

SCRIPT TITLE  
MARU

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FADE IN:

EXT. VILLAGE - DAY

A wide view of a small sub urban village with a horizon slightly visible on the far east end of the village. The Sky is blue with little to no clouds and the sun is shining brightly. Storey houses line up with pathways in the middle with people CRISSCROSSING going about their affairs.

CUT TO:

EXT. ROAD- DAY

A busy highway with lots of cars passing by speedily and a lot of activities on the roadside. Vendors are set on the side of the roads with sellers mostly women are carrying groceries in their hands and stand on the roadside and show their products on to the passing vehicles. Next to the vendor is a bus stop a minibus makes a stop at the bus stop. A middle-aged man (Maru, 45) dark and tall with slender body and light skin. He's wearing a black suit and in his left hand he holds a briefcase and a walking stick on the right hand. He has black shoes on and a wristwatch and on his neck hangs a pair of spectacles. He stands at the bus station and takes a look around and places his briefcase down. A young man (24) approaches him and stretches his hand towards him.

YOUNG MAN

Nikusaidie kubeba mizigo  
ndugu?(looking at him hopefully)

MARU

Nimeshkuru lakini niko sawa, i can  
manage on my own.(smiles At the  
youngman).

EXT. BUS STOP-DAY

Maru carries his briefcase and starts walking towards the bodaboda stage right in front of him. He passes by a small group of people who seem to be looking at something CURIOUSLY. He moves closer to the circle and looks to see a group of acrobats performing as the audience cheers and claps for them. He watches quietly.

CUT TO:

## INT. HOUSE-NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Maru is sittted on a springchair as a lady dances infront of him acrobatically. She jumps up and comes down and on both knees she bows to Maru who is clapping HAPILLY.

CUT TO:

## EXT. VILLAGE-DAY

Maru is standing looking at the acrobats and someone jocks him on the shoulder. He drops the briefcase and the contents spill out.afew Personal items and some papers. He turns around to find a woman(26) standing behind him. She is short with a stout body and wears a headwrap,is dressed in a dera and has piercing on her nose and both her ears. She is chewing a gum. She looks at him from top to bottom.

MARU

We si uone maali unaenda(clicks)  
shida yenu wanawake hukuanga gani  
lakini?(angrily).

WOMAN

Pole sana mzee wacha  
nikusaidie(bending to help put the  
contents back to the briefcase).

MARU

Pole kwa kuongea namna hiyo.  
Nimekuwa na safari ndefu na kuchoka  
pia.(moving aside and walking past  
her.)

WOMAN

Kuna mahali unaenda  
nikusaidie?(inquisitively Looking  
at him)

MARU

Yes actually, nataka kununua maji  
ya kunywa. Mi ni mgeni huku  
(smiling).

WOMAN

I know just the place actually.  
Nifuate nikuonyeshe. (turning  
around)

CUT TO:

## EXT. VILLAGE-DAY

Maru walks behind the woman as she goes up the stairs to a restaurant with a banner written in CAPITAL LETTERS "NEEMA'S FINE DINING". The woman ushers Maru to a chair that is next to a circular plastic table with a big umbrella standing from the middle of the table. The woman smiles at her and proceeds to the counter and calls out LOUDLY.

WOMAN

Mama Neema! Mama Neema! (looking around)

A man walks out of the door behind the counter and stands looking at the woman smiling. He is 5foot tall with a slender body and clean-shaven beard and bald head (30-40 yrs) He is wearing a blue overall coat. He is slightly well built.

BABA NEEMA

Habari yako joyce. Leo mama neema  
hayuko kidogo ameenda kununua vitu  
kadhaa za kutumika hapa. Nikusaidie  
aje leo.(smiling)

JOYCE

Salama sana.(smiles Back) haina  
shida. Actually nimekuletea  
customer anataka maji ya kukunywa.

BABA NEEMA

Karibu customer (ushering him to a  
fridge behind where Maru is  
sitted)chagua ile yenye unataka ni  
sixty bob tu.

MARU

Asante( smiling).

He stand up and opens the fridge behind him and takes aout a bottle of water which he proceeds to drink. After he is done he dips his hand to his pockets and takes out a 100 shilling note and then gives it to baba neema who then enters the shop to collect the balance for him.

CUT TO:

## EXT. RESTAURANT-DAY

A man (mzee kobo 50-60yrs) walks over to the restaurant. He nods at maru then nods at Joyce who is leaving the restaurant. He takes out money from his pocket and places it on the counter and taps the counter.

BABA NEEMA  
Nikupee nini customer?

MZEE KOBO  
Kuna chai na mandazi?

BABA NEEMA  
Eeh iko, nikuwekee mandazi ngapi?  
(showing the menu poster behind  
Maru just above the refrigerator).

Mzee Kobo looks at the and then smiles at Maru.

MZEE KOBO  
Niwekee nne na chai ya majani.

BABA NEEMA  
Umechagua vizuri sana (turning  
behind her to pour tea from the  
metallic kettle on the stove.)

He hands over the tea to Mzee Kobo and returns to the counter.

Maru stands up and walks towards Mzee Kobo and stretches out his hand to greet him.

MARU  
Samahani Mzee Kidogo Naomba  
usaidizi wako tafadhali.

MZEE KOBO  
(shaking Maru's hand) haina shida  
sema tatizo kama niko na uwezo  
nitakusaidia. (smiling).

MARU  
Mimi ni mgeni kwenye kijiji hiki na  
naingia siku ya leo. Unaeweza  
nisaidia na directions za kimathi  
heights sababu sijui maali  
inapatikana.

MZEE KOBO  
Haina shida lakini kwanza karibu  
kwangu tunywe chai kwanza alafu  
tutafuta nyumba baadae. (softly  
laughing)

MARU  
Asante sana Mzee.... (hesitates)

MZEE KOBO

Naitwa Kobo wa Karure lakini  
unaweza niita Kobo(ushering him to  
follow him)

MARU

Mimi naitwa Maru Muthiani lakini  
kwa kawaida people address me as  
Mr. Maru.(chuckling)

They walk down the stairs away from the restaurant towards  
mzee kobo's home.

CUT TO:

EXT. MZEE KOBO'S HOME-DAY

A concrete fence surrounding a house with a black gate.  
Inside the compound is a driveway with flowers planted on  
either side and a small space where plastic chairs are  
arranged around a table cemented to the ground. The front  
door to the house is open ajar and the cool breeze blowing  
sends the lower part of the curtain flying out through the  
space. Mzee Kobo leads the way as Mr Maru follows swiftly.  
They seem to be engaged in a conversation as mzee kobo bursts  
out with laughter. On the upper floor of the house just  
outside the corridor a woman is keenly observing. she stands  
and goes inside.

CUT TO:

INT. MZEE KOBO'S HOME-DAY

mzee kobo opens the door wide and enters first after which  
maru follows him inside.

MZEE KOBO

Karibu kiti ndugu yangu (smiling  
while ushering maru to a seat next  
to the window).

MARU.

Asante(while sitting).

The living room is spacious with framed photos hanging from  
the wall with a couch set surrounding a glasstable. a  
television set sits infront of them with MUSI from the  
background. On the other side of the room is the dining. Six  
wooden chairs surround a rectangular table covered with a mat  
and a fruit basket full of various fruits placed in the  
middle of the table.

Just then a door is opened and out steps a woman (Naomi 45). She smiles at the two men in the living room and proceeds to mzee kobo and shakes his hand.

