

Bday

Written by
Mohan Siddharth

Original

Mohan Siddharth,
B-504, Uranus,
Vasant Galaxy,
Goregaon West,
Mumbai - 400104

Mo: 9810540665

Email: msiddharth.b@gmail.com

- 1 INT DRAWING ROOM MORNING 1
A toy car is running around, up and down, here and there.
A young girl's hands are handling the remote control.
- NAINA (VO)
Anjali, doodh finish hua?
Dauda bhagi band karo,
uniform will get dirty
- There is no reaction and the car continues to roam around.
Little hands and feet running behind the car
- 2 INT SMALL ROOM MORNING 2
Lingering shots of thread/wool. Small fingers are doing
embroidery on a *rumaal*.
- 3 INT DRAWING ROOM MORNING 3
Suddenly, the car gets stuck under a book/dvd rack
- 4 INT SMALL ROOM MORNING 4
A needle pricks one little finger and a drop of blood
comes out. A painful sigh "aah"
- 5 INT DRAWING ROOM MORNING 5
ANJALI (VO)
Papa!
Father's hand picks up the car and places it on the floor
- 6 INT SMALL ROOM MORNING 6
Little girl licks her finger and restarts sewing
- 7 INT DRAWING ROOM MORNING 7
Anjali smiles at her father. Rishi (father) catches hold
of her and hands her the glass of milk. He is at the
kitchen counter wearing an apron over office formals
preparing a cake and has eggs, oil, flour, raisins etc
around him.
- RISHI
Arre idhar aa badmash.. ye doodh
kaun piyega?

ANJALI

Mummy ne bola hai 'badmash' nahi
kehte

Naina smiles, gets up from the table and goes to the
bedroom

RISHI

Oh sorry sorry, lekin ye doodh to
finish karo

Anjali adjusts herself on his lap, holds the glass of milk

ANJALI

Papa, papa aap kya bana rahe
hain?

RISHI

Hmm...C-A-K-E

ANJALI

CAKE!!! Yay! Lekin Papa aap cake
kyon bana rahe hain?

RISHI

Aap bataiye...

ANJALI

Kyon ki aaj Anjali ka happy
birthday hai

NAINA

aur ye Anjali ka Happy Birthday
Gift!

Naina brings a small packet in front of Anjali

ANJALI

Yay!!!...mera brithday Gift!!
Ismein kya hai?

She tries tearing the wrapping paper.

ANJALI (cont'd)

A Watch...Wow! 8 O'clock!

(Sound of bus horn)

RISHI

Chalo hurry up darling, your
school bus is here

Naina and Rishi help her wear the watch, school bag, water
bottle, I-card. As soon as Rishi opens the door their maid
Sunita enters

SUNITA

Sorry didi, aaj deri ho gayi

NAINA

Chal pehle bartan kar de. Bye
Anjali

8 INT SCHOOL CORRIDOR MORNING 8

A school in progress. Teachers getting children in classrooms, kids running around, peon dusting the grills

9 INT CLASSROOM MORNING 9

A bunch of 4-5 children, girls and boys are gathered around Anjali. She is proudly showing off her watch to her friends. Lots of giggles and chit-chat

GIRL 1

O wow...how pretty

GIRL 2

Its my *best* colour 'pink'

BOY 1

Arre mujhe bhi dikha na

GIRL 2

Ye girl's ki watch hai, boys ki nahi

BOY 2

Mere paas bhi watch hai

BOY 1

Isme time aata hai kya?

10 INT KITCHEN MORNING 10

SUNITA

(looking at the clock)
Aap aaj office nahi gayi?

NAINA

Arre shaam ko party hai na! To
aaj 'work from home'

Sunita is stupefied

SUNITA

Arre, Anjali baby ka janmdin!
Main to bhool hi gayi

Naina shuts her laptop and starts going to her bedroom picking her towel

NAINA

Very good. Tune Anjali ki frock
to theek kar di na? Aaj shaam
pehnani hai usko!

