

YELLOW

"EYIMOFÉ" (This is My Desire)

Written by

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**N.B: UNLESS STATED ALL DIALOGUE IS IN NIGERIAN ENGLISH/PIDGIN. THOUGH WRITTEN IN STANDARD/QUEENS ENGLISH SOME EXCHANGES AND WORDS ARE IN NIGERIAN/PIDGIN ENGLISH, THEY ARE NOT TYPOS OR GRAMMATICAL ERRORS.**

1 INT: FACTORY CIRCUIT ROOM - DAY

1

**MOFE:** has a pleasant countenance and quiet disposition about him, is carefully pulling and stripping a couple of wires from the spool spilling out of the open junction box; his hands are heavily calloused and scarred.

He teases out two more wires from the exposed wall outlet and tries to hook them onto the newly stripped ones; sparks pulse with each effort but he carries on unflinchingly.

Once connected he removes the screwdriver from his mouth and picks up a walkie-talkie -

MOFE

Come in factory, come in

RECEIVER

I read you

MOFE

Try the blower

A beat -

The radio crackles indistinctly -

MOFE (CONT'D)

Eh!?

RECEIVER

I said it's working, it's working

MOFE

Ok

He gathers his tools.

**TITLE CARD:**

**SPAIN**

2 INT: FACTORY STORE ROOM - DAY

2

A dingy little space overrun by scotch taped boxes and distressed machinery -

Mofe sits on a floor mat fixing a **GREEN LED lamp**, on the radio a talk show is wrapping up contentiously -

RADIO GUEST 1

How can you say that! How can you say that!?

RADIO GUEST 2

We have been a democracy for more than 12 years, at some point the citizens must be made responsible.

RADIO GUEST 1 (CONT'D)

But they are the victims! If you have a government that consistently fails to provide people with the most basic needs such as..

RADIO DJ

(on "government")

Well that's really all we have time for today, a big thank you to our guests Mrs Barrister Sola Ayorinde and Professor Pat Okozie. Stay with us on 99.1 Lagos FM your number 1 destination for music, sport, politics and entertainment, up next Dolla-z with "Ego Ni"

Mofe turns the volume up as the song begins to play.

3

INT: MANAGER'S OFFICE - LATER

3

**HOPE:** a serious woman, counts out single 1000 Naira bills.

HOPE

28,29,30

She hands the money to Mofe who thanks her -

MOFE

Umm, excuse me ma

HOPE

Yes?

MOFE

We really need a new junction box, I can't keep track of the wires anymore.

HOPE

Ok, I'll put an order in.

Mofe thanks her and leaves.

4

EXT: TRAVEL AGENCY - DAY

4

**A YOUNG WOMAN** stands in front of a white sheet being held up by someone as she gets her passport picture taken.

Mofe sits at one the handful of roadside travel agencies that make up the street, they're all minimalist operations - benches around a small table with printers and laptops under a large parasol.

**DAUDA:** strong Yoruba features wearing a well tailored kaftan, clears space on the table for an envelope and money counter. He runs a wad of notes through the machine, they get stuck, he hisses and tries again, once more they don't complete the run, he apologises and goes again.. The result is the same.

Frustrated he turns to his assistant **AKIN:** a practiced day dreamer, and asks him to count the money -

Akin counts -

Dauda unseals the envelope pulling out a number of forms stapled by a brand new passport. He hands them to Mofe and watches as he flips through its pages.

DAUDA

All good?

Mofe is dumb with joy -

AKIN

(giving the money to  
Dauda)

35,000

DAUDA

Oga!?

MOFE

Yes, thank you, thank you so much  
this is..

DAUDA

(on "so")

No wahala, come and see me when  
you're ready to apply for the visa.

MOFE

(Packing up)

Thank you sa, thank you

5 EXT: RESIDENTIAL COMPLEX - EVENING

5

A warren of brightly coloured, semi-brutalist buildings looming over small pockets of space between and behind which lie water tanks and bungalows. A thousand people live here.

Walking into one of the communal areas Mofe sees **CELESTINE, 8:** all smiles and small for his age, playing table tennis on an improvised table with an equally inventive paddle -

Mofe rushes in and tries to hit the ball with his hand, Celestine groans; the other boys laugh and an argument about if that was a valid point breaks out.

6 EXT: RESIDENTIAL COMPLEX - LATER

6

Mofe fidgets with a small generator.

**GODDEY, 11:** all bones and promising to grow tall watches him keenly, Mofe shuts the engine flap and asks if he wants to turn it on, he jumps at the chance, a few hard tugs and the generator spits to life -

Mofe lets it run for a beat or two before asking Goddey to shut it off. He opens the flap and continues working.

VOICE (O.C.)

Hsssst!

Mofe looks up; he stands to greet **PRECIOUS:** sinewy and lean, wearing a t-shirt and sarong she has a bumbag around her waist and is balancing a cooler on her head. Goddey takes the cooler from her.

PRECIOUS

Did you get it?

Smiling, Mofe fetches the plastic file under his toolbox and hands it to her. Pulling out the passport Precious stares at the data page in disbelief -

MOFE

So it's just the visa, and then..

Stillness -

PRECIOUS

I'll transfer the money to your account tomorrow.

MOFE

Thank you

Precious finally looks up, she hugs Mofe, it's longer and tighter than any he's received in a while -

PRECIOUS  
(Composing herself)  
Let me finish what I'm doing.

7 INT: PRECIOUS' APARTMENT - LATER

7

The apartment is a made up of two small rooms: the back has an impeccably made bed in one corner; clothes hampers, brooms and other household wares hug the others.

In the front room: a worn two cushion sofa, plastic chair and mounted TV from which reams of wires run down the sides and out the window. An Indian soap is playing.

Mofe, Celestine, Precious and Goddey are sat on a mat in the middle of the room eating.

PRECIOUS  
Please as ya going you'll buy  
Assurance for me.

MOFE  
What number are you on?

PRECIOUS  
9

MOFE  
Ok, what about you guys?

Celestine's attention has drifted from his meal to the ping pong paddle, Mofe knowingly smiles at Goddey -

MOFE (CONT'D)  
(to Goddey)  
I already know what you want

He laughs -

MOFE (CONT'D)  
Celestine?

Celestine is trying to tighten the paddle's screws -

PRECIOUS  
Celestine!

She takes the paddle off him -

PRECIOUS (CONT'D)  
Your uncle is talking to you.

MOFE  
Is there anything you want me to  
buy? cartoon? Chinese film?

Celestine shakes his head: "no thanks!"

PRECIOUS  
(to Celestine)  
Finish your food.  
(pointing to the plates)  
Oya Goddey

They begin clearing up; Mofe picks up the paddle and tries  
his hand at fixing it.

PRECIOUS (CONT'D)  
Did you manage to fix my lamp?

MOFE  
I have to replace the fuse

8 INT: PRECIOUS' APARTMENT - LATER

8

Mofe changes into the black and tan uniform of a security  
guard.

PRECIOUS(O.C.)  
Shhhwo! But they told this woman  
not to marry him?!

He shakes his head and chuckles as Precious continues to  
comment on the soap playing in the next room.

9 EXT: RESIDENTIAL COMPLEX - MOMENTS LATER

9

Coming out the door Mofe sees Goddey struggling to carry the  
little generator -

MOFE  
You know where to keep it?

GODDEY  
Yes

MOFE  
Where?

GODDEY  
By the window

Mofe helps him carry it up the final set of stairs.

10      INT: SECURITY ROOM - NIGHT

10

A CCTV console displays images from an apartment complex: car park, elevator, tennis court, pool -

Mofe's passport is in the hands of one his colleagues, the other men, all dressed in the same uniform, are huddled around him -

SUPERVISOR (O.S.)

What are you people doing?

They act like boys caught after lights out, the Supervisor takes the the passport off the guard and looks over it silently, he's not as enthralled as the rest -

SUPERVISOR (CONT'D)

(Deadpan)

Na Sanchez dem born you?

Mofe smiles nervously -

MOFE

Na foreign name sa.

Silence as the supervisor reads the page again -

SUPERVISOR

(Handing the passport to Mofe)

San-shez, oya oya all of you to work.

The group scatters, Mofe admires his passport alone.

12      EXT: RESIDENTIAL COMPLEX - DAY

12

As dawn fades the complex begins to stir, clothes are being washed, children bathed and food prepared; the air is already full of car horns and rumbling engines.

Mofe walks through greeting his neighbours; he's holding two counterfeit DVDs.

14      INT: PRECIOUS' APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

14

Only a little light seeps through the sheer curtains and netted windows, the noise of the machine reverberates loudly in the room.



We see Mofe put the DVDs down, he shuts off the generator and the noise sputters to a halt.

MOFE  
 (As he draws the curtains  
 open)  
 I don't know why you people like  
 wasting fuel.  
 (pause)  
 Hello?!

He stands over the bed the two boys share - nothing.

MOFE (CONT'D)  
 (Nudging Goddey)  
 Goddey?

He rolls his eyes -

MOFE (CONT'D)  
 (Shaking him)  
 Goddey?

Chuckling through a hiss he rips the blanket off and turns Goddey over; his face is discoloured and there are splotches of dry mucous and blood around his mouth and nose, Mofe remains still, he checks on Celestine - the sight is more distressing on his face -

Confusion, disbelief, then remembering, he turns to Precious who sleeps on a mat at the foot of the bed; her colour isn't as bad and after a few hard shakes she shows signs of life -

Mofe screams for help.

15      EXT: RESIDENTIAL COMPLEX - MOMENTS LATER      15

At the mouth of the complex Mofe and a few others put Precious' limp body into the back of a Keke.

17      INT: PRECIOUS' APARTMENT - DUSK      17

Silhouetted by the little light slipping through windows and the open door Mofe sits surrounded by 6 or 7 of his neighbours, we see more mourners standing around the edge of the room -

Though dark, full and loud with prayer and tears it never feels overwhelming.



RECEPTIONIST

(to Abu)  
Sa, please.

Abu steps back -

MOFE

Is next week ok?

RECEPTIONIST

You can pay whenever you want but  
its 5,000 Naira per day.

ABU

What kind of wickedness is this!

MOFE

Abu please it's ok

ABU

No! Is not right!

(to Receptionist)

If its your children will you allow  
such a thing?!

RECEPTIONIST

Sa, *please*, I don't like how ya  
talking to me, mind yourself o!  
*Please*, are you hearing me?! mind  
yourself..

ABU

..Mind what!? am I your mate!?  
ehn!?

(YORUBA)

Foolish woman! you must be mad to  
think you can talk to me like..

Standing the receptionist hurls a volley of Yoruba  
imprecations and their exchange descends into an argument.  
Orderlies and nurses arrive to mediate -

Watching the commotion are **A YOUNG WOMAN AND TEENAGE GIRL.**

21

INT: PRECIOUS' APARTMENT - DAY

21

Mofe sits on the bed, the room is heavy.

He places a call on his mobile, we hear an upbeat jingle.. It  
runs..and runs..and - a woman answers.

MOFE

Hello?

She sounds happy -

MOFE (CONT'D)  
Evening Aunty, yes.. yes.. fine,  
fine thank you, um is papa with  
you? Yes please, thank you.

Mofe gets up and begins to pace about the apartment -

MOFE (CONT'D)  
Hello? Evening Papa.. Fine thank  
you.. yes..  
(Cutting the conversation  
short)  
Papa I'm calling because; I'm  
calling because Precious is..

Mofe stops pacing, he takes a deep breath -

MOFE (CONT'D)  
Papa Precious is dead.

