

THE WRONG PATIENT

A Emotional Drama 3-Character Screenplay in Hinglish

Genre: Emotional Drama	Format: 3-Character Short Film (Trio Cast)	Runtime: 6 - 9 Minutes
Cast: FORMAT: 3-Character Short Film (Trio Cast) Character 1: Manav (45)	Language: Hinglish	Credit: Story Dil Se Team

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Shaam ka waqt hai. Hospital ke waiting room mein pale walls, plastic chairs, aur ek kone mein water dispenser ki halki si gurgurahat. Bahar corridor se kabhi trolley wheel ki tezz awaaz aati hai, kabhi nurse ke shoes ki. Andar bas teen log: Manav, jo crumpled shirt mein kisi khali chair par baitha hai aur apni aankhon mein jamti nami ko baar-baar nigal raha hai; Ira, jo apne bag par latke hospital visitor badge ko bina dekhe ungliyon se chhed rahi hai; aur Naina, wheelchair mein seedhi baithi, apni kamzor body ke andar bhi ek ajeeb si ziddi dignity ke saath sabko dekh rahi hai. Room mein kuch bola hua bhi lagta hai aur kuch bahut kuch chhupa hua bhi.

Manav ke haath mein medical file hai. Woh file kholta hai, band karta hai, phir dobara kholta hai, jaise usmein likhi baat ko padne se sach kam ho jayega. Ira usse dekhti hai. Dono ke beech woh purana silence hai jo shaadi ke saalon mein kabhi kabhi pyaar se zyada dangerous ho jata hai. Manav finally bolta hai ki Maa ki report achchi nahi hai. Doctor ne jo kaha, woh usne poora nahi bataya tha, kyunki woh Ira ko todna nahi chahta tha. Uski awaaz mein guilt bhi hai aur helplessness bhi. Woh maanta hai ki woh hamesha sab sambhalne ki koshish karta raha, par is baar usse laga ki agar sach bol diya to sab bikhar jayega.

Ira pehle kuch nahi bolti. Bas ek tissue box se tissue nikal kar apne bag ke paas rakh deti hai, jaise uska kaam aansu pochhna nahi, kisi aur ka sach sambhalna ho. Phir woh ek gehri saans leti hai aur bina drama ke kehti hai ki use pehle se pata hai. Manav stunned ho jata hai. Ira batati hai ki usne hospital records, test slips, aur doctor ki ek half-finished conversation se samajh liya tha ki Naina ki condition unke bataye hue se kaafi serious hai. Lekin usne bhi kuch chhupaya. Uske apne doctor ne usse ek aisi diagnosis di hai jiska naam sunte hi Manav toot sakta tha. Woh keh deti hai ki usne isliye nahi bataya kyunki Manav already Maa ko lekar doob raha tha; woh us par ek aur bojh nahi daalna chahti thi.

Yeh twist room mein hawa ko aur bhaari kar deta hai. Manav gusse aur dard ke beech phas jata hai—kyun hamesha sabko akela decide karna padta hai? Kyun dono ne ek doosre ko sach bolne ki zarurat hi nahi samjhi? Ira ka jawab seedha hai: kyunki woh dono ek hi aadat ke mareez hain—problem ko protect karna, baat ko postpone karna, aur phir pretend karna ki sab theek hai. Unki baat mein shikayat kam, thakaan zyada hai.

Tab wheelchair se halki si khar-karahat hoti hai. Naina, jo ab tak chup thi, sab sun chuki hai. Woh aage jhukti hai, uski aankhen abhi bhi sharp hain. Woh pehle dono ko daantti nahi, bas ek thandi, lucid awaaz mein kehti hai ki tum dono itne bade ho gaye ho, phir bhi sach bolna nahi seekhe. Woh batati hai ki usne unki aadhi baatein pehle hi samajh li thi. Maa hone ke naate nahi, patient hone ke naate—hospital mein log khud ko bachane ke liye jhoot bolte hain, aur woh jhoot ki smell pehchaan leti hai.

Phir Naina apna final card kholti hai: woh treatment continue karna chahti hai, lekin sirf is shart par ki ab is room mein koi kisi se kuch nahi chhupayega. Na reports, na darr, na exhaustion. Agar waqt kam hai, to usse sach ke saath jeena hai. Agar waqt zyada hai, to usse pretend karke barbaad nahi karna. Manav pehli baar sach mein ro padta hai. Ira ki aankhon mein bhi aansu aa jate hain, lekin woh unhe rokne ki koshish nahi karti. Naina ek tissue le kar apne hi haath se un dono ko ishara karti hai ki baith jao.

Ant mein, teenon ek dusre ke saamne wahi fragile decision lete hain jo unke liye sabse mushkil hai: ab se theek hone ka natak nahi karenge. Manav medical file ko side table par rakh deta hai. Ira apna visitor badge seedha karti hai aur wheelchair ke armrest par haath rakh deti hai. Naina water cup maangti hai, aur Manav pehli baar bina bolne samajh jata hai. Evening light blinds se andar girti hai, aur room mein pehli baar silence dard ka nahi, ek chhoti si sacchai ka hota hai.