

Grace Jones

by

Irenosen Okojie

(Translator: Tendai Huchu)

Paya nherera dzendangariro dzakatsva padzakapindira mumusha mekurarira, kumapeto kwerima kuchipenya apo mangwananiyo zvisinandangariro zvagurwa misoro yakanyunguduka, ndipo paakatarisa pasipegonhi akaisachiso chake pasi achichema, achitsvagararamo nokuchibvumbatira dhaka risatikumbotimbwa, apo nhare yekubasa yakarira ariye Hasan akaichaya. Mhandara yaingeine mazano matatu chete akasimbisisa ainge akanyorwa parisiti yebhachi rake remavara rekwaRoland Mouret raakangaambopfeka kamwe chete. Asi nhare yakarira zvineruzha ichikashira kudavirwa. Achiripasipo achirohwa nechando chemapuranga ndipopaakakambaira mbichana-mbichana kundoidavira nhare achiitakunge munhu akasungirirwa parukuvhute rwenyika, mbariro dzacho dzichienderana nezvinhanho zvevakore ehupenyu hwake. Akamboedzakufunga kuti chii chaangagonekuita kuti mitoro yakanyorwa parisiti paya isapfuure. Aingogona kuidya yongonyungudutswa nemito yemudumbu make kusvikirira pasisina chinhu. Aigona kuimama. Manje bepa rinopazhika here? Zvaitoratidza zvinhu sezvazvhiri: kushata kwazvo. Kana kuti aingoirasirira mumba imo maaigara. Kwete kunze. Aiwa, kwete kunze. Zvaizoramba zvichienderera. Aitomboda kutiambogaya mamwe mazano kusvikira anyatsobata inoita. Manheru iwawo zvakamunetesa mupfungwa, moyo wake uchideukira mwena wesunzunuro yepagonhi remumba maairarira, zvichiita karuzha kemwana arikuyamwa, apondipo mawoko ake paainyunguduka kunge kanduru. Risiti yacho yaitofanirwa kurasirwa mumbamo. Zvaizoita kuti akwanise kudhadhamura nguva chaiyo chero hake aiva neronda mumoyo. Mupfungwadzake chaingova chido chaMwari. Ndiye angaaisa rondaracho mumoyo make. Zvakangezvakarongwa kubvira, kutonyorwa neruvara rwemagetsi zvichigwinha kubvira mavambo enyaya yacho. Pese paaidakumira ndipo paainzwa maremero azvo.

Akanhonga musoro wenhare akanyatsougumbatira kuti usadonhe zvaiita zvimwe zvinhu muhupenyu hwake mazuva iwawo. Pakamboita karunyararo kwechidimbu. Aiziva hake kuti ndiHassan. Murume iyeye aimbomira mbichana asatiataura panhare kuti hana yako igadzikane. Aisambotaura kuti ndiye achaya. Aitongomirira kuti uzvibate wega. Chisikana Chaigara chichizvibata hacho kuti ndiye.

Sidra, kwamuka mafaro nhasi. Unganakidzwe ukauya asi handingakumanikidze hako.

Samusha vacho vekumabiko vanonyanyisofarira Grace Jones. Ndakutumira kero.

Itazvawada. Ndichairenhare kana panechanetsa. Zvakanaka-ka?

Ndozvo.

Chisikana chakamboda kumuudza nezveanodhirowa mazano ipapo. Pfungwa idzi dzaingoyerekana dzamupindira chero nguva zvayo. Asi haanakudaro, maoko ake achidedera, musikana akangotsveta nhare pachigaro chayo. Ndokubvaatarisa risiti iya patafura. Yakangayatodonha pasi pedyo nechidziisamusha, mbhaura yemagetsi. Akayeuka kuti angaakanganwa kupira Hassan nyaya yekuti iye angaafunga kupindira chikoro chemanheru musimumwe pavhiki. Zvakawandisa zvakangosiwa zvisinakutaurwa pahuviri hwavo. Akanga asina kumbobvira abvunza Hassan kuti neyi munhu wechiAlgerian chakabatana nechifurenchi aigara muLondon achiita bhizimusi rekufambisa vanhu nhando vakafanana nevaya vanemukurumbira pasirose. Iyewo murume wacho akanga asina kumbobvunza kuti nei musikana wekuMartinique akadzidza magwaro eForensic Science aimbotsvagei achiita kabasa kekunyepedzera kunge ndiye Grace Jones, saka vaingobwaira vachitarisana kunge uyu neyu arikuseri kwegonhi rinotenderera.

Pane musha waiita kunge dongo, kusviba kunge nyama yatsva kusara yavetsito ndokuitwa chidimbu-chidimbu. Nyamayo ikangogara yakatarisadenga kungeyaindangarira hupenyu huneraramo nyangwe yaperu kudaro. Pasirose nyika yairara ichimuka, maguta achiita ruzha nerunyararo; nzizi dzichitangira muhomwe chaimo dzoyerera zvisina mufananidzo; madzimwari achidhakwa neruvara rwemakungwa; pakati penyika pakatsveyama mbichana; nyenyedzi dzichipenya-penya kunge dzaudzwa; makomo manzwa nemhepo yaivhuvhuta

*ichiita kunge yocheka migwagwapo; musha ukangoramba wakamira kunge dumbu
rakavhiiwa mumafambiro ezuva. Mushawo waiita kunge buri muchitunha chirimudongo
mukati menyika iri mumapoka enyenyedzi; kuita kunge mabhokisi maduku arimukati
memakuru asi chipo chemochingori chimwe chete chakagarira nyasi yakabooka.*

Pazvinhanho zvose zvedongo racho, Sidra aimhanyira shure akananga madeko anezuro.

