

THE WRONG PATIENT — 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: THE SILENT WAITING ROOM

Camera Vibe: Wide Room View

- **What We See on Screen:** A pale hospital waiting room with three isolated figures: Manav hunched with a file, Ira standing near a chair with her badge hanging from her bag, and Naina upright in a wheelchair. Thin evening light cuts through blinds while the water dispenser hums in the corner.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Manav keeps opening and closing the medical file. Ira watches him without speaking. Naina remains still, alert, and dignified.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Soft, cool evening light with striped shadows across the floor and chairs; quiet, clinical, and emotionally suspended.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Establish the emotional distance between the three characters and make the room feel like a pressure chamber before the truth begins.

SCENE 02: THE FILE AND THE FIRST CRACK

Camera Vibe: Medium Two-Shot on Manav and Ira

- **What We See on Screen:** Manav finally speaks about Maa's report while Ira listens with a controlled, unreadable face. The file remains in his hand like a burden he cannot set down.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Manav confesses he hid the seriousness of the report; Ira's jaw tightens, but she stays composed and places a tissue beside the water cup.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Soft side light with gentle facial modeling; the room remains subdued, but the tension sharpens in their expressions.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Reveal the first layer of secrecy and show that the real conflict is not the diagnosis alone, but the habit of hiding truth.

SCENE 03: IRA'S HIDDEN KNOWLEDGE

Camera Vibe: Close-Up on Ira

- **What We See on Screen:** Ira's face holds steady as she explains she already knew from reports, half-heard conversations, and the nurse's expression. The tissue box and water cup sit in the foreground like quiet witnesses.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** She speaks softly but firmly, revealing that she also hid her own diagnosis. Her restraint begins to crack, but she does not collapse.
- **Lighting & Mood:** A slightly warmer edge on her face, with controlled shadow around the eyes to emphasize fatigue and emotional containment.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Turn the scene inward and make Ira's silence feel as heavy and consequential as Manav's.

STORYBOARD: THE DRAMATIC BUILDUP & CLIMAX

Camera Vibe: Medium Close-Up on Naina in Wheelchair

SCENE 04: NAINA TAKES CONTROL

- **What We See on Screen:** Naina leans forward in her wheelchair, sharp-eyed and lucid, cutting through the argument with calm authority. The wheelchair armrest and tissue box frame her as the room's center of gravity.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** She interrupts the emotional spiral, states that she understood the whispering, and calls out their pattern of protecting each other by avoiding the truth.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Even, dignified light with a subtle highlight on her eyes; the atmosphere feels still but commanding.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Shift power to Naina and let her become the moral anchor who names the family's shared denial.

Camera Vibe: Tight Alternating Close-Ups

SCENE 05: THE DIAGNOSIS LANDS

- **What We See on Screen:**
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Manav turns toward Ira in shock; Ira finally allows her voice to tremble; both are visibly undone but still standing.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Higher emotional contrast with soft catchlights in the eyes and visible tear sheen; the room remains realistic, not theatrical.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Deliver the emotional climax with honesty and restraint, making the audience feel the cost of silence.

Camera Vibe: Final Three-Shot Tableau

SCENE 06: WATER, TRUTH, AND STILLNESS

- **What We See on Screen:**
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Manav obeys without speaking, Ira steadies herself beside the wheelchair, and Naina accepts the water with quiet authority.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Soft, fading evening light through blinds; the room feels calmer, with silence now carrying acceptance instead of fear.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** End on fragile honesty and shared presence, showing that the first step toward healing is no longer hiding from each other.

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.