VIKRAM MALHOTRA - DIRECTOR, WRITER AND LEAD OF THE MOVIE SIYA MALHOTRA - WIFE OF VIKRAM AND EDITOR OF THE MOVIE PREM GULZAR - MAIN CHARACTER OF THE MOVIE GULABO - MAIN LOVE INTEREST OF THE MOVIE MAQBOOL - VILLAIN OF THE MOVIE

1. ACT 1

The stage in this play is a flowing stage where stagehandscan move on and off the stage freely even if they are visible to the audience

The stage is set to be divided between two imaginary worldswhere one world is Imaginary and the other is real, both theworlds divided by an intersection made of paper lying on the ground between the two sections. There are three headlightsneeded, one set on each side and a headlight on the frontcentre of the stage. The area just below the bottom is the crossing boundary between the imaginary and the real world

The conversation between the two stages occur as the characters speak towards the front, using audience as the medium through which conversation flows

We start off with on both sides a chair and table beingplaced, on one of them siya is working on her laptop while Gulabo writes a kavita, Both pick up a photo that they mistakenly drop and start admiring it

Gulabo and siya smile

GULABO

Haseen toh har pal woh jab mai aapko dekhu

SIYA

Shayad har pal haseen isiliye kyukimai tumhe dekhu

GULABO

Maine aaj tak jo socha jo kaha kaash ,hota aapke liye

SIYA

Mere hotho jo bhi shabd nikle kaashmai unhe pakad kar rok lu, bas tumhare liye

GULABO

Par kaash aapko mai rokkar ye baatkeh pau

SIYA

Kaash mai tumhe bas apne liye rokpau

GULABO AND SIYA

Kaash..

As they get lost in thought both drop the frame at nearly the same time

While picking the frame up a knock is heard on each side

Two characters appear from each side Vikram and Prem, Prem mimes a little while vikram starts speaking

VIKRAM

Kya kar rahi ho?

Siya pauses the screen which makes the imaginary characters stop in their place

SIYA

Kal ke edits dekh rahi thi, i have a question

VIKRAM

Haan bolo

SIYA

Prem aur Gulaabo kaise mile?

VIKRAM

Kya matlab?

SIYA

Matlab woh backstory kya hai jisse Prem aur Gulaabo dono ek dusre ke itne kareeb ban gaye

VIKRAM

Accha yaani Prem aur Gulaabo ki Gulaabi Prem Kahaani

SIYA

Gande joke maarna bandh karo aur seedhe seedhe batao

VIKRAM

Aaj mood mai ho, kya hua

SIYA

Vikram!

VIKRAM

Well , ye movie 1980 mai set hai aur Gulaabo aur Prem lag bhag 5 saal pehle mile the yaani 1975

SIYA

Haan

Jo backstory maine banayi thi woh yeh thi ki Prem ek musafir tha, uske pyaare abba ka abhi abhi dehant hua tha aur isiliye woh iss duniya mai akela padh gaya, bin maa baap bin bhai behen bombai aa gaya. Aur kaam karte karte, idhar udhar bhatakete bhatakete, Maqbool ke under kaam karne laga

SIYA

Phir ek din Gulaabo mili usse Prem ko prem hua aur iske liye usne Maqbool ke under kaam karna chodne ki koshish ki aur fir maqbool ne usse kaam mai banaye rakhne ki saajish ki aur fir hum yaha aate hai yehi na?

VIKRAM

Agar tumhe pata hi hai toh puch kyu rahi ho

SIYA

Kya Gulaabo Prem ke liye humesha yuhi intezaar karte rahegi?

VIKRAM

Matlab?

SIYA

Puri film mai Gulabo ne bas intezaar kiya hai Prem ka aur kuch nahi , aur Prem... usne bas Kaam kiya , aisa kuch nahi jisse humme dikh paaye ki woh Gulaabo se Prem karta hai

VIKRAM

Par ye toh galat hai, puri film mai jab bhi maine Prem ki kahaani likhi hai, usne har ek kadam har ek pal bas Gulabo ke liye jiya hai, bitaya hai aisa kaise keh sakti ho ki usse pyaar nahi hai Gulaabo se?

SIYA

Par woh chotti chotti cheeze, jaise Gulabo ke liye kabhi kabhi bazaar se phool le aana , kabhi uski likhi wi ek kavita ko sun kar usse gala laga lena, woh kaha hai?

(Slightly rude)

Siya, In the grand scheme of things he loves Gulabo and does everything for her, abh tum uspe alag se bojh daalogi toh kaise chalega?

SIYA

Par..

VIKRAM

Thak gaya hu Siya, please.

SIYA

Alright... Aaj ke files upload kar diye?

VIKRAM

Haan, woh kaam khatam karte hai , pichle scene ka

SIYA

Okay.

Vikram and Siya turn to work on their laptop

GULABO

Aap phir toh nahi jayenge na?

PREM

Kaam khatam hona abhi baaki hai Gulaabo

GULABO

Hum inn sab cheezo ko chod kar bhaaq

PREM

Phir se bhaagne ki baat?

GULABO

Kyu nahi, kahi bhi chal sakte hai Prem. Dilli, Madras, kalkatta. Bas chalte hai na jaha maqbool humme dhoond nahi paaye

PREM

(cuts her)

Tumhe kya lagta hai, Maqbool humme inn shehro mai dhundh nahi payega? Aur waise bhi usne keh diya hai ki iss baar ka hafta aakhri baar hoga

GULABO

Ye kabhi khatam nahi hoga Prem, Maqbool hamesha kuch na kuch maangta rahega aur hum ji kabhi nahi payenge , hamesha ki tarah

PREM

Par....

GULABO

Nahi sunna mujha

PREM

Ek baar toh sun lo meri gulabo

GULABO

Hamesha yahi kehte ho

PREM

Par

GULABO

Par war kuch nahi bas tum jaate rahoge aur mai , yaha har baar dar darkar intezaar karte rahungi ki kahi tum ...

Gulabo thinks about what she just said while prem goes into deep thought

PREM

Thik hai Gulabo

Prem's voice is cut by Vikram's voice

VIKRAM

Ek minute, Dragged lag raha hai

SIYA

Rewind?

VIKRAM

Hamm

Siya rewinds and as she does, the charaters on the img side walk backwards, retracing their steps

VIKRAM

Go back...Go back...Stop

VIKRAM

Play from here

Prem and Gulabo pause and play

GULABO

.. Hamesha ki tarah

PREM

Par....

