

ABIJAH'S FAIRY TALE  
An Original Screenplay by  
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"GOOD TRIUMPHS OVER EVIL"

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FADE IN:

The Retreat Song by Miriam Makeba - The Sound of Africa is played.

IMAGE: The FLAG of SOUTH AFRICA is shown.

ABIJAH (12) a black South Afrikan girl of mixed parentage maintains an elegant manner despite her poor upbringing. She looks at a sheet of paper with an image of the **MAP OF SOUTH AFRICA** with a large RED HEART over it given her by FEMI (6) her SISTER; Femi smiles at Abijah. Abijah smiles at the heart on the map.

ABIJAH  
I love South Africa.

Abijah looks at a LARGE KEY in her hand.

ABIJAH (CONT'D)  
Love is the key...

CUT TO:

EXT. AFRIKAN SCHOOL - AFTERNOON

The school building has a dark brown roof made of brick, tar, and clay. The school has large oblong windows with flowers that stand outside the school; multicolored lilies, hibiscus, and wild foxgloves; a wire fence stands around the school and the yard.

INT. SCHOOL - CLASSROOM - AFTERNOON

Abijah and the children are dressed in the school's uniform. She is dressed in a brown dress with short sleeves, a brown jacket with the badge of the school on the front pocket; a satchel hangs around her shoulder; on her feet she wears black sandals.

The boys are dressed in khaki knee length pants and some wear khaki pants with khaki short sleeved shirts.

The TEACHER stands in front of his desk with a copy of South Africa's Bill of Rights in his hand. The students sit at their desks.

TEACHER  
Children, I am going to go over the  
Bill of Rights of South Africa.  
(MORE)

TEACHER (CONT'D)

I will go over each section in each class.

DAKARAI (12) a young girl sits with a bright alertness, gazes bashfully at a BOY (12) who sits next to her, then at the teacher; she puts her hand up. The teacher walks over to Dakarai.

TEACHER

Yes, Dakarai.

DAKARAI

(apologetic voice)

What is the Bill of Rights?

The teacher gazes around at the students then at Dakarai with mutual surprise.

TEACHER

It is a document enacted by the Government of South Africa that sets out the fundamental rights of all South Africans.

The teacher's eyes are bright; gazes pensively around at the students then walks back to his desk and sits down; his eyes fixated in adoration at the children.

BOY I

(smugly)

I am glad that we have this document.

TEACHER

(smiles)

How about if I tell you a fairy tale, I had when I was a young boy.

ABIJAH

(bright eyes)

A fairy tale?

BOY II

(with an uncertain smile)

Fairy tales are for girls.

Everyone laughs.

TEACHER

(smile on his face)

As a young poor boy in South Africa this was my fairy tale...Once upon a time, I was a very wealthy man. I had a beautiful home. I had family, cars, lots of money and everything that my heart desired despite the color of my skin.

ABIJAH

Did your fairy tale come true?

TEACHER

(smiles with amusement)

Well! Yes! I have a nice home, on a nice street, a family, a car but not enough money.

The children laugh.

TEACHER (CONT'D)

Today, the Bill of Rights helps you and I become rich by stating the "rights of all people in our country and affirms the democratic values of human dignity, equality and freedom."

ABIJAH

What is the key to your success?

TEACHER

Love is the key to my success. Loving the people who try to make my life difficult, love in understanding why they hate, do and say evil things to me. Loving my work, to work harder than others and loving my friends and family; that is the key to my success.

HALLWAY - LATER

The SCHOOL ATTENDANT rings the school bell.

CLASSROOM

The teacher stands at the front of the class as the students pick up their bags and satchels, then put their books into them.

TEACHER (CONT'D)  
We will continue with the Bill of  
Rights next week.

Abijah places her satchel onto her desk.

TEACHER (CONT'D)  
Goodbye, students! Don't forget to  
read the first section of the Bill  
of Rights!

Abijah places her satchel over her shoulder then walks out  
of the classroom.

INT. SCHOOL - AFTERNOON

Abijah walks out of the classroom then down the hallway with  
her friends; FOLAMI (11) a kind and funny child, IZEM (9) a  
very confident child and ALABA (10) an adopted child who  
tends to be sensitive, attaching herself to everyone that  
she meets.

EXT. SCHOOL - AFTERNOON

Folami, Izem, and Alaba walk out of the gate; their parents  
wait for them with endearing smiles.

Abijah smiles as she walks out of the gate; she waves to her  
friends as they stand with their parents; they wave back.

INT. ROAD - AFTERNOON

Abijah's friends wave to her again as she walks slowly home.

FOLAMI  
(shouts)  
Abijah! We'll see you tomorrow.

Abijah waves then continues to walk home.

The hillsides are carpeted with golden, orange, and yellow  
flowers with Proteas alongside the roadside. Orchids, lilies,  
and daffodils are in front of some of the homes.

CUT TO:

INT. ROAD - DAY

Abijah walks down the road as children and people walk past  
her. Giraffes walk from the roadside to the middle of the  
road.

Abijah holds a hand over her mouth to prevent herself from laughing. She holds her arms out widely then runs down the road breathlessly. People stop and stare at her then smiles -- she then walks with a slow gait towards a tree.

Abijah lays on her back on the grass and looks up to the MARULA TREE filled with plums as the MONKEYS look down at her. After several minutes she gets up from the ground, picks up her satchel, then continues to walk home.

ABIJAH (V.O.)

My parents took good care of me and educated me as well as they could with what little they had.

INT. FARM - DAY

Images of KEFENTSE (42) FATHER, working on a cattle farm.

CUT TO:

INT. HOUSE - DAY

Images of MAFUANE (38) MOTHER, at home reading to Abijah as a young child.

CUT TO:

ABIJAH (V.O.)

My family was not poor, but they oftentimes had to struggle to make ends meet, but the love that was generated by my family gave me the incentive to continue with my endeavors no matter what obstacles were in my way.

Abijah continues to walk home as people walk by carrying bags and baskets; some in their hands and some on their heads. Cars pass by her on the road as she continues to walk home.

ABIJAH (V.O.) (CONT'D)

I was born not quite sure where but what I do remember is someone being there for me at all times to care for me and to maintain my well being. I grew to love my parents that adopted me; their ability to cope with the racism and inequality in South Africa made me strong in fulfilling my plans for the future.

EXT./INT. HOUSE - AFTERNOON

Abijah meets MAMELLO (14) and SHAKA (12), her BROTHERS, and OLUWASEYI (10) and FEMI (6) SISTERS at the door. They smile at Abijah as they greet her. Abijah smiles...

ABIJAH (V.O.)

I am home finally. My parents who I was lucky enough to adopt me have given me what luxuries that they can afford. The love of my parents, brothers, and sisters has helped me overcome the loneliness and sadness that I experience because of the loss of my real family.

FLASHBACK:

INT. HOUSE - LIVING ROOM (POORLY FURNISHED) - NIGHT - TWELVE YEARS EARLIER

The Hush Song by Miriam Makeba - The Sound of Africa is played.

LERATO (28) Abijah's MOTHER; a serious and emotional woman, and MAKENA (52) GRANDMOTHER, usually a happy woman now scared are handcuffed by government officials. Lerato's eyes dart everywhere, searching for her husband.

LERATO

(shouts)

Why are you taking us away?

Lerato struggles as one of the officials places handcuffs on her wrists and then on her mother.

OFFICIAL

(loud voice)

You should not be here!

He pushes Lerato and Makena towards the open door.

LERATO

(shouts)

But I live here with my family!

LIMBANI (32) FATHER, a serious and worried man walks into the room and sees his wife and his grandmother handcuffed at the door. He runs towards the officials and punches one in the stomach; the official bends over in pain.

INT. BEDROOM - SAME

ONYEKACHI (48) GRANDFATHER has Abijah in his arms. He hears his son shouting, Abijah FALLS in SLOW MOTION onto the bed, he picks up a gun from the bureau then runs into the living room. Shots are heard.

INT. LIVING ROOM - SAME

Officials pull the gun away from Onyekachi as Limbani is pulled out of the living room into a truck.

EXT. HOUSE - NIGHT

Limbani tries to fight the officials as they struggle with putting him into the back of their truck. One of the officials puts handcuffs on him as he shouts.

LIMBANI

What is going on?

The official stares at Limbani as he shouts.

LIMBANI

Where are you taking us? What did we do?

OFFICIAL

You did nothing. That is why you have to leave.

LIMBANI

Leave?

OFFICIAL

Your family leaves with you.

Limbani is then hit by the official as he sits in the back of the truck.

FLASH FORWARD:

INT. HOUSE - (12 YEARS LATER) AFTERNOON

Abijah walks into the house then down the hallway into her bedroom with Femi.

BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

FEMI has her hair dressed in braids and wears a peach colored dress with black sandals on her feet.



Abijah turns towards Femi, who stares up at her.

ABIJAH  
(wide eyes, loud voice)  
Femi! What do you want?

FEMI  
(softly)  
I want you to play a game with me.

ABIJAH  
(surprised look)  
Play a game with you?

Abijah walks towards her table then puts her satchel down beside the table. Femi follows her then sits at the table and stares at Abijah.

ABIJAH (CONT'D)  
(sighs heavily)  
Femi! I am tired!

Abijah looks around the room then picks up a pencil that is on one of her cabinets; walks towards Femi with the pencil in her hand. Abijah hands the pencil to Femi.

ABIJAH (CONT'D)  
(playful smile)  
I want you to write as fast as you can.

FEMI  
(surprised look)  
Write as fast as I can?

ABIJAH  
Yes! I will turn around for several minutes, then I want you to write whatever you want as fast as you can.

Femi holds the pencil tightly in her hand then pulls a sheet of paper towards her.

FEMI  
(frowns)  
I don't know how to write.

ABIJAH  
(stares at Femi)  
Try.

FEMI

Ok.

Abijah turns around. Femi takes the pencil then tries to hold the pencil in her hand; her hand shakes; she tries to write but draws instead.

SEVERAL MINUTES LATER

Abijah turns around then takes the paper away from Femi. Abijah looks at the paper then at Femi.

ABIJAH

(shakes her head)

Femi! What did you write?

Femi gets up then stands in front of Abijah as she holds the paper in her hand.

FEMI

Well! It says quite clearly that I do not know how to write.

Abijah sits down beside Femi and stares at the paper as Femi draws her chair closer to Abijah.

FEMI (CONT'D)

See! There is a monkey that laughs, a lion that sits on a mountain with a crown on his head and there are birds that fly above the lion in the sky.

Abijah stares at Femi.

FEMI (CONT'D)

What the drawings means is that although the lion is king, the birds will always be above him that he cannot control or rule so the monkey laughs.

Abijah sits down beside Femi and holds her hands.

ABIJAH

(looks into her eyes)

You are a very smart child. Let me show mother and father how smart you are.

Abijah gets up with Femi from the table then walks out of the room.

LIVING ROOM

Kefentse and Mafuane sit on the couch. Abijah walks towards her mother then hands her the paper that Femi has drawn upon.

MAFUANE

Abijah! What is this?

Mafuane takes the paper away from Abijah and stares at it. Abijah sits down on the couch. Kefentse stares at Mafuane as she looks at the paper. Abijah stands in front of her mother with Femi.

ABIJAH

I played a game with Femi. I asked her to write. I knew that she couldn't but wanted to know what she would do.

MAFUANE

Abijah! You shouldn't put Femi through that, she is only six years old, and cannot write properly. I cannot understand what she wrote. It looks like drawings.

Kefentse laughs then takes the paper away from Mafuane and looks at it, then he looks at Femi.

KEFENTSE

Femi, sit here.

Femi sits down beside her father as he continues to look at Femi's paper.

KEFENTSE (CONT'D)

Femi! What is this?

