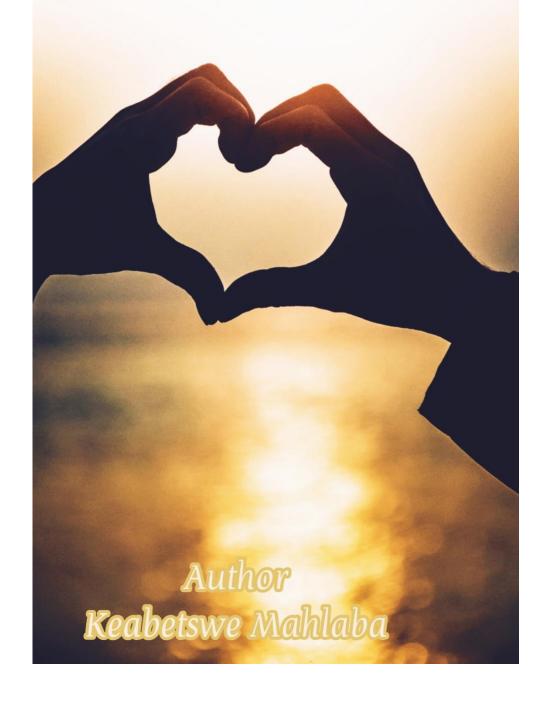
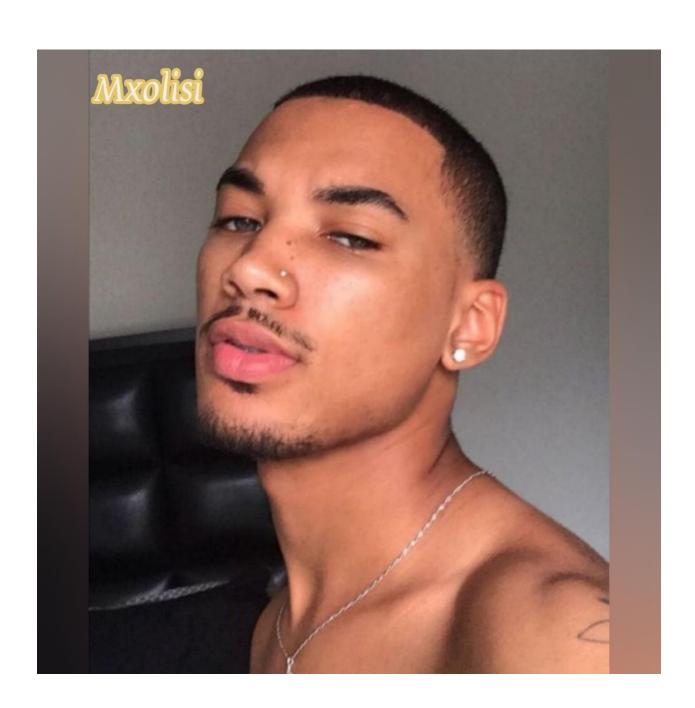
THIS IS MY HEART When Two Worlds Collide



PROLOGUE

Mxolisi



Evan: are you coming?

Me: Casey is coming

He laughs

Evan: you're ditching us for pussy?

I chuckle

Me: I probably won't be around, Menzi wants me home

He whistles

Evan: when are you leaving?

Me: tomorrow

Evan: I understand, so spend the evening with your woman. Even though I don't mean that

He grabs his phone

We share an apartment, it has two bedrooms. A kitchen and lounge that we share

But we definitely don't bother each other, and the space is just hug enough for us

Me: I'll probably call you around, my parents are leaving. Hence he wants me home, so I can look after the kids

I don't want to fight with my dad

We do that a lot

Even though our relationship has improved a lot over the years

Evan: I will pull up

Me: I know you never miss an opportunity to party

Voice: who's having a party?

He frowns, I laugh

Me: hi baby

Evan: I'm out of here

He walks out, Casey rolls her eyes

Casey: when will your friend get over his hate for me?

These two don't get along, and they sure do hate each other

More like Evan just doesn't approve of Casey as my girlfriend

Me : don't mind him , come greet me

She smiles walking over

She straddles me, I peck her lips and she deepens the kiss

We kiss for a few minutes, and pull out

Casey: I'm going to miss you like crazy

Me: you'll come me right?

She nods with a smile

Casey: of course

Me: behave when I'm gone

Casey: baby, no partying without you. Don't worry, I won't do you dirty

Me: that's my girl

She leans forward for a kiss, I welcome it

Trailing my hands to her ass

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Itumeleng



Mom: do you like it?

