

FADE IN:

A MELANATED family OF FOUR watches TV in their cramped first floor apartment living room. **FRANCIS "KOFI" AGBE**, 12 sits on THE loveseat staring out a window WHILE His old brother, **JEFFREY "KWAME" AGBE**, 14 watchES the news WITH THEIR mom and uncle SITTING BEHIND THEM on the 3-man.THE ADULTS IN THE ROOM respond TO THE NEWS BY GETTING RESTLESS IN THEIR SEATS.

On the TV, the local news anchor is talking about the spree of "gang related" violence and killings that have been going on around the greater new york city area. he then talks about a 7 month old girl that caught a stray bullet in the bronx at 7:24 THAT MORNING. the ANCHOR THEN trails off with "today in international news".

AFTER HEARING THIS SHOCKING NEWS, **EUREKA "ABLA" AGBE**, 51 SLOWLY GETS UP AND GOES TO THE KITCHEN. SHE TASTES THE POT OF FISH SOUP,BANGS HER WOODEN SPOON ON THE TOP OF THE POT TWICE

EUREKA

Boys, the food is ready!

WHEN NO ONE MOVES, SHE SAYS IT AGAIN - THIS TIME, HER OLDER SON THEN GETS UP AND STARTS TO WALK TO THE KITCHEN. HE OPENS THE POTS AND SCRUNCHES UP HIS FACE

KWAME

Why are we eating African food tonight?

EUREKA

Ah, what is the meaning of this? We are real Ghanaians, this is our food

KWAME

But I don't like fish...

SHE THEN LOOKS AT HIM WITH HER PIERCING EYES

EUREKA

[LOW AUTHORITATIVE]

look at me, don't waste this food or you shall see what I do to you tonight...Hey, Kwame, do you understand me?

(CONTINUED)

KWAME

Yes mommy

KWAME WASHES HIS HANDS AT THE SINK. EUREKA TURNS TOWARDS THE LIVING ROOM

EUREKA

Francis Kofi Agbe, COME EAT right now!

KWAJO TURNS AROUND FROM HIS SEAT TO SEE HIS MOM. IN A SPLIT SECOND, HE LOCKS EYES WITH HER IN A SAMURAI JACK FIGHT SCENE KINDA WAY. EUREKA GLARES AT HIM WITH HER EYES SCRUNCLED INTO THE MIDDLE OF HER FACE. AS SHE GOES TO SAY SOMETHING ELSE, KWAJO FLIES UP AND RUNS TOWARDS HER BUT THEN MAKES A SHARP B-LINE INTO THE HALLWAY. WE THEN HEAR WATER RUSHING FROM THE BATHROOM SINK AND THE YOUNG BOY

KWAJO (O.S)
[YELLS]

I'm washing my handsssss

WHEN THE SOUND OF RUSHING WATER IN THE BATHROOM STOPS, KWAJO COME FROM THE HALLWAY INTO THE KITCHEN. HE GOES TO GRAB HIS BOWL OF FOOD AND SITS DOWN AT THE TABLE TO JOIN HIS BROTHER.

AS THE BOYS EAT THEIR DINNER WITH THEIR HEADS COCKED IN THE DIRECTION OF THE TV - THEIR MOM GRABS A TRAY FOR HER FOOD AND GOES BACK TO THE BIG COUCH. THERE SHE SAYS A PRAYER (SOME IN ENGLISH, SOME IN HER NATIVE GHANAIAN TONGUE), WIPES THE SWEAT FROM HER FOREHEAD AND THEN STARTS TO EAT THE FOOD AND RESUME WATCHING THE NEWS.

MEANWHILE AT THE TABLE, KWAME DOES NOT WANT TO EAT HIS FOOD, INSTEAD HE'S PLAYING WITH IT. HE THEN LOOKS AT KWAJO AND SEES THAT HE LOVES THE FISH SOUP THAT HE'S EATING. IN A STROKE OF GENIUS, KWAME TURNS TO KWAJO AND

KWAME
[WHISPERS]

yo, do you want my fish?

KWAJO BEING THE YOUNGER, HEAVIER BROTHER GLADLY ACCEPTS THE FOOD AND CONTINUES WOLFING DOWN HIS PLATE.

A COUPLE OF SECONDS LATER, KWAME GETS UP, GLANCES AT HIS MOM AND GOES TO THE KITCHEN.

KWAME
i'm done eating

AS HE'S THROWING THE REST OF HIS FOOD INTO THE GARBAGE

(CONTINUED)

EUREKA(O.S)
 (yells)
 HEY, Don't you waste the food, it
 was expensive!

