

AKSHAY SEEMS TO  
BE HAVING A MENTAL  
BREAKDOWN!

I WAS  
STUPID ENOUGH TO GIVE  
HIM SUCH A HUGE SHOCKING  
NEWS WITHOUT ANY  
PREPARATIONS

I  
DON'T HAVE MUCH  
TIME, I HAVE TO THINK OF A  
SOLUTION BEFORE HE TURNS  
OUR LIVES UPSIDE  
DOWN!

I FEEL SORRY  
FOR HIM TOO.. MY STUPID  
DAUGHTER IS PUSHING HIM  
TOO HARD INTO THIS MAID  
ROLE!



I STILL HAVE SOME CONFIDENCE THAT MY PLAN WILL WORK. I JUST HAVE TO MAKE SURE VARSHA DOESN'T RUIN IT!

SERIOUSLY, WHAT WAS SHE THINKING, ASKING HIM TO SWEEP THE FLOOR?

MAA!

A woman with grey hair, wearing a blue and gold patterned saree, is shown in profile in a kitchen. She is looking towards the left. The kitchen background includes a white wall with a calendar, a vase with flowers, a large orange water dispenser, and a countertop with a gas stove and a sink. Three speech bubbles are overlaid on the image, containing text.

YEAH GOOD! NOW YOU  
SHOW UP!

WHERE WERE  
YOU, VARSHA? I'VE  
BEEN WAITING HERE  
FOR SO LONG!


AND WHAT'S WITH ALL  
THE SW...

MAA, WE CAN TALK  
ABOUT THAT LATER.  
SOMETHING'S WRONG WITH  
AKSHAYA!

A woman with short dark hair, wearing a purple long-sleeved top and light blue jeans, stands in a doorway. She is looking towards the camera. The floor is covered with a yellow and white patterned rug. The background shows a living room with a wooden frame and a painting. Two speech bubbles are overlaid on the image, one above the other, both pointing towards the woman. The top speech bubble contains the text "YOU NEED TO COME AND SEE HER!". The bottom speech bubble contains the text "JUST GET IN HERE FIRST AND TELL ME WHAT YOU SAW".

YOU NEED TO COME  
AND SEE HER!

JUST GET  
IN HERE FIRST AND  
TELL ME WHAT YOU  
SAW




I SAW HIM CRYING, MAA, IT WAS DISTURBING TO SEE HIM CRY. DID YOU SAY ANYTHING TO HIM? I MEAN.. HER?

OH, NOW YOU BLAME EVERYTHING ON ME!?! DID IT EVER OCCUR TO YOU THAT HE'S NOT A REAL MAID?

MAA, I KNOW WHAT I DID, AND I'M NOT BLAMING YOU FOR ANYTHING. I THOUGHT MAKING HER DO A FEW THINGS COULD HELP HER WITH THE DISGUISE!

TOO BAD.. YOU WENT TOO FAR, TOO SOON!.. NOW LISTEN CAREFULLY, THE LOCKDOWN HAS BEEN EXTENDED FOR A FEW MONTHS AND NOT SURE FOR HOW LONG!

A FEW MONTHS!! ??



YES, SO WE  
NEED TO HANDLE AKSHAY  
CAREFULLY IF YOU DO NOT  
WANT TO SCREW UP YOUR  
MARRIAGE. HE'S ON THE VERGE  
OF A BREAKDOWN RIGHT  
NOW!

I'M SORRY, MAA, I  
DID NOT THINK THIS  
THROUGH. I PROMISE I  
WON'T MAKE HER DO ANY  
WORK HEREAFTER!

THAT'S NOT WHAT WE WANT  
EITHER. YOU JUST CANNOT PUSH IT,  
HE HAS TO DO IT WILLINGLY!

SO, WHAT IS YOUR PLAN  
NOW? HOW ARE YOU GOING TO  
MAKE HER STOP CRYING?

I DON'T KNOW YET. BUT MY  
INSTINCT SAYS HE WILL GET OVER  
IT HIMSELF. WE JUST NEED TO  
WAIT




I ACTUALLY SAW HER CRYING AND TALKING SOMETHING TO THE MIRROR.. THAT'S A GOOD THING, RIGHT!?

