

New Money

written by

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EXT. LAGOS - DAY

Start off with skyline Lagos. Rich Lagos. The "don't you know that Lagos is more than poor people" Lagos.

EXT. LAGOS - DAY

Bounce over to traffic Lagos. Hustling Lagos. The "don't you know Lagos is a jungle" Lagos.

EXT. LAGOS - DAY

End at Lagoon Lagos. Calm Lagos. The "don't you know there's a better way to travel in Lagos" Lagos.

EXT. JETTY - DAY

PEOPLE shuffle onto the boat. Salt of the earth workers trying to get through the day. The boat readies to leave. Then:

TOUN (O.S.)

WAIT!

We see TOUN ODUMOSU racing towards the dock, braids with green highlights jangling in the wind. A few smile. Gesture to the PILOT - who frowns but waits.

INT. BOAT - MOMENTS LATER

Toun climbs aboard. She smiles appreciatively at the BOAT PILOT and the PASSENGERS as she grabs her life jacket.

INT. BOAT - MOMENTS LATER

Life jacket now on, Toun squeezes in next to an ELDERLY PASSENGER. She brings out a small plastic bowl. She sees an ELDERLY PASSENGER looking at it longingly. She smiles at him and hands it over.

The Elderly Passenger is almost over come with gratitude. Toun pats his hand as she settles in.

EXT. LAGOON - DAY

Toun laughs and gists as the boat speeds down the lagoon.

INT. RUNWAY - NIGHT

MODELS strut down a runway. That's odd. How did we get here?

BOAT DRIVER (O.S.)

We are here o!

EXT. BOAT - CONTINUOUS

We now realise we are watching a video on Toun's phone. She sees the boat is deserted and springs to her feet.

EXT. FALOMO JETTY - MOMENTS LATER

As she disembarks, Toun smiles at her best friend BINTA KAWU - street smarts for days - who waits at the dock.

BINTA
What were you doing?

TOUN
Fashion Channel dropped a new
collection video. I was ...
(Binta laughs)
I'm sorry.

BINTA
(nonchalant)
Who wants to get to work early?

TITLE: NEW MONEY

EXT. SPAR AWOLOWO ROAD - DAY

A few SHOPPERS are already strolling into the miimart.

INT. SPAR AWOLOWO ROAD - MAIN TILL - CONTINUOUS

Toun and Binta are on adjacent tills. Toun follows Binta's gaze to where IFEANYI NWACHUKWU stands staring. He's early middle age, well dressed, and doesn't look like a perv. He uses a cane to stand.

BINTA
You think he go buy this time? He
looks rich. If only we knew which
one of us he wanted.

TOUN
You can have him. I have a
boyfriend.

BINTA
Because you don't have sense. It's
better to be single than date Quam.

Toun rolls her eyes. However a CUSTOMER is now in front of her so she focuses on serving him.

JOSEPH FINEBOY enters and whispers into Ifeanyi's ear. Once he leaves, Ifeanyi starts heading for them.

BINTA (CONT'D)
Ah. He's coming over o!

Ifeanyi stops in front of Toun. Binta rolls her eyes as Ifeanyi picks up a pack of batteries. Toun rings them up.

TOUN
One thousand two hundred.

He brings out two thousand. She collects it. Makes change.

IFEANYI

Keep it.

Before she can say anything, he touches her on the cheek.

IFEANYI (CONT'D)

Please.

She is too stunned to react. He picks up his batteries and walks out. While Toun is still processing:

BINTA

If you like don't chase after him.

EXT. SPAR AWOLOWO ROAD - DAY

Toun storms out to find Ifeanyi still by the entrance. She thrusts the money at him.

TOUN

I don't know what you think, but I am not that kind of girl.

Ifeanyi takes her in - glaring, all defiant as she holds the money - he smiles fondly.

IFEANYI

You're right. I'm sorry.

At this time, a LAND CRUISER pulls up. Joseph Fineboy comes down from the driver's seat.

IFEANYI (CONT'D)

My name is Ifeanyi and this is my friend Joseph Fineboy.

Toun's expression is a standard -"do I look like I care?"

IFEANYI (CONT'D)

Sorry again.

Joseph helps Ifeanyi into the passenger side of the SUV. Toun watches it pull away. She's about to go back inside when her phone rings. It's from Amina.

EXT. LAGOS FASHION OFFICE - DAY

A nice building in Victoria Island.

INT. LAGOS FASHION OFFICE - AMINA'S OFFICE - DAY

Toun sits in front of AMINA - a kind faced middle aged lady. There's a brief, slightly uncomfortable silence.

AMINA

You are here to ask for another extension, aren't you?

Toun looks ashamed, but nods.

AMINA (CONT'D)

The deadline was two weeks ago.

Toun has no response to that. Amina is moved by the determined young woman in front of her.

AMINA (CONT'D)

Toun, let me pay for your entry!

TOUN

No ma. I want to do it myself. If you pay for me, they will say I cheated.

Amina smiles at Toun's fervent stance.

AMINA

Only if you win.

From Toun's face, it's clear she thinks she will. Amina smiles

AMINA (CONT'D)

Very well. You have until the end of the month.

EXT. LAGOON - NIGHT

The boat chugs along on the lagoon. Binta is laughing and gisting with the other PASSENGERS whilst Toun sketches.

EXT. JETTY - NIGHT

QUAM OMOLE, professional NFA, is chilling as the boat arrives. Passengers disembark. A good number greet Quam. He's obviously a popular jingo. He sees Binta. Flashes a smile.

QUAM

Binta, how you dey?

Binta eyes him well, and does not reply as she walks past.

QUAM (CONT'D)

See this one. It's my fault I'm greeting you.

TOUN (O.S.)

Quam?

He turns. Flashes his million naira smile at Toun.

TOUN (CONT'D)

Aren't you on night shift?

Quam gives a shady laugh and you know an excuse is coming.

QUAM

Supervisor says I must pay the money he borrowed me before I can resume.

Binta hisses well. Toun glances at her, then back at Quam.

TOUN

How much?

QUAM

Just three k o. Can you imagine?

Toun sighs. Fishes her purse out of her bag and opens it. 3k is all there is. We know what it means.

She takes a breath. Smiles. Pulls it out and hands it over.

Without even noticing what it costs her, Quam takes it with a smile, and a kiss on her cheek before hurrying off.

Once he's gone, Binta grabs Toun by the arm.

BINTA

No be your entry money you give am? Wetin dey do you this girl?

Toun looks away. Clearly a bit ashamed.

TOUN

Madam Amina gave me until month end and he'll pay me back by then.

Binta's expression is a clear "no he won't", but she doesn't push. Instead she links her hand in Toun's and they leave.

EXT. FATIMA'S - NIGHT

The center of the neighbourhood kind of restaurant.

INT. FATIMA'S - MAIN BAR - NIGHT

Trays of grilled fish are being carried around by WAITRESSES. Tables are full of PATRONS eating fish and drinking beer.

FATIMA ODUMOSU wanders through press greeting GUESTS, clear mistress of all she surveys.

BINTA (O.S.)

Aunty Fatima!

Fatima turns to see a grinning Binta alongside Toun.

FATIMA

My daughter. You are welcome.

BINTA

Ah ahn. Aunty Fatima am I not welcome.

Fatima smiles a big smile and gives Binta a hug.

FATIMA

I should have known I'd see you on
fish night.

(Binta grins)

Your table is waiting for you.

(looks around)

Salewa.

A WAITRESS turns. Hurries over.

INT. FATIMA'S - KITCHEN - LATER

Toun bursts into the kitchen carrying an tray of eaten
fish.

TOUN

Mama can we get some more...

She trails off as she sees her mother talking to LEKE the
MONEYLENDER. Leke flashes her an oily smile.

LEKE THE MONEYLENDER

Ah Toun you are looking fine o.

Toun's look of disgust is as appropriate as expected.

TOUN

What do you want Mr. Leke? We paid
you for the month last week.

LEKE THE MONEYLENDER

The local government elections are
coming and you need to pay again.

(disgusting grin)

Unless... we can come to an
agreement.

His leering look at Toun makes it clear what he means.

FATIMA

I will pay you on your new schedule.

Leke gives Toun one last dirty look.

LEKE THE MONEYLENDER

That's all you had to say. I'll
expect the money next week.

He leaves out the back door. Once he's gone:

TOUN

Mama what are we going to do?

FATIMA

I'll find a way. Go back to Binta.

TOUN

Mama -

She stops at her mom's raised hand. She knows better than
to protest. Once Toun leaves, Fatima sits down heavily.

The worry she was hiding from Toun now written all over her face.

EXT. FATIMA'S - LATER

The place is still rocking, but PATRONS are filing out.

INT. FATIMA'S - MAIN BAR - CONTINUOUS

Binta is staring at Quam who is exchanging greetings with various Patrons. Toun hurriedly goes to meet him.

BINTA

What's he doing here?

PATRON

Ah Quam, I thought Madam banned you.

QUAM

(laughs)

You know me.

Toun has now reached him.

TOUN

Are you crazy? What if my mother sees -

FATIMA (O.S.)

(not pleased)

What are you doing here?

Toun winces. Turns to face her mother.

TOUN

Mama. Please let me explain.

Fatima ignores Toun, faces Quam.

FATIMA

Didn't I tell you not to come here?

Quam opens his mouth, before he can speak.

FATIMA (CONT'D)

Get out. Now!

Quam chests it. Turns and leaves. Toun looks at her mother, and then hurries after him.

EXT. FATIMA'S - MOMENTS LATER

Once they're outside, Toun rounds on Quam.

TOUN

Are you mad! Why didn't you just call me?

There's the sheepish grin again.

QUAM

No credit. Not even to flash.

TOUN

Why aren't you at work?

QUAM

Supervisor says I didn't pay him
as planned and so the money has
doubled!

TOUN

I don't have another three k.

QUAM

Today is grilled fish night, your
mother won't notice -

TOUN

Quam! No.

QUAM

You'll put it back once -

TOUN

No. I can't do that again.

Quam sinks to his haunches.

QUAM

If I don't get paid, I can't pay
for the last test for my
certification.

Toun looks at her boyfriend. She makes a decision.

TOUN

I have an idea.

INT. FATIMA'S - TOUN'S ROOM - NIGHT

The door opens. Toun and Quam enter the room. It has
everything you'd expect of a young designer on a budget.

QUAM

If your mother finds me here -

Toun looks back at him.

TOUN

You wanted me to steal from her,
but you are afraid of being caught
here.

QUAM

She may beat me for stealing, but
she go kill me for being here.

Toun chuckles at his wit. You finally kinda see why he has
her mumu button.

By now, Toun has reached a table at the corner of the room, there is a sewing machine on the desk.

Next to the sewing machine is a flyer advertising entry to a NEW DESIGNERS AT LAGOS FASHION WEEK with a 20,000 entry fee.

Toun hesitates, touches the flyer, and then pulls the sewing machine off the desk.

As she moves to hand it to him. He pretty much recoils:

QUAM (CONT'D)

What are you doing?

TOUN

Uncle Tony will give you ten k for it - give or take.

QUAM

I can't pawn your sewing machine!

TOUN

I want you to have enough to pay for your accounting exam.

There are literally tears in his eyes.

QUAM

This is the nicest thing anyone has-

FATIMA (O.S.)

Toun! Toun!

QUAM

Oh my God. She can't find me here.