KWAME
 i know. its just bones

KWAME LIES TO HIS MOM AND CONTINUES TO DISCARD THE BONES
 INTO THE TRASH AND COVER THE FOOD WITH PAPER

EUREKA(O.S)
 hmm, okay. we shall see

ONCE KWAME GETS RID OF THE EVIDENCE, HE FLASHES HIS BROTHER
 A "GOTCHA" SMILE WHILE DANCING IN THE KITCHEN AND GOES TO
 SIT BACK IN FRONT OF THE TV. AS KWAME SITS DOWN INDIAN STYLE

EUREKA
 Kwame, get in the shower right now.
 You two need to take you showers so
 I can take mine and get ready for
 work. You know you have school in
 the morning, why are you boys so
 addicted to watching tv?

KWAME THEN RELUCTANTLY GETS UP AND STARTS TO HEAD FOR THE
 BATHROOM. EUREKA LEANS OVER TO HER COUSIN

EUREKA
 I don't know what-is wrong with
 these children

HE SLIGHTLY AGREES WITH HER AND SHUFFLES THE CUP ON HIS LAP
 AS THEY CONTINUE TO WATCH THE NEWS. EUREKA THEN TURNS TO
 KWAJO AT THE TABLE

EUREKA
 Finish your food, don't play with
 it, *Nye me se eme o?(do you
 understand)*

KWAJO
 (sas)
 I'm not

WHICH CONSTITUTES TALKING BACK AND EARNS HIM ANOTHER DIRTY
 LOOK FROM HIS MOM.

KWAJO THEN GETS UP AND TAKES HIS EMPTY PLATE TO THE KITCHEN.
 WASHES HIS OWN PLATE, HIS BROTHER'S PLATE AND THEN GETS HIS
 MOM'S TRAY TO WASH TOO.

(CONTINUED)

KWAJO
Are you done?

 EUREKA
E(yes)

KWAJO TAKES THE PLATE GOES BACK INTO THE KITCHEN TO WASH IT.

 EUREKA(O.S)
Bring me a cup of water and my
medicine off the table

WHEN KWAJO GOES TO TAKE HIS MOM THE WATER AND PILL BOTTLE HE
WALKS PASS KWAME, FRESH OUT THE SHOWER.HE GIVE EUREKA THE
STUFF WITH HIS LEFT HAND

 EUREKA
Ah, give it to me with your right
hand. Your left hand his for wiping
your butt. Now, go take your shower

 KWAJO
Ok.

KWAJO THEN GOES TOWARDS THE SHOWER.

2 INT: BOY'S BEDROOM

2

KWAME SITS ON THE BOTTOM BUNK OF HIS BUNKBED DRAWING AN
ANIME CARTOON AND LISTENING TO RAP MUSIC AS KWAJO
SHOWERS.EUREKA

HE LOOKS OUT THE DOORWAY TO SEE HIS MOM WITH IN A AFRICAN
CLOTH WRAP BANGING ON THE DOOR TO THE BATHROOM

 EUREKA
Finish up, I need to shower for
work.

 KWAJO (O.S)
I'm coming out

KWAME SNICKERS.

KWAJO THEN COMES OUT AND WALKS INTO THE ROOM TO PUT ON
CLOTHES. WHEN HE'S DONE, HE STARES AT HIS BROTHER DRAWING
FOR A SECOND AND THEN CHAIR NEXT TO THE BED AND OPENS HIS
OLD LAPTOP AND CHECKING HIS HOMEWORK. EUREKA GETS OUT OF THE
BATHROOM QUICKLY AND STARTS MOVING BACK AND FORTH DOWN THE
HALLWAY. EACH TIME SHE HAS ON MORE CLOTHES. KWAME THEN GETS
UP AND GOES TO THE BATHROOM AND GETS IN HIS MOTHER'S WAY.

EUREKA

Move off,don't you know it's my
time to go to work?

OH HER NEXT PASS THROUGH THE NARROW HALLWAY, EUREKA AND
KWAME CROSS PATHS WHEN SHE TRIES TO WALK INTO THE BATHROOM.

EUREKA

Im not gonna tell you again

KWAME

[SASSY]

Okay, I'm sorry

KWAME GOES BACK INTO THE ROOM AND EUREKA STARTS BRUSHING HER
TEETH. WHEN KWAJO STARTS DOING HIS HOMEWORK, KWAME TAKES THE
LAPTOP AND STARTS PLAYING AN ONLINE GAME.

KWAME

When she leaves, do you want to
battle?

KWAJO

Of course!

KWAME

Aiight, set it up

KWAJO THEN GETS OUT TWO HANDHELD GAME SYSTEMS AND CONNECTS
THEM

EUREKA(O.S)

You betta be getting ready for
school. Enough of this tv and games
business.

