

## Improving Nigerian Movies

### 10 STEPS

Like many people, I am in love with Nigerian movies. But I am even more in love with the potential that these movies have. This is why I am making the following suggestions:

1. Characters can die without oozing some foamy white substance from the mouth.
2. Emotions can be expressed (joy, anger, fear, sadness, confusion) without thrashing around and screaming as if to awaken an audience in China.
3. Indigenous doctors/spiritual healers do not always have to be depicted as scrawny, raggedy, old, half-crazed men; my own grandfather was a spiritual healer and looked nothing like these men.
4. Discard background music that tells us the story hours before the film is over; give room for anticipation and imagination.
5. To reinforce its glorification of God, a movie does not have to end with the assertion, "TO GOD BE THE GLORY."
6. Clashes between Christians and African religious practitioners should not always depict the annihilation of the latter with lightning and thunder. Such portrayal of religious conflict is too idealistic. Similarly, the self-proclaimed, holier-than-thou Christian can sometimes emerge as the culprit, which happens in real life.
7. Prayers should not always result in swift and miraculous outcomes. While it would be great for prayers to be answered in this manner, the truth is that this is not always the case. If results were that dramatic, Nigeria wouldn't have problems today.
8. Avoid melodramatic endings where someone is hit by a car or where lightning strikes the villain(s) to death. This suggests lack of creative imagination and prevents the achievement of more intriguing conclusions.
9. Do not conclude with a short narrative of what happens in the future. Again, this suggests lack of creative imagination.

10. Weed out poor and sometimes annoying actors that do irreparable damage to a good storyline.

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