Quam scurries under the bed with the sewing machine just as the door opens.

TOUN

Good evening Mama. Anything?

Fatima looks around suspiciously

FATIMA

Why are you still seeing that boy?

TOUN

Mama please. Let's not -

FATIMA

Let's not what? That boy got you to steal from your own mother.

TOUN

It wasn't stealing mama. If not that MMM failed, we would have put it back with interest.

Fatima glares at her, and looks away. She stops.

FATIMA

Where's your sewing machine?

TOUN

Mama.

FATIMA

Don't mama me. Did you give that boy your sewing machine?

Toun looks away. Unable to answer. Fatima is stricken.

FATIMA (CONT'D)

Why did you give him your sewing machine?

TOUN

He needs money to register for his accounting exam. He will pay me back at the end of the month.

FATIMA

No. No he's won't. That boy is using you. He's using the fact that you are loyal and kind and that you always see the best in people. He doesn't deserve you.

TOUN

Mama please trust me.

FATIMA

It's not you I don't trust.

With that Fatima turns and leaves. Once the door closes. Quam comes out from under the bed clutching the sewing machine. He comes over to Toun.

QUAM

I will pay you back. I swear.

He gives her a quick kiss and leaves. Toun sits on the bed.

INT. SPAR AWOLOWO ROAD - MAIN TILL - DAY

Toun is looking shamefaced as she addresses Binta.

BINTA

He didn't pay you abi?

TOUN

They deducted uniform allowance this month. He didn't have the money.

BINTA

Bullshit. When are you going to realise that he is playing you?

Toun remains silent. Binta then reaches into her wallet and pulls out money. She hands it over.

TOUN
What's this?

BINTA
Your entry fee. I knew that boy was going to mess you up. So I saved.

TOUN
I can't -

BINTA
Like you have a choice.

Toun is so touched. She reaches over and hugs Binta.

EXT. FATIMA'S - NIGHT

Busy as usual.

INT. FATIMA'S - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Toun breezes into the kitchen.

TOUN
Mama you won't believe what Binta -
Toun trails off as she sees Leke confronting Fatima.

FATIMA
It's all I have.

LEKE THE MONEYLENDER
You're thirty k short.

Toun freezes. She barely hesitates as she reaches into her wallet and pulls out the money Binta gave her.

TOUN
Now it's ten k short. You'll get the balance on the next payment.

Leke takes in the defiant Toun.

LEKE THE MONEYLENDER
You're lucky I'm a nice man.

Leke exits through the back as usual. Once he's gone Toun and Fatima exchange a wordless hug.

INT. FATIMA'S - TOUN'S ROOM - NIGHT

A determined Toun is at her desk, sewing with a needle and thread. Her phone alarm goes off - it's 2am in the morning.

Toun reluctantly leaves her desk, climbs into bed and puts off the light.

EXT. FATIMA'S - MORNING

The Range from SPAR pulls up in front of Fatima's. As before Joseph emerges from the Driver's side to open the door.

It's not Ifeanyi but EBUBE NWACHUKWU - an immaculately dressed woman with sad eyes.

INT. FATIMA'S - MAIN BAR - MORNING

Fatima discusses with her MANAGER, as WAITRESSES and serve breakfast for a few PATRONS when Ebube walks in with Joseph.

EBUBE

Mrs Odumosu?

Fatima stares at her. No welcome.

FATIMA

It's Miss. What do you want?

EBUBE

Is your daughter home?

Fatima shuts down even further.

FATIMA

Ifeanyi agreed she's to be left alone!

Huh. She knows Ifeanyi? A distracted Toun enters.

TOUN

Mama I'm taking double shifts today so I'll be back...

Toun stops, takes in the environment. Before she can ask -

FATIMA

Toun go to work.

TOUN

Mama. What is going on?

FATIMA

I said go to work!

Toun looks at her mother, figures out that it's about the glamorous lady in the room and then squarely faces Ebube.

TOUN

What do you want?

EBUBE

Your father is dead.

TOUN

Yea, he died years ago.

EBUBE

No, he died three weeks ago. We buried him today.

Toun is stunned. She looks at her Mother, sees the truth. Fatima can't handle what she sees in Toun's eyes.

FATIMA

Toun -

Toun ignores her. Faces Ebube.

TOUN

Tell me.

Ebube reaches into her bag and brings out a tablet.

EBUBE

He asked that he tell you himself.

Toun takes the tablet and presses play.

INT. NWACHUKWU HOUSE - STUDY - PAST - NIGHT

Ifeanyi sits in his well appointed study.

IFEANYI

I'm sorry you thought I was hitting on you. I wanted to talk to you just once before I died. I messed that up, like I've messed everything up when it comes to you. From what I see, you've turned out to be a fine young woman. I don't have any right to ask, but would like you to carry on my legacy. It's not fair what I am about to do to you, but I believe that you have the grace and maturity to handle it.

INT. FATIMA'S - MAIN BAR - CONTINUOUS

Toun watches the rest on the screen.

IFEANYI (IN THE VIDEO)

Good luck my daughter. I really wish I could have known you.

The screen goes blank. Toun is still in shock.

FATIMA

What did he do?

EBUBE

He left her a controlling interest in the Audere Group.

FATIMA

NO! We had a deal.

Toun registers that, but focuses on Ebube.

TOUN
What does that mean?

EBUBE
It means that you are a billionaire.

INT. SPAR AWOLOWO ROAD - MAIN TILL - DAY

Toun and Binta are at their tills.

BINTA
A billionaire!

TOUN
That's what she said. He left me
something called the Audere Group.

BINTA
How did your mother get a rich man
like that?

TOUN
I didn't ask. I just left.

BINTA
Toun!

TOUN
Don't Toun me. She lied to me about
my father. For my entire life!

Binta knows better than to argue. Suddenly -

BINTA
Wait. Did you say Audere Group?

TOUN
Yes. Why?

CUT TO:

INT. SPAR AWOLOWO ROAD - AISLE - MOMENTS LATER

Binta and Toun stand in front of a CHOP Biscuit display.
Binta takes one and turns it over. It says "A PRODUCT OF
THE AUDERE GROUP"

TOUN
How did you know?

BINTA
I served in the factory in Oregon
but they didn't retain me.

TOUN
I thought you worked for Happy
Foods.

BINTA
I did.

TOUN

So which one is the Audere Group?

The door bangs open. Dupe strolls in.

DUPE THE SUPERVISOR

Didn't you hear me calling you?

Toun and Binta pause the video and leap to their feet.

DUPE THE SUPERVISOR (CONT'D)

Toun, some madam is asking for
you.

Toun and Binta exchange glances.

INT. SPAR AWOLOWO ROAD - MAIN TILL - MOMENTS LATER

Toun approaches Ebube warily.

EBUBE

You ran off... There are things we
need to discuss.

Toun looks afraid.

TOUN

I'm sorry. Please. Can I have some
time?

Ebube doesn't push.

EBUBE

I'll send a car for you this
evening. Is that ok?

TOUN

Yes. Thank you.
(Ebube turns)
I'm sorry for your loss.

There are tears in Ebube's eyes as she nods her thanks.

EXT. SPAR AWOLOWO ROAD - EVENING

Toun and Binta emerge from the store. They head for the
SUV. Joseph is waiting by the door. He looks at Binta.

JOSEPH

I am only supposed to take Ms.
Toun.

TOUN

I need her. Please.

Joseph takes a second.

JOSEPH

As you wish.

He opens the door. She nods her thanks and climbs in.

EXT. LAGOS - NIGHT

The SUV speeds down the Lagos streets.

EXT. NWACHUKWU HOUSE - NIGHT

Ifeanyi's SUV pulls up to the gate. The gates swing open. The SUV drives into the well manicured grounds.

INT. IFEANYI'S SUV - CONTINUOUS

Toun looks over at Binta and at her expression of wonder.

BINTA

Mehn. As in. Look at these grounds.

Her expression as expected is more complicated.

INT. NWACHUKWU HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

The place is full of MOURNERS. Most centered around Ebube.

Toun and Binta enter the living room. Clearly out of place. JOKO THE PLANNER sees them and hurries over.

JOKO THE PLANNER

The service entrance is at the back.

Toun and Binta exchange confused looks. Binta moves to speak:

EBUBE

It's ok Joko. They are my guests.

Joko sees Ebube, nods an apology, and hurries away. Ebube smiles her welcome at Toun.

INT. NWACHUKWU HOUSE - UPSTAIRS LIVING ROOM - DAY

The Nwachukwu family sit in a well appointed study.

CHUKA and OBIAGELI NWACHUKWU - the typical rich, middle aged Igbo couple and their children PATRICK and ANGELA - typical returnees in their late twenties to early thirties.

Patrick and Angela are on their phones. Chuka and Obiageli converse quietly.

EBUBE (O.S.)

Sorry for keeping you waiting.

Everybody turns to see Ebube with Toun. Chuka seeing Toun, exclaims in surprise:

CHUKA

Oh my God! Toun!

The family is confused. How does Chuka know this woman?

INT. NWACHUKWU HOUSE - UPSTAIRS LIVING ROOM - LATER

Joseph puts down the will. Everybody is stunned.

ANGELA

She's the owner of Audere Holdings?

Angela inspects Toun like she doesn't quite like what she sees.

PATRICK

Can we challenge the will?

CHUKA

Patrick!

PATRICK

He killed himself Dad. Which kind of argues that he was not of sound mind.

TOUN

He killed himself?

They all turn to Toun. It's almost as if they forgot she was there. Ebube is the one who answers.

EBUBE

He had a disease called multiple sclerosis. It weakens the nerves. His could have lead to dementia. He decided to take his own life.

TOUN

He killed himself because he was going crazy?

JOSEPH

Your father was still in possession of his faculties, though tests revealed he would degenerate in time.

PATRICK

Of course you'll say that. You're his little lawyer boy. Dad we should -

JOSEPH

Mr. Ifeanyi was examined by a barrage of psychiatrists Mr. Patrick, who certified his mental state at the time the will was drafted.

CHUKA

Thank you Joseph. It doesn't matter. We will not be challenging the will.

Patrick looks at his father in surprise. His face firms and he walks out. Angela waits for a couple of moments then follows. Once they are gone, Chuka faces Ebube.

CHUKA (CONT'D)

You should have told me.

EBUBE

He made me promise not to.

Chuka laughs bitterly.

CHUKA

Til the end he didn't trust me.

Ebube can't reply to that, so she doesn't. Chuka goes over to Toun and gives her a hug. She's surprised.

CHUKA (CONT'D)

Welcome to the family. See you tomorrow.

He leaves. His wife joins him at the door. Yep. She really said nothing the entire time.

TOUN

What did he mean see you tomorrow?

CUT TO:

INT. NWACHUKWU HOUSE - UPSTAIRS LIVING ROOM - EVENING

Toun is staring at them in shock.

TOUN

Why am I the CEO of Audere?

Joseph and Ebube exchange looks.

EBUBE

Audere Holdings owns the majority share of Audere Group. Audere Holdings has the right to appoint the CEO and until that time, the owner of Audere Holdings serves as the acting CEO.

TOUN

This is insane! I can't run a company. I'm a shop girl. Why did he do this?

EBUBE

He believed you could run it.

TOUN

And if I say no? Can't we find someone else?

JOSEPH

The next board meeting is in 60 days. You can nominate someone then.

