

**A WOMAN'S PRIDE
IS HER HUSBAND**



CKWERE NKE DI KARA AND HER HUSBAND



A WOMAN'S PRIDE IS HER HUSBAND

BY

MRS. CHINWE AKAOSA

REVISED AND ENLARGED

BY

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P r e f a c e

This booklet containing ideas, originally launched out by a Nigerian married woman, in the difficult issue of marriage, is something very creditable. It will in the main, assist men and women when married, to live together, happily.

It will not suffice to maintain, that a booklet of this nature, should get into the hands of everybody by reading from other people's copies. Rather, it will be very essential for a person to own a copy. This will enable the person to think over the valuable ideas, herein contained.

The characters used, are purely imaginary and bear no form of relationship, to any existing person.

Upon being called upon to revise the book, I wilfully did it, since I am proud of the alertness of the Nigerians, both male and female, in all fields, these days.

FELIX N. STEPHEN

(FREE LANCE JOURNALIST)

OBEDIENCE IS A CHARM FOR MARRIAGE LIFE

Many people have often been heard saying that some women charm their husbands, in order that they might be well loved. For my part however, I would very much disagree, since any attempt of that type, would only mean, a risk. The man's life, might be affected tragically. The only suitable charms are :—

First : She must be clean both in appearance and behaviour.

Second : Women are supposed to cook and not allow servants to go and manage. At the same time, to teach their children the best domest work; for, the kitchen is the most reasonable office for any married woman.

Third : She should see that her husband takes his meal in time.

Fourth : She should keep her children clean by bathing them and also, make them have their meal in time.

Fifth : She is expected to be in terms with her neighbours. This will promote social life.

Sixth : On no account, should she make it a policy, to keep on purchasing things on credit. For, such might degrade her and at the same time, affect the prestige of her husband. All the

same, she should not go along to emulate some greedy women, who are very much after costly and lovely dresses.
Seventh : Husbands should always be greeted by their wives. This is very pleasant and helps to bring about, more happiness.



THE TWO LOVERS. OKWERENKEDIKARA AND HER HUSBAND.

There are always, many profits to be had,

whenever people do, what is right in their homes.

Jacob was the name of a certain man, who once existed. He married a woman who went by the name, Okwerenkedikara. The name in full, showed that obedience to the instructions of the husband, was a sufficient marriage charm. In fact, the name created a sort of sensation, whenever and wherever, it was mentioned.

She took a very good care of her family and always agreed to what her husband said. She received strangers, both male and female, equally and before going out to greet any stranger in their house, she would see that her clothes were clean and admirable, then with a pure heart and, smiles on her face, would present kola to them. Of course, through her husband. Afterwards, she would then advance, to greet the stranger or strangers, as the case may be. If it were her fellow woman that visited them with a child in her company Okwerenkedikara would take the child and then, present to the child with happiness and admiration, something edible. Further, she would like to know, the condition of health, of the stranger's relatives.

The husband himself, would then, be happy with his wife and feel proud of her. Jacob and his wife, had a daughter, called "Blessing" and so the woman called her husband, Papa "B". Whenever one entered their house, nothing but happiness, would be noticed. For, proverbially, it has been maintained, that a child's countenance is taken into confidence before taking anything from the child. So, Okwerenkedikara's good character, made the husband overlook certain things in their house and at the same time, encouraged him think of important improvements to be made.

He was not the type that would spend money carelessly. When he wanted to drink wine, he would go quietly into a pub and after a while, would go to his house. He did not like to act as some men, who feel that the best way of relaxing, is to sleep overnight, in the hotels. Thus, his wife was quite sure of him and he on his part, was respectful in all attitudes, towards her.

This of course, is one of the essential things in the life led by a husband and a wife. In fact, something of this nature, will surely prevent quarrels and fighting. Yes! some men are ready to blame their wives every time that there is discomfort within the family circle.

Jacob, on his part, knew that a man too, could be wrong and so, was careful. Thus, both of them saw eye to eye in all affairs and in consequence, trained Blessing their daughter and their other Children successfully.

