

DEPARTMENT HANDOUT: DIRECTOR & EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW

THE CANDIDATE

3 Female (F + F + F) | Genre: Sci-Fi/High-Concept | Runtime: 6 - 9 Mins

OFFICIAL STORY LOGLINE: A young woman enters a sterile futuristic interview room expecting a job, only to discover she is being evaluated for a memory transfer into a cloned vessel. When she refuses to surrender her identity, the interview turns into a chilling power struggle with the room itself as the trap.
DIRECTOR'S DRAMATIC VISION & TONAL CONCEPT: - Visual tone: sterile, clinical, high-concept sci-fi with minimalism as menace. - The room should feel emotionally colder than physically cold; the glowing panel screen becomes the fourth character. - Pacing begins controlled and polite, then tightens into suspicion, then snaps into confrontation and dread. - Thematic depth: identity versus continuity, body versus memory, consent versus procedure, and the commodification of self. - Performance style should stay restrained and intelligent; the horror comes from calm language used to describe violation. - Use stillness, pauses, and micro-reactions as the primary suspense engine. - The final beat should feel like a system failure in human form, not an action climax.
CAST AT A GLANCE & CHARACTER ARCS: • character_name: Asha age: 26 look: Modest formal wear, worn folder, grounded and practical presence, expressive eyes that shift from polite to alert to defiant. dramatic_arc: Begins as a composed candidate, becomes suspicious of the interview's true purpose, then transforms into the moral center who rejects the transfer and reclaims agency. • character_name: Neha age: 27 look: Smart casuals, polished smile, tablet and interview form, controlled corporate warmth that gradually cracks into revealed vulnerability. dramatic_arc: Starts as the friendly recruiter, then reveals herself as a transferred continuity, becoming emotionally conflicted as Asha challenges the system she serves. • character_name: Professor Aruna age: 50 look: Structured jacket, stack of notes, composed posture, unblinking authority, severe and precise. dramatic_arc: Appears as a rational ethics professor, then reveals herself as the cold spokesperson of the transfer system, escalating from calm assessment to controlled threat.
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 single futuristic interview room built from a clean white office cabin. Walls, table, and chairs should be matte white with subtle reflective surfaces to catch cool LED spill. The glowing panel screen is centered and slightly elevated so it dominates the room visually. The table should be sparse and clinical: one water glass, one interview form, one pen, one stack of notes, one tablet, and Asha's worn folder. Spatial layers should feel compressed despite the room being functional: the door visible but emotionally distant, the screen acting like a surveillance altar, and the chairs arranged in a rigid triangle that creates power imbalance. Textures should be smooth, sterile, and almost hospital-like, with faint seams in the wall panels and a soft industrial hum implied by the environment. No decorative elements; the absence of warmth is the design language.

2. COSTUME & WARDROBE CONTINUITY:

- **Asha:** Modest formal suit with a slightly worn, lived-in quality. Neutral tones that read professional but not corporate-polished. The folder should look handled often, reinforcing her grounded reality. Continuity note: her look should remain increasingly tense and slightly disheveled as the scene progresses, but not stylized.
- **Neha:** Smart casuals with a polished, recruiter-friendly finish. Clean lines, neat silhouette, subtle corporate confidence. Continuity note: her appearance should remain controlled, but her smile and body language should visibly shift from practiced warmth to exposed unease.
- **Professor Aruna:** Structured jacket with authoritative tailoring, crisp and severe. The wardrobe should communicate institutional power and intellectual control. Continuity note: she stays visually composed throughout, with no softening in silhouette even when the scene turns threatening.

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

- **prop:** Glowing panel screen | **details:** Single central screen with soft blue pulse at first, later flickering and finally turning red. Must display exact prompts and reveal text as written in the screenplay.
- **prop:** Interview form | **details:** Blank job title visible when Asha notices it. Must later be folded and placed under the water glass. Aruna's top note must slip from the stack at the end.
- **prop:** Tablet | **details:** Held by Neha, polished and modern, used to reinforce the procedural nature of the interview.
- **prop:** Stack of notes | **details:** Held by Aruna, with visible memory-index style notes rather than candidate names. One top page must fall at the end revealing the retention protocol line.
- **prop:** Water glass | **details:** Simple clear glass on the table. Used by Asha to pin the folded form underneath, making the refusal physically final.
- **prop:** Pen | **details:** A single signing pen that becomes the symbolic choice point when Asha considers the form.
- **prop:** Worn folder | **details:** Asha's personal folder containing resume and certificates, signaling her belief that this is a normal interview.

4. PRACTICAL SFX & MAKEUP (MUA):

Keep makeup minimal and realistic, with a clean corporate finish at the start. As tension rises, introduce subtle sweat on Asha's upper lip and temple, especially under cool LED light. Neha should have a polished complexion that slowly reads less perfect as her smile cracks. Aruna remains controlled and dry, with almost no visible physical vulnerability. No heavy SFX required; the main effect is emotional stress reflected in skin sheen, eye focus, and micro-tension in jaw and neck. Lighting should react on skin with sterile highlights and slight under-eye shadowing to intensify the clinical mood.

