

RAJMOHAN'S WIFE

Chapters 20-22

- From chapter 20, the resolution of the plot begins as the action moves towards the conclusion. After being rescued by Madhav and Tara, Matangini confided the details of her capture. Mathur Ghosh used Suki's mother to lure Matangini to the dungeon. The trusted Matangini followed her when she said she would conceal her while she went to ask for Tara's help to arrange for Matangini's passage to Naihati. Suki's mother locked Matangini there and later in the evening Mathur Ghosh came to her, soliciting her favour only to be met with Matangini's scorn and anger. He decided to gain Matangini's favour by starving her but he had underestimated her resilience. She did not succumb to his advances and bore the starvation bravely. Tara and Madhav revived Matangini. It was decided that to allay suspicion Matangini would be kept there till the evening. In the evening Kanak would come from Madhav's house and escort Matangini there. Tara went back to the main house and returned the keys to the place from where she had procured them. She confided the events of the evening to none but was heartbroken with her husband's actions. Later in the evening Kanak came and Matangini went to her sister's house. Although a tearful Hem solicited with her to stay there, Matangini informed her that she would go home to Naihati. The reader must remember that Matangini despite her harrowing experience remains true to her earlier promise given to Madhav that she would always maintain her distance from him.
- Chapter 21-Mathur Ghosh is informed by the robber that his sidekick Bhiku has been arrested and may likely disclose the particulars of robberies committed by them and Mathur Ghosh might be implicated. The robber chief was leaving Radhaganj that night and warned Mathur as a favour, remaining loyal to their earlier association. Mathur Ghosh started plotting for ways to extricate himself from the crisis. However, late in the evening a law agent from the Zila Court came to Mathur asking him to flee Radhaganj. Bhiku had confessed to the Irish magistrate and the man was now on his way to Radhaganj to arrest Mathur. Early the next day the Magistrate

came with policemen to arrest Mathur but found him hanging from the ceiling of the dungeon where Madhav had been kept captive.

- The next chapter is the formal conclusion. The reader is informed of the fate of the characters in the novel. Bhiku and Rajmohan were transported because they had confessed only partially. The dacoit sardar had escaped successfully. Matangini went back to her father and died an early death. Tara lived out a long widowhood but could not get over her husband's betrayal. The others led an uneventful life and died in the normal course of events.

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