

Aru Shah and the End of Time

By: Roshani Chokshi

1. Where do Aru and her mother live?
They live in the Museum of Ancient Indian Art and Culture in Atlanta, Georgia.
2. What time was it when Aru and the three classmates entered the Hall of Gods?
It was 4:00 PM – the hour of day that is like a basement – almost, but not quiet.
3. Why does Aru light the lamp?
Aru had lied about spending her time in France during spring break. She lights the lamp to show the three classmates that it is cursed like she said.
4. What happened when the Cursed Lamp of Bharata was lit?
Aru accidentally let out the Sleeper and froze time. Her mother and the classmates were frozen in time. The lamp disappeared.
5. Why was the elephant important in the Hall of Gods?
It was a portal (entrance to other world traveling – magical corridor) and Subala (his nickname given by Aru is Boo) (the pigeon) came out of it when the lamp was lit.
6. What is Boo's job?
His job is to guide the Pandava brother who lit the Diya of Baratha. He then had to guide Aru since she lit the lamp.
7. What is a Pandava?
Aru and Mini are Pandavas. Pandavas are warriors that need less food and sleep than mortals. Boo knew Aru was one since she was able to light the lamp. Pandavas are part of Hindu mythology.
8. Name 2 of the 4 divine astras (Supernatural weapons that are summoned during battle).
Maces, Swords, Bows, and nerts woven from lightning.
9. Name two of the five Pandava brothers?
Yudhistira (famous judge), Bhima (Olympic Athlete), Arjuna (Senator)
Nakula, Sahadeva - (famous male models who wrote best selling self-help books and started the world's first hot-yoga studio)
10. Where would Aru and Mini go to receive details of the quest?
The Court of the Sky – Council of Guardians – They would get it during the CLAIMING.
11. What would the Sleeper want from the Pandavas and why?
The Lord of Destruction would want their weapons. He is surrounded by a celestial sphere that can only be shattered by an immortal device like those weapons.
12. What is the key to get to the other world?
You need to reach – you must grab hold of something invisible.
13. Who do Aru and Mini encounter on the way to the Court of the sky?
They encounter Makara – Guardian of the Thresholds. Makara suspected they were voles.

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14. What did Mini say she feared when they entered the Court of the Sky?
Mini had acrophobia – a fear of heights.
15. When did Boo say the Council meets?
They gather on Tuesdays and Thursdays and during full moons and new moons. They also gather for the season premiere and finale of Game of Thrones.
16. Name two of the seven thrones in the Council.
Urvashi (celestial dancer), Hanuman (monkey faced trickster), Uloopi and Surasa (the serpent queens), Jambavan (the bear king), Kubera (the Lord of Wealth), Subala (the pigeon – he had been banished)
17. What did Hanuman say were other happenings after the diya was lit?
The vehicles of the gods and goddesses have gone missing. The special mounts of the deities used were missing - Ganesh (the elephant headed god of new beginnings rode a mouse), Lakshmi (the goddess of Luck rode an owl), and Indra (the king of gods rode a seven headed horse)
18. Who was Aru's divine father and what did she receive from him?
Her soul father is Indra (King of the Heavens. She received a Golden Orb.
19. Who was Mini's divine father and what did she receive from him?
Her father was Dharma Raja (Lord of Justice and Death). She received a small purple compact.
20. Describe the quest given to Aru and Mini by Urvashi at the CLAIMING?
The Sleeper needs the celestial weapons to free the Lord of Destruction. They had to awaken the weapons before the Sleeper did. They must go to the Kingdom of Death. Within the Kingdom lies the pool of the past – Look in the pool and find how to vanquish the Sleeper once and for all. They had to do all this before the new moon or everyone who had been frozen would die (9 days).
21. Name the three keys the girls need to acquire to enter the Kingdom of Death without dying and how would they find the keys?
Keys: A sprig of youth, Bite of adulthood, Sip of old age They were given the Mehndi Map. If they touched a key on the map, they would be transported to somewhere close to where the actual key is located.
22. What was the power of the Golden Orb and the purple compact?
The Golden Orb could be thrown anywhere, and it would be back in her hands in a blink. The purple compact could see through enchantments.
23. What happened when Aru touches the first key?
They get transported to the parking lot of a strip mall. After looking around they saw a hair salon with a sign that said: Madame Bee Asura. (Asura is a demon.)
24. What happened once they meet Madame Bee Asura?
Using the compact, they realized that Madame Bee was Brahmasura and she really was a demon. Aru and Mini realize that the first key is hidden a top of the Asura's head. Madame Bee wanted to eat them for their beauty. Aru had Madame look in the compact to see she wasn't beautiful and then threw her ball and a glow of heavenly light blinded Madame Bee.

