

PENGUIN 200 WORD BOLLYWOOD STYLE STORY ENTRY

THE QUEST

They saw her walking down the street, across busy stalls and vendors, oblivious to her surroundings with eyes constantly searching for someone. Tall, thin frame, blonde wavy hair falling down her shoulders, and a sharp nose which complimented her oblong, fair complexioned face.

"Is she the one?"

"Yeah, she looks familiar. Hey look, she's holding a photograph too. Be careful"

"She's coming this way."

"You know what to say."

As she walked down the dusty streets of the busy market area, she felt being observed by someone across the street.

'Why do they look familiar? Have I seen them before? Maybe they know Dad?'

With thoughts racing in her mind and a pounding heart, she gradually started walking towards them—two tall, sturdy men, with rugged skin, unshaven and unkempt. Cowboy hats covered most of their faces which left very little for Kayra to observe.

"Hi, could you help me?"

They fidgeted under her gaze, trying not to look her in the eye. She felt something was not right.

"Have you seen this man anywhere?"

Kayra held up the picture and saw their faces go pale. She witnessed some sign language between them and was trying hard to decode it.

"No, we don't know this man." said one shrugging his shoulders.

Her mind was overflowing with thoughts, questions, observations, and feelings, yes her instinct was giving her signals. She needed to buy some time to put it all in place, so she probed.

"Please take a closer look at....aaah!"

Something had hit her hard on her head. It started throbbing unbearably. While she was talking, the other man quietly drifted away and hit her with a metal rod he had kept hidden nearby. They knew who she was and they knew she was coming. She walked herself into

the trap, so she had to be punished. Their mission was complete, they had smiles of accomplishment on their faces, devilish, nasty, heartless smiles.

'Why is he smiling? What's this sudden pain? Why do I feel weak?'

It was a matter of just moments until Kayra started bleeding and then fainted right in front of the two men. They were not *just* two men, they were family - her father and stepbrother.

"I never wanted you in my life, Kayra. Rest in peace."

They turned around and walked away heartlessly. Kayra saw them disappear amongst the crowd and then there was darkness.