



THE PATIENT'S DAUGHTER

A Emotional Drama 3-Character Screenplay in Hinglish

Written by
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LOGLINE: A doctor tries to mediate between a son who cannot afford his mother's treatment and a daughter who has not spoken to the family in years. The son accuses the daughter of abandoning them, while she accuses him of hiding the truth about their father's death. The climax reveals the mother asked the doctor to bring them together because she already knew the diagnosis would force the family to choose forgiveness or silence.

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

LOCATION: A hospital waiting area beside an ICU corridor, lit by cold fluorescent lights and a small window of evening sun fading outside.

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FADE IN:

INT. HOSPITAL WAITING AREA / ICU CORRIDOR - EVENING

Cold fluorescent lights. A small window shows the last orange strip of evening sun fading out.

At the end of the corridor: ICU DOOR. Red light ON.

DR. SAMEER (45), white coat, loosened buttons, tired eyes, stands with a medical chart.

RAHUL (22), college hoodie, clutching a crumpled HOSPITAL BILL, paces like a caged tiger.

ALIA (40), simple handbag on shoulder, red eyes, composed but hurt, stands near the wall.

A beat.

RAHUL

(agitated)

Doctor, bas itna bata do—aur kitna paisa lagega?

DR. SAMEER

(calming)

Rahul, "bas itna" hospital mein kabhi bas itna nahi hota.

RAHUL

Dekhiye, mazak mat kijiye. Bill dekh ke hi meri saans atak rahi hai.

He waves the bill.

DR. SAMEER

Main mazak nahi kar raha. Main bas sach bol raha hoon.

ALIA watches silently.

RAHUL

(to Sameer)

Sach? Sach yeh hai ki meri maa ICU mein hai aur mere paas aadha bhi nahi hai.

DR. SAMEER

Treatment critical hai. Time bhi.

RAHUL

Aur paise?

DR. SAMEER

Woh bhi.

Rahul turns, sees Alia for the first time properly.

RAHUL

(irritated)

Aap yahan kyun khadi ho?

ALIA

Kyuki mujhe bulaya gaya tha.

RAHUL

Kaun bulayega aapko? Aap toh gayab hi thi na?

ALIA flinches, but stays composed.

ALIA

Gayab? Interesting word.

RAHUL

Haan. Jab ghar mein sab toot raha tha tab aapki "interest" kahaan thi?

DR. SAMEER steps in.

DR. SAMEER

Rahul, please—

RAHUL

Nahi doctor. Aaj nahi. Yeh aayi hai aur ab drama karegi?

ALIA

(quiet, sharp)

Drama? Tumne mujhe ek call tak nahi kiya.

RAHUL

Kyun karta? Aapne pehle bhi family chhodi thi.

ALIA

Maine family chhodi?

She laughs once, bitterly.

ALIA (CONT'D)

Tumne mujhe bataya hi nahi papa kaise mare.

Rahul freezes.

RAHUL

(uneasy)

Kya?

ALIA

Mujhe laga tum logon ne mujhe nikaal diya. Tumne ek message tak nahi bheja. Aur ab tum bol rahe ho main bhaag gayi?

RAHUL

(defensive)

Main... main maa ko sambhal raha tha.

ALIA

Aur sach ko chhupa rahe the?

A beat.

DR. SAMEER clears his throat, trying to soften the air.

DR. SAMEER

Family meetings mein usually bill pehle aata hai. Aaj lag raha hai trauma pehle aa gaya.

Nobody smiles.

RAHUL

(to Sameer)

Doctor, is paper mein treatment hai ya shaadi ka budget?

DR. SAMEER

(deadpan)

Aajkal dono ka rate almost same hai.

A tiny, painful pause. Even Rahul almost smiles, then stops.

ALIA

(sudden, hurt)

Tum dono same ho. Problem ko pehle chhupao, phir emergency banao.

RAHUL

Aapko kya pata? Aap toh gayab thi.

ALIA

Main gayab nahi thi, Rahul. Main nikali gayi thi.

Rahul looks at her, confused.

ALIA (CONT'D)

Aur tumne ek baar bhi pucha nahi.

Silence.

DR. SAMEER opens the prescription file from his pocket.

DR. SAMEER

Enough.

They look at him.

DR. SAMEER (CONT'D)

Tumhari maa ne admission ke waqt mujhe yeh file di thi.

He holds up the PRESCRIPTION FILE.

RAHUL

Maa ne?

DR. SAMEER

Haan. Unhone kaha tha—agar family mein koi aaya, toh pehle tum dono ko ek saath bulana.

ALIA

(soft)

Kyun?

DR. SAMEER

Kyuki unhe lag raha tha diagnosis se pehle sach bolna zaroori hai. Aur sach se pehle...

He looks at both.

DR. SAMEER (CONT'D)

...tum dono ka ek room mein aana.

Rahul and Alia stare.

RAHUL

Kya matlab?

DR. SAMEER

Matlab, unhone mujhe bola tha—

He glances at the medical chart.

DR. SAMEER (CONT'D)

—unki sabse badi dawa tum dono ka milna hai.

A long silence.

The ICU red light hums in the background.

RAHUL lowers the bill.

RAHUL

(voice breaking)

Main... main paise arrange karunga.

ALIA opens her handbag, takes out her wallet and cards.

ALIA

Main bhi.

Rahul looks at her, ashamed.

RAHUL

Main tumhe batana chahta tha...

ALIA

Aur main sunna chahti thi.

Another beat.

RAHUL

Papa ke baad... main bas darr gaya tha.

ALIA

Main bhi.

DR. SAMEER watches them, tired but relieved.

DR. SAMEER

Good. Ab pehle ek dusre ko dekh lo. Treatment main dekh lunga.

Rahul and Alia finally look at each other—not as enemies, but as siblings who arrived too late.

Outside the window, the last sunlight fades.

The ICU DOOR remains closed.

But the waiting room is no longer empty.

FADE OUT.