

QUEEN OF HEART

DRAFT # 5

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An original screenplay

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FADE IN

Front facade of an upscale bungalow in modern day Mumbai.

CLOSE IN ON: gold engraving on a black board on the tall gates of a palatial house.

It says: SANYAL HOUSE

CAMERA SWOOPS INTO

INT. LIVING ROOM - PRESENT DAY

A large-sized living room, seems divided into two. One side is a guest area with antiquated 80s style furniture and wall murals. Modern GADGETS like a MAC laptop, hi-tech PS5 gaming station strike a contrast.

A PHOTO FRAME displays an 8 by 12 picture of a newly-wedded Bengali couple in wedding overalls. Bride in red sari and groom in whites. Garlands around their necks, in the photo.

The house is quiet, sans the occasional COO of a KOYAL bird from outside. Blades of the fan move slow making an occasional SQUEAKY SOUND. It's Mumbai in summer.

SOUNDS OF VEGETABLE HAWKERS and vendors come in through the window.

One half of the room is partitioned with a sari.

On the other side, asleep on the floor, is TIA, 30s, frail body, raven black hair tied into a low bun. She is the woman in the photo frame. A light sheet wraps her body. Beads of sweat shine on her neck and forehead.

KNOCK on the main door. Tia wipes the sweat off her face and neck. She gets the door, rubbing her eyes. She takes the **morning newspaper**, the door slightly ajar.

As she turns around, another KNOCK. Tia walks to the door, barely able to keep her eyes open. She takes **bottles of milk** through the door.

One after another, VENDORS drop off stuff, and Tia sets them by the door. Newspaper, milk bottles, flowers for the shrine.

CLOCK CHIMES SIX TIMES. Tia wraps up the sheets, pillows, the saris she was sleeping on, into a big bundle. She picks up the milk bottles, flowers, and goes inside the house.