

LEARNING BY EAR 2012

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

EPISODE 7: "Time to Act"

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List of Characters by scene:

SCENE ONE: NURU WITH DULU AT HOME

- **Nuru (f, 30)**
- **Dulu (m, 40)**
- **Narrator (m/f, around 30)**

SCENE TWO: MRS. RIMBA WITH ALLAN IN HER OFFICE

- **Mrs. Rimba (f, 45)**
- **Allan (m, 10)**
- **Narrator (m/f, around 30)**

SCENE THREE: PATO AND JUDY AT THE SCHOOL GATE

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

SCENE FOUR: UNCLE JOE AT THE POLICE STATION

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

INTRO:

Hello and welcome to the seventh episode of this 'Learning by Ear' series called "**Trust Betrayed**", a radio drama focusing on sexual violence in Africa. In the previous episode, Precious, Allan's mother, was summoned to school by Allan's teacher, Mrs. Rimba, who suspects that Allan is being abused at home. The meeting didn't go well. Precious strongly denied that her son was being abused by her boyfriend Joe, and left feeling very offended. Elsewhere, Judy visited Pato's school to give a talk to the students about the issue of sexual violence. Just as she was about to drive off, Pato came running out of the school, weeping and begging Judy not to leave. What will happen next? Stay with us to find out, in today's episode called "**Time for Action**". We begin with Nuru, who survived a violent rape, and has been out of hospital for a couple of weeks, but things are not going well with her husband, Dulu.

SCENE ONE: NURU WITH DULU AT HOME

1. SFX: VILLAGE ATMO. BAGS BEING ZIPPED AND PACKED

KW BEGIN

2. NURU:

Dulu, please - please don't go! You're the only one who understands me. The police wouldn't help; they just made fun of me. All my friends have abandoned me. They say I carry bad luck with me. Even Jena doesn't want to talk to me any more! If I lose you too, there's no reason for me to keep on living.

3. DULU: Nuru, I'm sorry, but even threatening to commit suicide is not going to keep me here. I just can't stay with you any more. It's hard for me to continue being your husband after what happened. My mind can't take it any more.

KW END

4. NURU: **(crying)** But Dulu...I can't do this alone. You saw what they did to me! Do you have any idea how hard it is for me to move on every day? I'm scared all the time now, *all the time!* I start shaking whenever I see a group of men. You're the only one I trust. Because you rescued me. I would have died in that waterhole if you hadn't come to find me. Dulu - my husband - please, don't go!

5. DULU: Listen, Nuru. I don't want to be cruel. But no one wants to associate with you now, because of what happened... and because I'm your husband no one wants to associate with me any more, either. I need to get my life back!

6. NURU: **(bitterly)** How could you?! Eh??! You have the choice to walk away and you do, but I can never get my life back!

7. SFX: BAGS BEING DRAGGED ON FLOOR RAPIDLY

8. NURU: **(weeping)** Go and get your life back, Dulu!

9. DULU: Nuru... you need to get help. There's this lady I was told about - her name is Judy. She has an organization in the capital that helps victims of sexual assault...

10. SFX: DOOR BANGED WITH ANGER

11. NURU: **(crying, inside the hut)** Just go, Dulu... Go, and don't ever come back!

12. NARRATOR: Few things could be worse than feeling alone and even worse, blamed, after going through an experience as terrible as rape. But, unfortunately, in most African societies victims of rape are very often stigmatized, neglected, and isolated. This makes their recovery process even more difficult. Nuru has been abandoned by those she loves just when she needs them most. What does she plan to do next? Keep listening to find out. Meanwhile, Mrs. Rimba is still worried about Allan and the change in his behaviour, so she's called him in to her office again.

SCENE TWO: MRS. RIMBA WITH ALLAN IN HER OFFICE

13. RIMBA: Hello, Allan. How are you this morning?

14. Silence

- 15. RIMBA:** Allan, I'm very worried about you. I don't know what's going on, but I know you well enough to know there is something. I want you to know that I'm concerned, and would do anything and everything to help you, if you need it. I want to help you be the same boy you used to be.
Allan... is there anything you want to talk with me about? This can be between us. I think we might be able to get some help for whatever is happening.
- 16. ALLAN:** (**scared**) What about Uncle Joe? What if he finds out?
- 17. RIMBA:** Allan... what is going on? Is it Uncle Joe? Is he hurting you? I might be able to help...
- 18. ALLAN:** Teacher Rimba, I don't want to go home. I don't want to be near Uncle Joe any more.
- 19. NARRATOR:** Step by step Allan reveals to Ms. Rimba the repeated abuse he's had to endure, and how Uncle Joe has warned him not to tell anyone. After a long discussion, Rimba has heard from Allan everything she needs to know in order to take action. She knows Allan will need long term support for what has happened, but in this moment, she knows his safety is most important. She guides him to the police station, where the police waste no time in apprehending Uncle Joe. So what happens next? Before we find out, let's go back to Pato. We left her standing right in front of Judy's car, after Judy gave a talk to Pato's school about standing up to sexual violence.

