

Episode 4 ( Boy to Man)- shooting script 12<sup>th</sup> march

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**FOUR**

**MUMBAI  
CALLING**

WRITTEN BY  
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BASED ON AN ORIGINAL IDEA BY ALLAN MCKEOWN

**EPISODE 4 - BOY TO MAN**

**PRE TITLE SCENE**

**BINDIYA**

Sir, I assure you that any information that you give me is strictly covered under data protection.

**CALLER**

Uh hm

**BINDIYA**

No one will ever know how you acquired this unfortunate injury.

**CALLER**

Ok

**BINDIYA**

In fact I am adjusting the privacy settings right now.

**CALLER**

Oh, thank you very much, that's very kind..hmm

**BINDIYA**

Right, lets start from the beginning sir.

**CALLER**

Uh hm

**BINDIYA**

You were in the shower and your friend was holding the broom?

**CALLER**

That's right, my friend was holding the broom and I stepped out of the shower to pick up the soap and he slipped ...

**TITLES.**

**SCENE 3 - INT. TECHNOBABLE OFFICE. DAY.**

IT'S MORNING IN THE CALL CENTRE AND THE STAFF ARE BUSY ON THE PHONES.

TERRI WALKS THROUGH THE OFFICE TO THE WATER COOLER JUST AS AMAR PASSES, EAGERLY EATING AN ICE CREAM. THEY ALMOST COLLIDE.

**Terri**

Hey, Watch where you're going.

**Amar**

Thank you sir...

AMAR IS TOO PREOCCUPIED TO LOOK UP – HE TAKES ANOTHER MOUTHFUL OF ICE CREAM AND SCURRIES OFF TO HIS DESK.

AS TERRI POURS HERSELF A DRINK SHE BEGINS TO OVERHEAR THE PHONE CONVERSATIONS BEHIND HER. SHE SIPS ON HER WATER AND WATCHES.

**PREM:**

No sir, please don't be angry...no ..no ..no...I do value those parts of my body.I use them to reproduce.

**SCENE 3B - INT. TECHNOBABLE OFFICE. DAY.**

DEV ENTERS. HE'S ON HIS CELL PHONE.

**Dev**

Yes that's 200 tickets for the Steps Reunion Concert in Ahmdabad...yeah..?

AS HE WALKS TOWARDS TERRI HE QUICKLY CHANGES THE CONVERSATION.

**Dev**

Yes doctor... what steps are you taking to keep my poor mother alive? Yes... (GIVING TERRI A NOD OF "HELLO") Yes.

TERRI STARES AT DEV STILL NOT QUITE KNOWING IF HE IS FOR REAL OR NOT. SHE GLANCES BACK AT PREM WHO IS BLOWING HIS NOSE.

DEV SEEING THAT HE'S IN THE CLEAR GOES BACK TO THE REAL PHONE CONVERSATION.

AMAR IS IN THE BACKGROUND, AT HIS DESK WITH HIS HEAD IN HIS HANDS.

DEV NOTICES AMAR AND BECOMES DISTRACTED.

**Dev** (APPROACHING AMAR)

Anyway..125 bucks apiece best seats in the house. Ya I can get you so close you'll be able to pluck H's nose hair. Okay Ta ta bye.  
(HANGS UP)

**DEV (TO AMAR)**

Eh you want to come?

AMAR doesn't reply

A CALL COMES THROUGH)

**AMAR**

Hello, Route Sat helpline.... Yes sir

**CALLER**

I don't where I am, My cars broke down, I am trying to get to Darlington..

**AMAR**

... Lost and stranded on the road to nowhere?...

**CALLER**

Yeah, you got to help me mate..

**AMAR**

I know how you feel.

AMAR HANGS UP AND SITS WITH HIS HANDS. DEV RAISES HIS EYEBROWS.

**DEV**

Is all well in the world of Route Sat traffic help lines?

**AMAR** (NOT LISTENING)

That would be lovely, thank you.

**Dev**

You know just had a wild night of romping with Angelina Jolie?

AMAR NODS WITH OUT LOOKING UP OR TAKING ANY NOTICE.

**AMAR**

You are welcome sir

HIS CELL PHONE BEGINS TO RING. IT'S HIS MUM.

**Dev**

Aren't you going to answer that?

**Amar** (LOOKING PAINED)

It's my mother.

**Dev**

Arre! Mothers are sacred. You can't ignore a call from your Mother! It's against nature, like ripping the burger from the mouth of an overweight American child. Arrey..

DEV GIVES HIM HARD LOOK. EVENTUALLY AMAR PICKS IT UP.

**Amar**

Yes?... Yes...yes...but...yes... YES...yes.

HE HANGS UP.

