

**LEARNING BY EAR - “Girls’ Rights”**

**EPISODE 8:**

**Title: Leadership - Mentoring – A Story of Girls’ Rights**

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**Characters:**

**SCENE 1 - SCHOOL ASSEMBLY**

Narrator - 30s Male  
Cheptoo - 15 Female  
Students - mixture  
Fatuma - 14 Female  
Abdi - 15 Male  
Headmaster - 40s Male

**SCENE 2 - CIRO PARENT’S HOMESTEAD**

Ciro - 14 Female  
Mama Ciro - 40s Female

**SCENE 3 - SCHOOL COMPOUND**

Ciro - 14 Female  
Cheptoo - 15 Female  
Abdi - 15 Male  
3 Boys - 14/15s Male

**SCENE 4 - PLAYING FIELDS**

Ciro - 14 Female  
Cheptoo - 15 Female  
Abdi - 15 Male  
Fatuma - 14 Female  
Narrator - 30s Male

**SCENE 5 - TEACHER MONA’S OFFICE**

Ciro - 14 Female  
Cheptoo - 15 Female

Fatuma - 14 Female  
Teacher Mona - 35 Female  
About 4 mixed students (14-16)

**SCENE 6 SCHOOL YARD**

Ciro  
Cheptoo  
Abdi  
Fatuma  
Narrator  
5-8 mixed students (14-16)

**SCENE 7 - SCHOOL ASSEMBLY**

Ciro - 14 Female  
Cheptoo - 15 Female  
Fatuma - 14 Female  
Abdi - 15 Male  
Headmaster - 40s Male  
Narrator - 30s Male  
5-8 mixed students

**01. INTRO**

**02. MUSIC: THEME MUSIC**

**03. NARRATOR**

Hello and welcome to Episode **Eight** of our “Learning by Ear” **Girl Rights** series. In the last episode, Fatuma, Ciro and Cheptoo became victims of peer pressure and were even suspended for two weeks. Now they are back at school again.

In today’s episode, we look at girls’ rights when it comes to leadership. Let’s listen as the girls’ debate this topic at the ‘Girls Parliament’.

**SCENE 1: SCHOOL ASSEMBLY**

**04. SFX: STUDENTS MURMURING (studio)**

**05. HEADMASTER**

Good morning students.

**06. STUDENTS**

Good morning Head Master.

**07. HEADMASTER** As you all know, it will soon be time for prefects and club officials elections. Those who wish to be elected as leaders should submit their names to Teacher Mona who will take charge of the election process.

Let me remind you all that when you vote, you will be voting for strong leadership abilities. Your favourite candidates must have good leadership skills... must be confident, selfless and so on... Make sure you have the qualities before submitting your name!

**08. CHEPTOO** (LOUD WHISPER) I think I should stand for the elections.

**09. FATUMA** Cheptoo, you think too highly of yourself.

**10. ABDI** (LOUD WHISPER) Silence, you girls. You see.. this is why you can't be leaders?

**11. HEADMASTER** (LOUDLY) Silence over there!

**12. BRIDGE MUSIC**

**SCENE 2 CIRO PARENT'S HOMESTEAD**

**13. SFX: FARM NOISES**

14. **CIRO** Mother, my friend Cheptoo wants to be elected as Head Girl. But we have only ever had Head Boys. Do you think she is making the right decision? She is my friend and I am afraid for her.
15. **MAMA CIRO** You girls have enough trouble in school without compounding it with leadership issues.....
16. **CIRO** But can't a girl be a leader?
17. **MAMA CIRO** Let your crazy friend Cheptoo do what she likes, she always wants to be a show-off anyway. Don't you... But, well, let her try. It will be rough. The boys will give her a hard time. They will tell her she is a girl and that she can't lead. But I guess she has to get her own personal experience and show you all the way.

**18. BRIDGE MUSIC**

**SCENE 3 SCHOOL COMPOUND**

**19. SFX: SCHOOL YARD NOISES**

20. **CHEPTOO** Students.. Students... it is time we had a female school head. I am ready to ...
21. **BOYS** BOOOOOO OOOOOO

22. **ABDI** (mimicking) students.. Students.. it is time.... What, Cheptoo, girls can't be leaders... Too late, Cheptoo, you can come down from your stage! I have already informed the school that I am standing for the position of Head Prefect.