Why because love involves if you want to marry a lady try to marry a lady you love. Love is the one of the most important things in married life

Love can make a man to forgive his wife whenever she offends him. Love could make the bride and the bridegroom to sit together to solve the difficulties in their homes; because the devil always wants to reduce the people at peace.

The devil is always with his matches to separate the people in a family with his matches but if there is love, his aims will be in vain. So let every man and woman, boys and girls always try to love one another to be free from the snares of the devil in the families for love is a good soup in our families. Marriage without love is like soup without salt.

Any married woman who do not understand how to maintain love in her home can only be referred to page one of this booklet, that is the best charms for husbands.

A LAZY MAN IS MASTERED BY HIS WIFE

Once, there was a youngman called Alfred. After his elementary School career which of course, he successfully completed, he took to trade. It was one Joseph, who coached him in the business.

As a matter of fact, Alfred was very handsome and every person who saw him, liked him. Joseph gave him a sum of six hundred pounds to purchase goods for sale. Unfortunately, however Alfred was the type, that would always like to mix up business with pleasure. Thus, while on tour, he might spend many days, purposely for pleasure and out of the money given to him for trade.

Upon returning, he would tell every amount of lies, to his master, as to the cause of his delay. The experienced Joseph, then told him, that it would be proper foolishness, to keep on waiting his youth. He further maintained, that it would not be advisable, for a person to reap where he did not sow. Alfred did not care a bit.

After some length of time, he was given money to be his own. For that, a collective sum of three hundred pounds, was given out, jointly by his parents and master.

He was very rascal and so, could not control the money. He was simply trying to practise, what cleverness, he had never practised. The whole thing was then a loss to him.

Even though the position was like that, yet Alfred thought it wise, to follow up his mates in marrying, as most of them had done so by Christmas. He actually did so. But in many cases, people hold that it is not the journey to Lagos that matters most, but the return from that town, which is considered to be one of the most difficult things.

Alfred's wife, then ask for two shillings from him and with that, she began a trade in cassava. Gradually, she prospered.

Alfred himself, began to grow very lazy. He was not able to continue his trade and slept very much, every day. He went very late to the market and of course, lavished his money on cigarattes and wine. Also, he kept on buying very costly clothes, until his money got finished. He was getting to be good for nothing, when he was employed by the Council.

A dog does not of course, leave its tail and so, Alfred, instead of working hard, continued to drink, during business hours. He was

soon dismissed and so, the next thing he did, was to assist his wife in peeling cassava for garri. His friends met him doing that one day, inspite of the vain attempts made by his wife, to stop them. That was, when they called in, to ask him to go to meeting with them. He was greatly ashamed. But, it was no person's fault. For, Alfred was the cause of his own ruin.

The wife had gained control over him. Yes! That is why, every man should try very much in his business. For, business should come first, before pleasure.

AN ADVICE TO YOUNGMEN

It is indeed very necessary, for a youngman to be very careful in whatever he does, to get money. For, there is nothing as bad as a youngman, waisting his time. That is, instead of going to the market or work place when it is time to do so, he gets along, hunting for where to get palm wine, especially the overnight type, play Ludo game or draught.

As a matter of fact, it is not that these are not good. But, everything has its own time. Therefore, indulging in them,

when the time is odd, is not advisable. For such can bring about, misery, which will make a wife despise her own husband. There are many poor men, whose wives ought not despise them. For, nothing should happen, without a cause.

The first is the type, that gets into that state, because of sickness. Another, is that, which is brought about by thieves, stealing or cheating or even clearing entirely, a man's goods. Also, some men become poor, through various type of troubles, which might befall a man in this world.

Any woman, who despises her husband, because of these, is surely violating the laws of marriage. Again, it is not good, for a youngman to make it a point, to go and steal money or play "wayo", so as to make his wife love or respect him the more. For, this is nothing but sort of committing sin.

MY HUSBAND DOESN'T LOVE ME

Somebody who does bad, especially to her husband, will be surprised to find out, that she has actually cheated her own self. That was what happened when a certain lady met a native doctor and asked him to prepare a charm for her to make the husband, love her the more.

The native doctor, was not at all truthful and so, gave a poison to the lady instead. She used it in the food of her husband and the man caught tuberculosis. Finally, he died. Mr. John bought the house a month later and sacked her from it. Thus, the woman began to suffer and then, came to realise, what she had done to herself. For, if a house does not fall on a widow, she may not easily know, that a married woman, stands a better chance.

Question : Is it necessary for a woman, to be truthful to the husband ?

Answer : Yes ! It is quite necessary. For, it is through this, the husband will know more about the character of his wife. Apart from that, truth-telling, keeps the conscience at ease.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH A WOMAN'S DECISION ?

The next, is about one man who felt that he could not do anything useful, with the decision of a woman. He was quite careless and would not for anything sake, pay heed, to the pieces of advice or warning,

given to him by his wife. It was for that sake, that trouble often came up in the family.



(Ejimke fighting against his wife Nkemakolam)

The proverb, "one good turn, deserves another,"

is well justified. Yes, for when this is kept to, things would be normal. The wife whose name was Nkemakolam had a child called Chidubem.

Nkemakolam tried all her best to get the husband pleased, but he would not. He did not like to entertain visitors or even welcome them. There was no love in the family. Ejimke, the husband, was one day encountered by wayorists who told him to bring three hundred pounds and have one thousand five hundred pounds, produced for him.

The wife warned. But he would not pay heed and so, was out in the company of the gamblers, who instructed him to get an iron box, into which the money would be put by the river god after sacrifices with a white goat, white hen and a white cloth, had been made.

Ejimke, had exhausted all his money and even borrowed some amount from friends. In the end the money was not got. The whole thing was a fake business. He grew very sad. His Child met him and asked what was the matter, he simply replied, that he should go and meet her mother.

(Nkemakolam and her child Chidubem)



The mother told Chidubem to leave up the matter and go to School.

That of course, was the end of Ejimke. Later on, his son got scholarship and went and studied Medicine Overseas, for eight years.

Upon his return, the mother who was still alive, was very happy indeed. He married, got children and lived happily. And the father left their home and got lost like a sheep without a shepherd

Question: Does a woman satisfy a wicked man?

Answer: No, the day the wife does a good thing, that will be the worst day for the man. Such husbands are never satisfied. It is very important for an unmarried lady to pray so that she will not be married to such men that are never satisfied.

That God will give her the right husband. He has prepared for her and that the two will sit down and decide what to do. If it is man, that God will give him the right wife and the two will agree and they live happily.

THE UNWISE COUPLE

Some people may say that they do

not like to marry, because women are troublesome. This is not wise. For, everything depends upon how a man plays his own card

There was a man called Udechuku. He married Nwaobiora. Within the first week of their marriage, Udechuku began to weep bitterly. No person knew the real cause for that.

The next thing heard, was his quest for the money he paid as bride-price. The in-laws themselves were surprised. One fun in the whole affair, was that he did these things outside the knowledge of his wife, who kept on doing all she could, to keep him happy.

When Nwaobiora discovered what was going on, she was very angry and so, decided not to marry for life. She lived the life of a spinster and suffered greatly from the hands of ruffians, small boys who could not have been able to talk to her if she was still in her husband's house and, other sorts of low-ranked people, who in some cases, abused and threatened to beat her, even after using dirty words on her.

So now, it can easily be seen by every person and also approved of, that a woman's

pride, is her husband. When a husband misbehaves, the wife gets ashamed and degraded. But when the husband lives up to expectation, the wife is proud and she is right to do so.

DO WOMEN KNOW THAT MONEY IS HARD ?

