

BLACBET

by
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based on
Shakespeare's

Macbeth

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EXT. WEST AFRICA, VILLAGE - DAY

West Africa, Today

A mixture of round, thatched houses and square huts with tin roofs, line the main red-soiled, unpaved road running through the village.

Bush, immersed in mist, grows around the edges of the village.

Some house burn in flames, some smolder, reduced to rubble. Smoke clogs the air.

Bodies of killed VILLAGE MEN, WOMEN and CHILDREN, and domestic goats, dogs lie scattered amongst the houses, and on the road.

A SQUAD of highly disciplined, camouflaged NATIONAL SOLDIERS, bearing M16's, in jeeps, charge up the road attacking a GROUP of ragtag REBEL SOLDIERS, bearing AK47's, turning back to fire on the National Guards as they move back.

NATIONAL SOLDIER #1 aims his rifle at a running REBEL SOLDIER #1. He fires.

The Rebel Soldier is hit in the back and falls to the ground, landing on the body of 12 year-old REBEL SOLDIER #2.

The earth is covered with the bodies of dead MEN, WOMEN and CHILDREN and animals.

EXT. VILLAGE SQUARE - CONTINUOUS

In the square, the tall, athletic, bearded COLONEL BANKOLO [40's] walks to the body of a dead teenage REBEL SOLDIER #3, still grasping an AK47.

Bankolo picks up the AK47, and he looks to the fires burning in the distance.

Sporadic gunshots and screams pierce the air.

EXT. VILLAGE, BUSH FOREST - CONTINUOUS

VILLAGE WOMAN #1 [20's] comes running from the bush, tightening the wrap around her waist. She stops in her tracks as the horror before her becomes apparent. In a trance, she puts her hand to her indigo-dye headscarf and removes it.

The headscarf drops from her hand and floats to the ground.

EXT. VILLAGE SQUARE - CONTINUOUS

The dead bodies of VILLAGE MEN, WOMEN and CHILDREN lie piled in the middle of the village square.

From the surrounding bush, shell-shocked VILLAGE MEN, WOMEN and CHILDREN emerge and search through the bodies on the ground.

Standing over the dead body of VILLAGE MAN #1, VILLAGE WOMAN #1 collapses to her knees and wails.

From underneath a dead body, a bloody hands moves.

VILLAGE CHILD #1 [10] turns over the body of a dead MAN and then a dead WOMAN and starts to wail.

The wail echoes through the air and grows as more and more VILLAGERS turn over bodies and the voices of the ululation caused by their grief fills the air.

From the bush emerge the grey haired, grey bearded, tribal marking on both cheeks, BABALAWO [50's], and the dark, skinny, round face, shaved head woman DIBIA [20's] and wirey, wizened and wise old woman MAYE [60's]. Ignored, they walk through the carpet of bodies.

From the pouch over her shoulder Maye removes a wrapped palm leaf and leaning down to a barely breathing VILLAGER, she opens the palm, and taking up some ointment in her fingers rubs the ointment on the gash in the villager's cheek.

Standing by a tall iroko tree, Dibia takes in the horror of the scene.

Indiscriminately mumbling to himself, Babalawo moves to a dead VILLAGER #2 in the road. Kneeling down to him, he notes the man's hand has been hacked off.

Picking up the hand, he wraps it in leaves, and places it into his pouch around his waist.

The sound of cackling hyenas is heard in the distance.

Babalawo jumps to his feet.

Dibia and Maye, look to the sound, as they console a group of VILLAGE WOMEN outside a thatched hut.

Babalawo walks toward the bush.

Dibia and Maye appear directly behind Babalawo, on either side, and all three continue into the bush.

BABALAWO

Wen we fit meet again? Na wen
thunder, abi lightening or rain dey
fall?

DIBIA

Na wen di wahala don cool down, wen
who don win don win, who don lose
don lose.

Moving hearing the sound of the machine gun fire deep in the
bush, Maye walks away from the other towards it.

MAYE

E go bi wen di sun don go down.

Walking away from Dibia, Babalawo points to a burning hill in
the distance.

BABALAWA

Na where bi dat?

Maye looks up.

MAYE

Where grass dey.

He joins the Maye and the Babalawo. The three of them gaze at
the fire for a moment, before wordlessly walking up hill.

BABALAWO

Na there we go meet Makawa.

Dibia stops and gazes at the fires.

Maye stops.

Dibia and Maye turn and join Babalawo.

In silence, all three ascend the bush-filled hill.

The dark shape of a hyena moves in the bushes on the hill. An
eerily human laugh echoes from its direction.

BABALAWO (CONT'D)

I dey come, Graymalkin.

MAYE

Paddock dey call.

DIBIA

I dey come.

ALL
Fair is foul and foul is fair -
[translate]
 Dey waka for cloud and air wey
 deety.

They hear the sound of a talking drum in the distance.

INT. MILITARY HOSPITAL, HALLWAY - DAY

Cameras flashes as the excited PRESS CORE photograph grey-haired, portly, kindly OBA DONEDASHE [50's] walking with his his sons, the tall, handsome, athletic PRINCE MOJI [20's] and PRINCE DAGOGO, shorter, square, awkward [20's].

Behind them come the bald-headed, stout, miserable DEFENSE MINISTER LANRE [40's] and a GROUP of MINISTERS and OFFICERS.

Four PHOTOGRAPHERS follow the group into the hospital ward.

INT. HOSPITAL WARD - CONTINUOUS

A rundown West African hospital ward. The walls are dilapidated, paint peeling. There are blood stains on the floor.

Twenty beds are packed together, on either side of the room.

In the beds there are AMPUTEES, PATIENTS with bandaged skulls, others with drips in their arms, etc.

NURSE #1 helps WOUNDED SOLDIER #1 with his bed pan.

Passing the wounded-filled beds and the HOSPITAL STAFF attending them, Prince Moji and Oba Donedashe walk toward a bed-bound, critically-injured SERGEANT surrounded by uniformed STAFF OFFICERS.

Moji stands by the bed.

MOJI
 Dis na di sergent wey help make dey
 no catch me... I dey hail you my
 guy

The Sergeant tries to sit up, but he is in deep pain.

NURSE #2 eases him back to the mattress.

MOJI (CONT'D)
 Tell Di Oba di level before you
 comot.

SERGEANT

As e dey now we no sure again... di soldiers bi like two guys wey hold themselves inside water... dat wicked Makinde, him dey get him support from di west, luck dey him side na him dey make am happy like ashawo wey wan collect money. But Makawa no send am, him carry knife dey attack am, chop him head put am on top pole.

The Sergeant moans in pain.

DONEDASHE

Dis your yan and di cut wey dey your bodi don show say you bi soldier.

The soldier begins to convulse.

Two Doctors run to attend him.

Donedashe and the Military entourage turn to the sounds of a crowd roaring outside.

Lean and mean MINISTER ROTIMI [40's] bursts in.

ROTIMI

(breathless)

We don win!

The wounded soldiers in the beds, the hospital staff and the king's entourage cheer.

EXT. VILLAGE, HILL - NIGHT

The distant 'talking drum' beats loudly.

Babalawo stands on a large rock atop the hill overlooking the grasslands below, steeped in a smoky mist.

Carrying her root bag over her shoulder, Dibia emerges through the smoke. Walking toward the hill, she passes a large *iroko* tree.

Maye emerges from behind the *iroko* and follows Dibia.

Passing three rotting CORPSES, half buried in the ground, Dibia and Maye continue toward Babalawo.

The distant drumming grows louder.

BABALAWO

Dum dum dum dum Makawa don
come.

EXT. AFRICAN ROAD - NIGHT

Bush on both sides, the red-mudded road heads for the town in the distance.

A tropical rainstorms pelts the mud. Steam rises up from the road.

Led by beams of the headlights, an open military Jeep drives over the mud trail.

Bankolo drives the jeep with tall, handsome, physically strong MAKAWA [40's] in the passenger seat.

MAKAWA

I never see day wen good bad,
like dis.

BANKOLO

Na how long e be to Okada?

Through the pouring rain and warm mist rising up from the ground, Bankolo sees a 'beast-like figure' standing in the middle of the trail.

He wipes rain from his eyes as he peers at the figure.

Bankolo stops the jeep.

From the surrounding forest, the sounds of the wildlife grow unnaturally loud.

Bankolo hoots the jeeps horn. He drives on.

As the jeep approaches the figure, it appears to separate into three forms.

Motionless, the three shapes morph into human-like characters, standing before the jeep.

EXT. JEEP - CONTINUOUS

Banklolo and Makawa exchange glances.

BANKOLO

Wetin bi dis thing wey no resemble
man pikin yet e dey waka for
ground... Una dey breath?

EXT. AFRICAN TRAIL - CONTINUOUS

In unison, the three figures raise a hand, placing their index finger on their lips.

EXT. JEEP - CONTINUOUS

Bankolo steps out of the jeep. Approaching the figures, he unholsters his pistol.

As he nears, it is clear the three figures are Babalawo, Dibia, and Maye.

BANKOLO

[*Live you*]

Una fit answer question?

Ignoring Bankolo, the three stare at Makawa in the jeep.

The sound of the wildlife growing louder louder becomes distorted.

Meeting their stare, Makawa stands in the jeep.

MAKAWA

Talk if you dey hear, wetin una bi?

The wildlife sounds stop abruptly.

BABALAWO

Make we salute Makawa, we dey hail you Galadima of Wuse!

Confounded, Makawa and Bankolo look to each other.

DIBIA

We dey hail you Diadem of Calabar.

MAYE

Make we salute Makawa wey go become Oba.

Stunned, Makawa steps back.

BANKOLO

My guy, why you dey worry for things wey dey wakka for your favor.

Bankolo turns to the Witches.

BANKOLO (CONT'D)

If you dey see the future and Oya
tell me wetin you dey see.
and say which dey talk wetin fit
'appen. grain, speak then to me!?

The Witches stare intently at Bankolo.

Stepping out of the jeep, Makawa walks to them.

BABALAWO

I dey hail!

DIBIA

I dey hail

MAYE

I dey hail

BABALAWO

You no reach Makawa, and you pass
am.

DIBIA

You no dey happy, yet you happy
pass.

MAYE

You go make Oba's, but you no go bi
am. We dey hail Makawa and Bankolol

DIBIA

Bankolo and Makawa, we dey hail.

MAKAWA

Wait you wey dey run your mouth.
*[By Sinel's death I know I am Thane
of Glamis, but how of Cawdor?*

Makawa walks up to them.

MAKAWA (CONT'D)

The Diadem of Calabar dey alive.
And to bi Oba na long story.

Silence.

Makawa walks closer to them.

MAKAWA (CONT'D)

Talk i dey warn you!

Silence.

Makawa turns to Bankolo. He turns back to the Witches
They are gone.

