

DEPARTMENT HANDOUT: DIRECTOR & EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW

THE DIVORCE PARTY

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

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| <p><b>OFFICIAL STORY LOGLINE:</b></p> <p>A carefully staged divorce party in a tiny apartment turns into a comedy of awkward toasts, petty truths, and accidental healing—until a lease renewal folder reveals the breakup was never the real problem. Now the exes and their overenthusiastic friend must negotiate not just closure, but who actually gets the apartment.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <p><b>DIRECTOR'S DRAMATIC VISION &amp; TONAL CONCEPT:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Visual tone: warm, festive, and slightly claustrophobic, with disco-light chaos contrasting against emotionally controlled performances.</li><li>• Comedy style: deadpan banter played straight, with escalating awkwardness turning into genuine laughter.</li><li>• Pacing: quick dialogue exchanges early, then a measured pause before the lease reveal, followed by a sharp comic release.</li><li>• Thematic depth: breakup is easy compared to shared logistics; emotional closure and practical adulthood are both messy.</li><li>• Blocking philosophy: keep characters physically close in the apartment so every joke feels like a social collision.</li><li>• Final emotional note: the room should feel like a battlefield that accidentally becomes a home again.</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <p><b>CAST AT A GLANCE &amp; CHARACTER ARCS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>character:</b> Rakesh   <b>age:</b> 38   <b>look:</b> Blazer pehen kar aaya hua awkward ex-husband; trying-too-hard polished corporate vibe, slightly out of place in a party setting.   <b>dramatic_arc:</b> Starts as a fake-cool, defensive participant; gradually drops the performance and admits the divorce brought unexpected clarity, then freezes when the lease issue surfaces.</li><li>• <b>character:</b> Divya   <b>age:</b> 36   <b>look:</b> Elegant party wear, composed posture, dry expression, calm and controlled energy with sharp comic timing.   <b>dramatic_arc:</b> Begins as the most emotionally contained person in the room; delivers the sharpest truths, then remains the calm center when the housing crisis is revealed.</li><li>• <b>character:</b> Ila   <b>age:</b> 34   <b>look:</b> Sequined dress, high-energy host energy, constantly adjusting decorations and managing the room like an event planner on caffeine.   <b>dramatic_arc:</b> Starts as the enthusiastic architect of healing; keeps pushing the party toward emotional honesty, then realizes she has accidentally organized a housing crisis.</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 apartment living room with a single main seating zone, a snack table, and enough negative space to feel cramped once all three characters gather. Dress the room with balloons, paper streamers, confetti remnants, champagne glasses, a cheap speaker with blinking disco lights, and a half-eaten cake reading 'CONGRATS ON YOUR FREEDOM.' Surfaces should feel lived-in but temporarily dressed up: slightly mismatched furniture, soft fabric textures, a modest floor area, and visible clutter that supports the idea of a real apartment being repurposed into a party venue. The snack table must be practical and central, since it becomes the reveal point for the lease folder. Keep the room layered: foreground party props, midground character blocking, background blinking lights and wall decor to create depth in a small space.

2. COSTUME & WARDROBE CONTINUITY:

• **Rakesh:** Blazer with a slightly stiff, overprepared look; should read as a man trying to appear composed and socially acceptable. Keep continuity on the blazer throughout, with minor signs of discomfort as the night progresses.

• **Divya:** Elegant party wear that feels intentional and polished, with a calm silhouette that supports her dry, controlled presence. Wardrobe should remain clean and composed, matching her emotional restraint.

• **Ila:** Sequined dress that catches disco light and reinforces her host energy. It should feel festive, slightly extra, and visually louder than the others. Continuity should preserve the sparkle and party-forward look even as the mood shifts.

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

• **prop:** Balloons | **details:** Party balloons placed around the living room to establish the divorce-party setup.

• **prop:** Paper streamers | **details:** Light, festive streamers draped across the room for a cheap but cheerful celebration look.

• **prop:** Cheap speaker with disco lights | **details:** Small speaker that blinks awkwardly and becomes more aggressive at the end when Ila cranks it up.

• **prop:** Snack table | **details:** Central table with chips, samosas, champagne glasses, confetti, and the cake; must be accessible for the lease folder reveal.

• **prop:** Half-eaten cake | **details:** Cake with icing text: 'CONGRATS ON YOUR FREEDOM.' Must be clearly readable.

• **prop:** Champagne bottle | **details:** Rakesh enters holding it like it might explode; later used for toasts.

• **prop:** Champagne glasses | **details:** Used repeatedly for toasts and the final clink.

• **prop:** Confetti | **details:** Popped by Ila and later drifting down in the final beat.

• **prop:** Folder | **details:** A folder found under the snack table with bold text: 'LEASE RENEWAL.' This is the key reveal prop.

4. PRACTICAL SFX & MAKEUP (MUA):

Keep makeup natural and party-ready, with subtle warmth from indoor lighting. Ila can have slightly more sparkle or sheen to match her sequined dress. Rakesh should carry a mild stress sheen and a slightly overcontrolled face that loosens as the scene progresses. Divya should remain polished with minimal distress, only subtle facial shifts to show dry amusement. By the end, all three can show a faint party glow, slight fatigue, and the visual softness of shared laughter. No heavy SFX required; use sweat, shine, and tiny signs of emotional strain for realism.

