

Cricket 157

Chapter 157

Ravi Shastri:" Welcome back, folks! Two and a half minutes of strategy, nerves, and water bottles—it's all done and dusted. RCB at 86 for 4 after 10 overs. What a gripping IPL final we're witnessing here! And look at Aarav—The Prince—sitting quietly on his haunches near the pitch, breathing deep, cap off, asking for water and a change of headgear. The heat, the pressure, the weight of a title less legacy—it's all riding on those young shoulders!"

Sunil Gavaskar : "Yes, Ravi. This is where temperament matters. He's not just thinking about the next ball—he's planning the next phase of the innings. And interestingly, from his body language, you could tell he considered tapping into something big. Something special."

Aakash Chopra : "Now, Mike Hesson, RCB's head coach, comes out, has a word with Aarav and Shivam Dube. A little pat on the back, a few calm instructions, and the show must go on."

Ravi Shastri:"And we're ready! Aarav is back at the crease, no helmet—just the cap on, cool as ever! He's on 51* off 39, looking composed, focused. And it'll be Jayant Yadav again. Rohit Sharma has shuffled the field, look at that—a slip and a gully! They're hunting for that edge, trying to force a mistake."

11th Over – Jayant Yadav to Aarav

Ball 1:Ravi Shastri:"Googly to start... AND AARAV DRIVES IT! WHAT A SHOT THROUGH COVERS! That's class! That's timing! That's the prince telling the kingdom—'I'm still here!' Four more!"

Aakash Chopra:"Such precision, such poise. He read the googly like a newspaper headline—early and clear. Perfect extension of arms. This is elegant destruction."

Ball 2:Sunil Gavaskar:"Flighted delivery... Aarav steps out... OH MY WORD! That's gone! Between deep cover and deep point—and lands into the crowd! What a calculated risk!"

Ravi Shastri:"SIX! That's the shot of a man in total control! What confidence, what commitment!"

Aakash Chopra:"The prince is turning into a gladiator tonight. This is not IPL cricket anymore; this feels personal, purposeful."

Ball 3:Ravi Shastri:"Slower one, and he taps it for a single. Smart cricket. Rotating strike after two boundaries. This guy is putting up a masterclass tonight!"

Now Dube on strike.

Ball 4:Sunil Gavaskar:"Defended. Good ball, good temperament. He's following Aarav's advice to play it safe unless he's 100% sure."

Ball 5:Ravi Shastri (shouting):"AND DUBE GOES BIG! Straight as an arrow—THAT'S A SIX! Welcome to the party, Shivam Dube!"

Aakash Chopra:"Shivam says, 'I got you, brother.' That's what this partnership is turning into—a beautiful blend of calm and chaos."

Ball 6:Sunil Gavaskar:"Just a single to end the over. But what an over for RCB! 18 runs from it!"

Score Update: RCB – 104/4 after 11 overs

Aarav – 62(42), Dube – 9(7)**

Ravi Shastri:"OH, OH,Oh! What a turnaround! That's 18 runs off the over, and the pressure is now shifting to Mumbai Indians. The Prince is not just keeping RCB alive—he's lifting them, leading them! And the best part? He looked toward the dugout after that fifty, motioned to calm down, and pointed to his chest."

Aakash Chopra:"Yup. That gesture said it all: 'I've got this.' That's confidence. That's leadership. That's the stuff legends are made of."

Sunil Gavaskar:"Exactly. And just to put it in perspective—he's pacing the innings beautifully. He's not going for glory every ball. He's mixing caution with aggression, and maintaining a boundary in every over. That's how you chase under pressure."

Ravi Shastri (with rising energy):"Stay tuned, ladies and gentlemen! Because this isn't just a chase anymore—it's a coronation in the making. If the prince wants to become the king of Bangalore, he needs to take RCB home tonight. And from what we're seeing... he just might do it."

