# LOGLINE

A housewarming party quickly turns into a high-stakes water gun fight as 6 friends battle it out to stay dry.

# SYNOPSIS

A 3d animated action short about an intimate housewarming party with 6 friends (in their 20s) which quickly escalates to a high intensity water gun battle. While featuring ridiculous action and over-the-top combat; at the heart of this 11-minute story is a journey from anger to vulnerability and acceptance. We expect the story to take viewers on a path from intrigue, quickly to fun & excitement, then end with empathy & reflection.

Set in present-day Lagos, our primary characters reflect exaggerated elements of the modern young African in an increasingly globalised world.

# CHARACTERS

**Tediola:** 22 years old, sent to study in a Nigerian university by his parents, to get “African values” and discipline and to prevent him from ending up in jail like his older brother. He's very charming and friendly, but highly competitive and athletic. The water game begins and his competitiveness is unleashed – making him inadvertently the antagonist.

**Dumebi:** 24 years old, grew up in Lagos, has a love/hate relationship with the city. Is an ecological warrior, loves sustainability and is critical of the upper class while being an upper-class girl herself – she makes up for this in championing charitable causes.

**Kemji:** 23 years old. Host of the party. Father is a state governor and he holds a position as an Advisor to the government and several boards. Smart and techy, whilst also being a pompous visionary.

**Lima/Halima:** Half-Emirati Half-Nigerian, she lives in two worlds where neither fully accepts her – but Kemji likes her and might be in love with her, which she finds both exciting and infuriating. She is ultimately indecisive, loves high fashion and has something to prove. Very competitive.

**Mali:** 25 years old. Highly resourceful and raised by her grandfather who was a travelling evangelist. She currently steals high-value artefacts for a private collector, she's adventurous and a bit of a loner – but insightful. Worst fear is ending up alone.

**Bennu**:22 years old. Egyptian. Small stature. Orphaned at a young age. Likes the hustle culture of Lagos and will sell anything to anyone at any time and anywhere. Fancies Dumebi.

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# SCENE 1

INT. LARGE LIVING SPACE

WATER GUN SLAMS ON TABLE. CAMERA PANS OUT SHOWING A DETERMINED KEMJI WITH A MISCHIEVOUS SMILE.

CAMERA SHOWS 5 OTHERS FROM HIS VIEW AS THEY TURN TO LOOK AT HIM IN BEMUSEMENT AND SOME CONFUSION.

KEMJI - MEDIUM SHOT ON HIM WITH HIS FRIENDS PARTIALLY VISIBLE ON EACH SIDE OF THE SHOT’S FRAME.

Guys, when was the last time you had fun, eh?

CAMERA HIS VIEW

THEY KEEP STARING BLANKLY AT HIM.

KEMJI

Ok, so it’s just a short round of water gun fight…

DUMEBI

Nor be party wey we come again? [I thought we came for a party]

THEY LAUGH. THE DOORBELL RINGS, FOLLOWED BY KNOCKING IN RAPID SUCCESSION TAKING THEIR ATTENTION AWAY.

KEMJI

Who again? Did you guys invite someone?

THEY ALL SHAKE THEIR HEADS (NOPE, UH-UH, NAH). THE DOORBELL RINGS FOLLOWED BY MORE KNOCKING. KEMJI SIGHS, DROPS THE WATER GUN AND HEADS TO GET THE DOOR.

KEMJI

Guys, trust me, it’ll be fun! I’ll be right back.

# SCENE 2

EXT. FRONT DOOR

CLOSE SHOT OF DOOR AS A HAND RAPS ON THE DOOR THEN PULLS OUT OF SHOT.

CAMERA ZOOMS OUT AND THE DOOR OPENS WITH KEMJI PEERING OUT.

Hello?

A SHADOWY FIGURE WHOSE BACK IS TURNED TO HIM TURNS THEIR HEAD TO FACE HIM. HOODIE UP AND LOWER FACE COVERED IN A BANDANA.

CLOSE-UP

Kemji’s face grows suspicious as his eyes narrow.

MEDIUM SHOT

He slowly reaches into his jacket pocket.

CLOSE-UP

The visitor’s eyes narrow menacingly.