## ACTOR MASTERCLASS &amp; HINGLISH AUDITION SIDES

## STORYDILSE PRODUCTION BIBLE

## DEPARTMENT HANDOUT: ACTORS &amp; CASTING DIRECTOR

## STANISLAVSKI SUBTEXT &amp; CHARACTER DRIVERS:

- **character:** Rakesh | **super\_objective:** To appear composed and in control while secretly seeking reassurance that his life is not falling apart. | **subtext:** He is performing confidence because he does not want to look like the loser of the breakup, but every joke reveals he is still processing the loss.
- **character:** Divya | **super\_objective:** To protect her emotional boundaries while maintaining the upper hand in the room. | **subtext:** Her dry humor is a shield; she is not cold, she is refusing to be dragged into chaos unless she chooses to.
- **character:** Ila | **super\_objective:** To prove that she can turn pain into a stylish, socially acceptable celebration. | **subtext:** She wants to be the healer, the host, and the emotional glue, but her overenthusiasm keeps exposing how little control she actually has.

## CANONICAL HINGLISH AUDITION SIDES (CLIMACTIC SCENE):

|                                                                        |
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| <b>ILA</b>                                                             |
| Welcome, welcome, welcome! Divorce party mein aapka hardik swagat hai! |
| <b>DIVYA</b>                                                           |
| Nice? Rakesh, yeh party hai ya corporate training room?                |
| <b>RAKESH</b>                                                          |
| Healing? Main abhi bhi blazer pehen ke aaya hoon, Ila.                 |
| <b>DIVYA</b>                                                           |
| Haan, aur us blazer mein bhi tum uncomfortable lag rahe ho.            |
| <b>RAKESH</b>                                                          |
| Nice thing? Mujhe apartment mein bathroom access mila.                 |



DEPARTMENT HANDOUT: CINEMATOGRAPHY & SOUND DEPT

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
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| <p><b>1. CINEMATOGRAPHY CONCEPT &amp; LENS PALETTE:</b></p> <p>Use intimate wides and medium two-shots to trap the characters in the apartment's social pressure cooker, then move into tighter close-ups as the banter sharpens and the emotional cracks appear. Favor 35mm and 50mm equivalents for natural comedy coverage, with occasional 85mm close-ups for deadpan reactions and the lease reveal. Camera movement should be minimal and observational early, then slightly more reactive during confetti and toast moments, ending on a still, comedic hold for the final realization before the laughter release.</p> |
| <p><b>2. 3-TIER LIGHTING SCHEMATIC:</b></p> <p>1) Opening: warm practical indoor light with soft ambient fill, plus cheap disco-light accents from the speaker to establish festive awkwardness.</p> <p>2) Mid-scene banter: maintain warm key light on faces, allow disco flashes to create playful color interruptions and slight shadow movement across the room.</p> <p>3) Lease reveal and ending: keep the same warm base, but let the disco lights blink harder and more visibly so the final joke lands inside a visually absurd, celebratory frame.</p>                                                               |
| <p><b>3. SOUND DESIGN &amp; FOLEY ATMOSPHERE:</b></p> <p>Room tone should feel small and enclosed, with faint apartment ambience under the dialogue. Foley priorities: confetti pop, glass clinks, paper rustle, cake plate movement, speaker hum, and the soft blink/click feel of cheap disco lights. The champagne pour and sip should sound slightly underwhelming, matching the budget-party vibe. Keep dialogue crisp and dry so the comedy lands cleanly. At the end, let the speaker volume rise just enough to underline Ila's final joke.</p>                                                                        |
| <p><b>4. COLOR GRADING LUT &amp; PALETTE:</b></p> <p>Warm indoor LUT with amber skin tones and slightly saturated party colors. Disco lights should introduce occasional magenta, blue, and green accents without overpowering the natural warmth. Keep blacks soft and shadows gentle so the apartment feels cozy rather than harsh. The final look should balance festive color with emotional realism, preserving the awkward-comedy tone.</p>                                                                                                                                                                              |



DEPARTMENT HANDOUT: PRODUCER & LINE MANAGEMENT

| TIME          | ACTIVITY / SCENE BLOCK                                                            | KEY DEPARTMENTS INVOLVED |
|---------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 08:00 - 09:00 | Set dressing, prop placement, cake text check, and wardrobe continuity prep       | Art, Wardrobe, Props     |
| 09:00 - 10:00 | Block actors in living room, mark snack table reveal, rehearse toast beats        | Director, AD, Cast       |
| 10:00 - 11:00 | Rig warm practicals and speaker disco lights, test exposure on sequins and blazer | Camera, Gaffer, Grip     |
| 11:00 - 12:30 | Shoot opening banter and toast exchanges                                          | Camera, Sound, Cast      |
| 12:30 - 13:15 | Shoot confetti beats, cake lesson lines, and emotional softening                  | Camera, Art, Cast        |
| 13:15 - 14:00 | Shoot lease folder reveal, final joke, and laughter ending                        | Camera, Sound, Cast      |

**LOCATION HACK & BUDGET SAVING TIPS:**

Use one real apartment living room and dress it heavily with inexpensive streamers, balloons, and a printed cake topper or icing text. The cheap speaker can be a real Bluetooth speaker with a phone app for blinking light effects. Confetti can be reused across takes if you shoot the clean wide first and the messier close-ups later. Keep the lighting package simple: warm practicals, one soft key, and one RGB accent source for disco flashes. Limit camera setups by grouping dialogue into master, two-shot, and close-up coverage. Use a single snack table as both production design and story pivot so no extra set pieces are needed.

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

