# BATTLE OF THE SHORT AND TALL PEOPLE

written by

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EXT. BATTLE FIELD - DAY

Hundreds of armed SHORT MEN and TALL MEN cut—-punch—-kick—-wrestle each other in a violent battle.

SUPERIMPOSE: "CHRISTMAS DAY"

FADE IN:

EXT. "GREENWICH PICTURE HOUSE" - DAY

We are shown POSTERS of the premiere of the new long-awaited movie "BATTLE OF THE SHORT AND TALL PEOPLE" placed whole over the walls.

The place is noisy. Hundreds of excited MOVIE GOERS line up to enter the theatre but what's special is short and tall people (men, women and children) line up separately. It's according to the heights.

NEWSREPORTER stands in front of the long queues and talks on camera. She's a smart cheerful young woman not short and tall.

# NEWSREPORTER

(happy)

Happy Christmas everybody! I am now at GREENWICH PICTURE HOUSE. As you can see, people have come in large numbers to catch the "BATTLE OF THE SHORT AND TALL PEOPLE" a movie that everyone has been waiting for. People are here to determine who the real men are, the short or the tall.

She walks and approaches TALL MAN #1.

NEWSREPORTER (CONT'D)

Happy Christmas!

TALL MAN #1

Happy Christmas!

NEWSREPORTER

Are you sure the tall people are going to win the battle?

TALL MAN #1

(loud)

Of course! It's we tall men supposed to lead this—-

SHORT MAN #1 points at him.

#### SHORT MAN #1

You sugarcane what are you choking with?! It's we short men who must lead this world. We have stamina!

Short people cheer and shout in support. Tall also people shout in opposition. It's an exchange of words. News reporter just laughs.

# **NEWS REPORTER**

Everyone is on fire. At the end of this movie, we will have determined who's wiser, stronger and powerful, the short men or the tall men. Let me now take you inside. I don't want you to lose even a second of what's happening.

INT. THE CINEMA HALL - DAY

Sitting is according to height (short and tall people sit separately) There are SCREENS in every side.

MC addresses the audiences. He's a smart cheerful man not short and tall

MC

Happy Christmas everybody! You welcome to the premiere of the "BATTLE OF THE SHORT AND TALL PEOPLE". (waves at the short audiences) Men from the short world, I recognize your

Men from the short world, I recognize you presence.

They CHEER in response.

MC (CONT'D)

(waves at the tall audiences)

Men from the tall world, I recognize your presence.

They CHEER in response.

MC (CONT'D)

We are here to determine who has the power? Who has the strength? Who must own this world?

(pointing at them)
You the short people or you the tall people?!
We must know the truth today. We must know who's meant to carry this world. Let the battle begin!

All the people CHEER and YELL.

ON THE SCREENS

The movie begins.

SUPERIMPOSE: "18<sup>™</sup> CENTURY"

EXT. SHORT WORLD - DAY

Everything here is short. The camera moves as it shows us some of the features.

SERIES OF SHOTS

The sky is near the earth,

The people are themselves are short,

The animals,

The trees and grasses,

The mountains,

The houses among others

**BACK TO SCENE** 

The short audiences stand up and CHEER. Tall people JEER at them.

ON THE SCREENS

EXT. BRIDGE - SHORT WORLD - DAY

SHORT DAD sits with his SHORT SON (6) on a short bridge gazing out at the short river flowing. In the river waters, we can see short fish swimming.

Short men, women and children pass by. Some walk on foot; some drive their short cars, some ride short bikes among others.

SHORT SON

(to his dad)

Dad, why is everything in our country short? I am short! You're short! Mummy is short! Grandpa is short and everyone.

Short dad laughs.

#### SHORT DAD

I know, I know. Everything in our world is short. It all started like this.

All the audiences keep quiet and listen.

ON THE SCREENS

Short son listens attentively to the story.

SHORT DAD (V.O)

After the creation of the world, everything was tall. Adam and Eve were tall. All their sons were tall. The sky, trees, animals, lakes, mountains and all other features on the planet were tall.

**BACK TO SCENE** 

The tall audiences stand up and CHEER. Short people JEER at them.

ON THE SCREENS

SUPERIMPOSE: "141" CENTURY"

EXT. PALACE - TALL WORLD - DAY

KING JADO the king of the tall people addresses a crowd of TALL PEOPLE. He's the tallest of all.

# KING JADO

My explorers have navigated all faraway places and guess what they discovered. There are no any other human beings except us. God created this earth for us only. Our predecessors were tall! We are tall! Our successors will also be tall!

The throng CHEERS.

KING JADO (CONT'D)

Tallness is a symbol of power, strength and victory. We are the rulers of this world from north to south and East to west.

**BACK TO SCENE** 

The tall audiences CHEER but--

ON THE SCREENS

EXT. ROAD - DESERT - SHORT WORLD - SAME TIME

A multitude of short people are migrating. Men carry weapons. Women carry their children and belongings.

But they look sad and worn out because of the long journey.

Their leader, SHORT CHIEF is in front of the multitude. He's the tallest among them. MRS. SHORT the wife to the leader is behind him. She's the tallest among the women.

Suddenly, she stops walking and sits down. Other people also stop and sit down. Short Chief looks at her.

SHORT CHIEF

What's wrong with you?

MRS. SHORT

(angry)

Everyone is exhausted. Can't you see it? We can't go on with this journey! We even don't know where we going?

People murmur among themselves. They look to support her.

SHORT CHIEF

This is a desert. There's nothing to eat here. Let's push on because if we don't the purpose of this journey will be null.

MRS. SHORT

What is the purpose? Where's the abundant food you promised us? We would have remained home and survived on the little food we had.

SHORT CHIEF

This world is ours! We are the only human beings on this earth! God gave us authority to use everything! I promise you again we are going to find the abundant food and water! Believe me we will! On finishing up this barren hell, we will land on the food. Success in on our way. Let's not betray God! We can do it my people! We really can!

Mrs. Short stands up. She looks convinced. The other people who sit down also get up.

MRS. SHORT LET'S PUSH ON!

They CHEER in support and resume to the journey.

**BACK TO SCENE** 

The short audiences CHEER. The tall people JEER at them.

ON THE SCREENS

EXT. TALL FOREST - DAY

It's a morning. Short people sleep among the tall trees. It was dark they didn't know where they were.

Mrs. Short is the first to wake up. She moves her eyes. To her shock, everything around her is tall, the trees and grass. She jumps up with a LOUD SCREAM and scampers stepping on other people.

This makes others wake up. They are in a strange world. Scared, they get up and bolt off in fear following Mrs. Short while they SCREAM in fear.

Some mothers even leave their babies. Children who are mature run for their lives.

It's survival for the fastest. You may think something is chasing them. Some knock the trees and fall but get up. Some fall and fail to get up.

**BACK TO SCENE** 

Tall audiences die with laughter.

ON THE SCREENS

EXT. TALL FOREST - DAY

Short chief addresses his people who look extremely scared. Some even cry especially the children and women.

SHORT CHIEF (confident)

We don't need to run. This is still our world. It's just a tall land. There's nothing to worry us.

MRS. SHORT

Chief, you always defeat me with your seducing tongue but you won't do it today.

SHORT CHIEF

Why?

MRS. SHORT

We aren't staying here. This isn't--

SHORT CHIEF

What are you talking about? There's nothing worrying here.

MRS. SHORT

This land must have men and women who are tall like these trees? It is dangerous. We must go back to our land.

People nod their heads and murmur among themselves. Chief just laughs.

# SHORT CHIEF

My people, there are no other human creatures on this earth besides us. God created us only. Look, there's abundant food here. I even saw a well at the other side of the forest. This is a blessing. Let's begin a new life here.

MRS. SHORT

(kneels down)

You should listen to me. This land may have its owners who must be taller and bigger us.

People nod their heads.

# SHORT CHIEF

We can't go back now unless if you want to burn in the dry hell. This forest is big and dark, if we build our houses among those tall trees I swear no one will realize we are here.

MRS. SHORT

We would have gone back. We may even die from here.

