

CHARACTER: PHILOMINA EFCC BOSS

AGE: Late 40s

16

16. INT. EFCC BOSS' OFFICE- NIGHT

16

The EFCC Boss, PHILOMINA LOT, is sitting at her table when her secretary comes in. She is not pleased.

PHILOMINA

Chinwe, I thought I told you I don't want to be disturbed

CHINWE

Yes, Ma. But there is a visitor to see you and he says it is extremely important

PHILOMINA

A visitor? At this time? And he got past security?

CHINWE

Yes, Ma. That is why I came to you as I thought you were expecting him. He says his name is ALHAJI ALALLABA and that he has to see you.

Philomina leans back, tapping her lips and looking perplexed. Then she smiles and nods.

PHILOMINA

Alright Chinwe, send him in.

Chinwe nods and goes out. For a moment Philomina's hands go down, under her desk then they come back up to rest on the surface just as a man in a crisp white caftan and a slim leather case comes in.

ALALLABA

Madam, good evening! My name is Alhaji Alallaba.

PHILOMINA

Good evening Alhaji and welcome to the EFCC Head Office. I'm afraid working hours are over though...

Alallaba gives a knowing laugh and leans back in the chair

ALALLABA

I am very sorry to be coming so late but I have travelled quite a distance to see you. All the way from Kowa, actually.

PHILOMINA

(raising an eyebrow)
Oh really?

ALLLABA

Yes, Madam. First of all, may I take this chance to congratulate you on your appointment as the new Chairman of EFCC. I am sure it is a well deserved honour.

PHILOMINA

Thank you...?

ALALLABA

I would also like to extend a warm hand of friendship and benevolence from my own boss, Alhaji Loko from Kowa State, who has sent me to you to welcome you specially.

Philomina leans forward, folding her hands and leaning her chin on them on the desk, slight smile still in place.

PHILOMINA

Alhaji Loko, is it? Well, I do appreciate the...extension of friendship from such a well known and astute...politician. It is my wish that the EFCC Office will have no cause to discover anything untoward about his dealings.

Alhaji Alallaba gives a forced, booming laugh as though she has said something very funny. Her expression remains the same.

ALALLABA

Untoward? No, not at all, Madam. And in fact, as a token of his goodwill toward you especially, Madam, he has sent me with a gift.

PHILOMINA

Gift?

Alallaba nods and reaches for the briefcase he came in with, puts it on her desk which he then opens.

There are various papers and all. Then he presses a few knobs to reveal a secret bottom which is packed full of crisp \$100 bills. He turns it around to face her.

He looks to Philomina whose eyebrows just rise.

PHILOMINA (CONT'D)

Well...that is certainly an extravagant gift, Alhaji.

Alallba grins and nods.

ALALLABA

Half a million dollars, Madam. Almost N100 million. And all just so Alhaji Loko can be assured of your...friendship and goodwill toward him.

Philomina nods and smiles. She then stands up and so does he

PHILOMINA

Well...if that will be all, Alhaji, I think this signals the end of this meeting.

His smile falters

ALALLABA

Oh...eh...assuarance, Madam that...eh...what do I tell my Boss? Is there goodwill and...eh...

She waves in dismissal and smiles

PHILOMINA

Don't worry yourself at all, Alhaji.

She begins to walk him to the door and talks over him as he sputters

PHILOMINA (CONT'D)

Please do let your Boss know that I have gotten his token and that I am impressed, very impressed. I assure you he will be hearing from me. I thank you for your time and coming all the way to Abuja from Kowa to deliver this message. Have a good evening.

He is out of the door and she closes it behind her.

CUT TO: