

21st April 03**Love cum Arranged****Script {Eighth Draft}****Title Sequence****Song # 1**

Mirror at the entrance of a fashionable hang-out joint. Gradually comes to focus. Techno music playing. People pass. Viren comes to the mirror, looks at himself, corrects his hair, rubs his face, evens his shirt, stands looking at himself. Titles have begun. A friend pulls him inside. People pass. Aditi comes to the mirror. Quickly corrects her lipstick and kajal. Walks inside.

The camera moves through the place. It is a bowling / pool / video games / eating joint kind of a place. The camera reaches the bowling lanes. Aditi is on the line, she is aiming to release the ball. Viren is selecting a ball from the dispenser. Aditi rolls the ball, makes a face. Viren prepares to throw the ball. Techno music playing. Aditi turns to walk towards the benches. Simultaneously, Viren turns to walk to the line. Both cross each other in slow motion, without looking at each other. Song begins in the background in a slow, dreamy voice.

Viren rolls the ball. It strikes the pins. Camera speed back to normal. The song picks up. It plays in the background. Aditi gives a look to Viren's gang as they shout and scream. She walks away. We see Viren and his friends in jump cuts. Hanging out, leaving the entertainment centre, driving away. Then dancing at a night club.

We follow Viren home. He sneaks in late at night. Lights come on. It is Namita, his bhabhi. He takes her hand and dances with her. Then Nirmal Oberoi, his dad, appears. Viren immediately stops, nervous. He wishes his father.

Viren is seen sneaking out of his house in his car on another day. He speeds the car away. He races the car through the city. Then takes a turn and enters a lane. His car stops in a traffic jam. A musical procession is passing. People are dancing. As the procession passes Viren's car, Viren begins to dance along with it. Shiva begins to dance too. They dance a distance from the car. Viren turns and sees that the jam is cleared and his car is blocking the way. A constable is noting his number and throwing a fit. Viren turns and runs towards his car. As he does so, we see Aditi crossing him. They cross again, unaware of each other. Aditi is looking at the procession with silent thrill. Viren haggles with the constable. Aditi slides into an auto-rickshaw that someone else had stopped.

Aditi enters her room and throws her things on the bed. She has been infected with the thrill of the procession. She dances in her room. But in the middle of it, her cousin sister Sonal enters the room. Aditi immediately stops dancing and pretends to be cleaning her table. Sonal takes Aditi out to meet some formal guests in the drawing room.

Aditi and Sonal are shopping at a mall. Sonal is buying a lot of things. Aditi is looking at her. Aditi picks up a strikingly revealing and uncharacteristic dress and secretly holds it to herself. She takes a few snapshot poses. She picks up other such dresses and models to the mirror. She chucks the dress down as Sonal approaches.

Aditi and Sonal are walking out. We see Viren enter in the background, on another level. He rushes to the lift, sees something and immediately hides behind a mannequin. He has seen Karen. Karen gets into the

lift. As the lift door closes, Viren rushes up the stairs. He is racing with the lift car. While he is rushing up, Aditi is climbing down. They cross each other again. In slow motion, without noticing each other. Viren rushes into the music store as the lift door open. In the music store, Viren pleads with a woman at a music booth and takes away her head-phones. She looks at him in surprise. Karen walks in and touches his shoulder. He turns. Gives her the impression that he has been waiting for a long time. He then hands the head-phones back to the woman with a hint of generosity. He moves out of the mall with Karen.

The final part of the song is sung by Viren at a get-together party of friends in a lawn. Viren is playing the guitar and singing. Shiva, his friend, is playing the drums. Viren is singing the romantic lines to Karen, who is sitting pretty, playing hard to get. The song ends.

{4 mins}

Imtiaz Ali

Sc # 1

**Night, Exteriors
Villa Garden**

Cheers and claps as the song ends. Viren is close to Karen now. He wants to say something to her when the applause ends. But before the applause ends, Karen hops out of her seat and looks at her watch.

KAREN Thank god gana khatam ho gaya... I mean gaana bahut achcha tha.. magar main bahut

late ho gayee hoon...

Divya, a friend, has been calling Karen.

DIVYA Karen, let's go.. Come on..

VIREN Listen..

Karen turns to Divya, turns back.

KAREN ..aur song ke beech mein uth ke chale jaana bahut bura lagta.. but now I have to run...

VIREN To main..

DIVYA Karen, come on yaar..

KAREN Yeah... coming!... OK.. Viren... bye....

She starts moving backwards. Viren follows her.

VIREN Main.. main tumhein drop kar doonga na ghar..

KAREN No sweetheart... mama ko pick up karna hai ... she is at Divya's place.... chal Divya... let's go

She gives him a peck on the cheek. Shiva appears from behind.

KAREN Bye guys...

Karen scurries away with Divya. Viren looks at her go.

VIREN Shit..

SHIVA Kya hua...?

VIREN Socha tha party ke baad kaheen leke jaaonga aur poochhoonga - shaadee karogee...

SHIVA Waapas bulaoon...?

VIREN Naheen yaar... use jaldee jaana hai...

SHIVA To tujhe kaun sa bhaashan dena hai... Main bulata hoon, tu jhat se pooch le... ek second ki baat hai ..

VIREN Idiot.. Shadee ke liye uska haath maang raha hoon.. maachis naheen maang raha jo ek second mein maang loonga..

SHIVA Kyon!? Maine to 1 second mein hee poochh liya tha Tina se... yaad hai?

VIREN Aur ek second mein hee tere sar pe jooti pad gayee thi... yaad hai?

Shiva looks at Viren. Pause.

SHIVA Yehi sab baatein yaad rehti hain tujhe.. hai na? Koi achchi baat kabhi yaad nahin rehti.
(pause) Tina.. arey mujhe to afsos ho raha hai uske oopar.. afsos..

The camera begins to recede.

VIREN Bechaari.. Tere jaisa ladka kahan milega use..?

Shiva turns sharply at Viren. Viren is looking the other way.

SHIVA Chehra dikha...

Viren turns to him. He is trying to keep his face straight.

SHIVA Tujhe mazaak lag raha hai ye sab..?

VIREN Shiva..

SHIVA Nahin, lag raha hai to bol na.. Bol..

Their voices trail off as we move away. Fade-out.

{1 mins}

Sc # 2

Day, Ext / Interiors Oberoi's House

The sun rises. Oberoi's house stands in the morning light. Inside, Namita is climbing the stairs while speaking to the cook before he lays down the breakfast.

NAMITA : ... kitane hee baar bolo aapko kuchh yaad naheen rehta... bade saheb ko
paraathe naheen dene hain... aur aap har din unke saamne rakh dete hain...

COOK : Par wo to khud hee maang lete hain to main mana kaise karoon...

NAMITA (cutting him) Achha chhodiye... aaj mein dekhtee hoon...

She walks across the corridor and knocks at a door.

NAMITA : Viren!...

Small pause.

NAMITA : Mein aa rahee hoon andar....

She opens the door, enters.

{1/2 min}

Imtiaz Ali

Sc # 3

**Day, Interiors
Viren's Room**

Namita enters to see that Viren is sleeping.

NAMITA : Viren..

He does not stir. She nods to herself. Then walks across and picks up a bottle of water. She takes it about Viren's head and counts before pouring it onto him.

NAMITA : One .. two.... three...

At three she pours and he turns away. He has been awake.

VIREN :How man how..? Tumhein kaise maaloom pad jaata hai ki mein jaag raha hoon..?

NAMITA : Vo baad mein batati hoon. Abhi neeche chalo, bulawa aaya hai.. Daddy ne bulaya hai..

VIREN :(leaning up) Nirmal?

NAMITA : Shuh..

VIREN :(insecure) Kyon bulaya hai bhabhi, ab kya kiya maine..?

NAMITA : (leaving) Taiyyar ho ke aa jao..

VIREN :(sitting) Kiya to bahut kuch hoga magar pata kya chal gaya Nirmal ko..?

NAMITA : Jaldi.. Daddy study mein tumhara intezaar kar rahe hain..

Viren looks at the ceiling.

VIREN :Bhagwaan, main aa raha hoon..

Namita comes out of the room, smiling.

{1/2 min}

Sc # 4

Day, Interiors
Oberoi's Study

In the slightly ajar door, appears Viren's face. He comes in. He is nervous.

VIREN :Good... good morning dad.

Oberoi is reading a newspaper. Mrs Shiela Oberoi is sitting on the side. Namita is making tea for Oberoi.

OBEROI : Good morning... come in...

Viren walks up nervously. He looks at his father in anticipation.

OBEROI : Suna aap mummy ko tang kar rahe hain...?

VIREN :Main? Good morning mummy..

Mrs OBEROI : Good morning..

OBEROI : Wo aapse baar baar ladkiyaan dekhne kee baat kartee hain aur aap har baar koi na koi bahaana bana jaate hain?

VIREN : Wo to dad mein... meine to sirf itna kaha ki jaldee kya hai... abhee to main sirf....

OBEROI : Aapki umra maaloom hai hamein... hamne hee paida kiya hai aapko... remember?

Pause.

OBEROI : Naren tumhaare hi jitna bada tha jab uski shaadi hui thi. 24 saal... Fark sirf itana hai ki chaubis saal mein Naren chaubis ka ko gaya tha. Aur tum... Jo harkatein hain tumhaari... Tum hamaaree umra ke bhee ho jayo to bhi bachhe hee rahoge...

Viren looks at Namita. Namita looks down. Oberoi continues.

OBEROI : Shiela ka kehna hai tumhaare liye ladkiyaan dekhna shuru kar dena chahiye.

A frown appears on Viren's face.

OBEROI : Aur main bhi yahi samajhta hoon...

Viren's frown disappears.

OBEROI : Kayee rishte aaye hain. Jo tumhein pasand ho baat us hi se aage badhai jayegi. Tumpar koi zabardasti nahin karega. Kis se shaadi karna hai, ye faisla tumhara hai. Magar ab us faisle mein der nahin honi chahiye... Is that clear?

Viren is silent. He looks towards Namita who has a teasing smile on her face.

OBEROI : Viren..

VIREN : Yes dad.. ofcourse...
(complying)

He is tense.

{1 min}

Sc # 5 [A]

**Night, Int / Exteriors
Movie Hall Lobby**

Karen walks in. She wishes Viren, Shiva and other friends who were waiting for her.

VIREN :Hi..

KAREN : Hi... Hi..

SHIVA :Hi...

DIVYA : Hi...

KAREN : Kaun see row ke tickets hain?

VIREN :K...

KAREN : K L M N. Tumhein hamesha aisee hee rows kyon miltee hain!?... Ab dekho baith ke... Hero idhar... heroine udhar... Left.. right.. left... right...

VIREN :Aaj to tickets hee kitane mushkil se mili hain...

KAREN : (cutting in) Achcha ek minute pakdo na ... please....

She gives him her bag to hold and goes to the mirror wall to wear her ear-rings. Viren looks at her. Shiva is next to him.

VIREN :Shiva... ye jo Karen hai... kaisi lagtee hai tujhe...?

Shiva reacts.

VIREN :Tujhe pasand hai?

SHIVA :Girlfriend teri hai to pasand mein kyon karoonga?

VIREN : Idiot... Pasand poochh raha hoon teri... shaadi karne ke liye naheen bol raha hoon! Bata na..

SHIVA :Mast hai yaar! Poore Bandra mein iske jaisa vontak item nahin hai!

VIREN : Are yaar vo to sabko dikhta hai... Main ye pooch raha hoon ki vo andar se kaisi hai...? Matlab vo jo bahar se nahin dikhta hai, Karen ka vo part kaisa hai..?

Shiva is taken aback. He speaks in anger.

SHIVA : Ye kya bakwaas hai..? Uske andar ka maine kab dekh liya...? Main kya jaanoon andar ki baat!?

VIREN :Shiva!

SHIVA :Nahin tu kehna kya chahta hai...? Ki main... uska... kya...? Bol... Khul ke bol...

VIREN : Now don't be an asshole, okay. Main tujhse kya pooch raha hoon aur tu saala soch raha hai main uske.. uski baat kar raha hoon..? Akkal hai ki nahin tere ko?

SHIVA :To tu pooch kyon raha hai tedhe-medhe savaal..?

VIREN :Tere se to baat hi karna bekar hai..

SHIVA :Haan to mat kar na..

They stand in the crowd, looking at each other with disgust.

Sc # 5 [B]

Night, Interiors Lavatory

The previous shot abruptly cuts to this. Shiva and Viren. Their faces straight. They talk to each other without turning.

VIREN Tension hai yaar... Itne din se try kar raha hoon Karen ko propose kar doon... Har baar koi na koi lafda ho jaata hai...

They are standing at the urinals. Viren continues –

VIREN Pata nahin kab tak main aise hi jhoolta rahoonga aur ghar mein 'ye ladki dekho' aur 'vo ladki dekho' chalta rahega.. Bloody hazaar pressure on my mind yaar..

Viren turns and goes to the wash-basin.

SHIVA (turning) To chalata reh na dekhne ka chakkar... ek do ladki ko dekh hee lega to teri 'virginity' naheen lut jayegi... Dekhta ja, aur tarkaata ja. Tu bhee khush, teri family bhee khush... Phir Goa to ja hi rahe hain apan.. udhar time hi time hoga.. Vahan Karen ko pakad... agreement final kar aur aake bol de bhabhi ko... problem kidhar hai?

Viren looks at Shiva. Shiva knows his idea is good. Viren shakes his head in mock awe. Then he looks at Shiva's fly and makes a gesture of greater appreciation. Shiva looks down, realizes his fly is open. He reacts, zips his pants. They laugh and move towards the door.

{2 mins}

Sc # 6

Night, Interiors Namita's Room

The door opens and Viren enters Namita's room. Naren is there, he is changing, Namita is helping him.

VIREN Ooops! Mein baahar jaake... knock karke andar aaon?

NAMITA Shut up!

Viren lies down on the bed.

VIREN Bataiye, kahaan hain ladkiyaan aapki?

NAREN Ladkiyaan?

VIREN Vo hi jinhein dekhne jaana hai...

NAMITA Arey vaah..

NAREN Aa gaye raaste pe!?

VIREN Arey bhaiya... Nirmal se chuglee karke phansa diya bhabhi ne... ab dekhana hee padega....

NAREN Very good..

Namita has gone and got a few photographs.

NAMITA Inmein se kaun achchi lag rahi hai batao...

Viren's hand goes through the photographs.

VIREN Main jaanta hoon... Tum sab meri azaadi se jalte ho. Koi naheen chaahta mein khush rahoon....

NAMITA Nikalo na ek...

VIREN Ye lo...

He takes out a photograph without seeing which one. Namita takes it.

NAMITA Wow Naren, yehi vo ladki hai jo hum sab ko sabse zyada pasand hai.

VIREN Shit.. Tab main doosri select karta hoon..

NAMITA Kyon..?

VIREN Nirmal ne kaha na.. jo mujhe pasand ho...

He goes through the photographs.

VIREN Ye waali nahin, ye waali nahin.. ye waali..

NAMITA What a co-incidence. Ye to dad ki favourite hai. Vo to desperate hain ki tum is se shaadi kar lo. Very good.

VIREN Tab to ye waali kabhi nahin.

NAMITA Arey..

Viren goes through the photographs again.

VIREN Chalo ye waali.

NAMITA (acting dissappointed) Ye waali.. Are you sure..?

VIREN Sure.. Hundred percent.

NAMITA Change nahin karoge..?

VIREN Bilkul nahin.. Isi se miloonga main..

NAMITA Done..?

VIREN Lock kiya jaaye.

Namita looks at him. Smiles.

NAMITA Bewakoof... Ye saare photographs ek hi ladki ke hain..

VIREN Kya..?

NAMITA (to Naren) Yehi hai vo ladki. Mr Malhotra ki niece, jis se dad Viren ka rishta chahte hain.

VIREN Nahin, ye cheating hai.. Aise thodi hota hai.

NAMITA Cheating weating kuch nahin.. Tumne lock kiya hai isko.. Main ja rahi hoon mummy ko bolne.

Namita is wearing her slippers.

VIREN What nonsense.. bhaiya tell her..

NAREN (shrugs) Sorry brother. Tumne lock kiya tha.

NAMITA Thanks Viren. Tumne sab ki pasand ko pasand kar liya.

VIREN (nods) Dekh loonga... tum sabko dekh loonga main.. Aisa badla loonga ki yaad rakhoge tum log..

Namita hurries out of the room, giggling.

{1 min}

Sc # 7

**Day, Exteriors
Malhotra's House**

Malhotra's house. Oberoi's car drives into the compound.

Sc # 8

**Day, Interiors
Malhotra's Kitchen**

There is a flurry of activity in the kitchen. We see Mrs Jaya Malhotra for the first time as she comes in.

JAYA Pahunch gaye ladke wale... keshu, tu pehle paani deke aa.... (to the cook) oho kya kar raha hai... theek se laga... Aditi kahaan hai..? Bulao use...

A young maid leaves to call Aditi. Mr Malhotra's mother, Roopvati Malhotra comes in. Mrs Malhotra gestures towards the salver of laddoos.

JAYA Maanji ye baahar Aditi ke haath bhijwa deejiyega... aur boliyega.. aaraam se.. pyaar se... darne ke koi baat naheen hai... Aajkal ke ladke wo puraani type ke ladkiyaan pasand bhi naheen karte...

NAANI Kya lagta hai is baar?

JAYA Mujh se poochho to... is baar ho jaana chaahiye... mera dil keh raha hai...

NAANI (smiles) Tu ja.. mein bhejti hoon Aditi ko....

Mrs Malhotra turns to go.

{1/2 min}

Sc # 9

Day, Interiors
Malhotra's Hall

Mrs Jaya Malhotra enters the hall. The rest of her family and the Oberois are all sitting there. Om Chawla, the marriage broker, is also there.

- CHAWLA Aaj ka din bhi bahut shubh hai.. Maine pata kiya tha..
- SHEILA (to Mrs Malhotra) Kahan ghoom rahee hain aap... idhar baithiye na....
- JAYA Haan bas aa gayee...
- SHEILA Dekhiye, formality vormality ki zaroorat nahin hai..
- JAYA (sits) Arey aap logon se kya formality karenge ham... Ye aap hi ka ghar to hai..
- CHAWLA Jaldee hi ho jaayega bhabhiji... ! Aur badee sukh sampatti layega ye sambandh... jab do bade naami parivaron ka milan hota hai to lakshmi ko aane ke liye bhee do do darwaze mil jaate hain...

Mr Malhotra and Gopal are speaking with Mr Oberoi.

- MALHOTRA Aapke paas hai prime property aur hamare paas hai expertise...
- GOPAL Ham log haath mila lein to aadha competion to vaise hee thanda pad jaayega...
- OBEROI Bilkul.. Kyonki aajkal akele akele chalne ka zamaana naheen hai...

Namita and Mandira are having another conversation.

- NAMITA ... naheen bas aadha ghanta pehle tak pakka programme tha ki aana hai... bole site se seedhe waheen pahunch jaaoonga... Aur idhar ham log nikalne lage to wohi, jaise har doosare din hota hai... koi German delegation aa gaya hai... mein naheen aa paaonga...

So various currents of conversation ensue. In the midst of all this, we see Viren Oberoi, sitting in formal clothes, shoes, feeling ill-at-ease. Everyone else is very comfortable. They are all talking together.

[Chawla, to whoever gives attention]

- CHAWLA Ab sab kehte hain duniya badal rahi hai. Magar main kehta hoon ki taare to vahi hain na..? Vo to nahin badle.. To kundaliyaan kaise badlengi..? Bhaagya bhi vohi rahenge.. Hai ki nahin..? To phir jeevan vohi raha na insaan ka..? To badla kya..?

JAYA Doctor ne keh diya ye mat khao.. wo mat khao... par hamse to ho naheen pata bhai ki jo cheez achhee lagtee hai inhein wo na dein...

SHEILA Meine to Namita ko zimma pakda diya hai... aur uske saath aisa hai inka ki beti bhee hotee to uski itni nahin sunte jitni Namita ki sunte hain.. Jabse vo aayee hai samajh leeejiye main ghar se retire ho gayee hoon, har cheez ka itna khayal rakhti hai ye. Aur doosri bahu bhi humein Namita ke jaisi hi chahiye... Usi liye aapke yahan aaye hain..

[Namita and Mandira]

MANDIRA Inka bhee yahee rehta hai... kabhee kuchh to kabhee kuchh...

NAMITA In jaison se to shaadi karne se pehle saat phere naheein balki contract hona chaahiye... kitana time hamein doge aur kitana time ye German Australian aur pata naheein kaun kaun se delegations ko....

[Mr Oberoi, Malhotra and Gopal]

OBEROI Yehi waqt hai diversify karne ka. Aur hospitality business bahut grow karne waala hai.

MALHOTRA Vohi main bol raha tha Gopal ko.. Abhi jo posh hotel khol liya, vo raja hai..

OBEROI Sirf hotel hi nahin.. bahut kuch kiya ja sakta hai.. Dekhiye aaj jo consumer hai, vo TV par American multiplexes, shopping arcades dekhta hai, to uski bhi khahish hoti hai vahan jaane ki...

GOPAL Uncle, is par meeting karte hain. Boliye, kab time hai aapko..?

OBEROI Beta ab to shayad kaafi milna ho hum logon ka...

Viren notices some movement near the curtain. It is the girl, looking in from there. Mrs Malhotra, sitting next to him, also notices this. She secretly indicates to the girl to come in. The girl does not. Viren sees now that there is another person, the old woman, who is also behind the curtains and trying to get the girl to go in. The girl, evidently nervous, does not move. Meanwhile, the rest of the conversation is on. Mrs Malhotra gestures again. But the girl is motionless. Mrs. Malhotra speaks aloud and with great kindness.

JAYA Haan, aa jao Aditi

All conversation is immediately cut, everyone turns gaze on the curtains. Aditi enters the hall. Now we know it's the same girl who we saw in the title sequence. Aditi is trying to control her nervousness, in that giving too much attention to the tray-trolley that is being carted in by a servant.

JAYA Ye hai Aditi... Beta sabko namaste karo...

Aditi has the salver of laddoos in her hands. She looks about for a place to park it. Mandira, Gopal's wife, takes the salver from her hands. Aditi manges to do namaste to everyone. Viren has gotten more uncomfortable by Aditi's entry. Namita gets up and takes Aditi by the arm and seats her next to herself. There is a harrowing silence.

CHAWLA Dekh leeejiye bhabiji, heera hai bachchi.

NAMITA Kya kartee ho?

ADITI Ji ... pottery...

JAYA Matlab padhai kee hai pooree College college sab kiya hai... ab padhai ho gayee to zara idhar udhar ... Thoda kalakar swabhaw kee hai na... chalta rehna chahiye...

NAMITA College mein kya kiya tha...

ADITI B. A. Literature....

JAYA Padhne ka bahut shauk hai.... par hamne kaha ... ladkee ho...doosare ghar jaaogee... dus naukhar hain to kya hua..? Ghar ke saare kaam aane chahiye...

SHEILA Hobbies kya hain beta tumharee....?

CHAWLA Aap bhee kuchh poochho Viren bhai....

VIREN It's okay...

CHAWLA Are aise kaise okay..? Aur bhabiji ladki ko ladke ke saath baithaiye na.. Tab to idea milega..

VIREN Nahin, uski zaroorat..

JAYA Haan, Mandira..

MANDIRA Aao Aditi..

So the embarrassing process of making them sit next to each other ensues.

CHAWLA Dekhiye! Dekhiye kitna matching hai.. Kamaal hai.. Aur janampatriyaan..? 36 mein se 35 gun milte hain dono ke... Made for each other.. Chawla ke kaam mein koi khot naheen hoti bhabhi.... Poori thonk baja ke jamata hoon rishta...

Mrs Malhotra clears her throat.

JAYA Aditi.. Viren ko apna kamra dikhao..

VIREN No no.. it's okay here...

CHAWLA Phir okay..? Arey bhai, akhir aap hee dono ko samajhna boojhana hai ki naheen..?Jao jao..

VIREN Nahin vo.. vo.. yaheen theek hai..

GOPAL Viren, feel free boss... hum log open-minded hain..

JAYA Aap dono kee chai ham waheen room mein bhijwa dete hain... chai waheen peena...

Namita stands Aditi. Viren realizes there is no way out of this. He stands. He looks towards Aditi.

ADITI Aaiye

He looks towards his father. Then looks towards her. She leads him out.

CHAWLA Kitna modern zamana aa gaya hai. Hamaare time mein to ladka ladkee shaadee ke baad bhee hafton hafton naheen mil paate the...

{3 mins}
/13 ½ mins/

Imtiaz Ali

Sc # 10

**Day, Interiors
Aditi's Room / Balcony**

Door opens and Aditi asks Viren to enter.

ADITI Aaiye..

He enters. She looks out of the door, then shuts the door almost fully. She turns to him. Her attitude has changed. She speaks in a hurry.

ADITI Listen.... Mujhe aapse ek favour chahiye....

VIREN (quite taken aback) Kya?

ADITI Dekhiye.. Agar aapko na karna hai... is shaadi ko.. mujhko.. to please... shaam tak hee kar deejhiyega...

Viren looks at her, mystified.

ADITI Hota kya hai na ki ladke dekh kar jaate hain.. Aur javaab dene mein bahut time laga dete hain.. Aur yahan meri auntie.. unko lagne lagta hai ki rishta ho jayega.. Aur phir jab na ho jaati hai to sab ka mood off ho jaata hai.. Tension ho jaati hai ghar mein.. Aap samajh rahe hain na..?

VIREN Haan.. haan..

ADITI Aur is baar to sab ko yakeen hai ki rishta pakka ho jayega.. Hamaari kundaliyaan and all.. Usi liye main aap se request kar rahi hoon. Aap bura mat maaniye..

Viren feels an odd relief.

VIREN You know.. Bahut achcha hua ki aap ne ye sab keh diya. Kyonki mujhe ye sab naatakbaazi zara bhi pasand nahin hai.. you know ... ye kundliyaan mila ke... ladkee dekhne jao... Paanch minute ke liye milo aur faisla kar lo ki haan.. yehi hai vo ladki jiske saath main apni saari zindagi bitaana chahta hoon. Koi matlab hua..? It's so weird! Aaj.. twenty-first century mein bhi.. ye puraane, sadi hue customs chale aa rahe hain.. Give me a break man..

ADITI Matlab... aap na karne wale hai?

VIREN Dekhiye, aap ghalat mat samajhiyega..

ADITI Nahin samjhoongi.. Magar aap na karne waale hain na..?

VIREN Haan..

ADITI To ghar jaate hi mana kar deejhiyega... aur mana aapko karna hai... mein mana naheen kar saktee... Okay?

VIREN Okay...

ADITI Okay...

Pause.

ADITI To.. phir chalein waapas....

VIREN Chaliye...

They get up to leave. But now the door opens after a mild rasp. It is a servant with a tray of tea and some snacks.

SERVANT Memsaab ne bheja hai.

VIREN Actually hum log...