I smile

Me: Mom, I think this house is too big for just the two of us

We just moved from Bloemfontein to Joburg

She got a new job at the hospital she's a nurse

I know they don't make much money

But we do make ends meet

We're still waiting on my father's GPEF money to come through

He was a teacher, and he passed on just six months ago

So right now, we're just surviving on her salary

I'm starting a new school, this is just a whole environment for us

We have to adapt

Mom: I know, but this is a good neighbourhood

We moved to Hyde Park

Me: I love the room, and the whole house to be honest

Mom: good, let me go make something to eat

Me: and I'm starving

She laughs walking out

I walk in further sitting down on the bed

I take my phone

I check my messages on WhatsApp and reply a few

A call comes through , I smile answering

Me: baby

Mathonga: tell me you've arrived

Me: just settled in

Mathonga: I'll be there in a week, I can't wait to see you

Me : I'm glad holidays will be done

Mathonga: you have no idea how much I miss you

Me: I miss you more

Mathonga: don't fall asleep, let me take a bath I'll call when I'm done so we can talk better

Me : okay , but please don't disappear

He laughs

Mathonga: babe

Me: I know your tendencies

Mathonga: I'm thanks of Eastern Cape, don't worry I'm not going out. I'll be on call with you all evening

Me : okay

Mathonga: I love you

Me: I love you

He drops the call

I lay down on the bed

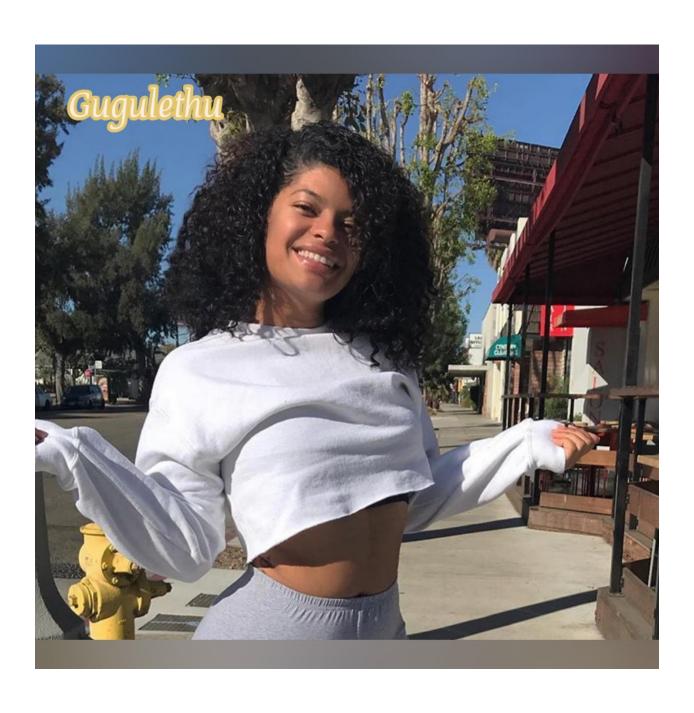
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Gugulethu



I close my laptop

Putting on my slippers, I walk out heading down

Mom: I've long called you

Me: sorry mom

I sit down

Dad walks down, he places a peck on my cheek sitting down

Mom: Menzi when are your son's coming home?

I want to laugh so bad

This woman treats us like we're still toddlers

While there's a kid in this house

Even Asanda doesn't get treated like we do

Mathonga and I we're in matric , Mxolisi is doing his fifth year in Varsity

Dad: I don't know

She sighs

Mom: but I long asked that Mathonga comes back home.

Dad: he's with your family, they're the ones keeping him there. I don't even know how he got to visit Eastern Cape, I wasn't even home babe

Mom: and what about Mxolisi?

Dad: you know your son, I'm tired fighting with Mxolisi. He will come when he wants to

My brother hasn't been home since November

We're in January now

And next month, he will be going back to Varsity

I swear, it's like he likes being far away from us

Like he's in another country, or province

But he's also right here in Joburg, studying at Wits

That one doesn't like home

I'm thankful as food comes, because I'm so over these talk of the prodigal sons

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INSERT 01

Mxolisi

I walk in , placing my bag down on the floor

Me: Bhabha (baby)

She frowns

I chuckle

Me : you can stop , I know you missed me

Gugu: dad is going to.....

She goes quite as he walks in

Like she wasn't just about to talk about him just right now

I look at him

Me: Sibal'khulu

He just stares at me

I heave a sigh

Dad: you just love your mother being on my case?

Me: no, I was going to come when I got the time

No, I wasn't

He shakes his head

Pecks Gugu's cheek, he grabs his briefcase and walks out

Gugu: I told you

Me: mxm!

I take my bag from the floor and head up to my room

I'm not that big on family, I don't even pretend to be

I'm not happy that I'm back here

I love being on my own , I love having my own space

I can't even lie nor pretend or say I missed everyone here

My phone rings as I put my bag on the floor

Me: mhm young Dlamini

He laughs

Mathonga: you're home?