GULABO

Nahi sunna mujha

PREM

Ek baar toh sun lo meri gulabo

GULABO

Hamesha yahi kehte ho

PREM

Par..

GULABO

Par war kuch nahi

Vikram interrupts

VIKRAM

Haan thats it, iss part ko cut karke phirse play karo ek baar.

SIYA

Okay, one second

Siya plays it

GULABO

Ye kabhi khatam nahi hoga Prem, Maqbool hamesha kuch na kuch maangta rahega aur hum ji kabhi nahi payenge , hamesha ki tarah

PREM

Par..

GULABO

Par war kuch nahi bas tum jaate rahoge aur mai , yaha har baar dar darkar intezaar karte rahungi ki kahi tum ...

Prem goes into deep thought while Gulabo sheds a tear(Pause)

PREM

Gulabo, (wipes a tear off her face) thik hai ,agar aaj ke baad kabhi kaam nahi bana toh bhaag chalenge, aaj ek aakhri baar hai

GULABO

Yaani ki mai tumhe nahi rok paungi , jaane se

Haan Gulabo, yaad hai Mere abu kaha karte the ki agar aadmi pyaar ke liye jaan bhi dene ki koshish kare, toh bhi uski jaan allah bacha lenge, chinta mat karo gulabo sab thik hoga

The lights on img side of the stage dim as the characters pause

VIKRAM

Ya thats it, baaki ka kal edit karte hai.

Siya closes the laptop as she does the characters in the imaginary world leave the stage

Siya has the same expression during the conversationg that took place before, she changes it as she looks at Vikram

SIYA

(Romantic)

Okayy, toh abh kya kare hum?

VIKRAM

I have to siya, kal ki blocking aur
set ka kaam, i have to finish plus
 (goes on speaking as siya
 interrupts)

SIYA

Haan i get it, u need to go ,par itne din hogaye ek baar dinner tak nahi kiya hai saath mai humne

VIKRAM

I understand par i cant do anything

SIYA

Bas dinner saath mai? I made pasta today, your favourite white sauce

VIKRAM

Siya..

SIYA

2 minute lagenge bas

VIKRAM

Alright par jaldi se khaana hoga

SIYA

Okayy comee help me get the food

Both of them go to the back of the stage where the pick up utensils and keep it on the main table

Smells nice... Arrav so gaya kya?

SIYA

Haan, kal shoot pe bhi toh aana hai usse toh sula diya, im guessing tum ghar nahi aaonge aaj

Vikram nods, Both of them sit on the table as they serve themselves foods

SIYA

Toh, how are you?

VIKRAM

I think film acchi ja rahi hai, haan kuch problems hai jo lag raha hai post mai nahi ho payenge edit.

SIYA

Okay, par lets not talk about the film right now, i asked tum kaise

VIKRAM

Right sorry , par actually u would have to take a look at this

Takes out his phone

SIYA

Vikram

VIKRAM

Haan par it will only take a minute

SIYA

Vikram mai bas tumhari editor hoon kya, pichle 2 mahino se humne ek baar bhi baith ke thik se khaana bhi nahi khaaya hai, mai jaanti hu tumhara kaam zaruri hai par...

VIKRAM

Accha thik hai, no talks about film on the dinner table , thik hai?

Phone rings, Vikram picks up

VIKRAM

Kya? Yaar kal ke liye woh set hona
bohot zaruri hai verma ji ko bolo
na dealer se baat karne ,kya kar
rahe ho tum log !

Vikram continues speaking as Siya gets done with her food

SIYA

Kaash mai tumhe bas apne liye rok pau

SIYA

Kaash....

VIKRAM

Mujhe jaana padega Siya, sorry par

SIYA

Thik hai

Vikram takes his briefcase and leaves as he does he turns to say bye to Siya but she does not respond

BLACKOUT

As soon as the lights are turned on we see on one end some camera equipment as well as director's chair , in the real world, Vikram walks on stage, in a costume, Siya is present there sitting beside the cameraman

VIKRAM

Shot ready?

Vikram walks towards one end of the real part of the stage facing the camera

CAMERAMAN

Camera Rolling

The actor playing Prem comes on the imaginary part, as Vikram speaks the dialogue Prem mimes to do the same action but looking at the front of the stage same with the other characters.

CAMERAMAN

Action!

PREM

Maqbool, inn paiso ko dene se pehle, aaj mai ek baat kehna chahta hu

MAQBOOL

Bolo prem, ek kyu hazaar baat bol lo

PREM

Ye aakhri baar hai jab mai tumhara ye kaam kar raha hu.

MAQBOOL

Aakhri baar? Accha hai, bahut accha hai.

(MORE)

MAQBOOL (CONT'D)

Yaad nahi hai kya ,tumhare baap ka karza , pure 10000 rupay, tujhe kya lagta itni jaldi chuk jayega

PREM

Hazaaro baar kar chuka hu ye kaam uss karze ko chukane ke liye, aur woh karza se 50 gunah zyada paise mai tumhe laakar de chuka hu, rehem karo aur jaane do mujhe

MAQBOOL

Aise kaise mere Prem, apne heere ko mai samundar mai kaise fek du.

PREM

Tum nahi jaane doge mujhe

CHELA 1

Janab give me one order and i will make him go into disorder

CHELA 2

He he he he....

PREM

(mumbles)

Mere abbu kaha karte the, yadi pyaar ke liye jaan dene ki koshsih bhi karo , jaan kabhi jaati nahi hai

CHELA 1

Aur ye kehte kehte apni jaan kho di

CHELA 2

He he he he....

Maqbool laughs, his chela 1 takes out a gun and points it at prem's face

PREM

Toh thik hai

Prem with the suitcase in his hand hits the chela a shot is fired in the air, a scuffle ensues Prem and the chelas fight it off and after beating them he starts to run away as maqbool takes his gun out and shoots prem in the back, prem falls down

PREM

Gula....bo...maaf

MAQBOOL

Gulabo ,anth tak yaad kar raha hai ,kya pyaar hai.

Gu

Maqbool shoots Prem again killing him

CAMERAMAN

And cut!

Lights off from imaginary ,and as cameraman and crew begin to celbrate Vikram walks in from the imaginary world through the bottom of the stage, vikram looks at the camera to observe the scene for a second

VIKRAM

And its a wrap!