*Zvoita sengezvakarongedzerwa mubhokisi rakanamwa neSellotape. Paingoita ruzha
rusinganzwike kuti rwabvirepi pachinhanho chese chaibviswa Sellotape naSidra.*

*Achingobvisa hake zvaivemomubhokisi racho. Musiwacho waitongoita kunge wakagadzirwa
nezvirungiso zvemakeke zvinoti mazai, hupfu hwemagorosi, ruomba, tsvigiri, mapepa
esimbi, chikurungiso, vanilla.*

Pachinhanho chose Sidra aimhanyira fafetera akapfeka nhumbi dzemapapa esimbi.

Pachinhanho chekutanga aichema akazorwa mazai.

Pachinhanho chepiri aizhamba akazorwa hupfu hwemagorosi.

*Pachinhanho chetatu ainge akazara ruomba rwuchinyugudutswa nekupisa kwakwaiita apo
chikurungiso chichingoyuwira chiri pedo.*

Zvichingodaro.

Padzangaradzimu rwusina kubairirwa magetsi paibva rwiyo rwaGrace Jones "La Vien Rose".

Asitambo yemagetsi yaibvira munyasi memusha uyu kunge mudzi wemagetsi.

Dongo richinyekanyeka.

*Pachinhanho chose Sidra akabata chikurungiso. Ndangariro dzakakanganikwa dzichiwira
kubva mumafafetera; mvura ndiyo yakashaikwa. Pombi dzichingochururuka kutya nemoyo
yakatsva; madhibhura, apo malift ndokufazve achimwaya nhumbi dzevanorwisa moto kunge
mazipuka. Zvikangoendera zvichimhanyisa kunge mavambo akadhakwa. Madota achiumba
zvipuka zvaikambaira zvakanangadenga zvichitutana nemadzimotokari akabva azviparadza
zvakare.*

Pakati penyika pakatsveyamazve.

Marimi emoto akuchidzirwa.

Nyasi dzemabhokisi achkatsveyama achibvira.

Marara akavazvitsiga zvaipenya zvichifamba.

Ndipo pakabuda chiratidzo pakati pemapoka enyeredzi.

Anodhirowa mazano akabata rimi remoto raiita kunge simbi, kunge mudziyo waigona kungoshanduka pakadaro.

Sidra akatangakuona Grace Jones paterevhizheni. Ainge aiva nemakore makumi nematatu ipapo. Apo aitandanisa Carla naDorian waitamba nematurusi escrewdriver kuseri kwechigaro vachiti ukoneuko vaichinyepedzera kurwisana nemapakatwa vachishevedzera kuti, “En guard!” sekunge mapakatwa avo ainge zvombo zvehondo. Mushina wekuwacha nhumbi waichaya. Mafafatera akazarurwa kuhwandisa manhuhwiro echikafu chemuto wehove chaakange akanyakubika. Mushina unozhamba ukanhuhwidzahutsi hwakanga hwakafa. Asi pasina awachairo rapera mushina iwowo waisamira kurira. Paakaedza kumisa nemutsvairo ndipopaakabva auracya. Asi zvaisavanebasa nekuti paterevhizheni paiva nemukadzi akafanana naye. Aisakwanisa kubvisa maziso ake ipapo kunge avaraidzwa nemavara eshato. Ainge asati amboona mudzimai akasvibakudaro paterevhizheni. Akadzungaidzwa nerunakorwo.

Mukadzi wacho akareba aiveakapfeka rokwerwutema rwaitevedzanyama zvaiburitisa rute, kunge asirichisikwa chepasi pano, akazvitemba hake. Muromo wake wakanyatsopendwa neruvara rwutsva kungengoro yekudzimura moto, musoro wake uinengowani yeruvara hwezuya kungemukoko hwehuchi. Sidra akatombofunga kuti zvimwe mukadzi uyu achateverwa nyenyuchi dzichiti ndiye mambokadzi wadzo. Zvaitomuitira kunge waitove mapatya akapatsanurwa nenguva uye mafuta nyenyuchi akabatana rondedzero dzemuchimbereko.

Vaiti, Grace Jones. Grace Jones.

Akatevedzera mashoko aya rurimi rwuchitenderera kunge mushina wekuwachisa nhumbi, apo Carla naDorian vakange varegera turusi vavekutamba mutambo wehondo nezvidhori zvemaPower Rangers. Girazi repaterevizhoni rakabvarabwaira ndokubvarufananidzo rwaivepo rwadzima. Zvaitoita kunge Grace akange aunzwapano nenhefenyuro inobva kuJupita chaiko. Akatorawaya yekuturikira nhumbi yaive kuseri kweterevizhioni ndokuiisa

mukaburi kanobatisa nhefenyuro. Mufananidzo wakabvawadzoka. Asi Grace akangaaenda pangosara shambararo yenhau yemukaka wevana wakaora. Akarwadzikana asi chiso chaGrace chakaita kungechapisirwa mundangariro dzake nesimbi inopisa. Akatizira muimba mairara maivake ndokutsvaga pavaichengetera penzura dzekuisaruvara pamuromo wavo. Akatoita zvekusvetukiramo. Murimamo akanzwa zvaiita kunge mapapiro enyuchi. Nyuchi inemuromo uneruvara rweropa kungengoro yemoto yakamupindiramo nemhepo dzenhefenyuro pasina.

