

THE TENANT IN ROOM 304 — 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 QUIET DESK

Camera Vibe: Wide establishing shot with desk-centered composition

- **What We See on Screen:** A dim hotel reception under amber lamps. The register book lies open on the desk, the room key card rests nearby, and the security monitor glows coldly beside the corridor entrance. Mr. Bhatt stands behind the desk while Rohit stares at the monitor, both trapped in a small, polished night world.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Bhatt maintains a polite, controlled posture. Rohit keeps adjusting his headset and staring at the screen, visibly anxious.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Warm amber pools with a cold monitor rectangle; soft shadows, quiet tension, and a slightly sterile night atmosphere.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Establish the hotel as a contained psychological arena and introduce the central contradiction: a guest exists in records but not in surveillance.

SCENE 02: THE MISSING GUEST PROBLEM

Camera Vibe: Over-the-shoulder and medium two-shot coverage between Bhatt and Rohit

- **What We See on Screen:** The men argue quietly across the desk while the monitor shows an empty corridor. The register book remains visible in the foreground, making the paper record feel more real than the screen.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Rohit leans forward, frustrated and nervous. Bhatt stays composed, smiling with controlled authority.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Amber light flatters Bhatt's uniform and catches Rohit's stress; the monitor keeps the background cold and accusatory.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Build the first layer of suspicion and show how institutional confidence can feel more dangerous than panic.

SCENE 03: NANDINI ARRIVES

Camera Vibe: Entrance reveal with a slow push-in from the desk toward the front door

- **What We See on Screen:** The front entrance opens and Nandini steps in with a locked suitcase, dark coat, and calm, deliberate movement. She looks like a normal guest, but the room's energy shifts immediately.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Nandini enters with controlled steps, pauses, and states that her key card is not working. Bhatt and Rohit exchange a look.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Her figure is edged by the amber lobby light while the monitor glow remains cold in the background, making her presence feel both grounded and uncanny.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Introduce the force that will destabilize the room and make the audience feel that the real confrontation has begun.

STORYBOARD: THE DRAMATIC BUILDUP & CLIMAX

SCENE 04: THE INTERROGATION REVERSES

Camera Vibe: Tight medium shots and close-ups on faces, register, and monitor

- **What We See on Screen:** Nandini points to the register, names the exact room, and exposes details about Rohit's headset and Bhatt's cufflinks. The register page becomes a weapon, and the men's confidence starts to collapse.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Rohit freezes and pales. Bhatt's smile tightens and then disappears. Nandini remains calm, almost surgical in her delivery.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Faces are split between warm amber and cold screen spill, creating visual unease and moral imbalance.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Flip the power dynamic so the supposed guest becomes the investigator and the staff become the exposed subjects.

SCENE 05: THE SUITCASE EVIDENCE

Camera Vibe: Insert-heavy close-up sequence on suitcase, register page, and recorder

- **What We See on Screen:** Nandini opens the suitcase to reveal a small audio recorder. The old register page is visible beside it, and the monitor flickers in the background like a silent witness.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Bhatt steps forward but cannot regain control. Rohit leans in, realizing the scale of what is being revealed.
- **Lighting & Mood:** The room feels colder now; the monitor glow sharpens edges while the amber light dims into a more oppressive tone.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Make the evidence feel tactile and undeniable, turning the desk into a crime scene of memory and omission.

SCENE 06: ROOM 304 REMEMBERED

Camera Vibe: Final locked-off three-shot with the monitor and desk in frame

- **What We See on Screen:** The recorder plays a crackling voice. Bhatt and Rohit freeze as Nandini places the key card beside the register and declares that she is the previous manager's daughter. The monitor hums, the lobby light flickers, and the room feels permanently changed.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Nandini stays still and controlled. Bhatt is broken and silent. Rohit is stunned, unable to move.
- **Lighting & Mood:** A split of amber and cold light, with subtle flicker and deepening shadows that make the hotel feel exposed.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** End on a quiet but devastating emotional verdict: the hotel can no longer hide behind its polished surface.

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.