

**Learning by Ear 2014**

**Crossroads Generation – Season 3: Facing the Future**

**EPISODE 17: I Love Your Daughter**

**AUTHOR: James Muhando**

**EDITORS: Friederike Müller, Yann Durand**

**COPY EDITOR: Charlotte Collins**

**List of characters by scene:**

**INTRO/OUTRO: NARRATOR**

**SCENE 1: MSOTO FIRES BEN**

- MSOTO (M, LATE 40s)
- BEN (M, 20's)

**SCENE 2: NIKI VISITS MERCY AT THE CELLS**

- OFFICER (M/F, ADULT)
- NIKI (M, 19)
- MERCY (F, 18)

**SCENE 3: DAN SAVES AN OLD WOMAN**

- DAN (M, 19)
- OLD LADY (F, 60s)

**SCENE 4: NIKI GIVES LULU BAIL MONEY**

- LULU (F, 40s)
- MSOTO (M, LATE 40s)
- NIKI (M, 19)

## **INTRO**

### **1. NARRATOR:**

Hello, everybody! It's time for the next episode of our radio series "Crossroads Generation"! 19-year-old Dan came back to Kisimba to make peace with his ex-girlfriend, Mercy – but she didn't want to talk to him. The reason is that Mercy got pregnant with Dan's child in high school. And then when their daughter Linda was born three years ago, Dan took off. He came back just recently, but he's already lost his job on a building site and he's struggling to find a new one.

The fact that Mercy has another man's child has been causing some trouble in her relationship with her boyfriend, Niki. To distract herself, she went out with her friend Tina, who persuaded her to try and drive the car on the way back:

### **2. FLASHBACK: EPISODE 15, LINES 131-135**

**MERCY:** *I'm doing it! I'm driving! This is fun! You were right!*

**TINA:** *Hey, watch the road! Stay on this side!*

**SFX:** *CAR ARRIVES AND HOOTS*

**TINA:** *(alarmed) The brake! The brake! Step on the brake!*

**TINA/MERCY:** *(scream)*

### 3. NARRATOR:

The police arrested Mercy for drunk-driving, and for driving without a licence. Mercy's mother Lulu was furious when she found out! And that's not the only thing troubling Lulu... Her husband Msoto has become a follower of a certain King Karubu, and he's now trying to pass his belief on to their sons, Mercy's younger brothers.

### KW BEGIN

#### 4. FLASHBACK: EPISODE 12, LINES 103-105

*MSOTO: I thought I'd stop by on my way into town. I'm going to pray, and I'd like to take my boys with me!*

*KADU: (shyly) I don't want to...*

*BANDA: Yeeah!!! I'm coming, I'm coming! Can I go, Mum, please?*

### KW END

### 5. NARRATOR:

We meet up with Msoto again as we start this 17<sup>th</sup> episode, entitled "I Love Your Daughter".

**SCENE 1: MSOTO FIRES BEN**

**6. ATMO: SLUM ATMO, OUTSIDE**

**7. SFX: PERSISTENT, URGENT KNOCK**

**8. MSOTO:** Ben! Ben! Open up!

**9. BEN:** (from inside) Hey! Easy on the door.

**10. SFX: DOOR OPENS**

**11. BEN:** Msoto, Boss! What is it? Come in before you break my door down.

**12. SFX: FOOTSTEPS WALKING IN**

**13. SFX: DOOR CLOSES**

**14. BEN:** What do you want? I thought our next King Karubu performance wasn't till tomorrow?

**15. MSOTO:** It isn't. But I need money now. Where is the share I gave you after our last public healing in the name of King Karubu?

**16. BEN:** Why?

**17. MSOTO:** I got a call from my wife. My daughter is in trouble, and I need money.

**18. BEN:** What kind of trouble?

**19. MSOTO:** Never mind. Come on, just give it to me!

**20. BEN:** But you already took your share, Msoto! This is mine!

**21. MSOTO:** Yes. But now I want it back. I'm your boss, remember?

**22. BEN:** That doesn't mean you can take it all, Msoto. I thought we were partners?

**23. MSOTO:** We ARE partners, I'm just the senior partner. And making money with King Karubu was MY idea!

**KW BEGIN**

**24. BEN:** That's not fair. I always have to play the disabled man whenever we go out to perform!

**25. MSOTO:** I told you: my daughter is in trouble, and I need that money! Just for today. Can't you understand that, Ben?

**26. BEN:** I can understand a lot of things, Msoto. What I can't understand is you bursting in here uninvited and demanding that I hand over my hard-earned money!

