

Learning by Ear 2014

Crossroads Generation – Season 4: Facing New Challenges

EPISODE FOURTEEN: Burdens

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INTRO:

1. **NARRATOR:** Great to have you back! This is the fourth season of Crossroads Generation, “Facing New Challenges”. Do you remember what happened to Paulo, the father of Sama and Noni? Last time, he took to his heels after a forest ranger found him and his colleague cutting down trees in the protected Tandika forest:

2. FLASHBACK: EPISODE 13, LINES 109-113

***VICTOR:** (URGENT) Run, Paulo! Run! Forest rangers!*

***PAULO:** Shit! The chainsaw!*

***VICTOR:** Leave it!*

***RANGER:** (FROM AFAR) I said stop right now! Or I'll shoot!*

3. **NARRATOR:** Someone who cares much more about the environment is 19-year-old Dan. He's an environmental activist, and he wants other people to join his campaign. Recently, he talked to the director of Kisimba Special School about getting its pupils involved:

KW BEGIN

4. FLASHBACK: EPISODE 5, LINES 70-71

***DIRECTOR:** Hm! Interesting! What would they be involved in?*

***DAN:** Just clean-up activities, really. And those who can't get involved physically could help by educating people - talking to them about what we're doing.*

KW END

5. NARRATOR: At the school, Dan also met an old friend, Anita. She's doing an internship there, and he also asked *her* to support his project. Anita and Dan are both from the neighbouring country, Laboria. They used to go to school in Kisimba. Anita was also friends with Mercy and Trudy, but when they all finished school Anita went back to Laboria, and they lost touch. In the last episode, Anita talked to Tina, who met Mercy and Trudy at university:

6. FLASHBACK: EPISODE 13, LINES 67-71, 74

ANITA: Is Mercy around? I can't wait to see her.

TINA: No, she isn't. (...)

ANITA: Oh no! Would you give me her number? I'm dying to see her and Trudy again. It's been so long since we last met.

TINA: Oh my God! You don't know, do you?

ANITA: Know what? (...)

TINA: Trudy...Trudy's dead!

7. NARRATOR: At the beginning of today's episode, entitled "Burdens", we join Anita at a restaurant. While she waits for Dan, she's talking to Mercy on the phone.

SCENE 1: ANITA INFORMS DAN ABOUT CLEAN-UP DAY

8. **ATMO: RESTAURANT, CUTLERY, PEOPLE TALKING, ETC.**
9. **ANITA:** **(ON PHONE, SNIFFLES)** Oh Mercy, I just can't stop crying whenever I think of Trudy! So sad! But I'm very happy to hear your voice... Yeah, I'll see you soon... Just meeting Dan briefly, and then I'll come over. ...Yes, me too! I can't wait to see you... Bye!
10. **SFX: PHONE DISCONNECTED**
11. **SFX: FOOTSTEPS APPROACHING**
12. **DAN:** Hey Anita! Sorry I'm late. There was so much traffic.
13. **ANITA:** **(COMPOSES HERSELF)** It's okay, Dan. I haven't been waiting long.
14. **DAN:** So what did you want to see me about?
15. **ANITA:** Well, I talked to the school director about your idea. It sounds as if he supports the plan. He might allow the pupils to participate in the clean-up activity this weekend.
16. **DAN:** **(HAPPY)** Really? That's very good news! But - you've been crying! What's the matter?

17. **ANITA:** Why didn't you tell me?
18. **DAN:** Tell you what?
19. **ANITA:** That Trudy died!
20. **DAN:** Oh my God! You didn't know?
21. **ANITA:** How could I? I lost touch with everyone when I went back to Laboria. And I've only been here for a few weeks. I haven't even seen Mercy yet.
22. **DAN:** So who told you?
23. **ANITA:** Tina! Tell me - what happened?
24. **DAN:** **(SIGHS HEAVILY)** Trudy was shot!
25. **ANITA:** Shot? Oh my God! But why? I don't understand.
26. **DAN:** They say it was because of a story she wrote about Mukaraba - about some illegal deals he was involved in. They say Mukaraba had her killed.
27. **ANITA:** Mukaraba - the local politician?
28. **DAN:** Yes.
29. **ANITA:** And what happened to him?

30. DAN: Well, they couldn't actually prove he was linked to her murder, but he was convicted of other crimes. He just paid some fines and was barred from public office. I hear he now owns about a hundred timber mills!

KW BEGIN

31. ANITA: Mercy must have been devastated! She and Trudy were such good friends!

32. DAN: She was. But I think she's slowly coming to terms with it.

KW END

Musical interlude

SCENE 2: PAULO'S PROBLEMS DOUBLE

33. **ATMO: SLUM ATMO, PEOPLE TALKING ETC.**

34. **SFX: RAIN**

35. **SFX: DOOR OPENS, FOOTSTEPS WALK IN**

36. **PAULO:** **(SIGHS, TO HIMSELF)** Isn't it good to be home?
Even if the roof is leaking and all! **(CALLS)** Hello!
Paulo's home! Mama Sama!

37. **SFX: FOOTSTEPS WALK IN**

38. **MA SAMA:** Eh, Paulo, I'm right here! You don't have to shout as
if I were up a tree!

39. **PAULO:** Is there anything to eat in this house?

40. **MA SAMA:** Nothing.

41. **PAULO:** What do you mean nothing?

42. **MA SAMA:** I mean we have no food. Where do you expect me
to get it? You've brought nothing home for the past
week!

