

#ANANTHAATMA

INT. SILENT APARTMENT – DAY

TEXT ON SCREEN: "In a distant future..."

Dim-lit apartment, with metallic shadows dancing on walls. ANANTH (mid-30s, rugged, charismatic) moves silently like he's surveying a crime scene. Dusty mirrors catch his faint reflection.

*He pauses at an old **photo frame**, eyes heavy with nostalgia. A **WOMAN** (early 30s) stands by the window, semi-dull chudidhar, long chunni, calm, sipping from a cup, staring out at the cityscape.*

ANANTH

(softly)

Hi...

She turns, just her head first. Her eyes meet his—curious, surprised.

WOMAN

(quietly, with slight disinterest)

Ummhmm... new one... perenti?

ANANTH

(taken aback by her beauty, smiling)

Ninnu choosthu bathikeyachu, telsa...? Haa...! Haa...?

She doesn't respond. Calm. Measured.

ANANTH

(tch'ing)

Sarrainodu... fine!

WOMAN

I know my house is haunted. So... ni perenti? Ni katha enti?

ANANTH

(grinning, adjusts collar, scrapes beard)

Weather baundi. Peru Ananth.

(leans on wall)

Ee illu... edo teliyani anubhandam... gurthu led, gurthostaledo...

Na pranam oka degara... nen inkado...

WOMAN

(smirks)

Kathalu baane chepthave!

(looks around)

Ee into unde prathi oka dayyaniki oka katha untadi.

Needi okati unde untadi. Gurthu led, cheppalani led... ni ishtam.

Kani jagratha... pothav...



ANANTH

(chuckles)

Pothana? Ante?

WOMAN

(slight pause)

Mellaga ardhham avthadi le...

ANANTH

Entha mandi unnarenti... na lanti dayyalu...?

WOMAN

(glares)

Adi naaku gurthuledu.

ANANTH

(chuckling)

Kathalu baane chepthaave... haha...

Silence. The air is still.

ANANTH

(clears throat)

Sare... cheptha na katha...

(gestures)

Can we sit?

WOMAN

(shakes head)

Cheppu, akkade nunchi.

ANANTH

Abbo... chanipoinollaki maryaada baaga isthaare meeru...

WOMAN

(stoic stare)

Maryaada isthuna kabatti nuvvinka natho matladthunav.

Ledante...

ANANTH

Ledante?

WOMAN

Em ledu.

ANANTH

(serious now)

Sare... emo, peddaga gurthuledu kani... undedi oka girl friend.

(scratches head)

Aametho nenunnao naatho aame undedo telvadu... her initial on my hand, my initial on hers...
tattoo antar ana maata...

(grins)

Khaleja...



(she doesn't react)

(shows hand)

Maa madhya prema kante dooram ekvuntunde.

Andukemoo kalsi santoshanga undalankunam... kani phone lo kotladthunde... anthe.

He chuckles dryly, then regains composure.

ANANTH *(cont'd)*

Adantha sodhi le gani... accident lo iddaram poyinam.

Aame lekunte ne haayi ga undi.

Idedo... brathiki unnapude vidipothe, accident avvakunda undedemo.

Wish I had a loooong life...

(chuckles)

You know, Radhe Shyam... ade... fine, forget it!

WOMAN

Mari aame?

ANANTH

Emo... natho ledu.

Ade happy.

Poyinanka kuda... oooke godvalu... cha... evadki kavali!

She looks at him with disgust. Turns away.

ANANTH

(approaches slightly)

Ninnu chudanike ochinattuna ee intiki... emo, feels like a loop.

Ever stuck in a loop?

WOMAN

(uneasy for the first time)

A loop...

(stares at him, voice tightens)

You're different. Too real.

Are you even a ghost?

ANANTH

(smiling, leans closer)

What else?

*As he gets close, he notices an **initial 'B'** on her wrist.*

ANANTH

Entidi?

