

# SBANI

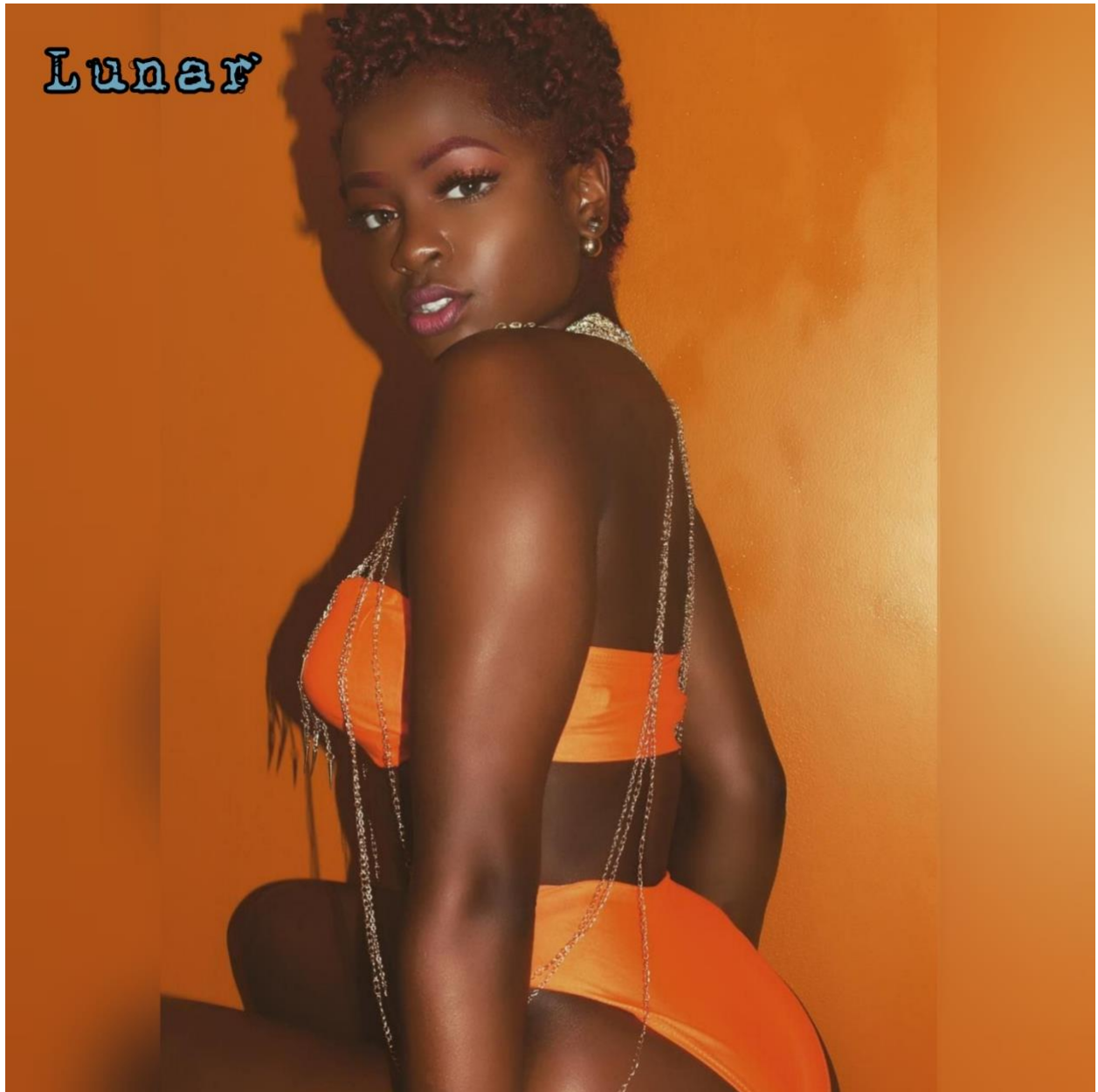
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# \*PROLOGUE\*

\*Lunar\*



Why these damn things are just not free ?

It's not like a woman chooses to go on periods

But they give around condoms for free , just for people to fuck

Something that's a choice

And say they're preventing  
teenage pregnancy

But still , the stats disagree . It  
doesn't work

But one cannot choose to go on  
periods or not

Unless you resort to  
contraceptives , just to stop  
having periods

Things that can even ruin your  
chances to have kids in future

There was a time I was taking  
contraceptive pills

That woman I call my mother  
found them

And let's just say that didn't  
end well

The woman beat me up

And called me all sorts of hoe  
names

Said I'm spreading my legs  
around

And I was only taking them  
because I barely have pads

And I have irregular periods

Sometimes I even get periods  
twice a month

She doesn't even care to buy  
me pads

That woman hates me

I heave a sigh



I only have R10 on me

And these things cost R16

It'll take me a while to even get  
that simple R6

I turn and bump into someone

Me : sorry

I look at him

And he smiles

Classic city men

We don't have his kind in the  
village

Clean shave and hair cut

The expensive suit and shoes

He even smells so good

Him : you would make a perfect wife

What the fuck ?

Him : mind if I get your number ?

Do I look like I own a cell phone ?

Stupid !

This is the village

We live from hand to mouth

We don't kid with phones

Well , me

Just me

In this day and age , even an 8  
year old has a phone

Just me who lives with dragon ,  
I don't have it

And I doubt I would ever have it

Him : why are you walking out  
of the store empty handed ?

That's just stupid though

One can't enter a store empty ,  
and leave empty ?

Me : please excuse me

I try to pass , but he stands in  
front of me

Him : tell me what you want ,  
and I'll buy it for you

Sick !

But maybe he can buy the pads

Lunar ! No

That's not is , we're not like  
that

Me : I'm not that cheap , what do you think I am ? I'm so not worth R16

He frowns

I push him out of the way , only to bump into the crown prince

I'm on my knees in a second



Me : my prince , apologies . I  
didn't see you

Prince Lutho : no , get up

I lift my eyes and he's looking at  
me

Like for what ?

I bow my head again

I can't address the crown prince  
, looking into his eyes . Or even  
staring on his face

Prince Lutho : please get up ,  
you're causing me stares . And  
no one is noticing me here , I  
would like to keep it like that

He leans down , and helps me  
up

For that mere second I look  
into his eyes

My stomach is in knots

But I'm quick to move away  
from him and face down

I hear laughter

And it's the annoying city man

Him : I believe this is what you wanted , he'll pay for it . I meant , you'll make a perfect wife for him by the way not me . Don't take offence

What the fuck !

He's holding 4 packs of pads

This is crazy

I just rush out , leaving them  
there

I don't even bother looking  
back

I take out my father's watch ,  
just to check time

And I still have time to go see  
him

I pick up my pace walking to  
the hospital

After a whole 20 minutes walk ,  
I arrive

I walk over to the women  
selling by the gate

And I buy him two apples and a  
banana

With that R10

Now I might as well make  
peace with the fact that I'll be  
using tissue or cloths

And I wait for 5 minutes ,  
before visiting time

I walk to his ward

And he's awake today

He smiles as he looks at me

I pull the chair next to him

I sit down

Me : baba (dad)

He looks so much better , if I  
my he really was getting better



Dad : how are you ?

Do I tell him the truth or lie ?

Me : I'm good , how are you ?

He smiles

Dad : you know you can tell me  
anything

Hypocrite of a man

He cares now , cause he's  
hospitalized and sick all alone in  
this bed

And that wife of his and her  
kids haven't even bothered to  
come see him

To this day , I still didn't  
understand how my father  
married that woman

Me : yeah , but I'm good

He heaves a sigh

Dad : how are things at home ?

He's literally asking me things ,  
that he knows

But it makes no difference  
whether he's there or not

Cause he fails to stand up for  
me

Me : good

I say with too many nods

Because I'm just here to spit  
lies

And nothing else

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**\*Lutho\***

Lutho



Me : who was that ?

He shrugs

Me : and those ?

Dior : she wanted these , I  
believe

Me : so why do you have them  
?

Dior : I was gonna buy them for  
her

Me : did she ask you ?

Dior : you're so slow



He walks past me , and heads  
to the till he pays

And walks to me

Dior : let's go

I fix my cap and we walk out  
heading to the car

Me : do you know her ?

Dior : how will I know your  
village People ?

I chuckle

Me : then where are you taking  
those , if you don't know her or  
where to find her ?

Dior : because the universe  
works in mysterious ways , so I  
might just find her

Insane

But I pray and hope he finds  
her

Because I've never felt what I  
felt , when I touched her hand

But she's definitely from the village

She was wearing the school uniform , and I know it

Because I started and fund the school

My sister even goes to the same school

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**\*INSERT 01\***

**\*Dior\***

Dior



Me : I'm outside

Sana : okay baby , I'm coming



Me : Lutho is home

She giggles

Sana : I'll be careful , and run  
from the back

Me : okay , hurry it's cold

Sana : okay

I drop the call and sigh

I always feel like shit when I  
have to see her

Because I'm keeping this a  
secret from my best friend

But I know him

He would blow up , and just  
make a big deal out of this

That's why I'm trying to hook  
him up

Maybe if he's dating , and has a  
stable girlfriend

Not these ones he's just fucking  
, and giving shit about them

He won't care much

I see her coming from behind

I unlock the door

She gets in and closes the door  
panting

I chuckle

Me : you can run

She laughs hitting my shoulder

Sana : the things you make me  
do

Me : come over here

She holds my hand

Sana : baby he knows your car ,  
drive a bit far from home

I chuckle

Me : okay

I drive off , quite a bit of a distance

As soon as I stop the car , she leans over to my side

I adjust my seat , so her back didn't hit the steering wheel

Me : I missed you

She smiles , placing her arms  
around my neck

Sana : how long will you be  
around ?

Me : until I find some girl

She frowns

Me : for Lutho

Sana : what girl ?

I shrug

Sana : why are you looking for her for him ?

Me : we saw her at clicks , but she saw him and ran away

Sana : what ....why ?



Me : because he's creepy , and  
the poor girl kneeled down as  
he saw him

She laughs

Sana : but that's how people  
react when they see him ,  
everyone kneels to him

Me : yeah , anyways I'll go back there and see if I can't get their CCTV footage

Sana : that's crazy

Me : uh-uh , give me a kiss

She smiles leaning her face towards mine

And we kiss

I place my hands on her waist ,  
as we kiss

And my dick reacts , as she  
keeps moving her ass down my  
thighs

Me : let me get a quickie ,  
because I haven't seen this in a  
month

I mumble through the kiss

She leans her hands down  
unbuckling my pants

Sana : make it quick , because  
they can't realise that I'm gone

I chuckle

Me : that's why it's called a  
quickestie , cause it's quick

She laughs

I slide my hand under her dress  
, pushing her panty to the side

She strokes my dick a bit ,  
before she directs it to her  
open

She screams a bit in pain , as I  
push further in

I let out a grunt , as her warmth  
welcomes me

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\*Lunar\*

Mom : where do you keep  
disappearing to these days ?

She asks just as I enter

I swallow hard , putting my one  
hand behind my back

I fiddle with my fingers

Me : the hospital

She laughs , just mocking me



Mom : you're so stupid , now  
your father is in hospital you  
keep running there

At least I care

Unlike the rest of them all

Even though I know , when he  
comes back

I'll be back to being nothing

But he's the only parent I have

As much as I want not to care

I just can't bring myself not to  
care

Mom : you think you'll be in his  
good books , child you're just a  
curse to that man . And he will  
never regard you as anything

Yeah !

Sad , but it's the truth

Mom : disappear again  
tomorrow , like you've been  
doing the past few days . And  
we'll have a problem , don't say  
I didn't warn you . And don't  
touch my pots , until my kids  
have eaten

She turns and walks to the  
lounge

I might as well go to sleep

Last night I slept on water

She said the same words

That I shouldn't eat before her  
kids eat

And her kids finished the food ,  
leaving only pap

I don't know what was I  
supposed to do with that

So I drank water and slept

Today , I'm just on the same  
fate

I walk out , going to my hut

I don't live with them in the  
house

I get in and put the candle on

I close the door and lock with  
the lock pad inside

I take my uniform off , and put  
on my night dress

I sit down on the bed , just  
taking a deep breath

I'm so tired

I just feel like giving up on  
everything , life itself is just a  
lot

Even school

We have June exams to  
prepare for

And my head is just not in the  
right space

I'm probably headed just for a  
fail

I don't even feel like reading  
right now



And that's what I should be  
doing

I get up and take my books

Placing them on the bed

As I open them , I'm just  
overwhelmed by emotions

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**\*INSERT 02\***

**\*Lutho\***

Mom : Lutho you're disgusting  
though !

I look at her

And she leans on the back seat  
reaching over

She brings the plastic from  
clicks

I laugh

Mom : is this funny ?

Me : what's disgusting ?

Mom : if you bought these for your sister , why are they in your car ?

Me : I didn't

Mom : didn't what ?

First of all

I don't know what she's doing in my car

Like why is she searching it

Me : buy them for her

Mom : so your girlfriend leaves her things in your car like this ?

Me : no , Dior did

She frowns

Mom : your friend is ....

Me : my queen , you don't want to know the story behind those things please . So just put them back , and leave them

Mom : it's just disgusting for men to walk around with pads in their cars , unless you have started menstruating ....



What !

Mom : it's nice to buy for your woman , but give them to her .  
Don't keep them in your car ,  
like they're candy

This is drama

I laugh

Me : okay

Mom : do something

Me : sure

She frowns

Me : okay sorry my queen

She puts the plastic back on the  
seat

And she walks away heading to  
the main palace

I don't even get what she was  
doing here

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\*Dior\*

Lutho : you must take those things out of my car

I laugh

Lutho : it's not a joke , my  
mother was on my case about  
them

Me : after this , I'll find her .  
Then we can take them to her

He shakes his head slowly

Lutho : you'll walk in there  
alone

Me : but I'm helping you here

Lutho : I didn't ask you to

We're back in the city

I want to go to clicks and check  
their CCTV footage

Because I want to get a picture  
of that girl

It'll be easy to find her if I have  
a picture

Me : you're ungrateful , and I  
wouldn't have to lie if you  
come with . You're the prince , I  
would just use you

Lutho : have you no shame ?

Me : no

I get out of the car

And he remains still in the car ,  
just watching me

Some people don't know how  
to appreciate favours

Okay !



I'm also doing this for myself in  
a way

But he'll be the one getting the  
girl

And if I wasn't there , or see  
how they locked eyes for that  
mere second

I would just leave this

But , there was something  
there

Pity , she ran away cause she  
was scared of him

And he was more concerned  
about people seeing him

Than worrying about that one  
girl he locked eyes with

He could have gone after her

But not Lutho no

He was fixing his cap , hiding  
himself from being seen

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\*Lunar\*



The cramps are just doing the  
most

I was barely even focusing in  
class

And I don't even have R2 for  
grandpa

It won't take the pain away

But it'll be better I know

I have crazy cramps during this  
time of the month

I don't even wish to wake up

It's break , and I feel like going  
home

But I'll get scolded for it

I'm not in the mood

At school they don't bother

If you say you're sick , they just  
send you home

Without even checking if you'll  
make it or not

I just walk to the back of the  
hall

There's a small ground of  
cement

I just lay down on my stomach

I'll probably wake up a mess  
from here

Right now , I need this cold  
floor

I hope I don't fall asleep



No one will even spot me here

The hall is behind the school

So no one barely comes here ,  
unless there's a reason

I just want to subside this pain

And I can be able to see the day  
through

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\*Lutho\*

Me : and ?

He smiles , and I know that's  
just a flex

Dior : I got it

Me : let me see

Dior : wait ....I have to run a  
check on her

What the fuck ?

Me : are you stupid ! She's just  
a fucking school kid , what  
could you possibly be checking  
?

He laughs

Dior : people have skeletons

Okay !

Me : I don't need to hear this ,  
let's go

Dior : yeah , let's

I shake my head driving off

Heading back to the village

Dior : you can start buying me whiskey , because I have done it and come through for you

Me : again , I did not ask you

Dior : yeah , be grateful like for once in your life

Me : don't be a fool , I would be  
. If I had asked you , but in this  
case I didn't

Dior : and I'll be your best man ,  
at least that's thanking me.

Sometimes we choose idiots  
and make them friends

And they become like brother's

Then we end up being stuck  
with them and that's the case  
here

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**\*INSERT 03\***



**\*Lunar\***

I wake up , as I feel someone  
shaking me roughly

Screaming on top of her lungs

Me : what ?

I ask annoyed

Like what is she screaming  
about ?

She heaves a sigh of relief ,  
touching her chest

Sana : oh my god , you're okay

Duh !

Me : why wouldn't I be ?

Sana : why are you sleeping on  
a cold ground ? And school has  
long resumed

Well , what is she doing here ?

If really school has long  
resumed

Because I don't see anyone  
here , but just her

Me : Royal child what are you  
doing here ?

She laughs

Sana : did you just call me royal child ?

I frown

Me : are you not ?

She sit down laughing

Sana : I was bunking okay ,  
what's your story ?

Argh !

Not so perfect after all

The so called perfection they  
portray at the royal palace

Me : I have heavy period pains

Sana : take meds for those , I  
know that shit is painful

Me : I would , if I could actually afford them

I get up slowly and dust myself , I didn't leave a mess of blood

Sana : can I just use you , and we go home . And I'll give you meds ?

Me : what the hell ?



Sana : sorry , I don't mean it  
bad

Me : I keep bad influence away  
from me

Sana : I like you

Lord help me

Me : you what ?

Sana : not like that , but you seem cool

Me : don't go there okay , I'm very poor . No one barely even knows me in this school , you don't want to be associated with such

Sana : everyone knows you in this school , you're the girl that's always number one on every top ten every term . Come on ,

they don't like me . They  
befriend me because of the  
royal status

She gets up

Sana : this way , it's a win-win  
situation . I get to go home ,  
and you'll have your pills

Me : I have to go see my father  
in hospital at the city

Sana : my driver will take you

I heave a sigh

Me : I need to go home and  
change

Sana : we're basically the same  
size

Me : I mean the cl...pad

She darts her eyes , and what I see in her eyes is not pity

Sana : I am sorry , I'll get you pads . For the whole year , they buy them for me in bundles .

And well , I'm taking contraceptives . So I don't have my periods

Jesus !

Sana : please

I guess it won't hurt

Besides it's not like I'm in class  
right now

Me : but don't think you can  
use me to do your school work

She smiles

Sana : I am not even thinking about that , my man is around . And I just want to go spend time with him , once he leaves I won't see him for a while . He will probably give me shit for leaving school , but he'll get over it once I give him head ...

Me : shut up !

She laughs

Sana : okay sorry

I shake my head walking  
towards the passage

And she follows me

Sana : let me hold your hand ,  
like it's very bad . Cry , if you  
have tears close by



And this is the golden royal  
child

Wonders never cease to amaze

We've never even greeted each  
other before

But look at us now

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\*Lutho\*

Dior : what kind of a name is  
Lunar ?