43. **PAULO:** Don't speak to me like that, woman! Have you no
respect?

- 44. MA SAMA:** When you left here this morning you told me you were going to work. What happened?
- 45. PAULO:** You have no idea what I've been through today! I almost got killed by forest rangers!
- 46. MA SAMA:** Well, obviously you weren't. And there's still nothing here for the children to eat.
- 47. PAULO:** What do you want me to do, Mama Sama? I'm trying my best!
- 48. MA SAMA:** I expect you to fulfil your responsibilities, the same as other family men! Sama and the boys were sent home from school today because we have no money to pay the fees. And now you sit here, demanding food. Am I a food machine?
- 49. PAULO:** What? The children were sent home?
- 50. MA SAMA:** Don't you have ears? That's what I just said.
- 51. PAULO:** But I told the head teacher to be patient with me!
- 52. MA SAMA:** Well, he can't be patient for a whole year!
- 53. PAULO:** Damn it! I hate this life!

Musical interlude

SCENE 3: ANITA VISITS MERCY

54. ATMO: INDOORS

55. SFX: KNOCK ON DOOR

56. MERCY: (TO HERSELF) That must be Anita.

57. SFX: FOOTSTEPS

58. SFX: DOOR OPENS

59. MERCY: (SCREAMS HAPPILY) Hey Anita!

60. ANITA: (SCREAMS HAPPILY) Mercy! Give me a hug, girl!

61. SFX: RUSTLE OF CLOTHES AS THEY HUG

62. ANITA: Oh my God, you look so beautiful! And not a day older!

63. MERCY: You too! God, Anita, I've missed you so much! I can't believe we lost touch! Come in and help me cook. Don't think I'll spare you because you're a guest!

64. THEY LAUGH

65. **SFX: DOOR CLOSING**

66. **SFX: FOOTSTEPS ENTERING**

67. **ANITA:** **(WHISPERS)** How could you get married to Mr. Tall and Handsome and not tell me!

68. **MERCY:** **(LAUGHS)** You don't have to whisper. There's no one here, just us girls! Mr. Tall and Handsome and our daughter Linda have gone for a walk.

69. **ANITA:** I see! But you still haven't answered my question.

70. **MERCY:** I really wanted you to be at our wedding. But I didn't know how to contact you... And Trudy... well, you heard what happened.

71. **ANITA:** It's so sad! I've cried so much since I heard! I can't even think of her without bursting into tears.

72. **MERCY:** Please, don't remind me... Tell you what: come and talk to me in the kitchen. It's high time you learned how to cook, you spoilt creature!

73. **THEY LAUGH**

Musical interlude

SCENE 4: PAULO'S PROBLEMS TRIPLE

74. **ATMO: SLUM, AFTERNOON**

75. **PAULO: SNORING**

76. **PAULO: (WAKES UP WITH A START) Oh - Sama, you are here? How long have I been asleep on the couch?**

77. **SAMA: Some time now, Dad.**

KW BEGIN

78. **PAULO: (YAWNS) Where did your mother and brothers go?**

79. **SAMA: I don't know where Mother went, but I think the boys are visiting friends.**

KW END

80. **PAULO: SILENT**

81. **SAMA: Dad?**

82. **PAULO: Yes?**

83. **SAMA: When will we go back to school? Tomorrow? We were about to start our exams.**

84. **PAULO: Sama, I don't have --**

85. **SFX: RUDE KNOCK ON DOOR**

86. **LANDLORD:** **(FROM OUTSIDE)** Paulo! Paulo! Open up!
87. **PAULO:** **(WHISPERS)** Shit! That's the landlord. He mustn't know we're here!
88. **SFX: MORE KNOCKING**
89. **LANDLORD:** Paulo! I know you're in there. You promised me you'd pay your rent today! You're three months late!
90. **SAMA:** **(WHISPERS)** Dad, maybe we should open up and explain to him that we're not --
91. **PAULO:** Shh!
92. **LANDLORD:** I can hear you whispering in there! Open this door at once!
93. **PAULO: SILENT**
94. **LANDLORD:** Okay! Fine - I'm going, but when I come back, you should be prepared to leave! I didn't build this house for charity, you know!
95. **SFX: FOOTSTEPS GO AWAY**
96. **PAULO:** **(SIGHS IN RELIEF)**
97. **SAMA:** Has he gone?

98. PAULO: I think so.

99. SAMA: What are we going to do?

100. PAULO: **(BREATHES HEAVILY)** I don't know, Sama, I just...
(IDEA STRIKES HIM) Unless...

101. SAMA: Unless what, Dad?

Flashback Ep. 15, line 2

102. PAULO: Unless... Sama, I'm sorry to have to ask you this, but
I think you and your sister Noni can help.

103. SAMA: How?

104. PAULO: You're always wanting to take your sister out, aren't
you?

105. SAMA: Yes.

106. PAULO: Okay, then. Put on your jacket and fetch your sister.
We're going out.

107. SAMA: I don't understand. Where are we going?

108. PAULO: I'll explain on the way. Hurry up!

KW BEGIN

109. SAMA: But --

110. PAULO: Sama, will you stop asking questions and do as I say for once!

111. SAMA: I... I'm sorry!

KW END

OUTRO:

And that's where we finish today on Crossroads Generation. Paulo must be taking his daughters somewhere interesting! If you want to know where, don't miss the next episode. And if you missed any of the previous ones, all is not lost! You can catch up at dw.de/lbe. We'd also be very happy to hear from you on Facebook. Bye for now!