



# The seven moons of Maali Almeida

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# Outline

1. Characters
  - Maali Almeida
2. Warm-Up
3. Plot
  - 1st moon
    - Discussion
  - 2nd moon
    - Discussion
  - 3rd moon
  - 4th moon
  - 5th moon
    - Discussion
  - 6th moon
  - 7th moon
  - The Light

# Characters



# Characters

## Maali Almeida

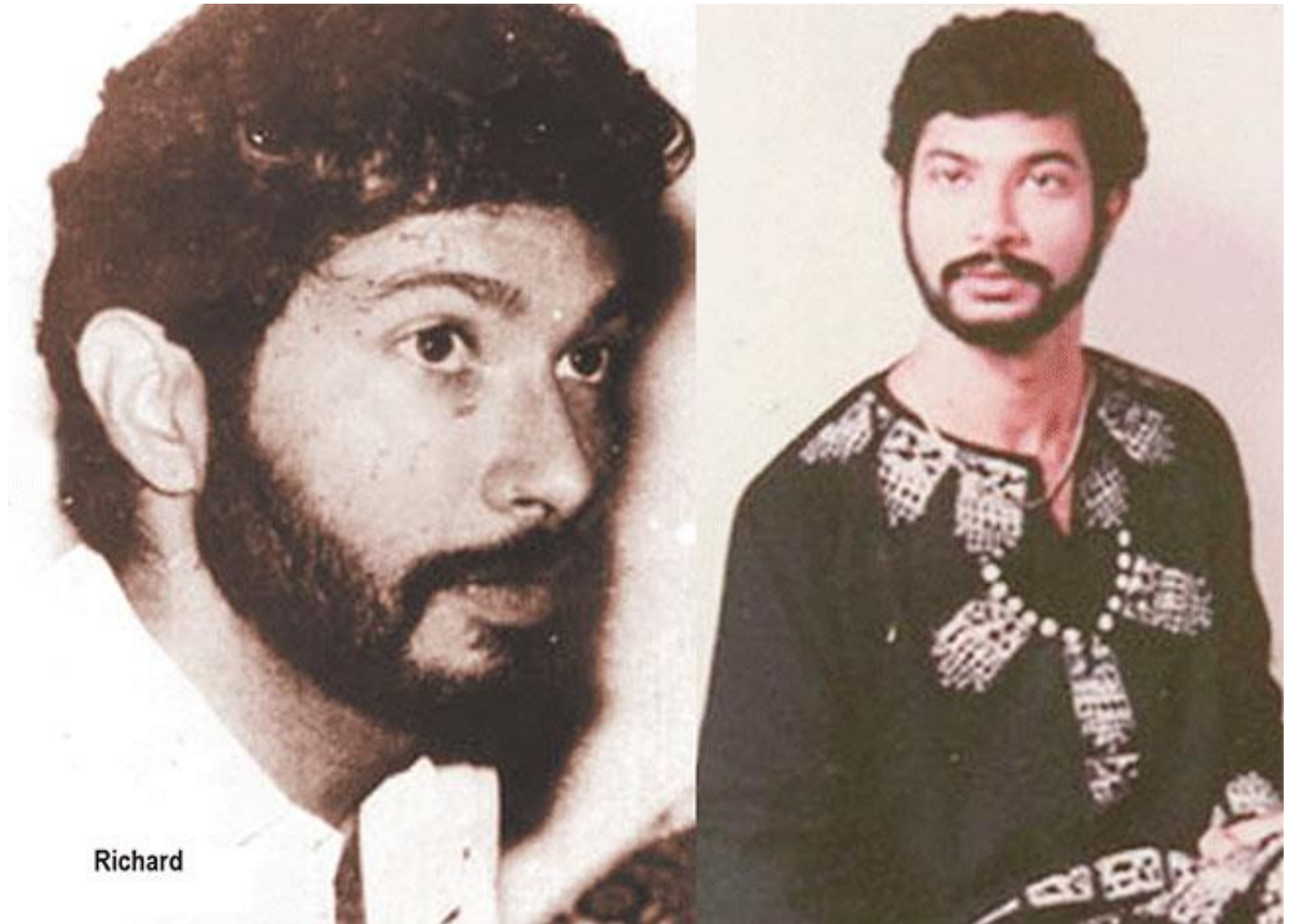


- Protagonist
- Photographer during the Sri Lankan civil war
- Is already dead in his own story



# Characters

## Maali Almeida



Picture 1: Richard de Soyza

Warm-Up:

A quick  
literary  
analysis

"You wake up with the answer to the question that everyone asks. [...] That's all the insight you'll ever get."

- Maali Almeida (Karunatilaka, p. 1)

How does the use of "you" by the narrator make you feel?

# Plot

Divided in:

- Presence and flashbacks
- Real World and afterlife



# Chapter: First moon

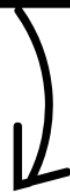
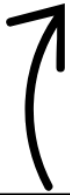
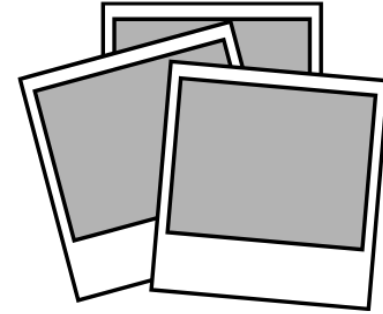


# Storyline



Realisation of death

photographs under  
Maali's bed



afterlife lobby  
& seven moons



Dead Atheist warns  
about getting stuck in  
the In Between

# Storyline



"Those with dirty hands are unconnected to those in power, so those in power could blame whoever they chose."

- Maali Almeida (Karunatilaka, p. 22)

What does this statement in the first chapter give away about the following plot?

# Storyline



Maali's body is dumped  
in Beira Lake

Sena teaches Maali about  
his abilities as a ghost



Maali's explanation of  
abbreviations



reflection on Maali's  
sexuality

# Quick discussion

The garbage men decapitated Maali's dead body and only threw his head into Beira lake.

Why did they do that? What could this act signify for?

# Storyline



In the chapter "Abbreviations", Maali mentions a cheatsheet with the most important players in the Sri Lankan civil war he had written for an American journalist. (Karunatilaka, p. 23)

Why did Karunatilaka include this random cheatsheet in his book?

# Storyline

reflection about the  
work as garbage men



Sena urges Maali to revenge  
his death



Maali recalls memories  
leading to his death



Maali's loved ones try to  
start an investigation at  
the police



# Storyline



Jaki warns Maali about  
his photographs

Investigation starts by  
detectives



A ghost lawyer tries to convince  
Maali to not forget and seek the  
Light

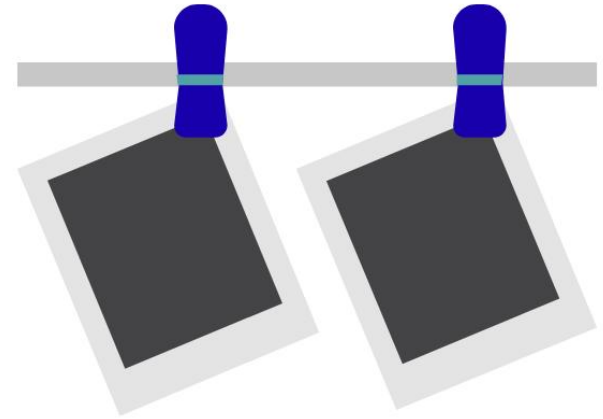


Reconstruction of  
Maali's death at a  
balcony

# Storyline



Elsa reveals Maali's photographs



Maali is warned about  
waste of the first moon



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## Chapter: Second moon

# Storyline

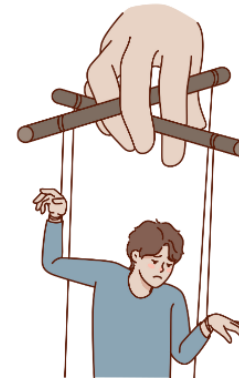


Dr. Ranee explains how  
to reach the Light and  
recommends it

first appearance of the  
Mahakali



Sena proposes the influence of  
whispering to the living

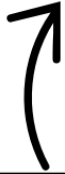


Maali influences real  
investigation

# Storyline



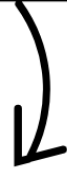
Maali works for Elsa and reveals his photographs to her



Maali assists at organizing a party and reveals his photographs to DD and Jaki



conflict about Maali's photographs between all investigators



Maali's photographs reveal the massacres and the responsible people



# Quick discussion

How does Maali being a photographer contribute to the plot and the authenticity of this story as a perspective on the Sri Lankan civil war?



# Storyline



Dead bodyguard claims  
that genocide is  
foundation of civilization



Reflection on political  
power and corruption of  
Wijeratne



Maali is forced to  
do the Ear Check

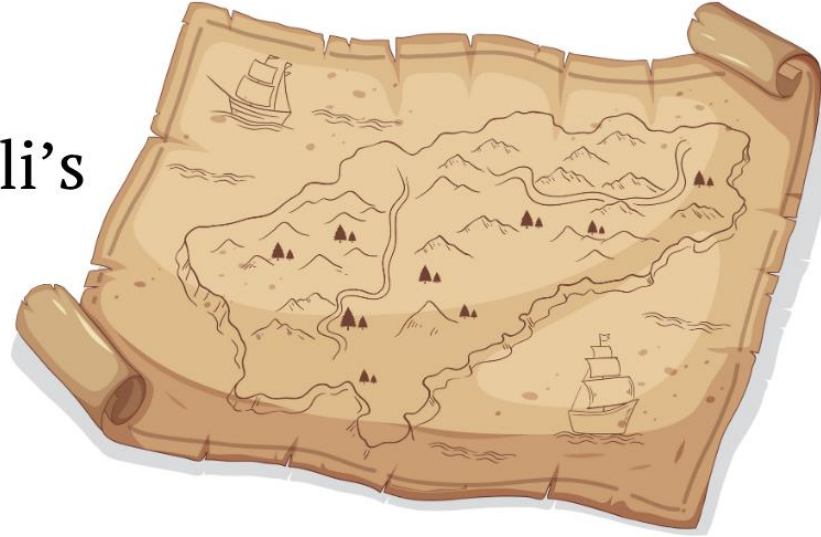


Maali wants to communicate  
to Jaki the location of the  
photographs

# Storyline



Jaki receives Maali's  
instruction



Maali is comissioned to find  
Mr. Piyatilaka's hidden gold



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## Chapter: Third moon

# Storyline



The Crow Man allows  
Maali and Jaki to  
communicate directly

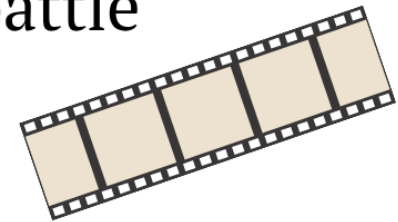
Maali risks his death to take  
photographs of a secret  
military meeting in a battle



Jaki investigates on the missing  
photographs through Maali's  
coded address book



Success in investigation for  
Maali's case & conflict  
between the players and Jaki





