

THE INTERVIEW ROOM

A Psychological Thriller 3-Character Screenplay in Hinglish

Genre: Psychological Thriller	Format: 3-Character Short Film (Trio Cast)	Runtime: 6 - 9 Minutes
Cast: FORMAT: 3-Character Short Film (Trio Cast) Character 1: Officer Kabir (37)	Language: Hinglish	Credit: Story Dil Se Team

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The Interview Room ek aisa corporate space hai jahan har cheez too neat hai, too white hai, aur isi liye aur zyada suspicious lagti hai. Bright overhead lights ke neeche Officer Kabir apni ironed shirt ke saath table ke ek side baitha hai, pen ko rhythm mein tap karta hua. Uske saamne Murtaza, neat haircut aur folder ko dono haathon se pakde, bahut composed dikhne ki koshish kar raha hai. Teesri kursi par Adeel, polished blazer aur controlled smile ke saath, HR manager ban kar baitha hai, lekin uski aankhen room mein kabhi ek jagah tiki hi nahi. Shuruat bilkul normal hoti hai—salary expectation, notice period, strengths, weaknesses—lekin Kabir ke questions interview se zyada interrogation jaise lagne lagte hain. Murtaza har jawab carefully deta hai, jaise har word pehle se practice kiya ho. Adeel beech-beech mein soft corporate tone mein situation ko normal banane ki koshish karta hai, par uski politeness ke neeche kuch aur hi chal raha hota hai.

Kabir resume uthata hai aur ek line par ruk jaata hai: candidate ka naam. Murtaza. Kabir ke notes aur Adeel ke checklist mein naam match karta hai, lekin Kabir ko photo aur ID card mein ek chhota sa mismatch dikh jaata hai. Woh casually puchta hai, “Aapke previous employer ne aapko kis naam se bulaya tha?” Murtaza thoda sa freeze hota hai, phir bolta hai, “Jo naam badge pe hota tha, sir.” Adeel turant smile ke saath cut karta hai, “Hum logon ko flexibility chahiye hoti hai.” Kabir ka pen tapping aur tez ho jaata hai. Uske paas ek missing-persons file ka reference aa chuka hai—same face, same build, same birth year—but name different. Murtaza ke folder mein jo ID card hai, woh us man ka hai jiska naam police record mein missing hai. Room ka temperature jaise ekdum neeche gir jaata hai.

Ab dialogue ke beech mein chhote chhote slips aane lagte hain. Kabir poochta hai, “Aapko yaad hai last job kahan thi?” Murtaza kehta hai, “Bas ek room tha. White walls. Same light.” Adeel ka controlled smile pehli baar crack karta hai. Woh bolta hai, “Aap overthink kar rahe hain, Officer—sorry, Kabir. Ye sirf onboarding process ka part hai.” Kabir sharply reply deta hai, “Onboarding mein missing logon ke naam kyu aate hain?” Adeel water glass ko slowly slide karta hai Murtaza ki taraf, jaise calm offer kar raha ho, lekin us gesture mein warning zyada hoti hai. Murtaza finally bolta hai ki usne apna naam badla tha kyunki pehle waale naam ke saath ek “incident” juda tha. Kabir usse pressure karta hai, aur Adeel beech mein aakar kahta hai, “Incident nahi, transition.” Is one word se clear ho jaata hai ki yeh

interview nahi, ek test hai.

Climax mein Kabir apna pen table par rakh deta hai aur checklist ko palat kar last page kholta hai. Wahan heading hoti hai: "Replacement Screening – Confidential." Adeel, ab bhi smile maintain karte hue, bolta hai ki company ek special internal role ke liye candidates screen kar rahi hai—un logon ke liye jo "loss" ko quietly absorb kar sakein. Kabir ke notes se reveal hota hai ki missing man actually company ka former compliance head tha, jise ek whistleblowing attempt ke baad "transfer" kar diya gaya tha—officially missing, unofficially erased. Murtaza, jisne uski identity adopt ki thi, asal mein ek substitute tha jo memory gaps aur fear ke saath is room tak laya gaya tha. Twist yeh hota hai ki Kabir bhi koi random officer nahi: woh bhi company ka hi planted interrogator hai, jo dekh raha tha ki applicant truth tak kitna resist karta hai. Final punch mein Adeel interview checklist palat kar Murtaza ko ek line padhne ko kehta hai: "If you can't remember who you were, you can become whoever we need." Murtaza pehli baar folder kholta hai, uske andar ek blank form, ek ID badge, aur ek signature line. Kabir pen uthata hai. Adeel smile karta hai. White light aur zyada harsh ho jaati hai. Aur audience ko realize hota hai ki missing person kab ka replace ho chuka hai—bas naam abhi tak pending tha.