

Screenplay

KAHANI- SCRIPT

Screenplay by Afifa Bashir

INT.REKHTA'S BEDROOM-DAY

Rekhta stands in front of a mirror, applying makeup, wearing her earrings, braiding her hair while lip syncing to the ghazal 'Mujhse Pehli Si Muhabbat Meray Mehboob Na Maang.'she is the happiest to meet her love of life.

The phone rings.

SALEEM

(in an affectionate voice)

Salam. meri jaan tayyar ho?

Hello. are you ready my love?

REKHTA

(blushes)

Salam. meri ankhein apkay intezaar may baitaab hain.

Hello. My eyes are longing to see you.

SALEEM

(soft tone)

Haye. May araha huin baas janeman. Mujhay laynay nahi aoenghi bahir say?

I am on my way, sweetheart. Won't you come to recieve me?

REKHTA

(in an excited manner)

abhi ayi baas!

Here I come!

Rekhta puts down the reciever. Takes a last look in the mirror and exit the bedroom to go and recieve Saleem.

INT.MAIN CORRIDOR-DAY

Rekhta slowly runs in the main corridor to recieve Saleem. She takes a step out of the front door and looked sideways but there is no glimpse of Saleem. As Rekhta steps in back and go towards her bedroom. Saleem arrives and catches a glimpse of Rekhta.

(CONTINUED)

SALEEM

(in a slightly high-pitched
soft, affectionate tone)

Kahan chali meri ankhoun ka tara?

where are you off to?, the apple of
my eyes.

Rekhta looks back, nods and shyly smiles. Both of them goes back to the room. They hug, hold hands as a way to greet each other.

INT.REKHTA'S BEDROOM-DAY

Rekhta stands by the dressing table, pouring water for Saleem. Saleem stares at her with admiration. Rekhta brings the glass of water to Saleem.

REKHTA

(with a mischievious grin, in
a soft voice)

Apko baas paani ki piyaas lagi hay?

Are you only thirsty for water?

SALEEM

(excitedly pulls her)

Arey meri jaan, idher tou aoen.

Come here, my love.

Rekhta and Saleem sit on the bed in close proximity with each other. Saleem starts to unbraid her hair, caresses her on the cheek. Rekhta slowly stands up to close the curtains and Saleem starts to lie down, grabbing a pillow. Both of them take off their shoes.

After a few hours, both of them lie next to each other. Saleem picks up a ciggarette while Rekhta lights it. Bedsheet is rumpled, Rekhta's makeup is smudged, ciggarette buds left in the ash tray, hair untied and jewellery pieces scattered all over the place.

INT.MAIN CORRIDOR-DAY

Rekhta accompanies Saleem to the front door. Both of them are hugging each other and holding hands

SALEEM

(in a pleasant tone)

Aj tou maza aagaya Rekhta jaan.
Tumara kaisa shukriya ada karu?

(CONTINUED)

What a pleasant day. I loved the session. How do I extend my gratitude?

REKHTA

(shyly, in a soft tone)

Acha laga sun kar. Chalien phir mulaqaat hoti hay apsay. Khuda hafiz!

Glad to hear that. I will see you soon then Good bye!

SALEEM

Buhat jald! Khuda Hafiz meri jaan.

Yes very soon. Goodbye my love!

Saleem exits from the front door and Rekhta goes back to her bedroom.

INT.REKHTA'S BEDROOM + WASHROOM -DAY

Rekhta starts cleaning her bed. Put her jewellery pieces back. Throws away cigarette buds, pulls the bedsheet cover.

Few weeks have passed. Rekhta comes out of the washroom. Sit on bed, gagging. She clenches herself and is fidgety. She stands up to call Saleem. She pauses for a while thinking what exactly will she inform him about. Rekhta checks her drawer in a hurry. She finally get hold of a pregnancy test. She goes to the washroom, takes out the pregnancy strip, sits on a toilet seat and checks.

It turns out to be positive. Rekhta stands by the washbasin staring at her reflection, sobbing and panic-stricken. She exits the washroom to find the phone ringing.

REKHTA

(anxious state)

Sa.. Saa. Saalee..Saaleem

SALEEM

(worried)

Kia huwa Rekhta jaaan? Itni ghabriwe kyun ho?

What happened, love? Why are you so tensed?

(CONTINUED)

REKHTA
 (stammering)
 Saa..Saa.Saaleem may.. may maa
 bannay wali huin.

Saa..Saa..Saaleem..I am.. I am
 going to become a mother.

Long pause.

REKHTA
 (anxious, stammering)
 Sa..Saleem jawab do! Kahan gaye
 Saleem?

Sa..Saleem answer me! Where did you
 go?

Saleem hung up.

REKHTA
 (In a loud voice)
 Saleem!!

Rekhta puts down the receiver. She is in a state of
 shock. She starts to tremble. Phone rings again. Rekhta
 hurriedly picks up

REKHTA
 (hurried manner)

HELLO? HELLO? SALEEM? SALEEEEEEM??