Kefentse looks at Femi then points to the paper. Femi sits closer to her father.

FEMI

Abijah played a game with me. She wanted me to write while she had her back turned. I tried to write but didn't know how, so I started drawing instead. Look!

Femi points to the drawings on the paper as her mother smiles.

FEMI (CONT'D)

There is a monkey that laughs, a lion that wears a crown as he sits on the mountain, and birds that fly in the sky.

Kefentse looks at Femi and smiles.

ABIJAH

Femi, explain to father your drawings.

FEMI

Well, father! It means that although the lion is king, the lion will never be able to control or rule the birds and so the monkey laughs.

Kefentse stands up and looks down at Femi then sits back down as everyone laughs.

KEFENTSE

You know I needed a good joke. That was good.

Everyone laughs.

INT. DINING ROOM - AFTERNOON

Abijah walks into the dining room with her brothers and sisters; her parents sit at the dining room table. She walks to the dining room table then sits down.

The dining room holds a dining room table with plates, forks, knives, plastic tumblers and a water pitcher with water. The food is on the table in large bowls.

EXT. VERANDA - EVENING

IMAGE: The Africans horizon; gold, orange, pink, purple and blue haze is astonishing.

Abijah walks outside to the veranda with her brothers and sisters. She sits on a chair whilst they play outside. They sit on chairs and some sit on the steps of the house -- they sing.

## SONG

Peace and love in South Africa for  
a future of happiness and  
unconditional love. We are the  
future, the children of South  
Africa...

The children laugh.

INT./EXT. VERANDA - AFTERNOON

Mafuane walks to the veranda. The children are sitting on  
the veranda.

MAFUANE

It is time to come in.

INT. HOUSE - EVENING

Abijah walks into the house with her brothers and sisters as  
they run into their bedrooms.

BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

Abijah walks into the bathroom and bathes then puts on her  
cotton pajamas.

BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Abijah walks into the bedroom and gets onto her bed. Her  
mother walks into her room.

MAFUANE

Abijah, get the others. I am going  
to tell everyone a story.

ABIJAH

A story?

MAFUANE

Yes! Get the others.

Mafuane walks out of the room. Abijah gets up then walks  
out of the room then down the hallway.

LIVING ROOM

The children sit on the floor as Mafuane and Kefentse walk  
in then sit on chairs.

MAFUANE

There is milk and cookies for everyone.

The children scream as they run towards the table. They drink their milk and eat their cookies, then sit down in front of Mafuane.

MAFUANE

I think everyone is ready.

They laugh. Mafuane sits comfortably with a pillow propped behind her back. Kefentse sits then nestles into his chair.

MAFUANE

There was a very old lady that lived alone. She had no one to care for her because her husband had died a very long time ago and she had no children.

ABIJAH

Did she not have any relatives?

Mafuane smiles at Abijah then continues to tell her story.

MAFUANE

No! No one visited the little old lady because no one cared. They were too rich and too busy to care for her. Her land became parched due to the hot sun in summer and in winter the icy cold winds made her home very cold.

FEMI

She must have been very cold.

The children laugh.

MAFUANE (CONT'D)

The little old lady said, "if only I had someone to help me, I would have a beautiful garden and a wonderful home." The little old lady would walk outside with the help of her walking stick, would look at the garden, then walked back into her house, prepared her meals, then looked outside her window

(MORE)

MAFUANE (CONT'D)

to see if anyone would pass by, but  
no one did.

Mafuane stares at the children then laughs.

ABIJAH

No one passed by? We wouldn't do  
that.

Mafuane smiles at the children.

MAFUANE

One day, she walked slowly out of  
the house and down the road. She  
saw a young girl who walked towards  
her. "Where are you going?" said  
Abebe, the young girl. The old  
lady said, "oh! I'm just taking a  
walk," and so she stopped to talk  
to Abebe. "I have no parents. Can  
I live with you?" said Abebe. The  
little old lady was so shocked that  
her walking stick fell then she  
fell onto the ground. Abebe then  
helped the old lady up and so they  
walked to her home. The next day  
Abebe helped the old lady in her  
home and in her garden. One day  
she walked into the backyard to  
pick some fruit from one of the  
trees. She saw an evil witch.  
Abebe screamed.

FEMI

I would have screamed too at seeing  
a witch.

Everyone laughs.

MAFUANE

The little old lady tried to see  
what was going on but fell. The  
witch then walked into the house  
with Abebe and saw the little old  
lady laying on the floor. "Little  
old lady," said the witch. "I am  
here to take your child away from  
you."

(MORE)

MAFUANE (CONT'D)

The little old lady screamed so loudly that an APE appeared at the door and screamed. The witch turned around, and before you could say 123, the APE hit the witch.

The children scream with laughter as Mafuane laughs.

ABIJAH

Then what happened?

MAFUANE

Well! The witch's wand fell to the ground, so Abebe picked it up and wished the witch away; the witch was never seen again. Abebe then wished the old lady young; she became a beautiful rich young lady and they lived happily ever after. The moral of the story is that good can overcome evil.

There is a knock at the door. Kefentse gets up and opens the door.

DOORWAY - CONTINUOUS

The NEIGHBOR stands at the door with horrified delight. He savors a moment of silence...then points to the tree in the yard.

NEIGHBOR

It looks like you have friends.

Kefentse looks up into the tree and sees some monkeys.

KEFENSE

We often see monkeys around here.

Kefentse torn between frustration and adoration.

NEIGHBOR

But what about her?

Kefentse looks at the gate and sees an APE walking towards him. His heart skips a beat.

NEIGHBOR

Do you think she's dangerous?



Kefentse's gaze is locked in mutual surprise at the ape.

KEFENSE

I don't think so.

The children run towards the door. Kefentse points to the ape.

KEFENTSE

Look children, there's an ape.

Abijah walks towards the ape. The ape looks at Abijah. Kefense walks towards them. The ape stares at Kefentse.

ABIJAH

Maybe he heard mother's story.

KEFENSE

I think so.

The ape walks away then climbs into the tree with the monkeys.

KEFENTSE

Let's go.

INT. HOUSE - EVENING

The children walk into the house. Mafuane walks towards them.

ABIJAH

Do you think there are real witches?

MAFUANE

I don't think so.

The children walk down the hallway then into their bedrooms.

BEDROOM

Abijah walks into her bedroom, gets into bed, then falls asleep.

INT. HOUSE - ABIJAH'S DREAM I - MORNING

Abijah lays on her bed. She picks up one of her books that is on the bed; it is a book on the History of South Africa. She opens the book to Chapter Eleven. Abijah reads she then closes the book and cries.

FLASHBACK:

EXT. HOUSE - NIGHT - 12 YEARS EARLIER

Lerato screams.

LERATO

Abijah!

She continues to scream as she and the family are taken out of the house and put into a truck by several officials. One of them slams the back of the truck. Lerato and Makena scream as the officials walk into the house.

LERATO

Abijah! My baby!

The truck leaves.

INT. HOUSE - NIGHT

Several officials walk through the house then into one of the bedrooms.

BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

The official hears Abijah crying. He walks over to her.

OFFICIAL

Abijah!

The OFFICIAL picks up Abijah, then walks out of the room as others walk in. Some of the officials continue to search the house.

OFFICIAL

It looks like Abijah will miss her parents.

OFFICIAL II

Why do you say that?

OFFICIAL

Because.

OFFICIAL II

She is just a baby.

The official stares at Abijah then smooths her hair on her head. He smiles.

OFFICIAL

It's a shame.

OFFICIAL II  
That she missed the first truck.

OFFICIAL  
What do you think we should do with her?

OFFICIAL II  
Take her to a children's home where she can be adopted.

OFFICIAL  
And her parents?

OFFICIAL II  
They did what?...

OFFICIAL  
I feel guilty but...

OFFICIAL II  
Abijah will be put in a good home until we know what to do with her family.

OFFICIAL  
Do you think she'll see them again.

OFFICIAL II  
I don't know.

FLASH FORWARD:

INT. HOUSE - NIGHT - 12 YEARS LATER

Abijah wakes up crying. She gets up out of bed then walks to the kitchen.

KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Abijah opens the refrigerator door. Pours herself a glass of milk. Drinks it quickly then walks to her room; climbs into bed then falls asleep.

INT. BEDROOM - ABIJAH'S DREAM II - MORNING

JAQUAN (42) ANGEL voice is heard.

JAQUAN (V.O.)  
Abijah! Abijah!

Abijah looks around her room.

JAQUAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
Abijah! Why do you cry?

Abijah gets up from the bed then walks around her room as she listens to Jaquan's voice.

ABIJAH  
I hear a voice talking to me, but I see no one.

Abijah sits down at her table and listens.

JAQUAN (V.O.)  
Abijah! I am Jaquan. Are you saddened about the history of apartheid in South Africa?

ABIJAH  
(softly)  
Yes! My real parents...

JAQUAN (V.O.)  
Your real parents?

ABIJAH  
I was adopted. No one knows if they are alive or dead.

JAQUAN (V.O.)  
Your adopted parents love you.

ABIJAH  
I know, but if only my real parents were alive.

JAQUAN (V.O.)  
Would that make you happy?

ABIJAH  
Very!

Abijah sits on the bed.

JAQUAN (V.O.)  
I am going to make you very happy.

ABIJAH  
My parents...they are alive?

JAQUAN (V.O.)

That is not why I am here. It is because you have been chosen by the Gods to be Queen; the Royal Enchantress of South Africa.

ABIJAH

Me! A Queen, a Royal Enchantress of South Africa?

JAQUAN (V.O.)

You will be given the gift of magic; to conjure and cast spells. Magic to be performed in order that South Africans can lead a productive and happy life.

ABIJAH

But I am only a child and I cannot perform magic.

JAQUAN (V.O.)

You will be able to perform magic and you will select the children to help you run the nation. Racism, violence, and inequality amongst the people will be as if it never existed.

ABIJAH

A Royal Enchantress? I do not understand! Do you mean a witch?

JAQUAN (V.O.)

Yes, a good witch, someone with such powers that you will be queen, someone that is so gifted with magical powers that no one else will be able to surpass you.

Abijah sits down.

JAQUAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)

You will rule South Africa. I will be there to help you with each pronouncement or rule that you make for your people.

ABIJAH

But I am a child. No one will listen to me.

JAQUAN (V.O.)  
That is what the gods want.

ABIJAH  
A child?

JAQUAN (V.O.)  
Yes.

ABIJAH  
But why me?

JAQUAN (V.O.)  
Because you are special. I have  
watched you for some time and am  
very pleased with you.

ABIJAH  
I will be in danger.

JAQUAN (V.O.)  
You have the Gods to protect you.

ABIJAH  
I will need help!

JAQUAN (V.O.)  
The Gods will guide you as you rule.

ABIJAH  
Will you be there for me?

JAQUAN (V.O.)  
I will be there for you with each  
pronouncement or rule that you make  
for your people. I have to leave  
now but I will return.

ABIJAH  
Will my real parents return?

JAQUAN (V.O.)  
The Gods!

Abijah stands.

ABIJAH  
The Gods?

JAQUAN (V.O.)  
If it is their will.

ABIJAH  
If I need to get in touch with you?

JAQUAN (V.O.)  
You will only have to call my name.  
Do you understand?

ABIJAH  
Yes. I understand.

Abijah lays her face down on her arms as she sits on her chair.

JAQUAN (V.O.)  
Goodbye, Abijah!

ABIJAH  
Goodbye, Jaquan!

INT. POYJIYALIS CASTLE - ROOM - MORNING

POYJIYALIS (39) an EVIL, UGLY ENCHANTRESS sits in a room with her creatures that look like underfed vultures.

POYJIYALIS  
(sharp voice)  
Hand me my crystal ball.