TOUN

It can't be quicker?

EBUBE

It can be, but please give it 60 days. Let's see how it plays out.

Toun decides not to engage. She turns to Joseph.

TOUN

Take me home please.

EXT. FATIMA'S - NIGHT

There is a closed sign on the door.

INT. FATIMA'S - MAIN BAR - CONTINUOUS

Fatima is alone in the bar facing Toun. Waiting. Toun doesn't engage. Instead:

TOUN

I'm going to bed.

Fatima's response is to start telling the story.

FATIMA

Ifeanyi and I got married while he was building Audere. His family was rich. Opposed our marriage. The usual drama. The scandal was making it difficult for him in business. Everyone was a friend of his family. I went to his mother to reconcile. She told me to leave him. That she could get the marriage annulled.

TOUN

And you agreed?

FATIMA

I did. I did what was best for him, because I loved him.

TOUN

And me? What was best for me?

FATIMA

I didn't know I was pregnant then. I went to tell him, but he was already dating his current wife... widow.

Toun sees that this particular piece of information pains her mother, but she does not, cannot, comfort her.

TOUN

How did he find out about me?

FATIMA

The JSS Prize you won when you were 12 made the papers.

TOUN

Why did he care? He was married.

FATIMA

His wife couldn't have children. He wanted -

TOUN

Me.

(Fatima nods)

And you said no?

FATIMA

I allowed him to fund your education. The scholarship - that was him.

TOUN

Why? Why not tell me? I could have had 11 years with him instead of one day! You took that from me!

Toun starts to leave.

FATIMA

I thought you'd choose him.

TOUN

You should have trusted me.

FATIMA

You really think you'd have chosen to live here instead of Ikoyi?

TOUN

We'll never know, will we?

With that zinger, Toun strides off - hurt and angry.

INT. FATIMA'S - TOUN'S ROOM - LATER

Toun is on the bed staring into space. Clearly not sleeping.

EXT. FATIMA'S - MORNING

The sun rises in the morning.

INT. FATIMA'S - TOUN'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Toun is still in bed staring into space. Clearly didn't sleep. There's a knock on her door. It opens. It's her mother.

FATIMA

Your driver is waiting outside.

Silence. Fatima tries again:

FATIMA (CONT'D)

Toun, talk to me... Please.

Fatima is literally breaking. Toun looks over. Finally has some sympathy. Goes over. Hugs her mother.

TOUN

I love you mama. I do. But I need some space right now.

Fatima has to accept that. She fakes a smile and leaves.

EXT. FATIMA'S - DAY

Toun emerges to find Quam waiting for her.

QUAM

You didn't answer my calls yesterday.

TOUN

I was busy.

Quam tracks that, but as always is focused on himself.

QUAM

Uncle Tony called. He said he has an offer for fifteen k for your sewing machine but if I match it today, he will give me.

Toun freezes. Quam knows that he may have made a mistake.

QUAM (CONT'D)

Maybe if you ask your mother...

Toun ignores him. She walks past him and gets into the front passenger seat of the Range. As expected Quam is stunned.

QUAM (CONT'D)

Who's car is this?

TOUN

Mine. We'll talk later. I'll meet you for lunch at our place at three.

She closes the door. He stares as the Range drives off.

EXT. LAGOS - LATER

The Range Rover drives down the Lagos roads.

INT. UNCLE TONY'S SHOP - LATER

UNCLE TONY, a thoroughly disreputable middle aged man is behind the counter. He beams when he sees Toun. Toun gets straight to the point.

TOUN

Quam said that it was fifteen k to get the sewing machine.

By this point, Joseph has entered. Uncle Tony sizes him up and flashes a greasy smile.

UNCLE TONY

He was mistaken. It's twenty five.

Toun exclaims in protest. She's about to let him have it. Joseph touches her shoulder. Looks calmly at Uncle Tony.

JOSEPH

Do you have a POS machine?

Boss.

MONTAGE OF TOUN SETTling BILLS

INT. LAGOS FASHION OFFICE - AMINA'S OFFICE - DAY

Joseph paying with his card at the Lagos Fashion office for Toun's registration. Amina is confused, but smiling.

INT. FINANCE COMPANY OFFICE - DAY

Joseph paying with his card at the Finance company office for the loan. Toun studiously ignores the scowling Leke.

INT. SPAR AWOLowo ROAD - MAIN TILL - DAY

Toun is with Joseph as he pays her outstanding balance to Dupe. Binta clears her throat. Joseph pays hers as well.

END MONTAGE

EXT. AUDERE GROUP - DAY

A nice converted building in the heart of ikoyi.

INT. AUDERE GROUP - RECEPTION - DAY

Toun enters. She freezes a bit at the smiling picture of Ifeanyi. The RECEPTIONISTS clearly know what's up because they are staring at her. Joseph catches her discomfort.

JOSEPH

A company-wide mail went out yesterday

Toun swallows. She looks like she wants to bolt, however she does let Joseph lead her deeper into the office.

INT. AUDERE GROUP - BOARD ROOM - DAY

The board room is packed. Chuka and his children are present as are 8 EXECUTIVES - equally split amongst gender - mostly over achievers in their late thirties to early forties. They are laughing and joking. The camaraderie obvious.

The doors open. Toun and Joseph enter. The conversation dies. Chuka stands and goes to meet her. They share an awkward hug

CHUKA

Welcome.

Chuka leads her to the head of the table. Toun is clearly uncomfortable as she sits. Joseph turn to leave.

TOUN

Where are you going?

It's Chuka that answers. Still kindly Uncle.

CHUKA

This is an executive committee meeting. He's not a member. Don't worry, you'll be fine. We don't bite.

GANIYU

Speak for yourself.

General laughter.

CHUKA

This is Ganiyu Osamede - CEO of DADA Games our most recent aquisition.

Rocking a tshirt and jeans, Ganiyu is the odd man out.

CHUKA (CONT'D)

We're still home training him.

Ganiyu winks at Toun. She smiles shyly. There is a little something. Don't worry. We'll get back to it.

CHUKA (CONT'D)

Let me introduce you to...

Toun raises her hand. Chuka smiles.

CHUKA (CONT'D)

You don't have to raise your hand.

TOUN

Why are you all fine with me as CEO?

CHUKA

That's a good question. We aren't like most companies. All these people are CEOs in their own right, running their own subsidiaries. Well apart from Patrick and Angela - he runs strategy and she runs communications. And me. I am Head of Operations.

GANIYU

Aka adult supervision.

Everybody laughs.

TOUN

If they are CEOs what do I do?

CHUKA

You review the performance of their businesses, you decide if you want to buy more businesses.

TOUN

It can't be that simple.

CHUKA

Simple is relative.

TOUN

So it doesn't matter if I'm bad at this?

CHUKA

It matters a great deal. Your job is to think of the future whilst we focus on the present.

Toun looks overwhelmed. Chuka smiles.

CHUKA (CONT'D)

It'll make sense as we go along. Let's get into it. Ganiyu you start.

We stay on Toun as they get down to business.

INT. AUDERE GROUP - TOUN'S OFFICE - DAY

Joseph is in the office when Toun arrives. She looks drained.

JOSEPH

Three hours. Not bad for an executive committee meeting.

Toun looks at him in horror. He smiles.

JOSEPH (CONT'D)

They normally take 6 to 8 hours. Looks like they went easy on you.

TOUN

This is crazy. You are all crazy!

INT. AUDERE GROUP - CHUKA'S OFFICE - DAY

Patrick is fuming. Chuka is silent.

PATRICK

This is insane.

INT. AUDERE GROUP - TOUN'S OFFICE - DAY

Toun continues to let her fear speak.

TOUN

I can't run a company.

INT. AUDERE GROUP - CHUKA'S OFFICE - DAY

Patrick is still raging

PATRICK

She can't run Audere! You saw her!

CHUKA

She did ok. Wasn't afraid to ask questions.

PATRICK

You should be the one running Audere.

CHUKA

That's enough Patrick.

INT. AUDERE GROUP - TOUN'S OFFICE - DAY

Toun is still fretting.

TOUN

I don't think I can last sixty days.

Before Joseph replies the door opens and Angela strides in.

ANGELA

I've arranged an interview with -

JOSEPH

I don't think we are there yet.

Angela ignores him, focuses on Toun.

ANGELA

You're pretty. That helps. Can you read?

TOUN

(gritted teeth)
I can read.

Angela nods, and then hands over a box of cards.

ANGELA

Here are your business cards.

Toun looks at the sample card.

TOUN

How did you get my phone number?

Angela gives her the look.

ANGELA

Would you like to change anything
about the office?

Toun looks around, taking in her father's office for the first time.

TOUN

It's fine thanks.

Angela gives her an approving nod before handing over a phone.

ANGELA

Here's your company phone. Your
old one will stop working in 20
minutes.

Toun is a little overwhelmed by Angela's hyper-competence.

ANGELA (CONT'D)

You need clothes. My stylist will
be ready for you within the hour.

JOSEPH

We have an appointment at the bank.

Angela gives Joseph an arch look.

ANGELA

Fine. Bring her when you're done.
I'll send the address.

TOUN

Um. Um. I have lunch with my
boyfriend.

Angela forces her face to calm.

ANGELA

Fine. You send me the address and
I'll meet you there and take you
to the stylist.

Facing no more objections, Angela sweeps out of the room.

EXT. AMALA BUKKA - DAY

The late lunch crowd is rocking the bukka. Angela is completely unbothered by the surroundings. She's at the same table as Quam, Toun and Joseph. Quam is blown away.

QUAM

That's mad. And you are a
billionaire!

Angela doesn't wait for Toun's answer. She jumps in.

ANGELA

Yes she is. Great. Now that's over.
(hands over a sheet)
This is the brief for tonight.

Toun takes it. She starts reading.

TOUN

This is. This is all a lie! I was
not groomed by my... Ifeanyi

ANGELA

You are the Acting CEO of a billion
dollar company with three listed
subsidiaries. We need to present
an image that will instill
confidence.

TOUN

I worked a check out till at SPAR.

ANGELA

Ifeanyi was a driver before he was
CEO - it was part of his mystique.

TOUN

This is insane.

ANGELA

This is business.

Quam is very confused.

QUAM

CEO. You are CEO?

TOUN

Yes. My... Ifeanyi made me CEO.

ANGELA

Technically your shares made you
CEO. You could appoint someone
CEO.

Toun scowls at her. Suddenly wary.

TOUN

Is that why you're being nice to
me? So I'll appoint you CEO?

ANGELA

I'm being nice to you because I am the head of corporate communications of one of the largest companies in Nigeria. I'm being nice to you because our thousands of employees and millions of consumers need to believe that everything will be ok. I'm being nice to you because you are my CEO and I am very good at my job.

Damn. That's an effing speech. Toun looks away. Then:

TOUN

(I'm sorry)

What do you need me to do?

The SERVER brings the plates of steaming amala to the table.

ANGELA

We're going to eat our amala, and then we're going to get to work.

INT. STUDIO - MAIN STUDIO - NIGHT

We're out under the lights as Kels interviews Chuka and Toun.

KELS

So what is it like working with a young genius like your niece?

CHUKA

(laughs)

You know Kels it makes me feel like a young man again, building up the company with Ifeanyi.

KELS

That's high praise. Ifeanyi was a visionary.

(to Toun)

Can you live up to his legacy?

