

THE EXTRA CHAIR — 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 EXTRA CHAIR ENTERS THE COURTROOM

Camera Vibe: Wide Room View

- **What We See on Screen:** A cramped dining room glowing under a warm ceiling bulb, with a flickering lamp near the sideboard and an extra chair sitting awkwardly in the corner. Arjun stands in office formals with his water bottle, while Meera and Nisha sit at the too-small table like they already know the verdict.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Arjun hesitates before moving the chair; Nisha points him into action; Meera watches with calm authority, reading glasses on.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Warm amber practicals with a slightly unstable flicker from the side lamp, creating a cozy but tense comic atmosphere.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Establish the room as a pressure cooker and introduce the extra chair as the visual symbol of the night's awkwardness.

SCENE 02: CHAIR, SPACE, AND THE FIRST MISSTEP

Camera Vibe: Medium Three-Shot with Tight Blocking

- **What We See on Screen:** Arjun drags the chair toward the table, bumps the corner, and sets it at the wrong angle. The table feels too small for everyone, and every movement threatens a collision.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Arjun smiles awkwardly and tries to correct the chair; Nisha and Meera exchange knowing looks, each one a step ahead of him.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Warm overhead light keeps the scene intimate while shadows under the table emphasize the cramped geometry.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Turn a simple chair adjustment into the first comic beat and show that Arjun is already losing the spatial battle.

SCENE 03: WATER, BOTTLE, AND NAPKIN CHAOS

Camera Vibe: Close-Up Chain Reaction

- **What We See on Screen:** Arjun offers his reusable bottle instead of water, then fumbles for a glass, spills a little on the table, and starts folding the napkin instead of using it to wipe the mess.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Arjun's hands move too fast and too carefully at once; Meera remains composed; Nisha's expression sharpens into amused disbelief.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Soft fill on faces with warm highlights on the bottle, glass, and wet tabletop, making the small spill feel hilariously important.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Escalate the comedy through a chain of wrong but harmless actions, keeping the tone affectionate rather than cruel.

STORYBOARD: THE DRAMATIC BUILDUP & CLIMAX

SCENE 04: THE SILENT PHONE AND THE SPOON TEST

Camera Vibe: Insert-Driven Medium Close-Up

- **What We See on Screen:**
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Arjun freezes, then overcorrects; Meera and Nisha exchange a look that says they are enjoying the test far too much.
- **Lighting & Mood:** The flickering lamp adds a subtle pulse to the frame while the warm bulb keeps the domestic setting grounded.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Build the sense that every object in the room is now part of the joke and every action is being judged.

SCENE 05: THE CHORES LIST REVEAL

Camera Vibe: Tight Two-Shot to Insert Reveal

- **What We See on Screen:**
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Arjun stares in disbelief; Meera and Nisha reveal their shared setup with calm confidence and a hint of mischief.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Even, readable light on the papers and faces, with the room's warmth softening the reveal so it feels playful rather than harsh.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Deliver the twist cleanly and make the audience realize the entire dinner has been a coordinated test.

SCENE 06: PASS, LAUGH, AND THE CHAIR STAYS

Camera Vibe: Final Medium Wide with Relaxed Blocking

- **What We See on Screen:**
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Arjun relaxes, picks up the serving bowl, and accepts the teasing; Meera and Nisha share the final family approval through humor.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Warm, settled amber with the flickering lamp now feeling gentle instead of tense, signaling emotional release.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** End on a warm comic payoff where the extra chair becomes a symbol of acceptance, patience, and family belonging.

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.