PAATAL LOK

EPISODE 7 (NEW)

DRAFT 4.0

Written by Sudip
Sharma

December 2018

SOUND of feet walking on dry leaves. Heavy breathing.

SOUNDS of nature - a bird calls somewhere. Kinda ominous.

And then - a hassled HUMAN VOICE -

DOCTOR (O.S.)

Aur... aur kitni door hai maharaj?

FADE IN:

7.1 EXT. CHITRAKOOT JUNGLE - DAY

7.1

A dense jungle.

Two dangerous looking man, OM JI and FIRANGI, lead the way - clearing the bushes around with rifles.

Behind him, a man who exudes power - GWALA GUJJAR, 50. He walks holding the hand of a timid man with a blindfold around his eyes. Based on the medical kit that the blindfolded man is carrying with him, he seems like a DOCTOR.

DOCTOR

Maharaj... ghutan si ho rahi.

The other two offer no reply - they just continue walking.

The Doctor seems rather uncomfortable.

DOCTOR (CONT'D)

Thodi der ke layi je patti hataa sakat hain kaa?

Still no response.

The frustrated Doctor tries to take the blindfold off himself.

Which is when Om ji suddenly turns and puts something hard and cold into the doctor's mouth. A gun.

The Doctor starts to gag and lets out muffled protests in fear.

Gwala puts a comforting hand over his shoulder.

GWALA GUJJAR

Bas aa gavo daagdar saab. Thoda so dheeraj aur rakh lo.

The Doctor somehow calms himself down.

7.2 EXT. CHITRAKOOT JUNGLE - HIDEOUT - DAY

7.2

A little make-shift tent. A dangerous looking one-eyed goon in khakhis, KANA COMMANDO, 50, stands guard outside. We can't see what's inside.

As the trio reaches there, Gwala takes the Doctor's blindfold off.

The Doctor's eyes adjust to the light. And then he sees - the tent in front.

Gwala signals to him - 'go ahead'.

With tentative steps, the nervous doctor walks towards the tent.

We STAY ON him as he reaches up to the tent. Kana Commando parts the tent opening a bit.

We still don't see what the doctor's looking at, but whatever it is makes his eyes go wide in fear and respect.

He goes down on his knees. And folds his hands in reverence.

His eyes on - a pair of canvas shoes that lie on the ground next to a cot.

CLOSE ON his face as he stares at them like a devotee staring at his God, and says -

DOCTOR

Masterji!

TITLE APPEARS - 'BADLANDS'

ROLL OPENING CREDITS

FADE IN:

7.3A INT. HATHI RAM'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - DAY

7.3A

An open bag. Clothes and accessories spread all over the bed.

It's a hassled Hathi Ram packing his bag, and he isn't seem to be doing a very neat job of it.

HATHI RAM

(mutters)

Kachche kahaan hai yaar?

Sid quietly watches from the bed.

Hathi Ram's phone rings. 'Virk calling...'

Hathi Ram ignores it, and walks to the cupboard.

He looks in there. Still can't find his underwear.

7.3B INT. HATHI RAM'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

7.3B

The sparkling water machine seems to be an overbearing presence in the room as Renu sits with, for once, a subdued Jitu.

RENU

Har baar aapki wajah se problem mein fansi hoon...

She notices - Hathi Ram at the door.

Hathi Ram avoids eye contact with Renu as he says to her -

HATHI RAM

Wo... mere kachche nahi mil rahe.

Renu gives him a look. And then she turns back to Jitu -

RENU

Har baar maine aap ko support kiya hai. Kiya hai ki nahi? Jab Papa ne aap ko ghar se nikaala tha toh cheh maheene rakha tha apne paas...

Hathi Ram sighs and goes back to the bedroom.

7.3C INT. HATHI RAM'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - DAY

7.3C

He finishes up - stuffing whatever is there in the bag.

Just then - Sid comes with two underwears.

SID

Wo... rassi pe sookh rahe thhe...

They exchange an awkward smile.

Hathi Ram stuffs them in the bag, zips it up and walks out with it.

7.3D INT. HATHI RAM'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

7.3D

He stops in front of Renu. But she ignores him and continues talking to ${\sf Jitu}$ -

RENU

Sab ke baare mein sochti hoon, par kabhi kisi se koi appreciation mila hai? Le ke jaaiye apna ye kabaad...

Hathi Ram gets the message. And quietly walks out of the door.

7.4 EXT. DELHI - ISBT BUS DEPOT - DAY

7.4

*

*

Ansari's bike comes to a stop.

Hathi Ram gets down with his bag.

His phone rings. It's Virk again.

HATHI RAM

Ye Virk kyun baar baar phone kar raha hai?

ANSARI

Mujhe bhi phone aaya thha... ki study leave pe study karo. Aur nahi karni, toh thaane aa jaao duty pe.

Hathi Ram frowns. And this time, answers the call.

7.4PC INT. JAMUNA PAAR POLICE STATION - SHO'S CABIN - DAY 7.4PC

Virk in his cabin, on the phone with Hathi Ram.

VIRK

(into the phone)

Bataaya tha na, Chaudhari? Suspended officer ko bhi roz thaane mein haazri lagaani hoti hai.

HATHI RAM

Sir wo tabiyat down chal rahi thhi do ek din se...

VIRK

Aawaaz toh aa rahi hai ki kahin baahar ghoom rahe ho...

HATHI RAM

Sir wo dengue ka test karwaane jaa raha hoon...

(coughs for effect)
Call karta hoon sir...

Hathi Ram cuts the line.

ANSARI

Mujhe chalna chahiye thha aapke saath...

HATHI RAM

Study leave pe study karo.

Ansari smiles.

HATHI RAM (CONT'D)

(earnest)

Nahi toh meri tarah reh jaayega...

Ansari takes out something from the storage under the seat. His gun.

ANSARI

Sir ye rakh lo.

HATHI RAM

Paagal hai? Naukri jaa sakti hai teri.

ANSARI

Dangerous area hai, sir. Aap duty pe bhi nahi ho. Rakh lo. Bas try karna ki chalaani na padey.

Hathi Ram smiles, and takes it.

7.5 EXT. DELHI HIGHWAY TO CHITRAKOOT - MOVING BUS - NIGHT 7.5

A pair of headlights hurtling into the unknown darkness. It's a bus riding on the dark highway.

<u>INSIDE THE BUS</u>: A sleepless Hathi Ram sits flipping through his notebook.

Names stare back at him - Chanda, Chitrakoot, Gwala Gujjar, Masterji, Rajbir Gujjar, Bajpayee...

And just then - A SCREEEEECH followed by a THUDDDDDD!

Startled PASSENGERS wake up with a jolt. A BABY starts to cry.

The bus hit something it seems.

The BUS CONDUCTOR gets down to check. Hathi Ram follows.

7.6 EXT. DELHI HIGHWAY TO CHITRAKOOT - NIGHT

7.6

Hathi Ram and the Bus Conductor stand looking at -

A mangled body of a dog, a few yards away from the bus.

The Bus Conductor spits out his gutkha in anger -

BUS CONDUCTOR

In ko bhenchod mazaa aata hai aise marney mein...

A MALE PASSENGER gets down. He gives the dog's body a bored look and then turns around to piss - not too far from it.

Hathi Ram looks at the scene with mild disgust.

The Conductor shouts out to the pissing passenger -

BUS CONDUCTOR (CONT'D)

Chalo chalo, ye ilaaka theek nahi hai...

Hathi Ram's eyes remain on the mangled dog.

