

THE DOORS OF INFINITE DESIRES

Written by

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FADE IN:

INT. CORRIDOR - DARK

Creepy, ominous, dark... Fluorescent bulbs flicker off and on. Mist saturates the corridor, so thick that the end is not seen. A sad slow song plays from unseen speakers.

SULE, 25, looks at his hands, then his feet. He is of average height, casually dressed, looking lost. He turns sharply. ANIKU, mid-fifties, dressed in a tweed jacket and bow tie is suddenly beside him.

SULE
Where am I?

Aniku peers into the mist, narrowing his eyes. He adjusts his glasses.

ANIKU
Irrelevant question, actually. It may seem like the most obvious, but where we are is not as important as-
Hmm...

Aniku is lost in thought, still looking into the mist. Sule snaps his fingers in front of Aniku's face, jolting him back.

SULE
Hey.

ANIKU
Oh, I'm sorry. I got lost there.
What was I saying?

SULE
You were saying-

ANIKU
Ah yes. Irrelevant question.
However, I was going to give you the more important one-

SULE
Why am I here?

Aniku smiles.

ANIKU
Bingo.

SULE
So?

ANIKU
So what?

SULE
Why am I here?

ANIKU
Ah, yes. Sule, you are here because
you are meant to be here.

SULE
Huh? What?

ANIKU
Do you know who I am?

Sule shakes his head.

ANIKU (CONT'D)
My name is Aniku. And I'm your
guide.

SULE
My guide.

Aniku points.

ANIKU
At the end of this corridor, there
is a door.

The mist parts. A long way off, at the end, there is a door.
Behind it is a bright shining light trying to burst through.

ANIKU (CONT'D)
My job is to make sure you get
there. Because if you don't, you'll
die.

SULE
What? Wait, what?

ANIKU
Your friends were less panicky when
I told them the same thing.

SULE
Which friends?

Sule's friends are suddenly beside Aniku - LOLA, 22,
adventurous, a bit of a tomboy; BEN, 30, bald, sure of
himself, but sits in a wheelchair; and OMOYE, 19, wide-eyed
and impressionable. They all look ready for whatever is
coming.

They wave at Sule. He waves back, confused as they start to move forward.

SULE (CONT'D)

Huh.

ANIKU

You'll remember them soon, don't worry.

Sule scratches his head.

BEN

(deep, gravelly voice)
I've been wondering. Why do we need you as a guide? We can see the door just over there.

The mist parts again. On either side of the corridor, there are doors.

ANIKU

The way is full of danger, my friend. Can't you hear it?

They listen. Creepy voices whisper from behind the doors.

SULE

What are those voices?

ANIKU

We must move- Where is Omoye?

Omoye stands in front of an open door. A white hand sticks out holding a ROSE to her. Aniku is alarmed.

ANIKU (CONT'D)

Omoye, no, don't-

Omoye reaches for the rose. Hands shoot forward and drag her in. She screams. The door shuts, silencing her.

SULE

Oh my God.

LOLA

What just happened?

ANIKU

Beware the hands. Beware the doors.

SULE

What in the world is going on?

ANIKU

The Doors of Infinite Desires. They tempt you with what you want the most. But lurking behind those doors... is death.

Aniku muses.

ANIKU (CONT'D)

Just like the Sirens.

SULE

Sirens? Like those lights on ambulances and police-

ANIKU

No, not that. The Sirens were mythical, beautiful yet dangerous creatures.

He stops to look at a door. Nothing happens. He continues moving forward. Ben, Sule and Lola follow.

ANIKU (CONT'D)

And their songs? Irresistible, enchanting - luring many sailors to their deaths on the rocks around their island.

BEN

No song can be that tempting.

ANIKU

A song after all, is an expression of the soul. Omoye's song, her greatest temptation was a romance with a handsome man - the rose.

They all take a moment to process the information.

BEN

So all we need to do is resist temptation?

ANIKU

You make it sound like it is easy. It's not. Especially as you can only be tempted by the thing you desire.

Ben's wheelchair hits an empty beer bottle. He looks down. A long line of beer bottles leading to a door. He licks his lips... starts to wheel his chair hungrily.

ANIKU (CONT'D)

Ben.

Ben stops.

BEN

I must have a drink.

ANIKU

You can fight this. You don't have to.

Ben looks to Aniku, then back at the door. He sighs.

BEN

You're right. I don't have to-

The door opens. A woman's bare leg in stiletto heels sticks out.

VOICES (V.O.)

(whispering)

It's all yours. Come...

Ben's defenses are shattered. He cannot resist.

BEN

A hot woman.

Ben wheels quickly to the door; starts removing his clothes.

ANIKU

Ben, no!

The legs retract. Hands reach and pull him in. Ben screams.

BEN

They are horrible. Mons-

The door shuts. Lola puts her hands on her heads.

LOLA

We're going to die. We're all going to die.

