

GEELI PUCCHI
(SLOPPY KISSES)

Written by

Neeraj Ghaywan
Sumit Saxena

A tv screen. A Kuch Kuch Hota Hai song is playing.

Pull back to reveal Bharti is standing with her hands on the hips like a man. She is wearing a checkered shirt and ill-fitted pants.

She is transfixed on the TV screen.

Right then a young overtly enthusiastic 19 year old salesman comes over who is scared to ask her.

SALESMAN

Ma'am... mam.. Mam

Salesman hits the mute button. Bharti snaps out of her reverie.

SALESMAN (CONT'D)

Hello. Drawing room ki liye dekh rahi hain ke bedroom ke liye?

A beat. A hesitation.

BHARTI

(looking at the TV)
TV room ke liye.

SALESMAN

30 inch ka le lijiye, 28 hazaar ka padega, main 26 mein karwa dunga.

She doesn't look at the smaller TV. Continues marveling at the bigger TV.

SALESMAN (CONT'D)

Bada bhi mil jaayega. 40 inch ka hai. 55 inch ka hai. Par hai kya na ma'am, kamre ke hisaab se hum log ko tv lene chahiye. Aur hum log ke to jaise ghar hote hain - 6 feet se zyada kahan jagah hoti hai. 6 feet ki doori ke liye, 30 inch se zyada bada lengi to ghar cinema hall ban jaayega. Ab bataiye bachhe kahan khelenge?

Bharti stares him down- sharply responds.

BHARTI

Hamko yahi TV chahiye.

The salesman is taken aback

SALESMAN

Theek hai ma'am. Uski sadhe chaar hazaar ki EMI padegi.

(MORE)

SALESMAN (CONT'D)
Chaalis hazaar ki MRP hai. Cheque se
payment karenge ma'am?

Beat.

BHARTI
Main bataati hun.

Bharti leaves. Salesman has a smug face of victory.

2 **EXT. FACTORY - DAY**

2

Bharti enters the factory. Rugged, rough men all around. She is the only woman. She says hello to some.

She puts on her blue jumper suit, the boots.

She is working on drum painting machine.

A frail looking 55 year old DASHRATH comes to her work station.

DASHRATH
Saalgira mubaarakho bangaalan. Chalo
mu meetha karao.

Bharti smiles. Checks something in her pocket. Finds channa and offers it to him.

BHARTI
(smiles)
Ye lo.

DASHRATH
(smiling)
Badi Kameeni ho.

She sees commotion amongst men, they are smiling and giggling. She turns to see, the men are ogling at a young pretty girl; **PRIYA, 26** - the typical girl next door dressed in Salwar Kameez being taken on tour of the factory by the **MANAGER, 52**. She is dressed like a married woman, with *sindoor* and *Kangan*.

A mean worker, **BHUPESH (32 yrs)**, hollers at Bharti from the other side of the floor.

BHUPESH
(with a whistle)
BHARTI.
(Gesturing at Priya-
sarcasm)
Seekho!

The gang breaks into a huge laughter. Bharti ignores

Dashrath chimes in.

DASHRATH
Leyo! Gayi tumhari kursi.

A look on Bharti's face.

BHARTI
Dashrath, zara ye dekhna. Main abhi
aayi.

3 **INT. FACTORY/LOBBY - SOMETIME LATER**

3

Bharti is walking through the lobby with firm resolute steps. This area looks completely different from the area where she works; it's nicely done, aesthetically appealing - as if it's meant for better people.

Bharti keeps walking at a brisk pace, then she suddenly stops, back walks a couple of steps and stops at a glass window. We cut to reveal, she is looking inside a cabin where Priya is sitting. Priya is being guided by someone on a computer.

Anger on Bharti's face.

4 **INT. MANAGER'S CABIN - MOMENTS LATER**

4

Bharti is unable to say anything. Manager stares at her to make her even more awkward.

BHARTI
(avoiding eye
contact)
Sir... Aapne toh bola tha abhi data
operator ka job khaali nahin hai.
Phir kyun woh us ladki ko diya?
(looks up)
Hamare paas bhi wohi degree hai.
Hamne interview me bhi sab correct
answer...

MANAGER
(interjects)
Bilkul correct answer diye they,
degree bhi sahi hai tumhari par bahut
saare factor hote hai hiring me.

BHARTI
I got 74% in b.com. I know accounting
very good.

Silence.

MANAGER

Tumko Tally aata hai? Excel aata hai?

BHARTI

Sir woh toh main hafte bhar mein
seekh..

He moves about collecting a match box and incense sticks packet. He moves to the mini temple in his cabin.

MANAGER

Arre Bharti pure floor pe tum se
achha koi machine man hai? Saare
mardon mein aur tum'me kya antar hai
jaanti ho? Woh kaamgar hain aur tum
kaarigar ho. Kaarigar. Toh tum kyun
ye sab mein pad rahi ho? Ek doh saal
me shift supervisor bhi ban jaogi...