I chuckle

He's so clued to his phone

Me : what kind is Dior ?

He looks at me

Dior : you know my father was a fuck up right ? A whole rapist , so what did you expect my mother to name me ? Blessings ? Definitely not , I'm far from that

Me : okay enough !

He laughs

Dior : so , I have a plan to find  
this Lunar girl

Me : good luck

Dior : why are you acting like  
you don't care , or you're not  
interested ?

I shrug

He shakes his head fiddling  
with his phone

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\*Lunar\*

I can't believe I'm at the palace

This feels surreal

Sana offered me a shower , and  
she gave me 6 packs of pads

I've got on a pad now

She said I can come get the rest  
whenever

I don't know if I will or what

We shall see



She's given me the pain pills

And it's just been a few  
minutes since I took them , but  
already I feel better

I probably could never afford  
these Nurofen period pains pills

But I'm keeping the three boxes  
she's given me

Sana : so you're leaving ?

Me : yeah

She sighs

Sana : okay , I'll get my driver to take you to the city . And he can wait for you , and bring you back

She even gave me her clothes

To change from my uniform

Me : you have done a lot , I think I'm cool now . Thanks for everything , all I did was just help you bunk . And it was the first and the last

Sana : yeah , thanks

I grab my bag and open the  
door

My eyes fall on the crown  
prince

And right there , I drop my bag  
on the floor

Prince Lutho : you ?

He grabs my arm

Prince Lutho : don't do what  
you did again ....

There's just something that this  
man's touch does to me

And it makes me feel very  
funny

Sana : brother

I look at her

She looks at us and smiles

Me : I ....I have to go

I yank my arm off of his hand

But he grabs it back

Sana : should I leave you two  
alone ?

He raises his brow looking at  
me

Prince Lutho : come here for a  
second

What the fuck ?

Me : with all due respect , I  
have to go

Prince Lutho : don't say such things to me Lunar , like you're addressing my father

What ?

How does he even know my name ?

Sana laughs , and he slightly drags me



I see we're walking to one of  
the far huts

Can't I just run away from here  
?

Like right now !

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**\*INSERT 04\***



\*Lutho\*

She looks so uncomfortable

Me : go sit down

Lunar : I have to go

Me : yeah , you said that twice  
now . And I get it , you'll go

She side eyes me

I chuckle

Me : I don't bite , you can look  
at me

Lunar : that's not allowed

Me : I believe as crown prince ,  
if I ask or tell you something  
you do it

I lock the door and walk over

I stand in front of her

I tilt her chin , and she lifts her  
eyes slowly

Me : I would appreciate staring  
into your eyes , when I talk to  
you

She swallows hard

Me : Dior had gotten you things  
, and they've been in my car for  
days now

Lunar : he was just forward , I  
didn't ask him to

I side smile

Me : I know , but take them  
anyways

She darts her eyes away from  
me

I tilt her cheek with my two  
fingers

Me : why can't you look at me ?

She darts her eyes down

Me : either we can talk , and  
you get to leave now . Or I keep



begging you , and we stand  
here forever

She lifts her eyes

Me : I'm not that bad to spend  
time with anyways

She side smiles

Lunar : I just have to go see my  
father in hospital

Me : I'll take you

Fuck !

And I have royal duties to  
attend

But that just slipped my lips

Me : uhm ...yeah

Lunar : the princess has offered

That child !

Me : are you friends ?

Lunar : no

She's even shaking her head

Like that's a definite no

Me : would you rather go with  
a stranger of a driver , than me  
?

She flaps her eye lashes quite a  
few times

Lunar : why ?

Me : why ?

Lunar : why would you want to take me there ?

Me : because you don't want to be in my hut right now , and if taking you to the hospital means I'll spend time with you so be it

She moves back a bit , but I pull her closer

Me : why do you want to push me away ?

She bites her lower lip

I lean forward , my face just inches away from hers

Me : one thing about me , I'm never wrong . And right now , I know the feelings I have for you are so not one sided

I can literally hear her heart  
beating

Lunar : feelings ?

Her voice has changed tone

Me : am I wrong ?

She keeps quite

Me : silence also speaks volume  
, at all times

I hold her one hand and  
intertwine our fingers , while  
looking into her eyes

Me : we can always take it at  
your pace

Lunar : I ....I can't



Me : you can , I'll only  
understand if you say you  
won't

I brush my lips over hers

She gasps as I peck her lips

Lunar : you're the crown prince  
, this is wrong

She says with her tiny voice

Me : says who ?

She says nothing , but exhales  
closing her eyes

I capture her lips into mine  
slowly

And she allows me as she kisses  
me back

And I feel she's just doing what  
I'm doing

But fuck !

She's awakening things

I pick her up in my arms and  
walk over to the bed

I sit down , and making her  
straddle me

I place my hands on her lower  
waist

She brings her arms around my  
neck

I run my one hand over her  
back

I deep the kiss as her chest  
touches on mine

Just feeling her nipples on my  
chest

I let out a slight groan

A knock comes from the door

She tries to get off me

But I hold her still

She pulls back , and shyly looks  
at me

Lunar : there's ....

Sana : My prince ...

Me : go away

And I hear footsteps walking  
away

I look at Lunar

Me : now what ?

She says nothing

Me : should I just decide , and  
say you're mine since you're  
not keen to converse with me ?

She looks down

I chuckle caressing her cheek

Me : do you have a boyfriend ?

Because I can respect that , and  
wait until he fucks up and I'll  
take you

She looks at me with a slight  
smile

Lunar : I don't ...



Me : is it because I'm old ?

Lunar : how old are you ?

Me : old enough , to be your big brother

Lunar : does that matter ?

Me : no , do you want it to matter ?

She sighs

Lunar : you're a crown prince ,  
to marry royalty ....

Me : we're on marriage already  
? I can marry you

Lunar : I will not be anyone's  
second option , so no

Me : no one will take your place

She shakes her head slowly

Lunar : the king is a polygamist  
with five wives , that's no  
secret and you're to take over

I chuckle

Me : his choice , and only his  
third wife is a royal princess

Lunar : that's your mother ,  
which makes you more royal

Me : wait ...why don't you let  
me fuck up ? Don't just shut me  
out , especially because of this

She goes silent

Me : let's go , this is not done  
though

I get up with her still in my arms

I peck her lips a few times before putting her down

I grab my car keys as we walk out

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**\*INSERT 05\***

**\*Lunar\***

Dad : you're awfully quite

That's because I have nothing  
to say

Maybe I shouldn't have come  
here



Dad : did something happen at home ?

Something is always happening

And talking about it doesn't help anything

Me : no

Dad : then what's wrong ?

Me : when are you getting out  
of here ?

I'll rather I hear that

Because I don't want to speak  
about his wife and his kids

And I want to stop thinking  
about Prince Lutho

That kiss did things to me

I felt like I wanted more

And I knew I was fucked

Cause what the hell ?

I shouldn't even be entertaining  
the prince

That can never happen

I'm just a mere commoner

In a few years he will be king

Dad : I don't know , hopefully  
soon

Me : I hope so , because I don't  
even have any money to bring  
you anything

Dad : we get food here , I just appreciate you coming

Until he's better and gone back home

And I'll be back to just being the bastard child

To this day I don't get why he cheated on his wife

With her sister

And had me the bastard child  
he hates so much

When my mother passed on

None of the family members  
wanted his bastard child

From his wife's sister

And he forcefully brought me  
here to stay with his family ,  
knowing they don't like me

And my hell began

I've never caught a glimpse of  
light

Ever since I moved in with this  
man and his family

His kids are basically my  
cousins

And his wife is my aunt

Crazy family

Me : I have to go

I wish I was walking back



But there's prince Lutho  
waiting outside

Dad : thank you for coming

Me : yeah , just get better and  
go back to your family . I'm sure  
they miss you

He drops his eyes

He's just ashamed

Because he loves them way  
more than me

And he doesn't even hide that

Now he's here , and they don't  
bother themselves about him

Me : bye

I walk out of the ward

And find Prince Lutho talking to  
some doctor

I just pass

But he grabs my arm

I want to say something

But I'll rather not

Lutho : man , thanks for the talk  
. But I have to get going now ,  
before the Mrs looses it with  
me

What ?

The doctor smiles

Doc : I see her everyday around  
here , if I knew she was yours . I  
would have given royal

treatment , because she's  
always around

They laugh

Lutho : now you know , do  
better

Doc : you don't have to say  
more

They shake hands and we turn  
walking away

I hate that he's inside the  
hospital

Holding my hand now

Having all these people look at  
us

Why did he even walk in ?

Because I left him outside

He's just being dramatic right  
now

We walk out and head to his  
car

The smell of pizza just graces  
me

And I'm like , damn I'm hungry

We get in

Lutho : I brought you food

I want to decline

But no !

The stomach owes no one  
anything



Me : thank you

He hands me the box and a plastic just full of snacks and drinks with sweets

Me : can you drive ?

Lutho : you're going to eat while I drive ?

Me : I'm not a child , I'm not  
messy

He chuckles

Lutho : okay , don't attack me .  
I just don't want you to have an  
upset stomach

Okay !

I was a bit tad rude there

Sometimes I just spit ,  
especially when I feel words  
coming somehow at me

Even when it's not the  
intention

Me : I'll be fine

I say with a low calm voice

And he starts the car driving off

Heading to the village

Lutho : are you okay ?

I nod

Lutho : let's talk

Me : about ?

Lutho : I mean , use words with me

I smile looking away from him

Me : okay , I'm okay

Lutho : still considering making me your boyfriend ?

Me : a disaster in the making

He chuckles shaking his head

I don't even know why he's  
asking me

Because he's already decided  
that he is my so called  
boyfriend

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**\*Dior\***

Sana : were you talking about Lunar ?

Me : apparently

Sana : so when did they start dating ? Like Lutho kicked me away from his room , because he was in there with her



Me : he was probably shooting his shot

She sighs shaking her head

Me : hey , he found her with you . So don't you like her for him ?

Sana : it's not that , he goes on to date her but he will flip if he finds out I'm dating you

Me : mhm , I'm bad for you  
okay ....

Sana : a friend of a killer is a  
killer , the fact that he's your  
friend doesn't make him any  
better than you

Me : I'm offended , but fine .  
Can we stop talking about him ,  
cause I was going to hook them

up anyways . Those two love  
each other

She frowns

Me : don't give me that

She sighs

Sana : baby anyways , I want to  
spend time with you

Me : I'm here

Sana : you know what I mean

Me : no bunking school , stop  
this business of yours

Sana : okay

I bring her closer , capturing her  
lips into mine and we kiss

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**\*INSERT 06\***

**\*Lutho\***

Sana : here is your girlfriend's bag , she left it yesterday when you stole her

I look at her and take the bag

Sana : where are you going so early ?

Me : nowhere that concerns you

Sana : can I get a lift , I won't disturb

Me : I'm leaving now

Sana : and I am done and ready



We walk to my car

And she opens the passenger  
door

Me : let's not get used to each  
other

She laughs

Sana : my bad

She goes to the back

I get in the car and drive off to  
the village

I know her home now , since I  
dropped her here last night

I park by the gate

Me : go call her

Sana : why are you using me ?

Me : just go

She sulks getting out of the car

She walks inside the yard , and  
keeps looking back at me

I watch as she knocks at the  
door

After a while it opens and a woman comes out

They talk for a bit , and she walks over to the side of the house where there's a hut

It looks so small , and a bit worn out

She knocks

And wait , until the door opens  
and she walks in

Now I don't know what's what

Maybe they use the hut as a  
kitchen of some kind

That's how most village people  
do it

They cook in the hut , and sleep  
in the houses

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\*Lunar\*

Me : what ?

She's looking around

Me : it's nothing , but it's home  
to me

She finally looks at me

Sana : uhm ...why do you stay in the hut ?

Me : that's what happens when you're a bastard child , what do you want here ?

Sana : my brother is outside

Great !



Sana : I didn't know you two were dating , I mean it's so unlike him . I can't believe , he can date my friends but I can't date his ....

Me : we're not friends

She sighs

And looks a bit hurt

Sana : you really don't like me ,  
do you ?

Me : I just know my kind of  
people , and it's not the likes of  
you

There's slight hurt on her face

I can be such a dick at times ,  
and this is one of those

Me : I don't mean it bad okay ,  
but just look around you . This  
is me , my life

Sana : you'll find me in the car

She walks out

Me : yhoh ! Now the royal child  
wants me to beg her

I finish combing my hair

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\*Lutho\*

Me : where is she ?

She just sulks and ignores me

Me : I am talking to you

Sana : your girlfriend is so rude  
, and she just judges people .  
I've never looked down on her ,  
but she thinks I'm better than  
her

I know my baby sister when  
she's just being herself and  
dramatic

And she's being serious right  
now

I don't want to be caught  
between their squabbles or  
whatever

Me : I'll talk to her , now cheer  
up and stop sulking

She sighs leaning back

And Lunar finally walks out

Once thing I gathered from just  
being with her yesterday

She's very fragile

And she's built walls around  
her

To protect herself

And therefore she resorts to  
pushing people away



And being rude

She has a sharp tongue

And it's just between the lines

I lean over and open the door  
for her

She looks at the back , and back  
at me

She gets in and just keeps quite

I chuckle

Me : I wasn't sleeping beneath  
your feet

She sulks and ignores me

Great !

Now I'm dealing with two  
moody teenagers

I drive off heading to school

And it's like 15 minutes from  
here

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\*Lunar\*

What a ride

We get to school , and I'm just  
first to hold the door

Me : thanks for bringing my bag

I attempt to open the door

But he grabs my arm

And I feel the grip

Sana gets out of the car

Sana : bye

She says to her brother

He hands out R100 to her

Lutho : that's for lunch

She smiles

Sana : thank you

She takes the money and walks  
away

Some people are just born  
lucky out there

What I wouldn't give to have a  
brother who gives a damn  
about me

Lutho : sthandwa sika Mbovu  
(my love)

Ask me what I'm smiling about

As I turn and look at him

And he's also looking at me

He slides his hand to mine



And brushes his thumb over my hand

Lutho : I don't want to be caught between your quarrels , right now I don't even want to know who did or said what to who . You're my woman , I will choose you even when you're in the wrong . And that will hurt my sister , I also don't want to see her hurt . So please , allow

me not to even ask why you're  
so pretty sulking

Now I just feel like shit

Lutho : I think it's best I just  
have your number

This again !

Me : I don't have a phone

Lutho : I'll be here to pick you  
up after school

Me : no

He smiles leaning over

He captures my lips into his

And I just give in kissing him  
back

After a few minutes he pulls  
back

Lutho : I'll see you after school

He slides something in my hand

I look and it's just R200 notes

Maybe R600 or more

Me : I don't want ....

Lutho : start spending your man's money , while I'm still generous about it like this

When did we even move so fast ?

Me : when ...

He shuts me up with a kiss

After a few minutes he pulls  
out

Lutho : you talk a lot , go on so  
you don't be late

Argh !

I open the door and get out

He laughs as I walk away

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**\*INSERT 07\***

**\*Lunar\***



Me : hi

She nods

This one is acting like a baby

Maybe that's how she's treated  
at the royal palace

Just drama !

We have life tough out here

And we don't expect to be  
begged for anything

I heave a sigh

Me : Listen , I'm sorry about the way I spoke to you this morning

Sana : you don't want to be my friend why ?

Oh please !

Like not this

Me : uhm , friends are fake .  
They pretend , and back stab  
each other . And nothing is ever  
real between such

She sighs

Sana : but I'm not like that , I  
wouldn't back stab you on my  
brother

Lord !

Me : this isn't even about your brother , I live my life alone .  
That's how it's been , and I just want to keep it like that

Sana : okay

She's a bit disappointed

But she'll get over it

Me : we're not enemies , we'll  
talk and stuff . Once again , I'm  
sorry

She nods with a smile

I turn and walk away

Wether she forgiven me or not

I don't care

Fact of the matter is that I  
apologized

And I was damn sincere about  
it

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\*Dior\*





Dax : you're still dating your  
friends sister ?

I shake my head

Me : I didn't call you for a  
lecture , you know being  
married and having a family  
doesn't make you better than  
me

He laughs

Dax : that nigga is gonna fuck  
you up

Me : okay , I'd like to see him  
try . While I have a brother like  
you

Dax : wa nyela , you go around  
shitting and you're expecting  
me to clean after you (bullshit)

I chuckle

Me : I don't remember  
counting when I had to clean  
after your ass

Dax : I never asked you fuck off

And he drops the call on me

No !

This guy and I have a very  
strange relationship

Maybe it's because we're  
products of rape

But no !.

He even hates his own half  
brother

That's different

Who is born into a beautiful  
marriage

I guess he's just a creep really

But he's the only family I  
genuinely have

Being a product of rape , just  
makes you an outcast

I don't want anything to do  
with the family of the man who  
raped my mother

I mean , her family hates me

They literally put me in an  
orphanage , that's how much  
they hate me

I was just a week old

My mother killed herself after  
giving birth to me

She just couldn't bare to raise a  
child of rape

Pity , I even look more like her  
than I do the rapist

Fucked up as we are , Dax is my  
brother

And I do appreciate the fucked  
up relationship we have

At least he lets me be with my  
niece and nephews

I thought being a father , he  
would tame down

But no , he went on to just  
open more pubs and grills



He's busy pushing drugs and  
weed

Using his clubs to clean the  
money

He now manufactures his own  
drugs

And supplies Columbia and  
Mexico

That's fucked up

But you can be a criminal , if  
you have a lawyer brother  
having your back

He's grown now , and he's very  
careful

He hasn't had a single arrest  
ever since he got married

I don't mind the family dynamic  
that much

So all is well

I have someone to open my  
chest to about my shit

And he'll always tell me to fuck  
off

But I know

If shit hits the fan

He'll have my back like no other

The heart wants what it wants

I tried to ignore Sana so many  
times

But I just couldn't

Until she saw that I had feels  
for her

And she made a move

The relationship has been in  
shadows ever since , it's not  
like we can broadcast it

And it's been a whole 8 months  
now

I fear what Lutho will do once  
he finds out

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**\*Lunar\***

I don't get why we're here

Me : can I stay in the car ?

Lutho : no

He opens the door for me

I get out

And he takes my hand walking  
into MTN store

We walk around , and I'm so  
not interested



Lutho : what phone do you want ?

I look at him

Lutho : you can take any phone , don't mind the price

Me : I don't want a phone

I swallow hard saying that

He cups my face and stares into  
my eyes

Lutho : I need you to have a  
phone , I'm not always around  
the village . I spend most of my  
time here in the city , this is  
where I stay . And you having a  
phone that's the only way you'll  
be able to communicate with  
me , I won't be able to stay  
months without talking to you .