The anguish rises and Mofe raises a hand to his mouth in an effort to keep it at bay -

MOFE (CONT'D)  
The boys too. An accident, no no it  
happened in the house.. something  
with the generator.. I don't know,  
the burial is next week.. I said  
next week, next week.. Yes.. bye.

A moment after the call ends Mofe's grief comes to a head.

22 INT: FACTORY FLOOR - DAY

22

A hive of activity wrapped by the sounds of generators, machinery and the voices trying to scale them.

Mofe shows **WISDOM:** keen eyed, eager and constantly overwhelmed, around the factory floor, he shows him the machines and introduces him to colleagues.

23 INT: FACTORY CIRCUIT ROOM - LATER

23

Wisdom watches as Mofe uses a screwdriver to trace the maze of wires escaping the wall -

MOFE  
So you see this? This is for the  
blower, see how it's connected to  
the main cable.  
(MORE)

MOFE (CONT'D)  
 (He checks to make sure  
 Wisdom is following)  
 Ok so when the new junction box  
 comes I don't want you to install  
 it because we have to take all of  
 this out. Now if the blower goes  
 down cut the wires from this side  
 and reconnect them here, ok?

Wisdom nods, Mofe steps aside -

MOFE (CONT'D)  
 Oya show me.

Wisdom begins and is immediately stopped -

MOFE (CONT'D)  
 No no, start from here.

Wisdom tries again.

24

INT: PRECIOUS' APARTMENT - DAY

24

Mofe is blankly staring at planks of plywood.

There's a knock at the door.. he doesn't move, the knocking  
 picks up again.. Mofe opens the door for **VINCENT**: a harsh  
 looking man with soft eyes -

MOFE  
 (Surprised)  
 Oga Vincent?!

He lets him in -

VINCENT  
 (Catching sight of the  
 wood)  
 My God! I'm so sorry.

MOFE  
 Thank you sa.

VINCENT  
 Generator?!

MOFE  
 Yes sa.

VINCENT  
 Kai! We're finished! Please let me  
 not disturb you.

MOFE  
No it's no problem.

VINCENT  
No no no I should be going

Mofe escorts him out, Vincent pauses at the door -

VINCENT (CONT'D)  
I don't want you to worry about  
next month's rent.

MOFE  
(Shocked)  
Ah! Baba?!

VINCENT  
Seriously, take your time, I know  
it's not easy and you people have  
always been good.

MOFE  
(dropping to his knees and  
bowing his head to the  
floor)  
Baba thank you o, thank you, God  
will bless you, I swear!

Mofe continues to profusely thank Vincent who helps him up.

27

INT: CLARENCE'S HOUSE - DAY

27

**JAKPOR**, sits staring blankly ahead either drunk or hungover,  
in the background pots and dishes clatter.

Mofe sits on an armchair in a small, tidy parlour; entering  
the room is **PEACE**, she has **BLESSING**: quietly sat to the side  
move a table for the men and places a plastic tray with a  
bowl of rice and two Malt drinks on top of it. Jakpor begins  
to eat.

MOFE  
Thank you

Blessing pours the drinks, done, he sits next to his mother -

Mofe thanks him and takes a sip, there's an uncomfortable  
silence in the room -

PEACE  
You know he came top of his class.

MOFE  
Ohh? congratulations.

BLESSING  
(curtsying)  
Thank you

JAKPOR  
(Chewing)  
He's going to university next year.

MOFE  
That's, that's good, well done.

Blessing curtseys again, Mofe takes another sip and clears his throat -

MOFE (URHOBO) (CONT'D)  
So Papa, I'm going to mortuary tomorrow if you want to come.

JAKPOR  
By what time?

MOFE  
Any time thats good for you.

JAKPOR  
Ok

Mofe shifts in his seat -

MOFE  
I also want to know if you have anything to contribute.

JAKPOR  
What are you saying!? Is she not my daughter?!

MOFE  
Sorry sa, thank you.

JAKPOR  
Is okay.

Cutlery strikes crockery - off screen a door is unlocked -

CLARENCE (O.C.)  
Hello!

**CLARENCE** is greeted fondly, he curtseys before Jakpor -

JAKPOR  
Clarence this is my son.

CLARENCE  
Oookay em em

MOFE  
Mofe

CLARENCE  
Mofe! How na? I'm sure you don't  
remember me.

Blank -

CLARENCE (CONT'D)  
I'm uncle Peter's son, Peter  
Anabohri

Still blank -

CLARENCE (CONT'D)  
Anyway I was small then. How are  
you?

MOFE  
Fine thank you.

CLARENCE  
It is well, it is well.

MOFE  
Thank you for looking after him

CLARENCE  
(on "looking")  
Please please please, I should even  
be thanking him for remembering me

JAKPOR  
(pointing to Clarence)  
He's a barrister.

Mofe smiles politely -

MOFE  
Well, I should be going.

PEACE  
Let me pack some food for you

MOFE  
No no, really it's ok.



PEACE

Please, it's no problem.

PEACE (CONT'D)

What your drink?

He politely drains the cup -

CLARENCE

Ya sure?

MOFE

Yes, thank you.

Mofe goes to Jakpor and curtseys -

MOFE (CONT'D)

Bye.

JAKPOR

Mmmm.

Clarence cordially sees him out -

28 INT: OKPARA'S MORTUARY - DAY

28

Mottled roof panels, watermarked walls and heavily oxidised slabs.

Jakpor stands over Precious' body. In the background we see Mofe and **MR.OKPARA, 40**: scholarly and impossibly comfortable in a dark, ill fitted suit. Jakpor moves on to the boys.

JAKPOR

Goddey is the eldest?

Mofe nods: "yes"

Jakpor gently lays his hand on the smaller boy's head -

JAKPOR (CONT'D)

So this is Celestine.

29 INT: OKPARA'S MORTUARY (OFFICE) - LATER

29

Religious paraphernalia covers the walls and surfaces of the room; five well crafted display coffins and a set of mangled filing cabinets stand behind Mr.Okpara's desk.

The three men lean over the table as Mr.Okpara walks them through a garish brochure -

MR. OKPARA

Now if you go with this one we can actually provide you with a band, but you'll have to tip them, ok?

Mofe nods: "ok"

MOFE

What about coffins?

MR. OKPARA

(Pointing to the ones on display)

We sell those.

MOFE

They're too expensive.

MR. OKPARA

If you want you can give us money for materials and we'll get them made cheaper.

Mofe considers his options, he looks at Jakpor who shrugs, Mofe is about to say something when Jakpor interjects -

JAKPOR (URHOBO)

How much are materials?

MR. OKPARA (URHOBO)

Well err, it depends. Ebony is about 12,000 because it's very scarce at the moment, ummm Mahogany is 5 and its 1 for ordinary wood.

JAKPOR

Hmph!

Mr.Okpara looks to Mofe for support, it doesn't come.

MR. OKPARA (URHOBO)

You know the way you leave this world is important, if you're burying someone it's good for people to know that they were loved and the life they lived mattered to somebody.

Mofe looks at the frowning Jakpor for a moment or two -

MOFE

The deposit is 18,000?

MR. OKPARA

Yes

The number is high but Mofe is resigned to paying it. He pulls out a wad of cash and counts out 13,000 Naira before turning to Jakpor -

MOFE

Papa?

Jakpor shifts in his seat -

MOFE (CONT'D)

Papa?

JAKPOR

Yes.

Mofe leans in to face his father -

MOFE

(Quietly)

Papa we discussed this yesterday.

JAKPOR

Mofe it's too much.

MOFE

Papa these are your children, your grandchildren, I.. I asked you yesterday and you said fine, do you..

A deep breath as Mofe stems his frustration -

MOFE (CONT'D)

So you don't have anything.

Jakpor says nothing he can barely bring himself to make eye contact. Hissing, Mofe gets up and leaves.

30 OMITTED 30

31 EXT: RESIDENTIAL COMPLEX - DAY 31

A canopy sits in a cul-de-sac, beneath it people sit on and stir around plastic chairs with bowls of rice and stew. All are in their Sunday best, among them is Clarence -

Mofe and Jakpor graciously accept condolences.

33      INT: FACTORY CIRCUIT ROOM - DAY

33

Mofe stares at the mass of wires growing out of the wall, he picks at it with his screwdriver, he has no idea where to begin.

RECEIVER

Engineer come in please engineer.

Into his walkie-talkie -

MOFE

I read you.

RECEIVER

Ehhh there's a problem with the blower.

An expectant pause -

MOFE

What problem?

RECEIVER

It's not working.

Disbelief -

RECEIVER (CONT'D)

Engineer come in, Engineer come in please co..

MOFE

I read you, I read you, I'm coming.

He languidly gathers his tools.

34      INT: FACTORY FLOOR - DAY

34

Wisdom watches Mofe work, finishing, he pushes the power button.. nothing - Again.. nothing, they quietly assess the problem. Wisdom rolls up his overall sleeve and carefully leans into the machine, he's trying to unscrew a fuse when all of a sudden - he screams.

35      INT: FACTORY STORE ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

35

Mofe searches through a rudimentary first aid kit, it's a box full of opened and partially empty disinfectants.

WISDOM

Shouldn't I go to hospital?

Mofe laughs gently and shows Wisdom his scars -

MOFE

You're a mechanic now.

He dabs the gash with disinfectant, it stings.

36

EXT: BUKKA - NIGHT

36

Cooking smoke and noise.

A pot of soup boils on a camping stove, the chef asks Mofe if he wants fish, he says yes.

Mofe sits at the end of a crowded bench eating alone.

37

EXT: TRAVEL AGENCY - DAWN

37

Voices bark at passing cars and people on the street: "PARK HERE! PARK HERE!" "U.S. EMBASSY PARK HERE!" "PASSPORT! PASSPORT!" "HAVE YOU PHOTOCOPIED YOUR CONFIRMATION?" "U.S.? INDIA?" "INTERNET AND PRINTING! INTERNET AND PRINTING!" "DO YOU HAVE A COLOUR RECEIPT?"

Mofe waits for Dauda to finish with a client - they're arguing over the price of printing.

DAUDA

(To no one in particular)

I don't understand these people?!  
you spend how much on visa,  
ordinary 2000 Naira for printing,  
you want to fight.

Polite agreement -

DAUDA (CONT'D)

You're ready to apply?

MOFE

Yes

DAUDA

You have your letter of invitation?

MOFE

No

DAUDA

Letter of employment?

Mofe shakes his head, Dauda fetches a pen and paper, he starts to write -

DAUDA (CONT'D)  
 You need a letter of invitation,  
 letter of employment, leave letter,  
 6 months bank statement and medical  
 report.

Finishing he folds the sheet and hands it to Mofe -

DAUDA (CONT'D)  
 Any one you don't have let me know  
 ok.

Mofe nods: "understood"

DAUDA (CONT'D)  
 Sheybi I'm the one filling the  
 form?

MOFE  
 Yes

DAUDA  
 Ok, for the form it's 30,000, if  
 you WhatsApp or text your  
 information I can start.

38

INT: BANK - DAY

38

We hear keystrokes and clicks, **MIYA, 26:** dark suit bright spirit, sits at the computer opposite Mofe -

MIYA  
 Is your name on the account?

MOFE  
 I don't know.

Miya, using an ATM card as a reference, types in the details, a pause -

MIYA  
 Are you Goddey?

MOFE  
 No.

MIYA  
 (Scanning the screen)  
 That's the only other name on the  
 account.

MOFE  
Can I know the balance?

MIYA  
(Shaking her head)  
Account holder only.

Defeat -

MIYA (CONT'D)  
Is Goddey the husband?

MOFE  
No, her son.

MIYA  
How old is he?

MOFE  
He's late.

Commiserations -

MIYA  
So you're her only relation?

