

MAGIC BATH

Written by

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BAIN DEMARRE/MAGIC BATH

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PRESENT DAY

1. EXT.A BEAT.DAY

The heavy trees don't allow to pass the light. The trees are very closed each other. The under wood is somber. Far off, we hear the leaves' rustling. Then the crash of the sticks which beat down on the bush.

Little by little, we see people appearing first in chinese omber. Then they scatter between the trees. They hold sticks or large knife to make a way.

PEOPLE (ALTERNALY)

OTHELO, LILI

A young woman put the foot on a hillock walking. She stairs down. It's a hidden doll in cloth under a heap of wet leaves.

The young woman (hope in her eyes), she branshes the object.

(Close up) on the doll with a foot on. A hand pick up the doll. Father screams children's name. Next ground there is a sound connection with the Jason's scream.

2. INT.THE MEAT MARKET.DAY

Jason's scream still resound. (on the ground about Faye's face). The sound is it off camera.

close up on the face of the character Faye. A face put on the floor of the market. Bloody face. Dumb and prostrate. opening on the place where is Faye : the meats market.

Yaya is near a stand of plants. She stairs at the scene from far. Puzzled by the distress of this woman, come clother from this assemblage. Someone try to touch Faye, she starts to struggle and scream. Yaya approaching, the crowd move away. Yaya lead the crowd telling nothing with big gestures. The two women both look at one another. Faye is still prostrated.

Yaya stretches out her arm softly and carreses Faye's cheek in a motherly way.

Faye close her eyes and let Yaya take her away.

FADE IN BLACK

3. EXT.RIVER IN THE WOOD.DAY

The moon is visible during the day. Between the trees, the sun send light's beams. It's like we heard beat the heart of the wood : the crackle of barks, the sound of animals, the animals' scream we can't determine... there is fog. There is dewdrops on the plants. We see the transparency of the plants' grooves as blood network.

On a very narrow drawn path, two women arrive : Faye and Yaya. The older woman Yaya help Faye to walk holding her shoulders. The younger, Faye, seems have pain. She is cover by a loincloth. They walk slowly. They arrive near a river.

4. INTO THE WOOD.DAY

Yaya removes Faye's clothes slowly.

Yaya wants Faye to come in the water but she resists. She catches the floor and try to catch all she can to avoid the contact with the water. Then she catches a tree in her passage.

YAYA (ANNOYED GESTURE)  
Faye...Wooy...

Yaya abandon Faye to her tree and go in the water.

She does a hand gesture. She just ends the ritual she practices with leaves in the water. (Yaya is already in the water which arrive her half thigh. She is front of Faye who is still off the water).

One look of Yaya and Faye, even against her wish, is pushed in the water.

Faye is in the water. She struggles like she was drown herself. But the water which enters in her eyes make her blind. It creates around her circles of water and foam.

Yaya whips her with trees branches and hurts Faye. Faye screams but Yaya don't stop. She tells word nobody can understand with creoles sonorities as a tale.

mood : foliages noise, water noise and song.

Focus on the water through we see in transparency the trees, the plants.

FLASH BACK

5. EXT.ROAD OF THE COVERED MARKET.DAY

Puddle that Faye put her foot wearing high heels like starting blocks.

A merry go round starts its tour slowly without music.

Faye takes a run up. Hands full of mud. She cleans them up on her skirt. She runs between the cars. No more make up. Tears on her face. We see her tatouage placed in the top left breast. Her blouse is torn. She runs in the wrong way toward the cars which are brutally stopping.

To make her running easier, she tears out the bottom of her skirt and her heels.

Back toward the meery go round which turn faster.

Some drivers go out their cars. They seems angry but we can't get what they are saying. We can't see yet what makes her run.

A woman stairs at her farther, shaking her head. Body movements seems like a dance. (Her flight is choregraphic running with some stops where the body express itself dancing)

Faye, stunned, hold her head wrinkling eyes. Then she sings.

Faye starts to sing.

She enters at the meat market. Butchers give violents blow of ax. Closed faces.

6. INT.THE COVERED BIG MARKET.DAY

She makes gestures with no sens. The woman, Yaya is now in the market. She is choosing plants, leaves. The noise out makes her turn around. She recognizes the young woman she seen near the meat market. Yaya, the worried face, go fastly toward Faye ( prostrate, trembling). Some curious surround Faye. Yaya try to catch Faye up. She passes her hand in the Faye's face with a tender gesture. Yaya takes a loincloth from her bag and rushes in front of her, covers her with it and then takes her away of cars.

FADE IN BLACK

Faye remain sluggish on the water. Yaya sing a lullaby for her, to calm Faye.

FLASH BACK

7. INT.TATOO MAN'S ROOM.DAY

Faye tattoo herself a lover sign on her left breast. While she is suffering Jason kiss her with satisfaction (close up) Jason crushes her hand.

8. EXT. IN THE WOOD. DAY

Yaya, impassible, draws circles around her. Suddenly Faye regain consciousness. She can't breathe.

FLASH BACK

9. EXT. A SINUOUS AND LEFT ROAD. DAY

Background sound we hear Faye's breathe. Fade in black, car wheels screeches on asphalt. Screen opens on woman face, Faye, who look at the road and rear view mirror.

She seems worried.

She turns on the radio button and the song of Buika « Mi Nina Lola » rises. She is on board a convertible. We see farther a car which follows her, tries to catch her back but we can't see the driver. She arrives to keep the distance.

## 10. EXT.ON A CLIFF.DAY

Faye arrives in a top cliff. Opens car door in big crash. Radio is still on. She sings imitating singer Buika.