DO YOU HAVE ANY MORE OF SUCH MAGICAL ITEMS WITH YOU THAT CAN CHANGE HER EVEN MORE INTO A MAID, SO WE WON'T HAVE ANY PROBLEM!?

AFTER ALL, THE MAGICAL EARRINGS THAT YOU GAVE HER SEEM TO BE WORKING REALLY WELL!

A woman with grey hair, wearing a blue and gold patterned sari and a bindi, is in a kitchen. She has a secretive expression, with her hand near her mouth as if to silence someone. The kitchen background includes a sink, a dish rack with white plates, and various kitchen utensils hanging on the wall. The text 'SHUSHH!' is overlaid in a stylized, orange and yellow font.

**SHUSHH!**

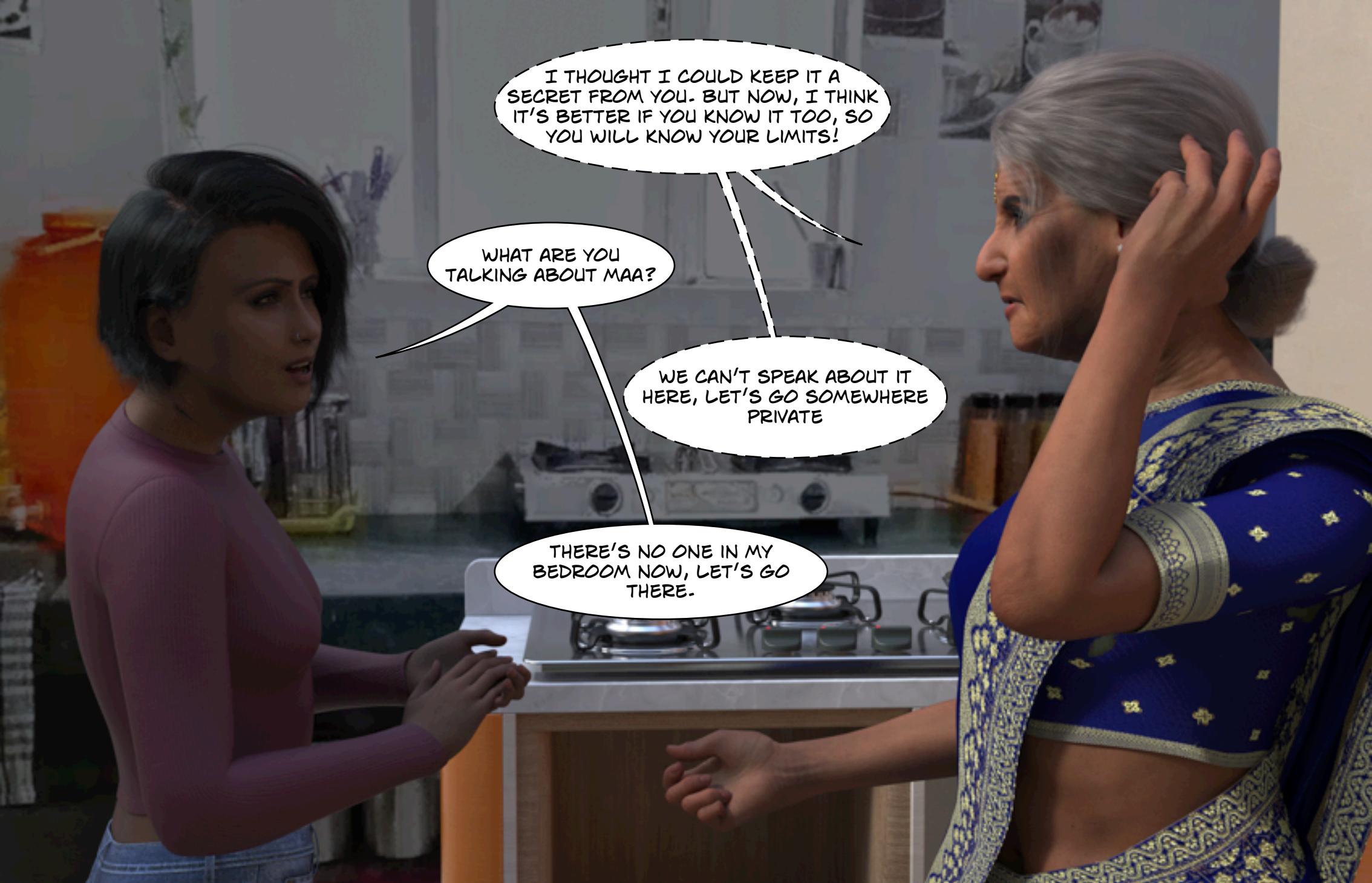


I ASKED YOU NOT TO TALK ABOUT THE EARRINGS AGAIN! DON'T YOU HAVE ANY RESPECT FOR MY WORDS?

