

Ireti Eda...!

EPISODE 1

Characters

Abokede

Iyabo

Wosilat

Ajani

Lukman

Baba Wasiu

Scene 1

Ibadan. Lukman's residence. Early morning!

1. **SFX:** (OFF MIC) SOUND OF PLATES AND OTHER UTENSILS BEING STACKED
2. **ABOKEDE:** (OFF MIC, SINGING A POPULAR YORUBA SONG. INTERJECTING IT WITH HUMMING AND WHISTLING AT SOME POINT) Owuro lojo eni ma rire o...(morning is the time for a person who wants to be successful...). (PAUSING ONCE IN A WHILE AND SIGHING LIKE SHE IS LIFTING SOMETHING HEAVY)
3. **SFX:** FOOTSTEPS APPROACHING MIC AS WELL AS SINGING GETTING LOUDER AS ABOKEDE GRADUALLY GETS ON MIC
4. **SFX:** DOOR OPENS AND CLOSSES
5. **ABOKEDE:** (STOP SINGING ABRUPTLY) Ah ah! You have not finished eating? Come on eat, else we will be late for school. Be fast joo. (SOUNDING IMPATIENT) oya oya, before mummy will...
6. **SFX:** DOOR OPENS AND CLOSSES SHARPLY
7. **ABOKEDE:** (QUICKLY) Good morning ma.
8. **IYABO:** (GRUNTS IN RESPONSE) Hmm! My children are not ready for school yet?
9. **ABOKEDE:** That's what I've been telling them. They are almost ready... it's just for them to finish eating.
10. **IYABO:** Abokede, what is this you are giving to them?
11. **ABOKEDE:** Rice ma.
12. **IYABO:** Rice ke? Do you want to kill them with rice? Is that not what they ate yesterday? Abokede, be careful with me o. if I start now, people will say that I have started again. Why are you

giving my children rice this morning? Do you want rice to grow on their heads?

13. **ABOKEDE:** (CALMLY) Aunty Iyabo, they didn't eat rice yesterday ma. They ate yam.
14. **IYABO:** Hmm hmm? (PAUSE) Where is your father?
15. **ABOKEDE:** He has gone to the mosque. (HURRIEDLY) Come on now guys, let's go. We are getting late.
16. **IYABO:** (INCREDULOUSLY) We? And where are you going, Abokede?
17. **ABOKEDE:** (SURPRISED BY THE QUESTION) To school, ma. For JAMB lesson.
18. **IYABO:** JAMB lesson. Please don't make me laugh. Mschew! Hurry, children, go, go so you won't be late
19. **SFX:** DOOR OPENS AND CLOSSES
20. **IYABO:** Abokede, you are not even ashamed. At your age, you are sitting in class with children that are young enough to be your children. (MOCKS HER) JAMB lesson. Every day JAMB lesson. For how long will you write the exam before you pass? Mschew!
21. **ABOKEDE:** (UPSET BUT TRYING TO REMAIN CALM) Aunty Iyabo, I have to go now. Our exam is in a month's time and I've missed too many classes. I need to go. Moreover, father already said I must go today.
22. **IYABO:** If your name is really Abokede, Oya go now! Go! Let me watch you go. Biku lo loko ni, bi pakute ni, enu e lajo wa yen. (If it is rat that owns the farm, or trap, we will find out now!).
23. **ABOKEDE:** (ALMOST IN TEARS) Mummy, please...
24. **IYABO:** (INTERRUPTS) Don't mummy me o, Abokede. You have killed your own mother and I won't let you kill me too. I know the number of children I have I beg you.
25. **ABOKEDE:** (IN TEARS, PLEADING) Mummy... Aunty Iyabo. Please, I am on my knees. I am begging you please let me go. I have been writing this JAMB for the past two years despite the fact that I have passed my WAEC. Please let me go, I don't want to fail this time.
26. **IYABO:** (CLAPS HER HANDS) Eh, neighbors, please save me from this stupid, good-for-nothing girl. Am I the one that made you fail your exam? You better get up from the floor now before people start thinking I am doing something to you.
27. **ABOKEDE:** Please ma. I have missed classes for a week now... please

