

Screenplay

Where the rainbow meets the earth.

Registered at WGA East.

EXT. NEWYORK. USA. CRACK OF DAWN

Sun is rising behind the skyline of the New York City.

INT. APPARTMENT BEDROOM IN NY.USA-EARLY MORNING. Year 1999

MARRY ANN PHILIPS (28 yrs), single, blonde, naïve, U.S Citizen, lying on her bed asleep. Then the expressions on her face begins to change as if she is seeing something very pleasant in her dream and her lips curve a little into a faint smile.

EXT. SOMEWHERE - HILL TOP - MORNING.

(Dream starts).

Sound of giggling of children O.C

Marry's face fades into a scene where she is taking swings under a tall tree on a beautiful hill top, with a valley below. Then she lays back her head and almost lies down on the swing, closes her eyes softly, with smile on her face, as if she is free from all sorts of worries and care, and her long blonde hair starts brushing the lush green grass and wild flowers underneath. Then in the same posture she looks towards the sky and sees through the branches of the tree a pool blue sky and the sun partly covered with white cotton clouds.

EXT. SOMWHERE IN A MEADOW - MORNING.

(Dream continues...)

Sound of giggling of children O.C

Marry with a smile on her face is flying a kite with a long tail in a lush green pasture with tall grass swaying in wind under a pool blue sky with clouds floating around. Then the thread of the kite breaks and she starts running after it and falls down on the grassy ground and stays there laughing on the lush green grass surrounded by colorful wild flowers.

EXT. SOMEWHERE IN A DANDELION FIELD - MORNING.

(Dream continues...)

Sound of giggling of children O.C

Marry is blowing the blow balls of the Dandelion flowers and watching them fly away with wind with a huge worry free smile on her face, her long blonde hair flying in strong wind. Birds are chirping in the background on a bright sunny day again.

EXT. WILD FLOWERS PASTURE SOMEWHERE - MORNING.

(Dream continues...)

Sound of giggling of children O.C

Marry is collecting wild flowers and twigs, bright sunny day. Then she bends the twigs and fix flowers into it, making a flowery crown. Then she wears it and takes two twirls with eyes closed.

EXT. SOMEWHERE IN A LAKE - MORNING.

(Dream continues...)

Children giggling and calling Marry's name from a distance
O.C

Marry is rowing an oar boat in a lake surrounded by lush Green Mountain. Then she puts the oars down in the boat and lies down, close her eyes while resting her head on the edge of the boat with a worry free smile on her face, then she open her eyes and see sun partly covered with white clouds on a pool blue sky.

INT. APPARTMENT'S BEDROOM IN NEW YORK.USA - EARLY MORNING.

Marry's eyes pop open as her cell phone starts to ring and she turns toward the phone tries to pick it up from the side table and drops it on the floor below as it keeps on ringing. Then she tries to reach it while still lying on the bed and falls over on the floor herself and the phone stops ringing. She picks up the phone while sitting on the floor and it starts to ring again with the Nokia 3310 screen clearly showing MOM CALLING. She puts it in the silent mode, gets up and sits on the edge of the bed, holding her ruffled head with both hands, as her bedroom door swings open and her roommate AFSHEEN RIAZ, from Pakistan on a student visa (26 yrs), black hair, enters without a knock, holding her cell phone in front of her.

AFSHEEN (ROOMMATE)

Marry your mom is calling on my phone, why aren't you picking up?

Marry snatches the phone from Afsheen's hand, disconnects the call and gives it back to her, leaving Afsheen in a state of disbelief.

INT. APPARTMENT'S LIVING ROOM. NY. USA - LATER.

Marry sitting with Afsheen in the living room of the apartment with wet hair, wearing a bathing gown, munching a donut and holding a coffee mug in her hand.

AFSHEEN

So why were you not answering your mother's phone?

MARRY

Afsheen, I owe a lot of money to my mother, fifty five thousand dollars to be exact, and that is why I wasnot answering her calls, and if my mother calls again please tell her that she is not available, and she doesn't have any money to pay you either.

AFSHEEN

How you got into this loan in the first place?

MARRY

I always dreamt of starting my own boutique and one day I took leave of six months without pay from my school. I hired some professional tailors, procured expensive cloth on credit, rented an expensive shop and started my business.

AFSHEEN

And what happened then?

MARRY

I was an amateur at doing business therefore the liabilities of the business started to mount with no corresponding sales and I had to close the business within six months to cut down my losses, with a pile of unsold clothes, which I had to sell at a throw away prices.

AFHEEN

Oh my God!

MARRY

I had to pay the tailors, the vendors, the utility bills and the rent of the shop, therefore I borrowed fifty five thousand dollars from my mother with a promise to return the money in a months' time, and I knew myself that I would not be able to do so, but I needed the money badly, therefore I lied to her.

AFSHEEN

You lied to your own mother?

MARRY

I did, and my mother withdrew the amount from her pension fund, which was her only source of income and gave it to me. It is now over 2 years and I have not been able to pay back even a single penny to her that is why I avoid taking her calls.

AFSHEEN

Oh I am sorry to hear that, now I will not take her calls either.

MARRY

Thanks Afsheen you are a true friend and by the way I had the same dream last night.

AFSHEEN

Which dream?

MARRY

The same dream Afsheen, about that magical, enchanted place.

AFSHEEN

I am sorry I forgot about it, can you please tell me again?

MARRY

No idea where that place is, but it is so beautiful and when I am there in my dreams, all my worries simply melts away.

AFSHEEN

And for how long have you been watching this dream?

MARRY

For the last couple of years and it is on the repeat mode since then.

AFSHEEN

So you see the same identical dream almost every night?

MARRY

Yes Afsheen, as if this magical place is calling me and my destiny is to be there and not here.

AFSHEEN

(Laughs a little and shakes her head, as if disbelieving her story)

Marry you are a dreamer, aren't you? Hey did I tell you about this handsome boy who just got enrolled in my class?

MARRY

Yes you did and not even once.

AFSHEEN

But I am sure that I have not told you that we have exchanged numbers?

MARRY

That you never did must have happened quite recently.

AFSHEEN

Yes, and I am already in love with him.

Afsheen gets up and starts jumping up and down on a sofa in sheer excitement.

AFSHEEN continues...

I love him, I Love him.

Marry looks at her and shakes her head with a smile.

INT.SCHOOL CLASS ROOM NY USA - AFTERNOON

Marry teaching in the school when her cell phone beeps and she sees the message from Afsheen "Are you free after school for a cup of coffee at the Best Coffee Shop ☺, I need to share something with you urgently" Marry types yes 3 pm. Then she gets another text message from Afsheen "C u then babe☺."

INT.COFFEE SHOP NY USA - AFTERNOON.

Marry sitting in the coffee shop, eating French fries and sipping Coffee, looking at her cell phone when Afsheen walks in with a bag pack hanging on one side of her shoulder and with huge smile on her face. She comes and sits across the table with gleaming eyes.

AFSHEEN

Guess what?

MARRY

What?

AFSHEEN

Today he came and sat right beside me during the lecture. I tried hard to concentrate on the lecture but couldn't?

MARRY

Must be difficult, I guess.

AFSHEEN

Then he messaged me and I could feel my cell phone vibrate inside my bag but couldn't see the text message as the teacher was looking at me directly.

MARRY

How come were you so sure that he was the one messaging you?

AFSHEEN

He looked at me when he was typing and hiding his cell phone under the book.

MARRY

Oh, so how could you hold the urge of not reading his text messages there and then?

AFSHEEN

It was the hardest thing for me ever. I started wondering what he has written and lost all my concentration towards the lecture.

Then cell phone of Afsheen starts ringing and her eyes lit up when she sees the caller ID and gets up.

AFSHEEN (Continues...)

It's him; it's him.

Afsheen starts talking on the phone while pacing the aisle with a huge smile on her face and signaling to Marry by putting her right hand on her heart.

EXT. SAME COFFEE SHOP NY USA - AFTERNOON

Two men start to look at Afsheen through the window from outside the coffee shop and one waives at her. Both are menacing looking guys. AMIR RIAZ, (24 yrs) one with long hair and pierced ears, the other ZAHEER KHAN, (23 Yrs) with a cut on his face like a knife scar and both are holding black motorcycle helmets and wearing black jackets.

INT. SAME COFFEE SHOP NY USA - AFTERNOON

AFSHEEN

Afsheen notices them and covers the mouth piece of her cell phone with her hand and comes toward Marry and whispers to her while pointing her fingers toward the guys outside.

These two guys are from Pakistan and came to USA on the student visa but never attended any college; they are making tons of money. People tell me that they are engaged in some sort of drug dealing activities here, which is why I avoid them.

Marry looks at them from behind Afsheen as they enter the coffee shop. Afsheen meets them at the centre of the coffee

shop with cell phone still pinned to her ear and gestures to them that she is busy on the phone and goes outside the coffee shop leaving Marry alone. Both of the guys come towards Marry and put their hamlets on the table and sits down in front of her.

AMIR

(With a menacing smile on his face)

You must be Marry, roommate of Afsheen?

MARRY

Yes. How you know?

AMIR

Afsheen told us about you that she is sharing accommodation with an American Chick.

Zaheer takes a French fry out of her plate and starts to munch it, looking at her like a wolf eyeing his prey.

MARRY

(Feeling a little nervous)

Oh she did.

AMIR

And you are a school teacher, right?

MARRY

Yes. I am sure Afsheen told you that too.

(A nervous smile on her face)

ZAHEER

How much money you make from the school? I hope you do not mind me asking you that, as a pretty girl like you needs a lot of clothes, shoes and makeup?

MARRY

Well not much being a Montessori teacher you can say around two thousand dollars per month.

Both men laugh and look at each other with grins on their faces and they give high five to each other.

AMIR

We make two thousand bucks almost every single day. Now do not ask us how, unless you want to it yourself?

Marry looks outside the coffee shop and sees Afsheen still glued to her phone and walking around aimlessly.

ZAHEER

If you are interested in making that much money, then do let us know.

And hands her a visiting card with a smile, Marry takes the card and casually glances at it and sees that nothing is written on it except a cell number.

EXT. SAME COFFEE SHOP NY USA - AFTERNOON

Then they both walk out of the restaurant and meet Afsheen who was still on the phone and leave with a casual wave.

INT. SAME COFFEE SHOP NY USA - AFTERNOON

Marry still sipping Coffee and looking at the visiting card and then looks outside at Afsheen, who is still on the phone outside.

Then the phone of Marry's rings and she sees her mother calling puts the cell phone on silent mode and back into her bag.

In the meanwhile, Afsheen walks into the coffee shop and says with a huge smile on her face.

AFSHEEN

Guess what?

Marry immediately hides the visiting card into her handbag.

MARRY

What?

AFSHEEN

Afsheen putting her cell phone inside her backpack.

He asked me out and we are going to watch a movie tonight.

MARRY

Oh how wonderful, enjoy yourself.

AFSHEEN

I am so excited, I can hardly wait.

INT. APPARTMENT NY USA - NIGHT

Marry sitting on her bed wearing sleeping suit and reading an SMS from her mother. "I need my money back urgently and I am deeply regretting why I loaned the money to you in the first place. I am ashamed of you."

Marry reads the message and then deletes it. She then takes out the visiting card of the drug dealer from her bag and looks at it while going deep into thoughts. Then she sends him a text message

"Hi this is Marry, Afsheen's roommate, the one that you met today in the Best Coffee shop, listen I am ready and to work for you as long as I can make quick money."

She instantly gets the reply from that number.

"OK. Meet us tomorrow evening at 7 pm at Oak tree Café, Time square, and please come alone"

INT. OAK TREE CAFÉ NY USA - NIGHT

Marry sitting all alone in a Cafe and looking very nervous and glances onto her phone time and time again. Then the same drug dealers enters the coffee shop and sits right in front of her and orders three milk shakes as soon as the waitress arrives.

AMIR

Marry you are a smart girl; never miss an easy opportunity to make quick bucks.

MARRY

I am not sure whether it was my smartness or my financial condition? So what am I supposed to do to make quick money?

ZAHEER

You will be traveling to Pakistan. We will pay for your air travel in Business Class, and your stay in the most expensive five star hotels in their executive suite with Jacuzzi and your own personal swimming pool. We will give you one thousand dollars in advance and all you need to do is come back with our suitcase and as soon as you hand it over to us we will pay you the remaining amount of nine thousand dollars. Simple!

MARRY

Would it be something illegal in the suitcase?

AMIR

What is inside the suitcase is none of your business sweetheart! That is why we are paying you so much money.

ZAHEER

It would be as easy as a walk in the park. It is a paid vacations opportunity for you Missy.

AMIR

You will make five months salary in just three days. Isn't that wonderful?

ZAHEER

If it is that easy then why you do not do it yourself?

Both Drug Dealers laughs loudly, while looking at each other.

AMIR

(Leans toward Marry and lock eyes with her)

Marry have you ever travelled abroad?

MARRY

Yes, three four times.

ZAHEER

Have you ever been frisked or stripped and with all your items tossed out of your suitcase at any international airport or even at any other American Airport?

MARRY

Nope. I have never experienced that.

AMIR

That is our point! Just because you are an American citizen with supposedly zero criminal record therefore the chances of you being frisked

or your suit case being slit opened with a sharp knife are very remote Indeed.

ZAHEER

The last time I came to New York and landed at JFK, I was put in a different queue reserved only for Pakistani Passport holders. They asked me to strip and then even used a spot light on my rear end, laughing out loudly. The God damn dogs kept on sniffing and barking at my luggage and the custom officials tossed all my items on the ground, even my underwear. They even slit open my suitcase at many places with a sharp knife to check that nothing was concealed under the Racine. It took me a good 15 hours after landing to come out of the JFK Airport.

MARRY

I know that the custom authorities are sometimes too suspicious about certain passport holders.

The conversation goes quite for a while as the waitress approached the table with three large milk shake glasses and the talk gets resumed after the waitress leave.

AMIR

So if you are a good looking blonde girl, holding an American passport with no criminal record as such, then you can just zoom through all custom checkpoints virtually unchecked at any airport of the world. Mark my words.

MARRY

Whatever you said makes a lot of sense to me, when am I supposed to leave for Pakistan?

ZAHEER

(While taking a long sip of the milk shake)

We will let you know and please remember not to share the details of this meeting with anyone else, especially with that roommate of yours, Afsheen, as she also wanted to do this trip herself, but we refused, as she is from our country.

AMIR

So you better stay as silent as a graveyard, sweetheart.

MARRY

(Takes a sip from the milk shake glass)

Sure I will wait for your call.

Both guys get up and asked the waitress for the bill, she puts the bill on the table.

WAITRESS

That would be nine Bucks.

Amir takes out a fat roll of one hundred dollar bills from his pocket and puts a one hundred dollar note on the plate and asks the waitress to keep the change. The waitress

becomes overjoyed with a ninety one dollar tip and Marry gets astonished by looking at so much money in cash.

INT. MARRY ANNE BEDROOM NY USA - NIGHT

Marry sitting on the bed in a dim light and only her silhouette is visible and then she gets off the bed and sits on the floor with her back against the wall.

MARRY (V.O)

Marry are you sure that you want to get involved in this shady business? What if you do not do it? Or should you do it once and see if it is easy then perhaps you can do it two three or four more times and get rid of this loan? What if you get caught at the Airport? I am not sure what should I do, I am just not sure.

INT. MARRY'S SCHOOL NY USA -MORNING.

Marry filling out the leave application form in the school for 7 days. A female colleague, REBECCA WILLIAMS, 27 Yrs, walks in and looks at her filling a leave application form.

REBECCA

Are you going on leaves?

MARRY

Yes, I am going for seven days.

REBECCA

(Smiles a little)

So, what is your plan for these seven days, going to Alaska for Salmon fishing?

MARRY

Nope I am going to nurse my sick mother.

REBECCA

Oh, I am sorry; I did not know that your mother is unwell. I hope she gets better soon.

MARRY

Thank you and do pray for her health.

REBECCA

I definitely will.

Marry gets a text message and opens it and sees that it was from the Amir and she reads it "Meet me at the parking lot of the Brooklyn Bridge Park at 7 pm tonight and come alone"

EXT. BROOKLYN BRIDGE PARK NY USA - NIGHT-

Marry sitting all alone on the park bench looking very nervous and then she sees a sports motor bike approaching her and a man wearing a black helmet and black jacket and long boots sitting on it. Amir comes near her and lifts the visor of his helmet up so that she can see his face and gives her an envelope, then puts his visor down and leaves.

Marry walks back and sits on the same bench and opens the envelope with trembling hands and sees return ticket of the airline and one thousand dollars in cash. She hurriedly puts everything into her purse and then looks here and

there nervously and then walks off toward the exit of the park as quickly as she could.

EXT. JFK AIRPORT NY USA - MID NIGHT

Marry going through JFK airport in NY, USA looking very nervous as she is moving from counter to counter and finally, she gets the boarding card and goes to the boarding lounge to wait for her flight to take off. She has a very worried look in her eyes as she is sitting there surrounded by Pakistani travelers and the kids running around playing catch me if you can.

INT. INSIDE THE AIR CRAFT JFK NY - MID NIGHT

Marry is directed toward her seat by an air stewardess. She finds her seat and puts her back pack on the over head luggage storage unit and sits on her seat. An old Pakistani man, BASHIR AHMED, 60 Years with white beard, is sitting on the seat right next to her and tries to be friendly with her.

BASHIR (PASSENGER)

Hello, my name is Bashir.

MARRY

I am Marry

BASHIR

Is this the first time you are travelling to Pakistan?

MARRY

Yes!

BASHIR

With what purpose? Tourism?

MARRY

Yes!

Marry then puts the sleeping goggle on her eyes to pretend that she is going to sleep to avoid further conversation with the old man. But she could not sleep even for one second because of tension and kept peering out from under her goggles. As she does not want to indulge herself in a conversation with the old man, so after a while she put on her headphones and starts to watch a movie.

EXT. ISLAMABAD INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, PAKISTAN - AFTERNOON

Marry's plane lands on Islamabad International Airport and she starts to disembark from the aircraft with other passengers.

INT. IMMIGRATION COUNTER ISB PAKISTAN - AFTERNOON

Marry standing in the queue of immigration counter and then her turn comes and she places her passport and her return ticket at the counter in front of the officer.

IMMIGRATION OFFICER

So, what is your purpose of visiting Pakistan?

MARRY

I have come to Pakistan to attend the marriage ceremony of a Pakistani Friend.

IMMIGRATION OFFICER

What is the total duration of your stay in Pakistan?

MARRY

Three days

IMMIGRATION OFFICER

(While looking at her return ticket)

Where would you be staying here?

MARRY

At the same friend's house who is getting married.

IMMIGRATION OFFICER

Immigration officer stamps her passport and returns it with a smile.

Enjoy your stay and wedding in Pakistan.

MARRY

Thank you

Marry puts her passport and return ticket back into her bag pack and heads toward the exit of the Airport.

EXT. EXIT OF THE AIRPORT - LATER

Marry coming out of the airport with her bag pack where she sees a lot of people waiting for their passengers and then she notices a guy, Arbab Khan, 45 yrs with long hair, unshaven face and dark glasses holding a poorly hand written paper toward the crowd of incoming passengers. Her name was spelled as "Meree Anee from Umreeca"

Since Marry was the only blonde single female coming out of the airport therefore she immediately catches the attention of her pick up guy. He waved at her and when she comes near her.

ARBAB

Are you Meree Unne from Umreeca?

MARRY

Yes.

ARBAB

I pick you then.

EXT. PARKING LOT OF THE AIRPORT, ISLAMABAD - LATER

Marry is whisked through horde of cab drivers asking if she needs a cab. Then Marry is asked to sit on the backseat of dirty vehicle, foot mats were covered with cigarette butts and the whole vehicle smelled like a dirty ash tray. A driver wearing a shalwar qameez smoking cigarette was already sitting on the front seat. They immediately put detachable black shades on the windows of the car and rolled up the windows looking very nervous and, in a hurry, to leave the airport.

Marry also notices the grip of a handgun tucked between the seat and the hand brake of the vehicle, which makes her even more nervous and scared. Marry keeps on peeping outside through the mesh of the shades while the vehicle goes out of the Airport compound.

EXT. CAB ON THE ROAD RAWALPINDI PAKISTAN - AFTERNOON

The cab goes into a real crowded area of the city with bumpy roads and then the cab stops in front of a sub-standard hotel. Arbab opens the door and asks her to come out and took her inside.

INT. HOTEL RAWALPINDI PAKISTAN - AFTERNOON

Marry comes inside the hotel, where she sees four Nigerian guys sitting in the lobby smoking cigarettes and all of them instantly looks at her as soon as she enters and goes toward the reception counter. One of the guys waives at Arbab and Arbab waves back at him and then the Nigerian guy points toward Marry and Arbab winks back at them with an evil grin on his face.

HOTEL RECEPTIONIST

Passport!

Marry hands him her passport and the receptionist enter her details and gives her passport back and then hands her a key of the room.

INT. HOTEL STAIRCASE PAKISTAN - AFTERNOON

Marry is ushered by Arbab to the second floor of the hotel using staircase to her room, she looks at the key chain and 22 number is written on it. Marry stops in front of a room with 22 written on the door with a black marker. She inserts the key and the lock opens.

INT. HOTEL ROOM PAKISTAN - AFTERNOON

As soon as Marry enters the room Arbab also enters and locks the door from inside.

ARBAB

You no go outside the room. OK?

MARRY

OK.

ARBAB

Give passport and ticket.

Marry takes out her passport and air ticket from her back pack and hands them to him and he opens the lock of the room and leaves.

Marry puts her bag pack on the sofa and collapses on the bed and closes her eye. Then she opens her eyes see a ceiling fan covered with the feces of the flies. A big fat Lizard looking at her from the ceiling and then it vanishes behind the curtains. Marry then opens the door to the washroom and was taken aback with the stink. The flush is stained and filthy and so is the sink. Marry opens the tap and discovers that there is no running water and only a bucket with a broken handle is there half filled with water. A dirty towel is hanging on a nail head on the wall and a broken towel stands with no rod only grip is looking at her.

Then she gazes upon a small ventilation shaft near the ceiling fully obscure by the cob webs. A pile of used tissue papers stacked under the sink. The flies are buzzing around and trying to sit on her sweat covered face, which she quickly fans away. She hastily splashes some water on her face from the bucket and come out of the bathroom and screams as a rat scurries past her feet and hides under the bed. Then she opens the wardrobe and discovers that the shelves are covered with pale old newspaper and a couple of dead cockroaches are lying there upside down. She then turns on all light switches, discovering that there is no electricity. She then picks up the menu card lying on the table and sits on the bed and starts to fan her.

Then she goes toward the window and peeps outside and sees a crowded street with noisy Rickshaws and motorbikes. Vendors of fruit, vegetables, children garments and shoes sitting on the road side with their items displayed on sheets in front of them. Dense overhead utility cables stretched across the streets all tangled up and some torn kites fluttering on them. Then she notices that a couple of menacing guys are looking at her from the street as if making sure that she does not escapes from her hotel's room. Then the fan of the room starts rotating with a strange noise announcing that the power is restored. Then starts the call for prayers "Allah O Akbar, Allah O Akbar (God is the Greatest) and she comes back and sits on the bed while holding her bowed head in her hands, wondering what has she done?

INT. HOTEL ROOM PAKISTAN - EVENING

Marry is sitting on the bed and behind her is an open window showing darkness. She picks up the hotel's phone and dials the reception and a guy answers.

RECEPTION GUY

Yes.

MARRY

I want to order some food.

RECEPTION GUY

We have Rice only.

MARRY

Can you please send me one plate with a cold drink?

RECEPTION GUY

Ok

After 15 minutes there is a knock at the door and Marry opens and sees the same Reception guy holding a large tray with a plate of rice and a Pepsi. She takes the tray and quickly locks her room again. She puts the plate and the bottle on the table and puts the tray aside. She then sits on the chair and starts to eat. After finishing she puts the plate and the empty bottle of Pepsi onto the tray and opens the door to put the tray out on the carpet and notices a menacing guy looking at her from the corner of the corridor. She quickly comes back and locks her door from inside.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - PAKISTAN - MIDNIGHT

Marry in her sleeping suit is tossing and turning on the bed and clapping her hands to kill the mosquitoes hovering on top of her. Then she gets up and starts to look outside in the street. Besides a flickering yellow streetlight, the rest of the street was quite dark. Then a man lights up a cigarette in a car park right across the street signaling to her that she is being watched even at night. She comes back and again lies on the bed and tries to go to sleep.

INT. HOTEL ROOM PAKISTAN - MORNING

Marry gets up and rubs her eyes and stretches herself and looks at her watch it is 9 am. She gets up and goes into the washroom and comes out and takes out a T shirt from her bag pack and wipes her face dry.

INT. HOTEL ROOM PAKISTAN - LATER THAT DAY

Marry is eating fried eggs with bread and a cup of tea still in her sleeping suit. Then she looks outside and slips into her jeans and T-shirt and decides to take a tour of the street just outside the hotel.

INT. CORRIDOR OF THE HOTEL - LATER THAT DAY

She locks the room from outside and instantly a couple of guys wearing dark glasses comes toward her and block her way and one takes out his 9 mm pistol. Marry immediately returns to her room fully realizing that she is fully trapped and totally at the mercy of these people.

INT. HOTEL ROOM PAKISTAN - EVENING

There is a knock at the door and Marry opens and sees Arbab and another guy wearing dark glasses in his early 30s, holding a large suitcase standing outside and before she could say anything both of them barged into her room and locks it from inside. Arbab carefully puts his handgun on the table and the other guy goes toward the window and peeps out of it. Then he pulls the curtains close and put the large suitcase on the bed. The second guy opens the washroom door and looks inside to ensure that nobody is there. Then they open the empty suitcase and emptied her backpack in it but the suitcase stayed pretty much empty. Then they shake their heads and walks out of her room with the empty suitcase.

INT. PAKISTAN - HOTEL ROOM - LATER THAT EVENING

Marry lying down on the bed and gazing on the ceiling of the room with a distant look in her eyes when she hears a knock at the door. She opens the door and Arbab with the same guy holding the same suitcase enter the room hastily and close and lock the door from inside. As usual they check the room and the toilet and then open the suitcase and it is already stuffed with female clothes and they put her clothes inside and weigh it with a hand-held weighing scale and both seem satisfied with the weight now.

ARBAB

Your flight 11 morning. Hotel leave 7 morning.

They leave the suitcase in the room and goes out of the room. Marry tries to pick up the suitcase and gives a loud grunt, as it is quite heavy.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - PAKISTAN - MIDNIGHT

Marry is tossing and turning on her bed and looking at her watch time and time again, then she gets up and looks outside in the street and sees that the same vehicle is parked right in front of the hotel with a couple of guys sitting in it and smoking cigarettes. Then starts the call for prayers from a nearby mosque, "Allah O Akbar, Allah O Akbar" she looks at her watch it is 4 AM. She goes back and lies on the bed with her sleepless eyes again staring at the ceiling.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - PAKISTAN - EARLY MORNING

Marry is jarred awake by a knock at the door and she looks at her watch it is 7 AM. She quickly jumps out of the bed and opens the door and sees Arbab standing outside wearing dark glasses.

ARBAB

Ready?

