

**FLAWED**

## **Characters**

**Sharon**

**Jewel**

**Fola**

**Security 1**

**Security 2**

**Lecturer**

**Uncle kay**

**Provost**

## Act 1 scene 1

*The burning Sunday sun didn't do nice on the skin as Sharon pulled her scarf and spread it over her head like a spiderman coat but over her head. She walks with her friend down the road, her phone rings.*

SHARON

Hello mom.. *(she clutches her phone to her ear and she allow the scarf on her shoulder)*. Is she already on her way? Ohh... you should've called me since, I'm just coming back from church and I would have to prepare. I thought she would be coming by evening. Okay, Okay, no problem. I will call her now. Okay mummy. *(she hang up)*.

JEWEL

Your mom? Who is coming?

SHARON

It's my friend. She wants to come visiting.

JEWEL

Why is it your mom calling you about it?

SHARON

That is because she was at my place in Lagos and she doesn't really know anywhere around here, and besides she tried calling but my phone was on vibration. You know, service was going on.

JEWEL

Yeah, *(she made a face)* honestly, I am tired of that church. I'm changing church.

SHARON

And where will you go? Is it because of sister Precious, don't mind her, just overlook it, remember it's God you went to serve, not man.

JEWEL

I can't stay where there is no love biko, and besides, they are always acting like they are saints, and na them worse pass. Come on, I was really embarrassed today and if not for the love of God I would have rubbished her there and then.

SHARON

Well, thanks to the love you have for God. You let it go. *(she tap her gently)*

JEWEL

Thanks for coming with me. At least you following me showed that you weren't in support of what happened.

SHARON

Obviously, what she did wasn't nice. She could've called you privately and tell you, not in front of the whole church

JEWEL

Exactly. I'm open to corrections. And besides, there is absolutely nothing wrong with my cloth.

SHARON

Just let it be. Will you be coming over today? You should come see my friend

JEWEL

Naaaah... I don't want to be a third party. You guys will have lots of catching up to do. I'll see you tomorrow *(she took the right turn by the road and Sharon continued down the straight path)*

*Lights out*

Act 1 scene 2

*In a small self-contained apartment with a knee length bed on the right side of the room, the wardrobe facing it and a reading table at the window just between the bed and the wardrobe. Fola sits on the bed with her legs cross. Sharon comes out of the kitchen carrying two plates of jollofrice and turkey. She placed one in front of Fola and she sits on the floor with her food in front.*

SHARON

Don't let food spill on my bedsheet. It's so hard to wash and I recently changed the bedspread.

FOLA

*(With a slightly noticeable accent)* You are so silly, you always whine about being broke yet you're eating two turkey on a plate of rice. *(She smirks)*

SHARON

Please please, Let me enjoy my life. How was your journey? *(she smiled sheepishly)*

FOLA

Tiring. I almost forgot how crazy Nigerian drivers are. It's been an adventure. Considering that you were at church when I called you before, you finished service pretty early.

SHARON

I didn't wait for the service to end before I left.

FOLA

Why?

SHARON

They performed one nonsense today. You wouldn't believe that they embarrassed my friend just because she wore a silted dress.

FOLA

Was it that exposed?

SHARON.

No. it wasn't a bad dress at all. And the funny thing was that it was a lady, the sister cord, she decided to call her out with a microphone. That was like a bottom barrel behaviour. So, when my friend stormed out, I followed her. I was embarrassed and I also felt bad for her.

FOLA

*She laughs.* Always the rubbish. How did you find yourself in that church anyway.

SHARON

It's a good church. At least I enjoy the preaching and I find solace there. So why not.

FOLA

Well.. there's that, (*she gestured with her right hand*) It's just hypocritical that everything is still like this

SHARON

Yeah yeah... you already have an accent. (*she laughs hysterically*). Is it even up to three years since you traveled?

FOLA

Haters gonna hate. Potatoes gonn patate (*she laughs*).

SHARON

You are leaving when?

FOLA

After grandpa's burial on Saturday. I'll leave Monday or Wednesday.

SHARON

I miss you so much.

FOLA

That's was why you almost swallowed me when you saw me

SHARON

You have no idea how hard things has been since you left. I have so many things to tell you and talk to you about. But I can only feel like we don't have enough time to do that.

FOLA

Awwn. You have no idea how much I miss you also. *(She drops her half-eaten food and embrace Sharon. Then pushed her head playfully. They both burst out laughing)*

SHARON

You are an idiot

*They continue eating.*

*Lights out*

*Act 1 scene 3*

*In Sharon room. Sharon sits on the bed while Fola lay on the bed with her head on Sharon's lap pressing her phone as Sharon caress her hair.*

FOLA

Things like this never cease to amaze me. *(She showed Sharon the screen of her phone and they watched a video together, the video ended)* The lecturer should be arrested.

