

LEARNING BY EAR 2011

“CONFLICTS AND RESOLUTIONS RADIONOVELA”

TITLE: “THE WAYS OF OUR FATHERS”

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EPISODE SEVEN: “Getting even”

List of characters by scenes:

Narrator (m/f 30-50)

SCENE ONE : NINA AND MASAMBO OUTSIDE THEIR HUT

- Masambo (m, 50)
- Nina (f, 40)

**SCENE TWO : LAWI AND GULU IN THE OPEN FIELDS WITH CATTLE
GRAZING**

- Lawi (m, 21)
- Gulu (m, 17)
- Nina (f, 40)

SCENE THREE: KERO AT MASAMBO'S HUT

- Lawi (m, 21)
- Kero (f, 55)
- Masambo (m, 50)
- Nina (f, 40)

SCENE FOUR: MITUMBA, SHANI AND LELA PREPARE TO GO OUT

- Mitumba (m, 50)
- Lela (f, 20)
- Shani (f, 17)

Narrator

INTRO:

Greetings and welcome to Learning by Ear. We are on the seventh episode of our conflict and resolutions story, entitled, “**The ways of our fathers**”. In the last episode, we saw how peaceful life in Kijani valley had become after reconciliation. But how long will it last? After all, Kero and Somba had managed to persuade president Matonge to arm the Torube against the Kimbebe. Remember, the main reason was to cause clashes during an election year. This meant there would be no voting in the war-ravaged Kijani valley. Let's see how it all plays out in today's episode called, “**Getting even**”. It is morning in Kijani valley, Nina and her husband Masambo are milking their cows outside their hut.

SCENE ONE: NINA AND MASAMBO OUTSIDE THEIR HUT

1. SFX: MORNING AMBIENCE IN THE VILLAGE/cattle sounds

2. MASAMBO: Nina, do you think it was wrong to ask Mitumba for his daughters to marry our sons?

3. SFX: COW BEING MILKED BY HAND INTO A BUCKET

4. NINA: No, you did not do any wrong thing by asking.
Perhaps, it was the wrong place, and the wrong..

5. MASAMBO: **(Cuts her short)** Time? How come? I thought it was the perfect opportunity.

6. NINA: I did not want to say wrong time, uh uh..wrong people.

7. MASAMBO: Wrong people? Nina, aren't you the one who with other women, went to elder Waliani to request him, to come and reconcile us with the Koroma people? How then can it be wrong to marry with them?

8. NINA: I did not say it was wrong to marry with the Koroma. You keep putting words into my mouth, Masambo. What I meant is, you probably should have asked our sons, first. **(sarcastic)** They can speak too, you know.

- 9. MASAMBO:** **(sneers)** They can speak, they can speak. And why haven't they spoken then? Lawi should be a father by now. I want to see my grandchildren.
- 10. NINA:** You are funny. You want to see grandchildren yet you have kept our sons all this time looking after the cows?
- 11. MASAMBO:** **(defensive)** I could look after cows and after you too, and after them when they were born. If I did it, why can't they?
- 12. NINA:** Masambo, if you did all those things by yourself, where was I? Eh?
- 13. MASAMBO:** **(Hesitant)** You were..eh..eh..
- 14. NINA:** I don't expect you to answer me.
- 15. SFX: TRUCK APPROACHING FROM A DISTANCE**
- 16. NINA:** Is that a truck I am seeing? It seems to be coming our way!

17. MASAMBO: **(panicking)** It's Kimbebe rebels! Now they have trucks and have come for all my cattle! Quick Nina, run inside and hide! Otherwise, they might abduct you just like Mitumba's wife.

18. NINA: **(scared and almost in tears)** But...but what about you, Masambo? What if they kill you?

19. MASAMBO: Nina, don't worry, nobody can kill the great Masambo! Go in, they are almost here. The dust has gotten closer.

20. SFX: COWS MOOING LOUDLY

21. MASAMBO: **(calming himself and the cows)** It is okay, my cows..it is okay..

22. NARRATOR: As Masambo comforted himself by calming his cows down, Nina was hiding in the darkest corner of the hut, both waiting for their fate. Not so far away, in the open fields, Lawi and Gulu who were grazing their father's cattle, had seen the truck too, and were wondering why it had come down into their valley. Since cars rarely came down into Kijani valley.

**SCENE TWO: LAWI AND GULU IN THE OPEN FIELDS WITH CATTLE
GRAZING**

23. SFX: CATTLE GRAZING, MOOING

24. GULU: (alarmed coughs from the dust in the air) Lawi! Did you see that truck?

25. LAWI: Of course I saw it, Gulu. It seems like it's headed to our village.

26. GULU: Who do you think it could be? I didn't see it clearly because of the dust.

27. LAWI: I don't know Gulu, it could be anyone. Politicians asking for our votes, traders who have come to buy cattle, soldiers en route to the border. I have no clue.

28. GULU: Will you vote for Roselyn too? Mother says she will be the first woman president, do you think so?

29. LAWI: (irritated) I don't know and I don't care!

30. GULU: What is wrong with you? You have been acting strangely towards me since I went to work with Lela and Shani. Is that what is bothering you?

31. LAWI: **(Angry)** I still can't forgive myself for the loss of our cattle to Kimbebe rustlers. We had hundreds of animals, now we are left with just a few. I must get them back! I must get even!