They celebrate, everyone on the other side congratulate Vikram on the completion of the film

Producer comes up to him while the rest are celebrating

PRODUCER(RAM GOPAL VERMA) Congrats Vikram ji, ye toh mai bina dekhe bol sakta hu ki hit hai, aakhir aapki likhi hui hai

VIKRAM

Shukriya Verma ji , thank you for believing in me so much.

PRODUCER

Arre kaisi baat kar rahe hai, anyway editing start kab hogi

VIKRAM

Hogayi sir already we are going to reach the end of the film very soon after all Sia is doing the job, the film already has life

The lights on imaginary side are also lighted up and we see Gulabo trying to wake up the dead Prem.

PRODUCER

Tum dono shaadi is bilkul perfect hai. Husband best director , biwi best editor. Aisa lagta hai ki tumne Siya ko for life reserve kar liya hai. Perfect.

VIKRAM

Nahi sir kaha..

PRODUCER

Par abhi bhi puchunga tum, Prem ko movie mai maarna kyu chahte ho?

PRODUCER

Chalo enjoy the party, mai nikalta hu

Vikram looks at the scene happening on the imaginary world directly, as the voices behind him from the party get quiter and quiter eventually turning into mime, now the only voice that can be heard is that off Gulabo, the lights on the real side turn off and the stage on the real side starts becoming the set of Vikram's house

GULABO

(Terribly crying)

Premmmm!!!!! Tum utho na, tum ek baar utho na, hum bhaagne wale the na, tum utho na, kyu nahi tumne kabhi meri suni prem, prem ,mujhe bas tum chahiye the aur kuch nahi, prem, bas tum

Vikram listens to Gulabo's cries for help and falls into deep thought

BLACKOUT

we see siya sitting on her desk like that in the first scene Vikram walks upto Siya

VIKRAM

Kya laqta hai?

Siya pauses the scene as she does Vikram moves towards her

SIYA

Ending itni sad? Prem ko zinda kyu nahi rehne de rahe ho?

VIKRAM

Well agar mai happy ending dikhata, toh movie ka purpose hi chala jaata na.

SIYA

Kya purpose?...accha uske pehle last ka fight scene mai kuch edits nahi hai kya?

VIKRAM

Okay ek baar woh scene pe jao

Siya moves the scene backwards and characters retrace their footsteps as siya walks off stage we see maqbool and his chelas coming back on stage and we rewind to the part where the scene between maqbool and prem started, Vikram gets a phone call, he attends to it and walks up to siya

Siya, the producer is coming to the studio we will have to go there

SIYA

Accha okay give me a minute

Siya immediately gets ready, both of them begin to leave but siya forgets something, hence coming behind to the computer screen and this time while leaving she by mistake presses play and exits the the stage

PREM

Maqbool, inn paiso ko dene se pehle, aaj mai ek baat kehna chahta hu

MAQBOOL

Bolo prem, ek kyu hazaar baat bol lo

PREM

Ye aakhri baar hai jab mai tumhara ye kaam kar raha hu.

MAQBOOL

Aakhri baar? Accha hai, bahut accha hai. Yaad nahi hai kya ,tumhare baap ka karza , pure 10000 rupay, tujhe kya lagta itni jaldi chuk jayega

PREM

Hazaaro baar kar chuka hu ye kaam uss karze ko chukane ke liye, aur woh karza se 50 gunah zyada paise mai tumhe laakar de chuka hu, rehem karo aur jaane do mujhe

MAQBOOL

Aise kaise mere Prem, apne heere ko mai samundar mai kaise fek du.

PREM

Tum nahi jaane doge mujhe

CHELA 1

Janab give me one order and i will make him go into disorder

CHELA 2

He he he he....

PREM

(mumbles)

Marne se pehle mere abbu kaha karte the, yadi pyaar ke liye jaan bhi dene ki koshish kare, toh bhi uski jaan allah bacha lenge

Maqbool laughs, his chela 1 takes out a gun and points it at prem's face

PREM

Toh thik hai

Prem with the suitcase in his hand hits the chela a shot is fired in the air, a scuffle ensues Prem and the chelas fight it off and after beating them he starts to run away, this time as magbool takes out his gun to shoot him, it misses prem as while running he fell off stage into the area between the real and the imaginary world

Prem looks around and runs backstage

Siya and Vikram come back and siya sees that prem is missing from the last scene as maqbool and the rest of the gang are left dumbfounded where Prem went, she tries to rewind but she can only see scenes without Prem.

SIYA

Umm Vikram?

PREM

Accha suno aaj biryani khaane jaaye? Also kal ke liye sorry, pakka saath mai dinner karenge abhi hi

Siya interrupts vikram and in an irritable tone

SIYA

Its okay, just come here one second

Vikram walks over to Siya , siya shows Vikram the footages, (a scene with (The chelas dumbfounded actually discussing where did prem go can be added) Vikram lets out a chuckle

VIKRAM

Ye kya movie ke bloopers ka edit bana rahi ho, ek kaam karte hai yehi release kar dete hai ,sabne character kitni realistically pakda hai after all, mujhe bhi bula lete yaar inn sab ke

SIYA

(interrupting)
This is not the bloopers vikram,
its the real cut

(gently)

Toh phir isme mai kaha hu?

SIYA

Wohi toh problem hai, tum nahi ho!!

VIKRAM

Kya mazaak kar rahi ho koi

Vikram looks at the footage, his chuckles imediately develop into concern

VIKRAM

Ye kya hai , prem kaha gaya

SIYA

Exactly prem kaha gaya

VIKRAM

Abhi toh dekh rahe the , usme he was here abh kaha chala qaya

SIYA

Mujhe kya pata, it doesnt make any sense

Chaos ensues

VIKRAM

Call the Ad's, kaha gaya ye banda

Siya checks the film reel, then while pacing calls the AD's as the lights dim

BLACKOUT

We hear a voice coming from beneath the stage

PREM

Gulaboooo? Gulabooooo!!!!!!