Me: yeah, your twin sister has already annoyed me. So has your father

Mathonga: I feel for you, but just for the sake of saying. We don't need a baby sitter

Me: tell your parents that, but I'm glad we understand each other

Mathonga: yeah, I can't wait to come back. My girl just moved to Joburg, and she'll be close by. It's just exciting

I chuckle

I'm not about to discuss girlfriends with him

Voice: babe I can't find my bra

Fuck!

Mathonga: I'll call you

He drops the call

So much for saying his girl has just moved here

But he's busy shagging in Eastern Cape

Men will always be men, and that's that

It starts very young

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Gugulethu

Mom: don't come back late

Me: I won't

I grab my side bag

Me: I'm just going to get my

hair done

Mom: and please Gugu, just do something appropriate for school. I don't want to be called at school nonsense

I laugh

Me: I promise

Mom: I love you

Me: I love you mommy

I head out , I've already called an Uber

I know how to drive

But my father said, I'm not driving anything until I'm 21

And that's like 3 years from now

I feel like I'm just treated differently, only because I'm a girl

Mathonga can drive , and he has a car . Of which he got on his 18^{th} birthday

And to be honest, I don't understand why I have to wait until 21

Yet we share the same birthday, and we're the same age

It sucks sometimes, because I feel like the over protectiveness just gets too much sometimes

I'm even afraid to date

The Uber drops me at Mall Of Africa

School is opening in a few days

And I just want to look good, hence I want to get my hair done

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Itumeleng

Mom: will you be okay on your own?

I laugh

Me: why are you panicking?
I'm going to be fine don't worry
, I have food and snacks. Plus
it's movie night, I'll just be
cuddled up in here

She sighs

It's her first day at work tonight, and she's doing night shift

Woman is having separation anxiety

Me: if there's anything, I'll call . Besides, there's security here, I'm safe, and you have nothing to worry about

Mom: okay, let me go before I start demanding day shifts

We laugh, I take her bag and hand it to her

Mom: be safe baby, lock well

Me: I will

Mom: okay, I love you bye

Me: I love you, bye

She walks out, and I make sure I lock as soon as she's out of the house

I turn back to the kitchen, grabbing the bowl of snacks

I walk to the TV room, grabbing my fleece

I cuddle on the couch , lowering the TV volume

I watch the movie for a few minutes, and my phone rings

I smile answering

Me: baby?

Mathonga: there's no chance to see you tonight?

He better not play with me like this

Me: what?

Mathonga: I'm by your street, can't you sneak out for 5 minutes? Just so I can see you baby

I let out a slight scream

Me: baby, you're not playing with me right?

Mathonga: I could never do that to you

Me: butI thought you were coming end of the week

Mathonga: yeah, I just couldn't take it anymore. I haven't even gone home, and I

heard my brother is home too.

I just had to see you first

I can't believe this

Mathonga: baby I miss you

Me: come over by the gate, it's a bit chilly outside

Mathonga: okay, I'm coming

I drop the call, putting on my slippers

I grab the fleece covering myself, I walk out

And as I get to the gate, I see his car

This feels like a dream

I use the small gate getting out, he opens the back door

I rush in , and quickly close the door

Me: oh my gosh

It feels so good seeing him, I last saw him in September last year during holidays

He came to Bloemfontein to see me

I get on top of him, straddling him he helps covers my back with the fleece

Mathonga: I missed you like hell

I laugh

Me: I can't believe you're here

Mathonga: I couldn't stay in Eastern Cape anymore, knowing that you're this side

I lean forward, taking his lips into mine

He trails his hands to my ass, grabbing on my ass cheeks

And I'm wearing a floral dress

He deep grunts, as I feel is dick growing underneath

Me: do you have condoms?

He chuckles, I pat down his pants pockets

I feel one, I slide my hand inside taking it out

He slides his finger, sliding my panty to the side

He fiddles with my coochie lips, I let out a moan pulling out of the kiss

Mathonga : you're too wild for me

Ilaugh

I knew he wasn't going to come here without a condom

He missed me as much as I missed him

I tear the wrap, and move down unbuckling his pants

I take his dick out, and he's hard

I slide the condom down his length, already craving for him to be inside of me

Me: check that it's in

Mathonga: it is

I can't take chances for it to slip out, or tear I move up, lifting my ass

He takes his finger out as I slide down his dick, letting out a slight moan as he opens me up

Mathonga: fuck! Baby what are you doing to me?