Bharti is bored of his condescension.

BHARTI

(interjecting)

Data Operator job nahin mil sakta
hamko?

He has placed the oil in the lamp.

MANAGER

(disparaging)

Baad me baat karte hain. Abhi tum
baahar jao. Hamko puja karna hai.

Bharti is defeated. She leaves.

5 **INT. CAFETERIA - DAY**

5

Bharti is the only woman in the cafeteria, seated on a long steel bench and table arrangement in front of Dashrath. Bharti is still seething with anger. She's got a tiffin box.

BHARTI

(angry)

Excel Tally seekhne me kitna time
jaata hai? 3 din? 4 din? Jyaada se
jyaada ek hafta?

DASHRATH

Seekh logi toh bhi nahin milne wali
thi tumko job.

BHARTI

Kya matlab hai? Kyun nahin milega?

Dashrath doesn't answer. They come to the tables. Bharti puts the roti and daal from her tiffin on to the plate.

BHARTI (CONT'D)
Chup kyun baith gaye. Bolo na? Ham uske jaisa make up nahin karte hain isliye? Hamare paas bhi qualification...

DASHRATH
(shuts her up)
Kyun ki tum Bharti Mondal ho. Tumhare naam me Mishra, Banerjee yaan Sharma hai? Nahin hai na? Uske naam me hain.

Bharti is defeated.

DASHRATH (CONT'D)
Ham dalit hain. Bhool gayi thi kya ek minute ke liye?

Bharti nods in a defeated no.

DASHRATH (CONT'D)
Table-Kursi pe sirf khaana milega, table-kursi wali naukri nahin. Wahan pahunchte pahunchte kahin jali padi na mil jao kahin.

BHARTI
Apna darr apne paas hi rakho Dashrath.

It hurts Bharti. She is angry. She gets up and sits at some other place.

Bharti turns to look; Priya has walked into the cafeteria, drowning the cafe into a momentary silence.

Priya sees an empty place in front of the only woman in the cafe, she comes and sits down.

A moment of awkward silence between the two.

PRIYA
Hello! Main Priya Sharma.

Bharti doesn't give a fuck.

PRIYA (CONT'D)
Mera pehla din hai aaj.

Bharti goes back to her eating, she is in a hurry to finish her food. Priya senses the hostility.

Priya has her own tiffin box. She pushes it forward.

PRIYA (CONT'D)
Bharwan Bhindi. Khayengi aap?

Bharti nods in a no.

PRIYA (CONT'D)
Aap bathroom yahan kidhar jaati hain?

BHARTI
Jahan sab jaate hain.

PRIYA
Par ladkiyan udhar kaise jaayengi?

BHARTI
Yahan koi ladki dikh rahi hai?

Beat. A moment.

PRIYA
Aap...

Bharti is taken aback. BHUPESH comes close to the women.

BHUPESH
Priya ji, aap yahan aa gayin, to samjho lakshmi ka pravesch ho gaya, Humko bada acha lag raha hai. Ab dekhiye na... Bharat itne aage nikal gaya aur aaj bhi dekhiye ek bhi aurat nahin hai poori factory mein.

Other workers laugh. Priya is bamboozled, she doesn't know what to say. Bharti is seething with anger. Priya turns to look at Bharti. Bhupesh sits on the eating bench even closer to the women.

BHUPESH (CONT'D)
Arrey unki taraf kya dekh rahi hain, unki taraf mat dekhiye.. Aap thodi der aur dekhengi na toh inke gaal pe daadi nikal aayegi kasam se..

The workers laugh even harder. Bhupesh goes in a laughing fit.

BHUPESH (CONT'D)
(controlling laughter)
Ye toh din bhar machine par haath chalati hai. Ab haath se hi santusht rehna padta hai bechaari ko
(laughter from everyone)
Dekhiye toh... Upar se sapaat aur neeche toh pata nahin kya hai...
(MORE)

BHUPESH (CONT'D)

Khaai hai yaa pahaad hai. Bhagwan
jaane.

Bharti throws water at Bhupesh in anger. He slaps her across the face. Her nose starts to bleed. She gets up and slams his face on the bench.

6 **INT. FACTORY/CABIN - DAY**

6

The first aid kit is open on the table. Priya is cleaning the blood off Bharti's nose.

The Manager comes on the door.

MANAGER

Kisne ki hai marpeet?

PRIYA

Sir woh jo bade baal... Woh
badtameezi se..

BHARTI

(cutting Priya)

Woh aise hi bas. Jaane dijiye.

The manager stays there for a while.

MANAGER

Kyun karte ho yaar tum log yeh sab.
Har teen chaar mahine mein ek baar
zaroor hota hai. Abhi haath waath
mein chot lag jaati to machine khali
padi rehti phir!

The manager leaves.

PRIYA

Bolin kyun nahin aap?

Bharti shrugs. Priya nods, she smiles.

There is a moment.