7.7 EXT. DELHI ROADS - MOVING VEHICLE - NIGHT

7.7

A hoarding towers over a Delhi road. Sanjeev's on it, with the tagline 'Voice of India'.

Underneath - A Police bandobast. Approaching vehicles being checked.

A Delhi Police vehicle approaches it. The COPS INSIDE signal that they're escorting the car behind.

Behind it - Sanjeev's car.

The COPS ON THE ROAD quickly remove the barrier and let the two cars pass.

Sanjeev looks out. The CONSTABLE lets out a crisp salute at him.

Sanjeev nods back as the entourage drives away.

7.8 INT. SINGH'S FARMHOUSE - NIGHT

7.8

A HOUSE STAFF leads Sanjeev towards the lawns -

Where Vikram Kapoor sits with Singh Saab and his son, drinking expensive whiskey.

A slightly drunk Kapoor rises to greet Sanjeev.

VIKRAM KAPOOR

Here he is - the miracle man. But for him, I wouldn't be lucky enough to be sitting here with you tonight, Singh Saab.

He hugs Sanjeev warmly.

Singh remains seated as Sanjeev goes up to him to shake hands with him. Singh refuses to, and only stares at Sanjeev in response.

Sanjeev smiles and sits down next to him. Signals for a drink.

As Kapoor and Singh Junior chat, Singh Saab turns to Sanjeev -

SINGH SAAB

If you think you'll be able to get away with blackmailing me, you don't know me well enough.

Sanjeev lets out a little smirk.

SANJEEV

Actually I do know you well enough, Singh Saab. Ye aap ki puraani aadat hai... apne employees ko kabhi shaabashi nahi dena. Aap ko lagta hai isse wo sar pe chadh jaayenge.

Singh looks at him.

SANJEEV (CONT'D)

I know you're pleased with this deal. Ek maheene pehle tak aap ko jo price mil raha thha, ye usse kahin zyaada hai.

(beat)

Ab agar channel ko dubaane ka saara credit aapne mujhe diya thha, toh revival ka thoda sa credit bhi milna chahiye.

Singh Saab sips his whiskey as a WAITER serves Sanjeev his drink.

SINGH SAAB

I never liked you Mehra. Nothing personal... I just don't like you left-liberal types, hiding your failures with your naive, annoying righteousness. But I must say in these last few weeks, you've surprised me a little.

SANJEEV

I guess that's as close as anyone ever came to getting a compliment from you.

Singh lets out a little smile at that. Sanjeev raises his glass to him, and takes a sip.

7.9 EXT. CHITRAKOOT BUS STAND - DAY

7.9

A political HOARDING - 'Chitrakoot mein Bajpayee ji ki vishal rally'. Pictures of Bajpayee and Jiji adorn it.

The bus comes to a stop.

Hathi Ram gets down.

A VIKRAM AUTO stops near him. BABUA, the autowala, grins at Hathi Ram.

BABUA

Sau sau ki shart. Aap press waale ho aur rally ke liye aaye ho...

HATHI RAM

Tum toh antaryami ho!

BABUA

(pleased with himself)
Toh chaliye sir. Achche patrakaron
ko saste hotelon ki zarurat padti
hai...

Hathi Ram smiles.

7.10 INT. CHITRAKOOT GUEST HOUSE - ROOM - DAY

7.10

A stuffy, shitty room. A waiter ushers Hathi Ram in and dumps his bag on a table.

Hathi Ram has a ringing phone to his ear. He walks up to the window and opens it. The noise from the street hits us.

The phone goes unanswered. Hathi Ram dials up again - 'Amitosh Journalist'.

7.11 EXT. CHITRAKOOT SCHOOL - PLAYGROUND - DAY

7.11

The school ground.

Rajbir Gujjar, the sports teacher, makes his teenage students do rigorous push ups.

RAJBIR GUJJAR

Haan shaabash... poore pachaas maarne hain. Shaabaash!

A PEON walks up to him.

PEON

Principal saahab bulaaye hain.
 (beat)
Urgent.

Rajbir turns to look at him.

7.12 INT. CHITRAKOOT SCHOOL - PRINCIPAL'S CABIN - DAY

7.12

Rajbir knocks on the door. And enters the cabin -

RAJBIR GUJJAR

Sir aapne -

His voice trails off as he sees someone sitting in front of the PRINCIPAL. It's Hathi Ram.

The colour drains off Rajbir's face.

CHITRAKOOT PRINCIPAL

Rajbir ye Dilli Police se aaye hain.

Hathi Ram gets up and offers his hand with a cheeky smile.

HATHI RAM

Haathi Ram Chaudhary. Kuchh routine sawaal thhe, Vishal Tyagi ke puraane case ko le kar.

(beat)

Agar aap ko aitraaz na ho...

Rajbir's eyes go to the suspicious Principal - who nods.

7.13 EXT. CHITRAKOOT SCHOOL - CORRIDOR - DAY

7.13

An agitated Rajbir walks out with Hathi Ram.

RAJBIR GUJJAR

Sir ye sab kya hai? Maine pichhli baar sab bataa toh diya thha aapko...

HATHI RAM

Ye kab bataaya thha ki tum hee Tyagi ke Masterji ho. Jis ka kaam school ke laundon ko train kar ke Bajpayee aur Gwala ke liye bahubali khadey karna hai...

Hathi Ram takes out his mobile and shows a picture to Rajbir.

Rajbir looks - It's the photo of Rajbir with Gwala and Bajpayee that Sara had showed to Hathi Ram.

HATHI RAM (CONT'D)

(bluffs)

Principal saab ko ye sab pata hai? Waise Dilli se agar warrant mangaana pada toh unhe pata chal hee jaayega. Fax machine unhi ke kamre mein rakhi hai na...

Rajbir's mouth goes dry as he looks at Hathi Ram.

7.14 EXT. CHITRAKOOT - SECLUDED GROUND - DAY

7.14

An eerily secluded ground.

Hathi Ram and Rajbir Gujjar cross the bushy overgrowth.

RAJBIR GUJJAR

School mein lagne ke pehle main police mein thha. Ninyaanve mein Bajpayee ji ke PSO ki posting mili.

7.15 EXT. CHITRAKOOT - SMALL TOWN BUNGALOW - NIGHT

7.15

FLASHBACK:

Dark. A much younger Rajbir Gujjar, 30, stands guard outside a small town bungalow, along with TWO OTHER CONSTABLES and a DUTY OFFICER.

Headlights approach the bungalow.

Rajbir strains his eyes to see - Two jeeps come to a stop near the bungalow.

Rajbir steps forward to check -

RAJBIR GUJJAR

Kaun hai?

But the Duty Officer pulls him back by his hand.

A confused Rajbir watches as the Officer opens the side entry gate of the bungalow.

THREE SILHOUETTES jump out of the jeep, covered in blankets. One of them - wearing canvas shoes. The three disappear inside the house.

The Officer follows them inside.

Rajbir's attention goes to the murmurs between the other constables.

CONSTABLES

(murmuring)
Donullia aayo hai... Donullia.

An intrigued Rajbir drifts away from them, enters the gates.

His eyes go to - a window. Silhouettes can be seen in the light coming from inside. Men talking.

Rajbir walks closer to the window. Tries to peep in.

Just then - someone grabs him from behind. Puts a knife on to his throat.

It's the one-eyed Kana Commando, around 30 at this time.

KANA COMMANDO

Kaa dekhat hai morichod?

