



PROTOTYPE 9

A Sci-Fi/High-Concept 3-Character Screenplay in Hinglish

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LOGLINE: A father unveils a machine that can replay the last ten minutes of a person's memory, hoping to prove his invention can save his failing company. When the investor and the son each use it, they discover the same memory appears differently to each of them. The twist is that the machine is not replaying memory at all—it is showing the version of reality each man most wants to believe.

CAST / CHARACTERS: FORMAT: 3-Character Short Film (Trio Cast) | Character 1: Dr. Pranav Mehta (44)

LOCATION: A compact garage-lab at night, lit by cool fluorescent tubes and the blue glow of a prototype device on a workbench. Shelves of parts, cables, and old tools make the space feel both domestic and futuristic.

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FADE IN:

INT. GARAGE-LAB - NIGHT

Ek compact garage-lab. Cool fluorescent tubes. Workbench par PROTOTYPE 9 device se blue glow. Shelves par cables, circuit boards, old tools. Laptop open. Soldering iron garam.

DR. PRANAV MEHTA (44), lab coat over casual shirt, tired eyes, ink-stained fingers, device ke screws tighten kar raha hai.

ESHAN MEHTA (19), hoodie, wired earbuds, skeptical expression, doorway par khada.

RITESH (38), polished suit, expensive watch, unnervingly polite smile, lab ko jaise museum samajh raha hai.

RITESH

Nice setup. Thoda... scrapyard, thoda sci-fi.

ESHAN

Matlab exactly papa ki company.

Pranav ghoorta hai. Eshan shoulder shrug karta hai.

PRANAV

Aaj jokes kam. Time kam hai.

RITESH

Main yahan time hi dekhne aaya hoon, Doctor.

Pranav prototype device par haath rakhta hai.

PRANAV

Prototype 9. Last ten minutes of memory replay. Ek person jo yaad kare, machine woh dikha degi. Proof.

ESHAN

Ya hallucination with LEDs.

PRANAV

Eshan.

ESHAN

Kya? Main bas honest hoon.

Ritesh smile karta hai.

RITESH

Honesty rare hoti hai. Investor log uske liye hi paise dete hain.

ESHAN

Investor log paise dene se pehle soul demand karte hain.

Ritesh ka smile same rehta hai.

RITESH

Good. Aap sharp ho.

Pranav laptop screen check karta hai.

PRANAV

Battery stable. Memory drive synced. Bas ek demo.

ESHAN

Aur agar phat gaya toh?

PRANAV

Toh hum sab free mein future dekh lenge.

Eshan snorts. Ritesh device ke paas aata hai.

RITESH

Main first test kar leta hoon.

PRANAV

Sure.

Pranav hand sensor activate karta hai. Blue glow intensifies.

PRANAV (CONT'D)

Last ten minutes. Bas yaad kariye.

Ritesh haath device par rakhta hai.

DEVICE HUMS. Laptop screen par waveform. Blue light flicker.

CUT TO:

ON LAPTOP SCREEN - MEMORY REPLAY

Conference room jaisa visual. Ritesh aur Pranav handshake kar rahe hain.

PRANAV (V.O.)

Aapne kaha tha... fund karenge.

RITESH (V.O.)

Breakthrough hai, Doctor. We're in.

BACK TO SCENE

Pranav ka face bright ho jata hai.

PRANAV

Dekha? It's working.

ESHAN

Wait... mere screen par kuch aur dikh raha hai.

Ritesh aankh nahi jhapakta.

RITESH

Interesting.

PRANAV

Kya?

RITESH

Mere version mein... main aapko expose karne aaya tha.

Silence.

PRANAV

Kya bakwaas kar rahe ho?

RITESH

Main polite hoon, Doctor. Bakwaas kam karta hoon.

Eshan device ko suspiciously dekhta hai.

ESHAN

Dad, ye machine ya toh genius hai ya scam.

PRANAV

Dono nahi. Bas... accurate.

ESHAN

Papa, aapke projects ka ye line-up pehle bhi suna hai.

Pranav hurt hota hai.

PRANAV

Eshan, bas ek test.

ESHAN

Haan, aur phir ek failure.

Ritesh politely clears throat.

RITESH

Main second test dekhna chahunga.

Pranav nods to Eshan.

