

LEARNING BY EAR 2011

“CONFLICTS AND RESOLUTIONS RADIONOVELA”

TITLE: “THE WAYS OF OUR FATHERS”

AUTHOR: Chrispin Mwakideu

EDITOR: Stefanie Duckstein

EPISODE SIX: “The making of a conflict”

List of characters by scenes:

Narrator (m/f 30-50)

SCENE ONE : RECONCILIATION AT THE RIVER BANK

- Mitumba (m, 50)
- Lela (f, 20)
- Shani (f,17)
- Waliani (m, 75)
- Mixed group (at least 4 ppl)

SCENE TWO : SOMBA AND KERO MEET AT MILITARY HEADQUARTER

- Somba (m, 55)
- Kero (f, 55)

SCENE THREE: SHANI, LELA AND GULU AT THE FARM IN KIJANI

- Lela (f, 20)
- Shani (f,17)
- Gulu (m, 17)

SCENE FOUR: KERO AT PRESIDENT MATONGE 'S OFFICE

- Kero (f, 55)
- Matonge (m, 65)

Narrator

INTRO:

Hallo and welcome to Learning by Ear. This is the sixth episode in our conflict and resolutions story, “**The ways of our fathers**”. In our previous episode, the Torube and Koroma who live in Kijani Valley were reconciled after elder Waliani took them through a traditional peace process. At the same time, Somba, the military general, and Kero, the intelligence chief, were planning to destabilize their own country before the elections by arming the Torube people. Will their plans bear fruit? Let's find out in today's episode, “**The making of a conflict**”. And we begin right at the river bank with everyone waiting for Mitumba to respond to Masambo's request to arrange a wedding among the children as a sign of peace.

SCENE ONE: RECONCILIATION AT THE RIVER BANK

1. SFX: RIVER FLOWING SMOOTHLY DOWNSTREAM

2. MITUMBA: **(Loss for words)** Ah..ah..I don't know what to say.

3. WALIANI: A long time ago, when tribes used to fight each other constantly, Inter-marriages were used to bring peace among the people. But now things have changed and parents don't choose partners for their children any more. Anyway it is late. People should go back to their homes now.

4. SFX: MURMURS AND RANDOM TALK FROM CROWD (studio)

5. SHANI: **(excited)** Well.

6. LELA: Well what? Hmm Shani? If you want to get married to Gulu, go ahead. Don't start with me on that topic please.

7. SHANI: I wasn't going to. But since you have mentioned it, I think this is the best opportunity. You heard elder Waliani, it is one way of forging peace.

8. LELA: We already have peace, were you sleeping during the reconciliation ceremony?

- 9. SHANI:** You need to get married Lela. Otherwise, I can't.
- 10. LELA:** Aha, so this is what all this is about. You getting married!
- 11. SHANI:** No, this is about you getting married first, then me. That's our tradition.
- 12. LELA:** Shani, after mother was taken, I was given the responsibility to take care of you. I have sacrificed a lot to ensure that you..
- 13. SHANI:** **(Not amused)** Don't blame me for your life Lela!
- 14. MITUMBA:** Eh eh eh! When will the two of you realize that you are sisters and came from the same womb? We just reconciled with the Torubes, and all you two can do is quarrel?
- 15. LELA:** I am sorry father.
- 16. MITUMBA:** That's okay. But no more bickering.**(calmer)** Tell me my daughters, are you interested in marrying the sons of Masambo?
- 17. SHANI:** **(sarcastic)** Ask Lela, she is the oldest.

18. LELA: Oldest? Well why don't you answer that? You seem to be the one eager for marriage!

19. MITUMBA: Alright. I take that as a no from both of you. Now, let's shut up and keep our peace. Just as Waliani said.

20. NARRATOR: After the crowd left the river, one could almost sense the feeling of peace, tranquility and reconciliation in the valley. But a few days later, back in the city, political campaigning had started and the opinion polls had even got worse for the incumbent president Matonge. It seemed he had only 30 Percent of the vote to Roselyn's 70 Percent. Kero, who seemed to get the information first, knew he had to act quickly, and he was in his car outside the gates of the military headquarters.

SCENE TWO: SOMBA AND KERO MEET AT MILITARY HEADQUARTER

21. SFX: CAR HOOTING..

22. KERO: **(Annoyed)** What is wrong with this dumb soldier? Can't he recognize that this is a government car and open the gate quickly? Hoot again driver! Hoot louder!

23. SFX: HOOTING SEVERAL TIMES

24. KERO: (Very angry) Now he is coming with the metal detector and bomb mirror? Where does Somba get his soldiers from? Okay, I am not going to waste any more time here.

25. SFX: AUTOMATIC CAR WINDOW WINDS DOWN

26. KERO: (Command) Hey! Soldier guard, open that gate! Don't you know who I am? I am Kero, the country's intelligence chief and not a terrorist! I am the one who ensures no terrorist comes in!