KWAME AND KWAJO

Yesss mommy

SHE THEN SHUTS OFF THE WATER. PUTS ON HER HANDBAG AND
BACKPACK AND WALK TOWARDS THE BOY DOORWAY. KWAJO HIDES THE
GAMES UNDER A PILLOW

EUREKA

I'm leaving for work, I'll see you
all tomorrow.

KWAME AND KWAJO

Ok

(CONTINUED)

EUREKA

Go to sleep, i can't miss my bus

EUREKA THEN WALKS TO THE FRONT DOOR AND KWAJO PASSES THE GAME TO KWAME AND CLIMBS ON THE TOP BUNK. KWAME SILENCES KWAJO AND THEY LISTEN FOR THEIR MOM'S SHOES SQUEAKING AS SHE WALKS TOWARDS THE DOOR. THEN THE DOOR OPENS

EUREKA(O.S)

Good night, I'm leaving.

KWAME AND KWAJO

Good night mommy

KWAME

Aiight, let go

THE FRONT DOOR CLOSES.

PAN UP: BUNK BED TO WHITE WALL

At this point there will be a visual and audio match. When Eureka opens the front door to their apartment opens we hear it making a noise but then we hear a cell door close. This is because at the same time we'll be sitting the camera pan up on the boys bunk bed until it reaches a point where we only see white. From the white, once the sound changes(to the jail cell closing), the direction with unnoticably change from up to down and we'll be panning down to see a man reading a magazine on the top bunk of a cell.

3 INT:"THE ISLAND"- TWO MAN JAIL CELL

3

Pan down: White wall

TWO MEN SIT ON THEIR RESPECTIVE BUNKS IN A 6X8 BRICK CELL SURROUNDED BY WHITE METAL WALLS AND IRON BARS. ON THE TOP BUNK IS **KIKO ROSADO**, A 22 YEAR OLD, HEAVILY TATTOOED, LIGHT SKINNED, HAZEL EYE COLORED MIX OF BLACK, PUERTO RICAN, ITALIAN AMERICAN. HE'S LAYING DOWN NEXT TO A "PROPERTY OF THE ISLAND" STAMPS ON HIS BEDDING AND CLOTHES.

AS KIKO LIES DOWN, WE SEE THAT HE IS READING A MAGAZINE WITH THE WORDS "SPECIAL COOKING EDITION" ACROSS THE FRONT PAGE. HE STARES DEEPLY INTO THE MAGAZINE AS HE STARTS TO ADJUST HIMSELF AND MAKES EROTIC GROANS.

FINALLY IN A COMFORTABLE POSITION, KIKO CAREFULLY EXAMINES THE TWO-PAGE ARTICLE. NOT CARING FOR THE WORDS, HE KEEPS QUICKLY GLANCING OVER THE FACES OF PEOPLE PARTYING IN THE ELEGANT APARTMENT. HE THEN STARES AT A YOUNG STARTER-PACK WIFE HOLDING A GIANT PLATTER OF FOOD IN A VERY COLORFUL SUNDRESS, APRON AND MATCHING HEELS. AFTER BITING HIS LIPS, THEN LICKING THEM HE EXCLAIMS

(CONTINUED)

KIKO

I don't know what I miss more in
this world, buena comida o un buen
coño

KIKO THEN LEANS OVER HIS BED AND MOTIONS DOWN FOR HIS CELLY
TO TAKE A LOOK AT THE MAGAZINE TOO.

KIKO

"Yoo, Africa - check this shit out"

HIS CELL MATE THEN LOOKS UP FROM THE PURPLE "RICH MAN, POOR
MAN" BOOK HE IS READING ON THE BOTTOM BUNK, UNTIGHTENING HIS
STERN FACE AND SAYS HE SAYS

NII

she's iiiiiight bro, could use some
salt though, hmmh

KIKO'S FACE SWITCHES IN DISAPPOINTMENT AS HE LOOKS DOWN AT
NII AND SAYS

KIKO

cono Free, you know were fucking
locked up right... i we dont have a
motherfucking thing... sheesh, what
type of nigga can't even let a
nigga dream while he's locked up?".

AS KIKO CONTINUES RANTING, NII STANDS UP AND STRETCHES. HE
THEN SIGNALS HIM HE UNDERSTAND WHILE MOVING TOWARDS THE
FRONT OF THEIR CELL. AS HE LEANS UP AGAINST THE COLD IRON
BARS NII GIVES PASSER-BY-ERS "THE NOD".

