

BONUS ONE · AFRICANHOMEFRONT

The Nigerian Man Decoder

Five Types. Three Interactions.
Know Which One He Is.



A field framework for sorting what you are seeing.

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AFRICANHOMEFRONT

BONUS ONE

The Nigerian Man Decoder



HOW TO USE THIS

Chapter 2 of the main guide introduced five types of men who approach a successful Nigerian woman, and gave you a three-interaction screen for sorting them.

This document is the expanded version. More signals, more detail, and the things that only become visible over weeks rather than minutes.

Read it once through. Then keep it for reference — you will come back to a specific type when you meet him.

The honesty note, again

These five categories are my observational framework, not a research finding. No study establishes that Nigerian men sort into five types.

What this is: a way of organising what you are already noticing, built from watching this pattern repeat. What it is not: a diagnostic instrument. It has no predictive validity and I would be lying to you if I claimed otherwise.

Where I reference actual research in this document — mainly the Ratliff and Oishi work from Chapter 3 — I will name it so you can tell the difference.

Three rules before you start

One. Three interactions minimum. One meeting is noise. Two is a pattern. Three is evidence. Do not classify a man before three.

Two. Watch behaviour, not statements. Every type says similar things in month one. They diverge in what they do.

Three. Men can be more than one thing, and men change. A type reading is a snapshot, not a sentence. Take it seriously and hold it loosely.



TYPE 1 — THE INTIMIDATED

Who he is

The most common type you will meet, and the most misread.

He is often genuinely interested. Often decent. Frequently the man you liked most. And somewhere between week two and month three, without a conversation, he thins out and disappears.

What is actually happening

Chapter 3 covered this and it is worth restating: Ratliff and Oishi's five experiments with 896 people found men's implicit self-esteem dropped when a partner succeeded, while the men consciously reported feeling fine. The effect held in America and the Netherlands, across social and intellectual domains, and even when men merely recalled a partner's success.

He is not concealing a reason from you. In many cases he does not have one available to himself.

This is why the conversation never works. You are asking a man to report on something happening below the floor he can see.

Early signals

First meeting

- Warmth is real and then briefly interrupts — a flicker — when something concrete lands: the car, the apartment, the title, the figure
- He recovers within seconds and continues normally

- He may ask a follow-up question that is oddly formal, as though he is placing you rather than talking to you

First month

- Response times lengthen gradually. Not coldness — **latency**
- He stops initiating first. You notice you are opening every thread
- Compliments become general ("you're amazing") rather than specific ("that thing you did with the Q3 numbers was clever")
- Plans get made further out and then quietly move

Months two to three

- He goes quiet after any new achievement of yours. **Watch this specifically** — it is the single clearest signal
- He does not raise your work unprompted any more
- If you ask directly: *"Nothing. I'm fine. Just busy."*

What he says

"I'm just going through something right now." "You deserve someone who has his own together." "I don't want to waste your time."

That third sentence is often sincere, and it is usually the closest he will get to naming it.

The tell

He never criticises you and never explains. A man who has a problem with you will eventually say something. This man says nothing, because there is nothing at the conscious level to say.

How it ends

It does not end. It thins. There is rarely a final conversation — which is why it stays with you longer than a proper rejection would.

Prognosis

Depends entirely on which mechanism is running. Chapter 13 gives you the full assessment; here is the short version:

- **Zero-sum** (your gain reads as his loss) — poor. It recurs at every achievement.
- **Stereotype defence** (a rule about how a man should sit relative to a woman) — poor to moderate. It is identity, not mood.

- **Fear of losing you** (he believes he is too small for what you built) — **good**. Fear responds to evidence over time.

What to do

Run the Recalibration vs Retreat Signal Sheet from Chapter 3 for six weeks from the day your position became concrete.

Do not shrink to accommodate him. Chapter 3 established this does not work — the effect appeared even on mere recall, so concealment only relocates the reaction somewhere more expensive.

Do not chase. Chasing supplies the wrong evidence: it tells a fearful man he was right to think he needed to be caught up to.

And do not take it personally. It is close to universal. What differs is what he does with it.