Sidra akapinda mutekisi akananga kuEast Dulwich, bhachi rake reRoland Mouret richiita kakupenyera. Ainhuhwirira Yves St Laurent ichisangana nekamunhuhwiro kemaruva akawomeswa kaivemumhepo. Rokwe rake remutevedzanyama rwaive rweruvara rwutsvuku mucheka uriweherevheti zvainyatsodziirira paganda rake. Aripachigaro chekumashure aizvitarisa chiso mugirazi achinyatsoona kugerwa musoro kwaakaitwa, vhudzi rekumashure nemativi rakanyatsochekwa zvakaisvonaka. Pagirazipo pakanga pakasungirirwa rambi rinenge rwemungano yaAladdin. Akanyatsotambarara muchigaro vachimhanya muguta, apoaitamba nemucheka hwerokwe rwaakasimira, achigaya rambi riya richimwaya mafuta kundopisa rimwe rokwe raakanga asina kupfeka musi iwowo. Akadzikisa fefetera apo mutyairi airongonora nhorondo yemakuriro aakaitira semujaha muguta reDamascus. Mhepo yaifefetera ganda remusikana. Paakavhara maziso, kuwawata kwemutyairi kwaingomupinda munzeve chero aisaterera hake.

Kwakanga kwavanetumakore musikana asati apinda kuEast Dulwich. Mazuva iwawo aishandira kambani yaipinda mudzimbadzevanhu vava vanodza kukwizwa nyama. Basa rekutanga raakaita akaona murume mutete aipfeka magirazi panze pembahurusa achidiridza tsangadzi akapfeka rokwe resirika. Murume aiva nekamuitiro kekungobata-bata magirazi ake achimagadzirisa pamunhu. Imba yacho yaitoita kunge yakabva mumapikicha emu*Wallpaper Magazine*; yakavakwa zvezmazuvano zvaionekera nekuti dzimwedzimba dzaivepedo dzaive dzechinyakare mumaraini imomo akakosha. Akafara nekuona musikana ndokubvaarega zvekudiridza achinongedzera mukoni wepamberi pemusha. Vakachipinda.

Murume akabva amboshaikira mumambamo, ndokudzoka akabatatauro. Akapa chisikana tauro ndokumuti anokatanura nhumbi sezvo kukwizwa nyama nemusikana asina kusimira kwemaminiti makumi mana zvaiita £150.

Musikana akandogadzirira. Akaenda kumatengaemba akapfeka nduwe dema, tumasokisi tweruchira rwemambure, mabhande anopindira pamapendekete nechishauro chesirivha ndokunowana murume ari mumbahuru yekuvatira akapfeka nhumbi dzemutsimba dzeniyoni paine kagaba kemafuta ekuzora kaive patafura pedo. Vavirivo vakaita kamutambo kechikudo kwemaminiti makumi. Ndokubva azora mafuta pachiso chemurume uya achibva amumanikidza kunanzva mvura dzaive pauriri. Pedzezvo, vakatanuranhumbi, musikana akakwiza musana wemurume uyu waive wakazara bvudzi. Baba ivavo vaiita kakuchemerera vachimusimbisa kuti anemaooko anodziya. Moto wacho wakatangire mumba yekugezera anodhirowa mazano akagara pabhavhu achinyemwerera akapfeka shauro yesiriva.

Vhiki iroro chimoto chaingotangira mumbaipi zvayo, chikamboti mubhesimendi, mumba mekuverengera, ndokuti kamusha kemagirazi kaiveserikwemba. Sidra haana kumbokanganwa wekutanga iyeye, rokwe resiriki richivhurika kuratidza chidya, mutsetse wechoya wakananga pakati pemakumbo, chiringazuva chinobuda kashiri paawa rega chaiva nemukadzi aiva nemaoko airatidza nguva, mukova waibuda kashiri kacho wakazara dota, apo pombi yekudiridza huswa ichiri kungoita basa rayo musikana achibuda ichiita kunge irikudiridza zvakawanzikwa zvainge zvaitikapo.

Tekisi yakamira pazimba rakavakwa karekare, makore aitonga Madzimambo ainzi George, kubvira wekutanga wacho kundosvikira wechina. Sidra akabhadhara mutyairi ndokumupa nemubhasera wemapondo makumi pamusaka pen'ambo dzaakange ataura murwendorwu. Akabuda ndokufamba pamunda wetsangadzi waive nematende ainge akasimirwa magetsi aipenya, paivewo nezvikwenzi zvakagerwa kut izviitekunge munhu akabatachainsaw, uyezve nemifananidzo yemhuri dzeshiri nejjichiza dzakambundirana huro dzakange dzakagadzirwa nechando dzakutonyungudukira patsangadzi. Akagogodza rukova.

Rakavhurwa nemukadzi akafanana naMarilyn Monroe ainge akapfeka rokwe reruvara rwedenga runemado-do kune remakore ekare ekuma1960.

