

Characters

Rajesh: Father (mid 50s)

Amma (change) : Mother (mid 40s)

Arjun: Little Brother

Devavrath (change) Dev: Elder brother.

Saritha: Family Friends 1, Mother

Jagan: Family Friends 1, Father

Raghu: One of the cleaning staff working in the NEW BUILDING.

Sandeep: Called Sanji, by his friends, Security Guard currently appointed at the NEW BUILDING

Haneen: 22 year old student interning in the city in a start up company that "runs" in the NEW BUILDING.

Episode starts with surreal moment below..

Dev sits in the washroom, this is familiar, this is the washroom in his parents bedroom, but he is dazed and confused. Sitting on the commode with his pants down, phone on his hand, he's reflective, but also partially confused as to why he's even here. He scrolls through the phone, but he's looking just off the camera, and not at the phone.

(from outside the door-muffled)

AMMA

Dev! Stop sitting around texting that girl!

DEV

I'm not texting anyone!

AMMA

Sure. I've told you not to take the phone SO many times/then why are you sitting there!

DEV

I'm sorry amma... I'll be out in a sec/ond

*Just as he's finishing his words, **SOUNDS** of tension, low rumbles and high frequency, a sensation of loss of consciousness. The lights in the washroom start to flicker, and the scene goes into an almost slo-mo state, where DEV's world is breaking down, and in a second, we see a TOP DOWN shot of DEV falling, though it makes no sense as into what, currently it is on to the floor of his washroom, head first, his him hugging on to his chest, as he hits the floor, warp transition into DEV falling into emptiness, black (green screen?) nothing ness, where his fall keeps going.*

We go to a very long shot where now we're at the bottom of this fall and DEV looks like a small dot. Very slow shot where he slowly grows in the screen, till we realize he's falling towards us. It's a skydive in nothingess, and just as he's coming close, the only sound we hear if that of his his clothes fluttering to the wind, and his exasperated breaths, which gets louder and louder, till he's almost hit the camera, but then he makes a sudden stop. A bungee jump ending.

*DEV looks around, we still see him from the DOWN UP perspective, he's looking around to see where he is. We slowly float the camera around his body, to slowly get to the perspective of DEV, an OTS above his head. Slow reveal the **timeline***

Timeline is an eerie space, that exists in this black nothingness, There are spherical scenes playing, which look similar to planets arranged in various distances from floating DEV. Each scene seems random at first, but as we see DEV look into each, cuts to close looks of these "planets", they are actually moments in DEV life, most of which were from when he was around 3-16. These spherical/planet like structures aren't properly defined spheres as they are schenes playing out themselves, in a holographic manner, and their shape is defined by a faint greenish gray aura that floods as dusty, foggy particles, that sum up as a sphere.

DEV tilts his body, left, right, front and back to realize that he has the ability to "fly", and when he flies, he is actually going closer or away from one of these orbs, but also travels through time. (REFERENCE, game; Super hot). Every move he makes, time changes in all the spheres, but when he stops, time relatively stops/slows down.

DEV makes his way to an early one, he is around 4, and he looks to what seems to be a recreation of a moment he's seen on his wall many times, of him sitting on a blown up chair, eating from a tub of ice cream in a very different, small kitchen. AMMA is relatively very young.

AMMA enters

(childishly)

AMMA

Hellloo Devv, look at youu! Give amma some ice cream too pleeeasee

DEV takes his tub away so as to playfully not give it to AMMA.

AMMA

Hey! That's not a nice boy! Please give no?

DEV is about to give when the **WHISTLE** of the steam cooker blows, startling him, and taking AMMA rushing to it. As this happens the **TELEPHONE** rings, the old clunky wireless landline, the AMMA struggles to lock on by holding it with her head and shoulders, while her two hands are trying to fix the cooker from overheating and overflowing the inside water. Chaotic kitchin sounds.

(on the phone)

AMMA

Yes Salma! We'll be there, it's at 6 pm no? ..(hesitates)

Yeah yeah, I'm just finishing up the chutney and sambar, we'll be there in a bit! -

DEV slowly sees his younger self and and now floats into another one, this time more sure of his navigation of the space.

This time he reaches a scene which he's actually unfamiliar with, he's sitting in a broken down children's- toy car that's somehow racing inside a children's race track. AMMA and RAJESH are cheering him on from behind the three stacked "side lines"

RAJESH
DEV!! Go go go!

Amma is recording this in a camcorder, following up things Rajesh is saying in a lower volume more focussed I getting the camera angles right.

We see DEV's car have some issue, car gets weird and starts swerving. And there is commotion with Rajesh and Amma running in hectically.

Dev in the timeline now shifts faster into a third memory, and the sounds turn deep and low. He is sitting in the bathtub in a very different washroom. 15 year old DEV is holding a BlackBerry in his hand. He is shaky and is stuck with phone, sounds of messages ping omg in and phones vibrating.

From outside

AMMA
DEV! I can HEAR you in the phone. Why are you doing this?

DEV
(Clearing his voice and face so as to not sound like he was crying)
NO AMMA! I'm not doing anything! I'll be out in a second!

AMMA
To hell with you!

We hear AMMA storm our closing the outside door. We see DEV sink into the tub again, messages perpetually coming. He starts breaking down into a muffled cry, shallow st first, reaching out to switch on the the tap, then breaking down completely. He looks like he is crying out loud, but only in his face. He wants to cry and scream

but all we see if a muffled high pitcher shriek under the tap. After a long minute. He comes back into his senses, switched off the tap.