Toun gives a shy smile.

TOUN

I'm certainly going to try.

KELS

I heard he made you work as a shop girl to prepare you to be CEO.

TOUN

Nothing prepares you to be CEO but being CEO, though working at SPAR did give me a feel for FMCG on the ground floor. Thankfully I have Uncle Chuka and the Audere team backing me

Kels smiles appreciatively at the charming answer.

KELS

Of course you do. Tell me more.

INT. STUDIO - OFF STAGE - NIGHT

Angela watches the monitor. Kels just laughed at something.

BINTA (O.S.)

She's killing it.

Angela turns to see Binta.

ANGELA

Who are you?

BINTA

(half defiant)

Her best friend.

Angela sizes her up again.

ANGELA

Stay that way. She'll need you.

EXT. STUDIO - NIGHT

Ifeanyi's SUV pulls out of the parking lot.

EXT. TOUN'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

The Range Rover pulls up to a set of luxury apartments.

TOUN (V.O.)

I have an apartment?

INT. TOUN'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Toun and Binta wander through the apartment. You can see her taking in the difference in her life now as she goes through.

JOSEPH (V.O.)

Ifeanyi left the house to Mrs. Ebube, but he wanted you to have a place of your own just in case.

INT. TOUN'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - LATER

They end up back in the living room where Joseph waits.

JOSEPH

It's not really furnished, because he wanted you to do it.

TOUN

It's great.

Joseph smiles at her.

JOSEPH

See you tomorrow.

INT. TOUN'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Toun and Binta are on the bed. Toun is not really sleeping.

FADE OUT:

FADE IN:

EXT. AUDERE GROUP - DAY

Another morning.

INT. AUDERE GROUP - CONTINUOUS

RECEPTION

Toun's picture is going up in place of Ifeanyi's.

INT. AUDERE GROUP - BOARD ROOM - DAY

Toun is in the room with Angela, Chuka and Patrick.

CHUKA

You did well yesterday.

TOUN

Thank you Uncle.

CHUKA

We're here to approve an additional \$10 million investment into fashion.

Of course this interests Toun.

TOUN

What's it for?

PATRICK

We're automating and standardizing designs for our women's lines.

TOUN

Why? Nigerian women hate standardised fashion.

Angela snorts with laughter.

ANGELA

That's what I said.

Patrick eyes her.

PATRICK

We've had a lot of success in automation.

ANGELA

Not in women's fashion.

PATRICK

Bassey agrees with me.

ANGELA

Bassey is a 45 year old man. What does he know about women's fashion?

CHUKA

Guys.

(they subside)

Toun. You don't support the investment?

(Toun looks away)

This is your call. We can't do this without your say so.

TOUN

I don't think we should do it.

PATRICK

Dad!

CHUKA

Tell Bassey to come up with a new plan for Womens fashion.

Toun raises her hand again. Chuka smiles and motions:

TOUN

I read about Zara once, and I think their model would work well here.

Angela bursts out laughing. Toun is now self conscious.

TOUN (CONT'D)

I'm sorry. Is that wrong?

CHUKA

That's what Angela recommended as well.

(to Patrick)

Tell Bassey to revise his plan.

PATRICK

(gritted teeth)

As you wish.

Patrick glares at her and stalks out. Chuka nods approvingly and leaves as well. Once they're gone:

ANGELA

Not bad. Ms. CEO.

INT. SPAR AWOLOWO ROAD - MAIN TILL - DAY

Binta flips through a soft sell magazine that has Toun on the cover with the title "THE BABY GENIUS".

BINTA

Wawu. So your father sent you to work in Spar to understand FMCG?

TOUN
That's what they say.

Toun grins.

DUPE THE SUPERVISOR (O.S.)
Please people are trying to work.

Toun rolls her eyes and turns to face Dupe.

TOUN
Am I not a customer?

Dupe wants to protest, but swallows her tongue and leaves.

BINTA
She's going to make me pay for
that!

TOUN
Only because you're letting her.

Binta's face closes down.

BINTA
I'm not working for you Toun.

TOUN
But you applied for that food
science job yourself.

BINTA
And they didn't offer it to me
until you became CEO.

TOUN
How do you know it's because of
me?

BINTA
Because I'm not stupid.

Toun laughs. She's about to push again, but Binta cuts in.

BINTA (CONT'D)
Your minder is here.

Toun follows her gaze to see Joseph standing behind her.

JOSEPH
We may have a problem.

INT. AUDERE GROUP - TOUN'S OFFICE - DAY

Toun is looking at a press release announcing her as the
winner of the Fashion Week's Rated Next.

TOUN
I don't see what the big deal is.

Angela looks furious.

ANGELA

You don't see the big deal?
(she rounds on Joseph)
Please explain to your client.

JOSEPH

Our narrative is that your father prepared you for the role of CEO. A fashion show undercuts that. It means you have other interests.

TOUN

But I've worked for this for years!
(horror)
You want me to turn it down!

Joseph looks away, but trust Angela.

ANGELA

If you want to be CEO, yes.

TOUN

But I'm already CEO!

ANGELA

Acting CEO. The Board of Directors still has to approve for the position to be permanent and they won't approve if you go prancing around on a runway!

Toun shrinks in on herself.

TOUN

This isn't fair!

Angela's look is implacable "what's fair gotta do with it."

INT. LAGOS FASHION OFFICE - AMINA'S OFFICE - DAY

Amina looks at Toun. Joseph and Angela are present.

AMINA

You're pulling out! How can you be pulling out?

ANGELA

It doesn't fit with her priorities.

Amina shoots her a dirty look.

AMINA

I wasn't asking you.
(softer)
Talk to me Toun.

Toun's heart is breaking, but she holds Amina's gaze.

TOUN

It doesn't fit my priorities.

Amina glares at Joseph and Angela again.

AMINA

How could you do this to her?

Angela is expectedly nonplussed.

ANGELA

We need to have a press conference.

INT. LAGOS FASHION OFFICE - BOARD ROOM - LATER

Toun sits with Amina in front of REPORTERS. Light bulbs flash like thunder claps as she speaks. Angela and Joseph look on.

INT. FATIMA'S - MAIN BAR - DAY

A distraught Fatima is watching the press conference on TV.

INT. SPAR AWOLOWO ROAD - MAIN TILL - DAY

Binta has just finished checking out a customer. She's about to say next, when she sees Fatima.

BINTA

Aunty Fatima is anything wrong?

PRELAP - DOORBELL RINGS

INT. TOUN'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Toun wearing shorts and a tank top crosses the living room and opens the door. Binta is dressed to impress.

TOUN

Did we have anything planned?

BINTA

Now we do.

Toun takes in Binta's outfit as she enters the room.

TOUN

I'm not in the mood to go out.

BINTA

But I am, and that's all that matters.

Binta doesn't let Toun complain.

BINTA (CONT'D)

I even invited your yeye boyfriend.
So please go and wear cloth so we
can go to Legacy. I got us VVIP.

Toun gives her a look.

BINTA (CONT'D)

Yes you're paying. Now go get dressed.

Toun smiles and hurries into to go and change.

PRELAP - BUMPING AFROBEATS takes us to -

EXT. LEGACY - NIGHT

The club is bumping.

INT. LEGACY - MAIN AREA - NIGHT

Toun, Binta and Quam make their way through the press.

QUAM

Mehn, that's why I love this zones.
It be like say everyday it go bang.

They move to enter the VIP, and a BOUNCER blocks their path.

BOUNCER

Private Party.

BINTA

Bros, I book table inside nau.

BOUNCER

Private Party.

QUAM

This is bullshit.

The Bouncer looms menacingly. Binta sees Quam not backing down, knows that it's going to escalate.

BINTA

Let's go.

Toun's eyes flash.

TOUN

Let's not.

Toun goes over to the the table next to the VIP stand.

TOUN (CONT'D)

I'll pay for all your drinks tonight
if you give us this table.

To their credit, the PEOPLE don't even blink. They leap up.

BINTA

What are you doing?

TOUN

Enjoying myself.

Toun motions to a WAITRESS.

INT. LEGACY - MAIN AREA - MOMENTS LATER

Two WAITERS struggle to place a fridge of champagne by the table - right in front of the VIP. The Waiters move to leave.

TOUN

Where are my sparklers?

The WAITERS exchange glances.

WAITER 1

Madam the bottles are in the fridge.

TOUN

Eh put the sparklers on the fridge.

The Waiters exchange glances again, but hurry away.

INT. LEGACY - VIP LOUNGE - LATER

FEMI ALABI is the center of attention. Chopping life. HANGERS ON and BEAUTIFUL WOMEN enjoy with him.

A roar of noise comes from the club that is quite staggering. Femi motions to one of the hangers on. The MAN hurries over.

FEMI ALABI

Victor go and find out what that is.

Victor hurries away. He gets to the front of the VIP and hurries back with a confused look on his face.

VICTOR

It's my brother and his girlfriend.
(confused)
They bought out the bar.

EXT. LEGACY - MAIN AREA - NIGHT

It's a mad house. Drinks flowing. The club going wild. Toun is dancing on the table, drinking from a bottle of champagne.

Quam and Binta are not exactly having a good time - they watching Toun warily.

FEMI ALABI (O.S.)

What do we have here?

Quam sees Femi Alabi with Victor. He leaps to his feet.

QUAM

Sah!

FEMI ALABI

Your brother speaks highly of you.

Quam's eyes goggle. He looks over at Victor.

FEMI ALABI (CONT'D)

Introduce me.

Quam doesn't need to ask who he's talking about. He gets Toun's attention. She scowls and drops down to meet them.

TOUN

Yes?

FEMI ALABI

You're buying out my bar.

TOUN

So?

You can see Seun struggle to not be offended.

FEMI ALABI

I'd like to invite you to VIP.

TOUN

I tried. You bounced me.

Femi looks at the Bouncer, who winces. Femi walks up to the Bouncer and punches him in the face. Hard. The Bouncer drops. Femi walks back. Extends his hand with a smile.

FEMI ALABI

Please accept my apology.

Toun grins. She's about to take his hand, when she looks past and sees her mother walking through the crowd.

EXT. LEGACY - NIGHT

Binta is hurrying after Toun.

TOUN

You invited her!

BINTA

She's your mother. She's worried about you. You've been avoiding her.

TOUN

It's none of your business.

BINTA

It's not me you just said that to.

That checks Toun.

TOUN

Yes. Fine. Sorry. But you shouldn't have done it behind my back.

BINTA

Talk to her Toun.

Toun shakes her head and keeps walking.

BINTA (CONT'D)

Em. Where are you going?

TOUN

Home.

BINTA

Ah ahn. Who is going to pay?

Toun reaches into her purse, pulls out her card.

TOUN

The pin is 3318.

Ifeanyi's SUV pulls up. Toun gets in. It zooms off.

INT. IFEANYI'S SUV - NIGHT

Toun sits in the back as the city lights streak past. She's staring into space. Suddenly tears start falling down her cheeks. She makes no move to wipe them off.

We stay with her for a while as she cries and then we

FADE OUT:

FADE IN:

INT. AUDERE GROUP - BOARD ROOM - DAY

Toun enters to find Angela, Chuka and Patrick waiting.

ANGELA

You spent four million last night!

TOUN

What are you talking about?

ANGELA

It's all over social media.

Angela clicks, the projector runs through a slideshow.