I'm just stuck on that , I might not be seeing him soon

Why do I even care ?

I mean , I've always known he doesn't stay around the village

It's always been said , a crown prince doesn't stay at his land

For safety reasons

But isn't he old for that now ?

He can be king any day

Lutho : please

He brings me out of my  
thoughts

I look at him

Me : I don't know

Lutho : can I choose one ?

Me : yeah

I just walk besides him

I don't even pay attention to  
what phone he's taking

The eyes when we head to the  
till

I just want to run out of here

I wonder if this is always how  
it's like being seen walking with  
him

He pays for the phone and we  
leave

We head to the car , he grabs  
his cap

And puts it on

Lutho : let's go get something  
to eat

I want to refuse

I don't wanna be seen with him  
in a restaurant

And have people gawking at me

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**\*INSERT 08\***



\*Lutho\*



I asked for some privacy

And the smoking area was  
closed

Just for us

Not because we want to smoke

But I want Lunar to be free

I saw how tense she was in the  
shop

I just want her to enjoy her  
meal

Without having to worry about  
eyes

My phone rings

And I want to ignore it

But it could be my father

And he's one man who's not  
pleased with me right now

He's even sending his wives to  
me

I see it's Sana , I answer

Me : princess

She laughs

She sounds happy for some  
reason

And definitely not the Sana I  
was with this morning

Me : what's going on ? You're  
disturbing me

Sana : no , Lunar apologised

Me : what ?

Sana : yeah at school , she  
came and apologized

I look at her , just feeling proud

Me : okay , I'm glad you're  
happy now . But that's creepy

She laughs

Me : bye you're disturbing me

I drop the call and put it on do  
not disturb

I move over from my chair

And I pull the one next to her

I face her tilting her face



As she takes a sip of her juice

I lean over for a kiss , which she  
gladly welcomes

After a while we pull out

Lunar : what's with you and  
affection ?

I chuckle with a smile

Me : that's my language of love  
, when a person is affectionate  
towards me that's how I know  
I'm loved . And so in return , I  
do give affection . People have  
different kinds of love language  
, some it's money . Others it's  
being spoilt , while for some it's  
quality time . It just differs with  
people , I'm still trying to learn  
yours . So I can love you right ,  
and the way you deserve . And

don't even tell me , I want to find out myself . I don't want to hear it from you , and next thing when I love you in that particular way you'll be saying oh but its because you told me . I want it to count , when I start acting right

Lunar : is that what you'll be thinking , because you told me yours ?

I hold her hand and kiss the  
back of her palm

Me : no , you can't fake a touch  
sthandwa sika Mbovu (my love)

It's the smile she gives me  
when I call her like this

It's only been the second time

But damn !

Me : that kiss , I was saying  
thank you for being the bigger  
person . And just apologizing  
for whatever between you two

Lunar : I was harsh

Me : I'm glad that's over

I lean over pecking her lips

This late lunch is going great

And the fact that we're alone in here , it just makes her comfortable

Me : I don't mind spending time with you like this , I can do it everyday . But I just want some privacy to know you better

Lunar : what do you mean ?

Me : how do you feel about  
visiting me over at my house

Lunar : your house where you  
stay ?

Me : yes , I could even ask for a  
weekend . But maybe I would  
be pushing it , I don't want you  
getting into trouble at home

Lunar : they wouldn't even  
notice I'm not there , and they  
wouldn't care

I raise my brow looking at her

She shifts and take a sip from  
her juice

Me : I'm merely asking



I'm gone from the home  
situation

Cause I can tell , it's not  
something she wants to talk  
about

Lunar : who do you stay with ?

Me : alone

Lunar : okay

Me : okay

Lunar : I'll visit you

I smile

Me : thank you sthandwa sika  
Mbovu

She looks down blushing

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**\*Lunar\***

I head straight to my hut

Not bothering going into the  
house

I've had a great afternoon

The last thing I need or want , is  
lectures

I lock the door

And put on the candle

There's electricity in the village

But it's not free

And well , I'm not allowed to  
have electricity in my hut

So I use candles for my light

And cold water is my best  
friend

I'm barely allowed to plug  
water with a kettle in the house

If I do , it's not supposed to boil

I lay down as my phone rings

He just had to buy an iPhone 14  
Pro

You just look at this phone ,  
and think it could have bought  
me a whole 4 room

Me : hello

Lutho : sthandwa sika Mbovu

I smile like a stupid retard

There's just a way he just calls  
that

Mhm-mhm !

I don't even know how to  
explain it



But it knocks all my senses out  
of the window

Once he says that , I'm no  
longer sane

I need help fast

Because this is insane , and just  
crazy

Lutho : I miss you

His presence is missed

We did have a great afternoon  
together

I don't regret that time spent  
with him at all

Me : you were just with me ,  
not so long ago

He chuckles

Lutho : I know , but let me  
come see you quickly

I slightly laugh

Me : for real ?

Lutho : yeah

Me : okay

Lutho : I'm coming now

He drops the call

And I think this is crazy

And he's just luring me in

And worse part , I'm letting him

I swear , this whole thing will  
blow up on my face

It's all too soon and too fast

Worse the standards don't  
align

He's so way out of my league

I don't know what I'm hoping  
for

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**\*INSERT 09\***

**\*Lunar\***

Mom : what was the princess  
doing here ?



Since I avoided them yesterday

She's confronting me now

And it's too early for this

Me : nothing

Mom : nothing , is that so ?

Me : yes

She laughs annoyed

Mom : you think I'm an idiot ?

Me : no

Mom : so ? What would bring a royal princess here , just for you a mere commoner

Aren't we all commoners ?

Me : it really was nothing , she didn't come here for me

Mom : I will find out , and if you have done anything to the royal family . You will be out of here , sooner than you can blink . I'll have you for dinner

She clicks her tongue and walks away

Me : great , I'm sure I don't  
even taste that great

I grab my bag and walk out  
locking the door from the  
outside

I take a walk heading to school

But just 5 minutes into that  
walk , his car parks next to me

I side smile looking away

He rolls down the window

And I keep on walking

He leans his face outside the  
window

As he starts the car , driving  
slowly next to me

Lutho : you love hurting me ,  
like you live for that

I laugh

Lutho : don't be this mean

He came last night , and we  
spent over 2 hours in his car

He was parked by the hill

That's a bit far from the village

Me : good morning to you too  
my prince

Lutho : it's not a good one

Me : you're exaggerating

Lutho : get in the car , and I'll  
tell you all about it

Me : I'm almost at school

Lutho : yeah almost , but you're not there

I laugh

He stops the car

I walk over to the side and get in



He doesn't drive , but he leans  
over giving me a hug

And it's just so soothing

I hug him back inhaling his  
scent

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\*Lutho\*

Me : I'll be leaving

Mom : why so soon ?

I smile

Me : it hasn't been soon

Dad : you've just been home  
for a few days

Me : almost a week my king ,  
that's long

MaMkhulu : a few days , almost  
a week it's always the same  
and the one

I laugh

My mother being the third wife

And the only royal wife

I can't exactly describe how she  
is

But I'll tell you , MaMkhulu is  
just the best

My relationship with her , is  
what caused me to have a  
relationship with all the wives

All five of them

I don't disregard any of them

Me : are you leaving ?

MaMkhulu : yes

Me : ah , let me walk you out

She stays in her house , right in  
the palace

Like every other wife

The man built houses for all of  
them

Our palace grounds are big

We get up

She bids them goodnight

And we walk out

MaMkhulu : who do you want  
to talk about ?

I chuckle

She knows me



There's like 5 older brothers ,  
before me . She has Sana only

She's MaMkhulu's daughter  
and the baby of the family

Even after all of us , my father  
was still shooting

Me : this girl from the village , I  
fear I'm falling for her . And

she's just holding off , I don't  
want to fall and trip . Especially  
if I'm alone , I have no doubt  
she feels something for me .  
But she's not acting upon it

Yes !

I can talk about girls with  
MaMkhulu

She's always opened that door

Me : I don't know , because I do love her . And I don't want to walk away or give up , even though it feels like I'm just going to be left with a broken heart

She laughs

MaMkhulu : don't be so negative about it , I feel like you

understand her so well . And so  
, it works in your favour to lure  
her in . Until she finds herself in  
that position , where you're her  
go to . Girls appreciate  
consistency , don't be here  
today and tomorrow she has to  
seek you . It's not as scary as  
you're making it

Me : if you say so

MaMkhulu : I was once your  
age

Me : she's young

MaMkhulu : and what does  
your age mates say again ?

Us : age is just a number

We laugh

MaMkhulu : exactly , just be yourself to her . And she'll soon get it

Me : mhm I hope so

I will just be patient about this whole situation

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**\*Lunar\***

Me : who brought you these ?

Like the man has a basket of  
fruits

And there's even take outs

I didn't know that his family  
came to see him



And I had bought him things  
today

I used the money that was  
given to me a few days ago

Dad : one of the doctors

Me : what .... Why ?

Dad : I could be asking you

Me : why me ? How would I know ?

He chuckles

Dad : he said you're a good friend of his friend , so I'm guessing you know him . Or you know each other

Can it be though ?

That it's the doctor that was  
talking to the prince the other  
day

Dad : it's just a pity he's old , he  
would make a nice son in law

I chuckle

Me : shouldn't you be focusing  
on your health and getting  
better , not setting up the apple

of your eye for marriage with  
an old man ?

He smiles

Dad : your mother would kill  
me

Does he really think I'm talking  
about myself ?

Or he's just mocking me

Me : I wasn't even talking  
about me , why would I ? I  
meant your sweetheart  
daughter

I get up

Me : I'll take my things , and  
leave with them . They'll  
definitely keep me from  
starving

I grab the plastic of food and  
snacks I've brought

Me : bye

He heaves a sigh

Dad : Lunar I don't love you any  
less , you're my child . And I ....I  
love you , I loved your mother

Me : I don't know that , you've  
never shown me that you

I look down as i feel pain  
piercing my heart

I won't give him he satisfaction

I won't cry in front of him

He must never rejoice at the  
fact that I'm crying for his love

I walk out , and lean against the  
wall just gathering myself

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**\*INSERT 10\***



**\*A FEW DAYS LATER\***

**\*Lunar\***

His place is beautiful

I can't believe he stays here  
alone

It's clean as well

I just left home , and I didn't  
even say anything

It's not like they care anyways

Lutho : are you okay ?

I look at him

Me : yeah

Lutho : you sure I'm not getting  
you into trouble ?

Me : no

He takes my hand , and pulls  
me closer to him

He closes the space between us

Lutho : I just want to love you  
right , can you just allow me to  
do that ?

I don't think I understand what  
he's saying

Lutho : I don't want to hold  
anything back , I just want to  
love you loud

He leans down

Lutho : please let me

I swallow hard

Me : I'm scared of getting hurt

Lutho : I won't do that

I want to believe that

I really want to

But , I just can't

Lutho : let's go take a shower ,  
I'll order . I know you're tired

Just a bit



He pecks my lips and places a  
kiss on my forehead

He moves back and we walk  
upstairs

Getting into his room

It's just as clean

He sits down on his bed

And leans down taking his shoes off

Me : are you sure you live alone ?

He chuckles

Lutho : yeah , I have help

Me : who ?

Lutho : Grace

Me : mhm

He looks at me and smiles

Slowly he takes his shirt off

Lutho : she's like 56 or  
something

He gets unbuckling his pants

Lutho : I don't have a  
wandering eye

Me : I didn't say you do

He raises his brow as he takes  
his pants off

And he's left in his briefs

Lutho : well , I'm telling you

He pulls my dress off

And I'm a bit somehow getting  
naked in front of him

He cups my small boobs and  
they just fit into his hands

I lift my eyes , and we lock eyes

He leans down and we kiss

My body is betraying me big  
time

I'm glad I'm done with my  
periods

Otherwise I wouldn't even be  
here

Wait ....why did I even mention  
that ?

Lutho : let's take a bath  
anyways , I just want to hold  
you into my arms

I dispute nothing , as he takes  
my hand and we walk to his  
ensuite bathroom

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\*Lutho\*

I lean down giving her a kiss



After a while , I pull back and  
look at her

This is just being born pretty

Even when she wakes up

One thing no one can take  
away from me

Lunar : you're staring

I chuckle

Me : I know

I reach in my pocket , taking  
out my wallet

I take my black card

Me : the meeting will probably  
run for an hour or so , I'll just  
finish up and come back

I hate that I have to go to work  
and she's here

Lunar : okay

Me : you'll be okay right ?

Lunar : yes

Me : please cook for me , take  
the card Uber to the mall . Get

anything , I don't know what's  
in the house .

Lunar : what should I cook ?

I smile

Me : I won't tell you , you'll see  
what you want to cook . I'll text  
you the pin now

Lunar : okay

I give her a kiss and leave

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\*Lunar\*

Since the house was so clean

And I basically had nothing to  
do

I just decided to shower and  
leave

I'm at the mall now

And I don't know what to cook  
to be honest

It's not like I cook everyday

I barely cook at home , cause  
I'm barely allowed to eat

So they cook for themselves

To avoid me eating

I walk to Woolworths anyways

I don't want to go and buy  
groceries at Pick n Pay

For someone who's a prince



And probably doesn't even  
know there's a store called Pick  
n Pay

I walk through , just looking at  
what I can buy

And use to cook

After a while , I finally pick a  
trolley and start shopping

When I'm done , I head over to  
pay

He did send his pin

And I kept it in my head

I pay , and head out

And just looking at the slip I  
shake my head

This is insane

I stop and call him , his phone rings for a bit and he answers

Lutho : Sthandwa sika Mbovu

Look at me smiling

Me : are you busy ?

Lutho : kind of

Me : oh sorry ...

Lutho : it's okay , I'm in a meeting

What ?

I thought maybe the meeting is done or hasn't started

Me : okay , sorry

I drop the call and roll my eyes

He calls right back

Me : hey ...

Lutho : why is the call getting  
dropped on me ?

Me : I didn't know you were in  
your meeting now

Lutho : why did you drop ?

Didn't I just answer him ?

Me : why did you answer your phone , while you're in a meeting ?

He chuckles

Lutho : because you called

Wow !

Lutho : what's wrong ?

Me : nothing ...uhm did you  
see how much I spent on  
groceries ?

He chuckles

Lutho : yeah

Me : did I exceed ?

Lutho : no , you've only spent over a thousand . Go do some shopping , get your hair done . And get something to eat , spend your man's money . Don't worry about limit , enjoy yourself . I'll be home soon

Wonders !



Me : okay

He drops the call with a chuckle

One thing about me , I'll go  
spoil myself

Especially because it was said I  
should , and that's exactly what  
I'll be going to do

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**\*INSERT 11\***

\*Lutho\*

I walk in the bedroom

And she's sleeping

She's not even covered

And it's raining a bit

I've just gotten home now

I took a bit longer than I  
expected

But I called and told her

She didn't even mind

Because she was busy spoiling  
herself

I had to put my phone on do  
not disturb

Just so I stop seeing those bank  
notifications

Women go hard on money

Especially when they've been  
given the free reign

But I don't care

Its just money , more can be  
made

Just as long as she had a great  
day

That's all that matters

I walk over to the bed , taking  
off my shoes

And my suit jacket

I get on the bed , and move the  
fleece covering her

Me : sthandwa sam



She's really asleep

I lean over giving her a kiss on  
her forehead

I lay down cuddling her

Me : I'm back

I caress her cheek with my  
thumb

Me : you need to wake up

She opens her eyes slowly

I smile

Me : wake up , so we can go eat  
I'm hungry

I give her a kiss , and she  
doesn't kiss me back

But I don't stop , until she  
opens her eyes

Lunar : what ?

I chuckle moving back

Me : let's go eat

Lunar : no

Me : please

The kitchen smells so amazing

I don't even know what she  
cooked

But I just want to eat

Me : let's go

I move back sitting on the bed

And I see the shopping bags

And she's even plaited her hair

It fucking suits her

Me : sthandwa sika Mbovu

She opens her one eye smiling

Me : buya (come)

Lunar : you lack peace

I laugh getting up

I pick her into my arms bridal  
style

I walk down

Me : don't fall asleep , I'm  
going to throw you down

She clings her arms around my neck

Me : don't choke me

Lunar : but you didn't have to disturb me

Me : stop ...

I get to the kitchen

And I place her down on the  
kitchen counter

I get in between her thighs ,  
while she's busy rubbing her  
eyes

Me : thank you for cooking , did  
you have a great day ?

Lunar : I did



Me : good

I lean over placing my hands  
around her waist

And I give her kiss , she lazily  
returns it

Until she wakes up fully , and  
she deepens the kiss

Lunar : you said you're hungry

She mumbles through the kiss

Lunar : let me dish

I move back pecking her lips

Me : thank you for cooking

Lunar : don't get food poisoning

I laugh getting her off the  
counter

I sit down , and just watch her  
move around

And it's a damn fucking sight

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**\*Dior\***

I'm supposed to be back at the  
city

Along with Lutho

But I remained behind

And he really doesn't even  
know that

I just wanted to spend time  
with Sana

We're at the house I use when  
I'm around

I don't stay at the palace  
grounds

I've done things

And you might even say I'm still  
doing things

And such energy and aura I  
carry around me

Always gets me in trouble with  
the royal seer

So I stay away from the palace  
as much as I can

That's why I have my separate house

Sana : so I have been thinking

Okay !

That creeps me out

Sana : since now Lutho is dating Lunar , maybe we can tell him about us



Me : no

She frowns

Me : what I mean is ....

Sana : no , like I'm tired of this  
hide and seek . He's also old ,  
and he's dating a high school  
kid

Me : yeah , but you're his sister  
. And I'm his best friend

Sana : honestly I'm tired of  
being hidden , like you're  
ashamed of me

Me : can you just understand  
the dynamics of our  
relationship

Now she's moody

Me : from what I know , and what I've seen . As a royal princess , you're supposed to stay pure until your coming of age or you get married . You're only 18 , I broke your virginity and we've had sex countless times . Those are things we also have to consider , our relationship is going to be a hill . No one will clap hands for us

She sighs

Sana : well , he's your friend .  
He's supposed to side with you

Me : sure , but this is different .  
And his relationship with Lunar  
, doesn't change anything . We  
can't be reckless because of his  
actions , let's put things into  
consideration first my love

I move over and sit where she's seated next to her

Me : I love you , and I want you to know that . I'm not ashamed of you , and I've never been

Sana : I'm sorry

Me : it's okay , I know this is frustrating

I pull her closer

She lays her head on my chest

Me : I love you

Sana : and I love you

This needs me to talk to Lutho

And not just spring it on him

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**\*Lunar\***

I just made samp , with beef  
stew and veggies

I didn't even think he would  
enjoy those

But he did



The man ate his plate , and  
even asked for seconds

I was proud of myself at that  
moment

Lutho : thank you , that was  
amazing . Now I will be  
requesting food , all the time

I slightly laugh

I'm just glad he enjoyed the food

It could have been a disaster

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**\*INSERT 12\***

\*Lutho\*



It definitely cannot be me

But she looks so scared like hell

Me : I can stop

Lunar : no ...don't ...

