

THE SONG THEY FORGOT — 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: EVENING ROOM OF UNFINISHED SONGS

Camera Vibe: Wide establishing shot with layered foreground objects

- **What We See on Screen:** A small music room washed in soft evening light through curtains. The harmonium sits near the table, songbooks are scattered across surfaces, a cold tea cup rests at the corner, and the old cassette player gathers dust on the shelf.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Kamala sits still in a dignified, waiting posture. Anita enters with a bundle of sheet music. Naina lingers at the doorway, quietly observing before stepping in.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Warm amber light, soft shadows, dust visible in the air, memory-like tenderness.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Establish the room as a container of memory and emotional history before any truth is spoken.

SCENE 02: THE SONG THAT IS NOT COMPLETE

Camera Vibe: Medium three-shot with alternating close-ups

- **What We See on Screen:** Kamala opens an old songbook and points to a line. Anita studies the sheet music and reacts with skepticism. Naina watches the exchange, half-smiling, half-nervous.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Kamala asks to hear one song. Anita pushes back with practical resistance. Naina quietly offers curiosity instead of conflict.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Soft, even light with gentle facial modeling; the room still feels calm but slightly tense.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Introduce the central conflict: one woman wants to remember, one wants control, one wants to understand.

SCENE 03: HUMMING FINDS THE MISSING THREAD

Camera Vibe: Close-up on hands and faces, with harmonium detail inserts

- **What We See on Screen:** Kamala touches the harmonium bellows, Naina instinctively hums, and Anita begins correcting the tune. The song feels fragmented, with pauses, missed notes, and small physical interruptions.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Naina leans in and tries a note. Kamala joins, then stops, eyes filling. Anita corrects, then softens despite herself.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Warm but slightly more sculpted, with shadows deepening around the edges of the room.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Show the song as a living, imperfect bridge between the three women.

STORYBOARD: THE DRAMATIC BUILDUP & CLIMAX

SCENE 04: THE CASSETTE AND THE HIDDEN TRUTH

Camera Vibe: Tight close-up on the cassette, then reaction close-ups

- **What We See on Screen:** Kamala lifts the faded cassette labeled 'Raat Ka Geet.' Anita freezes. Naina's humming stops. The room seems to hold its breath as the object becomes the center of the frame.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Kamala reveals that the song was not written for Anita. Anita's face shifts from confusion to shock. Naina listens in silence, absorbing the weight of the confession.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Shadows deepen, faces become more sculpted, the room feels heavier and more private.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Turn the prop into the emotional detonator that exposes the buried family history.

SCENE 05: A FAMILY MEMORY, NOT A SECRET

Camera Vibe: Intimate medium close-up trio with slight handheld drift

- **What We See on Screen:** Naina speaks the line about family memory. She places the cassette into the player. The crackly melody begins, and the three women are framed together as the room slowly warms again.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** Naina takes initiative. Kamala begins singing with trembling clarity. Anita resists, then joins reluctantly, then fully.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Warm source remains, but the faces are more open and visible; the atmosphere shifts from pressure to release.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** Let the truth transform the room from a place of secrecy into a place of shared memory.

SCENE 06: THE SONG IS FINALLY HEARD

Camera Vibe: Close three-shot ending on hands and faces, then gentle hold

- **What We See on Screen:** The song ends. Kamala's eyes are wet but lighter. Naina holds her hand. Anita folds the sheet music and sets it aside. The curtains move softly in the evening breeze.
- **Actor Movement & Staging:** No one rushes to speak. Anita sits before her mother. Naina keeps holding Kamala's hand. The silence feels full rather than empty.
- **Lighting & Mood:** Soft, warm, resolved light with a tender glow on faces and a calm shadow bed in the room.
- **Why This Shot Works (Director Note):** End on emotional integration rather than melodrama, leaving the audience with the feeling that the song has finally been heard.

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.