

EXCLUSIVE FEATURE
THE COMMANDER,
HIS WIFE, HER LOVER

Permit Room

A DISHOOM PUBLICATION

Featuring:
SOURS & FANCIES
SLINGS, COOLERS & FIZZES
PEGS, PUNCHES, ETC., ETC.
WINE, BEER,
SNACKS AND MORE...



SHOORJI'S
TE-RELAX
SAREES



PHOTOGRAPH: JEHANDIR GAZI

16 PRINTS BY **TATA** *Textiles*

Creative Unit

DISCOVER DINESH DISTINCTION



Dinesh Suitings—with contemporary patterns and designs that fit precisely into place when tailored. The suit drapes so well—doesn't sag, shrink or fade—ever! Not mass-produced but class-produced—from selected Australian wool.

THE TAILOR APPROVES



dinesh

WOOLLEN AND TERYWOOL SUITINGS

SHRI DINESH MILLS LIMITED
PADRA ROAD, BARODA

everest/NET c/50h

Since 1949, and to this very day, Bombay has been under a state of prohibition. A personal permit is required by law if one is to "continue to require foreign liquor and country liquor for preservation and maintenance of one's health".

Set apart from a family room, there is a special place which has come to be known unofficially as a Permit Room. Herein liquor can be sold and imbibed, but only for the goodness of one's health.

Permit Room

CONTENTS:

COCKTAILS

- Daru-walla Recommends 04
- Sours & Fancies 06
- Slings, Coolers & Fizzes 08
- Pegs, Punches, Etc., Etc. 11
- Liberty Punch 12

WINE

- Sparkling 14
- White 15
- Red 16
- Rosé 17
- Orange 17

If you would care for any classic cocktail that is not presented in this menu—just ask. **If you prefer options absent of any alcohol, please ask your server for our teetotal menu.**

BEER & CIDER 19

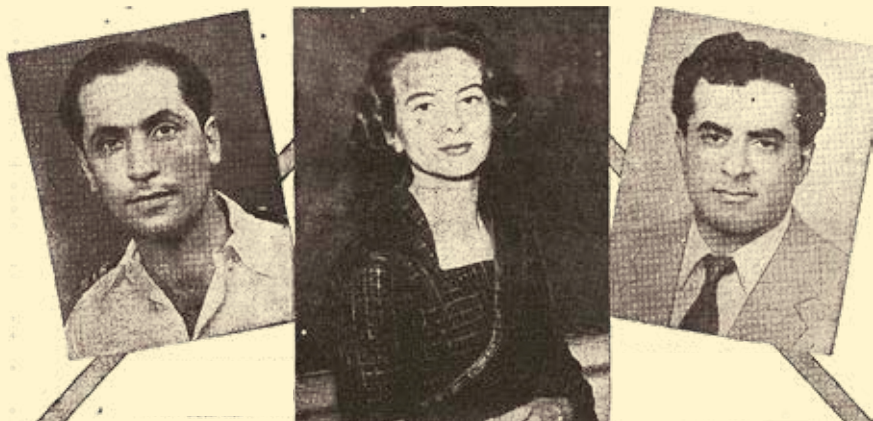
SNACKS 20

And if you have any allergies please let us know.

STORY 21-25



EXCLUSIVE DARU-WALLA RECOMMENDS



THE COMMANDER, HIS WIFE, HER LOVER (3 COUPES) 19.10

A scandalous
three-martini
lunch?

Commander
Kawas Nanavati
was tried in 1959
for the murder of
his wife's lover.
The trial – and the
trio – captivated
Bombay, fuelling
much cocktail
chatter. We make
three modestly
sized martinis in
their memory.

DRAMATIS PERSONAE:

THE LOVER

A passionate mingling of Dishoom Vermouth infused with a touch of lady's fingers, Fords London Dry Gin and black pepper tincture (for the shots fired). Richly decorated with a green olive.

THE WIFE

Classic affair of Stranger & Sons Gin and Carpano Dry Vermouth laced with Poire William and the much coveted Axia Spirit – known for its jealousy inciting qualities. A lipstick-red roquito pepper is added for a touch of sweetness.

THE COMMANDER

Smart dry martini of Angostura Amaro Liqueur, Fino Sherry and Sipsmith V.J.O.P. Gin for the hurrahs and cuckolded Commander Nanavati. Pink hue, punctuated with a black olive.

DIAMOND THRILLER (UP) 13.40

Swashbuckling mix of Cointreau, cranberry and Finlandia Vodka, with chilli and lime shrub. A nostalgic nod to films starring stuntwoman 'Fearless Nadia', who captivated 1940s Bombay.

SOURS &

INDIA GIMLET (UP)

Beefeater Dry Gin shaken with Rose's lime and celery bitters, finished with fresh dill. The gimlet is an old-established drink devised for sailors to avoid scurvy – you too can benefit. 12.10

DISHOOM MARGARITA (UP)

Tequila el Jimador and lime juice shaken with clarified tamarind and subtle spice. Magic dust on one half of the rim. Admire the subtleties of mango. And switch the tequila with The Lost Explorer Mezcal Espadin, for that smoky feeling. 12.10

1948 SOUR (UP)

Sincerely dry sour of Amrut and Nikka Days whiskies, with Dishoom Plum Liqueur and eggless (aquafaba) foam. Historians: Amrut distillery was founded in the year between India's Independence and Bombay's Prohibition. Vegans: enjoy. 12.70

BABA'S SESAME ESPRESSO MARTINI (UP)

Baba's espresso meets Finlandia Vodka, with molasses bitters, chai syrup, white sesame tincture and a smattering of black sesame. 11.90

SUNNY'S STAR-TINI (UP)

Sparkling wine atop fresh passion fruit liqueur, lashed with vanilla bitters and laced with Finlandia Vodka. An otherwise well-known cock-tail affair, here up-dated. 12.50

FANCIES

INDIA GIMLET

12.10



Beefeater Dry Gin shaken with Rose's lime and celery bitters, finished with fresh dill. The gimlet is an old-established drink devised for sailors to avoid scurvy – you too can benefit.

SLINGS, COOLERS & FLIZZES



BOMBAY BELLINI (FLUTE)

A tippie for any time of day or night, such is its allure. Beneath deep foam is sparkling wine with juicy mango and guava syrup. A hint of kokum, India's ancient cooling fruit. 12.10

PINK SHISO SPRITZ (TALL)

Tanqueray's Rangpur Lime Distilled Gin on ice with sparkling wine, shiso cordial, white balsamic syrup, soda and a ruffle of shiso leaf. Tall, pale pink, light and less inebriating than most. 12.70

BLUSHING COLADA (TALL)

Classic ice-crush of coconut cream and pineapple juice dances with dragon fruit and pawpaw. Blushing pink, with a warm heart of Flor de Caña 4 Rum. Adorned with crimson dragon fruit. 11.90

KOHINOOR MOJITO (TALL)

Be not fooled by innocent appearances! Crystal-clear muddle of Flor de Caña 4 Rum, dry white vermouth, soda and house-made mojito cordial. A bushel of fresh mint pleases noses. 12.50

LIME-LEAF COLLINS (TALL)

Not unlike a Nimbu Pani, this cloudy quencher of lime-leaf cordial and soda is laced with Stranger & Sons Gin and a dash of Italicus Bergamot Rosolio Liqueur. Decked out with lime two ways: fragrant leaf and sturdy wheel. 12.50

New Permit Room Old-Fashioned



With coconut-washed Woodford Reserve Bourbon, Pedro Ximénez Sherry and Medjool-date liqueur, this newly-fashioned old hat is light, strong and smooth. "High-class Bombay in a glass" – so they say.

PEGS, PUNCHES, ETC., ETC.

SUMMERHOUSE NEGRONI (PEG)

Heady holiday of Beefeater Dry Gin, Campari, sweet vermouth, Manzanilla dry sherry, apricot liqueur and Calvados. In a wistful moment, some will recall northern India's hilltop apples. 14.50

THANDAI MAI-TAI (PEG)

Clarified yet creamy, cooling blend of Brugal 1888 Rum, almond milk, black pepper and cardamom bitters – not to mention fragrant Thandai syrup. Adorned with fresh cardamom leaf. 14.70

NEW PERMIT ROOM OLD-FASHIONED (PEG)

With coconut-washed Woodford Reserve Bourbon, Pedro Ximénez Sherry and Medjool-date liqueur, this newly-fashioned old hat is light, strong and smooth. "High-class Bombay in a glass" – so they say. 14.50

PISTACHIO KULFI CREAM (TALL)

