."

Atul said, "I checked, at this moment he is at Al Karim Skyscraper in Dubai. He is on the top floor. He is not seen getting into any vehicles because he does not use vehicles or planes, he uses a transporter. He also uses shape-shifting devices and also Invisibility cloak, which makes him difficult to track.

Defence Minister said, "The second point is we are getting reports that the USA will be directly helping Ukraine in the war. They are ready to dispatch an army to help in the war between Russia and Ukraine. With that, all the NATO countries would be joining in the war. Our council of ministers decided to stay out of this war. Will China support this war?"

I said, "China will not get involved with Russia Ukraine war, instead it is planning to hit India from both sides with the help of Pakistan."

External Minister asked, "Pakistan's financial position is very bad, would they try to attack India in such a situation?"

I said, "They don't have another alternative to placate the people. They will try to use the war machine they accumulated all these years, by spending the grants provided by the USA. Now people are questioning their foolish spending on defence. But we have a better solution to their aggression. We have developed drones with the capability to fire small-sized missiles. These are very powerful and they are very deadly. We can use them to control the forward troops. Then some drones can fire normal missiles like they are used by the USA, which can attack their tanks. If they bring their air force,

we have another technique to stop them. We are developing a point-and-fire EMP device that can fall any plane. We can also stop their drones.”

The Defence Minister asked, “Will it not affect our electronic devices?”

I said, “That is the reason we developed pointed stream. Normally it would knock down our device too.”

The home minister asked, “When did you develop these and why are we hearing about them now?”

I said, “We have been working on these technologies for many years. But at the beginning of 2021, we had to consolidate our companies.”

The PM spoke at last, “So, you are confident of meeting any kind of eventuality.”

I said, “We are keeping our eyes and ears peeled to find out what is happening around the world. We have the technology we can spy on any country or any individual. We have hacked into all the countries’ networks. We are not coming out with any details, because we don’t want to alarm them. From sitting here, we can tell you what is happening around the world.” I looked at Atul and said, “Can you tell what the US president doing at present.”

Atul said, “he is getting ready to retire to his bedroom.”

The defence minister said, “Tell us something we can verify or useful.”

Atul said, “A few hours back he had a meeting with the heads of military, and finalised to attack Russia. The army is getting ready to drop their troops in Ukraine in a few hours. I think this you can verify.”

The defence minister asked, “What else?”

“All the NATO countries are getting ready to support the USA.”

“What about China?”

I said, “I told you, China will refuse to drag itself into the Russia-Ukraine war and instead will plan to attack India in collusion with Pakistan.”

As expected the army troops started landing in Ukraine’s city’s outskirts occupied by Russia.

The US president offered a grant to Pakistan to use their previous air bases which were used in the Afghan war, which Pakistan refused. Pakistan is planning to attack India in collusion with China. If Pakistan allowed the USA to use their air bases, Pakistan had to support the USA in the war and they could not attack India.

Indian authorities watched Pakistan and China start mobilising their troops along the border areas. Their contention is they were doing so that India couldn't attack them.

India did not say anything to their allegations, they kept silent. The Opposition started hammering in the press that they should come out with their point of view.

India sent small troops to the border areas where the Pakistan and China army were gathering their troops.

Instead of troops, India started mobilising trucks along the border. The opposition went berserk accusing the government of trying to stop the advancing army with the empty trucks placed in their way. One fine morning Sino-Pak army decided to start an offensive against India.

Seeing the troops advancing forward, the Soldiers standing behind the trucks started cutting the ropes holding the top in place, thus exposing the contents of the trucks.

As the army approached the fence, a swarm of drones flew overhead and began attacking the troops closest to the fence. Within moments, the initial troops were severely weakened by the constant bombing from the drones. The backup troops quickly contacted the Chief of the Armed Forces of Pak for assistance, who then authorized the use of Nuclear missiles. However, when the operators attempted to fire the missiles, they were unable to do so as they had been hacked and locked out by India. The same thing happened on the China side.

So, beaten on the first attempt, their counterparts called the external minister and asked to stop the war immediately. Which he accepted saying it was not our intention to go to war. He asked them to withdraw their forces immediately to keep the peace in the region.

So, this way India has won a double war in two border areas.

Boldened by winning the war against Sino-Pak troops, India issued a warning to the USA and Russia to stop the war immediately and come to discussions.

With this single stroke, India became a superpower in the world delegating the USA and Russia to the second positions.

With one victory in our kitty, we started to find out the man or shall we call Asur behind the war against India. We started to reference him as Asur for lack of a better name.

We got an idea of who he could be when Kwon Cho and Mama Ali visited China. They had a closed-door meeting with several ministers. It is difficult to pinpoint the Asur among them, but we have shortlisted several people to verify.

We shifted our operations to the Island Bunker built by Bob.

After working there for a week, keeping an eye on the members from our list, we could not conclude who that person could be.

All of them are Chinese and they are ministers in the cabinet. They don't have the appearance of not being Chinese or being an Asur.

Normally Chinese are short people. If the Asur we are looking for is a mixed breed, he would be tall above 6 feet or more precisely 6 feet 6 or more. He could be towering 7 feet. So, he could be using shape-shifting to appear shorter and also, he could be hiding his non-Chinese characters.

Loveleen can see through shape-shifting, but she has to see the person personally, she can't unmask them by seeing through camera lenses.

After consultation with the Government, we decided to send Loveleen to China as Ambassador's assistant. This way she can meet the Chinese ministers.

Loveleen

Upon my arrival at Beijing airport, I was transported to the Indian embassy where I received a diplomatic identification. From there I was taken to the Ambassador's office.

I was given a cabin and everything I required to run the office of the Ambassador.

It is after three days we got an invitation to a party on the occasion of Chinese New Year.

My boss Ambassador Neeta Bijlani along with her entourage landed at the Beijing Cultural Centre where the party is being organised. I went with the team and met whomever to meet and stood aside with a glass. Seeing an international photographer who set up his tripod and took photos of the guests, I went and stood beside him chit chatting and looking at what he was clicking and comparing mentally what I saw and what he was photographing. At the end of the party, I gave him my email ID to send the photos to me.

The next day I got a link to the photos taken by the photographer. I went through each photo and each person in that photo. I tried to compare them to the people I met at the party. I could not find any inconsistencies. The people in the photos looked exactly like the people I met. Either none of them is using shapeshifting cloaks or my power of looking through the shapeshifting cloak is not working. Possibly they must have solved the problem of my seeing through them.

I called Kumar and gave him my report of the party.

Kumar advised me to come back to India, we will go through another method of finding the Asur. It is not advisable to stay any longer there in China.

So, I caught the next flight and flew back to India. It was lucky for me as again the coronavirus cases were increasing in many cities in China and they are being quarantined.

I landed in Chennai and went to our office and was transported to Hyderabad.

I showed the pictures provided by the photographer to Kumar. He commented, "All of these seem to be accurate, which means that he is probably not present at the party."

"I thought who and who of Chinese VIPs would be present at the New Year's Party. But it is a disappointment to find he has not attended the party. Kumar, do you think he is no more in China?"

Kumar replied, "We were following what Bob told us before going on the Mars tour. The circumstances might have changed after the timeline's merger. He could be anywhere in the world. It will be no surprise that he is in India at present. Using the house in the forest could be an indication."

I said, "It seems at the time of the merger they must have laid their hands on our products. Or there is a possibility they may be producing them when they get their hands on your blueprints. Using transporters in a different frequency could be an indication of that."

Kumar said, "Yes, you could be right. I was wondering where they could have laid their hands on our products and why they could shift their operations to India. But the war with Pakistan and China implies they have their ties intact with China. But with the war, Asur must have fallen on his face. He must have lost the face and shifted to India permanently."

"If Asur advised China to go to war together with Pakistan against India, he certainly would have lost his credibility. He would not have any other option to get away from them. What better option than to hide out in India? He has the shapeshifting cloak and the invisibility cloak to avoid detection. We are lucky to have the drones we developed in our timeline transferred here."

Kumar said, "We should keep an eye on the house in the forest to find out more about Asur."

Kumar

We are in the Island Bunker keeping an eye on the monitors from around the world. We have hacked into the feed of the NSA to monitor many countries. NSA hacked into the feeds of other countries and Atul hacked into them. His hacking abilities have come to use here. Then he was hacking blueprints and details of the projects and passing them on to the government."

Gopi said, "Sir, see this feed from the forest house. What he is doing there?"

I switched to the feed from the forest house. I said, "Yes, he is the minister from the state cabinet, what is he doing at the forest house? He is telling in his broken English that they are trying to collect donations from businesses. And he needs more time to collect the required funds.

The people the minister was talking with are out of focus. We could go back into the recording and check who has come into the house. Or wait until they leave the house. But I want to check what is going on.

I could not see the reaction of the people the minister was speaking to, but the minister's reaction changed to that of fear. He said, "Sorry sir, I will follow your orders."

I did not understand what orders he would follow, but I continued watching him. He nodded his head and turned back. The people who brought him took him to the transporter. I waited for an hour but nothing was happening there. No one moved and no one attempted to go to the transporter.

I asked Gopi to check the footage of who had come into the house. After half an hour Gopi came back and said, "It does not appear that anyone came into the house."

Then it struck me that the minister was talking to the TV monitors on the wall and they didn't have a sound facility instead they were using subtitles. It seems they might have some doubts about someone eavesdropping on their conversations. Some days back there was a skirmish between these people and some treasure hunters who entered the house in the night. So, they must be taking extra precautions by not coming there personally and communicating through video. Setting up the mobile towers came to their use. We might go and install additional cameras, but they may suspect something. But what the minister is doing there? To find out, I had to take action.

I called Gopi and told him to send a team to place additional cameras at the house to get a good idea of what was going on.

When the team returned from installing additional cameras, I could see the setup of computers, speakers and TV monitors on the wall. It seems they kept switching off the speakers.

I got a call from Loveleen and she said, "Dad and Mom are calling to arrange a Reception for us."

I said, "Let them make arrangements and tell me, and I will come over there."

We got the taste of the minister agreeing to collect donations, when some people from the party in power in the state, came to our office to collect political donations. Our manager told them he had to get permission from the board and sent them away.

I had to call central leadership to tell the state party not to come to us for donations. They never returned asking for donations.

After a few days when we were checking the forest house, we got our first breakthrough. This time finance minister was brought to the forest house.

They were in a Zoom meeting and the screen showed the participants, who are Kwon Cho, and Mama Ali, one man I never laid my eyes on before. He was dark in colour, seemed to be of good height and with a body on him any bodybuilder would be ashamed and the CM of the state.

If it is surprising to find the minister here, it is astonishing to find the CM on a video call with them.

I could see the tall man is Asur or one of his lieutenants. But what is the CM's relation to him? From the time he took leadership of the state, he was hell-bent on running the state finances to the ground. Attacking opposition members physically wherever possible or attacking them verbally. Their party members have crossed all the lines politically. The minister switched on the speakers, it seems he is having a problem reading the English subtitles. Now we can hear what they are saying. The minister was talking about a project. There are no payments available and no further loans available. The tall man told them to go for loans from the World Bank. If required he will make the arrangements for the loan.

The CM agreed to his proposal and told him to go for it. From their discussions the tall man's name is Makara. There was no indication of his rank. But he seemed to be a top lieutenant in Asura's entourage, possibly the right-hand man. I tried to catch what they were talking about, but it was a little difficult to follow with the low sound of the speaker. I did not catch Makara's boss's name, they are only referring to him as the boss.

Makara told them he would have a talk with the boss and cut the video call. CM said, "Let us see what he will come up with."

FM said, "But we need the money urgently, we have to clear the bills."

CM said, "It is your company's bills only, can't you wait a few days?"

FM said, "We have to pay our creditors, they are overdue."

CM said, "Just wait 2 days, or else we will route from some other project."

I did not understand why they were talking among themselves. There is no use discussing these details online. Then it struck me they were discussing these details for the advantage of the audience. Either for Kwon Cho and Mama Ali or for the Asur who must be watching them without coming online. From all this, it seems Asur shifted his HQ to India. But how to know who he is and where he is?

They discussed finances for some time and disconnected the video call.

I kept looking at the blank screen and dozed off. When I opened my eyes, it was 7 am and went and got a cup of coffee and sat down to watch the screens.

Surveillance has become a part of our job. Until we can destroy the enemies of the world we can't have a good night's sleep.

My mind went over to the Puranas I read during my lifetime. There is a lot of difference between the translated ones and the original ones. If we see the Dashavatharams, the first two are Macha Avatar and Kurma Avatar, Fish, and Tortoise respectively. These two are symbols of the restoration of the world after great floods or Pralayams. Like a fish guided Manu to safety. Tortoise does not seem to be the correct symbol for how he helped the world. Vishnu recovered the earth which was covered in water. It might be used because Tortoise can live both in water and land.

Now the next Eight Avatars are supposed to destroy Asur or Rakshasas. They start from Varaha Avatar, Narasimha, Vamana, Parashurama, Rama, Krishna, Buddha and Kalki. Except for Buddha, all others are supposed to destroy the Asura Klan.

The Varaha avatar is supposed to restore the earth to its former glory by slaying Hiranyaksha.

Narasimha specifically comes to kill Hiranyakashipu brother of Hiranyaksha. Hiranyakashipu gets boons from Brahma after the death of Hiranyaksha, not to be killed by anything, like man or animal or with any kind of sword. So, Vishnu had to take the avatar of half lion and half man and kill him with the bare hands of the lion.

In Vamana Avatar he takes the avatar of a small Brahman boy to kill Mahabali by pushing him into the earth.

Parashurama kills the kings on earth in revenge.

Rama Kills Ravana in a battle to recover Sita his wife.

Krishna killed the remaining Asuras in a coordinated attack on them for many years, which started with killing his uncle and his mother's brother Kamsa.

Now from the stories it can be gleaned that Brahma is the one who helped these Asuras multiple times. So, there may be very few temples for Brahma, actually two.

Because he helped Asuras, the gods forbid him to be not eligible for prayers. Those two temples must have been erected by the Asuras. Buddha teaches us to live peacefully.

Now Kalki is supposed to come to the rescue of the earth when in turmoil. I don't think I am an incarnation of Vishnu, as I don't have any DNA belonging to him. I am supposed to take his place as an assistant to his bidding but not a replacement.

There were some questions about who are these gods. They could be intergalactic travellers or they could be an intelligent race from before the pralaya or the great floods. When everything on the earth was destroyed except for those living in the water, they must have saved themselves by living in the water in a kind of submarine or spaceship making rounds of the earth. They could have saved some people by helping them. The story of Macha Avatar comes into understanding this matter. From this, it can be understood they were intelligent beings on Earth before the last pralaya.

The last pralaya was supposed to happen 11,000 years back. If we take into Buddha was born between the 5th and 6th Century BC. If Krishna died in 3102 BC, then Dwaparyug ended and Kaliyug started. So, Buddha was an attempt to remedy the problems before the gods left this earth. It was 2500 years from the start of Kaliyug and now after 2500 years of Buddha being born, they must be trying to save the earth from further destruction. It can be seen from the changes in weather and wars. If we had not been involved in the war, I can imagine what could be the consequences of the war.

The Kurukshetra war had two opposing sides: the Pandavas and the Kauravas. The kings of the Indian subcontinent were divided between these factions. It's evident that Krishna aimed to unify the

country under a single ruler, or that both sides possessed many powerful weapons. The Mahabharata reveals that most of these weapons were utilized during the war.

In Ramayana, Vishwamitra passed on the warheads to Ram before the war with Māreeca and Subāhu and their army.

In the story of Mahabharata, the warheads were only given to students by their respective teachers. Those who were not from royal families were not permitted to have them. Karna, who was actually Kunti's son, was raised by a charioteer who was from a lower caste. When Drona refused to teach him due to his caste, Karna lied and said he belonged to the Brahmana caste in order to learn from Parashurama. However, when Parashurama discovered the truth, he cursed Karna, causing his warheads to fail at crucial moments and undoing his learning.

It's unclear what type of warheads they have that can be passed on through teachings. Are they being instructed on how to access and launch the warheads? It appears that the translators lacked the necessary knowledge or vocabulary to accurately describe them. It's possible that the translators don't possess either the knowledge or the words to describe them.

From what I have learned on my Mars trip, it seems the gods are pretty intelligent beings with technology far greater than we have at present. But sometimes they were found to use crude technology, which might be to hide the technology from humans. They had temples that seemed like they were their offices or living quarters. They had installed dwajasthambam or a kind of flag pole in front of the temples, which are supposed to work as mobile towers. People are found to have some kind of sensation when they sit in the temples or meditate.

There are also some stories of warnings by Akashvani equivalent to our Radios. In Bhagavatam, it was written that Kamsa was warned about Krishna arriving as the eighth son of his sister Devaki and Vasudeva. Those Asuras in those times may have been keeping in touch through radios. Someone knowing that the gods were planning to bring Krishna into the world might have informed Kamsa that Vishnu's Incarnation would be born to kill Kamsa and his entourage. Knowing this in advance Kamsa plans to kill all the children born to his sister Devaki and Vasudeva by putting them in

his jail. He kills each one of them and in the end, Vasudeva to save Krishna takes him out of the jail to leave Krishna with his cousin Nanda and his wife Yashoda, and replaces him with a girl child.

When Kamsa finds he cannot locate Krishna, he sends his people to kill each and every infant born during the time. Instead, Krishna kills each of them. How much of that is true, we might not know, but he must have had some help during his infancy. When he becomes a young man, he goes and kills Kamsa. Krishna takes help from Pandavas to kill many Asur. His plan to incite the Kurukshetra war must be his final project to rid the Indian subcontinent of Asur.

When Ashwatthama invoked or fired Brahma Astra all the children of the kings including those in the stomach of their mothers were killed. Somehow Krishna takes Pandavas to safety and saves them. Only very few of them can invoke Brahma Astra at that time.

I don't know how they are considering Buddha as a Vishnu reincarnation. There is no proof of that. It seems by the time of Buddha the gods have left the earth. There is no proof of his being manipulated. Maybe he is destined towards it.

From all this, I have to find the Asur, who is responsible for this turmoil in this world. For the problems with weather and spoiling of rivers and seas, successive governments are responsible, not Asur. Governments and municipalities are responsible to let drain water seep into the rivers and seas if the cities are beside the sea. All our beaches are filled with garbage. And the water quality is nothing to talk about. But according to Bob Asur is responsible for all the turmoil in the world for the past few centuries.

If we look at the problems between gods and rakshasas it goes back aeons. It must have flared when the gods tried to cheat Rakshasas after they together went in search of Amrutha the eternal life giver. According to Puranas Amrutha is churned out of the ocean of milk. Actually, it was the result of the search for finding it in the Milky Way galaxy using the spaceship of Vishnu called Vasuki. At that time gods and demons went in search of Amrutha with the intention of sharing. They had to go to war with the people holding or preparing the Amrutha. The gods took hold of the Amrutha and they returned to earth. Gods want to cheat Asuras by sharing among themselves the Amrutha and want to show an empty hand to Asuras. They are cousins from different lineages.

Angered by their subterfuge the Asuras decided to take revenge on them and went to war with them. Somehow, they cornered the catch of warheads and the gods had to go on the run. Shiva took the army and went to war with them. Vishnu uses different methods to destroy the enemy.

So, the fighting must have ended when both parties wanted to stop the war and go away. That must be the time of Kaliyug's start. The gods know they won't have the patronage they enjoyed for all these years. In these troubled times, it is difficult to get people to help them out. They don't want to beg people and decided to go away leaving a group of assistants to look after the affairs of the world. Now, what happened is that instead of wallowing in their problems, the people started to offer things to the gods when their wants needed to be fulfilled. Old temples were revived and it is people's belief that helped them out and they started to attribute that to the god's powers. They started to attribute every happening in the world to gods. There is a saying without Shiv's approval even an ant won't bite. So, this way those people who were going in the wrong way, attributed everything to gods. But some people found a loophole in that, their thinking is that do sin and clean it up by offering to gods. Slowly the fear of Hell eroded in people and they turned psychopaths without fear of good or bad. Judiciary with their caseloads taking time to pass judgements helped people with money. Those with money can avoid jail by getting bail and those without money were jailed awaiting judgement for years together. So, those with many cases against them can avoid convictions and they can even stand in elections and can become ministers. They continue to loot the exchequer by offering projects and getting kickbacks. They offer cash through welfare schemes to the people. They hit two birds with one stone. They don't need to offer cash during elections, there is always one election or another and the results are proof of that. There is another angle to that, they would put money in the bank accounts, but for some, they offer the cash under a different category and collect back and fill their own pockets by threatening them. They stop all the projects of the previous governments and either change the names and offer them to the public or prepare their own projects and sell them for a price. It has happened with the housing projects. The people under the

previous government got allotments of houses and the people paid some amount for the houses. This new government did a turnaround and cancelled the allotments and offered lands which are not useful for the people, either they were locked for sale or away from the cities. They threaten people to accept these lands or else lose the money paid.

Another proof, people do not fear anything, is the type of cases coming out. One would kill his paramour chop her into pieces and scatter around. Taking inspiration from that many would follow without impunity. Rape cases are increasing day by and they don't even spare children and toddlers. Because they lack the fear of god or the police and judiciary. The police would leave those with money and influence and would kill the poor people in an encounter.

People get angry and without any care about the word kill and then go to the police station and surrender. They contain their anger as long as they can and they burst once and for all. So, all this must be an indication that Kaliyug is in the high now.

But according to the same puranas the Kaliyug would last for 4,32,000 years and 427000 would be left for the next Pralayam. But it does not seem the earth would last such a long time, at least its population.

But during 2012 there was a lot of talk of the world ending and a 12th planet would approach the earth making it unstable. Nothing such thing happened and they postponed that date to 2020 and still, nothing happened.