RAJBIR GUJJAR

(nervous)

Oo... suney Donullia aavo hai.

KANA COMMANDO

Jaa ke kahu ne naa dekho, tu dekhego vaa ne? Aur dekh ke kaa karego?

RAJBIR GUJJAR

Gujjar hoon main bhi. Pujo jaato hai Donullia mor gaon mein...
(MORE)

RAJBIR GUJJAR (CONT'D)

Mohe bhi saamil hono hai oo ki fauj mein.

Kana Commando studies his face for a long moment.

Then pulls him out of the bungalow.

RAJBIR GUJJAR (CONT'D)

(scared)

Kitt le jaavat hai?

KANA COMMANDO

Donullia se milwaane.

RAJBIR GUJJAR

Par oo toh bheetar haigo.

KANA COMMANDO

Ek bakhat pe ek hajaar aath jagah hai Donullia. Bahurupiyo hai vo bahurupiyo.

Kana takes him to the back of a jeep. Thrusts his face in there.

<u>INSIDE</u>: Mostly dark in there. Barely visible faces of dangerous men.

KANA COMMANDO (CONT'D)

Gujjar hai Masterji. Kahe fauj mein saamil hono hai.

Nothing for a few moments. And then - A cold voice emerges out of the darkness and hits Rajbir.

VOICE

Bahot kathin jeevan hai fauj ko. Tu na kar sakego.

RAJBIR GUJJAR

Main... Main kar loongo, Masterji... Hockey mein state khelo hoon. Oo toh police ki naukri mein mann na lagto...

Silence. And then, a SIGH.

VOICE

Je saale sports quota waale kabahu achche policewaale na bante...

A sneer breaks out in the jeep. Rajbir pleads -

RAJBIR GUJJAR

Fauj mein saamil kar lo Masterji. Jeevan safal ho jaago...

VOICE

Arey tu naa kar sakego. Tor aankh bataavat hai.

RAJBIR GUJJAR

Main... main kar lungo Masterji.

Silence. And then something SWISHES! And in the next instant - * a knife is right next to Rajbir's eyeball.

KANA COMMANDO

Toh de tori aankh fir.

The colour drains off Rajbir's face as the knife stays dangerously close to his eye. Super tense moment. Until -

Laughter breaks out in the jeep.

VOICE

Ek aur tareeko hai fauj mein saamil hone ko. Baahar reh kar fauj ko kaam kar. Fauj ki aankh aur kaan ban.

Rajbir's face registers the offer.

VOICE (CONT'D)

Bajpayee jee hamre khaas hain. Seva kar bramhan dev ki. Vaa se milne kaun aavat hai, kaun jaavat hai, saari khabar rakh. Dhyaan rakh vaa ko. Samjho?

RAJBIR GUJJAR

Hau, Masterji.

VOICE

Kabahu kachhu kaam padey toh mor bhai hai Gwala Gujjar. Vaa se sampark kar.

The jeep starts.

The knife presses in to Rajbir's neck, drawing blood.

KANA COMMANDO

Master ki fauj, Karegi mauj, Mukhbiri ki sajaa, Sajaa-e-maut.

Terror runs across Rajbir's face.

Kana Commando pushes him away and runs behind the jeep, and jumps in.

Rajbir watches it disappear into the darkness of the lane.

7.16 EXT. CHITRAKOOT - SECLUDED GROUND - DAY

7.16

BACK TO PRESENT:

Hathi Ram and Rajbir sit at a lonely spot in the ground.

HATHI RAM

Toh khabri thhe tum Donullia ke? Bajpayee pe nazar rakhte thhe?

RAJBIR GUJJAR

Sach bataaun toh Donullia ko meri ya mere jaison ki koi jarurat nahi.

Hathi Ram looks at him.

RAJBIR GUJJAR (CONT'D)

Jaat waalon ki hamesha madad karta hai Donullia. Isse biradari pe control bana rehta hai...

(beat)

Chitrakoot mein shaayad hee koi Gujjar parivaar hoga jispe Donullia ya Gwala Bhai ka ehsaan na ho.

HATHI RAM

Tum pe kitne hain?

Rajbir looks at him.

RAJBIR GUJJAR

Do. Jab police ki naukri chhodi toh Gwala Bhai ne school mein lagwa diya. Aur doosra wo ehsaan jo unhone mere ek student pe kiya.

7.17 EXT. CHITRAKOOT SCHOOL - PLAYGROUND - DAY

7.17

FLASHBACK:

An incident we have seen before in Episode 3.

A bloodied hammer with flesh still sticking to it.

Three dead bodies.

And a teenage Tyagi on his knees, getting his tonsured head licked by a dog.

He slowly looks up, his eyes blank.

7.18 EXT. CHITRAKOOT - SECLUDED GROUND - DAY

7.18

FLASHBACK CONTINUES:

Tyagi's Father and Rajbir Gujjar. Being led into the secluded ground by Tyagi.

RAJBIR GUJJAR

Kitt chhupayo hai?

Tyagi looks around frantically, unsure.

Tyagi's Father starts to hit his son in manic anger -

TYAGI'S FATHER

Sahi kahi thhi oo pandat ne... Hiranyakashyap hai je morichod, Hiranyakashyap!

Rajbir's eyes go to - a place in the ground where the sand looks freshly dug.

Rajbir gets down on his knees. Digs frantically.

Out comes - the hammer.

RAJBIR GUJJAR

Aadhe ghante mein dhoondh leti police ee ke.

Tyagi's Father has tears in his eyes. He folds his hands in front of Rajbir.

TYAGI'S FATHER

Kachhu kar, Rajbir. Mor mora ke bacha le.

Rajbir looks at Tyagi's father as he breaks down in front of him like a child.

RAJBIR GUJJAR (V.O.)

Bundelkhand mein badla lena dharam ka kaam maana jaata hai saahab. Tyagi ne behnon ka badla le ke apna dharam nibhaaya, aur ab uska tau apne beton ka badla le ke apna dharam nibhaana waala thha...

7.19 EXT. CHITRAKOOT - TYAGI'S VILLAGE - DAY

7.19

A jeep comes to a SCREECHING stop.

Men jump out of it.

And rush towards a lane.

Watching them from their hiding place behind a house - Tyagi and Rajbir Gujjar, their faces covered in gamchas.

7.20 EXT. CHITRAKOOT VILLAGE ROADS - MOVING BIKE - DAY 7.20

Rajbir rides on his bike - fast, very fast.

Tyagi sits behind.

RAJBIR GUJJAR (V.O.)
Poore Bundelkhand mein bas ek jagah
thhi jahaan Tyagi chhup sakta
thha...

7.21 INT. CHITRAKOOT - GWALA GUJJAR'S MANSION - DAY 7.21

A throne like chair. On it - a pair of canvas shoes, which seems to have been worshipped with flowers and vermillion.

Next to it on a smaller chair sits a busy Gwala Gujjar, signing some papers.

A respectful Rajbir stands in front of him, along with Tyagi.

GWALA GUJJAR

(without looking up)
Je toh kurmi-yan ko maamlo hai. Aur
tain ne toh pato hai Rajbir,
Masterji doosri jaat ke kaam mein
dakhal na dete.

RAJBIR GUJJAR

Maharaj, Masterji ki fauj mein toh sabhi hain. Katua Kasai bhi hai. Kana Commando bhi hai.

Gwala Gujjar carries on with his paperwork, unimpressed.

Two of his fierce looking men OM JI and FIRANGI stare at Rajbir.

