

LEARNING BY EAR

"Soccer made in Africa – much more than a game"

EPISODE TWO: "Fair play verses foul play"

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INTRO:

1. NARRATOR: Hallo and welcome to Learning by Ear, as we continue with the second episode of our football series, called **"Soccer made in Africa – much more than a game"**. In the previous episode we left the street kid Chedede as he excitedly ran off to find and tell his best friend Komora about the soccer clinic, which he had just heard about in the sports news. Safina, the girl from the village, had also arrived at her Aunt's place who lived in Tambarare city, with a letter from her mother. And Jonathan learned first-hand about the soccer clinic from his powerful rich father. Stay with us to find out what happens next in today's episode entitled, **"Fair play verses foul play"**. We pick up the story as Aunt Lily is reading the letter from her sister, Safina's mother.

SCENE ONE: AUNT LILY'S FLAT

(SAME MUSIC AS IN EPISODE 1, LOW VOLUME)

2. SFX: PAPERS BEING SHUFFLED

3. AUNT LILY: So, let's see what my sister is saying.. **(starts to read letter aloud)** Dear Lily, I hope this letter finds you well. It's been a long time since we.. blah blah blah..**(gets to the end)** and so because we can't afford to send Safina to school and take care of her, here in the village, we are sending her to you. She is very hardworking as you will soon find out and also likes to play football a lot. Please treat her well. Greetings from us. Mama Safina. **(short pause followed by a sarcastic laugh)**

4. SAFINA: **(Puzzled by her aunt's reaction)** Auntie Lily, what do you find so funny? You didn't even read the whole letter!

5. AUNT LILY: This is a joke, right? The bit about you liking to play football? This is a bad joke isn't it?

6. SAFINA: No, it's true, and I just don't play football, I am really good at it. I'll show you. Is there a football ground nearby? **(Proudly)** I can even dribble the ball better than some boys from the village, one day I even..

- 7. AUNT LILY:** (using a stern voice) Eh, eh! Safina! Listen carefully, I will say this only once! Not twice, once! There will be no playing of football as long as you are living in my house and under my care! Do I make myself clear? You are a girl! That is if you haven't noticed that yet in a few years time, you will be a woman. Football is a game for boys, silly stupid boys who have nothing better to do. Besides, what do you think my neighbours will think when they see you running with some of the boys kicking a ball around from one end to the other? I will become the laughing stock of Tambarare. No, I won't have it.
- 8. SAFINA:** But, but...
- 9. AUNT LILY:** Don't but me! Now take your bag put it in the corner over there. Then come and help me make lunch...Football? Huh! Of all the games. What is happening to our world?
- 10. NARRATOR:** This was not the sort of welcome Safina had expected. But being the obedient girl that she was, she quickly settled down and began to help out. Remember from last time? Chedede has some news to share with his streetboy friend Komora. How will the news be received?

SCENE TWO: TAMBARARE CITY LATE AFTERNOON

11. **SFX: VOICES OF PEOPLE TALKING, ORDERING MEALS ETC.**
12. **WAITRESS:** **(shouts)** Beans and bread!
13. **KOMORA:** Me! Here, here!
14. **WAITRESS:** Here you go, boy. Enjoy!
15. **CHEDEDE:** **(Chedede rushes into the café, panting)** Komora!
Komora! **(tries to catch his breath).** You will..
16. **KOMORA:** No, no, no, Mr. Footballer of Tambarare streets. This meal here is my sweat, and you are not going to get one single crumb. Since you live for only one thing: football. You sleep football, you dream football, you talk football all the time, well, then, you might as well eat football. **(makes a mean giggle)**
17. **CHEDEDE:** I'm not here for your food, but I must admit seeing that bowl of beans has made me very hungry. Anyway listen, you won't believe what I just saw and heard at the Shah Electronics shop. In the sports news, they said...
18. **KOMORA:** **(cuts Chedede short, while still eating. Says with mouth full)** Okay, hold it right there. This had better be good. **(pause)** Waitress, please bring us an extra spoon. Now, go on...

- 19. NARRATOR:** As Chedede told Komora what he'd heard in the sports bulletin about the soccer clinic, a few high-rise towers away a sleek car was just driving into a parking lot at one of the most prestigious hotels in Tambarare. Sitting inside were Hon. Makemba and his son Jonathan. Whom are they coming to visit? Listen on.

