



THE WITNESS IN SEAT B

A Mystery/Crime 2-Character Screenplay in Hinglish

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LOGLINE: An inspector questions the only witness to a robbery that happened on a moving bus, but the witness keeps changing her story. The inspector realizes the witness is not lying to protect herself—she is lying to protect the real thief, who is the only person she loves. The twist is that the robbery was staged to expose a worse crime, and the witness has been steering the inspector toward the truth all along.

CAST / CHARACTERS: FORMAT: 2-Character Short Film (Duo Cast) | Character 1: Inspector Kavya (36)

LOCATION: A late-night bus depot office with one buzzing tube light, metal desk, barred window, and a rain-streaked windshield visible behind them.

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INT. BUS DEPOT OFFICE - LATE NIGHT

Ek buzzing TUBE LIGHT. Metal desk. Barred window. Rain-streaked windshield ke paar parked bus ka dhundhla silhouette.

On desk: POLICE FILE, EVIDENCE BAG, BUS KEY, PEN TORCH, TEA CUP, TICKET PAD.

INSPECTOR KAVYA (36), plain shirt, sleeves rolled, no-nonsense stare, file khol kar baithi hai.

SANA (25), faded uniform, tight braid, haath kaanp rahe hain, opposite chair par.

KAVYA

Seedha bol, Sana. Bus 47 mein robbery kisne ki?

SANA

Maine... maine kuch nahi dekha, ma'am.

KAVYA

(beat)

Witness statement pe sign tumne kiya hai.

SANA

Maine... sign kar diya tha.

KAVYA

"Kar diya tha"?

SANA

(uneasy)

Woh log bol rahe the jaldi hai.

KAVYA file se ek page nikaalti hai.

KAVYA

Teen versions diye tumne. Pehle black jacket wala aadmi. Phir aurat. Phir "kuch yaad nahi."

SANA

Mujhe... darr lag raha tha.

KAVYA

Kis se?

SANA

Sab se.

KAVYA

Tum jhooth bol rahi ho, Sana.

SANA

Nahi.

KAVYA

Toh phir story har baar badal kyun rahi hai?

SANA tea cup ko dekhti hai. Chup.

KAVYA

Bus mein seat B ke paas kya hua tha?

SANA

Kuch nahi.

KAVYA

Seat B ke paas struggle hua tha. Emergency chain pull hui thi.

SANA

Main bas... paani de rahi thi.

KAVYA

Conductor's assistant ho. Paani dene ke liye seat B tak kyun gayi?

SANA

Kyuki... passenger ne bulaya tha.

KAVYA

Kaun sa passenger?

SANA

(quickly)

Mujhe yaad nahi.

KAVYA pen torch jalaati hai aur ticket pad ke neeche se ek folded SLIP nikaalti hai.

KAVYA

Yeh kya hai?

SANA ka face pale.

SANA

Woh...

KAVYA

Bol.

SANA

Usne diya tha.

KAVYA

Kaun?

SANA

Jo chori kar raha tha.

KAVYA

Tumhe lagta hai main bewakoof hoon?

SANA

Nahi, ma'am. Mujhe lagta hai aap smart hain.

KAVYA

Toh phir seedha sach bolo.

SANA

(voice shaking)

Seedha sach... sabko maar deta.

Silence.

KAVYA file band karti hai.

KAVYA

Kis ko bachaa rahi ho?

SANA

(whispers)

Usko.

KAVYA

Naam.

SANA

Nahi bol sakti.

KAVYA

Woh thief hai?

SANA

Haan.

KAVYA

Aur tum usse pyaar karti ho.

SANA looks up. Caught.

SANA

...

KAVYA

Answer mat do. Face sab bol raha hai.

SANA

Woh thief nahi tha, ma'am.

KAVYA

Phir?

SANA

Woh... use kar raha tha. Jaise main.

KAVYA sits back, connecting dots.

KAVYA

Robbery staged thi.

SANA nods, tears forming.

SANA

Bus mein jo "loot" hui... woh cover tha.

KAVYA

Kis cheez ka?

SANA

Illegal cash movement ka. Driver ke route bag mein proof tha. Depot ke through ja raha tha.

KAVYA

Aur seat B?

SANA

Wahin se envelope pass hona tha.

KAVYA

Tumne mujhe ghumaaya.

SANA

Haan.

KAVYA

Kyuki tum dar rahi thi?

SANA

Kyuki agar main seedha bolti, woh mar jaata.

KAVYA

Woh aaj aayega?

SANA

Aana chahiye.

KAVYA stands, bus key uthati hai.

KAVYA

Toh ab tum jhooth nahi, sirf exact truth bologi.

SANA

(weak smile)

Mere paas ab aur kuch hai bhi nahi.

KAVYA

Good.

KAVYA evidence bag ko file ke saath stack karti hai.

KAVYA (CONT'D)

Aaj raat hum robbery solve nahi karenge.

SANA

Phir?

KAVYA

Asli gang ko pakdenge.

A beat. Sana exhales—half fear, half relief.

The tube light FLICKERS.

KAVYA opens the office door slightly, listening to the rain outside.

KAVYA (CONT'D)

Seat B ka witness... sabse kamzor nahi nikla.

SANA

Main witness nahi thi, ma'am.

KAVYA

Toh?

SANA

Main bait thi.

Kavya gives a small, approving nod.

KAVYA

Chalo. Ab dekhte hain kaun phasta hai.

They move toward the door together.

CUT TO BLACK.