SUNITA

Haan haan didi...wo to kar di.
thodi silai udhari thi, par main
lana bhool gayi

11 INT CLASSROOM NOON

11

A plump Class teacher and children are in the middle of
reciting a fun poem

TEACHER & CHILDREN

An elephant walks like this and
that, He's terribly
tall and terribly fat,
He has no fingers, he has no
toes, But
goodness gracious, what a nose!

There's lots of chuckle and cheer. Kids shout excitedly
and repeat actions. The poem ends and everyone claps. The
teacher looks at the wall clock (11:30)

CLASS TEACHER

Okay children, time for some fun
in the water

CHILDREN

Swimming!!! yay!!

CLASS TEACHER

Quiet, quiet children...okay, so
pack your bags and form a line.
C'mon everyone

All the children are excited to get to the swimming pool.
Frantic activity, kids putting books in bag, removing
i-cards, removing watch, pencil box etc.

12 INT HOUSE AFTERNOON

12

Naina has just prepared coffee and talking with Rishi on
phone. The clock on the machine says 1:30. Her wet hair
are bundled in a head towel. Sunita is folding clothes

RISHI (VO)

Haan baba! I have already
canceled the evening call. Will
come soon

NAINA

Good boy. Chalo bye... Anjali
aati hogi

(to Sunita) Sun, aaj daal mein
chhaunk mat lagana. Dopahar mein
main hi lagaungi

(Sound of bus horn)

Sunita gets up to pick Anjali form the bus. Naina gestures
that she is going

NAINA (cont'd)

Aaj to ghar par hoon na

SUNITA

Haan. Main bhi jaati hoon. Shaam
ko jaldi aa jaungi

NAINA

Anjali ki frock lana mat bhoolna

SUNITA

Haan didi

13 INT SCHOOL AFTERNOON 13

The school is over. All the staff and children have left.
The peon is cleaning the rooms singing the same poem that
the kids were singing earlier but in a funny comical way.

14 INT HOUSE AFTERNOON 14

Anjali takes off the water bottle hanging around her neck
and throws her I-Card on the sofa/settee. Naina keeps the
school bag on the table. She helps Anjali change clothes
and gets startled!

NAINA

Where is your watch Anjali?

Anjali is stumped. Naina checks her bag but there are only
books and tiffin box. Anjali keeps staring at Naina with a
deadpan expression

NAINA (cont'd)

Hmm...go get my phone darling

15 INT CAR DAY 15

Rishi is driving home when he gets a message. Reads it. Surprised, smiles and takes a turn.

16 EXT SCHOOL AFTERNOON 16

After finishing his work the peon picks his bag and starts to leave on his bicycle.

As soon as he leaves, Rishi's car takes a turn towards the school.

17 INT HOUSE AFTERNOON 17

Anjali is video chatting with her Dadi

ANJALI

Nahi to swimming pool mein gili ho jaati na?

DADI

Hmm...ye to tum ne achha kiya, phir?

NAINA

Dadi ko batao ki phir pehnana bhool gayi

Anjali reacts and changes the topic

ANJALI

Dadi dadi, kya aap ko pata hai jis din birthday nahi hota hai, agar us din cake khate hain to kya bade ho jaate hain?

Dadi is stumped by the question

18 EXT STREET AFTERNOON 18

On his way home, the peon notices a watch shop and slows down

(Sound of door bell)

19 INT HOUSE AFTERNOON 19

Naina opens the door. Rishi enters, loosening his tie

RISHI

The weather is terrible yaar

NAINA
I know...ghadi mili?

RISHI
Nahi yaar, school band ho gaya
tha. We'll have to wait till
Monday

Anjali runs up to him, jumps in his arms and bursts out crying. This is the first time she has cried since she lost her watch

(Sound of knocking on the door)

20 EXT/INT HOUSE AFTERNOON 20

Sunita opens the door. Her husband enters. We don't see his face

PEON (VO)
lagta hai baarish aane wali hai,
umas kaafi badh gayi hai

Their little daughter NEETU jumps excitedly into her father's arms

NEETU
Baba, aap mere liye kya laaye?

