

OLD SOLDIER
Afrinolly Studios

INT. RESTAURANT - DAY

OLD SOLDIER is enjoying his meal when a weary-looking FASH enters and heads straight for his table.

He drops down to a seat.

OLD SOLDIER
(mouthful)
You look terrible.

FASH
I feel terrible.

OLD SOLDIER
You should eat something for a
start.

FASH
Food is the last thing on my mind
now.

OLD SOLDIER
You will be surprised. It helps you
think clearly. You can't do that on
an empty stomach.

FASH
My trip to the studio didn't go as
planned.

OLD SOLDIER
You have to focus on the things
that are working.

FASH
Nothing I have ever tried has
worked. Nothing.

OLD SOLDIER
Have you ever considered that maybe
you're not seeing it work?

FASH
Sometimes I believe even you don't
understand what you say...

OLD SOLDIER
Maybe. But most times when there
seems like no way to go forward,
you gotta take few steps
back...like tango.

(CONTINUED)

FASH

Tango? Nobody dances tango in Nigeria.

OLD SOLDIER

I do...but that's not the point. I mean maybe you left the answers behind.

FASH ponders on this.

OLD SOLDIER CONTD

It's called effort for a reason...until it yeilds, you keep pushing.

FASH

You have all these words like it should help. We can switch places if you don't mind.

OLD SOLDIER

Everyone's path is cut out for him. Even if I want to, i can't.

FASH

In other words, I'm on my own.

OLD SOLDIER takes a last bite, then leans back.

OLD SOLDIER

Anytime you come to me for answers, there's one thing I keep saying every time...and it's probably the hardest.

FASH

You say a lot of things I don't understand.

OLD SOLDIER

Patience. A cart can't run faster than the horse. Let things play out. You are in a hurry.

FASH

How can I not be? I need to get back to my life. Trust me I don't want to end up old and lonely dishing out wisdom nuggets to kids.

OLD SOLDIER
You don't want to end up like me..

FASH
Oh no..I didn't mean it like that,
OLD SOLDIER.

OLD SOLDIER
(smiles)
It's alright. I can only imagine
your frustration. Keep doing what
you are doing and stop checking for
immediate results, you might not
see them.

FASH puts his head on the table.

FASH
I don't know how to go about it.

OLD SOLDIER
I have an idea.

FASH raises his head to look at him.

FASH
What's that?

OLD SOLDIER CONTD
(grins)
Start with some of your Mom's
delicious, hot food.