

AFRICA'S TREES OF LIFE

Episode 1

SAUSAGE TREE

LOCATION: (SOUTH LUANGWA, ZAMBIA)

TIMECODED SCRIPT

February 2015

TIME CODE	SHOT DESCRIPTION	SCRIPT
	TL sausage tree at sunrise.	
	3 x Dolly shots of elephant throwing sand on its back.	
10:00:21	2 x shots of leopard jumping over other leopard. Pull focus between three lionesses.	The icons of Africa.
10:00:24	Wide lionesses lying together, cub yawning between them.	Ambassadors of an impressive wilderness....
10:00:27	TL pan over drying Luangwa River. shaped by the continent's elements.
	Crocodiles feeding on dead hippo.	
10:00:36	Hippo fight. Crocodile swallowing meat.	Creatures dependent on nature's most basic offerings... ... food and water.
10:00:42	2 x shots, Queleas swarming over river.	Two staples that she provides with abundance or rations down to a fraction.
	Aerial over river. 2 x Aerials of buffalos walking on dry ground. 2 x shots, sun streaming through sausage tree leaves.	
10:00:56	Jib shot through branches of sausage tree with flowers. Tilt down stem of flowers.	But there is something that defies nature's rhythms.
10:01:00	2 x shots CU of flowers.	A beautiful tree with an unexpected story never before seen so intimately and so vividly.
10:01:10	2 x Vervet monkey drinking nectar. Squirrel feeding on sausage.	A fortune of fruits and flowers that sustain the animals most affected by the yearly drought.

	2 x Bushbuck eating flower. Love bird on flower.	
10:01:21	Aerial moving up tree to reveal river in the back.	A miracle tree that provides a feast at a time when nature is most unforgiving.
10:01:29	TITLE – AFRICA'S TREES OF LIFE SAUSAGE TREE	The Sausage Tree.
10:01:49	2 X shots, Southern Carmine Bee eaters on dead branch. Pull focus from bee eaters on branch to elephants in heat haze.	Carmine bee-eaters arrive in the heart of Zambia when the dry season saps the land of moisture.
10:01:57	Eles in heat haze at edge of river.	They come here to breed and dig their nests into the sheer river banks.
10:02:04	Wide of dry river course.	The Luangwa River that floods the Luangwa Valley in Eastern Zambia in the rainy season, is now almost dry.
	Lion drinking.	
10:02:17	Hippo chases lion from pool.	Hippos defend every pool.
10:02:27	Dolly wide of sausage tree with yellow leaves and few sausage fruits.	Even the sausage tree looks bleak and unproductive. Last year's crop of fruits are old and brown.
10:02:38	4 X shots, yellow leaves falling to the ground.	Tattered leaves suddenly yellow and litter the ground.
10:02:49	2 x shots Baboons and pukus in shade.	Shade is scarce.
10:02:54	Wide and Medium and Kudus under sausage tree in heat haze.	The sausage tree's thinning canopy provides little cover at this time of year.
10:03:02	4 x Hippo walking.	Desperate for food, hippos spend more time on land, covering larger areas to find suitable grasses to graze.
10:03:14	3 x Baboons in fig tree eating figs.	The animals that can climb, crowd fig trees that bare the only crop of fresh fruit in the area.
10:03:22	Baboon drops fig. CU fig hits the ground.	Below them the grazers and browsers depend on the generosity of the primates.

10:03:28	2 x shots, CU impala picking up fig from the ground. 3x shots, ele and impala feet and legs walking over figs on the ground.	Impalas make a entire meal of the small fruits.
10:03:35	CU ele trunk.	For the elephants this is just a small portion.
10:03:40	Eles and impalas eating figs.	The little unripened fruits contain no flesh or seeds.
10:03:45 10:03:49	Wide baboons running on branches in fig tree. Baboons eating figs at top of tree. Young baboon eating figs. 2 x shots, Impala eating fig on the ground.	Each one is actually a bouquet of tiny white flowers. Hundreds of them wrapped in a green skin – a little parcel of concentrated energy for the animals.
10:04:00	2 x shots, Leopard peering out of ditch.	The local female leopard has found the perfect spot for an ambush a network of eroded ditches in one of the last remaining fields of grass.
10:04:13	Puku looking at leopard in ditch and alarm calling.	Pukus and impalas have grazed the grassland down to the roots.
10:04:19 10:04:23	2 x shots, Leopard moving along bottom of ditch.	It's difficult for the leopard to go unnoticed. But the ditch's network spreads far.
	Young puku standing at top of ditch.	
10:04:29	Leopard in ditch.	The odds seem to play in her favour.
	Leopard lunges out of ditch and chases young puku, and disappear into ditch. Impalas running away. Puku and impala alarm calls.	
10:04:52	Leopard in ditch walking and looking around.	But this time it's a miss.
10:04:57	2 x Zebra looking down at leopard in ditch.	Everyone knows she's here.