I smile moving my waist slowly

He places his hands on my waist, as I move it around his dick

I ride him like hell, his grunts and groans just driving me insane

The fleece falls down, he lifts my dress up just spanking my ass cheeks

I pick up my pace as he thrusts underneath me, and I feel my walls closing in on him

Mathonga: cum for me baby

Shit!

I take his length deeper, burying my face against his neck

Mathonga: fuck you're so sweet baby

He thrusts faster, as he shoots up his load

I move up, he slides the condom off his dick

Mathonga: fuck! Baby give me a kiss

He's panting, and I so wish we had more time

I lean forward bringing my face to his and we kiss

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INSERT 02

Gugulethu

Menzi's wife is happy

All her kids are home, and she even woke up early just to cook

She gave our helper the day off

Which rarely happens in this house

Because dad works like crazy, and she owns her own surgical practice

She's a very busy woman

But she's happy, cause everyone is home

Mom: I'm glad you came back, Asanda was ecstatic

Mathonga: wanted to surprise you

I have a feeling he's lying

I know my twin brother like I know myself

And I know I would never leave a place I was happy visiting

To come back home, and for no reason at all

Something brought him back home, I just wonder what

Mathonga: what's everyone doing today?

Me: you want to spoil us?

He chuckles

Mathonga: you must be out of your mind

Me: then why ask?

Mathonga: because everyone is here, so I thought maybe we're doing something

Mom: we could, but it won't be today

Mathonga: oh?

Dad: we have to prepare for the trip

They're going to Ireland in a week

And we'll be left all alone with the dragon Mxolisi

Schools will be opened then , I don't understand why they called him to watch us

Me: okay, it's fine anyways

I look at Mxolisi and he's so preoccupied on his phone

There's no twisting him for money going out all by myself

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Itumeleng

I walk in , she welcomes me with a smile

Me: I hope you enjoyed your bath

Mom: I did, thank you for running it for me

Me: you're welcome, here is breakfast. Eat first before you sleep

Mom: thank you, I really should work night shifts only. So I can get this pampered

I laugh

Me: don't get used to it, I'm just being nice really

I put the tray of food on the night stand

Mom: what are you doing today?

Me: probably nothing

Mom: okay, do tell me if you change your mind

Me: okay, but I doubt

I walk out, going to the kitchen

I clear up on the counter where I was making her food

My phone rings, I answer

Me: babe

Mathonga: let me see you today my love

I laugh

Me: I just told my mother I don't have plans

Mathonga: I have no plans, it's boring in this house

Me : are you coming?

I lower my voice

Mathonga: yeah, to pick you up

Me: hah?

He laughs

Mathonga: we're coming to my house, I want to spend the whole day with you

Me: where is your family?

Mathonga: I don't know, don't worry about them. I'll sneak you around

This guy!

I laugh

Mathonga: we'll spend a few hours at home, then I'm taking you out. I want you to get your hair done, and maybe do your nails I don't know. You'll keep them natural, just don't let those Hyde Park boys take you away from me

I laugh, placing the cloth back on the sink

Me: okay come, I'll tell my mother I'm going out

Mathonga: mxm, I love you marn baby

Me: I love you too

Mathonga: I'm coming now

Me: okay

I drop the call

Now I have to go face my mother so I can go out

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Mxolisi

Gugu: I still don't understand why they wanted you home to watch us, because we're old enough

I chuckle

Gugu: honestly this is unfair, who was watching you?

I side eye her , she's just being dramatic for nothing

I don't understand why she's sulking

Even minding Asanda would be so much better than these two

And in actually fact, she's the child. They're adults

Gugu: it's going to be a long

week

Me: don't worry, after the week I'm leaving

Gugu: great

Me: where is your brother?

Gugu: he's very strange, I

don't know

She shakes her head

This boy is a lot, he was in Eastern Cape

I heard a girl's voice in the background, and boom yesterday he came running here

So he's probably busy with his girl, the one he said moved here

Me: let's go out

Gugu: spoils?

Inod

She gets up laughing

Gugu: let me get my bag

Me: remember I am not rich

She giggles

Gugu: as long as I'm eating your money, it's all fine it doesn't matter

She runs upstairs, I'm left stunned

I text Casey, she hasn't been online since all morning

I wonder if she's okay

But I'm definitely not calling her

Gugu: I'm done

Me: that was fast

Gugu: you might change your mind

I chuckle getting up

Me: just a simple outing

Gugu: sure

We walk out getting into my car

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INSERT 03

Itumeleng

This house is beautiful

And his bedroom, is literally bigger than mine

Almost double the size

We're cuddled up on his bed, still naked

We just got here and had sex

Our sex life is good, honestly it's nothing I can ever complain about

We met like early last year, he had come to free state for visit

And we met, he asked for my numbers then later called me

And that was just the beginning of our relationship

And he's made quite a lot of trips to Bloemfontein, for the past year

And the distance between us, I think that's the one thing that made our sex life like this

I don't even feel somehow at all, if we see each other after a while

And the first thing we get to is sex

I know we'll get to talk, and cuddle after that

It doesn't bother me at all, or makes me think all he sees is sex with me

Because I know that's not the case

Mathonga: you loving Joburg?