“Kwazuvai!” Akakwaziswa zvinemorari. “Inga murikutaridzika.” Akasunduruka kuti Sidra apinde mumba. Maidziya munemwando wetwunodhura, mafuta ekungewagerwa ndebvu, mamince pie, mafuta anonhuwirira. Midziyo yemisha yakangaisiri yekushamisira asi yaingotiwo mavara-vara pano nepapo. Sidra akasimudza musoro wake. Semaonero ake paiva nenhanho nhatu mumba umu. Mangamakazara vanhu kuti ta, vachitamba, kuzwongonyoka nekusairirana senge vabva mugaba rimwe vakazara mafuta anekatsvigiri kuti zvinyatsoita, apowo denga remusha raive pedo nemhanza dzvo zvaitotyisa. Akabvisa bhachi rake ndokutitakura muruoko apo murume akafanana naRod Stewart akabvaasvika achidakuritora kundorirongedza. Musikana akaramba kumupa ndokubvaatarisa mberiyi kwaiva nendiro yechikafu chema hors d’oeuvres yakatakurwa nemurume akafanana naPee-Wee Herman ainge akapfeka sutu yegireyi, shangu chena, akasunga bowtie dzvuku. Musikana akaongorora vaungani. Paisava nevamwe vanhu vatemala. Angaasingade kunzi iye aveanopakurira vamwe chikafu. *Matakanyanya, ndezvekwavo*. Aingehake ajaira kuti panzvimbo dzakadai ndiye ega mutema sarezvo kusina kutsikwawo naTina Turner aigona kumutorera ruremekedzo nemweya chaiwo. Mwari ngaatendwe. Tina anga asipo. Marilyn Monroe akamutambidza girazi rewaini chena. Akaritambira iro girazi racho raiva nemubato wakatetepa wakabooka pakati. Sidra akamuti, “Wakanyatsofanana naye,” nokuti aiziva kuti ndizvozvaanoda kunzwa.

Marilyn akatsvukameso nekakunyaririra. “Wafadza moyo wangu,” akapindura nezwi rakashoshoma kungengimba yaaitedzera. “Luigi arimumba iyo.”

Sidra akatevera mumhanzi wepiyano kusvikira awana Luigi, muzvinaimba, kamurume kapfupi, kanemhanza, kakapfeka zvishongo, iko basa raive rekutsvakira vagadziri vemafirimu mari, asi kainge kaiva nemorari manje. Aya aivamabiko ekuguma kwegore rebasa, kamurume kakagara pachigaro chepapiyano, vasikana vatatu vanenge Venus vachikapa twudimbu twehove yesalmon ineruombo pakachingwa. Luigi, nemufaro, akanongedzera chisikana akati, “Huya ugarire makumbo angu, chimoko!”

Ndokubva adzvanya mabhatani epiyano. Vanhu vakakomberedza musikana. Sidra ndokudonza bhande rehandibhegi rake raive pabendekete. Vakomberedzi vaifemereka, vachiwawata, vachizvidzora kumubata. Iye ndokunyemwerera hake achiziva kuti kwaingove kutamba. Asi zvaingonakidza zvakadero. Vanhuvo vaiswederera pedo vakabata magirazi avo ewaini. Anodhirowa mazanoi ndokusvikika kumashure kwavo akabata turusi mumaoko. Maive nendimi mumagirazi dzaiyerera pakatipekuchema dzichingobva dzanyura. Pakatanga pfungwa idzi, Sidra akambovhara maziso. Ndokubva azvikanganwa kuti anyatsosandukoita Grace Jones wechokwadi.

Mwedzi mishoma yakatevera kwakamboita mamwe mabiko aisvika vanhu vakazvivandisa meso mumba munochengeterwa nhaka dzakare muguta reParis, pedyo neChamps-Elysees. Hassan akangaamuudza kuti zvimwe aigona kusvikako kana kubatikana. Aiva nechivande chakadero. Hapana aiziva kuti anogona kungosvika nguvai pabasa achiongorora zvaitika. Semuridzi wekamba yacho zvaisava nebasa hazvo asi aingosvika kuti vashandi vake vava vanoita basa rekutedzera vanhu vanemukurumbira vagare vachiziva kuti anoongorora mashandiro avo kuti vagare vakagadzirira.

Musikana akabvapaiva nevanhu vakaungana achitenderera mudzimba dzairatidzikira kusvikaapinda muneyaiva kumashure-shure. Paive nemifananidzo inekusarongeka kwezviroto pamadziro, magaba emvura yakapora izere hove dzinonzi moon starfish dzichivaima. Apo paivanebhokisi remaljipita rakapendwa nendarama rakavhurika. Akanga achipuruzira mapeto aro apoakabva anzwa abatwa musana neruoko rwaiva nechigunwe chaipuruzira ganda rake. Akayeuka matapiriro ekubwatwa zvakadai. Ndokubva anyatsozemberera achitadza kurwisa nhengo dzomuviri make dzainge dzavakuterera. "Hassan?" Akatenderera. Murume wacho haanakudavira. Chiso chake chainge chakavanzwa nemasiki yesiriva. Pangapasina maonero kuti ndiyani. Sutu yake yaive yakanyatsosonwa iri yeruvara rwedenga kwavakudoka zvichinyatsoenderana neganda rake kunyatsoita kunge Hassan chaiye. Vaingevakafanana marebero nekusimba, akanyatsoreba uye mutete achiita kunge muArabhu. Bvudzi rake raive risina kukamwa. Ainhuwirira kunge

