

Learning by Ear 2014

Crossroads Generation – Season 3: Facing the Future

EPISODE 11: Out in the Open

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List of characters by scene:

INTRO/OUTRO: NARRATOR

SCENE 1: MERCY AT POLICE STATION

- **MERCY (F, 18)**
- **OFFICER (M/F, ADULT)**
- **TRUDY (F, 18)**
- **INSPECTOR MARY (F, 40s)**

SCENE 2: LULU GETS A CALL FROM INSPECTOR MARY

- **LADY (F, 40s)**
- **LULU (F, 40s)**
- **INSPECTOR MARY (F, 40s)**

SCENE 3: MUKARABA AT HIS OTHER PLACE OF WORK

- **MNENE (M, 40s)**
- **MUKARABA (M, 50s)**

SCENE 4: TINA, TRUDY AND MERCY TALK ABOUT THE ARTICLE

- **TRUDY (F, 18)**
- **MERCY (F, 18)**
- **TINA (F, 19)**

INTRO

1. NARRATOR:

Hi there! Today, we have a new episode of our radio series “Crossroads Generation” for you! Just to remind you where we left off last time: Mercy’s father Msoto is back in town after his wife threw him out years ago. He claims to be a changed man, and to have been enlightened by the spirit of a certain King Karubu. But we saw a different side to his faith last time:

2. FLASHBACK: EPISODE 10, LINES 52-55, 72-73

MSOTO: *(shouts to audience)* My name is Msoto, and this is Ben, my brother in faith. We greet you all in the name of King Karubu!

BEN: *(shouts)* King Karubu! King Karubu! (...)

PASSENGER 1: *Oh no! Not these bus preachers again. (...)*

PASSENGER 2: *What’s wrong?*

PASSENGER 1: *The guy shouting “King Karubu” all the time! I think he’s stealing from the passengers while the other one is preaching!*

3. NARRATOR:

And this is not the first dirty deed Msoto has been involved in. Four years ago, he sold his own newborn baby girl to the local politician Mukaraba. Msoto's daughter Mercy talked about it to her friend Trudy.

They're both studying journalism, and Trudy used the information in an interview with Mukaraba. As a result, he threatened both girls. So last time, Trudy tried to stop her article from being published:

4. FLASHBACK: EPISODE 10, LINES 105-106

***TRUDY:** (bursts in) Please – don't print my story!*

***EDITOR:** Too late, Trudy. It'll be on the front page tomorrow... (...)*

5. NARRATOR:

Let's start right away to find out how the story goes on! This eleventh episode is called "Out in the Open".

SCENE 1: MERCY AT POLICE STATION

6. ATMO: POLICE STATION ATMO

KW BEGIN

7. **MERCY:** Excuse me, Officer, my name is Mercy Msoto. I'm here to speak to Inspector Mary.

8. **OFFICER:** Do you have an appointment?

9. **MERCY:** Yes, my mother called her.

10. **OFFICER:** Okay. Wait here. I'll tell her you're here.

11. **MERCY:** Thank you.

12. SFX: TWO PAIRS OF FOOTSTEPS WALK AWAY

KW END

13. **MERCY:** **(to herself)** I really hope Inspector Mary can help!
Mum says she's the right person to talk to...

14. SFX: FAST FOOTSTEPS APPROACHING

15. **TRUDY:** **(panting)** Mercy! I was hoping I'd find you here!

16. **MERCY:** **(not very friendly)** Trudy? I thought you didn't want to go to the police!

17. **TRUDY:** Well, I've changed my mind!
18. **SFX: FOOTSTEPS: INSP. MARY APPROACHING**
19. **INSP. MARY:** Mercy Msoto?
20. **MERCY:** That's me. And this is Trudy Kasingo.
21. **INSP. MARY:** I'm Inspector Mary. Please, come with me to my office.
22. **SFX: FOOTSTEPS (THREE PAIRS)**
23. **SFX: DOOR OPENING AND CLOSING**
24. **INSP. MARY:** Have a seat.
25. **MERCY/TRUDY:** Thank you.
26. **INSP. MARY:** Now, Mercy: your mother mentioned that somebody threatened you on the phone in relation to the Mukaraba case?
27. **MERCY:** Yes.
28. **INSP. MARY:** Do you know why?
29. **MERCY:** I just found out...

