

# RAIN QUEEN

Sizwe sa Mampofu

Author  
Keabetswe Mahlaba

# \*PROLOGUE\*

\*Mahlubandile\*

Zimkhitha : my king

I look at her with a smile , she  
graces me with an eye smile

She sits down

Me : my queen

I lean over giving her a kiss

She smiles fully now

Zimkhitha : should I be worried  
?

Me : about ?

Zimkhitha : you , you haven't  
been yourself

I sigh

Me : all our kids are grown , and  
they grew up right here in front

of our eyes . We saw them ,  
until they took up duties of their  
own . They've always been here  
, in our eyes

She smiles taking my hand

Zimkhitha : Kumkani , this is  
about Rain ?

Me : she's our last born ,  
honestly I don't feel very much

at ease with her leaving . And  
she is not just an ordinary child

Zimkhitha : she's 20 , and not a  
baby

I chuckle

Me : she's our baby

Zimkhitha : I know , but all she's  
asking for is to finish her degree

. And she will come back home ,  
let's be glad she accepted Wits  
instead of going to Dubai . This  
is her dream , let's not deny her  
. And Joburg is not far , we also  
lived there

Me : I am still not happy

She laughs



Zimkhitha : you have attachment issues , you will be fine . Your little queen is growing out of the wing now , she wants to fly on her own using her own feathers

I really hope my daughter will be fine

Rain has never left home

But I can't deny that she's very  
much different from all of her  
siblings

I hope she will adapt to life  
away from the kingdom

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\*Nomakhosi\*

Zweli : look at me

I lift my head , he wipes my  
tears

Zweli : I hate seeing you like this

Me : I don't know what to do  
anymore

He sighs

Zweli : it's going to be okay

Me : really ? It's like everything I do , I just push him away more

Zweli : he's just ....

My phone rings

Zweli : take it , please stop crying like this

He places a kiss on my forehead  
, and walks out of the bedroom

Me : Mageba

He sighs

Bayede : what has he done ?

More fresh tears stream down  
my face

Me : I think I have reached my end now , I don't know what to do . He doesn't want to go back to varsity

He sighs

Bayede : is that boy insane ?  
He's in his 3<sup>rd</sup> year

He should ask him that and not me , because I don't think he is

Me : I tried talking to him , he shuts me out . And he's very rude to Zweli

Bayede : maybe he should come here , I hate that you're dealing with all this on your own

Me : I am ...no ! I can't send him there , he doesn't like your wife



Bayede : he doesn't like your husband too

I take a deep breath

Few seconds of silence , and we just both laugh

Me : honestly though , after loosing 3 kids together . The

one child we have , is driving us  
insane

Bayede : I will come to South  
Africa next week , I will have a  
stern talk with him . No man is  
supposed to be stressing my  
baby mama like this

I smile , with a slight laugh

Me : thank you for calling

Bayede : anytime , I will see you  
next week

Me : bye

I drop the call

Hoping that with Bayede  
coming , it doesn't cause  
another battle

That I called him here , so he  
can scold his child

Honestly if I knew that God will  
take all of my kids

And the one he leaves me with ,  
would stress me day in and day  
out

Without a doubt , I wouldn't  
have had any kids to begin with

I love my son , but right now I  
have reached a breaking point  
as a parent

It doesn't help that his father is  
halfway across the world

And the only male figure in this  
house , he doesn't see with  
nothing

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\*INSERT 01\*

\*Thongalethu\*



Musa : I got you a shoot

Me : for what ?

Musa : this underwear line



Me : how much are they paying  
?

He laughs

Musa : 10K

Me : for a day ?

Musa : yeah

Me : okay , not bad

Musa : not bad ? Fuck ! You're  
are greedy

I chuckle

Me : wait ....so you'll get your  
cut there ?

He stares at me

Me : if that's the case , I am not taking it

He sighs

Musa : no , they'll pay me

He's fucking lying

But I don't care , cause I won't feel bad and give him a share

Me : sure

Musa : so I can confirm it ?

He gives me his eyes if  
desperation

Getting this gig means  
recognition for him , as my so  
called agent

Me : yeah

Musa : I'll get on with it

He gets up

Musa : and ....can you look at that proposal . Like it's been over a week

Me : I have been busy , it's not like I was sitting around

Musa : you can spare some time

Me : it won't even take 5  
minutes , I'll get to it

He sighs shaking his head  
heading for the door

He opens , and Winnie walks in

Musa : Winnie

Winnie : hi Musa

He walks out

She walks in closing the door

Winnie : hey star

I nod

She sits down next to me

Winnie : you haven't called me  
in a week , and I haven't seen  
you in two weeks

Me : I've been busy

Winnie : busy to even pick up a  
call , or respond my text

Me : if I haven't done that , then  
yes . Too busy for that



She sighs and gets up

Winnie : I don't even know why  
I still bother myself with you ,  
it's like I am chasing you

She is

And that's how it has always  
been

She grabs her bag walking  
towards the door

I chuckle shaking my head

Me : sit your flat ass down , and  
stop acting up . It's not cute at  
all , I won't beg you after all

I take out the small packet ,  
along with a bank card

Winnie : I'm supposed to stay here for this ? Watch you snort drugs

Me : if you walk out of that door , don't ever bring your black ass here again

I draw two lines on the table

And lean back

She finally sits back down

Me : I would really appreciate a  
BJ right now

Winnie : I didn't come here to  
be your sex toy

Me : then whatever you came  
here for , good luck

I close my eyes

Few minutes pass , and I feel  
her hands sliding to my pants

I look at her with a smile

Me : that wasn't so hard babe ,  
you just love us arguing for shit .  
Come give me a kiss

She pulls up , I grab the back of  
her neck as we kiss

And she unbuckles my pants

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\*Winnie\*

Winnie



Lona : you're back

I nod grabbing my bag ,  
unpacking my clothes

To think I left , without even  
unpacking



I was looking forward to seeing  
my ass of a boyfriend

Only for him to make me even  
regret going there

Lona : you were with that good  
for nothing boyfriend of yours

Me : please stop , not this early

I only slept the night

Morning came , and it was like I  
wasn't even there

Lona : why do you do this to  
yourself ?

I sigh

Me : I don't expect you to  
understand

Lona : oh I don't understand ,  
because you're just letting him  
use you

Me : I love him

Lona : he is so fucken broken ,  
he doesn't know what love is

Me : please stop

She shakes her head

Lona : I hope you open your eyes sooner rather than later

Me : we're back to varsity now ,  
he will have more time for us .  
Unlike when he was home

Even I don't believe my words

She laughs

And it's a very painful mocking  
laugh

Lona : he has never had time for  
you , and he never will . Stop  
fooling yourself , because now  
it's like you're a double fool

Me : wow thanks a lot Lona

Lona : you just piss me off  
honestly

She walks out , slamming the door

I sit down on the bed tearing up

The sad thing is that she's right

But I just can't leave him

What will I do with all these feelings that I have for him ?

I will keep on trying , until we  
can be okay

Like how he was when we first  
met

He wasn't always like this , I  
believe he will change again

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\*Rain\*



*Rain*



Busi : my princess , this is  
beautiful

I look at her

Me : you like it ?

Busi : it is really beautiful

Me : well then , you can have it .  
And please , as soon as we get  
to Joburg , just call me Rain

We laugh

Busi : I will try , but of course it  
will take some adjusting to

Me : that's ...

A knock comes at the door

She goes to attend to it

My parents walk in

Me : my king , my queen

Busi and I both acknowledge  
their presence

My mother smiles

Dad : why are you so eager to  
be leaving ?

I laugh

Dad : I hate this feeling , it feels  
like I am giving you away

Me : that's something that will never happen , I have a kingdom to rule . I will be back

He smiles

Dad : here

I walk closer to them

Dad : this is the keys to your house

I think it would have been fine  
just settling in at res

But of course no , this man  
would never allow that

He bought me a house

Dad : you will have your driver  
at all times , and Busi doesn't  
leave your sight . You'll take

your maiden with , so she can help around the house . And you cannot be without protect . So you will take 5 guards with , that's not a discussion

Why so many guards ?

Dad : I want you to know , your security is very tight and high . There's no compromising on that



Me : I understand my king

I feel like I will be suffocated ,  
but his word is his word

Mom : take care of yourself  
baby

Me : I will , my queen

She walks over and we hug

Me : I love you so much

She moves back with a smile ,  
her eyes glistening

Me : I will call , and come home  
as much as I can

Mom : that place is just ....

She heaves a sigh , shaking her head

Mom : just be safe , that's all

Me : it's a promise

Dad : don't leave without seeing Jongikhaya

Me : I will make sure to see him

He nods and they both walk out

Now my heart feels heavy

But then again , I am doing this  
for myself

Just because I have duties ,  
doesn't mean I don't have  
dreams

I just want to have my life , my  
own way in a way

Because already it's like my life  
is not mine

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\*INSERT 02\*

\*Rain\*

Me : oh well , this is crazy

She laughs

Busi : this house is huge

Me : I believe there's more than  
5 guards here

I'm only 20 , what am I doing  
with a double storey house like  
this ?

My father loves exaggerating



Busi : it's beautiful

Me : and huge yes

She laughs

We walk around the house , and  
I think will even get lost in my  
own house

Busi : should we cook ?

Me : no , we will just order in .

And I need a bath

Busi : okay

I leave her walking to the main  
bedroom

I take my clothes off , heading  
to the bathroom

I take a very long needed warm bath

Walking out , my bags have been brought in

I dry and lotion

I grab the bag I got from my uncle , that he gave me before I left

I take out my beads and put them on , and my royal bracelet

I put on bum shorts with a vest and flip flops

Taking my blue tiger cloth , I tie it around my head

Grabbing my phone , I walk downstairs

Busi is with Asiphe

I sit down with them

Me : what are we eating ?

Busi : are you ordering for everyone ?

I smile

Me : they need food , they can't  
protect me with empty  
stomachs

We laugh

Busi : platters will do better

Me : I need junk , I mean your  
fries and burger . Ribs and  
wings , like such

Busi : Tatomkhulu be with us all  
(grandfather)

We laugh

I download the food apps , and  
order food enough for us all

Ordering extra , in case there's  
more guards here and I don't  
know about them

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\*Thongalethu\*



I pull a chair and sit down

Me : good morning

Mom : are you going to res ?

Me : no

She sighs

Mom : how do you decide to leave varsity when you're on your third year ?

Me : I can't juggle gigs and varsity

This is just going to create an argument

Mom : are you not being taken care of ?

Me : what do you mean ?

I grab a glass and pour juice

Mom : you get an allowance from the three of us , yet you still doing gigs for what ?

Me : to make my own money ,  
to pay my dues

Zweli chuckles

He better keep himself out of  
this

I have nothing against him

But this is not his business

I am not his business either

Mom : what does exactly ?

Me : I am making my own money , doesn't that matter ?

Mom : don't you have money ?

Me : it's not the same as the one I make myself

Mom : I am done talking about this , I hope you know what you're doing

Me : I will go to my apartment , so you don't always have to bring it up

She gets up

Zweli : baby please sit down and eat

She looks at him

Zweli : please , it's way too early  
for this

She sits back down

Me : I am sorry

Mom : no , you're not

I sigh taking my phone out ,  
attending that email Musa sent  
me

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\*Mahlubandile\*



Me : you think she's okay ?

He laughs

Jongikhaya : she's fine , she can  
take care of herself

Me : I can't help but worry

Jongikhaya : it's your job as a  
parent to

I sigh

Me : I hope she doesn't loose  
her ways there

Jongikhaya : do you know your  
kids ?

I frown

Jongikhaya : we all have kids ,  
and they give us grey hairs . You  
have the most disciplined kids  
ever , it's like your bewitched  
them

We laugh

Me : those are your nieces and nephews

Jongikhaya : exactly , we had a good talk before she left . She knows what's expected of her , trust me she won't lose her way . Put some faith in her

Me : at least that's assurance

Jongikhaya : stop worrying

If she can survive a month there  
, then maybe I can ease up

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\*Bayede\*

Swazi : babe , honestly I don't see how you're going to solve anything by going there

I sigh

Me : that boy is out of line

Swazi : and you think you'll  
make a difference ?

Me : I am his father , what do  
you take me for ?

Swazi : Nomakhosi is married ,  
her husband can play a father  
role in this

Me : and you think he hasn't  
been doing that ? But then  
again , that boy is not his  
responsibility . He married Khosi  
, not him . What father figure  
when I am still alive ?

She looks down



Me : they're doing their best ,  
and I can't turn a blind eye . At  
the end of the day , he is my  
son

Swazi : I am pregnant , and  
you're leaving me here

Me : you're only 3 weeks  
pregnant , why must we make a  
big deal out of that ?

She goes quite

Me : I am going to South Africa,  
and that's that . When you're a  
parent , you don't choose when  
you want to do it like it's a  
choice . It's a must , and it's a  
daily thing . I can't turn a blind  
eye to what's happening

Swazi : it's okay , I understand . I  
am sorry

She walks upstairs

I shake my head , taking my  
phone and booking a flight

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\*INSERT 03\*

\*Thongalethu\*



Musa : finally

I chuckle

Me : that only need 5 minutes  
of my time , don't make it a big  
deal

He sighs

Musa : I am just glad you gave it  
your attention

Me : when is the shoot ?

Musa : this weekend

Me : okay

Musa : be sober please

Me : don't annoy me , I am not  
always high

He chuckles

Musa : are you taking the deal ?

Me : I don't know

Musa : why ?

I heave a sigh

Me : they're offering me  
peanuts



Musa : honestly though ?

He sits down

Musa : Not everything is about  
money

Me : it is to me

Musa : recognition !

For him he means

Me : oh well , do you know how much they will make from that ? If I agree to be the ambassador of their brand , I need double that . Remember , you still need your fee there

Musa : double , that's a stretch . But I will talk to them , and hear what they say

Me : if they really want me ,  
then it won't be a problem

Musa : you're difficult , and I  
don't know what agent will  
settle for this

Me : the one who can

I get up

Me : I am going to my  
apartment , call me if you need  
me

Musa : sure

I walk out heading to my car ,  
I'm a bit down this morning

I'm even low on fuel , but I will  
make it to my place

I'll fuel some other day

I am lazy to drive around

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\*Winnie\*

Me : are you going out ?

She ties her sneakers

Lona : yeah , it's orientation tomorrow . I have this night to let lose . And just party like there's no tomorrow

I sigh

Things are slightly sour between us

Lona is more than just a roommate , but she's a friend

Just after what happened , a  
few days ago

I don't know

I feel like she went too hard

Even though it was the truth

I just wish she could understand  
, and not judge me



The heart wants what it wants ,  
I love Thongalethu

And I can't do nothing about  
that

I mean , I don't control my  
feelings

We have been together for 5  
years

Since from high school

Things just changed when we  
got to varsity

And he started this modelling  
business of his

The parties , and the drugs

It just wasn't the same anymore  
, but before all that . Things  
were good

Me : and I am not invited ?

She sighs getting up from her  
bed

She fixes herself

Lona : I don't know , maybe you want to go and be with your boyfriend

Me : no , and I'm sure he's busy with his things

Lona : so you want to come with ?

I nod

Lona : you have 20 minutes to  
get ready

I smile

Lona : but I called an Uber , and  
I didn't know you would want to  
come

If only we had a ride , it sucks  
not having a car

Because I know she will drink a  
lot

But I'm a light drinker

Me : let me make a call

I grab my phone and call him

After a few rings he answer

Thonga : sure

Me : babe

Thonga : mhm ?

Me : are you home ?

Thonga : yes , but I don't want  
company

The guy I am dating

Me : I don't want to come

Thonga : so what's up ?

Me : I am going out with Lona

Thonga : have fun , and don't  
fuck around

Me : what do you take me for ?

Thonga : why did you call ?



Me : can't you borrow me your car ?

Thonga : it's low on fuel

I sigh

Me : I won't crash your car

Thonga : I did not say you will , I am not lying

Me : fine

Thonga : come and get it , but  
bring it back with full tank

He drops the call

Lona : he gave you his car ?

Me : he says it's low on fuel ,  
but said I should come fetch it

Lona : so ?

Me : we can go get it if you're  
okay with that

Lona : that's fine

Do I even have enough money  
to fuel ?

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\*Rain\*

Busi : you are so hooked on  
your phone

We're watching a movie

The house is quite

It's nothing like being at the  
palace

Where there's people  
everywhere

And noise all the time

Me : varsity kids having fun

She laughs

Busi : you and partying , I don't  
see that

Me : can never be me

I am just not a party person

I don't attend such things

Not even if it's family

I have never had a party in my  
life

Not even a birthday party

Me : these people party insane

Busi : we're villagers

Me : sure we are

I log out , and put my phone  
down

Tomorrow we will be going to  
campus for orientation



Busi will also be studying there

That's why she came with

She's more than just a guardian  
to me

We have developed a friendship  
, one that goes beyond royal  
duties

I am happy she's here

And I don't have to adapt on my  
own , in a place I don't know

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\*INSERT 04\*

\*Rain\*

Me : can we talk ?

She looks at me

Busi : you're not yet ready

Me : I woke up drenched

She gets up

Busi : what's wrong ?

Me : my heart is heavy , I don't  
know

Busi : should we be concerned ?

Me : I will call my uncle , but I need one of the rooms . Is there a room that's not occupied , or with much furniture ? Things that we can be able to move out , so I can use it . I need a room that's empty

Busi : I haven't been inside every other room , but I'm sure there's one

Me : okay , we can do that  
when we get back . I'll go call  
my uncle

She nods , I head back upstairs

I have already showered , I just  
need to dress up

I take out a long yellow strap  
sleeve dress , putting it on

With black sandals

I will have to call my uncle on  
the way

We cannot be late

I know Busi is always on time

And also we're both new in this  
place



So we need to familiarise  
ourselves with it , before we  
start with lectures

If I can survive this semester

I will definitely see Varsity and  
Joburg through

I take my black and yellow tiger  
cloth

I cannot go anywhere without  
having a cloth

Even if I'm not wearing it , I just  
have to have to it

Even if it's just inside my bag , I  
just have to have a cloth with  
me when I'm out in public

I take the red oil Vimbela , and  
apply beneath my feet

Another thing I cannot leave the house without doing

Otherwise , I will pick on whatever I step on in the streets

This way , I am protecting myself

From anything I might step on

Also for my feet , to prevent them from getting swollen

Because I will be wearing shoes for the most parts of the day

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\*Winnie\*

I get to his apartment , and it  
doesn't seem like he's going  
anywhere

He's opening the door in  
sweatpants

He hasn't even showered , or  
taken a bath

Me : babe , I bought your car  
back

Thonga : it better be on full tank

Me : it is

I can't believe I fuelled his car

And he doesn't even seem  
thankful for that

Thonga : and you didn't scratch  
it ?

Me : I can drive you know

He takes his keys

Thonga : if it ever has a dent ,  
you will pay for it

It's too early for this drama

Who just wakes up and be this  
rude and moody

Thonga : and I don't want to  
scent of idiots in there , I swear  
we will get to it



I sigh

Me : I didn't lift any guys into  
your car Thongalethu !

I'm getting annoyed now

He chuckles

Me : I guess it's all funny to him

Me : are you not going to campus ?

It's just orientation , and honestly only first years will be so eager to attend to that

Thonga : no

Me : oh okay , well I am going

Thonga : okay

Me : do you have your lessons schedule already ?

Thonga : lessons for what ?

Me : lectures you'll be attending

Thonga : I am not going there

What the hell ?

Me : what do you mean ?

Thonga : I am not going back to campus

He goes on to grab food from the microwave

And he sits down with the take away

It looks like ribs

Me : is this some kind of a joke ?

He chuckles

Thonga : what kind of a joke ?  
Do you see me joking ?

Wow !

Me : you're leaving ...

Thonga : hey ! It's too early for this . Baby if there's nothing else , leave and go to campus . That's where you're headed right ?

I am without words right now

Like for what reason is he leaving varsity for ?

Me : can I just ask ?

Thonga : do you see my parents  
anywhere here ?

Me : from here , exactly what is  
your future ? Drugs and  
modelling gigs ?

Thonga : hayhiii Winnie , you're  
not Nomakhosi Zulu . Don't  
bore me

And then him calling his mother  
who's married to a Ndlovu , yet  
still with his father's name

This guy has issues no lies

Me : fine , it's your future  
you're ruining anyways , so you  
can do whatever you want to do

I head for the door



I cannot deal with this right  
now.

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\*Rain\*

Busi : you look like hell

I take my sandals out , just  
dropping them off the floor

I feel like I am going to burst

I have such a pounding  
headache

My ears are ringing

I am burping like I drank a  
whole tank of soda

I rush to my room , taking my  
snuff

And the grass mat , I lay it down

And sit down , on the floor

I take bits of snuff , just pinching  
around me before I take pulls

It's so quite , feels like my head  
is spinning

Tears stream down my face

I close my eyes

Worst mistake I made

Leaving this house without my  
snuff , and I didn't even smoke  
before I left

That time , I was going in a  
place infested by people

All kinds of aura's and energies  
there

A knock comes to the door , I  
grab a tissue

Me : ngena (come in)

Busi walks in

She looks so worried

I swear , it's like she hasn't lived  
with me for 5 years

Busi : my princess , are you okay  
?

I smile

Me : I will be fine now

She sits down on the floor

Busi : you scared me , I swear  
now I must always check your  
bag when we leave this house .  
Just to make sure you have  
everything that you need

I laugh

Me : I will go insane

Busi : you scare me when you  
get like this



This one can't stand me when I  
go into trance

This was absolutely nothing

And most definitely nothing to  
be scared about

Me : I really need that room ,  
my uncle said the same thing .

We can't have an ancestral hut here , but I do need a shrine

Busi : we will most definitely get to it

That should make things better

Because I will have my praying place

And have my candles lit , along  
with my clothes placed well on  
the wall

Because some they're not  
supposed to be folded like they  
all are now

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\*INSERT 05\*



\*Rain\*

It's been a busy day for us

Cleaning this room , and  
clearing it out

I just love that it's downstairs

And also that it's not big

It's perfect , for being my shrine  
room

Me : I need some incense and sage , I don't have enough . Also the candles , I think I need bundles . And the snuff , we should get a big tin

Busi : I feel like now I will know more about this

We laugh

Everything is in place

My cloths that need to be on the wall , are placed there in order as they should be

There's fruits and sweets , also drinks and alcohol

I can't set up a shrine without those



And I had to talk to my  
ancestors first before doing this  
so they give me permission to

Because it's not home

But because it's my house , and  
not a rental place

I am allowed to do this , just as  
long as I follow procedure and  
do what's required

I guess my father was right to  
get me a house

Because I wouldn't have been  
able to do this at res

And well , this is not the family  
shrine

Not deep necessarily ancestral  
needs had to be done

I turn and look at Busi and  
Asiphe

Me : there's only us in the  
house , I don't have worries  
about the guards and our driver  
. Because I know they won't  
come in here

Busi : are we allowed to ?

Me : if only there's a need , and  
we need rules

Their intense stares send me  
laughing

Me : you cannot walk in here  
with shoes , and you can't step  
there where the shrine is at .  
You kneel down when you go  
near there , and you cannot  
light my candles whatsoever .  
Do not enter in here , if you

have been busy with a man or woman whatsoever and had sex . If you watched porn and masturbated , stay away from this room . Whether you cummed or not , sexual activities mean staying away from here . And don't come in here drunk

Busi : wow

Asiphe : it is understood

Me : let's go eat

We walk out , I close the door

We put on our shoes going into  
the kitchen

Me : we need groceries , we  
can't be stuffing our faces with  
take outs everyday

We laugh , each grabbing a box  
of the burger

We have already served the  
guards and the driver

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\*Thongalethu\*

Winnie : you were serious about  
this ?

Me : babe stop



She sighs

This is nagging now , and it's  
annoying

When a woman is nagging ,  
there's nothing appealing about  
that

Me : I am going to eat , I'll see  
you

Winnie : just like that ?

Me : do you want me to drag  
you along with ?

Winnie : Drag ? Why would you  
even drag me to begin with ?

Me : okay , listen I am hungry . I  
have been cooped up in my  
apartment , like the whole day

Winnie : I don't know , it's fine  
go . I will just go to my room ,  
call me when you need pussy

I laugh

She clicks her tongue walking  
away

Me : yeah , I love you

She shows me her middle finger

I get in the car shaking my head  
with a slight laughter

I drive off to Menlyn mall

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\*Winnie\*

I am so done acting like a  
mother to Thonga

He made it clear , I am not his  
mother

Honestly , if his parents know  
he's left varsity

And they're okay with that

Then I shouldn't care

I just love him enough , to want  
to see him doing better

And having a bright future

Because right now on this path  
he's on

I don't see what future he even  
has

Never mind it being bright

I don't see him making a career  
out of this modelling thing he  
does

And what about the drugs he snorts ?

Honestly , Thonga is now living just for the sake of living

He doesn't look forward to anything in life

I don't even know why I love him this much



Because he has changed a lot

He's no longer the Thongalethu  
I fell in love with in High school

I barely even recognise the  
person that he is today

He's rude towards me , and  
barely even addresses me as a  
human being

He doesn't even address me like  
I'm his girlfriend

It's like I'm just some random  
hoe

Honestly it hurts

And I just wish , I could forget  
about him

Stop loving him , and just move  
on with life

Lona : you don't look okay

She says as I walk in

She's laying on the bed

Me : I am fine

I don't want to tell her what just  
happened

Because I know she's going to  
judge me

And call me the fool she's  
always calling me

So best I just shut my mouth  
and say absolutely nothing

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\*Rain\*

Me : I think we got everything

Busi : yeah , we might have  
gone overboard

I look at Asiphe

Me : you think so too ?

