

EPISODE 15: SECOND CHANCE

Characters:

Yankat

Nkiru

Dafe

Zainab

Femi

Keturah

Scene 1

Yankat's room on campus. Late evening.

1. **MUSIC:** **BRIDGE UP AND FADE**
2. **NKIRU:** **(EXCITED)** Hmmm Yankat! I can't believe you were outside when the cult action started! Hehhhn!
3. **YANKAT:** **(AMUSED)** Well Nkiru, thankfully Ehi and I were already near the hostel. So we were quickly able to take shelter inside.
4. **NKIRU:** **(LAUGHS)** Yes, I heard Ehi really put up an argument when they didn't want to let him into the hostel. **(EXCITED)** People are saying that it was two rival cults that were fighting that caused all the commotion.
5. **YANKAT:** Wow!
6. **NKIRU:** Yes! Yankat, I heard it from people who saw the thing with their own eyes!
7. **YANKAT:** **(ALARMED)** Ah Nkiru! I hope they were alright sha? They weren't injured?
8. **NKIRU:** No no; they're fine to the glory of God.
9. **YANKAT:** We thank God.
10. **NKIRU:** But other people weren't as lucky o, Yankat! I heard that so many people were injured, some people even died!
11. **YANKAT:** Heh Nkiru! May their souls rest in peace!
12. **NKIRU:** Anyway, the university has said there will now be a curfew for everybody o. Nobody is expected to be outside at night anymore.

13. **YANKAT:** Well as long as we're all safe, it's better that way, Nkiru.
14. **NKIRU:** Abi o. It's even a good thing I went to make my hair and missed my morning lectures today – God knows what could have happened, if I had been on campus. I would have been in the center of the action with you, Yankat!
15. **YANKAT:** **(CHUCKLES)** See you thanking God that you missed your lectures for the sake of doing your hair. NK, you're not serious.
16. **NKIRU:** Are you not hearing me, Yankat? I say people *kpeme'd* o! Is it worth morning lecture to go and die?
17. **YANKAT:** It's true sha. I hope we don't know any of the victims o. That's just my worry now.
18. **NKIRU:** Well then, Yankat, I have some bad news for you o. **(NAUGHTILY)** I heard that that your friend, Moses, was one of those killed during the clash.
19. **YANKAT:** **(UPSET)** HA! Moses!! Are you sure?
20. **NKIRU:** Yes nau! I heard from two different sources, and they both named him! You know he was the leader of one of the warring cults.
21. **YANKAT:** **(SAD)** Ahhhh, Moses. It's so unfortunate. See how he has just wasted his life. And for what?
22. **NKIRU:** I know, abi? It's really sad; I was sorry to hear it too.
23. **SFX:** **CELL PHONE RINGING**
24. **NKIRU:** Oh; it's Keturah calling me. Let me answer her quickly.
25. **YANKAT:** Mmm ...
26. **SFX:** **BEEP TONE AS NK PICKS UP**
27. **NKIRU:** **(ON THE PHONE, LOUDER VOICE THAN NORMAL)** Hello, Keturah baby! *You don hear the latest gist for campus? ... They don dey fight now!... All these cults for campus here ... Ah, see this one – na serious something o! People don kpeme self ... Yes o, na true talk! ... Ah, tonight? I no fit come o; you know they don start curfew on campus because of this thing ... Ah, but I fit enter trouble o! ... You sure say na serious something? ... Okay, okay, I dey come... Ehn I say I dey come now now!*

28. **SFX:** **BEEP TONE AS NK HANGS UP**
29. **YANKAT:** Nkiru, I didn't mean to eavesdrop on your call but don't tell me you're actually planning to go to Keturah's shop right now?
30. **NKIRU:** **(NORMAL VOICE, TO YANKAT)** I won't be gone long. I just want to check her quickly. It's like something is wrong with her. I will come back now now.
31. **YANKAT:** **(WORRIED)** NK! But you're the one who just told me of this curfew, now you want to break it? Are you sure it's safe to be out there?
32. **NKIRU:** **(AGITATED)** But what do you want me to do, ehn, Yankat? Keturah is my friend, and she says it's an emergency. I have to go!
33. **SFX:** **DOOR OPENING AND CLOSING**
34. **MUSIC:** **BRIDGE MUSIC**

Scene 2

Fast food restaurant interior. Afternoon.

