

SCREENPLAY for Dafa Pyaar Ki (Clause of Love)

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EXT. FILM CITY SHOOTING AREA - DAY

A shooting unit is bustling with a variety of shooting equipment and crew. People are seen waiting for someone. Light-men are seen adjusting lights and reflectors. The setting guys are occupied with their activities. The spot boys are busy serving water and tea and running errands. In a corner under a tree are laid three-four chairs with "DIRECTOR" written behind one of them. On this chair is seated a man holding a megaphone and next to him is seated a bulgy man Mr. AHUJA who is the producer of the film being shot.

DIRECTOR

(looking composed)

Sirji, do not be tensed. Our Hero knows his job well. He is the flavor of the day and we have to tolerate some of his tantrums.

(looking and pointing toward the vanity van parked close by)

DIRECTOR (CONT'D.)

Do you see how vigorously it is rocking?

AHUJA

(irritated)

What has that got to do with my film? I just want a rocking film at all costs. I am telling you now- I won't go over budget for such cheap antics.

DIRECTOR

Oh...don't fret sir. It's very simple...our hero will come out all charged...In fact, I think he will sport the perfect look of exhaustion ones he comes out...

AHUJA

(irritated)

This is highly infuriating me...How can he blatantly waste my money like that? You being the director of this film, how can you be so unconcerned? I don't understand a single word you are saying.

DIRECTOR

I am only waiting for my turn sir.

AHUJA

Your turn? Does that mean you will be the next to go in the van after he comes out?

DIRECTOR

You are getting me wrong sirjee. Everybody knows me as a tough task master and I will not let him go unless I am satisfied. Let him have some fun. Look...the van has stopped shaking and it's time to blow it up.

(shouts into the megaphone)

Common guys...let's get ready for the shot...

(takes away the mike)

AHUJA sir, now you go shake the van...er...I mean relax in the A/C while I complete your film.

AHUJA thinks for a while and stomps hurriedly to the van. As he is about to open the door, Shaan emerges out from it shaking his head with a pleasing smile. AHUJA looks speechless.

AHUJA

Hope my film is smoothly completed!

SPOT BOY 1

Here comes the Rasputin...

DRESSMAN 1

This bastard didn't even spare Pinky Poonawalla, the hair-dresser. He better control himself!

SOUND RECORDIST 1

(tapping on his headphones)

But I bet she had had a great time with him...
(the other two look at him in disbelief)

SHAAN

Dear Sir, go and have a great time and by the time you come out I will have completed your film. (LAUGHS)

DIRECTOR

ADITI had called up since your phone was not reachable. By the way, someone is trying to drag you down. Better be careful!

SHAAN

Hey buddy, don't spoil my mood now.

(getting annoyed and distressed and lights a cigarette)

This woman will not let me work in peace. Let's get to work before I need to take one more visit to the van. Call the heroine fast. AHUJA doesn't stand a chance in front of the one inside. (BOTH LAUGH)

DIRECTOR

Go slow boy...beware of this babe. She won't give a damn to your tantrums. Don't you know her father is a judge?

Shaan looks at the Director with a smirk and turns to look around. His MANAGER is obediently standing beside his chair with a diary in his hands. SHAAN snatches it from him and flips through its pages. Coming to the last page he frowns and looks at the Manager.

Just then the heroine JAANSI walks-in for the shot. SHAAN is lustily eyeing her and she notices that.

DIRECTOR

Ok guys...we are going for take now. Start sound, Roll Camera...and Action.

As per the requirement of the shot, SHAAN pulls JAANSI close to him and while mouthing his lines, gropes at her butts. JAANSI takes a second to comprehend the situation and then pulls herself back from his grip and gives a hard one on his cheeks. Everyone is stunned at this daring act of JAANSI. SHAAN takes a second or two to recover from the shock. JAANSI looks around in disgust and walks towards her vanity van. SHAAN sports a 'who cares?' smile, pulls himself up and goes after her. DIRECTOR looks helpless as the PRODUCER looks at him with annoyance and signals him to be patient.

SPOT BOY 2

His lust is just uncontrollable man!

SPOT BOY 1

What do you think, will JAANSI forgive him?

