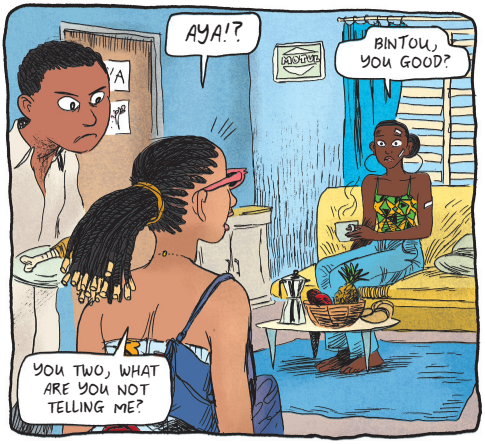
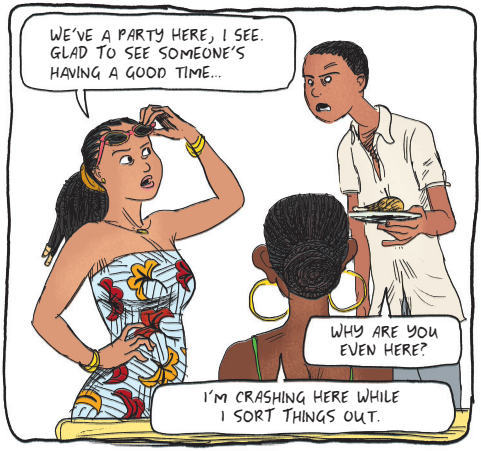
HERVÉ, THIS IS TOO MUCH.
AYA, YOU NEED TO GET YOUR STRENGTH BACK.

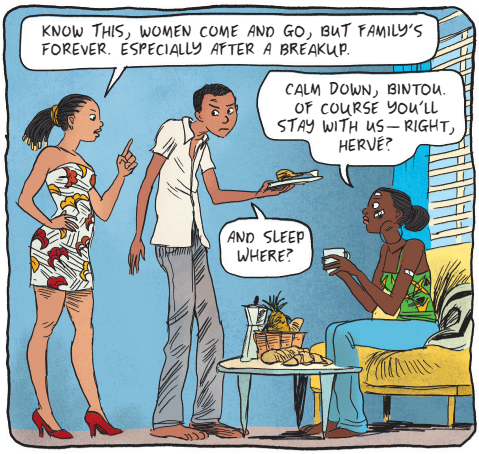
KNOCK KNOCK
EXPECTING ANYONE?
NO, NO ONE KNOWS I'M HERE.

BINTOU!
HERVÉ, I'M NOT DOING SO HOT.

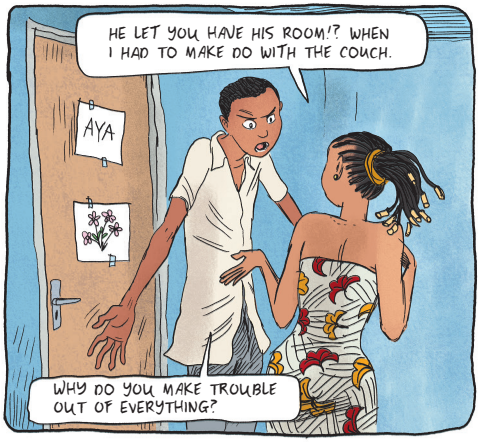

AYA!?
BINTOU, YOU GOOD?
YOU TWO, WHAT ARE YOU NOT TELLING ME?

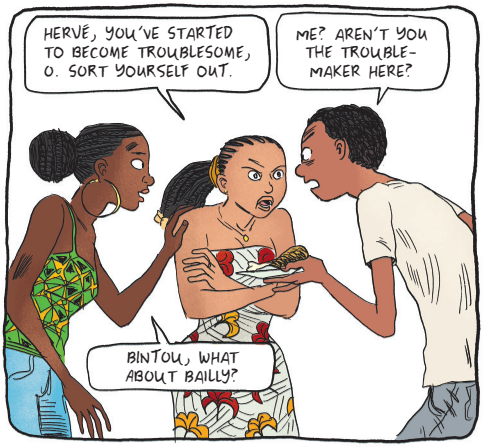

WE'VE A PARTY HERE, I SEE. GLAD TO SEE SOMEONE'S HAVING A GOOD TIME...
WHY ARE YOU EVEN HERE?
I'M CRASHING HERE WHILE I SORT THINGS OUT.