Me: I'm anxious about school

Mathonga: you're going to be fine, my sister goes to the same school

Me: really?

Mathonga: mhm, I know you're going to make friends. You'll be fine

Me: I hope so

Mathonga: let's go, we'll grab something to eat as well I know you're hungry

He lifts up

Mathonga: but, let me get one for the road. We'll shower quickly

I laugh, as he gets on top of me parting my legs getting in between my thighs

I lay back, giving him more access

He grabs a condom, tearing the wrap

He slides it down his dick and slides it in

I gasps a bit accommodating him

He thrust in

Me: ahhhbaby I can feel the plastic, slide it back

I hate feeling the plastic wrap on me, I don't mind the condom But I don't want to feel it

He slides his dick out, and rolls the condom

He slides it in again

Mathonga: and now?

He asks staring into my eyes

Me: perfect

He chuckles leaning down, and he starts thrusting in as we kiss

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Gugulethu

We're back home from our little outing, and Mathonga is nowhere to be found

In a way, I'm glad only dad is home

Cause mom would freak out

That woman is very much overprotective

But we love her still

I feel like, she's like this cause we came into her life in her early thirties

I honestly don't think she was this hard with Mxo

Dad: is that fine?

I nod

I'm trying to bake , but I don't know

Mxo: that's just going to give us stomach ache

Me : as if you can do it better

Mxo: I won't, which is why I wouldn't even try unlike you

Me: it's better to try than

Mom: what's with the noise?

I look at her, as she walks through the kitchen door

Me: Mxo started it

Mom: are you still aware that he's your brother?

I nod just bored

She laughs

Mom: I'm sorry baby

Me: mhm-mhm Menzi your wife

I wipe my hands, and they laugh as I walk out of the kitchen

I go to the lounge, I sit down pressing my phone

She will finish that dough

Mxo walks in laughing

Mxo: Bhabha you're angry?

Me: why are you guys being mean? Especially you

He sighs sitting down next to me

Mxo: come on, I didn't mean to offend you

I pout

I'm like an outcast of some sort

I don't get along with people

Even at school, I don't have friends

Its just girls I'm used to, but that's where it ends

I think I just catch emotions way too quickly

Like right now , once I feel looked down on

I just react, and I act out

Mxo: I'm sorry

I nod

Mxo: at least say you forgive me

I laugh

Me : please leave me alone

Mxo: Menzi is all busy with his wife in there

Our parents are very awkward

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Itumeleng

Mathonga: I have to go home

Inod

Mathonga: like now it's late

I sigh

Me: I know

Mathonga: ngok k'theni umuncu? (So now why are you sour)

Me: Mathonga tsamaya o ye geno, before o tlo ntena (go home, you'll annoy me)

He laughs

Mathonga: ska fana ka kuku yame (don't give my pussy away)

I hit his shoulder

Me: mxm!

Mathonga: I love you

I peck his lips

Me: thank you for today

He took me to the salon, I got my hair done

And did my nails, nothing drastic just a buff and shine

Me : drive safe , call me when you get home

Mathonga: I'll call you as soon as I leave

I laugh

Me: give me a kiss so I go, I don't want my mother to freak. I'm sure she's done getting ready for work

Mathonga: ina into yakho (take your thing)

I smile leaning over, my one hand trails to his dick

I brush it over his jeans, my lips meeting his

We kiss for a few minutes, and we pull out

It's just sad having to part ways

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INSERT 04

Mxolisi

The parents are leaving today

The twins are saying their goodbyes

And I have to drive Gugu to school

They opened yesterday

And it doesn't make sense to me, why I have to drive her

I can't believe mom drives her to school like everyday

Mathonga is the one who takes an Uber

I mean, these people are the same and the one

I don't understand this different treatment

It's just crazy

I dial her number, it rings for a while before she answers

Casey: baby?

Me: you good?

Casey: I miss you

I chuckle

Me: I miss you too, my parents are leaving today. You can come over for a sleep over, maybe two days

She laughs

Casey: with your siblings there

Me: don't worry about them, they won't even know you're here

Casey: so you'll be hiding me?

I chuckle

Me: you'll hide yourself

Voice : we have to go , or else I'll be late

I sigh

Me: yhoh Gugu ndiyeza (I'm coming)

Gugu: yhoh dude okay, there's no need to be rude

This child!