(To a voice message on the phone)

DEV

Please don't do this. I'm really sorry, I didn't know

message ping

Types frantically.

(Voice message again)

DEV

Please Please Please don't do this! I really can't do any—

DEV in the timeline is displeased and shaken by this memory, and just as he's about to fly into another one, we hear loud thumps that go from quiet to loud slowly. And as it reaches it's peak. We're back in the green washroom, DEV is on the floor. Heads down, and a brown liquid start to flow from his mouth (TOP DOWN shot again), while we hear AMMA and RAJESH

AMMA

OPEN the door DEV! What HAPPENED

RAJESH

DEV! Dev!

Door Banging continue into blackout.

Occasion: house warming.

Amma is tensed trying to get the sambar ready in time, as the guests arrive in soon (we do not know how long, as family in such occasions can show up anytime, the agreed time was 9, so the boiling of milk, Paal Kaachal, can happen at the (muhurtham?) auspicious time at 9.30, but 8 o clock is as close to 9 ,as is 10 on this particular day and in this particular family)

There is a cutting board with all the required vegetables, except the tomatoes, cut out, and her cabinets are barely filled with the essential spices and such, not too uncommon for a family that's just moved in, but bound to be overflowing with garam masala, chilly powder, pepper, cumin, and all such matter in the matter of weeks.

The stove is clean and new, but there is a steady stream flowing from the pressure cooker, that is slowly bubbling as the AMMA is prepping the dish before it's final closure.

AMMA is still in a green/pink nightie, and has her hair in a bun with the white towel (thorth), evidently having begun the cooking as soon as she was done with her morning shower.

RAJESH is busy getting his hair set right, obsessed with getting the right amount of clay, heat, and combing, Arjun, a mirror image of rajesh, is doing the same in the second mirror of their 4 door wardrobe in the second bedroom. Arjun is almost mimicking what his father is doing, both of them just about to be done with their perfect clothes for the occasion!

DEV is currently on his way from University about two hours away, and hopefully will make it on time for the occasion.

INT KITCHEN DAY 7 am

AMMA

Rajeshettaaaaaa, where's the salt and pepper
you bought last night!

Pauses her haste, waiting for a reply. No reply

Rajeshettaaaa!! Halloo!

Rajesh replies (screams) from the other room

RAJESH
AYYOO sorry! I kept that on top of the
microwave! I told you already di!

AMMA
Yeah. I got it. Sorry.

Continues hastily shifting between stirring the sambar, and adding each of the ingredients by hand, occasionally wiping the steam that is starting to build on her forehead. She is hasty but very careful, so stops in and out to check if the flavors are adding up.

CUT TO:

INT FAMILY BEDROOM DAY 7 am

ARJUN is looking at the mirror trying to fix his hair, but not happy at what is happening

ARJUN
Achaa, my hair isn't staying up. I want it to
stay up like this.
Mimics something like a mohawk

RAJESH
Hmmm. Ok Achan sheriyakithera. So, don't tell
amma, but I'll just put *little* bit of this
cream, so it'll stay nice and together..

whispers

Don't tell amma okay!!
Starts making his hair to something ARJUN likes, ARJUN starts beaming as it's finally happening!

CUT TO:

INT KITCHEN DAY 7 am

AMMA is now done, locking in the Pressure cooker with a sigh. She takes a second before realizing that she has to get dressed now, before everyone shows up, tenses and rushes out of the kitchen

CUT TO:

INT FAMILY BEDROOM DAY 7 am

ARJUN AND RAJESH squibble into position and strike sudden poses like GOOD BOYS! Hands on their Waists and legs spread out, with the energy of JAZZ HANDS! (they are caught) as AMMA rushes in.

AMMA

HEY! IS this what you guys are up to, I told
you guys to get ready and clean the rooms up,
and you're here playing around? And wait..
Whats this...

AMMA approaches arjun to smell his hair

KALLA KUTTAAA!! This is Gel no! THIS is badd for your haaaair!

RAJESH

It's fiiine it's fiine, just once or twice
won't do anything... Now you go get ready fast!
Saritha and Jagan will be here on time, if
not earlier, as usual. You don't want to look
like this when they're here.

RAGHI

HMM, wechiittttundu, Rendaaalkum.
(I'm coming for you guys when we're done!)

*AMMA walks towards the washroom in the other end of the bedroom, as
she walks*

RAGHI

Now both of you go out! I need to change and
get dressed.

