

EPISODE 2

Characters:

Jide

Sofiat Ojekunle (Jide's mother)

Joke

Lateef Oyebolu (Joke's father)

Saka Oyebolu (Lateef's brother)

Azeez Ojekunle

Scene 1

Ojekunle's residence, Jide's room, early morning

1. **MUSIC:** **BRIDGE UP AND FADE**
2. **SFX:** **KNOCK ON DOOR**
3. **JIDE:** Come in.
4. **SFX:** **DOOR OPENS ON MIC**
5. **JIDE:** Good morning mummy; how was ...?
6. **SOFIAT:** **(INTERRUPTING)** Jide, where were you yesterday night?
7. **JIDE:** **(STAMMERING)** M-ma?
8. **SOFIAT:** You heard me Jide. Where were you yesterday night?
9. **JIDE:** I was at the, em, library. I had told you now.
10. **SOFIAT:** Jide. Jide. Jide. How many times did I call you?
11. **JIDE:** Three times ma.
12. **SOFIAT:** I'm not happy with you at all o. So you can lie like this ehn? Even to me?
13. **JIDE:** Mummy but I'm not lying now!
14. **SOFIAT:** **(WORRIED)** And you're still lying again! Ha! If somebody had told me that you can lie so blatantly to my face I wouldn't even have believed them.
15. **JIDE:** Mummy... I was...

16. **SOFIAT:** Ehn Jide, so you're still going to tell me that you were at the library? When I know for a fact that you were dancing yesterday night with your dance people at a show – or do you want to deny it Jide? Do you want to lie again? Answer me o!
17. **JIDE:** **(SUBDUED)** I don't know what to say mummy. I'm sorry I lied to you.
18. **SOFIAT:** **(SCOFFS)** Hmm ...
19. **JIDE:** I am ma; I'm very sorry. I didn't want to upset you. **(PAUSES)** But ... mummy how did you know? I tried so hard to cover all my tracks;. I even made sure I got home early, to avoid suspicion. So how did you find out?
20. **SOFIAT:** Hmm. My friend saw you at the show and she called me asking me how come I didn't tell her you dance. And that you danced very well –
21. **JIDE:** **(EXCITEDLY)** She thought I danced very well? She even put 'very' there? Wow!
22. **SOFIAT:** That's not the most important thing here, Jide. You're playing with fire o. You know your father doesn't like all this dancing business, to the extent that he has even said forget about it; don't do it anymore. Why are you looking for his trouble?
23. **JIDE:** **(PASSIONATELY)** Mummy, you don't understand. Dancing is my passion. It's my life; it's inside me. I never feel more alive than when I'm up there on the stage, performing a routine with my troupe. I can't give that up just because daddy doesn't approve of it. I can't. I won't.
24. **SOFIAT:** Hmm ... I don't like this o Jide. I don't know how long I can continue to help you lie to your father o; it's not something I enjoy doing. Why don't you try and talk to him? Tell him all this one you just told me.
25. **JIDE:** What have I not said? Abi what is left for me to say to him? The man has said over his dead body will any of his children be artists or anything like that. What can I say to dad? He has made up his mind!
26. **SOFIAT:** This is a difficult position you're putting me in o. I can only pray for you Jide. Once you are able to qualify as a medical doctor, I pray Allah will open your eyes, and all this dancing things will leave your system.
27. **JIDE:** **(MYSTERIOUSLY)** Well mummy, time will tell.
28. **SFX:** **BRIDGE MUSIC**

Scene 2

Oyebolu residence, dining room, afternoon

29. **SFX:** **DOOR OPENING AND CLOSING ON MIC**
30. **JOKE:** **(PLAYFULLY)** Ah ah, daddy you're enjoying o. See the mountain of rice you're eating; you thought you'll be able to finish it before I get home abi? No o. you must share with me!
31. **LATEEF:** **(LAUGHING)** Welcome back, Ajoke my princess. Come and eat. How was school?
32. **JOKE:** School was okay.
33. **SFX:** **SOUND OF SILVERWARE AS THEY EAT**
34. **JOKE:** **(BETWEEN MOUTHFULS)** Some of the courses are tough sha, but I'm managing alright. It's as if I inherited my father's brains.
35. **LATEEF:** **(LAUGHING)** Ajoke, my princess. Abi is it because my rice that you're praising me?
36. **JOKE:** **(PLAYFULLY)** Ah ah, a whole big daddy like you! You know you are the best daddy in the word.. **(PAUSE)** So dad, how come you're home so early today?
37. **LATEEF:** I thought you'd never ask. I wanted to surprise you, your mum and your Jaiye today. Have you heard of that Wole Soyinka play they're showing at Uni Ilorin?
38. **JOKE:** **(SPIRITED)** Yes; why? What about it?
39. **LATEEF:** Well I was thinking it would be nice for all of us to go this evening –
40. **JOKE:** **(SCREAMS EXCITEDLY)** You don't mean it? Wow, dad, you know I love Wole Soyinka! Oh this is a great surprise daddy; thank you! I'm so excited! What about mummy and Jaiye?
41. **LATEEF:** I'm glad you're happy. They're upstairs getting ready. And there is more good news o.
42. **JOKE:** Daddy you want to burst my head today sha. Please tell me; I'm salivating to hear!

