

SUNDARTA

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A FEMALE NARRATOR speaks, we know her as ANN WORTHINGTON:

ANN (V.O.)

They say that people living around the kingdom of "Michor" had seen once and for all such a huge dark smoke spreading out of its royal fort --

FADE OUT.

EXT. THAR DESERT - DAY

An elderly pale caucasian woman, MILADY COOK (50s), and a YOUNG CAUCASIAN GIRL with green eyes, LILLY, on a horse are watching something away.

ANN (V.O.)(CONT'D)

-- That smoke --

They're staring at that huge smoke, spreading from a huge fort; Michor fort.

EXT. KINGDOM OF MICHOR - MORNING

In the streets of the Indian kingdom, every CITIZEN stares also at the smoke, with desperate eyes.

ANN (V.O.)(CONT'D)

-- when the Michorians saw it, they cried, they wailed, they lamented. But they knew that the queen who ruled them for only six months, was a legend, a legend who sacrificed herself for her people --

INT. MICHOR FORT - MORNING

INDIAN WOMEN, wearing red *Banasaris*, scream and dash to a crowded gate.

ANN (CONT'D)

-- a legend who burned herself to protect her honor. And yet, they were proud of having such a queen like her.

EXT. STREETS OF MICHOR - DAY

CHANDRAMUKHI SINGH (20s), a sweet brunette Indian woman, energetic and as optimistic as finding the glass of water full, hurries, always fixing her *ghoongat* automatically, until she turns right and enters the dancing school.

INT. DANCING SCHOOL - DAY

Chandramukhi enters a wide room full of YOUNG WOMEN at her age and younger ready to dance. There's also a music BAND with traditional Indian instruments.

When the young women see their professor, Chandramukhi, they stand up and do the *Namaste* move as a sign of respect.

The professor grins, and takes her *ghoongat* off.

All dialogue in *Italics* is spoken in Hindi.

CHANDRAMUKHI

*Come on, girls! Let's dance! --
Band, show us your skills!*

She claps twice and the band starts playing SOFT TRADITIONAL INDIAN MUSIC.

Chandramukhi dances slowly, encouraging her students to mimic her.

CHANDRAMUKHI

*One -- Two -- Three -- Well done!
Again! --*

And the students follow her.

EXT. MICHOR MARKET - NIGHT

ANN (V.O.)

In the beginning of the 18th century, there was a kingdom in northern-India called Michor --

SUPER: Kingdom of Michor - 1730s / Kingdom of Michor - 1730s

The streets are incredibly gloomy and empty that only the intense winds make noise around.

A fancy horse carriage stops in front of a bunch of humble houses. The lamp the COACHMAN (60s) has next to him is the only source of light in these streets.

On the carriage there are also TWO WOMEN (20s) sitting. The brown-haired woman is the YOUNG MILADY COOK, an English rose in simple clothes. The blonde woman, wearing manly but fancier clothes, a book in her hand, is ANN WORTHINGTON, the narrator.

INT. CHANDRAMUKHI'S HOUSE - SAME

Chandramukhi hums while dancing *Kathak* slowly under the light of one single oil lamp.

As the carriage's four wheels make noise outside, Chandramukhi overlooks through a window and spots the carriage in front of her house.

Her eyes meet up with Ann's. Seeing the two women in the carriage, Chandramukhi wraps herself with a blanket from a sofa next to her, takes a lamp and gets out.

EXT. CHANDRAMUKHI'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Chandramukhi steps out and stops, staring at the carriage. And after hesitation, she shouts.

CHANDRAMUKHI
Hello! Do you need help?

Ann smiles from ear to ear and exchanges looks of hope with Milady and the coachman. Then, she gets off the carriage.

ANN
Yes, actually --

MILADY
Finally someone speaks English in here.

Ann shakes hands with Chandramukhi.

ANN (CONT'D)
We're looking for a hotel. We're kind of lost.

CHANDRAMUKHI
The nearest hotel is at least 100 furlongs away.

ANN
Oh my God -- we're looking for a place to spend the night in.

CHANDRAMUKHI

Well, you can stay at my house.

Ann smiles.

ANN (V.O.)(CONT'D)

-- which I was discovering as a traveler, my hobby, and where I met Chandramukhi Singh, such a lovely woman who welcomed me in her house -
- and who adopted my daughter years later.

The two women shake hands.

INT. CHANDRAMUKHI'S HOUSE - NIGHT

SUPER: 2 Years Later/ 2 Years Later

There's a MASSIVE KNOCKING on the door. Chandramukhi hurries, wearing her *ghoongat*.

When she does, she finds Ann, pale with teary eyes, with a sleepy baby, SAMANTHA, between her hands and Milady, while the coachman awaits them in the carriage.

CHANDRAMUKHI

Oh my God. Ann? Hi. What's wrong?

ANN

Let us in first.

The two women enter the house. Ann immediately hands the baby to Chandramukhi.

CHANDRAMUKHI

What happened? What's going on?

ANN

Dear Chandramukhi, my baby and I need your help --

Chandramukhi keeps quiet, listening.

ANN (CONT'D)

I... can't keep Samantha --

CHANDRAMUKHI

Samantha?

Ann bursts into tears.

ANN

Yes, Samantha, my baby girl. I can't keep her with me -- I want you to take care of her --

Chandramukhi is lost.

ANN (CONT'D)

I need you to adopt her.

CHANDRAMUKHI

What?! You're leaving your daughter with a stranger?

ANN

That's the only solution I've got. Otherwise, she's dead! -- Listen: I'm leaving Samantha and Milady too with you. Milady will help you raise my daughter.

Ann catches Chandramukhi by her arms, begging:

ANN

You must protect her. Promise me you're gonna protect her -- you are saving her life.

All what Chandramukhi does is nodding. Ann looks at Milady.

ANN

Milady. Promise me too.

MILADY

I do.

Ann hugs Milady and kisses Samantha. Then she walks toward the door.

She turns to the two women and the child for one more time, nods with a sad smile, and leaves.

When Ann does, Chandramukhi sits on the bench, completely confused. Milady sits next to her, watching her silently.

Chandramukhi wakes up from her shock; she looks at Samantha: she's brown-haired and brown-eyed, with a large smile and a bright skin like her mother's.

Chandramukhi keeps looking at the baby and caressing her head, giving a sigh.

CHANDRAMUKHI

Hello, Samantha.

Milady smiles as she watches.

INT. MICHOR - CHANDRAMUKHI'S HOUSE - NOON

Chandramukhi is holding Samantha next to the door, shaking her slowly to calm her down and stop her crying.

Milady is busy preparing lunch at the low table.

MILADY

Madam, come and rest.

CHANDRAMUKHI

It's been six months since your madam has left Samantha.

MILADY

Chandramukhi. Again, I don't think Madam's coming. She insisted on letting Samantha go.

CHANDRAMUKHI

You don't know why she left her?

Milady nods no, as Chandramukhi observes Samantha.

CHANDRAMUKHI

So... can I rename her?

(beat)

I got a better name for her.

Milady keeps quiet as Chandramukhi stares at the finally calm baby's eyes, and decides:

CHANDRAMUKHI

Sundarta.

MILADY

Sorry?

CHANDRAMUKHI

Sundarta. Her name will be Sundarta.

(looks at Milady)

Sundarta means beauty in Hindi.

(beat)

Everytime I look at her, I feel the beauty.

ANN (V.O.)

And the story is not about me or Chandramukhi. It's about Sundarta.

Chandramukhi prints a kiss on Sundarta's cheek.

INT. LONDON - NORFOLK HOUSE - DAY

Inside a royal bedroom, TWO MAIDS shroud a female body on the bed while a PRIEST (60s) reads the hymns.

ANN (V.O.)
Princess Augusta of Saxe-Gotha-
Altenburg, my cousin's daughter-in-
law, died while giving birth to
Prince George --

Ann stands in a corner of the bedroom, mopping her tears with a napkin.

ANN (V.O.)
-- And who's my cousin? He's King
George II of Great Britain.

Ann turns back and sees KING GEORGE II (50s) watching outside the bedroom for seconds. Then he leaves. Simply a man deprived of feelings at point of never reacting to his daughter-in-law's death.

Ann gives King George II a dirty side look.

EXT. LONDON'S STREETS - DAY

Tenebrous. Heavy rain. POOR PEOPLE sitting outside across the walls, wearing dirty simple pieces of cloth that never warm their cold bodies during winter.

ANN (V.O.)
King George II was the worst king
that Great Britain had ever known;
he cared much about money and
dominantaion than about his own
deeply poor public --

In one of the most cleanest streets of London, a royal cart passes slowly with four black horses, King George II is inside it.

EXT. ST JAMES' PALACE - DAY

A bunch of POOR PEOPLE, including a MIDDLE-AGED MAN, are sitting at the sidewalk, trembling of cold and scowling at the cart --

ANN (V.O.)

He was a true dictator. Every single person in the kingdom hated him -- Things weren't going well in Kingdom of Great Britain.

-- As the cart enters the palace.

INT. NORFOLK HOUSE - DAY

ONE of the maids hands Ann the baby.

ANN (V.O.)

I was assigned to take care of the orphan prince. And especially after his father's mysterious and sudden disappearance, I was glad to officially adopt him.

Ann stares at the baby with teary eyes.

EXT. LONDON PORT - DAY

SUPER: 2 decades later: 1750s / 2 decades later: 1750s

Some NAVY MEN, accompanied with ROYAL GUARDS, are emptying a ship full of boxes having the East India Company logo.

ANN (V.O.)

The East India Company in the 1750s, a British joint-stock company that brings Indian merchandise to Great Britain, was powerful enough to have the government itself involved in.

A ship leaves the port, setting out the trip.

EXT. PACIFIC OCEAN - DAY

In the middle of the ocean, there're barely seen 3 ships from away. The one in the middle looks fancier.

At the head of this ship, the about 20-year old PRINCE GEORGE stands there. The wind passes through his dark black hair. His green eyes seem to hide such a sad and mysterious personality of their silent owner.

ANN (V.O.)

King George II assigned his grandson as a representative of the Great Britain, to convince kings of the Indian subcontinent to sign commercial contracts. And in return the Indian kings would obtain goods and rarities of the European market.

INT. ST'S JAMES PALACE - DAY

Prince George enters the throne room; dark, empty, there are only the throne and some paints on the sides including a big one for the king behind the chair.

King George II stands in front of his royal chair. He's dealing with some papers with his personal guard LEROY (50s): a colossal bald man. Nobody has ever seen him smiling.

To attract his grandfather's attention, Prince George COUGHS. And so, King George II turns; he's now in his seventies, with more wrinkles. His dark brown eyes ignite with greediness.

KING GEORGE II

Oh! George.

PRINCE GEORGE

Good morning, grandfather.

KING GEORGE II

Good morning. How was the trip?

PRINCE GEORGE

I was a bit more comfortable than --

King George II interrupts, looking at his papers.

KING GEORGE II

I mean the income. What did we gain this time?

Prince George glooms for a second. There's clearly some pression within the throne room.

PRINCE GEORGE

Yes -- we signed a contract with Alivardi Khan and also we enhanced our bases in Calcutta and Madras.

KING GEORGE II

Not bad.

King George II comes back to Leroy.

PRINCE GEORGE
Did you call me?

KING GEORGE II
Oh! Right. There's a kingdom in
northern-India called Michor. It's
a large and a very strong kingdom.
It's one of my favortie spice-
producing ones.

He gives the papers to Leroy and comes back to Prince George.

KING GEORGE II
I want you to travel this time to
Michor, and to convince their king
to sign as much contracts as
possible.

King George II goes and sits on his throne, ordering.

KING GEORGE II (CONT'D)
Go now and get some rest. A few
days later, I want you to be ready
for the trip. And by that time,
I'll give you the contracts to
sign. Got it?

PRINCE GEORGE
Yes, grandpa.

Prince George leaves the room.

INT. ST'S JAMES PALACE - DAY

Prince George knocks on the door of a bedroom.

A FEMALE VOICE calls from behind the door.

ANN (V.O.)
Get in!

He does and finds Ann (40s) sitting on a sofa, embroidering a
white piece of cloth.

Ann is still thin. With a little bit wrinkled face and a mix
of blond and white hair.

She looks up at Prince George and smiles. Her smile made her
prettier.

ANN

George! You're back!

PRINCE GEORGE

Hello, moma.

Prince George kisses the back of her right hand and sits on the edge of the double bed.

ANN

So, how was your trip?

PRINCE GEORGE

Amazing. You know, Alivardi Khan, the king of Bengal, hosted me like an emperor! And I tried a dish, super spicy but super delicious. I was confused enough to continue eating and getting really hot or not!

They both chuckle, sharing a tender mother-son moment.

ANN

Well done. I'm so happy for you.

Ann asks with a managed smile.

ANN

So, King George II -- when will you come back to India?

Prince George's smile disappears.

PRINCE GEORGE

A few days later.

ANN

A few days later -- I'll miss you a lot -- This trip took three months.

PRINCE GEORGE

Me too.

(beat)

Moma, I'm travelling this time to Michor. Did you hear about it? --

Ann, once hearing the name of the kingdom, freezes, as her son continues.

PRINCE GEORGE (CONT'D)

-- Maybe you can enlighten me as you were a traveler before.

Ann's smile disappears. Her eyes ignite. Prince George notices her sudden reaction.

PRINCE GEORGE
Moma? Are you okay?

ANN
You're going to Michor?

PRINCE GEORGE
Yes. Your cousin is sending me there to sign the contact, as usual.

Ann starts to hallucinate.

ANN
Michor -- Chandramukhi -- Samantha--

PRINCE GEORGE
Moma? -- What's the matter?

Ann stands up but suddenly she totters, about to faint. Prince George catches her and helps her lying across the bed.

He sits down again on the edge and asks impatiently.

PRINCE GEORGE
Moma, what's happening? Tell me!

Ann stares at Prince George. Then she decides to tell him.

ANN
I -- I already had a daughter.

PRINCE GEORGE
WHAT?

He's paralyzed. His eyes are fixed on Ann.

PRINCE GEORGE
You al-- already had a daughter?

ANN
Yes. I gave birth to a daughter two years before you were born.

PRINCE GEORGE
And where is she now?

ANN
I had to leave her -- I -- My Michorian friend adopted her.

PRINCE GEORGE

Why?

Ann looks up at the roof and continues as she's watching her life's tape.

ANN

I asked her that. Your grandfather obliged me to. Chandramukhi had to adopt Samantha --

PRINCE GEORGE

Wait wait wait -- What's your Indian friend's name?

ANN

Chandramukhi. Chandramukhi Singh.
Why?

The prince stands up, and informs after a few seconds of silence.

PRINCE GEORGE

Moma -- Chandramukhi Singh is the Queen of Michor.

Ann gazes him for a while. Then, she abruptly stands up fast and grabs Prince George by his shoulders.

ANN

Did you hear anything about Samantha?

PRINCE GEORGE

No. But we know that there's only one princess in the kingdom. She's called The Adopted Princess.

Ann freaks out, realizing that her daughter is a princess.

ANN

Oh my God -- Oh my God. My daughter is a princess. George, Samantha is a princess in an Indian kingdom. Samantha is a princess!

PRINCE GEORGE

Moma -- Michorians don't call her Samantha.

ANN

-- What?

PRINCE GEORGE
Her name is Sundarta.

ANN
Sundarta?! That's a weird name --
Oh, right. Maybe Chandramukhi
changed her name when she adopted
her.

PRINCE GEORGE
Sundarta means beauty in Hindi.

Ann lets a stressful laugh out.

ANN
Wow, well. I guess I asked the
right woman to raise my daughter!

Prince George never reacts. A silent moment passes. Ann gets
more serious.

