

SPEC SCRIPT - ACCRA MEDIC

"Solomon's Dilemma"

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INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAYS - DAY

Efe catwalks down the hallway, dancing and bobbing her head to the music coming through the earbuds in her ears.

She hums along to the beat, completely ignoring the stares of the PATIENTS and STAFF on the walkway.

Akua comes down the walkway from the opposite direction and looks up from her phone to see Efe jamming. Akua smiles and starts to dance too, as she approaches Efe.

AKUA

Yeahhh! It's the big Three Oh! Are you excited? Because I definitely am!

Efe takes her earbuds out and squints at Akua.

EFE

Huh?

AKUA

Oh, please. You know you heard me. Are you counting down till Friday?

EFE

Well....I've been trying not to. I didn't even think I would feel anything about it, you know? But now that it's almost here..

She laughs.

EFE (CONT'D)

Yes, girl, I'm getting some thrills!

AKUA

Well, I hope yours turns out better than mine.

Efe takes a deep breath and gets closer to Akua, looking around conspiratorially. She lowers her voice.

EFE

Can you keep a secret?

A loud blare rings through the hallway as the intercom comes alive.

INTERCOM

Nurse Efe to nurses station. Nurse Efe, nurses station, stat!

Efe sighs.

AKUA  
Go, go, go, go, go!

EFE  
Later! Promise!

Efe runs off. Akua heads in the opposite direction, engrossed in her phone.

She looks up to see Abu, accompanied by a tall, muscular, bald-headed MAN, walking toward her.

Abu's companion is also in security uniform, which is about two sizes too small.

ABU  
Now I know it's going to be a  
lovely day, now that I've seen you.

Akua laughs, batting her eyelashes with mock flirtation.

AKUA  
Oh, stop it, you old flirt. I bet  
that's what you tell all the  
ladies.

ABU  
Yes, but you're my favorite.

Akua and Abu laugh, the new guy laughs with them. Akua looks at him with curiosity and gives him a friendly smile.

AKUA  
Hi there.

Harry stands straighter, and his chest grows a couple of inches wider, the muscles rippling thru his uniform shirt. His buttons strain to break free.

Akua's eyes bulge.

ABU  
Oh, this is Harry. He-

HARRY  
Constable. Constable Harry Azabu,  
at your service.

He takes Akua's hand and kisses it.

AKUA  
Oh, my.

Abu rolls his eyes.

AKUA (CONT'D)  
Constable...oh, are you police?

HARRY  
Yes. Yes, I am.

ABU  
Ex...police. Harry is our new head  
of security.

AKUA  
Really? I thought you were taking  
over from Mr. Aggrey-

ABU  
Yeah, I thought so too, but Mr.  
Ghansah thought his friend the ex-  
police would be a better fit, so  
here we are.

AKUA  
Oh.

Akua looks at Harry to catch his reaction at Abu's bluntness.  
But Harry shrugs and smiles.

HARRY  
And I'm bringing my expertise and  
background with me. I plan to  
change the security game around  
here.. Miss, Mrs..?

AKUA  
Akua Kyere.

Akua's buzzer goes off.

AKUA (CONT'D)  
It was nice meeting you, Constable.  
I have to run. See you around.

Harry gives her another seductive smile.

HARRY  
Count on it.

Akua jogs away, trying not to laugh at Abu's peeved  
expression.

INT. HOSPITAL. ER - DAY

Chaotic atmosphere. PARAMEDICS zip in and out with PATIENTS in various stages of distress.

Medical workers rush from one patient to another, intent on their various missions.

FIIFI DEKU, 42, bursts into the ER lobby, carrying his six-year-old son, FRANKIE, in his arms. Fiifi looks around frantically.

His wife, STELLA, 37 years old, dashes in behind him, toting a big bag.

STELLA

Help! Please! Can somebody please help us?

Christiana looks up from hooking up an IV to a patient's bed. She hands the line to another NURSE and sprints over to Fiifi.

CHRISTIANA

What's going on?

STELLA

Our son won't stop throwing up!

Christiana points to the closest bed, walking rapidly toward it.

CHRISTIANA

Diarrhea too?

STELLA/FIIFI

Yes!

Fiifi puts Frankie on the bed.

CHRISTIANA

Hi, big guy. What's your name?

FRANKIE

Frankie.

CHRISTIANA

Frankie, does this hurt?

She gently massages his stomach. Frankie moves but he shakes his head.

CHRISTIANA (CONT'D)

And how about...

Frankie starts to heave.

Christiana steps back hastily, narrowly missing the missile projecting from Frankie's mouth.

Frankie's clothes, the bed's sheets and floor get hit, though.

STELLA

Oh, God! Nurse, please, do something!

Christiana searches the ward frantically and sees another NURSE.

CHRISTIANA

Anita, page Dr. Elom, now!

Stella removes Frankie's shirt and pulls out a clean one from the bag.

CHRISTIANA (CONT'D)

Ok, Frankie, I'm going to sit you up, okay?

Frankie shakes his head weakly.

FIIFI

Come on, Papa, let's help the nurse take care of you.?

Fiifi gently sits Frankie up. Christiana examines him, taking temperature, pulse and blood pressure. She leans close to shine a penlight into Frankie's pupils and Frankie starts to heave again.

CHRISTIANA

Anita, bring me a bedpan right now!

Anita rushes over with a small bedpan. Frankie throws up into it.

CHRISTIANA (CONT'D)

Where is Dr. Elom? Did you page him?

ANITA

He's finishing up an exam. ETA less than 5 minutes.

Christiana guides Frankie back down and starts an IV line in his arm.

CHRISTIANA

Has he had any food sold outside?  
Maybe from a restaurant...or  
school?

STELLA

No, just some cereal.

CHRISTIANA

That's it?

STELLA

He hasn't had much of an appetite  
so-

Frankie sits up and throws up again. Christiana hastily grabs the bedpan but it's too late.

His diarrhea soils his underpants as well. Christiana removes his clothes and puts him in a hospital gown.

STELLA (CONT'D)

God, what is happening to him?

Dr Elom runs in and hurries over to Frankie's bedside.

DR. ELOM

What do we have?

CHRISTIANA

Six-year-old male presenting  
emesis, diarrhea, fever.  
Temperature 101.1

She hands him a device with Frankie's chart. Dr. Elom frowns as he reads the data.

CHRISTIANA (CONT'D)

I haven't had time to input all his  
data. It's starting to look like  
dysentery.

He looks sharply at her.

DR. ELOM

What makes you say that?

CHRISTIANA

It's not food poisoning.

Dr. Elom turns to Stella and Fiifi.

DR. ELOM

Hi, I'm the pediatrician on duty.  
My name is Elom. Frankie needs to  
be transported to Peds ICU. I'm  
going to run some more-

STELLA

The ICU? Oh no!

DR. ELOM

Unfortunately, that's what he needs  
right now. We'll run some tests and  
find out what's wrong.

Stella stares at him, appalled.

INT. HOSPITAL. GENERAL WARD - DAY

Nurse RASHIDA walks over to the bedside of an elderly  
PATIENT, MR. QUARCOO, 82, white-haired, frail, and currently  
looking very feeble.

Two other attending nurses, LUCY and FORIWAA, try to hide  
their smiles as they watch Rashida approach Mr. Quarcoo's  
bed.

RASHIDA

Mr. Quarcoo, you asked for me?

MR. QUARCOO

Ah...yes, my dear. Is it six  
o'clock, yet?

Rashida checks her watch.

RASHIDA

Not quite, Mr. Quarcoo. Is there  
anything else you need?

MR. QUARCOO

No, sweetie. Just make sure my bath  
is right at six. The other nurse  
made me wait over five minutes  
yesterday.

Rashida gives him a brilliant smile through gritted teeth.