MOFE  
Yes.

MIYA  
(Leaving)  
Hold on.

Mofe looks around the bank, everyone seems glum or anxious,  
Miya returns -

MIYA (CONT'D)  
(Placing an application  
form on the desk)  
Fill this and I'll make an  
appointment with the accounts  
officer.

MOFE  
Ok

Mofe stares at the pages -

MIYA  
You need help?

MOFE  
Please

Miya begins to fill out the form.

39

INT: BARRISTER ONUAH'S CHAMBERS - DAY

39

Shops and offices of varying ambition are scattered about a large building not too dissimilar to the one Mofe lives in.

Barely able to make sense of the numbers Mofe finds himself in a tiny office annexed from the larger empty one in front of it -

Among a mountain of files is **BARRISTER ONUAH, 38**: ambulance chaser -

ONUAH

We're still waiting to take over the main office; sit down please, sit.

Mofe sits -

ONUAH (CONT'D)

So, what can I do for you?

Mofe hands him the application forms -

ONUAH (CONT'D)

(Scanning them carefully)  
Do you know how much is in the account?

MOFE

No sa.

Onuah begins scribbling in an exercise book -

ONUAH

I'm sending you to my man, Boniface, tell him you're from barrister Emeka and that you need an affidavit.

He folds and re-folds the page of the notebook so he can tear it out neatly -

ONUAH (CONT'D)

Once you have the affidavit we need to put adverts in two national newspapers announcing her death and asking for people who believe they have a claim on her properties to come forward.



He tears the sheet out and gives it Mofe -

ONUAH (CONT'D)

My fee is normally 10,000 plus 10%  
of whatever is recovered, but  
because you're Mr.Vincent's friend  
It's 6,000 plus the 10%.

MOFE

How long will it take?

ONUAH

Everything shouldn't be more than a  
few weeks.

Mofe nods and starts counting out his money, a beat -

MOFE

Is 2000 ok? for now

Onuah gestures like: "if I must."

40

INT: FACTORY CIRCUIT ROOM - DAY

40

Wisdom stands with his hands in the fuse box, Mofe attempts  
to hook a set of wires together, giving up he starts cutting  
a load of new wire ends from the unwieldy spool protruding  
from the wall -

MOFE

(To Wisdom)

Turn the switches on.

WISDOM

All of them?

MOFE

Yes.

Wisdom starts packing bits of folded paper into the fuse box -

Mofe is very careful in connecting the wires - a large spark  
shoots off on the first attempt.. he twists the wire ends  
then tries once more - a shock sends him reeling in pain.

41

INT: MANAGERS OFFICE - LATER

41

Hope is packing up for the day, there's a knock on the door -

HOPE

Yes!

Mofe enters -

HOPE (CONT'D)

Evening

MOFE

Good evening ma

Stillness -

HOPE

Did you come to watch me pack?

MOFE

Sorry ma.

HOPE

Well what is it?

MOFE

Umm, the junction box.

HOPE

What of it.

Finished, Hope leaves the office, Mofe in tow -

42

EXT: MANAGER'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

42

MOFE

It still hasn't arrived

HOPE

(Locking her office door)

I'm sure it'll be here soon.

Mofe follows her -

MOFE

I was hoping you could maybe see what was causing the delay.

HOPE

I've placed the order, it'll come when it comes.

MOFE

Ma I understand, but please, if I continue cutting those wires the damage it'll cause the machines..

HOPE (STOPPING)  
 (on "cause")  
 Fine. I'll check on it tomorrow,  
 good night.

She walks on.

43      INT: PRECIOUS' APARTMENT - EVENING      43

Mofe changes into his uniform, power returns and the television comes on in the other room; we hear the grand melody of an Indian soap opera floating out the speakers.

Mofe stops and we hear of last week's twists and schemes, he steadies himself and sits on the bed for a beat.

44      INT: BARRISTER ONUAH'S CHAMBERS - DAY      44

Clarence sits on the table texting. Mofe arrives in oil stained overalls, he apologises for being late, Clarence shakes his hand.

ONUAH  
 Mr.Clarence will be representing  
 your father in this matter.

MOFE  
 My father??

CLARENCE  
 Did you not place the advert for  
 next of kin?

Check -

ONUAH  
 Look, Mofe, your father has made a  
 legal claim on your sister's  
 estate; Now the truth is neither of  
 us can really..

MOFE  
 (on "can")  
 Who told him?

CLARENCE  
 I did.

Mofe scoffs -

ONUAH  
Listen Mofe..

CLARENCE  
(Interrupting)  
The law is very clear on this, your sister died intestate, so legally her properties are to be divided among her family and as far as you're not her parent or child you must wait.

It's all gone over his head -

CLARENCE (CONT'D)  
Your father is not a greedy man, he's going to allow you to keep up to 20%; which is very kind because as the parent his claim is considerably higher than yours.

A beat -

MOFE  
I'll die before he touches that money.

He leaves the lawyers looking at each other apologetically.

45      INT: FACTORY FLOOR - DAY      45

The machines whirr loudly as the factory floor moves in rhythm: blow mould, filter, cap, adjust - blow mould, filter, cap, adjust; we watch it all run for a beat or two before it comes to a sudden halt. A series of exclamations follow:  
"HEYY YE!" "AH!"

46      INT: FACTORY CIRCUIT ROOM - MOMENTS LATER      46

The generator runs in the background as Mofe and Wisdom work by torch light.

Mofe tries to switch a fuse, it trips, he tries another, it also trips.

UP CUT TO:

Mofe pulls a hard-broom strand and twists the head off, bending it he tries to pincer the fuse switch; he's as prudent and precise as any bomb disposal expert.

RECEIVER  
 (HOPE is on the walkie-  
 talkie)  
 Come in Engineer please come in

Mofe looks at Wisdom like: "you better respond" -

WISDOM  
 I read you ma.

RECEIVER  
 (HOPE)  
 What's happening over there?? Why  
 is everything still down??

Mofe shakes his head: "ridiculous" -

WISDOM  
 We're working on it.

RECEIVER  
 (HOPE)  
 Meaning?

Mofe sighs -

RECEIVER (CONT'D)  
 (HOPE, impatient)  
 Engineer, come in please come in

WISDOM  
 I read you ma

RECEIVER  
 (HOPE)  
 What do you mean "we're working on  
 it?"

Mofe takes the walkie-talkie -

MOFE  
 We're working on it ma, we just  
 need some few minutes.

RECEIVER  
 (HOPE)  
 Well hurry up please, we're behind.

MOFE  
 Yes ma

Mofe tries the switch, it holds but the lights are still off.

The men move to the wall of wires, Mofe cuts and connects a set letting off a large spark and scream, the lights come on and we see him fanning the pain from his fingers he kicks his toolbox spilling its insides on the floor - a beat - he picks the hammer up and attacks the fuse boxes..

47 INT: MANAGERS OFFICE - LATER

47

HOPE  
Are you normal?!

Mofe stands in front of Hope -

HOPE (CONT'D)  
Ehn!? Engineer?? are you normal?!

MOFE  
(Low)  
Yes ma

Silence -

HOPE  
I have to suspend you; one month without pay, and the repairs will be coming from your salary, understand? I don't care if its 10 years, you're going to pay for the damage, am I clear?!

MOFE  
Yes ma

Hope dismisses him.

48 INT: PRECIOUS' APARTMENT - NIGHT

48

Mofe sits on the floor, he's emotionally spent, there's a knock at the door, he ignores it.. another knock, he goes to open it, it's Wisdom -

WISDOM  
Sorry.

MOFE  
It's ok.

Wisdom hands him his toolbox, Mofe thanks him.



HOST

So what is your solution? How do we better our lives?

COMMENTATOR

The only option, is divine intervention. Our leaders must take one month off and attend prayer camp like the one I will be holding next week.

HOST

Undeniable Prophecies

COMMENTATOR

Yes, anyone who wants to buy a ticket can do so by calling 080 66 34 8193 ... 080 66 34 8193

Mofe tries the lamp: it works, we hold as he looks at the light for a beat or two, he turns it off and on a few times before getting his phone and placing a call, instead of a ringtone a man reads Bible passages with fervour.. He reads on.. and on.. and..

VOICE (ON PHONE)

Hello?

Mofe says nothing -

VOICE (ON PHONE) (CONT'D)

Hello? - Heello?

MOFE

Hello, Aunty? Is papa around?

53

EXT: RESIDENTIAL COMPLEX - EVENING

53

Wisdom and Mofe stand over the generator as it runs, they look at each other like: "nothing's wrong"

The generator has been taken apart, Wisdom is inspecting the pieces while Mofe puts the shirt of his uniform on -

WISDOM

Maybe it was the fuel.

MOFE

The fuel?

WISDOM

You know most of the fuel we have here is dirty.



MOFE  
What do you mean?

WISDOM  
The quality is bad.

Pause -

MOFE  
But wouldn't it show? In the engine  
I mean.

WISDOM  
Not always, most times you won't  
know.

Mofe just shakes his head, Wisdom is ready to leave -

MOFE  
You going to eat?

WISDOM  
Yeah

54 EXT: BUKKA - EVENING

54

Mofe and Wisdom eat together, though few words are passed we sense that each is happy for the others company.

**FADE OUT:**

**TITLE CARD:**

**ITALY**

55 EXT: MARKET DISTRICT - DAY

55

Grocers' stalls spill over the sidewalks and line the streets which are loud with the noise of sellers, clients, bus conductors and area boys.

A set of hands count money in a purse, they belong to **ROSA, 24:** hard spirit, warm heart - (some may recognise her as the YOUNG WOMAN getting her picture taken or the YOUNG WOMAN at the hospital in the previous chapter.)

ROSA (IN YORUBA)  
How much is your plantain?

GROCER  
450

Rosa looks up at the grocer -

ROSA  
Eh!? Something I bought for 200  
last week!?

GROCER (YORUBA)  
Everything is going up because of  
Dollar, you can ask around if you  
don't believe me.

ROSA  
Dollar Dollar Dollar.  
(Pulling money out her  
purse)  
Here, plus 250 for the plantain.

The Grocer violently shakes her head -

GROCER  
400

Rosa looks at her like "Are you serious!?"

ROSA  
(Getting more money)  
300

Rosa shoves the money into the Grocer's hand -

ROSA (CONT'D)  
Take e! Ah!

She starts bagging the plantains.

56 INT: SISI'S SALON - DAY

56

A small space opening onto the street, it has two stations  
and a bench for waiting; it's stylishly designed in a  
haphazard way.

**SISI:** extroverted and gentle, is twisting a woman's braids  
while another waits.

Putting her shopping away Rosa picks up a bucket and carries  
it to the front where she calls the waiting customer -

Once seated Rosa scoops water with a pail and washes the  
client's hair.

57 EXT: RESIDENTIAL COMPLEX - DAY

57

Rosa walks by a couple of children playing ping pong and into  
one of the buildings -



GRACE  
(Apprehensively)

No

Rosa sighs -

ROSA  
What of your medicine?

GRACE  
Yes

ROSA  
Oya, come and pack these things

Grace and Tolu get up and Rosa crosses the room where she undresses and wraps herself in a large sarong before falling onto the bed -

She heaves a tired sigh and settles into the relative peace.

59      EXT: RESIDENTIAL COMPLEX - DUSK      59

Shower capped and towelled, steam rises round Rosa as she pours hot water into a bucket -

Happy with the temperature she adds a bottle cap of disinfectant.

60      INT: RESIDENTIAL COMPLEX (SHOWER ROOM) - LATER      60

A damp, cement walled cubicle in which the residents wash; there are no taps or shower heads, just a bucket and sponge.

