

**Learning by Ear 2014**

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

**EPISODE 6: A Little Fun Won't Hurt**

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**List of characters by scene:**

**INTRO/OUTRO: NARRATOR**

**SCENE 1: GIRLS GO CLUBBING**

- TINA (F, 19)
- TRUDY (F, 18)
- MERCY (F, 18)
- TIM (M, ADULT)

**SCENE 2: MERCY WAKES UP AT TRUDY'S**

- TRUDY (F, 18)
- MERCY (F, 18)

**SCENE 3: DAN BUMPS INTO THE TWINS**

- KADU (M, 11)
- BANDA (M, 11)
- DAN (M, 19)

**SCENE 4: DAN MAKES CONTACT**

- TINA (F, 19)
- TRUDY (F, 18)
- MERCY (F, 18)
- DAN (M, 19)

## **INTRO**

### **1. NARRATOR:**

Hi there, good to have you back for another episode of “Crossroads Generation”! Let’s look back at what’s happened so far in our radio series. The twin brothers Kadu and Banda seem to be doing well at school, and Kadu has become friends with a girl called Sama.

### **2. FLASHBACK: EPISODE 5, LINES 21-22, 28-29**

*KADU: So yellow’s your favourite colour, is it, Sama?*

*SAMA: It kind of is... In my family we all dress like this. It’s because of our religion. (...)*

*KADU: Well, I like your dress!*

*SAMA: Thank you, Kadu.*

### **3. NARRATOR:**

Kadu’s big sister is 18-year-old Mercy Msoto. She’s studying journalism, but she’s also looking after her three-year-old daughter, Linda. Mercy’s mother used to help her, but they had a big fight and Mercy took her daughter to live with her on campus. Her boyfriend Niki wasn’t exactly thrilled. Last time, we heard Mercy talking about it to her friend Trudy:

#### 4. FLASHBACK: EPISODE 5, LINES 60-64

*MERCY: It's just that Niki hasn't been taking my calls since I told him Linda's come to live with me. (...) I think it reminds him too much of the fact that I had someone else's child. (...)*

*TRUDY: By the way, did you ever hear from Dan again?*

*MERCY: No, nothing! And I don't want to, either, after he went back to Laboria as soon as Linda was born!*

#### 5. NARRATOR:

But Dan is no longer in the neighbouring country, Laboria! He recently returned to Kisimba, and has found work on a building site. Mercy doesn't know this yet, though. Right now, she's in a taxi with Trudy and their new friend Tina. The two girls promised Mercy they'd help her catch up on her studies. But they have something else in mind... Let's start this sixth episode, called "A Little Fun Won't Hurt"...

**SCENE 1: GIRLS GO CLUBBING**

6. **ATMO: INSIDE DRIVING CAR**

7. **MERCY:** Trudy, Tina – where are you taking me? Why did we need to get a taxi?

8. **TRUDY:** Wait, Mercy, you'll see.

9. **SFX: CAR STOPS**

10. **TINA:** Okay, we're here! **(to the driver)** Thanks, Tim.

11. **SFX: BILLS BEING HANDED OVER TO DRIVER**

12. **TIM:** No problem, Tina. I'll pick you up later.

13. **SFX: CAR DOORS OPENING; CLOTHES RUSTLING AS PEOPLE STEP OUT**

14. **ATMO: NIGHT TIME, OUTDOORS, TRAFFIC, MUSIC HEARD FROM INSIDE CLUB**

15. **TRUDY:** **(to Tim)** Hold on, Tim! **(to Mercy)** Give me those books, Mercy.

16. **MERCY:** Trudy --

17. **TRUDY:** Let's leave them in the car!

18. **SFX: RUSTLING; BOOKS BEING PUT IN CAR**

19. **SFX: CAR DOOR CLOSSES**

**20. SFX: CAR DRIVES OFF**

**21. MERCY:** Trudy, what are you doing? I thought we were going to study!

**22. TINA:** **(laughs)** Oh my God, Trudy, she's so innocent!

**23. TRUDY:** **(laughs)**

**24. MERCY:** **(confused)** I don't understand!

**25. TRUDY:** We were never going to study, Mercy. We just wanted to take you out to cheer you up! You're always studying or taking care of Linda.

**26. MERCY:** What?

**KW BEGIN**

**27. TINA:** Come on, we could all do with a break! Let's go in!

**28. MERCY:** No way. I'm going back home.

**29. TINA:** You'll never find a taxi on these streets. Tim's the only one who drives me, and I've told him to come back later to pick us up.