ACTOR MASTERCLASS & HINGLISH AUDITION SIDES

STORYDILSE PRODUCTION BIBLE

DEPARTMENT HANDOUT: ACTORS & CASTING DIRECTOR

STANISLAVSKI SUBTEXT & CHARACTER DRIVERS:

- **character_name:** Asha | **super_objective:** To preserve her identity and bodily autonomy. | **subtext:** I came here to be judged for a job, not to be erased and repackaged.
- **character_name:** Neha | **super_objective:** To complete the process while managing her own buried discomfort. | **subtext:** I need you to comply because I once stood where you are, and I survived by accepting the system.
- **character_name:** Professor Aruna | **super_objective:** To enforce the transfer protocol as rational, ethical, and inevitable. | **subtext:** Your resistance is emotionally understandable but procedurally irrelevant.

CANONICAL HINGLISH AUDITION SIDES (CLIMACTIC SCENE):

ARUNA

Aapki zindagi ka sabse bada moral compromise kya tha?

ASHA

Main pehle poochungi—teen log kaun? Aur innocent person kaun decide karega?

ARUNA

Humein aapki memory chahiye.

NEHA

Main bhi transferred hoon.

ASHA

Aap memory transfer bech rahe ho. Main identity transfer nahi karungi.



DEPARTMENT HANDOUT: CINEMATOGRAPHY & SOUND DEPT

1. CINEMATOGRAPHY CONCEPT & LENS PALETTE: Use restrained, intimate coverage with a clinical edge. Favor 35mm and 50mm lenses for natural perspective, then move into 85mm close-ups as the psychological pressure increases. Framing should emphasize triangular power dynamics: wide master to establish the room, then alternating singles and over-the-shoulder that isolate each woman. Camera movement philosophy: mostly locked-off or very subtle push-ins, letting silence and performance carry tension. The screen should be framed as a dominant visual authority, often entering the edge of frame like a surveillance presence.
2. 3-TIER LIGHTING SCHEMATIC: Tier 1: Clean baseline. Cool LED top light with soft frontal fill to create a sterile interview-room neutrality. Tier 2: Suspicion phase. Increase contrast slightly, deepen shadows under eyes and around the table, and let the screen's blue pulse become more noticeable. Tier 3: Revelation and threat. Shift the screen glow from blue to harsher white and finally red, while reducing ambient fill so faces feel trapped in the room's cold geometry. Maintain a faint hum in the atmosphere as an implied machine presence.
3. SOUND DESIGN & FOLEY ATMOSPHERE: The room tone is essential: a faint, constant machine hum that feels alive but hidden. Foley should be minimal and precise—paper handling, pen taps, chair shifts, tablet clicks, the soft rotation of the water glass, and the subtle rustle of the folder. The screen should emit gentle electronic pulses and flickers. Silence must be used as a weapon, especially after the reveal and after Asha refuses to sign. The final red pulse should feel acoustically oppressive, not loud.
4. COLOR GRADING LUT & PALETTE: Use a cool, desaturated LUT with white and pale blue dominance. Skin tones should remain natural but slightly drained to support the sterile environment. Contrast should increase gradually as the scene progresses. The screen's blue glow should be clean and clinical at first, then shift toward a colder white and finally a warning red. Avoid warm tones except for the faintest natural skin warmth so the room feels emotionally uninhabitable.



DEPARTMENT HANDOUT: PRODUCER & LINE MANAGEMENT

TIME	ACTIVITY / SCENE BLOCK	KEY DEPARTMENTS INVOLVED
08:00 - 09:00	Set dressing, prop placement, and screen calibration	Art, Props, Camera
09:00 - 10:00	Lighting rig and monitor tests for blue pulse and red alert states	Camera, Gaffer, Grip
10:00 - 10:45	Blocking rehearsal with all three actors	Director, Cast, Camera
10:45 - 12:15	Master scene coverage and dialogue build-up	Camera, Sound, Script Supervisor
12:15 - 13:00	Reveal sequence and close-up coverage	Camera, Sound, Art
13:00 - 13:30	Final refusal beat, screen red pulse, and cut-to-black plate	Camera, Sound, Director

LOCATION HACK & BUDGET SAVING TIPS:

Shoot in a real clean office cabin and dress it down to feel futuristic. Use one practical screen or even a laptop-fed monitor hidden inside a simple frame. Build the sci-fi mood through lighting, sound, and performance instead of expensive set extensions. Keep the camera package lean: one wide lens, one normal lens, one portrait lens. Use a single key light with negative fill and practical LED accents. The entire tension can be achieved with blocking, pauses, and precise inserts of the form, glass, and notes. No VFX-heavy cloning visuals are necessary because the script reveals the concept through dialogue and screen text.

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