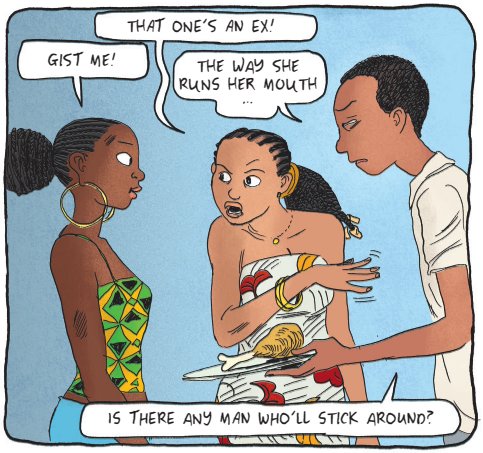
YOU CAN'T STAY HERE. NO MORE ROOM AT THE INN.
EHEN, SO, YOU WANT ME TO BE OUT ON MY EAR, ON THE STREETS? HERVÉ, DON'T ACT A FOOL, DEH!

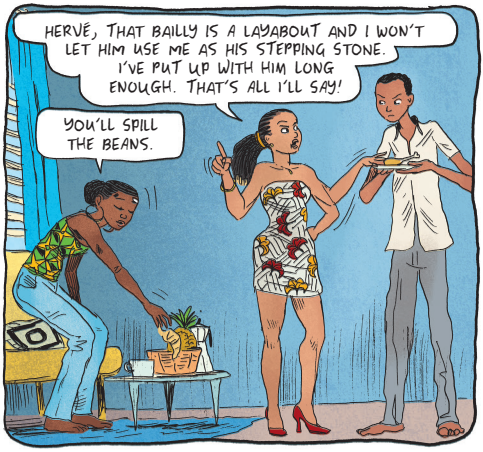

KNOW THIS, WOMEN COME AND GO, BUT FAMILY'S FOREVER. ESPECIALLY AFTER A BREAKUP.
CALM DOWN, BINTOU. OF COURSE YOU'LL STAY WITH US— RIGHT, HERVÉ?
AND SLEEP WHERE?

I'LL SHARE THE BEDROOM WITH HER.
WHAT!?

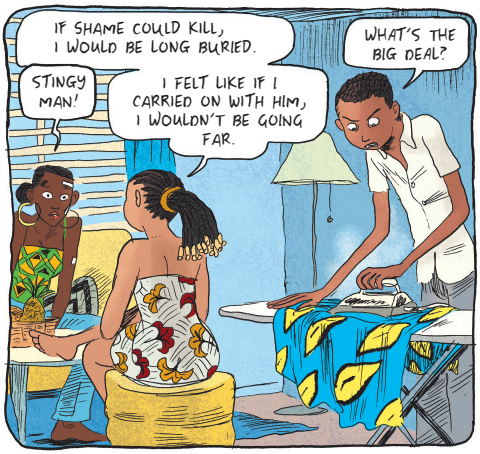

HE LET YOU HAVE HIS ROOM!? WHEN I HAD TO MAKE DO WITH THE COUCH.
AYA
WHY DO YOU MAKE TROUBLE OUT OF EVERYTHING?

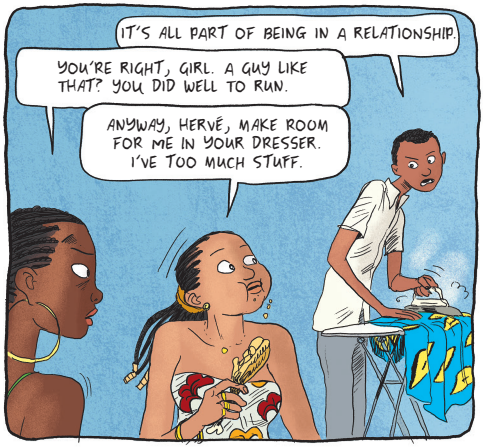

HERVÉ, YOU'VE STARTED TO BECOME TROUBLESOME, O. SORT YOURSELF OUT.
ME? AREN'T YOU THE TROUBLE-MAKER HERE?
BINTOU, WHAT ABOUT BAILLY?

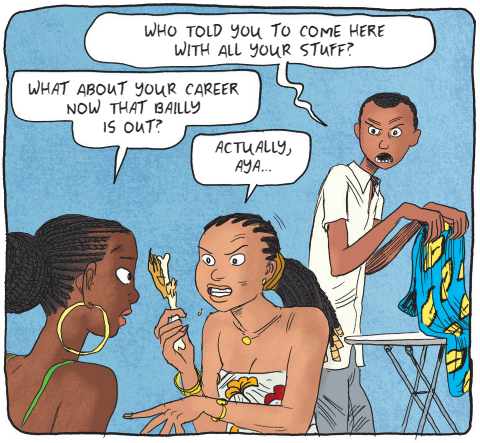

THAT ONE'S AN EX!
GIST ME!
THE WAY SHE RUNS HER MOUTH ...
IS THERE ANY MAN WHO'LL STICK AROUND?


HERVÉ, THAT BAILLY IS A LAYABOUT AND I WON'T LET HIM USE ME AS HIS STEPPING STONE. I'VE PUT UP WITH HIM LONG ENOUGH. THAT'S ALL I'LL SAY!
YOU'LL SPILL THE BEANS.

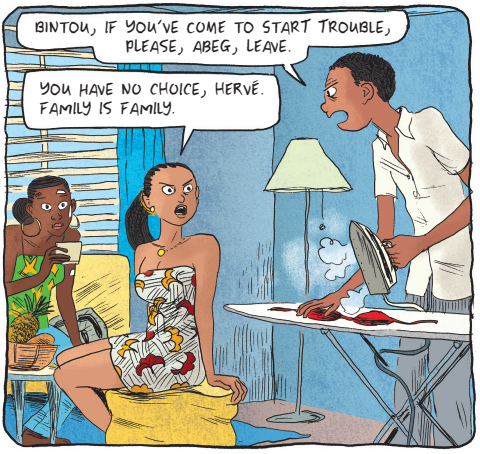
LISTEN TO THIS, GIRL! THAT MAN'S IDEA OF GOING OUT FOR A MEAL IS TO TAKE ME TO STREET VENDORS!
AND THE WAY BAILLY HAGGLED WITH THEM FOR A PIECE OF PORK MEAT, GOING SO FAR AS TELLING ME, "LET'S GO WHERE THEY SELL IT AT 450 APIECE INSTEAD OF 500."


IF SHAME COULD KILL, I WOULD BE LONG BURIED.
STINGY MAN!
I FELT LIKE IF I CARRIED ON WITH HIM, I WOULDN'T BE GOING FAR.
WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?

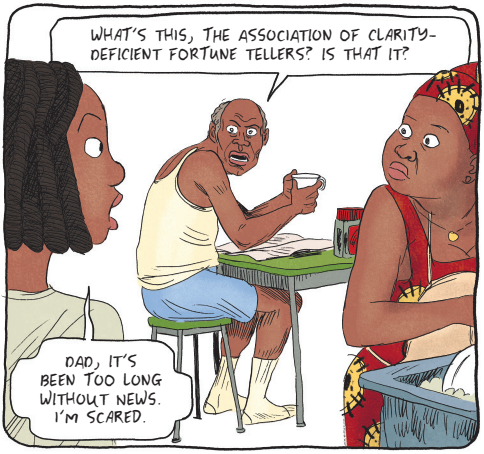

IT'S ALL PART OF BEING IN A RELATIONSHIP.
YOU'RE RIGHT, GIRL. A GUY LIKE THAT? YOU DID WELL TO RUN.
ANYWAY, HERVÉ, MAKE ROOM FOR ME IN YOUR DRESSER. I'VE TOO MUCH STUFF.


WHO TOLD YOU TO COME HERE WITH ALL YOUR STUFF?
WHAT ABOUT YOUR CAREER NOW THAT BAILLY IS OUT?
ACTUALLY, AYA...

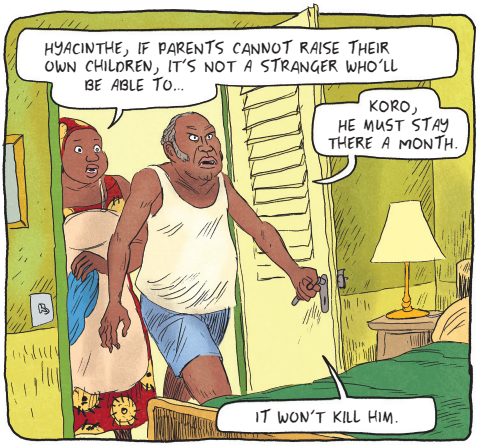
NOW THAT YOU'RE LEAVING UNI, WON'T YOU CONSIDER BECOMING MY MANAGER?
UHH...I...I NEVER SAID I WAS LEAVING UNI!

