1

00:01:20,375 --> 00:01:21,500

Should I start??

2

00:01:25,125 --> 00:01:26,334

That was the time

3

00:01:26,625 --> 00:01:31,042

when once-great Imperial Studios

was in terrible shape.

4

00:01:31,292 --> 00:01:34,500

Employees’ salaries were not paid on time.

5

00:01:34,667 --> 00:01:36,084

Even in that situation,

the company’s owner,

6

00:01:36,167 --> 00:01:38,916

Seth Ardashir Irani crossed the limits,

7

00:01:39,250 --> 00:01:42,125

in order to get the credit for making

the first color film of India

8

00:01:42,250 --> 00:01:45,334

he imported the expensive

Cine Color process machine.

9

00:01:45,417 --> 00:01:47,042

He had earlier been accredited

for producing

10

00:01:47,167 --> 00:01:50,958

the first talkie of India

titled- 'Alam Ara'(1931).

11

00:01:51,334 --> 00:01:53,791

Incidentally, I wrote the story

12

00:01:53,791 --> 00:01:56,875

for that color film (Kisan Kanya 1937)

13

00:01:56,875 --> 00:01:59,000

and it was a biggest flop.

14

00:01:59,791 --> 00:02:02,334

Company’s condition went bad to terrible.

15

00:02:02,833 --> 00:02:04,209

It was such a bad phase

16

00:02:05,125 --> 00:02:08,791

that I was living in a very horrible

tiny room

17

00:02:09,958 --> 00:02:13,167

and the very same time

my mother came to Bombay

18

00:02:14,417 --> 00:02:16,500

and was staying with her daughter.

19

00:02:17,209 --> 00:02:19,833

As my relation with my brother-in-law

was strained

20

00:02:19,833 --> 00:02:22,417

that I was banned to enter his house.

21

00:02:22,916 --> 00:02:27,000

When my mother visited me

at that horrible room,

22

00:02:27,334 --> 00:02:28,750

she broke into tears

23

00:02:29,084 --> 00:02:31,583

that her son who grew up

in a pampered environment,

24

00:02:32,042 --> 00:02:36,084

now is a deprived child

lives in such a dirty place.

25

00:02:36,458 --> 00:02:39,625

After calming down,

she asked me seriously.

26

00:02:39,625 --> 00:02:42,750

Saadat why don’t you earn more?

27

00:02:42,750 --> 00:02:43,583

I said,

28

00:02:44,167 --> 00:02:47,292

Mom, what I will do with that extra money.

29

00:02:47,875 --> 00:02:50,375

What I am earning is sufficient for me.

30

00:02:50,375 --> 00:02:51,458

No, the fact is

31

00:02:52,167 --> 00:02:54,209

you cannot earn more.

32

00:02:55,958 --> 00:02:57,875

You are not well educated.

33

00:02:59,250 --> 00:03:00,583

If you had been more educated,

34

00:03:01,334 --> 00:03:03,084

things would have been different.

35

00:03:03,375 --> 00:03:04,542

I laughed off,

36

00:03:04,750 --> 00:03:08,542

Mom what’s the use of extra earning

for a single man,

37

00:03:08,916 --> 00:03:10,542

if I had a wife

you would see the difference.

38

00:03:10,625 --> 00:03:11,875

Earning money is not a difficult task,

39

00:03:12,084 --> 00:03:14,250

even an illiterate man

can make huge bucks.

40

00:03:14,708 --> 00:03:16,958

Hearing this she immediately

questioned me –

41

00:03:17,084 --> 00:03:18,042

Do you want to marry?

42

00:03:18,625 --> 00:03:19,667

In a flow I said,

43

00:03:19,916 --> 00:03:20,750

Oh yes, why not.

44

00:03:21,042 --> 00:03:25,875

Okay, then come down to Mahim

this Sunday.

45

00:03:27,209 --> 00:03:29,000

Wait for me on the footpath

under the building,

46

00:03:29,458 --> 00:03:31,375

I will come down seeing you.

47

00:03:32,084 --> 00:03:34,125

Your marriage will be arranged –

48

00:03:34,417 --> 00:03:35,750

by the God grace.

49

00:03:37,417 --> 00:03:40,375

So that Sunday morning

I wore clean clothes,

50

00:03:40,750 --> 00:03:46,167

and was standing on the sidewalk

near ‘Ininglito Mansions’ in Mahim.

51

00:03:47,250 --> 00:03:50,542

There was another building

on the twenty-five yards course

52

00:03:50,625 --> 00:03:52,084

called 'Jafar House'.