fodya dzekuCuba zvakasangana nekamwekamweya kedoro pamusoro. Maziso ake aonekera kakushereketa maari. Haana kupindura asi akabvaamuturo ruoko ndokumugadzika mubhokisi revashakabvu rakasonerwa siriki. Murumwe wacho akabvaaisa ruoko rwake muzisiketi remusikana ndokumubvisa nduwe. Akabvaavhura matako ake, ndokupfekera rurimi rwake mugomba munobvandove achinanzva nekusvisvina zvinekukara mukati, rurimi rwake rwuchitenderera nekuboora matako ake kungeaidya ruva rinonzi orchid. Akamusvirira mubhokisi imomo asina kanakumbokatanhura nhumbi dzimwe.

Vakanyatsosanganisika mumakusheni imomo. Sidra paakatunda ndipopaakabva aburitsa zvivanzwa zvaivemuningamemoyo wake asinganzwisise kuti zvabepi. Murume hapana chaakapindura, kunyatsoita kunge angaasina kuzvinzwa. Runyararo ndihwohwaitovandimi yavo vachibvamubhokisimo. Murume uya asati abuda akamutsvoda pahuro zvakapfava ndokuchienda hake. Mamoon starfish aya akabuda mugirazi maaiva ndokubhuruka achimuura aponguva yange yokupera.

Adzokamanje mumbahuru, musikana aiona vanhu vachimbeya-mbeya. Michinda uya pangapachina. Chisikana chikabuda panze kumbonotura mafemo. Mamoon starfish aya akashandukoita hohwa hwaidona kubvamuganda rake.

Papera mavhiki matatu vadzokera kuLondon, Hassan akamudana kuti vadye chikafu chemasikati vachitaura nhorondo dzebasa. Aingeakachena muchinda wacho semagariro ake, akapfeka bhachi reruvara rwemapuranga rakasonwa naOzward Boateng, uye nhumbi inovhaya huro pamwe nematodo. Aingeanekamutauriro kaiita kuti aitekunge arikungoronedzera n'ambo iye achitokuudza zvekuita nekuti anenge asingaitezvekutamba. Musikana paaiterera nhorondo idzi akaona zvakamushamisa pachiso chaHassan.

Apondipopainge achitsvaga mari muchikwama chake kuti vapatsanurirane bhiri racho. Murume ainge akamutarisa kunge anonyatsomuzivisisa. Kwangakurikutarisa kunezvakunoziva nekakushereketa, asi kakangokurumidza kupera zvekutoti musikana aiita kunge azvirota. Ndipo chiso chaHassan pachakakwidibirwa sengeatsamwa. "Basa randakupa harinetsi. Asi chero ukadhakwasei usatorane nemumwemunhu wausingazive woendanaye kumba. Handidi zvinondinetsa nemakore angu makumi matatu nechidimbu

aya. Urangarirezve kuti haufanire kuvepedyo nezvinhu zvakabikwa nenzungu.

Zvinokurwarisa. Uchirikundangarira kuzvimba kwakamboita kumeso kwako zviya? Waiita kunge nzou yechikadzi chaiyo.” Akabvaaseka.

Sidra akanyara nechomukati. Shuwa Hassan haaimbokangwa zvakanyadzisa kudaro. Ainge akamuudza nezverwendorwake kuGreece uko kwaaindobatsira vapoteri vayavakatiza hondo munyikadzavo kuti vawane kubatsirikana. Hassan akabva aenderera kwekanguva achirondedzera n’ambo dzakaitikako nevanhu vaakasangana navo ikoko, kunyanya vana vadiki, nekuti nhamo yepanzvimbo pachu yaitoita kuti vaivepo vabvavanyanyisa kubatana. Musikana ainga asingazive kuti vaigona kunyatsotaurirana zvakakosha kudai. Chokwadi ndechekuti pakusara kwebasa vaviri ava vaingevasinganyatsozivana. Aitoonakunge zvole zvaburwa naHassan zvinenge zvinechinangwa chete, kwete kungotaurawo kunoita vanowirirana, asi anga asingazive kuti chinangwachacho chaicho ndechei.

“Asi panechaungade kundipakurira here?” Hassan akabvunza. “Pamwe panezvausirikufara nazvo zvirikuitika kubasa?” Aibvunza zvisinakumanikidzira mhinduro.

Sidra akabata kabhodhoro kepefiyumu muroko rwakanga rwuri muchikwama. Anodhirowa mazano uya angadzokazve amira parutivi rwaHassan, hutsi huchipfumbuka kubvamumbatya dzake. Akatyora zvinyoreso zvaivamura ake. Maoko aSidra akadedera.

“Ndaenda ini.” Akabvaangoti simupo achinakura mazai angaasarira mudiyo yaadyira.

Akatanga kukumba mari yaiva muchikwama. Hassan ndokufinyama.

Musikana akaisachikwama pasi.

Marilyn Monroe akapfuuranepo akabata ndiro yaiva netudimbu twebblue cheese. Sidra akangotinhonge ndokukanda mukana kuti adzinge zvangezvichifashanuka mudumbu make.