ADITI Laiye mujhe dejiye....

The servant goes away.

ADITI Chai ham log yaheen pee lete hain... neech le gaye to un logon ko lagega shayad koi gadbad hai....

VIREN Achha hai... wahaan neech to ekdum paseene chhoot rahe the mere...aur

aap bhee to... bura haal tha aapka.... Wo parde ke peechhe... vo old lady bol rahee theen ja.. ja.. ja.. aur aapko lag raha tha... kahaan phans gaye yaar... naheen?

ADITI Are ekdum ajeeb sa lagta hai...andar aao to 50 log dekh rahe hain – kaisee hai... lambi hai ki chhoti hai... aadi hai ki tirschhee hai...

He proceeds to make the tea.

ADITI Mein banaatee hoon...

VIREN Mein banaata hoon...

ADITI Aise time pe chai ladkiyaan banaatee hain.... Remember?

VIREN Haan wo dekha hai maine filmon mein... ladkee chai banaatee jaatee hai aur ladka use aise dekhta rehta hai jaise chai naheein ladkee ko hi pee jaayega... (stops Aditi from picking up the tea pot)... Rehne do na... hamne kaun see shaadee karnee hai... chai ladka banaye ya ladkee chai hee to bananee hai.

She smiles, looks at him as he continues to make tea.

ADITI Mein pehlee ladkee hoon na jise tum dekh rahe ho?

VIREN Haan... par tumhare liye mein pehla ladka naheen hoon na?

ADITI Naheen...meri parade chaar baar pehle bhee ho chuki hai... achhe kapde pehno... make up karo ... sabko namaste karo... aur muskurate raho.. muskurate raho... jab tak munh mein dard na ho jaaye... chai banao... sab kuchh ekdum perfect hona chaahiye... Milk for you? Sugar kitanee lenge aap? Sab aapko dekh rahe hain... chai kee ek pyaali naheen khadakni chaahiye.... Aur phir interview shuru hoga aapka... kya pasand hai aapko... ji... padhna pasand hai... music pasand hai... ghar ka saara kaam kar leti hoon mein... dekhiye dekhiye kitanee achhhee hoon mein... please aaj to aap lete jaaiye mujhe... dil karta hai ki chai unke munh pe phenk ke boloon... aapko gin ke 100 joote maarna pasand hai mujhe...

She stops, having gotten a bit carried away. Pause.

ADITI Sorry...

VIREN Why? Bilkul theek keh rahi ho.. Ye koi baat huee...? Jaise ladkee ko rishta naheen koi job chaahiye... It's disgusting! In fact sorry to mujhe bolna chaahiye... mujhe naheen maaloom tha warna... sugar kitanee lengee aap?

And suddenly both of them burst out laughing.

VIREN (hands over the tea) You said chaar baar? Par tumhaari jaisee ladkee ko abhee tak...I mean .. tumko kaise koi....

ADITI Reject kar sakta hai..?

VIREN No... I mean... actually haan... Tumko kaise reject kar sakta hai koi..?

ADITI Kuchh hoga mujhmein... kuchh aisa jo achha naheen lagta hoga unhein...

VIREN Hey! Aisa kuchh naheen hai tummein...

ADITI Ho sakta hai unhein khoobsoorat ladkiyaan achhee lagtee hon...

VIREN (with a grin on his face) To ab tum mere munh se apni tareef sunna chaahtee ho?

ADITI (smiling) Nahin.. aisa nahin hai..

VIREN (cutting her) To suno.. Ms. Aditi Sahni, aap bahut khoobsoorat hain...

Aditi stops smiling.

ADITI Achha sach batao.. Dekho, tumhein jhoot keh kar mujhe khush karne ki zaroorat to hai nahin.. Hum to aage milne waale nahin hain..

VIREN Right..

ADITI To sach batao.. Main.. main dekhne mein kaisi lagti hoon..?

Viren looks at her for a moment. She is shy, but tries to hold her look.

VIREN Mein tumko... dus mein se saadhe chhe deta hoon... And that's good! Aishwarya saat hai mere liye..

ADITI Hmm.... To phir ho sakta hai ki mere parents naheen hain... isliye log mana kar dete honge.. Sochte honge ki Mr Malhotra ki apni beti to hai nahin..

VIREN Yehi reason hoga... you know our bloody samaj!

Pause.

ADITI Achcha tum batao.. Tumhare jaise ladke kee koi girlfriend naheen hai...?

VIREN Hunh...? Actually hai...

ADITI To phir?

VIREN Vo.. (exhales and smiles) Meine bataaya naheen kiseeko.... Wo hai par... chalo tumhein bataane mein kya jaata hai..? Karen ... Karen naam hai uska....

ADITI Christian..?

VIREN Woi to problem hai! Pata nahin meri family kaise react karegi..

ADITI It's going to be tough, haan... Par jhelna padega... Shaadi usi se karni hai na?

VIREN Ofcourse.. Pichhle teen saal se chal raha hai ham dono ke beech...

ADITI Teeeen saaaal... teen saal to bahut hote hain.. Mera jo tha ek, vo to 3 maheene bhee naheen chala....

VIREN Kya hua..? Tumko koi aur achcha lagne laga..?

ADITI Nahin.. Bas khatam hona tha ek din.. ho gaya. Mahesh naam tha uska...

VIREN Mahesh...

ADITI Zyada serious nahin tha hamaare beech.. Par maza bahut aata tha... college ke din the... hum sab mil kar lambhe drives pe jaate the.. parties hoti theen... Aur raat ko koi plan banta tha to main ghar mein nahin batati thi. Ye jo balcony hai saamne... yahaan se utar ke chupchaap nikal jaatee thee...

VIREN Tum.... Is balcony se utar kar jaatee thi?

Aditi giggles.

VIREN Vow! Pyaar mein aadmi kya kya naheen karta..

ADITI (giggles) Pyaar vyaar nahin yaar.. Masti thi vo sab..

Silence. She looks at him. He finishes his tea. She is surprised at herself.

ADITI Meine Mahesh ke baare mein kabhee kisee ko nahin bataaya hai..

VIREN Maine bhi kahan Karen ke bare mein kisi ko bataya hai..

ADITI Tumhaare saamne aise nikal gaya sab kuch... Bina pooche hi..

VIREN Meine bhi socha - kya bol raha hai yaar tu!? Phir bhi bolta gaya..

ADITI Pata naheen tum kya soch rahe hoge... kaisee ladkee hai ye... Magar tum kuch bhi socho kya fark padta hai..?

VIREN Right... Phir to kabhee milna hai naheen ham logon ko...

Pause. They smile.

ADITI Ab chalte hain.. warna neeche log sochenge pata naheen ye log us kamre mein kar kya rahe hain itni der se..

Both of them laugh. Viren gets up.

VIREN Chalo..

ADITI Aise nahin... Ekdum serious... jaise andar aaye the...

Viren makes a poker face.

VIREN Aise....?

Aditi giggles, then she also lapse into a serious pose. Both of them walk out with a serious attitude.

{5 mins}

Sc # 11

**Day, Interiors
Malhotras' First Floor Corridor**

Aditi and Viren come out of the door to the corridor. The conversation of the hall can be heard now. It seems to have warmed up even further.

THE CONVERSATION :

JAYA Log kuchh bhee kahein... ham to bhai samaji log hain... maan baap naheen hain to kya hua...? Hamne kaha ham hain na... Apni beti kee tarah rakha hai hamne... Aur rakha kya... hai hee hamari beti wo....

OBEROI Humein bhee koi fark naheen padta Aapke parivaar ke sanskar hain usmein...

CHAWLA Oberoi saab to paarkhi hain bhai... ek hee nazar mein sab dekh lete hain...

Aditi shuts the door.

ADITI Come...

VIREN (with a touch of concern) And.. Best of luck...

ADITI Best of luck to you... for..

VIREN Oh thanks...

He extends his hand. They shake hands.

VIREN You know.. ajeeb baat hai.. magar mujhe bahut maza aaya tumhaare saath.. Achcha hua ki main yahan aaya.

ADITI Aur ye bhi achcha hua ki tum aaj hi mana kar doge..

VIREN Haan..

ADITI Thanks...

Behind them Sonal enters, coming out of her room. Aditi and Viren turn to look at her. Aditi immediately leaves his hand and makes a serious face.

ADITI Aaiye.....

Viren and Aditi walk out. Sonal looks at them with a glint in her eyes. Seems like the rail is on the track.

{1/2 min}

Sc # 12

**Day, Ext / Interiors
Malhotra's Driveway / Hall**

Nani comes into the hall, excited. Jaya Malhotra is just walking in after seeing the Oberois off.

NANI Haan bhai batao.. Kaisa raha..?

Sonal comes down, Aditi makes to go up. Sonal holds Aditi's shoulder.

SONAL Is baar teer nishaane par laga hai...

JAYA (to Sonal) Tujhe kaise maaloom?

SONAL Jab ladka aur ladkee haath pakad ke kamre se baahar niklein to aur kya hoga...?

Aditi releases herself and continues on the way up. Chawla comes in, followed by Mr Malhotra and Gopal.

JAYA Haath pakad ke..? Sach..? Haath.. Bhagwaan tera laakh-laakh shukar hai. (to her husband)
Tab to ji ho gaya!

Aditi is walking up the stairs. She gives them a furtive look. Mrs Jaya Malhotra continues -

JAYA Kyonki ye log keh rahe the na ki pasand to ladke ko karna hai... Aapko kya lagta hai?

MALHOTRA Ham log to bhai.. joint business ki bhee soch gaye....

GOPAL Are bhai Chawla ko mithai-withai khilao!

CHAWLA Haan..

JAYA Chalo achha hai... ho jaaye to Aditi bhee chhutti paaye is roz roz ki jhanjhat se... Aur hamaara dharam bhi pooro ho..

SONAL Ladka kitna handsome hai na..?

Malhotra sits.

MALHOTRA Mujhse poochho to aaj tak jitane bhee aaye... unmein se ... in logon ka koi muqabala naheein...

CHAWLA Sab likhe ka khel hai bhaisaab.... Ab dekhiye na... Ye ladka sahi waqt pe Amreeka se vaapas aa gaya.. Aur kismat thee aapki bhaanji ki jo pichhle chaar ladkon ne use mana kar diya... Warna aisa ladka milta bhala..? Bhabhi mithai!

JAYA Arey Chawla bhai pehle jawaab to aa jaane do...

CHAWLA Kya bhabhi aap bhee... Haath pakad ke baahar nikale the dono... Ab aur kya javaab chahiye aapko..? Ab to aap muhurat nikalwao aur taiyaariyaan shuru karo....

Aditi is standing on the first floor, outside her room, listening to all this. Only she knows that the Malhotras are completely mistaken. She turns away with an impish smile.

{1 min}

Sc # 13

**Day / Evening, Exteriors
Malhotra's House**

Malhotra's House in day. Evening fades in.

Sc # 14

**Evening, Int / Exteriors
Malhotra's House / Hall**

Evening fades in to the Malhotra House. There is the sound of telephone ringing. In the hall, a young maid servant is coming to the phone. Jaya walks in after her.

JAYA Rehne de, main leti hoon..

She walks up and picks up the reciever.

JAYA Hello.. (pause) Haanji.. (pause) Oberoi ji, aap yakeen nahin karenge, ghanti bajte hi mujhe laga zaroor aapke yahan se phone hoga.. Dekhiye, koi na koi connection to zaroor hai hamaare beech. Ye bhi keh rahe the ki hamaare karam achhe honge tab hi aap jaise log mile. (pause)

Mandira and the young maid come up to hear.

JAYA Nahin ji ye to baahar gaye hain.. Bataiye.. Haanji.. Haanji.. Haanji.. (hears the news) Haan..? (pause) Kyon.. aisi kya baat ho gayee..? (pause) Nahin.. Oberoi ji, dekhiye.. itni jaldi mein faisla karne ki zaroorat nahin hai..? (pause) Arey itni der mein kitna soch liya aapne..? Ye to ajeeb si baat hai.. Yahan to aap log aise kar rahe the jaise baat pakki hai.. (pause)

Aditi comes out of her room, listens.

JAYA Bilkul... Yehi ishaara tha aap logon ka.. (pause) Arey aap log jaisa dikhaenge hum vaisa hi samjhenge na..? Humein kya maloom ki aap log kitne dogle hain.. (pause) Bilkul boloongi..

Aditi regards this with mischief playing inside. Her nani comes up and touches her shoulder. Aditi looks down, nani embraces to comfort her. Meanwhile –

JAYA Aap jaison se aise hi baat karni chahiye.. Ekdum ghatiya baat kee hai aapne. (pause) Achcha, badtameezi aap karein aur.. Bilkul.. Ye tameez hai aapki..? Ki shareef logon ke ghar mein aa ke naatak karo.. Aur vo.. apka beta.. lafanga.. poochiye us se.. kamre se baahar nikal kar..

{1 ½ mins}

Sc # 15**Day, Interiors
Samaj Mandir Premises**

- JAYA ... haath naheen pakda tha usne meri beti ka..? Aise koi karta hai..?
- NAMITA Zaroor koi baat hogee...
- JAYA Baat hai na... Uski neeyat kharaab hai...
- NAMITA (pulls Mrs. Oberoi away) Chaliye mummy...
- JAYA Arey.. Dekho zara.. Ye to sanskaar hain aapke.. Koi baat kar raha hai aur aap log – chal de rahe hain..?
- NAMITA Auntie please..... log dekh rahe hain....achha naheen lagta...
- SONAL Ye achcha nahin lagta..? Aur tum logon ne jo hamaare saath kiya hai vo achcha lagta hai...?
- SHEILA Tum to kuchh mat hee bolo beti.. Apni shadi tod kar maan ke ghar baithee ho.. doosron ko kuch kehne se pehle..
- Sonal is shocked.
- JAYA Dekho dekho... mandir mein khadee hain aur kaisee ghatia baat kar rahee hain... Aaj to hadd ho gayee besharmi ki...

{1/2 min}

Sc # 16**Day, Exteriors
Golf Course**

- OBEROI Achha hua Viren ne rishta mana kar diya ... Warna aap logon ka ye roop baad mein saamne aata to kahaan ke rehte ham log..?
- MALHOTRA Aap tameez se baat keejiye Mr. Oberoi!
- OBEROI Mr Malhotra, kya aap tameez ke layak hain..? Boliye...
- MALHOTRA Matlab kya hai aapka... haan? Kya matlab hai aapka?
- OBEROI Shor mat keejiye... Aur apnee wife se boilye ki gaaliyaan hamein bhi aatee hain. Ham bakte naheen kyonki hamaare oopar kayee pushton ki tehzeeb hai. Aap logon ki tarah naya paisa nahin hai... ki pehli baar dikha to dimagh hi kharaab ho gaya..

{1/2 min}

Sc # 17**Day, Int / Exteriors
Construction site**

GOPAL Apnee company kee balance sheet dekho pehle aur phir baat karna... Tumhare jaise to paanch chhah idhar se udhar kar sakte hain... Ham chaahein to saara business rukwa sakte hain tumhaara...

NAREN To chaho na! Chahte kyon nahin..?

GOPAL Ab saala yei karna padega!

NAREN To saala karo na jaake! Magar dobara meri property par kadam mat rakhna..

GOPAL Nahin to.. Kya karega tu! Hunh! Kya karega..?

{1/2 min}

[Sc 15, 16 & 17 will be treated like the same scene, with a singular flow]

Sc # 18**Day, Interiors
Shopping Mall**

Door of a changing room opens and Aditi steps out. She is wearing a kurta that she is trying. She has a few other clothes in her hand. She glances at herself in the mirror, then walks out. She crosses Viren who is moving towards the next changing room. He has a few shirts in his hand that he wants to try out. They cross each other. Then realize and turn. They look at each other.

Viren : Aditi..

Aditi : Hi..

He comes close.

Viren : Suno yaar.. Tumne kaha jaldi mana kar dena.. Maine kar diya.. aur uski wajah se itna tension ho gaya dono families mein.. Bilkul mafia waalon ki tarah lad rahe hain ye log..

Aditi : (smiles) I know..

Viren : Tumhein to koi problem nahin ho rahi hai..?

Aditi : Nahin, nahin.. Don't worry..

Viren : And..? (smiles) Tum aur ladkon se mili..?

Aditi : (smiles) Listen.. Hum logon ko yahan aise baat nahin karni chahiye.. If you know what I mean..

Viren : Tum un logon ke saath aayee ho kya..?

Aditi : Haan..

Viren : Oh shit.. Okay..

Aditi : And tumhaari girlfriend..? Carol..?

Viren : ..ren..

Aditi : Karen.. Tumne apne ghar mein bata diya..?

Viren : Ghar mein..? Maine abhi tak Karen ko bhi nahin bataya hai..

Aditi : Kya..?

Viren : Yehi.. shaadi and all..

Aditi : (surprised) Tumne us se bola hi nahin hai..?

Viren : Try kiya but..

Both are aware of the danger of being seen. They want to talk further. Aditi looks in the direction where her family would be. Then she and Viren move a bit to the corner. It is slightly discreet here.

Viren : Actually.. mujhe pata nahin vo kya kahegi..

Aditi : Haan kahegi.. aur kya..? Pyaar karti hai vo tumse..

Viren : Haan.. magar us tarah se pyaar karti hai ya nahin I don't know..

Aditi : Tarah se..? Koi kisi se pyaar karta hai, ya nahin karta. Ye tarah kya hota hai?

Viren : Haan to kaise maloom ki vo mujhse pyaar karti hai?

Aditi : Kyon? Usne tumhein kaha nahin hai?

Viren : Kya..? I love you? Vo to har koi har kisi ko kehta hai yaar.. Oh tumne mujhe itna achcha gift diya I love you... Thanks for the help I love you.. Maine bhi kitne logon ko kaha hai I love you.. Uska kya matlab hota hai..?

Aditi is looking at him with a puzzled smile on her face.

Viren : Kya..?

Aditi : Teen saal..?

Viren : Haan..

Aditi : Teen second mein pata chal jaata hai ye to. Teen saalon mein tumhein samajh mein nahin aaya..?

Viren : Nahin aaya..

Aditi : Dhakkan ho yaar tum to..

Viren : (smiles) Achcha..?

Aditi : Aur kya..?

Viren : Nahin main.. dhakkan nahin hoon.. confused hoon.. Hota hai is age mein..

Aditi : (cutting him) Nahin tum dhakkan ho..

Viren looks at her. She is smiling impishly. He smiles in response.

Viren : Agar tum itni smart ho..

Aditi : Hmm..

Viren : To tum mil lo Karen se.. Aur mujhe bata do vo mere baare mein kya sochti hai..

Aditi : Theek hai..

Viren : Main abhi thodi der mein us se mil raha hoon.. Tum chalo mere saath..

Aditi : Okay..

Viren : Okay..? Mafia tumhein mere saath dekh legi na to atom bomb girega tumhaare oopar..

Aditi : Dekh legi tab na..

Mandira comes in towards the changing rooms. Aditi moves into the changing room that she had come out from. Viren gets into the changing room next to that. Aditi is waiting. She hears.

Viren : (Sound off) Hello..

Aditi : Hmm..?

Viren : Tum really aaogi..?

Aditi : Tum mujhe institute drop karoge..?

Viren : Kaun sa institute..? Anyway, karoonga..

Aditi : Theek hai..

Viren : Really..?

Aditi : Abhi main in logon ko handle karti hoon.. aadhe ghante mein milte hain..?

Viren : Okay.. Kahan..?

Aditi : Archies Gallery... Peeche waali road par.

Viren : Okay..

Aditi : Okay..

Both are standing in their changing rooms. Viren smiles. Some girl this is. Aditi opens the door.

{3 ½ mins}

Sc # 19

Day, Interiors Mall, Outside card shop

Archies Gallery, the appointed card shop. Aditi stands there. She is waiting for Viren. It is a strange trip she is in, she thinks. She looks around. She can't see Viren. Then she notices someone walking in with the newspaper fully opened in front. The newspaper walks in straight to her. The man behind the newspaper seems to be reading.

MBNP (Viren) Mumbai ke do naamee parivaaron mein jang chhidee... lakdee walon ne ladke ko jaan se maarne kee dhamki dee... Par ladkee himmatwali hai... wo chhip chhip kar us ladke se milne jaatee hai.... dhang-dhadhaang!

And swish, the newspaper is withdrawn. It's Viren. He proceeds to crush the newspaper and chuck it into a waste paper basket without looking at Aditi. He walks into the card shop. Aditi smiles and follows him in.

{1/2 min}

Imtiaz Ali

Sc # 20

Day, Interiors
Card Shop

Rows of cards, people selecting them.

VIREN Achhee jagah chunee tumne... isee bahaane mein Karen ke liye kuchh cards
le loonga.... Har hafte use ek card naheen mile to bandit queen ban ke ghoomti hai poore
shehar mein!

Aditi giggles at his expression. Viren has picked up a few cards, Aditi is looking at cards too.

VIREN (shows her the cards) Ye dekho.... (she goes through them quickly,
seeming to be adept with cards, often knowing what is written inside.) ...kaise hain...?

ADITI Ekdum bakwaas..

VIREN Sab ke sab!?

ADITI Ek dum bakwaas..

VIREN (mock) Thanks yaar..

He takes the cards back and puts them back.

ADITI Smart hona chahiye card... Jaise ye waala.. Dekho.. Ye card koi mujhe kyon nahin deta?

VIREN Ye waala to main nahin de sakta tumhien.. (pointing at the large heart drawn on that card) par.. ye waala... (picks up a 'Thank You' card) Ye main tumhein doonga..

ADITI Do!

VIREN Ek minute... likh to doon andar...

ADITI Kya faayada! (she takes it from him) Mein yaheen padh leti hoon... (she reads it) Thanks! (puts it back) Bas ho gaya, padh liya... ab ise khareed ke mujhe dene ke kya zaroorat hai!?

VIREN Are wah! Tab to mein tumhein bahut saare cards dena chahoonga.. Ye lo tum.. Aur ye bhi.. aur ye..

ADITI Thank you.. Oh thanks.. Lovely.. Aur ye tumhaare liye.. Ye ek aur...

VIREN Ye sab tumhaare liye..

ADITI Wow...

They read the cards and keep placing them back.

VIREN Hey, this is a great idea yaar!

ADITI Hai na..? tum Karen ke saath aisa kyon nahin karte..?

VIREN (stops) Hunh.. Karen ke saath! (remembers suddenly) Karen.. Shucks, late ho gaye ham log...

He moves to leave the shop. Aditi follows. After a couple of steps, he turns around and walks backwards to talk to Aditi.

VIREN Remember.. tumhein jaisi lage .. ek dum sach bataana hai tumhein... Mujhe bura lage phir bhi..

ADITI Tumhein bura lage to lage... Mujhe kya..? Mujhe kaun sa aage milna hai tumse....

They smile.

VIREN Chalo..

They are walking out.

{2 mins}
/28 ½ mins/

Sc # 21

**Day, Interiors
Cafeteria / Pub**

Karen. Sitting at a table. Viren is seen entering with Aditi. He sights Karen, rushes to her with excuses.

VIREN Sweetheart, I'm really sorry. Traffic itna zyaada ho gaya hai aaj-kal ki..

KAREN (cutting him) Hey, kya samajh rakha hai tumne mujhe.. haan? Bees minute se main tumhaara wait kar rahee hoon yahaan... You can't take me for granted like this.. Ek to waise hee mera mood kharaab hai...

VIREN Kyon...? Kya hua..?

Aditi walks up, Karen looks at her. Aditi smiles.

VIREN Karen.. Aditi.. Maine bataya tha...

KAREN Hi Aditi.. Sorry.. Actually ek buri khabar hai. Usi liye..

VIREN Baat kya hai..?

KAREN Australia wali aunty aa rahee hain..

VIREN (serious concern) Kab..?

KAREN Is Friday ko...

VIREN Nahin yaar, nahin... Oh shit..

KAREN Yeah... shit...

VIREN Tch (turns to Aditi) Iski aunty aa rahi hain Australia se..

ADITI (wondering) To... ismein buri khabar kya hai..?

VIREN Are yaar is Friday ko hamara group Goa jaane wala hai... Ab iskee aunt aayengee to iske father isko jaane nahin denge.. (to Karen) Tum ek baar unse pooch ke dekho..

KAREN Pata hai he will say no.. To phir poochne ka fayda..?

VIREN Nahin yaar.. this is too bad.. (to Aditi) Itne din se plan bana rahe the ham log aur ab... (to Karen) ab kya karein..?

KAREN I don't know. All I know is that main Goa jaa rahi hoon... That's all.

Pause. Viren looks at Aditi.

ADITI To... tum log koi bahaana nahin bana sakte.. ?

Karen turns to her in question.

ADITI You know... Kuch aisa jisko tumhaare dad mana nahin kar sakein..

KAREN You mean main apne dad se jhoot boloon...?

ADITI Of course.

VIREN (excited) Ye achcha hai.. Ye jo jhoot bolne waali baat hai na.. maine dekha hai ye hamesha kaam kar jaati hai.. Aur vaise bhi Karen, ye jo dad type ke log hain na... koi faayda naheen in logon se sach bol ke...

Karen looks at Viren, then at Aditi. She is not sure.

KAREN So... Bahana kya hoga..?

VIREN Bahaana.. kuch bhi ho sakta hai.. Jaise ki..

ADITI Jaise ki main.. Main tumhari friend hoon. Goa se.. Internet friend.. Aur meri shaadi ho rahi hai is weekend mein..

Karen's face as Aditi speaks across the scenes.

ADITI Aur Karen ko meri shaadi mein aana hi hai...

{2 mins}

Sc # 22

**Day, Interiors
Karen's Hall**

Mr Vincent Fernandez is listening to Aditi as she speaks across the scenes. His wife is sitting next to him.

ADITI Ye nahin aayegee to mein shaadee naheein karoongee... Maine isko pehle hi bola tha.. Isne promise bhi kiya tha.

Fernandez looks at Karen. Karen nods.

ADITI Please uncle... sirf paanch din ki baat hai..

Fernandez looks at his wife, smiles. He turns to Aditi.

F'DEZ You know... co-incidence hai... Meri sister aa rahee hai Australia se... Aur usko bhee apne in-laws ke paas Goa jana hai... Tumhaari shaadi Sunday ko hai you said..

Aditi nods.

F'DEZ Lovely.. Saturday ko main Goa jaoonga apni sister ko drop karne. Karen mere saath aa jayegi. Tum vahan station par humse mil kar isko receive kar lena.. Theek hai..?

Aditi and Karen are stumped.

F'DEZ Karen...?

Karen makes a half smile, looks at Aditi. Aditi looks at Karen. Fernandez turns to Aditi.

F'DEZ What..? Happy now..?

ADITI Haan...? Yes.. Yes uncle... Thank you... Thank you so much..

Fernandez walks away. Aditi shrugs. Karen is dumbfounded.

{1 min}

Sc # 23

Day, Exteriors
Bandra Street Corner

Viren, Karen and Aditi at the street corner, weighed down by the recent news. Viren is sitting on a corner platform. Karen is sitting next to him, giving him 'now what the hell do we do' looks. Aditi stands next to them.