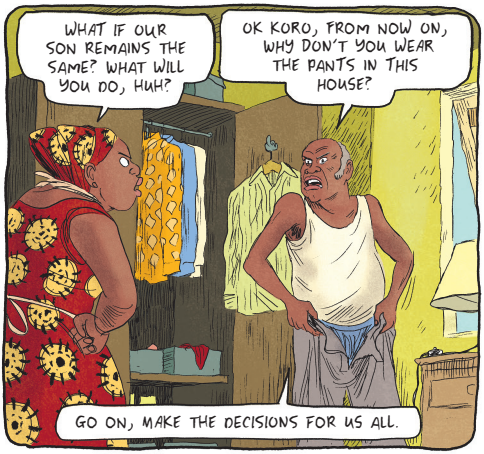

BINTOU, IF YOU'VE COME TO START TROUBLE, PLEASE, ABEG, LEAVE.
YOU HAVE NO CHOICE, HERVÉ. FAMILY IS FAMILY.

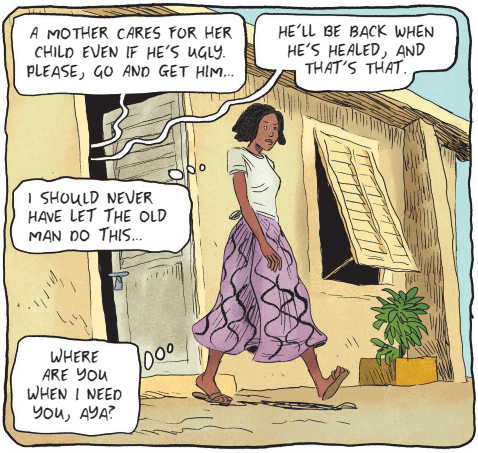
DAD, YESTERDAY I DREAMT ALBERT GOT THROWN IN A WELL.
OH MY GOD, THAT'S BAD LUCK!


WHAT'S THIS, THE ASSOCIATION OF CLARITY-DEFICIENT FORTUNE TELLERS? IS THAT IT?
DAD, IT'S BEEN TOO LONG WITHOUT NEWS. I'M SCARED.

WHAT IF HE'S BEING MISTREATED THERE? MAYBE HE'S MISERABLE?
MISFORTUNE IS A SCHOOL OF WISDOM.
IT'S FOR HIS OWN GOOD.

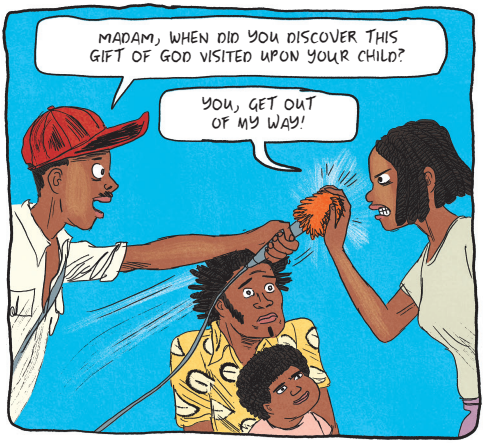

HYACINTHE, IF PARENTS CANNOT RAISE THEIR OWN CHILDREN, IT'S NOT A STRANGER WHO'LL BE ABLE TO...
KORO, HE MUST STAY THERE A MONTH.
IT WON'T KILL HIM.

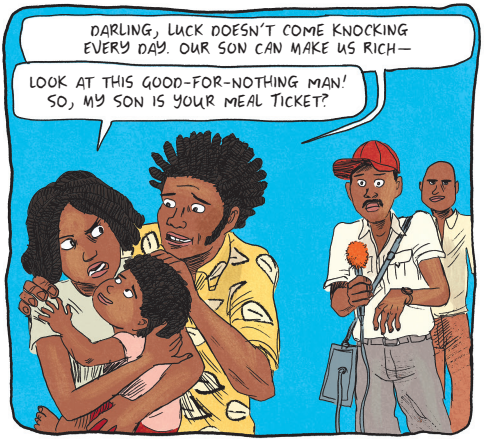

WHAT IF OUR SON REMAINS THE SAME? WHAT WILL YOU DO, HUH?
OK KORO, FROM NOW ON, WHY DON'T YOU WEAR THE PANTS IN THIS HOUSE?
GO ON, MAKE THE DECISIONS FOR US ALL.