ANGELA (CONT'D)

Videos of you taking shots

(click)

Dancing on tables

(click)

Being rowdy

The slideshow obviously flicks through the various images. She clicks one last time.

ANGELA (CONT'D)

And the coup de grace.

It's a headline on Linda Ikeji - BILLIONAIRE CEO GOES HAM - the picture of the receipt - 4 million naira.

TOUN

Things got a little out of hand.

PATRICK

You call this a little! Are you crazy?

CHUKA

Patrick!

PATRICK

What? She has disgraced this company!

CHUKA

Can we fix this?

ANGELA

I'll try.

(to Toun)

Try not to do any more crazy shit.

Toun winces and flees. Angela leaves soon after. Once she's gone, Patrick rounds on his father.

PATRICK

How much longer must this continue?

CHUKA

She's Ifeanyi's choice.

PATRICK

Ifeanyi was crazy. Yes he's your brother, but he was. You built this company with him for twenty years. Are you really going to leave the company in her hands? To let her destroy your legacy?

Chuka is mulling it over. For a second you think he is going to resist and then -

CHUKA

I cannot be seen to... she has to choose to step down.

Patrick smiles a predatory smile. He's gotten what he wants.

INT. SPAR AWOLOWO ROAD - MAIN TILL - DAY

Toun is with Binta again as she checks out SHOPPERS.

TOUN

Four million naira, Binta!

BINTA

Were you not the one who told them to buy out the bar? Your champagne alone was one million. In fact, you should be thanking me. If not for me the bill for reach 6 m.

TOUN
(smiles)
Thank you.

Her phone rings. She looks down. It's Joseph. Her face falls.

BINTA
Work?

TOUN
Joseph.

She lets it ring out. Her phone rings again. It's Fatima.

BINTA
Joseph again?

TOUN
(headshake)
Mumsie.

As it rings.

BINTA
You have to talk to her.

Toun shakes her head. It rings out. Immediately it rings.

BINTA (CONT'D)
You are popular o. Who is it now?

Toun looks down. It's Amina. She's confused.

TOUN
I have to go.

INT. LAGOS FASHION OFFICE - FITTING ROOM - DAY

Amina smiles as Toun is ushered into a Fitting Room where a YOUNG WOMAN watches MODELS being fitted for her clothes.

AMINA
Thank you for coming.

Toun moves to speak, Amina overrides her.

AMINA (CONT'D)
That's Ufot Emene - the new Rising
Star. She's good but she's no you.

Toun is staring at Ufot hungrily. She turns, her voice harsh.

TOUN
Why are you showing me this?

AMINA
You spent 4 million last night.

TOUN
I was celebrating.

AMINA
Celebrating what? Giving up your
dream?

Toun doesn't answer. Amina nods.

AMINA (CONT'D)
I've decided to keep a slot open
for you in the show.

Toun freezes. Eventually she forces out an answer.

TOUN
Thank you, but I must decline.

AMINA
(shrugs)
I'll keep it open anyway.

Toun turns and leaves.

EXT. LAGOS FASHION OFFICE - DAY

Toun arrives in the parking lot to find Joseph by the car.
She eyes the Driver and then Joseph in turn.

TOUN
I've already had the lecture.
Thanks.

JOSEPH
Your father is right about you.

Toun is obviously confused. "Huh"

JOSEPH (CONT'D)
Ten years ago I was your father's
driver for day. In PH. I drove him
from the airport into town. There
was traffic so we had a three hour
conversation. At the end of it he
knew that I was a law graduate
from UniPort who could not afford
law school. He paid for my law
school, sent me to Harvard for a
Masters in law and hired me
immediately after.

TOUN
How nice of him.

JOSEPH
My point is - Ifeanyi had a gift
for personnel. If he thinks you
can be CEO, he's right.

Toun digests that. Then:

TOUN

They just offered me a spot at
Fashion Week if I want it.

It's almost a wail. A negation of what he said.

JOSEPH

So take it. I'm sure your Uncle
Chuka would be fine as CEO.

She looks away.

TOUN

Why does he get to chose my life?

JOSEPH

That someone chooses for you doesn't
make it the wrong choice.

Toun takes that in, but almost wails.

TOUN

Why can't I have both?

JOSEPH

(sympathetic)

Sometimes you don't get to.

Toun takes that in too. She pulls herself together.

TOUN

Thank you.

INT. AUDERE GROUP - ANGELA'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Angela is working hard. She looks up at a knock on the
door. It's Toun, with Joseph a few steps behind.

TOUN

Can we talk?

ANGELA

What can I help you with Ms.
Odumosu?

No real welcome there. Toun winces.

TOUN

I'd like to say I'm sorry. You've
been nothing but great to me and I
just wasted all your work.

ANGELA

Not all of it. Just most.

Toun smiles slightly. She sits.

TOUN

Can we fix it?

Angela gives her a long measured look, and then turns her laptop around. Toun scans the document.

TOUN (CONT'D)

You want me to do a reality show
touring the company facilities?

JOSEPH

That's brilliant!

Angela cocks her head in thanks as Toun looks over at him.

JOSEPH (CONT'D)

By highlighting you as CEO doing
CEO things, it makes it harder for
them to not approve you.

Toun takes it in. Smiles at Angela.

TOUN

Thank you.

ANGELA

You're going to have to change
your look too.

Toun freezes for just a second, but nods.

TOUN

What ever I need to do, I'll do.

ANGELA

By the time we're done with you.
You'll not only look like a genius
CEO. Everyone will start to agree
that you are one.

MONTAGE - THE WHIRLWIND TOUR

INT. HAIR DRESSING SALON - DAY

Toun is getting her hair and nails done under the watchful
eye of Angela. Her interview is on in the background.

INT. BOUTIQUE - DAY

Toun is getting styled by Morenike.

INT. AUDERE GROUP - TOUN'S OFFICE - DAY

Angela and Joseph are teaching Toun on a white board.

EXT. SPAR AWOLOWO ROAD - DAY

An equipment truck is parked outside the store.

EXT. DADA GAMES - DAY

A spacious office in Yabacon. Leaders of tomorrow. Etc.
etc.

INT. DADA GAMES - MAIN FLOOR - CONTINUOUS

Toun is escorted through the main floor by GANIYU OSAMEDE - an avant garde - CEO in his late twenties. As always Joseph trails them. The camera is capturing their every move.

As Ganiyu talks, Toun is glancing at the posters of the wall showcasing games like Okada Rider, Juju Girl, and so on.

GANIYU

You're trying to figure it out right?

(Toun blinks)

Trying to figure out why a mobile games company is part of an FMCG network.

Toun laughs self consciously. You can tell she's kind of feeling the boy.

TOUN

Yea. I was.

GANIYU

I get that a lot. Your father was a genius.

(grins)

I'm sure you get that a lot.

TOUN

You have no idea.

They share a look. You know the one. Ganiyu shakes it off.

GANIYU

Anyway, he figured that the people who bought his products would be attracted to the types of games I made so he bought my company.

Ganiyu's enthusiasm is infectious. Toun smiles in return.

GANIYU (CONT'D)

So do you feel like CEO yet?

TOUN

Do you ever feel like CEO?

Ganiyu bursts out laughing. Toun frowns.

GANIYU

I'm sorry. I think you used the exact same words in all your interviews.

TOUN

You didn't watch all my interviews.

GANIYU

Of course I did.

There's that look again. It's Toun turn to brings them back.

TOUN

Why?

GANIYU

You're my CEO. I wanted to know you.

TOUN

And what did you find out?

GANIYU

That Angela's a damn good writer.

Toun punches him in the arm playfully.

GANIYU (CONT'D)

I'm going to report you.

TOUN

To who? I'm the CEO.

Ganiyu grins at her. She smiles back. Uh Oh. Suddenly her phone rings. It's Quam. She's not smiling anymore.

QUAM (ON THE PHONE)

Toun I need your help!

She listens for a moment and then hangs up. She smiles apologetically at Ganiyu.

TOUN

I'm sorry I have to go.

GANIYU

That's fine. We can continue over dinner tonight.

(she hesitates)

You can't say no. You owe me a visit.

TOUN

Fine. Where should we meet?

GANIYU

I'll call Joseph, let me surprise you.

EXT. SPORTS BETTING COMPANY - DAY

It's the standard converted building.

INT. SPORTS BETTING COMPANY - BOARD ROOM - DAY

As Toun enters, Quam and Victor leap to their feet. Quam hurries over to meet her.

Toun spots the Egbon from the club FEMI ALABI.

FEMI ALABI

Welcome.

TOUN

What's going on?

FEMI ALABI

You be our sister. We want make
you join us.

Toun is confused.

TOUN

Join you? Join you how?

FEMI ALABI

As an investor nau. You think say
I wan marry you?

(laughs)

Or Quam is that ok? Make I fit
take her from you?

QUAM

Ah boss. It no be like that nau.

Femi laughs. Toun takes one last look and walks out.

EXT. SPORTS BETTING COMPANY - DAY

Toun comes storming out. Quam hurries after. Joseph a little
ways behind.

QUAM

Toun wait! Toun!

Toun turns on him.

TOUN

How could you do that?

Quam is confused.

QUAM

It's a great opportunity.

TOUN

So great you had to ambush me?

QUAM

It was a presentation, Toun. What's
the problem?

TOUN

What's the problem with you plotting
against me? You're my boyfriend
Quam!

QUAM

It's not like that. Sports betting
is a good investment. Your 200

(MORE)

QUAM (CONT'D)

million investment can become 2
billion!

TOUN

And what's your cut?

Quam looks away. Obviously doesn't want to answer. Toun is waiting. Eventually:

QUAM

Ten percent of the amount.

Her look of betrayal is clear.

QUAM (CONT'D)

I'm not taking cash. I'm keeping
it as an investment in the business.
It was a way to start building my
future, like I've always wanted.

TOUN

What about the exam? You pass and
you're an accountant.

QUAM

Yes. Earning forty k a month, if I
can even get a job.

TOUN

That was our plan.

QUAM

And now you are a billionaire. You
go date me if I am making forty k?

TOUN

That's my choice.

The Range has pulled out. Joseph gets in.

QUAM

I need this Toun.

TOUN

Why is it always about what you
need?

(beat)

I'm such a fool. I truly believed
there was more to you but I was
wrong.

QUAM

200M is nothing to you and this
deal will change my life! How can
you say no?

TOUN

4 years and this is what it comes
to

Toun opens the door. Quam looks frantic as she moves to enter.

QUAM

These are not the kind of men you
disappoint.

Toun laughs. It's a heartbreaking laugh.

TOUN

You promised them I'd do it.
(He looks away)
If I do this we're through.

He looks away. Can't look at her as he confirms what we
all know to be true.

QUAM

I'll send you the details.

Toun doesn't trust herself to answer. She gets into the
car and slams the door shut.

INT. IFEANYI'S SUV - CONTINUOUS

Joseph looks at Toun as she gets into the SUV. The Driver
pulls away. After a few moments:

JOSEPH

Are you ok?

TOUN

Can I invest two hundred million
into this company?

Joseph looks alarmed.

JOSEPH

You want to do the deal? Toun!

Toun is not in the mood to be lectured to.

TOUN

Answer the question.

Joseph's lips thin.

JOSEPH

As CEO of Audere, your personal
investment threshold is 50 million.
You have to do this through Audere.

