`Zindagi Restart'

A script by Ishan R. Mehta Email: <u>ishanm@hotmail.com</u> Mob: 9930754657

Registered with The Film Writers Association. Reg No: 157324

1. EXT-A track and field stadium, evening.

A dark African crouched low, looking straightfocused. Knees touching the ground, eyes not even blinking.

V.O: On your marks. Get set ...

The athlete straightens his upper body, set to run. A wheatish looking face appears in the same position next to him, also focused and looking straight.

Commentary: This race is essentially between Kenya's Tony Ryder and India's Arjun Khanna.

V.O: Go!

Tony lunges forward with 6 other athletes; they cross the starting line and dart ahead. The camera moves besides them as Tony pushes hard, stretching every nerve on his face and body.

Suddenly he breaks from the group and surges ahead, the camera follows him as the surroundings blur. The lone runner seems to be winning.

CUT TO: A top shot from behind.

Tony way ahead of the pack, while others running hard to catch up.

Commentary: Ohhh, Tony is dominating this race. No other racer is even in the picture...

CUT TO: A front shot of the track

A bend in the track, Tony pushing hard on the turn. Takes the turn, no racer in the background.

Commentary: (Loudly) Last 100 metres!

Tony on the straight 100 metre stretch, from behind him emerges a wheatish figure, running fast, really fast. It's Arjun Khanna, he crosses the turn and is now on the straight stretch. Both racers visible in the same frame, Tony leading.

Commentary: It's Arjun, coming from behind. (Ecstatic) Can he defeat Tony?? No, no, no....

Both racers run fast, Arjun seems to be inching forward. He is covering the distance quickly with rapid and big strides. Now, the gap is barely a few metres.

Commentary: Can he? Can he? No, no.....he is flying. He is flying, he can. Yes, he can, he can....

Arjun inches forward pushing with all he hasgrinding his teeth, putting in everything, comes level with Tony.

Cut TO: Side shot in slow motion

Both men push hard but still stay level. Arjun gets his upper body just ahead of Tony's.

CUT TO: Straight shot

Arjun and Tony, still level. The finish line clearly visible, just a few strides away. Both men push hard, perhaps for the last micro-seconds.

CUT TO: Side shot

Tony takes long strides, but Arjun's blue jersey is ahead. Tony puts in the final push. The finish line seen, now disturbed by Arjun as he goes past it. He raises his arms in delight. It's a photo-finish, Arjun just winning by about a centimeter.

CUT TO: Side shot

Arjun continues running.

Commentary: (Excited) He as won it, he has! The gold goes to Arjun Khanna from India.

Arjun continues running and slowly his surroundings start to change. His blue jersey changes to white, black shorts turn grey. He looks just as determined, looking straight while pushing harder. The track slowly gives way to light grayish concrete road and a railing on his right.

His white jersey dripping with sweat as a determined music goes on. The stadium has disappeared, he is now running on a wide empty concrete road with an I-pod plugged to his ears. It's early morning.

CUT TO: A back shot.

Arjun approaching a bend. The camera follows him and slowly it moves ahead of him. He is now running at full speed. The camera is now ahead of him, a front shot. He is about to take the turn when a car slams right into him. His body flies into the air and lands on the concrete with a thud. The car swerves violently as Arjun's shivering body lies on the ground.

CUT TO: Arjun

Arjun's legs hardly visible, just the red of blood can be seen. Lying in the middle of the road. As pain rips through his body, his body shakes violently for a few moments. He turns his head to look at the car.

CUT TO: The car

A black coloured Santro racing away with a Medical Cross on its rear window.

CUT TO: Arjun

Arjun struggles to keep his eyes open and then everything goes black, he goes unconscious.

2.EXT- Site of accident

Arjun's white jersey strikes a sharp contrast against the pool of blood he is lying in. 2 men quickly arrive with a stretcher. The loud blaring siren of an ambulance is heard in the background.

CUT TO: A medical personnel

A 40 year old man looks at Arjun's leg or whatever that is left of it. He sees nothing but cloth wrapped in blood. He can't bear the look of it, he is shocked. Then, he shrugs himself and looks at Arjun. Arjun gives him a big smile. Arjun is lifted on the stretcher and put in the ambulance.

CUT TO: Inside the ambulance

Arjun lying on the stretcher, now conscious. Wearing a spondylytis belt on his neck and a few medical veins inserted into his body. His face looks blank, as he is looking out of the window.

CUT TO: The medical worker

The medical worker is breathing heavily, looks uncomfortable. His body jerks forward as if wanting to vomit. He tries once but then starts resisting. He covers his mouth with his hand, looking uneasy. He then turns to look at Arjun's leg.

CUT TO: Arjun's bloodied leg, nothing more than pulp.

CUT TO:

The medical worker pushes his colleague in the next seat inward. He slams the door open. His body jerks forward as he starts vomiting. The car comes to a halt as he jerks forward once more.

CUT TO:

The other medical worker holding his colleague and patting his back.

CUT TO:

The man sits down on his seat in the ambulance, his breathing eases slowly. He takes a sip from a bottle of water. He then looks away trying to avoid the sight of Arjun's legs. He feels someone's hand on his shoulder, surprised, he looks to check.

CUT TO:

It's Arjun's hand, he slowly turns his face towards the man, his body jerks a bit. He gestures towards the man as if asking him, is he ok?

Then he slowly turns his head towards his lower body and makes an O with his first finger and thumb

telling him, $\ ''$ I'll be Ok''. Smiles and tries to flex his biceps.

CUT TO: The medical worker

The man is pleasantly surprised, he looks at Arjun with all the medical veins and injuries. He finally manages a smile, nods furiously and gives Arjun a 'Thumbs up'.

3. INT- Hospital ICU, night time.

Arjun lying on the bed with more medical veins inserted in his hands and also one through his nose. We can hear a beep at regular intervals. Arjun's face looks calm. A hand rests on his forehead.

CUT TO: Arjun's side profile

In the background of Arjun's side profile, we see a lady in her late 20's sitting on a chair. Dark long hair, milky white skin and a dimpled face. Looking at Arjun with a smile and caressing his forehead. Arjun slowly opens his eyes and he turns towards the lady, his wife.

Arjun: (smiling) Sonia!

He takes her hand and kisses it lightly, the camera pans. She smiles at him.

SONIA: Ab kaisa mehsoos kar rahe ho?

Arjun nods slowly, assuring her.

SONIA: Dard ho raha hai?

Arjun: Bas... (Pauses)...thoda!

She leans forward, kisses him on his left eye and then on his right eye. A big smile emerges on Arjun's face.

Sonia: (mischievously) Aur ab?

Arjun: (smiles) Better. (Pulls her towards himself, their faces next to each other). Can I get a heavy dose?

SONIA: Sure! (Yells) Nurse, nurse!

Arjun startled, pulls her close and kisses her on the cheek. First, she resists playfully. He starts kissing her everywhere on her face. She smiles, gives him 3 quick kisses and then pushes herself back on her chair.

SONIA: Ab, tum aaram karo.

She leans forward and kisses him on his forehead. She gets up to leave and then suddenly turns.

SONIA: (mischievous) Aur haan, kal subah jaldi uth jaana?

Arjun: (Confused) Kyu?

SONIA: (smiles) Training jo karni hai.

They both have a good laugh.

CUT TO: Arjun's face

The smile fades away, replaced by concern. He looks straight at Sonia, not pitiful but firm.

Arjun: Sonia, mein phir daud paunga na?

CUT TO: A hospital cabin

'Nahi, kabhi nahi'', says a man with milky white skin, black eye-brows covered with dark rimmed glasses. He is wearing a white overcoat.

CUT TO: SONIA sitting across the table

She keeps a straight face and questions the Doctor firmly.

SONIA: Kyu nahi?

CUT TO: Doctor

Doctor: Chot itni gehri hai ki ghaav bharne mein hi kayi mahine lag jayenge. (Pauses) Aur iske pairon ke muscles bhi kaafi weak hogaye hai.

CUT TO: SONIA standing at the exit, her face looking grim.

SONIA: Nahi.

CUT TO: Arjun

Arjun: Kaun kehta hai? (Looks worried)

SONIA: Doctors!

Arjun: Tumhe kya lagta hai?

SONIA: (smiles) You will!

Arjun: (smiles and then nods) I will!

SONIA looks reassured now.

SONIA: Good night.

She puts the lights off and walks out. Arjun takes a deep breath and turns away.

4. EXT- Hospital.

A ward boy is seen pushing Arjun's wheelchair through the hospital corridor.

CUT TO: A main door.

A nameplate reads, 'The Khanna's '. Arjun pushes the wheelchair close to the door. He looks up with a smile, then plants his hands on the chair and tries to get up.

CUT TO: His lower body.

He tries to move his legs, but he can't.

CUT TO:

His entire lower body is shivering; his face is full of pain. His lips are clenched tightly, looks up and then leaves his body to fall back on the chair. He is tired, sweating profusely. He looks at the door in disappointment. He turns to look at the ward boy.

Arjun: Exxcu.....(mutes his voice)

Stops himself from calling the ward boy, withdraws his hand. He looks at the doorbell again and then looks at his hands and starts to tap on the door as if he is playing tabla. He taps louder and louder, shakes his head in a rhythmic motion. SONIA opens the door, looking stunning in a white Salwaar Kameez. She is surprised on seeing Arjun.

SONIA: (happy and surprised) Arjun! Mein tumhe lene hi aa rahi thi. Lekin, tum itni jaldi kaise aa gaye?

Arjun: Bas tumhari yaad aa gayi. Toh, chala aaya.

SONIA slaps him playfully and tries to push the wheelchair inside.

Arjun: (admonishes her) Jaan!

SONIA takes her hands off the wheelchair.

SONIA: Accha baba, nahi karti tumhari maddat.

She walks away as Arjun rides his wheelchair behind her.

CUT TO: Dining table, night.

Arjun and SONIA sitting next to each other. Sonia is feeding Arjun, who is relishing the food. Arjun picks up a napkin, wipes his lips and gulps down a glass of water.

Arjun: SONIA, I love you!

She smiles, but Arjun picks up a morsel and starts eating.

Arjun: Muah. Muah. (He licks his fingers). Kya khaana banati ho tum. Wahh Wahh. Tumhare khaane bina mera kya hota?

SONIA looks at him licking his fingers. She starts beating him with a pillow, Arjun tries to escape.

Arjun: (laughing) Arre, arre mazak kar raha tha.

She lovingly feeds him a large piece of cucumber. But Arjun doesn't eat it, he just holds it in his mouth. He gestures SONIA to come forward and eat it, she squints at him. She nods disapprovingly. Arjun makes a sad face, she smiles, comes forward and bites the cucumber. Arjun tries to kiss her, but she pushes him behind.

SONIA: Toh kya socha hai tumne? Olympics ko sirf 2 mahine hi baaki hai. (She looks straight at Arjun).

Arjun: (firm) Sochna kya hai? Bas kal se training shuru. Jeetna toh hai hi.

SONIA: Tum sach much tayaar ho na? Are you sure?

Arjun: Yes, I am. (He smiles) Kyu koi shaq hai?

SONIA: (Sits back in her chair, seems relaxed) Nahi. Sirf test kar rahi thi.

Both burst out laughing.

5. INT- House, morning.

Sunlight illuminates Arjun's face, he reacts uncomfortably. He is snuggled up in bed, but his eyes start blinking and now he clears them. SONIA pulls the curtain.

SONIA: Good morning gold medalist.

Arjun turns to the other side of the bed and hurriedly draws a pillow over his head.

SONIA: (stubbornly) Arjunnnn....utho

Arjun: (still hiding under his pillow) Jaaaan, thodi der aur pleeeease!

SONIA: Silver medal chalega kya?

Arjun turns in his bed again to look at SONIA, irritated.

Arjun: (sadly) Nahi.

SONIA: (smiles, blows a kiss) Toh chalo, utho.

Arjun tries to get up, plants his arms on the bed and pushes his body against the wall. Arjun now leaning against the backrest accepts a glass of milk from SONIA. He looks relaxed as he takes a sip of milk.

SONIA: Ready??

Arjun's lips break into a smile as he nods.

CUT TO:

Arjun tries to get up, he looks at his legs, they just don't move. He looks in pain. SONIA rushes forward to help him.

SONIA: Arre, arre itni jaldi nahi.

Arjun puts his hand up, refuses SONIA's help. SONIA puts her hands up, says '' OK".

Arjun tries to move his legs, but he still can't. In fact his upper body has almost come to edge of the bed. SONIA smiles and as she lifts his legs ever so carefully but he is experiencing pain. She carefully helps them towards the ground.

CUT TO: Side shot.

SONIA on the floor and Arjun sitting on the edge of the bed with his legs touching the ground.

SONIA slowly lifts Arjun's left leg. She lifts it slightly more and Arjun starts yelling in pain. SONIA gives him a cold stare, that's enough to quieten him. Then, she slowly lifts his right leg, as she takes it higher and higer, again Arjun's face is filled with pain, but he does not utter a word. His body starts to rise due to the pain but SONIA continues as Arjun is able to bear it. SONIA holds his leg in that position for some time.

SONIA: Chalo, now move your fingers.

Arjun's eyes are tightly shut to bear the pain. He is nodding disapprovingly.

SONIA lowers his leg slightly, now he seems ok.

SONIA: Try again Arjun. Chalo, try.

CUT TO: Arjun's right leg.

Arjun's toe moves slightly, so does the second finger, but nothing else moves. He tries again, but only the toe moves.

CUT TO: Side shot.

Arjun's head comes forward as he tries to will his fingers to move. SONIA watches patiently but nothing moves. He jerks his head in frustration and looks down disappointedly.

SONIA: Koi baat nahi jaan, pehle din ke liye kaafi accha hai. Aur waqt ke saath tum theek ho jaoge.

Arjun: (desperate) Ek waqt hi toh nahi hai humare paas.

SONIA: (smiles) Tum sirf apne lakshya pe dhyaan do. Waqt apne aap mil jayega.

She gets up to leave.

Arjun: (looks at her) Hmm.... (Nods) Right!

She smiles and walks out of the door.

6. INT- Home

Arjun's bed, he is lying straight on the bed. Then he folds his hands behind his head and then brings his entire upper body perpendicular to his lower body. We hear him count as he goes through repetitions...'' 47...48...49...50''

He falls back on his bed after his last repetition. He tightly shuts his eyes and his upper body rises as he experiences pain and discomfort. After a second, he seems to be fine. He looks towards his lifeless legs.

CUT TO:

A shot of his extremely thin looking legs with a huge red scar running right from his knee up to the ankle.

CUT TO: Side shot.

He slowly moves his hands towards his legs, extremely cautious. Concentrating fully and moving it delicately. He then holds his thighs with his hands and tries to lift his legs to form an inverted 'V'. But he experiences pain; his legs from below the knees don't support any weight. As soon as he withdraws his hands, his legs collapse back on the bed. He yells in pains and clenches his fist.

CUT TO: His face, close-up.

His face looks convoluted, eyes and mouth wide open. Then he grinds his teeth.

CUT TO: His fists grab the bed sheet with great force.

CUT TO: Arjun pushing himself backwards to sit straight against the backrest. Now leaning against the wall, he is still breathing heavily and looks disappointed. We see SONIA in the frame, she was watching everything.

SONIA: Well tried Arjun.

CUT TO: Arjun nods, not truly believing it but just for the sake of it.

Arjun: (resigned tone) Ye mujhse nahi hoga. Kaise hoga?

SONIA smiles and walks towards him.

CUT TO: The camera moving, a side shot from behind the wall.

The camera moves right from behind a wall and we see Arjun doing crunches, counting.
'' 21...22...23...''. As the camera moves further

right, SONIA is holding Arjun's legs, every time he comes up, SONIA kisses him on his cheek, Arjun keeps smiling. He continues.. '' 48....49...50''

CUT TO: Arjun lying straight and SONIA sitting next to his legs. (Back shot) SONIA seated on a chair.

CUT TO: Top shot

SONIA holds Arjun's right toe and bends it forward and then backwards. She then does the same with his next finger. Now, she looks at Arjun.

CUT TO: OTS shot.

Arjun's resigned face visible from over SONIA's shoulder.

SONIA: Ab, tum koshish karo.

Arjun nods, holds his lips tightly together. He tries, the effort visible on his face. His eyes shut as he makes more effort. His head rises slightly because of the effort.

CUT TO: His toe doesn't move.

CUT TO: His body starts coming forward.

CUT TO: His toe, still unmoved.

CUT TO: Arjun.

His head drops back into the bed and he heaves a sigh of relief. He shuts his eyes to hide his disappointment.

CUT TO: Side shot, lying on the bed.

As he opens his eyes, he realises that SONIA is still holding his legs and he shifts sideways as she puts his legs down.

SONIA sitting on the ground, lifts Arjun's right leg. Arjun looks at her, but she is busy massaging the leg. Arjun wants to say something, looks restless.

Arjun: (Dejectedly) SONIA mein...

SONIA: (interrupts) Chalo, chalo jaldi apna pair uthao. Humare paas jyaada waqt nahi hai.

She had already sensed what Arjun wanted to say and hence diverts the topic quickly.

Arjun: (insistent) Lekin SONIA...

SONIA: (interrupts again) Arjuuuuuun. (She starts bringing his right leg down.) ...Arjun zindagi sirf jeetne ke liye hoti hai. Koi yeh nahi dekhta hai ki tum kitni baar haarein the, sab ye dekhte hai ki tum kitni baar jeetein the. Jeeta hua insaan wohi hota hai jo haar ko haraaana jaanta hai.

CUT TO: Arjun

He looks surprised, nods and then smiles.

CUT TO: SONIA

SONIA senses the surprise in Arjun's expression SONIA: (mischevious) Thoda jyaada hogaya na? (starts laughing as Arjun agrees. Hands over a glass of milk to Arjun.) Digest ho jayega!

Arjun bursts out laughing, he leans backward, his body jerks a bit.

Arjun: (in pain) Ouch!

M.K: Arre, arre sambhalke.

Arjun looks at SONIA with great affection.

SONIA: SONIA, I love you.

He spreads his arms wide while SONIA gets up to give him a loving hug.

SONIA: I love you too. (Hugs him tightly. Then sits down again.) Chalo, abhi exercise karo.

Arjun smiles and then slowly he is able to lift his right leg.

7. INT-House.

Top shot of Arjun lying on the bed with white innerwear visible. His left hand is inside his innerwear. After a few seconds, he heaves a sigh of relief. He removes his hand from his innerwear and with it is a pee pot full of a yellow coloured liquid. He seems relaxed and uses his left hand to push his body back and lean against the wall. He keeps the pee pot on the adjoining table and relaxes.

He then throws his jeans over his legs and struggles to put his legs inside it. He first pulls the left side of the jeans, then lifts his left leg and pushes it inside. He does the same with his right leg but faces a lot more difficulty. Once his legs are inside, he leans backwards and tries pulling the jeans upwards. He wriggles his body vigorously. He pulls hard but the jeans is stuck on the left side. He lifts his upper body to the right side and pulls his jeans. After a lot of struggle, his innerwear is still visible.

CUT TO: A side shot from which the door is visible.

He is still trying to put on the jeans completely when the door opens and SONIA enters. Arjun embarrassed, quickly turns. SONIA looks away and takes a backward step.

SONIA: Mein maddat kar du?

