

Video Evidence

CHAPTER 22

Tom was allowed double the normal twenty liter fuel ration amount. This made it possible for him to drive thru Jos Town to northeast Abuja. He was rethinking where and how to drop off Abidemi. Too many questions by an admission nurse or a desk officer at a police station could mess up his departure out of Africa. He thought about leaving Abidemi by the food vendors in Gudu Recreation Park but remembered the warning about not being a safe place when he had met Dan there.

It was dark when he parked next to the cinder block cell phone building; a familiar place he'd rested at before. He moved over to the passenger seat and leaned his head against the window. The next thing Tom heard was the early morning Tantalus Monkey chatter. Out thru the windshield Abidemi was slowly walking Cain back toward the motorhome. Some of the white bearded monkeys were climbing and ranting from the fence that surrounded the cell phone tower; mainly to harass Cain. Abidemi wasn't fazed; she was thankful that it wasn't a clan of hyenas.

Tom stepped out, his hip felt less stiff. "Is everything okay?"

"Cain had to poop and pee. His ear is good, some blood got on the bed from his leg. It cleaned up good."

"You cleaned up his leg or the bed?"

"Both, you were sleeping." Abidemi pointed at Cain's shoulder.

"Well, thank you young lady. I think we should round up something for breakfast. First, I need my coffee."

"Mr. Tom could I have coffee too?" Abidemi reached up and grabbed Tom's hand.

Tom tensed up; he had a deadline to meet. It took will power to pull his hand back. Seminary training taught him not to get too close to orphans or suffering children. A family like attachment would be

32 added grief, when he left Abidemi behind. Tom didn't want to become
33 something to an innocent child that had nothing...

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37 Victor and Mr. Chen had deadlines also; neither felt remorse for
38 stealing virgin girls from Zangam village. Nothing was going to stand
39 in the way of Victor's opportunity to stow away on the Dong Fang
40 container ship. He wasn't privy that their human payload would be
41 dropped off south of Saint James Island — not at port but over the
42 ships railing at sea.

43 Tina's Hollywood and music connections were Victor's chance for a
44 recording contract. Victor knew that a good looking African Hip Hop
45 artist would have more opportunity in the United States — thanks to
46 affirmative action. Victor also had a God given talent that he ignored.

47 Mr. Chen was mentally distressed, social engineering worked in
48 China but Africa was different. The one child policy was just one
49 example; Africa's average family size was over six members. With an
50 abundance of children human trafficking was under reported.

51 The deal with the China Communist Party mission coordinator was
52 four virgins not three. If this simple request could not be adhered to,
53 there was a good chance that the CCP would lose out on earning a
54 chair at the Elite World Order round table. African children were again
55 an expendable commodity — this time the plantation was a private
56 island south of the Devil's Triangle.

57 Victor offered a backup plan to the CCP coordinator. In place of
58 the missing virgin girl he proposed a pubescent boy. After he'd texted
59 a picture of Jacob to the CCP commander the offer was conditional that
60 there were no health issues. Victor didn't say a word about Jacob
61 being deaf from Malaria treatment. The substitution was accepted and
62 the Wednesday departure from Tin Can Harbor on was a go. Once in
63 international waters defective bounty can be disposed of without any
64 country wanting to or caring to get involved.

65 Tina was more manipulator than deal maker. She had called Mrs.
66 Onukwulu and told her that Jacob didn't need to mop and clean the
67 church on Monday morning because Tom was still out of town. Tina
68 also helped Ken Chen by convincing the three girls into taking knock-
69 off Oxycodone pills. She claimed that they were vitamins so to prevent
70 scurvy while at sea. If need be Tina would give the security guard at
71 dock 53 on Tin Can Island one of her notorious massages. No man,
72 even her Uncle Tom couldn't resist her blond hair, inviting eyes,
73 seductive scent and perfect body — Tina was a goddess of temptation.

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Tom changed his plan again. *I'll leave this girl at a shopping mall.
For sure someone will notice that she is lost and put her in the hands
of the authorities...*

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Abidemi moved up to the passenger seat; she was a real
chatterbox. Tom was spared the repetitive, 'Are we there yet? Are we
there yet?' Abidemi didn't know where she was going, but trusted that
Tom was the way to being a foreign exchange student. She would
return to her village, maybe as a teacher or nurse, her mum would be
so proud.

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A GPS search pin-pointed the Novare Gateway Mall near the airport
in Abuja, it wasn't far off the route back to Lagos. Tom set that
location as the new waypoint; the arrival time was 11:45 AM.

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Abidemi had never been this far from her village. There was a
SHOPRITE grocery outlet on one end of the mall; Tom parked a long
distance from the store. After he rubbed more of the African medicinal
saue into his hip he made it across the parking lot into the mall
entrance with very little discomfort. Abidemi stared out the side
window; she'd seen large malls in National Geographic magazines. Her
mother always promised that one day they'd go shopping at one —
that promise would never ensue.

