

THE LOCKED TIFFIN

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: Bua (54)	Language: Hinglish	Credit: Story Dil Se Team

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Railway waiting room ka fan dheere-dheere ghoom raha hai, jaise khud bhi is garmi se haar maan chuka ho. Peeling paint wali deewaron ke beech, ek metal bench par teen auratein alag-alag duniyaon se aakar takra jaati hain: Bua, 54, printed kurta mein, jinki aankhon mein zyada curiosity aur pet mein usse zyada authority; Ritu, 33, corporate commuter, lunch bag ko aise pakde hue jaise usmein uski poori salary band ho; aur Pihu, 19, headphones, sneakers, aur phone camera ke saath, jo har cheez ko content aur har silence ko opportunity samajhti hai. Inke beech bench ke beechon-beech ek locked tiffin box rakha hai. Usse aane wali khushboo itni zabardast hai ki teeno ka dimaag ek hi jagah atak jaata hai: iske andar kya hai, aur yeh kiska hai?

Pehle suspicion aata hai. Bua turant claim karti hain ki tiffin unka hai, kyunki "aisa masaledaar smell sirf ghar ke khane mein hota hai." Ritu thandi muskurahat ke saath bolti hai ki unka lunch bag office-style hai, lekin unhone aaj jaan-boojhkar ghar ka khana nahi laya kyunki "main apni life mein already enough compromise kar chuki hoon." Pihu camera on karke declare karti hai ki yeh "mystery tiffin challenge" hai, aur jo bhi prove karega owner wahi hoga. Har ek apni ownership prove karne ke liye absurd tareeke apnaati hai: Bua smell se recipe identify karne ki koshish karti hain, Ritu timetable aur platform announcements ke beech logic dhoondhti hai, aur Pihu angle-by-angle video bana kar crowd-source solution nikalne ki dhamki deti hai.

Jaise-jaise train delay hoti hai, hunger aur paranoia dono badhte jaate hain. Bua tiffin kholne ke liye spoon se lock ko khatkhataati hain, phir Ritu par ilzaam lagati hain ki corporate log "healthy" ke naam par sab chhupa lete hain. Ritu counter-bribe deti hai: "Main aapko apna biscuit de deti hoon, bas mujhe is mystery ka ending de do." Pihu apne followers imaginary hote hue bhi full performance mode mein aa jaati hai, aur bolti hai ki agar sach nahi bataya toh woh live stream mein sabko bata degi ki station waiting room mein "tiffin ka scandal" chal raha hai. Teeno ka ek ajeeb sa alliance bhi banta hai: Bua apni bottle ka paani share karti hain, Ritu timetable se fan ke neech wali seat claim karti hai, aur Pihu camera se unki bargaining ko record karke khud ko judge bana leti hai.

Finally, jab suspense unbearable ho jaata hai, Bua ek dramatic sigh ke saath tiffin ko apni god mein rakhti hain aur confess karti hain ki woh yeh lunch kisi aur ke liye laayi thi. Tiffin ke andar food nahi, ek neatly folded note, ek small ring box, aur do alag-alag plates mein lovingly packed aloo paratha aur kheer hoti hai. Bua batati hain ki yeh surprise proposal lunch unhone apni beti ke liye banaya tha, jo aaj is train se aane wali thi—par woh kabhi nahi aayi. Unhone

tiffin lock kiya tha taaki “surprise” surprise hi rahe, lekin platform confusion mein tiffin bench par reh gaya aur woh khud kisi aur announcement mein atak gayin. Room ka mood ek second mein flip ho jaata hai: jo comedy ab tak loud thi, uske neeche ek chhota sa emotional truth chamak uthta hai.

Ritu pehli baar soft ho jaati hai, aur Pihu ka camera bhi thoda neeche aa jaata hai. Bua apni usual loudness mein bhi thodi si toot jaati hain, lekin phir turant khud ko sambhaal kar bolti hain ki “proposal lunch waste nahi hona chahiye.” Ritu practical solution nikalti hai: note ko envelope mein daal kar safe rakhte hain, aur tiffin ka khaana teenon milkar khayengi, kyunki “delayed train aur delayed rishta—dono ka nuksaan ek hi plate se compensate ho sakta hai.” Pihu is moment ko “plot twist with protein” bolkar record karti hai, par is baar mazaak mein bhi warmth hoti hai.

Aakhir mein, jab train ki door se whistle sunayi deti hai, teeno bench se uthti hain—Bua apni dignity ke saath, Ritu apni sarcasm ke saath, aur Pihu apne phone ke saath. Locked tiffin khul chuka hota hai, lekin mystery nahi; woh ek shared lunch, ek missed proposal, aur teen ajnabi auraton ki ek temporary family mein badal chuka hota hai. Jaate-jaate Bua ek spoon aur zyada pakad leti hain, Ritu ek last dry comment deti hai, aur Pihu keh deti hai, “Next time proposal ho ya paratha, main first dibs.”