CUT TO: OTS SONIA

Arjun's back to SONIA, lying on the other side. His white innerwear is still visible. He looks very tired and exhausted.

Arjun: (embarrassed) Nahi SONIA turns and shuts the door.

CUT TO: Top shot

Arjun finally manages to pull the jeans back on and spreads out on the bed. Breathing heavily, tired of his effort. He turns left to look at the table.

CUT TO: The table

He sees a pee pot and a table clock next to it reads, $^{\prime\prime}$ 10.00 $^{\prime\prime}$

CUT TO: A top shot.

He makes a bad expression on looking at the pee pot and then looks at the surface, blinks once and then stares at the ceiling curiously.

CUT TO: A huge printout stuck on the ceiling. White background and red fonts read '' 75 days to go''.

CUT TO: Arjun nods.

Lying on his bed as the camera starts moving towards the right. Arjun puts his hands at the back of his head and starts doing his crunches ...'' 1...2...3...4''. The camera keeps moving right.

CUT TO:

Arjun lifts his leg by himself..''29...30...31... 32''. The camera continues moving right, passes a wall.

CUT TO: 2 legs just a few feet above the floor. Slowly they lower themselves. First the left foot touches the ground, the toes inspect the ground. Then the foot moves around searching for the perfect footing. Slowly, even the right leg is lowered.

CUT TO: A long shot

Arjun standing with wide, 4 legged crutches and SONIA standing a step away from him. She is holding the crutches with one hand and giving Arjun support. Arjun holds on tightly onto SONIA's hand, she slowly directs him to put another hand on the crutches. Slowly Arjun manages to stand straight without SONIA's help.

SONIA: Shabaash, chalo ab dheerein dheerein chalne ki koshish karo.

Arjun nods and gingerly plants his crutch forward and then takes baby steps. SONIA walks a step ahead keeping one hand on the crutch. A close up of Arjun where he is looking intently at SONIA.

CUT TO: SONIA standing with a slight hunch, eyes wide-open with expectations. She gestures to Arjun with her hands to walk forward.

Gradually her features begin to change, her hair turns bright white, her skin becomes wrinkled, her hunch becomes more prominent and she suddenly sports a walking stick in her hand. She looks ugly, smiles to show off her toothless mouth. Then a hand emerges, SONIA holds that hand and pulls it forward. The hand is of a man on a wheelchair, SONIA pulls the man with her hands. The man turns to look at Arjun, the face is old and ulgy, but familiar. SONIA keeps walking on with a stick, pulling the younger man on the wheelchair, the man is Arjun himself. Both of them keep moving ahead, then SONIA turns.

SONIA: Arjun, Arjun (softly) (Loudly) Arjun.

CUT TO: Arjun's startled face, SONIA's voice jerks him back to the reality.

CUT TO: Arjun nods disbelievingly, '' Kuch nahi, kuch nahi' and tries to walk.

8. INT- House

Arjun sitting on a bed with SONIA on the floor, carefully massaging his feet. Starting from his feet, she carefully moves upwards till his knees.

Arjun: SONIA, kya kehna hai Doctors ka?

SONIA: Kis baarein mein?

Arjun: Mere Olympics mein khelne ke kitne chances hai?

CUT TO: The spectacled Doctor.

Doctor: No chance.

CUT TO: SONIA still massaging his legs.

SONIA: 50%! Unka kehna hai ki agar tum mehnat karo toh possible hai.

Aur hum possible karke dikhaeneg. Kal se tayaar ho jao.

Arjun: (smiles) Kis cheez ke liye?

SONIA: Woh toh kal hi pata chalega.

The camera zooms out as SONIA continues massaging, a door slams shut.

CUT TO:

A metal alarm clock rings loudly on the side table, a hand slams it shut. A second of silence, it starts ringing and vibrating again. The hand gropes and puts it off again. It starts ringing again as the camera zooms out. Arjun gets up looking irritated and slams the alarm clock shut. He sees a black track pants and a grey T-shirt. He picks up a note adjoining it, it reads '' Get ready for the Olympics''. Arjun looks surprised, he moves his legs and puts them on the ground and that is when he sees 2 pencil crutches and a pair of shoes.

CUT TO:

Arjun lying on the bed, he wears the T-shirt over his track pants. He is already wearing his shoes. Now, he slowly holds both the crutches in his hands, puts his weight to try and get up. He pushes his body upwards but feels uncomfortable. He pulls the crutches closer and once more tries slowly. He manages to get up.

CUT TO: A front shot.

He stands slowly, trying to erect his body. He first tilts to the right, then to the left and loses balance and falls back into his bed. He puts his weight on them again and is not balanced.

Arjun: SONIA!!!

CUT TO: The breakfast table.

SONIA applies butter on a thin slice of bread when she hears Arjun calling out to her. She quickly takes a bite of the bread and puts headphones of her I-pod. She chuckles when he calls out more impatiently, pretending to read a newspaper.

CUT TO: Arjun.

At getting no response, Arjun slowly balances himself and starts taking one step at a time. First the left crutch, then the right crutch and the left leg.

CUT TO: The breakfast table.

SONIA bites into a piece of bread as Arjun emerges through the door, very slowly. He looks at SONIA, she glances at him.

SONIA: Arre tum aa gaye, (removes her headphones). Mujhe bulaya kyu nahi?

Arjun: (with attitude) Zaroorat hi nahi padi.

CUT TO: SONIA's close up

She gestures with her face as if she is impressed.

SONIA: Toh chale?

Arjun: Bilkul.

He takes quick steps towards the door and holds it open for her.

SONIA: Thank you.

9. EXT- Joggers park.

Arjun and SONIA standing outside a huge wooden gate.

Arjun: Yeh kya hai?

SONIA just smiles and pushes the huge wooden gate open. Inside Arjun sees a 20 something zip past him. He sees just fit bodies running, it is a Joggers park.

CUT TO: A back shot of Arjun and SONIA.

As the gate opens completely, a huge circular track made of red brick appears. It is full of young people testing their speed. One after another runner zips by. SONIA turns to look at Arjun.

SONIA: Ye track 400 metre ka hai. Chalo aaj dekhte hai ki tum yeh kitne time mein kar sakte ho?

Arjun turns towards her and then glances at the track.

Arjun: Theek hai. Kaunsi baddi baat hai?

CUT TO: A front shot

SONIA: Good. Your time (pauses) starts now!

Arjun looks at her surprised.

Arjun: What?

SONIA: (nods and gestures towards the track) Go, go, go.....

Arjun slowly starts walking; another runner almost bangs into him. He avoids him and hesitantly walks to the inner edge of the track. He starts walking.

CUT TO: 2 ladies

Coming from the opposite direction. They both keep staring at Arjun's leg and talk discreetly as they pass him.

CUT TO: Arjun.

Arjun continues walking slowly; he keeps looking down to avoid people's sympathetic looks. People coming from opposite direction keep staring at him. Then an old man, white hair, short with a hunch stops a few steps away from Arjun. He keeps staring at Arjun's leg with a look of pity. Arjun becomes very conscious and is now just looking down. The old man again curiously glances at him from head to toe. Arjun looks away as the old man finally walks.

CUT TO: SONIA

SONIA: Arjun, race, race!

CUT TO: Arjun's face.

He nods with the realization and starts moving faster.

CUT TO: Side shot.

Arjun planting his crutches forward vigourusly. But the same old man passes him, giving Arjun a glance. Arjun ignores him. Then a ball rolls past Arjun, it fires him up. He puts in even greater effort to be faster, he is now sweating

profusely. He is going faster, breathing heavily but to his surprise a small 7 year old kid easily goes past him. Arjun looks at the kid in disbelief, he realises that for all his effort, the speed is just not there.

He stops, exasperated and ready to give up. Strangely enough, the kid stops and smiles at Arjun. Arjun smiles back and starts walking towards the kid. But as Arjun is just 3-4 steps away, the kid starts walking fast again. Arjun stops for a second and realises that the kid wants to race, he starts walking faster. Again the kid walks a few paces and then stops for Arjun. As soon as Arjun reaches close, the kid starts again with a chuckle. Arjun is now panting for breath, his body loses control. He starts to fall and is saved by SONIA just in time. SONIA holds him as the kid with the ball runs away. SONIA holds him tightly.

It's only when Arjun stops does he sees the huge wooden gate and he realises that he had walked the entire 400 metres.

SONIA: Dus minute, pehle hi din mein, not bad haan.

Arjun is sweating profusely, literally gasping for breath. He let's go of his left crutch and just relaxes as it falls on the surface.

SONIA: (suddenly) Good idea!

Arjun still panting looks confused and gives SONIA a disgusted look.

Arjun: Kya?

SONIA looks at Arjun just standing on his right crutch and Arjun realises her intentions.

Arjun: (shaking his head) Oh no! oh no.

SONIA: (Nodding her head) Oh yes! Oh yes. Kal tum sirf ek crutch ke saath training karoge.

CUT TO: Front shot.

Early morning, lots of runners running towards the camera. From among them emerges Arjun dressed in bright clothes and walking on just one crutch. As he walks limpingly, a ball rolls past him again, it's the same ball. From behind emerges the same young kid.

CUT TO: Side shot.

The kid goes past Arjun and then signals Arjun to follow. Arjun stops for a second, smiles and then starts to chase the kid. The kid takes a lead, stops to taunt Arjun as he tries even harder. And this time Arjun seems to be catching up, he runs after the kid and almost manages to catch hold of the kids T-shirt. In fact he even touches him, but the kid manages to cross the finish line just in time. SONIA is standing, watching Arjun gasping for breath but smiling. He looks at SONIA expectantly.

SONIA: (impressed) Sirf saat minute, bahut khub!

Arjun looks up and experiences relief. SONIA makes him stand upright and kisses him on his head.

CUT TO: SONIA and Arjun seated in a car.

SONIA seated in the drivers seat, turns the ignition on. But something is missing, she looks left, then she looks right. She even searches the back of her car but can't find it. She turns off the ignition and rushes out of the door.

SONIA: Mein apni bag bhool gayi.

She whizzes past the gate as Arjun watches her.

CUT TO: SONIA

SONIA looking down, she accepts the bag and says '' Thank You''. A small hand comes up as if asking for something. SONIA smiles, removes a chocolate bar and hands it over to a boy. She kisses him on the cheek. When she withdraws, the boy is seen, the same one who was racing against Arjun.

SONIA: Ohh, thank you beta. Kal zaroor aana, (Lowers her voice) Aur jyaada chocolates milegi.

CUT TO: The kid nods and then winks at her.

CUT TO: SONIA winks back at him and kisses him.

10. INT-House.

SONIA sitting on a couch. She takes the remote and puts the TV on.

On the TV screen, a dark short man with a fully grown beard can be seen yelling on the top of his voice.

'' Arjun ka ant mein aapka swagat hai. Aaj hum baat karenge Bharat ke purv runner, Arjun Khanna ki.

Ji haan, wohi Arjun Khanna jisne commonwealth games mein gold medal jeeta tha. Wohi Arjun Khanna, jo Bhartiya khel jagat ke ubhartein hue sitarein the. Lekin ab who sitara doob gaya hai, unka career lagbhag khatam hi hogaya hai.''

SONIA gets up and walks away while the TV is still on. The camera zooms into the TV.

CUT TO: Another TV set, same program

'' Ek accident ne Arjun ke career par paani pher diya hai.''

The camera zooms out, the anchor continues talking at a high pitch.

"Ji haan, hume toh yaha tak khabar mili hai ki Arjun apne pairo par khade bhi nahi ho sakte. Woh apni wife ke sahare se chalte hai. Ji haan, darshako, sochiye ek 24 saal ka naujawan ladka jo apni wife ke sahare ke bina ek kadam bhi nahi chal sakta hai woh Olympics mein kya daudega? Ek aurat pe ek naujawaan pati ka boj."

As the camera continues zooming out, we see Arjun watching the same show. Suddenly a door opens and SONIA enters. Arjun hurriedly switches off the TV, SONIA notices that.

CUT TO: Side shot

SONIA sits down next to Arjun on the bed.

SONIA: Taangon mein dard hai?

Arjun: (irritatedly) Nahi!

SONIA: Lao, mein dabba deti hu.

Arjun angrily moves is legs away. SONIA is hurt but not surprised.

Arjun: SONIA, kya tumhe ye sab kabhi ajeeb nahi lagta? I should be pampering you.

SONIA smiles and now carefully takes Arjun's legs on her lap and starts massaging them.

SONIA: Nahi. Arjun, ek rishta do logo se banta hai. Aur acche waqt mein toh sab khush rehta hai, lekin pyaar ki test toh bure waqt mein hi hoti hai na.

Arjun: Kya mein tumpar ek boj hu?

SONIA: Tum mere pati ho.

Arjun: (dissatisfied) Kya tumhe bura nahi lagta ki ki tumhe mere pair dabbane padte hai?

SONIA: (smiles) Tumhari jeet mein hi meri jeet hai. Aur tum fikr mat karo, jis din tum theek hogaye na, mujhe bahut pamper karna hoga.

Tears roll down Arjun's cheeks as he hugs SONIA. He husg her tight while she strokes his back. Suddenly SONIA pushes him back lovingly.

SONIA: Aur tum yeh gussa kisko dikha rahe the?

Arjun: (smiles) Kissiko nahi.

SONIA: Apna sab gussa, frustration, track pe dikhao. Itna dikhao, itna dikhao ki duniya dekhti reh jaye.

11. INT- House, early morning.

An alarm clock on the table starts ringing and vibrating loudly, Arjun's hand silences it. He

rolls his eyes, he looks up and sees, '' 70 days to go.'' He quickly gets out of bed.

CUT TO:

Arjun sitting on the bed with crutches next to him. SONIA standing in front of the bed. SONIA comes forward and gives her hands to Arjun as support. Arjun tries but can't muster the courage, he sits down again. He tries to use his crutch but SONIA widens her eyes and moves her first finger from left to right to indicate a no. She again offers her hands, Arjun holds them and slowly gets up. He starts walking, one step at a time.

CUT TO: Joggers Park.

Arjun walking cautiously on the track. Suddenly Arjun feels someones hand on his shoulder, he turns. It is the same old man. He smiles at Arjun and gestures towards the track and makes a running motion with his hands. Arjun smiles and agrees. The old man starts walking, his body unstable and hunch more prominent than ever.

CUT TO: Side shot.

The old man walking ahead while Arjun is following. Slowly Arjun closes in and at the last second crosses the finish line just before the old man. He looks up at SONIA.

SONIA: (impressed again) 6 minutes!

Arjun nods approvingly.

CUT TO: House

Arjun lying on the ground and lifting his legs alternately to make it perpendicular to his upper body.

CUT TO: Treadmill

Arjun walking on the treadmill.

CUT TO:

A close-up of his shoes, still walking slowly. Then with a few big strides, the walk turns into a fast jog. Then the strides become longer and faster and finally into a full fledged sprint.

CUT TO: Joggers park.

A motivational music begins as Arjun starts running on the track, he passes the old man, gives him a smile.

The old man continues to wobble along, Arjun passes him again and again.

CUT TO:

The old man sitting on a bench. Arjun smiles at him as he goes on for another round.

CUT TO:

As Arjun continues running, a red ball comes and hits his legs. He looks at it and smiles.

CUT TO:

It belongs to the same kid, he asks for the ball.

CUT TO:

Arjun looks at the kid, dribbles the ball, then picks it up on his ankle. Then jerks it upwards and

the ball lands on his thigh. He jerks it again, high enough for him to head it back to the kid. He continues running.

CUT TO: A TV show, the same presenter.

'' Ji ha, Bharat ke ubhartein sitare, Arjun Khanna phir maidan mein utaar aaye hai. Unhone Olympics mein medal jeetneki than li hai. Aur yeh ek aisa champion hai ki jo koi cheez ek baar than le who haasil karke hi chain ki saans leta hai. Arjun Khanna, tumhare jaise naujawano ko humara salaam.''

CUT TO: Arjun

Arjun smiles sarcastically as he watches the report, SONIA is sitting next to him. Arjun looks at her, they both have a good laugh. Arjun turns to SONIA.

Arjun: Toh ye hai bharat ka ubharta hua sitara jo kuch dino pehle duniya par boj tha?

SONIA: (sarcastically) Aur agar Olympics pe nahi jeeta toh bhir duniya par boj ban jaeyga.

Arjun understands her intent and nods.

Arjun: I will!

12. INT- House

A loud whirring noise and the impact of shoes on the treadmill. The camera pans right, Arjun is running fast on the treadmill. He wipes sweat off his brow. The door bell rings, he looks towards the door. Arjun: Mein kholta hu SONIA.

CUT TO: The main door

Arjun opens the main door, a postman gives him a letter and walks away. Arjun hurriedly tears the envelope and reads

'' Mr. Arjun Khanna, hum aapko is saal India ke best athlete sportsmen hone ke naate se World Sports Congress, Kenya mein invite karte hai''

Arjun, full of excitement as SONIA enters the hall.

SONIA: Kya hua?

Arjun: SONIA, mujhe sportsperson of the year hone ke naate se World Sports Congress se invitation aaya hai.

SONIA takes the envelope from him reads it and then hugs him tightly.

SONIA: Champion, aap toh abhi se hi hero ban gaye.

Arjun: SONIA, chalo jaldi jaldi tayariyan karni hai. Meri kal ki hi flight hai.

13. EXT-Airport noon (in-film branding scene)

A side-view of the red and white Kingfisher Airlines aircraft shining in the afternoon sun. A van approaches the plane and the passengers get out of it.

CUT TO: Entrance of the plane

Arjun dressed smartly in a black jacket and light blue jeans enters the aircraft, a beautiful young airhostess welcomes him on board. Airhostess: Welcome aboard Kingfisher Airlines sir. Hope you have a great experience flying the good times!

Arjun: Sure!

The camera follows him through the ladder as he enters the plane, he finds his seat and settles down comfortably in it. Arjun goes through magazines as the airhostess approaches with chocolates and cookies.

Airhostess: Chocolates and cookies?

Arjun peeps from behind his magazine and nods.

Arjun: No thanks.

The airhostess gives him a smile and points to the TV in front of his seat.

Airhostess: You can also use our in-flight entertainment system to listen to your favourite songs or watch your favourite movies.

Arjun puts the magazine down as the airhostess moves ahead. He puts on the TV and his headphones. He seems to be enjoying a movie and then after some time. He streches his seat and comfortably sleeps in it.

14. EXT- Plane just before landing

The plane flying as the sun rises in the background. A slow but foot tapping African music starts as images of Kenya's national parks, forests, waterfalls etc flash on the screen.

CUT TO: Landing

The music continues as the plane lands and Arjun gets in a car. The car passes beautiful buildings but slowly the concrete structres disappear. The city is now far behind, Arjun now sees the diseased Africa.

As the vehicle races through muddy roads, Arjun sees poverty like never before. He sees people dying of diseases, insects waiting for a feast and malnourished children the size of soft-toys. He cringes as he sees a group of vultures feeding on a carcass just a few feet away from a small boy who seems unaware of their presence.

CUT TO: Arjun

Arjun's face contracts, he swallows a lump and now the music becomes even more tragic. He hides his face into his hands, completely shocked. He looks outside and mutters, '' Thank god, I am an Indian.''

Arjun is violently pushed forward as the jeep comes to a screeching halt in front of a huge stadium.

CUT TO: The stadium roof

The compound is full of colourful flags of different countries and behind them a board reads. World Sports Congress.' Foreign delegates are seen walking around.

