

SECOND CHANCE III

EPISODE 23

Characters

Yankat

Ehi

Femi

Zainab

Chacha

Dafe

SCENE 1

Zainab's Shop, Afternoon

1. **SFX:** **SOUND OF SEWING MACHINES AT WORK.
ZAINAB'S PHONE RINGING.**
2. **FEMI:** **(CURIOUS)** Zainab, won't you answer your phone? It keep's ringing and you keep ignoring it.
3. **ZAINAB:** As you can see, Femi, I'm busy.
4. **FEMI:** Let me guess, it's Dafe calling you.
5. **ZAINAB:** **(UPSET)** Femi, don't even say that name in my presence!
6. **FEMI:** **(TEASING)** Ok, sorry. It's he who shall-not-be named that is calling you and chopping your battery.
7. **ZAINAB:** **(TIRED, SIGHS)** I'm just tired, Femi. I'm tired of his lies, and I don't want to hear any more of them.
8. **FEMI:** I think you should hear him out.
9. **SFX:** **ZAINAB'S PHONE RINGS AGAIN**
10. **FEMI:** There it goes again. I really think you should answer it. For our peace of mind, Zainab.
11. **ZAINAB:** I'm sorry, Femi. I'm hoping he will get the hint that I do not want to speak to him anymore. He's been calling me, coming to my apartment...

12. **FEMI:** **(CUTS IN)** Yes, he even came here.
13. **ZAINAB:** **(SURPRISED)** Dafe came to the shop? Femi, why didn't you tell me? What did he say?
14. **FEMI:** He explained his side to me. Zainab, he's very sorry and his story is really touching.
15. **ZAINAB:** **(COLDLY)** Femi, I don't want to hear it. How can you even listen to him? Truth is not in his mouth at all.
16. **FEMI:** I think he was sincere, Zainab. He says he didn't tell you about his daughter because he felt you would not accept him because he had a child.
17. **ZAINAB:** Please, abeg, the man should focus on his ten thousand wives and concubines and three hundred oyibo children and leave me out of it!
18. **FEMI:** I know you're hurt, but maybe you should hear his side?
19. **ZAINAB:** Femi, even if I forgive him, you saw that mad woman and how she behaves. Please I can't be walking around peacefully one day and she'll come and bath me with acid. Is Dafe the only man in this world?
20. **SFX:** **ZAINAB'S PHONE RINGS AGAIN**
21. **ZAINAB:** **(HISSES)** Ohhhh! Why won't he leave me alone!
22. **FEMI:** Zainab, you're not being fair, or mature about this whole thing.
23. **ZAINAB:** I don't care. I gave Dafe one rule, not to lie to me because of what happened to me in the past, and he couldn't meet it.
24. **FEMI:** Look, I understand where you're coming from, Zainab and this is not really my business. But as your friend, all I will say is that this is just one of the trials all couples go through.

25. **ZAINAB:** **(SARCASTICALLY)** O-ho Femi. So you have secret wives and oyinbo children that you're hiding from your Ify abi? Waaaow.
26. **FEMI:** **(LAUGHS)** You know what I mean, Zainab. All couples have misunderstandings. You should let him explain and keep an open mind about it.
27. **ZAINAB:** Femi, it's not like I don't love him. I just don't know how he could betray me like that knowing my past experience.
28. **MUSIC:** **BRIDGE UP AND FADE**

SCENE 2

A quiet street near Dafe's house. Evening

29. **SFX:** **TRAFFIC SOUNDS (OFF MIC)**
30. **CHACHA:** **(SHOUTS)** There he is. Oya, boys let's go.
31. **SFX:** **MULTIPLE RUNNING FOOTSTEPS**
32. **CHACHA:** Dafe! Dafe!!
33. **DAFE:** **(SURPRISED)** What? **(FLATLY)** Oh ChaCha, it's you. What do you want?
34. **CHACHA:** Dafe, did you really think you could disrespect me like that, and nothing would happen?
35. **DAFE:** **(CONTEMPTUOUSLY)** Please, get out of my way, Chacha. I don't have time for you today. And carry your boys with you.
36. **CHACHA:** **(SHRIEKING)** Heehhhh! Are you mad??? Dafe, who do you think you're talking to like that?
37. **DAFE:** **(HISSES)** Is your name not Chacha.
38. **CHACHA:** You can't even be grateful. Why are you wasting time with a small girl like that tailor?
39. **DAFE:** Even if she is a small girl, she is who I wanted, I don't want you Chacha. I will never want you.