I cup her face getting in  
between her thighs

Lunar : I'm just scared

Me : I'll be gentle , I won't hurt you

Lunar : you're the crown prince , me and you we shouldn't be doing this

Me : I'm your boyfriend right now , can you just take me as you boyfriend . The guy who loves you , and sees you

beyond being a commoner . No  
tittles whatsoever

She smiles

Lunar : you ....you love me ?

Me : if I'm being honest , I've  
loved you the first time I saw  
you . More like when I touched  
your arm , I felt something I've  
never felt before . And I knew

you were mine , there's just  
something about you I've never  
felt

She locks her legs behind my  
back

And I hump on her , my dick  
laying on her coochie lips

She places her hands behind  
my neck



And I part her coochie lips ,  
sliding one finger inside of her

I capture her lips , slowly finger  
fucking her

She lets out slight moans

And she tries pulling out of the  
kiss

But I pin her down , as her cum  
graces my finger

I slide my finger out , and rub  
my dick on her

I move up , and watch her  
orgasm

I slide my dick slowly , and she  
gasps letting out a scream

As I tear up her walls ,  
stretching her up

She grabs tight on my arms

I lean down thrusting slowly

Me : I'm sorry

She moves her hands from my  
arms , and hugs my back

Me : I'm sorry

I whisper again next to her ear

She nods against my side face

I let out a deep grunt , as her  
moist welcomes me

She's so fucking warm , and  
permitting of missionary

I thrust in slowly

Making sure not to cause her  
pain

I move my face to the side  
capturing her lips into mine

Slowly , she relaxes her body

My dick tightens inside of her ,  
shooting up my cum

I don't dare pull out

I just move back a bit , thrusting  
with the tip of my dick inside of  
her

As she starts feeling pleasure ,  
she lets out sweet moans

I pull out of the kiss , just  
listening to her moans

She increases her moans as an  
orgasm hits her

And she clings tight on my back  
, her body slightly shaking

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\*Lunar\*

I'm in pain



I don't feel well at all

I used to hear my cousin sister

Whatever you want to call her

Talking with her friend

About when she lost her  
virginity

About how she's a woman and  
all of that

But I don't feel proud

I'm burning down there

And I'm tired

Worse I feel sick

I didn't think this whole thing  
hurt so much

Poor man went out to get me  
herbs

And some pain meds

He said I will be fine

But I don't know about that

I don't even want to pee cause  
it's painful

Not to mention how funny I'm  
walking

Now I'm not even wearing a  
panty

Shit is painful on my skin

I'm grateful I didn't bleed much

So there's no need for a pad

I'm wearing his t-shirt

And it's a bit bigger , just  
comfortable for me

Lutho : yeah , I'll see that  
tomorrow . Send me an email ,  
if I get a chance I'll see to it

He drops the call and walks  
over to the bed

His nasty self

He lifts the t-shirt and kisses my  
coochie

I can't help but laugh

Lutho : maybe I should just give  
it to you again

I shake my head

Lutho : you'll feel better

Me : you've already done it  
three times

He laughs

Lutho : I am not counting

Me : well , I am

Lutho : mhm

He slides over moving up

He lays on top of me

Lutho : thank you

I smile



Me : for what ?

Lutho : being here with me , I'll  
always be here . And I want you  
to know , you can always count  
on me

I can't help but feel like behind  
all this , pain will come

I feel like some curse

And honestly nice things never  
happen to me

They're just not meant for me

Lutho : where did you  
disappear to ?

He brings me to , when he  
speaks slightly louder

Me : for what it's worth , I love  
you too Mbovu

I don't know if men blush or  
what

But I'm loving what I'm seeing  
on this man's face

I probably will hate myself after  
this

But I can't deny it

That'll just be lying to myself

I didn't want to admit it

Or say it

But I think it's gone too far now

To a point of having sex now

He's lured me in , and he's  
slowly breaking my coverage  
walls

I wonder if he's even realising  
what he's doing

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\*Lutho\*



I get off the bed slowly

She's asleep

And I'm dreading tomorrow

Because she has to leave

I wish she could stay here for a  
while

I don't think I want to go back  
to the village

I grab my phone and walk over  
to the couch making a call

Dior : yes ...

Me : whatever the fuck you're  
busy doing there , better get  
you ass back here tomorrow



He laughs

Dior : you're mean , your  
woman is leaving it's  
understandable . But man , just  
snuggle her and stop dictating  
me

I chuckle

Me : fuck off

I drop the call , place my phone  
on the small table

I heave a sigh

If only there was a way to get  
her to be closer to me at all  
times

I still have a few years before  
I'm crowned king

And I can't move back to the  
village

My life is here and not there

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**\*INSERT 13\***

**\*Lunar\***



Lutho : I will visit when I can

I nod

Lutho : don't do that , look at  
me

Just knowing I have to go back  
home

Back to that place

And I'm probably going to get  
backlash for leaving

Not being around for a whole  
weekend

While I didn't say

But I know they don't care  
about me

Lutho : talk to me

Me : I .....it's nothing

Lutho : I know it was great  
being here together , but  
there's something else . I didn't  
want to ask , but now I feel I  
should

Me : they don't like me , we  
don't get along



Lutho : they being ?

Me : my aunt step mom ,  
whatever she is . And half  
siblings cousins

He frowns

Lutho : what ?

That doesn't make sense

Me : my dad married my aunt ,  
and he had an affair with my  
mother and I happened . So I'm  
that bastard of a child , they  
don't want

Lutho : where is your mother ?

Me : she passed on

Lutho : I'm sorry

Me : it's okay

He walks over and picks me up

He sits down and places me on  
top of him

We lock eyes

I place my arms around his  
neck

Lutho : don't push me away ,  
I'm here for you . And that's an  
assurance

I smile

Me : I know

Lutho : let's go have lunch

Me : there's no food

Lutho : we're going out

Me : okay

I'm not happy about that

Because there'll be stares there

Lutho : I'll ask for privacy

Me : is that your life ?

He laughs

Lutho : I don't care much , but I  
want you to be comfortable

That has me smitten

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\*Dior\*

Sana : really ?

Me : your brother wants me  
back

Sana : why ?

Me : he's grumpy , you know  
the weekend is over

She laughs

Sana : baby , to be honest I  
thought you were going to stay  
a bit longer



Me : I know , I'm sorry . But  
we'll be back soon , I promise .  
He won't be able to stay away  
from his woman , so we'll come  
back sooner than you think

Sana : lucky her

Me : come on , don't be like  
that

Why is she sulking ?

Sana : I'm just saying , it'll be lovely for you to just come back for me

Me : and what do I say to your crazy brother ?

She sighs

Sana : he just seems to have a lot over you , or should I say on

you . Like you need his  
permission

Me : our thing is complex , and  
I don't expect you to  
understand it . But I'll be back

Women are dramatic

And they start this young

They grow up with this thing

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\*Lutho\*

She's clinging so tight on me

I've brought her home

And I should drive back to the  
city

But the way she's sulking

I don't see that happening

Maybe I'll sleep at home

And leave tomorrow morning

Already I missed a day at work

They're starting exams this  
week

She'll only be going to school  
on Wednesday

And she's only telling me this  
now

I wouldn't have brought her  
back

She would have come back  
tomorrow

But we're here now

And only to return back to the  
city

And have her come back again  
tomorrow

It just doesn't make sense



Me : I thought you'll want to go  
see your father

She shakes her head

Amidst everything she told me  
about her family

I thought maybe the  
relationship with her father is  
better

But clearly not

She's just a child seeking her  
father's love

And hence she will stand by  
him in his time of need

Well , at least that's what I  
think

Lunar : my father doesn't like me , I'm just some affair child he had . And ...that caused troubles in his perfect family . He's never shown me any form or kind of love , he loves his kids with his wife . I'm just an inconvenience to him

She says shaking her head

And I can't miss the pain on her voice

Lunar : besides he's okay , he has your doctor friend taking care of him

Me : I asked Thula to look after him , because of you

Lunar : that's good , then I'm not needed

Me : hey ....

I move her head back

And lift her chin

She looks at me

Me : let's go sleep at the palace  
, I'll drop you tomorrow before  
I leave

She smiles

She's opening up to me

And I appreciate that

As painful as it is

But I don't know what's going  
on in her head

Because I feel like she's having  
so many thoughts

And maybe some are even  
about us

And now with me going to be in  
the city

And her here , maybe she feels  
somehow

She pecks my lips and move  
back to the passenger seat

Me : that's not how you kiss a man

She laughs

Lunar : you do it

I chuckle

Me : it's a form of showing you love



Lunar : can't I do it ?

Me : I feel robbed out of a kiss

She laughs

Lunar : you're dramatic

She leans over , and I turn  
facing her

Our lips grace each other

And we kiss for a while

We slowly pull back

I start the car and drive to the  
palace

I was parked just a few houses  
from hers

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**\*INSERT 14\***

**\*Lunar\***

I look around

And tears just burn my eyes

Like someone was in my hut

They broke my lock

And they've definitely taken  
some of my things

No doubt it's my so called  
mother

Or her kids

I fail to understand why they do  
this to me

I wipe my tears and walk out  
going into the house

I knock and wait for someone  
to respond

After a few knocks , a voice  
responds

I open the door and walk in

I find them all in the kitchen

I greet and they all just keep  
quite

Mom : it must be nice huh !



She's already in her moods so  
early in the morning

Lutho dropped me off , he was  
with his friend

And they left

I didn't even want to bother  
anyone coming into the house

I went for a walk

But I know it's them who broke  
in my hut

Me : my lock is .....

Mom : we don't care to know ,  
that's what happens when you  
leave home for so long . And  
you go out there busy  
gallivanting

Me : I wasn't ...

Mom : people have seen you ,  
and they've seen the car that's  
always picking and dropping  
you off . Look at you , where  
did you get the money to do  
your hair and these clothes that  
you're wearing ? You have  
taken after your dead whore  
mother , you're also busy  
chasing after men . I wouldn't  
be surprised if they are even

married , that's the one thing  
your home wrecking mother  
talented you with

Tears just stream down my face

Anything but bringing my dead  
mother into things that have  
nothing to do with me

I say nothing and turn walking  
out to my hut

I just sit down on the bed and  
cry hysterically

I don't even bother opening my  
eyes when I hear footsteps  
walking in

I wish I had died with my  
mother

One thing about that woman

She loved me

Despite of how I came about ,  
she loved me so much and she  
gave me that love

There was nothing she couldn't  
do for me

And she had to die

She had to die and leave me all  
alone

With no one

What kind of a life is this ?

My phone rings

I know it's Lutho , he's the only  
one who calls me

I open my eyes as the person  
claps hands

And I know it's my aunt

Mom : you have a phone now ?  
All the perks of sleeping with  
married men

I can't even speak to Lutho  
right now



I look like a mess , and my voice  
is rusty

Almost gone

Mom : where did you get that  
phone ? From whatever  
married men you're running  
around with

She walks over and grabs the  
phone before I reach it

And she slaps me so hard for  
that attempt to grab my phone

Mom : mxm ! That's why you're  
so cheeky , you have an  
expensive phone now . Well ,  
you won't get it back

Me : you ....can....t ....take ....my  
....my pho.... Phone

She laughs walking out

I get up holding my cheek

And I follow her into the house  
, but she quickly locks me out

I knock on the door , until my  
knuckles hurt

And they're just laughing inside

I sit down on the small stoep

Tears dry out , and I just hug  
my knees back and forth

Staring at literally nothing

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\*Dior\*



I look at him pacing up and  
down

And this cannot be good

Me : maybe she's sleeping

He looks at me

Lutho : Lunar is a light sleeper

He tries calling her again

And the phone just rings  
unanswered , I don't know for  
the what time now

Lutho : we dropped her this  
morning , she was fine and  
okay . What the fuck could  
have happened ?

I shrug

Cause right now I don't even know what to say

Me : can't you call your sister and ask her to check on her ?

Anything that will get him to calm down

Lutho : I hate this , Lunar really doesn't feel Sana



Me : okay , but this is important  
. At least if she goes there ,  
you'll know what's going on so  
just try

He sighs

Lutho : call her

He hands me his phone and  
walks to the kitchen

He doesn't know I know his  
sister's number by heart

I dial her

Sana : big brother

Me : it's me

Sana : what ?

Me : listen , I need a favour

Sana : why are you calling me with my brother's phone ?

Me : he doesn't know I have your numbers

Sana : what's going on ?

Me : please go check on Lunar , your brother is trying to call her . But she's not answering her

phone , and now it's going to voicemail

Sana : is she okay ?

Me : I don't know , that's why I'm asking for your help

She sighs

Sana : that girl doesn't even like me

I think she exaggerates this

Me : your brother loves her ,  
and he's loosing his mind right  
now

Sana : fine I will go

Me : I owe you big time

Sana : indeed you do , let me go

Me : okay

I drop the call

I just hope she finds her

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\*Lunar\*

I don't think I've ever been this  
tired

Like I've had enough

And I don't have the strength  
for any of this

I just can't

I take the blade and use the  
back gate

I walk out heading to the veld



There are no houses this side ,  
just the fence further

It's basically the end of the  
village on our side

I keep walking until I reach a  
rock

And I'm quite a distance from  
the houses

I see my home from quite a  
long distance

Only the roof of it is visible

I've tried

Lord knows I've tried to be  
happy

But I guess it's just not for me

Nothing ever works out for me

Like nothing

My eyes are all blurry by my  
tears

I can't help but feel like my  
heart is being ripped out of my  
chest

I'm feeling this pain

And there's no pain that's like  
an emotional pain

Because it's something you  
can't do nothing about

Emotional pain damages one

I think I've cried enough , and  
I've been damaged enough

I can't take this anymore

When will I have a bit of light in my life ?

Always when something good happens , there's always bad following it

Just a few minutes home after a great weekend , hell just welcomes me

I just can't anymore

I'm only human , and I've taken  
enough

This pain is just too much for  
me

I take the blade and stab my  
arm right on my wrist

And I run it through my wrist

Just watching blood splash  
through

Like a chicken is being  
slaughtered

Me : I don't want to survive ,  
don't punish me no more . Even  
if I die tonight , I won't mind . I  
just want this pain to stop

I let go of the blade as I feel  
weak

And I just slide down the rock  
and slowly close my eyes

Feeling the blood in my mouth

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**\*INSERT 15\***

**\*Dior\***

I've been friends with this guy  
for years

And not once have I ever seen  
him like this

He's so distraught and just out  
of touch

I don't even know what to say

Sana called last night

And said she's not finding Lunar  
home

And there was nothing we  
could do

So she went back home just like  
that

Only to get a call from her in  
the early hours

Telling us one of the herd boys  
found someone by the veld

Yeah !

It hasn't been a pleasant  
morning at all

One doesn't anticipate to  
waking up to such news

The village is taken by this

And from the whispers

Some are blaming the parents

Beats me how they see a child  
getting mistreated

And they keep quite

But when something like this  
happens

Only they talk

It's just insane to me

Me : you ...

Lutho : can you give me a  
minute ?

I say nothing but get up from  
the chair

When he's like this , sometimes  
it's best to leave him alone

He can be something else



When we went to the royal  
house

Tensions rose , and it didn't  
look like things will go well

I get up and walks outside just  
as my phone rings

Me : baby

Sana : how is my brother ?

She's also crying

I wish I can be with her

But Lutho needs me

I can't have him self destructing

He needs me now more than  
ever

Me : as expected , he's not  
okay

Sana : where are you guys ?

Me : we're coming

Sana : okay

Me : can I bring you anything ?

Sana : I just want you to hold  
me

Me : okay , I'll make time as  
soon as I get there

I drop the call and heave a  
slight sigh

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\*Lutho\*

I walk in the ward and he looks  
at me

He's clearly taken aback seeing  
me in his ward

I asked Thula to move him

So I can see him alone

Without other people inside

Mr Mchunu : my prince ...

He tries to sit up

Me : it's okay

He heaves a sigh

Me : I take it you've heard of  
what happened

News travel fast in this place

Everyone knows everything  
about everyone

Mr Mchunu : sadly I did

Me : I am not a parent , but I  
blame you for all of this

He pops his eyes



Me : balance me , how do you go on and cheat on your wife with her sister . Have a child , and despise that child . The child of your own infidelity , one that you went out there and made yourself ?

He bows his head

Mr Mchunu : this is a complicated matter

Me : the un-complicate it for me then

Mr Mchunu : I love my daughter , no matter what you think or may say . But it has always been hard because of how she came about , and her mother had tried to abort her . But the abortion failed , I swore from that day I'll protect ...

Me : you failed , dismally as a  
father you failed .

He rubs his eyes

Unfortunately I am not in  
anyone's moods today

So his tears won't move me for  
shit

Not today

Me : it's men like you , who  
earn words like my father is  
alive . He's a father to other  
kids , but just not me . He loves  
his other kids , but not me . You  
might as well be dead , I am  
certain you weren't raped nor  
forced to sleep with her mother  
. You did it willingly , and with  
your own feelings . She must be  
turning in her grave , and you  
should be ashamed of the kind

of a father you have been to  
your own child

Mr Mchunu : I ....

Me : no , you can save your  
speeches for someone who  
actually cares to listen to them .  
It's just not me , and I'm telling  
you right now . It's too late ,  
there'll never be fixing your  
failures towards her

He shakes his head slowly

Me : this is a courtesy , I know  
Lunar wouldn't do something  
like this without reason .

Someone pushed her , and  
when I find out who did . Trust  
me , I will not spare anyone . So  
prepare yourself , because you  
will have funerals . I will find  
out , and I will bring your house  
to shambles . I am coming

I turn and walk out of the ward

Just as Dior comes back

Me : let's go

We walk out in silence heading  
to the car

We get in , and he drives out to  
the village

I dread seeing my mother , over  
what happened this morning

But there's no ignoring this

Or running away from it

We arrive at the village

Dior : should I stick around ?



I shrug

Dior : okay , in that case I think I will . Disaster might occur in this palace , and I don't think this is the time for that

I chuckle

As we walk through the main palace

And by the noises , I can tell it's  
not good

I land eyes on her aunt and her  
kids

I look at them with just rage

And the annoyance as the girl  
takes out the damn iPhone 14 I  
bought for Lunar

And she probably doesn't even know how much that shit costs

I chuckle

Dior : bloody ...what's with you village people ?

He scoffs annoyed

He grabs the phone from her and she gasps

Dior : have you no shame ? This is not yours

He clicks his tongue

Dad : boys , enough ! Lutho what's happening ?

Me : what are these people doing here ?