Delicate green with oat cream, pistachio butter and aromatic gin from Stranger & Sons' Third Eye Distillery in Goa. A comforting drink one can sink into, much like a pale sofa. 14.70

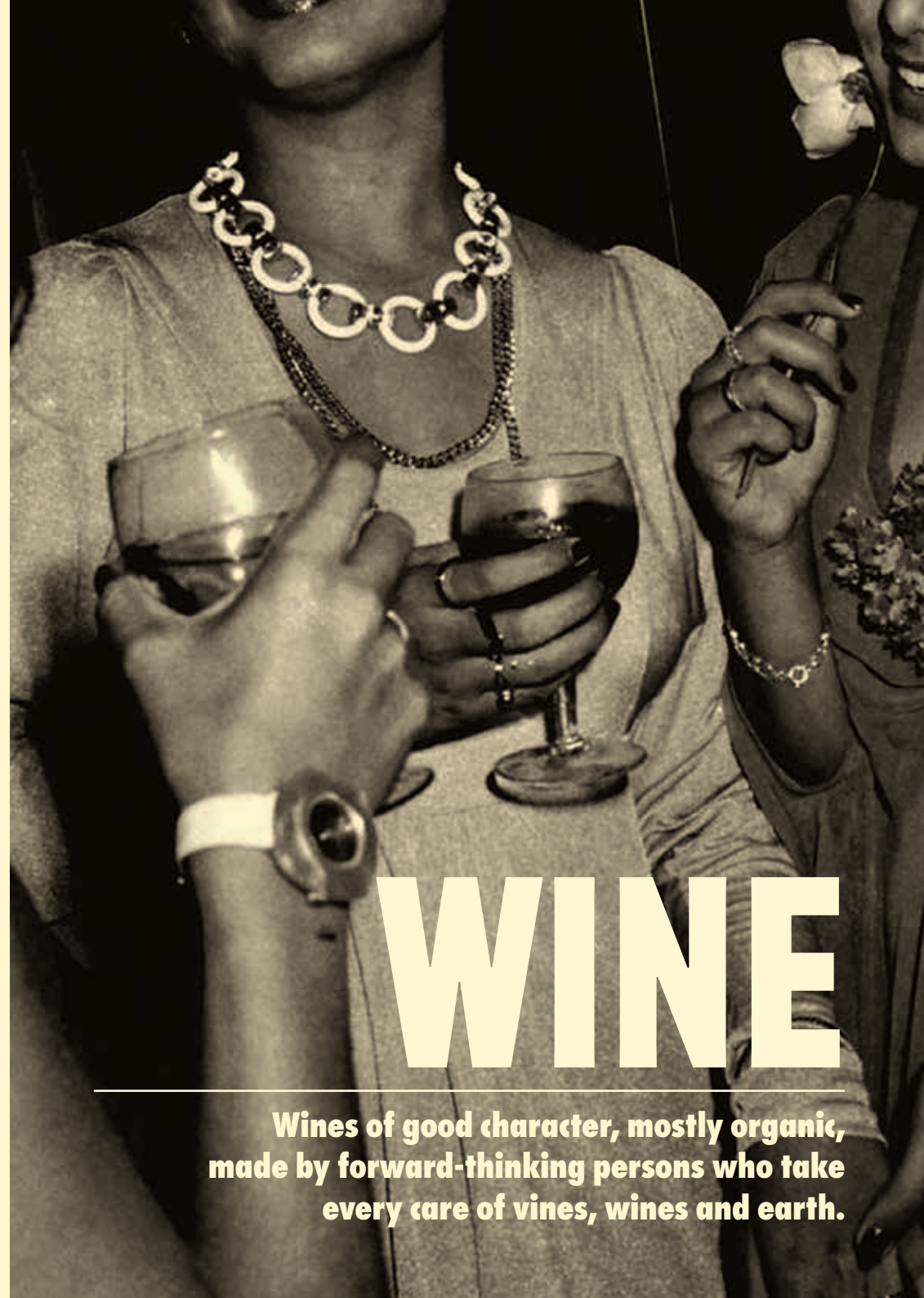
LIBERTY PUNCH

**FOR A BOLD NEW NATION,
A JUBILANT LIBATION:**

H by Hine VSOP Cognac, Earl Grey, lime, cinnamon and black cardamom.

