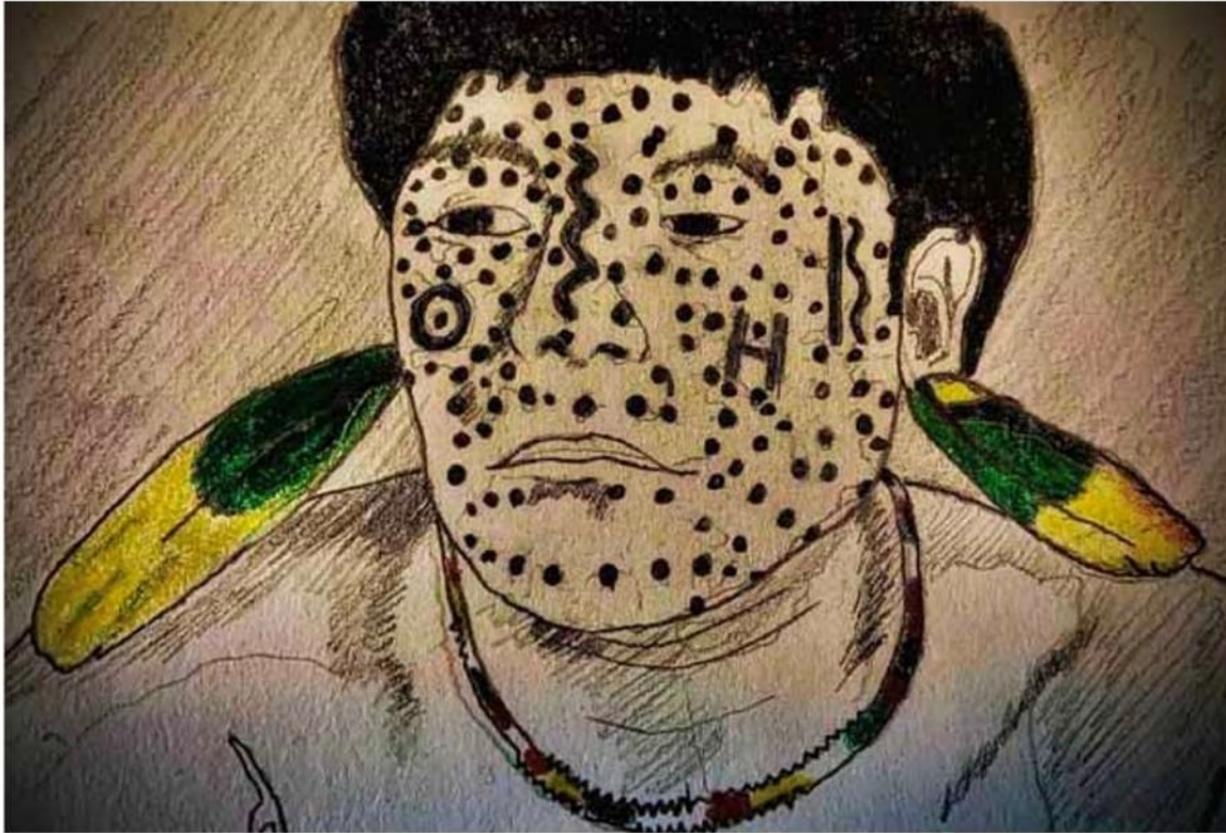


Tribal - Episode 10: Yopa ©



He is a respected holy man, adorned with feathers and his face covered in a decorative pattern of black dots.

34 INT. YANOMAMI DWELLING - EARLY MORNING

The rain has stopped and all is quiet except for the ceaseless din of jungle creatures. Bill has been left alone in his hammock. The rising sun filters through the jungle canopy. Bill awakens to the sound of the Voices and, agitated, gets out of the hammock. He wanders into the central clearing and sits on a log, holding his head. The Voices subside.

Bill sits with his face in his hands for a while and when he looks up sees two young YANOMAMI BOYS standing there looking at him and laughing. Bill manages a weak smile

BILL

Hello.

The kids laugh.

YANOMAMI BOY 1

Malo, e malo!

BILL

Malo? I'm bad?

The kids laugh again, harder this time.

YANOMAMI BOY 2

E Malo!

BILL

(smiling)

Yeah, I'm bad, alright.

The Voices suddenly resume, getting increasing louder. Bill grabs his head. The boys think it's a game and hit each other playfully, laughing. Bill falls to the ground, screaming and thrashing about, scaring the boys, the younger one crying. Suddenly, a YANOMAMI MOTHER, 20s, appears, grabbing the two boys wrists and scolding them.

Bill grimaces, screaming in agony. The Yanomami Mother leads the boys away, looking back fearfully at Bill. Others in the tribe show up, attracted by the commotion, including Young Yanomami and Old Yanomami. With the help of other young men, Young Yanomami holds Bill down while Old Yanomami pours some of that same beverage from the clay pot into Bill's mouth. He spits it out at first but then calms down a bit and drinks it in. He stops thrashing and passes out.