She smiles

Asiphe : I didn't do groceries at the palace , I really wouldn't know . But the groceries do look like it's a lot

I laugh

Me : you should know here , because you're the one using the kitchen

Busi : we shall see , but there's also 6 men in that house . So I think it's fine

Me : more

Now I have a good reason to believe there's more guards around

I have never gone anywhere with just a driver



Even though he is trained , and carries guns like them

But he's never alone , there's always a guard

Here , they've never followed me

We left them at home yesterday , and we came back

They were still there

We left again today , no one  
followed

I know my father

There's guards in the shadows

Me : you said you're craving ice  
cream , go get it

Asiphe : you don't want some ?

I shake my head

Busi : I would love some

Me : I actually want tea , just  
black plain tea

They laugh

Honestly , it's no joke carrying  
an ancestor

Because you be craving things  
such as tea

And back label

Worse , I have two within me

A male and female

I was initiated by my uncle  
Jongikhaya , when I was 16

So for 4 years , I have been a  
traditional healer

But there's also the love for  
medicine

And well , that's why I am  
studying medicine

I will just have to find the  
balance between the two

How ?

I also don't know

But my guides have permitted  
me to do this

So , I think it will work out just  
fine

I maybe be young physically yes

But I am an old soul , and  
carrying old souls

Me : okay , you go head I'll wait  
here

They walk towards the ice  
cream shop

I am in plain sight , so I know I  
am safe

Even though I'm left alone , and  
not with them

As I am busy pressing my phone  
, out of nowhere I just get this  
cold breeze

I shiver like hell



And mind you , the sun is  
blazing hot and out

I close my eyes , as my ears ring  
the sound of water following

Definitely from a river

I open my eyes and look around

I see nothing

Well , until I spot eyes with this  
guy

He's staring at me

I'm just thinking , I hope I didn't  
cause a scene

But people are minding their  
business

He's the only one looking at me

I don't know why , but I walk  
towards him . It's like I am out  
of it

He doesn't move , instead he  
focuses his eyes elsewhere

I get to him

Me : uhm hi ....

Him : please , take your fake prophecies very far away from me

And right next to him , appears this old man in leopard skin

He looks at me and smiles with a nod

Me : you will live to fulfil the duty of your great great

grandfather , there's no running away from it . Trust me , this is not you acting out . The drugs and disobedience , all this has nothing to do with your parents separating . Your carry forces and spirits within you , that are not tired of your ignorance . You will self destruct if you don't listen

Him : shut up ...

Me : your parents shared and suffered pain together , losing three kids can take a toll on anyone . They couldn't heal each other , because each one was focusing on their own pain . Forgetting they had to hold each other , to get through pain . In their failure , yes they failed you . Because you lost your home , to the deaths of your siblings and the pain it brought . But your anger is just misplaced

, your great great grandfather is loosing his patience with you . Even yoh know you don't care that much about the separation of your parents , but you just can't help yourself and be this angry . It's too much , tone it down a notch ....

Him : I said ....

I turn and walk away from him

Meeting Busi and Asiphe

Busi : are you okay ?

Me : yes , let's go

The cold breeze disappears ,  
and I feel fine now as we head  
to the car

Just slightly confused



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\*INSERT 06\*

\*A WEEK LATER\*

\*Thongalethu\*

After that beautiful weird  
awkward girl said what she said

I haven't been myself

I feel like I am insane

Some days it's like I am just  
suffocating

I haven't been home

But now , I feel like I just need  
to get away from my  
environment

I had my shoot today

As much as I did my best

I felt like I was forcing myself  
the whole time I was in there

That girl messed with my head ,  
with those things she said

Like , did she have to be that  
beautiful and so disturbing at  
the same time ?

It's fucking insane

I am really not a fan of beads ,  
and those animal print cloths  
they wear

Everything about those people  
doesn't make any sense at all

Honestly , the whole thing is  
just nonsense to me

The dead are dead

There's no such thing as , they  
come back and demand shit  
from the living

These people are possessed ,  
and by something very big

I shouldn't have met that girl

And I wouldn't be here



But I know my mother won't  
kick me out

I drive in , and seeing only  
Zweli's car

I heave a sigh

She must not be home

But what the hell ?

I am here now

I park my car and get out

I knock before letting myself in

He walks down the stairs in just shorts

Sweating like crazy , he must have been doing a workout . He has a gym upstairs

Me : that better be from a work  
out

He laughs

Zweli : I am many things , but  
definitely not a cheater . And I  
wouldn't be so stupid , doing  
that in my wife's home

I scoff

Me : where is my mom ?

Zweli : she went out , she'll be  
back soon

I say nothing heading to my  
room

I lock the door , taking out the  
small sachet of white powder

I must have this

Otherwise , I will not survive my  
mother coming at me

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\*Rain\*

I will choke on this smoke

Like this room is full of incense

I haven't had peace since I met  
that guy

His great great grandfather ,  
doesn't wanna leave me

I don't even know what he  
wants

I have been trying to talk to him

But there's nothing

Even my guides , they're not  
saying anything

Yet I have this soul that's  
following me around

But the fact that he's not heavy  
on them

It means he brings no harm



I am just finding it weird

Because now lectures have  
started

And I can't keep having him  
following me around

One day , he will make me loose  
it

And I'll make a spectacle of  
myself in public

If only there was an easy way to  
understand this

Or get to the bottom of it

I get up , placing my cloth down

Just tying blue one on my waist

I leave the candles burning , as  
well as the incense

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\*Bayede\*

We hug , and pull out

She looks so beautiful , and I  
must say I missed her very  
much

Me : how are you ?

Khosi : trying

Me : I am sorry , if things were so easy . I would have long taken him , but he doesn't want me

She sighs

Thongalethu really doesn't get along with me , we do not have

that father and son relationship  
at all

He thinks with the separation ,  
and getting a divorce

I abounded them

Which is not true

But he has his own mind made  
up , and he's not changing it

It's hard to say or convince him  
of anything

Me : this boy has been out of  
control , whatever I do or say .  
Please let it be , he now needs  
this tough love if he's not going  
to be a child

She heaves another sigh

I have a tough and strict hand  
more than she does

Right now I can tell she looks  
worried

Wondering what will I do or say

Khosi : are you going to the  
hotel , or you're coming with ?

I smile



Me : if I go to the hotel , you  
won't be coming with

Khosi : Mtwana , just stop

I place my hand on her waist

Me : stop what ?

She says nothing

I lean down

Khosi : wait .....

I shut her up with a kiss , and  
her lips grace mine as we  
passionately kiss

After a while we pull out

Khosi : we need to stop this

It comes out as a whisper

Me : it's been years , you need to stop telling me to stop . I long told you when you were a teenager , we will never be loyal to anyone

Khosi : what about Zweli and Swazi ?

Me : are they here ?

She sighs

Me : I am not going to file that marriage to be legalized

Khosi : what ?

Me : me and you know what we are , with Swazi I don't know

She pops her eyes

I am married , but there's  
nothing on paper

And it will remain that way

Me : you have my hotel room  
and key , do let yourself in  
whenever you feel like

I hold her hand , heading to the  
car

Me : let's go , call him to come over . Or is he home ?

She shakes her head

Khosi : he's at the apartment

I sigh

Khosi : Now I wish I never kept that apartment

She just didn't want to let go of  
the apartment

Even after we got married

She kept saying my father  
bought her that apartment , so  
it's very close to her heart

But now , Thongalethu is  
seriously using this wrongly

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\*Nomakhosi\*



Me : hey

He looks up and smiles

I am not even guilt stricken by  
the fact that I left him here ,  
and went to pick Bayede at the  
airport

Not only did we kiss like that in public

But he gave me such an orgasm with his fingers driving here

Honestly , I don't know what we need to do for this to stop

We just couldn't stay together , married as a couple

But we still had sex and all

I thought moving on from that  
would help

We got married , but still  
nothing has changed

It was a shock for me to find out  
he's not legally married to Swazi  
, I did not see that one

Me : I am back , Bayede is here

Zweli : good for him , Thonga is also home

Me : he is ?

He nods

Me : wow , I hope we can find a way really

Zweli : go talk to him first , you never told him Zulu was going to come here

I didn't because I know my son

And he was just going to act out , like for no reason at all

Me : baby , thank you so much

He smiles

Zweli : for what now ?

Me : uhm ....for everything ,  
sticking with me through it all .  
If it was another man , they  
wouldn't stand for this . They  
would have long left , but  
you're still here . I appreciate  
you so much

He holds his hand out

Zweli : come here

I walk to him and take his hand ,  
sitting on his lap

Zweli : I love you

Me : I love you more

He leans over and we hug

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\*INSERT 07\*



\*Thongalethu\*

I open the door for her

I look so much better now

I know she won't even tell I was  
high or anything like that

Mom : hi

Me : Mom

Mom : have you eaten ?

I shake my head

Mom : okay , come join us

Me : in a minute

Mom : we have a guest

Me : don't worry about me , I  
will shut my mouth and just  
behave

I turn from the door heading to  
the bathroom

I wash my face with cold water

Just to wake myself enough

I walk out , drying my face

I grab my phone walking out

And I stop on my tracks as I  
walk in the dinning room

And my father is here

They all look at me

Me : you didn't have to call him  
here , we're not broken .  
Nothing needs fixing

He gets on his feet

Mom : Bayede ....

I swallow hard , as I can't  
comprehend his hard stare

Me : anyways thanks for dinner  
, I am not hungry anymore

Mom : oh Thongalethu please  
....your father is ....

Me : he is no father of mine , he  
left us and chose his life away  
from us . He forgot he's a father  
when he gave up on his family  
and making it work

Mom : we lost three kids together with your father , not one but three . After Nkanyezi was born , I got pregnant . But I was going through a tough time , I bled in the bathtub and lost that baby . Then we had you , after you came another child that we lost before he or she was born . You were just three years old when Nkanyezi passed away , we couldn't take it anymore . The pain was just too



much , and our marriage took a knock . We both decided , seeing it wasn't working but we brought each other nothing but pain . We decided to part ways , it was mutual agreement . Your father didn't walk out on us

I look down

It hurts me , that out of all the kids they were going to have

Only I made it

I understand why she's crying

And it's clear , I am not making  
anything easier

Dad : spare yourself the pain for  
Thongalethu

He is angry

Dad : are you going to tell us why you are not longer going to Varsity ?

Me : I am busy with work , Varsity is just not for me

Dad : oh so you're working now , that's good . At least you're taking responsibility of your actions . Which is why I am

renting out that apartment ,  
you need to move out

Me : what ?

My mother looks down

She clearly doesn't know about  
this

Dad : a man that's working ,  
surely can make his own money

Me : I don't make enough money to get a place

Dad : then go back to school , it's simple like that

He's fucking with me no lies

Dad : and since you're working , I am going to give you your car papers . You will pay for your

car , and get insurance for  
yourself . I've cancelled the one  
I got for you , so yeah do pay  
your dues

The fuck !

Like where am I supposed to  
find an extra R2 000 for  
insurance every month ?

This is crazy

And he pays R6 000 for that car  
, every month

That's like 8K gone

Dad : and forget about the  
three allowances you have been  
getting from us , you're working  
and you have money

I am fucked

Me : right , yeah do what you do best . Cutting me off , you're used to that

He chuckles

Shit !

This is not working , I won't even get to him with my words



Dad : you cannot bullshit a  
bullshiter my son . Figure  
yourself out , independence  
screams and feels like this

He goes back to his chair and  
sits down

Me : mom ?

She says nothing

I guess I am cut off

This is fucked up

Why did they call him here ?

Like my father is something else  
, and he doesn't back down  
from what he starts

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\*Nomakhosi\*

Bayede : I know you think I was hard , but it's for the best

He left to go get his things at the apartment

Me : the financial strain , he won't be able to handle it

He smiles

Bayede : you're thinking like a mother right now , that's fine .  
But Thongalethu needs this

I heave a sigh

Bayede : look at the bright side ,  
he is coming back home  
because he has no place to stay

Oh well , I guess

Bayede : he will soon realise ,  
just how much of a child he is .  
And how he needs his family

Me : I hope you're right about  
this

Bayede : Thonga is not the first  
child to act out , nor will he be  
the last . But it doesn't mean we  
should just turn a blind eye to

that , or allow him to be and  
keep saying he will get better

I nod

Bayede : let me go

Me : how long are you staying ?

Bayede : a week

I smile with a nod

Me : okay

Bayede : you're free to come by

I chuckle

It doesn't even matter to deny ,  
because I know I will find myself  
in his hotel room . So I won't  
even say nothing about that



He gets into the car , I walk back  
inside

He rented a car , and asked for  
it to be brought here

Zweli : hey

I smile with a heavy heart

I get on him , straddling him  
placing a kiss on his lips

Zweli : you know he wasn't hard  
to punish him right ?

I nod

Zweli : it's going to be okay

Me : babe , I hope so

He engulfs me into a hug

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\*Winnie\*

Me : baby what's going on ?

Thonga : I am packing

Me : well I can see that , but  
why ?

Thonga : because I am going  
back home

Me : why ?

He sighs

Thonga : why what ?

Me : like why are you moving ?

Thonga : I can't deal with your questions right now , at least be useful and help around

Me : will I get to see you ?

Thonga : I haven't even thought about that , right now I'm faced with changes . A lot is on my mind , and you're asking me if you'll be able to see me

Honestly when he's home , he just tends to ghost me

Now I am worried of what this might mean for us

Its just more less time , and him having excuses all the time he has to see me

I wonder what happened , for him to move back home

Because he's been living in this apartment for like 3 years

And now he's moving back home , just like that

Me : I have to go to class

Thonga : you can leave

Of course

He won't even beg me to stay or anything like that



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\*INSERT 08\*

\*Thongalethu\*

When my father says something

You pay attention

Because that man doesn't shit

He doesn't bluff

When he says something , he  
really means it

He doesn't kid no one

Mom : you're back ?

Ah !

This is embarrassing

Me : I don't have a place to say ,  
your baby daddy is renting the  
apartment

She smiles

Mom : you're working , and  
making money . You can afford  
to find a place yourself

Me : what ?

Mom : yes

Me : you cannot be serious right now , it's expensive to rent

Mom : for unemployed varsity students , that's why their parents support them

Wow !

Me : he put you up to this right ?

Mom : he is your father , he's letting you be the man you want to be

Me : yeah well , he deserted me and still is even now . And now you're supporting him , it's fine . I'll be out of your hair too

I walk out , and head into my  
car driving out

I am an idiot

Fuck ! I know that

Where am I going ? Cause I  
know I cannot afford a place to  
rent . That's why I should have  
gone home



Finding a place to sleep is hard

Most of the motels and BnB's  
around are full

Me : great !

I park by on the side of the car

I will just have to see the night  
through

I can't even call Winnie , cause  
she's sharing with that Lona

And I know bitch fucking hates  
me

It's just shit

Now I am so close to being a  
hobbo , sleeping in my car is  
getting closer there

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\*Rain\*

I tie my blue lion cloth on my  
head

Making sure that I have all my  
things

I do not want a repeat of the  
other day again

I am always packing

I walk out , heading to the  
kitchen

Me : good morning

They greet back

I sit down , grabbing a bowl of  
cereal

Me : how is your day looking like ?

Busi : two lectures

Me : not bad , I have about 4

Busi : I will stick around

Me : you don't have to , I won't be alone anyways

Busi : are you sure ?

Me : yes

She smiles

Busi : okay

We eat

And when we're done , we bid  
Asiphe goodbye

Simo drives us

Me : wait ....

I say to the driver , as we pass a  
car parked by on the side of the  
road

Me : stop the car

Busi : what's wrong ?



Simo stops the car , behind this  
one

I get out of the car , rushing to  
the other car

I knock on the window

Quite a few times , that even  
Simo and Busi get out of the car

I open the door , and it opens

The line of white powder on the dashboard is what catches my eyes first

I dart my eyes to the guy

And I can't believe this !

Now wonder , I just acted like a crazy woman

Because it's him

I don't like my guides very much  
right now

He lifts his head

Him : what do you want ? Who  
said you can open my car ?

I move back a bit

Me : I am sorry , I didn't know it was you . I'm sorry

He chuckles annoyed

Him : yeah well get away

He pulls the door closing it

I feel that cold breeze again

I lift my eyes , looking to the  
other side of the car

And I see the old man again

He shakes his head , looking  
very disappointed

He turns and walks away

I also turn back to the car

Me : I am sorry , we can go

I get in the car , they follow suit

Simo drives off

Busi : are you okay ?

Me : yes

I reach for my bag

Busi : who was that ?

Me : I don't know yet

I take out my snuff and smoke

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\*Thongalethu\*

I take out my phone and call her



It rings for a while , she doesn't  
answer

I drop the call and dial her again

Winnie : babe

Me : finally !

She sighs

Me : are you ignoring me ? Like  
are we fighting ?

Winnie : I have to go to my  
lesson now , what is it ?

Me : well , I need a shower

Winne : what ?

Me : yhoh ! Babe , it's such a  
long story

Winnie : you're not making sense right now

Me : I know , but you have lessons . And well , I just need a shower

Winnie : I am not even at my room

Me : come on !

She sighs

Me : fine just leave it

Winnie : I .....

I drop the call

She calls again , I ignore her  
calls

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\*Bayede\*

Swazi : how is it going there ?

Me : just fine

Swazi : really ?

Me : yes

Swazi : baby , give me details .  
How is your son ?

I am not in the mood for this

Me : I don't care to know , until  
he's ready to be a child

Swazi : what does that even  
mean ?

Me : it means he's being given real life lessons , and he will live however he chooses

Swazi : I hope whatever you're doing there , it doesn't alienate him further from you

Me : I am being a parent right now , and not his friend

Swazi : okay , I have to get going



Me : alright

Swazi : Thanks for checking in ,  
I'll call after my meeting . I love  
you

Me : I love you too

I drop the video call , just as  
Khosi walks out of the shower

Me : I wish you weren't leaving

She smiles

Khosi : Zweli will be back some time during the day , he has to find me home . He knows I am not working today

I heave a sigh , walking closer to her . I place my hands on her waist

I peck her lips , and she pulls me  
in for a deeper kiss

Me : let me just hit one round

She laughs pulling out of the  
kiss

Khosi : if I give in , I will not walk  
out of this hotel room

Me : you can be such a pussy  
blocker at times

I move over taking the lotion  
lotioning her

When I'm done she picks her  
clothes and put them on

I pull her close , capturing her  
lips into mine

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\*INSERT 09\*

\*Rain\*

This old man is peaceful

As much as he is not at peace  
and all

But he is peaceful

I now know that he brings me  
no harm

His connection is with that guy

I just wish I knew what he wants  
from me

Because now , he has disturbed  
the spirit of Ngwe

I haven't been able to access  
nor connect with my male guide



Since this man appeared

It's worrying me

Because I can't keep his spirit ,  
without a reason

I can't even call home

I don't want my father worried

I don't want to bother my uncle  
either

I am not an initiate , but a  
healer

And on some things , I really do  
need to stand up for myself

I think this is one of those

If not , and all fails

Then I will gladly seek help from  
those before me

I walk out of the room I've  
turned into my ancestral abode

I have been staying away from  
Busi and the others

Just trying to gather myself

Nothing much

Sometimes when things get a  
lot

I just prefer to be on my own

Away from the noises , and  
people

I have those guides who just  
cannot stand noise

Well , unless they're the ones  
making the noise

Then all is well

I use the kitchen door going out  
into the garden

This is one feature , that this  
house has

That's very much peaceful

I prefer nature to calm down

And right now , I think that's  
what I need

I cannot just ignore this man

I have to know exactly who he is  
, and what exactly does he want  
from me

Or that guy

A peaceful space is what will do  
it

Busi is buried in her books ,  
Asiphe is trying new recipes

So I might as well use my time ,  
to do something that will  
benefit me

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\*Nomakhosi\*



Me : you're leaving ?

I knew he was leaving , but now  
I am sad

It's just crazy

He smiles

Bayede : what I came here for is done

I don't know about that

Honestly what we did , felt like we just rejected our son

Me : he hasn't called , he still hasn't come back

Bayede : this is called tough  
love

Me : tough ....

I shake my head with a heavy  
sigh

Me : what if he turns up dead ?

Bayede : no such thing will  
happen

Me : we live in an unpredictable world

Bayede : you worry too much ,  
and that's why Thongalethu  
puts you through so much  
stress

Me : it's my duty as a mother to  
worry

Bayede : I am not doing this ,  
because I don't love him . He's  
my son just as much , but at the  
end of the day he's still a child

I sigh

This won't get us anywhere

Like father like son

There's no difference

Bayede : do you regret me coming ?

What kind of a question is that ?

He's just being awkward right

Me : no , of course not

He sighs

Bayede : I don't want us to not be on the same page about this

Me : I just feel bad

Bayede : and you think he's feeling the same where he is ?

I sigh

I doubt he feels bad

He's probably out there  
partying a storm

Me : it's okay .....

I sigh

Bayede : you don't want to give  
up on him , and I understand  
that . It's not like I am giving up  
on him too MaKhumalo



Me : I know

Bayede : I will be in touch , and  
I'll come when needed

Me : okay

Bayede : I have to go now

Me : travel safe

Bayede : I will , he won't go  
quite forever . Just trust that

I nod

We slightly hug , he gets into  
the car and drives out

I head back inside the house

Honestly I don't believe  
anything he said right now

I'm yearning for my son

I just can't help wondering if  
he's eaten

If he's okay , and he's warm  
enough

I honestly just can't help myself

Zweli walks in

And laying his eyes on me , he  
heaves a sigh

Me : I am sorry about  
everything , I am sure this is not  
the type nor the kind of  
marriage you anticipated or saw  
yourself in

He smiles , and walks closer to  
where I am seated

Zweli : one day at a time , I'll  
keep saying until you get it

I smile

Me : can we go out , just us .  
Have dinner , and wine

He chuckles

Me : we haven't had a date in  
like forever

Zweli : let me just fresh up

Me : thank you

He leans down and we kiss

I don't know what I did to  
deserve this man

But I am very much grateful

We pull out of the kiss , and lock eyes

Zweli : I love you

Me : I love you too baby

He moves back removing his clothes

Me : Bayede left today , he  
came to say goodbye . I don't  
know how this will unfold

Zweli : give it time

I nod slowly , and he walks  
upstairs

I lay back down on the couch

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\*Winnie\*

For two days

I have been calling and all

But he's not answering my calls  
nor responding my texts

And he just blue ticks me on  
WhatsApp

Since he moved from his apartment , I have no idea where he is

I asked Musa , and he said absolutely nothing

He surely must be upset wherever he is

He's never been the type to beg of even grovel to anyone

And if he's angry , he will cut you off and life just goes on

Thonga is just a human being that's just in his own world

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\*INSERT 10\*

\*Thongalethu\*



Musa : that was a well done job

I chuckle

Musa : are you finally going to tell me where you're cruising ?

Me : no

He sighs

Musa : honestly , this becomes a problem when I have to get a hold of you . And you're not even paying attention to your phone

Me : give it rest will you , I showed up for the shoot . What makes you think , you won't find me for the next ?

He says nothing picking his beer



Me : I'm coming

I get up and head towards the door

I walk out and head to my car

Someone bumps into me

And no doubt , the powder that I had in hand drops to the floor

The packet wasn't that closed ,  
cause I wanted to come have a  
few lines

Me : what the fuck ?

I lift my eyes angry as hell

And I'm just more pissed seeing  
who it is

Lona : Thonga I am sorry ,  
please forgive me . It was a  
mistake really

Me : do you have any idea how  
much that costs ?

Lona : I can't afford to replace  
that , but I'll do whatever you  
want I promise . Whatever you  
want

Me : whatever I want ?

Lona : yes .....yes

I chuckle

Me : okay well , let me fuck you  
. Right here right now

I push her against my car , lifting  
her dress up

I slide my hand down inside her  
panty

She parts her legs , picking up  
her breath

I part her pussy lips with my  
finger , she lets out a moan as I  
rub on her clit

Lona : oh my God ! Fuck , yes

I slide my hand down , going to  
her open

And I finger fuck her

She looses herself , in pleasure

Lona : oh shit ! I can't believe  
this is happening ...fuck ! I've  
always wondered how it'll feel  
like .....to have you fuck me ,  
guess it's my luck day

I chuckle

Increasing the pleasure on her  
clit

As her moans increase I move  
back sliding my hand out

Lona : what ....what , I was so  
close

Me : fuck off , you think you'll drop my shit . And I'll reward you with sex for that ? I've always known you're such a whore , Winnie shouldn't trust you . You're capable of killing her , don't think I've never noticed your stupid hate towards me was because you wanted me . And that's why you're always so negative to her about me , she may be naïve but I'm not stupid



She swallows fixing her dressed

Looking all embarrassed

Lona : please ...uhm don't tell  
Winnie this

Me : why ? You don't want her  
with me , because you want me  
. Too bad , I'll never even look  
at you twice

I grab her , and push her off my car

Lona : you don't have to be so mean

Me : hey ! I am coming for my 5K , and you better have it ready when I come . Or else I'll fucking finish you , you best believe that

I get into my car and drive off to the hotel

I ended up finding a room , because staying in the car just wasn't happening

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\*Winnie\*



I find myself here

And I don't even know what I  
will say

He will flip when he finds out

His mother opens the door

Me : Mrs Ndlovu

Mrs Ndlovu : yes ?

5 years being with that guy ,  
and no one in his family knows  
about me

Except his cousins

But he's never brought me to  
his parents

And he preferred me at his  
apartment

More than his parents home

Me : my name is Winnie , and I  
know you don't know me .....but  
uhm , I am here about  
Thongalethu

Mrs Ndlovu : come in

I walk inside

And this is the door leading to  
the kitchen

She doesn't move further

We sit right on the high chairs

I am so scared

Mrs Ndlovu : what's wrong ?