INT. MZEE KOBO'S HOUSE-DAY (FLASHBACK)

Maru is running as fast as he can. He is out of breath and panting. He trips and falls and rolls down before coming to a halt under a tree. He sits upright and stares at an unseen object that seems to be after him. A FAINT voice can be heard from a distance.....

FAINT VOICE

Maru.....! Maru.....! (end of flashback)

Maru snaps back to reality to find naomi standing right in front of her with her right arm stretched out to him. He slowly reaches out and shakes her hand.

MZEE KOBO

Maru meet my dear wife Naomi. She is the reason am this healthy (chuckles).

MARU

Nice to meet you madam. Indeed she seems quite the charm (smiles at naomi).

NAOMI

Karibu nyumbani (smiling) karibu sana.

MARU

Nashkuru sana mama (smiles back at her).

She then proceeds to sit next to mzee kobo. Maru can see a photo of the both of the together at a photo studio. Kobo is wearing a graduation attire and sitting on a chair holding a piece of paper that is properly folded while naomi stands behind him. They are both smiling. The gate can be heard opening.

MZEE KOBO

That must be my daughter. ni yeye tu amebaki now that wengine wameanza maisha yao.

A young lady walks in (tasha 20). She holds a purse in her hand and wears a blue dress with matching set of earrings and a necklace.



She has high heeled shoes on and has make up on her face. She greets maru first then greets her mzee kobo and naomi afterwards. She turns to maru...

TASHA

Karibu sana ( smiling) naitwa tasha  
na hapa ni nyumbani, hawa ndio  
wazazi wangu.

She then leaves the living room and her mother follows from behind.

MZEE KOBO

(turning towards maru) as i was  
saying earlier it is not that often  
in this community to find a visitor  
moving into the village (smiling)

SOFT music begins to play as the two are talking and their voices start fading away as the music overcomes their voices.

CUT TO:

INT.MZEE KOBO'S HOUSE-KITCHEN-DAY

Naomi and tasha are preparing tea for the visitor. Naomi is stirring the tea while tasha whips the egg in the bowl. There is a pan on the hot stove. Soft music plays in the background. It slowly fades out as they begin to converse in the kitchen.

NAOMI

Huyu mgeni kuna vile alibehave  
funny by the way(worridly)

TASHA

Mbona? Kwani alido? (turning to  
pouring the stirred eggs to the  
pan)

NAOMI

Kuna vile aliniangalia wakati  
nilikuwa namsalimia mpaka  
nikashangaa. Nlidhani nimemkosea  
ama nimeshtua(laughing)  
aliniangalia kama mtua memuibia  
maisha.

TASHA

Who knows (shrugging shoulders)  
people are hysterical noawadays.

NAOMI

I just have a strange feeling about him ata kama ( peeping through the kitchen window to see maru and kobo engaged in a converstaion. They both seema happy and at ease with themselves).

She turns to face her daughter whos still cooking the eggs.

NAOMI (CONT'D)

Make sure they are properly cooked and start on the bread. Quickly now the guest is waiting.( She nudges tasha's arm).

TASHA

Okay okay! (laughing)

CUT TO:

INT. MZEE KOBO'S HOME-DAY

Mzee kobo, naomi, tasha, maru are all sitted at the dining table. on the table is a flask and four cups placed on top of a white tray.

NAOMI

Let us all say a word before we have our meal shall we? (looking at maru)

MARU

Yes indeed (nodding in agreement).

They close their eyes as naomi begins to pray. As they are praying maru opnes his eyes slowly and looks at mzee kobo COLDLY. He glances at naomi praying and tasha whose eyes are closed and hodling her arms together fingers crisscrossed.

NAOMI

In the mighty name of Jesus we do pray.

ALL

Amen (unison)

Naomi gets up and starts servig tea as father and daughter engage in a conversation. Maru is looking at them and waits for his cup of tea. maru is served tea with sweet potatoes and he begins to eat. He eats in silence as he watches the family. After tea is done they head back to the living room.

Maru gets his briefcase placed next to his seat. He turns to face mzee kobo and naomi. Tasha is clearing the dining table.

MARU

I thank you all for this wonderful  
welcome to your homestead but am  
afraid i must take my leave.

MZEE KOBO

Allow me accompany you mzee atleast  
ujue mahali iyo nyumba unatafuta  
iko.

MARU

I much appreciate your  
kindness(smilling) as he beggins to  
walk out)

Mzee kobo follows him from behind and closes the door.

CUT TO:

EXT. HENRY'S COMPOUND

Under a large tree there are four men sittted around a small table. they are drinking from a large bottle of champaigne placed on the table. Each man holds a glass that is half fu;;. They are conversing in loud tones. next to them is a toyota landcruiser parked right next to the entrance of a bungalow. Henry(36) is in a red shirt and a pair of shorts. He is lightskin and has chains and rings on his fingers. They are playing a game and Henry is loosing everytime and the others laugh at him about it. he slams the table in anger and the rest of the guys just laugh it off. He grabs the bottle and pour himself a drink and gobles it down then settles down and continues to play the game. A woman stands on the verrandar just outside the house looking at the men as they play. She laughs at Henry when he looses and slams the table.

CUT TO:

EXT. ROAD- DAY

Maru and kobo are walking as they are conversing. Maru is looking at directions kobo keeps pointing at.

KOBO

This small village is home to many  
people great and small that si why  
we have so much joy. Its just  
peaceful to have this nature in the  
community.

MARU

As i can see. Ni kama hakunanga  
issues mbaya mbaya kwa hii kijiji.

MZEE KOBO

Indeed. Hapa watu wankaa na amani  
always its rare kusia ama kuona  
maneno mbaya kwa kijiji.

MARU

Then this is the perfect  
place(grins).

FADE IN:

EXT. VILLAGE-DAY

Mzee maru and kobe are standing outside a story building with  
large writing on top in Golden colour "KIMATHI HEIGHTS".

MZEE KOBO

Hapa sasa ndiko amabko kimathi  
heights zinapatikana. (pointing to  
the top of the building where the  
banner is located)

MARU

You are graciuos indded to bring me  
here. (smiling) tell me what can i  
do to ever repay you for your  
kindness.

MZEE KOBO

Settle in thne join me at the bar  
today in the evening i would like  
to introduce you to some of my  
friends (chuckling)

Maru nods his head and heads into the compound while mzee  
kobo turns back to the direction he and maru came from. Just  
as he is walking away he bumps into letishia (26) a young  
lady that he taught when he was a teacher.

LETISHIA

Mwalimu kobo (smiling). Its so good  
to see you again (excitedly)

MZEE KOBO

Indeed it is and who might you be  
my child?(sheepishly smiling at  
her).

She laughs then holds his hand and WHISPERS in his ear inaudibly.

MZEE KOBO (CONT'D)

Oh wow indee it is good to see you again my child how is life treating you i sure hope it is kind?

LETISHIA

It is kind sir and it is treating me well. ( smiling).

CUT TO:

INT. MARU'S HOUSE-DAY

Maru opens the door to find a house in dissaray. Piles of carton boxes placed upon each other and seats wrapped in a plastic bagare placed in the living room area of the house.

He tries to move the seat but it is heavy and he needs help to move it.He Lifts one of the boxes up and suddenly a rat quickly runs between his legs. Out of shock and fear he leaps into the air and lets out a scream and settles once he realises its a rat.

MARU

Mshenzi type c wewe unataka kunipea heartattack (ANGRILY).

He walks to the window and stares outside and seems to enjoy the view until he notices that mzee kobo is standing next to a girl and the lady seems to be leaning towards his face. He takes out his phone and takes a picture of it and saves it. Then smiles to himself proudly.

