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## CHARACTERS

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### In order of Appearance

Performance Actor – Portrays Nelson Mandella and other characters

*\*Note – The script is written so that the performing actor portrays Nelson Mandella. The playwright grants permission to the Artistic Director and other decision makers that during casting the freedom to include other actors to portray the additional characters is possible. Or you may choose to cast different actors to record or recite the recorded lines in place of using the provided pre-recordings.*

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## SETTING

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The play takes place in real time. The journey of Nelson Mandella changes the setting periodically, but the play should be performed in the present. The play should be performed on a bare stage. As you read through the play feel free to add any additional furniture or props you deem necessary.

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## THE PLAY SYNOPSIS

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## NELSON MANDELA – HIS JOURNEY

**Track 1: Nelson Mandela Intro 1:30s**

**Track 2: Nelson Mandela (Original instrumental music) 1:05**

ACTOR (Live or pre-recorded)

NELSON MANDELA – A NAME WE ALL SHOULD KNOW.

NELSON MANDELA – HE LOVED HIS COUNTRY SO.

AN AFRICAN BABY – TO A PATIONATE MAN.

HE WAS LOVED BY ALL THE AFRICANS.

NELSON MANDELA – IMPRISONED FOR LIFE.

NELSON MANDELA – THEY WANTED HIM TO DIE.

PRESIDENTIAL LEADER – CELEBRATE HIS GLORY.

LISTEN, LISTEN AND SEE AND HEAR HIS STORY.

*(The music stops. Actor crosses to center stage.)*

ACTOR

So, the first question is - what do we presently know about him Nelson Mandella? He started as a humble young man in Africa. He became well educated; we know that. Did you know that he owned the first black law firm in South Africa? Many of you already know that because of his involvement with the ANC; African National Congress and other African organizations against Apartheid. Many of you know that he was arrested and sentenced to life in prison. And I believe that you know that because of international pressure from other countries and their leaders – the South African government agreed to release Nelson Mandela after 27 years of imprisonment. *(Solicits audience for answers)* Do you know that about him?

27 years of imprisonment for standing up against a government that was unlawful committing human rights offenses against non-white South Africans. Finally, many of us know that he was elected as South Africa's first black president. In our country we finally elected a black President who is known as Mr. Barack Obama. Regardless of how you feel about him or the political party he represented; America deserves credit for breaking the racial barrier in politics. But this is not about us. Is it?

Now, you could say, well that's it. We know his journey, let's go home! But there is so much we do not know about the man himself. **Why** did all of these events happen to his people and to him? **Who** influenced the decisions he made? **Who** were the women in his life? **How** did he go from being a lawyer to a celebrated civil rights leader? These are the areas that not all of us know about him. The **who**, the **how** and the **why**. Are you ready to know his life? *(Pause)* It's okay if you answer me. *(Pause)* Are you ready? If you are, then take this journey with me?

*(Audio begins as Actor gets dressed to become Mandela's Father Nkosi Mandela.)*

### **Track 3: Nelson's birth and early childhood 1:25s**

FEMALE NARRATOR (pre-recorded)

*(Sound of a baby crying)* On July 18, 1918 his mother Nangaphi Nosekeni and his father Nkosi Mandela was delighted to see the birth of Rolihlahla Mandela. He was born in the African village of Mvezo Transkei, South Africa. At that time the family was doing well in their village. Nkosi, was a Chief in Mvezo from his bloodline, but lost both his title and fortune over a dispute with the local colonial magistrate. His father's loss of status and wealth forced his family to move to Qunu,

an even smaller village in the northern region. The move lowered the living status of the family which was very difficult for Nkosi to endure. He had been a man of privilege and honor. Now, a struggling native like many others. Nkosi would travel daily to the cool streams near his village to fill buckets with drinking water. One day as Nkosi was preparing to travel to the springs – he decided to take young Rolihlahla with him to help carry the buckets back to the village. Now was the time that the young African boy would begin his journey to become strong and wise. His father said to him:

*(Performing actor is dressed as Nkosi. He portrays both father and son. As he walks the stage, he pretends that he is using carrying pole, also called a shoulder pole.)*

*Father*

“Rolihlahla, do not lock your knees. Keep them loose. Bend them slightly as you walk. Keep your back loose. If you this becomes painfull. Tell me and we can stop and rest.”