**KW END**

**27. MSOTO:** So are you going to give it to me or not?

**28. BEN:** No!

29. **MSOTO:** Well, then you're fired!
30. **BEN:** Fired? I'm the best fake cripple there is! You need me for our healings! You can't fire a self-employed conman!
31. **MSOTO:** I just did! And I already have a new partner: my son, Banda! I think he'll be happy to work with me on behalf of King Karubu!
32. **SFX: DOOR OPENS**
33. **SFX: FOOTSTEPS GOING AWAY**
34. **BEN:** **(shouts after him)** We'll see how your business goes without me!

## **MUSICAL INTERLUDE**

### **SCENE 2: NIKI VISITS MERCY AT THE CELLS**

35. **ATMO: AT THE POLICE STATION**
36. **OFFICER:** **(from a distance)** Are you the one who wants to see Mercy Msoto?
37. **NIKI:** Yes, please.
38. **OFFICER:** My colleague went down to the cells to fetch her.
39. **SFX: DOOR OPENS**

40. **OFFICER:** Here she comes.

41. **SFX: FOOTSTEPS MERCY ARRIVES**

42. **MERCY:** Niki... I... What are you doing here?

43. **NIKI:** Hi, Mercy. Hey... you look terrible! Have they been treating you well?

44. **MERCY:** I'm fine, Niki. How did you know...?

**FLASHBACK: Ep. 18, line 6**

45. **NIKI:** Tina told me. **(pause)** Mercy, when did you start drinking? And why?

46. **MERCY:** **(snaps)** Oh, great! Why is everyone asking me that question?

47. **NIKI:** I'm concerned.

48. **MERCY:** **(aggressive)** Who are you? My mother?

**KW BEGIN**

49. **NIKI:** No, but I'm someone who happens to know about the damage alcohol and drugs can do to you. From my own experience! Mercy - I just don't want you to suffer like I did.

50. **MERCY:** Please don't tell me what's good for me!

51. **NIKI:** Well, it seems you don't know that yourself right now, so someone needs to tell you!

**KW END**

52. **MERCY:** **(shouts)** If you just came here to annoy me, go away and leave me alone!

53. **NIKI:** Why are you behaving like this? Are you still angry because of what my mother said?

54. **MERCY:** **(shouts)** Officer!

55. **SFX: FOOTSTEPS APPROACH**

56. **OFFICER:** **(from afar)** Is there a problem here?

57. **MERCY:** Take me back to my cell. I'm done.

58. **NIKI:** Mercy, wait! I came here to help you!

59. **OFFICER:** Hey, young man! Come back later. She said she doesn't want to talk. **(to Mercy)** Let's go!

60. **SFX: FOOTSTEPS MERCY AND COP GOING AWAY**

61. **NIKI:** **(sighs, to himself)** What's wrong with that girl?

**MUSICAL INTERLUDE**



**SCENE 3: DAN SAVES AN OLD WOMAN**

**62. ATMO: SLUMS (INDOORS), HEAVY RAIN OUTSIDE**

**63. DAN:** (to himself) Wow, this rain is really heavy. I should take advantage of the weather and put my water containers outside!

**64. SFX: DOOR OPENED**

**65. SFX: PLASTIC CONTAINERS PUT ON GROUND**

**66. OLD WOMAN:** (from afar) Help!

**67. DAN:** What was that?

**68. SILENCE**

**69. DAN:** (laughs, to himself) Dan Kanyama, I think you're starting to imagine things!

**70. OLD WOMAN:** (louder) Help!

**71. DAN:** No, there's definitely someone there. I need to check...

**72. SFX: FOOTSTEPS THROUGH MUDDY SOIL.**

**73. DAN** (shouts) Where are you? I can't see you!

**FLASHBACK: Ep. 18, line 2**

**74. OLD WOMAN:** Help! I'm here, in this ditch!

**75. SFX: FOOTSTEPS STOP**

76. **DAN:** Oh no! Are you hurt?

77. **OLD WOMAN:** I think I've twisted my ankle.

78. **DAN:** Here, let me help you!

79. **SFX: RUSTLING OF CLOTHES**

**KW BEGIN**

80. **DAN:** How did you end up in here?

81. **OLD WOMAN:** I'm old, young man! My eyes aren't so good, especially when it rains. And the ground is so slippery...

82. **SFX: RAIN SUBSIDES**

83. **DAN:** Where do you live? Can I take you home?

84. **OLD WOMAN:** You're very kind. I don't live far from here.

**KW END**

85. **DAN:** Here, lean on me. I'll take you home.

86. **OLD WOMAN:** Don't you have to work? I don't want to rob you of your time in the middle of the day...