Now we see his face. He is at a loss of words

21 INT HOUSE LATE AFTERNOON 21

Rishi carries a tray with two tea cups and a glass of milk to a table. Naina is finishing an official call. Anjali is sleeping on the couch

RISHI
Anjali get up darling, have your
milk...

NAINA
(on phone)
Ya ya...alright. Will add it in
the presentation. Alright.
Thanks. Bye

RISHI
Tired?

NAINA
'work from home' bhi asaan nahi
hota

RISHI

I know...! Anjali come on beta,
wake up time, it's 3:30

Anjali has woken up. Door bell rings. Naina gets up to open the door. Out of curiosity, Anjali follows her rubbing her eyes

NAINA

(while walking towards the
door)
People say its easy... but ask me

Naina opens the door to find Sunita standing in front of her holding a packet. Hiding behind her is her daughter Neetu

NAINA (cont'd)

Arre tu abhi se aa gayi?
(smilingly)... Aur ye peechhe
kaun chhup rahi hai!

SUNITA

Didi, main baby ki frock dene
aayi hoon, maine socha kahi kuch
reh na gaya ho!

Meanwhile both the girls peep out of their mother's backs and exchange sheepish glances. They are having a little play. This is a beautiful, slow, surreal moment, with children being very cute, mischievous and adorable

NAINA

Arre wah...Silai to pata hi nahi
chal rahi

SUNITA

To phir theek hai didi. Main
jaati hoon. Neetu ke papa ration
lene gaye hain, aate hi honge.
Samaan rakhwa kar main fauran
wapas aa jaati hoon

While their mothers are talking and the girls having their little play, Neetu accidently drops a *rumaal*. She bends to pick it up. Anjali notices that she is wearing a watch very similar to her own missing watch. Anjali is amused but doesn't say anything

NAINA

Theek hai, jaldi aana aur isko
bhi leti aana...shirmilee!

Anjali is confused and thinks, "is that watch mine?". Just when Sunita is about to leave, Anjali blurts out

ANJALI

Mummy, main bhi jaun aunty ke
saath?

Naina and Rishi are surprised.

RISHI

Betu aap kya karenge wahan
jaakar?

Anjali looks at Naina with pleading look in her eyes

SUNITA

Aane do didi. Main jaldi wapas le
aungi

NAINA

Theek hai, lekin pehle doodh
finish karo

22 EXT ROAD AFTERNOON

22

The three of them start walking towards Sunita's house which is a short distance away. Sunita is holding their hands and talking but Anjali is more concerned with the watch worn by Neetu. She is increasingly becoming sure that it's her watch. But how has it landed on Neetu's wrist? She hopes to find out the answer. She is fuming from inside but keeps walking silently.

Sunita takes a turn into a lane. Suddenly, there is a gust of stench. Anjali is appalled to see an overflowing garbage can. A few children are playing in the muck with rubbish. Some men are sitting and playing cards near an open drain. Anjali observes a slow but sure change in the air. They keep walking.

As they keep getting closer to Sunita's house, the lanes become increasingly congested, dirty, filthy and smelly. Anjali is amused by the area. Sunita takes another turn into an even smaller lane. There are a few goats tied in a corner and a few hen nearby. They have to walk carefully lest they step into a pothole or cow dung.

Anjali observes that the area and the lanes are markedly different from the kind of surroundings she lives in. It's a sort of discovery for her (*Aisa bhi hota hai*). There are flies and mosquitoes everywhere. A few women are chatting and washing vegetables. They seem to be oblivious to the dirt and filth around them.

Engrossed in observing this starkly different landscape, her sensitive mind is not thinking about the watch anymore.

The trio reach Sunita's house. "Is this where Sunita aunty lives?" her young mind wonders. Sunita opens the door. It's dark inside but Neetu hops in. Anjali stays rooted at the door. Sunita goes in and switches a light on. Anjali peeps inside. She is surprised.