People often say that women do not know, that money is hard to get. This is actually a pity. As a woman is the writer of this, she would by all means, feel that much thought should be given to the saying. There is no doubt, that some men are the real cause of it. For, they, while going to woo a woman, go to borrow about ten pounds, which they would use in sewing a suit. This of course, to persuade a woman, to dectetfully think that they are wealthy. Further, they purchase about five pounds worth of a pair of spectacles and ten guineas worth of wrist watch. A very costly hat, would also be bought, to match.

The nest may be the purchase of a scooter, even on hire purchase.

Upon reaching the house of the prospective inlaws, it would appear as if his money were made up of

cash. Well then, there is no argument in



The man scooter

the saying that, "No person would spit out sugar,
put in his or her own mouth".

He may then go to write a letter of this type:—

“Joe’s Mansion,
P. O. Box 29/4,
Onitsha.
1st September 1960.

My dear Cecilia,

I am writing this to enquire first of all, about your present condition of health, together with that of your parents. Infact, neither tongue, nor words, can express the deep love, I have on you. Believe me dear, I cannot afford to miss you.

You may be sorry to hear that my lorry that runs from Onitsha to Sokoto collided on its way on Saturday last week. Do not worry. For, that is nothing to me. There is still money, to get into the factory even today and purchase a brand new one.

I have three youngmen trading for me now at Lagos and it is sure, that they will be of great help to me, in the recovery of it.

Forget all about it however and please reply early, so as to enable me know that you actually received it.

Yours Lovingly,
Joe.

In time, Cecilia received the letter and replied thus:—

“Central School,
Ugiri.

3rd September, 1960.

My dear Joe,

I have received your letter. I hope that you are in good health. At any rate, I have learnt of how your lorry was involved in an accident. May I know from you, when you will come to our place again. I earnestly expect you. For, it will be a joy to me, for us to be tied up, as a husband and wife. So please, try to come again. Do, send me some money, so that I can purchase certain things that I need most. I do not think, that there is anything, that will prevent our getting married.

I am,

Yours sincerely,

Cecilia".

Here now, have been seen, one letter from a man and another from a lady. What can easily be understood is this, a mere assumption. Infact, a vain one. No money, no clothes and no lorry. Yet, he would go to play politics in order to deceive a lady. In the end, she agrees to marry the man.

Convincing her parents, who finally agree, both of them, marry and go to the man's house to live.

One day, the man went to the market and bought some clothes of twenty pounds in value and also, began to give a sum of ten pounds per diem to the wife, as chop money. Joy and nothing but that, filled the mind of the wife. But, she did not know that the man had not as much money as was expected of him. The tide then, began to change.

The man had reduced the chop money to five shillings. The wife was no longer pleased. Within a short time, the graph descended to two shillings and six pence. For, the man was running broke

The wife felt surprised. She asked herself, why such a wealthy man, could not bring sufficient chop money, since she had been accustomed to buying fish of about two shillings and six pence. She then thought if the man expected her to go and steal. Of course, she deemed it impossible, so to do and preferred fighting and creating troubles, to that daily, in order that the audience of neighbours and other people, might be attracted.

When nothing but confusion reigned, the man told people that he gave his wife, chop money and she in return, fought him.

The wife, on her own part, would tell people, that the man began to give ten shillings to her as chop money. But later on, he reduced it, to give five shillings and then, to two shillings and six pence.

Everybody who heard them, said that, women do not know that money is hard to get. But in actual fact, this is only the result of what pretence and nothing but sheer pretence, brings.

Men who have small sizes and put on very big jackets, may in the end discover, that they have only mocked at themselves.

AN ADVICE FOR ALL

It is not advisable for a man to go about borrowing money and assuming that he is rich, only to convince a lady to have a very high opinion of his own person. This is nothing short of self-deceit. It is not to marry a wife, that is the problem. But it is the maintenance.

In short, it will be highly appreciable, for a small man, to present himself as such, before his wife. She then, can know exactly, how best to make the estimates for feeding, much of course, to the convenience of the husband, who is the breadwinner. Troubles will cease. Happiness will reign and marriage life, will be enjoyed.