*Mandela*

“I can carry the buckets, Mpapa. I can carry them”

*Father*

“One day you must get the water alone.”

*Mandela*

“I can do that tomorrow, Mpapa. I am ready.”

*Father*

“Not so fast my son. In time. In time.”

*Mandela*

“Is the hot burning in my shoulders normal, Mpapa.”

*Father*

“Yes. This work is new to your young body. New to your little shoulder muscles.”

*Mandela*

“Okay. *(softly)* Okay” *(He grunts as he struggles)* Hierdie *(heardee)* swaar! *(Means “this heavy”)*

*Father*

“You have carried the water long enough. Lay it down and walk with me. I can come back for this one later.”

*Mandela*

“No. I can do this, Mpapa. I can be a man like you. I want to be like you. Strong and smart. I only asked about my arms because I wanted to make sure that they would not catch fire.”

*Father (laughs)*

No. The burning is only in your muscles. Well now, I am convinced that you, my son, will grow to be very strong and smart.

#### **Track 4: Costume change from Father to Actor :24s**

### **ACTOR**

After his Baptism at 8 years of age, Rohlihlahla was enrolled in school. He became the first in his family to ever attend school. Nkosi wanted his son to become more than smart.

Because of the bias of the British educational system in South Africa and also because many of the teachers could not pronounce the African children's names correctly, Rohlhlahla's teacher decided to change his name to Nelson.

*(Performing actor becomes both the teacher and Young Mandela)*

*Teacher*

“You. Mandela boy, come here!”

*Mandela*

“Yes, my teacher.”

*Teacher*

“We must do something about that dreadful name of yours.”

*Mandela*

“Dreadful? What is dreadful about my name?”

*Teacher*

“It is too native. I don't like it. I must give you a new name.”

*Mandela*

“But, my teacher, my motha and mpapa gave me that name.”

*Teacher*

“And they may continue to call you that. Here - you will be called Nelson.”

*Mandela*

*(softly)* “Nelson? Why Nelson, my teacher?”

*Teacher*

“It was my grandfathers’ first name. My grandfather was a great man.”

*Mandela*

“Then, my teacher, I will too be a great man.”

*Teacher*

“I doubt it.”

*Mandela*

“No need for doubt, my teacher. I will become great just for you.”

*Teacher*

*(Very bitter)* “Go sit down, Nelson.”

## ACTOR

A year later, in 1930, his father died when Mandela was 12 years old. He died from an undiagnosed ailment that Mandela believed to be lung disease. This caused his life to change dramatically. His mother took him to Chief Jongintaba Dalindyebo, the acting regent of the Thembu people. She later took his two sisters and moved back to Mvezo. Chief Jogintaba adopted young Nelson taking on the task of raising him. A gesture done as a favor to Mandela's late father. The Chief ordered young Mandela to be taken out of his present school and placed in an African school; proper for Chief Jongintaba’s adopted son.

From the time Mandela came under the guardianship of Chief Jongintaba, he was groomed to assume high office, not as a chief, but as a counselor to any Chief. Yes, this young man proved to be so intelligent that he was educated to act as an advisor to men years ahead of him. Chief Jongintaba was very supportive in furthering the progress of Mandela. So, as an Advisor of Thembu royalty, Mandela was encouraged to attend many years of school.



When Mandela returned home after completing his last year at school, Chief Jongintaba announced, that as tribal custom dictated, Mandela would marry. It was an arranged marriage for his adopted son. Shocked by the news and believing that he had no other choice, Mandela fled the village and moved to Johannesburg. No family. No friends. No one to guide him. He was completely independent and alone. After arriving in Johannesburg he enrolled in the university.

As with many great men - fate would intervene and put Mandela in the place he needed to be – to meet a man that would change the course of his life. . . Walter Sisulu. In 1941, on the narrow streets of Johannesburg, these two educated men met.