27. SFX: WIDE GATE OPENED

28. KERO: Go! Go! What are you waiting for?

29. SFX: CAR DRIVES OFF SPEEDILY (inside)

30. KERO: Stop! There is General Somba already waiting for me!

31. SFX: CAR SUDDENLY BRAKES TO A HALT (inside)

32. SOMBA: Hey, Kero what is this emergency?

33. SFX: CAR DOOR OPENED AND SHUT QUICKLY (inside)

- 34. KERO:** **(urgency)** General Somba, my sources have just informed me of some new developments. We have to proceed with the plan immediately!
- 35. SOMBA:** **(Inviting)** Come into my office, we can talk more over a drink.
- 36. KERO:** **(serious tone)** I did not come to sit and drink coffee Somba. The situation on the ground has changed. Did you hear what I said?
- 37. SOMBA:** **(hitting back)** Kero! This is my barrack. Everybody here salutes me! Now either you calm down and talk to me politely, or you get back in your car and drive off!
- 38. KERO:** **(takes a deep breath)** I apologize, it's just the whole thing. Matonge is going to lose if we don't act. Have you seen the polls lately?
- 39. SOMBA:** **(calmly)** Kero, Matonge will not loose. He can not lose! We are the ones who decide who wins, or loses. Not the polls, not the people, not even the president himself. Come, let's take a walk..and you can tell me what's driving you crazy.

40. NARRATOR: As the two friends walked and talked, down in Kijani valley, life had never been so peaceful, so cordial. It seemed as though everyone had finally recognized the value of life. Masambo had repaid Mitumba several heads of cattle for the destruction of his crops, and Mitumba had also repaid Masambo by giving him some of his harvest and removing the poles from the river. Let's head to the farm, where Shani and Lela were busy working, together with Gulu, who had been sent by his father Masambo to help them.

SCENE THREE: SHANI, LELA AND GULU AT THE FARM IN KIJANI

41. SFX: PLANTING SEEDS IN THE GROUND/ Sound of harrow + hoe/farm sounds (birds, animals..)

(Laughter from Shani and Lela)

42. SHANI: Gulu..have you ever planted seeds before? You keep dropping them outside the hole.**(more laughter)**

43. LELA: Shani don't laugh at him. I am sure he is trying his best to learn.

44. GULU: Thank you. Tomorrow I shall invite you to come and help us milk the cows, then I too can have a laugh.

45. SHANI: What!?! No..I can't do that. I would get kicked by the cow.

- 46. LELA:** Isn't it wonderful that we can work together? Torubes and Koromas? I never imagined this day would come.
- 47. SHANI:** Neither did I. Maybe now we can also make peace with the Kimbebe rebels who have been stealing cows from your people Gulu.
- 48. GULU:** I don't think so.
- 49. LELA:** Why do you say that Gulu? After my people reconciled with yours. I believe the whole country can be reconciled. We just need someone like Waliani.
- 50. GULU:** There can be no reconciliation with the Kimbebe rustlers. That's what I was told. They have caused us too much pain and suffering. And they have a different religion.
- 51. SHANI:** So we can't make peace with them because of their religion? I thought all religions were meant to bring peace.
- 52. GULU:** Yes, it is true. But, one of their reasons for starting a rebellion is because of religion.

53. SHANI: I think Waliani should be chosen to lead the peace negotiations between Kimbebe rebels and the government.

54. GULU: **(Adamant)** You do not understand Shani! This is a complex matter. These people carry weapons that only our army possesses. I was there when they stole some of our animals. But we will get them back!

55. SHANI: But..how? You just said they have weapons only soldiers have?

56. NARRATOR: Yes, dear listener. How do you fight such a strong enemy? Well, the answer was on its way. Far away in the city, the president was having a hard time understanding what his intelligence chief, Kero, was telling him. Let's join them in the President's office.

SCENE FOUR: KERO AT PRESIDENT MATONGE 'S OFFICE

57. SFX: PEN HITTING ON TABLE WHEN SOMEONE IS NERVOUS
(studio)

58. MATONGE: Kero, stop picking at my table with your pen. It is irritating!

- 59. KERO:** Oh I am sorry, Mr. President. Just a bit nervous, with all that's been happening.
- 60. MATONGE:** **(Disbelief)** Torubes and Koromas have reconciled? Are you sure about this Kero?
- 61. KERO:** Pretty sure. An elder who goes by the name Waliani took them through a traditional reconciliation process. Apparently, the men from both tribes had come to the river to kill each other, and left united, singing joyfully, and they even burnt all their weapons in the fire.
- 62. MATONGE:** **(marveling)** Amazing! Simply amazing. I wonder why we can't have such people with such skills and experience to tackle all the conflicts that our continent faces.
- 63. KERO:** Your excellency, this is not a time for peace. You are at war! We are faced with an uphill task of making sure you remain in power.
- 64. MATONGE:** **(Hesitant)** But Kero, your proposal to arm the Torubes doesn't make sense now. They are at peace. They want peace.

65. KERO: They made peace with the Koromas. Not with the Kimbebe rebels. If we don't start distributing guns today who knows what will happen tomorrow? Maybe they will indeed make a peace treaty with Kimbebes and overthrow your government.

66. MATONGE: **(Given in)** Alright! Alright! Go ahead and tell Somba to arm the Torubes. Be very careful with this.

67. KERO: **(grateful)** Don't worry, your excellency. I will make a public statement that we are doing this to protect our civilians from the cattle rustlers and rebels who have been crossing into our country. Nobody will find out.

68. MATONGE: What about this elder Waliani? Do you think he will try to contact the Kimbebe rebels and offer reconciliation?

69. KERO: I will deal with him. Don't worry. You have given the command. We shall carry it out. Good day.

70. SFX: DOOR CLOSED BEHIND

OUTRO:

With the President's door closing, we close the sixth episode of our series on conflicts and resolutions. What happens next? Now that President Matonge has given the go ahead to arm the Torube? What does Kero intend to do with the elder and peace maker Waliani? For this and more, don't miss to tune into the coming episode. If you wish to listen to this episode again, or any that has been previously aired on Learning by Ear, visit our website at www.dw-world.de/lbe. For now, Goodbye.