Hitherto made only for gatherings of four or more people,
but today also procurable in individual glasses.
Do not hesitate to enquire.

9.20 / 46.00



WINE

**Wines of good character, mostly organic,
made by forward-thinking persons who take
every care of vines, wines and earth.**

BELLA STORIA: CIELO E TERRA, SPUMANTE, NV, VENETO

Insist on having a 'beautiful history' (bella storia)! Old-established family co-operative grows organic Garganega grapes to make this refreshing aperitivo akin to Prosecco. Extra dry.
(Ve) 125ml / 750ml 9.90 / 44.50

LA CANTINA PIZZOLATO: PROSECCO DOC, NV, VENETO

A high-class organic extra-dry Prosecco made with hand-picked Glera grapes, no added sulphites. Pale straw hue, toasted apple notes, fresh clean palate. Unhesitatingly perfect in all respects.
(Ve) 125ml / 750ml 10.70 / 48.50

GASTON CHIQUET: CHAMPAGNE TRADITION PREMIER CRU, NV, CHAMPAGNE

Hand-harvested Pinot Meunier, Chardonnay and Pinot Noir grapes, grown by the Chiquet family in Champagne since 1746. Golden hue, fine long-lasting mousse, rounded red fruits, floral nuances, zesty racy freshness... Pre-eminent.
750ml 69.00

SELBACH-OSTER: 'FUNKELWÜRTZ ZERO', NV, MOSEL VALLEY

Alcohol-free organic sparkling wine of Muscat Blanc and Rivaner grapes, with the giddy name of 'Funky Sausage' (one must ask the Selbach family for precise meaning). Light, balanced, German.
(Ve) <0.5% 750ml 33.90

PASOS DE LA CAPULA: VIURA, 2024, CASTILLE

White Rioja's most important grape, Viura, gives rise to this very light, refreshing snifter. Pairs pleasingly with coconut curry, etc., etc., etc.
(Ve) 7.90 / 21.10 / 30.50

LES JARDINS FLEURIS: BLANC, 2023, LANGUEDOC-ROUSSILLON

Aromas of white flowers and a pithy citrus finish. With Vermentino and Colombard grapes in harmony, you can be satisfied. Dry.
(Ve) 8.90 / 24.20 / 35.00

PRIMA ALTA: PINOT GRIGIO, 2024, VENETO

The coolness of the Dolomites is sure to marry well with your spicy food. Classic and refreshing. One could not quarrel with a detail.
(Ve) 11.20 / 31.10 / 48.50

QUINTO ARRIO: TEMPRANILLO BLANCO, 2023, RIOJA

Off-dry attack, ripe orchard-fruit palate, a textured pithy finish. Organic, modern and complex, changing characterfully as you drink. Make hay: Tempranillo Blanco is astoundingly rare to find.
(Ve) 11.90 / 33.50 / 47.50

BOB 'SHORT FOR KATE': SAUVIGNON BLANC, 2023, MARLBOROUGH

Melon, citrus, then white blossom. Organic and vegan. The loopy name has a story: winemaker Ben's sister Kate (aka 'Bob') was a woman of honesty and joie-de-vivre. A richly expressive character.
(Ve) 14.70 / 42.80 / 60.00

175ml glass / 500ml carafe / 750ml bottle
(All wines can be served in 125ml measures)
(Ve) Vegan

PASOS DE LA CAPULA: TEMPRANILLO, 2023, CASTILLE

Brambles and dusty incense, with white pepper, but markedly soft and light. Lower alcohol than others in this line.

Affable and quaffable. (Ve) 7.90 / 21.10 / 30.50

ROC D'OPALE: GRENACHE-MERLOT, 2023, LANGUEDOC-ROUSSILLON

Hedgerow fruit, plum and cocoa, with soft tannins. Garnet-red to behold. Fresh and agreeable with or without food.

