

Crossroads Generation – Season 4: Facing New Challenges

EPISODE TWENTY-THREE: A New Dawn

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List of characters by scene:

INTRO/OUTRO: NARRATOR

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- **BOSS - M ADULT**
- **TINA - F 20**
- **MERCY - F 19**

SCENE 2: KADU AND BANDA FIGHT

- **KADU - M 12**
- **BANDA - M 12**
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- **DR. ROBERTS - M 40s**
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SCENE 4: MERCY ASKS LULU TO DO AN INTERVIEW

- **MERCY - F 19**
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INTRO:

1. **NARRATOR:** Hello and welcome back to Crossroads Generation! This is the twenty-third episode of the fourth season, “Facing New Challenges”. A major challenge our friends from Kisimba had to deal with recently was a devastating flood. Lulu’s shop, for example, her only source of income, was swept away:

KW BEGIN

2. **FLASHBACK: EPISODE 21, LINES 11-12**

LULU: I’m sorry, my daughter! I should have listened to you. You told me to insure my business, but I didn’t listen. Now the floods have washed away my livelihood!

MERCY: Mum, please... Don’t cry - there’s nothing you can do about it now!

KW END

3. **NARRATOR:** Meanwhile, Dan was injured trying to save a man from drowning in the floods. He’s now in hospital. Just to remind you: Dan is the father of Mercy’s daughter Linda. He didn’t take responsibility when Mercy got pregnant, so she cut contact with him. Since then he’s tried to see his daughter, but Mercy doesn’t want him to:

4. FLASHBACK: EPISODE 4, LINES 51-52, 62-63

DAN: Hey Linda, don't be shy. Do you know who I am? I'm Dan, your --

MERCY: Dan, what are you doing? (...)

DAN: What did I do? I was just introducing myself!

MERCY: You have no right, Dan!

5. NARRATOR: But he's still hoping Mercy will let him see Linda one day. He recently started dating Mercy's friend, Tina. And when Tina told Mercy about it, she wasn't at all amused:

6. FLASHBACK: EPISODE 17, LINES 119-120, 126-130

TINA: (SIGHS) Well... I hope you won't take this badly, but... Dan and I are... you know...

MERCY: (GASPS) Dan? (...)

MERCY: I'm sorry Tina, I... I have to go.

TINA: Wait, Mercy...! Wait!

SFX: DOOR BANGED

7. NARRATOR: Mercy and Tina work together at the university radio station, so they can't ignore each other forever. Will they reconcile? Let's find out in today's episode "A New Dawn"... We start off in Mercy's and Tina's office ...

SCENE 1: TINA AND MERCY RECONCILE

8. **ATMO: OFFICE ATMO, KEYBOARDS TAPPED, PHONES ETC.**

9. **BOSS:** Mercy, Tina. Great show today! You two are doing a fantastic job.

10. **MERCY/TINA:** Thanks, Boss.

Flashback Ep. 24, line 2

11. **BOSS:** For the next few shows I want the two of you to focus on the effects the floods have had on the local population.

12. **MERCY/TINA:** Yes, sir.

13. **BOSS:** You can go out into the city, maybe even to the villages. Find out how the people have been affected. And how they're dealing with it. You can focus on women and children, since your show deals with women's issues. I --

14. **MERCY:** Sorry to interrupt, sir, but would it be okay to use our own relatives to illustrate a story? I mean: would that be professional?

15. **BOSS:** What do you mean?

16. MERCY: Well... My mother had a shop that was washed away, and it wasn't insured. I was wondering if perhaps I could interview her, as an example of why it's important for people to insure their businesses.

17. BOSS: Oh! That sounds like a great idea! I don't see any reason why you shouldn't. As long as you double check that whatever you broadcast is accurate and truthful.

KW BEGIN (TO TINA) What do you think, Tina?

18. TINA: A source is a source, as far as I'm concerned. It doesn't matter if it's a relative as long as they're credible. Mercy's mother can give us an eye-witness account.