RASHIDA

We will not forget, Mr. Quarcoo.

MR. QUARCOO

"We?" Who is "we"? I want just you  
to do it today.

RASHIDA

I'll do my best, Mr. Quarcoo.

MR. QUARCOO

I told you, Mr. Quarcoo was my father. Call me Adjei.

RASHIDA

I don't think so, Mr. Quarcoo, and I have to run now. See you at six.

Rashida beats a hasty exit out of the ward.

INT. HOSPITAL. NURSES STATION - CONTINUOUS

A thoroughly grossed out Rashida stomps over to the counter. Lucy and Foriwaa are waiting for her, laughing at her expression.

Rashida looks disgustedly behind her at the general ward and shudders.

RASHIDA

Ughhhhh!!!

Lucy and Foriwaa laugh again.

FORIWAA

Naana said it took her more than ten minutes to get him....soft again yesterday. That thing wouldn't go down!

The nurses dissolve in laughter. Rashida looks like she's going to be sick.

RASHIDA

That is so disgusting! He's old enough to be my grandpa's dad! How does an old coot like that still...?

She holds her arm out straight.

LUCY

Hey, some men still have it going on, you know?

FORIWAA

Yep. You make a mistake and find yourself in a room alone with him, you'll come out pregnant.

RASHIDA  
Now, that's just disturbing.

DR. ACHEAMPONG (O.S.)  
What's disturbing?

Rashid and the nurses whirl around. Dr. Acheampong looks at them curiously.

Foriwaa and Lucy exchange looks.

LUCY  
Oh, um, we have the...we have to go  
and get the thing. Don't we,  
Foriwaa?

Foriwaa nods vigorously.

FORIWAA  
Yes. Yes! The thing... from the  
place! Come on, Lucy.

They scuttle away. Baffour stares at them, bewildered. He turns to Rashida.

DR. ACHEAMPONG  
Yeah, that wasn't weird at all. So,  
what's disturbing you?

RASHIDA  
Just one of our frequent flyers who  
happens to be the greatest pervert  
of all time.

DR. ACHEAMPONG  
Whaaat?

RASHIDA  
He keeps showing up and stays to  
have his diabetes observed, but I  
think it's really because of the  
sponge baths.

Acheampong laughs.

DR. ACHEAMPONG  
No way. You're kidding!

RASHIDA  
Kid you not. Last time I bathed  
him, I felt like taking six showers  
after I was done.

Rashida looks at Baffour's amused expression.

BAFFOUR

Would you like me to help you fix  
it?

INT. HOSPITAL. ER - DAY

Dr. Azure walks rapidly into the ER. Agonized moans emanate from one of the curtained bays. Azure heads over and draws the partition.

22-year-old KWARLEY OWU lies on the bed, doubled over in pain. Her husband, NII OKAI, sits next to her.

Beads of sweat dot Kwarley's forehead as she grips Nii Oka's hand.

Christiana looks up from taking Kwarley's blood pressure.

DR. AZURE

What's going on?

Christiana hands Azure a digital chart.

CHRISTIANA

Severe lower abdominal pain.  
Uterine.

Azure studies the chart briefly and looks up at the couple.

DR. AZURE

Mr. and Mrs. Owu? Hi. I'm Dr.  
Azure, I'm the attending OB/GYN.  
How long have you been having pain,  
Mrs. Owu?

KWARLEY

On and off the past couple of days,  
but progressively worse since last  
night.

DR. AZURE

Please lie on your back for me. I'm  
going to press a little on your  
abdomen here...have you experienced  
any bleeding?

KWARLEY

No.

DR. AZURE

And your pain, is it like regular  
menstrual-

KWARLEY

Oh no, this is much, much worse.

She groans and doubles over again. Dr. Azure nods thoughtfully.

DR. AZURE

And your pain comes and goes in waves, right?

KWARLEY

Right.

DR. AZURE

Chris, start an IV. Push 5mg Demerol. Mrs. Owu, when was your last menstrual period?

KWARLEY

Uh...about a month ago. I can't remember the exact date.

DR. AZURE

Okay, I'm getting you something for the pain and having you transferred to the OB ward, where I can do a better exam. I'll see you both upstairs.

Azure leaves.

INT. HOSPITAL. PEDIATRICS. HALLWAY - DAY

Akua hands Frankie's tests results to Dr. Elom. He reads the device and looks up at her with a frown.

DR. ELOM

What in the world... None at all?

AKUA

None.

DR. ELOM

Get another culture to the lab and put a rush on it. I need to be sure.

AKUA

Yes, doctor.

He looks at her.

DR. ELOM  
 We're still doing the "Yes, Doctor"  
 bit, huh?

Akua looks coolly at him, all polite and professional.  
 Nothing like the warm, friendly girl from earlier.

AKUA  
 Is there anything else you need,  
 DOCTOR?

DR. ELOM  
 Akua, I said I'm sorry.

AKUA  
 Dr. Elom, what you do off the clock  
 is none of my business. Now, if  
 you'll excuse me-

DR. ELOM  
 Please, just listen-

His pager goes off. Akua takes advantage of the distraction  
 and walks away.

INT. HOSPITAL. PEDIATRICS. FRANKIE'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Elom enters and smiles at the family.

Frankie is sitting up, still hooked to an IV, but looking a  
 whole lot better.

Fiifi is taking a nap in a seat nearby. Stella is sitting on  
 Frankie's bed, stroking his head.

DR. ELOM  
 Frankie! Frankie, my man! How are  
 you feeling?

FRANKIE  
 Good.

DR. ELOM  
 "Good"? Really? That's all? I was  
 hoping for "Fantastic" or "Awesome"  
 or something like that!

FRANKIE  
 I'm feeling awesome!

DR. ELOM  
 Yeah! That's more like it!

Fiifi wakes up. Dr Elom nods at him.

DR. ELOM (CONT'D)  
Frankie, I'm going to borrow your  
mom for a moment and bring her  
right back, okay?

FRANKIE  
Okay.

Stella hops off the bed, and follows Dr. Elom out.

INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAYS - CONTINUOUS

Stella looks worriedly at Dr. Elom.

STELLA  
What's the result, Doctor? What's  
wrong with him?

DR. ELOM  
His labs came back with no bacteria  
at all. And his white cell count is  
perfectly normal.

STELLA  
Okay, so what does all that mean?

DR. ELOM  
I've ordered some more tests, just  
to be sure. But it doesn't look  
like the dysentery infection we  
suspected.

STELLA  
But something is wrong with him,  
Doctor. But I think the treatment  
is working and he hasn't thrown up  
since we left the ER.

DR. ELOM  
I know, and we're going to do  
everything to get him better. What  
has he been eating this past week?

STELLA  
Oh...um... I don't know what his  
mother has been feeding him, but he  
eats whatever we-

DR. ELOM  
His mother?

STELLA

Yes. Oh, I'm sorry, I'm Frankie's stepmom. He's with his dad and me sometimes and the other times he's with his mom.

DR. ELOM

I see. Is there a way we contact her? I want to review Frankie's eating habits for the past few days.

STELLA

We called her when we got here, so she should be getting here by now.

DR. ELOM

Great. Okay, so I'm going to observe Frankie for the next couple of hours as we flush out his system. If things go as they are now, he can go home by this evening.

Stella still doesn't look assured.

STELLA

Are you sure?

DR. ELOM

Well, that's the plan, Mrs. Deku. I can get you some more definite answers once I get his labs. Meanwhile, let's just keep him comfortable. And please let me know when his mother gets here.

STELLA

I will.

Stella stares anxiously at Dr. Elom as he walks away.

INT. HOSPITAL. LOBBY - DAY

PATIENTS fill up the seats around the front desk, patiently waiting for their turn to be called up.