23. **CIRO** Abdi, you are my cousin but you can be terrible.....what makes you think Cheptoo can't be a better Head Prefect than you? Give her a chance to campaign.

24. **ABDI** nyenye nyenye,..... let Cheptoo campaign.... She is wasting her time. Do you hear me asking her to give me a chance to campaign? Why must she be treated as something special? She is wasting her time and breath.

25. **CHEPTOO** Listen... listen.. you boys and girls. Abdi, I am not asking you to 'let' me campaign. I am simply, like you, expressing an interest in the position. You campaign and I campaign. Girls can also be effective leaders, you know!

26. **ABDI** (SHOUTING) Stop wasting time, girls are followers not leaders. You take care of US, not the other way round.
27. **CIRO** Cheptoo.. Chepii.. Chepiii.. come down here. Forget about this for now... come, let's go and debate this.
28. **CHEPTOO** Ok.. Ciro.. help me down.
29. **CIRO** Ok Madam Head Girl. (HEAVES) Hey... you Abdi, bring the boys to the field, we are going to debate this leadership issue.
30. **ABDI** OK!! Let's see what you girls have to say.

31. **BRIDGE MUSIC**

**SCENE 4 PLAYING FIELDS**

32. **SOUNDS: PLAYING FIELDS SOUNDS**

33. **CIRO** I float the motion that girls can be equally effective leaders, as good if not better than boys.
34. **ABDI** I have said it again and again. Girls can not be leaders. You are too weak.

35. **CHEPTOO** Would you have said the same of the famous Kenyan environmental activist Wangari Mathaai, or Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, the president of Liberia? There *ARE* women leaders out there, not to forget the powerful German Chancellor, Angela Merkel.
36. **ABDI** Yes.. yes.. but you can't count them on two hands.
37. **FATUMA** There are women chiefs, State Ministers.. they are there.
38. **ABDI** We boys do not deny that they are there. But see how few they are? That means they don't do well.
39. **CIRO** Abdi, you are such a pain. Tell me, what do boys have that the girls do not.
40. **ABDI** aaagggggh.. you are just weak, that is all. Vote for me as Head Boy.. vote for the *strong* candidate!
41. **CHEPTOO** Weak.. weak.. did you say...? Why don't you admit you are afraid of us.
42. **ABDI** Afraid? Afraid? Who is afraid of you?



**43. SFX: BELL RINGS**

44. **CIRO** Now see what you have done? We have barely debated.

45. **CHEPTOO** Hurry, lets get back to our classes. Later, we will ask Teacher Mona to join us for a bigger debate.

**46. BRIDGE MUSIC**

47. **NARRATOR** That did not get them far. Listen on to their discussions with Teacher Mona.

**SCENE 5 TEACHER MONA'S OFFICE**

**48. SFX: office, people quietly talking in the background**

49. **CHEPTOO** Teacher Mona, can you help us.

50. **TEACHER MONA** What can I do for you today, ladies?

51. **CIRO** Cheptoo is campaigning for the position of Head Girl and the boys are mocking her.

52. **CHEPTOO** And Ciro wants to be a Class Monitor but is so afraid of being ridiculed and hurt.

53. **TEACHER MONA** Ooh dear

54. **CHEPTOO** What do we do? No one is taking us seriously and Fatuma here is so...so..so.
55. **FATUMA** scared Teacher... I am scared for my friends and me. Maybe they should not stand for elections.
56. **TEACHER MONA** Fatuma.. Fatuma.. that is exactly what the boys want. They want you to give up. Will you give them that joy?
57. **FATUMA** No, teacher.
58. **TEACHER MONA** That's my girl.
59. **CHEPTOO** I have an idea. Maybe we should rig the elections
60. **ALL** Cheptoooooooo!!!
61. **CHEPTOO** I was only kidding.
62. **TEACHER MONA** Girls, first, there is a lot to learn about leadership. Secondly, you need a campaign strategy. Now.. there are several issues about leadership that you need mentoring on... This is what we will do.....
63. **BRIDGE MUSIC**
64. **SCENE 6 SCHOOL YARD**