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25. What is Brahasura's (Madame Bee) power? How do the girls defeat her?
Anyone who touches her turns to ash. They had the mirror make an illusion of the Sprig of Youth and they showed it to Madame Bee. Mini grabbed the blow dryer and hit the hand Madame Bee onto the top of her own head. That turned Madame Bee into ash. The Sprig of Youth had flew off her head before she became ashes.
26. How do Aru and Mini find Valmiki? Why were Aru, Mini, and Boo requesting assistance from Valmiki?
The girls follow the ants to find Valmiki. They needed to acquire armor from the SEASONS to continue their quest.
27. How do Aru and Mini get what they want from Valmiki?
They had to speak in rhyme (like poetry). They promised him one day of their life for him to write their tale. He gave them a rhyme that would hide them both from sight.
28. What happened when Aru touches the second key on the Mehndi Map?
They were transported to outside of a Costco. They have only 6 days left. Inside will be the Night Bazaar. When they enter the Night Bazaar, they go to the frozen food aisle. Boo tells they to read the items in the cases.
29. After waiting in line to enter the Night Bazaar, what did Aru and Mini need to do?
They had to go through security before entering the Night Bazaar. They needed to remove anything enchanted and place it in a bin on their left. They also had Mini's backpack searched and needed to remove Aru's shoes.
30. In the Night Bazaar what were the three paths named? Which one did they go on?
Things You Want, Things You Need (Went on this one), Things You Don't Want to Need
31. How did they get what they needed from the Seasons? What did they get?
Mini got a diamond bracelet that would freeze an enemy in his tracks and a headband that would make anyone wearing it forget something important. Aru got a necklace with a pendant. When thrown, it would hit any target. It did come with regret. They also got some cakes that make they feel not hungry and no more pain. Aru was able to get these things by saying that the Seasons' things were not the best and probably would not even help them.
32. When Aru and Mini were in the library, what did Aru notice about Boo's shadow? Explain what happened.
The shadow was really the Sleeper. He appeared carrying a cage to capture BOO. The Sleeper explained that Aru's mother put him into the lamp. The Sleeper demanded that they give him the Key they already found (Sprig of Youth). They threw the bookbag to distract him. Mini used her diamond bracelet to freeze him. Mini also threw the headband of forgetfulness at him. The Sleeper told them he wanted the keys brought to him and left with Boo in a cage.
33. How did they find the second key – Bite of Adulthood?
They looked in the A section for a book called "Adulthood". They were able to retrieve the key by biting the book. When she spit it out into her hand the wad of paper became a silver coin.
34. What did Aru find in the library when Mini left her?
She found the birdcage that the Sleeper was carrying. It had small clay animals in it. She took out her Golden Orb for light and the animals began to grow. The Sleeper had forgotten them when the headband hit him. These were the vehicles of the gods. Aru had freed them.
35. How did the girls get to the next area to find the third key – Sip of Old Age?
Mini used the Mehndi Map and left Aru since she was mad at her for lighting the lamp and putting her family in jeopardy. Aru got there by getting a ride on the seven headed horse she freed from the Sleeper's birdcage.

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36. How did Aru and Mini get the third key – Sip of Old Age?
They could not touch the cauldron that was filled with poison that the key was in because it would explode and kill everything. Mini threw a little pebble at the cauldron to get it to let off some vapors. They wanted the chandelier with fire to fall into the cauldron to vaporize the poison. They threw rocks at the chandelier to get the fire to fall. The cauldron exploded and the fire made all the poison vaporize leaving just a small cup filled with silver liquid. Aru took a small sip and spit out the key – a small white key made of bone.
37. What happened at the door to the Kingdom of Death?
The girls met EK and DO (guard dogs). They inform the girls they can only enter if they are dead.
38. How do the girls get by EK and DO?
Aru gets the dogs to begin arguing with each other about who is going to do the killing first. She then uses Mini's purple compact to form a shape that grew a head and a tail – a purple cat. Aru threw her golden orb, and the cat took off. Both the dogs chased the items. The girls were able to enter the Kingdom of Death without a problem.
39. What did the girls discover about the language the dead people were speaking in the Kingdom of Death?
When Mini used her compact, she discovered that all the people were speaking backwards.
40. What does Chitrigupta give the girls at the Halls of Death?
He gives them two tokens that are filled with good karma that the girls have done.
He also gives them wisdom cookies that smell like old books and two thimblefuls of a bright orange liquid – soma – drink of the gods.
41. What were the three hallways called and how did they figure out which to take?
To Dare, To Disturb, To Deign – They take TO DEIGN once Mini eats the cookie of knowledge. It reminded her of her favorite book: The Golden Compass.
42. When Mini is being devoured by quicksand, what talks to her and how does she get out?
A shark talks to her – She gets out because Aru used the rope silk from the ground to pull Mini out.
43. How did the girls enter the palace?
Aru walked into a hard waterfall. The waterfall was a secret door to the palace. Mini remembered how to open it from a story her mother had told her.
44. Why was the Palace upset with the Pandavas?
The Palace was upset because it was left behind and forgotten.
45. How do the girls prove themselves to the Palace?
Aru had to use the bow and arrow to aim true. The fireflies that were swarming around began to light little fires in this illusion Aru is trying to get out of. She did not see a target and did not know what to aim at. She remembered that to aim true was to get out of her own mind. Mini proved she was a Pandava by out reasoning herself through wisdom. She said the fastest thing was a thought.
46. How does the Palace show it is happy again? What does it give the girls?
The Palace shows it is happy by cleaning itself up after 300 years. It gives the girls ice cream to eat. When the girls leave it gives them a blue tile shaped like a five-point star for protection.

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47. What happens at the Bridge of Forgetting?
As the snow is falling on the girls, they lose a memory. The guardian of the Bridge, Shukra, surrounded himself with mirrors to keep all his memories. They needed to listen to his tale in order to pass. He was slowly stealing their memories to build the bridge for them to cross. Aru took the pendant from Monsoon and threw it at the center mirror on Shukra. The snow then stole all the memories of his wife to build the bridge for the girls to cross. Shukra cursed her so that she would forget when it mattered most.
48. After the Bridge of Forgetting, where do the girls enter? What do they notice about this place?
The girls enter The Chambers of Astras (weapon with supernatural abilities). They notice an awful smell. The stalactites were teeth. The girls realize they were inside an animal's mouth – a whale.
49. How do Aru and Mini originally want to escape the whale?
They were going to find the uvula (the hanging down thing in the back of your throat) and hit it to make the whale throw up. Mini thought that whales have one since she saw it in Finding Nemo.
50. Where were the astral weapons?
They were attached to the back of the whale's teeth.
51. How do the girl's escape the whale's mouth?
Aru's golden ball changed into a ball of string. The bolt turned into a string that pulled Mini out of the whale's throat. When it returned to Aru's hand she saw it was a lightning bolt that she used to prop open the whale's mouth. Mini used her compact mirror to make a danda stick of braided purple light to also help hold open the mouth.
52. What answers were in plain sight to Aru and Mini?
Their weapons – the glowing ball was Vajra, the lightning bolt of Indra, and the mirror compact was the was the danda stick of the Dharma Raja.
53. Where is the only place they can learn how to defeat the Sleeper?
The Pool of the Past in the Kingdom of Death is where they will learn to defeat the Sleeper.
54. What happened in the Pool of the Past?
Aru slipped and almost fell into the water. She looked and saw her mother's face. She discovered her mother, Dr. Krithika Shah had fallen in love with Suyodhana, the Sleeper, a long time ago. They had wanted to resist him becoming the Sleeper and be a normal family. Her mother put Suyodhana inside the lamp since she did not have the heart to destroy him like she was supposed to. She did it to protect Aru (their baby).
55. What had Aru never seen her mom do?
Smile
56. What could NOT kill the Sleeper? What could kill the Sleeper?
Metal, wood, stone, or anything dry or wet. VAJRA (the lightning bolt) could kill the Sleeper.
57. When they enter the Reincarnation Factory they see Wish, describe him.
Wish was a Reincarnation worker. He was covered with eyelashes. This is because many people will make a wish if they find an eyelash before blowing it away.
58. What is the name of the clockwork machine?
Time – He is just a part of time – Past Time.

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59. How do Aru and Mini get past Wish and Time?
They give them the ivory-colored tokens of karma that shows their good deeds.
60. What did the girls see on the TV in the Tollbooth when they left the Reincarnation Factory?
They saw a news report about an airborne virus that was going around the country. It left all the people unresponsive – as if sleeping while wide awake. They called it the “Frozen Syndrome”.
61. How did Aru decide to confront the Sleeper?
She decided the confrontation would be at a place he would not like – the museum where he used to be imprisoned in the lamp. She would call for the animal mount of the gods to help her fight. Mini helped by creating an illusion of Krithike, Aru’s mom, to trick the Sleeper.
62. What did the Sleeper say to Mini and Aru when they summoned him to fight?
They were little and not worthy, too easy to defeat.
63. How did they defeat the Sleeper?
They tricked the Sleeper into walking into a chalk circle in the center of a circle of every one of the celestial mounts (animals) with the illusion of Aru’s mother. Aru knocked out the Sleeper by throwing her Vajra lightning bolt at the chandelier and it crashed down on top of him.
64. Why did the Sleeper let Aru live?
He thought he talked her into joining him.
65. Why did Aru not kill the Sleeper?
The Sleeper convinced Aru that her sisters would stare at her with hatred. When she threw the Vajra (the lightning bolt) it felt the speck of doubt that Aru had about killing him.
66. Why was the Sleeper’s curse of frozen sleep NOT permanent?
They were able to keep him busy and distract him so he was not able to get to the Kingdom of Death by the new moon.
67. At the end what happened with Poppy, Burton, and Arielle?
They stayed frozen a bit longer since they were near the lamp. When they awoke, they were confused. Aru explained that the lamp was cursed and she just got back from fighting demons. They did not believe her and were going to put on the internet that she lied. She asked her uncle for help out of this situation. In her pocket she found a piece of paper with all kinds of details about them that showed how they were lying or doing something bad. They decided to delete the video and left the museum.
68. What happened to Aru and Mini at the end of the book?
They began going to the Otherworld for training by the Council. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday they had three hours of training – war strategy, dancing and etiquette and folklore.