PRIYA (CONT'D)

Aap na Kavita ho.

BHARTI

Maane?

PRIYA

Kavita meri ek bachpan ki dost.

Then she has a child like laughter.

PRIYA (CONT'D)
 Hum log barahvi mein they, holi ka
 din tha... Jaise hi woh bhaitne ja
 rahi thi maine uski seat pe gulal se
 bhara gubbara rakh diya

She continues to laugh.

PRIYA (CONT'D)
 Uski safeed skirt pantie poori laal
 ho gayi thi, itna chilaai woh.
 lekin usne aap ki tarah meri shikayat
 nahin ki! Pura din sweater peechhe
 baand ke chal rahi thi... paglet

Now, for the first time a smile cracks open on Bharti's face. Priya's laughter settles down as she makes a ball of cotton doused in spirit.

PRIYA (CONT'D)
 (dabbing)
 Aap ka naam Bharti hai na? Bharti?

The medicine stings Bharti. The proximity is awkward. Bharti is a bit taken aback. She notices Priya's beauty.

BHARTI
 Bharti
 (hesitating)
 Banerjee

PRIYA
 Aapki aankhen bahut sundar hain.

There is a moment between both of them. Both realize and its awkward.

BHARTI
 (looking away)
 Jaana hoga hamko.

PRIYA
 (looking away)
 Haan hamko bhi joining formalities
 karni hai.

Priya is almost at the door.

BHARTI
 Bye

Priya smiles and leaves.

7 **INT./EXT. BHARTI'S HOUSE -EVENING**

7

Bharti comes home. A puppy without a leash is waiting outside her house. She gets in. A small but tidy house. She has basic stuff in her house. Clothes hanging across the living room- all shirts and trousers. She takes a parle-g biscuit packet from her rucksack. Puts them in a bowl and gives it to the puppy. She talks to the puppy in Bengali, treats him like an adult in non-cutesy way, as if he is the house member.

8 **INT. BHARTI'S HOUSE - NIGHT.**

8

Bharti is lying down on a mattress that's on the floor. She's watching something on her phone. A video in which Bharti is with another girl. The girl smiles at her, caresses her hair, then Bharti is about to kiss her.

GIRL

Aye chudail! Video pe nahin!

BHARTI

Kyun sab ladka log toh video banata hai!

GIRL

Acha, tumko bada pata hai ji ladke kya karte hain.

Bharti kisses her again passionately. The girl giggles.

GIRL (CONT'D)

Tumko attachhee me baand ke le jayien Dilli?

Bharti is sad. She stops the recording.

And now, after all the resistance, Bharti starts to cry!

9 **INT. PRIYA'S HOUSE-NIGHT**

9

Priya is sleeping next to her husband Shiv (31) on a mattress that's on the floor. Shiv is good looking. Some other people sleeping in the room too. Shiv makes a move and Priya gestures at others. Shiv looks at her

10 **INT. PRIYA'S HOME/BATHROOM - NIGHT**

10

Shiv is enthusiastically making out with Priya. Priya doesn't share his enthusiasm. She is mechanical, like doing him a favor.

We see that they are in a bathroom and people are sleeping outside the room.

11 **EXT. FACTORY - CLOAK ROOM - EVENING**

11

Bharti takes off her overalls and puts it in a locker.
From behind her, Priya comes out on her scooty.

PRIYA

BHARTI ji!

Bharti stops.

PRIYA (CONT'D)

Aap paidal ghar jaati hain?

BHARTI

Haan.

PRIYA

Maza aata hoga nahin! Mera ghar bhi paas mein hai, rickshaw se 10 minute, mushkil se, walk karke 15. Par sharma ji ki bahu ko kahan paidal aane-jaane ko milega. Aao aap baitho.

Bharti wants to get out of this conversation immediately.

BHARTI

Main sharma ji ki bahu nahin hun.

Priya laughs.

PRIYA

(snigger)

Arrey aap dariye mat ki main chipak hi jaungi. Roz nahin drop karungi, bas aaj ke liye! Aaie na.

Bharti sits behind her.

BHARTI

Aaj kuch khaas hai?

PRIYA

Haan! Aaj mera dahi-bade khaane ka man hai!

And races away.

12 **EXT. CHAAT BHANDAR - DAY**

12

The chaat bhandar seller is adding thick curd and imli ki chutney onto dahi bada.

PRIYA

Aapke friends kaun kaun hai?

She thinks a lot.

BHARTI

DASHRATH?

Priya laughs.

PRIYA

Arre woh nahin. Best friend.

BHARTI

(sly)

Jaise wo Kavita jiski tumne skirt
pantie laal kar di thi.

The chaat bhandar guy turns to look at them!

PRIYA

Chi! Aap kaisi gandi baatein karti
ho!

Then Priya burst out laughing.