CUT TO:

INT VAN MORNING

*DEV is in a broken down Misubishi minivan, along with a bunch of
other passengers making the 25 AED commute, that promises to get
from Abu Dhabi to Dubai faster than the similarly priced, "official"
bus. Time is of essence, so DEV picks the former, and is now leaning
on the window, the sun shining on him, and DEV is in a reflective
mood, plugged into a smooth and happy song (opening) looking into
the cloudy sunny day.*

*His "reverie" is interrupted by a sudden jerk/brake of the van,
evidently putting everyone into slight discomfort, the van slows
down, now evidently pulling over to a cop that has stopped the Van.*

*We see through an OTS how the driver is trying having a haggale of
sorts, as a low commotion of murmurs starts in the van, DEV still
plugged in, but less attentive and influenced by the song, but more*

*by the negotiation outside, with the building tension of being
delayed*

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INT BASEMENT ROOM MORNING

*Raghu is waking up to a dim room, the second bed next to him is made and empty, but the mats and blankets set on the floor (where his other two coworkers sleep) seem to be ruffled, and squandered off from. As he slowly grows awake, he checks his phone for time, and squints in confusion. It's only 7 am, and the shift doesn't formally begin until 8:30. He's not sure if his phone is showing the wrong time, or he's forgetting some kind of a thing he was supposed to show up early for; but for now, he cares more for the comfort of his bed, so he sluggishly falls back into the bed, to look into the ceiling. **Top down shot** of Raghu looking at the ceiling, hands behind his head, moving/nodding/budging side to side.*

His morning gaze is interrupted by a

RINGTONE **ottagatha thattiko* (cringey old Tamil song)*

He picks it up in a jerk

RAGHU
Hello?...

Hears nothing back

 Helloo? Yaar idhu?..... Yaaru pesringe?

Starting to get annoyed

HALLO! Yaaru pa idhu? Indha nerrathila
thungavum vuda mattan... thu.

Keeps the phone back on his side table with a soft bang. Wakes up, visibly annoyed that he's lost his sleep, scrambled around his room to find his uniform for the day.

Raghu goes into shower, playing songs, and having moving through the shower quick; comes out in his towel to change finally into uniform, montage ends with mirror shot of him using the Same cream Rajesh uses, to fix his hair into position, using the hand-comb

INT PUBLIC BUS MORNING

HANEEN is seen sitting with an empty seat to her Side, similar gaze to what DEV had in the previous bus ride, except not as laid out/chill. She gazes into the city, fixing her Hijab every now and then, her posture fixed and purposeful, somewhere between conscious and unhindered.

OTS/Side shots of the smooth motion of now being in the public bus, the one that shuttles between the DROP point of all busses in the City to the faraway spot that the NEW BUILDING resides in, so smooth as to capture the comfort that the swaying and inertia that sets when sitting in the bus; very different from what it felt like to be inside the VAN Dev was in. The bus is empty for the most, except for a few people at dispersed parts of the bus, the Morning rush evidently being less in the direction HANEEN is going to.

The bus stops, and we cut to the doors opening to the sound of the air brakes letting off the air, in comes DEV panting, disheveled and jumping on, having ran to make it just in time for the bus stop; Almost forgetting to tap in to the bus, he fumbles to find his Pass, taps, and lets out a sigh. He's made it.

As DEV makes his way into the bus, DEV and HANEEN meet for a second, and there is an acknowledgement, and DEV almost waves a hi, but stops halfway realizing he can't exactly place who she is. He moves slyly to a sit diagonally across HANEEN placing both of them in sight of each other, but not directly opposite.

DEV's PHONE RINGS

As DEV picks up the phone we shift to HANEEN's perspective, DEV is saying something into the phone, and she is noticing the semi commotion that DEV seems to be creating around himself. She is amused by the commotion, but slowly brings herself back into her ggaze of the city, just as her Phone buzzes with a message that reads;

*["Good Morning mole, how are youu", from
Acha]
(father)*

We see her face shift a bit, it isn't sadness, but the happiness in her face has dimmed a little, the sun still shining soft on her face.

INT FAMILY BEDROOM DAY 7 am

AMMA is at the Mirror, now fully dressed in Sari (traditional South Indian Wear) , the Sari almost puffing out a bit too much because of how new it is. She is almost done dressing up, now slowly placing her Bindi (Spot on the head) in the right place when we hear KNOCKS

From outside the door

RAJESH

Hellllo!! They're almost here come out fast!!

AMMA

OK ok! I'm comingg!

Puts on the bindi, which miraculously hits the right spot, causing her to pause in surprise for a second (at the mirror), finishes combing her hair, to swiftly grab her Lipstick and eye liners, to set those final spots up. She doesn't want to dress it up with a full on make up situation, but is again conscious of what she wears and is not about to step out looking one bit lesser than what she knows she wants.

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INT NEWBUILDING Lobby DAY

Raghu is standing in line to start his day off, his colleagues sign off the blue register atop the front desk one by one. The lobby is designed somewhere between futurist and minimalist, white walls faux-marble/gloss walls, with deep color inlays and such. Whereas, evidently a project that went down with the recession, the inhabitted experience of the building is very much like any other

building lobby in this city. Pamphlets/menu cards of nearby restaurants that say Free delivery, and in some way all mimic each other. The front desk is set centrally and is in front of a relatively large wall, behind which are three elevators. Outside the lobby, it is relatively dusty and sandy, and in the patch opposite to the building there is a construction site; clearly this part of town is only starting to be built on. Sanju speaks in malayalam, an Raghu in tamil, but both try replying to each other in each others language, which more often than not is just a broken version of their own language, spoken in a very weird accent, borderline derogatory of the other, yet both of them understand each other, and in subtext accept that they are trying to sound like they care and understand the other's language, more than anything.

As Raghu approaches to sign the book.

SANJU

Hello boss. How's the morning been?

RAGHU

Ah. Ok ok. Not that bad, but not really the best either.

SANJU

Why pa? Any problems at home?

RAGHU

Eh-Nothing like that, but just feeling a bit off. Someone called me out of nowhere, at like 5 am and like, I lost all my sleep. So today's a grumpy man day.