I sigh



Me : I am sorry to show up in your house like this , but it's because I am worried . And now it's been almost a week , not seeing him . I don't even know where he is

Mrs Ndlovu : you're his girlfriend ?

I look down

Me : yes , I am

Mrs Ndlovu : well I see , sorry if I'm going to sound anyhow . But Thongalethu knows what he needs , he's not a child anymore . He's 23 , and acting like he's 15 . Now the fact that , you don't know where he is . Means he also doesn't want you to know where he is , don't bother yourself about such a man .

You'll literally be wasting your time with my son . The second he knows what he wants , he will definitely ditch you . If he loved you , or even cared enough . He would have let you know where he is , and what's going on

Wow

Those are some harsh words

Me : maybe something  
happened to him

Mrs Ndlovu : no , nothing  
happened to him . He's  
perfectly fine

My phone rings

Me : Sorry ...

Mrs Ndlovu : it's fine , take it

Lona lacks timing

Me : hey

Lona : I am sorry to be the one to tell you this , but Thonga was partying a storm last night . And he even ended up with a girl in the parking lot , just imagine that . Don't be shocked if you

suddenly see a video of them , I  
mean I don't know how many  
people saw what they were  
doing

I drop the call

A lump getting stuck on my  
throat

So his mother is right , he's  
perfectly fine

The fool is me

Like how can he do this to me ?

After everything

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\*Rain\*





I was very unsettled with the dream that I had just after my 3Am session

I couldn't go back to sleep

So I came in here , just to calm nerves and all

And to maybe get some clarity on it

I have incense burning

My three candles are on

I only use 3 candles , not more than that

The blue , yellow and white

The blue representing my paternal side

The yellow representing my  
maternal side

And the white , is where they  
connect and meet upon me

So the white is always in the  
middle of the candles

I have the more apostolic spirit ,  
that's the blue and the white

Because I connect more with  
water

Than I do with the Zionist spirit ,  
the yellow and green

I look at my candles as they're  
burning

And I'm aiming to read them ,  
and hopefully I will get the  
meaning of my dream

A few minutes just watching the candles burn , they start to react

And the message I get from it , sends shivers down my spine. Like how can this even be possible ? Its not foreign to me , considering that my father and Ngwe are also one but he's royalty . And king to his own kingdom , this I've never seen

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\*INSERT 11\*

\*A MONTH LATER\*

\*Rain\*



I had Simo just drive out with  
me today

I haven't been myself lately

Right now , I am regretting the  
decision to so ever come here

Like , I badly wish I didn't

And maybe I should just forget  
this whole thing

I should just go back home

Because things that are  
happening here , they're just  
beyond me

I haven't been myself

Like one dream keeps bothering  
me day and night

I have tried to do my best , to  
get answers

But every time , I get the same  
answer

And I don't even know how to  
go about it

Like my bones , candles and  
water all say the same thing

One thing that's painful about  
having ancestors within you

Is that when you start  
misbehaving and all

And they feel like you're not  
listening

They come down so hard on  
you like a ton on bricks

Which is what will befall that  
guy

His grandfather has had enough

And the thing is , he won't kill  
him

He will make him suffer until he  
realises the destruction of his  
ways , but he's do oblivious and  
ignorant . He doesn't get it at all

Simo : is that ....

I look at him , but realise he's  
slowing down

Looking on the side of the road

Almost on the same spot , there  
he is

I don't know , but the way I just  
shiver

I know this

This has been my dream for the past month

I so badly want to ignore him , but then again that would be me being disobedient

Me : stop the car , come help me

He stops the car



And we get out rushing to the  
other car

How stupid again !

He didn't lock the doors

And he's just parked , passed  
out on the side of the road

Me : oh my god !

He has his head bowed down ,  
and there's just white foam  
everywhere

Me : Simo !

Simo : overdose , we have to  
rush him to the hospital

Me : no , let's take him home

Simo : but ....

Me : trust me on this

He sighs and picks the guy out  
of the car going to our car ,  
carrying him in his arms

I look around his car , just for  
anything that might be  
important

And I find like two sports bags in the car

It's definitely clothes

I see there's his ID , drivers licence and his bank cards

I grab everything , and lock the car leaving it there

I get in the car

Putting the bags in the back  
seat down

Me : please make it home fast

He nods and drives off stepping  
on the accelerator

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\*Nomakhosi\*

Me : it's been a month , it marks  
over 5 weeks

He sighs

Me : I don't know , maybe  
something really happened to  
him

Zweli : there is no such thing as  
that

I tried to be ignorant

But now it has been for too long

The worry is getting the best of  
me

Me : maybe I need to start  
going out there , and looking for  
him . He hasn't been active  
online , for two weeks



Zweli : babe I don't know , but  
whatever you decide I will  
support you

I sigh , with a slight nod

Now I am more worried than  
I've ever been

Maybe I am reaping what I sow

I wasn't exactly the best child to  
my parents

And look where I am as a  
mother

I always thought my mother  
failed me , but now I am sure  
my own son feels the same

I guess I am not different to my  
mother

And I got a child , that is exactly  
how I was but way much more  
worse

This is the universe way

What I did as a child to my  
parents , it's coming back to me  
now ten times

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\*Rain\*

Busi : maybe he should be in hospital

I turn and look at her , she looks very scared

Busi : all I'm saying is that he looks very bad

Me : I have to wait for him to wake up , then I will summon his ancestors for him . So they can come and save him , then he will vomit all of this

Busi : in hospital they will drain him

Me : I have my ways , please leave us

She gets up

Busi : shouldn't we inform his family ? Like we don't even know who he is

Me : he will wake up , and know his way back home

She walks out

I understand her worry and all

We don't know this guy , and  
honestly I have no idea how  
long he's going to be  
unconscious for

I hope he will wake up sooner  
rather than later

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- .
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\*Winnie\*

Lona : still hung up on Thonga ?

Me : what do you mean hung  
up ? We never broke up

Lona : and you haven't seen nor heard from him in so long

I sigh

Lona : you're enjoying being hurt and purposely so

She grabs her bag and walks out , with a click of the tongue

I don't think she will ever understand just how hard things are for me right now

Having not heard anything from Thonga , and not seeing him . It hasn't been easy

There was no video shared

So I guess not everyone saw what Lona was talking about

And that's another thing that  
hurt me so much

Like the thought of Thonga  
disappearing like this , and only  
for it to turn out that he's with  
another girl . And I've been  
worried sick about him

Love truly hurts

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\*INSERT 12\*

\*Rain\*

Busi : he looks bad

Me : it's after effects , and  
withdrawals

Busi : he's going to live right ?

I nod

She is so scared it's funny

Busi : good , because my princess we cannot have this stranger guy die here . Like that cannot happen at all

I know that , that would literally be my end

But since he came here , his grandfather has been here as well



Surely he wouldn't bring one of his own to die in my hands

Even Ngwe wouldn't have allowed that

Me : he won't die , don't worry

She sighs

Busi : he's shaking bad

Me : there's nothing I can do  
about that , he needs to wake  
up

This room is already heating up  
like crazy

And it's disturbing me

Cause my guides are not one  
with heat

Ngwe actually hates it

Every time I do anything that  
has to do with them

Be it a ceremony or going to the  
waterfall

It always rains like hell , even if  
it was sunny minutes ago

Or it gets cold , to an extent of  
shivering

This heat , is not good for me at  
all

But I know I have to help this  
guy

So I am just enduring

Me : you can leave , it's okay

She smiles

Busi : thought you'll never say

I slightly laugh as she walks out

I sigh sitting down

I grab my phone and call my  
sister

After a few rings she answers

Linani : baby

I smile with tears streaming  
down my face

Linani : baby what's wrong ?

Me : I think I want to come back  
home

Linani : what happened ?

Me : it's just a lot , I don't think I will survive in this place . It's just hard for me to fit in , there's always things . Even at school , there's tons of kids . You know it's a lot of spirits , aura's and energies . I really can't focus

She sighs

Linani : don't cry , Ngwe was okay with you leaving . Have you communicated , and asked why they're not letting you blend in ?

Me : maybe this was just some test , for me to see that I can never be myself unless I am home



Linani : you know we love you ,  
and we support you in whatever  
you do . And if you want to  
come back home , then you're  
welcome to . No one will  
question you about that , and  
don't settle also . If you feel the  
situation isn't for you , it's fine  
you have tried . So don't beat  
yourself up , and don't feel  
anyhow at all

I wipe my tears off

Me : I ....I will call uncle , I don't know . But I really think I should come back , and just forget everything . Honestly even school is not working out for me

Linani : and this is the only reason right ?

Me : what do you mean ?

Linani : they're not mistreating you there right ? Or excluding you , because of your beads and cloths ?

I smile

Me : no , others of course talk .  
But I don't care about that

People will always talk , criticize you . But I know who I am

Linani : okay , if coming home is what you want . I'll talk to Zitha , and we'll come get you

My siblings are just the best

I can always rely on them for everything

Even before going to my parents

Me : get yourself ready to come  
take me home , I can't deal with  
this place . I just can't ....

Voice : don't go please .....I .....I  
need you ....

I turn my eyes to him , and he's  
wide awake

Still shivering like crazy

Me : MaMpofu , I'll call you  
later

Linani : what ....

I drop the call

Me : you're awake

Him : sh.....

Me : don't swear in here

My voice is so stern , he must  
never

Him : sorry

He tries to sit up

Me : don't do that , you're very  
weak

Him : I am cold

Me : you have 5 blankets ,  
there's a heater . You're  
suffering withdrawals , that will  
take a while . Until the drugs  
are out of your system

Him : I am not an addict

Me : you think you're not , just  
because you thought you had  
control over what you were



doing . Look at you now , an  
overdose and you're not an  
addict

Him : I ....

He closes his eyes , and takes a  
deep breath

He sounds and looks like he's in  
pain

Him : I just took ...one too many lines

Me : it's okay , you're just feeling the wrath of your ancestors . It's really not that you're into drugs , or this rebel behaviour you have

Him : you always speak things that make no sense , and you're fuc..... sorry . I mean you're too beautiful for such things

I chuckle , grabbing the 5L  
bucket

Along with the herbs to make  
the mixture

Him : what's your name ?

Me : Rain

Him : really ?

I nod

Him : okay , I feel like I am dying  
. My bones hurt , my stomach  
feelings like it's breaking

I laugh

Me : your intestines are at work

Him : doesn't make sense

Me : we will talk , now you have to drink this

Him : what's that ?

Me : your substitute remedy

He frowns

Him : what ?

Me : this is how we'll pump the  
drugs off your blood and system

He chuckles

Him : girl , no offence . But  
you're not a doctor

The tone is just off and mocking

Me : never said I was

Him : oh well , your people cannot do everything that western medicine does

Me : I am not even comparing

Him : so you expect me to believe you'll really take the drugs out of my body ?

I chuckles again shaking his head

The attitude of this guy is just too much

He can't even contain it

Me : few minutes ago you were crying I shouldn't leave , cause you need me

He slightly laughs



Him : I was confused , thought I was dreaming really . Like you're here , I'm here . You're like a ghost that just can't get away

Wow !

That time the ghost is the great great great grandfather

That's showing him flames

Me : wether you do this or not ,  
I want you out of my house .  
You need to go home , fix things  
with your parents . And have  
your father come back , so he  
can help you

Him : uh ! I am homeless , and  
my parents don't want me

This is crazy

Me : are you doing this or not ?

Him : just because you're so beautiful , I really can't think anything bad about you

Me : after this , you'll have to steam

Him : eh ! You want to burn me

I pull the blankets off of him

Him : no wonder I'm in pain

This guy !

Him : you made me sleep on a  
grass mat , there's no bed

Me : the sooner you're out of  
here , the better

Him : I am enjoying this stay

Me : I am not .....take this

I help him to get up

Me : the bathroom is that way

He takes the bucket

Me : and if you don't do it , I will  
know

He smiles

Him : you seem to know a lot ,  
and well . You might as well  
come and watch me

Me : just go

He chuckles and walk to the  
bathroom

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\*INSERT 13\*

\*Thongalethu\*



I have never met such a savage  
beautiful woman

Like in all my life

It felt like my insides were  
coming out

And that steaming bath thing , it  
had my skin feeling like it's  
burning

I'm in my pants , and shirtless

In this room.

I don't care how clean it looks

But it's still creepy

And to think I spent days in here

Is just insane

She walks in

She's wearing these cloths of  
hers

She looks cute in them

Just how she has them on , it's  
like a dress of some kind

Rain : let's sit down

And we're sitting down on the  
floor

Why doesn't she have chairs in  
here ?

Like really ?

She lifts fresh new blue yellow  
and white candles

She lights up the incense

And take out the black thing

I'm like , that's snuff for old  
people

What the hell ?

But damn , she takes the thing  
and sprinkles it all over the  
candles and incense

The shock , is when she starts  
smoking it

Like really ?

She starts speaking in a  
language I cannot make out

What she's saying doesn't make sense

It's like those fire fire people , speaking in tongues

It's when she burps , and it's like the roar of a tiger

I feel like getting off my ass , and running out of this room

She darts her eyes to me

I want to run away

She goes back staring at her  
candles

Rain : your great great great  
grandfather is here

Who the hell is that ?



She starts clapping her hands  
together

Rain : Mageba , Zulu omnyama  
ondlela zimhlophe . Zulu ka  
mandela , mtwana . Sthuli sika  
Ndaba , Ndabezitha

This is creepy

I want to run

Like she just called our clan names just like that

Rain : you have to go home , fix things with your parents . Only your father can help you with this , everything that you have done . And all that's happening to you , it's because of your grandparents . And your great great great grandfather, who feels neglected by his own .

Your grandfather ran away from this , because his blood was tainted by that of a royal beast he didn't understand . Your ancestors are loosing their patience with you and your father .

She keeps quite and stares at me

Me : okay wait ....first of all , I don't know this great person

you're talking about . And my grandfather died at 80 years , the man had nothing of this sort

Rain : you have no idea what you're talking about , your parents will know about this . Even your grandmother was gifted . One thing about gifts , they don't die with their owners . They trail down from generation to generation , your parents have no other kids

living except you . And you shall carry all this , because you have taken your grandfather's tainted blood , you're nothing like a mere normal human being . Continue in this way , and you will destruct . If you think you just took too many lines of drugs , you still don't understand that everything you're doing and happening is pushed by forces

Me : it was just an overdose really , I lost out on a great deal that day . After a month of things not going well , having no place to stay . And my car being repossessed ....anyways where is my car by the way ?

Rain : repossessed , just be glad I got there and took you .  
Maybe they would have repossessed you too

What the ....

Me : okay great ! Nice joke

Rain : no one can have such bad luck

Me : apparently I do , and it has nothing to do with all this

Rain : okay , and that's why you're walking around with your

great great great grandfather's  
shadow

This is crazy

Rain : wether you believe me or  
not , I don't care . You're okay  
now , from what happened with  
the drugs . As for everything  
else , I can't do nothing

She gets up



Me : wait ....

She looks at me

Me : you said something about  
leaving

Rain : yeah

This one is savage to the core

Me : I don't even know where  
you're going , but please don't  
go

Rain : what ?

Me : like ....

I shrug

She sighs

Rain : this place is just not for me , because there's too many people like you

Me : wow ! That feels like some shade

I get up

Me : uhm ....what will it take for you not to leave ?

Rain : nothing

Me : not even helping me ?

Rain : I already told you what to do , if you can't there's nothing

....

Me : I'll go home , I'll talk to my parents and fix things . If that's what will take , so you don't leave

Rain : you're fixing things for  
your own good

Me : what's the point if you  
won't be here ?

She looks at me confused

I will spell it out every soon , if  
that's what she wants

Me : uhm ....all I am asking is  
that , please don't go

Rain : what you're asking  
doesn't make sense

Me : it's fine , I'll be stupid for  
you . Please

She sighs

I'm begging right now

Rain : I don't even know your  
name

I chuckle

Me : I thought your lenses see  
everything

Rain : you'll use the room next  
to this one , tomorrow I want  
you gone

She opens the door

Me : Thongalethu

She turns and looks at me

Me : my name is Thongalethu

She smiles



Rain : with such a powerful  
name , you think you're like  
everyone else

Great !

She walks out

I waste no time going out of this  
creepy room too

My life is fucked up right now

Nothing has been going good

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\*Rain\*

Me : I am sorry , something just needed my attention

Linani : you had me worried , I almost called dad

Well , I am glad she didn't

Because he would have gotten  
here as in yesterday

Me : I am sorry , we will have to  
revisit our talk another day

Is this me saying , I am staying  
around because Thongalethu  
asked

Well more like he was begging  
me to not leave

I really don't know about Joburg  
anymore

Linani : no pressure , I will hear  
from you

Me : okay , it's been a long  
draining day . Let me get some  
sleep

Linani : okay , sleep well

Me : thank you , and you too . I  
love you

She laughs

Linani : I love you more Bhabha

I drop the call

Hopefully I can get some sleep  
tonight

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\*INSERT 14\*

\*Rain\*



I had my whole family calling  
me this morning

My parents and my siblings

People were so worried

All saying they're just checking  
up on me

Now without a doubt , I now  
know Linani talked to them

I'm sure she didn't say  
everything I said

But she did tell them bits

That's the only reason , they  
would all be calling me

And I had the worrying talk with  
my uncle

He was in riddles

But I think I understood him

It was all about this

Thongalethu that's here

My uncle never misses anything

But I understand his worry and  
all

Thongalethu inherited whatever  
blood his grandfather carried

From the bite of whatever royal  
legend bit him

And now , he has purposes to  
serve

And he can only do that if he  
knows truly who he is

And what he's capable of

As well as accepting the gift of  
healing from his great great  
great grandfather

He still has a long way to go

I hope he is willing to take upon  
it

But I am glad he's leaving today

And hopefully , I will never see  
him again

He needs to get his life in order

Or else , he will self destruct

I walk in the kitchen

And Busi is having tea

Me : good morning

Busi : my princess

I laugh

Me : until I am headed to the  
grave

She takes a sip of her tea

Busi : he resurrected really ?

I laugh

This one is just dramatic , like  
she thought Thonga will die



Me : worry not , he is leaving today . We probably will never see him again

Busi : it was strange and awkward

I laugh sitting down

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\*Thongalethu\*

I got some nice treatment

And now I have to leave

She even called an Uber for me

She kept my things safe

As well as my clothes

All the things she took from my  
car

I appreciate that

Me : I will see you soon ....

Rain : I hope not

I laugh

Me : I most certainly will and  
will thank your for saving me ,  
like thank you really

Rain : I live this life to serve a  
purpose , and so was what I did  
. There's no need to thank me ,  
my guides will thank and reward  
me enough

This girl is so beautiful , her  
beauty just makes me overlook  
this creepiness about her

This whole healer thing doesn't  
suit her at all

The beads and all

But I won't lie , she still looks  
beautiful in them

This one can give me beautiful  
kids

Me : can I ask though ?

She frowns

Rain : I helped you free of charge , but I might end up asking for some light if you're going to question me

Me : listen , the guides want this . They brought me here , don't deny them that

Rain : oh ! So they're the guides  
now that you want things to suit  
you ?

I chuckle

Me : anyways , why this great  
someone doesn't just kill me ? If  
I'm really such a bother

She smiles and let's out a laugh



Rain : Ancestors are anything but killers , unless they're protecting you from your enemies then they're capable of killing just to revenge you . Your situation is very different , you're your own enemy . And they will never kill you , but if you keep on being difficult you will suffer the rest of your days . Until God , the one who has the power to give and take life

takes yours . That's not up to  
them to kill you

Me : mhm , they just sound like  
bitter and mean people

Rain : please just go

I sigh

Me : fine , I'll see you soon

I grab my bag heading to the  
Uber

Rain : I hope not

Me : woman ! You don't know  
what you're talking about

She gasps , I wink as I get inside  
the Uber

Now I have to go face my reality

I don't know how my mother is  
going to welcome me

There's no going back now

I'm dropped off at home

And I'm glad they're home ,  
cause I would stand out here  
forever

The gate opens and I ring the  
gate monitor

I know whoever opened saw me

I walk in , dragging along the  
drive way

I knock at the door

And Zweli opens

Zweli : Thonga

I swallow hard

Me : hi

Zweli : come in

Me : is my mom home ?

Zweli : no , she's coming now  
though

Me : eh .....maybe I should wait out here for her , in case she kicks me out when she gets here

Zweli : don't speak nonsense , come inside

He makes way , grabbing my other bag

I grab the other and walk inside

Zweli : go put your bags in your  
room , come join me for lunch

Right now I am feeling  
somewhat

And I'm scared of this welcome

Because I don't know if my  
mother will have the same



Zweli has never had a problem  
with me

That much I know

And it's not like I have anything  
against him

I grab the bags and walk  
upstairs to the room I used to  
call mine

And everything is just the way I  
left it

I take a minute and gather  
myself

Before walking down to the  
dinning room

I sit down

And in that awkward silence ,  
my mother walks in

I can't even hold her stare

She greets , and I greet back  
with my head bowed down . I  
can't even look at her

She walks over to Zweli , and  
side hugs him

Placing a peck on the side of his  
head

Zweli : we're about to have  
lunch , join us

She takes her coat off , he  
opens the chair for her

They dish up , and I can't even  
bring myself to

Mom : what's going on ?

That's addressed to me I know

Zweli : he came back home

Mom : oh ! Is that so ?

Zweli : babe , this is still his  
home isn't it ?

Maybe it still is

Mom : well is he back at varsity  
?

This might go on forever , I  
might as well just be honest

Get it over and done with

Clearly this woman is not  
budging , unless I'm back to be  
a child and go back to varsity

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\*INSERT 15\*

\*Thongalethu\*



Me : the last 6 weeks have been tough , more than I thought they would be . Over a few days ago , I had secured a gig I was sure I got and had in the bag . But things didn't pan out how I had hoped , so I was down .

Very down , because a lot was crumbling . I really didn't have a place to stay , and hotels are expensive . So I over spent , and just misused whatever money I had . I really couldn't pay the car either , so it was due to be repossessed . When I lost the deal , I was devastated . And I know there was no saving grace for me , so i overdosed on drugs ...

Mom : what ?

Me : I ....I thought I had it under control

Mom : drugs Thongalethu ?

Me : I had made it a norm , a coping mechanism of some kind . I thought I was in control , I've always taken enough just to get me through the day . But that

day , I don't know what  
happened . Maybe everything  
just got too much

Mom : I really thought this was  
an eye opener for you , but you  
were out there snorting drugs

She sighs with eyes glistening

Now I feel like shit , because  
this is all my doing

Mom : how long have you been doing drugs ?

Me : it's been 3 years

She looks down putting her elbows on the table

Me : well I don't know , but this beautiful creepy weird girl said all this is done by ancestors .

Like my behaviour and all that ,  
and I'm not making excuses

Mom : what ?

Me : I swear , I am not making  
this up

Mom : what girl ? That one who  
came here looking for you ,  
saying she's your girlfriend ?

Me : I don't have a girlfriend ,  
I'm still yet to ask this one out

Zweli laughs

Mom : you're thinking about  
girls , right after telling me  
you're a drug addict

Me : I am not an addict , and  
besides I am trying to explain  
what she said

She sighs

Mom : fine

Me : yeah so , she said  
something about grandmother  
Opelong having a gift

She pops her eyes

Mom : she did ?



Me : of course , but I told her there's no such . Oh yeah , and something about grandfather Nkosiyabo with tainted blood from some whatever kingdom animal something . That one lost me very bad , and then there's this great someone who's a grandfather . His shadow or spirit she said , is following me . Oh , and apparently the great someone

is not happy with me at all .  
They're doing all of this , and  
she said only dad can help me .  
Apparently if I don't do what  
they want , I will suffer until I  
die

I look at her , and she has her  
jaw dropped

Zweli : you just said very  
important things , but why are  
you so bad at explaining things

? You're just rumbling like a two year old

Me : dude ! At least I explained them

Mom : I need to call your father

Me : wait , was she telling the truth ? I mean these people are liars , and they just scam people . Next thing we will be paying

this girl a lot of money , because  
of lies she said

Mom : do you know her ? Like  
do you know where we can find  
her ?

Me : yeah

I don't think I will get lost going  
to their home

It was strange though

I didn't even see one adult  
there

And I never asked about her  
parents

Also I didn't take a good look  
around the house

But I surely won't get lost at all

Mom : I need to call your father

She gets up

Me : can I please come back home ? I am homeless to be honest , and i will return back to Varsity for second semester , I swear . I also just want to be okay

She says nothing and walks  
away

Me : great !

I heave a sigh

Like what's that reaction ?

Zweli : give her time , she has to  
digest what you just said right  
now

I nod taking a plate and dishing  
up for myself

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\*Bayede\*



Me : he said that ?

Khosi : yes

I sigh

Khosi : I am worried Mageba ,  
my son doesn't know anything  
about your great great  
grandfather being the royal  
healer or your father how that  
prince bit him . Yet he came  
back home talking about those  
people

This I have never heard of  
before

Me : seems like I need to come back home

Khosi : you better , because if this is really this way . Then my son needs serious help , you know your mother had a gift . But Thongalethu didn't know that , but he spoke about it

Me : it's okay , I will come back as soon as I can

Khosi : please , and I am sorry to  
be of a nuisance

I chuckle

Me : you can never be that to  
me , ever . I will come back okay

She sighs

Khosi : let me go finish lunch

Me : okay , thank you for calling

Khosi : alright bye

She drops the call

Now this is insane , it's too  
much

I need to find a way now to  
explain to Swazi

That I am leaving again

And that on its own already has  
me stressed some more

Because I know she will make a  
fuss out of this

But this is very serious , and it  
comes first . I know this is not a  
lie at all

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\*Thongalethu\*

Right now I don't even want to  
get my hopes high

Because my father might just  
not come

After what he dished me



He might say I am using this as  
an excuse to get back home

Because I clearly failed making  
it on my own

Me : and it wasn't the first time  
I saw her

They both look at me

The way my mother reacted , I feel she knows something

Me : the first time it was at Menlyn mall , she came to me and as soon as I saw she was those types with beads and animal cloths . I gathered my attitude , and told her to get away from me with her fake prophecies . She did say some things to me , but I didn't pay attention to it . The second time

, I was parked beside the road ,  
and she opened my car door . I  
was annoyed and told her off ,  
third time was now finding me  
on death row

Mom : you should be ashamed  
of yours

For what really ?