The enchantress accidentally scratches the hand of the creature as he hands her the crystal ball. He screams; her talons have blood over them.

CREATURE I  
Ahhh!

He wipes the blood from his hand with a tissue handed him by POYJIYALIS. She smiles as he continues to scream.

POYJIYALIS  
You should be more careful. My  
nails are pretty sharp.

Poyjiyalis laughs as the creature sits down beside her. She takes the crystal ball away from the creature and wipes the blood off it. She sees Abijah in her crystal ball.

POYJIYALIS (CONT'D)  
I wonder who she is?

One of the creatures walks towards her. She slyly stares into the crystal ball.

CREATURE II  
 (secretive voice)  
 Her name is Abijah.

CRYSTAL BALL  
 Enchantress! Abijah has been chosen  
 to be Queen.

POYJIYALIS  
 (sharp voice)  
 Queen! Why was she chosen?

CRYSTAL BALL  
 Because she is a child and is good,  
 unlike you. You are evil.

Poyjiyalis smiles weakly then cunningly.

POYJIYALIS  
 (shyly)  
 I can be a child.

CRYSTAL BALL  
 You were not chosen.

POYJIYALIS  
 (loud voice)  
 But she is not an enchantress. I  
 am.

She waves her arms frantically as the age-old layers of dust  
 whirl around.

CREATURE III  
 (loud voice)  
 You must stop her from becoming  
 queen.

POYJIYALIS  
 I will.

CREATURE III (CONT'D)  
 You are enchantress, the only one,  
 so you should be queen.

Poyjiyalis looks sad, then evil, then smiles shyly.

POYJIYALIS  
 I can be a child.



She picks up her mirror from the table and looks into it and sees herself as a very pretty child. Her creatures stare at her then look into the mirror; they smile.

POYJIYALIS (CONT'D)

I will.

CREATURE VI

You are too evil.

She cackles with laughter then becomes a pretty twelve year old girl.

CRYSTAL BALL

(decisive voice)

You can turn yourself into a child,  
but Abijah will be queen.

The crystal ball turns black, smoke surrounds the crystal ball, then it shatters.

POYJIYALIS

I can be as pretty and as nice as  
the Gods would like me to be. I am  
not jealous of Abijah because I  
will be crowned queen.

Her creatures screech with laughter. She turns herself back into Poyjiyalis.

INT. HOUSE - BEDROOM - NEXT MORNING

Abijah is awakened by JAQUAN. She sits up in bed.

JAQUAN (V.O.)

You must get up! It is time for  
you to visit the palace.

ABIJAH

(startled)

A palace? What do you mean?

She sits up.

JAQUAN (V.O.)

You will be queen and so you will  
need a palace.

ABIJAH

(questionable voice)

Do you mean a real palace that a king and queen live in?

JAQUAN (V.O.)

Yes! A real palace. You will be the first Queen Enchantress for South Africa; your people await you.

The multicolored BIRDS chirp outside. A soft breeze blows into the open window of her room.

ABIJAH

(questionable look)

But what about my family, my friends and school? Do I leave everyone to become queen?

JAQUAN (V.O.)

(laughs)

No! Your family and friends are already at the palace and they await you. As for school, you will be schooled at the palace, there will be no need for you to leave the palace unless you want to visit far away lands.

ABIJAH

What do I wear?

JAQUAN (V.O.)

Wear a pretty dress and put ribbons in your hair. You will be transported to the palace in a horse-drawn carriage.

ABIJAH

(surprised look)

You mean a real carriage that I used to read about in my fairy tales?

JAQUAN (V.O.)

Yes! A real horse-drawn carriage.

ABIJAH

How long do I have to get dressed?

JAQUAN (V.O.)

I will give you an hour to get dressed then I will return.

Jaquan's voice disappears. Abijah walks over to her dresser, picks up her mirror and looks at herself.

ABIJAH

I can't believe that this is really happening.

The MIRROR speaks to Abijah.

MIRROR

Abijah! You must hurry, and get dressed. Do not keep your people waiting.

ABIJAH

(stunned look)

I cannot believe what is happening to me. My mirror can now speak, what else is magical?

Abijah's large brown eyes grows wide as she continues to look at herself in the mirror.

ABIJAH

I now have to get dressed. I am going to believe Jaquan. My father had talked about spirits...but...

Abijah looks at her watch then looks for something to wear in the closet. She puts on a pretty pink dress.

ABIJAH (CONT'D)

I hope my father will be pleased with what I wear.

She looks at her dress in the mirror; places pink ribbons in her braided hair. Abijah sits down on her bed then places her white shoes on her feet. Her SHOES sparkle then GROW WINGS.

ABIJAH (CONT'D)

(wide eyes)

What is going on? Shoes! Why do you have wings?

SHOES

(soft voice)

Abijah, I have grown wings so that  
I can transport you around the  
palace.

ABIJAH

To transport me around the palace?

SHOES

The palace is huge and is no place  
for a queen to walk around. You  
will need me, I can make you vanish,  
then reappear, whenever and wherever  
you wish.

The shoes laugh.

ABIJAH

Ok! Shoes transport me around the  
palace. Only do so when no one is  
looking, because I don't want anyone  
trying to steal you away from me.  
And as for vanishing, that will be  
a good thing for me.

SHOES

Your orders I will obey.

Abijah slowly fastens the straps around her feet then the  
wings slowly disappears into her shoes. She hears Jaquan's  
voice as she looks up.

JAQUAN (V.O.)

Abijah! Are you ready?

ABIJAH

Yes! I am ready.

Abijah gets up from the edge of the bed.

JAQUAN (V.O.)

Your carriage awaits you.

ABIJAH

I am nervous, but I will follow  
your instructions.

Abijah picks up her AFRICAN DOLL then takes the doll with  
her. She walks out of the room gracefully.

EXT. HOUSE - DAY

Abijah slowly walks towards the carriage as BIRDS fly overhead and chirp. THEMBA, the HORSEMAN looks up. PEOPLE are gathered outside the house.

THEMBA

My! What a noisy flock of birds.

Themba opens the carriage door for Abijah to enter. She enters the carriage then sits down on the red velvet seat. Abijah looks around her.

ABIJAH

The carriage is beautiful.

A CROWD OF PEOPLE assemble alongside the road all the way to the palace. As the carriage pulls off, PEOPLE, try to look into the carriage.

INT. ROAD TO PALACE - DAY

The carriage is driven down the road by Themba. People are gathered on each side of the road who wave to Abijah as the carriage passes by.

PERSON

Who is she?

Abijah looks at her people and waves.

ABIJAH (V.O.)

The people that I am waving to are my people to be ruled and governed by me, but how am I going to rule my new kingdom?

Tears form in Abijah's eyes, her tears roll down her face turning into sparkling diamonds. The diamonds fall into her lap.

ABIJAH (CONT'D)

Oh! My goodness, I think that I should cry a lot more.

She picks up the diamonds from her lap then puts them into her purse. Abijah smiles.

ABIJAH (CONT'D)

I have a lot of work to do.

JAQUAN (V.O.)  
Don't worry Abijah, you will know  
how to rule and govern your people.

Abijah smiles.

JAQUAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
Two days after your arrival at the  
palace, you will be crowned queen.  
There will be a gathering of your  
family, friends, and dignitaries to  
celebrate.

Abijah looks at the window to see people watch the carriage  
go by.

JAQUAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
You will have Gods as your advisors,  
the angels, the witches, and the  
wizard to rule South Africa. You  
will not be alone.

ABIJAH  
Thank you, knowing that I will not  
be alone to help me rule will prove  
to be the remedy I believe to help  
my people.

JAQUAN (V.O.)  
Abijah, as a child, you will use  
your abilities, your common sense  
and your childlike qualities to  
rule, but beware, there will be  
evil people and creatures that will  
try to persuade you to do evil upon  
your people.

ABIJAH  
My common sense? Evil people and  
creatures? I do not know how to  
handle them, but I will do what is  
needed to help my people.

JAQUAN (V.O.)  
That you must do because the  
punishment for committing crimes or  
evil deeds upon your people will be  
for you and your people to live  
with evil.

ABIJAH  
Live with evil?

JACQUAN  
There will be no hope for you or  
your people. Therefore, you must  
love your people and only do good.  
I will leave now as I have to see  
what is going on at the palace.

EXT. CARRIAGE - DAY

Abijah sees a dove fly past the window. THEMBA (44) stops  
the carriage then opens the door. He hands the dove to  
Abijah.

THEMBA  
A dove for you, Abijah.

He closes the door, gets back up on the carriage, then drives  
the carriage to the castle.

INT. CARRIAGE - DAY

The dove turns into Poyjiyalis. Abijah screams, Themba hears  
Abijah's screams. He stops the carriage, runs towards the  
door to see Poyjiyalis inside the carriage. He screams. He  
opens the carriage door. He is hysterical.

THEMBA  
(shouts)  
Poyjiyalis!

POYJIYALIS  
I should be queen, not Abijah.

THEMBA  
You are evil. South Africa does  
not want evil, only good.

POYJIYALIS  
Since I cannot be queen. I will  
take Abijah with me.

Abijah screams as Poyjiyalis grabs her hand.

ABIJAH  
(shouts)  
Witch, disappear, for I will be  
queen.

Poyjiyalis screams then disappears as the wind fills the trees with a rustling murmur.

THEMBA  
 (fearful and apologetic  
 voice)  
 I am so sorry, Abijah.

ABIJAH  
 You need to be more careful, because  
 Poyjiyalis can appear to harm me  
 and my people.

THEMBA  
 I will tell the guards when we arrive  
 that Poyjiyalis may try to enter  
 the palace.

ABIJAH  
 The Gods will help me.

Themba closes the door then drives the carriage to the palace.

ONE HOUR LATER

The carriage arrives at the palace. Abijah is greeted by CROWDS OF PEOPLE and CHILDREN -- Abijah waves. Themba jumps down from his seat then opens the door for Abijah. Abijah gets out of the carriage.

THEMBA  
 Abijah! Here is someone to greet  
 you, to take you into the palace  
 where you will see your family and  
 friends.

ABIJAH  
 It will be so nice to see them.

Abijah and ADEBOWALE (48) ROYAL PERSONAGE, dressed in red pants, a long red jacket and a white silk shirt with a red tie, wears a long blond curly wig, walks slowly to the entrance of the palace with Abijah. People cheer...

PEOPLE  
 (shouts)  
 Abijah! Abijah! We have waited far  
 too long for help for South Africa.  
 South Africa welcomes you as their  
 queen.



Abijah turns and waves as she walks into the palace followed by her ROYAL ATTENDANTS. The guards bow as she walks by.

INT. PALACE - DAY

Abijah looks around the palace as she walks down the hallway with Adebowale. The entrance to the palace consists of tall marble pillars and beautiful adorned cathedral ceilings and ruby red carpeting that leads from the entrance to the rooms of the palace.

ABIJAH

I cannot believe my eyes that the palace is so beautiful, and I will be very rich, but my people, how do they fare? Do they have?

ADEBOWALE

Do not worry, you will govern your people to make sure that they have. You will be the gatekeeper to their welfare and their well being and you will see to it that racial injustice and racism will be no longer.

ABIJAH

How long will I be queen?

ADEBOWALE

You will reign for as long as the Gods wish, however, if you are persuaded by evil creatures or people to do injustice or commit evil upon them, then your people will have to live with evil. So be very careful, be honest, love your people and do good for the benefit of them.

ABIJAH

On the way here Poyjiyalis appeared inside my carriage. She wanted to take me away because she could not be queen.

ADEBOWALE

Poyjiyalis will try to get into the palace. We will all be careful to stop her attempts to talk with you. She is jealous that you will be queen.

