

VIRDEE

Episode 2

Written by AA Dhand

Duration: 57:12

UK TX SCRIPT – 29 JANUARY 2025



©2025 MAGICAL NORTH PRODUCTIONS LIMITED

PREVIOUSLY

EXT. TRAIN TUNNEL – NIGHT

HARRY sprints along the tracks after Novak.

VIRDEE
Tell me where the boy is or you die
here!

The approaching train's lights hit them. Novak's foot is caught in the tracks.

HARRY with no choice, slams his foot into Novak's ankle which snaps – sickening, brutal.

Novak SCREAMS and the pain causes him to lose consciousness.

HARRY yanks Novak's ankle free, catches him as he falls and just as the train arrives, Harry pulls Novak away from it – the train missing them by inches!

Both men collapse to ground as the train hurtles past.

INT. POLICE HQ – DAY

Harry walks in and sees DS AMIN (20s, British, biracial white & Pakistani, Muslim) loitering, expectant.

DS AMIN
DCI Virdee, I'm Khalil Amin. Your new DS,
Sir.

INT. POLICE HQ – CONWAY'S OFFICE – DAY

Amin looks at the map.

DS AMIN
There's two major drug gangs in this
city.

EXT. STREET – DAY

Harry returns to his car when TWO LARGE CARS arrive, aggressive, alarming. One blocks the front of his car in, the other the rear. Out of one of them steps Vasil.

DS AMIN
Vasil Shala's crew.

EXT. QUEENSBURY TUNNEL – NIGHT

HARRY removes A LARGE KEY from his pocket, opens a robust lock, pulls the door open and slips inside to...

DS AMIN

And Bradford West, whose leader remains unknown.

INT. QUEENSBURY TUNNEL - NIGHT

Harry arrives in a small, well-lit area to meet RIAZ.

RIAZ

There'll always be a boss in this city.
Might as well be one you can work with.

HARRY

No. No. You're my brother-in-law. I don't work for you.

EXT. CITY PARK - BRADFORD CENTRE - NIGHT

HARRY kisses SAIMA.

HARRY

You look beautiful!

SAIMA

I know.

Harry looks at Saima's "Allah" pendant hanging around her neck in beautiful Arabic calligraphy.

He steps towards her and gently moves her shawl across her neckline, hiding the pendant. Saima gives him a dead WTF stare.

SAIMA

What did you do that for?

INT. BRADFORD HOTEL - NIGHT

Inside at the WEDDING.

HARRY approaches the VIRDEEN table.

MANDIP

This is a happy event.

HARRY

Papaji.

RANJIT seeing HARRY walks off.

MANDIP

Let's keep it that way.

INT. SUNBRIDGE WELLS - STALLS - DAY

Pervez watches as Priti deals drugs to her customers.

PERVEZ

Pritti. What're you doing?

PRITI

Switch sides. Come work with me.

Pervez has his makeup done by Priti.

PERVEZ

I heard that Ateeq tried switching.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Fatima Farooqi and THREE OF HER FRIENDS (South Asian females) stick leaflets on lamp posts, and hand them out to passers-by, the message clear: **MISSING! Ateeq Farooqi**

PERVEZ

People who do that get taken.

EXT. THE BRADFORD CLUB - DAY

Nazir and Priti walk towards the front entrance. Priti dressed for work. Heads inside.

Down the street we see Xavier, standing there, watching, ominous.

PRITI

Don't worry about me.

INT. QUEENSBURY TUNNEL - NIGHT

Harry shines a torch into Novak's eyes.

Novak's eyes adjust to the light and he recognises Harry, stunned!

NOVAK

You can't do this. This is England!

HARRY

This is Bradford.

(to Novak, slow, ominous)

Where. Is. Ateeq?

Enzo grabs Novak round the neck.

INT. CARTER MILLS - NIGHT

HARRY FIGHTS WITH THE GANGSTERS HIDING ATEEQ.

HARRY runs towards a room, lifts up some plastic sheeting and sees Ateeq lying on a shitty mattress with USED SYRINGES on the ground beside him and surrounded by squalor and take-away boxes.

He helps him to his feet.

INT. RANJIT VIRDEE HOUSE - DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Harry enters the room.

TARA

Uncle Harry!

HARRY

Happy Diwali mum.

Jyoti smiles but is tense.

RANJIT

ਜਿੰਨਾ ਚਿਰ ਮੈਂ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਸਾਹ ਲੈ ਰਿਹਾ ਹਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਉਸ ਕੁੱਤੇ ਨੂੰ ਜਿਸ
ਨਾਲ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਵਿਆਹਿਆ ਹੈ, ਇੱਥੇ ਕਦੇ ਵੀ ਇਜਾਜ਼ਤ ਨਹੀਂ ਦਿੱਤੀ
ਜਾਵੇਗੀ
Jinna chir main tuhanu saah lai riha haan
ate us kutte nu jiss naal tussi viayah
hai, ithe kade vi ijaazat nahi ditti
jaavegi.

جدوں تک میں نہانوں تے اوس کتیا نال ساہ لے رہیا واں جہدے
نال تُسی ویایا سی، ایتھے کدی وی اجازت نہیں ہووے گی
Jadon tak main tuhanu te os kutti naal
saah lai riha haan jidde naal tussi
viayah si, ithe kade vi ijaazat nahi
hovegi.

Translation/Subtitles: As long as I'm breathing you and that bitch you married will never be allowed here

Later: Harry on his knees, he does as asked and rubs his nose on the floor, right by Ranjit's feet. SHAMEFUL. DISHONOURED.

Ranjit opens a container and pours the curry, brazenly and unashamedly all over Harry's head.

Harry has Ranjit lifted by his scarf, both men grappling with one another. Mandip desperately pulls Harry away.

Jyoti also tries to get between the men.

INT. VIRDEE HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Saima tries to console Harry.

EXT/INT. RANJIT VIRDEE HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Ranjit in immense pain. He's not well... he falls to the floor.

INT. THE BRADFORD CLUB - SNOOKER ROOM - NIGHT

Priti is about to tidy up the blanket and cushions etc when the lights go out. WTF? Priti immediately afraid.

PRITI

Nazir?

INT. THE BRADFORD CLUB - STAIRWELL / GROUND FLOOR - NIGHT

Priti on her hands and knees, crawling desperately back towards the door – last moments of survival – desperate but... DOOMED! She is dragged back towards oblivion...

FROM BLACK

EXT/INT. THE BRADFORD CLUB - NIGHT

A cleaner, KRYSTINA (40, female) arrives and unlocks the front door and enters. She puts the torch on her phone.

CLEANER

(to herself, annoyed)

Why aren't the bloody lights working?
God.

She walks towards the stairwell. She stops, puzzled to see the shards of a BROKEN VASE on the ground.

CLEANER

(getting scared)

Hello? Is there anyone here?

She climbs the winding staircase.

CLEANER

(getting scared)

Hello? Hello?

And sees A BODY HANGING from the stairwell!

CLEANER

(screaming)

Aargh! Priti?!

TITLE SEQUENCE

INT. THE BRADFORD CLUB - SECOND FLOOR LANDING - STAIRWELL - DAY

Harry, Conway and Amin, all watch, silent, focused, utterly perplexed at Priti Parmar's body lashed by rope to the staircase.

JUMP CUT TO:

Now Priti Parmar's body has been laid down on forensic matting. We focus on her feet, covered in deep red henna.

HARRY

Markings on her feet. Eye's sewn shut

Harry looks at Priti, inquisitive. A change in his expression.

Conway arrives by his side. She sees it too...

CONWAY
(stunned. Quietly)
Did she just?...

Priti just blinked. Or tried to at least...

INT. HOSPITAL - CORRIDOR - DAY

A gurney shoots up the corridor towards the Resus room.

INT. HOSPITAL - A&E - RESUS - DAY

The gurney is swept into the room with an unseen patient. The attendants are there. Waiting. One of them is SAIMA.

PARAMEDIC 1
Ranjit Virdee, sixty-two, was found
collapsed at home.

We and Saima see it's RANJIT. Fuck!

DCOTOR
Right adrenalin... Let's shock him.

Nothing. A pulseless V-tach.

Abid puts a hand on Saima's shoulder, to tell her it's over.

NURSE
That's enough

SAIMA
No! Again.

Saima charges the defibrillator.

SAIMA
Stand clear! Shocking.

Saima shocks Ranjit, glares at the cardiac monitor, needing a sinus rhythm.

AN EXCRUCIATING PAUSE.

The cardiac monitor bursts into activity - a heartbeat.

The team descend on Ranjit - GAME ON.

NURSE
Okay he is stable. Get him to the ICU.

EXT/INT. THE BRADFORD CLUB - SNOOKER HALL - DAY

Outside has been cordoned off.

Harry walks around the space, gathering, watched by Amin as Conway analyses the room – still, silent. Everyone wears gloves and forensic shoe covers. Conway has Priti's handbag.

HARRY

It was Priti's job to close up. Manager said she insisted on doing it alone.

