

Some Problems in Translation of Tendulkar's Play *Shreemant*: ACT III

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Actual Translation:

(Drawing room Bedding on one side & suitcase is placed on other side. It shows that someone is ready to go on travel)

Mathura comes from inside. She notices the luggage while decorating the flower-pot. During, Shridhar gets down steadily from staircase. She turns to flower-pot after realizing an arrival of Shridhar. Meantime, Shridhar has got down. (Math: Mathura, S: Shridhar)

SHR.= (looks at luggage) Is someone traveling?

Math.= (detached) Seems so

SHR= who?

M= I also don't know.

S= There is name of "Bhau" on bag.

M= Then, he may be going.

S= Where?

M= I'm not Bhau. I'm his sister.

S= Exactly, so I thought you might be knowing. (Silence)

M= (strongly) Are you going outside?

S= No, I'm thinking to stay at home whole day. (she moves) where are you going?

M=Inside. I'm thinking to visit friend's house.

S= Why? Is it casual?

M= Someone has to leave the house.

S= For what?

M= For feeling homely in the house.

S= Will it feel so by leaving the home?

M= Yes, at least silence can be maintained. (speechless)

S= I feel, it is easy to maintain in such condition.

M= Highly impossible

S= Impossible? Why?

M= others will take it seriously and one will behave arrogantly. It would happen & happens so.

S= This house is such precious that if we decide not to appear face to face, despite, days will happiest.

M= the sense of someone's existence is also troublesome.

S= Whose existence?

M= I said someone's.

S= See, usually you all complaint for mine not being at home.

M= Lately never.

S= In spite of this I'll be at home.

M= I'll go outside.

S= If I say "no"?

M= I'll not stop.

S= If I prohibit you

M= Nobody will do so.

S= I'll stop you.

M= Let's wait for such circumstances. (Silence. She turns to go)

S= What is Keshav doing?

M= Who Keshav?

S= I'm talking about my son.

M= You mean Mohan

S= I mean Keshav

M=Then boy living in this house is not your son.

S=-----

M= Now nothing is hidden and this will also get unveiled after sometime.

S= it means, sophisticated people have sophisticated limitations.

M= While dealing with stranger persons everyone is obliged to restrict virtues. (she starts to go)

S= Aren't we going outside today?

M= I don't want onetime husband after giving up us in such a long gap.

S= henceforth, you will see him everyday.

M= remember, he will not get honour all the time.

S= You have to -----

M= It gets at this point, so I said someone should get out.

S= We both will be at home today.

M= I repeat, there will be no honour to your words.

S= I'm very arrogant/rough-tough.

M= We v watchman/cowman

S= Are you threatening me on the support of your father's servant.

M= You are threatening me, but I don't get afraid.

S= You have to live with me whole life, neither with father nor his servant.

M= My life is mine. I ll decide what to do and what not to do.

S= I came here then where was your ego? Where was this impression/spark? Where was this tongue which is talkative now? Where were these words? (pause) truly, Mathura, the change in you is surprising.

M= You are responsible for this.

S= Yes. I came here, showed readiness for marriage, so you are in swagger today.

M= You came here not for me, and not got married for me.

S= Then why?

M→ ... You might be selfish

S→ What kind of?

(Brother comes and goes towards luggage)

M→ Where are you going brother?

Bh→ Where is "She"?(my wife).

M→ Vahini (sister-in-law) is ready. But where are both of you going? (He marches inside) What did I say Bhau?