*(ACTOR changes to Mandella costume as Walter’s recording plays.)*

### **Track 5: Walter Sisulu’s speech 3:00s**

#### **WALTER (PRE-RECORDED)**

Today we say no more! How many of our people must continue to die? How many of our people must continue to be imprisoned? “No more” to the denial of full citizenship, “no more” to the denial of redistribution of land and “no more” to the denial of free and necessary education for all children, for all Africans. This is our land. The African people lived in peace until the coming of the white people. Speak to your elders. They will tell you. When they arrived, Africans shared their land and water with whites. Then they took all of these things for themselves. We want it back. We must remain together to remain powerful. At this moment Govan Mbeki will inform you of our progress.

*Mandela*

“That was a wonderful speech, young brother.”

*As Walter*

“My name is Walter Sisulu. I understand that you are Nelson. Nelson Mandela.”

*Mandela*

“That is my South African given name, yes. But, how do you know who I am?”

*As Walter*

“I have heard so much about you from my girlfriend. She speaks very highly of you”

*Mandela*

“Please sir, do not believe much of what she may have said about me. I have not flirted with your girlfriend. I promise that I have done you no injustice.”

*Walter*

“Calm down, Nelson. I am not here for trouble. I am here as a friend.”

*Mandela*

“I see. Then her honest words have inspired you to seek me out. I am humbled my friend. Your speech is very heroic Walter. Do you not worry what those words may cost you if heard by the wrong people?”

*Walter*

“There is a cost to everything in life.” (*beat*)

*Mandela*

“No truer words have ever been spoken. Our people are paying a terrible cost in their struggle to live with dignity and respect. There seems to be an imbalance of economic wealth occurring in South Africa. An imbalance that must be corrected. Your speech has inspired me, my brother. What has inspired you? What is the organization behind your cause?”

*Walter*

“Have you not heard of the ANC?”

*Mandela*

“Ah yes. The African National Congress? (*He responds*) I have heard conversations about it, but I fear I know very little about it.”

*Walter*

“The African National Congress is the creation of a united, non-racial, non-sexist democratic society. This means the liberation of Africa.”

*Mandela*

“I see. What would you have me do, Walter?”

*Walter*

“To join us. Become a part of Africa’s struggle for freedom.”

*Mandela*

“I can do that. Come. Let’s discuss the ANC and how I can be involved.”

## MANDELA (ACTOR)

At the time I met Walter I was leaving a job as a clerk in a law firm, I had just earned my bachelor's degree from a correspondence course from the University of South Africa. Because of Walter's recommendation I was hired as a clerk at another law firm in town. This allowed me to continue working on my law degree at the University of Witwatersrand.

I began attending meetings with the ANC members. Walter had his own Estate Agency business and we met at his office. By 1944 we had formed the ANC Junior League. I spent many a days in law school and my nights with the ANC Junior League. My life was surrounded by two important people. Walter Sisulu and his fiancé Albertina. They were like my brother and sister. I have to admit, time with them made me very lonely for someone of my own. And then one day Albertina introduced me to Walter's cousin, Evelyn Mase. A hard working nurse and a much respected woman. Yes, she was perfect for me. Did I mention that she was also very pretty? She was.

On July 15<sup>th</sup>, 1944, Walter and Albertina married and I was the best man. My newfound love, Evelyn Mase was bridesmaid. Shortly after their marriage in that same year, I married Evelyn Mase.

### **Track 6: Musical interlude (Change from Mandela to Actor) :24s**

## ACTOR

By 1948, South African land and diamond mines were under great demand by the English and Dutch occupants . . . known as Afrikaners. They united and became known as the Afrikaner National Party. Leaders in the Afrikaner National Party designed apartheid as a means of gaining control over the economic and social structure.

Apartheid, an Afrikaans word meaning ‘the status of being apart’ becomes government policy later that year. They immediately began to develop laws aimed at racial separation. The African National Congress Junior League demanded Mandela’s full commitment, yet at the same time his university obligations still existed. Eventually he had no choice but to leave the University without completing his LLB degree. His efforts now had to be focused on the ANC and the newly developed Defiance Campaign, a mass movement of resistance against the apartheid government.

