



THE THIRD PASSENGER

A Horror/Supernatural 3-Character Screenplay in Hinglish

Written by
Story Dil Se Team
(storydilse.in)

LOGLINE: A driver picks up a silent passenger who claims he needs to be taken home, but the route keeps changing as if the road itself is refusing to continue. A mechanic who leans into the car insists the passenger has no reflection and no pulse, while the passenger calmly describes the driver's future crash. The final reveal is that the passenger is the driver's own dead brother, returning only long enough to prevent him from taking one fatal turn.

CAST / CHARACTERS: FORMAT: 3-Character Short Film (Trio Cast) | Character 1: Sanjay (33)

LOCATION: The interior of a parked taxi at night beside a dim roadside dhaba, lit by dashboard glow and a single flickering neon sign outside. Rain streaks the windows, and the cramped car feels sealed off from the world.

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FADE IN:

EXT. ROADSIDE DHABA - NIGHT

Ek purana dhaba. Neeon sign flicker kar raha hai. Baarish tez hai. Side mein ek TAXI parked hai. Andar dashboard glow bas itni roshni deta hai jitni ek chhoti si confession ko chhupane ke liye kaafi ho.

INT. TAXI - NIGHT

SANJAY (33), unshaven, tired eyes, steering par jhuka hua. Meter chal raha hai. Phone charger latak raha hai. Car keys ignition mein.

Rear door khulta hai.

AMAN (25), wet jacket, pale face, seedha back seat mein baithta hai.

AMAN

Ghar chhod doge?

SANJAY

Itni raat ko ghar hi toh sabko yaad aata hai. Baith jao.

Sanjay taxi meter reset karta hai. Gear daalta hai. Taxi chal padti hai.

EXT. ROAD - CONTINUOUS

Baarish. Road empty. Taxi aage badhti hai.

INT. TAXI - CONTINUOUS

Silence.

SANJAY

Naam?

AMAN

Aman.

SANJAY

Bas? Itna hi?

AMAN

Raat mein zyada bolna achha nahi hota.

Sanjay hansa deta hai.

SANJAY

Wah. Passenger bhi philosopher.

Aman halka sa smile karta hai. Bahar dekh raha hai.

Sanjay left turn leta hai.

EXT. ROAD - CONTINUOUS

Taxi mudti hai.

CUT TO:

EXT. ROADSIDE DHABA - CONTINUOUS

Taxi phir wahi dhaba ke saamne aa jaati hai.

INT. TAXI - CONTINUOUS

Sanjay confused.

SANJAY

Arre... main ne turn liya tha na?

AMAN

Liya tha.

SANJAY

Toh phir yeh wahi jagah kaise?

AMAN

Shayad road ko pasand nahi aaya.

SANJAY

Mazak kar raha hai?

AMAN

Nahi.

Sanjay right turn leta hai.

EXT. ROAD - CONTINUOUS

Taxi phir loop karke dhaba ke paas.

INT. TAXI - CONTINUOUS

Sanjay ab irritated.

SANJAY

Yeh GPS ka bhoot hai ya meri kismat ka?

AMAN

Dono mein se koi bhi sahi nahi.

Sanjay rearview mirror mein dekhta hai.

AMAN ka reflection NAHI hai.

Sanjay ki grip steering par tight.

SANJAY

Mirror mein tu dikh kyun nahi raha?

AMAN

(calm)

Kyunki main wahan nahi hoon.

A beat.

Sanjay brake lagata hai. Taxi ruk jaati hai.

Outside, headlights ke paas PRKASH (46), grease-stained vest, wrench haath mein, bonnet ke paas aa kar khidki par knock karta hai.

PRAKASH

Kya problem hai bhai? Dhaba ke saamne taxi ko mandir bana ke kyun khada kiya hai?

SANJAY

Gaadi ghoom ke wahi aa rahi hai.

PRAKASH

Gaadi nahi, tum ghoom rahe ho.

Prakash khidki se jhankta hai, Aman ko notice karta hai.

PRAKASH (CONT'D)

Yeh kaun hai?