2. ACT 2

The stage brightens up with the two headlights on the centre and the one on the side being the only ones to light up, Vikram's room is filled with Vikram, Siya, Producer and 2 AD's

AD 1(NANDIRA)

Sir har jagah call laga liya hai , we have no idea Prem kaha chala gaya hai

AD 2(ISHAN)

Sir google has never seen this kind of incident happen sir, look no searches showing

VIKRAM

Haan thank you ishan for the very valuable information, aur nandira tum ek kaam karo look at the studio

ISHAN

Sir studio mai kaha se

VIKRAM

Just go and search goddammit

Nandira leaves

SIYA

Vikram calm down

PRODUCER

Calm kaise hoe siya ji, meri film ka hero bhaag gaya hai

VIKRAM

Aapki film ka hero?

PRODUCER

Arre bhai sorry aapki film ka hero, par hero kaise bhag gaya,

PRODUCER

mai toh keh raha tha sad ending nahi dete hai, happy ending dete hai, dekhiye bhag gaya na hero

VIKRAM

Kaisi baate kar rahe hai verma ji , matlab kuch bhi

PRODUCER

Logic? Film ke andar mai se character bhag jaane ka kaha se logic lau

SIYA

Verma ji calm down, hum dekhte hai kaha gaya hai hero

PRODUCER

Thik hai Siya ji, ishan missing logo ko dhundne ke liye kya karte hai

ISHAN

Sir, complaint likhwate hai police mai

VIKRAM

What rubbish are you talking ishan?

PRODUCER

Toh aur koi method sujh raha hai aapko vikram ji?

SIYA

Okay ek kaam karte hai police ko phone karke dekhte hai

VIKRAM

Siya kya baat kar rahi ho?

SIYA

What if they can help vikram

Siya dials on the phone and puts it on speaker

GAIKWAAD(POLICE OFFICER)

Ji aapne police thane pe call kiya hai

PRODUCER

Sir hume ek missing report likhwani hai

GAIKWAAD

Haan bataiye kiski report likhwani hai aur kabse missing hai

PRODUCER

Ji gayab toh woh aaj subah hee huye hai. Par woh ek character hai

GAIKWAAD

Haan aise boht saare characters ke saath deal karte hain hum. Aap bataiye toh sahi woh kaun hai?

PRODUCER

Ji sir uss tarah ka character nahi, yeh asli ka character hai

GAIKWAAD

Haan haan thik hai, hum dekh lenge aap naam bataiye

PRODUCER

Prem gulzar.

GAIKWAAD

Pita ka naam?

PRODUCER

Pata nahi

GAIKWAAD

Kaha rehta hai?

PRODUCER

Movie mein.

GAIKWAAD

Kya matlab movie meh rehta hai?

PRODUCER

Yehi toh bata raha hu , woh ek character hai

VIKRAM

Ji dekhiye , humare movie mai se ek character bhaag gaya , maine use likha hai, woh bilkul meri tarah dikhta hai usse dhundna hai

GAIKWAAD

Kya sir kuch bakta hai tum, aap ne usse likha hai iska kya matlab hai, aapne usko paida kiya kya

VIKRAM

Haan sir mai uski maa hu uska baap hu sabkuch hu aapko jo puchna hai uske baare mai bata dunga , bas aap unhe dhund lo

GAIKWAAD

Kya bina matlab ka tum log dimaag kharab kar raha hai, phir iss number pe call kiya toh seedha andar jaoge

Cuts the call, Vikram looks at siya and shows his disappreciation

PRODUCER

Toh kya kare hum log bataye

SIYA

Kuch toh tareeka hoga, kaha gaya prem

ISHAN

Sir waise agar aapne likha hai character ko ,toh aapko pata hoga kaha gaya hai woh

Shut up Ishan, kuch bhi bolta hu, if u say one more thing na ill fire you right now

SIYA

Wait yaar he might be on to something

ISHAN

Ma'am mai toh

VIKRAM

Ishan, i told you to shut up na

PRODUCER

Yaar Ishan u get out

ISHAN

Ok sir

Ishan begins to walk out but siya stops him

SIYA

Guys, i m telling you he might be on to something na

Ishan tries to speak but as soon as he tries to say something Vikram walks towards him as if he is trying to punch him

SIYA

Vikram stop, ishan go ahead

ISHAN

Matlab sir mai bol rah tha ki, sir agar aapne hi likha hoga character toh

VIKRAM AND PRODUCER

GET TO THE POINT ISHAN!!!

ISHAN

Sir you wrote the character, so he will go wherever you wrote the character should go after the fight

Vikram falls into thought and suddenly something clicks

VIKRAM

Okay wait , go to the scene where she calls her mom and tells her she shifted

SIYA

Okay, here it goes

Siya rewinds and plays ,the imaginary part is litten up

GULABO

Haan amma, hum log theek hai , address? 22, S V Road, Santacruz

VIKRAM

Ishan? ... Ishan??

ISHAN

Yes sir

VIKRAM

Cal Nandira and tell her to go to this location

ISHAN

Okay sir

Ishan doesnt move

VIKRAM

Godammit muh kya dekh rahe ho , jaakar call karo

ISHAN

Yes sir

Ishan exits while making a call

SIYA

You think he would go there?

VIKRAM

Agar woh kabhi marta hi nahi, toh wapas Gulabo ke paas jaata

PRODUCER

Mai toh bol raha hu ,Woh apni jaan bachane ke liye bhag gaya , agar aap nahi maarte use iss film mai toh ye kabhi nahi hota. Maine bola tha ki happy ending dete , par nahi you had to go on saying your artist bullshit.

VIKRAM

Verma ji....

SIYA

We will find him don't worry

ISHAN

Sir Mil gaye, At the address he Nandira ne Ek aadmi ko dekha who looked like you in every aspect and he said his name was Prem, I think mil gaye hai

Thank god

ISHAN

Sir toh kya karne bolu?

VIKRAM

Idhar le aao usse

ISHAN

Okay sir

Vikram finally relaxes on a chair

PRODUCER

Toh abh kya?

VIKRAM

Well hum log usse wapas jaane bolenge aur kya

SIYA

How did he get out though?

Vikram shrugs his shoulders

We see Prem and Ishan enter along with Nandira

ISHAN

Sir, Mr Prem Gulzar.

PREM

Aapko mera pura naam kisne bataya?

VIKRAM

Okay, Ishan and Nandira aap log ja sakte hai

ISHAN

Prem sir, aap idhar autograph de sakte hai?

PREM

Mai koi hero thode hu, jo autograph dunga

ISHAN

Ho sir

(smiles)

VIKRAM

Ishan!