NII KEEPS HIS HEAD ON A SWIVEL AS HE CHECKS THE LEFT AND
RIGHT OF THE CELLBLOCK. AS HE'S LOOKING TO THE RIGHT, A BIG
ASS D-BO LOOKING DARK SKINNED DUDE WALKS UP BEHIND HIM AND
SAYS

MAN

what's good Free, I gotta check
Kiko Roc for some BI

SURVEYING THE AREA ONCE MORE, NII PEEPS A GUARD COMING UP TO
THE SECOND FLOOR DECK OF THEIR CELLBLOCK PROMPTING HIM TO
SAY

NII

ah nah, now's not a good time for
all lat

(CONTINUED)

MAN
ight, I'll check him later

MAN WALKS OFF. NII THEN SLOWLY LEANS BACK INTO HIS CELL AND QUICKLY TELLS KIKO

NII
yo, G on D

THIS MAKES KIKO STOP RAMBLING, IMMEDIATELY SCAN THE ROOM AND START TUCKING SHIT THEY AREN'T SUPPOSE TO HAVE. WHEN KIKO TURNS AND NODS BACK AT NII, HE TURNS BACK AROUND TO SEE IF THE GUARD IS STILL WALKING IN THEIR DIRECTION. WHEN HE IS, NII TRIES TO IGNORE HIM AND LOOK STRAIGHT AHEAD.

AS NII TURNS BACK AROUND, THE GUARD IS APPROACHING HIM. THOUGH HE TRIES NOT TO MAKE EYE CONTACT, THE OFFICER CALLS OUT

CO DANIELS
Inmate 098906 come with me

THIS MAKES HIM AUTOMATICALLY SHIFTS HIS ATTENTION TO THE GUARD AND STAND UP. THE GUARD TELLS NII THAT HE HAS A VISITOR AND CUFFS HIM FOR TRANSPORTATION- YOU KNOW, STANDARD PROCEDURE

4 INT: GUARD TOWER 4

WE SEE THE CO WALK NII THROUGH A DOOR ON THE SECURITY CAMERA DECK.

5 INT: HALLWAY THROUGH CELL BLOCKS 5

AS THE GUARD TRANSPORTS NII THROUGH THE HALLS, HIS RADIO GOES OFF ABOUT A FIGHT THAT HAS BROKE OUT IT A REC ROOM. THE CO TURNS THE VOLUME DOWN AND SAYS TO HIM(SELF)

CO DANIELS
I miss all the good shit around
here

THE TWO WALK THROUGH DIFFERENT CELL BLOCKS FILLED WITH POCKETS OF WHITE, HISPANIC AND BLACK GANGS. THE LAST AND BY FAR MOST DIFFICULT TO LOOK AT WAS THE MEDICAL UNIT THAT HAD BEEN FILLED WITH PRISONERS WITH ALL TYPES OF PROBLEMS. SOME HAD BEEN RAPED, STABBED, BURNED, OR ABUSED DRUGS WHILE ANOTHER LARGE POPULATION WAS PEOPLE THAT REQUIRED PSYCHIATRIC TREATMENT

BEFORE HE CAN GO INTO THE VISITATION ROOM, NII IS TAKEN INTO ROOM 117.

6 INT: ROOM 117: STRIP SEARCH ROOM

6

WHEN HE WALKS IN, THE MALE OFFICER TELLS HIM

SEARCH OFFICER
you know the drill inmate

THEN HE PUTS ON A BLUE GLOVE AND MOTIONS NII

SEARCH OFFICER
Open your mouth...

WHEN THE OFFICER SEES HIS MOUTH IS CLEAR HE TELL HIM

SEARCH OFFICER
Take off your clothes... turn
around...lift your sack... now turn
around and spread your cheeks.

THROUGH THIS PROCESS, NII KEEPS THE SAME DEAD/SERIOUS LOOK ON HIS FACE. HIS EYES STAY STRAIGHT AND HE ONLY MOVES WHEN INSTRUCTED BY THE GUARD. AFTER REDRESSING HIMSELF, THE GUARD COMES BACK IN AND TAKES NII TO THE VISITATION ROOM.

7 INT: GENERAL VISITATION ROOM

7

THE GUARD WALKS NII INTO THE VISITATION ROOM FILLED WITH THREE ROWS OF CHAIRS AND 2 CIRCLE TABLES IN THE BACK. SPREAD ACROSS THE FIRST TWO ROWS IS A MIX OF CONVICTS AND CIVILIANS. AS NII WALKS PASS THE PEOPLE TALKING TO THEIR INCARCERATED LOVED ONES, HIS FACE STARTS TO SOFTEN AT THE SIGHT OF THE CRYING MOTHERS AND LITTLE KIDS.

BEHIND THE ROWS OF PEOPLE ARE TWO CIRCULAR TABLES. AT THE FIRST TABLE SITS A INMATE AND A LAWYER WEARING A BAD STRIPED SUIT. THE INMATE AT THE TABLE DOESN'T LOOK HAPPY BUT HIS LAWYER WITH A BIG GOLD WATCH IS CALM NONETHELESS.