PRANAV

Tum.

ESHAN

No.

PRANAV

Eshan.

ESHAN

Fine. But agar mere dimaag mein aapka guilt dikha toh main invoice bhej dunga.

Eshan device par haath rakhta hai.

PRANAV

Last ten minutes. Socho.

DEVICE HUMS LOUDER.

CUT TO:

ON LAPTOP SCREEN - MEMORY REPLAY

Eshan school ke bahar khada hai. Rainy street. Pranav car mein aata hai.

PRANAV (V.O.)

Main late hoon, par aa raha hoon.

Eshan ki aankhen screen par.

ESHAN (V.O.)

Papa...

BACK TO SCENE

Eshan ka throat tight.

ESHAN

Main... yaad hai.

Pranav screen par apni version dekh raha hai—same memory, but Eshan ka message missing, silence heavy.

PRANAV

Nahi. Main yaad kar raha hoon, tumne kabhi reply hi nahi kiya.

ESHAN

Kya?

PRANAV

Tum hamesha door the.

Ritesh ek step peeche.

RITESH

Hm.

Pranav laptop kholkar logs check karta hai.

PRANAV

Signal clean hai... Wait.

Woh code lines scroll karta hai. Eyes widen.

PRANAV (CONT'D)

Oh no.

ESHAN

Kya?

Pranav screen par point karta hai.

PRANAV

Ye replay nahi kar raha. Ye render kar raha hai.

RITESH

English mein?

PRANAV

Ye memory nahi dikhata. Ye version dikhata hai. Jo aap believe karna chahte ho.

Silence.

ESHAN

Matlab?

PRANAV

Matlab jo apni innocence dekhna chahta hai, woh innocence dekhega. Jo apna betrayal confirm karna chahta hai, usse betrayal milega. Jo guilt se bhaagna chahta hai...

RITESH

...woh apni clean image dekh lega.

Pranav nods, devastated.

PRANAV

Haan.

Eshan slowly device se hat-ta hai.

ESHAN

Toh sach?

PRANAV

Sach... missing feature hai.

Ritesh ka polite smile finally sharpened.

RITESH

Doctor, aapne ek brilliant product banaya hai. Therapy, politics, interrogation... Market huge hai.

ESHAN

Aapko invention nahi chahiye. Addiction chahiye.

Ritesh turns to him.

RITESH

Young man, world runs on convenient reality.

ESHAN

Isliye world messed up hai.

Pranav looks at the prototype. Decision time.

PRANAV

Nahi.

He yanks the cable from laptop.

RITESH

Doctor—

Pranav grabs the MEMORY DRIVE.

PRANAV

Bas.

He places it under the soldering iron.

SIZZLE. Blue light flickers.

ESHAN

Dad!

PRANAV

Truth dikhana aasaan hota hai, Eshan. Truth sehna nahi.

Memory drive melts. Prototype screen dies.

Ritesh's face hardens for the first time.

RITESH

You just destroyed a billion-dollar future.

Pranav exhales, exhausted.

PRANAV

Nahi. Maine jhooth ka future destroy kiya.

Eshan looks at his father, then the dead device.

ESHAN

Toh ab?

Pranav gives a tired half-smile.

PRANAV

Ab hum real memory banaenge.

Ritesh adjusts his watch, regaining composure.

RITESH

Very poetic. But useless.

ESHAN

Better than profitable.

A beat.

The lab is quiet except fluorescent buzz.

PRANAV

Ritesh... aapko jo dikhna tha, woh dikh gaya.

RITESH

Aur aapko?

PRANAV

Mujhe meri sabse badi galti.

Ritesh's smile returns, thin and unreadable.

RITESH

■■■ ■■, Doctor... impressive.

He heads to the door.

ESHAN

Aap kahin nahi ja rahe?

Ritesh pauses, turns.

RITESH

Main? Main toh bas apni version le kar jaa raha hoon.

He exits.

Silence.

Eshan nikaal deta hai apne earbuds.

ESHAN

Dad...

PRANAV

Hm?

ESHAN

Agar machine sach nahi dikha rahi thi... toh jo main dekh raha tha, woh kya tha?

Pranav looks at the dead prototype.

PRANAV

Jo tum sabse zyada maante ho.

Eshan absorbs that.

FADE OUT.

THE END