

# Bollywood star

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Amanda was a mediocre actress who knew she could never succeed in Hollywood. She looked like a mashup of all 20th century blonde actresses, without really standing out. Moreover, her acting skills were good but nothing exceptional.

She heard of the easy success guaranteed to young white actresses willing to make a bold move and pursue a career in Bollywood. She thought it over and decided to for it. The movie market in India was booming and there were remarkably few white actresses active on the local scene. She burned bridges with her past and moved to India, where she began with some photoshoots for advertising gigs and got some minor roles in local productions. Due to her unique looks and lack of fluency in Hindi, however, she was relegated to very small parts as a tourist or other foreign women.

To her surprise, her unique looks weren't getting her anywhere. In fact, while Eurocentric beauty standards had long influenced Indian culture, a recent revival of the celebration of the beauty of brown women had been under way and actresses embodying traditional Indian beauty were way more popular. Amanda had to admit that local actresses were indeed real beauties. How could she compete against them? She began by dyeing her blonde hair dark to gain a more welcoming appearance.



“OMG, I love it, I make a stunning brunette! I should have done this before!” - the former blonde said, after having seen herself with black hair for the first time ever in her life.

Lauren began having more success both as a photo model and as an actress as she was seen as more conventionally attractive now. However, she didn't qualify for any role as a native Indian woman, so her choices were limited.

She made an effort to learn the language and her progress didn't go unnoticed.

She had some talks with an agent working for one of the main producers of Bollywood-style drama series, who offered her to boost her chances of success provided she was willing to touch up her appearance a bit. She was a bit taken aback by his boldness. Was he calling her ugly? Then she realised she was just overreacting. Cosmetic surgeries were common practice in that region of the world, that was probably why local actresses looked so beautiful. She signed the contract and asked him what had he planned for her.

She would begin with a visit at a local beauty salon where, on top of a normal makeover, they would give her lip fillers and a minor nose job. Small cosmetic surgeries were so common, that they were often provided as an extra service in beauty spas.



Amanda was a bit shocked when she saw the result, however she had to admit that she looked good. The surgeries also seemed to have given her a more ethnic appearance. A doubt started creeping in Amanda's mind: was it just her impression or had she acquired an Indian vibe? She tried to forget about that idea and moved on with her life.

Some secondary roles were finally offered to her. She still needed to be dubbed over by native Hindu speakers but it was a start. She would often portray a mixed Indian-white girl, who never felt fully included by Indian people.

Amanda found herself more and more fascinated by the beauty of Indian people, especially women. She worked with lots of Indian beauty icons and admired their thin body, brown skin, dark eyes and facial features. She began imitating their makeup style and even started wearing color contacts to darken her naturally light eyes. Despite her efforts, however, her career never made a breakthrough, so her agent recommended her one of the leading cosmetic surgeons in the country, for some services that beauty salons didn't provide. Amanda was a bit scared but she knew the contract she had signed was binding.

The surgeons performed a full jaw reconstruction, giving her a very feminine, gracile facial bone structure, and applied dark brown pigments on her irises, turning them permanently dark.



Amanda's heart was pumping fast when she saw her new face in the mirror. Her eyes had been turned dark brown, and permanently so. She was told that she would never have natural-looking light eyes again, as her natural color was forever hidden below a brown layer and even coating her irises in light pigments would result in fake-looking light eyes. Her new jawline gave her face a more feminine and less Caucasian appearance. It was hard to deny that she was starting to look unmistakably Indian. Yet she wasn't mad because deep down she envied the warmth of the local women's doe eyes. She liked the face shape her new bone structure gave her although on the other hand, she now looked barely recognisable to anyone who knew her before her bold move and that scared her.

"I... Love it! Thank you doctor!" - replied the young woman, trying to hide the excitement and confusion she felt in her heart.

Before returning to acting, she was given a strict, low calories diet to follow and regular tanning bed sessions.

As the surgeries settled in and the effects of the diet and the tanning progressed, the woman, who had recently began going by the more pronounceable noun of Meera, had gained a skinny body and a healthy-looking tan. Some pills she was given to go along with her diet were enriching her body, naturally poor in melanin, with a sensible quantity of the substance.



When she was ready to film again she had finally gained the look she had admired in her colleagues: that of a gorgeous, full-blooded Indian woman. She had the skinny arms and body expected from a traditional unmarried Indian girl, who didn't work with her hands and who didn't certainly hit the gym as Amanda was used to as an American woman. She lost a cup size but that was also required for her new look. Her skin was a gorgeous light brown, which went really well with her dark eyes and hair. People on the streets would now assume she was an Indian Bollywood diva - she thought.

As major gigs began coming, Meera's career skyrocketed and her earnings also increased.

She would often get compliments on her "light skin", which made her smile thinking about how many tanning sessions were required to give her a passable Indian skintone.

However, as she became more of a sex symbol, she was requested to shot some nude scenes. However, her tanning sessions didn't give her a uniform tan all over her body, moreover her nipples were still unnaturally pink and her body hair, including pubic hair, was still blonde. When her agent talked her about this she immediately knew what would come next.



A new technique to permanently alter her skin pigmentation was suggested, so that she would never need constant tanning sessions again.

“How does this technique work?” - asked Meera, excited and a little scared.

“Melanin is naturally produced by our bodies and determines skin, hair and eyes color. Its production is regulated by a complex mechanism involving different hormones and enzymes. I won't delve into details but we'll alter your genetic material so that your body will naturally produce more melanin for the rest of your life.”

“Is this permanent?” - Meera asked.

“Well, in principle not but genetic manipulation is no joke, no previous attempts of a second change has been done so far.”

Meera knew she'd be stuck as a brown-skinned woman for the rest of her life. Was she, a blonde caucasian woman, really willingly turning herself into an Indian woman?

Being honest to herself, she had come to envy Indian women's beauty and to disregard her own complexion as unattractive so deep down she loved the idea of becoming one of them.



After the procedure, her skin quickly darkened everywhere. At first it wasn't anything dramatic, it just looked like a more natural skin tone compared to her old tan but then it darkened to a full mocha color. It was nothing like she had experienced before with tanning sessions. The dark brown hue her skin acquired was deeper and the colour reached every part of her body: her hands and feet darkened everywhere, although her palms and soles remained a couple of shades lighter, her pink aureolas darkened to a dark brown, almost black color, and even her vagina darkened to a dark brown colour.

Her body hair also changed, turning from blonde to pitch black, including her eyelashes, eyebrows and pubic hair. No trace of her Caucasian heritage survived this transformation. The amount of melanin was such that even her irises appeared darker, under the brown layer. After the change, her iris was as pitch black as her pupil, giving her eyes a very exotic look.

They had clearly overshot the amount of melanin her body was supposed to produce, her agency sued the clinic and got a huge financial compensation but now Meera was forever stuck as a dark-skinned Indian girl.



Meera was mad at herself for having thought this was going to be a good idea. Not only she was stuck as an Indian-looking girl, she was a dark skinned one! To be precise, she was now darker than most people in India and, for what mattered, in the world. It gave her some anxiety to think that, looking like that, she'd probably face discrimination in most countries on Earth. What a difference from the white privilege she was used to!

After the initial shock, Meera began to face her new reality. Being a dark skinned girl proved to be a challenging reality for the genetically altered blonde. She wouldn't have to worry about not passing as an Indian woman anymore these days, but on the other hand she realised that light skin Indians, who constituted the majority of the population in the movie industry, saw her as a minority.

She desperately tried to get new gigs but she was often told that her skin was now too dark for most roles. Increasingly frustrated, she accepted some poorly paid gigs but with her low income she couldn't afford the expensive lifestyle she'd gotten used to when she was a Bollywood star.



Disheartened by these failures, Meera decided to meet a new, sketchy agent she had previously heard of. The guy was not the most transparent, apparently, but he always managed to find a good target for all the actresses who had previously contacted him, she had been told. The guy offered her something she would have never considered in a million years before: becoming an adult movie actress. There were no concerns about skin color, with the right ethnicity tag she would certainly find her audience and, Meera was reassured by the agent, there was no shortage of dark skinned girls fans.

Meera took a few days to think about this but she knew her options were scarce. Sure, she could probably have some success back to Hollywood looking like that, after all, diversity was celebrated nowadays, but once someone found out what she'd done to herself, she'd die of shame. Every time she caught a glimpse of her dark brown hands she had a minor manic attack as she couldn't rationalise that that's how she looked now.



After a short training, Meera was ready to start her new career. Once accepted her new place in the movie industry, it was smooth sailing for the dark skinned beauty, who soon captured the attention of a large online audience. For some reasons, most of the men she was paired with were also dark skinned as her, but she didn't mind that. After a while, however, as her popularity grew, she was requested for more and more videos, with men of any race and eventually also women. As she became more and more disinhibited, Meera developed a more varied sexuality, exploring many different roles and also her hidden bisexual side. Reflecting on the unexpected turns and twists of her career, she realised she'd been lucky to end up with such a fulfilling job!

Most of her colleagues decided to enhance their looks with plastic surgeries, but given her past experience, Meera decided she didn't want to risk anything and kept with her "natural" looks, for which she gained even more popularity and even made her an involuntary for natural beauty, how ironic!