

THE WEDDING PLAN

Written by

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**1 INT. HOME OF THE ADEBANJOS- LIVING ROOM- EVENING 1**

JUMOKE ADEBANJO, 34, is watching TV. She glances at the wall clock and sighs impatiently. At the dining table is her brother TUNJI ADEBANJO, 17, autistic, mathematical genius. He is studying a physics textbook seriously.

JUMOKE

Turns to look at her brother

Tunji, what are you doing?

He shrugs, he's too engrossed in his studies.

JUMOKE (CONT'D)

Of course you're too busy reading to talk, just make sure you mention my name when you win the Nobel.

Tunji smiles but continues to read. There's a knock on the door. Jumoke opens it to see PATRICK FATOKI, 36, fairly good looking.

JUMOKE

What took you so long?

PATRICK

Sorry, I was in traffic..

Kisses her.

JUMOKE

Tunji, Patrick is here!

Tunji doesn't acknowledge his sister or her guest.

JUMOKE (CONT'D)

Don't mind him, you know how he can be sometimes. How was your day?

PATRICK

I'm not a guest, why does he still treat me as if he's not seen me before?

JUMOKE

Hmmn! Forget about it now! Am I not the one you came to see?

Tunji shrugs and sits beside her on the couch.

JUMOKE (CONT'D)

I'll go and let Mummy know that you're around.

She goes into the kitchen and Patrick turns to Tunji, hoping to start a conversation.

PATRICK

So what are you reading Tunji?

Tunji doesn't respond.

PATRICK (CONT'D)

(Angrily)

I know you're just ignoring me. You better accept the fact that we're going to be in-laws.

Jumoke returns and senses the tension in the room

JUMOKE

Did you guys behave while I was gone?

Neither of the guys respond, MRS ADEBANJO, 52, comes into the room.

PATRICK

(Rising)

Good afternoon ma.

MRS ADEBANJO

Bawo ni? Sit down! Jumoke aren't you going to offer him anything?

PATRICK

No, no, no, ma. I'm fine. I'm not hungry yet.

MRS ADEBANJO

Good, because I just made efo riro and poundoyam.

PATRICK

Rubbing his hands delightedly

I will definitely get very hungry soon ma.

The women laugh and Mrs Adebajo glances at the clock.

MRS ADEBANJO

Isn't this wedding planner coming again?

JUMOKE

(Irritably)

I don't know why she's not here yet. I told her to be on time!

PATRICK

Calm down baby, aren't we just picking the decoration design we want?

MRS ADEBANJO

No o. I want to show her some new cake designs I saw on Facebook. The one you people picked is not good enough o.

She laughs and Patrick smiles hesitantly.

MRS ADEBANJO (CONT'D)

By the way, the aso ebi company brought the lace to my shop today.

JUMOKE

(Excitedly)

They did? Did you like it?

MRS ADEBANJO

I did, in fact, I was really impressed!

Faces Patrick.

So, I'll give you your mother's own now.  
Tell her it's one ten.

PATRICK

One ten?

MRS ADEBANJO

Yes, one hundred and ten thousand. Tell her  
that they haven't brought the gele yet. I  
will let you know as soon as they bring it.

She grabs her iPad from the stool beside her.

Where is this wedding planner?

She swipes the device.

Anyway, this is what I saw...

She hands it over to Jumoke...

JUMOKE

Woow! This is beautiful. And it's all white  
o! It's so nice...!

MRS ADEBANJO

That's why I want to see the wedding  
planner, she must get someone who can make  
exactly what's in that picture. I don't want  
anybody messing up my daughter's day.  
Oluchi!

Patrick is visibly pondering over something, he shifts uncomfortably in his seat. OLUCHI, the maid, comes into the living room, walking with a limp.

OLUCHI

Yes ma.

MRS ADEBANJO

Go into my room and bring the blue lace on my bed. Do it quickly o!

OLUCHI

Yes ma.

MRS ADEBANJO

Meanwhile there's something I want to discuss with you.

She gasps and faces Patrick.

That reminds me! My brother's fortieth birthday is tomorrow and you must be there. A lot of my family members don't know you and they want to see you and I've told them that you'll be there, ma je koju timi o!

PATRICK

Mummy... iyen maa le die o... I have a brainstorming session tomorrow at work...

JUMOKE

Ah ah Baby, I'm sure you can get out of it now!

PATRICK

Irritated but trying to put up a good front.

I can't get out of the meeting, I'm moderating it.