SCENE THREE: AT THE HOTEL

- 20. SFX: CITY AMBIENCE..CAR DOORS OPEN, SHUT..ALARM BEEPS TWICE**
- 21. HON.MAKEMBA:** Jonathan, like we agreed in the car, let me do the talking. Unless he asks you a question, you ought to stay silent. Okay?
- 22. JONATHAN:** Yes, Dad, I remember. Do you know which room he is in?
- 23. HON.MAKEMBA:** Of course I do. Son, I'm a member of parliament. People address me as Honourable Makemba. I was the sports minister before the civil unrest. Just a call from me is enough. I know his room number, and how long he will be here. The only thing I don't know is who the player actually is, but that we will soon find out. Of

course, I also know all the people he will be working with. This won't even take very long.

24. **JONATHAN:** But, Dad, do you think he will... I mean, you know, what if...?
25. **HON.MAKEMBA:** Hey, relax. We run this country. Everything and everyone. (**whispers**) Football included.
26. **SFX: SLIDING DOORS OPEN, CITY SOUNDS FADE OUT, HOTEL LOBBY ATMOSPHERE**
27. **RECEPTIONIST:** Good evening, Hon. Makemba. Please have a seat in the VIP lounge. I will call our guest to inform him of your arrival. Would you like to order a drink maybe?
28. **HON.MAKEMBA:** No, thank you. I have another appointment soon, so won't stay very long, but you could bring a soft drink for my son.
29. **RECEPTIONIST:** Right away, sir. I'll just make the call first. Make yourselves comfortable.
30. **SFX: DIAL TONE SOUND THEN BUTTONS BEING PUNCHED ON A TELEPHONE.**
31. **RECEPTIONIST:** Good evening Sir, this is the reception desk. Sorry to disturb you, but you have a guest waiting for you here.

- 32. METOGBA: (through telephone, with a sleepy voice)**
A guest? What guest I wasn't expecting any guest.
The press conference is tomorrow and I already made it clear that I did not want to be disturbed until then.
- 33. RECEPTIONIST:** I understand, sir. It's just that the guest is not just an ordinary guest.
- 34. METOGBA:** Hmm.. so who could that be? Well, okay, tell him I'll be down in fifteen minutes.
- 35. RECEPTIONIST: (Clears throat)** Uuumh, err, he is in a bit of a hurry sir so..maybe you..
- 36. METOGBA: (With a finality)** Fifteen minutes. Either he waits or he goes.
- 37. SFX: TELEPHONE RECEIVER BEING PLACED BACK**
- 38. NARRATOR:** I know, dear listener, that you are probably wondering who this professional football player could be, and how is it that he has the audacity to keep someone like Hon. Makemba waiting. Well, you are not alone. I was wondering the same, too. But wonder no more, for we will find out very soon. As the minutes ticked away in the VIP lounge, In Aunt Lily's flat, Safina was just about to get a big surprise from her aunt.

SCENE FOUR: LATE EVENING AT AUNT LILY'S FLAT

39. **AUNT LILY:** (In a hurried voice) Safina! Help me with this dress, I can't zip it up .Quickly, I'm running late for work.
40. **SFX: ZIPPER BEING ZIPPED UP.**
41. **AUNT LILY:** (Catching breath) Phew, I need to start dieting again. Tell me, how do I look? Pretty, huh?
42. **SAFINA:** (Very timid voice) Yes, Aunt Lily you look wonderful, but the dress.. isn't it a bit short? And where are you going? What kind of job do you..
43. **AUNT LILY:** Hush! First of all, I didn't ask you for an opinion about the dress. Secondly, I don't like you asking too many questions, okay? Remember to fasten all the locks. All of them.
44. **SAFINA:** I'm scared. I am really scared Aunt Lily. I have never stayed alone all my life.
45. **AUNT LILY:** Don't be scared, little girl, just do as I told you. Don't open the door for anyone, until you hear my voice. See you later. You can warm the food when you get hungry.
46. **SFX: CLICK-CLACKING OF HIGH-HEEL SHOES.**
47. **SAFINA:** Goodbye, Aunty Lily.

48. SFX: LOCKS AND BOLTS BEING LOCKED.

OUTRO:

- 49. NARRATOR:** And so, with Safina locking all the locks of her aunt's flat, wondering where on earth her auntie was going, yet feeling more lost than ever in the city and so missing playing her favourite game of football, we have come to the end of the second episode in our continuing story titled, "**Soccer made in Africa – much more than a game**". Tune in next week to find out who the mysterious anonymous player is, and how he will react to Hon.Makemba's proposal. Remember also that Chedede is all geared up for the soccer clinic, but will he still be excited about the soccer clinic after telling Komora?
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Until next time,goodbye and cheer on!