

THE APOLOGY DRAFT

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: Anita (43)	Language: Hinglish	Credit: Story Dil Se Team

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Shaam ka waqt hai. Family dining table par teen behnein baithi hain, jaise koi emergency war-room ho. Ceiling fan ki light thodi thandi, kitchen se aati warm roshni aur chai ki khushboo milkar scene ko ghar jaisa bana rahi hai, lekin table par mood bilkul ghar jaisa nahi—plates, cups, snack bowl, pen aur ek handwritten list sab kuch ek mini battlefield lag raha hai. Anita, jo hamesha office ki tarah polished aur overly polite rehti hai, phone haath mein liye baithi hai. Bina, jo comfortable home clothes mein hai, snack bowl se namkeen chaba rahi hai aur seedhi baat karne ke mood mein hai. Chhaya, stylish casuals mein, apni notebook of grievances ko aise pakde hue hai jaise usmein duniya ka sabse bada injustice likha ho.

Teeno ka mission simple hai: mummy ko ek apology message bhejna hai, kyunki family function mein jo disaster hua tha uske baad ab maafi deni hi padegi. Lekin problem ye hai ki apology ka ek version banana hai, aur teenon ko lagta hai ki message aisa hona chahiye jo unki image bhi bachaye. Anita sabse pehle draft shuru karti hai—bahut corporate, bahut polished, bahut “we regret the inconvenience.” Bina turant bolti hai ki yeh apology kam aur annual report zyada lag rahi hai. Woh message ko simple aur practical banana chahti hai: “Sorry, bas.” Chhaya isse aur emotional bana deti hai, har line mein apne grievances ghusa deti hai, jaise apology ke saath side-note bhi compulsory ho.

Har naya draft pehle se zyada funny aur zyada revealing ho jata hai. Anita “humne” se start karti hai, lekin “hum” ka matlab sirf woh khud hota hai. Bina har line mein aise edits karti hai jaise sabse mature wahi hai, par uski bluntness se sach aur bhi nanga ho jata hai. Chhaya har sentence ko theatrical bana deti hai—“Maa, humne aapke emotions ko jo casual disregard diya...”—aur Bina us par seedha comment karti hai, “Bas kar, Oscar nahi mil raha.” Anita phone se message type karti rehti hai, delete karti rehti hai, aur har baar apni galti ko “misunderstanding” bolkar soft kar deti hai. Bina snack bowl se ek-ek namkeen uthate hue uski wording ko roast karti hai. Chhaya notebook mein grievances ke saath-saath “best apology drafts” likh kar sabko outsmart karne ki koshish karti hai.

Comedic tension tab peak hota hai jab teenon ek line par atak jaati hain: “We are sorry for the chaos at the function.” Anita chahti hai ki “chaos” word rahe, kyunki ismein direct blame nahi aata. Bina kehti hai “chaos” se kya mummy ko lagega ki weather report bheji hai? Chhaya insist karti hai ki chaos actually “emotional architecture” tha. Is par teeno ka debate itna absurd ho jata hai ki apology message ek philosophical essay mein badal jaata hai. Har sister apne

aap ko sabse mature dikhane ke chakkar mein aur immature lagne lagti hai. Unki baaton se pata chalta hai ki function mein kaun late aayi, kaunne kaunse rishtedaar ko side-eye diya, kaunne mithai ka bowl “accidentally” apne paas rakh liya—lekin koi bhi seedha admit nahi karta.

Finally, teenon ek “perfect” draft banati hain: balanced, respectful, emotionally aware aur completely hollow. Anita khush hoti hai ki message “professional yet warm” hai. Bina bolti hai, “Bas, ab mummy pighal jayengi.” Chhaya dramatic sigh deti hai aur notebook band kar deti hai, jaise victory mil gayi ho. Tabhi kitchen se unki mother andar aati hain. Teenon ek second ke liye freeze ho jaati hain. Mother table ke paas aati hain, phone uthati hain, draft padhne lagti hain—aur unke chehre par woh expression aata hai jo sirf maaon ke paas hota hai: half-amused, half-knowing.

Phir twist. Mother halki hansii ke saath bolti hain ki yeh draft toh unhone khud subah likh kar group mein bhejne ke liye socha tha, kyunki unko pata tha ki function ke baad teenon “sincere” banne ka natak karenge. Silence. Anita ka polite smile crack hota hai. Bina ka snack bowl almost ruk jaata hai. Chhaya ka notebook dheere se band hota hai. Mother ek line aur padhti hain—jo unki hi handwriting ka first version hai—aur bolti hain, “Bas usme se ‘we all were a little dramatic’ mat hatana.” Teeno behnein ek doosre ko dekhti hain aur phir ek saath bolti hain, “Maa, aap bhi?” Mother simply tea cup uthati hain aur bolti hain, “Beta, family function mein apology bhi family-approved honi chahiye.” End mein, teenon ki hansii phoot padti hai, aur jo apology message drama se shuru hua tha, woh ek shared joke ban kar khatam hota hai.