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## Chapter: Fourth moon

# Storyline



Maali observes governmental  
concealment & investigation  
goes on

Maali's photographs shall be  
destroyed by Wijeratne



Memories of Maali's life



Sena tries to revenge his  
death through terrorising the  
garbage men



# Storyline



Maali gives up on influencing  
the real world



Maali is lured to the palace  
by a dead priest



Memories of Maali's past  
relation to Major Raja



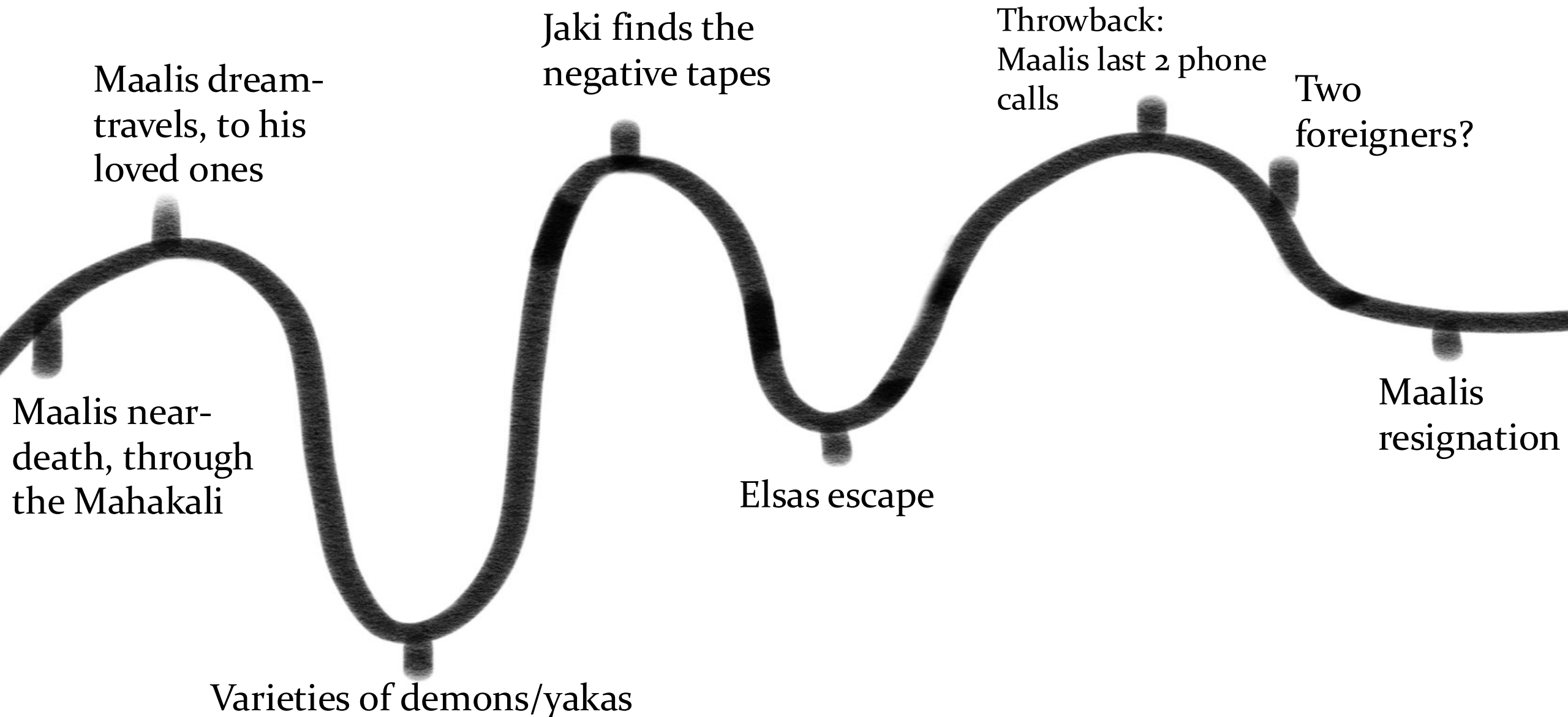
The dead priest  
uncovers as the  
Mahakali



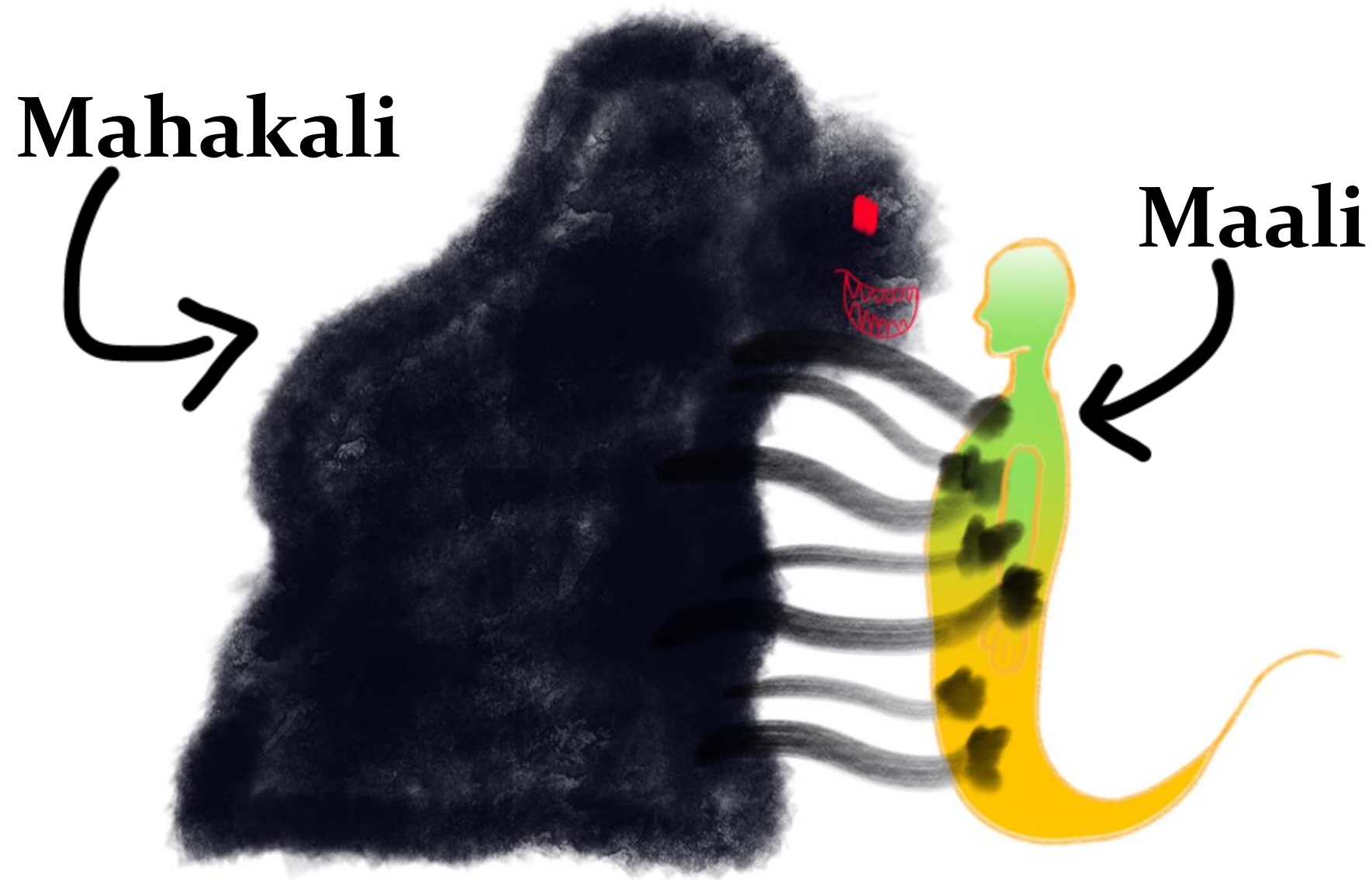
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## Chapter: Fifth moon