VIREN Gaya apna Goa ka plan..

KAREN Don't say that yaar.. Hum Goa zaroor jayenge.. Chahe kuch bhi ho jaye..

VIREN Par kaise..? Tumhaare father tumhein Saturday ko Aditi ke paas drop karenge.. Goa mein..

KAREN To tum log Thursday ko chale jaana aur main Saturday ko join kar loongi..

VIREN Arey but Aditi kahan hogi Goa mein..?

KAREN Ho sakti hai na.. Kyon nahin ho sakti..?

Aditi looks up in surprise. Viren looks at Aditi. Karen continues to speak to Viren without looking at Aditi.

KAREN Vo bhi hamaare saath Goa chale to.. Tab vo station par mujhe receive kar legi..

VIREN Karen..

Karen turns to Aditi.

KAREN Please yaar Aditi.. Yehi ek raasta hai Goa jaane ka.. Tum bhi chalo hamaare saath..

Viren interjects.

VIREN Ek second.. Karen.. Main baat karta hoon.

Viren takes Aditi's arm and walks her two steps out.

VIREN Don't mind her.. Use tumhaari situation ka zara bhi idea nahin hai. Uska blood pressure high ho raha hai kyonki kayeee dinon se Goa ki plaaning kar rahe the hum log. Samundar, ret, feni.. naachna-gaana... hum baarah log.. Bahut maza aata.. Magar ab..

ADITI Magar main apne ghar mein kya boloongi..?

Viren looks at her. She is thinking.

VIREN Matlab..?

ADITI (wondering) Goa jaane ke liye main kya bahaana bana sakti hoon..?

Viren looks at her in surprise. Then a smile creeps into his face. Karen's voice overlaps from the next scene.

KAREN (sound off) Aur Aditi ko meri shaadi mein aana hi hai... Ye nahin aayegi to main shaadi nahin karoongi.. Isne mujhe promise kiya tha internet par..

{1 min}

Sc # 24

**Day, Exteriors
Terrace**

Mr and Mrs Malhotra are sitting in the hall. Karen is speaking to them.

KAREN Please uncle.. Ek week ki to baat hai.. Dekhiye mana mat keejiyega.. Please.. Shaadi ek baar hoti hai.. usmein bhi apne achche friends nahin aayein to kya fayda..?

Aditi stands on the side, looking down.

Imtiaz Ali

Sc # 25**Day, Int / Exteriors
Traveller**

The door of the vehicle opens and a bag is pushed in, then Aditi appears, face red with excitement. She is pulled up by Viren. Shiva shuts the door, Viren seats Aditi next to himself. Shiva bangs his hand on the driver's cabin.

SHIVA Bhaag, bhaag...

The tempo flees. Acoustic guitar strings begin the excitement theme.

{1/2 min}

Sc # 26**Day, Exteriors
Hill Roads**

The converted tempo traveller is driving up the highway to Goa as the music continues.

Sc # 27**Day, Int / Exteriors
Highway Dhaba**

The guitar is being played by Viren. He is sitting on a string cot. Shiva puts a bottle into Viren's mouth. Viren gulps, continues to play. Shiva begins to hit two bottles on beat. Two others are clapping. Some friends are ordering food at the dhaba. Aditi is sitting next to Viren, not yet friendly with the gang. Viren draws his face close to her's.

VIREN Tumhein naye logon mein awkward to feel naheein ho raha na...?

ADITI Ye tumhaari responsibility hai ki tum mujhe awkward feel nahin hone doge..

He smiles, nods. Divya crosses the center, doing some funny dance steps to the music.

{1/2 min}

Imtiaz Ali

Sc # 28

Day, Exteriors
Water Stream

Aditi's feet in water as the music continues in the background. She is swaying her feet. We see that Viren creeps up from behind with a handycam.

VIREN Hello...

She turns, then shrieks.

ADITI Kya kar rahe ho tum!

VIREN Tumhare khilaf saboot jama kar raha hoon... Ms Aditi Sahni.. Bombay to Goa... highway no. 17.... No Internet friend.. no shaadi...

Aditi giggles.

VIREN To ab sawaal ye uthta hai ki Ms Sahni do anjaan logon ke liye itana risk kyon le rahee hain... a) unhein love-stories mein maza aata hai.. b) unke dil mein bahut daya hai ... c) vo bevakoof hain...d) ...

ADITI ...d) vo selfish hain! d) ko lock kiya jaaye... (Like AB) Aur aapka javaab (brightly) bilkul sahi.. Ms Aditi Sahni matlabi hain.. Aapne socha ki Goa ja kar main inki premika aur inke liye balidaan de rahi hoon, magar baat kuch aur hai your honour.

Wildly enjoying and giggling Aditi snatches the handycam and trains it on him.

VIREN Mere kaabil dost kya farma rahe hai, mujhe kuch samajh mein nahin aa raha..

Aditi swish turns the handycam on herself.

ADITI Baat simple hai your honour. Saare saboot isee taraph ishaara karte hain ki is bichaari ladkee ke shadi kisi bhi din, kisi bhi pal, kisi bhee ulloo ke paththe ke saath fix ho sakti hai.. (stops shooting) Ji haan.. Aur phir kahan mujhe mauka milega Goa jaa kar masti karne ka, logon ke saath naachne-gaane ka..?

Gives the camera to Viren. He is looking at her.

ADITI Aur mere koi dost bhi nahin hain jo is tereh ka pagalpan karein. To maine socha ki time hai, masti kar lo.. Kal kisne dekha hai..?

A slent moment. "Oye Viren", comes a shout from afar. Viren and Aditi look in that direction.

VIREN Shit!

He rushes out. Aditi follows him.

{1/2 min}

Sc # 29

Day, Exteriors
Highway

The tempo traveler is driving away, Viren and Aditi chase it, with the handcam and shoes in hand. They try to get in. The guitar music builds up.

Song # 2 [Part One]

The tempo traveler rushes up and turns to a halt on the sand. Boys and girls spill out of the vehicle even before it stops. The boy who had been driving jumps out too. They all run desperately, removing their clothes and with a wild splash, enter the sea. They crash into the water. Next thing we see is that all the friends are lying on the ground of a shack. They are all tangled with one another, looking like a giant octopus from top. They are drenched and soaked with the relaxed spirit of Goa. Shiva has the guitar. He starts singing. The song takes off.

Sc # 30

Night, Interiors Resort Corridor, Room

This short scene happens with the music piece after the first stanza. Folks seem to be retiring to their rooms. Aditi enters the room. Viren is sitting inside. He gets up on seeing her.

VIREN Javaan ladka-ladki ek hi kamre mein raat guzaarengi your honour..? (pointing towards Aditi) Your honour ka kya hoga..?

ADITI Baaki rooms saare couples ne capture kar liya hai. Aur aapki girlfriend kal laayee jaayegi isliye yehi jagah khaali hai..

VIREN (bangs his hands on the table) Naheem ye paap hai..

ADITI Daro mat... Raat ko main tumhaari izzat par hamla nahin karoongi..

Aditi falls on the single bed that is removed from Viren's single bed.

VIREN Tab theek hai...

Viren jumps into his bed. He covers himself. She covers herself. The sun rises. Music builds up.

{1/2 min}

Sc # 31

Day, Exteriors Goa Railway Station

We see Karen run up to Aditi, who is there to receive her. Mr Fernandez and his sister follow. Karen hugs Aditi, full of excitement. Aditi is seen speaking to Fernandez.

{1/2 mins}

Sc # 32

Day, Exteriors Outside Railway Station

Karen comes up with Aditi and embraces Viren. All the friends are standing in the rear of the tempo traveller. Everyone cheers.

Song # 2 [Part Two]

Viren and Shiva are on top of the traveler. Viren is singing. Aditi climbs up and sings along. Karen is looking up from her seat in the traveler. She is a bit surprised that Aditi is so much at home here. Aditi asks her to come up too. Karen shakes her head. We are at the resort now. It is evening. The song builds up to a peppy climax. With everyone up and dancing. Karen looks at Viren and Aditi as they vibe really well in the dance. Aditi catches her look. Then withdraws and continues to clap.

{4 ½ mins} /39 ½ mins/

Sc # 33 [A]

Night, Interiors Resort

Corridor, Room

Aditi walks up the corridor with three hot chocolate mugs on a tray. The door is ajar. She opens it further and enters. She sees Viren and Karen close together.

VIREN ...pata nahin kabse ye kehna chah raha hoon.. magar kabhi bhi theek mauka nahin mila..

Karen looks towards Aditi.

ADITI Oops...

Aditi quickly turns around goes back. The music of the song ends here. Aditi puts the tray on the ledge of the corridor and walks out.

Sc # 34 [A]

Night, Exteriors Resort Compound

Aditi walks up and sits on a rock looking at the valley. She hugs herself.

Sc # 33 [B]**Night, Interiors
Resort****Corridor, Room**

Viren and Karen in the room.

KAREN Oh gosh! travelling can be so tiring..

VIREN Yeah I know...

Karen starts to apply cream on her face.

KAREN Kya keh rahe the tum?

Viren loses the motivation to propose.

VIREN Aah... kaheein baahar ghoom ke aayein?

KAREN Abhee! Bahut raat ho gayee hai yaar.

VIREN Okay....

KAREN Abhi main sirf relax karna chahti hoon... Sorry..

VIREN No probs...

KAREN Tum ghoom kar aao if you want..

VIREN Okay... (smiles) Main aata hoon. Bye..

KAREN Bye..

Karen looks at him go. He is not dissappointed that she did not go along with him. This dissappoints her.

{1/2 mins}

Sc # 34 [B]**Night, Exteriors
Resort Compound**

Viren approaches Aditi and sits next to her.

VIREN Hi...

ADITI Hi...

Pause.

VIREN Ham log asli baat to bhool hee gaye...

ADITI Kya..?

VIREN Kaisi lagee tumhein Karen?

ADITI Tum kya bol kar aaye ho use?

VIREN Baahar ghoomne jaa raha hoon... Kyon?

ADITI Kyonki Karen ne tumko yahan mere saath baithe dekh liya.. to use achcha nahin lagega..

VIREN Ab ye kaun sa angle hai..? Kyon nahin achcha lagega..?

ADITI Mujhe lagta hai ki Karen.. mujhe pasand naheein kartee...

VIREN Kya hua? Usne kuch kaha tumse?

ADITI Naheein kuchh kaha to naheein lekin...

VIREN To phir..?

ADITI (mock disgust) Kehne ki baat hai nahin par tum samajh hi nahin rahe ho to mujhe kehna padega... Use lagta hai ki main tumhein achchi lagti hoon..

VIREN (tilts his head) Use maloom hai ki main tumhein reject kar chuka hoon. Phir bhi vo aisa samajhti hai tab to vo gadhi hai bilkul.. Magar main Karen ko jaanta hoon.. vo aisa soch hi nahin sakti. To phir gadha kaun hua..?

ADITI (mock smile) Trust me. Main ladki hoon. Karen bhi ladki hai. Hum log.. is maamle mein.. tum logon se.. smart hote hain.. Tum kayee saal se jaante hoge Karen ko, magar jis tarah do ladkiyaan ek doosre ko samajh jaati hain, tum zindagi bhar nahin samajh paoge..

VIREN Suno, tumhaara lecture sunne ka mood nahin hai mera..

ADITI To phir kya mood hai..?

VIREN Us pahadi par chadh ke us lighthouse tak jaane ka mood hai..

Aditi looks at the lighthouse. There is a spark in her eyes.

ADITI To jao..

VIREN To chalo..

ADITI Main kyon chaloon..?

VIREN Kyonki tum bhi mar rahi ho vahan jaane ke liye. Main jaanta hoon... Chalo..

ADITI Viren, tum Karen ko le jao.. Use achcha lagega..

VIREN Use kahoonga na to sochegi ki finally Viren pagal ho hi gaya... Raat ke do baje pahad chadhne keh raha hai.. Vo us type ki nahin hai..

ADITI So sad.. Tab to tumhein vaapas apne room mein jaana hoga..

VIREN Room mein hi rehna hota to main Bombay mein nahin reh jaata..?

ADITI Magar tum Karen ke saath aaye ho, vo chahti hogi tumhaare saath rehna..

VIREN Vo tumhein dekhna hai ya mujhe?

ADITI Tumhein..

VIREN To phir tum kyon chakar-bakar kar rahi ho..? (pause) Dekho.. Karen ke saath to meri poori zindagi padi hai.. Hai na..? Magar tum.. Ab iske baad hum dono kahan milenge yaar..? Shayad kisi bachche ki birthday party mein.. jahan tumhaara bachcha bhi invited hai aur mera bhi.. To madam.. time hai, masti kar lo.. Kal kisne dekha hai.. tumhaari policy hai na.

Aditi nods.

VIREN Ek minute.. mein handycam leke aata hoon...

ADITI Aur Karen jagi hogi to kya bologe?

VIREN Bol doonga camera saaf karna hai...

ADITI Jooth bologe us se?

VIREN Of course!

They smile at one another.

{3 mins}

Sc # 35

Night, Exteriors
Cliff

A small light is seen through the mist. It is the lamp of a bicycle that winds up the dusty track to the foot of the cliff. Viren and Aditi. They get off, Viren makes a cat-call.

VIREN Mein bichchoon ko bhaga raha hoon... Meine tumhein bataya naheen na ki yahaan bichhoo bhare pade hain..?

They begin to climb the up small cliff, walking sometimes, sometimes on all fours. Helping each other sometimes.

ADITI Vow! Bichhoo's! I love them!

VIREN Kabhee kabhee saanp bhee nikal aate hain idhar udhar se...

ADITI Kya luck hai yaar mera...! Mere saare favourite jaanwar idhar hee rehte hain kya!? Bhediye aur sher naheen aate yahaan..?

VIREN Yaar tum dar kyon nahin rahi ho..?

ADITI Yaar tum dara hi nahin rahe ho dhang se.. Koshish karo.. koi achcha idea socho..

VIREN Achha... Ek important baat main tumhein bata doon.. Kuch saal pehle, ek ladki ne.. is cliff se kood kar apni jaan de di thi. Ab har raat.. barah baje ke baad.. uska bhoot yahan aata hai..

ADITI Tum ghabrao mat. Main hoon na.. main samhaal loongi.. Bhoot to bahut hi zyada pasand hain mujhe.

VIREN Ye kya bakwaas hai? Bhoot kisi ko pasand kaise ho sakte hain?

ADITI Mujhe hain.. Jab mere daddy mummy khatam ho gaye the to main sochti thi ki vo bhoot ban kar mujhse milne aayenge. Tab hi se hamesha dhoondhti rehti hoon ki kaheen koi bhoot dikh jaye..

VIREN Tumhaare parents.. kaise khatam hue..?

ADITI Gaadi ka accident ho gaya tha..

VIREN Oh.. Kab ki baat hai..?

ADITI Saat saal ho gaye..

VIREN Hmm...

They continue to climb.

{1 min}

Sc # 36

Night, Exteriors
Cliff Top [Lighthouse]

Lights of the town can be seen from the cliff top. Aditi and Viren reach and slump down on the ground. They are breathing heavily, take rest of a rock.

ADITI Beautiful.. Achcha hua.. main aa gayee..

VIREN Haan.. Akele.. main bhi nahin aata.. (pause) Aditi.. (laughs)

ADITI Kya hua?

VIREN Just a thought.. Hamare gharwale.. hamein yahaan dekh lein.. to kya sochenge..?
Ye dono shaadi se mana karte hai.. aur pandrah din baad, raat ke do baje.. Goa mein.. akele.. ek pahaadi par baithe hain.. Kya sochenge vo..

ADITI Sochenge nahin... seedhe kood jaayenge yahan se..

VIREN Aur bhoot ban jaayenge..

They giggle.

ADITI Aur Karen..? Vo kya sochegi..?

VIREN Phir Karen.. Yaar problem kya hai tumhaari..? Ek baat batao.. Tum aur main.. Hum dono.. kuch ghalat kara rahe hain kya..?

ADITI Naheein...

VIREN Abhi yahan pe achha lag raha hai?

ADITI Haan...

VIREN To phir lagne do.. kyon faltoo mein Karen.. Karen..? Aur maan lo Karen ko koi galatpkehmi ho bhi jaati hai.. To vo galatpkehmi hi hogi na..? Kuchh hai to naheein na hamare beech..

ADITI Naheein...

VIREN Bas to phir!

Pause.

VIREN Aur Karen ko maaloom kaise padega jab ham use bataayenge hee naheein...

ADITI Tum naheein bataoenge?

VIREN Koi zaroori hai ki har ek ko har baat batayee jaaye!?

ADITI (mischeviously) Achhaaaaa!

VIREN Aur kya! bahut see aisi baatein hoti hain jo aap chhipa jaate hain...

ADITI Apni girlfriend se bhee...!?

VIREN Khaas kar ke apni girlfriend se!

She laughs.

VIREN See... there are things jo mein use nahin bata sakta.. lekin for example... tumhein bata sakta hoon..

ADITI Jaise... (nudging him saucily) Zara ham bhee to sunein...

VIREN Jaise... jaise jab mein 7th class mein tha to... main..

ADITI ...apni teacher ke pyaar mein pad gaye the... Ismein kaun si badi baat hai..? Ye to sabke saath hota hai.. Aur batao..

VIREN Aur.. Jab- mein- America- mein- tha-to... kayee baar.. striptease dance baar gaya tha..

ADITI Really..? Wow.. Kaisa hota hai...? Mera bahut man hai striptease dekhne ka..

VIREN Ghalati kar dee na..? Hum log shaadi kar lete to America jaa ke saath mein striptease dekhte..

ADITI Your fault.. Tum ne na bola mujhe..

VIREN Tumne bola nahin na us din ki tumhein nanga naach dekhne ka shauk hai.. Bolti to main immedately haan bol deta..

ADITI Theek hai.. Agla ladka aayega to usko bol doongi..

They laugh.

VIREN Haan.. bol dena.. Aisa bhagega ki na bolne bhi vapas nahin aayega..

Both of them are laughing as we gradually go away from them. Fade out.

{2 ½ mins}

Sc # 37

**Twilight, Exteriors
Cliff**

The sky is bright, the sun is about to rise. We see that Viren and Aditi are fallen asleep, huddled together on a rock on the cliff. Aditi opens her eyes. She looks around. She gets her head up from Viren's shoulder, looks around once more.

ADITI Hey... hey..

She shakes Viren. He gets up.

VIREN Shit! Ham log yaheen so gaye!

ADITI (giggles) Haan... ab to subeh bhee hone wali hai...

VIREN Mar gaye! Bhaaaagoooooooo!

They leave in a hurry. We remain at the rock they were resting on all the night.

{1/2 min}

Sc # 38 [A]**Day, Exteriors
Bombay Streets**

Traffic in Bombay. Three top angle shots. In the third, the tempo traveler is seen coming down a street and stopping. The door opens and Aditi gets off. Shiva gives Aditi her bag.

SHIVA Konkan Express. 11 baje departure, subeh 9 baje Dadar mein arrival.. Bye..

ADITI Bye..

Shiva bangs his hand twice on the wall of the traveler for the driver to leave. Viren comes forward a bit towards Aditi. Karen is sitting next to him.

VIREN So...

ADITI Okay...

He takes her hand.

VIREN Aditi, main tumhein....

Before he could complete what he wants to say, the traveler picks up speed.

VIREN Arey... Hello... Listen...

Viren looks at Aditi. Aditi sees Viren become smaller and smaller in the distance, finally, the door of the traveler closes.

Sc # 39 [A]**Day, Int / Exteriors
Traveler**

VIREN (calls out to Driver) Arey... mein baat kar raha tha yaar! Bye bhi naheein bolane diya...

He looks at Karen.

SHIVA Rokane ko boloon kya?

VIREN Ab kya...?

He turns away, feeling uncomfortable to part like this.

Sc # 38[B]**Day, Exteriors
Bombay Streets**

Aditi stands looking at the tempo. She would have liked it better to have said a proper goodbye to Viren. It is sad that she will never see him again. But...

ADITI Taxi...

{1 ½ mins}

Sc # 39 [B]**Day, Int / Exteriors
Traveller**

Viren is feeling dissatisfied. There is something going on in his mind. Karen is not looking straight at him but is noticing him. She turns and looks at him. He looks at her, smiles. She smiles. She is thinking.

Sc # 40**Day, Exteriors
Malhotra Driveway**

Gopal is near his car. He is waiting for Sonal, who is looking for something in her purse. The taxi drives in and stops. He comes to the cab.

GOPAL Hi Aditi, kaisa raha..?

ADITI Wonderful bhaiya... bahut maza aaya..

GOPAL VT se aa rahi ho..?

ADITI Nahin.. Dadar se. Nau baje pahunch gayee.. Konkan Express.. Goa se departure raat ke gyarah baje..

GOPAL Tum jao andar.. paise mein de deta hoon...

ADITI Bhaiya aap kahan jaa rahe ho...?

GOPAL Crawford Market... kyon?

ADITI Mujhe mere institute tak chhod doge... train se jaaongi to der ho jaayegi...

GOPAL Jaldi kar...

ADITI Paanch minute..

Aditi rushes in. She crosses Sonal. Sonal walks towards Gopal as he turns to the cab driver.

GOPAL Kitana hua...

TAXI DRIVER 15 rupaiye...

Gopal is puzzled.

{1/2 min} /49 mins/

Sc # 41

Day, Exteriors
Institute Gate

Gopal's car parks. Sonal is sitting next to him, Aditi makes to exit from the rear.

SONAL Aditi

Aditi turns around.

SONAL Tum kisee ke saath... koi chakkar-vakkar hai kya tumhara..?

Pause.

ADITI (surprised) Nahin didi.. Kyon..?

SONAL Sure..?

ADITI 100%

GOPAL Tune kaha tu Dadar se aa rahee hai...? Aur wo taxiwala bola ki tune taxi do sadak chhod ke pakdi?

ADITI Haan to... mein Dadar mein utari... ek friend ne mujhe Mithibai tak lift dee .. wahan se meine taxi pakad lee...

Gopal is looking at Aditi. Aditi is looking back at Gopal confidently.

GOPAL Tera kabhee kuchh aisa hua.. to tu hamse jhooth naheein bolegi... hai na?

ADITI Bilkul naheein! Par mera koi affair.. koi boyfriend nahin hai..

GOPAL Okay... mujhe laga kuchh to meine poochh liya..

ADITI Aapne bilkul theek kiya... Ab main bhaagti hoon..

GOPAL Bye..

ADITI Bye... Thanks.

Aditi gets off and hurries into the gate. Gopal looks at Sonal.

GOPAL To ye thee baat....

He starts the car and is about to drive when an Esteem comes and parks in front. The driver gets off in a hurry and rushes towards the gate.

GOPAL Uffo

Sonal is looking at the driver of the Esteem.

SONAL Ye... ye woi ladka hai na jo Aditi ko dekhane aaya tha.... Oberoi ka beta...? (Gopal looks)
 woi jisne Aditi ka haath pakda tha...

GOPAL Haan.. Viren...

Viren gets into the gate. Sonal and Gopal look at one another, intrigue lurking in their minds.

{1 min}

Imtiaz Ali

Sc # 42

Day, Int / Exteriors
Institute Corridor / Garden

Aditi is walking down the corridor towards her class. Viren hurries up from behind and comes to her.

VIREN Hi!

She looks at him. Before she can say anything, he takes her hand leads her down to the side.

ADITI Hi..

VIREN Pata hai ham is dunia ke sabse bade idiots hain!

ADITI Kyon?

VIREN Ham log kyon mile the!?

ADITI Shadi ke liye...

VIREN Are wo naheein! Uske baad!

ADITI (understands) Hmm.. mujhe Karen ko dekh ke tumhein batana tha..

VIREN Is chakkar mein hum Goa tak ghoom aaye.. magar yehi baat nahin kee. To batao..

ADITI Tumhein kya sunana hai? Sach ya jhooth?

VIREN Jo bhee sunane mein achha lage...

ADITI Theek hai... to suno... Karen... (pauses)... achhee ladkee hai.. bahut achhee ladki...

VIREN Ye sach hai ya jhooth...?

ADITI (smiles) Kya fark padta hai..? Sunne mein achcha lag raha hai na..?

He smiles.

VIREN Aur?

ADITI Aur kya?

VIREN Bas itana hee?

ADITI Mmm.. Pehli baar mein aisa lagta naheein hai par... par Karen tumse bahut pyaar kartee hai...

VIREN Aur?

ADITI Suno, main tumhari love life par Phd nahin kar rahi hoon. Jitna dikha utna bol diya.

Viren looks at her for a while, the smile playing on his face.

ADITI Kyaaaa!?

VIREN Mein samajh gaya...

ADITI Kya samajh gaye?

VIREN Woi jo tumne kaha naheein.. mere aur Karen ke baare mein...

ADITI Jab kaha naheein to samjhe kaise?

VIREN Vohi to chakkar hai.. tum jo naheein bhee kehti ho wo bhee mein samajh jaata hoon...

She smiles.

VIREN Ham dono ke beech kuchh hai Aditi.. hai na..?

She points a finger at him.

ADITI Tum yaad rakhna mujhe.. Okay..?

VIREN (through director's virew) Aise hi yaad rakhoonga.. Aditi... pink salwaar kameez... kali designer bindi.. ek gulmohar ke ped ke neeche khadi hai...

ADITI Achha hua tum yahaan aa gaye...

VIREN Aana hi tha... Aage to milna hai nahin.. 'The end' to theek se hona hee chaahiye...

Pause.

ADITI To... Bye...

VIREN Bye... and all the best.. achche se rehna tum...

ADITI Tum bhi...

They are about to leave. Aditi comes forward to give him a friendly hug. And just then, something catches Viren's eye in the corridor. Gopal and Sonal, looking around. They see Viren. Aditi hugs Viren. On the release, she realizes that Viren is stiff. She looks in the direction he is looking. It has happened. Sonal and Viren have seen her. They are standing there, shocked. Aditi is static for a moment. Then she exchanges a half look with Viren, then walks towards her folks. Viren looks at her go. It occurs to him that this is a really strange situation. A confused smile comes to his face.

VIREN (to himself) Stupid.. (shakes his head, speaks aloud) Zindagi mein maine itna ridiculous scene nahin dekha. Absolute, most idiotic situation.

Aditi has reached near Gopal and Sonal in the corridor. She turns and looks towards Viren. He is shaking his head and smiling.

VIREN Pata hai.. (walks up) Main kyee baar bahut ajeeb type ki situations mein pad chuka hoon.. Magar ye jo situation hai.. iska koi muqabla nahin..

Viren has reached near them. Gopal is looking at him with confused anger. Sonal is wondering why this man is talking like this.

VIREN Hello.. (to Gopal) Sorry, mein aapka naam bhool gaya... Kya naam hai?

Gopal narrows his eyes. Viren continues when he sees that Gopal has not replied.

VIREN Khair jo bhi naam ho.. par jaisa aap soch rahe hain.. vaisa hai nahin.. (with exaggerated but definite movement of hands) To main ye bol raha hoon ki kaheen baithte hain.. aur iske baare mein baat karte hain..

Gopal is seething in anger. He regards Viren for a second, then grits his teeth.

GOPAL (to his two sisters) Chalo...

Viren holds his shoulder.

VIREN Listen man.. Yahan world class confusion ho sakti hai.. isliye..

GOPAL (underplayed anger) Haath hatao!

VIREN Please listen.. aapne hum dono ko jaise dekha..

Gopal violently shakes off Viren's hand.

GOPAL Meine kaha haath hatao..

VIREN Dekhiye, ye baat phail ke bahut badee ban sakti hai.. Ya phir hum paanch minute baat kar ke sab kuch clear kar sakte hain.. Please doosra waala option choose keejiye.. (to Sonal) Dekhiye.. I'm sorry .. mein aapka naam bhi bhool gaya... magar aap please inhein boliye.. Aditi, tum samjhao na inko..

GOPAL (suddenly catching Viren's collar and putting him to the wall) Sun saale!

ADITI Bhaiya please...

SONAL Bhaiya.. naheein...

GOPAL Meri baat sun.. samjha..?

VIREN Sunaiye...

Awkward pause. People have stopped by.

VIREN Main sun raha hoon.. Sunaiye na...

GOPAL Bahut smart banta hai!? Haan!? Ye smartness apne kameene bhai aur apne baap ko dikhana.. samjha!?

VIREN Tch!

GOPAL (incited) Ye choo – choo kya kar raha hai? Haan...

SONAL Bhaiya...ek minute suno to...

ADITI Bhaiya aap...

Sonal and Aditi manage to somewhat separate the two.

VIREN Mein aapko samjhane kee koshish kar raha hoon... but I don't think you are co-operating man!

ADITI Viren please... chup karo... please!

VIREN Mein to...

ADITI Meine kaha na chup... please!

Sonal is tugging at Gopal.

GOPAL Kya keh raha hai tu..?

SONAL Bhaiya aap chalo yahaan se... chalo...

She takes Gopal out, Aditi gives a slight glance towards Viren. She is very tense. Viren looks at her as she follows them out.

{4 ½ mins} /54 ½ mins/

Imtiaz Ali

Sc # 43

Day, Interiors
Malhotra's Hall

The phone receiver is off the hook. A hand comes and picks it up. It is Sonal. She asks granny before putting the receiver to her ear.

SONAL Kaun hai?

GRANNY Tera gharwala...

SONAL Gharwala naheen mera ghar todne wala... (Then barks into the phone)
Himmat kaise hui yahan phone karne ki?

JAYA Kyon..? Kis baat ka badla hai ye..? Aakhir kyon aisa laga tumhein ki hum logon ko is tarah se zaleel karna chahiye..? Kyon..? Batao mujhe..

We realize that in the background, Aditi is standing, getting furiously reprimanded by Mrs. Jaya Malhotra. Gopal is there, flitting around. Uncle is sitting.

ADITI Aunty...aisa naheein hai...

JAYA Kaisa naheein hai..? Aaj mili tum us se.. mili ki nahin? Pehle bhi miltee rahee, jhooth par jooth bolatee raheein tum hamse... Dhoka deti rahi.. Kyon..? Bahut bure lagte hain hum log? Koi bhi.. kisi bhi tarah ki kamee rakhi hum logon ne tere liye..? Kisi bhi tarah Sonal se kam maana hai maine tujhe..?

In the foreground, Sonal speaks furiously to her ex-husband.

SONAL Ye ghatia emotional blackmail mat karna mujhe. Notice ke neeche mera sign hai. Uske alaava aur koi baat nahin karni mujhe tumse. Aur ab tumne dubara phone kiya to police aayegi tumhare ghar! Samjhe!?

She looks in front, sees something, then holds her head.

SONAL O god.

She keeps the phone down, shaking her head. It is Viren, having entered the hall.

VIREN Hi...

SONAL Maan!

Aunt stops shouting, everyone turns. They see Viren. Gopal, who had sat down by now, stands up drastically.

VIREN Hello uncle, hello aunty. Meine baat kee.. (pointing towards Gopal) Naam phir yaad nahin aa raha hai.. ye.. aapke bete... jo bhee naam hai... meine kaha inse par inhein samajh mein naheein aayee.. To meine socha aap log zyada samajhdaar honge..

Aditi is dumbfounded, she closes her eyes. Gopal moves towards him. Then calls out behind Viren.

GOPAL Deva! Gate band kar do! Ye kameena bahar naheein nikalna chaahiye!

VIREN (to Jaya and damodar) Dekha aapne... ye kaise kar rahe hain..

GOPAL Abhi kiya kahan hai maine kuch bhi. Karoonga to ab.. Teri bahut himmat ho gayee hai na.

VIREN Tch...

Viren chooses to wander his look aimlessly on the ceiling while Gopal is addressing him with utmost vehemence.

GOPAL Dekh kya karta hoon mein tere saath..

VIREN Kya karoge? Maroge mujhe..? Suno.. main darta nahin hoon tumse.. Main chup hoon sirf Aditi ki wajah se.. Main iski wajah se aaya hoon yahan. (To Mr and Mrs Malhotra) Dekhiye, Aditi bahut achchi ladki hai. Main nahin chahta hoon ki aap log bekaar is par toot padein, pareshaan karein isko.. Aap log meri baat sun lejiye, saara confusion clear ho jayega..

JAYA Aditi...apne kamre mein jao!

Aditi walks out.

VIREN Arey.. isko rehne dejiye yahan.. Ghalat samajh rahe hain aap log..

MALHOTRA (cutting him) Baith jo.. baith jao. Shaant ho jao..

Viren sits.

VIREN Thanks... mein jab...

MALHOTRA Ahahan... baad mein (picks up the phone, dials a number)... jo bhee tumhein kehna hai apne pitaji ke saamne kehna...

VIREN (nervous energy, stands) Pitaji.. unhein kyon..? I mean unka.. ye baat to... vo kya? Ghalatfehmi hai.. aur vo to kuch bhi.. aapke aur mere.. baat haamari hai.. aur vo..

Everyone is looking sternly at him. He stops, looks at them.

MALHOTRA Baith Jao..

He makes a gesture with his hand as though what Damodar is doing is ridiculous. Then sits down quietly, crosses his legs and puts his chin on his knuckles. Granny is sitting next to him, looking at him. The phone connects.

MALHOTRA Mr. Oberoi ko phone do.... Damodar Malhotra.

Viren looks at Malhotra, looks away. Granny finally speaks.

GRANNY Ek baat batao beta...

GOPAL Dadimaan!

GRANNY Baat to karne do! (turns to Viren) Tumhein Aditi se milna achcha lagta hai ye baat main samajh sakti hoon.. Magar chhip chhip kar kyon..? Usase shaadi kar lete... phir to saari zindagee hee milna rehta... jee bhar ke milte...

VIREN Dadimaan...baat thodi.. tedhi hai... magar aap zaroor samajh jayengi..

GOPAL (cutting) Shut up! Shut up!!

VIREN O man...

He looks at Gopal and shakes his head.

SONAL Dadi.. aap idhar aao...

Sonal takes granny away.

MALHOTRA (into the phone) Mr Oberoi... aapka beta...Viren... mere ghar aaya hai... mein chaahta hoon ki aap yahaan aayein aur use le jaayein...

Malhotra puts the phone down.

VIREN (aloud to himself) Whoa... Ho gaye lafde..

{3 mins}

Sc # 44 [A]

**Day, Exteriors
Malhotra's Driveway**

Two luxury cars stops at the door of the Malhotra residence. Naren is driving the first. Mr Nirmal Oberoi is gets off from the other. Two other men get off the rear of his car. Naren leading, they move into the house. Three men, move behind them from the compound.

Sc # 45[A]

Day, Interiors
Malhotra's Hall

Naren enters the hall. Viren sees him, gets up and walks towards him.

VIREN Bhaiya, I'm sorry aapka kaam disturb hua.. par yahan bina matlab hi ye log..

Viren sees Mr Nirmal Oberoi and immediately stops speaking. Oberoi looks sternly at Viren, Viren looks down.

VIREN Good.. Good afternoon dad...

Oberoi looks away from him towards the Malhotras. He takes two steps towards them.

OBEROI Kya baat hai Mr Malhotra?

JAYA Wo to aapko batana hai Mr. Oberoi... beta aapka hai....

OBEROI Mr. Malhotra... Kya inke bajaay aap mujhse baat kar sakte hain..?

JAYA Arey..

Mr. Damodar Malhotra gestures to pacify his wife.

MALHOTRA Dekhiye, aapka ladka picchle kayee dinon se meri bhanji se chhip kar milta hai... Aur wo is se milne ke liye yahaan ghar mein bahane banati hai... Is sab ka kya matlab hai?

JAYA Pehle wo us se shadi ke liye na karta hai aur phir ye sab.. aakhir wo chaahta kya hai? Ye kis tarah ka beta hai aapka?

GOPAL Kameena hai aur kya!?

NAREN Tch..

OBEROI To phir aapki bhanji kya hui? Jab Viren usko mana kar chuka hai to phir wo bahane bana kar us se milne kyon jaati hai? Kyon phansa rahi hai vo ise..?

The Malhotras are stung by this. Viren speaks –

VIREN Arey nahin dad, aisa thodi hai..

Oberoi turns sharply towards him. Viren shivers at the look, but musters courage to speak.

VIREN Actually... Vo mujhe phansa-vansa nahin rahi hai..

OBEROI Bewakoof! Agar tumhaari khopdi mein zara see bhee akal hoti to in logon ka ye natak samajhte tum! Jab seedhe tareeke se ye us ladki ki shaadi tumse nahin karva sake to apni asliyat mein aa gaye aur ye tareeka nikala. Ladki ko bhej diya tumhaare peeche, tumhein phansaane ko..

Sc # 46[A]

**Day, Interiors
Aditi's Room**

Aditi listens to the conversation from her room. She is sitting on the floor. Gradually, we are coming closer to her. She closes her eyes presently. The talk goes on.

JAYA Aae Mr. Oberoi....

GOPAL Batayein kaise phansaya jaata hai!? phansa ke dikhaye aapke ladke ko!? Haan!? Dekhna hai!?

Sc # 45[B]

**Day, Interiors
Malhotra's Hall**

Gopal continues to scream.

GOPAL Ek phone-call mein aapka ladka eve-teasing ke charge mein andar ho jayega.. Karoon phone..?

NAREN Ek minute.. ek minute.. (to Gopal) Tum zara.. araam se.. (to Mr and Mrs Malhotra) Mere khayaal se kuch confusion hai.. aap keh rahe hain ki pichhle kayee dinon se ye dono mil rahe hain.. magar ye to ho hi nahin sakta hai. Kyonki pichhle kayee din Viren to tha hi nahin Bombay mein. Ye to abhi, kuch ghante pehle lauta hai.

JAYA Kahan gaya tha ye..?

Viren looks up towards Naren. This could spill the beans. But Naren speaks.

NAREN Goa.

Sc # 46[B]

**Day, Interiors
Aditi's Room**

Aditi's head cocks up.

JAYA (sound off) Kya..? Goa..?

Sc # 45[C]

Day, Interiors
Malhotra's Hall

Mrs Jaya Malhotra, as her mind explores what must have happened in the weekend.

JAYA Ye Viren Goa gaya tha?

Viren looks at her, senses trouble here.

VIREN Chalo bhaiya... warna ye kahengi Goa jaana bhi paap hai..

JAYA (screams) Kameene! Iska matlab hai tu.. meri ladki to le gaya tha..

VIREN (pretending) Hey.. hey... what's wrong with her!

Mr Malhotra looks in question at his wife.

JAYA Shaadi ka keh ke gayee thi Aditi.. aayee to dhone mein ek bhee shadiyon wala kapda nahin tha iska.. bas jeans aur tops...

VIREN So what! Jeans aur tops! Look at her logic!

JAYA Ye chichora insaan... ye us din Aditi se shaadi karne naheein mastee marne aaya tha... Yaheen haath pakad liya tha to phir Goa mein to..

VIREN Hey.. hey.. Paagal ho gayee hain kya..? Samajh mein aa raha hai kya bakwaas kar rahi hain..? (to Gopal) Suno tum.. jo bhi naam hai tumhara.. Inhein kisee doctor ke paas le jao, kisi pychiatrist ke paas... Inko major problem hai dad, main kaafi der se inko observe kar raha hoon.. (to Gopal) Inka aise khulla ghoomna society ke liye khatarnaak ho sakta hai.. Chalo bhaiya... come... mera dimaag kharaab tha jo mein yahaan inki help karne aaya... Ye naye paise walon ke saath yahee problem hai!

Viren makes to herd Naren and his father out.

GOPAL Saale harrrraami! Mein chhodoonga naheein tujhe!

MALHOTRA Shut up Gopal... Shut up. (with humility) Okay Mr Oberoi, thank you..

Oberoi turns to go. Viren is standing in front. He glares at Viren, then walks out. Viren and Naren walk out after him. Malhotra shouts at Gopal after they have left.

MALHOTRA Tum kya naheein chhodoge use..? Jab tumhari apni ladki rang dikha rahee hai..

{3 min}

Sc # 46 [C]

**Day, Interiors
Aditi's Room**

Aditi heart is beating in her mouth as she hears.

MALHOTRA (sound off) Kamzori hammein hai... Kisee se baat bhee mat karna is baare mein... Jo thodi bahut ummeed hai uski shaadi ki, vo bhi khatam ho jayegi..

JAYA (sound off) Ye ladki.. cheez kya hai ye..? Itni besharam..? Aur itne dinon tak hum ise kya samajhte rahe..

Aditi closes her eyes.

{1/2 min}

Sc # 44 [B]

**Day, Exteriors
Malhotra's Driveway**

Mr Oberoi's car leaves. Naren is getting into his car.

NAREN Viren..

VIREN Oh shit! (pulls Naren's arm and sees the watch) Mar gaye! Bhaiya, Nirmal ko samhaal lena.. I'm dead man..

NAREN Arey suno..

Viren rushes towards his car. Naren shakes his head.

{1/2 min}

/61 1/2 mins/

Sc # 47 [A]

Day, Interiors
Cafeteria / Pub

Karen is sitting at a table. She looks at her watch. Viren walks up from the rear. He hurries up to her. He is breathing heavily, hardly being able to speak.

VIREN Sweetheart, I'm really sorry... par it was crazy yaar! Kya scene hua hai main bataoonga na to tum believe nahin karogi...

Karen stands up. She is smiling, wearing a very elegant dress. She takes his hands, kisses him on the cheek.

KAREN Hi Viren...

He is surprised by her manner. He looks at her dress.

VIREN Ye... Tum kisi party mein ja rahi ho?

KAREN (smiling) Party mein aayee hoon...

She takes him to sit. The table is decorated. Viren is confused. While sitting, he catches sight of Shiva and his other friends sitting on tables on the left.

VIREN Shiva...?

Shiva and the others turn away. Viren is more confused. He looks at Karen.

VIREN What's happening?

Karen does not reply. She is smiling. She seats him. He looks towards his friends and gestures to ask. Shiva shrugs, as though how should I know, and looks away.

VIREN Karen, bolo na... Kya baat hai?

KAREN Tum bolo Viren. Kya baat hai.?

Viren is wondering.

KAREN Tum bahut din se mujhse kuch bolna chahta ho na? Sorry... poochna chahte ho... right?

Viren gapes. He turns towards Shiva. Shiva is grinning. Viren turns towards Karen. He gets it.

VIREN Oh.. Achcha vo...?

KAREN Mujhe shuroo se maloom tha.. Bas delay kar rahi thi. Magar ab mujhe lagta hai ki time aa gaya hai. Ab aur der nahin karni chahiye.

VIREN Okay, okay...

KAREN So ask...

VIREN Abhi..?

KAREN Abhi..

VIREN Are yaar abhi to... You don't know. Main jahan se aa raha hoon na...

Karen is smiling. Waiting for him to propose. Viren decides to do it.

VIREN Abhi... Okay.... Karen..

KAREN (playful) Hmm..?

VIREN (straight) Will you marry me?

KAREN (cutting him) Oh stop it yaar! Aise propose karoge tum mujhe..? Zindagi mein ek baar ye moment aata hai... aur tum.. aisa hoga hamara moment..?

VIREN (looks at her) Nahin..

He clears his throat. He looks at the flower on the table. He picks it. The vase falls. He comes to his knees in a hurry in front of Karen. A waiter carrying some drinks in a tray crashes against him. The glasses fall. Some people shriek.

VIREN Shit...

He gets up. His friends are laughing.

VIREN Sorry yaar... I'm very sorry... Sorry...

He looks at Karen. There is a disapproving look on her face. He indicates his brain.

VIREN Karen, abhi idhar power cut hai... Kuch samajh mein...

KAREN (cutting him) Oh come on... har koi poochhega – kaise kiya Viren ne propose.. kaise kiya... Main kya bolongi unko? Ki power cut tha...? Do something.

VIREN (wondering) What...?

He looks around. He sees the live band playing. He thinks for a moment. Then –

VIREN Ek minute...

He walks briskly and climbs the stage, comes to the band.

VIREN Stop, stop it... Ruk jao...

The singer looks at him in surprise. He is in the middle of a song, he continues to sing. Viren holds the guitar.

VIREN Just.. just.. just.. stop...

The singer stops.

VIREN (to the other band members) Hello... ruko... Ruk jao... Stop.

The rest of the band stops. Only a keyboard track is playing on it's own. Viren turns to the audience.

VIREN (to everyone) Hello... main...

He looks down. He realizes that everyone is staring at him. He has stopped the song midway and hijacked the stage. All action at the pub is suspended as he stands at the mike. He is silent. He does not know what to say, what to do. Silence. The musicians get up in amazement and look at each other. Viren looks at his friends. They are gaping at him. Many of them cover their faces. He looks at Karen. She is looking at him make an ass of himself. He looks at the audience in front. He looks down, closes his eyes. He is like that for a moment, then begins to sing.

Song # 3

The band begins to play. Viren proposes to Karen by singing this song. The lyrics of the song say that if I fill the home with flowers, if I promised to keep home clean, will you make your home with me? If I filled your nights with starlight, and I filled your days with fragrance, will you share those nights and days with me? Soon, Shiva arrives with a few other friends. He takes the drum-sticks from the hands of the drummer as he is playing, without disrupting the flow of music and begins to play. Another friend does the same for the other guitar. Music builds up as a result of this. Some guests begin to clap. The dance floor lights are switched on and with a shriek, many couples enter to dance. Karen and Viren also dance. The television monitors are activated and it becomes a big occasion. Viren sings the song. But there is something that is bothering him.

Flashes of Aditi at her house, getting reprimanded by her uncle and aunt. These flashes interlace this song as this is what is bothering Viren as he sings.

The song ends. With Viren asking the question to Karen – will you be mine. Pause.

{4 ½ mins}

Sc # 47 [B]

Night, Interiors
Cafeteria / Pub

The attention is on Karen. She stands beaming in the limelight for a while. Then –

KAREN (screams) Yes...

Karen gives her hand, climbs down and embraces Viren. Massive cheer all around. The friends are ecstatic. All the guests get up from their tables and clap. Many people come over to Viren and Karen, waiters and guests and all, to wish them.

VIREN Thanks, thanks a lot..

KAREN Listen... please serve a round of drinks to everyone.. hamaari taraf se!

The manager gets them a cake on the house. Flowers happen suddenly. The proposal had become a huge event. Viren is in the midst of festivity, but his mind is elsewhere.

{2 ½ mins}

Imtiaz Ali

Sc # 48 [A]

**Night, Interiors
Cafeteria Phone Corner**

The telephone in a corner of the cafeteria. Viren approaches the phone in a hurry and dials a number.

Sc # 49 [A]

**Night, Interiors
Terrace**

The phone that is about to ring, kept on the bar. Behind which, we see Aditi, backing us and facing Mrs and Mr Malhotra.

ADITI Maine kabhi nahin chaaha ki meri wajah se aap logon ko koi bhi takleef ho.. Mummy daddy bhee shayad itna nahin karte mere liye... (The phone rings) Mujhe... main bahut sharminda hoon ki...

She realizes that she is meant to pick the phone up. She turns and picks it up.

ADITI Hello...

Sc # 48 [B]

VIREN Aditi... Hi... Kya scene hai vahan...? Tum theek ho...?

Sc # 49 [B]

ADITI Ji aapko kaun sa number chaahiye?

Sc # 48 [C]

VIREN Oh... vo log paas hai.. Suno, bus itna ishaara kar do ki...

Sc # 49 [C]

ADITI No, this is 6203738.

She puts the phone down, turns to uncle and aunt and continues.

ADITI Maine jhoot bola tha ki shaadi mein ja rahi hoon... lekin mera vaisa kuch bhi nahin hai iske saath (she says pointing towards the phone. Aunt looks at the phone. Aditi notices, moves her hand in a similar gesture to the other side)... ya uske saath.. kisi ke bhi saath. Goa main zaroor gayee thi.. vo bhi tha.. magar koi bhi vaisa.. ghalat iraada nahin tha hamaara..

JAYA Hahaan.. bahut achha, nek iraada tha aap logon ka ... teerath pe gaye the aap log! Beta kal paida naheen hue hain ham log...

ADITI Nahin auntie main...

MALHOTRA Idhar aao...

She goes to him.

MALHOTRA Baitho...

Aditi sits.

ADITI Mera yakeen keejiye uncle...

MALHOTRA Nahin Aditi.. ab tum hamara yakeen kho chuki ho..

Aditi looks down, stung with shame.

MALHOTRA Aaj mujhe pehli baar pachtaava ho raha hai.. ki kyon vaada kiya tha maine Poonam se – Ghabrao mat.. hum log tumhaari beti ka khayal rakhenge.. Usko achche se settle karenge.. Khair.. Vaada kiya hai to poora to karna hee hai...

He looks at Aditi. She speaks with great effort.

ADITI Uncle... aap log jis se kahenge, main us se shaadi kar loongi. I promise... Phir shayad aapko yakeen ho jayega ki main sach bol rahi thi.

Silence.

JAYA Maine Chawla ko bola hai. Vo jaldi hi khabar laayega...

Suddenly, the phone rings again. Aditi looks towards it. Aunt is closer to the phone now. She picks it up.

JAYA (anger continued) Hello!

{2 ½ mins}

Sc # 48 [D]

VIREN Dammit..

Viren bangs the phone down, stands agitated for a moment. Karen approaches from behind. He turns to her. She gives him a surprised smile.

KAREN Vahan anjaan log tumhaare liye celebrate kar rahe hain. Aur tum yahan khade ho..? (notices him) Kya hua..? You look tense...

VIREN Haan...? Vo.. (cooks up) to hai hi na.. I mean.. Catholic, Hindu.. Meri family, tumhaari family.. Tension to hai..

KAREN (gets cozy) Don't worry. Hum dono saath hain na.. step by step saara problem solve ho jayega. Step number one – tum mera haath maangne kab aaoge?

VIREN Aur kitne haath mangoo? Abhi maanga na...?

KAREN Tch.. Vo to mujhse na.. Mere dad se nahin maangoge mera haath..?

VIREN Oh man!

He gets real tense now.

{1 ½ mins}

Sc # 50 [A]

Night, Interiors
Karen's Hall

It is relatively dark in the hall, which, along with archaic settings, is giving it a brooding quality right now. Mr and Mrs Fernandez are dressed formally and sitting formally on the formal two seater sofa of theirs. It's not their portrait being made, they are listening to Viren's proposal.

VIREN Mujhe maaloom hai ki is dunia ka sach kya hai...

Viren is wearing a formal suit, with a tie and a flower tucked to his coat. He is standing if front of the couple and making the speech.

VIREN Ye dunia banti huee hai – (counting) jaat ke naam par, rang ke naam par... Desh ke naam par.. dharm ke naam par... par ye vo.. sarahdein hain jo insaan ne kheenchi hain...

Karen is peeping from behind the door.

VIREN Lekin in sabse oopar hai wo jise insaan ne naheein ooparwale ne banaya hai... pyar. Pyar kisi sarhad ko nahin maanta... Pyaar ke bina zindagee kaisee, your honour?

Fernandez knots his brow. Karen shuts her eyes.

VIREN I mean.. Pyar wo dhaaga hai jo mujhe aapse jodta hai... aur isee pyaar kee khatir mein aapse aapki ladki Ms Karen Fernandez ka haath maangta hoon... (forgets) haath maangta hoon... (remembers) kyonki main pyaar mein yakeen rakhta hoon... yeah.. nafrat mein naheen... mein (points upwards) usmein yakeen rakhta hoon... mazhab mein naheen... aapka mera mazhab alag ho sakta hai par wo aur pyar sabke liye ek hain...

He shrugs slightly.

VIREN That's all...

Fernandez has been looking incisively.

F'DEZ Baitho...

VIREN Thanks...

He sits and wipes his forehead. Mrs Stella Fernandez gives him a glass of water with a big smile.

F'DEZ Ye kaun likha hai...?

VIREN Kya?

F'DEZ Ye speech?

VIREN Speech nahin.. ye to maine aise hi..

Fernandez is looking at him.

VIREN Maine likha hai.

F'DEZ Tumne..?

VIREN Dekhiye likha Karen ne hai magar maine bhi..

F'DEZ Tum ye sab mein believe karte ho..?

VIREN Kis sab mein..?

F'DEZ Yehi jo tum speech diya.. aur kya..?

VIREN Ji thoda bahut..

F'DEZ Thoda ya bahut...

VIREN Ah.. bahut...

F'DEZ Tumko idea hai ki tum kya karna chah rahe ho? Tum dono ka lifestyle, families, kitna alag hai maloom hai tumko? Aur jo values hai vo..

VIREN (cutting) I don't think so.. I mean sure... fark to hai.. ab jaise aisa sofa hamare ghar mein naheen laayega koi... Aur yahan.. har jagah jo candles bhari hui hain.. I mean come on... jab bulbs hain to candles kee kya zaroorat hai... Lekin meri mummy ne bhee mujhe wohi sikhaya hai jo aapne Karen ko – bado kee izzat karo... sach bolo... ghalat kaam mat karo... yehi values hain hamare, aur aapke bhi – ek normal hindustani ghar ke values. Aur ye same hain to kya fark padta hai agar aap mombatti jalayein aur hum agarbatti..?

F'DEZ Hmm.. To tum relegious naheein ho?

VIREN No.. Main religion mein believe naheein karta..

F'DEZ Aur tumhari family?

VIREN Unfortunately yes..

F'DEZ Ismein unfortunate kya hai? Mein religious hoon... Ye to achcha hai ki vo bhi relegious hain. Magar kya tumhari family mein Karen ko vaise hee accept kiya jaayega jaisi wo hai..?

Pause. Karen looks at Viren. Viren knows that his family will never accept.

VIREN Of course.. (with an exaggerated but definite movement of hands) I don't think ki ismein koi bhi problem hai.... They are very cool!