CUT TO: INT- Auditorium

A sweeping view of the entire audience, plenty of people and colour. The camera pans right, we reach the centre stage, where the curtains are unveiled. Thunderous applause ring through the auditorium as a man wearing a black suit appears on stage. He

looks around, gladly accepts the applause by a bow. Then he starts announcing.

'' Ladies and gentlemen, please welcome our first Speaker of the evening, who will talk about winning a few medals if not more. The champion runner from India, Mr. Arjun Khanna.''

As the presenter moves aside, from behind him emerges Arjun wearing a black tuxedo and is given a standing ovation. Lights follow him up to the centre of the stage, he then waves to the crowd.

CUT TO:

Arjun and the presenter both shake hands.

Presenter: Kindly stand up for the Indian national anthem.

CUT TO:

The Indian flag fluttering high. The camera pans right and Arjun is looking at it with pride as the drums start to play the initial tune of the Indian national anthem.

CUT TO: A back shot of Arjun

Arjun standing in front of the huge audience in rapt attention. Suddenly, a lot of movement can be seen in the audience. Even whispers can be heard, they get louder and louder. The anthem stops abruptly and the curtains are drawn. Arjun looks horrified as the curtains are drawn, he rushes backstage.

He can still hear the crowd whispering. The presenter rushes towards Arjun with an apologetic face.

Presenter: We are sorry, really sorry but we could'nt let you present.

Arjun looks disgusted and confused.

Arjun: But why?

Presenter: How could we let you present when India itself has hardly won any medals?

Arjun looks down, humiliated and embarrassed. He doesn't say a word more. The presenter keeps his hand on Arjun's shoulder for a moment, to console him and then rushes inside.

Arjun slumps into a chair, he looks at the Indian flag, not fluttering anymore as if hanging its head in shame.

But suddenly, music starts to play. He walks towards a balcony to get a view of the stage. The drumming goes on as the whole audience is standing in attention. Arjun sees a tall and strong African man on the stage. Arjun can't understand what's going on, he waits.

As the music stops, the presenter announces

'' Please welcome our speaker for the evening, Mr. A Taibu, a 2 time gold medalist from Kenya and a world record holder.''

The whole audience is on its feet again giving this man a standing ovation.

The man smiles, he looks over his shoulder, then looks at the curtains. There is something mischevious about his antics.

Man: (Mischevious) I hope they don't pull me off stage too.

The crowd erupts into laughter.

Man: Ahhh, they won't. Thank God, I am a Kenyan!

Arjun's face is full of disappointment; he puts his head down and walks away.

15. INT- Arjun's house

A harsh cut from the previous scene. A small African boy smiles, his white teeth contrasting against his black hair. A lot of African people walking around, just their lower bodies visible, covered with minimal clothing.

The camera cuts through the crowd, a man's figure can be seen. His back to the camera as he looks lost, the camera gets closer. The man glances to his left side.

CUT TO: A ragged thatched hut

A mother sitting outside the hut and feeding her baby. She is wearing torn clothes and there are 2 more kids around her. But all are wearing gold medals around their neck. They all smile at Arjun.

CUT TO: A wide shot

All the African people walking around are wearing gold medals around their necks. The camera goes closer to the man, he turns, it is Arjun. He hurriedly looks left and then right.

CUT TO: A small girl, with a medal around her neck.

CUT TO: Arjun rushes after the girl to catch her but she escapes his reach. Arjun also tries to catch a small boy standing nearby even he escapes him.

CUT TO: A huge group of African people, shining gold medals hanging around their necks.

CUT TO:

Arjun wakes up with a jerk, just a light from some distant source illuminating his face. It's dark around him, he is sweating profusely. He puts on the light and then he stares long and hard at something.

CUT TO: Shoes on a treadmill

Shoes pounding away on the surface of a treadmill. The camera moves upwards to reveal dark black shorts, white t-shirt and sweat flying all over the place. Arjun is staring in the mirror and pushing himself harder every moment. Arjun shuts his eyes.

V.o: 'Thank God, I am not an Indian.''

The same dialogue repeats itself in is head. Arjun opens his eyes with a jerk, stops the treadmill. Breathing heavily he looks at the mirror in front of him.

V.O; '' Thank God, I am not an Indian.''

Arjun nods disappointedly and starts the treadmill with greater determination.

CUT TO: The treadmill

Shoes slowly start to move as the treadmill track is slowly set in motion. Very quickly, the track is

running at full speed and the shoes are pounding on the treadmill again.

CUT TO: The control panel of the treadmill

A hand ups from the speed from 8 to 13 KM's/hour.

CUT TO: Arju running determinedly on the treadmill.

CUT TO: The pounding gets louder and louder and the strides get bigger and bigger.

CUT TO: Control panel, the speed goes up from 13 to 17 KM's/hour.

CUT TO: The shoes so blurred due to speed that they are almost invisible.

CUT TO: Control panel, the speed goes up from 17 to 24.

CUT TO: A wide shot

Arjun running with great speed and great determination. A loud thud is heard, Arjun is lying flat on the ground, clutching his left leg in immense pain. His shoe gets stuck in the treadmill, he loses his balance and falls awkwardly on a moving treadmill. He moves violently to move off the treadmill, while crying out because of the pain. He keeps shifting to reduce the pain, but then something catches his eye and he stares at it.

CUT TO:

The time table on the ceiling reads, $^{\prime\prime}$ 60 days to go. $^{\prime\prime}$

16. INT- Hospital, narrow corridor.

2 ward boys and a handful of others hurriedly pass through a narrow corridor as Arjun seems unconscious. SONIA seen on the rear side of the stretcher, looking worried, in fact extremely worried.

CUT TO: A hospital bed

Arjun looking pale but manages to smile at SONIA, who is sitting next to him.

He puts out his hand, SONIA holds it and squeezes it tight. She gives him a comforting smile.

Arjun: Mein theek hu?

SONIA: (reassuring tone) Tum ekdum theek ho, Tumhe sirf aaram ki zaroorat hai. Ab tum aaram karo.

As Arjun nods, SONIA leaves.

CUT TO: Door of Arjun's room.

SONIA exits from the door. Someone calls her name, '' Mrs Khanna, Mrs Khanna''

Arjun sees a man's figure come and stand next to SONIA through a small window in the door.

Man: (impatient) Mrs Khanna, ek complication hai. Chot ki wajah se Arjun ko lumbar fracture hogaya hai jiski wajah se chot ka zeher saari body mein phel sakta hai.

SONIA: (worried, takes a deep breath) Solution kya hai?

Man: (softly) Iska ek hi solution hai (he can't look SONIA in the eye) hume Arjun ki zindagi bachane ke liye jald se jald Arjun ki left taang amputate karni padegi.

SONIA's heart skips a beat as a tear rolls down her cheek. She is stunned into silence for a moment, she looks away frustratingly. Then regains her composure

SONIA: (halfheartedly) Theek hai.

CUT TO: Arjun cringes as he hears that, he can't believe his luck. He shuts his eyes tight and buries himself in his pillow.

CUT TO: Arjun's bed, morning.

As Arjun's eyes slowly get used to the light, he is feeling numb. His eyes are red and puffy and he looks a bit disoriented. Also moves very slowly and looks very tired. He is covered in white blankets from head to toe, only his face is visible. Arjun sees SONIA, she smiles at him. He asks her to come closer, she does.

Arjun: Mujhe bahut thakaan mehsoos ho rahi hai. Doctors mera pair kab amputate karne waale hai?

SONIA is a bit surprised, she squeezes his hand tightly and gives him a smile. She holds her tears and nods slowly.

Horror grips Arjun's face, he turns his face away from SONIA. Stares blankly at the ceiling, then takes a deep breath and looks at his lower body completely covered in blankets. He stares at it for quite sometime but finally gathers the courage to pull the blanket aside.

CUT TO: Arjun's lower body.

Arjun can see his right leg through his pyjama but his leg is just not there. He tries moving it but nothing moves. He falls back in his bed.

CUT TO: SONIA

SONIA looks at Arjun just staring at the wall, she has tears in her eyes. She slowly pulls Arjun towards her while Arjun continues looking away in shock, his eyes wide-open.

17. INT-house

Arjun opens his eyes, lying in a blanket on his bed. He turns to other side, then he gets up.

CUT TO: Floor.

2 bright yellow coloured chappals lie next to each other. Arjun moves his legs right above the chappals, something catches his eye in the corner of the room.

CUT TO: An artificial leg in one corner of the room.

CUT TO:

He wears his right chappal and starts limping with the help of a crutch.

CUT TO: Bedroom door.

A door is slammed open as Arjun enters the living room. SONIA sipping tea, hurriedly rushes to help him but is rudely stopped by Arjun's raised hand.

CUT TO: SONIA's face.

She looks a bit surprised as Arjun is limping, she looks carefully and realises that he is not wearing his artificial leg.

CUT TO: Arjun

He loses his balance and is about to trip when he catches hold of the table and stabilizes himself. He then pulls a chair and sits on it.

CUT TO: SONIA

SONIA looks at him expecting him to say something, he doesn't. Her eyes are fixed on Arjun but he is avoiding eye-contact. Then finally Arjun looks towards SONIA as if searching for something. SONIA's hopes crash as soon as she realises that Arjun is searching for the remote. He finds it and puts on the TV.

CUT TO: A TV show

A short, dark man with a full beard.

"Ji haan, Bharat ke mashoor runner, Arjun ka career kal sahi maino mein khatam hogaya. Doctor ko bimari phelne ke darr se unki Left tang amputate karni padi aur issi tarah Arjun apahij hogaye."

CUT TO: Arjun gets irritated and presses the remote hard to change the channel.

CUT TO: A lady news reporter.

'' Aaj ka Arjun apahj hogaya, woh kabhi...''.

A blackout for a second as the channel changes.

Another female anchor, '' Arjun haar gaya''.

Another second of darkness as the channel changes.

This time it's a race on TV, in fact its Arjun's

gold winning commonwealth games race. But suddenly the screen goes dead.

CUT TO: The breakfast table.

Arjun slams the remote on the table and turns to walk away. SONIA looks at him, she rushes towards him and hugs him from behind. He holds her hands.

SONIA: Arjun, ek haadse se zindagi nahi badal jaati...Tum aaj bhi..

Arjun: (interrupts angrily) Tumne suna nahi usne kya kaha? Mein ek apahij hu, apahij!

SONIA: (patiently) Kissi aur ke kehne se kya tum apahij ho jaoge?

Arjun: Kissi aur ke kehne se kya pharak padta hai? Tum dekhna chahti ho? (Pushes his chair behind and takes the table's support to stand straight.)

CUT TO: Arjun's lower body

He is wearing black shorts and as he struggles to mainatain his balance, just his right leg can be seen.

CUT TO:

Arjun: (angrily) Maan jao SONIA, mein apahij hai.

CUT TO: SONIA's face as she is disgusted.

SONIA: (angrily) Haan apahij ho. Lekin ek taang chali jaane se zindagi khatam toh nahi ho jaati Arjun. Tum naahi ye maan na chate ho aur naahi isse ubharne ke liye kuch karna chahte ho. Agar tum maante ho ki tum apahij ho, toh apni nakli taang

kyu nahi pehente? (Stresses) Kyuki tum ye baat maan na hi nahi chahte! Common Arjun, we will fight this, together!

CUT TO: Arjun's face.

Arjun is surprised by this sudden outburst, realization dawns upon him. He doesn't know what to answer, tries to avoid SONIA as he is confused. His face becomes pitiful. He simply turns away and limps back to his room. SONIA looks disappointed.

CUT TO: A dark room with just a hint of sunlight

A man whose face is not seen, picks up a copy of Times of India. The headline reads, ' Arjun loses left leg, quits!' accompanied with a picture of Arjun. He slams the newspaper on the table and walks away angrily.

CUT TO: Arjun enters his room and stares hard at something, it's his artificial leg.

18. INT-House (Mukhi's first scene)

A door bell rings, SONIA opens the door. Outside, a fair man of medium height and build bows in a Namaste. SONIA gives him a questioning glance.

Man: Mera naam hai Vijay Mukhi. Mein apahij logo ko sports ki coaching deta hu.

CUT TO: SONIA's face

SONIA lets down her guard, she nods asking Mukhi to step in. They sit down on opposite chairs.

Mukhi: Maine Arjun ke baarein mein newspaper mein padha. Toh maine socha ki mujhe aapse ek baar baat karni chahiye.

Aise kai log hote hai jo janam se hi bina ek aankh, bina ek haath hote hai. Lekin kai aise log apni taqdeer khud likhte hai. Duniya ke kai sports heroes apahij hai. Duniya inki apahijta ko nahi dekhti kyuki ye world champions hai. Log inhe disabled kehte hai lekin mein inhe specially-abled kehta hu.

SONIA, listening with rapt attention, she is happy listening to this. A glimmer of smile emerges in her eyes.

Mukhi: Bhagwan inse jo cheez cheen leta hai unke badle mein woh inhe ek alag hi hunar deta hai, ek dimaagi shakti jo kissi bhi musibat ka saamna kar sakti hai.

CUT TO: The bedroom door opens slightly, Arjun peeps out, starts listening.

Mukhi: Mujhe lagta hai ki Arjun kaafi talented hai aur hum uske ye hunar se usko uski zindagi wapas dila sakte hai.

SONIA is extremely happy, Arjun enters the room limping. Mukhi stares him down from head to toe.

Arjun: (angrily) Ji nahi shukriya, koi zaroorat nahi. Dekh nahi sakte ki mere saath kya hua? Mujhe koi sympathy ki zaroorat nahi. (He points ot the door.)

Sonia: (gets up, yells) Arjun!!

Arjun: SONIA, ye mujhe handle karne do.

Mukhi: (calmly) Arjun tum naseeb waale ho ki tumhari sirf ek tang hi nahi hai. Kai logo ki toh dono haath aur pair nahi hote.

Arjun: (interrupts) Toh tum mujhe kya ehsaas dilana chahte ho? Ki agar meri ek taang chali gayi toh koi badi baat nahi.

Mukhi: (curtly) Nahi! Tumhari zindagi woh hoti hai jo tum usse banana chate ho.

Arjun and SONIA both looked stunned.

Arjun: (surprised) Isse meri zindagi barbad hogayi hai aur tum kehte ho ki..

Mukhi: (disappointed, interrupts firmly and pulls out a card) Agar harne se tang aajao aur jeetne ki umeed jaage toh mujhe zaroor phone karna.

Mukhi smiles and bows to SONIA, gives Arjun a disgusting look and leaves.

19. INT- House, early morning

The sun rises outside, Arjun wakes up. Sitting on his chair, he catches a glimpse of his artificial leg. Thinks about trying it, after a few moments, hops towards it.

CUT TO: Arjun on the bed.

He looks up the artificial leg properly with curiosity. Puts it on his limbs and tries to strap it. As the artificial piece completes the broken leg, he looks at it, trying to feel it. He gets up, slowly balances himself and gingerly walks towards the mirror. He sees his reflection; the brown plastic of the artificial leg irritatingly stands out against his original leg.

CUT TO: Road used for morning walks.

Arjun walks cautiously on the road, passer-by's clearly notice his artificial leg as it remains unhidden from public view. They stare at him, at times quiet irritatingly. Arjun looks away to hide his embarrassment. He continues walking grudgingly not wanting to look anyone in the eye. He reaches a garden.

CUT TO:

He sees 3 benches. The first one is occupied by 4 young, healthy guys having a laugh. The camera moves right to another bench, occupied by an old man. The camera starts moving right, but wait, it moves to left again for just a second. Moves right again, am empty bench but a dog sitting on it.

CUT TO:

Arjun walks up to the bench and sits right next to the dog.

CUT TO: Wide shot

2 crowded benches but Arjun sitting alone on a bench next to the dog far away from other people. A boy of 3 years old playfully crawls towards his bench. Arjun smiles at the boy, but the boy is distracted by the black strap hanging from Arjun's artificial leg. Arjun gets embarrassed as the boy begins playing with the black strap. Arjun tries pushing the baby away, but the baby continues. Now, the boy starts pulling the leg, Arjun gets angry. He tries shooing the boy away angrily with his hands but to no avail.

Arjun: (raises his hand, angry voice) Nahi...nahi

CUT TO:

The baby scared, stops and watches Arjun for a moment. Then he starts laughing, he chuckles and starts pulling Arjun's leg again.

CUT TO:

Arjun takes a deep breath, tightly holds the baby with his hands and pushes him away angrily. The baby's face becomes red and he starts crying loudly, literally wailing.

CUT TO:

A fat, middle-aged woman rushes towards the bench, picks up the baby and starts comforting it. She looks at Arjun and angrily mumbles something.

Woman: Taang se hi apahij ho, ya dimag se bhi?

Arjun's expression changes from guilt, his face fills with rage.

Woman: Chotta bacha, kya sochke tumhe ispe haath uthaya?

Arjun: (furious) Agar itna hi pyaar hai toh apne pallu se bandhkar rakho. Kya pata (pauses) kabhi gaadi ke neeche aakar mar jaye.

The woman is stunned, a crowd has already gathered by now.

Woman: Arre arre, ek toh galti karte ho upar se ulta bolte ho.

Arjun: Kya galti ki? Itni akad hai toh apne bache ko samjhao na.

Woman: Arre ye toh bacha hai, tum toh badde ho na.

One fit, young guy comes forward.

Man: Jaane do, jaane do, dekhte nahi retarded aadmi hai!

The comment stings Arjun as the whole crowd starts laughing. The man pulls the woman's hand and turns to leave.

Arjun: Retarded hoga tera baap!

The man turns, angry as hell. Arjun tries balancing himself but the young man rushes ahead and pushes him back. Arjun falls back on the bench.

Man: (mocking Arjun) Kya karega? Kya karega tu?

The whole crowd erupts into laughter as Arjun struggles to get up, but he does.

Man: Kya karega?

Arjun raises his hand to slap the man, the young man swiftly takes a backward step. Arjun misses and struggles to balance himself. Arjun tries again, but the same result. Everyone starts laughing again, one man yells ' Jaane do yaar, jaane do'. The whole crowd turns away. The young man charges at Arjun just to stop a few feet away, but Arjun loses his balance and falls. The man mocks Arjun again just before leaving. Arjun looks thoroughly embarrassed; he doesn't even look up trying to hide his face.

20. INT-House.

Arjun totally dejected, his face full of pity. He is thoroughly embarrassed, still looking down, he spots his black Velcro strap standing out against the light brown of his artificial leg. His face becomes full of anger, he hurriedly un-straps his leg, pulls it off with jerk and throws it out of the window.

CUT TO:

The artificial leg flies out of the window and lands just a step away from SONIA. She is stunned for a second, she glances at the leg and then at the window. She picks up the leg, looks disappointed and walks into the house.

CUT TO:

Arjun enters the room, but without his crutches. He uses the wall as a support, SONIA looks at him and reacts dejectedly by nodding her head. SONIA seated on a sofa watches as Arjun now tries limping without any support. But surprisingly, he manages. SONIA points to a table.

SONIA: Tumhari coffee table par rakhi hai.

Arjun limps across the table, pours the coffee in the cup, but now he is unstable. He limps forward and then cries out as hot coffee spills on his legs. The coffee cup falls and breaks and the pieces spread on the floor. Arjun tries to avoid the glass pieces, but one pierces his leg.