Akangeaudzwa kuti moto wakakonzera kunhamo yaingovetsaona zvayo. Masikati iwawo, Amai vake Marianne vakange vasandurirana nguva dzekushanda nemumwewo wekubasa

kwavo. Vaiwanzoshaya sunzunuro dzavo saka vakaridza bhero, ndokutsvodavana nekutsuura Carla naDorian nokuti twunhu twavaitamba natwo twemaninja turtles twainge twakatimwarara pasi, ndokubvavapfuura Sidra aiva mumba yekubikira umokaronga zvirungiso patafura. "Ndinovimba kuti tichadyawo zvimwe zvisiri makeke nhasi manheru," amai vakataura vachinyemwerera vasati vasvika mumba mekurarira umomavakanokatanura nhumbi dzekubasa. Patafura paya, Sidra akanyora pasi zvinhu zvangazvisipo. Vakange vasisina vanilla extract, hupfu hwefurawa hwakange hwopera, uye tsvigiri yekanyatsogaisiswa yakange yaperawo. Akabvaapfeka bhachi neshangu. Semuitiro wake pose paabuda achisiya vanun'una vake vari vega, akabva akiya gonhi ruviri. Lift yainhuhwa weti nedikita yaigomera ichidzika mapato ese makumi nemana emushahuru uyu kusvikira yamusvipira kuzasi ikokwaaizowana mukova vekuburira panze. Achibuda kudaro akarangarira kuti akange adonhedza mapepa esimbi, uye akanganwa kuvhara firiji nemakabhodhi, apowoCarla naDorian vaipopotedzerana chidhori chendege chainge chakatyoka. Aizozvindangarirazve kwavakumberi. Aizozviyera mumaoko ake akasungirirwa nemapepa esimbi ozviisa mugomba ririmumoyo wake rairamba richingokura, achiona kusvika kwavo, apo akadzivirirwa zvishoma sekunge zvineropa zvakatsveyama. Chakazomunonotsa yaivevanilla extract. Yakange ichishaikwa muzvitoro zvese zvemunharaunda. Akatozoita zvekufamba kucash and carry yaiva kamufambo kunyasi kwenzira huru kuti aiwane. Zvakangatora maminiti makumi mana kuti arasikirwe nezvose zvaaidisa muhupenyu. Akadzokera akandowana musha wemafirati maaigara makambundirwa nendimi dzemoto uchibvira. Moto wacho waitotyisa. Vaigara mumapato ekuzasi vaitosvetukira kunze kwemafafetera vachiwira pasi; vaikanda vana vakambundirwa mumagumbeze; micheka yepamubhedha yaavaiedza kuitisa tambo kuti vadzike yaisakwana. Akarwadziswa neruzha rwemoto uyekuchema kwevaivemo. Akarasa zvaakange atenga kuzvitoro, tsvigiri yosvibiswa nedota, bhodhoru revanilla richifema dota, hupfu hwefurawa huchimwaira miti, mafafetera, maoko akabata chimudhiraivo chemota, zvigunwe zvichiiswa muburi resunzunuro yekutungidzamota kwete makiyi. Hazvinamhosva chii chaairangarira nokuti amai vake, Dorian naCarla vakange vasingagone kubuda mumba.

Moto hauna kumbodzimiruka. Hanzvadzi yake nemunin'ina wake vakafira mumaoko amai wavo. Pasina zvaaigna kuita, Sidra akangomira pedo nevashandi vanodzimuramoto nevanhu vanga vaunganakuzoona achiita kunge chidhori chechess, Ainge akiira mhuri yake kuti airiritire. Ndiye akavauraya nekuvakiira imomo. Ndangariroyo yaingosvikira magumo mamwe. Maoko achidedera, akaburitsa sunzunuro, achiwawata kuti amai, keke, firigi, mbatya dzekubasa. Akaedza kuisa sunzunuro mumazita avo kunge zvaigona kuvhurisa mbariro kuti vayerekane vavemumaoko akezvakare kuti achikwanisawo kufema mweya. Asi sunzunuro dzakaomererwa dzikashaya basa. Dzairambiramo pasina magadzikiro. Mazuvaose mumakore aitevera, Sidra aingokuvara nendangariro dzezvakaitika. Ndipo anodhirowa mazano paakatanga kumusvikira.

Mabiko akenderera kunge chipuka chaingonyuka misoro mizvinji yakananga kumatenga. Pee-Wee Herman aiva akapfugama pamukova wegadheni achinwa Dom Perignon yakadirwa mubhutsu yemumwe murume. Luigi akange ashaikwa pamabiko ake. Paiva nemusikana anebvudzi resiriva aizvwongonyoka-zvongonyoka pamusoro pepiyano, achipeta muviri wake zvaisshamisa apo achirutsa micheka yemavara kubva mumuromo wake. Vamwewo ndivovaisveta dota *recocaine* pamasitepisi, muzvimbuzi kana mudura remba. Muchimbuzi chechinhanho chepazasi maivenevanhu mubhavhu, vaiita kunge zvidhori zvakapfekanhumbi zvichibwaira, vaparadzwa nehuwori havo. Kune vaisvirana mumatende akasimirwa patsangadzi, vachirohwa nechando, magetsi akasungirwa pamatende aipenya aitoita kunge zvichavadhonera pamusoro pavomumafaro iwawawo zvose. Mumba yekubikira Sidra akayeuka mapanga ose akarodwa akagomara oedza kubaya muviri wake. Akatora muchero wepuramu pandiro yaivapatafura yematombo egireyi. Asi mupfungwa dzake puramu iri rakange risina modzi asi raive netumabhodhoro twevanilla essence pakati twairasira muto werufu. Akasimudzira piramu iri. Anodhirowa mazano achibvaariruma. Musikana akatarisa muhallway. Maive nemitumbi yaikatanukira makanda emakarwe, mazino adonha nekubatirira tsika dzakaipa, mumakumbo muchiyerera zviso zvirimumvura. Anodhirowa mazano ndokupedzisa puramu riya. Sidra akapedza kunwa waini