DRESSMAN 2

She better do that. She has no option...It's just her first film. I have seen many such incidents. In the end only the eternal truth prevails-which must be unfolding inside her van now.

HAIRDRESSER

Shouldn't there be some rules to protect us vulnerable women at shoots from these lecherous devils?

The others nod in agreement and blankly look at each other suppressing their smiles.

---Cut to---

INT. JAANSI VANITY VAN-DAY

(JAANSI is angrily staring at SHAAN)

JAANSI

Who the hell do you think you are? How can you do that in front of everybody? I want an apology now and I want it in front of everybody.

SHAAN

Quiet...quiet...quiet...Look what I have got for you...Priyan has asked me to choose my next heroine and I've already suggested your name. Now, if you gonna fuss over such petty things.....hm...hm...hm?

JAANSI

I am so sorry....forgive me...give it to me...give me...give me...more.

(The van starts shaking again and SHAAN emerges happily and beckons his Manager)

SHAAN

(pointing to the appointment diary he just read)

What is this KANAHIYALAL? Not a single chick lined up for me? You are not up to your standards, sorry to say that. So many wannabe babes come to Mumbai everyday and you couldn't find a single one for me? Shame on you...

MANAGER

Sorry sir, just give me a day and I will prove why I am the best around here. You'll have no room for complaints. I promise.

---Cut to---

EXT. VILLAGE SQUARE UNDER A PEEPAL TREE – DAY

A group of four-five villagers are seen sitting under the shade of a big Peepal tree and gossiping about village matters.

VILLAGER 1

Give me her company for just one night...Oh Lord! what most men here crave for...Wish I was unmarried...

VILLAGER 2
I am willing to get hitched again...this time for the sheer pleasure of it.

VILLAGER 3
Isn't she god-damned voluptuous ?

VILLAGER 4
That dumb-ass CHANDAN is most probably going to hump this hot beauty. Lucky bastard!

VILLAGER 1
Don't dare even think. Remember, how that chap was punished by the Panchayat for trying to get smart with her?

This is played out as a montage to a song introducing CHAMCHAM who arrives in a bullock cart decorated with pandemic awareness messages glancing at the men under the tree. She is displaying a board with Vaccination Drive written on it. The cart is carrying a few other girls and children in it and all of them are having a ball. CHAMCHAM looks very beautiful and sensuous in her bright yellow dress, a black mask on her face with her hair flowing backwards. Also following the cart is CHANDAN on his motorbike. He is all dressed in colorful clothes.

VILLAGER 2
This Anganwadi teacher is the hot talk of our village even in times of pandemic.

VILLAGER 3
At times I feel, I should be enrolled in her classes, along with my kids.

VILLAGER 4
Had it not been for that joker bodyguard, we would have devoured her by now.

---Cut to---

EXT. COURTYARD THAKUR'S MANSION - DAY

A group of men and women can be seen engaged in daily chores, chatting and whiling away their time. The colorful decorated cart carrying the revelers enters the premises with CHANDAN following it. People gather around it.

CHAMCHAM

(going breathless with excitement while speaking rapidly)

Guys, get ready for the vaccination drive. We have got just fifteen days left to design our stall, prepare our masks, make posters and hoardings, tell me who will take up which responsibility....common guys, hurry up ! Let's make the list.

CHANDAN

(looking admiringly all the while at her)

CHAMCHAM, don't worry about spreading the word...we will reach up to every nearby village. Focus only on the menu.

SERVANT 1

(mischievously)

Why take so much of trouble, kid? Why don't you instead concentrate on acquiring some more skills useful for your marriage?

CHANDAN

How can you be so discouraging uncle? She's doing such a wonderful job. CHAMCHAM just go ahead and we shall take care of the rest.

CHUMKI

(playfully teasing)

You are one lucky girl CHAMCHAM...Chandan Babu is crazy after you...

CHAMCHAM

No sweetie, he is kind hearted.

(CHANDAN looks on disillusioned and upset)

---Cut to---

EXT. COURT PREMISES – DAY

DIGONA dressed in lawyer's black coat lunges for every arriving auto/car near the entrance of the court for soliciting clients. As soon as a new vehicle takes a turn the lawyers get ready to mob the vehicle and desperately pester the passenger with their expertise and services offered.