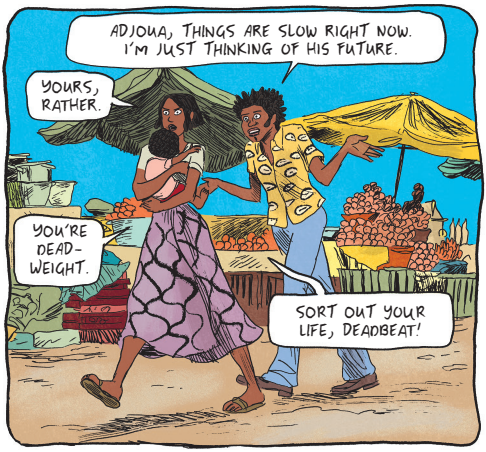

A MOTHER CARES FOR HER CHILD EVEN IF HE'S UGLY. PLEASE, GO AND GET HIM...
HE'LL BE BACK WHEN HE'S HEALED, AND THAT'S THAT.
I SHOULD NEVER HAVE LET THE OLD MAN DO THIS...
WHERE ARE YOU WHEN I NEED YOU, AYA?

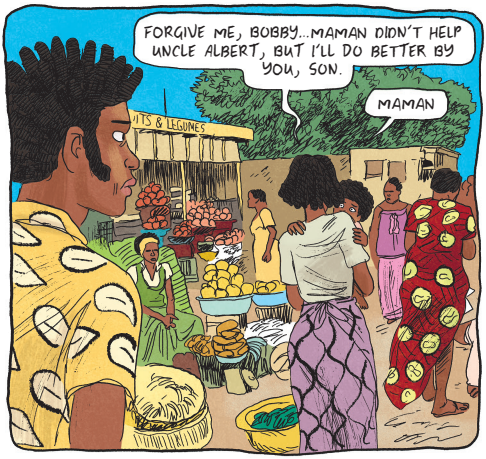
?!
Chez Adjoua • Maquis

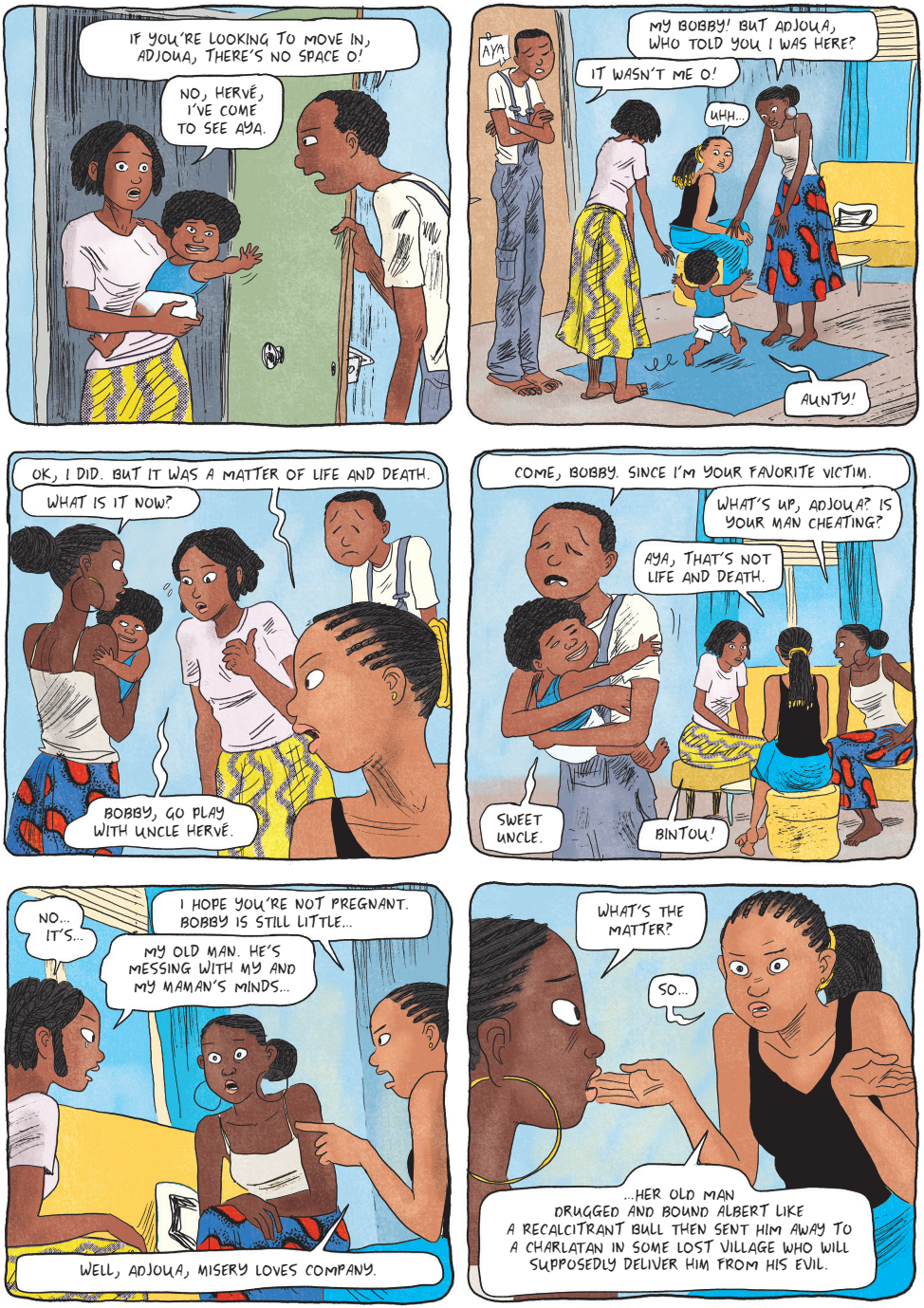
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
AH, GENTLEMEN!