But if we take into consideration the existence of such a 12th planet, it would not have changed anything or it would not have any effect on our earth. Because it would have made millions of rounds of the sun and its path would be beyond Mars. There is no history of its effect on the Earth.

One thing I found out after coming to this timeline is social networking. These sites influence people with their ramblings.

There are people whose work is to influence people. If any kind of voting is conducted, they start their work. These people garner millions of subscribers to their channels or accounts. There are firms offering services to influence the population.

I have to see how I can use these social networking sites.

Atul came over and told me to go home. I will look after the monitoring.

I got up and came out of the bunker. There on secured transporter, which I opened with my palm and transported to Hyderabad house. I went to my room and slept off.

I woke up to a TV news sound from far off. Something struck in my mind and I went to the hall switched on the TV and selected a news channel. There was a discussion going on about calling someone Surpanaka in parliament. The discussion about, can the ruling party people call opposition party member Surpanaka. Opposition party members are calling for an apology from the member who used the word Surpanaka. It was not directed towards any member, and neither any member was targeted by the word.

My mind is going into overdrive with the name. Why, I could not understand but something is burrowing in my mind. Then it struck me, that until now we are looking at male Rakshasas ignoring female Rakshasas. Why can't a female Rakshasa like Surpanaka can look after the affairs of terrorism?

I called Loveleen and Atul and explained to them my theory of female villains.

They both agreed on the possibility and will look out for them.

PART 3

Searching for Rakshasi

Chapter 1

Loveleen

Kumar's theory of the enemy being a female, brought a new thought process for searching for them. That could be the reason why we could not find the person.

But how should I go about finding the Rakshasi, that is what Kumar was calling her. It is the female version of the Demon. He gave an example of Surpanaka from Ramayana. How she tried to seduce Ram and Laxman cut her nose and ears and sent her away. She goes and complains to her brother Ravana. That is the start of enmity between them.

My mobile rang, it is Mom asking me to come to Delhi to finalise arrangements for the reception.

I said, "I will be there in half an hour, please switch on the machine I showed you in my room."

Mom said, "I will switch it on and inform you."

I cut the call and continued with my work.

I got a call from Mom after some time.

I took the call and Mom said, I could not switch on the machine, what will you do?

I said, "Don't worry, I will go to our office and will come from there."

Mom said okay then and cut the call.

I packed the papers I was studying in the bag, went to the transporter went over to our Delhi office. From there I took a company car and reached home.

Mom showed me the details of the reception and invitations and I made corrections and handed the invitations back to Mom to send for printing.

I sat in the hall checking the papers, the servant switched on the TV.

I looked up at her, she said sorry mam, daily serial.

I continued with my work. The serial being completed she switched on to a movie running on TV.

I heard a fighting sound and looked up at the tv.

I saw two people fighting. There is a big man, must be around 6 and a half and with a terrific body fighting an average man. I looked at the fighting transfixed. I asked the servant, Priya, who are they, fighting on the screen?"

Priya replied, "The big fellow is the villain, Mohsin, and the hero is Faizal Khan."

I asked, "Can you tell me more about Mohsin?"

"He is a big man in the industry. His elder sister is also from the industry. But now she shifted to politics. She is a minister in the Maharashtra assembly."

"What is her name?"

"Mahima Khan."

I picked up my phone and searched for Mahima Khan.

After reading about her, I felt an apprehension about her. I called Kumar and asked him to do a deep dive into Mahima Khan.

Kumar

I have been sitting for the last hour at a table in the bar, where I am supposed to meet a client. I have been nursing a glass of beer waiting for the client, who was late. I took a sip from the glass and looked around.

My eyes fell on a couple sitting across, and the girl is facing me and I could see the man's back. When my eyes fell on the girl, she smiled at me. I thought maybe she is smiling at someone behind and looked back. There is no one and I looked at her again, and again she gave a dazzling smile, I smiled back and thought where could I have seen her? I could not recollect having laid my eyes on her anytime. Normally I forget names but don't forget faces.

She got up from her seat, whispered something to her companion came over to me and asked, "can I sit here?"

I said please. I looked at her face trying to place her.

"I can't recollect meeting you. I am Kumar and you are?"

"I am Monica, I am Anil Bajaj's sister. I thought you left on the Mars trip?"

"No, I did not go on the trip, it was just a publicity stunt."

"My brother told me you had planned the whole trip and developed the spaceship and all. How long did it take to plan and execute the trip?"

"I think it took around 15 years."

"You look so young, at what age did you start preparing for the trip?"

"I started at the age of 34."

“you don’t look older than 25, how can you start at the age of 34 and what age are you 50? How can you look so young?”

“I am a scientist, we were doing some experiments.”

“Are you waiting for someone? I hope I am not disturbing you?”

“No, you are not disturbing me, I think my client has stood me up.”

“In this mobile age, they did not even inform you?”

“Maybe some problem. So, what are you doing here?”

“I came here to meet with a producer with my manager.”

I thought she came with her manager. He did not even look at our side. Either he doesn’t care or she might have warned him.

“So, what do you do?”

“I produce films and TV serials.”

“But why meet with another producer?”

“Producers also need money, so I came to meet with a producer to talk about financing.” She removed a card from her purse and handed it to me.

Monica Khan, Film and TV Producer and her office address is mentioned on the card.

“Monica Khan?”

“I am married to Mohsin Khan, you don’t seem to know about Bollywood.”

“Sorry, no. I was busy with work for the last few years.”

“Shall we go somewhere else for dinner?”

I looked into her eyes, there seemed to be a genuine interest in her request for dinner.

“What about your manager?”

“Don’t worry about him, he has some other work. He can look after himself.”

I got up and said, “ok let us go, do you have someplace in mind?”

“Yes, I have, come with me.” She linked her hand to mine and walked out.

Seeing her coming out, her driver brought her car and stopped in front of us.

I opened the door and she sat down and moved further in the seat indicating for me to sit in. I sat beside her and she told the driver the place and he drove the car.

We reached the restaurant in 10 minutes. I got down and by the time the driver got down and opened the door on her side, and she got down.

We went inside and she must be a regular there, seeing us the waiter sat us at a table and handed us menu cards.

I put the menu aside and asked, "Monica, you wanted to speak something with me, please proceed."

She hesitated for a second, to tell what is in her mind or not. My direct questioning might have put her in discomfort. Then said, "You have developed such a technology, I want to have a story on the future of technology that should put Hollywood stories to shame. Can you help me develop such a story?"

I said, "I might have some manuscripts on technology. I have to check where I have placed them. After coming back from Mars, I have packed up the manuscript writing business."

"You mean to say you have been to Mars and back?"

"Before starting the research of space technology, I have been to Mars, after coming back from Mars I have been busy with the development of space technology and ignored the story writing business. I think they are in my software office in Juhu."

The waiter came to take the order, I picked up the menu and ordered a simple dinner. Monica ordered her dinner.

"Can I look at the manuscripts?"

"Sure, I will have to dig them out. After dinner, if you want to have a look, I can take you to our office."

"Please do that."

The waiter brought dishes and placed them on the table. I silently served myself and started eating. Monica looked at me and started to serve herself.

Finishing my dinner, I sat back and relaxed, thinking about Loveleen's insights into Mahima Khan and her family. I called Atul through my mind-controlled device and asked him to look into Mohsin Khan and his wife Monica.

Immediately Atul responded and gave their history. Mahima Khan was in the movies and when her roles dried up, she went into politics and was elected MLA and became a minister in the present assembly. Her younger brother Mohsin Khan is six foot seven inches in height with a body he maintains by hitting the gym daily. He came

into the movie industry with the help of his sister and his height has become his plus point to work as a villain. He is a true villain and there were news stories that any normal human being would be ashamed of. He met Monica Bajaj at a pre-release party and he started to woo her in his signature style. But at first, she did not fall for him. They came close when she offered him a role in her movie and they started dating from that time. There are rumours about how they came to get married. It seems he was trapped by a junior artist and to get out of her clutches he married Monica. After marriage, she took advantage of her in-laws and expanded her movie business. It seems the Khans have some underground gang backing and they financed her movies. It is all rumours and there is no proof of Mahima's relation to the gangster who is in Dubai at present.

Monica asked, "What are you thinking?"

I said, "I am thinking about what story is suitable for you. I have a storyline with a spy ring, shapeshifting device, invisible cloak, anti-gravity devices with thrusters and all kinds of futuristic devices."

"Do you have the manuscript ready or it is to be developed."

"I think I got this kind of story developed, I have to check it out. I also have a story on Aliens attacking the earth set in the future."

Monica completed her dinner and the waiter came and cleared the dishes and plates.

I asked, "Do you want anything possibly an Ice cream?"

"No thanks, waiter bill please."

I thought of asking her about their links to the gangsters investing in her projects. But decided against it and let us see where this leads. If I can come in contact with the head of the gang, I might get a lead to the Asur's identity.

The waiter brought the bill and she signed it and returned without paying. She either must have an account there, or this restaurant might be their own.

Monica got up and I also got up and followed her. She asked where can I drop you?

I looked at the time it is after 11 pm. Loveleen is in Delhi and Atul is in the Island centre. If I can have her use a mind-controlled communication device, I can put her under surveillance. I can track her movements too.

I said, "I thought of going back to Hyderabad. But I have to give you those manuscripts, so I will be going to my flat in Andheri West." I know we stored some of the products there.

We sat in the car and Monica told the driver to drive to Andheri West.

"So, who stays at Andheri flat?"

"No one, it was my first flat. Now we are using it as a store room."

When the driver asked for directions after reaching Andheri, I gave him directions to reach the flat. I told him to go in and park in my parking.

I got down and asked, "Monica why don't you come up? I will show you some of the products I told you about in the book."

She looked at me as if to believe me or not. She might be thinking I might be asking her to come up with some ulterior motive. I had my sincere face on. She must have thought I am as harmless as a kitten.

"Ok, I will come with you and check them out."

We both went over to my flat and I opened the door and invited her. There is a stale smell in the air, as no one is using the flat. Sometimes Sunitha comes over to go to her parent's flat.

I switched on the lights and then I opened the window and looked at Sunitha's flat. The window is closed. The room is filled with boxes neatly placed and there in the corner transporter.

Monica asked, "What are all these boxes?"

"I was talking about these futuristic products only."

I opened the box containing mind-controlled devices removed a box from that and handed it to Monica.

"This is called a mind-controlled communication device. We don't need mobiles or mobile signals or sims, it will connect to any available mobile tower or if any mobile tower is not reachable it will connect to a satellite. We will never be out of touch anywhere in the world. You can try it out."

"How to use this?"

"Just remove the earbuds and put them in each ear. It will ask for your name and mobile no. When you think of them, it will be set up with your name and mobile number. If you don't have a mobile number it will assign a number for you."

Monica removed the earbuds and looked at them and me as if she suspected I am pulling her leg. She then placed them in each ear.

There was a surprise on her face as if she did not believe what she was hearing in her mind.

I asked my communicator to call Monica. My thoughts were transferred to her.

She said, "What else do you have?"

I said, "Did you see the lift-like thing in the corner?"

"I thought why are you having the lift in your flat."

"It is called a transporter, using this we can go anywhere in the world where we have another transporter available. I can go to Delhi in a second."

I opened another box and removed a coat. "This is called a shape-shifting device. Using this you can imitate anyone if you have their DNA with you."

"DNA means?"

"Like a hair, or saliva or something like that. If you wear the coat and put the DNA in this pocket and press this switch, you will transform into that person, and your voice and mannerisms will also change to that person."

I dropped the coat on the box picked another box and removed another coat. "This is called an invisible cloak. If you wear this and press this switch, you will be invisible to anyone, even cameras can't pick you up. Then we have anti-gravity packs and thrusters. We have some more products in the factory."

I went on checking other boxes and found a box marked manuscripts. I opened and removed folders. I checked the synopsis of each folder and I chose two and handed them to Monica.

"What are these folders?"

"You asked for manuscripts, these are stories on the use of futuristic technology."

Monica looked at them and dropped them on the table. It seemed she didn't want to go home, so I asked, "Would you like a nightcap? I have a good stock of scotch."

She looked at me as in two minds, to accept my invitation for a drink or get out of the apartment and return home. Finally, she must have decided my acquaintance is a necessity for her future.

"Ok, I will have a peg of the best you have."

I went to the second bedroom and brought a bottle of scotch. I put the bottle on the table and went into the kitchen brought two glasses and poured a peg each and handed her a glass.

Monica tasted it and said, "Very good one. If you don't stay here how come you have stock of these?"

"Long back I used to stay here, in my college days I used to trade in them. After college, I closed my business and stored the stock in my flat. From that time, I used to buy the best stock and store them here."

"How long back?"

"Somewhere around 25 years back. I have lots of memories here.

"There was a small change in my voice.

Monica looked at me sharply. "Did you have bad memories here?"

"Not all of them bad. But in the end, all of them left me and went away."

Monica must have thought, she had enough, she stood up and caught the books and said, "After going through these I will let you know."

She tried to remove the earbuds, but they are struck.

"These are not coming out."

"They are connected to you, they can't be removed like that. Keep them they will come in handy."

"How they will come in handy?"

"You can speak without a mobile phone. You don't need to speak up, there is no fear of someone eavesdropping. You can control it with your mind, you can switch it off if you don't need it. You can call anyone with a thought. Even if you are kidnapped you can contact the police. There are endless possibilities."

"Ok, I will try them for a few days. Meet you in a few." She moved towards the door. I opened the door and dropped her at her car. She sat down and the driver drove her out of the compound."

I returned to the flat, switched on the ac, changed and lay on the bed.

After some time, I got a message, a call from Monica. I thought to connect the call.

Monica said, "Good night."

I said, "Good night", thinking she must have reached her house. I slipped into sleep. I heard a sound of a man what are you reading?

Monica might not have disconnected the call. She said a manuscript. Someone gave two manuscripts on future technology use. I think this is good for a movie or TV series.

The man said, "ok come to the bed." After a few minutes, I heard the sound of moaning. It seems they are lovemaking. I disconnected the call and slipped into sleep.

I woke up with a call from Monica. She said good morning, did you wake up?

I said, "I woke up with your call."

"Sorry, I thought you would be awake now."

"It is ok, what can I do for you?" Remembering the moaning sound, she made last night.

"I have read a little of the manuscript, I want to send them to the scriptwriter for development, can I do that?"

"You can do that; just remember they are all registered." Implying she can't cheat me if she goes ahead without giving me credit.

"I will not go forward without informing you."

"Ok, why don't you come to my flat and bring a hair strand of Mohsin, you might get one from his hairbrush."

"Why? What is the need for his hair?"

"I wanted to show you some magic, get here ASAP."

"Ok, to your flat, yes?"

"Yes, I will wait for you here, then we will go to our office."

I disconnected the call and went to the kitchen to make some coffee.

After having a bath, I changed into casuals and waited for Monica to come to me, checking my work on the computer.

Monica came around 11 a.m. She handed me a small plastic pouch with Mohsin's hair in it. "What are you going to do with this hair, black magic?"

"No nothing black magic about this, just white magic. Just watch."

I turned the other side and became naked and wore the shapeshifting coat, and put a hair strand in the DNA pouch of the coat and switched it on.

I turned around and Monica exclaimed 'Mohsin'.

I went to her and kissed her hard on the mouth.

I caught her shoulders and said, "I am sorry, he must love you too much. I could not resist the pull you have on him."

"You are not Mohsin but your kiss and touch are like Mohsin only. The way you talk and look at me reminds me of Mohsin only."

I said, "If anytime you want to use body double in your movies you can use this shapeshifting coat."

She looked into my eyes pulled my head down and kissed me passionately. The only problem was that if I wanted to have sex with her, I had to remove the coat, so I kissed her back and released her and sat on the sofa.

There was an awkward pause of silence between us. Monica came and sat beside me. Put her hand on my thigh. I looked at her and said sorry.

"It is ok, I wanted to kiss you."

I got up and went to my bedroom changed into formal and came out to the hall.

"Come, we will go to our office in Juhu."

She was moving to the door, I said come to this side and took her to the transporter, I selected the Juhu Koliwada office and pressed the button.

We came out of the transporter, we were in our software office.

I said, "This is our software office. I am the majority shareholder here. I have lots of patents and registrations in my name. Whatever you saw yesterday are all my inventions and patents. Let us go and meet our finance director, Nandini."

We walked to the next building. "This is our Future India Ltd. All big companies in India have a shareholding in this company. You may ask what is my interest in this company for me. All the products produced here are patented by my software company. We have another company Kumar's International Ltd. Which produces ICs." Seeing me the receptionist got up and said good morning sir.

I asked, "Is Nandini in?"

"Yes sir, shall I inform her you are visiting."

"Yes Please." I walked with Monica towards Nandini's cabin."

By the time we reached the cabin, Nandini flung open the door and without noticing the visitor, hugged and kissed me on the cheek.

"After a long time, I am seeing you."

I caught her at shoulders and looked into her eyes and asked, "How are you doing? It is certainly a long time, and how is Vivek doing?"

"I am fine, I met Rashmi a few days back, she thought I am the other Nandini, who passed on the hospital to her. When Rashmi was there, two men came searching for us, and then the police came and picked them up."

I said, "I have sent the police to pick them up. It was found they were searching for us."

I am telling her all this, so Monica will have an idea about us. I want her to come out if she has any idea about Asur or his whereabouts. Either she will pass on this information to them or will ask me for details for her knowledge.

We went and sat in Nandini's cabin.

Nandini asked, "How come you are here? Any emergency?"

"Nothing emergency, she is Monica Khan, a film and TV producer. She is looking for manuscripts. So, I came to collect the manuscripts from my office. She is also looking for financing, how are we placed for finances."

Nandini said, "I heard some rumours about Monica's films being financed by underground gangs. I don't know if we want to be involved with them."

Monica said, "Mohsin used to get finances for his films from gangs, but I never used their money in my films, that is the reason I am looking for finances from outsiders. Otherwise, I would have asked Mohsin or my in-laws."

I said, "I understand that I have some personal finances, which I will help you out. We will register our company in Hollywood and we can finance your films. I have to speak to my friends about that."

I sent a message to Nandini that I am doing all this to bring rat out of the burrow.

Nandini reacted, "We might have some finances available with the software company. You can also use Pujari Kumar's finances."

"Yes, I have an idea of where we have to arrange finances, that is why I am talking of setting up a Hollywood company to use those resources."

"Then I will ask Sunitha from New York to start the process for registration of the company. You send her the money from your Swiss bank account."

I got up and said, "I am going to my cabin, you send Sunitha to my cabin."

Nandini said, "I think she is visiting the Plant, I will call her."

We went to my cabin and sat down.

Monica asked, "Where is your plant?"

"It is near Vizag."

"How much time it will take Sunitha to come here?"

"If she finishes her round, she will be here in minutes."

"Oh, I forgot you must be having a transporter there."

"We have transporters in major cities. At one time we used it for courier also. Now I don't know how many of them are working."

"How do you know Nandini? Through your work or is she some relative of yours? She seemed from south India."

"She is a friend of mine, she used to run a hospital and her son Vivek is my son too."

"How old is Vivek?"

"He should be twenty-five by now. I have not seen him for a long time."

Then the sound of the door opening and Sunitha walking in.

I introduced both of them and asked, "What work is going on?"

She explained what production is going on and said, "NASA is asking to develop a Mars probe if it can be built urgently."

"If they want to have the Mars probe, they can use ours, we don't have any requirement for it now. It has a life of another 15 to 20 years. Tell them if they want I will transfer ownership to them. Send them some sample photos."

"Ok, I will inform them."

Then I looked at production planning, made some suggestions and Sunitha went away.

As soon as Sunitha left, Sahithi walked in. After the pleasantries were over, we discussed the work going on and she went away.

Then some managers came to pay respects. Some of them met me for the first time. Monica sat patiently watching me deal with the flow of the people.

In between, I ordered snacks and tea for us.

It took up to 5 p.m. by the time the visitors thinned down. I told the operator not to send any more visitors.

We went through the transporter back to the flat.

We sat with the leftover bottle from last night with some snacks. Monica was talking about something; my mind was on something else. She must have sensed my mind elsewhere, she got up and said I will take leave.

I came to my senses and said I will drop you up at the car. Sorry, I wasted your whole day.

Monica said, "Nothing is lost, I have got a chance to watch a businessman working."

"This is not my daily routine, I came to this office after a long time and our International office is beside this. So, all the managers have come to say hi."

"I understand from their reactions seeing you, they must be thinking so young and their boss."

"Except for my old acquaintances, these people are seeing me for the first time."

"How many offices do you have here?"

"We have lots of software businesses here. But our main businesses are Future India and Kumar's International."

"Kumar's International is in your name, what share do you have in that?"

"I have only a nominal share in that, my interest is to produce chips for Future India."

"On which company account did you build the Mars Spaceship?"

"It is on my personal account with the help from other business houses. For their share, I allowed couples sponsored by them to travel to Mars."

We reached her car and the driver was not there in the car. She called her driver and he is at a tea stall nearby and coming soon.

We waited for the driver for a few minutes, when he came, I opened the door and when Monica sat down I said goodbye and closed the car door, and they drove away. I looked at them going away, and when the car turned towards the road, I went back to the flat.

I switched her mind-controlled device's mic on and started monitoring her conversations.

Her driver asked, "Where shall we go mam?"

Monica replied, Juhu house.

She called Mahima and told her about our conversations.

So, it must be Mahima who put her up to meet with me. So, I have to hack Mahima's phone. I picked Mahima's phone number and sent it to Atul to hack into it. Pick Mohsin's number and monitor his number too.