MARRY

Yes. Just give me five minutes.

Marry comes back inside the room and quickly puts her sneakers on and then goes into washroom and splashes some water on her face and then opens the door and Arbab comes in and picks up the suitcase and then they leave the room.

EXT. ON THE WAY TO AIRPORT - PAKISTAN - LITTLE LATER

Arbab quickly puts the suitcase in the trunk of the vehicle and Marry sits on the rear seat with the windows covered with black shades and Arbab sits in the front. After sometimes the Arbab says something to the driver in Urdu language and the driver replies and quickly the conversation becomes heated and then the driver turns the car into a deserted road and then stops it on the roadside.

Arbab takes out a screw driver from the glove compartment and a couple of car license plates from under his foot mats and gets out of the vehicle and first goes toward the front of the vehicle and bends down and vanishes from her sight then he gets up and goes toward the rear of the vehicle and then all of a sudden rush back and sits on the passenger seat and yells Drive, Drive.

The vehicle quickly takes off and Arbab bends down toward Marry and hastily tries to hide two car license plates under her foot mat. She sees the number and it was RIL 39, the same number as her apartment number 39, in NY.USA.

After sometimes a policeman on a motorbike with his siren blaring passes the vehicle and goes on his way and both men takes a sigh of relief. Then Marry starts to see the signs of Airport on the roadside through the window shades of the vehicle. Then the vehicle enters the drop lane of the Airport and as soon as the vehicle stops in front of International departure sign, Arbab quickly gets out and opens the trunk of the vehicle and takes out the suitcase and hands her passport and air ticket and gets back into the vehicle which speeds off.

EXT. AIRPORT - ISLAMABAD, PAKISTAN - EARLY MORNING

Marry extends the handle of her suitcase and starts to drag it inside the Airport, a porter in the uniform offers her help which she refuses and walks straight toward the entry of the international departures. She notices a lot of Airport security officers fully armed with assault rifles and looking extremely vigilant and alert. She feels that all eyes are on her or perhaps she is the only blonde American girl on the airport at that moment. Her ticket and passport are checked by the Airport staff and she enters the main lounge, where her luggage is scanned and she is frisked by a lady Airport security officer in a curtained cubicle.

Her heart is pounding and hands trembling as she is trying her best to stay calm. She casually picks her suitcase from the conveyer belt of the scanner and walks onward toward the cargo booking. Her suitcase is weighed and she is given a luggage tag and the same tag is fastened to her suitcase as well. Marry casually glances at the suitcase which is

moving on the conveyer belt further away from her and gulps down the accumulated saliva in her mouth. Then she starts to walk toward the immigration counter and notices an officer taking a sniffing Labrador dog toward the cargo counter.

The immigration officer checks her visa and her return ticket and takes a hard look at her face and then looks back at her picture on her passport and then picks up the landline phone and dials a number still looking at her passport. Then he says something in the Urdu language and after listening a while to the other side and looking at her a number of times, casually puts the receiver back on the handset. Then he stamps her passport and returns her air ticket back and passport back to her. She breathes a sigh of relief as she starts to walk toward the boarding counter.

INT. BOARDING COUNTER- ISLAMABAD AIRPORT-PAKISTAN - MORNING

She is given her boarding pass without any sign of suspicion by the air line boarding officer and she walks towards the boarding lounge.

INT. BOARDING LOUNGE - MORNING

Marry enters the boarding lounge and looks for a vacant seat and then she sits down and starts to look at the aircrafts being parked at the tarmac and boarded by the passengers. Then she looks at the Airport clock which is saying 10:05 AM and her flight is scheduled to take off at 11:00 AM.

EXT. IN THE STREET RAWALPINDI-PAKISTAN - MORNING

A number of taxis are parked in front of a house. A cab driver NADIR KHAN, 62 years, white beard, wearing white color Shalwar Kameez, a checkered cloth on his shoulder and a praying cap on his head is cleaning his cab, when another cab driver (CABBY'S ROOMMATE) RIZWAN AKHTAR, 45 yrs, wearing a Shalwar Kameez walks out his house and opens the door of his cab and puts his water bottle inside and closes the door. Then he notices that the rear license plate of the taxi of Nadir is dangling by only one screw; he goes towards it and touches it and tries to tighten the only screw with hand.

RIZWAN

(Urdu language. Sub title begins)

It seems like your car's license plate is ready to fall off.

NADIR

Let me take a look.

Stops cleaning his car's windshield and comes to the rear end of the vehicle and checks on the license plate and then takes a screw driver out of the vehicle's glove box and opens the only screw and then puts the vehicle's license plate on the foot mat of the passenger seat of the cab.

RIZWAN

Better get it fixed before you get a ticket from the traffic police.

NADIR

I will as soon as I drop my passenger near the Airport today, there are many vehicle repair shops there.

RIZWAN

You will be dropping your passenger at the Airport as I am also going to the Airport today for a pickup?

NADIR

Not to the Airport but close to it.

RIZWAN

Give me the room keys as I plan to come earlier today.

Nadir takes the room keys out of his pocket and tosses them to Rizwan and he catches it.

INT. THE BOARDING LOUNGE

She looks at the wall clock again and it is now showing 10:30 AM and the announcement of her flight boarding starts. Marry gets up but then notices a couple of very vigilant looking men, 35 to 37 years, entering the boarding lounge wearing camouflage uniforms with name tags and ADF pips on their shoulders, and sturdy black ankle high boots. They come and start to scan the passengers with their eyes. As soon as one's eye catches Marry, he immediately pokes the other's rib cage with his elbow and signals him toward her. Then both of them start to walk straight toward her as Marry's throat runs dry.

They both come and stand in front of her blocking her.

ADF OFFICER 1

Is your Name Marry Anne Philips?

MARRY

Yes!

ADF OFFICER 2

You need to come with us.

Marry starts to follow them as they lead her upstairs.

MARRY

Why are you taking me with you?

Tell me what is wrong? I will miss my flight.

Why are you not answering me?

But all her queries only met with silence as they take the stairs to the 3rd floor.

INT. ADF OFFICE AIRPORT - PAKISTAN - MORNING.

After reaching the 3rd floor she is escorted toward a room with a plate "ANTI DRUGS FORCE UNIT". Two armed guards standing on either side of the door with their fingers on the trigger, looks at her with a very serious look.

INT. INSIDE ADF OFFICE - MORNING

As soon as Marry enters the room and she sees her suitcase lying flat on a table and surrounded by several male and

one female officer. The most senior officer, SHAUKAT RAZA, 52 years with three pips, on his shoulder comes forward.

SHAUKAT

I need your passport, luggage tag and ticket.

Marry hands over everything to him and he starts looking at her passport and then looks at the luggage tag, comparing the luggage tag number with the one on the suitcase.

SHAUKAT Continues...

Is your name Marry Anne Philips?

MARRY

Yes.

SHAUKAT

Is this suitcase yours Marry?

MARRY

Yes.

SHAUKAT

Are you sure?

MARRY

Yes, I am positive.

SHAUKAT

What this suitcase contains?

MARRY

Some clothes and personal items.

SHAUKAT

What else is inside it?

MARRY

Nothing.

Marry notices that one of the officers is filming everything using a Sony handy cam movie camcorder.

SHAUKAT

Are you carrying any drugs in your suitcase?

MARRY

No.

SHAUKAT

Are you sure?

MARRY

Yes

SHAUKAT

Do you mind if we check your suitcase in front of you just to make sure that our sniffing dog was wrong?

MARRY

Go ahead.

An officer, SALEEM SHIEKH, 28 years, steps forward and opens the suitcase and starts tossing her items out, while another officer offers her a chair and she sits down close to the table. Marry is relieved when nothing came out of the suitcase despite the officers checking each and every corner and pockets of the suitcase, but her relief is short lived when one of the officers takes out a tool resembling a miniature ice pick from the drawer and starts to puncture the bottom of the suitcase. The needle comes out covered in white powder and he takes a small quantity from the needle of the tool and tastes it and then turns toward his superior officer and nods affirmatively.

SALEEM

Possible Cocaine

And then puts a small quantity of white powder in a test tube and adds a liquid in it which instantly turns blue.

Then more officers join in and use sharp knife to remove the bottom of the suitcase completely and starts to put white power packets on the table one after another. To her own astonishment they take out 10 packets and put one of them on a weighing scale and it comes to 2 kg.

Then Marry is asked to write a confessional statement that she was trying to smuggle 20 kilograms of high-quality cocaine from Pakistan to USA. After writing the statement which is being dictated to her, she is asked to sign it and also put her thumb impression on it. Two more officers step forward and sign the statement as the witnesses. The video camera keeps on rolling during this whole process.

Marry is made to stand behind the table with packages surrounded by officers and an official photographer enters the room with a professional camera hanging around his neck, he shakes everybody's hands and looks at Marry with a huge smile, as if she is a prize fish caught by the fishermen. He focuses his camera.

OFFICIAL CAMERA MAN

Smile everybody.

He then clicks few photographs and look at the screen of his camera somewhat disappointed.

OFFICIAL CAMERA MAN Continues..

Smile again and this time you too Miss drug smuggler.

Everybody starts laughing.

The photographer again looks at the photo on the screen of his camera and sees that Marry is still not smiling.

OFFICIAL CAMERA MAN Continues..

The lady smuggler is not smiling. Why?

SHAUKAT

Maybe she knows that one day in a Pakistani jail is equivalent to 1 year in any other prison of the world.

Everybody in the room bursts into a loud laughter again.

Then on the instructions of Shaukat a lady officer comes forward and starts to frisk Marry and empties her back pockets, taking out her wallet containing one thousand dollars and then she removes her chain and rings and she takes out a visiting card from her front pocket with no name on it and only a U.S cell phone number and looks at it with curiosity and then puts everything in an envelope including her passport, luggage tag and air ticket and seals it.

(Urdu language. Sub title begins)

Then Shaukat calls on the phone his immediate superior to his head office, using the word 20Kg Cocaine, Gori (White female) and American Citizen very frequently. Then he puts the phone down and addresses Saleem.

SHAUKAT

Saleem report the case to the foreign office and also to the US embassy in Islamabad. Also arrange the police mobile vehicle to shift her to the ADF police station for further interrogation and move the cocaine to the laboratory for further testing and documentation.

Saleem gets on the phone to follow the instructions of the senior officer. Marry is sitting on the chair with a very gloomy and worried look on her face. Then the landline phone rings in the office and the Shaukat picks it up and listens.

Then he calls two arm guards from outside the office and instructs them.

SHAUKAT

Take her to the ground floor as the police squad vehicle is ready.

(Sub title ends)

MARRY

Excuse me, what is the sentence for carrying 20 kg of cocaine from Pakistan to USA?

SHAUKAT

It is up to the judge, but I believe that it is one year per KG; you can do the calculations yourself.

The armed guards ask Marry to come with them and she gets up from the seat and starts to follow them with a worried look on her face.

EXT. LOBBY ELEVATOR- ISLAMABAD PAKISTAN AIRPORT - MORNING

They start to walk toward the elevator and they reach the elevator and see a handwritten note pasted on the door of the elevator "Maintenance in progress. Use stairs". They turn around and start to walk toward the stairs with Marry walking in the front.

EXT. STAIRS OF AIRPORT ISLAMABAD PAKISTAN - MORNING

The words 20 years keep on echoing in the ears of Marry as she descends the stairs. Then she notices a pile of luggage at the ground floor close to the staircase and she intentionally starts to walk on the edge of the stairs to have a good look at it again. When they reach the 2nd floor the guards see one of their uniformed colleagues coming from downstairs and stops to exchange greetings with him. Then they go at a distance of 30 feet away from Marry so that she cannot hear their conversation.

Although Marry cannot hear them, but from the grin on their faces, it was very much evident, that they are briefing the other officer about her. Marry moves closer to the railing of the stairs and looks down again as if measuring the distance from the 2nd floor to the ground floor and also eyeing the luggage stacked together very close to the staircase.

Marry knows that this is the only opportunity she has, if she plans to escape as after few hours she will be in the lockup, making her escape impossible, it is now or never situation for her.

In a flash she jumps down from the 2nd floor and lands on the luggage. She hears the screams of people when she is falling from the second floor onto the luggage. Luckily she bounces off the luggage and is not seriously hurt. She instantly gets up and starts running towards the daylight, exit of the Airport.

INT. STAIRS OF AIRPORT - MORNING

The guards look down from the 2nd floor astounded with her act and then dashes behind her.

GUARDS

(Urdu Language, sub title)

Stop her, Somebody Stop her. Stop her.

Due to coming down from 2nd floor to ground floor pushing travelers away in an overcrowded airport the officers could not run very fast; and this put a fair bit of distance between them and Marry.

EXT. OUTSIDE AIRPORT ISLAMABAD-PAKISTAN - PARKING LOT

Marry runs out of the Airport building pushing empty airport trolleys away and passing many parked taxi on her way, catching the attention of the crowd.

EXT. MAIN ROAD OUTSIDE THE AIRPORT - MORNING

She reaches the main road outside the Airport with ADF arm guards and airport security force officers right behind her, where she frantically signals an oncoming taxi and it stops.

EXT/INT. ROAD OUTSIDE AIRPORT CAB - MORNING

Marry quickly opens the rear door and jumps into the back seat of the cab and lies down.

MARRY

Go Go Go!

The cab driver Nadir also gets confused and, in the panic, puts his foot on the gas and the cab speeds away with the rear door still open and Marry's feet hanging out.

She pulls her legs in and gets up a little and looks behind her from the rear windshield of the cab and sees that the officers are stopping and looking at the cab helplessly from a good distance of at-least fifty meters, then she closes the cab rear door as it speeds away.

Marry keeps on lying down on the back seat of the cab and after a while she puts her head up and looks through the rear wind shield of the vehicle and sees just normal traffic around. She then sits up on the seat.

NADIR

You Ok?

MARRY

Yes. I am fine. Just don't stop.

NADIR

Where you go?

MARRY

Far, far away. Some people are trying to kill me.
Just drive and do not ask any question.

NADIR

Who are you? And why are you so scared?

MARRY

Actually, I am an American journalist and I ran a story on some of the drug lords of Pakistan and now they are trying to kill me.

NADIR

I will take you to police station and they will help.

MARRY

Nooooo way. These are powerful people and have connections in police too.

NADIR

So, what you want from me?

MARRY

Hide me somewhere please, hide me somewhere as I have no place to go.

Marry starts sobbing uncontrollably. Nadir looks at Marry through the rear view mirror started thinking about what to do as Marry's wails reach new heights.

MARRY Continues...

I have no money, no luggage, I also dropped my passport and ticket there, and I do not know anybody in Pakistan, you are the only person who can help me, please help me and do not leave me, I am just like your daughter.

Marry's wails and sobs melts the heart of Nadir as he continues to drive the cab aimlessly on the road. After thinking for a while he comes up with a suggestion.

NADIR

I can take you to my village which is far and hide you there.

MARRY

(Still sobbing).

Yes, please take me far far away from here please.

NADIR

Nadir removes the checkered cloth from his shoulder and gives it to Marry.

Cover your head with this cloth so that nobody sees your golden hair.

Marry covers her head with the cloth hiding her entire head.

NADIR

We have to stop for a little while to get my licensed plate fixed as we have to travel very far from here and into another province.

The vehicle stops at a crowded auto market. Nadir picks the license plate from the front foot mat and goes outside the vehicle and calls a young lad from a shop, who comes and fixes the number plate with both screws. The cab then goes onward and enters a very narrow street and stops in front of the house.

NADIR Continues...

I will be right back

Marry watches from inside the vehicle as Nadir goes and knocks at the door of the house and out comes a boy, 7 years, who hugs him and takes him inside the house. After five minutes he comes outside the house with a large shopping bag in his hand and is seen off by the same boy and a woman. As soon as he sits in the car he hands over the shopping bag to Marry. Marry takes out the long black gown from the shopper.

MARRY

What is this gown?

NADIR

This is Burka and it belongs to my sister. You must wear it so that nobody could see you and your golden hair.

Marry immediately with a little bit of struggle wears the Burka and gives the checkered cloth back to Nadir.

MARRY

Have I worn it right?

NADIR

Yes, good. That was my sister's house. She is a widow and has three young boys. I live not far from here in case she needs help, I am available.

EXT. ROAD TO THE VILLAGE PAKISTAN - AFTERNOON

The cab goes through the crowded streets and cramped bazaars and then on wider roads. After driving for an hour Marry fear subsides a little and she starts a conversation with Nadir.

MARRY

What is your name?

NADIR

My name is Nadir Khan?

MARRY

And from where you learned to speak English?

NADIR

I was a driver for ten years in an international NGO and my boss was from UK.

MARRY

What about your family?

NADIR

My family lives in village. I have a wife, one son his wife and three grandchildren, two boys one girl.

MARRY

Can your family speak English language like you?

NADIR

My son and his wife can speak English as both of them are educated from Peshawar University.

MARRY

That is good.

NADIR

Yes, I am going to stop as this is the last market before we hit the long road. I am going to eat my lunch and I will bring your food.

EXT. HOTEL ON THE WAY TO THE VILLAGE - AFTERNOON

Nadir stops the cab at a road side hotel and sits on a Charpoy (Local Jute knit bed) and drinks a glass of water and orders some food. A lad comes with a plate of chicken gravy and rotis (bread), which he starts eating. The same lad puts a cup of tea in front of him after two minutes. After finishing his lunch he gulps down his cup of tea. Then he gets up and says his prayers on a praying mat.

When he finishes his prayer the same lad hands him a parcel wrapped in the newspaper and one disposable Coke. Nadir pays him and returns to the cab.

INT. CAB ON THE WAY TO THE VILLAGE - AFTERNOON

As soon as he enters the cab he hands over the parcel to Marry. She opens the packet and sees a large chunk of freshly fried beef with toppings of tomatoes, onions and green chilies, sandwiched between two round breads.

MARRY

What are these?

NADIR

These are Chappal Kababs made from beef. It is our traditional food.

MARRY

It sure smells very nice.

The cab starts to move on and Marry lifts her veil and starts to eat the food and relishes each and every single bite of it. Then she gulps down the food with coca cola and after she finished eating her lunch, she drops the veil back on her face. Then Marry starts to feel a little drowsy after her food and her head starts to tilt toward the window of the cab and she goes to sleep.

INT. ADF OFFICE AIRPORT - AFTERNOON.

All officers are sitting and the two security officer, who were in-charge to take Marry to the squad car are sitting

in the front row looking very nervous. Shaukat is looking at them with fire in his eyes.

SHAUKAT

(Urdu Language. Sub title starts)

Why you never took the elevator?

GUARD 1

The elevator was out of order Sir

SHAUKAT

Tell us in detail how she escaped so easily?

JUNIOR ADF OFFICER

Both guards stand up from their seats.

We both were walking right behind her when she was descending stairs keeping our eyes focused on her but as soon as we reached second floor, she jumped and landed on a pile of luggage on the ground floor and ran toward the exit of the airport. We followed her but the airport was too much crowded and she ran outside the airport and got into a cab without licensed plate and escaped. Airport security staff can also testify the same.

SHAUKAT

Why you took the shot at her after all of you had your weapons with you?

JUNIOR ADF OFFICER

The airport was too crowded and there was a chance that the bullet might ricochet off the ground and hit someone else and secondly, we were convinced that she could not run very far and we will be able to catch her alive.

At that moment the door flung opens a director of ADF with three of his associates wearing suits, barged in with authority. All officers got up from their seats and Shaukat also moved to one side.

DIRECTOR ADF

Director ADF scanned the entire room full of the staff members and then locked his eyes with Shaukat.

I have just received the news that a female lady drug smuggler escaped from your custody?

SHAUKAT

Yes Sir!

DIRECTOR ADF

How many staff members you have in this unit?

SHAUKAT

Twenty-nine men and three women

DIRECTOR ADF

And all of you could not keep a female from escaping? And why wasn't she handcuffed?

SHAUKAT

Sir the laws are very clear that no female suspect should be hand cuffed.

DIRECTOR ADF

God damn it. Perhaps the same people who framed such mindless legislation should tell us that where is she hiding at the moment.

This particular case will put our entire department under federal review and do you know what that means, budget cuts, retrenchments, transfers, demotions and above all defamation.

I will have to face many inquiries because of nincompoops like you people. What am I going to tell the board of inquiry that twenty-nine highly trained men with hot weapons up their holsters could not restrain a sixty KG female from escaping? Sheer embarrassment nothing else.

SHAUKAT

Do not worry Sir, we have informed all police stations and gave the description of the escapee to of all the police check posts and have tossed road blocks within a radius of 50 kilometers from the Airport.

DIRECTOR ADF

I should not worry, is that what you are telling me Shaukat? I should go back to my office and tell the enquiry committee not to worry and they in turn will tell the General not to worry. And then at month end we will get our pay check envelope without a check but a note saying "Do not worry."

SHAUKAT

Sir, I am sure that she will not be able to go very far, especially because of her blonde hair. Furthermore, we are also trying to trace the vehicle which dropped her at the airport as CCTV cameras have caught its license plate. US embassy and foreign office have also been informed about this incident with her available details.

DIRECTOR ADF

I want her found and I want her found now. Understood? Otherwise, I will be demoting all of you with Airport allowance withdrawn. DO NOT WORRY.

SHAUKAT.

Yes Sir.

(Sub title ends)

Then the director with a foaming mouth storm out of the office with his associates.

EXT. POLICE CHECK POST - AFTERNOON

The cab is travelling and Marry sound asleep in the vehicle with her head swaying left and right. The driver spots police check post ahead with their barrier down. The cab

driver is signaled to stop and he parks the vehicle on the side of the road and a police officer clad in dark gray shalwar qameez goes at the rear end of the cab.

POLICE OFFICER 1

(In Pushto Language, subtitles starts)

This cab has rear licensed plate intact.

Marry wakes up as the cab stops moving and is petrified to see fully armed cops all around the vehicle. Nadir gets out start to have a conversation standing on the left side of the vehicle, with Marry watching them from inside.

EXT. ROAD SIDE - ON THE WAY TO VILLAGE - AFTERNOON.

POLICE OFFICER 1

Bring your identity card, driver's license and registration book of the vehicle.

Nadir comes from the passenger side of the vehicle to get the documents from the glove compartment and notices that some strands of Marry's blonde hair are hanging out of the head scarf and clearly visible from the window.

NADIR

(Whispering English language)

Hide your hair.

Marry quickly adjusts her head scarf and hides her hair before anybody notices them.

POLICE OFFICER 1

Police officer 1 takes the documents and starts looking at them.

Your name is Nadir Khan and where are you coming from and going to?

NADIR

I am coming from Rawalpindi and going to my village, Dhanak Pur.

POLICE OFFICER 1

Who is with you at the rear seat?

NADIR

That is my daughter in Law

POLICE OFFICER 1

Also bring her identity card.

Nadir comes back to the cab.

NADIR

(Whispers English language)

They are asking for your identity card. I will try to fool them.

Then the cab driver returns to the police officers.

NADIR

Apparently, she forgot her ID card at the hospital. She gave the card to the receptionist to make her the appointment card of the doctor and forgot to take it back.

POLICE OFFICER 2

What sort of disease your daughter in law has?

NADIR

She gets nail like hard corns underneath her feet and when she walks it hurts.

POLICE OFFICER 2

My mother also had the same and it was very painful to walk, but thanks to Allah a local herbal plant cured her.

NADIR

A local herbal plant, which one?

POLICE OFFICER 2

I took her to a local doctor in my village that has no medical degrees but is known to cure patients through natural herbs and homemade oils. He recommended Sodom apple plant's milk mixed with Aloe Vera Gel to be applied in the form of a paste three times a day underneath her feet.

Marry keep looking through the veil of her Burqa all the conversation being done among the Policemen and the Nadir and her heart is thumping loudly inside her chest.

POLICE OFFICER 1

So, was it helpful?

POLICE OFFICER 2

Yes Sir, very much. Her corns gradually became dry and started falling off themselves and within a month her feet were corn free and she could walk without pain. Although we still massage her feet with Aloe Vera Gel at night to ensure that those corns do not grow back.

NADIR

You are a good son, taking care of your mother. I will try this remedy too and thanks for sharing this cure with me free of cost.

POLICE OFFICER 2

You are welcome and I hope that your daughter in law also recovers from this disease as it can be very painful.

POLICE OFFICER 1

Ok you can go, but remember not to travel without identity cards of all the passengers in your vehicle in the future.

NADIR

Ok sure I will remember that in the future for strict compliance. Aslam O Eleckum!

BOTH POLICEMEN

Walekum Aslam.

(Sub titles end).

Marry sees the cab driver coming back toward the cab with a smile on his face and then he sits on the driver's seat and the cab moves onward.

MARRY

What were they saying?

NADIR

They wanted to see your ID card and I told them that you are my daughter in law and coming back from a hospital.

MARRY

And how you got away?

NADIR

(Turns around with a big smile)

A little herbal plant saved us.

The cab goes through a narrow market with shops on both sides of the road. The driver stops the cab in front of a general store.

NADIR

I will be back.

Marry quickly starts to adjust her Burka that no strand of blonde her hair are hanging outside and saw Nadir entering the shop in a busy market. When all of a sudden there is a knock at the other side window and her heart jumps out, she quickly turns around and sees a child selling some sort of fruit.

INT. ROAD TO VILLAGE - SHOP - AFTERNOON

NADIR

(Pushto language, sub titles begin).

Aslam O Eleckum!

SHOPKEEPER

Walekum Aslam.

NADIR

I need a good tooth brush, a foreign tooth paste, two fragrant soups and a large shampoo.

SHOPKEEPER

Shopkeeper gathers everything a puts them in front of the cab driver in a shopping bag.

Would there be anything else?

NADIR

No

SHOPKEEPER

That would be 1,940 rupees.

(Sub title ends)

Nadir gives him two thousand rupees and when the shopkeeper was about to give him back 60 rupees he signals towards a jar of candies. The shopkeeper takes out some candies and puts them on the palm of hand of Nadir and he leaves the shop with his shopping bag.

INT. CAB ON THE ROAD TO THE VILLAGE-PAKISTAN - AFTERNOON.

Nadir comes out of the shop sits on the driver seat and put the shopper on the front seat and hands over the candies to the Marry who accepts and starts to eat them. The cab goes out of the crowded market and now the road is becoming deserted and rocky then before.

INT. ROAD TO THE VILLAGE - PAKISTAN - EVENING.

Nadir stops the cab near a corn cob seller and turns around.

NADIR

No good eating place onward, so boiled corn cobs with spices or you are more hungry?

MARRY

I am not that hungry as my lunch was quite big.

So Nadir buys two corn cobs one for her and one for himself and together they drive on munching on the corn cobs as the darkness is approaching fast.

Marry again goes to sleep and lost the track of time. When she wakes up she sees only a deserted narrow bumpy road and no light except the pale light of the cab's head light showing the way.

MARRY

Where are we?

NADIR

We are two hours away from the village.

Then they see a couple of flash light beam directed toward their vehicle. Nadir signals Marry to cover her fully. As soon as they stop three policemen comes from different directions and start to throw their torch beam inside the cab.

NADIR

(Yells at them with anger)

(Pushto language, Sub titles start)

Do not throw light inside the cab; I have a lady passenger here.