CONWAY

Checking the handbag for a mobile.

Conway starts looking in the handbag

HARRY

Last night local printers had a dinner here. She were the hostess. This room weren't used though. She was here.

Harry goes to a sofa – blanket, cushions. Recognises the smell of a perfume.

HARRY

Cushions. Dessert cartons. She were with someone.

AMIN

The killer?

HARRY

No, this was date night.
(looks around the room)
So where the hell is the boyfriend?

AMIN

Unless he's the one who did this.

Harry kneels and looks at the carpet.

HARRY

Scuff marks.

Harry follows them, walks across to a small cupboard. Opens it. Finds Nazir!

Harry checks Nazir, opens his eyes, looks at them.

HARRY

He's been drugged. Come on lad...

EXT. THE BRADFORD CLUB - MORNING - DAY

Harry, DS Amin and Conway walk away as the FORENSIC MEDICAL EXAMINER loads Priti's bodybag into her van.

DS Amin looks around – not sure what for. A little lost. Amin cannot see what Harry can. Silent, frustrated.

Harry fires orders like bullets at DS Amin.

HARRY
Right family liaison. Who's on it?

DS AMIN
We've got DC Summerhayes.

Harry stops dead, annoyed at DS Amin.

HARRY
(looks at him)
For God's sake, get an Asian down there.
Nobody's talking to a Gora.

CONWAY
We need them talking, I want a complete profile of Priti Parmar, friends, family, relationships. Social media, employment, bloody council records. Was she known? I want a three D profile of Parmar as soon as possible.

Harry looks to DS Amin.

HARRY
(to DS Amin)
Mortuary. Thirty minutes.

Harry sees Tara loitering nearby.

Conway and DS Amin leave.

Harry walks towards Tara, pulls her to one side.

TARA
This is my Uncle
(to Harry)
Are you alright?

HARRY
Tara, what you doing here?

TARA
I'm just... checking if you're okay, actually.

Harry defensive. Maybe he got this wrong. A touch sheepish.

HARRY
Why wouldn't I be?

TARA

Well last night were... tough with
granddad...

Harry tries to hide the hurt on his face but he can't.

HARRY

Shit happens.

Tara steps closer to Harry and hugs him, tightly. It cuts right through Harry and he grimaces, thankful that she cannot see his face because we SEE THE HURT NOW.

Harry breaks the embrace.

TARA

So what's going on in there, then?

Ahhh, too soon Tara. Should have waited a few more beats. Harry sees her now - here for intel. Previous hurt changes to annoyance.

HARRY

Look, I've told you before. Stop trading
on my name for access. This is a
restricted area.

TARA

I'm an investigative reporter. I've got a
right to ask questions, what's going on
in there-

Harry walks away, bored. On his way past A UNIFORM OFFICER -

HARRY

(to officer)

Girl over behind me. She messes about,
nick her.

OFFICER

Alright Guv...

Harry marches away leaving Tara flabbergasted.

EXT. HOSPITAL. DAY – BRADFORD – DAY

Establisher

INT. HOSPITAL – A&E – RANJIT'S ROOM – DAY

Jyoti Virdee sitting on the side of Ranjit's bed, praying.

Saima stands hesitant in the doorway. Awkward. Not really sure what comes next.

A cardiac monitor beeps steadily.

Saima enters.

JYOTI

The doctor told me you saved his life. I don't know how to thank you.

SAIMA

Just did my job.

JYOTI

ਕੋਈ ਵੀ ਕੰਮ ਕਰ ਸਕਦਾ ਹੈ। ਸਿਰਫ਼ ਕੁਝ ਹੀ ਇੱਕ ਜੀਵਨ ਨੂੰ ਬਚਾ ਸਕਦੇ ਹਨ ਜਦੋਂ ਦੂਜਿਆਂ ਨੇ ਇਸ ਨੂੰ ਗੁਆ ਦਿੱਤਾ ਹੈ।
Koi vi kam kar sakda hai. Sirf kujh hi ik jeevan nu bacha sakde han jadon doojeyan ne is nu gua ditte hai.

کوئی وی کم کر سکتا ہے۔ صرف کچھ لوگ ای جان بچا سکتے ہیں جنوں کہ دوجے لوکاں نے ایہ سمجھیا کہ اوہ گواچ گئی ہے۔
Koi vi kam kar sakda ae. Sirf kujh lok hi jaan bacha sakde ne jadon ke dooje lokan ne eh samjheya ke oh guaach gayi ae.

Translation/Subtitles: Anyone can do a job. Only a few can save a life when others believed it to be lost.

JYOTI

Can he hear anything?

SAIMA

He's heavily sedated.

JYOTI

(English)

He doesn't know who you are.

(Punjabi)

ਜਦੋਂ ਹਰਦੀਪ ਚਲਾ ਗਿਆ ਤਾਂ ਅਸੀਂ ਕਬਰ ਵਿਚ ਮਿੱਟੀ ਪਾ ਦਿੱਤੀ
Jadon Hardeep chala gaya taan asin kabr vich mitti paa ditti.

جد ہرديپ چلا گیا تے اسان قبر وچ مٹی پا دتی
Jad Hardeep chala gaya te assan kabr vich mitti paa ditti.

Translation/Subtitles: When Hardeep left, we poured dirt in the grave.

JYOTI

(English)

We never spoke of you.

Jyoti shakes her head. She stands, comes across and takes Saima's face in her hands.

JYOTI

Please, don't tell Hardeep about his papaji.

Saima is stunned. What a thing to have asked of her.

JYOTI

The doctor said his heart is very weak.

(Punjabi)

ਜੇ ਹਰਦੀਪ ਇੱਥੇ ਆ ਗਿਆ...

Je Hardeep ithe agaya...

جے ہار دیپ ایٹھے آ جاندا

Je Hardeep ithe ajanda...

Translation/Subtitles: If Hardeep was to arrive here...

Saima sees the issue. Another altercation might kill Ranjit.

SAIMA

We don't lie to each other. Ever!

Saima is struggling; between a rock and a hard place.

EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY

ESTABLISHER.

INT. POLICE STATION - INTERVIEW ROOM - DAY

DS Amin leads Harry towards Tara who is in handcuffs, absolutely SEETHING.

DS ADMIN

Sorry guv but... Uniform said you told 'em
to nick her if she kicked off.

Harry stands opposite Tara, calm, passive, the exact opposite of Tara.

HARRY

Sit down.

DS Amin hands Harry the keys to the cuffs and leaves. Several beats of uncomfortable silence.

HARRY

You don't ever stop, do you? Take a beat?
Think on what you're doing?

TARA

Maybe I should rub my nose on the floor.
That work for you?

Hurt on Harry's face. He looks away. Tara sees she overstepped.

TARA

Sorry. That were a shitty thing to say.

Harry takes a beat, composes himself. Realises that he needs to engage Tara, not keep berating her. Harry sits. Opposite Tara and places the key on the table.

TARA

Look, Uncle Harry, people talk to me who won't talk with you. I'm an asset. Can't you see that?

HARRY

(patronising)

You got local connections, have you?

TARA

Yeah. I have.

Harry takes a beat, thinks on it.

HARRY

A young woman were found murdered this morning, you honestly think that you can do more than us?

Tara leans in.

TARA

Yeah. Just trust me.

Harry, wound up, leans in

HARRY

Tara, enough. Listen to me. Leave this alone or you and I are gonna fall out.

Harry grabs the key.

HARRY

Think on that. I've a murder to solve.

He gets up and walks away. Tara surprised raises her wrist, with cuffs still on.

TARA

Err Uncle Harry

ADR HARRY

Not now Tara!

She stands

TARA

Uncle Harry...

Harry is gone

TARA

(to self)

Fuck sake

INT. POLICE STATION - MORTUARY - DAY

A PHOTOGRAPHER finishes taking snaps of the body of Priti Parmar.

It's a stunning sight: her feet covered in dramatic, detailed RED HENNA INK.

Pathologist DR WENDY SMITH (50) and her ASSISTANT (40, female), prepare dissection tools on a small trolley.

DS Amin by Harry's side, watchful, observant.

HARRY

Novak Rexa brought in yesterday. Did we establish cause of death?

Wendy nods at him.

DR. WENDY SMITH

Massive drug overdose. Tox screen came back with enough heroin to put down a horse. Can you give me some light Harry

Harry hides his anxiety about this. For now...

Harry looks at Priti's lips. Grabs a torch. Inspects them. Then sees deep purple strangulation marks around her neck – different to the ligature marks caused by her hanging.

HARRY

Two sets of marks around her neck.

Wendy has a nosey, nods in agreement. The assistant notes this down.

DR. WENDY SMITH

She was probably strangled first. Then hung, using this-

Wendy hands Harry a plastic bag with a rope in it, tied in a unique, specific way.

DR. WENDY SMITH

It's a Carpathian coil. Originated in the Carpathian Mountains-

HARRY

Carpathian mountains. Eastern Europe.

DR. WENDY SMITH

You know your geography.