TOUN

Make the arrangements.

JOSEPH

Toun I don't think -

TOUN

I didn't ask what you thought. Do
it

JOSEPH
As you wish Ms Odumosu.

His phone rings. He picks up.

JOSEPH (CONT'D)
Yes. Mr. Osamede, I got the address.

Toun remembers. She's winces.

JOSEPH (CONT'D)
Will you still be meeting with Mr.
Osamede for dinner?

Toun clearly wants to say no but she can't.

TOUN
Yes. I will be.

EXT. FANCY RESTAURANT - NIGHT

There's a closed sign.

TOUN (V.O.)
Where is everybody?

INT. FANCY RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Toun enters with Joseph to find Ganiyu sitting alone.

GANIYU
I booked the place. One of the
perks of being rich.

Toun's eyes flash with wonder.

GANIYU (CONT'D)
(to Joseph)
You can go, I'll take her home.

TOUN
It's ok Joseph. I'll be fine.

Joseph stares as Ganiyu pulls out her chair. He turns on his heel and strides out.

INT. FANCY RESTAURANT - LATER

They are in the midst of dinner. The Server has just topped off their wine. Toun is looking at Ganiyu in shock.

TOUN
What do you mean I got off easy?

GANIYU
You got a good deal done today and
it cost you 20M to discover your
boyfriend is an asshole. Easy.

TOUN
You think it's a good deal?

GANIYU

You do. Otherwise you wouldn't have done it. Boyfriend or no boyfriend.

TOUN

I just wish he had come to me rather than going behind my back.

GANIYU

He wanted a cut. He comes to you, he doesn't get one.

TOUN

You think he was right to do it?

GANIYU

Of course not. He was an asshole. That's why you should hang out with rich people like me who only want you and not your money.

Now that's a line. Toun is suddenly self conscious. She hides it by taking a sip of her wine.

TIMELAPSE OF MORE FUN AT DINNER

EXT. FANCY RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Toun and Ganiyu emerge from the restaurant. Ganiyu has his normal smirk.

GANIYU

So what movie are we watching?

Toun looks over at him.

TOUN

I'm sorry?

GANIYU

I have a sweet home system and connects in Hollywood, we can watch any movie you want.

Toun gets. It's Netflix and chill. Yea she's not doing that. But she's still interested so -

TOUN

How about we go to the cinema instead?

Ganiyu knows not to push. He pulls out his phone and fires up the google app.

EXT. FANCY RESTAURANT - NIGHT

They walk to his car. Not touching but very close.

TOUN

How can you say that all that matters is what you want?

GANIYU

At work you have to do what everyone else wants you to do. Everybody is looking to you. Depending on you.

TOUN

Tell me about it.

GANIYU

Exactly. But in your private life, do what you want, that's the only way you maintain balance.

TOUN

I have friends. Family. I can't just ignore what they...
(horror)
Shit. Shit. Shit.

GANIYU

What's wrong?

TOUN

I'm supposed to meet my friend at the beach. Today's her birthday.

GANIYU

I can take you.

Toun shoots him a look of gratitude.

EXT. BEACH - PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Binta is walking arm in arm with Laolu. A few PARTY GOERS are with them. They are heading towards the buses parked.

Ganiyu's car pulls into the parking lot. Loud. Noisy. The group exchange glances.

Toun hops out of the car and hurries over to Binta.

TOUN

I'm so sorry Binta.

Binta eyes her well. That deep eyeing that touches your soul.

BINTA

I understand ma. I know you are busy ma

This "eff off" crushes Toun.

TOUN

Don't be like that. Please.

BINTA

Be like what Ma? Please let me know the attitude you want ma, so I can adjust ma.

TOUN

I said I was sorry.

BINTA

Your mother said she was sorry. When's the last time you've spoken to her?

TOUN

Don't go there.

BINTA

Or what? You'll stop being my friend?

(sad smile)

You stopped being my friend the second you became a billionaire. It just took me this long to realise it.

Toun is moved to refute this accusation. She reaches into her bag and tosses a set of keys to Binta.

TOUN

Keys to my house and a car. So you have no issues getting to your new job.

Toun tosses her a letter.

TOUN (CONT'D)

An employment offer at County Foods. Food science division.

(angry)

Don't worry it's not one of my companies.

(angrier)

You're right, I stopped being your friend. Happy birthday.

She goes back to Ganiyu's car. Binta watches them drive off.

INT. GANIYU'S CAR - MOMENTS LATER

Ganiyu keeps stealing glances at her.

GANIYU

I'm sorry, but this is the problem with these people. They just can't -

TOUN

Not right now. Please.

GANIYU

Do you want anything.

CUT TO:

INT. TOUN'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Ganiyu is slammed against the wall of the bedroom. He's grinning, so you know he is enjoying it.

Toun comes into view. She kisses him hard. Yep it's one of those kinds of things.

He carries her in his arms and over to the bed. He lays her down and

We leave them doing their thing with the last shot being the pack of condoms.

EXT. TOUN'S APARTMENT - MORNING

It's morning. A key jingles in the lock.

INT. TOUN'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAY

The door opens. Binta walks in. She stops short. Ganiyu is in his boxers watching tv and eating ice cream.

GANIYU

Hello.

Binta is uncertain.

BINTA

Um. Hello.

TOUN (O.S.)

You better not have finished the -

Toun comes in in his dress shirt. She stops short as she sees Binta. Ganiyu takes in the atmosphere.

GANIYU

I'll let you two talk.

Ganiyu stands with his ice cream. Kisses Toun on the forehead as he goes past.

Once he's gone. They stare at each other for a while. Then.

TOUN

I'm sorry I missed it.

BINTA

Please don't make this harder.

Toun suddenly looks scared.

TOUN

Make what harder. Binta what's going on?

BINTA

Yesterday, you gave me a car, a key to your flat and my dream job.

TOUN

Yes. You're my best friend I want -

BINTA

And you can easily take all of that away.

TOUN

Binta I would never -

BINTA

You can't say that. You are changing. If I told you six weeks ago you'd stop talking to your mother would you have believed me?

Toun has to accept the truth of that.

TOUN

So what are you saying. We're no longer friends?

BINTA

No. Don't be stupid.

Binta hands over the keys and the letter. Toun looks confused.

TOUN

I don't understand.

BINTA

If you want me to be your friend, you can't give me a job, a car or the keys to your flat.

TOUN

I wasn't trying to...

BINTA

I know. You need to be this.
(waves hands around)
But I need to be me. And this
(waves hands again)
- isn't me.

Toun understands. It's hard but she gets.

TOUN

I'm sorry.

BINTA

I'm sorry too.
(they hug)
I still want my present - buy me the new samsung or something.

TOUN
(laughs)
Deal.

EXT. AUDERE GROUP - DAY

The office is bustling.

INT. AUDERE GROUP - CHUKA'S OFFICE - DAY

Chuka looks up at an excited Patrick carrying a document.

PATRICK
Have you seen this?

CHUKA
What is it?

PATRICK
The due diligence report on the
betting company Toun bought.

CHUKA
How bad is it?

PATRICK
It's owned by a local gang. The
CEO is even on trial for murder.

CHUKA
Have you told Toun?
(Head shake)
Why not?

PATRICK
She didn't ask for due diligence.
The legal guys just did their job.
The investment has already gone
in.

CHUKA
Dammit.

PATRICK
Actually this is good for us.

Chuka starts to protest, realises what his son is saying,
then looks very grave. He nods, giving permission.

EXT. LAGOS - DAY

Ifeanyi's SUV speeds down the highway. A phone rings.

INT. IFEANYI'S SUV - MOMENTS LATER

Toun is on the phone in the back seat.

TOUN
Yes Joseph I know I'm running late.

JOSEPH (ON THE PHONE)
Mrs. Nwachukwu would like to see
you before you go into the office
today.

TOUN
What? Why?

JOSEPH (ON THE PHONE)
She didn't say.

Toun hesitates. She clearly doesn't want to go.

JOSEPH (ON THE PHONE) (CONT'D)
I would advise that you honour the
invitation.

TOUN
Fine. Whatever. I'll be there.

INT. NWACHUKWU HOUSE - DINING ROOM - DAY

Toun is seated in front of Ebube as she has her breakfast.

TOUN
I don't understand.

EBUBE
You did approve the deal, yes?
(Toun nods)
Did you wait for a due diligence
report to be done?

TOUN
What's a due diligence report?

Ebube glares at Joseph.

EBUBE
What have you been teaching her?

Of course that irritates Toun.

TOUN
Please answer my question or make
your point.

Ebube forces herself to swallow her irritation.

EBUBE
Due diligence is a thorough review.
The due diligence of this company
shows that the owners are criminals.

Toun scoffs.

TOUN
Eh hen so? If they wanted to know
that, all they had to do was ask
me.

Ebube glances at Joseph again.

EBUBE

You knew they were criminals?

(Toun shrugs)

You can't invest in a company owned by criminals!

TOUN

Why not?

EBUBE

Their money is not clean.

TOUN

But we bought Shayo and the CEO's father was a Governor. Is her money clean?

EBUBE

It's not the same.

(At Toun's look)

Maybe it is the same, but it isn't seen as the same.

TOUN

Maybe I can explain to them.

EBUBE

It's too late for that. Chuka has called for an emergency board meeting.

TOUN

I can explain there. No problem.

Ebube shakes her head at Toun's naivete.

EBUBE

I expect he will pressure you to resign and appoint someone else.

TOUN

Oh.

It finally sinks in. Toun hunches in on herself.

TOUN (CONT'D)

He's trying to get rid of me?

EBUBE

Yes. And the board is on his side.

TOUN

Including you?

Ebube smiles comfortingly.

EBUBE

No. No he doesn't have me.

That moves Toun. She looks away. She stands.

TOUN

Thank you. For telling me. For everything.

EBUBE

You're family.

Now that's a line. Toun smiles and impulsively gives her a big hug. Once she does that, she runs out.

EBUBE (CONT'D)

Joseph.
(he braces)
Do better.

Joseph is suitably chastened. He nods.

INT. AUDERE GROUP - CHUKA'S OFFICE - DAY

Chuka is in a meeting with his children.

CHUKA'S RECEPTIONIST (O.S.)

You can't go in there. He's in a -

They all look up as Toun bursts through the door.

CHUKA

It's ok Nike.

The Receptionist daggers Toun, but she does leave. Toun doesn't wait for the door to shut. She focuses on Angela.

TOUN

So what was all that bullshit about working to help me succeed?

ANGELA

What are you talking about?

TOUN

So what are you doing? Working out the angle for my resignation?

ANGELA

Resignation? What resignation?

It clicks. She actually doesn't know.

TOUN

Your father called an emergency board meeting to ask me to resign.

Angela is surprised. She turns to Chuka.

ANGELA

Dad! Is this true?

Patrick jumps in.

PATRICK

She did it to herself. Her continued recklessness. She backed criminals.

TOUN

Even if I made a mistake, this one is easily fixable.

PATRICK

In your opinion.

TOUN

I can fight. I can refuse to appoint a new CEO.

PATRICK

Thus destroying your father's legacy just after his death. Good job!

Trust Patrick to hit her sweet spot.

CHUKA

It doesn't have to be like this. There is no need for conflict.

(gestures at Angela)

We can craft a statement about how you aren't ready now. You want me to take over. You want to go your own path into fashion design - you will be debuting at Lagos fashion week.

