

Learning by Ear 2014

Crossroads Generation – Season 3: Facing the Future

EPISODE 7: Surprising Encounters

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List of characters by scene:

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SCENE 2: KADU DRESSES LIKE SAMA

- BANDA (M, 11)
- KADU (M, 11)

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- TRUDY (F, 18)
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INTRO

1. NARRATOR:

Hi there! Welcome back to the third season of our radio series, “Crossroads Generation”! Before we start this brand new episode, let’s look back at what’s been happening in the lives of our young heroes... Trudy’s studying journalism, and she recently got a job at a tabloid newspaper:

2. FLASHBACK: EPISODE 3, LINES 79-83

***EDITOR:** Okay then. Your first assignment is Mukaraba. You know him?*

***TRUDY:** The councillor? Yes ... but what about him...? (...)*

***EDITOR:** Find out what he’s hiding. There has to be something! I don’t care how you do it, just make sure I have the story on my desk soon. (...)*

3. NARRATOR:

Trudy’s friend Mercy told her something very interesting about Mukaraba – in strictest confidence. Four years ago, the politician illegally adopted a newborn baby girl – from Mercy’s parents. To take Mercy’s mind off her problems, Trudy tricked her into going out instead of studying. Their friend Tina was with them – she seemed to know the club very well...

KW BEGIN

4. FLASHBACK: EPISODE 6, LINES 39-41

TINA: (...) Sam! Two tots of the usual for my friends Mercy and Trudy here! **(to Mercy and Trudy)** I'll be right back... **(calls while going away)**
Hey, James! Wait for me!

MERCY: Where's she going? She'll get lost in this crowd!

TRUDY: Tina knows her way around here.

KW END

5. NARRATOR:

The next day, Mercy woke up with a headache – and a guilty conscience. She'd left her three-year-old daughter Linda with the neighbour all night! Linda's father is Dan, who used to go to high school with Mercy. But he disappeared right after she gave birth, and Mercy hasn't seen him since – until now:

6. FLASHBACK: EPISODE 6, LINES 143-144

DAN: **(approaching)** Hi girls. Mercy...?

MERCY: **(shocked)** Dan?! What are you doing here?

7. NARRATOR:

And that's where we start this seventh episode, entitled "Surprising Encounters".

SCENE 1: MERCY SENDS DAN AWAY

8. ATMO: UNIVERSITY GROUNDS, OUTDOORS, DAYTIME

9. **DAN:** So here we are again, just like the old times in high school. Time flies, eh?

FLASHBACK: Ep. 8, line 4

10. **MERCY:** Except this time you look all scruffy and dirty, Dan.
What do you want? Why are you here?

11. **DAN:** To see you and... and our daughter!

12. **MERCY:** **(sarcastic laugh)** To see me and Linda? Wow, you're crazier than I thought!

13. **DAN:** I just wanted to... to clear up some issues.

14. **MERCY** **(shouts)** Dan, you've really got a nerve! You get me pregnant, deny me and your baby, then disappear to your own country for years ... And then you suddenly reappear and tell me you want to "clear up some issues"?

KW BEGIN

15. DAN: Mercy, please, we don't have to shout at each other. People are starting to stare.

16. MERCY: **(shouts even louder)** Oh, yeah, I remember. That was always the thing that worried you most: people staring at you. Let them stare! I don't care!

KW END

17. DAN: **(convincingly)** Mercy, people change. I'm not the same Dan you knew.

18. MERCY: Yeah, well, I can see that. This Dan can't even dress properly. Why are you all dusty, anyway? Did you walk all the way from Laboria?

19. DAN: **(sighs)** It's a long story. But that's not why I'm here. I want things to be better between me and you. You know... be friends again. I want to know you and Linda.

KW BEGIN

20. MERCY: After all this time? Are you serious?

21. **DAN:** Please, Mercy... I don't want to be like my own dad. He doesn't care about me at all. It just took me some time to realize that.
22. **MERCY:** You call three years "some time"?
23. **DAN:** **(calm)** Just listen to me, Mercy. I live here now, in Tandika slums. I've been here a while already.
24. **MERCY:** **(shocked)** What?
25. **DAN:** I would have come to you earlier, but I didn't know where you lived nowadays.
26. **MERCY:** Well, now you do. How did you find out?
27. **DAN:** I saw your brothers. They mentioned that you were at university, so I came to look for you here.