On Harry's face. Fuck! This means something to him.

Harry points at Priti's eyes which continue to flutter even though they are stitched closed.

HARRY

I saw her eye's move at the crime scene. There...

DR. WENDY SMITH
There's something in there.

Wendy carefully cuts away the stitches which seal Priti's eyes and one by one puts them in a plastic container.

With the last thread cut away, Wendy peels back Priti's eyelid.

BOOM!

AN INSECT FLIES OUT OF THE EYE SOCKET AND ROCKETS TOWARDS THE LIGHT ABOVE THE DISSECTION TABLE.

EVERYONE moves away hurriedly, shocked, stunned.

DR. WENDY SMITH
(to herself)
Well that was unexpected.

She's calm now, steps towards the wasp which has come to rest on a wall, below a light.

Harry slams a container over the insect and it's fucking ANGRY - buzzing around as if its wings were on fire. Slowly, he drags the container along the wall and, with real caution, lifts it an inch and slides a lid underneath.

DR. WENDY SMITH
Nicely done.

HARRY
Right... Well guess we know what's behind the other eye.

EXT. CASH AND CARRY - DAY

Establisher

INT. CASH AND CARRY - RIAZ'S OFFICE - DAY

Riaz in a meeting with the nightclub manager, TYRONE GRAVES (40, white).

TYRONE
Full house tonight at the club. Be a good gig. You should come down. Have a drink.

Riaz looks at him cold as in... never going to happen.

He nods towards Enzo who seals a large container full of drugs and hands it to Tyrone.

RIAZ
(to Tyrone)
Increase the minimum spend to twenty.

Tyrone nods, grabs the box and leaves.

ENZO

Alright...

(turning to Riaz)

Don't he know you're a Muslim? Mate,
listen, our friendly PCSO confirmed Priti
Parmar was the victim in the members'
club. She's one of ours... Looks messy.

Riaz unhappy. Strained.

RIAZ

Make sure the family are looked after.
Backdoor it. Discreet. No trail.

Enzo nods, sympathetic.

ENZO

Priti was getting heat from Vasil's crew
for switching to us. What do you wanna
do?

RIAZ

Make preparations for a response. We look
weak if we don't reply.

ENZO

What about Harry?

RIAZ

His job was to keep the peace. He failed.
I'll deal with it.

ENZO

Hey. Weren't you meant to be somewhere
today?

Riaz glances at a calendar on the wall - today's date circled in red
with the words "anniversary dinner". He looks at it pained.

INT. POLICE STATION - MORTUARY - DAY

Harry holds two evidence bags, each one containing a blood-splattered
spider wasp. He hands a bag to DS Amin and keeps a bag to himself.

HARRY

Right, entomology. Goes to the top of
their list. Listen update the boss about
this, tell her we need more manpower. The
whole unit. Full briefing for two pm.

DS Amin leaves.

Harry removes his gloves and runs his hands over his face.

DR. WENDY SMITH

Her eyes were removed. Clean work.

HARRY
Medically trained?

DR. WENDY SMITH
Not that clean. Skilled with a blade
though.

Wendy hands Harry a small plastic bowl inside which are two EMPTY
COCOONS.

DR. WENDY SMITH
And the wasps hatched inside her.

HARRY
Oh come on, give me a break!

DR WENDY SMITH
Fifteen years, never seen anything like
this. This guy's a monster.

INT. PAWA'S LAIR - DAY

UV lighting provides an eerie glow as Pawa sits at a table, surrounded
by tanks of wasps / parasitic insects.

Pawa is harvesting a chrysalis and carefully wrapping it (for insertion
into a human host later).

EXT/INT. HARRY'S CAR - DAY

Harry sitting perplexed, looking at the wasp in the evidence bag on the
passenger seat. Anxious. A bit lost. Calls Saima.

INTERCUT WITH

INT. HOSPITAL - A&E - RANJIT'S ROOM - DAY

Saima alone inside Ranjit's room, looking at him conflicted but with
more resentment than anything else. Her phone rings. She sees that it's
Harry and freezes as if suddenly afraid that Ranjit might wake up. But
he is OUT.

Saima answers the call.

SAIMA
I was just thinking of you.

HARRY
Just wanted to hear your voice.

SAIMA
Rough day?

HARRY
Had better ones. You?

Saima eyes on Ranjit, bitter.

SAIMA

Same.

HARRY

Anything I can help with?

Saima, still with eyes on Ranjit – what a position she's in.

SAIMA

No. But you haven't forgotten about tonight, have you? Me Mum's anniversary dinner.

Harry closes his eyes – shit! Totally forgot.

HARRY

No. Course not.

SAIMA

Liar. It's important.

HARRY

I'll be there. Look I've got to go, okay.
Love you.

SAIMA

Love you too.

EXT. BRADFORD –DAY

Drone shot establisher

EXT. PRITI'S HOUSE – DAY

A lone police officer outside.

Across the street another officer is chatting to a group of locals.

DC AMIN

I'll speak to these neighbours

Amin head to a group of people on the street. Harry approach Priti's front door.

INT. PRITI'S HOUSE – HALLWAY/LIVING ROOM – DAY

Harry steps into the house,. Can hear the cries of Priti's mother.

The FAMILY LIAISON OFFICER (30's, South Asian, female) sits next to Priti's mother VIDYA PARMAR (55, Asian).

Harry stands. A little reluctant – a lot of pain in his face as he observes Vidya.

LIASION OFFICER

ਬਸ ਇੰਤਜ਼ਾਰ ਕਰੋ। ਕੁਝ ਧੀਰਜ ਰੱਖੋ।

Bas intzaar karo. Kujh dheeraj rakho.

بس انتظار کرو۔ کچھ صبر کرو۔
Bas intezaar karo. Kujh sabar karo..

Translation: Just wait. Have some patience.

VIDYA

It's not true.

LIASION OFFICER

ਪੀਰਜ ਰੱਖੋ, ਮੈਂ ਜਾ ਕੇ ਤੁਹਾਡੇ ਲਈ ਇੱਕ ਕੱਪ ਚਾਹ ਬਣਾਵਾਂਗਾ।
Dheeraj rakho, main ja ke tuhade layi ik
cup chaah banavanga.

صبر کرو، میں جا کے تہانوں اک کپ چاہ بنا دیاں گا۔
Sabar karo, main ja ke tuhanu ik cup
chaah bana dinda haan.

Translation: Have Patience, I'll go and make you a cup of tea.

Harry steps across to Vidya – doesn't take a seat but instead kneels in front of Vidya, making himself small, unthreatening and grasps both of her hands with his – personal, emotive.

VIDYA

It's not true. It's not...

HARRY

We will find who did this to your
daughter. I promise you

INT. PRITI'S HOUSE – BEDROOM – DAY

Harry looking at photos and certificates on the wall documenting Priti as being someone of high standing within the designer nails / make-up circuit.

Harry drops to the floor, looks around, sees the shoebox under the bed. Pulls it free.

DS Amin arrives at the doorway he observes the room.

Harry opens it. Stacks of cash – twenty grand-ish.

DS AMIN

Drug money?

Harry nods.

HARRY

Over ten grand in cash, I'd say so..

From the shoebox he pulls free several photos of Priti next to Xavier, only Xavier has been scrubbed out with a sharpie pen. Harry spies a

bottle of rubbing alcohol, grabs it, some tissues and uses them to wipe the pen away to reveal a photo of Xavier. He shows it to Amin.

DS AMIN

Sir

HARRY

Alcohol. Removes any mark
(dismayed)
Xavier-fucking-Stead.

EXT/INT. HOSPITAL - A&E - RANJIT'S ROOM - DAY 4 (MORNING)

Establisher.

Ranjit starts to wake.

FLASHBACK: INT. BRADFORD HOTEL - NIGHT

Harry walks across the room. In limited lighting, he looks at the tables, and finally finds the VIRDEE TABLE.

He sees his sister, MANDIP VIRDEE (40, British Indian Punjabi, Sikh), his mother, JYOTI VIRDEE (60's, kind, Indian Punjabi, Sikh), his niece, TARA, and his father, RANJIT VIRDEE (62, turban, Indian Punjabi, Sikh), seated, eating food - a family.

Then, Ranjit sees Harry, stops eating, stares at him for a second, pernicious.

Harry hovers, awkward, like a rabbit in headlights.

END FLASHBACK.

Ranjit opens his eyes, confused with his surroundings. Saima inside Ranjit's room, documents his vitals, her back towards him. Sees the back of Saima.

RANJIT

What happened to me? Where am I?

Saima stops dead. Shit, he's awake!

SAIMA

Bradford City Hospital.

Saima panicking. What to do here? She closes her eyes, takes a beat, as Ranjit slowly sits up.

Saima opens her eyes, resilient now, seems to have made a decision. She puts the chart down then turns to face Ranjit.

SAIMA

You collapsed at home. I'm sorry to say
you suffered a heart attack.

She half expects Ranjit to recognise her and react furiously. But he doesn't.

