

*A young man, RIK – Casual, happy go lucky type, office goer of around twenty five year old. An old SHOP OWNER - mysterious, sly. STRANGER/ A middle aged SCIENTIST– Seems to be mad at first then makes sense. A bus CONDUCTOR. A CO PASSENGER on the bus – not so well dressed or well mannered. Chatterbox.*

## **Scene 1**

*EXT. Street. Evening*

Dusk was setting in. Last of the sun's rays cosseted behind the orange cloud, the blue hue of the sky almost gone. Rik was walking down the pavement when a certain antique shop caught his attention. Out of curiosity, he enters the shop.

## **Scene 2**

*INT. Antique Shop– Evening*

(Antiques crowd the stuffy little shop. Though many items have lost their lustre, they stand in their dusty cabinets with all glory and pride intact. There was everything from ancient China to early Islam. There were English tea pots and Russian dolls, all of them covered in a fine layer of dust. And, among the myriad of articles the one that stood apart was a curious device. Almost like the present days headphone, tangled, attached to a square shaped IPod like device and covered with a glass box. A spark of technology amidst the ancient pile!

Beside the atypical yet familiar object, sat the old shop owner, his till also antique, the keys clunky like an aging type writer. He seems to follow Rik's gaze.)

SHOP OWNER

-“You will like it. It is one of the oldest portable music devices to ever exist. A very powerful for its time.”

(Then lowering his voice adds)

“Rather of any time. Take it. You will feel a magic.”

(There was something in his voice and a drawing for the device, Rik decides to take it.)

Rik

"Ok I'll take it. "

### Scene 3

*INT. A bus*

(Rik boards a bus. Walks through the long passage and sits on the second last seat. The few people sitting on the bus swamp the vehicle with muddled silence. The bus was running over the black tarmac so fast that the passing scenery becomes a hazy blur. Suddenly the brakes squeak and everyone lurch forward as the bus comes to a stop.

Outside, a man drops his cigarette, smothers it with his foot, and steps inside, and blowing the last breath full of smoke in the conductor's face, who swats it away in his direction, he walks down the aisle.

He sits beside Rik, who turns away from the window momentarily and their eyes meet. The stranger smiles showing his yellow, tinted teeth.)

CO PASSENGER

"What time is it?"

(And Rik cringes at the pungent odour that comes as he spoke.)

RIK

10:05.(He says with a grunt.)

(The man does not seem to notice his discomfort)

CO PASSENGER

"I think your watch is running slow. When I left office it was 10. And I am waiting for so long."

(Rik does not answer to show his disinterest but the stranger does not seem to get the cue. He continues blabbering.)

*INT. Bus- Continuous Action*

CO PASSENGER

“ It will be again late today. These bosses, I am saying, they all must be hanged till death. You may not have a family. But what about us? My wife told me to bring some vegetables while coming. Now all shops will be closed by the time I reach. And who will face the music? Me. This life, is useless. You look young. Don't do the same mistake. Hear me. Never marry.”

(Rik desperately searches his pocket and realizes he left the earphone at home. In a frenzy he pulls out the just bought curious piece and thinks to himself.)

*INT. Bus- Continuous Action*

Rik( To himself)

“This may not play music but, it will shut out this weirdo at least.”

(He put on the buds and presses the play button. To his utter surprise it actually starts playing a music.)

*INT. Bus- Continuous Action*

Co passenger

“ A new kind of iPod? ”

(Abruptly stops at someone's interference. But, Rik does not notice. He was soon getting drowned in a strange yet hooking music, oblivious to the world around him.)

## **Scene 4**

*EXT. Street*

(Rik finds himself on the street. The buildings and people around him seem

to be from a different era. As he looks around the place, the buildings, the road and the people are oddly familiar though. Straight out of a period movie set.)

Rik(to himself )

Am I dreaming?

(To ascertain he pinches himself. That hurts. He is awake. His watch has stopped at 10:06. The mobile was not working.)

STRANGER

“ You are not dreaming, my boy.”

(Startled, he turns around to find an elderly man, smiling at him gently.)

*EXT. Street - Continuous Action*

RIK (in bewilderment)

“How did you? Um...who are you? And what is this place? What am I doing here?”

STRANGER

“Hey, don't freak out. Let's sit somewhere and contemplate, what just happened.”

## **Scene 5**

*INT. The stranger's house.*

(They enter a dark apartment. Stumbling over a misplaced shoe, Rik stub his big toe on the corner of the haphazardly kept box. Groping around the wall, the elderly man finds the light switch. The light flickers on, the quartz glass and halogen kind, illuminating the small room. It was a jungle of dirty clothes and many books. There was no table or chair, but a mattress balanced against the wall. And a huge desk full of laboratory items and instruments. )

(Rik takes out his mobile to check again. No signal.)

The Stranger

- "It won't work. It's not invented yet. I also had a hard time adjusting here coming from days of 2055." (Said the stranger while offering him a bottle of water. )

Rik - "Huh!" (Rik was confused than ever.)

*INT. The stranger's house- Continuous Action*

STRANGER

- "So what year are you coming from?"

Rik

- "Will you stop talking gibberish?" (Rik was now impatient.)

"What do you mean by what year I am coming from? The date was 19th September 2018 when I stepped on to that wretched bus which brought me god knows where. But obviously the year is till 2018!"

STRANGER

- "No, it is not. Your time, space has changed the moment you played music on the device. It is 1955 now."

(Then, looking at the crestfallen face of Rik, he explains)

*INT. The stranger's house - Continuous Action*

The Stranger

"The music device is a kind of time machine which convert sound energy into electromagnetic waves (the technology used in your cell phone) and as I have designed, it can take you to and fro in timeline depending on which music you are on."

Rik

-So you're a scientist

(The stranger nods yes)

(Rik suddenly realizes the device is not with him anymore.)

RIK

-“But the device..”

The Scientist

- “Yes the device do not come with you. It is unable to port through the time hole. The biggest flaw of my experiment. Making it impossible to go back in your real time again.”

(Rik looks pale. What is this old man talking about?)

*INT. The scientist's house -  
Continuous Action*

The Scientist

“For years I was waiting for someone to press the right music to come at my time so that I can try to mend everything.”

RIK

“But how can you send us back?”

The Scientist

“After years of experimenting, I have duplicated a device. The technology of the present time was hindering my progress. But I guess I have succeeded at last. And since now I know the current position and time of the real device we have to first go back there before anyone gets hold of it and falls in the time trap.”

RIK (in a trembling voice)

“Your current device is full proof, Professor?”

The Scientist

“I think so.”

RIK

“And what if you have miscalculated?”

*INT. The scientist's house - Continuous Action*

The Scientist

“In worst situation you will fall into a time loop.”

RIK

“And how to get out of that?”

The Scientist

“We have to see.”

RIK

“ How can you see if you are stuck in a time loop?”

The Scientist

-“ Hence, you should go back alone And without putting earplug should play the machine so that the energy waves only send back the device. So tell me the exact time and date.”

RIK - “10:05pm”

## **Scene 6**

*INT. Same Bus*

(The bus screeches to stop. The same man (co- passenger) boards the bus throwing away his cigarette. Rik is sitting in his seat. The man goes to sit beside him. Rik takes out the device. Another Rik runs to stop him but, the play button is pressed. The silhouettes of impending figure vanishes.)

A black timehole appears.

(Scene fades)

THE END