SONIA rushes to help him, she holds him, pulls a chair and makes him sit down. His face becomes convoluted as he experiences tremendous pain. He holds his right leg as SONIA sitting on the floor removes glass pieces from his leg. She wraps a

white bandage around his right leg and gives him a cup of coffee.

CUT TO:

Arjun sipping coffee while SONIA sitting opposite him is looking at him intently.

SONIA: Arjun, kissi cheez ko nazarandaz karne se who cheez gayab nahi ho jati.

She looks at him, waits for an answer, doesn't get one, continues.

SONIA: Kyu apni zindagi mushkil kar rahe ho? Ek bar apni apahijta ko apna lo aur phir dekho tum kya kar sakte ho. Tum (hesitates) ...medal bhi jeet sakte ho, jo chahe who kar sakte ho.

Arjun: SONIA, mujhe kissi saharein ki zaroorat nahi! Mein tang aa gaya hu logo ki daya dekhke, mein jo hu, jaisa hu, theek hu!

SONIA: Lekin tum...

Arjun looks angry, then looks away, SONIA notices this, stops herself, the discussion is over.

CUT TO: Arjun rushing out of the house.

Arjun rushes on a crowded road to get into a bus. He limps, his body trembles but he manages to be quick but by the time, he reaches there, the bus moves away. Arjun watches dejectedly as the passengers stare at him, some with sympathy while others with ridicule.

CUT TO:

Arjun stands staring at an over-crowded local train, the train chugs on. He waits, another one approaches. As soon as it stops, a huge crowd descends upon it. Arjun gets pushed about but he still can't get close to the train. People hurl abuses at him as his crutches hurt others. He looks on disappointedly as even this train passes by.

CUT TO: EXT- A Mall.

He reaches an escalator, looks at it moving. Doesn't know what to do, looks around for help, finds none as people just walk past him, almost ignoring him.

CUT TO:

Arjun waiting on the road, sees one bus speed away after another. Finally he hires an auto and reaches his house. Hurriedly pays the driver and rushes back home.

CUT TO: His room.

Arjun enters the room looking visibly frustrated, puts on the lights. He walks towards his bed, keeps his crutches aside and lies down on the bed. Head placed on folded hands, he stares at the ceiling in silence, lost in thoughts. The silence is disturbed by the creaking noise made by the door as it opened. SONIA enters, but Arjun doesn't even look at her. She comes and pulls a chair right next to where Arjun's head is. She slowly strokes his hair, Arjun continues staring at the ceiling.

SONIA: Kaisa raha tumhara din?

Arjun nods disappointedly, not saying a word. She nods, she understands and continues stroking his hair.

SONIA: Toh kay socha hai tumne aage ke barein mein?

Arjun: Ek accha job dhundkar kaam par lag jaunga.

SONIA: Tumhe lagta hai ki tum ye 9 to 5 ka job kar paoge?

Arjun: (Curtly) Waqt aane pe sab karna padta hai.

SONIA: Mujhe lagta hai ki tum ab bhi sports mein zindagi bana sakte ho.

Arjun: (interrupts) Mujhe nahi lagta!

SONIA: Arjun itni jaldi haar mat mano.

Arjun: Haar nahi man raha, sirf sach bol raha hu.

SONIA: Arjun sach woh hota hai jo tum usse banana chahte ho.

Arjun: Sach yeh hai ki mein kal se ek naukri dhoondna chahta hu. Is that understood?

SONIA nods disappointedly.

21. INT- Offices, job search.

Arjun looks in the mirror, tightens his tie. He is looking dapper in his blue shirt, he leaves the house looking for a job.

CUT TO: INT-A semi-commercial locality.

Arjun somehow crosses a metal fence that is pulled over a metal door. A short fat man chewing betel nut. He spits the paan and then looks at Arjun. Arjun opens his file and starts arranging the papers, the man slowly moves to his right to look

at Arjun's amputated left leg. Arjun gives the file, the man makes a sorrowful face and refuses to accept the file.

Man: Sorry sir, humare yaha koi bhi vacancy nahi hai.

Arjun, disappointed withdraws his hand, slowly turns with his crutch and heads for the door, something catches his eye.

CUT TO: A black and white poster reads '' Vacancy''.

CUT TO: Hurt, Arjun walks away.

CUT TO: A posh office

Arjun walks up to the receptionists desk, gives her his file. The short dark girl asks him to take a seat, he does. Arjun waits as the hour's hand of his watch goes from 11 to 1, he just keeps waiting. Other candidates around him go inside a cabin one by one, but he is just kept waiting. Finally he walks up to the receptionist.

Arjun: Excuse me, mera interview?

Receptionist: Sorry! Abhi lunch time hogaya hai. Sir aapko kal hi mil sakte hai.

Arjun quietly takes his file from her and starts walking.

CUT TO: A posh office

A huge reception table placed at one corner, a young good looking girl manning it. The camera pans right, many young smart looking individuals waiting at the reception. They all are seated on red

sofa's. Pan left, Arjun standing at the entrance. He walks up to the receptionist desk, the girl smiles at him and accepts his file. She directs him to the red sofa.

CUT TO:

Arjun seated on a single sofa, while the big sofa next to him is full of chirpy yungsters. He waits as the sofa next to him starts emptying.

CUT TO:

The hour hand of his watch goes from 3 to 4 and from 4 to 5. Arjun now sitting alone on the sofa. Restless, he keeps looking at his watch. He then starts looking here and there, almost not expecting a call. This time, he is wrong, the receptionist calls out his name and asks him to go inside a cabin.

He gets up, almost surprised but happy. He walks into a cabin with a huge door. Arjun pushes the door and limps into the cabin. It is full of expensive décor, dazzling in white.

An old , fair but partly bald man wearing a skyblue shirt greets him. He takes Arjun's file and asks him to sit down. The man's smile comforts Arjun. He starts pointing to the certificates in the file.

Arjun: Sir yeh, district level championship, ye national level...

The man looks impatient.

Arjun: Ye Asian games medal aur yeh (Proudly) commonwealth games gold medal!

Man: (interrupts) MBA nahi hai kya?

CUT TO:

Arjun is left speechless by the remark, his face turns blue. He nods defeatedly.

Arjun: Nahi.

CUT TO:

The man makes a sad gesture on hearing that, he politely hands over the file back to Arjun.

Man: In that case young man, I can't help you. Humhe MBA's ki sakt zaroorat hai lekin...Sorry!

CUT TO:

Arjun takes his file back, stares at his medal for a second, touches to feel it and then shuts the file. He manages a smile, shakes hands with the old man and starts to leave.

CUT TO:

Arjun close to the door, the old man in the background mumbles something.

Man: (with a smile) Mein tumhare liye ek cheez kar sakta hu.

Arjun turns around, a bit confused but expectant.

Man: Meri beti 20 saal ki hai, she is a huge fan of yours. Mein uske khatir tumhara ek gold medal kharid sakta hu. I know Olympics medal nahi hai but it's OK.

Arjun confusion turns to anger, he ignores the man and starts to leave.

Man: (Rudely) Soch lo, waise bhi tumhe naukri nahi milegi, kum se kum medal ko bech kar paise toh kama loge.

Arjun waits for a moment, gives it a thought. A feeling of self-pity appears on his face, he pushes the door hard and walks out.

22. INT-Arjun's room, nighttime

Arjun, his head lying on his hands and staring at the ceiling. SONIA enters through the door, quietly walks up to his bed, pulls a chair besides him.

SONIA: Kuch kaam hua?

Arjun nods his head from right to left. SONIA's face accepts it, she nods understandingly.

SONIA: (starts hesitatingly) Mishraji keh rahe the ki tum association ki maddat..

Arjun turns his head angrily towards SONIA.

SONIA: (fumbles) Aa....Mera matlab hai ki waise bhi humara compensation ka haq banta hai. Lekin compensation nahi toh tum kum se kum unse ek naukri toh maang sakte hai na?

She looks expectantly at Arjun. He takes a deep breath and says ''Haan''.

CUT TO: A board, which reads, '' Indian Olympic Committee''.

Camera pans right and Arjun enters one shabby building, walls red with paan spitting, littered with garbage all around. Arjun walks towards the lift, a short man with white hair is operating it. Arjun is about to enter the lift, when a short spectacled man pushes him and enters the lift. As Arjun falls to the side, he catches hold of the railing, the lift operator yells 'Ye lift sirf employees ke liye hai.''

The man in the lift gestures to the lift operator to start the lift. Arjun watches in disgust as the lift goes up through the dirty walls.

CUT TO:

Arjun struglling up the stairs, sweating profusely. He reaches the $2^{\rm nd}$ floor and checks, he is told its on the $4^{\rm th}$ floor. When he finally reaches the $4^{\rm th}$ floor, he is breathing heavily and looking completely tired. He limps towards a small door, enters it.

CUT TO:

A tall, fair man seating behind a broken wooden desk. He is listening to FM on his phone and chewing paan, of course. He doesn't even acknowledge Arjun's presence.

CUT TO: Arjun looks at him, then uses his crutch to knock on the wooden table.

CUT TO:

The man looks up, raises his eye-brows but keeps his ear-phones on.

Man: Kisse milna hai?

Arjun: Tiwariji se.

Man: Kaun ho tum?

Arjun: Arjun Khanna!

Man: President? Ya Prime Minister? Kyaa? Kaam kya

hai?

The man gives him an unpleasant stare, continues stamping and filing a few papers.

Arjun: Mujhe unse kuch kaam ki baat karni hai!

Man: (looking down) Appointment hai?

Arjun gets angry, stamps his hand on the desk.

Arjun: (Bends down to face the man on the table)
Mein ek gold medalist hu, India ka national
champion. Training karte samay maine apni ek tang
kho di hai aura ab mein ek naukri ke liye Tiwariji
se milne ke liye aaya hu. Koi problem?

The man taken aback by the angry reaction, removes his headphones and answers hesitatingly.

Man: Unka office toh $6^{\rm th}$ floor pe hai. (Scared but polite) Aaye aapko mein leke chalta hu.

Arjun's face is still full of anger. He walks out of the door as the man follows. They pass through a passage, reach midway. Arjun looks right.

CUT TO: The liftman waiting in the lift

Arjun turns angrily towards the liftman, who is taken aback.

Man: Kholo, sab ke liye darwaaza kholo.

The liftman tries to protest

Liftman: Lekin saab

Man: Chup chap saab ko 6^{th} floor pe chod dena. (Turns to Arjun as he opens the lift door.) Jao Sir (respectfully)

Arjun quietly walks into the lift, the liftman pulls the door of the lift.

23. INT-IOC office

The door of the lift makes a loud noise as it is slammed open. The crutch comes out first and then Arjun. He then turns to look at the liftman, who becomes stiff with fear and salutes Arjun. Arjun turns away and starts walking along a narrow passage.

CUT TO:

He enters a room: dark and smelly. He glances to the right, sees a bunch of 7-8 wrestlers working out in what looks like an outdated gym. Wearing traditional langots, their sweat is painting the intruments dark brown and filling the air with an unbearable stench. Arjun notices that the room has not ventilation and it is tiny. He almost covers his nose, then realises that it would be disrespectful and removes it. He glances around, sees 2-3 tables to his right, the room looks better lit on that side.

He walks up to one of the tables where a man seems to be doing some sort of calculation. Arjun knocks on the table with his cruthch, the man looks up disinterestedly.

Man: Kisse milna hai?

Arjun: Tiwariji se

Man: (mockingly) Tiwariji se, appointment hai?

A phone lying on the table rings, the man says
'' Hello''. Suddenly he looks at Arjun, his face
becomes a lot more polite as he hangs up the phone.

Man: Arjunji, baithiye na.

Arjun smiles, looks at the phone and nods.

Man: (directs him to a chair near the gym) Aap waha baithiye, mein aapko abhi bulata hu.

Arjun sits on the chair next to the gym, the stench is unbearable and so is the heat. Arjun glances up and sees a fan barely moving and the light blinking more often than staying lit. He then looks at the fan above the man's desk, brand new and running at full speed. Then, he looks right again.

CUT TO: The gym

A white fan looking black due to the dust, it stops, then jerks back to life. Moves slowly and then stops again. The light blinks, goes off and then blinks again. Arjun amused but not surprised.

CUT TO:

Arjun looks at the fan above the man's desk again and then smiles sarcastically. The fan above him stops, a pigeon flies in quickly to rest on it. Arjun smiles again. The man approaches Arjun.

Man: (politely) Chaliyeji

He ushers Arjun through a small passage. A huge white door with exquisite wooden décor greets Arjun. It reads, '' President- M Tiwari''. The man

pushes the door open as Arjun enters. Arjun looks around, a huge spacious office, a chilly burst of air hits him from a huge split AC. The room is full of expensive furniture and to the right is a 30 inch flat-screen TV. Finally Arjun look rests on a man sitting on a chair talking on the phone and looking down.

CUT TO:

The man is wheatish, in his mid-fifties, wears spectacles. He hurriedly hangs up the phone. He looks at Arjun, his face visible for the first time. Arjun thinks his face is similar, it sure is. This is the same man who had pushed him to get into the lift. Arjun is still distracted by the decor when a voice enterrupts him. It's Tiwari's,

Tiwari: Puri tarah se renovate nahi ho paya hai abhi tak.

Arjun looks at Tiwari in surprise.

Tiwari: Aajkal funds ki kami hai na.

Arjun smiles, almost pleasantly surprised by the remark. He looks at a huge painting of Tiwari and nods.

Arjun: Hmmmm.....woh toh hai.

Tiwari: Kaafi bura laga aapke haadse ke baarein mein sunkar.

Arjun doesn't answer, just nods.

Tiwari: Toh bataiye, kya maddat kar sakta hu mein aapki?

Arjun: Mujhe ek naukri chahiye.

Tiwari leans back on his chair, folds his hands, inspecting Arjun's face.

Tiwari: Aap kya kaam kar paoge?

Arjun gives him a questioning look, the anger visible on his face.

Tiwari: (fumbles) Mera matlab hai ki yeh office mein aapke karne layak kya kaam ho sakta hai?

Arjun: (firmly) Jo bhi kaam hoga, woh mein kar lunga.

Tiwari gestures with his hands, a confused expression as if questioning what work Arjun can do.

Tiwari: (disinterestedly) Theeek hai! Agar tum kaam karna hi chahte ho toh aa jao kal se. Mishraji aapko aapka kaam samjha denge.

Arjun: (nods) Aur....mera compensation?

Tiwari brings his chair closer to the table, pulls out a form from a drawer.

Tiwari: Haan haan kyu nahi? Aap ye form bhar dijiye aur phir aapko aapka compensation mil jayega.

Arjun: (firmly) Kab tak?

Tiwari: Dekho Arjun, ye government ka process hai, agle 6-7 mahino mein tumhe paise zaroor mil jayenge.

Arjun: (Examining the form) Lekin isme toh 2 mahine ka time likha hai

Tiwari: (impatiently) Lekin funds nahi hai na.

Arjun gives him a sarcastic look, looks at the expensive décor again, the AC, the flat-screen.

Arjun: (nods) hmmm....woh toh dikh raha hai

And looks Tiwari straight in the eye. Tiwari's body goes stiff for a minute, but then he smiles as if accepting his guilt.

25. INT-House.

Hair being combed, tie being adjusted, a watch being worn. Arjun is getting dressed for office, a white shirt and a blue tie. Arjun turns around, SONIA adjusts his tie. Arjun hugs her tightly. SONIA pulls Arjun towards a small wooden temple hanging from a wall. Arjun snatches his hand from SONIA's grip. He says no and walks away. SONIA disappointed, waves him goodbye by blowing a kiss.

CUT TO: IOC's office.

Arjun approaches the lift, the liftman salutes him, Arjun nods to accept it. Arjun re-checks his tie and waits for the lift to stop. It does, the liftman opens the door as Arjun walks out. He walks through the passage towards the entrance.

CUT TO:

He enters the office and looks at Mr. Mishra, who gets up to welcome him.

Mishra: (smiling) Aaiye aaiye Mr. Arjun

He takes Arjun towards a corner, pulls out a small table.

Mishra: Baithiye.

Arjun is surprised, but he still sits down. Mishra starts walking away, Arjun stops him.

Arjun: Mishraji.

Mishraji turns.

Arjun: (hesitatingly) Aa....woh mere table aur khursii?

Mishra: (starts laughing) Koi peon ko bhi table aur khursi deta hai kya?

Arjun's face becomes pale as Mishra walks away while continuing laughing. Even 2-3 other peons join in, Arjun glances pitifully at his leg and looks away.

CUT TO:

Arjun looks around curiously as 2-3 men run around hurriedly. A loud buzzer rings, Arjun is startled by it. He looks to check where the noise is coming from, he can't make that out and he gives up. But the loud blaring continues as Mishra comes running towards Arjun.

Mishra: (angrily) Tum upar kyu nahi jaa rahe? Ghanti nahi sunai de rahi hai kya?

Arjun: Kya matlab?

Mishra: Arre baba ye ghanti ka matlab hai ki peon ko jald se jald Tiwariji ke cabin mein haazir hona hai.

Arjun gets up hurriedly, picks up his crutch and starts walking towards the exit.

CUT TO: Outside the lift

Arjun presses the up button, but the lift doesn't appear while the buzzer contines ringing. Arjun frustrated, starts on the stairs.

CUT TO:

Arjun hurrying but struggling to climb the stairs. AS he nears a turn, he bangs into a man running downstairs. Arjun loses his balance, but luckily manages to hold on to the railing. Before he can even react, the man has already disappeared. The buzzer continues ringing, each time it sounds louder to Arjun. Arjun gathers himself and starts climbing the stairs again.

CUT TO:

Tiwari furiously pressing the buzzer as Arjun enters the room, sweating and panting for breath. Tiwari looks at him.

Tiwari: (irritated) Itni der kyu lag gayi?

Arjun: (still panting) Somsorr..Sorry Sir.

Tiwari: Accha, abhi yeh papers pe Mishraji ki sign lekar mujhe jaldi wapas lake do.

Arjun accepts the papers and walks out. Just before Arjun pushes the door open, Tiwari calls out to him.

Tiwari: Aur haan, iss bar jaldi karma.

Arjun feels humiliated, doesn't turn, simply nods and walks away.

CUT TO:

Arjun getting the papers signed by Mishra. He goes up and down the stairs. Then he is directed from one corner to another to get stationary etc. He walks out of the room with a stack of papers in his hands. As he climbs the stairs, he looks confused.

CUT TO:

A huge white door opens, Tiwari yells '' Come in''. As Arjun enters, Tiwari is examining some papers on his desk. Tiwari now puts them down, accepts the papers from Arjun.

Tiwari: hmmmm....theek hai, ab tum ja sakte ho.

Arjun: (hesitant) Sir aapse kuch baat karni thi.

Tiwari looks at Arjun from above the rim of his glasses. He nods and asks Arjun to sit down.

Arjun: Maine nahi socha tha ki mujhe peon ki naukri karni padegi...

Tiwari looks at him, least interested.

Tiwari: (interrupts) Toh tumhe kis tarah ki naukri chahiye?

Arjun: Aisa kuch jaha mein youngsters ko train kar saku.

Tiwari is amazed, he nods.

Tiwari: Hmm...theek hai. Mein kuch karta hu.

Arjun smiles, thanks him and leaves.

