

# Beyond the land of Hattamala (for LAYOUT)

## Characters

**K:** Older thief

**B:** Younger thief

**U:** Utopia. Characters of the new land

**D:** Doctor

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**B:** Which way now?

**K:** That way... into the river

**B:** Are you mad? We'll drown

**K:** There's no other way... we'll just go with the flow.

<dive... splash>

**U:** The thieves finally jumped into the river. They'll drown. There's no hope.

<Chants of "bolo hori, hori bol... bolo hori, hori bol">

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**K:** Where am I? What's going on? (nudges B)

**B:** (confused) whe... where am I? Brother?

**K:** No I am the king of the river.

**B:** Oh... but where are we?

**K:** Grrrh... 1 2 3 4 5

**B:** what... I mean why are you counting?

**K:** nothing ... 6 7 8 9

**B:** but why ... why...

**K:** My mentor told me to count before I murder someone.

**B:** but why? Why are you angry?

**K:** stop asking. (shouts)

**B:** look ... smoke

**K:** Where there's smoke there must be fire...

**B:** Rice mill?

**K:** No I think it's a railway station... lets just go

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**B:** Hmm it's not a farm, nor a jungle. It's a beautiful garden. I don't think these are our parts.

**U:** would you like some coconut? It's very sweet.

<both have it>

**K:** Daamn I have left my wallet on the shelf. Don't worry we'll pay you later.

**U:** Pay? Eh?

**K:** Ya cash.

**U:** Cash??? Ash??? Sash?? (wonders)

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<Music>

**B:** Are we in Calcutta.

**K:** Calcutta is not meant for petty thieves like us. Unless you're a murdered or a high class fraud, you can't be in Calcutta.

**B:** But this town is huge. It wont suit us.

**K:** keep walking. Let me ask someone...

Hey can you tell me where's the police station.

**U:** I have not heard of a place like that.

**K:** It's not a place. Ok just tell me where's the prison... or the dungeon?

**U:** Luncheon?? (Smiles) Just go straight and then left, you'll find the eatery.

**K:** Daaamn this is a country of idiots.

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<Music>

**B:** Hmm the food smells really nice.

**K:** Have you seen the dishes? Stainless steel! Worth a lot. (smirks)

**U:** Hello hello. You are new here. Like the food?

**K & B:** Hmm hmhhh

**U:** Have the dessert.

**K:** Is this shop yours?

**U:** Shop?

**K:** the eating house?? Are you the owner?

**U:** No no no... I am just Mr. Konar

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<music>

**B:** How do they make money?

**K:** Hmm lets just rest in the garden and talk.

**B:** Is everything here for charity? ... I am feeling hungry again.

**K:** Here have the jackfruit?

**B:** but...

**K:** from the doctor's garden we just crossed.

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**B:** Strange place... something is always happening here. Lights, dance... fun

**K:** Hmmm... I have got a plan.

<they both start using their jimmy and start poking a hole in a wall>

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**U:** wow, how did you make such a perfect hole with just that stick? Is it some kind of game?

**K:** <trying to act smart.> oh we were testing how sound your wall is.

**U:** oh... architects. You go around testing the soundness of buildings don't you?

**K:** don't make fun of us just because you caught us red handed. Ok we are thieves. Do what you want.

**U:** Thieves???

**B:** ya we were trying to sneak in through the hole.

**U:** But why didn't you enter through the front door?

**B:** We wanted to take your dishes. Which you wouldn't have given if we entered through the front door?

**U:** Why not? If you needed them why not?

But you can just eat here. why would you need to carry the dishes? It's a heavy load.

**K:** load??? Unbelievable. Pinch me

<B pinches hard... K punches back... they start fighting>

**U:** I think they have some disease. I will take them to the doctor.

**B:** Nooo. We have eaten the doctor's jackfruit.

**U:** What do you mean doctor's jackfruit? It grows on trees. Everyone eats them.

**K:** Blockheads. Don't people pay for food?

**U:** Pay???

**B:** How do you live then? Or eat? How do you manage?

**U:** manage?... Oh and I eat here, my children eat at school and my wife eats in the library she works in.

**B:** Don't you have to pay money anywhere?

**U:** Money???

**K:** Oh I think they haven't invented money yet.

**B:** Ya terribly backward.

**U:** You didn't say why do you want the dishes.

**K:** Oh we ... hmm we'd just play a game with it.

**U:** Oh wonderful... I would like to know about it.

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< K and B searching for some place >

**U:** Hello friends. Can I help you?

**K:** Do you know where's the library?

**U:** Ya. I work there. Go straight and take left.

**B:** Hmmm (cunningly) Someone told us there's gold jewellery in the library.

**K:** Everyone must have borrowed everything.

**U:** Oh no no. Who wants gold and silver when you can get fresh flower ornaments. Aaah they are so lovely, amazing , beautiful, fragrant.

**B:** Idiot (hush hush). Brother lets go.

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**K:** Lets break in and take the gold.

**B:** Here take the gold watch. The ring.

**K:** I will take what I want. All the gold is mine. Ha Ha Ha.

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**D:** What's the matter?

**U:** Oh doctor... these are the people I was talking to you about.

**D:** Oh you two... I heard that you...

**B:** Ate your jackfruit and then...

**D:** My jackfruit??... oh wasn't it sweet?

**B:** Hmmm

**D:** I wasn't talking about that. I have heard that you can make precise holes in the wall?

**K:** Yes we can. So what?

**D:** No I am serious. You should be proud of something you do good. Will you teach me?

<starts using jimmy imitating their moves.>

*Each blow, then straight.*

*Each blow, then straight.*

*Work work.*

*Man and work.*

*Work work.*

*Man and work.*

<K and B feel a certain realization growing inside them.>

**K:** hmmm one has to work. Just has to.

**B:** then why do people like us starve to death.

**K:** the rich people hog a lot.

**D:** but how much can they eat. Look at us, don't we all eat well here?

**K:** but I haven't eaten anything today.

**D:** you chose not to.

**K:** Doctor, does everyone really get everything free here?

**D:** no not free. Not at all. We all work hard. That's why we get everything we need. If we didn't work, you'd get nothing.

**B:** but we didn't work at anything, but still ate for free.

**D:** you didn't work today. But tomorrow you will. Man cant live without work.

**B:** Oh I tell you what I want to do. I'll be a gardener. I will dig holes ever so carefully with precision to plant trees, flowers and a world without obstruction.

**D:** oh that's a wonderful occupation.

**K:** I think I'll be a builder. But then I have ruined so many walls, made so many holes. I don't know whether I can be of any good.

**D:** Don't worry. You can always build something for change...

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