You can see Toun becoming reasonable, until Chuka gets to Lagos fashion week. She blinks -

TOUN

What do you mean Lagos Fashion week?

CHUKA

I heard they kept a spot for you.

TOUN

Who told you that?

CHUKA

Toun, that is not the point. I think we should get back to -

But Chuka is speaking to the air, because Toun's left already.

INT. AUDERE GROUP - TOUN'S OFFICE - DAY

Joseph is waiting patiently - as he does - when then door opens. Toun is calmer now.

JOSEPH

How did it go?

TOUN

How long have you worked for them?

JOSEPH

What are you talking about?

TOUN

Chuka mentioned the Lagos Fashion week. Who else could have told him?

Joseph stands.

JOSEPH

What are you accusing me of?

TOUN

You've been working with them to take the company from me.

JOSEPH

You've been content to play CEO on TV and have refused to put in the work required to run this company. I warned you about the purchase. You shut me down. No one had to conspire against you. You did it to yourself.

This is too much truth for Toun to handle. She flees. Once she's gone, we stay with Joseph whose face is a mask of frustration.

EXT. SPAR AWOLOWO ROAD - DAY

Ifeanyi's SUV is parked outside.

INT. SPAR AWOLOWO ROAD - MAIN TILL - DAY

Once again Toun is at the till with Binta.

BINTA

So they're going to bounce you?

TOUN

Looks like.

BINTA

Will they take your money?

TOUN

No that's mine to keep.

BINTA

So wetin? Everything is sorted abi?

Toun looks away. Binta laughs.

BINTA (CONT'D)

Oh my goodness, you want to be CEO!

TOUN

Yes. Until they tried to take it from me, I didn't know how much I liked it. I can do this Binta.

BINTA

And fashion?

Toun doesn't reply, and Binta doesn't push.

BINTA (CONT'D)

So what are you going to do?

(Toun is confused)

How are you going to remain as CEO?

TOUN

I don't know.

BINTA

So go figure that out jare.

Toun smiles.

TOUN

You're right. Thank you.

Toun turns to leave.

BINTA

Buy something.

Toun glances over to where Dupe stands eyeing them. She turns back to Binta with a smile. "Of course"

EXT. LAGOS - DAY

Ifeanyi's SUV speeds down the Lagos roads.

INT. IFEANYI'S SUV - CONTINUOUS

Toun is in the back seat watching the video.

IFEANYI (IN THE VIDEO)

- I don't have any right to ask, but would like you to carry on my legacy. It's not fair what I am about to do to you, but I believe that you have the grace and maturity to handle it. Good luck my daughter. I really wish I could have known you.

The screen goes blank. Toun sighs.

TOUN

I'm sorry Dad.

MARIZU THE DRIVER

We're here ma.

EXT. FATIMA'S - DAY

We now know we've arrived at Fatima's.

INT. FATIMA'S - MAIN BAR - DAY

Fatima is laughing and joking with the early morning PATRONS. Suddenly her face freezes. We see her looking at Toun.

TOUN

Can we talk?

Fatima nods carefully. She turns and heads for the back.

INT. FATIMA'S - HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

Fatima waits patiently for the pacing Toun. Eventually:

TOUN

They're trying to get me to resign.

This throws Fatima.

FATIMA

Is that what you want to talk about?
(incredulous)

We haven't spoken for over a month
and this is what you say to me?

Toun looks away. She still doesn't say anything.

FATIMA (CONT'D)

Fine. I'll start. I was selfish. I
gave up so much for him, I didn't
see why I had to give you up too.
I'm sorry.

TOUN

You were right.
(laughs)

I've been a billionaire for six
weeks and my life went crazy. I
can barely handle it at 23, at
twelve, Lord knows what would have
happened?

Fatima and Toun exchange smiles.

TOUN (CONT'D)

Thank you for being my everything.

Fatima is moved by that and gives her a big hug. Then practical as always, she returns to the topic.

FATIMA

So what's this about them wanting
you to resign?

TOUN

I invested in Ultimate Bet.

FATIMA

Ultimate bet? Why?

(eyes narrow)

Doesn't Quam's brother work there?
This is because of Quam? Shebi I
told you that boy will ruin your
life. You see yourself.

TOUN

(laughs)

I thought you were helping me. And
yes it was because of Quam, but I
should still have done my job.

FATIMA

At least you left him for that
fine boy.

Toun is confused.

TOUN

Fine boy? I don't understand.

FATIMA

Ganiyu Osamede. You are together
abi

TOUN

We went on a ... how do you know?

INT. FATIMA'S - HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

ON FATIMA'S PHONE

Instagram selfie by Ganiyu - Toun's living room. Breakfast
on the dining table. She's in a dress shirt backing the
camera. Caption: breakfast with Superbae

TOUN (O.S.)

Oh

HALLWAY

Toun looks at her mom. Embarrassed.

TOUN (CONT'D)

That could be anybody.

(Fatima eyes her)

Ok fine it's me.

(eyes narrow)

Why are you following him on
instagram? When did you get
instagram?

FATIMA

When you stopped talking to me, I had to get information about you any way I could.

(frowns)

That's why I'm not shouting on you for having a man in your house.

(smiles)

So are you people dating?

TOUN

I don't think so.

(Fatima eyes her)

Maybe. Oh my God!

INT. TOUN'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - PAST - NIGHT

Toun and Ganiyu lie sated in bed. Ganiyu looks to his right and sees the sewing machine on the dresser.

GANIYU

That's like the most hideous thing I've ever seen.

Toun swats him playfully.

TOUN

Be nice. I saved up for months.

GANIYU

That doesn't speak to your judgement. Should I be worried, Ms. CEO.

TOUN

Shut up. I sewed my entry to Lagos Fashion week on it. I even got in. They still have a spot for me if I want it.

Ganiyu digests the information.

GANIYU

You were a designer before all this?

TOUN

I was working on it.

GANIYU

Wanna work on something else?

He reaches for her again, she laughs wickedly.

INT. FATIMA'S - HALLWAY - DAY

Fatima is looking at her daughter with concern.

FATIMA

Are you ok?

Toun comes out of her reverie.

TOUN

Yes. Yes I am.

Toun gives her mom a quick hug.

TOUN (CONT'D)

I have to go. See you later.

Toun hurries away, leaving her mother to look bemused.

INT. DADA GAMES - CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

Ganiyu is running a FOCUS GROUP through a game demo. He sees Toun and smiles his welcome.

TOUN

Can we talk...
(looks at focus
group)
In private?

GANIYU

Can you give me ten minutes? I
just need to run feedback with
these guys.

Toun takes a breath. Holding the anger in. She nods.

TOUN

I'll be in your office.

INT. DADA GAMES - GANIYU'S OFFICE - DAY

Toun is seated when Ganiyu breezes in.

GANIYU

Sorry to keep you waiting.

He leans over to kiss her. She punches him in the gut,
winding him. He drops to his knees.

TOUN

You asshole! You plotted against
me.

From his knees.

GANIYU

Plotted is a strong word.
(gets to his feet)
I was trying to help you.

TOUN

Trying to help me! By helping them
take my job!

GANIYU

You don't even want the job!

Toun looks at him - at yet another man who decided to make decisions for her.

TOUN

If you really had my best interests at heart, you would have spoken to me before you stabbed me in the back!

With that Toun moves to leave. As she opens the door.

GANIYU

Toun -
(she turns)
I'm sorry.

It's probably heart felt, but Toun gives the apology the appropriate look of derision before she leaves.

EXT. NWACHUKWU HOUSE - LATER

Looking beautiful as always.

INT. NWACHUKWU HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The every solicitous Joseph stands before Ebube.

JOSEPH

How may I help you ma?

EBUBE

Thank you for coming Joseph. However I'm not the one that needs your help.

As expected Joseph is confused, but before he can say anything, Toun enters the room. Joseph closes up.

EBUBE (CONT'D)

I'm sorry for the deception, but she needs to speak to you.

With that, Ebube sweeps majestically out of the room.

TOUN

You didn't answer my calls.

Joseph lets that statement sit. He doesn't answer. Toun realises he isn't going to. She presses on:

TOUN (CONT'D)

I've decided that I want to stay as CEO, and I would like your help.

JOSEPH

Why would I help you? Anyone else would be a better CEO than you.

It hurts. But Toun rolls with it.

TOUN

Maybe. But you helped me because
my father asked you to.

(silence)

Now I'm asking for me. You owed my
father. You don't owe me. But if
you could just -

JOSEPH

I'm sorry. I can't.

TOUN

Why not?

JOSEPH

I'm sorry. I just can't

TOUN

Why?

(cries)

Tell me why!

Joseph takes a long look at her and then comes towards her
and kisses her. She freezes. He disengages.

TOUN (CONT'D)

Oh.

JOSEPH

Yes.

(sad smile)

Goodbye Toun.

TOUN

You're so full of shit.

He turns, surprised.

TOUN (CONT'D)

If you really liked me, you'd help
me despite how I felt about you.

JOSEPH

Do you know how hard -

TOUN

You think I don't know about hard?

(he looks away)

I need you. Help me. Please.

Joseph looks torn but you know he's going to give in.

INT. TOUN'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - LATER

A surprised Binta is looking at an amused Toun.

BINTA

He kissed you! And you didn't kiss
him back?

TOUN

Why would I kiss him back?

BINTA

It's not your fault. It's because you are used to dating nonsense boys that you can't notice a good one.

Toun laughs but is saved from replying by the bell.

Toun goes to the door. It's Joseph. As expected, its uncomfortable.

TOUN

Thanks for coming.

He manages a smile and ducks into the room. Toun follows.

BINTA

That could have gone worse.

Toun throws a pillow at her.

TOUN

Shut up.

The doorbell rings again.

INT. TOUN'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

The door opens. It's Fatima with bags of food.

FATIMA

I brought food.

PRELAP - The doorbell rings again.

INT. TOUN'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - LATER

The door opens. Fatima opens the door this time. It's Ebube. She gives her a long look and then hugs her.

FATIMA

(whispers)

Thank you.

Ebube smiles and hugs her back.

PRELAP - The doorbell rings again.

INT. TOUN'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - LATER

The door opens. It's Angela. Toun freezes.

TOUN

What are you doing here?

Before Angela can reply.

EBUBE (O.S.)

I asked her to come.

Toun turns to see Ebube. She takes it in, turns back to Angela

TOUN

You'd turn against your father?

ANGELA

You're my CEO and you have a crisis.

Toun gives her a measuring look.

TOUN

They think you're on my side and they'll sideline you once they win.

Angela gives her a tight, approving smile in return.

ANGELA

Good. You're learning. We may have a shot after all.

Angela walks into the living room. We stay a bit on Toun, who flashes a slight smile before going to join them.

INT. TOUN'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Everyone is sitting around. Toun looks up from her computer.

TOUN

Uncle Chuka just sent me this email.
(reads)

"Toun - the Chairman has consented to an emergency board meeting.

JOSEPH

(to Ebube)
Ahmed consented?

EBUBE

The directors wanted him to. Ahmed is a consensus builder.

Toun continues.

TOUN

"I will be requesting that you step down and appoint me CEO for a 5 year term. We will ensure that my successor is able to carry on the reigns.

ANGELA

He means Patrick by the way. Once you step down, you're never going to be in a position to come back.

