

EPISODE 19

Characters

Mimi
Baaba
Yankat
Ehi
Osato

SCENE 1, Mairo's house, Late-Morning

1. **SFX:** **SOUND OF KNOCKING ON A DOOR.**
2. **BAABA:** Yes, who is it?
3. **MIMI:** **(OFF MIC)** Mairo? It's me Mimi.
4. **SFX:** **SOUND OF DOOR OPENING**
5. **BAABA:** Yes? Can I help you?
6. **MIMI:** **(SURPRISED)** Oh, I'm sorry, ma. I thought you were Mairo. Good morning. My name is Mimi.
7. **BAABA:** You're Mairo's friend, not so?
8. **MIMI:** Yes ma. Our husbands work together.
9. **BAABA:** **(PLEASANT)** Ah my dear you're welcome. I'm Mairo's mother. Please come in.
10. **SFX:** **SOUND OF DOOR CLOSING AND FOOTSTEPS ENTERING HOUSE.**
11. **BAABA:** Mairo is having her bath while the baby sleeps, but you can wait for her.
12. **MIMI:** Thank you, Ma.
13. **BAABA:** **(FRIENDLY)** Mairo's friends call me Baaba, and I hope you will do the same?
14. **MIMI:** Ok ma- I mean, Baaba.
15. **BAABA:** Please, let's sit down. Mairo will soon be out.

16. **SFX:** **SOUND OF CHAIRS CREAKING AS THEY SIT DOWN. LIGHT CLICKING OF BAABA'S KNITTING NEEDLES**
17. **BAABA:** Do you knit, Mimi?
18. **MIMI:** No oh, Baaba. I wish I could sha. What are you making? The design is very nice.
19. **BAABA:** Oh this is a shawl for one my friend's daughters.
20. **MIMI:** It's very nice, Baaba.
21. **BAABA:** I'm very happy for the girl o. Would you believe she had been married for four years with no child yet?
22. **MIMI:** **(POLITELY)** Really?
23. **BAABA:** **(PROUDLY)** But my Mairo advised her to go to the family planning clinic and do some tests and get some counselling and they sorted out the problem. Now she's going to have a baby next month.
24. **MIMI:** **(HAPPY)** Wow, that's great. Thank God fir her.
25. **BAABA:** Anyway, Mairo will soon be out. That girl likes water too much **(LAUGHS)**.
26. **MIMI:** **(TAKES A DEEP BREATH)** Actually Ma, it's you I wanted to see, not Mairo.
27. **BAABA:** Oh, really. Why didn't you say so? What can I do for you, Mimi?
28. **MIMI:** A few months ago, my grandmother died. She told me on her deathbed that I have a mother and a twin sister out there in the world that I'd never even heard about before!
29. **BAABA:** **(SHOCKED)** Oh so you're the Mimidoo that Mairo told me about?
30. **MIMI:** Yes Ma, Mimidoo is my full name. **(TAKEN ABACK)** But I'm surprised Mairo told you about me?

31. **BAABA:** Please don't be angry with her my dear. When I heard the story I was really touched.
32. **MIMI:** **(EMBARRASSED)** Yes well, it's been really tough. The only clue my grandma was able to give me is that my mother's name was Maryam Gaya.
33. **BAABA:** **(SHOCKED)** What did you say?!
34. **MIMI:** Maryam Gaya. I found out that she went to the South with a military man called Mohammed. They say she probably married him.
35. **BAABA:** **(AGITATED)** Your grandmother, what was her name?
36. **MIMI:** My grandmother? Her name was Dosu...Madam Dosu Mbakeve. **(PAUSES)** Baaba, are you ok. You look like you just saw a ghost.
37. **BAABA:** **(HYSTERICAL)** Kai, subhan'Allah! **(WAILS)** Wayoooo Allah!
38. **MIMI:** Baaba, please it's ok. Please don't stress yourself too much because of my story.
39. **BAABA:** **(CALMS DOWN)** You're right. Sorry your story hit really close to home for me, my dear. What can I do for you?
40. **MIMI:** Baaba, I believe that Hajiya Maryam Mohammed-Gaya, Najib 's mother, is the woman I am looking for. It would make her my mother and Shura my twin sister.
41. **BAABA:** Mimi, I'm sorry but you're wrong. There is no way Hajiya Maryam can be your mother. Some of the pieces fit, but she has been married to the General for 30 years. How old are you, anyway?
42. **MIMI:** I am 23.
43. **BAABA:** Shura is still 22. So you cannot be twins. I am sorry, Mimi.