ANN
George. I need to go to Michor. I
need to see my daughter.

PRINCE GEORGE
Well, moma. I don't mind at all,
but my grandfather --

ANN
I'll convince him -- right now.

Ann dashes out of the room with her big heavy dress.

PRINCE GEORGE
Right now? Moma, not now! He's
discussing with ministers. Moma!

Ann already disappears.

INT. ST'S JAMES PALACE - MEETING ROOM - DAY

TWO MINISTERS leave the room while King George II is
arranging some papers on the long table.

Ann enters in hurry and stops in front of the king. She bends
and announces.

ANN
Your majesty. I need to talk to
you.

KING GEORGE II
 (indifferently)
 About?

ANN
 About Michor.

King George II finally pays attention; he looks at her, wide-eyed.

ANN (CONT'D)
 Listen. There's a secret I didn't
 reveal to anyone until few minutes
 ago.

KING GEORGE II
 To?

ANN
 To his majesty Prince George.

KING GEORGE II
 What is it?

ANN
 Is Chandramukhi Singh the Queen of
 Michor?

KING GEORGE II
 Yes. She's the Queen of Michor,
 married to King Krishna Bai, the
 only legal heir of the Michorian
 throne after the death of all the
 royal family during a war between
 them and Moguls. They have only an
 adopted daughter called Sundarta,
 or "The Adopted Princess".

ANN
 Wow! You know a lot about Indian
 kingdoms.

King George II is back to his papers.

KING GEORGE II
 I have to know whom I'm dealing
 with.

ANN
 Do you know this adopted princess'
 actual parents?

KING GEORGE II
 No.

ANN
I'm her mother.

Completely shocked, King George II stares at her.

KING GEORGE II
That girl -- I asked you to get rid
of twenty years ago?

ANN
Don't punish me. Of course I
couldn't just kill my daughter. And
you could find her in an orphanage
so you kill her easily. So, I
decided to abandon her to
Chandramukhi, my Michorian friend.

The king glares at Ann.

ANN (CONT'D)
All what I'm asking you to is to
let me travel with George -- I mean
his royal highness Prince George to
Michor. Please.

King George II just gazes her. Then he moves to the door. Ann follows him.

ANN
I want to see my daughter. Besides,
Chandramukhi is my friend and my
daughter's adoptive mother. I'm
sure I can help your grandson
convince her and her husband to
sign the contract.

He stops for a second.

KING GEORGE II
You do?

ANN
I don't know. I said that my old
friendship may convince them.

The king continues walking through the hall, followed by Ann.

KING GEORGE II
Alright then. After tomorrow,
you'll leave Great Britain with
George and your personal guards to
Michor by sea. The trip will take
about two months.

Ann bows with a large smile.

ANN
Thank you, your majesty.

EXT. ATLANTIC OCEAN - DAY

SUPER: **March - 1750s / March - 1750s**

A royal ship leaves the London port. At its head, Ann puts her hand on Prince George's shoulder and kisses his cheek tenderly.

EXT. MICHOR FORT - DAY

The royal British convoy of carriages stops in front of the colossal Michor fort.

TWO MICHORIAN GUARDS open the main gate as the convoy enters.

INT. MICHOR FORT - SERVANTS' COURTYARD - DAY

Prince George and Ann, accompanied with their GUARDS and TWO MICHORIAN SOLDIERS, enter the palace, specifically the servants' courtyard.

The two British guests get impressed by the beauty of the palace:

The suite is composed of the courtyard surrounded by rooms in the ground floor and the first floor. The doors of these rooms are decorated with beautiful shapes. The rock walls show different colors and pictures telling stories and tales of gods and goddesses of Hinduism. (and so the rest of the palace).

ONE of soldiers addresses to Prince George in broken English.

SOLIDIER 1
This is the servants suite. Your
guards will rest here.

PRINCE GEORGE
Good.
(addressing to his men)
Follow the gentleman to your rooms.

The SECOND ONE asks the British men with a sign of his hand to follow him.

As all the guards leave, soldier 1 continues.

SOLIDIER 1

And now, let's go to his majesty
the king of Michor.

Prince George, Ann and the soldier keep walking straight.

TWO MICHORIAN GUARDS standing at the gate of the suite open
it.

INT. MICHOR FORT - ROYAL COURTYARD - DAY

They enter another courtyard; it's the royal courtyard, the
biggest and best suite. It has a vast rectanlgle pool with
pink and white lotuses and *diyas* floating. They stop at the
edge of the pool, as soldier 1 tells the story of the fort.

SOLDIER 1

The Michor fort was built two
centuries ago. It witnessed
multiple wars and victories of our
kingdom --

Meanwhile, Prince George spots the shape of A WOMAN passing
in front of doors.

Ann notices her son watching the woman so she focuses until
recognizes her; it's the old Milady (50s), wearing a saree.
Her hair is grey, her face is wrinkled. She's a bit hunchback
and with tiny glasses.

Prince George remarks Ann's large smile and accelerating
breathing.

PRINCE GEORGE

Who is this, moma?

ANN

It's Milady, the maid I told you
about during our trip.

PRINCE GEORGE

Do you know what? Hide behind me to
surprise her.

She does, as Prince George is much taller than Ann.

Milady keeps walking, overly thinking and muttering, until
she bumps into the prince.

She studies him, without noticing Ann.

MILADY

Who the hell are you?

Prince George smiles at her rude British accent.

PRINCE GEORGE

I'm George. The prince and the official representative of Kingdom of Great Britain -- You're Milady Cook, right?

MILADY

Yes, so? Why are you asking, pretty boy?

PRINCE GEORGE

Because I think that you know my adoptive mother.

MILADY

And who's your damn adoptive mother?

Prince George moves left and so Ann appears.

Milady's face freezes. And after seconds of silence, she wonders.

MILADY

Ann?

Ann nods with tearing eyes. The other also starts hysterically crying. They hug each other.

After that, Milady jokes.

MILADY

So. I guess you're here to finally get your daughter back. Right?

Ann giggles.

ANN

Yes. I think so.

MILADY

And what about -- this boy? You truly adopted him?

ANN

Yes.

MILADY

Wow! And who's his mother?

Ann's wide grin from ear to ear disappears.

ANN

His mother is princess Augusta of
Saxe-Gotha-Altenburg -- She passed
away while giving birth to him.

MILADY

Oh Lord.

Silence spreads.

MILADY

Before we meet Sundarta and
Chandramukhi, we need first to let
the king know about your coming.

Four of them walk toward the other side of the royal
courtyard where there are stairs leading to a big door on the
first floor; it's the throne room.

INT. MICHOR FORT - THRONE ROOM - DAY

The throne room is a bit narrow and extended. On its two
sides there are CHANCELLORS sitting. At the end, there's the
throne where KING KRISHNA (50S) is sitting.

King Krishna is an experienced and wise man whom his charisma
submerges the room without even saying a single word.

When the British guests, the soldier and Milady enter, King
Krishna scowls when seeing Milady. During that, the
chancellors keep quiet.

KING KRISHNA

Milady? What are you doing here?
Something wrong?

Milady orders Prince George and Ann to stop by a hand sign.
And she keeps walking straight.

She does the *Salaam* to King Krishna.

MILADY

No, your majesty. But -- I think we
should talk -- alone.

KING KRISHNA

And what about our guests?

MILADY

Don't worry. They can stay here. We
won't be late.

KING KRISHNA

Good. Come with me.

(to his men)

Excuse us.

He stands up and hides behind the beige curtain behind his throne with Milady.

Once they're alone, Milady informs, whispering.

MILADY

Your majesty, the actual mother of Sundarta is here.

King Krishna goes blank.

KING KRISHNA

What?!

MILADY

My former boss! Sundarta's mother!
Who left Sundarta with me and her
majesty the Queen!

KING KRISHNA

Oh Lord Ganesh.

MILADY

And her adoptive son Prince George
is here too.

KING KRISHNA

And what are they doing here?

MILADY

I don't know. But I'm sure that Ann
came for her daughter.

KING KRISHNA

My -- daughter.

MILADY

Ann must see their majesties
Chandramukhi and Sundarta.

KING KRISHNA

Fine -- I'll talk to them -- stay
with me.

King Krishna and Milady appear. The king sits while the maid just stands next to him.

Prince George steps straight and announces loudly.

PRINCE GEORGE

Your majesty, I'm Prince George, the prince and the official representative of kingdom of Great Britain. And I came here, in place of my father King George the second, for a conference about having commercial contacts between our kingdoms.

KING KRISHNA

Commercial contracts between Michor and Great Britain?

PRINCE GEORGE

Yes, your majesty.

King Krishna looks at Milady.

KING KRISHNA

And -- what's the story of the dame there behind you?

PRINCE GEORGE

Uh. She's my adoptive mother Lady Ann Worthington. And she came for --

Ann interrupts Prince George by touching his shoulder, and walks another step.

ANN

Your majesty -- I'm sure that her majesty Queen Chandramukhi Singh told you the story of The Adopted Princess Sundarta, and about her mother who left her when she was a baby with the Queen and Milady --

KING KRISHNA

-- Yes, and Milady just told me about you now.

He smiles to her, stands up, walks toward them and shakes hands with them.

KING KRISHNA

Finally, after all these years, I could meet the actual mother of my daughter and one of my wife's closest friends.

King Krishna looks at Prince George.

KING KRISHNA
Chandramukhi didn't tell me that
Sundarta already has a brother.

ANN
Prince George was born two years
after Samantha's birth.

King Krishna nods. Then, he addresses to his chancellors.

KING KRISHNA
*Gentlemen, we're beyond excited to
meeting finally the actual mother
of princess Sundarta, Lady Ann
Worthington!*

The chancellors stand up and bow to Ann.

KING KRISHNA
Welcome to the holy kingdom of
Michor, Lady Worthington.

ANN
Thank you, your majesty.

KING KRISHNA
I guess you want to meet Sundarta
and Chandra now.

Ann nods as a yes.

KING KRISHNA
Good. I'll have Milady take you to
your daughter and friend. While
I'll take Prince George by myself
for a walk around the fort. And
then, Prince George will be free to
meet the princess and the Queen.
Agreed?

PRINCE GEORGE
Yes.

KING KRISHNA
Great! Let's go.

Milady hugs Ann again. Then, she takes her toward the door.

INT. ROYAL COURTYARD - DAY

The two ladies stop in front of the most luxury door in the
suite, on the first floor: it's the royal couple's bedroom.

Milady is about to knock but Ann stops her.

MILADY
Ann? What's wrong?

ANN
No -- I --

MILADY
You prefer to prepare yourself
mentally and emotionally to meet
your friend and daughter's adoptive
mother?

ANN
(muttering)
Yes -- I appreciate that.

MILADY
Take your time.

ANN
I don't remember you were this soft
and nice before.

MILADY
Yeah -- raising a child changes
you.

Ann grins, takes a deep breath and nods.

Milady knocks on the door. They HEAR a female VOICE from
inside.

CHANDRAMUKHI (O.S.)
Come on in!

Milady opens the door slowly, and walks in with Ann.

The bedroom is wide, with silk curtain, grey and golden
walls, a big double bed and lots of furniture.

Chandramukhi (50s) is lying across her bed, sewing. She just
got some white hair and wrinkles around the eyes.

Ann and Milady wait until Chandramukhi raises her eyes up.
Once the latter sees Ann, she stares at her, while Ann's eyes
get teary.

The Queen stands up, walks fast to Ann and looks at her. And
all of a sudden, she starts crying and laughing in the same
time then they hug.

CHANDRAMUKHI

Ann? Oh my God!

Ann responds calmly with a wide grin and running tears.

ANN

Hello, Chandramukhi. I'm happy to see you too.

Chandramukhi grabs Ann's hand and drags her to the bed.

CHANDRAMUKHI

Come. Let's sit. Tell me everything.

MILADY

Ann. Won't you see your daughter now?

CHANDRAMUKHI

Wait. You didn't see Sundarta yet?

ANN

No.

CHANDRAMUKHI

You must meet her right now. You have no idea how beautiful she is.

MILADY

Come on!

Ann and Chandramukhi stand up and three of them leave the bedroom.

INT. CELEBRATIONS' COURTYARD - DAY

The three women enter the celebrations' suite: it's the smallest suite, still surrounded with rooms but the courtyard is decorated with a twelve-pointed star on the floor, two little fountains and a large classic bench with a canopy.

They climb the stairs up to Sundarta's bedroom.

Ann, who's in the middle, is breathing loudly and calming herself down. Her heart is hardly BEATING.

They finally arrive. Chandramukhi and Milady wait for Ann to allow them to knock.

At final, Ann nods. Milady knocks on the door. Another female VOICE says from inside:

SUNDARTA (O.S.)

Come in.

Ann fast mumbles.

ANN

Does she speak English?

With a grin, Chandramukhi nods.

Milady opens the door and they all enter.

INT. SUNDARTA'S BEDROOM - SAME

Ann studies the bedroom with very amazed eyes: a big golden bed in the middle, golden curtain with golden threads and a big wardrobe on the left side of the bed. Everything is golden.

In the middle of the bed, she spots SUNDARTA; a young caucasian woman (20s), dressed in a golden saree, playing a Veena (a long Indian guitar), surrounded with other women, the ODALISQUES, sitting on the floor and laughing shyly.

Ann keeps staring at Sundarta: a symbol of beauty, femininity and wisdom.

Sundarta raises her eyes slowly up and looks at the three women. Then she stands up elegantly, walks toward Chandramukhi and Milady and does the *Pranama* (a move to get the bless by touching the elder's feet).

She looks after at Ann - who's frozen, does the *Salaam* and gives a meaningful look at Chandramukhi.

CHANDRAMUKHI

Sundarta, do you remember the story
I used to tell you every night
before you get to sleep? And also
the prayers we do?

SUNDARTA

How can I forget the story of my
actual mother?

Sundarta turns to Ann and gazes her with a sparkle in her eyes.

Ann explodes crying. She feels her face and hugs her strongly while Sundarta's eyes also shed tears, unable to believe she's holding her true mother.

Sundarta looks at her, and talks to her for the first time.

SUNDARTA

Mother?

ANN

Yes, sweetheart! Yes! I am!
Samantha!

SUNDARTA

Why did you leave me?

Ann's smile disappears. She gazes at her for seconds and then she mops her tears.

ANN

It's a long story, darling -- But believe me. I didn't leave you to get rid of you or because I hate you: I did that for my and your best.

SUNDARTA

Do you still want me? Do you still miss me?

Ann caresses Samantha's cheek.

ANN

There was no single day that passed without missing you, and regretting that I didn't kiss you or hugged you more before leaving you --

Ann sits on the bed, while Chandramukhi orders the odalisques to leave the room with an eye signal, and Milady sits down.

ANN (CONT'D)

In my youth I loved to travel, and that's how I met Chandramukhi here.

EXT. TURKEY - DAY - (FLASHBACK)

Young Ann is in one of Turkey's streets, staring and smiling at a YOUNG HANDSOME MAN: JAMES.

ANN (V.O.)(CONT'D)

-- When I was in Turkey, I met a British man. He was a traveler too. We loved each other and --

INT. ST JAMES PALACE - DAY - (FLASHBACK)

Inside a strange dark room where the light comes only from a little window, Ann is in the bed, sweating and breathing hard. A MAID hands her baby Samantha.

Ann smiles at her baby but she then turns right and spots King George II (50s), glaring at her.

ANN (V.O.)(CONT'D)
 -- You were the fruit of our love.
 And as I didn't have you by
 marriage, King George insisted on
 getting rid of you, to keep the
 reputation of the royal family
 clean.

EXT. A HOUSE - NIGHT - (FLASHBACK)

Ann hugs James. Then she gets in the carriage behind her.