SANJU

Ha ha, ok ok , Grumpy man is all good, but the Tahzlildar might come in for checking this week, so try to keep your work tip-top

RAGHU

Good lord, is that idiot coming back again?

SANJU

Why do you say that? He's a nice guy, no?

RAGHU

He's a nice guy, for sure, but he's got a loose nut somewhere
In his head for sure.

SANJU

Oh noo! Don't say shit like that my boy.

Just shut up, and get to your work!

RAGHU

Okay, okay.. I'll see you then

RAGHU walks to grab his brush and bucket, filled with soap water, and rolls it to the elevator, presses, waits and enters the elevator. As elevator doors shut

CUT TO:

INT HALL DAY

*ARJUN is sitting on the couch, all dressed up, the TV is running, but he is on his phone, playing some first person shooter game (probably fortnite). Long shot of staying on him playing, in silence, no music, just the **sounds** of the room; **AC, TV**, and occasionally RAJESH or AMMA pass (in sound; **feet moving, murmur**)*

*(OFF screen) (Dolly-out/vertigo dolly begins very slowly)
Sounds of AMMA and RAJESH moving through the hall, arranging things, and rushing to get everything sorted in front of the prayer space.*

AMMA

Arjun

ARJUN does not budge.

AMMA

ARJUN..

ARJUN is the same.

AMMA

ARJUN!

DOLLY ENDS/Stops/Resets

Realising he messed up

ARJUN

Yes momm!! What happened!

AMMA

Why don't you walk into the television itself?!

Stop that and help Amma

ARJUN

OK ok! I'm cominggg!!!

*ARJUN rushes to help them, but just as he gets off the Sofa, the **Bell Rings . Everyone freezes***

AMMA
(*Whispering loudly*)
Oh No!! THEy're here!!!

RAJESH
(*Checking his watch*)
Noo...? There's no way they're here this soon..
AMMA runs into the bedroom saying

AMMA
Rajesh!! Please go check!

RAJESH
Okaaaay, but where are you running to?

AMMA
Rajesh! Stop asking me and go check!

Rajesh scampers to the door while Arjun follows behind. Rajesh checks the peephole and his action instantly becomes energetic! Opening the door and going into a huge hug!

RAJESH
DEV!! You're HERE!!!

DEV
ACHAA!! I'm herrr!!

ARJUN
ETTAAA!!!!!!

ARJUN and DEV hug and cuddle, while DEV continues to speak gingerly to the father,. It is a sense finally getting here, tired, but happy.

DEV
ARJUUN!! Vavvvee, how are youuuu. ETTa missed youuu

RAJESH
I really didn't think you'd get here on time you know?

DEV
Ayy. Don't say that...

RAJESH
I mean. Not like that, but like I saw no messages,
Calls, or anything, so I thought you might've
Forgotten..

DEV

No dad.. How would I forget this.

ARJUN

ETTA! I made this new toy with cardboard. It's like iron man, but im not sure if it looks like him. Can I show you? Also I made 3 paintings! I'll bring it now yeah?

DEV

Oh wow! Yes please arjunn

RAJESH

(to arjun)OK OK come come, We can show Etta everyrthing soon, butlet him go shower, and get changed first yeah?

DEV

Ok ok, is the breakfast all ready?

Pushing DEV towards his bedroom

RAJESH

Everything is ready, You just need
To get changed and come out!
I'll keep the towel on the door.

DEV

Ok ok,

As DEV turns to the short pathway to his bedroom, his face changes a bit. Not enough for everyone to notice, but there is a sense of hesitation/sadness that moves as he goes closer to the room.

CUT TO:

INT Bedroom DAY

As DEV closes the door, and locks it slowly, there is a sensible shift in his body. This is a familiar room and place, but not necessarily the kind of familiar thats pleasent. He looks around the room, which at the entrance where he just closed the door is where his cupboard exists, with stickers and photos stuck around that reminds him of many times. He's often wanted to rip it all off and minimalize the room, and contemplates on so this time too, but realizes he still wants to keep these bits of him. His hands hold the door handle, and above it reads a note he'd left himself a long time a go, it says/shows many things, but in capital, reads,

NO! Don't do it !

He smirks at this, and then opens his cupboard to find clothes, dusts it out of habit, and then walks into the washroom, leaving the second door open. While in the washroom he stays for a second.

***Sighs.** It's been a wild day for DEV, and he's glad that he's made it. Though this room and being alone in the washroom feels a bit off for him, but today, he's more hopeful. Today is to be with his family and friends, and he shows this through a stronger nod before which he takes his shirt off and gets into the bath.*

INT BATHROOM DAY

MONTAGE cuts to song similar to [this](#); paralell shots of Sree showering, reflective of the son he see's through window in the bathroom, while rest of the family continues prep. Actions

RAJESH cleaning up the house, setting cushions on the sofas, straightening bedsheets, and occasionally stopping to tuck his Mundu in properly.

AMMA moving all the now cooked dishes into servable utensils, arranging the prayer altar with the right bells, the matchsticks, thiri and all paraphernalia, eventually lighting the incense sticks and placing them in the holder.