35 INT. YANOMAMI DWELLING - AFTERNOON

Bill is lying on the ground near his hammock, moaning, the Voices relentlessly tormenting him. Young Yanomami and Old

Yanomami watch over him as several other men observe from a distance. It is raining again. After a short time, the men step aside as a SHAMAN, 50s, appears. He is a holy man, adorned with feathers and his face completely covered in a decorative pattern of black dots. Bill is covering his ears.

Shaman kneels next to Bill, moves his arms around but Bill pulls his hands away and covers his ears again, screaming. Shaman speaks a command to Old Yanomami and Young Yanomami who then hold Bill's arms down. Shaman presses his forehead to Bill's, chanting. He turns Bill's head and presses his ear against Bill's ear, listening intently for a while, his eyes widening. He speaks another command and Young and Old Yanomami prop up Bill into a seated position while another man hands Shaman a long tube. Young Yanomami holds Bill's head back while Shaman inserts the tube into Bill's nostril and blows hard through the other end.

Bill coughs and falls forward. He stands, then lurches forward vomiting. He then lays back on the ground, writhing. His surroundings start looking trippy. Eventually, laying on his side, he stops moving and lays still, breathing heavily. There is a loud rumble of thunder.

36 INT. FLASHBACK 4: BILL'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Bill is standing looking out the window at a distant lightening flash, followed a few seconds later by thunder. His daughter LUISA, 16, and his mother ALICIA, early 60s, are seated around the kitchen table. Luisa has a homemade chocolate birthday cake in front of her with 16 blazing candles.

ALICIA
Guillermo, come on!

BILL
Coming!

Bill picks up a Venezuelan cuatro, sits and begins playing as he and Alicia finish sing happy birthday. Luisa blows out the candles and they all cheer.

BILL
Happy birthday!

LUISA
Thank you, thank you. My, it looks delicious. Who wants a piece?
Grandma?

ALICIA
A small piece, mi hija

LUISA

And how about you Daddy?

BILL

Make mine grandisimo!

Bill's rare show of joviality cracks up Luisa and Alicia.

LUISA

I too will go grandisimo. Mmmmmmmmm,
Grandma you really outdid yourself
this time. I can see where Daddy
got his cooking genes from.

ALICIA

Thank you. I don't get to bake too
much these days so I'm glad to see I
can still do it.

(hands Luisa an
envelope)

Here you go, querida.

LUISA

Grandma, you didn't have to.

ALICIA

Oh, stop it, please.

As Luisa opens the card money spills out. Both her and Bill
are stunned.

LUISA

Grandma, two hundred dollars! What,
are you crazy?

ALICIA

Well, you're a young woman now so I
thought this would help you get
started.

LUISA

(slyly smiling)

Wow, I think I like being a young
woman. But this is too much.

ALICIA

Please, my only grandchild turning
sweet sixteen is a big deal and I'm
old. What am I saving it for?

As Luisa gives Alicia a hug, the DISTANT SOUND OF THUNDER
can be heard. Bill reaches for a present on the bureau behind
him.

BILL

You're right, sixteen is a big deal.
I only wish your mother could be
here for this.

ALICIA

Guillermo, I am sure Cathy is looking
down and smiling right now.

BILL

I'm sure of it. Well, chicatica, I
got a present for you too. I hope
you like it.

LUISA

Now what can this be? Is this what
I think it is? Wow, a cell phone!

Luisa playfully punches Bill in the shoulder. He smiles.

LUISA

Get outta here, this is a joke, right?
Are you sure this is OK? I mean, I
thought you always said they were
too expensive and the monthly payments
were too much and everything.

BILL

No, no, it's OK, I can swing it. I
figured you're old enough to drive
now
(mock sign of the
cross)
so this way you can still stay in
touch with your old man. And look...
(reaches into his
pocket)
...I got one too. There was a good
package deal where you get one phone
you get the second free. Problem is
now I'm gonna have to go to school
too just to learn how to use the
damn thing.

Luisa kisses Bill on the cheek and gives him a big hug.
It's gotten darker outside and the RUMBLING OF THUNDER is
closer now.

LUISA

Oh, Daddy, I love you!

BILL

I love you too, baby.

As Luisa plays with her new phone, Bill looks on wistfully, knowing he's losing his grip on his daughter

37 INT. FLASHBACK 4: BILL'S APARTMENT - NIGHT, LATER

Bill, Alicia and Luisa are playing cards, winding down from a big laugh, when suddenly the phone rings.

BILL
You get it. It's probably for you
anyway.

LUISA
Hello?

It's Bill's brother, Bob.

BOB (V.O.)
Hey there, girlfriend, happy birthday!

LUISA
Hi, Uncle Bobby! Thanks and thanks
for the card and the check, but it's
too much, really.

Bill rolls his eyes, obviously not pleased his brother is calling. Alicia knowingly pats his arm to calm him.

BOB (V.O.)
Hey nothing's too good for my favorite
niece.

LUISA
Well, thank you anyway.

BOB (V.O.)
So you guys partying down? Sorry I
couldn't make it in person but I
just got in to London this afternoon.

LUISA
London? Cool! Yes, we had a nice
chocolate cake Grandma made and I'll
be meeting my friends later.

