

EPISODE 8

Characters

Dafe

Zainab

Mimi

Osato

Femi

ChaCha

Scene 1

Chachas peppersoup/burukutu joint, Mpape

1. **SFX:** **BRIDGE UP AND FADE**

2. **SFX:** **SHOP AMBIENCE. MUSIC PLAYING IN THE BACKGROUND
FOOTSTEPS WALKING. STOPS ON MIC**

3. **DAFE:** **(DULL)** Hello o, Madam Chacha!

4. **CHACHA:** **(ELATED)** Heey! Dafe my guy. So you really came after all that happened the last time we were together. Oh, thank you. Come sit.

5. **DAFE:** **(DRYLY)** Actually, I didn't want to come because I didn't have the strength for another performance. But for the sake of friendship, abi?

6. **CHACHA:** Yes of course now. Oh, but Dafe, I don't like the look on your face jor.

7. **DAFE:** Well ChaCha I can't help it. So what's up? Any more of your street fights for me to watch?

8. **CHACHA:** **(LAUGHS)** Oh Dafe, you are not serious o. So I am now the area fighter abi? But my brother, that last fight ehn, has drained my pocket o kai.

9. **DAFE:** **(SNICKERS)** Really? How is that?

10. **CHACHA:** **(CHUCKLES)** My eye has opened o. When next I fight, I will fight with sense. They said I damaged that woman's house front and that I must pay for the repairs. Then to worsen the matter, they said as I injured the woman's back, I must cover her hospital bills. Imagine!

- 11. DAFE:** Imagine? ChaCha you need to calm down. Life is not all about *gragra*. You have to be smarter than that. Besides you're a lady.
- 12. CHACHA:** Abeg leave that thing. I am an African woman. I noh be lady at all o. *Na as Fela talk am, na so I be.*
- 13. DAFE:** *Na you sabi*, ChaCha. See how you throw your money away on petty fights after you will say you want to save to expand your business!
- 14. CHACHA:** Ah-an Dafe, but it's not my fault that people always provoke me.
- 15. DAFE:** Okay agreed. What about if you stop drinking so much, maybe you'd be less provoked. My problem with you is that you are always 'high'. I've seen you stand up to fight some of these thuggish guys and I'm afraid for you o.
- 16. CHACHA:** Abegi, do you realize I'm the daughter of a *burukutu* seller?! Look Dafe, alcohol can't shake me! I am not a drunkard, I'm a drinkist, you hear! **(CHUCKLES BOASTFULLY)** Alcohol is my water.
- 17. DAFE:** **(LAUGHS)** You try o, Chacha. Water abi? I can imagine that's what you drank with food during your childhood.
- 18. CHACHA:** **(LAUGHS)** Right from my naming ceremony, I have been a drinkist, ask my mother. They used it to wash my mouth.
- 19. DAFE:** You are just a case. A real handful. **(IN WONDER)** Ah, Chacha!!
- 20. CHACHA:** It's okay o, Headmaster Dafe, I've heard what you've said and I will change! Now I hope you will eat some peppersoup, eh? I just made it.
- 21. DAFE:** Oh Thanks so much Chacha I would love some.
- 22. CHACHA:** But I will give you cold water o, because if I want to give you 'your usual' now. You will start talking again, saying it's too early.
- 23. DAFE:** **(LAUGHS)** I am glad you know o, ChaCha. besides I am not a drinkist like you, so I must be sober at this time of day.
- 24. CHACHA:** You want to start talking again. Am I not sober like this? **(FLIRTATIOUSLY)** Okay, come back later tonight, I will show you I'm

very sober. **(LAUGHS SEDUCTIVELY)** Or haven't you missed your ChaCha?

25. DAFE: **(UNAFFECTED)** Chacha, we agreed that it's better we're just friends. That former matter is over between us. Unless you feel you can't accept that...