Mom : oh it's all thanks to you ,  
you went out and brought us a  
whole commoner . Now these  
people think we're friends , like  
just imagine . Lutho couldn't  
you find another girl , like  
someone of your statue and all  
. You just had to ...

Me : enough ! Do you think I'm  
concerned about you statue  
and all right now ?

She looks at me popping her eyes

Mom : you cannot address me like that , not in front of these commoners . Had you stayed away from that girl , we most definitely wouldn't be here .

You're a god damn crown prince for heaven sake , what are you doing with people beneath you ? Something must be wrong with you people ,

busy running after commoners  
like you can't find royal women

The atmosphere just changes

My father and his wife

What she said wasn't just  
directed at me

It went to all of them

MaMkhulu gets up and walks  
out

Dior : I think we should go

I look at the aunt and her kids

Me : I will soon come for a visit  
, expect that

Dior : shit ....



He grabs my arm and we walk  
out

Mom : I didn't mean ....

We close the door on our way  
out

Me : let me go see MaMkhulu

He hands me Lunar's phone

Dior : what about those people  
? Clearly they had taken her  
phone , that's why we couldn't  
reach her

Me : yeah , I'll deal with it

He sighs

Dior : I'm here , whatever you  
need . Just don't bottle up

I nod slowly

We part ways as I head to  
MaMkhulu's house

My mother can run her mouth ,  
without even thinking

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**\*INSERT 16\***



**\*A MONTH LATER\***

**\*Lutho\***

Thula : and ?

I look at him

He laughs

Me : what's funny ?

Thula : why are you looking at me like that ?

Me : what did you say ?

Thula : that the baby is okay

I chuckle

It's like he's telling me a story of some sort



Thula : I'm happy about her progress

Me : what progress exactly ?  
When she's still looking like this  
, and in a coma

He laughs

Thula : she moved her toes and fingers yesterday , and she responds to words

Me : I'm no doctor , but you're sounding insane right now .

How does a person respond to words , when they're in a coma ?

Thula : they do , well at least she does

Me : mxm !

Thula : you're going to be a  
father , just cheer up

How do I even begin to do that  
?

When I found out she's  
pregnant , two weeks ago

And she's been in coma for a  
whole month

I moved her into my house

She stayed in hospital for two weeks

And I had her moved

That's when her father also left the hospital

The man hasn't even bothered requiring about his daughter

The wife has just been a pest at  
the palace

Trying to form stupid relations

Like we give a shit about her

Just because they found out I'm  
dating Lunar

Now she's quite down

Cause she had to bury her son

With a head missing , and  
dealing with a case of her  
daughter getting raped

Honestly those people  
provoked me the wrong way

They had no business  
whatsoever to hurt Lunar

And when I snapped , I sure  
retaliated on the kids

I made sure to hit where it  
hurts exactly

She missed her June exams

And that means she'll have to  
repeat the matric year

I just wish she came to me

Or anything

Just anything , but not trying to  
kill herself

She bled too much

Luckily , the blade didn't piece  
her vein



Just missed it by an inch

And she cut only one wrist

I know she was having it hard

I also feel like I failed her just as  
much

To a point she thought taking  
her life was a solution

Instead of just leaning on me

Thula : I'll come check on her  
later

Me : alright

He packs his bag and walks out

He's been coming day and night  
to check on her

Or should I say them now

I can't believe she's pregnant

I know we were reckless

But this is not how I anticipated  
I'll found out I'm going to be a  
father

I haven't been to the village

I haven't seen my parents

I talk to MaMkhulu occasionally

I think she's the one person  
who's keeping me sane

After what transpired with my  
mother

Things haven't been the same  
at home

The other wives are not  
pleased with her

And my father doesn't want to  
hear anything

Because she degraded his other  
wives

Being from royalty runs in her  
head

And she thinks she's better  
than the rest of the wives

And she's not even there

Royalty as she is , she's not the  
only queen

MaMkhulu is queen , the  
rightful queen to the throne .  
The crown queen

My mother is only queen  
because she's married to my  
father

Her royal status gives her  
absolutely nothing

So basically she's holding her  
head high for shit

And nonsense

I don't care about any of them  
right now

I just want my baby to get well

And the rest I'll see to it

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\*Dior\*





I look at her

And she's not even here

Me : do you want to talk about  
it ?

She turns and looks at me ,  
she's changed a lot

Me : come sit down

She wipes her hand and walks  
over sitting next to me

Me : what's wrong ?

A lot of things have just been  
wrong

Having a brother like Dax

I thought I knew a dramatic  
family

But damn !

Nothing I've seen comes closer  
to these royal people and their  
drama

It's just a mess in the royal  
palace

Lutho has shut them out

And this one , she's just all over  
the place

I don't even know what to  
make of her

Sana : have you talked to my  
brother ?

Me : I called him this morning

Sana : how is he ?

Me : as well as can be expected  
babe

She sighs

Me : he's trying his best

Sana : and ....do you think she'll  
wake up , I mean it's been a  
month ?

Me : Lutho , trusts his doctor .  
He's come through for him  
before , he will as well this time

Sana : I don't know

Me : you need to have some  
faith

Sana : how ? Everything is just a  
mess , and the sad thing I think  
everyone is just caught up in

their on things . They have all  
forgotten about me

In such a big family

Of five wives , and more than  
15 something's kids

I don't blame them

And most of the older kids are  
living their own lives



Far away from the palace

Five of them live overseas

And four are in Cape town

While two is in Joburg

And the other three , one is in  
Zimbabwe

One in Mozambique and the  
other in Botswana

Only Njilo , Lutho and Sana are  
here

So they're just scattered all  
over

Sana being the last born , and  
the only child of the queen

Everyone is older than her

Because all the other wives had  
kids before her mother

And the wives are minding their  
own things

Me : I'm sorry you feel that way

Lutho loves his sister

But right now , he's caught up

He can't tear himself in half

Sana : I didn't do well in June , I  
doubt I'm going to get accepted  
anywhere

Me : don't lose hope so fast

I saw those results

I was helping her apply

And to be honest , they're not  
pleasing at all

It's either she will pass , and  
struggle to get accepted

Or she'll pass and have to  
upgrade some of her marks

That's just that

Me : I wish I can take you away  
from here

She smiles

Sana : where to ?

Me : a holiday far away from  
here

She sighs

Sana : I wish that was possible  
too

I pull her closer to me

Me : you'll get through this ,  
trust me

She nods against my chest

I place a kiss on top of her head

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**\*INSERT 17\***



**\*Lutho\***

Me : what ?

Mom : don't what me , what are these people still doing coming to the palace ?

Me : how should I know that ?

Mom : how ? You're asking me , when you're the one hovering over that girl . Lutho are you trying to kill me ? Like why are you still doing this , she's not your problem . But she's her

family's problem , let them deal  
with her

She's shouting

And raising her voice at me

And for what , I just don't get it

Mom : I'm tired now getting rid  
of these people , let that girl go

I drop the call on her

She calls back , I block her  
number

My mother is a lot

And she's dramatic for being  
such a fucking old woman

My phone rings and it's my  
brother

I hope he's not calling me  
because of his mother

Me : what ?

He laughs

Njilo : your mother has you  
riled up

Me : NJ what do you want ?

Njilo : dear brother , I'm coming over . I want to spend a few days at your house , while I close the hospital deal

Me : what hospital deal ?

Njilo : well , I sent the bid to supply the hospital with meds

I chuckle with a slight scoff

Me : great !

He laughs

Njilo : mock me all you want

Me : stay out of my way though

Njilo : you know me , you won't  
ever know I'm there



Me : sure

Njilo : I'll see you ...say  
tomorrow

Me : bye

I drop the call

Worst time to have anyone in  
my house

I don't even have Grace coming  
in

I gave her paid leave

I don't even know if there's  
even such a thing

Especially with helpers

But that's what's happening  
right now

My only focus is on my woman  
getting better

Nothing else

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\*Lunar\*

Me : are you sure ?

He smiles

Thula : yes

I can't believe this

I'm hooked to drips and all

And the machine , that he just  
removed

Like does even God hate me so  
much

That he wouldn't let me die , at  
my own hand

I was so sure I was definitely  
dying

But now , here I am

And I don't know what's  
happening

Not only that , but the doctor  
tells me I'm slightly 4 weeks  
pregnant

What the fuck is that ?

How do I bring a child in my  
fucked up life ?

Like , with a life like mine

I'm carrying a baby

What's going to happen to this baby ?

I'm not even ready to be a mother

Do I even want to be a mother ?

Hell no !



Why couldn't I just die

I wouldn't be here , nor would  
this baby be here

Me : does he know ?

Thula : yes , he was around  
when I detected

I am screwed

Unless we can both agree that  
no baby

Cause what the fuck ?

Did he have to get me pregnant  
though ?

I don't think so

Thula : I called him , he will be  
here soon

I just nod

I see I'm in his house

Catered like I'm in hospital

I woke up , and I was lost as  
fuck

Until he walked in , and  
everything just came back

I'm such a failure in this life

I've even failed to kill myself

Like really ?

How hard can it be to die ?

Unless I really failed , because  
that's just me

Me : can I please bath ?

Thula : of course

He helps me off the bed

And helps me walk to the  
bathroom

He walks out , I lock the door  
and take the gown off

I take a shower instead of a  
bath

This is one of the spare rooms

But I find everything I need

I guess it was prepared for such

I get out of the shower , dry  
and lotion

I put on sweatpants and a  
baggy t-shirt

I slide on new slippers I find

Walking out of the bathroom

The bedroom door opens

Thula is sitting down on the  
couch

And the queen walks in

I thought it was Lutho

But what is his mother doing  
here ?

Thula acknowledges her

I can't bend , she will just have  
to forgive me



Queen Nandi : oh my son ,  
please as you were

He gets up

Queen Nandi : I am so happy to  
see you awake

Like really ?

Queen Nandi : how are you  
feeling ?

I never know how to answer  
that question

Me : I am well

Queen Nandi : that's good ,  
please doc can we have a  
minute ?

Thula : of course my queen ,  
but please she needs to rest

She smiles

Queen Nandi : I'll be quick , I  
promise

He walks out with my file

Queen Nandi : standing in the  
presence of your queen

Okay !

The tone has changed and the facial expression

Queen Nandi : but what can we expect from a commoner

This woman didn't come here with peace

Queen Nandi : you have brought me and my family ,

nothing but misery . Now your commoner mother thinks she's something of us , go home and tell her your plan has failed .

My son is a full blue blood , he's the next king . He will marry a queen , a whole royal queen .

Not some peasant , go to people on your level . You're a child , and you clearly can't handle pressure . You'll never survive , being part of the royal family . Bare and keep that in

mind , leave my son alone . Go  
morn your dead brother , and  
be a shoulder to cry on for your  
sister who suffered a  
misfortune of rape

Wow !

I am so lost

Queen Nandi : how much will it  
take for you to leave my child ?

She reaches in her bag , and  
takes out a cheque book

Queen Nandi : I took a chance  
coming here , and look how  
well that worked . You're  
awake , and well . You can go  
back to your family , and leave  
my son alone . So name your  
price

Who does this woman think I am ?

Queen Nandi : it's money you want right ? That's why you're with him , for his money and the royal riches . Well , this should make up to it . And I want you to break up with him , and leave him alone

She writes on the book , and tears out a cheque



She hands it to me

A whole 500K to leave her son

Like wow !.

Okay !.

Queen Nandi : I hope me and  
you understood each other , I  
see he's not around . I came

here to speak some sense to  
him , but things worked even  
better

She turns and walks towards  
the door

She looks at me as she touches  
the handle of the door

Queen Nandi : when he gets  
here , I wasn't even here

She gets out

I look at the cheque , and heave  
a sigh sitting down on the bed

With the cheque in my hand

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\*INSERT 18\*



**\*Lunar\***

He walks in , and I lift my eyes  
looking at him

He smiles

And I'm like , damn I missed  
this man

Lutho : Sthandwa sika Mbovu

He walks over to me

Lutho : I can't be dreaming like this , right ?

I smile , and just getting overwhelmed by emotions

Lutho : why would you wanna hurt me like this ?

I frown

But I'm seeing the pain on his  
face as he looks into my eyes

He leans down giving me a hug

I inhale his scent , and hug him  
back

With tears streaming down my  
face

Me : I'm sorry



He picks me up and places me  
up on the counter

Lutho : was it that hard you  
couldn't even rely on me ?

Me : I can take anything , and I  
mean anything . But not when  
my dead mother is being  
thrown on my face , I  
understand they hurt my aunt .

I get that , but why am I  
suffering for that ? I didn't do  
anything to them , I didn't ask  
to be born into this . My dad  
did this , he did this . He's the  
one who went out and cheated  
, but even he can't stand up for  
me ....

I just break down , and he holds  
me into his arms

I hate this

I'm breaking down

And I feel like I'm losing  
myself

I'm losing who I am

And I'm letting this man inside

Someone I can't even have

With odds now clearly against  
us

His mother will definitely do  
whatever to break us up

There's the issue of the baby

All this is just a lot

He picks me up and walks up to  
his room

He lays me down on the bed ,  
and he gets next to me

He snuggles me closer to him

Rubbing his hand on my back

I just let my tears flow silently

After a whole minutes of  
silence

And my tears drying on my face

Me : there's a baby

I move and get on top of him

He smiles

Lutho : apparently

I laugh

Lutho : where did you get the  
baby ?

I shrug

Lutho : I found out two weeks  
back

Me : yeah ?

Lutho : I don't get where you found the baby , cause you were in a coma

Me : our stranger ?

Lutho : we'll help him or her , with shelter and basic life needs

What the hell ?



I laugh

Me : what ?

Lutho : yeah , just because  
we're nice people . And there's  
nowhere we can take this  
stranger now

Jesus

Me : you want the baby ?

He nods

Lutho : I couldn't be happy when I found out , I was worried about you . I just wanted you , now that you're here I'm more than happy . I'm going to be a father to someone , even though I don't know the stranger . But I'm more than happy

Mhm-mhm

I guess I'm the only crazy one

Me : I don't think I'm ready

Lutho : I'm here , and we'll get through this together

Me : yeah ?

Lutho : yeah , first time parents  
. We'll learn as we go along ,  
and we won't be perfect . But  
you don't run away from being  
a parent

Me : okay

I lean down , giving him a kiss

He kisses me back

Lutho : did you miss me in  
death ?

I laugh moving back

This is not funny

It's not a joke

Lutho : cause I was dying ,  
missing you here everyday

Me : Mbovu that wasn't nice

He chuckles

And closes his eyes briefly

Lutho : don't ever do that shit  
ever again

He says with such a calm voice

But there's just something  
scary behind it

I nod like a 5 year old

Lutho : were you going to find a  
boyfriend there ?

No !

This is getting out of hand , can  
we just move

Me : I missed you , you didn't want to talk to me . Only your friend did , but you talked to him . And the stranger

He laughs

Lutho : I was angry at you

Me : I am sorry



Lutho : you could have come to  
me , called me to come get you

....

He shakes his head

I realise just how I acted in the  
spur of a moment

And I didn't think about  
anything at that moment

Lutho : what happened that day ?

I heave a sigh

Me : I got home , and my hut was broken into . They took some of my things , and I went in the house to ask . I knew it was them , but my aunt or Mom whatever . She said some harsh words , I'm used to that . But she mentioned my mother ,

and that's what broke me .  
Because I don't understand  
why I'm paying for my parents  
sins , I'm not the one who  
cheated on her . I left and went  
into my hut crying , she came  
and you called . She took my  
phone as I was trying to reach it  
, I tried taking it from her and  
she slapped me . Said I'll never  
get it , I just couldn't . I don't  
understand why can't I just  
catch a break , like haven't I

had enough ? There's only so  
much I can endure , I am only  
human

He looks at me and wipes my  
tear

Lutho : you have cried and it's  
enough now , I'm here let me  
be here

I nod

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\*Lutho\*

Me : are you in any pain ?

She shakes her head

I lean down taking the  
sweatpants off

She takes her t-shirt off

I laugh

Me : what are you doing ?

Lunar : helping you

I chuckle sliding her panty off

Me : in death , where were you going to get this ?

Lunar : stop mocking me

I get up and take my clothes off

I get on the bed on my knees ,  
parting her legs

I get in between her thighs ,  
and bury my head down kissing  
her coochie



I part her coochie lips

And flick her clit with my  
tongue

I slide my index finger in her  
open , finger fucking her slowly

She lets out slight moans

I suck and nibble on her clit

She brings her thighs together  
pushing me back as she  
orgasms

I lick her cum bringing my face  
up

I rub my dick on her coochie ,  
she lifts her head

We lock eyes as I slowly slide  
through

And her walls close in on me ,  
hugging tight on my dick

I thrust through , with half of  
my dick buried inside of her

She grabs on the sheets , as I  
pick up my pace

It's been a long fucking month

I didn't even think about sex

And now , I'll fucking relieve all  
of that tension

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**\*INSERT 19\***

**\*Lunar\***



Me : wait .....wait ....

I push him back panting , as he  
deep grunts

I bring my thighs together , as  
an orgasm hits me

With drops of his cum dripping  
on my coochie to my thigh

He parts my legs

Placing his hands on my knees

Me : baby ....

He shakes his head with a smile

Why are we having sex ?

Shouldn't we wait for me to  
fully come back from the dead  
?



He moves back and drags me to  
the edge

He lifts my legs up to his  
shoulder

As he slides through , and he  
just pounds in

I let out a scream of pleasure

Me : fuck .....

I think this is how I got bones  
inserted inside of me

He's just hitting the right spots  
with this position

Just making me feel foreign  
feelings

Pleasure all over my body

I close my eyes as tears stream  
down to the side of my face

It's just pleasure

He takes in deep thrusts , going  
in harder

I feel like I'm being poked far

Me : shit ....it's so deep ...

I move up and try to push him  
back

He grabs my arms and pins me  
down

Laying my legs on my stomach

I let out a scream

This is painful but so fucking  
good

He leans down and we kiss

As I feel his dick twitching  
inside of me.

And his groans and grunts just  
send me off

I orgasm

Lutho : I love you so much

I hug him tight

Me : I love you

He lifts his head and looks at  
me

Lutho : do that shit again , and I  
won't welcome you back with

sex . It won't be this nice , we'll  
have serious problems

I've apologised

Me : your mother wants us to  
break up

Lutho : what ?

Me : she came here , and said  
her piece . She then went on ,

to give me 500K to break up  
with you . You can tell her ,  
that's not happening . I'm going  
to take that money and buy a  
car , and buy pads donate them  
to the school . And I'm creating  
a nursery for that stranger ,  
right here in your house . He or  
she won't have space at my  
home

I push him off of me , and it's a  
struggle



But as he falls on the side

I get up and run to the toilet to  
pee

I close my eyes the way it's so  
relieving

He opens the door and I'm like  
what the hell ?