ARMED POLICE OFFICER

Step outside the vehicle with the documents and open the hood, we need to check your vehicle.

EXT. ROAD SIDE - ON THE WAY TO THE VILLAGE - NIGHT

Nadir and Marry gets out of the cab and Nadir hands over the vehicle documents to the police officer and he starts to look at the documents in the light of his torch. While another policeman checks the seat and the trunk of the cab.

Where are you going?

NADIR

Dhanak Pur

ARMED POLICE OFFICER

Oh the village of MURAD KHAN the great warrior.

NADIR

Yes. Do you know him?

ARMED POLICE OFFICER

Who doesn't? The fearless warrior and the hero of Afghan war against Russia? Is he in the village?

NADIR

I am not sure he is in the village at the moment, as I am going there after a long time. Can you please tell your colleagues to speed it up we are getting late and the night is closing fast.

ARMED POLICE OFFICER

We have a confirmed report.

NADIR

Confirmed report of what?

ARMED POLICE OFFICER

An abducted child in a stolen vehicle.

The armed police officer goes to his colleagues and says something to them in the local language and then come back and tells them that they can go.

INT. THE CAB ON THE WAY TO THE VILLAGE - NIGHT

The cab starts to move onward and Marry takes a sigh of relief once again and starts to relax in the cab by stretching herself. After a while Marry again dozes off to sleep.

EXT. NADIR'S VILLAGE TRIBAL AREA - PAKISTAN - NIGHT

The cab stops with a jerk and Marry wakes up and sees nothing but darkness. Nadir gets out of the vehicle and opens her door and points the path with his mobile phone torch. Then he locks the vehicle and starts to walk in the front holding his shopping bag and Marry starts to follow him carefully.

The only noise she is hearing is that of the crickets chirping and dogs barking at a distance.

EXT/INT. NADIR VILLAGE HOUSE - NIGHT

After walking for five minutes Nadir stops in front of a house and opens the gate from outside and both go in and then he opens a large door and throws the beam inside and then invites marry inside the room.

INT. VILLAGE HOUSE GUEST ROOM - NIGHT

Marry goes inside and sees a large bed with side tables, a huge window, three sofas on one side with a table in front and a dressing table in a corner with a looking glass cracked in middle and a clock on the wall showing the time as 3 0 clocks.

NADIR

No electricity in the village now. You can sleep on this bed, it is 10 PM.

NADIR cont'd..

Nadir then directs the beam of the torch on a door inside the room.

This is the toilet and I will give you a blanket as it gets cold in the early morning.

Nadir goes out of the room and Marry sits on the bed and takes her shoes off and lies down diagonally with her legs hanging on the side of the bed and stretches herself still in her Burqa.

Marry sits up as Nadir returns with a blanket and places it on the bed. He then brings a large glass filled with water and places the glass on the table besides the bed.

NADIR cont'd..

If you are hungry I can wake my wife up and she will cook something for you?

MARRY

No I am not that hungry but very tired and want to go to sleep. So the electricity here keeps on coming and going?

NADIR

Yes it comes and goes. I am leaving my cell phone here with you in case you need light to use the washroom and this pair of flip flops right besides your bed.

Aslam O Eleckum!

Nadir goes away and closes the door behind him. Marry takes off her Burqa and lays down on the bed and look outside the window at a starry and full moon night.

MARRY (V.O)

Does my mother know where I am at the moment? I am now a fugitive hiding inside a stranger's house in a remote village in Pakistan. And what sort of human being this man is? For him I am an undesirable liability, yet he is doing everything he possibly could to look after me and spending his own hard-earned money, despite being a poor cab driver.

Then her eye starts to close gradually and she pulls the blanket on herself and falls asleep with her face glowing in white moon light coming inside through the large window.

EXT. VERANDA VILLAGE HOUSE - EARLY MORNING.

"The call for prayers "Allah O Akbar, Allah O Akbar."

Nadir is sleeping in the open veranda and fully wrapped up in the blanket. As soon as he hears the call for prayers gets up and sits on the bed and rubs his eyes. Then an old

woman, JANAT BIBI (Nadir's wife), 56 Yrs, with gray hair comes out of the room with a hand-held lantern emitting pale yellow light.

JANNAT

(Pushto Language, subtitle starts)

Aslam O Eleckum!

NADIR

Walekum Aslam!

JANNAT

You never informed us that you are coming home and you must have snuck inside the house at midnight like a thief.

NADIR

I could not inform you because of a reason.

JANNAT

What could be the reason and why are you sleeping outside when the guest room is vacant?

NADIR

The guest room is not vacant a guest is sleeping inside.

JANNAT

Who is he?

NADIR

He is she.

JANNAT

She?

NADIR

I am getting late for my morning prayer, I will explain to you when I come back and where is your son, is he still sleeping? Does he offer his prayers on time or not?

JANNAT

I will go and see if he is awake?

NADIR

Ok, I am leaving send him to the mosque if he is awake?

JANNAT

Listen what you would like to have for breakfast?

NADIR

Fried eggs and Paratha with tea and please try to keep your voice down as the guest is sleeping inside.

EXT. VILLAGE STREET TOWARD THE MOSQUE - EARLY MORNING

It is still dark in the street with Roosters crowing and Nadir is walking toward the mosque when his son, AYUB KHAN, 30 yrs, wearing shalwar kameez and a traditional cap comes running towards him.

AYUB

(Pushto Language. Sub title begins)

Baba, Baba. Aslam O Eleckum!

Comes close to the cab driver and hugs him and then starts to walk with him.

NADIR

Walekum Aslam my dear Son. Did your mother wake you up or were you up yourself?

AYUB

Mother woke me up and told me about your arrival and I jumped out of the bed and came running after you.

NADIR

Sleep is no excuse to be late for your morning prayers.

AYUB

It will never happen again father, I promise.

Then more people start coming out of their houses holding hand held lanterns and wearing praying caps and heading toward the mosque and exchanging greetings among each other.

EXT. COMPOUND OF THE VILLAGE HOUSE-CRACK OF DAWN

Jannat is cooking breakfast on a wooden stove in an open kitchen with an extended shade above it. Nadir and Ayub are sitting across a table and there is a garden behind them with a bed like swing, where some chickens are pecking with a towering Rooster. Then PALWASHA KHAN, 28 yrs, Nadir's daughter in law comes out from the room with her head covered in the scarf. She comes forward and bows her head.

PALWASHA (AYUB'S WIFE)

(Pushto Language. Sub title starts)

Aslam O Eleckum father.

NADIR

Walekum Aslam.

Palwasha goes into the kitchen and brings food pots and places them on the table in middle and everybody starts eating their breakfast.

JANNAT

So, who is the guest sleeping inside our guestroom?

PALWASHA

Do we have a guest in our house?

NADIR

Let us first finish our breakfast and then we can discuss our guest.

And after finishing the breakfast everybody starts to drink tea.

NADIR

Kids are still sleeping?

PALWASHA

Yes father.

JANNAT

So why don't you know tell us about your female guest, who is sleeping inside our guest room?

AYUB AND PALWASHA

(Both speaks at the same time)

A Female guest?

NADIR

Not only a female but from America and we must keep our voices down as she might get disturb.

JANNAT

Do not worry I went into her room to close the window as the light was coming in; she is sleeping like a child, fully wrapped up in the blanket. She has golden hair like a doll.

Then everybody starts listening to Nadir regale the entire story to his family with NO VOICE. Then the voice of the conversation is restored.

JANNAT

I still fail to understand one thing that why you volunteered to help her?

NADIR

Volunteered? For God's sake she jumped into my cab sobbing like a little girl; I should have thrown her out so that her enemies could kill her? She is around the same age as her (Pointing toward Palwasha)?

AYUB

But why you instantly believed her story?

NADIR

Why wouldn't I, I had no reason to disbelieve her either. My first priority was to take her to a safe place till we sort out what to do?

AYUB

But why are we trying to help a complete stranger?

NADIR

Son! where it is written in our holy book that you should only help the people you know? And complete strangers do not deserve either our help or our kindness?

AYUB

But father she is from another country.

NADIR

Son that is what increases our responsibility. If you are in a foreign country and you need help and does not know anybody there, would you appreciate if a total stranger lends you a helping hand? Would you forget that person the rest of your life?

JANNAT

But still helping a complete stranger is not our responsibility, or is it?

NADIR

(A little annoyed, focusing on Jannat)

Do you remember when our son was one year old and just started to walk and we were in a hill station busy talking to each other and he slowly ambled off toward the edge of the cliff with at-least a 100 feet drop.

Cut to...

EXT. CLIFF SOMEWHERE - MORNING

A child one year old is walking groggily towards the edge of the cliff when a man, 49 yrs, runs towards him and picks him up inches away from the edge and takes him in his lap.

NADIR Continues...

Back to.....

Remember how thankful we both were to that man MUSTAFA RABBANI, who said it was his duty to save him as he was there at that moment. Was he not a complete stranger to our son?

JANNAT

How can I forget that day, had that noble man not there at that moment our son would have surely died. You did the right thing by bringing her here but what would you like to do with her now?

NADIR

I will take her to the Chieftain and tell him everything and after that it is up to him to decide her fate.

AYUB

Father Chieftain is out of the country on a religious expedition.

NADIR

Then we will have to hide her inside the house till Chieftain comes back and nobody in the entire village should know about her. She is our responsibility and being the head of this family, it is my decision that we will do everything to protect her.

PALWASHA

How old is she father?

NADIR

I think same as you, perhaps a little older.

(SUB TITLES END)

Then a boy aged 4 years WAJID KHAN, walks out of the room still sleepy and jumps into the lap of Nadir and then two more children one boy aged 5 years, HASSAN KHAN and one girl, MISBAH KHAN aged 3 years also joins the family and started to fight to get into the lap of Nadir, his grandchildren.

INT. GUEST BEDROOM- VILLAGE - LATER.

Marry jolts up and starts gasping for breath as if she is chocked in her dream and starts to recollect where she is. She keeps sitting on the bed for a while as if gathering herself and notices that the clock on the wall is still showing 3 o clocks. She gets off the bed, wears the flip flops and opens the window and sees a splendid view of a lush green valley and snow clad mountain at a distance, with bright sunshine and the sounds of birds chirping nonstop. She stands there for sometimes and then stretches herself.

Then she hears the door of the room opening slightly behind her and saw a young boy looking at her with amazement and then backs off and then peeps another boy and he quickly backs off too giggling and then a little girl comes inside the room holding a one armed doll, looking at her and when Marry signals her to come toward her she runs away giggling.

Then there was a gentle knock at the door and Palwasha walks in with a huge smile on her face and shakes her hand.

PALWASHA

Aslam O Eleckum I am Palwasha and I am sorry if my kids woke you up?

MARRY

No not at all. I was getting up anyways. What time is it, as the clock in the room is still showing the same time as last night?

PALWASHA

It is almost eight o clock.

MARRY

Oh I must have overslept, I was really tired.

PALWASHA

No problem as long as you gets up feeling fresh. My mother has heated some water for you as the spring water here is chilly for a bath; even in summers.

Palwasha goes inside the washroom and comes out with an empty plastic bucket and leaves the room momentarily and then comes back with some steaming water in the bucket and the kids follow her into the room with Hassan holding a shopping bag, as she instructs the kids to stay away from the boiling water. Then she keeps the water bucket inside the washroom and hands shopping bag to Marry.

PALWASHA

You will have to mix some cold water in it as it is too hot and these are for you given by my father in law.

MARRY

Thanks Palwasha I badly needed a hot water bath.

Then Marry opens the shopping bag and see shampoo bottle, tooth brush, expensive fragrant soap and toothpaste.

INT. VILLAGE GUEST ROOM - LITTLE LATER.

Marry comes out from the washroom with wet hair and wearing her old clothes and then stands in front of the dressing table and shows her teeth to the mirror as if checking how clean they are after good brushing.

When she turns around she sees a neatly ironed Shalwar Kameez suit with dopatta lying on the bed. Marry is confused, if this suit was for her or not, but then Palwasha walks into the room.

PALWASHA

My mother has ironed this suit for you because wearing jeans and T shirt is not appropriate in our home, especially in the presence of male family members.

MARRY

Palwasha whose dress is that, it is so beautiful?

PALWASHA

It is mine, and you can wear it.

Marry in Palwasha's dress is looking at mirror and admiring how pretty she is looking in that dress, when Palwasha walks into the room.

PALWASHA

Wow! You are looking so pretty. I am feeling jealous. Come on outside your breakfast is ready.

INT/EXT. COMPOUND OF THE HOUSE - MORNING.

Marry is escorted out of her room into the open compound of the house. She sees a beautiful garden with chairs and table under a tree surrounded by flowers and birds chirping constantly on a bright sunny day.

Then Jannat comes towards Marry.

PALWASHA

Marry meet my mother in law

Marry shakes her hand and Jannat kisses Marry's forehead and smile.

PALWASHA continued..

And he is my husband.

AYUB

Aslam O Eleckum

Marry nods her head in acknowledgment and then she is asked to sit on the chair and Palwasha places a jug of white

drink in front of her along-with a long glass made from silver.

PALWASHA

You must be hungry?

MARRY

I am starving, is it milk Palwasha?

PALWASHA

No, it is sweet Lasee.

Marry takes a sip and then one more and then a smile appears on her face as she gulps down more and more.

MARRY

Aaaahh, it is so refreshing and I can actually trace that where in my body (pointing toward her stomach) it is travelling right now. What are the ingredients of this drink?

PALWASHA

It is a mixture of fresh yogurt, sugar, milk, salt and water mixed together in a balanced proportion.

Then Jannat comes and puts a tray in front of her on the table containing two fried eggs and a large Paratha with salt and black pepper pots.

MARRY

What it is this Palwasha?

PALWASHA

(With a mischievous smile on her face)

They are fried eggs.

Both women giggle a little.

MARRY

I know fried eggs; I was referring to that large round shaped bread.

PALWASHA

It is Paratha, a fried roti, and you have to take a piece and then take a piece of the fried egg and then eat them together. But first you have to sprinkle some salt and black peppers on your eggs to improve the taste.

Marry follows the instructions and starts to relish each and every bite of it and then she finishes and starts to lick her fingers clean, as Palwasha watches her with interest. Then Jannat places a hot cup of tea in front of her, which she sips as she enjoys her ambience. Watching the kids play with the Rooster and Nadir and Ayub talking to each other, sitting at a distance, while Jannat washing the utensils under a tap in an open kitchen.

INT. US EMBASSY OFFICE ISLAMABAD - PAKISTAN - MORNING

A fax is coming out with photo of Marry on it, standing behind packs of Cocaine. Then more pages come out with images of her passport, air tickets and the detail account

of her escape from the authorities. A US embassy official, RICHARD STONE, 35 yrs, starts to review the fax and then picks up the phone and dials a number.

RICHARD.

Hello Mike how are you buddy? Richard Here from Islamabad office,... I am fine, how is weather there in Big Apple? It is very hot here in Islamabad as well. I might come for Christmas and then will definitely come to see you.

Hey listen! Do you remember that I told you about an American female national escaped from Islamabad international airport after getting caught with drugs, an astonishing weight of 20 Kg? Yes, Yes, Yes... exactly the same woman. I am in-charge of this case now and am sending you a fax just received from the Pakistan's foreign office with full details of the escapee, her passport/ticket images, travel information and the incident of how it happened... Yes. Yes. We have to find everything about this woman, like her last known address, her previous criminal records if any, her work address, travel history, phone call records, along-with the list of the frequently dialed numbers and the names and the addresses of all her relatives in US and in Pakistan. OK and thanks, please convey my regards to your family. Then he puts down the phone and starts looking at the fax again with a lot of concentration.

EXT. COMPOUND OF THE VILLAGE HOUSE PAKISTAN - MORNING

Marry is called by Nadir and his son and three of them sits on chairs in the corner of the garden.

NADIR

Palwasha lock the gate. How was your breakfast?

MARRY

Very delicious.

AYUB

My wife is very happy to meet you as she always wanted a sister. She has nine brothers and no sister.

MARRY

Yes, and I am equally happy to meet her.

NADIR

Marry our system is that no outsider can come and live here without the approval of the Chieftain of the village.

MARRY

I totally understand.

NADIR

Your life was in danger so I bring you here and till permission from Chief you will hide here and nobody should see you.

AYUB

We will look after you in the house.

NADIR

I will be going back to Rawalpindi tomorrow, leaving you in the safety of my family.

MARRY

How can I ever thank you?

NADIR

No need for that.

INT. ADF OFFICE ISLAMABAD - PAKISTAN - MORNING

An officer comes inside the room where Shaukat is sitting.

OFFICER

(Urdu language. Sub title starts)

Sir we have checked the license plate of the cab that dropped off Marry, the female drug smuggler at the airport. The CCTV camera caught the image of the number.

SHAUKAT

And what you found?

OFFICER

The cab had a fake number plate as this license number was issued to a motor cycle.

SHAUKAT

It is a case of organized crime so using a genuine licensed plate was out of question anyway. Go and talk to the cab drivers at the airport car parking, they might have some information on the cab without the license plate, and show them her photograph as well.

INT. VILLAGE GUEST ROOM - MORNING.

Marry sitting with Palwasha together on the sofa.

PALWASHA

So, what were they telling you?

MARRY

That I should stay inside the house till they get permission for the Chief.

PALWASHA

Yes! nobody should see you except us.

MARRY

Your husband was telling me that you are the single sister of nine brothers, is that true?

PALWASHA

Yes! And every time my mother was pregnant, I used to secretly pray that it is a girl, but every time it was a boy.

MARRY

I don't have a sister myself but don't have nine brothers either.

PALWASHA

We are sisters now?

MARRY

OK. It is a deal

Then both of them shake hands and smile while looking at each other.

MARRY

Palwasha where you learned to speak such good English?

PALWASHA

I did my masters from the University of Peshawar in English language and so did my husband. We were class fellows there, I was living in Peshawar and my family still lives there.

MARRY

So how long have you been married Palwasha?

PALWASHA

Almost seven years now. I am now a mother of three children and one Rooster.

Both start giggling when the door of the room opens and enters Jannat with a tray full of fruit pieces. Marry keeps sitting but Palwasha stands up in respect. She places the tray on the table and leaves while smiling at Marry. Both the girls start munching fruit pieces, when the door opens again and in comes Wajid the younger son of Palwasha with his Rooster.

Palwasha immediately gets up.

PALWASHA

(Pushto language. Sub-titles)

Get out of here or grandma will see the Rooster inside the guest room and then you will have it, don't you remember last time she was really mad at you when she found Sher Khan's droppings in the guest room. (Sub titles end)

Wajid leaves with his Rooster looking very angry and embarrassed.

MARRY

He really loves his pet.

PALWASHA

Yes, and it is a rare breed and was brought by his father from Peshawar for him.

MARRY

I saw your son feeding him almonds and raisins in the morning.

PALWASHA

(Speaks while giggling)

Yes! This dropping machine always eats the feast fit for a King.

Then both look at each other and laugh, while continuing munching on the fruit.

EXT. AIRPORT PARKING LOT - ISLAMABAD - MORNING

Two ADF officers in uniform showing photograph of Marry to the cab drivers parked inside the parking of the Islamabad international airport and everybody nodding their head sideways, saying non verbally that they have not seen her or have no idea where she can be. Then one of the cab drivers (Nadir's Roommate), Rizwan looks at the photograph of Marry and nods his head affirmatively.

ADF OFFICER

(Urdu Language. Sub title starts)

So, you have seen this lady?

RIZWAN

I saw her coming out of the Airport and running toward the exit and some officers running after her.

ADF OFFICER

What else you saw?

RIZWAN

Nothing, she just went outside the Airport running.

ADF OFFICER

Did you see that yellow cab in which she escaped? A cab without rear license plate?

RIZWAN

She escaped in a yellow cab without rear license plate?

ADF OFFICER

Yes. She did. Do you know any yellow cab with rear license plate missing?

CAB DRIVER'S ROOMMATE

(Trying to recall something)

No. I do not.

INT. GUEST ROOM. VILLAGE-AFTERNOON.

Marry lying all alone on the large bed in the guest room staring at the ceiling, when a gentle knock on the door disrupts her thought process. Marry sits on the bed and Palwasha enters the room with a tray covered with a neat white table cloth and a jug full of Lasee, looks at her and smile and puts the tray on the table.

PALWASHA

Lunch time Sister!

MARRY

So early?

PALWASHA

12: 30 PM is our fixed lunch time as we take breakfast very early.

Then Palwasha puts the tray on the bed in front of her and sits down on the bed opposite to her. Marry lifts the white lid from the pot and sees steam coming out of boiled rice and the other bowl contains Peas with potatoes with liquid gravy. Both start to eat the food by mixing them together and gulping it down with sweat Lasee.

INT. GUEST ROOM VILAGE - AFTERNOON

Marry sipping tea after lunch when there is a gentle knock at the door and Nadir enters the room and Palwasha puts her scarf on her head instantly.

NADIR

I am going back to Rawalpindi, so I have come to say good bye to you.

MARRY

OK and thank you very much.

NADIR

My family will look after you, especially Palwasha.

Then he puts his hand on Marry's head

May Allah Almighty be with you always.

Aslam O Eleckum.

And he leaves the room.

INT. MARRY'S MOTHERS HOUSE - MICHIGAN USA - AFTERNOON.

Marry's mother Mrs. PHILIPS ANNE FRANCIS, 63 yrs, Silver hair, wearing glasses, sitting in her house in semi darkness staring on the walls when her doorbell rings and she peeps out of the window and sees a couple of men, detective MASON JAMES, 36 yrs, white male wearing suit without necktie, detective ARNOLD BRUCE, 29 yrs, African American, wearing a suits with necktie standing outside the door. She opens the door

DETECTIVE MASON

Are you Mrs. Philips Anne Francis, mother of Marry Anne Philips?

MRS. PHILIPS

Yes. I am.

The detectives then take out their badges and show them to Mrs. Philips.

DETECTIVE MASON

I am detective Mason James and this is my associate, detective Arnold Bruce. This is about your daughter Marry Anne Philips, can we come inside?

MRS. PHILIPS

She opens the door and both detectives walk in and sit on the sofas with the mother occupying the sofa in front of them in a dimly lit living room.

Yes please, sorry there is no electricity in the house, as the company took away the meter yesterday due to non-payment of their bills.

DETECTIVE ARNOLD

Oh. No Problem. Do you have any idea where your daughter Marry is at the moment Mrs. Philips?

MRS. PHILIPS

No! Her cell phone is off since last couple of weeks, she never picks up my calls anyway. I have no idea where she is at the moment.

Detective Mason opens the file and takes out a photograph of Marry in the custody of ADF at the Islamabad airport, Pakistan with packets of cocaine right in the front of her on the table.

DETECTIVE MASON

Is that her?

Marry's mother put her sight glasses on and takes the photograph in her hand and looks at it and her expression changes into worrisome instantly.

DETECTIVE MASON Continues...

Is that your daughter, Mrs. Philips?

MRS. PHILIPS

Yes!

DETECTIVE ARNOLD

She was caught in Pakistan trying to smuggle 20 kg of pure cocaine from Pakistan to USA two weeks ago.

MRS. PHILIPS

Oh dear!

DETECTIVE MASON

Does she have any friends in USA who might be involved in some sort of drug business?

MRS. PHILIPS

No, that, I know of. She does not live with me here in Michigan.

DETECTIVE ARNOLD

Where she lives?

MRS. PHILIPS

She teaches at this Bright stars school and shares an apartment in the New York with a student from Pakistan.

DETECTIVE ARNOLD

(Eyes lit up)

From Pakistan?

DETECTIVE MASON

Do you have the number of her roommate from Pakistan? If you do that would be really helpful to us.

MRS. PHILIPS

Yes. I do

And she starts to go through her cell phone to find the number.

DETECTIVE ARNOLD

Your daughter escaped from the custody of the drug enforcement agency in Pakistan and is currently on the run.

MRS. PHILIPS.

Oh my Good Lord!

DETECTIVE MASON

Thank you, Mrs. Philips, and if she makes any contact with you kindly let us know. Here is my card with my cell phone number on it.

Then both detectives leave the house. Mrs. Philips goes towards a framed photograph of Marry in her graduation dress on the shelf, takes a long look at it and then inverts it face down.

INT. VILLAGE GUEST ROOM - PAKISTAN - NIGHT

Marry lying on the bed in her room and looking at the ceiling.

MARRY (V.O)

I am free right now but how long will I keep on hiding here? The fear of tomorrow is what kills the peace of today. Sooner or later I will be arrested and thrown in the Jail, where one night will be equal to one year in any other prison of the world. Marry you are stuck here with no place to run. Why have you been so stupid all your life?

EXT. VILLAGE HOUSE-VERANDA PAKISTAN - MID NIGHT

Jannat is sleeping outside in the veranda just outside the room of Marry. Crickets are chirping in the background.

INT. VILLAGE HOUSE-PALWASHA ROOM - MID NIGHT

Palwasha, Ayub and the kids are sleeping peacefully in a dimly lit room.

INT. VILLAGE - GUEST ROOM PAKISTAN - MID NIGHT

Marry sleeping on the bed; her face is basking in a full moon light coming through the open window. A police man kicks the door of her room open and points a weapon at her. She jolts up on the bed and starts to scream hysterically.

EXT. VILLAGE HOUSE - VERANDA (MID NIGHT)

Jannat sleeping outside her room also jolts up from her sleep and runs barefooted towards the guest room.

INT. VILLAGE HOUSE - GUEST ROOM (MID NIGHT)

Jannat enters the room and turns on the light and hugs the screaming Marry on the bed.

JANNAT

(Pushto language, sub titles)

Calm down, calm down my child, nobody is going to hurt you.

Palwasha enters the room with ruffled hair and sleepy eyes, looks at the scene and then sits on the side of her bed holding Marry' hand.

JANNAT

(Pushto Language. Sub titles)

I think she saw a bad dream.

PALWASHA

(In English language)

Nobody is going to hurt you Marry, you are safe here.

Marry keeps on sobbing uncontrollably and hug Jannat even tighter as she kisses her head many times and pats her back.

Then Marry's sobs starts to thin out and she releases the hug and lies down still weeping silently with tears rolling down on her pillow.

PALWASHA

Come on Marry it was just a dream.

MARRY

(Still sobbing)

It was so real. I am so scared.

PALWASHA

Sometimes bad dreams comes Marry. We are around so no need to be afraid.

MARRY

But in the dream, I was all alone.

Palwasha and Jannat keeps on sitting with her for quite a while, looking at her and each other in silence.

PALWASHA

(Yawning)

Try to go back to sleep Marry it is 1 AM in the morning.

MARRY

What if the dream comes back Palwasha, and I am all alone?

Then the power goes off, scaring Marry even more as Palwasha lights an old-fashioned kerosene oil lantern and keeps it on the side of her bed, whose flame starts to flicker with wind coming from outside the window. Dogs are barking at a distance.

MARRY

This light is casting eerie shadows on the walls.

PALWASHA

Marry they are just shadows, nothing else.

MARRY

What if these shadows attack me, after you people leave? Ask Jannat if she can you please sleep with me tonight?

Palwasha looks at Jannat and translate what Marry just said, they look at each other for a brief moment and then Jannat nods her head. Palwasha goes outside the room.