Unsure, Makawa and Bankolo head back to the jeep.

MAKAWA (CONT'D)
Your pikin go bi Oba...

BANKOLO
You go bi Oba.

MAKAWA
And the Diadem of Calabar too, no
bi so?

Bankolo climbs in the jeep.

BANKOLO
Na so e bi.

They both laugh.

EXT. TOWN BAR - NIGHT

A wooden-structured tavern - surrounded by food stalls, lit
by generator and candle light - sheds its light into the
street.

The sound of humming generators fills the air.

SHOPPERS purchase vegetables, and other goods.

Rotimi and the youthful MINISTER AKIN [30's] approach and
enter the bar.

INT. TOWN BAR - CONTINUOUS

Wooden benches, filled with PATRONS, line the length of the
bar.

A television set on the wall behind the bar plays a newscast
of the battle.

Two BARTENDERS stand behind the bar.

Around the room are spread set-ups of plastic tables and
chairs.

At several tables the chairs have been moved aside and
TOWNSPEOPLE and SOLDIERS dance to the music.

Rotimi and Akin come through the door where stands a BOUNCER.

Rotimi whispers in the Bouncer's ear.

The Bouncer points to a table in the corner.

At the corner table sit Makawa and Bankolo, drinking beer.

Rotimi and Akin cross to the table and salute.

ROTIMI

The Oba dey happy with di things
wey you don achieve And to show
respect, him say make we call you
Diedem of Calabar.

AKIN

We dey hail you Diedem na you be
dat.

BANKOLO

Wetin! Devil fit talk true?

MAKAWA

The Diedem of Calabar still dey
alive. Why you dey give me person
clothes.

AKIN

The person wey bi Diedem still dey
alive, but the life wey him dey
live, him no deserve am. Nemesis
don catch up with am.

Makawa stares at Bankolo.

MAKAWA

You no wish say your children go bi
Oba when di people wey give me
Diadem of Calabar don talk so.

BANKOLO

*[That entrusted home may yet
enkindle you to the crown. But 'tis
strange. Cousins a word.]*

Rising, Bankolo walks Rotimi and Akin to the bar.

EXT. AFRICAN TRAIL - LATER

Bankolo drives the jeep along the trail with Makawa as
passenger.

MAKAWA

We don hear two beta things.

Makawa stares at himself in the rear view mirror.

The image in the mirror talks back.

MAKAWA (CONT'D)

Dis waka wit ancestors no too bad
oh... but e no good. But if e no
good why dis beta things dey
happen. Na me bi Diedem of Calabar.
But if e dey good why my heart dey
jump? Di thing wey i dey fear now
no reach the one i dey think

Bankolo looks to Makawa as he continues to stare in the mirror.

The image continues.

MAKAWA (CONT'D)

If i fit bi Oba by chance, na him
bi say chance fit make me king with
no wahala. wetin go bi go bi, water
person go drink no fit pass am.

BANKOLO

Makawa?

Makawa turns to Bankolo.

MAKAWA

Uh, no vex, many things dey run for
my mind.

Silence.

MAKAWA (CONT'D)

Dey think about everything wey don
happen, when we see we go reason
together.

INT. OBA'S PALACE, OFFICE - DAY

Lavishly furnished with colonial furniture, big leather
chairs, a large oak desk, and western paintings on the wall.

President Donedashe sits behind his desk, signing documents.

Moji and Dagogo stand behind their father.

Minister Lanre sits opposite.

Makawa, Bankolo, Rotomi, and Akin enter the room and salute Donedashe.

Standing, Donedashe rushes to Makawa and embraces him.

DONEDASHE

Oh my broda, you deserve more than
wetin we fit give you.

MAKAWA

The things wey i dey do for you
alone, na pay already for my side,
your own part na to accept am.

EXT. PRESIDENTIAL PALACE, BALCONY - DAY

Donedashe, Makawa, and Moji lookout to an assembled CROWD of
MINISTERS, SOLDIERS and CITIZENS below.

DONEDASHE

Know we go make di eldest son Moji,
di heir.

A murmur of shock goes up from the Crowd.

Makawa stands stunned.

MAKAWA

*[He's making him a king, after all
this.]*

Smiling Donedashe turns to Makawa. He places his hand on
Makawa's shoulder.

DONEDASHE

We dey come Wuse to bond more
together.

MAKAWA

My wife go dey very happy sey you
dey come.

DONEDASHE

Ah! my Calabar broda.

He hugs Makawa.

INT. PRESIDENTIAL RESIDENCE, STAIRWELL - NIGHT

Makawa heads downstairs.

MAKAWA

Moji! na di stumbling block wey dey
my way, na either i comot am or i
jump am pass.

EXT. PRESIDENTIAL PALACE, DRIVEWAY MOMENTS LATER

Makawa emerges from the residence and walks to his jeep.

MAKAWA

Na my way e dey.

He gets in the jeep. He starts it.

EXT. MILITARY JEEP - CONTINUOUS

Makawa looks to the sky.

MAKAWA

Make day no brake, make light no
shine see wetin i dey do for
darkness

He slams the door. The jeep pulls off.

INT. MAKAWA'S RESIDENCY, HALLWAY - NIGHT

Very dark, short-haired, stunning LADY MAKAWA [30's] in a
silk dressing gown, walks down the hallway toward her bedroom
suite, reading a letter.

As she reaches the door, she grasps the letter to her breast.

LADY MAKAWA

hail me as Oba when go bi.

She opens the door and enters.

INT. MAKAWA'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Lady Makawa crosses to a dressing table with a mirror. She
places the letter on the dressing table.

She opens her vanity and removes a wipe. Putting it to her
face, she removes her make-up.

She looks at a framed photo of Makawa in military uniform, on
the dressing table.

LADY MAKAWA
 You go bi wetin dem say you go bi.

She stares into the mirror.

A phone rings in the background.

LADY MAKAWA (CONT'D)
 but di wey you dey, dey make me
 worry, you no too get liver

HOUSE GIRL #1 enters.

HOUSE GIRL #1
 Madam, Donedashe dey com dis night.

LADY MAKAWA
 You dey craze!

Lady Makawa rises and walks to the bathroom.

INT. BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

Lady Makawa enters.

House Girl #1 follows her.

HOUSE GIRL #2 stands by the water-filled bathtub.

HOUSE GIRL #1
 Yes na true oh.

She motions for the girl to leave.

Undressing, she moves to the bath. The silk robe slips down her back onto the floor. She takes two more steps and steps into the steaming water.

LADY MAKAWA
 Na beta news him carry come.

As Lady Makawa sinks below the water, the steam rises.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. BABALAWO'S HUT - NIGHT

It is a round hut, with clay walls and thatched roof.

Traditional herbs and divining paraphenalia hang from the ceiling.

Others are placed on benches and in clay pots placed around the room.

Smoke fills the air from the coal fire which burns incense.

Emerging from the smoke, Lady Makawa walks to Babalawo, with Dibia and Maye behind him, in the shadows.

Babalawo anoints her with spiritual oils.

LADY MAKAWA

Come spirits wey know wetin dey
inside man heart, freeze my blood
remove wetin make me be woman, fill
me now from my head to toe with
evil. Freeze my blood make i no
feel anything wey bi human and make
anything good no happen. make di
milk wey dey inside my breast
bita, you spirits of death, make
una dey plan evil anywhere una
dey. Make darkness cover everything
wey i dey do, make my knife no see
how deep e cut and even heaven no
go fit see through the darkness to
scream stop, stop!

The ritual ends.

INT. WUSE, MAKAWA'S RESIDENCY - NIGHT

Makawa comes through the front door.

Lady Makawa run down the staircase to him.

They embrace. She kisses him all over.

LADY MAKAWA

Great Galadima! Worthy Calabar! You
better pass dem.

She leads him up the stairs and stops him at the bedroom door.

MAKAWA

Donedashe dey come dis night.

LADY MAKAWA

And wen him dey go?

MAKAWA

Tomorrow if him like.

She presses him against the door.

LADY MAKAWA
(whispered)
O! Tomorrow no fit break.

She kisses him, passionately.

INT. MAKAWA'S RESIDENCE, BEDROOM - NIGHT

Lady Makawa on top, she and Makawa make love. She strokes his face.

LADY MAKAWA
Di look wey dey your face my Chief
de tell many things Make you bi
yourself as things dey go.

She kisses him.

LADY MAKAWA (CONT'D)
Make you bi like green snake under
green grass as you dey take all
your bodi welcome people.

Looking deeply into his eyes, moving together, more and more rhythmically, she begins to climax.

LADY MAKAWA (CONT'D)
Make we make arrangement for di
person wey de come, things wey we
go do dis night dey my hand

She orgasms.

LADY MAKAWA (CONT'D)
As dey and night de pass, our hands
go dey near di the crown

They climax together.

EXT. MAKAWA RESIDENCE, COURTYARD - DAY

SOLDIERS run beside Donedashe's motorcade as it pulls up before Makawa's residence.

Small CHILDREN run behind the cars, waving and laughing.

Waving Flags and cheering lines of CITIZENS welcome the Oba.

Donedashe waves from the car.

Once stopped, from the line of SUV's emerge Moji, Dagogo, Bankolo, Lanre, Madu, Rotimi, and Akin.

Makawe and a radiant Lady Makawa stand waiting outside their front door.

At the door, a GROUP of WOMEN sing and ululate in greeting.

As Donedashe emerges from his car, Lady Makawa approaches and goes down on one knee before him.

Donedashe holds out his hand.

DONEDASHE
Gimme ur hand.

Taking his hand, he helps her to her feet.

DONEDASHE (CONT'D)
Carri me go meet my host.

EXT. MAKAWA RESIDENCE, GARDEN - NIGHT

A festive celebration is set up in the garden.

A lamb roasts on a spit, over a fire, in a pit.

Lavishly dressed - as they all are - Makawa, sits at the head of a long table.

Donedashe, Lady Makawa beside him, sits opposite him, at the other end.

The other GUESTS sit along both sides of the table, between them.

Local DANCERS and MUSICIANS perform in front of the seated guests.

Deep in thought, Makawa stares at Donedashe.

MAKAWA
(whispered)
If e go happen wen it suppose
done, then it were well it e beta
make e quick.

Donedashe laughs with his guests.

INTERCUT:

EXT. MAKAWA RESIDENCE, GARDEN - NIGHT

Makawa stands behind Donedashe and slits his throat with a dagger.

EXT. MAKAWA RESIDENCE, GARDEN - CONTINUOUS

Donedashe lifts his glass and salutes Makawa, who smiles and salutes back at him.

MAKAWA (V.O.)

If na dis strike go start and end
am now, but man go still face di
nemesis o.

The Musicians and Dancers continue to dance and sing, rousing the guests.

