



BROTHER'S SIGNAL

A Mystery/Crime 3-Character Screenplay in Hinglish

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LOGLINE: Two detectives question a witness about a murder seen from a neighboring apartment, but each brotherly partner suspects the other of hiding evidence. Sana insists she saw the killer's face only in reflection, and she keeps adjusting her story to test them. The twist: the real crime is not the murder outside, but the evidence one detective planted to protect his own brother.

CAST / CHARACTERS: FORMAT: 3-Character Short Film (Trio Cast) | Character 1: Inspector Dev (41)

LOCATION: A small police interrogation room with a metal table, one ceiling fan, and a harsh overhead light that creates deep shadows.

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INT. POLICE INTERROGATION ROOM - NIGHT

Ek chhota, claustrophobic room. Metal table. Ek ceiling fan dheere ghoom raha hai. Harsh overhead light. Deep shadows.

INSPECTOR DEV (41), plain clothes, intense eyes, notepad aur pen ke saath table ke ek taraf baitha hai.

INSPECTOR KABIR (37), neat beard, skeptical expression, radio belt par clipped, dusri taraf khada hai.

SANA (30), simple salwar suit, shaken but sharp, cracked phone pakde table ke saamne baithi hai.

DEV

Sana ji, seedha boliye. Aapne murder dekha kaise?

SANA

Dekha... directly nahi. Reflection mein.

Kabir eyebrow raise karta hai.

KABIR

Reflection? Kis cheez mein? Window? Mirror? Ya imagination?

SANA

(dry)

Imagination hoti toh main yahan nahi hoti, Sir.

Dev pen se note karta hai.

DEV

Neighboring apartment. Exact time?

SANA

Raat ke... shayad 10:12. Ya 10:14.

KABIR

Shayad?

SANA

Aap logon ka case bhi toh shayad hi hai.

Dev almost smirks. Kabir nahi.

DEV

Face kaisa tha?

SANA

Face... reflection mein tha. Par jo dikha, woh saamne wala nahi tha.

Silence.

KABIR

Yeh sentence tumne pehle nahi bola.

SANA

Aapne pehle poocha bhi nahi tha.

Dev notepad ka page palat ta hai.

DEV

Aapne phone se record kiya tha?

Sana cracked phone ko table par rakh deti hai.

SANA

Haan. Par screen toot gayi thi. Aur awaaz...

KABIR

Awaaz kya?

SANA

"Recording band karo."

Kabir ka face tight ho jaata hai. Dev usse side-eye karta hai.

DEV

Kisne bola?

SANA

Reflection mein jo tha... usne.

Kabir table ke edge ko pakad leta hai.

KABIR

Aap story badal rahi ho.

SANA

Nahi, Sir. Main aap dono ko dekh rahi hoon. Kaun pehle toot ta hai.

Dev apna pen rok deta hai.

DEV

Interesting.

KABIR

Yeh witness nahi, trap hai.

SANA

Bilkul. Ab dono me se kaun phansa hai, dekhte hain.

Dev ek evidence envelope table par rakh deta hai.

Kabir ki aankhen envelope par tik jaati hain. Ek micro-beat.

SANA

(soft)

Aha. Yeh reaction kaafi hai.

DEV

Kya reaction?

SANA

Jis cheez ko aapne chupaya tha, usko dekh kar insaan aise react karta hai.

Dev envelope kholta hai.

Andar ek blood-stained cloth aur ek keychain.

Kabir ka radio suddenly crackle karta hai.

RADIO (V.O.)

--Unit 4, respond--

Kabir radio ko quickly mute karta hai.

DEV

(staring)

Yeh keychain... Kabir, tumhari gaadi ki hai.

KABIR

Nahi.

DEV

Jhooth mat bolo.

KABIR

Main ne kuch nahi kiya.

Sana phone uthati hai. Screen par cracked glass ke neeche ek hidden micro-SD chip chipki hui hai.

SANA

Main bhi jhooth nahi bol rahi. Main test kar rahi thi.

KABIR

Test?

SANA

Kaun pehle evidence pe react karta hai. Aur kaun pehle guilt pe.

Dev ka face hard ho jaata hai.

DEV

Yeh chip...

SANA

Haan. Recording ka backup. Murder ka nahi. Cover-up ka.

Kabir ki saans rukti hai.

KABIR

Dev...

Dev usse dekhta hai, cold.

DEV

Tumne evidence plant kiya.

KABIR

Main apne bhai ko bachane ke liye--

DEV

(sharp)

Toh murder se bada crime kar diya.

Sana ek step back leti hai.

SANA

Toh asli killer kaun tha?

Dev envelope band karta hai.

DEV

Murder se pehle jo signal gaya tha, woh crime ka tha.
Aur evidence ka signal... Kabir ne jhooth bolke
bheja.

Kabir chhup jaata hai.

Dev notepad close karta hai.

DEV (CONT'D)

Ab bolo. Kaunsa bhai bachana tha?

Kabir answer nahi deta.

Sana apna cracked phone seene se laga leti hai.

Ceiling fan ghoomta rehta hai.

Overhead light aur harsh ho jaati hai.

CUT TO BLACK.