28. **IYABO:** Oh, so I am the one that made you miss classes? How won't you miss classes when you won't do what you are supposed to do on time?
29. **ABOKEDE:** Aunty, I wake up by 5 every morning. I do all my chores. Everything.
30. **IYABO:** **(LAUGHING SARCASTICALLY)** Everything abi? Have you arranged the store I told you to arrange? The toilet I told you to clean? What about all the clothes I told you to wash? Do I even need to tell you before you do them?
31. **ABOKEDE:** I have done everything. Please go and check aunty. I have done everything. I have even cleaned the shop downstairs.
32. **IYABO:** **(TAKEN ABACK)** enh enh? When?
33. **ABOKEDE:** I didn't sleep until 12am this morning and I have woken up since 5 to finish up. I have even cooked your breakfast. If you look outside, you will see all the clothes on the line
34. **IYABO:** So who will bring them in when they get dry? Will the clothes fold and iron themselves?
35. **ABOKEDE:** **(EXCLAIMS IN DISBELIEVE)** Aunty Iyabo! Father has already paid for this lesson. I have not been going and the money is wasting.
36. **IYABO:** Abokede, don't test my patience oh. If you have nothing to do, go downstairs to the salon. Customers will soon begin to arrive.
37. **ABOKEDE:** Aunty!
38. **IYABO:** **(SCREAM)** Get out of my sight!
39. **SFX:** **DOOR OPENS AND CLOSES**
40. **IYABO:** **(CLAPPING HER HANDS MOCKINGLY)** ode! (fool)! JAMB lesson ko, JAMB lesson ni! She should come and go now, let me be watching her. Mchewww!
41. **MUSIC:** **BRIDGE MUSIC UP AND FADES TO**

Scene 2

Ilorin! Ajani's residence. Early afternoon

42. **SFX:** **SOUND OF CHILDREN PLAYING OFF MIC. DOOR OPENS AND CLOSES**
43. **WOSILAT:** **(ON MIC, SURPRISED)** Ah, Ajani! Back so soon
44. **AJANI:** **(DISPLEASED)** Wosilat, why are the children at home? Why are they not in school?
45. **WOSILAT:** The school sent them home yesterday. They said the children should not come back until the fees are completely paid.

46. **AJANI:** (EXASPERATED) Wossy! You should have gone there to beg them now. Ah ah? Are you happy the way they are just playing with sand outside?
47. **WOSILAT:** Ajani, I have been going there every week for the past one month and you know it. The headmistress said there is nothing she can do for us this time. And I don't blame her. It's a school, not a charitable organization.
48. **AJANI:** My God! so where will I get the school fees for three children?
49. **WOSILAT:** How was the place you went?
50. **AJANI:** Same! Same story everyday! No job. I told them that I am a professional driver and I even mentioned all the companies I've worked for. Still, they said they can't give me the job.
51. **WOSILAT:** (INDIGNANT) What do they mean? What's their problem? Where you not referred to them by Mr Isiaka? Do they want to say that they don't know Mr Isiaka again?
52. **AJANI:** Wossy mi, there is nothing we can do about it. They said when Isiaka told them I was coming, they thought I was a young man. I think they want all those young boys they can pay a few naira.
53. **WOSILAT:** That's terrible o. so what are we going to do now? my petty trade is hardly enough to put food on our table. How will the children go to school?
54. **AJANI:** Wossy, what do you want me to do? I am trying but I cannot kill myself. I even went to meet our neighbor to see if he can give me a bus to operate for him
55. **WOSILAT:** (SHOCKED) You want to drive oko (commercial bus)? But you are a corporate driver now.
56. **AJANI:** And where is the corporate job? I can do anything now.
57. **WOSILAT:** So did he agree?
58. **AJANI:** To give me the bus? For where? He said he has only two buses and he has drivers for the two buses. I am tired o jare! I have tried everything. Nothing is working
59. **WOSILAT:** (SYMPATHETICALLY) don't worry. Just relax. Allah will definitely make a way for us. Let me bring your food.
60. **SFX:** **SOUND OF WOSILAT SETTING THE TABLE**
61. **AJANI:** Wossy mi... give me N200 there.
62. **WOSILAT:** For what?
63. **AJANI:** (EXCITED) These numbers, see. My friend just gave them to me. These are the winning numbers, I know.

