

LEARNING BY EAR 2012

"Trust Betrayed – A Story of Sexual Violence in Africa"

EPISODE 8: 'Stand up'

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List of characters by scene:

SCENE ONE: JUDY RETURNS TO MR. MANENO'S OFFICE

- Pato (f, 16)
- Maneno (m, 45)
- Judy (f, 45)
- Narrator (m/f, around 30)

SCENE TWO: ALLAN HAS A TOUGH TIME AT SCHOOL

- Allan (m, 10)
- Mrs. Rimba (f, 45)
- Boy (m, 10)
- Boys voices (m, 10-11)
- Narrator (m/f, around 30)

SCENE THREE: PRECIOUS PAYS JOE A VISIT IN PRISON

- **Precious (f, 30)**
- **Joe (m, 45)**
- **Narrator (m/f, around 30)**

SCENE FOUR: JUDY WITH VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ABUSE AT CENTRE

- **Judy (f, 40)**
- **Nuru (f, 30)**
- **Mixed voices (women)**
- **Narrator (m/f, around 30)**

INTRO:

Hello there and welcome once again to Learning by Ear. This is the eighth episode of our ongoing series focusing on sexual violence in Africa, called '**Trust Betrayed**'. Just to recap on the story in case you missed the last episode: Dulu couldn't take the stigma and rejection he and his wife Nuru were subjected to after she was gang-raped, so he decided to leave her. Sixteen-year-old Pato was about to tell Judy what had been happening to her, after the activist visited the school to give a talk about sexual violence. But Mr. Maneno, the teacher who has been abusing Pato, stopped her from saying anything. Judy drove off, but she quickly guessed what had happened and headed straight back to the school. Elsewhere, Uncle Joe has been arrested by the police after ten-year-old Allan confessed to his teacher, Mrs. Rimba, that he had been sodomized by Uncle Joe, his mother's boyfriend. What will happen next? Let's find out in today's episode, called '**Stand up**'. We begin in the office of Mr. Maneno, who's furious with Pato for trying to tell Judy about the abuse.

SCENE ONE: JUDY RETURNS TO MR. MANENO'S OFFICE

1. SFX: DOOR BEING CLOSED AND LOCKED

2. MANENO: **(furious)** Pato! What did you tell that evil woman? Huh?! ... Listen - if you don't tell me, I am going to expel you from this school. You know I have the power to do it. What will your mother say then?

3. PATO: **(makes frightened noises)**

4. MANENO: **(shouts at her)** Talk to me! You ungrateful girl! Aren't you happy that I made you top of the class? I gave you one hundred percent in Biology, even though you only scored fifteen percent! And this is how you repay me? By betraying me? By telling people about our little secret?

5. PATO: **(scared)** But... But... Mr. Maneno... I...

6. MANENO: **(softly)** Sit down. ...**(harshly, commanding)** Sit down, Pato!

7. PATO: Please... please don't do it... **(about to start crying)** Mr. Maneno, I don't like it when you touch me... when you... No! Please don't!

8. SFX: DOOR BEING BANGED HARD

9. JUDY: **(screaming)** Open this door! Mr. Maneno, I heard everything you've been saying to Pato. Open this door at once, before I call the police!

10. SILENCE

11. JUDY: **(calls out)** Pato! Are you okay?

12. PATO: **(still crying)** Yes... I think so.

13. JUDY: Good. - Maneno, it's over. Please open the door. It's time to face the consequences of your actions.

14. SFX: DOOR BEING SLOWLY OPENED

KW BEGIN

- 15. MANENO:** Madam Judy, I think you must have made a mistake. I don't know what you think I...
- 16. JUDY:** Don't even think of denying it, Maneno! Look at the state of her! Pato, don't worry - you're safe now. Put your shirt back on and come with me.
- 17. MANENO:** **(begging)** All right - all right - I admit it. But I never meant to harm her... Please, forgive me. Don't call the police. Have mercy on me. I have a wife and family. Please don't put them through this, I beg you.
- 18. JUDY:** You should have thought about that before you decided to abuse your student. I wonder how many like her have passed through your hands and weren't able to speak out.
- 19. MANENO:** No, Pato was the only one, I swear! I've never behaved like this with any other student before.
- 20. JUDY:** I think that's very unlikely. You almost had me fooled, Maneno. But you know what? Your time is up! I will make sure that you pay dearly for everything you've done to her. Pato, come over here to me. It's okay; don't be scared.

KW END

- 21. MANENO:** All right, I confess - I knew what I was doing was wrong, but I couldn't help myself. I need help. You can help me, Madam Judy. Please - give me a second chance.
- 22. JUDY:** **(Angry)** A second chance? What, to carry on abusing others? Forget it! You're her teacher. You're entrusted with these children to teach them, not so you can molest and abuse them. This is going to be a police case.
- 23. MANENO:** Police? No - please! I am sorry!
- 24. JUDY:** Too late. I'll be filing a case with the police as soon as Pato and I get out of here. Then the law will take its course.
- 25. NARRATOR:** Judy is as good as her word. Mr. Maneno is forced to resign immediately from his job as a teacher. He'll face serious charges in court. But do you think Judy handled the situation well? Or do you think sex offenders should be given a second chance? As you consider that question, let's turn our attention to young Allan. He's back at school as usual and trying to move on with his life; but, as for most victims of sexual abuse, he isn't finding it easy.

SCENE TWO: ALLAN HAS A TOUGH TIME AT SCHOOL

26. SFX: YOUNG SCHOOL BOYS LAUGHING AND JEERING

27. ALLAN: Leave me alone! I'll report you to teacher Rimba.

28. BOY: **(mocks him)** Allan is a softy... Allan is a softy...

29. (OTHER BOYS JOIN IN CHORUS- 'Allan is a softy!')

