

ELEVATOR STOP — 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 LOCKED CAR

Camera Vibe: Tight Wide Interior

- **What We See on Screen:** A closed elevator car under flickering white emergency light. Neil stands alone in a polished suit, pressing buttons and the emergency phone while the red display cycles 12... 11... 12...
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Neil's posture is controlled but tense; his collar is tight and sweaty as he tries to stay composed.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Cold white flicker with hard shadows and a sharp red numeric glow from the floor display.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Establish confinement immediately and make the elevator feel like a pressure chamber where control is already slipping.

SCENE 02: THE TECHNICIAN APPEARS

Camera Vibe: Medium Two-Shot with Side Entry

- **What We See on Screen:** The service hatch opens and Vikram steps in with a tool belt, calm and unreadable. The elevator doors half-open and close again as Isha slips inside, clutching her handbag.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Neil turns suspiciously toward Vikram; Vikram remains still and grounded; Isha enters with anxious urgency.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Flicker intensifies, creating broken highlights on faces and metal surfaces.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Introduce the first layer of mistrust and make every new arrival feel like a possible threat.

SCENE 03: QUESTIONS AND DENIALS

Camera Vibe: Alternating Close-Ups

- **What We See on Screen:** Neil flashes the keycard, Vikram questions him, and Isha challenges the story. The emergency phone fails, and the red display resets to B1.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Neil avoids direct answers; Isha watches him closely; Vikram stays calm but probing.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Harsh white flicker with the red B1 display becoming a visual alarm.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Turn the dialogue into a chess match and let the display reset act as a psychological trigger.

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STORYBOARD: THE DRAMATIC BUILDUP & CLIMAX

SCENE 04: THE FOOTAGE LOOP

Camera Vibe: Insert Shot to Reaction Close-Ups

- **What We See on Screen:** The security monitor flickers on with grainy looping footage of Neil entering the elevator, then repeating in an edited-looking loop.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Neil recoils; Isha studies the monitor; Vikram points toward the screen with quiet certainty.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Monitor glow adds a sickly, grainy texture against the emergency white light.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Visually prove that the room is being manipulated and push Neil toward collapse.

SCENE 05: TRUTH IN THE BOX

Camera Vibe: Intense Close-Ups and Tight Three-Shot

- **What We See on Screen:** Neil confesses the hit-and-run cover-up, Isha reveals she is the guard's daughter, and Vikram reveals he is the guard's brother. The data drive drops from Neil's pocket and is picked up by Isha.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Neil's body folds inward as he admits guilt; Isha's shock hardens into resolve; Vikram remains cold and exact.
- **Lighting & Mood:** The flicker steadies slightly, making the faces clearer and the truth unavoidable.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Make the emotional reveal feel like the elevator itself has become a witness and an evidence chamber.

SCENE 06: DOORS OPEN, TRUTH REMAINS

Camera Vibe: Final Wide to Exit Frame

- **What We See on Screen:** The red display steadies, the doors open, and distant footsteps with security and police voices are heard outside. Isha steps forward holding the drive while Neil and Vikram remain frozen.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Neil does not move; Vikram does not blink; Isha walks out first, carrying the moral center of the ending.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Steady emergency white light with cooler exterior spill from the open doors.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** End on unresolved accountability: the physical trap is over, but the consequences are only beginning.

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.