53

00:03:53,292 --> 00:03:56,791

Mother knocked a flat

on the second floor,

54

00:03:58,625 --> 00:03:59,916

we entered the house,

55

00:04:00,458 --> 00:04:01,708

Mom went to the ladies

56

00:04:01,791 --> 00:04:05,375

and I was attended by a middle aged gentleman

with fair complexion.

57

00:04:06,125 --> 00:04:07,667

He asked me and I asked him

58

00:04:07,958 --> 00:04:10,417

about each other’s occupations etc.

59

00:04:10,916 --> 00:04:12,292

He was a government employee –

60

00:04:13,125 --> 00:04:14,458

working in the department of police

61

00:04:14,833 --> 00:04:16,708

as a finger print specialist.

62

00:04:18,167 --> 00:04:19,583

He was earning pretty good.

63

00:04:21,667 --> 00:04:24,791

I told him every single thing about me.

64

00:04:25,209 --> 00:04:28,084

I even told him that

I work in a film company

65

00:04:28,833 --> 00:04:30,500

where you don’t get salary.

66

00:04:31,417 --> 00:04:32,708

And it’s surprising

67

00:04:33,167 --> 00:04:34,167

when I told him

68

00:04:34,417 --> 00:04:35,875

that even in that state

69

00:04:36,000 --> 00:04:39,583

I drink a bottle of bear every evening,

70

00:04:40,292 --> 00:04:41,916

and he didn’t react to it.

71

00:04:43,042 --> 00:04:44,417

By the time I left from there

72

00:04:44,833 --> 00:04:50,000

Mr. Malik Hasan had read all the pages

of the book of my life.

73

00:04:50,791 --> 00:04:52,084

But I was thinking

74

00:04:52,916 --> 00:04:54,542

if they agreed to this match,

75

00:04:54,958 --> 00:04:56,750

whether I had to marry in reality?

76

00:04:58,000 --> 00:04:58,708

No way,

77

00:04:59,042 --> 00:05:00,417

I didn’t have any worth for which

78

00:05:00,625 --> 00:05:02,375

someone will agree to give

me his/her daughter.

79

00:05:03,334 --> 00:05:06,167

Next Sunday Mr. Malik invited me

for lunch,

80

00:05:06,292 --> 00:05:08,000

as per the commitment I reached there.

81

00:05:08,125 --> 00:05:09,958

They entertained me very well.

82

00:05:10,500 --> 00:05:11,417

Food was served,

83

00:05:12,334 --> 00:05:13,625

there was chicken curry,

84

00:05:13,750 --> 00:05:16,833

some vegetarian dishes and all…

85

00:05:17,625 --> 00:05:19,458

Everything was delicious

86

00:05:20,791 --> 00:05:24,667

but Oh My God it was very spicy.

87

00:05:26,209 --> 00:05:29,458

I sweated a lot but kept eating.

88

00:05:30,209 --> 00:05:31,334

After a couple of Sundays,

89

00:05:31,500 --> 00:05:33,375

when I was pretty comfortable with them,

90

00:05:33,375 --> 00:05:34,583

my mother informed me…

91

00:05:34,667 --> 00:05:35,791

Congratulation!

92

00:05:36,458 --> 00:05:39,833

They have accepted the marriage proposal.

93

00:05:41,458 --> 00:05:43,292

When I heard this, I was stunned –

94

00:05:44,625 --> 00:05:46,667

I used to take this matter as a mockery –

95

00:05:47,292 --> 00:05:50,209

why would any sensible person

give me his daughter,

96

00:05:50,583 --> 00:05:51,791

what did I have?

97

00:05:52,292 --> 00:05:54,750

I was just an entrance passed

with third division,

98

00:05:55,708 --> 00:05:57,791

work in films and journalism –

99

00:05:58,292 --> 00:06:00,708

no one gives a damn about such people.

100

00:06:01,500 --> 00:06:04,958

Hell of efforts I put to get

a filthy room on rent.

101

00:06:06,625 --> 00:06:08,292

The landlord somehow came to know

102

00:06:08,417 --> 00:06:10,500

that I work in a Film Company.

103

00:06:11,375 --> 00:06:12,417

After a number of recommendations

104

00:06:12,500 --> 00:06:14,000

he agreed to rent out the room to me.

