

DEPARTMENT HANDOUT: DIRECTOR & EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW

ONE MORE ROUND

3 Male (M + M + M) | Genre: Slice of Life/Family | Runtime: 6 - 9 Mins

OFFICIAL STORY LOGLINE:

A late-night conversation in a small neighborhood bar forces a father, son, and family friend to confront pride, sacrifice, and the quiet ways men show love. When an old debt is revealed, the night turns from teasing to truth, ending in a fragile but real reconnection.

DIRECTOR'S DRAMATIC VISION & TONAL CONCEPT:

- Visual tone: intimate, warm, and reflective, with amber interior light against cool blue streetlight to mirror emotional distance and closeness.
- Thematic depth: unspoken love, inherited sacrifice, male pride, and the idea that care is often expressed through action rather than confession.
- Pacing: begins with light banter, gradually tightens into emotional pressure, then releases into a soft, earned resolution.
- Performance style: naturalistic, restrained, with pauses and eye contact carrying as much weight as dialogue.
- Spatial storytelling: keep the bar feeling small and enclosed so every emotional shift lands like a change in air pressure.

CAST AT A GLANCE & CHARACTER ARCS:

• **character:** Manish | **age:** 49 | **look:** Rolled sleeves, apron tied at the waist, tired but kind eyes, working-man presence, slightly worn posture from a long night. | **dramatic_arc:** Begins as a weary father trying to finish work and avoid conflict, then is exposed as someone who has quietly carried responsibility and sacrifice. He moves from guarded pride to vulnerable honesty, ending in a softened, more open connection with his son.

• **character:** Aakash | **age:** 22 | **look:** Clean haircut, college bag on shoulder, overconfident posture, youthful energy masking stress and insecurity. | **dramatic_arc:** Starts defensive and performative, trying to appear mature and in control. As the truth unfolds, he shifts from frustration and misunderstanding to guilt and empathy, finally accepting his father's love and offering a small gesture of reconciliation.

• **character:** Jatin | **age:** 51 | **look:** Checked shirt, easy smile, beer glass in hand, slightly lonely presence, calm and observant. | **dramatic_arc:** Enters as the teasing, philosophical regular who lightens the room, then becomes the emotional bridge and truth-bearer. He reveals the hidden debt, exposing a deeper history of reciprocity, and ends as the quiet catalyst who helps the family speak honestly.

FESTIVAL & AUDIENCE TARGET: Ideal for Short Film Festivals, Indie Showcases, and YouTube Creator Channels. Focus on tight performances, sound design, and authentic Hinglish dialogue delivery.

DEPARTMENT HANDOUT: ART, WARDROBE & PROP MASTER

1. SET DESIGN & SPATIAL DEPTH PLAN: A small neighborhood bar after closing time, built to feel intimate, lived-in, and slightly exhausted. The shutter is half-down, with the front glass still catching cool blue streetlight from outside. The counter should be narrow and practical, with stacked glasses, a cash tin, receipt pad, bar towel, and a few signs of end-of-day cleanup. Three stools should define the playing area tightly, forcing the actors into close proximity. Surfaces should show wear: scuffed wood, smudged glass, dull metal, and soft reflections from amber bulbs. The spatial layers should read clearly: foreground stools, midground counter and actors, background shutter and street glow. The bar should feel like a place where private family truths can accidentally surface.
2. COSTUME & WARDROBE CONTINUITY: • character: Manish costume: Rolled sleeves, apron tied at the waist, practical workwear suitable for a bar owner closing up late. continuity_notes: Apron remains on through the scene; sleeves stay rolled; clothing should look slightly tired and functional, not polished. • character: Aakash costume: College-appropriate casual wear with a clean haircut and a college bag on his shoulder. continuity_notes: His posture should initially make him look self-assured; the bag stays visible to reinforce that he came straight from college. • character: Jatin costume: Checked shirt, relaxed regular-customer look, simple and familiar. continuity_notes: Shirt should feel worn-in and everyday; no costume change needed, but it should read as someone who belongs in the space.
3. HERO PROPS MASTER CHECKLIST (PRACTICAL ON-SET ASSETS): • prop: Cash tin details: Small, practical metal tin used for bar cash; should be visibly handled and pushed aside, then later closed. • prop: Receipt pad details: Used by Manish to check the fees notice; should feel like a real working bar pad with visible paper edges. • prop: Beer glass details: Jatin's glass should be present from the start and used as a casual anchor for his calm, reflective presence. • prop: Old envelope details: Pulled from Jatin's shirt pocket and placed on the counter; must look aged and important, containing tuition receipts, bank slips, and handwritten notes. • prop: Tuition receipts details: Visible paper contents inside the envelope, clearly suggesting Aakash's fees. • prop: Bank slips details: Additional paper evidence of payment history, reinforcing the idea of an old debt and a quiet arrangement. • prop: Handwritten notes details: Personal, intimate paper items inside the envelope that make the gesture feel human rather than transactional. • prop: Bar towel details: Manish uses it to wipe the counter throughout the scene, a physical expression of his need to keep control.
4. PRACTICAL SFX & MAKEUP (MUA): Keep makeup naturalistic and minimal. Manish should have slight under-eye fatigue, a bit of sweat or shine from closing work, and a worn end-of-shift look. Aakash should look fresh but tense, with subtle facial tightness as the conversation turns. Jatin should have a lived-in, slightly weathered face with calm warmth. No heavy SFX required; the emotional distress should be carried through expression, skin sheen under amber light, and small signs of tension in the jaw, eyes, and posture.

