

THE CANDIDATE — VISUAL STORYBOARD GUIDE

DIRECTOR'S VISUAL APPROACH (Sci-Fi/High-Concept): 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 WHITE ROOM ARRIVAL

Camera Vibe: Wide Room View

- **What We See on Screen:** A sterile white interview cabin with one table, three chairs, and a glowing panel screen pulsing softly blue. Asha enters holding a worn folder while Neha and Professor Aruna are already seated, creating an immediate imbalance in the room.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Asha steps in cautiously, Neha maintains a polished smile, and Aruna remains still and unblinking. Asha sits only after a beat, signaling unease.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Cool LED wash, clean white surfaces, faint blue screen pulse, minimal shadow, clinical calm.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Establish the room as a controlled system, not a welcoming office, and make the audience feel that something is already off before the first question is asked.

SCENE 02: THE MORAL TEST

Camera Vibe: Alternating Medium Singles and Over-the-Shoulders

- **What We See on Screen:** Aruna asks the impossible ethical question while the screen displays MEMORY STABILITY / 78%. Asha's face shifts from polite confusion to alert skepticism as Neha watches for reaction.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Asha answers carefully and pushes back with her own questions. Neha's smile briefly cracks. Aruna remains composed, almost detached.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Still cool and even, but with slightly deeper shadows around the eyes and table edges.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Turn a normal interview rhythm into a psychological test and let the audience feel the room narrowing around Asha.

SCENE 03: THE BLANK FORM

Camera Vibe: Insert Shots and Tight Close-Ups

- **What We See on Screen:** Asha notices the blank job title on the interview form. The screen flickers to IDENTITY CONSENT / PENDING while Aruna says continuity is relevant and Neha asks about memory and lies.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Asha opens her folder, studies the form, and begins to realize the interview is not about employment. Neha rotates the water glass with controlled unease.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Slightly harsher contrast, screen flicker becomes more noticeable, the room feels more procedural and less human.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Reveal the bureaucratic horror through small details rather than exposition, making the audience discover the trap alongside Asha.

STORYBOARD: THE DRAMATIC BUILDUP & CLIMAX

SCENE 04: THE MEMORY REVEAL

Camera Vibe: Tight Triangular Coverage

- **What We See on Screen:** Neha turns on the screen and the line CANDIDATE SELECTED FOR MEMORY TRANSFER INTO CLONED VESSEL appears. Asha freezes as Aruna explains the original body is terminal and memory can be preserved.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Asha recoils emotionally, Neha softens for the first time, and Aruna stays cold and procedural.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Blue light sharpens into a colder white, faces look more isolated, shadows deepen under the jaw and eyes.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Make the reveal feel like a legal announcement of violence, not a sci-fi spectacle.

SCENE 05: THE IDENTITY ARGUMENT

Camera Vibe: Intense Close-Ups and Slow Push-Ins

- **What We See on Screen:** Asha challenges the idea that memory equals self, asking who carries pain, fear, smell, and hesitation. Neha admits she is also transferred, and Aruna insists choice is irrelevant.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Asha becomes emotionally and intellectually dominant, Neha reveals vulnerability, and Aruna hardens into institutional authority.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Tighter shadows, colder faces, the screen glow becomes more oppressive, the room feels sealed.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Shift the power dynamic so Asha's humanity becomes the strongest force in the room.

SCENE 06: REFUSAL AND RETENTION

Camera Vibe: Final Close-Up on Asha with Screen in Background

- **What We See on Screen:** Asha sees the reversed consent line, folds the form, places it under the water glass, and refuses to sign. The screen flashes CANDIDATE DECLINED while Aruna's note falls revealing INITIATE RETENTION PROTOCOL.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Asha stands firm, Neha's smile disappears, Aruna rises with controlled danger, and the room's hum grows louder as the door remains locked.
- **Lighting & Mood:** The screen pulses red, ambient fill drops, and the room becomes stark and threatening with hard, cold contrast.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** End on a chilling reversal where refusal does not mean freedom, only a new phase of the trap, leaving the audience with unresolved dread.

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.