

## THE STORY OF DIWALI - in Detroit Lingo

Back in India – way back when – this dude, Rama, had a big, cool kingdom. A kingdom is kinda like a big turf where one guy rules. Everybody in that turf liked this Rama dude – they liked him too much, man! And he was a very fair but tough guy and people respected him too. But, like, his step mom or somebody, with a weird name like Kai Kai or somethin', forced her husband to, like, send this cool dude Rama to some boondocks – a national forest or somethi' - to do time, kinda hard labor or somethi', you know, for 14 years, man!! So, this cool dude, Rama, takes his wife and young brother along..... you know..... so they can all chill out together. But, man, that forest was somethin' else! The place was reeeeeaaaaal scary, man. They had all kinds of scary animals – lions and monkeys and wild big birds everywhere. You ain't seen anythin' like it even in Montana, man. But this cool dude, Rama – man, he kicked ass with darts and bows and arrows and stuff. But then some bad and mean gangsta boys show up with their leader, a reeeeeaaaaal mean man. The leader's name was Ravana or somethin' strange like that. This Ravana dude was a real jerk, you know? This guy ..... he steals this Rama dudud's babe, Sita while Rama and his brotha', Laksh or somethin', are gone out hunting. Mind you, in those old days, they didn't have no rifles and AK-47 and stuff like that so them hunters had to hunt with nothin' but bows and arrows and stuff.

Any way, when this dude Rama and his brotha, Laksh, who was tagging along with him, return from their hunting trip, they don't see this chic, Sita, nowhere. So, man, does he get mad!!!! And you don't mess with this man ....! Not only dat but this cool dude, Rama, boy, he has so many friends. And they are all, like, gods! Yes, man, they are all gods! And, man, believe you me, they have millions of them gods there in India! So, anyways, you don't mess with them gods, you know? Now, you know, there are no sheriff deputies or po-leece there in the forest so who is this dude Rama gonna go to report the loss of his babe? Moreover, Rama had heard that this baaaad and mean, Ravana dude, had a big army of evil people. So, this dude, Rama and his brotha..... they, like, put together an army of monkeys. No, man, I'm not kiddin'! Swear to God, man, an army of monkeys!! Yes, I said monkeys! Don't ask me how they trained these monkeys, man, cuz', honestly, I don't know! They say this monkey army was good, man. Reeeeeaaaaal good!!

And, by the way, this mean gangsta boss, Ravana dude, was, like, devil with so many heads. Yes, man, I said heads..... H,E,A,D,S. Believe you me, not one but many heads!! But, man, notin' was gonna scare this cool dude Rama. You know what I mean? Nothin' in the world was gonna scare this cool dude! So, this Rama dude and his brotha, Laksh and their band of monkeys go face to face with this baaaaad and mean gangsta Ravana dude and his big army and whip their big ass! In the end, this cool dude, Rama – he busted this guys devil's heads and got his babe, Sita, back safe and sound!

But, then, you know, after a few years, like they got bored or somethin' living in the forest.... I guess, cuz' there is no TV or shoppin' malls or streets or stuff like that in the forest where you can cruise around in your car with your date, you know. Anyways, by this time this cool dude Rama and brotha' Laksh and all have done their time in the forest and so they hitch a ride home in some little boat in some lake or river or whatever.

Back home, people were sooooo happy to see their cool dude Rama, his chick, Sita, his brotha' Laksh and his favorite monkey chief of staff, Hanuman, come back after kickin' the devil's ass in a big way, that the people decide they had to do somethi' big to celebrate the return of their hero. But they didn't have no clubs or bars or other joints like that where they could hangout together to celebrate, you know, or to take them out for a drink or somethin'. So, you figure how they are gonna celebrate then?

And, yes, another thing! The city must've, like, lost its power or somethin' and so people decided to light hundreds..... maybe even thousands of lamps and played loud music and set up firework displays and all. It was pretty cool, man, like, it was 4<sup>th</sup> of July or somethin'! That was how this Diwali thing first got started. Do you all dig me, man? Pretty cool, eh?!

**Wish You All A Happy DIWALI!!!!**