

their schoolwork is suffering. And now to make things worse Ashake is now insulting me. I'm just tired.

14. **AJANI:** **(CALMS DOWN TOO)** I'm sorry about that. I will talk to Ashake. Meanwhile, please try and manage ehn. This situation is not permanent.
15. **WOSILAT:** That's true. I even have some good news. I went to the market and met this wholesaler called Alaba. He agreed to give me some goods on credit to sell.
16. **AJANI:** That's wonderful.
17. **WOSILAT:** The man is such a good man. He said I didn't have to bring guarantors and even advised me on which goods will sell well.
18. **AJANI:** I thank Allah for Alaba then. May he reward him for his kindness.
19. **WOSILAT:** Amin!!!
20. **AJANI:** **(HAPPY)** This could be the start of new things for us. God is finally looking on us with favour.
21. **WOSILAT:** It's true. By the way, I will go to Ibadan this evening to collect the balance of the rents he promised me last time he was here.
22. **AJANI:** **(TEASINGLY)** So you want to leave me alone overnight. How will I manage without you?
23. **WOSILAT:** **(EQUALLY TEASINGLY, AND GIGGLING A BIT)** I think you will survive.
24. **AJANI:** **(SUGGESTIVELY)** So what are you going to do to keep my mind at rest while you're gone?
25. **WOSILAT:** **(JOKINGLY)** This man, is that all you think about?
26. **AJANI:** **(LAUGHS)** Wosi-baby, when a man has a wife like you, one can't blame him.
27. **MUSIC:** **BRIDGE UP AND FADE**

SCENE 2

Ilorin, Animashaun residence

28. **SFX:** **DOOR SLAMS, AND ANGRY FOOTSTEPS. SOUND OF PAPERS ANGRILY HITTING A TABLE. OFF MIC**

29. **BELLO:** (ON) Daddy, good evening.
30. **WALE:** (COMING ON MIC...ANGRY) Have you heard the latest scheme of the Ojos to destroy us? They won't succeed, you hear me. They won't. I'll get them first.
31. **BELLO** (CONCERNED) What's happened?
32. **WALE:** (SOUND OF PAPERS BEING PICKED UP, SORTED OUT AND HANDED TO BELLO) Look at this. We've been served a injunction to stop all work clearing the forest for the mall project.
33. **BELLO:** (READING, SHUFFLING PAPERS) This is bad.
34. **WALE:** (VOICE SLOWLY RISING) It's nonsense. Is it today they knew I wanted to build this mall and entertainment centre? Why did they wait for me to invest all this money and resources in the project before trying to stop it? Typical Ojo methods. (HISSES).
35. **BELLO:** But how do you know it's the Ojos behind this?
35. **WALE:** Can you not read? On page 1. Who brought the complaint? Who filed the injunction?
36. **BELLO:** (SHUFFLES PAPER) The injunction was filed on behalf of Oyemade Ojo, by Kolawole Ojo.
37. **WALE:** That devil has raised his sons to destroy me. That Oyemade, if I catch him, I'll break his head. He has been a thorn in my flesh for so long. He is really turning public opinion against the project.
38. **BELLO:** Dad calm down. It's not good for your health to be angry like this.
39. **WALE:** They haven't seen anything yet. They haven't seen me angry.
40. **BELLO:** Don't worry, Dad. Nothing will come of this. Abi we got the necessary planning permissions and have the government's support. The project will soon be back on track.
41. **WALE:** All these delays are costing me money. These Ojos are snakes. I know they are plotting to strike again in another way.