They are walking through trees

PRIYA (CONT'D)

Kavita aur main scooty pe bahut
ghumte they... college mein. Ek baar
exam time pe, hum dono log raat bhar
soye nahin they. Subah maine kaha
chal ek chakkar maarte hain, woh
peeche baithe baithe mere kandhe pe
daant gada ke so gayi, mujhe itni
daya aayi uspe, mein dedh ghante tak
scooty ghumaati rahi yahan se wahan
...taki woh jag na jaaye. Phir petrol
khatam ho gaya. Hum log ko chaar
kilometre scooty ghaseetni padi.
Thank you bolne ke bajaye ulte gaali
di hamko... chudail.

The word Chudial rings a bell.

BHARTI

Tum use chudail bulati ho?

PRIYA

Bulati nahin hun, bulaati thi!
Bulaane ke liye woh phone to uthaaye
humaare. Shaadi ho gayi, phurr ho
gayi. Ab shayad koi aur chudail
bulata hoga usse.

A look on Bharti's face. They start walking.

BHARTI

Phir se contact karne ko try nahin kiya?

PRIYA

Kiya tha. Uske office surprise dene gayi thi. Ham pe bhadak gayi. Kehne lagi sudhar ja, ham college me nahin hain. Boli shaadi ho gayi par abhi bhi scooty pe phundne baand ke ghoomti hai.

Bharti has zoned out a bit

PRIYA (CONT'D)

Sorry... main bohot bolti hun. Aap ko lag raha hoga kya ye kya manohar kahaniya sunati hai.

BHARTI

Manohar kaun hai?

PRIYA

(laughing)

Arre woh magazine hai. Manohar Kahaniyan. Jisme bahut saari mazedar kahaniyan hoti hain.

BHARTI

(sly)

Interview me bhi mazedar manohar kahaniyan sunaya tha jo tumko job de diya?

PRIYA

(laughing)

Aap yakeen nahin karenge aisa hi kuch hua tha... interview me Manager sir ne pucha ki aur koi hobbies hain aapki. Maine bola sir mujhe haath dekhna aata hai. Phir kya tha... Itni panditai seekhi hai.. kabhi toh kaam aani hi thi na... maine unka haath padh ke dhadadh 4 - 5 cheezein bata din... pariwaar, nakshatr, bavishay vagera vagera.. Bas agle hi din call aaya - Naukri pe aajao.

Bharti stops walking.

BHARTI

(Withholding anger)

Excel pe aur Tally pe kaam karake nahin dekha tumse.

PRIYA

Woh to unhone bola Alok jee mujhe
seekha denge. Bahut helpful nature ke
hain sab.

Bharti is brutally hurt. Bharti can't even look at Priya
right now.

PRIYA (CONT'D)

Doh hi din me kaafi seekh gayi hun.

Bharti can't take it. She is really holding her tears back.

PRIYA (CONT'D)

Aap theek ho?

Fake smile hiding the tears held back.

BHARTI

Haan.

She can't hold her tears anymore. She turns her face away and
wipes her tears.

PRIYA

Arre kuch galat keh diya maine.
Sorry.

BHARTI

Nahin. Bas aise hi.
Maa ka yaad aa raha tha

Bharti turns back her face to Priya.

Priya hugs her.

PRIYA

Ham samjhte hain.

Bharti is comforted with the hug. Somebody has hugged her
after years. Priya gently kisses Bharti on her cheek. Bharti
looks around and looks back at Priya.

In the next moment she becomes awkward. She draws herself
wiping her tears.

PRIYA (CONT'D)

Dekhiye... na Dashrath aapke best
friend hai na hi Kavita hamari best
friend rahi. Aaj se aap aur main
friends hain. Theek?

She smiles and nods.

13 INT/EXT. MUSIC- MONTAGE - VARIOUS

13

We see them having lunch together in the canteen. Chit chat. Banter. Priya shares her home made food with Bharti. Priya holds out a spoonful of pulao to Bharti. It's awkward but Bharti eats.

Priya comes to meet Bharti in her workspace. She watches her dexterously work on the machine.

Bharti and Priya are at the factory park. Priya reads her hand.

Bharti is on Priya's scooty as Priya drives.

Bharti and Priya are next to a lake, Priya is yapping about. Bharti sees her open back and the nape. She takes some water in her hands and pours it on her open back. Priya turns around and hand sprinkles water on her face. They laugh.

Bharti is changing the pillow covers into brand new ones.

Bharti is dressing up- nervous. She puts on lipstick. Feels gross and wipes it. She puts on brand new earrings. They look good on her. She puts on old spice cologne and a watch.

There is a door knock, Bharti gets up like a gush of a wind and opens the door. It's Priya. They both smile.

14 INT. BHARTI'S HOUSE- DAY

14

IN THE KITCHEN

Bharti takes the lid off the vessel, scoops a piece of chicken and blows it.

PRIYA

Uff! khusbu toh katil hai. Shaadi ke baad pahli baar chicken. Ghar walon ko pata laga na toh dharam brasht ho gaya kar ke itnaaa.