30. **TRUDY:** **(clears her throat)** It's because of me. I work for the Kisimba Tribune part-time, and I was working on a story about Mukaraba and the illegal adoption. I mentioned Mercy as my source during the interview with him...
31. **INSP. MARY:** I see. First of all: don't they teach you at university to protect your sources?
32. **TRUDY:** I... uh...
33. **INSP. MARY:** And Mercy, your family had strict instructions not to talk about the case!
34. **MERCY:** I... I know... I...
35. **INSP. MARY:** But none of that is going to help us now that the cat is out of the bag. **(deep breath)** Trudy, how did Mukaraba react?
36. **TRUDY:** He threatened to kill me.
37. **INSP. MARY:** What?
38. **TRUDY:** I even recorded him saying it. This is the tape...
39. **SFX: SMALL METAL BOX PUT ON DESK**

40. **INSP. MARY:** Okay. I'll keep this here as evidence.
41. **TRUDY:** They didn't find it when they went through my stuff.
42. **INSP. MARY:** You've had death threats, and people breaking into your rooms? This is really serious! **(deep breath)**
You did well to come to me, both of you. What about this article? Is it going to be published?
43. **TRUDY:** I tried to stop it, but the editor wouldn't listen to me!
(low voice) It'll be on the front page tomorrow.
44. **MERCY:** Trudy!
45. **INSP. MARY:** **(deep breath)** My my! Okay, let me think...
46. **SFX: PAPERS RUSTLING**

47. INSP. MARY: **(to herself)** There's very little time, but it should be possible... **(to the girls)** As you probably already know, Mercy, we've been preparing a case against Mukaraba to charge him with illegal adoption. It hasn't been made public yet; it was due to be announced in a few days. Given the circumstances, I'd like to make the announcement tonight, to make sure the information is out in the open as soon as possible.

48. TRUDY/MERCY: Thank you, Inspector!

49. INSP. MARY: But I strongly advise you to be very, very careful, okay? Avoid being alone, only walk in groups, and don't stay out too late. If you notice anything unusual, call me. Okay? Even if it's late at night.

50. TRUDY/MERCY: Yes, Ma'am.

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

SCENE 2: LULU GETS A CALL FROM INSPECTOR MARY

51. ATMO: MARKET ATMO

KW BEGIN

52. LADY: Hello, Mama Mercy! Can you help me out? I need change for a fifty. My customer's waiting...

53. LULU: **(grumpy)** Sorry, I don't have any change.

54. LADY: Oh, is that your granddaughter Linda in the back of your shop? She hasn't been around here lately, has she! **(calls)** Linda!!! Hello there! **(to Lulu)** Oooh, she's so sweet!

55. SFX: LINDA LAUGHING FROM AFAR

56. LULU: **(grumpy)** I thought you just wanted change? I told you, I don't have any!

57. LADY: Okay, okay! I get it!

58. LULU: **(sighs)** Sorry. I didn't mean to snap at you. I just have a lot on my mind right now.

59. LADY: It's all right. I understand. I need to go back, anyway. **(as she leaves)** Bye, Mama Mercy!

60. **LULU:** Bye.

KW END

61. **SFX: LULU'S MOBILE PHONE RINGS**

62. **SFX: BEEP AS CALL IS ANSWERED**

63. **LULU:** Hello?

64. **INSP. MARY:** Hello Lulu, this is Inspector Mary. I just spoke to your daughter, Mercy.

65. **LULU:** Will everything be okay?

66. **INSP. MARY:** It should be. It was very good that she came to me, though. I hope she and her friend have learnt their lesson.

67. **LULU:** They'd better!

FLASHBACK: Ep. 12, line 4

68. **INSP. MARY:** Lulu, I'm also calling to tell you that the case against Mukaraba will be going to court next week.

69. **LULU:** Oh thank God. Finally!