30. RIMBA: Hey! Hey! Stop that! What do you think you're doing? Come here, all three of you! Come here at once. And Allan, you come here too, please. Eh... What were they saying, Allan?

31. ALLAN: They were calling me a softy.

32. RIMBA: Is that so? And why would you call Allan a softy? Come on, answer me. Why would you call a boy a softy?

33. BOY: **(afraid)** Because he doesn't play with us, he just sits there. But it was only a joke, teacher Rimba.

34. RIMBA: Now listen, you three, we don't joke around like that. It's not one bit funny. So I want you to say sorry to him, and if I ever hear you calling him or any other boy a softy or anything else, I will not be so lenient. Is that clear?

35. BOYS: **(timidly)** Yes, Mrs. Rimba...

36. RIMBA: Now apologize to Allan.

37. BOYS: We're sorry, Allan.

38. BOY: You can play with us if you want.

39. ALLAN: It's okay.

40. NARRATOR: Children who have been exposed to sexual abuse have to go through a very long and challenging healing process. Abuse occurring at such an early age, greatly impact their ideas about trust, relationships, and how the world works. It's very important to provide support to these young people – through ongoing counseling, education, and building strong peer relationships. Teacher Rimba is doing her best with Allan, but she knows it will not be easy. A few days later Uncle Joe appears in court, and with evidence provided by Mrs. Rimba and by Allan himself, the court finds him guilty and sentences him to five years in prison. The day after the verdict, Precious, Allan's mother, pays her former lover a visit.

SCENE THREE: PRECIOUS PAYS JOE A VISIT IN PRISON

41. SFX: PRISON AMBIENCE, IRON PRISON DOOR OPENS

42. JOE: (cheerful) Hi sweetheart! It's nice to see that you've missed me.

43. PRECIOUS: (grinding her teeth in anger) Sweetheart, my foot! You lousy, good-for-nothing, evil man!

44. JOE: Precious, my dear... you don't believe all that nonsense your son said in court, do you? It's me! Your Joe! I've...

45. PRECIOUS: (interrupting) Shut your mouth! I never want to see your face again. I trusted you! I defended you in front of Allan's teacher, and all the time, you were wrecking my poor son's life. (remorseful) Arrgh! How could I have been so stupid!

46. JOE: (chuckle) Not your fault, Precious, No one can resist me. But don't worry - it's only five years, and if I behave well in prison, I should be out in two. I'll see you very soon...

47. PRECIOUS: You are sick! Sick! You're a crazy man! How could I have trusted you and let you into my house? I loved you, I took care of you, and my son has paid a very heavy price. But things are different now, Joe. I never want to see you again! I hope you rot in prison!

48. JOE: Aaah, come on, Precious... You don't mean that, do you? (**chuckles again**) I'm not so bad really. You can't live without me... You know you can't!

49. SFX: PRISON DOOR BEING SHUT

50. NARRATOR: Finally Precious has realized that she trusted the wrong man, and that her son has suffered as a result. She's overwhelmed with guilt and remorse, and she's determined to protect Allan from further harm. The following day, all the newspapers report on Joe's arrest. Many people are shocked that a man who has committed such a crime, both physical and psychological, to such a young boy, can be sentenced to just five years. Judy reads about the case on her way to work at her centre, where she's counselling victims of sexual violence.

SCENE FOUR: JUDY AT THE CENTRE WITH VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ABUSE

51. SFX: NEWSPAPER PAGES BEING SHUFFLED

52. JUDY: (furious) Can you believe this? This is absolutely disgraceful! I'm sorry for losing my temper, but I just can't help it... Listen to this, all of you: (reads) Man who sodomized little boy sentenced to just five years in prison.

53. SFX: SHOCK / DISBELIEF REACTION FROM MOSTLY WOMEN

KW Begin

54. JUDY: Let me finish...(continues to read) The chief magistrate of the country handed down the maximum sentence of five years to a man accused of having sex with a ten-year-old boy. The man, believed to be the boy's stepfather abused the boy repeatedly while the child's mother was at work. The accused showed no remorse or regret for his actions as the sentence was read out. Cases of sexual and gender-based violence are on the rise in our country as... (breaks off)

KW End

55. SFX: NEWSPAPER RUFFLED AND SHUFFLED

56. JUDY: I can't take this any more. The laws on sexual violence in our country are just too weak. Something has to be done about it. The government needs to toughen up these laws and demonstrate that they are behind the survivors of these crimes!

57. SFX: LIGHT APPLAUSE

58. JUDY: I'm going to organize a major conference, and I am inviting every one of you. Some of you may be ready to tell your own story while others might be ready to simply be present. If you feel ready - your stories can be very powerful and I will stand by your side as you tell it. I think it is time that our leadership hear what we all know to be true. Which of you feels ready? Who is ready to speak out?

Silence

59. JUDY: I am so proud of you all! You have not only survived violence, but you have been strong enough to seek care. I hope that others will see that they can heal as well. But the first step is realizing that you don't have to do it alone. Your stories, painful and horrible as they are, can make a big difference. We need to persuade the government to take action; and we need to let other victims know they're not alone. We need to stand up to sexual violence!
I think some of you may nearly be ready to tell your stories.

60. NURU: I am!

OUTRO: And with that we end the eighth episode of our story about sexual violence in Africa. Nuru has only just arrived at the centre, but she's immediately inspired by the idea of helping other women come forward. She's volunteered to tell her story to the public - but does she realize what this will involve? What will happen to Pato, now that Mr Maneno has resigned from the school? Will Judy succeed in toughening up the law on sexual violence? Don't miss the next episode... And remember, you can comment on this story and others in the Learning by Ear series by visiting our website at dw.de/lbe. Or you can join us on Facebook! Until next time - take care.