

## **EPISODE 16**

### **Characters**

*Dafe*

*Zainab*

*Ehi*

*Yankat*

*Keturah*

*FP Provider (Nurse Hajara)*

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### **SCENE 1, CAMPUS GROUNDS, AFTERNOON**

1.     **SFX:**             **SOUND OF VOICES TALKING AND LAUGHING. BIRDS CHIRPING AND LEAVES RUSTLING**
  
2.     **YANKAT:**       **(CONCERNED)** Ehi, you're not your usual self today. Is everything ok?
  
3.     **EHI:**           **(UNCONVINCING)** What? No, Yankat, I'm fine. I'm ok. What do you mean, not myself?
  
4.     **YANKAT:**       It's just that you're usually more talkative than this, Ehi..
  
5.     **EHI:**           Well, to be honest, Yankat, it's just this upcoming long vacation...
  
6.     **YANKAT:**       **(CONFUSED)** I don't understand, Ehi. Why is that making you quiet?
  
7.     **EHI:**           Well, it's just that you know how I feel about you. I'm not looking forward to a long vacation without seeing you at all. I'm going to miss you.
  
8.     **YANKAT:**       **(SLIGHTLY EMBARRASSED)** Oh. Well thank you for saying that, Ehi. But you don't have to worry about not seeing me, I'm not going anywhere for the break.
  
9.     **EHI:**           **(SURPRISED)** You're not? I thought you would be going back home.

10. **YANKAT:** No, o. I'm going to get a room with Nkiru right here in Gwags.
11. **EHI:** But, don't you miss your family? And don't they miss you? You never visit them and no one has visited you.
12. **YANKAT:** **(SHORTLY)** Of course I miss them.
13. **EHI:** So why won't you go see them?
14. **YANKAT:** **(SILENCE, RELUCTANTLY)** Ehi... It's complicated...
15. **EHI:** **(SIGHS)** I wish you trusted me, honestly, Yankat. I wish you'd tell me about your background.
16. **YANKAT:** **(DEFENSIVELY)** That's unfair, Ehi. I trust you. I just don't like to talk about my past.
17. **EHI:** Yankat, I want us to have a future together, and we can't be keeping secrets from each other.
18. **YANKAT:** I wish it was that straightforward, Ehi but we live in real life, not in my ideal world.
19. **EHI:** Who's to say that your ideal world isn't achievable?? What does it consist of? What is your dream.
20. **YANKAT:** **(EMBARRASSED)** I'm not too good about talking aloud about my dreams.
21. **EHI:** You can tell me anything Yankat. I won't laugh at your dreams. **(TEASING)** Even if you tell me you want to be the next big singer in the industry...
22. **YANKAT:** **(INTERRUPTS, LAUGHING)** Ehi, will you ever stop making fun of my singing voice? I know I'm not the best singer...
23. **EHI:** **(LAUGHS)** But on a serious note Yankat, if you can't talk about the past, at least let's talk about the future.
24. **YANKAT:** Ok, well, Ehi, right now I have two dreams. I want to finish my studies with a high score so I can get a good job.

And then I want to get married and have kids and be able to take care of them well.

25. **EHI:** **(INTERESTED)** Really? How many kids do you want? And do you want boys or girls?
26. **YANKAT:** To be honest, I don't really care, as long as they are healthy. And I don't want to have more children than my husband and I can take care off.
27. **EHI:** **(PLEASED)** Me too! Well, me I want only two kids. Maybe 3 maximum.
28. **YANKAT:** **(SURPRISED)** Wow, that's very specific! It's like you've given this a lot of thought, Ehi.
29. **EHI:** Ah after the tough life I had as a child, I must plan o.
30. **YANKAT:** Really? But you've always seemed to have everything together. I mean you even finished school on time...
31. **EHI:** Hmm forget that side, Yankat! We were 8 children alone from just my mom. Then there was also a second wife with her own children and my dad could not cope. Not everyone was able to go to school.
32. **YANKAT:** How did you manage, Ehi?
33. **EHI:** Hmmm I was lucky. I was sent to an uncle who actually kept his promise to send me to school. Some of my brothers and sisters went to relatives that just turned them into house helps without training them as promised.
34. **YANKAT:** **(SHOCKED)** Ehn!
35. **EHI:** Yes o. And the thing has caused envy within the family. It's very bad.
36. **YANKAT:** **(SURPRISED)** I didn't know. You hide it very well, Ehi.
37. **EHI:** That's why I can't dull o. I know what an unplanned family is like, and I don't want such for my own family.