Me : I know

What can I say ?

I don't want drama , so it's fine .  
But I am lost , though I am so  
not ashamed

Me : mom can I please come  
back home ?

Now I am pleading

Mom : and a child is coming  
under my roof

Me : yes

I can't believe this

Now I have to go back to  
campus

As much as I don't want to , I  
have to

Because I don't need this varsity talk behind me

Mom : you can come back home , but this issue of drugs . I have never been so disappointed of you really , I don't even know what to say about it .

Yeah well , I do understand her

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\*INSERT 16\*

\*A FEW DAYS LATER\*



\*Thongalethu\*

I have never seen such tight  
security

The last time I was here , I  
didn't see all of these guards

And they're refusing to let me in  
without a pass

I'm just asking myself , if Rain  
left and some rich people  
moved in here

After a lot of begging , I finally  
just stop

And sit down by the gate

I might just sit out here forever

But what the hell

Time goes by , until the gate  
opens and I'm on my feet in  
seconds

Doesn't she come out

Wearing the white lion cloth ,  
and she's walking barefoot

Without a doubt , she was  
smoking that snuff thing

She even has a tissue in hand

Me : wow ! You live

Rain : what do you want here ?

Me : I came to see you , but like why so many security guys in your yard ? Your parents really must be strict parents

Rain : this is my house , my parents don't live here

Me : you see what you just said , is embarrassing . But it's fine , cause you already know just

how broke I am . Can I take you  
out for ice cream ?

Rain : no , leave

Me : you know , I am trying to  
fix my life . And right now , I am  
just waiting for my father to get  
here . You said he's the only  
one who can help me

She sighs

Me : please , just ice cream and we come back . You don't even have to talk to me , if you don't want to . I'll be sad though , but I'll still appreciate being with you

Rain : come in

She turns walking inside , I follow



Me : your people were talking about having a pass , you think I can get one of those ?

She laughs

Rain : in your dreams

Me : but ....this is not on

She shakes her head

Rain : wait for me here , I am  
going to change

Me : fine

I sit down on the couch in the  
lounge

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\*Rain\*

Busi : what ?

She laughs

Me : don't be this person , he's  
in the lounge

Busi : I thought we're never  
going to see him ever again

Me : oh well , I guess we  
thought wrong

Busi : I don't know what to say

Me : I'll see you in an hour or so

Busi : have fun

I smile

I don't know what fun I'll have  
with that guy

Going out for ice cream

I don't even like ice cream

Give me candy , and I'll grin like  
a baby

I grab my bag walking out of my  
room along with Busi

Busi : I have assignments to  
attend to

Me : okay

Busi : what's happening with  
varsity ?

I sigh

Me : I don't know ....but I don't  
think that's for me

She says nothing

I have to think about them too

They moved here because of  
me

So if I leave , they have to leave  
as well

I have to consider them into  
thought



Me : we will talk

She nods

I head down , and find him  
seated on the couch

Me : we can go

He gets up

Thonga : you're beautiful

Me : don't try to charm me , it  
won't work

He laughs as we walk out

Thonga : my Uber is outside

Me : my driver will take us , that  
way I know I am secured

He smiles

Thonga : are you the daughter  
of the president ?

I frown

Thonga : I mean , this high  
security . The house you live in ,  
and you even have a driver ?

I heave a slight sigh and look at  
him

Me : I am a princess from Isizwe  
sa MaMpofu kingdom in  
Eastern Cape

His jaw drops

Me : go pay your Uber , you'll  
find me in the car . Simo will  
take you home after whatever  
this is done

That gets to him

Thonga : it's a date , this is a date . Not whatever

He walks out the gate , I laugh going to the car

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\*Thongalethu\*



A whole princess ?

I am shocked more than  
anything

I didn't even think about that

Not even once

But who would think of a  
princess living here in Joburg ?

What I am hoping for , might  
not even happen . Because  
she's royalty

But I have to ask first to see if  
really I stand no chance

I pay the Uber driver , and he  
leaves

I had asked him to wait for me



But now there's no need for  
that

The car drives out , and stops  
next to me

I open the back door and get in

Rain : greet

Me : what ?

She stares at me , I chuckle  
greeting the driver

He greets back with a chuckle

Me : so where would you like to  
go ?

Rain : I am glad you're asking ,  
because I don't even like ice  
cream

Me : it's okay , my bad . But I  
know the perfect place

I give the guy directions

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\*Bayede\*

Me : I have to go back to South  
Africa

She sighs

I have been derailing this

But I can't anymore

Swazi : why ?

Me : it's about Thongalethu , I just found some things . That really needs the families attention , probably even taking him home to KZN

Swazi : you were there just now  
, and you have to go back again

Me : I have to , it's for his own  
good

Swazi : I don't even know what  
you're talking about

I sigh

I can't do this with her

How do I even begin to explain this ?

Swazi : all I know is that I'm not being left alone again

Me : fine , you can come with

Swazi : fine

I laugh

Me : baby , you're being  
dramatic right now

Swazi : I don't know , I just hate  
being without you here

Me : it's okay , I'm sorry we'll go  
back together

Swazi : okay



Me : I love you

Swazi : I love you too

It doesn't matter that she's  
coming with , just as long as I  
can get to go home

And attend to this matter

I will not be babying her there ,  
she's on her own

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\*INSERT 17\*

\*Rain\*

I didn't think he will bring me to  
a candy shop

I'm laughing

Cause I didn't even tell him this

Thonga : can I ask you something ?

I look at him

Thonga : it's not about what you told me

Me : okay , you can ask

Thonga : uhm , so as a princess .  
I don't know how these things  
work , but like are you  
supposed to marry a prince ?

I laugh

Me : where do you get that ?

Thonga : it's a thing with royals

Me : so you know royals ?

Thonga : I know you

Crazy

Me : you barely know me

Thonga : I will fix that , but tell me . Is that a thing ?

Me : my mother is not royalty

He smiles

Thonga : that's nice , and you're not betrothed to some prince ?

Me : no

He nods

Me : what's with the crazy questions ?



Thonga : I just wanna see if I  
don't stand a chance

Me : don't even bother or try

He laughs

Thonga : I don't know about  
that , I feel like I am already  
gone too far

Me : free advice , you need to focus on fixing things you need to fix . And just leave girls alone

He laughs

Thonga : what girls ? I am talking about one , and that's just you

I shake my head slowly

Me : I don't even know what  
you're thinking

Thonga : I should just tell you ,  
that I want you .

Me : want ?

Thonga : I already told you that I  
need you

I smile

Thonga : I am not rushing you ,  
I'm a mess . And you don't need  
to be brought into that , also I  
might not even be your type .  
It's not every girl who wants a  
drug addict

Me : don't judge yourself like  
that , you're not an addict . I  
told you what caused you to be  
like that

Thonga : doesn't matter , and  
that's not how the world sees  
things

Me : I am me , I don't see things  
how the world does

Thonga : so is it safe to say , I  
can still spend time with you ?  
Until you're ready to let me in ?

I sigh

Thonga : like I said , I am not rushing you

Me : I will have to consult my guides about this

Thonga : wow , I am sure they don't like me already

I laugh

Me : they let your great great  
great grandfather , be in my  
presence for days .

Thonga : I hope the universe  
will work my way

He doesn't even believe what  
he's saying about the universe

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\*Winnie\*



I cannot believe this

He has been ignoring me

Like completely gone AWOL

And after so long not seeing  
him , when I see him he's with a  
girl

Like what the fuck !

I wanted to ignore that

But I just can't

I approach them , as they head  
to the parking lot

She laughs as he says something  
to her

Placing his arm on her back

Me : Thongalethu Zulu !

They both turn and look at me

I walk closer

Already he has an annoyed look  
on his face

Too bad for him , I am pissed

Me : ghosting me for over a month , and this is what you're busy doing ? Replacing me with the next cute thing ....

Thonga : don't call her a thing

Winnie : well , did you know he has a girlfriend of 5 years ?

I ask her

She says nothing but opens the car door and get in

Me : I am talking to you

I try to move closer to the window

But Thongalethu pushes me back

Thonga : stop !

Me : no ! Babe why are you  
doing this to me ? What did I do  
?

He sighs

Me : like why are you doing this  
to me ? I love you Thonga , why  
are you doing this ?

I wipe my tears , but they keep falling

Thonga : I loved you in high school , then I liked you . But now , there's absolutely nothing

Me : no ....no you cannot tell me that shit , not after everything we have been through

Thonga : come on , it wasn't that deep

Me : not that deep ? Heh , 5 years not that deep ?

Thonga : it was just years , love ends and feelings fades . Just stop ! I have to go now , I'm going through shit in life . We're all going through something , you'll get over this breakup too



Me : Thonga ....

He opens the door and gets in  
the car

It drives off , leaving me a crying  
mess in Menlyn mall parking lot

Like he just broke up with me ?

Just like that

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\*Thongalethu\*

That is not how I anticipated  
things to go like

Was so not looking to see  
Winnie at all

We're parked by my mother's  
house at the gate

Me : thank you for the day

She nods

We haven't said anything to  
each other

Except me apologizing for what  
happened

And she said nothing

Of course she's not happy  
about all of that

She doesn't need to tell me to  
see it

I mean , things were coming  
along just fine

Until that happened

Me : once again , I am sorry  
about what happened

She sighs

Rain : it's clear you really have  
issues to fix

Me : I know , but that's done

I feel like this has taken me a  
step back with her

Me : I ....I can assure you that

I hold her hand

She tries to pull it back , but I  
don't let go

Rain : Thonga , I am a princess .  
I cannot be caught up in a  
scandal of boyfriends

Me : I will never put you  
through that

Rain : can you guarantee that ?

She sighs

Rain : what if your girlfriend  
goes on to shame me on  
Facebook ? I can't have that

Me : I won't let that happen



Rain : you don't control her

Winnie is a lot of things , but I don't think she will go to that extent

Crazy as she is

Me : please don't shut me out ,  
I promise I won't let that  
happen

She turns her face away from  
me

Me : please , I will get in line

She laughs

Me : that's a promise

She turns and looks at me

Rain : I wish you had this urge ,  
to do this for you . Not to  
impress me

I chuckle

Me : it doesn't matter , at the  
end of the day it's winning  
double

Rain : you need help , like  
serious help . Something is

wrong with you , like you're not  
okay at all

I slightly laugh

Me : with certain things yes ,  
but not everything . And it's fine  
, I can be crazy for you . I don't  
mind

We lock eyes

I lean over , my face just inches  
away from hers

Me : allow me

She exhales

I brush my lips over hers , the  
front door opens

The drive walks out , I chuckle  
and she giggles

I place my hand on the back of  
her head , bringing her closer

As I capture her lips into mine

We kiss slowly , and so  
passionately

She places her hands on my  
arms

After a few minutes I pull out  
slowly

She opens her eyes slowly

Me : don't give up on me yet ,  
let me fuck up on my own . Now  
let me fix things

She says nothing but slowly  
nods

Me : call out your number for  
me

She smiles

Rain : you have a phone now ?

I chuckle

Me : I will call you with your  
mother in-law's phone



She laughs calling out there  
number

This is the time when having a  
photographic memory actually  
works and has its benefits

Me : you have it on your phone  
?

She nods

Me : let me see it

She shows me the number , and  
I have captured it

Me : I'll call you

I lean over for a kiss , which she  
gladly welcomes

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\*INSERT 18\*

\*Rain\*

I sigh getting up

I don't know what I am doing  
with Thongalethu

It's not giving me peace

I am not at ease at all

Maybe it's what happened with  
that girl yesterday

I don't know

Or maybe it's my own fears

I haven't had a boyfriend , since  
I was 18

And it was some prince , who  
was just a douchebag

And I ditched him before we  
even went any far

Now I don't know

I called my uncle this morning

He didn't say much

It felt like maybe he's hiding  
something from me

Or maybe I could just be  
reading too much into that

But then again , I barely know  
this guy

Even though he didn't say any  
warnings

But one thing is that , wether I  
give in or not



Thongalethu has his journey to  
go through

And I don't even think he's  
ready for all of that

He called me last night

And we spoke for a whole two  
hours , and I didn't even think  
he would call

I wonder how he got his mother  
to part with her phone for that  
long

It's a dull morning for me

I walk out , heading to the  
kitchen

Taking out my food from the  
food warmer

I left during breakfast to go into  
my Ancestral room

I feel like I wasted time doing  
that

Cause I got nothing

Sometimes I do not understand  
ancestors

They can literally let you fall in a  
pit

All in the name of a lesson

It's just crazy

I guess I will just see how this  
goes

It's only been a day

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\*Thongalethu\*

Mom : are you going to eat ?

I look at her

I don't even have that appetite

As much as I took the time , and  
spoke with Rain last night

I don't know if seeing Winnie  
didn't ruin things for us

Me : uhm ..... can you please  
borrow me your phone ?

Mom : what did you do with  
your phone ?

Me : I sold it honestly

Mom : for drugs

I just nod

Mom : I think you need rehab

Hah ! That's a stretch , I mean a whole rehab

Me : no I .....I don't

Mom : your overdosed on drugs  
Thongalethu



Me : okay , if I agree to rehab  
will you borrow me your phone  
?

She laughs

Mom : what ?

I say nothing

I just want her phone

Mom : you will really go to rehab just because you want to use my phone ?

Me : I just need to make a call

Mom : you finished my airtime last night

Me : I'm sorry , I'll buy you airtime

Mom : I have to buy airtime  
now , so you can make that call

Me : just R5 , I won't be long

She sighs

I plead , she hands me her  
phone

Me : thank you

Mom : whoever this girl is , she better be worth it

I chuckle

Mom : and tell her not to call me , use the app to buy airtime . Don't finish it again

I laugh getting up

I go on her bank app , buying  
airtime

I dial her number , and she  
doesn't pick up

Me : damn !

I call again , and on the first ring  
she answers

I heave a sigh of relief

Me : I thought you're ghosting  
me now

She giggles

Rain : I was battling

I sigh

Me : I am glad you answered

We have a moment of silence

Me : I called to say good morning , my mother wants to send me to rehab ....

Rain : what ?

Me : uhm ....she's still on the overdose

She sighs

Rain : but how long will you be gone ?

Me : I don't know , she just brought it up . I don't know if she'll go through with it or not

Rain : I hope she doesn't

I laugh



Me : someone will miss me ?

Rain : you can't say and do what you did with me yesterday , and then run off to rehab for months

Me : I will beg for them to allow me to have visitors , just to have you alone visit me

Rain : I don't like this

This is cute

Me : how about you come see me today ? Or do you have to go to campus ?

Rain : I don't want to go there anymore

I feel like I have to just push her not to give you on that

I mean , I will be going back  
next semester

So I want her here

Me : please come , then we can  
talk about all this

Rain : at your parents house ?

Me : they won't even be here

She laughs

Rain : I don't trust you

Of course I am not sure of what  
I just said

Me : just once

Rain : fine , I'll come around  
11:00 . Is that okay ?

Me : yeah

Rain : okay then

Me : I'll see you soon

Rain : bye

She drops the call

I have a good mind to call her back , I mean I'm the one who called her

But she drops the call on me

I don't want to finish the airtime again , because I might not get the phone again

So I need to tread carefully

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\*Winnie\*

Lona : you have been cooped up in here since yesterday , and you're just crying yourself to depression

I really don't want to talk

I didn't even tell her what's going on



I know she will just be mean

And tell me she told me so and  
what not

And that's not what I want to  
hear right now

I don't want to hear those  
words

I couldn't stop just asking  
myself what I did wrong

How did he move on from me ,  
without even breaking things  
off

And he's so brave to even walk  
in public with her

Like it's clear , they went to a  
date

I can't believe this

Like it's so hard , to even  
comprehend that he just broke  
up with me just like that

No explanation , and no nothing

Like how do feelings just fade  
on someone you love ?

One thing I noticed were the  
beads on the girls hands

And the cloth she had wrapped  
on her head

It's just hard to believe I've  
been dumped

And for a fucking Sangoma

What a joke !

Like what the fuck did she feed him ?

Lona : I bet this has something to do with Thonga .....

Me : can you please just stop !

I snap

She's damn annoying

Me : not everything is about  
Thonga

I pull up the sheet covering my  
head

I just want her to leave me  
alone

This is exactly what I didn't tell  
her anything

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\*INSERT 19\*

\*Rain\*



He opens the door

Looking so good , in maroon shorts and a maroon t-shirt

I look at him , and find him staring at me with a smile

I chuckle

Me : hi

Thonga : come in babe

He makes way , I walk in

Thonga : you're beautiful

Me : is this a norm ?

Thonga : I just spit out truths

I laugh slightly

Thonga : should I get you something ?

Me : you're really alone ?

Thonga : yes

Me : okay , I will be comfortable  
if we're where your parents  
wouldn't walk in on us

He smiles

Thonga : wow okay ...like that's ,  
mhm

I frown in confusion

And he laughs

Only I catch on what he's saying

Me : wait .... I'm pure as they  
come

He closes the door , taking my  
hand into his

And he stands in front of me ,  
placing his hand on my waist

We lock eyes , he bites his lower lip

Just looking into my eyes with eyes full of lust

Thonga is disgusting

Thonga : I've never kissed a virgin , but you don't kiss like a virgin

Me : how does a virgin kiss like  
?

Thonga : being all shy and  
scared , like “I don’t know how  
to kiss” or “I’ve never kissed  
anyone”

I laugh

Me : then you have your answer

Yeah the prince and I kissed

That's where the relationship  
ended

With kisses , never went beyond  
that

Thonga : mhm , I already don't  
like him



I smile

Me : he was a prince

He frowns

Thonga : even worse

Shame

He's just one dramatic guy

Thonga : okay , let's go to my room . You'll be comfortable right ?

Me : yeah but don't get any funny ideas

He shakes his head with a smirk

Me : my father will make you pay a cow , and I'll be 21 in a

month . Don't get me to loose  
my key

Thonga : fuck ....I'm going to  
respect that , I promise

Funny , doesn't he make a pinky  
promise

I laugh as we walk upstairs  
heading to his room

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\*Thongalethu\*

Rain : your mother said what  
about rehab ?

I sigh

Me : you don't like this topic

Rain : I don't

I love just how she doesn't hide things

And she blatantly just says them , just as they are

Me : well we didn't visit that talk after breakfast , maybe she's waiting for my father to get here . I know he will definitely book me in

Rain : why not be an out patient  
?

Me : even if they book me in ,  
I'll still allow you in

Rain : we don't know they will  
allow that

She takes a deep breath

She's really not for this rehab

But if my parents want me to do  
it , then I will

Just for them , so they can get  
off my back

I haven't had an edge to snort  
anything

So I don't think there's a need  
for it , but it's whatever



I grab her arm and pull her over  
me

She smiles

Me : it's only been a day  
MaMpofu , and I feel like you  
have fallen so hard . There's no  
saving you

She laughs

Rain : you have no idea what  
you're talking about

Me : I know , but it's okay cause  
your little heart is safe with me .  
I won't hide how I've fallen

Her eyes fall

I tilt her chin , and she lifts up

We lock eyes

I've never met anyone with  
eyes like hers

It's like they tell a story of some  
kind

Me : on day at a time ?

She nods

I bring her face down and we  
kiss

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\*Bayede\*

Swazi : I do not understand why we had to come here first , we could have just gone to rest at the hotel

Me : baby please stop ,  
Nomakhosi said Thongalethu is

back home . I just want to see  
him , and see how bad he is  
that's all . You could have gone  
to the hotel on your own , there  
was no need to be my tail

She gasps

Swazi : and let you come here  
on your own ?

Me : well

I shrug

She scoffs

Swazi : never , I came to South Africa with you and because of you . So I'm where you are , you can call me a tail all you want

Me : then stop

I knock , and Zweli opens the  
door

Zweli : Zulu

Me : Ndlovu

He makes way for us , we walk  
in

Swazi greets and he greets back



Zweli : we just got back from work , I'll go call Khosi . Please sit down

I nod as we take seats

And he walks up

I hate how Swazi is busy moving her eyes around , like she's just sizing this whole lounge down

Lord knows what she's looking  
for

After a while they walk back  
down

Khosi greets and we greet her  
back

Khosi : I didn't think you'll come  
by

Me : I know I didn't say , but  
since you said he's home . I just  
thought it's best I see him

Khosi : I think he's in his room ,  
I'll go call him

Me : but how bad is he ?

She sighs

I look at Zweli

Me : that bad ?

He chuckles

Zweli : he's a much better  
Thongalethu , in the years I've  
known him

Now I am confused , cause his  
mother seems very worried

But Zweli is saying something  
else

Khosi : I don't .....

She darts her eyes and we all  
look at what she's looking

Thongalethu : bazali (parents)

Yeah !

It can only be my son

Khosi : okay

She sits down taking a heavy  
breath

I chuckle shaking my head

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\*INSERT 20\*

\*Thongalethu\*



This is not good for me

Cause I might just get dumped

I mean , at this point and stage I  
feel like I have the girl

But now , what she didn't want  
happening has happened

Like , on the first day she comes  
here

These parents are killing me

Dad : Thongalethu

Me : Mtwana

He chuckles

Dad : come sit down

Me : can I just walk ....

Dad : no , both of you come sit  
down

The look my mother is giving  
me , I cannot even comprehend  
it

I'm sure she's ready to murder  
me

This is not the girl that came  
here claiming to be my  
girlfriend

I sigh , taking her hand that she  
so badly wants out of my hand

I lead her to the table and pull  
out a chair for her

I sit down next to her

Me : this is Rain Mampofu ,  
she's my girlfriend

Just listen to me

I'm probably dumped right now  
cause of this

And I'm already doing girlfriend  
introductions

But I don't care

She will be known as the one  
girlfriend I bought home and  
introduced

Me : she's the one who helped  
me , and told me all of that  
about your great great  
grandfather and your father as  
well as your mother

They're all looking at me

Dad : I see , I guess it's very important that she be a part of this discussion

She doesn't look nor seem very comfortable with that

Dad : of course , if that's okay with you my child

He says looking at Rain

Rain : it's okay Mr Zulu

He chuckles

Dad : the formalities , but thank you . I heard from MaKhumalo , but I would like to understand this

I look at her , and tighten my grip on her hand . I just want to assure her I'm here , and I'll



hold her hand through this .  
Maybe she'll explain better than  
I did

She takes a deep breath

Rain : this started fuzzy for me ,  
in a mall . I was just  
overwhelmed by spirit , and my  
guides just took over . I  
approached him , of course he  
dismissed me . But from there ,  
I saw the spirit of the old man

that's following him . And he wasn't very pleased , and tried to pass a message . One which Thongalethu didn't want to hear

She looks at me

Rain : I was taken over by spirit again , passing his car on the side of the road . But I left , as soon as I realised that it was him . And he was very rude to

me , again his great great great grandfather appeared there still not pleased with him . From there on , the spirit of the old man was always around me . And I didn't know what he wanted from me , until that day I found him overdosed on drugs . A few days out of it , and experiencing withdraw side effects he woke up . And I spoke to his ancestors on his behalf , because I wanted to hear why

they've been following me and also him . That's where I found out that , the great great great grandfather was a royal seer . From the same royal family , of such it's great ancestor in his animal form tainted your father with his blood . It may have been done to save his life , but the blood is way different from us humans . And it seems as so , the old man feels abounded . Your father never tapped into

that blood , to know and understand what it is .  
Unfortunately , Thongalethu inherited that from him . He has that royal great animal blood running through his veins , one day he will manifest into it . You need to help him , so that when it happens he can be able to control it and be one with it

Wow !

Me : are you saying I am not human ?

Rain : you are

My father gets and paces around

Mom : Mageba !

He runs his hand over his face

Dad : Mageba was the royal seer to a kingdom in Eastern Cape , Isilo Kingdom if I am not mistaken . And my father was once saved by a Jaglion , after being hurt in the woods . He had gone to visit Mageba when all that happened

Me : okay ....okay , I still don't understand what does this have to do with me . Like I hear all of

that , but what does it have to do with me ?

Rain : your father has to take you there , you have to learn and unleash the traits of this spirit animal . And also , you have to grace the Isilo river , where the old man initiated . There's things he wants to give you , so you can continue being a vessel . Because he is not yet done with his life purposes , and he



will use you to carry them  
through .

Me : no offence to you Bhabha  
(baby) , but I cannot wear beads  
and all

She smiles

Me : that cannot be me , there  
really was no need for them to  
ruin my life and things just so I

can pay attention to them .  
They're dead , why can't they  
just stay dead ?

Rain : you're never listening

Me : I ....

Dad : we will do whatever we  
have to do to help him

Oh !

Mom : I want him to go to  
rehab , this drugs business

I sigh

Dad : you overdosed , and you  
could have died

Me : but it is said all this is the  
work of those people

Mom : still , I would rather you  
go get help

There's no winning

Me : fine , can Rain be allowed  
to visit then ?