WHEN NII LOOKS AHEAD, HE SEES A LADY SITTING AT A TABLE ALONE, WITH HER FACE BURIED IN A TAN MANILA FOLDER. AS HE APPROACHES HER, HE SEES THE LAWYER DILIGENTLY ANALYZING A STACK OF FILES AND LABELING THEM WITH COLORED STICKY NOTES.

AS THE CO WALKS NII UP TO THE TABLE, THE LAWYER NOTICES THEM AND LOOKS UP. SHE CLEARS HER HAIR AND EXPOSES HER YOUNG SEEMING FACE. THIS IS THE FIRST TIME NII HAS EVER SEEN HER BUT YOU CAN TELL HE THINKS SHE IS ATTRACTIVE, NAY BEAUTIFUL NAY, GORGEOUS. HE TAKES A LONG, HARD LOOK AT HER AS THE GUARD MOTIONS FOR HIM TO TAKE A SEAT IN FRONT OF HER. SHE THEN CLOSES THE FOLDER, PUTS HER GLASSES DOWN AND SMILES AS HE SITS DOWN IN THE SEAT.

THE YOUNG LAWYER INTRODUCES HERSELF

(CONTINUED)

CHARLOTTE

Good Evening Mr. Owusu, My name is **Charlotte Hendrix** and I am from the law offices of Stern and Rothchild. It regrets me to inform you that I will be replacing your former lawyer Mr. Matthews who recently died in a fatal car accident.

NII, LOOKS DOWN, COCKS HIS HEAD TO THE SIDE, AND WIPES HIS MOUTH BEFORE LOOKING BACK UP AT CHARLOTTE. SHE THEN CONTINUES

CHARLOTTE

As a result, there was an initiative started in his name to continue to help the different young women and men that he defended when he was alive. The initiative was designed to help prisoners with clean records by providing consultations for their upcoming Parole Board Hearing. In return for being a part of the program, we require that in the time being and while one parole, the same prisoners become a part of the prisons new mentoring and enrichment beta program

NII NODS HIS HEAD AS MS. HARRIS PULLS A BROCHURE FROM UNDER THE MANILA FOLDER AND PASSES IT TO HIM TO READ. HE SCANS THE PAGE, SMIRKS AND TAPS ON THE TOP OF THE SHEET REPLYING

NII

with all do respect to Mr. Matthews God rest his soul, I don't know if this program is a good look for me

MS. HENDRIX IS SHOCKED TO HEAR THIS FROM NII

CHARLOTTE

Excuse me, Mr. Owusu?

SHE STARTS TO LEAN FORWARD

CHARLOTTE

I've seen your file, I know that you had a clean record and were basketball star with decent grades -- college looks too!--all before your arrest

(CONTINUED)

CHARLOTTE TAKES A MOMENTARY PAUSE AND CONTINUES TO TALK

CHARLOTTE

Now, why would you want to be in this prison any longer than you had to? Don't you miss your freedom? What about your family?

TAKEN ABACK BY CHARLOTTE'S OUTBURST, NII'S FACIAL EXPRESSION CHANGES. HE WAS PREVIOUSLY CONSUMED BY THE GODLIKE CURVES THAT MADE UP HER FACE BUT NOW THAT SHE WAS SERIOUS (AND TALKING HIS LANGUAGE), SHE HAD HIS FULL ATTENTION.

NII THEN LOWERS HIS VOICE AND STARTS TO TELL MS. HENDRIX

NII

Look, I didn't mean to offend you in any way. I'm just not trying to become a prison poster child on some TV show yelling at little kids or attract any wrong attention. I keep myself out of trouble and do my time. That's it...I'm just trying to make sure I get out at the end of this five-year bid the state has me down for.

HE POINTS DOWN AT THE PAPER

NII

and as for this, the offer is tempting but I don't know if I can do it.

WHEN NII IS DONE TALKING, CHARLOTTE LOOKS AT HIM, FLASHES A SMIRK AND SAYS

CHARLOTTE

Mr. Owusu, I'm going to be generous to you today. Rather than let you throw away a wonderful opportunity for yourself and other young men that can one day be somebody - I'm going to give you one week to reconsider your enrollment into this program. Prison work isn't just a job to me, I had to come see too many loved one just like those families over there.

(CONTINUED)

SHE DISCRETELY POINTS TO THE FAMILIES NII WALKED PASS WHEN HE ENTERED THE ROOM. NII TURNS AROUND AND TAKES A LOOK AT A COUPLE TALKING IN THE FIRST ROW, LEANING TOWARDS ONE ANOTHER WHILE THEIR TEENAGE BOY SITS MAD AND THE YOUNGER DAUGHTER PLAYS WITH A WIND FAN

CHARLOTTE

I'm trying to change that, so young men like yourself won't have to waste their life and potential in this place. This program is an opportunity to do right so don't get left!