105

00:06:15,209 --> 00:06:18,292

I was terribly upset –

106

00:06:20,084 --> 00:06:21,750

thought that I should run away

from Bombay –

107

00:06:23,084 --> 00:06:24,334

now I had only one choice

108

00:06:24,417 --> 00:06:26,417

that I should see Seth Ardeshir

109

00:06:27,625 --> 00:06:31,375

and ask him for money to meet

my marriage expenses.

110

00:06:31,542 --> 00:06:34,791

The company owed me about a thousand

and five hundred rupees.

111

00:06:35,000 --> 00:06:38,250

If I was paid I’d be out of my troubles,

112

00:06:38,375 --> 00:06:39,708

rather it would be a boon.

113

00:06:39,791 --> 00:06:43,458

Whatever I told him he listened it

halfheartedly.

114

00:06:44,500 --> 00:06:45,042

He said-

115

00:06:45,042 --> 00:06:48,750

You see, you know it all

the company is in what shape.

116

00:06:49,042 --> 00:06:51,042

You can imagine my desperation.

117

00:06:51,125 --> 00:06:52,500

I was about to leave, he called me…

118

00:06:52,500 --> 00:06:53,042

Mind you,

119

00:06:53,167 --> 00:06:57,334

I can at least do one thing,

get you some basic things.

120

00:06:57,417 --> 00:06:59,583

We went to a shop in his car,

121

00:06:59,583 --> 00:07:00,750

I bought two Sarees there.

122

00:07:01,667 --> 00:07:04,708

Next number in Seth Ardeshir’s account was

a jewelry shop.

123

00:07:06,000 --> 00:07:09,084

I insisted that let the girl chose

jewelry for herself.

124

00:07:09,292 --> 00:07:12,625

So I along with a man from jewelry shop

went to Jafar House.

125

00:07:12,750 --> 00:07:16,000

Jewelry were shown to the mother

of the girl.

126

00:07:16,209 --> 00:07:18,542

She just chose a diamond ring,

127

00:07:19,500 --> 00:07:22,250

a necklace and two bangles.

128

00:07:23,583 --> 00:07:26,833

I insisted her to keep some more items

129

00:07:27,084 --> 00:07:29,542

but she didn’t want to put

an extra burden on me.

130

00:07:30,000 --> 00:07:31,667

I wish I would have told her that

131

00:07:31,750 --> 00:07:32,583

Oh dear Aunt!

132

00:07:33,625 --> 00:07:35,625

I won’t get such an opportunity again.

133

00:07:35,750 --> 00:07:38,750

Company owed me one and a

half thousand rupees,

134

00:07:39,375 --> 00:07:41,791

snatch whatever you can from the thief.

135

00:07:47,209 --> 00:07:48,292

But Alas!

136

00:07:50,250 --> 00:07:53,583

I got four to five hundred bucks

from that account

137

00:07:55,209 --> 00:08:00,084

because the company was shut down

immediately after my marriage.

138

00:08:01,875 --> 00:08:04,875

Of course, the marriage proved to be

dicey for me.

139

00:08:06,500 --> 00:08:09,292

I didn’t have any friend or folk

in Bombay…

140

00:08:09,708 --> 00:08:12,209

The doors were closed for me

at my sisters’ place.

141

00:08:12,833 --> 00:08:14,916

I had to arrange everything on my own.

142

00:08:15,250 --> 00:08:17,000

I had to go personally to invite people

143

00:08:17,000 --> 00:08:18,417

for my marriage ceremony.

144

00:08:18,542 --> 00:08:19,209

And in that course

145

00:08:19,209 --> 00:08:23,625

once I slipped and fell unconscious

on a rock-solid floor.

146

00:08:24,875 --> 00:08:26,209

The injury was so deep

147

00:08:26,292 --> 00:08:28,750

that with a great difficulty I climbed

the stairs of Jaffer House

148

00:08:28,833 --> 00:08:30,708

to attend my marriage ceremony.

149

00:08:31,708 --> 00:08:34,000

There were 15 to 20 people

at the ceremony,

150

00:08:35,000 --> 00:08:38,500

I sat down with the support

of a thick pillow.

151

00:08:38,750 --> 00:08:41,625

It was difficult to fold the injured leg,

(It’s a bad manner sitting with extended legs)

152

00:08:41,708 --> 00:08:43,708

but when the priest ‘Marghen’…

153

00:08:46,750 --> 00:08:49,750

a weird name, ofcourse…

Priest ‘Marghen’…

154

00:08:50,625 --> 00:08:52,334

when he asked me to sit folded legs,

155

00:08:52,458 --> 00:08:54,292

I made me pretty strong to obey him.