26. CHACHA: Hmmm Osato. Do you know how many people are begging me to agree for them??? Anyway, its your loss!

27. DAFE: If you say so, ChaCha. Anyway is that peppersoup offer still on ground? Because I have to go soon o.

28. CHACHA: Hmmm Dafe, your *shakara* is too much sef! You're so scarce these days and now you want to rush off again! *Haba!*

29. DAFE: Ahn-ahn but ChaCha, you know I'm very busy now. Besides, I'm off to Benin tomorrow to see my princess, Gift. I have a lot to do before then.

30. SFX: **BRIDGE MUSIC**

Scene 2

Mimi and Osatso Residence

31. SFX: **AN INFANT CRIES. STOPS.**

32. SFX: **SOUND OF A BED CREAKING AS SOMEONE SITS DOWN**

33. OSATO: Hmmm Mimi, he is finally asleep, thank God. He must be tired from the journey as I'm sure you are as well.

34. MIMI: No o, Osato. Actually I can't even sleep. I think I'll go to the parlour and watch tv. You rest, you've had a long day.

35. OSATO: **(CONCERNED)** Ah Mimidoo, that is very unlike you. You've not been yourself all evening. If there's a problem you can talk to me.

36. MIMI: **(FRUSTRATED)** Its just so unfair Osato, all the stress to Kano and back. And for what?! I'm no closer to finding my mom and sister!

- 37. OSATO:** Mimi calm down. It's okay you will have better luck next time.
- 38. MIMI:** **(DOWNCAST)** But what was the point of my going to Kano, eh, Osato? It's as if I just went for sight-seeing!
- 39. OSATO:** Mimi, remember from the beginning we knew it wasn't going to be easy. If it was a simple matter, don't you think your grandma would have located your mother and sister since?
- 40. MIMI:** **(SIGHS HEAVILY)** You're right, Osato. And on the bright side Detective Maiwasa called me on my way back from Kano.
- 41. OSATO:** Ah you didn't tell me that, Mimi. What did he say?
- 42. MIMI:** Nothing much. He said that he's been able to find a very distant relative of my mother's.
- 43. OSATO:** **(HAPPY)** Wow that's great... **(CONFUSED)** Ah but why are you not happy, Mimi? Is that not good news.
- 44. MIMI:** **(MOROSE)** Because, it's not. Anyway, this distant relative revealed that my mother was an orphan and she was not very close to any of her relatives especially after she married my dad.
- 45. OSATO:** Oh dear, what else did Maiwasa find out?
- 46. MIMI:** Well apparently, the aunty my mom stayed with when she returned to Kano after leaving Benue is long dead.
- 47. OSATO:** Wow! So your mom's people don't even know where she is?
- 48. MIMI:** Well, it kind of gets confusing after the part of the aunt dying, but apparently they think my mother, Maryam, hooked up with one military man and they went to Port Harcourt together.
- 49. OSATO:** Interesting, so they're assuming your mom married this military man? What's the the military mans name?
- 50. MIMI:** **(SIGH)** Maiwasa didn't get that. The old lady didn't know and she claimed that she was only assuming that my mom even married the military man.

