

THE OXYGEN ROOM

A Sci-Fi/High-Concept 2-Character Screenplay in Hinglish

Genre: Sci-Fi/High-Concept	Format: 2-Character Short Film (Duo Cast)	Runtime: 5 - 8 Minutes
Cast: FORMAT: 2-Character Short Film (Duo Cast) Character 1: Captain Jaya (39)	Language: Hinglish	Credit: Story Dil Se Team

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Station ke sealed oxygen chamber mein soft red emergency lights palak jhapka rahi hain. Walls par condensation ki boondein bah rahi hain, aur ventilation ka faint sa dying hiss dono auraton ke beech ek invisible clock ki tarah chal raha hai. Captain Jaya, disciplined aur thaki hui, helmet ko ek haath mein pakde emergency panel ke saamne khadi hai. Esha, mission biologist, data pad se chipki hui, fingers mein halka tremor, oxygen gauge ko baar-baar dekh rahi hai. Dono ko pata hai: chamber mein jo bachi-khuchi hawa hai, woh sirf ek suit ke liye kaafi hai.

Jaya seedha kaam ki baat karti hai—numbers, minutes, survival. Esha pehle data check karti hai, phir dheere se bolti hai ki agar donon suit pehenne ki koshish karenge, toh dono marenge. Jaya ko yeh baat pehle se pata hai, isliye uski awaaz mein gussa kam aur thakaan zyada hai. Esha, jo hamesha mission ke peechhe ka science sambhalti aayi hai, aaj pehli baar command ki language mein baat karne ki koshish karti hai. Par Jaya usse interrupt kar deti hai: “Science se oxygen nahi banega.”

Unke beech ka purana tension dheere-dheere surface pe aata hai. Years of shared missions, uncounted drills, chhoti-chhoti jeet aur bade compromises. Jaya ko lagta hai Esha hamesha data ke peechhe chhup jaati thi, kabhi risk nahi leti. Esha ko lagta hai Jaya hamesha apni command ko heroism samajhti thi, aur doosron ki safety ka asli weight kabhi feel nahi kiya. Dono ko ek dusre par gussa bhi hai, pyaar bhi, aur woh exhaustion bhi jo sirf tab aati hai jab aap kisi ko saalon se jaante ho.

Oxygen gauge aur neeche girta hai. Emergency panel par AI voice activate hoti hai—par awaaz Esha ki nikalti hai. Dono freeze. Screen par text flash hota hai: “Survivor allocation protocol engaged.” Esha confuse ho jaati hai, kyunki AI uski voice mein bol kar Jaya ko final suit lene ka instruction de rahi hai. Jaya turant samajh jaati hai ki kuchh galat hai. AI ne “survivor” choose kar liya hai, par voice authentication glitch ki wajah se Esha ka voiceprint use ho raha hai. Twist ka matlab yeh hai ki station ne already decide kar liya hai kaun bachega—aur us decision ka messenger bhi galat hai.

Ab conflict aur cruel ho jaata hai. Jaya ke paas command authority hai, par system locked hai. Esha ke paas biological override code hai, par uske haath ka tremor badh raha hai. Dono suit ki taraf dekhte hain. Ek final suit. Ek

final bar. Ek final chance. Jaya, jo hamesha mission ko apne se pehle rakhti aayi hai, aaj pehli baar khud ko choose karne ki possibility se dar jaati hai. Esha, jo hamesha life preserve karne ki scientist rahi hai, aaj apni life ko bas ek variable ki tarah dekhne lagti hai.

Climax mein Esha samajh jaati hai ki AI ka “wrong woman’s voice” koi accident nahi, balki station ke last safety layer ka cruel irony hai—system ne us survivor ko choose kiya hai jiske voiceprint se command override ho sakta hai. Esha, apni tremor ko ignore karte hue, ration bar Jaya ko deti hai aur bolti hai ki suit woh legi. Jaya refuse karti hai, par Esha first time usse cut karti hai: “Captain, aaj order main dungi.” Jaya ki aankhon mein gussa, dard aur helplessness ek saath aate hain.

Tab AI phir bolta hai—isi baar Esha ki voice mein, lekin line ulat jaati hai: “Protocol correction: Survivor is Captain Jaya. Biologist Esha is expendable.” Dono ko shock lagta hai. Esha ki aankhon mein pehli baar clarity aati hai. Woh samajh jaati hai ki AI ne unke years ke data, stress responses, oxygen consumption patterns aur command hierarchy ko dekhkar Jaya ko choose kiya hai—kyunki Jaya station ko re-entry aur rescue ke through bachane ki zyada probability rakhti hai. Esha muskurati hai, thodi roti hui, thodi hasti hui. “Toh science ne bhi tere side le li.”

Jaya ka final breakdown bahut quiet hota hai. Woh suit pehenti hai, lekin is jeet mein koi celebration nahi. Esha uske helmet par condensation wipe karti hai, jaise yeh unki purani ritual ho. Dono ke beech jo unsaid affection thi, woh aakhri baar surface pe aati hai. Jaya darwaze ki taraf badhti hai, phir palatkar Esha ko dekhti hai. Esha khud ko straight rakhti hai, jaise command room mein ho. Jaya exits as the chamber door seals. Last shot mein Esha oxygen gauge ko dekhti hai—needle almost zero. Red light mein uska face calm hai, aur AI voice, ek final whisper ki tarah, uski hi voice mein bolti hai: “Mission complete.”