35. **SFX:** **LIGHT MUSIC. PLATES AND CUTLERY CLINKING, MURMUR AND CHATTER, GENERAL RESTAURANT NOISES AS SOUND BED**
36. **ZAINAB:** **(SHYLY)** Thanks for taking me out for lunch Dafe, I really appreciate it.
37. **DAFE:** No worries Zainab; after all, it *is* your birthday. It's the least I could do. Plus it's a good excuse for me to get to know you better.
38. **ZAINAB:** **(LAUGHS)** What more would you like to know?
39. **DAFE:** Well, things to do with the future. Like, with your tailoring business now; do you have any goals in mind?
40. **ZAINAB:** **(THINKING)** Em ... yes, I do. I think I would like to have my own shop in the long run where I sell my own ready-made designs...
41. **DAFE:** **(IMPRESSED)** That's impressive, Zainab!
42. **ZAINAB:** **(EXCITED)** Yes, you know, maybe even have my own fashion line and a shop in one of the big shopping malls like all those big, big fashion designers!

43. **DAFE:** I like that! That's thinking big. And I have faith in you – I know you don't dull!
44. **ZAINAB:** **(CHUCKLES)** Thanks Dafe.
45. **DAFE:** You're very welcome. And what about personally, in terms of family life? How do you see the future?
46. **ZAINAB:** Well, I just want a family size I can manage with my husband. You know, so that we can look after our children well and have time for each of them without too much stress.
47. **DAFE:** **(AMAZED)** Wow Zainab, it's like you stole that from my mind.
48. **ZAINAB:** **(SHYLY)** Well Dafe, it's not today that we know that we have a lot in common.
49. **DAFE:** Okay. And what about family planning? Or do you plan to use it?
50. **ZAINAB:** Yes o. That one is a must. I can't take chances with my future or the future of any children my husband and I might have. I've seen the alternative to not planning your family, and I definitely don't want that for myself!
51. **DAFE:** Very smart of you. I agree with that o. **(TEASING)** In fact, my friends call me Mr. "No Dulling" because of those "Get it Together" adverts we see everywhere.
52. **ZAINAB:** **(LAUGHING)** Then I must be Miss "No Dulling." **(SHYLY)** Even in my last relationship even, I was actually on injection to prevent any ... surprises, you know?
53. **DAFE:** **(JOKING)** Ah, I know o. You don't have to tell me. So if I'm Mr. "No Dulling" and you're Miss "No Dulling..."
54. **ZAINAB:** **(LAUGHS)** Then we're on the same page. **(BOTH LAUGH)**
55. **DAFE:** **(GETTING SERIOUS)** I really like you, Zainab. I hope you know that.
56. **ZAINAB:** **(SHYLY)** I'm glad to hear it. I really like you too, Dafe.
57. **DAFE:** That makes me happy. I really feel like we have something real here, and I was hoping ... if it's not too soon for you, that we could maybe take the relationship to the next level, if you're still on the same page with me?

58. **ZAINAB:** (SHYLY) I think I am, and I would like that very much as well. I will go to my family planning clinic and see about starting myself on those injections again.
59. **DAFE:** (JOVIAL) Now it's my turn to be glad we're on the same page! If you want, I will come with you when you're going.
60. **ZAINAB:** (LAUGHS) Okay, now you've heard all of my own gist. I want to hear your own! What are your own plans for the future? What is your family planning experience?
61. **DAFE:** (LAUGHING) Oh really? It's like that?
62. **ZAINAB:** Yes now! You know that communication is a two-way thing! (BOTH LAUGH).
63. **MUSIC:** BRIDGE MUSIC

Scene 3

Keturah's hairdressing salon. Late evening

64. **SFX:** URGENT SOUND OF BANGING ON A DOOR OFF MIC
65. **NKIRU:** (URGENTLY SHOUTING OFF-MIC) Ketuuu!! KETURAH!!!
66. **KETURAH:** (MOANING SORROWFULLY) Nkiru! Nkiru, come in the door is open. (PAUSES, MOANING) I'm at the back!
67. **SFX:** SOUND OF DOOR OPENING AND CLOSING. HURRIED SOUND OF FOOTSTEPS WALKING
68. **NKIRU:** (COMING ON MIC, WORRIED) Ah ah ah- ah, Keturah? What's wrong? Why are you lying on the floor like this? Why are you crying?
69. **KETURAH:** (SOBBING) Nkiru, I'm in trouble o!
70. **NKIRU:** How? Tell me – what happened, Keturah?
71. **KETURAH:** You remember that my guy, right?
72. **NKIRU:** (IMPATIENT) Yes now – what about him? (SUSPICIOUS) Hmm Keturah, I hope you didn't make me risk my life this night through the curfew on campus because of guy matters o?

