

THE TERRACE PACT — VISUAL STORYBOARD GUIDE

DIRECTOR'S VISUAL APPROACH (Emotional Drama): 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: BLUE DUSK DIVIDE

Camera Vibe: Wide Room View / Static Establishing Shot

- **What We See on Screen:** A sparse apartment terrace under a growing blue evening sky. Farida sits in a plastic chair, Imran stands near the potted plants, and Sana occupies the space between them. The string lights are visible overhead but only half-lit, and the distant traffic line hums beneath the silence.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Farida sits closed in with her shawl, Imran avoids direct presence by standing apart, and Sana holds the center like someone carrying the weight of the conversation before it begins.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Cool dusk tones, soft blue ambient fill, weak practicals, and long shadows that make the terrace feel emotionally exposed.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Establish emotional distance and the physical geometry of the conflict before any words are spoken.

SCENE 02: THE FIRST DEMAND

Camera Vibe: Medium Three-Shot with Slight Push-In

- **What We See on Screen:** Sana turns directly toward Imran and demands answers. Farida remains seated, watching. Imran's face is caught between defensiveness and fatigue, while the terrace remains sparse and still behind them.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Sana speaks with controlled exhaustion, Imran tries and fails to mask himself, and Farida attempts a dry, light interruption to soften the tension.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Still cool, but with slightly more facial definition as the camera moves closer; the half-lit string lights remain unresolved.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Let the audience feel the first crack in the silence and the beginning of emotional pressure.

SCENE 03: THE DEBT CONFESSION

Camera Vibe: Tight Over-the-Shoulder and Close-Ups

- **What We See on Screen:** Imran finally admits he was afraid and reveals the debt. The frame tightens on Sana's reaction as her anger sharpens into betrayal. The terrace background falls away, leaving only faces and breath.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Imran lowers emotionally, shoulders collapsing; Sana's jaw tightens and her body stiffens as she processes the truth.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Cool, directional dusk light with stronger contrast on faces; shadows deepen to reflect the weight of the confession.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Make the reveal feel intimate and unavoidable, as if the truth has finally entered the frame.

STORYBOARD: THE DRAMATIC BUILDUP & CLIMAX

SCENE 04: FARIDA'S HIDDEN BURDEN

Camera Vibe: Medium Close-Up on Farida, then Reaction Shots

- **What We See on Screen:** Farida, still wrapped in her shawl, reveals the old medical bill and her decision to use some of the money. Imran and Sana react in stunned silence as the family's hidden pain expands.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Farida speaks with quiet firmness, not seeking praise; Imran absorbs the shock, and Sana's suspicion gives way to a deeper understanding.
- **Lighting & Mood:** The dusk remains cool, but the faces are more readable now, with a faint warmth beginning to emerge from the practical lights.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Shift the scene from a couple's conflict into a family truth, widening the emotional stakes without changing the location.

SCENE 05: THE FIRST HONEST SENTENCE

Camera Vibe: Close-Up on Imran, then Two-Shot with Sana

- **What We See on Screen:** Imran admits, without excuse, that he was scared. Sana listens in silence, then exhales as the first real truth lands. The envelope on the side table becomes a quiet symbol of shared responsibility.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Imran stops performing and speaks plainly; Sana softens just enough to recognize the honesty without erasing the hurt.
- **Lighting & Mood:** A subtle warm light begins to enter the frame, preparing the emotional transition toward relief.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Mark the exact moment the scene turns from accusation to repair.

SCENE 06: STRING LIGHTS AND PACT

Camera Vibe: Wider Final Group Composition

- **What We See on Screen:** The string lights click fully on. The three characters settle around the terrace space, no longer separated by distance. The blue dusk deepens, but the terrace now feels warmer and less cold.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Sana declares that no one will be alone anymore, Farida stands with quiet relief, and Imran responds with a broken half-smile as the family begins to sit together.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Warm practical string lights against the remaining blue sky, creating a gentle emotional balance between pain and hope.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** End on a fragile but real sense of togetherness, where the promise is not perfection but shared truth.

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.