

DEPARTMENT HANDOUT: DIRECTOR & EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW

THE BORROWED SUIT

3 Male (M + M + M) | Genre: Pure Comedy | Runtime: 6 - 9 Mins

OFFICIAL STORY LOGLINE: A desperate borrower, a smug tailor-cousin, and a flashy family rival turn a cramped fitting room into a battlefield of ego over a borrowed black suit—only to discover they've been fighting over a funeral outfit. In the end, their vanity collapses into laughter under the harsh fluorescent light.
DIRECTOR'S DRAMATIC VISION & TONAL CONCEPT: • Pure comedy should play like a pressure-cooker farce: one tiny room, three inflated egos, escalating physical business. • Visual tone: bright, exposed, unforgiving white fluorescent light that makes every awkward seam, wrinkle, and expression painfully visible. • Pacing should be brisk and rhythmic, with dialogue overlaps, sharp reversals, and quick reaction beats driving the humor. • The mirror is the emotional and comic center: every character performs for it, judges through it, and is humiliated by it. • Keep the blocking tight and claustrophobic so the room feels smaller as the argument grows. • The final reveal should land as a clean comedic snap: freeze, read tag, then silence before the laugh release. • Theme: male vanity, status anxiety, and the absurdity of measuring self-worth through clothing and appearance.
CAST AT A GLANCE & CHARACTER ARCS: • character_name: Ramesh age: 39 look: Wrinkled shirt, anxious face, desperate body language, carrying a garment cover like it contains his life savings. dramatic_arc: Starts as a nervous borrower seeking dignity, gets trapped between two louder egos, and ends by realizing the suit was never about status at all. • character_name: Nitin age: 35 look: Measuring tape around the neck, smug confidence, tailor-like authority, precise and self-assured posture. dramatic_arc: Begins as the technical expert who claims ownership of the suit, escalates the conflict with superiority, and finally cracks when the funeral tag exposes his certainty as foolishness. • character_name: Kishore age: 42 look: Flashy pocket square, permanent smirk, swaggering entrance, polished family-rival energy. dramatic_arc: Enters as a provocateur feeding on embarrassment, competes for status through style and memory, and ends laughing at the shared absurdity he helped create.
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 narrow tailor's fitting room built to feel compressed and overfull. Bright white fluorescent tubes should be visible or strongly implied overhead, flattening skin tones and exposing every wrinkle in fabric. One mirror dominates the wall and must reflect all three men together at key moments. Include hanging clothes, fabric rolls, pins, and a small stool to create layered depth and visual clutter. Surfaces should feel utilitarian: slightly worn walls, scuffed floor, and a cramped doorway that allows awkward entrances and interruptions. The room should support physical comedy through limited movement and collision points.

2. COSTUME & WARDROBE CONTINUITY:

- **character_name:** Ramesh | **costume_details:** Wrinkled shirt, everyday middle-class look, slightly underdressed energy. Borrowed black suit jacket is the hero wardrobe piece; it should look a little tight on him. Cufflinks are part of the borrowed ensemble and should be visibly handled with nervous fingers. | **continuity_notes:** Jacket must remain consistent in tightness and fit throughout. When removed at the end, it should clearly read as the same borrowed suit from the opening.
- **character_name:** Nitin | **costume_details:** Tailor-like practical clothing with a measuring tape around the neck. His look should communicate technical authority and smug confidence without needing extra accessories. | **continuity_notes:** Measuring tape must remain visible in all entries. His physical relationship to the suit should feel possessive and expert.
- **character_name:** Kishore | **costume_details:** Wedding-guest styling with a flashy pocket square and polished, slightly showy presentation. He should look like someone who wants attention before he even speaks. | **continuity_notes:** Pocket square must remain prominent and be used as a small vanity gesture in the final beat.

3. HERO PROPS MASTER CHECKLIST (PRACTICAL ON-SET ASSETS):

- **prop:** Garment cover | **visual_details:** A simple cover that conceals the suit and includes a readable tag for the final reveal. It should feel like it carries something important and slightly fragile.
- **prop:** Suit jacket | **visual_details:** Black suit jacket, slightly tight on Ramesh, with visible lapels and seams that can be tugged for comedy. It must read as the same jacket throughout.
- **prop:** Cufflinks | **visual_details:** Small, shiny, handled nervously by Ramesh and later referenced in the argument. They should catch the fluorescent light.
- **prop:** Measuring tape | **visual_details:** Worn around Nitin's neck like a badge of authority. It should be instantly recognizable as a tailor's tool.
- **prop:** Pocket square | **visual_details:** Flashy and attention-grabbing, worn by Kishore as a status accessory.
- **prop:** Mirror | **visual_details:** Large enough to reflect multiple characters at once and central to the comedy of self-image.
- **prop:** Stool | **visual_details:** Small, practical, and slightly in the way, useful for blocking and cramped-room realism.
- **prop:** Fabric rolls and pins | **visual_details:** Cluttered around the room to create texture, danger, and a lived-in tailor workspace.
- **prop:** Garment cover tag | **visual_details:** Must be clearly readable in the climax: "BLACK SUIT - FOR FUNERAL. URGENT ALTERATION."

