

EPISODE 26: SECOND CHANCE

Characters:

Ehi

Yankat

Dafe

Zainab

Mimi

Osato

Scene 1

Mimi's hospital room, daytime

1. **MUSIC:** BRIDGE UP AND FADE
2. **SFX:** SOFT KNOCK ON DOOR
3. **YANKAT:** (SOFTLY) Hi Mimi. How are you doing?
4. **MIMI:** Oh Yankat; it's so good to see you! It's been so long.
5. **YANKAT:** I know. I'm so sorry I couldn't come sooner. How are you feeling now?
6. **MIMI:** I'm feeling alright. Much better than when I first was admitted. In fact they say I'm free to go by tomorrow.
7. **YANKAT:** Tomorrow eh? We thank God.
8. **MIMI:** Yes o. But what about you? How have you been? *Where* have you been?
9. **YANKAT:** Oh Mimi; so much has happened over the past few days.
10. **MIMI:** (SURPRISED) Really? Well you have to share then!
11. **YANKAT:** It's such a long story ... don't worry, when you get home, okay? I'll gist you from the beginning.
12. **MIMI:** (CONSPIRATORIALLY) You've gone quiet on me again ...
13. **YANKAT:** Oh no no, Mimi, I'm not dodging you, I swear! I'm finally free to share my secrets with you. I promise I'll tell you everything once you're settled in at home, eh?
14. **MIMI:** Okay o. I will have to remember to ask you.

15. **YANKAT:** **(SERIOUSLY)** What about Osato? How is he doing?
16. **MIMI:** **(QUIETLY)** Well ... he's still on admission. **(SOBS GENTLY)** The doctors say he's not getting better either.
17. **YANKAT:** **(CONSOLING)** Oh Mimi, I'm sorry to hear that. Take heart, eh? At least his condition is stable, he's not getting any worse.
18. **MIMI:** **(SNIFFLING)** You're right. That's something to be thankful for. That's what my mother and sister told me as well.
19. **YANKAT:** **(CONFUSED)** Your who?
20. **MIMI:** Yes Yankat. To God be the glory; I've finally found my mother and sister.
21. **YANKAT:** **(HAPPILY)** Your mother and twin sister that you've been searching for all this while? That's great news! I'm so glad for you!
22. **MIMI:** Thank you, my dear. I appreciate it. It was all God's work; we just managed to find each other here at the hospital.
23. **YANKAT:** But where are they now? Are they still here?
24. **MIMI:** No they've gone back home for now. But I think they may be back tomorrow to see me home.
25. **YANKAT:** Oh, how beautiful! I'm so happy for you Mimi! Now you just need to concentrate on getting stronger so you can take care of Osato when he wakes up.
26. **SFX:** **BRIDGE MUSIC**

Scene 2

Dafe and Zainab's new place, daytime

27. **SFX:** **SOUND BED OF PARTY MUSIC PLAYING SOFTLY OFF MIC AND GENERAL CHATTER AND CLINKS OF GLASSES**
28. **DAFE:** **(PLAYFULLY)** How are you enjoying your wedding reception, Mrs Zainab Dafe Ogaga?
29. **ZAINAB:** **(LAUGHS)** I'm enjoying it, but I'm looking forward till *after* it, when I get to spend time alone with my new husband ...

30. **DAFE:** You better enjoy the reception too o! After how much we spent on it.
31. **ZAINAB:** **(LAUGHING)** Must you always be a penny-counter, Dafe? After all, isn't that why we've decided to hold off having a baby for a year? To build our savings?
32. **DAFE:** So that we can move out of this small apartment and into a bigger one with more space for my beautiful family.
33. **ZAINAB:** And I'll do my part and continue taking the injectables until after the baby comes. Then maybe I'll switch to something more ... long-term.
34. **DAFE:** That makes sense. Everything is more convenient that way.
35. **ZAINAB:** Plus I don't even have to wait to start learning how to be a mother; with little Gift coming along I already feel like I've started the journey.
36. **DAFE:** **(SIGHS HAPPILY)** It's amazing how open and free I've learned to feel around you, Zainab. What can't I talk to you about?
37. **ZAINAB:** Isn't that what makes a good marriage? Being partners with a common goal, working together by communicating with each other.
38. **DAFE:** All those things and more that we'll learn on the way.
39. **ZAINAB:** Yes.
40. **DAFE:** By the way; did you enjoy the guy that came to talk about family planning today?
41. **ZAINAB:** Yes; I thought he did a good job! He really explained it well.
42. **DAFE:** I thought so too. I'm glad we were able to use our wedding to show people that normal, everyday Nigerians just like them are using family planning and are happy with it.
43. **ZAINAB:** **(PLAYFUL)** Hmmm, it's like I married Mr. *No Dulling* himself! I guess that makes me Mrs. *No Dulling*.
44. **SFX:** **BRIDGE MUSIC**