Makawa stands at the bar, watching Donedashe.

Donedashe takes Lady Makawa's hand and rising they join the dancing.

MAKAWA

Na two tings make am come here, one
bi say na my blood and my oga, wey
make i no suppose try am. Secondly
na me im come see, na mi suppose
protect am... no bi mi suppose kill
am.

MONTAGE:

EXT. HOSPITAL - DAY

Donedashe opening a new hospital.

EXT. SCHOOL - DAY

Donedashe stands, spade in hand, in front of a new school building.

EXT. WATER WELL - DAY

Donedashe surrounded by villagers opens a water well.

EXT. MAKAWA RESIDENCE, GARDEN - NIGHT

Standing at the bar, holding a glass of red wine, Makawa stares at Donedashe.

MAKAWA

But Donedashe na beta person o, all
di work him dey do dey speak for
am, him hand clean well, him blood
go cry for am, and people go pity
am like new born piking wey him
mama die wey dey cry and him tears
fit full river.

He puts his glass on the bar.

MAKAWA (CONT'D)

I no get anything wey go justify
wetin i wan do, pass wetin i wan
achieve.

Unseen, Makawa leaves the party.

INT. MAKAWA RESIDENCE, STUDY - NIGHT

Lady Makawa enters.

Makawa stands by a window, shrouded in shadow, watching the ongoing party outside.

Lady Makawa sees him.

LADY MAKAWA

Why you comot from di party now?

MAKAWA

Him don ask after mi?

LADY MAKAWA

You no know say him don ask?

Makawa walks to the balcony door. He turns back.

MAKAWA

We go abort dis plan o
[He hath honoured me of late]

LADY MAKAWA

You drink wen we dey plan dis
matter?
*[From this time forth I account
your love.]*

LADY MAKAWA (CONT'D)

you dey fear to do wetin go make
you become wetin you dey wish for?
Why you dey fear wen you dey in
charge?

He walks away from her.

EXT. MAKAWA RESIDENCE, BALCONY - NIGHT

To the sounds of the party in the garden below, Makawa emerges onto the balcony.

Lady Makawa follows.

He turns back.

MAKAWA

I dey do everything a man fit do,
anybody wey do pass no bi man.

Makawa moves to the edge of the balcony.

Lady Makawa stands beside him.

LADY MAKAWA

Na which yeye spirit come push you
tell mi dis thing? Anytime wey you
try do am na him bi say you bi man.

She looks to the party below. She looks back at him.

LADY MAKAWA (CONT'D)

I don breast feed pikin
before and i know the joy wen dey
to carry am.

She grabs his arm.

LADY MAKAWA (CONT'D)

But i fit comot the pikin mouth for
my breast smash am for ground if i
don swear as you take swear say you
go do dis thing

Makawa looks to her.

MAKAWA

If e no workout nko?

LADY MAKAWA

E no workout, make your liver no
dey shake, we no go fail.

INTERCUT:

INT. MAKAWA RESIDENCE, CORRIDOR - NIGHT

Two GUARDS sit in chairs, in the corridor outside a bedroom door.

A SERVANT brings them a tray of drinks.

The guards drink.

LADY MAKAWA (V.O.)
 When Donedashe dey sleep i go make
 sure him two guard drink forget
 themselves.

EXT. MAKAWA RESIDENCE, BALCONY - CONTINUOUS

Makawa and Lady Makawa look out to the party.

INT. MAKAWA RESIDENCE, CORRIDOR - MINUTES LATER

Empty glasses on the ground, the two guards lie asleep in their chairs.

LADY MAKAWA (V.O.)
 Wen di drink don turn dem to dead
 bodi. Na wetin again wan stop our
 plan for lose Donedashe?

INT. MAKAWA RESIDENCE, BEDROOM - NIGHT

Donedashe sleeps peacefully.

SHADOWS hover above him.

EXT. MAKAWA RESIDENCE, BALCONY - CONTINUOUS

Lady Makawa looks to Makawa.

LADY MAKAWA
 Nothing wey we no fit put on top
 him guards wey no go make dem dey
 guilty.

MAKAWA

Make you dey born onli man pikin
because dis kind strength wey you
get na only man fit comot for your
bodi. Abi they no go gree say na
dem do am, after we don use their
dagga come put di blood for dem
bodi

LADY MAKAWA

Who no go believe am?

Lady Makawa takes his hand.

MAKAWA

Ok no wahala. Di fake expression
wey go dey my face go hide di bad
thing wey dey my mind.

EXT. MAKAWA RESIDENCE, GARDEN - NIGHT

The scrawny FUMI [14] sits by a small fire, drinking.

His father, Bankolo approaches and sits beside him.

BANKOLO

[How goes the night, boy?]

BANKOLO (CONT'D)

[Translate]

FUMI

*[The moon is down, I have not heard
the clock.]*

FUMI (CONT'D)

[Translate]

Makawa emerges from the house and approaches them.

BANKOLO

Ah ah, you never sleep? Oba don
sleep.

Bankolo reveals a diamond in his hand.

BANKOLO (CONT'D)

And him say make i take dis diamond
greet your wife wen host am well
well.

Makawa takes the diamond.

Rising, Bankolo moves to Makawa and walks with him, away from his son's hearing.

BANKOLO (CONT'D)

I see di three witches for dream
last night o. Everything wey dey
tell you dey happen.

MAKAWA

I no even carry am for mind... but
anytime wen we get time we go talk
about am.

Silent, they take in the fire.

INT. MAKAWA RESIDENCE, BEDROOM - NIGHT

Two SERVANTS turn the covers of the large bed.

Donedashe, in a night robe approaches the bed.

EXT. MAKAWA RESIDENCE, GARDEN - NIGHT

The fire embers glow.

SERVANTS clear up the party.

MAKAWA

Go tell madam say, when my drink
readi make e ring di bell

SERVANT #1 leaves.

INT. MAKAWA RESIDENCE, KITCHEN - NIGHT

Lady Makwa pours drops of a potion into a jug. She places the jug on a tray.

SERVANT #2 picks up the tray and walks out.

INT. MAKAWA RESIDENCE, GARDEN - NIGHT

Makawa stares at the last embers of the fire.

Servants continue to clean up.

The fire casts intense shadows across his face.

Makawa notices a jagged rock.

MAKAWA

Na dagga bi dis wen i dey see
so, di handle come dey turn
come make i grab face me, and you, i
no catch you, but i still dey see
you. Abi no bi bad omen wey bi like
wetin real but e no real? Abi no bi
a dagga wey i just dey think
for mind. Abi na something
wey no real, just dey come
scatter mi head.

Makawa kicks the fire out. Smoke rises.

INT. MAKAWA RESIDENCE, STUDY - NIGHT

Makawa sits at his desk, the dagger on his desk.

MAKAWA

I still dey see you o, and as i dey
see you, you bi like dis one wey i
draw comot for my bodi

He pulls a dagger from his belt and stares at it.

The dagger on the desk turns towards the direction of the
guest room.

MAKAWA (CONT'D)

You dey show me wey i go go and di
tool wey i go use

Makawa stands, leaving the dagger on his desk, he leaves.

INT. MAKAWA RESIDENCE, BATHROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Makawa rushes to the basin. He turns the tap and throws water
in his face.

MAKAWA

My bodi don become mumu because of
wetin mi eyes dey see...

He looks in the mirror and sees the 'table dagger' again,
this time bloodied.

MAKAWA (CONT'D)

I still dey see you o and now di
blood wey no dey before don full
you bodi

He grabs a towel, dries his face, and looks back into the mirror.

The dagger is gone.

MAKAWA (CONT'D)
Dis thing na lie, na becos of dis
my plan make my eye dey see dis
things.

Dropping the towel, Makawa moves closer to the mirror.

MAKAWA (CONT'D)
As i dey para, him still dey alive

A bell rings.

MAKAWA (CONT'D)
I dey go, time don reach.

MAKAWA (CONT'D)
*[Hear it not Duncan for it is a
knel that summons thee to heaven or
to hell.]*

MAKAWA (CONT'D)
[Translate].

INT. MAKAWA RESIDENCE, BEDROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Lady Makawa stands at the open door, staring into the corridor.

Makawa stands apart from her, behind.

SERVANT #3 passes the door, turns and nods to her.

Lady Makawa turns to Makawa. He moves slowly toward her. Rushing to him, she pulls him towards the door.

He leaves.

EXT. MAKAWA RESIDENCE, CORRIDOR - LATER

Makawa walks down the corridor toward the two sleeping Guards.

Approaching them, he leans down and picks up a dagger belonging to Guard #1 and also the dagger belonging to Guard #2.

He opens the bedroom door.

INT. MAKAWA RESIDENCE, BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Makawa enters the dark room.

INT. MAKAWA RESIDENCE, MASTER BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Lady Makawa waits. She listens.

She is startled by an owl hooting outside the window.

INT. MAKAWA RESIDENCE, BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Standing by Donedashe's bed, Makawa's fearful face is caught by the moonlight through the window.

WHISPERING (V.O.)

No sleep again. Makawa dey kill for sleep.

MAKAWA

Who dey dere?

He raises the dagger above his head.

INT. MAKAWA RESIDENCE, MASTER BEDROOM - MINUTES LATER

Lady Makawa runs to the door and listens.

Bloodied daggers in his hands, Makawa rushes in.

A tropical thunderstorm erupts outside.

MAKAWA

I don do am, you no hear noice?

LADY MAKAWA

I dey owl cry, cricket dey cry. You no talk?

MAKAWA

Wen?

LADY MAKAWA

Now.

MAKAWA

As i dey come?

LADY MAKAWA

Yes.

He hears a noise.

MAKAWA

Who dey sleep for di other room?

LADY MAKAWA

Dagogo.

There is a huge thunderclap.

Makawa stares at the blood covering his hands.

MAKAWA

Dis thing no pure.

LADY MAKAWA

Na craze to talk say dis thing no pure. Go carry water comot dis nonsense wey dey your hand.

She notes the daggers in his hands.

LADY MAKAWA (CONT'D)

Why you carry di dagga comot, e suppose dey dere. carry am go back, rub di blood for the guards bodi.

MAKAWA

I no go go dere ,to tink am dey fear me. I no even fit look am again.

She grabs the daggers and runs out.

INT. MAKAWA RESIDENCE, GATEHOUSE - NIGHT

There is loud banging on the padlocked, metal gate.

The drunken HOUSE BOY lies slumped on the floor.

A bunch of keys on a ring lies on a nearby table.

The House Boy is aroused by the banging.

HOUSE BOY

Na which kind knock bi dis!

He gets himself up.

HOUSE BOY (CONT'D)

If a man hold key to hell, he go tire to open di door.

The banging grows louder.

HOUSE BOY (CONT'D)
Who bi dat , in di name of
Ohene? Abeg come in.