Inside the carriage, there's Young Milady with baby Samantha.

ANN (V.O.)(CONT'D)
 -- James and I couldn't get
 married. And so... we agreed to
 separate and to forget each other --

AYA! The coachman whips his horses and the carriage moves.

ANN (V.O.)(CONT'D)
 -- We decided to ask someone really
 trustworthy to take care of
 Samantha, instead of leaving her in
 an orphanage, in danger --

EXT. KINGDOM OF MICHOR - NIGHT - (FLASHBACK)

The cart is entering Michor, inside empty streets at very late night.

ANN (V.O.)(CONT'D)
 -- Thus, I traveled one more time
 to Michor to ask Chandramukhi to
 take care of Samantha and --

INT. SUNDARTA'S BEDROOM - SAME

Ann's sitting on the bed, with teary eyes.

ANN (CONT'D)

-- and the rest is history. It's the king who forced me to get rid of you. Otherwise --

She looks at Sundarta.

ANN

You truly look so much like him.

Sundarta sits next to her and takes her hand softly.

SUNDARTA

I'm not angry to know that I'm an illegal child. It's fine -- I'm glad to meet you finally, mother.

A heavy beat that Chandramukhi decides to end.

CHANDRAMUKHI

Let's end this sadness! What matters now that Sundarta finally met her mother! What about lunch?

INT. SUNDARTA'S BEDROOM - LATER

The four women are having Indian lunch on a low table when suddenly they HEAR a knock at the door.

SUNDARTA

Who is this?

KING KRISHNA (O.S.)

It's me, daughter, with Prince George.

She turns to Chandramukhi.

SUNDARTA

Who is Prince George?

CHANDRAMUKHI

He's the prince of Kingdom of Great Britain. He came here to sign contracts with the king and that's how Ann came.

ANN

I raised George -- His mother, the Queen of Great Britain, died while giving birth to him.

SUNDARTA

God is merciful. You couldn't raise your own daughter. So God gave you a son to raise.

Ann studies her daughter with smiling eyes, admiring her wisdom and sedateness

Sundarta puts her golden *ghoonghat* on.

SUNDARTA

Come in!

The door opens. King Krishna enters, followed by Prince George. The four women stand up. Sundarta, Chandramukhi and Milady do the *Salaam* while Ann just bows.

Prince George and Sundarta's eyes lock. Their hearts skip a beat. Their breaths are already taken away.

KING KRISHNA

Lady Worthington. It looks that you finally met your daughter.

ANN

Your majesty, I can't thank you and her majesty the queen enough for taking care of my child.

While the young princes are exchanging looks, King Krishna introduces each other.

KING KRISHNA

Prince George, this is Princess Sundarta. She's the daughter of your mother Lady Worthington.

After he gazes at her for seconds, Prince George extends his hand to shake Sundarta's. But she rejects gently.

SUNDARTA

I'm sorry, you don't have the right to touch the female royal members. A *Salaam* will be enough. But when I fight you, then we can shake hands when one of us loses, as warriors.

Prince George doesn't answer; he just stares at Sundarta.

KING KRISHNA

Well, Prince George, let's have lunch now. Shall we?

INT. LUNCH ROOM - NOON

In the lunch room - empty, luxury and golden as most of the fort - King Krishna and Prince George are sitting around the only existing low table in the room, face to face.

They're already eating their Indian lunch, when suddenly the king begins the conversation.

KING KRISHNA

So, Prince George, what's the story of this contract?

Prince George answers spontaneously, enjoying his meal.

PRINCE GEORGE

Your majesty, my father King George the second, king of Great Britain, wanted to build a factory and a trade center on your land.

KING KRISHNA

A factory and a trade center?

PRINCE GEORGE

Yes. As you know, you have a lot of merchandises that we, Europe, don't, such as silk, cotton, spices, etc. They're expensive and rare. And the British public needs them daily. So, his majesty decided to collaborate with you to satisfy his public's needs.

KING KRISHNA

I see -- And what will we get from this contract?

PRINCE GEORGE

You'll get our European rarities such as jewels, slaves, and means of transport.

King Krishna looks away.

KING KRISHNA

Huh -- After this lunch, I'll sit with my chancellors and discuss with them about this contract.

PRINCE GEORGE

Good, your majesty.

KING KRISHNA
 You're welcomed here, George.

The prince smiles at the immense generosity of King Krishna.

INT. THRONE ROOM - AFTERNOON

King Krishna hurries in the hall toward his throne and sits on it.

Milady is already sitting next to him, reading a book.

The two sides are full of chancellors discussing.

Sundarta is seated among the chancellors on the closest seat to her father on the right side.

When the king sits down, everybody stops the noise and takes his seat too.

KING KRISHNA
*I sat with Prince George at lunch.
 And we talked about the contract.
 In fact, I found the contract very
 interesting. British people need
 silk, cotton, spices. So they need
 to build a factory on our land to
 produce these merchandises to them.
 In exchange, they'll give us
 European rarities, slaves and
 jewels as they're known for their
 beautiful and rare treasures.
 Besides, I'm sure that this new
 relationship between us and Great
 Britain will facilitate the trade
 between us and Europe. So, what do
 you think, my loyal advisers?*

An CHANCELLOR stands up and does the *Salaam*.

CHANCELLOR 1
*Your majesty, I think that this
 trade contract represents a jinx
 us. We've never talked to Great
 Britain and they've never even
 considered our presence in India
 before despite our huge reputation.
 Thus, your majesty, I'd prefer that
 we completely ignore this contract
 despite its benefits--*

ANOTHER CHANCELLOR stands up and cuts the other one's opinion.

CHANCELLOR 2

How? Didn't you hear his majesty saying that this contract will provide us with European jewels and rarities? This contract is a huge chance for us to increase our holy kingdom's economy! We must never lose this chance!

A THIRD CHANCELLOR, much older than the two others (60s), gets up.

CHANCELLOR 3

Your majesty, I suggest that we listen to her highness Sundarta's actual mother's opinion. She may know more about the contract and especially the king, as he's her cousin, to understand his intention behind this contract. Then, we may be able to decide whether this contract is for our best or not.

King Krishna looks at Sundarta. She nods yes.

KING KRISHNA

Well then. Let's get her.
(turns to Milady)
Milady, go and get Lady Worthington.

Milady leaves the book and the room in hurry.

INT. THRONE ROOM - LATER

King Krishna is silent. The chancellors are as always noisy.

Abruptly, Milady enters the throne room with Ann, who's wearing a *saree*.

Sundarta grins for seeing her mother wearing her culture.

Ann does the *Namaste* to King Krishna while Milady comes back to her place, focusing this time on the conversation.

KING KRISHNA

Lady Worthington, my chancellors and I discussed about the contract. Some of my chancellors accepted the fact that it will have a good impact on our economy while some refused.

(MORE)

KING KRISHNA (CONT'D)

We agreed then to bring you to talk about King George the second. So, what do you think about your king?

Ann bows to him.

ANN

Your majesty, I appreciate that you listen carefully to your chancellors. That shows how much a humble and wise king you are. King George is a greedy man. His people are sinking in poverty and diseases, but he's doing nothing but dreaming of collecting fortune and being the richest king ever. Moreover, I feel that this contract hides a bad thing toward Michor.

(beat)

However, he's loyal in his contracts: he does his best to get the maximum benefits of every single contract he signs. So, despite his loyalty, personally, I do not recommend working with him.

King Krishna reproaches Ann gently.

KING KRISHNA

Shame on you, miss. How dare you insult your king in his absence? You must be ashamed of yourself!

Milady side-eyes King Krishna.

ANN

Your majesty, you said by yourself that I'm too close to King George the second. So, I've seen many shameful, pitiful, sad and disgusting things he did and still to his public at point that I cannot call him my king. And of course with all my respect for you, your majesty.

KING KRISHNA

Nevermind. That's your kingdom's business and we should never interfere in it as Michor is known for being peaceful. My apologizes.

Ann smiles and nods as an acceptance for the apology.

KING KRISHNA (CONT'D)
 So, in your side, you refuse the
 idea of trading with... your
 kingdom?

ANN
 Yes, definitely your majesty. I
 totally do not recommend
 collaborating with such a man like
 King George the second.

KING KRISHNA
 Well then... I excuse you Lady
 Worthington to go back to your room
 as I discuss with my chancellors.
 We thank you so much for your piece
 of advice.

Ann bows. Then, she gives a fast look at Sundarta, grinning
 at her, and finally she leaves the throne room.

Sundarta suddenly stands up sedately, eyes on the floor.

King Krishna turns to her.

KING KRISHNA
So, my daughter, what do you think?

Sundarta raises her eyes up slowly.

SUNDARTA
*Your majesty, my mother's answer
 wasn't specific. Yes it was
 precious, but not specific.*

Sundarta turns to Chancellor 3.

SUNDARTA
 Thank you sir for your piece of
 advice.

She nods to him and then cocks her head to King Krishna.

SUNDARTA
*It's from a hating heart to the
 king. So it's a personal matter.
 She mentioned also that he's loyal
 with his contracts. However, and
 although we took a general idea
 about him, we must meet him in
 person.*

KING KRISHNA
Who? King George himself?

SUNDARTA

Yes. I advise you to invite the British king to talk to him. Then, we can truly understand what he wants from this contract.

(beat)

Also, I suggest that we keep Prince George here. That'll be less tiring for him. It'd better for him to send a letter to his father instead of travelling for three months.

King Krishna thinks for a while.

KING KRISHNA

In my personal point of view, I totally agree with Princess Sundarta. We must meet this surprising king who suddenly wanted to trade with us. Then, we can know exactly what he wants. By that time, we can decide if we sign this contract or not. So, my dear chancellors, who agrees with Princess Sundarta?

Most of chancellors raise their hands up.

KING KRISHNA

Well then. I think that another British person will visit us.

(to Milady)

Get Prince George now.

MILADY

If you're going to invite the king, why the hell are you asking for Ann's opinion in the first place?

She gets up and disappears.

INT. THRONE ROOM - LATER

Milady comes back, panting, with Prince George.

Sundarta's face shines when seeing the prince.

Milady comes back to her chair while Prince George stops up in front of the king.

PRINCE GEORGE

Yes, your majesty. What is your decision about the contract?

KING KRISHNA

Prince George. After I argued with my chancellors, my daughter, who's one of my best chancellors ever, suggested that I meet your father in person, a king to a king. Also, it'll be better for you to stay here and send a letter to your father to come. What do you think about this decision?

PRINCE GEORGE

Your majesty, I understand that you prefer to meet my father in person as he's the one who wants to cooperate with you. Also, I appreciate that you allowed me to stay. Thus, I do accept your offer, but I must first get the permission from my father.

KING KRISHNA

You're allowed to. It's preferred that you send this letter as fast as you can.

PRINCE GEORGE

Of course. And now, excuse me.

When turning around to leave, Prince George exchanges looks with Sundarta.

INT. ROYAL COURTYARD - MAGIC HOUR

Prince George gets out of his room and stands in the balcony.

He spots away Sundarta sitting on the edge of the pool, reading a huge book.

He grins and walks away...

He's now on the ground floor.

The prince is going toward the princess while the latter smiles at him and comes back to her book.

He stops next to her.

PRINCE GEORGE

It's beautiful today.

Sundarta looks at him.

PRINCE GEORGE (CONT'D)

The weather.

She comes back to her book, extremely indifferent.

SUNDARTA

The sunset is the promise of a new dawn.

Prince George grins, appreciating her wisdom.

He sits next to her, watching the clear water in the pool.

PRINCE GEORGE

What are you reading?

SUNDARTA

91 - Kalami Bakhar. It's the biography of *Shivaji Bhonsale I*, the founder of the Maratha Empire.

PRINCE GEORGE

Wow! I thought you're reading a literary novel.

SUNDARTA

Why?

PRINCE GEORGE

Because -- You know -- women in our country read only romantic novels.

Sundarta gives him a dirty look.

SUNDARTA

Do you think that women are allowed only to be 'romantic'? No! Many women across the history defended their kingdoms, families and honors. For example, Queen *Rudrama Devi*, the queen who ruled *Kakatiya* dynasty fought the *Yadavas* and she beat them. Also, Queen *Durgavati*, who ruled *Gondwana* for 14 years after the death of her husband and fought her enemies. Her martyrdom day is commemorated as "*Balidan Diwas*". And there are many other women the history witnessed their bravery and courage.

PRINCE GEORGE
I'm sorry I -- I'm sorry if I
disrespected women -- I didn't do
it on purpose.

SUNDARTA
Nevermind.

Sundarta looks up; It's getting darker. She closes her
biography book and stands up.

SUNDARTA
Good night, Prince George.

PRINCE GEORGE
Good night.

She goes toward the stairs while the prince's eyes are
following her...

INT. PRINCE GEORGE'S BEDROOM - DAY

Inside Prince George's bedroom, there is a big bed, a little
desk and a wardrobe, all of course is golden.

On the edge of the only window in the bedroom, a homing
pigeon arrives.

Prince George suddenly enters the bedroom, catches the
pigeon, takes the letter from its leg carefully, and puts the
bird inside the cage next to the window.

He then opens the little piece of paper fast and impatiently.

It says: "I accept the condition and am coming. I'll travel
next week. Gain the king's trust. And stop your naivety."

Prince George sighs of relief, and dashes abruptly out.

EXT. THRONE ROOM - DAY

Prince George lurches up the stairs two at a time. The TWO
GUARDS standing there open the door fast.

INT. THRONE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

He keeps running in the hall while Sundarta and the
chancellors turn to him.

King Krishna stops discussing.

KING KRISHNA
 Prince George? What is it?
 Something's wrong?

PRINCE GEORGE
 No -- I finally received the
 response from my father.

Sundarta pays full attention.

KING KRISHNA
 Well then -- what did your father
 say?

PRINCE GEORGE
 I accept the condtion and am
 coming. I'll travel next week. And
 stop -- next week.

Samantha grins while King Krishna gets up and shakes Prince
 George's hand.

KING KRISHNA
 Welcome to Michor.

INT. ROYAL COURTYARD - DAY

The meeting is over. All of chancellors are getting out of
 the throne room.

Sundarta climbs the stairs down, turns left behind the stairs
 and opens a simple gate --

INT. CELEBRATIONS' COURTYARD - CONTINUOUS

-- Sundarta enters the celebrations' suite. She finds
 Chandramukhi training some odalisques an active dance on the
 rhythm of a classic SONG. It's performed by a BAND at the
 corner with classic Indian instruments.

Sundarta fast joins them and dances with Chandramukhi. Her
 dance is so excited and alive.

The song is over.

CHANDRAMUKHI
Girls, you can take a rest.

The queen walks toward the princess while her girls dismiss,
 whispering.

CHANDRAMUKHI
You look very happy.

Sundarta looks down.

SUNDARTA
I am, mother.

CHANDRAMUKHI
*If a woman dances this active and
 happy with a love song, then, she
 must be in love.*

Sundarta keeps looking at the floor shyly.

CHANDRAMUKHI
*So, how is it going with Prince
 George?*

Sundatra blushes and answers lowly.

SUNDARTA
*He's fine -- his father allowed him
 to stay until he comes by Bhadra (a
 month in the Hindu calendar).*

CHANDRAMUKHI
The British king is coming?

SUNDARTA
*Yes, he accepted my condition for
 the contract.*

CHANDRAMUKHI
Good. That's good.

Silence spreads.

CHANDRAMUKHI
*What are you going to do now? Are
 you going to practice sword
 wrestling as usual?*

SUNDARTA
*No. I'm going to rest in my
 bedroom. This meeting was so
 tiring.*

CHANDRAMUKHI
Fine. I'm still teaching the girls.