My father chuckles

Me : like honestly , going to  
rehab doesn't sit well with her

Mom : it's for your own good ,  
and I am sure she also wants a  
clean boyfriend . One who's not  
on drugs , and won't be  
overdosing

Me : okay , please just allow her  
to visit

Dad : two weeks the most , I  
won't book you more than that

I nod , hoping that's better time  
frame

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\*Rain\*

I grab the phone and pay

Walking out , I get into the car

I can't stop these tears

I am really sad I don't want to  
lie

Simo drives off

And all this while , I'm just  
wondering if he'll come back  
the same

I am scared right now



And I think he was right

All it took was a day , and I have  
fallen

Simo arrives and parks by the  
gate

I'm contemplating getting off

I was busy helping him pack

But I just had to leave , and I  
said I'll come back

He said he won't leave until I  
am back

I get out of the car , and lean  
against it

After a while , the gate opens  
and his father walks out

Mr Zulu : Thongalethu is inside ,  
I think he's waiting for you

Me : thank you

It's so awkward talking to his  
parents , I end up just not  
knowing what to say

I walk inside , and he comes out  
of the door

Thonga : you're back ?

He asks with a smile , holding  
my hand into his

I nod

Thonga : I thought you're angry  
and you won't come back

We walk over to his father's  
rented car

Thonga : don't cry , you know  
I'll be back right ? He said just  
two weeks

It was so decided , that he's  
going to rehab

I nod slowly

Thonga : don't cry , you'll come  
see me

Me : I feel like I won't be seeing you in a while , after this your father said he's taking you to Isilo , I don't know when you'll be back . In a month I have to go home , for my coming of age ceremony

I so wish he was going to be there , but I guess he won't .  
That's very clear

Even though I didn't ask him to  
come

I can just tell how the situation  
is

He won't be there

Thonga : can we not worry  
about all of that ? I don't want  
to leave you here sad

I am sad , I can't even hide that

Me : I got you something

I reach in my bag taking out the  
phone

He chuckles

Thonga : Bhabha (baby) ....



Me : don't say anything , if you can spare 5 minutes please just use a minute and call me . I made sure there's enough airtime and data there

Thonga : I'll call you everyday

He engulfs me into a tight hug

I'm trying so hard to fight my own tears

He pulls out of the hug , and  
captures my lips into his

I hate this kiss , cause it feels  
like we're saying goodbye to  
each other

Thonga : I love you so much

He pulls back , my jaw dropped

He just wipes my tears off , now  
his family comes out

I can't even ask him about what  
he just said

Does he mean it , or emotions  
are just getting the better out  
of him ? Like I am stunned , I  
didn't expect to hear the words  
so soon to say the least

It's a bittersweet moment , as  
his parents and step parents say  
goodbye to him

Hopefully when he comes back ,  
his parents will be pleased with  
what they see

I for one don't think he needed  
this

But I am not a parent

And I don't know how parents  
are , where their kids are  
concerned

I know though , that this is  
coming from a good place .

They just want what's best for  
him

And for him to get better

Thonga : take of yourself for me  
okay ?

I nod

Mrs Ndlovu : don't be shy for us

They laugh

Mrs Ndlovu : don't worry he will  
be back , you also need a man

that's on the straight and narrow. With good principles of life , and we're just trying that for him . He will come back sooner than you think

Me : I understand

Mr Ndlovu : okay , it's time to go now

And the moment is here

Now I wish I wasn't here to see him leave , but his parents were okay with that

His father actually told me to be here

Yesterday was just intense , and there's something I wanted to ask him



But I didn't

I think now is the best time to

Especially as they walk a bit  
further away from us

Me : why are your parents  
divorced legally , but still  
married traditionally ?

He looks at me

Thonga : what ?

Me : when they divorced , they didn't inform the ancestors about their separation . Your mother traditionally , is still a Zulu wife . She's not welcomed in the Ndlovu , because they see her as a woman who belongs to another man . Another family and another kraal , she's a Zulu bride

He frowns , but his lips curve  
into a smile

Me : yhoh ! Worse , they still  
love each other and are  
together

He laughs

Thonga : what do you mean  
they're together ?

I clear my throat

Me and my big mouth

Thonga : babe ?

Me : you have to go now

Thonga : you can't throw such a  
bombshell on me

We're not doing this

I already said things maybe I  
shouldn't have said

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\*INSERT 21\*



\*A MONTH LATER\*

\*Rain\*



Everything is coming along so  
fine

But I am not happy

Today is the last day of  
preparations

My heart is not here

I've been back home for a week

Tomorrow is my coming of age  
ceremony

My parents are so happy , they  
couldn't be more proud

All my siblings are home ,  
everyone is happy

I am just not feeling this

Thongalethu came out of rehab  
a week ago

So he stayed there for three  
weeks and not the initial two  
weeks

Now he's been at Isilo for a  
week , after going to KZN for  
some ceremony

I miss him

Like I miss him so bad

It's not the same talking over  
the phone

But he has kept his promise , he  
calls everyday

I feel and hear so much change  
in him now that he's at Isilo

Even his voice has deepened so much

I wonder just how he looks like now

On FaceTime or video call , he always looks like he has gained some muscles

And has gotten buffer

Maybe I am just seeing things  
that are not there

I have no idea when he will be  
back in Joburg

But after my ceremony , I am  
returning back

I tried my level best to go back  
to varsity

And it was because of him

He so badly wanted to go back  
this semester

But he wasn't around , so he  
missed out on that

He said next year he will  
definitely go back

I am trying to hold my own

Hopefully , I will see it through  
the years

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\*Thongalethu\*



King Hawu : you don't look okay

I frown

Me : no

King Hawu : want to talk about  
it ?

I heave a sigh

Me : before coming here , I was  
at rehab for three weeks

King Hawu : mhm

Me : drugs

King Hawu : oh , I see

Me : I am fine now , and I  
honestly don't think I needed  
that . But my parents were hell  
bent on it

He chuckles

King Hawu : it's the work of a parent

Me : I am here because of this woman , and now I am scared

King Hawu : let's take up a walk , but don't take me deep into the woods

I chuckle as we head to the palace West gate going out

Me : she's gifted , the same way  
as you are . And she's the  
reason I got to know all this  
truth , about Mageba . And  
about my grandfather , and  
what happened to him with Isilo

King Hawu : she's a true child of  
the ancestors

I heave a sigh

King Hawu : why are you worried ?

Me : she hasn't seen me face to face in a month , and a lot has changed . The week I have been here , I'm completely a different person . What if when she sees me again , she won't feel the same anymore ?

King Hawu : but I believe she  
knew the kind of transformation  
you have to go through

Me : I look scary , the damn  
thing on my back looks like it's  
alive ....I just ...

I shake my head slowly

Everything just happened so  
fast

All it took was me going into  
that river

And this Jaglion couldn't handle  
that water

Within seconds of being inside  
the Isilo river

I changed form , just to fight to  
get out of the water



Now I am stuck with a Jaglion  
mark on my whole back

It's whole face is just there

The thing looks scary

Me : I am way too different now  
, not the guy she fell for . And  
she might not be for this me

All this is just bringing me  
nothing but just pain

Me : it's her coming of age  
ceremony tomorrow , I would  
have loved to be there . But my  
fear ...

I shake my head

King Hawu : where is she from ?

Me : Isizwe sa MaMpofu

King Hawu : hah ! Now it makes sense

Me : what ?

King Hawu : why Isilo would imprint on you , using your grandfather's blood

Me : you're loosing me

King Hawu : you will have to be a man , understand some decisions . It won't be an easy road , I hope you'll be prepared enough for it to conquer .

Like why is he speaking in riddles ?

Me : can you explain a bit better ?

He chuckles

King Hawu : your hut is getting built , your Ancestral bag will be here . You will take upon Mageba's gift , and continue his duties . And well , there's also Isilo , you have to accommodate him in this . He's the great ancestor of this kingdom , the protector . That's your duty now

What ?

I look at him

King Hawu : you're dating a  
future queen , do you  
understand what this means ?

I think I do

It's scaring the hell out of me

King Hawu : I'll have a driver  
take you to Isizwe sa MaMpofu ,  
we're neighbouring kingdoms .  
My wives will also be there

He pats my shoulder

King Hawu : buy gifts , don't  
show up empty handed . And  
make sure the princess knows  
your intentions , there'll be a lot

of competition there tomorrow  
. Mark your own , remember  
who you are now . A product of  
Isilo

He turns back , and I see how  
far we have walked

We're in the woods

And he didn't even want to get  
this far



I heave a sigh

Taking out my phone , I send  
her a text message

Hopefully she will get it

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\*Rain\*

I look at his message

“I’ll see you soon”

I don’t think I understand this at all

Does he mean he’s coming here or what ?

Maybe he’s soon going back to Joburg

I mean , I have no idea how long he will stay at Isilo

But if he's going back to Joburg , then it would mean he completed what he was supposed to do

That was quick

And hopefully , he can get his life back in check

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\*INSERT 22\*

\*Thongalethu\*

She looks so beautiful

I don't even think she has seen  
me

I called her this morning

And she wasn't sounding okay

But I am glad she's enjoying her  
day

Not her father thanking her  
with a whole X5

For being good , and keeping  
her purity



Now she has been given a key

I'm not in a hurry to tap that

But I can't say I am not  
attracted in all kinds , and very  
much attempted to

But I know better now

And I still have things to finish

And I know I have to pay  
damages , after I break her  
virginity

I guess now I know better

Being at Isilo has taught me so  
much

It's a lot to take in

Having to adapt now to this  
whole new me

Knowing I am not alone , but  
with such a great ancestor

It's also scary

I wonder if she knew the whole  
truth , when she first started  
telling me about this

If she doesn't

Will she accept me now  
knowing I can change into this  
beast ?

All kinds of ancestors invade us

Cause of things that have been  
done to them

By those in our lineage

In my case , it's because this  
beat saved my grandfather

And now it had wormed it's way  
into me

And I have to accept that

Now I have been bestowed this  
duty

To protect that kingdom and it's  
people

Until this ancestor can come  
upon one of their one

And that's not a given that it  
will

I don't know how I'm going to  
do this

But I guess I will learn as time goes on

Having to take upon the gift of Mageba

That's something I still have to come into terms with

I haven't even shared most of this with my family

I don't know how they will take  
it

The fear of rejection now , is  
what's on my shoulders

What will I do if they don't  
accept this ?

If they don't accept who and  
what I am now ?



I guess that's a talk for another  
day

Or when I go back home

Now I'm just thankful to King  
Hawu

For making this day possible for  
me to be here

I came along with his wives

He even gave me the money for  
the gifts and all

Right now I just want to see my  
girlfriend and greet her

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\*Rain\*



Me : I am tired

Busi : Simo is asking for you

I want to change out of these  
clothes

It's been a long day

I get up and walk to the door

Me : Simo

Simo : Nkosazane (my princess)

Me : what is it ?

Simo : there is someone asking  
to see you

Me : who ?

Simo : if you can come with me  
, it would be better

Me : Simo , I am tired . Can't  
you just tell me ?

I feel a bit sad that Thonga  
wasn't here

I don't understand half the  
things he's going through right  
now

So I guess he couldn't come

Simo : it won't take long

I sigh closing the door following  
him

And he goes to his quarter

Me : Simo ....

He opens the door , and tears  
just blurry my eyes

But I just gather myself closing  
the door

As Simo turns and walks away

Me : you came ?

It's all done and finished

But he's here



He walks closer to me

He looks so different , and more  
nature

He's even more buff

He looks nothing like the  
Thonga I knew a month ago

Thonga : I wouldn't miss this for  
anything

I smile tears streaming down  
my face

Me : but when did you get here  
?

Thonga : morning

So he didn't miss anything

Me : but I didn't see you

He chuckles , and it's so deep

Like that of a thousand  
masculine voices

Thonga : you were not looking  
for me

I smile , wiping my tears off

Me : you look ....so different

Thonga : I know , I hope you can still accept me with my changes as your boyfriend

Gosh !

I walk closer to him , placing my hands on his lower back

He hugs me back , but it feels so held back

I just tear up

Me : I missed you so much

He tightens the hug

Now this is the hug I wanted  
and was expecting

I don't know why he was so  
scared to hug me

Thonga : you have no idea how  
much I missed you

I'm so happy that he's here

Like no words can express how  
I'm feeling right now

He slowly pulls back

Thonga : and I still love you

I smile

Me : I've always loved you , and  
I love you

He grins leaning down and we  
kiss

It feels like years since I was in  
his embrace like this

Feeling his lips against mine

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\*Mahlubandile\*



This day went great

But now Jongikhaya is worrying  
me

He called me in his Ancestral  
hut

He doesn't look good

Me : what's wrong ?

He sighs

Jongikhaya : these royals are  
not alone

I hope history is not repeating  
itself

I cannot deal with witches right  
now

That time is over and behind us  
, I don't long for it

It should stay there

I am preparing the taking of my daughter

I cannot be fighting battles

She cannot accept the throne in the midst of battles

Me : what do you mean ?

Jongikhaya : I have never felt this heavy and so blocked ,

there's just something that's  
not of our own . That's very  
powerful here

Me : when you say something ,  
what are you referring to ?

Jongikhaya : I can't see nothing ,  
and you know I cannot summon  
Ngwe in the midst of a  
ceremony like this

Me : are we in danger  
Jongikhaya ?

Jongikhaya : no , I think the  
princess would have been  
shown something

Me : now you're worrying me ,  
and I don't want to worry her

He sighs

Jongikhaya : it's probably nothing , but I had to tell you in case something erupts in our midst

Me : and this is the royals ?

Jongikhaya : I am certain , no commoner can carry such power . And we know our people , no outsiders were invited except the royals

Me : whatever this is , it better not be here for us . I am not in the mood

Jongikhaya : we will keep watch , it's hard to deal with something even I do not see nor understand

I don't need this



Can my daughter's day just end  
in peace

That's all

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\*INSERT 23\*

\*Rain\*

Me : you're really different

He smiles , I really can't  
comprehend him

Thonga : I hope these changes  
and differences don't change  
things

Me : no

I see no reason why

Thonga : we will talk better  
when I get back home

I nod slowly

Thonga : I hope you won't  
change your mind

Me : what scares you ?

Thonga : everything

I hold his hand

Me : one day at a time

Thonga : that's the way

Me : and when do you think  
you'll be back ?

Thonga : I don't know , maybe a  
month to go

Me : not bad

Thonga : you're going back  
home again ?

Me : yes

Thonga : still managing varsity ?

I laugh

Me : one day at a time

He chuckles

Thonga : I will get in line again  
next year

Me : I am happy

He gets up heaving a sigh

Thonga : I hate that I have to  
leave

It's just sad



I wish we had more time

But he could spare a half and an hour

And now he has to leave

Thonga : you continue being good

Me : thank you for coming , and for the gifts

Thonga : I am proud of you

I get up and hug him

Me : it's hard I know , but don't give up yet . There's still a long way to go , but I trust and believe in you

Thonga : that means a lot

We pull out of the hug

Me : take care

Thonga : always babe

I smile , he leans down

I meet him half way as we kiss

I am sad he's leaving

But I'm also glad and happy that  
he came

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\*Winnie\*

I think right now I am picking up  
pieces

Well I think I am

It's finally sinking in , after a  
whole month

That Thonga is done with me

I haven't even seen him nor  
have I heard from him

And as for Lona , she is happy

Clearly she never saw Thonga  
being any good for me

I pack up my books , heading  
out of the library

I bump into this guy

Me : what the hell ?

Him : sorry

He fixes his cap , as he leans  
down picking up my backpack . I  
am so annoyed

Him : once again I am sorry

Me : just watch where you are  
going

It's this stupid cap of his , that's  
hiding his whole face



That he doesn't see where he's  
going

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\*Bayede\*

Me : I am heading out , I'll see  
you soon

She sighs

I shake my head , grabbing my  
car keys

Swazi : why are you always leaving me here alone ?

Me : I have things to do

Swazi : what things that make you leave your wife alone ?

Me : staying here doesn't come cheap , I need to work and make money

Swazi : we wouldn't be stuck here , if you can just allow us to go back home

Me : and leave in the midst of everything that's happening ?  
My son needs me here ,  
because he's all alone in that kingdom . I need to be here when he gets back home

Swazi : this is just crazy , we're stuck living in a hotel like we're homeless

Me : I'll be back

I head to the door

Swazi : maybe we should have just taken the offer from Khosi and Zweli to stay at their house

I chuckle

Me : trust me , you don't want that shit . You wouldn't be able to handle it

She frowns , I walk out leaving her as she is

Imagine staying in the same house as Khosi

I will be fucking her right under  
her husband's nose

With Swazi there

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\*Nomakhosi\*





Me : where does your wife say  
you are at this time ? Or should  
I say so called wife ?

He chuckles

Slowly pulling out of me

And the coldness I feel

I bring my legs to his back ,  
locking him in

He comes back down , as his  
crotch sinks in deeper inside of  
me

He chuckles

Bayede : you just can't help it  
can you ?

Me : am I a bad person ?

I cup his face , as he slowly take  
deep strokes

Bayede : no , me and you we've  
always known this . It's just sad  
and unfair to them

Why can't we just stop this ?

I can't say I don't love Zweli

I do love him

And he's a good man , he takes  
care of me

He's tolerated my rebel son

Yet I can't just let go of Bayede

Bayede : I just love you so much  
, there'll never be another for  
me

Lord !

Me : shut up , and just fuck me

I move my waist underneath  
him

Meeting his thrusts , and he  
deep grunts

We lock eyes

As I feel that wave of pleasure  
creeping in

He picks up his pace

I sunk my nails on his back

He leans his face down

Smashing his lips on mine , the  
kiss is just filled with lust

I release my legs on his back , as  
I orgasms

And he deep groans inside my  
mouth , as his cum fills me up

He pulls back slowly out of the  
kiss

I'm panting crazy

Bayede : let's leave them

I look at him shocked

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\*INSERT 24\*



\*Nomakhosi\*

Me : what ?

Bayede : you heard me , let's  
leave them . I am not saying  
let's get married again , but let's  
be together again . And just  
stop with this hide and seek  
game , doesn't it tire you ?  
Cause it tires me

I push him off me

Me : I am married

Bayede : come on , it's not forbidden to get a divorce

Me : so I must be a divorcee twice ?

Bayede : you're blowing this out of proportion

Me : am I ? Like really ?

I get off the bed

Bayede : MaKhumalo I am  
talking to you

His voice is stern

I look at him

Bayede : I have no problem  
whatsoever leaving

Me : you're not legally married  
like I am

Bayede : divorce !

Wow !

When did we get here ?

Me : I am not doing this with  
you , I am going to shower and  
go home

Bayede : I am not going  
anywhere , I hope you know  
that

He gets up on the bed , and  
stands in front of me

He holds my hand

Bayede : tell Zweli , unless you  
want me to go tell him to leave

my woman alone . You know I  
am capable

I yank my hand off of him

Me : if you even care slightly  
about me , you won't hurt me  
like this . It's not even about  
being a divorcee twice , it's not  
about being legally married . I  
love Zweli , and I can't just leave  
him to be your girlfriend . I hate  
that I can't unlove you



His face softens

There's just something about  
the love he holds for me

That will always get him calm

And maybe that's why I just  
can't let go

It's just insane

Bayede : it doesn't matter how long it takes , but you know eventually you will leave . Let's go shower , I'll take you home

I look at him

Knowing something , when Bayede speaks . He doesn't just say , for the sake of saying

But not this time , I am not  
leaving Zweli

And that needs to sink in to him

Me : you can break things off  
with your wife if you want , and  
you can always just leave me . I  
won't run after you , you know  
that . But I am not leaving Zweli  
, I am not

Bayede : I will come tomorrow ,  
so we can talk about our son . I  
think we should go visit him

At least we're off the leaving  
our partners topic

This man has a baby on the way

And he's talking about  
separation , I don't know

He's not coming to me with  
baby mama drama

I cannot deal with that

Me : will they allow us ?

Bayede : he's not a prisoner  
there , he went to get help

Maybe that's what we need

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\*Rain\*

It's the morning after my  
ceremony

And I'm glad everything went  
well

I am so tired , I can literally just  
sleep the whole day

I'm coming out of my ancestral  
hut , as my father approaches  
me

Me : my king

He smiles

Dad : how are you this morning  
?



Me : very well , I cannot  
complain

Dad : that is good , seeing you  
walk out of there . I hope the  
gods and ancestors are still  
happy with us

Sometimes this man makes the  
most awkward conversations  
ever

To even think he has the same  
print of this Ngwe I walk with

Me : that was just my sthunywa  
(pure guides) morning session

It's crazy how everything has a  
time with me

I don't just do things because I  
feel like doing them

Especially when it comes to  
communication of the guides ,  
and their sacred time

At 00:00 midnight , it's prayer  
time

I'm usually with just a white  
candle and a glass of water

Nothing that intense

Then comes 03:00 in the  
morning

I'm in my cloths , I have my  
candles and snuff along with  
incense

That's the time now , for my  
ancestors

I phahla (communication with  
ancestors)

Then lastly at 06:45 , that's the sthunywa (pure guides) time

I have on my white cape along with a white doek

A Bible , white candle and a glass of water

It's a lot , especially when you consider those times

And not just mixing things

I do not have the Zionist in me

Hence I don't even use all  
different colours of candles

I don't mix my communications

I cannot pray and Phahla at the  
same time

Like a person who has a Zionist spirit would do

He smiles

Dad : I am glad

He brings me out of my thoughts

Me : nothing is bothering you ?

Dad : nothing I should worry  
you about

I won't push further

If he wants to talk , I know he  
will

Me : if you need me , you know  
where I am my king



He smiles

I bow my head slightly walking  
away from him

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\*Thongalethu\*

King Hawu : how was your trip ?

He just found me by the Isilo  
sacred river

I'm sitting just a bit far

By the river banks

I can't go closer , Isilo hates the  
water

I don't understand how he and  
Mageba are supposed to co  
exist in me

When they don't agree like this

It's like having isthunywa (pure guides) and Idlozi (ancestors)

The good that sees the other part bad

In this case , Mageba being of water and Isilo hating the water

It's just crazy

Me : it was worth it my king ,  
the princess was very pleased

He chuckles

King Hawu : I am glad

Me : all thanks to you

He sits down next to me

King Hawu : see , a man cannot focus on his journey if he's bothered . I don't want that for you

I heave a sigh

Me : I don't know , I know I am new at understanding everything that's happening . But I don't see how I'm going to make these two spirits , co exist

in me . Because it's clear , that I  
need them both

He smiles

King Hawu : they will co exist  
just fine , because as much as  
you need them . They also need  
you , so without you there's no  
them . See , this is just like  
having two ancestors within you  
, while one is for church and the  
other is for ancestral things .

Obviously the two will clash ,  
because the pure guides  
considers anything that has to  
do with ancestors dirty . But  
then , the majority has both the  
ancestor and the pure guide .  
You can't ignore the other , and  
attend only one . Mageba on his  
own he cannot do it , nor can  
Isilo . They need to be one , so  
there can be a balance and  
stability



That was a mouthful

King Hawu : the trick , is just to  
always do what is asked and  
needed . Like attend every  
spirits need

Me : meaning I do whatever  
each one tells me

He nods

Me : Isilo hates water , and  
Mageba emerged from water

King Hawu : force yourself  
through that , show them you  
need them both . And you want  
to cater for them , one will give  
leeway . And that's how , you'll  
get them to balance and work  
together

What he's saying sounds easy

I just don't know if it'll be just as easy to do

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\*INSERT 25\*

\*Nomakhosi\*

Me : hello

He keeps quite

Me : Bayede !

Bayede : mhm

I heave a sigh

Me : can we not do this ?

Bayede : do what ?

Me : now you don't want to talk  
to me ?

Bayede : you called , and I answered

Me : I thought you said you want us to talk about our son

He chuckles

Bayede : I said I will come

Me : no

Bayede : why ? You're afraid of what we'll end up doing ?

I am not going back and forth

Me : when do you think we should go see him ?

Bayede : call Rain , maybe she can spare a few days and come with . My boy must be dying



Me : like really ?

He laughs

Bayede : yeah , so tell me what  
Rain says

Me : okay , I'll call her today

Bayede : alright

Me : bye

Bayede : I love you

My jaw drops , and the phone  
slowly slides out of my hand

I'm quick to catch it before it  
hits the table

Me : shit !

I drop the call

Leaning back on the couch , I  
take a deep breath

My body is sore

I close my eyes , and I could use  
some more sleep

Voice : no baby ...

I open my eyes looking at him

I smile , rubbing my eyes . And  
he chuckles

Me : baby

Zweli : no , why did you sleep  
on the couch ?

He was asleep when I got back

And I didn't want to wake him  
up

Also I was smelling of a fresh  
shower , I didn't want to be  
caught

Me : I got home late , shame  
was on me . I didn't want to  
wake you up from your peaceful  
sleep

Zweli : don't ever do this again ,  
you're a married woman . You  
sleep on your bed , with your  
husband . Even if you get home  
after midnight

Me : I am sorry baby

Zweli : it's okay , go take a  
shower . Come have something  
light to eat , and you can get  
better sleep

Me : thank you

He helps me up the couch

Zweli : I love you

I smile leaning over giving him a  
kiss

Me : I love you

I mumble through the kiss

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\*Rain\*



Busi : home sweet home

I laugh

My phone rings , I reach for it

Seeing it's Mrs Ndlovu calling

Honestly I don't know what to  
call this woman

Because with ancestors , she's  
seen and still a Zulu bride

I shake my head slowly  
answering

Me : Mrs ..... MaKhumalo

Like

Isn't that just better ?

MaKhumalo : Rain , how are  
you ?

Me : I am good ma , and how  
are you ?

I'm not surprised to get her call

MaKhumalo : there's something  
I need to ask you

Me : okay

I hope nothing is wrong

MaKhumalo : Mageba and I ,  
were looking on going to Isilo to  
see Thonga . I don't know if you  
would like to come with

I would never miss a chance to see him

Me : when ?