87. **DAN:** Oh, you don't have to worry about that. **(laughs bitterly)** I've been looking for work for a very long time. I reckon I can take a few minutes off!

88. **OLD WOMAN:** **(laughs)** Thank you, young man! What's your name?
89. **DAN:** Dan.
90. **OLD WOMAN:** And what kind of work are you looking for, Dan?
91. **DAN:** I'll tell you on the way. Come on, let's go!
92. **SFX: FOOTSTEPS OF TWO PEOPLE IN THE MUD**

### **MUSICAL INTERLUDE**

### **SCENE 4: NIKI GIVES LULU BAIL MONEY**

93. **ATMO: MARKET ATMO**
94. **SFX: LULU'S PHONE RINGS**
95. **SFX: BEEP AS LULU'S PHONE IS ANSWERED**
96. **LULU:** Hello, Lulu Msoto speaking.
97. **MSOTO:** **(on phone, drunk)** Hello, Lulu my wife! He won't win! I promise! He won't. You'll see!
98. **LULU:** Who won't win?
- KW BEGIN**
99. **MSOTO:** Mukaraba! He's our enemy number one!
100. **LULU:** What are you talking about? Are you drunk again, Msoto?

**101. MSOTO:** No, no! Msoto doesn't drink any more. But I'm telling you – he won't win.

**102. LULU:** Msoto, I don't understand what you're talking about!

**KW END**

**103. MSOTO:** I'm telling you that Mukaraba is the one who put our daughter Mercy in jail! He's trying to intimidate us.

**104. LULU:** What's all this nonsense? I told you, she got into this trouble all by herself. Just like you used to!  
Have you seen her?

**105. MSOTO:** Not yet. I was busy. But tomorrow I will go.

**KW BEGIN**

**106. LULU:** Busy doing what? Drinking? Your daughter is cold and scared and all you can do is drink and rant?

**107. MSOTO:** No, no! My wife. Don't let's argue again.

**108. LULU:** You said you would go and see her, but instead what are you doing? Drinking! Msoto, when will you ever change?

**109. MSOTO:** I have changed. Completely!

**KW END**

110. **LULU:** Did you at least save her some money for bail, like you promised?
111. **MSOTO:** No. I wasn't lucky today. I am completely moneyless.
112. **LULU:** But you were lucky enough to find money for your beloved bottle?
113. **MSOTO:** Please, my wife --
114. **LULU:** I am not your wife! Go tell that to the bottle you're always fondling! I don't have time for this. I have work to do!
115. **SFX: PHONE DISCONNECTED.**
116. **LULU:** **(to herself)** Unbelievable!
117. **NIKI:** Hello, Mama Mercy.
118. **LULU:** Oh, it's you, Niki! Hello! What are you doing here?
119. **NIKI:** I came to talk to you about Mercy.
120. **LULU:** Mercy's not here. What about her?
121. **NIKI:** **(uncomfortable)** I know... She... she's at the police station...
122. **LULU:** I know. **(sighs)** And they want a lot of money for bail. I don't have that kind of money!

- 123. NIKI:** That's why I came to see you. I have some money saved up, and I was wondering if you would take it. Just... don't tell her it's from me.
- 124. LULU:** Why not?
- 125. NIKI:** We're not the best of friends right now, and if she knows it came from me she might not accept it.
- 126. LULU:** If my daughter doesn't want it, then I don't want it. We don't want your charity.
- 127. NIKI:** Mama Mercy, please! I love your daughter. There was just a... a slight misunderstanding, which I hope we can resolve very soon.
- 128. LULU:** **(sighs)** Okay. I will take it, because I know that you've always stood by her side. But on one condition.
- 129. NIKI:** What?
- 130. LULU:** That you let me pay you back when I have the money.
- 131. NIKI:** **(relieved)** Of course! Anything! Just as long she gets out of that awful place. Here.
- 132. SFX: BILLS HANDED OVER**

**133. LULU:** Wow, this is a lot! Thank you, Niki. It's very good of you.

**134. NIKI:** I have to go now. **(hesitates)** Ehmm... How's her daughter, little Linda?

**135. LULU:** She's fine! Thanks for asking.

**136. NIKI:** Good. Bye, Mama Mercy.

**137. SFX: FOOTSTEPS GOING AWAY**

**OUTRO – NARRATOR:**

Mercy's mother is relieved. But what will Mercy think? Will she find out who provided the money for her bail? And how's Dan's story going to continue, after he saved that old woman in the rainy Tandika slum? Find out next time on "Crossroads Generation". And don't forget to check out our webpage at [dw.de/lbe](http://dw.de/lbe). Bye for now!