4. PRACTICAL SFX & MAKEUP (MUA):

Keep makeup natural and comedy-realistic. Ramesh should have visible stress: slight forehead shine, tired under-eyes, and a face that looks increasingly trapped by the situation. Nitin should appear neat but with a faint tailor-work practicality, possibly a little sheen from the room heat. Kishore should look polished and self-satisfied, with makeup that supports his flashy confidence. Under fluorescent lighting, skin texture should be honest and slightly harsh. No heavy SFX required; the comedy comes from reaction, sweat, and discomfort rather than transformation.

ACTOR MASTERCLASS & HINGLISH AUDITION SIDES

STORYDILSE PRODUCTION BIBLE

DEPARTMENT HANDOUT: ACTORS & CASTING DIRECTOR

STANISLAVSKI SUBTEXT & CHARACTER DRIVERS:

- **character_name:** Ramesh | **super_objective:** To look respectable and win dignity through the suit. | **subtext:** If this suit fits, maybe my life fits too.
- **character_name:** Nitin | **super_objective:** To assert authority as the expert and prove the suit belongs to his judgment. | **subtext:** I know this suit better than you know yourself.
- **character_name:** Kishore | **super_objective:** To dominate the room socially and turn everyone else's embarrassment into his own advantage. | **subtext:** I will not let anyone else own the spotlight.

CANONICAL HINGLISH AUDITION SIDES (CLIMACTIC SCENE):

RAMESH

((under breath))
Bas fit ho jaaye... bas.

NITIN

"Kaise" nahi. "Mera hi" bolna tha.

NITIN

Main tailor hoon. Cut dekho. Shoulder dekho. Yeh meri soch hai.

RAMESH

Soch teri, suit mera.

KISHORE

Arre wah. Yeh toh mujhe pehle bhi suit karta tha.



DEPARTMENT HANDOUT: CINEMATOGRAPHY & SOUND DEPT**1. CINEMATOGRAPHY CONCEPT & LENS PALETTE:**

Use a compact, theatrical camera language that thrives in tight spaces. Favor medium close-ups, over-the-shoulders, and mirror compositions that allow multiple characters to share the frame while competing for dominance. Lenses should feel intimate and slightly compressed to intensify the cramped room. Movement philosophy: minimal but reactive—small push-ins for ego spikes, quick reframes for interruptions, and a deliberate hold on the tag reveal. The camera should behave like a silent witness trapped in the room with them.

2. 3-TIER LIGHTING SCHEMATIC:

Tier 1: Establish the harsh fluorescent reality with flat, bright white overhead light that exposes every detail of the room and faces. Tier 2: During the argument, maintain the same hard light but allow subtle shadow shifts from blocking and body movement to create visual tension. Tier 3: For the final tag reveal, hold the same clinical brightness and let the freeze-beat land in near-silence, making the room feel suddenly empty and absurd. No romantic lighting; the joke depends on exposure, not glamour.

3. SOUND DESIGN & FOLEY ATMOSPHERE:

Room tone should be tight, slightly echoey, and dominated by the sterile hum of fluorescent lights. Foley should emphasize fabric rustle, jacket tugging, cufflink clicks, measuring tape swishes, and the small squeak of movement in a cramped room. Dialogue should feel close-mic'd and overlapping in the argument sections. The final reveal benefits from a brief drop in ambient energy before the laughter release. Keep the acoustic profile dry and enclosed.

4. COLOR GRADING LUT & PALETTE:

Use a cool, neutral, slightly desaturated LUT that preserves the harshness of fluorescent white. Skin tones should feel a bit pale and exposed, with black suit fabric holding detail but not becoming glossy. The palette should lean toward whites, grays, muted blacks, and small pops from Kishore's pocket square and the metallic cufflinks. Contrast should be moderate-high to emphasize the clinical, unflattering environment.



DEPARTMENT HANDOUT: PRODUCER & LINE MANAGEMENT

TIME	ACTIVITY / SCENE BLOCK	KEY DEPARTMENTS INVOLVED
08:00 - 09:00	Load-in, set dressing, mirror placement, prop layout	Art, Grip, Camera
09:00 - 10:00	Block entrances, mirror positions, and jacket-handling beats	Director, Cast, Camera
10:00 - 11:00	Light the room with fluorescent practicals and test exposure on black suit	Camera, Gaffer, Grip
11:00 - 12:30	Shoot opening entrance, suit reveal, and first argument exchanges	Camera, Sound, Cast
12:30 - 13:30	Shoot escalation, sleeve tugging, mirror group framing, and comedy reactions	Camera, Cast, Art
13:30 - 14:30	Shoot tag reveal, freeze beat, and final laughter ending	Camera, Sound, Cast

LOCATION HACK & BUDGET SAVING TIPS:
Keep the entire film in one practical location with one dominant light setup. Use a real tailor room or a minimally dressed room to avoid expensive construction. Let the mirror do narrative work so you don't need extra coverage. Reuse the same suit jacket for all beats and rely on performance, blocking, and reaction shots for comedy. Keep wardrobe simple and character-specific rather than period or style-heavy. Use practical fluorescent fixtures instead of building a complex lighting rig. Shoot the final reveal with a clean close-up of the tag to maximize payoff without extra setup.

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