ABIJAH

But she is evil. South Africa cannot  
have evil to rule the nation.

Adebowale smiles.

ADEBOWALE

You will be safe. You are an  
enchantress that will have a  
successful carnation.

ABIJAH

If she appears again.

ADEBOWALE

If Poyjyalis appears again she  
will be dangerous but you will  
overcome her wickedness.

Adebowale then respectfully walks down the hallway with Abijah  
until he stops at a beautiful adorned door. Abijah's name  
is embossed in gold on the door.

ADEBOWALE (CONT'D)

We are now at your room where you  
will find everything that your heart  
desires.

Adebowale opens the door for Abijah; the room is gorgeously  
decorated for her.

ADEBOWALE (CONT'D)

Your family and friends are in rooms  
selected by me. When it is time to  
meet them in the dining room, I  
will knock on your door.

Adebowale walks out of the room. Abijah walks into the room  
slowly, she closes the door. Abijah looks around -- crystal  
chandeliers hang from the ceiling, crystal lamps on the  
tables, a table which holds a gold tray with a bejeweled  
golden goblet and two gold cups.

ABIJAH

(cries)

My room is so beautiful.

GOBLET

Abijah! Why are you crying?

Abijah stares at the goblet.

ABIJAH

Why, goblet, you can talk?

GOBLET

Yes I can! Why are you crying?

ABIJAH

I cry because I am so happy. I don't know if this is real or if I am dreaming but I am afraid of Poyjiyalis.

GOBLET

Pick me up.

Abijah picks up the bejeweled goblet.

GOBLET (CONT'D)

There is water inside, drink the water slowly. It will make you very sleepy.

ABIJAH

Why should I drink the water to make me sleepy?

GOBLET

You must drink the water so that you will be able to see your people and the conditions in which they live. You will then know how to govern the people; they are afraid of Poyjiyalis.

ABIJAH

Is this water or a potion?

GOBLET

It is special water. You will fall asleep. You will see your people and be with them. Are you ready?

ABIJAH

Yes! I will know what is expected of me and what Poyjiyalis did to them.

Abijah drinks the water from the goblet then walks over to her bed and falls asleep. In her dream, she sees her PEOPLE, there are cries for equality, to enforce the laws and policies in South Africa.

EXT. SOUTH AFRICA'S TOWNSHIPS - DAY

Abijah walks through the people and children, she stops, and talks with them.

ABIJAH (V.O.)

I listen to the people's wants and needs and dreams for a nation to be proud of its inhabitants, proud to be Africans, and proud to be able to fulfill their dreams in a once apartheid nation.

She talks to them.

PEOPLE

We cry Abijah, for the end to violence, the end of hatred towards us by Poyjyialis and the enforcement to end inequality and racism.

INT. PALACE - DAY

Abijah is asleep.

GOBLET

(loud voice)

Abijah! Abijah! Wake up. It is time to wake up.

Abijah awakes -- she looks around.

ABIJAH (V.O.)

I am now aware of my people's wishes and dreams for South Africa. I have work to do. I will love my people and fulfill their wishes and dreams to end racism and inequality in South Africa. I am scared but I will try to destroy Poyjyialis.

Abijah sits on her bed then arises and walks to her wardrobe to dress. She looks at the dresses, skirts, blouses, pants, sweaters, coats and shoes.

ABIJAH (CONT'D)

I think I will wear a pink and white dress with a white sweater and matching pink shoes.

Abijah dresses herself -- puts her pink shoes on. A ray of light SHINES on her shoes then they SPARKLE.

PINK SHOES

Abijah! If I was you. I would wear your black shoes today as wearing pink shoes will only inhibit your ability to walk around in a manner that will produce discomfort for your feet.

Abijah stares at her shoes.

PINK SHOES

Wearing me will also restrict you from talking to your family and friends freely. I am also one that when worn with matching clothes will report everything that you have said to others so do not wear me today.

Abijah stands then continues to stare at her shoes.

PINK SHOES

I am best worn on Sundays where my magical powers will enhance your royal activities for the day so do not wear me today.

She walks around, trying out her shoes to make sure that they are comfortable.

ABIJAH

Ok! Pink shoes. I will wear you another day. Black shoes it is.

Abijah looks inside her wardrobe for BLACK SHOES and finds them, she takes them out of the wardrobe.

ABIJAH (CONT'D)

(looks down at the shoes)

Brand new patent black shoes with diamonds on the straps that shine like stars upon the dark ocean.

The black shoes are quiet, however, when the shoes are put on her feet, her shoes sparkle, then laugh.

## BLACK SHOES

Finally, I am worn -- I have been sitting in the wardrobe for years and finally a child has been chosen to be Queen Enchantress for South Africa and I am worn. Thank you.

The shoes cries.

## ABIJAH

(wipes away the tears  
from her shoes)

Don't cry shoes. I will wear you today and whenever you want me to.

## BLACK SHOES

Thank you Abijah for wearing me, I am truly grateful -- the pink shoes have chosen wisely for you to wear me today and for that I thank her.

Abijah walks around -- looks down at her shoes.

## BLACK SHOES (CONT'D)

Hurry Abijah, as your royal personage will be here to take you to meet your family in the dining room.

## ABIJAH

You're right.

Abijah quickly picks up her purse and jacket and waits at the table for her royal personage.

## TEN MINUTES LATER

There is a knock at the door.

## ADEBOWALE

Abijah! Are you ready?

Abijah opens the door.

## ABIJAH

Yes! I am ready to meet with my family and friends for dinner.

## EXT. HALLWAY - DAY

Abijah slowly closes the door behind her. Walking down the hallway, she sees framed pictures of royal families of Africa

and royal dignitaries on the wall. Abijah points to a few of the royal families of Africa that interests her to Adebowale.

ADEBOWALE

Soon Abijah! Your portrait will be up on the wall along with your family.

ABIJAH

Thank you, that would be so nice to have a portrait of me and portraits of my family beside the royal members of Africa. How are my family doing?

ADEBOWALE

They are very excited, tired, but anxious to see you.

Abijah and Adebowale continue to walk down the hallway towards the dining room. As they get closer to the dining room, she hear's Jaquan's voice.

JAQUAN (V.O.)

(whispers)

When you are at dinner with your family and friends, do not tell them about me, nor any of your future plans as queen.

Abijah nods -- Jaquan's voice disappears.

INT. DINING ROOM - DAY

The door is opened by Adebowale, he announces her name to her FAMILY and FRIENDS -- they all stand.

ADEBOWALE

Abijah has arrived for dinner.  
Everyone may now sit down.

Everyone sits down. Abijah walks in and takes her place amongst her family at the dining room table.

ADEBOWALE (CONT'D)

No! No! Abijah, you will be queen.  
You must sit at the head of the table.

Abijah sits at the head of the table. The table is lavishly displayed with food. She speaks excitedly to her parents, her family and friends about her coronation.

ABIJAH

Mother! I am happy that I was chosen to be queen. Are you happy for me?

MAFUANE

Yes Abijah! I am very happy.

Abijah looks at her father.

ABIJAH

Father! Did you receive your instructions for my coronation?

KEFENTSE

Yes! We received the coronation guide. We are so proud of you.

Everyone eats whilst Abijah talks to her mother and father. They continue to talk to each other.

THIRTY MINUTES LATER

Adebowale walks into the room then stands by the door.

KEFENTSE (CONT'D)

Well! I think we should leave the dining room area, as I see your royal personage anxiously waiting for you to return to your room.

Everyone walks out of the dining room.

INT. ROOM - DAY

Abijah walks to her room with her royal personage and finds her coronation, agenda and plans for the coronation on her table. She looks for her clothes and accessories to wear for the coronation in her closet -- she takes them out.

ABIJAH

(looks at her coronation clothes)

The clothes are beautiful.

She looks carefully around in her room then she looks at the coronation guide.



ABIJAH (CONT'D)

(smiles)

I think that I have everything that  
I will need for my coronation  
tomorrow.

Abijah goes to sleep.

INT. ABIJAH'S ROOM - MORNING

Adebowale knocks on the door. Abijah sits at her bureau then  
gets up.

ADEBOWALE

Abijah, are you awake?

Abijah walks to the door and opens it.

ABIJAH

You may come in.

ADEBOWALE

I want to make sure that you found  
your clothing for the coronation. I  
am sure that they will fit you.

ABIJAH

Thank you.

Adebowale looks at Abijah's clothes in the wardrobe.

ADEBOWALE

It looks like everything is there.

Abijah looks at her coronation gown and sighs. She picks up  
the coronation guide then checks the time of the coronation.

ABIJAH

The coronation will be held at  
12:00pm sharp. Everyone has to be  
at the coronation at the precise  
time. I will be greeted upon my  
arrival by my royal dignitaries  
that will welcome me as queen.

ADEBOWALE

During your coronation, you will be  
crowned Queen Enchantress of South  
Africa. After the coronation, you  
will welcome the people of South

(MORE)

ADEBOWALE (CONT'D)

Africa to your kingdom by going to the balcony at the front of the palace in which you will address the people.

ABIJAH

Thank you.

MAFUANE knocks on the door. Abijah opens the door -- her mother walks into the room.

MAFUANE

It is time to get dressed.

MAFUANE assists Abijah to get dressed then she leaves the room.

Abijah looks into her mirror to make sure that she is dressed according to the guide. Abijah checks her gown, her robe, her shoes and her hair.

ABIJAH

My hair! When is the stylist going to be here?

There is a knock at the door, it is AFRA (32) HAIR STYLIST, a faithful, thankful, and trustworthy friend.

ABIJAH (CONT'D)

I thought that you had forgotten me.

AFRA

No, I had not forgotten -- I am on time. I know that you must be at the coronation precisely 12:00pm. I had to be here for 10:00am and I am here for 10:00am. Sit here Abijah, whilst I comb and dress your hair.

Abijah sits down on a royal red velvet chair which looks like a throne.

AFRA (CONT'D)

(combs her hair)

Abijah! Are you happy that you will be queen?

ABIJAH

Yes, I am very happy, but afraid because I do not know what lays ahead for me. I know that the people are happy that I will be queen but I realize that their expectations will be high.

AFRA

It is going to be a very difficult task for you. Do you know how you are going to do this?

ABIJAH

Well, I have thought about a plan. A plan for the people of South Africa with the advice and consent of some very special people whom I cannot discuss with you, but yes, I do have a plan and if my plan works the people of South Africa will be very happy.

Abijah smiles confidently -- Afra combs Abijah's hair.

AFRA

I am almost finished with your hair.

Afra continues to comb Abijah's hair.

AFRA (CONT'D)

I am going to make sure that your hair will emphasize the placement of your crown perfectly, so please sit for a little while longer.

Afra finishes styling Abijah's hair. Abijah looks into her mirror.

ABIJAH

My hair is perfect, I hope that my plans and dreams for South Africa will be as perfect as the way that I look and feel today.

AFRA

I am finished and you look beautiful. Here! Look into this mirror. This mirror is a gift from me to you.

Afra hands Abijah her mirror then leaves the room. Abijah looks into the mirror as the mirror looks back at Abijah.

MIRROR

You have a full day ahead of you, you will be successful as Queen Enchantress of South Africa with the help of the Gods and the angels. The wizard and witches will also play an important role as they have watched you ever since Jaquan contacted them. You were chosen by the Gods to be queen and queen you will be.

ABIJAH

Mirror, how will my day go?

MIRROR

I can tell by looking at you that you are a very sincere and trusting child, one that the people could put their trust and faith in. The coronation will go as planned. Look at me closely, Abijah.

Abijah looks closely into the mirror with her large brown eyes, her black curled eyelashes, touches the mirror.

MIRROR (CONT'D)

(laughs)

Abijah, you see how close your eyes are looking at me with your eyelashes touching me. That is how close you need to be with your people, as close as your eyelashes are touching me.

