

THE BADEST

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1 INT.HALLWAY.NIGHT

Lights go on. Snappily, someone runs through the corridor. He is TAYO, a young black man in early 20s. Holds a pistol and runs through the HALLWAY uneasily. He slips and falls to the ground. Then, hides behind an opened door which is at the middle of the corridor. His breath tempo increases faster, he sweats profusely and his hands shake. TAYO puts his left hand into his chest pocket and draws out a ROSARY.

TAYO  
(Muttering)  
Holy Jesus! Mary... Help me!!! No!  
Jehovah! God please.

TAYO cautiously draws his head out from the door and looks backward. He withdraws fast. It seems he has seen something.

FOOTSTEPS are heard faintly. Now hurriedly.

TAYO  
(Grumbling sharply)  
Oh! Ho... Holy Mary mother of  
Jesus!

Then we hear KA KA, gunshots. TAYO falls to the ground.

2 INT.COLE'S HOUSE.NIGHT

SUPERIMPOSE: LAGOS, NIGERIA. 20 DAYS EARLIER.

Lights are on, the TV SET is also on. COLE, black, a man in his 50s, sits on a black leather chair adjacent to the TV. A cigar lies on his left hand and the right holds a cup of beer.

COLE  
(shouting)  
Goal...!!!

He raises his hands and mouth wide jubilating.

COLE (CONTD)  
Oh! Oh! No, no, that could have  
been a decisive goal. Fuck up!!!

He smokes cigar.

COLE (CONTD)  
Come on boys! let's seal this.

(CONTINUED)

There is a knock at the door. COLE ignores. Then, the knock persists.

COLE (CONTD)  
(shouting)  
Don't you have TV in your house?

TAYO (O.S)  
It's me.

COLE  
You? Who?

COLE rushes up and hurriedly goes through the inner door, returns immediately with a pistol and walks gently to open the door.

The door opens. He notices TAYO and hides the pistol.

COLE (CONTD)  
Hey!

TAYO  
Hey!

TAYO goes inside. And COLE follows.

They are silent. TAYO looks indignantly around: at the photos of two small boys with cake and a beautiful woman in her 30s which lay behind the TV.

TAYO  
(Expectantly)  
So, this is your family?

COLE doesn't reply.

TAYO (CONTD)  
At least, I get to know the real  
real children.

COLE  
You don't understand.

TAYO  
No need. May I see my brothers?

COLE  
What of Caroline?

TAYO  
Mum died two years ago

COLE  
(Pityingly)  
I'm sorry.

TAYO brings a brown envelope out of his pocket.

TAYO  
I am leaving the country and I need  
you to sign this.

TAYO takes a sheet out of the envelope and hands it over to  
COLE.

3 EXT.LEKKI-ESTATE 2,ROAD.NIGHT

It is about to rain and the air is strong. Shops are closed  
and apparently there is no movement going.

A white JEEP appears in the background and halts at the  
junction of Lekki-Estate 2.

4 INT.JEEP.NIGHT

A hand uses a small torch to light a map.

LUKE, white, a young man in his late 30s sits at the  
driver's seat. He traces the map and stops sharply.

5 INT.COLE'S HOUSE.NIGHT

COLE returns the sheet to TAYO who keeps it in the envelope.

TAYO  
I have to leave now.

COLE  
You have bucks?

TAYO  
I'm OK.

COLE  
Who are you going with?

TAYO  
Do you know any?

6 EXT.LEKKI-ESTATE 2,ROAD.NIGHT

LUKE closes the car door, steps out and he looks around eagerly.

7 INT.COLE'S HOUSE.NIGHT

TAYO and COLE are silent. COLE then breaks the silence.

COLE

You know what son? Every thing wasn't my fault.Your mother was very stubborn too. I warned her but she would not listen.

TAYO is mute. After a pause.

COLE (CONTD)

I have one thing to show you.

COLE goes inside and returns with a gold wrist watch.

TAYO

What's that?

COLE

This will make you anything.

TAYO

Anything?

COLE

You want money? Sell it. Power? use it. Ladies? Wear it.

TAYO

No! Mum has warned me against you.

COLE

Don't be stubborn as Caroline. This thing can make you wealthy. Real wealth.

TAYO

Why are you giving me?

COLE

To show you I'm not that bad.

(CONTINUED)

TAYO

You signed my papers. That's enough to prove.

COLE

You really don't need it? Cool, but this is the only one in the world.

TAYO

I have to go. And you may never see me again.

COLE

It's okay. Be good boy. You sure you don't want this?

TAYO

I'm off.

They hug.

8 EXT. NEAR COLE'S ENTRANCE DOOR. NIGHT

LUKE approaches COLE'S residence.

He draws out a pistol from his back and dodges TAYO who now leaves Cole at the door. COLE. retires inside.

As TAYO leaves, he hears a gunshot which comes from COLE'S apartment. He runs back to the house and finds Cole's body in a pool of blood. COLE has been shot. And TAYO notices that the gold watch is stolen. TAYO shouts.

TAYO (CONTD)

Help!

9 EXT. POOLSIDE. DAY

SUPERIMPOSE: THREE DAYS EARLIER.

THREE YOUNG GIRLS in their 20s swim in a POOL. BEN, white, in his 30s smiles and waves to them. He sits on one of two chairs near the pool and smokes a cigar.

BEN

(Shouting)

Hula la! Come on girls.

10 INT.ELEVATOR.DAY

TAYO and LUKE are seen. LUKE dresses in black suit while TAYO is in red polo shirt and blue jeans.

LUKE holds TAYO firmly.

LUKE

This is your day boy. Remember,  
don't panic.

The elevator stops and the door opens. They move out, then, the door closes. TAYO looks back.

LUKE taps his shoulder to get his attention.

LUKE (CONTD)

Who are you?

TAYO panics.

LUKE (CONTD)

Who are you dog?

TAYO

I am the point man.

LUKE

And what is your mission?

TAYO

To destroy the bad man, sir.

LUKE

( Aloud)

What is your mission?

TAYO

Destroy the enemy sir!

LUKE

You have your choice to make, you know. Forget the past. From today, you are no longer going there and Nigeria is gone. Or you still like running from the police? The best they would do you is to deport you back to Nigeria. Know that Tayo is dead. And you are now... What's that your name again?

(CONTINUED)

TAYO  
Point man.

LUKE  
Bullshit! That's your code name.  
Real name?

TAYO  
You mean Tayo?

LUKE  
Dead! You are... Yes! Dave. Dave  
Ireland.

TAYO  
Yes sir.

They head to the poolside. Two agile men with guns man the entrance. LUKE nods at them and they open the door with their EYES on TAYO. TAYO and LUKE walk to meet BEN who is now asleep. LUKE clears throat. BEN smiles slowly.

BEN  
Only the Saint smells like pig.

LUKE  
(smiling)  
And the pigs like don.

BEN is awake fully.

BEN  
Dons are shit.

LUKE  
Only when they eat shit.

BEN chuckles.

BEN  
Welcome bro!

BEN and LUKE shake hands.

BEN (CONTD)  
And what of your property... Still  
barks?

LUKE  
Oh! That? Should be in hell by now.

(CONTINUED)

BEN  
(Surprisingly)  
You have actually killed him, too?

LUKE  
I didn't. I only gave him the gun  
to kill himself. He couldn't bear  
it.

BEN  
Bad guy! That's my Saint. And  
wouldn't you care for a seat?

BEN points to a chair beside him. LUKE sits.

BEN (CONTD)  
Yes! What about his things?

LUKE  
All cleared.

BEN  
Good. What do we have here?

BEN glances at TAYO.

LUKE  
This is Dave! He would take his  
place.

BEN  
He is black too? Has he got skills?

LUKE  
He learns fast, some days and easy  
works would fasten that case.

BEN  
(To Tayo)  
Can you shoot guns?

LUKE  
He can learn that too.

BEN stands from his sit disapprovingly.

BEN  
(To Luke)  
Tell him to excuse us.

BEN signals to TAYO. TAYO walks close to the girls in the  
pool.

(CONTINUED)

BEN (CONTD)

We need expert not Jackass that needs to learn art.