She turns walking away

Me : so you'll tell me right ?

Casey: yes, I think I'll come

Me: okay, I love you

Casey: I love you more

I drop the call walking to where everyone is at

Me: travel safe

Mom: no parties in my house Mxo

I smile

Me: noted

Dad: she doesn't trust you

Ishrug

Me: she might as well not trust me with her kids

She frowns , I place a kiss on her cheek

Me: bye, Bhabha let's go

Gugu: bye mommy, bye daddy

I take her school bag, and we walk out heading to my car

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Itumeleng

I take a deep breath

It doesn't matter how much my mother spoke to me

How she told me that I will be fine

And that I have nothing to be worried about

Just being here, standing in front of this gate

It's all just so insane

And yesterday I didn't pay attention to anything

To be honest, I think I'll just have a tough time adjusting

I'm open, I'm out there yes

But there's also that side to me that's just quite and a bit of down

I look around, and I just see students walking in

My mother is not transporting me, I take an Uber

I can't make her work extra like that

There's too many kids here, I don't know how they keep up with each other

I walk in , I can't stand by the gate forever

And I'm thankful it's not assembly today

Private schools are just way too different than the public schools I used to attend

The first two days when school opens in January, were really not productive

We used to just collect books on the first day, and the second day it'll be said we need to use it to cover books

Not this side no , it's school right away

We got stationary yesterday, and today we're full on uniform it's just insane

I'm glad I don't get lost, I still remember the class I was allocated

I walk in , and few students have sat down

I see a girl sitting by the corner all alone

I walk to her desk, seeing that everyone is paring

Me: hi

She lifts her head I smile, and she smiles back

Her: hi

Me: is this seat taken?

Her: uhm no, you can sit

Me: thank you

She moves over, I pass behind her pulling out the other chair

Me: my name is Itumeleng by the way

She looks my way as I sit down

Her: I'm Gugulethu, but everyone calls me Gugu

Me: pleased to meet you

Gugu: Likewise, are you new?

I first saw you yesterday

Me: just moved from

Bloemfontein

Gugu: Okay

We settle as the teacher walks in

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Gugulethu

Itu is nice

Maybe I'm jumping too fast

But it's been an amazing day with her

And she's so easy to talk to

Like the way she's so beautiful, I thought she'll be one of these snobs

But she gave me something different today

Unless if it was just her first day, and she's still yet to show her true colours

Itu: that's my ride, I'll see you tomorrow

Me: okay babe

She walks to the Uber

I could have offered her a lift, but it's Mxo

If only if was Mathonga, I'm sure he wouldn't have minded

Rude Mxo arrives

I walk to the car, and I'm just annoyed seeing the white girl in front

I open the back door and get in

He stares at me

Mxo: don't you know how to greet?

Me: hi

I take my phone out, and get busy with it

He sighs and drives off

Mxo: what's with the attitude?

Me: there's none, I've found a friend. Can I take an Uber with her

Mxo: no

Mxm!

Me: but

Mxo: but nothing Gugu, mom said I'm to drop and pick you at school. Please don't make my life difficult

Instead of coming to fetch me, he goes to get his white thingy

If I was using Uber, I would have long left school

Me: but it's fine, Itu uses it to Hyde Park and she's fine

Mxo: yeah well that's fine for her, you're not Itu wena (you) you're Gugulethu Dlamini

Mxo is not a cool brother, in case I forgot to say that

Dad says he took mom's Xhosa side

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INSERT 05

A WEEK LATER

Mxolisi

Me : so are you coming?

Casey: yes baby, I'll be there

I don't know

But I'm not trusting her right now

She left two days ago

And I feel like she won't come back

I'm having a get together

And we'll just be having drinks, and good food

It's a weekend, I can rest from guarding the twins

Me : okay I'll see you later

Casey: okay baby

I drop the call

Gugu: are we allowed to join in?

Me: no

She sighs

Me: food you can take, but stay away from alcohol

They're not about to get drunk in my presence

Gugu: thank you, I think I'll invite my friend over

Me: for what?

Gugu: just for a sleep over nothing hectic

I chuckle

Me : let's hope that's all there

is

Gugu: and eating your food, nothing else

We laugh

Gugu: let me go call her

Me : okay

She gets up walking up

Evan and the guys will come a bit later

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Gugulethu

Me : okay

I drop the call

Mathonga: what's up?

Me: nothing

He chuckles

Mathonga: what's going on in this house, I see people coming in and out what's that?

Gugu: Mxo is having friends over

Me: oh, right after Ayanda said no parties

I laugh

Me: that's their business, I don't want to get involved. But I've invited my friend, and she says she's on her way. She was

coming for a visit, so she'll call her mother when she gets here and ask to sleep over

Mathonga: do you think that's wise?