38. **YANKAT:** Ah you're right o, Ehi.
39. **EHI:** As for me, I want a good marriage. That's my dream, a good, stress-free marriage where I can plan my family with my wife and we can provide for our children and ensure they get a good education and we have enough time and resources to supervise all of them and give them all adequate attention.
40. **YANKAT:** Wow, Ehi. You're really serious oh. I have to say I haven't really thought about these things.
41. **EHI:** **(SERIOUS)** It's not too late to start thinking about it and discussing it. Give it some thought, ok?
42. **MUSIC:** **BRIDGE UP AND FADE**

**SCENE 2, Zainab's apartment, Evening**

43. **SFX:** **DOOR KNOCKING.**
44. **DAFE:** **(OFF MIC)** Zainab, it's me, Dafe.
45. **SFX:** **DOOR OPENS AND CLOSES AS ZAINAB COMES OUT**
46. **ZAINAB:** Yes Dafe, what is it?
47. **DAFE:** **(TAKEN ABACK)** Oh well... Erm I just came to see you to find out how your day was. **(HESITANTLY)** I thought we could spend the evening together here at your place.
48. **ZAINAB:** **(SHORTLY)** Ehn. **(PAUSES)** Well Dafe, I was just about to go out.
49. **DAFE:** **(LESS CONFIDENT)** Oh, where are you going to?  
**(PAUSES)** What's going on Zainab? It's like you're upset with me.

50. **ZAINAB:** **(SNAPS)** And how else should I feel when you deceived me and to make things worse you caused your girlfriend and her boys to beat up Femi.
51. **DAFE:** **(TRULY CONFUSED)** Wait, what?! What girlfriend? Who beat up Femi?
52. **ZAINAB:** **(SHOUTS)** What if he had died eh? Dafe, just because you want to be a player?! Please just go, I don't want to see you.
53. **DAFE:** Wait, please, Zainab. Calm down. I have no idea what you're talking about.
54. **ZAINAB:** **(ANGRY)** Your girlfriend came to the shop with thugs and beat up Femi to warn me to leave you alone. See my life? As if I am a man-snatcher.
55. **DAFE:** That's nonsense o. I'm 100% single. I don't know who is playing such a joke on me.
56. **ZAINAB:** **(DISBELIEVING)** HmmMmm. Are you sure you're single? Think about it.
57. **DAFE:** Zainab, I am serious. There is no one else in my life but you.
58. **ZAINAB:** I see. **(SOFTENING)** Well Dafe...
59. **DAFE:** **(INTERRUPTS, SERIOUS)** This is not a game for me Zainab. You're the ONLY one I want. I think about our future all the time, and I was hoping you felt the same way about us.
60. **ZAINAB:** **(TOUCHED)** I do. But you know my past. And the fact is some crazy woman is going around beating up my friends because we're dating. I hope you understand why I was upset.
61. **DAFE:** I totally understand. I can't even begin to imagine who that person is.
62. **ZAINAB:** It's a mystery o.

63.     **DAFE:**             Honestly Zainab it is. I don't know what all this is about, but know that I love you too much to jeopardize our relationship by cheating on you

64.     **MUSIC:**             **BRIDGE UP AND FADE**

**SCENE 3, Nurse's Office, Afternoon**

65.     **NURSE:**             **(CALLS OUT)** Next patient please.

66.     **SFX:**                 **DOOR CLOSSES. SOUND OF NURSE SHUFFLING THE FILES**

67.     **NURSE:**             Welcome Madam, good afternoon. I am Nurse Hajara. I'm glad you came to see me today.

68.     **KETURAH:**          Good afternoon, nurse. Please call me Keturah. Madam makes me feel old.

69.     **NURSE:**             **(LAUGHS)** No problem, Keturah. I've seen your file and can see you've been through a lot recently. I hope you're feeling better.

70.     **KETURAH:**          I still feel a bit weak, Nurse. But I'm getting better. All I know is I don't want to go through that ordeal again.

71.     **NURSE:**             I'm glad to hear that. I'm here to make sure you never feel the need to risk your future fertility of your life through unsafe abortion again.

72.     **KETURAH:**          My friend, Nkiru has been telling me about family planning, but I'm worried about what people would say if they knew.

73.     **NURSE:**             Well Keturah, I assure you that anything we discuss here will remain completely private and confidential between us.

74.     **KETURAH:**          Thank you, Nurse Hajara.