Now I concentrated on what Monica telling Mahima. Monica is telling her about me setting up a Hollywood company to finance her movies. Mahima asked her did he had that much money. Monica replied he had some money in Swiss bank accounts and that he will use that money to set up the company. It seems they are trying to ascertain how much money I might be having. Sending a spaceship to Mars is not an easy task.

She cut the call and called Mohsin, and told him to come home, it seemed she wanted to have an intimate night with him from the way she was speaking with him. Her car reached home and she got out of the car and went to her room. She changed and asked the servant to set up the dinner and waited for Mohsin.

All her thoughts were transferred to me through the mind-controlled device, she didn't have an idea, I could read her mind like a book. I connected her device to a recording server and disconnected from my mind.

I transported myself to Hyderabad house finding Loveleen still in Delhi, had dinner, and retired to my room.

At midnight, I got a call from Monica, but I rejected the call and slept off.

In the morning I readied, had breakfast transported to my software company. Around 10:30 a.m. I got a call from Monica, she wanted to come and meet to discuss the manuscript. I said I am at the Juhu software office, come over here. I removed the mind-reading machine from the safe and kept it on the table. This machine is very small we have converted the circuit into ICs and it looks like earphones. It is connected to the server via Wi-Fi or Bluetooth.

She came over in half an hour. The receptionist brought her to my room and I told her to sit down.

She saw the mind reader on my desk and asked, "What is this?"

"It is a kind of headphones, it helps in sleeping."

"Can I try it?"

“You have to put them on your ear and close your eyes. It can also be used for therapy.”

“What kind of therapy?”

“It clears mental problems. It helps in finding the problematic areas of memory and clears them. I treated a psychopath who treats women as playthings because he had bad treatment by women in his college days. I cleared him of those memories and he is treated of those impulses.”

“Can it clear memories of a bad breakup?”

“Yes, it can help not only clear the memories, but it can also help forget the person altogether.”

“Can you make a person hate another person?”

“That would be a difficult process, but it can be pulled.”

“There is a girl who follows Mohsin, she says she is a fan, but really she is a stalker. She lands wherever Mohsin is shooting.”

“Instead of making her hate him, we can make her satiated with his memories. She would feel she had enough of him. Instead of creating negative memories in her mind, we can create positive memories.”

“Oh, you have a point there. What else you can do?”

“I can store memories and retrieve them if we lose the memories in an accident. It can help amnesia patients remember things.”

“Can you give me a couple of your earbuds, Mahima wants to use them?”

“Sure, but they are at my flat in Andheri.”

“Ok, while going home I can collect them.”

“Sure. So, what do you want to discuss with me?”

“You said you will give me some more manuscripts.”

I got up and checked the cupboards. I found two boxes of manuscripts. I removed them and put them on the table. You check the synopsis on the front page and see if they are suitable.”

She took out some folders sat on the sofa and dropped the folders on the table in front.

I let her work and started to go through my work.

The receptionist knocked on the door, I asked, “What is it, Kathy?”

Her name is Katherine.

Kathy said, “There is a Commissioner of Police to meet you.”

“Send him in.”

He came in and shook my hand and sat in the seat. He was the SI at the Andheri PS. To whom Bob told me I am Undercover with IB. He looked at me surprisingly, it seemed he must be thinking I was Kumar's son.

"I heard you have come to the office after a long time, where did you go away?"

"I have been busy with work. My main work is sending a spaceship to Mars."

"I saw you getting on the spaceship. But you looked very young. I could not believe my eyes. You are looking as I saw you all those years back."

"I was to Mars some 25 years back. After coming back, I started work on the development of the spaceship. Recently we sent the spaceship and I became a little free. This youth is the result of our experiments on longevity."

"Can we get the advantage of these experiments?"

"Sorry, it was at an experimental stage at this time. It is not released for the general public."

"Ok, we are not interested in these experimental treatments. We are interested in finding out if you can find out information from a convict, who had kidnapped a high-ranking police official. We want to know if he or his gang is responsible for the kidnapping."

"Ok, bring him here or shall I come to your office?"

"You better come over there for security purposes."

"Give me a time, I will come with my machine to check him up." I handed him my card, "Give me a call."

He shook my hand and left.

I looked at Monica, she is looking at me with a face, that the Commissioner of Police had come to meet me. She is informing Mahima about the visit of the Commissioner. I smiled inside, she is now in our corner, thinking about how much influence we had. We have developed a Spaceship and sent it to Mars. NASA is asking for the use of our space probe. We have future-defining instruments, and now the Commissioner of Police has come and asked for my help.

Even if they don't have any links to Asur, they would try to get my influence and use it for them. I will get an idea of their activities. At

least we will get an idea of the whereabouts of the group responsible for the Bombay Bomb Blasts.

Monica brought a manuscript and said this would be ideal for a daily serial.

I looked at the synopsis, and yes it would be good for a daily serial. I gave the writer the idea keeping in mind the future TV industry. She seemed enthusiastic about the story.

“Do you want to start the production? Do you want any financing?”

“No, I can manage the finances for the time being.”

“I will send the manuscript to the script writer through the driver and come.”

It seems she is eager to spend more time with me. I nodded my head, she went away with the folder.

I heard her instructing her driver to deliver the folder and told him to come back by 5 p.m. It must be the time she is expecting to return back. It seems she does not have any running projects; otherwise, why would she spend time with me?

Another idea struck me, she must be sent by our enemies to find out about my activities. But I am purposefully giving information about our activities. They must have thought I have a weakness for women, the way I used to have all the people in my life. Except for a few like Raj, Krishna and Prathap, I don't have many male friends. All the women entered my life through some happening. If Monica is entering my life through this, let it be. I am ready for any kind of challenge to find out Asur, some time or other he would come in front of me. There is no use hiding, I have tried to find out his activities hiding behind a smoke screen. Except for information from Phani's team, we were not successful in unmasking him. We don't even know who he is, don't even know if he is a man or woman or a transgender.

Monica came in sat down on the sofa, and started to go over the files.

I looked at her work and resumed my work.

Sunitha came with the production plan, she looked at Monica reading, and she questioned me with her eyes, as to what she was doing.

I shook my head indicating nothing took the production plan and advised her to order ICs from the International. Changed some

priorities for production. Monica while reading, monitored my interaction with Sunitha.

Once Sunitha was my girlfriend, but after her marriage with Singhania, I treated her like a friend and colleague. But in our talks, there is a closeness that is unlike a boss and his employee.

After Sunitha left, Monica asked what your relation to Sunitha was, I found a closeness between you.

I said, "Once she was my girlfriend, she was working as a flight attendant. She went missing after an accident and she lost her memories and married a hotelier. He died after being struck in an avalanche and we had to rescue him with great difficulty. Then she left the hotel and came back to her parents. I gave her a job in our production house. From that time, she was working with me."

"How many girlfriends did you have?"

"Sahithi was my daughter Leena's mother. Leena is at present working in the USA as a virologist. My wife Nandini has twins one boy and one daughter, they are studying in New York. Loveleen is another wife, I married her after Nandini went missing. She had a boy Dr. Dhruv. He is the one who went on Mars Trip."

"Where is Loveleen now?"

"She is in Delhi, she was planning for a reception."

"Reception means?"

"We told her parents we married in London, where she was studying and later was interning as a Lawyer. Now she was a different Loveleen than my wife. She was chosen for me for this time. She is also my age. So Loveleen's parents are arranging for a reception for us. They want to get some political mileage from that."

"Will you call me for the reception?"

"Certainly, I will invite the others you want to attend the reception with you."

"Shall we go for lunch?"

"You sent your driver to deliver the papers."

"Don't you have a car?"

"I don't have a car for personal use. I use only a company car in an emergency. I will check if we have any cars available. I lifted the cradle and asked, "Cathy do we have a car?"

She asked, "What purpose sir."

“Just for going for lunch.”

“Ok, I will arrange one for you, sir.” And cut the call.

I said, “Monica, let us go for lunch.”

I took her to Juhu Centaur. We went into the restaurant and sat down at a table.

“So, what are you planning?”

“Our production house is arranging for the finances. We will start the production in a week. You must attend the Mahurat.”

“Certainly, just let me know in advance. It should not clash with my reception. Then we will be away for a honeymoon.”

“How long will you be away?”

“We have not finalised the details. We may be away to Swiss, let us burn some of the money in the Swiss bank accounts.”

“How much you may have in the Swiss bank?”

“I don’t know exactly, I have not checked recently. We have spent one million dollars on the Island. Then Pujari spent some money on welfare.”

“I think you told me those accounts belong to Pujari Kumar. How will you have access to his accounts?”

“I was automatically passed on all the accounts and companies he was having.”

Then the waiter came to take our orders. We gave our orders and the waiter went away. It would be some time before the waiter brings our orders.

I looked into her eyes. There is a new look on her face. I could not understand it, either she is thinking something or she is contemplating taking some action. There is a fleeting look of fear on her face. Maybe she is doing all this on the instructions of someone, someone who scared her into this. Then her face changed into a forced smile.

“Why don’t you take me to the Swiss instead of Loveleen.”

“Why don’t we go to Manali, there is a hotel there. The management is known to me.”

We bought the hotel from Sakshi Singhania when she found the hotel was damaged by the earthquake. I got it repaired and handed it over to the chain of hotels for running it. We also have a transporter there for our use. All of our executives take holidays there.

I could not understand what is the look on her face, either it was a relief that I agreed to take her on a holiday or it could be she thought she hooked me.

“Let’s go there in the evening, do you need to book a room there?”

“We have reserved rooms there, all our executives go there, but at present, there is no one visiting there. They need to get permission from me.”

The waiter brought our order and placed them on the table.

We started to eat silently.

I normally eat silently, she must be engrossed in her thoughts.

I finished my lunch folded my hands in front and looked at her. She was eating absentmindedly. It seems she did not see what she is eating.

It seems she is more deeply in the hole than I thought she was. Exasperated with her own eating, she pushed the plate away. Rubbed her hand on the towel and sat back looking at me.

I thought this is not the time to ask her to tell her problems in confidence.

I asked would you like some coffee or tea perhaps.

“Tea Please.”

When the waiter came to clear the plates, I ordered tea.

I sat there looking at her engrossed in deep thought.

When the tea was brought I poured it into the cups and said your tea, please. She looked at the cup and picked it up and started to sip silently.

When she put the cup down, I called for the bill and paid it. Still, she did not move, it seemed she went into a shell.

I got up and went to her chair, pulled her up and guided her to the car.

At the office, I had to guide her into my cabin and had to seat her in a chair.

I connected the mind-reading machine to her mind-controlled device she is wearing and configured the AI to read her memories. I saw the AI creating folders and creating files in it.

It took more than an hour for the download to complete. I disconnected the machine and Monica is still sleeping.

I started to check the latest files trying to understand what happened in her life. It had taken another hour to understand what was happening in her life.

I took Monica to the transporter and transported us to the Andheri flat, and lay her on the bed.

I sat in the hall and thought how should I follow up on this matter? Monica's story is that due to pressure from the director she had to offer Mohsin a role in the movie she is producing. The director must have got him the role at the insistence of Mohsin. He is the kind of person, who wants to attain unattainable things. He took it as a challenge to woo and seduce Monica and he cornered her and raped her. Being an Indian woman, she had to accept him marrying her. In the beginning, he was good with her, helping her in procuring finances and raising in the industry. His demeanour changed around six months back. Mahima had to take some money for her political work, and in return, they asked to find out about our operations. If Kumar and Loveleen went away on the spaceship to Mars, who is running the businesses? Who else is involved in our businesses? Thinking Monica's dad is close to Kumar, she can help find out about these details, and they pressure her to speak with her father. When her father is not helpful, they pressure her to find out the details somehow. When she found I was waiting in the bar, she thought god had sent me to help her out. When I showed the products, she did not understand what was happening. Then when she told Mahima about what she found out. Mahima told her to get close to me and find out more. Monica thought if she could take me somewhere and seduce me, she could learn more. But when she thought about what she had to do, she went into a shell. Her morality did not let her do all this.

I decided to make her disappear and see what they would do.

I removed Monica's mind-controlled device by switching it off and disconnecting it from her mind. Then I took her to the Manali hotel and stashed her in my room and put an attender to look after her, came back to Hyderabad.

I called Atul and told him to monitor Mahima and Mohsin's numbers. Record all the conversations

I regularly checked on Monica. After three days she is conscious and normal.

I went over to her and asked, "You asked me to take you to Swiss, do you still want to go to Swiss or USA?"

Monica said, "No need, I am ok now."

"Come, I will take you to the USA and you can stay there until this matter is settled."

"I don't have any luggage with me."

"You can get everything you need there, come with me."

I took her to the transporter and took her to the USA."

I handed Monica to Reyansh to look after her until she is required in India.

I met Sunitha, Loveleen, and others and came back to India.

When the driver came to enquire about Monica, Kathy said she went away in a cab she booked on Uber. She does not have any idea what happened after that.

On Saturday evening we had a party on the occasion of our engagement.

We also called Mahima and Mohsin on instructions from Monica.

When the two of them came, I asked them where is Monica, she was supposed to attend the party.

They wanted to enquire me about Monica, but I asked them before they could ask me. They were surprised she did not attend the party.

However, Bajaj family asked them about Monica, but they could not give a satisfactory answer.

During the party, we got engaged and invited everyone to the reception the following day.

The reception went smoothly. Fearing enquiries, the Khans missed the reception citing a death in the family. I don't know who was dead, I know they want to make some excuse to skip the reception. After the reception, we went over to Switzerland for a honeymoon.

Chapter 2

Loveleen

Kumar decided to get away from all these tensions of finding Asur and go and enjoy our honeymoon.

It was 9 p.m., it was cool outside and we sat on the balcony of our room and chatted.

We both have memories from many timelines. I asked, “Kumar, what are your dominant memories. I think your body has time travelled from 1983 to 2017. But at the time of the merger, all seven of Kumar’s memories were merged into your mind. How did you feel about having all those memories?”

“I feel like I lived as many as 9 lives. I not only have experiences of all of the 9, but their joy and disappointment too. It was as if 9 persons living in me at a time. I am most affected by the death of people or people going away. I am still affected by the death of Sneha in a fire accident and Sunitha missing in an aeroplane accident. Sneha’s cancer scare, Sahithi missing in two of the timelines, once she was taken away after she was found pregnant, another time she was kidnapped and sold by Dolly’s gang. Leena’s kidnapping by Suresh. When Leena was returned to me as a seven-year-old from Pujari Kumar’s timeline, I did not know how to react to that. The joy of seeing my daughter, or how to raise her as no one would believe she is my daughter. I can’t tell even my parents about her identity. I have to make them raise her as my adopted daughter as her parents are missing. How do you feel about your bad memories?”

“I don’t have many bad memories, it seems they have stripped my problems with Guru or other problems with my past husbands. I have only memories of you. The two times we were married or you helped me conceive have been retained in detail. The different memories of us are retained but I still feel we know each other but have no physical relations. This body does not feel like I have been with anyone as I am still a virgin.”

“it seems they have given you limited memories to help you navigate the world, but they gave me full memories thinking they might be useful for me. Maybe it gives me more character.”

“I was raised in different circumstances than you were. I was born into a business family with no money problems, whereas you were born into a middle-class family.”

“I came up with hard work. But you were born with a silver spoon.” Kumar turned his chair towards me facing me. I looked into his eyes, and there and there, through his eyes, knowledge flowed to me. The knowledge of the world and Knowledge of the universe, the knowledge of the stars and space.

There is a sparkle in his eyes from the light glittering from the light pole. My memories of him with me, the care he showed me, the treatment he meted to me, the way he made love to me and all the things we did together flooded my mind raising the heat in me. I felt like a long-lost lover is sitting in front of me waiting to fill me with love. I turned to him and held his face in my hands and kissed him on the mouth. Kumar kissed me back passionately. With the kiss, I made a round of all the timelines I had been with him. It was a unique experience, I know he brings something new every time I am with him.

Kumar led me into the hotel room, where he continued his magic.

It is 9 a.m. by the time we got up. I ordered coffee and went to freshen up. By the time I returned, coffee arrived and we each had a cup.

Kumar suggested we go sightseeing and I agreed.

We readied and took a tour bus. It is just turning spring in the Swiss Alps. The tree leaves are turning green and the atmosphere is pleasant.

We returned late at night to the hotel after dinner.

Like yesterday, we sat on the balcony of our room. There is a chill in the air and we needed blankets to sit there. So, we took a blanket and put it around our bodies and sat down looking into the vast darkness with light in between.

Today's topic turned into business ventures.

I asked Kumar how you got into business from being from the middle class.

“You have a major hand in that. Most of the time you were the catalyst for my rise in the business world. No one else has had the

same effect on my business rise as you did. The only time Nandini helped me in business was when she was my wife.”

“Yes, I thought so. You have depended me on most of the time. Either with you or without having physical contact I have been helping you, correct?”

“You are my driving force in most circumstances. To impress you or with your help, I came up in life.”

“Do you think so?”

I reviewed all our interactions in all the timelines, except for the young Kumar who has time travelled from 1983 to 2017, you were present in all the timelines. Except for Pujari Kumar, you helped me in one way or another. In the timeline where Sneha dies in a fire accident, you helped me with the financing directly.”

“In that timeline, you helped me a lot. You gave me Dhruv, you loved me as no other person loved me. You gave me a purpose in life. You made my life, I would say the money I invested in you is the money you earned only. If you had not helped my father to the chair of CM, we would not have that money, so I ploughed the money back to you.”

“Is it so?”

“Yes, until you helped me to the house after I twisted my ankle, I did not know the touch of a man could bring that heat in me. I suffered for two days until you came out and explained to me why you were avoiding me. Then when we went to Delhi and you satiated me, I came to know of another world, the world of lovers. Then you filled my life in ways I can’t explain.”

“After that incident, I felt the heat rise in me, even Sunitha could not satisfy me. When we spent three days in Delhi, I was able to cool down.”

“All these talks bringing me the heat in me, let us go in.”

We went in and Kumar continued his magic for the second day.

Kumar

It was after midnight, and Loveleen woke me up with her antics. She started nibbling on my ears then rubbed my chest and her hand reached my groin area. By this act, I started getting an erection and we started having sex. I felt a little different this time having sex with Loveleen as if my mind was being pulled away.

Loveleen

We spent like this for a week and on the eighth day, he received a message through the reception to call the Island bunker immediately. If it is not urgent Atul would not send the message. He is the only one who knows about our whereabouts. We switched off our mind-controlling communication devices as soon as we boarded the plane.

Kumar sat down on the balcony, he must be communicating with Atul through his device.

He came in and said, "We have to go back to India, please pack the bags, and I will instruct the receptionist to clear our bills."

"What happened?"

"There was a rocket attack near Mumbai Necklace Road. No damage but a small rocket landed in the front yard, it was not armed. The government thinks it was meant as a warning. Mumbai Commissioner of Police called the receptionist when he could not reach me, Cathy called Atul."

"What do they think you can do?"

"The commissioner might have some idea who could be behind it, and he might be thinking they are related to our investigations."

"Ok, our packing is completed, you check the door, someone is knocking."

"It is the bell boy with the bill", he handed the card to him and said, "Come and pick up the luggage, we need to leave in five minutes."

"What flight is available now for going to India?"

"There is a flight to Rome and from there we can use the transporter in our office."

When the bellboy took the luggage down, we caught a cab and drove to the Airport. We landed in Rome and from there took a cab and reached our office. There was a delay as our manager came to greet us and Kumar explained to him the urgency to reach India.

We landed in Delhi and Kumar went over to Mumbai to meet the commissioner.

Atul

I told Dad to go home and that I will look after the monitoring. Loveleen told me they are planning an official wedding and reception, so Dad would be ready for the festivities.

It is funny dad is just a little older than me and his would-be Loveleen is younger than me. My stepmom is younger than me.

We could be like Ram and his brother Laxman. Ram was sent to the forest what is nowadays called Thadipar, ex-communication or not allowed into the cities. They had to live in huts in what is called Vana or the Ashram used by Rishis. They lived a simple life until that day Surpanaka visited them with her brother. In a fit of anger, Laxman cuts her ears and nose, and disfiguring her. Most people think Surpanaka is an ugly demon. But how the sister of Ravana could be ugly?

Loveleen was telling the enemy we are searching for could be a female demon like Surpanaka. If we think in terms of her being the sister of Asur, she would be of good height, beautiful, and maybe a little dark.

Then Kumar called me to get details of Mahima Khan. Most of her life story is available online being a celebrity and an actress. She has a brother Mohsin Khan and his wife Monica Bajaj. Here there are rumours about how they were married. The official story is they met on the set of a movie Monica produced and Mohsin acted as a villain. They fell in love and married after six months of dating. But the rumours are Mohsin seemed to pressurise Monica to date him and marry him. I passed on the information to Loveleen and Kumar. Kumar said he would look into the matter.

Later Kumar informed me he trapped Monica, and retrieved her memories and constructed her whole story. Then they had to go on their honeymoon after their wedding.

Before leaving on honeymoon, Kumar instructed me to keep track of Mahima and Mohsin's mobile communications. They were frantically searching for Monica, whom Kumar had hidden safely away. He did not even tell me where he hid her over mobile communications to safeguard against leaking of the information over the network.

When I went over to Delhi to attend the wedding functions, he told me he had her tucked away in New York with our people. This is the first time I heard of our people in New York. When I asked him about our people, he replied some of us from the merger were sent over to New York to keep them safe as all of them with children, except for the original timeline Kumar.

“Did the original timeline Kumar survive in the merger?”

“He is not part of the merger, he must have been left alone for some specific purpose, maybe to write about us.”

“Yes, it is possible.”

Kumar instructed me about the activities of Mahima and Mohsin.

I went and sat in the party area nursing a glass of cold drink. I don't want to drink alcohol because I have to return to the bunker.