Efe, with the desk phone to her ear, stares at Abu and Harry as they stand under the EXIT sign by the fire exit. Harry raises his arm and points at the ceiling.

Lucy and Foriwaa, parked by the front desk, gape at the muscles in Harry's arm.

FORIWAA

Oooohhh.

LUCY

He can arrest me any day. My goodness!

EFE

You girls are so thirsty.

Lucy turns to look at Efe.

LUCY

Tell me you weren't watching too.

EFE

I wasn't. I don't have time for...oh, shh, shh, here he comes.

Lucy and Foriwaa straighten up. Efe pats her hair. The three nurses beam at Harry as he and Abu walk up.

ABU

Ladies, ladies. What's good this afternoon?

HARRY

Hello, ladies.

LUCY/FORIWAA/EFE

HIIII!

Abu shoots them a look.

ABU

I'm over here too.

They don't hear him. Foriwaa holds her hand out.

FORIWAA

Hi there, I'm Foriwaa, you can always find me on the general ward. Anytime.

Harry shakes Foriwaa's hand and does not release it.

HARRY

It's a distinct pleasure to meet you, Foriwaa.

Abu shakes his head and steps back, leaning on the desk away from them.

A harassed looking WOMAN, sharply dressed, comes in through the entrance and walks up to the front desk.

EFE  
May I help you?

WOMAN  
My son has been admitted here.  
Franklin Deku. He's six years old.

Efe searches her computer.

EFE  
Your name, ma'am?

WOMAN  
Mansa Annan.

EFE  
Thank you. Okay, Franklin is in 204  
in the Pediatric Ward. It's the  
next floor up.

MANSA  
Thanks.

Mansa heads for the elevators.

She passes Akua, who is hurrying to the front desk. Efe pulls Akua away from the desk.

AKUA  
I'm all ears.

EFE  
I want to have the party at the  
Accra On The Water resort.

Akua blinks.

AKUA  
Oh, okay. Do you want a castle and  
private jet, while you're at it?

EFE  
I'm serious.

AKUA  
Efe, that place is the most elite  
of the trendy spots in right now! I  
can't begin to imagine how  
difficult it would be to even get a  
meal there. Much less a whole  
party.

EFE

Well, then it's a good thing I know people. Specifically someone who knows one of the owners.

She winks at Akua.

AKUA

No.

EFE

Oh, yes.

AKUA

I want to be like you when I grow up, I swear.

The desk phone rings. Efe runs over to pick up.

EFE

Don't swear, it's bad for your health. (She winks) Accra Regional Medical, may I help you?

INT. HOSPITAL. OB/GYN - DAY

Kwarley lies on an exam bed with her feet up in stirrups. Dr. Azure walks in and washes her hands at a sink before donning a pair of latex gloves.

DR. AZURE

How are you feeling, Mrs. Owu?

KWARLEY

The pain is less, but I still feel the pressure coming and going.

NII OKAI

Tell her.

Azure looks sharply at him.

DR. AZURE

Tell me what?

KWARLEY

Well, I have an IUD in. We just got married and want to wait for a while before we have kids.

Azure stares at her.

DR. AZURE  
When did you have it implanted?

KWARLEY  
About a month ago.

DR. AZURE  
Let me guess, your pain started  
after that.

KWARLEY  
Well, about a week later. I'm  
sorry, I should have mentioned it  
earlier.

DR. AZURE  
Don't worry about it. At least, now  
we know what we're up against.

She positions herself at the foot of the exam bed, between  
the stirrups. She slathers her right hand with lubricant.

DR. AZURE (CONT'D)  
Now, I need you to slide all the  
way towards me. Great. I'm going to  
do go up your cervix; let me know  
if you start feeling any discomfort-

KWARLEY  
Ow! OWWW! Stop!

Dr. Azure immediately withdraws her hand. The glove is  
smeared with blood.

More blood spills out from Kwarley onto the bed sheet.

Dr. Azure discards her gloves. She dons a fresh pair before  
thrusting a thick wad of gauze and cotton wool between  
Kwarley's legs.

DR. AZURE  
Now, Mrs. Owu, just lie back down  
and relax. Take deep breaths.

Kwarley slowly lies down, tears streaming down her face.

NII OKAI  
Doc, what is happening?

DR. AZURE  
The IUD was badly implanted, and I  
suspect it's also infected. Your  
uterus is rejecting it, Mrs. Owu.  
(MORE)

DR. AZURE (CONT'D)

That's why you're feeling the pain in waves. They are actually mild contractions. I can perform a simple procedure to remove the IUD. You should be able to go home after that.

KWARLEY

Will it hurt?

DR. AZURE

I'll give you something for that, but I can't do anything about the pressure you'll feel when I'm tugging the device out.

Nii Okai takes Kwarley's hand and covers it with his.

NII OKAI

Can I stay with her while you do it?

DR. AZURE

I wish you could, but we'll be in the OR. But, I'll keep you updated during the process. Which, like I said, is not long at all.

Kwarley nods.

KWARLEY

Okay, Doctor, let's do it.

DR. AZURE

Great! I'm going to get a nurse in here to get you prepped. You're going to be fine, Mrs. Owu, okay?

KWARLEY

Okay.

NII OKAI

Thank you, doc.

Azure smiles at them and leaves.

INT. HOSPITAL. HALLWAY OUTSIDE PEDIATRICS - DAY

Dr. Elom walks down the hallway on his phone. He looks up, seconds before colliding with Frankie.

Fiifi and Stella appear around the corner, chasing Frankie. Dr. Elom bends down and scoops Frankie up.

DR. ELOM

Whoa! Frankie! Oh my goodness! I need some of that energy, buddy!

STELLA

Sorry, doctor. Whatever you gave him, well..his energy is back.

FIIFI

Thank you.

Dr. Elom smiles at Frankie.

DR. ELOM

So, what do you say, my guy? Are you ready to go home?

FRANKIE

Yes!!!

Fiifi and Stella laugh with Dr. Elom. Dr. Elom looks at Stella and Fiifi.

DR. ELOM

Well, you heard the man. Let's get his discharge papers ready and-

MANSA (O.S.)

So, you're just going to send him out of here without knowing what brought him here in the first place?

Dr. Elom whirls around and sees Mansa behind him. He gently sets Frankie down.

DR. ELOM

Well, Ms Annan, the results for the third round of tests came in. All his panels are clean. And nothing in the information you gave us indicates any type of food poisoning. It's possible he had one of those 24-hour bugs, but whatever it is, it's completely out of his system.

Mansa looks icily at Stella and Fiifi. Stella lowers her gaze.

STELLA

Doctor, maybe...I don't know..maybe we should keep him here overnight. Just to be sure?

DR. ELOM

We can do that, if that would give you all some peace of mind. I will-

FIIFI

No, that would not be necessary, Doctor. I think he's fine.

MANSA

Of course, you would think that.

FIIFI

Excuse me?

MANSA

Isn't this typical? Nothing is serious to you till-

FIIFI

How dare you.

STELLA

Not here, guys, please. You're upsetting him.

She picks Frankie up.

STELLA (CONT'D)

Doctor, let's just let him stay the night. Just in case.

MANSA

Listen to your wife, Deku.

FIIFI

Look at him, Stella. I haven't seen him this energetic before. He's fine. This is still a hospital. Let's get him out of here before he catches something even worse.

Frankie taps Stella's shoulder.

FRANKIE

I'm hungry, Mama. Can we get pizza on the way home?

STELLA

Of course, baby.

FRANKIE

Can we get fries too? And chicken nuggets? And meatballs?

The adults, except Mansa, laugh.

FIIFI

You want all that on your pizza?

FRANKIE

No, on different plates. Oh, can I get ice cream too?

MANSA

No, that's Mommy's special treat for you, okay?