64. **WOSILAT:** Ajani, you want to play baba ijebu (the pools) again? We don't have any money and you are thinking of using the little we have to gamble?
65. **AJANI:** Wosilat, it is a risk but what if I win? We can pay rent and the children can go to school. **(TEASINGLY)** Moreover, I will put money in your small business so that you can have a big shop of your own.
66. **WOSILAT:** **(TIGHTLY)** Ajani, please stop dreaming! You have been playing this baba ijebu for years with nothing to show for it. Me, I don't have N200 to give you o. I have used the money I have to prepare food.
67. **AJANI:** Na you sabi. Awun oshi (tight fist ed woman)
68. **WOSILAT:** Thank you! Eat your food. Ajani, I almost forgot sef. Baba landlord came here this morning o. He has threatened to send us packing if we don't pay the rent.
69. **AJANI:** What is his problem? Why is he behaving like we are the only ones owing in this country? Nigeria sef has debts.
70. **WOSILAT:** Ajani, I understand your frustrations but you can't say that in front of that man o. he has been patient with us now. This is the sixth month and we have not paid rent. We have to find a solution fast. And you know he is an old thug. I don't want his trouble o.
71. **AJANI:** Then we will go to my father's house. Ah ah, we sef get house for this Ilorin now!
72. **WOSILAT:** **(SHOCKED)** You can't be serious Ajani. Your family house? With your mother and sister? Not to talk of all your extended family members in that house. Is there any room left in that house sef?
73. **AJANI:** Do you have another option?
74. **WOSILAT:** I will go to Ibadan. I will go and talk to my brother Lukman. He may be able to give me some money.
75. **MUSIC:** **BRIDGE MUSIC UP AND FADES TO**

Scene 3

Ibadan! Lukman's residence.

76. **SFX:** **DOOR OPENS AND CLOSSES ABRUPTLY**
77. **LUKMAN:** **(CALLS OUT)** Iyabo, Iyabo!

78. **IYABO:** (OFF MIC) Yes? (GRADUALLY COMING ON MIC) Baba Abokede, welcome. I didn't know when you left for the mosque this morning
79. **LUKMAN:** Where are the children?
80. **IYABO:** They've gone to school. Is anything the matter?
81. **LUKMAN:** Why is Abokede not in school? I saw her downstairs just now plaiting your customer's hair
82. **IYABO:** (CHUCKLES PLAYFULLY) Ah ah, Lukman? Is that why you are looking so upset? Even though you are just coming from mosque? Please come and eat your food before it gets cold
83. **LUKMAN:** Iyabo, you have not answered my question. I said why is Abokede not in school just like the other children
84. **IYABO:** Lukman, you are asking me as if Abokede is a child. If she thinks the lesson is important, she would have gone.
85. **LUKMAN:** So why then did we pay for lesson if she will not go? And her exam is in a month's time. How does she intend on passing?
86. **IYABO:** Well, since you won't listen to me, you see now? I told you that there was no need to pay for the lesson. Abokede has been attending JAMB lesson for two years now and still she hasn't passed the exam. At this point, she should even be able to teach her peers everything they are being taught in class. But you know your daughter now, she is not serious at all
87. **LUKMAN:** But you are the mother. You should have insisted that she goes even if she doesn't want to
88. **IYABO:** Baba Abokede, I have done everything for that girl. Still, she has refused to accept me as her mother. If it was her real mother that told her to go to school, she would have left. No questions asked. But since it's just me, she wouldn't listen
89. **LUKMAN:** But her mother is dead, Iyabo and you are the mother of this house. You should be able to take responsibilities.
90. **IYABO:** See, Baba Abokede, Abokede is not a baby. If she likes she goes to school, if she likes, she can stay at home and keep failing. I have my own children to look after. Abeg!
91. **MUSIC:** **BRIDGE MUSIC UP AND FADES TO**