KW END

19. BOSS: All right! So we're in agreement. You'd better go and start on it!

20. MERCY/TINA: Yes, sir.

21. SFX: CHAIR SCRAPES AS THEY LEAVE

22. SFX: DOOR OPENS, CLOSES

23. SFX: FOOTSTEPS ON PAVEMENT OF TWO PEOPLE

24. **MERCY:** Tina, wait!
25. **TINA:** Sorry, Mercy, I have to rush.
26. **MERCY:** Listen. I'm sorry for how I behaved when you told me about you and Dan... We haven't spoken to each other since. I really miss you.
27. **TINA:** **(SIGHS)** Mercy... You've been my friend for quite a while now. I told you about Dan because I respect you and didn't want you to find out from someone else. I mean you're not in a relationship with Dan any more... **(SARCASTIC)** Or are you?
28. **MERCY:** **(DEEP BREATH)** I guess I owe you an apology. I acted badly. It's just... It came as a shock... I didn't expect you and Dan to... you know.
29. **TINA:** But why was it such a big deal? You and Dan are no longer an item!
30. **MERCY:** Of course we aren't! But we have a history – and as you know, it didn't end well. And we're still connected somehow, because we have a daughter together. Look, Tina... I was selfish and confused,

okay? I have no feelings for Dan any more and I give the two of you my blessing. Really!

31. **TINA:** Mercy... I... I don't know. The way you acted... it was pretty immature.

32. **MERCY:** I know. And I'm sorry! Will you forgive me? Please?

33. **TINA:** **SILENT**

34. **MERCY:** Come on! Please?

35. **TINA:** **(SIGHS)** Okay!

36. **MERCY:** **(HAPPY)** Oh, thank God for that! Come here, Tina - let me give you a hug. I've missed you so much!

37. **SFX: CLOTHES RUSTLE AS THEY HUG**

38. **TINA:** **(LAUGHS)** Okay, enough already! I really do have to rush. I need to have a talk with my naughty little brother. And Dan will be waiting for me at the hospital.

39. **MERCY:** Dan's in hospital? What do you mean? Is he sick?

40. **TINA:** Oh - didn't you know? Dan had an accident trying to save someone from the flood.

41. **MERCY:** What?!

Musical interlude

SCENE 2: KADU AND BANDA FIGHT

42. **ATMO: SLUM ATMO**

43. **LULU:** **(SHOUTS)** Kadu, Banda! Have you washed your hands?

44. **KADU/BANDA: (FROM AFAR)** Yes, Mum!

45. **LULU:** With soap?

46. **KADU/BANDA:** Yes, Mum!

47. **LULU:** Okay - let's have breakfast.

48. **SFX: STEPS OF TWO PEOPLE ARRIVING**

49. **SFX: CHAIRS SCRAPING AS THEY SIT DOWN**

50. **KADU:** Hey, give me back my spoon, Banda!

51. **BANDA:** Come and get it!

52. **SFX: COMMOTION AS THE BOYS FIGHT OVER SPOON**

53. **KADU:** Come on! Give it to me! It's not fair. You've got your own!

54. **LULU:** Kadu, Banda! Will you two stop fighting, sit down and eat! You'll be late for your first day at the new school.

55. **SFX: PEOPLE EATING**

56. **KADU:** Mum, why did we have to move? I liked the school we were at.
57. **BANDA:** Me too.
58. **LULU:** I've told you. I don't have money to pay for your old school any more. Not since my shop was washed away. Your sister Mercy has spoken to Anita, and her school has kindly agreed to take you on the integrative programme.
59. **BANDA:** But aren't we paying fees at the new school?
60. **LULU:** No, you're going there on a scholarshi--
61. **SFX: METAL PLATE FALLS, SPILLING FOOD**
62. **KADU:** Now look what you've done, Banda! You've spilled my food!
63. **LULU:** Will you two STOP it!
64. **SFX: SPOON SCRATCHING OVER FLOOR**
65. **LULU:** **(ANGRILY)** What are you doing, Kadu? Are you scraping food off the floor?
66. **KADU:** I'm hungry, Mum!

67. **LULU:** Didn't you listen to anything the doctor said? You were very lucky you didn't catch typhoid, like so many other kids round here! What did the doctor tell you?
68. **BANDA:** That we shouldn't eat dirty food...
69. **KADU:** Shut up, Banda! It's all your fault!
70. **BANDA:** But I --
71. **LULU:** If I were you, Banda, I would shut up now!
72. **BANDA:** **(GRUMBLES)**
73. **LULU:** Shh! Not another word from you two!

Musical interlude

SCENE 3: MERCY AND LINDA VISIT DAN IN HOSPITAL

74. **ATMO: HOSPITAL ATMO**

75. **DR. ROBERTS:(FROM AFAR)** Hey Dan, you have visitors!