Bharti takes off a piece and blows it.

BHARTI

Achha kahaani baad me.. taste kar ke bata toh zara.

Priya eats it. Relishes it.

PRIYA

Ummm. Aapke haathon me jaadu hai. Wah wah! Aapke haath toh doh ek baar.

Priya starts kissing Bharti's hand.

BHARTI

Bas bas..

PRIYA

(laughing)

Sorry geeli puchi de di maine.

Bharti also laughs.

The puppy looks at them. Priya picks him up.

PRIYA (CONT'D)

Tumhe bhi geeli puchi chahiye?

BHARTI

Use sirf chicken chahiye.

PRIYA

Achha!! toh aap ham dono ki geeli-puchi share bhi nahin karna chahti kisi se.

Bharti comes close to her and kisses Priya on her cheek.

Priya comes close and kisses Bharti on her lips. She feels stupid and awkward.

PRIYA (CONT'D)

(breathing faster)

Sorry sorry..

Bharti comforts her. Holds her hand.

BHARTI

Ham samajhte hain.

15 **INT.PRIYA'S DESK-DAY**

15

Bharti comes to see Priya is talking to the manager. She retreats.

INT.INTERNET CAFE-NIGHT

Bharti is learning pivot table on excel by watching a youtube video. She is writing down notes in a book too. She hears the cafe owner.

CAFE MANAGER (O.S.)

Ghanta ho gaya.

Disappointed she shuts her book and leaves.

BHARTI

(puts up a smile)
Theek hai

They continue eating.

PRIYA

Aap ne whatsapp ka reply nahin kiya?

BHARTI

Woh na

PRIYA

Woh na-Ye na bilkul nahin chalega.
Aapko hamari birthday pe aana hi
hoga. Shiv ne bhi bola yaad dilane ko
aapko.

Bharti is unsure.

PRIYA (CONT'D)

Chaliye na! Ghar walon ne waise bhi
pareshaan kar rakha hai ki koi ladies
nahi hai factory me. Aap se milenge
toh naukri chhodne ki baat nahin
karenge.

(makes a puppy face)
Please!!

BHARTI

(smiles)
Theek hai.

19 **INT. PRIYA'S HOME - EVENING**

19

Balloons. Confetti. A group of happy people stuff the room.

IN THE BEDROOM

Priya's mother in law is draping a sarree on Priya. Some
other ladies doing make up.

Bharti accidentally walks in.

PRIYA

Arre aao Bharti!

BHARTI

Main baahar wait karti hun.

Bharti leaves.

SISTER IN LAW

Ye Bharti har waqt aise hi kapde
pehenti hai?

Mother in law stuffs the drapes into her belly tight.

PRIYA

Haan.

MIL gets up and makes the pallu.

MOTHER-IN-LAW

Ye Banerjee kya hue?

PRIYA

Bangali brahman hote hain amma.

Mother in law is pleased. She puts the pallu on Priya's blouse with a safety pin.

MOTHER-IN-LAW

(poker faced)

Dosti-yaari thoda naap tol ke karna.
Tumhare bau ji agle saal mahant
ban'ne wale hain.

PRIYA

Bilkul.

The birthday girl Priya looks drop dead gorgeous in a Saree. Bharti in a corner can't take her eyes off her.

Shiv, Priya's husband, loves her undeniably. He surprises her with a cake that doesn't look like a cake.

SHIV

Bhai cake mein hota hai anda, to
bauji ne mana kar diya. Bauji hain
pichli sadi ke.

Everybody laughs.

SHIV (CONT'D)

Toh raat bhar khoya ghis ke, apne
hathon se Mrs ke liye banaya hai
barfi cake.

Everybody cheers.

And then he shoves it in Priya's mouth. Priya chews on it and gets teary eyed. She gets very emotional.

Priya bends down and touches Shiv's feet.

SHIV (CONT'D)

Pagal, tum bhi pichli sadi mein chali
gayi ho kya!

Shiv doesn't let her touch his feet. Priya is overwhelmed.

Priya sees Bharti. She comes over to her, with the Barfi in her hand, puts it in her mouth and then hugs her with teary eyes.

Priya hugs Bharti and gently whispers in her ear.

PRIYA
humse nahin ho raha hai. Nahin ho
raha hai.

20 **EXT. LAKE - DAY**

20

Bharti and Priya are sitting by the lake.

PRIYA
Ham naahane jaate hain toh woh hamari
chunni press karke rakh dete hain..
Whatsapp pe din bhar "Shiv is typing"
dikhta hai... phir bas... Kya kar
rahi ho message aata hai. Smiley ke
saath

She shows her phone.

PRIYA (CONT'D)
Ye dekhiye roz subah cute baby wali
good morning photos bhejte hain. Woh
baccha karne ki soch rahe hain aur
idhar toh pyaar hi nahin ho pa raha
hamse. Factory me kaam pakad liye
taki ghar me is darr ke saath na
rehna pade. Kya karein aap bataaiye.
Koi defect hai ham'me? Doctor ko
dikhayein? Kya hum pagal hain jo itne
ache aadmi ko pyaar nahin kar paa
rahe hain

Bharti holds her hand.