SHARON

These issues are endless. It's everywhere. I feel they should just give students uniform so we know what is really happening in these schools. It's no different in my school.

FOLA

But why harass someone because her hair is bumbum length. I mean how does that affect what she is going to learn at school. It is pissing me off

SHARON

And the funny thing is they won't focus on the right thing. My school also, I was sent back recently cos I wore a patterned jean. I mean it wasn't a crazy jean, it wasn't exposed, it wasn't indecent, just patterned. I just came back to my hostel and ditched the class for that day

FOLA

Can you imagine?

SHARON

And there are so many things we lack in the school but my dress is the problem. Imagine, there are beehives everywhere, different types of insects and pests roaming the campus. There are anthills in the school, they can't even take out resources to fumigate the environment.

FOLA

Beehives?? (*She sits up*) Aren't you allergic to bees?

SHARON

Yeah. But it's not like anyone has ever been stung. And besides I have my epipen anywhere I go

FOLA

But it's dangerous

SHARON

It's not like I will forfeit my admission because my school has bees in its environs. You knew how hard it was for me to get this admission

FOLA

I know, but you should still table your concern to maybe the school government and let them know there are people with allergy and the insects in the environs might have an effect on them. I mean how hard can it be to fumigate the environment

SHARON

I know I know. I'm fine and I'm safe. And there isn't anyone that has been stung.

FOLA

That's not a fact. None that you know of doesn't mean you can't be stung. It takes nothing

SHARON

Okay. If that happens, I have my epipen

FOLA

Honestly. I don't like this

SHARON

I'm fine. *She stands and touched a bag on the table.* I can't forget this bag. I literally take it everywhere. I'm surprised you brought yours

FOLA

I take it everywhere also. It's my favorite. You still have yours

SHARON

Of course. It's literally the only bag I carry to school

FOLA

*She smiles at herself. Thank you for being my best friend*

SHARON

I wouldn't have wanted anyone else

*Lights out*

Act 2 scene 1

*In Sharon's bedroom around seven forty-five in the morning, she scurries the room as she is almost late for her 8am class. She picks her bag from the hanger and went to the door, then came back, drops the bag beside Fola's bag, she enters her kitchen, took her flask, poured some water into it and pick the wrong bag. She took her phone on the table and she went out. Fola is sleeping the whole time.*

*Few minutes later.. Fola wakes up to text on her screen.*

***I took your bag instead of mine. My passport is in it and I need it for a registration today and also my epipen. Can you help me bring it when you are done? Love xoxo with emojis in front of it.***

FOLA

*Silly girl. She stretches and rubs her face. She took her bible from the table.*

*Lights out*

Act 2 scene 2

*At school. In a long classroom with over a hundred students. A lecturer stands in front of the classroom.*

LECTURER

So which group presenting is presenting now?

*A group of students rose and there were murmurs and chair sounds as they made their way to the front of the class. Sharon stood at the front of her group members*

SHARON

Good morning class. We are the members of group seven

LECTURER

Who is the group leader and where is your paperwork . *the lecturer stands by the door with her arms folded*

SHARON

Here it is ma. *She walks up to she lecturer and hand her the paperwork. She stands in front of her and she tried to rest her hand on the doorframe, unknowingly busting a little beehive, a bee flew on her and stung her on her face. Everyone shouted.*

*Outside the school gate. Fola tries to make her way in but is stopped by the security*

SECURITY 1

Hello miss. You cannot go in.

FOLA

Excuse me. Why?

SECURITY 1

You are asking me why. Don't you know your cloth is too short. Where do you think you are going dressed like that.

FOLA

Ohhh... *(she said suddenly realizing.)* Yeah. I totally forgot. But I'm not a student of this school and I just want to drop this bag for a friend inside. She forgot some really important things inside.

SECURITY 1

Call her to come and meet you here. I cannot allow you in.

FOLA

There is even nothing wrong with my cloth. It is decent enough. And what has my dressing gotten to do with anything?

SECURITY 1

Are you okay at all, who is your mate here that you are trying to exchange words with?

SECURITY 2

What is going on there?

SECURITY 1

Imagine this stupid girl....

FOLA

Hello... I am not stupid. Please be knowing what you'll say and how you will talk. And I wasn't at any point disrespectful to you. How can you call me stupid?

SECURITY 2

Young woman. You better know what you're doing. I'm sure she is an 100level student. Those new batches and their audacity. Which department are you, which level?