F'DEZ To phir Whisky or Vodka?

VIREN Hunh?

F'DEZ Whisky or Vodka?

VIREN Whisky...

F'DEZ Okay..

Stella Fernandez comes over and kisses him.

STELLA Congratulations. I am so happy for Karen. Pehle tum us se milna chahte ho na..? (calls) Karen.. Viren ko apna room dikhao...

It strikes Viren that this is an exact repeat of an earlier statement. He remembers.

Sc # 51

**Day, Interiors
Malhotra's Hall**

It is the same situation as Sc # 9, but the shots used here were not used in that scene. Here the shots are of the same scheme that is being used in Sc # 52. Flashback.

JAYA Aditi, Viren ko apna kamra dikhao..

Aditi is seen. She is sitting next to Namita. She gets up.

Sc # 50 [B]

Viren is looking in the direction where Aditi is supposed to be. He follows her look as she must have come towards him. But it is Karen.

KAREN (suppressing her excitement) Come..

He looks at her.

{3 ½ mins}

Sc # 52

Night, Interiors
Karen's Room, Corridor

Karen enters with Viren and shuts the door. She unbottles her ecstasy and jumps onto Viren.

KAREN Viren.. Viren.. It has happened.. My god, mujhe yakeen hi nahin ho raha hai.. And you were so good.. Daddy to.. bilkul fan ho gaye hain tumhaare.. Wow.. I love you... Congratulations.

Viren looks at the phone kept on Karen's side table.

VIREN Same to you..

KAREN Ab chalo.. Dad ki bar khul chuki hogee...

VIREN Aa.. Karen... mein wo ek call kar loon?

KAREN Kis ko?

VIREN Actually, main naheein.. tum karo call..

KAREN But kis ko..?

VIREN Aditi ko.. poor girl... (Karen stares at Viren) Vo log bahut tang kar rahe honge usko.. I'm sure.. Meri awaaz pehchaan jayenge. Tum karogee phone.. wo aa jaayegi to mein le loonga...

Viren realizes he has messed up. Karen is silent.

KAREN Abhee abhee mere dad ne haan kaha mere aur tumhare liye... baahar wo tumhare liye drink bana rahe hain...hamari zindagi ka sabse happy moment hai ye...aur tum Aditi ke baare mein soch rahe ho!?

VIREN Arey, vaisa thodi hai..

KAREN Viren... What the hell is wrong with you?

VIREN Karen.. it's just that mujhe phone dikha aur laga ki ek phone kar loon... aur kya?

KAREN Is waqt tumko ye sab yaad kaise aaya..?

There is a knock on the door.

F'DEZ (sound off) Okay kids! Ladai jhagde ke liye to saari life hai tum logon ke paas... Come and have a drink first.

Karen and Viren put on smiles and look towards the door.

KAREN Come...

They move to the door. They open the door. Mr Fernandez is standing in front of the room in the corridor with two glasses. Mrs. Fernandez is standing with a polaroid camera.

STELLA Smile...

Karen and Viren pose. Flash.

{2 mins}

Sc # 53

Night, Exteriors
Fernandez' Compound

A car is parked outside the gate. Karen is standing at the gate and Shiva is walking a drunk Viren towards the car.

SHIVA Don't worry... mein chhod doonga ghar...

KAREN Bye...

Viren is slurring.

VIREN Saala buddhe ne to baja daali yaar..

SHIVA Toone mana kyon nahin kiya usko?

Shiva somehow manages to get Viren into the car.

VIREN Arey vo sunta kidhar hai? Main bola.. ki bhai.. thank you very much.. haan..? Mere ko aadat nahin hai zyaada drinks ki.. palti ho jaoonga.. Par vo to... one more young man.. one more young man... kar ke dimagh ka fuse uda diya yaar.. Abhi ye haal hai to shaadi ke baad to meri vaat laga dalega...

SHIVA Achcha chal..

VIREN Arey toone pehchaana nahin usko... Poori bottle andar kar liya phir bhi apne pair pe khada hai. Abhi tak andar mein one more, one more kar raha hoga... Tarzan hai vo Tarzan... Vaat lagayega shaadi ke baad...

Shiva drives the car away.

{1/2 min}

Sc # 54

Night, Exteriors
Street outside Malhotra's House

The car drives up the street.

VIREN Ae Shiva, Shiva.. rok.. Rok zara

Shiva stops the car. Springs into action.

SHIVA Gaadi mein nahin, gaadi mein nahin.. Ruk ruk...

Shiva gets off and comes to Viren's side. Viren is getting off.

SHIVA Idhar, idhar side mein..

VIREN Arey wo naheein yaar..

SHIVA To..?

VIREN Vo dekh...

He indicates Aditi's house to him.

VIREN Aditi hai na.. uska ghar hai... Aur vo... us balcony ke peeche uska room hai.. vahan rehti hai...

SHIVA To?

VIREN To vo hogi vahaan abhi... bahar nikalne ka permission to hoga nahin..

SHIVA Abey bewde.. Shaadi hone waali hai teri.. Ab to parayee ladki pe nazar daalna chhod de.. Chal baith!

Shiva goes back and sits in the car.

VIREN (mumbles) Parayee ladki..

Viren looks towards Aditi's room. He sees her shadow on the curtain. He moves a step forward. Aditi comes out to the balcony. Music for the song begins. Viren looks at Aditi. Aditi stands at the balcony. She can not see him. He looks at her.

{1 min}
/79 ½ mins/

Song # 4

Aditi is standing at her balcony. As the trolley moves, we find that Viren is standing on the balcony too, looking at her. He sings the opening lines in a slow, lyrical fashion. The lines say that for some reason, Aditi does not seem 'parayee' to him.

The music builds up to become peppy and cheerfull as we see various places in Goa. We see Aditi and Viren with the group that they had gone to Goa with. So in that sense, this is a flashback. We see Aditi and Viren in various situations that we have not seen them earlier in the film. For instance, we see Viren training Aditi to dive into a pond. We have seen earlier that Viren and Aditi had to run and catch the tempo from the highway dhaba. Now we see what happens after that. They had opened the back door of the vehicle while it was in motion. Viren had caught the tempo, then given his hand to Aditi. Then both had crashed inside. Viren's hand was around Aditi. They had not realized it for a while. Then they had. Viren had removed his hand and both had laughed over it.

We see these incidents while the song goes on. And the song is being sung by Viren, of the present time, who is also looking at himself and Aditi in the past. So typical shots in this song will be with Viren looking at himself and Aditi and singing the song.

The meaning of the song is that he does not know what it is, but there is something between them. She is a thought for him. A thought that makes him happy. A thought that he wants to think about. He knows that she is not his. But she doesn't seem 'parayee' either.

{4 ½ mins}

Goa Montage

A montage of clips of Aditi and Viren that were shot by the handycam in the Goa trip, playing to the fading bars of the song.

{1/2 mins}

Sc # 55

Night, Interiors
Viren's Room

Viren is lying on the bed and watching in the LCD display of Handicam what he had shot of Aditi in the Goa trip. We realize that someone is looking at the polaroid photograph of his and Karen's. It is Namita, sitting on the bed.

NAMITA Iske father ko tum bol aaye ki hamare ghar mein to koi problem hi nahin hai.. Pata hai kaisa bum phatne wala hai yahaan jab logon ko maaloom padega?

VIREN (still a bit shaky from the alcohol) Atom bum! Par agar mein uske father ko sach bata deta to wahaan bhee bum phootata... idhar bhee bum.. udhar bhee bum... Phir koi chance nahin tha.

NAMITA Ab kya karoge?

VIREN Arey..? Tum mujhse kya pooch rahi ho..? Tum batao mujhe kya karna hai..

NAMITA Aaj zaroorat padi to yaad aa rahi hoon mein... ki main tumko support karoon aur sabke liye vamp ho jaaoon...

VIREN Ahh.. Mere ghar ki heroine kabhee vamp naheen ho sakti... Aur natak mat karo, main jaanta hoon tum help karogi..

NAMITA Teen saal tumne ye baat mujhse chipa kaise lee?

VIREN Par bataya bhi to pehle tum hi ko na bhabhi.. Sorry jhooth naheen boloonga... Maine Kisi aur ko bhi bataya hai..

NAMITA Kise?

VIREN Aditi ko.. Vo Mr Malhotra.. hum log gaye the na..?

NAMITA Tum paagal ho Viren!? Use batane kee kya zaroorat thee...

VIREN Pata naheen bhabhi... Usmein kuch hai.. Main us se saari baatein share kar leta hoon...

NAMITA Share kar leta hoon! Us kamre mein 5 minute ke andar kya kya share kar liya tumne?

VIREN Us kamre mein aur Goa mein...

Namita is shocked.

NAMITA Tumhaara matlab.. wo ladki ... wo bhee... gayee thee Goa... Tum ne jhooth bola tha!?

VIREN Ofcourse... Tab main nahin bol sakta tha na ki Karen bhi Goa gayee thi.. Aur ye ki mera chakkar Karen ke saath hai.. therefore Aditi ke saath koi chakkar nahin ho sakta.. ye sab.. Anyway, ye batao ki tumhein kaisi lagi vo..?

NAMITA Mujhe kya maloom? Kabhee milwaya tumne mujhe?

VIREN Mili to ho...

NAMITA Mein kab mili Karen se..?

VIREN Karen naheen.. Aditi... Aditi kaisi lagi thi tumhein..?

NAMITA (pause) Ek second. Tum Karen se shadi karna chaahte ho na?

VIREN Yup!

NAMITA To phir ye Aditi kahaan se aa gayi?

VIREN Aditi aa naheen gayee... sirf pooch raha hoon bhabhi...

NAMITA Mat poochho... apni khopdi saaf rakho.. Abhi bahut kuch sochna hai tumhein.. Jaise ki daddy se kya kahoge..

VIREN (scared at the task) Nirmal se!? Nirmal mujhe tadipaar kar dega bhabhi...

NAMITA Par bolna to tum hi ko hai Viren! Aur jaldi.. Iske pehle ki unhein kaheen aur se pata chal jaye..

VIREN You mean abhi..?

NAMITA Abhi to munh se mehek aa rahi hai. Joote pad jayenge.. Kal.. kal subah...

VIREN Okay...

Viren looks tense. He puts his head on the pillow.

{3 mins}

Sc # 56

Day, Ext / Interiors
Oberoi's Garden / Viren's Room / Corridor

The house of the Oberoi's stands in early morning. In his bathroom, Viren splashes water on his face. He is looking into the mirror. He is preparing himself to speak to his father.

VIREN Dad... mujhe maloom hai mein kya kar raha hoon... kya sahee hai kya galat hai... mujhe maloom hai dad! I am twenty four. Relax..

He continues to talk to himself as he wipes his face with the towel, throws it on the bed, then proceeds down the corridor.

VIREN Religion bhee hamein aakhir kya sikhata hai...? Doosaron se pyaar karna... Pyaar wo dhaaga hai jo sabko jodta hai.... to phir kya meine galti kee? Naheein kee!

He is building up his own confidence and is walking stiffly. A servant crosses him.

VIREN Saab kahan hain?

SERVANT Bahar garden mein..

Viren comes to the door leading to the garden. He slaps his face a couple of times and clenches his fists, as though he is going for a boxing bout.

VIREN Bhid jaa beta.. dekha jaayega!

He steps into the door. But he freezes. He sees his father there, with his mother, and with Mr Fernandez. Yes. He is there, with his wife. They are all sitting in the garden. Viren immediately steps back.

VIREN Shit..

He puts his head on the wall. He lightly hits his head four times on the wall.

VIREN Shit, shit, shit, shit..

Then he looks up. And stiffens. Comes to attention. His father is standing there, looking at him.

VIREN Good.. Good morning dad..

OBEROI Kya ye sach hai?

VIREN Kya dad..?

OBEROI Tumhein maloom nahin hai kya? Ye aadmi jo kah raha hai.. Ki tumne inki beti ko shadi ke liye propose kiya hai? Ek Christian ladki ko..?

Viren is speechless. All his built up confidence has evaporated.

OBEROI Kiya hai ki nahin..? Jawaab do.. Bolo.. Haan, ya na..

VIREN Haan..

{2 mins}
/89 ½ mins/

<Interval>
 {1 hr 29 ½ mins}

Imtiaz Ali

Sc # 57

Day, Ext / Interiors
Oberoi's Hall

Oberoi's house. We approach the hall where Oberoi's angry voice is coming from. He is standing in the centre. Viren is standing in front of him, looking down. Shiela is sitting at a distance.

OBEROI Tum ho kya!? Kya kiya hai tumne apni zindagi mein!? Tumhein aisa kyon laga ki tum kisi ko bhee jaakar propose kar doge aur ham use is ghar mein kabool kar lenge!? Tumhein koi ahmiyat naheein hai apne dharm kee to kya ham bhee apna vajood kho dein? Ye jo dharm hai... samaj hai... rivaaj hain... ye sab aise hi naheein hain hawa mein! Ye isliye hain ki tumhare jaisa bevakoof koi galati na kare! Ye tumhare interest ke liye hain! Tumhari family ke interest ke liye hain! Aur ab tak is baat ko nahin samajh paye ho to aaj samjho tum. Are you getting me!?

The camera moves in a circular path.

Sc # 58**Night, Interiors
Namita's Room**

Viren is talking now, to Naren. Namita is looking. The camera travels in a circular path.

VIREN Jaise ki relegion ke alaava koi vajoood hi nahin hai hamara. Achcha tum batao.. Kahaan likha hai hamare religion mein ki Catholic se shadi naheein kar sakte..? Kis kitaab mein likha hai? Kya Gita mein Krishna ne Arjun se kaha tha ki – hey paarth.. Catholic se shaadi kabhi mat karna..? Likha hai? Bolo..

{1/2 min}

Sc # 59**Day, Interiors
Oberoi's Hall**

Sheila is speaking to Viren in a firm yet affectionate tone.

SHEILA Hamare samaj mein kabhee dekha hai tumne aisa hote hue!? Ek hee religion ho... ek hee cast ho... tab bhee log samaj se baahar jaa kar shadi naheein karte... Aur itne selfish kaise ho gaye tum? Tumhein sirf apni pasand, apni khushi dikh rahi hai..? Hum logon ki aur hamaari khushiyon ki koi keemat nahin rahi tumhaari nazar mein..?

Viren has the 'Oh no, not again', kind of attitude, is completely unaffected. The camera moves on a circular path.

Sc # 60**Day, Interiors
Oberoi's Hall**

Chawla is speaking to Viren. Mrs Sheila Oberoi and Naren are present. Some old men are also there.

CHAWLA Ye pyaar vyaar sab karne se hota hai beta.. Ab dekho.. maine jahaan bhee lagan jodi wahaan sab pyaar hi karte hain ek doosare se.. Aur ek se ek ladkiyaan hain apne samaj mein. Nahin hoti to baat samajh mein aati ki koi doosre dharam mein dhoondh raha hai..

Viren is almost amused at Chawla. Naren is getting restless. The camera moves in a circular path.

{1/2 min}

Sc # 61**Day, Interiors
Oberoi's Hall**

Naren is speaking to Namita.

NAREN Relegion, relegion, relegion... It's funny man. Aaj ki duniya mein kya kaam bachcha hai dharm ka..? Insaan ko insaan se ladvaana..? Riots karvaana..?

Camera is on a circular path.

Sc # 62

**Day, Interiors
Kitchen**

The camera moves in a circular path as Mrs Sheila Oberoi talks to Namita.

SHEILA Chahe jitni bhi modern thinking ho ghar aurat se chalta hai. Samaj ke bahar ki ladki kaise adjust kar payegi ham logon ke saath? Phir dheere-dheere sab alag ho jayega...dono bhai alag ho jaayenge...

NAMITA Aisa zaroori to nahin hai mummy...

SHEILA Aur Viren ke bachchon ko kya sikhayegi wo? Hamara culture de sakegi unhein..?

NAMITA Us sab ke liye main hoon na mummy. Dekhiye vo koi bhaag ke to shaadi nahin kar raha hai.. Aap logon ki permission maang raha hai.. Usko bhi ehsas hai sahi ghalat ka.

{1/2 min}

Sc # 63

**Night, Interiors
Oberoi's Study**

OBEROI Bas Namita... ab aur tarafdari mat karo us kee!

Namita is sitting in front of Oberoi.

OBEROI Shehron mein fashion ho gaya hai ki hosh samhaalte hi bachhe ek doosre ke boyfriend girlfriend ban jaate hain.. Aur kuch din saath ghoomne ke baad unhien lagta hai ki shaadi kar leni chahiye. Viren ko abhi maloom bhi hai ki rishta hota kya hai..? Pyaar kya hota hai..?

NAMITA Aisa naheein hai daddy... ab wo bachha naheein raha ...bada ho gaya hai...

OBEROI Kyon..? Badon vaala kaun sa kaam kar diya usne..? Aisa kyon laga tumhein ki vo bada ho gaya hai..? 9 maheene ho gaye use America se aaye.. ek din bhee office gaya vo..? Kaam ki ek bhi baat kee hai usne..?

NAMITA Daddy..

OBEROI Bus! Maine faisla kar liya hai. Viren us ladki se shadi nahin kar sakta. Ab is ghar mein isko lekar koi baat naheein kee jaayegi! Is that clear?

The camera, that was on a circular path, comes to a stop.

NAMITA I'm sorry daddy... agar mujhase koi badtameezi ho gayee ho... par mujhe sirf ye dar tha ki kaheein wo hamse door na ho jaaye... Meine socha tha ki agar ham uski baat maan lein to shaayad wo bhee hamaari baat samajh jaye.. zimmedaar ho jaye.. Usi liye.. Sorry..

Tears in her eyes, Namita leaves the hall. Mr Oberoi look at her go.

{1 min}

Sc # 64

Night, Interiors
Viren's Room

Namita opens the door and comes in with force.

NAMITA Koi faayda naheein Viren.. koi faayda naheein...

VIREN Haan..?

He looks up from the television monitor to which he has attached the Handicam.

NAMITA In logon ne faisla kar liya hai...

VIREN Kis baare mein?

NAMITA Kis baare mein..? Kya chal raha hai is ghar mein pichhale do hafton se?

VIREN (distracted) Achcha vo..

NAMITA Tum ye dekh kya rahe ho jo itna zaroori hai..?

Namita strides to look at the monitor.

NAMITA Ye kya hai!?

She looks at the footage that was shot by Viren in Goa. She looks, sees Aditi.

NAMITA Ye to... ye vohi hai..?

VIREN Aditi..

She turns to him. Both look at each other for a long time.

NAMITA Ghar mein hangama ho raha hai ki tum ek Catholic ladki se shaadi karna chaahte ho... Daddy chilla rahe hain.. mummy naraaz hain... Naren aur main pagal ho gaye hain un logon ko samjhate samjhate... ye sab tumhaari wajah se ho raha hai.. aur tum yahaan baith ke kisi doosri ladki ka cassette dekh rahe ho!? Kya .. ho kya raha hai ye sab!?

VIREN Pata naheein bhabhi...

NAMITA (angry) To pata karo... dimaag theek karo apna.. aur nahin kar sakte to ham logon ko maaf karo ab!!

Namita walks out of the room in anger. Viren looks at her go.

VIREN (mumbles) Pata to karna chahiye...!

{1 ½ mins} /93 ½ mins/

Sc # 65

Night, Exteriors Malhotra's Compound, Aditi's Balcony

A car leaves the compound and thud, Viren jumps in. As the watchman shuts the gate, Viren steals across in the dark of the garden, crouching to be under the level of the plants. He reaches below Aditi's balcony. Aditi had told him that she used to climb up to the balcony when she was out secretly. Viren gives a furtive look in the direction of the watchman, then begins to climb up. He climbs on top of the bird cage, then holds the pipes. As he gets to the railing, his hand knocks down something in the dark. It's a green glass flower-pot which has broken on the floor. He puts one foot on the railing and makes to climb. Just then, the curtain of the room opens. Aditi. He looks at her. She looks at him. Both are static for a second. One bar of the love theme plays. Then Viren continues his climb. Aditi is shocked. She opens the sliding door and moves towards him. She looks at him, he climbs inside the balcony.

ADITI (hurriedly) Ye kya kar rahe ho.. vapas jao.. go (then looks around) Andar jao...

She is still looking around to see whether someone has seen. He goes inside. She goes inside.

{1 min}

Sc # 66 [A]

Night, Interiors
Aditi's Room

Aditi rushes into the room. Viren is standing there, he looks at her as she rushes to the other door, that leads to the hall, and shuts it. Bolts it. She looks at Viren, then rushes to the bed and sits, holding her head. He descends on the floor in front of her, resting back on the wall. She raises her face so much that her eyes clear her hand, and looks at him, shaking her head.

VIREN Mein kuchh pata karne aaya hoon...

ADITI Kya? Ki mein is ghar se kaise nikali jaaoongi..?

VIREN Tum mujhse gussa ho?

ADITI Bahut..

VIREN Marogi mujhe?

ADITI Haan... jaan se...

He stares at her.

VIREN Ye kya hai Aditi, mere tumhare beech? Meine... pehle kabhee aisa feel naheein kiya... Vo jo.. Karen ke saath hai... mujhe lagta tha vo... pyaar hai... Par agar vo pyaar hai... to ye kya hai?

Aditi looks at him. Then stands and speaks almost like a warning.

ADITI Tum jao....

He is motionless.

ADITI Jao tum.

Viren gets up, slowly walks close to her. Very close. She is unsettled.

VIREN Kya mein tumse pyar karta hoon? Kya yahee hota hai pyaar?

ADITI Mein tumhein sachmuch jaan se maar doongi Viren!

Her breath is uneven.

VIREN To phir maaro! Kill me.

They are looking into one another. Suddenly, he takes her by the shoulders, spins her around and puts her to the wall.

VIREN Kill me...

ADITI Please....

Slowly, he moves his mouth to her cheek and kisses her. She closes her eyes. He withdraws. Her eyes are closed. Suddenly, she lunges forward and hugs him.

Song # 5 (Part One)

The love theme song plays in the background. He holds her. Then they withdraw, look at one another. He kisses her again. Then again on the forehead. The camera moves, keeping them in tight two shot. It's no use pretending, says the song. When it happens, you will know it. You know it when you are made for someone. Everyone will know it. Such is love. Then she realizes that there is a cut in his arm as a result of the climb. She seats him on the bed, dips cotton wool in dettol. She looks into his eyes. He looks into her eyes. For a long time. Then he shrieks, for she has placed the dettol cotton on his wound. She cleans the wound and puts a band-aid.

Sc # 66 [B]

**Night, Interiors
Aditi's Room**

There is a knock at the door. The song stops.

GRANNY Aditi! Aa jao.. khana lag gaya....

ADITI Haan.. aati hoon nani!

She looks at Viren. Viren gets his mouth very close to her ear.

VIREN Mein jo pata karne aaya tha.. mujhe maaloom pad gaya....

{2 ½ mins}

Song # 5 (Part Two)

He leaves to go out through the balcony. Aditi recedes to the wall and stands against it, looks up. Viren jumps out of the compound and walks down the street. She sits to the floor, shakes her head. He shakes his head, as he walks, smiles. Viren enters his compound.

{4 mins}

Sc # 67 (Part One)**Night, Exteriors
Oberoi's Drive**

In the fading bars of the love theme, Viren reaches the porch of his house. He looks up to see someone standing there. A girl. She steps forward. Karen.

VIREN Arey..? Tum yahan..? (looks towards the cars) Listen, dad hain ghar pe..

Karen steps forward and holds his hand.

VIREN Karen chalo abhi yahan se..

Karen walks him towards the hall.

VIREN Ye.. kya kar rahi ho..? Listen.. Karen I'm telling you yaar..

She doesn't say anything, leads him to the hall.

Sc # 67 (Part Two)**Night, Interiors
Oberoi's Hall**

Karen puts Viren ahead of herself in the hall. Viren sees that his father is sitting in front with his mother. He stops. Naren and Namita are there. Namita gives a faint smile. And on the other side, he sees Mrs and Mr Fernandez. They are looking at him, smiling. What could this mean? Karen walks up, he looks at her. Oberoi stands up.

OBEROI Viren... Aaj pehli baar mujhe laga.. ki tum sahi ho, aur main ghalat. Tumhaari bhabhi ne kuch aisa kaha ki mujhe apna faisla badalna pada. Theek kehte ho tum.. samaj, mazhab sab apni jagah hain.. par in sab se oopar hai pyaar. (takes Fernandez' hand) Is pyaar ne humein bhi mila diya.

Viren stands speechless. Everyone is looking at him. Silence.

NAMITA (bustling with excitement) Aise statue ki tarah kyon khade ho bewakoof..? Daddy ne haan keh dee hai!

NAREN (smiling) Kya hua..? Sunai nahin de raha hai..? Hello.. Thoda time lagega.. haan Karen..?

But the sound of this scene fades out. We can just see the gestures and lip-movements of Namita and Naren. Everyone is smiling. Now Namita springs towards him. Slow motion. We see Viren as Namita approaches him. The remainder love theme plays. She holds his face and is speaking to him in excitement. Everyone congratulates him. Father hugs him. Viren is trying to smile as he grasps the magnitude of the situation. Dissolve.

{ 1 ½ mins } / 102 ½ mins/

Sc # 68**Night, Exteriors
Pub**

Shiva, Divya and many other friends are sitting at a pub. They get up in gusto and rush towards Karen, who has just come in.

Nivedita : Hello... Congratulations...

Divya : My god I can't believe it... Kya ye sach mein ho raha hai..?

Neeti : Congratulations... congratulations...

Shiva : Kamaal ho gaya... I can't believe it...

Divya : This is a dream come true.

Viren is coming up behind with the car keys. He pauses at the entrance and looks at them. Karen is beaming as she accepts the hugs and the congratulations.

Neeraj : Jab mujhe itni khushi ho rahi hai to tum dono ko kaisa lag raha hoga..

Yaju : Really yaar, love story ho to aisee ho..

Viren turns around. He stands backing the others as the congratulating goes on. He is trapped.

{1 min}

Sc # 69**Day, Exteriors
Suburban Railway Station**

The local train comes into the platform. Aditi is coming down the stairs in a hurry. The train stops. Aditi enters the ladies compartment. Viren rushes from behind her. He looks from the window. She sits on a seat inside.

Viren : Aditi...

She turns. She lights up on seeing him. She instantly moves towards Viren.

Viren : Mujhe tumse kuchh baat karni hai....

Aditi gets off the train.

Aditi : Kya hua..?

Viren : Marine Lines mein milte hain.. tum andar jao...

Aditi takes his hand and rushes to the general compartment.

Viren : Bahut rush hai Aditi... Tum ismein kaise jaogi...?

Aditi : Chalo na!

They get in, the train starts.

{1/2 min}

Sc # 70**Day, Interiors**

Train Compartment / Station

Viren gets Aditi in, trying to shield her from the others. They try to move to a comfortable position. Viren has a hand around her. She is clutching his shirt. They are pressed together. It is difficult to look at one another from such close quarters. But it is surprisingly easy to talk.

