

A woman with short dark hair, wearing a green sari with a white floral pattern and a blue blouse with white polka dots, is talking on a mobile phone. She has a concerned expression. The background is a living room with a ceiling fan and a window. Four speech bubbles are overlaid on the image, containing text from a conversation.

PRIETY, CAN YOU COME HOME EARLY?
I'M FEELING A BIT UNWELL

IT'S NOTHING, SERIOUS
HONEY, SOME SLIGHT
DIZZYNESS, THATS ALL

UNWELL? WHAT
HAPPENED? SHOULD I
CALL AN AMBULANCE?

WHERE IS AKSHAY? IS
HE SLEEPING?



NO, HE WENT OUT. BUT DON'T MIND HIM. IS IT POSSIBLE FOR YOU TO TAKE A HALF-DAY LEAVE?

JUST COME HOME OK. I'LL EXPLAIN. DON'T NEED TO OVERREACT ON SUCH A SMALL ISSUE!

HE WENT OUT?? PLEASE TELL ME HE WASN'T WEARING A SAREE!

OMG! HE WENT OUT IN A SAREE.. ISN'T HE! HOW COULD HE! I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS IS HAPPENING! I'LL TRY TO BE HOME WITHIN AN HOUR. TAKE A PARACETAMOL AND REST UNTIL THEN!



THIS IS ALL GOING A BIT TOO FAST

BUT I'M HAPPY THAT IT'S GOING IN THE WAY I WANTED!

NEVER THOUGHT MANIPULATING THEM WOULD BE SO EASY!

3 HOURS LATER




UFFF.. I'VE NEVER WALKED SO FAST IN MY LIFE! THANKFULLY, I MADE IT ON TIME!

I CAN'T BELIEVE I WENT OUT IN A FUCKING SAREE! PRIETY SHOULD NEVER FIND OUT ABOUT THIS!



MY ENTIRE BODY IS SORE!
THAT BITCH MADE ME DO A LOT
OF CHORES!

WHY IS IT TAKING SO LONG
FOR REKHA TO OPEN THE
FUCKING DOOR!



WHERE WERE YOU, ALL
THIS TIME, AKSHAY!??
YOU'VE BEEN GONE FOR 3+
HOURS!

PRIETY!! YOU..YOU ARE
BACK?? ALREADY!?

I..I WAS JUST GETTING SOME
FRESH AIR! NOTHING ELSE! WHY
ARE YOU BACK SO EARLY!?




MOM GOT DIZZY
SUDDENLY AND CALLED
ME IN A PANIC!

YEAH, SHE'S
FEELING BETTER. I
GAVE HER A FEW
TABLETS. SHE'S
RESTING NOW!

....
DIZZY? SHE WAS
ALRIGHT WHEN I LEFT!
SOMETHING ISN'T
RIGHT!

OMG! IS SHE ALRIGHT
NOW?



HMM.. SOUNDS GOOD, I'LL HELP YOU OUT WITH THE VEGETABLES

OHH.. OK.. I'LL BE WITH MOM THEN!

THEN! I'LL GO MAKE SOME DINNER FOR US!

OH, THAT'S ALRIGHT, I'VE ALREADY PREPARED ALL THAT BEFORE I LEFT!

I'LL LET YOU KNOW WHEN IT'S DONE!



I CAN'T EVEN GET MYSELF TO
CRY IN FRONT OF HIM!

I GAVE HIM ALL THE SPACE AND
FREEDOM TO BE HIMSELF! BUT HOW
CAN HE EXPECT ME TO TOLERATE
GOING OUT LIKE THAT!


AND THE WORST PART IS, HE
DOESN'T EVEN SEEM TO CARE. HE'S
ROAMING AROUND LIKE I'M THE ONE
MAKING HIM DO ALL THIS!!



SHITT!! SHE SAW ME! SHE SAW ME!! WHY DIDN'T SHE SAY ANYTHING!!

HOW CAN IT NOT BOTHER HER, ME GOING OUT LIKE THIS!

AT LEAST FROM HER EXPRESSION, I CAN SEE THAT HER MOM HADN'T TOLD HER ANYTHING. SHE WOULD KILL ME IF SHE FOUND OUT!