SHORT CHIEF

You are just being negative. We can build our kingdom here.

MRS. SHORT
These trees are even tall. How will we--?

SHORT CHIEF

He clenches his fists.

SHORT CHIEF (CONT'D)

We are strong, brave and courageous men who aren't scared by anything! Let's stay! This is part of our world. We just never knew it existed.

The crowd CHEERS.

**BACK TO SCENE** 

The short audiences also CHEER. Tall people JEER in opposition.

ON THE SCREENS

EXT. HOMESTEAD OF THE SHORT PEOPLE - TALL FOREST - DAY

It's a short world in a tall forest. All the trees and plants around are shortened.

All the short people sit in front of their short huts having lunch. They sit as one family.

Short Chief addresses them as they eat.

SHORT CHIEF

Where are the hunters?

HUNTERS get up. They carry their weapons.

It's only these men who must go to the other side of the forest but you are cautioned. You must not hunt beyond the forest. All women and children are prohibited from leaving this camp. No creature will know we are here if we keep silent. I will tell you more as the days pass by but for now I wish you a nice stay in this new kingdom. Thank you.

They clap for him.

EXT. TALL TREE - DAY

Two short men HUNTER #1 and HUNTER #2 are up on a tree eating mangoes. Suddenly, Hunter #1 sees something far away.

He taps his friend and points at it. It's a tall building that's kilometers from where they are but they just can't see it clearly.

**HUNTER #1** 

Kanya, can you see that?

**HUNTER #2** 

What? I see nothing.

**HUNTER #1** 

Come on, can't you see that tall thing over there?

Hunter #2 opens his eyes wide.

**HUNTER #2** 

I can see it. What's it?

**HUNTER #1** 

It looks a tall house.

**HUNTER #2** 

Don't tell me you want to go there?

## **HUNTER #1**

Kanya, we are grown up men with children. A fellow man can't scare us. Don't you want to look at those men who are tall like these trees? Their women must be beautiful than ours.

**HUNTER #2** 

So we can get ourselves each?

HUNTER #1

That's why I like you. You know how to calculate.

**BACK TO SCENE** 

The short audiences shout at the hunters not to go as if they are hearing them. Tall people just laugh.

ON THE SCREENS

EXT. TALL PALACE - DAY

Hunter #1 and Hunter #2 kneel down in front of King Jado who stands with his TALL SOLDIERS. They are chained up and look seriously beaten.

A mob of tall people stand behind them. Many carry stones, sticks among others. Some look shocked to see short people like these. Others laugh at their heights.

QUEEN JADO the tallest woman and the wife to the king, whispers to her husband. She's pregnant. Her two SONS KING JADO'S SON #1 (6) and KING JADO'S SON (4) stand beside her.

KING JADO

Which part of the world did you come from, half-men?

They don't answer.

KING JADO (CONT'D)

Where are your other poor-fed friends?

No answer.

KING JADO (CONT'D)

Can't you hear?!Where are your other friends, you malnourished ugly half-men?

Hunter #1 spits. Tall soldiers whip and kick him.

KING JADO (CONT'D)

(to the mob)

This world is ours. No person must live on it except us. We absolutely have no connection to these stunted creatures. We don't know where they come from. They are a curse! They shouldn't contaminate our world! Finish these two yourselves!

The crowd CHEERS.

KING JADO (CONT'D)

(to the soldiers) Hunt for the others. Make sure you leave none of them behind!

**SOLDIERS** 

Yes, Your Majesty!

They salute and depart.

The mob stones Hunter #1 and Hunter #2 while they CHEER.

**BACK TO SCENE** 

The tall audiences CHEER. The short people look on with sympathy.

ON THE SCREENS

EXT. HOMESTEAD OF THE SHORT PEOPLE - TALL FOREST - DAY

Short people have lunch. Suddenly, Tall soldiers ambush them. Some try to run but the soldiers capture them.

Hunters try to fight but the soldiers kill them.

They capture and chain up everyone even Short Chief and Mrs. Short. Women and children CRY with no help.

The Tall soldiers put their huts on fire and destroy everything.

INT. OLD TALL HOUSE - DAY

All the short people beaten and chained up kneel in front of King Jado who stands with his Queen and children who look happy.

An angry mob of tall people crowds around the short people with jerry cans of petrol.

KING JADO

(to Short Chief)

How dare you come to our world, you stunted creatures? This world was created for us the tall people only and not you the creeps! We own everything on this earth!

The mob CHEERS.

SHORT CHIEF

(scared)

We just wanted something to eat. We didn't know this world was yours. We beg to be forgiven. We can go back to our land.

KING JADO

I can't allow crooks to contaminate our world.

Tall people pour petrol on all the short people.

**OUTSIDE HOUSE** 

King Jado himself throws a burning log into the house. Soldiers close the door.

Short people (O.S) SCREAM and YELL in pain. Meanwhile the tall people CHEER.

**BACK TO SCENE** 

The tall audiences CHEERS. The short people look on with sadness. Children even cry. Women wipe tears.

ON THE SCREENS

INT. DINING HALL - ROYAL HOUSE - DAY

King Jado sits with his family on lunch. They all look happy.

Suddenly, Queen Jado falls from her chair. She begins to breathe heavily while she touches her stomach. King Jado touches her.

KING JADO

(calling) Nurse! Nurse! Nurse!

Two TALL MAIDS quickly enter into the room. They carry the Queen and take her away.

King Jado walks to the door to get out but his son stops him.

KING JADO'S SON #1

Dad is mum going to bring us another brother?

KING JADO

Yeah. She is.

KING JADO'S SON #2

(to the brother)

I told you!

They hug each other and jump in happiness. King Jado casts a smile and he walks

out.

## INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Queen Jado stands holding her born baby which CRIES. The baby takes after its father but what's shocking, the baby is short.

King Jado, furious, first paces around the room and gets back to the Queen. Tall Maids just look on.

# KING JADO

I am asking you the last time. Who is the father of this short thing?

## **QUEEN JADO**

What do you want me to tell you? The baby is yours.

# KING JADO

No! You must have slept with those stunted men!

# **QUEEN JADO**

Do they look like you? Because this baby is your replica and you can't deny it.

# **KING JADO**

No! No! How can a tall man produce such a short creep? How will my people hear that their king has produced a short thing? This is a shame! It's betrayal! That thing must be killed!

# **QUEEN JADO**

You won't touch my baby unless if you want me to kill myself too. You are talking about the people. Are they more important than us your family? I thought kings drive their people and not the people driving them.

# KING JADO

Are you out of your minds, you woman?

# **QUEEN JADO**

Do you know the stress I have withstood for these 9 months? Do you know what a child means to a woman?

# KING JADO

I don't mind what children mean to women but one thing you must know. That short thing won't grow up from my kingdom!

# **QUEEN JADO**

I don't mind if my baby is short. I will raise him because I don't remember you giving me a hand in the upbringing of those tall children you claiming you love too much. Your job is to mate and that's all.

Queen Jado walks to the door. King Jado tries to grab her.

KING JADO There's nowhere you—-

But she bites his hand and pushes him. He falls down. She storms out of the room. Tall Maids follow after her. King embarrassed remains on the ground.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Tall Maids prepare lunch while they chat.

Queen Jado quietly enters. The maids don't hear her coming.

She carries a hammer in her hidden right hand.

She stands behind them. They don't know she's around. She hits the first one on the head. She falls down.

The other maid screams and turns around. Queen Jado also hits her on the head. She falls down.

QUEEN JADO I am sorry. I can't trust you.

**BACK TO SCENE** 

The short audiences CHEER. The tall people are quiet.

ON THE SCREENS

SUPERIMPOSE: "6 YEARS LATER"

INT. DINING HALL - DAY

King Jado sits with his two tall children King Jado's son #1 and King Jado's son #2 who are now 12 and 10 years respectively at the dining table. They are all happy.

But MOZA the short child who's now 6 years sits down on the floor. He is dressed in poor clothes and looks beaten. He eats the leftovers on his small pale while he cries.

King Jado kicks him. He gets up and stands in front of him.