Akua comes around the corner and walks up to them. She smiles at Frankie.

AKUA

Well, look who's ready to eat all the food in the world!

STELLA

I know right? We'll probably have to stop at three restaurants on the way home.

FIIFI

Come on, let's get out of here. Thank you, Doctor.

DR. ELOM

Sure, I'll meet you in his room.

The family leaves. Akua and Dr. Elom watch them leave.

AKUA

Is he all good?

DR. ELOM

He's all good.

He turns to her.

DR. ELOM (CONT'D)

How about you? Are you good?

Akua's polite mask comes back on.

AKUA

I'm fine.

DR. ELOM

Akua.

AKUA

See you in the ward.

She marches off. Dr Elom sighs, and follows her.

INT. HOSPITAL. PATHOLOGY - DAY

Quiet, isolated area. Abu patrols the halls with Harry, with Harry inspecting all the passageways and outlets.

HARRY

We will definitely need cameras in this area.

ABU

Why?

HARRY

If I were a thief who wants to break into this hospital, this is where I would choose to do it. There is no one here, and the access points are completely vulnerable.

ABU

I see.

HARRY

Yeah, my time on the police force has sharpened my instincts, and I feel this hospital's security needs an immediate upgrade.

ABU

Well, Mr. Ghansah would be the one to talk to about that.

HARRY

Oh, I plan to.

They get to a dimly lit part of the hall. Storage rooms line up next to each other in order.

Harry looks uncomfortable.

HARRY (CONT'D)

What is this place?

ABU

This is where all the files from the lab are stored.

(MORE)

ABU (CONT'D)

Pathology is on the other side,  
next to the stairs leading down to  
the morgue.

HARRY

Morgue? Where?

ABU

Downstairs. That would be the last  
part of your tour. Or you want us  
to-

Abu's radio comes alive. Harry jumps, and immediately  
composes himself.

SECURITY GUARD ON RADIO

Master Abu, some men are here to  
see you.

ABU

Okay, tell them I'm on my way.

He looks at Harry.

ABU (CONT'D)

We will have to finish this later.

HARRY

Sure.

INT. HOSPITAL. DR. MOHAMMED'S OFFICE - DAY

Dr. Mohammed looks up from his computer as he hears a knock  
at the door.

DR. MOHAMMED

Come in.

Efe saunters in, all charm and charisma. She walks around the  
desk and poses right next to Dr. Mohammed's chair.

She leans her behind on the desk and folds her arms.

EFE

Hi.

She bats her eyelashes at him, smiling seductively.

DR. MOHAMMED

Hi there. What's up?

EFE

It's the big 30, Alfie. A significant milestone. It has to be spectacular.

DR. MOHAMMED

Oh, so now it's "Alfie", huh?

EFE

Come on.

DR. MOHAMMED

Efe, I know you want a big splashy event for your birthday, that's why I gave you all that money.

EFE

And I'm totally grateful. Don't get me wrong, that money is going to help with a lot, but...

She looks at him.

DR. MOHAMMED

But what?

EFE

I want to have it On the Water.

Dr. Mohammed peers at her over his glasses.

DR. MOHAMMED

As in Accra On The Water? That thousand dollar a night resort? That one?

Efe pouts a little. She steps away from the desk, abruptly, and heads for the door.

EFE

Okay, never mind.

DR. MOHAMMED

Efe, what do you from me?

EFE

It's booked solid for the next few months.

DR. MOHAMMED

Okay, so look at other places. Like uh...like The Rose Garden. It's pretty classy and-

EFE

No.

DR. MOHAMMED

How about Season 52? Really nice live band.

EFE

Alfred, I want On The Water.

DR. MOHAMMED

Girl, you just said it's booked solid, what do you want me to do?

EFE

Talk to your friend there to open something up.

He stares at her.

DR. MOHAMMED

How did you even know...never mind. Look, it's not that I don't want to help, but that guy and I are not on the best terms, and we haven't spoken in almost two years. I can't just materialize and start asking him for impossible favors like that.

EFE

Alfred, pretty much everyone in this city owes you one favor or another, can't you just put a little pressure on this one? Please? For me?

Dr. Mohammed looks at her, just shaking his head. He's starting to waver. Efe sees that and moves in for the kill.

EFE (CONT'D)

I'm the only one who allows you to do those filthy things to me in bed, despite-

DR. MOHAMMED

Okay, OKAY! Let me shake a few trees and see what falls out.

Efe tries to hide her triumphant smile. He sees it.

DR. MOHAMMED (CONT'D)

I'm going to do more filthy things to you for this.

She breezes out the door.

INT. HOSPITAL. OB/GYN. O.R. - DAY

Kwarley lies on the operating table, prepped for her procedure. A SURGICAL ASSISTANT monitors Kwarley's vitals on a large screen nearby.

Dr. Azure enters, in scrubs and surgical gear.

DR. AZURE

Okay! Let's get this show on the road! How is the pain, Mrs. Owu?

KWARLEY

Oh, I'm fine.

DR. AZURE

Wonderful!

She picks up a bottle of clear gel and smears some on Kwarley's abdomen.

DR. AZURE (CONT'D)

I'm just going to do a quick ultrasound to make sure everything is where it needs to be. You know, just as a precaution.

KWARLEY

Sure.

Dr. Azure presses the transducer probe on Kwarley's lower abdomen and studies the sonogram on the screen. She frowns at the image and moves the probe around some more.

Dr. Azure's frown deepens.

DR. AZURE

Mrs. Owu, when did you say your last menstrual period was?

KWARLEY

To be honest, I'm not sure I remember.

DR. AZURE

Hm.

KWARLEY

Why, what's wrong, Doctor?

Dr. Azure places the probe back in its holder, carefully, and takes a deep breath.

DR. AZURE  
You're pregnant, Mrs. Owu.

Kwarley gasps and tries to sit up.

KWARLEY  
What?

DR. AZURE  
Because the IUD implant was done correctly, it pretty much threw everything off in your uterus.

She takes Kwarley's hand.

DR. AZURE (CONT'D)  
It's an ectopic pregnancy. That means the embryo is in one of your Fallopian tubes. It will have to come out.

KWARLEY  
Come out like how? Abortion?

DR. AZURE  
Well, technically, yes.

KWARLEY  
Uh uh. No.

DR. AZURE  
Mrs. Owu, if we don't get it out, it will destroy the tube.

KWARLEY  
I am not having an abortion, Doctor.

DR. AZURE  
Kwarley... can I call you Kwarley? The embryo is at an early stage, so it will be very easy to remove. Your tube will be intact, so you can have another baby whenever-

KWARLEY  
Did you not hear me, Doctor? I am not killing any babies, especially mine!

Dr. Azure looks at her for a moment, and takes a deep breath.

DR. AZURE  
Just a moment.

She leaves the room.

INT. HOSPITAL. OB/GYN. WAITING AREA - CONTINUOUS

Nii Okai looks up from his phone to see a grim-looking Dr. Azure approaching.

He drops his phone and jumps up, nervous.

NII OKAI  
Doc? What's...is Kwarley okay?

INT. HOSPITAL. GENERAL WARD - DAY

Rashida walks up to Mr. Quarcoo's bed and gently shakes him awake.

He sees her and his face lights up.

MR. QUARCOO  
Is it time for my bath?

RASHIDA  
Almost, Mr. Quarcoo, I just need to take your vitals first.

He lies back in the bed, looking decidedly disappointed. Rashida wraps a cuff around his upper arm and starts reading a nearby monitor.

Dr. Acheampong materializes by her side.

DR. ACHEAMPONG  
How is it going?

Mr. Quarcoo lifts his head, eyeing Dr. Acheampong suspiciously.