44. MIMI: **(DISAPPOINTED, CLOSE TO TEARS)** Baaba, I'm not doubting you but I just want to be sure, are you sure of what you're saying?

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

SCENE 2, YANKAT'S NEW ROOM, EVENING

46. SFX: **AMBIENT MUSIC IN BACKGROUND.**

47. EHI: Yankat? Something is bothering me.

48. YANKAT: **(DEFENSIVE)** What is it?

49. EHI: I know you said you don't want to talk about it, but I find it very weird that you don't want to visit any relatives over this long break.

50. YANKAT: **(UPSET)** Ohhhh! Osato, this matter again?!

51. EHI: But is it a money issue, Yankat? I can buy you a ticket to go and see them.

52. YANKAT: **(SADLY)** Osato, I have told you, I have no relatives I want to see.

53. EHI: **(GENTLY)** Yankat, whatever happened with your family is in the past. Make peace with them. Please. You will feel so much better.

54. YANKAT: **(ANNOYED)** And what do you know about my family, Ehi? Ehn? What?

55. EHI: **(ANNOYED)** There's no need to snap at me, Yankat! How will I know what is going on when you won't tell me anything.

56. YANKAT: **(VOICE RAISED)** I told you I can't tell you, Ehi! Why can't you just accept that?

57. EHI: **(ANGRY)** That's the thing Yankat, I just can't accept that. I have tried and I can't be falling in love with someone who has so many secrets about her life. How can I share my life with such a person. My future? I can't. You need to start coming clean or else.

58. YANKAT: (IN TEARS) So what, you want to end the relationship because I can't tell you about my past. You yourself just said the past is the past.
59. SFX: CREAKING OF BED AND SHIFTING OF BODIES AS EHI MOVES TO COMFORT HER. YANKAT'S QUIET SOBS
60. EHI: (COMFORTINGLY) It's ok, Yankat. I'm sorry. Please, stop crying. I'm sorry.
61. YANKAT: (WEEPING) You want to leave me. You're one of the only good people I have in this life and you want to abandon me too?
62. EHI: Please, stop crying eh, Yankat. I'm not going anywhere. I promise.
63. YANKAT: (SNIFFS, TRYING TO COMPOSE HERSELF) I want to tell you everything, honestly, but I can't. One day, maybe but not now.
64. EHI: I love you, Yankat, even if I don't know everything about you. I know there must be a reason for you to not open up to me.
65. MUSIC: BRIDGE UP AND FADE

SCENE 3, OSATO'S HOUSE, EVENING

66. SFX: SOUND OF DOOR OPENING AND CLOSING. CHILD CRYING (OFF MIC)
67. OSATO: (CALLING OUT) Mimi? Mimidoo!! The way Charlie is crying, is he okay?
68. SFX: CHILD CRYING (SOUND GETTING LOUDER AND COMING ON MIC IN TIME WITH FOOTSTEPS).
69. OSATO: (CALLING) Mimi, can't you hear Charlie crying? (OPENS THE KITCHEN DOOR)
70. SFX: DOOR OPENING
71. OSATO: Mimi? (EXCLAIMS) Yeee! See smoke. (COUGHS).