VIREN Bahut bheed hai!

ADITI Kya baat hai..?

VIREN Kal raat.. jab mein ghar lauta to Daddy ne.. Karen ke liye haan kar dee yaar..

Aditi looks at Viren.

VIREN Can you imagine? Mujhe pakka yakeen tha ki Nirmal kabhi nahin maanega... Magar usne to party hi badal lee...

ADITI Wow! Congrats.

He looks at her.

ADITI Tumhein to yahee chaahiye tha.. naheein?

The crowd in the compartment is increasing, Viren and Aditi are getting quashed together. Aditi feels her heartbeats growing. They are in an embrace now.

VIREN Haan... Mujhe yahee chaahiye tha...

ADITI Kya?

Viren is looking at her. She looks down.

VIREN Aditi.. tum aur main... Ye jo feeling hai.. abhi.. Isko kaise rok sakte hain..? Ye koi power hai... jo humko ek doosre se jodta hai...

ADITI Viren... Situation haath se nikal chuki hai.

VIREN Aditi... Situation ye hai ki hum dono alag nahin ho sakte... Chaahe jo kuch bhi ho jaaye hum alag nahin ho sakte... It's not fair...

ADITI To tumhein kisne keh diya ki zindagi mein sab kuch fair hi hota hai..? Mujhe dekho... Saat saal se kisi aur ke ghar mein hoon na main...? Jo kuch bhi mera tha.. vo sab chala gaya... Ab is duniya mein aisa kuch bhi nahin hai jo mera apna hai. Ye bhee to fair naheein hai Viren? Par sach yahee hai...

He looks at her.

VIREN Aditi... agar hum dono... just suppose... agar hum dono ek saath ho jaayein... Tab to tum ye naheein kahogi na ki is duniya mein aisa kuch nahin hai jo tumhara apna hai..?

She melts inside. She embraces him.

ADITI Aisa mat karo Viren. Isko aur zyada mushkil mat banao.

VIREN Hum saath rehne ke liye bane hain Aditi.. Jaise abhi hain..

Aditi closes her eyes.

VIREN Aur main tumse yehi kehne aaya hoon... ki hum hamesha aise hi rahenge...

Aditi rests on his shoulder.

ADITI Promise...?

VIREN I promise... I promise...

They stand in an embrace in the jam-packed train compartment. The train rattles along.

{3 mins}

Imtiaz Ali

Sc # 71

**Evening, Exteriors
Lakeside**

Shiva and Viren are sitting on the bonnet next to the lake, looking the other way. Viren has finished telling Shiva about his situation.

SHIVA Mujhe maaloom tha tu locha karne wala hai... Yaad hai us cinema hall mein – “Karen andar se kaisi hai aur baahar se kaisi hai...”

VIREN Arey tab to main mila bhee naheen tha Aditi se

SHIVA Aur vo – rok rok, gaadi rok.. Aditi ke ghar ke saamne.. Saale tu ullu kisko bana raha hai..?

VIREN Shayad kuch hoga andar.. Us waqt samajh mein nahin aaya tha..

SHIVA Ab kya karega?

VIREN Ek idea hai. Tu ja ke Karen ko sab kuch achhe se bata de.

SHIVA (jumping up) Bakwaas mat kar, samjha? Main bataoonga use..? Vo apni poonch mein aag laga ke poori lanka ko jala dalegi.

VIREN Main bataoonga to bhi vohi karegi.

SHIVA Haan to jhel.. Love story teri hai na.. ya meri hai..?

VIREN (thoughtful) Bol doon Karen ko?

SHIVA Pyaar kiya to darna kya. Bol de.. ki ‘Karen, abhi sab log apni shaadi ke liye taiyyar ho gaye hain.. par ek kaam karte hain, shaadi cancel kar dete hain. Kyonki main tere se pyaar-vyaar karta nahin hoon. Aur love ke bina love marriage kaise ho sakti hai? Pyaar main Aditi se karta hoon, aur shaadi usi se karoonga’. Bol de..

VIREN Kuch aur sochna padega. (pause) Aisa nahin ho sakta ki Karen ki taraf se hi mana ho jaaye.

SHIVA Tu pagal hai kya..? Vo kyon mana karegi..?

VIREN (thinking) Vo nahin mana karegi. Uska baap mana karega.

SHIVA (suspicious) Kaise..?

VIREN Fernandez... Bahut ghusse waala aadmi hai na..?

SHIVA To..?

VIREN To usko ghussa aa jaaye to vo kuch bhi kar sakta hai..

SHIVA Tu kya karne waala hai? Ae bhai.. kya karne waala hai tu uske saath..?

Viren does not reply. He is thinking.

{1 ½ mins} /108 ½ mins/

Sc # 72

**Night, Interiors
Fernandez’ Hall**

Fernandez is sitting in his hall. Viren has just come in.

F’DEZ Whisky, young man?

VIREN Kya uncle aap bhee.. Mein kya khandani daroobaaz hoon jo har waqt chadhaata rahoon.. Magar aap.. Piyo piyo aap piyo!

Viren sits on a chair facing Mr Fernandez. Mr Fernandez does not know how Viren meant the previous line. He sees Viren take out a chit from his pocket and open it. Viren reads out from it.

VIREN Amba, Ambika, Amrapali, Amita, Amulya.. Ma ko Ambika pasand hai, bhabhi ko Amulya... Mujhe koi bhi chalega.. aap kya bolte hain?

F'DEZ Mein samjha naheein..

VIREN Naam.. aapki beti ke liye..

F'DEZ Karen..?

VIREN Naya naam to rakhna padega na.... Shaadi ke baad Christian thode hee na reh jaayegi wo! Hamare pandit ji bolte hain ki janm tithi ke anusaar kark rashi mein uska naam 'Am' se hona chaahiye... Am...

Stella Fernandez had come with with some snacks. She is surprised, looks at her husband.

STELLA What..?

F'DEZ What the hell are you talking about, young man? Conversion ka baat to koi nahin kiya..

VIREN Tabhee to young man yahan aaya hai.. baat karne... Kyonki hum log.. (suddenly remembers) Ek second.. aapki beti ne non-veg khaana to chhod diya hai na..? No meat, no machhi, no ande.. None of your bloody nonsense.. Shudh shakahaari.. Aur shaadi ke baad jab vo yahan aayegi, tab ye ghar bhi shudh shakahaari.. (looks at the whisky glass) Aur ye.. khair, abhi to theek hai.. magar shaadi ke waqt jab aap pooja mein baithenge, uske baad aapko ye daarubaazi chodni padegi..

STELLA Pooja!?

F'DEZ Kaun pooja!?

VIREN Pooja naheein kiya karenge aap log?

F'DEZ What the hell Pooja..? Kis haram-zaade ne kaha ham pooja karenge?

VIREN (pointing himself) Is... is... (shakes his head) I swear.. dad ne kitna bada confusion create kar diya hota.. Vo to keh rahe the ki sab kuch obvious hai.. Fernandez bhi samajhta hai.. apne aap hi ye sab kar dega.. But luckily bhaiya bole no.. buddhe ki moti khopdi mein baat baithi nahin hogi.. tum ja ke samjhao.. aur main aa gaya..

F'DEZ I can't believe this.. Oberoi, Naren.. Us waqt to kitna secular ban rahe the.. Aur tum.. Tum to keh rahe the tum religion ko nahin maante.. jab tum marriage propose karne aaye the..

VIREN Shaadi.. shaadi.. Hamaare samaj mein marriage nahin hoti uncle, please..

F'DEZ Achcha.. ab yaad aa raha hai tumhaara bloody samaaj..?

VIREN (pointing finger) Mr Fernandez.. please.. hamaare samaaj ke virudh kuch mat kahiye.. Ye hamare rivaaj hain.. Aur Ambika ki khaatir aapko inka paalan karna hi padega..

F'DEZ Ambika!?

VIREN Ambika hi best naam lag raha hai.. mere khayaal se..

F'DEZ Tum apna khayal apne paas rakho.. you jerk.. Tum log ko kya lagta hai..? Ki hum log minority hai to tum log humko daba doge.. aur hum dub jayenge..?

VIREN Chalo.. mere bole bina hi aap samajh gaye.. Baaki sab bhi aap samajh jayenge.. Aur ye hai kya Mr Fernandez..? Daddy bol rahe the ki ye to bahut chote-chote balidaan hain, jinke badle mein aapka main maqsad poora ho raha hai. Apni beti ko ek ameer ladke ke saath fix kar ke oonche logon mein rishta kar rahe hain aap.

Fernandez is stunned. His wife is looking at him, then at Viren, then at him. Viren massages his neck a bit, then sits on the sofa.

VIREN Chalo achha hua ye baatein ho gayein.. Saara confusion door ho gaya.. Now, for some Whisky!!

Pause.

{3 mins}

Sc # 73

Night, Exteriors
Fernandez' Compound

Fernandez' house at night. Viren's car is parked outside.

F'DEZ (sound off) Out..

Viren is seen coming out of the building followed by the couple.

F'DEZ Out of my house!

VIREN Uncle aapko naheein lagta ki aap thoda zyaada hi garam ho rahe hain..?

F'DEZ Agar main garam ho jaata to teri dead body jaati thi yahaan se..

VIREN Nahin main kya keh raha hoon.. shaadi todne se pehle aap ek baar soch lejiye..

F'DEZ Achha hai ki mein sirf shadi tod raha hoon teri gardan naheein!

VIREN Mat boliye aisi baatein. Kyonki main jaanta hoon ki kal ko aap khud, sar jhuka kar, Karen ko hamaare ghar bhejenge.

F'DEZ Tum jaise harami logon ke ghar to koi apni kutia bhee naheen bhejega!

VIREN Please Mr Fernandez.. Ye baat ham dono ke beech hai! Aap please Karen ko kutia mat boliye... please!

Viren walks briskly towards his car as Fernandez grapples with what he said.

F'DEZ What the.. Karen..?

Fernandez, singed beyond control now, makes to grab at Viren. Viren gets into his car.

F'DEZ You bastard! I will kill you.. Next time tere ko dekha to badan ka sab haddi tod ke tera baap ka haath mein de dega..

Viren zips the car away. Fernandez keeps shouting.

{1 min}

Sc # 74

Night, Exteriors
Car on Street

Viren is driving away, trying to even his breath.

VIREN O man..

He is very tense. Shiva, who was crouched on the floor of the car now gets up.

VIREN Vo shaadi tod dega..

SHIVA Suna maine..

Viren sees something in front.

VIREN Shit.. Karen.. Dekh mat..

Karen is walking up to her house after paying the cab. She looks at Viren's car and extends her hand.

KAREN Viren...

To her surprise, Viren's car whizzes past. She is confused, looks at the car go. Maybe Viren did not see her, she thinks. She turns and looks towards her house. Viren and Shiva are in the speeding car.

SHIVA Usko pata chalega, to kya karegi..?

VIREN Mujhe phone karegi.. Main miloonga nahin.. ghar der se jaoonga.. Aur ghar ja ke.. jo moti moti gaaliyaan Fernandez ne dad ko aur bhaiya ko baki hain.. unhi bata doonga. Vo log ghusse se paagal ho jayenge. Bus, apna kaam ho jayega...

They exchange a look.

SHIVA Ho jayega na..?

VIREN (insecure) Tujhe kya lagta hai?

SHIVA Hona hi padega. Ab to kood chuka hai tu pachde mein. Ab vaapas to ja nahin sakta. To mujhe lagta hai ki sab set ho jayega... (Shiva's cellular phone rings) Tu dekhna... (He looks at the phone) Abey.. Karen ka phone hai..

VIREN Shit.. Usne tujhe dekh liya tha mere saath..

SHIVA Kya karoon..?

VIREN Mat le phone..

SHIVA Kaat doon..?

VIREN Kaat mat.. Utha bhi mat. Bajne de..

SHIVA Arey yaar.. Tension hai.. Karen aise hi sab jagah phone karegi. Tu kaheen milega nahin. To phir vo kya karegi..?

VIREN Kuch nahin karegi yaar. Usko kal handle karenge na. Raat ko vaise bhi kya kar legi vo?

Viren and Shiva look in front. Viren is driving the car. The phone is ringing.

{1 ½ mins}

Sc # 75

Night, Interiors
Aditi's Room

The door suddenly opens. Karen enters. Aditi looks up from the pottery corner of her room. The electric wheel is rotating. Some freshly made samples are kept on a newspaper on the floor. Aditi has a lump of clay in her hand.

KAREN You bitch!

She charges towards Aditi. Aditi is completely taken aback.

ADITI Karen.. Karen kya hua!?

KAREN Achha! Tumko to maaloom hee naheen kya hua!?

Seeing Karen move violently towards her, Aditi instinctively withdraws to the wall. Karen's foot quishes some clay sample in the process. Sonal and Mrs Jaya Malhotra enter the room.

JAYA Arey..

Aditi looks at them then asks Karen.

ADITI Karen.. hua kya hai..?

KAREN Hoho.. Innocent.. so innocent.. like a baby.. Yehi maasoom chehra bana ke phansati ho ladkon ko!?

Karen charges while speaking. Aditi withdraws.

JAYA Arey ye hai kaun..?

KAREN 'Goa ja ke main tum dono ki help karoongi'

Sonal comes to intervene.

SONAL Listen, kya baat hai..?

KAREN This is the help you did..? Haan..?

SONAL (loud) Hello..

KAREN (turns to Sonal) Mere fiancé ke dimaag mein poison bhar rahi hai ye.. Jis se vo mere ghar jaaye aur rishta tod de... (to Aditi) You thought main samajh nahin paoongi..? Main sab jaanti hoon. Tumhaare kehne par vo mujhse chip raha hai, phone par nahin aa raha hai.

Aditi does not know what Karen is talking about.

ADITI Karen..

SONAL Kaun fiancé!?

KAREN Viren...

JAYA Viren..? Wo kameena.. Oberoi ka beta!?

Sonal looks at Aditi. Aditi looks at Mrs Malhotra.

ADITI Kuch confusion hai.. Karen, main sach mein nahin jaanti...

KAREN Cut this natak, okay..? I am not a fool. Understand that. Pehle din se hi main tumhein samajh gayee thi. Insecure bloody... Mauka milte hi chipak gayee tum uske saath.. aur saanp ki tarah dheere-dheere use phansa liya. But remember, ek baar vo phisal gaya iska matlab ye nahin hai ki vo mujhe chhod dega. Tumhaara jo plan hai na, vo kabhi poora nahin hoga, samjhi..? Yaad rakhna.. (screams at Sonal) Leave me!

Sonal leaves her. She strides out of the room. Sonal follows her to the door, looks at her go. Mrs Malhotra is left looking at Aditi. Aditi makes to speak. Mrs Malhotra cuts her rapidly..

JAYA Main samajh gayee.. ye ladki jhooth bol rahee hai, hai na..? Gopal ne jo dekha wo bhee jhooth tha.. Goa jaane waali baat bhi jhooth hai.. Sonal bhee jhooth bol rahee thee ki tumne haath pakda tha.. Sab jhooth hain beti, saari duniya jhoothi hai.. Bas ek tu hee sachhi hai... Yehi kehna chahti hai na tu..? Samajh gayee main. Sonal, Keshu ko bol fauran ja kar Chawla ko yahan laaye..

SONAL Abhee!?

JAYA Haan abhee! Ek dum abhee! Jahan bhee ho jaise bhee ho bolo maine bulaaya hai...

Sonal leaves.

JAYA Bas bahut ho gaya drama.. Aditi hamari beti hai.. Isko sabse achche ghar bhejenge.. Kahin koi kasar na choot jaye.. Magar beti to tu hai nahin meri.. Tu to ek zimmedaari hai na jo inki akkal maari gayee thi to inhone apne sar pe le liya.. To theek hai.. jo bhee pehla ladka mila mujhe samjho shadi ho gayee teri! Pehla ladka.. Toone kaha hai na ham jahaan kahenge vahan shaadi karegi tu. Kaha hai ki nahin..?

ADITI Haan...

JAYA Bas to phir! Ab zara mein us kameene Oberoi ki khabar leti hoon!

She marches out. Aditi closes her eyes, aunt walks out of the door in the background.

{3 mins}

Sc # 76

**Night, Ext / Interiors
Oberoi's Porch**

Oberoi can be seen in the study. Viren walks in, followed by Shiva. There is a nervous stiffness in Viren. He looks at Shiva.

SHIVA Boss.. ye step paar kar liya toone to sab control mein hai!

VIREN Hmm..

SHIVA Sab kuch bol dena uncle ko.. Darna nahin..

VIREN Daroonga kyon..? Darta nahin hoon yaar.. Respect karta hoon.. Baap hai mera..

SHIVA Karni bhee chaahiye... Ja.. Best of luck! Main yaheen hoon..

Viren walks up.

{1/2 min}

Sc # 77 [A]

**Night, Interiors
Oberoi's Study**

Viren enters the study. Oberoi is speaking in anger on the phone. Naren is sitting on the side, surprised at something.

OBEROI Mujhe aapse koi baat nahin karni hai. Nahin... Na kuch sunna hai na kehna hai, aap phone rakhiye. (Looking at Viren) Haan.. vo mere saamne hai.. magar mujhe us se kuch bhi poochne ki zaroorat nahin hai. Phone rakhiye aap.

Viren looks at Naren, gestures to ask what the matter is.

Sc # 78

**Night, Interiors
Malhotra's Bedroom**

Mrs Jaya Malhotra has the receiver. Gopal is pacing up and down in anger. Sonal is standing at a distance, watching.

JAYA Hadd ho gayee.. Sunne ko taiyyar hi nahin ho tum. Humein kya shauk hai tumse baat karne ka? Suno... main jald se jald apni bhaanji ki shaadi kar rahi hoon... Aur agar tumhaare bete ne yahan aa kar kuch gadbad kee to main warning de rahi hoon ki vo...

Sc # 77 [B]

OBEROI Mera beta tumhaare ghar thookne bhi nahin jayega.. Aur khabardaar – dobara mere ghar mein tum logon ka phone nahin aana chahiye, samjhi..?

He keeps the phone down.

NAREN (intrigued) What was she saying?

OberoI shakes his head, tries to control his anger.

OBEROI Ye zaleel, makkaar log.. vahi ratt lagaye hue hain.. ki ye (pointing Viren) Malhotra ki bhaanji mein interested hai.

Viren is shocked to hear this. Oberoi notices this, thinks Viren is surprised at the stupidity of the suggestion. Oberoi smiles.

OBEROI Batao..

NAREN How ridiculous..

OBEROI (to Naren) Unhein kya maloom ki bhai sahab ne Karen ke liye zamaane ki naak mein dum kar diya tha.

NAREN Ye log chahte kya hain..?

OBEROI Apni aukaat dikha rahe hai. Viren par ilzaam lagayenge taaki kisi bhi tarah se ye unke haath lag jaaye. (to Viren) Aur suno..

VIREN Good.. good evening dad.

OBEROI Good evening. Agar vo ladki tumhein kaheen dikhe to us se friendly hone ki koi zaroorat nahin hai.

VIREN Kaun..?

NAREN Arey same babe yaar.. Malhotra's niece.

VIREN Oh..

OBEROI Hi hello bhi mat karna. Ye log kisi bhi level tak gir sakte hain. Ladka hai, ladki hai – ho sakta hai koi situation create kar dein aur phir blackmail karne lagein, you never know. Samjhe..?

Viren nods.

NAREN By the way, Karen ayee thi..

Viren turns and looks at Naren.

NAREN Around ek ghante pehle..

VIREN (trying to be casual) Kya keh rahi thi?

NAREN Tumhein dhoondh rahi thi. Baahar se hi chali gayee. Keh rahi thi kahin jaana hai.

Viren understands. He does not know what to do. Oberoi looks at him.

OBEROI Suno idhar aao. Achcha hua tum abhi aa gaye. Baitho.. Ham log soch rahe the ki 27th September achha din hai.. tumhaari shaadi ke liye...

VIREN Dad...

Oberoi looks up to him.

OBEROI Hmm..?

Viren does not speak, is trying to muster guts.

OBEROI Kya baat hai..? September bahut jaldi hai?

VIREN Nahin...

Oberoi smiles.

OBEROI To phir bahut door hai September..?

Viren looks at his father, sees the smile. He smiles too. Oberoi turns to Naren.

OBEROI Big brother....! Sambhalo apne kid brother ko.....!

Naren puts his hand on Viren's shoulder.

NAREN Samhal jao kid brother. Jab teen saal himmat rakhee hai to teen maheene aur sahee!

OBEROI Anyway, koi problem hai to bolo... Abhee tareekh pakkee naheein kee hai hamne...

Both Naren and Oberoi look at Viren. Viren makes an effort again.

OBEROI Arey kuch to kaho..

VIREN (smiling) Kuchh naheein...

OBEROI To phir 27 September pakka?

VIREN Ji..

OBEROI Ye aapka final javaab hai..?

VIREN Ji.. final javaab..

Viren pretends to join in the mood of the situation.

{2 ½ mins}/120 mins/

Fading Hope Montage

Shiva is sitting in the porch of Oberoi's house. Viren comes out. Shiva gets up to ask what happened, but realizes from Viren's heavy stride that things have gone wrong. Viren comes to a pillar, bangs his fist on it. Puts his head on his fist and thinks. Aditi is in the hall, clearing the dinner plates. She is aware that behind her in the verandah, Jaya, Mandira, and grandmother are speaking to Chawla. She moves towards the stairs. The phone rings. She stops and looks. Sonal picks up the phone with great irritation. No response. Evidently, this has been happening for a while. Aditi looks down, climbs up the stairs. Viren cuts the cellular phone, wonders what to do. Aditi comes to her balcony. She looks out.

{1/2 min}

Sc # 79 (Part One)

Night, Interiors Malhotra's House

Aditi, on her balcony, sees that someone is trying to scale the boundary wall of her house. She realizes it is Viren. She is aghast. Viren looks up towards her. She is terrified. She indicates to him to go. He indicates that he is coming to her. She looks down towards the open verandah in the garden. There is some movement there. Mrs Malhotra, grandmother, Sonal and Mandira are sitting with Om Chawla. If they look towards the wall, they will see Viren. Aditi makes another attempt to make Viren leave. But Viren is insistent. He has to meet her. So Aditi says that she will come out, he should get down. Viren gets down. Aditi is very nervous. She turns and walks out.

Sc # 79 (Part Two)**Night, Interiors
Malhotra's House**

Aditi walks into the garden. She has a small torch in her hand. She walks towards the wall. She is pretending to look for something. She can hear Viren calling.

VIREN (Off Camera) Aditi... Aditi...

ADITI Haan..

Viren is on the other side of the wall.

VIREN Thank God.. Maine bees baar phone try kiya tumhare ghar mein.. Karen yahan aayee thi kya..?

ADITI Suno Viren... Ho sakta hai ham log aakhri baar baat kar rahe hain... Isliye dhyaan se suno... Main...

VIREN (cutting) Aditi.. aise kyon bol rahi ho tum?

ADITI Viren.. tumhari shaadi fix ho chuki hai.. andar meri shaadi ki baat chal rahi hai. Hamaara faisla ho chuka hai.

VIREN What do you mean faisla ho chuka hai..? Hamara faisla hum karenge ya doosre karenge..? Zindagi hamaari hai.. hum decide karenge humein kya karna hai.. aur koi humein rok nahin sakta..

ADITI Meri situation ko samjho tum. Uncle auntie ne saat saal mujhe rakha hai.. bahut kuch kiya hai mere liye..

VIREN Mere daddy mummy ne bhi mere liye bahut kuch kiya hai.. so what..?

ADITI Vo tumhaare daddy mummy hain. Unke saath tum zidd kar sakte ho. In logon ke saath main zidd nahin kar sakti. Ab koi raasta nahin hai Viren.

VIREN Ab tum hamesha negative sochogi to obviously koi raasta nahin dikhega..

ADITI Aur tum..? Tum kaise samjhaoge sab ko ki Karen ab tumhein pasand nahin..? Vohi Karen jiske liye tumne sab se ladai ki.. jiske tumne sapne dekhe the..?

VIREN Ye sapne sach kyon ho jaate hain yaar..? Aur agar hone the to maine tumhara sapna kyon nahin dekha..?

ADITI Mein sapna nahin thi Viren... Mere liye to tumhein bas ek baar haan kehni thee!

VIREN To mein haan hee to keh raha hoon Aditi! Mein haan hee to keh raha hoon!

ADITI (game show) Sorry... Aapne nirdhaarit samay mein uttar nahin diya. Aapki avadhi samapt ho chuki hai.

VIREN Nahin your honour! Abhi maine kisi ke saath phere naheen liye... Kisee kee maang mein sindoor naheen bhara.. Abhi waqt hai Aditi.. believe me..

ADITI Viren, apni aankhein kholo yaar.. For god's sake be practical.. Aur pata hai kya..? Abhi impossible lag raha hai par dheere-dheere sab theek ho jayega.. aadat ho jayegi humko.. Aisa hi hota hai.. Ek doosre ke bina mar nahin jayenge hum..

VIREN Ye kya bakwaas kar rahi ho tum, haan..? Zyaada smart banane kee koshish mat karo! Ab hum alag nahin reh sakte.. ab possible nahin hai.. Tum bolo tum reh sakti ho mere bina!?

Sonal is seen walking towards Aditi.

ADITI Sakti ka sawal naheen hai Viren... mujhe rehna padega..

VIREN Aditi...

ADITI (continues) Tumhein bhi rehna padega. Jo chahiye hota hai vo hamesha mil nahin jaata..

Aditi notices Sonal.

VIREN Listen to me.. Main Karen ke father se mila tha..

ADITI (cutting) Koi aa raha hai.. Bye Viren..

VIREN Theek hai... Main yaheen wait karta hoon. Tum jaldi vapas aa jaana, phir decide karenge kya karna hai..

ADITI Ab kuch nahin karna hai. Main vaapas nahin aaoongi...

VIREN Aditi listen to me, tum haar mat maano.. Sun rahi ho..?

ADITI Viren ab kuch mat karna, main bata rahi hoon.. Ab kuch naheen ho sakta...

VIREN Hoga Aditi... Tum taiyyar rehna..

ADITI Nahin Viren... Ab kuch mat bolna. Bye..

Sonal is very close. Aditi withdraws.

SONAL Tum yahan kya kar rahi ho..?

ADITI Didi, shaam ko meri ear-ring shayad yahan gir gayee thi..

Aditi pretends to look for the ear-ring.

SONAL Mili..?

ADITI Nahin..

SONAL Lekin ladka shayad mil gaya hai tumhare liye..

Aditi looks at her.

SONAL Mahesh ko jaanti ho?

ADITI (wondering) Mahesh..?

SONAL Do saal pehle..

ADITI (surprised) Mahesh..

SONAL Tumhaara affair tha uske saath..?

ADITI Affair nahin.. Kuch dinon tak milte the hum aur..

SONAL And you never told us. Itne din wait nahin karna hota. Come... Mummy bula rahi hain...

