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Story time friends.

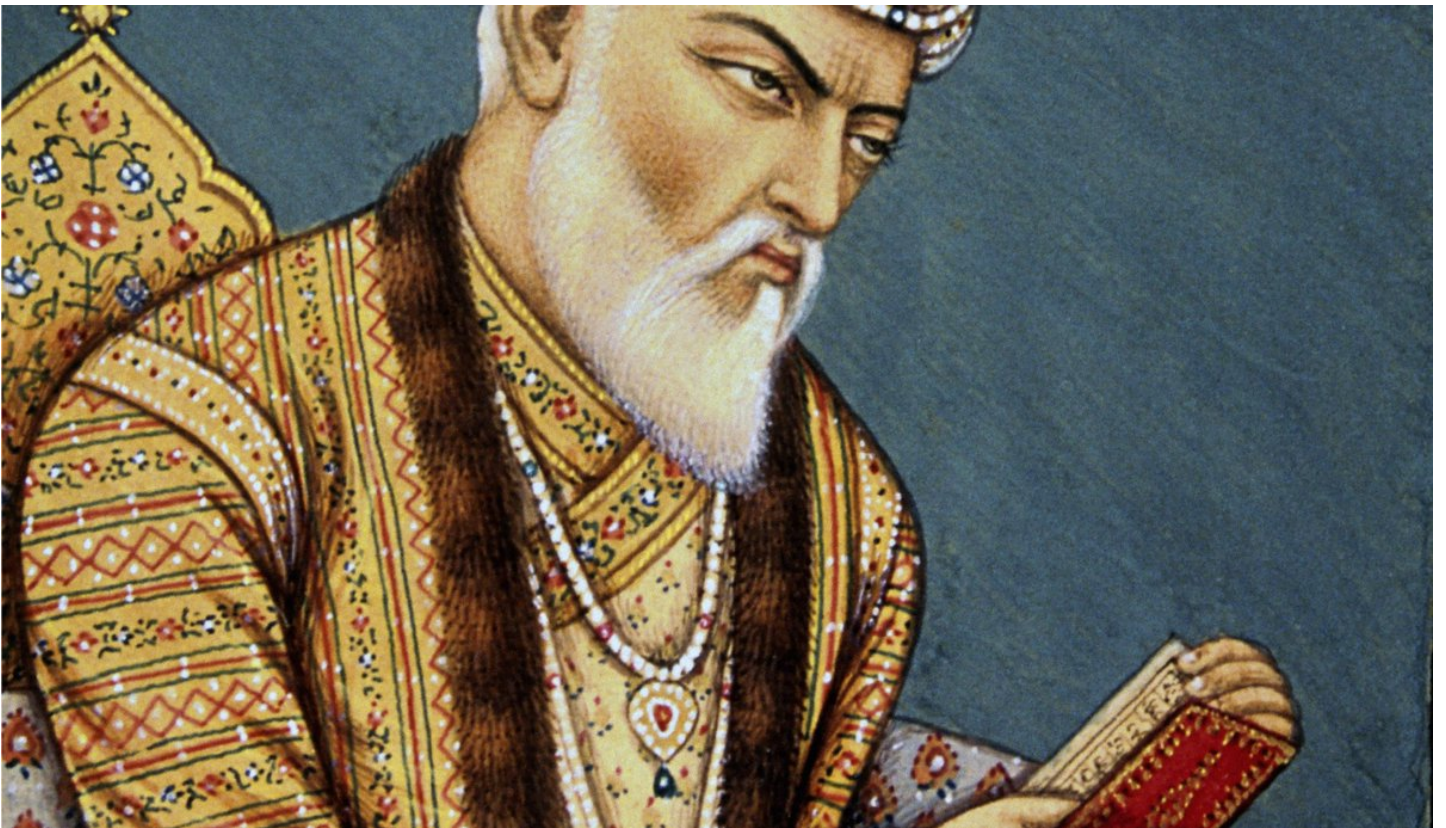
There was a small state in the hilly regions of Rajasthan known as Roopnagar. The princess of this state was very beautiful and her name was Chanchal Kumari. Once an old woman had come to the palace to sell portraits, while the princess was rummaging through the



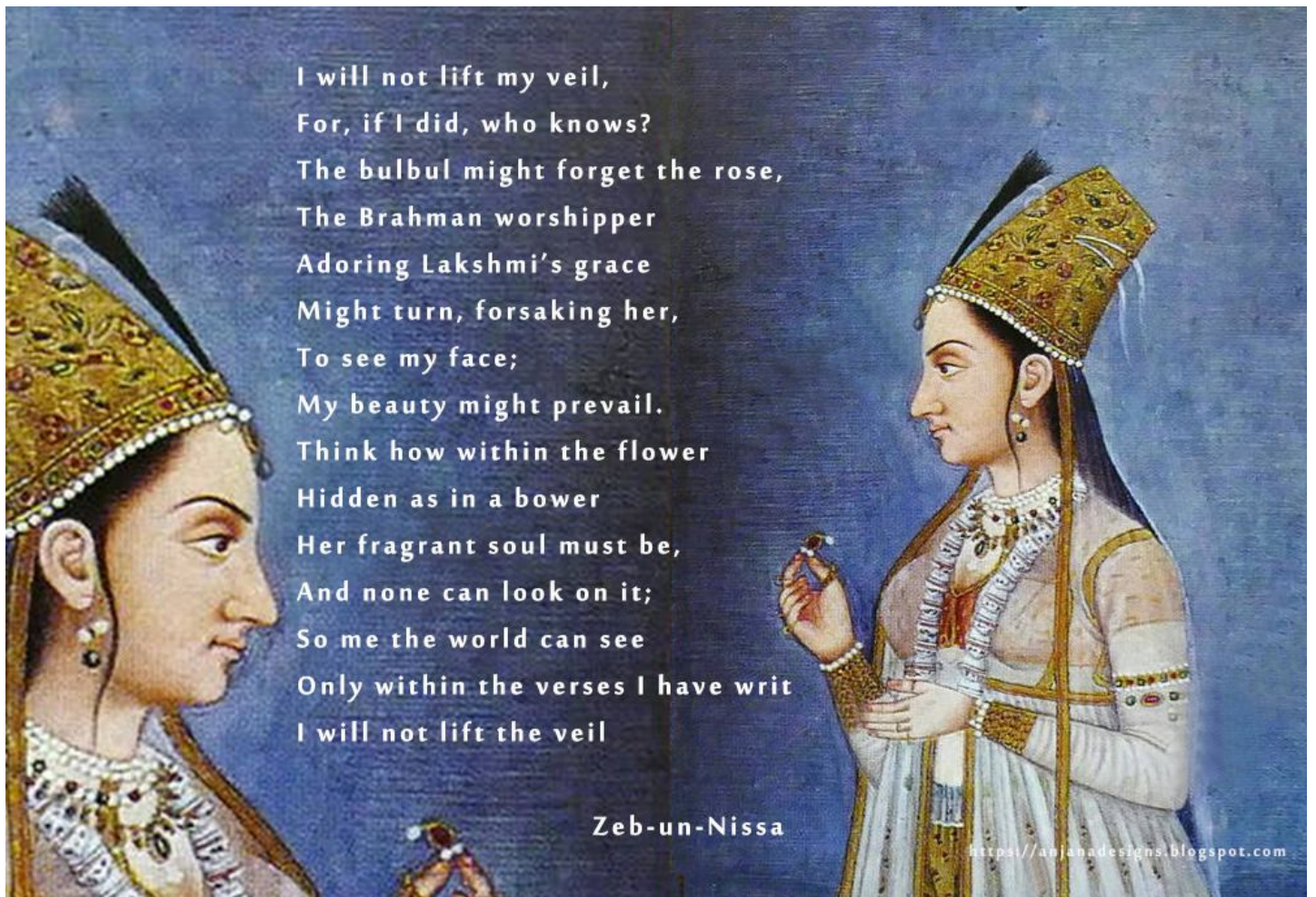
portraits, she asked the old woman to show her the portraits of some brave Hindu Rajas. The old woman showed the a picture of Rana Raj Singh, which impressed the princess a lot. The old woman then showed her one of the Mughal emperor Aurangzeb, the enraged princess took the picture



and crushed it under her foot, to show her displeasure of the emperor. Her maid in waiting Nirmal, was very worried and knew if this news reached the Delhi durbar the kingdom of Roopnagar would be endangered. So she offered the old woman some gold mohurs and asked her not to discuss



the incident with anyone else. The old woman had no intention of keeping the incident a secret, on reaching Delhi she went to Daria Bibi and told her everything who handsomely rewarded her. Daria Bibi immediately went to the emperor's daughter Zeb-Un-Nisa to pass on the information



There she met Mubarak Khan her ex-husband who was playing court to the princess. She accosted Mubarak when he came out and asked him if the princess had agreed to marry him but received no answer. On hearing the story of Princess Chanchal Kumari she immediately rushed to her father

and recounted the tale. Aurangzeb resolved to marry her and make her a maid under his wife Udipuri Begum. He sent the proposal of marriage to Raja Vikram Singh Solanki, who was overjoyed and began preparations. Chanchal was alarmed and asked Nirmal to suggest a way out of this.

Nirmal informed her that Aurangzeb's Rajput wife Jodhpuri Begum had sent a secret message and her her to seek help from Rana Raj Singh. A messenger was sent but was waylaid by robbers and the letter was snatched, as luck would have it Rana was on a hunting trip and came upon the



the hapless messenger. He heard his tale of woe and rushed to meet the robbers. He easily defeated them and one of the robbers Maniklal was won over to his side by the Rana. The Rana was touched very deeply after reading the letter from the princess and pledged to save her from

the wicked emperor. He sent Maniklal disguised as a Mughal soldier to join the 2000 strong army of the Mughals sent to take the princess away.

As planned by the Rana, the small band of soldiers attacked the emperor's cavalcade while it was passing through a ravine. Maniklal took charge of the palanquin of the princess and led it away. The Rana's men blocked the pathway and the Mughal soldiers were left stranded.

However Mubarak Khan a shrewd soldier took a roundabout path and attacked the Rana's band, which was surely going to be disastrous as the Rana had only 50 soldiers with him. Chanchal Kumari disturbed beyond words stepped out of her palanquin and asked Mubarak not to attack the Rana

and his men. She told Mubarak that the Rana had come to her rescue at her request. She begged them to let the Rana go and she would go quietly to Delhi and marry Aurangzeb. Mubarak Khan was enraged and attacked the Rana's men.

In the meantime Maniklal rushed back to Roopnagar and tricked Raja Vikram Singh into giving him a troop of 1000 soldiers. He attacked the Mughals from the rear and the army was routed. Aurangzeb was angry beyond words and ordered Rana to return the princess which he refused to do

Vikram Singh had also sent a message to the Rana to send his daughter to the Delhi court, otherwise they all would be doomed. The Rana refused as he had fallen in love with Chanchal Kumari and wanted to marry her. Obviously Aurangzeb sent a large army to teach him a lesson

but the army was defeated and Udaypuri Begum was captured and had to wait on Chanchal Kumari. A treaty was signed between the Rana and Aurangzeb but he later broke it and sent a large army to defeat the Rana. This time round the Rajput Kings came out in support of Rana Raj Singh



The combined forces defeated the mighty Mughal army led by Diler Khan. Raja Vikram Singh agreed to the marriage of his daughter to Raj Singh and on an auspicious day the marriage was solemnized. Thus the united Rajputs taught the Mughals the lesson of their lives.

