

THE BOTTLE

- Press Kit -



Details:

Genre: Thriller

Running Time: 22 min

Language: Hindi (with English Subtitles)

Shooting Format: Digital, 4K (24 FPS)

Aspect Ratio: 16:9

Country of Production: India

Festival Screening

A young woman wearing a vibrant pink dress with a white floral pattern is walking in shallow, rippling ocean water. The water is clear and reflects the sunlight, creating a shimmering effect. The woman's legs and feet are visible as she moves through the water.

Logline:

On a beach in India, a young woman finds a bottle with a chilling message and may already be walking beside the killer it warns about.

Synopsis:

On an ordinary day at the beach, Sheetal stumbles upon a mysterious bottle carrying a chilling message: “The beach killer is nearby, and you are its next prey.” What begins as a strange coincidence soon spirals into a nightmarish encounter when she crosses paths with Bhairav, an off-duty constable who offers to help.

But as his words and actions grow increasingly suspicious, Sheetal realizes she may be walking beside the very predator she’s been warned about. Beneath the surface, an even darker truth emerges - the bottle is part of a deadly ritual of human sacrifices, tied to a family’s desperate attempt to cheat fate.

“The Bottle” unravels a tense tale of fear, trust, and the sinister forces that prey on both innocence and faith.

Director's Statement:

As a storyteller, I have always been fascinated by how ordinary moments can conceal extraordinary fears. With "The Bottle", I wanted to explore the tension between trust and suspicion; how quickly a casual encounter can spiral into dread when we don't know who, or what, to believe.

My years in advertising taught me how powerfully stories shape perceptions, but cinema allows me to go deeper; into the subconscious; into the primal fears that bind us all. The image of a simple bottle carrying a warning became, for me, a metaphor for the hidden messages life throws at us: sometimes ignored, sometimes too late to act upon.

"The Bottle" is not just about a killer or a ritual; it is about how fear erodes our sense of safety, how superstition manipulates faith, and how danger often hides behind the familiar.

Festival Screening

A close-up, profile view of a woman's face, looking slightly downwards and to the left. Her hair is dark and pulled back. She is wearing a gold earring with a square, geometric design. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light blue.

Credits:

Writer, Director, Editor, Producer: Ashutosh Trivedi

Cinematographer: Harshmeet Bakshi

Line Producer: Dhiraj Sonaje

Sound Recordist: Rakesh Chaurasiya

Makeup & Hair: Somnath Rawla

Festival Screening



Cast:

Divya Pandya

Preet Saluja

Prem Vallabh

Festival Screening

Awards and Selections:

Award Winner | Tamizhagam International Film Festival | Best Thriller Short Film

Award Winner | Asian Talent International Film Festival | Best Short Film

Award Winner | Indie Cine tube Awards | Best Thriller Short Film

Award Winner | Bollywood International Film Awards | Best Director

Award Winner | Crown Wood International Film Festival | Best Indian Short Film

Award Winner | Mokkho International Film Festival | Critics Choice Award | Category - Best Short Film

Award Winner | Mokkho International Film Festival | Special Mention Award | Category - Best Screenplay

Finalist | East Village New York Film Festival | Category - Best Short Film

Honorable mention | Athens International Film Festival | Category - Best Short Film

Honorable mention | Athens International Film Festival | Category - Best Director

Official Selection | Golden Bridge Istanbul Short Film Festival | Category - Best Short Film

Official Selection | iDeal International Film Festival | Category - Best Short Film

Official Selection | Filmarte Short Film Festival | Category - Best Short Film

Official Selection | Critics' Choice International Film Festival | Category - Best Thriller Film

Official Selection | New York Istanbul Short Film Festival | Category - Best Thriller Film

Official Selection | That Film Festival | Category - Best Short Film

Official Selection | Indian Independent Film Festival | Category - Best Indian Short Film

Official Selection | Cinestesya Film Festival | Category - Best Short Film

Official Selection | Gothamite Film Awards, New York | Category - Best Short Film

Official Selection | Bollywood Star International Film Festival | Category - Best Short Film

Festival Screening



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Festival Screening