She laughs , I'm just eager

MaKhumalo : a day that's suitable for you , because we might stay a few days

Me : okay , I think I am cool this week . I have only online classes to attend to

MaKhumalo : alright , I think we can leave tomorrow . Just to have more days

Me : tomorrow is fine

MaKhumalo : okay then

Me : thank you for considering  
me

MaKhumalo : his father figured  
you two miss each other , we'll  
see you tomorrow

Bless that sneaky man

Me : okay bye

She drops the call

Now I will have to pack for Isilo  
Kingdom

Just to pack accordingly

And to ask from my guides the  
permission to go entre another  
Kingdom

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\*Winnie\*

Me : you again ?

He smiles , still wearing his cap

Him : I come in peace

I just decided to get some fresh  
air

Have a glass of milkshake at  
Wimpy

And this guy just pops up , right  
in front of my table

As he greeted , I saw it was the  
guy I bumped into

Him : can I please sit down

Me : I don't even know you

He smiles again

Him : my name is Venus

I laugh unintended

Me : that's a white people's  
names , a very strange name

He chuckles

Venus : you don't wanna know  
why I am named Venus

He pulls the chair and sits down

Calling over a waiter , and he  
orders two more milkshakes

Venus : I am sorry , for bumping  
into you the other day . But  
then again , I am not . Cause  
now I get to sit down with you ,  
I probably won't leave without  
your number too . And who

knows , maybe the next time I  
see you I'll be taking you on a  
real date

Me : whoa !

He chuckles

Venus : it feels kind of safe , to  
just say I can see you taking my  
surname

Me : like dude seriously with  
your planet name , it's too soon  
like way too soon

He laughs , I just end up  
laughing too

Venus : we'll see it about it , but  
it's going to happen

Wow !

Please let him not be another  
creep

I think I've had enough of those  
to last me a life time

All thanks to Thongalethu

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\*Bayede\*





Me : I am going to Isilo for a few days with Khosi and Rain ....

Swazi : again you're leaving me ?

Me : stop , just calm down and sit down . There's something I need to tell you

She puts her hands on her waist and just stares at me

Me : okay fine , I'll tell you  
either way

Swazi : wait ....is it bad ?

Me : depends how you look at it

She sighs sitting down

She looks at me

Swazi : what is it ?

It's now or never , but I can't  
keep doing this

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\*INSERT 26\*

\*A FEW DAYS LATER\*

\*Rain\*



I am having regrets coming here

Could just be me and my  
imagination

But Thongalethu is distant

And I don't want to feel like , I  
am not wanted here

He's just not himself at all



I've been quite , but today I just want to address this and move on

I don't mind going back to Joburg , and just forgetting all this

Me : can we talk ?

He nods

I am in the chamber he is using

Me : in over a month now , and we haven't been together . Last I saw you , it was just an hour . And now , I've been here a few days . But it's like I'm not wanted here , you're very awkward towards me . Please don't hurt me , if you don't want me here tell me so I can leave

He sighs and walks closer taking  
my hand

Thonga : I don't want you going  
anywhere , I am sorry for my  
actions and being distant . I'm  
just scared , but I would rather  
tell you . Than to have you feel  
this way

I heave a sigh of relief

Thonga : please , let me take a shower and then we can talk

I just look at him

Thonga : today , I was just absent minded . King Hawu said he feels like drought season has come upon the kingdom , he is very worried

Now that's worrying

Thonga : maybe I could help , I am supposed to know how to help . But I'm still learning

I do feel his worry

Me : I can help , do you think the king can let me in their river ?

Thonga : help how ?

Me : don't worry about that , so  
will he ?

He chuckles

Thonga : I'll talk to him , let me  
go shower . I am coming

He places a peck on my lips ,  
and goes to the bathroom

After a while I walk to his closet  
, I just want a t-shirt

I want to sleep and I don't want  
to get my dress wrinkled

I stop on my tracks , as my eyes  
land on his whole back

And as if he can sense or feel  
me , he turns back and looks at  
me

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\*Thongalethu\*



The fear in her eyes

Or is it shock all over her face

It just sends shivers down my  
spine

Words are just stuck at the back  
of my throat

She slowly moves back

And it pains me

Me : I ....I won't hurt you

I walk closer to her , and she  
keeps moving back

Until she's out of the closet

Me : please stop

Rain : he .....Isilo is within you ?

I sigh

Me : I was going to tell you , I just didn't know how . I didn't know how you were going to take this

I walk closer to her

I'm relieved when she doesn't  
move back

I guess she didn't know this

I take both her hands into mine

Me : what does this mean now  
for us ?

I fear that my fears have come  
to pass

She seems to know exactly what  
this means

Having this great ancestor  
within me

For a few minutes she's quite

Me : baby ....

She pulls her hands away from  
me

I heave a sigh

She turns and walks behind me  
in silence

I take a deep breath

After a few minutes , I feel her hands on my back

She trails her hand all over my back

Rain : beautiful

What the hell ?

I turn and look at her

Me : you're not scared ?

She smiles

Rain : scared ? No , but shocked  
yeah

I chuckle

Rain : my father has the mark  
on Ngwe , our great ancestor . I  
just didn't think Isilo invaded



your body , and has become  
one with you

This is relief of some kind

Rain : have you changed ?

I nod slowly

Rain : wow , how are you  
adapting to this ?

Me : one day at a time

She giggles

Me : baby , I was so scared . I  
thought this will scare you away  
, and you wouldn't want  
anything to do with me ever  
again

Rain : Stop being silly , grab me  
your t-shirt

I chuckle

Me : I love you baby

She places her hands on my  
chest

Rain : I love you too

Gosh ! Now I am relieved

She leans over cupping my face  
, I lean down our lips gracing  
each other

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\*Winnie\*

Me : thank you

He smiles

Venus : are you ever going to give me a chance ?

This one has been asking me out

I don't know if I'm ready to step into another relationship

Especially with a man I do not know like him

He's just suspicious and always  
wearing a cap

Like he's hiding from something

It's just crazy

Me : are you a criminal ?

He laughs

Venus : what ...why ?

Me : why are you always hiding your face in public ?

Venus : recognition purposes

Me : right , running away from the police thinking someone might recognise you and report you ?

He laughs



Venus : you watch a lot of movies

Me : then ?

Venus : I am the premier's son ,  
I just hate the public attention

Me : which premier ?

Venus : Sishi

I pop my eyes

But now that he says it , there's  
slight resemblance there

And Venus is old , not that  
much old

But I can tell he's a few years  
older than me

Me : wow

I am stunned

Venus : I have a daughter , she's  
5 now

Me : baby mama drama

I've had enough drama in my  
life

I don't need that no more

I just want and need peace

Venus : her mother and I are separated , she got married .  
My daughter lives with my parents , there's no baby mama drama there

Me : how do I know you're telling the truth ? Men lie

Venus : we men die for the sins  
of those who have come before  
us , it's a very shady world .  
We're taking punches

I laugh

Venus : please think about this

I heave a sigh

Me : I'm just a nobody , what's premier's son doing with me ?

Venus : we date people , and not standards

Mhm

Can I ever ?

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\*INSERT 27\*

\*Thongalethu\*



I turn over looking at her

She looks so beautiful

No scratch that

She is beautiful , even when  
she's sleeping

Rain : you're starrng

I chuckle

Me : I thought you're still  
sleeping

Rain : your eyes are boring into  
me

I laugh

Me : thank you for spending the  
night in here

She slowly opens her eyes , with  
a smile

Me : I had the best peaceful  
night , I have ever had in years

She smiles leaning over and we  
kiss

The downside to spending the  
night with her

Is that Mtwana is wide awake ,  
and on full speed

And this kiss is not helping at all

That's why I pull back

Rain : what ?

I take her hand to my dick

She gasps

Rain : whoa !

Me : the benefits of sleeping  
next to you , this is torture

She laughs

Rain : I am sorry

Me : let me go take a cold  
shower

Rain : won't you ever get tired ,  
and end up cheating on me ?

Me : hey , look at me

She lifts her eyes and looks at me

Me : I won't lie , I am dying to be buried deep inside of you . But I won't rush you , we'll do this when you're ready . I would rather walk around with a throbbing painful dick , than to cheat on you . That will never happen

Rain : really ?

Me : I promise you that

She gets over me , straddling  
me

I place my hands on her lower  
waist

We lock eyes

Me : I don't like that look



She smiles

Rain : just try , if it becomes too  
much I'll tell you

Me : I don't have a cow yet for  
damages

She laughs , pulling my t-shirt  
off

She slept just wearing it , she's  
left now with just a panty on

Me : are you sure ?

She leans down and we kiss

Rain : I am very sure

I flip her over , getting on top of  
her

I part her legs getting in  
between them

She deepens the kiss , placing  
her hands on my back

I pull my briefs off , and pull her  
panty down

She lifts her legs and , it slides  
off

I bring her legs up to her chest

Trailing down , slowly pulling  
out of the kiss

I trail down , planting kisses to  
her lower stomach

Sliding down to her coochie

She lifts her head slowly , we  
lock eyes

I part her coochie lips with my  
tongue

Rain : baby what .....oh my gosh  
!

She gasps as I nibble on her clit

I bring my thumb over , as I  
slide my tongue down to her  
open

She lets out sweet moans

Rain : oh my gosh .....I feel ....

Me : it's okay

She brings her thighs together

Bringing her hands to my head ,  
just pushing me further down  
her thighs

As an orgasm hits her

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\*Rain\*

Thonga : should we stop ?

Is he crazy ?

I shake my head , trying to catch  
my breath



He chuckles

Thonga : are you sure ?

Me : yeah

He rubs his dick on my coochie

I am so scared right now , I  
could run for my life

And as he pushes in , I feel like  
screaming my lungs out

I bite my lower lip , muffling my  
screams and moans

Tear just stream down my face

This fucking hurts

And he deep groans

Thonga : I am sorry , I am sorry I  
am hurting you

He's sorry but happy , yhoh !

A loud roar of thunder from  
outside , startles me out of my  
pain

And he just goes on to thrusts in

I part my legs further

Trying to accommodate him  
better

I think if I'm more open , it will  
hurt less

But the pain goes on for a while  
, I want to cry

I'm just listening to the sound of  
the rain

And his deep groans and grunts

He slowly moves back , and I  
feel his cum trailing down to my  
ass

After a few seconds gathering  
himself

He slides back in , leaning over  
and we kiss

I get lost in the feeling of  
pleasure just taking all over my  
body

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\*Nomakhosi\*

He pecks my lips

Me : this rain is crazy

Bayede : the whole day and no rest

He sits down next to me

Me : how is he ?

Bayede : he looks good ,  
changed and too different too .  
But I think being here , is what  
he needed



I nod slowly

He's right , our son looks so  
different

But he looks good , and he's  
okay

I think that's what we wanted  
for him more than anything else

My phone rings , Bayede hands  
it to me

Emotions just overwhelm me

He laughs

Bayede : I told you to let go

I roll my eyes answering my  
phone

Me : Ghatsheni

He laughs

Zweli : babe how are you ?

Me : I am well

Zweli : that's good , and is  
Thonga coming along fine ?

Me : he is doing good , I am  
actually happy

Zweli : I am glad , you need this  
peace

Me : yeah , we'll be back soon

Zweli : I can't wait to see you

Me : I miss you

And Bayede pinches me , I  
almost scream

Zweli : you'll make it all up to  
me , when you get back

Me : most definitely , but don't  
you miss me ?

He laughs

Me : Zweli !

Zweli : baby ?

Me : don't you miss me ?

Zweli : babe , how do you even ask ?

Me : you didn't say you miss me too

Zweli : I will rather show you

Me : I am sad and hurt , you really should be missing me

Zweli : you're so far , I can't baby you . Stop with the sulking , I love you okay ?

Me : well , at least you love me

Zweli : and I won't sulk that you didn't say you love me too

We laugh

He drops the call

Bayede : fuck ! After God fear  
women

Me : shut up

He stares at me taking my t-  
shirt off



Me : we need to stop having sex  
in other people's houses

He laughs

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\*INSERT 28\*

\*Nomakhosi\*

We're leaving today

And it's a bit heavy , having to  
say goodbye again

But he seems okay

He's happy here , the people  
seem to be very welcoming to  
him

Me : I hope you don't decide to  
stay here forever

He chuckles

And it's so deep , he reminds  
me of his grandfather  
Nkosiyabo

Me : remember Rain , even if  
you don't come back for us . Do  
come back for her

Thonga : Mom , I will be back

Now I feel like I will get my son  
back

Me : let us leave you , Rain  
you'll find us in the car

He holds her hand

He seems to be so in love with  
her

Well , they seem to be in love  
with each other

Honestly , it's amazing to  
witness and see young love  
again

Bayede : Mtwana

They both laugh

It will take time for me

To adjust to this deep voice  
from Thonga

It doesn't even sound like him

Thonga : that's so awkward  
calling me that

Bayede : exactly how it feels  
when you call me that



Such two weird men

We walk away from them

My phone rings

Bayede : I have to talk to Hawu

Me : I'll be in the car

I walk to the car answering the  
call

Me : hello ?

And all I hear is just sniffs

Me : hi ....who is this ?

Voice : please talk to Bayede ,  
he said he wants out . He has  
been ignoring my calls since you  
left , I thought he was kidding  
but he clearly wasn't . Please

talk to him , he listens to you .  
And I knew he will hear you out

What the hell ?

He didn't even tell me any of  
this

Swazi : please , I'm sorry to  
bother you ..but I'm pregnant .  
And I don't want to raise this  
child alone

I want to tell her that we're  
coming back today

And they will talk then

But maybe he didn't tell her

It's hard for me to tell her

Swazi : please

Me : I .....wait until he's back  
and talk

Swazi : I don't want to be a  
single mother Nomakhosi

Me : we're ex's , I don't think  
it's right we interfere with each  
other marriages

Swazi : I'm the one asking

I sigh

Me : I hear you but ....just talk  
to him okay . I have to go

I drop the call

I cannot believe Bayede right  
now

I should have taken him serious

Because once he says  
something , he definitely means  
it

This feels like it's a mess now

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\*Thongalethu\*

Me : don't cry



She smiles

Rain : I wish you will come back  
soon

Thonga : I will be , I promise you

She leans over for a hug

Me : I love you baby

Rain : I love you too

We spent the whole of  
yesterday just cooped up in the  
chamber I'm using

Just making love , in the cloudy  
weather we had

It was just a beautiful day

Something I will never forget ,  
and will always cherish

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\*Rain\*

As we walk to the car

Both the king and queen  
approach us

We had already said goodbyes

I hope nothing is wrong now

King Hawu : Ndabezitha

They both chuckle

Queen Nomhle : thank you for  
visiting our kingdom , you  
graced our lands and mother  
nature resounded . I was very  
happy of the rain

Oh lord !

This woman is one with nature

Meaning she knows what we  
did

Which is why there was that  
rain yesterday

Me : uhm ....

She laughs

Queen Nomhle : do not worry ,  
it's our secret

Now that she says that , I see  
just how the king and Thonga  
are confused

Me : thank you

We both laugh

She graces me with a hug , I  
gladly return it

Queen Nomhle : hold on to him  
, it won't be easy . But never  
feel obliged to choose , just  
know he's the right choice

She moves back after that  
whisper



I swallow

Just wondering exactly what will  
be standing in the way of this  
relationship

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\*Winnie\*

Me : hi babe

He laughs

I lean over giving him a kiss for a few minutes

Me : sorry I am late

Venus : it's okay , you need anything before we go ?

I shake my head

Venus : okay , let's go

Been dating for two days  
officially

And now he has me going to  
spend the weekend at his house

He takes my hand into his

I smile watching him drive

I hope I will be very cautious  
about this one

And not let my stupidity get the  
best of me

Like it did with Thonga

Seeing all the signs there

But ignoring them

Crying for 5 years that we spent together

The 5 years that most definitely don't even matter to him

I am here with eyes wide open

Venus : where did you get lost to ?

I laugh

Me : nowhere , don't mind me

Venus : don't worry , we will  
have a great weekend

Me : no doubt

He chuckles

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\*INSERT 29\*



\*Bayede\*

Swazi : you came back ?

I slept at a different hotel last  
night

I didn't want to come here and  
face Swazi

Me : I came to get you

Swazi : we're going back home ?

She asks with a smile

Me : no , we're going to Khosi's house

She sighs

Swazi : how long will we be here  
for ?

I look at her

Swazi : I am tired of this place ,  
what changed your mind now  
about going to Khosi's house ?

Me : I didn't say we're going to  
stay there

Swazi : you just got back together , so exactly what are we going to do there ?

Me : to talk

She takes a deep breath

Swazi : Are you over what you said now about the marriage ?

Me : no , we're still separating

Swazi : Bayede

Me : leave it , I am not changing my mind about that . The same way , I'm co-parenting with Khosi I'll do the same with you

Swazi : you and Khosi got to raise your son together , he was old when you separated

I chuckle

Me : so would you like that we push more years until the baby is old ? Then we will part ways

Swazi : I don't want any separation

Me : unfortunately that's not your decision alone

Swazi : and so is separation !

I shrug

Swazi : you go to your baby  
mama , I am not going  
anywhere

Me : that's fine as well , I mean  
we're going to talk about our  
son anyways . It's family  
matters



She chuckles

Swazi : so I am no longer family  
now ?

Me : well

I walk to the wardrobe

Swazi : what are you doing  
Bayede ?

Me : moving out .....

Swazi : you can't bring me here  
and then pull this stunt

Me : you came because you  
didn't want to stay behind

Swazi : well , now I want to go  
back let's go

I don't know who does she  
think she is that I'll listen to her  
, and do what she wants

I chuckle

Me : you can go back , I am not  
moving back

Her jaw drops

I pack my clothes into my bag

Swazi : you should have just told me you're not in this forever , I wouldn't have gone and gotten pregnant for your pathetic self

Me : remember how you got yourself , I told you I didn't want more kids . I've lost enough kids with Khosi , and the only one alive was just enough . But

no , you got into fertility pills  
and made sure you're pregnant

Swazi : because I love you  
Bayede , and I wanted us to  
have our own child

Me : I never wanted this child

Swazi : well , this child is here  
and I can't do anything about  
that . Wether you like it or not

Me : it's still early , go and abort

She gasps in shock

I take out my phone , sending  
her money

Me : there ... there's money , go  
and abort . From this forth , me  
and you don't have a child

together . If you dare bring me  
that , we will have serious  
problems

I take out my ring

Me : this marriage wasn't even  
legalized , and bare in mind I  
didn't even pay any bride price .  
So we're done

I grab my bag walking out

Her scream graces my ears , as I  
walk away

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\*Nomakhosi\*



Me : are you out of your mind ?

He looks at me , looking very  
bored

Like he's bored

Me : your domestic issues are starting to bore me , you don't see my husband crying to you

He laughs

Bayede : he knows he took my woman

Me : shut up !

He shrugs

He's really not taking this seriously

His so called wife just called me crying hysterical , it was so sad I almost felt sorry for her

Saying this one gave her money to go have an abortion

And she's going ahead with it ,  
she's already booked an  
appointment

She's also crazy like this one

If she can't keep her own child  
because Bayede is a dog , then  
she's stupid

And she clearly didn't want the  
baby to begin with

But it's her choice , I don't care

It's not my child

I lost so many kids , so this just  
annoys me

I wanted my kids and God took  
them away from me

She's taking that opportunity of  
being a mother away from  
herself

And what I wouldn't give to  
have just one more child

Me : you two are stupid !

Bayede : it's not like I wanted to  
have different flavours of kids ,  
Swazi can go ahead and do

what she wants . I don't force her to have this baby , because she might just end up resenting the baby because of me . Now that's stupid

I sigh

Me : Bayede what is wrong with you ?

Bayede : nothing

I shake my head slowly

Me : I am not divorcing my husband , just because your marriage failed

He laughs

Bayede : you will tell him the truth



Me : like hell I will

The look he gives me , leaves  
me cold in my stomach

Me : Mageba no ....

I sigh

This is pointless

And it won't get us anywhere

Me : I can't believe you would want to do this to me , why not ruin your own marriage alone ?

Bayede : I felt Swazi , cause I want to be with you

I shake my head

He holds my hand

Bayede : me and you took vows  
, until death do us apart . We  
lived by our vows , not what we  
have been doing with Zweli and  
Swazi

I pull my hand back from him

Me : Zweli will be home soon ,  
come inside

I turn walking inside the house

Last night on our flight back

Thongalethu called us

And he said some shocking  
things

Said he was scared to tell us  
face to face , and when I think  
about it I understand why

Now we just have to break  
those news to Zweli

He said he will come back home  
soon

And I want him here with me

So I need Zweli knowing , so I  
can know if my son will be  
welcomed when he comes back  
here or not

I mean , it's not everyday you hear someone has changed drastically like Thonga has

We read about such things

We don't even think they really exist

We can accept him , cause he's ours . But will Zweli accept him

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\*INSERT 30\*

\*Nomakhosi\*



Me : so that's that

He sighs

I just told him everything that  
Thonga told us

About his great great great  
grandfather uMageba

Having to take upon that gift ,  
going through the initiation

And now going to be a  
traditional healer

As well as now this royal  
ancestor who has possessed  
him

Having duties now to Isilo  
Kingdom

As their protector

It's a lot for anyone to take in

Even I was just shocked

Even now I still can't believe  
that's my son now

I never saw him as one who can  
take upon a traditional gift

Especially hearing my son say  
he now turns into some wild  
animal

But when he said Rain knows  
everything

Yet still wants to be with him

I figured how much more me as  
his mother

I will not turn my back on him

Not now not ever

And if this ancestor can possess  
one of their own

Then he will leave my son

I don't know how that will  
happen

Especially if he's still alive

But I don't care

Changed as he is , he's my child

Right now , I don't know what  
to make of the way he's looking

Me : excuse me

I get up leaving them there

If Zweli doesn't want Thonga  
back

I don't know how this marriage  
will continue to work

Because I will never choose a  
man over my child

I get in the kitchen and pour  
myself a glass of water

I down it , just taking deep  
breaths



After going through so much  
together

Having him on my side

Taking care of Thonga , and  
loving him like his own

Accepting my fear of ever  
carrying another child , and only  
to loose the child to death

Not leaving when things got  
tough

He stayed and loved me with all  
my flaws

It would really be heart  
breaking to now loose him this  
way

But I also know , it's hard for  
anyone to accept what they

don't understand . This is not a normal situation

Maybe Bayede was right , and I should be honest with Zweli once and for all

So he can make a decision to move if that's what he wants

What a way for the truth to finally come down

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\*Rain\*

Me : baby

Thonga : mhm

He looks at me

Me : I miss you

He dashes me a smile

Thonga : ever since you got dick  
, you're always crying for me

I laugh

Me : you're mocking me really ?

He chuckles

Thonga : listen to you crying  
right now

This idiot of mind

Me : am I not supposed to miss  
my baby ?

Thonga : miss him all you want  
baby , he misses you more . It's  
just torture

Me : don't lie , I was there just yesterday

Thonga : it's lies because I say so ?

Me : baby bye

Thonga : I called you , don't drop this call on me



Me : I have to go study

Thonga : I'll call when you're  
done ?

Me : yes , please do

Thonga : okay , I love you .  
Don't ever forget that

Me : I love you too , I'll always  
remember that

He smiles before dropping the  
call

I heave a sigh

I mean , I really do miss him

I wonder how long it'll take him  
to come back

This distance is just insane

But I understand the  
importance of him being there

For both his blood ancestor ,  
and Isilo ancestor to get along

Also to know the traits of Isilo

That's in his best interest

So I will wait until he's back

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\*Thongalethu\*

King Hawu : you're always  
happy and smiling after a talk  
with her

This man

I chuckle

Me : she makes me happy ,  
looking back I never thought I'll  
fall in love , and so hard . Like  
she's the first thought in the  
morning , and the last thought  
before bed

King Hawu : I will give you 5  
cows from the Bangani kraal ,  
you'll go and pay damages to  
Mampofu

Me : for real ?

He nods

Me : wow , thank you so much .

King Hawu : you're one of us now , I am no blue blood . But here I am king , to this kingdom . You're not one of their own , but you're here carrying their biggest ancestor . You're

entitled to what we have , we  
have to take care of you

Wow

This is like an honour and a  
huge privilege

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\*Nomakhosi\*





I walk back in the lounge

And he's sitting alone

I don't even want to ask where  
Bayede is

Me : there's something I need  
to tell you

I pull a chair and sit down

He looks at me and smiles

The love in his eyes is just so  
evident

And very hard to deny

I hate that now I'm going to be  
the very same person who's  
going to hurt him

It pains me , cause I love him

Zweli : do you want an open marriage or a divorce ?

My jaw drops

And he laughs

I don't know if he was making a joke or what

Me : what ?

Zweli : I did not make a mistake  
my love , and I didn't stutter  
either

Oh my God !

Me : why would you ask me  
such a thing ?

He moves from his seat , and  
pulls the one next to me

He takes my hand into his

Zweli : I know about you and  
Zulu , I have always known

Jesus !

No words can explain my shock  
right now

My heart is pounding

Zweli : so , do you want an open marriage or a divorce ? Because if it's a divorce you want , it's not happening . So call him in , and we can talk about this as adults

No ways !

This has to be a dream of some kind

Zweli : he's outside having a  
smoke , call him in so we can  
talk

He lets out a slight laugh , and  
pulls me for a kiss

I can't even kiss him back

What he just said has taken me  
by shock



I get up swallowing hard

I walk outside , and he's leaning  
by the car

I walk to him

Bayede : what's wrong ?

He looks so concerned

Me : he knows ....Zweli knows about us . He has always known , I asked to talk to him . And he just asked me if .....if I want a divorce or an open marriage

And he laughs

Bayede : what's shocking you ? I mean the guy knew he took you from me , and I was going nowhere . Let's go talk

I look at him as he walks inside  
the house

My knees just go weak , my  
heart beating so fast

I gather myself and my strength  
, before I walk in

And they're both sitting down

Me : I am sorry

Zweli : my love , don't do that ..  
we're all adults here . And no  
one is fighting another

He pulls a chair

Zweli : come sit down baby

Me : Zweli are you seeing  
someone ?