ARJUN playing around, sitting on corners of couches and beds, shorter cuts of him, as we are only growing on this character, one shot of him tryign to steal a unniappam (sweet)

RAGHU goes through floor by floor, finishing his morning sweeps, occasionally meeting a familiar neighbour or two, shots of him stopping, on his phone, youtube, whatsapp. As Jagan and family arrives, Raghu is in the lobby again, he's familiar with them too, converses shortly as they enter the elevator.

HANEEN is very comfortable in her own space, multiple short cuts of her sitting on a plush yet minimal (possibly grey) couch, watching TV, there is no one else in the house, and so she is not wearing her Hijab. Additional shot of her making herself a small snack, crackers and cheese, eventually a good glass of wine.

*INTERCUT with shots of Jagan's family making their way up the elevators, montage ends with song coming to an end and sound of the **doorbell**. Sree's montage is last we see as he comes out of the door now fully dressed and ready.*

Cut to:

INT LIVING ROOM DAY/NOON

*Haneen is on skype with her father, lowered **TV sounds** in the background.*

HANEEN

Yes Wapa, I'm all good, settling in

WAPA(father)

But are the people in the office nice to you?

HANEEN

Yes yes, all nice only

WAPA

You don't seem to believe that too much?

HANEEN

Haha, no Wapa, trust me; just taking my
Time in adjusting to everything

...

I miss you all you know

WAPA

Yes molu, we know. Umma (amma/mother) has gone to
The bank, but I'll tell her to call you
When she's back yeah?

HANEEN

Sure. Tell her I miss her.

WAPA

She knows molu.

HANEEN

Tell her I had to do this

WAPA

She.. Knows, molu

HANEEN

I'll go now wapa.

WAPA

What happened? We just started the cal

HANEEN

I.. I need to send an email. Like reply..
It just came in

WAPA

Oh.. okay mollu. Please take care.

HANEEN

Yes Wapa, please go to sleep yeah?

WAPA

Yes yes.. Goodnight

We see hanaan cut the call and sink into her couch a bit. Not sad, but just dazed, confused, slightly. Cut to WAPA cutting the call, and we see Mother sitting straight across with half her face bandaged, she was there, she couldn't come on the call.

INT HALL DAY/NOON

Jagan, Gauruv, Saritha have arrived; of which Saritha, Dev and Amma are now standing at the entrance of the hall, talking

SARITHA

So Dev, how's college going?

DEV

All good aunty. It's happening.. Slowly

SARITHA

Happening? But all good? Grades?

DEV

Grades and all good aunty.

AMMA

Hmm, he's always distracted Saritha, I don't know what

DEV

(fake-ly) whaaat?

SARITHA

No no, it'll be fine. He'll slowly find his way

Entering from the sides.

RAJESH

OKay okay, enough small talk, lets get to it.

It's quite past the first one, we have to

Atleast catch the The second muhurtham

Following from behind

Come come come!

mixScene (Nashville Scene Begins)

Back to

INT HALL DAY/NOON

Everyone is just finishing up cleaning the floor, and once this is cleared, they get up. AMMA is furious, but doesn't show it as the guests are around.

AMMA

This boy is too much sometimes

You know!

SARITHA

No no, let it be. He's just

8 no? Once he's 12 it'll

all be fine

AMMA

They said that about DEV also, and

He's 21 now. No change anyway

SARITHA

Ayyyo. Nothing like that. I mean

Afterall he has changed. Why are you

Taking all this out on him

AMMA

Taking.. Hmmm ok ok, lets get to the food now

RAJESH

But..

AMMA

Oh yeah. Rajesh has a meeting at 2,

But he'll join us in the evening, no?

RAJESH

Yes yes, but I also have to get going

JAGAN

Rajesh man, but we came all the way no?

RAJESH

Sorry boss, but they called this
One weeks ago, I have to be there

JAGAN

Okay okay, just come back ASAP

RAJESH

"ASAP"

beat

Also, why don't you come with me Dev?
You can pick the car and come back.

DEV

Sure dad! I'll just grab something
Before I come though?

RAJESH

That's all good, I'll need 5 to get my bag set up

JAGAN

Okay Raghi bring the food then!

Cut to:

EXT WORKSHOP NOON

We see Nithin exit the washroom, grimy corner of the workshop, and rush to set his pants up. He is frazzled. As he makes his way to the garbage can and disposes a used condom, we see a person exit and run out diagonally from the washroom. As Nithin is about to slip back under a car he needs to be working on.

BOSS

Da Myre! Where were you ?

NITHIN

Just took a break boss..

BOSS
Your break isn't till 4

NITHIN
But sir..

BOSS
And what kind of a "break" was that fucker?

NITHIN
Just bad stomach sir..

BOSS
Bad stomach.. My ass.
Get back to work. I should've fired
Your ass last year itself.

NITHIN
Sir..

BOSS
Now stop whining and get back to work

Nithin rushes back, and is now in a frenzy, topples some of the tools, but picks it back and starts working on the Car again. As this happens, we see DEV being dropped off at the Garage. The Boss rushed to RAJESH and talks to him through the window, while DEV meets NITHIN and goes to check their car which is in another side of the garage lot.

BOSS
Hi Sir! You guys said you would come in
The morning to pick up no?

RAJESH
Sorry. Yeah we got a bit caught up

BOSS
No no, no problem sir.

RAJESH
Car ready?

BOSS
Yes sir!

RAJESH
I hope it'll be fine this time.

BOSS
Ofcourse sir. Everything's sorted. TIP TOP!