KING JADO

Do you think your cries move me? They don't and they will never! You are a curse in this house.

(points at the tall children)

Look at your brothers. Are they stunted like you? I wish you died in your mothers' womb.

King Jado's son #1 and his brother laugh.

KING JADO (CONT'D)

You have no use in this house. Every time I send you to bring me something you come back giggling "Dad I can't reach it". You are a waste. Get out of here now before I kill you!

Moza gets up and limps out of the room.

EXT. CEMETERY - DAY

Moza kneels in front of the tallest. It is Queen Jado's grave.

**INSERT: GRAVE** 

There is a picture of Queen Jado.

Moza cries while he knocks his head on the grave.

**MOZA** 

Mum, why did you bring me on this earth? Why didn't I stay in heaven, mum? I am tired of this life. I want to die. Mum, come and fetch me!

We leave him while he continues to cry.

INT. THRONE ROOM - DAY

PRIVATE TEACHER a tall man of course kneels down in front of the king. He carries text books and files of these times. The king's sons sit beside their father. They look excited with studying.

## PRIVATE TEACHER

Your Majesty, I have already made a timetable. I promise you won't regret giving me this job. I am going to teach them all the subjects. I swear by the end of the year you will have seen the yields.

KING JADO

When are you beginning?

PRIVATE TEACHER

Let the Jacks have some play today. Tomorrow will be work.

KING JADO

No problem, I wish you success.

PRIVATE TEACHER

Your Majesty, I appreciate your trust in me.

The king nods his head. Private Teacher shakes hands with the children.

PRIVATE TEACHER (CONT'D)

See you tomorrow, pupils.

He leaves.

EXT. PALACE COMPOUND - DAY

King Jado walks among the cool tall trees. Suddenly, he hears someone cry on top of a tree. He looks up. It's Moza of course.

KING JADO

You dirty short thing, what are you doing up there? Fall off that tree before I get you!

**MOZA** 

Father, I wanted to tell you something.

KING JADO

What? You want to tell me you have talked to your mum in the cemetery?

**MOZA** 

Allow me study with them. I promise I won't let you down. I Will do my homework on time.

KING JADO

Forget about that.

**MOZA** 

Father, I can do well but you just don't give me space. I kindly request for a chance because I don't feel I am a curse as—

KING JADO

Alright that's enough. I give you only one day to show me what you can do.

Moza quickly gets down the tree. He runs and kneels in front of his dad.

**MOZA** 

Thanks--

But his dad pushes him and he walks off.

MOZA (CONT'D)

(to himself)

Thanks dad.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

Moza dressed poorly sits in front. His two tall brothers sit behind him. They throw papers at him but he doesn't mind them.

Private Teacher enters. When he looks at Moza, he drops his books and bolts out of the room while he screams. He has never seen someone like this. Moza's brothers just laugh.

Minutes later, Private Teacher comes back. He's quiet and looks angry. He picks up his books slowly while he glares at Moza.

## PRIVATE TEACHER

If it had not been the request of the king himself, you would now be burning to death. But it isn't over. I am going to ask you one question. If you fail it never come back to my classes, short dog.

His brothers just laugh. Moza listens attentively.

PRIVATE TEACHER (CONT'D)

3x4/12x0+1-1 equals what.

**MOZA** 

(quick)

Zero!

Private Teacher gapes at him but he isn't ready to lose.

PRIVATE TEACHER

365/5-1/2+4/10 equals what.

**MOZA** 

(quick)

Four!

PRIVATE TEACHER

You can stay for today only.

**MOZA** 

Thanks teacher.

**BACK TO SCENE** 

The short audiences stand up and CHEER. Tall people just JEER at them.

ON THE SCREENS

INT. THRONE ROOM - DAY

Private Teacher kneels before the king.

KING JADO

What is it Salu?

PRIVATE TEACHER

Your Majesty, I am sorry to say this but the short boy is brighter.

KING JADO

What?!

PRIVATE TEACHER

He's more attentive and understands things quickly more than—

# KING JADO

Can I see his paper?

Private Teacher opens his bag and fishes out Moza's marked paper and hands it to the king.

**INSERT: PAPER** 

It's 90%.

King Jado tears the paper into pieces and chucks them at the teacher. He stands up and leaves the throne.

KING JADO

It can't be! That kid cant brighter than my children! You are only favoring him.

PRIVATE TEACHER

Your Majesty, I can't do that. I am just-

KING JADO

Don't come back tomorrow!

PRIVATE TEACHER

Your Majesty, you can't do--

KING JADO

I have said, don't come back tomorrow!

PRIVATE TEACHER

Your Majesty, I am sorry for revealing this secret but before I leave, I request you to make critical observations. You will realize the truth.

He gets up and leaves. King Jado looks confused.

SUPERIMPOSE: "10 YEARS LATER"

EXT. TRAINING GROUND - DAY

TALL CAPTAIN trains a crowd of CADETS. The three king's sons are among them.

Moza is the shortest of all. He isn't even dressed in a uniform.

King Jado and other soldiers watching, laugh at him at the beginning.

But as the training proceeds, Moza showcases something they can't expect.

# SERIES OF SHOTS

- A) He punches and kicks the tall children be it his age or not with our fear.
- B) He wrestles all his tall counterparts.
- C) He has the best target in the bow and arrows.
- D) He's a villain at the sword. He defeats his tall counterparts in the competitions.

INTERCUT WITH:

The short audiences CHEER as Moza defeats his tall counterparts on the screens. Tall people just look on with jealousy.

# ON THE SCREENS

Captain and other soldiers look amazed. Tall Captain salutes for him. The remaining soldiers clap for him.

King Jado just gapes. He can't believe what he's seeing. He remembers.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT (FLASH BACK)

Queen Jado is on her death bed. King Jado sits beside her.

# **QUEEN JADO**

Jado, I am soon dying but promise me you won't mistreat that boy. Despite his height, he may have the same brains like us.

She dies.

**BACK TO SCENE** 

King Jado walks off quietly.

SUPERIMPOSE: "10 YEARS LATER"

EXT. PALACE - DAY

King Jado addresses a crowd of his people who are all quiet. Moza stands with other soldiers. He's now a general.

His brothers are among the soldiers. They all look happy for Moza.

KING JADO

I never thought I would wake up having a short son. At first, I thought it was a curse but now I agree it was a blessing. Short people are human beings like us. We should change our attitude towards them. From today therefore, I declare that this world is for both the tall and the short. If you produce a short baby, please don't kill it because it deserves life.

(looks at Moza)
And to confirm a harmonious co-existence between the tall and short people, I have chosen my son Moza as my successor.

His brothers and the soldiers are the first to clap then the crowd.

# **BACK TO SCENE**

The short audiences CHEER. The tall people JEER in hate.

## ON THE SCREENS

# SHORT DAD (V.O)

As years went by, many tall couples produced short sons and daughters. So in 50 years the population of the short people had tremendously increased. But when King Moza died, he died with the short people. His successor King Eko was a heightist. He declared war on the short people.

EXT. PALACE - DAY

KING EKO addresses a multitude of his soldiers. We don't see any short man among the soldiers.

His wife QUEEN ZOHAN stands beside him. She looks a proud contented woman. Their daughter PRINCESS TANA stands beside her. They all look happy.

KING EKO

In the beginning, every creature on earth was tall. These short rats came from nowhere but look they are now everywhere. They have infiltrated all systems and infected our world with their short-cursed ideas. I Eko a son of a tall sperm and egg won't allow these small rats take over our world. We must stop them before we aren't able to do it. Go and arrest their sons and daughters, raze down their houses and destroy everything of theirs. This is a tall world and everyone in it must be tall. This is the time for the purge!

Queen Zohan claps but Princess Tana doesn't clap. She doesn't look pleased.

The soldiers salute and depart.

**BACK TO SCENE** 

The tall audiences CHEER. The short audiences look worried.

ON THE SCREENS

EXT. TALL PRISON - DAY

The camera moves above the prison. It's located in a forest that covers over 60 hectares.