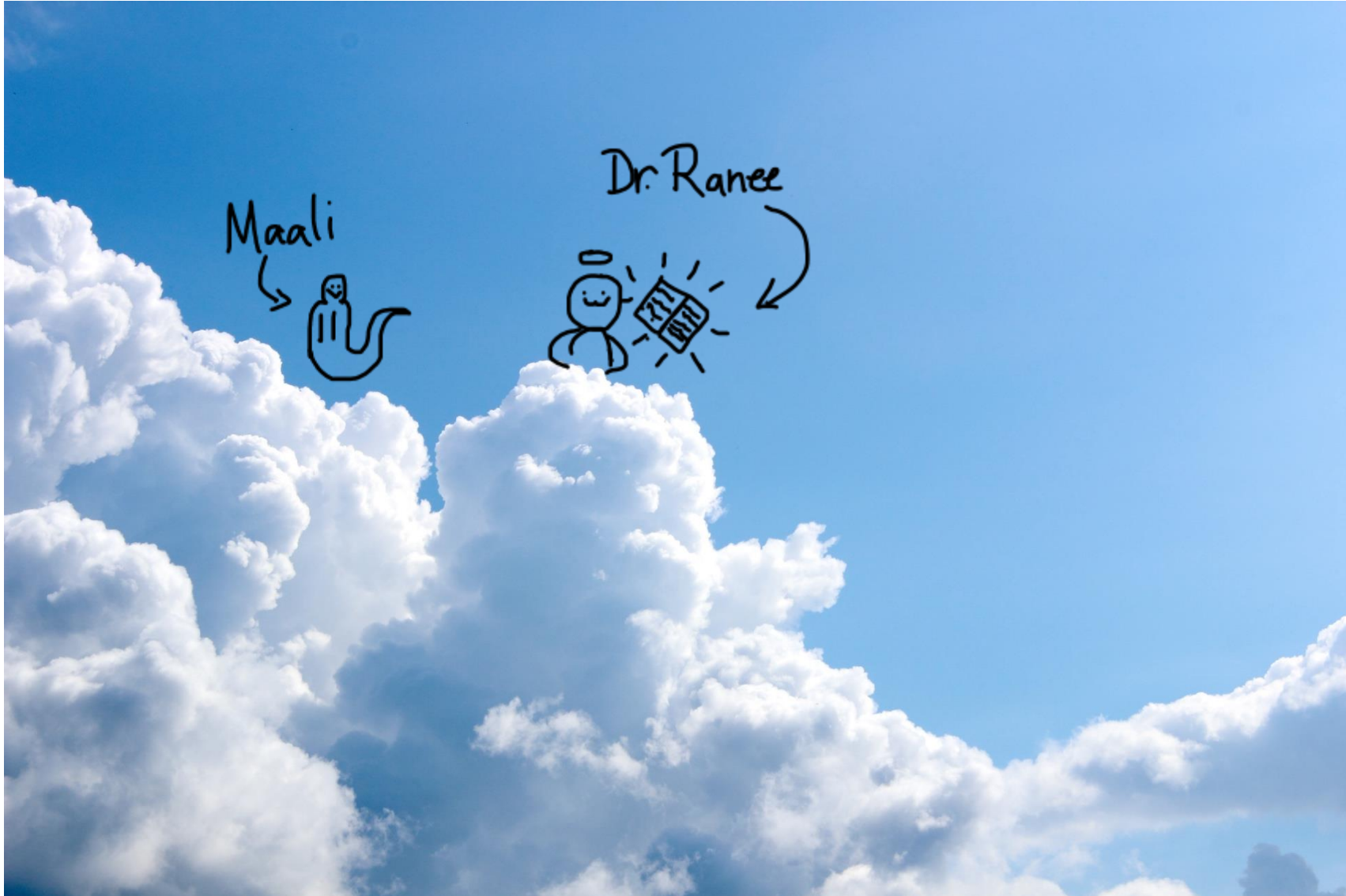
# Plot-line for the fifth moon:



# Maalis near-death experience, through Mahakali



# A conversation in the clouds



# Maali dream-travels to his loved ones





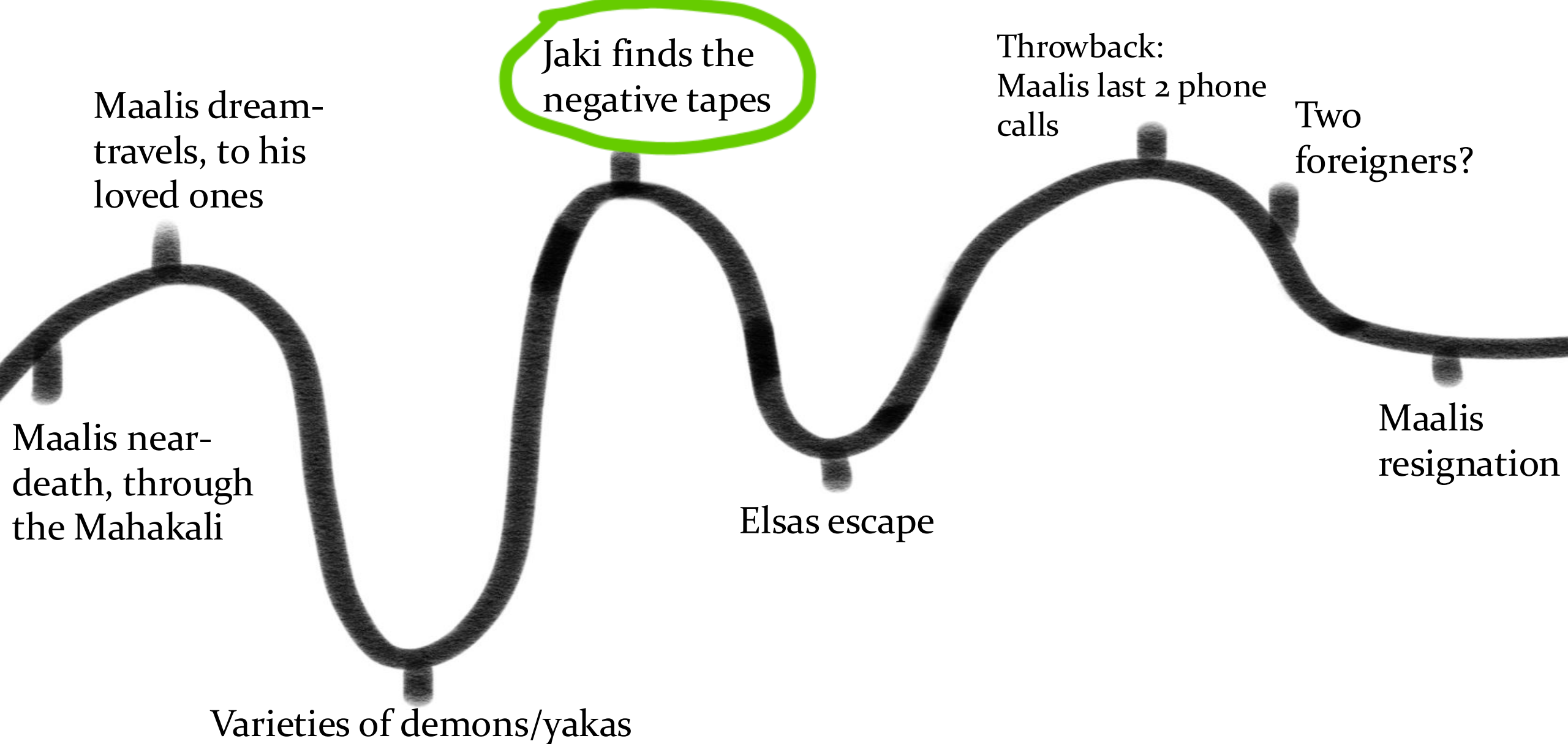
# Different kinds of yakas/demons



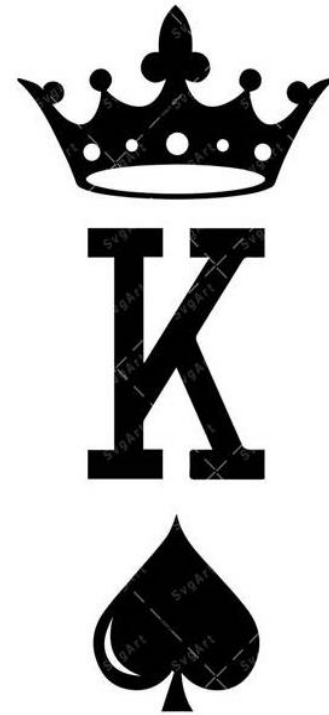
- **Black Prince:** causes miscarriages and delivers menstrual cramps
- **The Mohini:** seduces lone drivers at night
- **The Riri:** spreads cancers
- **The monk with the trident:** ghost-turned-ghoul



# Plot-line for the fifth moon:



# The Queen & King



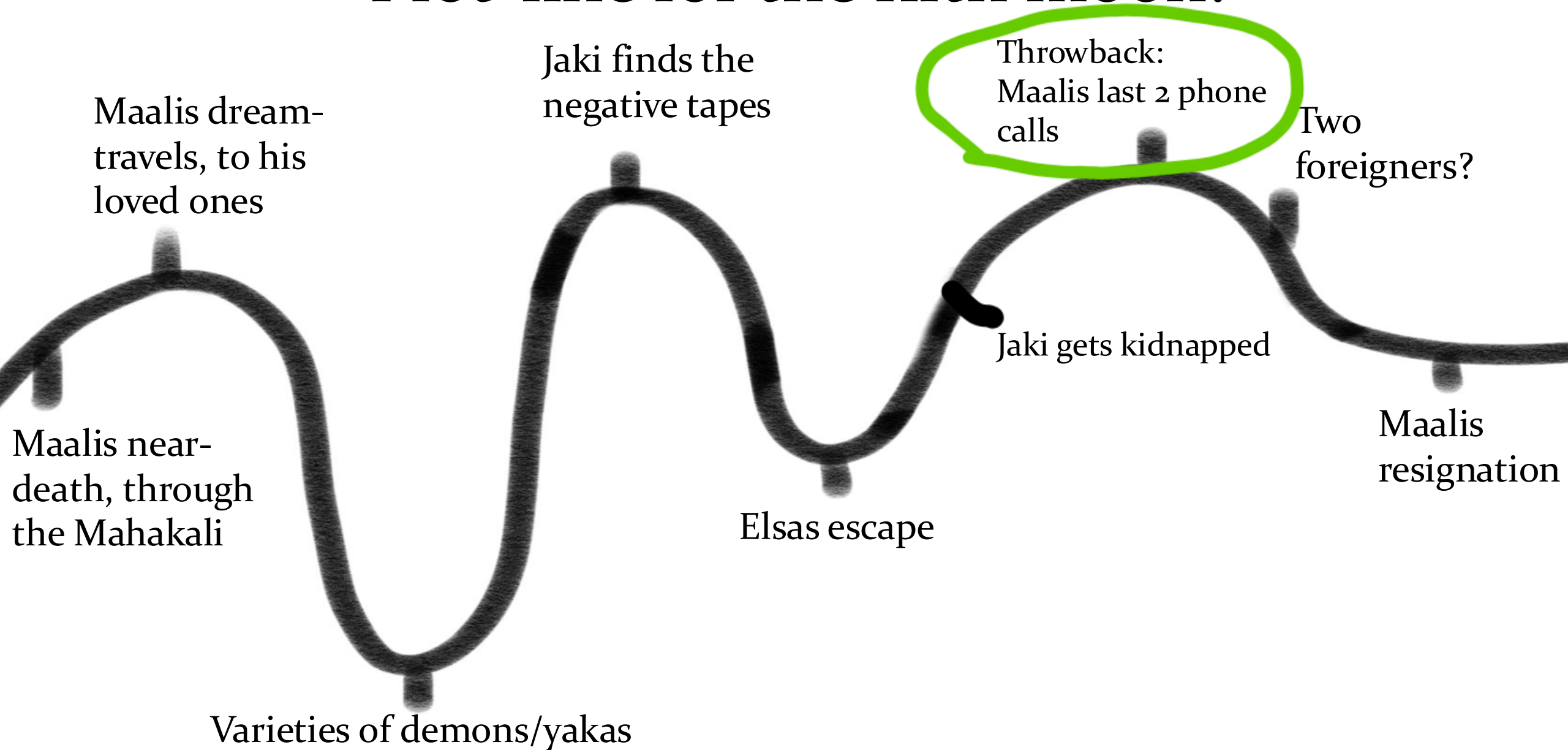
# Plot-line for the fifth moon:



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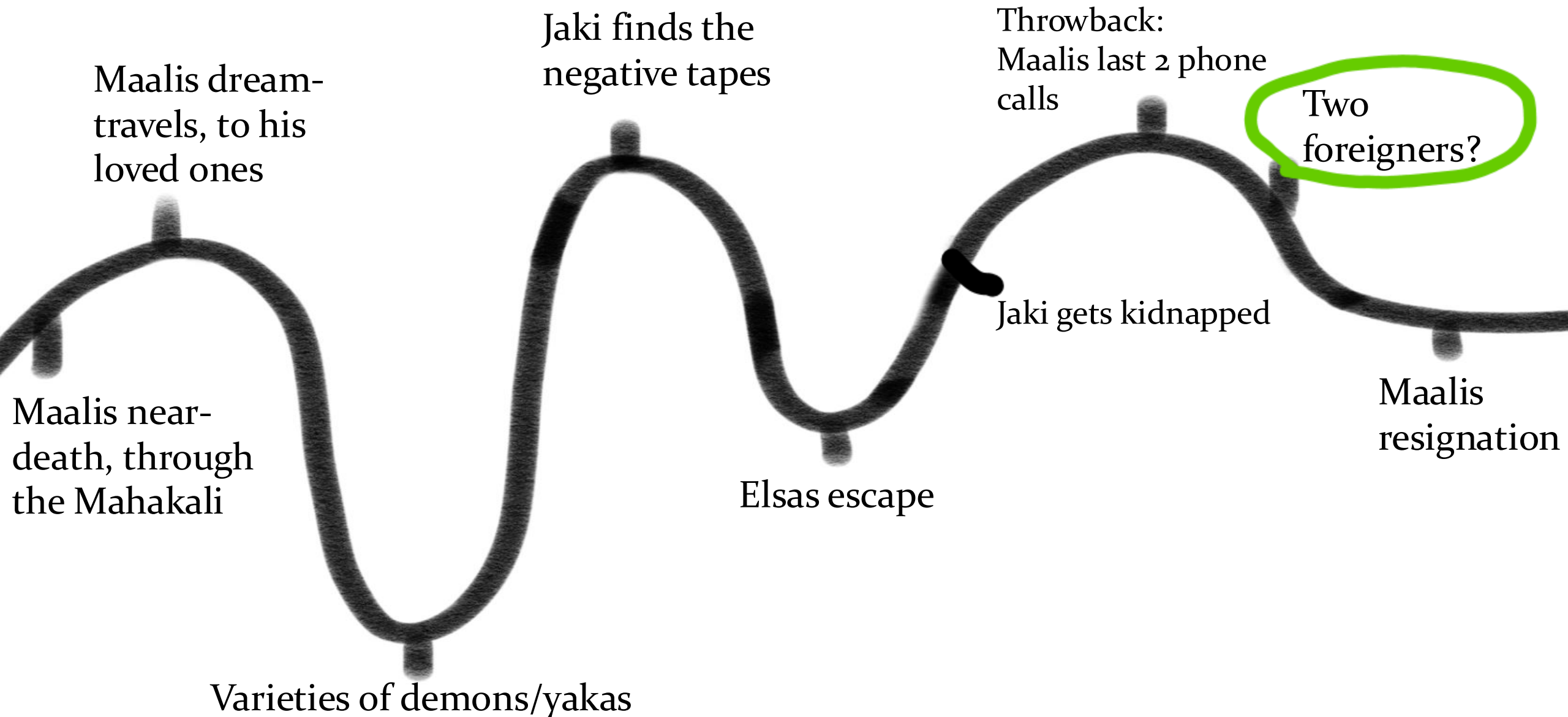