43. **LATEEF:** It's work news. You know those contracts we finished executing some time ago for Kwara State?
44. **JOKE:** Yes o Dad. The one that you used all the company money and even your personal money to do.
45. **LATEEF:** Well, we praise God; the government has finally paid me for it.
46. **JOKE:** Wow. Allah-wu-akbar! This is really good news! I thought they would never pay you. We've been so broke because of it.
47. **LATEEF:** Ajoke my princess, do you know that because of that, the government has just awarded our company another contract for several more roads, bridges and even houses now.
48. **JOKE:** Dad!!! Are you kidding me? Another contract? How much is it worth?
49. **LATEEF:** Well, it's a multi-billion naira contract –
50. **JOKE:** **(INTERRUPTS EXCITEDLY)** Multi- what??? Heeeeey! This truly calls for celebration o!
51. **LATEEF:** Well, my princess, we will start the celebration by seeing the play
52. **JOKE:** **(LAUGHING)** Dad, that is not enough o. **(TEASING)** And maybe now that money is about to come in, you will give me and Jaiye a little sister, you know, we will call her 'Omodesola' (*child born into wealth*)
53. **LATEEF:** **(LAUGHING)** No o. You know your mummy and I have always agreed that all we wanted was two children – two very wonderful children, I should add.
54. **JOKE:** **(TEASINGLY)** I hear!
55. **LATEEF:** Even before we got married, we had planned our family. We used family planning to achieve that, and we can't be happier that our plan worked and we have been able to provide for our children.
56. **JOKE:** **(HAPPILY)** Well, I'm happy for that. But we better leave on time o, so that we won't be late for the play.
57. **LATEEF:** Yes and when we come back maybe you can help me go over some of the documents for the contract?
58. **JOKE:** Of course daddy, no problem.

59. **LATEEF:** Thank you princess.
60. **JOKE:** **(EXCITEDLY)** Now let me go and rush these people! **(SHOUTING OFF MIC)** Mum! Jaiye! Oya o! Are you people not ready?
61. **SFX:** **BRIDGE MUSIC**

Scene 3

Ojekunle residence, living room, mid-morning

62. **SFX:** **FOOTSTEPS WALKING ONTO MIC**
63. **JIDE:** Good morning, dad. I'm off to school now.
64. **AZEEZ:** **(SIGHS, DISTRACTEDLY)** Hmm hmm, Jide!.
65. **JIDE:** **(CONCERNED)** Dad? Are you okay? Is anything the matter?
66. **AZEEZ:** **(DISTRACTEDLY)** Hmm? Oh, there's nothing wrong my son. I'm just ... thinking.
67. **JIDE:** **(WORRIED)** Thinking? About what?
68. **AZEEZ:** Jide, I pray that you will become a successful man o. may your future be blessed and may everything you lay your hands on be successful o.
69. **JIDE:** **(CONFUSED)** Amen ... dad.
70. **SFX:** **SQUEAK OF BENCH OR CHAIR AS JIDE SITS**
71. **AZEEZ:** Jide my son, do you remember the story of how me and your mother struggled hard in the early years of our marriage?
72. **JIDE:** Yes I remember dad. You have told us the story countless times.
73. **AZEEZ:** And I will say it again so you never forget the sacrifices we have made for you and your younger ones
74. **JIDE:** Yes dad
75. **AZEEZ:** When your mother and I first got married, it was not easy for us. Money was tight, it was so bad that we were living from hand to mouth.
76. **JIDE:** It must have been tough!

77. **AZEEZ:** Jide, it was more than tough, it was almost impossible! Then I worked really hard and gathered some money. That's how I bought my first car
78. **JIDE:** that was the car you started your transport company with
79. **AZEEZ:** yes Jide. I drove that car myself, using it as taxi. And now, And now, I have more than five cars that work from here to Ibadan everyday. And it is that money that this entire family is surviving by
80. **JIDE:** Dad, your hardwork paid off
81. **AZEEZ:** I thank God. And Jide, I also thank your mum for believing and staying with me throughout all that hard times
82. **JIDE:** We all believe in you dad. You have been really good to us all
83. **AZEEZ:** Thank you my son. But you know one lesson I've learned from all this?
84. **JIDE:** That hardwork pays?
85. **AZEEZ:** Yes... and most importantly, is that I wish I had had a proper education. If I had, maybe it wouldn't have been had as it was for me. Maybe I would have gotten a good job, save enough and have a bigger transport company today
86. **JIDE:** Well dad, you've done well. Even better than some educated people.
87. **AZEEZ:** And maybe I would have done better. Now, I would never know. And that is why your mother and I decided that, with our own children, education would come first. **(PAUSE)** Are you hearing everything I'm saying, Jide?
88. **JIDE:** I'm hearing you sir.
89. **AZEEZ:** Good. So now, whenever you see me being hard on you and your siblings it's because I don't want you to make the same mistakes I did.
90. **JIDE:** Yes dad. I understand
91. **AZEEZ:** Jide, my son. You are my first child. And you will be the first Medical Doctor of this family.
92. **JIDE:** **(UNCOMFORTABLE)** Yes, dad
93. **AZEEZ:** Jide, I am counting the days. You have only 3 more years left until you graduate and become a doctor. It feels like it was just like yesterday that you gained admission