HERE'S THE WONDERFUL MOTHER WHO BIRTHED THIS MIRACLE READING BABY!
MAMAN!


MADAM, WHEN DID YOU DISCOVER THIS GIFT OF GOD VISITED UPON YOUR CHILD?
YOU, GET OUT OF MY WAY!

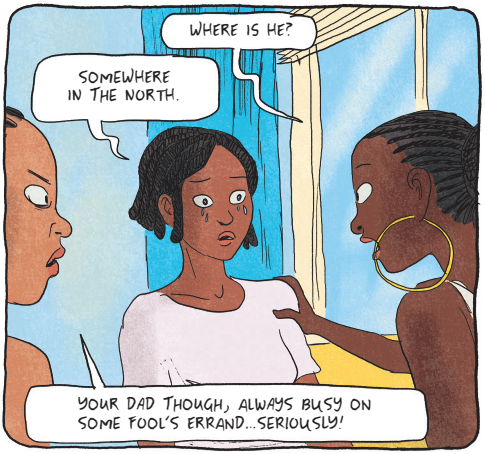

DARLING, LUCK DOESN'T COME KNOCKING EVERY DAY. OUR SON CAN MAKE US RICH—
LOOK AT THIS GOOD-FOR-NOTHING MAN! SO, MY SON IS YOUR MEAL TICKET?


ADJOUA, THINGS ARE SLOW RIGHT NOW. I'M JUST THINKING OF HIS FUTURE.
YOURS, RATHER.
YOU'RE DEAD-WEIGHT.
SORT OUT YOUR LIFE, DEADBEAT!