The Defiance Campaign organized non-white South Africans to refuse to go to work, to protest for better living conditions and to disobey the pass books. One of the apartheid methods of controlling and tracking Africans was the passbooks. Can you imagine such foolishness? A passbook that would allow you to move around your city. The non-white male population was required to carry these passbooks with them when outside their homelands or designated areas. Failure to produce a passbook often resulted in the person being arrested – or severely beaten.

The South African government continued to develop more laws aimed at separation. They used the Population Registration Act and the Bantu Education Act to accomplish their goal of separation. These Acts refused Africans the right to vote, and to quality education.

*(Actor crosses to the audience.)*

ACTOR

You sir. You ma’m. *(Get two people)* Come here please. *(to audience)* I will show you how important it is to have your freedom to vote. You. Stand here. You are the citizen – You stand here. You are the police officer! I will set-up the voting table.

Once I am finished, come up and try to vote. Okay? *(Wait for response)*  
Good. Don't mess this up or I will have you arrested. *(Sets up voting table and then sits)* NEXT! *(beat)* What can I do for you? *(beat)* You want to vote?

NO! YOU CANNOT VOTE HERE! YOU ARE DIFFERENT! YOU HAVE NO RIGHTS. WE WILL DECIDE WHO WILL LEAD THIS COUNTRY AND CHANGE YOUR WAY OF LIFE. *(turns)*  
OFFICER! ARREST THIS MAN/WOMAN! WE WILL DECIDE – NOT YOU - OUT! *(Wait until officer escorts participant offstage)* You see how awful that feels? *(To both participants)* Thank you for your cooperation.

*(Change to Apartheid Soldier during speech.)*

By 1952 the African National Congress began to attract the attention of other nationalities seeking freedom from apartheid. The South African Indian Congress (SAIC) worked with the ANC and as a union of Africans and Indians they took on the South African apartheid. Groups throughout South Africa executed various acts of defiance in main cities. Security officers and Private guards increased the violence against them all.

### **Track 7: Apartheid warfare sound effects 2:56s**

*(Gunshots can be heard as Actor runs over and grabs military shirts and fake weapon. He begins to recruit members of the audience. Each recruited audience member gets a shirt and weapon. Some get pre-made protest signs.)*

REBEL MADIBA (Actor)

I am Madiba. Come with me. *(Adlibs to get helpers.)* I am with the ANC Youth League Defiance Campaign. We are under fire so be careful. Now, you are one of us. Come. Hide over here.

*(Takes them and places them behind a box or stage prop.)*

MADIBA (Rebel)

Some of our people are trapped inside the building. Some of us managed to flee, others didn't make it out. We got to go help them.

*(He starts to leave, and gunshots are heard. He runs and rolls on the ground, then hides.)*

MADIBA (Rebel)

Keep your head down and your ears open. If someone approaches, beat them down. They will probably be the government's Private guards or the Security Police. Be alert. Don't beat any of us. And please don't beat me. I am one of the good guys.

*(This next section involves adlibbing and pretending to rescue a few people.)*

MADIBA (Rebel)

*(Goes back to them)* There are too many of them. I need to get you to safety. Follow me. *(Leads them around the theatre. Takes them back to their seat.)* Thank you for your courage. *(As if talking to an audience)* Quiet! Quiet! Listen to me!

**(ACTION: Lower audio volume)**

Leaders from the ANC and the Defiance Campaign may soon be arrested and charged with leading violent protests, calling our action “unconstitutional and illegal.” Do not give them any information or names. Remain strong! Remain silent. Resistance is Defense.

**(ACTION: Fade out sound)**

*(Change out of soldier costume during this next speech)*

**MADIBA (REBEL)**

As we disbanded that night, Mandela, 18 others and I were arrested for our role in the Defiance Campaign. We stood trial and was found guilty. We were sentenced to nine months in prison with hard labor, suspended for two years. Suspended for 2 years!! It was a surprise to us all.

