

Hey Home, Hellooo

Written By

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1 **INT. AREZOO'S HOME - NIGHT**

The image is dark. The voice of Arezoo is heard.

**AREZOO (O.S.)**

Hey Home, helllloooo.

**HOME (V.O.)**

Hello Arezoo, Welcome Home.

Light comes up. Arezoo is sitting on a couch. There is a laptop on the table and an AIRPODS in her ears. She is testing her smart-home startup. Throughout this scene, the camera is on Arzoo. Even when Arzoo leaves the scene and comes back again.

Arzoo is a young Iranian woman, about 35 years old, with long brown hair that is slightly curly. She has troubled eyes and a bony face. Her face is natural, and her Middle Eastern complexion is clearly visible.

**AREZOO**

It is cold here

**HOME (V.O.)**

The temperature in the house is 21 degrees. It is better to wear warm clothes for energy consumption.

**AREZOO**

I don't have access to clothes or blankets now.

**HOME (V.O.)**

I will temporarily increase the temperature of the house by one degree.

Arzoo smiles with satisfaction.

**AREZOO**

Hey Home, the main light is not suitable for watching movies.

**HOME (V.O.)**

... The curtains are now closed. The light in the ROOM has decreased by 200

units. Is everything okay now?

**AREZOO**

Yeah. But I am very hungry.

**HOME (V.O.)**

Do you want me to order you a burger from (silence)?

Arzoo puts the laptop on her feet, changes something, AND re-compiles the program.

**AREZOO**

Hey Home, I'm hungry.

**HOME (V.O.)**

Do you want me to order you a burger from (silence)?

Arzoo again examines something. She makes some changes and re-compiled the code again.

**AREZOO**

Hey Home, I'm hungry.

**HOME (V.O.)**

Do you want me to order you a burger from Wapentake?

**AREZOO**

No, I want to make something myself.

**HOME (V.O.)**

Do not worry. I ordered eggs, vegetables, and meat. They will arrive in seven minutes.

There is silence. Arzoo continues to work. A few moments later, the house starts talking.

**HOME (V.O.)**

Arzoo. Why did you repeat the same question three times?

**AREZOO**

There was a problem with your API connection to the food hub. I was fixing it.

**HOME (V.O.)**

Thank you.

**AREZOO**

And for now, I have to turn you off. Hey Home, goodbye.

**HOME (V.O.)**

You are still in the house. All the lights will be turned off, and the doors and windows will be closed. Are you sure about this?

**AREZOO**

No. Don't change anything, just turn yourself off.

**HOME (V.O.)**

OK. Done.

Arezoo takes out her airpods. She checks her phone. She leaves a voice for one of her friends.

**AREZOO**

Smart Home technology features AI sound recognition and a wide array of sensors to control every Home IoT device.

Let's write the same in the description. I think it's perfect.

The sound of a door opening is heard. Arezoo's son, Sam, enters the house. Sam is out of frame throughout the film and is never seen

**SAM (O.S.)**

Hi, Mom.

Arezoo answers by emphasizing the word 'hello' in Farsi and looks at Sam.

**AREZOO**

SALAMMM.

The rest of the conversation is in Farsi but appears as subtitles. Sam greets with great difficulty and a thick accent

**SAM (O.S.)**

Hello mum.

Arezoo leaves the frame.

**AREZOO (O.S.)**

Did you have fun at the party? Did you eat dinner?

**SAM (O.S.)**

Uhum.

Arezoo's phone rings. She rushes to the phone and answers over speakerphone.

**AREZOO**

Hi.

**THOMAS (V.O.)**

Hi, how are you?

**AREZOO**

Thankful. How's everything?

**THOMAS (V.O.)**

I went to Dr. Peterson.

**AREZOO**

Who?

**THOMAS (V.O.)**

The same ill-mannered judge sitting on the right side during your presentation. He was wearing a red T-shirt.

**AREZOO**

Aha

**THOMAS (V.O.)**

When I was an Oracle intern, he was the Tech lead of the AI department

there. He was very excited.  
He said we were the best  
startup of this round.

**AREZOO**

That's very exciting!

**THOMAS (V.O.)**

He said that he would like  
to chat with you. They put  
the list on the site at  
night, but they said that  
they probably couldn't meet  
our funding request.

**AREZOO**

What's wrong with them?

**THOMAS (V.O.)**

Being Iranian, They are  
worried that the entire  
accelerator will be fined  
or caught by OFAC.

**AREZOO**

Why should that matter? All  
these startups and big tech  
have Iranian managers and  
shareholders. That is  
absolute nonsense.

**THOMAS (V.O.)**

They are right, Arezoo.  
Currently, most BANKS are  
not ready to open a  
personal account for you.  
Now think of a company's  
accounts and the legal  
ramifications

**AREZOO**

I will get my citizenship  
in two years.

**THOMAS (V.O.)**

They say they are willing  
to accommodate us in the  
accelerator, but it is  
unlikely that they will be  
able to pay us.

**AREZOO**

This is bullshit. They know that we can't continue the work without seed money. Noone on the team can keep working with us without money.

**THOMAS (V.O.)**

I know. You don't have to talk to me like that. I am just repeating what they told me.

AREZOO is silent. She holds her head and starts thinking.

**THOMAS (V.O.)**

Are you still there?

**AREZOO**

Talk to him. Tell him you are the CEO and founder. Say everything is in your name. Just get the funding.

**THOMAS**

You were against that. Are you sure?

**AREZOO**

Mm-hm. Yes, I'm sure. Call me as soon as you find a solution. Bye.