PRIYA (CONT'D)
Aise me Kavita ki bahut yaad aati
hai.

She starts sobbing.

BHARTI
Tum Kavita ko bahut chahti thi na?

PRIYA
Haan.

BHARTI
Aur hamme?

PRIYA
Kavita se bhi jyada.

Bharti holds her, warmly, affectionately.

BHARTI

Toh bas itna samajh lo ki ham me koi defect nahin hai jo tumhe theek karna hai.

Priya looks at her.

BHARTI (CONT'D)

Tumhe apne sach ko maan lena hoga. Tabhi khush reh paogi. Maine apne sach ko maan liya hai. Aadha sach toh tum samajh hi gayi ho. Ek aur sach ye hai ki ham Bharti Banerjee nahin hain. Bharti Mondal naam hai hai hamara.

(looking away)

Dalit hain. Maa- dadi daai ka kam karte hain aasansol me.

Priya's face falls. She draws her hand away. Bharti notices that.

PRIYA

Phone aa raha hai.

Priya answers it nervously.

PRIYA (CONT'D)

Yes sir!

MANAGER (O.S.)

Kitni der lunch break chalega bhai. Tumne kitni badi gadbad kar di hai yahan. Office aao. Turant!

Priya nervously looks at Bharti.

21 INT. FACTORY - DAY

21

Bharti and Priya rush inside. They walk into the Manager's cabin area.

22 I/E.MANAGER'S CABIN -DAY

22

The managerial office members have all huddled up around a large pineapple cake. A bouquet is visible. The manager is leading the singing in chorus.

Priya sees from the outside and is surprised. She is over the moon as everyone starts singing. Priya turns to Bharti.

PRIYA

Aap yahin ruko.

Bharti is surprised. Priya goes in. Bharti is made to wait outside- hurt. She can hear everything. ALOK (40yrs), the guy who was guiding Priya on her computer is also there.

ALOK

Chaliye issi bahane pahli baar
factory me cake toh katta.

MANAGER

Kyun nahin bhai. Hamari beti jaisi
hai Priya.

PRIYA

Thank you, sir.

MANAGER

Sunday ke din Birthday kar logi, to
Monday ko office walaon ko to cake
khilana padega na.

They all laugh. Priya cuts the cake, she puts the cake in Manager's mouth. Bharti watching this from outside. She feels like a bus just run over her. Priya tries to avoid looking at Bharti.

MANAGER (CONT'D)

Ek aur announcement karna chahta hun.
Maine ek mahila shauchalaya banwane
ka adesh de diya hai, hafte bhar mein
banke taiyyar ho jaayega!

Priya claps.

Bharti fucking doesn't. The manager gestures at Bharti to come inside. Bharti manages a fake smile and comes inside.

MANAGER (CONT'D)

(to Bharti)

Arre ye cake kaat ke sab me baat doh
toh.

Bharti is in disbelief and hiding her anger. She takes the cake in a corner, cuts it and distributes it to every one. One by one they all pick it up. Some even leave used tissues in the tray. Priya is busy chit chatting with Manager. She gives her a look but resumes her talk with manager. There is little cake left.

ALOK

(to Bharti)

Ye aap sab worker logon me baant lo.

Bharti leaves.

23 **EXT. FACTORY CLOAKROOM - DAY**

23

Bharti is alone. Very alone. She is crying. The piece of cake by her side.

She then gathers herself. She stares at the mirror, wipes her tears and chucks the cake piece in the bin. Something's changed in her.

She is sitting on a bench in the overalls. Staring at nothing. Priya comes in and sits next to her.

PRIYA

Hum aapko kab se dhoondh rahe they.
Sorry wahan manager vagera sab they na.
Nahin toh hum aapko bhi cake khila hi dete.

Bharti just smiles to herself.

PRIYA (CONT'D)

Aap mujhse keh rahi thi - Ki main kaun hun.
Mere sach ko mujhe maan lena chahiye khush rehne ke liye.

Bharti takes a deep breath.

BHARTI

Priya main jo kehne ja rahi usse thoda dhyaan se sun'na.
Ho sakta shuru me ajeeb lage.

Priya nods in a yes.

BHARTI (CONT'D)

Dekho... Us din tum keh rahi thi na ki Kavita kitni khush hai apne me. Soch kar dekho. College me tum dono ne khoob masti ki par aaj apni family ke saath settle ho gayi hai. Samaan ke saath. Itne saal ho gaye par usne ek baar bhi tumhe phone nahin kiya. Kyun? Kyunki woh sach me khush hai. Maa ban'ne se uski pehchan ban gayi hai. Ussi tarah Tumhari asli pehchan, jo tumhe pura karti hai, woh ek ma hone me hai.

