

LEARNING BY EAR

“The Lost Kid – the Story of Single Mothers in Africa”

EPISODE 10: “The Healing Process”

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List of characters by scene:

SCENE ONE: DAY AT KASSECH

- **Kassech (f, 22)**
- **Askale (f, 21)**
- **Narrator (m, around 35)**

SCENE TWO: DAY AT PAPA TILAHUN’S HOUSE

- **Askale (f, 21)**
- **Papa Tilahun (m,76)**
- **Mama Beletu (f,65)**

SCENE THREE: AFTERNOON IN THE HOSPITAL CORRIDOR

- **Papa Tilahun (m,76)**
- **Mama Beletu (f,65)**
- **Aster (f, 15)**
- **Narrator (m, around 35)**

SCENE FOUR: AFTERNOON AT THE HOSPITAL ROOM

- **Aster (f, 15)**
- **Jonas (m, 15)**
- **Papa Tilahun (m,76)**
- **Mama Beletu (f,65)**
- **Kassech (f, 22)**
- **Askale (f, 21)**
- **Drunkard Minabu (m,55)**
- **Narrator (m, around 35)**

INTRO:

Hello, dear listeners, and welcome to the last episode of our drama “**The Lost Kid – the Story of Single Mothers in Africa.**” To recap, in our last episode, Jonas was shot by Mr. Kasu when he and his friends tried to break into the rich man's house. Fortunately, Jonas is still alive, but at the hospital. His two friends and Mr. Kasu are at the police station now. What Jonas didn't know is that the man who shot him is his father. At the same time, the young girl Aster decided to track Jonas down and tell him that she's in love with him. Today's last episode is called, “**The Healing Process.**” We start at Kassech's place. She has heard the terrible news about her brother Jonas being shot and has also found out that Mr. Kasu is also her father. She is completely shocked by the night's events.

SCENE ONE: DAY AT KASSECH

1. SFX: DAYTIME AMB, SOUP BOILING

2. **Kassech:** **(Sobs)** Yes, you're right. What if he had been killed?

3. **Askale:** Thank God, he is in a stable condition. He's lucky that the bullet just grazed his thigh.

4. **Kassech:** I can't believe Mr. Kasu is our father! And my father shot my brother! UNBELIEVABLE!

- 5. Askale:** It's a pretty fantastic story! Especially considering last time we saw each other, you told me that you didn't have the slightest clue who your father was.
- 6. Kassech:** It turns out Papa Tilahun and Mama Beletu knew who he was all along!
- 7. Askale:** **(Surprises)** What!? Both of them knew who your father was? Why didn't they tell you?
- 8. Kassech:** **(Unhappy)** It's complicated, my dear! I'll explain the situation to you one day. Are you going to come with me to the hospital later?
- 9. Askale:** Sure! I've cooked something for Jonas. We can ask a friend to look after Begidu and Samy; and then I'll take care of both of them when I come back from the hospital. That way you can stay there as long as you need to.
- 10. Kassech:** Thanks, my dear!
- 11. Askale:** Don't worry! You saw Jonas this morning and you know he's going to be fine. The most important thing is that he understands, he made a big mistake. He needs to come home! You have to forgive him.

12. Kassech: I've been racking my brain thinking about how that is going to work. The problem is Jonas has no mother who can give him advice (**cries**) and even though he now knows who his father is, what kind of a father is that? He has never looked after Jonas: he shot him instead! (**Cries more**).

KW BEGIN

13.Askale: Kassech, please don't cry! It was just a coincidence that Jonas tried to break into his father's house.

14.Kassech: Askale, why does life treats us like this?

15.Askale: My dear, life is difficult for everyone; be strong.

16.Kassech: I'll try, but right now everything seems like a bad dream. Anyway, I have to focus on the here and now.

17.Askale: I'm really glad to hear that, Kassech. Believe me, I'm always here if you need me.