THAT GOD. NO ONE ACCIDENTALLY WALKED IN HERE. YOU COULD'VE JUST RUINED OUR WHOLE DRAMA!

DO NOT EVER TALK ABOUT THAT! UNDERSTAND!?

MAA, I JUST ASKED A SIMPLE QUESTION. ARE YOU HIDING SOMETHING FROM ME!?



I THOUGHT I COULD KEEP IT A SECRET FROM YOU. BUT NOW, I THINK IT'S BETTER IF YOU KNOW IT TOO, SO YOU WILL KNOW YOUR LIMITS!


WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT MAA?

WE CAN'T SPEAK ABOUT IT HERE, LET'S GO SOMEWHERE PRIVATE

THERE'S NO ONE IN MY BEDROOM NOW, LET'S GO THERE.

OFF TO VARSHA'S  
BEDROOM





OK.. WHAT IS IT? WHAT ARE YOU HIDING FROM ME THAT'S SO IMPORTANT!?

YEAH, WHAT ABOUT IT!?

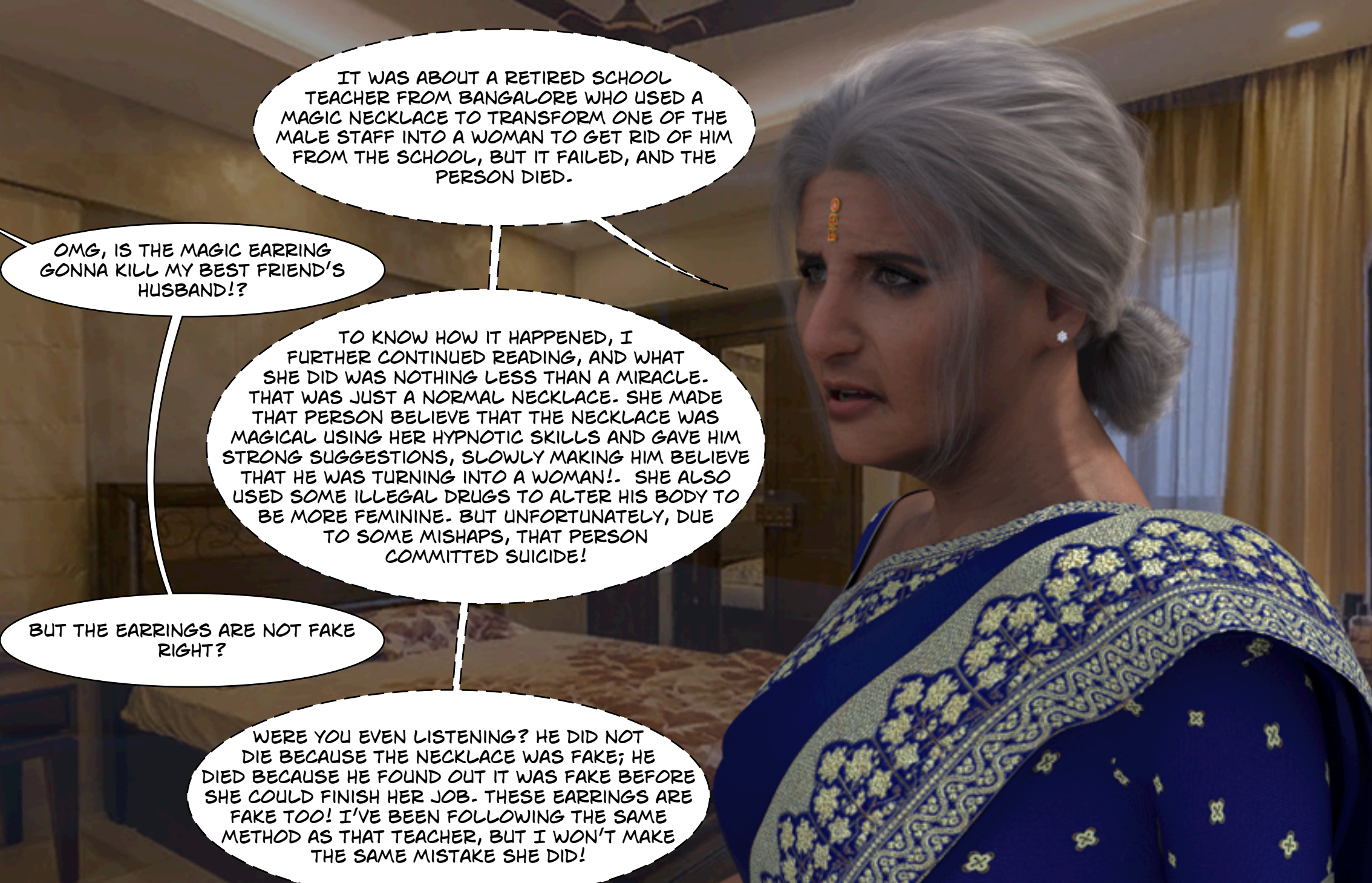
SO?