RAJESH
Ok ok, DEV will take it back

BOSS
Sure sir!

RAJESH waves bye and leaves rolling the window up.

INT WORKSHOP AFTERNOON

DEV
Looks great boss!

NITHIN
Yeah. I did most of it bro.

DEV
Well thanks my G.

NITHIN
All good.

DEV
I better get going though

BOSS comes walking in

DEV
Wahib sir! Thanks for everything.
I'll get going yeah?

BOSS
Yes yes!

DEV
Bro lets hang sometime this weekend?

NITHIN
Gotcha.
(Sarcastically) If he gives me the weekend.

BOSS

If you take half of your day off with no
Work then you might have to miss a weekend soon
Boy, quit playing!

DEV

Oops!
I'll be gone!

INT BEDROOM AFTERNOON

Short sequence of Hanaan, who's now changed into workout clothes, finishes her hair in the sports hijab, switches off her TV, setting her couch, tables, and fruits on it all right and assembled; ending of montage is her tying up her shoe taught and opening the door to head out.

FLASH cut

INT CAR AFTERNOON

DEV is driving on back roads of an industrial area (Al Quoz) on the phone with a friend.

DEV

Yeah dude, and I don't know what it is, but I
think she's cool?

....

Yeah, but I don't know yet, we chilled a lot over
summer, so like it might be something, but I kind
of don't know either.

....

Yeah.. I guess. Anyway.. I'll call you in a bit,
I need to grab something... No no, like tomorrow
maybe.

...

Brooo, sorry but like...

Ha ha, okay okay. Bye

*DEV cuts the phone while slowing down to pull into a parking
spot of a restaurant (Karachi Darbar)*

Cut to:

INT RESTAURANT AFTERNOON

Nithin is sitting at a table, supposedly eating lunch, but currently playing PUBG, his food left alone. As Dev comes in, he stops to order at the cashier, but then seeing Nithin, Comes in to grab a seat. Sitting in front of nithin;

DEV

Endha bro. Don't let the food go cold

NITHIN

AH! You're here! I thought you took the car and left?

DEV

I did bro, but like, I don't know. I went to the oasis center
And then got bored, so thought I'd grab something here

NITHIN

Gotcha.. But hows the car doing? The AC all good?

DEV

Yeah yeah, all good.

NITHIN

I don't want your dad getting all fired up again.

DEV

Haha, yeah yeah. He's not always like that

NITHIN

Well he seems like it every time he's around at our's

DEV

Maybe because y'all mess it up all the time?

NITHIN

Or *maybe*, the old man's growing too hold to handle his
Anger/right..

DEV

Well I wouldn't dissagree to that either..

NITHIN

See! He's gotten to you too!

DEV

Well it's not really like that, but yeah.

NITHIN

Tell me tellme! What's the banter

DEV

Get lost bro.

NITHIN

What man? Are you scared?

DEV

No but like.

NITHIN

But like what?

DEV

It's just that he doesn't understand sometimes. Like
He says that he does, but when I do tell him things
He like, flips on me anyway?

NITHIN

Oh yeah dude. Parents. Lol.

DEV

Yeah.

NITHIN

It's my mom, for me. She's all "liberal" and stuff
Till she finds out something that ticks her off and
It's downhill from there.

DEV

Yeah. It's so weird no?

NITHIN

Yeah, but I kind of understand them also. Sometimes?

DEV

"Sometimes"

NITHIN

No. Most times actually

DEV

Well. Yeah. I just think he's quite sad sometimes.

You know? He doesn't say it often, but I think..
He'd wanted to do a lot of things. When he was younger
You know?

NITHIN

Oh yeah.. That...

DEV

I see it sometimes. When he's had a rough day.
Or a tough fight with Amma.

NITHIN

See what?

DEV

Just that. Like, him feeling like he messed up.
Like he did it all wrong.

NITHIN

...

DEV

I mean he didn't you know?
He couldn't have.

NITHIN

Yeah..

DEV

I mean.. (sighs) I'm sorry
That kind of came out of nowhere

*Rajesh has been listening to the conversation, He was sitting across
the restaurant, and now slowly comes behind DEV.*

NITHIN

Na.. I get it... oh..

DEV

Well. Foods cold as hell I guess?

*Putting a sandwich in front of DEV, Rajesh taps on his shoulder from
behind.*

RAJESH

Aaand, you forgot to order your food. Again.

DEV

Dad?

RAJESH

"Dad"?

DEV

Wait. I'm confused

RAJESH

I was sitting there

Points to corner

And yes, I heard you.

And yes... You're not too wrong.

DEV

I..

NITHIN

Sir! Sit down sir..

RAJESH

No no, I need to get going/but I just wanted to

DEV

Dad, please.

RAJESH

Ok..

DEV

You know I didn't mean to be mean/right

RAJESH

No, son.

NITHIN

And I/ didn't

RAJESH

And you didn't mean to call me an old punk?

NITHIN

Yeah..

that...

RAJESH

Yup. I know that too.

DEV

I'm Sorry.. Dad

RAJESH

Why are you Sorry? You weren't too wrong
About what you said..

DEV

I.. I don't know.

RAJESH

Look, I'm in a hurry, so I do have to go now
But I'm not sad. I'm actually quite happy.
... relieved, even

*RAJESH is now in a reflective mood, almost looking across the
camera, than at DEV*

DEV

But wasn't I/being too much.