WHEN NII TURNS BACK AROUND, CHARLOTTE TAKES THE BROCHURE FROM IN FRONT OF HIM AND WRITES A PHONE NUMBER ON IT. SHE THEN SLIDES IT TO HIM.

CHARLOTTE

You keep this, give my office a call within the next week when you're ready to make the right decision. If you call me and I don't pick up, just leave a message and I'll know to enroll you in the program

AS NII SEES THAT CHARLOTTE IS STARTING TO BACK UP HER STUFF TO LEAVE, HE DOESN'T FEEL BAD FOR SETTING HER OFF BUT DOES ABOUT THE TRUTH IN THE THINGS SHE SAID. HE TELLS HER

NII

Thank you Cha...Mr.Hendrix, I'm going to reconsider and give you a call if anything changes

HE THEN SAYS GOOD-BYE, STANDS UP AND THE CO APPROACHES HIM TO ESCORT HIM BACK INTO ROOM 117.

8

INT:"THE ISLAND"- TWO MAN JAIL CELL

8

IT IS LATE WHEN NII GETS BACK TO HIS CELL. HE WALKS IN TO SEE HIS CELLY ON THE FLOOR DOING HIS UMPTEENTH WORKOUT OF THE DAY AND THEY BOTH GIVE EACH OTHER THE NOD.

AS KIKO DOES HIS PUSHUPS, NII STEPS AROUND HIM AND GOES UP TO THE SINK/MIRROR TO WASH HIS FACE. AFTER TOWELING OFF HE LOOKS AT HIMSELF IN THE MIRROR FOR LESS THAN 10 SECONDS AND TURNS AROUND TO GET IN HIS BED.

THERE HE GRABS A STACK OF PAPERS AND POLAROID PICTURES FROM IN HIS PILLOWCASE. NII QUICKLY MOVES PAST THE HALF RIPPED LOVE LETTERS (WITH A PICTURE ON THE BACK) AND GOES DOWN THE

(CONTINUED)

STACK OF PAPERS TO THE PICTURES INCLUDING ONE OF HIM WINNING FIRST IN A CITY-WIDE BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT, A PICTURE OF BEAUTIFUL COASTLINE OF GHANA, ONE OF HIS FAMILY (HOLDING UP HIS BROTHERS). HE SPREADS ALL THE PAPERS OUT ON HIS BED AND JUST STARES AT THEM IN FRONT OF HIM. HE LEANS FORWARD AND PICKS UP THE PICTURE WITH HIS MOM AND SIBLINGS, HE STARES AT IT AND SAYS,

NII

I'm sorry

WHILE NII STARES AT THE PHOTO, THE LIGHTS IN HIS CELLBLOCK CUT OUT. HE THEN SCOOTs FORWARD TO USE THE ONLY BIT OF LIGHT THAT SHINES IN THE CELL TO ILLUMINATE THE PICTURE IN HIS DARK CELL.

9 INT: CELL BLOCK HALLWAY

9

SOME OF THE PEOPLE IN THE CELLBLOCK GET ROWDY AND START TO MAKE NOISE. ONE CO WALKING PASS THE BIG GLOWING RED DIGITAL CLOCK BANGS HIS BATON ON A PIPE

CO

[YELLS]

Shut it down fellas

ZOOM FOCUS : RED DIGITAL CLOCK READING 11:01

At this point there will be a visual transition from the prison back into the kids bedroom. In the dimly lit cellblock, we can only see the glow of the clock on the top of the command station. When the clock is in focus, the time starts to speed up from 11:01pm on the black wall and ends on 7:30am as the alarm clock on the kid's dresser going off.

10 INT: BOY'S BEDROOM

10

WHEN THE MATCHING ALARM CLOCK GOES OFF ON THE DRESSER THE BOYS STRUGGLE TO GET UP FROM THEIR BEDS. AT THE SAME TIME THE PHONE IN THE LIVING ROOM ALSO STARTS RINGING IN THE MOST ANNOYING FASHION EVER. KWAJO

KWAJO JUMPS DOWN FROM HIS TOP BUNK BED AND LAZILY DRAGS HIS FEET ALL THE WAY TO THE LIVING ROOM TO PICK UP THE PHONE. A DEEP VOICE TALKS TO HIM,

KWAJO

I'mmm up

THE DEEP VOICE ON THE PHONE THEN SAYS SOMETHING TO KWAJO

(CONTINUED)

KWAJO

Im going to wake him up now

KWAJO THEN WALKS BACK INTO HIS ROOM AND POKES HIS BROTHER ON THE FOOT. WHEN HE BARELY MOVES, KWAJO PUTS THE PHONE ON SPEAKER NEXT TO HIS BROTHER'S HEAD, TELLS THE PHONE HE DID IT AND GOES TO BRUSH HIS TEETH.