Sundarta does the *Salaam*. Then, she continues her way to the stairs.

INT. SUNDARTA'S BEDROOM - DAY

Sundarta closes the door, takes her *ghoongat* off and throws herself on the bed. She puts her head on her arm and suddenly she smiles, with dreaming eyes.

INT. CELEBRATIONS' COURTYARD - AFTERNOON

Sundarta enters the courtyard, wearing simple clothes and jewels with nude makeup and bare feet, holding her sword.

An INDIAN MAN is waiting for her: it's RATAN. A peer of the princess and her private servant, wearing modest clothes. The loyalest servant ever.

INT. PRINCE GEORGE'S BEDROOM - AFTERNOON

The prince is busy signing some papers, when he suddenly hears SWORDS KNOCKING AGAINST.

He gets up and hurries to the window to overlook the celebrations' courtyard.

INT. CELEBRATIONS' COURTYARD - AFTERNOON

Prince George walks in and finds Sundarta sword practising with Ratan.

When the latter sees the guest, he stops fighting and bows to him.

Sundarta orders Ratan, looking at Prince George.

SUNDARTA

Ratan. Please leave us.

He nods and disappears.

SUNDARTA

Do you practise sword wrestling?

PRINCE GEORGE

Yes.

SUNDARTA

Then, let's see how far you're talented.

She picks a sword and throws it to him.

Once the prince receives it, Sundarta starts walking in a arc in front of him; it's a sign of the beginning of a fight.

He turns in her opposite direction. And suddenly, Sundarta attacks and begins fighting.

She's faster and much talented than Prince George that a minute later, she hits his hand and so his sword flies away, while he falls down.

Sundarta gives a hand to Prince George to stand up.

SUNDARTA
Watch out next time.

She plants her sword in the land and turns, going to the stairs up to her bedroom.

PRINCE GEORGE
I would like to practice more sword wrestling with you!

Sundarta stops walking, turns to him.

SUNDARTA
Why?

PRINCE GEORGE
I -- would like to improve my skills as a swordsman.

She smiles at him.

SUNDARTA
That's enough for today. Besides, you're our guest. It's shameful to hurt our guests.

As Prince George nods, Sundarta continues her way.

INT. ST'S JAMES PALACE - DAY

Meanwhile, King George II is seated on his royal chair, completely silent, his eyes on the floor, absent-minded.

After long seconds of absolute calm, he asks Leroy, who's cleaning his paint.

KING GEORGE II
Leroy. The Michorian king wanted me to go to his kingdom myself to discuss the contract.

LEROY

Yes, your majesty.

KING GEORGE II

Yeah...

LEROY

He may want to hurt you, your majesty.

KING GEORGE II

No -- he adopted Ann's daughter. Besides, George is there. I don't think he wants to but -- I think he doubts about our honesty.

LEROY

Heaven forbid! He has no idea how much we're honest and clear -- He's wrong.

KING GEORGE II

I'm going anyway. I sent a letter to Prince George as you know, telling him about my trip to Michor. And then, when we meet him, we'll find out what's his intention too.

LEROY

Be careful, your majesty. The Adopted Princess is widely known for her wisdom as much as she's known for her extreme beauty. Besides, it's she who suggested your coming, not her father.

KING GEORGE II

Don't worry -- I'll be careful once I put my feet on the Indian kingdom's land. Ask your men to prepare for the trip. We've got only a week.

INT. SUNDARTA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Sundarta is sitting on her bed, playing the *Veena*, wearing a simple *saree* as a pajama.

The odalisques are seated around her, blabbing and laughing as always.

Their princess never cares about them, just daydreaming.

ODALISQUE 1

Today, I saw the British prince by accident in his bedroom from the door. God bless him: he's very handsome!

ODALISQUE 2

His eyes are as green as tree leaves. He must be special!

ODALISQUE 3

God Vishnu well created him; his handsomeness is truly rare!

REST OF ODALISQUES

Yes -- right -- indeed.

Sundarta suddenly objects.

SUNDARTA

Stop, girls. You may hit the British prince with your evil eyes.

ODALISQUE 1

No, your Honor! He's now protected by our religious prayers. He'll be fine. Besides, when Lord Vishnu created him, he cannot leave this beauty without his protection!

ODALISQUE 3

I assure you, your Honor, that he'll be protected always from evil eyes of jealousy and envy.

The princess keeps quiet and plays SIMPLE SOFT NOTES of her Veena.

ODALISQUE 2

(innocently)

Your Honor, if the British prince proposed to you, would you marry him?

The other women titter, while Sundarta looks at the dark star-sky through the opened door, smiles and murmures.

SUNDARTA

Maybe -- maybe.

INT. CELEBRATIONS' COURTYARD - MAGIC HOUR

King Krishna and Chandramukhi are sitting on the bench. Milady is on the sofa next to them. And finally, Prince George and Ann are seated on a smiliar extra bench on the other side of the royal couple.

Some CHANCELLORS, SERVANTS and Maids' CHIEFS are standing behind the benches.

At final, the band starts playing SOFT RAGA MUSIC and some FEMALE BACK-DANCERS dance softly.

Suddenly, Ratan enters with some MALE DANCERS behind him. Ratan begins glorying the royal family. His voice is extrememly loud and beautiful.

RATAN

*Ladies and gents. God bless our
kingdom! God bless his majesty King
Krishna Bai and his courage! God
bless her majesty Queen
Chandramukhi and her wisdom!*

(beat)

*And a huge thanks for our British
guests for their visit, to witness
the greatness of our holy kingdom
Michor.*

He steps while his men take their places, and sings.

RATAN

*♪ And now our beautiful princess is
coming! Coming to show us her
dancing talent! With her beauty,
jewels and simple attractive dance
steps! To tell us this time the
love story of our Lords Krishna and
Radha! Here's our princess,
Sundarta! ♪*

Once he finishes, Ratan steps aside and disappears.

The door opens. Sundarta, with her light pink *Lehenga Choli*, steps inside, surrounded by the female back-dancers.

Prince George gazes her with very wide eyes, completely frozen within his seat.

And the *Kathak* dance starts with the soft music.

During the calm dance, Sundarta is staring at Prince George, SINGING the love story.

Milady, meanwhile, turns to Prince George unconsciously, and notices the exchanging looks between the two princes.

There's a huge smile on Ann's face, who already sheds a tear.

The dance is over.

Once Ann realizes it, she stands up and claps loud.

Prince George spots Ann's appreciation and the rest of people, and gets up clapping too, smiling to Sundarta.

Still staring at the prince, Sundarta does the *Salaam* while the public is still cheering.

INT. SUNDARTA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Sundarta is combing her hair in front of her huge mirror, still wearing her *Lehenga*, with dreamy eyes and a light grin.

There's KNOCK at the door: it's clearly Milady's usual known knocking.

Sundarta asks her to enter, completely indifferent, still staring at the mirror.

SUNDARTA

Come in.

Milady gets in and closes the door behind her.

MILADY

Why is it dark in here? Do you want me to light some candles?

SUNDARTA

No, I'm good.

Milady squats next to her, and studies her for a while.

MILADY (CONT'D)

Sundarta. I noticed something weird with you today -- when you were dancing.

SUNDARTA

I don't know, Milady -- I don't know.

MILADY

(insistently)

What's going on between you and Prince George?

SUNDARTA

Nothing. I just fell in love with him.

Milady's eyes get wider. But then, she just manages a smile.

MILADY

Well that's... hum... that's pretty amazing!

SUNDARTA

It is.

MILADY

Why are still wearing your *Lehenga*?

SUNDARTA

Because I still feel the emotions that my body resulted in it, because I still feel the beats of my heart when dancing for my love in it, because I still feel every tremble I had every time my love looked at me in it. Prince George loves me too.

MILADY

And how do you know that?

SUNDARTA

Eyes never lie.

Sundarta finally stops combing and looks at her.

SUNDARTA (CONT'D)

Finally, I have my own *Krishna*.

EXT. MICHOR FORT - DAY

A little convoy similar to Ann and Prince George's one stop in front of the fort.

From the most luxury carriage, King George II gets out off. He fixes his white wig and fancy heavy clothes, and looks around.

Leroy gets off the carriage and stands next to his king.

The gate opens. King George II enters, followed by Leroy, the palace while the carriages are moving away.

INT. MICHOR FORT - CONTINUOUS

When entering the servants' courtyard, King George II finds the servants standing on the two sides, motionless.

Just soldier 1 and soldier 2 welcome them.

SOLDIER 1

Welcome to our holy kingdom, your
majesty. Follow us, please.

They do, entering then the royal suite.

INT. ROYAL COURTYARD - LATER

King George II sees King Krishna standing on the stairs of the throne room.

The British king stops at the edge of the pool, waiting for the Michorian king to come to him, but he doesn't: he's just standing there with a large smile.

King George II looks then at Leroy, and passes the pool until he achieves the stairs.

King Krishna raises his arms.

KING KRISHNA

Welcome your majesty! We've finally
met --

He climbs the stairs down, and shakes hands with his rival.

KING KRISHNA (CONT'D)

-- I've been waiting months to meet
the king of Great Britain. I'm much
pleasured.

Not as usual, King George II also grins.

KING GEORGE II

I'm very honoured too to meet you --

He looks around the fort.

KING GEORGE II (CONT'D)

I like your palace very much.

(beat)

God must blessed Michor with
multiple gifts -- Building such a
huge beautiful fort like this one --
I've already heard about its
greatness.

While the British king is describing, the Indian one studies him.

KING GEORGE II (CONT'D)
 You must get the chance one day to
 see my palace, the legendary St's
 James Palace.
 (beat)
 I thought it is legendary but,
 after I saw yours, I realized I was
 wrong --

King Krishna interrupts him, calm.

KING KRISHNA
 -- How do you want us to treat you,
 your Honor?

King George II gazes him for a while.

KING GEORGE II
 As a new friend.

KING KRISHNA
 Shall we have lunch now?

King George II climbs the stairs suddenly fast.

KING GEORGE II
 Let's go, I'm terribly hungry --

King Krishna stops him softly and smiles.

KING KRISHNA
 That's the throne room -- It's
 right there.

KING GEORGE II
 Oh! That's right! My mistake.

They keep exchanging stressful looks.

INT. LUNCH ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Same as King Krishna's lunch with Prince George, King George II is sitting in front of him.

The low table is empty. And TWO SERVANTS are preparing it.

King George II looks at the Indian food, and scowls.

King Krishna notices him, and wonders with a smile.

KING KRISHNA
Don't you like our food?

KING GEORGE II
I've heard from my representative
that your traditional food is too --
(mysteriously)
-- spicy.

King Krishna stares at him for seconds.

KING KRISHNA
Don't worry. I asked my chefs to
cook for you non spicy dishes.

KING GEORGE II
Why didn't you cook some English
food?

KING KRISHNA
You came here, talking your own
language. I, myself, talk your
language -- At least, eat our food,
and wear our clothes. Keep your
respect toward us as we do to you,
your kingdom and your convoy, and
as we did and still to your
grandson, his mother and their
convoy.

The British rival gazes him for seconds. Then he suddenly
guffaws. The Michorian one laughs with him too until King
George II stops.

KING GEORGE II
I'm sorry -- my apologizes --
you're right.

KING KRISHNA
That's fine. We all mistake
sometimes.

KING GEORGE II
So, I'm here to talk about the
contract between kingdoms of Great
Britain and Michor.

KING KRISHNA
Right.

KING GEORGE II
Then, why did you call me? You
could just sign with my
representative.

KING KRISHNA

I need to meet the other part of the contract in person. That gives to both of us the confidence in each other and in the contract itself.

(beat)

However, your majesty, you need to meet my daughter. Lady Worthington's actual daughter.

King George II takes a sip from his cup of water.

KING GEORGE II

Why?

KING KRISHNA

Because it was her who suggested your coming.

INT. PRINCE GEORGE'S BEDROOM - AFTERNOON

King Krishna and King George II stop in front of Prince George's bedroom. The brunet king knocks on the door three times but there's no answer.

KING GEORGE II

Where's he?

KING KRISHNA

I thought he's in his room --

Milady abruptly passes. Once shes sees the white king, she freezes.

King George II stares at her and lightly smiles while the latter never moves.

KING KRISHNA

Milady, have you seen Prince George?

MILADY

Yeah -- He's still fighting with Sundarta, I mean her majesty Sundarta.

KING GEORGE II

Fighting?

MILADY

They exercise swords everyday.

KING GEORGE II

Oh!

MILADY

Your majesty, do you want me to take both of you to the princes?

KING KRISHNA

That'll be great. Let's go.

King Krishna allows King George II to pass first, while Milady gives the latter a dirty look.

INT. CELEBRATIONS' COURTYARD - MOMENTS LATER

Milady enters the courtyard with King George II and King Krishna, and they find indeed the princes fighting with all of their efforts.

They stop at their places, watching them.

King George II studies Sundarta.

A few seconds later, Prince George loses his sword and falls down. Sundarta puts the sword's peek up to his neck.

They both notice the three people standing. Sundarta helps Prince George standing up and they walk toward them.

Sundarta does the *Pranama* with King Krishna and Milady. Then, she does the *Salaam* to King George II and awaits his answer.

The latter does nothing. He just keeps looking in her eyes.

He gets her hand to kiss its back but she fast pulls it.

KING KRISHNA

It's forbidden to touch the female members of the royal family, dear George.

KING GEORGE II

(looking at Sundarta)

No, my apologizes. But allow me to tell you how beautiful you are.

Sundarta just smiles and nods.

The British king then looks at his grandson and extends his arms.

KING GEORGE II

George, come here.

Prince George hugs him strongly, while the Indian king explains.

KING KRISHNA

Your majesty, here's my daughter.
The best chancellor in kingdom of
Michor.

(turns to Sundarta)

*Sundarta my daughter, he's yours.
The contract's future depends on
you -- Fine, well then. You'll meet
up here, before the sunset.*

INT. PRINCE GEORGE'S BEDROOM - AFTERNOON

King George II and Prince George enter the bedroom.

Once the latter closes the door, the king takes his wig off.

KING GEORGE II

God didn't just bless Michor with a
rare fort, but with also such a
foxy princess! I must truly beware
of her.

PRINCE GEORGE

Do you like her, grandfather?

King George checks the papers on Prince George's desk.

KING GEORGE II

She's not bad.

PRINCE GEORGE

If Krishna accepts to sign, will we
stay more here?

KING GEORGE II

No. Why? I can't leave Great
Britain alone.

PRINCE GEORGE

I don't know --

King George II stops messing around, and gets closer to the prince.

KING GEORGE II (CONT'D)

What do you mean, George?

PRINCE GEORGE

(mumbling)

I -- I lo -- it's --

KING GEORGE II
It's Sundarta, right?

Prince George stares at him for seconds, and then nods.
The king sits on the bed, scowling. But suddenly, he smiles.
He stands up and grabs Prince George's by his shoulders.

KING GEORGE II
Does she love you?

PRINCE GEORGE
She didn't confirm it yet, but I
can feel it.

King George II gets excited.

KING GEORGE II
Why didn't you marry her before?!

PRINCE GEORGE
Grandfather, how do you want me to
marry someone without your
permission?

The king calms down.

KING GEORGE II
Oh -- you're right.

PRINCE GEORGE
I'm not going to marry Sundarta for
commercial desires. I want to marry
her because I love her and --

He interrupts.

KING GEORGE II
I know! I know!
(beat)
But I'm going to tell you
something. If they accepted to
sign, I can propose Sundarta to
you. If they refused, it's going to
be hard.

PRINCE GEORGE
I know --

Prince George hugs him suddenly. His grandfather never
reacts.

