



INHERITANCE

A Emotional Drama 3-Character Screenplay in Hinglish

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LOGLINE: A father gathers his two sons to divide his estate, but the discussion quickly turns into a decades-old competition for approval. The elder son expects the business, the younger expects the house, and both are stunned when the father gives them neither in the way they imagined. The twist is that the true inheritance is a sealed letter to be opened only after his death, and inside is the one sentence each son has been waiting years to hear: that he was loved exactly as he was, not as a winner.

CAST / CHARACTERS: FORMAT: 3-Character Short Film (Trio Cast) | Character 1: Raghunath (71)

LOCATION: A family study room in late evening, lit by a desk lamp and the amber glow of a hallway light. Books, old certificates, and a closed wooden drawer create a solemn, inheritance-heavy atmosphere.

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INT. FAMILY STUDY ROOM - LATE EVENING

Desk lamp ki peeli roshni table par gir rahi hai. Hallway se amber light room ke kone ko halka sa warm kar rahi hai. Books, old certificates, ek closed wooden drawer, aur table par property papers rakhe hain. Ek old photograph aur ek sealed envelope bhi nazar aa raha hai.

RAGHUNATH (71), traditional kurta mein, frail hands ke saath seedhe baithe hain. Unke saamne SIDHARTH (45), formal watch ke saath, restrained frustration mein, aur VARUN (42), simple shirt mein quietly wounded expression ke saath khade hain.

Ek pal ka silence.

RAGHUNATH

(■■■■■)

Baith jao. Aaj baat seedhi karni hai.

Siddharth aur Varun baith jaate hain, lekin dono ke shoulders tight hain.

RAGHUNATH table par property papers slide karte hain.

SIDHARTH

(instant, controlled)

Toh finally.

VARUN

(softly)

Haan. Finally.

Raghunath sealed envelope ko papers ke paas rakhte hain.

RAGHUNATH

Business, ghar, aur jo kuchh bacha hai... sab baantna hai.

SIDHARTH

(leaning in)

Business mere paas hona chahiye, Papa. Main sambhal sakta hoon.

VARUN

Aur ghar?

Raghunath Varun ki taraf dekhte hain. Varun house keys ko notice karta hai.

VARUN (CONT'D)

(half-smile, wounded)

Achha. Keys bhi yahin hain.

SIDHARTH

(scoffs)

Tumhe ghar chahiye? Tum school principal ho, Varun. Ghar chalana aur school chalana same nahi hota.

VARUN

(steady)

Aur business chalana aur family ko samajhna bhi same nahi hota, bhai.

Siddharth property papers ko apni taraf sarakane ki koshish karta hai.

SIDHARTH

Papa, maine company ko bachaya. Losses recover kiye. Suppliers handle kiye. Main deserve karta hoon.

VARUN

Maine maa ke baad yeh ghar sambhala. Har festival, har repair, har khamoshi.

SIDHARTH

(taunting)

Khamoshi sambhalna koi achievement nahi hoti.

VARUN

(look straight)

Kabhi-kabhi wahi sabse badi achievement hoti hai.

Raghunath dono ko dekhte hain. Phir halki si, thaki hui muskaan.

RAGHUNATH

Tum dono ab bhi bachche ho.

SIDHARTH

Kya?

RAGHUNATH

Bas salary badh gayi hai. Ego ki EMI bhi.

Varun ki hansni nikal jaati hai. Siddharth irritate hota hai, phir chup.

Raghunath wooden drawer ki taraf ishara karte hain.

RAGHUNATH (CONT'D)

Drawer kholo.

Varun drawer kholta hai. Andar ek aur SEALED ENVELOPE.

Siddharth ka chehra sakht.

SIDHARTH

Yeh kya mazaak hai?

VARUN

Papa?

RAGHUNATH

Mazaak nahi.

He taps the envelope.

RAGHUNATH (CONT'D)

Yeh tum dono ke liye hai. Mere baad kholna.

SIDHARTH

(angry)

Toh abhi kyon bulaya? Humein yahan khada karke kya prove karna tha?

VARUN

(quiet hurt)

Haan, Papa. Itne saalon baad bhi... hum bas wait hi karte rahe?

Raghunath takes the old photograph. It's a picture of the three of them, younger, with their mother in the center.

RAGHUNATH

Is photo mein jo aadmi hai na...

(beat)

...woh tum dono ko compare nahi karta tha. Galti meri thi. Main bolna nahi seekha.

Siddharth and Varun fall silent.

RAGHUNATH (CONT'D)

Siddharth, tu successful hai. Varun, tu responsible hai. Par main kabhi yeh nahi keh paaya ki tum dono mere liye bas beta the.

He swallows, frail hands trembling slightly.

RAGHUNATH (CONT'D)

Na winner. Na loser.

A heavy beat.

SIDHARTH

(soft, uncertain)

Toh... business?

RAGHUNATH

Meri maut ke baad.

VARUN

Aur ghar?

RAGHUNATH

Meri maut ke baad.

Siddharth exhales sharply, stunned.

SIDHARTH

Toh inheritance kya hai?

Raghunath looks at the sealed envelope.

RAGHUNATH

Yeh.

He points to the envelope.

RAGHUNATH (CONT'D)

Usmein ek sentence hai. Jo main zinda rehkar bol nahi saka.

VARUN

(whisper)

Kya sentence?

Raghunath looks at both sons, eyes proud and wet.

RAGHUNATH

Wahi jo tum dono saalon se sunna chahte the.

Beat.

RAGHUNATH (CONT'D)

Ki tum dono ko main pyaar karta hoon... bilkul waise hi jaise tum ho.

Silence.

Siddharth's jaw loosens. Varun looks away, blinking hard.

The hallway light dims slightly. The sealed envelope sits between the three men like the real inheritance.

FADE OUT.