

THE LOCKED DRAWER

A Horror/Supernatural 2-Character Screenplay in Hinglish

Genre: Horror/Supernatural	Format: 2-Character Short Film (Duo Cast)	Runtime: 5 - 8 Minutes
Cast: FORMAT: 2-Character Short Film (Duo Cast) Character 1: Madhuri (44)	Language: Hinglish	Credit: Story Dil Se Team

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Midnight ka waqt hai, aur purane study room mein hawa bhi jaise dheere bol rahi hai. Moonlight curtains ke through floor par safed stripes bana rahi hai, desk par dhool jami hai, ceiling fan har ghoomne par ek ajeeb si karahat karta hai. Pia, nightdress mein, messy baalon aur shaky flashlight ke saath room mein ghusti hai. Uske chehre par gussa bhi hai aur darr bhi. Uska late father ka study room, jahan bachpan mein usey aane ki permission nahi thi, aaj uske liye ek puzzle aur ek threat dono ban chuka hai.

Desk ke neeche ek locked drawer hai. Pia ke hisaab se us drawer ka lock teen baar khud khul chuka hai, aur har baar andar se koi na koi cheez mili hai jo family ke kisi na kisi purane death se judi thi. Kabhi ek purani photo jismein kisi ka face cut tha, kabhi khat jismein half sentence likha tha, kabhi tape recorder ka broken button. Har object ke saath ghar mein koi na koi yaad, koi na koi jhooth aur koi na koi maut ka shadow judta gaya. Aaj Pia ne decide kar liya hai ki woh sach jaan kar rahegi.

Madhuri, stern housekeeper, sari mein seedhi khadi hoti hai, keys ka bunch uske kamar par thoda sa jhankta hai. Uski body language mein saalon ka control hai, jaise usne is ghar ke har kone ko chup rehna sikhaya ho. Woh Pia ko warn karti hai ki drawer ko kholna band kare. Uska kehna simple hai: "Jo band rakha gaya tha, use band hi rehne do." Pia gusse mein poochti hai ki kis cheez se darr rahi ho, drawer se ya us aadmi se jo ab zinda hi nahi. Madhuri ka jawab har baar adhoora, ulta, aur thoda sa ■■■■ta hua hota hai. Woh keys ko pakad kar kehti hai ki is ghar mein kuch cheezein dekhne ke liye nahi hoti, sirf dafan karne ke liye hoti hain.

Pia ko drawer se aati saans ki awaaz sunai deti hai. Pehle woh samajhti hai ki shayad hawa ka illusion hai, phir woh khud ka ear drawer ke paas le jaati hai. Saans. Clear. Human. Uske haath ka flashlight tremble karta hai. Madhuri ka face pehli baar crack hota hai. Woh ek kadam peeche hatt jaati hai, jaise usne bhi woh saans pehchaan li ho. Drawer khud se halka sa khul jaata hai. Andar se ek purani cassette tape nikalti hai, aur us par faded handwriting mein sirf ek naam likha hota hai: "Asha." Pia ka chehra blank ho jaata hai, kyunki Asha uski mother ka naam tha — woh mother jisko family mein kabhi mention tak nahi kiya gaya.

Ab story ka tension sirf supernatural nahi rehta, emotional ho jaata hai. Pia ko samajh aata hai ki uske father ne sirf secrets nahi chhupaye, uski maa ko bhi erase kiya. Madhuri finally toot jaati hai. Woh batati hai ki Asha mar nahi gayi

thi “naturally,” aur na hi woh ghar chhod kar gayi thi. Us raat sabne ek story banayi thi — accident, illness, breakdown — taaki sach ko zameen mein daba diya jaaye. Madhuri us waqt ghar mein kaam karti thi. Usne sab dekha tha, par bol nahi paayi. Keys uske paas isliye the kyunki drawer ka lock us waqt se hi uske control mein tha, taaki koi khat, koi tape, koi proof bahar na aaye.

Pia tape recorder ko kaan ke paas lagati hai. Pehle static, phir ek aurat ki halki, kaanpati awaaz: “Pia... agar tum sun rahi ho, toh mat darna. Main drawer mein nahi hoon... main neeche hoon.” Room mein hawa thandi ho jaati hai. Madhuri ka chehra safed pad jaata hai. Pia tape ko rewind karke sunti hai, aur phir ek aur line nikalti hai: “Tumhare father ne mujhe yahin study ke neeche dafnaya tha. Deewar ke paas, jahan desk ka saya padta hai. Madhuri ne roka tha, par usne mujhe bachaya bhi tha. Usne drawer mein awaaz band kar di, body nahi.”

Yahin twist poori tarah khul jaata hai. Drawer mein mother ka ghost nahi, uski recorded voice thi — ek desperate, hidden message, jo wood ke andar tape recorder ki purani mechanism se phans kar baar-baar chal raha tha. Aur real body study room ke neeche buried thi. Pia ka darr now rage mein badal jaata hai. Madhuri, guilt se murjha kar, floorboard ki taraf dekhne lagti hai. Woh confess karti hai ki usne body ko move nahi kiya, par buri tarah se cover-up kiya, kyunki us waqt uske paas choice nahi thi. Pia ke liye yeh enough nahi, par sach ka pehla tukda mil chuka hota hai.

Last beat mein Pia flashlight floor par daalti hai, desk ke paas ek line of old wood alag dikhti hai. Ceiling fan ki creak suddenly silence mein badal jaati hai. Drawer ek final time khud se khul kar band hota hai, jaise mother ab bhi room mein maujood ho aur bol rahi ho: ab chup mat rehna. Pia aur Madhuri ek dusre ko dekhte hain — ek daughter jo truth ke saath khadi hai, aur ek housekeeper jo finally apne secrets ka bojh utha nahi pa rahi. Film ka end cold, unsettling, aur emotionally sharp hota hai: drawer ne sirf family death ka raaz nahi khola, balki us aurat ki awaaz bhi wapas la di jise poori family ne mita diya tha.