There is a knock at the door it is MAFUANE.

MIRROR (CONT'D)

It must be time for you to leave for the coronation.

The mirror is quiet -- her mother walks into the room.

MAFUANE

Abijah, you look beautiful. Come with me, your family, and friends await you for your coronation.

EXT./INT. PALACE - CORONATION - DAY

The coronation begins on time and is a beautiful quiet affair. A crowd of people stand on the ground outside the balcony. Abijah and her parents walk onto the balcony and greet the crowd. The crowd cheers. She continues to wave to the crowd then walks back into the palace.

JAQUAN (V.O.)

(whispers)

Abijah, it is Jaquan, the gods want to visit with you. You must leave your guests because they need to speak with you.

INT. ABIJAH'S ROOM - DAY

Abijah walks into her room then closes the door. Jaquan speaks to Abijah.

JAQUAN

Sit down.

Abijah sits on her embroidered cream chaise. She sees a light that shines through the open window into the room. AONDOHIMBA a GOD appears before her.

ABIJAH

(shocked)

Who are you?

AONDOHIMBA (GOD)

I am Aondohimba.

ABIJAH

A God!

AONDOHIMBA

Yes! I am here to help you rule the nation.

ABIJAH

But this will be such a task for me.

AONDOHIMBA

You will not have to do anything. They will do what you wish, for your people. I will leave you now as I hear your mother coming,

(MORE)

AONDOHIMBA (CONT'D)  
remember the gods, witches and wizard  
will be there to help you.

The door opens and in walks her mother.

MAFUANE  
Abijah, what are you doing? You  
have guests that you have kept  
waiting.

ABIJAH  
I will be there soon -- I had an  
unexpected visitor, a very important  
person that I had to speak with. I  
will now return to my guests.

Abijah leaves the room to meet her guests followed by her  
mother.

INT. ABIJAH'S ROOM - ONE HOUR LATER - DAY

Abijah walks to her room and closes the door. When she enters,  
she hears a sound. She looks around and sees no one. She  
sees a LIGHT SHINING from the cathedral ceiling in her bedroom  
and then a voice that calls her name softly; it is a SPIRIT.

JAJA (SPIRIT)  
Abijah! I need to talk with you.

ABIJAH  
Who are you?

Abijah looks around --

JAJA  
I am the spirit of the people.

ABIJAH  
The spirit of the people, I do not  
understand.

JAJA  
I am the spirit that hears their  
wishes, their demands for equality,  
and the need to live a happy life  
in Africa.

ABIJAH  
What do you want from me?

JAJA

I want from you, Abijah, since you are now queen to make new rules and policies to govern South Africa.

ABIJAH

I was awaiting instructions from the Gods. Are you a god?

JAJA

No! But I was sent from the God Aondohimba to tell you to begin your reign as queen by setting forth the policies to rule your kingdom.

ABIJAH

Is there anyone in particular that I should address?

JAJA

You must hold a meeting tomorrow with your officials and tell them that you will be selecting a new regime of officials. To consist of adults, teenagers, and children.

ABIJAH

To include teenagers and children? But they will laugh at me. I am but a child, to have teenagers, and children to help rule South Africa. I do not know if they will agree to this.

JAJA

They will if they can perform magic.

ABIJAH

Magic?

JAJA

Yes, magic.

ABIJAH

I think that the performance of magic will work. How will I know who can perform magic.

JAJA

They will appear to you, one by one  
and some together in your room.  
They will be sent from the Gods and  
will have mortal form when they  
begin their duties for you

ABIJAH

I think that will work. Performing  
magic will work. But how will my  
officials know?

JAJA

They will be taken over with the  
spirits who will make them very  
happy to work with them. Their magic  
will be known to them at the right  
time -- the children selected to  
help the people.

ABIJAH

But what about Poyjyialis?

JAJA

You will take care of her.

ABIJAH

Will you appear to me again?

JAJA

I will appear to you when I feel it  
is the right time. I have to leave  
now. You will be in good hands.

ABIJAH

Thank you.

INT. ABIJAH'S ROOM - AFTERNOON

Abijah walks around in her room.

ABIJAH

I don't know what I should do now.

She hears a knock at the window -- she sees a brilliant light  
shining into her room, a wizard appears.

ABIJAH (CONT'D)

It must be a God or a witch or a  
wizard.



The light disappears, FAHIM (44) WIZARD is brilliant, charming, and confident approaches Abijah dressed in a long black robe and wizards hat.

FAHIM  
Abijah, it is I the Wizard.

ABIJAH  
The Wizard?

FAHIM  
Yes! I am here to tell you what is required of you to rule your people.

ABIJAH  
What is required of me, wizard?

FAHIM  
I need you to think carefully, what you think would be the most important step to take in trying to help your people

ABIJAH  
Well, my people are troubled, need food, shelter, clothing and good health and they need to have peace amongst the different regimes throughout South Africa.

FAHIM  
I know, and the gods know this, but as a child you were chosen to help the people. What would you do first to help them?

ABIJAH  
Well, without food, clothing and shelter they would surely die, and without peace within South Africa they will die. Education, employment and political affairs are badly needed.

FAHIM  
But the first act?

ABIJAH (CONT'D)  
I think that the first act that I should do would be to feed, clothe,  
(MORE)

ABIJAH (CONT'D)  
provide adequate shelter and provide  
doctors to those who are sick.

FAHIM  
And Poyjyalis?

ABIJAH  
South Africa will be rid of her.

Fahim laughs.

ABIJAH (CONT'D)  
I want everyone to have, to have  
enough so that there will no longer  
be poor people in South Africa. A  
system in which everyone is  
considered equal in every form and  
fashion.

FAHIM  
Many creatures will help you and  
your people. I can conjure up the  
good witches to help you. As a  
wizard, I can cast spells to help  
you in your work for South Africa.  
However, I will need the witches.

ABIJAH  
The witches! If they are needed  
please contact them to help me in  
my work.

FAHIM  
Abijah, I am now going to cast a  
spell over you. This spell will  
enable you to see the witches in  
their castle. You will also be able  
to travel there to talk to them  
about your wishes for South Africa.  
I am sure that they will help.

FAHIM walks towards Abijah, raises his magic wand then chants  
over her. Abijah is covered by a LIGHT which turns her GOLDEN,  
sparkling throughout her room, then the light disappears.

FAHIM (CONT'D)  
Abijah, you will now be able to  
speak to the witches, see their  
castle and travel there to speak to  
(MORE)

FAHIM (CONT'D)  
 them about your wishes for South  
 Africa.

ABIJAH  
 Wizard, thank you, but I see no  
 witches and no castle.

FAHIM  
 Abijah! Walk towards the window  
 with me.

Abijah walks towards the window with the wizard.

FAHIM (CONT'D)  
 Look closely, Abijah, what do you  
 see?

A castle in the sky is seen -- the WITCHES CASTLE.

ABIJAH  
 I see! I see a castle. Yes! I see  
 a castle in the sky. Oh my! A real  
 castle. How can I contact the  
 witches?

FAHIM  
 You can contact them by merely  
 requesting to speak with them.

ABIJAH  
 Just by saying, "witches, I would  
 like to speak with you?"

FAHIM  
 Yes!

ABIJAH  
 Ok! Let me try if I can contact  
 the witches before you leave. If I  
 am able to travel there, how do I  
 return?

FAHIM  
 I have cast a spell over you so  
 that when you are finished talking  
 with the witches, you will return  
 immediately to your room. I will  
 now leave you, Abijah.

He vanishes from her room.

ABIJAH  
 (calm but cautious  
 voice)  
 I would like to speak to the witches.

Abijah disappears to the witches castle inside a room where the witches sit.

INT. WITCHES CASTLE - ROOM - AFTERNOON

CHANYA (24) SISYA (34) AND NANA (44) are WITCHES. They are polite, good-natured and insightful.

CHANYA  
 Abijah, I am so happy that you are here. Please sit down in this chair.

The chair slides over to Abijah -- she sits down.

ABIJAH  
 (wide eyes)  
 My! Oh My! This chair is magical.

SISYA  
 Yes it is, just one of many spells that we have cast in the castle. I see that the wizard cast a spell on you to visit us to help you with your wishes for South Africa?

ABIJAH  
 Yes! The wizard said that you would be able to help me.

NANA  
 We are here to help you. Let us take a look into our crystal ball and let me see what the future holds for you in South Africa before we help.

The witches look into the crystal ball, they um and ahh.

CHANYA  
 Come here, Abijah!

Abijah walks over to Chanya.

SISYA

I see that you love your people and they love you, but there will be some that will attempt to persuade you to do evil upon the people, including Poyjiyalis. This you must never do because you and they will have to live with evil.

ABIJAH

I know, I was told this by Jaquan.

CHANYA

Jaquan, we know him very well. He made a very wise choice in helping you; a child to run South Africa. Let me see! Come over here to this room with us.

Abijah walks with the witches to a closed room.

INT. WITCHES ROOM - EVENING

The door is opened by Nana with a VERY LARGE KEY with an equally LARGE LOCK -- they enter.

NANA

This room holds the future. We can change the future for nations, people and so forth by casting spells.

ABIJAH

You can!

SISYA

Yes we can. We can even hold time, we can change things around, so that when time starts up again, the people will not know what has happened to them. It will be like waking up in a dream. They will not know that there have been any changes.

ABIJAH

I think this room is perfect. For South Africa needs to forget its past. Where should I start?

CHANYA

Well! Where would you like to start?

ABIJAH

Feeding, clothing, and giving shelter to those in need is needed so is the need for doctors to help the sick.

SISYA

If we were to hold time in South Africa and the witches, wizard and the Gods were to change things around without them knowing, and when time starts again they would not know the difference -- I think that would work. To give the nation a case of amnesia for the past for them to only look forward to the future.

ABIJAH

Perfect, for the historical past racial injustices, cruelty towards the people that exist in South Africa of the races will be a thing of the past. I only hope that I will not meet any evil witches for I was warned to be very, very careful in taking care of my people.

NANA

Abijah, there are evil witches who can transform themselves into creatures liken to ourselves to look like people, including Poyjiyalis

SISYA

You will be watched over very carefully by the Gods.

ABIJAH

Thank you for your advice. I believe that the plan to give the nation a case of amnesia and stopping time will work. When should we begin?

CHANYA

Well, I think that you will need to visit us again. I want you to return to your room now and I want you to contact us when you are ready for peace in South Africa.

ABIJAH (CONT'D)  
Thank you, I will leave now.

Abijah disappears to her room.

INT. ABIJAH'S ROOM - NEXT DAY

Abijah sits at her table.

ABIJAH  
I have work to do. But I need to know when will be the right time for the witches to cast a spell over South Africa.

There is a knock on the door. Abijah walks over to the door and opens it.

MAFUANE  
Abijah, we are going to meet the officials. We need you there to meet with them. Please come now.

ABIJAH  
Ok!

MAFUANE  
Please hurry. I do not want to keep them waiting.

Abijah walks over to her table and picks up her notebook and her pen then walks out of the room with her mother, closes the door behind her.

CONFERENCE ROOM

It is opened by an attendant that stands guard outside the room, they enter. Abijah sees a number of OFFICIALS sitting at an oblong table.

Abijah walks towards the table.

KOFI (Official)  
Welcome, Abijah! This will be our first meeting since you have been crowned queen. We welcome you.

OLAMILEKAN (Official)  
Please sit down, Abijah. We have work to do.

Abijah sits down with her mother who sits beside her.

ABIJAH

I thank everyone for being here today. You're right, we have work to do.

KOFI

I know that it is early, but do you have plans for your people?