SCENE THREE: PATO AND JUDY AT THE SCHOOL GATE

20. SFX: INSIDE THE CAR: SOUND OF CAR STARTING TO DRIVE OFF. SOMEONE KNOCKS FRANTICALLY ON THE WINDOW FROM OUTSIDE

21. JUDY: (shouts at driver) Stop the car! Stop the car now.

22. SFX: CAR ENGINE TURNED OFF

23. JUDY: Thank you. Wait for me. I want to hear what this young girl has to say.

24. SFX: CAR DOOR OPENS AND CLOSSES. OUTSIDE ATMO

25. PATO: (still crying) I can't take it any more... I hate myself... I'm so bad...

26. JUDY: It's all right, young lady. Whatever it is, we can talk about it - I'm sure we'll find a solution. What's your name?

27. PATO: (trying to control herself) Pato... My name is Pato.

28. JUDY: All right, Pato, now try to calm down... Do you want us to talk here? Or do you want me to go back into the school with you?

- 29. PATO:** (afraid) No! We can't go back to the school. *He's* there! I can't stand him any more - I can't stand it any longer. Everything you talked about - that's what's been happening to me. My mum has no idea. She's just happy that I'm doing well in class, but she doesn't know what those good marks are all about. Every time he touches me I feel like throwing up.
- 30. JUDY:** Pato, it's okay. Slow down, take a deep breath and start from the beginning. I need to know how I can help you. If you're scared and don't want to go back to the school, I suggest you get in the car with me. We'll take you to our centre and once we're there, you and I can go into a private room where you can tell me what's been happening. Don't worry. We have everything there, including a doctor if you need one.
- 31. NARRATOR:** Pato feels an immediate sense of relief. She senses that this is finally someone she can talk to. And she can't wait to jump into her car and drive away. But before she can... Mr. Maneno appears at their side.
- 32. MANENO:** (angry) Pato! What in the world do you think you're doing?
- 33. JUDY:** Oh, I'm sorry, Mr. Maneno' it's actually my fault - I kept her here. But I think Pato is...

34. PATO: **(very scared)** No! No - no, Mr. Maneno... I... just wanted to ask her something before she left.

KW BEGIN

35. MANENO: And this something couldn't wait? Or couldn't you have asked me? Didn't you hear the bell ring?

36. JUDY: Sir, as I said ...

37. MANENO: Madam Judy, please stay out of this! I allowed you to come to my school and gave you a platform to speak, and you now want take one of my pupils off the premises without my permission? Do you have any idea how serious this is?

38. JUDY: **(calmly)** Mr. Maneno, it was not my intention to sneak her out of the school. Pato approached us, and obviously it was for a reason.

KW END

39. MANENO: **(shouts)** Pato! Get back to class. Now! And after school, I want you in my office. Is that clear?

40. PATO: **(afraid)** Yes, Mr. Maneno.

41. MANENO: Madam Judy, I suggest that you get off the school grounds before I take this any further. You understand that this is also the last time you will be allowed into this school.

42. JUDY: **(apologetic)** I am sorry, Mr. Maneno. Please don't take it out on Pato. She needs help. And I think...

43. MANENO: Goodbye!

44. SFX: FOOTSTEPS LEAVE

45. NARRATOR: Sometimes things don't work out quite the way we think they will. Pato's been sent back to class, and ordered by Mr. Maneno to report to his office later on. Obviously he's succeeded in stopping Pato from confessing to Judy that he's the perpetrator. Or so he thinks. Judy gets into the car and they drive off. But they haven't gone far before Judy suddenly realizes the truth.

46. SFX: CAR BEING DRIVEN

47. JUDY: **(instantly)** Oh my goodness! What am I doing? Turn the car around, quickly! We need to go back to the school at once. That young lady we just spoke to is being abused by the deputy head! Mr. Maneno! I should have guessed immediately from the way he was acting... Turn the car around!

48. SFX: CAR MAKING QUICK U-TURN

49. JUDY: **(nervous)** Let's hope we get to her before Maneno has a chance to hurt her. I'll never forgive myself if we don't... **(remorsefully)** A victim of sexual abuse came to me for help, and I just drove away!

50. NARRATOR: As Judy heads back to Kilindi High School to rescue Pato from Mr. Maneno's clutches, Allan's 'Uncle Joe' is being brought in to the police station under tight security.

SCENE FOUR: UNCLE JOE AT THE POLICE STATION

51. SFX: POLICE STATION ATMO

52. OFFICER: So you're the man who's been abusing our young boys! Aren't you ashamed of yourself?

53. JOE: Officer, that young boy is lying. Ask his mother. She will tell you that this is a big mistake.

54. OFFICER: **(orders)** Silence! Anything you say from now on can and will be used against you in a court of law. Joe Zumanda, we are charging you with sodomizing and sexually molesting an under-age boy. You will remain in custody until our investigations are complete. **(to guards)** Lock the door!

55. SFX: IRON JAIL DOOR BEING CLOSED

OUTRO:

As the iron bars of the prison cell clang shut on Uncle Joe, we wrap up this seventh episode of our radio drama about sexual violence in Africa. What kind of punishment will Joe receive? Will Judy make it to the school in time to rescue Pato? And what will happen to Nuru, now that she's been abandoned by her husband? Find out all this and more in the next episode. If you'd like to listen to this episode again, you can do so by visiting our webpage at www.dw.de/lbe. You can also send in your comments and suggestions, or even feel free to share your own experiences on our Facebook page, facebook.com/dw.lbe. Until next time - take care.