[Opening – Lights Dim. Spotlight on Host seated casually with a flask of tea.]

HOST:

You ever notice how in Kenya, when life slaps you, you don't cry? You just throw a joke back like, "Si hata slap ya mjengo huamka nayo kesho."

Welcome to *Kenyans Don't Cry — They Just Make Jokes*, the only show where therapy is replaced with black tea, and instead of a licensed counselor, you get me — a qualified survivor of HELB, heartbreak, and ndengu.

[Pause. Sip tea. Audience laughs.]

[Segment 1: Ushago & Village Life Edition]

You know you're in ushago when gossip travels faster than Safaricom's 5G. And cows? Cows in ushago don't just moo. They judge. They look at you like, "This one came from Nairobi and can't even boil water."

[Beat.]

And when cucu hides her money under the mattress, it's not poverty. It's ancestral banking.

ACT-OUT: [Mimic cucu stuffing money under mattress.] "This one is for church, this one is for funeral, this one is for when KRA finds me."

[Segment 2: Nairobi Love, Heartbreak & MPESA Statements]

Let's talk about Nairobi love. Love in Nairobi is like a matatu — beautiful from outside, dangerous when you get inside, and at some point, you'll be told, "Hii ni ya mwisho."

You'll fall for someone because they said "Hey" and sent you 50 bob. Only in Nairobi can emotional damage come with a transaction code.

ACT-OUT: [Pull out phone. Pretend to cry while scrolling MPESA.]

"Awww, Bae sent me 30 bob... then reversed it."

[Segment 3: Hustler Life Chronicles]

Kenyan hustle is different. You'll sell smokies at noon, design logos at 2, DJ at night, then end your day manifesting via TikTok live.

We budget like... "Okay, if I survive Monday and skip Tuesday, I can breathe on Wednesday."

ACT-OUT: [Hold imaginary calculator.]

"Airtime: 10. Unga: 200. Hope: priceless."

[Segment 4: Witchcraft & Dreams]

In ushago, dreams are serious business. You dream of a snake and suddenly cucu is pouring salt on the gate.

*ACT-OUT: [Sweeping salt on invisible doorstep. Whispering.]

"We must neutralize the energy. It was in the dream, but let's treat it in real life."

[Closing: Food, Tea & Resilience]

We survive heartbreak, hunger, and high fare with two things: chapati and sarcasm. Because in Kenya, your fridge can be empty, but your meme folder is full.

HOST (raising tea cup):

To everyone who has ever boiled water with no plan. To all of us surviving on strong tea and punchlines.

Because here?

WE DON'T CRY.

WE JUST MAKE JOKES.

[Music cue. Lights out. Audience applause.]

[Optional Audience Game: "Try Not to Laugh" Segment] Invite two audience members on stage. Read Kenyan dad jokes. First one to laugh — buys tea!