23 INT BEDROOM AFTERNOON 23

Naina comes out of the bedroom and is surprised to see that Rishi has decorated the whole drawing room with balloons and buntings.

NAINA

O my darling! You know ...you are
the best dad in the world!

They hug eachother. Rishi looks at the watch - 4:00

RISHI

Lekin best dad ki best daughter
kahan reh gayi?

24 INT SUNITA'S HOUSE AFTERNOON 24

Anjali is bewildered and feels overwhelmed by what she has in front of her eyes. The whole house is all but one small room. There is a small make-shift kitchen in one corner, a ramshackle single bed, two chairs and a table

SUNITA

Neetu, ja haath dho kar aa. Aao
Anjali andar aao. Yaha baitho.
Kaisa laga hamara ghar?

Neetu removes the watch and keeps it on the bed before going to wash her hands outside. As she walks out, Anjali walks in slowly and sits on a chair. She keeps staring around. She notices there aren't any almira or cabinets. Clothes are left hanging on 2-3 ropes running along side a wall. There is also a worn out 'Usha Sewing Machine'. She is surprised to see a few of her own old clothes and old toys in this house.

Anjali notices her watch on the bed. She observes but doesn't pick it up.

SUNITA

Anjali baby tum ko pata hai,
tumhare janmdin ke liye Neetu ne
kuch banaya hai

Anjali is surprised. Neetu is back inside the room

SUNITA (CONT)

Arre ab sharmati kyon hai...
dikha didi ko jo banaya hai

Neetu holds Anjali's hand and takes her to a corner. Neetu opens a battered old trunk. There are many little knick-knacks, a few thread rolls, a small doll, cloths and a few *rumaals*. Some finished, some half-finished, but all of them have beautiful embroidery on them, done by Neetu.

She picks up a small neatly folded *rumaal* and presents it to Anjali

NEETU

Happy Birthday Didi

Anjali is extremely touched by what she is holding in her hands. It is a *rumaal* with 'Happy Birthday' embroidered on it by Neetu

NEETU (cont'd)

Kaisa laga...?

Anjali holds it, overwhelmed, somewhat embarrassed. Her eyes well up.

ANJALI

Sabse sundar!

This is the first time Anjali has seen such extremes. Beauty in such poverty. She is quite taken in by the fact that inspite of living in appalling conditions, people are content and lead such beautiful lives.

At that very moment, Neetu's father enters the house carrying grocery

PEON

Lo Sunita, aa gaya saaman. Beta
baahar do thaile reh gayein hain,
ja utha la... Arre ye kaun hai?

He notices Anjali sitting with a laddoo in hand

SUNITA

Main jinke yaha kaam karti hoon
na, ye unki beti hai - Anjali

Peon looks at Anjali. She recognises him, having seen him in school.

ANJALI

Aap to school mein rehte ho na?

PEON

(smiling)

Main rehta to yaha hoon, lekin
aapke school mein *kaam* karta hoon

SUNITA
(picking the watch from bed)
Arre suno, ye ghadi...?

NEETU
(running to pick it up but
Sunita resists)
Ma Ma! Baba mere liye laye
hain... hai na baba? Mujhe do na
Ma, mujhe do na...meri hai

Anjali steps forward and holds Sunita's hand.

ANJALI
Ye ghadi Neetu ki hi hai...
Return Gift!

Neetu is delighted and hugs Anjali

25 INT HOUSE EVENING

25

Naina is anxiously walking up and down while Rishi is checking mails on tab. She looks at the wall clock. It's 4:30.

Just then, they hear lots of laughter. Both of them rush to open the door and are surprised to see Anjali and Neetu giggling and running towards them. They are holding hands and carrying their gifts. Sunita and her husband are following them.

(End credits have shots of the evening party, where kids have a great time, cut cake, play games, laugh and having a lot of fun)

- END -

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This is to certify that I have registered this Script
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Written by Mohan Siddharth

Whose SWA Membership No. is 034883

On 28-07-2017

& as a proof thereof is placed below my digital signature and seal of the Association with relevant details in the
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