18.SFX: POT IS ABOUT TO BOIL OVER

19. Askale: Watch out, your pot's about to boil over!

20. SFX: COOKING POT'S LID BEING LIFTED

21. Kassech: Thanks, my dear! Call me when you're ready to go.

22. Askale: I will! See you in a little bit!

23. SFX: SOMEONE LEAVES

KW END

24. NARRATION: Children orientate themselves on what they see happening around them. This means they need a positive role model. If they don't have a positive role model in early childhood, it is difficult to shape the child's behavior later on. This is what we've seen in Jonas' case. Children's early development period divides in three phases. The first early phase is from birth to six years, the next phase called middle childhood is from seven years to 11 years; and finally, there is an early adolescent age from 12 to 14 years. Children have their own special needs in each phase. Jonas has already grown out of all three phases. His sister Kassech tried her best to raise him, but she was too young and overwhelmed with raising her own son and earning enough to feed the family.

SCENE TWO: DAY, OUTSIDE AT PAPA TILAHUN'S COMPOUND

25. SFX: DAYTIME AMBIENCE

26. Papa Tilahun: Mama Beletu! Come outside!

27. Mama Beletu: **(From inside)** Just a minute! I'm coming, Papa Tilahun.

28. Papa Tilahun: **(Angry)** Do I have to wait for you forever?

29. Mama Beletu: I said, I'm coming!

KW begin

30. Askale: Good afternoon, Papa Tilahun! You're in a hurry.

31. Papa Tilahun: **(Gets angry)** Well, I'm trying to be in a hurry but my wife can't seem to leave the kitchen! We've to go to the hospital right now! Oh! Askale, excuse me! Good afternoon! **(Askale laughs).**

32. Askale: Good afternoon! Kassech and I are getting ready to go to the hospital, too.

33. Papa Tilahun: We've sent our granddaughter ahead, but we want to be there early.

34. Askale: We'll see each other there then. **(She leaves).**

35. Papa Tilahun: Good day!

36. Askale: Till then!

KW end

37. Papa Tilahun: **(To mama Beletu)** Mama Beletu! Beletu! Bele...

38. Mama Beletu: **(Before he finishes the word, arrives)** Yes!
I'm here.

39. Papa Tilahun: Oh! Woman, I can never seem to tear you
away from that kitchen of yours.

40. Mama Beletu: **(Gets angry)** I'd like to see how far you'd come
in the kitchen without me! At least, help me by
holding this pot - I've prepared something hot
for Jonas.

41. Papa Tilahun: OK, OK. Sorry! I'll carry it for you.

SCENE THREE: AFTERNOON IN THE HOSPITAL CORRIDOR

42. SFX: HOSPITAL CORRIDOR

43. SFX: ARRANGING A BUNDLE OF ROSES

44. NARRATION: By the time Papa Tilahun and Mama Beletu arrive
at the hospital, their granddaughter Aster is already there. She stands
in the hospital corridor holding a bundle of roses in her hands.
Suddenly, she sees her grandparents. Weighed down by all the things
they are carting, they look very tired.

45. Aster: Grandma, Grandpa, what are all these things
you are carrying?

46. Mama Beletu: I think you know, we're here to visit a patient.

- 47. Papa Tilahun:** We're not on vacation. Help us! What are you staring at?
- 48. Aster:** Wait here, Grandpa. Please. I want to go inside first and surprise him with these flowers.
- 49. Mama Beletu.** All right! Go and surprise Jonas. We'll wait for you here but don't stay too long!
- 50. Aster:** I won't. Grandpa, aren't these flowers beautiful?
- 51. Papa Tilahu:** Yes, they are very beautiful, just like you.
- 52. Aster:** **(Laughs joyfully)** Wait for me here, OK, I'll call you when I am finished. **(She is leaving and enters the room).**

53. SFX: DOOR OPENS AND CLOSES

KW BEGIN

- 54. Papa Tilahun:** **(Surprised)** Ah, the young generation!
- 55. Mama Beletu:** **(Chuckles)** I already knew.
- 56. Papa Tilahun:** **(Suspicious)** What did you already know?
- 57. Mama Beletu:** I knew why that cell phone is always glued to her ear.

