



THE LAST CANDLE

A Emotional Drama 1-Character Solo Monologue in Hinglish

Written by
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LOGLINE: A grandmother records a recipe video for her family, knowing it may be the last time she can cook it herself. As she speaks to the camera, she reveals the recipe is really a guide for how to keep the family together after she is gone.

CAST / CHARACTERS: FORMAT: 1-Character Solo Monologue (Single Actor) | Character: Grandmother Teaching a Family Recipe (Female, 61-69)

LOCATION: A cozy kitchen at dusk, lit by one hanging pendant light and the warm flame of a candle on the table. Family photos, recipe cards, and old utensils create a feeling of memory and continuity.

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FADE IN:

INT. COZY KITCHEN - DUSK

Ek warm, lived-in kitchen. Ek hanging pendant light upar se soft glow de raha hai. Table par ek CANDLE jal rahi hai. Family photos, recipe cards, old utensils, aur ek mixing bowl table ko memory se bhar dete hain.

DADI (61-69), soft knit sweater, apron, reading glasses, silver hair pinned back, camera ke saamne khadi hai. Aaj woh ek recipe video record kar rahi hai.

Camera tripod par set hai. RED RECORDING LIGHT blink kar rahi hai.

DADI

(cheerful, gentle)

Namaste, mere bachcho. Aaj main tumhein woh recipe sikhaane wali hoon jo is ghar mein sabse zyada repeat hui hai... aur shayad sabse zyada yaad bhi.

Woh recipe card uthati hai. Card purana hai, corners folded.

DADI

Yeh sirf khaane ki recipe nahi hai. Yeh ek tarika hai... family ko ek saath rakhne ka.

Woh bowl mein ingredients measure karti hai.

DADI

Sabse pehle, ghee lo. Dheere se garam karo. Jaldi mat karo. Ghee ko bhi attention chahiye hoti hai, samjhe?

Woh spoon se stir karti hai.

DADI

Phir jeera daalo. Jab woh crackle kare na... tab samajhna ki kitchen sun raha hai.

Ek chhoti si smile.

DADI

Ab pyaz. Golden hone tak bhuno. Brown nahi, golden. Zindagi mein bhi na, thoda patience rakho. Overcook karoge toh swaad bhi aur rishta bhi.

Woh recipe card par likha ek line padhkar ruk jaati hai.

DADI

(reading)

"Jab namak daalo, toh pehle taste kar lena."

Beat.

DADI

Aur jab ghar mein koi naraz ho... toh pehle sun lena.

Woh halki hansi ke saath camera ki taraf dekhti hai.

DADI

Maine yeh line khud likhi thi. Tab laga tha funny hai. Ab lag raha hai... sabse important bhi yehi hai.

Woh old family photo ko dekhti hai. Photo frame table par tikka hua hai.

DADI

Dekho, khana banana easy hota hai. Par kisi ko saath bithana... woh thoda tricky hota hai.

Woh ek saans leti hai. Aawaz mein emotion aa jata hai.

DADI

Agar kabhi main is kitchen mein na milun na... toh is recipe ko padhkar mat sochna ki main door chali gayi hoon.

Woh candle ki lau ki taraf dekhti hai.

DADI

Main yahin hoon. Is ghee ki khushboo mein. Is spoon ke nishaan mein. Is table ke daag mein. Har us hasi mein jo is ghar ne sambhali hai.

Beat. Woh apne aansu ko control karti hai.

DADI

Aur haan... jab bhi ghar mein jhagda ho, pehle chai banana. Thandi chai aur garam gussa... dono ek saath nahi chal sakte.

Thodi si laugh, phir soft seriousness.

DADI

Yeh last candle hai.

Woh candle ko dekhti hai.

DADI

Isko bujhne mat dena.

Woh batter ko fold karti hai, careful and loving.

DADI

Agar main thak jaaun, toh kisi aur ko bata dena ki kaise batter ko fold karte hain. Kaise sabzi ko overcook nahi karna. Aur kaise... khamoshi ke beech ek extra chutki pyaar daal dena.

Woh camera ki taraf aati hai. Close, intimate.

DADI

Family recipe ka asli secret masala nahi hota.

Beat.

DADI

Asli secret hota hai... ek dusre ke liye jagah banana.

Woh apron ka kinara theek karti hai. Eyes moist, but steady.

DADI

Table par. Dil mein. Aur waqt mein.

Ek long pause. Candle crackles softly.

DADI

Agar kabhi tumhein lage na ki sab kuch toot raha hai... toh candle jala dena. Phir recipe card kholna.

Woh halka sa smile karti hai.

DADI

Aur yaad rakhna—ghar ka swaad sirf haath se nahi...
saath se banta hai.

Woh recording button ki taraf haath badhati hai.

DADI

Bas. Itna hi.

CLICK. Recording stops.

Kitchen mein sirf candle ki lau aur pendant light ka warm glow reh jaata hai. DADI camera ko ek aakhri loving look deti hai.

FADE OUT.

THE END