



THE ROOMMATE CLAUSE

A Pure Comedy 2-Character Screenplay in Hinglish

Written by
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LOGLINE: Sanjay and Faizal have signed a ridiculous roommate contract full of rules neither of them follows. When a landlord inspection is announced, they scramble to fake an ideal home while exposing every petty habit they've been hiding. The twist: the landlord is not coming to inspect the apartment—he is coming to ask one of them for a favor that only a true friend would do.

CAST / CHARACTERS: FORMAT: 2-Character Short Film (Duo Cast) | Character 1: Sanjay (31)

LOCATION: A small shared apartment living room in the evening, lit by a warm table lamp and the TV glow, with laundry hanging in the corner and two mismatched sofas facing each other.

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INT. SHARED APARTMENT LIVING ROOM - EVENING

Warm table lamp glow. TV on low volume. Laundry hangs in the corner. Two mismatched sofas face each other. Snack wrappers everywhere.

SANJAY (31), neat schoolteacher, tucked-in shirt, glasses, slippers, holds a broom like a weapon.

FAIZAL (28), lazy aspiring actor, faded hoodie, cargo shorts, headphones on, sprawled on sofa.

SANJAY

Faizal.

FAIZAL

(■■■■ ■■■■)

Agar ye broom lecture ke liye hai, toh main absent hoon.

SANJAY

Ye broom lecture ke liye nahi hai.

(beat)

Ye warning hai.

FAIZAL

Wah. Schoolteacher ka final form.

Sanjay tosses a snack wrapper onto the table.

SANJAY

Ye kya hai?

FAIZAL

Evidence.

SANJAY

Kis crime ka?

FAIZAL

Living.

Sanjay glares. He picks up CONTRACT PAPERS from the table.

SANJAY

Humne sign kiya tha.

FAIZAL

Haan.

SANJAY

Toh follow kyun nahi karte?

FAIZAL

Main actor hoon, Sanjay. Main rules follow nahi karta. Main rules ko interpret karta hoon.

SANJAY

Tumne "No food in living room" ko interpret karke yahan snack museum bana diya.

FAIZAL

Aur tumne "No loud calls" ko interpret karke pichhle hafte landlord ko moral science padha di.

SANJAY

Usne bina knock kiye fridge khola tha.

FAIZAL

Woh landlord tha. Uska kaam hi intrusive hona hai.

Phone BUZZES on table. Sanjay looks.

SANJAY

Landlord.

FAIZAL

(instant panic)

Pick mat karna.

SANJAY

Kyun?

FAIZAL

Kyuki agar usne rent pucha, toh main mar jaunga.

Sanjay answers on speaker.

SANJAY

Hello?

LANDLORD (V.O.)

Sanjay ji, kal inspection hai.

Sanjay freezes. Faizal sits up.

SANJAY

Inspection?

LANDLORD (V.O.)

Haan. Main subah aunga.

FAIZAL

(whisper)

Subah?!

SANJAY

(covering phone)

Shh.

LANDLORD (V.O.)

Aur haan, ghar thoda... presentable rakhna.

Call ends.

Silence.

FAIZAL

Presentable.

SANJAY

Haan.

FAIZAL

Hum doomed hain.

SANJAY

Hum disciplined hain.

FAIZAL

Hum delusional hain.

Sanjay stands, broom raised.

SANJAY

Abhi se safai.

FAIZAL

Abhi se? Main emotionally unavailable hoon.

SANJAY

Utho.

FAIZAL

Main ek artist hoon.

SANJAY

Tum ek mess ho.

FAIZAL

Aur tum ek walking timetable.

They both scramble.

MONTAGE-LIKE ACTION:

- Faizal hides wrappers under cushion.
 - Sanjay straightens the lamp.
 - Faizal stuffs socks into laundry basket.
 - Sanjay folds a blanket with military precision.
 - Faizal flips the TV off.
 - Sanjay wipes table with his sleeve.
- Sanjay finds a hidden stash of chips behind the sofa.

SANJAY

Kya hai ye?

FAIZAL

Emergency ration.

SANJAY

Tumne sofa ke neeche pantry bana rakhi hai?

FAIZAL

Creative storage.

Sanjay opens a hoodie pocket. More candy.

SANJAY

Aur ye?

FAIZAL

Audition fuel.

SANJAY

Tumhare paas itna snack ka stock hai, phir bhi dinner ke time bolte ho "kuch hai?"

FAIZAL

Kyuki pyaar se poochna achha lagta hai.

Sanjay opens the broom closet area. A pile of his socks falls out.

SANJAY

Arre...

FAIZAL

(seeing)

Oh. So this is where your missing dignity lives.

SANJAY

Main wash ke baad rakhne wala tha.

FAIZAL

Do hafte se?

SANJAY

Main busy tha.

FAIZAL

With what? Moral superiority?

Sanjay opens the laundry basket. It contains neatly folded shirts... and student notebooks.

FAIZAL

Yeh kya?

SANJAY

Homework checking.

FAIZAL

Laundry basket mein?

SANJAY

Multitasking.

FAIZAL

Tum actually basket ko office bana ke baithe ho.

SANJAY

Aur tumne living room ko canteen.

They stare each other down.

FAIZAL

Contract padho.

SANJAY

Main hi likhwaya tha.

FAIZAL

Toh "Mutual respect" ka kya?

SANJAY

Abhi ke liye unavailable hai.

FAIZAL

Same.

DOORBELL RINGS.

Both freeze.

SANJAY

Landlord.

FAIZAL

Broom.

Sanjay hands it over like a sword.

They rush to position the room: TV off, wrappers hidden, lamp adjusted. Both stand unnaturally straight.

SANJAY

Smile.

FAIZAL

Mera smile acting hai.

SANJAY

Bas kar.

Phone BUZZES again. Sanjay answers, speaker on.

SANJAY

Hello?

LANDLORD (V.O.)

Arre, inspection cancel. Main actually ek favor ke liye call kar raha tha.

SANJAY

Favor?

LANDLORD (V.O.)

Mera beta school play mein lead role chhod gaya.
Mujhe suna tum schoolteacher ho. Kal auditorium mein
ek din ka director ban jaoge?

Sanjay blinks.

FAIZAL

(whispers)

Director?

LANDLORD (V.O.)

Aur Faizal ji? Suna hai actor ho. Villain ka role kar
loge? Free ka hai.

Faizal slowly turns to Sanjay.

FAIZAL

Usne mujhe actor bola?

SANJAY

Usne mujhe director bola.

FAIZAL

Humare liye?

SANJAY

(beat)

Haan.

FAIZAL

Toh...

SANJAY

Toh karte hain.

FAIZAL

Kar lenge?

SANJAY

Kar lenge.

FAIZAL

(half-smile)

Roommate clause?

SANJAY

Ab clause nahi.

FAIZAL

Phir?

SANJAY

Friendship.

Faizal grins. Sanjay tries not to smile, fails.

FAIZAL

Theek hai, sir. Main villain banunga.

SANJAY

Aur main director.

FAIZAL

But first...

He picks up a snack packet.

FAIZAL (CONT'D)

Celebration.

SANJAY

No food in living room.

FAIZAL

Aaj contract suspend.

Sanjay snatches the packet, but he's smiling now.

SANJAY

Sirf ek packet.

FAIZAL

Deal.

They sit on opposite sofas, laughing, as the warm lamp and TV glow fill the messy room.

FADE OUT.