ABIJAH

Yes! I am working on a plan. A plan I think that will work but it will take time, not a long time, but time.

KOFI

Time is running out for South Africa. Inequality and poordom reigns; the people are getting restless because if equality is not effectively enforced soon it may be tragic for the nation.

ABIJAH

I know, I will be having a meeting with some people of mine. I cannot tell you who they are but they are very important people that will help me rule South Africa and bring peace to the nation.

KOFI

Ok Abijah! Do you want to hear our plans?

ABIJAH

What are your plans?

KOFI

Our plans -- we are still working on them. As you know the laws have been in place for equality and racism was dismantled by the policies of South Africa.

Abijah interrupts.



ABIJAH

The laws have been dismantled but inequality is still practiced.

KOFI

There are poor people throughout South Africa who need to be educated and employed and racism is still practiced which has been a stumbling block to the lives of the majority.

ABIJAH

Stumbling block?

KOFI

The fact that historically they have been discriminated against is foremost in their minds. They are not happy, for they have a past which they would like to forget.

ABIJAH

I will want your help in the writing up of new policies and procedures for the people of South Africa but first there are some things that I need to take care of before they are written up and put into place.

KOFI

What are these things that you must do first, because we must not delay any further in helping the people.

ABIJAH

I am working on a plan that will be carried out soon. Another month will not cause too much of a delay in the birth of a new South Africa.

KOFI

Yes! You are right Abijah, another month will not hurt if it is for the betterment of South Africa, for the majority of South Africans have been hurt both mentally and physically. They need corrective action as soon as possible.

ABIJAH

(smiles)

Corrective action will take place, I promise. I believe it is now time for me to leave. I will contact you when corrective action that I want to be conducted has taken place. I will notify you and I am sure that you will be very pleased.

KOFI

Ok! Abijah, we will trust you. Please do not attempt to deceive us or your people or the penalty as you know will be very severe.

ABIJAH

Yes! I know we will have to live with evil. I know but that will never happen.

Abijah gets up from the chair. Abijah and her mother leaves the room, the officials leave the room.

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

Abijah closes the door then sits down at her desk. There is a knock at the door. Abijah opens the door.

ADEBOWALE

Abijah there is news.

ABIJAH

News?

ADEBOWALE

Yes.

ABIJAH

What news?

ADEBOWALE

That Poyjiyalis has been seen in the castle.

ABIJAH

What should I do?

ADEBOWALE

I do not know. The guards are afraid.

ABIJAH  
Then I must think...

ADEBOWALE  
Think?

ABIJAH  
I must be prepared for her.

ADEBOWALE  
Yes.

ABIJAH  
She may appear in my room. If she  
does, then God will help.

Adebowale smiles.

ADEBOWALE  
God will help. That will work. I  
will tell the guards.

Adebowale leaves the room. Poyjiyalis cries are heard in  
the castle. The royal personages are terrified. Poyjiyalis  
appears in the throne room. Poyjiyalis stares at the throne.

POYJIYALIS  
The throne should be mine.

She continues to cry.

POYJIYALIS  
Abijah, dies. She is not capable  
of running the nation.

Jaja speaks to Poyjiyalis.

JAJA  
Abijah will rule the nation.

POYJIYALIS  
I will kill her.

JAJA  
You may try but you will suffer.  
She will not die.

Poyjiyalis disappears.

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

Abijah walks to her room then slowly opens the door. She walks over to the table and sits down then writes a short note -- she pauses as she hears Jaquan whisper to her.

JAQUAN (V.O.)

Abijah, I am here, do not be alarmed. The Gods are very happy with you -- Poyjiyalis was in the throne room. You must not waste any time in visiting the witches again.

ABIJAH

Jaquan, it has been a while since I have heard from you. Do you believe what I said today in the meeting with my officials was in order?

JAQUAN (V.O.)

Yes, it was. Once the nation loses their memory on the historically injustices of the past they will live in peace and harmony.

ABIJAH

I know, but I was thinking, what if an outsider happens to remind South Africans of its past?

JAQUAN

That will not happen. For other nations will be enchanted into believing that apartheid never existed, they will have no memory of apartheid and that South Africa was like living in Paradise.

ABIJAH

That will be difficult but not impossible. After all, Africa is beautiful and has the most beautifulist creatures upon earth.

JAQUAN

The color of one's skin would not make a difference in their lives. Everyone would be equal in South Africa. There will be no domination with the people or in the animal kingdom.

ABIJAH  
I have work to do. I know that we  
can do this.

JAQUAN  
(laughs)  
We can do this!

Jaquan's voice disappears.

CUT TO:

INT. WITCHES CASTLE - ROOM - (WEEK LATER) DAY

Abijah is in the castle with the witches.

CHANYA  
Are you ready for a spell to be  
cast over South Africa?

ABIJAH  
Yes, I am ready.

SISYA  
Do you want this spell to be  
temporary or permanent?

ABIJAH  
I think permanent, as a temporary  
solution will only result in a  
horrific situation for those who  
remember what has happened to them  
when the amnesia wears off. So I  
believe a permanent solution would  
be best.

NANA  
Ok! Let us go into the room.

HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

They all walk down the hallway then Sisya opens the door of  
a room.

INT. WITCHES ROOM - DAY

A large crystal ball sits on the table.

SISYA  
Come here, Abijah.

Abijah walks towards the witches.

NANA

You see this crystal ball, look into it closely, and tell me what you see.

ABIJAH

I see...I see some of the officials that were at the meeting with me, some of them are happy and some are not.

CHANYA

What do they say?

ABIJAH

They are saying that they do not believe that I have a plan and even if I do, there is no way that it will work because of the past of the minority and other nations towards the majority in South Africa. Some of them look very unhappy.

SISYA

Yes, we know, we have been watching them for some time. Come here and sit at the table, we have work to do.

Abijah sits at the table, whilst the witches gather together a concoction of liquids; blue, yellow, red and white and mix them together in a glass container. As they mix the liquids one of the witches gathers together their broomsticks and wands.

CHANYA

Listen, Abijah! We will not waste time. I want you to drink this potion, it will turn you into a witch. You will be able to cast spells like us when we travel over South Africa.

ABIJAH

But I am afraid.

CHANYA (CONT'D)

We will fly over the townships and cast spells. I want you to do exactly what we do, you will have the power, Abijah, believe us.

ABIJAH

(scared voice)

I do not know how to ride a broomstick. How will I be able to fly into the air, and keep up with you and what spells will I cast?

NANA

You will know how to ride a broomstick, casting a spell will come naturally to you like us, just drink the magic potion. Abijah, drink now quickly.

Abijah drinks the potion, looks at the witches, then falls asleep at the table.

INT. ROOM - AFTERNOON

She wakes up to find herself dressed as a witch.

CHANYA

Abijah, here is your broomstick, for we are ready to fly over South Africa.

ABIJAH

I am ready.

The witches and Abijah walk out the door then ascend into the night sky as the stars shine brightly to light their way over South Africa.

EXT. SKY - NIGHT

Abijah and the witches fly in the sky over South Africa.

CHANYA

We are here!

SISYA

South Africa is ours!

The witches all at the same time wave their wands and chant.

CHANYA, SISYA AND NANA  
South Africa, South Africa, everyone  
will be equal in the eyes of the  
Gods. There will be peace with the  
people and the animal kingdom.

SISYA  
Abijah, we now want you to wave  
your wand and chant.

ABIJAH  
I wish, I wish for a peaceful South  
Africa. I wish, I wish that everyone  
will be equal, that racism will be  
no more and there will no longer be  
any violence.

CHANYA  
Wave your wand once more Abijah.

Abijah then waves her wand again.

SISYA  
It is now done. The spell over South  
Africa is complete.

They laugh.

NANA  
We must now leave.

The witches and Abijah return to the castle.

EXT. WITCHES CASTLE - DAY

Upon their arrival to the castle the witches take Abijah  
into their room.

ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Everyone stands in the room. Abijah puts her broomstick  
beside the table.

CHANYA  
Abijah, you will remember what  
happened tonight for we want you  
to. Your work is done.



SISYA

Call a meeting with your officials tomorrow. They will be astonished at the people of South Africa. However, you are warned that Poyjiyalis will try to disrupt your peaceful South Africa.

NANA

So be careful, very careful for any notions from anyone including the Gods if they want you to do something that you do not want to do. Go now, Abijah!

Abijah vanishes then returns to her room.

INT. ABIJAH'S ROOM - NIGHT

Abijah appears inside her room -- she dresses for bed then goes to sleep.

INT. PALACE - MORNING

AKACHI, (48) ATTENDANT walks by the open door.

ABIJAH

Attendant, please make calls to all the officials that are presently in office. I am going to be making some changes in the age and race of the governing officials of South Africa.

AKACHI

Yes, Abijah. I will call them right away to meet with you. Do you want to meet with them today or tomorrow?

ABIJAH

I will meet with them today, the sooner the better. Let me know when they start arriving.

AKACHI

Abijah, I will.

Abijah walks around the room.

ABIJAH

I have a lot to do today. I am going to make some changes with my officials, I want them to include children that varies from the ages of ten to eighteen, of different races.

AKACHI

Children!

ABIJAH (CONT'D)

Yes children, that will have a different view of life in South Africa and have a say so on the policies. Today, life in South Africa will be different as race, class, and violence will be no more.

Abijah walks over to her bed then goes to sleep.

INT. BEDROOM - DAY (THREE HOURS LATER)

There is a knock at the door.

AKACHI

Abijah! Abijah! Are you awake?

Abijah wakes up then walks to the door.

ABIJAH

I am sorry that I did not hear you. Are the officials here?

AKACHI

They are starting to arrive, you should get ready.

ABIJAH

You're right. Please call my mother and father so that they can attend also.

AKACHI

I will let them know. I will also let the officials know that you will be arriving shortly.

Abijah closes the door then gets dressed.

INT. BEDROOM - DAY

Abijah looks into her closet and looks at her clothes.

ABIJAH

Let me see, what should I wear for this very important meeting. I want to look business like, yet friendly, yet comfortable, but not too comfortable. Let me see.

Abijah chooses a gray cotton suit which consists of a skirt and a jacket with a white silk blouse with a gray scarf to wear around her neck. She chooses to wear on her feet, her black patent shoes. She dresses quickly then leaves with her parents as they arrive at her room with a gray leather bag, which contains note-pad, paper and pens.

INT. MEETING ROOM - DAY

The door opens and Abijah walks in with her parents.

ABIJAH

My parents, take a seat. I see that all my officials are here, do you like the new South Africa?

Abijah and her parents sit down.

CHIDUBEM (OFFICIAL)

The new Africa? What do you mean?

ABIJAH

Do you not know?

CHIDUBEM

Know what?

ABIJAH

That today is the beginning of a new day for South Africa. Look around you, what do you see?

CHIDUBEM

I see officials.

ABIJAH

But what race are they?

CHIDUBEM

They are South Africans.

ABIJAH

But what is the color of their skin and does the color of one's skin determines whether they have equal rights or not in South Africa?

CHIDUBEM

I see the race of South Africa, we are diverse like the flowers, we are all equal. I see no difference in the race of anyone here.

ABIJAH

That is good! Do we all agree that there is no difference in race or class and that violence will not exist in South Africa.

CHIDUBEM

Of course! There was never a difference in the class of people in South Africa, there is equality and violence does not exist.

ABIJAH

I know that this may seem to be out of the question but I am going to employ some of the children to become officials in my government.

CHIDUBEM

Children! Are you kidding! Children!

ABIJAH

Yes! I want to have them help me run South Africa. I will meet with them at a later day. I know that you will not mind.

CHIDIBEM

Will it be for the benefit of the people?

ABIJAH

Yes, it will be, you can believe me. I believe that we should continue with our meeting.

The meeting continues with the officials.

