

FADE IN

Exposition

World map Pan into lagos into school ODUDUWA UNIVERSITY

EXT. LECTURE ROOM - AFTERNOON

Students make their way out of the lecture hall, in the mist
of the students is TEMISAN (Tall, slim, with fine boy swag).
He stops at the exit looks round until he spots his friend
JADE (the opposite of Temisan) Jade makes it through the
students to join him.

JADE

That your lectured is boring gon

TEMISAN

I tell you, I normally don't sleep
through lectures but his class na
die.

JADE

I saw you now, your head was just
sliding anyhow

TEMISAN

(laughing)

How long were you waiting.

JADE

Like one hour, I no wan reach
hostel con dey wait for your door.
Please tell me my waiting was not
in vain. Wetin you cook?

TEMISAN

Cook ke? I didn't cook anything oh.
I wanted to make rice and stew but
when I went to the market everybody
was selling 5 small tomatoes for

200 naira. Imagine. Five, when it is not meat that I am buying.

JADE

So no food.

TEMISAN

No food.

JADE

And your girlfriend no bring you food?

TEMISAN

She travelled. Na canteen things today.

JADE

And I wan use you save money today.

----- 2. -----
-

Temisan laughs

JADE (CONT'D)

But the way the value of the naira is falling is not even funny at all. Somebody cannot even buy ordinary food again. Should it even affect the price of locally grown crops?

TEMISAN

You are asking me?

JADE

I mean come to think of it are we not in this mess because the banks refused to accept dollars again, or was it cbn that banned them? Or is it because of the corrupt politicians that are hoarding the dollars.

TEMISAN

I thin it is everything joined

together. But does it even matter
if we know the cause? What can we
do about it?

The pass by a bill board with various election posters.

JADE

nodges TEMISAN

JADE

See the poster I was telling you
about.

Temisan stops to look at it

INSERT - POSTER

The poster has a bold picture of EMEKA OKPALA dressed in
his
his full igbo regalia. There is a label on his picture
"THIS
IS AN IGBO MAN" The to the side of the picture is the
caption "DO YOU WANT TO GIVE CONTROL OF YOU LAND TO A
FORIEGNER? WILL A FORIEGNER BE ABLE TO TRUELY REPRESENT YOU?
VOTE DARE OMOTOSHO FOR STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT - THE MAN FOR
THE PEOPLE"

TEMISAN

I see his point, I don't think I
want an igbo man to be the student
body president. If he wants to be
president let him return to his
state and campaign.

JADE

I think this is wrong, first of all
this is a school with students from
different parts of the country.

----- 3. -----

-

Secondly I believe this is a
problem we have as Nigerians,
rather than seing ourselves as
Nigerians we se ourselves as
Africans.

TEMISAN

Africans?

JADE

I mean, you know how Nigeria, Ghana, South Africa, like how all these countries are in Africa but govern itself individually. How do I explain it self.

TEMISAN

We act like Nigeria is a location of the map and not a country?

JADE

Something like that. No patriotism, the Igbo and hausa man is a foriegnner in the yoruba man's land and vice versa.

TEMISAN

What is your point?

JADE

If we are truly Nigerians then we should all find this poster to be offensive. Because regardless of tribe we are on.

TEMISAN

That one is for your own pocket. As if a yoruba man can go to igbo land and campaign for any thing I'm voting for Dare.

JADE

Because he is a good president?

TEMISAN

No because he is the only yoruba person competing.

JADE

I swear you are stubborn. We are going to Iya Makinde to eat abi?

TEMISAN

No o, we are going to the school's
cafeteria. Who has money for Iya
Makinde?

----- 4. -----
-

SANDRA (O.S)
Hey Temi, Jade!

The two turn to look at Sandra, she is running towards them

TEMISAN
Temi? When did you shorten my name?
Please return to calling me
Temisan.

SANDRA
(Smiling)
Haba, are we fighting.

TEMISAN
If not for the election will you be
talking to me right now?

SANDRA
We hardly have things to talk about
now.

TEMISAN
Exactly, oya hurry up and campaign
we are listening

JADE
Temi calm down now, nah so hunger
dey do you?

SANDRA
I'm sorry for bothering you, but I
would be glad if I could get your
vote.

TEMISAN
Why should I vote for a woman?

Sandra is unnaturally calm

SANDRA

If I were a man would you vote for me?

TEMISAN

Maybe.

SANDRA

Well, I believe that even as I woman I can be an effective president.

TEMISAN

Who is deceiving you? Let me tell you something women cannot lead, powers goes to their head, and they become worse than the men in power, even if the woman wants to try self

----- 5. -----
-

she will have family to take care of, don't you need your boyfriends permission to campaign? Let me guess you don't have a boyfriend abi? How can I trust a woman that cannot handle a simple relationship with the affairs of the school?