He picks up an old magazine and rolls it to form a makeshift bat and starts chasing the rat away and only ends up falling on the chair and causing the stack of carton boxes to come tumbling down on top of him. He starts unpacking the boxes and arranging what's inside the boxes orderly. He places a vase with flowers in the middle of the table and unwraps the plastic cover over the seats. Then he moves some boxes to the bedroom as music starts playing in the background.

BACK TO:

EXT. HENRY'S COMPOUND

The men have just finished playing the game under the tree and are getting ready to leave henry's house. He shakes their hands and escorts them to the gate.

He locks it after they are all out of the compound. still with the glass in his drink he heads towards the woman at the verrandar. She looka at him as he is walking towards her and smiles at him. He smiles back. She(32) is dressed in a t shirt with blue pair of jeans on and a pair of sandals and her hair is braided well and tied to a ponytail. Her hands are akimbo.

HENRY

My darling (smiling) ungekuja  
unisaidie kuwin hii game  
bana(laughs) I needed those brains.

SHARON

Si kila saa nitakusaidia pia wewe  
jipiganie (laughs back at him).

HENRY

Either way na urembo yako  
nimeshinda kila siku (pecks her on  
the cheek).

SHARON

Looser and a romantic too (taps him  
gently on the chest) asante  
(smiles).

HENRY

Leo kuna nini kwa table nimeanza  
kuhisi njaa?

SHARON

Tuende uone kile nimepika  
basi(takes him by the hand and  
leads him inside).

CUT TO:

INT. MARU'S HOUSE-EVENING

Maru is half done with arranging his house. He stands across the living room to get a wide view of how the house is arranged. He slowly while observing to the table next to the couch and picks up the phone on the table and looks at the time. He puts it down quickly.

HENRY

(rushing frantically to the bag  
under the bed and dragging it  
out)ooh dear I am almost late.

He shuffles the clothes inside the bag and picks up a pair of black jeans and a white t-shirt which he then hurriedly puts on and rushes to the door. He grabs he's keys and opens the door and locks it once outside. Hes on the thirdfloor of the building. Just as he is about to descend the staircase he stops and stands still then burries his head in his hands and turns back heading to his apartment. He opens the door and grabs the phone on the table places it on his backpocket and then leaves the house.

CUT TO:

EXT. BAR-NIGHT

A noisy room with lights of different colors flickering. People are about their business. the bar maids young ladies dressed in red short skirts and white tops are serving the customers with drinks. In the middle is a space where customers are dancing to the slow rhythm of the rhumba song played by the dj. Outside the club a group of young people are standing in a circle some hold drinks in their hands while others are holding their phones. They seem frantic. One of them, a lady, is on her knees while a man holds her hair back for her. On the other side is a parking lot full of cars. Gentle men stand next to a toyota crown old model smoking a ciggaret and talking. They laugh hysterically. a motorbike stops outside the bar and maru alights from the bodaboda and pays the guy then heads into the bar. He looks around and doesnt seem to see kobo just then he spots a hand in the air waving at him. He looks to see mzee kobo. He smiles and walks towards him.

MARU

For a man your age unaleta show  
kweli( pulling a chair to sit down)

MZEE KOBO

(laughing) mimi sina iyo nguvu  
skuizi natulia tu nikiangaliah=  
hawa wadogo wakileta show.

Maru proceeds to order a drink while looking at the people on the dance floor. after some few minutes the bar maid returns with a glass of beer in his hand and hands it over to maru. he smiles at him and she smiles back.

MZEE KOBO (CONT'D)

Well my friend like i said before  
their are some important friends of  
mine i would like to introduce you  
to.

MARU

That would be fantastic (shakes  
mzee kobo's hand).

MZEE KOBO

Follow me then they are just at the  
parking lot (standing)

MARU

Sure thing (standing up to follow  
mzee kobo).

They walk outside the bar and head towards the parking lot. A car driven into the parking lot drives slowly past them. They head towards a group of older men who are talking loudly and seem excited. Mzee kobo shakes their hands and maru does the same.

MZEE KOBO

Gentlemen like i told you before  
this is maru hes our newest  
community member.

OLDER MAN 1

Your very welcome to our community.

OLDER MAN 2

Karibu sana mzee .

OLDER MAN 3

Umekaribishwa vizuri i presume  
(smiles).

OLDER MAN 4

Mimi ata nimeshkuru tumepata mgeni  
mwingine tena ata ( laughs).

As the men are busy conversing and laughing a young an in his twenties with twisted hair and ruggedly dressed staggers by them. He is drunk. He stops and stares at the men who are deep engaged in their conversation. He seems to recognise one of them but he doesn't seem to know his name. He rubs his eyes as if in disbelief and stares at him again. One of the older men notices the youngman looking at maru and turns to face the youngman.

OLDER MAN 4 (CONT'D)

Tunakusaidia aje kijana kutuangualia  
haitakufanya ukuwe sober (shrugging  
his shoulders).

The young man doesn't respond and staggers closer to them and stands still staring at maru coldly.



YOUNG MAN 2  
You just talking to the devil  
himself.....

OLDER MAN 2  
What nonsens is this kijana nakupea  
dakika moja utoke apa ama  
nitakufyeka vibaya sana (angrily  
walking towards the youngman).

The youngman moves backwards and raises his hands in  
surrender.

YOUNG MAN 2  
Sawa lakini mjue mnaongea na  
shetani mwenyewe (he turns and  
begins to walk away)

OLDER MAN 2  
Na ukome iyo tabia (clicks).

He turns and heads back to the gathering and they continue  
their conversation. Maru seems uneasy with what just  
happened. He seems lost in his thoughts as he tries to figure  
out who could know anything about him. He snaps back to  
reality and joins the rest in the conversation. Soft music  
starts playing as they talk.

CUT TO:

EXT. BAR-NIGHT

Henry walks past them and looks at maru as he is passing. He  
saw the whole drama involving the youngman. He looks at him  
from head to toe and then looks up again to lock eyes with  
maru. Maru raises a hand to wave at him but Henry ignores and  
walks into the club.

CUT TO:

INT. MARU'S HOUSE-DAY

The room is dark and a mess. A pile of clothes on the floor  
and some are on the bed. The bed is roughed with maru  
sleeping horizontally across the bed. The alarm sound wake  
him up. He stretches his hand and reaches for the phone on  
the stool next to his bed and pulls it up to look at the  
screen. The time is 7:45 am. He scoffs and rises from the bed  
then walks over to the window and draws the curtains. He  
looks out the window. The sky is clear and the sun is  
shining. Below the blinds are open as usual and people are  
going about their business.

Cars are moving fast on the busy highway. Maru Heads to shower and prepares himself for the day ahead.

CUT TO:

INT. HENRY'S HOUSE LIVING ROOM-DAY

Henry is sitting on the couch facing the tv. The news is on and on the headline it says {president to read his speech soon at state house} . He picks up the remote and changes the station to another that is playing music. He nods his head along to the song. His wife comes in and sits beside him and she reduces the volume of the song.

SHARON

Last night you were different when you came home. Wanna talk about it?

HENRY

Si kitu serious ata (shrugs shoulders)

SHARON

(holding his shoulder gently) i know you and i know wakati kuna kitu inakusumbua akili niambie ndo nione vile naeza kusaidia.

HENRY

Sawa basi (sighs) yesterday at the club vile nilikuwa naingia niliona mzee flani anakaa weird. I dont know like siezi sema exactly why but alinipea feeling ya not good kabisa juu ata kuna boy alikuwa anamwita shetani.

