

SIGNAL LOST — VISUAL STORYBOARD GUIDE

DIRECTOR'S VISUAL APPROACH (Psychological Thriller): 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: STORM ENTRY

Camera Vibe: Wide room view from inside the apartment toward the door

- **What We See on Screen:** A tiny, boxed-in living room under storm light. Eshan stands at the threshold, soaked, holding his delivery bag and cracked helmet, while the blue laptop glow and flickering tube light carve the room into cold layers. The closed curtains and cramped furniture make the space feel sealed.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Eshan hesitates at the door, then steps in with guarded confusion. Rupa watches him with a mix of relief and fear, as if she has been waiting for him.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Cold, dim, storm-driven lighting with intermittent lightning flashes and a weak tube-light flicker. The laptop glow is the strongest stable source.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Establish immediate claustrophobia and uncertainty. The audience should feel that entering the room is already a mistake.

SCENE 02: THE CALM VOICE ON SCREEN

Camera Vibe: Medium two-shot with Eshan foreground and laptop screen visible beside Rupa

- **What We See on Screen:** Dr. Naina appears on the laptop, calm and composed, while Eshan sits on the sofa edge. The room's geometry keeps everyone visually trapped in the same frame, with the coffee table and glass of water between them.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Eshan tries to dismiss the situation with irritation. Rupa leans in, speaking softly, while Naina questions him with unnerving precision.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Laptop glow shapes faces from below and side; tube light flickers lightly, creating unstable shadows across Eshan's face.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Introduce the emotional imbalance: one man trying to stay casual, two women already holding information he doesn't have.

SCENE 03: THE SUBJECT FILE

Camera Vibe: Insert and tight close-ups on laptop screen and Eshan's face

- **What We See on Screen:** The desktop file opens: 'SUBJECT E-29 / AGGRESSION RESPONSE TRIAL.' Eshan's expression drains as the screen becomes a verdict. The room seems smaller once the label is visible.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Eshan rises abruptly, anger breaking through. Rupa shifts away, guilty and cornered. Naina remains still, almost clinical, as if the reveal is expected.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Sharper contrast, stronger screen glow, and a brief lightning flash that makes the room feel exposed and inescapable.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Turn the story from suspicion into certainty. The audience should feel the exact moment the shelter becomes a test chamber.

STORYBOARD: THE DRAMATIC BUILDUP & CLIMAX

Camera Vibe: Close-up on Rupa with Eshan partially out of focus in the foreground

SCENE 04: RUPA'S GUILT

- **What We See on Screen:** Rupa's trembling hand offers the glass of water. Her eyes fill with tears as she admits she was told Eshan could be dangerous. The glass, the coffee table, and the locked room all feel like evidence.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Rupa cannot fully meet Eshan's gaze. She speaks in fragments, then breaks, revealing guilt and fear.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Soft but cold light on Rupa's face, with a brief lightning flash catching tears and moisture on skin.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Humanize the trap. The scene should hurt because Rupa is also trapped, not simply an antagonist.

Camera Vibe: Tight close-up on Eshan with helmet reflection insert

SCENE 05: THE ROOM WAS WATCHING

- **What We See on Screen:** Eshan slowly lifts the cracked helmet. In the visor reflection, the laptop screen shows his live feed and the blinking red recording dot. The phone notification 'STAGE 2 APPROVED' lands like a final sentence.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Eshan's anger collapses into fear. He looks from the screen to Rupa to Naina, then toward the locked door, realizing the room is the trap.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Harsh laptop glow, tube light at full intensity for a moment, then a return to cold stillness. The red dot becomes the visual center.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Deliver the psychological reversal: he is not escaping the room, he is being processed by it.

Camera Vibe: Static medium-wide with all three characters separated by the room's geometry

SCENE 06: SILENT END STATE

- **What We See on Screen:** Eshan stands near the door, Rupa and Naina watch in silence, and the storm continues outside. The room is still, but the red recording dot keeps blinking, implying the experiment is ongoing.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** No one moves. Eshan faces the door but does not yet open it. Rupa cries silently. Naina remains composed and unreadable.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Low, cold, suspended light with no comforting warmth. The room feels clinically exposed and emotionally deadened.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** End on dread, not release. The audience should leave with the sense that the real horror is observation without consent.

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.