



THE LAST TRAIN HOME

A Slice of Life/Family 3-Character Screenplay in Hinglish

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LOGLINE: A father waits for a train that may not come, while his two adult sons arrive separately after years of living with the same unresolved family silence. What begins as a practical discussion about money and care turns into a painful argument over who abandoned whom. The final beat reveals the father never intended to travel—he called them there to hand over the house keys and force them to choose whether they are still a family.

CAST / CHARACTERS: FORMAT: 3-Character Short Film (Trio Cast) | Character 1: Bharat (62)

LOCATION: A nearly empty railway waiting room late evening, lit by yellow tube lights and the distant flicker of platform signage. Benches, a tea stall counter, and a slow ceiling fan give the space a nostalgic, lived-in feel.

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FADE IN:

INT. RAILWAY WAITING ROOM - LATE EVENING

Peeli tube lights. Dheemi ghoomti ceiling fan. Bahar platform signage ki thodi si flicker. Bench, tea stall counter, do kulhads, timetable board.

BHARAT (62), wool cap aur cloth bag ke saath, bench par baitha hai. Uske haath mein TRAIN TICKET hai.

Woh ticket ko dekh raha hai.

TEA STALL WAALA frame mein nahi aata. Sirf counter aur kulhad dikhte hain.

Door se footsteps.

NAVEEN (35), office shirt, tired eyes, defensive posture, andar aata hai.

NAVEEN

Papa, raat ke 10 baje bulaya hai. Kya emergency hai?

BHARAT

Emergency nahi. Zaroori baat hai.

NAVEEN

(looking at ticket)

Train pakadni thi toh seedha bol dete.

BHARAT

Haan... train hi toh hai.

Naveen sighs. Bench ke edge par baithta hai, distance bana ke.

NAVEEN

Aur paise ka kya scene hai? Agar koi problem hai toh batao.

BHARAT

Sab kuch paise se hi toh shuru hota hai tumhare ghar mein?

NAVEEN

Mere ghar mein? Papa, main aapka beta hoon. Employee nahi.

Steps again.

KUNAL (33), casual kurta, gentle expression, packed lunch box ke saath enter karta hai.

KUNAL

Main late toh nahi ho gaya?

NAVEEN

Hero entry perfect timing pe hoti hai.

KUNAL

Lunch box laaya hoon. Aapne khaya hoga socha.

NAVEEN

Waah. Family reunion aur tiffin bhi.

BHARAT

(softly)

Baith jao, dono.

Kunal bench par dusri side baithta hai. Lunch box uske ghutne par.

BHARAT

Main kal subah ki train se jaa raha hoon.

NAVEEN

Kahan?

BHARAT

Kahin bhi. Ab bas thoda change chahiye.

KUNAL

Papa, aap aise achanak...

NAVEEN

Achanak? Inko achanak ka shauk hai.

BHARAT

Naveen.

NAVEEN

Kya? Main practical baat kar raha hoon. Daawai, bills, ghar ka kharcha—

BHARAT

Aur main?

Silence.

KUNAL

Papa, aap tension mat lo. Main dekh lunga.

NAVEEN

Tum? Tum dekh loge? Tum toh bas bolte ho.

KUNAL

Aur aap? Aap bas judge karte ho.

NAVEEN

Main? Main office sambhaal raha hoon. Main hi sab kar raha hoon.

KUNAL

Haan, aur main kya? Main kya kar raha tha jab aap ghar se nikal ke “busy” ho gaye the?

NAVEEN

Busy? Main bills bhar raha tha!

KUNAL

Aur main ghar sambhaal raha tha!

NAVEEN

Ghar sambhala? Papa ke saath chipak ke rehna ghar sambhalna nahi hota.

KUNAL

Aur aapka "main bada hoon" bolke sab chhod dena bhi zimmedari nahi hoti.

Bharat dono ko dekhta hai. Thaka hua, hurt.

BHARAT

Bas. Bahut ho gaya.

NAVEEN

Papa, aap chup rahiye. Main aur Kunal settle kar rahe hain.

BHARAT

(quietly)

Haan. Yehi toh problem hai.

Bharat apna cloth bag kholta hai. Andar kapde, ek folded paper, aur ek chhoti KEY RING.

Kunal aur Naveen dono alert.

BHARAT

Main train se jaane wala nahi tha.

NAVEEN

Kya?

BHARAT

Ticket bas bahana tha. Tum dono ko yahan bulane ka.

Bharat ticket bench par rakh deta hai.

BHARAT (CONT'D)

Aur ye ghar ki keys.

Woh keys table-like tea counter par rakh deta hai.

NAVEEN

Papa, aap kya kar rahe ho?

BHARAT

Jo pehle karna chahiye tha.

KUNAL

Aap humein test kar rahe the?

BHARAT

Nahi.

(beat)

Main dekh raha tha. Ki mere baad tum log ek dusre ko choose karte ho ya sirf apni-apni duty.

NAVEEN

Papa...

BHARAT

Main thak gaya hoon, Naveen. Main beech ka deewar ban gaya tha. Ek ghar mein do ghar.

KUNAL

Aisa mat bolo.

BHARAT

Toh kya bolun? Ki mujhe paise chahiye? Mujhe dawa chahiye? Mujhe koi aur chahiye?

He looks at both.

BHARAT (CONT'D)

Mujhe bas itna batao—kya aaj ke baad bhi tum bhai ho?

Silence.

Ceiling fan ki awaaz aur gehri lagti hai.

Kunal slowly lunch box kholta hai. Ek roti nikal kar Bharat ke saamne rakh deta hai.

KUNAL

Pehle khana kha lo.

Naveen keys ko dekhta hai. Phir Kunal ko.

NAVEEN

(softening)

Papa... ghar aapka bhi hai.

(beat)

Aur Kunal ka bhi.

KUNAL

Aur aapka bhi, bhai.

Bharat ki aankhen nam. Woh hansi dabata hai.

BHARAT

Bas... itna bolne mein itne saal lag gaye?

NAVEEN

Aapne train ka drama kyun kiya?

BHARAT

Kyuki seedha bolta toh tum dono sunte nahi.

A beat.

Announcement speaker se distant platform call.

ANNOUNCEMENT (V.O.)

Train number...

Bharat uthta hai. Ticket bench par hi rehne deta hai.

Woh keys ko dekhte hue dono beton ke beech se guzarta hai.

BHARAT

Ghar ka faisla tum log karo.

(beat)

Main bas itna chahta hoon... ki jab main wapas aaun,
ghar ek ho.

Naveen aur Kunal ek dusre ko dekhte hain. First time, no defense. Only guilt and hope.

Bharat exits toward the platform light.

Kunal lunch box band karta hai.

Naveen keys uthata hai.

Dono bench ke dono ends par baith jaate hain—thoda door, lekin saath.

FADE OUT.

THE END