

LAST STOP, LADIES — VISUAL STORYBOARD GUIDE

DIRECTOR'S VISUAL APPROACH (Slice of Life/Family): 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: LATE-NIGHT WAITING ROOM PRESSURE

Camera Vibe: Wide establishing shot with a slow, observational hold

- **What We See on Screen:** A worn railway waiting room under harsh tube lights, peeling paint visible on the walls, a ceiling fan turning slowly overhead, and a vending machine casting blue light near the bench. Asha sits with plastic bags and a thermos, Pooja scrolls on her phone, and Sameer stands or sits nearby trying to look prepared.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Asha settles in with practical calm, Pooja watches with amused irritation, and Sameer performs responsibility with sleepy nervousness.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Flat institutional overhead light with a cool blue accent from the vending machine; lonely, late-night, slightly tired palette.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Set the emotional container: a public space that feels private, where family tension can play like a comedy of manners.

SCENE 02: THE FIRST INTERROGATION

Camera Vibe: Medium three-shot shifting into singles

- **What We See on Screen:** The family seated around the bench as Asha asks about the delay and platform number, while Pooja reacts with skeptical side glances. Sameer answers too quickly, trying to sound confident.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Sameer forces a smile and overplays certainty; Asha stays calm and observant; Pooja punctures his confidence with a look and a line.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Harsh top light emphasizes tired faces and the awkwardness of the exchange.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Introduce the comic dynamic and plant the first cracks in Sameer's performance.

SCENE 03: SNACKS, TICKETS, AND THE SLOW EXPOSURE

Camera Vibe: Alternating close-ups on hands, faces, and props

- **What We See on Screen:** Asha opens the plastic bag and finds no snacks. She holds up the ticket. Sameer reaches into his backpack and looks around for answers. Pooja leans in with amused disbelief.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Asha becomes the quiet scanner of truth, Pooja escalates the teasing, and Sameer starts to shrink under the pressure.
- **Lighting & Mood:** The blue vending glow catches the ticket and thermos while the overhead light keeps the room stark and honest.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Turn small travel details into emotional evidence, making the family history feel present without flashback.

STORYBOARD: THE DRAMATIC BUILDUP & CLIMAX

SCENE 04: WRONG PLATFORM REVEAL

Camera Vibe: Tight close-ups on tickets and faces, then a reaction shot on Sameer

- **What We See on Screen:** Asha pulls out the second set of tickets from her dupatta. Pooja checks the announcement on her phone. The platform number mismatch lands on Sameer's face as he realizes he has been wrong the whole time.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Asha delivers the truth with icy calm, Pooja reacts with a laugh she can barely contain, and Sameer freezes in embarrassment.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Slightly sharper contrast, with the ticket reveal catching the light and Sameer's face draining under the overheads.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Deliver the comedic twist with emotional precision, making the humiliation feel funny but human.

SCENE 05: THE SHARED ADMISSION

Camera Vibe: Medium close-up on Sameer, then a three-shot as the train announcement hits

- **What We See on Screen:** Sameer admits he couldn't manage everything. Asha answers with the line about the three of them. The announcement confirms the train is arriving on platform 4, and the family snaps into coordinated motion.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Sameer drops the act, Asha softens without losing authority, and Pooja shifts from teasing to practical support.
- **Lighting & Mood:** The room remains cool and institutional, but the faces feel more connected as they move together.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Transform embarrassment into family solidarity, showing that honesty is the real turning point.

SCENE 06: EXIT INTO TEAMWORK

Camera Vibe: Handheld follow shot toward the doorway and stairs

- **What We See on Screen:** Sameer grabs the backpack and thermos, Asha hands him the plastic bags, and Pooja takes the tickets and phone. They move out together toward the platform exit as the waiting room empties behind them.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Sameer apologizes, Asha keeps walking, Pooja reassures him with a final tease, and the trio exits as a unit.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Slightly more kinetic and directional, with practical light guiding them toward the exit while the room falls back into silence.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** End on motion and togetherness, making the final image about shared responsibility rather than individual heroism.

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.