

Title: "The Disappearing Act"

Characters:

Owner (Abdullah)

Detectives (Rafey, Khola)

Investigator (Umaima)

Security Guard (Rehan)

Worker/Guider (Kamran)

Celebrity Guests (Bushra, Alisha)

Narrator (Hassan)

Scene 1: The Gathering

(The stage is set up as a gallery. The painting is displayed prominently. Guests Bushra and Alisha are admiring the artwork while Kamran guides them. Abdullah is offstage, representing the library.)

Narrator (Hassan):

"Welcome, everyone, to tonight's grand event at the esteemed art gallery, where a priceless masterpiece is the center of attention. But even in the presence of beauty, darkness lurks, ready to strike."

Bushra:

"This painting is simply breathtaking. It's hard to believe something this valuable is here for us to see."

Alisha:

"Indeed. It's as if the artist captured a piece of their soul on this canvas."

Kamran (Worker):

"The owner, Mr. Abdullah, takes great pride in showcasing such rare pieces. We're honored to have you here tonight."

(Suddenly, the lights flicker and go out. There's confusion and whispers among the guests. The lights come back on, and the painting is gone.)

Alisha:

"The painting! It's gone! What just happened?"

Scene 2: Discovery of the Theft

(Rehan, the security guard, runs onto the stage and checks the situation.)

Rehan (Security Guard):

"Everyone, please stay calm. I need to inform Mr. Abdullah immediately."

(Rehan exits and returns with Abdullah.)

Abdullah (Owner):

"What's going on here? How could this happen?"

Rehan:

"The painting disappeared during the blackout, sir. We should call in an investigator right away."

Abdullah:

"Yes, do it now. We can't let the thief get away."

(Rehan calls Umaima, the investigator, and the detectives Rafey and Khola. Moments later, they arrive.)

Umaima (Investigator):

"Let's get started. We need to interview everyone who was present during the blackout."

Scene 3: The Investigation

(The detectives begin questioning everyone, excluding the owner.)

Rafey (Detective):

"Kamran, where were you when the lights went out?"

Kamran (Worker):

"I was showing the guests around the gallery. The lights went out suddenly—I didn't see anything unusual."

Khola (Detective):

"Bushra, Alisha, did you notice anything strange before the lights went off?"

Bushra:

"There was a faint click just before the blackout. I didn't think much of it at the time."

Alisha:

"I heard something too, like a door creaking, but it was very faint."

Umayma (Investigator):

"The security footage was interrupted during the blackout. It seems someone tampered with it."

Scene 4: The Turning Point

(The detectives, Rafey and Khola, discuss the clues in private.)

Khola:

"There's something off here. Abdullah was in the library, which is nearby. We need to check it out."

Rafey:

"Agreed. Let's see if there's any connection between the library and the gallery."

(The detectives enter the library. Rafey notices a slightly misaligned bookshelf. They move it aside and discover a button on the floor.)

Rafey:

"Look at this—a hidden button! What does it do?"

(Pressing the button reveals a trapdoor.)

Khola:

"It's a secret passage. This must lead to the gallery."

Scene 5: The Revelation

(Detectives and the investigator confront Abdullah in the library.)

Umayma (Investigator):

"Mr. Abdullah, we found a hidden passage connecting the library to the gallery. Care to explain?"

Abdullah (Owner):

"What? That's impossible! I had no idea it existed!"

Rafey (Detective):

"We also found traces of paint on your shoes and fingerprints on the button."

Khola (Detective):

"Everything points to you, Mr. Abdullah. Did you think you could fool everyone?"

Abdullah:

"...Fine. Yes, I did it. I planned the theft to collect the insurance and sell the painting on the black market. I thought the secret passage would cover my tracks."

Narrator (Hassan):

"And so, the truth comes to light. Greed and deceit may try to hide in the dark, but justice will always find a way. Let this serve as a reminder that the truth, though elusive, is never out of reach."

(Curtains close.)