Me: what?

Mathonga: having your girl friend here, while Mxo will be having his guy friends all over

this house drunk? Won't that be somehow?

Me: no it won't be, it's not like we'll be joining the party

Mathonga: doesn't she have a boyfriend?

I think she does

Although we've never spoken about boys, but I think Itu does have a boyfriend

Me : she does

Mathonga: no boyfriend would allow such

I laugh

Me: speak for yourself

I walk away from him, I just have to prepare snacks for us

We'll stay in my room

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Itumeleng

The relationship between Gugu and I

I can safely say that we're friends

I mean, we call each other

We're always with each other at school

So the friendship is there

And today, I was visiting her when she called and asked me to sleep over

Since I had already left home, I'll call my mother and ask her

But of course, if she says no I'm going back home

I don't even have a change of clothes

And I'm a bit chubby than Gugu, I doubt her clothes would fit me

I'm stunned as the Uber stops, and I realise where I am

I take out my phone and call her

Gugu: babe

Me: dude I think I'm lost

Gugu: but how?

Me: right now I'm in front of my boyfriend's home

She laughs

Gugu: you can't ditch me for a dick

Me: that's the thing, I came to the address you gave me.

Gugu: oh gosh, let me run outside and see

I get off the car, the driver just drives off

I wait a bit the gate opens, and it's Mathonga's car

He stops next to me

Mathonga: what's this?

He asks with a smile

Me: what?

I have a frown on

Mathonga: surprise visit?

Me: no l'm.....

I'm not telling him I might be lost

Me: I'm not here for you

Mathonga: who are you here for?

Me: like

I just look around to see if I can see Gugu anywhere

Even if it's down or up the street

He gets out of the car

Mathonga: baby, I will snap whoever you're here for and it's not me

I laugh

Mathonga: don't do me like that, why didn't you call that you're coming?

Voice: but you're here

She says coming out of the gate

Me: yeah I am apparently

Gugu: but you saidwhoa wait, you're dating Mathonga?

Mathonga: what's it to you?

Gugu: couldn't you find a better trash than my brother?

Brother?

Mathonga: mxm! Babe what's going on?

Me: I came to see Gugu

Mathonga: don't leave until I come back

Gugu: she's spending the night, don't even think of stealing her from me

Mathonga: you'll be getting drunk here without me?

I know nothing about that

Mathonga: there's a party going on

Me: I Didn't know

Gugu: yeah it's not our thing

Mathonga: don't lie, you're going to steal Mxolisi's booze.

And he will fuck you up we know that, so please stay away

from his people. Babe here ...take this

He reaches in his pocket, and takes out a key

Mathonga: don't let Gugu in my room, there's like 12 of Ice Tropez in there and 24 of those ciders you love. Take that booze and drink, but be in her room. And don't take Gugu to drink in my room

I laugh

Me: why do you have so much alcohol in your room?

Mathonga: I was planning to steal you one of these days

He pecks my lips

Gugu: I'm here

Mathonga: get away, and there's biltong. I know you love salty things when you drink

Me: thank you baby

Mathonga: I'm coming

Me: for real you're coming

right?

Mathonga: yeah, give me a kiss. Let me go

Gugu: I'm out of here, you'll follow me

I laugh as she walks back inside the yard

Mathonga holds me closer to him as we kiss

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INSERT 06

Itumeleng

I've been calling Mathonga, and he wasn't answering before

But now his phone doesn't even go through

I'm annoyed to be honest

He said he's coming back, and it's late now like 21:00

He's still nowhere to be found

Makes me wonder about these disappearing acts of his, because it's a thing with him

I thought he would stop really, now that I'm close by

Especially because today he knows I'm at his place

Gugu: still nothing?

I shake my head, taking a sip of my cider

Me: I'm done calling your brother, this just makes me desperate

Gugu: how did you two meet anyways?

I laugh

Me: we actually met last year

Gugu: so you've been pushing a long distance relationship for a year?

Me: yes

Gugu: girl you're strong, but I know my twin brother is

Me: twin brother?

She laughs

Gugu: we're twins, not identical though. As you can see, we don't look alike

Me: wow

Mathonga never told me he's a twin

But then again it's not like we spoke about our families

Me : let me go get water

She laughs

Gugu: you're robbing me, you've been drinking water to stay sober

Me: don't worry, now I want to sober up so I can get drunk and sleep

Gugu: you'll find me here

I get up , walking out to the kitchen

And it's so loud, the music is just a lot

There's a few people from the lounge

I just head to the kitchen, I grab a bottle of water from the fridge and lean by the counter drinking

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Mxolisi

Evan: this party is popping and happening, I'm glad that girl of yours is not here

I chuckle walking away from him

I head inside the house, and it's just the few guys and girls smoking hubbly by the lounge

I take two pulls, and walk to the kitchen

My eyes can't help but stare at that ass

Not my type nor my size, but fuck!

