

THE LANDLORD'S DAUGHTER — VISUAL STORYBOARD GUIDE

DIRECTOR'S VISUAL APPROACH (Mystery/Crime): 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 CORRIDOR FREEZE

Camera Vibe: Wide Room View with compressed depth

- **What We See on Screen:** A narrow apartment corridor under a flickering tube light, with yellow stairwell spill stretching long shadows across the wall. Siddharth stands outside the locked flat, frozen after hearing a ghutii hui scream. The door chain hangs visibly, and the old mail slot sits bent and silent.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Siddharth stops mid-breath, body stiff, eyes shifting toward the locked door. The corridor feels too small for him to move comfortably.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Cold fluorescent flicker mixed with dirty yellow side spill, creating uneasy shadow bands and a trapped feeling.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Establish immediate claustrophobia and make the audience feel that the corridor itself is a witness to something wrong.

SCENE 02: REKHA TAKES CONTROL

Camera Vibe: Medium close-up with slight push-in

- **What We See on Screen:** Rekha enters from the corridor carrying keys like a weapon. Her stern bun, house slippers, and hard stare dominate the frame as she confronts Siddharth beside the locked door.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** She plants herself in the corridor with authority, questions him sharply, and keeps the keys visible in her hand as a symbol of control.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Hard top light flicker on her face, with the stairwell glow carving one side into yellow shadow.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Turn Rekha into the first source of threat and make her denial feel more suspicious than protective.

SCENE 03: IRA AND THE BRUISE

Camera Vibe: Tight three-shot with insert on sleeve and wrist

- **What We See on Screen:** Ira steps into the corridor in a college jacket, nervously pulling her sleeve down. Siddharth catches a glimpse of a bruise on her wrist while Rekha cuts across the space between them.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Ira avoids eye contact, then answers with controlled defiance. Rekha immediately polices her posture and sleeve, tightening the emotional pressure.
- **Lighting & Mood:** The flicker isolates faces in fragments, making the bruise reveal feel like a secret exposed by accident.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Shift the scene from a simple scream mystery into a family conflict with visible physical evidence.

STORYBOARD: THE DRAMATIC BUILDUP & CLIMAX

SCENE 04: THE ENVELOPE DROPS

Camera Vibe: Insert-heavy close-ups and low-angle reaction shots

- **What We See on Screen:** Siddharth leans toward the mail slot and an envelope drops into the corridor. Rekha lunges, but Ira gets there first. The envelope opens to reveal cash bundles, rent receipts, and papers.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Rekha reaches to seize it, Ira snatches it up, and Siddharth stays still, watching the truth spill out in paper and money.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Harsh practical light on hands and envelope, with the background falling darker to isolate the reveal.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Create the first undeniable evidence beat and let silence do the dramatic work after the contents are exposed.

SCENE 05: THE TRAP IS NAMED

Camera Vibe: Over-the-shoulder confrontation with alternating close-ups

- **What We See on Screen:** Ira holds the phone with voice recorder on and explains that the scream was fake and used as a signal. The corridor becomes a verbal battlefield as she reveals the missing receipts and property papers, and Siddharth realizes he was used as proof.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Ira speaks with controlled force, Rekha's grip on the keys tightens, and Siddharth finally looks directly at Rekha instead of avoiding her.
- **Lighting & Mood:** The tube light flickers harder, making faces pulse between clarity and shadow as the truth lands.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Deliver the reversal: the scream was not a cry for help but a deliberate signal to expose theft and manipulation.

SCENE 06: PROOF AND EXIT

Camera Vibe: Static medium-wide with final exit line

- **What We See on Screen:** Ira hands the envelope to Siddharth. Rekha slowly opens the door chain. The corridor empties into a final hush, with only distant TV laughter and stairwell wind remaining as Siddharth exits and Rekha stays behind with the keys.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Siddharth takes the proof and leaves, Ira gives a small nod, and Rekha stands still, no longer fully in control of the space she guarded.
- **Lighting & Mood:** The last flicker of the tube light and the yellow spill feel colder and more isolated, leaving the corridor emotionally stripped bare.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** End on quiet aftermath rather than resolution, letting the audience sit with the cost of the reveal and the collapse of authority.

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.