SHARON

Unaeza jua sababu yake kumwita shetani kweli?

HENRY

Iyo siezi jua but am sure kuna sababu alimwita shetani uy boy maybe anajua kitu.

SHARON

You could always ask him (picking the remote beside henry)

HENRY

If i ever meet the boy, this community may be small but spotting the same person twice thats a diamond.

SHARON

You will meet him eventually.

She proceeds to turn to the previous channel.

CUT TO:

I/E. CORRIDOR-DAY

Maru is standing outside his apartment locking the door when he gets a phone call from mzee boko.

MARU

(pressing recieve and placing the phone against his ear) halo bwana kobo

MZEE KOBO

How are you bwana maru natumai uko salama. (sofly laughing)

MARU

Niko salama kabisa mzee ata ndo natoka kwa nyumba.

MZEE KOBO

Kuna function ambayo inafanyika leo kwa community na watu wamealikwa kwa hivyo nilikuwa nakuambia pia wewe kwasababu sasa umekuwa mmoja wetu pia wewe ukuje .

MARU

Nimeshukuru sana mzee. Ill be sure to attend basi ( hangs up ).

He puts it back to the pocket and then walks down the stairs.

CUT TO:

EXT. VILLAGE SQUARE-NIGHT

The community space where social gatherings are happening is a behive of activities since it is the harvest festival.

maru arrives at the ceremony and looks around. He can see the acrobats he saw the first time he came . There are women carrying trays of food on their heads and serve food. Young people are walking about. Children are running around carrying toys that they are playing with. One of the kids pums into maru's leg and falls back.

MARU

Pole (bending to lift him  
up)umeumia mahali ? ( looking at  
him while dusting off his dusty  
coat)

A woman approaches him and carries the child up in her arms and thanks maru for lifting the boy then walks away. maru wonders about just looking at the various shows displayed by people. There is a counter with drinks placed on top. Next to it is another counter with various foods placed on top. He stands next to the counter. mzee kobo approaches him from behind but maru doesn't seem to notice him.

MZEE KOBO

The foods are displayed to show  
people that our lands are rich with  
much more than just yams.

MARU

(startled) OH GOD! umenishtua bwana  
kobo. (laughs). Indeed anyone can  
attest. Si kila siku unaona  
traditions za kitambo zinaendelea  
mpaka wakati huu.

MZEE KOBO

Indeed. Pole kwa kukushtua.  
(stretches his hand to shake).

MARU

Haina tatizo.

MZEE KOBO

Welcome to the festival of the  
harvest. Hapa tunasherehekea mazao  
ya shamba yetu pamoja na tamaduni  
za kijiji ahead of the national  
cultural day.

MARU

Thank you. Its been long since i  
last saw something traditional yet  
so modern.

MZEE KOBO  
Nifuate basi. Let me show you  
around the place.

Maru follows mzee kobo and they walk towards a tent.

MZEE KOBO (CONT'D)  
This tent contains the artifacts of  
the first community to settle in  
thsi place during the struggle for  
indipendence. They are our  
ancestors. Its why the community  
has held on to the traditions for  
such a longtime.

They head inside. A glasscage is placed in the middle  
covering a square table. On top of the table is a jembe and a  
basket made out of sisal with a knife inside the basket.

MZEE KOBO (CONT'D)  
These artifacts were used by the  
first settlers in this are during  
harvesting. walikuwa wamepanda  
mimea ya aina mingi sana wna shamba  
walikuwa nazo kwa wingi.

They take a look around then walk out of the tent. They head  
for a group of men standing in a gathering. They seem to be  
in a joyous mood. Amidst the gathering the acrobats are doing  
an impression of harvest as the people cheer them on. one of  
them climbs on the back of another and then lifts his kinfe  
high to symbolise the end of the harvest period. The men  
raise their hands in applause and cheer the acrobats. Maru  
averts his gaze from the acrobats and stands beside mzee kobo  
who cheers the acrobats. The people disperse when the  
acrobats bow down to end their show.

MZEE KOBO (CONT'D)  
The epitome of the festival ni  
wakati chief ataongea. Watu  
watapewa mazawadi na pia ata wageni  
watakaribishwa utakuwa mmoja wao. (  
smiling at maru)

MARU  
Ndio nimeanza kujihisi nyumbani eti  
(joins mzee kobo in laughter).

Just then maru sees naomi from a distant. She is in a  
converstaion with a youngman . The man holds Naomi's hand and  
leads her away.

MARU (CONT'D)  
 Mzee kobo kidogo tu narudi sahii  
 (frantically)

Mzee kobo nods his head. Maru walks past him and heads to the direction Naomi and the youngman took. He follows them from behind hiding so no one can see him. He peeps to see if anyone is watching and hides behind a large basket and takes out his phone. Naomi and the youngman are standing next to a tent with food on the counter and are holding plates in their hands. The youngman picks a spoon and serves Naomi food. Maru takes a lot of pictures. A young lady approaches him from behind but Maru doesn't seem to notice her.

YOUNG LADY 1  
 (she clears her throat) nataka  
 kuchukua iyo kikapu!

MARU  
 (startled) oh pole sana (quickly  
 slips the phone back in his pocket)  
 then stands aside.

She picks up the basket and heads her way leaving startled Maru standing against the wall with his hand on his chest and breathing slightly heavily. He breathes in deeply and calms himself down then walks back to Mzee Kobo.

MZEE KOBO  
 Your back . Ata kwanza tuende kwa  
 wale marafiki wangu wa last time  
 najua wanakungoja sana.

They walk to the group just ahead of them. Most of the men are dressed in their traditional attire to honour the festival. They all happily smile and greet Maru as he approaches them. After engaging in discussions, a man stands on the podium erected in the middle of the village square. The man taps the mic and signals the DJ to stop the music.

MAN 2  
 Hamjambo ni nyote karibu sana sku ya  
 leo. jina langu ni John na kwa hivi  
 sasa sitachukua mda mwingi  
 ningependa kumkaribisha chief aje  
 aseme mambo mawili matatu alafu  
 atufungie sku ya leo.

He moves aside and the people clap as a man heads up the podium. He (67) has police uniform on and carries a fimbo. The fimbo is between his armpits. He has a big stomach and has a police cap on his head. He removes the police cap from his head. His head is clean-shaved.

## CHIEF

Hamjamboni nyote (folding the police cap).sina Mengi ya kusema ile kuwakaribisha nyote hapa usiku huu wa leo. And aaahh.... Its been a very special day kwasababu kati yetu hapa kuna mgeni amabye amehamia kijiji hii juzi. Na ndo ameanza kuona uzuri wa kukaa na sisi lakini kabla ya hayo kwanza naomba kuwaita wale amabo wameshinda awards mbalimbali. ( the [people clap) kwanza kabisa wacha tuine naliaka akikuja hapa mbele kupokea zawadi yake kwa kuwa mshindi wa sherehe hii ya leo. (smiles).

A girl walks upto the stage and shakes the chiefs hand. The chief takes out a parcel from his pocket and hands it over to the girl and shakes her hand again. Music starts playing as the chief calls various people on stage and handing them with awards.

## CHIEF (CONT'D)

Thank you (smiles) now that tumemaliza iyo yote ningependa kuchukua nafasi hii kumkaribisha mgeni wetu kwa kijiji hiki. Mngependa aje aongee na sisi? (the people respond yes in unison). Bas bwana maru karibu sana uongee na wanakijiji wenzako.

Maru is hesitant but mzee kobo encourages him to go and say afew words.

## MZEE KOBO

Ata kama ni salamu tu watu wanataka waone mgeni wao(patting him on the shoulder).