TO MAKE IT WORSE, I'VE
ACTUALLY GOT FUCKING PAID FOR
CLEANING A HOUSE!

DOES THIS MAKE ME A REAL
MAID? GOD!! I GOT PAID LIKE
ANY USUAL HOUSEMAID!


I'D BETTER START MAKING DINNER.
IF I START TO THINK ABOUT THIS, THE
WHOLE NIGHT WOULD PASS!

A FEW DAYS LATER, CHARULATHA
CAME BACK TO REKHA'S HOUSE.


THEY HAD A LOT OF CATCHING UP TO
DO. STORIES WENT ON FOR HOURS

AKSHAY'S LIFE GOT STUCK BETWEEN
THEM LIKE A BROKEN KITE





AKSHAYA, YOU DID A
FANTASTIC JOB A FEW DAYS
BACK. DO YOU MIND
HELPING ME OUT NOW AND
THEN?



NO WAY!! WHAT THE F IS
WRONG WITH ME! I'M NOT A
FUCKING MAID! I'M JUST
GONNA SAY NO

SAY NO, SAY NO! BUT
WHAT IF SHE FINDS OUT MY
TRUE IDENTITY! I WILL BE A
HUGE EMBARRASSMENT FOR
PRIETY!

AGAIN??

YES, EVERY TIME I NEEDED
EXTRA HELP. THE WORK WILL
BE THE SAME AS THE LAST
TIME!



SAY SOMETHING ALREADY,
REKHA! THIS IS ALL YOUR
FAULT!

TELL YOUR FRIEND THAT YOU
WON'T SEND ME TO HER
HOUSE! WHY ARE YOU ACTING
LIKE NOTHING'S HAPPENING!

NO MATTER HOW LONG YOU
STARE AT ME! YOU WON'T GET ANY
HELP FROM ME!





AKSHAY'S FAITH IN REKHA IS COMPLETELY GONE!

WITHOUT REKHA'S HELP, AKSHAY WAS FORCED TO SAY YES TO WORK AT CHARULATHA'S HOUSE AS A MAID

TWO DAYS LATER, CHARU CALLED FOR AKSHAY. THIS WILL BE HIS SECOND TIME WORKING AS A MAID FOR MONEY

*AS CHARU'S CALL BECAME
FREQUENT, AKSHAY ONCE AGAIN
STARTED GIVING LIFE TO AKSHAYA
EVERY NOW AND THEN*





AND THANKFULLY, HE WAS ABLE TO KEEP THIS ARRANGEMENT A SECRET FROM HIS WIFE.

IN THE PAST 2 WEEKS, HE'S EARNED ABOUT 4000 INR WORKING AS A MAID, WHICH HE WOULD'VE MADE IN 2 DAYS WORKING IN HIS PREVIOUS IT JOB!

HE MANAGED HIS TIMING QUITE WELL TO KEEP HIS MAID JOB SEPARATE FROM HIS ACTUAL LIFE!

PRIETY DID NOT SUSPECT ANYTHING AND THEIR LOVE LIFE WENT AS SMOOTHLY AND ADVENTUROUSLY AS EVER.



UNTIL ONE WEEKEND

I'LL TAKE IT FROM HERE,
AKSHAY. WHY DON'T YOU WATCH A
MOVIE AND RELAX A BIT!

JUST 2 MORE
PLATES LEFT,
AUNTY! I FINISH
WITH THIS!





COME ON.. WHERE ARE YOU GOING! THE MOVIE IS ABOUT TO START!

HOW ABOUT I TAKE A LOONG HOT SHOWER FIRST, AND WE'LL WATCH A SPECIAL MOVIE IN OUR BEDROOM!?

OOOHH.. I LIKE WHERE THIS IS GOING! ENJOY YOUR LOOONG SHOWER! HAHA! I'LL TRY TO JOIN IN A FEW MINUTES!

5 MINTUES LATER

WHO IS THIS RINGING THE DOORBELL! THIS EARLY ON A SUNDAY!?

DOOR BELL


HOLD ON!!... I'M COMING!





OMG!! FINALLY!!

MY FAVOURITE CHARU
AUNTY!!!