THE VOICE THEN CALLS OUT TO KWAME TO WAKE UP AND GET READY FOR SCHOOL. HE TELLS HIM THAT HE CAN'T BE LATE TO SCHOOL AGAIN OR HE'S GOING TO TAKE AWAY HIS GAME. SLOWLY KWAME GETS UP AND SHUFFLES OUT OF BED.

KWAME

Iight, I'm up chill

HE GETS DRESSED WHILE HIS YOUNGER BROTHER BRUSHES HIS TEETH. THEN THE TWO SWITCH SPOTS

KWAJO

Bye dad

KWAJO HANGS UP THE PHONE

11 INT: LIVING ROOM

11

AS KWAME OPENS THE DOOR AND THE BOYS GET READY TO WALK OUT OF THEIR APARTMENT, KWAJO REALIZES THAT HE DOESN'T HAVE ANY SHOES ON AND TELLS HIS BROTHER

KWAJO

Yo, wait I needa put on my shoes

KWAME

Yo are you retarded? Im really about to leave your dumbass here

HIS BROTHER CONTINUES TO CALL HIM ALL TYPES OF STUPID MOTHERFUCKERS AND TELLS HIM THAT HE'S GONNA LEAVE HIM.

KWAJO RUNS TO THE ROOM, GRABS HIS BLACK PAYLESS SHOES AND RUNS BACK TO THE DOOR. HE SLIDES THEM ON HIS FEET AND THE TWO BOYS WALK OUT OF THEIR FIRST FLOOR APARTMENT. KWAME LOOKS AROUND, LOCKS THE DOOR AND THEY WALK OUTSIDE TO MEET THEIR THREE FRIENDS WAITING OUT FRONT.

12 EXT: WALKING THE CITY BLOCKS TOWARDS THE SCHOOL

12

ON THEIR WALK TO SCHOOL, ALL THE BOYS EXCHANGE JOKES AND CONVERSATION WITH EACH OTHER. AS THEY APPROACH THE FRONT OF THE SCHOOL, KWAJO NOTICES THAT HIS SHOELACE IS COMING UNDONE.

HE GETS DOWN ON ONE KNEE TO TIE IT BUT WHEN HE SEES EVERYBODY IS FAR AHEAD OF HIM, HE TUCKS THE LACES IN AND RUNS BACK TO THE GROUP.

13

EXT: SCHOOL COURTYARD

13

WHEN THE KIDS WALK PAST THE FRONT GATE OF THE SCHOOL, KWAJO TRIPS ON HIS SHOELACE AND FALLS TO HIS KNEES IN FRONT OF A BOY TALKING TO TWO GIRLS.

RANDOM KIDS

Oooo shit! *mumble*

WHEN HE FALLS, EVERYONE IN THE COURTYARD STARTS TO GLANCE AT HIM. HE PAUSES FOR A SECOND AND NOTICES THAT HE TORE HIS NAVY PANTS AS HE GETS UP AND TEARS COME TO HIS EYE. HE QUICKLY WIPES IT AWAY AS RANDOM PERSON APPROACHES HIM

RANDOM SCHOOLGIRL

Hey, you okay?

KWAJO REPLIES AS HE MOVES FROM THE SPOT OF HIS EMBARRASSMENT AND WALKS UP TO HIS BROTHER AND FRIENDS CIRCLE. KWAME DOESN'T SEEM TO HAVE NOTICED HIS BROTHER FELL. HE CONTINUES TO CONVERSE AND LOOK AT THE VINE COMPILATION ON HIS FRIEND'S CELLPHONE.

KWAJO JOINS THE CIRCLE. LATE TO ALL THE CONVERSATIONS, HE SCANS THE COURTYARD TO SEE LARGE CLIQUES OF KIDS HAVING CONVERSATIONS IN FRONT OF THEIR MIDDLE SCHOOL. A BIG KID IN A YELLOW PULLOVER CUTS THROUGH TWO GROUPS, BUMPING KIDS AND THEN WALKS UP TO THE CIRCLE.

BULLY

please tell me you saw this kids
wipeout?

AS THE BOY DAPS UP THE OTHER KIDS IN THE CIRCLE. ONE KID LAUGHS.

RANDOM KID

nah, who?