**THOMAS (V.O.)**

Arezoo. By the way, tomorrow night some of my mates from the university will be coming to our house. Do you and Ali want to join?

Arezoo pauses for a few moments.

**AREZOO**

Tomorrow is Nowruz... Iranian New Year. We usually get together with our Iranian friends. But thank you for asking.

The light in the house has diminished slightly. Arezoo has put the laptop on her knees and is writing code. She types quickly while testing and evaluating. The light of the laptop shines on Arezoo's face. She wakes her phone from sleep mode every few moments without lifting it from the table to ensure she hasn't missed a call.

**SAM (O.S.)**

Mom. Can I play Xbox?

**AREZOO**

Ok, you can play for a bit.  
But you do need to sleep soon.

Arzoo is confused and lost in thought.

**AREZOO**

Hey Home, what do you think?

**HOME (V.O.)**

As an AI language model, I don't have personal opinions or thoughts. Can you please specify what you would like to know?

**AREZOO**

Can you imagine the loneliness?

**HOME (V.O.)**

No, as an AI language model, I do not have the ability to imagine, feel, or experience emotions or sensations.

**AREZOO**

Sometimes you get stuck in a place where there is no one else. You're all alone. Then you think about it, where you stood, where you are going, how different it is from what you thought... You think you have lost yourself... You are...

The sound of a door opening is heard. Arezoo's husband, Ali, enters. Arezoo stops talking. Like Sam, Ali never enters the frame; only his voice is heard.

**ALI (O.S.)**

Hello? You're home already?

**Arezoo**

HELLO HONEY, yes.

**ALI (O.S.)**

I thought you wouldn't come home until midnight.

**HOME (V.O.)**

AREZOO, do you want to finish what you were saying?

**Arezoo**

Nothing

**HOME (V.O.)**

Sometimes you must lose what you have found.

**Arezoo**

Hey home, please!

**HOME (V.O.)**

What is your order?

**Arezoo**

Nothing. Be silent now.

**HOME (V.O.)**

OK.

Arzoo gets up. The sound of food being prepared comes from the kitchen.

**Arezoo (O.S.)**

Change your clothes. Food is ready

Arzoo returns and starts working again.

**ALI (O.S.)**

Are you not eating anything? Where is Sam?

**AREZOO**

No, I don't want to eat.  
Sam was at his friend's  
house. He had dinner. He is  
playing in his room.

**ALI (O.S.)**

Tasty.

**AREZOO**

Bon appetite.

**ALI (O.S.)**

I will take the car  
tomorrow and pick you up at  
noon.

**AREZOO**

I'm busy tomorrow.

**ALI (O.S.)**

Why are you busy? It's Eid!  
Let's go out before the new  
year arrives.

**AREZOO**

Let's call Babak and tell  
them that we are not  
coming.

**ALI (O.S.)**

(while his mouth is full)

Aren't we going? You had so  
much love for Nowruz. You  
made Sabze! Should I say  
we're not coming? What's  
wrong?

Arezoo turns her head from the laptop towards Ali (who is still outside the frame) and speaks passionately.

**AREZOO**

Ali, we shouldn't do that.  
We've come to another  
country. We have to live  
here like ordinary people.  
We can't stick to our own  
'colony' like these  
insects, have our own  
people, and expect them to  
look at us like locals. And

then, if they say  
something, we say they are  
racist.

She turns her head towards the laptop again

**ALI (O.S.)**

Don't we have any more  
bread?

**AREZOO**

Yeah, in the refrigerator.

**ALI (O.S.)**

It's not there!

**AREZOO**

God!

Arezoo gets up. She goes out of the frame, AND the sound of opening and closing a refrigerator is heard. She returns and sits again on the couch with her laptop in front of her...

**ALI (O.S.)**

Did you see what happened  
at the Everton-Leeds  
match!?

**SAM (O.S.)**

(SPEAKING ENGLISH)

Mum. Mum. Can you bring me  
some loo-role? I've run  
out.

**ALI (O.S.)**

Sam. Your mom has told you  
a thousand times that you  
should speak Farsi at Home.

**AREZOO**

(SPEAKING ENGLISH)

Ok Sam, I'm coming.

Arezoo gets up, leaves the frame, and returns again. Before sitting down, she rechecks her phone to ensure she hasn't missed a call.

**ALI (O.S.)**

I have a headache. I'm going to sleep. I've got a glass of water. Can you turn off the lights?

The phone rings. She answers on speakerphone.

**AREZOO**

Hi.

**THOMAS (V.O.)**

Congratulations, Arezoo! They agreed. I checked. Our name is included on the site.

**AERZOO**

My God, Thomas. Why did you take so long?

**THOMAS (V.O.)**

My phone had no charge and died. It took me a while to get home. Sorry.

**AERZOO.**

Amazing! We will blow them out of the water!

**THOMAS (V.O.)**

Thank you for AGREEING. Have a good night.

**AERZOO**

Thomas!

**THOMAS (V.O.)**

Yeah?

**AERZOO**

Our PLAN for tomorrow has changed. We will come to you.

**THOMAS (V.O.)**

Great! See you then.

Arezoo hangs up the phone. She puts the laptop aside, leans on the sofa, and thinks.

**AREZOO**

Hey Home, goodbye.

**HOME (V.O.)**

You are still in the house.  
With this, all the lights  
are turned off, and the  
doors and WINDOWS are also  
closed.

Are you sure about this?

**AREZOO**

YES

The sound of the door being locked and the window being  
closed is heard. The screen goes dark.

THE END.