Soap runs off Rosa and the intermittent sound of water splashing echoes loudly.

61      INT: ROSA'S APARTMENT - LATER      61

A made up Rosa puts a pair of flats in her handbag, her phone rings, she checks the caller ID and ignores it -

As she does a once over she notices something on the floor, the phone rings again, she mutes it and starts to tidy Grace's scattered textbooks.

62      INT: LOUNGE/BAR - NIGHT      62

A little off the beaten path, the clientele is diverse and alive -

**GIFT, ANGELA** and **MERCY** are introduced by the **MANAGER** to a group of young men at a table, the men politely invite them to join -

Rosa takes their food and drink orders.

63

EXT/INT: CAR - NIGHT

63

Outside Mercy is speaking with the manager.

Watching from the front seat is Rosa, behind her, their faces lit by a phone screen, are Gift and Angela -

GIFT

Hmmm, I don't think there's any market here

ROSA (O.S.)

Let me see

Angela turns her phone around, Rosa inspects it carefully -

ROSA (CONT'D)

I know this man! Agbim, Hmph! No market o! small money for credit e no go gree.

ANGELA

Haaaa

Gift starts laughing -

ANGELA (CONT'D)

...and he was so nice.

The interior lights come on as Mercy opens the door -

MERCY

She said there's a new place in V.I. we should try.

GIFT

Tonight?

MERCY

Why not?

GIFT

(Sorting her things)  
Ah! Ah beg I don tire.

Mercy turns to Rosa: "sorry" - she shrugs her shoulders: "no problem"

ANGELA

Please you'll drop me at CMS.

Gift gets out of the car and says bye to the others.

64      INT: CAR (TRAVELING) - NIGHT      64

The radio plays as the women talk; the orange bridge lights deepen Rosa's colour and we see the city - an endless black occasionally punctured by distant lights.

65      INT: ROSA'S APARTMENT - NIGHT      65

Using the torch on her phone Rosa carefully puts her clothes away.

Grace is asleep under the mosquito net, Rosa turns off the light and slides into bed with her.

66      INT: SISI'S SALON - DAY      66

Eating instant noodles out of worn Tupperware Rosa stares at the heaving sidewalk -

Sisi sleeps on a floor-mat in the middle of the salon.

Rosa's phone rings, putting her meal down she walks over to where its charging; she checks the caller ID, sighing she picks up -

ROSA

Hello mummy.. we're fine and you? -  
We thank God.. what of the 10,000 I  
sent last month??.. I don't know, I  
still have Grace's fees to pay.. eh  
hehn.. no no I know.. yes.. m'hm..

UP CUT TO:

Rosa watches as Sisi counts cash -

SISI

This is including last week?

ROSA

Yes

She continues counting.

67

INT: ROSA'S APARTMENT - DAY

67

Grace is watching a music video on her phone.

Rosa walks in -

GRACE

Hi!

ROSA

Hey.

GRACE

Uncle Vincent has been asking of  
you.

Rosa hisses, she opens the lockbox and puts money in it -

ROSA

(Catching sight of money  
on the table)

You didn't go to school today?

She starts to undress -

GRACE

I wasn't feeling well.

Rosa looks at her suspiciously -

ROSA

What of your passport?

She begins to help a tired Rosa put her clothes away -

ROSA (CONT'D)

Grace?

GRACE

I didn't have time

Pause -

ROSA

So why don't you go now before they  
close?

Finishing Grace heads back to clear the bed -

GRACE

I'm still a little sick, I'll do it  
tomorrow.

ROSA  
You should do it today.

A beat -

ROSA (CONT'D)  
Grace?

Rosa picks the money off the side table, she stands over Grace and waves it at her -

With a groan Grace drags herself up and puts her slippers on.

68      EXT: ROSA'S APARTMENT - LATER      68

Silhouetted, a man knocks on the door, Rosa answers; unamused she shows him in -

69      INT: ROSA'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS      69

We see it's Vincent, he's holding a plastic bag -

VINCENT  
I've been calling you since?!

ROSA  
I was busy.

VINCENT  
But all week you haven't been picking my calls.

ROSA  
(Impatiently)  
Mr.Vincent, what do you want?

VINCENT  
Nothing, nothing, I was just worried.

Rosa sits back on the bed -

VINCENT (CONT'D)  
Are you angry?

A pause -

ROSA  
No

VINCENT  
I'm sorry, eh, please.



He holds the bag out for her -

An increasingly awkward Vincent looks for a place to set the bag down before Rosa takes it from him and puts it on the side table -

VINCENT (CONT'D)  
How are you?

ROSA  
I'm fine

VINCENT  
It's been long since I heard from you.

He tries to hold her, she moves away -

ROSA  
Mr.Vincent please there's too much on my head right now.

VINCENT  
What's wrong?

ROSA  
It's not your problem.

VINCENT  
Ah ah!? Am I not here!? Talk to me.

ROSA  
I need money.

Vincent moves back a little -

VINCENT  
For what?

ROSA  
(Getting up)  
Mr.Vincent please, I said don't worry, its not your problem.

Vincent holds her -

VINCENT  
No no no wait, waaait... how much do you need

Rosa lets him pull her back onto the bed -

ROSA  
25,000

VINCENT

Ah!?

Vincent thinks for a moment -

VINCENT (CONT'D)

Can you manage 10?

ROSA

(Shrugging)

Anything you have is fine.

VINCENT

You're sure?

ROSA

Yes

VINCENT

Ok, don't worry, I'll transfer you  
the money tomorrow.

ROSA

Thank you.

Vincent cautiously moves towards Rosa and puts his arm around  
her -

VINCENT

I hope you're feeling better?

Rosa nods: "Yeah" - his quiet consoling soon turns into  
something heavier.

70

INT: ROSA'S APARTMENT - LATER

70

Wrapped in a towel a pensive Rosa sits on the bed, Grace  
returns -

GRACE

They were closed.

Grace looks at her inquisitively -

GRACE (CONT'D)

Are you okay?

Quiet -

GRACE (CONT'D)

Rosa?

Rosa shakes her head -

ROSA  
Why are you like this?

Silence -

ROSA (CONT'D)  
Eh!? I ask you to do something and  
you can't do it.

GRACE  
They're closed!? I told you but you  
said that..

ROSA  
(on "but")  
You've had the entire week! and  
what about school?

GRACE  
Sorry.

ROSA  
Sorry sorry sorry, you're always  
sorry. You think your food is  
free!? you'd better start behaving  
yourself or I'll send you back, are  
you hearing me!?

Silence, Grace meekly holds the money out for Rosa -

ROSA (CONT'D)  
Leave it on the table.

Rosa gets up and begins to look for something to wear; Grace  
slinks on the bed making herself as small as possible.

71 INT: HOSPITAL - DAY

71

Grace is among the three or four patients spread across the  
waiting room.

Rosa stands at the reception, there's a small wad of cash on  
the counter -

The receptionist fills a receipt, she tears the leaf out and  
gives it to Rosa who thanks her before going to sit with  
Grace.

A moment and there's yelling in Yoruba, the girls watch the  
commotion.

72

INT: DOCTOR'S OFFICE - LATER

72

**DR OJO, 30s**, distant and professional, looks at a set of results. Grace and Rosa sit opposite her -

DR OJO

Well everything is fine but I'm a little worried about your folate levels, have you been taking your pills?

A guilty silence, Rosa looks at Grace like: "what is wrong with you?" -

DR OJO (CONT'D)

It's very important you do so, I cannot stress this enough, we usually advise that you take them before pregnancy talk less of during.

Grace nods, Rosa continues to shake her head incredulously -

DR OJO (CONT'D)

Good

(To Rosa)

I'm going to prescribe something for her to take in conjunction with what she has.

(To Grace)

Please eh try to take your medicine, it's very important ok?

Grace nods, Dr. Ojo fills out a prescription.

73

EXT: PHARMACY - DAY

73

Small, well appointed and impossibly blue under fluorescent lights.

Rosa stares at Grace while they wait for her prescription; it's a confused, penetrative stare, Grace can't look at her.

Rosa softens -

ROSA

What's going on?

Grace shrugs like: "I don't know?"

ROSA (CONT'D)

Grace?



A happy Tolu sets off with Grace in tow -

ROSA (CONT'D)  
 (After Grace)  
 Eh eh! Where are you going?!  
 Won't you dress the room??

Grace saunters towards the apartment.

76

INT: ROSA'S APARTMENT - LATER

76

Grace and Tolu eat their food at the coffee-cum-dinning table placed on top of the floor mat. Rosa finishes dressing up -

ROSA  
 Don't forget to wash the pot. Tolu?  
 (She waits for her to make  
 eye contact)  
 Home, as soon as you've finished  
 eating ok?

TOLU  
 Yes aunty

ROSA  
 (To Grace)  
 Do you have credit?

Grace meekly shakes her head: "no"

ROSA (CONT'D)  
 So if there's an emergency how will  
 you reach me?

Rosa rummages through her handbag -

ROSA (CONT'D)  
 (Holding 200 Naira out)  
 Take

GRACE  
 Thank you

Rosa's phone rings, she reluctantly answers -

ROSA  
 Hello mummy can I call you ba.. no  
 no it's ok.. and you too.. she's  
 fine, do you want to talk to her?

She hands Grace the phone -

GRACE

Hi mummy.. I'm fine.. school's fine.. yes, how's everybody?..

Rosa gestures for her to wrap it up -

GRACE (CONT'D)

Mummy Rosa needs her phone back, I'll call you when I get credit ok.. ok, bye

Rosa takes the phone -

ROSA

I'm late for work, let me call you tomorrow.. ok, bye.

ROSA (CONT'D)

(To Grace)

I'm not buying anymore credit after this. Tolu?! don't waste time o! I'm not joking.

She says bye to them both.

77

INT: LOUNGE/BAR - NIGHT

77

Tonight the only voices in the room belong to **PETER, 34:** Lebanese-American, gentle and lonely, and **SEYI, 32:** repatriated British-Nigerian.

Their jocund discussion comes to a halt when Seyi goes to take a call. Only music and the murmur of a generator occupy the silence.

Mercy sits at the short bar texting as polite smiles are exchanged between Rosa and Peter. Mercy finishes texting -

MERCY

I'm going to the Radisson

ROSA

Ok

MERCY

You can your find your way home?

ROSA

Yeah

She gets up and says bye to Rosa -

A beat, Rosa walks over to Peter's table -

ROSA (CONT'D)  
 Sorry to disturb, I'm closing soon,  
 is it ok if I get the bill?

PETER  
 Uhh, yeah, sure - actually, can I  
 get another whiskey?

Rosa orders a whiskey; she prints the bill and brings to it  
 Peter with a POS machine -

PETER (CONT'D)  
 (Handing her his credit  
 card)  
 Thanks

ROSA  
 Current or savings?

PETER  
 Current

She enters the information and hands Peter the machine -

PETER (CONT'D)  
 (Typing in his PIN)  
 I'm still getting used to this.

Loading -

PETER (CONT'D)  
 Are you from Lah-gos?

Rosa chuckles -

PETER (CONT'D)  
 What?

ROSA  
 Lay-gos

PETER  
 Lay-gos

She tears out the receipt -

ROSA  
 Perfect! No I'm from Anambra

PETER  
 (Laughing)  
 I'm not even going to try to say  
 that!



Rosa laughs -

ROSA  
You're American?

The barman arrives with his drink -

PETER  
Yeah

ROSA  
But you look Lebanese?

PETER  
(Laughing)  
My parents are Lebanese

ROSA  
I thought so, we have a lot in  
Nigeria.