BULLY

his lil brother

THE BULLY NUDGES HIS HEAD IN KWAME'S DIRECTION AND THE TWO BOYS CHUCKLE. WHEN THE BULLY TURNS TO LOOK AT KWAJO HE'S WATCHING THEM WITH AN ANGRY LOOK ON HIS FACE

AS THE BULLY THEN TURNS AROUND AND WALKS PASS KWAJO AND BUMPS HIM ON THE SHOULDER AND SAYS

(CONTINUED)

BULLY
[WHISPER]
you stupid African beauty scratcher

KWAJO'S FACE GETS EVEN MORE ENRAGED AND HE TELLS THE KID

KWAJO
(KINDA LOUD)
at least I don't look like big bird

POINTING TO THE KID'S YELLOW JACKET. WHEN TWO OF THE GUYS IN THE CIRCLE START CRACKING UP THE KID GETS MAD AND TAKES A STEP TOWARDS KWO SAYING,

BULLY
what did you say?

AFTER THE KID MOVES CLOSER TO KWAJO, KWAME BALLS UP ONE OF HIS FIST IN ANTICIPATION. AFTER SEEING EVERYONE ELSE EYE SHIFT TO KWAME,

THE KID THEN TURNS TO KWAME, AND SEES THE FIST

BULLY
Chill gzzz

KWAME
nah you chill, that's my little brother

THE BULLY THEN LOOKS AT KWAJO AND SAYS

BULLY
ha, you're lucky today

HE THEN STARTS TO WALK OFF AS HE SEES A TEACHER OPEN THE DOOR AND RING THE LINE UP BELL.

AS ALL THE KIDS BREAK UP FROM THEIR GROUPS AND GET INTO THEIR LINES TO GO INTO THE SCHOOL KWAJO GOES TO TIE HIS SHOELACE. KWAME WALKS UP TO HIM AND TELLS HIM

KWAME
You good?

KWAJO
yeah (while mad)

KWAME
ight, well you need to chill, I won't be here next year to save you!

(CONTINUED)

KWAJO DOESN'T WANT TO HEAR THIS FROM HIS BROTHER. HE LOOKS AT KWAME AND TELLS HIM

KWAJO

I had it...yo just leave me alone.

BEFORE KWAME COULD SAY ANOTHER WORD, KWAJO TURNS AROUND AND WALKS AWAY. KWAME TRIES TO GRAB HIS SHOULDER BUT MISSES AND GETS MAD AS HE WATCHES HIS BROTHER WALK AWAY FROM HIM

HE WALKS UP TO HIS OWN DOOR THAT HAS A SIGN THAT SAYS "GOOD MORNING SENIORS, 1 WEEK LEFT".

AS KWAJO IS WALKING UP TO HIS ENTRANCE, HE TURNS AROUND TO SEE HIS BROTHER GO INTO THE DOOR.

THE SOUND OF A SLOW HYDRAULIC SCHOOL DOOR CLOSING IS BLENDED IN WITH THE SOUND OF A NYC TRANSIT BUS LOWERING.

14 EXT: BUS STOP 14

A DOOR TO THE NYC BUS OPENS UP AND WE SEE THREE PEOPLE GET OFF AND WALK IN DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS. THE LAST PERSON TO EXIT THE BUS IS EUREKA, SHE IS CARRYING TOO MUCH STUFF WHICH FORCES HER TO TAKE HER TIME.

WHEN SHE GETS ON THE SIDEWALK, SHE PUTS DOWN THE FOUR GROCERY BAGS TO ADJUST HER PURSE AND BACK PACK. THEN EUREKA WIPES THE SWEAT OFF HER FOREHEAD AND PICKS THE TWO BAGS BACK UP AND WADDLES TOWARDS HER APARTMENT.

15 EXT: MAILBOX IN FRONT OF BUILDING 15

WHEN SHE GETS TO THE DOOR, SHE PUTS THE BAGS BACK DOWN TO CHECK THE MAIL. WHEN SHE OPENS THE BOX, IT'S TOO FULL.

SHE GRABS ALL THE MAIL SHE CAN AND PUTS IT IN HER PLASTIC BAGS INSTEAD OF LOOKING THROUGH IT.

EUREKA THEN WALKS TO HER APARTMENT AND OPENS THE DOOR.

16 INT: FAMILY APARTMENT 16

WHEN EUREKA GETS IN, SHE PUTS THE MAIL AND FOOD ON THE TABLE AND GOES TO USE THE BATHROOM.

WHEN SHE GOES BACK TO THE LIVING ROOM, SHE GRABS HER PHONE TO CHECK THE ANSWERING MACHINE. SHE HEARS HER NIECE TELL HER THAT SHE HAS SOME NEWS THEY NEED TO TALK ABOUT

EUREKA THEN TURNS ON THE TV AND SITS DOWN ON THE COUCH. SHE LEANS BACK AND ALMOST IMMEDIATELY FALLS ASLEEP IN HER WORK CLOTHES.

(CONTINUED)

FADE OUT

As Eureka falls asleep, we will track back to the table where she originally put down the mail. On the table, there will be bills, and a notice from the Immigration Service, then the phone rings.