The banging grows louder.

HOUSE BOY (CONT'D)
sure say you carri wetin dey about
you; cool bodi dis place dey burn.

He crosses to the table and collects the key ring.

HOUSE BOY (CONT'D)
See lawyer wey no dey lose case, e
no even fit save him safe to enter
heaven. abeg at quiet come in jare.

He takes up the key ring and heads for the door.

EXT. MAKAWA RESIDENCE, GATE - CONTINUOUS

The House Boy emerges from the gatehouse and, keys in hand,
heads for the gate.

He opens the gate to find thick mass of hair, moustache,
strong eyes, MADU [30's] and Lanre standing before him.

MADU
Abi e too late before you go sleep
my broda, wey you still dey for
bed?

HOUSE BOY
Ah oga na so oh, we just dey njoy
so tey day come break and oga,
drinks dey ginger three things for
bodi.

MADU
Which kind three things, wey di
drinks dey ginger for bodi?

HOUSE BOY
Ah ok oga, e dey ginger sleep and
piss. e dey make blood rush for
bodi, e but e dey commot strenght
for bodi. e go make you come
destroy you again. E go carry you
go left carry you go right. E dey
push you dey quench you, e dey make
am stand, dey make am fall.

HOUSE BOY (CONT'D)

the end of di matter bi say, e go
make you do anyhow come go sleep
go.

MADU

So na di drink make you do anyhow
last night. Your oga don wake?

The House Boy returns to his box.

INT. MAKAWA RESIDENCE, MASTER BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Her hands covered in blood, Lady Makawa enters.

LADY MAKAWA

Mi and you dey same shoes but i no
dey shake like you.

They hear knocking on the front door.

LADY MAKAWA (CONT'D)

(whispered)

Small water go just comot us for
dis wahala. You no see am...

She takes Makawa's face in her hands.

LADY MAKAWA (CONT'D)

Your mood dey make you forget
yourself.

INT. MAKAWA RESIDENCE, MASTER BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

Makawa sits on the edge of the bath. He scrubs his hands. He
looks through the open door.

Lady Makawa throws a gown on the bed. She walks into the
bathroom.

LADY MAKAWA

Arrange yourself, commot this thing
for your mind.

MAKAWA

If i know wetin I do, e beta say i
no know my self.

There is louder knocking on the front door.

INT. MAKAWA'S RESIDENCE, LOBBY - MINUTES LATER

Madu and Lanre wait at the bottom of the stairs.

Calmly, Makawa, trailed by SERVANT #4 come down the stairs.

MADU

Good Morning, Galediema. Oba don wake?

MAKAWA

E never wake o.
(to Lanre)
Morning.

MADU

Em say make i wake am early o and time don dey go.

MAKAWA

I go carry you go meet am.

MADU

I no say na wahala i dey give you.

MAKAWA

Ah no wahala. Na here. Dis way.

Makawa points up the stairs.

Madu follows Servant #4 up the stairs.

Makawa leads Lanre to a door on the left.

INT. MAKAWA RESIDENCE, RECEPTION ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Makawa and Lanre walk towards a table upon which is a coffee service.

SERVANT #5 hands Lanre a cup of coffee.

LANRE

Na today Oba dey go?

MAKAWA

Na today.

MAKAWA (CONT'D)

Dis night no dey easy, some say, de earth was person go talk say e don jam feverous, rock.

MAKAWA (CONT'D)

It no easy atol.

They hear yelling from upstairs.

Stunned, Madu runs in.

MADU

Ewo! Ewo!! Ewo!!! I no fit think or
talk wetin i see.

MAKAWA/LENOX

Wetin happen?

MADU

Problem don land o, Trouble don
wear crown. Blood done flow enter
our kingdom, the pillar wey whole
di temple don fall

MAKAWA

Wetin you dey talk? di pillar?

LANRE

Na Oba?

MADU

No ask me, ge see am make you talk
yourself!

INT. MAKAWA RESIDENCE, GUEST BEDROOM - MINUTES LATER

Makawa and Lanre run in.

Lanre slumps into a chair.

His eyes open, lifeless on the bed, Donedashe lies lifeless
on the bed, blood seeping from several stab wounds onto the
white sheets.

A pool of blood flows from the bed to the floor.

INT. MAKAWA RESIDENCE, LOBBY - CONTINUOUS

Madu staggers, demented.

SERVANTS run banging on doors.

MADU

(yelling)
Make una wake o!

SERVANT #3 runs down the passage, banging the doors.

MADU grabs SERVANT #4.

MADU (CONT'D)
Ring de bell o!

Armed SOLDIERS enter, running.

Madu points up the stairs.

MADU (CONT'D)
Dis na murder and treason!

The Soldiers run up the stairs.

Madu bangs on doors.

MADU (CONT'D)
Bankolo Dagogo! Moji, make una
wake! Come see death o, wake from
wetin resemble death come see
death.

INT. MAKAWA RESIDENCE, CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

The drugged Guards, covered in blood, stir in their chairs.

Stunned, Makawa and Lanre emerge from Donedashde's room.

Lanre looks down at the bloodied dagger, then back at Makawa.

Makawa pulls a revolver from Guard #2's holster and points it at him.

INT. MAKAWA RESIDENCE, LOBBY - CONTINUOUS

Sleepy, Lady Makawa enters.

LADY MAKAWA
Na wetin dey 'appen? Talk jo

MADU
Madam, you no suppose hear wetin i
wan talk.

Several gunshots are heard.

Madu moves to protect Lady Makawa.

Armed SOLDIERS run across the lobby in the direction of the gun shots.

Semi-dressed, Bankolo charges in.

MADU (CONT'D)
Bankolo, dey don kill our Oba!

LADY MAKAWA
Wetin! For our house?

BANKOLO
Madu abeg, tell mi say nobi true?

Makawa, Lanre and Rotimi come down the stairs.

Horror on his face, unsteady, Makawa's hands shakes.

MAKAWA
If to say don die de life wey i don
live for be betta one.

Moji and Dagogo enter from opposite doors.

DAGOGO
Wetin dey 'appen?

MAKAWA
Na you, but you no know

MADU
Dey don kill your papa

MOJI
Who kill am?

LANRE
E Bi like say na em guards o blood
dey for dere face a hands even der
dagga sef.

MAKAWA
No vex de pain wey dey my bodi make
me kill dem.

Silence.

MADU
Why you go do like dat?

MAKAWA
Na who fit get sense, shocked, cool
com dey vex com loyal and humble
for de same time no bodi. My heavy
love no make me tink.

They stare at Makawa.

Lady Makawa faints.

Madu rushes to her assistance.

INT. MAKAWA RESIDENCE, CORRIDOR - DAY

The two guards lie dead, a bullet wound in each head. The bloody daggers lie beside them.

Moji and Dagogo stand in the doorway to Donedashe's room, staring at the bodies.

Past them, in the bedroom, lies the bloody body of Donedashe.

MOJI

Why we no fit talk?

DAGOGO

(whispered)

Weti make we talk? Make we discharge.

INT. MAKAWA RESIDENCE, STUDY - DAY

Makawa leaning on the desk.

Lanre, Madu, Rotimi and Bankolo stand around him.

Lady Makawa lies on a couch.

Moji and Dagogo watch through the door.

MOJI

(whispered)

Make we no join dem o.

DAGOGO

De only way wen we go dey safe na if we go seperate ways.

They leave.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. CAPITAL, PARLIAMENT, STREET - DAY

A week later.

An old colonial building, legacy of the empire.

A large CROWD of locals celebrates in the street, waving flags, dancing and singing.

Makawa, Lady Makawa, and his ENTOURAGE drive in open cars.

EXT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

In the back seat, Makawa and Lady Makawa wave to the crowd.

EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS

Waving and screaming, a GROUP of LITTLE CHILDREN run beside the car.

SOLDIERS, running beside the cars, hold them back from getting too close.

EXT. BORDER POST, ROAD - DAY

Moji, with Dagogo as passenger, drives a jeep toward the border post.

BORDER GUARDS stand at the barrier laying across the road.

The jeep slows down as it reaches the boom.

BORDER GUARD #1 approaches the jeep.

EXT. PARLIAMENT, GROUNDS - DAY

Makawa and Lady Makawa, a PRIEST, holding a bible, beside them, stand in front of a large CROWD.

An animated PRAISE SINGER wanders before the Crowd, chanting.

CROWD

Makawa!

Makawa and Lady Makawa smile at each other.

EXT. BORDER POST - CONTINUOUS

Moji, Dagogo his passenger, drives the jeep away from the border post.

Dagogo looks back.

Dagogo puts his arm on Moji's shoulder.

EXT. CAPITOL, PARLIAMENT, GROUNDS - CONTINUOUS

Standing at the back of the Crowd, Bankolo watches Makawa and Lady Makawa.

BANKOLO

You don get all: Oba, Diadem,
Galadima, as di witches take talk
am, fear, and i no say your hand
follow.

Bankolo makes his way through the crowd.

INT. OBA'S PRESIDENTIAL RESIDENCY, BANQUET HALL - NIGHT

The hall is dressed for an inaugural ball.

A MARIMBA BAND plays music.

CHIEFS, SENATORS and their WIVES mingle.

HEADS OF STATE move amongst the guests.

Makawa and Lady Makawa stand with Lanre and Rotimi, on one side of the hall, receiving DIGNITARIES.

Bankolo walks to them.

Makawa takes his hand and hugs him warmly.

MAKAWA

Ah see our main guest. Dis night we
go enjoy for my house and i insist
say you go dey dere.

Bankolo nods.

MAKAWA (CONT'D)

You dey go drive dis afternoon?

BANKOLO

Yes o, your excellency.

MAKAWA

You dey drive go far?

BANKOLO

I go drive until dinner don reach.

Makawa moves Bankolo out of earshot.

MAKAWA

We hear say our nonsense broddas
don run go England, and dey no even
confess wetin dem do, instead, dem
dey lie about wetin happen. We go
yarn more tomorrow.

He returns to Lady Makawa.

MAKAWA (CONT'D)

Fumi dey go with you?

BANKOLO

Yes o, your excellency.

INT. OBA'S PRESIDENTIAL RESIDENCE, OFFICE - DAY

Lavish paintings hang on the wall.

A large mirror hangs on another wall. Below the mirror a
mantelpiece displays framed photos of Donedashe, mixed with
trophies and awards.

Boxes lie by the table.

Framed pictures of Donedashe sit on the desk.

In the corner, Donedashe's jacket hangs from a clothes horse.

Makawa sits at his desk.

A fly-whisk sits on the desk.

There is a knock on the door.

MAKAWA

Enter.

White, ex-paramilitary, SEYTON [60's] enters.

MAKAWA (CONT'D)

Make we talk... di guys don come?

SEYTON

Yes, Oba.