SANJAY

Passenger.

PRAKASH

Passenger? Iska saans sunayi de raha hai?

SANJAY

Kya?

Prakash aur paas jhankta hai.

PRAKASH

Pulse hai?

AMAN

(dry)

Uncle, haath andar mat daalna. Main warranty mein nahi hoon.

Prakash startled.

PRAKASH

Iski awaz toh sahi hai...

SANJAY

Maine bola na, passenger hai.

PRAKASH

Reflection dekh.

Sanjay mirror mein dekhta hai. Aman ka reflection phir bhi nahi.

SANJAY

Yeh kya bakwaas hai?

AMAN

Bakwaas nahi. Warning.

SANJAY

Kis cheez ki warning?

AMAN

Aage wale turn ki.

Prakash frowning.

PRAKASH

Kaunsa turn?

AMAN

Highway wala. Jahan tumhari speed, tumhara gussa, aur tumhari purani aadat ek saath aake crash banenge.

SANJAY

Tumhe kaise pata?

AMAN

Kyunki main us crash ka hissa tha.

Silence.

Prakash ka face hard ho jaata hai, par darr bhi hai.

PRAKASH

Sanjay... isko utaar.

SANJAY

Kaun hai yeh?

Aman apni wet jacket ka zipper dheere se kholta hai. Andar se ek purani SCHOOL ID CARD nikalti hai. Crumpled, water-stained.

Sanjay card dekhta hai.

Uska chehra blank.

Phir shock.

SANJAY

(whisper)

Nahi...

Card par same family surname.

AMAN

Tu mujhe bhool gaya, bhai.

Sanjay ki aankhon mein tears aur horror mix.

SANJAY

Aman...?

Prakash piche hat jaata hai. Uska skepticism toot chuka hai.

PRAKASH

Arre... yeh toh...

AMAN

Tu mujhe us din chhod ke aage nikal gaya tha. Main nahi nikal paya.

Sanjay ka haath kaanp raha hai. Car keys ignition mein.

SANJAY

Main... main toh...

AMAN

Jaanta hoon.

(beat)

Par aaj mat jaana.

SANJAY

Kis turn ki baat kar raha hai?

AMAN

Wahi turn, jahan road wet hai. Oil spill hai. Truck ulta pada hai. Agar tune left liya, taxi ditch mein jaayegi.

PRAKASH

Sanjay, sun le.

SANJAY

Yeh sab kaise...?

AMAN

Kyunki main dead hoon, Sanjay. Tujhe bachane ke liye thodi der ke liye aaya hoon.

A beat. Rain louder.

Sanjay finally breathes.

SANJAY

Tu... sach mein?

Aman nods.

AMAN

Ab seedha le ja.

Sanjay apni aankhen band karta hai. Phir steering wheel ko pakad ke gaadi start karta hai.

SANJAY

(to himself)

Seedha... seedha...

Taxi aage badhti hai.

EXT. ROAD - CONTINUOUS

Taxi loop se nikalti hai. Road ab seedhi dikh rahi hai.

INT. TAXI - CONTINUOUS

Meter achanak ruk jaata hai.

Rearview mirror mein Aman ka chehra dhundhla.

AMAN

(soft)

Is baar ghar pahucha dena.

Aman ki seat khaali.

Sanjay stunned.

PRAKASH

(quiet)

Chala gaya...

Back seat par sirf thandi nami aur crumpled school photo ka corner.

Sanjay mirror mein apne piche dekhta hai.

Ek second ke liye Aman ka reflection dikhai deta hai.

Phir gayab.

Sanjay ignition pe haath rakhta hai. Phone charger se halki vibration aati hai.

Prakash bahar nikalta hai, door ko dekh kar, phir Sanjay ko.

PRAKASH

Ab seedha ja.

Sanjay nod karta hai.

Taxi start hoti hai aur road par nikal jaati hai.

EXT. ROAD - CONTINUOUS

Taxi rain mein door chali jaati hai. Dhaba ka neon sign flicker karta rehta hai.

FADE OUT.

THE END