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Tom located a department store and picked out a school pack, a
light blue exercise outfit and some underwear. At the checkout counter

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99 there was a bin of stuffed animals. Tom paid for the items and then
100 stuffed a brown teddy bear into the pack. In the middle of the mall
101 was a food court and a movie house. *Either of these places will work.*
102 *We can go see a movie and then I'll go to buy popcorn and leave. Or*
103 *we can get lunch and then I'll say I'm going to the bathroom...*

104 Tom backtracked to the motorhome. "Let's go inside the mall. You
105 can try on these clean clothes and make sure the stuff fits."

106 Abidemi's hazel eyes were wide open as they entered the mall.
107 She'd prayed often about venturing off of Jos Plateau and away from
108 the Zangam River. Although this was one of the most scenic areas in
109 Nigeria she hadn't been to any other place to make a comparison.
110 There was no public transportation this far north, fuel was scarce and
111 sightseeing by a single mother was forbidden.

112 Overwhelmed and anxious Abidemi's hand gripped Tom's baggy
113 camo pants. "Would you like something to eat?" Tom asked.

114 "Could I have ice cream?" Abidemi pointed at the menu board over
115 the Cold Stone Creamery counter.

116 "Let's have pizza first." Tom pointed at the Domino's booth.

117 It was like all her previous birthdays rolled into one; pizza, ice
118 cream and new clothes. Her prayers were being answer. "Thank you!
119 Thank you! Thank you so much Mr. Tom."

120 Tom mostly stayed quiet so to avoid any affection. As they ate
121 pizza Tom looked over the movie times. The next showing was over an
122 hour away. "Why don't you try on these new clothes in the restroom?"
123 Tom pointed to the corner of the food court.

124 Abidemi latched on to the light blue backpack and shopping bag
125 and zigzagged around the cafeteria tables and chairs. She disappeared
126 down a short hallway — Tom disappeared out to the mall parking lot.

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130 Down south in Lagos Tina, Victor Vee and Mr. Chen were all in full
131 panic mode. For three days Tom's calls continually downloaded to a
132 remote voice mailbox. This was what the grapheme bag was designed

133 to do; block RF (radio frequency). Idogbe called once but didn't leave
134 a message; he wanted to inform Tom that some church members were
135 floating a rumor that his relationship with Jacob was inappropriate.

136 Victor Vee left several threatening messages for Tom to have the
137 motorhome at the church by Tuesday or he was going to go to the
138 police with some incriminating photos. Tina's messages were more
139 pleading and the last one had a sexual offer attached.

140 After twenty years of marriage Beth had more than a gut feeling
141 that Tom was in trouble. It was difficult but she heeded Dan's warning
142 about the FBI eavesdropping on their phones, she didn't leave any
143 details in her only message. Her gut told her the motorhome was key
144 to everything. Maybe Tina's and her Chinese boss were bringing drugs
145 into Nigeria. Beth's one and untrue message was odd. "Tom we have a
146 cash offer on the house that includes your Corvette. I'll take the offer
147 if I don't hear back. They really want your Corvette!"

148 Beth didn't have a clue or even had heard of the Elite World Order.
149 The EWO goal to globalize the world into one common class was a
150 shared vision among only the world's ultra-billionaires. Bringing China
151 on board would be a win — win. The CCP, officially the Communist
152 Party of China founded in 1921 under the leadership of Mao Zedong,
153 essentially kept their common class of 1.6 billion under control with a
154 thirty pound bag of rice every month and by suppressing religion.

155 What the EWO didn't factor into their lust for world dominance was
156 the countries where Christianity was on the rise. Africa was high on
157 the list of Trinitarian conversions. This three-in-one over site could
158 become major in a good over evil battle.

159 Removing freedom of religion along with the right to bear arms are
160 two goals that the Elite World Order had been chipping away for the
161 last fifty years. It is easy to map out these countries — look where the
162 Ten Commandments have been removed. Those once safe and
163 prosperous nations are now hell holes — run by corrupted and
164 compromised leaders that hand out entitlements like bags of rice to
165 their constituents.

166 Ironically some of the EWO bylaws aligned with Tom legalist view
167 of strict adherence to a set of laws. A civilization governed by spineless
168 leaders that abandoned a declaration of independence always
169 implodes. From the very beginning man and woman were offered
170 freedom with restrictions — freedom requires rules that apply to all.

171 Fueling up, in the small town of Kwang Tom asked the attendant,
172 “Do you know where some large Ten Commandments plaques are
173 located?”

174 The attendant inserted Tom’s credit card into the gas pump. “That
175 Ten Commandments monument is located near Doi Village. It is not
176 what most Nigerians believe.”