MAA, CAN YOU PLEASE STOP BEATING AROUND THE BUSH! JUST SAY IT ALREADY!

YOU KNOW HOW MUCH I LIKE TO READ CRIME NEWS ARTICLES, RIGHT?

I READ A VERY INTERESTING ARTICLE A FEW YEARS BACK.

ACTUALLY, EVERYTHING THAT'S HAPPENING TO AKSHAY RIGHT NOW IS CLOSELY RELATED TO THAT ONE PARTICULAR NEWS ARTICLE.




IT WAS ABOUT A RETIRED SCHOOL  
TEACHER FROM BANGALORE WHO USED A  
MAGIC NECKLACE TO TRANSFORM ONE OF THE  
MALE STAFF INTO A WOMAN TO GET RID OF HIM  
FROM THE SCHOOL, BUT IT FAILED, AND THE  
PERSON DIED.

OMG, IS THE MAGIC EARRING  
GONNA KILL MY BEST FRIEND'S  
HUSBAND!?

TO KNOW HOW IT HAPPENED, I  
FURTHER CONTINUED READING, AND WHAT  
SHE DID WAS NOTHING LESS THAN A MIRACLE.  
THAT WAS JUST A NORMAL NECKLACE. SHE MADE  
THAT PERSON BELIEVE THAT THE NECKLACE WAS  
MAGICAL USING HER HYPNOTIC SKILLS AND GAVE HIM  
STRONG SUGGESTIONS, SLOWLY MAKING HIM BELIEVE  
THAT HE WAS TURNING INTO A WOMAN!. SHE ALSO  
USED SOME ILLEGAL DRUGS TO ALTER HIS BODY TO  
BE MORE FEMININE. BUT UNFORTUNATELY, DUE  
TO SOME MISHAPS, THAT PERSON  
COMMITTED SUICIDE!

BUT THE EARRINGS ARE NOT FAKE  
RIGHT?