MAKAWA

Carry dem come.

Seyton leaves.

Makawa crosses to the mantelpiece. He picks up a picture of
himself and Bankolo, with Donedashe.

MAKAWA (CONT'D)

To becom wetin i done be no be de
matter, but na to dey safe as wetin
i be.

Makawa looks to the mirror.

The reflection speaks.

MAKAWA (CONT'D)

(reflection)

E get wetin dey worry me about dis
Bankolo dey shake am, e too get
sense and he dey very careful.

Makawa turns away from the mirror.

The reflection stays.

MAKAWA (CONT'D)

I no dey fear anybody but only am,
and sey him dey around, e no sure
for me.

He moves to the desk and picks up the fly whisk. He throws
down the whisk and returns to the mirror.

MAKAWA (CONT'D)

(to reflection)

Na me dey com crown like fowl wey
no go lay betta egg!!!

MAKAWA (CONT'D)

(reflection)

As e be so na him make Bankolo
matter dey scatter my brain, So na
for him pickin dem i kill Donedashe
to make dem Oba's, Bankolo pikin
pikin dem Oba?

Makawa steps away from the mirror.

The reflection stays in the mirror.

MAKAWA (CONT'D)

(reflection)

Instead wey e go bi, me and destiny
go put leg for de same trousa.

Knocking at the door.

MAKAWA (CONT'D)

Na who be dat?

INT. LOCAL BAR - NIGHT

CUSTOMERS sit along the bar, drinking.

In disguise, Makawa sits at a corner table with Seyton and two former REBEL EX-SOLDIERS.

MAKAWA

Sey una sabi say Bankolo na una enemy.

EX-SOLDIER #1

Yes, sah!

MAKAWA

An me too.

EXT. LOCAL BAR, STREET - NIGHT

A car stands on the street. Seyton, the Ex-Soldiers, and Makawa walk towards it.

Seyton opens the back door to the car.

Makawa pauses. He gestures to Seyton.

MAKAWA

Him go show una were una go dey.
And una must don dis night.

Makawa climbs into the car. Rolls the window down.

MAKAWA (CONT'D)

Em pikin Fumi go follow for di matter.

The car speeds off.

INT. OBA'S PRESIDENTIAL PALACE, BEDROOM - NIGHT

Lady Makawa stares into her mirrored vanity as her HOUSE GIRL fixes her hair.

LADY MAKAWA

Bankolo don comot for yard?

HOUSE GIRL

Yes madam, but em dey comeback dis tonight

LADY MAKAWA

Tell di Oba say, e get small ting
when i want follow and talk

HOUSE GIRL

Ok madam

The House Girl leaves.

EXT. MILITARY JEEP - NIGHT

Bankolo drives with his son Fumi as passenger.

INT. OBA'S PALACE BEDROOM - NIGHT

Makawa enters the bedroom.

Sitting at her vanity, Lady Makawa turns to face him.

LADY MAKAWA

Wetin happen, my king? why you come
dey quiet?

Rising, Lady Makawa moves to Makawa. She gently touches his face.

LADY MAKAWA (CONT'D)

Wetin don happen don happen.

Removing her hand from his face, he holds it tight.

MAKAWA

We don smash de snake but e never
die.

Makawa turns to the bedroom window.

MAKAWA (CONT'D)

I no fit drink wata keep cup na so
so bad dreams this matter dey give
me every night.

Makawa turns back to her.

MAKAWA (CONT'D)

Donedashe don die ...him dey sleep
for ground. Nothing fit disturb am
again.

Moving to him, Lady Makawa kisses him.

LADY MAKAWA

Take am easy my lord, make you
relax. Smile enjoy with your
visitors dis night.

Makawa breaks away.

MAKAWA

Na wetin i go do my dear, and you
sef. Make you entertain Bankolo.
Show am respect and regard as you
dey look am and talk to am.

Head in his hands, Makawa sits on the bed.

MAKAWA (CONT'D)

As e be so... we go make our face
pure, make e hide wetin dey our
heart.

LADY MAKAWA

For get dis ting!

MAKAWA

Water don pass gari my dear! You
sabi say Bankolo and Fumi dey
alive?

Rushing to his side, Lady Makawa puts her arms around him, as
he breaks down.

LADY MAKAWA

But e no go last.

Makawa recovers.

MAKAWA

Na true sha, e go bi.

LADY MAKAWA

Wetin... wetin go appen?

MAKAWA

E beta say u no know, you go happy
when it don happen. Make we waka.

EXT. BUSH ROAD - NIGHT

A large rock blocks the road, making it impassable.

Driving the jeep, Bankolo brings it to a stop before the
rock.

Fumi gets out, moves to the rock and tries to move it.

Out of nowhere, a truck comes rushing from behind, crashing into the jeep.

His door crushed, Bankolo is trapped in the driving seat.

The truck forces the jeep toward the edge of the road and a cliff.

BANKOLO
(shouting)
Run, Fumi, dey run!

Fumi takes off into the bush.

The truck pushes the jeep over the cliff.

The truck stopped, Former Rebel Soldier #1 jumps down from the passenger side. He races to the bush.

After scanning the trees, he returns to the truck.

INT. OBA'S PALACE, BANQUET HALL - NIGHT

A DRUMMER plays a talking drum.

All dressed in traditional African robes, rowdy and joyous, Makawa, Lady Makawa, Rotimi, Lanre, CHIEFS, SENATORS, DIGNITARIES, sit at a long table, conversing and eating.

Former Rebel Soldier #1 appears in a doorway.

Seyton walks to Soldier #1 who hands him a note.

Seyton carries the note to Makawa at the table.

Reading the note, Makawa rises. He leans and whispers in Lady Makawa's ear.

She nods.

Walking to the door, Makawa takes hold of the Former Rebel Soldier's arm and pulls him through the door.

INT. OBA'S PALACE, PASSAGE - CONTINUOUS

Makawa and the Former Rebel Soldier stand alone.

MAKAWA
Him do waka?

EX-SOLDIER #1
Him don die.

Smiling, Makawa shakes his hand. He turns away.

EX-SOLDIER #1 (CONT'D)
But him pikin discharge.

Overcome with nausea, Makawa stops.

MAKAWA
Wahala don come again.

He turns back.

MAKAWA (CONT'D)
But Bankolo don waka?

EX-SOLDIER #1
Him dey six feet.

MAKAWA
Comot. We go yarn tomorrow.

INT. OBA'S PALACE, BANQUET HALL - MOMENTS LATER

Makawa enters.

Concerned, Lady Makawa rises and comes to him.

LANRE
Abeg, Oba, sit down

As he moves to sit, Makawa abruptly stops.

The GHOST OF BANKOLO sits in Makawa's place.

MAKAWA
The table don full.

LANRE
This place na for you sah

MAKAWA
For were?

LANRE
(confused)
For here na?

Makawa sees the Ghost of Bankolo.

MAKAWA

Na Which of una do dis one
now?

Alarmed, the guests look to each other.

ROTIMI

Aaah Oba?

MAKAWA

(shouting)
Una no go talk say na mi do am!

Aghast, everyone stares at Makawa.

ROTIMI

Make una stand, our Oba no well.

Lady Makawa places a calming hand on Makawa's arm.

LADY MAKAWA

Make una sit down my people, dis
ting dey do am sometimes im go dey
alright soon, make una chop and no
mind am.

Lady Makawa leads Makawa aside.

Warily, with side glances to the Makawa couple, the guests
return to the feast.

LADY MAKAWA (CONT'D)

(whispered)
You no bi man?

MAKAWA

Ah Yes na , and di one wey no fear
wetin fear devil sef.

LADY MAKAWA

Dis na ordeinary imagination... e
be like di dagga wey you talk sey e
appear for air carry you go meet
Donedashe. Why you dey squeeze your
face, na onli chair you dey see!

The Ghost of Bankolo stares at Makawa and nods.

MAKAWA

See am!
(yelling at ghost)
I no concern me say you dey shake
head...

The Ghost of Bankolo vanishes.

LADY MAKAWA

Wetin?

Lanre looks questioningly to Rotimi.

Unnerved, Rotimi shrugs.

Makawa points to where Bankolo left.

MAKAWA

I swear say i see as i take see dis
day.

LADY MAKAWA

Na wah for you!

He grabs her arm and leans to her ear.

MAKAWA

(whispered, manic)
Head don roll before, and we know
sey if head comot from bodi na die
be dat!! but now dem dey wake up
follow us drag am.

Rising, Rotimi and Lanre come to them.

LADY MAKAWA

(to Makawa)
My Oba, no fall our hand for here.

MAKAWA

(To Guests)
Make una no panic my people, e get
dis ting we dey do me sometimes,
people wen know me well understand
wetin i dey talk.

Moving to the table, Makawa picks up a glass.

MAKAWA (CONT'D)

(to Waiter)
Gimme wine; full am.

WAITER #1 fills the glass.

MAKAWA (CONT'D)

I dey toast to good life and
prosperity and to our better friend
Bankolo, where we dey miss.

The Guests lift their glasses.

MANKALA

I wish say him dey here! To
Bankolo!

Makawa raises his glass.

ALL

To Bankolo!

Holding a glass, the Ghost of Bankolo appears, and salutes
Makawa from across the table.

Makawa drops his glass.

MAKAWA

(shouting)

Disapeare! Comot for my eye! make
ground swallow you, your bones done
dry your blood don freeze.

LADY MAKAWA

Abeg my people calm down, make una
take um as ususal.

Seyton moves to Makawa.

MAKAWA

(screaming at Ghost)

Comot, you ghost wen dey laugh me!
comot, comot, comot for here!!
Leave me!

The Ghost of Bankolo vanishes.

MANKAWA

(calming)

As em don comot now, i don dey
myself.

Makawa looks to his confused Guests, some of whom have backed
away from the table.

MAKAWA

Abeg make una wait.

LADY MAKAWA

(whispered)

You don scatter dis beta gathering
wit madness.

Makawa leans to Seyton.

MAKAWA

(whispered)

Dis thing fit be true? How when you
take dey look dis kind ting, wey
fear full mi bodi?

SEYTON

Which kind ting, my Oba?

LADY MAKAWA

Make una no talk to am, questions
dey make am para. Abeg going. Good
night.

Seyton and Lady Makawa lead Makawa from the hall.

LANRE

Good night; make you well oh!

INT. OBA PALACE, CORRIDOR - MOMENTS LATER

Lady Makawa leads the dazed Makawa down the corridor toward
their bedroom.

MAKAWA

Blood go flow; dey talk say blood
na for blood: fo don grow teath and
nemisis don come... wetin bi di
time?

LADY MAKAWA

Day don dey break.

Reaching the door, Lady Makawa opens it and they enter.

INT. OBA'S PALACE, BEDROOM - MINUTES LATER

Makawa stares out of the window.

