

The Old Man in The Lake

By

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1 INT. LAKE HOUSE - MORNING

A **EKWU** stands at a typewriter writing a letters which she takes out of the typewriter and places into an envelope labeled "For My Son".

She seals the envelope and places it on a pile of envelopes some of which are labeled "For My Daughter", "For My Family", and "For My Friends".

2 EXT. LAKE SHORE (BOAT) - MORNING

Ekwu places some rope and a set of exercise weights into a small boat before getting into the boat herself.

3 EXT. LAKE (BOAT) - MORNING

Ekwu drives the boat out into the middle of the lake bringing the boat to a gentle stop.

She picks up a stone that rests in the bottom of the boat and drops it into the water watching it fall deep into the lake and disappearing from sight.

She takes the exercise weights the rope. She feeds the rope through the weights one-by-one.

4 INT. HOSPITAL (MORGUE) - NIGHT - FLASHBACK

The dead body of **STEPHEN** lies beneath a white sheet in the dark room when the lights are turned on.

Ekwu is lead into the room by **DOCTOR** as **ELEANOR** stops outside the door.

ELEANOR

I can't do it, I'm sorry mum I can't.

EKWU

That's ok.
It's ok you wait here.

DOCTOR

Are you sure you want to see him?

EKWU

Yes.

Doctor leads Ekwu into the room and over to Stephen. Doctor takes the white sheets in his hands.

DOCTOR

Are you ready?

Ekwu nods as Doctor pulls the white sheet down to reveal Stephen's head.

Ekwu places a kiss on Stephen's before she takes Stephen's hand from under the white sheet.

EKWU
What have you done Stephen?

5 EXT. LAKE (BOAT) - MORNING - PRESENT DAY

Ekwu finishes feeding the rope through exercise weights before tying the rope around her waist.

She stands up and attempts to lift the weights holding them in her arms as she approaches the edge of the boat.

EKWU
I'm coming to you Stephen.

Ekwu places her foot on the side of the boat as she struggles with the weights.

Suddenly she slips as she steps on a loose stone in the bottom of the boat falling and hitting her head on the side of the boat knocking herself unconscious.

6 INT. BED ROOM - MORNING - FLASHBACK

Ekwu lies asleep in bed holding the hand of Stephen as she wakes.

7 INT. BED ROOM - MORNING - FLASHBACK

Ekwu and Stephen get dressed as Ekwu takes out 2 dresses (one black and one red).

EKWU
Which one do?

She shows the dresses to Stephen. Stephen smiles as he looks at her.

EKWU
What?

8 EXT. LAKE (BOAT) - MORNING - PRESENT DAY

Ekwu lies in the bottom of the boat as Stephen strokes her hair.

She opens her eyes and lifts her head to see Stephen looking back at her.

EKWU
Is it you Stephen?
How is it possible?

STEPHEN
It's not.

Ekwu sits up as she holds Stephen's hand tightly against herself as she sits up.

STEPHEN

What are you doing Ekwu?
This isn't what I want.

EKWU

I miss you so much.

STEPHEN

I'm not going anywhere.
I'm with you, you just have to
wait until we can be completely
together again.

EKWU

I don't want to wait.
I need you here with me.

STEPHEN

You had a life before me, a
wonderful life with me, and you
have a life you still have yet to
discover after me.

EKWU

There isn't a life without you.

STEPHEN

There is always life.
You have responsibilities.

**9. EXT./INT. ELEANOR'S CAR (HOSPITAL CAR PARK) MORNING -
FLASHBACK**

Eleanor sits in the car talking on the phone to **MICHAEL**.

ELEANOR

Mike can you hear me.

MICHAEL

Hey Elle what's up?

ELEANOR

Dad's died.

MICHAEL

What?

ELEANOR

He had a heart attack and died.

MICHAEL

...When?

ELEANOR

A couple of hours ago.

He just said he wasn't feeling well and had a heart attack.

MICHAEL
...Where's mum?

ELEANOR
She with dad holding his hand, she won't leave him.

The door opens and Ekwu gets into the car closing the car door behind her.

MICHAEL
Was that mum (getting into the car)?

ELEANOR
...Yes it was.

MICHAEL
How is she?
How are you mum?

ELEANOR
...I'm not sure she's ready to talk.

MICHAEL
...I need to look at flights. I'll call you back later.

ELEANOR
Ok we'll talk later.

MICHAEL
Ok.

Eleanor hangs up the phone.

ELEANOR
I need to collect Jayden from school.
How am I going to tell him?

A **STRANGER** approaches the car.

STRANGER
Can you close the door I can't get past.

ELEANOR
No problem, we're just leaving.
Mum can you close the door?

Ekwu doesn't react as Eleanor leans across Ekwu and close the door before starting the car engine.

10 EXT. LAKE (PIER/BOAT) - MORNING - FLASHBACK

Eleanor and Ekwu, who holds an urn, stand on a pier as Michael walks over to join them as they stand by a small rowing boat.

ELEANOR
(To Michael)
Are you ready to do this?

MICHAEL
I have no idea, you?

ELEANOR
No.

Michael takes Ekwu's hand and helps her into the boat before helping Eleanor into the boat.

Michael pilots the boat out into the middle of the lake before bringing the boat to a stop.

MICHAEL
You ready mum?

EKWU
Your dad used to come here as a child with his parents. We used to bring you here when you were very young, you probably don't remember.

MICHAEL
I'm not sure I remember but it does seem familiar.

ELEANOR
I remember.

Ekwu kisses the urn.

EKWU
Goodbye my love.

She begins to pour the ashes out of the urn and into the lake.

11 EXT. LAKE (BOAT) - MORNING - PRESENT DAY

Ekwu stares down into the water.

STEPHEN
There's nothing down there for you.
Life is ahead of you not bellow you.
Day-by-day you will find a way,
and reasons to be happy, trust

me.
I'll always be with you and be
here for you.

Stephen kisses Ekwu who close her eyes and smiles. She opens her eyes and looks for Stephen, who is not there.

EKWU
You better be right Stephen.

Ekwu reaches into the water to take (the floating object). She falls from the boat into the water

The exercise weight is pulled over the side of the boat by the rope, which is attached to Ekwu, and begins to plummet downwards in the water.

Ekwu is pulled down under the water towards as she fights to swim to the surface.

She begins to struggle with the rope as she tries to undo the knot.

The knot becomes loose and Ekwu slips free of the rope and swims to the surface.

She clings onto the side of the boat breathing heavily before dragging herself out of the water and into the boat.

She looks down into the water at the floating letters, Eleanor and Michael arrive in a car at the lake side as they get out the car and wave to Ekwu.

EKWU
You do pick your moments to make
a point Stephen.

Always life.

Ekwu waves back to Michael and Eleanor.

12 EXT. LAKE (PIER/BOAT) - MORNING

Ekwu is met at the pier by Eleanor and Michael.

ELEANOR
Why are you soaking wet?

EKWU
I wet for a swim.

MICHAEL
You ok mum?

EKWU
Yeah, I was reminding my self
what it's like to be alive.

MICHAEL
That's a good thing.

ELEANOR
Crazy but yeah it is a good
thing.

EKWU
You don't need to worry about me.

Michael helps Ekwu out of the boat and onto the pier.

MICHAEL
Promise?

EKWU
Promise.

Ekwu hugs both Eleanor and Michael getting them wet before
they walk back to the lake house joking.