Ravi Shastri: "IT'S GAME ON AT THE FINAL! DON'T GO ANYWHERE!"

Ravi Shastri: "Ladies and gentlemen, BUCKLE UP! We are entering the final frontier of this grand finale! RCB—146 for 4 after 15 overs! Aarav—The Prince of Bangalore—still standing tall at 76 off 48! Shivam Dube backing him beautifully with a solid 37 off 25! The chase is alive, and the dream is burning bright under the Dubai lights!"

Sunil Gavaskar: "Yes, Ravi. It's been a calculated partnership so far—stabilized after the early collapse, then shifted gears gradually. And now, we enter the high-octane zone. Five overs left. The scorecard says it loud—54 needed from 30 balls. But here's the challenge: Jasprit Bumrah has 2 overs left. So does Nathan Coulter-Nile. And 1 from Trent Boult."

Aakash Chopra: "And during the strategic break, Coach Mike Hesson walked in. He didn't overcomplicate it—just laid out the battlefield. Two Bumrah overs are landmines. Coulter-Nile can mix it up with pace off and cutters. Boult with the swing. But the Prince just nodded, looked at Dube, and said—'Bro, it's time to change gear!' That fist bump wasn't just a sign of bonding—it was a sign of battle."

Ravi Shastri (voice rising): "AND WE'RE BACK! 16th over. Nathan Coulter-Nile has the ball. Dube is on strike. Dugouts tense. Let the final act begin!"

RCB – 146/4 after 15 overs Target: 200 54 runs needed from 30 balls

On Strike: Shivam Dube – 37(25) Non-Striker: Aarav – 76(48)* Bowler: Nathan Coulter-Nile

Ravi Shastri (fired up): "It's Nathan Coulter-Nile steaming in for the 16th! Dube on strike. THIS IS THE CRUNCH TIME!"

Ball 1 – FOUR!

Sunil Gavaskar: "Short of a good length, angling in—Dube throws his bat at it—EDGED! And it runs away to the third man boundary!"

Ravi Shastri: "EDGED BUT FOUR! WHO CARES!? RUNS ARE RUNS! Dube's luck riding high!"

Ball 2 – Two Runs

Aakash Chopra: "This time a fuller delivery. Dube pushes it gently into the gap at midwicket and races back for the second. Smart running! These two are in sync."

RCB now 152/4 — 46 needed from 28

Ball 3 – Dot Ball

Sunil Gavaskar (analytical): "That's an excellent response from Coulter-Nile. Perfect yorker—right at the toes—and Dube just couldn't get underneath it."

Ball 4 – Dot Ball

Aakash Chopra: "Back-to-back yorkers. Back-to-back dot balls. Coulter-Nile pulling this game back with pure precision. The pressure needle is ticking up again."

Ball 5 – Single

Ravi Shastri: "He mixes it up, slower ball on a good length—Dube taps it to point and sprints for a quick single. Smart move, gets Aarav back on strike!"

Ball 6 – Dot Ball

Sunil Gavaskar: "AND THAT'S THREE YORKERS IN ONE OVER! Aarav looks a bit surprised—couldn't do much there. What a way to close the over."

Ravi Shastri (loud and stunned): "WHAT AN OVER! NATHAN COULTER-NILE, TAKE A BOW! UNDER PRESSURE, HE DELIVERS GOLD! Just 7 runs from it... no boundaries from the middle of the bat... and the pressure on RCB builds!"

End of the 16th Over:

RCB – 153/4 Aarav – 76(48)*Dube – 42(29) Runs Needed: 47 from 24

Aakash Chopra (reflective): "That over... may just be the calm before the storm. Because Bumrah is coming next. And the stage is set for a twist in the tale..."

Ravi Shastri: "Now... NOW THE BIG MOMENT! Jasprit Bumrah—death overs ka KING—is here to bowl the 17th over! Dube on strike. Aarav watching from the other end. This is it!"

