

CHARACTER : NUHU SANI BULA

AGE: 39/40

15. INT. NUHU'S APARTMENT- DAY- CONTINUOUS

Binta walks into the large foyer, met by a male worker and Nuhu comes out, looking gleeful. He grin and then sniffs, running his sleeve across his nose

BINTA
Runny nose?

NUHU
Bloody A/C everywhere. Please come in.

He turns to lead the way and she follows as they get to a well laid table and sit. Hot, steaming towels are brought for them to sanitize their hands and they eat.

BINTA
Delicious

NUHU
Jimmo is the best. I had to steal him from a restaurant in town.

BINTA
No kidding...

NUHU
I kid you not. I went to eat there one day and couldn't believe the meal. I asked who the chef was, gave him my card and asked him to call me. Took him about 3 months or so for him to call me. He resumed here the next day.

BINTA
Wow! Talk about a man and his stomach. You my friend will do anything for food ko!..

Nuhu, smiles and they eat for a few moments

BINTA (CONT'D)
So...I was at Lottie's place earlier and met Kalifah. He seems to be a quiet fellow...

NUHU

He is. That guy is the most sensible person you'll ever meet. Sometimes I think he is too good and idealistic for this Nigeria though

BINTA

Well...he does a good job of 'hiding' Lottie

Nuhu pauses and appears to think

NUHU

I know you may not approve but...Lottie is Kalifah's...muse, if I may say. She brings out all that is happy and relaxed and good about him. When he's with her, he's the best he can be. And that is enough for me to wish him well.

BINTA

That's all fine and good- you wish him well. But are you sure he has given his own wife the chance to make him as happy?

Nuhu shrugs

NUHU

I don't really discuss that with him. Ziha is a lovely, well raised woman- 100% wife material. But...well, I suppose sometimes two great people arrent the best for each other. He chose Lottie and there's little I can say about it.

Binta nods and chews, then appears to think of something.

BINTA

There's more you're just not saying to me. Maybe you don't trust me.

Nuhu puts his fork down and shakes his head

NUHU

It's not...well...I've known Kalifah for my whole life. He's like a brother to me and I trust him implicitly.

(MORE)

NUHU (CONT'D)

Lottie...I've only known for a
little while and...there are gaps
about her that I...

He appears to think better of what he wants to say and smiles
at Binta. She returns the smile

BINTA

And you, Nuhu? What are the 'gaps'
in you that you need to fill, hmmm?

She puts leans forward

BINTA (CONT'D)

Who are you, Nuhu, when nobody is
looking?

He gives a faltering smile and continues to eat

FADE OUT.