177 “Why’s that?” Tom took back his credit card.

178 “Those Ten Commandments are for you infidel tourists. Everyone
179 should practice the seventy-five good manners in the Quran!”

180 Tom pulled away from the gas pumps into an open parking space.
181 He touched the **Tourist Attractions** icon on the in-dash GPS. Nothing
182 for the largest Ten Commandments popped on the screen. **Gudu**
183 **Recreation Park** popped up as a recent visited waypoint.

184 *That didn’t help. A cell phone search will get more hits.* Tom
185 grabbed the RF signal blocking bag and unzipped the seal. In his hand
186 the cell phone vibrated for at least three minutes as fifty plus
187 messages downloaded. There were over twenty messages from Tina,
188 about the same from Victor Vee, a few from Mr. Chen, two calls from
189 Idogbe, and just the single message from Beth.

190 While Tom deleted messages he thought about Dan’s warning
191 about the FBI ease dropping on anybody that they wanted to. Tom
192 suspected that Dan had warned Beth too. When Tom pulled out of the
193 petrol stop he put the phone back into the Grapheme bag and then
194 tossed it onto the empty passenger seat. The silence and lack of
195 chatter gave time to discern over the past three days. *God’s will is not*
196 *always an easy path. My new calling will be in academia.*

197 The thirty acre Novare Gateway Mall parking lot was now less than
198 a quarter filled, it didn’t take but ten minutes for Tom to spot Abidemi
199 setting on a concrete bench outside of SHOPRITE. Her head was

200 slumped forward; she had the brown teddy bear in one hand and the
201 pack in the other. Tom pulled up alongside the curb and tapped the
202 horn. Abidemi looked up. The eye to eye contact followed by a big
203 joyful smile was something Tom tried hard not to return.

204 "Where did you go?" Abidemi asked as she put her pack on the
205 floorboard, grabbed the Graphene phone bag and then hiked up into
206 the passenger seat.

207 "I had to get a new spare tire," Tom fibbed. The eight hour trip
208 back to Lagos had more silent periods of discernment for Tom.

209 Not like Abidemi, who was in full speed chatterbox mode. Tom did
210 surmise that four village school girls were offered scholarships by Mr.
211 Chen's company. Tom was okay with that information, given the fact
212 that Glory and Praise was abandoning their outreach work. His second
213 week in Africa Tom learned that Boko Haram translated to 'Western
214 Education is forbidden'. He also found out that the Nigerian
215 government was not supporting Christian organizations in northern
216 Nigeria; especially in heavily populated Muslim territory.

217 In the cover of darkness Tom unlocked the church and then backed
218 the motorhome right up against the concrete church steps. He pulled
219 the mattress and linen out of the motorhome and made up a bed for
220 Abidemi. She was travel tired but listened to Tom's instructions that if
221 she heard anybody outside the church doors that she should hide
222 behind the false wall. Cain laid down beside her and they both fell fast
223 asleep on the foam mattress.

224 Tom locked up the church entrance and then pulled the
225 motorhome over to the parking lot entrance. It was past midnight
226 when he called and left a message. "Tina the church gate is unlocked.
227 The keys to the motorhome are in the generator compartment. Don't
228 wake me, we'll touch base later."

229 Inside the apartment Tom flopped face first on the bed. He hadn't
230 slept sound for three days. The first day was the flat tire and putting
231 Able out of misery after the Hyenas attacked. The next morning was a
232 reaction to his military training. The call to duty at the Zangam Village

233 School could be PTSD in its infancy. Post tragic syndrome disorder
234 usually comes up later when the mind relives a horrific past event.

235 The coming across one innocent child on a back road was the
236 reprieve Tom's mind needed. The renegade soldiers he'd killed was
237 hard to think about, let alone justified. All battlefields are hell — kill or
238 be killed is not that simple. Tom might need to reach out for
239 professional help — but what if the therapist called it murder?

240 At the moment Tom only had one thing he had to do. Figure out
241 what to do with Abidemi. He had to be careful not to be detained or
242 worse yet have to surrender his passport. He had a nightmare about
243 the young woman murdered at the outreach school — she had hazel
244 colored eyes same as Abidemi...

245 Tom was not awakened when Ken Chen and Tina drove off with the
246 motorhome. After transferring the girls to the motorhome from the
247 back of the V V marked music van Victor parallel parked on the road in
248 front of the church. It was still dark; he reclined in the passenger seat
249 to wait for Jacob to show up to clean and mop. His oversized music
250 truck would shield the snatch and grab. If Jacob resisted, a hit with the
251 Rungu baton would be the fix.

252 Jacob was following the instructions from his mum thru Tina. 'Not
253 to clean the church Monday, to do it early Tuesday morning'.