**ACTOR**

Shortly after their release Mandela and 51 others broke curfew regulations as an act of defiance against apartheid. This time they did not receive a suspended sentence. Things just got worse for everyone. With more ANC protests came more violence and more arrests. Frustrated with the justice systems defense for the accused Africans, in December of 1951, Mandela and Tambo opened a law practice in Johannesburg. This was the formation of the first black law partnership in their country. *(Crosses to a podium)* But the justice system was not always fair regardless of how strong of a defense Mandela and Tambo presented.

*(Puts on a suit jacket as he stands at the podium. He becomes Mandella and the Judge.)*



MANDELA

Your honor. *(beat)* I offer the court my final plea for the accused Odessa Okeke. You, sir, have the power to determine what the truth is in this case. You are empowered today to ensure that the great justice system of Johannesburg works for everyone, including my client’.

JUDGE

I know the power I have in this courtroom counselor. I don’t need you to remind me. I suggest you spend the few moments you are given, convincing me of your clients’ innocence.

MANDELA

*(beat)* Yes, your honor. The accused Odessa Okeke is facing the charges of resisting arrest and failure to comply with the law. The truth is, your honor, Mr. Okeke was lawfully operating his business serving his people when two South African Security Officers ordered him to close his doors for the remainder of the day and demanded to search his place of business. Having done nothing wrong – having not broken any laws – Mr. Okeke was well within his rights to refuse the request.

JUDGE

Did you say “He was well within his rights” to refuse the request from a Security Officer? I don’t see how you can stand here and use his rights as a defense.

MANDELA

Your honor, the Security officers did not present a search warrant to my client granting them the authority to conduct their search and there were no legal papers ordering Mr. Okeke to close his place of business.

JUDGE

Maybe they had probable cause, counselor.

MANDELA

Probable cause to assault him? After refusing their request, he was attacked, beaten by both officers. Look at him your honor. (*beat*) A law abiding citizen. . brutally beaten; and now he could face years in prison for no legal reason.

JUDGE

Were you present at the time of the arrest, Counselor? (*no response*) I didn't think you were. All you have is your client's word. Which is worthless considering he disobeyed orders from an officer of the law. He's lucky to be alive. Why am I wasting the courts time with this nonsense? I find the accused Odesa Okeke guilty on all charges. I will hand down sentencing tomorrow morning. Take him away.

MANDELA

Odessa Okeke was sentenced to 5 years in prison. Two months after his imprisonment Odessa hung himself in his cell.

*(While the following speech is being spoken the Actor changes to an SASP Officer.)*

ACTOR

The South African Security Police and private guards continued to search for leaders of the ANC and the Defiance Campaign. Their strategy was to conduct unauthorized police raids on their homes and their offices; basically, anyone suspected of being involved in any form of protest. Many of these raids were carried out without legitimate search warrants and if the homes or employee personal offices were locked - the police would simply break in.

**Track 8: South African Security Police Beats on Door :9s**

*SASP (South African Security Police)*

BREAK DOWN THIS DOOR!! YOU, HELP HIM!! ALL OF YOU – REMAIN SEATED! IF YOU DISOBEY, YOU WILL BE SHOT IMMEDIATELY. GATHER YOUR BELONGINGS. WHEN YOU ARE COMMANDED TO DO SO – YOU WILL RISE AND LINE UP, SINGLE FILE, AND FOLLOW ONE OF THE SECURITY OFFICERS OUTSIDE AND TO THE SECURITY VEHICLES. *(beat)* WHAT! WHAT ARE YOU ASKING ME? DO I HAVE A SEARCH WARRANT! YOU SEE THIS BADGE? THIS BADGE IS ALL OF THE PERMISSION I NEED TO SEARCH AND SEIZE WHATEVER AND WOMEVER I CHOOSE. DO YOU UNDERSTAND ME? I SUGGEST YOU KEEP YOUR EYES FORWARD AND YOUR MOUTH SHUT. LET ME MAKE THIS VERY CLEAR. YOU HAVE NO RIGHTS. YOU HAVE NO AUTHORITY! YOU HAVE NOTHING UNLESS WE GIVE IT TO YOU. YOU ARE HERE BECAUSE WE ALLOW YOU TO BE HERE.