(Ve) 8.70 / 24.60 / 35.00

DOMINIO DE PUNCTUM: SYRAH, 2024, CASTILLE

There is no mistaking the full-bodied, rich and powerful character. And yet there is velvet. Organic, biodynamic, obtainable for vegans and other persons. (Ve) 11.50 / 33.20 / 46.00

VINECOL QUINDE: MALBEC RESERVE, 2024, MENDOZA

Enticing rose-garden bouquet. Delectation of plum, liquorice, spice and very red fruit. A paragon of mellowness and refreshment. Earnestly, the more you are having of it, the more you are desiring of it. Organic and vegan also. (Ve) 14.70 / 40.70 / 57.00

CA' VITTORIA: APPASSIMENTO, 2023, PUGLIA

Sappy woodfire, leather, tar and spice give way to mellow cocoa and liquorice in this rich Vino Passito made with partially air-dried Primitivo and Negroamaro grapes. Darkly divine with House Black Daal. (Ve) 19.10 / 50.70 / 72.00

LES JARDINS FLEURIS: ROSÉ, 2024, LANGUEDOC-ROUSSILLON

Pale peachy blossom colour. A happy nose, pleasant and full of promise. Slightly saline on the palate. Southern French charm at moderate terms. (Ve) 8.70 / 24.20 / 34.90

DOMAINE PINCHINAT: ROSÉ, 2023, PROVENCE

Cool altitudes and herbal fields are at play in this unendingly drinkable delight. Organic, balanced, refreshing and elegant beyond compare. All who are drinking it are swearing by it. (Ve) 14.50 / 39.70 / 58.00

DOMINIO DE PUNCTUM: POMELADO SKIN-CONTACT WHITE, 2024, CASTILLE

Sauvignon Blanc with structure and rich amber colour thanks to 14 days hob-nobbing with grape-skins. Subtleties of bruised apple, mango and cinnamon – a boon to curry and buttery dishes. Organic, biodynamic and vegan. (Ve) 12.90 / 36.30 / 51.00

BEER & CIDER



**FRESH VIGOUR AND AN INCREASED
JOIE-DE-VIVRE THROUGH DISHOOM IPA**

KINGFISHER

This mild and malty easy-drinking lager is India's choicest favourite.

4.5% 330ml / 650ml 5.90 / 8.90

DISHOOM INDIA PALE ALE

Delectable IPA with fruity citrus notes and a clean bitterness. Bold and vigorous in character.

5.0% 330ml 7.30

ROAD SODA NEW ENGLAND PALE ALE

Mondo explores tropical territory. From Mosaic and Simcoe hops, plenty of oats and late-dry-hopping pours forth juicy hazy golden goodness.

4.8% 330ml 7.40

HARBOUR BEACH PARTY PALE ALE (CAN)

Bitter marmalade on toast with subtle aroma of warm mangoes, washed down with bright citrus. Long-lasting hops. Zesty, vegan and refreshingly sippable, morning to night.

3.4% 330ml 6.90

EXPORT INDIA PORTER

Kernel Brewery take inspiration from timeworn porters that washed up in India. Notes of chocolate and coffee with ABV of approximately 5.5%. For precision, ask server.

330ml 8.20

PINEAPPLE & PEPPER CRUMBLE SOUR (CAN)

An UnBarred x Permit Room collaboration. Exceedingly drinkable, slightly tart. Prized pineapple perked up with cracked black pepper, vanilla spice and a little buttery-biscuit crumble.

5.5% 440ml 8.90

COLLIDER UNWIND SESSION IPA (CAN)

Reborn John Barleycorn trips gently on lion's mane mushroom and calming ashwagandha. Malty, citrusy and alcohol-low, an effervescent brew for clear beer-like good moods.

0.5% 330ml 6.50

PEACOCK CIDER

Crafted by skilled workmanship in Herefordshire. Very mellow fruitfulness, best cider apples, kissed by the maturing sun. Pairs well with feisty food.

4.8% 500ml 8.70

GUEST BEERS & CIDERS

Consult your server for guest beers and ciders.

SNACKS

CHAKNA

Fried lentils, spices, nuts and sev. 3.80

CAFÉ CRISPS

Sprinkled with magic masala and served with lime. 3.80



DISHOOM

CANARY WHARF



**IN WHICH THE
CANNY AND
AMBITIOUS
SON OF A
HUMBLE IRANI
CAFÉ OWNER ENDS UP
IN WAY OVER HIS HEAD...**



THURSDAY 12TH APRIL - 1973, BOMBAY

It is almost light outside. It must be about six. He's been awake half the night trying to figure out what to do. Lying on his bed, he stares through the rotating blades of the ceiling fan which only serve to stir the close warm air of his room. He needs to think – he's running out of time. But his eyes feel salted and his head throbs.