26. INT-IOC's office, next morning.

Arjun enters office and sees a small reception desk in place of his chair. He looks puzzled, looks around for someone. Finally, he walks up to the main desk, catches hold of Mishra.

Arjun: Ye sab kya hai?

Mishra: Arre Tiwariji ka shukriya ada karo, unki wajah se tumhe ye table aur khursi mile hai.

Arjun: Lekin meri toh unse coaching karne ki baat hui thi.

Mishra: (irritated) Arre mujhe Tiwariji bole ke bechara langda hai, kaha peon ki bhaag daud sehen kar payega? Toh socha ki receptionist hi bana dete hai.

Arjun: (disgusted) Kyaa???

Mishra: Arre kya, kyu? Jo mil raha hai, le lo. Aakhir tum jaisa insaan iske sivay kar bhi kya sakta hai.

Arjun is furious, he grips Mishra by his collar, raises his other hand to punch him. But then pushes him behind in frustration and walks to meet Tiwari. Mishra scared, keeps staring at Arjun.

CUT TO:

The white door flies open as Arjun enters.

Arjun: (angry) Ye sab kya hai?

Tiwari: (calmly) Kya?

Arjun: Humari baat toh mujhe coach banana ki hui thin na? Toh phir ek telephone operator ki naukri kyu?

Tiwari: (still calm) Arre Arjun saab, jo aadmi apne pairo pe khada nahi reh sakta who doosron ko kya coach karega?

Arjun: Nahi chahiye mujhe aisi naukri. (He starts walking out.)

Tiwari: (angry) Jo milta hai usme khush raho. Aur aakhir tumhare jaise log phone uthane ke sivay kar bhi kya sakte hai?

The phone rings, Tiwari tries to pick it up. But the phone is pushed away by Arjun using his crutch.

Arjun: Hum jaise log kya kar sakte hai woh toh mein tumhe zaroor bataunga.

Tiwari looks surprised, is completely scared. Arjun again puts his crutch on the table aggressively.

Arjun: Aur agar mujhe mera compensation 2 mahine ke andar nahi mila toh paagal log kya kar sakte hai who bhi mein tumhe bataunga.

Tiwari nods, sweating, his heart-beat rate escalating. Arjun withdraws his crutch with a swoosh, Tiwari moves away to avoid it. As Arjun leaves, Tiwari drinks a glass of water.

27. INT- House.

A phone rings, a hand picks up the receiver, its SONIA. She listens intently.

SONIA: Lekin kyu?

CUT TO: A man talking on the phone, just his lower jaw visible.

CUT TO: SONIA smiles, says '' Theek hai.'' And hangs up. She walks into Arjun's room and wakes him up. Arjun hides his face from the light and turns towards the other side and sleeps, burying himself in the pillow. SONIA sits on the bed, smiles and starts pulling Arjun's arm.

SONIA: Arjun, Arjunnn....utho, utho Arjun, walk ke liye jaana hai.

Arjun pushes her hand and burries his head inside the pillow. SONIA pulls his arms again, Arjun wakes up with a jerk. His eyes look puffy and he looks sleepy, SONIA smiles.

Arjun rubs his eyes and makes a sad face. SONIA dressed in a pink track suit moves a step back, looks at herself from head to toe.

SONIA: Moti ho jaungi mein, walk ke liye chalo na.

Arjun smiles and gets up.

CUT TO: Joggers park.

Arjun and SONIA walk through the park absorbing the early sunlight and holding hands. SONIA points to a huge crowd of people. Arjun is curious, he walks towards the group to inquire.

CUT TO:

A huge gathering of people clapping and cheering very loudly. Arjun reaches the last row and then starts pushing through. As he draws near, he sees a

man dressed in white holding a mike and another man sitting on a wheelchair.

CUT TO:

The man is white seems to be the host.

Man: Deviyo aur sajjano, Nakul Sainiji ke liye taaliyan. 3 saal ki umar se inki taangein nahi thi, lekin inhone sirf taangein khoyi thi, apna josh nahi. Inhone lakhon musibaton ka samna kiya aur wheelchair table tennis kehlna shuru kiya. Aur bas, kuch dino pehle hi ye world championship jeetkar aaye hai.

CUT TO:

The crowd starts cheering loudly again. Arjun himself is shocked, even he starts clapping. He looks around in awe as everyone is clapping for a man who can't even stand.

CUT TO:

The man on the wheelchair takes the mike, again a loud cheer erupts. He smiles and accepts the applause and waves to the crowd.

Nakul: Is sab ke liye aap sab ka bahut shukriya. Is mauke par mein sirf itna kehna chahunga ki zindagi mein izzat kabhi paayi nahi jati, woh hamesha jeeti jati hai!

CUT TO:

Tears roll down Arjun's cheeks as the crowd start chanting Nakuls name. SONIA interrupts his thought process.

SONIA: Kitni ajeeb baat hai na, aaj puri duniya uske samaan mein khadi hai, jo insaan khud apne pairo par khada bhi nahi ho sakta.

Arjun looks at SONIA surprised by her sudden appearance.

They turn to leave, that is when something said by the host catches Arjun's attention.

Host: Aur yehi nahi, sirf 2 mahino mein Paralympics hai aur Nakul ka yeh vaada hai hai ki woh ek gold medal zaroor le aaenge. Ek gold toh mimimum!

CUT TO: The stage.

The man presents a golden plate to Nakul amidst loud cheers. Nakul takes the mike.

Nakul: Thank you!

CUT TO:

Realization dawns upon Arjun. He is still in awe of Nakul Saini as he sees him go off triumphantly past the huge cheering group of people.

28. EXT-Garden.

Arjun walks past people as they stare at him. He goes and again sits on the bench which is farthest from everyone else. He seems calm and disconnected. He shuts his eyes.

CUT TO:

A huge stadium, well lit: a red track running right across it. The crowd is vociferous, chanting '' Arjun, Arjun''. The camera pans, the crowd goes into a Mexican wave.

CUT TO:

Close-up of a smiling Arjun as he bends and a medal is put around his neck. The camera zooms out, we see 2 more track athletes and officials, all clapping for Arjun.

CUT TO:

Arjun is disturbed by the muffled cries of something. He opens his eyes and looks beneath his bench but cant find anything. But the cries can still be heard, he looks closer. He puts his hand underneath the bench. It is a small, black puppy, scared and crying out for help.

CUT TO: A group of puppies playing some distance away.

CUT TO:

Arjun carefully holds the puppy in his hands. He starts caressing it, a smile emerges on his face. He removes a packet of biscuits and feeds the puppy. The puppy now seems relaxed, it starts to walk on the bench, although a bit limpingly. That is when Arjun realises that the puppy has a crooked leg. He realises why the puppy is alone. He now puts the puppy on the ground, expecting him to go back underneath the bench. But to his surprise the puppy turns around and rushes towards the group of puppies.

CUT TO:

As the black puppy reaches the group, the other puppies pounce on him, playfully though.

CUT TO:

Arjun's face sports a genuine smile, but also a deep thinking one as he watches the puppy play with his group.

CUT TO:

Arjun is walking back home, lost in deep thoughts. A football comes flying and hits him hard on his right leg. For a second, Arjun experiences pain and is angry but then he looks all right as he regains his balance. With his right leg, he lifts the ball onto his ankle, his face is full of concerntration. He looks excited as he makes the the ball swerve from left to right on his ankle. He does so for a few seconds as a kid standing nearby watches in amazement. Arjun then tosses the ball up and catches it again with his ankle, he seems to be enjoying this. Then, he jerks his leg forward as if kicking the ball and the ball lands on his thigh, he continues balancing it. His face brightens as he balances it. Finally, he lets it roll down his ankle.

CUT TO:

The boy standing close by, dressed in Football jersey is still amamzed. He runs forward to take the ball away, he goes left, then right trying to block Arjun's kick. Slowly the crowd of bystanders watching this is swelling. Even as the boy tries to tackle Arjun, he continues balancing the ball on his ankle. He lets the ball go the right, tries to kick but the boy is blocking the shot. He tries left, but again the same result. He then raises his eyebrows playfully at the boy, asking him what's next? The boy looks confused. Arjun jerks his leg, the ball flies upwards and with one thurst on the body forward, Arjun heads the ball from top of the boy's head.

CUT TO: Wide shot.

Loud clapping, all the people gathered around to watch this display by Arjun start cheering. They are standing around Arjun, who is completely taken aback by this. Arjun exults but seems a bit embarrassed. Slowly the environment around him changes, the camera passes in a circle around Arjun, and the background becomes that of a a stadium with a huge crowd pumping their fists. Arjun looks fired up, the camera pans to capture a greater audience.

CUT TO:

Arjun wakes up to reality, he looks embarrassed by the attention. He smiles and bows but the people continue clapping.

His head is held high, slowly he starts to lift his crutch. He does so and feels relieved.

CUT TO: Side shot.

Arjun walking with a slight hunch, he stops, pumps his chest out and starts walking like a man who has just achieved something. The camera slowly moves and takes a back shot as Arjun walks away. As the focus improves, we see SONIA in the balcony, smiling, a proud wife!!

29. INT- House.

A bell rings, Sonia rushes to open the door. It's Arjun looking happy. He walks in quickly.

Arjun: (Enthusiastically) Hello SONIA!

SONIA: (Smiles) Hello sweetheart.

They give each other a hug. Arjun sits on the chair, rests his crutch against the table, still smiling. Even SONIA pulls a chair and sits facing Arjun.

SONIA: (playfully) Kya baat hai, itne khush lag rahe ho?

Arjun acts innocent, as if surprised by the remark.

Arjun: Aisi koi baat nahi.

SONIA: Let's face it Arjun. Tum khush ho kyuki tumhe aaj phir woh izzat mili, who respect mila jo tumhe sirf sports se mil sakta hai. Tum khush ho kyuki tumne kuch aisa kiya jo log samajte the ki tum nahi kar sakte. Tumhe bhi pata hai Arjun, tumhari khushi issi mein hai ki tum kuch kar de dikhao, jeet ki dikhao.

Arjun's smile disappears and a frown emerges.

Arjun: SONIA, phir wohi baat? Kya ek apahij ki is duniya mein koi value nahi hai? Kya usse kuch alag kar dikhana zaroori hai? Tab hi ye duniya hume chain ki saans lene degi?

SONIA: (firmly) Haan! Ye duniya aise hi hai. Zindagi se haron mat Arjun. Kuch kar ke dikhao aur phir dekho kis tarah ye zindagi tumhe apne sarakhon par bithati hai.

Arjun smiles sarcastically and nods disapprovingly.

SONIA: Aur Arjun sports toh hamesha se tumhari zindagi rahi hai. I loved you Arjun because you were a winner. Tumhe khud pata hai ki jeetne se tumhe kitni khushi milti hai. Bachpan se tumhara sirf ek hi sapna tha, ki tum ek gold medal jeeto. Aur sirf ek haadse ke liye tum apne sapno ko chod doge.

Arjun: (interrupts) Haan, bhool gaya hu mein apne sapno ko.

SONIA: Kya tum itne kamzoor ko ki sirf ek haadsein ne tumhara sapna tod diya?

Arjun: SONIA bas, stop it. Mujhe in sab ke baarein baat nahi karni. Bol diya na.

Arjun gets up and bangs the main door as he walks past it.

30. EXT-Road and joggers park

Arjun angry and hurriedly walks through a road, a dialogue keeps echoing through his mind.

" Kya tum itne kamzor ho?"

Arjun gets irritated, starts walking even faster, his breathing becomes louder.

'' Zindagi mein izzat kabhi paayi nahi jati, balki jeeti jaati hai''- Nakul's voice

Arjun looking down, struggling to walk quickly.

'' Agar Zindagi mein kabhi jeetne ki tamanna jag uthe, toh mujhe phone karna''- Mukhi's voice

He takes his last few steps very quickly and then collapses on a bench. He tries to catch his breath. Then slowly he looks underneath the bench, expecting to find something. He puts his hand out and makes a sound to call the puppy. But he can't find it, then he hears the cries, but this time a playful one. He looks up.

CUT TO: The puppy is playing with his group. One on top of the other, the puppy is enjoying itself.

CUT TO: Arjun's face, he smiles and leans back to relax. His curiosity is aroused when he sees a huge group gathered in a circle. They are counting '' 10..11...12....13''. He gets up and starts walking towards the group.

CUT TO: The group

The people are jubiliantly counting, '' 25..26..27..28''. Arjun reaches the last row and tries to push forward. It is very crowded, but he finally manages to.

CUT TO:

From between the shoulders and heads of people, Arjun sees a bald but extremely fit man competing in a crunches competition against another, thin and tall young man. The counting continues, '' 61....62....63'' as both young men start exerting themselves. The bald man is doing the crunches with hardly any stress, but slowly the thin man starts losing breath. He starts doing incomplete crunches, struggles with every repetition, getting up only during the second try...'' 80...81...82''. The thin man's body squirms as he turns on his stomach, writhing in pain. But the bald man continues. '' 97...98...99...100''. He then punches the air and smiles gleefully. Arjun still trying to push forward, finally reaches ahead and then he sees a thick fleshy leg and a thin dark piece of metal. The bald man's one leg is amputated. The bald man puts out his hand and lifts the other man from the ground and embraces him. The bald man has a prosthetic leg, Arjun watches in amazement as

people keep congratulating the bald man. He is lost in thoughts and keeps staring at the bald man.

CUT TO:

Arjun still staring, confused as the crowd runs towards the bald man. Now Arjun is left standing alone, as in life.

31. INT-House.

Arjun enters the house, but there is complete darkness. He looks around, he cant see SONIA. Light from the gaint LCD screen illuminates Arjun's face.

CUT TO: A gaint LCD screen.

Visual of Arjun and SONIA licking ice-cream from a cone. An AV begins, both are fighting against each other. Then running after each other, hugging each other, kissing each other. Romancing each other in the backdrop of the Eiffiel Tower, then the Taj Mahal. A song begins as the AV continues playing.

CUT TO:

Arjun sits down, watching the screen with great admiration.

CUT TO:

The AV stops, it reads 'Happy Anniversary Arjun'. The screen goes blank, it's dark again. But suddenly a table lights up in the centre of the room. It is decorated with silver fork and spoons, beautiful crockery and some mouth-watering dishes.

CUT TO:

Arjun feels hands around his neck. It's SONIA, she goes close to his ears, kisses them.

SONIA: (whispers) Happy anniversary Arjun!

Arjun smiles, turns around and hugs her. He kisses her on the cheek.

Arjun: Mein... (SONIA stops him).

SONIA: Bhool gaye the na.

Arjun: (kisses her) Happy anniversary jaan.

SONIA smiles.

CUT TO:

Arjun and SONIA staring at each other while having dinner. Arjun wipes his lips.

SONIA: Dance?

Arjun looks unsure, she gives him an assuring look. He agrees, reluctantly.

CUT TO:

A centre spot illuminated withg light and romantic music going on in the background. Arjun walks up to the spot and SONIA holds him tight.

CUT TO:

Arjun's face, he looks worried. Then, he starts nodding as if refusing something.

CUT TO:

SONIA slowly takes Arjun's crutch away. He looks worried, but SONIA holds him tight and assures him, he smiles. They both hug each other and keep moving slightly, almost rocking in each others arms.

CUT TO:

Arjun looks at SONIA lovingly, he smiles. SONIA smiles back at him, she gives him a kiss. The camera slowly moves out as they continue dancing.

32. INT- House

Arjun enters the house, still looking dejected and confused. His eyes search for SONIA, can't find them. Then he hears some slight sound from the room.

Commentary-'' The race has begun. Will Sophie be the champion today?''

Slowly Arjun approaches the door and he sees SONIA seated on a sofa watching a wheelchair race. He sits next to her, she is busy watching the race. Her eyes glued to the TV.

CUT TO: TV Set.

Commentary- '' Maria Williams leading the race, but Sophie Fisher not far behind''

An African-American woman moves her arms faster over the wheels as another white woman follows her closely. Both women pushing hard. The white woman tries hard but Maria tries harder and maintains the lead. Sophie keeps pushing more and more, but then amazingly for a second she just takes her hands off the wheelchair, looks at Maria in the lead, leans forward and starts pushing vigorously. Now, she starts closing in on Maria with great speed.

Commentary- '' Sophie is doing it, she is coming quicker and quicker''

Sophie now inching towards Maria, gets level with her and with another burst of power, she goes past her.

CUT TO:

SONIA in rapt attention, Arjun quietly punching the air '' Go, go, go!'' almost not saying it just muttering it. SONIA watching with great expectations.

CUT TO:

Maria pushes hard but Sophie remains in the lead, in fact she is stretching her lead.

C- '' Sophie is going to win this one, ladies and gentlemen, yes! We will have a new champion today''

CUT TO:

Arjun following the chairs closely, moving himself as if he is watching the event live. Arjun '' go, go, go!''. Almost willing Sophie to go on and win the race. SONIA still in rapt attention, watching with great expectations not only the match but also her husband's reaction.

CUT TO:

Sophie raises her arms as Maria reacts disappointedly in the background.

C- '' We have a new champion. What's more, we have a new record as well!''.

CUT TO:

A huge smile on SONIA's as well as Arjun's face. They both punch the air, says 'Yes, yes' and give each other a high five. Sonia nods and so does Arjun.

SONIA: Do **WE** have a new champion?

Arjun takes a deep breath, the smile disappears. He doesn't answer.

SONIA: (calmly) Mukhiji ka phone aaya tha.

Arjun looks at him with surprised anger, he is enraged.

SONIA: (calmly) Keh raha the ki Paralympics theek Olympics ke baad hoti hai. Woh keh rahe the ki agar aaj bhi practice shuru karo toh bhi tum jeet sakte ho.

Arjun: (turns angrily towards SONIA) Kya jeet sakta hu?

SONIA: Medal!

Arjun shuts his eyes tightly to show his disappointment, puts his hands up and punches the bed in disappointment.

SONIA looks hurt, Arjun changes his tone.

Arjun: Tumhare liye ek medal itna zaroori kyu hai?

Sonia doesn't answer.

Arjun: (continues) Nahi samaj mein aata tumhe ki mujhse ye sab nahi hoga.

SONIA looking down, remains unmoved.

Arjun: Kya tumhare liye ek medal mere zindagi se jyaada important hai?

SONIA: Haan hai!

Arjun is stunned, he looks at SONIA in disbelief.

SONIA: Balki medal hi tumhari zindagi hai Arjun, tumhara sapna hai.

Arjun: Mera sapna tha. Aur maine phir jeetneki koshish bhi ki thi,

SONIA: Koshish toh bahut log karte hai, koi koshish karne waale ko yaad nahi rakhta, sab jeetne waale ko yaad rakhte hai.

Arjun: Lekin mein koshish...

SONIA: Jeet nahi toh kuch nahi, lekin wekin kuch nahi...sirf jeet. Sirf jeet hi maine rakhti hai. Mere liye, please Arjun, aur ek baar koshish karke dekho. Please. Tum koshish toh karo, tum zaroor jeetoge.

Arjun: Mein apni koshsih kar chuka hu.

SONIA looks disappointed, but still insists.

SONIA: Arjun please.

Arjun: Agar tumhe medal se itna pyaar hai, to tum khud nahi chali jati khelne?

SONIA: Agar kar sakti toh woh bhi kar leti. Lekin mujhse jo ho sakta tha who maine kiya, puri koshish ki.

Arjun: Tum mujhpe ehsaan jata rahi ho?