CLOSE-UP

Kemji’s face remains suspicious

MEDIUM

Visitor turns towards him slowly while pulling down hoodie and bandana.

MEDIUM

KEMJI’S FACE GOES FROM SUSPICIOUS TO CONFUSED THEN WIDE WITH EXCITEMENT.

MALI !!!! Wow!

MEDIUM SHOT OF MALI’S SMILING FACE

Hey Kemji!

KEMJI

Wow, come on in!

MEDIUM SIDE INDOOR SHOT as Mali walks through the door

I almost had you there! Were you seriously gonna taze me?

KEMJI LAUGHS HEARTILY, PULLS OUT A KOLANUT AND OFFERS IT TO HER AS SHE WALKS IN.

Nah, it’s kolanut.

SHE STOPS TO LOOK AT HIM IN CONFUSION, KEMJI SHRUGS

Yeah I accidentally tazed a senator so... now I use Kolanut... and my disarming personality.

MALI BLURTS OUT A CHUCKLE AND THEY BOTH LAUGH.

Hey, I'm here on serious business.

KEMJI

You always are. I haven’t heard from you in like 8 months jor, come enjoy the new house and meet some friends.

KEMJI WALKS ON AND MALI RELUCTANTLY FOLLOWS LOOKING ROUND.

Really fancy place!

# SCENE 3

INT. LARGE LIVING SPACE

CLOSE UP OF TWO ARMS WRESTLING THEN ZOOM OUT TO REVEAL COMPETITORS.

DUMEBI IS ARM WRESTLING BENNU AS OTHERS WATCH IN AMUSEMENT.

KEMJI WALKS INTO SHOT WITH MALI FOLLOWING.

Hey guys, this is Mali. Mali, this is Dumebi, and this is Bennu.

THEY BOTH GRUNT OUT THEIR HI’S WHILE FOCUSED ON THE WRESTLE.

Hi! Hello!

KEMJI WHISPERS TO MALI

They’re secretly in love as you can see.

MALI CHUCKLES.

KEMJI

That’s Halima, our Dubai princess, we just call her Lima.

LIMA

Hey Mali!

KEMJI

And this is Tediola. He didn’t have manners until his parents deported him to Nigeria last year.

TEDI

Idiot.

TEDI WALKS UP TO SHAKE MALI’S HAND.

Hello, You can call me Tedi.

MALI AMUSED

Hi Tedi!

KEMJI TO TEDI

Wow. How can you be rude and charming at the same time!

THEY ALL LAUGH, BENNU IS DISTRACTED BY IT BUT DUMEBI USES IT TO HER ADVANTAGE - GIVES A ROARING PUSH THEN SLAMS BENNU’S HAND TO THE TABLE.

KEMJI

Ok, guys! Let’s get back to business.

KEMJI PUSHES A BUTTON ON A NEARBY IPAD AND AN ARMOURY OF WATER GUNS POP OUT FROM DIFFERENT AREAS OF THE LIVING SPACE.

SEGMENTED SCREEN INTO TILED CLOSE-UP SHOT OF THEIR FACES

Eyes widens and some mouths ajar. Dramatic music.

KEMJI - PULLS OUT SOME GUNS FROM THE ARMORY AND BEGINS HANDING THEM OUT AS HE SPEAKS.

They’re all fully loaded. And the best part of this game is, once you get wet, this house will automatically remove you from the game.

HE STANDS BACK AT A CENTRAL POSITION AND PULLS OUT HIS PHONE, TAPPING ON IT WHILE TALKING.

This is not your typical house, it was built with advanced cleaning services. The floor automatically dries when wet, and there’s the overhead vacuum which I’ve now reprogrammed to clean up wet humans.

EVERYONE

Ah-ah. Yepa. JESU.

HE PUSHES A BUTTON ON HIS IPAD AND LOOKS UP AT THEM WITH A SATISFIED SMILE.

BENNU

Meeehn, this kyn housewarming party nawa o

LIMA (suspiciously)

So when you say clean-up…?

KEMJI

No, don’t worry, it’s totally safe… I think.

TEDI (HALF JOKING)

So you embezzled government money to build ‘play-play’ house?

With all the starving children in Africa?!