Me : what ?

Lutho : I'm sorry , I didn't know she did that

I wipe myself and flush the toilet

Me : your mother is evil , you're not a child . What exactly is she protecting you from , like you're 18 ? And incapable of

making your own decisions ,  
unless she knows who's good  
enough to be with you

Lethu : you're good enough for  
me

I smile

Me : then you tell her what I  
said

I walk past him and he follows  
me

He leans against the door frame

Lutho : you know how to drive  
?

I shake my head laughing

Stupid right ? I know , but I'm  
getting a car

Me : that's why you're here ,  
you'll teach me . But I'm buying  
that car as in like tomorrow

I honestly just want to piss his  
mother off

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\*Lutho\*



Me : talk to your wife , before  
she starts pissing me off

Mom : don't you dare ....

She raises her hand to slap me

But he grabs her arm

Dad : what are you doing ?

Mom : you're going to act like you didn't hear , how he just talked to me ?

Dad : he talked to me , unless I'm the wife now

She yanks her arm from him

Me : you don't get to come to my house , and bribe my girlfriend to break up with me



She clenches her jaws

Mom : she should bring my money back , because she's clearly stupid

Me : good luck , and I'm glad to know that her loving me is stupid . I guess according to you , I don't deserve to be loved

Mom : you can't call this love ,  
she's just ....

Me : no , she used you . If you  
were so smart as you claim ,  
you wouldn't have given her  
half a million . Because now ,  
you'll never get it back . You  
should have known , you pissed  
her off

My father just shakes his head

Dad : you came here , and I  
thought we can talk about you  
taking over

Me : get your house in order

Mom : you cannot be wanting  
Lutho to take over the throne ,  
while his head is all over the  
place . That girl ....that  
commoner will never be queen

! Not in this kingdom , and as long as he's with her he won't be crowned

I chuckle

Me : says the royal princess that's not a queen , and a commoner is

My father drags her as she charges for me

No !

My mother is dramatic

And she thinks she can hit me

Like really ?

Me : go on , hit me . This is the  
royal behaviour , even  
commoners don't act this way

She wiggles herself from my father and walks out

Dad : this is tiring , you're taking over . I am tired

And with that being said , he just walks out

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**\*Lunar\***

I've been studying this K53  
thing

Considering I've never really  
been slow on anything

I've gone and booked to write  
the learners

That's in two weeks



Hopefully I'll be ready by then

I wasn't kidding when I said I'm  
buying a car

I won't even bother myself with  
school

I'll await , and go back next  
year

And I'll attend here in the city

Nothing hurt me like waking up

And finding out that my father  
was released from the hospital

And he just went home

That man didn't even bother ,  
like not even once

To come and see me

Like that hurt

While I went to see him almost  
everyday

I'm tired

And I'm done trying

Voice : Lux ...

Says a voice from the lounge

And a lookalike of Lutho walks  
in

Him : oh hi there

Me : hi

Him : you must be .....the so  
called commoner girl dating the

crown prince . And driving the  
3<sup>rd</sup> queen insane

He laughs sitting down

He curves his lips with a smile

And that's creepy

Like very creepy

Him : I'm Njilo , Lux's brother

Me : call him Lutho , or  
whatever . But Lux is a soap ,  
that just sounds so wrong

He laughs

Njilo : feisty , I'm gonna like you

Unfortunately , I don't think I'll  
like him

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**\*INSERT 20\***

**\*Lunar\***



Why is he not coming back ?

It's getting late now

And I'm in the house with this  
creepy guy

Brother or not

He's making me feel uneasy

I call him , and his phone  
doesn't go through

Me : Damnit Lutho !

Why didn't he even tell me his  
brother is coming here ?

I try again , and still the same  
results

I heave a sigh

I sit down on the bed

The door opens and I'm on my  
feet in seconds

Me : I've been call....

He walks in

And my heart pounds

Like always when there's shit  
that's about to happen

Your heart just gets uneasy

And you just have that feeling

This is it right now for me

Me : what do you want ?

He laughs

Njilo : come on , let's not play around . You can't possibly be in love with my brother , he's way too old for you . A whole 12 years age difference , you're 18 and he's 30 . There's no love

here , but I don't want you  
either . I just want a piece , and  
then you can continue with him  
. It's not that deep , it's just  
money after all

Me : come anywhere near me  
and I swear ...

He laughs walking closer , I  
stand still without moving an  
inch

My heart just pounding so hard

Njilo : what mmmmm ?

He grabs me , placing his hand  
on my neck

Njilo : don't fight it

He rips my t-shirt , and pushes  
me on the bed

I can't believe Lutho brought us  
his psycho brother in this house

Unless he doesn't know that  
he's here

I lean over as he lowers his  
pants

I grab the lamp side , and as he  
gets on top of me



I smash it against his head ,  
blood spills and he falls over

I crawl on top of him , just  
bashing him over and over with  
the lamp

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\*Lutho\*

I walk in on one distraught sight  
in the bedroom

She's crying , and just bashing  
him

I walk over and pull her , she  
hits me on the arm with the  
lamp

Before she throws it down , I  
pull her to my chest

As she breaks down and just  
wails

I draw my gun , and just shoot  
him

He's already dead , but I'm just  
doing it

So she can think I'm the one  
who killed him and not her

Lunar : I called you .....I called  
you ....

And now she's hitting me on  
my chest

I just let her be

I left my phone in the car

And it's dead

I wasn't carrying a charger with  
me

And I'm not a fan of car charges

I pick her up and walk out of  
the bedroom

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\*Dior\*

This is a mess

He called me

And I get here , his only brother  
is dead

Like what the fuck ?

And to hear Lunar is the one  
who killed him

This is just unbelievable



Me : we can call this in , it was self defence . He was trying to rape her , she was protecting herself . You shouldn't have shot him , cause how the fuck will we explain that shot ?

Lutho : we're not calling this in , I'll clean this shit . And it'll be like he disappeared off the face of the earth

Me : with the royal seer you  
have ?

Lutho : he can't do shit , I'm his  
next king

This is fucked up

No lies

Me : so you're covering up this  
murder ?

Lutho : you shall never utter this , take it to your grave . My woman will never be told she killed , I killed not her . And this is no murder

I sit down next to him

He called Thula to come and give her a shot

She was just so hysterical and  
couldn't stop crying

Lutho : now it all makes sense

I look at him

Lutho : why she's always  
pushing people away , not  
making friends . And just  
keeping to herself

Something has changed right  
now

Everything just feels so  
different

Lutho : people fuck you up

Shit !

Me : what's up ?

He looks at me

And I know shit is about to hit  
the fan

Lutho : you know I've always  
known , I thought maybe you'll  
be a friend enough and just tell  
me . But no , everyone around  
me just fucks me over . My best  
friend , that's like a brother to  
me is fucking my sister . And  
my mother is busy bribing my

woman , to break up with me .  
And my brother fucking went  
on to try and rape my woman .  
Everyone , just everyone  
around me is just fucking me  
over

Me : man ....

Lutho : did you have to go for  
my sister , how did it feel when  
you looked at me everyday ..  
staying at the village , knowing

it's all for her . And not once ,  
not once did you even think of  
telling me . Why did you even  
go for my sister ?

Me : I wanted to , I tried so  
many times . I just couldn't

Lutho : get out

Me : what ?



Lutho : you heard me Dior , get  
the fuck out

Shit !

I get up

Me : for what it's worth , I am  
sorry . I love her , and ...

Within a second he's up and  
punches me so hard

I spit , and it's blood

Lutho : leave !

I look at him

He's angry right now

This is not worth fucking up our  
friendship

Me : I'm sorry man

I grab my car keys and walk out

I get into my car and text Sana

I drive out

She'll probably flip

But it's best she knows that he  
knows

And apparently he's always  
known

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**\*INSERT 21\***

**\*Lunar\***

It's middle of the night

And I'm alone in bed

He's sitting on the couch

We're not in the main bedroom

This is one of the spare rooms

And it's downstairs

They're decorated different to  
the ones upstairs

I look at him

And there's a glass of whiskey  
next to him

I'm many things I believe

But I'm not stupid

He didn't kill his brother

I did



When he dragged me off of him

That guy wasn't breathing

He was badly hurt and bleeding  
everywhere on his head

I know that

I get up

He looks at me

I walk over to the bathroom

I pee and wash my hands

I move over and wash my face  
with cold water

I walk back in the bedroom

Me : I will hand myself over to  
the police

He takes a sip of his whiskey

Lutho : leave that stranger  
behind , when you do that

Mxm !

Me : let's be realistic , my prints  
are all over his body

Lutho : and who will find them  
?

Oh no !

Me : what did you do with his  
body ?

Lutho : you don't need to know  
that

He finishes the whiskey

Me : let me take the blame for what I did , I don't want you to resent me for what I did . He was your brother , and one day you'll throw the fact that I killed him in my face

That leaves a stinging pain on my chest

Lutho : I shot him

Me : we both know that bullet  
went to a cold body

I don't think I'm normal

How do I kill a person

And I'm still here standing and  
talking

Like I'm in my sane mind

Shouldn't I be spooked

And out of my mind

Lutho : he wanted to rape you

Me : Mbovu ...

Lutho : no mother of my child  
will go to jail

Me : we can argue the self  
defence

I don't know

I've read somewhere about  
such things

Lutho : how do we argue me  
shooting him ? Post mortem  
will show , he didn't die from



the bullet . And he was already  
dead , when he got shot

I just slide down and tear up

What the fuck have I done ?

I've killed this man's brother

And now I've made him cover  
up my crimes

I should have died

I should have died and none of  
this would have happened

Why is so much bad luck just  
following me around ?

When will I get a break from  
everything ?

I am so tired

I am really tired

And right now , I'm not grateful  
for anything being alive

Just look at the mess I've  
created

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**\*Dior\***

Sana : he knows ?

Her panic is not helping me  
right now

It's just making things worse

My phone rings and it's my  
brother

Me : Cage

Dax : that guy won't do shit to  
you

He dislocated my fucking jaw  
with that punch

I didn't think it was that bad

Until I had to go to the ER last  
night

Me : you don't ....

Dax : trust me , if he wanted to hurt you he would have long done it when he found out . The fact that he knew and kept quite , means this hurt him . He expected you to tell him , he thought maybe you're that loyal . But now , you've just proven you're not . And he's had time to deal with this shit , and he's over it . The honest

truth is , both you and his sister  
mean shit to him right now

Fuck !

Me : you can't say that

Dax : I won't lie to you , I may  
not know him . But he's moving  
like a damn criminal right now ,  
he has moves and he's  
definitely not stupid



Lutho goes deep

Me : yeah thanks , let's talk  
later

Dax : sure , hope you didn't  
loose sleep over this

He drops the call

I shake my head

I didn't sleep a wink

Sana : how am I going to face  
my brother ?

She wanted him to know

And now he knows

She should be happy

But right now , I'm just asking  
myself if this relationship is  
worth loosing a friend like him

Sure I love Sana

But is it that deep ?

And why was I such a fool

Like I really let my gut down  
this time

Lutho spent 6 years in the  
midst of the Russian mobs

That's how I met him

Because I was representing  
them

This was before I moved to  
South Africa permanently

How did I think I can hide this  
from such a guy ?

That was very stupid from my  
side

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\*Lutho\*

We barely slept

Honestly I'm feeling like shit  
right now

Like I care about nothing

But walking in the kitchen

I see the bag

I raise a brow looking at her

And she's having cornflakes

I walk over and place a kiss on  
her cheek

I move to the drawer and take  
out a spoon

I sit down next to her , and eat  
with her

We eat in silence until the bowl  
is almost finished



Lunar : you're finishing the milk

Me : there's tons of milk where  
this one came from

She looks at me

Lunar : how much is a litre of  
milk ?

Me : uhm ...

Shit !

I shrug

Lunar : R17

Me : okay so

Lunar : imagine wasting R17 ,  
on one bowl of cornflakes

eaten by three people . Just  
because you can flex

Me : irrelevant

Lunar : ah !

I'm still like where the fuck is  
the bag going ?

I'm welcomed by a bag so early  
in the morning

In my house

No , I shouldn't be provoked  
like this

Especially when I've done  
nothing to no one

She grabs her bowl and finishes  
eating alone

Me : what's all this ?

She looks at her bag

Lunar : oh I'm leaving

Like hell she is

I get up

Me : Okay , leave the stranger  
behind

I get up , and kiss her on her  
forehead

I place the spoon in the sink

And jog upstairs

Right now I feel like maybe I  
need a new house

I don't think we'll ever be comfortable in this house

Especially that room

Maybe getting a new house is not such a bad idea

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**\*INSERT 22\***





**\*Lunar\***

Maybe I am crazy

Or I didn't hear him well

Did he just say ....

No !

Like how is that even possible ?

I get up and walk upstairs

He's in his study

I walk in , as the door is not closed

Me : what do you mean I should leave the baby ?

Lutho : I mean exactly that

Me : and what's that ?

Lutho : I won't stop you if you want to leave , it's fine . You're an adult , you can make your own decisions

Me : you're not answering me

He looks at me

Lutho : you can go , but leave  
the stranger

Me : how am I supposed to do  
that ? Should I cut myself open  
?

Lutho : do whatever works

No !

This is devil testing me

Me : what ?

Lutho : I can't stop you , so it's fine . But like I said , leave the stranger . This stranger is ours , not just yours . And you can't take away my rights , strip me naked . Just because you're the one carrying the stranger in your womb , as the father I also

have a say . So please , let me  
have that

I have never heard of this

Me : do you see what's  
happening ?

He shrugs

Me : your mother doesn't want  
us together ...

Lutho : so now you want to make her happy ? Honestly , all you said is that you're leaving . You didn't say you're breaking up with me

Me : I am not , but ...

Lutho : no buts

Oh my gosh !



Me : what about the ordeal  
that happened in this house ? I  
can't stay in this house

Lethu : yeah , we were going to  
talk . I was going to suggest  
that we move , we can move to  
the hotel while we look for a  
house

Me : really ?

Lutho : yeah

Me : and ...you and your friend  
?

He clenches his jaw

Drowsy as I was yesterday

I heard them arguing

And I know the relationship  
might be ruined

He can't be okay

Me : we have a lot going on , I  
may not understand your point  
in this . But your sister is not a  
baby

He chuckles

Lutho : she's not a baby ? What is she ?

He must not start with me

Me : okay ! You're being a hypocrite right now , just because I don't have an older brother who gives shit about me . And won't be punching you , or calling you out . You think you dating an 18 year old is fine , just because it's you .

But when someone else does the same to your sister , it's wrong . What makes it right to you ?

He sighs

Lutho : I'm not fighting with you

Me : do you hear me fighting ?

Lutho : Sana is a princess , she was supposed to stay pure until her coming of age ceremony .

I laugh annoyed

Me : you royals are just full of nonsense , there's nothing special about your sister . You took my virginity , I am definitely not 21 . Do you see me whining about it ? No ! So please , Dior didn't force

himself on your sister . She saw  
it fit , to open her thighs to your  
best friend . Because she  
wanted to

I turn and walk towards the  
door

I look at him holding the door

Me : this whole thing of your  
sister , just stop it . Because

there's absolutely no difference between Dior and you , or Sana and I . Unless you think I'm not worth the same courtesy , of waiting until the coming of age ceremony . Just because I'm not a royal princess

I walk out and head back downstairs

Sana and Dior is just an unnecessary drama



As if we don't have enough  
drama going on right now in  
our lives

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\*Lutho\*

I look at my phone ringing

I watch it until it stops

She calls again

And I switch off my phone

I really don't think I want to talk  
to Sana right now

I don't even want to hear  
anything she wants to say

I get up and walk in the kitchen

She's not in here

I grab a bottle of water from  
the fridge

I take a few sips and walk in the  
lounge

She's watching cartoons

I chuckle and walk over to  
where she's seated

She's sitting down on the floor

I sit down next to her and lay  
down on her thighs facing her

I place my hand around her  
tummy , slightly laying my head  
on her tummy

Me : I wasn't insinuating that she's better than your , or worth more than you . That's not what I was saying

Lunar : quite frankly , you can just spare me all of this

Me : kodwa (but) sthandwa sika Mbovu , I wasn't even comparing the two situations

Lunar : they're the same are they not ? You kept quite knowing this , and you dealt with it in your heart . And in the end , you knew it'll be easy to write Dior off , because you've dealt with this betrayal you think he's done . Does the same goes for your sister ?

I lift my eyes looking at her

Lunar : no , have you cut her off like you have your best friend ?

I keep quite

Lunar : you're just being a hypocrite right now , Sana is not a baby . Just like I made a choice to be with a man older than me , and have sex with him . She also made hers , your sister is a lot of things . And being a saint , is not one of



them . The day you found me there , all she wanted was to be with her man so they can fuck . She enjoys the mature dick , and she loves it . So please , I swear after this if you speak about Sana and Dior again I will burst . Because you want to blame the man for all this alone , your sister also could have told you . But she didn't , so she and Dior are the same . But everyone keeps their lives to

themselves when they want to ,  
I don't want anyone knowing  
I'm pregnant . And so I'm not  
going to go around  
broadcasting that , and you  
better help me . Not even your  
family , especially after what  
your mother did

Yhoh !

Me : okay , I won't tell anyone

Right now it's not even like  
there's anyone I can tell

Me : I wish you can stay in here  
forever , to stay safe and  
protected . And just away from  
this big bad world , such pure  
souls don't deserve this . Stay  
in here for as long as you can ,  
this way mommy will keep you  
safe ...

Lunar : stop scaring the baby

I chuckle

Me : I'm bring realistic

Lunar : yhoh !

Me : can you book at a hotel for us , an ensuite . And see if there are no house listed on the market . So we can start

looking for a house , book for at  
least two weeks at the hotel

I don't get an answer

But she brushes her hand on  
my head

I know I was heard

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**\*INSERT 23\***

**\*Lunar\***

Lutho : you're not going back ?

Me : no

I don't want to go back there

And only be mistreated again



Now I have this baby I have to  
think about

It's no longer about me alone

And Lutho seems to love this  
baby of his so much

If anything was to happen to  
this baby

I don't know what would  
happen

Maybe that would even be the  
end of us

Rather I stick around

Until I figure out what to do

Lutho : okay

Me : I got the pads , and they'll be delivered today

I've put the whole learners thing on hold

With what happened , that's the last thing my focus is on right now

Lutho : I am proud of you

Me : if I can help , I'd gladly do it . I don't want another girl to go through what I did , especially when I can help . The royal queens money , is coming in handy

He laughs

And I'm thinking he'll be offended , because at the end of the day she's still his mother

Lutho : you should start a project of some kind , I'll fund you

Me : really ?

Lutho : yeah , you have time now . And you're just home , you can use that and help

I smile

Me : thank you , but I was  
thinking I should attend  
therapy

I heave a sigh shaking my head

Me : maybe something is  
wrong with me , I don't even  
feel bad or traumatized about  
what I did

Lutho : therapy ?

Me : yes

Lutho : and you're okay with  
telling a therapist what  
happened ?

Me : Dior is a lawyer , get him  
to draft an NDA .

He laughs

Me : I'm not making a joke

Lutho : mhm , so are we finding a house ? We can't stay in the hotel forever , and stranger needs a home

Me : don't call the baby that

Lutho : I don't know the baby



Yhoh !

Its his baby , he's the one who  
put him in me

Me : I don't intend to do  
cohabitation

Lutho : then let's get married , I  
am taking the throne after all  
..sooner than I expected

Me : what ?

He sighs

Lutho : when I went home , my father said he wants to step down . I swear , out of his five wives my mother is driving that man insane . And he's just had enough , he doesn't want to be king anymore . He said he just wants to step down , and move from the palace

Okay !

This I didn't expect

I guess he couldn't even tell me

Because of what happened  
when he came back

Lutho : we're having this  
person now , and maybe I'm

rushing the marriage thing . But  
it's not like it wasn't going to  
happen anyways

This is a lot

Me : are you not supposed to  
marry a royal princess or  
something ?

That would make his mother  
happy

He smiles

Lutho : no , I am supposed to  
marry you

I laugh

Me : this is a lot , and if you're  
going to be king are you not  
moving to the palace ?

Lutho : I won't live there full time , king or not I still have my life . We're getting a house , one that we will call our home

He seems to have all this thought out in his head

Me : can we wait a bit

Lutho : yeah , I will be ready when you are

Marriage is something else

And this one just popped up  
out of nowhere

It's just a spur of the moment  
thing

I can't just fly with the wind

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\*Lutho\*



I'm at the palace

I didn't want to leave Lunar  
alone

But she said she'll be fine

She won't go anywhere

My father called

And I so hope this is just him

And not the royal seer having  
something to do with this

Voice : bhuti (brother)

I turn and she's rushing after  
me

I stop and look at her

Sana : I ....

Me : I don't want to hear  
anything you want to say

Sana : I am so sorry , it just  
happened and ....and ...

Me : get away from me Sana ,  
before I slap you

She moves back tearing up

She knows I don't hesitate to  
beat her , and I won't even now  
. I don't want to talk to her

Sana : I am sorry ....

Me : we're not friends , if I tell  
you something just do that

She looks down wiping her  
tears

And she turns walking away

Me : nxl !

I continue walking to the  
throne room

And my father is with  
Zanemvula the royal seer

He burps like crazy as soon as I  
walk in

He better shut his mouth

Me : Ndabezitha (my king)

He nods

I walk over and sit down

Zanemvula is busy making  
these groaning sounds of his

Me : something bothering you ,  
eyes of the gods ?

He lifts his eyes and looks at me

Zanemvula : my prince

I chuckle looking at my father

Dad : uhm ....I want to know if you're willing to take over now , you never gave me an answer

Me : I am dealing with a personal crisis , but so long you can prepare

Dad : okay , thank you for doing this . I called the seer here , so he can advice



Zanemvula : the gods have  
never been against the rule of  
the prince my king

My father smiles

Dad : that's what I like to hear

Zanemvula : if you may excuse  
me

Dad : you're excused

He gets up

Zanemvula : my prince please  
come see me before you leave

Me : okay

He walks out

Dad : this tension with your  
mother ...

Me : that's what she wants , I am marrying Lunar . All I'm waiting for , is just for her to give me the go ahead . And I'll send a delegation , there's no royal princess I'll marry here . Already the queen of this kingdom , is not of royal blood . So that doesn't work , and your wife can't use that card on me . I love Lunar , and she will be Indlovukazi (queen) here

He sighs

Me : with your support or not ,  
but just know I won't take your  
throne if my wife will not be  
accepted to wear that queen  
crown . So we both can make  
decisions , and just know mine  
will depend on yours

I get up

Me : you will let me know your  
decision my king , and we can  
continue

I bow my head slightly and walk  
out

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**\*INSERT 24\***



**\*Lunar\***

It's been a few days

And honestly , after living in  
suffering for so long

Luxury should be a dream for  
me

But I hate living in the hotel



We saw a few houses the past  
few days

And Lutho wasn't loving them

Because they weren't child  
friendly

We went to see one today

It's slightly out of the city

But he loves that one

I just think it's too big

But he says it's perfect to raise  
a family

He said it's the one

I'm fine with it

Just that it's too big

Like a whole triple storey house

But it's whatever

I had the principal call and  
thank me for the pads

Like every girl was able to get 6  
packs of pads

I just wish I could do more

But I know as time goes on , I'll  
be able to

He asked that I come through

But I declined

I don't want to go back to the  
village

I might see my father there

His wife or their kids

Or even the mean queen

Those are the kind of people I  
want to stay away from

I started therapy today

The way Lutho is

He went on to get another  
lawyer to draw the NDA  
agreement

I guess he's still not up to  
talking to Dior

Which I think is crazy

But I won't act like I understand  
either

Honestly therapy was draining

I didn't even get to speak about  
what happened with Njilo

I got there and just broke down

As soon as we started talking  
about family dynamics

The only thing that made me  
happy was my mother

Everything else is just painful

Lutho : sthandwa sika Mbovu

I look at him and smile

He let me sleep after I got back

He walks over with the tray



Me : we're starving

He laughs putting the tray  
down

Lutho : this stranger is going to  
finish our food , you never used  
to eat this much

He sighs

Me : you have been  
complaining about expenses of  
this person

He laughs

Lutho : I have to work hard

Me : yeah

He sits down closer to me

Lutho : I told my father I want to marry you

I guess he's that serious about this

Me : and ?

Lutho : he didn't say much , but I don't think he's against it .  
Just in case he was going to be , I already told him I won't take

the throne unless you're queen  
so yeah

My jaw drops

Me : what ?

Lutho : yeah , it's not like I said I  
want to be king . He needs me  
to be one , and I need to marry  
you

Me : Mbovu , he can always ask one of your brother's . Or how does this work ?

Lutho : you don't just place someone on the throne because you like , a king is chosen when he's born . It's not his decision

Oh wow !.

Lutho : you know marrying you means , going to your home asking for your hand in marriage to them

Me : no !

Lutho : what ....

Me : no ! Those people don't want me , why should they benefit off of me ?

Lutho : we have to do this , it's for us and not for them

I shake my head

Lutho : you're still thinking , so please let's not make a big deal out of this one

Right now he's just trying to get me off this topic

But I don't like it at all

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**\*Dior\***



Sana : can we talk ?

I heave a sigh

Me : I'm about to go to court

Sana : baby , are you avoiding me ?

I rub my eyes

Sana : my brother is angry with me , he doesn't even want to talk to me . Is all of that for nothing ....

Me : can you please just ...

Sana : no , I'm suffering  
because of our relationship .  
And it's like you don't even care  
now , you're ignoring me and ...

Me : I am damn working , can  
you just fucking stop !

I heave a sigh shaking my head

Me : I'll call you

I drop the call

Me : fuck !

It's unlike Lutho not to do  
anything

I don't want to believe that this  
only ended with a punch

That guy can fuck me over

My whole fucking entire life

Forgive me if right now  
worrying about Sana is not a  
priority

The friendship with Lutho is not  
worth loosing over a  
relationship with his sister

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**\*Lunar\***

Me : hello ?

All I'm hearing it's just sniffs

Me : who is this ?

Voice : please talk to Lutho

....Lunar please I'm begging you

Me : Sana ?

Sana : please ....I think Dior is going to dump me , just to save his relationship with my brother . I can't have my brother hating me , over a guy that's not even willing to fight for us ..... please talk to him

I heave a long sigh



Why am I getting involved in all  
this shit ?

Sana : please ....I know we're  
not friends , but I have no one  
right now

And she just breaks down

Like girl !

The call gets dropped and I'm  
just overwhelmed

Me : great !

Why can't they just keep me  
out of this ?

Lutho can just talk with these  
two people of his

And Dior

Like what's his deal ?

Why is he ditching his girlfriend  
because of his friend ?

I mean , is it that deep ?

He's not fucking with Lutho , he  
can just talk to him man to man

He doesn't have to beg him

This is insane !

All three of them are insane

Because no one is a kid here

Sana made a choice , and Dior  
knew what he was doing

Lutho is not the god of these  
peoples lives

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**\*INSERT 25\***

**\*Lunar\***

Lutho : what's going on ?

He's not happy

And I'm scared right now

Because I've never seen him  
like this

I'm regretting my damn  
decision right now

What was I doing ?



I tried talking to him after that  
call from Sana

But he wanted to hear nothing

So I asked Sana to come with  
Dior

And I thought these three  
would talk and just fix things

But clearly that won't happen

Lutho is angry

He even has veins popping on  
his forehead

Now when a black man is angry

And he has veins popping

Worse he's gotten black green

It's bad , like very bad

Lutho : I asked a question

And he's looking at me

I swear if I was 9 months

I would be in labour right now

Me : I'm sorry

Lutho : what exactly are you apologizing for ?

Me : calling them here , it's just that Sana called me crying days ago . And I thought maybe you three can sit down and talk

Lutho : when I say I don't want to talk , I mean that . Please don't push it next time , I talked

to you about this and you told me whatever you wanted to tell me . Not caring about shit , she calls you with salty water and you organise meetings . Like really ?

Shit !

Lutho : if you want to advocate for them , please go do it somewhere else . Just far away from me

He turns

Sana : I am sorry , I ....

And just like that Lutho walks  
out

Why is Dior quite ?

He heaves a sigh and gets up

Sana is a crying mess

Dior : I know you were trying to help , but you shouldn't have done this . Now he thinks you chose us over him , don't bring problems in your relationships over this

Mhm-mhm

This doesn't sound good at all

He turns and looks at a crying  
Sana

Dior : I love you , but I've  
already caused too much chaos  
. Lutho will never forgive me for  
this , I know that . Even  
apologizing is pointless , and  
he'll never see you the same .  
And we'll never enjoy this  
relationship , we'll always feel



like we betrayed him . I am  
sorry , but it's over

No !

He walks out as she falls down  
just wailing

Jesus !

This cannot be healthy

This too much crying and the  
rolling on the tiles

Like hah

I understand she just got  
dumped

But this is another level

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**\*Dior\***

Me : I'm sorry your wife found herself in this situation , I hope you know she was only trying

He's not even looking at me

As much as I love Sana

That relationship wouldn't  
matter

If this one is broken

So might as well just be done

And there's only one thing left  
for me to do

That's to leave this kingdom

Maybe going back to UK  
wouldn't be such a bad idea

Me : I hurt her I know , but it's  
for the best at this point . I  
won't fight for something I  
know very well you're against

I heave a sigh as walk out

I head to my car texting my  
brother

If I die , I die

Lutho is capable of anything

And nothing is impossible with  
him

I am not saying he will hurt me

But he can

And if he wants to , then he will  
. Nothing will stop him

What a way just for everything  
to be ruined

Worse , nothing will ever be  
mended ever again

I just wonder how long he was  
going to keep quite



Watching me busy sneaking  
around , with his sister while he  
knows

I guess this is just the end of  
the road for us

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\*Lunar\*

Sana finally left , I stayed in the restaurant for a while

I even ordered and ate

I'm scared to see Lutho

It was just painful seeing her  
like that

That bubbly Sana I met at  
school

Who wanted to bunk school for  
a dick was gone

Like that was just sad honestly

I walk in our suite

And he's sitting by the bed

I am scared right now

It was just something else  
seeing Lutho like that

And the firm voice he used  
talking to me

I've never heard it before

I walk over to the bed taking  
my shoes off

I get on behind him

Me : I am sorry Mbovu

I hug him from behind

Resting my head on his  
shoulder

Me : it's just that your sister ....

Lutho : cha (no)

Yhoh !

This is messed up

Lutho : I don't want to talk about Sana or Dior , please respect that . The same way I'm not pushing you , about your family issue . Please just afford me the same courtesy , because you won't like it if I do the same . If you walk in here , and find your father you're not going to smile with me . You said you don't want to see him , you don't want to talk to him .

You're choosing your peace ,  
and I respect that . But what  
are you doing ?

I'm too forward though

I should have just minded by  
business

But I went on to think Sana  
might think I don't care about  
her



And that's not the case

We're not friends sure

But she's not a bad person

Me : please forgive me Mbovu ,  
I will never do that again . I  
promise you , and you're right .  
I shouldn't have done it to even  
begin with , and I should have

respected what you asked for . I  
see my fault , and I humbly  
apologize for it ....

Lutho : give it up with the sorry  
, before you try to kill yourself  
.....

Me : noooo , don't mock me  
with that please

He laughs

I tilt his face capturing his lips  
into mine and we kiss

His phone rings , and I pull out  
of the kiss

Lutho : really ?

I laugh moving back

Me : answer your phone

He reaches for it , I see the  
caller ID and I hope everything  
is okay

Lutho : MaMkhulu

He listens for a while

And his expression just changes

Something is wrong

Lutho : I ....I'll come home

He drops the call

And bows his face rubbing his  
eyes

Me : what's ....

I swallow hard , just feeling like  
I lack the right words to ask

Lutho : it's Sana

A cold shiver runs down my  
spine

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**\*INSERT 26\***

**\*Lunar\***





I know I tried to do this

But honestly , I would never kill myself over a guy dumping me like never !

There's many guys out there

You can just replace a dude and move on with your life

Right now Sana went and overdosed

And it's not even about Lutho

She sent me a text , asking I apologize to his brother

But she feels somehow betrayed by the fact that Dior didn't stay and fight for them

So it's about the fact that Dior  
dumped her

Like , was his dick that good ?

I mean , she could have gotten  
dick anywhere

If a man walks away from you

Walk away from him

I don't understand what's the  
fuss all about

I didn't even tell Lutho about  
that text

Anyways who leaves a text as a  
"suicide letter"

And why me ?

Sana is dramatic , or was

I just feel for her mother

The poor woman just lost her  
only child to suicide

Like how will she be okay after  
this ?

It's really just a lot

I didn't want to come here

But Lutho wasn't having it

He wasn't leaving me at the  
hotel all alone

And I didn't mind being left  
alone

I don't want to be here

His mother saw me

And she didn't hesitate to let  
me know

Just how I won't get anywhere

Whatever that meant

Lutho : you should rest

Me : you want me to sleep here  
, so I can be smudged in my

sleep and die ? No thanks , I'm  
fine

He sighs

I don't trust his mother

Honestly , am I even insane to  
think maybe his mother sent  
his brother

Maybe he was sent to rape me



And then make it look like I  
slept with him willingly , like I  
wanted

So that Lutho can break up with  
me

I've thought of this

Just that I kept it to myself

But I won't lie , and act like I  
trust his family

Because I don't , like I don't  
even know them

MaMkhulu and the last wife ,  
are the only people who look  
okay towards me

I haven't seen the king

It's said the other siblings will  
arrive in the coming days

The door opens and his mother  
walks in

I want to walk out of here right  
now

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\*Lutho\*

Mom : have you talked to your brother ?

I hold Lunar's hand

Me : who ?

Mom : your brother Njilo , who else ?

Lunar tightens the grip on my  
hand

I clear my throat

Me : yeah , that was days ago .  
He wanted to come see me ,  
but later cancelled

Mom : are you sure it's him  
who cancelled ?

Me : I was talking to him , what do you mean ?

She sighs

Mom : I can't find Njilo anywhere , what if we're resting here and your brother is outside there hurt ?

This woman !

Is this really the time to be  
assuming death ?

I look at MaMkhulu

I heave a sigh

Me : mom please , not now

Mom : don't you care about  
finding your brother ?



And Lunar just shakes next to  
me

I get up and pick her up

MaMkhulu : take her to my  
house , I'm coming

I don't wait to hear anything  
else

I walk over to her house

Luckily it's not locked

They'll bury Sana from the main  
palace

And not her house

I lay Lunar down in bed , in one  
of the spare bedrooms

Me : what's wrong .....

Voice : here , give her this she  
will calm down

I turn and it's MaMkhulu

I take the sugar water and help  
her drink

After a while she calms down

Me : what happened ?

I don't know of any illnesses she might have

That might have caused this

Lunar : I ....I guess I do need that rest

Something is going on

Or maybe it's the fact that my mother brought up the issue of Njilo

MaMkhulu : let us leave you to rest baby , I'll be in the house if you need anything

They both smile

Lunar : thank you my queen

How I wish this woman birthed  
me

She didn't hesitate being  
welcoming towards Lunar as  
soon as we got here

I place a kiss on her cheek

Me : I love you , and the  
stranger

I whisper that

She laughs

Lunar : we love you

That's more like it

I cover her with a fleece and  
walk out with MaMkhulu

MaMkhulu : you should really keep her away from people , there's a lot of people in the palace . And some people carry things with them , she's in a fragile condition

What the fuck ....

Me : how do you know that ?

She laughs



MaMkhulu : I can spot a pregnant woman Lutho

Me : well , I hope only you can .  
Because she doesn't want anyone knowing , even the family

MaMkhulu : worry not , I won't show it off that I know

Lunar wouldn't be happy with  
me

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**\*Lunar\***

Me : I panicked , fear got the  
best of me . Listening to your  
mother talk about your brother

He holds my hand

Lutho : I am sorry

Me : maybe I really shouldn't  
be here , everyone will be  
asking where he's at

Lutho : Zanemvula knows what  
happened , and he's willing to  
help us so we can bury this  
issue forever . He asked to see  
me the other day I was here ,

and he said we'll need  
cleansing . Njilo was a royal  
blood , we don't want that kind  
of aura to following us around

Me : Zanemvula , as in like the  
royal seer ?

Lutho : yeah , but you don't  
have to worry . He won't tell  
anyone this

Me : are you sure ?

Lutho : yes , at least trust me

I heave a sigh

Me : I'm so sorry about your  
sister

Lutho : she chose this really , no  
one forced her to

I feel like that's cold

But this is Lutho , I haven't seen any kind of emotions on him

Me : now that I'm going to be a mother myself , and I see how distraught MaMkhulu is . I wonder if my father even cares to this extent , like life is really short . I'm sure he cares enough about his son and daughter

This pains me even today

Like he hasn't even bothered to  
reach out

It's clear he doesn't care about  
me one bit

I might as well just be on my  
own



Regard myself really the orphan  
that I am

What father do I have , when  
he doesn't even bother himself  
about me

I went to see him in hospital all  
by myself

When his family didn't care

But he failed to do the same for  
me

Lutho : you're going to be a  
great mother

I don't want to fail my child to  
an extent my own father failed  
me

Lutho : we're going to be okay

I lean over laying my head on  
his chest

Lutho : I love you

Me : I love you Mbovu

He hugs me on the side

And I hope that we're really  
going to be okay

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**\*INSERT 27\***

**\*EIGHT MONTHS LATER\***

**\*Lutho\***

Me : and now ?