Nandira and Ishan exit the stage

PREM

Ji, mera naam Prem Gulzar hai

PRODUCER

Namaste, aap asli ho?

PREM

Ji ?

PRODUCER

Kuch nahi kuch nahi

PRODUCER

Vikram ji mai bhi nikalta hu, inko kal shoot par le aaiye ga

PREM

Ji yaha kya chal raha hai, mai apne ghar gaya tha wapas toh maine dekha ki woh ghar abh kisi aur ka hai, aur jab pucha meri patni yani Gulabo kaha hai, toh unhone kaha ki uss naam ka koi bhi vyakti waha nahi rehte the, aur fir, woh mohotarma mujhe aakar kehti hai ki woh mujhe jaanti hai, aur fir meri puri zindagi ki kahaani mujhe bata deti hai, shuru se lekar abh tak jo kuch bhi kiya hai, ye sab kuch samajh nahi aa raha hai. Haan unhone bola tha ki aapko pata hai Gulabo kaha hai?

VIKRAM

Ji haan humme pata hai Gulabo, kaha hai, dekhoge

PREM

Aapko pata hai? Bohut shukriya janab bohut bahut shukriya, Kaha par hai

Vikram switches on the laptop and Gulabo comes on the screen as she is seen waiting for prem, Prem is surprised

PREM

Gulabo film mai kaam karti hai kya?

VIKRAM

Nahi , ye Gulabo ki zindagi hai, dekho

Rewinds and shows Gulabo's few monologues

PREM

Toh woh iss TV pe kaise

VIKRAM

Kyuki uski duniya yaha hai, aur aapki bhi

Kya, ye kya baat kar rahe hai aap , mai iss tv ka rehne wala kaise ho sakte hai? Mere abbu kaha karte the ki yadi aapko koi apne.

VIKRAM

Duniya se nikalna chahe toh woh galat hai, jaanta hu jaanta hu

PREM

Arre bhaisahab aapne toh ye lafz mere muh se cheen liye

VIKRAM

Lafz cheene nahi hai, lafz mere hi hai

PREM

Arre kya matlab

SIYA

Inka kehne ka koi matlab nahi hai, bas kehna chahte hai ki aap ek movie ke character, yaani iss duniya ke ek film mai aap ek kirdaar ho

PREM

Matlab?

VIKRAM

Matlab, dekhiye isko

(shows him the laptop)
Ye raha maqbool, ye rahe unke chele
aur ye rahi Gulabo, ye ek film hai
aur sir aap is film ke ek kirdaar

PREM

Kya baat kar rahe hai, mai film ka character, kuch samajh nahi aa rah hai

VIKRAM

Dekhiye, aapki duniya ek asli duniya nahi hai,woh ek film hai jisse maine likha hai aur maine hi banaya bhi hai yani, aap ek insaan nahi ek kirdaar ho mere film ke aur aap yaha bhaag aaye

PREM

Yani mai asli nahi hoon?... Aisa kaise ho sakta hain , mai toh hoon asli, dekhiye mai zinda hoon, mai bol pa raha hoon aur ye dekhiye (MORE) PREM (CONT'D)
(Takes Siya's hand) logo

ko choo bhi sakta hoon

VIKRAM

Arre yaar kaise samjhau isse?

PREM

Isse? Yaar aap toh hadh hi kar rahe hai, ek toh pehli baar mil rahe hai aur uppar se aise kaise baat kar rahe hai. Dekhiye mere abbu kaha karte the , ki izzat aur..4

Vikram interrupts

VIKRAM

Kaun hai tumhare abbu?

PREM

Kya

VIKRAM

Kaun hai tumhare abbu , har samme bolte rehte ho unke baare mai, par woh hai kaun?

Prem falls into deep thought

VIKRAM

Kuch yaad nahi aa raha na, ab ye sochna ki koshish karo lki tumhare abbu kaise dikhte the

Prem isnt able to respond

VIKRAM

Pata hai kuch yaad kyu nahi aa raha, kyuki inn ko maine kabhi likha hi nahi

PREM

Iska matlab mai..nahi hoon?

VIKRAM

Haan mere baap

Irritated pacing around

SIYA

Vikram!

(To Prem)

Dekhiye mai jaanti hoon ye sochna abhi mushkilhoga, par uss duniya mai aap se asli aur koi nahi, woh dekhiye

(MORE)

SIYA (CONT'D)

(points towards the

screen),)

Gulabo aapka intezaar kar rahi hai, humaare liye woh bhi ek kirdAar hai par aapke liye toh ek pyaar hai na

PREM

Mujhe meri Gulabo ke paas wapas jaana hai

VIKRAM

Hmm, wapas hi jaana tha toh bhaage kyu waha se

PREM

Mai kab bhaaga ?

SIYA

Jo bhi hua hain, kal shoot ke samme ap iss film mai wapas chale jaaiye qa

VIKRAM

Takes the laptop and sits on the front centre while Siya and Prem go and sit behind on the sofa

SIYA

Aap thik hai?

PREM

Ji jitna ho sakta hoon, hoon

SIYA

Acharaj ki baat hau aasp aur Vikram bilkul ek jaise lagte hai

PREM

Ji

SIYA

Accha aap bataiye ki aap kya khaoge

PREM

Khaana? Mai bana sakta hoon kya?

SIYA

Zaroor kyo nahi

Vikram takes the laptop and sits, he plays the movie , Gulabo writing a letter, the imaginary stage gets lighted

GULABO

Prem aapke khayal jaise mere dil mai aate hai , woh zor se dhadhakne lagta hai, kyu baar baar aisa log raha hai aapko kuch ho gaya hai , aap kaha ho ,mujhe bohot chinta ho rahi hai

Vikram observes and then dials a number, Gulabo's phone rings

GULABO

Hello, Premm, aap hi hai na , aap kaha hai , Kuch bolte kyu nahi?

Vikram immediately puts away the phone

PREM

Ye lijiye aapke garma garam aaloo ke parathe

SIYA

Bohot acche hai , sachmuch aaj tak aise parathe nahi khaaye

VIKRAM

Chaliye abh time ho raha hai

Door bell and Ishan enters

ISHAN

Sir, Gaadi ready hai

VIKRAM

Thik hai tum Prem ko lekar aage bado mai aata hu

ISHAN

ji sir

Vikram goes to talk to Siya while Ishan meets Prem both conversations are simultaneous

VIKRAM

Okay we will be leaving

ISHAN

Hello sir how are you

PREM

Sab badhiya aap bataiye

ISHAN

Thik sir all okay here

SIYA

Waise his aloo parathas are damn good huh, kabhi bataye nahi tumhare character itne acche cook hai

VIKRAM

Yaar Siya i am too stressed to joke around

PREM

Accha ek baat bataiye iss movie ki kahaani kya hai?