KEMJI (JESTING)

Shut-up! See how you’re just displaying your ignorance.

LIMA

Abeg, guys what are we doing?

KEMJI

So, we set up…

TEDI (INTERRUPTS)

Too much talk biko, Oya, Let’s start ‘cleaning-up’

TEDI POINTS HIS GUN AT KEMJI

KEMJI

What do you think you’re…

TEDI FIRES MISCHIEVOUSLY AT KEMJI’S FACE

KEMJI

Dude, it’s not even…

A BIG HOSE DESCENDS FROM THE CEILING, SWALLOWS UP KEMJI THEN RETRACTS.

EVERYONE

Ah!

DUMEBI

Jesu!

MALI

What the…

LIMA

What just happened? Where did it take him?

TEDI (STUNNED AND AMUSED)

Wow! That’s actually quite cool!

THEY LOOK AT HIM CONCERNED.

TEDI

What? It’s cool tech na. Don’t worry, I'm sure he’ll soon come back.

THERE’S A BRIEF PAUSE

LIMA (POINTS GUN AT TEDI)

You! Why did you do that?

TEDI (RAISES HANDS UP)

Whoa, wait, wait, wait. Calm down.

THEY ALL POINT THEIR GUNS AT HIM AND SURROUND HIM (EXCEPT MALI WHO’S FASCINATED BY THE CEILING AND THE TECH)

DUMEBI ELBOWS MALI GENTLY AND MOTIONS FOR HER TO JOIN IN ACCOSTING TEDI.

MALI

Erm, you guys carry on, I’m gonna go… uhm, explore how this thing works.

MALI DROPS THE GUN AND WALKS OFF.

TEDI

Mali’s right y’know. Let’s go explore this tech…

DUMEBI

Ehn-ehn ehn-ehn ehn-ehn, you can’t change mouth now.

LIMA

Ehn, the rest of us can explore without you, thank you very much.

TEDI (SIGHS)

Ok. I’ve heard. Oya now.

TEDI SLOWLY TURNS TO FACE BENNU. LIMA IS BEHIND HIM AND DUMEBI IS TO HIS RIGHT.

TEDI

You guys are too close, shoot gently so the water won’t splash you sha

IN THE SPLIT SECOND THEY’RE CONSIDERING WHAT HE SAID, TEDI DROPS TO THE FLOOR AND SWEEPS BENNU OFF HIS FEET.

[MUSIC: PARTY SCATTER]

DUMEBI REACHES TO CATCH FALLING BENNU.

LIMA’S EYES OPEN WIDE AS TEDI AIMS HIS GUN AT HER WHILE HE’S ON THE FLOOR. HE FIRES WITH A SMIRK ON HIS FACE BUT LIMA IS FAST AND RETREATS SIDEWAYS AWAY FROM TEDI’S SUCCESSIVE SHOTS.

TEDI QUICKLY DARTS UP AWAY FROM BENNU AND DUMEBI BEFORE THEY RECOVER.

[MUSIC: MY HEART WILL GO ON]

BENNU AND DUMEBI HAVE A MOMENT WHILE HE’S IN HER ARMS, SLOW MOTION. THEN DUMEBI NOTICES TEDI IS GETTING AWAY, HER SMILE TURNS TO A FROWN.

[MUSIC: PARTY SCATTER]

DUMEBI QUICKLY HELPS BENNU TO HIS FEET AND STARTS TO FIRE AT FLEEING TEDI.

Why are you running?

TEDI RUNS NINJA-STYLE, STAYING LOW AND RETURNING SUPPRESSING FIRE BACKWARDS WHILE DODGING THE STREAKS OF WATER FLYING PAST HIM.

BENNU AND DUMEBI AVOID TEDI’S SHOTS WHILE SLOWLY ADVANCING TOWARDS HIM. THIS IS WHEN BENNU SPOTS A GATLING WATER GUN IN THE ARMOURY THEN SIGNALS DUMEBI AND GOES OFF TO GET IT..

DUMEBI SMILES AND NODS AT HIM.

TEDI DIVES OVER A SOFA AND TAKES COVER THERE. HE RAISES HIS HAND OUT OF COVER AND FIRES MORE SHOTS IN DUMEBI’S DIRECTION

DUMEBI REALISES SHE’S EXPOSED AND TAKES COVER BEHIND A CABINET, DODGING TEDI’S FIRE.