ndokutarisa mapateni aivepasiringi achingotidai panechaimusvetera mungura, mapuranga, simbi, mabhonzozvichimusandura zvachose. Akanzwakusuruwara nekurasikirwa. Asi ainge azvijaira achingoenderana nazvokunge kuchunika kunoita mabhatani ekuwedzera kudziya kwemukati memusha.

Mafiratsi makuru avaigara asatiatsva panzvimbo ipapo paimbova neimweimba yaidhindirwa magwaro. Pasati pavanemba yekudhinda paiva nezvakashandiswa kuivaka. Pasati pavanezvakashandiswa kuivaka paivanemumwe anodhirowa mazano ainzi Alrik aiva nepfungwa dzacho. Pasati panyuka pfungwa dzacho paiva nerwendo nechikepe mugungwa reAtlantic akananga Hingirandi. Alrik akasiya mukadzi nemwana kumusha izvozvakaite kuti atsvagisise basa kuti agovaunzawo mhiri kwemakungwa muLondon. Asi pavakazomutevera mudzimai zvose nemwana vakaparara nekorera, kusiyana nerwendo rwake iye rwakanga rwunetarisiro yezvitsva zvaivemberi kwehupenyu hwake. Mitumbi yavo yakakandirwa mumafashamu egungwa. Alrik nekusuruwara kukuru akazvipodza achiputa fodya dzeopium mumabhawa emuLondon. Mumabhawa imomo ndimomaakawanikidza pfungwa yemba yekudhindisa, imba izere varume vachiteverwa nemapepa asina mugumo, kumusoro kwayo kwakaumbwa shongwe inenge yaizova mucherechedzo hwerwendo rwake kubvakuAmerika. Paipfumbuka hutsi mubhahwa iroro remunaLime House ndikokwaakanyatsopindwa nezano iri. Mwedzi haunakupera Alrik atozviwanira basa kuimwe kamba yaivakadzimba. Akashanda zvinesimba achikwira muzvinhanho. Ainge atoroora Bethany, mwanasikana wemumwe muzvinatoro, pakazovakwa imba yekundhindha iya muna1920. Vakabara vanakomana vatatu. Sezvineiwo akazogradzira hake dzimwe dzimba asi imba yekudhinda ndiyo yaainyanyodisa nekuti akaigaya munguva yekurwadzikana. Nyangwe asati afa Alrik aifara kuti imbaiyi icharambairipo nyangwe iye asisiri. Muna1970 imba yake yekudhindisa yakakoromorwa apoyakambegeyashandiswa semba yekuchengetedza midziyo yechinyakare, ndokubva vavaka mafirati akashata anogara vanhu. Asi muzvakaputswa izvi ndimomakazomuka Alrik zvakare muvafi avakufamba-famba achichiongorora mafirati aya. Aipindira mudzimba dzevanhu, achifemera mahovheni avo aishanda nemagetsi. Aitsvaga

chimiro chake mumagirazi avo asingachiwane. Nehukasha huzerehutsinye akatanga kushereketa achikonzeresa tutsaona chihwande zvekutoti vagari vaifungakuti ndivovazvikonzera. Asi haanakugutsikana saka akatangakugaya kuti oitasei kunyatsokonzeresa tsaona yaienderara neukasha hwake. Pakutanga aingokanganisa waya dzemagetsi kuti malift asashande nekuhwandisa makaba emvura akaiswa kuti adzimurise moto. Mabasa erima ake aya akangoramba achiwedzera nekufamba kwenguva. Kuda kukanya zvinhu kwenyakudhirowa mazano uyu kwakabva kwarambakuchiwedzera.

Sidra akasangana naGrace Jones kamwechete kuRoyal Albert Hall uko Grace angaanonoka kuuya neawa rimwe sezvo aiva nemukurumbira. Akandomutaimira kumusuwu wekumashure pamwe chete nevamwe vaidawo kumuona.

“Grace!” akashevedzera akurirwa nemafaro. “Vanhu vanoti ndakafanana newe.”

Grace akanyemwerera ipapo aive angaakapfeka dhirezi rechiffon rairatidza muviri wake, bhutsu dzepepuru dzaisvika kumabvi nemagirazi machena e3D. “Mudikawi, zvekutevedzera zvakadhakwa, asi iwe une staira manje.”

