

THE ROOFTOP PACT — VISUAL STORYBOARD GUIDE

DIRECTOR'S VISUAL APPROACH (Emotional Drama): 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: ORANGE ROOFTOP, RESTLESS EXIT

Camera Vibe: Wide establishing shot with slow push-in

- **What We See on Screen:** A small residential rooftop under an orange sky, laundry lines swaying, water tank near a crooked chair, and Farhan standing at the parapet with a backpack and cigarette pack, isolated against the city haze.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Farhan fidgets with the cigarette pack, shoulders tense, body angled toward the exit as if already halfway gone.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Warm sunset wash with long shadows, dusty highlights, and the bulb still unlit.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Set the emotional geography immediately: this is a place of departure, pressure, and unfinished belonging.

SCENE 02: SALIM ENTERS WITH TEA

Camera Vibe: Medium two-shot with doorway reveal

- **What We See on Screen:** The rooftop door creaks open and Salim steps in carrying a thermos, entering the frame with calm weight while Farhan stays turned away.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Salim places the thermos on the chair; Farhan finally turns, guarded and sharp-eyed.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Softening sunset light, faces still mostly natural, background traffic hum felt more than seen.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Introduce Salim as a non-threatening force; his gentleness should feel more powerful than confrontation.

SCENE 03: THE ARGUMENT TIGHTENS

Camera Vibe: Alternating close-ups and over-the-shoulder shots

- **What We See on Screen:** Farhan's bitterness and Salim's steady gaze collide in tight framing, with the cigarette pack tapped but never lit.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Farhan lashes out about being compared and failed; Salim absorbs the pain without flinching.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Contrast increases, with deeper shadows on Farhan's face and warm edge light on Salim.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Make the audience feel the emotional history between them without flashback—only through dialogue and reaction.

STORYBOARD: THE DRAMATIC BUILDUP & CLIMAX

SCENE 04: IMRAN JOINS THE TRIANGLE

Camera Vibe: Three-shot composition with layered depth

- **What We See on Screen:** Imran enters carefully, creating a triangle of bodies across the rooftop: Farhan near the edge, Salim between, Imran slightly back and to the side.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Imran speaks measuredly; Farhan snaps back; Salim steps in to quiet both men.
- **Lighting & Mood:** The sky dims further, and the rooftop begins to feel enclosed by shadow and distance.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Visually express the emotional roles: one who runs, one who holds, one who bridges.

SCENE 05: THE ENVELOPE REVEAL

Camera Vibe: Close-up on Salim’s hand to Farhan’s face reaction

- **What We See on Screen:** Salim pulls an envelope from his shirt pocket and extends it; pigeons flutter off the tank as silence takes over the rooftop.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Farhan freezes, then takes in the meaning of the money; Imran watches in stunned silence.
- **Lighting & Mood:** A still, suspended moment with the warmest light concentrated on the envelope and faces.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** This is the emotional pivot: the scene must feel like dignity being handed over, not charity.

SCENE 06: TEA, BULB, AND GOODBYE

Camera Vibe: Medium close-up ending on a lingering wide

- **What We See on Screen:** Salim pours tea, Imran slips the cigarette pack onto the chair, the bulb flickers on, and Farhan shoulders the backpack before exiting toward the rooftop door.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Farhan takes the envelope and tea, speaks his final line, then leaves with a steadier posture than when he arrived.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Mixed light: warm bulb glow against the cooling sunset, creating a temporary family halo.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** End on emotional permission rather than closure; the rooftop becomes a place of return, not abandonment.

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.