FOLA

You've got to be kidding me. Look I don't school here okay. And small power they gave you people, you are misbehaving. *(Brings out her phone to dial Sharon)*

*Pandemonium in the class as Sharon fell and is gasping for breath*

SHARON

My ...my ...my... ph..pho..ne...(she struggled with the words, saying to no one in particular. Jewel brought her phone to her) call .... Callll best girl in my call log...(the lecturer ordered some guys to carry her and rush her to the clinic. Just then Sharon phone rings )

JEWEL

Hello (*panicking*) I was just about to call

FOLA

See the security men are acting like crazy people (*the security man moved close to fola at the mention of crazy and slapped her. Her phone fell*)

JEWEL

Sharon got stung. She asked me to call you. Hello. Hello.

*At the school gate*

FOLA

Are you mad?

What the fuck, how dare you slap me?

SECURITY 1

That is what uncultured children like you get for being insolent.

FOLA

I'll show you who is crazier. (*she picks her phone and dials Sharon again*)

JEWEL

She fell. It was just a bee. She was gasping for breath. She asked me to call you. I don't know what to *do* (*She starts crying*)

FOLA

Bee?? *(she races through the gate with the bag on her hand).*

*(At the school clinic)*

*The nurse is communicating with one of the students that carried her there*

NURSE

You guys can go. She's better now. *(she discharged the students and faces the second nurse....)*

*Just before the clinic, Fola keep running and on the phone still communicating with jewel. They met on the road*

FOLA

Where is she?

JEWEL

The nurse said she's fine

FOLA

*(Sweating and panicking)* did you see her?

JEWEL

No, but the nurses said we can go that she is better.

FOLA

*(Races past jewel but jewel dragged her back)* She is not fine

JEWEL

They won't allow you in and you can't identify yourself there. The nurses said she's fine. So, she is fine.

FOLA

Did you see her. Her epipen.. she forgot it. I was bringing it to her.... *(Just then the security from the gate caught up with Fola and dragged her away. Jewel totally confused)*

JEWEL

What is going on. Excuse me. *(She followed them)*

*Lights out*

Act 2 scene3

*Around 6pm in the evening, Fola sits at the security office. Her uncle showed up*

UNCLE KAY

Hello. Good evening.

FOLA

Uncle kay. *(She stands up)* thank you for coming...

UNCLE KAY

Yes? What is going on here Fola? What if I hadn't brought the cow for the burial which made me be in the area, is it your parents that are hundreds of kilometers away that wants to come and intervene? When did you become so irresponsible Fola?

FOLA

I'm sorry uncle kay. But I honestly didn't do anything wrong?

SECURITY 1

Ohh, so now you didn't do anything wrong? She harassed everyone here.

FOLA

Harassed who? *(She recounts everything to her uncle)*

UNCLE KAY

So why am I here and where is Sharon? Why isn't she out yet if she's fine?

FOLA

I don't know also. These people locked me here and refused to give me an update on her. Because I am not a student and neither a guardian

UNCLE KAY

*(Faces the security)* Can I at least check on my niece and we will sort this when I am sure she's okay?

SECURITY 1

Alright. *(He leaves with uncle kay. The security came back and told Fola to go in. she eyed him and hissed)*

FOLA

I thought the dress is not allowed I the premises. You people gets small power and start misbehaving. *(She walks in)*

*At the school clinic. She found her uncle on a chair and sits beside him. There are some people and security men discussing*

PROVOST

Hello. *He stretches his hand to shake uncle kay.* I am the provost of this school. I understand that Sharon's parent are not around at the moment and upon calling them, they said you will be coming. Apologies we have to meet under this circumstance

UNCLE KAY

Can you cut the bullshit and tell me what is wrong?

PROVOST

Can the young miss excuse us. I would deem it appropriate if we speak privately

FOLA

Oh my God *she shouted.* Oh my god oh my god oh my god. She's dead. She's dead. Oh my god. *She wailed and throws herself on the floor*

PROVOST

*Looks at her with pity.* I'm sorry. She had an allergic reaction and she didn't have her Epipen and nothing could be done in the minutes she arrived at the clinic as I was told. I am very sorry. *Tries to leave but uncle kay drags him back and punched him on the cheek*

*In the morning*

*Fola wakes up on an hospital bed. She tries to sit up but she felt a sharp pain on her head and she laid back. Jewel sits beside her bed with her eyes puffy*

JEWEL

You passed out last night

FOLA

Where's Sharon (*she tries to sit up again*)

JEWEL

*She shakes her head and fresh tears trips down her eyes*

FOLA

Noooo... nooo. That can't happen. She can't be gone please. No. please no. *(she stands up this time and storms out of the room she was in. she got out and saw Sharon's parent. She ran back to the room she was in and breaks down. Jewel comforts her also crying)*

This can't be happening. I came for my grandpa's burial not to bury my best friend. She is my sister. Even after leaving the country for years, she never replaced me. She can't be gone please. I need her to wake up. Please... this is all my fault.... If I hadn't come here. It's my fault, it's my fault *(she cries harder. Jewel just sits beside her on the floor and they cried together)*

*Lights out*

**THE END**