Sule eyes are wild. He grabs Aniku by the collar.

SULE

Why did you bring us here? What is your game? Get us out of here.

ANIKU

You came here by yourself. I had nothing to do with it.

Aniku forcefully removes Sule's hands from his neck.

ANIKU (CONT'D)
And as for getting out-
(points)
-that door is the only way.

LOLA
Can't we go back?

ANIKU
(shakes his head)
Going back will be more dangerous.
Those things behind the doors? They
kill anyone who turns back from the
light. Forward is the only way.
Besides, you love taking risks,
remember?

Sule starts to remember something.

INT. SITTING ROOM - DAY - FLASHBACK

Sule is face to face with Lola. She smiles at him.

LOLA
Come on. Take a risk with me.

INT. CORRIDOR - DARK

Aniku is looking at him.

ANIKU
You remember now, don't you?

Sule nods. He looks at Lola with deep longing, like a lost love.

LOLA
Look, let's just get out of-

She stops. Next to a door is a mirror, propped against the wall. On a stool, there is a folded red dress, expensive shoes, gold earrings and a necklace.

Lola runs to the items. She picks up the red dress and holds it against her body. She looks in the mirror.

LOLA (CONT'D)
I always wanted to be pretty.

SULE
Lola please... for the love of God,
get away from there.

The door next to her opens.

VOICES (V.O.)
I can make you pretty.

Lola steps toward the door, her face in joyful expectation.

SULE
Oh God. Lola, you don't need those.
You are already pretty.

There is doubt on her face.

SULE (CONT'D)
You are the prettiest girl I know.

LOLA
Really?

SULE
Yes. Every time I look at you, my
heart skips a beat.

Lola turns, her back to the open door.

SULE (CONT'D)
I promise you, nothing matters to
me more than looking into your
lovely face. So please, step away
from the door.

Lola smiles at him, starts to move. Hands shoot from the door
and grab her.

LOLA
Help.

Sule leaps and catches her hands. He pulls her away from the
door, just as a knife slashes across her back. She lets out a
scream.

Sule cradles her in his arms. Blood seeps into her shirt.

LOLA (CONT'D)
Sule...

SULE
Oh God... Help!

He looks at Aniku.

ANIKU

You must get her to the door now if
you want to save her.

Sule carries Lola in his arms and heads for the door. Doors
open left and right.

VOICES

Sule... come...

Sule ignores them. Just before the Door, he sees a framed
picture hanging next to a door. He stops and looks at it.

It is a photograph of Sule and his friends, smiling.

VOICES (CONT'D)

Friends... family... home...

He struggles with his emotions. His lips tremble.

SULE

I've always wanted a family, ever
since I lost my parents in an
accident. But I won't have a family
if I'm dead.

He wrenches his gaze from the picture.

SULE (CONT'D)

Hold on, Lola.

Aniku raises his right hand.

ANIKU

Godspeed Sule. Till we meet again.

Sule lowers Lola to her feet. He takes one look at her, then
opens the door. Light floods the corridor.

INT. SITTING ROOM - DAY

Sule is lying down on the floor of a dingy sitting room
filled with smoke. He blinks his eyes and turns away from the
bright sunlight entering from an open window. Sule holds his
head and pushes himself up.

SULE

Ow. What happened?

He looks round. Smoke wafts into the room from an ashtray.
Different types of pills are scattered on a centre table.
Aniku sits on a single chair, his eyes open, frozen in
horror, dead.

Sule stifles a scream as he sees Omoye. She shakes violently on the ground, foaming at the mouth. Ben sits on his wheelchair. His eyes have rolled back into his head. He also shakes. Lola is on the ground, she raises her head.

LOLA

Sule, help-

He is jolted into action. He staggers toward a cellphone and dials.

SULE

Hello... Mercy Hospital? I need an ambulance now. This is an emergency... We took some drugs and I think one of us may be dead. Please hurry. The address is-

Sule's eyes rest on a framed picture of the five of them hanging on the wall.

INT. SITTING ROOM - AN HOUR EARLIER

Sule stands face to face with Lola.

LOLA

Come on. Take a risk with me.

She holds up a pill. The door opens inwards, admitting Omoye. Beyond the door is the same corridor from the dream. Omoye dances in to the same music in the corridor, obviously high. She giggles as she pops two pills in her mouth.

Ben smokes rolled-up weed, empty bottles of beer all around him. He eyes Omoye lustfully and pops pills in his mouth. Aniku sits on the single chair. He throws about four in his mouth, dancing to the music.

Sule takes this all in.

LOLA (CONT'D)

Relax. This is going to be fun.

Sule takes a pill and swallows it. Lola does the same. They dance together.

SULE

You're really pretty, you know?

She smiles. Without warning, she slumps.

SULE (CONT'D)

Lola...

Everything starts to spin. All goes black. He starts to fall.

FADE OUT.