A woman with dark hair pulled back, wearing a long-sleeved top with a pink-to-orange gradient and a dark skirt, stands in a hallway. She has a neutral expression. Three speech bubbles are overlaid on the image. The top-left bubble is connected to her by a line. The bottom-left bubble is also connected to her by a line. The right bubble is not connected to her.

WOW.. HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN? 8 YEARS? 9? LOOK HOW MUCH YOU'VE GROWN! SO HAPPY TO SEE YOU AFTER A VERY LONG TIME, DEAR!


WELL, YOU WERE WORKING ALL WEEKDAYS, AND DURING THE WEEKENDS I HAD TO GO SEE MY RELATIVES.

MOM SAID, " YOU HAVE VISITED HERE TWICE AND LEFT WITHOUT SEEING ME!!




THERE'S A SMALL RENOVATION GOING ON IN MY HOUSE, SO THANKFULLY, THIS WEEKEND I FINALLY FOUND THE TIME TO COME HERE TO MEET MY ALL-TIME FAVOURITE NEIGHBOUR KID!

YOU LOOK AMAZING IN A MODERN OUTFIT! WE HAVE A LOT TO TALK ABOUT!!



OH, THEY ARE DOING
WONDERFULLY. HE GOT A
PROMOTION, AND THEY
BOUGHT A NEW HOUSE
THERE.

HOW'S PRATAB AND
ANANYA?



SO, HOW'S YOUR WORK? YOUR MOM IS ALWAYS CURSING YOUR BOSS FOR GIVING YOU A LOT OF WORK! WHERE IS SHE, BY THE WAY!?

YEAH, THE WORK IS A BIT TIRING BUT MANAGEABLE! THE LAST I SAW, SHE WAS IN THE KITCHEN. MAYBE SHE'S RESTING IN THE BEDROOM!

LET HER REST.. I DON'T WANT TO BOTHER HER! I'M JUST GLAD YOU ARE BACK! SHE SUFFERED A LOT WHEN YOU LEFT HER FOR A BOY!



SPEAKING OF WHICH! HOW IS YOUR HUSBAND? YOU, MOM, TOLD ME HE'S CURRENTLY WORKING SOMEWHERE ABROAD

WHERE IS HE EXACTLY?



SHIT! I WAS SO HAPPY THAT I
TOTALLY FORGOT ABOUT MY HUSBAND!

IT'S BETTER TO FOLLOW THE STORY
MY MOM MADE UP!

OH YEAH, HE WAS ABROAD, BUT
NOT ANYMORE. HE'S CURRENTLY IN
HYDERABAD. WILL BE VISITING HERE
SOON! I JUST DON'T KNOW WHEN!

THAT'S WONDERFUL, I CAN'T WAIT TO
MEET HIM IN PERSON!



AND ONE MORE THING. WHERE IS YOUR MAID? IS SHE IN THE KITCHEN?

THE RENOVATION HAS LEFT THE HOUSE A BIT DUSTY. I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE HER BACK WITH ME

SHE'S BEEN VERY HELPFUL THE LAST FEW DAYS. CAN YOU PLEASE TELL HER THAT I'M HAPPY TO PAY A FULL DAY'S WAGE

A woman with dark hair in a bun, wearing a teal tank top with white stars, is shown in profile on the right side of the image. She is looking towards a living room on the left. The living room features a blue sofa, a wooden coffee table with a plant, and a wooden chair. A white speech bubble with a black outline is positioned in the center, containing the text "MAID? BUT WE DON'T HAVE A..!".

MAID? BUT WE DON'T HAVE A.. !

A woman wearing a teal saree with a gold border and a white turban is standing in a living room. She has a bindi on her forehead and is wearing white bangles on both wrists. She is looking towards the right. In the background, there is a blue sofa with cushions, a wooden coffee table, and a ceiling fan. A speech bubble is positioned to her left.

THERE YOU ARE!!

A close-up view of a woman's head and shoulders, seen from the back. Her hair is dark and pulled back into a bun. She is looking towards the left. A speech bubble is positioned above her.

HEY YOU SAID YOU'LL JOIN..



MADAM?

.....
OH SHIT..NOO!!

MADAM??