



PASSWORD: MOTHER

A Psychological Thriller 3-Character Screenplay in Hinglish

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LOGLINE: Nisha discovers her mother's laptop is protected by a password that is actually a phrase from her childhood, and Bharati knows exactly why. As the two younger women accuse each other of betrayal, the grandmother quietly steers the conversation toward a hidden financial transfer. The twist reveals the real password is not "mother" at all—it is the name of the child Radhika gave up years ago.

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

LOCATION: A hotel room during a family conference, lit by a bedside lamp and city neon leaking through curtains. The single bed, desk, and minibar create a polished but claustrophobic setting.

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FADE IN:

INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Ek polished, claustrophobic hotel room. Bedside lamp ka warm light. Curtains ke through city neon ki blue-pink streaks. SINGLE BED, DESK, MINIBAR. Laptop desk par. Ek ENVELOPE bed ke corner par. FAMILY PHOTO bedside table par. NOTEPAD open. Hotel KEY CARD desk ke paas.

RADHIKA (45), power suit, expensive watch, controlled face, khadi hai near window. NISHA (23), casual clothes, laptop bag shoulder par, room ke beech. BHARATI (70), sari mein, deceptively frail, chair par baithi, phone haath mein, jaise use karna bhool gayi ho.

NISHA

(ghur kar)

Mom, password daal.

RADHIKA

It's office laptop, Nisha. Drama mat bana.

NISHA

Drama? Aapka laptop kholne ke liye mere childhood ka phrase try kar rahi hoon aur kuch bhi kaam nahi kar raha.

She types.

ON SCREEN: PASSWORD INCORRECT.

NISHA

Mumma. Fail. Mother. Fail. "Main hoon na." Fail.

RADHIKA

(sans tight)

Mujhe apne files protect karne ka right hai.

NISHA

Aur mujhe apni family se sach jaane ka right hai.

BHARATI

(softly)

Sach ka password usually simple hota hai. Bas dil ko pasand nahi aata.

Nisha turns to Bharati.

NISHA

Dadi, aapko pata hai na?

BHARATI

Mujhe bahut kuch pata hota hai, beti. Tum logon ko bas tab yaad aata hai jab zarurat hoti hai.

Radhika moves away from the window, controlled.

RADHIKA

Tum dono milke mujhe corner kar rahi ho.

NISHA

Corner? Aapne toh poori zindagi humein bahar rakha hai.

She points at the laptop.

NISHA (CONT'D)

Conference ke naam pe meetings, calls, envelopes—sab kuch secret. Mera naam family mein hai ya footnote mein?

RADHIKA

Enough.

BHARATI

(looking at envelope)

Enough tab hota hai jab paisa transfer ho jaaye.

Silence.

NISHA

Kya?

BHARATI

Desk ke neeche jo envelope hai, usmein room key nahi. Hisaab hai.

Nisha snatches the envelope, opens it. Inside: a folded note, bank transfer printout, and a handwritten name on the notepad.

NISHA

(reading)

Yeh kya hai?

RADHIKA

(too quick)

Kuch nahi.

BHARATI

Tumhari mother ka “kuch nahi” kaafi mehenga padta hai.

Nisha looks at the transfer details.

NISHA

Hidden transfer? Mom, are you laundering money?

RADHIKA

No. It's a family settlement.

NISHA

Family settlement ya family betrayal?

BHARATI

Betrayal ka sabse purana form hota hai—naam badal dena.

Radhika freezes.

NISHA

Dadi?

BHARATI picks up the FAMILY PHOTO. She studies it with a sharp, painful memory.

BHARATI

Is photo mein ek bachcha missing hai.

Nisha stares. Radhika's jaw clenches.

RADHIKA

Please don't.

BHARATI

Kyun? Kyunki office ke password se zyada dangerous hai woh naam?

NISHA

Kaunsa naam?

BHARATI

(realizing)

Mother nahi.

She gestures to the laptop.

BHARATI (CONT'D)

Try the name Radhika gave to the child she left behind.

Radhika's controlled face cracks.

RADHIKA

Bharati...

NISHA

(whispers)

Left behind?

BHARATI

Saal pehle. Adoption file. Career. Image. Marriage. Sab bachane ke liye ek bachcha chhod diya gaya.

Nisha steps back, stunned.

NISHA

You're saying... I'm not—

RADHIKA

No. Nisha, listen—

NISHA

No, YOU listen.

She looks at Bharati.

NISHA (CONT'D)

Then what's the password?

Bharati takes the laptop, types calmly.

ON SCREEN: PASSWORD?

BHARATI

The name.

She enters it.

ON SCREEN: ACCESS GRANTED.

Radhika's eyes fill. Nisha leans in, sees a file title on screen.

INSERT - LAPTOP SCREEN

ADOPTION RECORDS / TRANSFER APPROVAL / CHILD NAME: "ANAYA"

Nisha reads it twice. The room goes still.

NISHA

Anaya...

Radhika breaks. No words. Just a silent collapse of control.

Bharati finally picks up her PHONE and dials one number with a trembling but precise finger.

NISHA

Kis ko call kar rahi ho?

BHARATI

Jo sach sunne layak ho.

The phone rings.

BHARATI (CONT'D)

(soft, final)

Mother password nahi tha, Nisha. Cover tha.

Nisha looks at Radhika, then the laptop, then the family photo.

A beat.

The city neon flickers across all three faces like a warning.

FADE OUT.

THE END