

DURASA (GREED)

Written by

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1. INT. OFFICE - DAY

KALYAN RAM (25) sits in a cubicle in his soulless, windowless office. He yawns, clearly not having gotten much sleep the night before.

Kalyan clicks around, editing an excel sheet. He sits back, taking a break from his soul crushing work. He plays around with some pens on his desk.

Kalyan sits back in his chair and sighs.

2. INT. OFFICE - DAY

Kalyan sits at his desk, eating days-old, cold pasta. He gags a little as he takes a bite into it.

Kalyan puts his fork down and sighs.

3. INT. OFFICE - DAY

Kalyan sits in his cubicle, secretly playing solitaire on his computer.

DAVE (O.S.)
KALYAAAAAN!!!

Kalyan sits up. He hears his mispronounced name yelled out and closes his solitaire game.

DAVE, Kalyan's Boss, stands over his desk and berates him.

DAVE (CONT'D)
You messed up the reports and now
the clients are on my ass!

KALYAN
But...

DAVE
You better redo all of them or I'm
firing your ass.

KALYAN
But I didn't...

DAVE
I don't want to hear it! Finish the
reports and leave them on my desk
by the end of the night.

4. INT. OFFICE - NIGHT

Kalyan sits alone in the dark office. He yawns as he painstakingly enters data into excel.

He checks his watch. The time is 10:30PM.

5. MONTAGE

Kalyan sits at his desk at work.

Kalyan eats another bad lunch.

Kalyan yawns at his desk.

Kalyan sips on some bad coffee.

Kalyan plays solitaire at his desk.

Kalyan sleeps at his desk.

Kalyan gets yelled at his boss again.

Kalyan sits late at work.

The events listed above repeat, indicative of Kalyan's monotonous life, until...

6. INT. OFFICE - DAY

DAVE
KALYAAAAAAN!

Kalyan snaps out of his focus and looks up at Dave.

DAVE (CONT'D)
I need you to sort the files in the back office into alphabetical order.

KALYAN
(gesturing to his computer)
What about the reports?

DAVE
You should *work* on whatever I tell you to work on.

Kalyan sighs and nods in submission.

DAVE (CONT'D)
Oh and I need them done by the end of the day.

KALYAN
Sir there are thousands of files in there...

DAVE
 And the client asked to have all of
 them sorted so that's what you're
 gonna do Kalyan.

Kalyan nods in submission and sighs.

7. INT. BACK OFFICE

Kalyan is sorting through cases of folders in an office all by himself. He finishes one box and sets it on the ground, struggling with its weight.

He picks up another box and begins organizing the files. One of the folders is heavier than the others, and seems to have a bulge in it.

Kalyan curiously opens the folder and finds a golden bracelet tucked into the pocket. His eyes open wide and he looks out the window, thinking he should call someone to help find the bracelet's owner.

Kalyan looks back at the bracelet and inspects it. He lifts and eyebrow and thinks to himself for a second. Can he keep it for himself?

Kalyan looks around his back suspiciously and pockets the bracelet, ensuring no one knows of its existence.

DAVE (O.S.)
 KALYAN! I hope you're making good
 progress in there!

Kalyan turns to see Dave peeking in through the door.

Kalyan nods and turns back to the files. He rolls his eyes and goes back to sorting through the files.

As Dave leaves, Kalyan takes the bracelet out of his pocket and admires it again. He thinks to himself.

8. INT. PERUMAL'S OFFICE

Kalyan sits in a meek position, waiting nervously.

THIRUMALA PERUMAL (53) wears a set of magnifying spectacles and looks into each detail of the gold bracelet.

On the walls hang ornate paintings, sculptures, and relics of various cultures. Perumal himself wears gold ornaments on his wrists and neck.

Perumal smiles to himself mischevously before suddenly changing his expression to a concerned one.

PERUMAL

Mister..
Kalyan Babu...

Kalyan sits up excitedly.

KALYAN

Please tell me you have good news.
I heard you're an expert in these
matters
Good news edhanna unte cheppandi.
Meeru ilanti vishayallo expert ani
vinnanau.

PERUMAL

This is worthless
Idhi enduku panikiradhayya.

Kalyan's expression immediately drops.

PERUMAL (CONT'D)

This is fake gold.
Idhi... nakli bangaram.

KALYAN

Please check again.
Okasari chusi cheppandi.

