



# THE ELEVATOR PROMISE

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

Written by  
Story Dil Se Team  
(storydilse.in)

**LOGLINE:** Two women trapped in a broken elevator begin with awkward small talk and end up revealing the lives they've been too afraid to build. As the minutes stretch, one admits she is about to move away for an arranged marriage she doesn't want, while the other confesses she has been waiting years to say what she feels. The twist is gentle and hopeful: the elevator repairs itself only after they finally promise to meet again on purpose.

**CAST / CHARACTERS:** FORMAT: 2-Character Short Film (Duo Cast) | Character 1: Ishita (28)

**LOCATION:** A stalled apartment elevator with mirrored walls, emergency light glowing amber, faint city noise outside, and a tiny fan struggling to move air.

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**INT. APARTMENT ELEVATOR - EVENING**

A stalled elevator. Mirrored walls. Amber emergency light. A tiny fan struggles overhead. Faint city noise leaks in from outside.

ISHITA (28), shy architect in a soft kurta and sneakers, stands clutching a rolled blueprint. Eyes down. Avoiding the mirror.

MAYA (30), confident freelance photographer in denim jacket and scarf, camera slung across her shoulder, checks her phone and the emergency button.

A beat of awkward silence.

**MAYA**

Signal nahi aa raha.

**ISHITA**

Haan.

**MAYA**

Lift bhi shayad introvert hai.

Ishita looks up despite herself. A tiny, surprised smile.

**ISHITA**

Aap kaafi funny ho.

**MAYA**

Bas panic mein logon ko distract karne ki aadat hai.

Maya presses the emergency button again. Nothing.

**MAYA (CONT'D)**

Koi response nahi.

**ISHITA**

Building ka maintenance... slow hai.

**MAYA**

Mumbai mein har cheez slow hai. Except traffic. Woh hamesha aggressive hota hai.

Ishita lets out a small laugh, then quickly looks away.

MAYA notices the blueprint roll.

**MAYA (CONT'D)**

Architect ho?

**ISHITA**

Haan.

**MAYA**

Kis cheez ka plan hai?

**ISHITA**

Ek housing project.

**MAYA**

Home jaisa?

**ISHITA**

(softly)

Koshish toh wahi hai.

Maya nods, sensing more.

**MAYA**

Main photographer hoon.

**ISHITA**

Camera se pata chal gaya.

**MAYA**

Aur aapki body language se pata chal gaya ki aap camera se bachti ho.

**ISHITA**

Main bas... comfortable nahi hoon.

**MAYA**

With cameras?

**ISHITA**

With attention.

Maya absorbs that.

**MAYA**

Water?

Maya offers her bottle. Ishita hesitates, then takes it.

**ISHITA**

Thanks.

A beat.

Maya takes out lipstick, checks the mirror, applies it casually.

**ISHITA (CONT'D)**

Aapko itni confidence kaise aati hai?

Maya smiles, but there's a shadow behind it.

**MAYA**

Confidence nahi hai.

(beat)

Bas aadat hai acting ki.

Ishita looks at her now, more openly.

**ISHITA**

Acting?

**MAYA**

Haan. Jaise sab sorted hai.

The elevator hums. Nothing changes.

**ISHITA**

Aap bhi... faking it?

**MAYA**

Most days.

A beat of honesty.

**ISHITA**

Main... shaadi karne wali hoon.

**MAYA**

Oh.

**ISHITA**

Arranged.

**MAYA**

And you don't want it.

Ishita is startled by how easily Maya sees it.

**ISHITA**

Do hafte mein city chhodni hai.

**MAYA**

Kis ke saath?

**ISHITA**

Ek ladke ke saath jise main barely jaanti hoon.

She swallows.

**ISHITA (CONT'D)**

Sab log bol rahe hain safe hai. Acha hai. Settled hai.

**MAYA**

Aur tum?

Ishita can't answer.

**ISHITA**

Main bas... mana nahi kar pa rahi.

Maya turns the camera in her hands, nervous for the first time.

**MAYA**

Main tumse pehle se milna chahti thi.

Ishita blinks.

**ISHITA**

Kya?

**MAYA**

Years se.

(beat)

Main wait kar rahi thi ki kabhi seedha bol paun.

Ishita stares.

**MAYA (CONT'D)**

I like you, Ishita.

Silence. The fan rattles.

Ishita's expression moves from shock to relief to something warmer.

**ISHITA**

Galat time hi toh meri life ka default mode hai.

Maya laughs, relieved.

**MAYA**

Toh maybe... ab sahi time ho sakta hai.

Ishita straightens, finally meeting Maya's eyes.

**ISHITA**

Mujhe ek baar apni marzi se jeena hai.

**MAYA**

Toh karo.

**ISHITA**

Kaise?

**MAYA**

Meet me. On purpose.

Ishita repeats it, tasting the words.

**ISHITA**

On purpose.

A sudden JOLT.

The elevator PANEL flickers. The fan whirs louder. Then—

A soft HISS.

The doors begin to open.

Both women freeze, then look at each other.

The corridor light spills in.

**MAYA**

Looks like the elevator fixed itself.

**ISHITA**

Shayad humne bhi.

Maya smiles, small and real.

**MAYA**

Phone?

Ishita nods. They exchange phones, entering numbers.

A beat.

**MAYA (CONT'D)**

Elevator ko toh repair ho jana tha.

**ISHITA**

Humein abhi baaki hai.

**MAYA**

Phir?

**ISHITA**

Phir milte hain.

**MAYA**

On purpose.

Ishita smiles fully now.

**ISHITA**

On purpose.

They step out together into the corridor, not touching, but unmistakably changed.

**FADE OUT.**