156

00:08:54,750 --> 00:08:56,667

After the Muslim Rituals were over,

157

00:08:56,791 --> 00:08:58,084

I was relieved ultimately.

158

00:08:59,084 --> 00:09:00,084

I flattened my leg

159

00:09:00,209 --> 00:09:01,583

and swallowed that massive pain.

160

00:09:01,708 --> 00:09:02,708

I accepted the compliments

161

00:09:02,791 --> 00:09:05,542

and limped my way to my filty room.

162

00:09:06,875 --> 00:09:08,833

I lit a kerosene lamp

163

00:09:09,084 --> 00:09:12,542

and lying on the bug-infested bed

164

00:09:12,667 --> 00:09:16,292

I started wondering the fact that

I really got married.

165

00:09:18,167 --> 00:09:20,667

I was almost a married man now

166

00:09:21,167 --> 00:09:22,791

but there was something missing,

167

00:09:22,875 --> 00:09:25,042

my wife was not there in my room.

168

00:09:25,458 --> 00:09:26,375

Legally,

169

00:09:26,583 --> 00:09:29,875

I could have ask her to move in

with me any moment

170

00:09:30,708 --> 00:09:32,292

but then what would I be feed her,

171

00:09:32,542 --> 00:09:34,334

the food from the Iranian Eatery

across the road,

172

00:09:34,417 --> 00:09:35,500

and that’s too on a credit.

173

00:09:35,625 --> 00:09:36,625

Where would I keep her,

174

00:09:36,625 --> 00:09:37,791

in that filthy tiny room?

175

00:09:40,167 --> 00:09:42,625

Of course, where the lady would bathe,

176

00:09:43,708 --> 00:09:45,583

there was no closed bathroom there.

177

00:09:47,750 --> 00:09:49,542

I honestly felt

178

00:09:50,500 --> 00:09:52,875

that I can play any role

179

00:09:53,417 --> 00:09:55,125

but not a husband.

180

00:09:59,209 --> 00:10:02,833

Ten months were passed to my marriage

181

00:10:03,375 --> 00:10:05,667

and there I faced a shameful incident.

182

00:10:07,708 --> 00:10:09,958

I had an idiot friend called

‘Ashiq’ (Romeo),

183

00:10:10,209 --> 00:10:11,667

an illiterate, a boor

184

00:10:12,000 --> 00:10:14,209

but a master of dance.

185

00:10:17,125 --> 00:10:20,000

An evening he brought some bear bottles

to celebrate with me.

186

00:10:20,583 --> 00:10:21,708

He also drank a bit

187

00:10:24,542 --> 00:10:25,833

and started twittering.

188

00:10:30,084 --> 00:10:32,875

Along with tweeting,

he took me to a girl's house,

189

00:10:33,916 --> 00:10:36,042

according to him she was his follower.

190

00:10:36,500 --> 00:10:37,500

He knocked the door

191

00:10:38,125 --> 00:10:39,125

and a voice called out…

192

00:10:39,334 --> 00:10:40,000

Who’s there!

193

00:10:40,125 --> 00:10:40,916

Ashiq said-

194

00:10:41,042 --> 00:10:42,167

Ashiq (Romeo)!

195

00:10:42,292 --> 00:10:43,833

Horrible abuses got out from inside –

196

00:10:43,833 --> 00:10:45,625

Bloody Ashiq (Romeo), You Mother…

197

00:10:46,833 --> 00:10:48,916

Aashik could not resist his rage,

198

00:10:49,042 --> 00:10:51,625

he broke the door and got inside.

199

00:10:52,042 --> 00:10:53,084

I followed him

200

00:10:53,417 --> 00:10:55,625

and there saw him

beating the servant brutally.

201

00:10:58,042 --> 00:10:59,625

Let me conclude the incident.

202

00:10:59,791 --> 00:11:02,042

Next day when Ashiq got arrested

203

00:11:02,583 --> 00:11:04,250

he told to the police.

204

00:11:04,542 --> 00:11:08,708

There was another man with me.

205

00:11:11,250 --> 00:11:14,042

And hence I too got arrested.

206

00:11:16,000 --> 00:11:18,667

My in-laws too discovered this.

207

00:11:18,916 --> 00:11:20,042

I was worried –

208

00:11:20,750 --> 00:11:22,667

now how will I face those folks?