76. **DAN:** Visitors? Not a visitor?

77. **DR. ROBERTS:**Plural. Visitors.

78. **DAN:** O...kay! I wonder who they can be....

79. **DR. ROBERTS:**Mercy Msoto and her daughter Linda. You know them?

80. **DAN:** **(SHOCKED)** Mercy? What... Are they...? Please let them in, Doctor Roberts!

81. **SFX: FOOTSTEPS ENTERING**

82. **MERCY:** Hello, Dan.

83. **DAN:** Mercy...? And - oh my, who's this big girl here? Let me guess... You're Linda, aren't you? Look how big you've grown!

84. **SFX: LINDA LAUGHS SHYLY**

85. **MERCY:** Linda, this is Mummy's friend, Dan. Say hi to him...
Come on.

86. **SFX: LINDA LAUGHS SHYLY**

87. **DAN:** Don't worry. She'll say hi in her own good time.
Won't you, Linda?
88. **AWKWARD SILENCE**
89. **DAN:** I didn't expect to see you here... I...
90. **MERCY:** **(SIGHS)** Tina told me about your accident. I'm so
sorry!
91. **DAN:** It's okay. I feel fine already. I don't know why they're
still keeping me here.
92. **AWKWARD SILENCE**
93. **MERCY:** **(UNCOMFORTABLE)** Well, I... we ... just wanted to
see how you were doing...
94. **DAN:** Thank you...
95. **MERCY:** I... I guess we'll head back now. Oh - we brought
you some fruit. I hope you get well soon.
96. **SFX: PAPER RUSTLES**
97. **MERCY:** Come on, Linda, let's go.
98. **SFX: FOOTSTEPS START GOING**
99. **DAN:** **(CALLS)** Mercy, wait...
100. **SFX: FOOTSTEPS STOP**

- 101. DAN:** Really - thank you very much for coming. I really appreciate it.
- 102. MERCY:** You're welcome.
- 103. DAN:** I... I wish things were different between us.
- 104. MERCY:** Dan, we... I just lost my mother-in-law. Niki is so grief-stricken. He won't talk to anyone! He and his mum had a huge row just a few days ago. He was saying he never wanted to see her again, and he didn't care what happened to her... But now he really misses her.
- 105. DAN:** I'm so sorry for your loss.
- 106. MERCY:** It got me thinking. I mean, life is short... I don't want my daughter to blame me one day for not allowing her to know her father. From now on, you're welcome to spend time with her, whenever you want.
- 107. DAN:** Oh, Mercy...!

Musical interlude

SCENE 4: MERCY ASKS LULU TO DO AN INTERVIEW

**108. ATMO: MIDDLE CLASS NEIGHBOURHOOD, TRAFFIC IN
BACKGROUND**

109. LULU: (ON PHONE) Who? Me? Speak on the radio?
Mercy, are you out of your mind?

110. MERCY: Mum, it's not that hard! You just speak like we're
speaking now!

111. LULU: What would I say?

112. MERCY: You just answer the questions we ask you truthfully.
That's all!

113. LULU: Oh! Mercy, my daughter, this time you're asking too
much! I can't speak on the radio. People would
laugh at me!

114. MERCY: (CHUCKLES) Mum, come on. I'm relying on you.
Don't let me down!

115. LULU: But...

116. MERCY: Please?

117. LULU: (SIGHS) Okay. But you owe me big-time!

118. MERCY: Thank you! (BLOWS HER A KISS ON PHONE)
Mwah! I love you, Mum.

119. **LULU:** Love won't save me from the embarrassment of being laughed at.
120. **SFX: DOOR OPENS**
121. **SFX: FOOTSTEPS WALK IN**
122. **MERCY:** Oh Niki, hi! **(ON PHONE)** Mum, I have to go. I'll call you later.
123. **LULU:** **(JOKES)** Typical! Such an ungrateful child! Now you've got what you want, you just cut me off...
124. **MERCY:** It's not that. **(WHISPERS)** It's that Niki has come home. I have to talk to him... You know, the funeral arrangements for his mother and all...
125. **LULU:** Oh! Okay. Bye!
126. **SFX: PHONE DISCONNECTED**

OUTRO:

And it's bye from us as well, for now! But Crossroads Generation will continue next time... You don't want to miss Lulu's radio interview, do you? Just to remind you: you can always join us on Facebook, and you'll find all the previous episodes at dw.de/lbe. Enjoy!