PERUMAL

Listen Kalyan, I've been in this
business for years. I just sold a
necklace that belonged to the queen
of Nellore
Chudu Kalyan..nenu yenno yella
nunchi ee business lo unnanu.
Ninnane Nellore lo oka rani ki
chendhina vaddanam okati ammanu.

Kalyan sighs and sits back in his chair.

KALYAN

So it's really worth nothing?
Dheenik ye viluva ledhantara?

PERUMAL

This is a replica sold in every
market. But, it looks nice. I can
sell it to you for 15 dollars.
Ilantivi koti lo vandhallo
dhorukuthay. Kaani chudataniki
aithe baagundhayya. Neekosam \$15
istha, okay na?

KALYAN

Hmm...

PERUMAL

Trust me Kalyan. I'm saying this for your own good. After all, we're both telugu. And we'll keep meeting. Come to my house, we can have some tea and talk more. Nannu Nammavayya babu. Nee manchi kosame chepthunnanu. Telugu vadivi. Manam elago kalusthu untam. Eppudaina Veelu chuskuni intiki ra, haayiga tea thaaguthu matladukovachu.

KALYAN

Fine... 15 dollars is ok I guess. Sarlendi... 15 ante kuda thakkuvemi kaadhu

Perumal opens his drawer and pulls out a stack of bills. He counts \$20 and hands it to Kalyan.

PERUMAL

Here, keep the change. Idhigo, change unchuko.

KALYAN

(taking the cash)
This is 20 dollars?
\$20 ichesaru?

PERUMAL

Keep it man. May lord Venkateswara bless you. Unchuko vayya. Aah venkateswaruni aasisulatho nuvvu challaga undali.

Perumal waves and nods to Kalyan as he leaves. As soon as the door closes behind Kalyan, Perumal lifts the bracelet and grins.

Perumal sings happily to himself and laughs.

9. INT. PERUMAL'S OFFICE

Perumal starts his daily prayers. He opens a cabinet to reveal a shrine towards Vishnu, featuring multiple images and statues of the diety.

Perumal chants the Vishnu Sahasranama.

Perumal applies the kumkum to his forehead.

Perumal sings other bhajans in the name of Lord Vishnu.

Perumal lights an agarbati and circles it around the shrine.

Perumal chants other sanskrit hymns before the shrine.

Perumal offers the gold bracelet to the diety and prostrates before the idol.

10. INT. PERUMAL'S OFFICE

Perumal sits at his desk, smiling to himself. He picks up his phone and his expression changes to a serious one.

He hesitates and recites a prayer to himself before dialing.

PERUMAL

Mr. Ganapathy, how are you? Does that tanjavur painting look good on your wall? Anyways, I have an incredible news to tell you about. Ganapathy gaaru, yela unnaru? Aah thanjavuru painting yela undhi mee intlo? Em ledhandi, meekosam inko adbhuthamaina vasthuvu set chesanu.

GANAPATHY (O.S.)

Mr. Perumal, bless you! What do you have for me this time? Perumal garu, meeku noorellu! Eesari em dhorikindhi?

PERUMAL

I have Jakanachari's bracelet. It must be minimum thousand years old! Jakanachari chekkina oka bracelet, minimum veyyella paina untay!

GANAPATHY

Who is that? Aayna yevaru andi?

PERUMAL

Mr. Ganapathy! Are you not aware of this great legend? Jakanachari was the architect behind the Chennakesava temple in Belur. When he was building the temple his son had noticed a flaw in the plans and made a bet with his father over this. If there was a flaw, Jakanachari swore to cut off his own hand. When they discovered a frog living in the wall Jakanachari followed through on his promise! Bhale vaare! Hyderabad lo jakanachari peru theliyani vaallu undaru kadha! Beluru Chennakesava aalayam venaka architect ayana. Aah gudi kattetappudu aayana koduku Jakanachari geesina plan lo edho thappudu kanipettadu anta.

(MORE)

PERUMAL (CONT'D)

Dhaaniki aayana hadalipoyi... naa
ghanithaallo nijamga yedhaina
chinna thappu kanapadina naa kudi
chethini yedama chethi tho
narikestha. Konni rojula tharwatha
ekamga swami vaari vighram lo oka
kappa kanipinchindhi anta. Koduku
entha vaddu anna aah mahanubavudu
maathram maata thappaledhu.

GANAPATHY

He really cut off his hand?
Nijamga cheyyi narkesukunnada?