Scene 3

Ehi's flat, evening

45. **SFX:** **CRICKETS OFF-MIC, SYMBOLIZING EVENINGTIME**
46. **YANKAT:** **(EXCITED)** And did you hear the guy that came to talk about family planning during the wedding?
47. **EHI:** Yes I did, Yankat. I really enjoyed his speech.
48. **YANKAT:** Even me, Ehi! And I didn't even know there were so many other satisfied users like us around – did you hear how people were clapping for him?
49. **EHI:** **(LAUGHING)** Yes o. They almost didn't let the poor man finish his speech!
50. **YANKAT:** It was really something!
51. **EHI:** I think us satisfied users have a duty to speak up about it so that less people see family planning as something strange.
52. **YANKAT:** Abi – or as something that not many people are doing.
53. **EHI:** **(PLAYFULLY)** Maybe we should give our own testimonies at our own wedding.
54. **YANKAT:** **(LAUGHS)** And that's actually not a bad idea at all o!
55. **EHI:** Mmm. One long year until the big day. I don't even know if I can wait.
56. **YANKAT:** **(PLAYFULLY)** *You* can't wait? Me that I've already asked Mimi and NK to be my bridesmaids!
57. **EHI:** **(LAUGHING)** You no dey waste time o!
58. **YANKAT:** **(EXCITED)** Yes o – ever moving! Or, as Dafe would say, “No time, no dulling!”
59. **EHI:** **(LAUGHS)**
60. **YANKAT:** **(TURNING SOMBER)** And before we know it now I will be in Benin for school ...
61. **EHI:** **(SERIOUS)** I know, I try not to think about it. I will miss you so much when you're not around ...
62. **YANKAT:** Don't worry, it will only be for a short time. Besides you will be coming to visit me now abi?

63. **EHI:** I don't know o! That's if your Uncle Nate will be giving me time off from your father's business to come and visit you.
64. **YANKAT:** **(LAUGHS)** Is it the same Uncle Nate we're talking about? Uncle Nate that cannot say no to me?
65. **EHI:** But you know he told me we were going to be working very hard on your father's business to build it back up? And seeing how far the business had fallen with nobody to run it ...
66. **YANKAT:** Don't worry yourself too much about that, Ehi. I'm sure Uncle Nate will be understanding.
67. **EHI:** I hope so o, Yankat ...
68. **YANKAT:** **(TEASING)** Or is it that he intimidated you when you first met him o, with the way he interrogated you? Is that what the problem is?
69. **SFX:** **BRIDGE MUSIC**

Scene 4

Osato's hospital room, nighttime

70. **SFX:** **SOUND BED OF HOSPITAL MACHINES BEEPING IN THE ROOM**
71. **MIMI:** **(SHOCKED)** Osato ... Osato, did you just squeeze my hand? Osato my love, are you awake? Osato!
72. **OSATO:** **(HOARSE)** Mimi ... Mimidoo ...
73. **MIMI:** **(EXCITED)** Osato you're awake! Nurse! Nurse! Let me go and get the nurse to come and check you!
74. **OSATO:** Wait Mimi! Don't go ...
75. **MIMI:** I'm here Osato! I'm not going anywhere! This is a miracle! Our God is a living God!
76. **OSATO:** I kept hearing your voice in my sleep ... I knew you were nearby, but I couldn't open my eyes ...

77. **MIMI:** I've been here ever since I got discharged as well Osato my love! And all the doctors said you may never wake up again, but you're talking to me now – praise God!
78. **OSATO:** Don't worry my dear, I'm awake now. By God's grace I will only keep getting better.
79. **MIMI:** **(EMPHATICALLY)** AMEN!
80. **OSATO:** What about ... Charlie? How is he?
81. **MIMI:** He's fine Osato. My sister and mother have been looking after him for us.
82. **OSATO:** **(CONFUSED)** Your ... sister and mother? So you found them?
83. **MIMI:** Yes; and would you believe that my mother is Baaba! And Mairo is my twin sister!
84. **OSATO:** **(VOICE GETTING STRONGER)** You don't mean it?? Tell me everything!
85. **MIMI:** **(SOOTHING)** All in good time, my husband. When you're feeling better I will tell you the whole story.
86. **OSATO:** Okay my dear. I'm happy that you were able to accomplish your grandma's dying wish. I know how important it was to you.
87. **MIMI:** It was, and I'm so very happy I was able to fulfill it. But I got to thinking, and I don't think that was my real dream ...
88. **OSATO:** Really? Then what is?
89. **MIMI:** I think my real dream is to do whatever it takes to plan my family so that I can be strong and healthy enough to care for them and nurture them.
90. **OSATO:** **(PLAYFULLY BUT STILL WEAK)** Ah ah Mimi; while I've just woken up, still on the hospital bed you're talking about family planning? Must I remind you that I'm still too weak to be intimate with you?
91. **MIMI:** **(LAUGHING)** Of course; my Osato is back! I know that whenever someone says family planning, the first thing on your mind is the sexual aspect – your favorite benefit from planning!
92. **OSATO:** You can't blame me nau, Mimi. Isn't that everybody's favorite aspect?
93. **MIMI:** It's not mine o.

94. **OSATO:** Really? So what's your own favorite aspect of family planning?
95. **MIMI:** I have two actually.
96. **OSATO:** Tell me.
97. **MIMI:** Well, one is that it helps me maintain my figure and my looks.
98. **OSATO:** **(LAUGHS)** That's a good one that I'm also enjoying too. And what's the second one?
99. **MIMI:** The other is that it gives you the opportunity to achieve a successful family life.
100. **OSATO:** Hmm ... ultimately you're right, my Mimidoo. Family is what's most important, and I'm so glad we can agree on that.
101. **MUSIC:** **BRIDGE UP AND FADE**