EXT. VILLAGE HOUSE VERANDA - MIDNIGHT

Palwasha sees her husband walking outside anxiously with an AK 47 in his hand.

AYUB

(Pushto Language. Sub titles start)

Is everything alright in there?

PALWASHA

Yes! Marry had a bad dream.

AYUB

I thought she was attacked by the same female Leopard, which has been stalking our cattle lately.

PALWASHA

No Leopards, just a scary dream.

AYUB

If you like I can sleep outside her room?

PALWASHA

(Shaking her head)

And hunt bad dreams with your AK 47? No thank you.

(Sub title ends)

Palwasha gathers the beddings from the bed and goes inside the Marry's room.

INT. GUEST ROOM. MIDNIGHT.

Palwasha enters the dimly lit room carrying the beddings. Marry is lying on the bed and Jannat is sitting beside her stroking her head gently while looking at her with all the love in the world. Palwasha starts to lay the beddings on the floor next to the bed.

MARRY

Why are you laying the beddings on the floor? Jannat can sleep with me on the bed?

PALWASHA

It is considered rude in our customs if the host shares the same bed as that of the guest.

Jannat keeps on stroking her head as Marry's eyes starts to close gradually and then she goes off to sleep and Jannat slowly gets up and lies down on her bed on the floor and goes to sleep.

INT. GUEST ROOM. MID NIGHT - LATER

Marry is sleeping on the bed and Jannat on the floor in a room with a flickering kerosene lamp. Marry suddenly starts mumbling something in her sleep and then jolts up and start screaming again. Jannat also gets up and runs to her bed hug her again, while she keeps on sobbing.

Then Jannat sits on the bed with her back against the support of the bed in front of the open window and Marry

lies down with her head in her lap still sobbing, as Jannat constantly combs her hair with her fingers and wipe her tears with her scarf and recites some religious verses/scriptures very softly to keep the demons away from her. Marry goes to sleep very peacefully this time with her head in Jannat's lap.

The silhouette of the sitting Jannat is very much visible in the dim light of the flickering lantern, sitting on the bed with Marry's head in her lap in front of the open window with starry sky and a full moon behind her.

Time lapse is shown through the window with stars travelling across the night sky with speed and then the sky starts to change colors gradually (Time lapse ends). The silence is broken by the call for morning prayers "Allah O Akbar, Allah O Akbar". Jannat who stayed in that posture all night long very gently removes Marry's head from her lap, places it on the pillow, kisses her forehead and slowly gets down from the bed, puts blanket till her chin and closes down the window, gathers her beddings from the floor, extinguishes the lantern with a blow, and goes outside the room tip toeing.

INT. VILLAGE GUEST ROOM - MORNING.

Marry gets up and sits on the bed holding her head in her hands try to recall the last night incident. Then she looks at the spot where the mother was lying and sees nothing, not even her mattress. She gets up, stretches herself opens the window and sees an incredible view of a lush green valley with birds chirping and the sun is up then she lifts her face up and close her eyes takes a deep breath in the early morning crisp air and smile, as if feeling relieved that finally it is morning.

EXT. VILLAGE HOUSE - COMPOUND - MORNING.

Door opens up and Marry emerges with a sheepish smile on her face. She sees Palwasha hanging the laundry to dry on the cloth line and two kids on the swing and the younger boy feeding his Rooster, mother is brooming the floor. Marry looks at Jannat and smile and she smiles back at her and keep on brooming the floor. Kids run towards Marry and shake her hand and she smiles at them. Then Marry sits on the chair and starts to wait for her breakfast.

INT. NADIR ACCOMODATION RAWALPINDI - MORNING.

Nadir is entering a house and then into a room where Rizwan his roommate is sitting on the floor watching TV.

NADIR

(Urdu Language. Sub title starts)

Aslam O Eleckum

RIZWAN

Walekum U Salam, you were missing for a couple of days, I was worried about you.

NADIR

I went to my village for a day.

RIZWAN

Is all well there? Was it an emergency?

NADIR

Yes all well!

RIZWAN

So you travelled 800 kilometers to your village without any reason?

NADIR

I was missing my family, nothing else.

Rizwan looks at him with a bit of suspicion as if disbelieving his story.

EXT. COMPOUND OF HOUSE. MORNING LATER.

Marry eating eggs with Paratha and sipping Lassi while Palwasha waters the plants in the garden and some chickens pecking in the nearby compound and the Rooster (Sher Khan) walking here and there guarding the flock.

As soon as Marry finishes her breakfast and drinking a cup of tea, there is knock at the door and Palwasha come flying toward her and pushes her towards the room.

INT. VILLAGE GUEST HOUSE - MORNING.

Marry runs into her room and locks the door from inside and then rests her back against the locked door gasping for breath looking terrified.

Then there was a knock at the door and Palwasha voice coming from outside.

PALWASHA

You can come out it is my husband.

Marry unlocks the door and peeps through the ajar door and sees Palwasha standing outside and signaling with her hand to come out of the room. Marry goes outside and sees Ayub holding a chicken upside down with its legs in one hand and a knife in the other.

AYUB

Aslam O Eleckum.

MARRY

Hello.

Then he walks toward the end of the compound and cuts the throat of the chicken with a knife with kids watching in amazement and starts to take the feathers off the bird. Marry goes toward the swing and sits on it and is joined by Palwasha a few minutes later.

MARRY

I hope that mother will not mind you sitting with me and not helping her?

PALWASHA

I have finished my day's work already and now I can relax a little with you.

MARRY

It is only 8 AM and you have already finished your day's work?

PALWASHA

If you get up at 5 AM, you can.

MARRY

I feel like an unnecessary burden on your family especially with what happened last night.

PALWASHA

Marry you are our guest and guests in our religion are the blessings of the Almighty Allah.

MARRY

Please tell me how you respond when someone says Aslam O Eleckum?

PALWASHA

(Giggle)

I love you too.

MARRY

Your husband said it to me this morning.

PALWASHA

(Laughing)

"Walekum Aslam" would be better.

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM - USA- DAY

No sound in this scene.

Afsheen (Roommate) is sitting in the interrogation room being questioned by a couple of white male detectives who are showing her a complete file on Marry Ann's failed attempt to smuggle heroin and she is replying to their questions.

EXT. COMPOUND OF VILLAGE HOUSE - AFTERNOON

Marry and Palwasha sitting under a tree in the garden on chairs with a table in front with Marry chopping Coriander leaves and Palwasha chopping Onions and keeping a plate full of freshly cut fruits in the middle. They keep on munching on the fruits while doing their work and conversing with each other.

MARRY

Fruits are so fresh and delicious here.

PALWASHA

Yes, our climate is very favorable for growing of fruits.

MARRY

Which fruits grow here?

PALWASHA

We have Plums, Apricots, Peaches, Apples, Pears, cherries and of course Mulberry here.

MARRY

What about vegetables?

PALWASHA

We grow wheat, Potatoes, onions, peas, cucumber, chilies, lady fingers and tomatoes.

MARRY

What about milk and butter?

PALWASHA

We have one cow and one buffalo and they are kept at our community farm outside the village, where they are fed and milked and my husband collects our milk daily after his early morning prayer. Then Jannat makes butter and curd and even cooking oil from it.

MARRY

Do you sell fruits and vegetable grown here?

PALWASHA

We do it but not for money. We exchange it with rice, wheat, ginger, peanuts and garlic which are not grown here.

EXT. OUTDOOR KITCHEN VILLAGE - AFTERNOON.

Jannat is putting some more wood underneath the already lit stove with a huge pot on it sizzling with heated oil and then she puts the freshly sliced chicken and rest of the ingredients into a sizzling stew and covers it with the lid.

EXT. VILLAGE HOUSE BED SWING GARDEN - AFTERNOON

MARRY

So wood is the only fuel available here?

PALWASHA

Yes.

MARRY

Does that mean cutting a lot of trees?

PALWASHA

Not a lot, but very few and we look for trees that are burnt by lightning strikes.

MARRY

Does lightening strikes very frequently here?

PALWASHA

Yes. In the rainy season lightening strikes very often and it burns the sap of the tree and it can't be revived and becomes ideal for fuel as its wood becomes bone dry. And food does tastes best when cooked on wood.

MARRY

Yes, I noticed it too the slight aroma of wood in the food. Amazing!

PALWASHA

Our CHIEFTAIN is very strict on cutting trees so most of our forest is preserved.

MARRY

What about winters, do you people use wood to warm the house?

PALWASHA

In winters this area becomes unlivable with an average of 12 feet of snow and people migrate to the lower areas and we go to Peshawar ourselves and come back as soon as the snow starts to melt.

MARRY

So, this village becomes absolutely deserted during winters.

PALWASHA

Yes. Deserted and under the snow.

EXT. UNDER THE TREE. VILLAGE- AFTERNOON

The food is served on a large table under the tree and everybody starts enjoying steaming boiled rice with chicken gravy and Lasee. In the middle of the table is a plate full of freshly cut pieces of cucumber, tomatoes and onions. Marry puts boiled rice in her plate and mixes it with freshly cooked chicken gravy, then she takes a spoonful into her mouth and closes her eyes with the sheer taste of it. Wajid takes some rice and secretly puts them under the table and only Marry notices it as she looks under the table and sees Sher Khan pecking on the rice. She smiles at the Wajid and he smiles back.

EXT. VILLAGE HOUSE ON THE SWING - DUSK

Marry is sitting all alone and the swing is moving to and fro very slowly with a squeaking sound, the sun is setting in front of her and a flock of crane is flying away in a formation. Then the darkness starts to set in, crickets start to chirp and stars start to appear along-with the moon (Time lapse).

MARRY (V.O)

It is going to be night soon and my demons will come alive again. Why can't I sleep peacefully? Why I have to dread nights?

Nature has many ways to punish you and the worst is when it instills in you the fear of going to the bed. I am fine when there are people around me, but when I am alone at night; my fear attacks me like a pack of hungry wolves waiting for the pray to get separated from the herd. They growl, snarl and tear my flesh all night long. Perhaps I am reaping what I sew and getting the damnation that I deserve.

Marry is jarred awake from her deep thoughts by a hand on shoulder and she almost screamed. She turns around and sees the kind face of Jannat, who kisses her head and held her hand and led her to her room.

INT. GUEST ROOM VILLAGE - NIGHT

Then Jannat very gently tucks her into the bed and brings her own beddings and put it on the same spot on the floor, then she comes near Marry and recites some religious scriptures and blows Marry on her forehead and looks in her eyes and kisses her forehead.

JANNAT

(Pushto Language. Sub title starts)

My child nobody is going to hurt you, as long as your mother stands guard.

Marry nods her head as if she understands that she now she is safe from the demons of her fear. Jannat then turns off the light and lies down on her beddings.

After a while Marry looks down from the bed and sees that Jannat is sleeping very peacefully on the floor and then drifts into a peaceful sleep herself, feeling safe.

EXT. GARDEN VILLAGE HOUSE - TWO MONTHS LATER - AFTERNOON

Marry wrapped in a thick shawl, sitting all alone on the bed swing and autumn leaves are strewn all around her and falling from above under an overcast sky. Palwasha walks in with a tray of dry fruits and sits with her on the swing.

PALWASHA

People have started to leave the village because of winter season arriving soon.

MARRY

Yes. Jannat told me this morning.

PALWASHA

We will have to stay here, as moving you is risky.

MARRY

How would the winter be like?

PALWASHA

We will experience heavy snow fall and complete power outage.

MARRY

So how will we survive here?

PALWASHA

We have stocked dry fruits, rice and pulses. And of-course we have been collecting eggs for last three months. Boiled eggs keep people warm from inside.

EXT. CORNER OF THE COMPOUND NEXT DAY - MORNING

Ayub is feathering a chicken with kids around him watching with interest.

MARRY

We have eaten all the chickens, I guess.

PALWASHA

Yes, and the last one today as they will not survive extreme cold weather, so it is better to eat them before they die.

EXT. CORNER OF THE COMPOUND-AFTERNOON (Continues)...

Wajid, the younger son of Palwasha is carrying the Rooster under his arm and running around the house at full speed with a horrified look on his face and his father holding knife, with other kids running after him laughing out loudly. They keep on chasing him but do not catch him

intentionally. Jannat stands in the Veranda laughing as well.

MARRY

What is going on?

AYUB

The kids told him that father is going to skin your Rooster too and he is running since then holding onto his dear "Sher Khan."

MARRY

You devil. Everybody knows he is too possessive about his pet Rooster.

INT. US EMBASSY OFFICE, ISLAMABAD - EARLY MORNING.

The fax is lying in front on the table of Richard carrying an image of a visiting card with a US cell phone number on it. He picks up the land line phone and dials a number.

RICHARD

Hey Mike how are you? Richard here again from US embassy Islamabad. Good, good. I am fine. Hey listen do you still remember Miss Marry Anne who tried to smuggle 20 KG ...? Yes, the same lady, well she is still on the run.

OK good so your detectives went to her mother's house and you also interrogated her roommate from Pakistan. Any leads for me? OK. Hey Mike listen today I was in conversation with Anti Drug office, Islamabad and they told me that when she was frisked at the airport, a visiting card was recovered from her pocket with a US cell phone number on it, and today they faxed that card to me, no names on it only a plain number. I am faxing it to you, just check it and let me know what you find.

EXT. KITCHEN - MORNING

The boys of Palwasha discussing something in whispers in the kitchen and then one points towards the bottle of honey on the top shelves lying close to the basket containing eggs. The older one starts to climb onto the shelves carefully, while the younger one watches and as soon as he tried to get hold of the honey jar, he slipped and tried to grab onto the shelf and accidentally his hand lands on the egg basket and it falls on the ground smashing eggs. The loud noise attracts the Jannat and Palwasha and they rushed to the kitchen and see broken eggs strewn all over the kitchen floor. On their arrival both boys take off from the kitchen and the Jannat mumbles something angrily in local language and runs after them but comes back in a while empty handed and sees Palwasha gathering broken eggs into a large bowl and she starts to help her.

PALWASHA

(Pushto Language. Sub title Starts)

We were stocking these eggs for the last 3 months for the winters.

JANNAT

Try to separate the egg shells from the eggs and discard the rest. Not much is left and we have a guest to feed. See if some eggs survived the fall.

PALWASHA

Only two eggs survived the fall and the rest are all mixed up with pieces of broken shells, can't be consumed for sure.

INT. PALWASHA BEDROOM - AFTERNOON

Palwasha sitting on the bed and both boys standing in front of her with their heads bowed down as if they have accepted their guilty verdict.

PALWASHA

What were you thinking when you broke those eggs?

HASSAN

(Pointing toward the younger one)
He told me that he wants to eat honey and knows exactly where grandma has hidden it.

WAJID

It was his idea not mine's. He was hungry.

HASSAN

No, he was hungry.

PALWASHA

So why you did not tell me that you want to eat honey?

Both kids with their heads bent down stay quiet as if they are full of guilt and remorse.

PALWASHA Continues...

You know we have a guest in our house and we have been collecting these eggs for the last 3 months to have enough food that would last at least 5 months of winters but alas you two have ruined our stock.

HASSAN

Do not worry Mom; I will give my share of food to Marry.

WAJID

Mine too.

(Sub title ends)

Palwasha hugs both and says do not worry about sharing your food with Marry; we will all eat a little less this winter.

INT. VILLAGE GUEST ROOM - AFTERNOON.

Marry and Palwasha standing at the window of the guest room watching dark clouds gather on the sky.

PALWASHA

Today the last family left the village and now we are the only one left behind.

MARRY

Is there any reason to feel scared?

PALWASHA

No, as long as we are all together.

And then all of a sudden there is thunder and lightning, and the snowflakes starts to fall from the sky and then it becomes rapid and attracts the attention of the kids and they start to jump on the bed with sheer excitement. Then the older kid opens the door and runs outside to play in the snow and the rest of the kids follow.

EXT. VILLAGE HOUSE VERANDA - AFTERNOON

Marry and Palwasha goes into the veranda as well to watch the kids play in the snow. Jannat and Ayub are already standing there and telling the kids to come back. Kids are not listening to the grandma and start to call Palwasha and Marry to join them instead. Both Marry and Palwasha look at each other and then they look at Jannat who SHAKES HER HEAD VIGOROUSLY, TOTALLY DISAPPROVING THIS VERY ACT. But both Marry and Palwasha ignores her and join the kids.

JANNAT

(Pushto Language. Sub title starts)

Son! I told your wife not to go in the snow but she didn't listen.

AYUB

Comon! Mother let them enjoy, how many opportunities of joy comes in their lives here in the village anyway.

JANNAT

It is not a matter of joy. It is a matter of disobedience to me and look at your wife behaving like kids as if she has seen the snow for the very first time.

AYUB

Palwasha come back you will catch cold and Marry you too.

MARRY

Do not worry I am from New York. It snows more there.

JANNAT

I have a bad feeling about this already. These stupid girls have no idea what they are doing and also look at what they are wearing, thin clothes. Last thing we need is someone catching cold here.

(Sub title ends)

Both girls and kids keep on playing in the snow despite receiving angry looks form Jannat.

EXT.VILLAGE HOUSE VERANDA - EVENING. CONTINUES...

They play in the snow for a very long time and then they come back still giggling and fully covered in snow from head to toe. Marry and Palwasha comes in the Veranda and shake their snow off still laughing. Jannat looks at them with a very angry look and they go into the room avoiding eye contact with her, still laughing.

INT. VILLAGE HOUSE GUEST ROOM - NIGHT

All family members sitting on the floor around a sheet with food placed in the middle and a kerosene lamp. The blizzard

is howling outside and sporadic lightening is visible through the cracks of closed window/door and occasional sound of thunder. THE ROOSTER (SHER KHAN) IS TRAPPED UNDER AN INVERTED LARGE SIZE PERFORATED JUTE BASKET in the corner of the room and a wooden fire hearth glowing in the corner, while family enjoy their dinner. Both Palwasha and Marry look at each other and smile while avoiding eye contact with an angry Jannat.

INT. VILLAGE HOUSE GUEST ROOM - MORNING

Marry opening her reddish eyes and sits on the bed with a running nose and then she starts sneezing, the blizzard is still howling outside. Then she gets up and wraps the blanket around her and goes into the washroom and comes back coughing severally as if she is facing some difficulty in breathing. She then runs back to her bed and covers herself entirely with the blanket, shivering and sneezing.

INT. VILLAGE GUEST ROOM - MORNING.

Palwasha enters the room and sees Marry lying in the bed and totally under the blanket.

PALWASHA

Good Morning Sister, rise and shine.

Palwasha removes blanket from Marry's face and sees her burning eyes, reddish nose and a pale face, she puts the palm of her hand on Marry's forehead and her eyes becomes wide with horror.

Marry you are burning in fever.

Marry starts coughing uncontrollably. Jannat enters the room.

PALWASHA

(Pushto Language. Sub title starts)

(With panicky eyes)

Mother Marry is very sick.

Jannat comes toward Marry and puts her hand on her forehead and the expression on her face become tense and then she looks at Palwasha with anger.

JANNAT

It happened what I dreaded. I told you not to go into the snow but you never listened to me.

PALWASHA

Sorry mother, I should have listened to you. Please forgive me.

JANNAT

Get aside and let me inspect her closely.

Jannat puts her hand on her forehead again and then touches her feet.

She has high fever and her feet are icy cold.

MARRY

(Groaning)

My head hurts, my eyes are burning, and my throat is thorny, can't even swallow my own saliva and can't breathe easily.

The door opens and the kids enter the room with smiling faces and then look at the gloomy atmosphere of the room and become silent.

JANNAT

(Pushto Language. Sub title starts)

Leaves Marry and turns toward the kids.

You little rascals she is sick because of you and there is no hospital around. Why you forced her to play with you in the snow?

The kids immediately bow their heads down as if they have accepted the guilty verdict instantly.

JANNAT (Continues...)

I am going to make some tea and fresh bread for her. Palwasha you massage her forehead and kids go and massage her feet so that they stay warm.

(Sub title ends)

Palwasha sits on the bed and puts Marry's head in her lap and start to massage her forehead and the kids sat on the end of the bed and start to massage her feet with their hands to make them warm.

INT. VILLAGE GUEST ROOM-MORNING. Continues...

The blizzard keeps on howling outside as Jannat enters the room with a hot cup of tea and some bread. Marry leaves the lap of Palwasha and sits on the bed with her back against the support of the bed and Jannat sits beside her and starts to give her tea with spoon and as soon as Marry takes the first sip of the tea she cries with pain and then she again tries to swallow a piece of bread and then screams again holding her throat.

MARRY

Mother my throat hurt so much; I can't swallow your tea or your bread and then she sneezes three times.

JANNAT

(Pushto Language. Sub title begins)

My child then how will you recover without taking food?

MARRY

Mother it feels like a thorny cactus is stuck in my throat. Can I have one more blanket please, it is so cold here?

Palwasha tells Jannat what Marry just said.

Then Marry starts to cough uncontrollably and slips under her blanket and starts to moan and groan while Palwasha goes back to massage her forehead and the kids back to her feet. And the mother puts the cup of tea and the bread on the side table and fetches another blanket from the sofa and puts it on Marry and then puts some more firewood in the hearth in the room.

INT. VILLAGE GUEST ROOM - MORNING LATER**JANNAT****(Pushto Language. Sub title starts)**

Jannat is standing close to the bed with her worrisome eyes fixed on Marry as Palwasha continues to massage Marry's forehead and kids her feet avoiding eye contact with very angry Jannat.

It is your entire fault that she is sick and she is our responsibility and if something happens to her, we will never forgive ourselves.

The blizzard keeps on howling and snarling outside.

INT. VILLAGE GUEST ROOM - MORNING. TWO DAYS LATER.

The snow storm keeps on raging outside as Marry's situation worsen and she grew weaker and weaker and loses her appetite completely.

Everyone in the room is ridden with guilt and remorse about being reckless with their guest and starts to pray with fervor and faith. Jannat puts a praying mat close to the bed and starts to offer her prayer.

INT. VILLAGE GUEST ROOM - NIGHT.

Blizzard is growling and snarling outside and the whole room is gloomy in the light of frail kerosene oil lantern and all family members are very tense sitting around Marry. Door opens and Ayub comes in and looks at the condition of a very sick Marry and becomes extremely worried. Marry sees him with eyes half closed.

MARRY

Ayub take me to the hospital please, or I will die.

AYUB

The closest medical facility is 300 kilometers away from here and the snow storm is still at its peak.

MARRY

I might not see tomorrow. Please do something. I am in pain. Please, please.

Ayub moves to the corner of the room and calls Jannat and they enter into a long conversation and after the talks are over Ayub and Jannat goes out of the room.

PALWASHA**(Pushto language)**

Kids move into their room and stay there.

Now only Palwasha is left in the room with a very sick Marry, still massaging her head and reciting a religious scripture softly with eyes closed and Marry lies in her lap sobbing and moaning with pain.

INT. GUEST ROOM-NIGHT - LATER

Jannat comes inside with a steaming large bowl of soup with Ayub who quickly closes the door behind her. The storm is

still at its peak with strong winds howling outside like a wolf sensing the death of an injured animal inside.

JANNAT

Palwasha makes Marry sit upright and stack the pillow behind her for support.

MARRY

Marry raises her hand and signals to Jannat to take the soup back.

Jannat, whatever you have prepared for me; please take it back, even the sight of the food makes me puke.

JANNAT

Fully understanding that Marry's appetite has died completely and she will try not to drink the special soup.

(Pushto Language. Sub title begins)

My dear child if you will not drink this special soup, the chances are that you will not make it through the night. Look at yourself; you are nothing more than a skeleton now.

MARRY

Palwasha please tell Jannat to take it back, I just can't drink her soup.

PALWASHA

(With tears rolling down her cheeks)

Marry please don't die on me, I will never forgive myself. Please just try to take few spoonfuls and if you do not like it, we will not force you to drink more. Mother has made it outside in the cold especially for you from our very meager ration.

Reluctantly Marry agrees and then Jannat brings the bowl of soup closer to her mouth and the chunks of meat along-with boiled eggs cut into half pieces are very much visible in the bowl. Jannat then gently fills a spoon and puts it in the mouth of Marry who surprisingly swallows it without pain and her eyes opens up with the taste of it. Then she takes more spoons full and eats the meat and eggs from the Jannat's hand. To everyone's amazement she empties the large bowl and then asks for more. Marry drinks two large bowls of that magical soup that night and then falls asleep like a log tucked under a couple of warm blankets, with the snow storm snarling outside.

INT. VILLAGE GUEST ROOM. NEXT DAY- MORNING

The storm abates that morning as Marry opens her eyes after sleeping without much pain that night. She sits on the bed and hears birds chirping outside. She gets out of the bed stretches herself and wraps a blanket around her and opens the window and sees a sparkling sunny day outside, which further lifts her sagging spirits up. She closes her eyes and smell fresh air when Palwasha walks into her room with a surprise look on her face. Marry moves toward her and hugs her.

PALWASHA

You look good Marry, you look great!

MARRY

I feel good because of that energy reviving soup that Jannat prepared for me last night.

PALWASHA

I am so much relieved that you are better now; otherwise the guilt was killing me from inside.

MARRY

What are the ingredients of the soup?

PALWASHA

You can ask mother, as she made it, I was too busy massaging your snow filled head.

EXT. VILLAGE HOUSE VERANDA - LATER

Marry opens the door wrapped in a blanket and sees everything under the white blanket of the snow and warm gentle sun shining on a cloudless blue sky. Jannat comes and kisses Marry Anne on her forehead and both cheeks and puts a thick woolen cap on her head and gets back to her work in the kitchen.

Marry starts to walk around the house and sees Wajid the YOUNGER SON of Palwasha sitting in the backyard and weeping with something lying in front of him. On seeing Marry he darts off into his room with an angry look on his face. Marry goes further and sees THE HEAD, CLAWS AND FEATHER OF THE ROOSTER (SHER KHAN) LYING ON THE SNOW WITH BLOOD STAINS ALL AROUND IT. Initially she wasn't able to understand that what happened to him and then she recalls (Flash back of soup bowl) that last night soup contained chicken meat and no other chicken was around other than Sher Khan.

Marry runs hysterically toward the guest room passing Jannat on her way towards the guest room and finds it empty then she runs toward the other room and finds Palwasha there folding the laundry.

MARRY

(Almost screaming)

Did you cook Sher Khan last night?

Palwasha looks at her and goes back to work of folding the laundry. Marry grabs her by the shoulders and shakes her rather vigorously and Palwasha shakes off Marry's hands from her shoulders angrily, and try to go away from her but Marry gets in the way.

MARRY

Palwasha answer my question. Did you cook Sher Khan last night?

PALWASHA

Yes. We did as no other source of high protein was in the house.

MARRY

How can you be so ruthless, that Rooster was so dear to your son?

PALWASHA

Marry you were dying as you haven't eaten anything for the last two days.

MARRY

Then you should have let me to die. How can I ever face your son again?

PALWASHA

Palwasha sits on the side of the bed covers her face with both hands and starts to cry.

Your life was more important. If a guest dies in our house due to starvation and a bird stays alive, how can we forgive ourselves?

Marry moves toward her holds her hand and lift her up from the bed and hugs her and begins to cry herself. Then they separate after a little while, wiping their tears.

MARRY

What about your son who has been keeping the Rooster out of the harm's way for a very long time?

