



LUNCH BREAK

A Slice of Life/Romance 2-Character Screenplay in Hinglish

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LOGLINE: Karan and Ishaan have been meeting by accident at the same lunch spot for weeks, each pretending it is coincidence. Their conversations about food, work, and family slowly reveal a mutual loneliness neither of them has named. The twist is simple and tender: both have been using lunch break as an excuse to see the other without admitting it.

CAST / CHARACTERS: FORMAT: 2-Character Short Film (Duo Cast) | Character 1: Karan (30)

LOCATION: A quiet office terrace with plastic chairs, potted plants, and noon sunlight softened by a shade net, with city noise muted in the background.

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FADE IN:

EXT. OFFICE TERRACE - NOON

Shaant terrace. Plastic chairs. Potted plants. Shade net ke neeche soft sunlight. Neeche se city ka muted noise.

KARAN (30), light blue shirt, ID card, neatly combed hair, ek chair par baithta hai. Lunch box rakhta hai. Water bottle side mein.

Woh khana kholne hi wala hota hai ki footsteps.

ISHAAN (32), casual tee, round glasses, messenger bag, terrace par aata hai. Haath mein steel dabba.

Karan ek second ke liye dekhta hai. Phir normal hone ki koshish karta hai.

ISHAAN

(■■■ka sa nod)

Phir mil gaye.

KARAN

Haan.

Beat.

ISHAAN

Main soch raha tha ki terrace tumhara fixed spot hai.

KARAN

Aur mujhe laga tha tumhara.

Ishaan smile rokta hai.

ISHAAN

Lunch break hai. Sabka hota hai.

Karan khana kholta hai.

KARAN

Toh baith jao.

Ishaan opposite chair khinchta hai aur baith jaata hai.

CUT TO:

MONTAGE - VARIOUS LUNCH BREAKS

-- Karan aur Ishaan same terrace par, same chairs.

-- Lunch boxes open.

-- Water bottle pass hoti hai.

-- Paper napkin ek dusre ke dabbe ke neeche.

-- Halka sa laughter.

END MONTAGE.

BACK TO SCENE.

ISHAAN

Aaj kya hai?

KARAN

Rajma.

ISHAAN

Lucky.

KARAN

Tumhara?

ISHAAN

Paneer roll. Client ke deadline jaisa—wrapped and stressful.

Karan hansi rok leta hai.

KARAN

Tum graphic designer ho na?

ISHAAN

Freelance.

KARAN

Matlab?

ISHAAN

Matlab log samajhte hain main ghar pe baith ke sketch karta hoon. Reality mein main client ke “bas ek aur change” se ladta hoon.

KARAN

Bank mein bhi same hota hai.

ISHAAN

Numbers?

KARAN

Numbers. Calls. Smiles.

Beat.

ISHAAN

Thak jaate ho?

KARAN

Kabhi kabhi.

Ishaan apni water bottle Karan ki taraf badhata hai.

ISHAAN

Paani lo.

Karan bottle leta hai. Small moment.

KARAN

Tumhare ghar mein lunch kaun pack karta hai?

ISHAAN

Maa.

KARAN

Meri bhi karti thi.

Ishaan looks up.

ISHAAN

Ab nahi?

KARAN

Nahi.

(beat)

Ab main bas phone dekh ke kha leta hoon.

Ishaan nods, quietly affected.

ISHAAN

Meri maa bolti hain, lunch skip mat karna.

KARAN

Sahi bolti hain.

ISHAAN

Haan.

(soft)

Aadmi ko khana bhi yaad dilata hai ki woh akela nahi hai.

Karan usse dekhta hai.

KARAN

Tum hamesha itna philosophical bolte ho?

ISHAAN

Sirf jab paneer roll achha ho.

Karan finally smiles.

CUT TO:

EXT. OFFICE TERRACE - ANOTHER NOON

Same setup. Same chairs. Same sunlight.

Karan terrace par pehle aaya hai. Ishaan thoda door khade phone par baat kar raha hai.

ISHAAN

(phone par, low voice)

Nahi yaar, main usse directly nahi bol paunga.

(beat)

Lagta hai bas lunch coincidence hai.

Karan freezes.

Ishaan call cut karta hai aur mudta hai. Karan ko dekh leta hai.
Silence.

ISHAAN

Tum kab aaye?

KARAN

Abhi.

Beat. Dono ek dusre ko dekhte hain.

KARAN

Main bhi.

ISHAAN

Kya?

KARAN

Main bhi coincidence ka bahana bana raha tha.

Ishaan stunned, then a smile starts.

ISHAAN

Toh tum lunch ke liye nahi aate the?

KARAN

Aata tha.

(beat)

Par sirf lunch ke liye nahi.

Ishaan looks down, then laughs quietly in relief.

ISHAAN

Main soch raha tha main hi ajeeb hoon.

KARAN

Ajeeb toh ho.

ISHAAN

Accha?

KARAN

Haan.

(soft)

Par achhe wale.

Ishaan reaches into his bag and takes out a SMALL PLANT POT – a tiny succulent.

ISHAAN

Main yeh yahan rakhna chahta tha.

KARAN

Plant?

ISHAAN

Haan. Office terrace thoda less boring lagega.

KARAN takes the pot carefully, wipes a bit of soil with a paper napkin.

KARAN

Tumhara?

ISHAAN

Abhi tak ka toh nahi.

(beat)

Par dekhte hain.

Karan places the plant between them.

KARAN

Lunch break ke baad bhi dekhte hain?

Ishaan smiles, warm and open.

ISHAAN

Haan. Aaj se coincidence ko thoda late kar dete hain.

Karan smiles back.

They sit. Not awkward. Just present.

The city noise hums below. The noon light softens through the shade net.

FADE OUT.

THE END.