65. **NARRATOR** Teacher Mona takes on the role of Mentor and tutors the girls. Let's see how well they do.
66. **SFX: School yard**
67. **CIRO** Boys and Girls. We all want a School leader that understands our needs. A leader who is giving. One who gets the best out of a team and has a vision. One, who, even when the road gets tough, will continue, never losing sight of the objective. That is the person we want to vote for. Boys and Girls, put your hands together for our candidate Cheptoo.
68. **SFX: GIRLS CLAPPING AND CHEERING; BOYS BOOING**  
**(studio)**
69. **CHEPTOO** Boys and Girls, I stand here in front of you as your future leader. The issue here is not whether the leader is a boy or a girl. That is not the issue. The issue is competence. The ability to lead.

70. **ABDI** How will you manage to talk to the boys, will they listen to you? It is easier for them to listen to me. They are boys.. like me!
71. **CHEPTOO** I speak about issues. Issues that affect us all, whether boys or girl. School cleanliness, teacher-student-relations, school discipline and so on. I will represent your views to the school management.
72. **ABDI** For a girl you are speaking lots of sense. Maybe I should borrow a few ideas from you! Seriously!
73. **CHEPTOO** For a leader, I speak a lot of sense. My gender does not come into it. How about you Abdi, do you speak for the boys? Would the girls vote for your leadership skills?
74. **ABDI** Well... well.. what I mean is... well.. you see...

75. **CIRO** Vote for Cheptoo, Vote for Cheptoo,  
Vote for Cheptoo
76. **FATUMA** Cheptoo for Head Prefect, Cheptoo for  
Head Prefect.
77. **ABDI** (LOUD WHISPER) well.. I'm impressed  
or what? Well, let's go to vote and see  
who wins. They decide, not you and me!
78. **CIRO** Abdi, did I hear you right?
79. **ABDI** Yes.. now I am convinced, even a girl  
can do this job. Some of us have been  
stereotyping and assuming girls can't  
lead because they are girls. We were  
wrong. Let's go to vote.
80. **FATUMA** I wonder where such thoughts come  
from. It must be our upbringing.
81. **CIRO** Yes, we girls also grow up not believing  
we can lead. We must believe it. Then  
the boys, I think, are brought up  
believing they should take care of their  
sisters by making sure they are the  
leaders. But these are beliefs of the  
past.

**82. CHEPTOO** But now we know better. I am confident if I campaign well and let people focus on what I can do rather than on whether I am a boy or girl, we will get there. Vote for me. Vote for Cheptoo!

**83. BRIDGE MUSIC**

**84. NARRATOR** Cheptoo has indeed made headway, but will she get voted in?

**SCENE 7: SCHOOL ASSEMBLY**

**85. SFX: students' noise (studio)**

**86. HEADMASTER** Boys and Girls, as your Head Master, I wish to congratulate you for the way you presented yourselves in the elections that have just been concluded. Today we have made history. I wish to announce the results.

(CLEARS THROAT)

Our Head Prefect who will take over the leadership early next year is: Cheptoo!!!

**87. SFX: STUDENTS CHEERING AND CLAPPING**

**88. CHEPTOO** We made it, we made it...

**89. CIRO** Cheptoo... I am so proud of you..

90. **FATUMA** Cheptoo..... you did it.. you did it...
91. **CHEPTOO** My friends, please it was not me who did it. It was team work. You all played your roles. Don't say I made it. Please say 'we made it'. We did it together, you my friends, the girls and even the boys. Thank you all. I will also be calling on your support when I actually take over the role of Head Girl.
92. **CIRO** Well.. well... spoken like a leader
93. **ABDI** Indeed, spoken like the leader we want. Well done. Hats off to you, Madam Head Girl.
94. **THEME MUSIC**

**95. OUTRO**

**96. NARRATOR**

It has been a tough journey to leadership. But the girls have made it. Cheptoo will have to prove that she can lead as well as any other leader, even one of the boys! In the next episode, the girls debate their sexuality. If you want to listen again to this episode or tell your friends about it, please visit our website at [dwworld.de/lbe](http://dwworld.de/lbe).

Your comments are most welcome.