PALWASHA

He will get over it or his father will bring him something else, perhaps another Rooster.

INT. VILLAGE GUEST ROOM. EVENING

Marry standing in her room in front of the window and admiring the view with everything under the thick blanket of the snow and little colorful bird pecking on the pine seeds and the sun setting on the top of snow-clad mountains making their peeks look like pure gold.

MARRY (V.O)

What these people won't do for me? and look at how shameful I am; a liar, a drug smuggler, a fugitive and an imposter, who came to their country for her own selfish ulterior motive and now living in their house for free.

These people have nothing yet give me whatever they have, things that I often do not even deserve. What can I give them in return, most probably nothing, nothing at all? Crazy people of this mystical place called Dhanak Pur, who are still untouched by the lust of money and the evil that it brings.

EXT. VILLAGE WILD OUTDOORS - MORNING.

(Time Lapse, song playing "Bahar Ayee" in the background).

Fresh greenery protruding out of melting snow with smiling wild flowers and the frozen rivers starting to melt and run and fresh twigs started to grow on trees and birds feeding their offspring's in the nests, squirrels scurrying up and down the tree trunks and Marmots protruding their heads from their burrows. Villagers are coming back and the village starts to come alive with sights and sounds.

EXT. COMPOUND OF THE VILLAGE HOUSE - AFTERNOON.

There is a knock at the door and Palwasha answers and Nadir walks in with a smile carrying some shopping bags.

NADIR

Aslam O Eleckum

PALWASHA

Walek um Aslam father

Everybody gathers around him and he opens his shopping bag and gives a doll to his granddaughter, a kite with a long tail to Hassan, a bubble maker for Wajid, two suits one for Palwasha and one for Marry and a shawl for his wife.

INT. VILLAGE GUEST ROOM - NIGHT

Marry playing Ludo with Palwasha and her two sons on the bed, while her daughter is playing in the background with her doll.

EXT. VILLAGE - PAKISTAN - NIGHT

A male hand is loading rounds into the magazine of an AK 47 and then he puts the magazine into the gun and cocks it. The dogs are barking in the distance and crickets are chirping. Then the silence of the night is shattered by the revert berate of an AK 47 firing red tracers into the night sky, burst after burst.

INT. VILLAGE GUEST ROOM-NIGHT (Continues...)

(Aerial firing continues in the background)

Marry jumps up from the bed with a horrified look on her face and quickly closes the window and looks here and there and then darts toward washroom door and then turns around and slithers under the bed.

INT. GUEST ROOM UNDER THE BED - NIGHT (Continues...)

(Aerial firing continues in the background)

After a while a terrified Marry sees the faces of the kids and the Palwasha looking at her under the bed with a lot of concern.

PALWASHA

(Trying her best to hide her laughter)

Marry what is wrong with you and why are you hiding under the bed?

MARRY

(Her eyes wide open with fear)

Who is firing outside, is it the police?

Palwasha gets up from the floor as the bedroom door swing opens and Jannat walks into the room.

JANNAT

Aerial firing continues outside.

(Pushto Language. Sub title starts)

Chieftain has arrived and is firing tracers into the air. Where is Marry?

Palwasha points under the bed, still trying to suppress her laughter and Jannat also looks down under the bed and sees an absolutely petrified Marry lying flat under the bed.

Then she slowly crawls out from under the bed, still trembling with fear. Kids are rolling on the floor laughing at her.

PALWASHA

That is Chieftain and that is how he announces his arrival in the village by firing aerial rounds from his beloved Kalashnikov. Kids go out and see the tracers in the night sky.

Jannat and the kids go out of the room to see the display of aerial firing outside.

MARRY

Marry sits sheepishly on the same sofa on which the Palwasha is sitting, still giggling a little.

I am happy on his arrival and hope that he allows me to stay in the village and not throw me out.

PALWASHA

We do not do that Marry unless you are a criminal and wanted by the law.

MARRY

Marry instantly feels a lump down her throat and swallows her saliva and tries to change the topic.

Tell me is your Chief married?

PALWASHA

He was once, and his wife was three months pregnant with a baby boy when he abruptly left to participate in the Afghan war against the Russian invasion.

MARRY

And what happened then?

PALWASHA

When he returned home after the war was over, he discovered that his wife and his son died during delivery. He was heartbroken but found comfort in preaching religion. Now he travels all over the world spreading the message of peace.

MARRY

He still does that?

PALWASHA

Yes! He says that while on preaching religion he understood a simple fact of life that you will lose everything that is dear to you someday and that is the way this life operates.

MARRY

So he never showed interest in any other woman after the death of his wife?

PALWASHA

Well! He is still single.

INT. VILLAGE GUEST ROOM - LATER THAT NIGHT

MARRY ANNE

(V.0)

Marry lying on the bed staring at the ceiling, deep in thoughts.

What if he tells me to leave the village and go back to my country? What if he is not like Nadir and his family, what if he disbelieves my cooked up story and starts to investigate it further, what if he dislikes Americans? I badly need to give him a reason, a reason so convincing, that he finds it impossible to refuse.

EXT. COMPOUND OF THE VILLAGE HOUSE PAKISTAN - MORNING

Palwasha and MARRY are sitting in the garden with a table in middle and taking the peas out.

MARRY

Palwasha once you told me that there is no school here for the children of the village.

PALWASHA

None!

MARRY

So, what about your children, would they stay uneducated?

PALWASHA

We all have to stay here to look after our ancestral lands. I will start teaching my kids once I get books from the city as my husband might be going to Peshawar for a couple of days.

MARRY

What about the kids from the rest of the village, who have no educated family members in their homes?

PALWASHA

They will most probably remain uneducated and help their families in ploughing fields and tending to their cattle.

MARRY

Wouldn't that be unfair to them as education is the basic right of every child? I have an idea. I was an elementary school teacher back in my country.

PALWASHA

Are you not a journalist?

MARRY

Yes that too, but before journalism, I taught young children in the best of the schools.

PALWASHA

So, what are you trying to say?

MARRY

If I can convince the Chieftain that I am prepared to open a school of international level here and will run it free of cost in return for safe haven in the village?

PALWASHA

Bargaining with the Chief is not a good idea ask him humbly if you can open a school here? I will share your idea with my husband too.

EXT. VILLAGE HOUSE VERANDA - PAKISTAN - MORNING.

Jannat giving neatly pressed clothes to Nadir and Ayub and Palwasha shining man's shoes. Then both men are about to leave the house and gets graces from the Jannat as she raises her hands skywards for praying.

JANNAT

(Pushto Language. Sub title starts)

I hope and pray that you are successful and the Chieftain agrees to your request and we can keep Marry in our home forever. Go on as God be with you, and we will continuously pray for your success.

EXT. VILLAGE DIRT ROAD TO THE CHIEF MANSION - MORNING

Both Nadir and Ayub walking toward a grand mansion on the hill made from white marble along with more villagers, sharing their greetings with each other.

EXT. MANSION OF CHIEFTAN - MORNING

A huge white mansion on the top of the hill with a high gate being guarded by men with AK 47 wearing black shalwar kameez and black turbans and a large green lawn. A number of shining four-wheel drive vehicles are parked in the garage. Villagers start to sit on the freshly mowed lush green grass waiting for Chieftain to come out of his mansion. Lots of armed guards are seen in the back ground standing alert. Nadir and Ayub enters the mansion and comes near the gathering of villagers.

Nadir and Ayub

Aslam O Eleckum to everyone

Villagers

Walek um Aslam

Then they all sit on the lush green grass in the front lawn.

EXT. CHIEFTAIN MANSION, FRONT DOOR - PAKISTAN - MORNING.

A tall and strongly built man, MURAD KHAN, 45 yrs comes, out of the front door of the mansion in a circle of armed guards, wearing a traditional tribal dress and a large Turban on his head, holding an AK-47 assault rifle in his hand. As soon as he comes near the garden everybody gets up in respect.

MURAD

(Pushto Language. Sub title begins)

Aslam O Eleckum.

VILLAGERS

Walek um Aslam.

Then he puts his weapon on the sofa and stands right in front of the crowd.

MURAD

I was away from the village from the last 1 year and am sure that you and your families are all well.

VILLAGERS

We are all well.

MURAD

Being the chief of this village also makes me responsible for its well being and peace. If anybody is facing a problem or has a worry, please tell me and I will try to sort it out.

VILLAGER 1 (ABDULLAH)

(Stands up)

I brought 100 sacks of rice from the city and villagers should know that if someone wants them, please contact me.

CHIEFTAIN

I am sure everybody has heard that Abdullah has surplus rice. You can buy from him and Abdullah if someone comes and says that he doesn't have money but needs rice, bill that amount to me.

VILLAGER 2 (KHALIL)

I was taking onions from the village to the city but my vehicle fell off the road and all the stock went into the ravine and I have suffered a substantial loss, I need your assistance during this difficult time.

MURAD

Khalil Khan, meet my treasurer MOOSA after this meeting is over and he will compensate all your losses.

VILLAGER 2 (KHALIL)

Thank you. I and my family pray for you.

Sits down on the grass.

VILLAGER 3 (MISHKAT)

Stands up

Chief! A female Leopard took my very expensive goat last night and I need your permission to hunt her down.

MURAD

Mishkat, you know very well that I never allow killing any wildlife in Dhanak Pur that is why the population of the Leopards is on the rise here.

VILLAGER 3 (MISHKAT)

I am fully aware of that Chief but this particular female Leopard has been prowling our village frequently and we were able to fend her off many times but not last night.

MURAD

I am sure that this animal has cubs to feed.

VILLAGER 3 (MISHKAT)

If she has cubs to feed, does this mean that she can steal my livestock?

MURAD

Mishkat what would you do if your children are hungry?

VILLAGER 3 (MISHKAT)

I will try my best to get food for them.

MURAD

That is exactly what the predator is doing?

VILLAGER 3 (MISHKAT)

You made me realize the truth, but what about my loss as that was an expensive and milk giving animal?

MURAD

I will instruct my ranch manager to give you two finest milk giving goats to compensate for your loss but remember that you cannot kill any wildlife in Dhanak Pur.

VILLAGER 3 (MISHKAT)

Thank you very much for your help.

Sits down on the grass.

VILLAGER 4 (JAHANZEB KHAN)

Gets up from the ground

Chief my daughter is getting married on this coming Friday; I need your prayers and grace on this occasion.

MURAD

And to whom is she getting married to Jehanzeb?

VILLAGER 4 (JAHANZEB KHAN)

She is getting married to the eldest son of ALAMGIR KHAN.

At that time ALAMGIR KHAN also stands up in the crowd.

MURAD

I am so happy to see your daughter getting married to the son of ALAMGIR. His son is a good lad and I know him very well. And remember that as long as you side with your son in law instead of your daughter on every matter, both will have a long lasting and a happy marriage.

A feeble laughter is heard in the crowd.

VILLAGER 4 (JAHANZEB KHAN)

I have understood your advice please try to attend the ceremony.

Jhanzeb Khan Sits down on the grass.

NADIR

Nadir and Ayub gets up from the ground.

We have a small issue but needs to be discussed in private.

MURAD

OK after this session is over you and your son can see me in private.

EXT. LAWN OF CHIEFTAIN MANSION-MORNING.

People are shaking hands with Murad and leaving the mansion, after a while only Nadir and his son are left behind. In the background a man is being given two goats and is walking away merrily with them. Murad is standing alone with Nadir and his son listening very patiently to the story of Marry and nodding his head. Then he says something and Ayub leaves while Nadir sits down on a chair in the garden with Murad and then comes a servant with a tray of dry fruits and places it on the table in the middle of them.

EXT. VILLAGE HOME - MORNING.

Ayub enters the house and sees Palwasha brooming the floor.

AYUB

(Pushto language. Sub titles)

Palwasha get Marry ready, the Chief wants to see her.

Palwasha runs toward the guest room.

INT. VILLAGE GUEST ROOM PAKISTAN - MORNING.

Marry is lying on the bed deep in thoughts and then Palwasha comes in the room in a panic.

PALWASHA

Hurry up Marry get ready, the Chief wants to see you.

Marry quickly gets up and Palwasha yanks the Burqa off the hook on the wall and helps Marry to put it on. Then Palwasha ties the head scarf on her head and pulls the gauze veil down on her face.

EXT. VILLAGE DIRT ROAD TO THE CHIEFTAIN MANSION - MORNING.

Marry clad in a long black gown with a detachable head scarf covering her face, is walking behind Ayub toward the white marble mansion of Murad.

EXT. CHIEFTAIN MANSION PAKISTAN - MORNING.

They enter and see Nadir already sitting with Murad talking. A servant instantly brings more chairs and puts them in front of the Chief as Marry sits down with Ayub.

Chief is busy writing something on a letter pad and has his eyes fixed on the paper and does not look up as Marry sits down right in front of him.

Then Marry notices an AK 47 resting on the side of his chair with MAJOR OLEG KOKSHIN (A-681658) engraved on it.

NADIR

This is her Chief.

MARRY

Aslam O Eleckum!

Chief raises his head takes off his reading glasses and looks at her and she looks back and sees the most beautiful emerald eyes, fair complexion, a sharply defined nose and a dense black beard.

MURAD (CHIEF)

Walekum Aslam. So, you are the American lady who made some enemies in Pakistan?

MARRY

Yes, and few friends too.

MURAD

Which part of USA are you from?

MARRY

New York. Have you been to New York?

MURAD

The closest I have been to New York was Maryland, stayed there for a couple of days.

MARRY

So, you have been to USA?

MURAD

Yes! A couple of times. I was told that you are an American journalist who exposed some organized criminal mafia in Pakistan and now they are trying to kill you.

MARRY

Yes.

MURAD

Leans forward and looks directly toward Marry with his emerald eyes.

Now you have two choices, first one is that if you can point those people out, who are threatening you, I will send some of my men to kill them.

Or I can have you escorted to the airport with a contingent of my heavily armed men and from there you can take your flight back home.

MARRY

I neither want retribution and nor would like to go back to my country.

MURAD

(With a very surprise look on his face)

Then, what you want?

MARRY

I have fallen in love with this beautiful place and its people and want to open a world class

school here for the children as it is the basic right of every child to get quality education, why not the children of this village?

MURAD

But I have been told that you are a journalist?

MARRY

Prior to journalism I used to teach children at an elementary school in New York.

MURAD

But for an American citizen who has enjoyed all the luxuries of life in a country like USA wants to live here in a remote village in Pakistan to run a school for the local children? Isn't that a little strange?

MARRY

It will be stranger, if I go back home without doing anything for the people of this village who have showered upon me their love and care.

MURAD

Well, what about your visa and passport?

MARRY

I dropped my passport at the airport, when they tried to grab me and I have five years multiple visas and it has been only 11 months since I am in Pakistan, so I have ample time left.

MURAD

Ok.

MARRY

I want to stay here and open a school. Would you help me?

MURAD

Well, a good school is what we were missing here for a very long time.

MARRY

So, you would help me?

MURAD

(Pushto Language. Sub title starts)

Chieftain looks at Ayub.

Would your wife like to help her since she knows both local and English language?

AYUB

Certainly! They are best of friends already.

MURAD

Chieftain calls one of his men by name (NOOR KHAN), old man, 60 years, white beard, wearing a traditional cap comes and stands in front of him and stands with respect.

Noor Khan what about that poultry farm building on the top of the hill, is it in use?

NOOR KHAN

No Sir. It is abandoned!

(Sub title ends)

Murad hands over his letter pad and ball point to Marry.

MURAD

Make a list of the items that you would need for the school and you can sit in that corner there, where nobody would disturb you.

Pointing towards the corner of the lawn.

Marry goes toward the corner holding the letter pad and the ball point in her hand and a servant arranges a table and a chair for her.

MURAD

(Pushto Language. Sub title begins)

Since you people are accommodating her, do you need any extra ration or perhaps some bags of wheat or rice or I can send you a cow for extra milk?

NADIR

No thank you nothing is needed at the moment.

MURAD

And you told me that she jumped into your vehicle without any luggage.

NADIR

Yes! But I bought her some of the basic items and my daughter-In-law has given her some of her used clothes and shoes.

MURAD

Nods his head.

EXT. CORNER OF THE CHIEFTAIN MANSION PAKISTAN - MORNING.

Marry is making a list of the items that she needs for the school and from the corner of her eye she catches a very healthy Rooster pecking around. She turns around to have a better look and realizes that this is a magnificent bird just like deceased **SHER KHAN**. In the background Murad is still in conversation with Nadir and Ayub.

Marry finishes her list and goes toward Murad and sits right in front of him and then hand over the list to him. Murad put his sight glasses on and starts to read it.

MURAD

Quite a comprehensive list you have made. One of our vehicles is going to Peshawar tonight; I will ask the driver to bring everything from there.

MARRY

That would be wonderful.

MURAD

What is this item? Paper windmills?

MARRY

These windmills are made of paper and kids play with them by holding them in wind and they rotate. They will be used to make school look attractive for the children.

MURAD

Can you draw one? As my driver wouldn't understand?

Marry takes the list back from the chief and draws the picture of the paper windmill and then returns it to him.

MURAD Continues...

Oh, I see, seen somewhere children selling them on a roadside.

MARRY

What about the furniture?

MURAD

We have a local carpenter here in the village, furniture would be his responsibility. And after Friday prayers today, I will announce in the Mosque that a foreign female is here in our village to open a school and educate our children.

MARRY

I am so thankful to you.

MURAD

You are welcome is there anything else that you need?

MARRY

(Pointing towards the pecking bird).

Please do not ask me why, but I badly need that, Rooster.

MURAD

Rooster? Well, it does not belong to me, I think it was brought here by one of my guards, anyway I will find that out, who its owner is and purchase it from him and send it to you. Anything else you need?

MARRY

Well, I have never fired a gun all my life, so I was wondering if I can fire yours.

Nadir and Ayub looks at each other with a look of surprise mixed with little embarrassment on hearing the Marry's unusually bold request in front of the Chief.

MURAD

I never allow anybody to touch it, but we have a very strong tradition here, if a guest asks for something, then we generally do not refuse.

MARRY

Well, that is silly of me, forget it.

Murad picks up his weapon and bolts it and tells Marry to come closer to him with hand gesture and then tells his guards to get away from the line of fire. Marry goes near him and he gives her instructions holding the gun.

MURAD

Press the butt against your shoulder firmly, point the muzzle towards the sky at 45 degree angle, release the safety switch, keep your body weight forward and press the trigger.

Then he hands over the gun to Marry and steps backward. At that moment the winds picks up and Marry's head scarf becomes loose but she could not tighten it, as she is holding the weapon with both hands. So, she points the weapon skywards, releases the safety switch but forgets to shift her weight forward and squeezes the trigger. (SLOW MOTION STARTS) With a loud bang she is thrown backward on the ground because of the weapon's recoil, her head scarf flies away, exposing her long blonde hair as she falls on her back. (SLOW MOTION ENDS)

Everybody burst into laughter except Murad and then Marry gets up hurriedly to hide her embarrassment and turns around facing the crowd with a hot and unsafe weapon pointing straight towards them, everybody instantly stops laughing and lies down on the ground saying "NO, NO" except Murad, who stands like a rock, totally fearless and then walks toward the pointed weapon calmly, as if unaware of the danger that it poses, and gently takes it from her hand WITH DEEP EYE CONTACT, and makes it safe by clicking the switch back to safety.

Marry runs toward her head scarf and quickly puts it back on and drops the veil down on her face.

MURAD

Happy?

MARRY

Yes.

EXT. VILLAGE HOME - AFTERNOON.

Everyone at home is waiting impatiently at the Veranda of the home as Marry enters and lifts her veil with a huge smile on her face.

MARRY

Good news people. He agreed!

Palwasha hugs Marry, holds her hands and starts rotating her. Jannat goes in the background talking to Nadir and Ayub and then raises her hands toward skywards to express her gratitude towards the Almighty.

MARRY Continues...

Marry releases Palwasha.

I can not only stay here but can also open the school.

PALWASHA

Congrats. I am so happy for you.

MARRY

Palwasha happy for us, would you to help me with the school?

PALWASHA

(Wiping her tears off).

Yes, Marry Yes.

Then both hold each other hands and start to rotate each other with full speed and the whole house echoes with their laughter.

EXT. VILLAGE HOUSE - LATER - AFTERNOON.

There is a knock at the door and Nadir goes and answers and comes back holding a magnificent Rooster in his hand, Marry sees it and quickly grabs the Rooster from his hands and puts it under an inverted perforated basket and shouts.

MARRY

Palwasha bring the kids out I have a surprise for your boys.

Palwasha and the kids come out of their room and looks at Marry as she lifts the basket off the Rooster comes out and the house echoes with the shouts of happiness from the boys as they hug Marry in gratitude.

INT. VILLAGE MOSQUE - AFTERNOON

Murad is wearing prayer cap standing in the front and addressing the congregation of the worshippers.

MURAD

(Pushto Language. Sub title starts)

I have a very important announcement to make. We have an American lady here in our village, who wants to open a free school for our children. Today she asked for my permission and I said Yes as our children needs education as their basic right. She is currently staying in the home of Nadir (puts a hand on Nadir's shoulder as he is standing next to him), and since his daughter in law is also educated and can converse very easily in Pashto and English, therefore she will also help her to teach our children. I have donated the old poultry farm building on the top of the hill to her and tomorrow we will start to renovate it. My request to you all is to send your children to the school with no exception. And I also want all of you to extend your full cooperation and respect to her and accept her as your family member; after all she will be educating our future generation.

All villagers keep on nodding while listening to the Chieftain speaks.

(Sub title ends)

INT. GUEST BEDROOM - AFTERNOON

Palwasha and Marry are both sitting on the sofa in the bedroom and eating dry fruits.

MARRY

I am so much relieved now as if a rock has been lifted off my shoulders.

PALWASHA

Me too Marry.

MARRY

Your father in law was telling me that it is one of your traditions that even if your worst enemy come and ask you for refuge, you people never refuse? Is that true?

PALWASHA

Yes.

MARRY

And if his enemy attacks him then you people will fight back to save him, is that also true?

PALWASHA

Yes. Very much! See that guest becomes a matter of our respect and honor, doesn't really matter if he was our enemy or a blonde American girl.

Both women burst into laughter.

PALWASHA

I heard from my husband that you also fired the beloved weapon of the Chief? The rumors are that he never allows anybody to even touch it.

MARRY

His gun was resting against his chair and since he was apparently in a generous mood, so I thought I will ask him if I could fire his weapon and he reluctantly agreed to it and I fired, Bang.

(Marry still sitting on the sofa and imitating with hands, as if firing a gun, with a muzzle jump)

PALWASHA

I have never met him in person but I have heard that he is a very handsome man with green eyes. Is that true?

MARRY

Yes, my eyes got locked onto his for a brief moment and I went into a complete daze, but then I blinked accidentally and killed the magic. He is extremely good looking but never smiles.

PALWASHA

Yes, Perhaps, because of the sad death of his wife and infant son.

Then there was a knock at the door and Jannat walks in and ask Marry to follow her with hand signal.

EXT. VILLAGE HOUSE COMPOUND - EVENING.

As soon as Marry comes out of her room, she sees lot of village women and kids anxious to meet her in the compound of the house. They come one by one and kiss Marry's hands and kids shook hands with her and some of them brought gifts, a basket of Pears, a bowl of Apples, some caps and shawls and showed immense respect to her. Marry wears different traditional caps brought by the guests and village women and children applaud her.

EXT. VILLAGE HOUSE - MORNING.

There is a knock at the door and Ayub opens the door and standing outside is SHAFIQ AKBAR, 26 Yrs, the Carpenter with a saw and a sack full of tools on his shoulder.

AYUB

(Pushto language. Sub title starts)

Aslam O Eleckum Shafiq.

SHAFIQ

Walekum Aslam, I am sent by the Chief, he told me that you know where to take me for work.

AYUB

Yes. Give me a minute Shafiq, I will be right back.

He comes inside the house to wear his waist coat and puts on his shoes. Hassan the elder son sees that father is going out so he starts to coax him to take him as well and succeeds.

EXT. MUD ROAD TOWARDS THE HILL TOP - MORNING.

Ayub, Hassan and Shafiq are ascending a very beautiful hill with dandelions blooming all around and birds chirping. Some more kids from the village also join the party as they keep on ascending the hill on a dirt track.

EXT. TOP OF THE HILL - MORNING.

Then they reach the top of the hill and see an old building structure with a lot of windows and doors and a huge tree behind it. They push the door and it opens up with a very loud creaking sound.

INT. POULTRY FARM BUILDING VILLAGE - MORNING.

They enter the building and see a lot of cobwebs, poultry feeding pots strewn everywhere, a small chicken coop made from bricks in the corner of the building and a long rope lying next to a wooden plank. The floor is fully covered with chicken feathers and cluttered with debris. The shaft of early morning sun light is streaking through the broken window panes and everything is covered with dust. A pigeon flies from the ceiling scaring everybody and goes out of the broken window.

SHAFIQ (CARPENTER)

(Pushto Language. Sub title starts)

I can bring my team and supplies tomorrow as now I know how much work is there, but would appreciate if someone can clean this building first.

AYUB

I was going to say the same thing that we should clean it first as I can still smell the chicken droppings. Let us open all windows and let the fresh air cross this building.

Then they start to open all doors and windows. Some of the windows are totally jammed and the Shafiq has to take out his tools to pry them open.

AYUB Continues...

We will invite all women of the village tomorrow morning to come and clean this building first.

One of the kids takes out the rope and the other kid the wooden plank from the building and they walked out with others out of the building.

EXT. VILLAGE SCHOOL BUILDING FRONT OPEN AREA - MORNING.

AYUB

What are you going to do with this rope and this wooden plank?

VILLAGE KID

Let us make a swing on that tree for the students, every school has swings.

AYUB

Good idea.

(Sub title ends)

The carpenter starts to cut the wooden plank to the size of the swing base with the help of his saw. He then opens his tool box and takes out a hand drill and drills four holes on each corner of the wooden plank. Then they tie the rope on all four corners and a kid climbs the tall tree and ties the two rope ends to a very thick branch. Then everybody takes turns in checking the strength and the balance of the swing in the end they do minor adjustments and the swing is ready to roll.

EXT. COMPOUND OF THE VILLAGE HOUSE - AFTERNOON

Marry and Palwasha sitting in the garden of the house munching on some dry apricots and walnuts. Then Ayub joins them and sits on a chair in front of them.

AYUB

Marry today I visited the building, where we want to open your school.

MARRY

What you saw?

AYUB

It is very dirty, cluttered and full of chicken feathers, with some of the window glass broken, and entrance door has been consumed by the Termites. But this building can be fixed as the roof is in a perfectly good condition with no signs of leakages.

MARRY

How big this structure is, size wise?

AYUB

It is big enough to accommodate at-least 30 children. It is 40 feet in width and 70 feet in length.

PALWASHA

I think that our student's count will not exceed 30 children in any case whatsoever.

MARRY

So what is the next step?

AYUB

First step is that all ladies will go there to clean it thoroughly. Then the men will go and fix broken window panes and the carpenter will start making chairs and desks. And the next day painters will go there to paint the interior and the exterior of the building to make it look new.

MARRY

I need a large bell too to announce that the school has started. That bell should be big enough, as its sound has to reach all corners of the village.