*(beat)* TODAY YOU ARE BEING SEIZED BECAUSE WE NEED INFORMATION. IF YOU KNOW ANYONE IN THIS COMPANY THAT IS AN ELECTED OFFICIAL IN THE ANC OR THE DEFIANCE CAMPAIGN, I URGE YOU TO COOPERATE. RIGHT NOW! YOU GIVE ME NAMES - YOU WILL BE ESCORTED SAFELY TO YOUR HOME. NO HARM WILL COME TO YOU. I GIVE YOU, MY WORD. BUT IF YOU DO NOT COME FORWARD YOU WILL BE ESCORTED TO THE SECURITY OFFICE ALONG WITH EVERYONE ELSE. WHAT HAPPENS THEN, WELL, I GUESS YOU'LL FIND OUT. *(Pause)* NO VOLUNTEERS? VERY WELL. HAVE IT YOUR WAY. GET THEM OUT OF HERE.

*(Actor changes back to himself as he continues the narration.)*

## ACTOR

Unauthorized police raids increased the element of surprise which resulted in more of the Africans and Indians being incarcerated. Something had to change. The movement needed a new start. Mandela and many of the leaders of the ANC Junior League went underground to reorganize. More time away from home gave more time with the ANC. By 1955 his wife, Evelyn Mase could no longer tolerate his absence. She took their children and left him – inciting irreconcilable differences.

A year later, because of an ANC traitor, the South African Apartheid régime arrested a total 156 people, including Nelson Mandela. They were charged with "high treason and a countrywide conspiracy to use violence to overthrow the government and replace it with a communist state". The punishment for high treason at that time was death. During the months awaiting the Treason Trial Nelson Mandela met Winnie Madikizela.

### **Track 9: Meeting Winnie Madikizela 2:21s**

WINNIE (Pre-recorded)

When I first arrived in Johannesburg, I would hear talk of this one particular man. The workers would be leaving their jobs in the factories - walking home - singing freedom songs and invariably all of these songs were about Nelson Mandela. (*Music*) He seemed to be the solution to every worker's problem. But I had never had the opportunity to meet him until much later. (*Laughs*) I'll never forget the day I first received contact from Nelson. It was shortly after the 156 Africans were arrested and charged with high treason. There were many political trials at this time, but this, this was the largest in its history. Supporters of the accused organized a treason trial fund to raise money for their defense and to provide support for their families.

At first, I just made a donation. That was all. Then, one day while I was working at my job, I was a social worker, I received a phone call. My co-worker said it was Nelson Mandela. I thought, this must be some joke. He would never be calling me. He asked me to meet with him. This was frightening because I had heard so much about him. Well, we met (*nervous laugh*) he was very polite - very complimentary and . . . I must say. . . . he was very charming. He asked me to become an organizer for the fund raising efforts. To work with him to raise money for the treason trial defense fund. Of course, I agreed. This was Nelson Mandela. Who says “no” to such a man? So, what began as a business relationship transformed into a personal relationship. And I didn’t mind that at all. (*Laughs sweetly*)

#### ACTOR

While still preparing for the trial, Nelson Mandela marries his second wife, Winnie Madikizela, in June of 1958. Little did she know that she would see very little of the man she had just married. Mandela would not be there to see the birth of his two children. To help raise them. To protect them. Winnie was now a married woman, alone, left to care for their family.

The day of the Treason Trial finally arrived. The final verdict handed down to the 156 accused was - not guilty. Nelson returned home with the other leaders to celebrate their victory. They celebrated outside of his home. Winnie sat inside with their two children staring at the doorway, anticipating that glorious moment when he would enter their home. The door slowly opened and there stood one of his supporters requesting a packed suitcase for Nelson. That night he left Johannesburg. That would be the last time that Winnie Mandela would have the chance to see her husband – as a free man. At the time, he believed that he was protecting his family.