ISHAN

Sir simple si toh kahaani hai, ek hero ek heroine aur unke against ek villain aap log, end tak tension badhta rehta hai whether or not prem will be able to Conquer maqbool's desires aur fir

VIKRAM

I have no idea how to sed him back

SIYA

It will all be fine, don't worry, waise now that he is going do you wanna give him something? Like a gods gift or something?

VIKRAM

Anything you say huh

SIYA

But the ending , i feel so sad knowing the ending

PREM

Aur fir ?

ISHAN

Aur fir aap jaate ho ek aakhri baar kaam karke, par iss baar aap maang karte ho ki aapko aur gulabo ko chod de par aisa nahi ho paata aur aap ladte ladte mar jaata hu

PREM

Kya? Marr jaata hu?

VIKRAM

Ya thats the point

PREM

Ek second aap keh rahe hai ki mai marne wala hoon is movie mai?

ISHAN

Oh no

PREM

Director sahab? Aap mujhe maut ke muh dhakel rahe hai?

VIKRAM

Kya?

PREM

Ji Ye ishan ji ne bola ki iss kahani mai humara dehant ho raha hai

VIKRAM

God dammit Ishan

PREM

Yani ke ye sach hai

VIKRAM

Arre isska koi matlab nahi hai bhai

PREM

Yaar ye kya baat hui , aap toh hume maut ke muh dhakel rahe hai

ISHAN

Sir sorry

VIKRAM

Just get out ishan

PREM

Nahi nahi kyu, aapke khaatir toh humaari jaan bachi hai, nahi toh inn bedil insaan ke haatho maare jaate

Ishan begins to leave but then stops in his footsteps

SIYA

Just go Ishan

Ishan exits

PREM

Aapko kiskne haq de diya hai mujhe maarne ka , nahi matlab kisne, dekhiye aap ending change kariye warna mai nahi jaa raha hu

Dekho aisa nahi ho sakta, there is a point to the ending , to your death aise hi humachanak se ending change nahi kar sakte

PREM

Kya matlab nahi kar sakte ,apni kalam lijiye aur humme zinda rakhiye

VIKRAM

Dekho maine tumko likha hai , toh mai tumhare character ke saath jo bhi karu ye bas meri marzi

PREM

Arre aap apne ko allah na samajhiye, mai nahi mar raha

VIKRAM

Mai tumhare Bhagwan hi hoon , toh tum toh maronge, Ishan isko kheech ke le chalo

Ishan has left

VIKRAM

Where the hell is that idiot , kal dekhta hu isko mai toh

SIYA

Vikram just change the ending na kya fark padhne wala hai

VIKRAM

Siya you know mai nahi kar sakta hoon change

PREM

Arre agar maar sakte ho toh bacha kyu nahi sakte

SIYA

You know you can change the ending na, its just a film

VIKRAM

Its just a film?!!??

SIYA

Sorry mai ye nahi kehna chah rahi thi, i meant in comparison to somepone's life

Life??? He is a blody figment of my imagination nothing else, he is just a bloody thing

PREM

Thing? Ek thing, Kya meri zindagi bilkjul nahi hai, mai kon hu toh chodiye aapke liye toh mai bas ek thing hu, Siya ji aap hi bataye mai iss duniya ka nahi toh kya mai bilkul nahi, mai hasta rota kuch nahi, kya mere kadam nahi chalte iss dharti pe ,kya mera dil nahi dhadakta

(Takes siya's hand and puts it on his chest) Dekhiye mera dil nahi?

Siya feels his heartbeat realising he is human too and

VIKRAM MALHOTRA

Haan tum usey sympathy dikhao bas!

SIYA MALHOTRA

Sympathy?... Woh bhi insaan hai uskey bhi emotions hain usey kaun sambhalega?

VIKRAM MALHOTRA

Haan tum bas usey sambhal lo, uskebaare mein soch lo, mera kya mujhekaun dekhega!?

SIYA MALHOTRA

Arey... Vik tum jealous ho rahe ho? Tumhe toh khush hona chahiye mainisey pasand karti hoon akhir

SIYA MALHOTRA

tumhaara hee kirdaar hai.

Vikram is in a state of shock

PREM

Aapne mujhe janm diya, kya iska matlab ye hai ki aap mujhe maar sakte hai, kaunsi maa ke paas haq hota hai apne bete ko maarne ka

VIKRAM

Mere paas

Takes a knife and acts like he is almost trying to slit his truth but siya stops him

SIYA

Stop it!!

Vikram storms off stage

Ishan comes back on stage

ISHAN

Maam bag chut gaya tha

SIYA

Just get out

ISHAN

Sorry maam

PREM

Thank you ishanji

Ishan exits

BLACKOUT

3. ACT 3

Lights turn on and ishan enters one side of the stage looks at the laptop ,loads the moveie(as he does maqbool \hat{n} chelas come on stage) presses play, as soon as he does he gets a call from Vikram

VIKRAM

(on phone)

God dammit Ishaan , kaha par hai tu

ISHAAN

Sir, mai...

Ishaan exits the stage to attend to the call

MAQBOOL

Idhar se hua tha gayab right , okay mai idhar se aage badhunga, abh prem dekhega Woh Prem Gulzar ko ,ki chahe kahi bhi chale jaaye Maqbool ki nazro se koi nahi bach sa, koi nahi, Aakhir jurrat bhi kaise hui uss do kodi ke qunde ko mujhse churane ki, MAQBOOL SE CHURANE KI

(coughs cancerously)

CHELA 1

Sir please calm down or you go down in the ground

MAQBOOL

U blaady !!!!

CHELA 2

Sorry sir, sorry sir

MAQBOOL

Tum dono mera gunda khaana samhal lena

CHELA 1

Okay sir, no trouble when u no here

MAQBOOL

Okay bois

Maqbool goes through the wall falling into the place beneath the stage

MAQBOOL

PREMMMMM!!!!!, PREMMMM

GULZARRRR!!!!