AYUB

There is an iron smith in the village, let me talk to him.

MARRY

I am so excited to see the building of the school and the entire village.

AYUB

Chief has also allowed you to move in the village freely but of course wearing traditional dresses only.

PALWASHA

After the opening ceremony of the school, we will give you a tour of our beautiful village.

EXT. COMPOUND OF THE VILLAGE HOUSE - EVENING.

There is a knock at the door and Ayub goes to check, and in comes two men with two large boxes and a blackboard, places them in the veranda. One man leaves the house and the other one stays behind.

MAN

(Pushto Language. Sub title starts)

Everything on the list is here.

AYUB

Thank you very much. The teacher will check each and every item herself later on.

MAN

Takes out a paper windmill out of a shopping bag.

That was the most difficult item to find in Peshawar, took us an entire afternoon running from one shop to another.

AYUB

Such things are hard to find. Say thanks to the Chief.

MAN

While leaving the house

I will do that. Aslam O Eleckum!

AYUB

Walekum Aslam!

(Sub title ends)

Palwasha comes out and sees all the stuff and runs inside the room to tell Marry that her school supplies are here.

Both come out of the room looking excited and start to open the boxes. They open the first box and gradually take out all the items one by one. They arrange the contents on the floor neatly, books, copies, pencils, sharpeners, erasers, coloring books, color pencils, crayons and geometry boxes. Palwasha keeps on telling her children not to touch anything as they come close.

Then they unwrap the blackboard and put it on its tripod and admire it. Then they look at the shopping bag containing the paper windmills and since there is no wind at that moment so it does not rotate. Palwasha starts running holding it and it starts to rotate with full speed. Marry starts laughing at Palwasha's action as kids join her. Jannat stands there in the background smiling with Ayub.

JANNAT

(Pushto language. Sub title starts)

Marry has brought so much happiness for our family, I hope that she stays in our home forever and may Allah protect her from the evil eye.

AYUB

Amen.

Then Marry and Palwasha opens the last carton and are surprised that the box contained expensive traditional female dresses, shoes, hair brushes, caps, foreign shampoos, facial creams, fragrant soaps, perfumes, lipsticks, flip flops, foreign chocolates, biscuits and candies. The children gather around the chocolates and the candies to get some.

PALWASHA

(Pushto Language. Sub title)

Do not touch anything as it belongs to Marry.

MARRY

No Palwasha they are not mine, but ours.

Marry starts to distribute the chocolates very generously among the kids. Then both of them sat down on the swing bed in the lawn munching on the chocolates.

MARRY

So, Palwasha what is the plan for tomorrow, do we leave at the crack of the dawn with brooms and mops?

PALWASHA

Not we, me only from this family as mother would be taking care of you and the kids.

MARRY

Why not me? Chief has given permission to me to go out in the village?

PALWASHA

Marry it is against our traditions to get work from a guest.

MARRY

(Shaking her head)

You and your traditions Palwasha, and for how long would I be a guest here?

PALWASHA

You can stay with the mother and the kids and I will be back, maximum by noon. And in the meanwhile, you can try those dresses that the Chief sent for you.

Then they put everything back into the cartons and pick them up and moved inside the room.

EXT. COMPOUND OF THE VILLAGE HOUSE - EARLY MORNING

It is a bright sunny day and Palwasha is drinking a cup of tea and Jannat in the background cooking something on wood fire, when there is a knock at the door. Palwasha opens the door and sees a group of women carrying brooms, mops and buckets standing outside. Palwasha puts her head scarf on and quickly grabs her broom and runs outside to join them.

EXT. MUD ROAD TO THE SCHOOL BUILDING - EARLY MORNING.

A group of woman and girls marching toward the top of the mountain and the sun is rising behind them. They are singing a local song in a chorus and look happy and joyful. Then they cross path with a large herd of mountain goats with the Shepherd right behind them.

INT. VILAGE SCHOOL BUILDING - MORNING.

A group of women brooming the floor and some of them are removing cobwebs by tying a broom on a bamboo pole and some dusting the windows. Then they throw water on the floor with the help of the buckets and then wipe the floor and then they mopped the floor dry.

EXT. VILLAGE SCHOOL BUILDING - AFTERNOON.

A couple of women are raking the fallen leaves from the Veranda of the building. Then all the females are coming out of the building and going back to the village with clearing tools in their hands and singing merrily.

EXT. SCHOOL BUILDING - LATER.

Village men are painting the building from outside, walls being painted in white and roof in red color. Then a couple of men hanging a large bell made of shining bronze on the side of the building and trying it after hanging it.

INT. SCHOOL BUILDING - EVENING.

Village men painting the building from inside, some are fixing broken window panes and the carpenters are busy in making the benches and tables for the children. Then the door opens up and a couple of villagers enter with blackboard and a box full of school supplies and paper windmills.

INT. GUEST ROOM VILLAGE - NIGHT

Palwasha and Marry are sitting inside the guest room on the bed and talking to each other.

PALWASHA

Tomorrow is a big day Marry.

MARRY

Yup! The opening ceremony of the school.

PALWASHA

And after the ceremony I will show you, the entire village including the Lake.

MARRY

I have only seen the path to the Chief's Mansion and that too through my veil.

PALWASHA

Tomorrow you can see everything.

MARRY

I am so excited about tomorrow morning; I will think about the school all night long.

PALWASHA

You will dream about school tonight?

MARRY

I might, as I used to see a DREAM very regularly, when I was in US.

PALWASHA

What sort of DREAM was that Marry?

MARRY

It was about a magical place but this dream just vanished as soon as I arrived in Pakistan. Anyway, so what should I wear for tomorrow?

PALWASHA

The red suit that Chieftain sent for you, and do a little makeup, as you will be a VIP tomorrow morning, so you better shine.

MARRY

Palwasha I hope that Murad also comes tomorrow.

PALWASHA

I don't think so as I have heard that he has gone to the continent of Africa this time to preach the religion of God.

(Yawning)

OK good night as tomorrow is a big day.

EXT. SCHOOL BUILDING - MORNING.

Villagers are hanging balloons and other decorations around the building of the school and a painter painting the name of the school with black paint. Some kids are fixing colorful paper windmills around the school by tying them on long wooden poles and hammering the poles into the ground. The windmills instantly start to rotate in strong wind, making the ambience even more beautiful.

INT. VILLAGE SCHOOL BUILDING - MORNING.

Villagers are tying colorful ribbons on the ceiling of the school and some are sticking colorful balloons on the walls. Freshly painted benches, tables and a new blackboard are already in place.

EXT. VILLAGE SCHOOL BUILDING - MORNING.

All villagers are gathered in front of the school with the flag of Pakistan fluttering on the top of the school building. The paper windmills are rotating at full speed, with children running around giggling and women holding garlands made from local flowers to welcome the chief guest.

INT. VILLAGE GUEST ROOM - MORNING.

Marry is in front of the mirror doing make up and Palwasha taking out different traditional caps from the carton and gives them one by one to Marry who looks herself in the mirror with Palwasha also in the reflection behind her giving thumbs up.

EXT. WAY TO VILLAGE SCHOOL - MORNING.

Marry goes out of the door of the house with Palwasha and notices some local women waiting for them outside their house. They then all go toward the school and as soon as they get near the school building they notice that the whole village is already present there.

EXT. VILLAGE SCHOOL BUILDING - MORNING.

Marry reaches top of the hill and is greeted by Aslam O Eleckum by the villagers and she responded by saying "Walekum Aslam" and bowing down a little with her right hand on her chest. She is then garlanded by women and is escorted towards the name of the school written in black paint with a multi-colored rainbow underneath it.

Marry Anne's **E L I M E N T A R Y** School.

DHANAK PUR.



Marry sees that the spellings of the word Elementary are wrong and there is a can of black paint with brush still lying underneath. She takes the brush and dips it into the paint and puts three hyphens on alphabet I and it becomes an E and everybody applauds. Then she is guided towards the main entrance door of the school where a red ribbon is tied on both end of the doors. Marry is given a pair of scissor and she cuts the ribbon into half and everybody applauds.

INT. VILLAGE SCHOOL BUILDING - MORNING.

Marry enters the school with the ladies of the village and she sees a clean building fully equipped with freshly painted benches and desks and a black board at the end with the teacher's chair and table underneath it. The whole school is decorated with ribbons and balloons from inside as well. Shaft of sunlight and crisp early morning fresh breeze is coming from the large windows. Palwasha instructs the children and mothers to sit down on the benches and then introduces Marry as their teacher and all children started waving their hand at her and then, one by one they all come forward and shake Marry's hand with smile.

PALWASHA

(Pushto language. Sub title starts)

The school will start from tomorrow exactly at 6 AM and will finish by 12 PM. The school bell will ring ten minutes before time every morning from Monday till Friday. We will take two days off that would be Friday and Saturday.

(Sub title ends)

EXT. VILLAGE SCHOOL BUILDING - MORNING.

Men stayed outside the school arranging the tea and locally made cookies on tables with white clothes. Then everybody comes out of the school and the villagers starts enjoying tea and home-made cookies outside the school in festive mood. Marry is still the center of attraction as most of the children flocks around her and two of them bring tea and cookies for her. Some mischievous kids ring the school bell and run giggling. The paper windmills are rotating with full speed because of strong wind.

EXT. VILLAGE SCHOOL BUILDING - LATER THAT DAY.

The villagers are now going home after attending the ceremony and only Palwasha, Marry, her children and some local kids are left behind.

A bunch of kids holds Marry's hand and Palwasha puts a blind fold on her eyes and guides her towards the swing. And as soon as Marry sits on the swing and Palwasha removes her blind folds and gives her a strong push she looks down into the beautiful valley and instantly recalls her RECURRING DREAM. The ambience around her is the same, exactly as it appeared in her dream, the long swing, the tall tree, wild flowers, birds chirping and the gentle sun playing hide and seek with the dispersing clouds. She gently closes her eyes with a strange feeling of relief.

MARRY

(V.O)

MARRY ANNE YOU ARE HOME.

We replay the same scenes shown in her dream at the start (Page No.1 and 2), except this time Marry's attire changes from jeans and T-shirt to the traditional dress she is wearing on the opening day of the ceremony of the school. In the previous dreams scenes only the giggles and sounds of the children were being played with no visuals, but now Palwasha and the kids are also visible in the scenes.

EXT. COMPOUND OF THE VILLAGE HOUSE-NIGHT.

Marry sitting on the swing bed, swinging slowly under a starry sky with crickets chirping.

MARRY

(V.O)

Today I discovered the sole purpose of my life; I was destined to come to this beautiful village and open the much-needed school for the children. God has mysterious ways to steer you toward the real purpose of your life. Tomorrow is the first day to prove that my existence on this planet was not as utterly useless as I felt most of the time. I am fully determined to educate the future generation of this beautiful village, Dhanak Pur.

EXT. VILLAGE SCHOOL - EARLY MORNING.

Marry ringing the school bell and its sound echoing in the entire village below. Then the children start coming to the school and being welcomed by Palwasha and Marry on the door.

INT. VILLAGE CLASS ROOM-MORNING.

Marry writing alphabets on the blackboard A, B, C and D and then pointing toward A and saying loudly A and then students repeating after her A, then B and so on. Palwasha communicating with the students in the local language and communicating with Marry in English and then telling the students what Marry is saying.

MARRY

OK kids! That is it for today. It is time to play a little outside.

One child comes forward and gives her couple of apples, the second brought a Pear, one girl brought her a small bag of walnuts and one cute little girl brought her one egg. Palwasha and Marry then leads the kids outside.

EXT. SCHOOL BUILDING COMPOUND - AFTERNOON.

All students gather around Marry as Palwasha ties a blind fold around her eyes, turns her around a few time and run giggling. Marry totally sightless starts to chase the students in the direction from where she hears the sound of giggling as students disperse in all directions. Palwasha sneaks up on her from behind and touches her and run laughing and poor Marry could not catch her. She tries again and this time Marry turns around in a flash and catches her and removes her blind fold with one hand and hugs Palwasha laughing and everybody starts to laugh as well.

EXT. VILLAGE SCHOOL BUILDING - NEXT DAY - EARLY MORNING

Marry ringing the school bell and its sound reaching the village below along-with the sound of thunder and lightning

as an electric storm approaches. The children are ascending the hill to the school under a thick black cloud cover.

INT. VILLAGE SCHOOL CLASSROOM - MORNING:

(Starts to rain with occasional thunder and lightning)

The students are coming to the blackboard and writing alphabets one by one. Then Alphabet A is written and Marry makes an Apple in front and writes Apple and the whole class say A for apple, then B for Banana, C for cat and so on. Then the school time comes to an end and the same routine of students bringing gifts for the teachers. A healthy collection of fresh fruits and one egg, this egg is given daily by a very pretty student named Fatima.

(Rain stops and rays of sun shine floods the classroom)

MARRY

OK kids, that is it for today, see you tomorrow at 6 AM Sharp.

Palwasha translates what Marry just said to the students.

EXT. BENCH OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL-AFTERNOON.

Marry and Palwasha sitting on the bench outside the school building, munching apples and admiring the golden sunshine as the rain just stopped few minutes ago. Then all of a sudden, a giant rainbow appears right across the pool blue sky and castes a spell on both as they get mesmerized by the sheer beauty of it. And after a while it vanishes almost as quickly as it appeared.

MARRY

Palwasha, what you call rainbow in your language?

PALWASHA

DHANAK

MARRY

So, your village is named after rainbows. Dhanak Pur?

PALWASHA

Yes, because firstly it rains here very much especially in the months of July and August and rainbows appear quite frequently, secondly there is a local myth associated with the rainbows.

MARRY

Myth? What sort of myth?

PALWASHA

Well, the myth is that when the God is pleased, rainbows appear, and when he smiles they sometimes touch the earth.

MARRY

Touches the earth? The rainbows never touch the earth, it is just an illusion and nothing else.

PALWASHA

Our elders told us that once it did and some people actually touched it.

MARRY

So, you know anybody in the village who has touched it?

PALWASHA

No, but this myth is transferred on from generation to generation.

MARRY

So, nobody, who is still alive in the village, has touched the rainbow?

PALWASHA

No.

MARRY

So the God never smiled again?

PALWASHA

Maybe we did not give a good reason to the God to smile again. Time to go home Marry, mother will be waiting for us.

MARRY

Last one on the swing is a rotten egg.

Both runs toward the swing and Marry reaches first and Palwasha starts to push the swing for her.

MARRY

(As Marry swings)

Harder Palwasha. Faster Palwasha. Yahoo, Yipee

EXT. SCHOOL BUILDING - MORNING.

Elapsing of time as the school bell is shown ringing repeatedly.

INT. VILLAGE CLASS ROOM-AFTERNOON

Marry and Palwasha collecting the books and copies from the students and then the same routine children putting fruits and dry fruits on the table but no egg this time.

EXT. DIRT ROAD FROM SCHOOL TO VILLAGE HOME-AFTERNOON.

Both teachers are walking home with books in hand on the dirt road from school to home. Whoever comes across says "Aslam O Eleckum teacher"

PALWASHA

We have excellent attendance so far.

MARRY

Today Fatima was missing.

PALWASHA

Yes. I wonder why she was absent today as she is a very bright student.

MARRY

All the children are performing very well but Fatima is exceptionally talented.

PALWASHA

I hope she is well and come tomorrow.

EXT. VILLAGE PEA FIELD - MORNING:

Marry sitting on the edge of a pea's field, Palwasha and the rest of the village women are picking peas.

MARRY

Can I come and help? Today is Sunday and I am free?

PALWASHA

No. we do not allow teachers to work here.

MARRY

But Palwasha you are also a teacher.

PALWASHA

(With a mischievous smile)

I am an assistant teacher not a full teacher like you. Stay there and enjoy the day.

MARRY

(V.O)

(Looking over the pea field)

All my life I have been running after money and the material possessions that it brings, but this remote village in Pakistan taught me that the biggest slavery in today's world is greed and lust for money.

Back home, I was always worried about tomorrow despite having a steady job, here I am with empty pockets, but absolutely certain that whenever I go home, I will have a warm bed and freshly cooked food waiting for me on the table. Now I have understood that to live a life full of happiness you do not need truck loads of money but a family that loves you, no matter what.

For the first time in my life, I am experiencing this very rare feeling..... that I am also worthy of love.

INT. VILLAGE CLASS ROOM - AFTERNOON.

Marry and Palwasha collecting books and copies from the students and as usual the students are leaving the school by putting fruits and other items on the teacher's desk. Marry notices that Fatima who used to bring eggs regularly is again absent from the school, as she scans the class to look for her.

EXT.DIRT ROAD FROM SCHOOL TO HOME - AFTERNOON

Marry and Palwasha are going home holding some books and copies.

MARRY

I am a little worried about Fatima as she is missing the school for the last 3 days.

PALWASHA

I hope she is not sick.

MARRY

Do you know where she lives?

PALWASHA

Yes I know where she lives. She lives with her mother as her father passed away a couple of years ago.

MARRY

Can we go to her home and find out?

PALWASHA

Sure.

They both starts to walk in the street and on the way exchanging greetings from all passer byes and then they takes a turn and see Fatima playing in the street with other kids and on seeing them she darts off into her house. Both Palwasha and Marry goes after her and knock at the door and answered by Fatima's mother, 30 yrs, holding a broom in her hand.

FATIMA'S MOTHER

(Pushto language. Sub title starts)

Aslam O Eleckum. Please come on in.

EXT/INT. FATIMA'S HOUSE VILLAGE - AFTERNOON

As soon as they enter the house Fatima runs inside the room.

PALWASHA

Fatima is not coming to school is everything alright?

FATIMA'S MOTHER

(While rubbing her hands together and with a sheepish smile)

Her hen died.

PALWASHA

Hen?

FATIMA'S MOTHER

She says that if she goes to school without the egg, what her teacher would think about her?

PALWASHA

But the school is free no eggs needed.

FATIMA'S MOTHER

Her late father always taught her not to accept anything for free. So, she refused to go to the school empty handed. I am trying to arrange another egg hen for her but not have enough money yet.

Some tears well in Palwasha's eyes, as she explains everything to Marry. Then Fatima comes out with her head bowed down avoiding eye contact.

PALWASHA

Fatima why you are not coming to the school?

FATIMA

A fat tear falls on the ground below from Fatima's eye.

But I have no eggs to give you, my hen is dead.

PALWASHA

We never asked you for anything.

FATIMA

So I can come to the school without egg tomorrow and you will allow me to sit in the class?

PALWASHA

Of course Fatima, we will.

(Sub title ends)

Then they both tickle Fatima and she starts to laugh and then everybody starts laughing.

EXT. RAWALPINDI NADIR HOME - MORNING

Nadir is cleaning his cab with a rag early in the street when Rizwan comes out.

RIZWAN

(Urdu Language. Sub title starts)

I need to borrow your taxi to take my sister to her in-laws house.

NADIR

Where is your cab?

RIZWAN

It is in workshop since yesterday.

NADIR

When you need my vehicle?

RIZWAN

Now

NADIR

Sorry, I have to pick a passenger exactly after half an hour.

RIZWAN

I never say no to you, whenever you needed my cab.

NADIR

But I never gave you such a short notice, if I ever needed your cab.

RIZWAN

It is an emergency.

NADIR

Since when dropping your sister to her in laws became a national emergency?

(Sub title ends)

Rizwan gives him a very dirty look and start walking toward a parked Rickshaw in the street.

EXT. COMPOUND OF THE VILLAGE HOUSE - EARLY MORNING.

Ayub hangs his AK 47 assault rifle on his shoulder and is ready to leave the house when Jannat comes out.

JANNAT

(Pushto Language. Sub title starts)

Where are you going son?

AYUB

I am going to plough the fields.

JANNAT

Why are you taking the weapon with you today?

AYUB

Yesterday we were attacked by a Leopard and luckily we had spades with us so we fended it off.

JANNAT

So today you are taking your weapon to shoot it?

AYUB

Of course not mother, it is just for our protection. Most of the villagers are now keeping their weapons with them as these cats are becoming more fearless by each passing day.

JANNAT

OK, son may Almighty Allah protects you, but remember not to hurt any animal.

(Sub title ends)

Jannat puts a hand on the head of her son as he bends down and then he walks out of the house.

EXT. COMPOUND OF THE VILLAGE HOUSE - MORNING.

Marry comes out of her room into the Veranda and stretches herself and then looks upward towards the sky and close her eyes and smile. Then she sees on the table her breakfast, containing two fried eggs, a large Paratha and a jug of Lasee is waiting for her. Marry rubs her hands together and then hugs the mother who kisses her forehead. Then she sits down to eat her breakfast and as soon as she starts there is a knock at the door and Palwasha goes to answer.

As soon as Palwasha opens the door a little, someone kicks the door open with so much force that Palwasha falls flat on the ground and the house is instantly swarmed by Police officers (Both men and women) carrying assault weapons. Kids start to cry and Marry runs toward the bedroom. Her breakfast table comes between her and the police officers and it is kicked over by a cop (Slow motion starts) with her breakfast flying and Lasee jug spilling on the ground.

Jannat comes between her and the police but was tossed aside by a police officer with such a brutal force that she lands on the kitchen utensils. (Slow motion ends).

EXT/INT. VILLAGE GUEST HOUSE - MORNING.

Marry somehow managed to reach inside her room and try to lock it but a couple of lady police officers push the door open and grabs Marry from her hair and throws her to the ground and subdue her.

EXT. COMPOUND OF THE VILLAGE HOUSE - MORNING.

Then she is taken out of her room with her arms twisted behind her back. She sees Palwasha and mother, made to sit in the corner of the house with their hands raised with kids crying and heavily armed police officers are standing guard to them. Then Marry is escorted outside through the gate of the house into the street in the company of police force.

EXT. OUTSIDE THE VILLAGE HOUSE IN STREET - MORNING.

As soon as she steps outside into the street, she sees that the entire village has gathered outside and some men tries to move toward Marry and a scuffle starts between them and the police so the police officers resorts to heavy aerial firing and the local backs away momentarily.

EXT. VILLAGE CULTIVATION FIELDS - MORNING.

Ayub and nine other male villagers are busy ploughing the fields when they hear the sound of gun fire from the village. They quickly grab their weapons and starts running toward the village.

EXT. OUTSIDE THE VILLAGE HOUSE - MORNING.

On hearing aerial firing more locals takes out their weapons from their homes and starts to confront the police from all directions and in a matter of seconds there are more guns with the locals then with the police officers.

On realizing that the police officials are greatly outnumbered by the locals, they slowly lower their weapons. The children of the village including the students of the school start to pelt the police force by stones and hurl profanities at them.

Then the POLICE CAPTAIN, 34 yrs, in Uniform takes out a megaphone from the squad car.

POLICE CAPTAIN

(Pushto language. Sub title starts)

(Takes out a paper from his pocket and waves it in the air)

We have a warrant for the arrest of the Marry Anne Philips. Please cooperate with us as this is a matter of state, if you obstruct our work, you will face dire consequences.

AYUB

Ayub advances toward Police captain still pointing his weapon towards him with anger in his eyes.

What has she done?

POLICE CAPTAIN

She was arrested at Islamabad airport for trying to smuggle 20 kg of cocaine from Pakistan to USA.

AYUB

She is not a drug smuggler, she is a journalist.

Police captain puts his weapon on the ground and slowly approaches Ayub. Ayub snatches the arrest warrant and reads it and then looks at Marry with a disappointed look and then lowers his weapon and tells all villagers to do the same and everybody obliges.

The Police captain then very slowly takes out from his pocket and gives it to a villager, photograph of Marry standing beside packets of cocaine at the airport anti drug unit's office, and all of a sudden there is a stun silence all around, as the photograph travels from one hand to another. Marry is met with a look of extreme disbelief from the villagers.

All villager moves aside and Marry is escorted into the police van. She is made to climb into the rear of the vehicle with two female and two male police officers right behind her and the rest of the police force boards other vehicles and starts going back.

Palwasha starts running barefooted after the moving police vehicles and her head scarf flies away but couldn't keep up, sits on the dirt, watches the police vehicles speed away in a state of helplessness and starts to beat the ground with both hands and sobs like a little girl.

Marry looking at her from inside the police vehicle gulps down her saliva with tears rolling down her cheeks and then she looks away crying and sees the grand Marble Mansion of Murad through the window of the vehicle, with the hope that he might come to rescue her but it is absolutely deserted. Then the police vehicles speeds away blowing dust into the air.

INT. THE INTERROGATION ROOM PESHAWAR - NIGHT.

Marry sitting in the interrogation room with two male and one female officer in uniform. Female interrogator is NOOR UL AIN. 35 years and First detective is FAHEEM AHMED, 38 years and Second detective is KAMAL MIRZA, 32 years, all in police uniform.

NOOR UL AIN

Holding a paper and reading it and also looking at Marry.

As per your confessional statement at the ADF office in Islamabad, you have confessed that you accepted ten thousand US dollars in return to smuggle 20 KG of Cocaine from Islamabad to USA. Is that correct?

MARRY

Yes, but I was unaware of what I would be carrying.

FAHEEM

Can you recall the names of the men that lured you into this business in USA, who promised you to pay you ten thousand dollars for this mission?

MARRY

No, all I had was his visiting card with a cell phone number on it. This card was also taken from me at the airport in Islamabad.

FAHEEM

Can you recall the name of the hotel where you stayed in Pakistan and got your drugs?

MARRY

The name of the hotel was not written in English language and all I know that it was in the centre of a crowded market.

KAMAL

How long it took you to reach the hotel from the Airport?

MARRY

Around 45 minutes.

FIRST

In which direction they went from the Airport can you recall that?

MARRY

No idea, as they put the shades on the vehicle's windows, restricting my view of the outside city.

FAHEEM

Did they pick and drop you at the airport in the same vehicle?

MARRY

Yes. It was the same vehicle.

FAHEEM

Can you recall the number of the license plate of that vehicle?

MARRY

On our way to the airport, they switched the license plate of the car and put the removed ones right in front of me. I can recall that number because it was the same number as that of my apartment in the New York.

NOOR UL AIN

What was the number?

MARRY

It was RIL 39.

NOOR UL AIN

Boys we have a clue finally. Get in touch with the vehicle licensing authority and finds out to which this vehicle belongs to. And present her in front of the judge tomorrow morning.

MARRY

How you people traced me where I was hiding?

NOOR UL AIN

A roommate of the cab driver Nadir came to us and told us that the rear license plate of his cab was missing that morning and he vanished for two days on the same day Marry escaped and went to his village abruptly. Then we started to put surveillance on his village and spotted you. The name of that cab driver who gave us this information was I think Rizwan.

EXT. PESHAWAR COURTROOM COMPOUND - MORNING

Marry is taken out of the police vehicle in the compound of the court by a couple of lady police officers, and is instantly surrounded by press agents shoving their microphones into her mouth and camera flashing all around and cops pushing them away.

MALE REPORTER 1

Did you actually try to smuggle 20 KG of high-quality Cocaine from Pakistan to USA?

FEMALE REPORTER 1

Where were you hiding in Pakistan?

MALE REPORTER 2

You might be sentenced to 20 years, do you know that?

FEMALE REPORTER 2

Did you actually jump from the second floor?

Police drags Marry through a swarm of reporters and onlookers into the court room.

