



THE LOCKED BALCONY

A Horror/Supernatural 2-Character Screenplay in Hinglish

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LOGLINE: Dhruv and Maya get trapped on the balcony after a door lock fails, but Maya insists they must not go back inside until sunrise. As the night deepens, the apartment behind them begins showing signs of another presence, and Dhruv realizes Maya is not afraid of what's inside—she is waiting for it to remember her.

CAST / CHARACTERS: FORMAT: 2-Character Short Film (Duo Cast) | Character 1: Dhruv (35)

LOCATION: A narrow high-rise balcony at night, enclosed by glass doors, with city lights glittering far below and a cold wind pressing through the railing. The balcony is lit by a single bulb and intermittent lightning from a brewing storm.

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INT. NARROW HIGH-RISE BALCONY - NIGHT

A single bulb swings slightly. CITY LIGHTS glitter far below. A cold wind pushes through the railing. Lightning flashes beyond the glass doors.

DHRUV (35), linen shirt, tape measure in one hand, flashlight in the other, checks the BALCONY DOOR LOCK.

MAYA (33), barefoot in a simple night dress and cardigan, sits on a FLOOR CUSHION near the wall. Calm. Too calm.

DHRUV

Yeh lock thoda sa tight lag raha hai.

MAYA

Thoda sa nahi.

Dhruv gives her a look, turns the handle. CLICK.

The lock fails. The door won't open.

DHRUV

Arre—

He pulls harder. Nothing.

DHRUV (CONT'D)

Maya, door jam ho gaya.

MAYA

Mujhe pata hai.

DHRUV

Pata hai? Toh panic kyu nahi kar rahi?

MAYA

Kyuki panic raat ko loud hota hai.

Dhruv stares. Checks his phone.

DHRUV

No signal. Great.

He knocks on the glass.

DHRUV (CONT'D)

Hello? Koi hai andar?

MAYA

Main hoon na.

DHRUV

Main tumhari baat nahi kar raha.

MAYA

Main bhi.

A beat. Wind howls.

Dhruv uses the flashlight to inspect the lock, the frame, the hinge.

DHRUV

Main maintenance se hoon. Main bas isko khol deta hoon, okay?

MAYA

Nahi.

DHRUV

Nahi?

MAYA

Sunrise se pehle andar mat jaana.

DHRUV

Kya matlab? Hum yahan freezing balcony pe khade rahenge?

MAYA

Agar andar gaye, toh phir balcony safe nahi rahegi.

Lightning FLASHES.

For a split second, a SHADOW moves inside the apartment corridor.

Dhruv freezes.

DHRUV

Tumne dekha?

MAYA

Haan.

DHRUV

Koi aur hai andar?

MAYA

Haan.

DHRUV

Toh help bulao!

MAYA

Kiski help?

DHRUV

Police. Security. Anyone.

MAYA

Raat mein koi aata nahi.

A faint TAP from inside the glass.

Once.

Twice.

Three times.

DHRUV

Kaun hai?

MAYA closes her eyes.

MAYA

Woh nahi knock karti.

DHRUV

Woh?

MAYA

Yaad dilati hai.

Dhruv swallows fear. He wedges the tape measure into the latch, trying to pry it open.

DHRUV

Suno, agar andar koi hai, toh mujhe batao. Main help kar sakta hoon.

MAYA

Help?

DHRUV

Haan.

MAYA

Tum jaise log hamesha help karne aate ho.

DHRUV

Tumhara tone kaafi rude hai for someone stuck outside.

MAYA

Main stuck nahi hoon.

DHRUV

Toh kya ho?

MAYA looks at the apartment behind the glass.

MAYA

Waiting.

Another LIGHTNING FLASH.

Inside, a faint FEMALE SILHOUETTE appears in the hallway.

Dhruv steps back.

DHRUV

Maya...

MAYA

Mat dekho.

DHRUV

Maya, woh kaun hai?

MAYA

Jo mujhe yaad karna bhool gaya.

Dhruv turns back to her.

DHRUV

Main samjha nahi.

MAYA

You designers. Sab kuch measure kar lete ho. Space, distance, fit.

DHRUV

Main logon ko fix nahi karta.

MAYA

Nahi. Tum walls ko.

A beat.

The glass door RATTLES from inside.

DHRUV

Maya, sach batao. Tum kis cheez se dar rahi ho?

MAYA

Main dar nahi rahi.

DHRUV

Phir?

MAYA

Main uska wait kar rahi hoon jo andar hai.

Dhruv shines the flashlight at the apartment interior.

A wet FOOTPRINT appears on the floor inside.

Then another.

Moving toward the balcony door.

DHRUV

Oh God...

MAYA

Bas door mat kholna.

DHRUV

Maya, yeh ghar mein hai ya—

MAYA

Ghar mein nahi.

DHRUV

Toh?

MAYA

Ghar ka hissa hai.

The tapping returns. Closer now. Slower.

A voice, barely audible, from inside.

VOICE (O.S.)

Maya...

Maya flinches for the first time.

DHRUV

Kaun hai woh?

MAYA

Jo mujhe pehchaan gaya.

Dhruv studies her face. The flashlight catches something strange—her outline seems faint at the edges.

DHRUV

Maya... tum—

MAYA

Main yahin rehti hoon.

DHRUV

Nahi. Kuch aur hai.

MAYA

Main yahin se gayi thi.

Dhruv's breath catches.

DHRUV

Kahan?

MAYA

Neeche.

A long silence.

Another voice from inside, clearer now.

VOICE (O.S.)

Maya, darwaza khol.

Maya grips her cardigan tight.

MAYA

Sunrise tak bas mat kholna.

DHRUV

Kyu?

MAYA

Kyuki agar usne mujhe yaad kar liya...

She looks at Dhruv.

MAYA (CONT'D)

...toh tum bhi yaad ban jaoge.

Lightning BLASTS.

Inside the apartment, a MALE SHADOW stands right at the glass.

Dhruv drops the flashlight on the floor cushion. It rolls, beam spinning wildly.

DHRUV

Maya...

MAYA

Ab samjhe?

The shadow raises a hand.

A final, slow KNOCK on the glass.

CUT TO BLACK.