PERUMAL

Yes! And as soon as his hand was
severed from his body,
Jakanachari's bracelet also fell
off and it was forever thought to
be lost... until now.
Avunu mari! Ee bracelet aah
narikesukunna chethiki
chedhindhinadhe. Thavvakallo kuda
bayatiki raaledhu, inka yeppatiki
dhorakadhu anukune vaaru. Ippudu
naaku dhakkindhi.

GANAPATHY

Is this true?
Nijamga aayanadhe antara?

PERUMAL

Trust me Mr. Ganapathy! I'm an
expert. How many rare artifacts
have you bought from me?
Ayyo ganapathy gaaru, nannu
nammandi..muppai yella ga ee
vyaparam lo unnanu. Yenni arudhaina
vasthuvulu meeku ammi untanu
cheppandi?

GANAPATHY

Mr. Perumal. This is incredible
news. I will give you 2 crores for
this treasure. It will fit
wonderfully in my collection.
Chaala manchidhi perumal gaaru. Naa
collection ki correct ga
saripothundhi ee bracelet. Dabbuki
emi ibbandhi ledhu, nenu rendu
kotlu ivvadaniki ready.

PERUMAL

Just 2 crore rupees, Mr. Ganapathy?
Surely this legendary bracelet is
worth so much more.

Bhale vaare! Rendu kotle na?
 Jakanacharya gaariki chendhina
 arudhaina bracelet andi, dheeni
 viluva dabbutho polchalemu.

GANAPATHY

2 crore dollars, Mr. Perumal!
 Rendu kotla dollarlu, Perumal gaaru

Perumal sits there with his mouth wide open. He sees nothing around him except for dollar signs.

GANAPATHY (CONT'D)

Are you there, Mr. Perumal?
 Perumal gaaru, unnara?

PERUMAL

Yes Mr. Ganapathy! That's wonderful. I will arrange to have this sent to you as soon as I can. Haa unnanu ganapthy garu, chaala manchindhi. Meeku thwaraga andhe tatttu arrange chesthanu.

Perumal hangs up, and bursts into a celebratory laugh and dance.

11. INT. PERUMAL'S OFFICE - THE NEXT DAY

Perumal prepares to ship the bracelet to Ganapathy.

He recites another prayer before removing the bracelet from the shrine.

He packs it into a box and packs it tightly to ensure it suffers no damage during shipping.

Perumal puts on his jacket and heads out to the nearest post office to ship the box to Ganapathy.

12. EXT. STREET

Perumal walks along the street, holding the box tightly against his chest to protect the valuable bracelet.

Perumal waits at a signal impatiently.

13. EXT. BRIDGE

Perumal walks across a bridge as he continues walking through the city. Perumal's phone suddenly rings, and he holds the box in one hand while he answers the phone on the other

PERUMAL

Ganapathy Sir! I'm on my way to
send you the package right now.
Ganapathy gaaru, mee package
pampinchadaniki velthunnu.

As Perumal is on the phone, someone bumps into him and he drops the package onto the street below.

14. EXT. STREET

The box has ripped open upon hitting the ground and the bracelet has bounced out onto the concrete. A figure walks up and picks up the bracelet. It is picked up by none other than Kalyan.

Kalyan opens the bag to find none other than the bracelet inside. He scoffs to himself.

LADY (O.S.)

Excuse me?

Excuse me, Meeku Telugu-ah?

Kalyan looks over to find a woman in a sari approaching him.

LADY (CONT'D)

Where did you find that bracelet?
It's very nice. I wanted to buy
something like that for my
daughter's wedding.

Kalyan looks down at the bracelet and shrugs.

KALYAN

Actually ma'am, I can sell it to
you.
Meeku Kaavalante, I can sell it to
you.

LADY

What? Really?!
Nijamga?

KALYAN

I insist. It's a replica anyways,
not real gold. But it looks nice
doesn't it? I can give it to you
for... hmm... 30 dollars?

The lady nods and grabs 30 dollars out of her purse to hand to Kalyan.

Kalyan puts the bracelet back in the bag and hands it to the Lady.

LADY

Thank you so much! Have a wonderful day!

Kalyan smiles at her and watches her walk off.

He looks at the 30 dollars in his hand and smiles to himself. Seems like this was a very lucky bracelet for him! He walks off, heading to work.

Perumal runs down to the street after exiting the train platform. He rushes past the lady who just bought the bracelet, not knowing that she is now in possession of it.

He finds the empty box tossed on the ground but finds no sign of the bracelet.

Perumal lets out a big scream in frustration.