PETER  
I know

PETER (CONT'D)  
(Taking up his glass)  
Cheers

ROSA  
Cheers

Seyi comes back in -

SEYI  
Hey

PETER  
Oh hey man, this is...

ROSA  
Rosa

He greets her dismissively -

ROSA (CONT'D)  
(To Peter)  
Nice meeting you

PETER  
You too

Rosa goes back to the bar and begins to close up; Peter soon  
arrives -

PETER (CONT'D)  
 Sorry I forgot to tip

ROSA  
 Thank you

PETER  
 Ummmm, you're getting off work  
 right?

ROSA  
 Yes

PETER  
 You want to hang out with me and my  
 friends?

ROSA  
 Oh no it's okay, I don't want to  
 disturb.

PETER  
 It's completely fine.  
 (Calling at Seyi)  
 She can hang right?

Seyi shrugs like: "whatever you want mate"

ROSA  
 No I'm okay, thank you.

PETER  
 Alright well errrr...

ROSA  
 ..If you want I can give you my  
 number.

PETER  
 (Surprised)  
 Yeah?

ROSA  
 Why not

PETER  
 Ok, um, hang on.

He gets his phone out -

ROSA  
 080 32



MAMA ESTHER (CONT'D)  
 Please please please sit, can I get  
 you anything? Fanta? Coke?  
 (To Luca in ITALIAN)  
 Help mummy get some Coke for her  
 friends?

Luca is off before they get a chance to protest -

MAMA ESTHER (CONT'D)  
 (To Grace)  
 I like your dress!

GRACE  
 (Bashfully)  
 Thank you ma

MAMA ESTHER  
 (To Grace)  
 So you're the one expecting?

GRACE  
 Yes ma

A beat as Mama Esther takes Grace in -

MAMA ESTHER  
 How many months?

Grace doesn't know -

ROSA  
 Almost 4

MAMA ESTHER  
 Ok  
 (Pause)  
 And the two of you are wanting to  
 go to Italy?

ROSA  
 Yes ma

MAMA ESTHER  
 That's good, I'm just coming back  
 now, my husband is there..

Luca arrives with the Cokes, tuning the others out Grace  
 stares at him curiously as he makes his way to the television  
 on the other side of the room -

ROSA  
 ..Thank you ma

Rosa nudges Grace -

GRACE

Thank you ma

Mama Esther smiles wryly -

MAMA ESTHER

You have your papers?

Rosa removes a set of stapled forms from the envelope, Mama Esther skims through them -

MAMA ESTHER (CONT'D)

Very good.

ROSA

Thank you ma

GRACE

Thank you ma

MAMA ESTHER

(To Luca in ITALIAN)

Luca! bring my bag.

Luca fetches the bag -

MAMA ESTHER (CONT'D)

Grazie

Mama Esther gets her purse out and gives the girls 1000 Naira each, curtsyng they thank her -

MAMA ESTHER (CONT'D)

(To Grace)

Have you been seeing a doctor?

GRACE

Yes ma

MAMA ESTHER

Good, very good,

(To Rosa)

When you come back make sure you bring a copy of her medical result.

ROSA

Yes ma

She finds her phone -

MAMA ESTHER

Your number please?

ROSA  
080 32 40 0206

MAMA ESTHER  
Ok, when I have your visas I'll  
call you.

Rosa tries to curb her elation -

ROSA  
Yes ma, thank you ma

GRACE  
Thank you ma

Mama Esther stands and the girls follow suit -

MAMA ESTHER  
(to Mercy)  
Rest small, I wan yan

Mercy sits; polite and personable Mama Esther walks the  
others to the door.

82      INT: ROSA'S APARTMENT - EVENING      82

Rosa lifts a dress off the rack and lies it on the bed, she  
picks out a pair of shoes -

ROSA  
What do you think?

Grace nods in approval.

83      EXT/INT: MARKET DISTRICT (LAUNDRY) - LATER      83

We're in the peak hours of the informal economy; every  
amenity is provided for as people set about unwinding or  
running errands.

Rosa sits with Grace while her dress is ironed; they  
occasionally giggle as they look through Peter's Facebook  
page.

84      EXT: RESIDENTIAL COMPLEX - LATER      84

Grace poses by a Range Rover with Rosa.

Picture taken the driver shows Grace, she's happy with it;  
the door is opened for Rosa who says goodbye -

Grace watches her drive off.

85 INT: ROSA'S APARTMENT - LATER

85

Grace looks through the clothes hanging in the room -

TOLU (O.S.)  
This one! This one!

We see Tolu picking a dress off the rack -

GRACE  
Ah! You want her to kill me.

UP CUT TO:

At the make shift vanity table Tolu giggles while she puts make up on Grace.

86 EXT: RESIDENTIAL COMPLEX - LATER

86

With evening arriving there's a malaise about the place, the people are gentler and the sounds softer.

Dressed up, Grace and Tolu take selfies together.

A group of guys watch on, one of them kisses his teeth at them -

GUY  
Come.

The girls pause -

GUY (CONT'D)  
Come na!?

They walk over as adolescents do when inconvenienced, their youth is evident among the men -

GUY (CONT'D)  
Ah ah you dey fear? Oya oya come  
take snap wit me.  
(Handing his phone to  
Tolu)  
Use my phone, use my phone,  
Snapchat Snapchat o! make sure you  
save it.

He sits Grace on his lap and poses. He checks the picture and approves -

GUY (CONT'D)  
 (Giving the phone back  
 to Tolu)  
 Ok one more one more.

There's a little jostling as the other guys try to get in on the photo; once settled it's a couple of takes before he's satisfied.

The girls start to leave when he gently holds Grace back -

GUY (CONT'D)  
 Ah ah where are you going? Are we  
 not chatting?

GRACE  
 (Politely trying to pull  
 away)  
 I have to go.

Each effort is met by a menacingly playful tug -

GUY  
 Ah ah!? Come come come come cooome  
 na, eh!? Fine as you are.  
 (He has his arm wrapped  
 around her waist)  
 What do you want? Eh? let me buy  
 sometin for you and your friend.

In the end she simply acquiesces.

87 INT: CLUB - NIGHT

87

The vibrant energy of Afro-Pop tunes is more than matched by revellers.

Rosa dances with Peter, he's shy and a little awkward but is nonetheless having fun.

88 INT: PETER'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

88

We hear a series of automated high end locks whirr open, Peter shows Rosa into the apartment, he turns the lights on -

Rosa looks around: "wow!" Fine leather, mahogany furniture, bronze sculptures and china vases -

Peter goes into another room leaving Rosa to wander about, she observes everything like a curious child -

Peter calls for her.



89

INT: PETER'S APARTMENT - LATER

89

Peter is hosting Seyi and **LJ,31**: incapable of taking life seriously.

They're all sat around the living room, Rosa is next to **LOLA, 29**: kind, can more than run with the boys.

A centre table holds plenty of liquor and small chops -

SEYI

(On his feet pouring a drink)

We're lazy! there's a lot of opportunity here but people don't want to do the work, I'm telling you man our priorities are all off. I was working on this deal with my old assistant...

LOLA

(Mockingly)

..Is that what she was?

SEYI

Some of us are fine without the adventure.

(To Peter pointing at Rosa)

Have you had her screened?

PETER

(Embarrassed)

Dude, come on.

LOLA

Seyi?!

Rosa senses she's being spoken about -

LOLA (CONT'D)

(To Rosa)

Don't mind him.

SEYI

I'm serious man,

(Pointing to LJ)

ask Richard Gere what happened the last time he got sloppy.

LJ

It was banter mate.

SEYI

Wow! you have so many issues man, so many.

(MORE)

SEYI (CONT'D)

Anyway I cut my assistant in on this deal, nothing major, just a little forex thing I was doing, she stood to make 10 maybe 15 thousand US, which isn't bad for a few months work. So the meeting's set, we're ready to close, and she cancels at the last minute, you know what she says?

(Nigerian accent)

*"I ave to see my uncle, e's de one dat sponsored my education"*

Well you know what that means don't you.. unbelievable..

LOLA

..Yeah but you should've known what she was like before you brought her in.

SEYI

I didn't have a choice.

(To Peter)

You can show these people all the income statements you want but they're only really interested in working with someone who has something extra to offer them.

(Points at Rosa)

Put her in a tight dress next time you pitch and you'll see.

PETER

S..

The room plunges into darkness as the power cuts out - phone screens light up, a USP sounds and the background music continues -

PETER (CONT'D)

..So what happened?

The power returns almost as soon as it went -

SEYI

(Looking for food to pick at)

Oh it was too far in, we managed to close and move on, never again though.

He falls back into his chair.



A beat passes as she admires the view -

PETER  
Can I ask you something?

ROSA  
Of course.

PETER  
Why did you give me your number?

ROSA  
I don't know, you somehow looked nice, not like that your friend.

PETER  
Seyi?

ROSA  
Yes, he's not nice at all.

Peter laughs -

PETER  
He can be a little intense.

ROSA  
I like Lola

PETER  
Yeah, she's the best

They grow quiet again; both looking over the ocean, both enjoying the peace.

94

INT: ROSA'S APARTMENT - DAY

94

Tolu is talking indistinctly off camera as Grace peers into the fridge, after a moment she pulls out a bunch of plantains; they're jet black.

TOLU  
Is that plantain?!

GRACE  
Yeah

Tolu crosses the bed to inspect them, Grace sticks her hand in the fridge -

She checks the power outlet, breaking a plantain off the stem Tolu begins to squeeze it gently when there's a knock on the door; Grace opens it, it's Vincent.

GRACE (CONT'D)  
 (curtsyng)  
 Evening uncle

TOLU (O.C.)  
 (curtsyng)  
 Evening sa

VINCENT  
 Evening,  
 (Noticing the plantain)  
 Are you going eat that?!

GRACE  
 No, I think the fridge is broken.

VINCENT  
 Let me see.

Vincent invites himself in, he scans for Rosa then checks the fridge -

VINCENT (CONT'D)  
 It's not cooling, my friend can fix  
 it for you.

He starts to unplug the fridge and bends to lift it -

GRACE  
 Oh wait!

Grace and Tolu remove the items inside, Vincent picks up the fridge -

GRACE (CONT'D)  
 Do you need help?

VINCENT  
 (Straining a little, then  
 a lot)  
 No it's fine, its fine.

He just about manages it -

TOLU  
 You're going to carry it there by  
 yourself?!

VINCENT  
 (Gesturing with his head)  
 He's just here.

GRACE  
 Can we come?

VINCENT  
 If you want

An excited Grace holds the door open as Vincent leads her and Tolu out.

95      INT: ROSA'S APARTMENT - NIGHT      95

Generators whirr in the distance, Grace lies alone in the house, Naija beats blare from the phone as she uses it's light to read, she gets a text, she reads it then stares at the still blades of the fan for a beat.

96      EXT: RESIDENTIAL COMPLEX - LATER      96

Grace walks through the complex greeting one or two neighbours also escaping the heat.

Following the sound of a generator she gets to a clearing where, under Precious' lamp, Mofe has set up a small workstation.

Scattered around the benches and work table are: Two TVs, a microwave, DVD player and small fridge.

He's fixing one of the TV's while the other silently plays a film, Grace sits on one the benches -

MOFE

Evening.

GRACE

Good evening.

MOFE

You want to charge?

GRACE

I'm fine thank you.

Pause -

GRACE (CONT'D)

(Pointing)

That's our fridge.

MOFE

Oh! Ah beg, sorry for the delay,  
I'll work on it next.

GRACE

It's ok.

The generator burrs as Mofe works on the television, Grace idly watches the screen for a second -

GRACE (CONT'D)  
So you're going to fix everything  
here?