Rajbir tries again. Harder, more desperate -

*

RAJBIR GUJJAR (CONT'D)
Je mooro Masterji ki fauj mein
bharti hone laayak hai maharaj.
Alsation kutto hai je. Jeevan bhar
Masterji ki seva karego. Je haath
dekho jaa ke. Silli hai patthar ki.
Teen teen ke hathodey se maaro hai,
hathodey se...

That gets Gwala's attention - who finally looks at Tyagi.

GWALA GUJJAR

Fauj mein saamil hone ko faislo toh Masterji hee kar sakat hain. Jaa ki pariksha lene ke baad.

He touches the pair of canvas shoes reverentially.

RAJBIR GUJJAR

Par vaa ke layi jaa ko jinda rehno jaroori hai maharaj.

Gwala Gujjar stares at Tyagi. He seems to be thinking about it.

7.22 EXT. CHITRAKOOT - KACHCHA ROAD IN THE JUNGLE - DAY 7.22

A bike rides through the kachcha path in the jungle.

Tyagi sits between the two men of Gwala Gujjar - Om ji and Firangi.

OM JI

Ka lalla? Vaa hathode waali baat... sach hai ka?

Tyagi - quiet.

FIRANGI

(mocking)

Sach hai dadda, sach hai. Mora ne hathode se school mein apne saathiyan ke doodh ke daant tod diye.

The two men laugh in derision. Tyagi - still quiet.

They reach - a rustic farmhouse in the middle of nowhere.

7.23 EXT. CHITRAKOOT - JUNGLE FARMHOUSE - COURTYARD - DAY 7.23

A large statue of Shiva in the courtyard.

The CARETAKER - an old Saadhu - sits underneath, smoking his chillum. His two stray dogs laze around him.

As Om ji and Firangi walk in with Tyagi, the Saadhu takes a long drag and looks at Tyagi with bloodshot eyes.

'DAYS OF WAITING' MONTAGE

RAJBIR GUJJAR (V.O.)
Maheenon guzar gaye. Wahi farmhouse
ab Tyagi ka ghar ban gaya. Rehne
khaane ko mil jaata thha. Kutte mil
gaye toh mann bhi lag gaya.

- 7.24A EXT. CHITRAKOOT JUNGLE FARMHOUSE COURTYARD DAY 7.24A

 Tyagi sits playing with the dogs. They've become friends by now.
- 7.24B EXT. CHITRAKOOT JUNGLE FARMHOUSE COURTYARD DAY 7.24B

 Tyagi exercises in the courtyard. Push ups, squats, head stands. The works.

 The dogs watch him with curiosity.
- 7.24C EXT. CHITRAKOOT JUNGLE FARMHOUSE COURTYARD DAY 7.24C

 Tyagi sits in front of the Shiva statue, praying and meditating.
- 7.24D EXT. CHITRAKOOT JUNGLE FARMHOUSE ROOM NIGHT 7.24D

 Tyagi sleeps on his cot, the two dogs next to him.

RAJBIR GUJJAR (V.O.)
Kabhi kabhi koi aur bhi chhupne ke
liye aa jaata. Par usse bhi
Masterji ki koi khabar nahi milti.
Tyagi ke dimaag mein bas yehi baat
chalti rehti ki wo ab tak us aadmi
se nahi mil paaya thha jisne usey
jeevan daan diya thha...

7.24E EXT. CHITRAKOOT - JUNGLE FARMHOUSE - COURTYARD - NIGHT 7.24E
Night. Tyagi sleeps in the courtyard when the barking of his dogs wakes him up.

He sees - STRANGE MEN walk in. They are covered in blankets and carry with them an INJURED MAN.

*

7.24F EXT. CHITRAKOOT - JUNGLE FARMHOUSE - COURTYARD - DAY 7.24F

The Sadhu applies a paste to the wound of the Injured Man - who stares at Tyagi.

7.24G EXT. CHITRAKOOT - JUNGLE FARMHOUSE - RIVERSIDE - DAY 7.24G *

A meditative Tyagi sits on the rocks, lost deep in his thoughts as the nearby stream gently flows by.

7.25 INT. CHITRAKOOT - JUNGLE FARMHOUSE - ROOM - DAY 7.25

A restless Tyagi lies on the chaarpaayi in his room, scratching something on the wall with one of his finger nails.

Hard, sharp, incessant.

Blood starts to emerge on his finger.

The Old Saadhu caretaker appears at the door.

OLD SAADHU Itto aasaan na hai Donullia se milno...

Tyagi turns to look at him.

OLD SAADHU (CONT'D)
Hogo tor Master. Mor layi toh kakku
ko beto bhai haigo, samjho? Par
mohe bhi milne ki anumati na hai.
Vo hee milego jab milno chaahego.
 (laughs)
Aur aiso milego beta, aisi pariksha
lego, ki chuttadan mein se khoon
tapkan lagego. Tapp, tapp, tapp...

Tyagi goes back to what he was doing - scratching on the wall with his bloodied nail.

Now we see what he has scratched - Masterji. In blood red.

7.26 INT. TIHAR JAIL - BARRACKS - DAY 7.26 *

A wall. Something being scratched on it. Masterji.

It's Tyagi in his cell, scratching with his nail - which has blackened from bleeding.

We also notice - his missing left thumb.

OUTSIDE: Guards appear in the corridor, SHOUTING out instructions and opening the locked doors.

JAIL GUARD

Chalo chalo, nahaane ka time ho gaya...

7.27 EXT. TIHAR JAIL - BATHING AND WASHING AREA - DAY 7.27

An open bathing and washing area. Multiple taps under which PRISONERS take turns to bathe and wash their clothes.

It's Cheeni's turn at one of the taps. She walks up to it.

And looks around. She seems distinctly uncomfortable as she starts to take off her clothes.

After stripping to her underwear, she starts to quickly wash herself off.

She feels a presence. And turns to look.

The prisoner next to her is staring at her with an intense look.

Cheeni doesn't quite understand. Until her eyes go down - the man is trying to jerk off while looking at her.

Cheeni looks away in fear and disgust. And covers herself in a towel.

But the man continues with his action, while brazenly staring at her.

A LITTLE AWAY:

Chaaku looks lost in his thoughts as he sits next to an overflowing plastic bucket.

His eyes go to - the tattoo on his arm. The 'C' with a knife wedged through it.

He stares at it for a long time.

And then - uncharacteristic - tears well up in his eyes.

Just then from behind, a ROUGH PRISONER complains -

ROUGH PRISONER (O.S.)

Jaldi kar na bhonsadi ke...

Chaaku gets conscious. And quickly pours water over his head so as to hide his tears.

But the tears just won't stop. He continues to pour water over himself.

We haven't seen Chaaku this emotional.

IN A CORNER:

Tyagi squats in his underwear, washing his clothes. When he hears -

A dog barking somewhere. A surprised Tyagi turns to look.

A STRAY DOG has entered the courtyard and is being chased by a couple of baton-wielding JAIL GUARDS.

The other prisoners too notice it. They laugh as - The dog dodges the guards.

Someone shouts out in encouragement -

PRISONER

Haan shaabash Tommy! Haath mat aana chutiyon ke!

We see a smile come up on Tyagi's face for the first time. A big, warm smile.

And just then, the running dog receives a violent kick from one of the PRISONERS.

As Tyagi watches the dog yelp in pain - something comes upon him.

He marches towards the sneering prisoner.

And before the prisoner can realise what's going on - Tyagi grabs him by his neck and headbutts his face.