Maru nods his head in agreement and then walks upto the stage then stands before the microphone. The people clap.

## MARU

Thank you all so much kwa kunikaribisha hapa katika community yenu. Na uhakika ya kwamba ibongo itaendelea mbele kwa kuwa mimi kama mgeni nimewaletea mazuri mno kutoka maali nilikuwa. Na nasema santi kwa vile mlinikaribisha hapa na natumai tutaendelea kuwa pamoja.

(MORE)

MARU (CONT'D)

Mungu awabariki sana (smiles and raises his hand to wave to the gathering below).

The people clap as maru turns to walk off the stage. Out of nowhere a male voice is heard shouting..

YOUNGMAN

Haiwezekani (everyone turns to look at him) mnampigia makofi kwanini?

The people are silent and look at him as he talks.

WOMAN 3

Wewe ni nini inakusumbua sasa?

YOUNGMAN

Mnampigia shetani makofi nyinyi mko na kichaa.

Maru freezes on stage. He turns around to face the audience. His heart starts racing and a cold sweat runs down his cheek. His hands start trembling and he puts them into his pocket.

YOUNGMAN (CONT'D)

Huyu mtu ameharibu maisha ya watu wengi sana na mnamkaribisha hapa atatuharibia.afadhali Tu aende kwingine (shouting angrily).

The villagers shun him down and chase him away from the village square.The Chief decides to intervene to cool down the chaos

CHIEF

Tutulie tafadhali (tapping the microphone) tutulie tafadhali.

He walks towards maru and stretches out his hand to shake it.

MARU

Please i am okay dont worry(shaking his hand)

CHIEF

Just reach out to me kama unahitaji anything kwa hii kijiji nitakusaidia (smiles and walks past maru).

Maru turns to face the audience that is now frantic with the youngmans accusation.....



**END OF EPISODE 1**

(CHIEF, MAN 2, MARU, MZEE KOBO, WOMAN 3, YOUNG LADY 1,  
YOUNGMAN)

EPISODE TWO

EXT. VILLAGE SQUARE-NIGHT

Maru heavily breathes, his hands are shaking, his chest is pounding, his ears are hot and he is sweating. He loosens up his shirt and closes his eyes. He takes a deep breath and counts 1-5 silently. He opens his eyes. Mzee kobo is standing in front of him smiling.

MZEE KOBO

Am really sorry about all  
that(reassuring look) am sure the  
chief will have everything fixed by  
tomorrow. For now utaenda tu  
nyumbani upumzike. Its been quiet a  
night.

MARU

(plain look at mzee kobo)yes  
indeed.(awkward Silence) i should  
go now kabla nichelewe.

Maru walks past kobo climbs down the stage and walks towards his house. Just as he is about to exit the village square he stops and turns to look back. He can sense people are looking at him. He turns and heads his way home to rest for the night.

CUT TO:

EXT. VILLAGE-DAY

The sun is just rising over the village. The highway is busy with traffic. At the bus stop there are matatus that are parked next to each other with the touts shouting the bus fares to people passing by. The sellers at the vibanda are just opening up their businesses and setting up their products for sell. The streets are busy with activity many people walking about their affairs.

CUT TO:

INT. MARU'S HOUSE-DAY

A dark lit room visibly messy. Low light emerges from the window with the curtains still drawn. The wardrobe is wide open with heaps of clothes inside and shoes just lying around the floor. The bed is messed up and a man is lying on the bed covered from the neck downwards sleeping.

The alarm on the table next to the lap stand goes off and the man without opening his eyes stretches his arm and reaches the alarm and presses the button and it stops ringing. He turns facing upwards and stretches and yawns. He sits upright and rubs his eyes and gets out of bed. He walks over to the window and draws the curtain. The sunlight lights up the room and reveals the mess it is. Maru takes a towel from the wardrobe and heads to shower.

CUT TO:

INT.MARU'S KITCHEN-DAY

A cup with hot steamy coffee inside and a bitten slice of bread spread with margarine on the side. Maru takes a table cloth and wipes the spilled coffee on the table then picks his phone and dials a number. He places the phone against his left ear as it rings.

CUT TO:

INT.HEADTEACHER'S HOUSE-LIVING ROOM-DAY

A lady is frantically grabbing shoes from her dresser. She pulls out a pair of blue heels and walks towards the mirror. She straightens her hair a bit with her hands then proceeds to put on the blue heels. She then reaches for her purse next to her on top of the table. Just then her phone rings. She looks at her screen to see "NEW NUMBER" and hesitates before receiving it.

HEADTEACHER

Hallo! Whose speaking?

MARU

Good morning madam this is mr maru speaking. Am supposed to report for work today

HEADTEACHER

Aah yes (sighing) mr maru how nice to hear from you. meet me in my office then we can discuss everything there.

MARU

Alright madam. Thank you (smiling).

He hangs up the phone and looks at the time. He then finishes his breakfast and heads to brush his teeth. He then walks towards the door and grabs his briefcase just hanging at the hanger next to the door.

He whistles to a tune on the radio while looking at the shoe rack with only three pairs of shoes. He is undecided over which shoes he wants to wear.

MARU (CONT'D)  
(to himself) any pair is perfect  
for today.

He picks up a pair of black leather shoes and puts them on. Then grabs his coat by the hanger and switches off the radio and walks out the door with keys in his hands still whistling to the previous tune on the radio.

CUT TO:

EXT. BUS STOP-DAY

Maru stands at the bus stop and waits for the bus to arrive. He takes out his phone and looks at the time, its 8 in the morning. He puts it back in his pocket. He moves next to the bus stop sign and stands there waiting. After a while the bus arrives and people scramble to board. Out of frustration Maru jostles to get in and pushes a lady in front of him. The lady turns to him and looks at him angrily.

LADY 1  
Tebu usikaniguze halaa( sizing him  
angrily).

MARU  
Shida yako ni gani msichana panda  
gari tuko na mahali tunaenda pia.

The lady clicks t him and walks towards her sit. Maru follows suit and sits close to the entrance. The bus begins to move and Maru keeps looking at the time.

CUT TO:

EXT. SCHOOL-DAY

Maru arrives at the school gates thirty minutes past nine. He is an hour late and is frantically rushing in. he opens the gate and walks in without even closing the gate behind him. The watchman comes out of the guard booth and stops maru.

WATCHMAN  
Eei wee mgoja kidogo bwana(raising  
his hand towards maru).

MARU

Unataka nini(spreading his hands  
towards the watchman).  
Nimeshachelewa na mkubwa  
ananisubiri bwana(frowning).

WATCHMAN

Iyo si shida yangu. Shida yangu ni  
haujajaza kitabu ianafaa kujazwa ya  
wageni.(grabbing The book at the  
window that is binded with blue  
covers on both sides)

MARU

Kwani ni lazima nijaze kitabu. Mi  
nimekuja kuanza kazi na we  
unanisumbua apa.(angrily Walks  
away).

The watchamn tries to call after him but maru throws his  
hands in the air as he walks away.

WATCHMAN

Hawa watu wanaringa skuizi mtu  
anapata kamshahara ka 18 anaoana  
amebeba dunia kwa mfuko yake.  
(clicks).

He turns and heads to the guard booth and sits on his chair  
and continues browsing on his phone.

CUT TO:

EXT. HEADTEACHER'S OFFICE- DAY

Maru stands outside a metallic door with a small banner  
written {HEADTEACHER} in plate gold. He breathes in deep and  
then takes out the phone from his pocket. He looks at the  
time and closes his eyes and mumbles to himself. He then puts  
the phone in his pocket and knocks on the door. A female  
voice answers.