- 70. INSP. MARY:** There might be a lot of noise around it, but the important thing is that you and your husband stay calm. Mukaraba will know about the case now, and our investigation. But he still doesn't know that your husband is going to testify. He mustn't find out about that until it's time. You understand?
- 71. LULU:** Of course! And I'll make sure Msoto does, too!
- 72. INSP. MARY:** You might also want to tell him to stop ranting about someone called King Karubu in public places and on buses if he wants to be taken seriously as a witness! I've even heard people talking about some followers of King Karubu who stole from other passengers on a bus...
- 73. LULU:** What?! You can be quite sure I'll talk to him about this!
- 74. INSP. MARY:** Okay, then. I'll let you know when you need to appear in court.
- 75. LULU:** Okay. Thank you, Inspector Mary. Goodbye!

76. SFX: PHONE DISCONNECTS

77. LULU: (to herself) That man is unbelievable!

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

SCENE 3: MUKARABA AT HIS OTHER PLACE OF WORK

78. ATMO: CLUB MUSIC HEARD THROUGH THE DOOR

79. MNENE: Look, Mukaraba, I'm sorry I couldn't stop that girl publishing her story! What else could I have done?

80. MUKARABA: (furious) Just make sure nothing like that ever happens again, Mnene! Keep a better eye on her from now on!

81. MNENE: Of course, boss. So what are you going to do about the court hearing?

82. MUKARABA: Control the damage. I'm giving a big interview on the radio tomorrow to convince them that I'm the victim here. (laughs) That shouldn't be too difficult. I'll just tell them I have faith in our judicial system and that justice will prevail! (laughs)

- 83. MNENE:** Sounds nice, boss!
- 84. MUKARABA:** And it's the truth! I really do trust those judges...
They've been good friends of mine for a very long time! **(laughs)**
- 85. MNENE:** Oh, that's great, boss!
- 86. MUKARABA:** So... let's get back to business. How many girls do we have so far?
- 87. MNENE:** Believe it or not, we have about twelve permanent girls now. Very pretty ones!
- 88. MUKARABA:** Where do you recruit them from?
- 89. MNENE:** From the local universities, as we agreed. They're affordable, and they don't ask too many questions.
- KW BEGIN**
- 90. MUKARABA:** I don't have to remind you that I'm a public figure, Mnene. This thing can never be traced back to me. Especially not now!
- 91. MNENE:** Of course, Mr. Mukaraba.
- 92. MUKARABA:** All right. I need to go now. Is the car ready?

93. MNENE: Yes: it's parked at the back entrance, in the alley.
We'll have to sneak you in through the back. We don't want anyone spotting our parliamentary candidate coming out of a brothel, do we?

94. MUKARABA/MNENE: (laugh)

KW END

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

SCENE 4: TINA, TRUDY AND MERCY TALK ABOUT THE ARTICLE

95. ATMO: UNIVERSITY GROUNDS: OUTDOORS

96. SFX: FOOTSTEPS APPROACHING

97. TRUDY: **(from far)** Hey, Mercy, wait for me.

98. MERCY: I'm in a bit of a hurry, Trudy.

99. TRUDY: **(closer)** Are you still angry with me?

100. MERCY: What do you think? You go around writing articles about things I told you in confidence, you put me in danger, and then you ask me if I'm angry? Of course I am!

101. TRUDY: I'm so sorry, Mercy!

102. SFX: FOOTSEPS APPROACHING

103. TINA: Hey girls! What are you two gossiping about?

KW BEGIN

104. SILENCE

105. TINA: **(snaps finger)** Hello? Hey, what's up? I'm talking to you!

106. MERCY: Why don't you ask Trudy?

107. TRUDY: Come on, Mercy, I've said I'm sorry.

108. TINA: Hey, what is it? Are you two fighting?

KW END

109. TRUDY: Mercy's still angry with me because of that interview with Mukaraba.

110. TINA: Hey, hey! Fighting won't solve anything! I thought you two had sorted this out? You need to stick together!

111. TRUDY / MERCY: (silent)

112. TINA: **(seriously)** Listen: I happen to know, as well, that Mukaraba is not a good man. I'd strongly advise you two to keep quiet about the whole thing! At least for the time being.

113. MERCY: How do *you* know him?

114. TINA: Just ... trust me.

OUTRO – NARRATOR:

Tina seems pretty serious! What's she hiding from her friends? Check out her personal video diary to find out! You'll find it on our website at dw.de/lbe. You can also follow us on Facebook and discuss what you just heard with other Learning by Ear fans. Until next time, take care!