

ECHOES IN THE ELEVATOR — VISUAL STORYBOARD GUIDE

**DIRECTOR'S VISUAL APPROACH (Horror/Supernatural):** 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 STALLED BOX

Camera Vibe: Wide Room View

- **What We See on Screen:** A cramped elevator frozen between floors, red emergency strips glowing against mirrored walls that multiply the three characters into a crowd of reflections. Vikram jabs at the panel, Leela stands rigid with her key ring, and Ananya remains still in the corner.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Vikram is restless and defensive, Leela watches with suspicion, and Ananya stays unnervingly calm without moving much.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Low red practicals, dim flickering ceiling panel, metallic shadows, cold institutional atmosphere.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Establish the claustrophobic trap and the visual rule of reflections before the supernatural behavior begins.

SCENE 02: THE ECHO ANSWERS BACK

Camera Vibe: Close-Up on Intercom and Faces

- **What We See on Screen:** The intercom crackles and repeats Vikram's line exactly, then echoes Leela's words. The camera cuts between the speaker grille and the characters' stunned faces.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Vikram freezes mid-denial, Leela narrows her eyes, and Ananya remains calm as if she expected it.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Flicker intensifies, faces fall in and out of shadow, red light sharpens the tension.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Make the audience feel the first impossible rule: the elevator repeats truth and exposes denial.

SCENE 03: THE BUILDING REMEMBERS

Camera Vibe: Medium Two-Shot with Floor Directory Insert

- **What We See on Screen:** Leela points at the floor directory while speaking about the building's past. The camera catches the directory, the key ring, and the mirrored walls that seem to listen.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Leela becomes authoritative and uneasy, Vikram tries to rationalize, and Ananya watches silently from the corner.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Red and gray tones deepen, with a colder feel creeping into the shadows.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Shift the horror from mechanical malfunction to buried history and moral memory.

STORYBOARD: THE DRAMATIC BUILDUP & CLIMAX

SCENE 04: CONFESSIONS IN THE BOX

Camera Vibe: Tight Alternating Close-Ups

- **What We See on Screen:** Vikram admits he delayed complaints and hid the budget report. Leela confesses she altered the incident report after seeing someone at the shaft. The intercom echoes each confession back with distorted precision.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Vikram's confidence collapses, Leela's grip tightens, and both begin to feel judged by Ananya's stillness.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Flicker becomes harsher, skin tones pale, reflections feel slightly off-sync.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Drive the emotional pressure upward by turning confession into self-incrimination.

SCENE 05: THE HOSPITAL BAND REVEAL

Camera Vibe: Insert to Medium Reveal Shot

- **What We See on Screen:** Ananya slowly pulls a wet hospital band from her coat collar. The building address is visible. Leela's face drains as the truth lands.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Ananya remains calm and deliberate, Vikram stares in disbelief, and Leela recoils in shock.
- **Lighting & Mood:** A brief steadier light allows the band to read clearly, then the room cools again into dread.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Reveal the human tragedy behind the haunting and make the audience understand Ananya's presence.

SCENE 06: THE NAME TAG AND THE BLACKOUT

Camera Vibe: Low Angle on Key Ring and Mirror Reflection

- **What We See on Screen:** The elevator drops slightly, the key ring falls, and the old name tag reading 'ANANYA R.' is revealed. The doors open to darkness instead of a corridor, reflections misalign, and Vikram's reflection does not blink before blackout.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Vikram and Leela freeze in terror, Ananya stands calm and final, and the elevator seems to decide their fate.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Emergency red steadies briefly, then the image collapses into darkness with a final oppressive flicker.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Deliver the twist with visual clarity and end on the moral punishment: truth cannot be escaped.

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.