

DEPARTMENT HANDOUT: DIRECTOR & EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW

THREE NAMES ON THE FORM

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

OFFICIAL STORY LOGLINE: A nervous expectant father tries to fill out a maternity clinic form, but a three-way battle over the baby's name, snacks, and family authority turns a simple registration into a public comedy of errors. When he accidentally writes his mother's maiden name in the father's field, the waiting room becomes a battlefield of embarrassment, laughter, and reluctant family unity.
DIRECTOR'S DRAMATIC VISION & TONAL CONCEPT: • Bright, clinical, unforgiving daylight comedy: the environment should feel too exposed for private family drama, making every small mistake feel public. • Fast, overlapping Hinglish banter with escalating stakes that stay grounded in one cramped waiting area. • Physical comedy through props and reactions: form, pen, phone, handbag, token board, and chairs become weapons in a domestic power struggle. • Pacing should tighten from playful disagreement to panic, then release into a shared laugh at the final reveal. • Thematic core: modern family negotiation, generational authority, and the absurdity of bureaucracy under pressure. • Keep performances naturalistic, with deadpan pauses and sudden bursts of indignation for maximum comic contrast.
CAST AT A GLANCE & CHARACTER ARCS: • character: Karan age: 29 look: Harried in casual office wear, pen tucked behind ear, visibly sweating, trying to look competent while failing under pressure. dramatic_arc: Starts as a man desperate to finish one simple task, becomes the center of a family tug-of-war, and ends humiliated but oddly relieved after his mistake exposes the absurdity of the situation. • character: Priya age: 27 look: Pregnant, in a loose kurta, one hand on her belly, one on her phone, sharp-eyed and dryly amused. dramatic_arc: Begins as the witty challenger to Karan's indecision, escalates into a confident negotiator of modern family choices, and lands as the first to burst into laughter at the final reveal. • character: Sunita age: 54 look: Overenthusiastic mother-in-law in a bright printed sari, clutching a handbag full of opinions, authoritative and unbothered. dramatic_arc: Enters as the self-appointed family judge, pushes tradition and control at every turn, and ends scandalized but laughing, still trying to reclaim authority.
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 cramped maternity clinic waiting area with pastel walls that feel slightly faded under harsh tube lights. The ceiling fan should be visible and gently moving, creating a faint sense of stale air. A glowing token board hangs above a row of plastic chairs, acting as both practical clinic detail and comic pressure device. The chairs should be mismatched or slightly worn, with enough spacing to allow awkward body language but not enough for comfort. The reception counter remains offscreen but must feel close enough to create tension. Add subtle clinic textures: laminated notices, a sterile floor, and a generic institutional cleanliness that clashes with the emotional chaos. The space should feel public, cramped, and impossible to hide in.	
2. COSTUME & WARDROBE CONTINUITY: • Karan: Casual office wear that suggests he came straight from work or is still carrying work stress into personal life. Shirt slightly rumpled, sleeves practical, with visible sweat marks as the scene progresses. Pen behind ear is a key continuity detail. • Priya: Loose, comfortable kurta suitable for pregnancy, allowing her to sit and gesture easily. Wardrobe should support her relaxed but sharp presence. Keep phone accessible in hand or lap throughout. • Sunita: Bright printed sari with a strong, traditional visual identity. Handbag is essential and should look stuffed with practical and opinionated items. Her look should feel proudly formal and slightly overpowering in the waiting room.	
3. HERO PROPS MASTER CHECKLIST (PRACTICAL ON-SET ASSETS): • prop: Registration form details: Central hero prop. Must visibly include blank fields for baby name and father's name. The final reveal must clearly show 'SUSHMA VERMA' in the father's name field. • prop: Pen details: Karan's pen should be practical and slightly ordinary, with a cap. Sunita's extra pen should feel like a triumphant backup pen pulled from her handbag. • prop: Phone details: Priya's mobile should be modern and used for checking notes and hospital policy. It should reinforce her informed, contemporary attitude. • prop: Handbag details: Sunita's handbag should be large enough to plausibly contain an extra pen and feel like a container of authority, preparedness, and unsolicited advice. • prop: Token board details: Glowing numeric display above the chairs, humming in the background. Token 47 must be legible or at least clearly referenced as the pressure point. • prop: Plastic chairs details: Row of clinic chairs that create a public, slightly uncomfortable waiting posture and frame the family triangle.	
4. PRACTICAL SFX & MAKEUP (MUA): Keep makeup natural and performance-driven. Karan should have visible forehead sweat and a slightly flushed face as the pressure rises. Priya should have a healthy pregnancy glow with subtle fatigue and no heavy glam. Sunita should look composed but animated, with expressive facial reactions that read clearly in bright light. No heavy SFX required, but use sweat continuity, slight under-eye tiredness, and facial flush escalation to support the comic stress. Bright lighting should react honestly on skin, making embarrassment visible.	