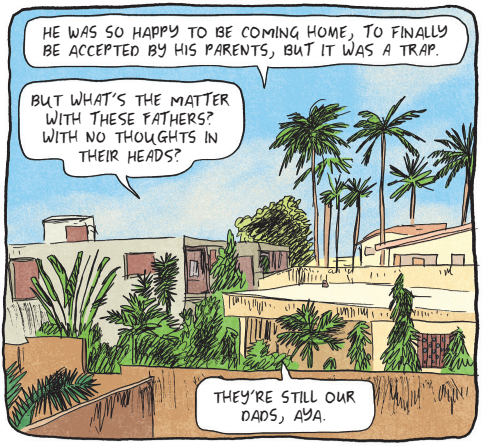

FORGIVE ME, BOBBY...MAMAN DIDN'T HELP UNCLE ALBERT, BUT I'LL DO BETTER BY YOU, SON.
MAMAN

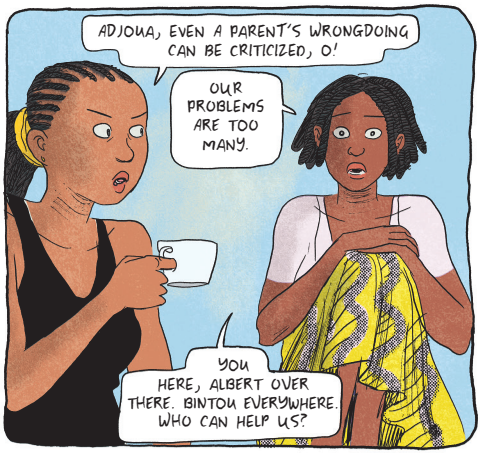

IF YOU'RE LOOKING TO MOVE IN, ADJOUA, THERE'S NO SPACE O!
NO, HERVÉ, I'VE COME TO SEE AYA.
AYA
MY BOBBY! BUT ADJOUA, WHO TOLD YOU I WAS HERE?
IT WASN'T ME O!
UHH...
AUNTY!
OK, I DID. BUT IT WAS A MATTER OF LIFE AND DEATH.
WHAT IS IT NOW?
BOBBY, GO PLAY WITH UNCLE HERVÉ.
COME, BOBBY. SINCE I'M YOUR FAVORITE VICTIM.
WHAT'S UP, ADJOUA? IS YOUR MAN CHEATING?
AYA, THAT'S NOT LIFE AND DEATH.
SWEET UNCLE.
BINTOU!
NO... IT'S...
I HOPE YOU'RE NOT PREGNANT. BOBBY IS STILL LITTLE...
MY OLD MAN. HE'S MESSING WITH MY AND MY MAMAN'S MINDS...
WELL, ADJOUA, MISERY LOVES COMPANY.
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
SO...
...HER OLD MAN DRUGGED AND BOUND ALBERT LIKE A RECALCITRANT BULL THEN SENT HIM AWAY TO A CHARLATAN IN SOME LOST VILLAGE WHO WILL SUPPOSEDLY DELIVER HIM FROM HIS EVIL.

WHAT!?
WE'VE HAD NO NEWS SINCE, AYA. HE MUST BE SUFFERING.
AH, YOU HAD TO ACT WHILE THERE WAS STILL TIME, O!


WHERE IS HE?
SOMEWHERE IN THE NORTH.
YOUR DAD THOUGH, ALWAYS BUSY ON SOME FOOL'S ERRAND...SERIOUSLY!

THAT'S WHY HE WASN'T AT THE PROTESTS!
AYA, YOU MUST HELP!
AKIM
SHOULD SHE BEAT UP YOUR OLD MAN?


HE WAS SO HAPPY TO BE COMING HOME, TO FINALLY BE ACCEPTED BY HIS PARENTS, BUT IT WAS A TRAP.
BUT WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH THESE FATHERS? WITH NO THOUGHTS IN THEIR HEADS?
THEY'RE STILL OUR DADS, AYA.


ADJOUA, EVEN A PARENT'S WRONGDOING CAN BE CRITICIZED, O!
OUR PROBLEMS ARE TOO MANY.
YOU HERE, ALBERT OVER THERE. BINTOU EVERYWHERE. WHO CAN HELP US?

ADJOUA, THERE IS ALWAYS A WISE PERSON TO TURN TO, AND I KNOW EXACTLY WHO.

SO, B AND A MAKE BA.
BAAA...

ZZZZZZ
SCRITCH
?

THANK YOU...
I DON'T BITE, YOU KNOW.
IBO SAYS YOU'RE POSSESSED.
POSSESSED, NO, BUT DISPOSSESSED OF MY FREEDOM, YES. BUT IF YOU WANT TO KNOW ME, TALK TO ME.
IBO DOESN'T WANT US TO.
YOU KNOW YOUR HUSBAND IS NO HEALER. HELP ME LEAVE THIS PLACE.
MY MOTHER MUST BE WORRIED... YOU'RE ALSO A MOTHER, YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO UNDERSTAND...
SCRCHH
!
?