Sonal moves. Aditi turns and looks towards the wall. She knows it is the end of the road. On the other side, Viren is standing with Shiva. Aditi turns and leaves. Viren turns away from the wall, trying to think. Shiva moves.

SHIVA Chal...

He sits in the car. Viren stands, thinking.

{3 ½ mins}

Sc # 80

Day, Int / Exteriors
Terrace / Viren's Room / Oberoi's Driveway / Hall

The sun rises. Oberoi's House. The door opens and Viren leads Namita to the terrace.

NAMITA Baat kya hai..?

VIREN Baitho na...

He makes her sit on the settee, sits on the floor.

VIREN Bhabi.. pata hai, main kuch dinon se soch raha hoon.. Dekho.. shuru mein saare log Karen ke against the, right..? Unka ek logic tha. Aaj humne sab ko mana to liya hai.. Magar kya unka logic ghalat saabit ho gaya..?

Namita is intrigued.

VIREN Kehte the na sab – ki hamaare ghar ka ek taur-tareeka hai.. Hamaare samaaj ki ladki hogi to isko maintain kar payegi.. Jaise tumne kiya hai. Doosre dharm ki ladki kaise adjust karegi..? Samajh rahi ho na..?

Namita is silent.

VIREN Dekho bhabi, main selfish nahin hona chahta.. Sirf apni zidd पूरी karne ke liye main is ghar mein tension bhar doon – ye mujhse nahin hoga.

Namita is looking at him incisively.

VIREN What do you say?

She speaks after a pause.

NAMITA Ye vahi ladki hai na..?

VIREN Kaun..?

NAMITA Aditi..?

Viren looks down. Namita completely understands. Silence.

NAMITA Tum ho kya..? Haan..? Tumne hum sab ka jeena haraam kar diya.. is shaadi ke liye.. Aur aaj jab sab kuch fix ho gaya hai.. to tum kehte ho tumhein ye nahin chahiye.. tumhein lagta hai tumhein Aditi chahiye.. Tum.. tumhein koi mental beemaari hai Viren..?

VIREN Haan bhabhi main beemar hoon... I'm in love.

NAMITA Ek jhaanpad maarongi na to ye saare filmi dialouges hava ho jayenge.. samjhe tum?

VIREN Tum samjho mujhe bhabi.. Mujhe ismein koi maza nahin aa raha hai

NAMITA To phir kyon kar rahe ho ye sab..? Kyon..?

VIREN (desperate) Kyonki main aur kuch nahin kar sakta.. Mere paas aur koi raasta nahin hai.. Kuch hai.. koi force hai.. jo Aditi aur mujhe ek saath baandhti hai.. Main chahoon bhi to is se nahin nikal sakta.. Mujhe aisa pehle kabhi nahin laga hai bhabi.. Mujhe maloom bhi nahin tha ki aisa hota hai.. Maine ghalati kee hai.. daddy chahte the ki main Aditi se shaadi karoon, magar maine na keh diya.. To ab main kya karoon..? Us ghalati par aur bhi ghalati karta jaoon..? Ya vo karoon jo sahi hai..? Bhabi main jaanta hoon ki Aditi sahi hai.. Mere liye, is ghar ke liye.. tumhaare liye..

Namita makes to leave.

VIREN Aditi bahut achchi hai bhabi... Mujhe pata hai tumhein bahut pasand aayegi..

Namita turns to him. Her eyes are moist.

NAMITA Nahin Viren.. Vo mujhe pasand nahin aayegi.. Kyonki jab bhi main use dekhoongi to mujhe ye dhoka yaad aayega jo aaj tumne mujhe diya hai.. Ho sakta hai ki tumhaare daddy, mummy.. tumhara bhai kisi din Aditi ko apna bhi lein.. Magar main use kabhi accept nahin karoongi.. Kabhi nahin..

She turns and walks out. He closes his eyes. He had a good chance with Namita, but he has lost it. He turns and puts his head on the railing. He hears the gate opening and a car driving into the driveway. He looks down. It is Mr Fernandez. With Karen. Viren backs away. Then looks towards the garden. Mr Oberoi is sitting there. Naren is there too, getting ready to leave. They look towards the Fernandez's. The inevitable has happened. Viren's mind is whirring. What should he do? Dissolve. He is thinking. There seems to be some agitation in the group now. Oberoi seems to be pacifying Fernandez. They look up towards Viren's terrace. Viren is standing hidden from their view. Naren moves to come to his room. Viren is thinking. Dissolve thinking. The door is flung open. Naren enters the room in great agitation. The room is empty. Some clothes and things are scattered in the room.

NAREN Viren.. Viren.. Kahan ho tum..?

No response. The bathroom door is open. The terrace is empty.

NAREN Viren..

Viren looks at the mess of clothes and things on the bed and floor. What could this mean?

{4 mins}

Sc # 81

Day, Exteriors Outside Oberoi House / Street

The bungalow stands. The boundary wall is high. Suddenly, a bag is thrown outside. Then Viren emerges from behind the wall. He jumps across. He lands on the ground, looks back at the house, gets up, picks up his bag and runs down the road. He is running away from his house, his family, that whole world. He runs as fast as he can. Vehicles whizz past, hawkers brace their ware from him. Sound of a shaadi-baraat. Viren runs around a curb and finds himself just in front of the baraat.

{1/2 min}

Song # 6

Viren freezes as the baraat pours towards him. Soon he is in the fold of musicians and horses and various people who are dancing. He tries to make his way through them. He looks up after a while and stops.

He has seen something. It is Aditi. She is covering herself with the baraat and walking up. She sees Viren. They move towards one another passing the various dancers and musicians. They reach each other and stop. Aditi has a bag in her hand. She lets the bag drop on the ground. She embraces Viren. The dancers of the baraat begin to dance around them. Viren looks around, he sees Gopal in his car, evidently looking for Aditi. So Aditi and Viren mingle in the baraat. They enter the marriage pandaal with the baraat. A train chugs along the countryside. The baraat is returning with the bride in the train. Viren and Aditi are there with the baraat. The lyrics of the song begins now. Aditi and Viren sing this song. They are going to the world that is theirs, that is waiting for them. They shall decorate their home with love. Viren and Aditi travel on the foot-board of the train, sing in deserted station platforms. In the last part of the song, they are in a small cottage in some small town. It is their home. They are decorating their home. Aditi takes out the green flower pot, which Viren had broken, and which she has now taped, onto a side-table. Viren comes and holds her and in the movement, his elbow hits the flowerpot and it falls. It falls and it freezes in mid air.

{4 ½ mins}

Sc # 85

**Day, Exteriors
Aditi's Balcony**

The green flower pot is frozen in mid air. Presently, it releases from the freeze and crashes on the floor. We realize that Viren's elbow had hit it as he was trying to jump into Aditi's balcony. Yes, the song was in Viren's imagination. He is worked up, dangling on the balcony. The stout watchman shouts.

WM Kaun hai..? Kaun hai udhar..? Ae! Ae! Neeche utar! Neeche utar!!

We can see the baraat going away in the distance. Viren clambers up awkwardly.

{1/2 min}
/133 ½ mins/

Sc # 82

**Day, Ext / Interiors
Aditi's Room**

The curtains of the balcony are shut. The watchman can be heard.

W M (sound off) Chor.. chor..

Aditi comes in, moving to the curtains. But before she reaches, the curtains part and Viren emerges. Aditi is shocked. Viren is panting.

VIREN Tum sahi thi... Magar ghalat main bhi nahin tha.. Ye duniya humein saath nahin rehne degi.. Par rehna kisko hai is duniya mein..? Humko apni duniya dhoondhni hai Aditi..

He looks up. He sees a man standing at a distance, near the sofa set of the room. Tea and snacks are kept at the table. The man is wearing a suit. Viren looks at Aditi. She is wearing the same heavy dress that she was wearing when he had come to see her for marriage.

VIREN Kya ye..? (Viren can not resist a smile) Achcha.. ye vo hai.. 'Aditi, ladke ko apna kamra dikhao..' I see.. (looks at the man, tells him) Mujhe bhi ek baar ye room dikhaya gaya tha....

Viren moves to the man, his hand outstretched.

VIREN Hi.. Viren..

Behind Mahesh the door opens suddenly and Gopal rushes in with the two watchmen. Gopal sees Viren.

GOPAL Achcha..?

Viren immediately turns and rushes to Aditi. He takes her to the curtains.

VIREN Mein sab kuchh chhod ke aaya hoon Aditi. Apna ghar... mummy-daddy ... sab! Mujhe unke aur tumhaare beech kisi ek ko chunna tha.. Maine tumhein chuna.. Chalo..

Gopal walks up to hold Viren.

VIREN Ye log kuch nahin kar sakte Aditi. Hum dono adults hain.. (He pushes Gopal away) Tum bas chalo mere saath, baaki sab main samhaal loonga.. Samajh rahi ho..?

Gopal is infuriated, but he looks at the suitor and controls himself. The suitor is completely taken aback at the proceedings. Gopal turns to the guards.

GOPAL Dekh kya rahe ho? Le chalo ise..

The guards apprehend Viren. Viren is struggling, not coming under control.

VIREN Aditi, tumhein maloom hai sach kya hai.. Baaki kisi cheez ki koi value nahin hai..

GOPAL Main keh raha hoon tumhein.. (to the guards) Le chalo..

Viren pushes again. Gopal catches Viren's neck.

ADITI Ek minute.. ek minute bhaiya... Chhod do use...

Gopal looks at Aditi, looks at the confidence with which she speaks. He looks at Mahesh, then releases Viren. Aditi looks at Viren. Then takes his arm, walks him to the other man.

ADITI Viren... ye Mahesh hai. Yaad hai meine bataya tha tumhein... mera boyfriend... wo jo mein balcony se kood kar jaati thee..? Ye vohi hai.. Us waqt ham logon ke beech ek misunderstanding ho gayee thee...

Viren gapes at her.

ADITI Mein to Mahesh ke baare mein ummeed hi chhod chuki thi... magar auntie ko iske baare mein pata chala, unhone iske ghar waalon ko khabar bheji and thanks to her, jo main kayee saal se chahti thi, vo ab poori ho raha hai..

Viren understands her intention. He shakes his head.

VIREN (smiles) Ye kya kar rahi ho tum..? Aditi..? Maine kaha tha na tumko ki haar mat maano..

ADITI (formidable) Aur maine kya kaha tha? Meine kaha tha ki sapnon kee dunia se baahar niklo tum.

VIREN Bakwaas mat karo. Dekho.. ye hamaari zindagi ka ek bahut important moment hai.. Yahan ghalati mat karna...

ADITI Maine faisla..

VIREN Listen to me..

ADITI (vehement) Maine apna faisla kar liya hai. Main vohi kar rahi hoon jo main karna chahti hoon. Samajh rahe ho tum..? Ye meri zindagi hai.. mera faisla hai..

He looks at her. She endures his look.

ADITI Maine kitni baar tumhein samjhaane ki koshish kee.. magar tum samjhe nahin. Grow up Viren. Aur dekho ki sach kya hai! Ye hai sach.

Viren looks at her, swarmed by this turn of fate. Aditi looks sternly at him. Then she looks at Gopal. Gopal takes the cue and indicates to the watchmen. The watchmen take him out of the room. Viren is staring at Aditi through the open door. Aditi is looking back. Meanwhile, Gopal addresses Mahesh.

GOPAL I'm sorry, haan..

MAHESH Ye sab hai kya?

GOPAL Arey ye jo hai, ye paagal hai saala.. Dimaag kharab kar ke rakh diya hai! Par no problem.. Aaj ke baad iska tanta hi khatam ho jaayega... Okay..? Sorry...

Gopal looks at Aditi.

GOPAL Aditi..

Aditi looks at Gopal. He gestures to her to take care of Mahesh. Then walks out, shutting the door between Aditi and Viren. Aditi looks down. Mahesh turns to Aditi.

MAHESH Ye kaun hai..?

ADITI Bhaiya ne bola na..

MAHESH Ye to diwaana ho gaya hai tumhaare liye.. Bahut dinon se tang kar raha hai kya..?

ADITI Hmm..

MAHESH Chalo.. Gopal aaj theek kar dega use..

Aditi looks at Mahesh.

{3 mins}

Sc # 83 [A]**Day, Interiors
Malhotra's Hall**

Malhotra dials a number on the phone. He is waiting for it to connect. In the background, we see the guards bring Viren down. Gopal is walking with them. In one part of the hall Jaya Malhotra and Mandira are sitting with the relatives of Mahesh. They look at Viren. Om Chawla is there too. He hides his face from Viren. Gopal leads the guards and Viren to the section of the hall where Malhotra is at the phone. The rings can be heard on the speaker phone. The phone connects.

OBEROI (sound off) Hello...

Viren is brought in front of Malhotra. Malhotra talks into the phone.

MALHOTRA Good morning Mr. Oberoi... Mujhe yaad hai badi badi baatein karte the aap.. apne bete ke baare mein. Ki aapko us par bahut bharosa hai.. vaghairah.. Magar aaj, jab meri bhanji ko dekhane ladke waale aaye hue hain to aapka wahee beta, choron ke tarah uske room mein ghus gaya.. aur mein thoda confuse ho gaya.. ki uska kya karoon..? Police mein FIR likhwaoon.. ya apne aadmiyon se kahoon ki iskee taangein tod dein... To meine socha aap to bade sayaane aadmi hain.. aapki raay lete hain..

Sc # 84**Day, Interiors
Oberoi's Hall**

Mr Oberoi is sitting in his hall. Naren, Shiela and Mr Fernandez are seen in the background. He speaks into the receiver.

OBEROI Nahin Mr. Malhotra... Aaj ye to saabit ho hee gaya ki meri baaton ka koi mol naheein hai... Main to duniya ka sabse bada bewakoof hoon. Meri raay mat lejiye.. Aapko jo theek lage aap vo keejiye uske saath.. Vo aapka gunehgaar hai.. Jahaan tak mera sawal hai to aaj se mere liye wo koi naheein hai...

Sc # 83 [B]**Day, Interiors
Malhotra's Hall / Compound**

The sound of Oberoi keeping the phone down. Viren is looking down. Gopal and Mr. Malhotra are looking at him.

MALHOTRA Kya karein iska?

GOPAL Ise yahan se hata dejiye papa. Varna pata nahin main kya kar doonga iske saath.

Viren looks at Gopal.

GOPAL Jo ise sunna tha vo Aditi ne keh diya ise..

Viren looks down

MALHOTRA (to the guards) Peeche se le jao ise.

The guards make to move. Gopal steps up to Viren.

GOPAL Agli baar tu mujhe dikh ja.. Mujhe kasam hai.. zinda nahin bachega tu.. (to the guards)
Phenk do baahar saale ko!

A guard takes his shoulder. Viren looks at the hand on his shoulder, looks at the guard. He is taken away. Humiliation is written large on his face. He is taken out.

{2 min}

Sc # 85**Day, Ext / Interiors
Malhotra's Compound / Aditi's Balcony**

The gate is opened, Viren is brought by the three guards to the gate. Viren pauses, looks up towards Aditi's balcony. Aditi is standing there. Their eyes meet. Slow version of the love theme plays in the background. Aditi turns away. Viren is left outside the gate. A guard indicates him to go away. Viren walks down the road. Aditi looks at him. Mahesh comes in, looks at Viren. Aditi bends and picks up the pieces of the flower-pot that Viren had broken yet again. Aditi looks at the pieces in her hand.

{1/2 mins}

Sc # 86**Day / Night, Exteriors
Bombay Streets, Cityscape**

Viren is walking on a pavement. There is noise and traffic all around. His mind is whirring because of the recent revelation. Night. Glitter of the city. Viren is lying at a vantage point. Something comes to his mind. He gets up, decides, then leaves.

Sc # 87**Night, Ext / Interiors
Fernandez' Compound**

Headlights of a car turn and stop at the gate. The light falls on Viren, who is sitting on the steps of the porch. He looks towards the car. Fernandez is in the driver's seat, next to him is Mrs Stella Fernandez. In the rear are Karen and her aunt from Australia. Fernandez sees Viren.

F'DEZ What the hell!

The others look up. Karen sees Viren.

F'DEZ Rascal.. How dare he...?

Despite her father's rage, Karen gets out of the car and rushes to Viren. She reaches him bustling with questions.

KAREN What the hell.. haan..? What's happening..? Tumko kya ho gaya hai..? Daddy kuchh bol rahe hain... tumhare father kuchh bol rahe hain... I tried to speak to you.. milne bhee gayee tumse.. you saw me.. aur tum bhaag gaye.. Kyon..? Kahan gaye the tum? What happened..? Tumne mujhe kuch bataya nahin. Kal raat se maaloom hai kya haal hai mera.!?

In the mean time, Fernandez gets off the car in absolute rage. Mrs Fernandez gets off in a hurry to restrain him. The aunt is following them. Fernandez reaches Viren.

F'DEZ You bloody rascal.. itna himmat hai tumhaare mein..?

Karen stops Fernandez.

KAREN Papa please.. You go inside!

F'DEZ You go inside! Is ko mein dekhta hoon... Yahan aa gaya hai na.. I swear ab ye apne pair se chal ke vaapas nahin jayega..

KAREN Papa.. let me talk to him.. Papa..

STELLA Listen, Vincy.. Control yourself.

Karen is trying to keep him physically away from Viren. Stella and her sister-in-law hold him now and pull him away from Viren, who is standing, looking down. Fernandez is taken at a distance.

F'DEZ Jaan se maar doonga ise! I will kill this bastard!

Karen speaks to Viren with determination.

KAREN Listen.. listen.. idhar dekho.. Ab bhee sab kuch theek ho jayega.. nothing is lost.. okay..? Tum.. tum ho yahaan.. mein hoon... sab theek ho jaayega.. Mein daddy se baat karoongi...

wo maan jaayenge.. believe me wo maan jaayenge... Mein tumhare daddy se bhi baat kar loongi.. sab theek ho jaayega... sab bhool jaayenge is baat ko.. sab kuch pehle jaisa ho jayega.. haan Viren ... haan...?

Viren has been looking at her. He holds her hands. She smiles.

VIREN Karen, I don't love you yaar...

There is a pause. Karen's frenzied movements stop. In the background, Fernandez stops struggling. The women stop controlling him. Karen stares at Viren as her entire world changes.

VIREN Main jaanta hoon ki agar main haan bol doon to sab kuch vapas aa jayega.. Magar vo jhoot hoga.. Main kya karoon Karen, main tumse pyaar nahin karta.

Karen is staring at his face. He turns and looks at Fernandez. He goes to him.

VIREN Mr. Fernandez... maine aap logon ke saath bahut bura kiya hai... bahut bura.. Par maine jo kar diya.. vo ab kaise badloon main..? Nahin badal sakta... To main aapke saamne khada hoon... Aapko jaisa lage, mere saath vaisa hi keejiye..

Fernandez looks at Viren, moves forward in anger and holds his collar. Karen rushes towards them. Fernandez looks at Karen. He stops, stares at Viren. Viren is looking down. Fernandez pushes him away. Then turns away walks inside. Karen's aunt follows him. Viren turns to Karen. They look at each other.

VIREN Main jaanta hoon Karen... is waqt tum kya feel kar rahi ho.. Main bhi vohi feel kar raha hoon... Usne faisla kar liya hai.. vo us se shaadi karegi.. uske saath rahegi vo.. Main jaanta hoon tumhein kaisa lag raha hai..

Karen is still transfixed. She is looking at Viren. She does not know whether to be angry and shout at him or fall down on her knees and beg. She is just looking at him as he talks.

VIREN Pata hai Karen..? Tum aur main.. hum ek doosre ke liye nahin bane hain.. Agar hamaari shaadi ho jaati na.. to mere saath tumhaari zindagi bhi barbaad ho jaati.. and you don't deserve that. Tum Karen ho. Karen sab ko achhi lagti hai.. Pata hai kitne log jealous the mujhse..? Tumhein to koi bhi mil jayega Karen. Mujhse bahut achcha...

Something connects to Karen's mind.

KAREN Tum taras kha rahe ho mujhpar?

Viren is silent.

KAREN Tum samajhte kya ho mujhe? Haan..? Suno... main apni life mein... kabhi bhi itna neeche nahin gir sakti.. ki mujhe tumhaare jaise aadmi ki taras ki zaroorat pade. Samjhe tum? Taras khaana hai na, to apne oopar taras khao... Dekho apne aap ko.. Kya ban gaye ho tum. Viren Oberoi..

She looks at him for a while, then turns away. He is looking down. She goes to Stella.

KAREN Come mama..

Mrs. Fernandez looks at her daughter with tears in her eyes.

KAREN Come..

Karen looks away and herds her inside. Viren turns and looks at her. Karen closes the door. Viren looks down.

{3 ½ mins}

Sc # 88

Day, Exteriors
Oberoi's Gate

The sun rises in the city. Oberoi's house in the morning. The gate opens and a car drives out. Oberoi is in the rear. The car stops for traffic. Oberoi sees something. He opens the door of his car and half steps out. It is Viren, in an unkempt condition. He had been waiting there.

VIREN Good.. good morning..

Oberoi says nothing, just stares at Viren.

VIREN Main hamesha aapse darta raha hoon... par aaj pehli baar mujhe aapse dar nahin lag raha hai... Mujhe afsos ho raha hai aapke oopar. Ki aapko mere jaisa beta mila. Saari zindagi aap mujhe samjhaate rahe, par main kabhee nahin samjha... Aur kal.. ek din mein, main sab kuchh samajh gaya...

Namita rushes in. Someone must have told her. She stops at a distance, walks up.

VIREN Maine jo kiya.. (pause) Anyway.. sab khatam ho gaya..

Naren comes out. Namita holds his arm.

VIREN Theek hua.. mere saath yahee hona chaahiye tha... Magar aapke saath jo hua.. aapko jo sunna pada.. you don't deserve that. Meri wajah se.. I'm sorry. I'm very sorry. Yehi bolne aaya tha main.. Main jaanta hoon ki aap ke saath mera.. Anyway.. Main jahaan bhee jaoonga... koshish karoonga ki apne aap ko badal doon...

He makes to turn.

OBEROI Suno..

Viren stops, looks down.

OBEROI Idhar dekho...

Viren looks at him. Oberoi looks into his eyes. Pause. Oberoi hugs Viren. Viren breaks down.

VIREN I'm sorry dad.. main ...

OBEROI Ghalati kabhi bachchon ki nahin hoti beta. Ghalati hamesha badon ki hoti hai.

Namita has tears in her eyes. She is holding Naren's arm.

VIREN Mein bahut thak gaya hoon dad... jhooth bolte bolte... har zimmedaari se bhaagte bhaagte... Pata nahin aisa kyon ho gaya main.. Main hamesha aapke jaisa banna chahta tha, magar kabhi ban nahin saka. I'm sorry dad, I'm sorry...

Viren cries on his father's shoulder. Namita looks at them, then she moves towards them and takes Viren's hand.

NAMITA (hurry) Chalo, andar chalo...

Viren looks at her.

VIREN Bhabi..

NAMITA Aaiye daddy.. Kamal, gaadi andar le lo..

She herds Viren towards the house.

VIREN Bhabi..

NAMITA Sh... andar chalo..

VIREN Bhabi I'm sorry..

NAMITA Sh..

She leads him inside the house.

{2 ½ mins}

Imtiaz Ali

Song # 7

Viren is sitting on a chair in the centre of his room. He is in contemplation. All the doors and windows and cupboards are open. He is at crossroads. He has come to the position where he has to start a fresh life. Various thoughts are crossing his mind. He is trying to hold his head and decide.

Move forwards, the lyrics of the song say. You might have a load in your heart. Still move forwards. The tune of the song is inspiring. There is the presence of melancholy, but the song asks you to laugh at it. The world will not stop. And you will have to go along. There is no option. So find pleasure where you can. Enjoy the ride. Look brightly at the world, the world will become bright.

In the song we see Viren decidedly going towards work. He does not want a moment of rest because it is at such moments that the feeling of loss comes to him. Aditi is getting ready to marry Mahesh. She is realizing all that will happen after marriage. She is trying to control the flutter and give herself to the sacrifice. The atmosphere of marriage is building all around her. We also see that Karen and Viren meet again. On various occasions. The load of anguish seems to breathe easier on the three of them with the passage of time. They laugh, they entertain. We get intrigued by Karen by the end of the song. She is spending time with Viren. She is looking at Viren, then thinking about him. Two months pass in the song. When the song ends, we get the feeling that anything can happen now.

{3 mins}
/148 mins/

Imtiaz Ali

Sc # 89 [A]

**Day, Interiors
Malhotra's Hall**

The hall is decorated. People move around. Final bits of preparation are underway. Sonal is supervising the placement of the sofas. Mandira is placing decorated sweet baskets and thaalis on one side. The bell rings. Rings again. The young maid next to Mandira walks across to the door. She opens it. It is Karen. The music stops.

KAREN Aditi hai..?

MAID Ji..

Karen walks in. She sees the preparation going on. Mandira sees her. She turns towards Sonal. Sonal is looking at Karen in question. Karen notices Sonal, turns and walks towards Aditi's room.

Imtiaz Ali

Sc # 90 [A]

**Day, Interiors
Aditi's Room**

Aditi is sitting at the mirror, wearing a dressy costume. A girl is doing her hair. The door opens. Aditi leans to her left and looks. She sees Karen standing there. She narrows her eyes. It is Karen. Aditi stands. Karen looks at her.

KAREN Hi Aditi..

ADITI Hi..

Karen walks in, pretending to be nochalant. She looks around.

KAREN Engagement hai aaj..?

ADITI Haan..

KAREN Lovely..

ADITI (to the hair-dresser) Main tumhein bulaati hoon..

The hair-dresser walks out.

KAREN (meanwhile) Mahesh naam hai na..?

ADITI Haan..

KAREN Viren ne bataya. Aur shaadi kab hai?

ADITI Agle maheene.

KAREN Itni jaldi..? Great.. So.. Tum khush ho..?

Karen looks at Aditi. There is something teasing about the way Karen is speaking.

KAREN Are you happy..?

ADITI Haan..

KAREN Strange.. Tumko dekh kar lagta nahin hai ki tum khush ho.. Pata nahin kyon..

They are looking at one another. There are no secrets between them.

ADITI Karen.. please.. Ab in baaton se kya fayda? Jo hona tha vo ho gaya hai.

KAREN Nahin Aditi.. Jo hua hai vo apne aap nahin ho gaya hai. Tumne kiya hai vo. Pehle to sab kuch theek tha.. vaise hi rehne deti... Magar nahin.. tumhein beech mein aana tha, sab kuch destroy karna tha. Viren mujhse alag ho gaya. Khatam ho gaya sab kuch – tumhaari vajah se. Aur ab tum kisi aur se shaadi kar rahi ho..? I mean what the hell is going on..?

Aditi can not say anything. Sonal is coming up to Aditi's room. Karen continues –

KAREN Main jaanti hoon kaise maine apne aap ko samjhaya hai.. Ki yehi hona tha. Main jo uske liye feel karti hoon, vo mere baare main vaisa nahin sochta hai.. Aur main iska kuch nahin kar sakti. Koi kuch nahin kar sakta. Kyonki vo tumse pyaar karta hai. Vo tumse pyaar karta hai aur tum us se.