EXT. PRISON COMPOUND - SAME TIME

King Eko, Queen Zohan and Princess Tana escorted by tall armed JAILERS move through a multitude of short people who are chained and kneel down in lines.

They are now prisoners. Jailers surround them with tall fierce dogs. They look seriously beaten and starved. Women and children cry for help but Jailers whip and kick them.

Other Jailers drag stubborn short men while they beat then and throw them to join the crowd.

Some short men shout curses at the king. Jailers whip and kick them.

Some short women beg the king but he just kicks and steps on them. His wife looks pleased but Princess Tana looks touched. She wipes a tear while they don't see.

The king addresses them.

# KING EKO

This will be your home forever! You have nothing in this world and you will never have it. No one will remember you in history. Welcome to hell in heaven!

# **BACK TO SCENE**

The tall audiences CHEER. The short people look on with sympathy.

ON THE SCREENS

EXT. WATERFALL - DAY

A tall man TOJU a high ranked tall soldier and his wife NATALIE stand near the waterfall. They both look sad.

TOJU

Are you sure it will work?

**NATALIE** 

I don't know but we--

TOJU

If you aren't sure, why do--

**NATALIE** 

Let's give it a try. This man has given many couples children. After these 9 years without baby we may be lucky. Don't let me down please.

They both take off their clothes and remain bare-naked. They stand in the middle of the water coming from the cliff.

TOJU

We do this in the name of getting a baby in our marriage.

NATALIE

Amen.

They begin to kiss and touch.

EXT. THRONE ROOM - DAY

King Eko sits with Princess Tana.

KING EKO

What did you want to tell me my Princess?

PRINCESS TANA

I want your order!

KING EKO

What is it? Don't fear. Tell me I can do anything for you my Princess.

PRINCESS TANA

I want you to release some of the short prisoners.

KING EK

Do you any have feeling of sympathy for them?

PRINCESS TANA

Absolutely no. I just need them to clean the streets.

KING EKO

What do you want?

PRINCESS TANA

Look here father. These tall me need to be paid but if we use these captives we won't burn any cash. They are prisoners now. We can use them in every way we want.

King Eko thinks for a moment and nods his head.

KINE EKO

They can even clean our toilets and dogs.

PRINCESS TANA

Yeah, dad you are now getting me.

KING EKO

But how will we select them?

PRINCESS TANA

I have the criteria.

EXT. PRISON COMPOUND - DAY

Princess Tana stands in front of the prisoners (short people) who kneel down. They look starved, beaten and miserable than before.

PRINCESS TANA

If I point at you stand up.

She points at several short men, women and children. Anyone who pleases her is

the one she picks.

Jailers unchain them. They push them into prison Lorries and they drive them off.

The remaining prisoners cry to the princess but she walks off with her escort.

EXT. TALL FOREST - DAY

Princess Tana sits with AMON a short handsome young man of her age. He's surprisingly her boyfriend.

She opens her bag and gets out a tin of food and bottles of juice. She gives Amon who begins to eat right away.

**AMON** 

Thank you.

PRINCESS TANA

My father is planning to burn all of you. Let's run and leave this town.

AMON

I am sorry. I can't do that!

PRINCESS TANA

Why?! Amon, I love you. I don't want to lose you. We can get a safe place and we get married.

AMON

What about my people?

PRINCESS TANA

Amon, this is about our love. Your people are—-

**AMON** 

Tana, my mother is the only person I have on earth except you. I can't leave her and run like that.

PRINCESS TANA

Do you really love me?

**AMON** 

I love you more than you think. If you help me rescue my mum, I promise we will run and go in peace. She's innocent like me.

PRINCESS TANA

Only your mum, right?

**AMON** 

I swear. Just trust me.

Princess Tana kisses Amon.

BACK TO SCENE

The short audiences CHEER. The tall people are angered.

ON THE SCREENS

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Princess Tana tiptoes into the room. She moves to the king's drawer. She does everything as quiet as she can. She quietly opens the drawer.

Inside are bundles of keys. She searches among them and picks one key.

INSERT: KEY

It has number 333.

She closes the drawer and tiptoes out of the room.

**OUTSIDE ROOM** 

She closes the door and quietly walks off.

Just seconds later after she leaves, Amon quietly arrives. He quietly opens the same door and enters the room. He closes the door behind him.

One minute after he has entered, King Eko and Queen ZOhan come back while they kiss and touch.

King Eko opens the door. Amon crawls under their legs. He has many bundles of keys in his hand. He steals himself away. They don't see him.

BACK TO SCENE

The short audiences CHEER. The tall people JEER in anger.

# ON THE SCREENS

**EXT. TALL FOREST - DAY** 

Amon addresses a group of fellow short STRONG YOUNG MEN.

# **AMON**

We are revolutionaries! We are the hope of our race! They shouldn't treat like animals. We are all human beings. This is the only chance we have to liberate ourselves.

## **REVOLUTIONARY #1**

So what's the plan?

# **AMON**

Those giraffes will have a big party that night. Just know none of them will be conscious by midnight. We will release our people and depart right away. By dawn before they wake up with their hangovers, we will be out of the big gate.

# **REVOLUTIONARY #1**

Amon, the prison forest is large. How will those starved people walk miles to reach the gate? They will get us before we reach that gate.

#### **AMON**

We will steal some food and water. We will walk as they have something. This is the only chance we have to rescue our fathers, mothers, sisters and brothers. I believe we can do this.

They nod their heads convinced.

After rescuing them, we will attack the palace as one army. This is the time to show these sugarcanes that we aren't cowards as they think.

# **REVOLUTIONARY #1**

We are making plans but we even don't have weapons? Where will we get them?

Amon doesn't answer. At this time, TALL SOLDIER arrives. He carries a big long bag. He drops it on in front of them and leaves immediately.

All the revolutionaries stare at the tall soldier. Angered, they turn their eyes at Amon.

# **REVOLUTIONARY #1**

Amon, what's going on?

He doesn't answer him. He just opens the bag. It's packed full with guns. All the revolutionaries look surprised on seeing the guns.

**REVOLUTIONARY #1** 

Why is he helping us?

**AMON** 

He's behind us. I rescued his short wife and son.

They look relaxed. They pick each a gun.

AMON (CONT'D)

We deserve our rights regardless of our heights! We can make change! No one can stop us!

They all raise their guns and ROAR in support.

EXT. POOR SHORT HUT - TALL FOREST - NIGHT

Amon knocks at the door.

**AMON** 

Rikah, open the door, it's me.

A young beautiful short woman opens. This is RIKAH. She is Amon's true girlfriend.

INSIDE THE HUT

Amon sits with Rikah who looks worried. She holds a short happy baby boy who looks like Amon. He touches it and it giggles.

RIKAH

Honey, why don't you quit this war? Your army is small compared to them. Let's escape with our baby. We can find a better place and we—-

**AMON** 

Why are you worried? We have got the guns.

RIKAH

But you are still small in number.

**AMON** 

We are going to arm every person on that day. We will defeat them! This world is ours. We must show those giraffes that we aren't afraid of their necks.

RIKAH

What if they kill you?

Amon opens his bag and fishes out loaves of bread and gives her.

**AMON** 

My men are waiting outside. I will be back in the morning.

He kisses her.

RIKAH

Be careful. I love you

**AMON** 

I love you too.

EXT. TALL FOREST - DAY

Princess Tana hands over a key to Amon.

PRINCESS TANA

I will be waiting for you here.

Amon kisses and hugs her.

AMON

I love you.

PRINCESS TANA

I love you too.

She doesn't want him to leave.

**AMON** 

I got to go.

He gets up.

PRINCESS TANA

Be careful. I love you.

AMON

I love you too.

He walks off. Princess Tana stares at him while he disappears. She really loves him.

EXT. WATERFALL - DAY

Toju and Natalie have sex while they in the middle of the flowing water.

INT. PRISON - NIGHT

Amon and the revolutionaries quietly open the cells and release their people.

**INTERCUT WITH:** 

INT. DINING HALL - SAME TIME

Tall Jailers have a big party. They have women who are brought from outside. They drink and eat unaware that the prisoners are escaping.