**30. MERCY:** But... Tina... Trudy... You lied to me!

**KW END**

**31. TRUDY:** Come on, Mercy, relax. A little fun won't hurt you.

32. **TINA:** Now that you're here, you might as well enjoy it, eh?
33. **MERCY:** **(still hesitating)** Well...
34. **TRUDY:** Come on, let's go in! You'll thank us for it later,  
Mercy.
35. **SFX: DOOR OPENS AND CLOSES**
36. **ATMO: LOUD CLUB MUSIC, GLASSES CLINKING, VOICES ETC.**
37. **MERCY:** **(taking over loud music)** It's so loud!
38. **TRUDY:** Hey, Mercy, relax! I love it here!

**FLASHBACK: Ep. 7, line 4**

39. **TINA:** I know what'll make her relax, Trudy. **(calls)** 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!
40. **MERCY:** **(desperate)** Where's she going? She'll get lost in  
this crowd!
41. **TRUDY:** Tina knows her way around here.

**KW BEGIN**

42. **MERCY:** So this is where she goes in the evenings and at weekends?
43. **TRUDY:** Uh-huh. Whenever she's free. I think she comes here to look for rich men.
44. **MERCY:** **(shocked)** What?
45. **TRUDY:** Here are our drinks! Cheers, Mercy!
46. **SFX: GLASSES TINKLE**
47. **TRUDY:** **(drinks)** Yeeah! Come on, Mercy, drink up!
48. **MERCY:** Is it alcohol? You know I don't drink.
49. **TRUDY:** Alcohol? This isn't just *alcohol*. This is tequila, baby! You'll love it, I promise. Come on!
50. **MERCY:** **(sips, coughs)** Eeew!
51. **TRUDY:** **(laughs)**
52. **MERCY:** It tastes like donkey piss. Why on earth do people drink it?
53. **TRUDY:** Here - you're supposed to suck on the lemon.
54. **MERCY:** **(as she sucks on lemon)** Mhh... That's better.
55. **TRUDY:** Come on, let's dance!
56. **MERCY:** Wait, where's Tina?

**KW END**

**57. TRUDY:** Don't worry, she'll find us. Just relax for a bit, will you?

**58. MERCY:** Okay, but just for one hour. Then I have to be back for Linda.

**MUSICAL INTERLUDE**

**SCENE 2: MERCY WAKES UP AT TRUDY'S**

**59. ATMO: UNIVERSITY HOSTEL, INSIDE, MORNING ATMO**

**60. MERCY: DEEP BREATHS / SNORING**

**61. SFX: ALARM RINGS PERSISTENTLY**

**62. TRUDY:** Hey Mercy! Wake up, sleepyhead!

**63. SFX: CLOTHES RUSTLING / BED SQUEAKING**

**64. MERCY:** **(groans)** Leave me alone!

**65. TRUDY:** Wake up! You don't want to miss today's lectures.

**66. MERCY:** Trudy...? Where am I?

**67. TRUDY:** In my room!

**68. MERCY:** **(awake)** What? Ow! My head! Oooh... I don't feel well...



69. **TRUDY:** Use the bucket by the bed, like you did in the night.

70. **MERCY:** **(pukes)**

71. **SFX: PUKING INTO BUCKET**

72. **MERCY:** What happened? Why aren't I in my own room?

73. **TRUDY:** **(laughs)** You don't remember? Well, we had a few drinks, and then we took the taxi back. You couldn't find your keys, and I let you sleep here.

74. **SFX: CLOTHES RUSTLING / BED SQUEAKING**

75. **MERCY:** **(alarmed)** What? Oh God! Linda! My baby!

76. **TRUDY:** Your daughter's fine. I called your babysitter and she said the baby slept like an angel. She's still asleep.

77. **MERCY:** I have to go.... What have I done?

**KW BEGIN**

78. **TRUDY:** **(cuts in)** Mercy, I told you: she's fine!

79. **MERCY:** But I'm her mother! I should --

80. **TRUDY:** Exactly! Her MOTHER, not her SMOTHER! You're smothering her! Give her some space to grow up!

**81. MERCY:**           **(angry)** Don't tell me what to do! Last time I listened to you I ended up here, leaving my daughter with the neighbour all night!