INT. PALACE - NEXT DAY

Abijah is visited by Jaquan in her room. Abijah sits at her table.

JAQUAN (V.O.)

It is time for you to meet the children. Those whom the Gods have selected for you to help run the government.

ABIJAH

I believe my officials will love the children. I will need protection from Poyjiyalis.

JAQUAN

I know that the gods, the witches and the wizard will protect your people but you never know when Poyjiyalis might appear.

ABIJAH

You're right, we do not know. I will set up a meeting tomorrow in my room to see the children.

JAQUAN

I will leave you now, for I know that you are busy. You will hear from me tomorrow.

Jaquan's voice disappears and Abijah is left alone -- she smiles.

ABIJAH

I will have children of my own age to play with, gods, witches or even wizards.

Abijah smiles again then walks out of the room.

INT. ABIJAH'S ROOM - NEXT DAY

Abijah hears laughter. She gets up from her chair and looks around, her AFRICAN DOLL, FLOATS AROUND IN THE AIR above her bed.

ABIJAH

Oh my goodness! What is going on?

Abijah reaches over to the doll. It is snatched away from her. There is laughter again -- the doll lands on her bed. Her chair moves away from the table then is held above the table then placed back on the floor. The drapes in her room moves slowly then is pulled back, each section shows the sunlight into her room -- there is laughter and voices from the children.

JAQUAN (V.O.)

The children are here to meet you  
Abijah.

Abijah looks around in her room, then makes a circle, she sees the children. They are of different races and nationalities and they all speak in different languages.

JAQUAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)

I know that you do not understand them. They are very excited in coming down from the heavens to live with you on earth, they will now speak the language of Afrikans.

ABIJAH

I am very happy.

JAQUAN (V.O.)

They can fly, turn themselves invisible, move objects, cast spells and conjure but they cannot do evil, only good. They will live for now in the palace. They will visit you when you want them to.

Abijah laughs.

ABIJAH

Thank you, Jaquan. I would like for them to stay.

JAQUAN (V.O.)

Ok! I will leave. Goodbye children.

ABIOYE (5) CHIBUZO (7) DAYO (10) EXELO (12) & FOLAMI (14)  
the CHILDREN.

ABIJAH

Goodbye, Jaquan.

Jaquan's voice disappears -- the children stand then sit at the table; some sit on the ground.

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY (TWO WEEKS LATER)

Abijah and the children enter the meeting with them walking behind her in a line. Her officials sit at the table.

ABIJAH

Here are the children that I would like you to meet that will help us run Africa.

The officials stand up. Abijah stands at the head of the table.

ABIJAH (CONT'D)

You may sit down.

Abijah sits down as well as the children. Several of the officials sit down then choke.

ABIJAH (CONT'D)

Attendant, please get them some water, maybe they are excited that the children are here or may be they are upset. Let me see!

The attendant pours water from the pitcher into the glass tumblers on the table.

ABIJAH (CONT'D)

Let me start the meeting. I want to introduce you to the children that will be working with us.

OFFICIAL

(shocked voice)

Us?

ABIJAH

Yes us! For we need them. They are liken to gods and as queen, I need the help of these children to ensure that we are protected from evil and Poyjyialis.

OFFICIAL

How are they liken to Gods?

ABIJAH

Because they have magical powers to provide us with the power needed to  
(MORE)

ABIJAH (CONT'D)  
 ensure that peace is maintained  
 within South Africa.

OFFICIAL  
 That is very good.

ABIJAH  
 Children! Maybe the adults are too  
 busy to help us.

Everyone laughs.

ABIJAH (CONT'D)  
 They will help me in running the  
 nation. However, these children  
 were chosen like me to assist and  
 help maintain peace.

OFFICIAL  
 We understand perfectly. The children  
 are welcome.

CHILDREN  
 Would you like us to show you our  
 powers?

OFFICIAL  
 Not now! It is not necessary as we  
 trust and believe Abijah.

ABIJAH  
 It is time that we should leave. I  
 will call another meeting in another  
 two weeks.

OFFICIAL  
 Thank you, Abijah.

INT. BEDROOM - DAY (TWO WEEKS LATER)

The day before the meeting arrives, Abijah is contacted by  
 the GOD of LOVE. Abijah is in bed asleep. POYJIYALIS is  
 disguised as the GOD OF LOVE, she appears as a very pretty  
 charming (12) year old girl.

POYJIYALIS  
 Abijah! Wake up!

Abijah does not hear her.



POYJIYALIS (CONT'D)

Abijah, it is me.

Abijah awakes and sits up in bed.

ABIJAH

Who is there?

POYJIYALIS

It is me, Abijah. You have shown your people love. I am here because I was called by Jaquan to help you and your people.

ABIJAH

You were called by Jaquan to help me? That is very nice of him.

POYJIYALIS

Abijah, I need you to call the children into your room now to show me their powers so that I will know what they can or cannot do so that I will be able to help you if they cannot, in case Poyjiyalis arrives.

ABIJAH

You are a god? I will call the children now. Wait a minute, I think I hear Jaquan calling me.

POYJIYALIS

(shouts)

You do not need to speak with Jaquan, he is not needed. I do not want you to talk with him any more.

ABIJAH

But he was chosen by the gods to be my messenger, they chose me to be queen, why should I not speak with him?

POYJIYALIS

I am very angry with you, Abijah, for wanting to speak with Jaquan.

Abijah hears one of the children crying, she walks over to her -- Chibuzo stands whilst the others sits.

CHIBUZO

Abijah, she is not a god, she is Poyjiyalis disguised as a God in order for us to show her our powers to destroy us, you and South Africa.

POYJIYALIS

They are lying. I am a god. Look, the angels will appear and so will the doves from heaven when I tap my foot on the ground.

Poyjiyalis taps her foot on the ground. Nothing happens. The children talk loudly.

CHILD

Tell Poyjiyalis to leave.

Abijah walks away from the children then stands in the middle of the room.

Poyjiyalis walks towards her.

ABIJAH

You must leave now, Poyjiyalis, begone!

POYJIYALIS

(screams)

One day I will destroy the children, you and South Africa.

Poyjiyalis disappears leaving a cloud of gray air behind her.

FOLAMI

Abijah, you must be very careful, for Poyjiyalis will present herself in many forms.

ABIJAH

I know, thank you!

INT. ABIJAH'S ROOM - DAY

Abijah sits in her room. There is a knock at the door. Abijah gets up, walks towards the door, then opens it.

ABIJAH

Adebowale, what do you want?

ADEBOWALE  
You have a visitor.

ABIJAH  
Who is it?

ADEBOWALE  
It is someone very special. The woman says she is a good friend of yours.

ABIJAH  
Does my mother know that she is here?

ADEBOWALE  
Yes! Your mother will visit with you later.

ABIJAH  
Ok! I will meet with the woman.

Abijah walks out of the room to another room.

ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Abijah walks in and sees AYIRA (22) respectful, concerned but a confident woman sitting in a chair, Abijah sits down beside her. AYIRA stares at Abijah. Abijah smiles and so does Adebowale.

ADEBOWALE  
I will leave.

ABIJAH  
You may leave.  
(speaks to Ayira)  
I was told that you are a good friend of mine. But I do not know you.

AYIRA  
I know that you do not know me. I lied so that I could speak with you.

ABIJAH  
What is your name?

AYIRA  
My name is Ayira. I have come to visit with you.

ABIJAH

Why?

AYIRA

Because I was told by JAJA that you can help us.

ABIJAH

Help you. Why?

AYIRA

Because you have been successful as queen.

ABIJAH

Who are you?

AYIRA

I am Ayira.

Abijah pulls her chair closer to Ayira's.

AYIRA

My mother died recently. She told me before she died to meet with you. She told me that you were good. That god would take care of us and that he would always be with us and then she died.

ABIJAH

What do you want?

AYIRA

I want to live with you with my two sisters.

ABIJAH

But you cannot live here. I do not know you.

AYIRA

Think about it because time is running out for us.

ABIJAH

Is there something that I should know?

AYIRA

Yes! Poyjiyalis has put a curse over our village and has threatened to kill you.

ABIJAH

What!

Abijah looks shocked.

ABIJAH

Stay here! I will speak with you.

There is a knock at the door. It is Adebowale. Abijah opens the door.

ABIJAH (CONT'D)

Come in!

Adebowale walks into the room.

ABIJAH

Please take Ayira to another room. She will be staying here for a while with her sisters.

Ayira gets up then walks to the door with Adebowale.

ABIJAH

Ayira! I will speak with you later.

They walk out of the room. Adebowale closes the door.

HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

They walk down the hallway.

ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Abijah sits in her room. She hears Chanya, Sisya, and Nana the witches talking about her.

SISYA

Abijah needs help. Poyjiyalis wants to destroy her and Ayira. Abijah is a wealthy child but cannot defeat Poyjiyalis by herself.

CHANYA

The gods have told us not to intervene.

NANA  
We cannot help her.

Chanya, Sisy, and Nana whispers then their voices stop. Abijah picks up her book that is on the table and stares at it. The pages TURN BY THEMSELVES then STOPS. She sees POYJIYALIS and her CREATURES in the BOOK talking about her.

POYJIYALIS  
Abijah is pretty, but I can be prettier than she.

Poyjiyalis picks up her mirror. She turns into a beautiful twelve year old girl.

POYJIYALIS  
Abijah is very stupid to think that I would not try to take her crown away from her. No one will know. In fact, I just might become Abijah.

CREATURE I  
Become Abijah?

POYJIYALIS  
But I have to think of a plan to kidnap her. To bring her to my castle. She is nothing but a child; a very stupid child to think that she is more powerful than me.

Creature I gets up from the chair. Creature II throws a horse shoe and hits creature I in the head.

CREATURE I  
Why did you do that?

Poyjiyalis stares at them then laughs.

CREATURE II  
Because Poyjiyalis will need all the luck that she can get.

The creatures laugh. Poyjiyalis eyes twinkle with amusement blissfully conscious of their sarcasm.

POYJIYALIS  
You can be my hosts when we capture Abijah.

She laughs.

POYJIYALIS  
Royal personages!

She laughs again.

POYJIYALIS  
She will no longer be queen or be  
rich. She will be poor and wear  
rags like the one's you're wearing.

The creatures look at each other then at their clothing.

CREATURE I  
Why do we wear rags?

Poyjiyalis hits them with her wand. They turn into lizards.

POYJIYALIS  
Do you want to stay that way or  
wear rags? Who ever heard of evil  
witches or their creatures looking  
pretty and wearing pretty clothes?

She hits them again with her wand; they reappear as her  
creatures. They look hurt; they cry.

CREATURE II  
You're right. But it would be nice.

POYJIYALIS  
We will all live in the palace.

They disappear from the castle and reappear inside Abijah's  
room.

INT. BEDROOM - SAME

Abijah quickly closes the book then screams when she sees  
Poyjiyalis and her creatures. Abijah, Poyjiyalis and her  
creatures disappear then reappear inside Poyjiyalis castle.

EXT. ABIJAH'S ROOM - AFTERNOON

Femi knocks on the door. No one answers. She walks into  
the room. She sees one of the shoes that Abijah was wearing.  
She cannot find Abijah. She screams then runs out of the  
room.

INT. CASTLE - AFTERNOON

Poyjiyalis stares at Abijah.

POYJIYALIS

Abijah! What a pretty name for a poor child.

Abijah sits on a chair surrounded by the creatures.

ABIJAH

What do you want with me?

POYJIYALIS

I am going to take your place. I will be a rich, pretty girl, and live in the palace. You can live here with my friends.

Poyjiyalis and her creatures laugh.

CREATURE II

She looks afraid. The queen enchantress of South Africa.