254 The beeping and morning traffic noise was something Abidemi had
255 never experienced. She came out of the closet, turned on a light,
256 walked across the church tile floor and peeked out thru the crack
257 between the two church doors. The V V music truck blocked most the
258 road; Abidemi was amazed at how heavy foot traffic was before dawn.

259 Cain nuzzled Abidemi; he wanted outside to pee. The front doors
260 were locked. In darkness she walked down the center aisle toward the
261 side door just to the left of the Ten Commandment plaques.

262 Victor noticed the church lights go on, he sat straight up and said
263 to himself. "That mute kid must have entered thru a back door!" Victor
264 grabbed the set of duplicate keys and the Rungu baton. He was
265 wrong; Jacob was on the far side of the field with the red bucket

266 swinging on the mop handle. It had been three days since he played
267 chess or hung out with Tom.

268 Inside the church Abidemi had jumped up on the raised platform
269 walked behind the podium, pushed open a door and turned on another
270 light. The spring loaded door closed leaving Cain only in the dim
271 morning light coming. The outside side door to the alley was locked.

272 Outside at front doors the duplicate key fit perfectly into the lock
273 tumbler. Victor turned the key and the bolt gave off a loud **snap**. Cain
274 alerted to the noise and his hackle rose. Victor took three deep breaths
275 and slowly opened one of the front doors and slithered inside. Cain
276 showed his teeth and lightly growled.

277 Jacob rounded the corner, ambled up the church step set his
278 bucket and mop in front of the doors. Out of the corner of his eye he
279 noticed the double V's on the box of the music van parked on the
280 street. Jacob froze, peed himself and then leaped off the porch. He
281 opened the wire gate ran into the dog kennel and crawled thru the dog
282 door into the apartment.

283 Tom propped up on his elbow, his eyes focused on Jacob's wet
284 short pants. "What caused you to have another accident?" Tom's brain
285 slowly spun up to speed and he realized the blunder — Jacob's
286 muteness. When Tom sat all the way up Jacob jumped on to the bed
287 and scooted in against him. The feel of a grown mans flesh comforted
288 Jacob in a protective way. Tom hand signaled for Jacob to take off his
289 clothes. While Jacob showered Tom rinsed out urine from his shorts
290 and underwear in the kitchen sink.

291 Back over in the church Abidemi heard Cain's growling out in the
292 church. As she pulled open the spring loaded door she saw Cain
293 showing his teeth and frothing. Her entire life had been around cattle,
294 dogs and other animals. To approach she knew to make eye contact
295 and move slowly in non threatening way. Cain looked over at her and
296 then back down the center aisle waiting for the word to attack.

297 Victor had his back to the doors with Rungu baton readied. He'd
298 been trained by a Maasai Warrior how to put down large animals. In

299 the dimness Abidemi gracefully moved to the center of the stage
300 careful not to break eye contact on Cain.

301 Victor's heart pounded at double speed when he saw the ghost of
302 the girl he had left behind, mystically drifting at the front of the
303 church. The apparition wrapped its arms around Cain's thick neck,
304 then a soothing calm settled over Cain.

305 Victor sensed the spiritual warning and directly backed out thru the
306 church doors! He tripped over the mop and red bucket! The back of his
307 head hit directly on the middle concrete step! A few pedestrians
308 witnessed the accident. They tried to help Victor but he was out cold.
309 Someone called emergency services, someone else called the police.

310 When Abidemi heard people and the commotion outside she got
311 behind the secret panel in the storage room. All per the hide and seek
312 game Tom told her she had to play.

313 In the apartment Tom didn't hear the commotion over the clothes
314 dryer noise. When he heard the ambulance siren is when he looked
315 thru the peep hole. Constable Ayoola stood up so the paramedic could
316 take over and then he headed toward the apartment. With his notepad
317 and pen now in hand he made a beeline across the parking lot.

318 When Tom opened the door Constable Ayoola saw Jacob setting
319 the chess game out at the green table with just a towel wrapped
320 around his waist. Tom stepped out the apartment door to see Victor
321 Vee being loaded into the back of an ambulance. "What happened?"
322 Tom asked standing in his boxer shorts, bare feet and undershirt.

323 Without a warrant Constable Ayoola halted in the doorway, he
324 didn't want his ongoing investigation to go sideways. He motioned for
325 Jacob to come out. The rubber neck gawkers got another eyeful. A
326 grown man in boxer shorts and a nine year old boy with a towel
327 wrapped around his waist.

328 The deal-making, progressive pastor from America that preached
329 that throwing out one of the Ten Commandments was tolerable in
330 today's world, was now exposed. Constable Ayoola motioned for Jacob
331 to come with him. The video evidence he had gathered now proved his

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hunch about Preacher Tom. An interview with a sign language expert

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would prove to the neighborhood whom was right.