

پرچیاں

By

Meral Zahid and Zahra Aslaam

Translated by: Meral Zahid

Fade in:

1. EXT. FIELD. MORNING.

The camera follows Emil as she RUNS through the fields while LAUGHING, as her sister is CHASING her. Music plays in the background.

EMIL

Now stop. We should go  
back home or else mom  
is going to have a  
heart attack.

We see a montage of shots establishing the location and style of living: birds chirping, crops swaying side to side, a donkey cart travelling on a dirt path etc.

CUTAWAY TO:

2. EXT. OLD LAHORE. MORNING.

The montage continues to show historical places in Lahore: Badshahi Mosque, Wazir Khan Mosque, Pov shot of alleyways. Opening credits are displayed.

SMASH CUT TO:

3. INT. VERANDA. MORNING.

The camera shows the radio still playing the same song.

MOTHER

(V.O)

Where is everyone? Turn  
off this song before  
your dad comes home.

We hear a few steps and see a close-up of the hand changing the radio station. After a few seconds of statics sounds of the station switching, Zia-Ul-Haq's martial law speech starts playing.

CUT TO:

4. INT/EXT VERANDA. MORNING.

Emil and her sister SNEAK IN with Zia's speech in the background.

CUT TO:

5. INT. VERANDA. Morning.

The sisters TRY TO ACT NORMAL, as they cross from the gate to the door leading to inside of the veranda.

ZOYA

Emil, it was so fun today. Can we go back tomorrow again.

EMIL

(Whispers)

No, we barely snuck back in, just wait a few days. Besides the political situation is quite uncertain right now.

CUT TO:

6. INT. ROOM. EVENING.

Emil is in her room WRITING a letter to her father in her room.

EMIL

(V.O)

Father, we went to the fields. Zoya and I talked a lot. After quite a while, Sitting there looking at the clouds pass by, I finally got the opportunity to experience the beauty of the moment, so long after you leaving us.

CUT TO:

7. EXT. FEILD. MORNING.

The girls are laying on harvested crops, staring at the sky.

ZOYA

I have decided, I am going to talk to mom tomorrow to let me go to hareem's house. We have been friends for so many years and everyone knows how close we are. So, I don't understand why mom doesn't let me go. Even though she know dad would have let me go.

CUT TO:

8. INT. ROOM. EVENING.

EMIL continues with voiceover of her monologue as she writes it in her diary.

EMIL

(v.o)

How do I tell her that it is worrying for her, that I can't sleep peacefully at night. Zoya wants to go back to the fields, she continues to complain about not being old enough to vote yet and along with her mom-

EMIL PAUSES WRITING