INT. CELEBRATIONS' COURTYARD - MAGIC HOUR

In the middle of the courtyard, there's a low table and on it there're teapots and Indian sweets.

Sundarta is ready, sitting there on pillows on the floor.

Finally, King George II comes and sits in front of her.

The princess pours him a cup of black tea and gives it to him.

SUNDARTA

You're late.

KING GEORGE II

My apologizes.

He tastes the tea.

KING GEORGE II

Mm! It's very delicious! Much better than in Great Britain.

She smiles at him.

KING GEORGE II (CONT'D)

So -- you wanted to know why did I want to sign this contract with Michor?

SUNDARTA

Yes.

KING GEORGE II

Well, I assure you, your highness, that this contract will get lots and lots of benefits for both of kingdoms.

SUNDARTA

I know.

(takes a sip)

What I meant is what is the economical future of kingdoms of Michor and Great Britain together?

He keeps silent, as she's challenging him but he restores his composure and answers.

KING GEORGE II
 It'll be successful. Europe is lacking spices for example, in exchange, India needs our rarities, the technology we have --

SUNDARTA
 What made you think that we need your rarities?

KING GEORGE II
 (murmurs)
 This tea is really with high-quality.
 (back to Sundarta)
 Um, well... there's something that the whole Asia is looking for.

SUNDARTA
 What is it?

She takes her cup, about to drink, when King George II replies.

KING GEORGE II
 Silver.

Sundarta freezes, never drinking the sip. But then, she restores as well the composure and drinks a bit.

King George II notices her reaction. He smiles.

Sundarta puts the cup back on the table.

KING GEORGE II (CONT'D)
 -- I know how much you, the Indian subcontinent need silver. Bah! We may exchange with you too the rarities we're getting from Americas; such as sugar, tobacco.

SUNDARTA
 And what do you need from Michor?

KING GEORGE II
 Spices, cloth --

He looks at his cup he's holding

KING GEORGE II (CONT'D)
 -- Tea!

SUNDARTA

Then, what do you need to do here in case if we signed the contract with you?

KING GEORGE II

We need to build some British stations and factories on the Michorian land.

Sundarta keeps silent, thinking.

SUNDARTA

That's it, you can go.

KING GEORGE II

That's it?

SUNDARTA

Yes. You can go.

She stands up, fixes her *ghoongat* and walks toward the door to leave the courtyard. But she suddenly stops, and turns to the king.

SUNDARTA

By the way, I love your son.

And she gets out, leaving King George II with a large smile on his face.

INT. THRONE ROOM - NIGHT

King Krishna, Sundarta and the chancellors are in the room.

KING KRISHNA

My dear chancellors, my daughter finally talked with the British king. And now, we'll hear her opinion.

(looks at her)

Sundarta my daughter, please tell us. What do you think now about Prince George?

Sundarta gets up and answers.

SUNDARTA

My father, I spoke with him for a few minutes, and I realized that not signing the contract will be a huge loss for us. The rarities he talked about were -- sliver.

Everyone there starts murmuring. Sundarta shuts up, waiting for her father to calm them.

When he does with hand sign, she continues.

SUNDARTA (CONT'D)

Yes, silver. But also, he can get us merchandises from the Americas, merchandises that we can't get, such as tobacco, sugar.

KING KRISHNA

Then, what do you recommend?

SUNDARTA

I don't see any bad side of the contract. And that's sure and obvious from what we'll get for exchange of tea, cloth, cotton, spices, things we have and that British people don't have and terribly need it daily.

KING KRISHNA

That's clearly a yes.

(loudly)

What about you, my dear chancellors? Who agrees with the princess raises his hand.

Most of them raise their arms. King Krishna concludes.

KING KRISHNA

Well then, I guess that we'll collaborate with Europe.

INT. ANN'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Sundarta is sitting on the bed with Ann.

ANN

You agreed?

SUNDARTA

Mother, it's silver. We're truly lacking it.

ANN

But you can get the silver from anywhere else! You'd get it from that sick?!

SUNDARTA

Not from anywhere. We tried.

ANN

Listen Samantha. It's your kingdom,
and you and your father are free.
But I'm telling you something: I'm
not feeling okay toward this
contract.

SUNDARTA

It's okay, mother. I hope you're
not right.

Ann smiles to Sundarta and kisses her forehead.

INT. CELEBRATIONS' COURTYARD - DAY

The two kings are sitting on the bench. There's a table in
front of them. Next to King Krishna stand all of Sundarta,
Chandramukhi and Milady. And next to King George II, Prince
George and Ann are standing.

The chancellors are also standing around.

A few seconds later, the two kings shake hands, and everybody
cheers.

After they calm down, King George II comments.

KING GEORGE II

Well, we're leaving Michor
tomorrow.

All of Sundarta, Ann, Prince George and Milady, exchange
looks. Their smiles disappear.

King Krishna notices their reaction.

KING KRISHNA

Why is that, your majesty? It's too
early to leave now.

KING GEORGE II

And why do you think so?

KING KRISHNA

Well. First, I think that Lady
Worthington wants to spend more
time with Princess Sundarta. Her
highness cannot leave the kingdom.
Second, there're only three days
left for *Navratri*.

KING GEORGE II
And what's the *Navratri*?

KING KRISHNA
It's a religious festival where we celebrate the victory of God *Rama* over the demon *Ravana*. Which means the victory of good over evil.

MILADY
It takes ten days and nine nights. But don't worry, they'll pass fast.

KING KRISHNA
And you'll get the chance to watch the dancing talent that Princess Sundarta and Queen Chandramukhi have. They both organize the festival and lead the dance together every year!

King George II remains silent for moments. And then, he looks at Prince George.

KING KRISHNA
Come on!

KING GEORGE II
Well then, I think we're staying.

They all cheer. While Sundarta and Prince George are exchanging smiles, King George II gives a meaningful look at his grandson.

INT. ROYAL COURTYARD - MAGIC HOUR

Prince George and Sundarta are seated on the edge of the pool.

The princess is busy playing with the lotuses while the prince looks completely daydreaming.

Sundarta notices it.

SUNDARTA
Prince George? What's wrong? You look disturbed.

PRINCE GEORGE
Nothing -- I'm fine.

SUNDARTA

If there's something wrong, you can
tell me. Don't be shy.

He remains silent, looking at her, hesitated.

SUNDARTA (CONT'D)

So?

PRINCE GEORGE

Nothing. I'm good.

SUNDARTA

As you like.

She turns back to the lotuses while he looks up, and finds
King George II staring at him in front of his bedroom.

But a few seconds later, the king goes to his room.

INT. CELEBRATIONS' COURTYARD - DUSK

The two benches and the chair are a bit moved away back.

There's a big clay lantern in the middle.

Every person living in the palace is standing around.

The male back-dancers, also known as the *Dhakis* (men playing
Dhak, an Indian drum), are dressed in *Kedia* and *Dhoti*.

The female ones are wearing *Chandiyā Choli*.

The two royal families, except for Chandramukhi who's absent,
are wearing also the same traditional clothes.

And Sundarta enters, wearing a red *Choli*. The GARBA FOLK SONG
about the fight between Lord *Rama* and demon *Ravana* starts,
and the princess SINGS with it.

Sundarta, same as the female back-dancers, has free hair,
light makeup and is bare foot.

She stands in front of her family and the guests, and begins
dancing.

The *Garba* dance is performed in a circle around the clay
lantern called *Garbha Deep*. The men are around the clay, and
surrounded by the women.

At about the end of the dance, Chandramukhi joins Sundarta,
in a *Choli* as well. And they dance in an emotional scene
between the mother and the daughter.

INT. ROYAL COURTYARD - NIGHT

It's the *Dussehra*, the last night of *Navratri*. Prince George and Sundarta are standing in the first floor.

They're watching the burning of the giant *Ravana* effigy outside of the fort.

While they are silent, Prince George suddenly asks.

PRINCE GEORGE

What is love?

She looks at him with lit eyes.

SUNDARTA

Love is finding your soulmate, your complementary half. It's the meeting of souls in the skies. It's what makes the heart beats its best. It's the line separating between joy tears and sadness tears -- Love is the reason of this nature to survive despite all the danger surrounding it.

He smiles foxily at her.

PRINCE GEORGE

Then, did you find in me your complementary half? Does your heart beat its best when you see me?

SUNDARTA

-- Yes.

PRINCE GEORGE

Do you love me?

With this question, the effigy burning causes A NOISY SOUND that representes in fact Sundarta's goosebumps she has when hearing the question.

She nods, still gazing him.

SUNDARTA

Do you?

PRINCE GEORGE

Well, I do love you -- and asked you if you do have the same feelings toward me because I've been thinking about marrying you since the first moment I saw you.

Sundarta turns fast to him. Her eyes are still hanged on Prince George's when he finally proposes to her.

PRINCE GEORGE
Will you marry me?

She nods again.

He grins and comes back watching the burn.

PRINCE GEORGE
Then, I'm going to ask your hand
from your father tomorrow.

She returns also to the effigy, apparently calm but with an ear to ear smile and breathing problems.

INT. ROYAL COURTYARD - DAY

Prince George hurries to the throne room.

INT. THRONE ROOM - DAY

When he gets in, he finds as always King Krishna discussing with Sundarta and the chancellors.

He stops close to the king while the latter greets him warmly.

KING KRISHNA
Good morning Prince George.
Anything else I can help anyone of
your family with before you leave
tomorrow?

PRINCE GEORGE
Well, your majesty, my family
doesn't need anything from you.
But, I do.

KING KRISHNA
What is it, Prince George?

He takes a knee.

PRINCE GEORGE (CONT'D)
Your majesty -- I'm here to propose
to her highness Sundarta.

Sundarta hides her sudden chuckle with her *ghoongat*.

King Krishna looks at Sundarta with a grin. And then, he stands up and steps straight.

KING KRISHNA

Well, my son. I knew that you love her. I discovered that when she danced in the monthly festival --

King Krishna helps Prince George standing up

KING KRISHNA (CONT'D)

-- Son, eyes never lie. According to what I saw of your behaviors with us these months, I concluded that you're truly a good man. However, I will never make a decision about my daughter that she refuses. Thus, the decision of marriage, which is a big and important one, belongs to her.

He looks up at Sundarta, and SCREAMS.

SUNDARTA

Sundarta! Do you love Prince George?!

She nods shyly. Then, King Krishna announces in Hindi to his men, staring at Prince George.

KING KRISHNA

Chancellors! Witness this day, that Princess Sundarta will become the wife of the British Prince George!

Everybody cheers up, while the Sundarta and Prince George are exchanging looks.

INT. SUNDARTA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Sundarta is seated in front of her mirror, covered with jewels and her red and green bridal *Banarasi* saree, while some odalisques are doing her some *henna* on her hands.

There's a KNOCK at the door.

SUNDARTA

Come in!

The door opens: it's Chandramukhi, already wearing more jewels, makeup and clothes than usual.

The odalisques are about to leave but the Queen allows them to stay with a hand sign.

She squats next to Sundarta, and jokes.

CHANDRAMUKHI
How's my little Sundarta?

The bride stares down and grins.

SUNDARTA
Mother, how was your wedding day?

Chandramukhi looks away with dreamy eyes.

CHANDRAMUKHI
The best day ever. I danced once in front of your father, the same way you danced to George, and we deeply fell in love with each other -- I can't forget how I was wearing my beautiful Banarasi saree and my heavy jewels -- I had the best and the sweetest feelings ever that day. I was terribly shy but Krishna was calming me with his silly jokes.

(beat)
And when I danced Ghoomar... I felt that I was the luckiest woman ever.

She keeps quiet. And then she stands up.

CHANDRAMUKHI
So, you'll dance the Ghoomar in London?

SUNDARTA
Of course. London is my marital home. I must be there.

CHANDRAMUKHI
Then, I think that your father and I will travel with you.

SUNDARTA
But mother -- you said you won't!

CHANDRAMUKHI
Why are you angry about it?

SUNDARTA
I'm not -- but Michor. Nobody will be here!

(MORE)

SUNDARTA (CONT'D)

Besides, the trip takes three months. You'll get tired due to your age.

CHANDRAMUKHI

Neither I nor Krishna are old. We're still young! I've been waiting for the moment where I watch my daughter dancing Ghoomar! And I won't miss it just because your marital home is outside Michor. Even if your marital home is at world's end, I'll come and I'll watch my Sundarta dancing Ghoomar. God!

Sundarta chuckles.

SUNDARTA

But you've been watching me dancing since I was three.

CHANDRAMUKHI

Ghoomar is an important dance for the bride. Don't ever forget that it was created to worship Goddess Saraswati. You may get her blessing when you dance Ghoomar for your marriage.

SUNDARTA

Mother, I'm so happy that you're coming with me.

Chandramukhi prints a kiss Sundarta's forehead.

INT. CELEBRATIONS' COURTYARD - NIGHT

The Hindu marriage is happening, everyone is dressed in traditional Indian clothes:

- 1) Chandramukhi applies tilak on Prince George's forehead while everyone including Sundarta surrounds him --
- 2) -- Ann ties a knot using Prince George's scarf and Sundarta's shawl --
- 3) -- the couple is circling seven steps around the holy fire, led by Prince George, while the HINDU PRIEST is chanting: they're officially married now. Everyone cheers up once the steps are over --

4) -- Ann places the *Sindhoo* (red powder) at the parting of Sundarta's hair. And then she places the *Mangal Sutra* (golden necklace) around her neck --

5) -- Chandramukhi whispers blessings into the couple's ears.

INT. THRONE ROOM - LONDON - NIGHT

King George II enters first the room full of his SUPPORTS and CHANCELLORS who bow to him, and sits on his throne while Leroy follows him and stands next to him.

Prince George enters next and speaks while the attendees bow to him as well.

PRINCE GEORGE

Gentlemen, I know you heard the rumor about my marriage. That's right, I got married. I know you're expecting that I got married to someone from Europe. Right and wrong --

The attendees look at each other, while Prince George continues.

PRINCE GEORGE (CONT'D)

-- It's right because she has pure British origins. And the proof is that my adoptive mother is her own actual mother as you all heard. --

They whisper and agitate.

PRINCE GEORGE (CONT'D)

-- And it's wrong --
(beat)
-- because she's the princess of Michor.

They stare at him while King George II watches them.

PRINCE GEORGE (CONT'D)

I represent to you, the new princess of kingdom of Great Britain, Princess Sundarta.

The door opens. TWO MICHORIAN WOMEN come in, holding a huge beige silk cloth that Sundarta steps behind it.

The women stop for a moment. And then, they move left, and Sundarta appears, wearing a different *Banarasi* saree and covered in jewels.

The attendees are mouth agape with wide eyes. Sundarta walks few steps straight, eyes down, and stops next to Prince George.

She does the *Namaste* to King George II.

ONE of attendees reminds the king.

SUPPORTER

Your majesty -- her highness is Hindu! --

PRINCE GEORGE

Religions don't matter. Princess Sundarta and I agreed that everyone will keep his or her own religion. And about our future kids -- they're going to choose the perfect religion for them when they grow up.

The attendees exchange looks. Then, they cheer their names.

SUPPORTERS

Prince George! Princess Sundarta!
Prince George! Princess Sundarta!

Prince George and Sundarta look at each other.

INT. ROYAL CHURCH - LONDON - DAY

Sundarta, dressed in a bridal white dress, is standing next to Prince George and a CHRISTIAN PRIEST.

King Krishna and Chandramukhi are already wearing British clothes but with Indian touches.

THE PRIEST 2

You can kiss your bride.

As the couple kiss, people clap and cheer.

EXT. ST'S JAMES PALACE GARDEN - NIGHT

In the paved garden at the back of the palace. Its PEOPLE, from the royal members to the simplest servant ever, gather: most of them are seated at the first floor, watching through windows. And the rest is standing around the garden.

