



"Mallika (20) and Lalitambika (20), both students of pre-degree course of Keralavarma college, were very much in love with each other. When the examination result came out, it was found that Mallika had failed and Lalita passed. This was too much for the girls to bear, for separation was inevitable. So they decided to commit suicide. On 29 June they tied themselves together and jumped into the strong currents of Cochin channel from a ferry but a sailor and a fisherman, somehow, managed to reach them in time and were able to save them after a long fight in the surging waters.

"The police charged then with attempted suicide and found among other things a letter and a greeting card. The front of the double-fold greeting card had a silhouette of a kissing couple with the backdrop of a flaming sunset--inside it had a note from Mallika: "Lali, After all everybody knows about our love, so here's a thousand kisses for you, in public..." Lalita scribbled back, "Come to me, I shall take you in my arms. I shall cover you with kisses. You shall sleep in my bosom and afterwards, maybe, we shall have a little quarrel."

"The letter dated 27 June was meant for the parents. Lalita wrote: "I cannot part with Mallika ...now we are destined to go to different directions. I am not persuaded by Mallika to do this ... bury us together." It is reported that relatives of the girls are still unable to grasp the implications of the relationship. Mallika's elder brother is reported to have said that the girls have agreed to 'try and forget each other.'"

The same issue of Gay Scene reports another incident "on 30 November 1979, in Ahmedabad, unable to live in separation after their marriage less than a year ago, two childhood friends, Jyotsna and Jayashree ended their lives together jumping in front of a running train. The police recovered the mutilated bodies of the two women near the Gandhigram station. A joint letter by the two shows that they had entered into a joint suicide pact."



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