

Timbuktu

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Sequence 1

A gazelle runs from gun-wielding Islamists in a truck through the desert. "Tire it," they shout. "Don't kill it."

Sequence 2

Statues and idols, standing in the desert, are shot at and destroyed.

Sequence 3

Islamists walk a blindfolded man through the desert. They give the man his glasses and medicine.

Sequence 4

Islamists on a motorcycle ride into town, announcing that music and smoking are forbidden and that women must wear socks and gloves.

Sequence 5

Islamists speak with the local imam, who tells them they shouldn't be in a house of God wearing shoes and carrying guns.

Sequence 6

Kidane is herding his cattle. Amadou, the fisherman, warns Kidane to keep the animals away from his nets.

Sequence 7

Kidane and his wife Satima and daughter Toya are at home, outside town. Toya's favourite cow is called GPS. Kidane says that if GPS has a calf, and it's male, he will give it to Issan.

Sequence 8

Jihadists speak with a woman selling fish at the market and insist that she wear gloves. She refuses and is arrested.

Sequence 9

A young Islamist teaches another, Abdelkerim, to drive a car.

Sequence 10

Kidane and his family at home. Kidane goes for a walk.

Sequence 11

The imam talks with an Islamist. “Stop this,” he says. “You cause harm to Islam and the Muslims. Where is God in all this?”

Sequence 12

Satima and Toya at home. Satima is washing her hair. The young Islamist and Abdelkerim drive up. Abdelkerim asks her to cover herself. “If he dislikes it,” she says, “he shouldn’t look at it.” Abdelkerim says that if she ever needs anything, she should phone him.

Sequence 13

Zabou walks around town in colourful, flowing gowns. Three Islamists sit around talking about football. She calls them “assholes.” She stands in front of a car full of Islamists.

Sequence 14

The woman from the fish market sits with a man. “I have to leave,” she says.

Sequence 15

Abdelkerim and the young Islamist drive through the desert, past Kidane. Abdelkerim shoots at some plants.

Sequence 16

Kidane and Satima at home. They talk about how all their neighbours have left, and that they are the only ones remaining. “I’d rather we stayed here,” says Kidane. “Where would we go? What’s the use of fleeing all the time?” “Still,” says Satima, “we could get closer to people.” “All this will end one day,” says Kidane.

Sequence 17

Three Islamists video themselves. The young man in front of the camera says he used to make rap music. “In other words, I was living in sin.” An older man sits with him. “Your speech is not convincing at all,” he tells the young man. They swap places and the older man shows the young man what to do and say in front of the camera.

Sequence 18

Nighttime. Islamists in town are searching whoever is playing music. Meanwhile Kidane, Satima and Toya are at home. Kidane plays the guitar, Satima and Toya sing.

Sequence 19

Issan, a young boy, is herding Kidane's cattle. GPS is caught in Amadou's net. He spears the animal and kills it.

Sequence 20

Issan runs to tell Kidane what happened. "Humiliation must come to an end," Kidane tells Satima. He takes his gun and walks into town. Toya and Issan talk about Issan's dead father. Toya says her father is no warrior. "Warriors die young," she explains.

Sequence 21

Islamists in town ask a young man if a football is his. He says no. Zabou is at home in town with her chickens.

Sequence 22

A man is on trial. He is asked if he knows that football is forbidden. He is given twenty lashes. A group of young men play football without a ball.

Sequence 23

Kidane confronts Amadou and accidentally shoots him.

Sequence 24

Kidane is arrested. His weapon and phone are taken from him.

Sequence 25

Satima and Toya wait for Kidane at home. They try to find better cell phone reception.

Sequence 26

Nighttime. Some young men and women are inside playing the guitar and singing. Kidane, in jail, asks an Islamist guard to call his wife for him. When an Islamist patrol, following the sound of music, bangs on the door, the men and women flee.

Sequence 27

Kidane is told by an Islamic leader and a third man, who acts as translator, that his trial will take place very quickly. “You don’t have much time left.” Shariah law will apply. “You’ll have to earn forgiveness from Amadou’s family.” A sum of forty cows is decided upon. Kidane has only seven. Kidane asks the Islamic leader if he has children. The man says he has two. Kidane speaks of Toya. “What’s your business with these men?” he asks the translator, adding, “What’s written will come to pass. I’m at peace with death. We are all its children. We must protect our children. My daughter won’t be protected anymore. That’s what hurts my soul the most. Going down to the grave without knowing what will happen.” “Knowing that his daughter will soon be an orphan really upsets me,” says the Islamic leader, “but don’t translate that.”

Sequence 28

Satima and Toya are home, milking a cow. Issan herds cows.

Sequence 29

The young men and women who were playing music are on trial. They are given forty lashes. One of the women sings as the sentence is being carried out. Abdelkerim leaves the site of the lashing.

Sequence 30

Abdelkerim smokes a cigarette in secret. The young Islamist tells him that everyone knows he smokes.

Sequence 31

Zabou tells a group of Islamists about an earthquake in Haiti that “cracked her open from head to toe.”

Sequence 32

A group of Islamists interrogate a woman. They want to know who she was talking to on the phone. She says it was her brother. She is arrested.

Sequence 33

A couple is stoned to death.

Sequence 34

Zabou watches as an Islamist dances in front of her. Images of the stoned couple.

Sequence 35

An Islamist asks a woman for permission to marry her daughter. The mother says no. The Islamist is angry and says he will use force if necessary.

Sequence 36

Abdelkerim and the young Islamist drive through the desert. Abdelkerim is now able to drive the vehicle.

Sequence 37

Toya, at home, tries to find a cell phone signal. The phone rings but she can't hear anyone.

Sequence 38

Kidane is on trial. Amadou's family is present. They will not forgive Kidane. Satima calls Abdelkerim. He gives his phone to the young Islamist, who tells Satima that Abdelkerim is unable to do anything about Kidane. Kidane says he is very sorry about Amadou.

Sequence 39

Toya and Satima wait.

Sequence 40

The imam sits with a group of Islamists and the mother of the young woman who has by now been married to an Islamist. The Islamist leader says everything was done legally. The imam says that acts like this upset people. "We haven't much noticed frustration or anything," says the Islamist leader. "We follow Allah's law." The girl weeps, while Kidane sits in his cell.

Sequence 41

Kidane is driven to the execution site from the jail. Satima and Toya are at home. Satima rides on a motorcycle to the execution site. The motorcycle arrives and Satima runs towards Kidane. He runs towards her and the two are shot dead. Islamists, in a truck, chase the motorcycle.

Sequence 42

A gazelle runs through the desert. Islamists chase the motorcycle. Issan runs through the desert. Toya runs through the desert.