

THE SONG THEY FORGOT

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: Kamala (67)	Language: Hinglish	Credit: Story Dil Se Team

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Shaam ki naram roshni parde ke paar se music room mein gir rahi hai. Purane harmonium par dhool ki patli layer hai, songbooks idhar-udhar bikhre pade hain, aur ek chhota sa tea cup table ke kone par thanda ho chuka hai. Kamala, 67, safed kinare wali seedhi si sari mein, kursi par baithi hai jaise kisi stage ka last show abhi bhi uske andar zinda ho. Uski aankhon mein ek ajeeb sa intezaar hai. Anita, 44, practical aur restrained, sheet music ka bundle pakde hue, room mein enter karti hai aur bina emotional hue seedha poochti hai, "Maa, aaj phir kaunsi yaad ka mood hai?" Naina, 20, college clothes mein, door se andar aakar quietly harmonium ko chhoo leti hai. Woh bina jaane ek purani dhun humming kar rahi hoti hai.

Kamala dono ko dekhti hai aur bolti hai ki aaj woh bas ek gaana sunna chahti hai—woh gaana jo usne kabhi khud likha tha. Anita turant defensive ho jaati hai. Uske liye gaane ka matlab practice, notation, aur discipline hai; maa ka matlab hai unpredictable emotion. Woh kehti hai, "Aap hamesha kisi na kisi adhoore gaane ko poora karwana chahti ho. Hum dono ko woh tune yaad bhi nahi." Naina, jo ab tak chup thi, softly bolti hai, "Main thoda sa humming kar sakti hoon." Kamala uski taraf dekhkar pehli baar muskuraati hai. Yeh smile khushi ki nahi, pehchaan ki hoti hai.

Teenon milkar gaana pakadne ki koshish karte hain. Naina ek line uthati hai, Anita usko correct karti hai, Kamala beech-beech mein sur ko pakadti hai aur phir ruk jaati hai. Kabhi harmonium ka bellows atak jaata hai, kabhi Anita ke sheet music ke pages ulat jaate hain, aur kabhi Kamala ko apni hi likhi hui dhun se aansu aa jaate hain. Anita irritate hoti hai: "Maa, agar ro hi dena tha toh bulaaya kyun?" Kamala, thodi der baad, hansii aur dard ke beech bolti hai, "Kyuki tum log sunte nahi ho. Tum log bas kaam karte ho. Main chahti thi koi ek baar sirf sun le." Naina, jo dono ke beech ki tension ko mehsoos kar rahi hai, dheere se poochti hai, "Nani, yeh gaana kiske liye tha?" Kamala jawab nahi deti. Room mein silence itna gehra ho jaata hai ki curtain ka hilna bhi sunaai deta hai.

Anita ko lagta hai ki is silence ke peeche aur bhi purani baat hai. Woh apni maa se pehli baar seedha sawaal karti hai: "Aap mujhe kabhi sach mein kuch batati hi nahi. Bachpan se bas aadha sach. Aadhe gaane. Aadhe rishte." Kamala ka chehra sakht ho jaata hai, phir tootne lagta hai. Woh old cassette ko uthati hai, us par likha faded sa naam dikhati hai, aur kehti hai, "Yeh gaana main ne tumhare liye nahi likha tha, Anita." Anita ka chehra blank ho jaata hai. Kamala aage bolti hai, "Main ne ek beti ke liye likha tha jise mujhe rakhne nahi diya gaya."

Naina ka humming ruk jaata hai. Anita ko pehli baar lagta hai ki room ka hawa ka pressure badal gaya hai. Kamala cassette ko harmonium ke paas rakhkar poora sach bol deti hai: jawani mein, ghar aur haalaat ke dabav mein, usne ek beti ko janam ke baad alag kar diya tha. Us waqt usne is gaane mein us bacchi ke liye ek promise likha tha—ki kahin na kahin, koi awaaz usse dhoondh legi. Woh kabhi us gaane ko public nahi kar paayi. “Phir tum paida hui,” Kamala Anita se kehti hai, “aur main ne socha doosri baar rishta sambhal lungi. Par main ne tumhe bhi kabhi poora sach nahi diya.” Anita ki aankhon mein gussa, hurt aur ek purana, naamless guilt ek saath aa jaata hai.

Climax mein Naina, jo ab tak bas sun rahi thi, cassette ko dekhti hai aur softly bolti hai, “Toh yeh gaana family secret nahi, family memory hai.” Phir woh harmonium par ek clear note dabati hai aur pehli baar poore confidence se us tune ko pakad leti hai. Kamala uske saath gaane lagti hai; Anita, pehle reluctant, phir dheere-dheere join karti hai. Teen alag generations ki awaazein ek hi room mein milti hain—kahin maafi, kahin regret, kahin pehli baar sach ka sakoon. Gaana khatam hota hai. Kamala ki aankhon mein aansu hain, par is baar woh sirf dard ke nahi, relief ke hain. Naina uska haath pakadti hai. Anita kuch nahi kehti, bas sheet music ko side mein rakh kar maa ke saamne baith jaati hai. Room mein pehli baar silence khaali nahi, poora lagta hai. Aur jo song sabne bhool diya tha, woh aakhirkar kisi ne sun liya hota hai.