TYPE 2 — THE OPPORTUNIST

Who he is

He is not intimidated by what you built. He is attracted to it — and not in the way you would want.

He is usually charming, often genuinely good company, and he moves faster than anyone else you meet.

What is actually happening

He has correctly identified that you have resources, access, or standing, and he is running an acquisition rather than a courtship. Sometimes consciously. Sometimes he has simply learned that this works and does not examine it.

Early signals

First meeting

- Intensity that arrives too early — declarations of connection within hours
- His questions about your work concern **scale**, not substance: what you charge, how many staff, who your clients are, what the margins look like
- He has an unusual amount to say about what you could achieve together
- **He is vague about his own position in a way that never resolves.** He has something coming. It is nearly closed. The partner is finalising it

First month

- Introduces the idea of a joint venture, an investment, an introduction he needs
- Wants access to your network early — before he has met a single friend of yours socially
- Small financial irregularities: he forgets his wallet, the transfer failed, he will sort it next week
- **Asymmetry of information.** He knows a great deal about your position; you know almost nothing verifiable about his

Months two to three

- The first real request arrives, and it is always framed as an opportunity for you rather than a favour to him
- Any hesitation on your part produces disproportionate emotional response — hurt, accusation of distrust
- His story changes in small details when you revisit it

What he says

"I've never met a woman with your kind of vision." "We could build something serious together." "I don't want anything from you — I just want us to grow."

The tell

Run the ledger at the end of interaction two. Do you know where he works, where he lives, and what he actually does, in verifiable terms? Does he know the equivalent about you?

If his column is empty and yours is full, you have your answer, and no amount of charm should override it.

How it ends

Either you decline and he escalates emotionally, or you decline and he vanishes instantly — which is itself the confirmation. Or he does not end it, and it becomes very expensive.

Prognosis

None. This is not a compatibility question. It is a different activity that resembles dating.

What to do

- **Verify one concrete fact** early. Where he works. Where he lives. Not aggressively — the way any two people exchange this.
- **Never lend, invest, or introduce within the first six months.** Not to anyone. This is a general rule and it costs you nothing with a genuine man.

- **Note the vagueness the first time you notice it**, in writing, with the date. The pattern only becomes obvious when you can see three instances together.



TYPE 3 — THE MARRIED-BUT-AVAILABLE

Who he is

The most dangerous type, and the one that does not feel dangerous at all. He feels like **relief**.

Note: "married" here includes any structurally unavailable arrangement — a long-term partner, another city, a situation he describes as ending.

What is actually happening

Chapter 2 explained the mechanism and it is worth repeating because it is the thing women most resist hearing about themselves.

He does not evaluate you. That assessment is permanently closed. For a woman who has spent a decade being quietly measured by men and found inconvenient, the absence of measurement is not a small thing.

He compliments exactly what other men flinch at, and of course he does — it costs him nothing.

And the ceiling is pre-installed. You will never have to discover whether he can handle your success long-term, because there is no long-term. The test you fear most has been cancelled in advance.

Chapter 4 adds the second half: this arrangement is a **variable reinforcement schedule by construction**. The unavailability is not a flaw in it. It is the engine.

Early signals

First meeting

- Complete ease. No reaction at all when your position becomes concrete
- He is warm, funny, interested — genuinely
- He redirects toward you personally rather than talking about himself
- **A domain is simply absent** from the conversation. Note which one: evenings, weekends, or family

First month

- Contact concentrates in specific windows — weekday daytime, or late night
- He is unreachable at predictable times and this is never explained, only worked around
- Meeting locations are consistently away from where either of you is known

- Reluctance about photographs; reluctance about your friends

Months two to three

- The situation is disclosed, or you discover it
- It arrives with a frame: it is ending, it is complicated, they are together for the children, there is a timeline
- **The timeline does not move.** It renews

What he says

"It's complicated. We're basically separated." "After the children finish school." "You're the only person I can actually talk to."

That last one is the hook, and it is often true, which is what makes it work.

The tell

The domain that is missing. Every man has evenings, weekends and family. When one of the three never appears in the conversation and never gets explained, that is the shape of something you cannot see.

How it ends

Usually it does not, until you end it. And ending it is harder than the facts suggest, which is Chapter 4's entire subject.