DIGONA

(throwing himself at the coming auto)

Madame, Sir, is it divorce that you are looking for? Or do you want to get married? Or a name change perhaps? Or make an affidavit? Notary? You just name it sir, we provide all types of services. Everything under that roof. Just get me your documents, will you ?

PASSENGER

What nonsense? We are not seeking any legal advice. We are here to visit the temple.

DIGONA

Doesn't matter, if you require any services after meeting the almighty, here is my card and this is our office. Top advocate...A-one services with full guarantee and confidence.

MAN PASSENGER

By the way, what is YOUR name?

-Cut to-

EXT/INT. DIGONA'S HOUSE – DAY

JHATUA

(arriving on his motorcycle...shouting looking at first floor house)
DIGONA...DIGONA...DIGONA

(Inside the home, DAMAYANTI signals her maid MAHUA to answer the call)

MAHUA

(through the balcony/window she signals that DIGONA has already left for work)

PRIEST

(the priest intensely studying a horoscope)
DINESH GOVARDHAN NAGRE.... Hmm. DAMAYANTI JI, your son is destined to marry a lowly girl...but relax...she will prove to be very lucky for him.

DAMAYANTI is visibly shocked after hearing this. Their young maid nearby who overhears this smiles to herself and flushes. She hastily comes out and dials a number on her cell.

MAHUA

(in hushed voice on phone)
Heyyy mom....it seems lady luck is finally going to smile on me....didn't I tell you he adored me? That's what their family priest was saying just now. He will get married to a maid like me...and now I shall leave no stone unturned.

PRIEST

(adding)
DAMAYANTI JI, this girl will be good natured and educated.

-Cut to-

INT. COURTYARD THAKUR'S MANSION – DAY

MUNIYA

Listen son, it is not a good sight, seeing you as an arm candy of our maid CHAMCHAM. Remember son, you are born in the Thakur family and it's against our family's dignity to be associated with such a lowly girl.

CHANDAN

The decision has been made mom. She is the one for me and from no angle does she look servile. Just look at her...She will perfectly look a Thakurain once we get married. Please don't go against my wishes, no.

MUNIYA

But does she like you? I don't think so son. She's much more educated than you are.

CHANDAN

That is what I will figure out. I trust my instincts.

MUNIYA

Look son, Don't you know what the consequences would be?

CHANDAN

Just this one wish Maa. I know, will have to leave you guys, forever.

MUNIYA looks on helplessly but lovingly cuddles up her son in her arms.

-Cut to-

EXT. COURT PREMISES – DAY

DIGONA similarly attempts two-three more autos and taxis and after finally hooking up a prospective client DIGONA leads them into one of the numerous shabby roadside hutments that are supposed to be his boss's office.

LAWYER 1

Enough man...DIGONA you have already achieved the target for the day. I am sure you have earned yourself a commission of at least five hundred rupees! How much more would you be working?

DIGONA

Can't just stop...have to earn lots of money. Going by this rate I will need to work 24x7.

ADVOCATE 1

Hey, buddy! Can you help me with the new format?

DIGONA

Well let me see...yes of course. Have sent it to you. By the way, your case is a clear cut breach of contract. The despondent is clearly guilty.

ADVOCATE 1

Hmm, thanks dude. But he's paying shitload of money.

ADVOCATE 2

Hey Bro, My client needs counsel in the matter of a molestation case. He pleads innocence. Would you like to help me? He too is willing to pay loads of money.

DIGONA

(thinks for a moment)

Sorry sir. Buzz off. Corruption is fine with me but I cannot fail my ideals and fall from grace. I shall never support rapists, adulterers and molesters.

(Just then a pat on his back turns DIGONA around to his friend JHATUA who's on a motorbike)

JHATUA

Bro, don't be so rigid. How could you say no to such opportunity? How many more years are you going to continue with this pouncing and prancing? Anyways, I have got one more avenue for you. Tonight, join me as I serve the rich and the famous of the city at the Gaylord's.

(DIGONA thinks for a while and then nods in affirmative.)