40. **CHACHA:** **(SHOUTS)** Please, you are not man enough for me. Can you even satisfy Chacha?
41. **DAFE:** I would rather satisfy a leper. I can't believe I used to like you. Seriously, the way you behave, it's disgusting.
42. **CHACHA:** **(RAGING)** You these useless boys, what is the matter with you, are you here to watch film. See how is insulting me. Oya, show him pepper.
43. **SFX:** **TWO HOT SLAPS. FOLLOWED BY YELLS, GRUNTS, STRUGGLES.**
44. **DAFE:** **(BREATHING HEAVY, LABOURED)** If you like, beat me from now till tomorrow, you will never match up to Zainab's fingernail.
45. **CHACHA:** **(SHOUTING)** What is wrong with you big-for-nothings? The two of you hold his arms, then the rest of you beat him. Are you learners?
47. **DAFE:** **(PANTING)** I hope this isn't what you think will make me want you, ChaCha?
48. **CHACHA:** I don't even want you anymore sef, you can go and play tenten with your small girl from which hamlet sef. When you mature you can come and find a big girl like me.
49. **DAFE:** **(GROANING WITH EFFORT)** If you like, be a giant girl sef. Upon all your maturity and Abuja big girl ways, you still act like a tout.
50. **CHACHA:** **(SCREAMING)** Dafe are you talking to me like that. I warned you not to disrespect me, especially in public. Are you talking to me like that in front of my boys?
51. **DAFE:** Stop making noise abeg. This is not your joint.
52. **CHACHA:** **(SCREAMS)** Beat him mercilessly.
53. **SFX:** **SLAPS, PUNCHES. GRUNTS, GROANS, MOANS GRADUALLY TAPERING OFF.**
54. **DAFE:** **(LOSING CONSCIOUSNESS)** Zainab...Gift...they want to kill me...

55. **CHACHA:** **(SHOUTING)** Wait, stop, stop I said.
(PANICKING) Why is he not moving? Did I tell you to kill him? What kind of trouble is this? Please let's get out of here quick.
56. **SFX:** **FOOTSTEPS RUNNING AWAY FROM MIC**
57. **MUSIC:** **BRIDGE UP AND FADE**

SCENE 3

Ehi's Flat. Evening.

58. **SFX:** **DOOR OPENING AND CLOSING QUIETLY**
59. **YANKAT:** **(AFRAID, OFF-MIC, CROUCHING UNDER A TABLE)** Who is there? I said who's there?
60. **EHI:** Yankat, relax, it's me, Ehi. **(CONFUSED)** Yankat, why are you holding a knife?
61. **YANKAT:** **(CALMING DOWN)** Oh Ehi, I thought you were Mama Rose's thugs.
62. **EHI:** Sorry. Next time, I will call you when I'm close so you know to expect me.
63. **YANKAT:** **(UPSET)** I'm sorry, Ehi. All this is so stressful.
64. **EHI:** Well I have some good news, Yankat.
65. **YANKAT:** **(BRIGHTENING)** You do?
66. **EHI:** Yes. I spoke to one SSS guy I sold land to a while back. His name is Inspector Audu. He was quite sympathetic to the case.
67. **YANKAT:** So what next?
68. **EHI:** Well, we have the start of a plan, but I don't know if you will go for it. It will require you to be in some danger.
69. **YANKAT:** Ehi, I am already in danger, just tell me the plan.

70. **EHI:** Well, we want to set a trap with you as the bait. We will lure the boys to your location, and then when they come we will arrest them.
71. **YANKAT:** Oh...
72. **EHI:** Like, I said, it's a bit dangerous and we're still thinking of a better and safer plan.
73. **YANKAT:** But Ehi, they won't leave me alone with them for long, abi?
74. **EHI:** They have to stay a bit hidden so they might be slightly away from you. But no more than a few seconds. They have done this many times so you have nothing to fear.
75. **YANKAT:** Ok, I'm for it.
76. **EHI:** Are you sure, Yankat?
77. **YANKAT:** I'm very sure. We need to act fast now. They have Nkiru.
78. **EHI:** They have your roommate? How?
79. **YANKAT:** I don't know. I got a text from Keturah, our hairdresser. She said they were supposed to go and hide together, but that when she went to our old room, she didn't see anybody.
80. **EHI:** Ikoo! Oh my God!
81. **YANKAT:** What's even scary is that the door was broken and NK's things were still on her bed. Her bag was even still open sef.
82. **EHI:** Oh no! But you're right. If indeed they have Nkiru, we need to move fast.
83. **YANKAT:** **(VOICE BREAKS)** Even though it is NK's fault Mama Rose found me, I would never forgive myself if anything happened to her.
84. **EHI:** **(COMFORTINGLY)** Don't worry, love. Everything will be ok.
85. **YANKAT:** **(CALMING DOWN)** I hope you're right Ehi. I just want this nightmare to be over.