94. **JIDE:** Yes dad. Time really flies
95. **AZEEZ:** On that day I will invite every single one of my friends to come and share in my family's happiness – especially the Adeoye's. Shebi their first son is already a practicing doctor?
96. **JIDE:** Yes sir. But, is that why you want to invite them? Just because their own son is a doctor?
97. **AZEEZ:** Nonsense. I don't care if their son is the president of Nigeria; I know that my own children will be better than all of their own. Because you will be a doctor, your sister will be a lawyer and your brother will be an engineer.
98. **JIDE:** **(COUGHS MILDLY)** What if that is not what they want to become dad?
99. **AZEEZ:** Jide my son. Not when I'm alive will they do something else. That is their destiny from heaven and God has given me the job to make it come to pass
100. **JIDE:** You're right dad
101. **AZEEZ:** And I am not going to spare any expense in giving you children good education. Education is the best legacy I can give you children. After that, nothing o.
102. **JIDE:** **(DISPIRITEDLY)** Of course sir. Let me start going to school dad. We have lab practical today
103. **AZEEZ:** Okay my son, go o. don't be late. We will see in the evening
104. **JIDE:** Yes dad.
105. **SFX:** **DOOR OPENS AND CLOSES**
106. **AZEEZ:** Doctor Jide Ojekunle ... hmm ... **(LAUGHS)** I like the sound of that!
107. **SFX:** **BRIDGE MUSIC**

Scene 4

Oyebolu residence, exterior, afternoon

108. **JOKE:** **(OFF MIC)** Uncle Saka! Uncle Saka!!
109. **SFX:** **FOOTSTEPS RUNNING ONTO MIC**

110. **SAKA:** **(GRUNTS AS SHE HUGS HIM)** Mm! Ajoke, her daddy's princess! Just getting back from school?
111. **JOKE:** **(LAUGHS)** Yes o, uncle. School just finished. And we both know I'm hardly a princess, no matter how many times my father wants to call me that.
112. **SAKA:** **(TEASINGLY)** Oh, you that is always coming home to eat mummy's food and enjoy daddy's money; is that not a princess's life?
113. **JOKE:** You know how your brother is, uncle. Left to me I would probably have been living on campus, but daddy wants me to be a day student, since school is not so far from here even.
114. **SAKA:** Then your father is a very wise man, and I support his decision. If he had left you on campus the boys in that poly wouldn't have let you rest!
115. **JOKE:** **(LAUGHING)** Uncle let's even bone that side. Apart from all that, I enjoy staying at home. It gives me time to hang out with the family, especially daddy. I'm able to help him with work documents and such.
116. **SAKA:** Ah ah; and what does a young girl like you hope to gain by concerning herself with work documents? Leave that one for the adults now. I'm sure I can provide whatever advice or assistance your father might need.
117. **JOKE:** Of course you can now uncle; and you've done it for him many times before! It's just that if I ever hope to run the company successfully after my father I better start learning the ropes now, rather than later.
118. **SAKA:** Hmm; rightly said. That's why I like you Ajoke; you are a very wise girl and my favorite niece.
119. **JOKE:** **(JOKINGLY)** Ah uncle I am your ONLY niece, and don't let my head start swelling o!
120. **SAKA:** Let it swell Ajoke, don't worry. And if there's anything you want to know in terms of business you know you can always ask me. After all, I am the technical manager of the company.
121. **JOKE:** Thank you uncle; that means a lot to me. You are my dad's only brother and my only uncle and you and aunty and my cousins are just the best.
122. **SAKA:** **(CHUCKLING)** Uh,. You that you don't like coming to visit us. You should be visiting more often.

123. **JOKE:** **(APOLOGETIC)** I know uncle, I'm sorry. Don't be angry; it's because of school. They keep me very busy in my department.
124. **SAKA:** Don't worry about it; I was just joking.
125. **JOKE:** Okay, but I promise I will visit much more often than before, don't worry. Have you seen daddy?
126. **SAKA:** Yes o; we've finished our discussions. I was just about leaving even.
127. **JOKE:** Okay uncle, let me not keep you. Bye! And please greet aunty for me!
128. **SAKA:** Okay, I will.
129. **SFX:** **FOOTSTEPS WALKING OFF MIC**
130. **SFX:** **BRIDGE UP AND FADE**