DIGONA

JHATUA, you are fucking so intelligent. If tonight I am able to solicit even one client, then many of my woes will be taken care of. Likewise if I get a few more, then I too will have a plush office of my own, a car, an apartment and most importantly I will not be roaming out here like a petty rogue. Oh how I wish to be rich and famous...but hey, how will I be able to enter in that place?

(JHATUA winks at him)

---Cut to---

EXT/INT. PARTY VENUE GAYLORDS – EVENING

DIGONA is dressed as a caterer as he enters the venue to hoodwink the security. Once inside he moves around the party serving drinks and taking stock of the situation. He then slowly goes to an adjoining suite, changes into fine clothes and decks himself up and emerges a fine gentleman. Once again he goes around building his PR and offering his visiting cards. A few guests are surprised to look at him and try hard to recollect where they had seen him. At one such point he sees SHAAN enter the party with a posse of followers and when DIGONA attempts to make any

contact with the star, SHAAN just rebukes him for his unwelcome approach. SHAAN takes the visiting card and flings it away. DIGONA overlooks this act with a smile and moves away trying to hide his embarrassment. Just then a voice is heard behind him.

FARHAD

(in a sharp voice)
He is my client.

(He turns around to notice FARHAD KANPURWALLA)

DIGONA

Of course. He is all yours.

FARHAD

You! What are you doing here? Who invited you to this party?

DIGONA

(embarrassed by being recognized)
Oh! My friend did...there look.

FARHAD

Oh common, don't lie...point to someone else. That's my father. By The Way, where have you been? Where are you practising? Working somewhere? Got married? Tell me...tell me...tell me all. You are not on FB also?

DIGONA

Well, not that the other one. Listen, I think I'll have to catch you later, as I am in a tearing hurry now...

FARHAD

Wait...wait...wait...you have to come for our alumni meet next weekend, okay?

DIGONA nods in affirmative and then heads to the changing room to collect his belongings and as he opens the door he sees SHAAN in a compromising position with a lady. Unapologetically he goes ahead and picks up his cards. This irks SHAAN who starts shouting and abusing DIGONA creating a ruckus. Soon a crowd gathers there and DIGONA is thrown out of the party. Luckily, DIGONA beats a quick retreat before FARHAD could arrive and spot him there.

---Cut to---

EXT. SHAAN BUILDING – EVENING

SHAAN hastily parks his car scratching another car. The owner of the car expresses his displeasure to the actor. This sets the stage for a heated argument and SHAAN browbeats the society member and admonishes the security over the lousy state of affairs.

SECRETARY

(starts addressing the crowd, gathered after SHAAN has left the scene)

What do these celebrities think they are? We shall not tolerate this unruly and uncouth behavior anymore. We will call the general body meeting and ask such people to mend their ways. The society members in response echo their sentiments that they too are fed up of the nuisance of the actor.

MEMBER 1

(to another member)

SHAAN. This secretary is a jerk...doesn't have balls to give it back to

MEMBER 2

We have to take measures to deal with this character. He is a growing pain in the ass.

MEMBER 3

Worse, he ogles at our women in a very indecent way and gets away with it just because he is a film actor.

MEMBER 4

That's because he must be having a tough time with his wife at home. Look at her, she is so.....suits him right.

MEMBER 5

Don't be judgmental about anybody, please. Uss bechari ne kisi ka kya bigada hai ? We must show his ugly face to the people of this city some day.

MEMBER 6

But who will bell the cat?

Everyone falls silent and nobody seems to be interested in taking an initiative.

---Cut to---

INT. SHAAN HOUSE – EVENING

NEIL gently opens the door for Shaan and hugs him tightly. Shaan looks inside and finds ADITI talking over the phone with her friend, staring at

him. Shaan enters the hall and takes out his shoes and socks all the while looking away from her.

SHAAN

(looking disturbed, he starts venting out his frustration on her)

How many times have I told you to not disturb me by calling during my shoots? Don't you have any brains? Can't you wait for me to finish off my work?

(SHAAN is visibly upset and has cuddled up to Neil)

SHAAN (CONT'D)

See, how insensitive you are? How are you doing my son? And what the hell you think you are doing by spying on me? I am telling you I won't tolerate this shit...

