

KEERTHI SESHULU

By

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Episode – 1

Vaneenadham, a poet, is honoured by a local association and he comes home happy. He explains to his wife how grand the function was. He asks his wife to serve him food. She has not cooked because the money he has given in the morning is taken away by his brother Murari for his drinks.

The house owner comes to whom Vaneenadham is due to pay three months rent. But the house owner says he also wants to honour him, collect donations and pay him some amount. The poet asks him to get out.

Murari, his brother arrives dead drunk. He scornfully accuses people like the house owner for exploiting the needs of the artists.

Episode – 2

He explains to his brother that he has taken to drinks because he also received laurels for his performances in plays on stage. People gave him titles, but could not give him food. He accuses the owner that such cheats as he do business even in honouring people.

Vaneenadham's father-in-law, Jagannadham arrives with the news that his wife is not doing well and she wants to see her daughter. Vaneenadham agrees. There is no food in the house and no money even to buy rice. Jagannadham advises Vaneenadham that he will see for him a job and gives him some money before he goes.

Episode – 3

Sathagopam, a publisher comes and offers forty rupees for a work that Vaneenadham wrote passionately for five years. Shocked at this, Vaneenadham could not say anything.

Murari accuses him of exploiting the poor writers. Sathagopam, ignoring Murari's criticism, wants that an agreement is to be signed. Helpless, Vaneenatham with great despair signs.

The father in law goes away chastising Vaneenadham. Sathagopam insulted him. With that pain and despair, the already ailing Murari, who has taken to drinks to overcome his frustration collapses.

Episode – 4

Vaneenadham is unwell. He is worried about Murari's health. But Murari gives a tablet to Vaneenadham and asks him to sleep well.

The doctor is sent for. Dr. Gangajalam comes. Vaneenadham has high temperature. The doctor asks for any previous case history. He asks what is the name of the poet. Murari says that the poet's is "Murari" and shows to the doctor the X-rays and prescriptions given to Murari. The doctor detects that it is incredible and the poet Murari does not live beyond four days.

This has reached the public like wild fire. Sankaraiah, the house owner comes. Guravaiah, the businessman, Hanumantha Rao, an elderly man who presides over meetings in the city, chairman Janata Rao and teacher Parandhamaiah assemble at the house. They all have very kind words to say.

A Zameendar and a sculptor Gopalam arrive. All of them show sympathy for the great poet's condition;

All of them want to do something memorable to be done to the poet. Each one suggests one thing or the other. Murari asks them to pray for his health with a pure heart.

Episode – 5

They all decide that they must have a statue of the Poet in the central place of the town. The Zamindar given the money. The sculptor etches it. The Chairman arranges a grand function.

They all decide that the statue must be unveiled by the Minister.

They want to send a request letter to the Minister that the poet is already dead and his statue is to be unveiled by him.

Murari sarcastically says that he will convey all this to his brother as soon as he gets up and sends his blessings to them.

During the illness of Vaneenatham, every important man in the town stayed there in the house. They planned now to make the function a great success.

After a few days, Vaneenadham woke up. He was feeling normal. He moved around the house. Every one around him was stunned, surprised and bewildered. They ran helter-skelter not knowing what to do.

They all conferred together.

News about the unveiling of Vaneenadham's statue by the Minister within four days after his death is widely publicized in the papers.

Jagannadham and Janaki, the poet's wife, read in papers about it and rushed to see Vaneenadham. They came to know that it was hastily manipulated.

Episode – 6

All the elders came running. They unanimously explained their embarrassment to him. The doctor said that he would not live for more than four or five days. They all thought that they should do something to honour him. The idea of the statue was accepted by all. The Minister was approached. They are in a predicament not knowing what to do.

They unanimously requested him to die for their sake and save the situation.

Episode – 7

Murari is drunk again. He castigates everyone for the kind of treatment an artist, a poet, gets in this country. He is looked down upon, he a dreamer of humanity's future. They offer him money as to a beggar, but erect a statue if he dies. For what? For their own sake! To receive encomiums that they are patrons of art!

Murari asks Vaneenadham to open his eyes at least now and know about the selfish society around. Murari coughs and vomits blood. People start cursing Murari saying that it is all his plot.

Murari vomits blood and dies.