Poyjiyalis waves her wand over Abijah. Abijah is dressed in rags. Poyjiyalis waves her wand over herself. She now looks like Abijah. She waves her wand over her creatures; they become her royal personages.

POYJIYALIS

Now look at you.

The creatures look at each other.

POYJIYALIS (CONT'D)

(talks to Abijah)

We are now going to leave you. You will stay here to clean and work in the castle with my friends.

Abijah screams. Poyjiyalis and her creatures disappear.

INT. ABIJAH'S ROOM - EVENING

Poyjiyalis arrives in Abijah's room.

HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

The creatures arrive as Poyjiyalis royal personages; they walk down the hallway. Femi walks down the hallway then into Abijah's room.

BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS



Femi sees Poyjiyalis as Abijah.

FEMI

I was so worried that I couldn't find you in your room. I looked everywhere.

POYJIYALIS

I was somewhere in the palace with my friends, but I'm back now.

FEMI

I'm happy that you're back. Could you play a game with me?

POYJIYALIS

(sharp voice)

Play a game with you. You evil child.

FEMI

I am not evil. What is wrong with you?

POYJIYALIS

What do you mean what is wrong with me?

FEMI

You seem different.

Femi looks down at Poyjiyalis shoes. They are the same as Abijah's when she disappeared but a shoe sits just under the bed that looks the same.

FEMI

I do not need you to play a game with me. I will leave.

Femi walks out of the room then runs down the hallway into her room.

BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Femi closes the door then sits on a chair and thinks.

FEMI

Abijah seems to be very strange. There is an identical shoe under her bed. But she is wearing them.

She walks over to the window and looks out. She sees a castle.

INT. POYJIYALIS CASTLE - EVENING

Abijah stops washing the dishes that are piled up over the sinks and on the floors. The creatures walk out of the room.

ABIJAH

I need help.

The creatures walk back into the room. She takes up a plate then starts washing it. The plate falls into the sink and breaks. She is startled; the creature walks towards her and shouts.

CREATURE

If one more breaks, you will have to work downstairs in the basement. And you don't want to do that with us living there.

She stares at the creature as the creature walks out of the room. She cries.

ABIJAH

If only someone could help me. I am a queen but...I should be able to get myself out of here.

Abijah smiles.

ABIJAH (CONT'D)

But I may not be able to break the spell of Poyjyialis.

Abijah looks down at her clothes then into the window and see's Femi.

ABIJAH (CONT'D)

Femi! Perhaps she'll be able to help me.

INT. PALACE - ABIJAH'S BEDROOM - EVENING

Femi looks at the window.

FEMI

A castle, maybe she's in that castle. I wish, I wish I could be in that castle.

Femi disappears.

INT. WITCHES CASTLE - EVENING

Femi appears in the room with Chanya, Sisya, and Nana.

CHANYA

I see that Abijah has a very smart sister.

FEMI

Who are you?

SISYA

We are friends of Abijah. Your sister was kidnapped by Poyjyialis who disguised herself as Abijah. She now lives in the palace and Abijah lives in her castle.

NANA

We will find Abijah and do away with Poyjyialis, once and for all. Femi, you are so young, but we will help you.

NANA

We need several droplets of your blood in order to do away with Poyjyialis. You are an innocent child and so your blood spilled onto Poyjyialis's hand will destroy her.

FEMI

My blood? I am afraid.

Sisya walks towards Femi as Chanya holds her hand. She pricks her finger with a needle then puts the droplets into a vial.

CHANYA

You will travel with us to the palace then we will rescue your sister.

Sisya takes the vial and puts it into her pocket. Chanya, Sisya and Nana take Femi then makes a circle around her. They then disappear to reappear in Abijah's room.

BEDROOM

Poyjiyalis turns around and sees the witches and Femi. She laughs. Sisyra takes the vial from her pocket. Chanya and Nana grabs Poyjiyalis hand then pours the droplets of blood onto her hand. She screams.

POYJIYALIS

You have stained my hand with the blood of an innocent child.

SISYA

Yes. The only thing that could destroy you.

CHANYA

Now you will die.

NANA

Poyjiyalis, you die.

Poyjiyalis holds her heart as she begins to disappear then she vanishes into thin air. Her creatures run down the hallway into Abijah's room then disappears.

NANA

We must get Abijah.

CHANYA

We must hurry before her creatures find out that Poyjiyalis is no more.

The witches and Femi disappear to Poyjiyalis castle.

INT. POYJIYALIS CASTLE - MORNING

Abijah is in the kitchen sweeping. She turns around then sees the witches and Femi. She runs towards Femi then hugs her.

ABIJAH

Femi!

FEMI

I am so happy that you're alive.

The witches gather around Abijah and Femi.

ABIJAH

I knew that my wishes would get through to you. You are so brave.

FEMI  
I knew that Poyjiyalis was not you.  
You are good not evil.

ABIJAH  
How did you know?

FEMI  
Because you left a shoe behind.

ABIJAH  
Because I left a shoe behind?

Abijah looks down at her feet. She is wearing the witches slippers but the other shoe is on the ground.

ABIJAH  
You found me.

Abijah and Femi hug each other.

FEMI'S SONG  
Poyjiyalis is dead, Abijah is queen,  
she can no longer terrify us nor  
South Africa, the people of South  
Africa loves Abijah.

A CIRCULAR MASS OF Air appears in the middle of the room then Poyjiyalis appears. She is very angry, so angry, that she is now purple.

POYJIYALIS  
Abijah, did you think that you could  
kill me?

Abijah and Femi are terrified but the good witches stare at her.

ABIJAH  
I thought you were dead.

Poyjiyalis laughs loudly.

POYJIYALIS  
Your ring.

ABIJAH  
My ring?

POYJIYALIS  
Yes. It saved my life.

ABIJAH

Give it to me.

POYJIYALIS

No. It's mine. Your real parents.

ABIJAH

What about them?

POYJIYALIS

I have them.

ABIJAH

You have my parents. Where are they?

FEMI

Don't listen. She is lying.

ABIJAH

Where are my parents?

POYJIYALIS

In my castle.

ABIJAH

Then I must find them.

POYJIYALIS

They are held in one of my rooms just in case you decided to do away with me.

ABIJAH

Release them.

POYJIYALIS

No. But...

ABIJAH

But?

POYJIYALIS

If you can prove that you are a better enchantress than me, I will release them.

ABIJAH

But then I could release them.

Everyone laughs.

POYJIYALIS

That is true. So you're not.

They hear Poyjiyalis creatures walking down the hallway.

SISYA

Oh No!

The creatures run towards Abijah.

Sisya hits one of the creatures. He turns into a young man.

NANA

It looks like Poyjiyalis creatures  
may be mortals.

One of the creatures begins to grow larger and larger, then holds Nana by the waist into the air.

Abijah and Femi scream. Abijah cries, her tears forming oval shaped diamonds. Everyone stops and stares. The creature bends down, then stares at Abijah, then at the diamonds. He picks one up and stares at it then smiles widely. He shrinks then turns into a young man. The two men smile at everyone.

CHANYA

It seems that Poyjiyalis's spell  
has been broken.

Poyjiyalis screams then disappears into thin air. Abijah, Femi and the witches disappear then reappear outside a cell.

CELL

Inside the cell are Abijah's mother, father and grandparents. Her mother is inside the cell praying.

LERATO

Abijah! I know that you're here  
somewhere to help us. Poyjiyalis  
took us away so that we would never  
be able to see you again. I hope  
and pray that all is well with you  
and that we will be released to see  
you once again.

Lerato stands up.

LERATO (CONT'D)

Abijah is here.

LIMBANI

How?

LERATO

I don't know, but I know that she's here.

Her grandparents stand up then walk towards the gate of the cell. They hear Abijah, Femi and the witches talking.

OUTSIDE CELL

Abijah, Femi, Sisya, Nana, and Chanya look at Abijah's parents and grandparents.

ABIJAH

Mother! Father!

The locks open. They walk into the cell and hug.

SISYA

Hurry, everyone!

They all disappear.

INT. HOUSE - MORNING

**ABIJAH WAKES UP FROM HER DREAM.**

MAMELLO

Abijah, wake up! wake up! Abijah it is time to get dressed for school.

ABIJAH

I'll be up in a moment.

Abijah gets up and looks around her, she is home.

ABIJAH (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Was it a dream that I was queen  
enchantress of South Africa?

Abijah cries.

ABIJAH (CONT'D)

I knew that it was too good to be  
true. It was just a dream.

Abijah hears Jaquan -- she stops crying.



JAQUAN (V.O.)  
 Abijah, you may have had a dream  
 but you are a queen, Abijah.

Abijah gets up out of bed and opens her window then looks out.

JAQUAN (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
 You are very special; one day you  
 will rule South Africa. Your dream  
 was the training ground for you to  
 become ruler. Stay true to South  
 Africa and the eraser of apartheid  
 from the minds of the people one  
 day will be real. You will forever  
 hear my voice to guide you on your  
 way to becoming the ruler of South  
 Africa.

ABIJAH  
 But what if I need you, how do I  
 contact you?

JAQUAN (V.O.)  
 I will know that you will need me,  
 I will be there for you.

Jaquan's voice disappears. Abijah gets dressed then goes to school.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

Abijah sits down in class. A teacher walks into the classroom then introduces himself.

JAQUAN  
 My name is Jaquan.

Abijah cries -- Jaquan walks over to Abijah and whispers.

JAQUAN  
 I will never leave you.

He turns then walks towards his desk, sits, then talks to the children.

TEN MINUTES LATER

There is a knock on the door. Jaquan gets up and walks towards the door. He opens the door -- there are people outside. He talks to them then walks towards Abijah.

JAQUAN

Abijah! Your parents need to speak to you.

ABIJAH

Something must be wrong.

TEACHER

I think that they have a surprise for you.

Abijah gets up then walks towards the door. She sees her parents and people at the door; they hug her.

LERATO

We are your real parents.

Abijah is startled. She looks at her adopted parents and her sisters and brothers. They smile at her then at Lerato, Limbani and their children; they gather around her.

LIMBANI

And these are your grandparents!

Abijah's grandparents hug her.

KEFENTSE

We are happy that your parents found you. We are now one big happy family.

ABIJAH

Mother!

She cries as she hugs Lerato.

ABIJAH

Mother, I love you.

LERATO

I love you too, Abijah.

Mafuane and Kefentse walk towards Abijah.

ABIJAH

I love you.

She hugs Mafuane and Kefentse then Lerato and Limbani.

## ABIJAH

It takes baby steps to be able to walk. It takes these steps to walk upright. To be able to stand proudly and claim you as my parents, I am proud, for to be pursued and to find me, is a feat of it's own.

## MAFUANE

Thank you Lerato for with a thread of life you withstood a life without Abijah but were able to return to her.

Everyone smiles.

Children sing:

## ABIJAH'S SONG

Abijah! Abijah! We love the fairy tale that tells of a young black South African girl. A fairy tale that can only be said to depict the conditions of love in which the children of South Africa needs. Loved by her family, she reads about Apartheid and is saddened, frightened, and afraid. She falls asleep and dreams a fairy tale; a fairy tale in which she plays the lead to bring about a change for the betterment of South Africa. But her fairy tale is interrupted by Poyjyialis the enchantress who is jealous and afraid of Abijah's love for South Africa and her people. So she plots to rid them of her and finally kidnaps her to destroy the nation once and for all. Thanks to her sister Femi whose inquisitiveness was in order, Abijah was freed from the castle in where Poyjyialis lived, but to Abijah's dismay she woke up from her dream to face reality, she was not a queen and her life was not a fairy tale. But thanks to Jaquan who showed up at her school as her teacher he reassured her that her dream was just a stepping stone for her future as queen, as her real parents were returned to her.

FADE OUT: