



MOTHERBOARD

A Horror/Supernatural 2-Character Screenplay in Hinglish

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LOGLINE: A mother and daughter argue late at night over a mysterious voice note the daughter received from her dead grandmother. As the room's electronics begin switching on by themselves, the mother realizes the voice note is answering questions only she has ever asked in private. The twist reveals the house is not haunted by a ghost, but by a family secret finally using technology to speak.

CAST / CHARACTERS: FORMAT: 2-Character Short Film (Duo Cast) | Character 1: Sangeeta (46)

LOCATION: A cramped bedroom lit by the blue glow of a laptop screen and a bedside lamp, with shadows pooling in the corners and a closet door slightly ajar.

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INT. CRAMPED BEDROOM - NIGHT

Blue glow from a LAPTOP washes over a cramped bedroom. A bedside lamp throws a weak yellow pool of light. Shadows gather in the corners. The CLOSET DOOR is slightly ajar.

SANGEETA (46), in nightwear and cardigan, holds her phone like a weapon. Tired. Stubborn. Ready to fight.

NEHA (19), pale and withdrawn in an oversized hoodie and pajama pants, sits on the bed with headphones around her neck. She clutches her phone.

A VOICE NOTE plays from Neha's phone.

GRANDMOTHER (V.O.)

(soft, clear)

Neha, beta... jo sach hai, usse bhaagna mat.

Sangeeta snatches a look at Neha.

SANGEETA

Bas? Yeh prank hai?

NEHA

Maine prank nahi kiya.

SANGEETA

Toh fir kya, dead log WhatsApp pe aane lage?

NEHA

Mujhe bhi nahi pata yeh kaise aaya.

Sangeeta steps closer, suspicious.

SANGEETA

Dikha.

Neha turns the screen. An UNKNOWN sender. A new voice note.

SANGEETA (CONT'D)

Ye kisi ne forward kiya hoga.

NEHA

Kisne? Dadi ne?

Sangeeta freezes.

NEHA (CONT'D)

Aapka chehra kyun aisa ho gaya?

Sangeeta grabs the phone, hits play.

GRANDMOTHER (V.O.)

Sangeeta, darwaza band kar de.

A beat.

SANGEETA

Nahi.

NEHA

Kya "nahi"?

SANGEETA

Yeh awaaz... yeh—

The LAPTOP wakes by itself.

A cursor moves.

The bedside lamp FLICKERS.

From the closet: a faint TAP.

Neha and Sangeeta both turn.

NEHA

Maine kuch nahi kiya.

SANGEETA

Main bhi kuch nahi kar rahi.

Another TAP from the closet.

Sangeeta raises her phone like it can protect her.

SANGEETA (CONT'D)

Battery low hai. Bluetooth connect hua hoga.

NEHA

Mere paas dadi ka number nahi hai, Maa.

Sangeeta looks at her.

NEHA (CONT'D)

Toh maine bheja kahan se?

The voice note PLAYS again, without anyone touching the phone.

GRANDMOTHER (V.O.)

Neha ko sach mat chhupa.

Neha's eyes narrow.

NEHA

Kaunsa sach?

SANGEETA

Koi sach nahi hai.

NEHA

Jhooth bolna bhi aapko suit karta hai.

Sangeeta flinches.

The closet door CREAKS wider.

SANGEETA

Bas. Ab drama band.

NEHA

Drama?

(beat)

Dadi ki voice note aur khud chalne wala laptop –
drama?

Sangeeta swallows. She sees something on her own phone.

INSERT - PHONE SCREEN

A file pops up:

motherboard_backup.final

Sangeeta goes pale.

NEHA

Yeh kya hai?

Sangeeta cannot meet her eyes.

SANGEETA

Motherboard...

NEHA

Computer ka part?

SANGEETA

Nahi.

(beat)

Ghar ka code word.

Neha stares.

SANGEETA (CONT'D)

Jahan main... jahan hum...

NEHA

Hum kya?

Sangeeta finally breaks.

SANGEETA

Dadi ke recordings. Hospital papers. Purani files.
Aur ek adoption file.

Neha's face hardens.

NEHA

Kiski adoption file?

SANGEETA

Tumhari.

Silence.

The laptop screen fills with old folders opening on their own.

NEHA

Nahi.

SANGEETA

Neha—

NEHA

Main kaun hoon?

SANGEETA

Meri beti.

(beat)

Bas itna sach main bol paayi.

The voice note plays one last time.

GRANDMOTHER (V.O.)

Sangeeta, ab bol de.

The lamp steadies.

The laptop opens a folder labeled: FOR NEHA, WHEN READY.

Neha reaches into the closet and pulls out an old FILE BOX.

Inside: handwritten labels, old recordings, documents.

NEHA

Yeh sab aapne chhupaya?

SANGEETA

Haan.

NEHA

Itne saal?

SANGEETA

Haan.

NEHA

Kyun?

SANGEETA

Kyuki sach bolne se pehle main dar gayi thi.

Neha looks at the box, then at her mother.

For the first time, she lowers her phone.

NEHA

Aur ab?

Sangeeta looks at the glowing laptop, the open closet, the files.

SANGEETA

Ab...

(beat)

Ab ghar ne bol diya.

The closet door slowly swings shut on its own.

CUT TO BLACK.

END