SONIA: (furious) Nahi. I did all this coz I was loved you dammit! Aur maine jis Arjun se pyaar usse hamesha woh respect chahiye tha. Success chahiye thi. Woh kabhi haar nahi manta tha aur tum....

Arjun: Mein ek hara hua insaan hu?

SONIA gets even angrier, her face turns red.

SONIA: (A tear rolls down her cheek) Shayad haan!

Arjun: (shouts) Toh chod do mujhe, mujhe kissike sahare ki zaroorat nahi. Just leave me alone.

SONIA: (nods) I will!

Arjun starts to limp out of the room. SONIA says something before he is about to leave the room.

SONIA: I loved you, I always will. Mein ek hare hue insaan ke saath reh sakti hu, lekin ek insaan ke saath nahi jo koshish karne se pehle hi har gaya. Good luck Arjun.

Arjun's anger grows even more, he shuts his eyes and takes a deep breath. And then pushes the door hard and walks out.

CUT TO:

Arjun opens a drawer in a table, searches for something. He can't find it, he opens another drawer, still can't find it. Opens the 3rd drawer, finds a card and dails a number.

CUT TO:

A phone rings, man picks up the phone. Only his lower jaw is visible. He mutters something, smiles and then ahngs up.

33. EXT- A packed athletics stadium, night time.

Hordes of people milling outside a huge concrete stadium. People of all nationalities, hues and colours can be seen walking around.

CUT TO: Inside the stadium.

The crowd settling into their seats, a hugely Indian crowd with a splattering of foreign supporters. Slowly, the whole crowd explodes with the rhythmic chanting of '' Mukesh, Mukesh''.

CUT TO:

Arjun sitting on the inside of the red track, facing the crowd. He is enjoying the whole atmosphere. Right ahead of him is the track, although the view is blocked by advertising hoardings.

CUT TO: The athletes, top view.

C- '' On your marks, get set. Go!''

A loud buzzer goes off and the runners dash past their starting line. A Tall white man is in the lead, easily ahead of the others.

CUT TO:

The crowd again begin chants of '' Mukesh, Mukesh''.

CUT TO: The race

The white man maintains his lead, he is halfway through when a wheatish Indian man, Mukesh starts coming close.

CUT TO: The crowd

The crowd begins it rhythmic chants of '' Mukesh Mukesh'' followed by 2 claps. They continue.

CUT TO:

Arjun is excited, grips his chair tightly. Excited as a child, he watches as Mukesh closes the lead on the white man.

CUT TO: Back shot
Mukesh just inches away.

C- '' Last 100 metres''

Mukesh closer, closer, even closer, passes the white man. Mukesh raises his arms as the crowd erupts, standing on its feet as the white man comes in 2nd. Mukesh continues running, as he goes past the advertising hoardings, Arjun realises that Mukesh has no legs, in fact he was running on both artificial legs. Arjun watches with admiration as Mukesh jumps up in the air to celebrate, he punches the air with great enthusiasm.

CUT TO: Front shot

Arjun is wonder-struck, even he contiues clapping. His claps become more vigorous and louder as he realises the significance of what he has just seen.

CUT TO: Arjun, back shot.

As other racers cross the line, Arjun realises that all of them were able-bodied racers, perfectly fit and Mukesh was the only disabled runner. The cheering of the crowd grows louder and louder. The camera zooms out and one more chair is seen next to Arjun. Arjun turns towards the man on the chair.

CUT TO: Front shot

Arjun simply smiles at the other man. The other man nods and smiles back. The man is, Vijay Mukhi.

34. INT-Indoor training stadium

As a female swimmer jumps in the swimming pool, Arjun and Mukhi walk through the indoor stadium. Arjun watches the swimmer put in fast rounds, notices something amiss but can't figure out what it is. Mukhi notices him staring at the female swimmer.

Mukhi: Ye hai Natasha, Natasha Pillai. Saat saal ki thi jab polio ke karan iski ek taang katni padi.

By then Arjun had noticed it that she didn't have a leq.

Mukhi: Lekin iska ek sapna tha, swimmer banne ka aur isne apna sapna puri tarah haasil kiya. Aaj ye world Paralympics ki $4^{\rm th}$ ranked swimmer hai.

CUT TO: Natasha

Natasha furiously uses her hands to go faster. She touches the board on one side and quickly turns for the next round.

CUT TO:

Arjun watches in awe as Natasha quickly finishes one round and turns away for another.

Mukhi: Ohh by the way. Ye hai Paralympics training centre. The centre for specially-abled people, I call them specially-abled!

Arjun turns to him and finally smiles.

Arjun: Lekin koi ek tang se swimming kaisa kar sakta hai?

Mukhi: (impressed) Good question. Sahi baat hai, ek tang se koi apni body ko direction kaise de? Hue, bahut problems hue training ki shuruat mein.

Natasha kitni bhi koshish karti phir bhi gol gol ghumti rehti. Woh ek feet bhi aaghe nahi ja paati, lekin dheerien dheerein practice ke baad woh seekhne lagi. Aaj who duniya ki 3 swimmeron mein se ek hai, jisne ek pair hote hue bhi Olympics swimming mein compete kiya hai.

Arjun is visibly impressed, lost in thoughts when Mukhi nudges him to look towards something.

CUT TO:

Natasha's beautiful body emerges from the swimming pool in a blue swimsuit. She catches hold of a railing and come out. Her amputated leg clearly visible. She walks up to an artificial leg, lifts it to check if there is any water inside, certain that there isn't. She wears her artificial leg and walks away.

CUT TO:

Arjun and Mukhi walk past athletes playing table tennis on a wheelchair. Arjun gives them a curious glance, they continue playing unfazed.

CUT TO:

2 huge steel wheels crash into each other and one chair almost tilts upwards due to the impact.

CUT TO: A wide shot

Loud cat-calls as wheelchairs crash into each other. 2 opposing teams, one dressed in white, the other in yellow jerseys competing against each other in game of wheelchair rugby. One white team players gets the ball, he pushes his chair forward and tries to reach a line but a yellow player collides with his wheelchair head on, throwing his wheelchair backwards. The ball drops out of his hand due to the impact, another yellow team player picks up the ball and heads for the opposite side. He dodges other players, when cornered, he throws the ball to another yellow player, who takes it past a white line and all the yellow players celebrate. The yellow team players yells jubiliantly, give each other high-fives. They come together in a huddle, they yell loudly "Go! Go! ... vellow!''

CUT TO:

The white team players also come together in a huddle. A man at the centre of the huddle yells '' White!'', the others respond equally loudly, '' Let's fight!''. Sounds of angry yells fill the room. A white player takes the ball and heads straight for the opposite line. A yellow player player comes right in front of him, the white player throws the ball to another teammate. Heading for a collision but with the ball passed, the yellow player tries to get out of the way but the white players heads staright for him, bangs his

wheelchair sideways as the other chair falls on the opposite side. Another yellow player comes from the other side and bangs right into the white player, even his chair capitulates.

CUT TO: Arjun

Arjun looks on in disbelief, in fact in horror he turns to Mukhi, raises his brows to question him. Mukhi is ready with the answers.

Mukhi: (smilingly) Rugby hai yaar...wheelchair par hai toh kya hua? Rugby toh rugby hai.

CUT TO: A scoreboard, which reads 'White: 16 Yellow: 14'

A white player is completely terrorizing the yellow players: dodging, pushing every white player who comes in his way. He rushes forward as a yellow player moves towards his line. The yellow player is just inches away from the line when the white player bangs sideways into his chair. AS the yellow player yells at the white player, he pumps his chest and fist and then yells '' Yellow, yellow....let's go!''.

Slowly the players start assembling together and start shaking hands.

CUT TO: Mukhi very excited turns to Arjun.

Mukhi: Ye hai Rajeev Rai, bachpan se pair nahi hai lekin wheelchair rugby ki duniya ka sabse kahatarnak player hai. Isse haathein-gathein log bhi dartein hai.

Arjun glances at Rajeev and then again at Mukhi and nods.

Mukhi: Is bar, for the first time Indain team ka rugby mein gold jeetneka genuine chance hai.

As Mukhi continues, Rajeev approaches closer. Arjun keeps staring at Rajeev, who doesn't like it.

Rajeev: (irritated) Kya? Kya dekh raha hai?

Arjun: Hmmm....kuch nahi.

Rajeev: (curtly) Khursi ko?

Arjun: Nahi, usme baithe hue player ko.

Arjun realises that Rajeev's upper body is very well built and broad too. Rajeev shakes hands with Mukhi and exchanges pleasantries. Arjun is still staring at him.

Rajeev: Panja ladaonge?

Mukhi turns to Arjun who looks surprised, smirks and agrees.

CUT TO: A table.

Both Arjun and Rajeev in a fist-fight. Arjun exerting tremendous power, Rajeev's hand isn't even moving, he is smiling. Arjun manages to move it a bit, his upper body is almost rising because of the effort. Rajeev smiles at him, raises his left hand, gives Arjun a thumbs down and slaps Arjun's hand on the table. Arjun accepts defeat smilingly, nods to appreciate Rajeev's strength. Mukhi claps too, appreciating Rajeev.

CUT TO:

Rajeev: Kya samjhe bachu?

Arjun: (thursts out his right forearm) Autograph please!

Rajeev's expression changes, he smiles genuinely for the first time. He does give his autograph, Arjun thanks him and leaves.

35. INT-House, night time.

Arjun seated on a chair next to a table, writing a letter. He starts reading the letter aloud.
'' SONIA please come back. I really, really love you. Aaj, alag alag logo se milke, mujhe ye ehsaas hua ki meri problem toh unki problems ke samne bahut chotti hai. Woh accident, mera beta hua kal tha, jo mere haathon mein nahi tha. Lekin mera aane waala kal zaroor mere haathon mein hai. Mein kuch banna chahta hu, kuch kar dikhana chahta hu. Mein jeetna chahta ho SONIA. Maine faisla kar diya hai ki mein wheelchair racing mein compete karunga. Lekin tumhare bina meri jeet adhuri hai. Please come back SONIA, pleaaase. Love- Arjun.''

CUT TO:

A drop of tear falls on the letter. A hand wipes it.

CUT TO:

Arjun takes a deep breath and puts the letter in an envelope.

36. INT-Indoor sports stadium, morning.

A huge splash in the swimming pool as Arjun enters the arena. It's Natasha, she smiles at him. He walks by the table tennis players. He notices something in the distance. CUT TO: back shot

Vijay Mukhi and another man sitting on a bench. Arjun notices Vijay's legs but the other man's leg can't be seen. Arjun moves forward hesitatingly. AS he reaches the bench, Mukhi gets up, the other man does not, he can't. His legs are folded and lying next to him on the bench, artificial legs! He smiles at Arjun, he is Mukesh Ojha, the runner with no legs.

Mukhi: Hi Arjun, ye hai...

Arjun: (interrupts) Mukesh Ojha, the 400 metre champion.

Arjun and Mukesh shake hands with each other.

Mukesh: Bas aise hi bhag leta

Arjun: (interrupts) Aap bhagte nahi, aap udte ho!

They all have a hearty laugh.

Mukhi: Sahi kaha, inko log pyaar se 'Flying Saucer' kehkar bhi bulate hai.

Arjun confused, gives Mukhi a questioning look.

Mukesh: Speed without wheels, matlab speed without legs, isiliye 'Flying Saucer'.

Arjun: Correct Sir!

Mukhi: Ye aaj yahi the, toh maine inhe tumharein bare mein bataya aur kaha ki agar ye tumse thodi baat karlein toh bada accha hoga. Mukesh: Mukhi saab, chaliye chodiye mazaak na udaiye.

Arjun: Nahi mazaak nahi hai, meri training ke pehle din mujhe aapse milne ka mauka mila wohi bahut badi baat hai!

Mukesh: Mein khudko mahaan toh nahi manta. Lekin zindagi kissi cheez se ruk nahi jaati, woh chalti rehti hai aur agar tum ruk jaoge to yeh zindagi tumhe bahut peechein chod degi. So, jab mushkilein aati hai, ya toh tum unka saamna kar sakte ho ya tum bhag sakte ho. Bhagkar toh waise hi har jaoge, isse accha hai ki jeetne ki koshish to karo. Aur jo koshish kartein hai unhe zindagi kabhi nahi harati, in fact zindagi hi unhe jeetati hai. Tum sirf koshish to karo, zindagi khud tumhe jeetne ke raastein dikhaingi.

Mukhi and Arjun both nod.

Mukesh: Tum aaj woh koshish karne jaa rahe ho. Mein tumse sirf itna kehna chahta hu ki hum sab apne liye khelte hai. Medals, world records ye sab bahut important aur zaroori hai. Lekin ek baat hamesha yaad rakhna ki humara sabse badda kaam hai ki humare jaise logo ko umeed dena hai. Ye umeed kai logo ki zindagi savaar sakti hai. So, jao (motivating) jeeto, todo, sab world records tod do kyuki koi tumhe dekh raha hai, tumse umeed le raha hai aur kissi ke liye bhi isse baddi baat koi nahi ho sakti.

Arjun agrees, gives Mukesh a warm handshake.

CUT TO:

Mukesh picks up one leg, wears it, does the same with the other and walks away.

CUT TO: A wheelchair

A weelchair with 3 wheels in the centre of a wide concrete road. Arjun and Mukhi appear in the background. Peppy music starts as they approach the wheelchair. Both pair of eyes are glued onto the wheelchair.

CUT TO:

Arjun touches the wheelchair, pushes it to judge its sturdiness. He looks at Mukhi, who steps behind and gestures Arjun to go ahead. Arjun glances at the chair again. After some more inspection, Arjun finally gets in. He sits awkwardly, not relaxed.

CUT TO: Side shot

Arjun shifts in his seat. He puts on a dark black helmet and then a thick black pair of gloves. He grips the tyres tightly, takes a deep breath and pushes the tyre with great power.

CUT TO:

A view of the front tyre as it starts rolling, it wobbles a bit, but then starts picking speed.

CUT TO:

Arjun suddenly stops pushing the tyre, he feels uncomfortable because of the speed. He is sweating, looks scared because of the sudden pacy experience. He looks nervous as well, suddenly tries to stop the tyres with his hand, hurts himself. Finally finds the brakes and stops the wheelchair. He is breathing heavily, unsure of himself. He tries pushing the wheel but can't gather the courage. He looks back at Mukhi, who eggs him to

push forward. Again Arjun takes a deep breath, he nods, he is still not sure.

He keeps staring at the frontwheel, again brings his hands towards the wheel but doesn't push it. But yet the wheelchair starts moving, Arjun looks surprised. He turns, its Mukhi pushing the wheelchair.

CUT TO: Side shot

Mukhi running behind the wheelchair as he pushes it.

CUT TO: The front wheel as the chair gains pace.

Mukhi: Ek bar haath khule chodkar dekho Arjun, chod do!

CUT TO: back shot

Mukhi stops as the wheelchair races ahead '' Haath chodo Arjun''. Slowly Arjun takes his hands of the wheel and puts them up sideways as if he is flying.

CUT TO: Arjun's face

Arjun starts to feel the wind, his hair fly. Then slowly he opens his shut eyes, a feeling of calm on his face. As the wind hits his face, he starts to enjoy the ride. His hands are now completely outstrechted. He withdraws them and then smiles and starts pushing the wheel harder and harder.

CUT TO: A side shot

Arjun racing forward in his wheelchair, crouched low and pushing for more speed. His face brightens up, he is enjoying it.

CUT TO:

Arjun approaching the point where Mukhi is standing. Arjun picks up his pace, pushes even harder.

Mukhi punching the air and egging Arjun to go '' Faster, faster''.

Arjun gives Mukhi a high five as he passes him. Mukhi punches the air in excitement, so does Arjun while he removes his hemlet.

CUT TO:

As he removes his helmet, he looks happy, in fact very happy.

37. INT-Indoor stadium.

Arjun and Mukhi discussing something. Suddenly Arjun gets up and reaches a corner partly covered by a cupboard, he rests his crutch against it. Then he pulls a huge square wooden board from there, in fact it is a carrom board. He uses the left crutch and holds the board with his right hand. Mukhi smiles and sets up a small table with 2 chairs opposite each other. Arjun sets all the coins together and we are ready to begin. Mukhi takes a shot from the extreme right and a white coin goes right into the opposite left hole. He tries it again, but misses this time. It's Arjun's turn now. He smiles at Mukhi and takes his shot on a board splattered with coins.

Arjun looks hard at one coin, eyes wide open, bends down, triggers his middle finger backwards and then let's go. The white striker hits a black coin, directly in its line of motion and it goes in the hole. It's Arjun's chance again. In one straight

line from his left, he sees a white coin and then a black coin ahead of it. As he takes his shot again, Mukhi looks on with interest. His striker hits the white coin right at the centre, which in turns pushes the black coin well enough to go into the hole. A big smile emerges on Arjun's face.

CUT TO: 3 black coins in one straight line, SONIA looks on worriedly. 3 coins clearly seen, a hand comes down on the striker, positions itself. The white striker flies and hits the first black coin.

CUT TO: Top shot

The striker hits the first black coin and all 3 coins race towards the hole, drop in it one by one.

CUT TO: Mukhi looks left, then right as Arjun continues to gather coins. Only 2 black coins left, one right to the left of Arjun.

CUT TO: Arjun looks at the coin, and then looks straight, full of concerntration.

CUT TO: He strikes the striker hard, it goes and straightaway hits the opposite edge and rebounds to hit the black coin. The coin wobbles near the hole but doesn't go in. The camera tilts, Mukhi is smiling gleefully. He takes the striker from Arjun.

CUT TO: 8 white coins amidst just 2 black coins. A white coin right in the corner, almost kissing the boundary.

CUT TO: SONIA's raised eye-brows, she lowers herself.

CUT TO: Side shot.

The striker leaves SONIA's hand, goes straight and hits the white coin at its side.

CUT TO: Arjun waits anxiously, glances at the board and then at Mukhi.

CUT TO: Top shot.

The striker hits the coin on its extreme left and the black coin goes left, straight into the hole.

CUT TO: Arjun's mouth wide open as he looks amazed. Mukhi smiles back at him.

CUT TO: One white coin after another disappears with the striker flying everywhere. Just 2 more left, one just stuck next to the hole.

CUT TO: Mukhi concerntrates takes the shot. The camera focuses on her middle finger, it goes back, her hand moves to the right, then to extreme left, still adjusting.

Her hands are shivering, she pulls her finger behind.

CUT TO: The black coin remains undisturbed.

CUT TO: Mukhi's 4^{th} finger pushes the striker away before the 3^{rd} finger can strike it. The shivering hands had made him nervous.

CUT TO: Mukhi's disappointed face as Arjun smiles mischeviously and asks for the striker.

CUT TO: Just 2 black and 2 white coins left on the board. Arjun takes the first one quite easily, Mukhi looks worried again. Just one black coin waiting to be touched, just right next to the hole.

CUT TO: Arjun smiles as he takes the shot.

CUT TO: The middle finger hits the striker, it almost floats towards the coin.

CUT TO: Top shot.

The striker looks on target. It inches towards the coin but due to light weight of the black coin, the black coin piles on top of the striker and both fall into the hole.

CUT TO: Arjun watches with interest and then disappointment. He lets out a yell as Mukhi nods with a smile.

Arjun: Shit! Almost jeet gaya tha.

