



THE WITNESS ROOM

A Mystery/Crime 2-Character Screenplay in Hinglish

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LOGLINE: ACP Vikram believes Rhea saw a murder in the restaurant parking lot, but she keeps denying it while giving him details only the killer should know. As the interrogation intensifies, Vikram realizes Rhea is not protecting a witness—she is protecting the man he arrested years ago for the same crime.

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

LOCATION: A police interrogation room with one metal table, two chairs, a single overhead tube light, and a one-way mirror. The walls are pale and bare, making every pause feel louder and every shadow sharper.

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INT. POLICE INTERROGATION ROOM - NIGHT

Pale, bare walls. One metal table. Two chairs. A single overhead tube light BUZZES. One-way mirror on the side wall. A tape recorder sits on the table beside a thick file folder and a half-filled water glass.

ACP VIKRAM (44), hard-edged, formal shirt with rolled sleeves and shoulder holster silhouette, stands over the table.

RHEA (30), restaurant hostess in a simple uniform, anxious posture, clutches a statement form with trembling fingers.

VIKRAM

(placing the file down hard)

Naam dobara bolo.

RHEA

Maine already bata diya, sir. Rhea.

VIKRAM

Main naam nahi, sach pooch raha hoon.

Rhea swallows. Her fingers tighten around the water glass.

VIKRAM

Tum restaurant parking lot mein thi.

RHEA

Haan. Kaam pe thi.

VIKRAM

Aur tumne murder dekha.

RHEA

Nahi.

VIKRAM clicks ON the tape recorder.

VIKRAM

Phir ye details kaise?

(leans in)

Left side broken light. Silver sedan. Wet patch near drain. Victim ke haath mein red thread.

Rhea freezes.

RHEA

Parking lot mein sab dikhta hai.

VIKRAM

Itna bhi nahi.

He slides a photo across the table. Old crime scene. Same parking lot.

VIKRAM

Teen saal pehle bhi yahin ek aadmi mara tha. Us case mein ek witness tha. Aur phir woh gayab ho gaya.

RHEA

Main koi witness nahi hoon.

VIKRAM

Toh phir tum kaun ho?

RHEA looks at the photo. Her breathing changes.

RHEA

Main bas hostess hoon.

VIKRAM opens the file folder, pulls out an arrest record and pushes it forward.

VIKRAM

Is aadmi ko yaad hai?

Rhea glances at the partially visible photo. Her jaw tightens.

VIKRAM

Same pattern. Same parking lot. Same clean-up. Aur tum usko cover kar rahi ho.

RHEA

(quietly)

Aap usse galat samajh rahe ho.

VIKRAM

Main facts samajhta hoon.

RHEA

Facts?

(hurt laughs)

Aapne tab bhi facts nahi dekhe the.

VIKRAM

Careful.

RHEA

Nahi, ACP sahib. Aap careful ho jao.

A beat.

VIKRAM

Us raat kya hua tha?

RHEA grips the statement form until it crumples.

RHEA

Jis aadmi ko aapne arrest kiya tha... Woh killer nahi tha.

VIKRAM

Sab kehte hain.

RHEA

Par sab sach nahi bolte.

She takes a shaky sip of water. Her hand trembles more.

RHEA

Woh us parking lot mein tha. Woh bas dekh raha tha.

VIKRAM

Kisey?

RHEA hesitates.

VIKRAM

Rhea.

RHEA

Mere bhai ko.

Silence.

The tube light BUZZES louder.

VIKRAM slowly sits.

VIKRAM

Tumhara bhai witness tha?

RHEA nods, eyes wet.

RHEA

Usne ek cheez dekhi thi. Victim ke haath mein restaurant uniform ka button tha.

VIKRAM

Button?

RHEA

Haan. Aur woh button mere bhai ke coat se nahi tha.

VIKRAM

Toh kis se tha?

RHEA

Apron se. Staff apron se.

VIKRAM stares.

RHEA

Main isliye chup thi. Agar sach bolti, toh case reopen hota. Aur mera bhai phir se unke saamne aa jaata.

VIKRAM

Unke?

RHEA

Jin logon ne asli killer ko bachaya tha.

Vikram looks at the file, then at the one-way mirror.

A long beat.

VIKRAM

(softly)

Woh aadmi kaun tha?

RHEA's voice breaks.

RHEA

Mera bhai.

Vikram's expression changes. The steel gaze cracks, just enough.

RHEA

Aapne us waqt convenience ko evidence samjha tha. Aaj
main usi galti ko dobara nahi hone dungii.

She slides the statement form toward him.

RHEA

Agar aap sach mein ACP ho... toh is baar file nahi,
evidence dekho.

Vikram does not touch the form.

He closes the file folder slowly.

VIKRAM

(tight)

Aaj se koi witness jhooth ke saath room se nahi
niklega.

Rhea holds his gaze.

The tube light FLICKERS.

CUT TO BLACK.