That's the only way why he  
suggest such a thing

Zweli : no

Me : I don't believe you

Zweli : it's not time for lies now  
, if I was seeing someone I  
would tell you . But I am not

I sigh sitting down

Zweli : Zulu I am not leaving my wife , I know she loves me enough to see our marriage through . If she wanted to leave , I would let her leave in peace

Me : I told him I am not leaving you or our marriage

Zweli : baby I know

He turns his gaze to Bayede

Zweli : this is the situation we find ourselves in , we've always been in a situation . Now we can stop hiding and pretending , it's a inevitable situation . I am not divorcing , and I will never give her a divorce . But to spot the pretence and sneaking around . I am allowing an open marriage , provided that only

she sees you and no other man  
. And Zulu if you get someone ,  
you leave her alone , we cannot  
have a circus here .

Bayede chuckles

Zweli : you will be the only man  
allowed in this marriage , that's  
why you cannot bring another  
person .



This is crazy

Me : Zweli you cannot tell me  
you're not seeing anyone , yet  
you're saying such things . Who  
is she ?

He smiles

Zweli : there's no one ,  
whatever you decide . Either he  
goes , and for good . Or we

keep the open marriage , and if someone's comes I will let you know . For now , we're here on you two . Don't let it ruin the fun now that I've brought you together , now you can be with him without feeling bad about me whatsoever . Don't keep it a secret , just to me . I don't mean go around parading him , you're still a married woman legally . And that's never going to change , decide .

He gets up

And places a peck on my lips ,  
he grabs his car keys and walks  
out

Bayede : yeah men just know  
when they cannot win

I look at him , and he grins

Bayede : I am not an idiot , I know what I lost when I lost you . Even he knows it , that's why he's not willing to be an idiot and loose you . He will rather share you knowingly , do fear women after God . Because what's this ? A whole open marriage , soft life bits by bits with a fork

And he laughs , I think I am the only one who doesn't get this

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\*INSERT 31\*

\*FOUR MONTHS LATER\*

\*Rain\*

Mom : stop crying

I just can't help it



Me : he's not happy with me

It's like it's just one thing after  
the other with me

After my coming of age  
ceremony

My uncle went on about how  
there was a presence in our  
midst that day

And I caught on it , that it was  
Thongalethu

That's who he felt around here

Then the 5 cows he received

Knowing what they were for

He wasn't happy about that as  
well

Even though Thonga took  
accountability for it

And then a month ago , I found  
out I was pregnant

I have been home since then

My father is not happy at all

He is furious with me

He hasn't even said anything to  
me

I don't know what life awaits  
me now

I am four months pregnant ,  
and showing

Thongalethu knows , and his  
family

They also weren't happy when  
they found out that I'm a  
princess

It was just a mess

Honestly it felt like queen  
Nomhlekhabo's words were  
coming to pass

When she said it won't be easy

Thongalethu has been there  
this whole time

I don't know when he will be  
back

Today his family is here

They've come to pay damages  
for the child

I don't know how my father is  
going to accept them

I just can't help but be weary of  
everything

Mom : this is about the baby ,  
this stress is not good

I haven't talked to Thonga today

That also didn't help much

Mom : I'll call Busi to come help  
you finish getting dressed

I just nod

Right now I need to know  
what's happening with my  
father and his family

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\*Mahlubandile\*

I wonder how my good friend  
Nkosiyabo is feeling where he is

But this right here , I am not for  
it at all

Maybe if he was still around , he  
would be the voice of reason

I have nothing against his  
grandson

But he's mixed with royals now

With tainted blood , and a great  
ancestor within him

That makes him belong to the  
other , there's no way that  
Ngwe and Isilo can exist  
together

That will never happen

Two wild beats , it has never  
been

These two are different species

I was very angry when I got  
those 5 cows

Paying for the pride of Rain

And then I had to find out she's  
carrying his seed

That just put me in a bad space

I don't even think they  
understand the depths of this

Them having a child together

It's just a lot

King Hawu : we understand how much we have wronged you , also we do take responsibility of everything that one of our own has done

I chuckle

Me : I don't know how things are done with your kingdom Jola , but in mine I want to

know what I mix with my blood  
. You went on to crown a  
commoner , and put him in a  
high place with a such a  
powerful honour . And he has  
come into my kraal , not once  
but twice now

He sighs

King Hawu : the ways of the  
ancestors are unknown to us ,

and therefore we cannot deny  
nor dispute what they decide

Me : a royal blood mixed like  
this , and you want me to open  
my kingdom to such . I don't  
know what this baby will come  
bearing , and my duty is my  
people first

They look at each other with  
Zulu



Me : your father and I we were good friends , my wife even assisted in helping your mother with channelling her gift . Trust me , our families go way back . But I do not condone this , and I will not accept it

Hawu sighs

Me : I will accept this damage

King Hawu : we thank you

Me : my daughter will remain here , and once your child has been born you will take him or her

Bayede : what ?

Me : that child will not be raised in my palace , and my daughter

now needs to remain home .

That's a crown princess

Bayede : you cannot separate a  
mother and child

Me : I can , either you take that  
or you turn right now with your  
damages . And I will see what to  
do

I don't care what they say

But right now , that baby is  
something we don't know

I cannot have that

I have fought many battles that  
were just beyond me

I will not invite another one ,  
not at the expense of my  
kingdom

The father's biological blood ,  
then there's Isilo

We cannot deny the paternity  
of the ancestor upon that child

This baby is going to be a  
mixture of things we do not  
know

And that's dangerous

I am very much sceptical about things I don't know

Having to fight witches , for years and years

The peace treat with the white witches as well

I would rather we keep things as they are

In this peace we have been in  
all along

Me : I have fought many battles  
, I do not desire to fight another  
. I am not going to keep that  
child anywhere near my throne  
, maybe years later Rain can  
decide to reconcile . But once  
she's no longer queen to this  
kingdom

It goes completely silent

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\*Thongalethu\*



I cannot believe this

My father just texted me , and  
told me what Rain's father has  
said

I know the man doesn't like me

But to separate Rain from our  
child , now that's extreme

It's not like I am running away

Things are just going south

For four months really , we  
haven't known peace

I don't know how Rain is going  
to take this

We have been speaking all  
week

And she knew my family was  
coming

But she didn't say anything  
about this

Unless her father didn't tell her

This is just a fucked up situation

Taking the baby away from Rain  
, is the same as breaking us up

I text my father asking him what  
they're going to do now

Do they accept the conditions

Or they want Rain to keep the baby and be there

But what will her father do , if the decision comes to that ?

The past four months have been shit

Not being able to be with Rain everyday

And she's with my child

I just couldn't wait to be with  
her

But now all of that is threatened

Just when I am done with  
initiation under water

And have taken my duties at  
Isilo

I'm supposed to be going home

I was happy that after this we  
can finally be back together in  
Joburg with our child

Now , I don't know

It's hard to even believe really  
my grandfather and this man  
were friends

That our families got along

Because he has never shown  
me that courtesy ever

From the first day he saw me

King Hawu said it's because he's  
just like me , and can turn into a  
tighter . The two beats , will  
never get along



But isn't he taking this too far ?

Separating Rain and the child

Can't he just wait maybe until  
the baby grows

And we can see if she or he  
possess something , then find a  
way of how we can co exist

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\*INSERT 32\*

\*Rain\*

I'm listening to my father talk

And I cannot such words are  
coming out from him

My first love

Today he's putting such a  
burden on me

Making me choose between his  
kingdom and the fruit of my  
womb

I don't want to believe that my  
father is saying this

But I'm here

I can hear him well

I can't stop the tears that are  
just streaming down my face

Dad : that's my saying , and I  
won't change that

I just want to run out of here

But I do not want to make  
myself a spectacle , or him even  
. I still respect him

Especially not in front of the  
king and his brother's

Along with Mr Zulu

King Hawu : we will still like to  
pay the damages

Does this mean they agree with what my father said ?

Taking my child away ?

Dad : you can excuse us princess

Say no more

I am on my feet in seconds walking out of the chamber



I go to my chamber and lock myself in

Ignoring my mother's knocks after a few minutes

I don't want to see anyone right now

Maybe I should have hid this

Maybe I shouldn't have come  
home like the child that I am

And out of respect told them  
what happened

Today my very own parents are  
making me regret telling them  
about my pregnancy

My phone rings

I grab it , only because I set his  
ringtone aside from everyone  
else

Me : hello ?

Even my voice is ditching me

Thonga : baby no ....

I just break down

Me : did they tell you what my father said ?

He sighs

I am guessing they told him

Me : he wants me to give my child away to you and your family

Thonga : that can never happen

Me : Thonga I cannot leave home forever , this land survives on me being here . I cannot run away with this child , I will be killing everyone here

Thonga : whoa ! No one is running away , no one is doing that . Your father is angry , but eventually he will calm down

Me : you don't know him !

Thonga : that's fine , but I know  
he hates me . Our child ties us  
together , and that's what he  
doesn't want

And he's using the fact that this  
child is too mixed

With all different kinds of  
bloods

I don't care what they say

I just don't care what they do

I am not letting them separate  
me from my child

Thonga : whatever happens , I  
will make sure our child knows  
you . That he or she grows up  
knowing you're her mother , I'll

make sure of that . I will call you everyday , you will get to talk as much as you wish . I will do whatever it takes to make sure , that you two don't loose each other ....

Me : are you saying I should just accept this , and give you our baby once he's born ?

He sighs



Thonga : I am not saying that , I just don't want you and your father at loggerheads especially because I'm the cause

Wow

I don't know

Maybe I am too hurt right now

But he sounds like he has given  
up

That he's ready for me to just  
give birth , and give them the  
child

Thonga : baby are you still there  
?

I wipe my tears

The pain I am feeling right ,  
comes to nothing

All my father cares about is his  
throne

And clearly , Thonga is not  
loosing anything

He's getting his child

That's all he cares about clearly

Me : I will stay away from you ,  
until your child is here and you  
can take him . I will stay away  
from you all

Thonga : what .....

I drop the call and block his  
number , along with his  
mother's number . I block it

I take out my simcard from the phone and break it

All that talk about how he will make sure the baby knows me

So my own child has to be introduced to me

Like I'm some stranger , and not the mother who have birth to him

Maybe I am over reacting right  
now

But Thongalethu didn't say  
what I expected from him

He sounded so defeated

So if I fight , then I'm fighting  
alone

This was not how I thought this day would go like

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\*Thongalethu\*

Me : fuck !

Mom : whoa ! You don't get to swear in front of me like this

I give her phone back



I had asked for her phone so I  
can use it to make a call

But it's the same thing as mine

Me : I'm sorry

Mom : what's going on ?

I sigh

Mom : okay , I know it may sound stupid to ask .

Considering everything that happened

I sit down

We're back at the hotel

Me : I called Rain , we talked .

Yes she was crying and all , but I think I made things worse . I

said something like I'll make  
sure our child knows her  
mother , and she took it like I'm  
giving up

Mom : are you ?

Me : mom ! Of course not

That would just be stupid

I love Rain more than anything

I rub my thumb under my eye

Mom : please calm down , I  
cannot have you going all Isilo  
no everyone here

Me : she must have blocked us ,  
and destroyed the SIM card

I know I cannot go to the palace

I already have way too many  
faults in that place

Now how do I get a hold of her  
? I just want us to talk , so I can  
explain myself better

Maybe in a way that she's going  
to understand my words

All I know is that no mother can  
be separated from child

Especially if the mother has no  
interest whatsoever giving away  
her child

I know Rain

My only worry is that , she's  
now stuck between a rock and  
hard place

It's a fucking mess

How does she choose between her child and kingdom ?

I never thought her father could be this ruthless , and heartless

But I need to talk to Rain

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\*INSERT 33\*

\*Nomakhosi\*



Zweli : how is he ?

I take the lotion and sit down

Me : not good , and I am  
worried

Zweli : yeah , I understand babe

We're back home

It's been a few days , and  
Thongalethu is shutting  
everyone out

We tried reaching out , but the calls don't even last two minutes

This situation with Rain , is taking a toll on him . I can tell he's not okay at all

I know there are other means we can contact her

But I also think she needs her  
space

Right now she feels deserted

And feels like we took her  
father's side for paying  
damages

Like maybe we also don't care  
about her

Just as long as we take the baby

And that is not what happened

We love Rain

As much as it was shock to us to  
find out she's a princess

But we love her

And we got over that

And still continued to support  
this relationship

I honestly think she's good for  
my son

Ever since she came into his life

Thongalethu has changed , I  
swear now he lives up to his  
name

He's the son I ordered

And it's all thanks to Rain

So how can I not love her ?

Me : I didn't think that king will  
be so hard

Zweli : it doesn't make sense to  
me at all , what kind of a father

tells her daughter to give her child away ?

Me : I think it's because we're commoners really

Zweli : this is nonsense , at the end of the day we're all human beings

Me : this is what I was scared of , when we found out Rain was a



princess . At that time it looked like I don't support the relationship , but I was being realistic . It's not easy being with someone that has more status than you do

Zweli : I think these people just exaggerate these royal business , and it's not even that deep

I laugh

Zweli : what ?

Me : babe , did you just say it's not that deep ?

Zweli : oh but it's not , they bleed blood like us . It's not even blue I tell you

Wow !

Zweli : but Thonga will be okay .  
He has come a long way , he's  
all about sane decisions these  
days . He's starting his new job  
today , trust me he will be fine .  
And he'll fix this

He gave him a job at his  
company

I was so grateful for that

At least he will be doing  
something while we waits for  
next year to start varsity again

He gets up and fixes his tie

I look at him

He's even gotten a fresh hair  
cut

Me : you look happy these days

He smiles

Zweli : I've always been happy

Me : but it's different

Zweli : different how babe ?

Me : is there someone ?

He laughs , I can't even force a smile

Zweli : hah ! Jealousy so early in the morning

I heave sigh

Lotioning my legs

Zweli : come on , come here

He sits down on the bed ,  
holding his hand out

I get up and walk to him

He lifts the towel , making me  
straddle him

Zweli : we sat down and agreed  
, and reached an agreement like  
adults

Me : I know that , that's why I'm asking

He smiles

Zweli : the agreement was , when there's someone I will let you know . The same way I will let her know , I'm a married man and very much happy in my marriage . It's just an open marriage , where we can see other partners . With conditions



of course , I cannot parade her .  
And I can't commit to anything  
serious , and definitely no  
having sex without protection .  
No bringing babies into my  
marriage from another woman ,  
it's just fun that will end there .  
She stays away from you , and  
doesn't even get to greet you

He cups my face

Zweli : now I haven't told you there's someone , because there isn't . And we know if I don't do what we agreed on , then it's definitely cheating and bringing a third party into our marriage . I will never cheat on you baby

Me : I'm sorry

He chuckles pecking my lips

Zweli : don't apologize , I love seeing this . At least I know you don't want no woman next to your man

We laugh

Me : I guess , I just want to see you happy knowing what's making you happy . If it's another woman , then at least

I'll know . Maybe I am jealous ,  
but I'll learn to accept it

Zweli : I am always happy ,  
there's no one here

I nod slowly

Zweli : I love you

Me : I love you too baby

I lean over and we kiss

It's been crazy

He wasn't hearing anything  
about a divorce

And well , Bayede made it clear  
he's not going anywhere

I really had no reason  
whatsoever to divorce Zweli

So we settled on the open  
marriage

Of course on my side with just  
Bayede

If what we have was to come to  
an end

Then there wouldn't be another  
man I would focus on

I just don't see that one  
happening

With Bayede the history just  
goes way too deep

And it's not easy to just walk  
away like that

But so far Zweli hasn't told me  
about any woman

I don't know if he will actually  
have one

Or he just allowed me to be  
married to him

And also have a boyfriend on  
the side

There were those boundaries  
though



Bayede doesn't come around  
the house anymore

He has settled fine

He bought a house , that's  
where Thonga is at

He decided to go live with his  
father

It wasn't hard moving his  
company this side

So basically his life is set again  
in South Africa

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\*Thongalethu\*

I sigh leaning back

Dad : you look like shit on your first day at work

I chuckle

Me : I feel like shit , I don't look like it . I'm still as handsome as they come , please don't mock the Mageba genes

He laughs

Me : how's the awkward relationship ?

I don't get this thing of theirs

Dad : there's nothing awkward there

Me : everything about it is awkward , I don't understand how three grown ups come to such a decision

I've known this for three  
months now

And at first , I thought it was a  
joke . And I laughed it off like  
one

But turned out not

That was until I found my  
mother in his house

And it was clear she had spent  
the night there

To even be so open about it , to  
tell Zweli

He was away on business , and  
he came back a day earlier

So she informed him about her  
whereabouts

Mind you , he got it and  
understood she wasn't at his  
house because of me

So that to me is just fucked up

And my father seems very fine

I don't get how Zweli is fine with  
this



And worse , to hear he's the one who suggested it

Our parents really do things that will embarrass us

The separation with dad and Swazi

Also the fact that she aborted the baby she was carrying

No one ever saw or heard from her again

This one is just moving on with Zweli's wife

Me : I would never share Rain with another man knowingly

Dad : that is still on ? I thought she dumped you

I laugh

Me : dumped who ? In her wildest dreams , I am not going anywhere . That woman is your daughter in law

He laughs

Dad : don't give up on her

Me : I won't

That will never happen

I will be going back there , and I will get her to understand me and what I was trying to say

Me : I don't see Rain being separated from her child

The look he gives me , carries a lot

Like there's just something  
behind it

Or maybe he's recalling  
something

Maybe the situation is  
reminding him or another

And I wonder what's that about  
?

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\*INSERT 34\*

\*Bayede\*

Me : is this fine ?

She nods

I walk over and hand her the  
cup



Khosi : thanks

I pack her cheek sitting down  
next to her

Me : how's the pain ?

Khosi : a bit steep today cause  
it's cloudy

Me : mhm

Khosi : I think I will take this bracelet off in a week

I chuckle

Me : you're just stubborn

Khosi : leave me

Me : I went to visit your son yesterday at his office

Khosi : and ?

I sigh

Me : he's worrying me

Khosi : Rain ?

Me : MaKhumalo if we don't  
intervene here , and help these  
kids I foresee history repeating

itself . And I don't want that for them , it wasn't nice for us

Khosi : no , we cannot have Rain alienated from her family

Me : that's why I'm saying we have to help them

Khosi : what can we do ? I know that pain , being young and pregnant . And being put in a

position or situation , where  
you have to choose between  
your child and your parents

Its been years , but I know there  
are days where she wonders

If things had been different ,  
between her and her parents

And our first pregnancy , how  
would have things turned out

Khosi : I don't know what we will do , but we'll just have to do something . So they don't go through what we went through

Me : yeah , we'll figure it out .  
Before the baby is here

Khosi : talk to your son , so he and Rain can make sane decisions

I chuckle

Me : I thought he's dumped ,  
but he said no

We laugh

Khosi : he's in denial , he  
wanted to be told it's over .

Rain was just in emotions

I hope we all can get over this  
huddle

One thing I'm certain about , is  
that my son loves Rain more  
than anything

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\*Mahlubandile\*



Zimkhitha : it's been almost a week now , and she's locked

herself in her chamber .

Kumkani I am worried

I sigh

Me : my duty first comes to my  
kingdom

Zimkhitha : you're a father  
before you're king !

She raises her voice

Things have been tense  
between us

Even with the other kids

I'm the one in the wrong here

They all just don't see the  
danger I am trying to avoid for  
us all

That boy is inclined , operating  
under his blood family

He also has a royal ancestor  
within him , which makes his  
blood half

Rain is inclined , operating  
under Ngwe our ancestor

Also her great grandmother ,  
from her mother's side

With so much spirits , and the  
mixes off blood

The fear is what child will turn  
out to be

Either he or she will be good for  
us

Or definitely an enemy that will  
bring us down

Also there's the chance and possibility of being used

The witches have always looked for loopholes in this royal family

And that child most definitely can be one

But no one is thinking about that

Zimkhitha : if we loose our  
daughter , I swear it will be on  
you

She walks out

This kingdom needs Rain ,  
there's no survival without her

She's named Rain for a reason

Without her here , we stand to  
lose from mother nature

And that means drought , and  
drying of wombs

Ngwe declared her rain queen  
to this kingdom

She is the one who brings us  
rain



And the kingdom survives on  
that

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\*Winnie\*

I cannot believe my eyes

I haven't seen Thonga in like  
forever

Ever since he broke up with me

And now here is he

Looking like a man , and not the  
guy I wasted 5 years of my time  
with

What's shocking , is the cloth he  
has on his shoulders

He's wearing a black slim fit suit

Holding what looks like a royal  
sceptre

I actually don't know one , but  
I've always paid attention in  
school during history class

Me : Thonga ?

He's with some guy , I do not  
know

They both turn their gaze to me

Me : oh my gosh , it is you

He smiles

Thonga : hi Winnie

Lord !

Even his voice has deepened

Me : wow you look so .....so  
different

He chuckles

Thonga : yeah , growth does  
that to one

Me : wow ! I am just shocked , I  
mean this is you now ?

He places his hand on the cloth

I realise the teeth like beaded  
thing on his neck

Oh my goodness

He sure looks like one of them  
traditional healers

Thonga : always has been

Me : don't tell me , I accused you of cheating with that girl who had beads . And she was just helping you with this ?

Thonga : oh but it's not called cheating , especially when the relationship has been long over . She did help me , yes . But we've been together , even then . We're expecting our first child



I let out a fade smile

With a lump struck on my  
throat

Me : guess when it's not meant  
to be , then it's not meant to be

Thonga : yeah

Me : well it's all good , cause  
I've moved on . I'm dating

Venus Sishi now , the premier's son . It's been a bliss of almost five months

Thonga : I am happy for you , the universe works in alignment . And what doesn't align can never be

Wow !

Like I sure picked shade there

Thonga : it was good to see you

He turns and they walk away

I don't know , but I feel a bit tad  
sad

He didn't even look like he cares

Like I guess what we had wasn't  
that deep for him

Cause he seems very fine

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\*INSERT 35\*

\*Rain\*

Busi : your mother is worried

Me : I just want to be left alone  
, and bond with my baby before  
he's taken away from me

She sighs

Busi : you think we can go out ?

I shake my head

Busi : I think it will do us good

Me : nothing will do me good  
right now

Busi : please , just an hour away  
from the palace

I sigh

I really don't want to go  
anywhere

Me : where will we go ?

Busi : go have candy

I laugh



Busi : I missed this laugh

Me : fine , but if I'm still moody  
we're coming back

Busi : definitely , I'll leave you to  
get ready

Me : just get me a glass of  
water please

She walks out

I put on a clean dress and shoes  
, grabbing my cloth

It's hard to believe that my  
father would do this to me

That he would bring me so  
much pain

And the sad thing is that , out of  
everyone else

I understand his fears more  
than everyone else

But this is my child

And I can't just give my baby  
away

I just don't see how I can do  
that and be okay

He will resent me

I will not be queen forever that  
is certain

But being a mother is for  
eternity

Nothing can ever erase that

Busi walks back in

I take the water from her and  
drink

Me : is Simo driving us ?

Busi : yes

I hope he doesn't blab to my  
parents

I just want space

We leave , and I see we're going  
out to town

Busi : this way

She says as we get out of the  
car

Me : no long walks

Busi : just around the corner

Me : fine

We leave Simo in the car , going  
to the candy shop

And I just can't help but smile as  
I see all the candy

Busi : now , this has done the  
trick

I laugh

We walk around , just looking

And I go picking a few things

We head to the till to pay

Voice : let me

Oh my God !



I turn and drop a few of the  
sweets

He leans down and picks them  
up

Busi : you'll find me in the car

Oh wow !

Now I think I get it

She tried getting me out a few days ago

And I refused

Today she really wasn't giving up , and seeing him here it means he asked her

Thonga : please , don't walk away from me . I had to beg Busi for this , and I just can't

stay away . Baby this can't go on  
, I'm going crazy without you

Me : you want my child

He smiles

Thonga : our child , let me pay  
for this then we can go talk

I sigh

Thonga : I'll explain myself better , and what I was saying baby . I understand how it came out like , but that's not how it was intended . And that's not what I meant , I am not crazy . Please give me a chance , the chance you didn't give me at first . And you just blocked me , we don't do that . We talk and voice things out , we can't do what your father is doing to us . He's tearing us apart , and

shutting each other out means  
we're also helping him in that

Now I feel bad

He pays for the sweets

And we walk out of the shop

Heading to his car , and I'm  
already munching on the  
sweets just stuffing my face

Thonga : I think we should go to the doctor for a scan , so we can know the gender now

Me : I actually don't want to know , because it seems like I won't be a part of his of her life

I just call the baby he

Because I wish it's a boy

He opens the door for me

I get in and he goes on to the  
drivers side

Thonga : I missed you so much ,  
I know you want space . But I  
couldn't stay away

I look at him

Thonga : I asked for a few days  
at work

Me : how's that working out ?

Thonga : good so far

Me : do keep the work , you  
need it . Babies are expensive

He laughs



Me : and don't bring your women around my child ....

Thonga : whoa ! What women ?

Me and you are going to raise our child together , wether your father allows it or not . And that's what I meant , that whatever happens our child will know you . Because I will do whatever it takes for you two to know each other , I know you cannot leave this kingdom .