BOB (V.O.)
Grandma's famous chocolate cake?
Wow, I haven't had that in a long
time. I'm drooling just thinking
about it. Hey, is she around?

LUISA
Yeah she's right here. Just a sec,
I'll put her on.

Luisa hands the phone over to Alicia.

ALICIA

Hola Roberto. How are you, honey?

While Alicia chats in the background Bill whines, in between bites of cake.

BILL

So what did Mr. Big Shot have to say?

LUISA

He just arrived in London. Isn't that exciting?

BILL

Must be nice. The rest of us have to work and he's vacationing in Europe.

LUISA

Oh Daddy, he's there on business. Chill out.

BILL

Don't tell me to chill. He'd do better to stick with his family and working instead of carousing all over the place.

LUISA

Don't be such a grouch. That IS his work. He's an architect and he travels for different projects.

BILL

(loud)

Oh, that ain't working. Why can't he...

Alicia gestures to Bill to keep it down.

ALICIA

Yes, Roberto. Well, who do you think is making all the noise?

BOB (V.O.)

Put him on.

ALICIA

Oh Roberto, are you sure?

BOB (V.O.)

Yes, mama.

Alicia hands the phone to Bill.

ALICIA
Here, say hello to your brother.

BILL
I haven't talked to him in a long
time. Why start now?

ALICIA
Guillermo, he's your brother.

BILL
So?

LUISA
Come on Dad. It's my birthday.
Please?

Bill looks at Luisa's pleading face, sighs, and reluctantly
takes the phone.

BILL
Hello.

BOB (V.O.)
Hey, big brother. How have you been?

BILL
You know, working.

BOB (V.O.)
Yeah me too, working hard.

BILL
I don't know if I'd call what you do
'work'.

Alicia and Luisa cast "here-we-go-again" glances at one
another.

BOB (V.O.)
Same old Bill. Now, why can't we be
friends?

BILL
Well, why don't you act like part of
the family instead of bopping around
like some playboy.

BOB (V.O.)
I love you too, hermano. Hey, truce,
OK? Listen, have you given any
thought to my offer? Luisa's got a

(MORE)

BOB (V.O.) (CONT'D)

lot of talent. She passed the audition to get into the School of Performing Arts last year. Why won't you let her pursue her dream? She could stay at my place with Mom and...

BILL

I never would have let them go to New York in the first place if I knew she was going to do that audition.

BOB (V.O.)

Bill..

BILL

Stop it! There's no way in hell I'm going to let you break up what's left of my family.

BOB (V.O.)

Bill, listen...

BILL

No, YOU listen. When all the shit was going on, where were you? Whooping it up in college, that's where. Meanwhile, I was running the restaurant AND shuttling Dad back and forth to the hospital.

BOB (V.O.)

Bill, come on...

BILL

You didn't even come to the funeral because you were taking your stupid exams. And then when Cathy died, you were in Goddamn China.

BOB (V.O.)

Indonesia. Bill, I'm sorry you lost your wife but I've apologized a hundred times. There was no way I could have made it from the other side of the world in time to...

BILL

Because instead of sticking with the family all you think about is yourself all the time.

BOB (V.O.)

You know that's not true. Why don't you...

BILL

Why don't you go to hell!

Bill slams the phone on to the wall jack so hard it breaks off the wall and then stares at it on the floor. Eventually, his gazes turns to Alicia and Luisa who are petrified. Bill sees the fear and realizes he blew it (again).

BILL

(softly)

I'm...I'm sorry.

Luisa gets up and rushes out of the room.

BILL

Baby...

LUISA

Don't talk to me, OK? Just don't talk to me! Some birthday.

Luisa's door slams and Bill looks at Alicia.

BILL

I'm sorry.

ALICIA

Guillermo, you really need to shed this anger before you drive Luisa away for good. Why this pointless hatred? What did he do to you? True, you've had some rough times, but that's that way life is, peaks and valleys. You have a good home and family. Maybe you need to think about that.

Alicia walks out of the room. Bill looks out the window at the dark sky and puts his face in his hands as the thunder rumbles distantly.

38 INT. YANOMAMI DWELLING - EVENING

The rain has stopped and the last of the hazy sun shines down through the jungle canopy. Shaman is squatting next to Bill while the others watch from a distance. Bill stirs and Shaman speaks a command. Two woman approach Bill, rolling him on his back. He's a mess, with dried vomit around his mouth, dirt all over and dried blood under his nose and his right ear. The women proceed to wash him, wiping off the

filth. One of them, noticing something shiny on the ground next to Bill's head, speaks to Shaman who approaches and gets down on his hands and knees to look.

On the ground, near Bill's ear is a blood soaked, minuscule computer circuit, no more than a few millimeters wide. Shaman licks the tip of his finger and picks up the circuit, looking at it curiously. Still looking at the circuit, he speaks and Young Yanomami kneels next to him, also looking at the circuit. Shaman places the circuit into Young Yanomami's hand, speaks a command and Young Yanomami walks off. Shaman then rises and waves his hand for the women to finish tending to Bill.