

DEPARTMENT HANDOUT: DIRECTOR & EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW

THE LAST CLIENT

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

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| <p><b>OFFICIAL STORY LOGLINE:</b></p> <p>Raat ke ek thake hue legal office cabin mein do lawyers apne "last client" ko avoid karne ki koshish karte hain, lekin woh client unki sabse badi professional test nikalti hai. Jab sach saamne aata hai ki Tara office owner ki wife aur honesty auditor hai, toh unka poora evening ka jugad unke khud ke against case ban jaata hai.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <p><b>DIRECTOR'S DRAMATIC VISION &amp; TONAL CONCEPT:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pure comedy with deadpan timing, awkward pauses, and escalating confusion as the engine of humor.</li><li>• Visual tone: tired, cluttered, slightly claustrophobic office realism with warm-cool contrast from desk lamp, tube light flicker, and vending machine glow.</li><li>• Pacing should feel like a slow-burn interrogation that keeps slipping into absurdity, then snaps into a sharp reveal.</li><li>• Performances should stay grounded and natural so the comedy lands from subtext, not broad mugging.</li><li>• The office should feel like a pressure cooker where every prop becomes evidence of their laziness, fear, and improvisation.</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <p><b>CAST AT A GLANCE &amp; CHARACTER ARCS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>character_name:</b> Pankaj   <b>age:</b> 39   <b>look:</b> Tie loosened, glasses nose par slide hote hue, watch baar-baar check karne wala tired professional look.   <b>dramatic_arc:</b> Shuru mein overcautious aur image-conscious lawyer, phir Tara ke questions se increasingly cornered, aur end mein reluctantly honest ho jaata hai.</li><li>• <b>character_name:</b> Suresh   <b>age:</b> 36   <b>look:</b> Slightly disheveled, legal pad aur snacks packet ke saath restless, casual-chaotic office energy.   <b>dramatic_arc:</b> Pehle fake support aur dodge mode mein, phir confusion aur nervousness mein phans kar, end mein accept karta hai ki unka retreat strategy fail ho gaya.</li><li>• <b>character_name:</b> Tara   <b>age:</b> 34   <b>look:</b> Stylish, sharp, impatient, confident entry with a bag full of random documents and controlled authority.   <b>dramatic_arc:</b> Shuru mein genuine client jaisi lagti hai, phir contradictions se unhe test karti hai, aur climax mein reveal hota hai ki woh office owner ki wife aur honesty auditor hai.</li></ul> |
| <p><b>FESTIVAL &amp; AUDIENCE TARGET:</b> Ideal for Short Film Festivals, Indie Showcases, and YouTube Creator Channels. Focus on tight performances, sound design, and authentic Hinglish dialogue delivery.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

## DEPARTMENT HANDOUT: ART, WARDROBE & PROP MASTER

### 1. SET DESIGN & SPATIAL DEPTH PLAN:

Small legal office cabin ko cramped, after-hours workspace ki tarah build karein. Desk par scattered papers, legal pad, snacks packet, loose files, aur ek chair jo slightly off-angle ho. Background mein glass door ho jiske bahar vending machine ki warm glow visible ho. Desk lamp ka peela pool of light main working zone banaye, tube light ko visibly flicker karaya jaaye taaki tired, unstable atmosphere aaye. Walls par subtle clutter, file stacks, aur practical office wear-and-tear textures hon. Spatial layering mein foreground desk, midground seated lawyers, aur background glass door/vending machine ka contrast rakhein.

### 2. COSTUME & WARDROBE CONTINUITY:

- **Pankaj:** Formal shirt with loosened tie, slightly rumpled trousers, glasses, and a watch that he keeps checking. Continuity note: tie loosened throughout, glasses slide position can change naturally but should remain visibly imperfect.
- **Suresh:** Slightly disheveled office wear, casual-formal shirt, trousers, and a look that suggests long hours. Continuity note: snacks packet and legal pad must remain with him in most beats.
- **Tara:** Stylish, sharp, confident office-appropriate outfit that reads as someone who can walk into a legal cabin and take control. Continuity note: bag must be full of documents and should visibly spill papers on entry.

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

- Desk lamp with warm yellow light
- Flickering tube light practical
- Glass door with vending machine glow visible outside
- Pankaj's wrist watch
- Suresh's legal pad
- Snacks packet/chips packet
- Tara's bag full of random documents
- Agreement paper with Tara name on it
- Receipt showing Tanu
- UPI screenshot paper
- Visiting card with office owner ka naam
- Office owner ka visiting card as reveal prop



### 4. PRACTICAL SFX & MAKEUP (MUA):

Natural tired-office makeup with slight under-eye shadows for Pankaj and Suresh. Add mild forehead sheen and stress shine under practical lights. Tara should look fresh, controlled, and slightly sharper in contrast. No heavy SFX required; use subtle sweat, fatigue, and lamp/tube-light skin reaction to sell the late-night pressure.