Sonal stops at the door as she hears.

KAREN That's how it is. To phir tum dono saath kyon nahin ho? Tumhaari jagah main hoti to chaahe koi bhi problem hoti.. kuch bhi karna padta mujhe.. magar main uske saath hoti. But dammit.. main tumhaari jagah nahin hoon. Tumhaari jagah tum ho.. Aur tum – yahan khadi ho – brocade ka kapda pehen kar, haath mein mehndi laga kar.. it's ridiculous.

ADITI Karen please.. Iske baare mein baat nahin karte hain..

KAREN Aditi.. Tum aur main aur kiske baare mein baat kar sakte hain? Main janna chaahti hoon ki tum aisa kyon kar rahi ho. Kuch to reason hoga.. pagal to ho nahin tum. Kya baat hai.. batao..? Tell me..

ADITI Karen..

KAREN No, I have to know this.. Batao..

ADITI Maine uncle se vaada kiya tha... Ki vo log jis se kahenge, main shaadi kar loongi..

Pause. Karen stares at Aditi.

KAREN Bas..? Tumne vaada kiya tha..? That's all? (Pause) Tumko maloom hai Viren kis haal mein hai? Baahar se kisi ko pata nahin chalne deta hai.. logon ko yehi lagta hai ki vo sab kuch bhool gaya, bilkul theek hai, khush hai.. Magar main usko jaanti hoon. Tumse bhi zyada main usko jaanti hoon.. Andar se ro raha hai vo.. chilla raha hai.. Aur uski takleef kabhi khatam nahin hogi, vo kabhi theek nahin hoga.. Uske andar ek aag hai, jo use jala rahi hai.. aur vo aise hi jalta rahega.. Zindagi bhar aise hi jalta rahega – Vo theek hai tumhaare liye. Magar uncle auntie ko tumne promise kiya hai – vo promise tum nahin tod sakti.. (Pause) Tum ho kya..? Haan..? Do you have a heart..? Kuch feelings hain tumhaare andar..?

Aditi was controlling herself. At this point, she bursts.

ADITI Nahin.. mujh mein koi feelings nahin hai.. main kuch feel nahin karti.. I'm heartless.. Main sirf apni zindagi barbaad karna chahti hoon..

KAREN (relentless) Mujhe tumhaari zindagi mein koi interest nahin hai..

ADITI (cuts) Kisi ko nahin hai.. Pata hai mujhe.. Tum aayee kyon ho mere paas..? Chali jao yahan se.. Leave me alone..

Sonal had been listening at the door. Presently, she walks in. Aditi is crying. She looks at Sonal, realizes that she has heard. She closes her eyes and shakes her head. Sonal looks at Karen. Aditi speaks through her weeping.

ADITI Tum jao Karen..

KAREN Ye baat tum..

ADITI (cuts) Please Karen... I beg of you. Please...

KAREN (pointing Aditi) Aise hi tadap raha hai vo bhi.. (pause) Yehi tumhein bataana tha. Ab tum kisi aur se shaadi kar ke apni zindagi barbaad karna chahti ho to karo.. but remember.. apne saath tum Viren ki zindagi bhi barbaad kar rahi ho. And you have no right to do that.

Restlessness has siezed Aditi. She is crying. Karen looks at her. Then turns and walks out.

Sc # 89 [B]

Day, Interiors
Malhotra's Hall

Karen comes out of the room and walks down the stairs. She moves through the hall as the dholak plays and girls sing. She walks out.

{1/2 min}

Sc # 90 [B]

Day, Interiors
Aditi's Room

Sonal is looking at Aditi. Aditi is on the floor, her palms outstretched to prevent the mehndi from smudging. She is sniffing, trying to control and wipe her tears. After a while –

SONAL Bahut der ho gayee hai Aditi. (walks to bed) Tumhaari shaadi ke cards bant gaye hain. Vo vapas nahin liye ja sakte. Ab koi tumhaari madad nahin kar sakta. (sits) Jo bhi karna hai, tumhein khud karna hoga.

Aditi turns to look at Sonal. What does she mean?

SONAL (thinking aloud) Tum sacrifice de rahi ho.. Mahesh se shaadi kar ke.. Magar ek baat batao.. Is sacrifice se kisko faayda hai? (pause) Aur agar tumhaari shaadi toot gayee, jiska ab mujhe yakeen hai, tab kya hoga? Papa mummy ke sar ke oopar main pehle se hi baithi hui hoon, apni shaadi tod kar.. tum bhi vaapas aa jaogi tab unpar kya guzregi..? Aur tumhaara kya hoga? Shaadi toote ya na toote, jitne din tum zinda rahogi tumhein yehi ek khayaal tang karta rahega ki kaash maine shaadi nahin kee hoti.. kaash maine ghalat, sahi.. koi bhi kadam utha liya hota magar shaadi nahin kee hoti.. (pause) Mujhe tumse zyada lagaav nahin hai Aditi. Magar main ye kabhi nahin chahoongi ki zindagi tumein bhi meri tarah bana de. Tumhaare paas time. Tum bahut lucky ho Aditi. Tumhaare paas ye choice hai. Mat karo ye shaadi. Mat karo.

ADITI To phir..?

SONAL Viren naam hai na uska..?

ADITI Haan...

SONAL Ghar mein bahut hungama hoga.. tension hogi kuch dinon tak. Magar pehle to sab log yehi chahte the na ki tumhaari shaadi Viren se ho jaaye? To ho sakta hai baad mein sab kehne lagein ki achcha hi kiya Aditi ne.

Aditi can not believe the suggestion that Sonal is making.

ADITI Matlab.. main..? Main kya karoon..?

SONAL Vo tum batao mujhe. Kya karna chahti ho? Ghar mein mehmaan aa chuke hain. Kisi bhi waqt Mahesh aur uski family aa jayegi. Phir tumhein neeche bulaya jaayega, aur engagement ki rasm shuroo hogi. To kya karna chahti ho tum? Tumhaara dil kya kehta hai?

Aditi is speechless. Her heart is pounding on her chest. Her mind is racing. Her face is blank with nervousness. It seems she has witnessed a murder. She is thinking. Then –

ADITI (gibberish) Main vahan aap actually vo...

She stops. She closes her eyes and places her palm on her chest to control her this hurry thing inside. Then she gets up and points towards the balcony.

ADITI Ye jo balcony hai na, is se neeche utar kar.. kayee baar main utar chuki hoon.. chupke se..

SONAL (stands) Is balcony se..?

ADITI Haan..

SONAL Abhi jaogi..?

ADITI Haan..?

There is a small silence. Aditi suddenly embraces Sonal. He body is shaking. They part.

SONAL You'll be fine na..?

Aditi nods vigorously. Her heart is in panic now. She hugs Sonal again.

SONAL Achcha ab zyada time nahin hai..

Aditi releases, hurries to the writing table, her legs shaking. She makes to get paper and pen. She realizes there is still mehndi on her palm. She wipes it on the curtain. We stay at the mehndi stain as Aditi recedes in the out-focus region to collect her things. Behind the curtain is the balcony. On the side of which are pipes. Which can be held for support while climbing down the railing till the foot rests on the roof of the bird house. Then the wall can be grabbed on the way to the ground. The sound of dholak and singing in the hall is increasing.

{5 mins}

Sc # 91

Day, Interiors Presentation Hall

Architectural model of the multiplex. Nirmal Oberoi is leading the investors into the hall, ushers are placing them. Naren walks up. We find Viren standing next to the model, looking at it.

NAREN This is it brother. Tum taiyyar ho..?

Viren nods.

NAREN Remember Viren. Ye dad ka dream project hai. Agar ye financers maan gaye to hamaari company kahan pahunch jayegi tum soch bhi nahin sakte.

Oberoi walks up to them.

OBEROI (nervous) Viren beta, ab sab kuch tumhaare oopar hai. Best of luck. Just do your best. Phir jo bhi hoga, dekha jayega.

Viren is looking at Oberoi. He is nodding.

{1/2 min}

Sc # 92

Day, Exteriors Streets

A lane in the marketplace. Aditi is moving through it as fast as she can. Hawkers brace their wares, cars whizz past. She is wearing the same engagement dress but is wearing sneakers below. The ornaments are out, the make-up is on. There is an airbag on her shoulder. She rushes. A taxi zips through the streets. Aditi sitting in the rear. Her hair is flying. She is tense.

Sc # 93**Day, Interiors
Corridors, Reception**

Aditi rushes into the office building. The taxi leaves from the porch in the background. People look at Aditi strangely. With her engagement costume, sneakers and airbag, she is a strange sight in a corporate office. She comes to the receptionist, panting.

ADITI Viren..?

RECEPT'ST Aap?

ADITI Kahan hai vo..?

RECEPT'ST Do you have an appointment?

ADITI Kahan hai vo..?

{1/2 min}

Sc # 94**Day, Interiors
Corporate Floor / Corridor / Presentation Hall**

Aditi rushes into the corporate floor of the office in the strange attire and the airbag. She sees a woman at a computer, a few peons. She hurries through the corridor and comes to a door. Looks through the glass slab. Viren. She has found him. He is standing there, drawing on the board. She barges into the room. Viren turns, continues to speak with great confidence –

VIREN Aur ye floor plan jo maine banaya hai.. Hazaaron saal pehle Indus Valley Civilization mein is principle ka istemaal kiya jaata tha. Modern architecture mein...

ADITI Viren..

Viren hears the sound of the door. He hears his name. He sees Aditi rushing towards him. He is stunned. Aditi has been looking only at him. Now she looks on the other side. She stops, shocked. There are thirty people sitting there, listening to the presentation. A very high level presentation. She looks at Viren. Viren is looking at her. Now he looks towards the audience. She looks. Nirmal Oberoi is there, looking at her. Naren Oberoi is there, looking at her. Everyone is looking at her. Silence. She looks back at Viren. He looks at her. Then turns and continues the presentation.

VIREN Aisa hi hota hai. Apni puraani knowledge hum bhool jaate hain, aur phir vohi knowledge Vaastu aur Feng Shui ban kar vaapas aa jaati hai. Main jaanta hoon ki is multiplex ka weight distribution ek bahut bada challenge hai. Magar as a modern architect, mere paas kayee naaye gadgets hain, aur puraani knowledge bhi.. Let's take these exterior steel columns. Their role is not just aesthetic. Building ko ye vaise hi support karenge jaise andar vaale columns. Is tarah se is structure ko double stability milti hai.

Aditi looks at him. Remains static for a moment, then looks at Mr Oberoi. She looks down, retraces her step. She goes out of the door. Oberoi looks at her go. He looks at Viren. Viren has not left the thread of the task at hand. Although his mind must be whirring with Aditi's arrival. Aditi shuts the door. She stares at the door for a while, then looks left, looks right. She is restless, but she has to wait. She paces up to the wall and stops. Viren continues inside. Oberoi looks at him. He is assessing his son.

VIREN Is design ka sabse zaroori aspect hai stability. Stability ki wajah se hi aap log pehle kayee architects ke designs reject kar chuke hain. Mushkil hai – ye building hai hi itni badi. Magar Red Fort se zyada badi nahin hai, naahin Pyramids ya China Wall se zyada badi hai.

Agar vo log us zamaane mein, bina kisi technology ke aisi buildings banaane mein kamyab hue the.. to sochiye.. is zamaane mein, modern technology ke saath, hum kya nahin kar sakte hain..

Aditi outside. Standing with her back to the wall, nervous. There is muffled sounds of clapping. A door opens in the corridor, clapping resounds. Inside, the entire audience is standing in applause. Viren is bowing. Two people come to shake his hand. “Marvellous”, “Brilliant” and such-like phrases abound. The financiers next to Oberoi speak to him.

FINANCER 1 Oberoi sahab, kahan chipa ke rakha tha aapne ise? Ladka to genius hai.

FINANCER 2 Ab to aap apni terms bataiye. Yahan koi mana nahin karega.

Oberoi’s face is flushed with this unexpected success, the success of his dark horse. He looks at Viren. Viren is accepting the congratulations politely, but briskly. He is thinking about Aditi’s arrival. He wants to find out. Everyone comes to congratulate Oberoi too, but Oberoi excuses himself, makes way through them and comes to Viren. Naren is embracing Viren.

NAREN Marvellous kid brother. Absolutely marvellous.

Viren looks at Oberoi. Oberoi embraces him. Then parts and looks at him.

OBEROI Mr Viren Oberoi.

Oberoi looks at him with pride and trust and love and confidence. Then he turns to Naren.

OBEROI Chalo Naren, conference hall mein terms and conditions discuss kar lete hain.

NAREN Ji..

OBEROI (to others) Aaiye ji.. this way.

Naren looks at Viren, then leaves with the others. Viren looks at them leave. Then turns and walks towards the other door, the door Aditi had come by. He sees her. She is looking the other way, looking for him, tense. He pauses, looks at her. Then moves briskly to her. She turns and looks towards him.

Viren What..?

Aditi looks at him.

Aditi Viren..

Viren (hurry) Kya baat hai..? Tum.. suddenly.. Tum yahan kyon ayee ho..? What’s wrong..? Koi problem hai kya? What’s the matter..?

Aditi Tum sawaal hi poochte rahoge ya mujhe jawaab bhi dene doge..?

Viren Suno.. Nirmal ne tumhein dekh liya hai..

Aditi I know..

Viren I know to phir tum jao yahan se..

Aditi Meri baat suno..

Viren Dekho, hum yahan, aise baat nahin kar sakte hain.. understand.

Aditi Tum suno to..

Viren You're the limit yaar.. tumhein maloom hai situation kya hai... Pata nahin dad kaise react karenge. Kuch bhi kar sakte hain vo. I can't believe that tum yahan aa gayee.. office mein.. jahan tumhein maloom hai ki..

Viren notices Aditi's bag. He looks up at her face. He is realizing.

Viren Nahin... Nahin.

He takes her arm and walks out to the lobby.

{3 mins}
/157 ½ mins/

Imtiaz Ali

Sc # 95 (Part One)**Day, Int / Exteriors
Oberoi's Office / Compound**

Viren brings Aditi to the lobby, releases her, is looking at her. A quaint smile comes to his face. He is shaking his head.

VIREN Don't tell me that tum.. tum bhaag ke aayee ho..? Tum ghar se bhaag gayee.. aur yahan aa gayee, meri office mein.. ki hum dono.. bhaag jayein..? Aditi..? Tumhara dimagh kharaab ho gaya hai..? Haan...? What is wrong with you..?

ADITI Achcha..? Mera dimagh kharaab ho gaya hai? Aur us din jo tum mere kamre mein ghush aaye the aur mujhe apne saath bhaag jaane ko keh rahe the.. sab ke saamne..?

VIREN Haan to tumne mujhe ghar ke baahar phenkva diya..

ADITI Theek hai.. Tum bhi mujhe baahar phenkva do. (loud) Bulao guards ko... bulao.. Guards..

VIREN Shuh..

ADITI Nahin tum badla lena chahte ho na..?

VIREN (irritated) Don't be stupid..

ADITI (confronting) Main hoon stupid..

VIREN Pata hai mujhe..

ADITI Pata hai to kya kar loge?

VIREN Nobel Prize doonga tumhein.. is brilliant plan ke liye.. I mean.. I'm shocked.. Koi itna bewakoof kaise ho sakta hai..? Tumne socha ki tum yahan aa jaaogi aur main bas khada ho kar tumhaare saath chal doonga..?

ADITI Haan.. Yehi socha tha maine. Ghalat socha tha?

VIREN Of course ghalat socha tha. It's ridiculous..

Aditi looks at him. Then she turns and walks towards the lifts.

VIREN Aditi..

Aditi does not reply. Viren looks towards the office, goes up to her.

VIREN Tumhein kya lagta hai ki ye possible hai..?

Aditi turns and walks towards the stairs. He follows her.

VIREN (continuing) Ki tum aur main yahan hain.. abhi.. aur hum aise hi nikal jayein..? Aisa ho sakta hai..? Bolo..?

Aditi does not reply, starts climbing down the stairs. He holds her arm and turns her around.

VIREN Main tumse baat kar raha hoon..

ADITI Kyon baat kar rahe ho mujhse..?

They look at one another in anger. He is holding her arm, he can feel her breath. She can feel the proximity. There is nothing more they would both want than to be with one another. They have always known that. They know that now. Viren speaks without thinking.

VIREN Bhaag jaana koi tareeka nahin hai..

ADITI Yehi to main kehti thi..

She releases herself and continues to walk down. He follows her.

VIREN Haan but.. Aditi...ab sab kuch badal gaya hai.. Samajhne ki koshish karo.. Us sab ke baad un logon ne mujhe accept kar liya... Ab dad ko... bhabhi ko... itna confidence hai mujh par... Aur ab main sab ko chhod ke nikal jaoon..? No way.. Aditi, meri baat mano.. tum vaapas apne ghar chali jao.

Aditi stops and turns to him in anger.

ADITI Mujhe zindagi mein kabhi bhi salaah ki zaroorat padegi na, to tum aakhri aadmi hoge jis se main poochoongi.

VIREN (incited) Kyon..? Har waqt har aadmi yehi baat kyon bolta hai mujhse? Maine kaha ghar chali jao, to kya ghalat kaha?

ADITI Ghar mein meri engagement ho rahi hai.

VIREN (new surprise) Engagement.. Tum engagement se..? Un logon ko maloom hai ki tum bhaag gayee ho...?

ADITI Pata nahin..

VIREN Unko pata nahin ya tumhein nahin pata ki unko pata hai ki nahin..? Oho.. Anyway, ab tum kya karogi..?

ADITI Pata nahin..

She starts walking. He starts following.

VIREN Ye kya bakwaas hai..? Pata nahin hai to pata karo...

ADITI (confronting) Tumhein kya padi hai ki main kya karoongi..?

VIREN Tum itna bhaav kyon kha rahi ho yaar..?

ADITI Tum itna bhaav de kyon rahe ho mujhe? Vapas jao na.. apne dad ke paas.. Vo la denge vaisi waali, jisko bhaav nahin dena padega..

VIREN Ab main dad ki choice par kaise bharosa kar sakta hoon? Unki pehli pasand to tum thi.. And look at you – engagement se bhaag ke yahan aa gayee...

ADITI (had enough) Suno... Mera jo dil chaha, maine kiya, okay?

VIREN Haan... magar...

She turns and walks out.

VIREN Aditi, listen...

He follows her.

{3 mins}

Sc # 95 (Part Two)

Day, Int / Exteriors
Reception Area / Compound / Streets / Taxi

Aditi enters the reception area. Viren hurries in after her. He is conscious of the many staff members

and visitors in the reception area as he speaks to Aditi.

VIREN Aditi... For God's sake, suno... Main ye nahin keh raha hoon ki tumne jo kiya vo ghalat hai... Understand...

Aditi comes out to the compound, starts climbing down the stairs. Viren is following her.

VIREN Magar aise chal ke baahar nikal jaana.. aur ghayab ho jaana.. it's ridiculous... Koi kapda nahin.. inhein chhod kar.. Paise bhi thode se hi hain.. it's, it's... ajeeb. Aisa nahin hota hai yaar life mein...

ADITI To tum kyon aa rahe ho mere peeche..?

VIREN Tumhein maloom hai kyon aa raha hoon..

ADITI (stops) Nahin maloom hai. Batao..

VIREN Isliye.. kyonki main tumhein.. samjhaana chahta hoon ki..

Aditi turns and stops a passing cab.

VIREN (continues) ..ki bhaag jaana koi solution thodi hai..

The taxi stops. Viren puts her bag in front while talking. The driver puts the meter down.

VIREN I understand ki abhi... aur koi raasta nahin dikh raha hai.. Magar bhaag jaana..? Achcha tell me... Sunne mein kaisa lagta hai..? Bhaag gaye.. I mean..

ADITI Oho.. samajh gayee main..

She sits in the cab.

VIREN Good.

He circles the cab, giving the office building a furtive look, and sits.

VIREN Bahut achchi baat hai ki tum samajh rahi ho.. Practical hona bahut zaroori hai, kyonki..

He looks at the driver in front.

VIREN Chalo..

DRIVER Kahan..?

Viren looks at Aditi. Aditi is looking at Viren.

VIREN (to driver) Abhi tum seedhe chalo, phir main batata hoon...

The taxi moves.

VIREN (to Aditi) Cool decision lena chahiye life mein... Aaram se, baat kar ke... Aur ye bahut achchi jagah hai baat karne ke liye.. ye taxi.. Yahan koi humein disturb nahin karega.. To

baat karte hain.. bina kisi disturbance ke.. aur kisi result par pahunchte hain.. Saare options discuss karte hain.. saare options.. Kyonki Aditi, frankly speaking, bhaag jaana – is not an option at all. Uska to savaal hi nahin hai.. Impossible.. I mean... let's be realistic over here now...

{1 ½ mins}

Imtiaz Ali

Sc # 96

**Day, Int / Exteriors
Vantage Point**

The traffic on the street. A taxi going on the street. Oberoi is standing at the balcony, looking down. Naren comes up from behind.

NAREN They are ready dad...

Oberoi does not reply. Naren looks down to see what Oberoi is looking at. He understands.

NAREN Ye Viren nahin aaya ab tak.

OBEROI Vo itni jaldi nahin aayega. Waqt lagega. Kuch din... Hafte... Phir dono aa jayenge.

NAREN Dono...?

OBEROI Ache lagte hai dono saath mein... What do you think?

NAREN What do you mean? Dad...?

Naren moves forwards to stare at his father's face.

OBEROI (preoccupied) Ek baat batao... Ye jo Malhotra hai... aur jo Mrs Malhotra hain... agar main unke saamne ja kar is ladki ka haath maangoon... itna kuch ho jaane ke baad... Nahin, nahin... Apni naak kat jayegi yaar...

NAREN Dad...?

OBEROI Magar ye dono aaj kuch kar jaayein... Phir koi kya kar sakta hai? Phir to sab ko accept karna hi padega. To main bhi accept kar loonga...

Naren is nodding, with an impish smile on his face.

NAREN Ab mujhe samajh mein aaya ki Viren mein kiske gun aaye hain...

OBEROI Kyon? Kuch ghalat kaha maine?

NAREN (smiling) Aaj to aap mujhe aadmi hi ghalat lag rahe hain...

OBEROI Tameez se baat karo. Baap hoon tumhaara...

NAREN Mere hi nahin, aap saari duniya ke baap hain dad...

Naren embraces his father. Both are very happy.

{1/2 min}

Sc # 97

**Day, Exteriors
Highway Dhaba**

Dhaba on the outskirts of Bombay. Some trucks are parked. Some string cots are put out. Aditi and Viren are sitting on a cot. Their taxi is standing at a distance. A truck door opens and the driver of the truck comes out. He is a sardar, in good spirits, humming a song. He is looking at Viren and Aditi.

VIREN Dekho, paanch options hain hamaare paas, right? One two three four five. Tum batao, kaun sa choose karna chahiye...?

ADITI Jo tum kaho Viren.

VIREN Arey...? Sab kuch main hi kahoon kya? Itni der se baat kar raha hoon main. Tum koi interest hi nahin dikha rahi ho.

ADITI Theek hai, main apne ghar chali jaati hoon...

VIREN Paagal ho kya? Haan...?

ADITI To phir tumhaare ghar chalte hain...

VIREN Aditi, yahan mazaak nahin chal raha hai, okay...? Be serious.

ADITI Arey magar yehi sab options hain na tumhaare paas...?

VIREN Theek hai. To tum koi option do... Think...

ADITI Viren...

VIREN No, no... think...

The truck driver has walked up in the mean time. He is still humming the song. He sits down on a cot near them and speaks.

DRIVER Sunna jvaan..

Viren and Aditi turn and look at him.

DRIVER Tum log ghar se bhaag rahe ho...?

VIREN (vehemently) Ji nahin.. (Pause) Aapko aisa kyon laga ki bhaag rahe hain hum log..

DRIVER O ji puraani aankhein hain... pehchaan leti hain... To bhai.. mushkil kya thi..? Mazhab alag hain tumhaare?

VIREN Nahin ji mazhab ek hi hai...

DRIVER To phir jaat alag-alag hogi...

VIREN Ji jaat bhee ek hai...

ADITI Balki jaat ke andar vaali jaat bhi ek hai..

DRIVER Samajh gaya.. Hasiyaat ka fark raha hoga khandaanon mein..

ADITI Nahin ji, ek jaise hi hain dono..

DRIVER Oho.. to nakshattar, kundli milne-mulne ka chakkar hoga..

ADITI (giggles) Bilkul nahin.. Hamaare to chaattis mein se paintis gun milte hai..

DRIVER Haan to theek hai.. kisi bhi wajah se tumhaare maa-baap nahin chahte the ki ye shaadi ho..

VIREN (smiles) Ye bhi ghalat hai.. Ma-baap hi to chahte the ki ye shaadi ho..

ADITI Vohi hi to leke aaye the isko.. Tab hi to hum mile pehli baar..

DRIVER Ma-baap raazi the..?

VIREN Vo to force kar rahe the humein shaadi karne ke liye..

Viren and Aditi are giggling by now. The driver is looking at them. He is a bit irritated.

DRIVER Tab to ek hi baat ho sakti hai, hain ji.. Ki pagal ho tum log.. Yehi hoga na phir..?

Viren looks at him seriously.

VIREN Haan, ye.. ye pagal waala option right lag raha hai mujhe.. (to Aditi) Kyon.?

ADITI Correct...

VIREN Yehi baat hai paaji... Tab hi sab theek hone ke bawajood hum log ghar se bhaag gaye..

Viren and Aditi laugh, thinking about the full circle they have come. The driver looks at them in surprise. Music of song from Paying Guest – Chodh do aanchal, zamaana kya kahega, is playing in the dhaba.

{2 ½ mins}

Sc # 98

Day, Ext / Interiors
Moving Truck on Highway

The sardar is driving, singing along with Asha Bhonsle as the song plays in the transistor.

‘Main chali ab khoob chedo pyaar ke afsaane,
kuch mausam hai deewaana, kuch tum bhi ho deewane.’

The truck is moving on the highway. In the back of the truck, there are a lot of gunny bags and dried hay bundles. Between them, Aditi and Viren are play-acting the song.

‘Main chali ab khoob chedo pyaar ke afsaane,
kuch mausam hai deewaana, kuch tum bhi ho deewane.’
Aji aana, dil mein samaana, aji aana, dil mein samaana,
Ek dil ek jaan hain hum tum, zamana kya kahega..?’

They have climbed on top of the drivers cabin. They continue the play-acting. The song continues to play, the truck drives away.

‘Ho, ho ho, chodh do aanchal, zamaana kya kahega..?’
Ha, ha, ha, in adaon ka, zamana bhi hai deewana..
Diwana kya kahega..?’

{1 ½ mins}

<END>

/166 ½ mins/

{2 hrs 46 ½ mins}

Imtiaz Ali