RANJIT
(rubs his chest)
My chest hurts. Can I have something for
the pain, please?

Saima checks his medical chart.

SAIMA
(a little cold)
You're not due for another hour.

RANJIT
Please. I'd be very grateful.

On Saima as she fights with whether to bend a rule and help him. She relents, nods - a little sympathy.

EXT. INTREPID AUTOS - DAY

Prestige cars with muscular make-overs litter the forecourt. This place is also a car-wash - CASH ONLY.

DS AMIN
So what's the plan here then boss?

HARRY
Follow my lead.

Harry and Amin observe FOUR WHITE MEN hard at work washing a shitty, run-down FORD FOCUS.

HARRY
This is what Xavier Stead uses as a cover
for washing drug money. A shitty car
wash.

Amin cannot see what Harry is suggesting. He looks harder at the workers, a little desperate.

CUSTOMER
Keep the change...

HARRY
Eyes on the man with the money.

A WORKER takes the cash from the punter, pockets it, puts his hand into a dirty bucket of water but instead of removing a soapy sponge, removes a plastic wrap of heroin and quick as a flash, hands it to the DRIVER.

DS AMIN
I see it. Clever?

Amin nods, impressed.

HARRY
Not clever enough.

Harry and Amin approach the carwash as the FORD pulls away.

HARRY
Alright lads.

The Workers looks at Harry, uncertain.

Everyone looks at them. Harry flashes his police I.D.

Realising they are fucked, the Workers run away.

DS AMIN
Should we go after them?

DR HARRY
Nah, let them run to Vasil.

Harry kicks over the dirty bucket of water

HEROIN WRAPS LITTER THE GROUND.

HARRY
We're not here for them

Both men approach the main office – a Portakabin.

Harry hears a scream.

HARRY
Did you hear that. Probable cause.

Amin shrugs.

HARRY
Kick it down.

DS AMIN
You what?

Amin thinks on it, confused whether Harry is joking.

Harry takes a step back and then hammers his foot into the door, smashing it open.

INT. INTREPID AUTOS – PORTAKABIN – DAY

Harry bursts into the Portakabin and looks left.

In front of him, trousers round his ankles trying to run – unsuccessfully – is Xavier Stead.

HARRY
Oh for God's sake grab him.

He trips. Falls out of the rear door of the Portakabin.

THERE'S A GIRL, EMILY WATER (20, BLONDE) ON THE SOFA.

There are lines of coke on a table.

EMILY WATER

(sniffs)

Hiyah Harry.

HARRY

Wipe your nose.

EXT. INTREPID AUTOS - PORTAKABIN - REAR - DAY

DS Amin grabs Xavier and pins him against the wall.

DS AMIN

Pull your pants up.

XAVIER

I ain't done nothing!

HARRY

Where were you last night?

XAVIER

With your mum.

HARRY

You think that's funny? A girl has been murdered and you wanna crack jokes?

XAVIER

I don't know what you're talking about?

HARRY

'Oh you knew her. Priti Parmar ring a bell?

Xavier is stunned. Hurt.

XAVIER

What? Priti's dead?

His heart breaks. His eyes sad. Suddenly there's a massive explosion.

HARRY

(to Amin)

Cuff him.

Harry disappears to investigate the explosion.

Harry walks through the Portakabin, as cars pop and explodes in a domino effect. BANG! BANG! BANG!

The force of the explosions sends Harry crashing into the side of the Portakabin, then he hits the ground.

A car SCREECHES AWAY.

Harry tries to get up but is stunned

XAVIER
My fucking cars! Someone's gonna pay for
this!

Harry sees the car fly past - Harry clocks the licence plate.

HARRY
(mumbles)
Fuck's sake Riaz. What have you done?

Harry, stands alone, stunned as the world burns around him.

INT. HOSPITAL - A&E - RANJIT'S ROOM - DAY

Saima with Ranjit who is wired up to a cardiac monitor doing a 12-lead ECG.

The machine prints out an ECG reading.

Saima look at it, reads it and is dismayed. Tries to hide it but can't.

RANJIT
I can see on your face, it's not good.

Saima forces a smile.

SAIMA
It's fine.

She walks away.

RANJIT
Nurse, please can you pass me comb, from
my trouser pocket.

Ranjit's trousers are folded on a chair. Saima searches them and finds a PLASTIC COMB and hands it to Ranjit.

RANJIT
Thank you, nurse

Ranjit attempts to comb his hair but cannot do it. He struggles. Saima watches, conflicted, hesitates to help but then steps forward.

SAIMA
Here. Let me.

She takes the comb from Ranjit.

What a moment. One of the most sensitive tasks Saima could ever do for Ranjit.

Saima has conflicting emotions. She puts her hands on Ranjit's skin, moves his hair away from his neck.

She doesn't want to do this. Slowly now Saima starts to comb Ranjit's hair.

RANJIT

You know, I've only ever let my wife do this. Tell me are you married?

FLASHBACK

EXT. RANJIT VIRDEE HOUSE - NIGHT

Saima watches from the car as Harry has Ranjit lifted by his scarf, both men grappling with one another. Mandip desperately pulls Harry away.

Jyoti also tries to get between the men.

END FLASHBACK.

As she is doing this, Jyoti walks in, bringing with her some tea, and a hat for Ranjit to cover his hair. She stops dead seeing Saima with Ranjit.

Ranjit though is delighted.

RANJIT

(Punjabi)

ਆਓ, ਆਓ, ਇਹ ਉਹ ਨਰਸ ਹੈ ਜਿਸ ਬਾਰੇ ਮੈਂ ਗੱਲ ਕਰ ਰਿਹਾ ਸੀ।

ਉਹ ਸੱਚਮੁੱਚ ਚੰਗੀ ਨਰਸ ਹੈ।

Aao, aao, eh oh nurse hai jiss baare main gall kar riha si.

Oh sachmuch changi nurse hai.

آؤ، آؤ، ایہ اوہ نرس اے جس بارے میں گل کر رہا سی۔
اوہ واقعی اک چنگی نرس اے۔

Aao, aao, eh oh nurse ae jis baare main gall kar riha si.

Oh waaqai ik changi nurse ae.

Translation/Subtitles: Come, come, this is the nurse I was speaking about. She's a really good nurse.

Jyoti and Saima eyes locked, a WTF moment of tension. Saima stops combing Ranjit's hair.

RANJIT

(to Saima)

I didn't get your name, Beti.

Beti – he called her beti – daughter. Makes it all the harder for Saima to tell the truth. She's more conflicted than ever and holds the pendant Harry gifted her around her neck, squeezing it tight as if gathering her strength. She is clearly about to say who she is when Jyoti panics and interjects.

JYOTI

(Punjabi)

ਉਸਦਾ ਨਾਮ ਸਿਮਰਨ ਹੈ।

Usda naam Simran hai.

اوہدا ناں سمرن اے۔

Ohda naa Simran ae.

Translation/Subtitles: Her name is Simran.

RANJIT

(Punjabi)

ਸਾਡੇ ਵਿੱਚੋਂ ਇੱਕ.

Saade vichon ikk.

ساڈے وچوں اک۔

Saade vicho ik.

Translation/Subtitles: One of us.

RANJIT

(English)

Do you know what your name is means?

Saima shakes her head – what the fuck has Jyoti just done?

RANJIT

(English)

Meditating in the name of God. Oh what a wonderful name eh.

Saima stops combing Ranjit's hair, grabs the ECG trace and on her way out hands Joyti the comb.

SAIMA

Can I have a word Mrs. Virdee?

Saima leaves, quietly devastated at what Jyoti has just done.

INT. HOSPITAL – CORRIDOR – DAY

JYOTI

(Punjabi)

ਮੈਨੂੰ ਮਾਫ਼ ਕਰੋ, ਮੈਂ ਘਬਰਾ ਗਿਆ। ਰਣਜੀਤ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਅਸਲੀ ਦੇਖਣ ਨੂੰ

ਮਿਲੇਗਾ। ਪ੍ਰਮਾਤਮਾ ਨੇ ਸਾਨੂੰ ਦੂਜਾ ਮੌਕਾ ਦਿੱਤਾ ਹੈ ਜੋ ਅਸੀਂ ਦੁਬਾਰਾ

ਕਦੇ ਨਹੀਂ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤ ਕਰਾਂਗੇ।

Mainu maaf karo, main ghabra gaya. Ranjit

tuhanu asli dekhna nu milega. Pramatma ne

saanu dooja mauka ditta hai jo asin

dubara kade nahi prapt karange.

مینوں معاف کر دیو، میں گھبرا گیا۔ رنجیت نوں اصلی توں ویکھن
 نوں ملے گا۔ رب نے سانوں اک دوجا موقع دتا اے جہڑا سانوں
 فیر کدی نہیں ملے گا۔

Mainu maaf kar dio, main ghabra gaya.
 Ranjit nu asli ton vekhan nu milega. Rabb
 ne saanu ik dooja mauka ditta ae jera
 saanu phir kadi nahi milega.