EXT. FOREST ROAD - PRISON - NIGHT

Amon and other revolutionaries lead a multitude of their people on the escape

journey. Despite being starved, they walk faster.

Revolutionaries and other men who still have energy carry children and those who can't walk faster and run with them.

They come back and fetch others.

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. DINING HALL - SAME TIME

Tall Jailers and their women are all asleep after the party.

EXT. PRISON GATE - MORNING

The gate quietly opens. Amon and the revolutionaries all armed are the first to get out, then a crowd of the short people.

But to their shock, hundreds of tall soldiers stand on one line at a distance waiting for them. They still look drunk.

They laugh at Amon and his people on seeing them. They aim their guns right away.

#### **AMON**

Get down! Get down!

Amon and his fellow revolutionaries cock their guns to shoot but the guns don't shoot.

Soldiers OPEN FIRE.

The crowd goes down but the soldiers just shoot at them while they laugh. Some of the revolutionaries die on spot. Many of the people at the in front also die on spot. It's SCREAMS and YELLS of pain. Some of the short people want to go back into the prison but Amon closes the big gate. They look at him confused.

#### **AMON**

(to the crowd)
We can't go back to the stinking cells! It's
time to show these giraffes that we aren't
cowards as they think. We are human beings.
We shouldn't be treated as animals! Let's
fight for our freedom!

The crowd CHEERS.

They have no guns but just attack. To them it's any tall soldier you find in your way PUNCH—-KICK and WRESTLE to kill.

To the tall soldiers, it's whoever prisoner you meet whether a man or a woman or a child, just shoot to kill.

The battle grows fiercer. The short people try their best but they can't win. Tall

soldiers just keep on coming.

The remaining revolutionaries are also shot. It's only Amon who escapes seriously wounded.

EXT. TALL FOREST - DAY

Amon and Rikah who carries their baby bolt down the forest valley. The baby cries while they run.

Behind them at a distance come the tall soldiers who are after them with tall dogs.

Amon and Rikah continue to run but Rikah is tired. She can't go on. She stops but remains standing.

RIKAH

I can't go on! I can't!

**AMON** 

(pulls her)

What's wrong with you? This is the only chance we have. They are soon reaching us.

RIKAH

(shouts)

Did I eat anything today?! I told you this before but you couldn't—-

Before she completes the sentence a fast bullet SHATTERS her forehead. She falls down. The baby SCREAMS. Amon shakes her.

**AMON** 

(crying)

Rikah! Rikah! Hold on, you can't die from here! We are going to another town. They won't find us.

Rikah is seeing someone standing behind Amon. She points at the person.

RIKAH

Don't ... let her ... kill our baby.

She dies.

Amon stands up and turns around. To his shock it's Princess Tana herself. She points a gun at him. Amon raises her hands. The baby continues to cry on the

ground.

## **AMON**

Tana, please don't kill me. I can explain.

She COCKS the gun.

# PRINCESS TANA

(crying)

How could you betray me like this?! For all what I have done for you . . . you pay me back by sleeping with this dirty short bitch?! You used me! All short men are liars!

# **AMON**

Tana first put down that gun. (moves towards her) Let's talk.

#### PRINCESS TANA

Don't come closer unless you want me to-

Before she finishes, Amon jumps at her legs and wrestles her down. Her gun falls at a distance. Amon quickly gets up, picks his baby and bolts off.

But Tana came well-prepared. She touches her pocket and gets out a pistol. She shoots him in the back. He falls down but gets up and escapes.

EXT. TOJU'S HOUSE - DAY

It's an expensive house built somewhere at the far end of the forest.

**INSIDE HOUSE** 

Toju stands with Natalie. He looks angry.

## **TOJU**

I am tired of this witch crap! It's now two months you don't conceive. How many times will we go to that place?

#### **NATALIE**

(touches her)

Honey, I know it's embarrassing but we have no choice. Let's give it the last trial. If it fails, we will know that we were cursed never to get a child. She bursts into sobs and walks out.

TOJU

Natalie, wait.

She stops.

TOJU (CONT'D)

Let's give it the last trial. If it fails, we will visit another witch.

She comes back and hugs him.

EXT. CLIFF - DAY

Princess Tana points at Amon who stands his hands in the air. He doesn't have the baby.

AMON

Tana, it can't really end like this. I really-

PRINCESS TANA

Amon, I really loved you. I even wanted us to escape. How could you betray me?

**AMON** 

Do you think I could I trust you when it was your father killing us? I would have been a fool.

PRINCESS TANA

(changes her face) So I am now asking you the last time. Where's the baby? If you give it to me, I will spare you.

**AMON** 

If you want to kill me do it but I won't give you my baby. Go on shoot me! Do it!

Princess Tana SHATTERS his brains. He falls down the cliff.

# INT. TOJU'S HOUSE - DAY

Toju stands with Natalie who carries Amon's baby boy. They just pick him. They both look happiest. Toju makes the cross sign.

## TOJU

I can't believe it. God has answered our prayers.

# NATALIE

I told you, he had not forgotten us. He has given us a grown baby. I don't mind his height.

# TOJU

Natalie, there's no difference between tall and short people. We were all created in his image. This is our son. We will raise and nobody will come claiming for it.

# **BACK TO SCENE**

The short audiences CHEER. The tall people look disappointed.

# ON THE SCREENS

EXT. TALL FOREST - DAY

BENZIMA the baby boy that Toju and his wife Natalie pick is in sword training. He's now ten years. He's blindfolded and carries a sword.

In front of him are hundreds of paw paws that are tied on the branches of the tall trees and hang in the air. Toju stands behind him.

A strong wind blows the paw paws making them swing from side to side.

**TOJU** 

Focus your mind on the enemy! It is not heights and sizes that win wars! It's the heart! Attack the enemy without fear! GO!

Benzima jumps—-dodges—-the paw paws while he CUTS—-KICKS-—CRASHES—-PUNCHES them like a pro.

Toju continues to speak as Benzima trains.

TOJU (CONT'D)

An enemy is an enemy! Don't give him space! Your sword will cut his gun! Leave him with no choice of surviving! Bash him in! Slice his throat!

Benzima increases the speed; he cuts/crashes/kicks/punches the paw paws at a faster speed. He finishes them in minutes leaving nothing. Toju claps for him.

He un-blindfolds him and they sit down.

TOJU (CONT'D)

10 years from now you'll be the greatest swordsman in the world.

**BENZIMA** 

Are you sure dad?

**TOJU** 

Yes my son. No man will stand in your way.

Benzima laughs. Natalie arrives.

NATALIE

That's enough for today. Lunch is ready.

They get up and walk back to their house while Toju and Natalie hold Benzima who is in their middle. They really love him.

SUPERIMPOSE: "15 YEARS LATER"

INT. TOJU'S HOUSE - DAY

Benzima who is now 25 years holding a sword that drips with blood stands in front of Toju who's chained and is on his knees. He looks beaten. He now looks an old

man.

Natalie lay on the floor in a pool of blood. Her neck is cut. She is also now old.

**TOJU** 

My son, this is what you have paid us for all the good--

**BENZIMA** 

Shut up!! I hate anything tall in my life. I have never loved you and I will never! You tall bastards don't deserve to live. Your king killed my people in the past. Do you think I didn't know that?

TO.JU

We raised you up as our son. We never minded if you were short or tall.

He raises his sword.

TOJU (CONT'D)

Benzima, you can't do this to me. I am your father. I told you everything you know.

**BENZIMA** 

This world is ours! Go to hell!

He chops off his head.

**BACK TO SCENE** 

The short audiences CHEER. The tall people look angered.

EXT. BENZIMA HOUSE - DAY

This was once Toju's house but it's no more. It's now a short and everything around it is short.

ON THE SCREENS

INT. BENZIMA HOUSE - DAY

Benzima stands at the door looking at his children who are around 4-6 years. They are 8 boys and 7 girls but all dress like boys. 11 of them are short and 4 are tall (2 boys and girls).

