

INHERITANCE AT 8B

A Mystery/Crime 3-Character Screenplay in Hinglish

Genre: Mystery/Crime	Format: 3-Character Short Film (Trio Cast)	Runtime: 6 - 9 Minutes
Cast: FORMAT: 3-Character Short Film (Trio Cast) Character 1: Advocate Nisha (42)	Language: Hinglish	Credit: Story Dil Se Team

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Late afternoon ka peela sunlight blinds ke through cabin mein stripes bana raha hai. Ceiling fan dheere-dheere ghoom raha hai, aur table par stacked files aise lag rahe hain jaise kisi crime scene ke silent witnesses. Advocate Nisha, elegant suit mein, leather file khol kar baithi hai. Uske saamne Rekha—plain sari, tight lips, clenched hands—aur Tina—chic casuals, sunglasses baalon mein atki hui, pair hilati hui—do alag duniyaon ki do bahnein, jo ek hi room mein saalon baad pehli baar baithi hain. Nisha ka tone professional hai, lekin room mein tension itni hai ki paper ka rustle bhi threat lagta hai.

Nisha will padhna shuru karti hai, aur har clause ke saath Rekha aur Tina ka pura past zinda ho uthta hai. Father ne assets ka detailed breakdown diya hai, lekin beech-beech mein aise remarks likhe hain jo aur zyada chot pahunchate hain. Rekha ko lagta hai Tina ne signature forge kiya hai, kyunki will ke ek page par father ka naam aur date suspiciously fresh lagti hai. Tina palat kar bolti hai ki Rekha ne hamesha “family accounts” sambhale, aur asli property papers, fixed deposits, aur locker keys sab chhupa liye. Dono ki baat mein accusation kam, purana gussa zyada hai. Nisha beech-bachav karti hai, par uski aankhen will ke font, paper texture, aur envelope ki sealing par atki rehti hain. Use dheere-dheere samajh aata hai ki yeh will shayad asli nahi, ek decoy ho sakta hai—father ne jaan-bujh kar ek aisa document banwaya hai jo sisters ko confess karne par majboor kare.

Jab Rekha aur Tina ek doosre par theft ke ilzaam barsa rahi hoti hain, Nisha family photograph table par rakh deti hai. Photo mein teenon bahnein ek purane birthday cake ke around khadi hain, aur unke peeche father ka haath subtly ek alag envelope ki taraf ishara kar raha hai. Nisha notice karti hai ki photo ke backside par father ki handwriting mein ek line likhi hai: “Jo pehle chori maane, usi ko sab kuch milega.” Room ka temperature jaise aur gir jaata hai. Tina hansi mein baat udata hai, Rekha ka face hard ho jaata hai, aur Nisha un dono ko ek ek karke dekhti hai. Phir woh envelope kholti hai, jo will ke folder ke andar hidden tha, aur usmein ek short handwritten letter milta hai—father ka final note.

Note seedha hai, cruel bhi aur fair bhi: estate usi ko milega jo sabse pehle yeh admit kare ki paise ki chori usne ki thi. Nisha explain karti hai ki father ko sirf property ka hisaab nahi, honesty ka hisaab chahiye tha. Rekha pehle deny karti hai, phir uski aankhon mein ek crack aata hai. Tina usse taunt karti hai, “Bolo na, didi. Tumne locker se cash nikala

tha ya nahi?” Rekha ka jaw jaw set ho jaata hai. Long silence. Ceiling fan ki awaaz aur loud lagne lagti hai. Finally Rekha confess karti hai—haan, usne hi father ke business account se paise nikale the, family ko bachane ke naam par, aur phir guilt mein sabse door ho gayi thi. Tina shock mein freeze ho jaati hai. Nisha calmly documents side mein rakh deti hai.

Par twist abhi baaki hota hai. Tina ki smugness dheere-dheere tootne lagti hai. Rekha ka confession sun kar woh bhi hil jaati hai, aur phir ek breath ke saath bol padti hai ki usne bhi chori ki thi—par paisa nahi, father ki medical file aur ek old cheque book, jisse woh apne debts hide kar rahi thi. Uska intention father ko hurt karna nahi tha, par usne bhi trust tod diya tha. Nisha uss moment samajh jaati hai ki father ne estate kisi ek ko “reward” karne ke liye nahi, balki unmein se jisne pehle sach bola, uske liye chhoda tha—kyunki usi ek confession se family ka jhooth toot sakta tha.

Ant mein Rekha aur Tina dono confess kar chuki hoti hain, lekin estate ka haq technically Rekha ko milta hai, kyunki usne pehle admit kiya. Tina gusse mein kuch bolne hi wali hoti hai, par Rekha uski taraf family photograph badha deti hai. Pehli baar dono ki aankhon mein competition ke bajay thakaan aur regret hota hai. Nisha file band karti hai, pen rakh deti hai, aur quietly kehti hai ki inheritance sirf paise ka naam nahi hota—kabhi-kabhi woh sach hota hai jo family ko todne ke baad bhi bachata hai. Cabin mein silence reh jaata hai, lekin ab woh threatening nahi, healing sa lagta hai. Late-afternoon light aur soft ho jaati hai, aur three sisters ke beech years baad pehli baar ek sach ka seedha, uncomfortable bridge ban chuka hota hai.