KW END

28. **MERCY:** I have nothing to say to you, Dan. Goodbye!
29. **SFX: MERCY'S FOOTSTEPS LEAVING**
30. **DAN:** Mercy, wait... Please Mercy...! People change!
You can't condemn me because of one mistake!

31. MERCY: (shouts, from far) One mistake? Dan, you have the audacity to call it ONE mistake? Just go!

32. DAN: Mercy... please...

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

SCENE 2: KADU DRESSES LIKE SAMA

33. ATMO: SLUM ATMO IN TANDIKA, INDOORS, MORNING

34. BANDA: (calls) Kadu! Hurry up! We'll miss the bus.

35. KADU: (from far) Wait, Banda! I'm not dressed yet!

KW BEGIN

36. BANDA: What's taking you so long? We need to go! Stop behaving like a girl and hurry up!

37. KADU: I'm not behaving like a girl!

38. BANDA: Yes, you are! Everybody knows that girls take too long getting dressed.

39. KADU: That's not true! Mum and our sister Mercy never take long to dress! Dad does, when he's going to pray.

40. BANDA: But that's because you have to look nice for King Karubu! He told me that... And I'll dress nicely, too, when Dad takes me with him, like he promised!

KW END Come on, Kadu! We need to go!

41. SFX: STEPS KADU ARRIVES

42. KADU: **(shows off)** Ta-da! I'm ready!

43. BANDA: **(laughs)** Wow, what's that?

44. KADU: My new look.

45. BANDA: Oh Kadu, you look like a butterfly in that long yellow shirt! You didn't just take as long as a girl to get ready, you've decided to dress like one too!

46. KADU: Shut up! You're just jealous because your blue shirt is boring!

47. BANDA: You know what? You look like Sama! **(realizes)** Aah, I know... You're doing this because you're in love with her! **(laughs)**

48. **KADU:** No, I'm not! I just don't want her to feel bad because she's the only one wearing yellow every day...
49. **BANDA:** Why doesn't she wear some other colour, then, if she hates it so much?
50. **KADU:** She doesn't hate it! But the other girls laugh at her.
51. **BANDA:** You won't even see her, anyway. We're only going to see Dad. What a waste!
52. **KADU:** I might. She lives near Dad's place.
53. **BANDA:** **(sings and laughs)** Kadu likes Sama! Kadu likes Sama!
54. **KADU:** Shut up! Shut up, Banda! Let's go - we're late!
55. **BANDA:** **(continues singing as they leave)**
56. **SFX: FOOTSTEPS AS THEY RUN OUT**
57. **SFX: DOOR OPENS AND CLOSES**

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

SCENE 3: TINA AT WORK

58. EVENING, STREET NOISE, LIGHT TRAFFIC

59. TINA: (to herself) It's getting chilly outside at night... I
hope I don't have to wait too long.

60. SFX: CAR ARRIVES AND STOPS

61. SFX: CAR WINDOW BEING OPENED

62. MAN: (rudely) Kss! Kss! Hey, you.

63. TINA: Me?

64. MAN: Of course you! Who else? Come here!

65. SFX: TINA'S HIGH-HEELED FOOTSTEPS ON THE STREET

66. TINA: Yes, darling?

67. MAN: What's your name?

FLASHBACK: Ep. 9, line 4

68. TINA: (sweetly) Who do you want me to be? Cindy?
Susanna?

69. MAN: I want your real name, not the names you
prostitutes use on the streets!

70. **TINA:** **(laughs to lighten up the mood)** No need to get so cross, baby. I'm Tina. Okay?

71. **MAN:** That's better. Come on, get in!

72. **SFX: CAR DOOR OPENS**

73. **SFX: RUSTLING OF CLOTHES**

74. **SFX: CAR DOOR CLOSSES (INTERIOR)**

75. **MAN:** Well, what are you waiting for?

76. **TINA:** **(surprised)** You want to do it here, in the car?

77. **MAN:** **(sarcastic)** No, I want to do it in my house, with my wife watching. Of course I want to do it here, stupid!

KW BEGIN

78. **TINA:** No, sir. We can't do it in public. We have nice affordable rooms across the street.

79. **MAN:** What do you care? Are you afraid to be seen? You're just a prostitute! Anyway, my car windows are tinted – no one can see in!

