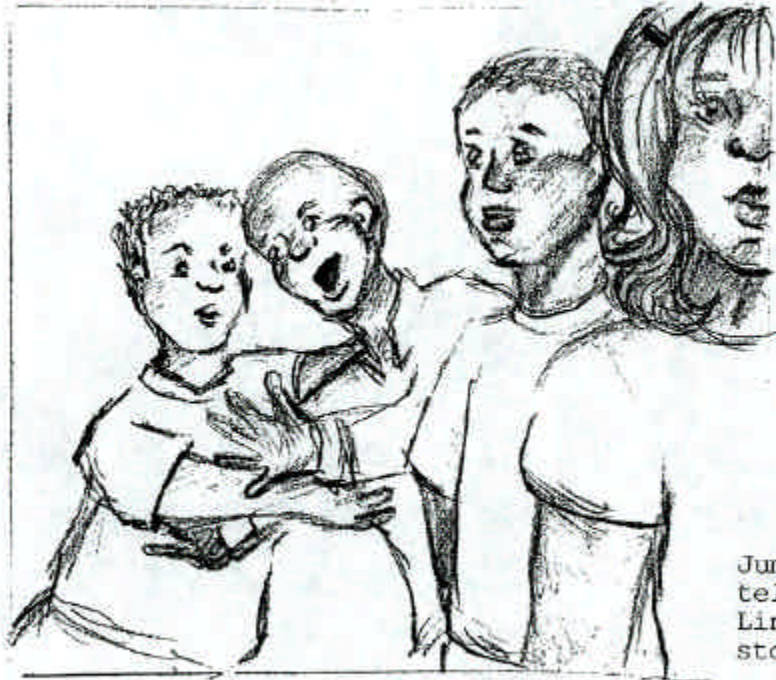


24



JUMA'S TEACHER  
Juma, how many times do I have to  
tell you...do what you are told!  
Line up with the other students and  
stop your nonsense.

EXTERIOR. DAY. THE PLAYGROUND AT THE SCHOOL

MEDIUM WIDE SHOT. THE STUDENTS IN LINE

The students are waiting in line, but Juma and another  
student are pushing each other to get ahead in line.

25



INTERIOR. THE SCHOOLROOM OF LEVEL FIVE

MEDIUM WIDE SHOT. JUMA

Juma is at the blackboard trying to solve a math problem. He  
is not succeeding.

51



MEDIUM SHOT. JUMA

He reaches down into himself and makes his way ahead without breaking down.

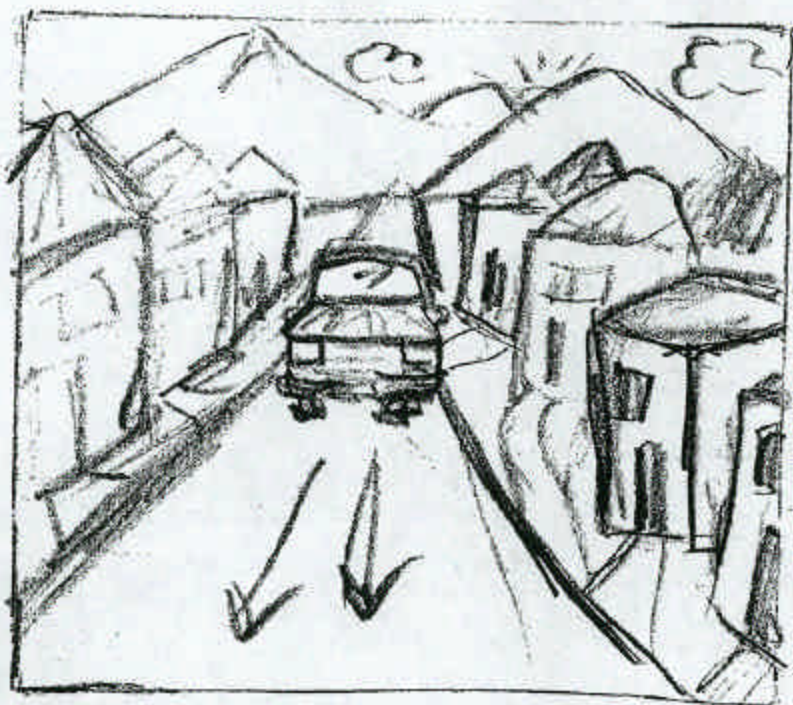
52



MEDIUM WIDE SHOT. THE SCHOOL GROUNDS

Juma makes his way through the small crowd. Nothing is said. Juma looks straight ahead and moves briskly, but does not run.

233

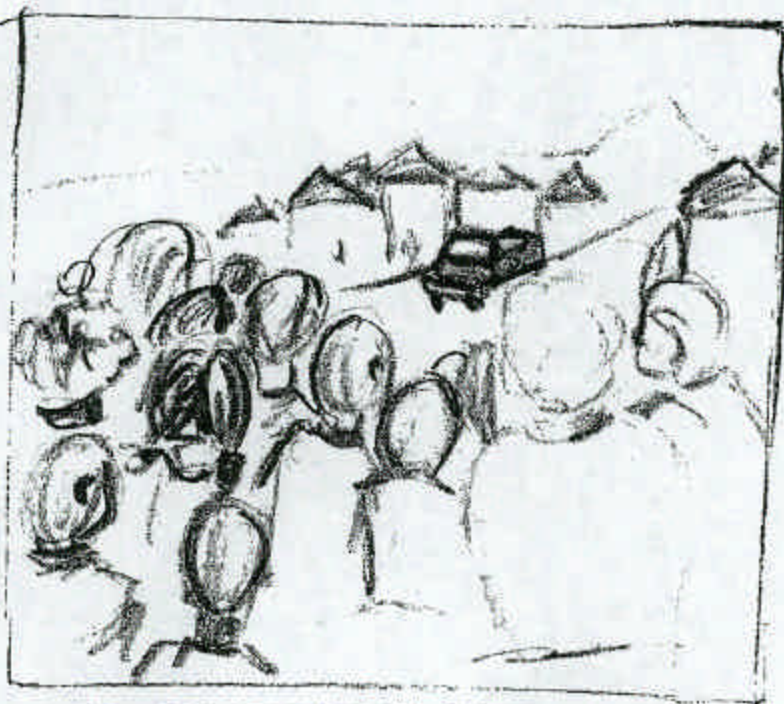


EXTERIOR. DAY. THE ROAD INTO THE VILLAGE

WIDE SHOT. THE TRUCK

The truck approaches the village.

234



EXTERIOR. DAY. THE VILLAGE CENTER

WIDE SHOT. THE VILLAGERS

The crowd stands watching the roadway into town. We see them from behind. The truck appears. The crowd moves slightly forward in anticipation. The truck pulls up in front of the crowd and stops.

JUMA  
Go away! Or I'll get my racquet!

ROOM MATE #1  
Come on, let's leave him alone.

They exit.

CUT TO:

MEDIUM CU. JUMA

He glares at the roommates as they leave. Then a smile breaks across his face, and he tries to go back to sleep.

DISSOLVE TO:

44 EXTERIOR. DAY. AN AIRPORT

44

WIDE SHOT. THE AIRPORT

A large plane lands.

CUT TO:

MEDIUM SHOT. TRACKING. THE TARMAC

A baggage cart rolls into shot. Three bags, and a set of tennis racquets are set onto the ground off of the cart. The camera moves into reveal the luggage tags marked Australia, Malawi, and Juma Phiri appropriately. The bags are picked up and placed in the back of a pick-up truck.

CUT TO:

WIDE SHOT. THE AIRPORT

The truck drives away.

DISSOLVE TO:

45 INTERIOR. DAY. JUMA'S HOUSE

45

MEDIUM CU. TRACKING. A SHELF

There are eight trophies on a shelf, then Juma's mother is seen polishing a ninth, which she puts on the shelf with the rest. She looks at them all without any obvious emotion.

