



Kia and  
Cosmos

Written by  
Sudipto Roy

An otherworldly girl of 15 writing a spy  
novel takes an audacious journey to uncover  
the truth about her father's mysterious  
disappearance.

Language:

Predominantly in Bangla and English. Nepali has been used in few, significant parts.

Language in this film plays the role of a tool to depict the socio-economic or socio-political contexts of the story.

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## *Act 1*

Suddenly, Cosmos (a neighbourhood cat) was found dead and Kia's otherwise sluggish life started changing rapidly. Kia is a special child diagnosed as a part of the autism spectrum showing signs of improvement with increased developmental milestones, lives with her mother Diya in an apartment in South Kolkata. She excels in mathematics and has inherited an acumen for music from her father with a very keen eye for detailing. She hates the colour yellow and liars.

Diya, a single mother working in a media house finds very little time to address the emotional needs of her daughter and struggles between bills and motherly drills.

Kia knows that her father passed away a couple of years back succumbing to a massive heart attack but reminisces the time spent with her father, learning the basics of playing the ukulele. Shy to the world that perceives her nonstandard, Kia was more engrossed with her Byomkesh Bakshi/ Feluda books, a perpetual companionship with the rickshaw-puller and Cosmos that she has been nursing since s was in its infant stage.

## *Act 1*

The death of the cat finds Kia amidst a conundrum of events that she never imagined. Kia didn't expect any of these but an unprecedented cop encounter, her only friend turning into a love interest, a cajoling mother becoming a despot, an urge to investigate the death of Cosmos and most importantly, her spy-novel that she had started writing – made things complicated and left her perplexed.

A media professional struggling to avoid needless empathy, Diya is a woman of strength who found a motivation to carry on with her life with her daughter. Anup, a very old friend and now a co-traveler to the same office building has given her some respite to rest her head on a shoulder at all her hours of utter distress. However, the recent transformation in her daughter's behaviour has started to make her jittery. She resolves to stringent regimes and all that she can do to coax her daughter to forget the death of Cosmos, but nothing bears fruit.

## *Act II*

No one in the world can stop Kia from investigating the death of Cosmos. In one of the investigative ventures in her own house, she chances upon a few letters with her name written on them. They were from her father and Diya had concealed the truth from her daughter for all these years. Fear of loss, loss of what, we are yet to probe.

She was convinced that her mother was a liar and it was only Rabi, the rickshaw-puller whom she could trust to carry on the investigation further. He was her only assistance at this juncture who would take her on her late night voyages to probe the murder-mystery. She thinks she has cracked the case and keeps writing her book although the chapters are numbered in a mystical prime number progression. At a critical juncture where she is only a few cubes away from solving the Rubik's puzzle of her mind, both of them get caught trespassing into a neighbour's house and finally end up at a police station.

### *Act III*

The next morning, as Diya gets her daughter out from the local thana, things get shoddier. Diya had already read Kia's book and she knew that her daughter was aware of her father being alive. To win her trust, she admits that it was she who killed Cosmos out of sheer anger and frustration. By then Kia had decided to leave her mother's place and go in search of her father, on her own.

From Kolkata to Kalimpong – a girl who has never traveled to school alone – a special girl at the advent of discovering herself in her adolescence... Kia tackles every hurdle to find her way to her father.

A postal address was all that she had and a faint memory of a tune that her father played for her when she was a kid. Why did her father leave them? Will she reach her father? Kia was both extraordinary and clumsy; all that she took pride was her honesty and the ability to say the truth in any given condition. Will the journey take her as kindly as she takes it undauntedly?