INT. ANTI DRUG COURT ROOM PESHAWAR - MORNING.

As soon as Marry enters the court room through the crowd, a female lawyer, UZMA HASHMI, 35 yrs, dressed in white shalwar Qameez and a black coat comes forward, shakes her hand.

UZMA

Hello! My name is Advocate Uzma Hashmi, I am your lawyer hired by the US embassy. Please take a seat.

Marry sits down on a wooden bench and finds everybody looking at her intensely and then she sees Nadir brought into the court by a couple of policemen, handcuffed and looking terrified. He looks at her with an apologetic look on his face as if it was entirely his fault.

INT. ANTI DRUG COURT ROOM PESHAWAR - NEXT DAY-MORNING.

Marry is sitting in the court with two female police officers sitting next to her. Advocate Uzma her lawyer and the state prosecutor arguing very aggressively with each other and the Judge watching and taking notes as he listens. Then two uniformed ADF official walks into the court room and present a file to the judge. The judge reads the file and then looks at Marry, as if saying that you have confessed everything and made my job easier.

INT. ANTI DRUG COURT ROOM PEHSAWAR - NEXT DAY - MORNING.

The judge comes out of his retiring room and everybody in the court room including Marry and her lawyer stands up. The judge looks at both lawyers.

ANTI DRUG COURT JUDGE

I am here to announce my verdict in the case "Federation of Pakistan VS Marry Anne Philips a US citizen. After hearing the arguments of both attorneys and carefully reviewing and scrutinizing the available record/evidence, and listening to the testimony of the witnesses, I have reached the verdict of this case.

Marry Anne Philips you have been found guilty of trying to smuggle 20 KG of high-quality Cocaine from Pakistan to USA. And as per the Control of Narcotic Substances Act, 1997 and by the power that is vested in me by the Federal Republic of Pakistan. I hereby sentence you to 10 years of rigorous imprisonment in central jail, Peshawar without the possibility of a Parole.

Then he raps his gavel.

This court stands adjourned.

EXT. OUT OF THE COURTROOM - AFTERNOON.

Marry comes out of court room sobbing with Advocate Uzma and a couple of female police officers with her. Instantly the press reporters start to shove microphones into her mouth and camera flashes blinding her.

MAN REPORTER 1

Are you going to appeal against your sentence?

ADVOCATE UZMA

Yes, as this verdict is not based on justice at all.

MAN REPORTER 2

Marry are you a journalist, a teacher or just a drug smuggler?

WOMAN REPORTER

Marry are you going to open a school in jail too?

Everybody around there starts to laugh.

Police pushes crowd away and takes her to the waiting prisoner van in the parking lot of the court premises.

INT. POLICE VEHICLE ON ROAD TO JAIL - AFTERNOON.

Marry sitting in the prisoner vehicle with a look of extreme hopelessness in her eyes and looking outside at busy roads with traffic and then she sees the sign on the road "CENTRAL JAIL PESHAWAR" and the vehicle turns towards it. Then the vehicle stops at the gate of the prison where two armed guards open the gate and let the vehicle inside the jail compound and then it stops with more officers approached the vehicle. Marry steps out of the prisoner vehicle and instantly attracts the attention of everyone as she is escorted inside the building.

INT. THE PRISON BUILDING PESHAWAR- AFTERNOON.

The female police officers take her to the room of the in-charge of the female prisoners, where she was frisked and a female doctor checks her thoroughly and declared her as medically fit to serve her sentence.

INT. CORRIDOR BETWEEN CELLS - AFTERNOON

Marry is escorted into a corridor with prisoner cells on both sides and all female inmates looking at her as if they had never seen a blonde American prisoner before and they keep on chanting and banging their hands on the cell bars "Gory Gory (White female)."

Then the female officers stop and a female guard opens the lock of an overcrowded cell and she is shoved in and the door is locked behind her with a loud clang.

All inmate starts to look at her with amazement as she walks through them looking for a place to sit. She notices that the cell could hardly accommodate 20 inmates but at least 60 women and their children were cramped in there. She also notices an Indian toilet seat in one corner and it was overflowing with human filth. It was hot and humid and there was only one fan on the ceiling in the middle of the room and it was rotating at the pace of the snail making a strange noise.

There was no place to sit so Marry had to keep on standing there looking at other inmates to make some place for her and then some of them squeeze against each other and offer her to sit on a space of not more than two feet in diameter. Marry sits down by holding her knees in her arms and then she looks around and sees that majority of them were Pakistani women but a group comprising of six Nigerian nationals sitting in the corner of the cell looking at her and whispering something into each other ears and smiling.

She also notices a window in the wall near the ceiling with iron bars allowing sunlight to streak inside. Marry quickly gets covered in sweat and starts to fan herself with her head scarf. The stink of the inmate's sweat mixed with the smell of the toilet seat is making breathing impossible, so she covers her nose with her hand.

NIGERIAN INMATE 1

Hey blondie, it is just like a chicken coop, after a while this cell will smell just like roses.

The rest of the gang of the Nigerian women laughs loudly.

INT. PESHAWAR CENTRAL JAIL MARRY'S CELL - NIGHT

Marry still sitting on the floor of the jail in semi darkness, covered in sweat, holding her folded legs and head buried into her knees, surrounded by bodies of sleeping inmates all around her. An infant is crying in the far corner of the cell and some inmates snoring loudly.

Then she sees the flashback of the ADF office, where Rizwan said "One day in Pakistani prison is equal to one year in any other prison of the world" (Page 22).

She then dozes off and sees in her dream that she is sleeping on her large bed in the village room and falls onto the body of another inmate and then jolts up and sits again looking into the darkness and then light start changing gradually in the cell signaling the arrival of the morning.

INT. PESHAWAR CENTRAL JAIL CELL - NEXT MORNING.

A female police officer comes to the cell.

FEMALE JAIL OFFICER

Marry you have a visitor.

Marry instantly gets up from the ground with red eyes because of staying awake all night long.

INT. VISITATION ROOM OF THE JAIL PESHAWAR - MORNING.

The lady police officer escorts Marry into a room where a white guy RICHARD JOHNSON, 41 yrs, is sitting wearing a suit and tie and keeping his black color briefcase on the table.

RICHARD

Marry my name is Richard Johnson and I work with the US consulate office, legal division, Peshawar.

Marry shakes his hand and sits down in front of him across the table.

RICHARD continues...

Marry as you already know that you have been sentenced to 10 years imprisonment for trying to smuggle prohibited drugs from Pakistan into USA.

MARRY

So you are here to help me go back to my home and waive off my sentence?

RICHARD

Marry we do not interfere in court proceedings against any US national in any other country of the world. We only provide the legal assistance including hiring a lawyer to represent you in the court of the law.

MARRY

So why are you here then?

RICHARD

Firstly I have just spoken to your attorney today and she was not very hopeful in going into an appeal with the high court as the public prosecutor has sufficient and irrefutable evidence against you. But we have decided to go into an appeal with the high court anyway.

MARRY

So this means that I will be languishing in this hell hole for another 10 years?

RICHARD

Involving yourself in drug smuggling always has its perils and a price to pay Marry.

Then the officer takes out his cell phone and dials a number.

RICHARD

Am I talking to Mrs. Philips Anne Francis...? Sorry to be bothering you at this time of the night Ma'am. My name is Richard Johnson and I am from US Consulate, Peshawar, Pakistan. I am sitting in Central Jail, Peshawar right now and your daughter Marry is sitting in front of me. She has been sentenced to 10 years for trying to smuggle drugs from Pakistan to USA. Here talk to her.

He hands over the phone to Marry, who takes it with trembling hands.

MARRY

Hello Mother!

MARRY'S MOTHER (O.S)

Marry I do not wish to talk to you, for me you are as good as dead. You brought nothing to our family but worries and shame, I should have disowned you the unfortunate day you were born, had I knew what evil I have given birth to. Your voice made my soul quiver and my heart sink.

You will reap what you sew and I hope and pray that you die in that cell of yours and get buried there in some wilderness where jackals piss on your unmarked grave. Good bye forever my dear daughter, and don't you dare, call me again.

A string of tears starts to roll down Marry's cheeks, as she returns the cell phone to Richard with trembling hands.

Then Richard looks at his wrist watch picks up his briefcase and gets up from his seat.

RICHARD

I will go now and instruct your attorney to prepare your appeal.

Marry puts her head on the desk and starts to cry, being hurt by her mother's words.

INT. JAIL DINING HALL - AFTERNOON.

Marry standing in a long queue of fellow inmates holding an empty plate and a spoon and at the end is a woman with two large pots drolling food into the plates of the prisoners. When Marry turns come she pours some yellow lentils and some white rice into her plate and Marry takes her plate and sits in the corner to eat and then she notices something in her plate with wings.

She takes it out and sees that it is the dead cockroach covered in lentils. She instantly puts her plate on the floor with disgust and a fellow inmate carrying an infant approaches her and extends her hand and Marry quickly gives her the plate to her and she takes it before it catches someone else's eyes.

As women eat their lunch Marry drift back in thoughts (FLASHBACK PAGE 59) and sees her eating delicious food in the village with Palwasha and the rest of the family.

INT. CENTARL JAIL PESHAWAR MARRY'S CELL - AFTERNOON

Marry is lying on the floor in her cell as the rest of the inmates are taken to the outside compound to exercise and breath in fresh air for two hours daily. The group of

Nigerian inmates enters the cell laughing loudly and then they come and sit close to Marry.

NIGERIAN INMATE 1

So you tried to smuggle coke to USA to make some quick bucks right?

Marry keeps quiet.

NIGERIAN INMATE 2

You put us to shame for trying to smuggle only 5 kilos.

All Nigerian women start laughing and Marry again keeps quiet.

NIGERIAN INMATE 3

Maybe she wanted to retire early after her first haul.

Again all Nigerian women start to laugh loudly. Marry still keeps quiet.

NIGERIAN INMATE 4

Hey answer us, are you dumb Blondie?

Then Nigerian inmate 2 comes near her and pulls her hair real hard and looks at the rest.

NIGERIAN INMATE 2

Her hair is real

And the rest laughs again.

MARRY

Get away from me, you Niggers.

NIGERIAN INMATE 4

Niggers! Did you just call us Niggers?

And slaps Marry's face real hard and Marry hits her back and then the scuffle starts and Marry is dragged to the corner of the room and was about to be thrashed, but then all inmates and prison guards starts to come back into the cell and she is released.

NIGERIAN INMATE 2

We will teach you a lesson Blondie, what Nigger really means in this cell, you whore.

INT. VILLAGE PAKISTAN - AFTERNOON

Jannat, Ayub, Palwasha and her children eating lunch very quietly and looking only at their plates and the atmosphere is gloomy.

HASSAN

(Pushto language, Sub title starts)

I wonder if Marry gets food in Jail.

WAJID

I hope that she eats chicken and rice there too.

Everyone instantly looks at Palwasha as tears starts to roll down her cheeks and she picks up the plate and quietly goes outside and closes the door behind her.

JANNAT

How many times, I have told you not to mention Marry in your conversation?

HASSAN

I was just wondering if she gets good food in jail.

JANNAT

Never ever you mention Marry in your conversation again. Look at what you did to your mother, she is crying now.

(Sub title ends)

INT. CENTRAL JAIL PESHAWAR - MARRY'S CELL - NIGHT

2nd Song:

Marry sitting against the bars of the cell with puffy eyes full of despair, using a cardboard as a cushion between her back and the cell bars. She is looking at stars through the small window near the ceiling. Other inmates are sleeping all around her. The famous Qawwali "Gin Gin Taray by Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan" starts to play in the background.

We show Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan singing his famous Qawwali and then Marry and then again Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan singing and then again Marry, sitting in her cell in despair.

Lyrics of the song (Sub title begins).

"Counting stars is how I spend my nights.
Nights that lunge at me like serpents as soon as the sun goes down.
When sleeplessness makes a permanent home in your eyes.
Then every single night will send you to the gallows.
These constricting nights will never let you go astray.
Till you and them become one.
Counting stars is how I spend my nights.
Nights that lunge towards me like serpents as soon as the sun goes down."

TIME LAPSE IS SHOWING BY FLICKERIN OF MONTHS.

INT. PESHAWAR PRISON MARRY'S CELL - MORNING.

A female police officer comes at the cell.

FEMALE JAIL OFFICER

Marry you have a visitor

Marry hurriedly gets up and goes to the visitor's meeting room and discovers Ayub sitting there with a large shopping bag in his hand.

AYUB

Aslam o Eleckum! I brought you some gifts from home.

MARRY

Looks at him nonchalantly and sits down in front of him.

I am locked in this hell hole for the last six months and now you are coming to meet me? I

thought you will come for me the next day or the day after but you never did.

How can all of you forget about me so easily? Was I not your sister and you came after six months to take a look at what condition I am surviving here? I am so disappointed with you people, as you are the only family I have in Pakistan and you turned a blind eye on me as if I never existed. How can you all be so selfish?

Marry shows him, her matted unkempt hair and pale teeth.

Look at me, I have not taken a bath or brushed my teeth for the last six months.

AYUB

Ayub keep looking at her complain with patience and then a fat tear rolled down his cheek.

(With quivering lips)

Father died in the hospital last week.

MARRY

Feeling embarrassed about her nonstop complaining.

Oh my Good Lord how that happened?

AYUB

During interrogation he was not admitting that he has hidden you in the village so the police officers subjected him to worst kind of torture and he got seriously injured, and was admitted into the hospital. I nursed him day and night for almost 5 months, because he could not eat, drink or go to the toilet by himself. A week ago he succumbed to his injuries and died in the hospital. But I am truly sorry I was not able to come earlier.

MARRY

I am so sorry Ayub, I was not aware of what your family had to go through because of me.

AYUB

Please do not say that Marry, it is not your fault.

MARRY

I brought a curse on your family and on the entire village.

AYUB

We can't change what has happened, so let us not be bitter about it and make our sufferings worst. Every human is destined to leave this world someday.

MARRY

How is everybody at the village?

AYUB

Everybody in the village misses you and talks about you. Children ask Palwasha everyday that

when our teacher is coming back? And she always says very soon.

MARRY

I am sorry I lied to you and everybody at the village, about who I really was. What people in the village must be thinking about me?

AYUB

Don't be silly, nobody is thinking about anything, they just want you to come back and reopen the school as the village is not the same without you.

MARRY

How is Jannat, does she miss me?

AYUB

Mother took a nasty fall and hurt her knee very badly. Now she walks with the support of a cane, but doing fine.

MARRY

Is the school open, Palwasha teaching?

AYUB

The school is closed and Palwasha is in a very bad emotional state because of losing you and now her father in law. Sometimes she just takes the books and goes to the school as if she is going to teach but instead sits there and cries her heart out.

MARRY

I have been sentenced to 10 years and I won't last this long in this prison. I miss my home in the village and I miss my family there.

AYUB

Pray Marry, Pray regularly, how long will your prayers go unanswered? How long your misery will go unnoticed by the Almighty Allah?

MARRY

What prayers will do for me Ayub, fly me out of here?

AYUB

Prayers are the only thing that you got. Who is going to listen to you here except God?

MARRY

Can my prayers reach the heavens through the bars of my cell?

AYUB

If you pray with conviction and faith, yes they will.

MARRY

You are giving me false hope. Just like that fabricated story of the rainbow touching your village once?

AYUB

Marry do not make fun of something that is sacred to us.

MARRY

I will come out alive out of this hell, the day the rainbow will touch your village, and it means Never. Never. Never. Ever.

AYUB

Marry you will come out of the prison alive and soon, mark my words. I brought you a book especially on the power of the prayers.

Ayub takes out a book from his shopping bag and places it on the table "THE POWER OF PRAYERS". Marry picks it up and casually glances on the book cover title and puts it on the side without showing much conviction.

A jail officer enters the room and points towards his watch, signaling that the time of this meeting is over. Ayub gets up and gets ready to leave.

MARRY

(Starts sobbing)

Take me with you or else I will die here. This place is going to kill me.

AYUB

Crying will not change your fate Marry, prayers will.

MARRY

Go and tell your family and the rest of the village that Marry is not coming back. I will die here in this jail, are you even listening to what I am saying? Take me with you Ayub, please.. please..

Ayub leaves the room. Marry puts her head on the table and starts to cry loudly punching the table.

EXT. VILLAGE - DIRT PATH TO SCHOOL - AFTERNOON.

Palwasha is walking mechanically under an overcast sky on a carpet of pale autumn leaves towards the school with one shoe on, holding books across her chest. Wind is howling and autumn leaves are swirling around her. She goes to the school pushes the door and it opens with a loud creak as she enters.

INT. VILLAGE CLASS ROOM - AFTERNOON.

Palwasha enters and sees cobwebs everywhere and the handwriting of Marry still on the blackboard of her last lesson before she got arrested. She sits on a bench and sees the flashbacks of Marry teaching with her and then she sees Marry blindfolded and trying to catch her and the students, and hears their laughter. The laughs of the children then fade into the sound of the howling wind. Tears start rolling down her cheeks as she puts her head on the desk and starts to weep.

EXT. VILLAGE SCHOOL COMPOUND - AFTERNOON

Palwasha comes out with weepy eyes and looks at the name of the school "Marry Anne's Elementary school" and walks by a paper windmill torn to merely a thread and some paper still attached to it fluttering in strong autumn wind. The school bell very gently swinging to and fro and making faint ringing sound.

Then she walks toward the swing and sees it broken from one side, dangling on the tree and swinging with a squeaking sound with only one rope attached to it. And Palwasha stands there gazing into the village below with red weepy eyes, her ruffled hair flying in the strong winds and yellow autumn leaves swirling all around her.

INT. MARRY'S CELL CENTRAL JAIL PESHAWAR - AFTERNOON.

Women inmates are coming inside the cell along-with Marry and the gang of the Nigerian is sitting on the floor and inmates are walking in front of them to reach their places. As soon as Marry walks in front of them one of the gang member trips her and she falls down. Marry gets up and so does the Nigerian gang member and confronts Marry and the scuffle starts and they starts to pull each other's hair but more inmates gets in between them to separate them. Marry sees the opportunity and embeds her long finger nails into the cheeks of her attacker and leaves deep bloody scars on her face. Then Marry goes and sits in the corner at her place, but is being eye balled with vengeance by the Nigerian gang as they nurse the deep gashes on the cheek of their gang member.

EXT. CENTRAL PRISON EXERCISE COMPOUND - AFTERNOON

Next day the Nigerian gang of women sitting outside in the compound of the jail and grooming for lice in each other's head, and then putting the lice caught in a matchbox and closing the lid. Then they all look at Marry sitting on the other corner smile at each other, including the one with the deep scars on the cheek.

INT. MARRY'S PRISON CELL - MIDNIGHT.

The floor of the cell is strewn with sleeping inmates and Marry is sleeping too, when one of the Nigerian gang members gets up and takes out a matchbox from her pocket with a rubber band on it.

Then she tip toes toward Marry by avoiding sleeping inmates. Then an infant starts to whimper and she freezes there and as soon as it all goes silent she again resumes her walk towards Marry, then an inmate starts to cough and she stops again and then reaches Marry who is sound asleep and she carefully takes off the rubber band from the match box and gently pulls out the box full of crawling parasites and pours them on the head of Marry and returns to her place unnoticed.

INT. CENTRAL JAIL MARRY'S PRISON CELL - MORNING

Marry wakes up in the morning scratching her head and then she is eating her breakfast still scratching. And then while scratching her head she notices that a small insect has fallen on her lap and she takes a good look at it and throws it on the ground with disgust.

EXT. JAIL EXERCISE COMPOUND - MORNING

Marry sitting in the corner of her cell and scratching her head like crazy, while the other inmates are playing volley

ball and the Nigerian gang looking at her and smiling while whispering something to each other's ears.

MARRY

(V.O)

All my life I have been ungrateful, ungrateful for all the things that I had but never felt thankful even once. Here I am forced to eat disgusting food and sleep on hard floor with no room to even turn, use the toilet overflowing with human filth with no tissue paper. I have fully realized that God has many ways to teach you gratitude toward his countless blessings, which were once bestowed upon you, but you stayed ungrateful, till they are snatched from you abruptly.

EXT. JAIL EXERCISE COMPOUND - NEXT DAY - AFTERNOON

Marry sitting in the compound scratching her head and is being watched from a distance by the Nigerian gang, whispering to each other's ears. One sharpens the rear end of a toothbrush on a stone secretly to make it pointed. Then Marry gets up and goes to a female jail officer and asks her that she needs to use the toilet, who allows her to go back to the cell. Then the Nigerian gang also sneaks after Marry one by one when the guards were busy talking to each other.

INT. PRISON CELL - AFTERNOON

Marry washing her hands near the toilet seat when she hears a clang and sees five members of the Nigerian gang entering the cell. One stands guard looking outside and four come near her. Marry looks around to see something that she can use as a weapon but found none. She tries to run toward the gate but is caught and then they body slams her to the floor and starts beating her with their fists and one with the sharp toothbrush end stabs at her legs and arms many times. After struggling and screaming for sometimes Marry gives up and the gang keeps on kicking her as she rolls in pain on the ground holding her abdomen. Then they grab her hair and drag her on the floor, while the rest of them keep kicking her and then they pick her and with full force slam her against the bars of the cell repeatedly till Marry falls to the ground semi unconscious. Then they all spit on her face and leave.

Marry crying and bleeding from the stab wounds very slowly drags her body and manages to sit with her back against the cell bars, examining her wounds as blood trickles from her nose and torn lips and gashes on her arms and legs.

INT. CENTRAL JAIL PESHAWAR - PRISON CELL - LITTLE LATER

An injured Marry sitting all alone in her cell sobbing in the middle of a beam of sunlight streaking through a small window near the ceiling of the cell, the rest of the cell is a little dark. Then the song plays "Once I was also Beautiful" by Nayyara Noor (Famous singer of Pakistan).

Flash backs of Marry' life in the village starts to play.

1. Marry is standing in front of the mirror in local dress given by Palwasha the first day in the village.
2. When she was inaugurating the opening of the school in pretty red dress.

An injured/defeated Marry sitting in the jail cell full of despair is also shown between the flashbacks.

3. Jannat kissing her forehead in the compound of the house.
4. She is standing in front of the mirror and trying different dresses sent to her by the Chieftain with Palwasha in the background.
5. Marry trying different traditional caps brought by local women in village home and smiling.

INT. CENTRAL PRISON PESHAWAR MARRY'S CELL - MIDNIGHT

Marry sitting against the bars of the cell under a pale light hanging from the ceiling outside the cell, scratching her head and reading the book brought by Ayub. The title "THE POWERS OF THE PRAYERS" is very much visible even in the dim light as the rest of the inmates are sleeping on the floor all around her. She read the book all night long.

INT. CENTRAL PRISON PESHAWAR MARRY'S CELL - CRACK OF DAWN

The light in the room starts to change as the dawn approaches and the silence is broken by the call for prayer Allah O Akbar, Allah O Akbar (God is the greatest, God is the greatest) Marry closes the book gently and kisses its cover and puts it across her chest, wraps her arms around it and closes her eyes.

MARRY
(V.O)

My Dear God! I have sinned many times in my life and I have never asked for your forgiveness before. Now here I am trapped in the abyss of darkness and despair with no light even at the end of it.

With a shattered soul I ask for your forgiveness and fully believe that your mercifulness and benevolence is always bigger than all of my sins combined together. Please forgive me my Lord for all my follies that I committed throughout my life and send me your blessings with the first ray of the ascending sun, as my soul is taking her last breaths. Amen.

INT. CENTRAL JAIL PRISONER'S CELL - MORNING

Marry sleeping in the cell in sitting position her head dangling to one side with her back resting against the cell bars and the book in her lap, when a male prison officer comes and have her cell opened by the guard.

MALE PRISON OFFICER

Marry Anne! Come with me please.

Marry wakes up and hides the book under a mat and starts to follow him.

MARRY

Where are we going? The visitation room is on that side?

MALE PRISON OFFICER

The Chief Warden wants to see you.

INT. CENTRAL JAIL PEHSHAWAR - CHIEF WARDEN ROOM - MORNING.

Marry very timidly enters the grand room and sees that the Chief Warden, KAMRAN KHAN, 50 yrs, grey hair, is sitting on his seat wearing a heavily decorated uniform and a man is sitting in front of him reading newspaper, whose back is toward Marry.

As soon as Kamran sees Marry, he with hand gesture signals her to sit on the Sofa. Marry looking very nervous SITS ON THE FLOOR INSTEAD.

KAMRAN (CHIEF WARDEN)

(Smiles a little)

You can sit on the Sofa if you like?

Marry very timidly gets up from the floor and sits on the edge of the sofa rubbing her hands together, looking around nervously and scared.

KAMRAN Continues...

He looks toward the guest sitting in front of him reading newspaper

(Pushto Language. Sub titles start)

It seems like your guest is here.

Marry looks at the guest as he gets up from his seat and turns around towards her. It is Murad (Chieftain). Marry instantly gets up from the sofa and runs toward him crying with open arms as if to give him a big hug but is stopped dead in her tracks, when Murad raises her hand, signaling her to stop with authority. Marry freezes and then he comes near her and points her toward the sofa, where she was sitting before and sits next to her.

MURAD

Stop crying and get hold of yourself, I came home yesterday and found out what had happened in my long absence.

MARRY

Take me home with you, take me home.

MURAD

Do not worry, I am here now, I will handle your case my way.

Marry couldn't help crying with her head bowed down, but nods her head indicating that she understands what he had just said.

At that moment Deputy Chief Warden in his uniform, ABDULLAH KHAN, 45 years, comes inside the Chief Warden Office salutes and smiles at Kamran first and then looks at Murad from behind.

ABDULLAH

Aslam O Eleckum!

Murad turns around takes a look and gets up, as they both hug each other very tightly, as if they have met each other after a very long time.

MURAD

Walekum Aslam dear brother!

Then Murad holds Abdullah's hand and takes him out of the room and on his way out signals to Marry and Kamran that he will be right back. Marry keeps on sitting on the same sofa still looking very scared.

Kamran through a hand signal calls Marry to his desk and she very timidly walks towards him and nervously sits down in front of him.

KAMRAN

Murad is a man of bravery and raw courage. Never seen someone more fearless than him. Did he ever tell you about "The three bullets story"?

MARRY

The three bullets story? No.

KAMRAN

In the year 1979 Russian forces attacked Afghanistan without any justification. And since Afghanistan is a Muslim country and our neighbors too, therefore we were duty bound to go and fight with them against the Russian invasion.

A lot of young men from Pakistan went with us to fight. It was I, Murad, another friend and my deputy ABDULLAH, who just came and went out with Murad. We went to fight the holy war in Afghanistan. We were called Mujahideens and we all fought with courage and managed to restrict the Russians to few cities only.

MARRY

Hmmmm.

KAMRAN

It was a freezing December night we after inflicting heavy losses to the Russians during the day were all sitting together in a valley surrounded by high mountains in the dark. We did not even light a fire to ensure that the Russians cannot see us, but little did we know that they had those NVGs (Night vision goggles) and they could see us in the dark.

MARRY

Oh my God!

KAMRAN

The Russians started to come from different directions and we became trapped right in the middle and still we could see anything except darkness.

Cut to...