Blood erupts as a nose is broken.

The man SCREAMS. His mates move towards Tyagi threateningly.

Behind, the guards notice this. They whistle and run towards the new scene of action.

But Tyagi just stands his ground - Even as the guards come and jump upon him to pin him down.

Tyagi doesn't resist as he lies on the ground, face down. He simply turns his head to look at -

The dog. It's still managing to run uncaught.

*

And the smile returns to Tyagi's face.

FADE TO BLACK:

ON BLACK:

SOUNDS -

Of a dog barking somewhere in the distance.

Of several footsteps.

Of a door opening with a MILD CREAK.

RAJBIR GUJJAR (V.O.)

Tyagi ko uss farmhouse pe cheh ek maheene guzre honge ki ek din raat ke andhere mein...

FADE IN:

7.28 INT. CHITRAKOOT - JUNGLE FARMHOUSE - COURTYARD - NIGHT 7.28

Dark, the space lit in moonlight and oil lamps.

Tyagi sleeps on the cot -

But his two dogs seem to have been alerted. They're staring at something in front.

One of the dog lets out a little bark.

Tyagi slowly opens his eyes. Notices on a wall - eerie shadows.

He turns around sharply.

In front of him - Silhouettes. Men covered in blankets.

As a groggy Tyagi tries to make sense of the situation -

Kana Commando and another GOON step out of the darkness and lift him up. Tyagi catches a brief glimpse of a scared looking Rajbir Gujjar with the men before -

Kana pushes Tyagi and thrusts his face into the wall.

And then from the darkness, another figure emerges and walks up to him. We can't make out his face. Only a slight PROFILE of him in the dim light.

He brings his mouth next to Tyagi's ear. And whispers in a cold, rasping voice -

DONULLIA GUJJAR

Suney milne ko bado aatur raho tain.

Beat. A realisation comes up on Tyagi's face.

TYAGI

Masterji?

The dogs start to wag their tails, like even they realised who the man is.

Donullia's hand pats the dogs with love. We notice - a lone rudraksh tied to his wrist.

DONULLIA GUJJAR

Masterji ki ek pariksha mein toh tu pass ho gavo. Kuttan se sachcho prem karne waale sadaiv mann ke saaf hovat hain. Kaa re Rajbir, sach hai ki nahi?

A nervous Rajbir folds his hands and nods respectfully.

KANA COMMANDO

(rustic English)

If man like dog, he is good man. If dogs like man, he is good man.

Kana Commando moves in closer to Tyagi, his face looking even more dangerous in the dim light.

KANA COMMANDO (CONT'D)

Ab doosri pariksha. Bol, taiyyar hai dene ke layi?

TYAGT

Hau!

KANA COMMANDO

Toh sun! Doosri pariksha eklavya ki pariksha hai. Door reh kar guru ki bhakti karni padegi.

DONULLIA GUJJAR

Bhakti mein kaa rakho hai re! Je pooro des bhakti karat hai, par fir bhi sab saale maadarchod!

Donullia comes close to Tyagi again. Tyagi strains to see his face from the corner of his eyes - but can't.

DONULLIA GUJJAR (CONT'D)

Jaa ne toh jeher gale mein rakhno padego guru ke layi. Tyaag ko, balidaan ko jeher. Jaiso sagar manthan mein Shiv Shambhu ne rakho hato.

A rudraksh dangles around Donullia's neck. Tyagi catches a glimpse of it.

TYAGI

Kachhu bhi karungo, Masterji. Kachhu bhi.

Kana Commando lets go of Tyagi - who slowly turns around, and comes face to face with Donullia.

We STAY ON Tyagi now as he soaks in the aura of the man in front of him.

Tyagi slumps to his knees and folds his hands.

TYAGI (CONT'D)

Aadesh ho, Masterji.

Donullia extends his hand. In his hand - A hammer.

DONULLIA GUJJAR

Toh de vo jo Eklavya ne diyo hato apne Guru ke layi.

The shock of the realisation hits Tyagi.

Kana Commando forces Rajbir down to the floor. Pins his thumb down roughly. Rajbir groans in pain and fear.

KANA COMMANDO

Aur je tain na de sako, toh je Gujjar dego.

With shaky hands, Tyagi takes the hammer from Donullia's hand.

And then he spreads his own left thumb on the floor.

His grip tightens on the hammer. His hand slowly goes up.

He looks one last time at Donullia with pure devotion.

Rajbir watches with pure horror as Tyagi brings down the hammer with full force on his own thumb.

PHHHHHACCCCCCH!

7.29 EXT. CHITRAKOOT - JUNGLE FARMHOUSE - NIGHT

7.29

A LONG SHOT of the eerie looking farmhouse in the moonlight.

A SCREAM rings out. The dogs howl in unison.

Almost ritualistic.

RAJBIR GUJJAR (V.O.)
Tyagi pariksha mein pass hua. Ab wo
Donullia ki fauj ka hissa thha. Aur
jald hee uss tak pehli photo bhi
pahunch gayi.

7.30 EXT. CHITRAKOOT - JUNGLE FARMHOUSE - DAY

7.30

The Shiva statue. Tyagi sits in front of it, meditating.

Sound of a motorbike approaching.

Tyagi opens his eyes. Turns to look.

The MAN ON THE BIKE has a gamcha around his face. He looks at Tyaqi, and throws an envelope on the ground.

And then the bike turns around, and rides away.

Tyagi walks up to it. Picks up the envelope.

Inside - A PHOTOGRAPH of a <u>BESPECTACLED MAN</u>. Behind it, an address -

'Ram Bharose Hindu Hotel, Hanuman Galli, Etawah'.

7.31

7.31 EXT. ETAWAH - SHADY GUEST HOUSE - DAY

A shady looking guest house. A signboard hangs outside - 'Ram Bharose Hindu Hotel, Hanuman Galli, Etawah'.

A bike comes to a stop under it. The RIDER – a man wearing a monkey cap. $\,$

7.32 INT. ETAWAH - SHADY GUEST HOUSE - CORRIDOR + ROOM - DAY 7.32 *

The Man in the monkey cap rushes down a corridor.

He stops in front of a room. Knocks on it.

The door opens. Tyagi stands there.

INSIDE THE ROOM:

The Man takes out something from inside his jacket. A gun. Tyaqi checks it. Brings it up. Aims it at the mirror. The Man smirks. Takes the gun back from Tyagi. Cocks it.

> MAN IN MONKEY CAP Ab chalegi pehelwaan.

7.33 7.33 OMITTED 7.34 EXT. JHANSI LANES - BUNGALOW + MOVING BIKE - DAY 7.34 POV of a BUNGALOW at the end of the street. A PERSONAL * SECURITY GUARD stands outside, with a double barrel rifle. Up above on the balcony - a BESPECTACLED MAN in a track suit * stretches. MAN IN MONKEY CAP (O.S.) Wahi hai be. Naaqin ka memory hai hamaara. Ek baar dekh liye toh inverted photo chapp gaya dimaag mein, samjhe? Saat din hain apne paas. Aaj sirf dekhna hai - kaisa dikhta hai, din bhar kya kya karta hai, kahaan kahaan jaata hai... Sabka apna ek pattern hota hai. Parked at the other end of the lane - a bike. Tyaqi and the Monkey Cap Man are hunched over it - pretending to check a breakdown. MAN IN MONKEY CAP (CONT'D) * Pattern samajhta hai? Patternwa pakad liya, toh samjho bhonsadi shikaar pakad liya. Aur fir bhi jee ghabraaye na, toh koi baat nahi. *

Bhirgin ho be, bhirginity jaayega toh thoda bahut khalbali toh hoga na mann mein.