He gets up and his legs are shaky. He's panicking. He can't fix what he's done. He's tried to reason it all in his head,



to tell himself that there was no other way, that either all was lost, or he had to try to do something. But he knows he did the wrong thing. He was so so embarrassed – his shame was so deep and his pain so great that he couldn't face anyone. He certainly couldn't face the truth. And now when faces the mirror, he doesn't recognise the man looking back at him. A chill black dread is compressing his heart and making it hard for him to breathe. It's surely only a matter of time

before everyone finds out. His life will be over – worthless. And his mother, what will she think? He has to tell her, before it's too late, but a wave of fear washes over him. He should have stopped at the first whiff of trouble. After all, he's not a criminal. He just got in over his head and now he needs a solution. He needs to finish it.

The phone rings. And rings and rings and rings.

36 HOURS EARLIER...

Invitations were for eight but no one arrived before ten. There are handshakes and air kisses, musky perfume, laughing and singing, platters of delicious food. Glittering, rising film stars call each other darling and sway in silk and chiffon to the music; business barons cheerfully argue amongst themselves; local gangsters chat with tainted police detectives while socialites with butterfly eyes work the room.

The party is in full swing and in the middle of it all, is Nauzer. He can't quite believe it. His café is the talk of the town, full of bonhomie and a dazzling cosmopolitan mix of talent, ambition, money, beauty brought together by business deals, clean and shady. He looks around and feels content, complete, happily intoxicated on a faint but very pleasant feeling of belonging.



He spots Prashad, who raises a glass and nods to him across the room. Nauzer gives an acknowledging smile. He still feels nervous whenever their paths cross – which is more and more these days. Sometimes he wonders whether he should ever have gotten involved with someone like him... but he couldn't ignore the potential profits. He lets the thought drift away on a coil of cigarette smoke.

Whisky and cigarettes, late evening turns to night. Glancing at his Rado, two in the morning, he decides to walk home smiling, drunk. In his heady state, the dance of streetlights makes the city seem to glitter. *"Everything will be fine"*. He bites down on his own lie.

The following morning, Nauzer is lying in bed feeling jaded, heavy and hazy. He rubs his face, eases out of bed, stretches and walks to the window to open the wooden slatted blinds. The room fills with light and he takes in the mess of clothes amidst the ornate cut-glass vases and beautiful rosewood furniture. Turning on his transistor radio, the All India news bulletin blares out.

10 minutes later he is completely ready. Washed, shaven, dressed in Charagh Din shirt, slacks and cream socks. A day like any other, he picks up *The Economic Times* and *Financial Express* from the newsstand on his way to the café and tries to read all he can before the opening bell rings. Several others are already in his café when he arrives. Businessmen, bankers and brokers – wealthy and wily – talking of business, as they always do. The goldsmith from next door eating his usual Bun Maska, with extra butter and all.

"Where have you been, beta?" His mother, Rumina, stops him. Thin and stooped, she was leaning over the counter reading the matrimonial columns in the newspaper. Nauzer assumes the stories of marital bliss remind her of his late father. A gentle man, adored by everyone and taken too soon. He died when Nauzer was barely ten and he remembers attending the funeral and thinking his mother looked sad-eyed but beautiful in her white sari. He was too young then to appreciate the burden she was about to carry. His father's work ethic had been legendary and led to his Irani café becoming a hub for the community, catering to hundreds of residents and locals every day.



He looks at her and smiles with pride. The early days were tough, but she worked hard and kept life in the café because she loved it. Every plate she had served had been served with love. For her, joy and success were bound up in rustling up delicious Akuri, watching young love blossom over Chai, old friends gathering and gossiping over Biryani, all while fortunes were made and lost in the Bombay Stock Exchange across the road.

And her dedication to Nauzer was unfaltering. She encouraged him to read widely, be curious, move in any direction he chose. For Nauzer, that direction was the Bombay Stock Exchange.

His dream of reaching the bull ring was sparked one close and balmy Bombay afternoon. He was helping his mother in the café when he spotted a young, well-built, moustachioed gentleman in tinted glasses drive up in a Mercedes-Benz and stop outside the Bombay Stock Exchange. He eased out of the car, suited and booted, a cigarette hanging from his mouth, and glided purposefully to the café. Admiration dripped from Nauzer's eyes. Swaggering through the scattering of marble-topped tables, the man found a vacant seat and sat down. Nauzer walked over, nervously, to take his order and he still remembers the fragrance of expensive cologne assailing his nostrils as he approached.



