

Iyanu - Side #1

1 EXT. ELU, THE FOREST REGION - DAY

1

Olori walks to a tight clearing in a dense section of the forest. In the middle of the area are two bamboo cages where a FAMILY OF CORRUPTED ANTELOPE are kept. Their eyes are blazing red, their demeanor aggressive and vicious. Olori kneels before the cages, Iyanu warily keeps her distance.

OLORI

The Inners are terrified because more and more creatures are becoming corrupted.

IYANU

Why do you have them in cages?

OLORI

To show you how the Agoni cleanse the corruption.

Olori pulls a small sack from her belt and empties a small amount of GLISTENING POWDER into her palm. She rubs the powder tightly between her hands until it evaporates into a SHIMMERING BLUE-GREEN MIST.

Olori claps her hands, the mist drifts into the air and settles into the cages. The antelope sniff the mist then cough violently until the red glow vanishes from their eyes. Olori opens the cages and the cured antelope rush off into the forest.

IYANU

(stunned)

If... you can save the Inners, why did they exile you?

Olori looks away from Iyanu, the answer might be too much for the child.

OLORI

I work to save them because everything in this world is symbiotic. We all depend on each other in a grand circle of life.

IYANU

What happens to one of us affects us all, right?

OLORI

Correct. They need us and we need them.

A beat as they both stare into the forest.

IYANU

Are you exiled because of me?
Because of my past?

OLORI

What "past"? You know the story of how I-

IYANU

"Found you in the forest." Yes, but I didn't spring up from the ground like a weed. Where do I come from? Who are my-

OLORI

(firm)

The sun will hang low in the sky soon. Go gather the herbs I need or we won't be having a flavorful dinner tonight.

Olori's face is stone cold, Iyanu gets the message.

IYANU

Yes, Olori.

Iyanu - Side #2

2 INT. IYANU'S HOME - NIGHT

2

Iyanu bursts into the house, sweaty, out of breath. She frantically searches for Olori.

IYANU

Olori! Olori!

Olori enters the main room with a quizzical expression.

OLORI

What is the matter child?

Iyanu chest heaves as she spits out the story bit by bit.

IYANU

(huffing) I... tried to help... someone who was being... mistreated.

OLORI

And?

IYANU

They... were... inside the city.

Olori's face shows shock for the very first time.

OLORI

(raised eyebrow)

Where did you go inside the city?
Was it the royal palace?

IYANU

No... a courtyard...near where they
buried the Oba.

Wheels are spinning inside Olori's head. Iyanu's shoulders slump from embarrassment and disappointment.

IYANU

I'm so sorry.

Olori kneels before Iyanu, stroking her cheek.

OLORI

You have nothing to be sorry for.
But we must-

KANFO

(O.S.)

Olori! Come outside! Now!

Iyanu stares at the door, fearful, but Olori takes her by the hand as they walk to the exit.

Iyanu - Side #3

3 EXT. THE FOREST REGION (BEYOND THE WALLS) - DAY

3

Iyanu and Biyi are stomping through a particularly rough patch of tall grass and brush. Iyanu seems fatigued, sweaty and irritated.

IYANU

I'm tired.

BIYI

Won't be much longer til we reach
the village.

IYANU

We've been walking in a big
roundabout circle all day. We're not

going to any village.

Biyi stops, impressed that Iyanu figured out his game, but still not trusting her.

BIYI
I don't trust any of the Inn-

Iyanu scowls, Biyi gets the message.

BIYI
Strangers who just show up in our region. Who are you? Really?

IYANU
I need nothing from you or your people, other than a new set of arrows, clean clothes and some food.

BIYI
Oh, is that all?

IYANU
I'll be on my way. I promise.

BIYI
You still haven't answered my questions.

IYANU
What is there to tell? I have lived in the forest most of my life.

BIYI
And how did you end up on that riverbed?

Iyanu looks away, she doesn't want to lie, but she also cannot trust Biyi.

BIYI
See? Not so easy to trust a-

STOMP! Iyanu and Biyi freeze as the ground and trees around them shake with intensity.

BIYI
What was that?!

Iyanu is deeply alarmed.

IYANU
Ekun...

Biyi turns with wide, dismissive, eyes.

BIYI
"Ekun?" The myth of the monster *
leopard? Ha.

IYANU
It's not a myth.

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