ADITI

(irritated)

Stop your bluff. I don't trust you anymore. I have enough of evidence of your adultery and if you don't mend your ways then you've had it from me. Look...do you think these are your doctored mms clips ? I was speaking to a lawyer friend. Just another slip in your behavior and you get a legal notice from me.

SHAAN

To hell with your crap. That's because you have got nothing worthwhile to do sitting at home. And, moreover what moral right have you got to raise a finger on my character?

NEIL

(confused)

Why are you fighting with Momma?

ADITI

(anger)

That's it. You have snapped the last thread of emotion for you in my heart. Son, your Papa is a cheat and very soon he is going to lose us because of his infidelity.

SHAAN

You have no right to talk like that in front of Neil. You are disgusting. I was better outside the home only. You stay here...I am leaving.

NEIL

(confused)

Where is Papa going?

ADITI

(melancholic)

Papa is going nowhere son, but your Mama is leaving now.

(slowly, with tears in her eyes)
Want to come with mama?

SHAAN

Drama Queen...Neil, Papa is going to bring ice-cream for you, ok?

Neil nods happily as SHAAN puts back his sneakers and leaves out hurriedly.

---Cut to---

EXT. THAKUR MANSION – DAY

CHAMCHAM is preparing to visit her aunt for three-four days in Mumbai for the Ganpati celebrations. CHANDAN tries best to convince CHAMCHAM to stay back. When she doesn't show signs of relenting, he asks her to be wary of his cousin SHAAN.

CHANDAN

You better stay away from that son of a bitch. I had met him last year and have seen how lecherous he is. He thinks every woman is his for asking. Also the social media are full of his black deeds.

CHAMCHAM

You know, what they print in those tabloids and social media is not all true. He is your brother and you should be proud of him as are the rest of us.

CHANDAN

Proud my foot! He is plain lucky and nothing more. I am telling you dear, if you get into any trouble because of him, I'll not leave that pig.

CHAMCHAM

Enough. Don't be so jealous of him. He is a Bollywood star and our childhood friend...if he likes me then I will be a film star too. You concentrate on making preparations for our FUNFAIR. When I return, there will not be much time left.

(CHAMCHAM naughtily laughs it off and rushes to attend to her duties leaving CHANDAN infuriating)

---Cut to---

EXT. TERRACE PREMISES - EVENING

DIGONA is seen lapping from one end of the terrace below the raised water tank to the other while making arguments about a case. His pitch goes on rising and reflects the intensity of his thoughts. JHATUA is busy shooting him.

DIGONA

(emphatically)

Except the actor's boy, there is no witness to prove that the sob
SHAAN assaulted me...abused me...insulted me...and if I get a chance I will show him.

JHATUA

(stops typing on his mobile and gasps)

Wonderful man

DIGONA

But will I ever be able to avenge my insult...?

JHATUA

(screaming)

No! This attitude will take you nowhere. You can do anything
man...you have damn good persuasive powers and you are thorough in your knowledge.
What have you got to fear?

(A moment of silence ensues. DIGONA sharply looks at
JHATUA with reproach.)

DIGONA (CONT'D)

(in a calm tone)

Money matters JHATUA. From where do I borrow more money
for my father's dialysis? I have just three weeks to collect money. How do I sponsor
CHUTKI's higher education? All of my resources are exhausted now. I just need that one
BIG BREAK...and then I'll show the world what it is to cross roads with a lawyer like me.

JHATUA

(exasperated)

That's the spirit, bro. Don't lose hope...I have a gut feeling that
some BIG case is looking for you at this very moment. The case will come looking for
you, my friend. You be prepared, especially with your bullshit ideals and morals.

Jhatua bows down and prepares to leave while Digona looks on
coolly, just then Digona's cell starts ringing. As DIGONA receives the call he puts the
speaker phone on. It's FARHAD on the line.

FARHAD

Dude, day after is our alumni meet. Hotel SEA VIEW 8 PM. Be
there ON TIME and don't be late, as usual.

(DIGONA looks non-plussed at JHATUA)

JHATUA

Opportunity is knocking on your door buddy...by the sound of it, you may get the girl and the money too...this time don't refuse it. If you do...you will suffer for the rest of your life.