"Chai, extra hot," ordered the man decisively and he waved Nauzer away. Retreating to the kitchen, Nauzer assumed this was one of the new generation of business barons – quick, decisive, professional – bent on expansion and achievement. Nauzer watched him and saw satisfaction, contentment. He made an emphatic promise to himself – I will be a success! Shortly after, he met with a distant relative who had climbed the ranks in the Bombay Stock Exchange and who, after much pleading, employed Nauzer as a clerk. From then on in the mornings he'd be in the exchange, diligently recording trades in musty old ledgers, before returning to the café to help his mother in the afternoon-evenings.

After a while, he opened an account with a jobber-turned-broker and made his first winning investment with a tip he had overheard in the café. It wasn't a huge fortune, low-risk low-return, but to Nauzer it was everything. He had tasted

success. He hatched grand plans to do-up the café – make it the swishest in town, modern and different. At once embodying his father's spirit while becoming a hub for glamorous and moneyed people. But above all – his *Ami* would want for nothing.

A couple of years on and rumours of Nauzer's 'financial wizardry' had spread amongst his community and he had fashioned an image for himself as the bachelor stockbroker of the Bombay Stock Exchange. Aunties and Uncles were giving him money and asking him to invest it in "such-and-such shares" and "soandso stocks." Life savings were handed over without hesitation – because why would they hesitate? Nauzer was his parents' son and he was meticulous, driven and charming – someone to trust.

"Get your head out of the clouds beta" his mother stirs him. He looks above her head at the photograph of his father. He smiles



inwardly thinking about how proud his father would be of him, surely. Seemingly impossible dreams were coming true with hard work and determination – virtues he'd learnt from his father. He's refreshed the café with exquisitely made modern-style furniture and his newfound taste in art; he's enriched the community with his investing skills; and the moneyed crowd have started to welcome him into their folds. Right then, in that very moment, Nauzer felt life was good.

Meanwhile, Devia Patel of the *Free Press Journal* is making her way steadily towards him. A respected journalist, she's exposed multiple scams and swindlers in the Bombay financial world and now she has a new target in her sites. One of her band of tipsters gave her a nudge in Nauzer's direction a few weeks ago and she's been researching his dealings diligently since.

She arrives at the café, walks in and spots Nauzer standing near the counter. Crossing the terrazzo tiles to join him, she wastes no time... "Mr Irani, Devia Patel from the Free Journal Press. Can you spare a moment? My readers and I would love to know more about your lucrative investing strategies."

read more at dishoom.com/meet-nauzer

World-class cricketer Farokh Engineer says:

**"Only Brylcreem leaves
my hair the way I like it
-tidy and well-groomed."**

"See what I mean?"

"For me, there's only
one hairdressing and that's
Brylcreem.

"It leaves my hair just
the way I like it—
neatly in place, without
plastering it down.

"With Brylcreem
I feel well-dressed!"

**Brylcreem:
the largest-selling
hairdressing
in the world**



B.L.E. 2002



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a lot lately**

so has

BINNY

16 different brands of 'Terene' blend
shirtings! *

12 different brands of 'Terene' blend
suits! **

In contemporary designs. Checks, 2 tones,
stripes, streaks, dobby checks, plains. With
the same superior quality we are famous for,
the only unchanged thing. A welcome
change from Binny, a changed you.

* Ajit plain, Ajit checks, Ajit stripes, Reshma
dobby stripes, Carmen stripes, Carmen checks,
Tosca stripes, Tosca checks, Zeplin plain,
Arizona stripes, Tuscan checks, Triumph plain,
Triumph checks, Triumph stripes, Cascade plain
and Cascade stripes.

** Shah-en-Shah, Admiral, Peerless, Marquis,
Earl, Hunter, Ben Hur, Marlborough, Rising
Sun, Elation, Elite and Progress.



BINNY

TERENE BLEND FABRICS



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shirtings,
worth
changing
to!**



Flowers bloom for you
on a
maharana
Saree



Sarees, Prints, Dress
Materials in 'Orlon', Art Silk &
Cotton. Suitings & Shirtings
in 'Terene', 'Terene' Cotton &
Cotton. Maharana Mills,
Porbandar.



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MAHARANI keeps your skin smooth and lovely as a queen's

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