17th Over – Jasprit Bumrah to Dube

Ball 1: Sunil Gavaskar (shocked): "Oh that's out! BOWLED HIM! A PERFECT YORKER! Dube's timber has been rattled!"

Ravi Shastri (shouting): "OH MY WORD! BUMRAH STRIKES! THE GAME HAS FLIPPED ON ITS HEAD! THE SET MAN IS GONE! WHAT. A. DELIVERY!"

Aakash Chopra: "That's a dagger to the heart of RCB fans. Dube was playing so beautifully. And now... gone in a flash. Bumrah didn't just break the stumps—he broke RCB's rhythm!"

Camera cuts to Aarav—kicking the turf in frustration. He built this innings from rubble, only to watch it crack apart.

Ravi Shastri: "And coming in now... Chris Morris. A seasoned campaigner. But under pressure."

Ball 2: Sunil Gavaskar (serious): "Yorker again... OH HE'S BOWLED HIM! TWO IN TWO! IT'S CARNAGE! IT'S MADNESS!"

Ravi Shastri (screaming): "BUMRAH IS ON A HAT-TRICK!! THIS IS A MASTERCLASS! RCB—FROM DREAM TO NIGHTMARE IN TWO BALLS!"

Aakash Chopra: "Unbelievable. Just... unbelievable. You could see it on Aarav's face. The innings he held together... now crumbling. And he can't even take strike. He's stuck at the non-striker's end... helpless."

Ball 3–6: Sunil Gavaskar: "Washington Sundar walks in... and he's doing the right thing—defending solidly. Trying to steady the ship, even if it's rocking violently."

Aakash Chopra:"But that's a wicket maiden. In the 17th over. From Jasprit Bumrah. This is the kind of stuff legends are made of. Ice in the veins, fire in the deliveries."

End of the 17th Over – WICKET MAIDEN!

RCB – 153/6Aarav – 76*(48)Sundar – 0(4)

Ravi Shastri (intensely):"Ladies and gentlemen—this game has flipped like a coin! From victory in sight to now survival mode. Aarav—THE PRINCE—now must carry the burden of the fallen. This chase? It's not over. But it's no longer easy."

Sunil Gavaskar:"Three overs left. Bumrah still has one. RCB needs more than just boundaries now—they need belief. They need a hero. Can Aarav be that man?"

Aakash Chopra (heartfelt):"Aarav's shoulders may be young, but tonight—he carries the hopes of millions. This... is his test."

Camera fades to Aarav—standing still, eyes closed, bat resting on his foot, taking a deep breath as he looks toward the night sky.

18th over, and Trent Boult ready with the ball! warming up and the Prince is on the strike!

Ball 1 – Dot Ball

Sunil Gavaskar: "Boult starts with a back-of-a-length delivery, on off stump... Aarav punches it—straight to cover. Dot ball to start. Tight line."

Ball 2 –

Ravi Shastri (pumped): "SHORT BALL... AND HE PULLS IT... DEEP INTO THE STANDS! THAT'S GONE! Aarav raises his fist—HE'S BACK IN THE ZONE!! THIS IS WHAT HE DOES BEST!"

Ball 3 –

Aakash Chopra : "Bouncer again from Boult—but this time, Aarav reads it early... opens the blade... uppercut over third man! What a shot! Back-to-back sixes from the prince!"

Ball 4 –

Ravi Shastri (yelling): "UNBELIEVABLE STUFF! A WIDE YORKER—AND HE SWEEPS IT! YES, YOU HEARD THAT RIGHT! SWEEPS A YORKER! That's going miles into the stands over deep square!! THAT'S PURE GENIUS!"

Sunil Gavaskar (surprised): "That's an unorthodox stroke... but the balance, the reach—sensational."

Ball 5 –

Aakash Chopra: "Finally Boult bowls a good length again, Aarav carves it to deep cover—he's running hard... and turns back for the second. He's not just hitting sixes; he's managing the strike too!"