Bh→ You are neither nor mother. Now its enough of your arrogance.
(He calls Ratna and she arrives). You be here. I'll call taxi.
M→ Bhau, give me answer of my question before taxi arrives.
Bh→ You know the answer.
M→ To me? How it could be?
Bh→ You know everything. (pointing towards S without looking at him) ask him.
M→ Better you should tell me.
Bh→ I'm leaving this house permanently.
M→ It so where ?
Bh→ Anywhere. All ways are open to me. Who wants me in this home?
M→ Why did you feel so?
Bh→ Why are you obliging me to say? You know everything better.
M→ We don't know anything, at least me. Tell me clearly. Why you feel so that nobody want you to be here?
Bh→ Do I get importance here?
M→ How important you are for us.
Bh→ The same, same thing, I don't want more here. Its my insult and now enough of it.
M→ Nobody insult you. You think so. Nobody gets special importance in this home except our father and such kind of treatment was never called insult here ever before.
Bh→ You underestimate me and my wife.
M→ Do you think so Vahini?
R→ Absolutely, certain people get such more importance as if there is nobody in this home.
M→ who are these "Certain people"?
R→ Why are you obliging me to say? Each one knows themselves.
Bh→ Wait, I'll bring taxi.
M→ Don't move from here Bhau.
Bh = I'll not listen to you.
M= Not of father? Mother?
Bh=Convey them that I went away.
M= Listen, you are not living in lodging and boarding.
Bh=-----
R= Why are you talking? Bring taxi.
M= It doesn't seem to you.
R= Every person should their own business first. You didn't think so before? Your behaviour in this house also doesn't suit you.
M= Its not the time of discussion.
R= (to Bhau) So I m saying bring taxi.
M= Wait, I ll call Mother. Don't go without intimating her.
R= (to Bhau) lets go.
M= Wait Bhau. You know the condition of our mother.
Bh= You are responsible for this.
M= OK. But do you think that it should spoil more because of you. (going) I'll bring her.(goes)
R=Why standstill? Bring taxi---I'm saying bring taxi. What I'm saying?
Bh= (irritated) Listening. (silence)

R=Finish. Taking the name of your mother, your determination melted.

Bh= I don't get afraid of her.

R= Then why did you stop?

Bh= Let her come. I'll tell her. What kind of fear do I have of anyone? I don't get afraid of Baba. Henceforth, this house is finished. I'll not change my determination.

R= You should not change. What has remained in this house of us?

Bh= I'll obtain everything by struggle. I'll not allow to swallow everything to them, Let the mother come.

(meantime, they look at Shridhar. M comes with Malinibai. She looks pale and weak. B& R ready to seek opportunity to quarrel with mother)

Mal= (from door) Bhau! What are you doing? Where are you going? Where are you going daughter-in-law?

Bh= Outside. I'll live separate from today.

Mal= Separate home? Why so?

R= Nobody want us here.

Mali.= How could you say so, daughter-in-law?

R= I'm saying what I feel. Everytime my husband gets marginalized and humiliated. He receives insult and others get honour here.

Mali.= Daughter-in-law, do you feel so?

R= I'm telling because I'm been asked.

Mali= When did you arrive in this home daughter-in-law?

R= But who talks to us?

Bh= Don't convince us, mother. We have decided everything.

Mali= Bhau, you are not known as decision-maker. It can get cancelled even though decided.

Bh= Nothing will be changed./cancelled.

(Shri get from seat & goes upstairs slowly.)

Bh= He—he is like king here. Every honour is to him. I'm nobody. Nothing is mine here—why should I live here? My opinion, expectations, ideas are at disposal. My wife is like servant. On the contrary, the daughter gets honour of landlady. Son-in-law is like feud . he is enjoying here—living lavish. He will rob my estate.

Mali = Your estate?

Bh= Isn't it?

Mali= Your father is alive yet. This estate belongs to him. Nobody possess it as he is alive. And Bhau have you started to quarrel on estate? What arrogancy? He has not arrived in the home since morning due to labour strike in the factory. He might not have eaten anything and here are you leaving the home without considering situation? Without telling him or intimating? How much pains he will get, have you thought over it, Bhau?

R= Always thinking of other, isn't it? Lets allow something of us ourselves.

Bh= Father is also partial.

Problems in this translation are idea of honour, labour and Indian value system. It is difficult to translate the idea of honour from Asian culture to translate into English.