Among them, there's PRINCE WILLIAM (50s), King George II's younger brother, seated on a chair. His eyes spout evil as much as his brother.

In the other side of the garden, there are some other BRITISH WOMEN standing behind all of Milady, Ann and Chandramukhi.

Ratan suddenly gets out of the castle, accompanied with the same female back-dancers as always. They're wearing flowery *Ghagharas* (type of sarees).

This time, Ratan introduces Sundarta in broken English.

RATAN

Ladies and gents! Tonight we will witness the *Ghoomar* dance of The Adopted Princess! Tonight, our newly married princess will dance *Ghoomar*! Join us, princess, and dance *Ghoomar* with us!

He fast moves away while the FOLK MUSIC starts and Sundarta gets out from the same place.

The bride is also wearing a red and green flowery *Ghaghara*, with a mixture of jewels.

She walks few steps straight, does the *Namaste* to Ann, Chandramukhi and Milady in front of her who sit down after, and the female back-dancers sing with calm dance moves.

Finally, Sundarta sings as well. The HINDI SONG tells her love story from the first time she met Prince George until this moment, and how she's now dancing *Ghoomar*. And the dancers behind her complete every verse with "LET'S DANCE GHOOMAR WITH OUR PRINCESS"

This traditional folk dance of Rajasthan involves performers pirouetting while moving in and out of a wide circle. These performers are face-covered with their *Ghoonghats* as well as Sundarta.

During the dance, all of King Krishna, Prince George and King George II appear in the official balcony in the first floor. They're all dressed in *Sherwanis*.

BRITISH WOMEN watching Sundarta are exchanging envy looks, with scowled faces.

The dance is over. Sundarta steals a look from Prince George who's already smiling ear to ear.

INT. ROYAL COURTYARD - MICHOR - DAY

SUPER: 5 years later / 5 years later

Prince George climbs the stairs down and stops, fixing his British getup.

Sundarta appears from the other stairs, holding an *aarti* plate and followed by a 3-year old GIRL; she's the same young caucasian girl with green eyes, she's Lilly, their daughter.

The prince smiles to see his wife, who gets closer enough to circulate the plate in front of him.

SUNDARTA

Good morning, my love.

PRINCE GEORGE

Good morning, darling.

She blesses him by chanting and throwing yellow flowers on him, while he does only the *Namaste*.

She then puts *Bindi* (a red dot) on his forehead.

PRINCE GEORGE (CONT'D)

I'm going back to Great Britain, no need for the *Bindi*.

SUNDARTA

It'll disappear by itself during your trip.

(beat)

Can't you just stay for other two months with us? Until we all come back together to Great Britain?

PRINCE GEORGE

You know I can't. I'm here to work actually, not to visit you and my parents-in-law.

She squats and does the *Pranama*.

Prince George holds Lilly up.

LILLY

(her native is more Hindi)
You're leaving now, dad?

PRINCE GEORGE

Yes, sweetheart.

LILLY

Why?

PRINCE GEORGE

Daddy must come back home, Lilly.
Don't worry, you'll join me a few
months later.

LILLY

Okay.

PRINCE GEORGE

Give daddy a kiss?

She kisses his cheek cutely.

Prince George exchanges looks with Sundarta for a moment, and
then kisses her forehead.

SUNDARTA

We'll join you soon as you said.

PRINCE GEORGE

Goodbye.

He walks toward the gate until he disappears, followed by
Sundarta's looks.

INT. THRONE ROOM - LONDON - DAY

Around a table in the middle of the room and a map of the
Indian subcontinent on it, King George II is talking with TWO
CHANCELLORS and TWO ARMY COMMANDERS business.

COMMANDER 1

Your majesty, during these five
years, we bought lots and lots of
lands of Michor. Our guards are
everywhere.

COMMANDER 2

Besides, we discovered an important
increase of the Michorian
merchandises as cotton, silk.

CHANCELLOR 1

Also, there are a lot of mines that
we have a little percentage like
diamond, gold and coal.

The king gazes at the map, thinking. And suddenly:

KING GEORGE II

How many soldiers do we have in
Michor?

COMMANDER 1
Tens of thousands, your majesty.

KING GEORGE II
How much centers we have?

COMMANDER 2
About five.

He stands well after he was leaning on the table, and for a while, he wonders.

KING GEORGE II
Why would I get only a little percentage of this great wealth and treasures of Michor, while I can get all of it?

The four men look at each other.

CHANCELLOR 2
Your majesty -- what do you mean?

Suddenly, A GUARD gets in.

GUARD
Your majesty. His highness Prince George arrived.

KING GEORGE II
With his wife?

GUARD
No sir, alone.

KING GEORGE II
Great.

He turns to Leroy

KING GEORGE II
Leroy! Call all of my commanders and chancellors. It's an urgent meeting --
(to Guard)
-- including Prince George.

Leroy leaves the room, evilly smiling.

INT. THRONE ROOM - LONDON - DAY

The table is gone. The room is full of men including Prince George. King George II sits on the throne.

The latter starts with no further ado.

KING GEORGE II

Dear chancellors, George, I'm here to tell you something. In Michor, my soldiers are everywhere. Their treasures increased. New mines of coal and diamond were discovered and we're having only a little percentage of their yields --

He stands up and continues, studying the people's faces

KING GEORGE II

I asked myself a question today: Why can't I own all this wealth?

Everybody exchange looks while Prince George scowls

KING GEORGE II (CONT'D)

-- I'm thinking about... colonizing Michor.

The silence remains for seconds. Prince George is completely frozen.

ONE of men steps staright and asks, mumbling.

MAN

Your majesty -- but Michor is -- Princess Sundarta's home!

KING GEORGE II

No, Princess Samantha's home is here, Great Britain. And she has no relationship with Michor.

He turns to the rest

KING GEORGE II

So? What do you think?

They mumble as well.

REST OF MEN

Yes -- That'll be great --

KING GEORGE II

Good, that's what I thought.

(beat)

Perfect, then, I'll discuss with my army commanders.

(MORE)

KING GEORGE II (CONT'D)
 I think we're going to send our
 pigeon to our men there by next
 week at least --George, wait here.

He orders the rest of men by a hand sign to dismiss. And when they all do, he steps to George and whispers.

KING GEORGE II
 Listen, boy, if you informed your
 beautiful wife about this attack.
 I'm going to banish you, far away,
 Understood?

All what the prince does is to nod.

The father dabs his shoulder.

KING GEORGE II (CONT'D)
 Well done.

He goes back to his royal chair. And with a hand move:

KING GEORGE II (CONT'D)
 You can go now.

Prince George shuffles away with frozen eyes.

INT. BEDROOM - LONDON - DAY

Prince George enters his bedroom, limping, and sits in front of the mirror.

He looks at his reflection few seconds later, and he suddenly turns from a frozen face to a fretful one...

INT. SUNDARTA'S BEDROOM - MICHOR - DAY

Sundarta is lying on her bed, reading a book.

A homing pigeon appears abruptly and settles on the edge of the window.

Sundarta spots it and grins. She closes the book and steps to the bird.

She puts the bird in the cage after getting the long letter from its leg.

And then, she hurries to the door, opens it and asks one of the guards standing there.

SUNDARTA
*Could you please call mother Ann?
 Tell her that Prince George's
 letter just arrived. Thanks.*

Sundarta sits on the bed finally and starts reading.

SUNDARTA
*"Love, I now that t's been only a
 moth. But I'm missin you and Lilly
 so much." My God, there're lots of
 mistakes here. "The weather
 jenirally is getting hetter." What?*

Sundarta keeps reading silently.

SUNDARTA (CONT'D)
*His hand writing is much organized
 than before -- He committed too
 many mistakes.*

She picks a feather pen next to her, and begins decoding,
writing at the end of the letter.

She puts the feather down, and reads.

SUNDARTA (CONT'D)
 KING
 GEORGE
 WILL
 ATTACK
 MICHOR
 WITH
 SOLDIERS
 THERE

She freezes. She repeats reading the letter and checking the sentences and the decoding.

The door opens and Ann enters, with a large smile.

ANN
 Darling. George's letter arrived?

Sundarta gives her a perplexed look.

ANN (CONT'D)
 Dear, what's wrong?

She gives her the letter. Ann reads.

ANN

(murmuring)

-- there're lots of unusual mistakes here -- why did you circulate the mistakes? -- King George will attack Michor with soldiers there.

(looks at her)

Honey, what's that?

Sundarta stands up and stops in front of her.

SUNDARTA

Mom. George sent us a coded letter.

ANN

And how do you know? Maybe he just mistook?

SUNDARTA

Mom. George never mistook his daughter's name. It's always with a double l.

Ann comes back to the letter.

ANN

King George will attack Michor with soldiers there -- Oh my God.

Sundarta sits on the bed, completely silent.

ANN (CONT'D)

Are there any other details?

SUNDARTA

That's all what's mentioned.

(beat)

He signed the contract to colonize us.

ANN

Although I expect things like this from George, the king, but you're wrong. The East India Company is a trade company, not a British tool to colonize kingdoms.

SUNDARTA

(murmuring)

Why didn't I remember Britain's colonies when I agreed -- God, I'm so stupid.

ANN
You're not, dear.

SUNDARTA
You don't seem that shocked.

Ann sits next to her.

ANN
I told you I expect similar things
from him.
(beat)
I told you that there's something
bad behind that contract.

Samantha suddenly stands up fast and walks toward the door.

SUNDARTA
I need to inform my father now.

Ann stands as well.

ANN
Samantha wait!

She stops and looks at her, while Ann gets closer.

ANN (CONT'D)
Listen, I know that Michor raised
you during all your life. But...
will you defend the kingdom that
raised you, or the kingdom you came
from? Your origins?

Sundarta freezes again. She slowly comes back to the bed and
sits back on it.

Another homing pigeon appears. Ann fast goes and catches it,
takes the letter from its leg and puts it in the cage with
its sibling.

SUNDARTA
What does it say?

ANN
"He will send a message the moment
this pigeon arrives to soldiers in
Michor to attack. They'll attack
the fort at night. Mu grandfather
is doing this because of Michor's
natural wealth. Love you."

SUNDARTA

That means that they probably will
attack by next week.

Ann folds the paper.

ANN (CONT'D)

I wanted to say -- that if I was in
your place -- I'll defend the
country that gave me birth.

Sundarta remains silent, thinking, staring at the first
letter.

SUNDARTA

(murmuring)

Probably he's in danger now. He
coded the whole letter.

(turns to Ann)

Do you know why he coded the
letter? Because he decides to
protect the country that didn't
suddenly decide to attack the other
one for its treasures.

She stands up and walks again toward the door.

SUNDARTA (CONT'D)

If the inverse happened, I would
defend then Great Britain.

ANN

Wait, Samantha!

She suddenly stops.

SUNDARTA

My name... is Sundarta.

She gets out, leaving Ann alone.

INT. THRONE ROOM - DAY

Sundarta opens the gate suddenly and aggressively. Everybody
in the room jumps of terror. Milady, who's asleep in her
chair, wakes up scared as well.

KING KRISHNA

Oh my God! Sundarta, are you okay?

Sundarta dashes until she stops in front of King Krishna.

SUNDARTA

King George the second is attacking us!

The chancellors murmur while Milady looks around.

KING KRISHNA

*Daughter. What are you saying?
You're scaring my men.*

SUNDARTA

*My husband sent me a coded message -
-*

MILADY

Woa! English please!

Sundarta climbs the stairs, stands next to King Krishna and shows him the letter.

SUNDARTA (CONT'D)

King George will attack Michor with soldiers there. See? He will use his soldiers here on our land to attack us.

MILADY

*(checking the letter)
What's going on?*

SUNDARTA

Another pigeon just arrived five minutes after the first one. The letter it was carrying tells that the king will send a message today to his soldiers to attack.

KING KRISHNA

The message would arrive then a week later.

(beat)

Sundarta, are you sure of what you're saying?

SUNDARTA

Does this letter look like it's sent to beloved ones? It looks more like sent to a superior person.

ONE of chancellors stands up.

CHANCELLOR

Your majesty, what's going on?

King Krishna checks the letter and the discovered words. Then, he gets up and announces.

KING KRISHNA
*Dear chancellors -- we've been
betrayed.*

EXT. MICHOR'S STREETS - NIGHT

Big carriages - looking like cages more - stop in front of British factories, pulling every British person into the cages while they're screaming.

The IN CHARGE BRITISH MAN stops one of the carts' COACHMEN.

THE IN CHARGE MAN
What's going on! Why are you
imprisoning everyone?!

The coachman takes a paper from his bag next to him.

THE IN CHARGE MAN
What is this?!

He just keeps staring at the in charge British man while suddenly TWO MICHORIANS push him to the cage.

Meanwhile, a BRITISH SOLDIER runs away to the borders, looking back, falling and standing up.

EXT. ST'S JAMES PALACE - DAY

The British soldier arrives in front of the gate with TWO NAVY MEN.

His clothes are ripped, dirty and with sand. His face is sallow, covered in sweat and dirt.

One of the TWO GUARDS standing at the gate asks them.

GUARD
What's going on in here?

NAVY MAN
We found him fainted close to Goa
port in India -- He belongs to the
soldiers in -- Michor.

The two guards look at each other.

INT. THRONE ROOM - LONDON - DAY

King George II is on his throne, watching the British soldier gulping food on a large table between them.

KING GEORGE II
What happened?

THE SOLDIER
Your majesty, the Michorian king arrested every single British person on his land, for no reason.
(beat)
We were just trading -- We didn't attack anybody -- I, I barely ran away from the army!

The king looks away, thinking.

KING GEORGE II
Take him away.

TWO GUARDS pull the British soldier away.

KING GEORGE II
And call George!

INT. SUNDARTA'S BEDROOM - LONDON - DAY

Prince George is lying on his bed, silently crying.

Suddenly, there's an AGGRESSIVE DOOR KNOCKING.

He runs fast and opens it, moping his tears.

He finds Leroy, smiling.

LEROY
His majesty the king is calling you.

Prince George fixes his clothes, and follows him, with steady steps.

INT. THRONE ROOM - LONDON - DAY

When Prince George enters with Leroy, he finds his grandfather standing, staring at his portrait.

When Leroy comes back to his place, King George II comments.

KING GEORGE II
Life is weird, George.

He turns to Prince George.

KING GEORGE II (CONT'D)
-- When someone warns somebody else
of a danger he would be exposed
to if he did something specific,
this person doesn't listen or even
care about this danger, no matter
how harmful it is.

PRINCE GEORGE
What happened?

KING GEORGE II
Well, I have no idea how they were
informed. I checked your letter and
it has nothing, although it was
plenty of mistakes --
(beat)
Mistakes -- you coded it -- You
sent her a coded letter!

PRINCE GEORGE
(beat)
You don't have the right to attack
Michor, father. They're innocent
and they never betrayed or even
hurt you.

KING GEORGE II
Krishna imprisoned every single
British on his land! There's only
one left and he was starving after
he traveled all long from Michor to
Goa on feet! You and your wife are
ruining all my plans!

He breathes, and then, calming himself, goes to his grandson,
and grips his shoulders.

KING GEORGE II
When I warned you about banishing
you, did you think I was joking
around? Huh? I banished your father
before --

Prince George looks up at King George II with wide eyes.

KING GEORGE II (CONT'D)

Oh yes. I did, because he was as undisciplined and unobedient as you. God you're copy of him. I banished my son. What makes me not banishing you, huh?

Prince George's eyes shed tears.

KING GEORGE II

And if you did this to protect your wife, guess what? Your wife should have been dead now. You know why? Not just because your mother had her illegally and that'll ruin our reputation. No, because the throne is actually hers, not mine.