Toun flashes her an "I know" glance, Angela nods an apology.

TOUN

(reading)

"The board will agree that you cannot continue as CEO and will also not approve a candidate that cannot sustain my brother's legacy.

BINTA

That's him right?

TOUN

Yes that's him.

(reads)

"I suggest we come together for the best interests of the company."

(frowns)

It looks like he copied the board.

ANGELA

Damn. That's clever. Paints you as unreasonable from jump.

EBUBE

Chuka was always good at tactics.

Angela and Ebube exchange smiles. Binta raises her hand.

TOUN

Binta, you don't have to raise your hand.

Binta flushes, but continues.

BINTA

I'm sorry. I'm new to this corporate wahala. Can I ask a question? Why are you sure he is not the right CEO?

TOUN

My father didn't pick him.

We notice that she didn't flinch when she said "father"

TOUN (CONT'D)

Ifeanyi was supposed to be a genius, and he picked me - a novice - over Chuka. I may not be the best person to run Audere, but neither is he.

EBUBE

But he's the only person the board thinks can run it.

TOUN

So we need to convince them I can.

EBUBE

How?

Everybody thinks for a second. Then

JOSEPH

We convince them investing in
Ultimate Bet was a genius move.

Everyone is surprised.

ANGELA

That seems... bold.

TOUN

The only way out is through.

She notices Ebube, Angela - freeze. Toun is confused.

TOUN (CONT'D)

What's going on? What's wrong?

They exchange glances.

ANGELA

Uncle Ifeanyi used to say that a
lot

EBUBE

It was his favorite saying.

It's clear they think she has her father's mantle. Toun savours the moment.

TOUN

Let's hope it works for me like it
did for him.

INT. SPORTS BETTING COMPANY - BOARD ROOM - NIGHT

FEMI ALABI watches Toun with shock. Joseph is by her side.
Quam and Victor stand behind the brothers.

FEMI ALABI

Na joke be this? You think we
will sell our company?

TOUN

Yes. Yes I do.

He burst out laughing.

FEMI ALABI

(to Quam)
This your girl dey craze o.
(big grin)
I like am o.

Toun is not amused.

TOUN

The offer is 3 billion.
(they stop laughing)
I believe this is 10 times the
investment you made 3 years ago.

FEMI ALABI

You are crazy!

TOUN

Do we have a deal?

Femi laughs one more time and nods. Toun stands.

TOUN (CONT'D)

Great.

(gestures to Joseph)

My man will handle the paperwork.

EXT. SPORTS BETTING COMPANY - NIGHT

Toun is standing outside, waiting. Quam comes out.

TOUN

Congrats - you just made 300 million.

Quam is confused.

QUAM

What do you mean?

TOUN

I'm keeping the terms of your agent deal. 10%.

Quam is blown away.

QUAM

You would do that for me. After all I - Why?

TOUN

Because I still believe you're the man I think you are. Hopefully with this you have a chance to show it.

QUAM

Thank you. Thank you.

Quam rushes over and gives her a hug. Toun endures it with good graces. She breaks off as Joseph comes out.

TOUN

All signed.

Joseph nods. Toun heads for the SUV. Quam sees Joseph looking at her. As Joseph walks past Quam:

QUAM

You too abi?

Joseph says nothing.

QUAM (CONT'D)

If you get her, don't be a fool
like me and let her go.

Joseph takes in the unwanted advice and nods.

EXT. AUDERE GROUP - DAY

The parking lot is full.

INT. AUDERE GROUP - TOUN'S OFFICE - DAY

Chuka stands by the doorway.

CHUKA

Can we talk?

He glances over at Joseph. Joseph looks to Toun for permission. She nods. He exits.

CHUKA (CONT'D)

I see he has transferred his
loyalty.

Toun doesn't give him a response. Eventually:

CHUKA (CONT'D)

You didn't respond to my mail.

TOUN

What did you want me to say?

CHUKA

So you decided to fight?
(chuckles)

You are truly your father's
daughter.

Toun looks at her watch. Aka hurry up.

CHUKA (CONT'D)

You are not going to win.

TOUN

Uncle, you don't even know what
game we're playing.

Toun leaves him in the room alone. He now looks worried.

INT. AUDERE GROUP - HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

One of those cool shots where Toun is walking with Angela and Ebube a half step behind and Joseph just behind them.

INT. AUDERE GROUP - BOARD ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

AHMED WAZIRI, Ebube and three other BOARD MEMBERS are around the table. The COMPANY SECRETARY and his PARALEGAL are there.

Toun walks into the room with her entourage. Everyone looks up. She owns the room and knows it.

TOUN

Shall we begin.

Ahmed - the Chairman - takes in the scene.

AHMED

Shouldn't we wait for Chuka?

Just like clockwork Chuka enters with Patrick.

TOUN

You're late. Please sit.

Chuka wants to object but knows he would look churlish if he does. Patrick glares at Angela, who blanks him. Chuka sits.

TOUN (CONT'D)

Mr. Chairman, with your permission
I'd like to update the board on
the Ultimate Bet transaction.

That puts a cat among the pigeons. Chuka pushes back.

CHUKA

I'm sorry Mr. Chairman - this
meeting is to discuss the acting
CEO's role.

TOUN

I thought the discussion on my
role was linked to Ultimate Bet.
Wouldn't the board like to know
the latest?

Chuka frowns, however from Ahmed's face he knows he's lost.

AHMED

Please Ms. Odumosu go ahead.

TOUN

I bought Ultimate Bet.

The uproar is expected. Chuka exchanges glances with his son who speaks up. Trust Patrick to capitalise.

PATRICK

This is the recklessness we've
been talking about. At every turn
she demonstrates that she is not
fit.

Toun stares him down.

TOUN

Sports betting is one of the fastest
growing businesses in Nigeria.

(MORE)

TOUN (CONT'D)

They aren't giving out licenses anymore. Ultimate Bet has a license. The owners were apparently questionable people, so I bought them out. Using our distribution network, Ultimate Bet can easily become the leading sports betting company in Nigeria.

Yep. She has them. Greed. Everybody is exchanging looks.

PATRICK

Who is going to run it? Here at Audere we back management teams.

TOUN

The Alabis will step down. Victor the GM will stay. We're bringing a Nigerian a GM at Super bet365 in the UK to be CEO. I can send his profile.

Chuka knows he is losing. He tries one last time.

CHUKA

What about the ethics of it? We are enabling a criminal enterprise. Is this the message we want to send?

Toun gestures to Joseph.

JOSEPH

The Regulator passed the Alabis. However the Alabis failed our more stringent due diligence and so we decided to buy them out.

CHUKA

They are criminals!

JOSEPH

Allegedly. However we are no longer in business with them, and we bought their shares in a legitimate enterprise which is not illegal.

Chuka subsides. Game. Set. Match.

TOUN

(as Joseph sits)

Thank you Joseph.

(to Ahmed)

We can now proceed with the meeting Mr. Chairman.

Ahmed looks around the room.

AHMED

I don't think we need to any more.

Toun smiles. She won. However Ahmed is not done:

AHMED (CONT'D)

We can reconvene in two weeks as planned, unless you are ready to make your nomination for CEO?

Chuka wants to object. Thinks better of it.

TOUN

We can do it now.

(beat)

I nominate...

For some reason she looks down. She sees her Ankara covered notebook. The one with her sketches from the beginning.

TOUN (CONT'D)

I nominate... Angela Nwachuku.

Even Joseph is surprised. Clearly it wasn't planned. Patrick looks horrified. Chuka on the other hand looks thoughtful.

ANGELA

What? Is this a joke?

Toun smiles at her.

TOUN

I thought long and hard about why my father nominated me and not Uncle Chuka. It's about the future. Uncle Chuka through no fault of his own is 60 and as such is not the person to guide Audere through the next 20 years. I could be that person. I know that now. But I also know I don't want to be. Angela is that person, and I hope you'll support me

Toun is looking directly at Chuka. Clearly speaking to him. He nods. Approval given. Toun smiles and sits.

INT. AUDERE GROUP - TOUN'S OFFICE - LATER

Toun and Joseph are alone in the office.

JOSEPH

Are you sure?

TOUN

Almost. It isn't me. I need to do me

Toun looks around the room. Her father's office.

TOUN (CONT'D)

I hope he'd understand.

JOSEPH

I'm sure he will.

There is a knock on the door.

TOUN

Come in.

Ebube enters. Toun winces.

TOUN (CONT'D)

I'm so sorry. I know we had a plan.
I wish I -

She stops at Ebube's raised hand.

EBUBE

You don't have to apologise to me.
Ifeyani and I probably owe you an
apology. We tried to make you into
the daughter we knew you could be,
and never asked whether we should.
(sad smile)
I'm happy you found yourself.

Toun takes Ebube's hands in hers.

TOUN

Thank you... for everything.

The door flies open again. This time it's Angela. She gets
right to it.

ANGELA

Why?

TOUN

Why not? You want the job right?

Angela opens her mouth and then shuts it again. She smiles.

ANGELA

Thank you.

TOUN

Don't thank me. Succeed.

Angela nods. Accepting the charge.

ANGELA

So what are you going to do now?

Toun smiles.

EXT. LAGOS FASHION WEEK - NIGHT

The glitz, the glamour. The high fashion.

INT. LAGOS FASHION WEEK - NIGHT

SERIES OF SHOTS -- TOUN'S FASHION SHOW

-- Quick cuts of Toun's clothes and of the appreciative crowd

INT. LAGOS FASHION WEEK - LATER

Toun walks out with the Models with eyes only for the people who love her - Fatima, Binta, Ebube, Angela, Chuka and Joseph.

She smiles at them all. Her eyes rest on Joseph. Loyal, steadfast Joseph. Then -

MONTAGE - QUICK FLASHES OF JOSEPH ALWAYS BEING THERE FOR HER THROUGH OUT THE FILM

Realisation strikes Toun. Her smile broadens and she runs off the stage and hurls herself into his arms and kisses him

JOSEPH

Oh.

TOUN

Yes.

BINTA (O.S.)

Finally.

Everyone laughs and all is right with the world.

EXT. FILMHOUSE IMAX - NIGHT

We're on a couple of HOT GIRLS walking out of the IMAX.

HOT GIRL 1

Oh my goodness!

The two Hot Girls scream and rush over to where Quam is standing with Victor. Quam looks rich. Balling.

HOT GIRL 2

You got to take a picture with us.

The two girls pose for selfies. Quam is feeling like a boss. One of the girls presses her card into his palm.

HOT GIRL 1

Call me.

Quam's grin widens. The Girls are leaving. One of them looks over her shoulder.

HOT GIRL 2

Thanks Falz

Quam does a double take. He turns to Victor who is struggling not to laugh.

QUAM

Falz. They thought I was Falz.

All of a sudden a massive engine is heard. A fly ass car pulls up. The door opens a Valet comes out and hands the fob to Quam.

CUT TO:

INT. QUAM'S CAR - NIGHT

Quam settles behind the seat. He whips out his phone. He fires up the google app. Types in Falz. The Knowledge Panel shows up. He shows it to Victor as he swipes through.

QUAM

You see! He's not even fine!

Victor is smiling but knows better than to say anything as Quam starts the engine.

EXT. FILMHOUSE IMAX - NIGHT

Quam zooms away into the night.

FADE TO BLACK OVER TEXT - QUAM WILL RETURN

THE END