51. **OSATO:** Come on Mimi, don't sound so defeated. I know you, you are an optimistic person. Don't give up.
52. **MIMI:** **(SIGH)** You are my pillar, Osato. If not for you... I don't even know! Thank you, my husband.
53. **SFX:** **BED CREAKS AS THEY EMBRACE**
54. **OSATO:** Ah if this kind of embrace is the result of me supporting you, I will support you any day, anytime.
55. **BOTH:** **(THEY LAUGH)**
56. **MIMI:** Thank you Osato, because you just helped me make my decision.
57. **OSATO:** **(CONFUSED)** Really? Mimi, what decision is that?
58. **MIMI:** I will be going to Port Harcourt to follow this next lead.
59. **OSATO:** **(SHOCKED)** What?! No! Mimi, what for?
60. **MIMI:** Ahn-ahn Osato, you're the one who just encouraged me to persevere in my search for my mum and sister. You said I shouldn't give up.
61. **OSATO:** I know. I am just worried about you. How are you going to manage with little Charlie on such a long journey with no assistance. You don't even know anyone or anywhere in Port Harcourt.
62. **MIMI:** True, but I will find my way around. I'm not a kid.
63. **OSATO:** Besides we don't even have the name of the officer that your mother allegedly followed to Port Harcourt. You can't just go there and...
64. **MIMI:** **(CUTS IN, PLEADING)** My darling husband, I know how you feel, but I have to do this. Don't forget I made a promise to Grandma on her deathbed o.
65. **OSATO:** **(SIGHS)** Okay, but at least let Detective MaiWasa find out this military officer's name that your mother may or may not have married before you go, okay?
66. **MUSIC:** **BRIDGE MUSIC**

Scene 3

Zainabs tailoring shop, Berger Camp

- 67. SFX:** **TAILORING SHOP AMBIENCE- SEWING MACHINE SOUNDS**
- 68. DAFE:** **(BRIGHTLY)** Good day Zainab. How are you? How is business?
- 69. ZAINAB:** **(PLEASANTLY SURPRISED)** Ah! Dafe, what a pleasant surprise. You look well compared to last time I saw you.
- 70. DAFE:** Thank you, Zainab. I'm sure I won't look this well if it were not for you.
- 71. ZAINAB:** Oh please, what do you mean? It's been awhile now. Don't get me wrong, I'm pleased to see you but I had hoped by now you'd have forgotten about the whole matter.
- 72. DAFE:** Ah no o. I'm so sorry I haven't come to thank you again properly since. It's just that I had to travel to Benin to see my family. I just got back. I'm sorry.
- 73. ZAINAB:** Awww, welcome back. And Dafe, really there is no need for an apology, and there is even less need for an extra thank you.
- 74. DAFE:** Ah! You are on your own o. My entire family is so grateful for what you did for me. They just kept praying for you. In fact, my mother sent me back with this palm oil that she made herself. It's her expertise.
- 75. ZAINAB:** Ah! My goodness. She shouldn't have.
- 76. DAFE:** Are you going to reject a mother's gift? Anyway, her message is "silver and gold has she not. But that you will enjoy this palm oil till the last drop." **(THEY LAUGH)** I will drop it at this corner.
- 77. SFX:** **NYLON BAG SOUND. A MILD THUD.**
- 78. ZAINAB:** Oh thank you so much. But there was really no need for this.
- 79. DAFE:** Stop saying that, you don't know what you did. In life generally, people only look out for themselves, they don't consider helping others. Then imagine what now happened that day, and you still took

out time to help me so much. Ah, please Zainab allow me to be grateful.

- 80. ZAINAB:** (LAUGHING) Okay I'll allow you to be grateful. Thank you.
- 81. DAFE:** Now, I also got you a little something, its a silver bracelet, accept it as a sign of my gratitude.
- 82. ZAINAB:** (EMBARRASSED) Dafe?! Im sorry but I can't take such a gift from you. No...
- 83. DAFE:** (DISSAPPOINTED) Oh you don't like it. Okay, I can change it, and get a finer one....
- 84. ZAINAB** (CUTS IN) I didn't say it is not fine. I'm just saying I can't accept it. No, the palm oil as a 'thank you' is fine. But this, is way too much.
- 85. DAFE:** (AMAZED) Wow Zainab, I am impressed, I had no idea there were still girls like you in town.
- 86. ZAINAB:** Well, thank you for the compliment (PAUSES) it sounded like one. But 'no, thank you' for this bracelet.
- 87. DAFE:** I didn't mean to offend you. Its just that you don't know what you did. Please accept this bracelet from me as the final thank you. After today, I promise you, no more gifts and no more thank you's. Next time I will only be talking about needles, threads, ankaras, lace, akpouche, erm... what is this material called?
- 88. ZAINAB:** (LAUGHS) You're not serious. Okay I accept the gift. Thank you.
- 89. DAFE:** I am glad that is over. Well, I should be on my way now, especially when I know I have been distracting you from your work.
- 90. ZAINAB:** Of course you're not. You are welcome here anytime. I could do with some distraction.
- 91. DAFE:** In that case, I will drop by again soon, but I will give you a call before I do.

