



# BROTHER, BORROWED

A Emotional Drama 2-Character Screenplay in Hinglish

Written by  
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**LOGLINE:** Rahul shows up after seven years with a simple request: he needs Neeraj to pretend they are still close for one evening. As the brothers revisit old wounds, the fake reconciliation becomes more painful than the original fight. The twist is that Rahul is terminally ill and came not to be forgiven, but to leave Neeraj with the truth about their father.

**CAST / CHARACTERS:** FORMAT: 2-Character Short Film (Duo Cast) | Character 1: Rahul (39)

**LOCATION:** A quiet apartment balcony at sunset, with orange city light, two chairs, potted plants, and distant traffic noise creating a private but exposed atmosphere.

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**FADE IN:**

**EXT. APARTMENT BALCONY - SUNSET**

Orange city light. Distant traffic hum. Two chairs. Potted plants. Ek chhota, private par exposed sa space.

RAHUL (39), faded office shirt, wedding ring tan line, tired eyes, duffel bag feet ke paas, balcony mein khada hai.

NEERAJ (34), casual kurta, stubble, arms folded tight, usse dekh raha hai jaise uska aana hi galti ho.

**NEERAJ**

Saat saal.

**RAHUL**

Haan.

**NEERAJ**

Bas itna hi bolna tha?

Rahul awkward sa smile karta hai. Bag ko ek side set karta hai.

**RAHUL**

Nahi. Ek kaam tha.

**NEERAJ**

Of course.

Rahul chair ke paas rukta hai. Baithta nahi.

**RAHUL**

Aaj raat ek family thing hai.

**NEERAJ**

Mujhe invite nahi aaya.

**RAHUL**

Isliye toh aaya hoon.

Neeraj laughs once, without humor.

**NEERAJ**

Wah. Seven saal baad yaad aaya ki main bhai hoon?

**RAHUL**

Yaad pehle bhi tha.

**NEERAJ**

Jhooth mat bol.

Rahul bag se do tea glasses nikalta hai. Ek side rakhta hai.

**RAHUL**

Bas aaj raat... thoda pretend kar le.

**NEERAJ**

Kya pretend?

**RAHUL**

Ki hum close hain.

Neeraj straightens.

**NEERAJ**

Tu pagal ho gaya hai?

**RAHUL**

Bas ek evening.

**NEERAJ**

Kyun?

**RAHUL**

Log dekh rahe honge.

**NEERAJ**

Kaun log?

**RAHUL**

Jo ab bhi poochte hain.

**NEERAJ**

Aur tujhe meri yaad unke saamne aayi?

Rahul absorbs it.

**RAHUL**

Haan.

**NEERAJ**

Itna simple nahi hai.

**RAHUL**

Mujhe pata hai.

**NEERAJ**

Tujhe kuch pata nahi.

A beat.

**RAHUL**

Theek hai. Toh gussa nikaal le.

**NEERAJ**

Gussa? Tu sochta hai main sirf gussa hoon?

Neeraj chair ko kick nahi karta, bas uske paas khada ho jaata hai. Tight.

**NEERAJ (CONT'D)**

Tu gaya tha, Rahul. Ghar se, phone se, sabse.

**RAHUL**

Main gaya nahi tha.

**NEERAJ**

Toh kya hua tha?

Rahul kuch bolne se pehle tea glass uthata hai. Haath halka kaanpta hai.

**RAHUL**

Chai peeyega?

**NEERAJ**

Topic change mat kar.

**RAHUL**

Nahi kar raha.

Rahul glass table par rakhta hai. Du■el bag ka zip thoda khulta hai. Old photograph ka corner dikhai deta hai.

**NEERAJ**

Kya hai bag mein?

**RAHUL**

Kuch zaroori.

**NEERAJ**

Jaise tu?

Rahul photo nikalta hai. Dono bachpan mein, father ke beech mein.

**RAHUL**

Yeh yaad hai?

Neeraj photo dekhta hai, jaw tight.

**NEERAJ**

Ismein kya yaad karun?