Prognosis

None as a partnership. And note what it costs beyond the obvious: the years spent here are years not spent on the assessment you actually need to make.

What to do

- **Read Chapter 4 before making any decision.** Not Chapter 2 — Chapter 4. Willpower is the one tool this schedule is immune to.
- **Run the Intensity Log on him for thirty days,** then read only the final column. That column is the man with your nervous system removed.
- **Understand what the ease actually is.** It is not evidence about him. It is a by-product of a structure. Put the same man in a position where he had to build a life with you, and you would learn things about his capacity that you currently have no way of knowing.





TYPE 4 — THE GENUINELY AVAILABLE WHO FEELS LIKE A DOWNGRADE

Who he is

Single. Honest. Employed. Kind. Interested. Consistent.

And something in you closes when you consider him seriously.

What is actually happening

Two possibilities, and you must not collapse them into one.

Possibility one: he is genuinely not a match. This happens, it is legitimate, and Chapter 5 gives you specific language for saying why — a named criterion rather than a feeling.

Possibility two — and this is the expensive one: your instrument is miscalibrated. Chapter 4 explains it. Variable reward produces intensity. Consistency produces no activation. If you have spent fifteen years reading activation as interest, then the absence of activation reads as absence of interest.

It is not. It is the absence of anxiety.

Early signals

First meeting

- Steady warmth with no spike
- Answers questions about himself directly and without embellishment
- Interested in the substance of what you do, not the scale
- **No flicker** when your position becomes concrete

First month

- Contact is regular and predictable
- He does what he says he will do — every time
- Plans are made and kept
- **You find yourself with nothing to analyse**, and notice you are not thinking about him much

Months two to three

- No drama, no ambiguity, no chase
- He is unbothered by your travel, your hours, your success

- You describe him to friends as "nice" in a tone that means something else

The tell

Ask yourself one question: *If he behaved unpredictably for two weeks, would I suddenly find him more compelling?*

If the honest answer is yes, you have learned something about your instrument, not about him.

Prognosis

Frequently the best available, and most often discarded.

What to do

- **Do not decide within thirty days.** The calibration problem operates fastest early.
- **Score him against your Chapter 5 criteria in writing.** If he meets six of seven and your objection is that he does not excite you, that is Chapter 4's territory, not a compatibility finding.
- **Name the objection specifically.** "No chemistry" is not a reason. *"He has no plan for his own life"* is a reason — and note that one is on Chapter 13's list as the most predictive item there.
- **Run Chapter 4's Interrupt 1 on him in reverse.** When you feel flatness, label it accurately: *this is calm. Calm is not absence.*



TYPE 5 — THE SECURE MATCH

Who he is

He exists. He is rarer, and he is easy to miss because he generates less noise than the others.

What is actually happening

Important precision here, from Chapter 13: **he is almost certainly not a man who feels nothing.** The Ratliff and Oishi effect was close to universal.

What distinguishes him is what he does with it. He metabolises it rather than acting on it — usually because his mechanism is fear rather than zero-sum or stereotype defence, and because he has a defined trajectory of his own to stand on.

Early signals

First meeting

- Curiosity about your work that stays on substance and never drifts to the numbers
- A specific, verifiable, non-vague account of his own life
- Warmth that neither cools when your position lands nor spikes into instant intensity
- He may briefly react — and then simply continue. **Recovery is the signal, not absence of reaction**

First month

- Symmetrical information: by interaction three you know as much about him as he knows about you
- He initiates. Consistently. Without pattern gaps
- **He speaks well of successful women who are not you** — a colleague, a sister, a boss. This is the strongest early signal available
- He mentions his own plans and ambitions unprompted

Months two to three

- Congratulates your achievements specifically, sometimes after a day's delay — which is honest processing, not indifference
- Comfortable when you decide, lead, or pay
- Handles disagreement without shutting down or needing to win
- Long friendships, actively maintained

The tell

Signal 8 from Chapter 3's sheet: after learning about your position, he starts talking more about his own trajectory.

He is locating himself **beside** you rather than beneath you. That is what recalibration sounds like from outside, and it cannot easily be faked because he does not know it is being observed.