209

00:11:24,417 --> 00:11:28,708

I put myself to my wife’s place

and gave a thought it,

210

00:11:28,875 --> 00:11:30,667

and came to a conclusion that

211

00:11:31,458 --> 00:11:33,583

I should clear them

212

00:11:33,875 --> 00:11:35,791

that if after that incident,

213

00:11:35,791 --> 00:11:37,667

which is really very embarrassing,

214

00:11:37,916 --> 00:11:41,542

if you do not feel good

to give me your daughter,

215

00:11:41,708 --> 00:11:44,334

then I am ready to give her a divorce.

216

00:11:46,125 --> 00:11:47,375

After hearing my statement Aunt said –

217

00:11:47,583 --> 00:11:48,292

Don’t be nuts,

218

00:11:48,375 --> 00:11:49,417

don’t think like that,

219

00:11:49,542 --> 00:11:51,958

we are sure about your innocence.

220

00:11:57,334 --> 00:11:58,708

On the request of my in-laws,

221

00:11:58,750 --> 00:12:01,500

my mother announced the date

for bride’s home coming.

222

00:12:02,500 --> 00:12:04,334

It was more than a year by now

for my wedding,

223

00:12:05,000 --> 00:12:07,583

they were fed up of waiting.

224

00:12:08,875 --> 00:12:10,500

I was not in a hurry

225

00:12:11,750 --> 00:12:13,625

but rather desired

226

00:12:14,125 --> 00:12:16,167

what if that home coming never occur.

227

00:12:18,458 --> 00:12:19,542

I was nervous,

228

00:12:19,583 --> 00:12:21,292

how would I run the household.

229

00:12:22,583 --> 00:12:23,875

But the day was fixed –

230

00:12:24,458 --> 00:12:25,875

which was the doomsday for me.

231

00:12:29,250 --> 00:12:32,250

When there were just ten days left

for the bride’s home coming

232

00:12:32,292 --> 00:12:33,334

I was frightened.

233

00:12:33,417 --> 00:12:34,375

I got up immediately

234

00:12:34,375 --> 00:12:37,750

and booked a flat in a building

on a rent of Rs. 35 a month.

235

00:12:39,250 --> 00:12:41,958

I cleaned the flat thoroughly,

locked it and

236

00:12:42,125 --> 00:12:46,708

miserably went to Naanu Bhai Desai

(another employer and father of Bollywood Actress Bindu).

237

00:12:46,833 --> 00:12:48,500

I asked for the compensation for

my stories,

238

00:12:48,500 --> 00:12:50,833

salary dues and etc.

239

00:12:51,417 --> 00:12:53,667

You better know! I cannot give you

a single penny right now.

240

00:12:54,000 --> 00:12:55,209

Flat refusal!!

241

00:12:55,542 --> 00:12:56,542

I lost it.

242

00:12:57,500 --> 00:12:58,667

I abused at him and said –

243

00:12:58,708 --> 00:13:00,583

If my account was not settled

244

00:13:00,583 --> 00:13:02,375

then I would go on a hunger strike.

245

00:13:03,125 --> 00:13:04,167

Finally it was settled…

246

00:13:04,167 --> 00:13:07,958

You see, I can arrange half but

247

00:13:07,958 --> 00:13:10,791

you have to count it full disbursement,

248

00:13:11,000 --> 00:13:13,791

you know company’s on a dire verge, man.

249

00:13:14,000 --> 00:13:16,750

I had been given a postdated cheque

of Rs. 900.

250

00:13:17,542 --> 00:13:18,791

Days passed,

251

00:13:18,958 --> 00:13:21,250

I telephoned Nanu Bhai Desai,

252

00:13:21,334 --> 00:13:22,625

today is the due date,

253

00:13:22,958 --> 00:13:25,875

and I am going to cash the cheque

but he said –

254

00:13:26,209 --> 00:13:29,625

Hello! First you come down here

to meet me.

255

00:13:30,042 --> 00:13:31,042

I met him.

256

00:13:31,292 --> 00:13:33,833

There’s nothing in the bank.

257

00:13:34,500 --> 00:13:37,458

What if I pay you 500 cash

258

00:13:37,625 --> 00:13:39,791

and let’s close this chapter here.

259

00:13:40,084 --> 00:13:41,250

I agreed immediately.

260

00:13:41,750 --> 00:13:46,750

However my hard earned Rs. 1800

was first cut to 900,

261

00:13:47,250 --> 00:13:48,084

then to 500

262

00:13:50,000 --> 00:13:51,500

but I had no choice.