Undressing, Lady Makawa goes into the bathroom.

MAKAWA

Wetin you think say na em make Madu
no honor our invitation?

LADY MAKAWA (O.C.)

You invite am?

MAKAWA

I go invite am.
(to self)

MAKAWA (CONT'D)

tomorrow i go go see di witches
make dem tell mi more. Now i wan
sabi wetin go appen no matter how
bad wey e go be!

Lady Makawa enters and moves to the bed.

LADY MAKAWA

Bodi no bi wood, make u sleep.

MAKAWA

Oya come make we go sleep.

Makawa moves to the bed.

EXT. OPEN PLAIN - SUNSET

On the red-soiled, red-grass-patched plain, with a range of undulating hills in the background, an ochre-stained, thatched rondeval stands alone.

INT. BABALAWO'S RONDEVAL - CONTINUOUS

Stacked along the walls of the hut is Babalawo's abundant paraphenalia: heads of animals, skins, beads, bones, cowrie shells, daggers, etc.

Baskets and palm gourds hang from the ceiling and the walls.

On a tripod, a cast iron pot, heated by a wood fire below, stands in the centre of the room.

Around the floor is spread vases and urns.

Antelope hide covered chairs rest against the walls.

Flames rise up from the fire below the pot.

Sitting on low wooden stools, around the fire is Babalawo, and Maye

Dibia sits at the feet of Maye, with goat intestines in one hand and a frog in the other. She Rises and as she circles the cauldron she throws the intestines into it. She continues to circle and throws the frog into it.

Chanting, Maye rocks back and forth.

MAYE

Double, double wahala and trouble,
fire dey burn, potabash dey bubble.

Babalawo beats on a 'talking drum.' He stops.

Dibia continues to circle.

Leaning across to his bag, removes a snake and a hyaena's tongue.

As Dibia passes him he hands her the snake.

Circling she drops the snake into the pot.

As she passes him again he hands her the tongue.

She drops it into the pot, and circles.

As she passes Maye, she hands her a bat.

Circling, Dibia throws it in the pot.

As she Maye passes again she hands her a plant root.

Circling, Dibia throws it in the pot.

BABALAWO

Dem dey cook for hell, make u boil
and bubble.

MAYE

Double double wahala and trouble,
fire dey burn and potabash dey
bubble.

As Dibia circles they all invoke an incantation

[Find incantation].

DIBIA

Dragon scale, wolf teeth, witches
bodi, goat gall, dwarf nose and
albino lips, small finger of a
female hunchback, a pregnant
turtle, deaf pigeons ears, bush
baby pikin for our potabash

Ducking under the entrance, Makawa watches the Witches.

MAYE

Double double wahala and trouble,
fire dey burn and potabash dey
bubble.

BABALAWO

Den we go cool am wit monkey blood,
den di juju dey complete.

Babalawo stops beating the drum.

Maye stops rocking.

BABALAWO (CONT'D)

As my finger dey scratch me na sign
say someting bad dey come.

The three turn to look at Makawa.

MAKAWA

Wetin una dey do?

BABALAWO

Someting wey no get name.

MAKAWA

I command una by wetin una believe
and anyhow wey una take sabi am
answer me.

BABALAWO

Talk, you want hear am from our
mouth or from our gods.

MAKAWA

Call dem - make i se dem.

Rising, Maye moves to the pot. She ladles some of the potion
in a clabash bowl. She motions for Makawa to sit beside
Babalawo.

Makawa sits.

Coming to him, Maye pours the potion into Makawa's mouth.

WITCHES

Incantation.

His vision blurring, Makawa gags. Hallucinating, he watches
Dibia morph into the Spirit OGBAANJE, who resembles Madu.

MAKAWA

Tell me, you spirit wey i no sabi.

BABALAWO

E no wetin dey your mind, listen to
am and make you no talk atol.

OGBAANJE

Makawa! Makawa! Makawa! Dey careful
of Madu.dey careful. e don do.

MAKAWA

Anything wey you bi, i say thank
you for your warning. You don
confirm my fear. But e get one more
thing.

Ogbaanje re-morphs into Dibia.

BABALAWO

You no fit command am. Dis na
another one wey strong pass de
first one.

Makawo watches Babalawo morph into the Second Spirit EMERE, a
child covered in blood, holding out his hands.

EMERE

Dey mean, harsh and bloody. Make
you dey laugh any man wey dey try
you, becos no bodi wey woman born
go fit touch Makawa.

MAKAWA

Then free Madu na; why i go come
dey fear am?

Makawa watches Emere re-morph into Babalawo. He closes his
eyes.

MAKAWA (CONT'D)

But again, to dey double sure so my
mind go rest, i go kill am.

Opening his eyes, he sees Maye standing over him.

MAKAWA (CONT'D)

Wetin be dis when dey rise like
king pikin.

WITCHES

Dey hear but no talk to am.

Makawa watches Maye morph into the Third Spirit ABIKU.

ABIKU

Make you dey strong and proud like
lion! no bodi fit defeat Makawa
'till di great iroko tree grow
inside house.

MAKAWA

E no fit happen!

Makawa watches Abiku turn back into Maye.

MAKAWA (CONT'D)

My heart wan know one ting wey dey
trouble am; tell mi if you sabi?
Bankolo pikin dem fit reign for dis
kingdom?

BABALAWO

Make u no ask again.

MAKAWA

If you no answer mi, na everlasting
curse go follow you, I wan know!

BABALAWO

Show am!

MAYE

Show am!

BABALAWO

Make e eyes see am, make e burn im
heart am.

MAYE

Make we disapeare like shadow!

Makawa hallucinates a line of eight KINGS, followed by
Bankolo. He grabs his head with his hands. He shuts his eyes.

MAKAWA

Why una dey show mi dis? Wetin? Dis
ting na forever? I no wan see
again.

Makawa opens his eyes.

Silence.

The hut is completely empty.

INT. LANRE HOME, DRAWING ROOM - DAY

An elegant array of modern furniture is spread around the
large room.

HOUSE BOYS and GIRLS, some with drinks, some with hors
d'ouvres, move among the affluent GUESTS.

Dressed in traditional attire, Lanre, sits with several high
ranking OFFICIALS, most in traditional attire, a few in
military uniform, watching a large screen television on the
wall.

ON SCREEN:

Makawa in regal garments, sits on the throne.

Tray in hand, a HOUSE BOY offers drinks to the distinguished, CHIEF ADE [70's] and grey-haired, refined KOLE [50's].

LANRE

Strange things don unfold,
Donedashe wey Makawa like well well
don die, and Bankolo, you fit talk
say na Fumi kill am bcos Fumi run

CHIEF ADE

And e bad well well say MOJI and
Dogogo go kill their own papa.

KOLE

See as e pain Makawa sotay e come
use anger kill di two guards, no bi
bete thing e do so?

LANRE

Na true and na wise decision bcos e
for pain anybodi wey dey alive to
hear dem deny am.

They all mumble agreement and chuckle ironically.

LANRE (CONT'D)

But hear o, bcos say him no come
dat wicked man feast, i hear say
Madu live dey in danger.

Lanre turns to the Chief Ade.

LANRE (CONT'D)

You fit tell mi where him keep
himself?

CHIEF ADE

Donedashe pikin don run go England,
I hear say dem welcome am well well
and na dat place Madu run go-

KOLE

To beg di king for help, so wit
their help we go fit drink water
keep cup and get beta sleep.

The Chief Ade nods to the TV.

ON SCREEN:

A BISHOP places a crown on Makawa's head.

CHIEF ADE

And dis news don make Oba vex sotey
e dey prepare for war.

LANRE

Im send for Madu?

CHIEF ADE

Yes oh and him talk say im no fit.

LANRE

Dat one go make am say make em dey
where him dey.

KOLE

I pray say miracle go happen for
England wey go com deliver our
country from dis pain.

LANRE

Amen oh.

INT. OBA'S PALACE, OFFICE - DAY

Lost in thought, Makawa sits at his desk.

There is a knock at the door.

MAKAWA

Make u enter.

Lanre enters.

LANRE

Madu don fly go England.

MAKAWA

Fly go England?

LANRE

Yes, my excellency.

INT. MADU'S HOUSE, BEDROOM - DAY

LADY MADU [30's] packs clothing in a bag.

Her son, MADU JR. [10] stands sullen, listening.

Rotimi stands in the doorway.

LADY MADU

Na wetin my husband do wey make am run?

He steps into the bedroom.

ROTIMI

Make you cool down madam.

LADY MADU

But him no cool down, na craze for am to run. Wetin him come do now make us dey guilty.

ROTIMI

You no know wether na as him take sabi or na fear.

She stops packing.

LADY MADU

(distraught)

As him take sabi! To leave him wife? To leave him pikin? All na fear love no follow.

ROTIMI

Your husband dey respected and him get sense.

He moves to help her sit on the bed. He sits beside her.

ROTIMI (CONT'D)

Make I no go talk pass like, but cruel are the dis, becos dis period get as times. e be.

Rotimi attempts to comfort Lady Madu.

ROTIMI (CONT'D) (CONT'D)

De worse wen go 'appen done 'appen. Its either say e reamain like dis or beta tings go come.

LADY MADU

(crying)

E get papa yet e no get.

Rotimi stands.

ROTIMI

(tearing up)

I go bi mumu if i stay pass.

He walks to the doorway. He turns back.

ROTIMI (CONT'D)

I don dey go.

Rotimi leaves.

Lady Madu looks to her son.

LADY MADU

Your papa don die.

MADU JR

My papa na sellout, Mama?

LADY MADU

Na wetin im bi.

MADU JR

If e don die you go dey cry for am.

EXT. MADU HOME, DRIVEWAY - MINUTES LATER

Rotimi climbs into his jeep. He drives off.

Rounding the corner, he sees a jeep, driven by Seyton, coming the other way. He notes uncouth SOLDIERS also in Seyton's jeep.

INT. MADU'S HOME, BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Lady Madu sits on the bed with her son.

Hearing noises outside, Manu Jr. rises and moves to the window.

Lady Madu answers her ringing cell phone.

VOICE (V.O.)

You no sabi who i bi, but if you go
fit take advise from a gentle man,
make you and your pikin dem run
commot for dere.

The phone cuts off.

The outside noises grow louder.

Manu Jr. leaves.

LADY MADU
Hello? Hello? Where i wan run go? i
no do anything.

Banging is heard on the door.

The door flies open and Madu Jr. is hurled into the room.

Four SOLDIERS follow him.

SOLDIER #1 hurls Madu Jr. to one side as he advances on Lady Madu.

Seyton enters.

Grabbing Madu Jr. in her arms, Lady Madu backs up.

SEYTON
Wey your husband?

LADY MADU
I hope say e no dey were person
like you fit see am.

