



THE MAINTENANCE WINDOW

A Psychological Thriller 2-Character Screenplay in Hinglish

Written by
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LOGLINE: Vivek is trapped in the building during a maintenance lockdown, and Rina insists he must wait until the system resets—even though he claims the server contains evidence that could ruin him. As the power flickers, it becomes clear Rina is not keeping him out; she is keeping someone else from reaching the server through him.

CAST / CHARACTERS: FORMAT: 2-Character Short Film (Duo Cast) | Character 1: Vivek (41)

LOCATION: A server room or office maintenance corridor with blinking equipment lights, humming AC units, and narrow metal racks. The lighting is sterile blue-white, with occasional red alerts flashing across glass panels.

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FADE IN:

INT. OFFICE SERVER CORRIDOR / SERVER ROOM - NIGHT

Sterile blue-white light. Narrow metal racks. Blinking server LEDs. AC units HUM low and constant. Red alert reflections occasionally flash across glass panels.

VIVEK (41), IT manager in office casuals, stands with a laptop and access card. He's visibly controlling his nerves.

RINA (36), building security supervisor, crisp uniform, radio on shoulder, keys in hand, watches him with a cold, analytical stare.

VIVEK

Rina, please. Bas two minutes.

RINA

Maintenance window hai, Vivek. Two minutes ka bhi exception nahi.

VIVEK

Yeh normal maintenance nahi hai. Server mein ek file hai.

RINA

Server mein hamesha files hoti hain. Drama mat karo.

Vivek opens his laptop. The screen glows against his tense face.

VIVEK

Yeh drama nahi hai. Agar woh file kisi aur ke haath lagi, mera career khatam.

RINA

(flat)

Toh tum yahan kyun aaye ho?

VIVEK

Kyunki mujhe lagta hai kisi ne access already try kiya hai.

Rina doesn't react. Just a tiny shift in her eyes.

RINA

Access card do.

VIVEK

Tumhare paas keys hain, radio hai, pura floor tumhara hai. Phir bhi mere card ki zaroorat?

RINA

Rules.

VIVEK

Rules ka naam leke tum mujhe yahan lock kar rahi ho.

RINA

Tum khud lock ho, Vivek. Main bas door band kar rahi hoon.

A beat.

The AC HUM dips. Lights flicker once.

A RED ALERT flashes across the glass panels.

Rina's radio crackles with distortion.

RADIO (V.O.)

...stairwell... movement... confirm...

Rina lifts the radio, listens, then lowers it slowly.

VIVEK

(tight)

Kaun hai?

RINA

Maintenance.

VIVEK

Maintenance ke naam pe jhoot mat bolo.

Rina steps closer. Her stare is surgical.

RINA

Tumhare laptop mein kya hai?

VIVEK

Mere paas jo bhi hai, usse tumhe koi matlab nahi.

RINA

Galat. Aaj raat sabka matlab wahi hai.

Vivek swallows hard.

VIVEK

Tumhe pehle se pata tha.

Rina says nothing.

VIVEK (CONT'D)

Isliye tum mujhe andar laaye. Isliye lockout. Main bait hoon.

RINA

(cool)

Tum witness ho. Bait nahi.

VIVEK

Kis ke liye?

Rina glances at the server rack, then back at him.

RINA

Jo log evidence delete karne aate hain, woh pehle faces check karte hain. Tumhara face unko distract karega.

VIVEK

Tum mujhe shield bana rahi ho?

RINA

Main tumhe alive rakh rahi hoon. Difference samjho.

Another flicker. The room dims, then returns.

Vivek opens a folder on his laptop. A transaction log. Hidden transfers. One name highlighted.

Rina's eyes land on it.

A beat.

VIVEK

Yeh naam tumhara hai.

Rina's jaw tightens.

RINA

Mere naam ka matlab yeh nahi ki main guilty hoon.

VIVEK

Toh kya ho?

RINA

Phansi hui.

Silence.

The HUM of the AC stops for half a second. The room feels suddenly too small.

RADIO (V.O.)

...stairwell clear? ...

Rina raises the radio, answers with controlled calm.

RINA

Server corridor clear.

She lowers it. Her eyes never leave Vivek.

RINA (CONT'D)

Ab ya toh tum file delete karoge, ya live karoge.

VIVEK

Aur agar main delete kar doon?

RINA

Toh tum bach jaoge. Shayad.

VIVEK

Aur agar live kar doon?

RINA

(after a beat)

Toh sach yahan se bahar jayega.

Vivek looks at the server rack. Then at Rina. Then at his laptop.

He clicks.

UPLOAD.

A small progress bar begins.

Rina's expression changes for the first time—surprise, then something like respect.

RINA

Tum pagal ho.

VIVEK

Haan. Ab tum bhi.

The red alert turns steady.

Footsteps stop somewhere outside the glass panel.

Rina straightens, hand near her keys.

Vivek closes the laptop slowly.

RINA

(quiet)

Ab jo bhi aaye, sach se takrayega.

Vivek nods, finally steady.

VIVEK

Maintenance window khatam.

They stand in the cold light, two trapped people with one shared secret.

SMASH TO BLACK.

END.