MRS ADEBANJO

(Angrily)

O ga o! This is the third time I'm asking you to attend a family function and you keep giving me excuses. Se bo se fe maa se fun omo mi niyi? Will you leave Jumoke to go alone to all the functions?

PATRICK

E ma binu ma, I would have loved to come.

Oluchi returns with a black and white nylon, Mrs Adebajo points her to Patrick who takes it. He peeks into it and purses his lips.

MRS ADEBANJO

Do you like it?

PATRICK

With a forced smile

Yes ma.

MRS ADEBANJO

Oga fun wedding planner yi o! Well, let me leave you people. Oluchi will serve your food. Give me a few minutes.

As soon as her mother goes upstairs, Jumoke faces Patrick angrily.

JUMOKE

What was that?

PATRICK

What was what?

JUMOKE

Brainstorming session? We both know you can get out of that meeting.

PATRICK

So that's why you didn't back me up in front of your mum?

JUMOKE

Wait, you think I will support you over my mum?

Patrick stares at her in shock

Besides I don't know why you keep avoiding meeting my family members. Is there something you're running away from?

PATRICK

No, I just... I have plans for tomorrow. I didn't plan on being in a rowdy party with loud music and greeting every Tom, Dick and Harry...

JUMOKE

Every Tom, Dick and Harry? This is my family we're talking about here.

PATRIK

I'm sorry that came out wrong, I'm just overwhelmed by...

JUMOKE

By what?

PATRICK

Well this lace for starters! One hundred and ten thousand naira? Is it a beauty pageant or our wedding?

JUMOKE

Ah ah Patrick what do you mean? That's even cheap! What do you expect them to wear? Fifteen thousand naira lace?

PATRICK

You know my mum can't afford this...

JUMOKE

This is our wedding Patrick, are you saying she can't make an exception?

Patrick stares at her in astonishment

JUMOKE (CONT'D)

Okay buy it for her.

PATRICK

(Laughs)

You're kidding right?

Oluchi comes out of the kitchen with the food. Tunji who has been sitting at the dining table the whole time begins to pack up his books. Jumoke gets up and goes to the...

**2 INT. DINING ROOM- EVENING**

**2**

Patrick follows her. They all begin to serve themselves when Patrick stares at his hands.

PATRICK

Mumbles to no one in particular

I'm going to wash my hands.

**3 INT. HOME OF THE ADEBANJOS- KITCHEN- EVENING**

**3**

Oluchi is talking to someone on the phone, Patrick goes to the sink and washes his hands. He wipes his hands slowly with the washcloth listening intently to her conversation.

OLUCHI

Brother, I talk am that time say make you no do business with am but you no gree hear wetin I dey talk. You don see how everything come be now ba?

She stops to listen to the person on the other end.

E never spoil. Dem don give you another contract and God don already show you the kind person wey him be, just find another person... Leave am, God go punish am..

Patrick walks out of the kitchen

**4 INT. DINING ROOM- EVENING 4**

They're done with the meal. Mrs Adebajo joins them at the table.

MRS ADEBANJO

Hope you enjoyed the meal?

PATRICK

Yes ma.

MRS ADEBANJO

I said I wanted to discuss something with you.

She turns to Tunji who has resumed his studies.

Tunji dear, can you please excuse us?

Tunji does not acknowledge his mother. She sighs and looks to JUMOKE who smiles and touches his arms lightly. He flinches.

JUMOKE

I'm sorry, I know you don't like being disturbed but we need to talk. Please T.J...

Tunji packs up his books and leaves the table with a huff, visibly offended.

MRS ADEBANJO

Turns to Patrick.

That's what I want to talk about. I want Tunji to stay with you people for some time after the wedding. I don't know how he's

going to handle Jumoke's absence from the house. You can see how he reacted to her now. So, jo oko mi, I just want you to take him for some time.

PATRICK

(Smiles)

Okay ma

MRS ADEBANJO

Ose oko mi, oju oni ti e.

JUMOKE

Kisses him.

Thanks babe. I'm coming, I need to ease myself.

She goes upstairs.

MRS ADEBANJO

I'm going to rest. Ki Mummy e fun mi.

PATRICK

Yes ma.

Left alone, Patrick gets up and goes out of the house, the lace fabric is left on the sofa. A short while later, Jumoke comes down the stairs and is surprised to find him gone. She looks out of the window and frowns, then she looks at the lace material on the chair and shakes her head in disbelief.

THE END