73. **KETURAH:** (WAILS) Nkiru, the guy, *I don carry bele for am!*
74. **NKIRU:** (SHOCKED) Hey! Ketu, my sister –
75. **KETURAH:** (INTERRUPTING) Wait o – tory never finish!
76. **NKIRU:** Ah ah! Keturah, what happened again?
77. **KETURAH:** (WEEPING) Nkiru, *when I go tell am say I don carry bele for am, him no wan gree say na him pikin ooo!*
78. **NKIRU:** (ANGRY) Useless man!
79. **KETURAH:** And Nkiru, *my people don talk say them no go carry another pikin wey no get papa from my hand, so I no know wetin I wan do again!*
80. **NKIRU:** (COMFORTING) Ah, Keturah, it's okay now, we can -
81. **KETURAH:** (INTERRUPTING, SOBBING) Wait o, Nkiru. That's not all.
82. **NKIRU:** Ah ah! What again?
83. **KETURAH:** *I nor know how I wan take do am again now, so ... so I carry body go see one doctor like this wey my friend sabi for that Sokale side.*
84. **NKIRU:** (SHOCKED) Hey! Keturah, *no tell me say you go do abortion!*
85. **KETURAH:** (WAILING) Nkiru, I did!!! I felt like I had no choice! I didn't know the man was a fake doctor. I didn't know he didn't know what he was doing...
86. **NKIRU:** (CHASTISING) Oh Keturah! And I had warned you before o! I told you to get yourself on a family planning– it's better than this drastic action you've taken now, can you see?
87. **KETURAH:** *My sister I don see o! I don see! For days now I don dey bleed anyhow, all my body just dey hot, dey pain me o, I no know wetin I wan do again oo!*
88. **NKIRU:** *Chei! Which kain trouble be dis!*
89. **KETURAH:** (WEAKLY) I don't know when I just collapsed this evening. I just woke up and found myself lying down here and I couldn't get up. That's when I called you. (SCARED) Nkiru, I don't want to die o.
90. **NKIRU:** (FRIGHTENED) It's okay ehn, Keturah, don't worry. I'm coming. Let me go and look for a taxi so we can get you to a hospital. It's going to be okay, ehn?

91. **MUSIC:** **BRIDGE MUSIC**

Scene 4

Zainab's shop. Late Afternoon.

92. **SFX:** **SOUND OF SLIDING DOOR OPENING AND CLOSING**

93. **ZAINAB:** Ah Femi, you're still here? I thought... **(SHOCKED)** Heh! Femi, what happened?! Are you okay? You look like you were in an accident! Is that blood on your shirt? And your eye is swollen! What happened?

94. **FEMI:** **(CALMLY)** Zainab, it's okay. Don't worry about me. We need to worry about you?

95. **ZAINAB:** **(CONFUSED)** Worry about me? Why? Femi you're not making sense. What happened?

96. **FEMI:** Zainab, you're coming from seeing Dafe right?

97. **ZAINAB:** **(SURPRISED)** Yes, you know he took me out for my birthday.
(IMPATIENTLY) But come, Femi, what does that have to do with anything? You're hurt and...

98. **FEMI:** **(CUTS IN)** Are you sure you know this Dafe well, Zainab? Are you sure you know who he is?

99. **ZAINAB:** **(IRRITATED)** Ah ah, Femi. Why are you asking all this? Were you not the one that told me to give him a chance in the first place?

100. **FEMI:** Well Zainab, I've been thinking I may have been wrong to advice you to do that ...

101. **ZAINAB:** What does that have to do with anything Femi? What is really going on here? Who beat you up like this?

102. **FEMI:** Hmm ... while you were away having you 'birthday lunch', we had a surprise visit in the store.

103. **ZAINAB:** Surprise visit keh? Femi, from who?

104. **FEMI:** Hmm Zainab. From a lady. She came with two thugs.

105. **ZAINAB:** **(SHOCKED)** THUGS??

106. **FEMI:** Yes, Zainab, thugs! She threatened me and said I should pass a message across to you, that you should keep away from her boyfriend o.
107. **ZAINAB:** **(SHOCKED)** Oh my God ...
108. **FEMI:** Then after that her thugs decided to deal with me. And well, you can see the result.
109. **ZAINAB:** I ... I can't believe it! There must be some misunderstanding or mistaken identity. I can't believe that Dafe could lie to me like this. Someone I just left not up to 30 minutes ago...
110. **FEMI:** See Zainab, my ears are not blocked o. I heard their message, loud and clear. They beat it into my head.
111. **ZAINAB:** **(BEREAVED)** Femi, what am I supposed to do?? How can Dafe do this to me, knowing my past? How? How??
112. **SFX:** **BRIDGE UP AND FADE**