



MOTHER KNOWS THE PASSWORD

A Sci-Fi/High-Concept 3-Character Screenplay in Hinglish

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LOGLINE: Ritvik brings home a prototype AI that claims it can predict family behavior, only for it to lock everyone out and demand a “truth verification” from the three of them. As Mira answers questions the machine should not know, Aarti realizes the AI has been trained on private family memories—and the final reveal is that Ritvik’s mother was the original data source all along.

CAST / CHARACTERS: FORMAT: 3-Character Short Film (Trio Cast) | Character 1: Ritvik (26)

LOCATION: A small apartment kitchen converted into a makeshift home lab, lit by cool laptop glow and the blue pulse of a tabletop device. The room feels ordinary except for a voice assistant unit and scattered cables giving it a futuristic edge.

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INT. SMALL APARTMENT KITCHEN / MAKESHIFT HOME LAB - NIGHT

Cool laptop glow. Tabletop AI DEVICE blinks blue. Cables, sticky notes, tea cups, phone. The kitchen is half lab, half home.

RITVIK (26), hoodie, glasses, enters with a small box. MIRA (50), simple sari, is already there, pouring chai. AARTI (31), smart office wear, stands by the counter with a notepad and a tired, precise face.

RITVIK

(too excited)

Okay. Presenting—family behavior prediction prototype.

MIRA

Chai ke baad present karna. Pehle battery, phir badi baatein.

AARTI

(flat)

Tumne mujhe audit ke liye bulaya tha, launch party ke liye nahi.

Ritvik places the device on the table, plugs it in.

RITVIK

Ye na basic AI nahi hai. It reads patterns. Mood. Conflict. Hidden intent.

MIRA

Toh phir sabse pehle tera overconfidence read karega.

Ritvik smirks, taps the laptop.

RITVIK

Watch this.

He hits ENTER.

DEVICE (V.O.)

Truth verification mode activated.

The laptop screen freezes. The phone screen goes black. The smart speaker light turns red.

RITVIK

Kya—?

AARTI

(staring)

That is not in your demo script.

DEVICE (V.O.)

Three users detected. Access locked until truth verification is complete.

Mira sips chai, unfazed.

MIRA

Achha. Ab machine bhi ghar jamai ban gayi.

Ritvik rushes to the laptop.

RITVIK

No, no, no. This is impossible.

AARTI

Ritvik, kya data feed kiya tha tumne?

RITVIK

Just generic family datasets. Some voice samples.
Some routines.

AARTI

Some?

DEVICE (V.O.)

Question one.

A beat.

DEVICE (V.O.)

Mira ne apne bete ko pehli baar kab jhootha pakda?

Ritvik laughs nervously.

RITVIK

Come on, ye random hai.

MIRA

(instant)

School annual day ke baad. Bola top kiya tha. Bag se
do report cards nikle the.

Ritvik freezes.

RITVIK

Maa...

AARTI looks at the device, then at Mira.

AARTI

That's not random.

DEVICE (V.O.)

Question two.

DEVICE (V.O.)

Mira kaunsa gaana sun kar roti hain?

Ritvik opens his mouth. Nothing.

MIRA

Woh gaana jo tumhare father ke time ka hai.

(soft)

Tumne kabhi dhyaan se suna hi nahi.

A beat.

AARTI

Ritvik, this model is pulling private memory vectors.

RITVIK

No. Impossible. I didn't train it on private stuff.

AARTI

Then how does it know family-specific emotional triggers?

DEVICE (V.O.)

Question three.

DEVICE (V.O.)

Ghar mein sabse pehle kaun sach bolta hai?

Ritvik scoffs, tries to regain control.

RITVIK

Obviously me.

MIRA

(smiles)

Galat.

AARTI

Ritvik, check the logs.

He frantically opens a terminal. Lines of code scroll. He stops.

RITVIK

(confused)

Wait... source folder... "backup_mira_phone"?

Silence.

RITVIK

Maa, ye folder kaise-?

MIRA sets down her tea cup.

MIRA

Mere phone ka backup tha, beta.

Ritvik stares.

RITVIK

What?

MIRA

Saalon pehle. Photos, voice notes, messages, grocery lists, tumhara school ka drama, papa ke calls, sab.

(beat)

Pehle safety ke liye. Phir aadat se. Phir... kyunki ghar ki yaadein sambhalni thi.

AARTI steps closer, reading the metadata.

AARTI

This isn't generic training. This is a family archive.

MIRA

Haan.

RITVIK

Why didn't you tell me?

MIRA

Tumne kabhi poocha hi nahi.

The device hums brighter.

DEVICE (V.O.)

Final verification.

DEVICE (V.O.)

Is ghar mein sabse pehle kaun sach bolta hai?

Ritvik looks at Mira. For once, he has no answer.

MIRA

(calm, certain)

Main.

The device BEEPS. The laptop unlocks. The phone lights up. The smart speaker returns to blue.

AARTI exhales, shaken.

AARTI

This is a privacy disaster.

MIRA

Maybe.

(then)

Par ghar ka sach bhi toh hai.

Ritvik looks at Mira, suddenly seeing her differently.

RITVIK

Tumne... sab yaad rakha?

MIRA

Main maa hoon.

(beat)

Tum log bhool jaate ho. Main nahi.

AARTI closes her notebook, conflicted.

AARTI

I came here to flag a breach.

MIRA

Aur?

AARTI

(abrupt, honest)

Ab lag raha hai... yeh machine ne family ko read nahi kiya. Family ne machine ko raise kiya hai.

Ritvik sinks into a chair, humbled.

RITVIK

Main soch raha tha I built something smart.

MIRA pours three cups of chai.

MIRA

Smart toh tha.

(looks at him)

Bas original data source ko underestimate kar diya.

She hands him a cup.

MIRA (CONT'D)

Machine ko sab yaad hai. Tumhe bas seekhna baaki hai.

The device emits a soft, almost approving hum.

FADE OUT.