I saw Cathy enter with 3 of her friends. She came over to me with her three friends and said hello sir.

“Hello, but there is no need to call me sir, just Atul.”

Kathy turned to her friends and introduced me as Atul, he is my boss, and this is Nirmala Vaidikaran, this is Pooja Iyer and this is Urmila Mudaliyar.

I looked at Nirmala there is a cheeky smile on her face. She asked Kathy, he is so young and your boss?

Kathy replied, “You have to see his dad, he looks as young as he.”

They settled in the chairs around the table. When there is a chair short, Nirmala pulls up a chair from a nearby table and sits down.

She asked me with a twinkle in her eyes, “Atul, what did you study?”

“I did my M. Tech and work in software engineering.”

“What do you do in software?” asked Nirmala.

“My speciality is hacking.” I was checking her social networking profile. I got her link from Kathy's profile. She is doing her MS after doing her MBBS in Chennai. So, she must be from Chennai, she selected Mumbai for her post-graduation. She seemed to be from a well-to-do family. From her profile, it is evident she is from a doctor's family. So, I said, “I have a brother who is a doctor, but now he is going towards Mars in a spaceship.”

“You mean to say Dr Dhruv is your brother?”

“He is a stepbrother.”

“So, Mr Kumar is your dad and who is your mother?”

“Sneha is my mother and it is a little complicated.”

“So, what else do you do other than hacking?”

“I read people.”

So, tell me what did you read me?”

“You did your MBBS from Chennai and doing your MS here. You are from a long list of doctors. Cathy is your childhood friend and because of her, you joined Mumbai for your PG. You like to wear

traditional wear. I would say occasionally, and you look good in traditional. You have a younger brother and you call him Tiger, but his name is Monkish. If you are angry at him, you call him Monkey. Your mother is your inspiration. Your dad was a very busy man, he did not give you all much time. He was the President of the Medical Association of Tamilnadu. Your mother was an OBS and GYN surgeon. Your grandparents are retired and stay in the village and you like to go there and spend time.”

“Oh, Oh, enough about me, tell me about you.”

“My mom died when we were small, I have a twin sister Reena. You know about my dad, who is a businessman. He died on New Year’s Eve of 2020 and returned young after a fortnight. He was killed by the husband of our employee when he went to save her. Then again, the new dad was poisoned in 2015 and died in his sleep. Then after 3 years our dad returned younger and he is our present dad, so he looks so young.”

“So that is why he is marrying now. He was not married previously?”

“I said that is all complicated, I can’t explain now.”

Pooja and Urmila were sitting silently there and watching us.

Pooja Asked suddenly How a dead man could come back.

“I said it is all complicated. We were put on a project to safeguard the world, especially India by intelligent beings.”

Urmila asked, “You mean Aliens.”

“I don’t say they are aliens, but they were here on Earth for thousands of years.”

Pooja asked, “So, what they are called?”

“We refer to them as gods’ messengers or representatives of gods.”

Urmila asked, “Like angels.”

“You can say that, like angels.”

Pooja asked, “So what did they do?”

“They were worried about the destruction of the earth, possibly in a third world war or destruction of weather or nature. Which will lead to a great pralaya or flood. There are already indications of what we can expect in the future.”

“What are you going to do about this?”

“First and foremost, we have to find a villain in our midst. He or they are responsible for all the destruction happening around us.”

“Do you know who they are?”

“We were told they are based in China, but we could not get any proof of their existence there. So, now we are searching all over the world.”

Nirmala asked, “So they could be in India?”

“Yes, certainly they could be here in India. We found some of their operations here.”

“What could be their characteristics?”

“They would be of a good height, have sturdy bodies, and could be a little dark, I don’t think they would be very fair. Could be religious, I don’t have any proof. They are supposed to be like Ravana and Surpanaka if we take their mythological relation.”

Nirmala asked, “Could they be in South India, possibly in Tamil Nadu.”

“There is every chance they could be in Tamil Nadu.”

“I will tell you an incident at our village, where our grandfather lives.”

“What is it?”

“We went to the village for our vacations. My grandfather does selective medical practice in the village. That means he treats VIPs or people with unusual ailments.”

“Yes, I get an idea.”

“During our stay there, I used to help grandpa in his nature care Vaidya Shala, to learn nature medicine. One day a man came there with his entourage of people for some treatment. He asked Grandpa to send others away so he could speak with Grandpa alone. I and the other assistants went outside the room and waited. He looked like the person you described. He spoke to Grandpa in Tamil. He was there for more than an hour and when he left, I asked what is his problem. Grandpa said, he has a peculiar problem, I can’t speak about his illness. After a week the man’s assistant came and collected the medicine and went away.”

“Did you find out where he came from?”

“Nobody in the village knows where he came from except Grandpa, and he does not want to tell about him.”

“Did he threaten your grandpa not to tell about him or his whereabouts?”

“I don’t know Grandpa just refused to reveal anything about him.”

“So, you don’t have any idea who he is or from where he came.”

Nirmala shook her head.

Kathy asked, "Sir, do you think this man could be whom you are searching for?"

"I don't know, this could be a sign we are looking for. Can I go and see your Grandpa?"

"You can, but I can't give you a guarantee that he will disclose the identity of the man or their whereabouts."

"It is ok, I will explain the situation and ask for his help."

"But how will we go there?"

"We can take the transporter to Chennai, we have a helicopter there, which we can use to go to your village."

"We will go to our village after the wedding tomorrow."

"It is ok by me. Give me a ring when you are ready. Let us have dinner now."

Accompanied by Kathy and Nirmala we were transported to Chennai and went to the Airport by a company car. We already informed the captain to be ready with the helicopter.

From there we took the ride to Nirmala's village called Shankarapuram.

We landed on an open field near Nirmala's grandfather's hospital.

Nirmala guided us to her grandpa's clinic in picturesque surroundings. The building is made of red tiles sliding down from the middle. There is an open space in the middle and a veranda surrounding the rooms on the four sides.

Nirmala's grandpa Narasimhan sitting on a mat placed on the floor with a small table in front of him. Where he was mixing some powders and liquids to make medicines.

Seeing Nirmala Narasimhan got up from his seat came and hugged her. He asked her, "What brought you here? Are you here for some treatment?"

Nirmala said, "This is Atul Kumar and he came to you with some important request for information."

Narasimhan offered us mats placed on the floor for sitting and asked what can I do for you, Atul Babu." Babu being respecting younger people.

We three of us sat down and folded our legs under us.

I said, "We are in search of a person, who we think is about entering into a kind of destructive path in our country. We want to find him and stop him from doing whatever he is planning."

"Are you from the government or a corporate house?"

"No, we don't belong to those two entities. We were tasked by a divine entity for this purpose. We were trying to find this group of people who have connections to the Rakshasas who were decimated by various gods like Rama and Krishna. Now the gods have left the earth, but they left some agents to look after our India and the world in general."

"So, you are claiming you are representing Devas, to fight against Rakshasas?"

"I would say we are the result of some experiments by Devas. In fact, my dad visited Indrasen at Mars intermediary meeting place."

"You mean to say your dad went to Mars to meet with Indra to discuss what?"

"The Future of the World. They suspected something big was going to happen, something like a third world war. This coronavirus is an indication of what will come. We suspected Asur or Rakshasa's Leader was hiding in China. But we could not find any indication of his being there in China at present. So, we are investigating close by in India or Pakistan or even in Bangladesh or Sri Lanka."

"So, what it has to do with our clinic?"

"We heard such kind of person visited you for treatment."

"Where did you hear that?"

Nirmala interjected, "I told him about the visit of such a person when I was visiting for holidays."

"You mean Maheshwar?"

"I don't know his name, he visited with his entourage of soldiers for some treatment and you asked us to wait outside."

"He said he was injured during the practice of sword fight. He had a deep cut and it was infected. He came to me for medicine to cure the injury."

Nirmala asked, "Are you sure he was injured in training? He does not seem to be a Naxalite."

"No, he is not a Naxalite, they fight for different ideologies."

Nirmala asked, "So, what do these people fight for? Do they fight along with Sri Lankan Tigers?"

“From what I understand they safeguard treasures in South India. They are fighting for the land to safeguard the temples and the treasures associated with them, especially in Tamilnadu, Karnataka and Kerala.”

I asked, “Don’t they look after the temples of Andhra Pradesh?”

“It is not their responsibility. Whatever temples are under government management.”

I asked, “do mean to say they are safeguarding some treasures which are hidden and not known to the general public.”

“I don’t have details myself. It is my duty to help them and keep their identity secret, so the treasures will not be pillaged.”

“If you are sure of their identity, we have no problem with them.”

“I would like to meet your dad who met with Indra.”

“At present, he is not available, he went on honeymoon after his wedding yesterday.”

“Wedding at his age? How many marriages for him?”

“For his body, it is his first wedding. He is my age in his present body.”

“What is his name?”

“He is Kumar. You might have heard of Future India and Kumar’s International. He is the founder of these companies. We also have many software firms and a chain of Super Bazars in the name of Kumar Swamy Super Bazars. Then some factories and manufacturing facilities.”

“I have not heard of them.”

Nirmala said, “Grandpa, you were away at the village, that is why you did not hear about them.”

“So, it may be possible. Before going meet Grandma and go. She was asking about you.”

“Now I am studying in Mumbai, that is why I could not visit as much as before. Now Atul showed me a way to shorten my journey. I will come for the next holidays.”

“Next time bring your friends also. Your grandma will be happy”
Looking at Kathy.

“Certainly Grandpa, I will go and meet Granny.”

We got up and went to meet Nirmala’s grandma. She insisted on us having food. We had lunch and went and said byes and Grandpa, who took a promise from Nirmala to come to the village on holidays.

We returned by helicopter to Chennai.

From there I sent Nirmala and Kathy to Bombay and I returned to the bunker.

After a week I received a message from Kathy that the commissioner was looking for Kumar. I took his number and called him.

The commissioner said, "There was a problem in Mumbai. An unarmed rocket had landed where VIP movie stars had bungalows. It seems to be some kind of warning."

I asked, "Where the rocket could be launched from?"

"It seemed to be launched from the Arabian Sea. We could not find an exact location."

"Let me check, I will get back to you."

I scanned for satellite images and any kind of videos stored on the internet. But there is no clue as to where the rocket originated.

I called the commissioner and said, "There seems to be no clue, it seems this rocket was a test rocket. The type they test is to see how long it can fly or what is its range. I will keep looking for any clues."

"Why don't you call Kumar? I am getting pressure from the Home minister to find out the details."

"He can't be reached, he is somewhere in the Swiss Alps. He did not tell anyone where he was going and over that, they switched off their cell phones."

"How can he be reached in an emergency? Did he not think of that?"

"I will check out and call him to come over."

I checked our Swiss bank accounts and found out about the hotel they paid for. I called the reception of the hotel and left a message to call me, I am at the bunker.

When Kumar called me, I explained the situation and he said he would come immediately to India.

Chapter 3

Atul

It was after a week after Kumar returned from their honeymoon, we decided in a meeting to go and meet the Army safeguarding the treasures and find out if they have any knowledge of Asur.

I made a list of sites where they would be present and went over to Chennai, took the helicopter and started visiting the locations on the list. Kumar advised us to have a Tamil-speaking person with us, as they may not know English or Hindi. There is a possibility they might know Telugu, but there is no guarantee.

So, with a small group of 3 people, we started with the nearest place to Chennai. In a day without refuelling, we visited three locations without any luck. There did not seem to be any kind of small army presence, so we flew to the next place.

On the third day, we located the army having huts near a suspected treasure dump. We landed in a clearing and moved towards the huts with empty hands.

They must have heard the helicopter and when we landed they must have thought we were coming there to attack them, they came out into the opening with their weapons trained on us.

We lifted our hands and asked our Tamil-speaking person to tell them that we came in peace. We want some information about a person.

Before their leader could utter a word, a trigger-happy soldier of them fired a shot at me.

I saw him shooting in my peripheral vision, moved a little and squatted the bullet to the ground with my hand.

Their leader shouted to stop the shooting. He went to him and slapped and said, "You should see who is visiting us before shooting. Did I give the order to shoot?"

Unable to speak from the slap, he shook his head.

The leader came to me and said, "Who are you? What do you want from us?"

"I am Atul and my dad is Kalki, we were searching for Rakshasas who are creating terror in the world."

"Who made your dad Kalki, is he natural or something else?"

"My dad met with Indrasen at Mars and he offered him this post."

“Ok, I will hear that story later, why do you think I may know about the Rakshasas?”

We are looking all around the world for Rakshasas, we did not get any clues about their being.”

“If you did not get any clues, they may not exist.”

“I mean to say we did not get any clues about their whereabouts, but we got clues about their existence.”

“What did you find and where did you find it?”

“A YouTube channel had recorded them in the Srisailam Jungles.”

“So, you have your answer there. Why don’t you try to find out from them?”

“The problem about finding from them is they travel through the transporter and we can’t find from where they are coming and going. They are using modern technology to communicate. We found some of the lower rung leaders but the top leader is evading our search.”

“So, you think we know something about them.”

“We are hoping to find something about them.”

The person who shot me, came in front of their leader, “Anna, why are you arguing with him? Shall I shoot them?”

Their leader slapped him once more and said, “I told you to shut up. Who do you think he is? He is Hanuman’s incarnation. Did you not see the way he squatted your bullet; Do you think you can kill him?”

“Sorry Anna, I don’t know.”

“So, I told you to shut up.”

Turned to me and asked, “Do you think we could have come across the Rakshasa Leader?”

“From what I understood, you would have at least an encounter with him for looting the treasures you were safeguarding.”

“We did not have direct hostilities with him, but one of his team members tried to attack one of the treasure sites. We let the treasure deal with them.”

“What do you mean you let the treasure deal with them?”

“Most of the treasures have security features which do not let in anyone without proper protection. Most of the troops are dead and the remaining ran away.”

“So, you have an idea about their leader.”

"I might have an Idea, come with me I will show you. Not you two, you can't come inside."

We walked to a small hillock and it has a cave covered with a stone on its entrance."

I said, "I did not get your name."

"You can call me Maheshwar."

"So, where are we going?"

"I am going to show this treasure, it will also be a test for you."

"What kind of test is this?"

"It is a test to find out you are the person you claim to be."

We neared the cave entrance and Maheshwar touched the stone covering the mouth of the cave and it shifted aside. We entered the cave, it was lit by the oil lamps. He took me to the side wall and on the wall a mirror is hanging from the wall.

"You think about the person you want to see and look into the mirror. You might see the person you are looking for."

I thought I wanted to see Asur and looked into the mirror and what I saw in the mirror is Maheshwar's laughing face, and something struck my head and everything became blank in front of my eyes.

Chapter 4

Kumar

The incessant ringing of the phone woke me up. I looked at the clock on the table. It is showing at 4:40 a.m. I lifted the phone and said hello.

"I am calling from the bunker, the helicopter Atul took to look for the treasure sites had not returned in the night."

"Did you check Atul's GPS coordinates?"

"It is showing switched off."

"Did you check the last known coordinates?"

"They were showing near a marked treasure site."

"We will check the area with a satellite in the morning, wait until it is sun up to check with the satellite on the site."

Disturbed by the news of Atul not being reachable, my sleep went away. I looked beside me, Loveleen is sleeping and slight snoring can be heard. I got up came out to the balcony and lit a fag.

If Atul can't be reachable means he must be underground where the radio waves can't be reached. If he had gone down voluntarily,

he would have left a message. He must have been taken under force with him being in an unconscious state.

I called up the bunker and said to get another helicopter on rent and be ready by the morning, will be coming to Chennai to check.

I looked at the time it is nearing 5 a.m. I went into the kitchen, and prepared a cup of coffee and sat on the dining table.

If Atul is not responding means was he caught by Asur's men? Did they know how to block his communication devices?

I completed my coffee and put the cup in the kitchen and went to have a bath. After completing the bath, readied and woke Loveleen.

"What time is it?"

"It is six o'clock, I am going to the bunker, there has some emergency that come up."

"Ok, you can go, I will sleep for some more time."

I left her and walked over to the transporter.

I reached the Chennai office and from there I reached the Airport. There I met Gopal who had called me in the morning. He said, "I checked the location of Atul's GPS with the satellite and found the helicopter parked nearby. There are around 10 to 15 huts and some people can be seen moving around."

"Ok, get the helicopter ready, we will go and check there."

"It is ready to fly with the pilot got clearance to fly out."

We moved towards the helicopter and sat on the seats. The pilot started the rotator fans and we were flying in 15 minutes.

We located the helicopter Atul flew and landed beside it. We walked over to the huts and a man who seemed to be their leader came out with a group of 10 men.

He came to me and shook my hands and said hi I am Maheshwar.

I said, "I am Kumar."

"I thought Kalki would come, did he send his assistant?"

"I am the one designated as Kalki, I have not done anything yet to earn that name."

"Wise man, so how come you are here?"

"I came in search of Atul."

"He has already left."

"The helicopter he arrived at is here and his last known location is showing here. We checked he has not left this area. He is possibly somewhere radio waves can't be reached."

“We checked, and he did not have any mobile on him.”

“Can you show him to me?”

“Come, I will take you to Atul.”

We went to a small hillock and Maheshwar took us to a cave formed on the foot of the hill. The cave was open and we moved inside, and two soldiers stood before opening the inner cave.

We walked inside the cave and there Atul was bound to a chair and his face was down as if he was unconscious.

“What happened to Atul?”

“Nothing much, he was under sedation”, he took some salt from the table and made Atul take a breath of it. Atul moved a little and opened his eyes.

“I thought you were as powerful as Hanuman, you came out a weakling.”

Atul smiled and said, “I want to see what is your line.” He just shuddered and the rope bound to him shredded to pieces.

Maheshwar smiled and said, “You have not disappointed me. I want to meet your dad Kalki, but he says he is just Kumar. Mr. Kalki please be seated”, and showed a chair and sat on another chair.

“We have been attacked by some men of Asur’s during covid outbreak. Maybe they were short of food grains or money. But they were taught a lesson by the forces that were protecting the treasures. We caught one of them and he said he belongs to an army led by Makrasura. He is like a crocodile, he would sit still until the enemy reaches him and then strikes them when they are unaware of what stuck them. He doesn’t stay in one place for a long time. He sleeps in a box and it can’t be opened from the outside. He said it reminded him of Count Dracula’s coffin”

“Does he go by any other name, we did not come across the name Makrasura?”

“I am aware of any other name for him. But he said someone saw him on TV with Mohsin Khan the actor. He was with him when some TV cameraman recorded him secretly. He questioned if he was related to Mohsin Khan, and if so who is he. Will he replace Mohsin Khan in his next picture, things like that?”

I looked at Atul, he was lost in thought, he must be checking the footage. When he nodded his head, I got up and shook Maheshwar’s hand Atul got up and said, “ok thank you for your

help, we will take leave. If you get any more information, please let us know”, and handed him my card.

Atul too got up and shook hands with Maheshwar and we walked out of the cave to our parked helicopters.

I told Atul to return to the bunker and I will return to Hyderabad.

Atul retrieved the photo of Makrasura from the video with Mohsin. It was not easily available, but nothing can disappear from the internet. He took good care to delete the copies. But you know the internet, it will be saved somewhere or other. Atul is an expert in finding those hidden things.

I looked at his photo, he seemed as much as I expected him to be. Compared with Mohsin, he is three inches taller than Mohsin and looks tougher than him. These two can enact the role of Asur in any mythological movie. That brought me to an idea, why don't I propose to make a mythological movie with them? This way I can study him, but what story I should select for the movie? Ramayana? Mahabharata? Or a story using all the Asuras with Hiranyakashipu and all those following him. I have to check if I have any stories written by the writers.

I better get Monica from America and hand over the making of the movie to her. I promised her I would help her in financing a movie. I looked at the time, it is nearing 7 pm, so in New York, it would be 8:30 am and being Saturday, they all would be at home. The last time I went to drop them off, I just dropped Monica and came back, I did not have time to chat with anyone else.

I called Loveleen and said, I will go visit New York and come back.

Loveleen said I will also come with you.

So, we both took the transporter and reached New York house.

Atul

From my experience with Maheshwar, one thing I found out is I have powers. Bob did not mention them to me, but it was invigorating to have such a power. The only thing lacking is the power of flying, Hanuman had. But that too compensated by the gadgets we have.

Nirmala came to our offices and asked for me. The receptionist called me and informed me about Nirmala visiting us. I told them I

would come and visit in the evening and give Nirmala my number, so she could contact me.

I went over to the Mumbai office in the evening and Nirmala was waiting for me. She was chatting with Cathy, and seeing me she got up and came over to me. She asked me shall we go to a movie or something.

I was a little confused, I didn't know my position with Molly, she was not in contact with me and I didn't know if my relationship with her exists. If Nirmala wants to come closer to me, what is wrong with that? So, I readily agreed to go with her to a movie and dinner.

Nirmala said that she already booked tickets to the movie, shall we go?"

We took one of the company's cars and went over to the theatre.

When we reached the theatre, I parked and we walked to the gates, Nirmala linked her hand to mine and we arrived at the gates.

Nirmala showed the tickets to the gatekeeper on her phone and we entered the theatre. She asked for some snacks and I brought them for her and we entered the theatre and sat on our chairs

It was a whole different experience for me, I did not have any other girlfriends than Molly, and Nirmala is different with me. When the lights switched off, she took my hand and put it on her shoulder. I understood she is taking initiative. So, I went along with her.

After the movie, we came out and went to a restaurant in the theatre complex. After our dinner, we came out and sat in the car.

I asked, "Nirmala, where do you want me to drop you?"

"Take me to your flat, I want to spend some more time with you."

