

# Ramayan

## Short Script

### Scene 1

**Lights up. The palace gardens. Rama and Sita enter the stage. They walk around, talking and laughing as the narrator speaks. Birds can be heard in the background.**

Narrator 1: Once upon a time, there was a great warrior, Prince Rama, who had a beautiful wife named Sita.

**Rama and Sita stop walking and stand in the middle of the stage.**

Sita: **(looking up to the sky)** What a beautiful day.

Rama: **(looking at Sita)** Nothing compares to your beauty.

Sita: **(smiling)** Come, let's continue.

**Rama and Sita continue to walk around the stage, talking and laughing as the narrator continues.**

Narrator 1: Rama was the eldest son of the king. He was a good man and popular with the people of the land. He would become king one day, however his stepmother wanted her son to inherit the throne instead.

**Rama's stepmother enters the stage.**

Rama's stepmother: **(grumpy)** What are you both so happy about?

Rama: We are enjoying this beautiful morning. Stepmother, how are you today?

Rama's stepmother: Why do you care, Rama? **(Under her breath as she leaves the stage)** I won't be happy until that boy is gone.

Rama: I hope I didn't upset her?

Sita: You are a kind man and would never upset anyone on purpose.

**Rama and Sita leave the stage and lights down.**

## Scene 2

**Lights Up. Inside the palace. The king is sat on his throne with his wife stood beside him.**

Rama's stepmother: My dear, I've just come from the gardens.

King: Did you enjoy your walk?

Rama's stepmother: Unfortunately not as your son was very rude to me... again. He gloated about how he will become king one day and threatened to have me banished to the forest.

King: Rama said that? No, he couldn't have done.

Rama's stepmother: Are you saying that you don't believe your beloved wife?

King: I'm sorry my dear, I'm getting too old and tired for this. What has got into that boy? For weeks, you have told me about how boastful and mean he has become. Perhaps he won't make a good king after all?

Rama's stepmother: I fear the same.

**Rama and Sita enter.**

Rama: **(cheerful and bowing)** Good morning father!

Sita: **(curtseying)** Good morning your majesty.

King: Rama, I must ask why you have become so boastful lately? You gloat about how you will become king one day. This is not how a future king should behave!

Rama: What? I don't understand.

King: I thought you would make a kind, understanding king but I fear you will not. I think there is someone better for the role.

Rama: But...

Rama's stepmother: **(interrupting Rama)** Not everyone is cut out to be king, Rama.

Rama: It's you! You have been putting ideas into my father's head. You horrible woman!

King: **(angrily)** ) ENOUGH! I've heard enough. Rama, that is no way to speak to my wife. I banish you to the forest for 14 years. By then, I will be gone and a new king will rule. Leave immediately! **(storms off stage)**

**Rama falls down to his knees with his head in his hands. Sita tries to comfort him. Having seen this, Rama's stepmother laughs and leaves the stage.**

**Lights down**

### **Scene 3**

**Lights up. Rama and Sita are walking cautiously through the forest, looking around as they go. Rama's brother, Lakshmana, is leading the way. Forest noises can be heard in the background.**

Rama: Brother, it is kind of you to travel with us.

Lakshmana: Father has made a terrible mistake. His thoughts have been poisoned by that woman. I know this forest well and I can help you build a home.

Sita: We are forever grateful for your kindness, Lakshmana.

Lakshmana: The forest is a wild and dangerous place, watch your step.

**Rama, Sita and Lakshmana exit the stage and lights down.**

#### **Scene 4**

**Lights up. Ravana's palace on the island of Lanka. Ravana is sat on his throne.**

Narrator 2: On the island of Lanka, there was a grand palace. In the palace lived a ten-headed demon-king called Ravana. Ravana was feared throughout the land.

Ravana: **(standing up from his throne)** I must find Sita and see her beauty for myself. She should be my wife as I am the most powerful. As people fear me so much, and rightfully so, I can't appear to her as my true self. I need a cunning plan.

Narrator 2: Ravana thought some more.

Ravana: **(rubbing his hands together/cunning voice)** Yes, that's it! I'll disguise myself and capture her. She'll be mine forever!

**Ravana exits the stage and lights down.**

## **Scene 5**

**Lights up. Sita and Rama are walking in the forest. A golden fawn appears in their path.**

Sita: **(whispering and pointing)** Rama, look there's a fawn over there, let's not scare it.

Rama: **(whispering)** What a beautiful creature. It filled the forest with life.

**The fawn runs away, exiting the stage.**

Sita: Rama, please bring it back to me. I must take another look at its beauty.

Rama: Anything for my wife.

**Rama exits the stage and Sita happily walks around the forest clearing, taking in her surroundings. Ravana enters the stage, limping and dressed in disguise as an old man.**

Ravana: Excuse me my dear, I'm a tired, old man who has lost his way. Can you help me?

Sita: Yes, of course I will help you.

Ravana: I don't think I can walk much further.

Sita: Come rest with me for a while, and then I'll help you find your way. Don't worry.

**Sita walks towards him, Ravana removes his cloak, using it to capture Sita. She screams and struggles as Ravana takes her away. She throws down one of her bracelets. Both exit the stage.**

**Rama runs onto stage, huffing and puffing.**

Rama: Sita, where are you? Sita? The fawn disappeared into the trees. **(Rama looks down and notices her bracelet)** There was a struggle here. **(Rama looks at the ground in desperation)** Sita, where are you? Wait, what's that I see sparkling in the distance?

**Rama exits the stage and lights down.**

## **Scene 6**

**Lights up. Rama and Lakshmana are in the forest, following a trail of Sita's jewellery.**

Rama: Thank you for helping me with my search brother.

Lakshmana: Here's another piece Rama. She must have left a trail.

Rama: Yes, that's definitely Sita's bracelet. Keep looking.

**Hanuman enters.**

Hanuman: Rama, are you alright? You look very worried.

Rama: Hanuman, I am. Something is wrong. Sita has been taken from me.

Hanuman: Oh no! Do not worry, I will help you. You're not on your own Rama.

**Rama, Lakshmana and Hanuman exit the stage.**

Narrator 3: Hanuman flew off in search of Sita. He saw her trail of jewelry and followed it hoping it would lead to the princess. The trail led him to Ravana's palace on the island of Lanka, across the stormy sea. Hanuman found Sita and reassured her that she would be saved.

**Rama and Lakshmana back on stage, searching for Sita.**

Rama/ Lakshmana: Sita! Sita! Where are you? Sita! Sita! **(in desperation)**

**Hanuman enters**

Rama: Hanuman, do you have news?

Hanuman: Yes, Sita has been captured by Ravana and is being held at his palace on the island of Lanka, across the wild sea.

Rama: Ravana, the demon-king? Oh no, is she alright? Please tell me no harm has come to her.

Hanuman: She is well, but we must hurry. I reassured her that we would return. Quickly, follow me.

**Rama, Hanuman and Lakshmana exit the stage and lights down.**

## **Scene 7**

**Rama, Lakshmana and Hanuman stand at the water's edge. Ravana's palace is at the other side.**

Rama: **(frustrated)** I can't make it across there. It's too far. What are we going to do?

Lakshmana: I would go ahead, but the water is too deep and the tide is too strong. I would drown brother.

Hanuman: **(whistles)**

**Monkeys arrive, creating a bridge over the water for Rama and Lakshmana.**

Hanuman: Now you can cross safely. Go, there isn't a second to lose. We are all with you.

Lakshmana: Rama, we must hurry.

Rama: Thank you Hanuman, how will I ever repay you?

**Rama, Lakshmana and Hanuman start to make their way over the bridge. They exit the stage once they reach the other side.**

**Lights out**



## **Scene 8**

**Lights up. Rama and Sita enter the stage. They are stood at the edge of the forest and can see their home land in the distance. The path has been lit.**

Sita: 14 years have passed, now let us return to our rightful home.

Rama: Which way do we go?

Sita: We must follow the lights. The light will show us the way.

Rama: There are more lights along this path than there are in the sky.

**Rama and Sita walk along the path then exit the stage.**

Narrator 4: The people of their homeland had also realised that the 14 years had passed. It was a dark night, so they lit diva lamps to show Rama and Sita the way back home. On their return, there were huge celebrations and Rama and Sita were crowned the rightful king and queen. Hindus celebrate Diwali every year, remembering this story of love and how good triumphed over evil.

**The End**