

## MUTED — VISUAL STORYBOARD GUIDE

**DIRECTOR'S VISUAL APPROACH (Psychological Thriller):** This storyboard is designed as an easy, creative guide to help you shoot the film. Each scene beat below describes what the audience sees on screen, character movement/staging, the lighting vibe, and the dramatic purpose.

### SCENE 01: THE CORRIDOR AT 11:47

**Camera Vibe:** Wide corridor establishing shot

- **What We See on Screen:** A dim apartment corridor stretches into shadow under a buzzing overhead bulb, with cold light spilling from the stairwell. Aarav stands outside his front door, phone in hand, isolated in the narrow space.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Aarav refreshes his phone repeatedly, shoulders slumped, then freezes as the device vibrates. His body tightens before he even looks at the screen.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Cold, bluish spill from the stairwell and a sickly practical bulb overhead; shadows pool at both ends of the hall.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Establish the corridor as a psychological trap and make the audience feel the loneliness before the threat arrives.

### SCENE 02: THE FIRST SILENT VIDEO

**Camera Vibe:** Insert on phone screen with tight reaction close-up

- **What We See on Screen:** The phone displays a silent video shot from inside Aarav's flat: dim kitchen corner, a hand entering frame, and the door chain slowly opening.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Aarav's face drains of color as he watches; his hand tightens around the phone and key card, and his breath catches.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Phone glow on Aarav's face, with the corridor still swallowing the background in darkness.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Turn the phone into a source of dread and make the first proof feel impossible.

### SCENE 03: AUTHORITY AND DENIAL

**Camera Vibe:** Medium three-shot in corridor

- **What We See on Screen:** Suresh arrives with logbook and flashlight, while Mihir emerges from across the hall with a polite smile. The three men form a tense triangle around the door.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Suresh tries to stay calm and procedural; Mihir speaks softly and unnervingly; Aarav pleads and challenges both of them.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Flashlight beam cuts across faces and lock hardware, while the overhead bulb buzzes above them.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Introduce competing versions of reality and let each man's stillness become suspicious.

## STORYBOARD: THE DRAMATIC BUILDUP & CLIMAX

### SCENE 04: THE BEDROOM ANGLE

**Camera Vibe:** Insert on second phone video with close reaction beats

- **What We See on Screen:** A silent bedroom-angle video shows a pair near the bed and Aarav's hoodie hanging on a chair, proving the intrusion is deeper than the corridor suggests.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Aarav recoils and insists he came out of the flat; Mihir answers too calmly; Suresh interrupts and inspects the lock.
- **Lighting & Mood:** The phone screen becomes the brightest object in frame, with the corridor falling darker around the men.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Escalate the threat from possible prank to intimate violation of personal space.

### SCENE 05: THE CORRIDOR FOOTAGE BEHIND THEM

**Camera Vibe:** Over-the-shoulder phone insert into a wider corridor composition

- **What We See on Screen:** The third silent video shows the three men standing exactly where they are now, but the camera pans into the dark interior of the flat where a shape emerges.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Aarav points toward the darkness in panic; Suresh loses his composure; Mihir's polite smile disappears as all three realize the threat is still inside.
- **Lighting & Mood:** The corridor light feels colder and thinner, with the flat interior rendered as a black void.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Reveal that the evidence is not just documenting events but positioning the characters inside a larger trap.

### SCENE 06: THE FINAL MESSAGE AND DOOR OPENING

**Camera Vibe:** Tight insert on final video, then locked-off corridor end frame

- **What We See on Screen:** Inside the cupboard-angle video, a gaunt unfamiliar face holds Aarav's earbuds case while the text appears: 'AB TUM BAHAR HO.' Back in the corridor, the door opens a few inches into darkness.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Aarav's key card slips from his pocket; Suresh drops the logbook; Mihir steps back as all three stare at the opening door.
- **Lighting & Mood:** The corridor dims further, with the phone screen and a sliver of darkness from the opening door dominating the frame.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** End on a devastating reversal where the apartment is no longer a refuge but a claimed space, leaving the audience with unresolved dread.

### CREATIVE SHOOTING CHEAT-SHEET FOR THE DIRECTOR:

- **Keep Camera at Eye-Level:** In small rooms or single locations, eye-level framing makes the audience feel trapped in the room with the characters.
- **Reaction Shots are Gold:** When a secret or punchline lands, hold the camera on the character *listening* to capture their silent shock.
- **Audio Drives Emotion:** Whispers, deep sighs, and awkward silences carry 60% of the dramatic tension.