MOFE  
Yes.

GRACE  
Did somebody train you?

Mofe stops for a moment, he's never considered this before -

MOFE  
I don't know, not really, my father  
taught me small then from there  
work... I don't know, I just  
somehow understand it.  
(Pointing to the TV)  
Should I on the volume?

GRACE  
Can you?

MOFE  
Why!

He heads to the worktable and pulls a number of cables from a  
box; finding the right one he attaches it to the DVD player -

The sound crashes out of the speakers, Grace smiles and  
thanks him before settling down while Mofe returns to work.

97 EXT: RESIDENTIAL COMPLEX - DAWN

97

Grace is hanging up the washing when a pair of hands cover  
her eyes, she smiles -

GRACE  
So you remembered me.

She turns to face a smiling Rosa -

ROSA  
Better!

Rosa reaches into her bag and pulls out a brand new Samsung  
Galaxy; original and still in the box -

GRACE  
For real?! Ahhhhh thank you thank  
you thank you thank you!

She surprises Rosa with a hug and begins to unseal the box.

98

INT: ROSA'S APARTMENT - DAY

98

We see a number of open and unopened cosmetics lying on the bed by fashion magazines and a tin of butter cookies.

Grace is trying scents as Rosa eats a cookie -

ROSA  
...he also took me to this hotel.

GRACE  
(Mockingly)  
Hoteeeel..

Rosa looks at her like: "please?!"

ROSA  
We ate on the roof.

GRACE  
As in!?

ROSA  
Yeah, it was a restaurant, you  
could see all of Lagos.

GRACE  
Lagos?!

ROSA  
I swear!

GRACE  
What of The Palms?

ROSA  
Hmph! They have everything there..

There's a knock at the door -

ROSA (CONT'D)  
Yes!

She continues to describe the mall, Vincent walks in and her face falls, Rosa asks Grace to leave and begins to pack away the things on the bed.

Vincent watches her for a moment or two -

VINCENT  
Am I not taking care of you?

ROSA  
You are



Rosa continues to busy herself with tidying -

VINCENT

So why are you disgracing me like this?

ROSA

How am I disgracing you?

VINCENT

Take your time o!?! Rosa! Take your time!?! I'm not a fool.

A moment and Vincent softens, he approaches Rosa -

VINCENT (CONT'D)

(in low tones)

Why can't you love me, eh?

He starts to touch her, his whispers fall away as he begins pawing at her, trying to hold her close, she pushes him back.

A beat -

VINCENT (CONT'D)

So now you have somebody you don't want me again abi!?! Okay!

(Gesturing to the items)

Let him be the one to take care of you, I don't want you to call me for anything again, understand!?!  
*Don't! call me!*

He slams the door as he leaves, it almost falls off its hinges as it rattles open again.

99

EXT: COUNTRY CLUB (POOL AREA/BAR) - DAY

99

Peter, Lola, LJ and Seyi sit in large felt chairs at the Club House bar overlooking a pool where a smattering of people are enjoying the water and rest under parasols, among them are Rosa and **GLORIA, 24**: a vicious coquette. Gloria is showing Rosa some pictures on her phone.

ROSA

So how long before you travel?

GLORIA

I don't know, I need another 10,000 before I can apply for the visa.

ROSA

Naira?

GLORIA

(Laughing)

No, Dollars, US not Canadian, the money has to reflect in ya account before they'll agree. I was hoping to find some of it here but this man no be maga.

Rosa turns to the guys -

ROSA

Who Seyi?

GLORIA

God forbid! No o I don't play with people like that, he'll be looking at you like ya nobody but he's *looking* at you.

Rosa nods like: "I think I understand"

GLORIA (CONT'D)

If you should make mistake open for am

(Shaking her head)

Hmph!

She takes a sip of her drink and waves at the guys, Rosa also waves, the men wave back -

LOLA

So what's the story with this one?

LJ

Picked her up at the Commissioner's office in Abuja.

(Accentuated English accent)

She came *highly* recommended.

They laugh -

PETER

You're an animal.

LJ

I prefer Epicurean. Say what you want mate

(nodding at Peter)

its better than the 40 year old virgin.

SEYI

Yeah man what's that about? You're supposed to release them back into the wild.

LOLA

Oh God

SEYI

Na lie?

PETER

Some of us like the company.

The guys groan -

SEYI

I'm going to ask you the question again because I don't think you heard what you just said. I'm serious, that was truly pathetic.

LJ

Out of interest how much are you paying for this "company"?

PETER

What do you mean?

SEYI

How much have you spent on her.

PETER

Nothing

LOLA

I know you're not splitting bills.

Peter shrugs -

SEYI

Has she told you her father is ill and the hospital wants money before they treat him.

LJ

Or her fees haven't arrived and she needs something to keep the university from throwing her out.

They're beginning to have fun -

SEYI

The best is when they say they need  
the money to maintain themselves  
for you.

LJ

That I don't mind, my favourite is  
(Nigerian accent)  
Elp me buy a beta phone so I can be  
sending you pix

Between the laughter Lola notices a guilty look on Peter's  
face -

LOLA

You didn't?!

PETER

It wasn't an iPhone or anything..

LJ

..But you got her a phone?

Peter doesn't say anything, the others crack up; he  
eventually joins in putting his hand on his head like: "Jeez"

SEYI

Mugu!

LJ

Confamd!

Their laughter simmers down -

SEYI

(Raising his glass)  
God bless you man, seriously.

They clink.

100

INT: COUNTRY CLUB (VILLA) - DAY

100

Tuscan inspired, rustic chique, Afropolitan.

Robed and comfortable Rosa and Peter watch a movie together.  
Rosa's phone rings, its a loud intrusive polyphonic tone,  
they ignore it.

A moment passes and the tune strikes up again, it shuts off  
then rises for a third time; Rosa groans before rolling over  
to fetch it from the side table, Peter pauses the film.

Rosa checks the missed calls -

ROSA  
 Sorry it's my sister.

She heads out onto the terrace, Peter looks on; after a moment or two he moves to the end of the bed and tries to listen in.

101 EXT: VILLA TERRACE - SAME TIME

101

ROSA  
 Hello? Yes?.. no I'm not at home..  
 I'm at my aunty's house..  
 Mr.Vincent I don't understand, what  
 is it?? What do you want from me?!  
 ..no, no I'm not angry.. noo I'm  
 not.. eh its ok.. ok.. yes, when I  
 come back, bye.

She hangs up and takes a moment to compose herself before going back in.

102 INT: VILLA - CONTINUOUS

102

The room is empty -

ROSA  
 Peter? - Hello? Pe...

He walks in with a bottle of water -

PETER  
 Everything alright?

ROSA  
 Yes

They settle back in, Peter notices Rosa's phone -

PETER  
 What happened to the one I got you?

ROSA  
 I gave it to my sister.

PETER  
 Oh?! Ok.

ROSA  
 I hope you're not annoyed?

PETER  
 No, its.. kinda sweet.

They continue watching the film -

ROSA  
Can I ask a favour?

PETER  
Sure, what is it?

Rosa grows embarrassed -

ROSA  
No its ok

PETER  
What? What is it?

More shyness -

PETER (CONT'D)  
Rosa?

ROSA  
I really need help with my  
accommodation

PETER  
Oh

ROSA  
I swear I wouldn't ask if..

PETER  
(on "wouldn't")  
No no its, um, it's ok

He rubs his forehead -

ROSA  
You know what, I'm sorry, forget  
about it

PETER  
No no no its fine its fine, I just  
uh..

ROSA  
Please, don't worry.

PETER  
No, Rosa, its fine, just..

Peter thinks -

PETER (CONT'D)  
 ..how much do you need?

ROSA  
 For real?!

PETER  
 Yeah

ROSA  
 Ya sure?

PETER  
 Yeah, whatever you need, just let me know.

ROSA  
 Are you serious?! Oh thank you thank you

She hugs him tightly, he hugs her too -

ROSA (CONT'D)  
 I don't know what I would do without you.

Her sincerity rids him of all self-loathing.

103

INT: ROSA'S APARTMENT - DAY

103

Rosa walks into the apartment, it appears much smaller than she remembered, Grace lies on the bed, putting her things down she sits by her -

ROSA  
 (Gently stroking her)  
 How na?

Grace barely responds, Rosa uses her hand to check her temperature -

ROSA (CONT'D)  
 At least you're not having fever, have you eaten?

Grace shakes her head: "no"

ROSA (CONT'D)  
 Ok

Rosa gets up and finding her sarong begins to change.

104 INT: DOCTOR'S OFFICE - DAY

104

Grace is getting an ultrasound; she's about 18 weeks into her pregnancy and no longer able to effectively hide her condition, Rosa sits with her.

DR OJO

..And its just this week you've been having headaches?

GRACE

Yes

DR OJO

Ok, we'll monitor it for now but if they continue or get worse over the next few weeks come and see me, you really need to start taking it easy.

GRACE

Ok.

Dr Ojo continues to search the screen -

DR OJO

It's a girl.

Grace's breath drops, it's real, Rosa takes her hand reassuringly.

105 EXT: APARTMENT COMPLEX - DAY

105

Luca plays outside, his laughter fades as it reaches the top floor of the building.

We hear paper rustling -

106 INT: MAMA ESTHER'S FLAT - SAME TIME

106

Rosa and Grace sit in the living room as Mama Esther goes through Grace's medical.

On the coffee table alongside a stack of Dollar bills is a weave pouch.

MAMA ESTHER

You haven't changed your mind?

ROSA

No ma.



She puts the papers down -

MAMA ESTHER

Good

(to Grace)

You'll take an oath after the baby is born, but I want you to swear first that you'll give it to me.

GRACE

(Confused)

The baby?

MAMA ESTHER

Yes.

A pause, Grace looks at Rosa who gestures back at her like: "go on then!"

GRACE

(low)

Ok

MAMA ESTHER

Eh?

GRACE

I swear.

Mama Esther removes one of her necklaces, its long and made of string, attached to it is a weave pouch like the one on the table.

She holds it out to Grace -

MAMA ESTHER

Swear on this.

Grace looks at Rosa who is not as certain as she was a second earlier, she tentatively nods like: "it'll be fine."

Grace nervously lays her hands on the pouch -

GRACE

I swear, I will give you my baby.

Mama Esther puts the necklace back on and folds \$100 into a weave pouch before handing it to Grace -

MAMA ESTHER

Don't touch that money. I need you to put hair from your privates, a passport photo and some blood inside.

Grace is uneasy -

GRACE

Now?

Mama Esther chuckles -

MAMA ESTHER

No, before the ceremony; when you reach 8 months we'll complete it.

107 INT: SISI'S SALON - DAY

107

Sisi separates hair extensions.

Her phone plugged in Rosa stands with it to her ear, no response, she dials again.. the same, she tries once more when -

SISI (O.S.)

Rosa! Customer!

Rosa puts the phone down and goes to meet the client.

108 EXT: RESIDENTIAL COMPLEX - DUSK

108

Wisdom and Mofe are at the workstation. Grace sits with a couple of customers charging phones and waiting for things to get fixed.

The workstation has become a forum and Abu has the floor -

ABU

..as he came from mosque dey shoot am.

His audience react: "hey!"/"hmph!"/"kai!"

WISDOM

For Lagos?

ABU

By this Ikorodu side

More peals of disbelief -

ABU (CONT'D)

So they take am go hospital, upon reaching de place dey say dat they should bring 5,000 Naira to register before they fit treat am.

CUSTOMER  
Jeeesus! Which hospital?

ABU  
One Government hospital like this.