AID TO MARRIAGE LIFE

In the main, marriage is a thing, quite sacred and sanctioned by even God himself. It is a sort of unity, between a man and a woman different parentage, that finally brings them to a state of brother and sister. In many cases, the husband is the breadwinner and pillar of the family, while the wife is the care-taker.

It does not necessarily matter, what might be the rank of a husband. When once a lady is attached to him as a wife, she is well respected.

The next is, the question of peaceful living. This point, of course, seems a bit controversial in nature. For, it might be either from the husband or the wife. There are some men, who make themselves, difficult to understand. In fact, they always would like their wives to fear them. But, this is a type of motive, based upon some misdirected intentions. Truly, men who are feared, seldom do well. It would be far better, to be respected, than to be feared. A man who is feared, can neither satisfy any person nor even be satisfied, himself. Thus, life shifts gently, from the atmosphere of gaiety, to that of melancholy.

A husband who renders himself quite understandable to his wife, finds things easier and safe. Unlike the difficult charactered man, he lives happily and considers points with his wife in matters of mayor significance.

More often than not, many wives extricate their husbands, from the ghastly hands of inconveniences. That is of course, where the men would like to give priority to the pieces

of advice, given to them, by such women.

The joy experienced in a family, is but a gift of God. This is evidenced by the series of complaints, got from some men, who keep on feeling that they are always worried by their wives. Yes, it takes time, for one to see one's own faults.

HAPPY LIVING

Okpaku was the name of a certain woman, married to Nnaji. She was barren and so, always felt sorry for her situation. But she could not help it, since, the question of getting a child, cannot be solved by any amount of force. Really, true love existed between her and her husband.

Instead of abusing his wife, as some men do, he kept on comforting her and then, making her to feel happy at home. He further went to the extent of telling her, that one day, God would give them a child.

Together therefore, both of them lived peacefully. She was proud of her husband and so, did not look left or right.

No other man, was as dear to her, as her own husband. One day, some people met the husband and asked him to sack his wife, as they said that she was not of any use. But, he refused. Some women, advised the lady to run away from her husband and if possible, remain as a free-woman, so that she might through a stroke of luck, get a child. But she refused.

It did not take long however, before they had twin born babies. So then, where there is love between a husband and his wife, much improvement, is expected. The wife will respect her husband, very well and no other person, will hear their discussions, either sweet or bitter.

ADVICE FOR SOME WOMEN WHO THINK, THAT FARMING WORK IS PUNISHMENT.

In my own opinion, is it not those who were rich in the olden days were rich farmers? Most of them were very energetic and could work out the money for the training of their children up to Doctors and Lawyers. So farming should not be neglected in this our present generation. If your

husband tells you ; Dear you shall go home and do some farming. Please do not say that he wishes to punish you, for farming is no punishment. It is where he has his own interest, we ought to make or teach our children how to farm for no one can live without food and also no one knows tomorrow ; things may change at any time. So it is better for some one to know how to farm. Do not be offended because you are told to go to farm.

Let no woman boast that her father is a chief and her father has money. No chief can rule without some food in his stomach. Don't you know that a hungry man sees very far ? How can we now neglect farming ?

ADVICE TO ALL MEN

Our older people say; when right hand washes left hand, let left hand wash right hand.

You ought to help wives and be sympathetic with them. Most of our men are very rich, it doesn't mean as I have stated here that women are supposed to go to farm ; you ought not take farm work as a punishment on your wives.

ADVICE FOR YOUNG LADIES

Whatever might be the rank of any woman, she ought not forget that her pride is her husband. He may be rich or poor.

But he should not be neglected. For, it is on him, that the respect of the woman lies.