SALEEM
 (calmly)
 May yeh nahi karsakta huin. May
 jaraha huin. Mujhay baqsh do. Tum
 janoun aur tumara bacha.

I am going. I can't do this. I am
 leaving. Get rid of me and look
 after your own kid.

Phone hangs up. Saleem did not even wait to listen to
 Rekhta's reply. Rekhta did not have the energy to phrase her
 words. She drops down the receiver and breaks down sobbing
 and crying.

INT.SABAAT'S BEDROOM-DAY

Sabaat stands near the mirror getting dressed. She puts on cream, wears her earrings and braids her hair and exits the room.

EXT-PARK-DAY

Sabaat sits in a park, waits for Saleem to come. Saleem arrives.

SABAAT

(Excitedly)

Arey, aap aagaye. Kaisay hain aap?

Oh, you have come. How are you?

SALEEM

(blushes)

Main theek huin. Tum sunoe janu.

I am fine. what about you, sweety?

SABAAT

(shyly)

May bhi theek huin.

I am also good.

SALEEM

(mischievously)

Kia chalraha hay aaj kal? aur kia iraday hay abhi karnay ko?

What is going on? What are your plans for today?

SABAAT

(soft voice)

Kuch bhi nahi chalraha. Bas parhai aur kuch bhi nahi.

SALEEM

(mischievously)

Arey, yeh parhai ko choro. yeh batoe khanay ka kia intizaam hay?

Oh you, forget about studies. Tell me about your plans for dinner.

(CONTINUED)

SABAAT

(excitedly)

Arey, khanay say yaad aya, ap chalien meray ghar. Meri ami say bhi mulaqaat hojayegi apki aur khana bhi khalingaye.

This reminds me that i have to make you meet my mom. Let's go right now. I will serve you nice dinner as well.

SALEEM

(eyebrows raised, shows reluctance)

Ami say kyun milwana hay? Aur ghar per kyun jana hay?

Why do you want make me meet mom? And why do you want to go your place?

SABAAT

(sad, complaining)

Kyun hamnay shaadi ki baat karni hay. Kia aap mujhsay pyaar nahi kartay? Agar kartay hay tou itni sakti kaisay? Inti bay itebari kaisay?

This is because we have to talk about our marriage. Don't you love me? if you love me then why this much of distrust in me?

SALEEM

(hugs her)

arey meri jaan ka tota. Itni shikyaatain aik he din main? acha chal chal laytay hay tumaray ghar.

oh, sweetheart. Will you complain about everything today only? Okay let's go to your place.

SABAAT

Kia aap itna pyaar kartay hay mujsay kay foran hee narazghi per baat manli?

do you love me this much that for a few seconds of complaints you agree to do to what I am saying.

(CONTINUED)

SALEEM

(consoling her and also
flirting)

Jaanu, iss may koi baari baat nahi hay. Thora sa dar gaya tha kay ami say kyun milwana hay. Maana kay hamaye shaadi karni hay laqin yeh ami say mulaqatein kafi dara dayti hein. laqin tumari khatir aur kuch mazeydaar khanay ki umeed may maan li tumari yeh khuwashish bhi.

Sweetheart, its nothing of a big deal. I just got scared for a few seconds that why did you wanted to make me meet your mom. I agree that we have to marry but i am scared of meeting moms in general. However, for the sake of you, my beloved, and in high hopes that I will get to eat something yummy.

SABAAT

(blushes)

haye. Acha chalien uthaye. Chaltay hain.

aww. okay lets go.

Both of them stood up to leave the park.

INT.DRAWING ROOM-DAY

Saleem sits on the sofa, siping water, waiting for Sabaat and her mom to come.Sabaat enters.

SABAAT

(excitedly)

Saleem jaan, meri ami say milo. Ami jaan ajaye.

Saleem sweety, meet my mom. Mom please come.

Rekhta enters after a few seconds.

SABAAT

(in an excited voice)

Ami jaan, yeh hay Saleem.

Mommy darling, this is Saleem.

(CONTINUED)

Rekhta and Saleem exchange looks. Rekhta started trembling and shaking. Saleem spills water.

SABAAT

(in confused tone)

Ami jaan, kia hogaya? aap theek tou hain?

Mom, whats'up? Are you okay?

REKHTA

(hurtful and angry tone)

Baigharat, yhe baap hay tumara. Issnay mujhay tanha chore diya tha jab tum meray pait may thi. Is khabees say karoghi shaadi? Yeh ghaleez shaqs hay.

Disgusting! will you marry him. Hell no, he is your father. He left me deserted when you were in my womb. He is a filthy piece of shit.

Rekhta directs her attention towards Saleem.

REKHTA

(angry tone)

meray ghar say nikalo jao abhi kay abhi khabees-o-mardood.

Leave from my house, right now, you filthy shit!

Rekhta pushes Sabaat and leaves the room. Sabaat freezes in her spot, trying to process what did just happen. She starts sobbing and collapses. Saleem stands up, pat her head and leaves.