## ACTOR MASTERCLASS &amp; HINGLISH AUDITION SIDES

## STORYDILSE PRODUCTION BIBLE

## DEPARTMENT HANDOUT: ACTORS &amp; CASTING DIRECTOR

## STANISLAVSKI SUBTEXT &amp; CHARACTER DRIVERS:

- **Pankaj:** {'super\_objective': 'Apni professionalism bachana aur problem ko safely pass kar dena.', 'subtext': 'Main smart lagna chahta hoon, par mujhe dar hai ki yeh case meri competence expose kar dega.'}
- **Suresh:** {'super\_objective': 'Conflict se bachkar minimum effort mein night close karna.', 'subtext': 'Main helpful dikhna chahta hoon, lekin asal mein main is mess se nikalna chahta hoon.'}
- **Tara:** {'super\_objective': 'Office ki honesty aur pressure-handling capacity ko test karna.', 'subtext': 'Main tumhari excuses dekh rahi hoon; sach bolne ka mauka diya ja raha hai.'}

## CANONICAL HINGLISH AUDITION SIDES (CLIMACTIC SCENE):

**PANKAJ**

((ghadi dekhte hue))

Agar last client aaj nahi aaya na, main seedha ghar nahi... main retirement le lunga.

**SURESH**

Chill kar. Last client hota hai toh ya toh paisa hota hai ya trauma.

**TARA**

Mujhe urgent matter hai.

**PANKAJ**

Isme aapka naam Tara hai.

**TARA**

Mere ex ka favourite font tha.



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

Lenses should stay mostly in the 35mm to 85mm range to preserve intimacy and let the cabin feel tight. Use a restrained, observational framing style with occasional push-ins as Tara gains control of the room. Camera movement philosophy: start static and composed, then subtly tighten and creep closer as the lies unravel. Close-ups should land on eyes, watch checks, paper reveals, and the visiting card beat for maximum comedic tension.

**2. 3-TIER LIGHTING SCHEMATIC:**

Tier 1: Establishing practicals only—desk lamp as key, tube light flicker as unstable ambient, vending machine glow as warm back edge.  
Tier 2: During interrogation, slightly shape faces with soft fill from desk lamp side while keeping shadows under eyes and around the room.  
Tier 3: Reveal moment gets the cleanest contrast—Tara remains readable and calm while Pankaj and Suresh fall into mixed warm-cool shadows, emphasizing their discomfort and her control.

**3. SOUND DESIGN & FOLEY ATMOSPHERE:**

Room tone should be quiet, late-night office hush with faint electrical hum from tube light and vending machine. Foley emphasis on paper rustle, bag drop, legal pad flips, watch tap/check, snack packet crinkle, and chair creaks. The reveal should have a brief silence drop before dialogue lands. Glass door and vending machine should carry a soft exterior acoustic presence, making the cabin feel isolated.

**4. COLOR GRADING LUT & PALETTE:**

Warm-cool contrast grade with amber desk lamp highlights, sickly greenish tube-light shadows, and soft orange vending machine accents. Keep skin tones slightly tired and desaturated, but preserve Tara's cleaner, sharper presence. Overall palette should feel muted, office-brown, and late-night realistic with controlled warmth in the practicals.



DEPARTMENT HANDOUT: PRODUCER & LINE MANAGEMENT

| TIME          | ACTIVITY / SCENE BLOCK                                                      | KEY DEPARTMENTS INVOLVED |
|---------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 08:00 - 09:30 | Set dressing, prop placement, wardrobe continuity check                     | Art, Wardrobe, Props     |
| 09:30 - 10:30 | Block actors and rehearse paper reveal beats                                | Director, Cast, AD       |
| 10:30 - 12:00 | Rig desk lamp, tube light flicker, and vending machine glow                 | Camera, G&E,, Art        |
| 12:00 - 14:00 | Shoot dialogue setup and interrogation coverage                             | Camera, Sound, Cast      |
| 14:00 - 15:30 | Shoot reveal with visiting card and final reaction beats                    | Camera, Cast, Sound      |
| 15:30 - 16:00 | Pickups: vending machine glance, snack packet final line, cut to black beat | Camera, Cast, Sound      |

**LOCATION HACK & BUDGET SAVING TIPS:**

Use one real office cabin and rely on practical lights instead of full lighting rigs. Keep the set dressed with existing office clutter and only add hero props that matter to the reveal. Shoot mostly in coverage-friendly static setups with subtle push-ins to save time. Use one wardrobe continuity pass and reuse the same table, chair, and door angles for all scenes. Let sound design and performance carry the comedy instead of expensive production design.

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