Everyone is hanging on or reacting to Abu's words -

ABU (CONT'D)  
They pay 5000 finish and after dey  
say that ehhhh  
(Clicking his fingers)  
ehhhhm this thing, that paper whey  
dem dey use..

CUSTOMER  
..Admittance form

ABU  
Eh hehn! Admittance form, they say  
e don finish, he should wait

This elicits the most emphatic groans -

GRACE  
Is he still alive?

Mofe unplugs one of the customers phones from a charger and  
collects 50 Naira -

ABU  
How! Blood de commot for I'm body  
and they tell am wait!? E die!

CUSTOMER  
Chai! We are finished!

ABU  
I tell you nothing where I no hear  
for this Nigeria.

And just as quickly as it struck up it dies down, the men  
continue to work and the others sit contemplating, Rosa  
arrives, they all greet each other -

GRACE  
You're not going out?

ROSA  
Do you have credit?

GRACE  
(anxious)  
No, except maybe to flash?

ROSA  
It's ok, Engineer!

Mofe turns -

ROSA (CONT'D)  
You get credit?

MOFE  
Ehn

ROSA  
Ah beg I fit borrow..

Rosa is barely through her sentence when one of the customers holding their phone out for her; she thanks him and walks away to make a call.

Rosa stands a good distance from the workstation, the phone rings.. and rings.. and -

ROSA (CONT'D)  
Hello? Peter! Na wa o I've been  
caaaalling calling calling calling,  
I even left some messages you  
didn't reply... oh, is everything  
ok?... how na?... oh sorry.. nooo no  
problem, let me not disturb you..  
please I didn't receive any alert,  
I hope you won't forget my  
accommodation.. may God bless you,  
thank you, I'll be expecting your  
call..ok ..take care, byeee.

Rosa hangs up, she returns to the others and thanks the customer as she hands his phone back to him -

GRACE  
Is everything ok?

ROSA  
It's fine, don't stay out too long.

GRACE  
Ok

Grace watches her leave.

109      INT: ROSA'S APARTMENT - NIGHT      109

Grace lies asleep under the net. Torch in hand, Rosa is squatting by her shoe collection, she picks out a pair and puts them in her bag.

110      INT: BUS(TRAVELING) - NIGHT      110

Rosa sits in the battered minibus, two small florescent bulbs struggle against the dark, it fills the vehicle with a strange solemnity.

111      INT: HOSPITAL - DAY      111

Grace gets her blood pressure checked, the reading surprises the nurse who takes the strap off and measures it again.

112      INT: DOCTORS OFFICE - LATER      112

Rosa and Grace wait while Dr Ojo looks at a medical chart -

DR OJO

You people should've come sooner  
she's very sick.

There's a guilty silence from Rosa -

ROSA

What of the baby?

DR OJO

As far as I can see the baby is  
fine but we need to cool her blood  
down, I'm going to give her an  
injection, I think she should stay  
here for a few days so we can  
monitor her.

ROSA

Doctor I don't have that kind of  
money.

A pause -

DR OJO

Ok, I'm going to prescribe  
Valsatran for her and show you how  
to measure her blood pressure, are  
you listening?

ROSA

Yes ma

DR OJO

You can borrow a blood pressure kit from here, every time you finish I want you to call me directly, understand? if I don't pick, text the reading to me, I hope you have credit?

ROSA

Yes ma.

DR OJO

Good, wait here I'm coming.

113 INT: ROSA'S APARTMENT - DAY

113

The lockbox lies open on the bed, in it we clearly see some cosmetics, cash and the weave pouch.

A weak Grace is on the bed, cosmetic products and perfumes spread about her; she holds one up -

GRACE

This?

ROSA (O.S.)

No

She puts it in the lockbox.

Rosa puts a pair of shoes in a plastic bag before organising the other items and locking the box.

She uses her hand to check Grace's temperature -

ROSA (CONT'D)

Ndo, eh, I'll be back soon.

She leaves.

114 EXT: MARKET DISTRICT - DAY

114

Rosa wanders from store to store selling what she can, in some instances she has to haggle hard for her money's worth.

115 INT: PHARMACY - DUSK

115

The pharmacist rings up the prescription. Rosa counts out 2,000 Naira in cash then hands her card over -

PHARMACIST  
Current or savings?

ROSA  
Savings

She enters the amount and gives the card reader to Rosa who punches her PIN in; an interminably long beat passes before the reader spits out a receipt -

The pharmacist hisses and tries again, Rosa enters her PIN...

Screeching to life, the pharmacist tears the receipt and looks at it..

PHARMACIST  
Thank you

116 EXT/INT: ROSA'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

116

Mofe works on setting up his generator, he turns it on, the sound spreads through the room and we see the blades of the standing fan spin -

ROSA  
Ahhh thank you.

MOFE  
No wahala

Mofe goes over to the bed, Grace is lying under the mosquito net -

MOFE (CONT'D)  
You can keep it as long as you want.

ROSA  
Thank you

MOFE  
Please, make sure you keep it outside.  
(to Grace)  
Small Madame, pele eh, sorry

Rosa reaches under the mosquito net and rests a flannel on Grace's forehead -

ROSA

Ndo

Rosa sits by her, Mofe moves off screen and we hear him gathering his tools and leave the room under the generator's low purr.

117 EXT: ROSA'S APARTMENT - DAY

117

Grace is filming Tolu's "shaku shaku" dance, they review it, making corrections Tolu tries again -

VOICE (O.S.)

Tolu!

Wash bucket in hand we see **MUMMY TOLU, 35**: strong willed and conservative, standing in the the hallway -

MUMMY TOLU

(Rhetorically)

Don't you have homework?

TOLU

I've finished

MUMMY TOLU

Well go and sweep the floor, the house is dirty.

Rolling her eyes Tolu drags herself away, Mummy Tolu stares at Grace for a beat -

MUMMY TOLU (CONT'D)

You should be lying down.

GRACE

Yes aunty.

Mummy Tolu continues on.

118 INT: RESIDENTIAL COMPLEX (TOILETS) - LATER

118

Grace grimaces as she pees, finishing she wipes and turns to flush when something holds her.

119 INT: HOSPITAL - DAY

119

Rosa helps Grace into the hospital, they go to the reception, the nurse is watching a Nollywood movie on a mounted TV -



ROSA  
We're looking for Dr Ojo.

NURSE  
She's not on seat.

ROSA  
Is there anyone we can see? It's an emergency.

NURSE  
Ehn, Tope! TOPE!

Tope enters -

TOPE  
This one ya shouting my name

The nurse points to Rosa and Grace -

ROSA  
Is there anyone we can see, its an emergency.

TOPE  
Ehn! What emergency?

ROSA  
She's bleeding from her privates

TOPE  
Ok, wait there.

Rosa gestures for Grace to sit, Tope gets an admittance form and looks for a pen, there isn't one, she asks the nurse who also can't find one -

TOPE (CONT'D)  
(Ambling away)  
I'm coming

120 INT: HOSPITAL WARD - LATER

120

A weary looking Grace lies in bed, Rosa comforts her -

ROSA  
Ndo.

A nurse enters -

NURSE  
(To Rosa)  
Excuse me ma

Rosa goes to the nurse -

NURSE (CONT'D)

The Doctor said she'll be ok, we're going to give her drip and another injection but his advice is we keep her overnight so we can monitor her progress.

Rosa nods: "sure, whatever you think is best"

An awkward pause -

NURSE (CONT'D)

Ehmm if she's to stay its 30,000

Exhaustion -

ROSA

Can I pay tomorrow?

NURSE

Sorry ma, we have collect payment before starting treatment

ROSA

Please?! How long have I been coming here? Have I missed one payment?

NURSE

So you know we have to receive payment before we treat any patient.

ROSA

Can you help me call the doctor?

The nurse leaves, Rosa returns to Grace, she strokes her warmly -

The nurse arrives with a **DOCTOR, 40s** -

ROSA (CONT'D)

Afternoon Doctor, ehm they said that you want to keep her overnight?

DOCTOR

So we can monitor her, she's ok now but her blood is very high.



VOICE (O.S.)  
Ya leaving?

ROSA  
Yes

She gets up and we see she's with Vincent, he watches as she gathers her things -

VINCENT  
I think we should marry.

Rosa scoffs -

VINCENT (CONT'D)  
(Slightly hurt)  
I'm serious! Am I not good to you? -

She continues to get dressed -

VINCENT (CONT'D)  
Rosa. I don't know what you're doing, ya still young, marry me, let me take care of you and your family. Whatever it is you want I can do it for you.

She sits still.

124 INT: HOSPITAL - DAY

124

Rosa walks to the reception -

The receptionist turns to the filing cabinet, rooting through the files she finds it and hands Rosa a receipt -

ROSA  
There's a mistake.

She shows the receipt to the receptionist -

ROSA (CONT'D)  
It's supposed to be 30,000

RECEPTIONIST  
(Looking over the receipt)  
We had to give her blood.

ROSA  
Blood!? Why!? Where is she!? I want to see her now!?

RECEPTIONIST

Please ma calm down, let me call  
the doctor.

Watching the nurses closely Rosa paces about the waiting room, after a beat or two Dr Ojo walks in and motions for her to sit, she does and the two speak.

125

INT: MAMA ESTHER'S HOUSE - DAY

125

Mama Esther digs her fingers into a weave pouch and pulls out a neatly folded 100 Dollar bill, a passport photo and blood stained cloth fall out.

MAMA ESTHER

(Hissing as she stretches  
the money and puts it  
away)

I spent all this money on you  
people..

Rosa stands in front of her, eyes cast down -

ROSA

(low)  
Sorry ma

MAMA ESTHER

It's not about sorry, we have a  
problem.

Rosa continues to stare at her feet -

MAMA ESTHER (CONT'D)

Please, sit down.

Rosa moves towards a seat -

MAMA ESTHER (CONT'D)

No, here.

Rosa sits next to Mama Esther, a pause as she settles -

MAMA ESTHER (CONT'D)

Shey you still want to travel?

ROSA

(low)  
Yes ma

MAMA ESTHER

Speak up

ROSA

Yes ma

MAMA ESTHER

Good - I still want you to travel,  
I promised to help you and I always  
keep my promise.

ROSA

I know ma, Thank you ma

MAMA ESTHER

..Our arrangement was you give me  
your sister's baby in exchange for  
transport over there.

ROSA

Yes ma.

MAMA ESTHER

Eh hehn, So now I don't have a  
baby, which means I'm losing money  
and I've already paid for your  
visas.

A beat - Mama Esther reads Rosa who sits as nervous as a kid  
in the Principal's office -

MAMA ESTHER (CONT'D)

So, if you're still going to travel  
I need to know that you'll pay me  
back.

Pause -

ROSA

I can't.

MAMA ESTHER

I know, but if you work for me I  
can take it from your salary.

ROSA

Here?

MAMA ESTHER

No, over there.

Rosa thinks -

ROSA

What of my sister?

MAMA ESTHER

She'll work, or abi you want to pay  
for her as well?

A beat -

ROSA

What will I be doing?

Mama Esther is taken aback -

MAMA ESTHER

Does it matter?! Look, if you don't  
want to go tell me and we find a  
way to settle ourselves, I'm not  
forcing you to do anything.

126      INT: ROSA'S APARTMENT - DAY      126

We see Rosa emptying the lockbox, a fair amount of money and  
three expensive perfumes, the noise wakes Grace who silently  
watches as Rosa goes on to pick clothes off the rail and put  
them in a large sack.

127      INT: SISI'S SALON - DAY      127

Rosa is sorting and hanging hair extensions, Sisi rolls her  
mat out to lie on, a stupor fills the space.