DISSOLVE TO:



MEDIUM WIDE SHOT. THE CROWD

The driver walks towards the crowd, then puts the bag and racquets on the ground in front of the truck.

CUT TO:

MEDIUM SHOT. TRACKING. THE DRIVER

He turns to go back for the rest of the bags. As he approaches the truck he passes six men carrying a coffin.

CUT TO:

MEDIUM WIDE SHOT. REVERSE ANGLE. THE PALLBEARERS

The men carrying the coffin walk into the crowd and head for a central spot that has been prepared. The crowd reforms around the procession. They start to express their emotions now that the coffin has arrived. This emotion builds.

CUT TO:

50 MONTAGE. FUNERAL

50

There follows a funeral in the very best Malawian tradition. Shots of people crying, wailing, and comforting Juma's parents. There should be an appropriate Malawian funeral chant or song. Then shots of burial, and the last shot of people leaving Juma's grave.

DISSOLVE TO:

51 EXTERIOR. DAY. THE GRAVEYARD

51

MEDIUM WIDE SHOT. JUMA'S GRAVE

There follows a series of abstract shots of a diverse group of people addressing the camera directly. After each has spoken, they turn to their right, or left in rotation, looking at the next person to speak, though the next person is not physically there, but dissolves in to indicate a different time period.

JUMA'S MOTHER

My son, my son, why did he have to die? Why did this happen?

ROOM MATE #1

Why Juma? Why him? He was the one who never went to the night clubs.

(MORE)

## ROOM MATE #1 (cont'd)

He was the one who always kept his eyes on the prize. He was the one who never wanted to disappoint his family.

## ROOM MATE #2

I feel so guilty. It was me who made him go out to the bar. We made fun of his innocence. If I had never.....

## YOUNG WOMAN

Still, we all act as if we must keep it a secret. As though you have to be evil to get AIDS. As if you are a sinner. What is going to happen if we just go on keeping it all a secret....not talking about it.

## JUMA'S TEACHER

What is we never tell the young children the truth? What if they have to keep going on learning for them selves? How many more of them will have to die before we start telling the truth about AIDS.

## HEADMASTER

Not everyone wants to hear the truth. They are afraid of the truth. It means changing the old ways, changing the customs. People are afraid of change. But we must change, or all our young people will be at risk.

## OLD WOMAN

It is witchcraft. Someone has become jealous. Juma was too big. When you become that big, there is always someone who wants to do you harm.

## OLD MAN

And there is always an nganga looking for some money. Some people just do not like to see others become a success.

## ANOTHER WOMAN

My son tells me it is not witchcraft. He says it is a disease like tuberculosis or maybe malaria.

(MORE)

## ANOTHER WOMAN (cont'd)

To be honest, I do not know what to think.

## CISOMO

It is our fault. We taught him how to hit a tennis ball and be a very good student. But, we did not teach him how to stay alive. All of us are guilty. We are going to have to start getting over our shame or embarrassment or whatever it is. We are going to have to open our mouths and tell them about sex. We are going to have to tell them that it only takes once...one time with unprotected intercourse and you can die.

## JUMA'S FATHER

I should have talked to my son. I should have told him what he needed to know. But I didn't. I didn't know how to say what needed to be said. I am so proud of him. I wish he was here and I could talk to him. Tell him the truth.

## JUMA

I have been given much in my life. I have had opportunities and have many loving friends. No one could ask for a more caring family than mine. I have been generously blessed. And I ask a special favor of you. When you are asked, "Why did some one as young and strong as Juma have to die?", Please I ask of you, tell them the truth! Tell them that I died of AIDS! If you love your children, please, promise to tell them the truth.

DISSOLVE TO:

52

MONTAGE. CHILDREN

52

There follows a series of shots of kids, playing, working, studying.

MUSIC CUE: A traditional Malawian song about hope, or perseverance, very uplifting. A large chorus, or group of children is singing.

FADE TO BLACK.

Credits.

The music continues through the credits, but gradually the number of people singing diminishes by half each time until by the end of the credits it is one person singing.

Fade music.

End.