

DEPARTMENT HANDOUT: DIRECTOR & EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW

THE LAST SPOON

2 Male + 1 Female (M + M + F) | Genre: Pure Comedy | Runtime: 6 - 9 Mins

OFFICIAL STORY LOGLINE: A tiny kitchen becomes a courtroom when Arjun brings home a shiny spoon he believes is a perfect dessert spoon, only for Karan to claim it as a missing office prototype. As Meera quietly watches the ego-fueled chaos unfold, the truth lands harder than the argument: the spoon is hers, and the real comedy is the men fighting over it.
DIRECTOR'S DRAMATIC VISION & TONAL CONCEPT: • Pure situational comedy rooted in one cramped location, with escalating dialogue and physical business around a single object. • Visual tone should feel warm, intimate, and slightly chaotic, with the fridge light acting like a comic interruption and truth-reveal device. • Pacing should be brisk in the banter, with sharp pauses on every beat of realization so the audience can laugh at the silence as much as the lines. • The comedy must come from ego, misread evidence, and Meera's deadpan control rather than broad slapstick. • Keep the blocking tight and theatrical: the table is the battlefield, the fridge is the witness, and the spoon is the "hero prop."
CAST AT A GLANCE & CHARACTER ARCS: • character: Arjun age: 35 look: Neat office formals, confident posture, phone in one hand, half-eaten snack in the other; polished but slightly ridiculous in domestic space. dramatic_arc: He begins as a swaggering self-appointed expert on the spoon, escalates into defensive overconfidence, and ends embarrassed when his certainty collapses. • character: Karan age: 33 look: Casual T-shirt, sharp eyes, mischievous grin, relaxed lean against the fridge; physically casual but mentally combative. dramatic_arc: He enters as the suspicious challenger, turns the spoon into a corporate evidence case, and finally laughs at how absurdly serious he became. • character: Meera age: 32 look: Home clothes, tired eyes, practical face, seated or moving with calm authority; understated and observant. dramatic_arc: She starts as a weary bystander, becomes the quiet prosecutor, then reveals she orchestrated the whole thing and wins the room with dry wit.
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.

SET ARCHITECTURE & PROPS

STORYDILSE PRODUCTION BIBLE

DEPARTMENT HANDOUT: ART, WARDROBE & PROP MASTER

1. SET DESIGN & SPATIAL DEPTH PLAN:

A small apartment kitchen-dining hybrid with a cramped table as the central arena. The space should feel lived-in, slightly cluttered, and compressed so the actors are always close enough for tension and comic timing. Use a warm ceiling bulb as the primary overhead source, with the fridge placed so its door opens into frame and throws hard white light across faces and surfaces. The table should have visible everyday wear: faint scratches, a few plates, a tiffin box, and enough negative space for the spoon to feel important. Add practical textures like matte painted walls, a slightly scuffed fridge exterior, and a shelf or counter edge where the tiffin box can be revealed. Spatial layers should be clear: fridge in the background, table center, shelf/counter for the tiffin box, allowing the scene to play like a miniature stage.

2. COSTUME & WARDROBE CONTINUITY:

- **character:** Arjun | **costume:** Office formals, neat and slightly stiff, suggesting he has come straight from work. Keep the shirt crisp but not perfect, with a subtle lived-in crease from the commute and the snack in hand. | **continuity_notes:** He should remain in the same formal look throughout; the snack and phone are his key continuity items.
- **character:** Karan | **costume:** Casual T-shirt with relaxed fit, suitable for a younger brother-in-law who is comfortable in the kitchen and ready to provoke. Keep it simple and contemporary. | **continuity_notes:** His casual look should contrast with Arjun's formals. Maintain the same shirt and easy stance throughout.
- **character:** Meera | **costume:** Home clothes that feel practical, soft, and unshowy, matching her tired but sharp presence. Nothing flashy; she should look like the person who actually lives in and manages the space. | **continuity_notes:** She should remain grounded and consistent, with no costume change; her authority comes from behavior, not wardrobe.

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

- **prop:** Shiny dessert spoon | **details:** The hero prop. It must look polished, reflective, and slightly over-important in the warm bulb light. It should read as a normal spoon at first glance but be visually distinct enough for close-up scrutiny.
- **prop:** Mobile phone | **details:** Arjun's phone is used for taking photos as evidence. It should be modern and visible in hand during the argument.
- **prop:** Half-eaten snack container | **details:** A small namkeen/snack dabba or container that Arjun awkwardly hides. It should feel casual and slightly messy.
- **prop:** Dinner plates | **details:** Already on the table with Meera. They should be practical, everyday plates that support the final joke about dishwashing.
- **prop:** Tiffin box | **details:** A small old tiffin box from the shelf, used for the reveal that the spoon belongs to Meera's old set. It should feel slightly nostalgic and clearly separate from the dinner plates.
- **prop:** Fridge | **details:** A practical set piece with a door that opens repeatedly to create the white light gag and witness-like interruptions.