SEYTON
Him na sell out.

Madu Jr. rushes at Seyton.

MADU JR.
Na lie!

SOLDIER #1
Wetin.

Soldier #1 slugs Madu Jr. with his rifle.

As Madu JR. tries to get up, Soldier #1 grabs him and slits his throat with a dagger.

Screaming, Lady Madu running for her son's body.

Aiming his pistol, Seyton puts a bullet in her head.

The cry of a BABY is heard.

Seyton gestures for SOLDIER #2 to go to the sound.

Soldier #2 leaves.

A shot is heard.

The Baby is silent.

EXT. BORDER VILLAGE - DAY

A camp of army tents, and temporary military structures, is arrayed amongst the village huts.

Armed SOLDIERS of MOJI'S ARMY mill about.

At their stalls, STREET VENDORS sell vegetables and fruit to the Soldiers.

INT. MILITARY TENT - CONTINUOUS

Moji and a weary, anxious Madu sit at a table.

A map of the region lies on the table.

MADU

(agitated)

Everyday morning, women an cry;
new pikin dem dey cry, and papa
evil tings just face! dey happen.

Moji stands.

MOJI

Wetin you talk fit bi true, but we
bin think say dis evil man bi beta
person.

Rising, Madu places his hand on Moji's shoulder.

Moji slaps it away.

MOJI (CONT'D)

Him like you well well na em make
am never touch you. But I still dey
young, him fit use you catch me.

MADU

I no be batrayal.

MOJI

But Makawa bi! Wetin you bi my mind
never get am, angels dey shine but
na di one wey shine pass na em com
fall.

He studies Madu.

MOJI (CONT'D)

Why you leave your wife and pikin
dem?

MADU

My people go suffer oh, the head
never ready.

Madu moves to the exit.

MADU (CONT'D)

I don dey go, i no go bi di bad
person wey una think say i bi.

MOJI

Abeg no vex.

Madu stops.

MOJI (CONT'D)

i no dey talk becos say i dey fear
you, but problem don full our
country. E dey cry, e dey bleed,
everyday new wahala.

Moji ushers Madu back to survey the map.

MOJI (CONT'D)

I no dey alone, i get people wey go
help us from England.

Madu returns to the table.

MOJI (CONT'D)

But after i don finish with dis
evil man, my people go get wahala
wey pass dis one by di person wey
go take over.

MADU

So na who e go bi?

MOJI

Na me. Makawa go bi like angel for
where I dey.

MADU

Not even from di pit of hell any
devil go fit comot wey go wicked
pass Makawa.

MOJI

After dem crown me, I go comot all
di rich people from their land,
come turn all their riches to my
own. Even your wives, your
daughters and your maids no go
reach my blood when dey rush.

MADU

No wahala we get plenty women wey
ready and our land sef plenty

MOJI

No, for say I get di power, I go
cause wahala for anything wey go
bring peace. Come destroy
everything. If person like me fit
wear di crown talk am, becos na dat
kind person i bi

MADU

E no fit to wear the crown or even
live. Your papa na correct leader,
your mama dey kampe. I don bail out
oh, dis evil things wey you don dey
talk about yourself don do mi.

Madu leaves.

Moji follows

EXT. MILITARY TENT - CONTINUOUS

Madu marches away from the tent.

Moji emerges from the tent.

MOJI

Madu!

Madu turns.

MOJI (CONT'D)

Dis good attitude wey you show now
don bring my mind at peace, you don
show me say you bi better person.
Dat evil Makawa don try deceive me.

Moji extends his hand.

Madu walks back.

They shake hands.

MOJI (CONT'D)

Wetin i bi na wetin you and my
people go decide.

A truck full of MOJI'S SOLDIERS pulls up to the military
tent.

Jumping down, four Soldiers unpack supplies from the truck.

Rotimi jumps down from the passenger side and runs to Moji's tent.

Moji and Madu shake hands with Rotimi.

MADU

Rotimi welcome. shey everything
still bi as e bi for Naij?

ROTIMI

(to Moji)

Na wa oh,di Kingdom no understand
himself again. We no fit call am
our motherland but na our grave.

MOJI

Na wetin dey peppe my people now?

ROTIMI

Each minute teems a new one

MADU

How does my wife?

ROTIMI

Why well.

MADU

How does my children?

ROTIMI

Dem dey too.

MADU

Dat evil man never give dem wahala?

ROTIMI

Them hold their side before I comot

MADU

Make u no hide matta, wetin dey
happen?

ROTIMI

(to Moji)

Dis na beta time to help, if people
come see say you don land Naija.
dem go follow you fight and our
women go turn solja.

MOJI

We dey come... and we carry ten
thousand soljas follow body.

Rotimi looks to Madu.

ROTIMI

I for happy if i get beta thing to
tell you... but I get talk...

He takes Madu aside, but not out of Moji's earshot.

ROTIMI (CONT'D)

Make your ear no hate wetin my
mouth wan talk. Dey don destroy
your madam and pikin dem.

Madu stands in a catatonic state.

MOJI

Make you talk now if you wan talk;
if you carry am for your mind na em
dey pain pass.

MADU

(in shock)
And mi pikin dem...?

ROTIMI

Madam, pikin dem, maids anything
wen dem see

Madu walks, dazed.

MADU

I go comot from here

He stops and turns back to Rotimi.

MADU (CONT'D)

And dey killed my madam?

ROTIMI

I don tell you na.

Moji walks to Madu.

MOJI

(gently)
Make we plan beta way, wey we go
take revenge.

MADU

E no get pikin!

Madu turns to Rotimi.

MADU (CONT'D)
All my fine ones? You say all of
dem... All?

As Madu staggers, Moji holds him, helping him to stay on his feet.

Madu breaks free from the grasp.

MADU (CONT'D)
Bad Madu, dey kill them
because of me.

He looks back at Moji and Rotimi.

MADU (CONT'D)
No bi say na dem, but na becos of
me, na im make dem destroy dem.
Make dem rest in peace!

MOJI
Make your pain ginger your anger.

Madu walks away. Fire in his eyes, he stops and turns.

MADU
Bring dis evil man of Naija make we
challenge face to face, if i no
kill am na im be say him no go die
again.

INT. OBA'S PALACE, CORRIDOR - NIGHT

SERVANT #4 and a very sleepy DOCTOR, in his nightgown, carrying a notepad and pen, a stethoscope around his neck, pass down the corridor.

INT. LADY MAKAWA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Lady Makawa sleeps in her bed.

Servant #4 sits at her side, watching her.

Lady Makawa wakes up and, sleep walking, gets out of her bed. Putting on a silk dressing gown, she crosses to a writing table.

The Servant watches her every movement.

Lady Makawa takes some paper from the draw, and picking up a pen begins to write.

She picks up an envelope, folds the paper, and puts it in.

She rises and returns to the bed and lies down. She goes back to sleep.

SERVANT #4 (V.O)

I don see her wake up, wear em
night gown, open wardrobe, comot
paper, fold am, write on top am,
and as e finish, e seal am come go
back lie down. And all dis time e
dey sleep.

INT. OBA'S PALACE, CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

Servant #4 and the Doctor continue down the corridor.

DOCTOR

So for all dis confusion apart from
sey em dey waka from sleep and di
things wen em do, you hear am talk
anything?

SERVANT #4

Dat one i no fit talk

DOCTOR

You fit tell me.

SERVANT #4

I no fit tell you or anybody.

They come to a bedroom door.

The Servant opens the door and they both enter.

INT. OBA PALACE, BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Though her eyes are open, Lady Makawa lies asleep in her bed.

The Doctor and Servant #4 move to the side of the bed.

Lady Makawa stirs.

SERVANT #4

See!

The Doctor moves closer.

Sitting bolt upright, Lady Makawa rubs her hands, furiously.

The Doctor jumps back.

SERVANT

Dis na wetin we dey always see am
do, dey wash hands. I dey always
see am do am for like for fifteen
minutes.

Lady Makawa rubs her palms.

LADY MAKAWA

See di spot!

DOCTOR

(under breath)
She dey talk.

The Doctor jots down her words on his pad.

LADY MAKAWA

Make dis spot comot, comot, one,
two. Okay, na di time to do am.
Hell dey bitter! My chief, you bi
solja, you dey fear? Who for think
say dat old man get plenty blood
for bodi

Rising, Lady Makawa gets out of her bed and walks towards the door.

The Doctor and Servant #4 follow her.

INT. OBA PALACE, CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

Lady Makawa emerges into the corridor and walks down it.

The Doctor and Servant #4 follow her.

She rubs her palm.

LADY MAKAWA

Shey dis hand no go clean again?

She stops and lifts her hands to her face, sniffing them.

LADY MAKAWA (CONT'D)

I still dey smell di blood, all di
perfume wey come from Arab no go
fit make dis hand smell well o!

Unnerved, the Doctor looks to Servant #4.

DOCTOR
Dis one pass my work.

Lady Makawa turns back to the Doctor.

LADY MAKAWA
Wash your hand, wear your night
gown - arrange yourself.

She grabs the Doctor's arms.

LADY MAKAWA (CONT'D)
I dey tell you again, dey dom bury
Bankole, e no fit comot again.

She stops and looks around.

LADY MAKAWA (CONT'D)
Go lie down, person dey knock for
door, gimme your hand. wetin don
happen don happen. Go lie down! Go
lie down!

Lady Makawa rushes back towards the bedroom.

The Doctor watches her go.

DOCTOR
She needs God's intervention, pass
doctor.

Servant #4 goes after Lady Makawa.

EXT. NAIJA ROAD - DAY

Packed into a long column of trucks, jeeps, and personnel carriers, some SOLDIERS marching, the MOJI ARMY heads down the road toward a military camp of tents.

At the head of the column, Lanre and Akin drive in a Jeep.

YOUNG VILLAGE BOYS run alongside the Soldiers, greeting them.

Dagogo ruffles the hair of BOY #1.

EXT. OLUMO FOREST, MOJI'S CAMP - DAY

Military tents are arranged in rows.

The trucks and jeeps of Soldiers pull up in the alley between them.

Soldiers pile out of the trucks.

Lanre and Akin arrive in their Jeep.

Emerging from a tent, Rotimi runs across to them.

The three hug and greet.

Rotimi points to one side of the camp.

A column of Makawa's NATIONAL SOLDIERS, bearing white flags, enter the camp, and surrender themselves to MOJI'S OFFICERS.

INT. MOJI'S TENT - DAY

Moji, Madu and other OFFICERS stand in a tent making plans.

Rotimi, Lanre and Akin enter.

EXT. OLUMO ROCK, NAIJA ROAD - DAY

Makwa's NATIONAL ARMY retreats towards the hills of Olumo Rock.

Watching his marching TROOPS, Makawa sits in the back of a Jeep.