ACTOR MASTERCLASS & HINGLISH AUDITION SIDES

STORYDILSE PRODUCTION BIBLE

DEPARTMENT HANDOUT: ACTORS & CASTING DIRECTOR

STANISLAVSKI SUBTEXT & CHARACTER DRIVERS:

- **Karan:** {'super_objective': 'To complete the registration without conflict and preserve his dignity.', 'subtext': 'If I can just get this form done, I can survive this family summit and prove I'm not useless.'}
- **Priya:** {'super_objective': 'To assert modern partnership and keep the situation funny while protecting her comfort.', 'subtext': 'I know exactly how ridiculous this is, and I'm going to enjoy watching him squirm unless he steps up.'}
- **Sunita:** {'super_objective': 'To preserve family tradition and maintain authority over the baby's identity.', 'subtext': 'I may be outnumbered, but I still run this family, and I will not let modern nonsense win.'}

CANONICAL HINGLISH AUDITION SIDES (CLIMACTIC SCENE):

KARAN

((under his breath))

Bas form fill karna hai. Bas.

PRIYA

Itna mushkil lag raha hai toh main likh deti hoon.

SUNITA

Nahi, nahi. Papa ko responsibility leni chahiye.

KARAN

Baby Sharma?

PRIYA

Sharma? Itna plain? Kuch toh personality do.



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

Use a compact, observational camera style that stays close enough to catch micro-reactions and awkward silences. Favor 35mm and 50mm lenses for natural perspective in the cramped room, with occasional tighter close-ups on the form, pen, and faces for punchlines. Movement should be minimal but purposeful: slow push-ins during escalating arguments, quick reframing for reveals, and a clean static hold on the final father-name mistake. The camera should feel like a quiet witness trapped in the waiting room with them.

2. 3-TIER LIGHTING SCHEMATIC:

Tier 1: Bright, flat clinic daylight look with harsh tube-light overheads to expose every reaction and make the space feel public. Tier 2: Slightly controlled bounce fill on faces so dialogue remains readable while preserving the clinical harshness. Tier 3: Subtle emphasis on the token board glow and form close-ups to guide attention during the reveal. Overall progression should remain consistent, but the final beat can feel a touch more contrasty to heighten the freeze and reveal.

3. SOUND DESIGN & FOLEY ATMOSPHERE:

Keep the room tone thin, fluorescent, and slightly uncomfortable. The ceiling fan should create a constant soft mechanical whirr. The token board should hum and beep as a recurring comic cue. Foley should emphasize paper rustle, pen clicks, handbag movement, chair squeaks, and the tiny slap of the form being handed over. Dialogue must remain crisp and intimate, with the offscreen nurse voice landing as a clean comic interruption.

4. COLOR GRADING LUT & PALETTE:

Use a clean, slightly desaturated clinic palette with pastel walls, pale skin tones, and bright whites that feel a little too clinical. Keep greens and pinks soft but not romantic. The grade should preserve the harshness of the tube lights while allowing the characters' wardrobe colors to pop, especially Sunita's sari. Avoid warm cinematic glow; the comedy works better with a neutral, exposed, public-space realism.



DEPARTMENT HANDOUT: PRODUCER & LINE MANAGEMENT

TIME	ACTIVITY / SCENE BLOCK	KEY DEPARTMENTS INVOLVED
08:00 - 09:30	Load-in, art dressing, chair placement, token board check	Art, Grip, Camera
09:30 - 10:30	Lighting rig and exposure test under tube-light look	Camera, Gaffer, Grip
10:30 - 11:00	Wardrobe, makeup, prop continuity check	Wardrobe, Makeup, Art
11:00 - 13:00	Dialogue coverage: form argument, surname conflict, snacks banter	Camera, Sound, Cast
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch and reset for reveal setup	All
14:00 - 15:30	Reveal sequence: father's name missing, form close-up, reaction beats	Camera, Sound, Cast, Script Supervisor
15:30 - 16:00	Final group beat at counter and wrap	Camera, Cast, Art

LOCATION HACK & BUDGET SAVING TIPS:

Shoot in a real clinic-like waiting room or a dressed office corridor to save on set construction. Use practical tube lights and minimal augmentation to preserve the harsh look cheaply. Keep the scene in one room with one main angle, one two-shot, and a few insert shots of the form and token board. Use real props from a stationery store and a borrowed handbag, avoiding custom builds. Let performance and timing carry the comedy instead of expensive production design. Record clean dialogue carefully; this script lives or dies on timing and clarity.

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