- 58. Papa Tilahun:** It's obvious! Because she is talking to her best friend, Semira.
- 59. Mama Beletu:** No, no, no!
- 60. Papa Tilahun:** Why then?
- 61. Mama Beletu:** **(In a low voice)** Our granddaughter is in love.
- 62. Papa Tilahun:** If that's true love, why not? True love is a good foundation for building a strong family. Just like us. **(Both laughs)**. But, say, who's the lucky boy?
- 63. Mama Beletu:** The lucky boy is getting flowers as we speak.
- 64. Papa Tilahun:** What? You mean our Jonas? **(Whispering)**
Let's go in.

KW END

65. NARRATION: While Aster is handing the flowers to Jonas, her grandparents secretly sneak in to the room. However, the young lovers don't realize that the old couple are there.

SCENE FOUR: AFTERNOON IN THE HOSPITAL ROOM

66. **Aster:** I don't know how to tell you, Jonas. I don't have the words.

67. **Jonas:** You're my angel, Aster!

68. **SFX: DOOR OPENS SLOWLY IN BACKGROUND**

69. **Aster:** I love you so much, Jonas!

70. **Jonas:** **(Lovingly)** I love you so much too, Aster.

71. **Aster:** Do you like the flowers?

72. **Jonas:** Yes, I love them!

73. **Papa Tilahun:** We also love the flowers **(Laughs from far)**.

74. **Jonas:** Oh! (Surprised)

75. **Mama Beletu:** They are very beautiful, indeed!

76. **Aster:** **(A bit embarrassed)** Grandma, grandpa, I...

77. **Mama Beletu:** Don't feel so ashamed, my child.

78. **SFX: DOOR OPEN**

79. **SFX: TWO PEOPLE COME IN**

80. SFX: DOOR CLOSE

81. Papa Tilahun: Oh! Kassech.

82. Mama Beletu: Askale, you've both arrived at the right time.

83. Kassech: Hello! What's going on here?

84. Askale: Hello! Aster, you look tired!

85. Aster: **(Embarrassed)** Hello.

86. Mama Beletu: She didn't sleep.

87. Papa Tilahun: No, she's a little bit embarrassed.

88. Aster: **(Still embarrassed)** Grandpa!

89. SFX: DOOR OPEN

90. SFX: SOMEONE ENTERS

91. SFX: DOOR CLOSE

92. Minabu: Who's a little bit embarrassed? I hope, it's not me. **(He laughs, everyone laugh).**

93. Papa Tilahun: Oh! Mr. Minabu. Welcome! Indeed, you have nothing to be embarrassed about anymore. You've already quit drinking. **(Still laughing).**

- 94. Minabu:** Look at this scar on my forehead. It's a peace pact between me and my old foe, alcohol! **(All laughs).**
- 95. Papa Tilahun:** Kassech, we talked to your father, Mr. Kasu last night at the police station. He told us he regrets so much what he has done.
- 96. Mama Beletu:** They will release him very soon. His lawyer is counting on self-defense.
- 97. Minabu:** Now it's time to change our ways. We need to heal our spirits for the sake of our children!
- 98. Papa Tilahun:** I like that expression, "now it's time to change our ways." I think that's why you were the first to turn over a new leaf. **(All laughs).**
- 99. Minabu:** I hope I didn't leave it to late - if I had changed my ways earlier I wouldn't have this scar on my forehead.
- 100. Papa Tilahun:** Hopefully, there won't be any more scars on your forehead.
- 101. Minabu:** Not anymore, Papa Tilahun. NOT anymore! **(All laugh).**
- 102. Kassech:** Hey! Let's not forget about our patient.

103. **Askale:** Don't worry, he is in good hands. Isn't he, Aster? **(All laugh).**

OUTRO:

With this we come to an end of our story “**The Lost Kid – the Story of Single Mothers in Africa**”, written by Mantegaftot Sileshi Siyoum. At least, no one is crying in today's episode! The two young lovers and the former drunkard Minabu have made their promises in front of our eyes. We're eye-witnesses, but what about you? What do you think about early child development? Do you agree that it is very important to raise young children in a positive way and encourage them to question and learn? You are welcome to discuss this question with us on our Facebook page. If you wish to listen to this or other series again, just log on to dw.de/lbe. Good bye for now, and take care!