She laughs

Me : why is he doing that ?

Lunar : he's not full

Me : this one eats a lot

I pick him up , and he's sucking  
on his fist

While his twin is asleep



We were blessed with twins

And they came early

At 8 months

But the doctor was happy

Because he anticipated they'll  
come at 7 months

Due to the complications Lunar  
had

But my woman pulled through

And now all three are here and  
healthy

With no problems

Zibulo had breathing problems

And was said to possibly be  
asthmatic

He spent two weeks in hospital  
after they were born

While his mother and brother  
came home

It was a stressful time for us

But now he's all good

Even though we have been told  
he might have the same  
problem

While he grows up

But right now , I'm just thankful  
for their lives

I sit down with him

Me : are you ready ?

She looks at me and heaves a  
sigh

I'm finally paying bride price

And paying dowry and damages  
for the twins

Things have been calm on our  
side

But not so much with her  
family

And she hasn't seen them

Her father once came to see  
her

And she didn't want to see him

Now she has to go to her home

So we can do what's needed

She didn't even want to go

But there's no way I can marry  
her without the necessary  
process

We got married legally 5  
months ago

But she's not a wife unless  
married traditionally

I'm about to take the throne in  
a week

My father is facing health  
problems fighting cancer

That he's not even keen to take  
treatment for



He wants to spend his last days  
not as king

So he says

I have to take up my duty now ,  
and give him rest

She cannot take the crown  
unless she's been poured with  
bile

And is recognised as a wife in  
our kraal

Lunar : no

I chuckle

I know she doesn't want to do  
this

She doesn't want to go there

But there's no other way

Maybe if her mother's family  
had accepted her

We would go to them

But they don't want her

Because of how she came  
about

To them she's that child made  
through infidelity

And almost ruined their  
daughters marriage

Me : it's just for tomorrow

She sighs

Lunar : I have to face those  
people now , the same people

who don't want me and have  
never wanted me

Me : I understand , and I know  
this is hard for you . But  
remember why we're doing this  
, and it's not for them . It's for  
us , and our sons

She nods

I know she can pull through

She's going there tomorrow ,  
and the day after we'll be going

And from there she's coming  
home officially now as a wife

And soon to be queen to our  
kingdom

I couldn't be happier

She won't die I know that

And she will pull through

She's been through so much

I know she'll get through this

Life has thrown her thorns and  
all

But she survived

This is a small sacrifice to make

Just to make it to the finish line

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**\*Lunar\***



MaMkhulu is the one taking me  
home

I wish I was going alone

Without my kids

I don't trust to be around those  
people with them

What if they hurt my kids just  
to hurt me ?

I wish I didn't have to do this ,  
and go there

But I understand it has to be  
done for things to go  
accordingly

I didn't even hesitate to marry  
Lutho

When he said , he long said we  
should marry

But with everything that  
happened

That was just the last thing on  
my mind

The death of Sana took a toll of  
his family

Especially MaMkhulu and the  
king

So things were not okay

And I didn't want us to get  
married then

And make it seem like we're  
not being considerate of what  
happened

His mother to this day doesn't  
like me

She fussed over her rapist son

Until she hit a brick wall and  
saw she was never gonna find  
him

I still doesn't know what Lutho  
did with his body

He's never told me

Even when I asked on the sly

I attended therapy

Until I felt I was okay

And not burying any pain  
behind me

It was hard coming to terms  
with the fact that I killed

Despite of how that came  
about

It was either me or him

And I made a choice

One that benefited me and my  
life

Now I'll just have to live with it

Because I can't change it



And I certainly don't regret  
fighting for myself

And protecting myself when I  
needed to

I think the healing that came  
with therapy

Is also what caused me  
problems with my pregnancy

Because as much as I was  
healing my wounds

That took a toll on me

But in the end , I have that light

The second twin was only seen  
when I was 3 months pregnant

And that's why I named him  
Sbani

The arrival of Lutho in my life  
brought me so much

And the sons he gave me , are  
the light I've yearned and  
needed all my life

As much as things took a turn  
when we found out about the  
King's cancer

He supported us and this  
relationship

And we just knew we had to  
grant him his wish

Of seeing his son being  
crowned

And having us get married the  
right way

Me : I am done

He smiles

I know if there was a way to do this , without doing it this way

He would gladly do it

He's sacrificed , and I'm just doing my bit as well

Lutho : can your kids sleep in their cots tonight ?

I laugh

I make them sleep with us most nights

It was very hard leaving Zibulo in hospital for two weeks

Having to go see him everyday

Now I always just want to keep them next to me

Me : why ?

Lutho : why ? These boys are territorial , and they sleep like this is their bed . I just want to hold you in my arms tonight

Oh my poor man

Me : it's your strangers

He laughs

Lethu : we should have left  
these people where they were

He's telling me ?

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**\*INSERT 28\***

**\*Lunar\***

MaMkhulu dropped me off

And I've just been cooped up in  
this room

With my kids

If they were not going to be  
problematic for their father

I would have left them

One of my father's sister asked  
that I help around

Since it's my own negotiations

And I flat told her no

I am not letting my kids out of  
my sight

I really don't care if they do  
nothing

They can sit down and not  
bother themselves

The royals will arrive tomorrow

And do what they need to do

Then leave

Whether they find the house  
dirty

Or there's no food

I just don't care

A knock comes at the door

These people just don't know  
how to give peace

I place a pillow next to Zibulo to  
balance them so they don't fall

Sbani turns a lot

You can leave him one way

And you'll find him another way

I open the door and it's my  
father and his wife

The death of her son must be  
haunting this one

At one point she was running  
around the village

Like a crazy person



Saying she keeps seeing her son  
headless

The drama with these people  
just never ends

I don't even know how they  
helped her

The rape left her daughter  
pregnant

She aborted , and was said to  
be left with a scarred womb

Months back she was in  
hospital for a month

And had her womb removed

I swear it feels like she's being  
punished

And she just can't catch a break

Dad : are we disturbing ?

Yes

Oh ! But it's their house so I  
can't say

Mom : disturbing what ? She's  
in here doing nothing , looking  
at two new borns like she's the  
first to ever give birth

The bitterness of this woman

Dad : can you stop with your  
nonsense , not in front of the  
kids

She clicks her tongue

Dad : Lunar , can we please  
have a word ?

I just nod and they walk in

I move back to the bed

They sit down on the bench by  
the wall

Dad : as tomorrow the royal  
family is coming , what would  
you like happens with your  
dowry ?

What ?

Mom : what do you mean ? I mean we are keeping it , we raised her didn't we ?

Dad : I asked to talk to my daughter , you don't have to interfere in this . You forced yourself in the conversation , now you'll help me and just keep quite

She folds her arms annoyed

Me : I really don't care about  
the money

Mom : as you shouldn't

My father sighs

Dad : I want you to keep that  
money , all of .....

Mom : that will never happen !

Sbani cries

Me : can't you just talk like a normal being without raising your voice ?

I pick him up

Mom : this is my house



Me : and it has always been  
your house , I am not disputing  
that

She claps her hands

Mom : see ....

She motions to me with her  
hand

Mom : this is what you brought  
into my house and our  
marriage

My father shakes his head

Dad : I have wronged your  
mother , and I have wronged  
you beyond words . I cannot fix  
what I've done , I couldn't be a  
father to you because of what  
I've done

Mom : shut up ...

He slaps her so hard

Like right in front of my eyes

And she falls down the bench  
crying

More like weeping

I'm like , what the fuck is this now ?

Is he trying to be a father because of the bastard daughter

That's about to marry into royalty

He gets up and drags her out crying as she is

He locks the door and walks  
back to the bench

Now Zibulo is also crying

This is a mess

How do people just act like this

In front of my kids

The noise !

These two don't know noise

I take his bottle and give it to  
him

After a while calming them  
down , they finally keep quite

Me : I don't know what that  
was about , but I seriously

meant what I said . I don't want  
that money , and it won't  
change anything

As much as I don't want him  
getting it

The only person deserving of  
that money is dead

So he might as well take it

I put Sbani down and cover them both with their blanket

Dad : I am sorry you had to see that

Me : no , you actually can stand up to your wife I'm surprised .  
But all these years of abuse towards me , and you couldn't stand up to her for me



He rubs his eyes

And I frown as I see tears  
dropping down on the floor

Is he crying ?

I've never seen my father  
crying

And what is he crying about ?

Dad : I .....I couldn't be a father to you , because my guilt was eating me up

Me : what are you talking about ?

Shouldn't his guilt eat him up for failing to be a father to me ?

Dad : I have always loved your mother , her and her sister

were just two years apart . I dated your mother before dating your aunt , but I failed to be a good man to her . And she broke things with me , and to hurt her I dated her sister . Only because I always knew she wanted me , and envied her sister . It wasn't even that hard getting her , she was too easy . I thought that would hurt your mother , and we could be together again . But , she didn't

care . She moved on , like we never happened . And that hurt , it hurt so bad . Amidst all of this , your aunt fell pregnant . I told her to abort , but she told her family about the pregnancy . And they went to my family to report it , and my father then forced me to marry her . This caused your mother to move away , I didn't see her for over 5 years ....

He rubs his knuckles , and takes  
a deep breath

Dad : it was when I saw her ,  
after all those years . And she  
...she was still as beautiful as  
ever . I tried to approach her ,  
and declared my love for her .  
She didn't want to hear  
anything , because I was  
married to her sister . And we  
had a child already , she denied

me . I spent a few days in  
Durban , just watching her

He drops his head

Like whatever is on his chest is  
burning him

So many scenarios are running  
through my head right now

My head is spinning a bit

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**\*INSERT 29\***

**\*Lunar\***



I look at him

I just want to hear what he  
wants to say right now

As much as it seems like it's  
heavy on him

I'm eager to hear

Dad : one night I tailed her after work to her place , she was very angry . But I cornered her still , and tried to talk . She wasn't hearing any of it , and I ....I lost myself . I degraded myself , and the name of men . That fateful night , I raped your mother ...

No !

He slides down the bench to  
the floor crying

Dad : that's how you came  
about .....I raped her , and I ....it  
wasn't ....

Me : no ...no , you cheated .  
You cheated !

That's the shit they've always  
said about my mother

She was the whore sister , who  
slept with her sisters husband

And had his child

Me : no !

Dad : that was a lie , I lied to  
everyone . When she told them

about the rape , I denied it . I  
denied everything , and said we  
decided to get back together . I  
said I cheated on your aunt ,  
instead of admitting what I did .  
Everyone believed me ,  
because they knew we dated  
way back .....

He shakes his head

And I just feel rage , I don't  
think I've ever felt before

Dad : no one believed her , and that's how the cheating lie came about . She found out she was pregnant , and she tried to have an abortion . But it failed , and she kept you . You always knew me as your uncle , until you were 10 .....that's when she started getting sick . And when she passed I ....I thought I could take you in , and close that gap she left . But I failed so bad ,

because seeing you always  
reminded me of the despicable  
thing I did . You look so much  
like your mother , the guilt just  
ate me up every time I looked  
at you

I grab my phone

By now I am a crying mess

My heart is aching

I dial his number , after a few rings he answers

Lutho : sth....

Me : come get us

Lutho : what ....

Me : now !



I raise my voice dropping the  
call

I get up and grab my kids , I  
strap Sbani on my back and  
Zibulo on my chest

I grab their bag , I had put my  
change of clothes for tomorrow  
in their bag

Me : you're no father of mine

I unlock the door

And walk out with my phone  
ringing

Aunt : and then .....

I head to the door going out

There's some people outside ,  
busy with pots

I just pass them and walk  
outside the gate

My father's aunt is running  
after me

I wipe my tears and answer the  
phone that's not stopping  
ringing

Me : I hope you're on your way here , your son's and I are on the street walking home

Lutho : wh.....

Aunt : Lunar , what's this ?  
What are you doing ,  
embarrassing us like this ?

Me : leave me alone , and go ask your rapist brother ...

She slaps me

Aunt : you're just a curse of a child , we're doing you a favour and you come here and accuse my brother of rape . You're just like your mother , who fed you this nonsense of a lie ?

I walk away from her

Aunt : you're just like your  
whore mother

She screams

I wipe my tears and continue  
walking

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\*Lutho\*



I am tired

Like I'm honestly tired of these people

It just never ends with them

Me : was there a need for you ,  
to tell her you raped her  
mother ? At this point in her  
life , when she's here for



something completely different  
. Like you just couldn't shut  
your mouth , could you ? Just  
for one day

I dropped Lunar and the twins  
home

MaMkhulu is there with them

I can't believe this man

I've never seen my wife like  
that

She's been through hell and  
back

But this , she didn't need this .  
Not now

This man long failed to be a  
father to her

Meanwhile he's just a fucking  
rapist

Me : I am tired of you and your  
family , so I'll do us all a favour .  
By tonight , you'll be gone . I'll  
see what to do , and how I'll  
marry my wife

He's still on the floor

I drag him up

I made sure no one even saw  
me walk in his room , even  
Lunar doesn't know I'm not  
home

I have the door locked

I'll just use the same window to  
get out

I pull up the rope

Me : I'm fucking damn tired  
with you

The way he's looking like he  
doesn't even care

I know if he had the guts to do  
this himself

He would

But I will help him out

For my wife's sake

Because he's a fucking coward

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\*Lunar\*



I open my eyes

And they're so painful

They even feel puffy and heavy

Sbani is awake

I look at them , and they seem  
to be having a conversation  
there



But they're not making noise

Although he's getting loud at  
some point

Me : hey

He turns and looks at me

Lutho : did we wake you up ?

Me : no

I took some sleeping pills just  
so I can fall asleep

He gives Sbani a kiss and gets  
up placing him in his cot

They each have their own cots

They don't share because this  
one grabs a lot

And he sometimes falls on his  
brother

He walks over to the bed , and  
holds both my hands

Lutho : I love you so much

Me : everything is ruined now ,  
like everything

This is what hurts me the most

Now what's going to happen ?.

How do we get married from  
here on ?

Maybe I'm just not destined for  
good things

This is my dull reality

Lutho : no , nothing is ruined .  
I'll go ahead and just do what I  
need to do

Me : but how ? I'm sure they  
won't welcome me back now

It was so heart-breaking when I  
had to repeat to him

What my father said

I still can't believe it

He couldn't love me and be a  
father to me

Over something he did

He might as well hated me for  
being his rape product

Me : I hate him ...

He hugs me so tight into his  
arms

And I can't stop my tears

That time I'm so tired of crying

Like I'm really tired

When will I ever catch a break  
from everything ?

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**\*INSERT 30\***



**\*Lunar\***

Me : what ?

I look at them and it's like I  
heard them speak

But what they said just can't be

It's shock more than anything

But the realisation of things

Now there's really no getting  
married for me

I'm sure queen Nandi will be  
very pleased

She will surely pass her son off  
to some princess

Without my father who will  
they ask for my hand in  
marriage from ?

Is it crazy that , that's the only  
thing that's making me sad

Not the fact that my father is  
dead

No !

I actually don't care

Again he became a coward and  
just chose the easy way out

He hanged himself

Oh well !

I look at Lutho , he's holding  
Zibulo

While his father is holding  
Sbani

Me : does this mean , we're not  
getting married now ?

Lutho : we are

Me : but how ?

King Ntsizwa : when we got the news , we reached out . And we found your uncle , he's very secluded from your mother's family . And we believe , under the circumstances you came about and how your life has been . We're not wrong to say , you belong to your mother's family more than that of your father . Your uncle has agreed to hold your negotiations , and

he will be accepting us  
tomorrow . Short notice yes ,  
but it's already been said the  
crowning should take place .  
We can't delay more , because  
we want you to be fully in our  
kraal when we welcome you

Oh okay

Me : what uncle ?



Lutho : your mother's younger brother

Me : what ...but they said he's dead

Lutho : who said that ?

Me : everyone at home

Like how can he be alive ?

Lutho : he's alive , just that he  
doesn't want anything to do  
with your family

Wow !

Right now I don't even know  
how I'm feeling

Is there finally light in the end ?

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**\*A WEEK LATER\***

**\*Lunar\***

Voice : Ndlovukazi (my queen)

I turn my head with a smile

And he smiles back

I am so happy

Words cannot even begin to  
express how happy I am

I actually don't even know what  
to say

I don't even bother to care  
about the sour not so queen  
anymore

Who's my mother in-law

But because she gave me a  
husband

I'll always regard her as queen  
mother

I don't care for a relationship  
with her whatsoever

I get up

Uncle Sfiso : look at you

The emotion in his eyes is just  
priceless

And just causing me tears



Uncle : I am sure my sister is smiling down on you , she must be so proud . Because I know I am proud

I wipe my tears off

He pulls me in a for a hug

I hug him back

Me : thank you so much , for everything . Thank you for accepting my dowry , bringing me to my marital home . And to seeing me being crowned queen to this land today , I can never thank you enough . And without you , this might have not been possible

I remember how they always said he left home

Without telling anyone

And it was later said he died  
where he was

And they didn't know where to  
begin finding him

So we lived knowing that Uncle  
Sfiso died

Had it not been what happened

And the royal family needing  
someone to stand in for me , to  
accept my dowry

Looking into my mother's  
family in hopes to find  
someone

He wouldn't be here , and I  
wouldn't know he's alive

We got to chat a bit when I  
went to his place for my  
negotiations

And he said he knew what my  
father did

And he wanted him to be held  
accountable

But the family sided with my  
aunt and him

And he decided to leave and  
never turned back

But he's been living in Durban  
all along

The negotiations went well

This one is sneaky , he even  
gave me half the negotiations  
money

He wanted to give it all to me

But I wanted to just thank him ,  
with it all

I guess he believed my mother  
alone

That much to a point of cutting  
his family off

I guess he's the one person  
who doesn't hate me

Like how both my mother and  
my father's family hate me

I have cousins now

He's married with two  
daughters

They're both younger than me



But we get along

I'm so happy I don't want to lie

I have a family now

I have my own mini family

oMbovu bami

My own three boys

That I love so much

Uncle Sfiso : you deserve this ,  
I'm just happy and glad I got to  
be a part of it . And celebrate  
your happiness with you

What more can I ask for ?

I wipe my tears

We turn and look at how  
everyone is just happy and  
celebrating

Lutho with his sons

I lack the words to thank that  
man

The joy he has given me , and  
the light he brought into my

dim dark life . I never thought  
this could be me one day

My aunt left the kingdom

But word has it she was  
banished by Lutho himself

I don't know that

He didn't tell me , and I didn't  
ask him anything

I didn't even bother attending  
my father's funeral

A part of me felt like he just  
wanted to ruin things for me

On the day I was supposed to  
be happy

He chose to open his chest ,  
and just ruin my happiness

But in the end , I am here

And finally got my light

A whole queen . It was never  
even a dream

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**\*THE END\***