Sidra akawona Luigi achidzipa mumwe Venus mukaghadheni kaiva muchivande kakahwandiswa museri merimwe ghadheni. Kairitevedza. Venus wacho aitoveakaparara nemhamba zvekutoti ainge asingagone kuriswa kana kuyuwira zvake. Aingokwanisa kukava zvisinakana nesimba. Muchira wakareba waibva padhirezi rake wainge wakasviba uchita kungemuswe wehove yerasikirwa mumunda weEdeni. Sidra aidzedzereka akabva aisa bhachi rake pasi. Akasvetukira Luigi musana achimurova ndokuiti, “Musiye mhani!” Venus ainge abviswa nduwe; ainge otoita mbundishire pazvidya. Luigi kaive kari kadhafu kapfupi asi akasimba zvaitoshamisa. Ainge asisaita sanyakukoka vanhu kumabiko aive nomufaro, zvino chiso chake chaicho chaitotyisa akazara hukasha. “Tibvire pano, zimheche.” Akatenderera ndokurova Sidra kumeso nezvibhakera. Venus akangaadzungaidzwa akangotarisa denga remauro raisagona kumuponesa. Sidra akadonashure. Aisatokwanisakufema. Musoro wake waitotenderera; hendibhegi rake

rakakandwa uko. Akanzwa maremero ebhodhoru repefiyumu richitsvedza. Ropa rakachururuka kubva mumhuno yake richipinda mumuromo. Chiso chake chaipfura-pfura. Akatarisa bhachi rake rekwaRoland Mouret kunge raisandukoita parashuti, zvaizungurudza, nokuvaima mupfungwa dzake zvichitova kurwadza kwazvangazvoita kunge musoro uchatotsemuka. Pakangoyerekana ponyuka vamwe anaGrace Jones vana vakapfeka nhumbi dzinenge dzaaiva nadzo. Vakanhonga chikwama chake, ndokutora chinhu chaagarofamba nacho, mafuta epeturo aiva mubhodhoru repefiyumu, moyo unorova vasandurwa kuita mvura. Anodhirowa mazano angadzoka, zvigunwe zvake zvichibviramoto.

Kwakaitika moto unotyisa kumba kwaLuigi. Zvakangoitawo semimwe moto. Wakapisa musha wose, ndokuwondomotsa denga racho. Wakapfumbura hutsi hutema-tema, ndokusvipa vanhu vaichema panze. Patsangadzi yemberi kwemba, Sidra akakosora pamusana pechiutsi chainge chapinda mapapu. Achiita kunge chidhori chinofamba chega, Luigi aimhanya-mhanya chibvira muviri wese achiedza kuzvidzimura. Matende ainge asisina vanhu aitobvirawo; misoro yenejichidza yainge yanyunguduka, mitumbi yasara yotongoperawo zvayo; murume akagadzirwa neheji aingesaisina chainsaw yake. Sairini dzemaambureni nengoro yekudzimira moto dzaingorira.

Pane munhu akamhanyira chisikana. Hassan. Nhumbi dzake dzainge dzakabvanganyuka, aine kakuvhunduka nekushamiswa pachiso chake. Murume uyu aiwanzogara agapora zvinechiremera akabata mwanasikana zvinekakusunungukira. “Totenda Mwari! Ndatozvinzwa panhau. Ndangandakutopenga nekushushikana mupfungwa. Uchandifisa ndisati ndasvika kanamakore makumi mana zvawo.” Akabva amubata chiso chanzwa nekurohwa. “Ndiyani akudayi? Ndinomuuraya mhani.”

Chisikana chakaedza kutaura chikatadza. Aida kuti: hapanawo aimunzwa achichemera mukati makore ese awa? Paisawawo nemunhu pasipano aigona kumubata mukati-kati oburitsa zvakakuvara nezvakanaka zvaive muningamo kuti zvive pachena muchiedza? Hapanawo aiona kuti atozvishandura kuti aveGrace Jones kuti asarwadzikane nemhaka uye

kushurikirwa kwaaiveazere nako kwainge kuisatomboita? Hapanawo aikwanisa kumuyeuchidza kuti chiiko chaivechakanaka mukurarama kwehupenyu sezvo iye aive akanganwa? Hapanawo aigona kuwana mhondo yakaisvonaka yaaive asiira shure kwetekisi mamwe masikati ainaya, obva amudzorera kunge zvaizvezvitsva? Hapanawo aikwanisa kumubatawo zvinekupfavira?

Akaisaruoko muhomwe yebhachi rake. Makadonha karisiti kainge kodongorera kunze. Aisayeuka kukaisamo asi aiveaifanirwa akange akadero. Aitovamashura kuti kakange kararama moto uya. Aingeatora chipuka chaigara mukati ochiburitsa zvino chakavandudzwa kunge risiti yakaunyana. Akambogaya kuti zvingatsamwise anodhirowa mazano here?

Hassan akacherechedza risiti achitarisa mikana mitatu yaingeyakanyora ipapo.

Aitongeakavhunduka kunge abatiswa tsono yegirinhedhi repasi rose. Akabvarura risiti ndokumwaira mapepa acho mumhepo inotonhora yaipepeta kumashure kwawo moto uchingobvira.

“Kana wagadzikana wozondiudza zviya zvawaitya kuburitsa pachena,” Hassan akataura zvinekukurudzira. Musikana akatanga kuchema ipapo. Murume akamubvumbatira ndokumutsvoda patsinga yepahuro kunge chiedza chovaima, kunge zvaizoshandukiroita mekiyuri paanenge apedza. Akaramba akamubvumbatira. Vakazvishingisa panemhepo dzaihvuvuta vakamirira kuti anodhirowa mazanoi aizoitei rinamangwana.