## **Track 10: Warfare in Sharpville :20s**

### ACTOR

March 21, 1960 a tragic event occurred that would change the world's view against Apartheid forever. During a non-violent demonstration in Sharpeville - Police opened fire on demonstrators killing 69 African men, women and children. The South African Apartheid leaders had gone too far. Now, the fight to end Apartheid violence attracted international attention. News media, political agendas and television newsmagazine programs were focused on South Africa.

Enraged by such brutality, Mandela secretly left the country for military training and to gather support for an anticipated armed struggle. However, two weeks after his return, he was arrested and was charged with desertion; leaving the country without a passport. He was convicted and sentenced to five years in prison. While serving his time in prison more charges were brought against him.

On October 9, 1963 he was grouped with eight other members of the ANC to stand trial for sabotage in what became known as the Rivonia Trial. Most of the accused in that trial had been arrested in July of that year at Liliesleaf farm in Rivonia where authorities uncovered a collection of weapons and documents outlining a planned guerrilla campaign. Nelson Mandela's name was found on those documents. Less than a year later on June 11, 1964, eight of the nine accused were convicted of sabotage and the next day they were sentenced to life imprisonment. Winnie had attended the trial with Mandela's mother.

## Track 11: Winnie Mandela

WINNIE (Pre-recorded)

It broke my heart. This man. *(beat)* This man who was dedicated to his people, determined to end Apartheid at any cost, will now be behind bars for the rest of his life. This great man. My husband. I left that courtroom heartbroken, but I also left inspired. Inspired to continue the fight for our people. Apartheid had a new enemy. *(Sound bites)*

It didn't take long before Apartheid leaders came after the African women. You see, the passbooks were initially issued to African men; but now they were issued to African women as well. This would not be tolerated. To us, passbooks was an excuse to imprison us. Through unity of the non-white South African women, we became stronger, wiser. I organized the Federation of Women's League operating as their spokesperson. We also organized ANC Women's League, holding our own meetings. Our agenda was to seek better treatment of all women in South Africa, to raise her from the bottom of the totem pole of racism, sexism and poverty.

I experienced many years of being dragged across African soil by security officers and beaten until I was unconscious. Spent many months in jail. Put in solitary confinement, purposely isolated from my people. *(beat)* It did not take long before I truly understood what Nelson had gone through for most of his life. It was now, my life.

## ACTOR

Life - in prison. Mandela and his fellow ANC comrades never thought they would ever see the outside of prison walls again. However, on February 2, 1990, Frederik Willem de Klerk, South African State President, vowed to free all political prisoners.

Nine days later, on February 11 - Mandela is freed after 27 years of imprisonment. He is 71 years of age.

### **Track 12: Freedom song :36s**

## ACTOR

Nelson Mandela was a free man. A healthy 71-year-old - free man. On April 27, 1994, an all-race election was conducted in South Africa. The voting ballots was for South Africa's next president. By the end of that day, he was elected the first black president of South Africa. With this election the apartheid formally ends.

### **Track 13: Nelson Mandela's Inaugural Speech 2:06s**

## ACTOR

For almost a year beginning December 2012 Nelson is admitted to the hospital for several medical complications. Then on June 8, 2013, Mandela is admitted for a reoccurring lung infection. Six months later, on December 5, 2013 – Nelson Mandela dies in the comfort of his home surrounded by his family and friends.

### **Track 14: Mandela's Death News Bites – 1:31s**

Some would like to think of Nelson Mandela as a celebrated leader who sacrificed everything to bring Apartheid to an end. Others would like to think of him as a criminal and a rebel that did not deserve the attention he received. Whichever thought of Mandella you have, think of this.



Close your eyes and move away from this stage and be at home. With your family. (*Pause*) If **your** family – the family you have at home right now – if your family was forced to live below the poverty level, if they were being denied equal rights, if they were beaten by others just because they were your family, if they were forbidden to have a quality education and not be allowed to participate in the political process; wouldn't you do whatever you could to provide them – **your family** - a better life? An equal life? Of course, you would. All of Africa was his family. And he took care of them. Thanks for taking this journey with me.

### **Track 15: Curtain call**