

SHARON

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- SHARON. (entering) Did I hear the word cash?
- CASSIM. Look, Sharon. It really is. It's cash!
- SHARON. (to CASSIM) What's going on? 'Ali and cash'. Those are two words I've never heard together. Where did you get this money, Ali?
- ALI. Oh, you know. A little bit here. A little bit there...
- SHARON. (sweetly) A little bit, everywhere.
- ALI. Exacta-mondo!
- SHARON. (taking CASSIM down stage of the others) Somehow or other, Ali's found a treasure trove. I can just smell it!
- CASSIM. Really?
- SHARON. And it's our job, as his closest relations, to share it with him.
- CASSIM. How d'you mean?
- SHARON. Ali!
- ALI. Yes, Sharon?
- SHARON. There seems to have been a terrible misunderstanding -
- ALI. What?
- SHARON. The price for Safiya and Huma was never fifty dinars each -
- MUM. Yes, it was!
- SHARON. No it wasn't, it was fifty *thousand* dinars. I'm so sorry. (Taking coin from a gobsmacked CASSIM.) But we do appreciate this little down payment.
- HUMA. That's a lie! It was never fifty thousand!
- SHARON. Oh, yes it was, Huma.
- OTHERS. (encouraging the Audience) Oh, no it wasn't!
- SHARON. Oh, yes it was!
- OTHERS. Oh, no it wasn't!
- SHARON. It was! It was! It was!

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OTHERS. It wasn't, it wasn't, it wasn't!!

SHARON. **(A beat. To Audience.)** Well, I don't care if it wasn't. It is now!

CASSIM. That's not exactly fair, Sharon.

SHARON. Shut your silly Baba face.

MUM. Well, really!

SHARON. Now, listen to me, Ali. I don't know exactly what, where or how, but I know you've found something much bigger than you're letting on.

ALI. So what if I have?

SHARON. Share it, Ali. Take Cassim to where it is. If he comes back loaded - then maybe we'll think about releasing Safiya and Huma... But not before. Come along, Cassim. You need to get yourself ready for a little trip. **(Exits with CASSIM.)**