

WHAT I MISS MOST

Written by

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FADE IN:

INT. CAR - DAY

A Teal Myvi cruises towards a stoplight, slowing down at the sight of a red light. Sighing mildly, DARSHAN, 22, presses the brakes as he stops and grabs his phone, smirking as he looks at a text.

A stray car horn startles Darshan, causing him to drop his phone on the side and instantly step on the accelerator. Darshan glances up at the stoplight only to see that it is still red. He gasps as he finds a car rushing towards him.

A loud crash can be heard as Darshan blacks out. He hears faint sirens as passersby chatter.

INT. DARSHAN'S ROOM - DAY - 2 MONTHS LATER

DIYA, 49, peers into her son's room. Grieving from losing his eyesight, Darshan is resting in front of the small window in his room and his hand reaches out, grasping at the warmth of the sunlight beaming in.

Darshan slowly puts his hand down and tilts his head down, facing the floor. Gently shutting the door, Diya sighs and walks away.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY - LATER

Darshan manages to grab a sachet of Essenso coffee from the kitchen cabinet. Diya notices his attempt and offers her assistance but he rejects it and looks for a mug on his own.

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He places the mug on the kitchen island, unaware of it being on the edge. The mug falls off the kitchen island, only to be caught by Diya, as she remains silent. Darshan tears open the sachet vigorously and spills the coffee powder on the island. Upset yet calm, Diya asks Darshan to step aside as she cleans up the mess. Annoyed Darshan storms out of the kitchen as he grunts.

INT. DARSHAN'S ROOM - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Darshan enters his room and ambles until he knocks into the edge of his desk. He appears exasperated but continues walking as he places his hand on the wall, trying to place the things he remembers about the room.

His walk comes to a halt as his hand is on a television screen. He faces the television and inhales deeply. His moment with the television ends when a knock is heard.

Diya enters the room as Darshan sits on his bed. She gives him a stoic look before handing over a box. He places the box on the bed and opens it, only to detect a mirrorless camera. He caresses the camera until he chokes back his tears. Moved, Diya embraces him.

EXT. PORCH - DAY - LATER

Darshan and Diya are out of the house, with Diya grabbing Darshan's arm as they walk. Darshan carries the camera in his hand. As they sit on their garden chairs, Darshan gives Diya the camera.

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Darshan teaches Diya how to use the camera. He explains the functions of the buttons on the camera.

Diya records a video of a pair of sneakers and plays back the footage. Darshan hears the background noise from the video and slightly beams.

Diya asks repeatedly if she is pressing the right buttons on the camera, afraid of causing any damage. Darshan does his best to remain calm and explains his knowledge of the operation of the camera as clearly as he can.

INT. DARSHAN'S ROOM - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Diya records a video of the Netflix interface appearing on television. She also records footage of Darshan's PlayStation4, as well as footage of a scrumptious Quarter Pounder.

Darshan asks Diya to sit on his black swivel chair and switch on his HP laptop. He teaches Diya the ways of editing a video. Just like how she was with the camera, Diya appears puzzled. She moves the mouse about and clicks on the presets and features of the video editing software in a sluggish manner, wary of making an error.

Darshan utters various keyboard shortcuts to Diya. She stares at the keyboards before taking a glance at her son, who is staring down at the floor, awaiting her progress. She arranges the clips in the timeline, only to blunder by accidentally erasing the timeline she created.

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Diya gazes aghast at the laptop screen. She gasps, leading Darshan to question her progress. She apologizes as she explains how the timeline is gone.

The tired and lethargic Darshan snorts and clumsily steps out of the room, leaving remorseful Diya alone. She looks back at the laptop and spots a folder named *Childhood*.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Darshan slouches on his couch and gradually dozes off. Moments later, Diya wakes him up. Darshan startles a little as she places the laptop on his lap and puts his wireless headphones over his head.

Diya presses the spacebar of the laptop and a video is being played. After hearing a familiar sound, he instinctively turns to the screen. He titters as he realizes what the video is about.

Darshan can now open his eyes. He sees a compilation of old footage of his childhood. A younger Darshan jumping, dancing, doodling and being carefree. Darshan turns to see Diya whereas Diya is engrossed in the video.

Darshan holds Diya's hand. Diya looks at him and Darshan, with his eyes closed again, thanks his mother. He gives Diya a tight embrace.

FADE OUT.

THE END