They all sit down and have a plate of food and a cup of milk with them. Some eat. Some don't eat but just cry. Some fight. Some are dosing. Some are playing. Some are happy. Some are sad. It's confusion.

Benzima looks at them for long and smiles at himself. When one of the children

sees him, he waves at him and leaves.

INT. LARGE PIT HOLE - DAY

The 15 tall mothers to the children of Benzima lay on the ground chained up together. They look dirty, starved and beaten. The hole is closed. Suddenly someone opens it.

**OUTSIDE PIT HOLE** 

Benzima stands at the hole. He has jerry cans of petrol with him.

We hear shouts for help from the women inside. Benzma opens the jerry cans and pours petrol inside. He touches his pocket and gets out a matchbox. He lights it and throws it into the hole. He then closes it.

We hear SCREAMS and CRIES of the women. Benzima walks off while he laughs.

**BACK TO SCENE** 

The short audiences CHEER. The tall people look saddened.

ON THE SCREENS

EXT. SHORT FOREST - DAY

It's a morning. The trees are short.

Benzima holding a sword stands in front of his 11 short children who are blindfolded and carry swords. They are now ten years old. They stand in lines.

Benzima speaks as they train.

#### **BENZIMA**

Focus your mind on the enemy! It is not heights and sizes that win wars! It's the heart! Attack the enemy without fear! GO!

The children begin. They swing their swords—cut—jump—kick the air.

#### BENZIMA (CONT'D)

An enemy is an enemy! Don't give him space! Your sword will cut his gun! Leave him with no choice of surviving! Bash him in! Slice his throat!

They look to have trained for some time. You can't despise any. They look

promising at the swords. They train from dawn to dusk.

EXT. BENZIMA HOUSE - DAY

Benzima stands among his 11 short children who hold swords but they all look scared and sad.

They stand in front of the four tall children who are on their knees. These tall kids look battered and are crying.

# BENZIMA ( to the short children) KILL THEM NOW OR ELSE I KILL YOU NOW!

But the short children don't move. They just cry.

#### BENZIMA (CONT'D)

SHUT UP!! If you don't kill them now, they will kill you when you grow up. Never trust tall men. They hate us the! They think this world is theirs. Their king burnt all short people in the world. It's only me who survived. They are our enemies. KILL THEM NOW!

None of the children moves.

## BENZIMA (CONT'D) Haven't you heard? KILL THEM NOW!

The tall children look at them with begging eyes. The short children drop their swords. Benzima slaps—-kicks--punches them. They also just cry.

Furious, he draws his sword. He attacks the tall children and chops off their heads one by one while the short children watch. They do mourn for their brothers and sisters.

#### INT. BENZIMA HOUSE - DAY

Benzima stands in front of his 11 short children who are naked, tied on ropes and hang in the air. Cans of water are placed around him.

#### **BENZIMA**

(furious)

Do you know what you have done today?! Do you know it?! I am going to teach you a lesson today. After these gifts, I swear you will learn that my orders can never be questioned! If any of you opens his mouth, I swear I will slit your throat!

He pours water on all of them. He picks a sharp metallic burning whip from a boiling saucepan that's on fire.

He whips them one by one without mercy. None of them cries.

When the whip gets done, he touches his pocket and gets out a sharp knife. He cuts off the last toe of all the children. None of them cries except--

The last boy SHORT BOY #1. He SCREAMS. His brothers and sisters stare at him.

Benzima cuts his rope. He grabs him and puts the knife at his neck. He raises it to finish but just pushes him.

BENZIMA (CONT'D) We are going to the tall city now!

EXT. STREET - TALL CITY - DAY

POSTERS of the "PURGE DAY" are everywhere.

Thousands of tall people celebrate the elimination of the short people in their world. They dance to the band. They destroy images/sculptures of short people that are built along the streets.

EXT. TALL TREE - SAME TIME

Benzima and his 11 short children are up on a tall tree watching the tall people

dance, SHOUT and YELL. The children are gagged and look scared. They have never seen tall people in their life.

Benzima ungags Short Boy #1 and throws him down. All the children watch.

The short boy lands among the crowd. The tall people CHEER on seeing the short boy.

TALL CROWD

It's a gift from God! It's a sacrifice for the day!

He cries for help but they trample him while they shout and yell.

TALL CROWD (CONT'D)

Kill the short man! Bash him in! This isn't his world! He came to contaminate our world! He doesn't qualify to be a human being!

The children can't cry but drop tears seeing how their brother is killed.

**BACK TO SCENE** 

The tall audiences CHEER. The short people look saddened.

ON THE SCREENS

EXT. BENZIMA HOUSE - DAY

Benzima stands behind his 10 short children who carry swords. They look angry.

In front of them is a crowd of sculptures of tall people.

**BENZIMA** 

Do you remember how they killed him?

CHILDREN

Yes master!!

**BENZIMA** 

They hate us! They burnt all our people in the same place they killed him! They are murderers! But this world is ours!! We must fight for it!!

CHILDREN

Yes master!!

**BENZIMA** 

Focus your mind on the enemy! It is not heights and sizes that win wars! It's the heart! Attack the enemy without fear! GO!

The children start off the training. They cut-—punch—-kick—-crash--break the sculptures with hate. They get wounded but just go on.

BENZIMA (CONT'D)

A tall man is your enemy! Don't give him space! Your sword will cut his gun! Leave him with no chance of survival! Bash him in! Slice his throat!

They increase on their speed.

BENZIMA (CONT'D)

This world is ours!! We must rule them! We have the power! Do it for me! Do it for yourselves! Do if for your children!

On finishing all the sculptures are down.

**BACK TO SCENE** 

The short audiences CHEER. The tall people JEER at them.

ON THE SCREENS

SUPERIMPOSE: "10 YEARS LATER"

EXT. BENZIMA HOUSE - NIGHT

Benzima who's now in his 40s addresses his 10 children/fighters who are now 20 years old. They all carry swords. They now look stronger and fiercer.

#### **BENZIMA**

Tomorrow is the day we have been waiting for. All the training you have got is for the day tomorrow. We must not spare even an insect! It's you to write our history again.

CHILDREN

Yes master!!

BENZIMA

Do you remember the strong giraffes we saw last night?

#### EXT. TALL TREE - NIGHT (FLASH BACK)

Benzima and his ten fighters are up on a big tree. They watch a battalion of tall strong soldiers on a journey.

**BACK TO SCENE** 

#### BENZIMA (CONT'D)

Their foolish king has five regiments of them but we must leave all them breathless. After slicing them, we will capture the stupid king and take over his city.

Some of the fighters look scared. Benzima notices it. He puts on a happy face.

BENZIMA (CONT'D)

Who will tremble in front of the giraffes?

They all keep quiet.

BENZIMA (CONT'D)

Come on. If you know you scared of tomorrow, don't fear raise up your hands. Let me know because there's no returning when we go.

Three of them raise their hands. Benzima suddenly changes his face. He draws his sword to kill them but puts it back.

BENZIMA (CONT'D)

Let me not kill you now. You will die at the battlefield.

EXT. STREET - TALL CITY - DAY

It's the "PURGE DAY" again. POSTERS of the purge day are on every wall, billboard etc.

Tall people are celebrating.

Pictures of tall people kicking/whipping short people as their slaves can be seen everywhere; short people washing toilets and tall dogs, sweeping streets, putting on

rags, eating leftovers etc.

EXT. PALACE - DAY

It looks more beautiful. We are shown a big well of the king at the compound.

INT. DINING HALL - ROYAL HOUSE - DAY

KING SALUVE the current king of the tall people is with his FRIENDS drinking and eating while chatting happily. He looks a fighter.

Suddenly, MESSENGER bursts into the hall. He kneels in front of the king.

MESSENGER

Your Majesty, short men have attacked the city!

The king and his friends get up. He looks through the window.

KING SALUVE P.O.V

Benzima and his 10 fighters with their swords stand in the middle of a throng of tall people who look shocked.

**BACK TO SCENE** 

The king grabs messenger by the neck.

KING SALUVE

Why do you shame me in front of my friends?