ACTOR MASTERCLASS & HINGLISH AUDITION SIDES

STORYDILSE PRODUCTION BIBLE

DEPARTMENT HANDOUT: ACTORS & CASTING DIRECTOR

STANISLAVSKI SUBTEXT & CHARACTER DRIVERS:

- **character:** Manish | **super_objective:** To protect his son and preserve dignity through quiet sacrifice. | **subtext:** I am carrying more than I say, and I do not want my son to feel burdened by my struggle.
- **character:** Aakash | **super_objective:** To prove he is mature and capable without needing to be treated like a child. | **subtext:** I want respect, but I am scared that I still do not understand what my father is carrying.
- **character:** Jatin | **super_objective:** To restore balance by honoring an old kindness and helping father and son speak honestly. | **subtext:** I know what silence costs, and I am using this moment to return a debt and reopen a family bond.

CANONICAL HINGLISH AUDITION SIDES (CLIMACTIC SCENE):

MANISH

Teri fees ka notice aaya tha aaj.

AAKASH

Papa, main bachcha nahi hoon.

MANISH

Har cheez bolke ki jaati hai kya?

AAKASH

Haan! Kabhi kabhi haan!

JATIN

Charity nahi. Hisab hai.



DEPARTMENT HANDOUT: CINEMATOGRAPHY & SOUND DEPT

1. CINEMATOGRAPHY CONCEPT & LENS PALETTE:

Use intimate, observational framing with a restrained handheld or very subtle locked-off feel. Favor medium close-ups and close-ups for emotional turns, with occasional wider compositions to show the three-stool geometry and the emotional distance between characters. Lens choice should lean toward normal-to-slightly-telephoto focal lengths to compress the small space and intensify eye contact. Camera movement philosophy: minimal and purposeful, letting pauses, glances, and object reveals drive the scene rather than flashy motion.

2. 3-TIER LIGHTING SCHEMATIC:

Tier 1: Opening warmth — dim amber practical bulbs as the key interior source, creating a tired but intimate closing-time glow.

Tier 2: Emotional contrast — cool blue streetlight through the front glass to separate the bar from the outside world and underline tension during the argument.

Tier 3: Reveal and resolution — maintain amber warmth but allow slightly more facial modeling on the envelope reveal and final reconciliation, with controlled contrast so the emotional shift feels softer and more human.

3. SOUND DESIGN & FOLEY ATMOSPHERE:

Keep the room tone quiet and slightly hollow, with subtle bar acoustics. Foley should include the soft wipe of the towel on the counter, the clink of the beer glass, the rustle of the envelope and papers, the push of the cash tin, and small stool movements. Outside ambience should be minimal: distant street hush and faint urban night texture through the glass. Silence should be treated as a sound element, especially after the reveal and during the final beat.

4. COLOR GRADING LUT & PALETTE:

Use a warm amber-and-blue contrast with a gentle indie-drama LUT feel. Interior highlights should stay honey-gold and slightly desaturated, while the streetlight outside remains cool cyan-blue. Skin tones should be natural and slightly soft, with restrained contrast to preserve intimacy. The final moments should feel a touch warmer, but not overly saturated, so the emotional resolution stays grounded.



DEPARTMENT HANDOUT: PRODUCER & LINE MANAGEMENT

TIME	ACTIVITY / SCENE BLOCK	KEY DEPARTMENTS INVOLVED
08:00 - 09:00	Load-in, set dressing, and prop placement	Art, Props, Grip
09:00 - 10:30	Light rigging and practical bulb setup	Camera, Gaffer, Grip
10:30 - 11:15	Blocking with actors around stools and counter	Director, Cast, Camera
11:15 - 13:00	Shoot opening banter and tension build	Camera, Sound, Cast
13:00 - 14:00	Shoot envelope reveal and confrontation	Camera, Cast, Props, Sound
14:00 - 15:00	Shoot resolution, final round, and cleanup beats	Camera, Cast, Art

LOCATION HACK & BUDGET SAVING TIPS:

Shoot in a real small bar after hours to avoid building a full set. Use practical bulbs and one strong blue source outside the glass to create the entire look. Keep the cast to three performers and block the scene tightly so you can cover most of it with a few master angles and inserts. Use real props already available in the location where possible, especially glasses, stools, towel, and counter items. The envelope reveal can be shot with simple close-ups and insert coverage rather than expensive effects. Prioritize performance and sound over production complexity, because the emotional payoff depends on dialogue, pauses, and eye contact.

• **Mandatory Licensing:** Completely free for student/commercial production with on-screen credit: 'Story & Screenplay by Story Dil Se (storydilse.in)'.

