

## SCENE-BY-SCENE SYNOPSIS

### SCENE ONE

The story begins with an incident when Gutthal was in the eighth grade. Along with his brothers, he was to be engaged in a common ceremony. This was one of the most unpleasant events of Gutthal's life. In the tilak ceremony, the girl's father inspected all three brothers and was stunned to see Gutthal's squint eyes. He decided that Gutthal was no match for his daughter.

### SCENE TWO

Gutthal has just returned from Oman after 5 years of being gainfully employed. The whole village is now looking for ways to grab his earnings. His family - his brothers, their sons & sisters-in-law included. When he lands at the bus stand, he is amazed to see how the village has changed in his absence. He is astonished to see mobile phones, dish antennas, new roads, cars, hoardings, buildings, etc. But the fact that his brothers have separated without giving him his rightful share of the family wealth shocks him the most.

### SCENE THREE

Gutthal is reminded of the time he spent working in Surat. He had earned 2 Lakh rupees in a short span of time, but was never appreciated for this. Now, cheated of his share of the family wealth, Gutthal looks to his uncle for help and requests him to find him a suitable match for marriage. He trusts his uncle wholeheartedly but upon approaching him, he is met with more rejection & betrayal. Turns out, Gutthal's uncle and his elder brother Avtaar, falsely informed the bride's family that Gutthal is impotent! Yet again, Gutthal loses a shot at marriage and his family plots to rob him of his earnings.

### SCENE FOUR

Gutthal finds out about his brothers' devious plans during a rift with his sister-in-law. There is an angry exchange of words between Gutthal and his sister-in-law which slowly descends into dangerous territory. They end up being sexually intimate with one another & she makes him swear that he will keep it a secret.

### SCENE 5

Gutthal leaves for Oman, hoping to find employment & opportunities. Five years later, when he returns, his sister-in-law introduces him to her 4-year-old child whose face has a stark resemblance to that of Gutthal's. Just when Gutthal has begun to feel joyous about being a father, his drunk elder brother dampens the mood. The story ends as the two narrators conclude the tale of "Randua Gutthal" - the pure-of-soul village simpleton, desperate to get married.