

CODESWITCHING ANALYSIS USING HINDI-ENGLISH NARRATIVES

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INTRODUCTION

In his 1989 article titled "*Neurolinguists, Beware! The Bilingual Is Not Two Monolinguals in One Person*", Grosjean states that "The bilingual is NOT the sum of two complete or incomplete monolinguals; rather, he or she has a unique and specific linguistic configuration." In this short paper, I analyse a conversation between two bilinguals using Carol Myers-Scotton's "Markedness Model" which assumes that there can only be one single unmarked language/code in a conversation (a monolingual approach) and then analyse the same using a different, more bilingual approach.

DATA

This data analysis of codeswitching is based on two conversations between Hindi-English bilinguals. The participants are in their early twenties and are students at National University of Singapore. Also, both of them were born and raised in Hindi-speaking parts of India and they moved to Singapore about five years ago. Both the conversations are about the interlocutors' lives back in India how different they are in Singapore.

TRANSCRIPTION CONVENTIONS

Text inside [] are to provide additional information about the story or context.

Parts spoken in Hindi are **bolded**.

Hindi sections are followed by translations enclosed within (). The translations are italicized.

Unformatted text (of any color) was spoken in English.

The full transcripts can be found in **Annex A and B**.

ANALYSIS USING MARKEDNESS MODEL

In the following excerpt (Excerpt A), Nikhil and Arvinth have just started talking. Arvinth recalls how his friends blow up the toilet due to resentment against the school administration:

- | | | |
|---------|----|---|
| Nikhil | 1 | What is the most fucked up thing you have done in school? Anywhere. Singapore or anywhere. |
| Arvinth | 2 | Most fucked up thing I've done? I'm usually quite guai [Chinese word for <i>obedient</i>]. |
| Nikhil | 3 | Right right right. |
| Arvinth | 4 | No for real |
| Nikhil | 5 | No! The fuck look at you! |
| Arvinth | 6 | No I try not to go out of the line. But let me see the most fucked up hmm.. |
| | 7 | There was something that my friends did. I was not directly integrated in it but I did help out. |
| | 8 | So, umm, basically it was the lead up to Diwali and I think |
| | 9 | Diwali ke do ya teen din pehle chutti dene ki baat thi (<i>we were supposed to get a break from school starting two or three days before Diwali</i>) |
| | 10 | Originally that's what our almanac and everything said. |
| | 11 | And then they didn't |
| Nikhil | 12 | The school didn't? |
| Arvinth | 13 | No the school said ki syllabus khatam karna hai bla bla bla (<i>we have to finish the syllabus bla bla bla</i>) |
| | 14 | All you can cry about it but they said that hum chutti nahi denge (<i>we won't give you a break</i>). |
| | 15 | Cancelled. Alright so naturally we got pissed off. |
| | 16 | So, yeh log bole ki theek hai chalo (<i>these people said that okay let's</i>), we'll do something. |
| | 17 | Toh yeh log woh chocolate bomb le aaye school mein (<i>So, these people brought that chocolate bomb [a loud firecracker] into the school</i>) |

- Nikhil 18 [laughter] I can see where this is going
 Arvindh 19 Yeah yeah yeah, it gets better
 20 So, what they do is that they take a bunch of these like four or five of these and they umm..
 sneak into the toilet. There is a bottle of phenyl, a glass bottle of phenyl – half full
 21 (laughter)
 22 and what they do that they start unloading yeah. So, like just unwrapping the whole thing and
 just unloading. Yeah.
 23 And then they get like a fuse, stick it in, and lead it all the way outside the bathroom, light it
 24 It's, it's like a fucking mission impossible intro. You know the whole fuse leak thing.
 Nikhil 25 What the shit!
 Arvindh 26 Yeah yeah they did that.
 27 So, the whole thing lights up, explodes inside the bathroom okay?
 28 So, there broken glass, phenyl and smoke everywhere alright?
 29 Then, we all find out about this later because we all have to go to the toilet sometime
 Nikhil 30 [laughter]
 Arvindh 31 [laughter] **sab kidki** (all windows), mirrors are all broken
 32 And till this date, the school admin does not know who did it.
 33 [laughter]
 Nikhil 34 Oh! What a shitty school! What the fuck!
 Arvindh 35 Yeah

The unmarked language here is clearly English since almost the entire conversation is in English. The most common form of codeswitching observed here is metaphorical when Arvindh voices the school administration and uses Hindi to do so in the following lines:

- Arvindh 13 No the school said **ki syllabus khatam karna hai bla bla bla**
(we have to finish the syllabus bla bla bla)
 14 All you can cry about it but they said that **hum chutti nahi denge** *(we won't give you a break).*

The teachers and most of the administrative staff in Arvindh's school used to speak in Hindi and hence, he voices them in Hindi as well.

The next occurrence of codeswitching is seen in the following line:

- Arvindh 16 So, **yeh log bole ki theek hai chalo** *(these people said that okay let's), we'll do something.*

In line 16, Arvindh once again codeswitches to voice the friends who conversed in predominantly in Hindi. However, the phrase **yeh log bole ki** *(these people said that)* is not within quotes. But saying it in Hindi adds additional information. Using the phrase **yeh log** instead of *these people* suggests that Arvindh knew these people well and was part of their "gang" and he was included in the conversations which led up to the incident.

The last important occurrences of codeswitching can be seen in lines 9 and 17:

- Arvindh 9 **Diwali ke do ya teen din pehle chutti dene ki baat thi** *(we were supposed to get a break from school starting two or three days before Diwali)*
 17 **Toh yeh log woh chocolate bomb le aaye school mein**
(So, these people brought that chocolate bomb [a loud firecracker] into the school)

In both these lines, Arvindh introduces an event in Hindi and continues describing the events in English. At first, one may conclude that this is an example of lexical gap because it seems that Arvindh cannot continue describing

the entire event in Hindi. However, in many narratives throughout the conversation, Arvindeh fluently uses Hindi to narrate entire stories. In line 9, Arvindeh probably uses Hindi because he is talking about the school administration's decision and hence he recounts the school's promise to give them a break in Hindi.

In the second instance, he might have switched to Hindi because of the culturally different connotations of the act itself. Describing the act of sneaking a firecracker into school in Hindi has connotations of "a daring act" and amongst majority of the youth, the teenagers who do so are looked up to. However, if described in English, a language which both the interlocutors only use in Singapore, such an act would be seen as a "defiance of authority". Once the proper connotation of the act is set into the conversation, the actions which followed could be described in English without eliciting unintended reactions from the interlocutor.

In the second transcript (Transcript B), Arvindeh narrates how a girl who had a crush on him, befriended all his friends and family members to get him to accept her Facebook friend request:

- Arvindeh 1 Oh oh oh!
 2 Dude dude dude!
 3 This was when I left from Calcutta to Allahabad.
 4 **Toh uske baad right, (So, after that right,)**
 5 **Uss samay** (that time,)
 6 we didn't have Facebook
 7 Facebook **aaya tha** (*had come*) when
 8 we were in sixth or seventh.
 9 **Tab** (*Then*) it started.
 10 **Uske pehle** (*Before that*) remember we had Orkut?
- Nikhil 11 Yeah yeah yeah!
- Arvindeh 12 Yeah I never made an Orkut account
- Nikhil 13 I had one
- Arvindeh 14 Never. I never had one.
 15 Okay, **toh** (*so*),
 16 **Bandi thi Calcutta se** (*A girl was from Calcutta*)
 17 **Mere old..** (*My old*)
 18 She was an old classmate of mine
 19 Aahi..Aahi Banjerjee
 20 **Usko..** (*she had*)
 21 She had a crush on me back in Calcutta days
 22 **Toh usko tha ki** (*So, Her desire was that*) "I have to confess to him"
 23 and I left **toh** (*so*) unfulfilled.. un.. unrequited love
- Nikhil 24 Yeah
- Arvindeh 25 Yeah
 26 **Toh** (*so*) when Facebook came around, she found me on Facebook and she sent me a request.
 27 **Mere ko.. sahi mein** (*Me.. really*) I didn't remember her.
 28 **Koi idea nahi tha ki kyon hai** (*Had no idea who she was*)
 29 **Maine dekha ki hogi koi** (*I thought must be someone*)
 30 I didn't care.
 31 **Mutual friends maine dekha** (*I checked the mutual friends*)
 32 **"Theek hai** (*Okay*) who cares.
 33 **School mein nayi aayi hai** (*She is new in school*) or I don't remember her"
 34 **Theek hai, maine sirf ignore kar diya tha** (*Okay, I had just ignored her*)
 35 Didn't even delete, just ignored
 36 **Theek hai** (*Okay*)
 37 **Toh usne mere bhai ko ek friend request bheja.** (*So, she sent my brother a friend request*)
 38 **Bhai same school mein tha** (*My brother was in the same school*)

39 **Bhai aake bolta hai** (*My brother comes and tells me*)
 40 **"Dada pata hai** (*Brother do you know,*) like all..all the mutual friends they are your classmates"
 41 **Main bola "Nahi pata nahi mereko bhi.** (*I said "No, I don't know as well*)
 42 Just ignore it"
 43 **Theek hai chalo** (*Okay let's go*). [synonymous with "okay nevermind" or "okay whatever"]
 44 Then, **teen char din baad main dekhta hun,** (*I see after three-four days,*)
 45 **bandi** (*the girl*) is mutual friends with my grandfather.
 46 [Acting confused] **"Dada ji ke saath?** (*With grandpa?*) I don't get it"
 47 "Whats..whats going on"
 48 Then I started checking her friends list okay
 49 **Mere school ke seniors. Mere Allahabad DPS ke seniors, unke saath friends hai.**
 (*She was friends with my seniors from school. With seniors from Allahabad DPS, she was friends with..*)

[Arvinth had moved to a new school and Allahabad DPS was his old school. It is odd because the girl would not have known his seniors from his old school but she was friends with them on Facebook]

51 My grandmother is friends with her
 52 I am like **"Yaar yeh mera friend list khol ke sabko friend request bhej di kya!"**
 (*"Man did she open my friend list and send everyone a friend request!"*)
 53 I don't know. Whatever
 54 Then, my dad gets a friend request from her. Obviously next in line.
 55 **"Theek hai chalo dad ko bhi mila"** (*"Okay whatever, dad got it as well"*)
 56 **Papa bolte hain ki aisa aisa hai.** (*Dad says that it is so and so.*)
 57 Then he tells me **"Beta** (*Son*), she sent me a message as well"
 58 [Arvinth replies] **"Message bheji hai! Kya!"** (*"She has sent a message! What!"*)
 59 "Uncle I am an old friend of Arvinth's. I sent him a request and he hasn't accepted bla bla bla.
 60 Please ask him to accept it"
 61 **Papa bole, "Bhai accept kar le. Pata nahi kaun hai"**
 (*Dad said, "Man just accept it. Don't know who she is"*)
 62 **Maine bola "Nahi mere ko nahi accept karna hai**
 (*I said "No I don't want to accept it."*)
 63 Like now I remember her.
 64 **Mereko yaad hai ki meri classmate hai** (*I remember now that she is my classmate*)
 65 But I am not going to accept it."
 66 **Kyonki** (*Because*) this is no way to act
 67 Like.. you just don't do this stuff!
 68 So, I said **"Nahi main accept nahi karunga"** (*"No, I'll not accept it"*)
 69 And mom was like , **"Itni pyari bachchi hai. Tereko itna request bhej rahi hai. Tum kyon reject kar rahe ho!"** (*She is such a sweet girl. She is sending you so many requests. Why are you rejecting them!"*)
 70 No it is not me being pricey. It.. it is principle okay. This is not how you become friends with someone.
 71 **Main bola "Nahi, I won't accept this"** (*I said, "No, I won't accept this"*)
 72 **Theek hai, toh phir** (*Okay so, then*)
 73 She kept on texting dad and
 74 **Dad ne block kar diya** (*Dad blocked her*) obviously
Phir, (Then,) eighth mein usne doosra account banaya (*in standard eighth, she made a second account*)
 75 **Mereko phir se request bhejne lagi.** (*She started sending me requests again.*)
 76 And this time mom convinced me.
 77 **Mom ne bola ki,** (*Mom said that,*)
 78 **"Nahi nahi beta tu accept karne.** (*No son just accept it*)
 79 **Pata nahi pagal wagal hai kuch allegation walegation laga degi.**

- 80 *(We don't know, maybe she will charge you with some allegations)*
You don't know. So, better to know what's going on. Just accept for now.
- 81 **Kuch ho jaye toh** *(if something happens then)* you can always block."
- 82 **Maine bola** *(I said)* "Theek hai chalo *(Well okay)* fine I'll accept"
- 83 **Usne phir se request bheja, maine accept kar liya.**
- 84 *(She sent me a request again and I accepted it)*
And obviously at that point it's super awkward because she'll be like "Why didn't you accept"
- 85 But NO it WASN'T!
- 86 She was like "Hi Arvindh, how are you doing?"
- 87 And I was like "Urrggh sure I am doing fine I guess"
- 88 She was the most obsessive person I have met.
- 89 There have been girls who have fallen for me big time before.
- 90 But none of them as obsessive as this.
- 91

One of the most striking difference we can observe between this excerpt and the last one is the increased use of Hindi. The last excerpt was recorded when the two interlocutors had just started conversing but this one was recorded when they were already one hour and forty-five minutes into the conversation. As time progressed, the interlocutors probably gained a better understanding of the normative RO sets of the conversation and in this case, codeswitched to Hindi more often. We can confirm this by observing that in Excerpt B, a vast majority of conjunctions joining two events or leading up to an evaluation are in Hindi. In Excerpt A however, most of them were in English.

Conjunctions in Excerpt A:

So, umm, basically it was the lead up to Diwali
So, what they do is that they take a bunch of these
So, the whole thing lights up
Then, we all find out about this
Toh yeh log woh chocolate bomb le aaye school mein
(So, these people brought that chocolate bomb [a loud firecracker] into the school)

Conjunctions in Excerpt B:

Toh uske baad right, *(So, after that right,)*
Uss samay *(that time,)*
Tab *(Then)* it started.
Uske pehle *(Before that)* remember we had Orkut?
Toh *(so)* when Facebook came around, she found me on Facebook and she sent me a request.
Theek hai, maine sirf ignore kar diya tha *(Okay, I had just ignored her)*
Toh usne mere bhai ko ek friend request bheja. *(So, she sent my brother a friend request)*
Then, my dad gets a friend request from her. Obviously next in line.
Then he tells me "**Beta** *(Son)*, she sent me a message as well"
Kyonki *(Because)* this is no way to act. Like.. you just don't do this stuff!
Phir, *(Then,)* **eighth mein usne doosra account banaya** *(in standard eighth, she made a second account)*

However, it is difficult to figure out a marked language for Excerpt B. We see a fairly even use of both Hindi (263 words) and English (377 words). If one assumes English to be the unmarked language because it was used slightly more often than Hindi, one runs into the risk of misinterpreting the intentions of the speaker.

- 27 **Mere ko.. sahi mein** *(Me.. really)* I didn't remember her.
- 28 **Koi idea nahi tha ki kyon hai** *(Had no idea who she was)*

- 29 **Maine dekha ki hogi koi** (*I thought must be someone*)
 62 **Maine bola "Nahi mere ko nahi accept karna hai**
(I said "No I don't want to accept it.)

In these clauses, the speaker did not mean to add additional meaning by switching to Hindi. Perhaps one tool that we can draw from the Markedness Model to analyse this pattern of frequent and consistent codeswitching is "unmarked codeswitching" (Myers-Scotton, 1993, p. 114). Here, the overall speech pattern carries the social meaning, rather than the individual switches. Constantly switching between the two languages allows Arvinth to maintain simultaneous identities (Kieswetter, 1995, p. 144) instead of discarding one for the other.

Yet, in conversations like this one, the RO sets associated with each language are not clearly delineated. And although looking at the excerpt as an example of "unmarked codeswitching" has its merits, it misses many important points of analysis. In the following section I propose a more bilingual approach of looking at the same conversation without making any assumptions about markedness.

NARRATIVE STRUCTURE AND CODESWITCHING

Using Labov's Narrative Syntax Structure (1972) and Kovan's Speaker Roles (2012), one can divide Arvinth's narrative into different types of clauses and analyse each type individually (*See Annex A and B*). This allows us to make some fascinating observations about codeswitching.

COMPLICATING ACTION

In excerpt B, although the introduction was both in Hindi and English, we can observe that the Complicating Action of the story is mostly in Hindi:

- 27 **Mere ko.. sahi mein** (*Me.. really*) I didn't remember her.
 28 **Koi idea nahi tha ki kyon hai** (*Had no idea who she was*)
 29 **Maine dekha ki hogi koi** (*I thought must be someone*)

 62 **Maine bola "Nahi mere ko nahi accept karna hai**
(I said "No I don't want to accept it.)

This is likely because Arvinth experienced the incident back in India where Hindi was used more frequently than English. However, this claim is not without contestation. The following clauses are also part of the Complicating Action but are in English:

- 45 **bandi** (*the girl*) is mutual friends with my grandfather.
 51 My grandmother is friends with her
 54 Then, my dad gets a friend request from her. Obviously next in line.
 73 She kept on texting dad

To understand this, we can observe the speaker role that Arvinth takes up when using Hindi or English during the Complicating Action. When Arvinth is a character in the narrative, he generally uses Hindi and when he is a Narrator, he predominantly uses English. This is probably because he experienced some of the events by himself (a first-person perspective) in Hindi and conceptualizes them in Hindi but when describing events in which he is not involved (a third-person perspective), he uses English. This can also account for why in the first narrative, Arvinth uses English to describe how his friends planted the bomb in the toilet but uses Hindi to describe the event when they were talking to him about doing something:

From Excerpt A:

- Arvindh 16 So, **yeh log bole ki theek hai chalo** (*these people said that okay let's*), we'll do something.
 20 So, what they do is that they take a bunch of these like four or five of these and they umm..
 sneak into the toilet. There is a bottle of phenyl, a glass bottle of phenyl – half full
 22 and what they do that they start unloading yeah. So, like just unwrapping the whole thing and
 just unloading. Yeah.
 23 And then they get like a fuse, stick it in, and lead it all the way outside the bathroom, light it

QUOTATIONS

In excerpt B, Arvindh often quotes himself and others, voicing them as he does so. Both Hindi and English are used depending on which character he impersonates. Some examples of this are:

- 57 Then he tells me "**Beta** (*Son*), she sent me a message as well"
 58 [Arvindh replies] "**Message bheji hai! Kya!**" (*"She has sent a message! What!"*)
 59 "Uncle I am an old friend of Arvindh's. I sent him a request and he hasn't accepted bla bla bla.
 60 Please ask him to accept it"
 61 **Papa bole, "Bhai accept kar le. Pata nahi kaun hai"**
 (*Dad said, "Man just accept it. Don't know who she is"*)
 62 **Maine bola "Nahi mere ko nahi accept karna hai"**
 (*I said "No I don't want to accept it."*)

Arvindh also uses quotations to voice his character's opinions and stance. For example, in lines 55 and 88:

- 55 "**Theek hai chalo dad ko bhi mila**" (*"Okay whatever, dad got it as well"*)
 88 And I was like "Urrggh sure I am doing fine I guess"

A majority of the quotations he uses as his character's inner voice are in Hindi. This follows the general pattern of using Hindi for events which he adopts a first-person view.

EVALUATION

Another interesting observation we can make is that the evaluative clauses, whether used during the Complicating Action or near the end of the narrative, are all in English:

- 68 this is no way to act
 69 Like.. you just don't do this stuff!
 72 No it is not me being pricey. It. it is principle okay.
 This is not how you become friends with someone.
 91 She was the most obsessive person I have met.
 92 There have been girls who have fallen for me big time before.
 93 But none of them as obsessive as this.

It is not entirely clear why Arvindh uses English for evaluation. We can, to a certain degree, speculate that it is because while Hindi is a language used at home, English is the language used for argumentation formally in schools and informally on social media platforms. Hence, Arvindh uses English to describe phrases like "this is no way to act" and "This is not how you become friends with someone" as he makes a clear point about what is acceptable and what is not.

Furthermore, when evaluating, Arvindh plays the role of an interlocutor while in the Complicating Action, he was a narrator. But yet, this follows the general pattern of using English when describing events from a third-person

perspective. When evaluating, Arvinth looks at the events from an outsider's viewpoint and assigns an opinion to the events and actions in the narrative.

CONCLUSION

Code-switching is a complex linguistic and cognitive phenomenon and the Markedness Model provides a good framework to interpret it. However, when analysing codeswitching data, especially one which contains an even mix of multiple languages, looking at the data using different frameworks which start with different initial assumptions might provide us with additional insights about data which would have been overlooked otherwise.

TRANSCRIPTION FONT COLOR CONVENTIONS

Font color based on the structure of the narrative:

PART OF THE NARRATIVE	SPEAKER ROLE	COLOR OF TEXT
Introduction (Abstract + Orientation)	Narrator	Color of text
Complicating Action (speaker is the character) + Resolution	Character	Color of text
Evaluative Clauses + Coda	Narrator + Interlocutor	Color of text

Font color convention for other instances:

INSTANCE	SPEAKER ROLE	COLOR OF TEXT
When quoting others	Narrator + Character	Color of text
Conjunctions joining two events in the story (so, then, after that) or joining story to evaluation (because, so)	Narrator	Color of Text
Break from narrative flow to explain something	Interlocutor	Color of text

ANNEX A

EXCERPT A: DIWALI WAS A BLAST!

- Nikhil 1 What is the most fucked up thing you have done in school? Anywhere. Singapore or anywhere.
- Arvindh 2 Most fucked up thing I've done? I'm usually quite kuai.
- Nikhil 3 Right right right.
- Arvindh 4 No for real
- Nikhil 5 No! The fuck look at you!
- Arvindh 6 No I try not to go out of the line. But let me see the most fucked up hmm..
- 7 There was something that my friends did. I was not directly integrated in it but I did help out.
- 8 So, umm, basically it was the lead up to Diwali and I think
- 9 Diwali ke do ya teen din pehle chutti dene ki baat thi (we were supposed to get a break from school starting two or three days before Diwali)
- 10 Originally that's what our almanac and everything said.
- 11 And then they didn't
- Nikhil 12 The school didn't?
- Arvindh 13 No the school said ki syllabus khatam karna hai bla bla bla (we have to finish the syllabus bla bla bla)
- 14 All you can cry about it but they said that hum chutti nahi denge (we won't give you a break).
- 15 Cancelled. Alright so naturally we got pissed off.
- 16 So, yeh log bole ki theek hai chalo (these people said that okay let's), we'll do something.
- 17 Toh yeh log woh chocolate bomb le aaye school mein (So, these people brought that chocolate bomb [a loud firecracker] into the school)
- Nikhil 18 [laughter] I can see where this is going
- Arvindh 19 Yeah yeah yeah, it gets better
- 20 So, what they do is that they take a bunch of these like four or five of these and they umm.. sneak into the toilet. There is a bottle of phenyl, a glass bottle of phenyl – half full
- 21 (laughter)
- 22 and what they do that they start unloading yeah. So, like just unwrapping the whole thing and just unloading. Yeah.
- 23 And then they get like a fuse, stick it in, and lead it all the way outside the bathroom, light it
- 24 Its, its like a fucking mission impossible intro. You know the whole fuse leak thing.
- Nikhil 25 What the shit!
- Arvindh 26 Yeah yeah they did that.

- 27 So, the whole thing lights up, explodes inside the bathroom okay?
 28 So, there broken glass, phenyl and smoke everywhere alright?
 29 Then, we all find out about this later because we all have to go to the toilet sometime
 Nikhil 30 [laughter]
 Arvindh 31 [laughter] **sab kidki** (all windows), mirrors are all broken
 32 And till this date, the school admin does not know who did it.
 33 [laughter]
 Nikhil 34 Oh! What a shitty school! What the fuck!
 Arvindh 35 Yeah

ANNEX B

TRANSCRIPT B: ARVINDH IS A KEEPER

- Arvindh 1 Oh oh oh!
 2 Dude dude dude!
 3 This was when I left from Calcutta to Allahabad.
 4 **Toh uske baad right,** (So, after that right,)
 5 **Uss samay** (that time,) we didn't have Facebook
 6 we didn't have Facebook
 7 Facebook **aaya tha** (had come) when
 8 we were in sixth or seventh.
 9 **Tab** (Then) it started.
 10 **Uske pehle** (Before that) remember we had Orkut?
 Nikhil 11 Yeah yeah yeah!
 Arvindh 12 Yeah I never made an Orkut account
 Nikhil 13 I had one
 Arvindh 14 Never. I never had one.
 15 Okay, **toh** (so),
 16 **Bandi thi Calcutta se** (A girl was from Calcutta)
 17 **Mere old..** (My old)
 18 She was an old classmate of mine
 19 Aahi..Aahi Banjerjee
 20 **Usko..** (she had)
 21 She had a crush on me back in Calcutta days
 22 **Toh usko tha ki** (So, Her desire was that) "I have to confess to him"
 23 and I left **toh** (so) unfulfilled.. un.. unrequited love
 Nikhil 24 Yeah
 Arvindh 25 Yeah
 26 **Toh** (so) when Facebook came around, she found me on Facebook and she sent me a request.
 27 **Mere ko.. sahi mein** (Me.. really) I didn't remember her.
 28 **Koi idea nahi tha ki kyon hai** (Had no idea who she was)
 29 **Maine dekha ki hogi koi** (I thought must be someone)
 30 I didn't care.
 31 **Mutual friends maine dekha** (I checked the mutual friends)
 32 **"Theek hai** (Okay) who cares.
 33 **School mein nayi aayi hai** (She is new in school) or I don't remember her"
 34 **Theek hai, maine sirf ignore kar diya tha** (Okay, I had just ignored her)
 35 Didn't even delete, just ignored
 36 **Theek hai** (Okay)
 37 **Toh usne mere bhai ko ek friend request bheja.** (So, she sent my brother a friend request)
 38 **Bhai same school mein tha** (My brother was in the same school)
 39 **Bhai aake bolta hai** (My brother comes and tells me)

40 **"Dada pata hai** (*Brother do you know,*) like all..all the mutual friends they are your classmates"
 41 **Main bola "Nahi pata nahi mereko bhi.** (*I said "No, I don't know as well*)
 42 Just ignore it"
 43 **Theek hai chalo** (*Okay let's go*). [synonymous with "okay nevermind" or "okay whatever"]
 44 Then, **teen char din baad main dekhta hun,** (*I see after three-four days,*)
 45 **bandi** (*the girl*) is mutual friends with my grandfather.
 46 [Acting confused] **"Dada ji ke saath?** (*With grandpa?*) I don't get it"
 47 "Whats..whats going on"
 48 **Then** I started checking her friends list okay
 49 **Mere school ke seniors. Mere Allahabad DPS ke seniors, unke saath friends hai.**
(She was friends with my seniors from school. With seniors from Allahabad DPS, she was friends with..)

[Arvinth had moved to a new school and Allahabad DPS was his old school. It is odd because the girl would not have known his seniors from his old school but she was friends with them on Facebook]

51 My grandmother is friends with her
 52 I am like **"Yaar yeh mera friend list khol ke sabko friend request bhej di kya!"**
("Man did she open my friend list and send everyone a friend request!")
 53 I don't know. Whatever
 54 **Then,** my dad gets a friend request from her. Obviously next in line.
 55 **"Theek hai chalo dad ko bhi mila"** (*"Okay whatever, dad got it as well"*)
 56 **Papa bolte hain ki aisa aisa hai.** (*Dad says that it is so and so.*)
 57 **Then** he tells me **"Beta (Son), she sent me a message as well"**
 58 [Arvinth replies] **"Message bheji hai! Kya!"** (*"She has sent a message! What!"*)
 59 "Uncle I am an old friend of Arvinth's. I sent him a request and he hasn't accepted bla bla bla.
 60 Please ask him to accept it"
 61 **Papa bole, "Bhai accept kar le. Pata nahi kaun hai"**
(Dad said, "Man just accept it. Don't know who she is")
 62 **Maine bola "Nahi mere ko nahi accept karna hai"**
(I said "No I don't want to accept it.)
 63 Like now I remember her.
 64 **Mereko yaad hai ki meri classmate hai** (*I remember now that she is my classmate*)
 65 But I am not going to accept it."
 66 **Kyonki (Because)** this is no way to act
 67 Like.. you just don't do this stuff!
 68 **So,** I said **"Nahi main accept nahi karunga"** (*"No, I'll not accept it*)
 69 And mom was like , **"Itni pyari bachchi hai. Tereko itna request bhej rahi hai. Tum kyon reject kar rahe ho!"** (*She is such a sweet girl. She is sending you so many requests. Why are you rejecting them!"*)
 70 No it is not me being pricey. It.. it is principle okay. This is not how you become friends with someone.
 71 **Main bola "Nahi, I won't accept this"** (*I said, "No, I won't accept this"*)
 72 **Theek hai, toh phir** (*Okay so, then*)
 73 She kept on texting dad and
 74 **Dad ne block kar diya** (*Dad blocked her*) obviously
 75 **Phir, (Then,) eighth mein usne doosra account banaya** (*in standard eighth, she made a second account*)
 76 **Mereko phir se request bhejne lagi.** (*She started sending me requests again.*)
 77 And this time mom convinced me.
 78 **Mom ne bola ki,** (*Mom said that,*)
 79 **"Nahi nahi beta tu accept karne.** (*No son just accept it*)
 80 **Pata nahi pagal wagal hai kuch allegation walegation laga degi.**
(We don't know, maybe she will charge you with some allegations)

- 81 You don't know. So, better to know what's going on. Just accept for now.
82 **Kuch ho jaye toh** (*if something happens then*) you can always block."
83 **Maine bola** (*I said*) "**Theek hai chalo** (*Well okay*) fine I'll accept"
84 **Usne phir se request bheja, maine accept kar liya.**
(*She sent me a request again and I accepted it*)
85 And obviously at that point it's super awkward because she'll be like "Why didn't you accept"
86 But NO it WASN'T!
87 She was like "Hi Arvindh, how are you doing?"
88 And I was like "Urrggh sure I am doing fine I guess"
89 She was the most obsessive person I have met.
90 There have been girls who have fallen for me big time before.
91 But none of them as obsessive as this.

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