RAJESH

Like it feels good to know that my son
Knows me. Gets me... not completely, but a tiny bit
More.. that/ feels good

NITHIN

I think I should get /going

RAJESH

No no, you boys sit and finish up.
I won't be bother.

DEV

You're not a bother dad.

RAJESH

Sure.. ok Sree, don't make it too late.

Picking up DEV's wallet and placing it closer to Dev.

And don't forget this and then come home crying

DEV
I'm not 15 dad

NITHIN
You lost your wallet when you were 15

RAJESH
Oh not JUST /once when he was..
Dev says through laughs

DEV
That's enough dad!

RAJESH
Ok! Ok! I'll be gone then
RAJESH slips away, stopping before he exits the door for a wave.

NITHIN
I really do have to go though.

DEV
Break over?

NITHIN
Yup.

DEV
I can drop you back.

NITHIN
Your sandwich.

DEV
The car can take a couple crumbs.

NITHIN
It's your car my man.

INT LOBBY AFTERNOON/EVENING

SANJU
Raghu!!

...

Raghuuuu!
We have to go quick, the Tezhildar
Just called, he needs us to
Get to the camp right now!

RAGHU
Ok then take the Van and go!

SANJU
He told me to bring you along also!

RAGHU
Dude. I just finished my last floor

SANJU
Tahzildar's orders are what they are man.

beat

Now are you coming or not

*Sliding his mop and bucket set into the store room semi-angrily,
enough to show it, but not enough for it to topple over, Raghu join*

RAGHU
Okay man..

INT CAR EVENING

*DEV is driving back home, and NEW BUILDING is in view, music similar
to starting scene plays, sree again in reverie. As song goes into
slow increase of volume -*

HORN/Crash(not a huge crash)

Montage of car hitting a VAN (van that is taking workers from
Building out), and everything comes to screeching halt; music is
still playing.

DEV
Fuck fuck fuck fuck fuck!!!

Cut to:

EXT ROAD EVENING

Handheld footage of Dev getting out of car, rushing to the front to check on car as the Driver and people in VAN get out into a small commotion.

SANJU
What is this Man!

RAGHU
Dev? You're back?

SANJU
Eh! You both meet properly after we sort this.

DEV
Sorry Sorry Sorry/ Sorry

SANJU
I can't do anything with your sorries boy.
This isn't my Van, what will I tell the
Tahzildar?

DEV
Tahzildar?

RAGHU
Raghu man. But why didn't you say hi.

DEV
Dude. I saw you in the afternoon!
SANJU
SHUT UP RAGHU. We need to call the cops

DEV
The cops? But the car is not on my name

SANJU
I don't care man. Get your dad then.

DEV
Oh for fuck sake

SANJU
Should of thought of it when you drove
All that wreckless

DEV

I wasn't driving wreckless man

RAGHU

DEV man. I thought we were close..

SANJU

RAGHU! I will literally kill you.

beat

We're late to get the other people also..

AAAAAH What do we do!

...

DEV

I.. I don't know what/ to do

SANJU

Okay listen. You first call your Dad, and I'll
Arrange for the police.

DEV

No.

No no no. My dad *cannot* know about this.

RAGHU

Yeah thats not happening.

SANJU

Call!

DEV

But isn't there some other way we
Can get this sorted?

..

I can pay for the repairs?

SANJU

Repairs?! No one is going to touch
This Van without the green slip my dude.

DEV

Are you sure.

RAGHU

Yeah. Sanju knows his shit.
Sometimes, more than he needs to

DEV
But..

SANJU
But no buts...

***Police** short siren honks as we see patrol cop rolling down,
seemingly out of nowhere*

DEV
(Under his breath)
Well fuck me..

INT WORKSHOP EVENING

*Nithin is under a lifted up car, in his overalls fixing up the
chassis. His phone is playing the internet radio, it is a gossip show
going on for the evening. Boss rushing in.*

BOSS
Nithin!
... NITHIN!

NITHIN
What?... I'm not done with this yet..

BOSS
We need to call up Rajesh sir!

NITHIN
No! I finished their job, and it was
Perfect this time.

BOSS
No you didn't! I just checked

NITHIN
What do you mean I /didn't

BOSS
You fixed the AC right?

NITHIN

Yes..?

BOSS
Changed tires?

NITHIN
Yes...?

BOSS
What tires are we on right now

NITHIN
What do you mean what tires?

BOSS
NITHIN.. Whats the weather like right now?

NITHIN
Pretty frickin hot.

BOSS
Well then what "frickin" tires do we run on?

NITHIN
Summer tires?

BOSS
Well I just checked, and you tagged/out the winter..

Before the boss can finish, Nithin bolts up and runs to get the phone. We follow to see him rush to the bill register, trying to find the number, and trying, to no luck. The line is engaged.

EXT ROAD EVENING

The patrol car is parked behind the Van and the car DEV was in, all parked to the curb now. Two cops are taking notes of the damage.

COP 1
Who's name is this registered on then?

DEV
My dad.

COP 1
Then get him here.

DEV

Yes yes, I've called him.

RAJU

(to COP 1)

Sir it was him sir. Trust me
I'm just a guard, and I need to pick up people
Please give me the slip/ sir.

COP 2

Boss, it doesn't work that way. We need
Both the registration owners to show up
So we can get this going.