32. GULU: But Lawi, you were not to blame for what happened. Let it go!

33. LAWI: Never! I promised Dad I would get them back, and I intend to keep my promise.

(Nina, their mother comes in panting)

34. NINA: Lawi! Gulu! Thank goodness I found you here. Phew..**(catches breath)**

35. GULU: **(concerned)** Mother what has happened? Is everything okay at home?

36. LAWI: Everything is not okay Gulu. When was the last time you saw mother running in the open fields like that?

37. GULU: Never.

38. NINA: Boys, your father has sent for you. He wants you to come home immediately!

39. LAWI: What's wrong mother? We just got here with the cows.

40. NINA: Don't ask me, ask him. Now hurry up and bring the cows home. There is a guest who is waiting.

41. GULU: A guest and cows, this sounds more like a bride negotiation ceremony. Who is Lawi going to marry, mother? Lela?

42. NINA: **(nervous)** Just come home. This guest arrived in a big truck carrying lots of wooden crates, we first thought it was the Kimbebe cattle rustlers, but it appears it is a high government official.

43. LAWI: So, that's what it was. A military truck. Come, Gulu, let's take the cows back home quickly.

44. GULU: **(Leads cows)** This way... Shhh ... this way!

45. SFX: COWS BEING LED BY STICK OR WHIP

46. NARRATOR: Lawi, Gulu and Nina, quickly set off back with the cows. And waiting at home were Masambo their father and intelligence chief, Kero. They were drinking milk and talking as they waited for the boys to return home.

SCENE THREE: KERO IN MASAMBO'S HUT

47. SFX: SIPPING OF A DRINK (studio)

48. MASAMBO: Mr. Kero, would you like some more milk? My boys will be here any minute now.

49. KERO: Yes, please. This is the best milk I have ever tasted in my life!

50. MASAMBO: **(proudly)** Hmm, thank you sir. But please tell me more about this government plan.

51. KERO: It's like I told you earlier, we have seen how much you Torubes have suffered. These good-for-nothing Kimbebe rebels have been oppressing you for too long. Stealing your cattle, causing insecurity and fear amongst such peace-loving people as you. So our government has decided to arm each Torube family with guns and ammunition, so that you can defend yourselves.

52. MASAMBO: **(curious)** But why now, why are you giving us the guns now? After all this time? I personally lost many cattle recently to the rustlers. Where was the government then?

- 53. KERO:** Mr. Masambo, do you want our help or not? I have already been to many other families who were happy to receive the guns. If you wish to take the risk then that's up to you.
- 54. MASAMBO:** I didn't mean to offend you, sir. Of course, I would like my cows and family to feel safer when they are out grazing.
- 55. SFX: DOOR BEING KNOCKED**
- 56. MASAMBO:** Oh here are my sons. I will be right back.
- 57. SFX: DOOR BEING OPENED**
- 58. LAWI:** Father, how are you? We came as quickly as we could.
- 59. MASAMBO:** Come in, please greet our guest. He has some things he wants to tell us.
- 60. KERO:** No, you tell them. Boys, come with me to the truck, I will leave behind a soldier, who will show you how to use the guns. We have information that some of the Kimbebe rebels, including their commander, have gone looking for cattle to steal. Now would be the best time to attack.

61. NINA: **(shocked)** Guns? What guns? Masambo, what is going on?

62. MASAMBO: You heard the guest. Let's go outside. I will explain to you later.

63. NARRATOR: Kero went from one Torube family to another, handing out guns and ammunition, and leaving behind a soldier to train them in how to shoot. Shortly after he left, the calm, peaceful ambiance of Kijani valley was shattered by the sound of bullets being fired from several guns. And the air was suddenly filled with smoke. The firing caused panic among all the residents of Kijani, including Mitumba, Shani and Lela who were just about to go to their farm.

SCENE: FOUR: MITUMBA, SHANI AND LELA PREPARE TO GO OUT

64. SFX: SEVERAL GUNS BEING FIRED

(Lela and Shani screaming in fear)

65. SHANI: **(scared and screaming)** Wuuuuuiiiii. Father, Help!!

66. LELA: We are being attacked!

67. MITUMBA: **(Shouts)** Lela, Shani, get back in! Quickly! Close the door!

68. SFX: DOOR BEING CLOSED IN A HURRY

69. MITUMBA: Now lie down! Keep your heads down. Do not get up!

(Heavy breathing from Lela and Shani)

70. LELA: **(Panicky)** Who is it? Why are they shooting at us?

71. MITUMBA: Maybe, maybe it's the Kimbebe rebels. They are the only outlaws who carry guns.

72. SHANI: But ... but we have not done anything wrong to them! Why do they want us dead?

73. MITUMBA: I don't have the slightest clue. But I will find out. Don't move! I will be right back.

74. SHANI: **(very scared)** Don't go outside father! Please don't go!

75. MITUMBA: Shani stay down!

76. SFX: DOOR SLOWLY BEING OPENED

77. LELA: Father, please be careful.

78. SFX: SEVERAL BULLETS FIRED AGAIN

79. MITUMBA: **(Screams in pain)** Aaaah! I have been shot!

80. SHANI: **(Shouts)** Father!!!

81. LELA: **(Shouts)** Nooo!!!

OUTRO:

With those shouts of pain from Mitumba's family, we wind up the seventh episode of our radio drama on conflicts and resolutions. Will Mitumba survive? Who fired the shot? And what will be the implications of arming the Torube people? For the answers to these questions, and much more, do not miss the next episode of “**The ways of our fathers**”. If you wish to listen to this episode again, or any other previously aired, visit our website at www.dw-world.de/lbe.

Until we meet again, stay safe.