RASHIDA  
Oh, pretty well. I'm just bothering Mr. Quarcoo here for his vitals.

DR. ACHEAMPONG  
Hi there, Mr. Quarcoo. I'm Dr. Acheampong, how are you this evening?

MR. QUARCOO  
Hm.

He looks Dr. Acheampong up and down.

RASHIDA

What Mr. Quarcoo means to say is he's doing very well, and appreciates you asking. Right, Mr. Quarcoo?

Mr. Quarcoo turns his head away. Dr. Acheampong looks at him and notices a discoloration on his neck.

DR. ACHEAMPONG

Mr. Quarcoo, that mark on your neck. How long have you had it?

MR. QUARCOO

What do you mean?

DR. ACHEAMPONG

There's a dark spot on your neck, has it always been there?

MR. QUARCOO

I don't know what you're talking about.

Rashida turns to look at Dr. Acheampong with concern.

RASHIDA

That's not a birthmark?

MR. QUARCOO

I don't have a birthmark.

DR. ACHEAMPONG

Mr. Quarcoo, I would like to run some tests on you, if that's alright with you.

MR. QUARCOO

Why?

DR. ACHEAMPONG

I just want to make sure there is nothing serious going on with your neck.

Dr. Quarcoo shrugs.

MR. QUARCOO

I guess so.

DR. ACHEAMPONG  
I'll go ahead and set it up,  
immediately. Rashida, one moment.

RASHIDA  
Yes, Doctor.

MR. QUARCOO  
Wait, what time is my bath?

RASHIDA  
We'll get it done as soon as I can.  
Give me just a minute to talk to  
Dr. Acheampong.

INT. HOSPITAL. GENERAL WARD. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Rashida joins Dr. Acheampong in the deserted hallway. He looks at her with some concern.

RASHIDA  
What are you thinking?

DR. ACHEAMPONG  
I'm sincerely hoping it's not  
acanthosis nigricans. That patch is  
very thick. And with his age, I'm  
a little concerned. It might be the  
reason for the extra ...sensitivity  
he's been displaying with you.

Rashida gasps.

RASHIDA  
Are you serious?

DR. ACHEAMPONG  
I'll know more with a biopsy. I  
think we have an openin tomorrow  
morning. I'll confirm and get back  
to you, ASAP.

RASHIDA  
Yes, Doctor.

Dr. Acheampong heads down the hall.

INT. HOSPITAL. OB/GYN. KWARLEY'S ROOM - DAY

The door opens to admit Dr. Azure. Dr. Sinclair looks up from her seat by Kwarley's bed.

Kwarley and Nii Okai watch Azure enter with apprehension.

KWARLEY

Doctor, just get the papers together for my release, please.

DR. AZURE

Kwarley, I'm sure Dr. Sinclair shed more light on everything, right?

KWARLEY

She did, but like I already told you, our lifestyle doesn't not allow abortion. The IUD is out, so if I'm fit to go home, then we have nothing more to discuss.

Dr. Azure looks at Dr. Sinclair desperately. Dr. Sinclair shakes her head.

DR. AZURE

Mrs. Owu-

KWARLEY

If you say one more word about aborting, I will sue you and this hospital.

NII OKAI

Doctor, it's what my wife wishes, please, let's respect that.

DR. SINCLAIR

Mrs. Owu, Doctor Azure will get the papers together for your signature. They will also include a document certifying that you are refusing treatment.

KWARLEY

Please bring them so I can get out of here.

Dr. Azure nods abruptly and walks out.

INT. HOSPITAL. OB/GYN. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Azure stomps into the hallway, fists clenched, pacing back and forth.

The door opens behind her and Sinclair joins her.

SINCLAIR

Aryana.

Azure keeps pacing.

SINCLAIR (CONT'D)

Look at me.

Azure stops and glares at Sinclair.

SINCLAIR (CONT'D)

There's nothing you can do.

AZURE

She's going to lose the tube.. and the baby.

SINCLAIR

Then she loses the tube, and the baby. It's not on you.

AZURE

It's completely unnecessary. We can save that tube, right this minute.

Sinclair grabs Azure hand.

SINCLAIR

All you told them didn't change their minds. My session with them pushed them away even further. Let it go.

AZURE

She might die, Adoley.

SINCLAIR

Aryana, I told her I'm coming out here to get her discharge papers from you. Let's do this so you can get some rest. You need it.

Azure shakes her head in frustration.

SINCLAIR (CONT'D)

Come on.

She follows Azure to her office.

INT. HOSPITAL. LOBBY. FRONT DESK - LATE AFTERNOON

Efe signs a receipt form and hands it to a DELIVERY MAN at the desk.

EFE

Thank you.

DELIVERYMAN

You're welcome. Have a great birthday.

Efe takes out the card from the huge bouquet of pink and white roses and reads it.

*I can't give up on us. I won't. I'm back in the country. See you soon. Happy Birthday.*

Efe stares at the card.

Her phone's loud trilling makes her jump. She snatches it up.

EFE

Alfie.

Intercut with:

INT. HOSPITAL. DR. MOHAMMED'S OFFICE - LATE AFTERNOON

Dr Mohammed leans back in his chair and kicks his feet up on his desk.

DR. MOHAMMED

Call me Captain America tonight, because I just became your biggest superhero.

Efe's lips break into a huge smile.

EFE

No!!

DR. MOHAMMED

Oh, yeah.

EFE

I got in?

DR. MOHAMMED

Yes, you did.

She lets out a huge squeal.

EFE

Ohhh, thank you, thank you, thank you! For what day?

DR. MOHAMMED

Friday night.

Efe's face drops.

EFE

But I wanted Saturday. You couldn't get Saturday?

DR. MOHAMMED

Efe.

EFE

Okay, okay. It's still the weekend, and the birthday itself, so I guess that will do.

DR. MOHAMMED

Really.

EFE

Yes. Thank you.

DR. MOHAMMED

So do you have time to send invites out? It's a little short notice and-

EFE

Oh, I already sent them out.

DR. MOHAMMED

What?

EFE

I had everything ready. I just needed the place.

Dr. Mohammed shakes his head in wonderment.

DR. MOHAMMED

You. You are something else.

EFE

You better believe it. Okay, bye.

She hangs up with a smile.

Efe stares dreamily at the flowers again and caresses the petals.

Akua gets off the elevator with her backpack, and steps into the lobby, her eyes growing wide when she sees the bouquet.

As she approaches the desk, Dr. Elom, with a messenger bag slung across his chest, walks into the lobby from the stair exit.

DR. ELOM

Akua.

Akua pauses and closes her eyes. She opens them and turns to face him.

AKUA

Can I help you with something?

DR. ELOM

Nothing happened.

AKUA

I already told you, what you do on your time, is none of my business.

DR. ELOM

And yet here we are.

AKUA

Excuse me?

DR. ELOM

You and I both know you don't really believe that. If you did, you wouldn't be acting so frostily and calling me "Doctor".

She simply looks at him. He moves closer.

DR. ELOM (CONT'D)

Her date canceled on her, and she had tickets to that highlife legends concert. And you know they were really expensive. So-

AKUA

So, of all the other guys she knows, she nominated you to be the stand in.

DR. ELOM

Uhm..yes,I..guess?

Akua chuckles sarcastically.

AKUA

How much do you want to bet that there was no date, and no one canceled on her? You're the only one she wanted to go with. And you walked straight into that trap.

DR. ELOM

What? What are you talking about?

She just shakes her head and starts to walk away. Elom grabs her elbow.

DR. ELOM (CONT'D)

Akua, talk to me, please.

She looks at the pleading in his eyes and starts to soften.

AKUA

I-

The elevator doors open with a ding. Dr. Sampson, wearing a short, tight black dress under her coat, sashays off the elevator and into the lobby.