WERE YOU EVEN LISTENING? HE DID NOT  
DIE BECAUSE THE NECKLACE WAS FAKE; HE  
DIED BECAUSE HE FOUND OUT IT WAS FAKE BEFORE  
SHE COULD FINISH HER JOB. THESE EARRINGS ARE  
FAKE TOO! I'VE BEEN FOLLOWING THE SAME  
METHOD AS THAT TEACHER, BUT I WON'T MAKE  
THE SAME MISTAKE SHE DID!



IT'S.. IT-S FAKE!??? MAA, WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? THE MAGIC WAS A LIE!?

I HAD NO OTHER CHOICE, VARSHA. I HAD TO COME UP WITH THIS TO SAVE YOUR MARRIAGE AND TO CONVINCE AKSHAY!

BUT WHAT IF HE FINDS IT OUT!?

THAT IS THE ONLY PROBLEM WE HAVE. NO MATTER WHAT, WE CANNOT LET HIM KNOW THE TRUTH ABOUT THOSE EARRINGS, AS LONG AS HE THINKS IT HAS MAGICAL PROPERTIES, WE DON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO WORRY ABOUT!

AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, YOU CANNOT MAKE HIM DO ANYTHING THAT HE SHOWS RESISTANCE TO. THERE ARE CERTAIN WAYS TO MAKE HIM COMPLY VOLUNTARILY. SO, FOR NOW, JUST FOLLOW MY INSTRUCTIONS!

OF COURSE, WE ARE NOT GOING TO DRUG HIM OR ANYTHING; WE ARE JUST GOING TO SUPPRESS HIS MASCULINE SIDE UNTIL THE LOCKDOWN IS OVER, AND HE MAKE HIM WILLINGLY DO THAT!

MY MIND IS ABOUT TO EXPLODE!

A woman with dark hair, wearing a purple long-sleeved top, is shown in a bedroom. She has a thoughtful expression, with her hand near her face. The room features a bed with a patterned coverlet, a window with curtains, and a doorway in the background.


I THINK YOU SHOULD'VE  
JUST KEPT IT A SECRET! IT ALL  
FEELS SO WEIRD AFTER KNOWING  
ALL THESE!

I DON'T UNDERSTAND! HOW ALL  
THIS HAPPENED WITH JUST SOME  
SUGGESTIONS!

IT WASN'T MERE SUGGESTIONS!  
HE WOULDN'T HAVE AGREED IF IT  
WEREN'T THE RIGHT SITUATION. HIS  
GOODWILL TO SAVE YOUR MARRIAGE IS  
THE KEY HERE.

THE EARRINGS ARE THE SAFE  
THAT HAS THE KEY. WE CANNOT LET  
ANYTHING HAPPEN TO THE SAFE. WE ARE  
JUST MAKING HIM BELIEVE THAT HE HAS  
THE KEY

HE SHOULD BELIEVE THAT ONLY HE CAN  
SAVE YOUR MARRIAGE FROM FALLING  
APART.



I'M SCARED, MAA, ALL THESE LOOK TOO FAR-FETCHED, DON'T YOU THINK?

IT IS DEAR. BUT IT'S TOO LATE TO CALL IT OFF NOW

WE JUST HAVE TO FOLLOW THE TEACHER'S RULE BOOK.

WILL SHE BE ABLE TO BECOME A HE AGAIN?

OH, DON'T WORRY, ALL WE HAVE TO DO AT THE END IS LET HIM KNOW ABOUT THE EARRINGS BEFORE HE LEAVES. HE MIGHT RETAIN SOME FEMININE CHARACTERISTICS, BUT THOSE WILL GO AWAY OVER TIME WHEN HE GETS BACK TO BEING A MAN AGAIN!

THAT IS ALL IT TAKES!?

YES, SO DON'T WORRY, YOUR FRIEND'S HUSBAND WILL BE BACK!




**MA  
A JI? VARSHA  
DIDI? ANYONE IN  
THERE?**

**COULD SHE HAVE  
HEARD US?**

**NO.. NOW DON'T  
OVERTHINK EVERYTHING..!**


**EVERYTHING WILL  
GET BACK TO NORMAL  
ONCE THE LOCKDOWN IS  
OVER!**

**WE JUST HAVE TO  
MAINTAIN THE ACT TILL  
THEN!**




YOU STAY RIGHT HERE AND SEE  
HOW I HANDLE THE SITUATION. AND  
NOT A SINGLE WORD ABOUT THIS  
EVER AGAIN...!