Mukhi: Arjun, game mein 2 hi results hote hai. Ya toh harna ya toh jeetna, almost ki koi value nahi hoti hai.

He takes the striker, just 2 black coins left, one right at the centre. He easily puts it into the hole.

Mukhi: Life mein bhi (pauses, looks at Arjun) sirf jeetna maine rakhta hai.

Arjun: Jeetna koshish karne se toh jyaada important nahi hai na?

SONIA: (interrupts) Nahi, jeetna sabse jyaada important hai. Jeetna hi sab kuch hai.

Arjun looks a bit surprised as Mukhi takes a shot at the last black coin. It looks difficult, stuck to the board right behind his hand. He takes his striker to the left and aims straight.

CUT TO: She hits the striker, it hits the opposite side, rebounds and slowly comes back to hit the coin on its left side.

CUT TO: Top shot.

The black coin gets hit on the left, moves rapidly to the right and into the hole.

CUT TO:

Arjun smiles trying to hide his disappointment, Mukhi doesn't.

Mukhi: Yaad rakhna, sirf 2 results. Jo jeetta nahi, who hamesha hara hua kehlata hai.

He gets up and walks away.

38. INT- House, early morning.

Greyish tinge to the entire room, early morning. Arjun wearing a tight white t-shirt and black shorts enters the room. Limping on his crutches, he is about to reach the main door when he notices something on the table, his artificial leg. He walks towards it. His face seen, not the object, he picks up a piece of paper scribbled upon by a red pen. It reads...

'' Musibaton ko apnao aur phir dekho ye zindagi kitni aasan hai. Mushkilo ko nazarandaz karne se woh chali nahi jaati. Unhe apnao. Agar tum unhe apnaoge toh hi tum unhe hara paoge.''

A huge smiles emerges on his face. He turns around, he sees SONIA. She rushes towards him and they both embrace each other. It's a tight, long and an emotional embrace.

SONIA: (whispers) I love you.

Arjun kisses her on the forehead. He tries to say something.

Arjun: I, I am so...

SONIA kisses him, and nods her head. She understands, they both hug each other again.

CUT TO: Arjun

Arjun sitting on the edge of a bed, struggling to adjust something. He is using both his hands, his upper body vigorously. The camera pans down, we see that he is trying to wear the artificial leg. He places it perfectly, pulls the strap back and tightens them. He puts his left leg forward, shakes it a bit, once sure about his fotting, he gets up confidently. He is feeling good, he smiles.

CUT TO: A wide concrete road

Camera moving in full speed, in reverse direction, a single wheel emerges and then a rod supporting it. Arjun is pushing hard, his chest resting on his knees. His black helmet and gloves creating a contrast against the blurring grey surroundings. Arjun looking extremely determined.

CUT TO: A bend in the road

Arjun's wheelchair speeding alone on the road as a bend approaches.

CUT TO: Camera follows Arjun, his body tightens, he leans towards the the left as he negotiates the bend. The effort visible on his face and upper body. The wind blowing across his face, stretching it. On the straight stretch again, the wheelchair

balances itself. His face is full of sweat, he exhales, slows down for a micro-second and then starts pushing hard again.

CUT TO: Back shot

Mukhi standing next to a yellow and black banner, indicating the finsh line. Arjun puts in more effort, he pushes harder and harder.

CUT TO:

Mukhi glances at his watch and back again at Arjun approaching. His head jerks from left to right as Arjun rushes past the finish line. He again glances at his watch, looks disappointed, takes a deep breath and then gets up. Arjun looks happy, Mukhi doesn't!

39. INT- House

A front of a black car comes to a screeching halt outside a house. The lights of the car go off, the door opens and a man steps out. It's Arjun house.

CUT TO: Main room

A yellow light shines on the room. Mukhi and SONIA can be seen discussing something; they are seated on different sofa's perpendicular to each other.

CUT TO: Mid shot of Mukhi

Mukhi: Aise nahi hoga! Paralympics ko sirf 30 din baki hai aur Arjun ka time international standards se bahut dur hai.

Jeetne ke liye hume isse kai behtar karna hoga. He is enjoying the game but, not winning it.

CUT TO: SONIA's grim face, she nods.

CUT TO:

Mukhi: Usse bahut jyaada mehnat karni hogi aur jyaada effort lagana hoga. (pauses) Lekin usse dekhkar aisa lagta hai ki who sirf koshish karke hi khush hai.

CUT TO: Mukhi continues listening intently and nodding, understanding every word.

CUT TO:

Mukhi: Aur hume international quality wheelchairs ki bhi zaroorat hai Arjun ka time improve karne ke liye. Woh mil bhi jayegi, lekin Arjun ki soch ko kaise badle, usse yeh kaise kahe?

CUT TO:

SONIA: (takes a deep breath) Ye kehne se nahi, sirf karne se solve hoga.

40. EXT-Concrete race track

Arjun's wheelchair right in the middle of the track.

CUT TO: side shot

Arjun with his black helmet and shorts ready to take off at the sound of the whistle. He is focused, glances at Mukhi. All set, but suddenly, he feels someone come up on his right side. 4 wheelchair racers enter the frame, their wheels positioned on the white line. Arjun gives them a smirk. He understands what's happening. The racer right next to him returns his smirk, crouches low, looks ahead, almost ignoring Arjun's presence. 3

wheelchairs appear on his left as well. Arjun turns left, expecting it.

CUT TO:

Mukhi pushes one thin short man's normal wheelchair towards the line. The man's wheelchair stops just behind his racing wheelchair. He puts his entire weight on the back of the racing wheelchair, its front goes up in the air. The man then leans with his upper body on the seat of the racing wheelchair, he pulls his legs into it as well. The wheelchair's front falls back onto the ground, the man struggles but then gets into the chair.

CUT TO:

Arjun reapeatedly looks at the man with pity and gives him a thumbs up.

CUT TO:

The man looks at Arjun with surprise, puts his hand helmet firmly on and looks away from Arjun with attidude.

CUT TO:

Arjun raises his eye-brows in surprise, nods and leans forward in his chair.

CUT TO: Side shot

The front tyres of all wheelchairs on the white line. All racers leaning forward, looking impatient, simply waiting to go. A whistle blows and the wheelchairs rush forward as men push the wheel hard.

CUT TO: Side shot

Slowly Arjun's wheelchair inches ahead followed by Rahul, the tiny man with big shoulders. Arjun pushes hard and Rahul disappears from the frame. Arjun is first and alone, pushing harder. His wheelchair bends towards the left, he holds it tight, slows down as he negotiates a left turn. His face, stiff, facing the onslaught of the harsh winds.

CUT TO: Front shot

Arjun leading with just Rahul close, while all racers are far behind. Arjun looks quite comfortable in the lead.

CUT TO: Back shot as Arjun approaches an incline, his hands move faster through the wheel.

CUT TO: Side shot

Arjun pushes harder to reach the incline while Rahul slows down and drifts outside the frame.

CUT TO: Arjun going up a steep incline, struggling to keep pace but still pushing hard. He is panting for breath, his movement slowing down. Arjun repeatedly glances behind as he struggles up the incline.

CUT TO: Rahul and other racers coming close on the incline.

CUT TO: Arjun glances behind once, then looks ahead, leans and starts pushing harder but he cant gather much speed. By now he is over the incline and on a flat stretch.

CUT TO: Rahul pushing comfortably, still on the incline.

CUT TO: Arjun on the flat stretch but panting for breath, slowing down. Slowly a tyre approaches on the right, Arjun turns, it's Rahul!

CUT TO: Rahul putting in rapid pushes through the wheel. He leans forward to get that extra push.

CUT TO: Arjun leans forward too, he starts to push hard, putting in more effort everytime, starting to gain speed but wait, Rahul's wheelchair just passed him. Rahul is now in the lead. Slowly Rahul's lead starts to increase and in spite of Ajrun pushing harder and harder, he starts to fall back. Arjun watches helplessly as other racers go past him. Arjun tries to push, he tries to put more effort but he is exhausted. He gives up and now his aim is just to finish the race.

CUT TO: Rahul raises his arms as he crosses the finish line. Arjun is in the background, looks disappointed, while continuing to push forward.

CUT TO: Arjun

Arjun standing among a group of men, some of whom are on a wheelchair.

Host- '' The winner is Rahul Verma''. A wheelchair stop next to Arjun, it's Rahul. He looks up at Arjun and laughs. He moves a step ahead, turns smiles sarcastically at Arjun, gives him a thumns up and says '' Next time!''. Rahul pushes his wheelchair forward to accept the award. Arjun looks on dejectedly.

41. EXT- A garden, evening.

Arjun, SONIA and Mukhi huddled together. Arjun sitting in the centre, head down looking disappointed. Mukhi looks at SONIA.

CUT TO:

SONIA lowers her eyes and nods. She starts in a low but firm voice.

SONIA: Arjun (pauses) ...hum aise nahi jeetenge. (pauses again to look at Arjun, gets no reply, continues). Hume bahut

Arjun: (interrupts angrily) Itna sab hone ke baad bhi mein khel raha hu. Kya who bas nahi hai?

SONIA: (calm) Hazaron log koshish karte hai Arjun. Lekin koshish karne walon ko koi yaad nahi rakhta, sab jeetne walo ko yaad rakhte hai.

Arjun: Lekin mein itni mehnat toh..

SONIA: (interrupts) Arjun mehnat hi nahi, hume results bhi chahiye. Mehnat to sabhi karte lekin duniya sirf jeetne waalo ko yaad rakhti hai. Jeetna hi sab kuch hai Arjun.

Arjun looks at SONIA, he seems to be understanding what she means.

Mukhi: Arjun, un sab logo ke liye khelo

Arjun: (interrupts) Kya meri koshish kaafi nahi hai?

Mukhi: (passionately) Socho Arjun. (camera starts moving). Zindagi ek race hai, jisme tum mahir the, tum jeet rahe the. Aur phir ek hadsa!

Toh kya tumne haar maan li? Nahi na. Socho, ek mushkil race, lakhon ki nazar tumpe, competition

mein world champion maujud. Dhamakedar race, pehle champion aage, phir tum, phir champion. Last 100 metre baki, tum apni jee jaan laga dete ho aur who bhi. Aakhri 25 metre mein dono barabari par aur aakhri shan mein tum ek zordar push karte ho aur gold medal hi nahi balki world record bhi tod dete ho. Who shan jab tum apne haath hawa mein uthaoge as a world champion tab lakhon log ye chahenge ki kuch shano ke liye, sirf un kuch shano ke liye ki woh Arjun Khanna, the world champion hote. Woh shan jab ek fit insaan ek apahij ki jagah hone chahta hai wohi humari asli jeet hai.

Arjun and SONIA both are shocked; both nod approvingly with a genuine smile on their face. Arjun warmly shakes hands with Muhki and then gives SONIA an assuring look.

42.EXT- Mountanious road.

A determined music begins as Arjun sets out on steep mountainous road. He is alone, he starts pushing on the road. He looks at the incline, determined not to lose to it this time, pushes even harder up the incline.

CUT TO: A milestone reads, 'Camp 1: 25 Km's'.

CUT TO:

Arjun full of determination pushing towards the incline. His upper body resting on his knees, face looking ahead and hands working through the wheels to generate speed.

CUT TO: His face as it braves the winds, but it's focused, not meant for any excuses.

CUT TO: The road ahead, just full of concrete and simply no human presence.

CUT TO: Arjun looks at the empty road and tries to improve his speed, he does!

CUT TO: The road

Arjun approaches an intersection ahead and suddenly from the right side, just like a car, zooms in a yellow wheelchair and it positions itself right next to Arjun's. Arjun swerves his wheelchair violently to the left to avoid a collision. The man in the other wheelchair seems unfazed, he simply smiles.

CUT TO:

The same tiny man with great shoulders with a dangerous smile on his face, he gives Arjun a thumbs up, it's Rahul!

CUT TO:

Arjun first looks angry, but then smiles back at Rahul, he knows this is a competition. But this time Arjun gives Rahul a thumbs down and then smiles.

CUT TO:

Rahul doesn't like that, he swerves his wheelchair to the left to hit Arjun's. It misses Arjun's wheelchair and now the race is well and truly on.

CUT TO:

Rahul is slightly ahead, the incline is approaching. Arjun looks at Rahul expecting him to slow down, he doesn't. Arjun starts pushing faster

and faster. Now on the incline every push to go faster requiring greater effort, but Arjun continues doing so. Rahul is doing it with ease.

CUT TO:

Arjun pushing harder but seems to be losing stamina. His face is full of sweat and his breathing becomes loud. He looks ahead; Rahul is still clearly in the lead. He nods frustratingly and strains his body as he puts in greater effort.

CUT TO:

Rahul in command as the decline starts to approach, he grips his wheelchair tightly as a left turn approaches. He slows down, his wheelchair inclined towards the left and makes the turn easily.

CUT TO:

Even Arjun approaches the left turn, doesn't slow down much. He just zips through the left turn, his wheelchair dangerousy imbalanced for a second. But is fine. With every push, he seems to be getting closer to Rahul, who is now slowing down.

CUT TO:

'Camp 1: 5 KM's'

CUT TO: Back shot

Arjun fast approaching Rahul, he comes level with Rahul. Rahul gives him a quick glance. Arjun doesn't, he is focused.

CUT TO:

They stay level for a few seconds, both men pushing themselves to their limits. A left turn approaches again, Arjun crouches low and starts pushing through the wheel like a maniac. Rahul tries to do the same.

CUT TO: Arjun

Close ups of Arjun's face, the effort visible as he grips the wheelchair tight to make the turn.

CUT TO: Top shot

About to make the turn, Arjun's wheelchair just inches ahead. Arjun takes a tight left turn, so does Rahul. Both whelechairs come within inches of collision. Arjun hangs on, his wheelchair emerges just ahead of Rahul's at the turn.

CUT TO:

On the straight, the joy visible on Arjun's face. He exults, saying "Yes, yes" again and again. He glances backwards for a second and continues pushing hard.

CUT TO:

Rahul seems to be very tired, he is sweating and his face looks pale but even he pushes on.

CUT TO:

Arjun racing ahead as Camp 1 is clearly in sight. He slows down, looks tired as Rahul starts to catch up with him.

CUT TO:

Arjun clearly slowing down as Rahul approaches closer, almost level. Even Rahul stops pushing hard, just taking it easy. Both look incredibly tired. But as they reach the camp line, Arjun looks at Rahul who has almost stopped and does the unthinkable. He doesn't take the right turn to go into the camp, starts pushing harder instead. Rahul is amazed, then he glances at something, he realises that Arjun still wants to race and he accepts it.

CUT TO: Camp 2: 1 KM

Arjun just slightly ahead of Rahul, but not too far. Both continue pushing, panting for breath but not wanting to lose to the other. Their bodies are slowly giving way, the pushing gets lighter, trying very hard but hardly any result.

CUT TO:

Rahul finding it difficult to breath, looks at Arjun. Rahul smiles as he sees camp 2. They reach it, but Arjun doesn't stop. Rahul looks disgustingly at him, but he needs to catch up.

CUT TO: Camp 3: 1 KM

CUT TO:

Arjun quickly glances at Rahul, who pushes hard and comes level with him. Both men almost fatigued, continue. But then slowly Rahul starts to fall behind.

CUT TO: Top shot

Rahul's wheelchair just marginally behind Arjun's goes dangerously to the left and parks itself right to the edge of the road. Rahul looks dejected but

relieved. Arjun looks back to check whether Rahul has stopped.

CUT TO:

A chld-like smile emerges on Arjun's face as he sees Rahul quit. He looks back on his right side, no one there. Then to the left side, no one there an then straight ahead, it's just him on the road. He pushes ahead.

CUT TO: Camp 3

Arjun completely outstretched on a desi bed. People can be seen walking around. He hears some noise.

CUT TO: A board, like the ones seen at the airport

It reads' 1^{st} -Rahul and right below it is 2^{nd} -Arjun'.

It makes a loud clattering noise as the board changes with great speed.

Now it reads ' 1^{st} - Arjun and all the grid below it are absent. Directly the 10^{th} one reads - 2^{nd} - Rahul'.

CUT TO:

A huge smile on Arjun's face.

CUT TO:

Mukhi comes from behind the board and smiles at Arjun and gives him a thumbs up.

43. EXT- Concrete road.

A young reporter, reporting live from Arjun's training area. Sporting a smile in the centre of the concrete road.

Reporter: '' Arjun ka Raj mein aapka swagat hai. Ek dil dehlane waale hadse ke baad, Arjun ne khel jagat mein phir ek bar shandar waapsi ki hai.

CUT TO: A wheelchair race, ongoing race, evening.

Flashbulbs blinking with frenzy as Arjun, just inches ahead of Rahul approaches the finish line. Arjun pushes hard, so does Rahul but Arjun maintains his lead. Rahul makes one last effort, shaking his head vigorously as he propels his wheelchair forward, he comes close but not close enough. The flashing lights almost blind Arjun, raises his arms and crosses the finish line. The crowd erupts. Arjun slows down, he is still glancing towards the side of the tracks, he doesn't look happy, he looks anxious. Finally he spots someone, has a questioning look on his face.

CUT TO:

Mukhi, standing at the edge of the track, gives a huge smile. Then, he looks at his stop-watch, the time is blinking in black, digital figures. Mukhi smiles again, nods vigorously and punches the air with his fist.

CUT TO: Arjun

Arjun's eyes slowly light up and then he punches the air as his wheelchair slows down, others racers still crossing the finish line in the background.

CUT TO: Front shot, Arjun

Arjun's wheelchair comes to a halt, other racers still crossing the finish line. Arjun raises both his arms, he looks up at the sky and rests his head on the back of his wheelchair. The sky visible in the background, it's dark blue contrasting against Arjun's yellow jersey.

CUT TO: Reporter

Reporter- Ji haan, Arjun ne 400 metre national level record tod kar, ek naya record banaya hai. Lekin, kya ye record ek gold medal jeetne ke liye kaafi hai? (Pauses) Ji nahi! Ye record international records se kaafi kam hai. Toh sawaal ye hai ki, kya is tarah national champion Arjun Khanna, ek international gold medal jeet paenge?

CUT TO: INT- Arjun's house, dimly lit room

Close up of Mukhi.

Mukhi: Nahi! (Grim voice)

SONIA, Arjun and Mukhi in a serious discussion. They are seated in a dark room with bare minimum light to illuminate their faces. SONIA and Arjun looking at Mukhi.

Mukhi: Humara time India ke national record ke liye kaafi hai lekin Paralympics mein ye time ke saath hum qualify bhi kar paenge?

Arjun: (angry) Toh hum kya kare? Mein kya karu?

Mukhi: (calmly) Arjun, hume behtar wheelchair chahiye. Hume ek international level par compete karne layak wheelchair chahiye, hum is wheelchair se Paralympics mein compete nahi kar sakte hai. Hume ek badhiya wheelchair ki zaroorat hai. Aur uske liye hum paiso ki zaroorat hai.

SONIA: Aur?

Mukhi: (takes a deep breath) Humare paas utne paise

nahi hai.

SONIA: Kitne paise chahiye hoge?

Mukhi: Ek laakh!

SONIA; (surprised) Humare paas kitne baki hai?

Mukhi: 25,000!

44. INT- Mukhi's house

A shabby looking room, plaster peeling of the walls, broken furniture, mice all around feasting on the whatever is left of the room. Mukhi walks towards a huge metal safe. Creaking noise as he opens it.