The gates open.

Tyaqi and the Monkey Cap Man tense up.

The Bespectacled Man walks out, stretching himself, and starts walking in their direction. The Security Guard rushes after.

Tyagi gets up.

MAN IN MONKEY CAP (CONT'D)

(angry whisper)

Abe kya kar raha hai? Neeche baith!

TYAGI

Chal, gaadi start kar.

MAN IN MONKEY CAP

Abey ghabra kyun raha hai? Kuchh nahi hoga...

Tyagi gives him a cold, menacing look.

The Monkey Cap Man gives in. Starts the bike. Tyagi jumps behind.

TYAGI

Uski taraf badha.

MAN IN MONKEY CAP

Chutiya gaye ho kya?

Tyagi whispers in his ear.

TYAGT

Uski. Taraf. Badha.

Tyagi's partner starts to ride towards the Bespectacled Man and his Guard.

TYAGI (CONT'D)

Paas se nikaal.

As they get close, Tyagi takes out something from behind his back. It's not the gun, but the hammer.

And as they cross the Bespectacled Man, Tyagi swings it hard.

Tyaqi's partner lets out a STARTLED shout -

MAN IN MONKEY CAP

BHENCHOD!

The Guard takes a couple of moments to realise what happened.

He looks at his employer, who has fallen to the ground. And then at the bike which is getting away.

He runs after the bike, fumbling with his pistol. And before he can take it out and fire - the bike's gone.

The Guard rushes back to - his employer, lying on the road.

The hammer has crashed through the man's spectacles and has lodged itself secure into the man's right eye socket. It's a gruesome sight.

PERSONAL GUARD

(murmurs)

Maa ki chut. Mushkil se lagi thhi naukri...

BACK ON THE BIKE:

The Monkey Cap Man looks pale as he tries to control his bike with nervous hands.

MAN IN MONKEY CAP
Maadarchod warning toh dete be! Aur
hathode se kaun maarta hai yaar?
Bhonsadi tum ho kaun?

Tyagi's face - stoic as ever.

RAJBIR GUJJAR (V.O.)

Bundelkhand mein murder aam baat hai saahab. Yehaan aadmi ke murder ka rate nayi gaay khareedne ke rate se bhi kam hai. Par Tyagi ka ye murder murder nahi, kaand thha.

7.34INS INT. CHITRAKOOT - JUNGLE FARMHOUSE - DAY

7.34INS

ANGLE ON - One of those cheesy photo albums titled 'Sweet Memories'. A hand flips the cover and we see a picture of the Bespectacled Man Tyagi just killed.

It's followed by - MORE PICTURES. All kinds of men. Politician types, Contractor types, Government Official types, Businessmen types.

RAJBIR GUJJAR (V.O.)

Bas fir kya tha, farmhouse par fotuein aati gayi, Tyagi kaand karta gaya. Aur dheere dheere shot put ka state junior champion Vishal Tyagi murder ka champion Hathoda Tyagi ban gaya. Donullia ki fauj ka sabse aham sipaahi.

7.35 EXT. CHITRAKOOT - SECLUDED GROUND - DAY

7.35 *

Hathi Ram sits with Rajbir in the courtyard. A couple of kids play in the bg.

HATHI RAM

Toh Tyagi ko Sanjeev Mehra ke murder ka assignment Donullia ne diya? Par kyun? Uska Mehra se kya connection hai?

Rajbir shrugs.

RAJBTR GUJJAR

Main toh wahi bataa sakta hoon saahab jo maine dekha ya suna ho.

Hathi Ram stares at him. Rajbir folds his hands.

RAJBIR GUJJAR (CONT'D)

Bachchon ki kasam khaa ke kehta hoon saahab, main isse jyaada nahi jaanta. Tyagi se miley kayi saal ho gaye. Ab toh sirf kisse sunne ko milte hain. Mujhe nahi pata ye Sanjeev Mehra kaun hai, ya Tyagi Dilli mein kya kar raha thha.

HATHI RAM

Donullia kahaan hai? Aakhiri baar kahaan dikha?

RAJBIR GUJJAR

(smirks)

Ye toh koi nahi jaanta saab. Main bas itna jaanta hoon ki main un kuchh logon mein se hoon jo uske itna kareeb tak pahunch kar bhi zinda hai.

HATHI RAM

Aur Gwala Gujjar? Wo kahaan milega?

RAJBIR GUJJAR

Aaj guruwaar hai. Donullia ka darbaar lagta hai aaj ke din. Jisme Gwala bhai Bharat ki tarah apne Ramchandra Donullia ki khadaau le ke baithate hain, aur nyaay baantte hain.

Hathi Ram looks at him.

7.36 EXT. CHITRAKOOT - GWALA GUJJAR'S MANSION - DAY

7.36

The Vikram comes to a stop outside a large mansion.

Hathi Ram steps out and looks at the gates. A stream of people walking in.

Hathi Ram tentatively follows them inside.

- 7.37 INT./EXT. CHITRAKOOT GWALA GUJAR'S MANSION COURTYARD 7.37 DAY
 - O.S. chanting of mantras can be heard from inside.

A CROWD of VILLAGE MEN and WOMEN wait for their turn to go inside the mansion, quite like at a darbaar.

Hathi Ram walks towards them. As he gets nearer -

The Village Men look at Hathi Ram with mild hostility as he reaches there. He doesn't look like one of them.

As if to prove his allegiance, Hathi Ram squats down next to them, saying -

HATHI RAM

Ram Ram.

MURMURS

Ram Ram... Ram Ram...

Hathi Ram addresses an OLD VILLAGE MAN smoking a beedi.

HATHI RAM

Ek beedi milegi chacha?

As the man lights up a beedi for Hathi Ram, the crowd around loses interest in him.

Hathi Ram makes a face as the taste of beedi hits him.

HATHI RAM (CONT'D)

Gwala Bhai hain andar?

VILLAGE MAN

Hain toh sahi. Par keh rahe koi pooja chal rahi bheetar....

ANOTHER VILLAGER

Toh pooja na karenge? Sant mahatma hain bhai. Pooja toh karenge hee...

Everyone nods and murmurs their approval.

*

VILLAGE MAN

(to Hathi Ram)

Gaye baras fasal na bhayi. Je baras bank waale loan dene se manaa kar rahe. Masterji kachhu kar dewein toh...

IN THE BALCONY ABOVE THE COURTYARD:

Someone appears. OM JI - much older than when we saw him in Tyagi's flashback.

OM JI

Maine kaa kahi hati tain logan se? Aaj koi darbaar na lagego. Jaao ghar jaao, agle guruvaar aao...

But the men won't give in so easily. They plead and protest, most of all an OLD LADY.

OLD LADY

Ae bhaiyya, mor lalla ke sar pe Masterji se haath ferwa de ek baar...

OM JI

Masterji itey naa hain amma. Jaa ghar jaa.

OLD LADY

Arey toh unki jooti hee laga de jaa ke sar pe. Moora ko jeevan ban jaago.

A GROUP of TEENAGE BOYS SHOUT OUT -

TEENAGE BOYS

Master ki fauj... Karegi Mauj!

As the slogan shouting goes on, Om ji notices - Hathi Ram at the back of the crowd.

Their eyes meet. There's something that Om ji finds suspicious about him, and Hathi Ram can sense it too.