YES MAA, I  
PROMISE!



GOSH! I NEVER  
THOUGHT MY MOM WAS  
THIS GENIUS AND  
MANIPULATIVE!

THANK  
GOD SHE HAS GOOD  
INTENTIONS, OTHERWISE  
SHE WOULD'VE ENDED UP  
IN A CRIME MAGAZINE  
TOO!



I'M SORRY, AKSHAY. IT'S ALL MY FAULT! UNFORTUNATELY, I DRAGGED YOU INTO THIS MESS! PLEASE FORGIVE ME!

MAA JI, I'M THE ONE WHO SHOULD ASK FOR YOUR FORGIVENESS. I DON'T KNOW I BEHAVED LIKE THAT!



YOU SHELTERED ME IN THIS VERY CRITICAL TIME AND SAVED MY LIFE. BUT INSTEAD OF BEING THANKFUL, I WAS BEING SELFISH!

AND YOU DID NOT FORCE ME INTO ANYTHING, MAA JI, IT-- IT WAS JUST THE WRONG PLACE AT THE WRONG TIME, SO PLEASE DON'T BLAME IT ON YOURSELF!

BUT STILL, IT'S NOT OK FOR VARSHA TO ASK YOU TO DO ALL THAT WORK IN THE KITCHEN. I JUST HAD A WORD WITH HER. SHE PROMISED SHE WOULDN'T DO THAT AGAIN!



OMG! IT SEEMS LIKE SHE  
CONFRONTED VARSHA AFTER I  
LASHED OUT AT HER! HOW WILL I  
EVER FACE VARSHA AGAIN!?

SHE'S JUST OVERCAREFUL  
ABOUT HER MARRIAGE, WHICH IS  
PROBABLY WHY SHE IS REFERRING TO  
YOU WITH FEMALE PRONOUNS AS  
WELL.

I WILL ASK HER TO STOP ALL THAT  
NONSENSE AT ONCE, IF THAT MAKES YOU  
FEEL BETTER.

NO..NOO, MAA JI, I  
DON'T WANT HER TO TAKE ANY  
CHANCES. MAKES MORE SENSE THINKING  
ABOUT IT NOW, I WILL DO MY BEST IN THE  
FOLLOWING MONTHS TO PRETEND TO  
BE A PERFECT MAID!

AND THANKS TO YOUR  
EARRINGS, IT HAS HELPED ME  
CALM MY MIND!

I WON'T BE OF ANY  
TROUBLE HEREAFTER,  
MAA JI.

AWW.. IT'S OK BETA..

GOSH.. I CAN'T  
BELIEVE I'M  
CRYING!

I CAN'T JUST LET HER DO ALL THE WORK!

AH.. I WILL HELP YOU WITH THE DOUGH, MAA JI- JUST SHOW ME HOW TO DO IT ONCE. I'M A QUICK LEARNER, LOL

BUT MAA JI, I CAN'T JUST SIT IDLE. HOW ABOUT I WATCH YOU MAKE AND HELP YOU WITH THE VEGETABLES!?! PLEASE SAY YES FOR THAT!

COME, YOU MUST BE HUNGRY, I'LL MAKE YOU SOME YUMMY ROTIS AND MATTAR PANEER GRAVY. YOU HAVE TO FORGIVE ME IF IT TAKES SOME TIME THOUGH, MY HANDS ARE NOT AS STRONG AS BEFORE HAHA..

YEAH, I BET YOU ARE BETA! BUT IT TAKES SOME TIME TO LEARN THE CORRECT PROPORTIONS FOR THE DOUGH. HOW ABOUT YOU JUST WATCH AND LEARN THIS TIME?

UHMM! ALRIGHT.. JUST PROMISE ME YOU'LL BE CAREFUL WITH THE KNIFE!



**NEXT**

**PART**

**SOON**