

ONE SEAT LEFT — VISUAL STORYBOARD GUIDE

DIRECTOR'S VISUAL APPROACH (Pure Comedy): 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 LAST CHAIR APPEARS

Camera Vibe: Wide Establishing View

- What We See on Screen:** A small railway waiting room or bus shelter in bright morning light. Plastic chairs line the wall, a crooked route board hangs overhead, and one empty chair stands out as the only available seat. Dust floats visibly through the sunlight while the ceiling fan turns lazily above.
- Actor Movement & Staging:** Manish approaches from one side with newspaper in hand, moving carefully toward the chair. Tushar enters from the opposite side at the same time, coffee cup in hand, backpack on, already looking like he owns the moment. Ritu stands near the counter, watching both with zero patience.
- Lighting & Mood:** Natural daylight with dusty shafts, soft shadows, and a slightly worn public-space realism.
- Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Set up the comic battlefield clearly so the audience instantly understands that this one chair is the entire conflict.

SCENE 02: PROOF WARS BEGIN

Camera Vibe: Medium Two-Shot with Insert Cutaways

- What We See on Screen:** Manish and Tushar face off over the chair, each pulling out their phones to show proof. The camera catches quick inserts of a screenshot, QR code, receipt, and transaction ID, while Ritu steps into frame as the dry referee.
- Actor Movement & Staging:** Manish speaks politely but firmly, holding his phone like evidence. Tushar unlocks his phone with swagger and talks over him. Ritu cuts between them with a whistle dangling, controlling the space without raising her voice.
- Lighting & Mood:** Same daylight base, but with slightly stronger facial contrast to emphasize reactions and tension.
- Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Turn a mundane seat dispute into a mock courtroom battle, where every proof item becomes a joke.

SCENE 03: CLAIM MARKERS AND EGO

Camera Vibe: Alternating Close-Ups and Over-the-Shoulders

- What We See on Screen:** Manish folds his newspaper sharply and places it on the chair arm. Tushar moves in with his coffee cup and startup confidence. Ritu checks tickets, swaps them in her hands, and delivers deadpan commentary while the chair remains the silent center of the frame.
- Actor Movement & Staging:** Manish tries to physically claim the seat with newspaper logic. Tushar counters with app language and a smug posture. Ritu's body language is calm, precise, and slightly amused as she keeps both men off balance.
- Lighting & Mood:** Bright but controlled, with the chair and hands catching the cleanest highlights.
- Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Escalate the comedy through petty physical gestures and make the audience enjoy how ridiculous both men are.

STORYBOARD: THE DRAMATIC BUILDUP & CLIMAX

SCENE 04: THE EMPTY CHAIR REVEAL

Camera Vibe: Slow Push-In on the Chair

- **What We See on Screen:** Ritu points slowly to the chair and the camera settles on the empty seat as the men finally realize it was available all along. The tiffin bag appears from behind the counter, and the chair becomes visually redefined as her lunch break seat.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Manish and Tushar freeze, then look from the chair to each other in disbelief. Ritu calmly pulls out her tiffin bag and places it on the chair, owning the space with total ease.
- **Lighting & Mood:** A clean highlight on the chair and tiffin, with the rest of the room slightly subdued to focus attention on the reveal.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Deliver the punchline visually before the dialogue lands, so the audience feels the reveal as a comic snap.

SCENE 05: DEFEAT IN SILENCE

Camera Vibe: Medium Static Hold

- **What We See on Screen:** Ritu sits on the chair and opens her lunch box while Manish and Tushar stand awkwardly in the foreground. The fan keeps turning, dust drifts through the light, and the room becomes painfully quiet after the argument.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Manish lowers his newspaper and hides behind it in embarrassment. Tushar takes a small sip of coffee and looks deflated. Ritu eats calmly, not even looking up as she delivers the final manners line.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Soft, natural daylight with a calm, almost cruel clarity that makes the embarrassment feel public.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Let the silence do the comedy work and make the audience savor the humiliation of both men.

SCENE 06: EGO FULLY BOOKED

Camera Vibe: Final Reaction Two-Shot

- **What We See on Screen:** Manish and Tushar stand side by side, silent and defeated, while Ritu remains seated with her lunch. The fan spins overhead, the dust glows in the sunlight, and the empty room feels like a tiny courtroom after judgment.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Manish and Tushar exchange a shameful glance, each realizing the absurdity of their fight. Ritu smirks without looking up, finishing the scene with total control.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Warm daylight with soft shadows, preserving the everyday realism and the final comic sting.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** End on a clean visual punchline that leaves the audience with the image of ego losing to common sense.

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.