**KW END**

**82. TRUDY:**           **(laughs)** Oh, come on. Don't tell me you didn't have fun!

**83. MERCY:**           Well...

**84. TRUDY:**           Go on, admit it!

**85. MERCY:**           Well, okay, it *was* fun, but --

**86. TRUDY:**           **(cuts in)** But nothing! We're at university now, and a university girl has to have fun.

**87. MERCY:**           What happened to Tina, by the way? We didn't see her again, did we?

**88. TRUDY:**           Oh, don't worry about Tina. She can take care of herself.

**89. SFX: RUSTLING OF CLOTHES AS MERCY GETS UP**

**90. MERCY:**           I really have to go and check on Linda. I'll see you later, Trudy.

**MUSICAL INTERLUDE**

**SCENE 3: DAN BUMPS INTO THE TWINS**

**91. ATMO: LIGHT TRAFFIC**

**92. SFX: FOOTSTEPS, TWO PEOPLE**

**93. BANDA: (sings) Kadu has a girlfriend! Kadu has a girlfriend!**

**94. KADU: Shut up, Banda!**

**95. BANDA: (continues to sing)**

**KW BEGIN**

**96. KADU: Shut up, or I'll hit you!**

**97. SFX: RUNNING FOOTSTEPS AS THEY CHASE EACH OTHER.**

**98. BANDA: (LAUGHS AND CONTINUES TO SING AS HE RUNS)**

**99. KADU: She's not my girlfriend!**

**100. SFX: SOMEBODY BEING HIT**

**101. BANDA: Ouch! Why are you hitting me? It's true! You wanted to let her play football with us! Girls can't play football!**

**102. KADU: Sama can! Her brothers taught her!**

**103. BANDA: Admit it! You like her.**

**104. KADU: Maybe... But that doesn't mean she's my girlfriend.**

**105. BANDA:** (laughs) Ah, see! Got you.

**KW END**

**106. KADU:** Just you wait until I catch you!

**107. SFX: RUNNING FOOTSTEPS OF TWO PEOPLE**

**108. SFX: TWO PEOPLE BUMPING INTO EACH OTHER**

**109. DAN:** Hey, you boys, watch where you're going!

**110. KADU:** Sorry, Mister! Banda, see what you've done?

**111. BANDA:** It was you who was chasing me, Kadu!

**112. DAN:** (realizes) Kadu and Banda? I've heard those names before... (remembers) Are you Mercy Msoto's brothers?

**113. BANDA:** Yes. We're sorry, sir.

**114. DAN:** (happily) I'm Dan. Mercy's friend.

**115. KADU:** ...We don't know anybody called Dan.

**116. DAN:** I'm Linda's father. I just want to know where I can find Mercy.

**117. BANDA:** Don't tell him, Kadu. Mercy said that if anyone asked about her and Linda we should call her at the university first.

118. DAN: But I told you, I'm -- **(realizes; to himself)** The university...
119. KADU: What?
120. DAN: Never mind. It's okay, you go on. Sorry I bothered you.

## MUSICAL INTERLUDE

### SCENE 4: DAN MAKES CONTACT

#### 121. ATMO: UNIVERSITY ATMO, OUTDOORS

122. TRUDY: Wow, that lecture was incredibly long! Don't you think, Tina?
123. TINA: Yeah, it was!
124. MERCY: M-hmm...
125. TRUDY: Mercy, are you still mad at us for taking you out?
126. MERCY: **(hesitant)** Nooo... I'm just tired.

#### KW BEGIN

127. TRUDY: Okay. I'll see you both tomorrow. I have things to do.
128. TINA: What things? We've just finished class!

129. TRUDY: Nonya!

130. TINA/MERCY: Nonya?

131. TRUDY: Yes!

132. MERCY: What on earth does that mean, Trudy?

133. TRUDY: None of ya business, silly!

134. THEY LAUGH

KW END

135. TRUDY: Right, I have to go... Oh-oh! Mercy!

136. MERCY: What?

137. TRUDY: **(loud whisper)** Over there!

138. MERCY: Oh my God! Is that... is that *Dan*?! He looks so thin.

139. TINA: Who's Dan?

140. TRUDY: Mercy's ex-boyfriend. Linda's father.

141. TINA: Ooops!

142. SFX: FOOTSTEPS APPROACH

**FLASHBACK: Ep. 7, line 6**

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

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

KW BEGIN

145. **DAN:** Can I talk to you?
146. **TRUDY:** **(fakes a cough)** Er - Tina and I have an appointment, don't we, Tina?
147. **TINA:** **(surprised)** Do we?
148. **TRUDY:** Yes, don't you remember? Let's go! **(whispers to Mercy)** We want to know everything, you hear? EVERY detail! **(to Dan)** Bye, Dan!
149. **SFX: FOOTSTEPS TWO PEOPLE GOING AWAY**
150. **MERCY:** **(to Dan):** So, Dan. What are you doing back here, after three years of silence?!

**KW END**

**OUTRO – NARRATOR:**

And on that surprised note, we end the sixth episode in this third season of “Crossroads Generation”. Don't miss the next instalment to hear what Dan has to say to Mercy! If you want to listen to this or any other episode again, just go to our webpage at [dw.de/lbe](http://dw.de/lbe). See you next time!