86. MUSIC: **BRIDGE MUSIC**

SCENE 4

Hospital. Morning.

87. SFX: **SOUND OF PRIVACY CURTAINS BEING
DRAWN AWAY FROM HOSPITAL BED**

88. ZAINAB: Dafe! **(STARTS TO WEEP)** Look at you! What did they do to you?

89. DAFE: **(WEAKLY)** Zainab, how did you find me?

90. ZAINAB: **(GENTLY)** Ehi told me what happened. I came as soon as I heard.

91. DAFE: **(SOMEWHAT UPSET)** Wow, so all I needed for you to agree to see me was to be almost beaten to death. I should have provoked Chacha sooner.

92. ZAINAB: I'm sorry, Dafe. But you should have told the truth.

93. DAFE: **(SADLY)** I was about to. I had just come back from Benin and I was going to have a long talk with you about my past, and hopefully, our future.

94. ZAINAB: **(SHYLY)** Do you feel strong enough to have the talk now?

95. DAFE: Yes. Honestly, Zainab, I'm so happy to see you, I feel like I could jump out of bed.

96. ZAINAB: Do you have many girlfriends in every state of the federation? Who is Chacha to you, honestly?

97. DAFE: No. Since we started going out, I have only dated you.

98. ZAINAB: Do you have an oyinbo daughter?

99. DAFE: Yes. But she's mixed-race. Her name is Gift.

100. ZAINAB: What happened?
101. DAFE: When I was in SS 2, I was in love with one girl called Angela. One day she told me she was pregnant.
102. ZAINAB: Go on...
103. DAFE: I dropped out of school, against my parents wishes and the two of us came to Abuja. I was going to be a father, I couldn't dull.
104. ZAINAB: Wow, that was a big step. It was very brave of you.
105. DAFE: I thought I was doing it for the woman I loved and our child. So imagine my shock when I went to the hospital and they said, see your child. It was a white baby.
106. ZAINAB: Oh my God. What did you say to Angela?
107. DAFE: She had disappeared. Come and see how the nurses were looking at me with pity.
108. ZAINAB: **(SYMPATHETIC)** Eyaaa. So you took the baby? Why?
109. DAFE: I couldn't abandon the baby like that just because her mother did me wrong. I wouldn't have felt right. I took her to my parents while I came back here to find my fortune.
110. ZAINAB: **(EMOTIONAL)** Oh Dafe, you're so kind.
111. DAFE: That's the whole story. I know you've been hurt in the past Zainab, but please, I'm not your ex. I won't hurt you like he did. As you can see, I too have been hurt in the past, but I won't let it stop me from having a future.
112. ZAINAB: **(SILENCE AS SHE MULLS OVER WHAT HE SAID)**
113. DAFE: Please forgive me, Zainab. I love you and I wish I had been more open with you from the start but when you said you couldn't date a man with kids..

114. **ZAINAB:** I'm sorry too, Dafe. I should have let you explain yourself. I love you too.
115. **DAFE:** I want you to marry me, Zainab. This isn't the way I planned on asking you but say you agree?
116. **ZAINAB:** **(CRYING WITH JOY)** Yes, I will marry you Dafe.
117. **DAFE:** **(SIGHS WITH JOY)** Thank you, Zainab. I love you.
118. **ZAINAB:** What of Chacha though. I don't want her trouble.
119. **DAFE:** I'm pressing charges against Chacha and her boys. They've all be arrested.
120. **ZAINAB:** **(WORRIED)** But what if she's bailed.
121. **DAFE:** Zainab my dear, you worry too much. You've just agreed to be Mrs. Dafe Ogaga. Please let me savour the moment on my sickbed.
122. **BOTH:** **(LAUGH)**
123. **MUSIC:** **THEME MUSIC UP AND UNDER**