**MESSENGER** 

Your Majesty, they have ---

KING SALUVE

No short man is supposed to scare a tall human being be it a kid. We are the rulers of this world. Go and tell the crowd to finish those pigs themselves they can! Run!

Messenger runs out of the hall. King Saluve sits down. His friends also sit.

KING SALUVE (CONT'D)

He's big girl's blouse. How can ten short men turn your stomach over like that?

They all laugh and continue with their meal.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Tall people armed with sticks, stones among others stand at a distance in front of Benzima and his ten fighters.

**TALL CROWD** 

Kill the short man! Bash him in! This isn't his world! He came to contaminate our world! He's a curse. He doesn't qualify to be a human being!

The crowd runs towards Benzima and his fighters. They also run towards the crowd.

They meet and the battle erupts. The ten short fighters cut—clobber—kick—punch—crash—knock the tall people just like how they destroy the tall sculptures. Benzima just watches. He doesn't fight

The tall people can't handle the short fighters. Those who aren't dead flee for their lives. The fighters chase after them.

INTERCUT WITH:

The short audiences CHEER UP. The tall people JEER.

ON THE SCREENS

INT. DINING HALL - DAY

King Saluve and his Friends are soon finishing their meal. Messenger comes back. He's breathing heavily.

**MESSENGER** 

Your Majesty, the short men have now conquered the city. It's time you did something.

The king first keeps silent. He looks at his friends. They nod their head.

KING SALUVE

Send a message to the fifth regiment.

**MESSENGER** 

Yes my king.

He leaves.

KING SALUVE

Short men are conquering our city? This is crazy.

He bursts into laughter. His friends also laugh.

EXT. TALL CITY - DAY

The streets are now empty.

EXT. STREET

Benzima and his fighters search for any tall people. Suddenly soldiers of the fifth Royal Regiment ambush them.

It's a fierce battle. Benzima and his men cut—punch—-kick—-crash the soldiers without mercy killing many of them

But the soldiers also kill three of the short fighters. Benzima and the 7 remaining fighters win the battle.

INTERCUT WITH:

The short and tall audiences CHEER and SHOUT as they support their fellow their "height mates".

ON THE SCREENS

EXT. ROYAL HOUSE - DAY

King Saluve addresses his fourth ROYAL REGIMENT. He's leaving for a journey.

#### KING SALUVE

I am leaving for Maluka. I want you to finish those short things disturbing our city. This is the purge day. It's a day to cleanse our world. Those rats shouldn't contaminate it again. Burn them alive!

**SOLDIERS** 

Yes, Your Majesty.

KING SALUVE

If I come back when you haven't finished them, I swear I will decapitate you alive. Go!

The soldiers depart. King Saluve and his train also depart for his journey.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Benzima and his 7 men stand at a distance with their swords. In their foreground are soldiers of the 4th royal regiment ready for them.

**BENZIMA** 

Attack!!

They run towards the soldiers while they shout. The soldiers also run towards them while they shout.

They meet and the battle explodes. Benzima and his men kill many of the soldiers.

The tall soldiers also kill four of the short fighters.

Finally Benzima and the 3 remaining fighters win the battle.

But before they rest, soldiers of the 3<sup>rd</sup> ROYAL REGIMENT arrive. The battle continues.

Benzima and his 3 men kill all the soldiers but the three short fighters die at the end. It's only Benzima who survives.

**INTERCUT WITH:** 

The short and tall audiences CHEER and SHOUT as they support their fellow their "height mates".

ON THE SCREENS

EXT. ROAD - DAY

King Saluve and his entourage are on journey.

INT. KING'S CART - MOVING - DAY

King Saluve plays chess with one of his friend as other friends watch. None of them looks worried.

EXT. PALACE GATE - DAY

Soldiers of the 2<sup>na</sup>ROYAL REGIMENT face Benzima. He's the only remaining. The soldiers attack. He draws his sword.

He kills them one by one. They wound him but he can't let win.

He finally defeats them leaving no one standing.

**INTERCUT WITH:** 

The short audiences CHEER. Tall people begin to leave their seats.

EXT. ROAD - DAY

King Saluve and his entourage are still on the journey.

**INSIDE KING'S CART** 

King Saluve still plays chess with his friends.

**OUTSIDE CART** 

The rider guides the horse. Suddenly, Messenger blocks the way on his horse. He looks scared. On seeing him the rider just stops the horse.

EXT. PALACE - DAY

Benzima stands in front of King Saluve who stands with his soldiers of the 1<sup>st</sup> REGIMENT and a big crowd of his people. The king's well is near them.

KING SALUVE Short man, what do you want?

BENZIMA

Your heads!

King Saluve laughs.

KING SALUVE

I don't think you are in a right place but why disturb my world?

**BENZIMA** 

I want to show you that the heart of one short man is braver than the hearts of 1000 tall men.

KING SALUVE

(to his soldiers)

KILL HIM NOW!!

The soldiers attack. But he passes through them while he cuts—-kicks—-punches them

--And reaches the king. He climbs him --wrestles him down and puts his neck at knife-point on the ground. The crowd freezes.

**INTERCUT WITH:** 

The short audiences CHEER up. The tall people JEER.

ON THE SCREENS

#### **BENZIMA**

(to the soldiers)

Throw down your weapons or I slit his throat now!

But they are hesitant. They just step forward.

BENZIMA (CONT'D)

If you dare move another step, I swear I am going to tear his tall neck now.

They just come closer. Benzima raises the knife.

KING SALUVE

Can't you hear what he's saying, you dogs? Step backwards and put those swords down now!!

Soldiers move backwards and begin to put their swords but Benzima stops them.

#### **BENZIMA**

Wait it isn't the right time to put your weapons down. You are going to need them. There are many people who have remained in their houses. I want them here now!

#### KING SALUVE

Do what he says!!

Some of the soldiers rush off and come back with a crowd of people who have been hiding. They all look scared. They join the big crowd.

#### **BENZIMA**

There are gifts dropped in your royal well. Slowly move and bring them.

KING SALUVE

(to the soldiers)
Is he speaking in a foreign language?!

The soldiers slowly move to the well. They enter it and pull out bundles of long strong chains. They move back to Benzima.

#### **BENZIMA**

Chain up all these people now!

The soldiers are hesitant. The crowd murmurs. Some people begin to step

backwards.

BENZIMA (CONT'D)

( to the king)
Tell them to chain them up or else I finish you now!

KING SALUVE

(to the soldiers)
Are those people worthy than me, you dogs?!
Do what he has said!!

Soldiers capture the people. Some try to run.

BENZIMA (CONT'D)

If any of them escapes, I swear your king will be no more!!

Some of the soldiers chase after the people running and catch them. They chain all of them and push them on to the ground.

BENZIMA (CONT'D)

It's now time to drop your swords to the well. Don't delay me!!

But behind him two of the soldiers tiptoe towards him. Before they reach him, Benzima quickly touches his pocket and draws sharp poisonous daggers and throws it at them. Target! They touch their necks.

Two other soldiers can't bear it. They attack him from in front. He throws the same daggers at them before they reach him. The crowd freezes in fear.

BENZIMA (CONT'D)

I think you now know what I want!

One of the soldiers who look to be the captain collects the swords from his comrades but before he gets the last sword, Benzima stabs King Saluve.

The soldiers rush to get their swords back but before they do it, Benzima attacks them. He kills all of them though they wound him seriously.

INTERCUT WITH:

The short audiences just CHEER up. The tall people disappointed lower their heads.

ON THE SCREENS

EXT. PALACE - DAY

Benzima stands in front of the chained up tall people.

**BENZIMA** 

If you want me to be your king, raise your hand up.

None of them does that.

BENZIMA (CONT'D)

This is the last time I am asking. Who of you would like a short man to be his/her king?!

Some raise up their hands but some refuse.

Those who refuse abuse him. He chops off their heads one by one. Those who are remaining kneel down.

**BACK TO SCENE** 

The short audiences CHEER and YELL. The remaining tall people JEER in opposition.

