

Learning by Ear 2014

Crossroads Generation – Season 3: Facing the Future

EPISODE 8: In the Name of the King

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List of characters by scene:

SCENE 1: MSOTO 'HEALS' THE DISABLED

- MSOTO (M, LATE 40s)
- BEN (M, 20s)
- MAN (M, ADULT)
- WOMAN (W, ADULT)
- CROWD: 4-5 PERSONS (M/F, ADULT)

SCENE 2: DAN AND BILLY AFTER WORK

- DAN (M, 19)
- BILLY (M, 20s)

SCENE 3: MSOTO PAYS OFF ACTOR

- MSOTO (M, 40s)
- BEN (M, 20s)
- BARMAN (M, ADULT)

SCENE 4: MUKARABA PLANS TO THREATEN MERCY

- MNENE (M, 40s)
- MUKARABA (M 50s)
- TINA (F, 19)
- MAN (M, ADULT)

INTRO

1. NARRATOR:

Welcome to a new episode of “Crossroads Generation”. This third season of our radio series is called “Facing the Future” – and that’s exactly what our young heroes are doing. Trudy is studying journalism, and she’s just tried to put what she’s learned into practice. But her first interview with local politician Mukaraba didn’t go well:

2. FLASHBACK: EPISODE 7, LINES 115-117

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

***MUKARABA:** 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!*

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

3. NARRATOR:

But wait a minute! Trudy’s friend Mercy told her that in strictest confidence! And Mercy has a lot on her mind already. She’s mother to a three-year-old girl called Linda, whose father, Dan, disappeared to his home country right after Linda was born. But now he’s back in town:

4. FLASHBACK: EPISODE 7, LINES 10-11, 28

***MERCY:** (...) What do you want? Why are you here?*

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

***MERCY:** I have nothing to say to you, Dan. Goodbye!*

5. NARRATOR:

And Dan's not the only one who's suddenly reappeared in Mercy's life. Her father Msoto has also come back to the city, after her mother threw him out three years ago. He claims to be a changed man, and a believer in 'King Karubu'... Let's see if he has really changed, in today's episode: "In the Name of the King".

SCENE 1: MSOTO 'HEALS' THE DISABLED

(Man/woman could be recorded separately)

6. ATMO: OUTSIDE, LIGHT TRAFFIC IN THE BACKGROUND

7. MSOTO: (shouting and singing in an invented language -
heard from a distance)

8. MAN: (to woman) Hey, what's all this noise? What's that
man doing over there on the street corner?

9. WOMAN: (to man) It sounds as if he's talking to spirits, or
something... But why's he hanging that cloth on the
wall?

KW BEGIN

10. MSOTO: (to crowd) Please, come closer! Come closer, and
witness the power of King Karubu! (resumes
singing in an invented language)

11. CROWD: (murmurs: "King Karubu?" "What's that man
doing there?" "What's going on?" etc.)

12. MAN: King Karubu? Have you ever heard of him?

13. WOMAN: No, never...

KW END

14. **MAN:** Come on, let's have a look.

15. **SFX: FOOTSTEPS AS THEY WALK TOWARDS MSOTO**

KW BEGIN

16. **MSOTO:** (**nearer**) A few years ago, I, Msoto, was just a poor man. I hid in shame, for I was unholy and dirty!

17. **CROWD:** (**murmurs**)

18. **WOMAN:** (**low voice, to man**) He doesn't look dirty now, in that nice clean suit...

19. **MSOTO:** (**ascending voice**) But today, I am changed! Nobody is greater than my King! And you people are about to witness his greatness! (**sings/shouts**) King Karubu! King Karubu!

20. **CROWD:** (**murmurs, only some repeat**) King Karubu!

KW END

21. **MSOTO:** With my spiritual eye, I, Msoto, see a man who has struggled on crutches for many years. Step forward, sir, please!

22. **CROWD:** (murmurs: “There!” “He’s got crutches!” “He can’t walk” etc.)
23. **MSOTO:** Come on, make way for this faithful man.
24. **SFX: CRUTCHES AND SLOW STEPS AS MAN STEPS FORWARD**
25. **BEN:** Here I am.
26. **MSOTO:** I invite you to follow me behind this curtain, for King Karubu can only work in privacy...
27. **SFX: RUSTLING AS CURTAIN IS DRAWN**
28. **CROWD:** (murmurs)
29. **WOMAN:** (whispers, to man) What? What is this nonsense?
30. **MAN:** (whispers, to woman) Shhh! Let’s see what happens now they’ve disappeared behind the curtain!
31. **MSOTO:** (from behind the curtain) King Karubu! I call upon you and your spirits for help... (sings in strange language)
32. **SFX: VARIOUS SOUNDS FROM BEHIND THE CURTAIN:
RUSTLING, BANGING, ITEMS BEING MOVED AROUND...**

- 33. WOMAN:** Oh, what's that smell? And all this dust? What are they doing?
- 34. CROWD:** **(murmurs)** What's happening? ...
- 35. MSOTO:** **(shouts)** Oh mighty King Karubu! You have shown mercy and greatness!
- 36. SFX: RUSTLING AS CURTAIN IS MOVED AGAIN**
- 37. MAN:** Look, they're coming out!
- 38. CROWD:** **(“There they are again!” etc.)**
- 39. MSOTO:** I now ask this man to throw away his crutches!
- 40. SFX: CRUTCHES THROWN DOWN**
- 41. SFX: UNSTEADY FOOTSTEPS**
- 42. BEN:** Hey – I can walk! I can walk!
- 43. CROWD:** **(whispering in disbelief - “Wow!”**
“Unbelievable!” etc.)
- 44. SFX: FASTER FOOTSTEPS RUNNING AWAY**
- 45. BEN:** **(as he runs away)** I can run! I can run!
- 46. SFX: APPLAUSE FROM CROWD**
- 47. CROWD:** **(goes wild)** King Karubu! King Karubu!

48. MAN/WOMAN: That's incredible!

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

SCENE 2: DAN AND BILLY AFTER WORK

49. ATMO: CONSTRUCTION SITE, OUTDOORS, EVENING

50. BILLY: Oh Dan, thank God this working day is over!

51. DAN: You can say that again, Billy. And thank God it's pay day! Let's go to the bus stop. This is the one day we have the luxury of taking public transport instead of walking home!

52. SFX: FOOTSTEPS OF TWO PEOPLE WALKING OUTSIDE

53. BILLY: Yes! I'm so tired.

FLASHBACK: Ep. 9, line 2:

54. DAN: Me too. The work at the building site is really hard!
And then there's my ex-girlfriend...

55. BILLY: Mercy, right? What about her?

56. **DAN:** (sighs) I saw her yesterday... But she wasn't at all happy to see me! And she won't let me see my daughter, either.

57. **BILLY:** I told you!

58. **DAN:** Yeah... Maybe I should to go back there once I've saved up some money, so I can show her that I'm ready to help out...

59. **BILLY:** Talking of money, you know you owe me, right?

60. **DAN:** I know. But please, Billy: after I pay my bills there'll be nothing left. You do understand, don't you?

61. **BILLY:** There's nothing to understand, Dan. It's not like you don't have money.

KW BEGIN

62. **DAN:** But you know the money isn't enough to --

63. **BILLY:** That's not what I mean. You told me your parents have money, and --

64. **DAN:** (stern) Let's not go there, Billy!

65. **SFX: FOOTSTEPS STOP**

KW END

66. BILLY: Well, someone has to say it! You refused your father's offer to go to university and build up his company again, all because of your stupid pride!

67. DAN: You know what, Billy? Here's your money. Take it. Take it all. Just... just leave me alone.

68. SFX: PAPER MONEY CHANGES HANDS

69. BILLY: That's not what... I mean... You're giving me everything you earned. You don't have to pay me all of it today...

70. DAN: Just leave me alone.

71. SFX: BUS ARRIVES AND STOPS

72. BILLY: At least let me pay your bus fare.

73. DAN: **(as he walks away)** No, thanks. I'll walk home.

74. SFX: STEPS AS DAN LEAVES

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

SCENE 3: MSOTO PAYS OFF HIS ACTOR

75. ATMO: PUB ATMO

76. MSOTO: (tipsy, laughs) And then... and then you just threw those crutches away!

77. MSOTO/BEN: THEY LAUGH

78. MSOTO: How come you never tried your hand at acting, Ben? You should have seen yourself when you shouted 'I can walk! I can run!'

79. BEN: Msoto, I told you I could pull it off.

80. MSOTO: I almost burst out laughing. And the amazing thing is: they all believed it!

KW BEGIN

81. BEN: With all the troubles in the world, people are desperate to believe in something!

82. MSOTO: Or someone. Like King Karubu!

83. MSOTO/BEN: THEY LAUGH

84. SFX: FOOTSTEPS APPROACH

85. BARMAN: Everything okay here, gentlemen?

86. **MSOTO:** We're fine.
87. **BARMAN:** Do you want some more beer, perhaps?
88. **MSOTO:** Of course! Keep it flowing till the rivers run dry!
89. **BARMAN:** Right away, sir.
90. **SFX: FOOTSTEPS FADE AWAY**
- KW END**
91. **BEN:** Hey, Msoto, how much did we make today, in the name of King Karubu?
92. **MSOTO:** Considering that was our first miracle, the takings weren't bad at all.
93. **MSOTO/BEN: THEY LAUGH**
94. **BEN:** **(laughing)** Time to give unto Caesar what belongs to Caesar, then.
95. **MSOTO:** Okay, okay – here's your share. Payment for an excellent performance.
96. **SFX: PAPER AND COINS EXCHANGE HANDS**

97. BEN: Thanks... Wow! This is a lot. We never made this much when we were preaching upcountry! Coming to the city was a great idea, Msoto.

98. MSOTO: (**seriously**) Hey, remember: I'm here for family reasons. And if anyone asks, you don't know me.

99. BEN: I've never seen you before in my life!

100. THEY LAUGH

101. SFX: FOOTSTEPS APPROACHING

102. SFX: BOTTLES PUT ON TABLE

103. BARMAN: Two more beers for you, gentlemen.

104. MSOTO: Thank you.

105. SFX: FOOTSTEPS LEAVING

106. MSOTO: A toast to King Karubu.

107. BEN: To King Karubu.

108. SFX: GLASSES CLINKING

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

SCENE 4: MUKARABA PLANS TO THREATEN MERCY

109. ATMO: INSIDE NIGHTCLUB, MUSIC HEARD THROUGH DOOR

110. SFX: URGENT KNOCK ON DOOR

111. MNENE: (unfriendly) Who's that?

112. MUKARABA: (from outside the door) Why is the office door locked? Open up, Mnene!

113. SFX: DOOR UNLOCKED AND OPENED, MUSIC LOUDER

114. MNENE: Oh, Mukaraba, my boss. Sorry. I wasn't expecting you! You usually don't come to the club before midnight...

115. SFX: STEPS AS MUKARABA ENTERS

116. MUKARABA: Close the door.

117. MNENE: Sure.

118. SFX: DOOR CLOSED, MUSIC HEARD THROUGH DOOR AGAIN

119. MUKARABA: Listen, Mnene, I don't have much time.

120. SFX: PAPER PASSED BETWEEN THEM

121. MUKARABA: I want you to call this number and deliver this message.

122. MNENE: (reads) “Mercy Msoto, stop spreading rumours about Honourable Mukaraba. Keep your big mouth shut or you will lose your tongue...” (to Mukaraba)
What?! This is a threat!

KW BEGIN

123. MUKARABA: I know. I would do it myself, but everybody knows my voice. Besides, you have a more threatening voice than I do.

124. MNENE: That’s not what I mean. I’m a police officer - I could go to jail for --

125. MUKARABA: (interrupts) FORMER police officer! And you would be in jail right now for corruption if I hadn’t helped you go into hiding.

KW END

126. MNENE: But sir....

127. SFX: PAPER RUSTLING

128. MNENE: What’s this written on the back? An address?

129. MUKARABA: Yes. I need you to go there and get me the tape recorder that journalist used to record our conversation!

- 130. MNENE:** But --
- 131. MUKARABA:** Wait! Listen... What's going on out there?
- 132. TINA:** **(from behind the door)** Give me my money! I don't work for free!
- 133. MAN:** **(from behind the door)** Tina, I told you, I don't have any money left!

FADE UNDER (DIALOGUE TINA - MAN)

- 134. MAN:** I thought you could make an exception for me...
- 135. TINA:** I told you, you don't get anything for free. Give me my money!
- 136. MAN:** Tina, come on...
- 137. TINA:** No! Give me my money!
- 138. MNENE:** Oh no! They're at it again!
- 139. MUKARABA:** Who is at what?
- 140. MNENE:** The girls are fighting with a client. He must have refused to pay for their services. The same thing happened yesterday...
- 141. MUKARABA:** You'd better deal with that.
- 142. MNENE:** Yes, sir.
- 143. MUKARABA:** And Mnene...

144. MNENE: Yes, sir?

145. MUKARABA: Take care of that message, and the tape recorder,
right away!

146. SFX: DOOR OPENED, MUSIC LOUDER, DOOR CLOSED

OUTRO – NARRATOR:

Oh dear! It seems Trudy and Mercy both are in trouble! And – was that their friend Tina we just heard through the door at the club? It sounds as if she's working there... Tune in next time if you want to know how the story continues! And check out our webpage on dw.de/lbe, or follow us on Facebook. Bye for now!