Seyton sits in the driving seat.

SOLDIER #1 runs up to the jeep, and hands a document to Makawa.

He reads it, scrunches the paper up and throws it to the ground.

MAKAWA

Make u no tell me anything again,
make dem run if dey wan run.

(to Seyton)

Who bi dis small pikin, Moji sef?
No bi woman bon am?

SEYTON

(Maye's voice)

Make you no shake Makawa, no man
wey woman born fit do you anything.

MAKAWA

My mind no dey shake, Fear no
fit catch me.

Driven by SOLDIER #2, a jeep races up from behind, and driving along the shoulder comes up beside Makawa's jeep.

SOLDIER #2
Stop! Stop!

The column of trucks comes to a halt.

Seyton looks to Soldier #2 in the truck.

Makawa stands in the jeep.

MAKAWA
Wetin dey make goose pimple catch
you?

SOLDIER
Dem be ten thousand!

MAKAWA
Moji people? Carry your face comot!

Soldier #2 salutes and drives off.

The column of trucks and jeeps starts up and continues toward Olumo Rock.

EXT. OLUMO FOREST, MOJI'S CAMP - DAY

Rotimi, Madu, Lanre, Siya and Young Siya stand amongst their SOLDIERS.

Moji stands before his officers.

MOJI
Make every solja cut iroko branch
and hol am for em front.

An officer, the eager YOUNG SIWA [20's] steps forward and salutes.

YOUNG SIYA
We go do am.

Taking a group of OFFICERS, Young Siwa moves amongst the Soldiers, gesturing what it is they are to do.

The hardened warrior GENERAL SIYA [50'S], approaches Moji.

GENERAL SIYA
We hear say Makawa dey for Olumo.

MOJI
Na der im believe pass.

EXT. OLUMO ROCK, MAKAWA'S CAMP - DAY

Looking through binoculars, Seyton beside him, Makawa stands on the rock scanning the forest ahead.

SEYTON
Yes oga, wetin i fit do for you?

MAKAWA
Na Wetin again?

SEYTON
Oga, Everything wey dem tell you bi as dey talk am.

MAKAWA
I go fight with my last blood. Go bring my vest.

SEYTON
Time never reach.

MAKAWA
I wan wear am! Send more soljas, look everywhere, hang anybodi wey dey talk nonesense.

EXT. OLUMO TOWN, BUILDING ROOF - DAY

Standing with Seyton, from the rooftop, through his binoculars, Makawa surveys his day SOLDIERS of the NATIONAL ARMY arrayed by the lake at the edge of the abandoned town, adjacent to the dense forest.

MAKAWA
Make dem remain der til hunger kill dem. If no bi say na our people go support dem, we for don challenge dem faca to face and drive dem comot.

Traditional African Cries from WOMEN, are heard in the distance.

MAKAWA (CONT'D)
Wetin bi dat noise?

SEYTON
Oga na women dey cry.

Seyton leaves.

EXT. OLUMO ROCK, STREET - DAY

Makawa stands in the street, outside the old building.

MAKAWA

I bi don forget as fear bi.

Seyton approaches him.

SEYTON

Oga, our Madam don die.

MAKAWA

Na wetin for still happen but no be
this kin time i suppose hear dis
kin news!

Makawa gestures for Seyton to leave him.

Seyton salutes and leaves.

Makawa walks down the street toward the church in the distance.

MAKAWA (CONT'D)

As day dey break, dey break, dey
break dey go, e dey waka small
small from one day to another until
time don end and di days wey don
pass, dey lead mumu people to dusty
death.

EXT. OLUMO CHURCH, GRAVEYARD - NIGHT

Makawa sits alone on the edge of the wall outside the church.

An army Jeep drives by on the road.

INT. CHURCH - CONTINUOUS

Makawa walks down the aisle toward the altar. He hears crying outside the door. He turns.

A group of crying, ululating WOMEN enter the church carrying the dead body of Lady Makawa. They carry it down the aisle toward Makawa.

The Women stop before him and lay Lady Makawa's body at his feet.

Makawa kneels to his wife and takes her in his arms.

MAKAWA

Quench, quench, small light, life
na just walking shadow, e bi like
actor wey just dey dance for stage
before you no am e don finish. E bi
like story wey mumu dey talk wey
carry plenty noise and gragra, wey
no mean anything.

EXT. OLUMO ROCK - NIGHT

A small lookout stands on top of a hill.

One looking through binoculars, Two NATIONAL SOLDIERS stand looking over the land.

There is motion in the woods. The trees sway.

Unseen by the National Soldiers, MOJI SOLDIERS - holding branches and bushes - move stealthily through the wood.

NATIONAL SOLDIER #1 runs down from the rock to report.

EXT. OLUMO TOWN, STREET - NIGHT

A group of AK47-bearing MOJI SOLDIERS sweeping down the street.

Three MOJI SOLDIER #1 enter a building at the side of the road.

AK47 gunfire is heard inside the building.

Three Soldiers remerge and join the others, sweeping down the street.

They pass dead bodies of bullet-riddled NATIONAL SOLDIERS.

EXT. OLUMO TOWN, STREET - CONTINUOUS

Two COLUMNS of MOJI SOLDIERS pass down both sides of the street.

Rotini drives a jeep, with Moji as the passenger drives through the columns

As the jeep passes them, MOJI SOLDIERS raise their AK47's and cheer Moji.

EXT. OLUMO TOWN, SMALL HOUSE - NIGHT

A group of small corrugated-roof houses lie nearby the trees.

INT. OLUMO TOWN, SMALL HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Makawa and Seyton, and three NATIONAL SOLDIERS hide in the hut.

Gunfire and Cheers is heard all around them.

"Moji! Moji! Moji!" fills the air.

Petrified, looking to each other, run from the hut.

EXT. OLUMO TOWN, SMALL HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

The two National Soldiers emerge from the hut and immediately raise their hands.

MOJI SOLDIERS move to them, kick them to the ground and arrest them, dragging them off.

INT. OLUMO TOWN, SMALL HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Seyton looks out of the window.

Makawa stands by the door.

MAKAWA

Dey don surround me, i no fit go
anywhere.

Seyton turns to Makawa.

SEYTON

(Maye voice)

Na person wey woman no born, na em
you fit fear.

EXT. OLUMO TOWN, SMALL HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

AK47 in hand, Young Siya approaches the door.

INT. OLUMO TOWN, SMALL HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Hearing the noise, Makawa hides behind the door.

Seyton quickly climbs out of the window.

Young Siya comes through the door.

Emerging from behind the door, Makawa grabs Young Siya and swiftly cuts his throat with his dagger. He throws the body back out the door.

MAKAWA
Na woman born you.

EXT. OLUMO, STREET - CONTINUOUS

Carrying a pistol, Madu walks through the burning streets. As he passes wounded NATIONAL SOLDIERS he executes them.

He stops at a wounded NATIONAL OFFICER.

MADU
Evil man, make u show your face!

He executes the dying Officer.

MADU (CONT'D)
If you die and no bi from my hand,
my wife and pikin dem ghost go
pursue me. Make I find am!

INT. OLUMO TOWN, SMALL HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Makawa holds a pistol to his head. Unable to pull the trigger, he drops the gun.

MAKAWA
Why i go mumu like coward go kill
myself?

Hearing gunfire and explosions, he dashes for the window.

EXT. OLUMO TOWN, SMALL HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Makawa climbs out of the window. Turning, he finds Madu staring at him.

MAKAWA
Out of everybodi, na only you i bin
no wan see; dey go, your blood don
too much for my hand.

MADU
I no get talk, my word dey for my
gun.

Madu raises his pistol and fires. He has no bullets.

Drawing his dagger from his belt, he rushes at Makawa.

Drawing his dagger, Makawa evades Madu's swinging blade.

A skilled knife ensues as they thrust at each other with their daggers.

In the midst of the fight. Makawa catches Madu in a necklock. With his elbow pushing into his throat, Makawa holds his dagger to Madu's neck.

MAKAWA

Go chuk your daga for people wey e
fit enter, wetin i carry for bodi;
person wey woman born no fit
destroy am.

MADU

Make di god wey you dey serve tell
you say dem quick comot Madu from
em mama bele.

Makawa stunned releases Madu.

Madu quickly steps away.

Makawa looks to the window.

Dibia appears in the window.

He looks to a iroko tree.

Maye appears.

He looks into the bush.

Babalawo appears with his hyaena at his side.

He looks back to the window. Dibia is gone.

He looks to the tree. Maye is gone.

He looks to the bush. Babalawo is gone.

MAKAWA

I no go dey believe dis yeye spirit
again. I no go fight you.

MADU

O ya surrender fear fear man.

MAKAWA

I no go surrender, kneel down bow
for Moji. Even tho iroko tree grow
for inside house and yourself wey
woman no born fit challenge me...
Yet I go fight with my last blood.
Come Madu, make god punish di
person wen go shout "E Don Do"!

Seeing a pistol on the ground, they both rush for it.

Reaching it first, Madu picks it up. He shoots Makawa in the head.

INT. OLUMO, TOWN HALL - NIGHT

A group of OFFICERS work at tables.

MOJI SOLDIERS take messages as they come and go.

Moji, General Siya, and Rotimi stand at an operations desk.

MOJI

Madu dey miss and your pikin.

ROTIMI

Your pikin sah don like solja.

GENERAL SIYA

So e don die.

Bearing Makawa's head, Madu enters.

MADU

I dey hail you Oba. Na wetin you
bi.

Everyone in the room stops and stares at Madu.

MADU (CONT'D)

See di head of de evil man wey
snatch our palace. Peace don dey
our kingdom now. I see as all di
dignitaries dey here and i know say
dem dey hail you from dere mind,
but I want make dem join me salute
you, Oba of Naija.

Unsure, all in the room look to each other, uncertain what to do.

General Siya steps forward and prostrates himself.

GENERAL SIYA

We dey hail you, Oba of Naija.

ALL

We dey hail you, Oba of Naija.

The whole room prostrates itself before Moji.

EXT. OLUMO, STREET, CAFE - DAY

A CROWD surrounds a television, hanging from the cafe wall.

In the crowd, Babalawo watches the TV.

ON SCREEN:

Moji holds a paper.

MOJI

(reading)

My Galadimas and Diedem's, from now
on una be my Waziri's, dis na di
first time we dey give dis kind
title for Naija. And di thing wey
we go do again bi say, we go call
back our people wey run comot becos
of dat evil man and em wife. And
any oda thing wey go make us live
in peace. We dey thank all of una
and we dey invite una come di
coronation for Ife.

EXT. OLUMO, STREET, CAFE - DAY

Babalawo emerges from the cafe and walks down the street
toward the woods.

Dibabe and Maye wait at the edge of the woods.

FADE TO BLACK.

THE END