Om ji rushes down the stairs, but as soon as he reaches below, the pleading junta block his way.

By the time Om ji pushes his way out of the crowd -

Hathi Ram's gone from there.

7.38 INT. CHITRAKOOT CYBER CAFE - DAY

7.38

A dingy cyber cafe.

In front of one of the computers - sits Hathi Ram.

His head seems to be hurting.

He pops a pill and goes back to the video he was watching.

7.38INSTEXT. CHITRAKOOT LANE - DAY

7.38INS1

VIDEO:

It's a video of Amitosh, the journalist.

AMITOSH

(in the video)

Afwahon ka bazaar garam hai ki Bajpayee ji ke iss daure mein ye faisla hone waala hai ki aagaami chunaavon mein Dalit Samaj Party ka Chitrakoot ticket kis ummeedvaar ko diya jaayega. Aur dekhna ye bhi hai ki Dalit Hriday Samrat Bajpayee ji is baar kis dalit parivaar ke ghar khaana khaayenge. Prastut hai unke pichhle daure se gaon Kichni ki kuchh tasveerein...

Next comes -

7.38INSZINT. CHITRAKOOT - DALIT HOUSEHOLD - DAY

7.38INS2

*

FOOTAGE of Bajpayee at a Dalit household, sharing a meal with the poor family.

It also includes - for some reason -

7.38INSŒXT. CHITRAKOOT - VILLAGE LANE - DAY

7.38INS3

a SHOT of a jeep with several jerry cans stacked at its back.

Hathi Ram finds the CYBER CAFE OWNER looking at his computer, and smirking.

HATHI RAM

Kya hua?

The Owner shakes his head and looks away, but is still smiling.

Hathi Ram tries out Amitosh's number. He doesn't answer.

Hathi Ram throws his phone on the desk in frustration.

7.39 INT. NEWS NOW OFFICE - SARA'S DESK - DAY

7.39 *

Sara at her desk, typing.

Her phone buzzes silently. She looks at it.

Sanjeev calling ...

She looks at it for a long moment, then ignores it and goes back to her work.

Until - a figure appears next to her.

She looks up. It's Sanjeev - his phone in his hands, looking at her accusingly.

SANJEEV

What's going on? You've been ignoring my calls...

SARA

I've been busy.

Sanjeev fixes her with a hard gaze. Then sighs.

SANJEEV

Come to my cabin. I've got some news to share. It's big.

Sara doesn't move. She just continues to type.

Anger slowly rises on Sanjeev's face. He whispers with authority -

SANJEEV (CONT'D)

I said come to my cabin. Now.

Sara looks back at him - defiant. They stare at each other for a long time.

Sara gets up. And speaks to Rohan sitting across the desk -

SARA

Come Rohan, let's go to Sanjeev's cabin.

As Rohan gets up and joins her - Sara turns back to Sanjeev.

SARA (CONT'D)

Pratima has asked me to tag him along everywhere. Hope that's okay with you.

An angry Sanjeev stares at her for a bit more, then turns and walks away from there.

Sara watches him go, until - her phone rings. Hathi Ram calling...

SARA (CONT'D)

(into the phone)

Hello?

7.39PC INT. CHITRAKOOT CYBER CAFE - DAY

7.39PC

Hathi Ram pays up the Cyber Cafe Owner while talking on the phone -

HATHI RAM

(into the phone)

Madam, aap us journalist Amitosh ko jaanti hain na? Kahin se uske office ka pata mil sakta hai?

7.40 EXT. CHITRAKOOT - CONGESTED MARKET - DAY

7.40

*

A MOB. Angry, boisterous.

Dhols being beaten. SLOGANS being shouted.

MOB

Dalit ke dil ka raja kaisa, Jiji jaisa Bajpayee jaisa...

Hathi Ram walks past the noise and the chaos, looking around.

His head hurts. The images in front of him getting distorted, like it happens in migraine.

7.41 INT. CHITRAKOOT - AMITOSH'S OFFICE - DAY

7.41

A dingy commercial complex.

Hathi Ram notices a signboard - 'Bimaru Samachar, Chitrakoot'. There's a small crowd outside the office.

As he makes his way past the crowd, he realises - The place has been ransacked.

Computers lie upturned on the floor. Glass windows lie shattered.

An EMPLOYEE sits with his head in his hands - blood dripping from his forehead.

Even before Hathi Ram can make sense of it, his eyes meet someone's.

It's Constable Shaligram from Chitrakoot Police Station (Episode 3). And he looks equally taken aback to see Hathi Ram there.

Shit. Hathi Ram turns around and tries to get away from there, but only to come face to face with - SHO Ramavtar.

SHO RAMAVTAR

Arey sir, aap yehaan?

Hathi Ram - caught completely off-guard.

HATHI RAM

Er, jee wo... case pe kuchh kaam baaki thha...

(changes the topic) Waise yehaan kya hua hai?

SHO RAMAVTAR

Jhoothi baatein faiylane ka nateeja hai jee. Bajpayee ji ke baare mein jhoothi baat faiylaayi, unke chahete daliton ko gussa aa gaya. Aur dalit ka gussa, jaise shesh naag ka gussa. Sab bhasam!

His eyes stare at Hathi Ram.

SHO RAMAVTAR (CONT'D)

Waise aap toh sab sach bol rahe hain na sir? Kyunki maine toh suna thha ki case ab CBI ke paas hai...

Hathi Ram doesn't have an answer. The SHO fixes him with a cold gaze.

SHO RAMAVTAR (CONT'D)

Sir dekho aisa hai... aa hee gaye ho, toh Ram Ghat dekho, Hanuman Dhara dekho, Sita Rasoi khaao, Bharat Milaap bhi kar aao... par bina permission ke aap idhar udhar... public mein rosh faiyla hai, oonch neech ho gayi toh hamaare sar pe aayega sab.

He's about to walk away but turns back one last time like he just remembered something.

SHO RAMAVTAR (CONT'D)

Haan, Sati Anusuya ka mandir bhi bahot praacheen hai. Pahadi par hai ekdum... jaroor dekhna.

Hathi Ram watches him walk away with his constable.

7.42 INT. SANJEEV'S HOUSE - DINING ROOM - DAY

7.42

Dolly puts some food out in a dog bowl.

4

Sanjeev enters in. Dolly glances at him -

DOLLY

Oh, hi!

Then goes back to what she was doing.

Sanjeev walks up to her. Grabs her from behind.

DOLLY (CONT'D)

Someone's happy!

Sanjeev smiles.

SANJEEV

I've sorted everything out at work. Everything.

Dolly smiles at him.

DOLLY

Oh, that's nice! Though you never told me what it was that you were trying to sort.

Sanjeev looks at her for a long moment. And then kisses her.

Dolly seems surprised. She tries to get out of his grip.

DOLLY (CONT'D)

Felicia market gayi hai. Can I get you something?

But Sanjeev goes right back at it.

We can see Dolly's not enjoying it. She resists -

DOLLY (CONT'D)

Not now, Sanjeev.

Sanjeev looks in her eyes.

SANJEEV

You were right. Let's make a baby.

DOLLY

Please, Sanjeev. She's watching...

SANJEEV

Par wo toh market gayi hai na?

And just then he smells something. He sniffs.

A presence behind him. Sanjeev turns around.

It's the pregnant bitch Savitri there, looking right at him.

SANJEEV (CONT'D)

What the... ye andar kaise aayi?

He looks sharply at Dolly - who just stands there calmly.