SANDRA

(Calmly)

I see your point, but I believe it is high time that women become involved in politics, running the home is not the woman's duty it is the duty of both partners involved, that said, personalities differ, the same way power gets to the head of some men, is the same way it gets to the head of some women, yes it is predominantly seen in women but I believe this is because women are not yet used to being in positions of power, by the time they get used to it they will be more level headed when it comes to

handling certain issues.

TEMISAN

And you think you are level headed?

SANDRA

(Smiles)

Yes I think I am, besides there is a first time for everything, try having a female president, this will empower more women to believe they can do it and begin training to be in a position of power.

TEMISAN

The last thing I need is a woman believing she has power, you people are already troublesome.

JADE

Don't mind Temi, he is hungry, you'll give your campaign speech tomorrow abi? We will listen and make our choices tomorrow. If you try to convince him now he will just frustrate you.

SANDRA

Thank you, Please listen to my speech tomorrow. I'd appreciate the chance.

----- 6. -----

JADE

You are welcome
(Waves her good bye)
Guy wetin she do you?

TEMISAN

Nothing. I just don't like when women start stepping outside their boundary. Noting she says tomorrow can make me vote for her

JADE

Think I'll vote for her. I see no problem with women being in power, it's not like men are doing a good job anyway. They are also human beings and they deserve to be heard, to vote and to be voted for, besides if she can get all the female students to vote for her, and some of the men to vote I think she can win. Plus I campaign promises are the most realistic of the three.

TEMISAN

Is she not a woman. Women know how to give you believable promises, when you give them the chance to perform now they will go and brea under stress.

JADE

How does your girlfriend cope with you?

TEMISAN

What do you mean?

JADE

Ah, we have reach. Finally hunger is killing me. You are paying for my food abi?

INT. CAFETERIA - LATER

The cafeteria is crowded with students. Jade and Temisan carry their tray of food to an empty seat and begin to eat. EMEKA OKPALA (Light skinned, average height is on a makeshift pulpit at the back of the building campaigning.

EMEKA

...My opponent has nothing to offer you! This is why he had to bring up my tribe, let's talk about tribe now. Oduduwa university is a Federal university and 70% of it's students are not Yorubas. You know

why? Because it is a Nigerian university, it accepts Nigerians and every single one of us sitting down here is a Nigerian irrespective of our tribe. Do you want a government for the Yoruba people or a government for the Nigerian students of Oduduwa university.

Jade and Temisan are eating and listening to him as well as the other students.

JADE

This is what I was trying to say. I might vote for him.

TEMISAN

So Sandra has one less voter now

JADE

I said might

EMEKA

Dare was the vice President last year, let's take a look at his tenure. During his tenure the school fees was increased and despite protests by the student nothing was done about this, living expenses also increased and the student union contribution also increased. Yet nothing was done for us with this money. Infact in the year he served it was reported that about a hundred thousand naira went missing.

JADE

You still want to vote for Dare abi?

TEMISAN

Unless another candidate comes up

yes.

DARE (O.S)

I was not the president when all these things happened and everybody knows that there is little the Vice president can do in these situation. Abeg carry this foreigner out of here.

Some though looking students carry Emeka off the stage?

----- 8. -----
-

EMEKA

(Shouting)

Is this the type of government you want? One that will employ thugs to get things done for him? Will you vote for this symbo of currruption?

The students are laughing at the display, some are holding their phones up to video the incident.

DARE

Time for better person to speak. No offence to the igbos and hausas and middle belt students in this school, but can a yoruba man like myself come to your state and rule you? No! I can see some of you shouting tufiakwa! Already. See, so why should an igbo man rule here? This does not mean that I will not represent you. As long as you are a student in this school I will serve you. I am for the students of Oduduwa university. You don't want a woman to rule over you too. Even the women will agree with me that women are not ready to rule, they have a long way to go, they have not been trained from birth to rule un like us me! Let me not bore you with long talk. Vote for me Dare Omotosho! Vote Dare Omotosho for

president! And enjoy your meal.

Dare steps down from the stage as the students hail him, it is clear that he is the favourite candidate, he jares the crowd and as he passes Emeka he sticks his tongue out.

TEMISAN

I am definitely voting for Dare. He speaks the mind of the people.

JADE

Dare has promised you nothing but entertainment and he is speaing your mind.

TEMISAN

I don't want to hear all that one.

JADE

In Dare's government, there will be less transparency than there ever was, I'm sure the school knows this that is why they are backing him. Can any other student do what he does and get away with it? Our opinions will not count and we will

----- 9. -----
-

only find out about new school policies after they have been passed then we will sit and complain like we've always done afraid to protest for fear of suspenson and when the next election comes we will vote for the next most popular, not learning our lesson from to day.

Temisan stardes at him then at his food.

TEMISAN

You are killing my joy on top ordinaray election. If I don't vote for him then I will not vote for anybody. Let me carry my vote and

be going.

JADE

That is even worse than voting for the wrong person. It is your right and responsibility to vote. Vote for who you want to vote for, just listen to the wisdom in your heart.

TEMISAN

Sometimes I don't like you I swear.

