



THE 7:10 TRAIN

A Mystery/Crime 2-Character Screenplay in Hinglish

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LOGLINE: Inspector Devraj questions Maqsood after a suspicious package is found on the 7:10 train, but the commuter insists he was only carrying lost property. As the train keeps moving, the detective realizes the package is tied to a smuggling ring operating inside the station itself. The twist is that Maqsood is not the courier—he is the man who swapped the bag to save a child from being used as a mule.

CAST / CHARACTERS: FORMAT: 2-Character Short Film (Duo Cast) | Character 1: Inspector Devraj (44)

LOCATION: A nearly empty train compartment at dawn, lit by cool grey sunrise through barred windows, with rattling metal seats and the rhythmic sound of tracks.

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FADE IN:

INT. 7:10 TRAIN COMPARTMENT - DAWN

Ek nearly empty compartment. Cool grey sunrise barred windows se andar aa raha hai. Metal seats rattling. Tracks ki rhythmic awaaz.

INSPECTOR DEVRAJ (44), khaki uniform, cap, polished shoes, stern gaze ke saath ek seat par baitha hai. Uske paas police badge aur radio.

SAMNE wali seat par MAQSOOD (39), cheap raincoat mein, paseene se bheega hua, torn duffel bag ko pairon ke paas pakde hue. Aankhon se nazrein chura raha hai.

Devraj Maqsood ko dekhta rehta hai.

DEVRAJ

Naam?

MAQSOOD

Maqsood.

DEVRAJ

Poora.

MAQSOOD

Maqsood Ali.

Devraj uske duffel bag ki taraf dekhta hai.

DEVRAJ

Bag kiska hai?

MAQSOOD

(jaldi se)

Mera nahi, sahab. Lost property hai.

DEVRAJ

Lost property ko aise chipka ke kaun le jaata hai?

MAQSOOD

Main chipka nahi raha. Main... return karne ja raha tha.

Devraj radio uthata hai.

DEVRAJ

Kis station ka ticket hai?

Maqsood apni pocket se crumpled train ticket nikalta hai.

MAQSOOD

Dekh lijiye.

Devraj ticket le kar dekhta hai.

DEVRAJ

Platform pe CCTV mein tum hi the.

Maqsood ka gala sookh jaata hai.

MAQSOOD

Platform pe hazaar log hote hain, sahab.

DEVRAJ

Haan. Lekin suspicious bag ke saath sirf ek.

Devraj bag ki zipper par haath rakhta hai.

DEVRAJ (CONT'D)

Kholo.

MAQSOOD

Nahi.

DEVRAJ

Nahi?

MAQSOOD

(ghabra kar)

Matlab... main khol deta hoon.

Maqsood bag kholta hai. Andar ek folded newspaper.

Devraj newspaper nikalta hai. Uske beech tape se lapeta chhota package.

DEVRAJ

Yeh "lost property" hai?

MAQSOOD

Main ne bas uthaya tha.

DEVRAJ

Kahan se?

MAQSOOD

Bench ke neeche se.

Devraj newspaper unfold karta hai. Station ka naam aur platform number handwritten.

DEVRAJ

Yeh station ke andar ka kaam hai.

MAQSOOD

Main ko kuch nahi pata.

DEVRAJ

Jhooth mat bolo.

MAQSOOD

(toot-ta hua)

Sahab, main chor nahi hoon.

Devraj radio par button dabata hai. Static.

DEVRAJ

Station control... response do.

Static only.

DEVRAJ (CONT'D)

(Maqsood se)

Kis ke liye kaam karta hai?

MAQSOOD

Kisi ke liye nahi.

DEVRAJ

Phir itna paseena kyun?

MAQSOOD

Kyunki train chal rahi hai.

Devraj ek beat ke liye usko dekhta hai. Then:

DEVRAJ

Mazak kar raha hai?

MAQSOOD

Nahi, sahab.

Silence. Tracks rattling.

DEVRAJ

Sach bolo. Abhi.

Maqsood gehri saans leta hai. Aankhon mein darr.

MAQSOOD

Bag mera nahi tha.

DEVRAJ

Yeh toh pehle hi bola.

MAQSOOD

Nahi... main ne bag swap kiya tha.

Devraj ka expression hard.

DEVRAJ

Kis se?

MAQSOOD

Ek bachche se.

Devraj ka haath radio par jam jaata hai.

DEVRAJ

Kya?

MAQSOOD

Platform pe ek chhota ladka tha. Bas... akela. Uske haath mein yahi bag tha.

DEVRAJ

Bachcha courier tha?

MAQSOOD

(tez)

Nahi! Nahi, sahab. Use use kiya ja raha tha.

Devraj bag ko dekhta hai, phir Maqsood ko.

DEVRAJ

Saboot?

Maqsood newspaper ka folded corner kholta hai. Andar ek bachche ki drawing: train, aadmi, aur naam.

MAQSOOD

Usne yeh mujhe diya.

Devraj drawing leta hai. Ek beat.

DEVRAJ

Tumne use chhoda?

MAQSOOD

Haan. Bheed mein. Dusri side.

DEVRAJ

Kyun?

MAQSOOD

Kyunki jo log is bag ke peeche the... woh bachche ko dhoondhte.

Devraj ki aankhon mein calculation. Phir samajh.

DEVRAJ

Smuggling ring.

MAQSOOD

Main ne bas usko bachaya.

Train ek station ke paas slow hoti hai. Door ke bahar platform blur.

Devraj radio ka signal try karta hai. Crackle.

DEVRAJ

Control, yahan Railway Police. Suspicious package confirmed. Internal network suspected. Child risk possible. Stand by.

Static, then weak response unheard.

Devraj bag ko newspaper mein dobara wrap karta hai.

DEVRAJ (CONT'D)

Ab tum suspect nahi ho.

MAQSOOD

(surprised)

Toh?

DEVRAJ

Witness ho.

Maqsood ki saans dheemi hoti hai.

MAQSOOD

Woh bachcha safe hai?

DEVRAJ

Abhi tak agar tumne sahi jagah bheja hai, toh haan.

MAQSOOD

School ki taraf.

Devraj use dekhta hai. First time, his tone softens.

DEVRAJ

Naam kya tha uska?

MAQSOOD

Arif.

Devraj nods, radio ko mouth ke paas laata hai.

DEVRAJ

Control, repeat... child name Arif. Start search at platform perimeter.

Train phir accelerate karti hai.

Maqsood khidki se bahar dekhta hai. Dawn light uske chehre par padti hai.

Devraj uske paas baith jaata hai, bag ko secure karta hai.

DEVRAJ (CONT'D)

Aaj tumne ek bachche ko bachaya.

MAQSOOD

Aur aap?

DEVRAJ

Main ab poora racket pakadunga.

Ek beat.

MAQSOOD

Sahab...

DEVRAJ

Haan?

MAQSOOD

Main sach mein chor nahi hoon.

Devraj usko dekhta hai, phir halka sa nod karta hai.

DEVRAJ

Aaj ke liye itna kaafi hai.

Train tracks par aur tez daudti hai. Compartment mein sirf metal ki awaaz,
radio ki halki crackle, aur subah ki thandi roshni.

FADE OUT.

THE END