Ishaan comes back on stage

ISHAAN

Oh no

Maqbool goes backstage, We shift to the real side, Vikram sits in the front while Prem is cooking in the back in the gallery siya walks up to Vikram

SIYA

Tumhe pata hai na, i didnt mean it like that . Aur mera usse pasand karna , ek tarah se tumhari hi tareef hai , itne acche character likhe hai .

SIYA

Look at him , usko kuch nahi chahiye bas apni Gulabo ke paas jaana hai without dying, Can't you change the ending for once

VIKRAM

Siya, ye film ka matlab , ye film ka ek matlab hai jo maine khud banaya tha, Gulabo aur Vikram ke pyaar ka kya matlab iss film ki duniya mai, tumhe pata hai?

SIYA

Kya hai?

Chahe kuch bhi ho jaye, prem mar jaye, jiye ya fir gayab ho jaye, Gulabo ko chod kar bhag hi jaye , Gulabo hamesha uska intezaar karegi ,Duniya mai jaane kitne haseen kahaniya aise hi bane hai, kitni baar iss duniya mai film mai isiliye happy ending mili hai kyunki hero ke liye heroine hamesha intezaar karti rahi, par ye woh kahani nahi hai, isme heroine hamesha intezaar karegi, aur karte rahegi aur uske badle mai usse kuch nahi milega kyuki Prem chahe Gulaabo ko kitna bhi pyaar kare, woh vyakti nahi hai jo usse pyaar de paaye, isiliye ek tragedy hai not a romance, tum dekhna chahti ho?

Prem plays the film , a scene has been created in the film where Gulabo is just looking at Prems picture without any dialogue

VIKRAM

Dekho, yaha uski aankhein dekho, shayad tumhe isme uska pyaar dikhe hai, par mujhe bas uski bechaini dikh rahi hai, Gulabo ke haath kaap uthte hai jab bhi Prem wapas nahi aata hai, aur abh iss duniya mai 3-4 din hogaye hai Prem ke wapas nahi aaye hue aur uski aankhein bas keh rahi hai, kuch nahi hoga inhe, kuch nahi.

SIYA

Toh wapas kyu nahi kardete usse prem ko

VIKRAM

Siya story..

SIYA

Par abh ye bas ek story nahi raha na, tumne itni acchi kahaani likh di shayad ki iss kahaani mai ek tarah se jaan aa gayi hai, usse hi dekh lo, waha pe bas Prem nahi khada hai, waha pe khada hai ek insaan, haan tumne usse likha hai, par abh unn dono mai, woh aa chuka hai jo shayad kuch hi writer apne character mai daal sakte hai, aur woh hai apni insaniyat

SIYA

Jab bhi mai Prem ko dekhti hu , tab mujhe koi Kirdaar nahi dikhta hai, par woh aadmi dikhta hai jisse shayad khaana banane ka shock ho, jiske abbu ne uske kaan mai bas one line nahi par actual seekh bhar ke rakhi , yeh dikhta hai mujhe.

Siya looks directly at Prem and turns around

SIYA

Uska dil chu kar toh dekho, dhadakta hai

Prem's voice is heard from the back

PREM

Siya ji aaj biryani khaane ki iccha jag gayi hai achanak se, aap kahe toh mai bana du?

SIYA

Waah Prem ji aapne toh mera mann padh hi liya jaise

PREM

Par mujhe taazaa murga chahiye ,dekhna padega kaha milta hai

SIYA

Arre aiye mai jaanti hu

Siya takes a polyethene and gets ready to go out

SIYA

Vikram mai inko zara humaare sheher ke chicken dikha ke laati hu tab tak tum socho

Siya and Prem exit

Vikram plays the movie and goes to Gulabo , we see Gulabo's House on th imaginary side

GULABO

Kaun?

VIKRAM

Mai ,

GULABO

Tum prem ho na

After a pause

Haan

GULABO

Prem tum kaha ho, ek call tak kyu nahi kiya tumne mujhe call tak nahi kiya ek bhi

VIKRAM

Gulabo, ek sawaal tha

GULABO

Ji

VIKRAM

Aap mere liye kabh tak intezaar karengi

GULABO

Hamesha

VIKRAM

Kyu

GULABO

Kyuki mai tumse pyaar karti hu

VIKRAM

Tum aur Siya bilkul

GULABO

Kya?

VIKRAM

Baad mai baat karte hai

GULABO

Par

Vikram cuts the call

BLACKOUT

Music:

Meri jaan oo jaane jaa song plays

Stage lights up , prem and siya are near the gallery area while Vikram is on the other side of the real part

SIYA

Ban gayi?

Opens the pan

Siya ji kaha se laaya apne ye masale, mere abbu kaha karte the , swaad bas khaana banane se nahi par khaane mai lage har cheez ko jitna pyaar doge, utna hi swaadisht khaana milega

SIYA

Bohot acchi cheeze kehte the tumhare abbu, chalo Biryani khaate hai abh

Vikram comes in their vicinity

VIKRAM

Siya, Prem?

SIYA

Haan bolo

VIKRAM

Maine, ending change kar di

SIYA

WHAT, REALLY , ye toh , ye toh bohot khushi ki baat hai, i m proud of u my love.

PREM

(Slight Sadness)
Aapne ending change kardi?

VIKRAM

Haan , aur iss wale mai tum nahi marte ho, yaani ki tum jaa sakte ho wapas, Gulabo ke paas

PREM

Accha

VIKRAM

Maine bohot socha par aakhir mai uss duniya mai Gulabo tumhara intezaar kar rahi hai, ye dekh kar mai samajh gaya ki ending se zyada abh woh duniya matter karti hai

PREM

Thik hai

VIKRAM

Toh batao kab nikalna hai, yaha se, parso kahunga, humaare saath ek din bita lo fir nikalte hai

Nikalne, yaani wapas uss duniya mai jaana?

VIKRAM

Haan aur nahi toh kya

PREM

Mai kuch der baad jaunga

VIKRAM

Baad jaunga? Matlab kya hafte baad?

PREM

Nahi pata, bas abhi nahi

VIKRAM

Abhi nahi matlab, udhar Gulabo tumhara intezaar kar rahi hai Prem, usko kitne der woh karwaana chahte ho

Prem stays silent

VIKRAM

Prem kya hogaya tumhe, do din pehle toh tadap rahe the jaane ke liye

PREM

Haan par

VIKRAM

Par kya, tumhe woh mil chuka hai jo tumhe chahiye, uss duniya ko tumhari zarurat hai prem

PREM

Par woh duniya

SIYA

Kya hua Prem

PREM

Woh duniya mai biryani nahi milegi

VIKRAM

Kya?