She sees Elom. She tosses her hair and sidles up to him.

SAMPSON

There you are! I've been looking all over for you.

Akua looks over Elom's shoulder and sees Sampson catwalking up to them.

AKUA

Never mind.

She backs off.

DR. ELOM

No, no! Akua, stop!

Akua ignores him and walks through the sliding doors into the parking lot.

Sampson observes this interaction and smiles smugly.

She gets to where Elom is standing and touches his hand.

SAMPSON

Hey.

DR. ELOM

WHAT?

Sampson stares at him.

EXT. HOSPITAL. PARKING LOT - LATER

Efe walks toward her car, her ear buds in, and her phone on Facetime.

She smiles lovingly at the MAN on the screen.

EFE

Oh, this is shaping up to be the best birthday ever. Russie, I can't believe you're here!

RUSSELL

I want to see you. Tonight.

Efe hesitates.

EFE

Well-

RUSSELL

I'm not wasting another day being separated from you, Efe. I told you, I know I messed up, and I'm not going let you lose you again.

The smile on Efe's lips get wider and wider.

EFE

I missed you, Russell. The way you go for what you want...it's the sexiest thing ever.

RUSSELL

You're sexy too, Mama. So, 8PM?

EFE

8PM.

RUSSELL

Fantastic. See you then.

He blows her a kiss. The phone's screen goes dark.

Efe opens her car and gets in the driver's seat. She doesn't move, just stares at the wheel.

INT. HOSPITAL ER - DAY

Paramedics run Frankie in on a stretcher. He's retching even as they transfer him to a bed, soiling his clothes and all the bedsheets.

A frantic Stella and Fiifi run in behind the paramedics.

An ER NURSE sticks a bedpan under Frankie's chin and the projectile hurls violently out of his mouth into the pan.

Christiana rushes over to them, and takes over from the nurse.

CHRISTIANA

Page Dr. Elom code red. NOW!

The nurse scurries off. Christiana grabs her stethoscope and checks the

Frankie lies back in the bed, spent, and struggling to breathe.

Stella has tears in her eyes as she takes the soiled clothing off him. Christiana hands her a hospital gown.

STELLA

I knew it! I should have let him stay last night! I should have-

FIIFI

Hey, hey, hey...let's not do that. Not now.

CHRISTIANA

What did he eat last night?

STELLA

He had pizza, fries, and nuggets. Oh, and his mother sent him some ice cream.

Christiana looks at her.

CHRISTIANA

He ate all that?

FIIFI

He left here with huge appetite.

Dr. Elom joins them.

DR. ELOM  
 What's happening? Frankie, my man,  
 what's wrong?

Frankie just stares at him, lethargic. Elom turns to his parents.

DR. ELOM (CONT'D)  
 What happened?

STELLA  
 We should have stayed, Doc. I-

MANSA (O.S.)  
 You're damn right, you should have  
 stayed. You won't be happy till you  
 kill him!

Everyone whirls around to see Mansa glaring at them with blazing eyes.

She pushes Stella out of the way and goes to Frankie's side. Fiifi stares at her with disbelief.

FIIFI  
 She's crazy! She is completely  
 crazy.

MANSA  
 You need to watch your mouth.

DR. ELOM  
 Mr. Deku, Ms. Annan, please...

FIIFI  
 I need to watch MY mouth? You come  
 in here slinging accusations and I  
 need to watch my mouth?

MANSA  
 I'm calling it like I see it,  
 Fiifi! My child has been in the  
 emergency room twice in the last 24  
 hours, his stomach erupting from  
 only God knows what. And it's only  
 happening while he's at your house  
 with your wife! If you don't see  
 it, I do! And I'm about to call the  
 police!

DR. ELOM  
 Oh, whoa, whoa, Ms. Annan! Please,  
 let's all take a deep breath here.  
 (MORE)

DR. ELOM (CONT'D)

I know you are all upset because you want the best for Frankie.

MANSA

She doesn't!

FIIFI

Mansa, can you not see you're upsetting Frankie? What is wrong with you?

STELLA

You know I did everything to make sure he was okay. I don't-

Akua enters the ER and dashes over to Frankie's bed and takes his hand.

AKUA

Aww, Frankie, your tummy is sick again?

He nods listlessly at her.

AKUA (CONT'D)

Don't worry, Dr. Elom will make you all better. Very soon. Right, Dr. Elom?

Akua looks up at Elom. They lock eyes. Elom puts on a bright smile.

DR. ELOM

Of course! That's what I'm here for! So, parents, I'm going to run a different series of tests. We'll get to the bottom of this, okay, Frankie?

FRANKIE

Okay.

DR. ELOM

Nurse Akua will take you back upstairs and get you ready. I'll see you all in a little bit. Nurse, a moment?

AKUA

Yes, Doctor.

She smiles at Frankie.

AKUA (CONT'D)  
I'll be right back, okay?

She follows Elom away from the bed.

AKUA (CONT'D)  
What's up?

DR. ELOM  
I think we have to do a tox screen.  
I didn't order it the last time  
because I was so sure it was a  
bacteria-generated event.

AKUA  
You think a chemical is doing this?

DR. ELOM  
Honestly, I don't know. But I have  
no other ideas. So, get the lab to  
a rush tox screen.

AKUA  
Yes, Doctor.

He looks at her briefly, and walks away.

INT. HOSPITAL. ONCOLOGY. HALLWAY - DAY

Rashida wheels the bed carrying Mr. Quarcoo out of the  
procedure room; Mr. Quarcoo is still unconscious from the  
anesthesia.

Rashida looks up and sees Lucy approaching with a patient in  
a wheelchair. Lucy nods her head at the sleeping Mr. Quarcoo.

LUCY  
Is that your sugar daddy? Why are  
you pushing him by yourself?

RASHIDA  
I paged those new orderlies to come  
down here, but I guess they're  
still navigating their way through  
this place.

LUCY  
That bed is heavy.

RASHIDA  
It is. But I wanted Mr. Quarcoo to  
wake up in the ward. I feel so bad.

LUCY  
Why? What happened?

RASHIDA  
Girl, he has skin cancer. Dr. Acheampong said it probably made his skin extra sensitive. And all this time we've been treating him like some pervert.

LUCY  
Oh, no!

Two young ORDERLIES, run toward them, out of breath. Lucy wheels her patient away.

The wheelchair's handle snags a corner of the bedsheet and drags it across Mr. Quarcoo's face.

Rashida does not notice as she faces the orderlies.

ORDERLY ONE  
We're so sorry! This place is like a maze!

RASHIDA  
It's not that big-

INTERCOM  
Nurse Rashida to the Emergency Room, stat! Nurse Rashida to the Emergency Room.

RASHIDA  
Okay, I have to run. Listen, take him to the ward, and hand him over to the charge nurse.

ORDERLY ONE  
Yes, ma'am.

Rashida runs off. The orderlies start pushing the bed.

INT. HOSPITAL. AREA OUTSIDE MORGUE - CONTINUOUS

Discreet and undisturbed space. The lighting is not too bright and the sign above the swinging doors leading to the morgue is barely legible.

The orderlies wheel the bed carrying Mr. Quarcoo into the area.

The first orderly grabs the door handle; it's locked. He tries it again. The handle doesn't budge.

ORDERLY TWO

The sign says card access only.

Orderly One squints at the sign.

ORDERLY ONE

Okay, we need to find someone with an access card.

Orderly Two points at the bed.

ORDERLY TWO

What are we going to do with him?

ORDERLY ONE

Oh, just stay here in case someone shows up. I'll be right back.

ORDERLY TWO

The devil is a liar.

ORDERLY ONE

What?

ORDERLY TWO

You are not leaving me alone here with him. Uh uh!

ORDERLY ONE

What if the morgue people show up while we're gone?

ORDERLY TWO

Does he look like he's going to go anywhere? The nurse said bring him to the morgue. We've brought him to the morgue. Now let's go and find an access card. Together.

The first orderly looks at his colleague for a beat, and then he nods.

They leave.

INT. HOSPITAL. HALLWAY - DAY

Dr. Azure runs down the hallway.

INT. HOSPITAL. ER - CONTINUOUS

She runs into a covered bay toward the agonized groans coming from behind the curtain.

She draws it back and sees Kwarley thrashing her head from side to side.

Christiana and another NURSE are in the process of removing Kwarley's bloodied clothes.

Nii Okai looks at Dr. Azure with fear.

NII OKAI  
Doctor, please, help her!

CHRISTIANA  
Substantial vaginal hemorrhaging  
with acute pain. Possible  
spontaneous abortion.

AZURE  
Push 10 mg of fentanyl and book an  
OR. Let's prep her for a curettage.

NII OKAI  
What's happening, Doctor? Is the  
baby?

Azure looks at him.

AZURE  
I'll keep you updated, Mr. Owu.  
Now, we have to run your wife  
upstairs for treatment, okay?

Nii Okai slumps into a chair. The meds have calmed Kwarley down. He squeezes her hand as she is wheeled out of the room.

NII OKAI  
Okay.

INT. HOSPITAL. LOBBY. FRONT DESK - DAY

Efe's phone beeps. She picks it up to see a text from Russell.

Russell: *UR very addictive. (Heart emoji) I'd forgotten how addictive you are. Let's hang out again.*

Efe giggles.

Efe: *You aren't so bad yourself. But I have to get the party stuff to the venue, and set up.*

Russell: *Okay, so I'll help u do that, so I can have more time with u. Deal?*

Efe: *Deal.*

Russell: *(Kiss emoji) C U later.*

INT. HOSPITAL. PEDIATRICS. FRANKIE'S ROOM - DAY

Dr. Elom and a dismal-looking Akua face Stella, Mansa and Fiifi. Elom looks at them sternly.

DR. ELOM

The amount of Cereulide in his system was alarming, and levels that high aggravate the body into mimicking a severe bacterial infection.

FIIFI

How did that get into his system?

DR. ELOM

That's what I'm trying to find out from you all.

Fiifi and Stella looks at each other and shrug. Mansa looks livid, shaking with anger.

MANSA

I knew it! See what I told you? She's the only one who has been feeding him. I haven't cooked anything for him in a while because he's been at their house!

She lunges at Stella, who shies away, her anguish on her face.

MANSA (CONT'D)

You stupid witch! Taking my husband wasn't enough? You have to take my son away too?

FIIFI

Stop it, stop it now!

He and Dr. Elom step between Mansa and Stella.

MANSA

Keep her away from me and my son,  
or I will kill her!

INT. HOSPITAL. DR. ELOM'S OFFICE - LATER

Dr. Elom sits at his desk, with his hand on his phone's receiver. Akua shakes her head at Dr. Elom.

AKUA

You cannot be serious.

DR. ELOM

I don't see that I have a choice. I  
have to report it.

AKUA

Did you see her face as she watched  
that boy's suffering? She looked so  
miserable. The mother, not so much.  
If anything, she's more intent on  
getting her ex and his wife  
arrested.

DR. ELOM

Well, that's for the police to  
decide. Ms. Annan is right about  
one thing; the police have to  
investigate. I'm not going to  
release Frank back to his  
stepmother.

AKUA

Elom, you're not being reasonable!  
Stella is more gentle and loving to  
Frankie than his own mother. He has  
her wrapped-

Akua gasps.

DR. ELOM

What?

AKUA

Cereulide is one of the nastiest  
tasting substance in existence.  
Stella is very soft on Frankie. How  
do you think she was able to force  
him to ingest that much Cereulide?  
There is no way you can give it a  
child without completely disguising  
it. And....

Akua's voice trails off as she stares blankly out the window.

DR. ELOM  
Akua, what are you thinking?

She snaps back into the present.

AKUA  
I'll be right back.

INT. HOSPITAL. OR. - DAY

A SURGICAL NURSE runs in as Dr. Azure is scrubbing in.

SURGICAL NURSE  
Dr. Azure, we have a problem.

DR. AZURE  
What's wrong?

SURGICAL NURSE  
We need to come out here now and handle this.

DR. AZURE  
I'm already sterile-

SURGICAL NURSE  
The surgery might not happen at all.

DR. AZURE  
Lord, help me. What is it now?

She dries her hands and runs out of the room.

INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Dr. Azure steps out into the hallway, removing her mask. She frowns at the commotion before her.

Two burly MEN and an elderly couple are huddled around Kwarley's bed. Nii Okai looks at Dr. Azure, distraught.

DR. AZURE  
Mr. Owu, what's happening?

MAN 1  
Hey, are you the doctor who is helping this man push my sister into having an abortion?

NII OKAI

Dr. Azure, please tell them what you told us. These are Kwarley's parents and her brothers Kpakpo and Kwete.

DR. AZURE

Please, her time is running out, we have a very small window-

KPAKPO

She is not going anywhere. We're taking her home. Now.

NII OKAI

Kpakpo, please, she needs to be in the operating theater right now!

Nii Okai attempts to push the bed away.

KWETE

If you don't move away from that bed, I will break all your fingers.

Kwarley starts moaning. Dr. Azure sees blood seeping out into the sheets. She turns to the surgical nurse.

DR. AZURE

Get security now!

Nii Okai sees the blood too.

NII OKAI

Look at what is happening. Do you want her to die?

KPAKPO

You're the one who is forcing her into having an abortion!

NII OKAI

She is having a miscarriage! Not an abortion, you dimwit! Now move!

Kpakpo punches Nii Okai, who drops like a stone. Azure and the surgical nurse gasp.

DR. AZURE

That's it, you all need to go! Leave! Now!

Kwete give a her a look full of menace.

KWETE

Or what?

He advances toward her. Just then, Abu, Harry and another SECURITY GUARD run onto the scene.

Dr. Azure points at Kwarley's brothers. The security guards seize them and walk them out of the area.

Dr. Azure and the surgical nurse push Kwarley into the OR.

INT. HOSPITAL. PEDIATRICS. FRANKIE'S ROOM - DAY

Akua sits by Frankie's bed and smiles at him. They are alone. Frankie already looks a whole lot better and has his old energy back.

AKUA

Okay, I guess pizza is good too,  
but do you know what my favorite  
is?

Frankie shakes his head, giggling.

AKUA (CONT'D)

Salad. Of all kinds.

FRANKIE

Ewww!! Yuck!

AKUA

I know, right? Now tell me, is Mama  
Stella's food yucky too?

FRANKIE

Oh nooo! Her food is yummy!

AKUA

Okay! How about Mommy? How does her  
food taste?

Frankie stares at her.

AKUA (CONT'D)

You can tell me. I won't tell  
anyone.

FRANKIE

Her food was yummy too, then it  
started tasting yucky. Very yucky.  
So she gives me a lot of ice cream.

AKUA

Does she? What kind of ice cream?

FRANKIE

All the flavors. She says I have to try them all.

AKUA

Wow, Frankie, that sounds delicious. Listen, why don't you relax. I'm going to have a little chat with your parents, okay?

FRANKIE

Okay.

Akua pats his hand and leaves.

INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAYS - CONTINUOUS

Dr. Elom looks up from his conversation with Mansa and Fiifi and sees Akua approach.

DR. ELOM

Is he all set?

AKUA

Set and ready to go.

DR. ELOM

Okay, Mr. Deku, you can take Frankie home now.

MANSA

You must be out of your mind!  
Again? Dr. Elom, are you trying to get my son killed?

FIIFI

So, that's what you think we are now, Mansa? Child murderers? w

MANSA

He's not going anywhere with you.

DR. ELOM

Unfortunately, I have to release him to the parent that brought him in.

MANSA

Even if they are the reason why the child was brought in the first place? Are you kidding me?

Stella emerges from Frankie's room and joins them.

DR. ELOM

Ms. Annan, we have no proof that his father and stepmother pose any threat to him. Mr. Deku, could you please come with me to finalize his discharge papers?

FIIFI

Sure.

Fiifi and Stella walk away with Dr. Elom. Mansa's face looks like ice. She walks quietly back to Frankie's room.

INT. HOSPITAL. PEDIATRICS. FRANKIE'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Akua flings the door open and sees Frankie handing a huge bottle of juice back to Mansa, shaking his head.

MANSA

It's good, Frankie. Just finish it.

FRANKIE

It's nasty, Mommy! It makes me want to be sick again.

MANSA

Finish it and I'll get you more ice-

AKUA

Frankie, can you give me that bottle?

Frankie thrusts the bottle at Akua. Mansa tries to grab it, but Akua snatches it out of Frankie's hand.

MANSA

What are you doing? Give my son back his juice.

Akua looks at her with barely disguised contempt.

AKUA

Only a pharmacist would know how to make a child sick without actually killing him.

(MORE)

AKUA (CONT'D)

The right chemical, the right doses, the right side effects.

Mansa lunges at her and tries to take the bottle, but Akua is too quick for her.

MANSA

You don't know what you're talking about. Give it back!

AKUA

I bet a test on this bottle right now would show ridiculous amounts of Cereulide. Why, though? Your own child?

MANSA

Lady, if you don't give me back my juice, I will call the police so fast your head will spin.

OFFICER (O.S.)

No need, we're already here.

They turn around and see Dr. Elom with two POLICE OFFICERS in the doorway. Fiifi and Stella join them.

Mansa laughs sarcastically.

MANSA

You called the police? Seriously? Because of that witch? She gets to wreck my marriage and take my son? Over my dead body!

FIIFI

Wow.. Mansa, is it that bad? You want Stella to look so evil that you sacrifice your only child's health? Then what, you get full custody? I don't even know who you are anymore!

MANSA

She doesn't get to have him. She wrecked my home!

Frank looks amused.

FIIFI

She did, huh? I guess we're choosing to forget your Saudi doctor boyfriend, and his mansion and yacht.

(MORE)

FIIFI (CONT'D)

And how you conveniently forgot you were married with a three year old son.

Mansa is silent.

FIIFI (CONT'D)

Look, don't make me air nasty linen out here. Water under the bridge. But it's time for you to figure things out with these officers. Let me go check on my kid. Come on, Stella.

OFFICER

Mansa Annan, you're under arrest for wilful assault and negligence of a tender age child. You have a right to be silent-

The officer starts to cuff her. Mansa shakes him loose.

MANSA

Get off me!

Akua smiles at Dr. Elom. He looks around to see who is behind him. Akua keeps smiling.

DR. ELOM

What?

AKUA

You handled that like a boss. That was hot.

DR. ELOM

Really? What else do you think is hot?

AKUA

Be my date to Efe's party. And I'll tell you.

INT. HOSPITAL. OB/GYN. KWARLEY'S ROOM - DAY

Dr. Azure sits by Kwarley's bed. Kwarley, looking exhausted, stares at the shiny black eye her husband is currently sporting.

KWARLEY

Go ahead and say it, Doctor. You told me so.

DR. AZURE

Of course not. That's not what we do here. But I will say this, I'm sorry. I guess I should have done more, Mrs. Owu.

Kwarley shakes her head.

KWARLEY

Call me Kwarley. I threatened to sue you, and the only wrong you did was to try and save my womb. Why are you apologizing?

DR. AZURE

You still have that other tube. You can still have children. You might just have to work harder at it.

She smiles at Nii Okai.

NII OKAI

Well, I have no problem with that at all.

KWARLEY

Of course, you wouldn't.

Dr. Azure laughs with them.

INT. HOSPITAL. HALLWAYS OUTSIDE MORGUE AREA - LATER

Abu and Harry inspect the hallways leading to the morgue area. Abu opens a door and sticks his head inside. Harry keeps walking till he gets to the area outside the morgue entrance.

The sheet over the bed parked outside the entrance starts to move.

Harry freezes and blinks. He turns his flashlight on and shines it toward the bed, just as Mr. Quarcoo sits up, disoriented. The beam from Harry's flashlight hits Mr. Quarcoo's face and his eyes gleam for a moment.

Harry starts to screech his lungs out.

Mr. Quarcoo starts to get off the bed. Harry drops his flashlight and takes off.

Around the corner, Abu hears the screams and dashes down the hall.

Harry rounds the corner and runs straight into Abu's arms.

Just then, Rashida and the two orderlies enter the hallway from the stairs. They see Harry, clutching at Abu, still screaming.

RASHIDA  
What in the world?

They get closer and see Mr. Quarcoo in his hospital gown slowly shuffling towards the two security guards.

Abu shakes Harry.

ABU  
Hey man, get yourself together.  
Come on, snap out of it!

Rashida rushes over to Mr. Quarcoo.

RASHIDA  
Mr. Quarcoo, I'm so sorry! There  
was a big miscommunication.

MR. QUARCOO  
Where am I?

Harry stops screaming but he still stares at Mr. Quarcoo, terrified.

RASHIDA  
You're still in the hospital. Come  
on, let's get you back into your  
room.

Mr. Quarcoo walks back to his bed. Rashida turns around and glares at the orderlies.

RASHIDA (CONT'D)  
You two are so fired! I said "ward"  
not "morgue"! You better hope he's  
still too dazed from the anesthesia  
to remember any of this.

The two orderlies exchange looks.

ORDERLY ONE  
We're sorry.

Rashida glares at them again and walks to Mr. Quarcoo's bed.

Abu turns to look at Harry, and doubles over with laughter. Harry stands up straight and puffs his chest out, flexing his muscles.

HARRY

I better not hear about this from anyone.

Abu struggles to breath, still choked up with laughter.

ABU

Too late. The entire hospital heard you. I bet you woke up the actually dead people down the hall.

Harry walks away, his head held high.

INT. ACCRA ON THE WATER. BALLROOM - NIGHT

Pale pink and lavender LED lights throw a pastel glow all over the walls. Candles and flowers that match the lights are on the tables. A huge backdrop with a photo of Efe hangs on one side of the room, surrounded by pale pink balloons.

GUESTS cluster around the large banquet tables, making selections from the mouthwatering buffet.

The room pulsates with the DJ's production. The dance floor is already full.

Dr. Mohammed, sitting at a table with his wife and hospital staff, cannot take his eyes off Efe. His wife sees the object of his focus and scowls at him. Dr. Mohammed immediately averts his eyes.

Efe, looking resplendent in a red gown, laughs with a couple of her GUESTS. She looks at the entrance and her smile grows wider.

Russell walks into the ballroom, in a sharp suit. He goes straight to the DJ and whispers something in his ear.

The DJ nods vigorously and reduces the music's volume. Everyone turns to see what is happening. The DJ hands Russell a mike.

Russell walks back to Efe, looking deep into her eyes.

RUSSELL

Efe, I don't know what I was thinking when I let you get away from me. I didn't even know how miserable I was till I got you back into my life. And now I want you in it. Permanently. Forever.

He goes down on one knee. The entire room lets out a collective gasp.

Dr. Mohammed looks like he's been doused with ice cold water.

Russell pulls out a small black box from his pocket.

RUSSELL (CONT'D)

Efia Afrakoma Antwi, will you marry  
me?

Dr. Mohammed scrambles to his feet and stomps out of the ballroom.