**RAHUL**

Jo tumhe dikhaya gaya.

**NEERAJ**

Main samjha nahi.

Rahul photo ko table par rakh deta hai. Envelope nikalta hai, but open nahi karta.

**RAHUL**

Bas itna kar de. Aaj raat function mein mere saath khada reh. Ek baar bhai jaisa.

**NEERAJ**

Fake family photo ke liye?

**RAHUL**

Haan.

**NEERAJ**

Nahi.

**RAHUL**

Neeraj...

**NEERAJ**

Nahi bola na.

Rahul finally sits. Exhausted.

**RAHUL**

Theek hai.

Neeraj suspicious.

**NEERAJ**

Bas itna? Tu itna aasaan kab se ho gaya?

Rahul smiles faintly, then coughs. A little too deep.

**NEERAJ (CONT'D)**

Kya hua?

**RAHUL**

Kuch nahi.

Neeraj notices a medicine strip half-visible in the bag.

**NEERAJ**

Yeh kya hai?

Rahul freezes.

**RAHUL**

Neeraj—

Neeraj snatches the envelope, opens it. Reads. His face changes.

**NEERAJ**

Yeh...?

Rahul doesn't look at him.

**RAHUL**

Terminal hai.

Silence.

**NEERAJ**

Kya?

**RAHUL**

Time kam hai.

Neeraj stares, disbelieving.

**NEERAJ**

Tu mujhe pity ke liye mila?

**RAHUL**

Nahi.

**NEERAJ**

Toh kyun?

Rahul finally looks up.

**RAHUL**

Maafi ke liye nahi aaya tha.

Neeraj steps back, stunned.

**NEERAJ**

Toh?

**RAHUL**

Sach dene aaya tha.

**NEERAJ**

Kaunsa sach?

Rahul reaches for the photo.

**RAHUL**

Father ne jo tumse chhupaya.

Neeraj's arms unfold for the first time.

**NEERAJ**

Seedha bol.

Rahul breathes.

**RAHUL**

Financial collapse ke waqt... sabse bada loss tere naam pe tha.

Neeraj blinks.

**NEERAJ**

Kya?

**RAHUL**

Papa ne mujhe bola tha... blame apne upar le loon.  
Tujhe bachane ke liye.

Neeraj's face drains.

**NEERAJ**

Jhooth.

**RAHUL**

Main jhooth bolta toh tujhe yahan nahi laata.

**NEERAJ**

Tu... tu ne itne saal?

**RAHUL**

Haan.

**NEERAJ**

Aur main sochta raha tu bhag gaya.

**RAHUL**

Main nikala gaya tha.

A long beat.

Neeraj sits heavily on the other chair.

**NEERAJ**

Itne saal kyun chup raha?

**RAHUL**

Kyuki tab tera life bachana tha. Ab tera sach bachana tha.

Neeraj looks at the photo again. His eyes wet, but he fights it.

**NEERAJ**

Main tujhe itna galat kaise samajh gaya?

**RAHUL**

Kyuki main bhi wahi chahta tha.

**NEERAJ**

Kya?

**RAHUL**

Ki koi mujhe villain maan le. Easy hota hai.

Neeraj wipes his face angrily.

**NEERAJ**

Tu aaj raat bhi pretend karna chahta tha?

**RAHUL**

Nahi. Bas ek baar bhai ki tarah baithna chahta tha.

Neeraj looks at him. Then the tea glasses. Then the envelope.

He picks up one glass, pushes it toward Rahul.

**NEERAJ**

Pehle chai.

Rahul takes it.

Both sit on the balcony chairs. Between them: photo, phone, envelope.

Traffic noise continues. Sunset deepens.

**NEERAJ (CONT'D)**

Aaj raat pretend mat kar.

Rahul looks at him.

**NEERAJ (CONT'D)**

Bas reh ja.

Rahul's eyes fill, but he doesn't cry. Not yet.

**RAHUL**

Theek hai.

They sit in silence, finally not enemies.

**FADE OUT.**