What to do

- **Run Chapter 13's full Capacity Assessment.** Thirty to sixty days of structured observation.
- **Do not accelerate.** Consistency is his signature; let it demonstrate itself over time.
- **Do not test him artificially.** Manufactured tests produce performance. Chapter 13's live test — a real achievement of yours — will arrive on its own.





THE THREE-INTERACTION SCREEN — EXPANDED

INTERACTION ONE — Establish the baseline

Say one concrete, unglamorous, factual thing about your position. A fact, not a boast.

"I moved into my own place in 2022." "That project runs till March, so I'm travelling most weeks." "I have four people working for me now."

Then watch the next sixty seconds — the face before the words.

Observation	Reading
Warmth continues, follows up on substance	4 or 5
Brief flicker, recovers, continues	1 — possibly recoverable
Sharp increase in interest; questions turn to scale	2
Complete ease, no reaction, redirects to you	3

INTERACTION TWO — Check the symmetry

Ask something specific and verifiable about his life. Where he works. What his week looks like.

Then run the ledger.

Observation	Reading
Roughly equal knowledge both ways	4 or 5
He knows far more; his answers are vague	2
Open about work and life, but one domain never appears	3 — note which
Quieter overall than interaction one	1

INTERACTION THREE — Test the reference

Mention, in passing, a successful woman who is not you.

Watch his face before you listen to his words.

Observation	Reading
Genuine interest; treats her as a person	5 — strongest positive signal available
Neutral, uninterested	Inconclusive — run again another day
Subtle diminishment: "she's lucky," "her husband must be patient"	1 — and the harder kind. This is a general position, not a reaction to you
Turns it to opportunity — can you introduce him	2
Slight discomfort, changes subject	Note it. Ask again in a month



THE FIELD RECORD

Ninety seconds per entry. Keep it in your phone notes.

NAME: _____ **MET:** _____ **WHERE:** _____

Interaction 1 — date: _____

What I said: _____

What he did: _____

Reading: _____

Interaction 2 — date: _____

What I asked: _____

What he said: _____

Ledger — I know about him: _____ / He knows about me: _____

Reading: _____

Interaction 3 — date: _____

Reference used: _____

His response: _____

Reading: _____

TYPE READING: _____

Confidence: High / Medium / Low

Next step: _____

Why write it down. In six weeks you will have a record instead of a feeling — and Chapter 4 established exactly why feelings about men you like are not reliable evidence.



EDGE CASES

"He reads as two types." Common. 1 and 5 overlap most often, because a recovering Type 1 looks like a Type 5 by month three — which is genuinely good news. 2 and 3 also overlap. When in doubt, extend to five interactions rather than forcing a reading.

"He changed." People do, particularly between twenty-five and thirty-five. A reading is a snapshot. Re-run the screen after any significant change in his circumstances — a job loss, a promotion, a family event.

"He is a Type 1 and I like him very much." That is the most common situation in this document. Type 1 is not a verdict — it is the start of a six-week observation. Use Chapter 3's signal sheet and let the evidence arrive.

"Everyone reads as Type 1." Then you are meeting men in a narrow context, or announcing your position in a way that lands as a challenge rather than a fact. Reread Chapter 6 on spaces, and check the phrasing of your interaction-one statement — it should be flat and ordinary, not a headline.

"I cannot get to three interactions." That is itself a reading. Men who disappear before interaction three are almost always Type 1 or Type 3.



QUICK REFERENCE

	The tell	Prognosis	Your move
1 — Intimidated	Never criticises, never explains	Depends on mechanism	Ch3 signal sheet, 6 weeks
2 — Opportunist	Ledger asymmetry	None	Verify one fact; no money, no introductions
3 — Married/unavailable	A missing domain	None	Read Ch4 first; run the Intensity Log
4 — Available, feels flat	Would unpredictability make him compelling?	Often the best available	Wait 30 days; score against criteria
5 — Secure	Talks about his own trajectory	Strong	Ch13 assessment; do not accelerate



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This workbook accompanies **I Built Everything They Said To Build. Why Am I Still Alone?** — the main guide. Every tool here expands one you have already used there.

This document provides general information. It is not medical, psychological or legal advice.