4. PRACTICAL SFX & MAKEUP (MUA):

Keep makeup natural and realistic. Arjun can have a slight office-day sheen and mild stress by the end. Karan should look fresh, casual, and increasingly amused, with no heavy makeup. Meera should have subtle under-eye fatigue to support her tired-but-sharp energy. Add light sweat or facial shine only if needed to reflect the warm kitchen and rising tension. No injury or heavy SFX is required; the comedy depends on expressions, eye movement, and the contrast between warm bulb light and fridge light.

ACTOR MASTERCLASS & HINGLISH AUDITION SIDES

STORYDILSE PRODUCTION BIBLE

DEPARTMENT HANDOUT: ACTORS & CASTING DIRECTOR

STANISLAVSKI SUBTEXT & CHARACTER DRIVERS:

- **character:** Arjun | **super_objective:** To be seen as correct, classy, and in control. | **subtext:** He wants the spoon to validate his taste and intelligence, so every challenge feels like a personal insult.
- **character:** Karan | **super_objective:** To expose the absurdity of Arjun's confidence and reclaim what he believes is his office property. | **subtext:** He enjoys the fight almost as much as the truth, and he keeps pushing because the argument is entertaining.
- **character:** Meera | **super_objective:** To maintain control of the room and reveal the truth on her own terms. | **subtext:** She has been watching both men perform, and her amusement comes from letting them dig deeper before she ends it.

CANONICAL HINGLISH AUDITION SIDES (CLIMACTIC SCENE):

ARJUN

Dekho. Finally. Perfect dessert spoon.

MEERA

((*deadpan*))

Wah. Shaadi ka asli trophy toh yeh nikla.

KARAN

Yeh spoon nahi hai.

ARJUN

Kya matlab nahi hai?

KARAN

Yeh mere office prototype ka missing piece hai.



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

Use intimate, observational framing with a comedic stage-play feel. Favor medium shots and tight close-ups to capture reactions, with occasional inserts on the spoon, phone, and tiffin box as evidence beats. Lenses should feel natural and slightly compressed in the cramped kitchen, helping the space feel even smaller. Camera movement should be minimal and motivated: gentle push-ins during accusations, quick insert cuts for proof, and a final stillness when Meera reveals the truth. The fridge light should be treated like a visual punchline, so the camera should catch the characters in alternating warm and cold exposure.

2. 3-TIER LIGHTING SCHEMATIC:

- 1) Base layer: a warm overhead practical bulb as the main ambient source, creating a cozy but slightly theatrical kitchen glow.
- 2) Accent layer: the fridge interior light as a hard white intermittent source that interrupts the warmth and punctuates the argument like a comic strobe.
- 3) Reveal layer: slightly controlled fill on Meera and the tiffin box during the truth reveal so the spoon and her expression read clearly, while the men remain a touch flatter and more exposed in the final beat.

3. SOUND DESIGN & FOLEY ATMOSPHERE:

Keep the soundscape intimate and domestic: soft room tone, faint appliance hum, fridge door creaks, plate clinks, spoon taps, phone handling noise, and subtle fabric movement. The fridge opening and closing should be a recurring comic sound cue. Dialogue must remain crisp and dry, with pauses emphasized so the audience can hear the silence after each ego blow. No music is necessary unless used extremely lightly under the fade out.

4. COLOR GRADING LUT & PALETTE:

Warm amber and soft yellow dominate the kitchen, with the fridge light introducing sharp cool white contrast. Keep skin tones natural and slightly saturated under the bulb. The palette should feel domestic and cozy, but with enough contrast to make the fridge light and spoon reflections pop. A gentle comedic polish is ideal, not a glossy cinematic sheen.



DEPARTMENT HANDOUT: PRODUCER & LINE MANAGEMENT

TIME	ACTIVITY / SCENE BLOCK	KEY DEPARTMENTS INVOLVED
08:00 - 09:00	Set dressing, prop placement, and continuity check for spoon, tiffin box, plates, and fridge action	Art, Props, Continuity
09:00 - 10:00	Lighting rig and practical bulb/fridge light tests	Gaffer, Camera, Grip
10:00 - 11:00	Blocking rehearsal around table, fridge, and shelf reveal	Director, Cast, AD
11:00 - 13:00	Shoot dialogue escalation and spoon evidence beats	Camera, Sound, Cast
14:00 - 15:00	Shoot reveal of tiffin box and Meera's confession	Camera, Art, Cast
15:00 - 16:00	Shoot final plates-dishwashing beat and fridge-light ending	Camera, Sound, Cast

LOCATION HACK & BUDGET SAVING TIPS:
Use one real apartment kitchen and lean into its limitations instead of hiding them. Keep the fridge door action practical and repeatable for comic timing. Shoot coverage efficiently with a single key light and practical bulb, using the fridge light as an in-scene effect rather than adding extra fixtures. The spoon should be a carefully chosen real utensil with a strong reflective finish, not a custom prop. Let performance and editing carry the comedy; avoid expensive set dressing and rely on close framing, reaction shots, and precise sound cues. Use existing household items for plates, tiffin box, and snack container.

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