Translation/Subtitles: Forgive me, I panicked. Ranjit will get to see the real you. God has given us a second chance that we'll never get again.

SAIMA

Really? After what he did last night!

JYOTI

(English)

I know. What you saw... was just bad...

(upset, with difficulty)

But there's more to my husband than his
 hurt and his pride.

Saima fires a poisonous look at Jyoti.

SAIMA

How could he do that to his own son?

Jyoti quietly defensive. Nothing to offer.

JYOTI

(Punjabi)

ਮੈਂ ਤੁਹਾਡੇ ਨਾਲ ਹਾਂ۔

Main tuhade naal haan.

میں تہاڈے نال آں۔

Main tuhade naal haan.

Translation/Subtitles: I'm with you.

JYOTI

But I want my son back.

JYOTI

(Punjabi)

ਅਜਿਹਾ ਹੋਣ ਲਈ, ਸਾਨੂੰ ਇਹ ਖੇਡ ਖੇਡਣੀ ਪਵੇਗੀ।

Ajeha hon layi, saanu eh khed khedni
 pavegi.

ایس دے ہون لئی، سانوں ایہ کھیڈ کھیڈنی پوے گی۔

Is de hon layi, saanu eh khed khedni
 pavegi.

Translation/Subtitles: For that to happen, we are going to have to play this game.

SAIMA

I'm not interested in playing games.

On Saima's face - caught between two worlds.

JYOTI

Please. Just don't say anything.

EXT. POLICE STATION. - BRADFORD.

Establisher

INT. POLICE STATION - BULLPEN - DAY

On screen is the CCTV footage of Pawa OUTSIDE The Bradford Club leaving hurriedly - a cloaked Pawa walks up to a CCTV camera and stop in front of it.

HARRY

The kitchen staff left the club at eleven thirty, leaving Priti alone with her boyfriend.

Harry stands in front of the team, Conway to his side. Behind them, a large Perspex murder board with images of the case.

CONWAY

So this footage has just come in of our suspect. And it was captured outside the club at two a.m. meaning that Priti and Nazir were alone with our killer for several hours.

HARRY

Right, our victim, Priti Parmar, twenty five, was found this morning by a cleaner. Priti has no priors, but we believe she where a significant player in the drugs game.

Harry turns and points to the shoebox of cash on the notice board.

HARRY

Her ex-boyfriend, Xavier Stead, is downstairs for questioning.

CONWAY

Crucially, Priti Parmar had both of her eyes removed and wasp eggs inserted into the sockets.

Conway holds up the evidence bag with the wasp inside it.

CONWAY

This has purpose. And it means something very specific, it shows our killer is patient and calculating.

HARRY

He left the boyfriend Nazir Saed, alive.

(beat)

Priti was strung up using a Carpathian coil which is an old Eastern European form of punishment which points us towards.

Harry steps aside. Conway takes over.

CONWAY

Novak Rexa found hanging yesterday. Feels like a connection to this case. So here's your Scarborough warning. If details of the wasp are leaked, I swear to God, I will write you P-forty five's myself.

On screen is the CCTV footage of Pawa OUTSIDE The Bradford Club he looks up at it slowly (face concealed by his reaper-esque cloak) and just stays here a beat, dark, ominous.

POLICE

Yes, ma'am.

CONWAY

Dismissed.

Everyone moves away. Conway pulls Harry aside.

CONWAY

ACC wants two detectives to liaise with the central honour killing unit.

HARRY

It's not an honour killing, boss. We both know that happens in-house. Look how specific this is. ACC needs to put everyone on this.

On screen is the CCTV footage of Pawa OUTSIDE The Bradford Club he looks up at it slowly (face concealed by his reaper-esque cloak) and just stays here a beat, dark, ominous.

HARRY

We could have a serial killer on the streets of Bradford

INT. POLICE STATION - INTERVIEW ROOM - DAY

Harry and DS Amin sit opposite Xavier and his LAWYER, JOE GRAYSON (drug-paid smarmy bastard on payroll for the Shala Crew).

The interview is being recorded by a police recording device.

HARRY

You were captured on CCTV...

Harry removes the photographs DS Amin gave him earlier from an envelope and slides them onto the table. Images of Xavier outside The Bradford Club.

HARRY

Taken outside the Bradford Club last night. Just after Priti arrived for her shift.

Xavier uncomfortable.

HARRY

What were you doing there?

XAVIER

(cocky)

Takin' a piss.

HARRY

Public disorder act? Also violation on your probation.

Xavier not so cocky now - dumb ass thing to have said.

DS AMIN

You see, I reckon you knew Priti was in the club, with her new fella, Nazir, doing all the kinds of things that you and her used to do in there. Drove you mad, didn't it? Knowing she was in there with him.

Xavier now looks at Harry then at the recording device. He wants it turning off.

JOE GRAYSON

(to Harry)

Off the record?

Another nod from Harry.

DS Amin a little... lost. Is this shit right? Harry nods. DS Amin turns it off.

XAVIER

I aren't going back inside. So you make sure that I leave here with me probation intact, and I'll tell you what I know.

HARRY

Go on...

XAVIER

Right come on Harry, I didn't kill Priti.
You know me. I aren't... I'm a lot of
things, but I aren't that. Priti switched
sides. The Shala Crew to Bradford West.
Which pissed 'em right off cos she was
shit hot at recruiting other lasses.

(almost to himself now,
rueful)

What the fuck did she expect where gonna
happen?

(to Harry now)

I tried to get her to stop but erm... It
was too late, she'd tried to negotiate a
payoff but he wouldn't agree.

HARRY

Who didn't agree?

XAVIER

(coy)

Who do you think?!

(beat)

Vasil Shala.

INT. TEA ROOM - DAY

Harry and DS Amin enter a shitty café to see Vasil sitting at a table
drinking tea, eating a sandwich.

VIKTOR (40) and PETA (40) - the "heavies" immediately step to them.

VIKTOR

I need to search you.

HARRY

It's not happening. Not today.

Viktor grabs Harry. Peta grabs DS Amin who... is surprisingly handy.

DS AMIN

Get off me.

DS Amin (pretty easily) sweeps Peta's feet and sends the big man
crashing to ground.

DC AMIN

I'm nicking you for assault!

HARRY

I want to speak to Vasil.

And Vasil... he just keeps eating his sandwich, watching, entertained.
I'm nicking them for assault

Vasil then removes a gun - FIRES IT into the floor.

BANG!

VASIL

Enough! Enough!

Everything stops.

Harry shoves Viktor away and sits down opposite Vasil who glances at Amin, intrigued, impressed.

VASIL

Sit. Your partner? He can handle himself. I like that. I like him.

He looks at Amin.

VASIL

(to Amin)

Maybe, sometime soon, you and Vasil, we go for a coffee.

DS AMIN

I don't drink coffee.

VASIL

(to Harry)

Why you come here, Harry?

HARRY

I need something from yer. Priti Parmar were found murdered last night. I heard she used to work for you. Whoever killed her wanted us to think it were you. You need to convince me otherwise.

Vasil locks eyes with Harry. Says nothing.

VASIL

Vasil doesn't do things like this. Messy. Bad for business..

(beat)

Let's make a deal. You tell me who killed Novak. You give him to me. And I'll find out somethings about Priti.

HARRY

You know I won't do that. But, when I arrest who did it, I'll make sure they'll go to Armley prison. Your crew inside can sort it from there.

On DS Amin who looks aghast at what Harry has just promised. Vasil looks DELIGHTED by this.

VASIL

I like this deal, Harry.

(beat)

You know Priti, when she err... was working for us, she stole from Vasil.

Maybe, she's stealing from her new employers, maybe they punish her. Maybe you should speak to Bradford West...

Vasil nods towards the door now - meeting OVER.

VASIL
(ominous)
Leave now. But just remember Harry, it is the people we love, who suffer. When we don't do what we promise.

EXT. STREET. BRADFORD - DAY

Harry and DS Amin walk towards Harry's car, quiet, taking a moment after the altercation at the tea room. They don't look at each other - just dead ahead.

HARRY
You just made friends with Vasil Shala.

DS AMIN
You knew that would happen. He could have killed us.

HARRY
Nah, Vasil might be a lot of things but he's not a cop killer.
(looks at Amin now)
Most people don't interlock their elbows when choking someone out.

DS Amin looks at Harry. A moment as Harry seems to realise that there is a lot more to DS Amin that meets the eye.

DS Amin looks away, pained.

DS AMIN
Yeah. Most people didn't grow up the way I did.

Harry waits for more.

DS AMIN
Look at me for Godsake. I don't look English but I sound it, I feel it.
(looks at Harry now)
And growing up, when some white lad'd call me a p-word I'd smack him. Some Asian would call me a mongrel or a coconut I'd smack him too.
(beat)
You get good with your hands when everyone's the enemy.

HARRY

And I had you down as a graduate bookworm.

DS AMIN

Oh I am. Got two books on chokeholds.

Harry smiles - liking this kid.

DS AMIN

Ask you a question?

HARRY

Go on.