The safe is empty, 3 shelf's of metal, just empty. The only saving grace, one thick bundle of notes in the bottom shelf. He picks it up, looks lost while staring at it. Then he shrugs himself, hesitatingly puts the bundle of notes in his pocket. Before he can lock the shelf, the bell rings. He rushes to open the door.

CUT TO:

There is no one outside the house. He looks around, notices a stack of envelopes.

CUT TO:

Stamped in bold red '' Payment Failure'' on each and every envelope. He tears open the first envelope and starts reading.

'' Mr. Vijay Mukhi, ye aapke light bill bharne ki aakhri notice hai. Agar 2 din mein aapne bill ki bharpai nahi ki toh hume aapka connection katna hoga.''

Mukhi looks worried, he takes a deep breath and looks at all the other envelopes. The red stamp almost hurting his eye. He strains his brow, slams the door shut.

CUT TO: INT- Bank

A huge blue board reads '' The National Cooperative Bank'''.

The camera tilts down, Mukhi and Arjun enter the bank.

CUT TO: A closed cabin

A fair, plum looking man wearing spectacles, looks grim. He is the bank manager.

Mananger: Sorry Sir, humare paas aise situations ke liye koi laon nahi hai.

Mukhi: Lekin...

Manager: (interrupts) Sorry sir, main aapki koi madat nahi kar sakta.

Arjun and Mukhi look humiliated as well as disappointed. They accept the verdict, get up and walk out of the cabin.

CUT TO: A huge board, which reads '' Help NGO''

A dark, thin man in his mid forties, makes a disappointed expression.

Man: Nahi ji, hum aapki koi madat nahi kar sakte hai.

Mukhi: Lekin kyu?

Man: Dekhiye ji, hum sirf garibo ki maddat karte

hai. Aur aap to hathe gathe naujawan ho.

Muhki: Lekin

Arjun: (raises his hand, smiles) Theek kaha, mein apni maddat khud kar sakta hu.

Arjun walks away as Mukhi watches with pride, smiles.

CUT TO:

Rapid visuals of various men answering, '' No''.

CUT TO:

Mukhi disappointed, slumps back in a chair. The camera zooms out, he is seated on a chair next to a table. A table lamp illuminating his face. He takes a deep breath, burries his face between his hands.

CUT TO: Arjun's house

SONIA: Paiso ka intezam hua?

Arjun: (disappointedly) Nahi.

SONIA sitting on the bed, slowly puts forward a red coloured box. Arjun looks at it closely, he realises what it is.

Arjun: Nahi SONIA (can't hide his embarrassment). Iski koi zaroorat nahi.

SONIA opens the red box, a thin gold chain sits pretty inside it. Arjun feels embarrassed again, he shuts the red box and pushes it towards SONIA. SONIA gives him a questioning look.

Arjun: (nods disapprovingly) SONIA! Mujhe pata hai, ab kya karna hai.

He smiles at SONIA and leaves. SONIA looks on, still confused.

45. INT- An office, a huge door.

A man knocks on the door, then pushes it open. A partly bald man with fair skin is sitting on a chair behind a table. He looks up and smiles.

Man: Ahh, young man! What can I do for you?

CUT TO:

Arjun enters the cabin as the door shuts behind him. Arjun doesn't smile, looks serious. He walks up to a chair and then sits down on it. He looks at the man, puts his hand inside his pocket and slams something on the table. It's his gold medal!

CUT TO:

The old man at first is surprised. Then he smiles.

Man: Toh aakhir tum aa hi gaye isse bechne? Toh aisa kya?

Arjun: (interrupts) Mujhe bechne se matlab hai. Tumhe sirf kharidne se hona chahiye.

Man: (impressed) Hmm...theek hai.

He looks at the medal, takes it in his hand, observes it closely. Looks at Arjun.

Man: 15 hazar!

Arjun is taken aback; his face is filled with disgust. He leans forward in his chair.

Arjun: (grinds his teeth) Ye ek gold medal hai! Cheezon ko parkho aur phir kimat lagao.

The man smiles or rather he chuckles and leans back on his chair, wickedness writ large on his face.

Man: Kimat toh tum nahi jaante. Koi bhi medal pura gold ka nahi hota, ye ek silver medal hai jispe gold ki coating ki jaati hai. Samjhe?

Arjun looks perplexed at this revelation, but doesn't debate it, accepts it.

Arjun: Kimat gold ki nahi, us jeet ki, us rang ki hoti hai. (Takes a deep breath) Mujhe 15 hazar manzor

Man: (interrupts wickedly) 14 hazar

Arjun, disgusted, nods approvingly.

CUT TO:

He accepts a cheque and leaves. He is about to walk out of the door, when..

Man: Arjun, sirf ek baat. Tum jab aakhri bar aaye the, toh tumhe apne is medal pe itna garv tha, isse itna lagaav tha. Toh phir aaj tumne ye medal itni aasani se kaise bech diya?

Arjun smiles sarcastically. He turns.

Arjun: Doosra medal jeetne ke liye.

The old man nods, gives Arjun a warm-hearted smile.

CUT TO:

Arjun, Mukhi and SONIA sitting in Arjun's house. Mukhi is checking on a few bundle of notes. He checks the last bundle, SONIA and Arjun are looking at him. Mukhi puts the last bundle aside and nods disapprovingly.

Mukhi: Sirf paitalis hazar hai.

They all look grim, Arjun reacts disappointedly. He just looks down, avoiding all eye contact. SONIA and MUkhi give each other a concerned glance. SONIA puts her hand on Arjun heads, trying to console him.

SONIA: Kya humne sab raastein aazma liye hai?

Arjun still looking down answers, '' Har ek raasta!''. She looks at Mukhi, he agrees.

Mukhi: (thoughtful) Koi toh raasta hoga.

SONIA: Jaise ki?

Muhki: Mujhe nahi pata, lekin koi na koi raasta toh zaroor hoga.

The conversation is disturbed as the bell rings, SONIA gets up to open it.

CUT TO:

A post man gives SONIA a letter, she takes it to Arjun.

SONIA: Ye tumhare liye koi letter hai.

Arjun disinterestedly looks up, accepts the letter, reads the envelope and his eyes light up.

CUT TO:

The envelope has bold heading, '' Indian Olympic Committee''.

CUT TO: Flashback, Tiwari's office

Arjun very angrily puts his crutch on Tiwari's table.

Arjun: Aur agar mujhe mera compensation 2 mahine ke andar nahi mila toh paagal log kya kar sakte hai who bhi mien tumhe bataunga.

CUT TO: Arjun

He smiles at the very thought, looks at the envelope. He punches the air in excitement.

Arjun: IOC se accident ka compensation hai.

SONIA and Mukhi are all smiles, they experience a sense of relief. Mukhi gets up and hugs Arjun, it's a long tight embrace. Their dream is about to be fulfilled. He opens the envelope.

CUT TO:

Slowly pulls out something, it's a cheque. He looks even happier. He can read the amount; he sees 1 in the figures column. Pulls it further, he sees 5, so its 15. Slowly pulls further, he sees 0, 150. His excitement grows as he slowly pulls the cheque out, it has one more 0, so it's 1500. A huge smile emerges on his face, he looks at Mukhi and SONIA, both are impatient for him to remove the cheque. He pulls it out with a flourish. Suddenly, the happiness disappears. He is shocked, he doesn't move, hands over the cheque to SONIA.

CUT TO: Cheque The figure reads , 15000. In words it reads, Fifteen Thousand Only!

CUT TO:

Mukhi glances at the cheque, tries to hide his appointment. Arjun falls back on the sofa. All three are disappointed, no one says a word. Arjun angry, shaking his head vigorously.

Arjun: Sab khatam hogaya. Ek raasta tha, who bhi band hogaya.

Mukhi: (calmly) Arjun, humari soch ruk jati hai, toot jati hai lekin, raastein kabhi band nahi hote.

ARJUN: (frustrated) Mein Paralympics mein nahi compete kar sakta. It's impossible!

Mukhi: Impossible is nothing!

Arjun surprised on hearing that remark. Even Mukhi seems surprised at what he has just said.

Mukhi: (bit amused with himself) Yes, yes Impossible is nothing!

He smiles and walks out. Keeps repeating the same line.

Arjun is baffled, he is still nodding.

Arjun: Kuch nahi ho sakta, it's over SONIA, its over.

SONIA doesn't approve, but still gives Arjun a smile and hugs him as Arjun breaksdown. He cries like a baby in SONIA's arms as the camera slowly moves out of the room. SONIA tries to console him as the door shuts.

46. INT- Arjun's room, early morning.

Arjun, turning in his bed, looks like he isn't getting sleep. He is staring at the ceiling, looks blank. Suddenly he hears the sound of a car parking in the garage. He looks questioningly at the window. He gets up from his bed and walks downstairs.

CUT TO:

He opens the main door, he smiles wholeheartedly but also looks surprised.

CUT TO:

Lying in the courtyard is a shining red object. It's shape is aerodynamic, a sharp handle supporting a single wheel at the front. While the rear has a huge chair, supported by 2 wide wheels on either side.

He walks up to the wheelchair, admires it. His is literally gaping at the shining cycle. He walks towards its rear, something catches his attention.

CUT TO:

On the back of the seat are 3 slanting pyramids, the logo of Addidas.

CUT TO:

Arjun still in awe of the wheelchair when a voice interrupts him. He turns, it's Mukhi.

Mukhi: ZXR-500, the best wheelchair in the world.

Arjun is surprised.

Arjun: Addidas?

Mukhi: Tumhare sponsor. Addidas tumhe pure Paralympics mein sponsor karne ke liye tayaar hai. In fact tumhe sponsor kar rahe hai! Congratulations Arjun.

Arjun walks towards Mukhi, warmly shakes hands with him.

Mukhi: Kya ab tum ye race jeetoge?

Arjun: Impossible is nothing!

Mukhi and Arjun both smiles, Mukhi nods.

(The part of Mukhi in this scene can preferably be enacted by the brand ambassador of Addidas, someone like Sachin Tendulkar. This would give the brand a greater takeaway without taking anything away from the story. It would also boost our marketing efforts, even if Sachin is present for just 30 seconds.)

47. A huge stadium bustling with people, evening.

Thousands of people crammed in a concrete stadium. The atmosphere is electric, the crowd is colourful. Every now and then, the crowd goes up and down in a Mexican wave. The flood lights in the stadium are on at full tilt. A loud voice blares through a PA in the stadium.

'' 2012 ke Paralympics mein Bharat aapka swagat karta hai.''

CUT TO:

Arjun walks into a balcony, he looks around 360 degrees. The noise is deafening, the crowd goes into delirium as Arjun picture appears on the screen. He tries to soak the atmosphere, the crowd makes greater noise. Breeze blowing from the opposite direction messes his hair. He is enjoying this, he sets his hair in place as SONIA enters the players balcony.

CUT TO: Shot from below the balcony

SONIA keeps her hand on Arjun's shoulders as she admires the buzzing stadium. Arjun likes the breeze blowing into his face, he looks at the view with pride.

CUT TO:

Arjun enters a room, the excitement of the crowd outside can clearly be heard. Even SONIA enters, Arjun picks up a newspaper and starts to read. His expression changes as he reads the newspaper. He in angry, he throws the newspaper at SONIA. She takes it, then reads it, looks concerned. Arjun snatches

the newspaper and rushes out as SONIA looks on, worried.

CUT TO:

Arjun walking hurriedly through long wide stairs, he is almost running. He starts breathing heavily, he waits for a second, tries to catch his breath. Then he nods, starts walking hurriedly again. He takes a turning flight of stairs and enters a huge area filled with cars. A dark area, it looks like a basement, in fact it is a parking lot. He sees Mukhi there talking to someone. He rushes towards him.

CUT TO:

Mukhi notices Arjun approaching. He signals the other man to go away. Mukhi rushes towards Arjun with a smile. Even Arjun rushes forward, he throws the newspaper at Mukhi.

CUT TO:

The newspaper hits Mukhi's face, he stops. His expression becomes worried.

CUT TO:

Arjun: Kya hai ye sab?

Mukhi picks up the newspaper, he looks unhappy. As he reads the news, tension grips his face. He looks up at Arjun apologetically.

Arjun: Kaun ho tum? Kyu kiya tumne ye sab?

Mukhi: Arjun maine kuch nahi...

Arjun: (yelling) Isme saaf saaf likha hai ki tumne apna ghar tak kiraye pe rakh diya, kyu? Sirf meri training ke liye. Tumne mujhe bina bataiye meri puri training ka kharcha uthaya, kyu? Jawaab do mujhe?

Mukhi: Arjun, main..

Arjun: Mujhe kyu ka jawaab chahiye. Aakhir koi apni puri daulat kissi aur ke liye kyu kharch de? Batao mujhe...

Mukhi doesn't answer, he just looks down. Arjun's face is full of anger, he is expecting an answer. He doesn't get one, he gets even more irritated. Arjun: (starts nodding) Samaj gaya, mein sab samaj gaya.

Mukhi looks up at Arjun, hoping Arjun doesn't know the answer. He is scared.

Arjun: Sirf isliye na kyu ki mein ek apahij hu!

Mukhi looks up at Arjun, is relieved.

Mukhi: Nahi! Ek minute ruko..

Mukhi hurriedly walks away, he disappears behind a pillar. Arjun looks bemused. Arjun, still angry looks away. Arjun hears some noise, he looks up.

CUT TO:

A black Santro car drives into the slot right in front of Arjun. The car looks old and ragged but something about the car looks familiar to Arjun. Arjun looks even more surprised when Mukhi steps out of the car. Arjun is still staring at the car when Mukhi aaproaches him.

CUT TO:

Mukhi approaching Arjun, the focus of the camera improves, the black car can be seen. In fact, a red Doctor's cross appears on the glass of the car.

CUT TO:

Realisation strikes Arjun's face. He is shocked.

CUT TO:

Mukhi puts his hand out for a handshake. His face is still apologetic.

Mukhi: (emphasizes) Dr. Vijay Mukhi!

Both have tears in their eyes, Arjun can't digest the fact.

Mukhi: (tearful) Main...

He is stopped as Arjun hugs him with great force. Both leave each other, Arjun gives Mukhi a thumbs up. Mukhi appreciates it and smiles.

48. EXT- A wide concrete road, lined up with spectators on both the side, cheering, rooting for their heroes.

10 wheelchair racers, crouched low in their chairs, waiting for the signal. As a loud whistle goes off, the wheelchair racers dash past the starting line.

CUT TO:

The racers push hard, but slowly Arjun breaks away from the pack and races ahead. The other racers seem distant as Arjun speeds ahead. Arjun crouches low and starts pushing harder.

CUT TO:

The other racers not pushing that hard, all more or less together.

CUT TO: Front shot

Am empty road, suddenly Arjun negotiates a left bend. His body feeling the impact of the turn, his wheelchair tilts to the left. As he reaches on the straight stretch, Arjun is clearly in the lead, no other wheelchair racer in sight. Arjun races ahead, an incline is approaching. He leans forward and pushes even harder as he goes up the incline. He pushes hard, but he is losing his breath. He continues pushing hard, glances behind, still no racer in sight. Arjun slows down as he sees a downward slope approaching.

CUT TO:

Racers still together in a cluster. They seem content to not try too hard. The incline seems to be approaching.

CUT TO:

Arjun goes down the slope, now he is really tired. He tries to push ahead, but can't gather much pace. He seems to be slowing down.

CUT TO: Side shot

Arjun at the extreme left of the frame, but slowly other racers enter the frame from right. Arjun is slowing down, other racers are catching up. They are speeding ahead, narrowing the lead. They approach closer, Arjun can't go faster. Close, close, closer and one by one the racers start

passing Arjun. Arjun watches in dismay as other racers leave him far behind.

The last racer is about to cross Arjun when he pushes hard near a turn.

CUT TO:

Sparks fly as wheels of both the chairs crash into each other next to a turn. Arjun's chair jerks to the right, while the other racer propels his chair forward. Arjun's hand feels the impact of the crash, he jerks his hand, grimaces and then tries to push his chair forward. Arjun moves his hand faster through the wheel and now he slowly seems to be catching up.

He goes past a few racers and now he is $6^{\rm th}$ in the race. He pushes, pushes harder, but still remains $6^{\rm th}$.

CUT TO:

The 5th wheelchair racer pushes ahead next to a left turn. He sees the turn approaching, he pushes hard and crashes right into the 4th racer. Both the racers go off track and crash into a side railing with thud. All that is left of the chairs is a mangled mass of steel.

CUT TO:

Arjun passes the same turn, he sees the racers crash into the railing. Then realises that he is now $3^{\rm rd}$ and pushes ahead with all stamina. His hand seems to be hurting, but he continues pushing. He easily goes past the the $2^{\rm nd}$ racer and is now closing in on the first one.

CUT TO:

Arjun looks ahead, he is close, but the finish line is in the sight. The crowd is cheering wildly on the sidelines. But Arjun realises that there is not much time. He rushes his hand quickly through the wheels, almost punishing himself. A tight shot as Arjun just goes past the first placed racer.

CUT TO:

Arjun is now clearly in the lead, but the other racer is just a few metres away. The other racer, in a last ditch effort, tries to crash his wheelchair into Arjun's wheelchair, he does.

CUT TO:

Arjun tries to steer his wheelchair to the right to avoid collision. But he can't. Sparks fly again, both racers feel the impact. Arjun's wheelchair jerks then wobbles a bit, the tyre looks like they will come off. It gets pushed to the right and past the finish line, the crowd erupts.

CUT TO: The finish line, side shot

The white finish line shining, reflecting light. The nose of Arjun's wheelchair goes past it, while the other racer follows behind. Arjun realises he has won, he lifts his hands and punches the air, he continues doing that as his chair is slowly coming to a halt. He can hardly contain his excitement. He looks around, sees the crowd cheering his on. He loves the ovation they give him.

CUT TO:

Arjun in his wheelchair looking the audience. The camera pans 360 degrees slowly to capture the whole

scene. The applause just don't stop as Arjun looks on with pride. His smile grows wider and wider as the camera continues panning. Then it stops.

CUT TO:

SONIA clapping vigorously with tears in her eyes. Mukhi is ecstatic, even he is clapping in great admiration. He nods and gives Arjun a thumbs up.

CUT TO:

Arjun standing on a podium, besides two more people. An official presents the silver and bronze medals to them respectively. Arjun looks on waiting for his medal but the official walks away. Arjun first looks puzzled and later is worried.

Another walks towards him and whispers something. A smile emerges on Arjun's face as one official comes forward with a gold plate.

Official: Ladies and Gentlemen, fastest wheelchair racer in the world, the world record holder, Arjun Khanna!

Official: World champion and of course a gold medalist too!

As Arjun bows down to accept the medal, he is greeted by loud cheers. He looks at it and then kisses it and punches the air one more time. The theme music starts again.

CUT TO: EXT- Athletics track.

Close-up of Arjun as the music continues.

Arjun: Mera ek hi sapna hai. (The camera starts zooming out, he is seen crouched low on a track, ready to go off.)

Arjun: Ki main mera har ek sapna pura karu. Har ek! Aur mera agla sapna hai....

Arjun smiles and looks away, looking straight, focused. A loud voice goes off, '' On your marks. Get set. Go!''

Arjun dashes past the starting line. His figure disappears within seconds, just a faint outline visible. The music gets louder.

THE END