



THE TENANT ON THE ROOF

A Horror/Supernatural 3-Character Screenplay in Hinglish

Written by
Story Dil Se Team
(storydilse.in)

LOGLINE: The building owner and caretaker confront a new tenant who has been heard walking on the roof every night despite never leaving his room. As the rain grows heavier, the tenant reveals details about the building no stranger should know, including a death everyone agreed to forget. The final reveal is that the tenant is not haunting the building—he is the only one who remembers what happened up there.

CAST / CHARACTERS: FORMAT: 3-Character Short Film (Trio Cast) | Character 1: Manoj (45)

LOCATION: A rooftop terrace at night during a light drizzle, lit by a single sodium streetlight and the weak glow from nearby windows. Water puddles reflect distorted shadows of water tanks and clotheslines.

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FADE IN:

EXT. BUILDING ROOFTOP TERRACE - NIGHT

Light drizzle. Ek SINGLE SODIUM STREETLIGHT peeli, sickly roshni phenk raha hai. Paani ke puddles mein WATER TANKS aur CLOTHESLINES ki tedhi parchaiyan hil rahi hain.

MANOJ (45), expensive kurta, irritated face, keys ka bunch ghumaate hue, terrace par aata hai. SANJAY (38), faded vest, wary eyes, flashlight pakde, uske peeche.

MANOJ

(ghurte hue)

Teen raat se roof pe kadam ki awaz aa rahi hai. Aur tum bol rahe ho, "shayad hawa hogi"?

SANJAY

Hawa itni regular nahi hoti, sahib.

MANOJ

Bakwaas band karo. New tenant ka naam kya hai?

SANJAY

Ali. Room 14. Par... woh room se bahar nikla hi nahi.

Manoj stops. Keys jhataкта hai.

MANOJ

Matlab?

SANJAY

Matlab main khud dekh chuka hoon. Raat bhar room band. Subah bhi. Phir bhi roof pe... bare feet ki awaz.

A beat.

Hawa tez. Drizzle slightly heavier.

Roof ke dusre kone se footsteps.

Ali (24), wet hair, plain T-shirt, barefoot, strangely calm, aata hai.

MANOJ

(shock se)

Tu? Tu kab upar aaya?

ALI

Main yahan tha. Main gaya hi nahi.

MANOJ

Mazak kar raha hai?

ALI

Nahin. Aap log kar rahe ho.

Sanjay flashlight Ali par daalta hai. Ali blink bhi nahi karta.

MANOJ

Dekh, naya tenant hai tu. Drama mat kar. Roof pe kaun chalta hai?

ALI

Jo bhoolna nahi chahta.

MANOJ

Kya bak raha hai?

Ali slowly water tank ki taraf dekhta hai.

ALI

Building register mein mera naam likha hai. Par ek page phaad diya gaya tha. Room 14 ka. Roof access ka. Aur us raat ka.

Sanjay freezes. Manoj's jaw tightens.

SANJAY

(low)

Ali...

MANOJ

Kya raat? Seedha bol.

Ali takes one step forward. Puddles ripple.

ALI

Woh raat jab terrace pe ek aadmi gira tha. Ya giraya gaya tha. Aur subah sabne bola- "Accident tha."

Silence.

Streetlight flickers.

MANOJ

(defensive)

Bakwaas. Aisi koi maut nahi hui thi.

ALI

Hui thi. Aur aap yahin the. Sanjay bhi.

Sanjay's flashlight trembles.

SANJAY

Main... maine bas order maana tha.

MANOJ

(exploding)

Chup!

Manoj snatches the OLD BUILDING REGISTER from Sanjay's hand. It's wet, old, yellowed. He flips pages angrily.

ALI

Uska naam mita diya tha. Par building yaad rakhti hai.

Manoj reaches a torn page. His hand stops.

INSERT - REGISTER PAGE

Room 14. Roof access. Midnight complaint. Death on terrace.

Manoj's face drains.

MANOJ

Yeh... yeh galat hai.

ALI

Galat nahi. Chhupaya gaya.

Rain grows heavier.

ALI (CONT'D)

Main haunted nahi hoon, Manoj. Main woh hoon jo yaad karta hai. Aap log bhool gaye. Isliye main har raat roof pe chalta hoon.

SANJAY

(terrified)

Toh... tu kaun hai?

Ali looks at both of them, calm as ever.

ALI

Main woh aadmi hoon jise aap logon ne marne ke baad bhi register mein zinda likh diya.

A beat. Thunder far away.

Manoj's keys slip from his hand and CLATTER onto the wet floor.

Ali points to the WATER TANK.

ALI (CONT'D)

Dekho.

Sanjay swings flashlight. On the tank: old SCRATCH MARKS, like someone clawed for help.

Sanjay recoils.

SANJAY

Ya Allah...

Manoj stares, defeated.

ALI

Ab bhi late nahi hua. Sach ko likh lo.

Ali stands in the rain, barefoot, motionless.

Manoj slowly crouches, picks up the keys, but his hand is shaking.

Sanjay clutches the register to his chest.

The streetlight FLICKERS.

Ali's reflection in the puddle lingers a beat longer than his body.

CUT TO BLACK.

END.