Ball 6 – Dot Ball

Ravi Shastri: "Slower ball from Boult, dug in short. Aarav looks to punch it—but straight to extra cover. Dot to end. But WHAT AN OVER!!"

Sunil Gavaskar: He looked displeased, as he wants to run on the last ball, to keep strike.

18th Over Summary:

Runs: 20RCB – 173/6 after 18 oversAarav – 96(54)*Sundar – 0(4)*27 needed from 12 balls

Ravi Shastri (Fired up):

"HERE WE GO! The BIGGEST over of the match. The Final Chapter is writing itself. Bumrah vs RCB. The Prince stands at non-striker's end on 96. The fans are holding its breath! Captain Rohit Sharma has thrown the ball to his champion!"

Ball 1 –

Sunil Gavaskar: "A wide yorker... but Sundar finds the gap! Threads it beautifully between short third and point for FOUR! Smart shot, intelligent cricket."

Aakash Chopra: "That's exactly what was needed! No risk, just finesse. Aarav at the non-striker's end raises a thumbs up—he approves!"

Ravi Shastri: "WHAT A START! 23 from 11 now!"

Ball 2 – Dot Ball (Bouncer)

Ravi Shastri:"Short and nasty! Sundar ducks it... but wait! Aarav was charging for the single... but Sundar holds his ground! Aarav has to rush back!"

Aakash Chopra:"Oh, he's not happy! Aarav stares back... raises his arms slightly in frustration. That single could've changed the strike. He's stranded!"

Sunil Gavaskar:"He's right to be upset. With 96* on the board, you've got to get the set batter back on strike."

Ball 3 –

Ravi Shastri (voice cracking):"OH HE'S CLEANED HIM UP! Bumrah with a slow reverse yorker! Sundar didn't pick it at all! The timber's disturbed!"

Aakash Chopra:"Heartbreak! Aarav covers his face with his cap. The collapse continues!"

Ball 4 –

Sunil Gavaskar:"All fielders in the circle... pressure cooker scenario. Saini defends with a dead bat. But that's a dot! This is exactly how you strangle a chase."

Ball 5 –

Ravi Shastri (explodes): "EDGED... AND TAKEN! ROHIT SHARMA AT SLIP—SAFE AS A HOUSE! Two in two overs for Bumrah again! MI CAN SMELL TITLE #5!"

Aakash Chopra: "That's masterclass bowling. The ball kissed the edge and kissed the dreams of a thousand RCB fans goodbye!"

Ball 6 – Siraj Defends!

Ravi Shastri (tense): "Siraj walks in. Aarav RUNS up to him and says just one thing: 'Siraj, please... defend this ball.' And Siraj... does just that! Sticks it out, and it's a dot to end."

Sunil Gavaskar: "Bumrah finishes with 2 wickets, 1 boundary, and 3 dots. One of the finest death overs you'll ever see."

End of the 19th Over:

RCB – 177/9

Target: 200 Aarav – 96(54)*

Siraj – 0(1)*

MI need 1 wicket to win... RCB need 23 off 6 balls.

End of Over Commentary:

Ravi Shastri : "THE PRINCE WATCHES IT FALL APART! The man who gave RCB hope, the man who stood through the storm... is now left alone at the other end. WHAT A PLAYER. WHAT AN INNINGS!"

Aakash Chopra: "He rebuilt. He exploded. He watched his castle crumble. And still, he stands tall. It's Aarav vs Fate now."

Sunil Gavaskar: "23 needed. 1 wicket in hand. This will take a miracle. But cricket... is a game of miracles."

If not Patreon members, I need power stones! All of yours Power Stones!

Mwahahaha! Mwahahaha! Mwahahaha! Mwahahaha! Mwahahaha!

I am thinking, what if MI win from here, hmm what about RCB. who knows! this chapter was just published earlier then usual was to have a good cliffhanger! Mwahahaha! Mwahahaha!