EXT.STUDENT UNION BUILDING - EVENING

Students are gathered in front of the building listening to Emeka speak. Jade and Temisan are in the crowd listening

JADE

It remains Sandra to speak. I hope she has something better to offer.

TEMISAN

Whatever she brings does not matter.

Emeka finishes his speech, the crowd cheers as he hands the mic to the anchor

ANCHOR

It's time for our final speaker, please welcome Sandra Eduvie to the stage.

The crowd claps

SANDRA

(smiling)

Good evening vibrant students of Oduduwa University.

----- 10. -----
-

The crowd goes silent, a few students respond with hails, Sandra can tell that she doesnot have the student's attention.

TEMISAN

(Shakes his head)

She has lost already

SANDRA

A lot of you know me already,
thanks to my one on one campaigns
with my vice president.

(signals to a person on
wheel chair beside her.)

Thanks to these campaigns I have
gotten to meet a lot of interesting
people and I've come to learn a lot
of our needs. Most especially I
have come to learn that a lot of
you believe that women are not fit
to be leaders.

The male crowd and some females cheer to his. Temisan
smiles.

SANDRA

I cannot tell if you are right or
wrong, this is your opinion and I
respect it. But I am not here
asking you to elect me to lead you,
I am here asking you to employ me
to serve you. Because that is what
it truly means to hold an office
for the student. The purpose is to
serve the student. In serving you I
will press the school to improve
your standard of living, I will do
everything to ensure that the
school does not increase your
school fees, I will report to you
quarterly, everything that I and
those that serve you along with me
have done and are up to, and I will
listen to everything you have to
say and respect your opinions. No
decision that affects you will be
carried out without first running
it by you. I will be the best
servant that you've never had. I
will represent everybody,
irrespective of gender, tribe,

disabiities, and class. I will
serve you to the best of my
capacilities and so will my Vice
president. And we will ensure that
every person who serves under us in
serving you does the same. So vote
for me. Vote for a President that
serves you. Thank you!

----- 11. -----
-

The crowd stares at her slienly, watching, some people clap.

ANCHOR

Now that our final speaker has
spoken please stand make your way
to the ballot boxes to cast your
vote.

Temison is lost in thoughts

JADE

(Taps him)

It's time to vote

Temisan snaps out of his thoughts

TEMISAN

This woman has come to cause
confusion for somebody now.

Jade laughs.

Everybody makes their way to the ballot box, pick up a card
and drops their vote in.

LATER

The votes have been casted.

ANCHOR

Is there anybody left?

Nobody responds

ANCHOR

Alright please Provosts bring the ballot box up here. Candidate representatives please come up to monitor the votes as we count.

The box is placed in front of the Anchor, the representatives stand with a paper and biro to keep count. The Anchor deeps his hand in the box picks out a card and calls the name on the card, EMEKA, DARE, EMEKA, SANDRA, DARE, DARE, DARE, SANDRA, EMEKA, SANDRA, SANDRA, SANDRA, SANDRA, DARE, SANDRA, SANDRA.

By the time he is done calling the votes the crowd riots in cheers some in protest.

SANDRA Jumps for joy! She hugs her vice president.

Temisan smiles.

JADE

You are smiling. You voted for her.

----- 12. -----
-

TEMISAN

It was either vote for the servant or pocket my vote, since you will not let me rest if I did not vote, I voted for her. Shabi you are happy now.

Jade laughs. Temisan begins to walk away.

JADE

Where are you going?

TEMISAN

To meet my girlfriend. Let me go and reap my reward for voting for a woman.

JADE

You can never change.

CHICHI (Curvy, short, pretty) runs towards Temisan and jumps on him

CHICHI
Temi did you see that? We have our first female president.

TEMISAN
Yes, I did, I think it is high time we let women lead, I believe they would be able to do a better work than men, I mean I thought of how hard working you are when I voted for our new President.

JADE stares at Temisan open mouthed. Temisan sticks his tongue out at him Chichi laughs

CHICHI
(To Jade)
Let me guess Temi was against a woman becoming president until after her final speach abi?

JADE
I swear Chichi you have commonsense.

TEMISAN
Shabi I still voted for her.

CHICHI
That one too is there. Now women in this school will realise that they can achieve anything if they work hard for it and stop overly depending on men. I bet next year there will be a lot of women

----- 13. -----
-

contesting in this year's departmental elections. As as her VP is disabled, a lot of Disabled people will also feel empowered.

For the first time in a long time I
see this school moving forward.

TEMISAN
You are happy abi?

She nods

TEMISAN (CONT'D)
Good, did you cook?

CHICHI
You think I will travel home and
not bring food for you and Jade?

JADE
Chichi you are the best. What did
you bring?

CHICHI
It's a surprise

TEMISAN
Oya lets be going to the suprise.
Hunger is ready to kill me.

As the three leave the vicinity Temisan looks Back and
Smiles at Sandra. She is in the centre of a lot of well
wishers, she catches his eyes and smiles back.

THE END