PREM

Ye biryani, waha nahi milegi

VIKRAM

Kya bakwas kar rahe ho?

SIYA

Vikram! Prem kya hua

Woh duniya nahi hai, bas ek banawati cheez hai

VIKRAM

Kya matlab banawati hai, tumhe pata hai na tum uss hi duniya ke hisse ho

PREM

Par mujhe wapis nahi jaana hai

VIKRAM

Abh toh ending bhi change hogayi hai, ab tumhe wapas jaane mai kya takleef hai

PREM

Takleef hai, mera yaha pe bohot sara kaam hai, mai nahi jaa sakta

SIYA

Kuch dino ke liye ruk jaane do

Vikram eyes siya in an angry manner

PREM

Maaf kijiyega vikram ji, par mai abh kabhi wapas nahi jaa sakta, mujhe yaha zinda rehna hai, udhar jaana yani asli duniya ke hisaab se meri mauth hogayi hai

VIKRAM

Kya tumhe Gulabo ki koi fikr nahi , kya tumhara uske saath pyaar accha nahi, tumhare waha ke sapne kya sach nahi the

PREM

Nahi, usme , uss duniya mai kuch sach nahi tha. Abbu tak nahi, yaani mera pyaar bhi nakli hai aur gulaabo bhi, kyu jaana chahe ga koi

VIKRAM

Kaun nahi chahta aisi zindagi, apni biwi ke saath khushali bhari zindagi bitana

PREM

Mai nahi chahta

Toh kya hogaya , Tumhari wahi jagah hai ,tum bas ek man ghadat kirdaar ho aur kuch nahi. Bloody two dimensional being

SIYA

Bas! Bas vikram bohot ho gaya, kitna pareshan karoge usse

VIKRAM

Usey apni duniya mein jaana hi hoga! Meri film mein jaana hee hoga

Prem starts speaking in Vikram's manner

PREM

Aur mera kirdaar nibhana hi hoga.. Yahi kehne wale the na aap

VIKRAM

Tumhe kya...

PREM

Kya pata mai kya bolne wala tha

VIKRAM

Tum bas.

PREM

Shaant raho, ab aap doosri taraf chehra fer lenge phir apna sir pakdenge aur phir mudkar dekhenge

PREM AND VIKRAM

JUST SHUT UP!!

Ishan enters

ISHAN

Sir sorry darwaza khula tha

VIKRAM

Yaar you are fired you bloody idiot

ISHAN

Sorry sir but maqbool ke saath aaya hu

MAQBOOL

(to vikram)

Aap mere bhagwaan ho kya, aaashirwaad

Lies on the floor

ISHAN

Sorry sir

VIKRAM

Ishan you are not fired, you are dead

ISHAN

Sir..

VIKRAM

Get out

MAQBOOL

Ek second yeh, prem?

PREM

Maqbool?

MAQBOOL

Mere paise kaha hai Prem

PREM

Mujhe nahi pata

MAQBOOL

Mazaak mat kar prem, mai tujhe bol raha hu maar daalunga

PREM

Try kar ke dekh le

MAQBOOL

Prem!!!!!

Prem and maqbool have a scuffle, maqbool has the lower hand in the beginning, Vikram tries to stop it but to no avail.

Maqbool grabs siya trying to harm her

PREEM AND VIKRAM

Nahi maqbool , Nahi

MAQBOOL

Mai jaan se maar dunga isse

PREEM AND VIKRAM

Mujhe le lo uski jagah

MAQBOOL

Kisko

PREM AND VIKRAM

Mujhe

MAQBOOL

Oi mazaak mat karo

Prem takes a bottle and smashes it on magbools head

Siya goes into prem's arms Vikram observing the happiness sees that she is happier with prem than him

He goes to one side of the stage where he opens up his laptop

VIKRAM

Gulabo mujhe samajh nahi aa raha hu mai kya karu. Mujhe samajh nahi aa raha hai mai kya sochu

GULABO

Kya hua Prem, tum thik ho?

VIKRAM

Nahi Gulaabo, mai, mujhe nahi pata, kuch nahi samajh aa raha

GULABO

Kya hua

VIKRAM

Tum mujhse kitna pyaar karti ho

GULABO

Hadh se bhi zyada

VIKRAM

Aur kyu karti ho

GULABO

Pata nahi

VIKRAM

Agar mai prem nahi hua toh

GULABO

Kya baat kar rahe ho

VIKRAM

Agar mai koi aur nikla

GULABO

Aisa nahi ho sakta hai prem, tum mere Prem ho, mai jaanti hu, tum mere Prem ho

VIKRAM

Sach?

GULABO

Tum ye sab chodo idhar kabbh aaoge

VIKRAM

Udhar?

GULABO

Mai biryani bana rahi hu aaj raat , aa jaane khaana khaane

Vikram cuts the call, he falls into deep thought

BLACKOUT

Music: Meri jaan oo jaane jaa

After 3-4 lines of music it fades into background but continues playing

Lights turn on, Vikram and Prem have switched places, Prem and siya watch the movie on their laptop

GULABO

Ye kabhi khatam nahi hoga Prem, Maqbool hamesha kuch na kuch maangta rahega aur hum ji kabhi nahi payenge , hamesha ki tarah

VIKRAM

Par..

GULABO

Par war kuch nahi bas tum jaate rahoge aur mai , yaha har baar dar darkar intezaar karte rahungi ki kahi tum ...

Prem goes into deep thought while Gulabo sheds a tear(Pause)

VIKRAM

Gulabo, (wipes a tear off her face) thik hai ,agar aaj ke baad kabhi kaam nahi bana toh bhaag chalenge, aaj ek aakhri baar hai

GULABO

Yaani ki mai tumhe nahi rok paungi , jaane se

VIKRAM

Haan Gulabo, yaad hai Mere abu kaha karte the ki agar aadmi pyaar ke liye jaan bhi dene ki koshish kare, toh bhi uski jaan allah bacha lenge, chinta mat karo gulabo sab thik hoga

BLACKOUT

Music: Gets louder- Meri Jaan Oo Jaane Jaan

THE END