Scene 4

Ibadan. Lukman's house. Outdoors

92. **SFX:** WIND BLOWING. SOUND OF PEOPLE TALKING, CARS AND MOTORCYCLE HORNS BLOWING INTERMITTENTLY TO SIGNIFY OUTDOORS BUT NOT A VERY BUSY ENVIRONMENT
93. **IYABO:** **(CALLING OUT, FROM THE VERANDA)** Abokede, I can see the hair you are plaiting from up here o. you better do it neatly before I come down there to meet you. Or do you want to pursue all my customers?
94. **BABA WASIU:** Abokede! Omo Shakira! Omo Lukman. Omo re bi iyan!(daughter of Shakira, daughter of Lukman, good child like the pounded yam).
95. **ABOKEDE:** Good afternoon, baba Wasiu
96. **BABA WASIU:** Afternoon. Where is my good friend, Lukman?
97. **ABOKEDE:** He is upstairs sir
98. **BABA WASIU:** **(CALLING OUT)** Lukman! Where are you? Gbera nile koo dide (show forth). **(SINGING LUKMAN’S PRAISE THEME)**
99. **IYABO:** **(INTERRUPTS RUDELY)** Hey! Hey!! Hey!!! What is the meaning of all that? Why are you shouting my husband’s name like that? Where you there on the day of his christening?
100. **B. WASIU:** **(LAUGHS)** Ah, Iyabo. I can see you. Omo onile ori oke (A person who lives in a storey building)
101. **IYABO:** Na you know o. at least you know the way up. If you want to see my husband, you come up to see him. Stop shouting his name as if you are calling your child
102. **B. WASIU:** I am not calling your husband, woman. I am calling my friend. **(BURSTS INTO PRAISE SINGING, CHANTING THE ORIKI OF LUKMAN)**
103. **IYABO:** **(HISSES)** Mschewww! Na you sabi. Just continue roaming around like fever. E dey your body. Agbaya oshi (stupid old fool)
104. **B. WASIU:** **(LAUGHS AND BURSTS INTO SINGING AGAIN)** Omo to ni baba owun ola, omo toni baba hun o lowolowo (he that says his father is poor...)
105. **IYABO:** Don’t even finish that song because you are just a one song wonder. If you think you really can sing, why don’t you release an album? Enh? I don’t blame you. If you had a reasonable job, you won’t be here begging all the time pretending you are here to see your ‘friend’!
106. **B. WASIU:** **(LAUGHS AT HER, SINGING)** Iyabo, omo ori iru e ri (a poor child that is just experiencing wealth)

107. **IYABO:** **(GETTING REALLY IRRITATED)** Hey, old fool! If not that I am a God-fearing woman, I would have called those boys from the garage to deal with you. But come to think of it, where do they want to beat on your body? You are so dried up. Drunkard!
108. **ABOKEDE:** Baba Wasiu, please it is enough. Just go upstairs and meet my father. Please leave aunty Iyabo alone
109. **IYABO:** Stupid girl. Who invited you in this conversation?
110. **B. WASIU:** **(LAUGHS)** Abokede, you know all her abuses do not affect me in any way? She is an entertainer.
111. **IYABO:** I don't know why my husband keeps such friends. No benefit. You are just a thorn in the flesh.
112. **B. WASIU:** **(AMUSED)** I have had enough laugh for one day. Save the rest for another day. Let me go and see my dear friend. **(CALLS OUT)** Lukman!!!
113. **IYABO:** Continue shouting o. shebi you are coming up here to meet me? Msheww! Nonsense.
114. **MUSIC:** **THEME MUSIC...DRAMA BRIDGE UP AND UNDER....**