She is from behind. She moves forward the cliff like a tightrope walker. Her arms in cross give her balance. Her eyes are closed. She is closer the cliff. Her foot is almost in the empty. It's creates a little collapse. Still closed eyes and she is smiling.

Suddenly Faye feels someone grip her tight from arms. She starts to struggle. She turns around, surprised, then smile. It's her lover, Jason. They kiss each other. He draws Faye tatouage's outline with his fingers.

The looking of Faye traduce her love to Jason. He carries her in his arms.

FAYE

The world is Faye for you, forever.

PRESENT DAY

## 11. EXT.IN THE WOOD.DAY

body is whiped with leaves.

Little by little the body reacts. He solves itself.

Bad memories arrive.

FLASH BACK

12A. INT. KITCHEN. DAY

Rustic kitchen. Lights of the sun enter by one of the windows.

Faye holds her cell phone in her shoulder's hollow during she stretches out her arm to grab a pan. She lets a message to jason.

FAYE (WRITING A MESSAGE)

Give me news. I'm waiting for you.  
Children miss you.

Faye starts to prepare the meals. She puts ingredients on kitchen's table. We hear children's screams. Children run over Faye. They fight for a rag doll.

Faye snatches the doll from Othello and strangles the doll. Children stop their quarrel.

13B. INT. KITCHEN. DAY

Faye is not sure about the recipe. She asks advice to her old neighbor, Man Tilda. They communicate by the kitchen's window.

FAYE

Man Tilda, i want to pleasure to my love tonight. It is her birthday. And i want something special for him. But i am not as good as you at cooking. Do you remember you told me how to catch a man with a piece of dachine cooked on coal...

MAN TILDA

A dish is like a magic potion. When you understand this, you can rule the world. If you miss the dosage, it will have another effect. Go quickly take 3 dose of safran and 1 leave of soft broom. I take care of the rest. Don't worry your man didn't see nothing. I do the bigger and you will add the secret touch yourself. I come back soon.

Faye, happy, kiss Man Tilda.

14. EXT.BEHIND THE HOUSE.DAY

Faye arrive quickly in car. The house is peacefull. Faye is agitated.

Son sac tombe par terre. Elle ne se retourne pas pour le ramasser. Keys house dropped from her hand. She can't put the key in the lock. When she arrives she slams the door. Her bag falls to the floor. She doesn't turn around to take it back.

(we hear well the noise of the creasing paper) She finds a word in the dining room. She does not read it. She creases it furiously.

15. INT.KITCHEN.DAY

Lights off. She lights on everywhere. Goes in the kitchen toward the cooker. Lifts the pan's lid put down on fire off. A smoke goes out of it, no reaction. She put the lid back down furiously. Then she grabs a knife. Disappears a few moment. She appears back sit alone behind the meal she prepared for Jason and herself. She eats mechanically. She rises same, takes a glass salad bowl, fills it with water and dive her head in it.

FADE IN BLACK

PRESENT DAY

In the river edge, Faye look at the reflect. She takes her face between her hands and starts to knead it softly. Huming a song (bèlè rythm).

FLASH BACK

16. INT. CHILDREN'S ROOM. DAY

She wakes them up softly. Faye is sitting cross-legged at the middle room, in the floor. We see her behind. Children are on both sides. They are in profile. They are unshakeable and quietness, they hold tight a doll.

FAYE (MONOLOGUE)/SINGING BÈLÈ (THIS SONG PLAYS OFF DURING SHE IS IN THE CHILDREN'S ROOM)

She believed in love, to a man she stole for him, cheats for him, got into debt for him.  
 This man promise her marriage. She believed in this man who still had good reasons to miss the home.  
 And one day, accidentally, she arrives to a place where she had no reason to be : near the church. She surprises her man with another woman. Their happiness was like a sun. Her man was just married with another. Here, i stop to beat. I offered him bloody tears... (during the song, images of betrayal scroll : church, married...)

As a Piéta, I support you in unstable balance (his children are on his knees)

(MORE)

(CONT'D)

Now, I want to become again a woman, a child. After this long infertility, we gave birth...

She lets the plate empty on the table, put an envelope in it. Then she leaves the house without take her car keys.

FADE IN BLACK

No mood sound.

In the river, Yaya wearing white is motionless. As if time were suspended. (trees don't move). She still have a bundle of twigs in her hand. Yaya continue to shake the leaves which cover the river around her. This time, she is quietness. Faye takes advantage to go out the water. It's difficult, Faye stumbles and seems tired. She reaches out thanks to a root. She looks at Faye slept at the river's edge. Yaya go out the water slowly, go toward Faye. She can't breathe again. Yaya sit beside her telling nothing. Look at her. Faye has a foetal position.

YAYA

Lucifer, May your walking bring us back the beneficial brightness. You swum in your children's blood because of loss love. Your hideous hand stroke. Unhuman love.

17. EXT.BEHIND THE HOUSE.DAY

Jason comes back home, he doesnt see his children. He finds a word. He sees Faye run in naked feet through the roads. She stops when she arrives on the cliff. Jason catches and shakes her. She gets out of him and confess she killed the children. Jason is stunned, he falls down. (we can't hear what Faye is telling to Jason).

He starts to run toward the cliff. He sees Faye arms rised above the cliff

JASON SCREAM (RUNNING)

18. EXT.CLIFF.DAY

BEHIND HER, ABYSS, A CLIFF.

FAYE CLOSE HER EYES, DRAW A SMILE IN HER FACE. RISES HER ARMS LIKE SHE FLOWN AWAY. IN THE SKY WE SEE A BIRD IN CHINESE OMBER WHO FLY TOWARD THE SUN.

WE HEAR VOICES THEN A A STORM OF LEAVES.