# Plot-line for the fifth moon:

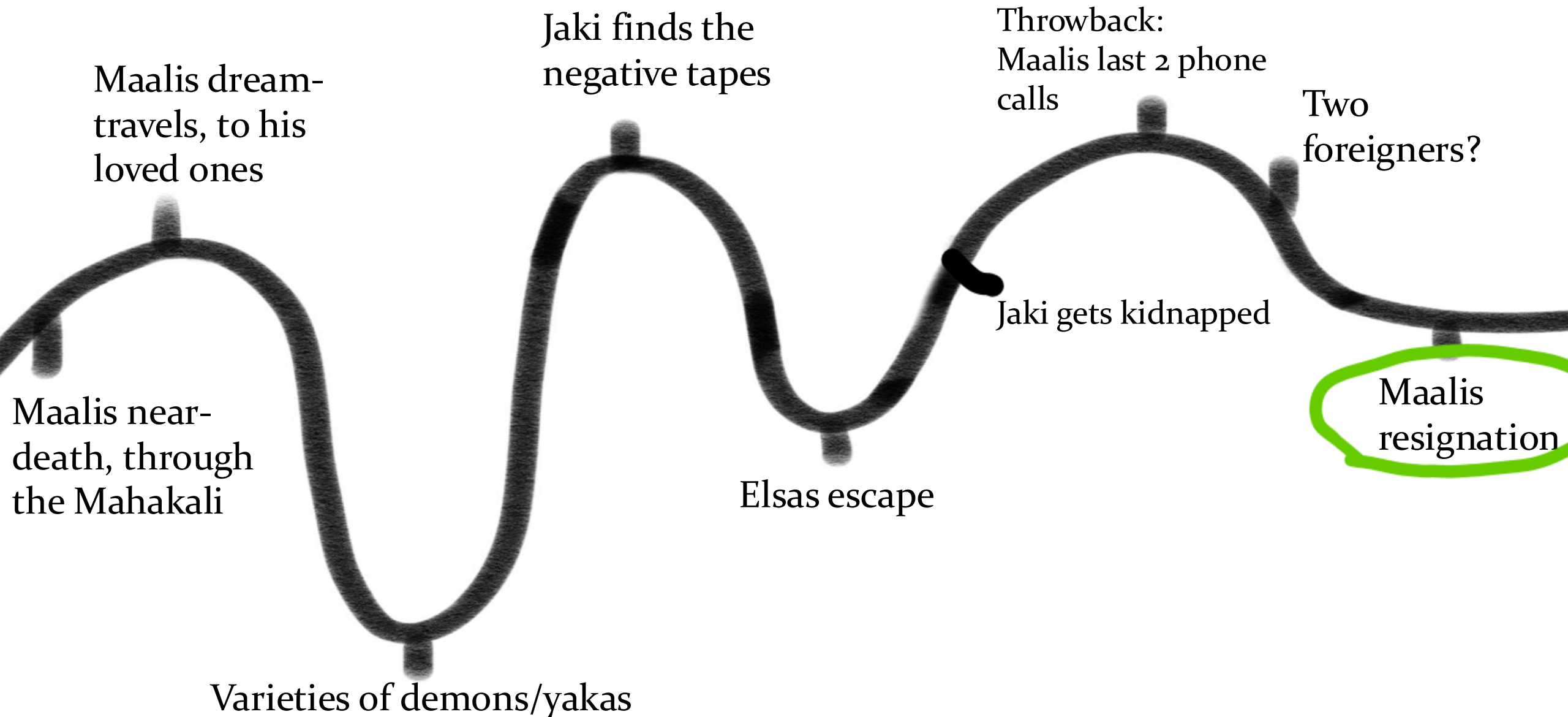




# Plot-line for the fifth moon:



# Plot-line for the fifth moon:





# Quick discussion

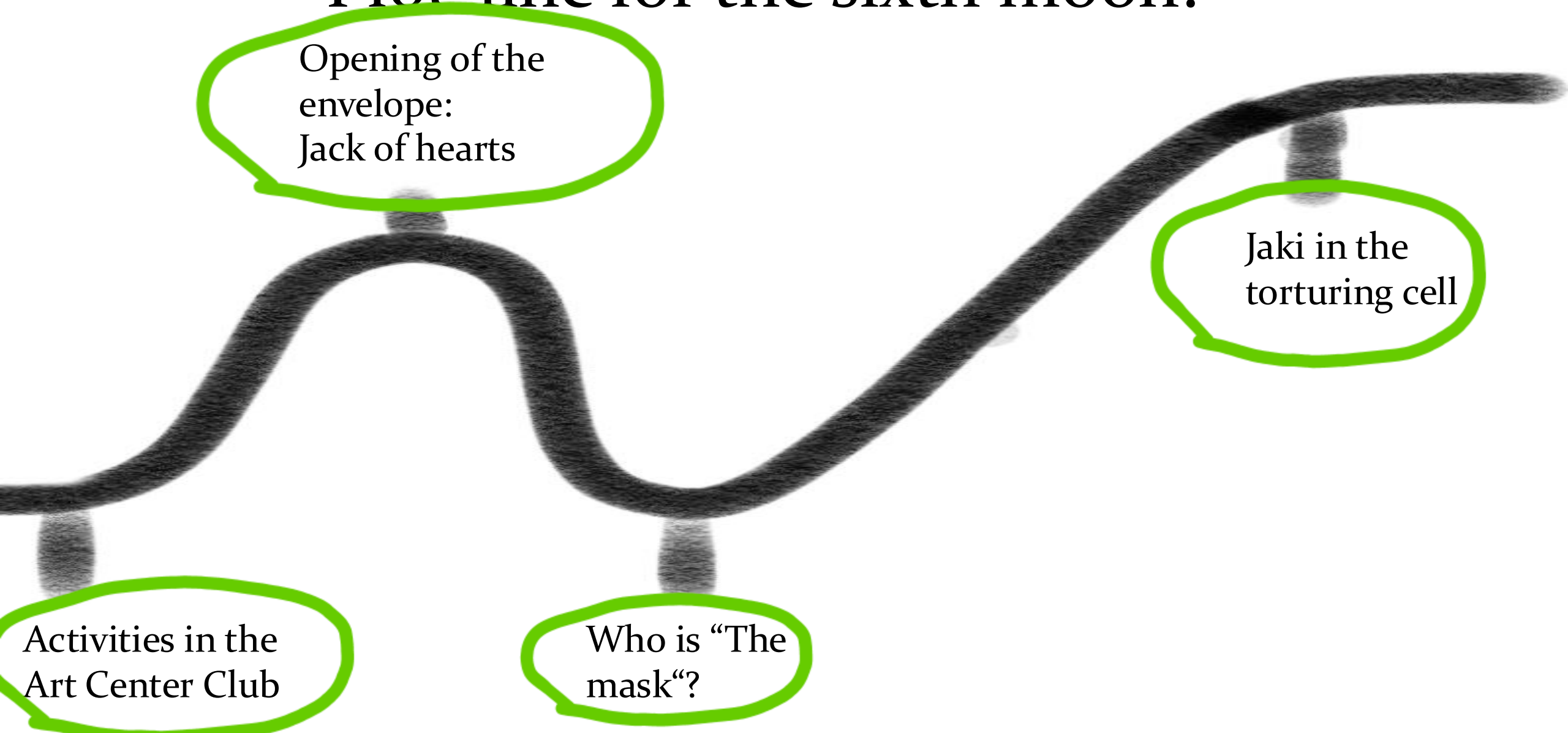


What does the quote “I realised who you are, what this is that you`re doing and concluded that I am done” signify?



# Chapter: Sixth moon

# Plot-line for the sixth moon:



Opening of the  
envelope:  
Jack of hearts

Jaki in the  
torturing cell

Activities in the  
Art Center Club

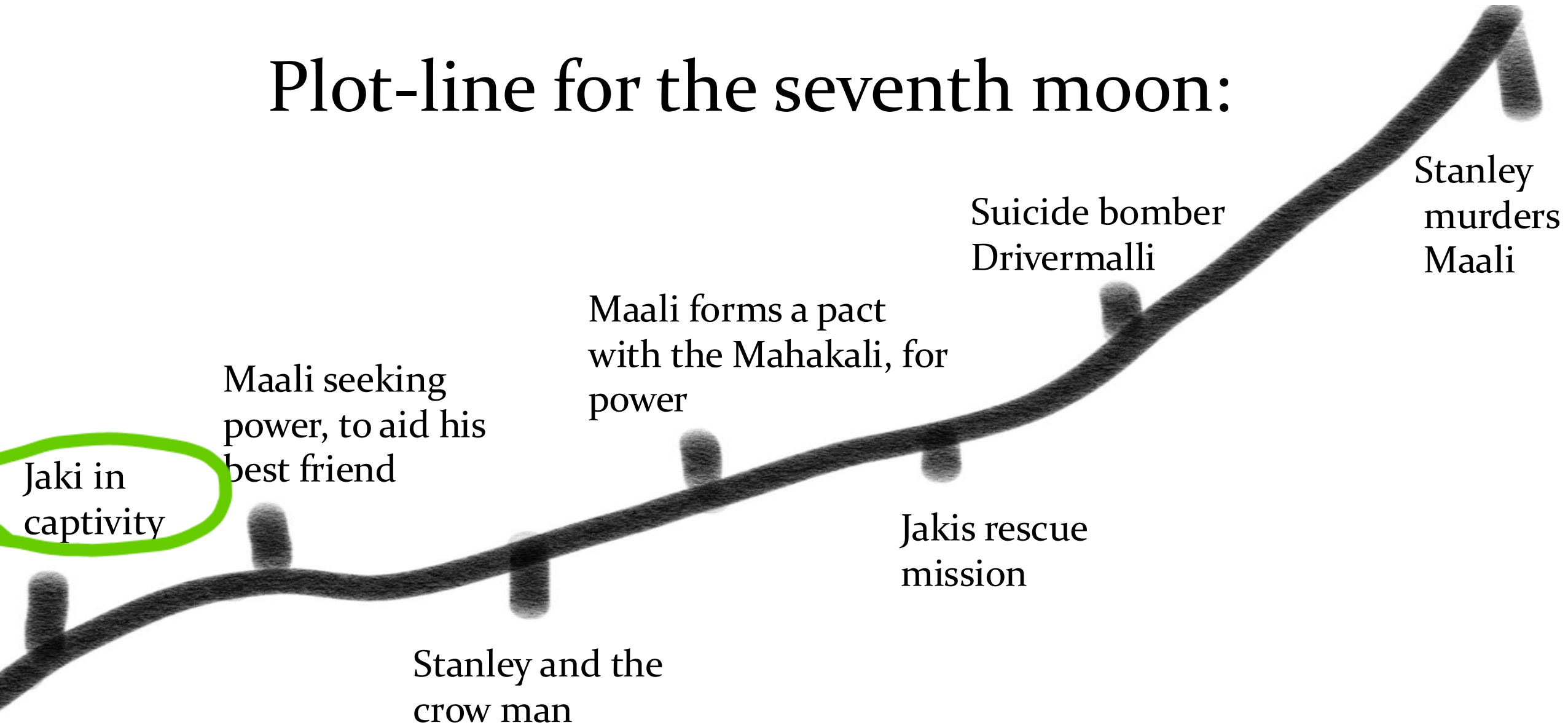
Who is "The  
mask"?