HEADTEACHER

Come in.

Maru opens the door and enters the office. A medium sized  
room with a large desk and books and stack of papers placed  
on top of it. There are two trays on the sides of each table  
filled with papers. At the center of the table is a laptop  
and a lady sited. She has curly hair on and looks well  
polished. She smiles upon seeing maru enter the office.

HEADTEACHER (CONT'D)

It is nice to finally see you maru.  
(smiling). Your very welcome  
(stretches her hand towards maru).

MARU

Thank you so much for having me  
madam. (shaking The headteachers  
hand). I really appreciate.

She ushers maru to a seat and they talk.

CUT TO:

EXT. HEADTEACHER'S OFFICE- DAY

Outside the door maru and the headteacher are talking. She then shakes his hand and maru waves goodbye as he walks towards the gate. Just as he is approaching the gate, the watchman steps out of his guardbooth and stops maru.

WATCHMAN

Sasa si usign kitabu basi ndo  
utoke?

MARU

Sawa basi waah!mtu unaeza sumbuliwa  
juu ya jina ni kama utaiba ya mtu.

He signs the book and walks out of the gate. he looks back as the watchman closes the gate and thinks to himself.

MARU (CONT'D)

(whispering to himself) huyu  
ataenda siku mbili ngoja tu.

He walks towards the bus stop to take the bus home.

CUT TO:

EXT. SCHOOL-DAY

It's the first day of maru as a teacher at school. He arrives on time and heads straight for the headteachers office. A few minutes later he walks out of the office holding a piece of paper. On the paper is a schedule containing the time he will have lessons for every day of the week except saturday and sunday. He then heads to the masters office so as to be assigned which classes he is to teach.

CUT TO:

INT.MASTER'S OFFICE- DAY

Maru knocks on the door and patiently waits for the response.  
A male voice answers and maru opens the door.

HENRY  
(shocked to see maru)halloo how are  
you please sit.

MARU  
Thank you ( smiling and sitting  
down)

HENRY  
Can i have that? (pointing the  
paper in marus hand).

MARU  
Yes of course. (handing over the  
paper to henry).

Heenry looks at the peper and types something on his office  
computer and hands over the paper back to maru.

HENRY  
So the lessons normally start at  
eight in the morning and end at  
four in the evening. All lessons  
must be attended and the lesson  
plan filled and submitted monthly.  
You can now start your work.

MARU  
Thank you and I will take what you  
have just said into account.

Maru stands up and stretches his hand towards henry to shake  
it but henry doesnt shake he's.

HENRY  
That wont be necessary its work we  
are all working.

Maru retracts his hand and walks out of his office. Henry  
stands and looks out the window at maru as he walks towards a  
lady standing outside one of the classrooms. He shakes his  
head and returns to his seat and continues typing on his  
computer. He stops typing and thinks to himself,

HENRY (CONT'D)  
(to himself) whatever ule boy  
alisema kwa club has got everything  
to do with him coming to this  
school.

He continues typing on his computer.

CUT TO:

INT. MARU'S CLASSROOM-DAY

Maru is at the front of the class teaching science lesson. The bell rings and the students rejoice but maru makes them sit down in silence. He turns to write on the board and takes sometime before turning back to his pupils.

MARU

Now boys and girls this is what we will today as our assignment. I expect all books at my table in the morning. Your prefect should make sure of that. Are we clear?

PUPILS

(in unison) yes teacher.

Maru gets his books from his desk and heads out to the staffroom. A group of teachers are sittted in a room with three tables joined together to form one big table with chairs placed around. Some are on their phones, others are talking to each other laughing loudly. Two ladies are whispering to each other and laugh loudly and high five in the air. At the entrance of the staffroom there is a flask with a tap placed on a stand and a bucket filled with cups. Beside the stand are trays filled with bread both brown and white and teachers are serving themselves. Maru enters the staffroom and evryone stops what they were doing and look at him. He smiles and waves to them and they wave back. They continue with their affairs. Just then the room goes silent and everyone turns to look at the door. Its the headteacher standing at the door. She walks to the front of the room and stands facing everyone. Her arms are crossed behind her.

HEADTEACHER

Good morning teachers, I hope you are all doing well this morning.

TEACHERS

Yes (almost all of them)

MRS LUCY

(whispering to mr james and mr erick sittted next to each other)uyu mama ata hajui kurun shule aki.

MR JAMES

Mi namwonea huruma na vile hajui tunajua (giggles)



MR ERICK

Surely na vile ni mzee hivi anafaa  
ata aende retire mapema(giggling).

Maru who was sitted beside Mrs Lucy smiles to himself and leans against his seat and looks at the headteacher who is still talking to the teachers.

HEADTEACHER

Today we have a visitor among us who has come to join this institution today. (looking at Maru).He will be part of us from now henceforth and we have discussed with him on his duties and how to perform them. Now it is upto you to show him how we do our work and guide him where necessary. Mr maru please stand so everyone can see you (smiling).

Maru stands from his chair and waves to the teachers sitted around him . They wave back and he sits down.

MRS LUCY

(whispering to Maru)Welcome to the squad mwalimu.

MARU

(whispering back) thank you madam.

They turn to face the headteacher.

HEADTEACHER

Wadau sasa nitawaacha muendelea na chai niko na kazi kwa ofisi. And please remember to sub, it your lesson plans for review to the master.

She heads out of the staffroom to her office. Maru proceeds to pick a cup and a serviet from the table. She sits closer to mrs lucy ash she is conversing with mr james and mr erick.

MRS LUCY

Uyu mama ako na mchezo(laughing)  
yeye kazi yake ni kuitisha tu vitu  
na ata awezi ongeza mshahara.

Maru gets his phone from his pocket and turns on the sound recorder and returns the phone to his pocket.

He smiles and continues to listen to mrs lucy complain about the headteacher.

CUT TO:

EXT. SCHOOL-DAY

Its evening and pupils are leaving school to go home. Maru is just heading out of his classroom to the staffroom to pick his bag. On his way he sees Sharon walking towards the masters office. He follows her with his eyes keenly as she walks by him. She waves at him just as she passes by and maru turns to watch her walk into the masters office.

{flashback} Maru is walking by the roadside. He is holding a ladys hand. He is smiling looking at her. He then lets her hand go and the hand seems to dissapear from him{end of flashback}.

Maru snaps back to reality and sees henry and sharon standing outside the door of his office looking at him. They are holding hands. Maru turns and heads to the staffroom. he Picks his bag hurriedly and heads outside. Just as he is about to get out the door he bumps into mrs lucy who is entering the staffroom. She almost falls backwards but maru grabs her by the sleeve of her sweater before she can fall.

MRS LUCY

Sasa unataka kuniangusha chini vile  
niko mzee ivi na nikivunjika mgongo  
(clicks).

MARU

Pole ni vile niki na haraka  
(apologetically)

MRS LUCY

Kila mtu ako na haraka apa haujaona  
watu wakigongana ni wewe tu.  
(throwing her hands in the air)  
toka ata mbele yangu).

Maru excuses her and she enters the staffroom. Maru walks out after and turns to look at mrs lucy through the window. He angrily turns and walks towards the gate.

CUT TO:

EXT. ROADSIDE-DAY

Maru is walking towards the bus stop with the briefcase in his hand. Just then the phone in his pocket starts vibrating.

He stands and gets the phone out and looks at the screen. Its mzee kobo calling. He recieves the call and presses the phone against his ear.

MARU

Helo mzee habari yako(giggling).