75.     **NURSE:**             But there is nothing to be ashamed of using family planning. It prevents getting pregnant when you're not ready and having to have a dangerous abortion. Plus thousands of women in this city are confidently using it.

76. **KETURAH:** **(SHYLY)** And I think I will like to join them if it fits me.
77. **NURSE:** Now, your file says you have two children?
78. **KETURAH:** Yes. They live with my mother in our hometown just outside Abuja.
79. **NURSE:** Very good...
80. **KETURAH:** **(CUTS IN)** That's even why I had the abortion. My family said they could not take care of any more children after the second one.
81. **NURSE:** Hmm I understand. But all that wasn't necessary. Family planning can help you plan your future well so that you will only have more children when you're ready.
82. **KETURAH:** See nurse, I'm very interested, but I heard that it can cause some bad side effects. Like I heard it can make you bleed anyhow. I'm really worried about that.
83. **NURSE:** No need to worry. Many of the rumours about the side effected are very exaggerated. Besides, there are different types of contraceptives. We will pick one that will fit for you. I will give you some brochures that will explain each one and the benefits of each.
84. **KETURAH:** Is there one that will last for a long time. I want to focus on expanding my business so I can raise enough money to bring my children here.
85. **NURSE:** Yes we have longer-acting methods like the implant and the IUD. Let me tell you about all your options..
86. **KETURAH:** Ok, but I want something that I can use and not have to think about every time I have a boyfriend.
87. **NURSE:** No problem, Keturah. Although if you're going to be sexually active, you know it's not only pregnancy. In this day and age, one has to be very careful. You should also think about condoms, at least until you are sure about your new partner.
88. **KETURAH:** Apiegoo. You're right oh.
89. **NURSE:** So let's get started discussing your family planning options.

90. **KETURAH:** **(HOPEFUL)** Hmm Nurse, so you mean I will be able to have peace of mind in a relationship without worrying about unwanted pregnancy?
91. **NURSE:** Yes Keturah, modern family planning methods are safe and effective. As long as you follow the directions, you don't have to worry about unplanned pregnancy.
92. **MUSIC:** **BRIDGE UP AND FADE**

#### **SCENE 4, Ehi's New Flat, Evening**

93. **SFX:** **BACKGROUND MUSIC. SOUND OF BEER/SOFT DRINKS BEING POURED IN THE GLASS**
94. **DAFE:** Mehn Ehi, the place is nice oh. Come and see Gwagga swagga. Bros, well done!
95. **EHI:** It's not been easy, Dafe, but honestly I could not have done it without your help.
96. **DAFE:** Nonsense, you've worked very hard. Going to the university to sell land was a master stroke.
97. **EHI:** Remember when that my Dutsen Sokale self-contained was demolished, Dafe. Were you not the one that let me squat with you?
98. **DAFE:** **(HAPPY)** Mehn, it was nothing.
99. **EHI:** So what's on your mind? You seem very preoccupied.
100. **DAFE:** Woman issues oh.
101. **EHI:** Ahn ahn, with Zainab? I thought she was a nice, mature girl and you guys were happy.
102. **DAFE:** It's not her o, Ehi. Apparently one girl is going around saying she's my girlfriend.
103. **EHI:** Ikooo. Trying to spoil your show.
104. **DAFE:** Even worse mehn, she now went to Zainab's shop and beat up Zainab's colleague, Femi. Then left a warning that Zainab should stay a way from me.
105. **EHI:** You don't mean it. Who do you think it is?



106. **DAFE:** I have an idea, but I dismissed it.
107. **EHI:** Who? Chacha??
108. **DAFE:** You think so too abi. I didn't want to immediately blame her for anything, but that's who came to my mind initially.
109. **EHI:** Have you asked her about it?
110. **DAFE:** No, Ehi. And I'm not sure if I should. After all, it's not as if I ever led her to believe that we were together, or that there was anything serious between us.
111. **EHI:** Dafe, I warned you about this ChaCha babe...
112. **DAFE:** **(CUTS IN)** But that's the thing Ehi. She has no reason to do this. I haven't even spoken to her in a long time and...
113. **EHI:** **(INTERRUPTS)** My guy, Dafe, you need to man up and talk to her. Just to make sure! And to warn her to stop misbehaving if she is the culprit...
114. **DAFE:** You're right, Ehi. Yeah, I'll talk to ChaCha and straighten her out.
115. **MUSIC:** **BRIDGE UP AND FADE UP AND UNDER**