They need you , and I love that you won't desert them just because of us . These people cannot suffer , just because of your father . Even if I'm to take the child a week , it's not like I'll be keeping her away from you . I also cannot be here full time , cause I have to be at Isilo . We just have to find a common way that will work for us , and our family . You're not loosing your child

Me : I was so sad

Thonga : I don't understand  
how you thought I would just be  
glad to take the child away from  
you

Me : it was just a lot , and it  
sounded like you're giving up

Thonga : you cut me off

He sighs

Thonga : you didn't even give me a chance to explain , you cannot just judge first words . Without hearing the full explanation of things , I also don't want to loose my son . You'll be here , and I'll be there . So we have to share those responsibilities , and it doesn't mean when he's with me he

forgets about you . I don't know  
, maybe I just lack the right  
words to explain

Me : just promise me you're not  
leaving us , not giving up that  
we may never be together the  
three of us

Thonga : that will never happen

I smile

Thonga : come here

He leans over , I meet him  
halfway and we kiss

Me : I missed you

I missed him so bad

Thonga : I know , I missed you  
more

I didn't think he would come  
around here

I thought maybe he will use the  
opportunity of me cutting him  
off

And just move on with his life

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\*Thongalethu\*



Me : I love you okay ?

She nods

Me : you don't love me  
anymore ?

She laughs

Me : my dad mocks me and say  
you dumped me

Rain : I actually kind of like did  
dump you

Me : hayhii (no)

I hold her hand

Me : and don't tell him that

Rain : I won't , I am glad we're  
okay

This is how things are just  
supposed to be between us

Rain : even if I make peace with  
this , I will know you have my  
back

Me : it's always just been us  
baby , always

She heaves a sigh

Rain : If you were to move on ,  
and find better . I wouldn't  
know what to do

Me : I moved , and found the  
better . You're the better , and  
I'm glad I found that . From  
hereon there's no moving on ,  
this is it for me

Rain : we can go see the doctor  
before you leave

I smile

Me : we can do that tomorrow ,  
I'm going to spend the few days  
I have with you

Rain : thank you

I chuckle

Me : I love you baby

Rain : and I love you

Me : I have an ask

Rain : what ?

Me : please , be okay with your  
parents

She sighs

Me : I don't want you to end up  
how I ended up with mine

She looks down

Me : baby please , you saw how  
messed up I was . I don't want  
to ruin your relationship with  
your parents , right now just be

okay with your father . And we will deal with everything else as time goes on , don't let this come between you two . He's your father , and at the end of the day he loves you

She lifts her head and smiles

Rain : look at you , all grown up . I am proud of myself , this is all my doing



We laugh

Me : flex girl ! It's your right

I pull her into a hug

I'm glad this is fixed

And now , we can look forward  
into how we fix things with her  
father

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\*INSERT 36\*

\*FIVE MONTHS LATER\*

\*Thongalethu\*

Me : is she okay ?

Doc : yes , please cut the  
umbilical cord

I cut it , but my worry is on Rain

The nurse hands me the baby

And she's crying

Like this is a lot of crying , and  
it's too loud

Doc : don't worry about her , it  
took a lot for her to push

I hope he's right

I'm trying to calm this one

But mhm , she's a crier

My phone rings , I take it out  
and answer

Me : ma (mom)

She laughs

Mom : oh my word ! Is that her  
?

Me : yeah , she's crying a lot .  
And her mother is out of it

Mom : don't worry , she will  
wake up soon

Me : okay



I hope so

Mom : we will be there to see them in the evening

Me : okay , I'll see you then

I drop the call

Doc : we will move them from this ward , we just have to finish cleaning her up

I nod

And sit down

My daughter is so cute

She's not even that tiny

I can't believe she's finally here

It's been a hard road

Still things are sour with the  
Mampofu people

More especially the king

I spent a week here , after our  
last appointment

And we were told when the  
baby will be born

And she's a day early

I decided to come this side and  
be here

I wouldn't have missed this for  
anything

Her mother is outside with her  
sister and brother , as well as  
Busi

We were at the hotel

But I still called Zitha , so he can  
tell his family

The siblings have no quarrel  
with me whatsoever

I hope now that the baby is  
here , we can come with a  
solution for us all

And a better one

Not separating Rain with our  
child

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\*Rain\*

Me : it's painful

Linani : you'll get used to it

I don't know

And she's eating a lot

I think I'm going to lose so much  
weight because of this tiny  
person

And she cries a lot

But she's calm now



I'm happy seeing my family here

Thonga said his parents are on their way

I don't know who will be here

Because the family dynamic of those three is something else

But I know Mr Zulu will be here

He was so eager more than  
anyone else

So looking forward to this baby  
being here

That's why we decided that her  
grandfather's will name her

I don't know about my father

But that option is there for him  
to also name her

Mom : you're so into this  
motherhood

Me : I guess it comes naturally

Things got better between us

After I was okay with Thonga

I reached out to my mother

And she didn't shut me out

I don't know about my father

I also didn't put in much effort

Cause I felt like he doesn't care  
that much

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\*Bayede\*

We arrived late

And the royal family had left the  
hospital

But we had to come see the  
baby

We couldn't spend the night  
without coming here

Me : I can't believe I am a  
grandfather , I am really old

They laugh

Rain : she has your eyes

She sure does

Me : it's good genes

Thonga : come on stop

He chuckles

Khosi : what's her name ?

Thonga : baby

Me : what the hell ?



They laugh

Me : no one is going to go  
around calling my  
granddaughter baby , no !

Zweli : it's a nice name

Me : please don't

Thonga : majority rules

Me : it's not happening

Rain : we want you to name her

Okay !

I didn't see that one coming

Khosi : why ? Is it because she  
has his eyes ?

Rain laughs

Rain : she also has her father's mouth and nose , don't get me started on the ugly ears and forehead . But no , grandfather gets to name her

She sighs

And her face a very sad expression

Rain : we wanted both of them to , I just don't know if my father will be happy to do that

Me : don't worry about him , these tiny people just have a way of getting to us . He won't be able to help himself

She smiles

Thonga : please name her  
something nice

Me : ngu Ntandokazi lona (this  
is)

Thonga : ah mtwana ! You have  
ruined my child

Khosi : it's clear who already  
rules

People and jealousy

Zweli : the power kids with such names think they have ,  
couldn't you come up with something else ?

I chuckle

Thonga : we should have really considered this name thing

Rain : what ? I love Ntandokazi ,  
it's a beautiful name

Me : clearly you're the only  
people who like me here

Thonga : you're always siding  
with them

Me : you have been replaced ,  
and Mtwana it's okay

He frowns , he'll get over it . I'm  
a grandfather now because of  
him , he's an old man

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\*INSERT 37\*



\*Mahlubandile\*

Zimkhitha : where are you going  
?

I grab my jacket

Zimkhitha : I am worried , you  
look like a young thing

I chuckle

Me : there's no other for me ,  
but only you MaMpinga

She smiles

Zimkhitha : so where are you  
going ?

Me : I am going to the hospital

She goes quite

Me : what ?

She shakes her head tearing up

Zimkhitha : why do you want to hurt our daughter like this ?

She sits down on the bed  
breaking down

Zimkhitha : remember how you  
protected me ? How you fought  
for me against my family ?

She looks at me , with tears just  
streaming down her face

Zimkhitha : today you're doing  
this to your own child , your

own flesh and blood ? What happened to the Kumkani that married me ?

I walk closer to her

Zimkhitha : what happened to you ? If this is about your precious kingdom , then you can keep your kingdom and leave my child alone . Do you hear me , let's see how your precious people and kingdom

survive without their rain queen  
her

I pull her up , and embrace her

But she tries pulling off , I hold  
her tight

Zimkhitha : what you're doing is  
killing our child , and our  
beautiful granddaughter  
doesn't even deserve this .

You're not even giving them a day or week together , you're so eager to just separate mother and child . And for what ?

I heave a sigh , placing a kiss on the side of her face

She bursts into a sob , and it's just heart wrenching

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\*Nomakhosi\*

Me : do you think her father will go easy on them now ? Or maybe be a bit lenient , now that Ntandokazi is here

He looks at me

Zweli : that man is too dramatic for a man , and he has so much

anger . Honestly it cannot be healthy

I laugh

Me : babe

Zweli : what ? He just annoys me , see how Bayede melted like a kid with a candy when he saw her . What man wouldn't appreciate that ?

I sigh

This whole situation is hard on Rain , and it's just painful

Zweli : but I am sure that one , will just rock up with his anger . Thonga should keep that baby away from him

Me : that's mean

Zweli : mean ? He's so going to transfer his bad energy to the child , babies are too easy they pick up on these things

Between him and Mahlubandile , I don't know who has anger more

Just that my husband is always calm

Me : I don't like what he's doing to these kids , and it actually makes me feel somehow . He doesn't like my child , and he's just belittling him

Zweli : he's a fool , and Thonga is just respecting him because he was raised well . And he has grown to be a better man , also he loves his daughter more

dearly . The very same daughter  
he's punishing like this

He shakes his head , and you  
can just tell he is annoyed

Zweli : where have you ever  
heard of such nonsense ?

I think this is why Zweli always  
prefers to be left out , where  
the royal family is concerned

It really wouldn't end well with  
him and Mahlubandile in one  
room

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\*Rain\*



Thonga : girl , you got me with  
so much happiness . It's just  
hard to contain

I look at them with a smile

Thonga : I am loving you with all that I got , even your mother

I laugh

Me : like really ? It's only been a day , and I feel replaced

He looks at me and laughs

Thonga : I think I just got a smile there

Me : stop with the lies

Thonga : I am not

Me : what is she smiling about ?

Thonga : there's so many reasons for that

Me : lies , all she knows is eat  
and cry and sleep . Nothing else

I feel like I birthed a very lazy  
child

I'm sure she takes after Thonga

Cause that cannot be at all

Thonga : she's just living up to  
her name , that's all

There's no winning

Me : I love the name your  
father gave her

He smiles

Thonga : she will be spoilt

Me : Mr Ndlovu was right , she  
will also be territorial

He chuckles

Thonga : it will be fine , I mean she will not have any siblings any time soon . I want her to get all the love and attention , until she's ready for a friend

I smile

He's so good with the baby

Like she's always in his arms

Even the nurses were  
complaining

That she's going to get used  
sleeping in arms

But he told them , it's not their  
business to worry

Cause that is exactly where she  
will sleep

Thonga : I can't wait for you two  
to get out of here

I don't know about that

Getting out of here , where will  
we go ?

I am worried



Will my father accept us , if we go to the palace ?

Me : in a day or so , the doctor said we're both good . Really there's no reason to keep us here

My brother called and said they're coming , they're just delayed a bit

His parents will come in the  
afternoon

So it's just been us , and he  
slept here

On the chair

He said he's not leaving us here  
alone

Thonga : we should ....

The door opens

And I just tear up as I lay my  
eyes on him

He just couldn't wait to rock up  
here

Like why did they even tell him ,  
that Ntandokazi is born ?

They shouldn't have told him

Dad : Mageba

He's looking at Thonga

Thonga : Kumkani (my king)

Me : please give me my child

I say with tears streaming down  
my face

He walks over and gives me the  
baby

I look at my beautiful daughter

And there's no way in hell I am  
giving my child up

That will not happen

Me : please forgive me my king ,  
I will not give my child to  
anyone . I am forfeiting the  
throne , whatever punishment  
the gods bestow upon me . I will  
take it , I will always avail myself  
for your land and your people  
so they do not perish because  
of me . But I am not giving my  
daughter away , you can banish  
me and I will take that . Cast me  
out as your child , and it'll be

okay . I am a mother before I  
am anything , and I will not have  
my child resent me because I  
deserted her .

My tears drop to her cheek ,  
and she blinks

Me : I am sorry , I will lose it all  
together just because of my  
child

I hear him heave a sigh

He will just have to forgive me  
on this one

There was no way to make  
peace with this

If my baby grows up to be a  
mixture of breeds , then it's fine  
. I will accept her as she is , and  
I'll find a way for her to fit in



I , her mother will not turn my  
back against her

No matter what

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\*INSERT 38\*

\*Mahlubandile\*

I have broken my child

The apple of my eye

And I don't know how do I get  
her to forgive me after this

Or for her to see me in another  
light

It has been a rough 8 months

I walk closer to the bed

The pink clothes , are suiting  
their owner very much

I let out a fade smile

Just pain hitting me

Me : can I hold her ?

Rain : dad please ....

She shakes her head , with  
more tears streaming down her  
face

Me : don't drop your tears on  
the princess like this , you'll give  
her a life of bad luck filled with  
tears

She loosens her hands

I take the baby from her

And she opens her eyes ,  
already chewing

And the tiny hand forms into a  
fist , going into her mouth

Me : you're a lover for food huh  
?

She yawns a bit

Me : look at you , I wish I hadn't  
accepted those dowry cows  
from these Zulu people . And  
you would be a Mampofu

Thonga chuckles

As much as things were fucked  
up and all

They did do right for my  
daughter , and my family



They paid damages for her  
pride

They paid damages for the baby

And months back , they came to  
pay dowry for the baby to take  
their surname

Me : you're so beautiful

She's blinking a lot , it's like  
she's listening and hearing what  
I'm saying

And it's just gibberish to her ,  
I'm sure

Me : what did you name her ?

I look at Rain , she's wiping her  
tears off

Looking so red , it breaks my  
heart

Rain : her grandfather named  
her Ntandokazi

Me : he ruined her

She smiles

Me : but I don't blame him

I heave a sigh

Me : I also don't blame how you reacted , as soon as I walked in here . I just hate that I'm the cause of your tears and pain , and I wish I can take it back .

But I know , the past months I have ruined a lot . And it won't just take a day to fix it , that's if I'll even be able to fix it . Your mother wailed , when I said I'm coming here . And the way you

just cried right now , shows me how much of a failure I have been . We have been blessed , and this is a time we're supposed to be shedding tears of joy and not weeping like this . I didn't come here to separate you with the princess , I just came here to see her that's all

She looks at me shocked

Rain : what ?

Me : things are different I know  
, and I let my fears get the  
better of me . But I had some  
deep searching , and I saw I was  
fearing nothing . You serve your  
purpose to our kingdom , and  
Ngwe will definitely crown a  
successor from our bloodline  
when it's time . It has always  
been known , that your kids can  
never rule . Thongalethu has no  
duty whatsoever over Isizwe sa

MaMpofu , because he has been chosen by the great ancestor of Isilo to be their royal seer there . He cannot serve two kingdom's , so in your union you each serve your purpose in your kingdoms . Whatever your outcomes of your offspring's , shall be something that's looked into . And I believe those before us , will lead us the right path

Rain : dad

It comes out as a whisper

Rain : what are you saying ?

Me : I am sorry Mampofu , for all the pain and hurt along with the tears I've brought you . It was so not worth it , I can admit that I was hasty . I hope one day , you can be able to forgive me .



And I can be the father you  
have always had , it pains me I  
wasn't supportive to you in your  
time of need . And that's  
something you'll always carry  
with you , and remember me  
with ....

Rain : no , no I don't have to  
carry that with me . And I don't  
have to always remember you  
in that manner , because I  
understood and I shared your

fears . But I oppressed them ,  
and just chose to be a mother .  
You were not unnecessary at all

I let out a smile

Rain : it takes a true father to  
admit when he's wrong , and to  
apologize . Now I can safely say  
, my smart father is back

She lets out a slight laugh

Me : no one is forfeiting the throne , you will continue to carry your duties until Ngwe relives you of them . The princess will stay at home , with her people . It will pain me when those Zulu's come to pick her

Rain : daddy he's here

I shake my head

Me : I don't care

And he chuckles behind me

Rain : wow ! Do you have a  
name for us ?

Me : me ?

She nods

Rain : we wanted the  
grandfathers to name

Me : I see what you're doing ,  
now we cannot help but just  
love her

We laugh

Me : that Zulu man ruined her  
with his eyes

Rain : I love those eyes , do not  
be mean

I chuckle

These eyes are cute

But no one must ever hear me  
say that

Especially that Zulu man

Me : lyana

Rain : nton ? (What)

Me : that's her name

Rain : nton enayo tata ? (What's  
raining dad)

Thonga : lyana imvula  
nentsikelelo zayo (a rain of

blessings) , that's what the name means . It's beautiful , and powerful too

Now she smiles

I think I might just end up liking this boy

Nkosiyabo would be proud of the man he has become and grown to be



Its not like I hated him

I just didn't like the fact that he  
took my daughter

No father is ever happy to see  
her baby grow up

And making choices in life ,  
specially where a man is  
concerned

Me : come see me at the palace  
when you get some time

The eye Rain gives me

But she can relax

Thonga : I will do that

I nod

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\*Thongalethu\*

Mom : what ?

I chuckle

It's like she doesn't believe me

Me : he got there , and Rain was just a mess . And cried , told

him he can keep his throne .  
She will take whatever  
punishment is given , but she's  
not giving up her child

Mom : so that got him to  
change his mind ?

I shake my head no

Me : no , I think he came with  
the intention to fix and mend

things . He didn't come to separate them

Mom : wow , to whatever that happened and changed his mind

Me : he's a father at the end of the day , still doesn't excuse what he did . But it's all over and done now , I think he's okay and Rain is glad to have her father back . It sunk in that I

have no desire for his kingdom ,  
and also that I have no duty  
there

Mom : I don't understand this

Me : my duty is at Isilo ma , to  
serve there as one of their own  
. Until time comes , and Isilo can  
posses his own . Then I can  
continue with Mageba ,  
wherever this life may lead us

Mom : but ...what happens if  
you marry Rain ?

I chuckle

Me : I will be her husband , but  
not king

Mom : how ?

She asks confused



Me : I will be the queens  
husband , that's that

She laughs

Mom : I feel like you two are  
just so complicated

Me : complications starts with  
people trying to understand us

Mom : I am people ?

I laugh

Mom : some child that you are

I look at my wrist watch

Me : I have to go to the palace ,  
the king asked to see me . So I  
have to get going

The siblings and queen are in there

My mom just arrived , and she's with Zweli

I won't even ask where my father is

I know he will probably come on his own

The doctor said he's discharging  
Rain and my baby tomorrow

Mom : he better not harm you

Zweli : just give me a call

I get up with a frown

Me : I honestly feel like you  
have been itching for a criminal  
record , like just stay away from

that man . Call you for what ?  
You just want war with him

He laughs

I walk away shaking my head

Zweli has never had anything  
nice to say about the king

I think he's a bitter man

Bests me how he refused my  
mother a divorce

And opted for an open marriage

Especially with my father , a  
man that he knows

Very awkward

Voice : Zulu wait ....

I turn back as I get to the  
parking lot

And it's Zitha jogging to me

Me : what's wrong ?

He laughs

Zitha : you're always on the  
edge , nothing is wrong . Where  
are you going ?

Me : to your father

He frowns

I guess he's another Zweli right  
now

Zitha : how brave are you ?

Me : mxm , where are you going  
?.



Zitha : home , thought maybe you can give me a lift . If you're going anywhere that side

Me : leaving so soon ?

Zitha : like mom and her kids are just fussing over lyana , we other beings don't exist . And I was bearing gifts today , I didn't come to stay . There's work at

home , Kumkani has people working like crazy . Turning the west chamber into a nursery , I swear seeing that baby got to him

I laugh

Me : get in the car , let's go .  
Most definitely , you'll protect me against your father

Zitha : are you mocking me ?

You're the animals , so it's tiger vs Jaglion . Brother man , I am a mere human being

We laugh as we get into the car

He's the third born , and older than me with 5 years

But he doesn't treat me like a minor to him

We get along very fine

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\*INSERT 39\*

\*Thongalethu\*

This man knows how to be a  
slave driver

Like it's in him

And I thought maybe he told  
me to come here for a talk or  
something

But no !

He gets me to work on this  
nursery thing

As if I asked to work on it

It's for his granddaughter

Hard manual labour is just not  
for me

Like , not at all

This might be for my child , yes

But like why do I have to do it ?

He said I made that child ,  
surely I can sweat for her



Honestly , I think Grandfather  
fever has gotten into him

But he shouldn't think we all  
have his fever

My phone rings , I head out  
answering

Rain : baby are you okay ?

Me : yes

I chuckle

Me : no

Rain : what ....why ? What  
happened ?

I sigh

Me : your father has me  
working here

Rain : working on what ?

Me : something baby , are you  
two okay ? I'll come back when I  
leave here

Rain : we're okay , my family  
just left . She's with your  
mother , I want to take a

shower quickly before she starts  
with her crying

Me : okay , let me get back to  
work . I love you

Rain : we love you

She laughs dropping the call

I would rather be with them ,  
than being here

But let me go man up

Zitha : I thought you ran away

I chuckle

No one is safe , we're all feeling  
the heat

Me : no , I was talking to Rain

Zitha : Rain is going to be crowned in a few days

Me : what ?

Zitha : me and my big mouth , but that's what Kumkani called you here for . Don't go telling him I told you now

I am sure Rain doesn't know about this

She would have told me

Zitha : she's still allowed her life  
you know ? She can still go back  
to Joburg , and sturdy . Of  
course after Iyana has turned 6  
months

Me : mhm , but is there a  
reason why she's being  
crowned now ?

Zitha : it's just time , Ngwe confirmed it with Jongikhaya and Kumkani . She doesn't know , but if really it's time . On the day she gets crowned , she will know what's happening . And she will be ready

Me : that's creepy

He laughs



Zitha : your whole situation is creepy , how are you fine to be with a queen yet you can't be king ? I mean you're Isilo after all

Me : being Isilo doesn't make me blue blood , and it doesn't give me a duty here . My duty is right back at Isilo

Zitha : I feel like the rest of us ,  
just go insane wrecking our  
brains . While the two of you ,  
are just chilled

Me : because we know and  
understand this , no one knows  
our journey better than we do

Zitha : a match made  
underground

Like what the fuck ?

He seals that with a laugh

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\*Rain\*

I am so happy

Like I cannot believe that my  
father did this

And all in one day

Well , he had others working  
like slaves to make it happen

But I wasn't even really thinking  
of having a nursery here

I just figured sisters and I will  
share my chamber

But now , she has her own  
personal space

And it's really beautiful

Like they have outdone  
themselves

Now it makes sense why  
Thonga , was so tired when he  
got back yesterday

Me : I think she's going to love it  
in here

Dad : yeah

I turn and look at him

Me : I missed this , like I missed  
us

He smiles

Dad : old age

We laugh

Dad : I am sorry , come here

I walk to him and we hug

Me : thank you for giving us a  
chance , I know it wasn't easy . I  
never hated you



This must have not been easy to  
him

But I am glad that he's willing to  
just let things be

And as time goes on , we will  
see what happens

And if there's a need to worry  
about Ntandokazi

But for now , she's only been a baby existing for three days

Surely we can give her a break

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\*Winnie\*

Venus : babe , are you okay ?

Me : I couldn't be better , I'll  
see you later

I lean over and peck his cheek

Me : I will see you later babe

Venus : bye

Me : just bye ?

I ask with a slight laugh

Venus : can you tell me that  
we're okay really ?

Me : we're okay baby , I  
promise you . I know I've been a  
bit distant since I got back home  
, it's just Varsity work . Has  
nothing to do with us

He smiles

Venus : okay , I love you

Me : I'll see you later

I lean over for a kiss and get out  
of the car

Bumping into Lona at the gate

Me : hey

Lona : you and this mystery  
man seem to be going far

I laugh

Lona : so , even after all these months . You still don't want me to know him ?

I've had enough of her judgement with Thonga

I don't need it with Venus too

He has a child , and I don't

She will use that

He has money , and I don't

Of course that won't sit well  
with her either

She's just a lot , and her  
judgement is too much

Me : no



Lona : so he's keeping you a secret , like be careful friend

See what I mean ?

Who said Venus is keeping me a secret ?

Me : you don't even know him like that

Lona : I'm just saying that ....

Me : give it up okay ? I am not  
discussing my relationship with  
you

I pass her entering campus

I am spending the week at  
Venu's place

So he's driving me

I'm really scared to drive his cars

Knowing who he is , it's just a threat on its own

I don't want to get hurt driving his car

Just as a liability

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\*INSERT 40\*

\*Rain\*

Waking up to this day

With ran poring like there's no  
tomorrow

I wish I had gotten a sign of  
some sort

Maybe a slight hint

That today is the day , and yes  
it's happening

I wasn't so ready for this , nor  
am I even prepared

I don't even think it would  
happen so soon

But Ngwe was out , he was  
ready and prepared

I cried so much

It was just a sight I did not  
anticipate to see

Me taking the throne and my  
father stepping down

My heart went out to that man



For all that he has done for this  
kingdom

All of his years , from a teenager

And now he's no longer king to  
Isizwe sa MaMpofu

I don't know now what life will  
hold for him

I'm about to embark now , on  
this journey

With the support that was just  
here today

From the people , and well the  
neighbouring kingdoms

Even Thongalethu's people  
from Isilo came

I believe there will be peace  
here

And we will definitely meet  
each other half way

And we will make this work

With our duties and all

Not neglecting the gifts we have  
been blessed with

I walk in the nursery chamber

And he's standing there by the  
window , holding her

I am drenched , just walking  
from the throne room to this  
room

It is said that it will rain , until  
Ngwe and the gods are pleased

Me : hi

He turns and looks at me

Thonga : we're here looking at  
the rain , and you're out there  
playing in rain . You're being  
strange

I laugh

Me : help me with a towel so I  
can take this dress off , it's  
heavy cause it's wet

He walks over and hands me a  
towel

I take my dress off , and wrap  
the towel on me

Me : it's raining crazy

We walk over to stand by the  
window

Ntandokazi is wide awake

No wonder her father is in here  
with her

Thonga : the significance of it ,  
also living up to someone else's  
name

We laugh

Thonga : the gods have agreed

Me : don't start

He squints his eyes

Me : please no ...don't

Thonga : all hail the rain queen



I give him one bored look , he  
burst out laughing

I end up laughing because what  
the hell ?

Me : you bore me

Thonga : I love you still

Me : I love you

I hold on his arm , laying my  
head on his shoulder

Me : I am grateful to Mageba  
and Isilo for you

He holds my waist with his one  
hand

He places a kiss on top of my  
head

My lips just involuntary curve  
into a smile

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\*THE END\*