The king comes back to his throne.

KING GEORGE II (CONT'D)

You'll get banished to the top north of kingdom of Great Britain. And you'll get imprisoned in one of the worst and of the coldest jails ever in Scotland. There, no one will visit you. No one will even know where you are, even your wife whom you betrayed me for. You'll disappear and vanish from this life. And may God help the kingdom you wanted to defend.

(to his guards)

Take him away!!

TWO GUARDS exchange looks. Then they just drag Prince George out.

INT. SUNDARTA'S ROOM - MICHOR - DAY

King Krishna, Chandramukhi and Milady are with Ann and Sundarta. Sadness is overwhelming.

KING KRISHNA

I've never expected this... I mean what's the mistake we committed?

SUNDARTA

Greed. Our greed for silver.

MILADY

Who the hell attacks his family-in-law for its country's wealth?!

KING KRISHNA

Anyway, Sundarta. I thank you a lot for informing us. You could be quiet about that to defend Great Britain, your origins.

SUNDARTA

I thought about that too. But if Michor is the attacker, I'll definitely defend Great Britain.

CHANDRAMUKHI

What to do now?

KING KRISHNA

Now every British person in Michor is supposed to be imprisoned.

CHANDRAMUKHI

And then?

KING KRISHNA

We're doing nothing. We just protected ourselves from the sudden attack.

(beat)

But now -- we must expect any attack -- at any time.

INT. CELL - DAY

Prince George is seated inside a dirty dark cell. He's just watching the only window there, with bags under the hopeless eyes.

Suddenly, the door behind him opens. A YOUNG MAN enters.

PRINCE GEORGE

(lost hope)

Are you going to torture me?

MAN

No, mate! Listen, I've got some bad news.

He gets closer to Prince George and whispers.

MAN (CONT'D)

Your father himself just started his trip to Michor, with hundreds of thousands of soldiers and tens of ships. He doesn't look that happy.

The banished prince just gazes at him.

EXT. MICHOR FORT - DAY

TWO SOLDIERS on the fence of the fort spot a HUGE ARMY coming very far away.

SOLDIER 1
What the hell is that?

King George II is on his dashing black horse, leading the massive army behind him.

INT. THRONE ROOM - DAY

King Krishna is busy discussing with Sundarta and his chancellors while abruptly the SECOND SOLDIER enters fast, opening the door himself.

SOLDIER 2
Your majesty! -- You must see this.

EXT. MICHOR FORT - DAY

King Krishna, Sundarta and the two soldiers overlook the immense army outside.

After staring at it for seconds, the king announces.

KING KRISHNA
Prepare the army.

He turns back to the throne room while his daughter is following him.

SUNDARTA
I'm fighting with you, right?

KING KRISHNA
I'm discussing this with my men.

SUNDARTA
What do you mean?

INT. THRONE ROOM - DAY

King Krishna hurries to his throne, while Ann, Milady and Chandramukhi pay attention, waiting for his words.

KING KRISHNA
Gentlemen, the war begins --

He sits finally while his chancellors make noise as usual but it stops then by the king's sign.

KING KRISHNA (CONT'D)
*-- Great Britain's army is coming.
 It'll arrive by tomorrow.*

Sundarta stops in front of him.

SUNDARTA
*I'm joining this war. You know
 that, father.*

CHANDRAMUKHI
*What?! What do you mean?! No, no,
 no. Women are staying inside. Men
 are fighting for their women and
 children! --*

ANN
 What's going on?

CHANDRAMUKHI
 Sundarta wants to fight!

ANN
 WHAT? No, you're staying here.

SUNDARTA
 Don't you see the immense army out
 there? I'm good in martial arts.
 You all know that!

Chandramukhi steps toward her, and caresses her cheek.

CHANDRAMUKHI
I'm not losing you, my love.

SUNDARTA
*You're not -- mother -- you know
 you're not.*

King Krishna turns to his ARMY LEADER (40s) standing in front of him.

KING KRISHNA
*Start preparing your army, as fast
 as you can!*

The army leader bows and leaves the room fast.

SUNDARTA
 (insisting)
 I'm joining the war.

ANN
 You're not.

Sundarta just looks at them, keeping her rage inside.

INT. CHANDRAMUKHI'S ROOM - DAY

King Krishna is seated on his bed, already in his war getup.

Chandramukhi, wearing her *Banasari* bridal dress, comes and puts the helmet on her husband's head.

KING KRISHNA
Why are you wearing your Banasari dress?

Chandramukhi gives him a sad look.

KING KRISHNA (CONT'D)
You're practising the Jauhar in case if we lost the war, right?

CHANDRAMUKHI
God forbid -- I'll lead it.

KING KRISHNA
What about Ann and Lilly? They're not even Hindu.

CHANDRAMUKHI
I'll deal with them. Just focus on the war.

The king stands up, his eyes still hanged on hers.

Chandramukhi sheds a tear. She takes the tear with her finger and mops it on King Krishna's thick black and white beard.

CHANDRAMUKHI
Bless you, my husband. Come back to us safe and healthy.

She does the *Pranama* to him. Then, she takes his sword from the bed and gives it to him.

Finally, she grabs his arm, and they walk out of the room.

EXT. MICHOR'S FENCE - DAY

The immense MICHORIAN ARMY gets out of the fence, lead by King Krishna on a horse, also hundreds of thousands.

A SOLDIER on the fence, among the ARCHERS with him, notices A FEMALE FEATURE among the army. The soldier walks away.

And abruptly, SOME GUARDS get out of the fort, chase the army and catch the female whom is of course Sundarta.

While Sundarta resists, she sees Chandramukhi behind the fence.

CHANDRAMUKHI
*Didn't I tell you to stay inside
and not to join the war?*

Sundarta keeps looking at her.

CHANDRAMUKHI
(to the guards)
Imprison her.

SUNDARTA
What?!

The guards grab Sundarta inside while she's agitating.

SUNDARTA
*Please let me go! I can help well!
Let me fight along with my father!*

CHANDRAMUKHI
*Your father will be fine, and you
too if you remain inside, safe!*

EXT. THAR DESERT - DAY

The two armies are getting closer: they're about the same number. The British army seems more developed and organised, while the Michorian one looks a bit less developed.

The two armies stop, one hundred yards distance.

King George II, sitting on his horse between Leroy and his LEADER ARMY behind him, shouts.

KING GEORGE II
You made a big mistake.

KING KRISHNA

It's you who did it. You planned to attack us for no reason.

KING GEORGE II

No, there is a reason. Your wealth. Besides, your daughter is very intelligent.

KING KRISHNA

And so your grandson.

KING GEORGE II

Oh! My banished grandson because of your daughter? Yes, he is. But very naive.

KING KRISHNA

You banished your grandson?!

KING GEORGE II

-- like I banished his father too! I had to. Where is she anyway? My blood has been boiling since she solved George's codes.

KING KRISHNA

Safe!

KING GEORGE II

I don't think she'll be soon.

(beat)

Give me my men back.

KING KRISHNA

If you're not attacking.

KING GEORGE II

No, I definitely will!

KING KRISHNA

Then, the winner gets them!

King George II trembles of anger. However, he calmly gives his army a hand sign.

LEROY

AAAAAAA!!!

The British army bursts. King Krishna gives his army the sign too.

KING KRISHNA

AAAAAAA!!!

And few seconds later, the two armies collide.

INT. THRONE ROOM - SAME TIME

The room this time is full of the palace's WOMEN, already wearing their bridal *Banasari* dresses, including Chandramukhi.

The latter is sitting on the throne, sadly silent.

Ann and Milady are standing at the end of the room, watching the royal courtyard.

Suddenly, an ARCHER falls dead from the fence inside the royal courtyard, with an arrow in his chest.

Ann and Milady hurry and climb stairs until they arrive at the fence, taking a hide from the launching arrows next to them.

They spot King Krishna struggling while fighting.

MILADY

Sundarta won't be happy to see her father dead.

(looks at Ann)

Sundarta must fight.

ANN

I'm not sending my daughter to death.

MILADY

She's my daughter as well! I know her well. She's a fighting machine, probably the best fighter ever.

ANN

Milady --

MILADY

We must send her! She'll help them a lot.

Ann looks away, thinking.

MILADY (CONT'D)

Don't worry. She won't die. And thanks to her, no woman in this fort will be burnt.

Ann turns to Milady, and nods.

INT. MICHOR FORT - DAY

Under the fort, there's a jail full of the BRITISH PRISONERS. And inside one of the wide empty cells, there's Sundarta. She's seated in a corner, sinking in a deep melancholy.

Suddenly, she hears the prisoners making noise. Seconds later, Lilly appears in front of the bars.

LILLY

Hi, mama!

SUNDARTA

Lilly? What are you doing here?

LILLY

Grandma and Nana Milady are here to set you free!

SUNDARTA

-- What?

Ann and Milady pass by the cells. The British prisoners are screaming at them while they just give them a cold look.

PRISONERS

*Cheaters!! -- Get us out!!
Bastards!!*

The two women hurry and stop next to Lilly.

ANN

Sundarta, are you okay?

SUNDARTA

I'm fine. What's going on?

ANN

You must rescue your father and every single woman in the fort.

Milady succeeds to open the door then they all enter.

MILADY

You're a fighting machine, darling.

ANN

Samantha. Now, you need to kill King George. It's not only for Michor, but also for Great Britain.

SUNDARTA

I need weapons and a fighting suit.

The two women look at each other.

EXT. MICHOR FORT - DAY

Sundarta, riding a horse, wearing the dead archer's fighting suit, with a shield in her hand, a sword in her waist and arrows and a bow in her back, gets out of the fort, going down the hill.

In her way to the battle, her braid gets free, and her hair so.

Once she joins the battle-turning-massacre, she grabs her sword and slaughters A BRITISH SOLDIER intending to hit her brown horse.

She gets off the animal and takes her shield.

Leroy is close to her, busy slaughtering also two people by a sword hit.

She takes her bow and arrow, and shoots directly in the heart.

Leroy looks at the arrow in his heart. But he smiles at Sundarta, and begins running to her while she keeps shooting until he suddenly receives a head shot from Ratan's rifle.

Sundarta nods to him as a thank. Ratan nods too and keeps fighting courageously.

Sundarta looks then everywhere until she finds King Krishna fighting with no fatigue.

She runs toward him, and hugs him.

SUNDARTA

I was worried about you.

KING KRISHNA

Why did you leave the fort? It's dangerous for you.

(beat)

Listen, King George banished your husband.

SUNDARTA

What?!

KING KRISHNA

He banished him for informing you --

King Krishna stops speaking suddenly. Sundarta sees an arrow penetrating his back.

She catches the king's body from falling and studies him: his eyes are frozen. His nose starts bleeding.

Another arrow hits him. He falls on his knees.

Sundarta moves away, and King Krishna falls on his face.

She puts her father's head on her lap and caresses it, crying.

SUNDARTA

Wake up, dad -- wake up, please.

KING KRISHNA

I love -- you -- Sundarta --

His head falls back. Sundarta suddenly screams the scariest scream ever.

She looks straight, and finds the shooter: it's King George II himself.

He then steps toward her until he finds Leroy's body on the ground.

He leans over it, and closes its eyes, while only his eyebrows are expressing his sorrow.

KING GEORGE II

Sleep well, dear Leroy.

He turns then to Sundarta while the latter takes King Krishna's helmet, sword and shield.

There's only about two meters left between King George II and Sundarta. They start turning in a circle, getting ready for the fight, while everyone there stops fighting, and focuses on them.

With immense exchanged looks of hatred between them, Sundarta asks.

SUNDARTA

Why did you do that?

KING GEORGE II

Why would I get a little part of your wealth while I take it all?

SUNDARTA

Michor did nothing to you.

KING GEORGE II
And so my other colonies before
they become my colonies.

SUNDARTA
You banished your grandson!

KING GEORGE II
He betrayed the kingdom. I had to!

SUNDARTA
You killed my father!

KING GEORGE II
That's the life, dear. Oh, and by
the way, you shouldn't be alive
now. You should be dead if I killed
you myself instead of letting your
mother do it.

And suddenly, with the tiger's speed, Sundarta attacks him.
She's hitting and moving aggressively.

By time, she gets more aggressive with her moves.

After a few stressful minutes, and with a single sword move,
the princess cuts the king's head that flies and falls away.

It takes some time for the left soldiers to realize that King
George II is dead.

Then, the few remaining Michorian soldiers - including Ratan -
cheer happily, while the other British - whom's number is
much more than the Michorians - exchange scared looks.

Sundarta understands the British soldiers.

SUNDARTA
I'll set the imprisoned ones free
with you, group by group. Take the
headless corpse also, to be a
warning for anyone who just thinks
about hurting Michor.

She takes her breastplate off, walks toward the head, puts it
on the plate, and hides it with a scarf she has.

She walks to the fort... the wind is blowing through her
hair.

INT. THRONE ROOM - DAY

Chandramukhi is still seated on the throne, shaking her leg.

Suddenly, the door opens. Everyone turns.

Due to the intense sunshine behind the comer, Chandramukhi could see only her husband's special helmet. And so, her face shines.

The comer keeps walking toward the royal chair. It seems holding something.

The door is closed. The comer is now recognizable: it's Sundarta.

CHANDRAMUKHI

*Sundarta? What are you doing here?
And why are you wearing Krishna's
helmet?*

Sundarta doesn't answer. She just takes her scarf off and the head falls down.

Everybody screams.

CHANDRAMUKHI (CONT'D)

*What's that? -- Oh Lord... is that
King George?*

She looks at Sundarta.

CHANDRAMUKHI

We won?

Sundarta nods.

CHANDRAMUKHI

We won!!

Everyone cheers up.

CHANDRAMUKHI

Where's your father?

Sundarta looks down.

CHANDRAMUKHI (CONT'D)

*(begins to fear)
Where's King Krishna?*

Sundarta nods as a no.

CHANDRAMUKHI (CONT'D)

*Where's King Krishna? -- Krishna? --
KRISHNA?! KRISHNA!!*

She bursts hysterically crying. Sundarta cries too, silently.

INT. CELEBRATIONS' COURTYARD - DUSK

In the middle of the courtyard, there's a little pyre. Every living one in the fort is present, dressed in white.

It's densely raining. But there's sort of a canopy on the pyre that's already burning King Krishna's body: It's Chandramukhi's *sati* (the widow gets burned with her dead husband), including Sundarta, Ann and Milady.

The latter enters the courtyard, still with her *Banasari* dress and all of her jewelry.

She stands in front of Sundarta, who's circulating the *aarti* plate in front of her, murmuring and feeding her an opium leave.

Chandramukhi does the *Pranama* to Sundarta.

At final, Chandramukhi steps steadily toward the pyre. And after, she lies next to her husband, within the flames.

Although that Ann and Milady are deeply crying, Sundarta is silent. Her eyes shed only few tears, but they're burning of hatred.

INT. THRONE ROOM - LONDON - DAY

Prince William is reading a letter having the EICo seal.

He lowers the paper, and he sees King George II's headless corpse on the floor, while the supporters are standing.

WILLIAM

Well, first of all, I'm the king.

The men look at each other. ONE of them declares.

MAN

But sir, Prince George is the heir.

WILLIAM

Where is he? I don't see him. He's banished! He should be now hanged for betraying the holy kingdom!

(beat)

And now, where we've been? Uh! As I'm the king, the first decision I make -- is to attack Michor.

Another MAN speaks.

MAN 2

But your majesty -- we lost so much
in this war. We're attacking
again?!

WILLIAM

According to my studies and to what
the gentlemen who survived said,
Michor is a very small kingdom. I'm
shocked how till now the Mughels or
the Marathas didn't colonize it
yet. And so, its army is gone with
the war.