128      EXT: APARTMENT - DAY      128

Rosa knocks on the door, its opened and she walks in -

129      INT: APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS      129

We see it's Vincent's.

String vest and shorts, he cuts a feeble vision -

VINCENT

Can I offer you anything?

ROSA

No thank you.

VINCENT

(Embarrassed)

How I wish you called me I would've  
prepared.

ROSA

It's ok.

Vincent offers her a seat, Rosa stands -

ROSA (CONT'D)

Mr.Vincent if I marry you Grace has to go to a private school.

Vincent's caught off guard -

ROSA (CONT'D)

And you'll help me find a shop where I can sell clothes.

He drops into his seat -

VINCENT

And true true you'll be my wife?  
You'll love me? cook for me? clean my house, all those things?

She steels herself -

ROSA

Yes

A bewildered Vincent thinks.

130 INT: ROSA'S APARTMENT - DAY

130

Rosa sits with the phone to her ear -

AUTOMATED VOICE

The number you are calling is switched off, please try again later.

She hisses and dials again -

AUTOMATED VOICE (CONT'D)

The number you are calling..

131 EXT: RESIDENTIAL COMPLEX - MOMENTS LATER

131

Wisdom works as Abu and two others are gathered about the workstation waiting for phones to charge and watching wrestling on a panel-less TV - its all animation and speculation: "E go win am" "BROCK LESNAR!? THAT MAN NO BE HUMAN BEING" "BET ME!" "Roman Reigns is d man"



Rosa arrives to greetings from the group, they continue to speak over the television -

ROSA  
Is my sister around?

WISDOM  
She went out with Engineer.

ROSA  
Where?

WISDOM  
Market.

ROSA  
Ah beg give me his number

Wisdom cycles through his contacts.

132 INT: ROSA'S APARTMENT - DUSK

132

We're long into the evening, Rosa lies on the bed -

She sits up the door opens, Grace enters carrying a plastic bag -

GRACE  
Hey

ROSA  
Let me know next time you're going out ok?

GRACE  
Ok

Grace reaches into the bag and pulls out a massive wad of cash -

ROSA  
What's this??

GRACE  
Money

ROSA  
From where?

GRACE  
I sold my phone.

Rosa takes the money and does a loose count, it must be close to 70,000 Naira, putting it down she gets up and hugs Grace - We stay with them a while.

**FADE OUT:**

**TITLE CARD: EYIMOFÉ**

133 INT: OFFICE (KITCHENETTE) - DAY 133

Mofe works on a microwave, office workers greet him as they shuffle in and out of the tiny space.

134 EXT: TAO FEEK LAWAL - LATER 134

Infinitely more peaceful than the chaos of the market district; its one of those strange Lagos enclaves thats comprised of commercial residences.

Mofe walks the streets in his overalls, tool box in hand and a radio at full blast; he's familiar to the people here and they wave at him warmly.

Passing by a house someone comes out kissing their teeth at him -

MAN

Hsst! You fix generators?

MOFE

Yeah

MAN

Can you take a look at mine?

Mofe follows the man into his compound.

135 EXT/INT: MARKET DISTRICT (TAILOR) - DUSK 135

Mofe show's the **TAILOR** pictures of overalls with embroidered logos on his phone, he nods in understanding -

TAILOR

..and it should not be too big?

MOFE

(Showing him)

Yes, just like this size

(Sternly)

And straight o!

The tailor nods -

MOFE (CONT'D)  
Bros! I'm serious if es not  
straight!?

TAILOR  
Ehn don't worry don't worry

They continue to look through the images.

136 EXT: RESIDENTIAL COMPLEX - DUSK

136

The work station is being manned by Abu he's using the time to watch a Nollywood film with a few others, they all greet Mofe as he arrives.

Mofe starts sorting and putting his tools away -

MOFE  
Where Wisdom?

ABU  
Your house.

Mofe asks if he minds manning the station a bit longer, he doesn't.

137 INT: PRECIOUS' APARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER

137

Mofe walks in to find Wisdom with Peace and Blessing.

They both get up and curtsy in greeting him.

Mofe has no words -

WISDOM  
Let me go back to work

MOFE  
(Waking up)  
Oh sorry ok um, I'll see you later,  
thanks.

He shuts the door behind Wisdom and turns to his guests, they're as awkward as children at a dance -

PEACE (URHOBO)  
(To Mofe)  
Have you eaten?

MOFE  
No, not yet..

PEACE  
Let me cook for you!

MOFE  
No, no aunty please..

PEACE (URHOBO)  
(on "no")  
Eh eh! I insist, How can I come to  
my son's house and not take care of  
him!?

She's already rummaging through her check bag; Mofe notices how full both it and the one its next to are.

138 INT: PRECIOUS' APARTMENT - LATER

138

Mofe, Blessing and Peace eat together; Mofe is hoovering up his meal with delight.

PEACE  
How is it?

Unable to talk with his mouthful a series of moans is enough, a proud smile stretches across Peace's face.

MOFE  
(To Blessing)  
How's school?

Blessing glances at his mum, Mofe notices, she remains staid -

BLESSING  
Fine.

Deciding not to probe any further Mofe continues eating.

139 EXT: RESIDENTIAL COMPLEX - NIGHT

139

Mofe works quietly at the workstation, the number of appliances under his care seems to have trebled -

PEACE (URHOBO)  
So you're here all night?

MOFE (URHOBO)  
Most of it, Wisdom takes over on  
the evenings I have work.

PEACE (URHOBO)  
I'm glad you're doing well.

MOFE (URHOBO)  
Thanks.

A long beat -

PEACE (URHOBO)  
Mofe, your father is very sick.

Mofe stops working -

MOFE  
So you came for money.

PEACE  
No, no we didn't..

Mofe angrily wipes and throws his tools into the boxes -

PEACE (CONT'D)  
Mofe? Mofe Please!

He stops -

PEACE (URHOBO) (CONT'D)  
Listen to me. We didn't come for  
money, he's much better now, in  
fact he'll be out of the hospital  
soon so.. We came because.. well..  
we've spent everything, everything  
Mofe, my money, his own,  
Blessing's, we have nothing  
(Pause)  
Mofe? Mofe?

He turns to see Peace getting on her knees, Mofe goes to pick  
her up but she swats his hands away -

PEACE (URHOBO) (CONT'D)  
Mofe please, take my son, I beg  
you, please, there's nothing there  
for him again I beg you, please,  
take him...

Peace further prostrates herself, Mofe bends over to pull her  
up but resisting she continues hugging his feet and begging  
until she's forced back onto the bench -

It's taking everything for her not to completely give in to  
shame and humiliation.

Mofe waits as she settles a bit. He paces for moment or two -

MOFE

I can't --- I can't, I just  
 (Pointing towards the work  
 station)  
 It's only me here aunty, I work for  
 myself.

The words seem to hurt him more than her -

MOFE (IN URHOBO) (CONT'D)

I cannot take care of my father's  
 son, understand?  
 (Pause)  
 That man chased my mother away,  
 abandoned my sister.. No no no, no!  
 I won't take care of his children.

Pause -

PEACE

Mofe?

MOFE

(Stern)  
 Aunty, please. I can't.

He goes back to work.

140 INT: BUS TERMINAL - DAY

140

Peace and Blessing stand among the mass of people.

Mofe pushes through with a ticket for Blessing who thanks him  
 and swinging the large bag over his shoulder pushes forward -

Mofe helps with the other bag until a porter takes it from  
 him.

At the platform Peace and Blessing thank him again for  
 hosting, they're about to head out when Mofe asks them to  
 wait; he gives them 500 Naira each -

Peace wants to say something but thanks him instead -

He watches as they get onto the bus.

141 EXT/INT: MARKET DISTRICT (STORE) - DAY

141

Vincent unlocks and removes the padlock holding a pair of  
 double doors; they open to reveal a smallish, bare,  
 windowless room.

Mofe walks in and slowly drifts around -

MOFE  
Electricity?

VINCENT  
That's easily siphoned, just say  
when.

Mofe gets his phone out and starts taking pictures.

142 INT/EXT: BUSINESS CENTRE - DAY

142

It's a small room constricted by desks, on top of which are large printers, country music hums as a wall fan idly rolls above tattered posters of Texas.

Mofe stands by the copier as it prints a number of coloured leaflets. There's a young man getting his passport picture taken; he's nervous, excited and full of hope -

Mofe watches on; the copier stopped a while ago and a customer has to nudge him out of his reverie. He apologises and gets his fliers.

Someone calls after him as he leaves, its Rosa. She walks over with Grace, they greet each other fondly -

MOFE  
Ah ah! I thought you people had  
travelled?

ROSA  
Nooo we're coming to print the form  
for her school.

MOFE  
Oook, but it's like you don't stay  
around here again?

ROSA  
Ehn, we're staying with Mr.Vincent

MOFE  
*Ehhhn*, that's good, he's a good  
man, he really tried for me.

Rosa nods politely -

MOFE (CONT'D)  
Ah beg, let me not hold you.

ROSA

Ok

MOFE

(to Grace)

Small Madame! Make sure you take care of yourself eh

GRACE

I will.

MOFE

Ok, o, if you need to repair anything

(he hands them each a flier)

You can be my special customers

Grinning as they take the fliers they thank him. They go their separate ways.

143 INT/EXT: MARKET DISTRICT (TAILOR) - DAY

143

Mofe waits at the stall -

The tailor hands him a pair of newly washed and packaged overalls, Mofe immediately pulls one out of the bag and opens it up -

His name has been stitched on the front, we can't see the back but he beams with pride as he reads what's on it.

144 EXT: TAO FEEK LAWAL - DAY

144

In their new overalls Mofe and Wisdom wander about the area putting up fliers and handing them to gate men and people passing by.

The work is menial but both men are happy, up beat and alive.

145 EXT: BUKKA - NIGHT

145

Their overalls are back in the packaging and next to them while they eat.

WISDOM

..I think on Friday we should go to that Lekki Phase 1 side.

MOFE

It's too far for us to service.



WISDOM

I know, but a lot of the people  
that live there work in V.I. and  
Ikoyi.

MOFE

Ehhn, Ok we'll try.

They dig into their food. Mofe holds for a beat as he stares  
at the rice on his fork -

WISDOM

Everything ok?

MOFE

Yeah I, I was just thinking.

WISDOM

About what?

A pause -

MOFE

Nothing

WISDOM

Sure?

MOFE

Yeah. We should make receipts.

WISDOM

Mmm hhhmm, good idea.

They carry on eating.

146 EXT: PRECIOUS' APARTMENT - NIGHT

146

Mofe sits alone on the balcony; wrapped by the sober whirl of  
generators he stares out at the dappled lights of the city.

147 EXT/INT: MARKET DISTRICT (STORE) - DAY

147

Wisdom hammers a sign on the door while Mofe moves electrical  
appliances into the room.

Done, he heads out to watch Wisdom put the final couple of  
nails in.

Finished they both stand back and admire the sign -

It reads: "PRECIOUS ELECTRICS AND PHONE REPAIR" - It's not high on aesthetics but its clear -

Mofe's phone rings, he answers and signals to Wisdom that he'll lock up -

MOFE

Hello? Sorry aunty I was busy, nooo no problem, how are you?.. no no is okay, is okay ..no its fine, it's fine aunty please..thank you eh, thank you.. no no no please it's fine seriously, please.. thank you..I hope it's not too late for him to register?

We watch out from inside the store as Mofe shuts one of the doors; half of the screen goes black -

MOFE (CONT'D)

..we thank God..yes, and if he needs books or anything like that..eh hehn, yes..

He shuts the other door; the screen is black, his voice and the sounds of Lagos continue.

THE END