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## Chapter: Seventh moon

# Plot-line for the seventh moon:



# Jaki in captivity

- **Maalis first whisper: to Cassim**

„They shall kill her and blame it on the man who typed the report. They will kill her and leave you with this bucket of shit. Get her to the gate now.“

„They will say you took bribes. That you are a rogue cop. But you are better than all this. Stanley is on his way now. If you save her, he will give reward. You will get that transfer. Because you don't agree with death squads, you never have.“

- **Maalis second whisper: to Jaki**

„You've been arrested, Jaki. Stay calm, be brave and you will be saved. Uncle Stanley is coming for you. Tell Detective Cassim this...“

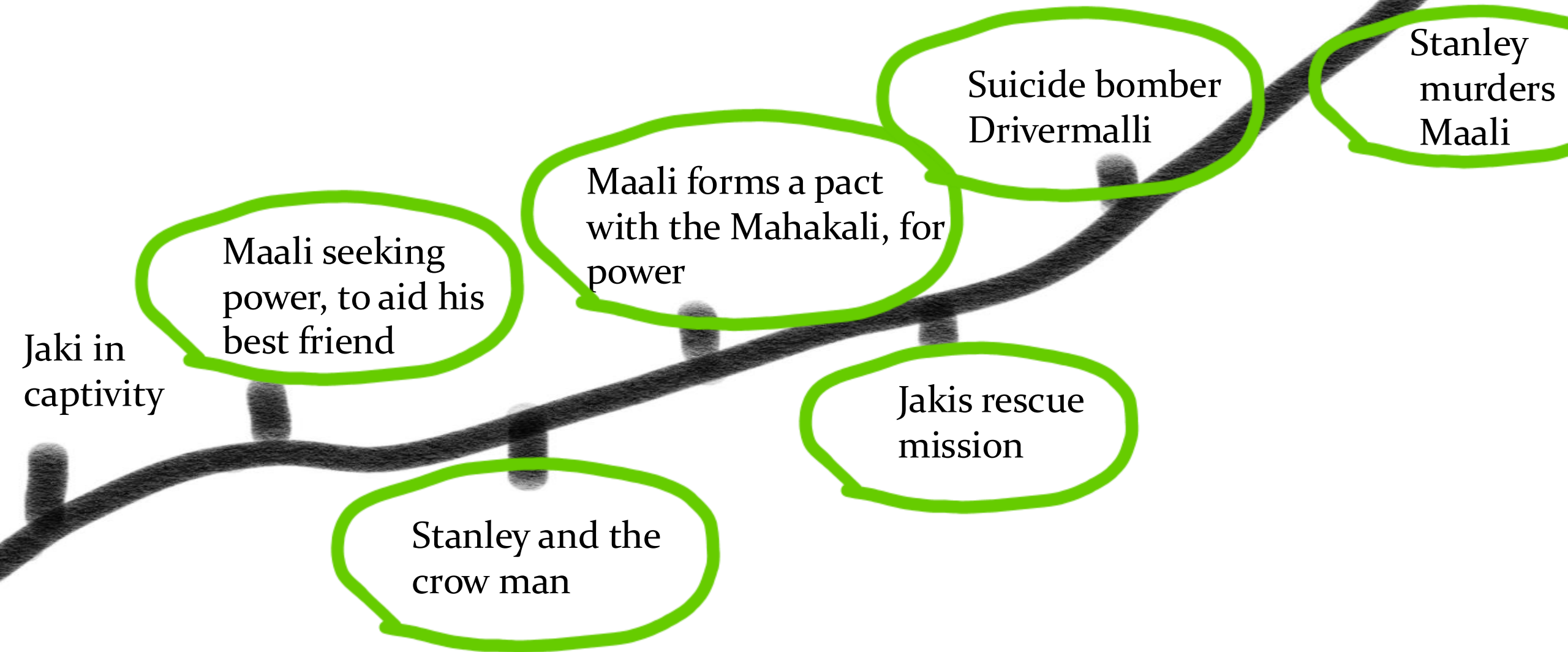
# Jaki in captivity

- **Maalis second whisper: to Jaki**

„You’ve been arrested, Jaki. Stay calm, be brave and you will be saved. Unle Stanley is coming for you. Tell Detective Cassim this...”

- “I know you’re the one who searched our apartment. I know you are not to blame for this”
- “Uncle Stanley will reward you. Uncle Stanley will get you transferred tonight. Release me and you can be released. I promise you”

# Plot-line for the seventh moon:







# Chapter: The light

# Sources

## Literature

Karunatilaka, Shehan. *The Seven Moons Of Maali Almeida*. London, Sort Of Books, 2022.

## Pictures

Picture 1 – Richard de Soyza: <https://island.lk/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/riched.jpg>

Picture 2-

[https://files.ekmcdn.com/planetearthrec/images/elvis-presley-his-hand-in-mine-ep-vinyl-record-7-inch-rca-victor-2001-\(5\)-129543-p.jpeg?v=014CBD76-FA07-417F-8989-1A41C1B19CC7](https://files.ekmcdn.com/planetearthrec/images/elvis-presley-his-hand-in-mine-ep-vinyl-record-7-inch-rca-victor-2001-(5)-129543-p.jpeg?v=014CBD76-FA07-417F-8989-1A41C1B19CC7)

Picture 3 -

[https://www.therecordhub.com/cdn/shop/products/QUEENHOTSPACE\\_1200x.png?v=1600973325](https://www.therecordhub.com/cdn/shop/products/QUEENHOTSPACE_1200x.png?v=1600973325)

<https://www.creativefabrica.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/08/King-and-Queen-Playing-cards-SVG-Cricut-Graphics-60447451-1.jpg>