DS AMIN

Why Harry? Why not your full name?

Harry thinks on this - looks away.

DS AMIN

They tried calling me "Kal" in the academy, not Khalil. I put that shit to bed straight away.

HARRY

(to himself almost)

Why Harry?

(thinks on it)

Another time.

Harry obviously uncomfortable, re-living something we are not yet privy to.

DS AMIN

If Vasil didn't kill Priti, then who did?

A TEXT PINGS on DS Amin's phone. He reads it but we don't see it.

DS AMIN

Priti's boyfriend, is awake at the Hospital, ready for questioning.

HARRY

Great, I'll check in with the Missus too.

EXT. HOSPITAL - DAY

Establisher

INT. HOSPITAL - CORRIDOR - DAY

Saima walking down the corridor talking to A HEALTHCARE ASSISTANT.

SAIMA

I can't hold him in A&E indefinitely. Find me a bloody bed.

ASSISTANT

I'll try...

The Healthcare assistant walks away.

Saima stops at Ranjit's door – he is awake in bed.

She looks away to see Harry walking towards her. Momentarily stunned. Speechless.

SAIMA

What are you doing here?

HARRY

Nice to see you too.

SAIMA

Sorry.

HARRY

Just interviewing a witness.

Harry looks at her. Sees she's not right.

HARRY

You okay? You seem off?

Saima, fights with whether to tell him about Ranjit or not. Saima takes Harry's arm and leads him away.

SAIMA

Shit day. Do you know what I think, we should run away together.

HARRY

I'm in. What about Aaron though?

SAIMA

Oh... He's got his iPad. He knows where the fridge is, he'll be alright.

HARRY

Come on then, we're leaving now?

Saima playfully smacks him.

SAIMA

What time will you be at my dad's? I'm staying over tonight.

HARRY

I remember. Err Around dessert. Asian-timing.

SAIMA

Hmm. It's important to me. Please don't take the piss. Harry.

HARRY

I'm not taking the piss. See you later.

Saima kisses him, turns and waves bye as she walks away

INT. HOSPITAL - NAZIR'S SIDE ROOM - DAY

Nazir sits on a bed looking through photos, Harry sits by his side.

HARRY

Did you see his face?

NAZIR

He were wearing a mask. I can't remember much it's all a blur.

Harry and Amin share a troubled look.

HARRY

You were given heroin, laced with fentanyl. And we believe Priti was dealing, is that true?

NAZIER

Yeah, she got mixed up with a gang but she never took anything. This was last night, she was so happy.

Nazir keeps scrolling through photos on his phone. Harry watches him do it and sees something in the last date-night photo.

HARRY

Wait. Go back.

Nazir goes back to the date-night photo. Harry takes the phone off him and sees that Priti has no henna on her feet.

HARRY

(to himself, stunned)

No Henna.

A clue Harry needs to see again.

EXT/INT. POLICE STATION - MORTUARY - DAY

Establisher.

Priti's body is on the mortuary slab. Harry, Amin and Wendy study the henna on her feet.

DS Amin observes, looking hard at the henna besides Wendy.

DR. WENDY SMITH

So this is not the Eastern Europeans' work. The Shala Crew?

Harry shakes his head.

HARRY

(more to himself)

Unlikely. Henna is a south-Asian art form.

DR WENDY SMITH

Historically, it symbolised good health and wellbeing in a marriage. The darker the stain, the deeper the love.

HARRY

Yeah, this is not someone proclaiming their love for her?

Harry shakes his head, baffled.

Wendy looks harder at the henna, points at it.

DS AMIN

Do these symbols mean something?

HARRY

(beat)

He did spend at least two hours on this at the crime scene. So the suggest purpose.

DR WENDY SMITH

Brides sometimes hide their husband's name in the henna. In a lighter ink. It's supposed to be an ice-breaker.

A spark in Harry's mind. Gears shifting.

HARRY

(beat)

Wendy, have you got a U.V. Light?

Wendy moves away, returns with a UV torch.

Harry indicates for Amin to turn the light off.

DS Amin does so.

DARKNESS.

Harry turns on the UV torch. The blue-light gives the room a cool creepy feel - like it's the night of the living dead.

Harry shines the torch down on Priti's legs. He holds his breath, eyes fixed incredulously on the skin.

Wendy and DS Amin arrive by Harry's side, stunned, aghast.

DR. WENDY SMITH

Well, look at that.

ON SCREEN: The UV light has perfectly highlighted (and separated) clear traces of blood from the heavily stained henna on Priti's feet. Written in blood are separate letters, running clockwise – B, E, I, Z, Z, A, T.

On Harry, hiding that he's a little shaken by this development. Dead serious.

DS AMIN

B E I Z Z A T

HARRY

Beizzat means dishonoured.

(to DS Amin)

Photograph this. Give it to Conway now.

INT. PAWA'S LAIR - DAY

We're in Pawa's lair. Pawa is on his phone watching Tara's video report on the Priti Parmar murder investigation. In his hands, Pawa has a section of the red rope used to hang Priti. He plays with it, ominously making a noose from it as he watches Tara.

TARA JOURNALIST

Hi I'm Tara Virdee. I'm outside The Bradford Club, were moments ago, a body was removed from inside the building. There's a large Police presence. No details as of yet of the victim. But I will report more information as I have it.

INT. SUNBRIDGE WELLS UNDERGROUND BAZAAR - DAY

Tara stands outside Priti's shop – it's closed.

She sees A GROUP OF ASIAN GIRLS sitting at a table, drinking soft drinks. They are looking at her, maybe talking about her. They look away quickly as Tara heads over to them and smiles familiarly at LEILA (20's, mixed race: white and South Asian).

TARA

Hey

LEILA

You alright

TARA

(to Leila)

Do you wanna get a coffee?

LEILA

Go on then

INT. SUNBRIDGE WELLS UNDERGROUND BAZAAR - DAY

TARA

Thanks

LEILA

Thank love.

Leila and Tara sit at a table drinking coffee.

LEILA

Thought we had a good time last week.

TARA

We did.

LEILA

Did you lose my number?

TARA

I got caught up in work. You know how it is.

LEILA

Hmm. Maybe you're just tapping me for info about this world for your story.

TARA

I was.

(flirtatious now)

Doesn't mean I can't mix work with pleasure.

(beat)

So Priti Parmar? That girl that were murdered. What do you know about her?

Leila still obviously keen on Tara.

LEILA

She was running gear. Recruited a few girls we know into the game.

TARA

Including you?

Leila nods.

LEILA

Cops be all over the county lines boys these days. But brown girls? Cops ain't stopping and searching us in this city. It's too political.

TARA

Were Priti in trouble with anyone?

LEILA

You've always gotta watch your back. If you wanna know more about all this, I can show you. Club night tonight. Blue Murmur. Sex, drugs. You game?

Tara nods delighted.

INT. HOSPITAL - A&E - RANJIT'S ROOM - DAY

Saima enters the room, closes the door gently.

Jyoti by Ranjit's side. Both of them pleased to see her.

RANJIT

A friendly face, after such bad news. The doctor told me I have to have major surgery.

SAIMA

It's not bad news. The surgery will help. As soon as a bed becomes available, you'll be moved somewhere more comfortable.

RANJIT

At my age, surgery's simply prolonging what Wahe Guru has planned for me.

JOYTI

ਇਹ ਬੋਲਣ ਦਾ ਕਿਹੋ ਜਿਹਾ ਤਰੀਕਾ ਹੈ?
Eh bolan da kiho jeha tareeka hai?

ایہ بولن دا کیہو جیہا طریقہ ہے؟
Eh bolan da kiho jeha tareeka ae?

Translation/Subtitles: What kind of way is that to speak?

SAIMA

I think your family would like to be able to spend more time with you. Have you got children?

A moment as Ranjit thinks on this.

RANJIT

A daughter. Mandip.

Saima thinks on whether to probe a little more. Glances between her and Jyoti.

SAIMA

Only one daughter?

Ranjit looks pained.

SAIMA

Sorry. I didn't mean to pry. I'll just document your obs and leave you in peace.

Saima checks the cardiac monitor. Scribbles onto a chart.

RANJIT

Do you see a lot of people die in here?

Saima stops writing. Looks at him, nods.

RANJIT

What do they say to you when they know their time is short?

Saima thinks hard on what to say.

SAIMA

They often talk about regrets. Situations they could have made better. Mostly about family.

RANJIT

What do you say to them?

SAIMA

I offer them a phone. Regret only exists when a situation is unresolved. People make mistakes, but they can always pick up a phone.

RANJIT

Do they?

SAIMA

Usually.

JYOTI

(Punjabi to Ranjit)

ਕੀ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਸੁਣ ਰਹੇ ਹੋ? ਉਹ ਕੀ ਕਹਿ ਰਹੀ ਹੈ?

Ki tussi sun rahe ho? Oh ki keh rahi hai?

سن رئے او؟ اوہ کی کہہ رئی اے؟

Sun rahe o? Oh ki keh rahi ae?