RAJU

But sir, my owner isn't here. Not even
In the country. He's a Tahzildar, I don't
Even know when he'll be here next.

COP 1

Look. I can't help you with any of that. Get
Him here, or we'll have to take both cars to the impound.
We see another car approach from the distance

DEV

But I'm getting my father sir?

COP 2

Ok we'll see about that when he gets here
*Rajesh arrives in a car and stops behind the line. Walks to the
cops.*

DEV

Dad.. I'm so sorry

RAJESH

Dev. you wait.

(stepping aside to officers)

Hello Officers, I'm sorry about this whole
Situation.

COP 2

No. Not a problem. We just need your registration card.

SANJU

And me sir?

COP 1
Wait man.

We see a person (haneen) jogging in track pants and a t-shirt from the distance.

The cops take a beat to finish up paper work

DEV
Dad.. listen to/me

RAJESH
DEV. *listen* to me.
Be. patient.

DEV
Sorry dad..
-Buzz Dev's phone-*declined through pocket by dev*

COP 2
Ok. All's sorted for now. You get the red paper,
And he gets the green.

SANJU
But you said you /needed my

COP 1
Take it and get going man.

RAJESH
Thank you so much officers.
I'm sorry for this situation.

Jogging person is getting closer, becomes more evident it's Haneen

COP 1
Nah, it's all good. It's barely a dent
But we gotta do what we gotta do.

-Buzz Dev's phone-*declined through pocket by dev*

RAJESH
I get you

SANJU
Thank you so much!

Cops wave a short goodbye and get into car and leave, and while this happens, there is an awkward silence between Sanju, Rajesh and Dev.

SANJU
I... should also get going then?

RAJESH
Yes Sanju. Sorry about this.

Beat

Come here, Take this
(hands him 50 AED note)

SANJU
No sir it's fine! it's /fine

RAJESH
No Sanju. Keep it, and please get going

SANJU
Ok ok.. It wasn't that bad Sir.

RAJESH
Yes yes.. OKay bye.

Sanju walks quickly and gets going, and as he leaves.

RAJESH
WHAT THE FUCK was that DEV!

-Buzz Dev's phone-*declined through pocket by dev*

And who is calling you all the time?

DEV
Dad.. It wasn't on.

RAJESH
It wasn't on.

Lowering his voice and coming close, noticing Haneen, who now closes in and passes them, turning the next corner quickly.

It wasn't on PURPOSE?

OFCOURSE it wasnt!

DEV

No. Dad. Trust me, I was being very present.

RAJESH

THEN HOW THE FUCK DID THIS JUST HAPPEN

DEV

I..

RAJESH

You..?

DEV

I. Don't know.

***-Buzz Dev's phone-**declined through pocket by dev*

RAJESH

Can you STOP THAT DAMN THING!

DEV

Yes.. yes..

RAJESH

Dev..

DEV

Yes dad..?

RAJESH

I..

beat

I lost.. My job.

DEV

What?

RAJESH

The meeting? I was rushing to? It..

It didn't go well.

DEV

And you lost your Job because of that?

RAJESH

Well They haven't told me that.
But I know it is.

DEV

What do you mean.

RAJESH

I mean, I lost.

My. Job. Son.

-Buzz Dev's phone

Fears of Characters:

DEV:

- i) Currently, of not getting home on time.
- ii) This also stems from in general not wanting to be the "bad" son, or in essence letting his parents down. He wants them to know that he loves them, though he isn't the best at expressing it/showing it/being consistently there for his parents/family
- iii) Of "failing" the image his father, Rajesh, constantly wants him to achieve. He doesn't want to be looked as the "disorganized" and unkempt child. An image that was not something he used to have, but as life grows on him, he realizes he is often looked into.
- iv) Of his lateness possibly making his parents further think less of him as an adult, as they often do, in his opinion/insecurity.

AMMA

- i) OF needing everything to atleast "look" right. She doesn't strive for perfection, but there is a certain threshold she's trying to maintain, of the image she wants her, but more importantly, her family, to maintain, especially in front of the guests that will be coming in today.
- ii) OF just wanting to look good, dressed well
- iii) Of the sambar ending up really bad!

RAJESH

- i) Of others getting to know of his tensions. He has a lot running in his head, especially with finances and the "market" heading the way it is, He wants, similar to AMMA, maintain, atleast inside the family, a certain image/sense of stability, especailly given this day had to go on in a happy note, to keep the auspiciousness going
- ii) of religion/superstition. Rajesh, though he tends not to talk too much, or likes to project it as much, is a very religious and superstitious person, and is in general slightly tensed that something might go wrong, which might symbolize not the best of energies in the home they've just moved into, which besides being

a downer in general, would not be the best given shifting homes/trying to organize other rituals to "fix" the issues would be something viable currently.

ARJUN:

I'm not too sure just yet. Simple thing right now is to just have his hair set the way he wants cas he does NOT want to look uncool

HANNEN:

Of survival, and not knowing what the future is. She was on track to start University studies, but financial situations deteriorated and her last resort of a full financial aid slips away, which was in the Same university as DEV. She met DEV during the admissions process a year ago, but DEV doesn't remember this. She does.

Notes:

- 1) Had to change the age from my own parents to younger because I couldn't fit them i) talking only in english ii) being so comfortable being emotionally viable in english iii) couldn't write in malayalam straight.