

AUNTIE ON THE LINE

A Pure Comedy 3-Character Screenplay in Hinglish

Genre: Pure Comedy	Format: 3-Character Short Film (Trio Cast)	Runtime: 6 - 9 Minutes
Cast: FORMAT: 3-Character Short Film (Trio Cast) Character 1: Kunal (27)	Language: Hinglish	Credit: Story Dil Se Team

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Shaam ka golden light ek chhote se apartment balcony par phail raha hai. Kapde ki dori par latke hue kapde halki hawa mein hil rahe hain, side mein plastic chair, laundry basket aur ek aadha bhara tea cup pada hai. Kunal phone ko baar-baar haath mein ghuma raha hai, jaise uske paas koi invisible shield ho. Simran uske saamne khadi hai, arms folded, expression aisa jaise woh already breakup ke last page padh chuki ho. Kunal aaj finally serious baat karne aaya hai, par uski awaaz har second aur zyada ulajh jaati hai. Simran seedha bol deti hai, "Aaj drama mat kar. Seedha bol." Kunal bolta hai ki unke beech "space" chahiye, par uski line itni weak nikalti hai ki Simran usko "space" nahi, "excuse" samajh leti hai.

Tabhi Bela auntie ka speakerphone wala phone call aata hai. Kunal screen dekhte hi freeze ho jaata hai. Simran usko ghoor kar kehti hai, "Ab kaun?" Kunal jhooth bolta hai, "Office." Par Bela ki loud voice balcony mein gunj jaati hai: "Kunal beta, tumhari balcony se ek jhadoo niche gir gaya. Aur waise bhi, main dekh rahi hoon, tum log kaafi serious face bana ke khade ho. Kya hua? Shaadi ka confusion hai kya?" Simran ko hasi bhi aati hai aur gussa bhi. Kunal call cut karne ki koshish karta hai, par Bela baar-baar call back karti hai, har baar koi na koi irrelevant gossip leke: third floor wale ka naya mixer, society mein pani ka issue, aur "woh laal kurta wala ladka" jo uske hisaab se suspicious hai.

Kunal breakup speech ko continue karne ki koshish karta hai, lekin Bela ki interruptions usko aur zyada expose kar deti hain. Simran ko pata chal jaata hai ki Kunal sirf breakup karne se nahi, confrontation se bhi darr raha hai. Woh usse seedha bolti hai ki agar woh relationship mein nahi rehna chahta, toh clear bol de. Kunal finally himmat karke admit karta hai ki woh confused hai, overwhelmed hai, aur usse lagta hai ki woh Simran ko hurt karega agar abhi bhi continue kiya. Simran thodi der ke liye soft hoti hai, par phir bhi taana maar deti hai ki "confused log phone pe 'good morning' bhejte hain, breakup nahi."

Isi beech Bela ki ek aur call aati hai, aur is baar woh speaker par hi reh jaati hai. Par surprisingly, gossip ke beech mein Bela kuch genuinely sensible bol deti hai: "Arre beta, relationship mein sabse bada problem jhooth hota hai. Agar mann nahi hai, toh seedha bolo. Samne wale ko uljha ke rakhna bahut badtameezi hai." Kunal aur Simran dono ek second ke liye chup ho jaate hain. Bela, jo ab tak full comedy engine thi, accidentally voice of reason ban jaati hai. Simran Kunal ko dekhti hai, aur Kunal finally straight bol deta hai: "Main breakup nahi, bas sach bolna chahta hoon."

Main ready nahi hoon.” Simran ko bura lagta hai, lekin woh appreciate karti hai ki kam se kam is baar sach bola gaya.

Phir twist aata hai. Bela ka tone suddenly suspiciously cheerful ho jaata hai. Woh bolti hai, “Waise, tum dono ki awaaz bahut clear aa rahi thi. Recording bhi ho gayi.” Kunal aur Simran shocked. Bela hansti hai aur confess karti hai ki poori balcony conversation woh record kar rahi thi, kyunki society mein bet laga hua tha ki “Kunal aur Simran kab breakup karenge aur kiski line pe hoga.” Simran ka muh khula reh jaata hai, Kunal ka phone almost haath se gir jaata hai. Bela proudly bolti hai ki ab woh bet jeet chuki hai, aur usse sirf itna pata tha ki “aaj kuch bada hone wala hai” isliye speakerphone on rakha. Final beat mein Simran Kunal ko dekhti hai, phir Bela ko. Kunal helplessly bolta hai, “Mere breakup se pehle mera privacy ka murder ho gaya.” Bela tea cup uthakar bolti hai, “Arre beta, society mein sab share hota hai. Except common sense.” Sunset glow mein teenon ka awkward silence ek last comic punch ban jaata hai, aur balcony ki dangerously public privacy ka curtain gir jaata hai.