

Invisible Game

Mari Bekauri

Summary

The Invisible Game tells the unusual story of two writers whose lives intertwine. Nika Gasviani, is a famous musician going by the stage name of Meshi. The other, Sofia Gilga, is a new author. Both visit their publisher at the same time to discuss their new works. Meshi's book is about a future in which robots create humanity, while Gilga's is about a missing psychiatrist and the strange stories that relate to the search to find her. The authors make initial deal and disappear for months.

Meanwhile, a new virus spreads globally and the resulting pandemic changes people's lives. The narrator, Alex, who is their editor at the publishing house, has forgotten the whole deal with the writers until he comes across an interview with Meshi which has gone viral and in which he talks openly about his drug addiction, chronic PTSD, and, significantly, his suspicion that his whole life might have been an illusion.

The next day Sofia Gilga meets with the publisher. After that meeting, the publisher changes overnight from a calm, professional woman into a fretful, anxious person. She starts to neglect her work and come late to the office. Everyone can sense that something has happened, but she refuses to explain herself until a tragic accident when, Meshi attempts suicide but is saved by a passing friend.

That same night, the publisher, Nana, calls Alex and begs him to meet her. When Alex arrives, she's frantic, blaming herself for what has happened, claiming that she knew of the writer's mental struggles and could have saved him. Alex is confused. Nana explains that not long ago, Meshi had sent over a first draft of his book, but it was not the one they had discussed about the future and robots, but something completely different. It was the story of a young woman who travels to an Eastern country, where she overdoses on drugs, and falls to her death. She faces both death and hellfire, becoming both God and Satan. She experiences all there is to experience. When she returns home, she decides to turn her life around. The experience has shown her that her whole life was an illusion.

The publisher tells Alex that she had rejected the book because of its disturbing nature.

And after that unusual things start to happen.

The other writer does not produce a book at all. At a meeting at the publishers, Sofia Gilga explains why she did not write her novel. saying that some time ago she travelled to India, took some drugs, and fell to her death. The young writer recounts exactly the same story that Nana had read just a few days before.

Alex is dumbfounded, he can't believe what he is hearing and they decide to investigate together.

Sofia Gilga they discover disappeared after the meeting. She quit her job, left her apartment, and vanished. Nobody knows where to find her.

After their unsuccessful attempts to find Sofia and understand the connection between the two writers, Nana and Alexi decide to visit a mystic called Archil.

Archil tells them about the Space of Variations Theory here everything is laid out and what they might think is unusual is just another variation, chosen by two people at the same time, connecting them in both written and physical forms. His belief is that they both understood the illusion of reality and chose their individual paths.

Archil gives Alex all the necessary materials to explain the world's systems and structures and other ideas related to esoterism. Reading these texts, Alex gets a sense of the invisible order that rules the world. He starts to question free will and sees that everything might be scripted for people who play their assigned roles.

Meanwhile, a strange thing happens. Sofia Gilga goes to Archil for a consultation. She tells him about Bert Helinger's theory of family constellations and asks Archil to help her renounce hers. Unfortunately, Archil doesn't know how to guide her, even though he has heard of Helinger's theory.

Archil explains to Alex that there is a genetic, family system of morality which all members of the family are expected to follow, or else they will be punished.

The more information Alex receives, the more he wants to know, which leads him deeper into maze, eventually driving him to an existential crisis. He quits his job but continues his search for answers.

At first they think of Gilga and Meshi as anima and animus who lead their separate lives, but, as time passes, the more they believe there's something bigger at work, not just in their intertwined script but also collectively.

Meshi is at the centre of attention again. This time it's because during one of his concerts he jumps from the stage to assault a fan.

Meshi is hospitalized.

It's a detective and then a psychiatrist who tell Alex about Meshi's reoccurring flashback of a torture scene in which a blade cuts somebody's eyelid repeatedly. The psychiatrist remembers that another person, a woman, came to him with the same reoccurring flashback.

It doesn't take Alex long to work out who the woman was. He starts to gather more information about the Gilgas and Gasviani family backgrounds. He finds that Meshi's family history is full of murder, torture, and bloody street fights, and that his uncle, Erekle, was killed by a Gilga.

He is persuaded that both writers are interconnected by a family constellation. Alex decides to pay Meshi a visit, but he's not in hospital anymore. It appears that he left after a young woman visited and they talked for a long time.

Alex doesn't give up.

After a while, Meshi appears on another talk show presenting his new project about the digital cloning of human consciousness in which thoughts and ideas are stored in a clone that will be able to communicate with people even after death, creating an immortality loop...

It doesn't take him long to find Meshi. They meet up at a café. Alex tells him the whole story, and how badly it has affected his life. Meshi is stunned. He finally admits that he met with Sofia Gilga at the hospital and that she was the one who told him about being the black sheep of the family, and how to escape his family constellation. Thanks to her, he was able to come up with this idea and make his ancestral dream of immortality come true.

While Alex is hearing Meshi's story, the publisher receives a book written by Sofia Gilga, which portrays the feud of two ancestral families, whose descendants know nothing about their history. They struggle with PTSD, drug addiction and different mental disorder because of the family constellation. The family punishment continues until one of them recognizes the pattern of the invisible game and chooses to quit the script to fulfil their true goal. As the narrator puts it:

“This book is about a human force that will do anything possible to conquer its genetic coding...”

At the end of the story, Nana meets with Sofia Gilga who provides the last piece of the jigsaw. Gilga tells her how she realized Meshi's and her scripts coincided, and how she found the way out. She admits to Nana, that she's a black sheep as well, and that her ancestral dream was for her to become a nobody. A nobody who realises the illusion they're living. A

nobody who is in complete control and has autonomy in this specific matrix. A nobody who awakens to a new identity but always remembers that she's a nobody.

Before she leaves, Sofia Gilga turns and says with a smile: "Do you know the ultimate truth? Everything that is happening, has happened, and will happen again".