(beat)

Don't worry, I'm travelling with
less than five thousands soldiers.

MAN

You're travelling?

King William sits on the throne, while a SERVANT switches
King George II's paint with a paint of King William.

WILLIAM

Yes.

MAN 2

That would be a danger for you --

WILLIAM

I'm avenging my brother myself!

He gets up.

WILLIAM

And now make me a king officially.

INT. THRONE ROOM - MICHOR - NIGHT

Rani (Queen) Sundarta is now sitting on the royal chair, over-
thinking, with burning eyes.

Ratan stands next to her.

RATAN

*Your majesty -- we're still in a
very week situation. Just a simple
attack and we're gone!*

(beat)

*I'm wondering why there's no sign
for the British people. It's been
more than six month.*

SUNDARTA

They're coming -- soon or later.

RATAN

What should we do?

As before, the same soldier enters suddenly.

SOLDIER

Your majesty! You must see this.

Sundarta and Ratan join him.

INT. MICHOR'S FENCE - NIGHT

The soldier, Sundarta and Ratan overlook and spot the five thousands British soldiers. They're just staying in their places, with flags and bonfires.

SUNDARTA

How far are they?

SOLDIER

Not sure. But what I'm sure of is that they're way too numerous than us.

SUNDARTA

When will they arrive?

SOLDIER

(beat)

Tomorrow morning.

Sundarta takes another look at the army, and then she orders.

SUNDARTA (CONT'D)

Gather every single woman in the throne room now.

INT. THRONE ROOM - NIGHT

The women, in their daily clothes, are gathered inside the room. But this time, Sundarta is standing in front of the throne, while Milady and Ann are next to her.

SUNDARTA

In every epoch, a battle between the good and the evil must happen. And the good always wins.

(MORE)

SUNDARTA (CONT'D)

Our Gods witnessed such battles like the one between Lord Rama and demon Ravana which we celebrate the victory of the Lord every Navratri. Or also many kings and queens who sacrificed their lives for the good and for serving the right, as well as Rani Padmini did when she lead the Jauhar with Rani Nagmati, when their husband Ratan Singh got defeated by Alauddin Khaliji -- Six months ago, the majority of our brave army sacrificed their lives to protect our honor. For us, they're not less important and sacred than the Gods themselves --

EXT. THAR DESERT - SAME TIME

William gets out of his tent.

SUNDARTA (V.O.)

-- Great Britain betrayed us although we trusted it. That didn't lead but to the death of king Krishna Bai and the sati of his wife Chandramukhi Singh -- Today, they're still proving to us that they're selfish, greedy and monsters enough to even murder innocent people just for their benefits, although they know that we're in a weak situation.

INT. THRONE ROOM - NIGHT

SUNDARTA (CONT'D)

-- Even if we died tomorrow, the enemy is still the loser. Tomorrow, we'll be attacked by a large number of soldiers enough even to destroy the great and legendary fort of Michor -- The only solution left for us -- is to give our bodies to the holy fire. The rest of soldiers will fight their last battle for the good and against the evil. Our brave men passed away to protect our honor, dignity and principals. And their souls won't go in vain.

She sheds tears, ruining her khol.

SUNDARTA (CONT'D)

*The enemy will witness how we will
turn our misery into victory, and
their victory into a shameful loss
against the good.*

When Ann sees the others crying silently, and Milady pale,
she wonders.

ANN

Darling, what's going on? What are
you saying to them?

Sundarta looks down as a tear falls down.

SUNDARTA

We're going to practise the Jauhar.

MILADY

We're going to practise the Jauhar.

ANN

(looking at them)
And what's the Jauhar?

The two women remain silent. Then, Milady explains, lowly.

MILADY (CONT'D)

It's a mass self-immolation Hindu
women do to protect their bodies
from the enemy.

Sundarta avoids Ann's eyes.

SUNDARTA

That's the only way to protect our
honor and to keep our promise
toward our martyrs and Gods.

Ann finally realizes. She looks to every single woman's face
in the throne room.

ANN

No -- no -- Samantha, don't tell me
you're burn -- no.

(beat)

You're burning yourself?

Sundarta remains silent.

ANN (CONT'D)

No, no, no. You're not killing
yourself! You're joking!

(beat)

(MORE)

ANN (CONT'D)

You're not even Indian! You're not obliged to follow these myths --

SUNDARTA

One, they're not myths, they're true stories. Two, I'm Hindu. Three, don't forget that I'm the cause of this war. They killed my father, they're the responsible for my mother's Sati and they banished my husband!

(calmer)

Throwing ourselves in the holy fire is nothing but conquering them. They can't get us. They won't be able even to touch our shadows. We won't be their slaves getting tortured and raped. Yes, we'll turn into sand but our dignity and honor will resonate in the air for centuries. The history will witness the injustice of Great Britain and the bravery of Michor.

Ann stares at Sundarta.

ANN (CONT'D)

So, you're insisting on throwing yourself in the fire?

SUNDARTA

Yes.

ANN

Then, I'm throwing myself with you.

SUNDARTA

What?

MILADY

What?

ANN

I left you once, and thanks to God I'm back to you. But if I leave you now, I'll lose you forever. And thus, I'm joining you and all of these women.

MILADY

Ann, are you serious? You too --

SUNDARTA

She's right. She's the mother. Losing a child is the worst.

MILADY

But you're British, Ann!

ANN

And her mother.

(looks at Sundarta)

I'm joining you forever.

Sundarta smiles, and then turns to Milady.

SUNDARTA (CONT'D)

Milady, you're not getting burned with us, nor Lilly. The last mission I'm ordering you to is to prepare yourself and Lilly to leave Michor before the sunrise.

MILADY

But Sundarta --

Sundarta raises her index finger, and orders strictly.

SUNDARTA (CONT'D)

My name is Sundarta Bai! And I'm ordering you, as the Queen of Michor, to prepare yourself and Lilly to run away this night to your country!

Sundarta calms down.

SUNDARTA (CONT'D)

Lilly is under the age of five. She can't perform the Jauhar. And you -- I'm setting you free from the suicide to come back to your kingdom, and to take care of my daughter. Once you leave the fort with the kids and the pregnant women, you'll be free and the maid of no one.

Much calmer.

SUNDARTA (CONT'D)

Can you please go and bring Lilly to -- to tell her goodbye?

Milady cannot resist; She nods and leaves the room.

Sundarta sheds another tear, and orders the women.

SUNDARTA

*Tomorrow, our few soldiers will
practice the Saka -- and we will
practice the Jauhar.*

INT. MICHOR FORT - DAWN

The sky is black turning blue.

In front of the getting-empty-pool, A HINDU PRIEST is performing the *Yajna*; sitting in front of a burning fire and chanting prayers.

INT. RATAN'S ROOM - SAME TIME

The priest's chanting keeps going on.

Ratan stands in front of a long mirror, in saffron clothes.

He puts his sword holder in his waist, and then stares at his reflection, with courageous looks.

INT. SUNDARTA'S BEDROOM - SAME TIME

Sundarta is seated also in front of her mirror with her *Banasari* bridal dress.

She's busy putting on her jewelry while ONE of maids knocks on the door and enters.

She's also wearing a bridal - but less fancier - saree.

MAID

*Your majesty, Milady and her
highness princess Lilly are ready
to go --*

(beat)

*Would you like to meet them for the
last time before they leave?*

Without looking at her, she responds.

SUNDARTA

No, I told them goodbye before.

(beat)

*I'll go weak to see them leaving --
especially my daughter.*

MAID

But --

Sundarta gives a scary look to the maid.

MAID
Yes, your majesty.

She leaves Sundarta.

INT. ROYAL COURTYARD - DAWN

The chanting keeps going.

The only 500 SOLDIERS - including Ratan - are standing in a row in front of the empty pool.

Sundarta herself blesses every soldier:

- 1) From the *aarti* plate, she applies the red dot on their foreheads.
- 2) Then, she puts a basil leave in their mouths.
- 3) And finally, she circulates the plate in front of Ratan.

INT. ROYAL COURTYARD - MORNING

The sun is clear in the sky.

Despite the loud *Yajna* chanting, we can HEAR the running horses' steps getting closer.

Sundarta is standing on the top of the fence, with TWO ARCHERS, watching the coming angry army.

SUNDARTA
Close the gates.
(beat)
Lock them well.

EXT. MICHOR FORT - MORNING

The five hundreds soldiers, leaded by Ratan, are climbing the hill down with their horses.

INT. CELEBRATIONS' COURTYARD - MORNING

THREE WOMEN throw large amounts of wood inside the pool-turned-*kund*.

An OLD WOMAN throws the torch she's holding into the *kund*. And the fire starts burning.

EXT. MICHOR FORT - MORNING

With his horse, Ratan arranges his men into the same line.
Then, he observes the coming army.

INT. CELEBRATIONS' COURTYARD - MORNING

The courtyard is full of women with their *Banasari* red sarees, including Ann. Just few of them are holding *aarti* plates.

They're all looking up at the balcony.

Abruptly, Sundarta appears with another *aarti* plate. And she remains silent while the *Yajna* is still CHANTING.

Moment later, she moves and climbs the stairs down.

She then passes between the different-aged women until she stops in front of the gate between the royal and the celebrations' courtyards.

She looks at the TWO WOMEN next to it, and nods.

They both open it and the BELL RINGING begins with the getting louder and faster *yajna* chanting.

The *kund* fire is already kindling. Its flames are feet high.

INT. ROYAL COURTYARD - CONTINUOUS

Sundarta gets in, puts her hand in the red powder and prints in on the wall, in the highest place she could reach.

And then, she starts walking around the fire while Ann first and then the ladies with the plates imitate her and walk behind her in a row.

(Before jumping in the fire, she must turn seven rounds around it).

Sundarta passes in front of the gate: it's THE FIRST ROUND.

EXT. THAR DESERT - SAME TIME

The British army is getting closer.

The Michorian soldiers are getting ready.

INT. ROYAL COURTYARD - MORNING

Sundarta, Ann behind her and the row pass in front of the gate for the second time: THE SECOND ROUND.

EXT. THAR DESERT - SAME TIME

The pebbles vibrate due to the five thousands dashing horses.

INT. ROYAL COURTYARD - MORNING

THE THIRD ROUND.

EXT. THAR DESERT - SAME TIME

Ratan, standing in front of his army, murmurs prayers.

INT. ROYAL COURTYARD - MORNING

THE FOURTH ROUND.

EXT. THAR DESERT - SAME TIME

Ratan gives a hand sign for his men to move slowly straight.

INT. ROYAL COURTYARD - MORNING

THE FIFTH ROUND.

EXT. THAR DESERT - SAME TIME

Ratan shouts and begins running while his men follow him.

INT. ROYAL COURTYARD - MORNING

THE SIXTH ROUND.

EXT. THAR DESERT - SAME TIME

The two armies collide.

INT. ROYAL COURTYARD - MORNING

THE SEVENTH AND THE LAST ROUND.

Sundarta nears the edge of the burning *kund*.

She remembers:

- 1) King Krishna's bleeding nose after getting shot.
- 2) King George II telling Prince George about his father's banishment.
- 3) Prince George looking at the window.
- 4) Chandramukhi walking toward the pyre.
- 5) Milady and Lilly crossing the desert on a horse (away from the British army)

Then, she closes her eyes. Takes a deep breath. With a tear on the cheek and a smile on the face, and...

Her foot leaves the land to the fire. At the same time when --

EXT. THAR DESERT - SAME TIME

-- when Ratan falls down with a sword planted in his heart.

EXT. THAR DESERT - MORNING

Milady looks back and suddenly stops the horse: she and Lilly are staring at the dark huge smoke getting out of Michor fort.

ANN (V.O.)

They say that people living around the kingdom of "Michor" had seen once and for all such a huge dark smoke spreading out of its royal fort -- That smoke --

EXT. KINGDOM OF MICHOR - MORNING

In the streets of the Indian kingdom, every citizen stares also at the smoke, with desperate eyes.

ANN (V.O.)(CONT'D)

-- when the Michorians saw it, they cried, they wailed, they lamented. But they knew that the queen who ruled them for only six months -- was a legend -- a legend who sacrificed herself for her people --

INT. MICHOR FORT - MORNING

the women with their red *Banasaris*, scream and dash to a crowded gate.

ANN (CONT'D)

-- a legend who burned herself to protect her honor. And yet, they were proud of having such a queen like her.

I/E. MICHOR FORT - DAY

SIX BRITISH SOLDIERS smash the fort's gate with a large wood until it's open. The rest of BRITISH SOLDIERS spread inside with rifles.

While crossing the gate, King William, on his horse, looks up and spots King George II's EMBALMED HEAD on the top of the fence.

WILLIAM

Oh poor brother -- what did they do to you?

When he finally enters, he orders his men.

WILLIAM

Check every single room and corner!
Let's earn some hostages!

(murmuring)

I hope they find Sundarta -- she's extremely beautiful.

When they open the gate between the servants' and the royal courtyards, everyone blocks their nostrils with napkins.

SOLDIER

Your majesty! Over here!

King William gets off the horse and hurries to the *kund*.

Once he arrives, he also snatches his napkin from his suit, hides his nose and steps back, shocked of the pool's view: it's deeply dark with a huge amount of ashes on a huge amount of wood.

WILLIAM

Oh Lord. What happened in here?

Another SOLDIER comes.

SOLIDIER 2

Sir, we checked every room. It's clear.

WILLIAM

(beat)

They burnt themselves.

INT. ROYAL COURTYARD - MICHOR - DAY

A WOMAN with the *Banasari* dress, holding an *aarti* plate, is walking toward the empty pool.

She turns to us: she's Sundarta, smiling with sad eyes.

Suddenly, the fire kindles around her that seems she's getting burnt.

INT. CELL - SCOTLAND - DAY

Prince George wakes up scared.

PRINCE GEORGE

SUNDARTA!!!!

He catches his breath whilst the door opens.

An OLD MAN enters.

OLD MAN

You got visitors.

The visitors enter: they're Milady and Lilly.

Prince George stares at them until Lilly runs and hugs him.

LILLY

Daddy!!

He hugs her and caresses her hair, then he breaks down and cries hysterically.

PRINCE GEORGE

Lilly? Is that you?! Oh God -- Oh God!

When he finishes, he looks at Milady, who's already pale.

PRINCE GEORGE

Where's Sundarta?

Without answering him, she asks the old man to take Lilly away. She then closes the door and sits next to him.

Milady starts telling him, WE HEAR NOTHING, the whole story from Sundarta decoding the letter until the Jauhar.

Prince George's face turns slowly sad and shocked, until at the end of the silent story, he explodes crying and lamenting SILENTLY, while Milady tries to calm him, weeping already.

EXT. LONDON'S STREETS - DAY

A NEWSMAN passes, ringing his bell, and ANNOUNCES.

NEWSMAN

Princess Samantha's kingdom is colonized by Great Britain! She's dead!! Prince George is banished away!! --

He passes by the poor middle-aged man who's reading already a newspaper with the principal title: "KING WILLIAM KEPT PRINCE GEORGE BANISHED"

He lets the newspaper down, and yells with hatred.

MIDDLE-AGED MAN

ATTACK!!! --

EXT. ST'S JAMES PALACE - CONTINUOUS

People run from behind the middle-aged man, a massive PUBLIC, with their farm tools and torchs, attack the fence. However, the FORCES attacks them too with sticks.

Refusing to leave this time, the forces start shooting the public with rifles.

The middle-aged man is shot. He falls down, with open eyes, his chest begins to bleed, he stops breathing.

ANN (CONT'D)

This is the legend --

CUT TO BLACK.

ANN (CONT'D)

-- of Rani Sundarta.

THE END