



COLD STORAGE

A Psychological Thriller 2-Character Screenplay in Hinglish

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LOGLINE: A pathologist and a funeral attendant discover that one body in cold storage has a pulse only when neither of them is looking directly at it. Each woman suspects the other is hiding evidence from a death that shouldn't have happened. The twist: the "body" is a living woman who has been legally declared dead, and one of them signed the papers to make her disappear.

CAST / CHARACTERS: FORMAT: 2-Character Short Film (Duo Cast) | Character 1: Dr. Harini (37)

LOCATION: A refrigerated morgue corridor with harsh white light, metal drawers, a low mechanical hum, and fog-like breath in the air.

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INT. REFRIGERATED MORGUE CORRIDOR - NIGHT

Harsh white tube lights. Metal drawers lining both sides. A low mechanical HUM. Foggy breath hangs in the air.

DR. HARINI (37), lab coat, gloves, clipboard in hand, stands at DRAWER 17.

MEGHA (32), dark funeral uniform, pale, guarded, thermos and clipboard, watches her from a few feet away.

MEGHA

Aapne report sign kar di thi. Body release ho chuki hai. Phir mujhe kyun bulaya?

Harini checks the drawer handle. Locked.

HARINI

Kyunki number 17 ka tag mismatch hai. Aur kyunki mujhe lag raha hai is corridor mein koi cheez dead hone ka natak kar rahi hai.

MEGHA

Main funeral home se hoon, drama se nahi.

HARINI

Phir bhi aapke thermos se coffee ki smell nahi aa rahi. Sirf phenyl. Aap itni saaf kyun hain, Megha?

Megha stiffens.

MEGHA

Aap mujhe accuse kar rahi hain?

HARINI

Main facts ko read kar rahi hoon.

Harini lifts a BODY TAG from the clipboard.

INSERT - BODY TAG**ANANYA S.**

Ink faded. Smudged.

Megha's face flickers—just for a second.

HARINI (CONT'D)

Aap is naam ko janti ho.

MEGHA

Main bahut naam dekhti hoon.

HARINI

Nahi. Aap is naam se darti ho.

A faint TAP-TAP-TAP from inside the drawer.

Both women freeze.

Harini slowly raises a FLASHLIGHT and shines it at the drawer seam.

The tapping stops.

MEGHA

Aapne suna?

HARINI

Haan. Aur mujhe ye bhi sunai de raha hai ki aap saans rok rahi ho.

MEGHA

Dead body mein pulse nahi hota.

HARINI

Mujhe bhi yahi problem hai. Par jab main directly dekh rahi hoti hoon, kuch nahi. Jab nazar hataati hoon, pulse milta hai.

Megha sets the thermos down carefully.

MEGHA

Aap mujhe test kar rahi hain.

HARINI

Main apne career ko test kar rahi hoon.

Harini flips through the clipboard papers.

A form. Two signatures.

She stares.

HARINI (CONT'D)

Yeh signature...

Megha leans in despite herself.

INSERT - FORM

MEGHA'S SIGNATURE.

DR. HARINI'S SIGNATURE.

HARINI (CONT'D)

Aapne death declaration sign kiya?

MEGHA

Main ne sirf instructions follow ki.

HARINI

Kisne diye?

Megha looks at Drawer 17.

Then at Harini.

MEGHA

Aapne.

Harini goes still.

HARINI

Nahi.

MEGHA

Aapne bola tha body unclaimed hai. Koi family nahi.
Bas paperwork close kar do. Main funeral home mein
nayi thi. Mujhe laga routine case hai.

Harini's hand trembles on the drawer handle.

A CLICK.

The lock releases.

The drawer slides open with a cold METAL GRIND.

Inside, a body under a white sheet.

Harini lifts the sheet.

ANANYA S. lies there, eyes closed.

Her chest rises—barely.

MEGHA

Oh my God.

Ananya's eyelids flutter.

Harini checks the wrist.

A faint pulse.

HARINI

She's alive.

MEGHA

Ananya...

Harini looks up sharply.

HARINI

Tumhari behen?

Megha can't hold it anymore.

MEGHA

Haan. Woh disappear nahi hui thi. Use disappear kiya
gaya tha.

Harini stares at the form again.

A memory flashes across her face.

HARINI

Maine sign kiya tha...

MEGHA

Haan. Kyunki aapko bola gaya tha woh already dead
hai. Aur aapne believe kar liya. Ya choose kiya.

A weak, ragged GASP from Ananya.

Both women react.

HARINI

Help me.

Megha grabs the thermos, opens it.

Inside: cold water.

MEGHA

Pehle isko warm karo.

Harini nods, shaken.

She tears off her gloves.

HARINI

Body tag.

Megha takes the tag, flips it over, and writes with her pen.

INSERT - BODY TAG

NOT DEAD.

Harini and Megha exchange one long look—no longer enemies.

The mechanical HUM continues.

Ananya's breathing steadies, just a little.

FADE OUT.