

THE LOCKED WARD — 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 CLINICAL TRAP

Camera Vibe: Wide Room View

- **What We See on Screen:** A locked consultation room under dim institutional light, with blinds casting thin yellow corridor lines across padded chairs, the table, the file, clipboard, water glass, and ward chart. Dr. Nair sits composed, Rudra fidgets in a hospital gown, and Anil stands by the door with keys clipped to his belt.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Dr. Nair opens the session calmly. Rudra's hands keep moving, restless and contained. Anil watches from the door, half-guard, half-witness.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Cold, flat, and oppressive with striped shadow patterns across the room.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Establish the room as a controlled environment that already feels wrong, so the audience senses the trap before the dialogue turns.

SCENE 02: WHO CONTROLS THE ROOM?

Camera Vibe: Medium Three-Shot

- **What We See on Screen:** The three men in a tense triangular arrangement around the table, with Rudra and Anil trading verbal blows while Dr. Nair remains centered but increasingly alert.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Rudra points suspicion toward Anil and the keys. Anil dismisses him with sarcasm. Dr. Nair keeps the session clinical, but his attention sharpens.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Still restrained, but with stronger facial contrast and deeper shadows under the eyes.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Turn the dialogue into a power struggle and make the keys feel like the room's hidden authority.

SCENE 03: THE FILE DOESN'T MATCH

Camera Vibe: Insert to Close-Up Sequence

- **What We See on Screen:** The patient file opens, the ward chart is compared, and the note about identity discrepancy appears. Dr. Nair's face tightens as he reads the inconsistent details.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Dr. Nair flips pages and compares records. Rudra goes still for the first time. Anil tries to redirect the conversation and claim the records were shifted by Rudra.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Sharper practical highlights on paper edges and hands, with the rest of the room falling darker.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Make the evidence feel tactile and undeniable, so the audience experiences the same creeping doubt as Dr. Nair.

STORYBOARD: THE DRAMATIC BUILDUP & CLIMAX

SCENE 04: THE ADMINISTRATOR CLAIM

Camera Vibe: Over-the-Shoulder Cross Coverage

- **What We See on Screen:** Anil leans in defensively, calling Rudra the old administrator. Rudra answers with a dry, controlled smile and turns the accusation back onto Anil.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Anil hardens, stepping forward. Rudra remains calm but pointed. Dr. Nair looks from one to the other, trying to reconcile the contradictions.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Tighter shadows and more contrast on faces, with the room feeling smaller and more airless.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Escalate the conflict from confusion into accusation, making each line feel like a weapon.

SCENE 05: THE REFLECTION REVEAL

Camera Vibe: Close-Up on Window Reflection

- **What We See on Screen:**
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Dr. Nair stares at the glass in disbelief. Rudra rises slowly, now fully in control. Anil's hand tightens on his belt.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Cold reflected light, glass glare, and a stark, clinical reveal that isolates Dr. Nair from the room.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Deliver the identity twist visually, not just verbally, so the audience feels the collapse of Dr. Nair's reality.

SCENE 06: THE DOOR OPENS

Camera Vibe: Medium Close-Up to Door Exit

- **What We See on Screen:**
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Rudra takes control and exits. Dr. Nair remains stunned. Anil and Dr. Nair exchange a terrible, silent look as the room's authority shifts completely.
- **Lighting & Mood:** A cold corridor spill enters the room, sharpening the contrast and making the exit feel like a release and a threat at once.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** End on a decisive reversal of power, leaving the audience with the unsettling sense that the system has been exposed but not escaped.

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.