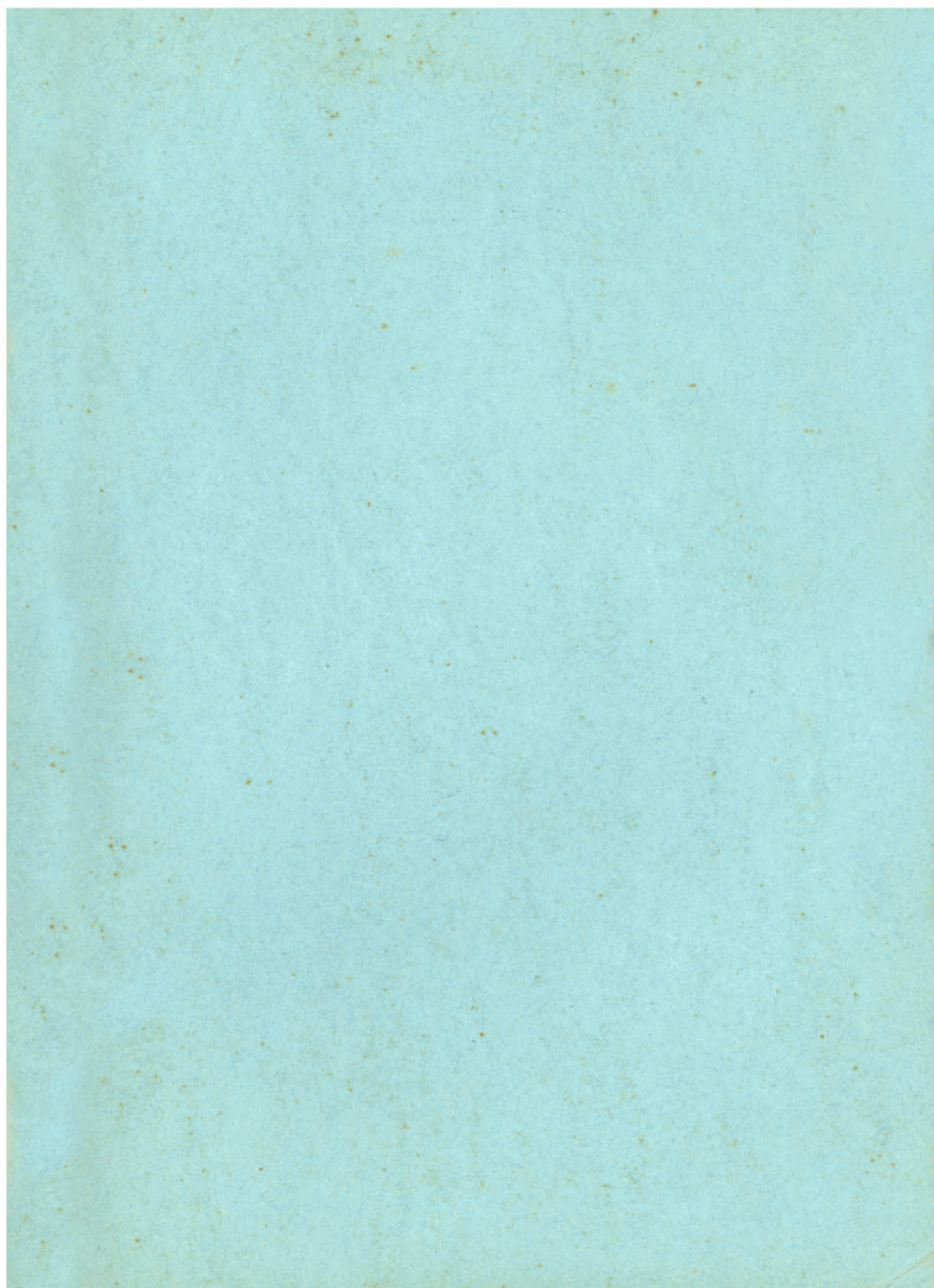
Obedience to the husband's instructions, gives pleasure and helps in the unity of the members of a family.

Women who think that lodging in the hotels and cheating men of their money, ought to remember, that the time shall come, when they will no longer do that. For, by then, things will change greatly and they will be forced by age, to go home and become useless.

There is nothing sweeter or more bitter than marriage.

However, it depends upon how a man and his wife, may like to live.
If happily and in peace, then, there will be joy.
But if unhappily and in pieces, then it is their fault.

THE END.



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