I drove to our flat in Andheri. I did not intend to take her to our quarter in Juhu. We arrived at the flat and parked in the parking space. Locked the car and went to our flat.

I opened the door and stepped in. It is in tip-top condition, it seems someone is keeping it spick and span. I went to the bedroom, switched on the AC and came out to the hall.

"Do you want to have something to drink?"

"A cool drink would be nice."

"What about some wine, I think we have a good collection here."

"How come you keep liquor here? Do you have parties here?"

"No, it was Dad's collection."

I brought her a cool drink from the fridge and handed it to her.

She took it and sipped and looked at me coyly.

I understood what she came for, but I was a little hesitant about how to move forward. My mind is sending mixed signals, as my previous experiences get jumbled up with all those memories.

Nirmala finished the drink and placed the can on the table in front of her. I stood in front of her and she stood up and I held her shoulder and looked into her eyes. I could see love in her eyes and I decided to go forward with her. I kissed her and she kissed back passionately. It was a new experience for me, as with Molly I felt a connection to many lives but with Nirmala, it was a different experience. I felt I had a connection to her, but it can't be described in words.

We kissed with tongues and everything then I led her to the bedroom. Nirmala shivered with the coolness of the room but I felt a heat rise in me. I guided her to the bed and pushed her onto the bed. She fell on her back and her dress rode up, exposing her underwear. I sat beside her on the bed, and put my hand on her thighs. It felt cool to my touch. It must be the coolness from the ac making her cool to the touch or is it something else?

Kumar

We came out of the transporter and Atul's daughter came running to me saying, Grandpa. I caught hold of her lifted her and held her. Molly came from behind saying who has come?

Then one by one started arriving greeting and asking about India.

When Monica came, I explained to her the situation and asked her opinion about making a movie.

She readily agreed as she was getting restless in the US. We discussed what we should tell her husband for being missing at this time. Finally, we decided to tell Mohsin that she met with an accident and forgot about the past. Slowly she recovered her memories and returned home.

We said goodbyes to them and returned to the Bombay office through the transporter. There is no record of Monica living in the USA for this length of time.

I took her to our office car and dropped her at her house.

I asked Monica, "Shall I come and explain the situation to your husband?"

“I will manage with Mohsin, I will explain to him, that you are willing to produce our next movie with Mohsin in whatever role he wants to play. That should cool him down, what with the dearth of roles for him. After their last movie bombed, he did not get any roles.”

“Ok, if you are confident about managing your husband, I will leave it to you, just give me a call when you are free and can call me.”

Monica got out of the car and walked through the gate into the house.

I looked at her going inside and started the car, drove to the office.

I received a call from Monica after an hour informing me that Mohsin had agreed for her to direct a movie produced by me.

Atul

I felt a little uneasy with her cold touch, but her next action brought the heat to both of us. Nirmala pulled me onto her. I started kissing her from top to bottom. I started behind her ears, which brought in her huge reaction. Then I came down to her throat, from there on to her breast. Slowly I removed the buttons on the top she is wearing, exposing her bra-clad boobs.

I kissed her on the top of her breasts and the valley of her breasts. I came down to her navel and explored the navel coming down to her flared-up mini she was wearing. I kissed her above the hemline of her undies and explored using my tongue to move her undies down, exposing her skin above the cunt area.

I pulled her undies with my hand and threw them aside. I started exploring her vagina with my tongue. Nirmala arched back with pleasure. I again went up and pulled her bra straps aside and pulled them down to her stomach, exposing her fully formed breasts.

I started playing with my tongue on her nipples one after the other bringing her to pleasure, and she started to moan with pleasure.

I removed my shirt, threw it aside and loosened the belt on my trousers. I let it slide down and stepped out of the trousers. I was in my undies and my dick is trying to break free from it.

I lay on her and started to kiss her and my hand was on her boobs pressing them. Nirmala pulled down my underwear and freed the dick from it. She inserted it into her vagina and I started to move rhythmically and Nirmala moved with the rhythm.

Half an hour of pumping her brought me to climax and she must have had many orgasms. Releasing my semen into her, I rolled aside and lay beside her.

Nirmala removed a packet of fags from her purse handed me one and took one for herself.

I silently lit mine and hers from a lighter on the nightstand.

I inhaled smoke and looked at the ceiling. We silently finished our fags and I lay on the pillow on the bed.

Nirmala put her hand on my chest. I closed my eyes hoping to go to sleep.

But she would not let me sleep. She whispered in my ears, "What happened, I heard you went in search of that soldier who came to visit my grandpa?"

I thought keeping silent would make her think that I am sleeping. But her hand on my chest started scratching to make me answer her question. So, I finally said, "We met him and he could not provide any answers we were seeking."

"So, what are you going to do now?"

"I am not going to do anything at this moment. Kumar decided to make a movie."

"How making a movie would help you to locate Asur?"

"It is not for finding Asur, I am saying he decided to make a movie. Maybe because we have so much money, he wanted to burn some."

"How did you make all this money?"

"Kumar worked hard and used all his brilliant mind to earn this money. When he was young, they did not have any money, so he decided to have so much money, it should last for generations."

I did not tell her the money we have from multiple dimensions and we had help from Bob. Who literally supplied us with investments and blueprints for the futuristic items, that enabled Kumar to do all this.

"Can you help me with some money?"

"Why do you need money?"

"I have to pay someone."

"For what?"

"Someone is demanding money or he will expose me."

"What did you do that he can expose you?"

“We were playing truth or dare and I chose to dare and my friends asked me to steal something from the super bazaar. We went to a super bazaar and I put a bottle of costly scent in my pocket and brought some small items and paid for them and came out. Now one of the security people who watched me on the CC TV putting the scent in my pocket, but he did not inform his supervisor, but threatened to expose me and demanded money to keep silent”

“So, what you have in mind, pay him? But what is the guarantee he would not ask for more money?”

“I thought about it, but for the time being, we should pay him to keep him quiet.”

“How much do you have in mind?”

“Around a lakh.”

“So, to keep him quiet you want to pay a lakh of rupees. What did he demand?”

“He was asking for 10 lakhs, but for the time being I want to give him a lakh and ask him for time.”

“Ok go to sleep, we will see tomorrow.”

What is she thinking of paying the blackmailer a lakh? Everyone knows that paying once will not stop him from coming back again. He will try to squeeze for every last paise and then he will expose her when all her money is exhausted. The best way is to expose him at the first opportunity and be done with him. Let me see how I can do something in this matter. The police commissioner is known to Dad, and he had called me to know Kumar’s whereabouts. I should contact him and ask him to do something. Thinking about how to go about this matter I slipped into deep sleep.

I woke up with Nirmala kissing my cheek. I opened my eyes and said good morning, did you wake up already?

“I woke up and made you coffee too.”

“Is there milk in the house?”

“There are packets of milk in the deep fridge.”

“Ok, come here and give me a proper kiss.”

We kissed and I picked up the coffee cup and started to sip.

I readied and dropped Nirmala at her place and drove to our office. I called the commissioner and explained to him the position of Nirmala, and I told him I suspected him of recording bathroom

videos and blackmailing the victims, which should bring more attention to the police.

I called Kumar and asked him about the situation with Monica.

"She seemed to settle differences with her husband. At least he agreed to act in our film, we have to see how she will manage to get Asur to act in the film."

"Ok. I had asked the Mumbai Police commissioner for a favour."

"What happened?"

"It was about Nirmala. It seems she was caught in some unsavoury situation. Someone is blackmailing her for money."

"If it is a matter of blackmailing let him deal with it. What else is happening?"

"I will be in Mumbai until this Nirmala's matter is settled."

"Ok, you do what is necessary. I will be coordinating with Monica to make the movie. We have to start as soon as possible. Come over for dinner, Loveleen is asking for you."

"Ok, I will come tonight, possibly I will bring Nirmala too."

"I will inform Loveleen to expect Nirmala."

"See you tonight, bye."

I called Nirmala and told her I am trying to fix her matter and Dad is asking us to come for dinner, and I told him I would come for dinner tonight, if you are free she could accompany me too.

She agreed to meet Dad, and will I pick her up in the evening?

I agreed to pick her up and take her to our house.

I transported myself to the bunker and started going through some footage.

It was 8 pm and I reached Nirmala's house to pick her up.

Her house was in darkness and I rang the doorbell.

No one responded to my repeated rings and I looked around trying to find any movement in the house and there was none.

I tried calling Nirmala on her cell phone, but the response was her mobile number was not reachable.

Where she could have gone, if she is not available she would have at least called me. I went around the house trying to find some clue of what happened. When I reached the back door leading to the kitchen I found that it was unlocked and slightly ajar.

So, I called the commissioner and informed him that Nirmala was missing and it seemed someone might have kidnapped her.

He said he would send some police officers to the house to check it out. I should not disturb anything but wait at the front of the house. I had to wait for half an hour before the CID team arrived. I let them search the house by entering from the back door.

The SI came out and said, "We are conducting investigations, you better return home. We will let you know the progress of the investigations when some information is available."

I had to return home and inform Kumar of the events of the evening.

Dad called the bunker and told them to check the CC TV footage from around her house to find any information about what happened to her.

"Let us see what they will come up with."

Loveleen came and announced dinner. I did not have the appetite for eating, so I sat at the table and acted eating.

They understood my predicament and did not force me to eat.

I got up in the morning and readied and reached the bunker. I enquired about missing Nirmala and did they find any clues about her missing.

Gopal said, "We looked at all the possible locations, but we could not get any clue as to where she could have gone. It seemed like she disappeared into thin air."

From those words, a little doubt started to burrow into my mind.

I transported to our house in Mumbai took a car and reached Nirmala's house. A police constable was standing outside the house. I asked him to let me in and he called his superiors and let me in.

I started searching methodically through the house for clues to Nirmala's disappearance.

After going through the house for more than half an hour, I found what I was looking for. It is a transporter like the one we used but it was not produced by us. Someone else made them and they had different frequency settings so our locations were not visible and were showing different sets of locations.

I called Kumar and explained to him about finding the transporter in Nirmala's house. He asked what that could mean.

“There seemed to be something suspicious in her behaviour. She could be an associate of Asur. Otherwise, why would she direct us to Maheshwar’s people? They might have thought they would kill me. Then when I safely returned, she tried to seduce me. I felt something odd about her then. It seems she is not missing, she could have just left through the transporter.”

“Yeah, that is a possibility, did you check which location the transporter is set for?”

“Unlike our transporters, it is showing a blank location. It seems they reset after a certain time.”

“That possibility is there. You check if any more clues can be found.”

“Ok, I will check and return home. Unnecessarily I have taken tension about her disappearance.”

I went through the house with a fine-tooth comb. I did not find anything of interest. So, I returned home and from there transported to the bunker.

Chapter 5

Kumar

From the talk with Atul, it seems that we are searching for Asur, and they are also trying to manipulate us. But I am not sure what lengths they would go to.

Loveleen came and called for lunch.

During lunch, I told Loveleen what Atul found at Nirmala’s house.

“Do you think Nirmala is related to the Asur family?”

“I can’t take any other meaning for her actions. If she is not one of them why would she have the transporter in her house? Why would she guide Atul to go and meet Maheshwar? Why would she try to seduce Atul?”

“Why do you think she seduced Atul, she might have real feelings for him. She might really want to help us and finding her doing things they forbid her, they might have taken her away. She might not have gone on her own. She might have been taken forcefully. At least it seemed like a possibility.”

“From your perspective, she seemed like a victim rather than a villain.”

“She could be.”

“What she could be?”

“She could be a victim. Atul has taken to heart her actions.”

“Yes, he has taken them to his heart.”

Finishing my lunch, I got up and washed my hands. I came to the hall and sat on a sofa.

The phone rang, I picked it up and said hello. It is the commissioner, “we can’t find any clues Nirmala was kidnapped. But we are enquiring about the complaint of blackmailing. Once we know anything we will let you know.”

“Ok thank you sir, will meet sometime. Let me know if you have any work for us.”

“Ok, I will do that, bye”, and he cuts the line.

I said to Loveleen, “I will be going to the office”, I walked over to the office and sat in my cabin.

Kathy came up with a bunch of files for signatures. Sir, I have a few files for signatures. Will you spare a few minutes?

“Sure, sit down and explain to me what these files are for.”

Kathy started handing me files one by one and explained to me what are they for.

I completed the files and when she started to get up to go out, I stopped her and said, “I would like a word with you.”

“What sir.”

“It is about Nirmala. How do you know her?”

“She is my childhood friend. We used to live in the same locality and went to the same school. After my 10th we shifted to Mumbai and she studied her M.B.B.S. in Chennai and came over to Mumbai to do her M.S. We kept in touch for all these years. I even offered her to come to stay with us. She said one of her relatives offered her a house to stay. If we wanted, we could come and stay with her. We used to go to her house and spend our weekends. Then at your wedding, she met Atul. Nirmala was telling me she liked Atul. His attitude and his happy-go-lucky life and his hacking abilities, over that his personality.”

“You mean to say she has a genuine liking for Atul? I think you all went to Tamilnadu to meet with her grandfather?”

“Her grandfather runs a nature clinic in the interiors of Tamilnadu. He is a very good person. He made helping people his life aim. He would not charge anything from the patients. Well-to-do persons give donations and he run the clinic with that money.”

“What about Maheshwar?”

“Who is Maheshwar?”

“Soldiers who came to meet Nirmala’s grandfather.”

“Oh, is his name Maheshwar? We did not know. Nirmala saw them come to the clinic when she was there for her holidays.”

“Why are you enquiring about Nirmala? Did Atul tell you about their love?”

“Something like that. We want to go and meet her grandfather.”

“Yes, you can go and meet them. Do you want me to come with you?”

“Yes certainly. We will leave around 4 pm. Be ready.”

At 4:15 pm we reached the Chennai office and from there we took a company car and reached the Airport, which is close by. It is the foresight of Kumar and Loveleen to arrange for the office be built near the Airport when it was all open land.

We took the helicopter waiting for us and the pilot already knew where Nirmala’s grandfather’s clinic is situated.

The Pilot landed the helicopter expertly on the open area near the clinic. Hearing the sound of the helicopter Nirmala’s grandparents came out.

Seeing Kathy, Grandpa asked, “What happened Kathy, Nirmala was not responding to our calls.”

Kathy replied, “I thought she came to visit you when she did not respond to my calls”, and looked at Kumar for support.

Kumar replied, “We came over to discuss that only. Nirmala seemed to be not available for contact. When Atul went to pick her up from her house for dinner at our house, she was not there. We are not sure whether she went somewhere or missing from her house.”

Grandpa said, “I don’t think she would go anywhere without informing us. “Is there a chance she would have been kidnapped?”

“There is a possibility, who is the relative that offered her their house to stay at?”

“Was she staying at some relative’s house? We thought she was staying at a hostel with Kathy.”

Kathy said, “She said some relatives offered the house she was staying in, she even asked us to come and stay with her.”

“I am not aware of any relatives.” Grandpa turned to Grandma and asked, “Are you aware of any relatives who let her stay at their house in Mumbai?”

“As you are, I was thinking she was staying at a hostel.”

Worry is evident on their faces. “From the time her parents are dead, we are looking after her. Please try to find out what happened with her.”

“We will find her and return her to you, don’t worry. Police are trying to find what happened to her.”

We went back to the helicopter and returned to Chennai.

Atul

Dad called me and explained what he learned about Nirmala.

It gave me a little respite that she did not try to cheat me. But the worry about her well-being has now increased. If she had been kidnapped from her house, who had done it and why?

When I found the transporter in her house I assumed she could have used the transporter willingly. It never occurred to me her kidnappers could have installed it for their own convenience. Which they used when they wanted to kidnap her. I should have checked the locations available on the transporter. Why did I not think of that at that time? I was furious that she cheated on me when she had good intentions about me. I am at the wrong in her case. There is a saying once bitten twice shy. If anyone is cheated by girls once, they would look suspiciously at any other girl showing interest in them. That same thing must have happened to me. I should go and check the transporter and check available locations.

I went to security picked up the keys and drove to Nirmala’s house. By the time I reached the sun had disappeared behind the western seashore and the house was in pitch dark. I opened the backside door and entered the flat and switched on the light in the kitchen. Finding the kitchen in disarray, I hurried to the room where the transporter was kept. The place was empty and it seems someone came and picked up the transporter and shifted it.

Now I don’t have any other alternative to check her location.

Kumar

When Atul called me and informed me that Nirmala’s house transporter was shifted from her house, I called Gopal and informed

him to check the CC TV cameras around her house. Now they could have only shifted it through some vehicle.

Why did Atul become emotional with Nirmala? I never thought he would behave like this. He is not making the correct decisions at the correct time. After his marriage with Molly and subsequent fatherhood, he would have changed. But for their security, we had to send them to the USA. It must be affecting him. I went over to Loveleen sitting in the bedroom reading some magazines. I went and picked a chair and sat in front of her. She lowered the book she was reading and looked at me enquiringly.

I said, "It is about Atul."

She put the magazine aside and said, "Tell me what you want to discuss"

"It seems Atul has taken Nirmala's kidnap to his heart.

"It is expected after Molly was sent away to the USA."

"But we have to do that for their own security. We feared that they would target our families."

"You were not wrong in doing that. But did you think how it must have affected him mentally? He was missing two of the most important persons in his life."

"I thought he could go and meet them whenever he wanted."

"But due to security reasons, he could not go and meet them. You have been there a few times. You could have informed him about their well-being."

"Yes, I should have done that. But I don't want to disturb him unnecessarily. I thought if he wanted he would have gone there to check on them."

Loveleen thought for a minute and said, "Bygones are bygone, let us see what we can do to help him out. Are you sure, Nirmala is kidnapped?"

"I am sure, there is no other alternate theory than her being kidnapped. Otherwise, she would have contacted Atul to offer some kind of explanation. It seems she is not able to communicate with the outside world. At least she could have communicated with her grandparents. She would have known they would be worried about her. She did not have anyone else other than her grandparents."

"You are correct, if not Atul she would have contacted her grandparents. They raised her from the time her parents died."

“What shall I do about Atul?”

“Give him some time, he would come out and immerse himself in work. There is nothing wrong if he tries to find her. Ultimately it would lead him to find something about Asur. Is there some chance of Monica casting him in her movie?”

“Monica did not inform me about that. She would get Mohsin to get him to cast Asur in their movie. She is promoting Mohsin as a hero and to match him they need a villain to match his stature. She is pushing him to get Asur to be cast in their movie. Ultimately, he has to come abroad to work in her movie. Maybe we can trace Nirmala through him. I will get Gopal to monitor the house in the forest for clues.”

Atul

I reached the bunker and asked what Gopal was doing.

He replied, “I am looking at the footage from around Nirmala’s house if anyone could have moved the transporter.”

I told him to check for any chatter on Nirmala.

He said, ‘Kumar told me to monitor the footage from the house in the forest for any communications about Nirmala there.’

“What did you find?”

“I gave that to Manish to check it out. He did not come out with anything yet.”

“Ok, I will check out with him. Is there anything else?”

“Nothing for the time being. I will let you know if I find out anything.”

“Ok, I am going back to Mumbai and meet with the commissioner. He should help us out.”

“Ok then see you then.”

I was back at the Mumbai office and called the commissioner and asked for time to meet him. He said he is going to meet with CM and he does not know how much time it would take. There were reports of unrest in some parts of Maharashtra. They anticipate them to increase into riots.

I asked him can we be of some assistance.

He said he would contact me after the meeting.

I said I would be expecting his call and cut the call.

Now what is this problem with unrest? Is it the opposition’s doing or Asur has some hand in this too?

It is very difficult to conclude about the activities of Asur. He seemed to be everywhere and a hand in everything sinister.

After that, my mind went back to Nirmala and the night we had.

It was a night to remember. After the merger, that was my first night with a woman. And what a night that was. A night to remember till the last breath. Thinking about Nirmala I slipped into sleep.

When I got up it was dark and for a minute I did not understand if I was sleeping in the daytime or at night. Then I remembered thinking about Nirmala I slipped into sleep. I looked at the time on the side table. It is showing 6:45. So, it must be evening, then I remembered I did not have lunch. I walked over to the kitchen and found some prepared food on the counter, I put them in the heater made some tea and sat at the table with a cup.

Then the mobile communication device in my ear rang. It was on auto DND when sleeping. It won't accept calls when sleeping.

I thought to take the call and it is from Gopal.

"Hello, what are you doing, your device is not accepting calls."

"I was sleeping and the device is on sleep DND. So, what is the news? Did you find anything about Nirmala?"

"We could not trace anything about Nirmala, but we found a small van transporting transporter from Nirmala's house. We noted the van plates and tried to find where they shifted the transporter."

"Ok, when you get some information, please let me know. Did you find anything from the house in the forest?"

"It seems at present they are not using the house. They must have a doubt we are surveying the house. Or they must have shifted their operations to somewhere else."

"Better to send someone there in the daytime to find really no one is using the house or they put the signal in a loop so we will not have any idea what they are up to."

"Another thing we found was some people moving suspiciously around the Juhu office and houses. We are trying to find their details."

"Did you inform Kumar about them?"

"Not yet. We want to be sure they are from the enemy camp before altering him. Why give them unnecessary tension."

"It is okay, I will keep an eye on the goings on. Anything else I should know."

“Nothing else at present, I will keep you in the loop. Bye.”

I removed the dishes kept for heating, placed them on the plate and started eating. My mind again went back to Nirmala. What did she eat? Did she get enough food? Dad was telling about Joy, when she was kidnapped by Dolly’s gang, and how they treated her. They put her in a dark room and put a plate of food through a slit on the door and threw a bottle of water for drinking. She had to live in that hell hole until she was rescued. When she was found, she was in bad shape. If they kept her for a few more days, she could not have recovered. But after that, she started to look after the software division and AI is her brainchild. Which Kumar took to another level with his efforts.

With those thoughts, I completed the dinner and walked over to the office.

I found Kathy still working.

I asked her, “Kathy did you not go home?”

“I wanted to finish this work. From tomorrow I am going on leave.”

“Who will look after your work in your absence?”

“A new girl from the Hyderabad branch is coming over here to look after this work.”

“Who is she?”

“Her name is Sravanthi, she was appointed by Kumar sir.”

“Can I help you in any way?”

“Please check these documents. I wanted them to be double-checked. They are related to the movie Kumar sir is producing.”

“Ok, let me see the papers.”

I took the document and started to study it line by line, trying to find any hidden agenda.

It took me half an hour to complete the document, I made some corrections with a pencil on the margins and returned it to Kathy.

“So, why are you going on leave and where are you going.”

“I am off to Chennai. My family called me there, they are looking for matches for me.”

“So, you are coming back after marriage only. Aren’t you inviting us to the wedding?”

“I will certainly invite you all. The only thing is that the date is not fixed yet. As soon as the date is fixed I will inform you all.”

“Ok, let me know in advance, I have to pick a good gift for you.”

“What is the need for the gift, your attendance is only a big gift for me.”

“Then the gift is cancelled.”

She laughed and said, “Don’t think I will let you get off so cheap. I will take the best gift possible from you.”

I smiled and said, “I don’t want to be known by your in-laws to be a cheapskate.”

“My work is finished and tomorrow I will hand over the charge to Sravanthi and will go on leave.”

“Shall I drop you somewhere?”

“Why the trouble, I will ask the driver to drop me off. I told him to wait for me.”

“Why trouble him, come I will drop you. At least I will have something to do rather than go back and do nothing.”

We went to the watchman, collected the keys and walked over to the parking. By unlocking the door, I located the car and we walked over to that, I opened the door for Kathy and when she sat down, I closed the door and came to the other side, sat down on the driver’s seat and started the car and drove.

We drove silently for some time. I asked, “Where shall I drop you, at your hostel?”

“No, I was going to my Aunt’s place. She was going to give me some dresses for the groom’s visit. She will accompany me to Chennai.”

“How are you planning to go over to Chennai? Did you book airline tickets?”

“What is the need for airline tickets, when we have a transporter?”

“Your Aunt is not scared of using it?”

“In the beginning she was scared, now she says it is safer than travelling on train or aeroplane. Take a left here and stop by that building.”

I stopped the car and she got down and stood at the door of the car and said, “Why don’t you come up and have a cup of coffee if you don’t have anything better to do.”

I thought for a minute and told her I will park the car and come.

She closed the door and stood aside. I parked it at a side, got down and locked and followed her.

We rode the lift and got down to the 14th floor. She went to a door and rang the bell. A lady of around 45 years opened the door and looked at Kathy enquiringly.

I said, "Hello Aunty, I am Atul."

"Oh, you are Atul, Kathy told me about you."

"What did she tell you, I hope all good things."

"She was telling me about missing Nirmala. We knew her as a kid. Hope you will find her soon."

"My hope too."

Kathy said, "Atul was most affected by her disappearance. He was about to take her to meet with Kumar and Loveleen for dinner."

"Where she could have disappeared? Do you have any idea?"

Kathy said, "They think she was kidnapped."

"Who would kidnap her?"

Kathy said, "I am not sure, Kumar sir might have some idea. Come in and sit down. I will bring coffee."

She went into the Kitchen and Aunty followed her.

I heard her whispering why don't ask him for dinner?

Kathy replied, "he was telling me he had dinner and came to the office."

"Ok, I will prepare the coffee, you go and sit with him."

Kathy came and sat in front of me. I smiled at her and she smiled back. "Don't take her words into mind, you know about the elders."

"Nothing like that. I don't have a problem if someone takes the name of Nirmala. I am only worried about her."

"I know she is somewhere safe. I feel in my heart she would return one day."

Aunty brought the cup of coffee and placed it on the table.

I picked it up and started sipping. "Good coffee, one of the best I had till now. Ok, I will make a move, will meet you in the morning."

"Be there, I will introduce the new girl. She will work here permanently."

"Why aren't you coming back?"

"I will come back. But, you know about the in-laws. I don't know what kind of restrictions they will put."

"If they don't support you, tell me I will do something."

"I don't think it will come to that. See you tomorrow. When the marriage is fixed, you must come over."

“Don’t worry about that, I will personally make the arrangements.” I came out to the corridor. There was loud music playing. I looked at the side the music is coming from.

Kathy said, “They are staying as paying guests. The owner gave that flat for managing as PG.”

“It is ok.” As I was moving towards the lift, the door to the flat opened and two young men came out and stood behind me waiting for the lift.”

We entered the lift and one of them said to the other, “I heard Kathy is going to get married. She is moving to Chennai.”

I asked the man, “Do you know Kathy?”

He replied, “Yes, we go to them for small things like sugar or salt. Who are you to her?”

“I am her boss, she works with us.”

“Oh, you are her boss and so young. She was telling us her boss is very considerate, and he married recently.”

“Oh, you are talking about Kumar, my Dad.”

They looked at each other’s faces and kept silent.

I said, “I am Atul by the way.”

“I am Abhijith and this is Pankaj”

“Glad to meet you two.”

“Likewise,”

I came out and sat in the driver’s seat and they were passing along.

“Do you perhaps want a lift?”

“No thanks, we are just going to the Super Bazaar. Thanks anyway.”

So, I started the car and drove home.

Nirmala

I opened my eyes with difficulty. I was tied to a chair for the last four days and they fed me only water and some liquid foods.

A man sat in front of me. He is a giant of a man. He would be around 7 feet tall and with a body, all the movie stars would be envious of him. I have not seen anyone like him in my lifetime. Even Maheshwar would look tiny in front of him.

He asked me for the hundredth time, “What is Kumar’s plan.”

“I don’t know what is his plan. I didn’t even meet him anytime.”

“You went to his wedding, I saw the pictures.”

“I went with my friends. I don’t know Kumar’s family personally.”

“Then why did you take them to your grandfather?”

“You mean Atul? I took him because he wanted some advice on his mother’s health?”

“What happened to her?”

“He was telling him she had cancer.”

“Can your grandfather cure cancer?”

“If he can’t cure, he can extend the life of the patient with herbs.”

“So, you took him to your grandfather to provide him medicines.”

“Yes, nothing else.”

“Then why did you go with him to the movies? Then you had dinner and went to their house too. You stayed the whole night there.”

I opened my mouth to fill him with lies. Then I remembered Grandpa’s advice. Never tell lies, if you tell one, you have to lie hundred times. Then they will catch on your own lie and grill you. Built everything around truth, or tell only a partial truth. But no lies.”

“You know how it is with us young people. I want to spend a night with him. He has a certain charm and he is a great lover.”

“Do you think so? What do you think of me?”

“I don’t know. You might be rough with your lovers.”

“You are correct. No one lived to see the day.”

“Are you trying to scare me? Then I am truly scared of you.”

“You don’t seem scared.”

“Why would I be scared, my parents did not bring me up to be a scarecrow.”

“I heard your parents died in an accident.”

“So, what?”

“Do you know how that happened?”

“what do you mean?”

“Do you know how the accident happened?”

“How means, they died in an accident, that is how that happened.”

“What do you remember from that time?”

“I was just a year old at the time, I don’t remember anything.”

“Ok, it is good.”

“Why are you talking like that?”

“I thought you might remember something. As you are saying you don’t remember anything it does not matter.”

“Why are you talking like that?”

"I said it does not matter. You tell me about Kumar and their activities."

"I told you, I have no idea about their activities."

"If you don't have any idea, then find out and tell me."

"How can I do that if you keep me prisoner here?"

"That is what I am asking. If I free you, will you work for me?"

"I don't have anything against Kumar and company to work for you."

"If you can find out about their activities, I will tell you a little secret."

"What secret you are talking of?"

"The secret of your parent's death."

"What secret is there in that?"

"That is what I will tell you, how they died."

"You mean to say they did not die in an accident."

"I am not saying that I will tell you the secret behind their accident."

"Are you sure you will tell me all the details?"

"I promise to reveal everything to you about their deaths."

"Ok, then I will find out everything about Kumar's activities and tell you. First release me from this", showing him the ropes tied around me.

He looked at a man standing at a distance and watching the goings on. That man came over with a knife and cut the ropes.

I stood up and rubbed my hands to let the blood flow. They become numb from sitting for four days. After that, I moved around to let the blood flow to the legs. I came back and stood before him.

In front of him, I felt so tiny, I moved a little back and asked him, "So what should I do now?"

"You go back as if nothing happened and make up a story of how you got lost after an accident and forgot everything. After remembering you came back home. You become close to either Kumar or Atul and try to find out what they are up to. Take this mind-controlled device and put it in your ear. It will blend with your ear and no one is wiser. So, you can communicate with me and inform me of the goings on. When your work is complete, I will let you know the details of your parent's accident. Then you will be free from any obligation to me. You can go back to the house you were living in. Anything else you want from us?"

“Can you provide me with a vehicle?”

“You select a car from the parking and security will give you the keys.” He looked at the man, he nodded in acknowledgement.

“Do you have something to eat? I did not have anything for the last few days.”

He again looked at the man, he went through a door, possibly to bring something to eat.

He came back with a packet of sandwiches and some juice. I looked at them and asked, “Don’t you have something else?”

He shook his head. Either he is dumb or he doesn’t open his mouth in front of the tall man. I took the packet and started eating, in between sipping juice. I finished the sandwiches, and threw the packet aside and said, “Can I go now? By the way, I did not get your name.”

“You can call me Ananth.”

“Ok bye, Ananth.”

I moved behind the man who went through the door. He took me outside and collected the keys from security and clicked on the keys. A couple of lights flashed nearby with the sound of the door opening. He handed me the keys and I moved towards the car and opened the driver’s side door and sat in the car.

He signalled the watchman, who opened the gates and I drove out to my freedom.

Atul

I readied and went over to the office to take over and pass it on to the new girl joining today.

When I entered the office premises, Kathy came over with a stunningly beautiful girl. I kept staring at her in amazement. I came back into this world when Kathy was calling me repeatedly sir.

“Yes, Kathy”

“Sir this is the new girl, Sravanthi, joining from today.

Sravanthi extended her hand to shake hands. I gripped her hand lightly. Her hand is cool to the touch, possibly she was sitting in the ac for some time. I looked into her eyes, they are bewitching inviting me to drown in them. I kept staring into her eyes. When she said, “Glad to meet you, sir.”

“Glad to meet you too. So, what are your qualifications?”

“I completed my degree and did MBA in HR.”

“From Chennai?”

“Yes sir.”

“You don’t need to put sir in every sentence. Just call me Atul.”

“Yes sir.”

“Ok, did you take charge from Kathy? She will be away for some time. I am not sure how long she will be away.”

“It is no problem, sir, I can manage in her absence.”

“It is not about how you can manage, it is we will miss her presence in this office.”

“I think I can fill the void left by Kathy. You don’t worry sir, I will take care of everything.”

Kathy took leave and went over to the transporter room to go to Chennai.

We turned and started to walk to my office room. Then a surprise of my lifetime. I heard a voice from behind calling Atul.

I turned and looked at Nirmala walking at a fast pace towards me. I just rooted to the spot I am standing.

She came running and hugged me and started kissing me on the cheeks. Maybe finding a new girl beside me she stopped.

I held her face in my hand and asked, “Where did you disappear? I was so worried, I was looking all over for you.”

“I will tell you all about it, first let us go to your cabin.”

Pravathi must have understood my predicament and said, “I will be in my cabin”, and went away.

Nirmala caught my hand and pulled me to my cabin. As we entered, Nirmala locked the door and started kissing me on the mouth passionately. I could not control and I started to kiss her back.

Thinking we were in the office, I stopped and asked her, “But tell me where you disappeared.”

From my words, it seems she is back on the earth. She pushed me to my chair pulled a chair and sat opposite to me.

“I have to tell you the sequence of events. I was in my house readying to come to your house. Then I felt someone hitting on my head. I became unconscious. When I opened my eyes, I was in a farmhouse. At first, I did not remember what happened. The watchman said I walked in there with amnesia and could not recollect who I was, and not even my name. Then slowly I started

remembering things and came running here. Sorry, I missed our date to meet Kumar sir and Loveleen madam.”

“You don’t need to call them sir and madam, you are like a family member. Let's meet them in the evening. I will fix a time.”

“Ok, with me. I could not remember anything, but I felt I was missing something. I had to go and meet someone I love. It is a feeling which made me restless until I could remember everything. It is your love that made me normal.”

I kissed her once more and said, “You go home and take a rest, I will come in the evening to pick you up.”

She looked long into my eyes, “Ok, bye seeing you”, and walked out. While going I saw her looking into Sravanthi’s cabin whose door was open.

They say love is blind, it is deaf and dumb too. I came to know this from my own experience.

After Nirmala left Sravanthi came over to my cabin with a bunch of files. I was busy until 4 p.m. with work. Then I remembered I told Nirmala I would take her to meet with Kumar and Loveleen.

I called Kumar and explained Nirmala came back and would like to meet with them in the evening. Kumar said he will speak with Loveleen and arrange for the meeting.

I went to Sravanthi’s cabin, and she is pounding on the keyboard possibly typing out memos. I told her I’m going over to the Island Bunker. She got up and picked up her bag.

I looked at her enquiringly, she might be possibly going out.

“I am coming with you, Sir told me not to leave you alone.”

“Why, what will happen to me?”

“Kumar sir told me to follow like a shadow.”

“Ok, if you want to come with me, it is okay. Come on then.”

We walked over to the transporter and got in and I pressed the button for Island Bunker.

We came out of the bunker and entered the room with all the gadgets and huge screens on the walls for monitoring cams from all over the world.

Looking at them Sravanthi said, “Oh! What a setup. How much does it cost?”

"I don't have estimates for the cost. It was modelled by known associates. I think Dad paid them around a million dollars."

"For a million dollars, if you could get this kind of setup, you are lucky. Where all this feed is coming from?"

"It is coming from all over the world. We have a big data centre here to store all this data. We have agreements with all the countries for sharing this feed and we store and retrieve as per their requirements."

"So, what do you do here?"

"I monitor feed and give instructions to store specific data for safekeeping. It may be required for immediate retrieval"

"What are these moving cameras?"

"These are covering the borders. Don't be fooled by its movement. There is another set of cameras behind them watching for movement. The enemy thinks they can infiltrate when the camera moves away. But they can't get away with this. In the second line, they will probably be caught."

"So advanced systems. So, our country's defence is in your hands."

"No, it is in our defence system's hand. We only provide support."

Gopal came over to speak with me. He stopped finding a new girl with me.

"Gopal, this is Sravanthi, my new PA."

"Glad to meet you, mam."

"No, need to call me mam, I am just Sravanthi."

"Sir, we found an anomaly in the feed coming from Pakistan. They must have suspected something. They are diverting the feed from some areas."

"Check with our man in Dubai who brought their contract. Tell them if they don't provide proper feed we will cancel their contract."

"Can we offer to cancel their contract?"

"If we cancel the contract where will they go? They will offer the contract to someone else, they will come back to us for storage. Who else has this kind of setup?"

"Ok, I will speak with them and warn them."

"Are you keeping a watch on Nirmala's house? Check everyone moving around her house."

"Today she drove home in a new car. I checked the plates, they belong to someone named Ananth Muthusamy."

“Maybe someone lent her their car. Just keep an eye. Someone might try to kidnap her again. I did not buy her story. It seemed rehearsed, not a real one. She might have been coached by someone or someone had scared her to tell that story. But at least she seemed cheerful. Ok, I will come back tomorrow. Keep an eye on the things and let me know if something pops up.”

We were back at the office and I told Sravanthi to go home and reached my room to ready for the meeting with Nirmala.

I reached Nirmala’s house around 7 p.m.

When I rang the bell, Nirmala opened the door, and pulled me in and closed the door behind me.

She kissed me and told me to sit on the sofa and went inside.

She came after five minutes and took me inside the bedroom.

The room was in semi-darkness, and there was a dim spotlight on the bed. Nirmala turned to me and kissed me hard. The passion can be seen in her kiss. It seemed she was missing me and there was an urgency in her kiss. A kiss can tell a lot about the person’s state of mind. It was as if she was inviting me to give her the pleasure she got last time.

After 45 minutes I got up from above her and said, “Go and get ready we are getting late. Mom and Dad would be waiting for us.”

She got up, “I will be just coming”, and she went into the bathroom. I waited for five minutes and sneaked a look into the bathroom. She was having a bath. “Come fast.”

“Wait a minute, let me have a proper bath. What will they think, if I come like this?”

“They will understand that we were having a little exercise.”

“Do you talk like that in front of your parents?”

“Why would I talk in front of them, I only talk in front of you.”

“Ok please let me complete the bath.”

She took another half an hour to get ready. Still, she was not satisfied with her look and changed into another dress.

“Why don’t you try a saree.”

“Saree. That would take another hour, would you wait for that long.”

“Ok, baby come as you are.”

“Do you want me to come unprepared?”

“You can come as you like, I will be waiting in the car.”

We reached our home around 9:35 p.m.

I parked the car in the parking and walked over to the main door.

Before I could ring the bell, the door was opened by Loveleen and Kumar was standing behind her.

Loveleen looked at Nirmala and a smile spread on her face. It is like a naughty smile as if she caught us in an act.

Nirmala folded her hands and said, “Namaste Loveleen madam, and Namaste Kumar sir.”

I whispered to Nirmala, “I told you not to use madam and sir.”

“I can’t call them uncle and aunty, they look so young.”

Loveleen said, “It is ok, come in, dinner is ready. Let us head to the dining room.”

We sat down in the chairs and Nirmala asked, “Why did you give us that naughty smile Loveleen?”

Again, the same smile spread on her lips. Loveleen said, “I remembered something from our past.” She turned to Kumar and said, “Do you remember when you called Nishitha and Ram to my house to talk about their marriage plans. You said your mom was asking about them. You said she asked you whether Nishitha and Ram were having an affair. She felt seeing the glow on Nishitha’s face they were having an affair. I saw the same glow on Nirmala’s face.”

I looked at Nirmala, she lowered her face in shyness.

Loveleen said, “You don’t need to be shy, we know you both were made for each other.”

Nirmala asked, “I heard Atul was married earlier and he had a daughter too.”

Kumar said, “Don’t worry about all that, it was in another life and it was behind him. Now she is not in his life anymore.”

Hearing those words, my mind settled into calmness. I was thinking of my wife Molly and our daughter. But from his words, it seems they will no longer be in my life. They have other plans for my future. I looked at Nirmala and she looked at me, smiled and gave an understanding smile.

We finished our dinner and came and sat on the sofa. A news channel was running on tv. A scroll was running on the bottom of the page and the news anchor was saying, “In a surprising turn of

events, Ajith Pawar split the party and joined with the Shinde faction and now he is given Deputy CM's post in the present government. And his group of MLAs expected to get some ministerial berths in the government.

Loveleen said, "Now they will remove Shinde from CM and one of them will become CM."

Nirmala asked, "How do you know that?"

"Kumar did something similar to get my dad CM's post."

Nirmala asked, "Did he pull it off?"

"Yes, he certainly did it. He got my dad Deputy CM's post and later my dad shook hands with another Deputy CM and got the CM to take political retirement and my Dad became CM."

"What is your dad's name?"

"Rajveer Khanna."

"I did not read about any Rajveer Khanna being a CM. When did he become CM?"

"In the year 1992."

"What was your age then?"

"I was around 24 then?"

"What is your age now?"

"I am 25 now."

"Have you aged just one year after all these years?"

"It was not me, I just had memories from that time. I am just 25 as I am looking now."

I saw a change of emotions on Nirmala's face. It seems she was in two minds to accept her words or not. Finally, she said, "I don't understand your logic. But looking at you I will accept your word."

I said, "We veered off the topic from the present political scenario. So, what will happen now?"

Loveleen replied, "What will happen, they will dethrone Shinde and one of the Deputies will become CM."

I looked at the time. It is showing at 11:30 pm.

I got up and said, "I will drop Nirmala and come. Come on, Nirmala I will drop you at your house."

Kumar said, "I heard Kathy's aunt was in hospital."

"What happened to her?"

"Kathy was telling me she fell and broke her hand."

"How Kathy was managing?"

“Her Aunt’s neighbouring boys are helping her.”

“I think I met them when I went with Kathy to her Aunt’s house. Nice and helpful boys. I will check her tomorrow.”

“Ok then, good night. See you tomorrow.”

We walked out to the parking, got in and drove over to Nirmala’s house.”

In half an hour we reached Nirmala’s house. Nirmala invited me to come for a cup of coffee.”

I hesitated as I have a full day tomorrow, but her invitation I couldn’t ignore it. Ok, let me park the car. Nirmala got down and opened the gate, so I can drive in and park. By the time I reached the main door, she opened the lock and was waiting for me.

I walked behind her and sat down on the sofa in the hall. I looked around, it was as I saw when I checked her house over. Where did she go away for those days? What did she do all those days? She seemed a little different from the Nirmala I knew.

Nirmala brought two cups of coffee and placed them on the table. I looked her over, she seemed a little different. I could not put my finger on it, but she seemed worried about something. Did someone blackmail her? I assured her that I will take care of it. What is troubling her?

“What are you looking at?”, asked Nirmala.

“I am worried about you.”

“What happened, I am well and good.”

“You seemed tense and worried about something.”

“Nothing like that. I was worried about my grandparents. They seemed worried about me. I don’t know how to reassure them.”

“Don’t worry about them, I will speak with them and assure them.”

I picked up the coffee cup and started sipping it. Nirmala also picked up her cup and started sipping it, looking over the rim of the cup.

I felt she is weighing her options with me. Finishing her cup, she set it down on the table. I gulped the coffee and put my cup down. I felt she is hesitating about something.

“What are you thinking?”

“I don’t know how to tell you, but my grandma is pressuring me to marry as soon as possible.”

“You heard what Kumar said, we don’t have any obstacles to our relationship. We will marry, but we have to complete some work in the meanwhile.”

“What kind of work?”

“We have been ordered to bring stability to the world. Now it is reeling under turmoil. When will the situation blows up, we don’t have an idea. We have to catch one person and hand him over. So, the world can return to normal.”

“Who is that person?”

“We don’t have any idea, we don’t know how he looks and what he does. But he interfering in the world order.”

“What kind of interference he is up to?”

“We suspect he is trying to bring World War III into action. We stopped that for the time being. But he seemed to become powerful day by day. Over that, he seemed to have all the kinds of gadgets we are having. Up to now, we had a slight edge over him. But he seemed to be gaining an upper hand.”

“Do you have any idea how does he look?”

“We are making assumptions here, he would be of good height and tough as nails. Normal people would be scared of him.”

“Are you scared of him?”

“Why would I be scared of him? If I am scared of every tom and dick, how can I complete my work?”

I got up to leave.

“Why don’t you come for a quickie? If you are tired, don’t mind.”

“I am not tired, but I was thinking about reaching home.”

“Just spend a little more time with me. I am feeling anxious from the time I returned. I feel like someone is following me.”

“Ok, then I will stay the night.”

I opened my eyes and looked around unfamiliar surroundings and then I remembered I stayed back at Nirmala’s house and looked at her sleeping beside me. She looked gorgeous and beautiful in her sleep.

I kissed her got up and went to the toilet to relieve myself.

Came back and sat on the bed with my back to the headstand.

What is the problem with Nirmala? What she is most scared of?

I looked at her closely. She seemed pained in her sleep. Is she having nightmares? What was she dreaming of? If I ask would she tell me? I felt a kiss on my cheek and turned to find Nirmala awake. In my thoughts, I didn't notice her waking up. Or did she wake up silently and watching me? What was she up to? Why I am getting these thoughts being with her?

Nirmala got up from the bed saying I will get you coffee and went into the kitchen.

I looked at her back, and I find she has a nice ass. The way she is sashaying is worth watching. Then it struck me is she doing that to impress me.

I don't know why I am getting these kinds of thoughts. From the time she returned, I was having second thoughts about her. Is it because I suspect she was kidnapped by the Asur's gang? Or the knowledge of the transporter in her house. How it can stay hidden without her knowledge?

She came back with the coffee, "Sorry to keep you waiting, here is your coffee."

I did not even notice she took any time for preparing coffee. What is happening with me, why am I becoming suspicious of Nirmala?

I sipped coffee while watching her.

"Why are you looking at me like that?"

"What way am I looking at you?"

"As if you are scrutinizing me."

"No, I am looking at you immersed in your beauty."

"Do you think I am beautiful?"

"The most beautiful girl I ever saw."

"Do you think I am more beautiful than your mom Loveleen?"

"Loveleen is not my birth mom, Sneha is my mom. Loveleen is my stepmom."

"Do you have any step-brothers?"

"Yes, Dhruv is my stepbrother born to Loveleen."

"Do you mean Dhruv who went to Mars is your brother?"

"Why what is so surprising about it?"

"Loveleen does not look like his mother?"

"Yesterday Dad explained to you that is all from another life."

"Like your marriage and having a daughter."

"I have not seen my daughter for at least a year."

“Where they are now?”

“I think Dad sent them to New York. They are looked after by my uncle.”

“Is he young like your dad?”

“No, He is quite old. He is above 50 years.”

“So, your wife is in New York with your daughter?”

“Yes.”

“But why did your dad keep them there?”

“It is for their own security, he does not want them to be targeted.”

Then the call came in from Dad. “Where are you?”

“I stayed back at Nirmala’s house because she was scared.”

“Ok, today Monica is having muhurat pooja for her new picture. She asked us to attend the event. She wanted to introduce me as the producer.”

“Ok, we will be there, what time is the muhurat?”

“It is at 12:25 pm. Be there bye.”

“Bye Dad.” And the call got cut.

“What happened?”

“I got a call from Dad that their new picture muhurat is for today. He asked me to attend. Get ready, we will go to the office and see what work we have and then we will go attend the function.”

“Ok, I will go and get ready.”

I saw her going out of the room. Same sashaying. It was mesmerising.

It took her one hour to get ready. I had a shut eye until then.

She came into the room, I woke up from her footsteps. She looked at me and said, “You did not get ready?”

“How will I get ready? I don’t have any clothes here. I have to go to my house to change.”

“Let us go then, we will go to your house and then we can attend the muhurat function.”

“You are forgetting we have to visit Kathy’s aunt.”

“We can visit her before going to the muhurat.”

“Ok come then, we are getting delayed.”

We reached our house and I sat her in the hall and readied within fifteen minutes and came over.

Nirmala must have told the cook to get some breakfast.

We had breakfast and reached Kathy’s Aunt’s house.

Aunt was in bed and the boys whom I had met last time were there, were attending to her needs. Abhijith said Kathy would be coming any time.

“If you are free, come over to the muhurat shoot of our movie.”

“Where it would be?”

“Where else, in the film city.”

“If you are going there, can we come with you?”

“Yes, certainly. If you have someone to look after Aunt, I can take you with us.”

He looked at Nirmala, questioningly.

“Meet my girlfriend Nirmala. Nirmala this is Abhijith, Aunt’s neighbour.”

“Hello, Abhijith, what do you do?”

“I work with a shipping line. We have 2 months lay off now. So, now I am free.”

We were there at the film city by noon. Dad sent me their location so we reached the place. It is packed with people attending the function.

Either they are there for Mohsin Khan’s first appearance as the main lead or for Monica, who is back to directing or the rumours about a new villain joining the movie.

Monica, Mohsin and Kumar sat at the table answering reporters’ questions.

One reporter asked, “We heard you are going to introduce a new villain in your movie. Can you tell us something about him?”

Kumar looked at Monica and Monica looked at Mohsin to reply.

Mohsin said, “Ananth is his name, he is my childhood friend and we studied together. I think he had not acted before, but I think he is most suited for this role in this movie.”

“What is so special in this picture, you are acting as a hero and getting your friend to play the villain?”

“When you see the movie, you will understand. Thanks to Monica and Kumar sir for providing me with an opportunity to act as a lead in this movie. It is Monica’s story I was more interested in working.”

A production boy came and whispered something in Mohsin’s ears. He got up from the chair and said, “I am being informed that the muhurat is nearing, let us start the function.”

Kumar went to the statue of Surya Bhagavan placed in the centre and lit a diya and cracked coconut and started the puja.

There is a Pandit who read some mantras and various dignitaries came and cracked the coconuts. I was called to the function and I asked Nirmala to do the puja on my behalf.

When the puja was completed they took a shot of Mohsin to indicate the movie being started.

So, everyone was invited to lunch, and the dignitaries moved to the lunch hall.

Monica came over to us, "Hi Atul, I am Monica, I heard a lot about you from your dad. Who is this beauty?"

"She is my girlfriend Nirmala. Nirmala this is Monika Khan director of this movie and wife of Mohsin Khan."

"Yes, I know, how do you do, Monica."

"Come with me to the van, I would like a word with you."

Nirmala looked at me, I nodded for her to go with her.

Nirmala

I went with Monica, she took me to a vanity van parked and knocked on the door. It was opened by a man who seemed to be a makeup man. Seeing her he said, "Come in madam, sir is waiting for you." I entered the van behind Monica and the man closed the door behind us.

What I find inside the van, Ananth was sitting on a chair getting makeup done. At first, I was confused, what is he doing here?

Then it struck me Mohsin was mentioning a new villain joining the team, so It is Ananth who joining the movie. He looked at me and winked. I hid behind Monica, "who is this man?"

Monica replied, "he is the movie's villain. He has a proposal for you, he wants you to act in the film."

"Why me?"

"He saw you from the van and decided you will fit for the lady role accompanying him."

"You speak with him, I will return in five minutes."

Monica left the van and the makeup man left with her and closed the door of the van.

I asked, "What are you doing here?"

"Mohsin asked me to join the cast as he wants a matching villain."

“You will certainly match his physique. But will you agree to lose to him in the movie?”

“Who said about losing in the movie? I never lose, either a duel or anything.”

I decided not to discuss more on this issue, so I asked, “So why did you ask me to act in the film?”

“I wanted you to meet me regularly, so you can inform me about their activities.”

“As you want to know about them, I think they also want to know about you. All they want to do is bring stability to the world, so their businesses will thrive.”

“So, according to you, all they want to do is business and nothing else.”

“That is what I understood from Atul’s talks. He told me there is a man who wants to destabilise the world and profit from it. Maybe sell firearms and things like that. Those are the kind of items that will sell when war is looming on the horizon. If you have the same kind of idea, they are on to you. Now after you act in the film, they would know about you too.”

“I made an agreement with Mohsin, I will shoot my scenes later and we will not let Kumar come anywhere near.”

“Yeh, he will not show interest in the shooting stage, but he will be interested to watch the test runs at least.”

“By that time, I will be away, and he will have no idea how to reach me.”

“Yes, you can do that. But what about the secret you want to reveal to me.”

“I need more information from you, I will tell the secret at the end of the shooting.”

“So, you can disappear without telling me anything.”

“I promise you I will tell you what you need to know. But for the time being, you have to endure me.”

“So, you have decided to cast me in the movie.”

“We will have great chemistry in the movie.”

“What about Atul, he is telling everyone I am his girlfriend. He is likely to visit the shooting?”

“Don’t worry about him, I will manage all that.”

He seemed to have thought about everything. "So, you want me to act with you at any cost?"

"What is there for you to lose? At present, you don't have any engagements and you are free. Why not take up acting? I am hoping you will become a great actor."

"I plan to seduce Atul and enter their house. They seem to be one of the wealthiest people in India at present."

"Don't put your hopes on them. Who knows what will happen in the future."

"I plan to have a prenuptial agreement with Atul, planning to encash it in the future."

"It seemed you are brighter than I thought. So, you have your plans, I will not come between you and your plans, but be careful not to reveal my details. You tell Atul, Monica told you not to discuss the movie with anyone. That way you can skirt the topic with Atul or his family."

"It is okay, I will manage them. They are not suspecting type. They believe in people."

"Don't you feel, you are taking advantage of them?"

"What advantage are you talking about? I am giving them something and getting something in return. Do you think they earned all that money the hard way? They would have used some illegal methods."

"I don't think they earned it in any illegal way. I made some enquiries, Kumar got that money from his forefathers and multiplied it with his business acumen. He also got helping friends and he did not let them down."

"How do you know all this?"

"I was following them for some time. From the time he started making enquiries about me, I kept an eye on his businesses and sources. But I did not have a clue how he could get all that deposits in the Swiss banks. I could not find the source of those funds. And he could use them freely without the fear of the Central Government. He seemed to have someone close there. The way they used the drones during the war, seemed to be his handiwork only."

"I am not aware of all those war stories. Do you think Kumar sir could have delivered those drones? But how did they help them win the war?"

"Surprise element played a major role in the war. The enemy did not expect the Indian Army to come up with those drones. They thought, how do these fools think they can stop their army with those trucks? But the Indian Army had the last laugh."

"You are talking like you have watched the war."

"I have not watched it, but got eyewitness accounts of the war."

"Why do you think Kumar supplied them with the drones, they could have imported them from America?"

"I am sure they have not imported the drones from the USA, they were tracking all the imports from the USA. I am sure they are designed and built here in India."

"Ok, thanks for imparting me with all this wisdom. Finally, should I target Kumar's family or not?"

"What you do with them is your decision, all I want from you is information about them, how you get that information is up to you."

"Ok, bye then, let me know about your call sheets and when should I be present for the shoot."

"That means you are agreeing to be cast in the movie."

"What else can I do? I need money, my grandfather can no longer work like before. I need to give him some rest."

"Ok then, I will ask Monica to forward the dates to you. You plan with her your remuneration. As it is Kumar's money, I hope she gives you a good deal."

I came out of the van, closed the door and took a deep breath. I thought he would catch me in my lie. At least I could get some information about him. Which is not much, but he is somehow mixed with India's enemies.

Atul

I saw Nirmala coming towards me. She came and flopped in the chair beside me. "Why were you so late?"

Monica is offering me a role in the movie, I have to be a sidekick to the villain. I hope the role is substantial."

"Did you agree to the movie?"

"I agreed to work in the movie, other details have to be worked out with Monica, and then I might have to sign a contract with them."

"Did you meet the villain?"

She looked around as if anyone is watching us and said, "I will give you the details later."

"Let us go and have lunch, then we have to go to the office."

After lunch, we went and met with Monica.

Monica said, "Kumar already left as he had an emergency at work. Nirmala, have you agreed to work with us? If so, come and sign the contract tomorrow, I will send you the details. Then I will send the shooting details in advance, so you will be prepared."

Nirmala nodded and we took leave of her and went to the car.

"Did you see Abhijith?"

"No, I have not seen him. Don't worry about him he will return."

"It is not that, I have some work with him. I will call him and see."

I called Abhijith from my mind-controlled communication device.

He picked up his phone after 3 rings. I asked him, where are you?

He replied, "I am making rounds of the film city."

"Can you come over to the parking, we are about to leave for the office."

"I will be there in 2 minutes."

He reached the parking in 5 minutes. "Come with me to the office, I have some work with you."

"Ok, sir."

I opened the passenger side door, and Nirmala sat in the seat, I closed the door and went to the other side.

Abhijith opened the door and sat in the back seat. I started the car and drove to the offices.

I parked the car, and by the time I got down, Abhijith got down and opened the door for Nirmala. We all walked over to my cabin.

Seeing us enter, Sravanthi came into the cabin, "Sir I have some files for your signature."

"I will attend to you in a minute. Take Nirmala to one of our rooms, so she can take a rest. By the way, he is Abhijith, he will be working with us. You come back after showing Nirmala the room."

Nirmala and Sravanthi went away.

"Abhijith, now your work is to shadow Nirmala when she goes for shooting. You tell them that you're her manager and you need to

be with her. Watch her every move. Be her bodyguard. Why I am doing all this is, she was kidnapped a few days back. She was not revealing the details, maybe she was scared of them. From the time she leaves her house and goes to shooting and returns, you watch her like a hawk. From the time she returns to her house, we will take up the security. I will ask Sravanthi to prepare an appointment letter, so it will be official for you. Did you understand what you have to do?"

"Yes sir, be her constant companion and bodyguard, so nothing happens to her. So, I will be working with your company."

When Sravanthi came back, I wrote on a paper, his designation and a figure for his salary and asked her to prepare the appointment letter for Abhijith.

After some time, Sravanthi came back with some files and handed me Abhijith's appointment letter, which I signed and handed to him.

"Sravanthi, show him his cabin and give him a communication device. Then explain to him our procedures."

They both went away. She returned and we started working on the files she brought.

We worked until 4:45 pm, and then Nirmala came over to my cabin, it seemed she woke up and freshened up and came over.

"Shall I drop you at your house?"

"Can we go somewhere?"

"Do you have something in mind?"

"Anywhere out of the city."

"Then let us go to the guest house in Gorai Beach. I will ask the security to switch on the transporter."

When I got the confirmation about the transporter, we went over to the transporter and went over to Gorai Beach. Then switched off the transporter for security.

We took two bottles of beer and sat on the veranda on the first floor looking at the dark sea.

After finishing the bottles, we sat there holding each other's hands.

After one hour, Nirmala asked, "Shall we go in for our dinner?"

I came out of my reverie and said, "Let us go in, is dinner ready?"

"Yes, the cook came over to inform us. Did you not notice?"

"No, I was in another world."

We went over to the dining room; the dishes were placed on the table. Nirmala served the food on plates and we started to eat silently.

I finished the dinner and went over to the washbasin and washed my hands and went over to the hall and sat down on the sofa, switched on the tv.

After 10 minutes our movie's news is on the news. The news reporter is saying, "Famous industrialist Mr Kumar is producing the movie 'Kaliyug Maha Bharath' directed by Monica with her husband Mohsin Khan as the main lead for the first time. Famous for his role as a villain, Mohsin Khan will be acting as the main lead in this movie. A newcomer Ananth will be debuting as the villain in this movie. Nirmala Vaidikaran will be acting as the sidekick of Ananth and heroin is yet to be finalised." Then they showed the muhurat shots and the announcer commented that Ananth is not available at the shoot.

Nirmala walked and sat beside me. "So, what is the news?"

They are announcing our movie and you as well.

They showed some footage of Nirmala and the announcer said, "Nirmala is the girlfriend of Mr Kumar's son, Atul."

"Because of you, I am also getting in the news."

"No, it is because of you, I can become an actor."

"It is not because of me, you are a natural beauty."

The news has been completed and I switched to another channel showing some movies.

We watched the movie for some time as I am getting bored, I got up and went over to the toilet, relieving I came back. By the time Nirmala switched off the tv and was ready to retire to the bedroom. So, we both moved to the bedroom. The ac was switched on and the room was cool.

I looked at Nirmala standing before me, she had a twinkle in her eyes and there is teasing in her face.

I kept looking into her eyes. I heard somewhere, a person's eyes are windows to the soul. But Dad used to say they are windows to the heart. What is in their heart reflects in their eyes.

But looking into Nirmala's eyes I lost in them. I don't know how much time passed, suddenly I came into this world when Nirmala

kissed me. There is passion, there is urgency and there is something else that I can't place. Is it fire or is it something else?

We went to another world and came back. When I opened my eyes, I was on the bed and Nirmala was sleeping beside me and her hand was on my chest. I tried to remember what happened, I could recollect Nirmala kissing me, and then I woke up on the bed. How could that happen, how can I miss the time?

Putting those thoughts aside, I went back to my sleep.

I woke up with a start, I tried to remember about last night, but it alluded me. Did someone drug me? I don't think anyone would do that. The staff at the guest house are all chosen by Kumar and are trustworthy. Then did Nirmala drug me? If so what is her plan?

I looked at Nirmala sleeping peacefully beside me. I can't believe she would do such a thing. I got up from the bed and Nirmala moved a little and went back to sleep. I looked around for her handbag. It is not there in the bedroom. I looked around and found it in the dining room at last. She must have left it there after dinner. I rummaged through the bag but did not find anything suspicious.

So, I left the bag as it is and went to the kitchen made a cup of coffee and sat at the dining table. Something is not adding up. I finished the cup of coffee and went to the watchman and asked about the cook.

He said, "She left after preparing last night's dinner and she is only expected in the afternoon to prepare lunch if required."

I nodded to him and returned to the bedroom. Picked up a towel and went to the bathroom to have a shower.

After the shower, I checked the cupboard, and found a dress and put it on the bed to get ready.

I saw Nirmala stirring in her sleep, "Hi, sweetheart, are you gonna get up?"

She half opened her eyes and asked, "Where are you going?"

"Where else to the office, I have some work. If you want to stay back here, you can. I will return after completing my work."

"Ok, I will go back to sleep. If I get any call from Monica, I will inform you."

"Ok then see you later."

I dressed and went to the transporter and switched it on and I am back at the office. I ordered breakfast and sat at my table checking the mail.

Chapter 6

Kumar

I am sitting in my cabin going through the finance reports.

The future outlook seemed to be good. With the supply of drones to the military, we seemed to be in good books with the government. We received considerable payment for the supply of the drones. Which brought the government goodwill with the people and also with the world leaders. With one stroke our military stopped the third world war and our enemies are to return to their lairs with their tails between their legs. I don't think they will try anything now for some more time. China lost the face in the world community. Most of the US companies working from China are shifting their bases to India. This is another setback for China after the Corona outbreak there. There are still some sporadic incidents of new waves of infections from around China. But with the free vaccination drives undertaken by the government, there are very few reports of coronavirus infections from India. In this whole incident, our company has supplied enough vaccinations for the country. Which were better than what was supplied in the USA and other countries.

What would have been red after the corona, now the company has turned around and moved to the green. With Atul looking after the affairs of the company, I thought I would take some interest in looking around for Asur. I am sure, he would be watching us from somewhere. We don't know much about him, but it seems he knows more about us for our comfort.

Still, Monica's movie villain Ananth has not come in front of us. He is trying to hide behind the shooting out of the country. They are shooting some background story of him out of the country. And they don't allow press or outsiders in the shooting area.

I was getting some information about his activities from Monica, but it is scarce and far between. I know she was concerned about completing her project, which is her priority. I am only concerned about knowing more about Ananth, which is not much at present. Nirmala's schedule was not yet fixed. When she starts shooting, we might know more.

The intercom on my desk rang, it is the operator, Sir, call from PMO's office.

“Put them through.”

“Hello sir, PM wants to speak with you, please be on the line.”

“Hello, good morning sir. What can I do for you?”

“Good morning to you too. We are getting some indications, China is up to something. They are again moving their forces to the LAC. We could not fathom their intentions. What could be the reason for their confidence? Are they developing some kind of new weapon?”

“I don’t think they would have a new kind of weapon in their kitty. If they did they would not wait to use it, or at least try to threaten us with it. It must be something else. At this moment I don’t have any idea what it could be. I have to make enquiries. We will be on the lookout for any clues. I will let you know if we come across any information.”

“Ok, you do that. I will be waiting for your call.”

“Ok sir, I will call you if I get any whiff of anything sinister going on.”
And the call got cut.

After the beating they got in the last war against our country, how could China start again with their mischievous acts?

Are they getting support from someone? If so, who are they? Did Asur have some hand in that? But who is he? I don’t have answers to these questions. But I know something terrible is going to happen in the near future, which will bring the world order to its knees. Either go to war or submit to them.

