

Attabad to Ajrak: Screenplay (6 Minutes approx.)

EXT. OPENING SCENE: MOUNTAIN VIEW

EXT. ESTABLISHING SHOT: ATTABAD LAKE LANDSCAPE VIEW

INT. HOTEL LOBBY (NIGHT)

Adeel, in simple mountain attire, walks by quietly but notices a fearful Mehak in a black outfit with her favorite light blue woven cardigan. Mehak, a tourist, enters with her ajrak tote, sketchbook in hand, dropping her pencil nervously. He picks it up.

MEHAK (with a little smile):

"Shukriya... aap to bohat sanjeeda lag rahe hain, itni khoobsurti ke beech bhi!"

"Thank you... you seem so serious, even surrounded by all this beauty!"

ADEEL (awkwardly):

"Pahaadi elaqay ke log sanjeeda hotay hain. Umeed karta hoon ke aapko aur aapki family ko kisi kism ki takleef paish nahi ayi hogi hamaray hotel mein."

"The mountains demand graveness. I hope you and your family haven't faced any kind of trouble in this hotel."

MEHAK (eagerly):

"Sab theek hain, aur aap ka poochhna aur bhi acha laga."
"Everything's fine, and it felt even nicer that you asked."

They exchange a smile. A subtle connection forms. Adeel is quietly drawn to Mehak's playfulness.

EXT. NEXT DAY

Clouds moving over the mountains shot

EXT. LOCAL MARKET STREET (EVENING)

Vibrant stalls. Colorful Shawls at display. Flute playing harmoniously in the background. Mehak strolls through wearing a blue colored outfit, sketchbook in hand, absorbing the scenery.

She stops when she sees Adeel helping an old man lift a fabric roll. He gently smiles, his humility showing. Mehak sketches him from afar.

ADEEL: Aslam o Alaikum

MEHAK (teasing, as he notices her):

"Walaikum Salaam. *Main tumhare baray mein hee soch rahi thi. Mujhe har jagah kyun nazar ajatay ho? Kabhi Hotel staff bhi, aur model bhi?*"

"Walaikum Aslaam, *I was just thinking about you, why do you seem to appear everywhere, a hotel staff and a model too perhaps?*"

ADEEL (smiling shyly):

"*Bas koshish karta hoon ke nazar na aaon... lekin aap dekh leti hain, ab kya hee karsaktay hain?*"

"*I try my best to stay unnoticed, but you notice everything, what can we do about it.*"

They share a soft laugh. The moment lingers; a silent understanding forms.

Mehak's father approaches them from behind at the market and stares a glance with disappointment.

EXT. ATTABAD LAKE CLOSEUP VIEW OF WATER

EXT. ATTABAD LAKE OVERVIEW

Wide shot: Mehak sketches the mountains. Adeel walks toward her, glancing shyly at her drawing.

MEHAK (peace on her face):

"Yahan ki khamoshi mein kitna sukoon hai."

"There's so much peace in the silence of these mountains."

ADEEL (blushing):

"Pahaad kabhi bolte nahi... par unki khamoshi mein bhi mohabbat ki mehak hoti hai."

"The mountains never speak... but even their silence carries the scent of love."

Ishq-e-Safar (musical sequence) follows:

- Mehak and Adeel walk along the lakeside.
- Mehak and Adeel are sitting by the bonfire.
- Their laughter echoes faintly with the music.
- Mehak goes back to the lake side to complete her sketch but instead gets mesmerized by the water and plays with it while accidentally dropping her tote bag.

EXT. BRIDGE VIEW SCENE

Adeel and Mehak walking together and sharing a playful interaction.

Mehak's father witnesses both from afar and holds his fists together in anger.

INT. HOTEL CORRIDOR (EVENING)

MEHEK'S FATHER: (to the hotel manager):

"asalam o alaikum, kese hain?"

"asalam o alaikum, How are you?"

HOTEL MANAGER: *"Walaikum Aslaam! Main bilkul theek."*

Walaikum Aslaam! "I am totally fine!"

MEHAK'S FATHER: *"Yahan ka manager kon hai?"*

Who is the manager of this place?"

HOTEL MANAGER: "Main hun Sir!"

I am Sir.

MEHAK'S FATHER: *"Ap apne staff ko bata dain ke meri beti se dur rahain. Meri beti kam umar hai."*

"My daughter is young, please ensure your staff maintains distance."

HOTEL MANAGER: *"Sir..."*

MEHAK'S FATHER: *"Aur aaj hee hum yeh hotel chor ke jarahe hain."*

"And we are leaving this hotel today"

Hotel Manager: "Sir, main isko bata deta hun, ap iss tarah toh atleast na karain."

"Sir I will tell him, Please don't act this way"

MEHAK'S FATHER: *"Nahi, hum jarahe hain."*

"No, We are going!"

(Indistinct Chatter)

HOTEL MANAGER: *"Sir, ap ayen isko clear karte hain!"*

"Sir, please come we will clear this!"

MEHAK'S FATHER: *"Nahi, ap apne staff ko zara tameez samjha dain"*

"No, you teach your staff some proper manners"

Mehak stands in the corridor behind along with adeel and overhears her father talking to the hotel manager in a stern manner.

Adeel, standing down the hall, hears this too. His eyes drop. Mehak looks back, their eyes meet briefly, and unspoken sadness fills the air.

INT. HOTEL ROOM (NIGHT)

Close-up: Mehak opens her door. Her luggage is already packed by her father.

Her smile fades.

A soft violin plays, blending with the sound of wind howling outside.

She sits on the couch, clutching her sketchbook, looking at Adeel's sketches and smiles in pain. Her eyes well up. The camera lingers on her ajrak tote, symbol of the place that changed her.

EXT. MOUNTAIN OVERVIEW

EXT. ATTABAD LAKE

Adeel stands silently in the same spot where he had his interaction with mehak, He sees mehek's ajrak tote bag and holds it which she forgot behind.

He runs his fingers over it and sits, lost in thought. Then stands up in longing, His reflection is portrayed in the lake showing his loneliness amongst the mountains.

The same folk tune from earlier plays.

He stands, determination in his eyes, and starts walking toward the cliffs.

EXT. CLIFFSIDE (DUSK) :

River along the valley. Mehak stands near the edge, looking at the mountains.

Mehak arrives anxious.

MEHAK: (scared, voice trembling):

"Sab ko pata chal gaya hai, Adeel"

"Everybody knows everything, Adeel"

ADEEL (sitting on a rock with a soft smile):

"Koi baat nahi! Tum upar aao, hath do mujhe!"

"Its okay, come up and give me your hand!"

Mehak holds adeel's hand and sits on the rock with him along the riverside. Adeel calls mehak by her name to assure her

Woh hamare han kehte hain Brushaski mein - 'Xu Meltalik Mathanar Nichan e Ishq-e-Safar."

"Aa jao chaltay hain, kisi dur ishq e safar pe!"

"Let's embark on a voyage, an eternal voyage of love, far away from here!"

Close-up: Their hands almost touch, but don't.
The wind carries the music again.

FADE TO BLACK