72. SFX: **SOUND OF WATER BOILING OVER AND LANDING ON THE GAS FLAMES. HISSING.**
73. OSATO: **(CALLING)** Mimi! Mimi-oo!! Mimidooo!!!
(COUGHING)
74. SFX: **(HISSING STOPS AS HE TURNS OFF THE FIRE)**
75. SFX: **WINDOW OPENING. CHARLIE STILL CRYING**
76. OSATO: **(FRUSTRATED)** Mimi pick this boy up now?
Where are you?
77. SFX: **CRYING REALLY LOUD NOW (ON-MIC).**
78. OSATO: **(CAJOLINGLY)** Charlie Boyyy. Charlie Boyyy.
Fine boy, stop crying nauu. Daddy is here.
Where is your mummy? **(CRYING STOPS AS HE PICKS UP CHARLIE).**
79. SFX: **SOUND OF BEDROOM DOOR OPENING.**
80. OSATO: So she's here sleeping. Mimi? Mimi wake up!!
Mimi! **(TAPS HER GENTLY INCREASING IN TEMPO)** **(GETS MORE PANICKY)** Mimi!!!
Wake up!!! Mimi!!! What is this ohh **(SHOUTS)**
Mimi!!! Don't do this to me o!
81. MIMI: **(GROGGY)** Osato? **(WAKING UP)** Osato!!!
Yeee, the food!!!
82. OSATO: **(UPSET)** Burned to charcoal, Mimi! What happened? How could you come and sleep with food on the fire.
83. MIMI: Osato, I'm so sorry. I was cooking, and I started feeling dizzy, so I came to lie down briefly. Next thing I know you were waking me up.
84. OSATO: Shoo. You slept really hard oh. Charlie was crying, and I was shouting your name.
85. MIMI: **(EMBARRASSED)** I'm sorry. I don't know what is wrong with me. I'm not myself.
86. OSATO: You said you were feeling dizzy, how are you feeling now?

87. MIMI: I'm feeling a bit better now. I think I just needed to rest.
88. OSATO: I'm sure you didn't eat again today again. You need to take better care of yourself.
89. MIMI: I did. I had some bread.
90. OSATO: **(ANNOYED)** You need to do better than that. I need you to be a good wife, and Charlie needs you to be a mother. I mean, look how thin and exhausted you look.
91. MIMI: It's the whole stress of looking for my mother.
92. OSATO: I know that. I'm about to say I think you should stop the search for a bit. At least until you get a bit stronger.
93. MIMI: **(PLEADING)** Please, I can't do that. I'm so close to finding my mother.
94. OSATO: I didn't say I would stop you. But you need to go to the hospital for a check-up. All this dizziness nonsense, you've not been yourself recently.
95. MIMI: Ok, I promise I will go as soon as possible.
96. OSATO: This can't continue honestly. You grandma would never have wanted you to put your health at risk like this.
97. MUSIC: **BRIDGE UP AND FADE**

SCENE 4, RESTAURANT, EVENING

98. SFX: **SOUND OF CUTLERY AND GLASS CLINKING. VOICES AND LAUGHTER.**
99. EHI: Mehn, Dafe, it's good to have you back! Abuja has been dry without you. How was home?
100. DAFE: Hmm Ehi, it was great o. I saw my little princess, Gift, then of course my parents...
101. EHI: And how was everyone?

102. **DAFE:** Ah my parents were very happy to see me and they were even happier when I told them I want to marry.
103. **EHI:** Dafe, you mean you told them about Zainab?! Are things that serious now?!
104. **DAFE:** Yes oh. I told them..
105. **EHI:** Ikoo! That's great!
106. **DAFE:** I even bought an engagement ring. I'm going to ask her as soon as possible.
107. **EHI:** Ah you should make it special o. You know Abuja babes watch American films. They have expectations. The days of "I love you, talk your own" have passed o. **(LAUGHS)**
108. **DAFE:** **(LAUGHS)** Ehi, you know well! Zainab knows my situation. She doesn't pressure me like that.
109. **EHI:** But come o, Dafe Have you told Zainab about your daughter?
110. **DAFE:** No not yet. She doesn't know about Gift.
111. **EHI:** Ikoo. Mehn you're playing with fire oh. You have to tell her before you propose nau.
112. **DAFE:** How can I tell her, Ehi? She will be suspicious that I didn't tell her since. She doesn't trust men that already have children.
113. **EHI:** So what are you going to do, Dafe? Marry her and pretend you don't have a child? Nothing stays hidden forever and deception is no way to start a relationship.
114. **DAFE:** I know man, and I feel so guilty about it but what can I do?
115. **EHI:** Tell her the truth, Dafe. Gift is a part of your life, and if Zainab really loves you, she will accept that.
116. **DAFE:** You're right, Ehi. I will find a way to tell her before I propose.

117. EHI: Dafe, my guy, you need to do it fast ohhh. The longer you keep a secret, the more dangerous it gets.

118. MUSIC: **BRIDGE UP AND FADE UP AND UNDER.**