

Kenya warms her food in the microwave while her father, Kenneth, slices fruit on the counter. They're in mid conversation, discussing her recent breakup. She's just told her dad that her boyfriend has called it quits.

Kenya secretly resents her father for not being there for her emotionally.

Kenneth would kill for his daughter but is more tough than he is loving.

KENYA

Maybe if...

(thinks)

He says... He told me he'd rather take it day by day for now.

KENNETH

Code for I don't wanna commit.

KENYA

It's called communication.

KENNETH

It's called benefits without responsibility.

KENYA

Things have been off.

KENNETH

Because you're with the wrong dude.

KENYA

I should use the time to work on myself.

KENNETH

Can't argue with that.

KENYA

He's a good father.

KENNETH

Another strike against him.

KENYA

You had two kids when you met mom.

KENNETH

We're not talking about me.

KENYA

When are we ever talking about you?

Kenneth stops slicing his fruit. Takes a beat.

KENNETH

Boys like him don't deserve women  
like you.

Kenya giggles, grabs her food from the microwave.

KENNETH

You're a queen and--

KENYA

I'm a queen that deserves a king.  
Yada yada. Got the sentiments on  
reserve. It's the official slogan  
of the "woke" black girl at this  
point.

(being petty)

I'm a queen. Only a queen can have  
a king. I hold it down. Power  
couple. So basic. A definite red  
flag for I'm likely getting my ass  
beat and side chicks beware.

Kenneth nods.

Trying to provoke him, Kenya waits on a response.

KENNETH

Sit down your plate and get a few  
of these strawberries.

Kenya sits the plate on the counter. Watches him place the  
fruit on her plate.

KENNETH

We all need vitamins to keep us  
balanced. Here ya go.

She grabs the plate. Frustrated, she walk away.

KENNETH

You don't say thank you?

KENYA

Thank you.

KENNETH

I know why he does you like that.

She stops.

KENYA

Why?

KENNETH

Because he can. You complain, get the attitude, leave and return to sender like there wasn't a problem in the first place. Being a queen is an inherited position. And I agree with you. It's not a fad or a logo. Talk to your mama.

KENYA

Why would I talk to her?

KENNETH

She's a woman.

KENYA

That means?

KENNETH

She's a queen.

KENYA

Didn't we just cover that?

KENNETH

Your food's gonna get cold.

KENYA

This is why I don't do this.

KENNETH

Because you don't wanna listen.

KENYA

I listen when it makes sense.

KENNETH

Your mom is the smartest woman I know.

KENYA

Why would I--

KENNETH

Just talk to her about the boy and I'm sure she'll point you in the right direction.

KENYA

Why would I get advice from mom when she ended up with you?!

