

UNIT 1 CHAPTER 3 MATCH BOX

CHARACTER OF AJIT

‘Match Box’ is a story of a married couple Ajit and Nomita. Ajit married Nomita because of her beauty. He has the habit of opening his wife Nomita’s mail and reading it. He says that it is his right to check it to see if she has a lover. Even if she questions about it, he would laugh or scold her. When there is a letter from her mother, Ajit says sarcastically to find out a money order form. To suppress his behavior problems, he highlights Nomita’s family and background saying that she is dung picker’s daughter and now a queen only because he married her. Though he is from a rich family, his behavior towards Nomita seems not up to his status. Towards the end of the story, Nomita burns the anchol of her sari. He was frightened to see it and immediately he puts out the fire. It is clear that Ajit is of dominating nature outwardly where as he fears inwardly when Nomita asserts her rights and tries to break the shackles of her domestic slavery. He is presented here as a man who always tries to keep his wife under his control and thus becomes a typical male- chauvinist.