LUKE

He can be one.

BEN

You know what the last one cost us? You know what he took away? You should know better, after all, he slabbed you too.

LUKE

That one was experienced and that disrupted our plans. But this is special. He is very different because he knows nothing.

BEN

We gave you all you needed to bring a point man. Expert! Not to get us a dumb. Can this kill? Didn't you use the cash?

LUKE

He will not disappoint. I promise.

A pause.

BEN

Your words. Call him then, let's start with him.

11 INT.MARYLAND-HOTEL, ROOM3.NIGHT

SUPERIMPOSE: FEW MOMENTS BEFORE PRESENT TIME.

There is a black schoolbag and some money on the bed. BEN is having a conversation on a cellphone which makes him backs TAYO.

TAYO holds a pistol at hand. He appears frightened and shy.

BEN

OK dog! I'll definitely tell you when it's done. Trust me on this.

BEN drops call and turns to TAYO, then takes the schoolbag. He gives it to TAYO.

(CONTINUED)

BEN (CONTD)

You will find a cover for your face  
and the target's picture in there.

BEN pauses and TAYO is motionless.

BEN (CONTD)

You really don't need to panic. No  
police is taking you here. Just  
kill and leave. And Luke would be  
talking to the target. All you need  
do is to enter and shoot at sight.  
OK? Shoot at sight.

TAYO

Cleared, sir.

BEN

Your rewards are there too. Now go.

TAYO leaves immediately.

12 INT.MARYLAND HOTEL, ROOM23.NIGHT

The room is tidy and MUSIC plays. Some dollars are displayed  
on the table. LUKE and PET, a white man, probably in his  
late 50s are in the room.

LUKE laughs hysterically and smokes a cigar. PET sits  
adjacent to him silent and looks worried.

PET

I really mean it. I will not do  
this kind of job anymore. I'm tired  
of everything.

LUKE

(laughing)

Don't worry this will probably be  
the last, I promise. Take your cash  
man.

PET

This is not funny. Not funny at  
all. I'm a doctor and I have signed  
an oath to save lives not to take  
them.

LUKE

I promise you. Last. Final, end.

(CONTINUED)

LUKE laughs and immediately TAYO forcefully breaks through the door with a silent pistol.

TAYO  
(sharply)  
Put your faces down... two of you.  
Now!.

LUKE and PET fall on their faces.

LUKE  
Please, please, don't shoot. Take  
the money please.

TAYO sees a GOLD WRIST WATCH that resembles Cole's on LUKE'S hand.

TAYO (CONTD)  
If you dare look up, I'll fire you.

13 INT.COLE'S HOUSE.NIGHT

We are back at COLE'S house in Nigeria. TAYO fixes his face at COLE'S mouth. COLE holds a GOLD WRIST WATCH.

COLE  
(Slowly)  
... This is the only! Only... Only  
one on earth.

14 INT.MARYLAND HOTEL, ROOM23.NIGHT

We return to Maryland hotel where TAYO is about to carry out his first operation.

Suddenly, TAYO shoots at LUKE twice. AND runs out.

15 INT.HALLWAY.NIGHT

The time is at the present and TAYO runs through the corridor. He pulls off the mask.

TAYO  
Cole! Luke killed him... Oh! My God  
what have I done?

BEN appears in the background. He points a gun at TAYO. The two are running.

(CONTINUED)

BEN  
(shouting)  
Stop there.

TAYO runs through the stair case. While BEN follows him eagerly.

TAYO is seen behind a door. He holds a ROSARY and a pistol.

BEN approaches from the background. Then we hear KA KA, TAYO falls to the ground and stretches his hands above his head. BEN points the gun at TAYO.

TAYO  
(Pleading)  
Please, please, don't kill me.

BEN  
I've told you not to panic. No police is gonna take you here. Would you please stand up?

TAYO stays down.

BEN (CONTD)  
Have you not done it? Get up!

TAYO stands up, his face still sweats.

TAYO  
Cleared sir.

BEN  
Now let's go.

BEN backs TAYO. TAYO winks at his back then shoots him thrice. BEN falls down.

TAYO  
Bitches!!!