MZEE KOBO

Salama sana labda yako.

MARU

Pia mimi niko salama ata ndo  
nimetoka shule.

MZEE KOBO

Bas sasa nakualika kwangu kikombe  
cha chai. Kuna maneno nataka  
tuzungumze na wewe kidogo.

MARU

Wacha basi nipitie apo nikifika.

MZEE KOBO

Nakusubiri mzee. (hangs up)

Maru puts the phone in his pocket and continues walking.

CUT TO:

INT. MZEE KOBO'S HOME-DAY

Kobo and maru are sitted in the living room looking at the tv screen. On the table are two cups and a flask. Mzee kobo turns to maru.

MZEE KOBO

Sasa nmekuita apa tuongee ile  
maneno ilifanyika wakati wa sherehe  
ya kuvuna. Chief aliniambia  
walishika uyo kijana wakamweka  
ndani.

MARU

Ooh wow(smiling) mimi sjajua hayo.  
Walimshika saangapi na wapi?

MZEE KOBO

Ata hakuniambia vile walimshika na  
mimi sikuuliza ata. Anyway chief  
anataka kujua kama uko na haja ya  
kupress charges against the boy ama  
wamrelease.

MARU

Yes ( laughing) alinikosea heshima  
sana na nataka afunzwe lesson.

MZEE KOBO

Sasa basi chief ataambiwa hiyo  
amenno usijali.

Just then naomi walks in smiling at Maru and kobo. She heads  
to the kitchen and maru stares behind her filled with rage.

MZEE KOBO (CONT'D)

Is there something wrong you seem  
disturbed? (looking t maru)

MARU

(startled) no not at all. Niko sawa  
kabisa, (he states) its just that I  
saw something i shouldnt have seen.

MZEE KOBO

Ni nini iyo uliona inakusumbua  
akili.

Maru pulls out his phone from his pocket and opens the  
gallery to reveal the pictures he took of naomi and the young  
man holding hands at the village square during the harvest  
festival. He shows them to mzee kobo.

MZEE KOBO (CONT'D)

(shocked) haiwezekani. That cannot  
be Naomi. (taking the phone from  
marus hand)

MARU

Pole sana mzee lakini skuwa nataka  
kukuonyesha kwa sababu naona  
familia inakufurahisha nliogopa  
nikikuonyesha utaona ni kama  
nakuharibia (somerly) pole sana  
mzee.

MZEE KOBO

Lakini inawezekana aje. We have  
been married for thirty years bwana  
(turning to look at naomi in the  
kitchen) she cannot do  
this. (frowning).

MARU

Hauwezi amini mtu kwasababu  
mmewkuwa na yeye muda mrefu.

(MORE)

MARU (CONT'D)  
 Kuna vitu anafanya wakati  
 hauko(shrugging shoulders) you can  
 never trust anyone.

MZEE KOBO  
 Ataniona huyu aki walai.( Angrily  
 staring at naomi)

Maru turns to face the tv with a grin on his face. He finishes the coffee and excuses himself to leave. Mzee kobo walks him out of the house and closes the gate behind him as soon as he leaves.

CUT TO:

INT. MZEE KOBO'S HOME-NIGHT

Mzee kobo and naomi are in the bedroom. Kobo is sitted on the bed and naomi is arranging clothes in the wardrobe. She bends and picks up a shirt on the floor. She carefully folds it and places it ina drawer with shirts inside. Then she looks at herself in the mirror and applies lotion on her hands. Mzee kobo looks at her furiously but doesnt say anything. Naomi walks to bed and sits on it and turns to face maru.

NAOMI  
 Why are you so quite all of a  
 sudden? You were very talkative  
 when maru visted and now your mood  
 has changed. Is there something  
 wrong? (worried)

Mzee kobo doesnt speak or look at her. He lies on the bed and looks at the ceiling. naomi tries talking to mzee kobo but he doesnt respond to her questions or even look at her. She gets off bed turns off the lights and gets back to bed. She covers mzee kobo propely who is still looking at the ceiling amd then proceeds to cover herself and lies on the side facing mzee kobo. Mzee kobo turns to face away from naomi and switches off the table lamp. Naomi wonders what could have gone wrong with him.

CUT TO:

EXT.SCHOOL-DAY

Maru is in the staffroom writing something down on a bunch of papers stapled together. mrs lucy enters the staffroom and places her purse on the table.

MARU  
 Habari ya asubuhi madam.

Mrs Lucy doesn't respond to him and instead collects her books and heads to class leaving Maru in shock. Maru continues writing on the paper. A few minutes later he gets up and collects his pen and the papers then his briefcase placed on the table. He places it on the shelf just by the corner next to the window that faces the headteacher's office. Just as he is about to walk out he meets Mrs Lucy who is walking in after her lesson is over.

MRS LUCY

Na leo niangushe kama jana (sizing him)

She walks past Maru shoving him to the side. Maru turns to face her.

MARU

Madam utaniheshimu (pointing at himself) i assure you hautaki kucheza na mimi.

MRS LUCY

Sasa unatishia nani hapa (clapping at him). Kaende maali unaenda aaai!

Maru walks out angrily and heads to class.

CUT TO:

EXT. SCHOOL-DAY

Maru is in the staffroom clearing for the day. Mr James and Mr Erick walk in laughing. They seem cheerful. Maru ignores them and continues packing his briefcase.

MR JAMES

Eei mwalimu umeskia maneno imefanyika bwana.

MARU

Apana ni nini? (curiously)

MR ERICK

Lucy amegombanisha wanafunzi sababu ya homework ata amechapa mwingine apa vibaya sana. Na hakuangi ivo sijui leo ni nini mbaya na yeye.

MARU

Whatever it is am sure she can handle it. I have to go am late.

Maru heads out and walks hurriedly towards the schoolgate.

CUT TO:

EXT.MARKET-DAY

Maru alights from the bus and heads to the market. An open air field with people selling all kinds of things from food to clothing to household items. Its noisy as maru is walking around looking at the various items on display. He walks past a woman shouting the price of the jumpers she is selling. Opposite the woman is a man seeling skirts and blouses. Hje too is shouting the price of the clothes he is selling. Other sellers have small banners with prices of various thins they sell written on them to make it easier for customers who wish to buy anything. He passes by a vendor selling ice cream. He spost naomi standing next to the vendor. She is smiling and the man is smiling at her. naomi buys ice cream and the vendor moves on when he is done selling to her. Maru walks towards naomi and naomi sees him coming.

NAOMI

Aah maru(strecthing her hand to  
shake marus hand) habari yako?

MARU

Niko salama labda wewe madam?  
(smiling)

NAOMI

Kuna kashida kadogo kananisumbua  
ata ni vizuri nimekupata apa.

MARU

(concerned) nielezee shida iko  
wapi.

NAOMI

Jana wakati ulikuwa kwangu mzee  
alikuwa amefurahi lakini wakati  
ulitoka alikuwa amenununa sana.  
Sasa nauliza kama unaeza jua sababu  
ya yeye kununua ama ulimwambia  
jambo akakasirika.

MARU

Kwa kusema ukweli jana niliongea na  
yeye mambo mwaili matatu. Na moja  
ya yale mambo tuliongea na yeye ni  
kuhusu kitu flani nlimpata  
akifanya.

NAOMI

Alikuwa anafanya nini hii yenye  
akiambiwa ananuna.

Maru looks at naomi and then gets his phone out of his  
pocket.

MARU

Ni ngumu kuelezea madam(unlocking  
his phone) ni rahisi ukijionea  
mwenyewe.