KW END

80. **TINA:** Still. We have rules. And it's not... proper.
81. **MAN:** **(angry)** Fine, then! Get out, you ugly piece of trash!
82. **TINA:** **(offended)** No need to call me names.
83. **MAN:** Go on, get out!
84. **SFX: CAR DOOR BEING OPENED ROUGHLY**
85. **SFX: SOMEBODY FALLING ON THE GROUND**
86. **SFX: CLOTHES RUSTLING**
87. **TINA:** **(in pain)** Ow! My knee!
88. **SFX: CAR DOOR CLOSES**
89. **SFX: CAR DRIVES OFF**
90. **TINA:** **(shouts after him)** That's right! Drive off, you idiot! **(to herself)** Ow! How am I going to buy food for my family now? **(cries)**

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

SCENE 4: TRUDY'S FIRST INTERVIEW

91. ATMO: OUTDOORS, LIGHT TRAFFIC, DAYTIME

92. SFX: DOOR OF A BUILDING OPENS

93. SFX: FOOTSTEPS - MUKARABA APPROACHES

94. TRUDY: (nervous) Good morning, Mr. Mukaraba. My name is Trudy Kasingo. I'm from the Kisimba Tribune. We spoke on the phone about an interview.

95. MUKARABA: Young lady, how long have you been waiting for me outside my office?

96. TRUDY: Quite a while, sir.

97. MUKARABA: You journalists! Unbelievable! I told you I don't have time for you right now. I have a campaign to run.

98. TRUDY: I won't take up much of your time, sir. Please.

99. MUKARABA: (SIGHS) All right, then. Five minutes. No more! Let's sit down at this coffee place.

100. SFX: FOOTSTEPS OF TWO PEOPLE

101. TRUDY: (happy) Thanks. You won't regret it.

102. MUKARABA: You'd better hope not!

103. SFX: CHAIRS PULLED OUT AS THEY SIT

KW BEGIN

104. TRUDY: Okay, let's start right away. Mr. Mukaraba: one of the qualities a good leader needs is integrity. Would you say you are corruption-free?

105. SFX: PEN ON PAPER AS TRUDY TAKES NOTES

106. MUKARABA: My record speaks for itself. I'm proud to say I've never been involved in any irregular activities in either my public or my private life.

KW END

107. TRUDY: You're a family man, aren't you, Mr. Mukaraba?

108. MUKARABA: **(reminds her)** It's "The Honourable Mukaraba" – remember that when you write your article.

109. TRUDY: I will, sir.

110. MUKARABA: **(proudly)** To answer your question: Yes, I'm a husband and father.

111. TRUDY: How many children?

112. **MUKARABA:** One. A daughter.

113. **TRUDY:** Is she your... real daughter?

114. **MUKARABA:** **(suspicious)** Excuse me, where is this going?

FLASHBACK: Ep. 8, line 2 / Ep. 10, line 2

115. **TRUDY:** There are rumours that your baby is not
biologically yours – that you adopted her
ILLEGALLY.

116. **MUKARABA:** **(angry)** Listen, young lady! I don't know who's
been feeding you this malicious nonsense, but I'm
warning you: don't you dare print that!

117. **TRUDY:** What if I tell you I have a witness who says you
adopted her sister illegally?

118. **MUKARABA:** **(menacingly)** Get out of here! Right now! For your
own sake, that story should never see the light of
day. Do you hear me? If it does, I'll kill you!

119. **TRUDY:** Are you threatening me, Mr. Mukaraba?

120. **MUKARABA:** That's right! Now, get out of my sight!

121. **TRUDY:** **(scared)** Wow... Okay, I'm leaving...

122. SFX: CHAIR SCRAPES AS SHE STANDS UP

123. SFX: RUSTLING AS SHE GRABS HER STUFF

124. SFX: SMALL METAL OBJECT DROPS ON THE FLOOR

125. TRUDY: (to herself) Oh no... I'd better run!

126. SFX: RUSTLING AND SCRAPING AS TRUDY PICKS IT UP

127. MUKARABA: Is that a tape recorder? Were you recording me?

128. SFX: RUNNING FOOTSTEPS.

129. MUKARABA: Hey, stop! Give that to me!

OUTRO – NARRATOR:

And that's how we end today's episode of "Crossroads Generation". It's been a tough day for Trudy – but also for her friend Tina, who was brutally thrown out of a stranger's car! How is she feeling now? She's confessed to her video diary, which you can find on our webpage, dw.de/lbe. There, you can also listen to this and other episodes again. You can also follow us on Facebook. Until next time – bye-bye!