92. ZAINAB: Okay..... Erm Dafe, sorry but, I hope you won't mind calling your mother now for me. Please. I would like to thank her personally for the palm oil.

93. DAFE: **(PLEASED)** Yes of course, Zainab. I will call her Mama now. She will be very happy to speak to you.

94. MUSIC: **BRIDGE MUSIC**

Scene 4

Zainabs tailoring shop, Berger Camp

95. SFX: **TAILORING SHOP AMBIENCE- SEWING MACHINE SOUNDS**

96. FEMI: Ermm Zainab, oh sorry, I meant Mrs Dafe.

97. ZAINAB: **(SHOCKED)** What?! Femi! Are you mentally okay?!

98. FEMI: Ahn-ahn why the noise? Is it because you are now the new Mrs. Dafe?

99. ZAINAB: Femi will you stop that. Abeg o free me o. I don't even know anything about him.

100. FEMI: Ah what do you need to know again. It's obvious he likes you and is toasting you.

101. ZAINAB: See Femi! Did you see him? Tall, dark and handsome. Guys like him are usually not single. He probably has a girlfriend.

102. FEMI: A girlfriend that he must have dropped for you! See him letting you speak to his mother. Look Zainab, I'm a guy so I know what that means. He is serious about you!

103. ZAINAB: Femi?! Are you on drugs? Someone I'm just meeting for the second time!

104. FEMI: Ah, stay there, make cloth dey wear you. Zainab, don't you know that by speaking to his mother, you have collected automatic Visa. As in you have more or less become engaged to him.

- 105. ZAINAB:** Hey Femi! You're a shameless eavesdropper. All that time Dafe was here, you were acting as if you were listening to radio on your phone.
- 106. FEMI:** **(UNAPOLOGETIC)** Yes and I'm just happy to see you coming out of your shell, Zainab. You can't let the past continue to affect you like that.
- 107. ZAINAB:** Well, even though Dafe seems like a nice guy, I still have to get to know more about him, before I can trust him.
- 108. FEMI:** **(TEASING)** So that was why you gave him free visa to come here anytime abi?
- 109. ZAINAB:** **(CHUCKLES)** At least with that, I would get to know him better. Like through this visit I realized his family lives in Benin. A friendship grows when people involved talk. And trust comes through that.
- 110. FEMI:** Hmmm you are so right, communication is the key to trust. You know at first, my Ify was very shy to discuss Family Planning with me. But through communication, our trust grew and we were finally able to pick the method we are both very satisfied with.
- 111. ZAINAB:** **(TEASING)** Hmm Femi, you and these your stories o. Tell me why do all your personal romance stories have to do with family planning?
- 112. FEMI:** Zainab you can't blame me o. I am sure its all those "Get it Together" adverts around town that keep it fresh in his mind. Besides, what is more romantic than Family Planning? It is the way of sharp people jor. And I'm satisfied with my method so why shouldn't I talk about it?
- 113. ZAINAB:** Abi..... **(PAUSES)** Femi, can I ask you a serious question.
- 114. FEMI:** You know you can Zainab. Whats up?
- 115. ZAINAB:** What is your sincere opinion of Dafe? I want an honest answer.
- 116. FEMI:** Hmm Well Zainab, to me o, I can tell that the guy likes you, but the issue is not him, the issue is you. Because, I don't know if you will be willing to give him a chance.
- 117. SFX:** **BRIDGE UP AND FADE**