## Infa Ilibe Chisoni

## **Death Has No Mercy**

Infa ilibe chisoni

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Death has no mercy

Inanditengela bambo ndimayi

It took my father and mother away from me

Kodi ndizayenda bwanji

How will I go (home)

Kodi ndizayenda bwanji

How will I go (home)

Kodi ndizayenda bwanji

How will I go (home)

Ndikaluza abale anga?

If I lose my relatives?

Guitar solo

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How will I go (home)

Ndikaluza abale anga?

If I lose my relatives?

Guitar solo / tempo change

Ma-Ma-Ma-Ma-Maria

Maria

Ndizayenda naye

I will go with her

Ma-Ma-Ma-Ma-Maria

Maria

Mukazi wokongola

Because she's a good woman

Ma-Ma-Ma-Ma-Maria

Maria

Ndizayenda naye

I will go with her

Ma-Ma-Ma-Ma-Maria

Maria

Mukazi wokongola

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Ma-Ma-Ma-Ma-Maria

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Ndizayenda naye

I will go with her

Ma-Ma-Ma-Ma-Maria

Maria

Mukazi wokongola

Because she's a good woman

Popeza ine sindidziva

I no longer remember

Njila yakwathu

The way back home

Chabwino ndipite kuboma

I better go to the registrar

Ndikadule chitupa

To get an ID card

Guitar solo

Oh, achimwene

Oh, friend

Bwanji mawaya aMubenge?

How are the wires over here, Mr Mubenge?

Bwino kuno, kuturuka kwamawaya aChimukuyu, shuwa

The wires are coming out great over here, Mr Chimukuyu, truly

Guitar solo

Che, che, che, che, che, che

Che, che, che, che, che, che

Ma-Ma-Ma-Ma-Maria

Maria

Ndizayenda naye

I will go with her

Ma-Ma-Ma-Ma-Maria
Maria
Mukazi wokongola
Because she's a good woman

Ma-Ma-Ma-Ma-Maria
Maria
Ndizayenda naye
I will go with her
Ma-Ma-Ma-Ma-Maria
Maria
Mukazi wokongola
Because she's a good woman

Ma-Ma-Ma-Ma-Maria...

Maria...

The narrator of this song is a Malawian man who resides in Zimbabwe. His parents came to Zimbabwe to look for work when he was still very young. They eventually died in Zimbabwe without ever going back to Malawi, even for a visit. The man is now an adult, and (presumably) married to a woman named Maria.

In the song he talks about the finality of death, and how it has robbed him of his parents. He is asking how he will go back home if he loses his relatives to death (because if he puts it off for too long, the relatives that knew him and his parents will be gone, and no one will remember him any longer.) If he does go back, he will take Maria with him because she is a good woman. However, he doesn't remember the way home, since he was so very young when they left. Nonetheless, he has set his mind on going back, and so has decided to go to the registrar to get his identity card which will enable him to cross the relevant borders.

The wires in question are actually guitar wires. The soloist is asking his friends in the audience (aMubenge and aChimukuyu) how they are finding the music, and commenting on how well the guitars are sounding. The "coming out" of the wires refers to the great sound they're making; it's a literal translation, like how one would say in reference to a photograph or a piece of art, "it really came out."

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