DIGONA

If she is the type of girl whom I have to choose as my life partner, I wouldn't think twice. I myself distanced her away in college days as she was too hot to handle.

JHATUA

Don't be a fool now. Don't neglect matters of heart and bed. They come first before anything.

DIGONA

One more evening of networking, and putting up false facades. Nothing really comes out of these actually.

---Cut to---

EXT/INT. TAXI/ SHAAN'S APARTMENT – DAY

AUNT SUNDARA

Dear, be careful of what you speak. Don't say or do anything stupid. Also, refrain from reacting to anything about their family. Don't even think of reminding him of your childhood together. He is a very big star now. Know your limits and behave with dignity, understood?

CHAMCHAM

Don't worry aunty. I just want to see him once. I know I am a mere servant, but just for my childhood's sake...for the times when one is pure and innocent as angels...I want to see for myself what effect time has on bonds formed in the childhood.

AUNT SUNDARA

Whatever, don't have to be so romantic...face the reality.

MONTAGE – TAXI – CONT.

CHAMCHAM is the pet of every child as a group of children is busy playing, enacting a scene. The little girl playfully slaps another boy and he begins to cry. Hearing his cries, a bejeweled lady emerges from the house and tends to the crying child. She then admonishes the little CHAMCHAM for behaving in such a way with her master. The little girl is made to apologize to the kid and is not given meals that day. Another kid, CHANDAN surreptitiously brings food for her and gives it to her.

CHAMCHAM is lost in her thoughts as she is looking out of the taxi windows at the passing cityscape. She nods to acknowledge her aunt's words of wisdom. The taxi arrives at a posh building and they both get down after paying the fare.

The security recognizes the aunt and lets them pass through after inspecting their belongings.

SECURITY

Here, ADITI Madame has given these keys for you. Didn't say when she'll be back.

SUNDARA takes the keys and heads for the elevator. On reaching the 10th floor, both of them get out of the lift, close the doors and head for SHAAN'S flat. CHAMCHAM is mightily excited and nervous too. SUNDARA opens the door and they get in. Just then SUNDARA's phone starts ringing. She picks up the call and after a brief time beams with joy.

---Cut to---

EXT. FILM SET – DAY

MANAGER

Sirji, I have a gorgeous babe, fresh as the morning dew, just procured for you.

SHAAN

Send her home...ADITI is not going to come anytime sooner. She has gone to her father's at Delhi. I will reach home in half an hour.

MANAGER

Sirji, have patience with her. Take it easy. She's just starting out.

---Cut to---

INT. SHAAN'S APARTMENT – DAY

SUNDARA

Dearie, you are my true lucky charm! The call I just received... was from MAHADA. HURRAY! We have won the lottery and we'll now have our own home in Mumbai very soon. I quickly need to get done some formalities before we can proceed further. So, I'll leave now and come back within an hour. Till then you cook the food as instructed. Okay? And there's nothing to be scared about here.

CHAMACHAM looks lost but nods in an affirmative. Aunt URVASHI vanishes with last words and CHAMCHAM gets down to admiring the décor of the house. Everything is at proper place in the kitchen and CHAMCHAM finishes her work quickly. In the meanwhile, SHAAN arrives at the basement and is informed by the

security about a new girl. SHAAN cuts him in-between and snubs him for being too nosy. At home, CHAMCHAM sits down to relax on the couch and dozes off to a reverie dreaming of SHAAN recognizing her and reminiscing about their childhood. Just then the door unlocks and SHAAN enters tiptoed and locks the door behind him. SHAAN is shocked to see someone asleep on his couch. As he goes closer he is shocked to see the beautiful CHAMCHAM lying on her back. Her hair has partially covered her face, and her dupatta has shifted from its designated position to reveal ample of her bust. SHAAN looks at her ravishing beauty for some more time and plonks down on the opposite couch. He slowly and stealthily inches towards the gorgeous CHAMCHAM, extends his hand and lightly caresses her soft face. With the other hand he folds the photo of him and ADITI. CHAMCHAM in half-sleep smiles upon being touched and as she opens her eyes...she keeps looking at the handsome man close to her body. For a few seconds both keep staring at each other and then SHAAN bends forward to kiss CHAMCHAM on her lips.

---Cut to---

INTERMISSION