WOMAN

(looks down)

Ah? I don't know... idetla ochindi?

They lock eyes. Her expression softens. Her voice now kind and calm.



WOMAN

*Thank you... gurthu chesinanduku.
Vaalani pampi... I'll surrender.*

*Ananth nods faintly. Emotional. He steps out of the apartment, locking it. Outside, his **FRIEND**, nervous, waits.*

ANANTH

Yeah, aipoinidi ra...

*They walk casually. Ananth dials his phone. **Agency of Paranormal Entities and Xenos - APEX***

SHRIJA (V.O.) (on call)

Ananth, you can't just assign yourself to a case 'cause your friend owns the flat...

He switches phone to other ear, shielding the call.

SHRIJA (V.O.) (cont'd)

This entity is serious. Protocol says notify before—

ANANTH

(grinning)

Antha serious unnada?

Joke esthe kuda navvada?

Silence from the line.

ANANTH

Jaathirat... cinemalu chudava Supraja?

Sare, containment team ni pampandi.

Sector 32, Building A-13, Door 107.

SHRIJA (V.O.)

Sir, it's Shrija.

Already kept the unit on standby.

Boss wants a debrief. Apache Sector Command's already pinged Beta Vault for your containment logs.

ANANTH

Paatha cinemallo unde fun miss aithunav, Sirisha.

APEX Field Unit entha fast osthundo, nenu antha fast ochestra.

By the way, are you free this Sunday?

SHRIJA (V.O.)

Shrijaa, sir.

Unit's arrived. Return to Apache, ASAP.

He ends call. Twinkle in his eye.

FRIEND

Nuv lekunda ni unit lopala povadda?



ANANTH

*Chudu, these entities could be anything.
APEX doesn't just send brute squads.
Entities need to be coaxed into Beta Phase compliance —
either they cooperate, or we initiate Protocol B42.
It's my job to make them comply.*

FRIEND:

B42 enti ra?

ANANTH:

*(smirks)
The thing that leaves scorch marks on the walls.
I prefer a story and a handshake.*

FRIEND

Aame chethi mida tattoo kurinchi neeku...?

ANANTH

*Mama, plan lo general ga... disturbances and behaviour ni study chesi...
Old case files tho match chesi telustundi.
Eesari, nuv ibbandi undi annav kabatti, instant respond aiyina.
Tattoo... coincidence ani ankuntunna.
Naaku telvadu aame chey mida untundi ani.*

FRIEND

Mari... ni chey mida unna initial?

ANANTH

Amma suruku pettindi... teera chinnapudu...

FRIEND

Wah, anna...

Ananth is still visibly shaken by the memory.

They walk toward the corridor's end.

ANANTH

*Ha mama, nuvvem tension padedi ledi.
That entity shall be contained.
Flat lo haayi ga undachu.
Avunu... rent entha ee area lo?*

FRIEND

Arey... nuv adi contain chey raa mundu...?

CUT TO BLACK.



They walk a few steps.

*The **friend's phone rings**. He checks the screen, signals to Ananth.*

FRIEND:

(quietly)

One sec. Important.

ANANTH:

(confused, waves it off)

Fine fine... go on. I'll wait.

Ananth steps aside, leans on the railing.

INT. APEX – CONTROL ROOM – INTERCUT

SHRIJA (V.O.):

You broke protocol.

You weren't supposed to reveal the initial.

He listens, eyes narrowing.

SHRIJA (V.O.):

He's drifting.

Every loop, he remembers a little more.

This time... he noticed the tattoo.

FRIEND (calmly):

I know.

But... it's what the boss wanted.

He slowly turns, looking down the corridor.

Ananth is staring at him. Eyes wide. Unblinking.

He's heard everything.

His wrist? The tattoo is gone.

They lock eyes

FRIEND(on the phone): *Phase beta is done, commencing Phase Alpha..*

Ananth's lips part, but no words come out. Realizing what exactly happened.

CUT TO BLACK.