SANJEEV (CONT'D)

Dolly, you know I'm allergic to dog hair.

DOLLY

She's a stray. They shed much less.

SANJEEV

Oh please Dolly... Can we just get her out now?

She looks at him - defiant.

DOLLY

She's about to deliver. And I... I've decided to keep her.

SANJEEV

(snorts)

What? Yeah, right!

He looks again at her face. She's as serious as they come.

SANJEEV (CONT'D)

Tumne akele decide kar liya? Discuss toh karna chahiye thha.

She looks at him.

DOLILY

Humne cheezein discuss karna kab ka bandh kar diya, Sanjeev. Guess you haven't noticed...

Sanjeev tries to reason with her.

SANJEEV

Okay, fine. She's pregnant. I understand you want to take care of her. Let's put her in a clinic. She's a stray, Dolly. She doesn't need you...

DOLLY

I know that, Sanjeev. It's me who needs her.

She looks at Sanjeev for a long, sad moment.

Behind - The bitch feels threatened at Sanjeev's angry presence. It starts to growl.

Dolly goes to it to calm it down.

DOLLY (CONT'D)

It's okay, baby. I'm here.

Sanjeev just stands there - pissed.

7.43 EXT. CHITRAKOOT - GWALA GUJJAR'S MANSION - DAY 7.43

The parked Vikram Auto. Hathi Ram stands outside it when his phone rings.

It's Renu. Hathi Ram answers.

7.43PC INT. HATHI RAM'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY 7.43PC *

Renu folds clothes while talking on the phone - *

RENU

*

Pahonch gaye?

HATHI RAM

(into the phone)
Ab pooch rahi hai?

RENU

Toh tumne bye kahaa thha jaate hue?

HATHI RAM

(sighs)

Lad mat yaar. Sar fat raha hai mera.

Renu quietens down.

RENU

Fir kuchh ulta seedha khaaya hoga. Ho gayi na gas! Bekaar mein wo migraine waali goli mat khaana ab, Pudin Hara le lo.

HATHI RAM

Teri champi se hee theek hoga ab.

RENU

Tumhaari na sach mein champi honi chahiye, Hathi Ram Chaudhari. Tabhi akal aayegi tumhe...

Hathi Ram chuckles. And so does Renu. A moment.

Just then, Hathi Ram's eyes catch something.

We see he's looking at - Gwala Gujjar's mansion that he was keeping an eye on.

The massive gates swing open. And a car drives out.

HATHI RAM

(into the phone)

Sun main karta hoon...

He cuts the phone.

7.44 EXT. CHITRAKOOT ROADS - DAY

7.44

The auto drives on the roads - following the car at a safe distance.

Hathi Ram's phone rings - SHO Virk calling ...

Hathi Ram frowns. Then cuts it. As he looks back up -

He notices - the auto driver Babua looking at him in the rear view mirror.

BABUA

Saab aap jaante hain na aap kiske peechhe lage hain?

Hathi Ram passes him a 100-rupee note.

*

*

HATHI RAM

Pehle hee kahaa tha. Aankh aur munh bandh.

Babua takes it.

BABUA

Waise gaadi mein Gwala Bhai nahi ho saktey. Unka toh poora paltan chalta hai jee. Chaar paanch gaadi. Dus baarah aadmi...

Hathi Ram keeps his eyes on the car.

7.45 EXT. CHITRAKOOT - ROAD LEADING TO GHAATS - DAY 7.45

It's evening as the car stops at a busy area that leads to the ghaats.

Om ji and Firangi step out of it, followed by an OLD PUJAARI. *

The last to step out - Gwala Gujjar himself, in a white dhoti and white cloth to cover his torso.

A LITTLE BEHIND ON THE ROAD:

Babua's auto comes to a stop. Babua seems surprised at seeing Gwala Gujjar there.

Hathi Ram steps out.

He follows the group as they walk past the crowded lane.

Om ji and Firangi - keeping an eye all around them.

As Om ji turns to look back in the direction of Hathi Ram -

Hathi Ram quickly turns to a FLOWER VENDOR, and buys a packet of marigold garland and prasaad.

When he turns back - the group's nowhere to be seen.

Hathi Ram hastens his pace and goes in the direction they were headed.

7.46 EXT. CHITRAKOOT GHAATS - DAY

7.46

The crowded ghaats. The river waters glisten in the brilliant orange light of the setting sun.

Hathi Ram appears at the ghaats, looking around. He seems to have lost them. Until his eyes go to -

THE STEPS - The group is walking down the steps, that lead to the river bank.

Hathi Ram follows in the direction.

The group reaches the bottom of the steps. Om ji and Firangi wait at the last steps as Gwala and the Pujaari step into the waters.

The Pujaari starts to chant some mantras.

Hathi Ram too reaches up to the bottom. He steps into the waters - a little away from the group.

He glances at Gwala Gujjar from the corner of his eyes. In spite of his devotee like appearance, the man still exudes power.

And just then - Hathi Ram notices - Om ji is looking at him, like trying to place him.

Shit. Hathi Ram does a 'pranaam' to the river, turns around and starts to walk up the stairs - trying to make it look as inconspicuous as possible.

But when he glances back to check, he realises - Om ji is still coming after him. And looks like he means business.

That's it. Hathi Ram runs.

And so does Om ji - the qun coming out from behind his back.

The crowd. The chaos.

Hathi Ram tries to dodge his way past the men and the cows.

Om ji - close on his heels.

7.47 EXT. CHITRAKOOT - ROAD LEADING TO GHAATS - DAY 7.47

Late evening. Darkness descending rapidly.

Hathi Ram runs down the road.

He can see - Babua waiting outside the parked auto.

Hathi Ram discretely signals to him - 'don't'. And runs past him.

Babua doesn't quite understand. Until he spots - Om ji coming after Hathi Ram.

*

*

He quietly gets into his auto and drives away - just as Om ji runs past him.

7.48A EXT. CHITRAKOOT LANES - DAY

7.48A

Om ji comes running and reaches a junction. Several lanes lead from it.

He looks around, panting. Hathi Ram is nowhere to be seen.

Om ji runs away into a particular lane.

7.48B EXT. CHITRAKOOT - ANOTHER LANE - DAY

7.48B

Hathi Ram comes out of the hiding. And runs back in the direction he came from.

His phone begins to ring. DCP Bhagat calling...

Hathi Ram answers.

HATHI RAM

(into the phone)

Sir.

7.48PC INT. POLICE HQ - DCP BHAGAT'S OFFICE - DAY

7.48PC

*

*

*

*

Bhagat in his cabin, talking to Hathi Ram on the phone.

DCP BHAGAT

Kahaan ho tum?

Hathi Ram doesn't say anything.

DCP BHAGAT (CONT'D)

Virk ko Chitrakoot ke SHO ka phone aaya thha. Kya chal raha hai

Chaudhari?

Hathi Ram still quiet. Bhagat sighs and says in a kind voice -

DCP BHAGAT (CONT'D)

Virk insubordination ka charge laga raha hai tum pe. Already suspension mein ho, Chaudhari. Abhi koi nayi enquiry lagi toh naukri jaa sakti hai. Main kuchh nahi kar paaunga...

Hathi Ram finally speaks.

HATHI RAM

Sir, aadhi zindagi baap ki aankh mein ye dekha ki uska beta chutiya hai. Ab baaki ki zindagi bete ki aankh mein ye nahi dekh sakta ki uska baap chutiya hai.

He cuts the phone. And disappears in the dark lanes of Chitrakoot.

THE END.