EXT. AFGHANISTAN-VALLEY - MUHAHIDEEN - MIDNIGHT (1986)

Around twenty Mujahideens are sitting on the ground in semi darkness clad in their tribal dresses, holding their AK 47s and sharing laughter together, as if celebrating a successful day. MURAD, ABDULLAH AND KAMRAN are clearly visible in the group.

EXT. AFGHANISTAN-VALLEY- RUSSIANS - MIDNIGHT

A Russian soldier lying on his belly is looking at this group of Mujahedeen through his NVG and signaling other soldiers to advance. Around 30 Russian soldiers belly crawl toward the Mujahedeen from all directions holding their weapons toward them.

EXT. AFGHANISTAN-VALLEY -MUHAHIDEEN- MIDNIGHT

A Mujahid comes near Murad and hands him a Russian Sniper Rifle and Murad puts his AK 47 down and starts to inspect it very closely. All of a sudden grenades start to fall all around the Mujahedeen. They all get up and start to run but met with heavy Russian fire from all directions and the grenades start to explode as well inflicting huge losses to the Mujahideens. The gun fight starts from both sides but it was over in a matter of minutes as most of the Mujahideens were killed instantly. Then the Russians put up strong lights and advance toward the Mujahedeen and found most of them were laying dead and only Kamran and Abdullah and another Mujahid still alive but a little wounded. They immediately take them into their custody.

EXT. AFGHANISTAN - VALLEY - MORNING.

Four Russian soldiers and one MAJOR OLEG KOKSHIN, 28 Yrs, are walking in the middle of a narrow valley behind three blindfolded Mujahideens with their hands tied behind their back. One of the Mujahid falls down and is being kicked by the soldiers as he manages to get up and starts to walk again. Some loose rocks crumble from the cliffs above and the Russians instantly points their weapons toward that spot but after a while a Jackal ran from there downhill and vanish behind a bush.

EXT. AFGHANISTAN - VALLEY DEAD END - LATER.

The three Mujahideens blindfolded are sitting on their knees with their hands still tied behind their backs and five Russians are standing right in front of them fully armed with AK 47 assault rifles. Major Oleg, comes towards Kamran.

MAJOR OLEG

Are you now willing to cooperate with us and answer truthfully all of our questions?

KAMRAN

No!

Major Oleg kicks him in the abdomen and he grunts in pain and falls down as more Russian soldiers join the kicking contest. After kicking him many times they put him back in the sitting position.

MAJOR OLEG

Russian boots always make people talk, are you willing to answer our questions truthfully now?

KAMRAN

Go to hell!

MAJOR OLEG

It seems like I have to waste a precious Russian bullet on your worthless life. Say your last prayer as you are going to die now.

Major Oleg comes forward and puts the muzzle of his weapon on the forehead of Kamran.

KAMRAN

My life is not in your hand.

MAJOR OLEG

But your death is!

KAMRAN

If it is not my time to go then your weapon is harmless for me.

MAJOR OLEG

My weapon chose to disagree with you.

Then the major starts to fire his AK-47 right above the head of Kamran repeatedly till he empties the magazine.

MAJOR OLEG contd...

I think that blindfold on your eyes is preventing you from seeing that you people are outnumbered and unarmed.

KAMRAN

My life is in the hand of my Allah and not you, and it doesn't matter if we are unarmed and outnumbered.

MAJOR OLEG

Do you still think that in this wilderness someone is going to save you from us?

KAMRAN

Absolutely! If we are not destined to die today.

MAJOR OLEG

Who will save you from us?

(Then as loud as he can)

Who will save you?

His voice echoes from the surrounding rugged mountains.

EXT. AFGHANISTAN-VALLEY DEAD END - SAME TIME.

A sniper rifle barrel slowly slides out of a crack between the two rocks.

THROUGH THE SNIPER SCOPE-SAME TIME SAME LOCATION

Two Russian soldiers and Major Oleg are standing 30 feet in front of blindfolded Mujahideens, hands tied behind their backs in kneeling posture on the ground. One soldier is sitting on a rock with his AK 47 resting near his feet smoking a cigarette and another soldier stands behind them at a distance with his weapon hanging on his shoulder and looking very much relaxed and casual.

EXT. AFGHANISTAN SNIPER BEHIND THE ROCKS - SAME TIME

A male hand is shown holding THREE SNIPER RIFLE ROUNDS in his palm. The same hand then loads the three rounds into the magazine and puts the magazine into the rifle and bolts it.

EXT. AFGHANISTAN-VALLEY DEAD END - SAME TIME.

The hostages are still kneeling down and the Major Oleg is putting a fresh magazine into his gun and then he tries to cock it, but couldn't as the bolt handle is jammed, he then tries again but fails again. The two soldiers on seeing this comes close to the Major Oleg to help him.

EXT. AFGHANITAN SNIPER BEHIND THE ROCKS - SAME TIME

The sniper scope shows the three of them together and then ZOOMS ONTO THE GRENADE BELT of one of the soldier who is trying to bolt the Major's weapon as the three huddles together. THE TRIGGER PIN OF THE F1 GRENADE is very much visible in the scope.

Sniper takes the aim of the trigger pin of the F1 grenade and fires. (Slow motion) The bullet hits the trigger pin and takes it out and the safety lever flies with it and the bullet then embeds itself into the abdomen of the soldier, wounding him fatally. The major Oleg and the soldier near him lies down on the ground instantly and start to look around from where the fire came from totally unaware that the F1 grenade is about to explode. The injured soldier screams in pain. Then the grenade explodes killing the soldiers and wounding Major Oleg fatally.

Sniper then bolts the rifle again and takes out the fourth soldier who was about to fire at the hostages. Then sniper bolts again and tracks down the last Russian soldier who is running at full speed away from the scene and takes a head shot and kills him too.

EXT. SAME LOCATION AFGHANISTAN - MORNING

Blind fold is removed from the eyes of Kamran and he sees Murad standing right in front of him holding the sniper rifle in his hand. Murad then takes out a knife from his belt and cut the rope tied around his hands and then he frees the remaining hostages. All of them hug each other and say "Allah O Akbar" then goes toward the fatally wounded Major Oleg, who is groaning in pain holding his torn out abdomen.

KAMRAN

Kamran sits down in front of the dying Major Oleg.

It was not our time to die, but yours.

MAJOR OLEG

Help me or I will die here, please help me.

Kamran takes out the water bottle from one of the dead soldier and puts it close to the dying Major. Then Murad picks up the AK 47 of the dying major and with one attempt cocks it with full force and then looks at the dying Major.

MURAD

Always bolt your gun like a man.

Then they leave the scene with Murad tossing the sniper rifle aside and taking the AK 47 of the dying Russian Major Oleg with him.

Back to...

INT. CENTRAL JAIL PESHAWAR - CHIEF WARDEN OFFICE - MORNING

Kamran takes out a handkerchief from his pocket and wipes tears from his face.

KAMRAN

We owe our lives to this man.

EXT. CORRIDOR OUTSIDE CHIEF WARDEN ROOM - MORNING

(Pushto Language. Sub titles begins)

MURAD

How are you Abdullah?

ABDULLAH

Alive and well, thanks to you.

MURAD

Do not mention that. Hey! I did not know that you have been promoted as deputy jail warden.

ABDULLAH

Yes! A couple of months ago and the personal recommendation of the Chief Warden made all the difference.

MURAD

I need to ask you for a favor as Kamran told me that you are also supervising the female prisoner's ward.

ABDULLAH

Anything for you brother, anything at all.

MURAD

Marry took refuge in my village, and was taken by the police in my absence.

ABDULLAH

That American lady, sentenced to 10 years in drug smuggling case?

MURAD

Yes, and you know very well the traditions of our tribe pertaining to those people who take refuge in our village.

ABDULLAH

I know, I know being a proud Pashtun myself.

MURAD

Today I have seen her after a very long time, and she looks so frail, starved and beaten black and blue. She is a fragile girl and I am worried about her.

ABDULLAH

What you expect from a jail, which has the capacity to house five hundred inmates, gets six

thousand instead? She is lucky to have survived this far, a lot of inmates who come from a good background die within first three months.

MURAD

Murad puts his hand on Abdullah's shoulder and looks at him straight into his eyes as if begging him for a favor.

Abdullah she is still my guest and if something happens to her, I will hold myself responsible.

ABDULLAH

What you expect me to do?

MURAD

Can you accommodate her in a better place?

Abdullah starts to think, lemme c.. and then with the snap of fingers.

ABDULLAH

Yes. We have a cell dedicated for the VIP political prisoners and it is vacant mostly. Let me talk to the Chief Warden as I need his approval to shift her there.

MURAD

And one more thing, after you move her to this VIP room, I also need you to arrange freshly cooked food for her? From her health it seems that she is missing her meals very frequently.

ABDULLAH

There is a very famous restaurant nearby; I can have it to send freshly cooked food for her on daily basis.

Murad reaches into his pocket and pulls out a couple of packets of Pakistani rupees and try to give it to Abdullah but he refuses to accept.

ABDULLAH Continues...

Sorry brother I cannot accept that, since she is your guest here, I will look after her myself.

MURAD

Listen to me Abdullah, she is here for ten years and she is my guest first and I need you to buy her anything and everything that she wants.

Abdullah very reluctantly accepts the money and puts it in his pocket.

MURAD Continues...

I will be going back to the village today, with the reassurance that my guest is in your safe hands and whatever she asks for will be arranged.

ABDULLAH

You can go back to the village with my words that from now on she will be looked after like my own sister.

Murad comes forward and hugs Abdullah.

MURAD

That is exactly what I was expecting from you.

(Sub titles end)

INT. CHIEF WARDEN OFFICE. PESHAWAR JAIL - AFTERNOON

Murad, Kamran and Abdullah are all sitting in the office of the Chief Warden and laughing out loudly and sipping cup of tea. One cup of tea is also in front of the Marry with cookies, which she is eating and drinking tea, but still has the look of uncertainty in her eyes. Then Murad gets up to leave and both Kamran and Abdullah gets up with him

Murad comes near Marry as she also gets up from the sofa.

MURAD

Do not worry Marry, now you will be properly looked after by these two gentlemen.

Both Wardens smile and Marry also smiles with tears in her eyes. Then all of them go outside and a female police officer holds the arm of Marry to take her back to her cell.

EXT. PESHAWAR CENTRAL JAIL PARKING LOT - AFTERNOON

Murad hugs both Wardens and start to walk toward his double cabin pickup truck parked in reverse, where his armed guards are waiting for him. Marry stops and sees him leaving.

MARRY

(V.O)

If he turns around and looks at me, then he likes me too, please turn around, please, please Murad just once look at me before you leave. Just a glance over your shoulder would send me over the moon. Please Murad, just turn around once. Please.. Please..

But Murad without turning around goes straight towards his vehicle where his armed guard opens the rear door and he gets in and the vehicle drives away with his guards jumping on the open rear seats of the vehicle.

INT. CENTRAL JAIL PESHAWAR - MARRY CELL - LATER.

Abdullah comes to Marry's cell with another jail official and orders the female guard standing outside to open the cell door. Then Abdullah comes inside and with his hand gesture calls Marry. Marry quickly gets up, picks up her book and starts to follow them as they leads her to a different part of the prison.

EXT. CENTRAL JAIL PESHAWAR CORRIDOR TO THE VIP CELL - AFTERNOON

They come to a room with a locked door. The jail officer tries to open the lock and after trying several keys opens the lock and they enter inside.

INT. CENTRAL JAIL PESHAWAR - VIP ROOM - SAME TIME

Abdullah is the first one to enter as he turns on the lights and fan and Marry follows him. Marry enters the room and sees a large bed with white clean beddings and a sofa set with a table in front of it, a dressing table with a large looking mirror and a book shelf full of books.

Abdullah carefully inspects the room and turns on the TV, then he takes out the remote control from the side drawer and points it toward the Air conditioner and presses the buttons many times but nothing happens and then opens the cell compartment and discover there are no battery cells inside, signals the officer to arrange them.

INT. CENTRAL JAIL PESHAWAR -VIP ROOM - WASHROOM - SAME TIME

Then he goes inside the tiled/clean bathroom and turns on the taps and water starts flowing, shampoo bottles and soaps, toothpaste and a new toothbrush is placed neatly on the vanity and clean white towels are hanging on the towel stand. Then he comes out of the washroom.

ABDULLAH

You will stay here from now on. Murad brought some gifts for you I will have them delivered. Anything else you need? Do let me know.

MARRY

I badly need anti lice shampoo.

ABDULLAH

Shampoos are inside the washroom.

MARRY

Marry goes inside the washroom and comes back.

I need anti lice shampoo not ordinary ones.

Then she scratches her head like crazy.

ABDULLAH

Oh. OK I have understood now.

As soon as both officers leave the room, Marry lies on the bed and closes her eyes monetarily and then sits up and starts to look at the TV screen. There is a knock at the door. She opens and the jail officer hands a large shopping bag and a small packet to her.

Marry opens the small packet first and sees battery cells and a bottle of Anti Lice shampoo. Then she opens the large shopper and sees brand new clothes, a pair of new flip flops and a box containing moisturizers, facial creams, a hairbrush and a large chocolate box. She puts battery cell into the air conditioner remote control and presses the button and it starts with a beep.

INT. CENTRAL JAIL PESHAWAR - VIP ROOM - WASHROOM - SAME TIME.

Then she goes into the washroom and stands under the shower with good water pressure. She puts anti lice shampoo on her hair and rinse thoroughly with eyes closed and then rubs soap on her face and then on her legs and feet and black color water from her body starts to flow on the white tiles below. Then she brushes her teeth standing in front of the mirror, wrapped in the towels, one on her body and one on her head.

INT. CENTRAL JAIL PESHAWAR - VIP ROOM - SAME TIME

Then she comes out and wears the new dress brought by Murad and combs her hair with the brush standing in the front of the dressing table humming feebly, looking calm and relaxed.

Knock at the door and she opens it and a jail official comes inside and places steaming pots on the table with juice cans and a large 7 up bottle. Marry opens the lid and sees freshly cooked lamb and hot bread. She devourers the food while relishing each and every bite of it and washes

the food down with juice. After the food she burps loudly and smiles.

Then she turns off the light of the room and crawls onto the bed and turns off the television and looks at the Air conditioner and sees that it is showing 18 degrees and then she drags the quilt on her body till her chin and goes into a long peaceful sleep.

INT. CENTRAL JAIL VIP ROOM - NEXT DAY - AFTERNOON

Marry is sleeping peacefully, opens her eyes a little and hears somebody pounding at the door, she groggily gets up finds her flip flops and drags herself to the door and by mistake opens the door of the bathroom and looks in then realizes that the knock is on the entrance door, closes the bathroom door and opens the other one and sees a prison official standing there with a tray holding pots of different sizes. Marry opens the door and the official walk in and remove the old utensils from the table and replace them with new ones.

PRISON OFFICIAL

This is the third time I am knocking at your door.

MARRY

I was sleeping.

PRISON OFFICIAL

Since yesterday?

Marry opens the pots and see steaming rice with chunks of beef and raisins and cashew nuts spread on it with sweet carrots. She starts eating and after she finishes she takes some chocolates from the box which Murad sent for her and lies down on the bed munching at chocolates and looking at the ceiling of the room.

MARRY

(V.O)

I was on the verge of collapsing when Murad revived my dying soul and rekindled the flame of my life. Why I feel so safe when he is around, as if nobody could hurt me now? Am I falling in love with the chief of a tribe and why wouldn't I, after all he is that rock against which I can always lean upon, doesn't really matter how hopeless my circumstances are. Murad you have my heart and it is fragile, please handle it with care.

Time Laps is shown by flickering of the months.

INT. CENTRAL PRISON CHIEF WARDEN OFFICE - MORNING.

Marry sitting in front of Kamran in his office.

KAMRAN

How are you Marry?

MARRY

(Smiling)

Never felt better.

KAMRAN

(Raising his eyebrows)

Never felt better in a prison?

MARRY

From the hell cell to a VIP room makes you more grateful and appreciative of life.

KAMRAN

Only because Murad came for you.

MARRY

Is Murad calling you regularly and asking about me?

KAMRAN

No.

MARRY

(Sheepishly)

Oh.

KAMRAN

Perhaps he knows that now you are in safe hands here.

MARRY

(With a sheepish smile)

That must be the reason.

KAMRAN

Listen! Today you have completed three years and seven months of your sentence, and I have good news for you as well.

MARRY

What is that?

KAMRAN

We have been able to capture that gang of criminals who used to trap gullible women into smuggling drugs. Two have been captured from USA by Interpol and the rest from Pakistan by our local law enforcement agencies.

MARRY

Wow! really?

KAMRAN

Tomorrow we will take you to identify them during an identification parade.

MARRY

Ok.

KAMRAN

The appeal filed by your lawyer will also be decided in a couple of weeks by the High Court, Peshawar.

INT. HIGH COURT PEHSAWAR - PAKISTAN - MORNING.

A judge, 56 yrs, gray hair with spectacles, wearing a Judge's robe is sitting on an elevated seat inside a courtroom jam packed with people and lawyers dressed in black suits and white shirts. Five criminals are standing there in the corner of the court room handcuffed to each other, Amir and Zaheer who lured Marry into drugs trafficking in USA, Arbab and his driver who picked and dropped Marry at the Airport and one who gave her the

suitcase full of drugs in her hotel room. Advocate Uzma and the state prosecutor are arguing in front of the Judge and the Judge is taking notes and looking at them from above his sight glasses.

INT. PESHAWAR JAIL - CHIEF WARDEN OFFICE - MORNING

Marry sitting across Kamran in his office and he opens an already opened envelope and takes out the verdict of the high court and puts on his reading glasses.

KAMRAN

Congratulation Marry, the Honorable High court, Peshawar has waived off your remaining sentence because of no prior criminal record, your good conduct in the prison as recommended by us and the relationship that we enjoy with your country.

MARRY

Thank you

KAMRAN

(Reads the court order)

Marry Anne Philips, you have served three years and seven months in the Central Jail, Peshawar, women wing on charges of trying to smuggle prohibited Narcotics substance from Pakistan to USA.

Voice Silenced but shown speaking and reading the order and then voice comes back.

The Chief Warden of the Central Jail of Peshawar is hereby ordered to release you from the prison with immediate effects and you are free to travel back to your country.

MARRY

So I can leave the jail right now?

KAMRAN

Well not today, an official from the US consulate Peshawar will be here tomorrow to hand over to you your ticket and your passport and most probably you will fly back to your country in a couple of days.

MARRY

I can hardly wait.

KAMRAN

Let me call Murad and share this good news with him.

Kamran dials a number from his cell phone.

INT. MOVING VEHICLE ON ROAD SOMEWHERE - MORNING

Murad is travelling in his double cabin pickup truck and sitting on the rear seat when his cell phone starts to ring.

MURAD

(Pushto Language. Sub titles starts)

Aslam O Eleckum!

KAMRAN

Walek um Aslam! Kamran here from Central Jail Peshawar.

MURAD

How are you my dear?

KAMRAN

I have good news for you. Your guest is being released from the prison tomorrow by order of the high court, Peshawar.

MURAD

I am happy for her and grateful to you people.

KAMRAN

(In English Language)

She is sitting in front of me right now; do you want to talk to her?

Kamran anticipating that Murad will talk to Marry and is about to give her the phone and Marry also extends her hand absolutely sure that Murad will talk to her but on hearing the reply of Murad, Kamran puts the phone back to his ear and shake his head toward Marry telling her non verbally that he does not want to talk to her. Marry very slowly retrieves her hand back feeling dejected.

MURAD

No. Just say goodbye to her on my behalf and wish her a safe journey. And if she needs anything do let me know.

KAMRAN

Marry do you want to say something to Murad?

MARRY

Yes, say thank you to him and all the people in the village especially the family of Nadir Khan for their hospitality and endless love, as I might not see them again ever.

KAMRAN

Kamran repeats in Pushto language everything what Marry said for Murad.

MURAD

I will do that and best wishes and lots of prayers for her. Good bye and Aslam O Eleckum.

(Sub title ends)

KAMRAN

Murad sends his best wishes to you and prays for a safe journey back to your country.

MARRY

(Feeling a little upset)

Thank you.

KAMRAN

(Understanding Marry's disappointment)

I think he was busy travelling.

MARRY

Possible.

INT. VEHICLE ON ROAD IN PESHAWAR - MORNING

Murad puts the cell phone in his pocket and then looks outside the window of the moving vehicle with a very distant look in his eyes, as if loosing something very precious but too proud and stubborn to admit it. Then he takes out his wallet from his waist coat pocket and opens it and takes out a folded piece of paper very carefully and opens it slowly and then looks at it and it is the LIST OF ITEMS MARRY WROTE TO BE PROCURED FOR THE SCHOOL WITH A PICTURE OF A HAND DRAWN PAPER WINDMILL ON IT.

Murad starts seeing flashback of the scene (slow motion) when Marry fell down after firing his weapon and her head scarf flew away with strong wind, exposing her long blonde hair and the way she looked into his eyes with a sheepish smile, when she returned his weapon.

Murad keeps on looking at the paper for a while and then rolls down the window and starts thinking whether to toss it out or not, as the chapter of Marry has come to an end for him? Expression on his face shows clearly as if a war

is going on between his mind and his heart and after sometimes he rolls up the window and neatly folds the paper and puts it back in his wallet.

INT. PESHAWAR JAIL VISITOR'S ROOM - MORNING

A white American male, Tim Johnson 34 yrs, wearing a neat suit and a tie is sitting with his briefcase lying on the table. The door opens and Marry enters the room and sits down in front of him.

TIM

Hi, my name is Tim Johnson and I am the first officer, US consulate office, Peshawar. And you must be Marry Anne Philips?

MARRY

Hi

TIM

He opens the brief case and takes out an envelope.

I have your passport and your ticket with me here, and the consulate vehicle will drive you to the Islamabad International Airport on Wednesday and that is day after tomorrow. You will be released from the Jail today afternoon and accommodated in a hotel in Peshawar, from where you will be picked up at 6 AM, as your flight is scheduled to take off at 11 AM.

Marry takes her passport and the tickets and an envelope containing her jewelry and cash which was taken from her at the ADF office at the Airport.

TIM Continues.....

Alright Marry, my job here is finished. Have a nice flight home and stay clean.

MARRY

Thank you.

EXT. PESHAWAR - HOTEL PARKING LOT - EARLY MORNING.

Marry coming out of hotel with a suitcase and the doorman opens the door to her as she walks out and a nicely unformed man comes forward and takes her luggage and leads her to the waiting vehicle. She sits on the rear seat and the driver puts her luggage in the trunk of the car and then sits down, fastens his seat belts and the vehicle starts moving and goes out of the hotel compound on the road.

EXT. ROAD TO ISLAMABAD INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT - MORNING.

Marry slouches on the car seat and closes her eyes and rests her head on the back of the car's seat and starts to see in her mind, the smiling face of Jannat, Nadir Palwasha, Ayub, Kids and her students one by one. Tears start to flow from her closed eyes.

After a while she is brought back to the present when the vehicle abruptly stops at a red light. She looks outside with teary eyes and sees an arrow sign saying "Islamabad International Airport 15 kilometers."

The driver notices her tears through rear view mirror.

DRIVER

I have been dropping off a lot of passengers to Airport and majority of them are sad while leaving Pakistan.

MARRY

Yes. It is not so easy to leave this beautiful country, especially for me.

DRIVER

But I have never seen someone crying so much before?

MARRY

You never will, because you have no idea what I am leaving behind.

DRIVER

What are you leaving behind; I hope you do not mind me asking?

MARRY

I am leaving behind my heart, my family and my dreams.

EXT. ISLAMABAD INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT - MORNING

The vehicle enters the drop lane in front of a sign saying "International departures" and the car stops and the driver gets out and opens the trunk of the vehicle and takes her suitcase out and hands it to her and nods his head and drives away.

Marry starts to walk into the Airport while dragging her suitcase behind her. A security officer comes forward and checks her ticket and lets her through.

EXT. ISLAMABAD INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT - MORNING- LATER

An American Airliner takes off in the early morning sky.

EXT. VILLAGE DHANAK PUR - CRACK OF DAWN

TWO DAYS LATER

Call for prayer "Allah O Akbar, Allah O Akbar. Dawn is breaking, the rain has stopped and the sky is getting cleared. The smoke is billowing from the chimneys of the houses in the village below and the roosters are crowing. Murad is standing in his mansion at the edge of his lawn wrapped up in his shawl, gazing into the horizon, where the early morning sun is rising through the dispersing clouds.

All of a sudden the profound morning silence is shattered by the SOUND OF A LARGE BELL RINGING. It instantly attracts the attention of the villagers and especially Murad, who looks toward the school building in a flash.

EXT. MUD TRACK TO THE VILLAGE SCHOOL - EARLY MORNING.

Murad runs towards the school rather hysterically with a very determined looks in his eyes. He reaches the school well before anybody else does and pushes the door open.

INT. VILLAGE SCHOOL CLASS ROOM - EARLY MORNING.

Murad sees Marry standing there at the far end with tears streaming down her cheeks. They instantly lock eyes with each other and the expression of Murad stays the same for a brief moment and then they start to change gradually as his lips curves into a smile and Marry instantly understands that this rare smile signals acceptability and runs toward him and he also extends his arms and they both hug each other as more tears rolls down Marry's cheeks onto the shoulder of Murad, as she continue hugging him as if she does not want to let him go ever.

And then they separate with Marry wiping her tears with her hands. Then Palwasha enters with her husband and kids and

they all starts to hug Marry and then the whole village/Marry's students gather in the school smiling and women hugging Marry one by one. Then someone opens the door with a loud bang and everybody looks back and sees Jannat entering the building with the support of a cane and as soon as she sees Marry she flings her cane away and walks toward Marry with open arms, Marry also runs towards her and hugs her and she kisses her forehead and then squeezes her into her arms.

And then there is a loud clap of thunder and a splash of colors appear just around the school building and the view from the windows becomes very colorful and everybody starts to peep outside and sees nothing but colors.

INT/EXT. VILLAGE SCHOOL COMPOUND - MORNING

Everyone rushes outside and sees that an end of the rainbow has touched the earth and enveloped the entire school in different colors. Then everybody starts touching and dancing in the middle of spectrum of colors falling from the sky.

Voice like Morgan Freeman (O.S)

AS THE MYTH GOES

"WHEN THE GOD IS HAPPY, RAINBOWS APPEAR AND WHEN HE SMILES, THEY SOMETIMES COME DOWN TO EARTH"

Rainbow did touch the earth on that eventful day when the villagers were busy celebrating the return of Marry Anne Philips. It was indeed a day worth celebrating.

Marry Anne never left Pakistan and continued teaching in the same school years after year. She did not stay single either and married Murad Khan and gave birth to four healthy boys (Photograph of Marry with Murad in traditional wedding dress, then another photo of the couple holding one infant, then another photograph with two boys, then three and then four boys, all with BLONDE HAIR). Marry Anne was later on awarded citizenship by the government of Pakistan in recognition of her efforts to educate the children of a far flung village known by the name "DHANAK PUR."

Voice Ends.

The End.

Then the caste starts and we show Marry in the background of the running caste from the top twirling around wearing a traditional frock, looking skywards with eyes closed and a huge smile on her face in a beautiful lush green meadow with wild flowers around her.