He shows the phone to naomi. Naomi is stands still as she  
looks at the phone. Her hands begin to shake and her  
breathing becomes heavy. Maru wacthes with a curved smile on  
his face.

NAOMI

Kwani mimi sitoshi mboga? (angrily)

MARU

Usiseme ivo mama unatosha tena  
umezidi kiwango (smiling)

NAOMI

Uyu msichana wako na yeye ni nani  
nataka kumjua sahi (frantic)

MARU

Iyo swali ni mtu mmoja tu anaweza  
kujibu.

NAOMI

(with a tear in her eye)aki uyu  
mzee. Na hii miaka yote tumekaa  
pamoja anaeza nifanyia ivo yaani.

MARU

Pole mama sikuwa nataka kuongea  
kwasababu aliniambia ninyamaze  
nisiseme kitu.

NAOMI

(placing her hands on her head in  
shock) aki uyu mzee ni nini  
nilifanya ananifanyia ivi sasa  
aki(angrily) atajua hajui.

MARU

Pole sana mama naona ni kama  
nimekukosea kwa sababu nimekuambia  
na pia nimekosea mume wako kwa  
kukwambia siri yake.



NAOMI

Haina haja ya kuomba msamaha sahihi  
haujakosea mahali (looking at maru)  
wacha niende nyumbani nimechoka.

She walks past maru in a confused state and walks away from the market. Maru goes about the market and begins to buy things he needs.

CUT TO:

EXT.SCHOOL-DAY

Maru is standing outside staffroom browsing on the internet. Mrs lucy , mr james and mr erick are walking in together. Mrs lucy heads into the staffroom first passing maru without even greeting him. Mr ericka dn mr james greet him.

MR ERICK

Mwelewe tu anakuunga na roho  
ndogo(shaking maru's hand).

MARU

Yaani hawezi ata nisalimia surely  
(clicks)

MR JAMES

Try apologising to her. Maybe she  
took that accident personally.

MARU

But ive already apologised like  
ahundred times bado haniskii.

MR JAMES

Just give it time, atamaliza  
kukasirika tu.

Erick and james head into the staffroom to join lucy. Maru picks his bag and heads to his class to teach. The bell rings on his way to class.

CUT TO:

INT.MZEE KOBO'S HOUSE-LIVING ROOM-DAY

Mzee kobo is sitted watching news on television. Naomi is in the kitchen doing the dishes that she used to cook the food. She scrubs the pan angrily and throws the scrubber furiously. She turns to look at mzee kobo throught the kitchen window. She walks to the living room and stands behind mzee kobo and looks at him.

Mzee kobo continues watching the news oblivious of the fact that naomi is standing behind him. Naomi crosses her arms and stares at mzee kobo angrily. she grabs the remote from his hand and hold on to it. Mzee kobo turns to face her.

MZEE KOBO

We mwanamke unanitafuta maneno wewe  
(angrily pointing at her) sababu ya  
kuninyanganya remote ni gani sasa?

NAOMI

Its been two days na hujaongea kwa  
hii nyumba. Chakula nimekuwa  
nikipika haukuli unaenda kukula kwa  
hoteli ya mama neema.

MZEE KOBO

Taabu iko wapi sasa after umeongea  
iyo yote.

NAOMI

Taabu tena imetokea wapi? Ama ni  
ule msichana unaendanga kwake  
ukitoka asubuhi?

MZEE KOBO

Waaah(burying his head in his  
hand)msichana mgani tena na hii  
maneno imetokea wapi?

NAOMI

Wacha kuniuliza maswali na ujibu  
swali yangu. Unaendanga kwa ule  
msichana kufanya nini?

MZEE KOBO

(angrily) msichana mgani na  
saangapi naenda kwake? (standing)  
hii maneno utaniambia umetoa wapi.

NAOMI

Mi najua you have been cheating on  
me. Especially zile wakati shule  
ilikuwa inajengwa. Ulikuwa  
uandanganya ati unaenda kuangalia  
mjengo kumbe unanenda kwa  
kinyangarika mwingine.

MZEE KOBO

We mwanamke ntakupiga sasa(pointing  
at her)ati am cheating on you.

NAOMI

Eeh najua kila kitu ni heru tu  
useme ukweli sahii mapema.

MZEE KOBO

Wewe unasema mambo ya cheating na  
wewe ndo unaenda kushikwa na viana  
wadogo wadogo wanatoshana nathan.

NAOMI

(shocked) ati kushikwa na  
vijana(laughing hysterically) skia  
sasa. Umeanza kugeuza story.

MZEE KOBO

Mambo ya ukweli mwenye anafaa  
kusema ni wewe. Ule kijana mlikuwa  
mnashikana na yeye ndo nataka  
kujua.

NAOMI

Kijana mgani kutoka wapi na  
saangpi? Umeona nimejua ukweli  
umeanza kuenda upande upande sasa?

MZEE KOBO

We wacha story zako na useme ukweli  
you are the one cheating on me. Hii  
story yako does not even make  
sense.

NAOMI

Usiongee sense na we mwenyewe sio  
sense. How can you cheat on me na  
msichana mdogo kiwango ca=ha kukuwa  
mtoto wetu.

MZEE KOBO

Ni wewe ndo unacheat(angrily) mi  
siwezi kuambia kitu hakuna na  
unipee remote kabla sijakulipua  
kama mtungi. Na iyo tumbo yako  
kubwa.

NAOMI

Ndo maana. Tumbo yangu ni kubwa  
ukaona tumbo ya kamsichana kadogo  
ndo inakufurahisha sindio. Aki we  
mzee na ata sikupei remote ni mimi  
nilinunua. (clicks)

She turns to head towards the kitchen when a pillow hits her  
on the back of her head. She turns to see mzee kobo charging  
towards her.

She runs away to the kitchen and locks the door with the key before mzee kobo can reach her. She breathes heavily.

MZEE KOBO  
(banging the kitchen door angrily)  
fungua hii mlango araka sana. Leo  
utajua hujui. Nakuambia fungua hii  
mlango sahii we mwanamke.

He bangs the door severally yelling at her and naomi yells back at him. He leaves the house and heads out and naomi sees him go through the window from the kitchen.

CUT TO:

INT.HEADTEACHERS OFFICE-DAY

Maru knocks on the door and the headteacher answers. Maru gets in. The headteacher is busy signing some papers and does not lift her head up to see maru.

MARU  
Madam pole kwa kukusumbua lakini  
kuna kitu nilikuwa nataka  
nikuonyeshe niliskia.

HEADTEACHER  
Inaweza ngoja mpaka kesho sababu  
nataka kutoka na niko na kazi mingi  
sana leo.

MARU  
Najua uko na kazi mingi lakini this  
will only take five minutes madam  
or maybe less.

Headteacher stops signing papers and looks at maru.

MARU (CONT'D)  
Ni kama kuna waalimu wako na shida  
na vile unaongiza shule.

HEADTEACHER  
Kwanini unasema ivo?

MARU  
Sababu nimeskia wakiongea ivo  
kukuhusu na vile uongozi wako  
unaendesha shule. Some tend to  
think this school will fail  
terribly this year.

HEADTEACHER

Youve been hear for a week how can  
you possibly know this?

MARU

Like they say panya akiondoka panya  
hutawala (grining).

HEADTEACHER

I really am busy and dont have time  
for this right now.

Maru pulls out his phone from his pocket and plays the  
recorded audio of mrs lucy in the staffroom. The headteacher  
listens to it again and again. She gives the phone back to  
maru and then stands up. A disturbed look on her face .

**END OF EPISODE TWO.**