ON THE SCREENS

INT. LARGE PIT HOLE - DAY

The tall people still on chains squeeze themselves in this dirty rotten hole. They look scared.

OUTSIDE PIT HOLE

Benzima pours on them liters of petrol from jerry cans he carries. He then touches his pocket and gets out a match box. He lights it and throws into the hole. He then closes the hole.

We hear SCREAMS/CRIES of people from the tall people. Benzima walks off while he laughs.

INT. TALL FOREST - NIGHT

Five naked beautiful tall women are tied on the ground both hands and legs. They are gagged and look beaten. Benzima stands in front of them. He's also naked.

**BENZIMA** 

I saved you for a purpose which I know you can tell. So this is the time.

#### **SERIES OF SHOTS**

Benzima rapes the tall women.

#### SHORT DAD (V.O)

When the five tall women finished producing, Benzima burnt them to death. He killed all the tall children and remained with only short ones. Benzima and his short children spent the following years searching for the tall people remaining in the world. They shortened everything. As years passed the world became "short". Benzima became the king of the short world but little did he know that the war wasn't over yet.

#### EXT. PALACE - SHORT KINGDOM - DAY

POSTERS reading "THE LIBERATION DAY" are whole over the place. Short people are here to celebrate the elimination of tall people in their world.

Benzima who's now a king sits in his throne. His young wife QUEEN VIKA sits near him. She's 9 months pregnant.

A throng of happy short people seated down watch a series of pictures on a projector of these times.

When Benzima has chained up tall people--

When Benzima is rearing tall people as cattle--

When tall people have knelt down before him--

When Benzima is walking on the tall people who lay flat on the ground-

When a tall man is carrying Benzima on his shoulders as a king while other tall

people are cheering--

When Benzima is burning a crowd of tall people inside a house--

When Benzima is cutting off heads of tall people--

When Benzima is addressing a happy crowd of short people.

BACK TO SCENE

The crowd CHEERS at the end of the show.

SHORT BOYS who are fighters entertain the crowd. They kick--cut--punch--crash sculptures of tall people placed in the middle of the crowd. They finish all of them leaving nothing standing in a few minutes. They bow for the king. The crowd CHEERS.

Benzima stands up to address the mammoth crowd. They clap for him as he stands up. He gestures to them and they keep quiet.

#### **BENZIMA**

Thank you. Thank you. 60 years ago, everything here was tall. Those giraffes oppressed, exploited, despised and trampled short people as they wanted. Every short person was a servant. On the so-called Purge day, they finally burnt them alive to eliminate them forever in the name of purification. Short people were a curse, a source of contamination.

The crowd looks touched.

#### BENZIMA (CONT'D)

(laughs)

Those giraffes forgot that this world is ours! All forefathers were short and because we were created to rule this world. I was picked and raised by a two giraffes which were thirsty for a baby. They didn't realize the hate I had for tall beings in life until when I beheaded them on the same day. I passed through a series of trials and tribulations to re-build this glory.

He unveils sculptures of his 10 children whom he fought with during the conquest.

BENZIMA (CONT'D)

These were my children. These brave hearts sacrificed their lives for you to be here. THEY ARE HEROES. LET THEIR SOULS REST IN HEAVEN.

**CROWD** 

Amen!!

**BENZIMA** 

And because they died, you are now a happy generation!

The crowd CHEERS.

**BENZIMA** 

This world is ours! No giraffe will ever take it from us! God created this earth for us only. We must live forever!

The crowd CHEERS.

BENZIMA (CONT'D)

My young queen here is soon bringing me a prince. That Prince will be your next king. I love you and I love my short world!

The crowd CHEERS. They throw confetti on Benzima and Quuen Vika.

His soldiers carry them on their shoulders and move them through the crowd as they wave at the people.

Benzima and his queen climb the royal cart and are taken away. The ROYAL BAND plays a song as they march behind.

EXT. STREET- SHORT CITY - NIGHT

Celebrations of the "Liberation Day" continue. Short people carry posters abusing tall people.

Fireworks are also seen in the sky. They drink, sing and dance to songs abusing tall people.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Quuen Vika gives birth. SHORT MAID attends to her.

INT. THRONE ROOM - DAY

Benzima sits in his throne quietly. He's anxious and looks to be praying. His MEN

who sit on his sides are also quiet. Short Maid bursts into the room.

#### SHORT MAID

Your Majesty, you need to see.

He quickly stands up. His Men also gets up.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Benzima grabs Queen Vika by her neck. The baby she has produced lay on the floor naked and crying. The baby to our shock is tall.

#### **BACK TO SCENE**

The tall audiences stand up and CHEER. They are back in the game. Short people JEER.

#### ON THE SCREENS

Benzima strangles Queen Vika.

#### **BENZIMA**

I am asking you the last time! Who did you sleep with you bitch?!

#### **QUEEN VIKA**

Believe me I didn't--

Benzima pushes her down and she falls almost crashing the baby.

#### **BENZIMA**

You have shamed me and my kingdom at large. For all what I toiled for. The blood I shed, my children I sacrificed in the struggle, you pay me by producing for me a giraffe?

(drops a tear)

It's been 60 years, our world is peaceful, no inequalities, no discrimination, no oppression, it's you who wants to sow the bad seeds. You must kill this tall thing yourself now!

Queen Vika kneels down.

#### **QUEEN VIKA**

Your Majesty, please have mercy on me. He's my first—-

He slaps her and she falls. He draws his knife.

#### **BENZIMA**

If you can't do it, I am finishing the both of you.

She gets up and gets the knife from him while she cries. She kneels down in front of her baby who's also crying to finish.

BENZIMA (CONT'D)

You have five seconds only. One! Two! Three! Four!

Before he speaks five, Queen Vika stabs the baby once. It gives a LOUD SCREAM. Blood splashes on her face.

**BACK TO SCENE** 

The short audiences CHEER. Tall people look saddened. Some even sob.

ON THE SCREENS

EXT. ROCKS/CLIFF - DAY

Benzima throws the dead body of the baby down the cliff.

#### INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Queen Vika continues to cry. Short Maid tries to comfort her. Benzima bursts into the room. They both stand up. Benzima draws his sword. They drop on their knees.

#### **OUEEN VIKA**

Please, don't kill me. I didn't intend--

He chops off her head. Before Short Maid screams, he chops off her head too.

SUPERIMPOSE: "20 YEARS LATER"

EXT. ROAD - DAY

TALL BOY #1 the baby boy whom Queen Vika stabs stands in the middle of the road glaring at a short city that is kilometers away from where he is.

He's taller than any tall person you have ever seen in the story and looks a fighter.

EXT. CLIFF - DAY (FLASH BACK)

Benzima throws the supposedly dead baby down the cliff. But-

EXT. ROAD SIDE - FOREST - DAY (FLASH BACK)

A SHORT COUPLE walks along the road. They are guiet and look sad.

Suddenly they hear a baby CRY. Surprised, they stop. They search around.

Short Husband spots the crying baby up in a tree branch. He climbs up and comes down with it. He gives it to the Wife. They both look excited.

#### SHORT HUSBAND

This is a gift from God. We finally have a baby! We should go to church today.

#### SHORT WIFE

Look at it. It's so beautiful. I don't mind whether it's tall.

#### SHORT HUSBAND

Of course shortness or tallness makes no difference. We are all human beings.

The Short Wife kisses him.

**BACK TO SCENE** 

Tall Boy #1 draws his long sword.

#### TALL BOY #1

It's time to bring back the lost glory of my people!

He begins his journey to go attack the short world.

BACK TO SCENE

Tall audiences CHEER. They TAUNT and ABUSE the short audiences. The short audiences also ABUSE them.

Everyone is angered. It's a bitter exchange of words.

Suddenly, the short people (men, women and children) draw short big sticks, metal bars and batons. The tall people also draw the same weapons although theirs are long.

A VIOLENT FIGHT BREAKS OUT in the theatre. It's mayhem. You attack any one you feel you can. Screens, chairs, windows, doors are broken.

We hear SIRENS of Police outside and WE--

FADE OUT:

### THE END