AMAR BURIES HIS HEAD IN HIS ARMS AND – UNSEEN – TAKES A MOUTHFUL OF ICE CREAM.

**Dev**

Amar? Look at me.

AMAR LOOKS UP. THERE IS A WHITE MARK ALONG HIS UPPER LIP.

**Dev**

Are you back on the ice-cream?

**CUT TO:**

**SCENE 1 - INT. TECHNOBABBLE OFFICE. DAY.**

AMIT IS LISTENING INTENSELY ON THE PHONE. A BEAD OF SWEAT ROLLS DOWN HIS CHEEK.

**Caller (With icy calm)**

Now, listen to me very carefully. Every month, no matter how many bills I have, I only pay up to £500. Now that's a lot of money isn't it?

**Amit**

Yes Sir, that a lot of money.

**Caller**

I put all the bills into a hat, and each bill that comes out, I pay. But I never go over £500. Do you understand?

**Amit**

Yes sir.

**Caller**

(With menace)

If you call me one more time, you don't even go in the hat.

**Amit**

Please let us stay in the hat sir. Please!!

CUT TO:

**SCENE 4 - INT. KENNY'S OFFICE. DAY.**

KENNY IS WATCHING SOMETHING ON HIS P.C SECRETLY. TERRI BURSTS INTO KENNY'S OFFICE WITHOUT KNOCKING.

**Kenny**

Oh Jesus..

**Terri**

The staff has got to learn to stand up for themselves.

KENNY JUMPS OUT OF HIS SKIN AND TRIES TO HIDE HIS MONITOR FROM HER.

**Terri**

What were you doing?

**Kenny**

Nothing.

**Terri**

You dirty old middle aged, man...

**Kenny**

What? I was...I'm not harming anyone.

**Terri**

I cant believe you are doing that sort of thing at work.

**Kenny**

Well..its nothing..its just a little

**Terri** (Shocked)

Oh my god!! That's...That's...(GASP) Its not what I think it is?

**Kenny** (RESIGNED)

Yeah...yeah... it is. It's Wembley high street.

**Terri**

My god look at. Look at the traffic. Bumper to bumper.

**Kenny**

The Wembley webcam refreshes every 20 minutes.  
Sometimes the cars haven't moved.

**Terri**

Can you get Bond Street on this site?  
I think the sales are on.

**KENNY**

You dirty girl !

**TERRI**

Look, I want to talk to you about assertiveness

**KENNY**

What?

CUT TO:

**SCENE 5 -INT. TECHNOBABBLE OFFICE. DAY**

**LOVELY**

Congratulations, sir! You've won yourself a free holiday!

**CALLER**

Really?

**LOVELY**

Yes! Isn't that wonderful! ...

**CALLER**

Bet, there are strings attached

**LOVELY**

Well, yes, there are a few strings attached...

**CALLER**

A time share deal, utterly misleading..

**LOVELY**

Yes, yes, you're right, it is utterly misleading -

**CALLER**

A big con

**LOVELY**

again, sir, you are right. I'm so sorry, forgive me for calling, goodb-...

(REACTS, HAVING BEEN CUT OFF)

**LOVELY**

Take the next one ..  
Congratulations sir!

**CALLER 2**

Congratulations what?

**LOVELY**

You have won yourself a free holiday

**CALLER 2**

Piss Off!

CUT TO:

**SCENE.: 5A INT. WATERCOOLER. DAY.**

THE GUYS HANG OUT AT THE WATER COOLER.

**Nikhil**

Have you heard about Amar?

**Amit**

I tell you brother, if I were Amar, I would leave home.

**NIKHIL**

Where would you go?

**Amit**

I Don't know...I've Never been anywhere before...  
(BEAT)

CUT TO:

**SCENE 6 - INT. AMARS DESK. DAY.**

DEV IS HOLDING UP AN EMPTY ICE CREAM TUB, SHAKING HIS HEAD.

**Dev**

I thought you'd kicked it.

**Amar**

I have!

**Dev**

It's one thing to eat ice cream socially. But first thing in the morning?! No, Amar, what's the problem?

**Amar**

It was just one vanilla tub, I promise you.

**Dev**

(looking at the tub) 40%! Full fat! This is strong stuff - Do you owe someone money?

**Amar**

No.

**Dev**

Then what's the problem? Is it that bed-wetting thing again?

AMAR LOOKS UP IN HORROR.  
THE ENTIRE CALL CENTRE STAFF LOOK AT HIM.

**Dev**

It's ok, we've known about it for ages.

**Amar**

No Dev bhaiya (brother)  
believe me, there is no problem.

STAFF RETURN TO WORK.

**Dev**

Just 'one vanilla tub'?

AMAR NODS.

**Dev**

Ok.

DEV GIVES HIM A SUPPORTIVE PAT ON THE BACK.

**Dev**

One day at a time, bhaiya.

DEV STEPS AWAY. HE STOPS - SOMETHING ON THE FLOOR HAS  
CAUGHT HIS EYE.

DEV PICKS UP THE BIN BESIDE AMAR'S FEET AND EMPTIES IT  
ONTO AMAR'S DESK.

A LOAD OF EMPTY ICE-CREAM TUBS TUMBLE OUT.

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**Dev**

I knew it!

GETS UP AND LEAVES AND DEV FOLLOWS

**Dev**

Its got pistachio in here. Mango and Corriander..Come her..  
Amar..Amar..

CUT TO:

**SCENE 7 -INT. WATERCOOLER. DAY.**  
**(OPTION : SUPERVISOR'S AREA)**

Around the cooler...

**Amit**

I feel bad for him.

**Geeta**

What he needs is good cuddle. Maybe I should offer. Do you think I should offer?

**Vir**

Okay calm down sir. I'll explain it again..

Insert Bracket A to Panel B, using screw C and fix it to Leg D in strut E

**Caller**

Shall I take F off?

**Vir**

No no sir, don't take F off just yet..

**Caller**

Crashing Sound – Oh Blast!

**SCENE 7:**

**Geeta**

I think I should give him a cuddle.

**Prem**

I would love a cuddle.

**Sarika**

(Walking past)

Office romances are not permitted.

AMIT IS STILL WIDE EYED.

**SCENE 4 (CONTINUED) –**  
**INT. KENNY'S OFFICE.DAY.**

KENNY AND TERRI ARE IN HEATED DISCUSSION.

**Kenny**

A workshop

**Terri**

Yes

**Kenny**

on assertiveness

**Terri**

Yes

**Kenny**

...wont work!

**Terri**

Look,you may not like this... but this is business reality. The P. Glass Holdings has a proud tradition of aggressive, hard nosed backstabbing. It's a dog eat dog world out there.

**Kenny**

No it isn't. When have you ever seen a dog actually eat another dog?

**Terri**

I've seen a dog eat its own leg once.

**Kenny**

That doesn't count!

**Terri**

Look, Can we move on from this dog theme?

**Kenny**

Not yet, look Indians don't keep pets and they don't respond well to corporate pit bulls.

Aggression won't get you results here.

**Terri**

No one responds well to a pushover.

JUST THEN MILD MANNERED AMIT KNOCKS AND WALKS INTO THE OFFICE.

**Amit**

Excuse me Miss Terri

**Terri** (Snaps)

NOT NOW!

**Amit**

Thank you for your clear and concise answer.

AMIT LEAVES SHEEPISHLY. TERRI SMILES SMUGLY.

**Kenny**

In case you hadn't noticed, YOU ARE IN DIFFERENT COUNTRY. Courtesy and manners, that my foreign friend, is the Indian way.

ANOTHER KNOCK AT THE DOOR. DEV ENTERS. HE HAS A PLASTIC CUP OF WATER FROM THE COOLER IN HIS HAND.

**Dev**

Well Hello.

**Kenny** (Politely)

Dev could you come back in a few minutes.

**Dev**

But of course.

DEV LAUGHS AND SITS RIGHT NEXT TO KENNY. TERRI IS EVEN MORE SMUG THAT KENNY'S WAY DIDN'T WORK.

**Terri**

What is it?

**Dev**

It is a matter of great urgency that I wish to bring to the attention of Mr Kenny.

**Terri**

Spit it out then.

DEV SPITS THE WATER IN HIS MOUTH INTO HIS GLASS

**Dev**

It's Amar. He's is in some serious sticky mess with his parents.

CUT TO:

**SCENE 8 - INT. WATER COOLER. DAY**

A GROUP OF CALL CENTRE STAFF, ARE BY THE WATER COOLER. THEY ARE LOOKING OVER AT AMAR, WHO IS DESPONDENTLY SWEEPING THE EMPTY ICE-CREAM TUBS INTO A BLACK BIN-LINER.

**Nayna**

But parents are sooo important na. Things could go really tragic.

**Bindiya**

It's just like in that film. The one where he loses his mother and runs away and his father tries to save him...what was it called?

**Sarika**

Finding Nemo?

CUT TO:

**SCENE 4 (CONTINUED) –  
INT KENNY'S OFFICE DAY.**

KENNY, DEV AND TERRI.

**Kenny**

Arranged marriage! Is that it? That's no big deal.

**Dev**

Yes but...

**Terri**

Its quite a big deal isn't it?

**Kenny**

Your Western perception is that *ALL* Indian marriages are arranged.

**Terri**

Well, most of them are, aren't they?

**Kenny**

Yes, but it's not a big deal. Anyway what do you know about arranged marriages?

**Terri**

I've seen the movies. They're all about arranged marriages, .

**KENNY**

No there not ....a some of them , mmm maybe most of them.

**Terri**

If Amar doesn't want to do it he should tell his parents 'no'.

**Dev**

Hello...You are forgetting Amar's parents. They are... traditional.

CUT TO FLASHBACK.

**SCENE 9: (FLASHBACK) INT AMAR HOME**

(AMAR IS DRESSED IN SCHOOL UNIFORM WITH KNAP SACK AND EATING AN ICE CREAM – same actor, (not a child)

**Amar's Father**

That is your final decision?

**Amar** (close to tears)

It is, Father, yes...

AMAR'S FATHER CLUTCHES HIS HEART, CLENCHING HIS TEETH

**Amar's Father**

The shame!

**Amar's Mother**

You see! You are killing your father. What have we done so wrong to deserve this?

**Amar's Father** (THROUGH CLENCHED TEETH)  
I gave you... your birthday and this is how your repay me!

**Amar**  
Forgive me, forgive me! I will join the chess club.

CUT TO:

**SCENE 4 (CONTINUED) –**  
**INT KENNYS OFFICE DAY**

TERRI AND KENNY AND DEV ARE WATCHING AMAR, (STILL WITH HEAD IN HANDS) THROUGH THE OFFICE WINDOW.

**Kenny**  
That changes everything.

**Terri**  
Come on..What are you talking about. They can't be that bad?

**Kenny**  
Let me tell you, taking on traditional parents on life changing decisions is not an easy task where I come from.

**Terri**  
Wembley?

**Kenny**  
No! India!

**Terri**  
I thought you were from Wembley?

**Kenny**  
I am, but that's not the point is it?  
...It's an Indian thing.

**Dev**  
Amar's parents are so traditional that he's forbidden from watching Ladies Tennis. The skirts are sooo short!

**Terri**

Well then, the assertiveness workshop I'm having for the supervisors is just the thing. That'll sort him out. After that he'll be watching women's swimming.

**Kenny**

I'm not sure that's a good idea.

**Dev**

(agreeing) Mm, they're in the water too long, you don't see nothing.

CUT TO:

**Prem**(Weakly)

It gets me so angry when people are bullied into things they don't want to do. A man can only take so much.

**Amit**

(Weakly)

Yes. I know. It can push a man over the edge. Like now... I'm pretty much on the edge. Can you tell?

**Prem**

Want a cuddle?

SARIKA WALKS PAST.

**Sarika**

Office romances are not permitted.

CUT TO:

**Vir**

Morning Madam, could you spare just one minute?  
I'd like to ask you a couple of questions on how you take your coffee?

**Caller**

How can there be more than one question about how I take my Coffee?

**Vir**

Yes..I am surprised there is more than one question

**Caller**

And also why is it any business of yours?

**Vir**

No ..I agree..how you take your coffee is really..

**Caller**

But you are going to do it anyway..Because your minutes..so

**Vir**

I suppose that is one minute

**Caller**

Ta Da..I am off to work

**Vir**

Goodbye

**END OF PART ONE**

**PART TWO**

**SCENE 10 - INT. MEETING ROOM. DAY**

THE STAFF ARE GATHERED AND WAITING IN ANTICIPATION.  
KENNY AND DEV STAND TO THE SIDE WHILE TERRI TAKES THE  
FLOOR.

THE CALL CENTRE STAFF LOOK AT HER, WITHOUT ANY  
EXPRESSION.

ON A WHITEBOARD, THE WORD 'ASSERTIVENESS' IS WRITTEN IN  
CAPITALS. TERRI WIELDS THE PEN.

**Terri**

(Suddenly)

What is assertiveness? You.

SHE POINTS TO PREM, WHO NEARLY JUMPS OUT OF HIS SKIN LIKE THE REST OF THE STAFF.

**Prem**

Madam?

**Terri**

What is assertiveness?

PREM GETS SO NERVOUS; HE CAN ONLY GIVE A SLIGHT WOBBLE OF THE HEAD AND MAKES A SLIGHT NOISE.

**Terri**

We at the P. Glass Holdings do not suffer from low self esteem. We attack our prey. And what is in the middle of 'Assertiveness'...?

'I'

SHE TURNS TO THE WHITE-BOARD – AND CIRCLES THE LETTER 'I'.

"I"! Repeat after me - I am the hunter.

**The Staff**

"I am the hunter"

**Terri**

I slaughter my prey.

**The staff** (Slightly hesitating)

I slaughter my prey

**Terri**

I tear out its heart and eat it.

**Amit** (Looking repulsed)

I think I am going to be sick.

A FEW OF THE STAFF MEMBERS FEELING REPULSIVE LEAVE THE ROOM

**Lovely**

Doesn't she realize that half of them are vegetarian?

(NONE OF THEM CAN GO ON ANY FURTHER)

CUT TO:

**SCENE 10A - MEETING ROOM**

SWEETY & LOVELY SIT OPPOSITE EACH OTHER. TERRI IN THE MIDDLE.

**Terri**

OK, role-play! Attention Everyone.. Go for it!

**Lovely**

You're fired.

**Sweety**

But we are friends.

**Lovely**

Sorry madam. He's right. I cannot fire him.  
He's like my brother....

**Sweety**

We are from the same village...

PAUSE. THEY LOOK HELPLESSLY AT TERRI.

**Lovely**

We drank from the same goat

**Terri**

DO IT!

**Lovely** (trying to be stern)

Brother... I can't do it !

(AGONISING PAUSE. THEN, FINALLY)

Arrey, If you go, I go.

THEY HUG EACH OTHER. TERRI ROLLS HER EYES.

**Terri**

Thankyou, thankyou..I am not seeing a single Hunter in the room.  
Amar. Up here please.

**Amar**

Please Miss Terri I...

**Terri**

Up here now.

AMAR APPROACHES NERVOUSLY. TERRI GIVES A KNOWING LITTLE WINK TO KENNY AND DEV. THE BOYS SHAKE THEIR HEADS IN A "DON'T DO IT" WAY.

**Terri(cont)**

This is the scene. I am your Mother.

KENNY AND DEV SHAKE THEIR HEADS WITH FOREBODING.

AMAR LOOKS PETRIFIED.

**Terri(cont)**

And I have cooked food that you don't like and I want you to tell me as much.

A SHARP INTAKE OF BREATH AND A WINCE FROM DEV AND KENNY AND THE STAFF.

**Amit** (Hand in the air)

Madam. No Indian can complain about mother's cooking.

**Nayna**

It is sacrilege.

**Prem**

It's suicide.It's...

**Terri**

Not the Indian way. Yeah I know. Let's just give it a go. (BEAT)

**SCENE 10 B : INT: AMAR'S MOTHER'S KITCHEN**

**Terri** her voice fades out and in comes AMARS MOTHER  
Amar?...Amar...Why haven't you eaten your food?

(AMAR LOOKS AT HIS FEET)

**Amar's mothers voice**

Answer me! Why haven't you eaten the food I cooked?

AMAR LOOKS UP AND SEES HIS MOTHER STANDING OVER HIM.  
ROLLING PIN IN HAND.  
HE IS TERRIFIED.

**Amar** (Nervous)

Because it's... so lovely to look at.

**Amar's Mother**

Is there something wrong with it?

**Amar** (Miming)

Not at all.

**Amars Mother**

57 hours in labour for you. 5 sizes bigger, for you. 27 years of  
loveless marriage, for you. Do you know how many meals i have  
cooked for you?

**Amar** (Very upset)

Mummy...

**Amar's Mother**

What is it?

**Amar**

Your food is...

**Amar's Mother**

What about it?

**Amar**

Your food..It's it's...not...very good.

AMARS MOTHER LOOKS HORRIFIED. ALL THE STAFF GASP.

**Amar** (Having a meltdown)

Please Mummy...I am sorry to have shown you such disrespect by criticizing your cooking. After everything you have done for me. It would be better that I had not been born. I'm so sorry.

AMAR REMAINS THERE, HEAD IN HANDS, SOBBING SOFTLY.

TERRI DOESN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO. EMBARRASSED SILENCE.

**Kenny** (Stepping in)

Any questions?

A HAND GOES UP.

**AMIT**

Did she use too many chillies?

AMAR STORMS OUT.

**Kenny**

Well. I think we should stop now. I'm sure there is a lot for you all to digest when it comes to confidence, assertiveness and criticizing your mothers cooking.

**Terri** (Recovering)

Yes. And remember. The P. Glass Holdings leads the way because it kicks ass. Be the Hunter. Thank you. (To Kenny) Well that seemed to go well.

AS THE STAFF ALL GET UP AND RETURN TO THEIR STATIONS...

**Kenny**

All he needed was a bit of gentle guidance, not a corporate bitch slapping.

**Dev**

You played the traditional Indian mother superbly.

**Terri**

Thank you, Dev.

**Dev**

You made him feel totally worthless.

AMIT RUSHES IN.

**Amit**  
Sirs, Madam...

**Terri**  
NOT NOW!!

**Amit** (backing out again)  
Thank you for your clear and concise answer...

**Kenny**  
What is it, Amit?

**Amit**  
Amar has cleared his desk and run off.

**Kenny**  
Look what you have done..

**Terri** (Full of guilt)  
I feel like a real shit.

**Dev**  
With due respect Miss Terri, might I suggest you go to the little girls room.

**Kenny** (to Prem)  
Did you see where he went?

PREM SHAKES HIS HEAD.

**DEV**  
The train Station !!!!

HE RUSH OUT OF THE OFFICE.

KENNY AND TERRI THROW A GLANCE AT EACH OTHER AND FOLLOW DEV.

A CONFUSED, PREM IS LEFT ALL ALONE IN THE OFFICE.

**Amit**  
I really need a cuddle...

**SCENE 12 - EXT. MUMBAI TRAIN STATION. DAY.**

KENNY, TERRI AND DEV RUN CROSSING BUSY ROAD TO ENTER VICTORIA TERMINUS TRAIN STATION.

**Terri**

I really feel terrible

**Kenny**

And so you bloody should

**Terri**

I hope this isn't all my fault

**Kenny**

Who else would you like to blame?

**Dev**

Come on we need to hurry

**Terri**

Oh my god, I ve never seen so many people

**Kenny**

Okay then, now what?

CUT TO:

**SCENE 13 - INT. MUMBAI TRAIN STATION (ICE CREAM STALL.) DAY.**

KENNY DEV AND TERRI LOOK AT THE MASS OF HUMANITY AT THE TRAIN STATION.

TERRI IS LEFT MOUTH AGOG.

**TERRI**

Oh...my...We'll never find Amar in all this!

**DEV** (Mysteriously)  
Mmm. I know he's nearby.

**KENNY**  
How?

**DEV**  
Because I can see him over there.

AMAR IS BY AN ICE CREAM VENDOR AT THE NEARBY TRAIN STATION. HE IS FEROCIOUSLY TUCKING INTO HIS TUB OF ICE CREAM.

KENNY AND DEV AND TERRI APPROACH.

AMAR LOOKS UP EYES WILD FROM SUGAR, CONTINUES TO SHOVEL THE ICE CREAM INTO HIS MOUTH.

**DEV** (To the vendor)  
How many has he had?

THE ICE CREAM VENDER HOLDS UP FOUR FINGERS.

**KENNY**  
Four ice cream tubs?

**AMAR** (Not even looking up from his ice cream)  
Five. He has a finger missing.

**DEV**  
Amar come on. Be cool man.  
(Aside) Amar is emotionally unstable. Maybe it would help if I slap him.

**TERRI** (Aside)  
There's no need for that.  
Look, Amar, I think I was a little hard on you.

**AMAR**  
(Begins to sob whilst eating ice cream)  
What's the point of fighting it anymore? I am a loser.

**DEV**  
That's just the ice cream talking man.

**AMAR**

You know what's going to happen tonight.  
I am going to be engaged to a girl my parents deem suitable for me. And I can't do anything about it.

**TERRI**

You can, Amar, you can.

**AMAR**

You know about arranged marriages?

**KENNY**

Of course, She's seen the movies.

**DEV** (to Amar)

The Indians in the UK make movies about it. It's all they talk about.

(Aside) Should I slap him now?

TERRI SHAKES HER HEAD.

**AMAR**

I suppose it's my duty as a son to fulfil my parents' wishes. Isn't it Mr Kenny?

A WOMAN WALKS PAST WITH HAIRY EYEBROWS AND THICK GLASSES; KENNY TILTS HIS HEAD AS IF REMEMBERING SOMETHING.

**AMAR(CONT)**

Mr Kenny? Have you ever been introduced to girl for purposes of matrimony?

CUT TO:

**SCENE 14 - FLASHBACK to Kenny's arranged intro.**

KENNY AND POTENTIAL BRIDE SIT ON A SOFA.  
KENNY CAN'T TAKE HIS EYES OFF HER TRADITIONAL LOOK (ONE VERY THICK EYEBROW ACROSS HER HEAD).

HE SHAKES HIS HEAD

**SCENE 13 (CONTINUED) –**  
**INT. RAILWAY CAFÉ ICE CREAM STALL.**  
**DAY.**

**KENNY**

Trust me, Amar don't get an arranged marriage.

**DEV**

Arre it's no big milkshakes. He should go. For every Mr Whippy, there is a Mrs Whippy.

**KENNY**

If he goes tonight he is going end up marrying an eyebrow!

**AMAR**

Sorry?

**TERRI**

Come on guys...

**DEV**

Or ... There is one other option.

THEY ALL LOOK AT HIM.

**DEV**

He could just use tonight as a free date – that's what I always do.

**KENNY/AMAR/TERRI**

What?

**DEV**

Yeah time pass man. I've had many great nights with loads of girls from these introductions. It's a free dating agency.

**KENNY**

You can't do that.

**DEV**

I can, I do. It's like a free lunch. There is plenty of Dev love to go round.

**KENNY**

Dev! For gods sake.

**TERRI**

Guys guys, look.. (THEY ALL STOP) Can anyone explain this whole introduction thing to me?

**KENNY**

I thought you'd seen the movies!

**TERRI**

Never through to the end.

**KENNY**

I'll tell you exactly how it goes...

CUT TO :

**SCENE 15 - INT. AMAR'S PARENTS HOME. DAY.**

AMAR SITS BETWEEN HIS PARENTS ON SMALL SOFA, HAIR NEATLY OILED AND PARTED, WITH AN EXPRESSION OF DESPAIR. OPPOSITE IS THE BRIDE'S FAMILY. THERE IS AN AWKWARD SILENCE AS EVERYONE SIPS TEA.

**KENNY VO**

Amar will drink tea with his parents and The families will discuss the dowry to break the ice.

CUT TO:

**SCENE 15 A: INT. AMAR'S PARENTS HOME. DAY**

FAMILIES CHATTING FURIOUSLY, SHOWING EACH OTHER CATALOGUES. AMAR REMAINS EXPRESSIONLESS.

CUT TO:

**SCENE 15 B: INT. AMAR'S PARENTS HOME. DAY**

**KENNY VO**

Then he gets to meet the girl and they are left alone for a while just to get to know each other.

AMAR SITS STARING AT THE GIRL EACTLY IN THE SAME WAY KENNY AND HIS GIRL. SHE HAS A MONO BROW AND THICK GLASSES.

CUT TO:

**SCENE 15 C: INT. AMAR'S PARENTS HOME. DAY**

**KENNY VO**

After about 15 minutes the parents decide.

THE PARENTS ON BOTH SIDES OF THE FAMILY SHAKE HANDS AND EVERYONE IS SMILING EXCEPT AMAR.

CUT TO:

**SCENE 15 F: INT. AMAR'S PARENTS HOME. DAY**

AMAR AND BRIDE WITH MONOBROW ARE HAVING A WEDDING PHOTO TAKEN. EVERYONE CHEERS. AMAR LOOKS MISERABLE.

**KENNY VO**

Then... they get married.

BRIDE HAS CHAMPAGNE GLASS IN HAND, AMAR AN ICE CREAM.

**KENNY VO**

...Have children...

CUT TO:

**SCENE 15G: INT. AMAR'S PARENTS HOME. DAY**

PORTRAIT PICTURE OF AMAR WITH HIS WIFE AND FIVE TRADITIONAL DAUGHTERS. (ALL HAVE ONE HAIRY EYEBROWS AND GLASSES). AMAR IS STILL BLANK WITH SHOCK.

CUT TO:

**SCENE 13 (CONTINUED) –**  
**INT. RAILWAY CAFÉ. DAY.**

CUT TO AMAR'S FACE, IN THE CAFÉ, WITH THE SAME EXPRESSION AS THE PHOTO.

**KENNY VO**

...And then you'll die.

AMAR TAKES ALL THIS IN.

**KENNY**

Now do you see?

**TERRI**

Well, if you put it like that...

**AMAR**

I'm dead. Give my a double pistachio and mango!

**DEV**

Now is a great time to slap him.

**TERRI**

Amar just tell your parents how you feel.

**KENNY**

He can't.

**AMAR**

I can't.

**TERRI**

You can.

**Amar**

I can?

**DEV**

Free date.

**KENNY**

Eyebrow.

**TERRI**

Back off guys. This is about Amar asserting himself. Look Amar, frankly I don't care what you do, marry, don't marry. But at least be a man and stand up to your parents. They will respect you more for it. You can do it.

AMAR PONDERES THIS.

**AMAR**

So... I must assert myself - and stand up to my parents? Just like the way you were trying to teach us in the workshop.

**TERRI**

Exactly.

AN ARGUMENT ENSUES

**DEV**

Free lunch.

**TERRI**

Will you shut up!

**Kenny**

Yeah shut up.

**Dev**

How dare you! That's not very cricket of you!

AMAR BREAKS IT UP.

**AMAR**

Please...please. I have made my decision (UPTURNS ICE CREAM CONTAINER) This is my problem and I'll deal with it.

**TERRI**

Good for you – be the hunter.

**DEV**

Isn't it.

**KENNY**

Alright, What is your decision?

**AMAR** (ASSERTIVELY)

I haven't a clue, please come with me.

**Terri (to Dev)**

Okay, now you can slap him now.

**SCENE 16 - INT AMAR'S PARENT'S HOME. DAY.**

AMAR'S PARENTS OPEN DOOR. (SEE THEM FROM AMAR KENNY, DEV AND TERRI'S POV.)

SITTING ON THE SOFA ARE AMAR'S PARENTS, AND ON THE SOFA OPPOSITE ARE THE PARENTS OF THE BRIDE. EXACTLY AS KENNY HAD DESCRIBED.

AMAR'S PARENTS (A CHARMING LOOKING COUPLE) APPROACH WITH SOME CONCERN.

**Amar's Mother**

Have some more mithai..

Amar where were you beta, we were so worried.

**Amar's Father**

Are you ok? Nothing happened?

**Amar**

No I'm fine.

**Terri** (Aside)

They don't seem that bad. Don't see what the problem is.

**Amar's Father** (Changing his tone suddenly)

So why the hell are you late eh? What time do you call this?

**Amar's Mother**

(With a much harsher tone also)

You knew what was happening here tonight yet you can't do one thing for the sake of your family. The girl is waiting upstairs, these have been here an hour..

**Amar's Mother**

Who are they?

**Amar**

These are my friends.

AMAR'S PARENTS STARE IN DISBELIEF.

**Amar's Mother**

Don't be ridiculous. We chose your friends for you. You know that. Who are you?

KENNY AND TERRI GIVE DEV A LITTLE SHOVE.

**Dev**

Hello. Mr and Mrs Parents of Amar. My name is Dev...how do you do?

**Amar's Father**

Haven't we met before?

**Dev**

No. I don't think so. May I say your wife is as beautiful as the Taj Mahal, minus the mausoleum part.

**Amars Father**

Didn't you sell us cheap tickets for the James Blunt concert in Mumbai?

**Dev**

Oh yes. How was it?

**Amar's Father**

It was shit!

**Dev**

Well, it was James Blunt.

**Kenny** (Stepping forward)

Hi I'm Kenny Gupta.

KENNY HOLDS OUT HIS HAND BUT AMAR'S FATHER DOESN'T TAKE IT.

**Amar's Father**

Are you Indian?

**Kenny**

Er...Yes I am. I'm brown and I'm proud.

**Terri**

It's a pleasure to meet you. I'm Terri Johnson.

**Amar's father**

Okay....let's get on with it

THE GIRL'S PARENTS BOTH SIT ON THE SOFA. THEY GIVE A LITTLE SMILE AND A WAVE.

KENNY DEV AND TERRI SLOWLY BACK OUT OF THE DOOR IN AN ATTEMPT TO LEAVE.

**Amar**

No.

**Amar's Mother/Father**

What?

**Amar**

No.

AMAR'S PARENTS ARE SHOCKED.

**Amar**

It is time you realised that I am not a boy.

**Amar's mother**

You were last night when I gave you your bath.

**Amar**

No. I am a hunter and there is an 'I' in 'Hunter'...

**Amar's Father**

No there isn't!

**Amar**

... I am the hunter and I will slaughter my heart and pray not to eat it!!

**Terri**

It doesn't go quite like that.

**Amar**

I am not going to get married with any girl with whom I have nothing in common with and who looks like a mono-browed Jabba The Hutt.

**Amar's Mother/Father**

Who? / We don't know the Hutts./ Maybe they are from Delhi.

**Amar**

I am my own man. I am going to make my own decisions from now. I am not going to meet this girl. And that is final.

SILENCE.

**Amar**

And another thing. (BEAT) Please... don't die or disown me.

AMARS PARENTS LOOK AT EACH OTHER.

**Amar's Father**

Alright if you want it like this

**Amar** (Uncertain)

What?

**Amar's Mother**

We are proud of you. Finally you are behaving like a man. I'll just go and apologise to the brides family. Excuse me.

**Amar's Father**

Are you sure about this son?

**Amar**

Final answer

**FATHER**

You are now man who will make his own decisions.

AMAR MOTHER GOES TO THE BRIDE'S FAMILY.

KENNY, DEV AND TERRI ARE NOT LISTENING. INSTEAD THEY ARE WIDE EYED AND MOUTHS GAPING. (ROUSING MUSIC)  
AMAR TURNS TO SEE WHAT THEY ARE LOOKING AT.

IN SLOW MOTION, FROM THE NEXT ROOM, ENTERS A BEAUTIFUL LONG LEGGED INDIAN GIRL. SHE IS LIKE A GODDESS, LIKE A FILM STAR, LIKE A PIRELLI MODEL. SHE IS EVERY MAN/BOY/LESBIAN DREAM.

SHE WALKS PAST AMAR WHO IS LOCKED INTO DISBELIEF.

**Kenny (unconvincingly)**

Don't worry..You could do better...

**END.**