I went over to the office in Juhu and sat behind my desk. The new girl Sravanthi came into my cabin and stood in front of me. I told her to sit down and narrate to me what is going on with the company.

“I have some files for you to sign.”

“I told you pass all the files on to Atul.”

“These are to be signed by you only, Lawyer Swaminathan told me to get your signature.”

“Ok, bring them.”

It has taken around 1 hour for me to read and sign the paper brought by Sravanthi.

After I completed the signatures, she collected the papers and sat attentively. It seems she wanted to tell me something.

So, I asked, “What is the news?”

“It seems Atul sir is spending all his time with Nirmala madam.”

“As Atul was feeling depressed, I told Nirmala to keep an eye on him.”

“What would he feel depressed about? He is having everything he wants. What is he lacking?”

“He is missing his wife and daughter.”

“What is he married? I don’t know, he had a daughter too?”

“It was in another life, you don’t have to worry about it. So, what do you want to tell me?”

“I wanted to tell you, he is spending all his time with Nirmala.”

Did I sense a hint of jealousy in her voice? Did she have feelings for Atul? Who is she? All I know, she was sent by our Hyderabad branch, as a replacement for Kathy.

I called the Chennai branch as she is from Chennai, through my mind-controlled device and asked them to send me details of Sravanthi.

“Nirmala would be busy in a couple of days. Her shooting schedule is fixed. At present, they are shooting abroad and they will be returning and will resume shooting here.”

Did I see the relief on her face? If my hunch is correct, she seems to have feelings for Atul.

Then her face changed colours, it seems she must have thought, if Nirmala goes for shooting, Atul may follow her. If he does that, I can’t involve in that. Let Atul decide what he wants to do. He is on a mission, let him deal with it the way he wants.

“You keep a tab on Atul’s whereabouts and report to me.”

By that, she seemed satisfied that I am keeping her in the loop.

Sravanthi got up and I nodded to her, she went back to her room.

After half an hour I received a full report on Sravanthi. She is the daughter of my aunt’s son, who shifted to Madras. As per the relations in our circle, Sravanthi would be sister-in-law to Atul. Maybe they thought she would be related to us or seeing our money they wanted her to marry Atul to come into some money.

They may not know the full account of Atul’s life. They might have thought he is not married. It is evident from Sravanthi’s words they don’t know much about our family. Let me see how this thing runs out.

I was about to get up to go home, and Kavitha walked into the office. I was surprised to see her here. She was supposed to be in

New York with the others, why did she come over here? Who called her?

“Hi Kavitha, when did you come here?”

“Kumar, Madam called me here to help her out. She was not feeling well.”

“What happened to Loveleen?”

“Nothing to worry about, it was just morning sickness. She called you for lunch.”

“Is she pregnant? She did not tell me.”

“Madam just returned from the doctor. The first thing she did was to call me to come over to India. She did not inform her parents yet. She told me to check where you are and ask you to come back home. Maybe she wanted to tell you herself.”

“I think you have revealed her surprise. I will act as if I don’t know anything. Come let us go. So, how is everyone in New York?”

“Everyone doing fine. A few days back Rashmi came over to purchase some medical equipment. She stayed with us for a couple of days. She was thrilled to meet her father.”

“I arranged that, they were worried about Reyansh. Because there was no information about him.”

“How come he looks like you, but a lot older?”

“He is from the original timeline, we came from the past. He was totally different. Nandini helped him to get well to send me messages. Then Nandini left the hospital for his daughters to look after.”

“She just gave away the hospital to them?”

“Nandini felt them like her own daughters. He looked like her husband but older and he helped her to send messages to her husband, she was grateful for that.”

“I don’t understand a bit of what you are saying, but don’t expose me in front of mam.”

“So, why did you not marry? Did you not get any good offers?”

“I did get some offers, but I was married to you or someone who looked like you. But I failed him by running away from home. At present, I have a roof over my head and three times food, which is enough for me. I learned my lesson.”

“What happened forget about the past and think of the future. Try to get a companion for the future.”

“I will think about it.”

We reached home and Loveleen came from her room, and I asked, “Why did you call Kavitha from New York, they may get inconvenienced because there will be no one to look after the house.”

“I have good news for you. We are pregnant.”

“What? Are you pregnant? We should celebrate. I will call for a party.”

Come inside for a second. We both entered her room and I kissed her and thanked her. Then we went over to the dining room for our lunch.

It is Saturday evening and We have organised a party in our backyard on the occasion of Loveleen becoming pregnant. Her family came over from Delhi and a few others came over from New York.

Central ministers came to the party with a promise that the PM would come later on.

Loveleen’s father now joined the party in power at the centre, and he invited all these politicians. Two things he wants to achieve with this. He wanted to show his clout with the government and also point out that his son-in-law is wealthy and in tight with the powers. He was entertaining the guests with the help of Loveleen.

Atul came to the party with Nirmala and Sravanthi. Kathy came over from Chennai and she informed us that her wedding is fixed for next month. Her Aunt is feeling better with the help of her neighbours. After some time, her aunt’s neighbours walked in with a bouquet of flowers in their hands. They handed it to Loveleen, and Kathy introduced them as her Aunt’s neighbours and they were very helpful when her Aunt had an accident.

They shook my hands and went over to enjoy the party.

I called Sravanthi and asked her to enquire about the boys brought by Kathy.

Sravanthi came back saying they were invited by Atul, not Kathy. He met them when he went to visit Kathy’s Aunt.

“If they were called by Atul, it is okay. At present, we have to be very careful of who is visiting us, especially with PM visiting us.”

“Are you sure PM is going to visit us?”

“Did you not see the PM Security personnel checking out the guests? He should be here soon. Let us be prepared.”

Then a few of the visitors came over to congratulate us. This is the second public appearance after the movie muhurat shot. I looked over the guests present. There were people from all walks of life. Politicians, Businessmen, our workers and staff from various companies and businesses. At present our conglomerate consists of multiple businesses. Top management personnel were transported through the transporter and other workers and staff arranged a party at their place of work. Most of the staff from Mumbai were present at the party.

This is a very important day in our life, as this would be the first baby to be born after the merger of the timelines and that too on the original timeline.

I looked around for Loveleen. She is looking after lady politicians and politicians' wives. She seemed good in politics. At present her ambition seemed to be leading her dad up to the CM chair.

With our money and his political clout, it seemed a real possibility in the near future. Rajveer Khanna is welcoming his fellow politicians and leading them to the bar. The bar area seemed to be a hit with people. 90% per cent of men are around the bar and the seating is provided for sitting and drinking. A few women who don't want to be left behind are also clamouring for drinks. It seems now society ladies are upgrading themselves by having drinks and smoking.

Then some youngsters are also following in the footsteps of their parents. They get the drinks delivered to them by the waiters with appetizers.

Atul's friends seemed to be mixing well with other youngsters.

Then there are young girls whom these youngsters trying to woo.

The girls seem to weigh their worth before speaking with them.

It seemed the world changed a lot in the few years we missed. The fashion trends also changed. The young ladies and older ladies seemed more open to having their cleavage exposed. Maybe this is the party culture. I have not been out on the streets to see the kind of people moving on the streets or their fashion sense.

Is it really Bob's agenda to find Asur and his people or did he have something else in mind? What is the need for the creation of

timelines and then merging them? Is it to check I can amass this wealth? He could have easily given us the money and asked us to do the required. He could have asked us to check out Asur and find him out. The only thing we achieved is youth by this timelines merger. When I got on the spaceship, another Kumar was put on as in charge and sent to Mars. He is the one who developed the technology and built the spaceship. He has with him his wife Loveleen and his son Dhruv. Another Kumar from the Original timeline is staying in New York and looking after our interests there. How many more Kumars have come out of the merger? If more than one had, then can it be called a merger? I was sent from 1983 to 2017 and then Loveleen was sent here to study and get married to me. But I have memories of all the Kumars from other timelines. Is it Bob's intention for us to have all the memories?

There are some cheerful memories with painful memories. Painful memories like the death of Sneha in the fire accident, but meeting with Sahithi and Sunitha and sweet memories with them. Birth of so many children and Leena being kidnapped and returned after 6 years.

"Sir, PM sir is expected in five minutes."

I came out of my reverie and looked at the person. He is one of the security personnel. I nodded my head.

"Sir, come with me. Can you show me your office room?"

I took him to my office room in the house. He checked for bugs and said, "You wait over here, sir. Sir will be here any minute."

I sat on my chair and waited for PM.

He came in after 10 minutes. I got up to welcome him.

"Sorry for the delay, the party people surrounded me and asked the reason for coming over here."

"Please be seated sir, what can I do for you?"

"The Chinese are again collecting their troops near the LAC. I don't understand what is their agenda?"

"Something behind the scenes happening there. I don't know what, but I am sensing something bad is going to happen."

"What is happening on the Mars front?"

"They landed safely and started to build a village there."

"Where did you reach in the quest for finding Asur."

“We are trying to ascertain the person or persons who are behind all this. But I feel we are seeing a red herring. At first, I thought we could find out from Mohsin Khan who could be an Asur. But he brought Ananth on board to act as a villain in their film. He is acting like he could be Asur, but I feel he is not an actual Asur. Someone put him up to this. the way he is acting is all smoke screen.”

“One more thing I am concerned about is someone is trying to blackmail us. One of our ministers had a daughter out of wedlock. We know all about it from the beginning. Now someone kidnapped her and trying to pressure us to have premature general elections. They want us to dismiss the government and go for elections as soon as possible.”

“What is their interest in having early elections?”

“They must have planned something to win the elections. We could not involve the government agencies in this. If the word got out, we will certainly lose face with the people. Maybe they want to expose the minister after elections are declared.”

“What is so explosive about the matter, leaking of which will be disastrous?”

He looked around to check for anyone listening. Finding no one around, he said in a low voice, “She is the daughter of another minister. If the matter is leaked our government would fall like a house of cards.”

I checked myself from asking who is the minister, instead said, “Ok, give me the daughter’s details, we will check out where she could have been kept. Then we can bring her to safety. What is the assurance after getting her back safely, they don’t go public?”

“We will ensure the minister comes out in the open and publicly announces having the daughter together. They could make up a story about keeping it secret all this time.”

“Ok, just a second, ” I called up our island bunker and asked them to check out about the minister’s daughter’s whereabouts. I have already had an Idea about this matter.

“Sir, we are looking into the matter. As soon as we know something I will let you know.”

He handed me a card and said, “This is my personal mobile number, you can call me at any time of the day, and someone will attend to the call.”

I picked up the card and looked at it, memorised the number and placed it in the drawer.

“Ok sir, anything else?”

“I have one more request.”

“Tell me, sir.”

“We are in a type of conundrum with the armed forces. We are receiving reports of gross mismanagement in the defence forces. Somewhere along the line money is getting wasted or misappropriated. I want you to audit the systems put in place to stop such occurrences and find out the loopholes.”

“I said, what can I do in this? We don’t have resources for such kind of exercise.”

“You do whatever is needed to check them out. You engage people you think are trustworthy. I will do everything from our side to help you reach out to a conclusion.”

“I think I have a person in mind who is both trustworthy and as good as me in finding out the details.”

“Who is he, do I know him?”

“You may not know him, at present, he is in New York looking after our business interests, I will think about calling him over here and do your bidding. I want a contract from your side to develop software for the three-armed forces. I will send him as a manager to develop your software and while doing so, he can uncover the shortcomings.”

“Ok, I will instruct our defence ministry to prepare the required contracts and will let you know.”

He got up shook my hand and walked to the door. I went with him and said bye to him and he went away with his security personnel. He went to meet with his party members and had a small drink and left.

Rajveer Khanna came over to enquire about the PM’s visit.

I told him it concerns the country’s security, which I can’t discuss in the open. He took it as I will explain later and went away.

He could have called me to his office, why did he come to our party in front of the whole world? Maybe he wants his opponents to know that he is consulting with me, he must have some other plan to deal with them. I called Atul and explained the situation and asked him

to check with our team and report the progress. He went away to be with Nirmala.

I had doubts was he too close to Nirmala.?

But then, nowadays she will be busy with the shooting and they would fly out to Russia to shoot some scenes. I provided them with an unlimited budget to make the movie one of a kind. It should break all the records.

From the corner of my eyes, I saw them engaged in PDA. The kids nowadays don't have any inhibitions.

Then I looked around at the youngsters all having a great time, a few of them were engaged in PDA. It seems it has become a thing of the young generation. I saw Abhishek, no Abhijith holding a girl's hand and speaking with her animatedly. Then she threw his hands away and walked away to a group of girls standing aside.

One of them I recognised as the girl PM was referring to as being kidnapped. I called the security personnel and asked him to bring the girl to my office room. I saw him approach her and ask her to accompany him. I saw her following him and I moved to my office room. I waited for her to reach the room, I asked her to come in and have a seat.

I sat in my chair and gave her a stare. At first, she did not flinch, but after a moment averted her eyes.

"Do you know who am I?"

"Yes sir, you are Mr Kumar, Industrialist and whatnot."

"You know why PM has come to visit me today?"

"No sir, I don't have an idea."

"He was worried about you kids. We are providing security for you all. Please don't go out unnecessarily. I am not stopping you from your daily routines, but be careful to go out with strangers."

She nodded her head.

"You can go back to your friends. Tell them to be careful too."

She got up and walked out. I sat there and thought for some time.

I called Atul and told him to bring Rajveer uncle with him.

I sat there thinking about a plan of action and by the time Atul walked in with my father-in-law, I had concluded.

When Atul and Rajveer came into my room, I explained to them the plan of action.

We have put our whole machinery into action to find out what PM has in mind.

We researched into all the ministers and their life history.

We went through with a fine tooth comb the material so collected.

We could not find anything of interest.

What our enemies had in mind came in front of us in the next board meeting. Prathap's daughter Tania took over their company management in her hand after Prathap had a stroke and had to be hospitalised. Tania attended the meeting in place of Prathap.

Prathap used to manage the vote in the meeting of all his investors, which is substantial. Until this day, we did not have any problem with Prathap or his representatives who attended the meetings.

In the meeting, she started questioning our previous decisions. Prathap was well aware of all those decisions. Finally, I told her to check with her dad about those decisions.

I could keep her silent for some time, but I am sure I have not placated her aggressive enquiries.

After the meeting, I contacted Pranitha and enquired about Prathap. What she told me about his condition had troubled me, so I went over to Vizag to meet him in the hospital. His left side is paralysed and he is in no position to speak properly. Seeing him like that I felt a little sad and went to his doctor to speak about his condition.

What the doctor told me about Prathap's condition surprised me. It is not just a surprise, it shocked me to the core. The doctor explained to me that Prathap was consulting with him for a long period. He was in the pink of health with regular exercise and committed to his diet. It was surprising that he could be having a stroke which would paralyse him. So, he had thoroughly checked him and had all kinds of tests done on him. The results of these tests confirmed what he suspected. The doctor suspected that he was poisoned. It seems some kind of herbs were used to induce the stroke in him, which resulted in his paralysis.

After listening to the doctor, I realised I did a good thing in sending the family members to New York to away from the public glare. I have configured the transporter in New York as a scrap godown in Hyderabad and over that I made the room look like a scrap godown.

If anyone comes there using one of the transporters, they would find only scrap items put there to throw away.

Now about Prathap, I requested the doctor to provide the best medical facilities for Prathap, I am ready to provide any kind of support. If the doctor feels herbal medicines would have a better chance of curing him, I know a doctor who will try to cure Prathap. I kept Nirmala's grandfather in mind while advising the doctor. I came out of the hospital, thinking what kind of problems will be created by Tania.

When Tania's tantrums reached a peak, I took her to our factory in the guise of showing her our products. I showed her the future-defining products showed her the mind-controlled device and explained the usefulness of the machine. I gave her the buds and told her to insert them into her ears. She thought those must be earbuds used with mobile phones and inserted them in her ear.

One has to see the surprise on her face when she configured the earbuds. She even made a call to her mom and spoke to her through her mind.

When she tried to remove the buds, they were not coming out. There is nothing to pull them out. These are the latest ones that blend with the ear. I told her they couldn't be removed just like that and to keep them and try for some time.

She agreed to try them out.

I took her to our house for lunch and served her some non-veg foods and I declined to have non-veg as I was on a vrat. She had the food and felt drowsy. I told her she must be tired from all the work told her to take a rest and showed her a room.

She went and lay on the bed. In fact, I mixed sleeping tablets in her non-veg food and when she went into deep sleep I configured the mind reader to her mind-controlled device and retrieved her memories.

I took her memories to study with the help of AI.

What I found is not very surprising. She was being blackmailed by someone that they would kidnap her two-year-old son if she did not do their bidding. Over that they induced a stroke to Prathap and made him immobile, so she could take over the companies. It was their idea to disrupt our functioning.

After going through the readings, I again connected the mind-reading machine and cleared her memories of them blackmailing her and her subsequent behaviour towards our companies.

When she got up from sleep in the evening, she was surprised she was sleeping in our house. I explained to her she was tired from all the work felt drowsy and wanted to take a rest.

She said she felt very light in the head after taking the rest and she even thanked me for providing hospitality.

I sent her to her house and had Prathap airlifted to Nirmala's grandfather's clinic for treatment. I provided him with the details of the drugs used on Prathap to induce stroke and he offered to treat him.

Chapter 7

Kumar

The first reports of the next trouble started when we intercepted the report to the ISRO that the Mars station had spotted an alien spaceship moving towards Mars.

The second report stated that it moved past Mars and moving towards the Earth.

Our government had informed other friendly governments of the spotting of a spaceship.

Our Island bunker noted the flurry of activity at NASA and Russian space mission ROSKOMOS. Other space agencies around the world started taking meetings and trying to come to an understanding.

I don't have another option than to call our family members staying in New York to India.

Now I have to put them to work. So, I decided to put Reyansh on auditing the defence software as advised by the PM. So, I got a contract from Defence for software development in the Navy.

I asked Sravanthi to send a copy to Reyansh to implement the contract. I put Abhijith to work with him in the Navy.

I think it would take another 5 months for the Alien spaceship to reach Earth and by that time I want to wrap up this problem mentioned by the PM.

From the time of problems with Tania, we started to monitor her sister Pravalika too.

Pravalika maintains a bungalow in Vizag beachside. I remember the bungalow from the time Manisha took Kumar to the Vizag and started using him, that is another story.

As the Spaceship neared the earth, it disappeared. All the scientists pulled their hairs trying to understand where they could have landed. They even scanned the moon, but did not find any clue.

I alone know they could have landed on the other side of the moon. As I remember Bob took me to the other side of the moon for travelling to Mars.

But, what I could not understand is where will they go from there.

We started to get some clues as to who had landed on the spaceship from the communications we intercepted and from the information gathered through our Island Bunker, it has emerged two of their leader's names, Surpanaka and Indrajit. Each has at least ten security personnel. It seems someone is helping them from Andhra.

While keeping tabs on Pravalika and Surpanaka we came across another younger Kumar. On enquiry, we found that his name is Surya and he is from Vijayawada. On further enquiries, he was studying in Vijayawada and staying with Minisha, who is the granddaughter of Minisha, who came across two of the Kumars.

So, Atul started to follow him too.

Once we caught Surya and Surpanaka on the tallest building in Dubai. We trained our satellites from then on to the building. We not only found Mama Ali and Kwon Cho visiting the building, but also Makrasura caught on an angle visiting there.

This is the first time we could take his snap other than with a photo with Mohsin Khan. Knowing we are behind him, he has put Ananth as a substitute and we are following Ananth instead of Makrasura.

I also found there is a link Ananth had with Nirmala, but I did not let Atul aware of the same. I want Atul to deduce the details himself.

Atul

Completing her schedule Nirmala returned home.

“Nirmala, How the filming went?”

“It went smoothly. Our next schedule would be after 15 days. I will be here for the next fortnight.”

“Good, we can spend some quality time together.”

“First you should attend the office. From what you informed me, it is important you must attend to the work in hand, we will spend the remaining time if any. Don’t worry, I will keep you company.”

Kumar

I received a call from Reyansh that he got an idea of Surpanaka’s location. He wanted to rescue a girl who was caught in her clutches. He knows she travels by transporter and they have a different frequency for their transporters. He asked can we get their frequency and how to change them.

I sent him a tool that can change the frequency of the transporter.

Later on, he called me and they caught Surpanaka with Mama Ali and Kwon Chow. They are at present in New York and they are unconscious. Please send someone to take them.

I contacted my contact in the defence and asked to send someone to collect Surpanaka, Mama Ali, Kwon Cho and their bodyguards. I told them they could go to our Delhi office, I would make

arrangements for them to be transported to New York through a transporter.

I called our Delhi office and told them to set up a transporter with a new frequency I sent them.

I received a message after half an hour that they took into custody the group of terrorists from New York, brought them and handed them over to the special cell in Defence.

The next day Reyansh called me and he had re-joined the project at the Navy.

The next day, Rachana called me and said their software engineers working on their project were missing. She suspects they are being kidnapped. She tried to call Reyansh to be careful, but he was not taking any calls.

I checked Reyansh's location through his mind-controlled communications device and informed her he was close to their Navy Yard. He is near the back gate, standing on the road. He is not moving and could need assistance.

Rachana said, "I will just go and check."

Later Reyansh called me and explained what happened. He was coming to the Navy yard on an auto as no cars were available at the guest house. He was scammed by the auto-rickshaw driver by feigning a problem with the auto and ran away with his bag and mobile in that bag. His ID card with the navy was also there, he was standing there and thinking about what to do next and he was about to use his mind-controlled communication device, Rachana came over there with the security guards and took him to the Navy Yard.

It seems someone wants to target us.

To be continued

