

THE UMBRELLA TEST — 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: MONSOON PRESSURE COOKER

Camera Vibe: Wide interior establishing shot

- **What We See on Screen:** A cramped small car under a flyover at night, rain hammering the roof, fogged windows glowing faintly from the dashboard's soft yellow light. Dev, Rahul, and Ira are trapped in a tight triangle of awkwardness.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Dev sits soaked and overprepared with the umbrella; Rahul lounges smugly with coffee and an old umbrella; Ira sits dry and unimpressed, reading the situation like a judge.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Soft dashboard amber inside, cold rain-dark blues outside, with wet reflections shimmering on glass.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Establish the claustrophobic comedy arena and make the car feel like a tiny courtroom before anyone speaks.

SCENE 02: THE HEROIC UMBRELLA OFFER

Camera Vibe: Medium two-shot on Dev and Ira with Rahul intruding in frame

- **What We See on Screen:** Dev extends the umbrella toward Ira like a grand sacrifice while Rahul immediately cuts in with a sarcastic line. Ira's face stays flat, unimpressed by the performance.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Dev leans forward with dramatic sincerity; Rahul points and smirks; Ira barely reacts, holding eye contact like she's testing a suspect.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Warm dashboard glow on faces, with rain flicker and soft shadowing around the edges.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Sell the first joke visually: Dev thinks he's in a romance, but the room treats him like a punchline.

SCENE 03: SELFLESSNESS VS SHIRT REALITY

Camera Vibe: Close-up reaction chain

- **What We See on Screen:** Dev insists true love means selflessness, Rahul points at the soaked shirt, and Ira's deadpan stare lands like a verdict.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Dev tries to hold his romantic pose; Rahul casually dismantles it; Ira asks the first sharp question that shifts the power dynamic.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Tight, intimate practical light with rain noise pressing in from outside.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Turn a simple argument into a comedic thesis: romance collapses when reality enters the frame.

CLIMAX BEATS & CREATIVE DIRECTING TIPS

STORYDILSE PRODUCTION BIBLE

STORYBOARD: THE DRAMATIC BUILDUP & CLIMAX

SCENE 04: COURTROOM IN A CAR

Camera Vibe: Over-the-shoulder and medium close-ups in rapid alternation

- **What We See on Screen:** Ira leans forward and declares the car a courtroom. Dev and Rahul are now visibly on trial as she cross-examines them about lies, flowers, and umbrellas.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Ira takes physical control of the space, straightening herself like a judge; Dev fidgets and gets caught; Rahul keeps talking himself deeper into trouble.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Even, controlled dashboard light with slightly cleaner facial separation as Ira dominates the frame.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Make the comedy escalate through interrogation rhythm, not chaos, so every answer feels like a self-own.

SCENE 05: THE UMBRELLA TEST REVEALED

Camera Vibe: Tight close-up on Ira with cutaways to Dev and Rahul

- **What We See on Screen:** Ira taps the umbrella like evidence and reveals that the real test was honesty, not chivalry. Rain pounds harder as the truth lands.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Dev freezes, Rahul tries to defend himself, and Ira remains calm, almost amused by their predictability.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Slightly stronger contrast, with the umbrella catching a small highlight as the symbolic object of the scene.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Reveal the premise cleanly and let the audience enjoy the reversal: the test was always about truth.

SCENE 06: DRIVE HOME THE TRUTH

Camera Vibe: Final three-shot with emphasis on Ira taking the keys

- **What We See on Screen:** Ira takes the umbrella, closes Rahul's coffee lid, grabs the car keys, and declares she'll drive. Dev and Rahul exchange a relieved look as the rain continues outside.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Ira becomes the only one in control; Dev and Rahul surrender their posturing and sit back, almost grateful.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Warm interior glow steadies into a calmer, more balanced frame, while the storm remains visible beyond the windows.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** End on a comic resolution where competence wins, and the emotional punch is that survival is enough.

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.