263

00:13:51,833 --> 00:13:54,375

Only 4 days were left

for the bride’s home coming.

264

00:13:56,375 --> 00:13:58,833

There was 500 Rupees in my pocket –

265

00:13:59,292 --> 00:14:02,375

I bought some Sarees for the bride –

266

00:14:02,708 --> 00:14:04,750

got some stuff on easy installments.

267

00:14:05,750 --> 00:14:08,417

And finally the doomsday was arrived.

268

00:14:09,417 --> 00:14:11,334

That morning I was sitting in the office.

269

00:14:11,500 --> 00:14:13,000

Mother was at my place.

270

00:14:13,500 --> 00:14:15,000

While leaving home I told her that

271

00:14:15,125 --> 00:14:17,625

I am going for the arrangements of

Baraat (marriage procession).

272

00:14:17,667 --> 00:14:20,417

Mr. Nazir had already sent off

invites to people,

273

00:14:20,667 --> 00:14:22,583

most of them are from film business.

274

00:14:23,042 --> 00:14:25,334

Quasi it was a film celebrity procession.

275

00:14:25,334 --> 00:14:26,167

Miyan Kardar,

276

00:14:26,209 --> 00:14:27,334

Noor Md. Charlie,

277

00:14:27,500 --> 00:14:28,250

Mirza Musharraf,

278

00:14:28,292 --> 00:14:29,084

Babu Rao Patel

279

00:14:29,125 --> 00:14:31,625

and the leading lady of India's

first color film - Miss Padma Devi.

280

00:14:33,916 --> 00:14:36,125

By the evening I finished

a full tin of cigarettes.

281

00:14:36,667 --> 00:14:37,791

All I had in my pocket now –

282

00:14:37,833 --> 00:14:40,167

was half a box of matches and nothing else.

283

00:14:40,500 --> 00:14:43,250

All the guests were gathered

before the dark.

284

00:14:43,708 --> 00:14:46,916

Padma Devi and my mother

attended all the guests.

285

00:14:47,417 --> 00:14:48,750

Later on that convoy

286

00:14:48,750 --> 00:14:50,958

which was on ten-fifteen motor cars

287

00:14:51,125 --> 00:14:52,667

proceeded towards Mahim.

288

00:14:53,000 --> 00:14:54,750

I was in the motor car of Nanu Bhai Desai

289

00:14:55,375 --> 00:14:56,542

and was without a rosary.

290

00:14:57,167 --> 00:14:59,375

There, my mother-in-law had done

a superb job of

291

00:14:59,375 --> 00:15:01,667

setting up refreshments on the terrace.

292

00:15:02,334 --> 00:15:03,458

Everyone pigged out

293

00:15:03,500 --> 00:15:05,667

because the feast was

absolutely delicious,

294

00:15:06,833 --> 00:15:08,916

as might be expected of us Kashmiris.

295

00:15:10,250 --> 00:15:11,167

Then we came down.

296

00:15:11,542 --> 00:15:13,750

Billimoria offered us his car.

297

00:15:14,583 --> 00:15:17,167

My mother was with me

and sat the bride down first.

298

00:15:17,209 --> 00:15:20,667

She sat herself and then

asked me to get in.

299

00:15:21,334 --> 00:15:23,292

She sat between my bride and me.

300

00:15:24,250 --> 00:15:27,542

On her lap, wrapped in muslin,

was a Quran.

301

00:15:28,334 --> 00:15:31,250

Mine and bride’s necks were

overloaded with garlands.

302

00:15:31,833 --> 00:15:33,000

As the car started,

303

00:15:33,042 --> 00:15:36,667

Mother began to murmur some verses.

304

00:15:37,167 --> 00:15:37,916

I can’t remember

305

00:15:37,916 --> 00:15:41,292

how long it took for us to get home

– or how we got there.

306

00:15:41,417 --> 00:15:44,000

All of a sudden, we were there.

307

00:15:46,334 --> 00:15:48,167

The next morning I rose to find

308

00:15:48,833 --> 00:15:53,916

that one quarter of me

had magically turned husband.

309

00:15:54,958 --> 00:15:58,417

I was relieved to feel this way.

310

00:16:00,292 --> 00:16:01,708

I saw, out in the balcony,

311

00:16:01,750 --> 00:16:06,708

a piece of string with nappies

hanging on it.

312

00:16:12,458 --> 00:16:20,500

It’s a ritual in India that eunuchs sing and dance at a house

where a baby is born to compliment the occasion.