Priya is confused.

BHARTI (CONT'D)

Maa ban jaogi toh khud se ladna band ho jayega.

(leans closer)

Ye sab andar ka jalan khatam ho jayega. Bacha hi tumhe Shiv ke paas la sakta hai.

A bit much for Priya to digest. She gets up. Bharti also gets up.

PRIYA

Abhi toh haam tees ke bhi nahin

BHARTI

(cuts in)

Priya, batees ki umar me hamara bacha gir gaya tha.

Silence. Priya looks at her.

BHARTI (CONT'D)

3 mahine me pati ne bhi chhod diya.

(beat)

Haath ka likha sab sach nahin hota. Maa ban'ne ke liye tum puri tayyar ho.

Priya is seriously giving it a thought.

PRIYA

(determined)

Nahin. Hamaara dil nahin maan raha.

BHARTI

Faisla tumhara hai. Hamari tarah jhulaste rehna hai yaa khush rehna hai samaan ke saath. Shiv ke saath. Soch lo.

PRIYA

Nahin. Par thank you. Dil se. Aap nahin hoti toh.

Instinctively, Priya moves to hug her but withdraws.

Bharti looks into her eyes. Priya looks down. Bharti leaves.

24 **INT. BHARTI'S HOUSE-NIGHT**

24

Bharti walks in. Takes out a quarter old monk bottle.

She is drinking old monk in a glass. She seems rather indifferent- not happy, not sad but faintly resolute. She's looking at Priya's pictures on her phone. Some candid and some are selfies. She looks at them with a smile. Keeps deleting one by one. Takes the last swig of her drink.

25 **INT. FACTORY/LAKE-SIDE- AFTERNOON**

25

Bharti and Priya are seated across. Mid conversation.

PRIYA

(laughing)

Hamne puri baat bhi nahin ki. Sirf baccha kaha aur Shiv kudne lag gaye. Itne khush huye ke raat ke 12 baje-gulab jamun banaye. Sabko jaga jaga ke khila rahe the. Bhabhi chilane lagi toh gulab jamun se mu band kar diya unka...Has has ke pet me bal padh gaya.

(Priya's laughter settles down)

Phir mujhe aap ki baat samajh aayi. Apa sahi keh rahi thi. Ham karenge bachha.

BHARTI

Sahi faisla liya tumne.

PRIYA

Bas aap haamari help karna.

BHARTI

Ye batao iss baare mein kisi ne tumse baat ki hai? Kya karna hai, kaise baccha karna hai vagera?

PRIYA

(clueless)

Haan... Shayad... matlab filmon me dekha hai.

BHARTI

(smiles)

Ye batao.. Mahavari sahi time pe hoti hai?

PRIYA

Haan.

BHARTI

(counts on her fingers)

Toh mahvari ke das din pahle aur das din baad karogi toh pregnant hone ka chance jyada hai... us waqt bacchedani ka mu khul jaata hai.

PRIYA

Wah! Aap toh sab jaanti hain. Kahan seekha ye sab?

BHARTI

(tinge of sarcasm)

jaise tumhne haath padhna seekha hai

BHARTI (CONT'D)

Khair... Ab se tumhe ek chhoti diary me likhna hoga kaunse kaunse din ho raha hai.

PRIYA

Theek. Kab karna hai samajh aa gaya lekin kahaan... Ghar me jagah nahin hai.

27 **INT./EXT. BHARTI'S HOUSE-DAY**

27

Priya pulls out a KEY that's been hidden in plain sight. The puppy stares at her, she gives him the biscuits. She opens the lock and enters. She calls Bharti

BHARTI

Kutta bhaunka toh nahin.

PRIYA

Nahin. Aap ne kaha tha na biscuit dene.. Shiv aa rahe hain bas. Manager sir ne puchha?

BHARTI

Haan maine bol diya "ladies problem" hai.

PRIYA

Bahut bahut thank you. Meri na woh April ki expense sheet ko bhi tally karna hai.

BHARTI

Kar diya. Outward expense folder me daal diya hai.

PRIYA

Wah! Aapne aadhe ghante me kaise kar diya? Mujhe toh kam se kam doh ghanta jaata hai. Geeli puchi...

Awkward silence on both sides.

The bell rings.

PRIYA (CONT'D)

Shayad Shiv aa gaye hain.

BHARTI

All the best.

PRIYA

Thank you.

Bharti resumes her work.

28 INT/EXT. MUSIC - MONTAGE - VARIOUS

28

Priya and Shiv are having sex against the almirah.

Bharti is working on Priya's computer. Boss comes and gives her a slightly disapproving look.

Another day. Priya and Shiv enter the house together. Now they are making out on the bed.

Bharti is working on her machines.

Priya is writing a date on her diary, at work. The screen saver plays on the computer next to her, showing that it hasn't been active in some time.

Bharti has come back home. She is touching the sheets where they have made out. She smells them. And then just yanks them off the bed and throws into the washing bucket.