LIMA (FUMING AS SHE COMES OUT OF COVER)

You better come out right now!

DUMEBI CHUCKLES.

BENNU WALKS INTO SHOT WITH A GATLING WATER GUN

Tedi. Say hello to my little friend!

LIMA (CHORTLES)

Ghenz ghenz!

TEDI PEEPS OUT FROM COVER. HIS EYES WIDEN AND HE QUICKLY DUCKS BACK WHILE A MASSIVE TORRENT OF WATER ATTACKS THE SOFA.

BENNU FIRES AWAY APPROACHING THE COUCH

Get ready to be baptized my friend.

BENNU CONTINUES FIRING GENEROUSLY LITTERING THE COUCH WITH WATER, BUT THE FLOOR DRIES UP WITHIN SECONDS

Omo this flooring no be here o!

BENNU GETS NEAR THE SOFA AND CAUTIOUSLY GOES AROUND WITH GLEE. HE GETS TO THE FRONT OF IT BUT THERE’S NO ONE THERE.

HE CEASES FIRE AND LOOKS BACK AT THE LADIES CONFUSED. THEY LOOK BACK AT HIM WONDERING WHAT’S HAPPENING.

BENNU

Ahh-ahn, did you see him run out?

DUMEBI AND LIMA SHAKE THEIR HEADS, PUZZLED.

BENNU MOVES CLOSER TO THE SOFA AND KEEPS LOOKING AROUND.

ONE OF THE CUSHIONS OF THE SOFA GENTLY SLIDE OUT AND TEDI’S ARM EXTENDS OUT WITH THE WATER GUN AIMING AT BENNU.

BENNU, CATCHING THE MOVEMENT IN HIS PERIPHERAL VISION TURNS PUZZLED TOWARDS IT, BUT IT WAS ALREADY LATE. TEDI SQUEEZED THE TRIGGER AND A SPRAY OF WATER LICKED AT HIS DAZED FACE.

BENNU SPITS OUT

You sneaky little…

HE’S INTERRUPTED BY THE HOSE ENVELOPING AND SUCKING HIM IN.

DUMEBI AND LIMA’S EYES WIDEN.

THE SOFA CUSHIONS BURST OPEN AS TEDI JUMPS OUT FROM BENEATH THEM, GRABBING THE GATLING GUN AS IT DROPS FROM THE SUCTION HOSE THAT JUST TOOK BENNU.

DUMEBI AIMS TO START SHOOTING BUT QUICKLY RETURNS TO COVER AS SHE REALISES THE ODDS ARE AGAINST HER.

TEDI LAUGHS MANIACALLY AND UNLEASHES A TORRENT OF WATER STREAKS TO HIS LEFT AND RIGHT, TOWARDS LIMA AND DUMEBI.

THE LADIES MANAGE TO GET FROM COVER TO COVER AS TEDI CONTINUES TO SPRAY.

SOON THEY ESCAPE THE COMMON LIVING AREA IN DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS.

THE GATLING GUN RUNS OUT OF WATER SHORTLY AFTER. TEDI IS CONTENT.

TEDI PICKS UP TWO WATER GUNS

Better beg for mercy!

# SCENE 4

INT. STUDY

MALI IS ON A COMPUTER SCREEN TYPING AWAY. SHE MUTTERS TO HERSELF.

Come on, where did you keep it, Kemji?

THE SCREEN BLINKS RED. ACCESS DENIED.

MALI SIGHS

Okay then, let’s do it the long way.

SHE PULLS OUT HER PHONE. THERE’S AN ADD DEVICE QR CODE ON THE COMPUTER SCREEN. SHE SCANS IT WITH HER PHONE AND INITIATES THE CONNECTION.

THERE’S COMMOTION BEHIND HER. SHE QUICKLY TURNS OFF THE SCREEN AND POCKETS HER PHONE.

LIMA BURSTS IN BARELY NOTICING HER.

MALI GLANCES AT THE PHONE. THE CONNECTION PROGRESS BAR IS 40% COMPLETE - SYNCING HOME SYSTEMS.