42. **BELLO:** No matter what they try, they won't succeed. And even if the project gets stopped, we're insured. The investment will be safe.
43. **WALE:** Do you think I'm going to let it get to that level? When you deal with snakes, you go on the offensive and cut off the head quickly before it strikes you.
44. **BELLO:** What will you do?
45. **WALE:** They have pulled the tail of the tiger. I have taken it as a declaration of war. Bello, I will do whatever it takes to stop the Ojos. I cannot leave this matter for them to win. **(VOICE RAISED)** Over my dead body!
46. **MUSIC:** **BRIDGE UP AND FADE**

SCENE 3

Ilorin, Ajani's Family House, Evening

47. **SFX:** **HOUSEHOLD NOISE. SOUND OF PLATES AND POTS BANGING AS PEOPLE EAT/WASH UP. VOICES OFF MIC.**
48. **ASHAKE:** Ah good evening, broada Ajani. They said you were looking for me?
49. **AJANI:** **(COLDLY)** Yes, good evening, my sister. How are you?
50. **ASHAKE:** Aa-jaa-nii, what's the matter? Why are you frowning like that?
51. **AJANI:** Why won't I frown? After what you said about my wife and kids? If it was you, would you be happy?
52. **ASHAKE:** I know I was harsh. It's just that I was angry over my makeup. I wanted to wear it on a date, and when I saw it was broken I got angry.
53. **AJANI:** Ahn ahn. You said all those things because of something small like makeup?
54. **ASHAKE:** **(CONTRITE)** I don't even know why I was angry. It's not as if it is all that expensive.
55. **AJANI:** But Wosilat said you were very angry. Is everything ok with you?

56. **ASHAKE:** I don't know. I think it was just because of the house was so crowded. It irritates me. No place to think sometimes. It makes me oversensitive. I'm very sorry. Please, don't be annoyed. I have been feeling bad all day. I even brought some snacks back for the children to say sorry.
57. **AJANI:** It's ok. I understand how you feel. It can be very frustrating living in a crowded area, with almost no privacy. Wosilat is trying, but it's not easy for her and the children. So you have to bear with her, abeg.
58. **ASHAKE:** I understand.
59. **AJANI:** I feel so bad having to come back here at this stage of my life. What sort of man can't provide for his family? Look at my life. Living inside one room with my wife and four kids. At my age. **(INCREASINGLY BITTER AND DESPONDENT).**
60. **ASHAKE:** At least you have children. Look at me, I'm 35 and I'm not even married, talk less of children.
61. **AJANI:** Don't worry it will happen one day. Just believe in God.
62. **ASHAKE:** I try. But I've been trying for almost twenty years now. How many times have I moved into my boyfriend's house and had to move back here. Do you know how shameful that is?
63. **AJANI:** What happens when you move into their house?
64. **ASHAKE:** I don't know oh. One minute everything is good, and I think we might actually make a life together. The next thing I know he is frowning his face every time he sees me. Then he breaks up with me and I have to come back to this madhouse. Every man I meet, same story.
65. **AJANI:** Maybe you are trying too hard? You know men like to chase, they don't really like to be chased.
66. **ASHAKE:** I try everything. I make their favourite food. And they still break up with me. Maybe I am cursed.
67. **AJANI:** You see, that's what I mean, you are trying too hard. And when they are giving you signs that you are trying too hard, you try even harder.
68. **ASHAKE:** So what should I do?

69. **AJANI:** Isn't it obvious? You have to take it easy with these men. Don't rush to move into anyman's house. Let them chase you for a change. Play hard to get.
70. **ASHAKE:** **(INCREDULOUS)** Ah! Hard to get, ke? Ajani, you know time is no longer on my side. How can I be playing hard to get at this age?
71. **MUSIC:** **BRIDGE UP AND FADE**

SCENE 4

Ibadan, Lukman's House, Evening

72. **SFX:** **OUTDOOR SOUNDS. OFF MIC SOUND OF A GENERATOR IN THE BACKGROUND. SOUNDS OF PEOPLE WALKING, COMING BACK HOME.**
73. **IYABO:** **(JOVIAL, SINGING, OFF MIC)**
74. **SFX:** **SOUND OF GATE OPENING.**
75. **IYABO:** **(CALLS OUT...ON MIC)** Ah Wosilat? You're here? How...
76. **WOSILAT:** **(INTERUPTS...ANGRILY COMING ON MIC)** A beg don't even try to greet me. Were you trying to kill Abokede? Ehn?
77. **IYABO:** **(HISSES)** Mscheewww. Is that why you are shouting In my husband's compound like a mad person?
78. **WOSILAT:** I saw her head. Look at all those stitches. You could have killed her.
79. **IYABO:** Did I? Is she not alive? Can she not eat? Speak?
80. **WOSILAT:** You are just showing your wickedness, you this woman? What could she have done to you for you to be this brutal and heartless?
81. **IYABO:** For your information, your dear innocent Abokede was soooo rude and aggressive with me. Talking to me anyhow. Trying to fight me. I feared for my life oh. I had no choice but to defend myself.
82. **WOSILAT:** Do you think I was born this morning? Abokede that is so timid? How will she even fight you? I have

always known that you hated the girl and wish her ill. Now you have proved it.

83. **IYABO:** **(ANGRY)** The two of you are just the same. Just useless and disrespectful. You have the audacity to come to my house and accuse me of such? Why are you even here sef?
84. **WOSILAT:** You haven't seen all I can do yet, wicked woman.
85. **IYABO:** **(MIMICS WOSILAT)** you haven't seen all I can do yet...**(HISSES)** you can do your worst. Shameless woman, if not that you and that your worthless husband need money, would you be here shouting like a mad person.
86. **WOSILAT:** Iyabo, take your time oh. I'm warning you.
87. **IYABO:** You can warn me from now till next year if you want. You can't do me anything!!!!
88. **WOSILAT:** Not that I can't, just that I won't...
89. **IYABO:** **(INTERRUPTS)** I say you can't.
90. **WOSILAT:** Out of respect for my brother and our late parents, I won't disgrace you here.
91. **IYABO:** Disgrace ko, disgrace ni. How will you disgrace me? Can a beggar disgrace the man that just gave him money?
92. **WOSILAT:** Allah is hearing all you are saying. You may feel safe saying them now, but one day you will have to explain yourself.
93. **IYABO:** And you will have to explain yourself why you are depriving my children.
94. **WOSILAT:** What are you talking about?
95. **IYABO:** Since I married Lukman, not a single month goes by when you don't show up to stress my husband with your problems. Money for school fees, money for food, money for this, money for that. It's not as if we even have that much sef.
96. **WOSILAT:** Excuse me, that money is as much mine as it is Lukman's. Or I should not benefit from my parent's property? Can you even see what you're saying?

97. **IYABO:** Your useless husband should be taking care of you, and not letting his wife come and extort my family every month for money.
98. **WOSILAT:** Iyabo, I cannot believe you can actually talk to me like this. You have just shown how wicked you are. If there was any doubt in my mind that you weren't a wicked witch, and that you were capable of killing someone, even your own stepdaughter, it has gone. Wicked, evil...
99. **IYABO:** **(INTERRUPTS)** That's your own problem. If you have a problem with the way I discipline Abokede, I don't give a damn.
100. **WOSILAT:** Wicked, evil woman. I regret ever introducing you to my brother.
101. **IYABO:** You can regret from now till next Ileya. I've told you I don't care what you think. And by the way, if you think what I did to Abokede is something, let her open her stupid, ingrate mouth and talk to me anyhow again and see what I will do to her..
102. **WOSILAT:** **(SHOUTS)** I swear you won't touch that girl again.
103. **IYABO:** Ok, wait and see. If Abokede likes, let her disrespect me again. I will smash her monkey face in. No one is going to come and disrespect me in my **(SHOUTS)** my husband's house.
104. **WOSILAT:** I've said my own, Iyabo. It will be over my dead body that you'll touch that girl again. Touch her again if I won't break your own head!
105. **MUSIC** **THEME MUSIC...DRAMA BRIDGE UP AND UNDER**