MUSIC ENDS

SUPER: 8 MONTHS LATER

30 INT. BATHROOM - DAY

30

The brand new tiny bathroom for women. Priya is retching into the sink. Bharti is patting her back. Offers her water.

31 INT.MANAGER'S CABIN-DAY

31

Priya is seated across the manager. Bharti is there too.

PRIYA

Haan sir sab report normal hai-- doh teen din me date hai.

MANAGER

Achha hai.

PRIYA

Thank you aap itne understanding ho. Par sir main teen mahine baad wapas aa jaungi. Aap kisi aur ko mat rakhiye.

MANAGER

Dekho ham samajhte hain beta. Tumhe pura pura aaraam karna chahiye. Lekin yahan par kaam ruk jayega toh ham soch rahe the...

PRIYA

Sir wohi kehne aaye thi. Sir BHARTI ko ye sab aata hai aur woh kar legi mere lautne tak.

He looks at Bharti disapprovingly.

MANAGER

Theek hai tumhaari baat toh maan'ni padegi.

33 **INT.PRIYA'S ROOM - MOMENTS LATER**

33

Bharti peeps in. Priya is feeding the baby.

PRIYA

Arre Bharti. Tum kab aayi. Aao aao.

BHARTI

Bas abhi.

Bharti sits next to her.

BHARTI (CONT'D)

Kaafi sahi set ho gayi ho.

Priya smiles insincerely.

BHARTI (CONT'D)

Kya hua?

PRIYA

Pata nahin. Aisa lag raha hai galti kar diye kya. Din me bees baar langot badlo, khaana banao, doodh pilao. Iss sab ke beech me Shiv aur bhi anjaan lagte hain. Woh helpful hain bahut par ab unki achhai bhi chubhne lagi hai.

Bharti thinks a bit.

BHARTI

Kavita sach hi kehti thi. Shaadi ho gayi par ab bhi tumhe Scooty pe phundne baand ke ghmoona hai. Maa ban gayi ho.

(pointing at the baby
rattle)

Ab jhunjhuna pakkad lo.

Priya is surprised by Bharti's guised insensitivity. Shiv comes in.

CUT TO

34 **INT.LIVING ROOM - LATER**

34

The mother in law places a steel cup filled with tea next to Bharti. She notices others are sipping through porcelain cups. She looks at the mother in law who gives her a poker-faced stare. Bharti looks at Priya who looks down. Bharti is sitting across her, sipping tea.

SHIV

Thank you BHARTI ji. Priya ne bataya aapne kaise protshaan diya. Himmat di. Sach me. Ham teenon ki khushi ka shray toh aap hi ko jaata hai. Aap ko aur takleef nahin denge. Priya join kar legi ek mahine me wapas.

The mother in law from the corner

MOTHER-IN-LAW

Bache ne doodh peena bhi nahin seekha abhi se laga doh naukri pe. Tum hi batao Bharti. Tumne toh apni amma-daadi se dai ka kaam seekha hoga na. Batao inhe zara.

Bharti gets the casteist taunt. She ignores it.

35 **INT./EXT.FACTORY/MANAGER'S CABIN-DAY**

35

Bharti walks into the office. She is in the boss' cabin.

MANAGER

(looking at the computer)

Theek hai. Cash flow ka bhi separate file banana aise hi.

BHARTI

Bana diye sir. Aapko kal email kiye the. Purchases ka bhi saath me bhej diya tha.

MANAGER

(surprised)

Oh! Wah! Good.

She starts to leave.

MANAGER (CONT'D)

Aur haan. Priya se baat hui,

I/C

36 INT.PRIYA'S HOUSE-EVENING

36

We come back to the previous scene

BHARTI

Maa ji sahi keh reh hain. Tumhara khud ka haalat sudharne me mahina chala jayega. Maa ka poshan bhi zaroori hai. Aur phir bachhe ko doodh, diaper, khaana...

37 INT. MANAGER'S CABIN - DAY

37

MANAGER

Usse abhi aur waqt lagega. Bache ke responsibilities hain uss par. Doodh, diaper vagera.

BHARTI

(at Priya's house)

Aise me office ka kaam, kaam ki tension... Uppar se factory me kitni gandagi hai... itni badboo aati hai. In sab se bache ki sehat pe asar toh padega hi

Priya realizes Bharti's game. They look at each other. It is a lost cause. We are on Priya's face

MANAGER

(back at the
Manager's cabin)

Uske health ke liye theek nahi hai. Priya ne job chhod diya hai. Toh tum take-over kar lo uski responsibilities.

BHARTI

Okay sir. Jaisa aap theek samajhein.

A glorious smile on her face!

38 INT.BHARTI'S HOUSE -NIGHT

38

On TV we see the song play out. (*Ye ladki hai deewani deewani*)

We see Bharti watching this on her giant 55 inch TV in her house. She is eating a pineapple cake.

THE END