Translation/Subtitles: Are you listening? To what she's saying?

SAIMA

I'll leave you to it.

Saima goes to leave, stops and turns back.

SAIMA

Do you have a phone or would you like me to bring you one?

RANJIT

No you're fine.

EXT. RURAL FARMHOUSE - STABLES - DAY

Horses in their stable.

One horse has its head poking out of its pen allowing Riaz to feed / groom it. There's a deep connection between Riaz and the horses.

Harry approaches Riaz who sees him and continues tending to the horse.

Harry waits. Watches. Then comes across and strokes the horse.

HARRY

Intrepid Auto's were hit today. Somebody
torched half a dozen of Vasil's motors.

Harry looks hard at Riaz. Riaz keeps brushing the horse down.

HARRY

Know anything about that?

HARRY

Let's just keep the peace, yeah.

RIAZ

The only guarantee with peace is it never
lasts.

HARRY

Priti Parmar?

RIAZ

Don't know her.

HARRY

She were running your product. Switched
from the Shala Crew a few months back.
They were pissed.

RIAZ

Half this city runs my product. I don't
engage with street level shit. You want
details, you ask Enzo.

HARRY

Made a deal with Vasil: intel on Priti
for who did Novak. Less you can help with
that?

RIAZ

(incredulous)

Sorry, brother... Got nothing.

Harry turns away. Knows he's messed up but really he's playing Riaz cos ultimately he KNOWS Riaz is lying.

HARRY

Look, I know Priti wasn't you and I don't
think it were the Shala crew either, so
there must be a new player in town.

RIAZ

You really believe that?

HARRY

Yeah. Whoever it is, they're more violent that either of you.

RIAZ

Vasil plays you man.

HARRY

Hard to tell who's playing who these days.

RIAZ

And what's that supposed to mean? If you've got something to say, say it to me then.

HARRY

Think I've already said it an't I.

RIAZ

Oh maybe. You owe me.

HARRY

I know. It's the only reason you're not in prison. This is the last time I'll let you play that card.

Riaz smiles and walks away.

RIAZ

You're the Boss.

EXT. RURAL FARMHOUSE - DAY

Riaz walking ahead, anxious, stressed.

RIAZ

Remember when your Mum used to bring us here to play?

HARRY

Course I do. You always said you'd own it one day.

Riaz stops. Thinks. Doesn't face Harry, a field where we can see more horses.

HARRY

It's beautiful here.

RIAZ

Peaceful. Gives me balance.

HARRY

You going to the Anniversary dinner? You need to. We both do.

RIAZ
You don't really wanna go.

Harry silent, because it's true. He doesn't.

RIAZ
I'm in the game, Harry, I keep my distance from Saima and the family. Keeps everyone safe.

HARRY
You know today's important.

RIAZ
I know...

On Harry as he reflects on the previous night's events. Quiet. Subdued. Riaz sees something isn't right.

RIAZ
What's happened? Cause somert has. Can see it in your face.

Harry ignores the question. He walks away.

HARRY
I'm going to your Dad's. Don't let him down, yeah?

EXT. SKY - DAY

The sun sets...

EXT. STREET - UBAID'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Car parked up.

EXT. UBAID HYATT HOUSE - GARDEN - NIGHT

A FINE GARDEN - colourful flowers and a water feature.

Saima's father, UBAID HYATT (60s, Pakistani, Islamic, kind), sits at a metallic fire-pit table, a gentle fire burns at its centre.

The evidence of a finished meal / soft drinks on the table. Beside him sit Nadia and Saima.

At the far end of the garden, Aaron plays football. Family time. Warm. Fun.

Ubaid points unhappily at a rosebush which is struggling to grow.

UBAID HYATT

Your mother's favourite rosebush isn't growing. What will I say when I visit her grave? That I couldn't look after her most precious plant? I know I put the best fertiliser in the soil, I water it a lot -

(turns to Saima)

I even... I even talk to it every day.

SAIMA

Well if it's anything like me mum, you wanna ignore it. Pay more attention to the other plant's, it'll soon perk up.

Nadia notices that Saima is distant.

NADIA

Are you still worried about lying to Harry? You should have just let the old man pop his clogs then you wouldn't have to lie.

UBAID HYATT

سَتَغْفِرُ اللَّهُ، ميري پیاری بیٹی

Astagfirullah. meri pyari beti...

(in English)

You know what you must do. Tell Harry the truth. No good can come of lies.

Translation: I seek forgiveness from God. My dear daughter...

NADIA

No matter what your mother-in-law says.

Ubaid turns to Saima.

UBAID HYATT

My child, Allah gives you strength. Tell the truth. Your father-in-law has now seen who you really are. Warm, compassionate. Hey. It may change how he thinks.

On Saima now who is thinking about the events of the night before.

EXT. UBAID'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Harry parks up in the car. He gets out.

Harry a little away from the rear garden, watching a beautiful family together - happiness, laughter. Everything he does not have with his own family. He is pained, anxious, as if he's approaching a place of terrible consequence.

He turns away - something not right with him. Anxious, reliving events from the night before.

Ubaid and Nadia see him too and wave...

FLASHBACK

INT. RANJIT VIRDEE HOUSE - DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Harry has Ranjit lifted by his scarf, both men grappling with one another. Mandip desperately pulls Harry away.

Jyoti also tries to get between the men.

HARRY

ਮੈਂ ਕੀ ਕਰਾਂਗਾ
Main ki karanga?

میں کی کراں گا
Main ki karanga.

Translation/Subtitles: What am I going to do?

HARRY

At least I do it right!

JOYTI

ਇਸ ਨੂੰ ਹੁਣ ਰੋਕੋ. ਦੂਰ ਚਲੇ ਜਾਓ
Is nu hun roko. Door chaley jao

ہن اہنوں روک دیو۔ دور ہو جاؤ
Hun ehnu rok dio. Door ho jao.

Translation/Subtitles: Stop it now. Step away.

END FLASHBACK.

Shit, he can't do this and starts to retreat.

NADIA

Is he not coming in?

From the garden, we see that Saima has seen Harry but he's walking away now. She's up, walking after him.

SAIMA

I don't know, let me go and get him.

EXT. UBAID HYATT HOUSE - NIGHT

Harry walking to his car, upset, more at himself for reacting this way - unable to put behind him the events from the night before. Saima's voice behind him now... shit!

SAIMA

Harry! Harry!

She runs now, catches him as he reaches his car.

SAIMA

Hey, hey, hey, come here, come here,
what's going on?

She sees that he is not right.

HARRY

Nothing. Just... Got an urgent call from
work.

Saima sees that it's bullshit. Puts her arms around him, tries to
comfort him but he shrugs her away.

SAIMA

Why are you lying to me?

HARRY

(pained, angry)

I... just I can't... can't do this after
last night! Can't sit there messing up an
important day for you and your family
because I'm... I'm just a mess Saima.

SAIMA

Come here.

Saima hugs him, concerned but loving. Harry hugs her tight and they
stand here, in the middle of the road, together. He's a child, needy,
helpless.

SAIMA

(quiet, subdued, holding it
all in)

I've got yer.

HARRY

(cracking up now)

I'm sorry, I can't do this. I'll see you
back at the house.

He breaks the embrace, gets into his car, starts it and drives away
aggressively leaving Saima abandoned in the middle of the road,
forlorn.

EXT. STREET. BRADFORD. - NIGHT

Harry drives away from Saima, around the corner, a little further and
pulls over.

On his face as we see the pain.

And we just sit here with him. Seeing the man. The child. The maverick
hero who is nothing more than a mirage.

And now a detonation.

HARRY

Fuck! Fuck! Fuck you! Fuck! Fuck!

EXT. BRADFORD - NIGHT

Night Drone establisher

INT. PAWA'S LAIR - NIGHT

Pawa in his lair, packs a large black holdall, inside which we can see SILVER / BLACK CANISTERS of gas.

Pawa lifts a gas mask from his table, a lone Hawk wasp crawling along it.

Pawa lovingly removes the wasp, places it aside and then throws the gas mask into his bag and zips it closed. He grabs the bag, walks away and we see a flier advertising Blue Murmur LGBTQ+ night, BEIZZAT, left on the table.

The Hawk Wasp crawls across it.

EXT. UBAID HYATT HOUSE - GARDEN - NIGHT

Riaz stands in front of his mother's rosebush, rueful. He drops to his knees, opens the bag of manure he's brought and carefully channels it into the soil.

A rustle of leaves from behind. Riaz turns to find Saima there.

He finishes, tidies and stands to face her.

SAIMA

If she could see you gardening...

RIAZ

Yeah, she'd love that... It's premium fertiliser. Only the best for Mum

SAIMA

There's tea inside.

RIAZ

Who's yours or Nadsy's?

SAIMA

Nadsy's.

RIAZ

She any better at it?

SAIMA

No.

RIAZ

Where is Harry?

Saima awkward. Looks away. Riaz looks at her. Sees the pain.

SAIMA

Don't want to talk about.

RIAZ

Okay. Understood.

