

THE THIRD BRIDE — 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 SILENT BRIDAL SUITE

Camera Vibe: Wide establishing shot

- **What We See on Screen:** A luxurious bridal suite glowing under vanity bulbs and a soft yellow lamp, with the wedding noise muffled outside. On the bed sit a half-packed trousseau, suitcase, guest list, and an open ring box with the ring missing. Ananya stands at the mirror in red bridal wear, while Seema waits with master keys as Pooja enters the room.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Ananya holds still but looks tense in the mirror; Seema stands guarded and defensive; Pooja steps in with notebook ready, scanning the room immediately.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Warm, elegant, and slightly oppressive; soft amber practicals with shadowed corners.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Establish the room as a pressure cooker and visually introduce the missing ring mystery before any dialogue lands.

SCENE 02: THE FIRST INTERROGATION

Camera Vibe: Medium three-shot with slight push-in

- **What We See on Screen:** Pooja questions Seema about the missing ring while Ananya reacts sharply from the mirror side of the room. The bed evidence remains in frame, keeping the investigation grounded in physical objects.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Pooja stays calm and sharp; Seema answers with a tight smile; Ananya turns abruptly and accuses sabotage.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Warm key light with growing shadow contrast around faces and the bed.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Turn the room into a chessboard where every answer feels like a move and every pause feels suspicious.

SCENE 03: THE GUEST LIST TRAP

Camera Vibe: Close-up to insert-driven medium shot

- **What We See on Screen:** Pooja lifts the guest list and notices A. Mehra written twice. She opens the ring box and studies the freshly pressed velvet slot. The mirror catches Ananya's reflection as Pooja begins reading the room, not just the paper.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Pooja's eyes narrow as she cross-checks details; Ananya freezes for a beat; Seema watches carefully, trying not to react.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Slightly cooler contrast within the warm room, emphasizing paper, velvet, and reflected faces.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Shift the scene from missing-object mystery to behavioral suspicion, making the audience feel the lie before it is named.

STORYBOARD: THE DRAMATIC BUILDUP & CLIMAX

SCENE 04: THE IDENTITY FILE REVEAL

Camera Vibe: Over-the-shoulder and insert close-ups

- **What We See on Screen:** A file is pulled from the suitcase, revealing two passport photocopies and an old photograph of the same bridal room and lehenga, with a different name written on the back. Pooja reads aloud, and Ananya's face hardens in the mirror's edge.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Pooja handles the documents with precision; Ananya stiffens and tries to hold her ground; Seema looks away as the evidence becomes undeniable.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Sharper contrast, with the documents lit clearly against the warm background.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Deliver the first major narrative reversal and make the audience understand that the missing ring is tied to identity fraud.

SCENE 05: SEEMA BREAKS THE SILENCE

Camera Vibe: Medium close-up with locker reveal

- **What We See on Screen:** Seema steps forward, admits she hid the ring, and opens the wall locker to retrieve the box. The ring returns to the table as the room's power shifts away from the bride and toward the manager's confession.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Seema finally commits to the truth; Pooja watches without blinking; Ananya's composure begins to crack.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Focused practical light on the locker and table, with the rest of the room falling into softer shadow.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Make the reveal feel morally charged rather than sensational, showing that the concealment was an intervention, not a theft.

SCENE 06: MIRROR OF THREE TRUTHS

Camera Vibe: Final reflective tableau / wide mirror composition

- **What We See on Screen:** Pooja closes her notebook and delivers the final judgment. Ananya's dupatta slips onto the bed. Seema grips the master keys tighter. In the mirror, all three women stand together in one frame, carrying the weight of the truth while the wedding noise swells outside.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Ananya breaks emotionally, Seema holds firm, and Pooja remains composed but unsparing.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Warm exterior wedding glow contrasted with a colder emotional center; reflections dominate the frame.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** End on a visual statement about identity, complicity, and exposure—three women trapped in one reflection, each changed by the 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.