

Submit 2 TAKES

008 INYUKA

I wish I shared your optimism.

009 IYONZWA

Why can't you?

010 INYUKA

It is their court. *Their* justice.

011 COURT CLERK

START >>> All rise.

CHAIRS SCRAPE. THE ROOM SETTLES.

012 JUDGE DE VOS

Be seated.

A GAVEL STRIKES.

013 COURT CLERK

Charles Van Cauter, you stand charged with unlawful brutality, abuse of authority, and the death of Isidore Bakanja. How do you plead?

<<< END

014 VAN CAUTER

(flat)

Not guilty.

WALLA: A LOW MURMUR MOVES THROUGH THE ROOM.

015 JUDGE DE VOS

Is the prosecution ready to present its opening statement?

SHORT SLIDE OF A WOODEN CHAIR ON A HARD WOOD FLOOR.

NOAH REYNIERS, 30s, stands and crosses the room.

016 REYNIERS

Your Honor... Gentlemen of the court – We are here today because a young man name Isidore Bakanja is dead. Was he a violent man? You will hear testimony that Isidore was not prone to violence of any kind. Was he lazy? We will present you with evidence that he was a hard worker and was well liked by his co-workers and friends. He was well mannered, respected.
(MORE)