But she's vulnerable and Riaz sees it. He leans towards her and they are now in contact; shoulder-to-shoulder. They stand here a beat.

SAIMA

Did you go to the grave an all?

RIAZ

Yeah. But it's here, in this garden I can still feel her. Obsessing over these damn plants.

SAIMA

Always getting me and you to cut the grass.

RIAZ

But never Nadsy though.

SAIMA

Oh no, no lazy cow.

SAIMA

Come inside, Dad misses you.

Riaz stands stoic, unmoved.

SAIMA

You think you hurt more than me?

They look at each other. Share some painful memories we are not yet privy to.

RIAZ

Just leave me be, Saima. This family stuff isn't for me.

Riaz uncomfortable, searching for a lie she might believe. He starts to walk away.

SAIMA

What happened to us, Riaz?

Riaz doesn't stop or respond. Just walks away.

EXT/INT. STREET. HARRY'S CAR - NIGHT

On the radio now - a brash, energetic advert.

RADIO STATION (V.O.)
Hey guys, big shout out to club Blue
Murmur and the monthly Beizzat event
tonight. Admission is ten pounds, you get
one free drink and as ever, what happens
at Beizzat stays at Beizzat.

Something triggers in Harry's mind. He raises his head, looks at the radio.

Now, he removes his phone, searches, BEIZZAT - BLUE MURMUR - BRADFORD and up comes a bold, garish poster on the screen.

There is a pattern on the flier of DECORATIVE HENNA - spelling out the word Beizzat in EXACTLY THE SAME DESIGN AS THE HENNA ON PRITI'S BODY.

HARRY
Beizzat

Oh shit - it's the next target!

Harry now suddenly focused. Drives away.

INT. BLUE MURMUR NIGHTCLUB - - NIGHT

Harry appears, he doesn't know what he's looking for but knows, feels the impending danger.

FLASHBACK

INT. POLICE STATION - MORTUARY - DAY

Wendy hands Harry a small plastic bowl inside which are two EMPTY COCOONS.

DR. WENDY SMITH
And the wasps hatched inside her.

END FLASHBACK.

Everyone in a variety of masks - freaky, angels, demons, and everything in-between, but nobody in a gas mask.

Harry onto the dance floor from the entrance.

HARRY
Where the fuck are you?

Fish out of water but FOCUSED - looking around, absorbing the crowd, the atmosphere, the music which is deafening.

Harry looking around at the people. And now an outstretched hand grabs him. Harry turns.

It's Tara! With Leila beside her.

Tara smiles at Harry, bemused.

TARA
What are you doing here?!

HARRY
Leave! It's not safe!

Tara taps her ear - she can't hear him. Too loud.

TARA
I can't hear yer.

HARRY
Leave.

TARA
I gotta dance.

Someone looking down at Harry.

Harry pivots. Feels eyes on him. Turns. Looks up.

HE SEES HIM standing alone, peculiar, different.

In a GAS MASK. Watching, calm but with purpose.

It's like time slows down.

FLASHBACK

INT. THE BRADFORD CLUB - STAIRWELL - DAY

Priti Parmar's body lashed by rope to the staircase.

END FLASHBACK.

The only man in a gas mask - why?

Harry doesn't like it.

Gas mask man points to Harry, then slides his finger across his own neckline - "slitting throat gesture" and then moves away, disappears.

Harry looks around for a way up. There! A door.

He heads towards it. Shoving people out of the way.

INT. BLUE MURMUR NIGHTCLUB - STAIRWELL - NIGHT

Harry turns left. A stairwell. A BOUNCER (2) stands there.

The entrance to the VIP section.

INSTANT FLASHBACK

INT. THE BRADFORD CLUB - SNOOKER HALL - DAY

Harry opens the small cupboard.. Finds Nazir!

Harry checks Nazir, opens his eyes, looks at them.

HARRY
He's been drugged.

INT. POLICE STATION - BULLPEN - DAY 4 (AFTERNOON)

On screen is the CCTV footage of Pawa OUTSIDE The Bradford Club leaving hurriedly - a cloaked Pawa walks up to a CCTV camera and stop in front of it.

HARRY
Did you see his face?

INT. HOSPITAL - NAZIR'S SIDE ROOM - DAY

Nazir sits on a bed, Harry sits by his side.

NAZIR
He were wearing a mask.

INT. POLICE STATION - BULLPEN - DAY 4 (AFTERNOON)

On screen is the CCTV footage of Pawa OUTSIDE The Bradford Club leaving hurriedly - a cloaked Pawa walks up to a CCTV camera and stop in front of it.

END FLASHBACK.

INT. BLUE MURMUR NIGHTCLUB - 1ST FLOOR - VIP SECTION/STAIRWELL/GROUND FLOOR - NIGHT

Harry arrives on the upper level. Scans the area.

There! He's going down up stairs.

Harry follows.

HARRY
Move!

Harry heads to the stairwell and runs back down.

Hits the ground floor. Where did he go?

INT. BLUE MURMUR NIGHTCLUB - DANCE FLOOR - NIGHT

Harry comes in. Suddenly, from the balcony above, a BODY FALLS through the air, cutting through the crowd and hitting the floor.

People scream. Scatter.

Harry pushes his way through.

Gets to a man. Bleeding from the neck.

Dead. It's nightclub manager, Tyrone Graves.

Tara among the horrified crowd.

Harry then looks up at where the body came from. The 1st floor landing.
The man stands there in his GAS MASK.

What the fuck?

Then someone screams. Harry's drawn to the scream.

Sees people running from something. He heads towards the danger.

Sees vents under the DJ booth.

They're spitting WHITE MIST.

Harry goes towards them.

The WHITE FOG rises. Gets thicker.

He brings up his arm to his face.

It's some sort of gas.

He turns. Tries ushering people out.

HARRY

Everyone out now! Move! Out now!

But the gas fills the frame.

He starts to cough... splutter and through the white the WORLD tilts
as PEOPLE SCREAM... PANIC and FALL.

NEXT TIME

EXT. BLUE MURMUR NIGHTCLUB - NIGHT

The area outside the nightclub is packed with ambulances, police and
fire brigade. Revellers wrapped in foil blankets.

Amongst them we find Harry..

INT. LEILA'S APARTMENT - DAY

Tara holds her phone up, filming to camera, earnest reporter style.

TARA

If you saw anything suspicious, no matter how small, DM me. We're all a community Bradford, we gotta look out for each other.

INT. APPLETON HOUSE - APARTMENT - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Harry and DS Amin enter the room..

HARRY
Someone forced their way in...

OFFICER
Sir come take a look at this.

INT. APPLETON HOUSE - APARTMENT - BEDROOM - NIGHT

UV light illuminates writing on the wall: **PARASITE**

The bed covered in spider wasp larvae.

HARRY
This must be our man.

EXT. POLICE STATION - BACK ENTRANCE - DAY

ON SCREEN: a video of a terrified Alastair, tied up in a dirty basement. He is pleading to the camera.

ALASTAIR
Please let me go.

EXT. POLICE STATION - BACK ENTRANCE - DAY

The press release in full swing. Cameras click as Jonathan Boardman approaches.

JONATHAN BOARDMAN
To the man who is holding Alastair. The control here is all yours. You have absolute power to do good here and I know that you can.

EXT. BOXING GYM - DAY

Ateeq faces Enzo, hides the tremble in his voice.

ATEEQ
(firm)
I got skills and I need to earn. I can tell you how to take down Vasil's crew.

INT. RIAZ'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

SOPHIE with Riaz.

RIAZ

Maybe this is the opportunity we've
been waiting for to take Vasil out.

SOPHIE

So let's do it.

INT. POLICE STATION - CONWAY'S OFFICE - DAY

DS Amin zooms in on his phone.

DS AMIN

(scans it & reads)

The insect is a Tarantula Hawk. It will
sting a tarantula, then lay a single
egg inside it...

INT. UNDERGROUND LAIR - NIGHT

A dark basement with U.V. STRIP LIGHTING prominent.

DS AMIN

Using the spider as a living host to
incubate its larva.

INT. VIRDEE HOUSE - DAY

Saima tickling Aaron and as she turns she sees Joyti standing in the
doorway.

HARRY

You stood there, telling me I have to
"share my shit"

INT. VIRDEE HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Harry is furious.

HARRY

And all the while you're keeping
something like this from me?!

INT. LEILA'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - DAY

Tara and Leila hugging.

TARA (V.O.)

There's a killer targeting us.

LEILA (V.O.)

You shouldn't go on your own.

EXT. LISTER PARK - DAY

Tara walks through the park.

LEILA

It's dangerous out there.

INT. APPLETON HOUSE - NIGHT

Armed officers move through the house.

EXT. APPLETON HOUSE - NIGHT

Shots are fired at the van as it speeds away.

INT. ABANDONED MILL - NIGHT

Harry walks in to see a figure hanging.

On a platform above the tank stands Pawa. Harry can only make out his outline in the dark.

PAWA

Harry Virdee. Now the game begins.

END CREDITS