I clear my throat, and she turns looking at me.

Drinking from the bottle of water

I don't know who she is , I've never seen her

I walk closer, she doesn't flinch nor does she move away

Me: Iwhere have you been?

She smiles

Her: around

Me: mhm, can I take you

around

Her: depends

Me: on?

I lean over getting closer to her, my face just inches away from hers

Her: where exactly?

I chuckle

Her: I have no desire to leave the premises

Me : you're just in luck

I take her hand, she follows through

We go up, going into my room

I close the door locking

I pin he against the wall, she trails her hand to my dick

Me: fuck!

She pulls my shorts down, I take her top off

I push her slowly, walking with her towards the bed. I lay her down on the bed taking my tshirt off

She sit up pulling my briefs off, my dick spring's up

She crawls getting on her knees, she takes my balls into her hands playing with them

She takes my dick into her mouth, and sucks on me for dear life

I spank her ass cheeks as she goes in further, she gags deep throating

I shoot up my cum inside of her mouth, she moves back slowly swallowing

We lock eyes, I lay her back down pulling her jeans off and panty

She takes her bra off

I get in between her thighs, rubbing on her coochie

She pulls a pillow, and slides it underneath her ass

Me: fuck!

She's damn wild as they come

Me: get a pill tomorrow please

Her: sure

I need not to hear more

I slide my dick inside of her warm coochie

I deep grunt as she welcomes me with a sweet moan

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Itumeleng

I feel like shit right now

I'm not even that drunk, I messed up

If I could leave, I would like right away and just go home

I put on my top, he's also getting dressed

Him: please don't forget that pill

Me: my mother is a nurse, I'm covered

He chuckles

Him: you tell your mother such things?

I put on my sneakers saying nothing

Him: wish I was having you the whole night

I smile

Me: too bad

I head towards the door

Me: bye

I walk out , fixing myself

I go back to Gugu's room, she's laying on the floor still drinking

Gugu: you've been gone for like 45 minutes

Shit!

Me: I was drinking with the people downstairs, I'm sorry.
They caught me off guard, that party is happening

She laughs

Gugu: and I thought your man arrived and you ditched me for him

Me: I wish

I take my sneakers off getting on the bed

I take an Ice Tropez

Me : let's get drunk

She laughs taking another can of a cider

Tomorrow I'll deal with the consequences of my recklessness and cheating

I don't want to pound my head on this right now

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INSERT 07

Itumeleng

I woke up too early, after a deep night of sleep. Without even waking up at night

Checked my phone, and there was still nothing from my so called boyfriend

Whoever knows what's going on in Mathonga's head, is one lucky person

Gugu borrowed me her sweater, just so I don't repeat my t-shirt

We've showered

I just want to leave, but she said we must have breakfast

Gugu: this is fine right?

I nod

I call my mother, after a few rings she answers

Mom: baby

Me: are you home?

Mom: still at the hospital, I'll be leaving in a few minutes though

Me : okay , I'll be going home soon too

Mom: okay, I'm glad you called. I know you're safe

I laugh

Me: I didn't go anywhere, I've been with Gugu

Mom: okay my baby

Me: I love you

Mom: I love you too

I drop the call

Voice: should I be concerned

Mxm!

Gugu: disappearance

Mathonga: Gugu give us space please

Gugu: I'm making food

Mathonga: please

She sighs walking out

Mathonga: baby

Me: uhm I need to get home, can we meet later and talk?

I get off the chair

Mathonga: now you're scaring me

Me: is that fine?

Mathonga: uhmbabe I'm sorry about last night, I was coming back but then

Me: don't explain, it's fine.
You'll tell me if you're keen on
meeting or not

I grab my phone

Mathonga: and now?

Me: I'm leaving

Mathonga: let's go up and talk

Me: no

He sighs

Mathonga : let me take you home please

Me: I'm going to call an Uber

Mathonga: okay, we're not doing this. Let me take you home, and then we can talk in the car

He says already leading the way out

I text Gugu that I'm leaving, as I follow him out

Passing the lounge, there's a few people asleep on the couch

He opens the door to his car for me

I get in , he jogs to his side and drives out

Gugu sends me sad emoji's , I just laugh

Mathonga: I'm sorry about last night really

I say nothing until we get to my home

We get out of the car

Mathonga: I thought we would talk

Me: I'm sorry

He leans against his car

I can see my mother hasn't arrived, I just hope she doesn't catch us here

Mathonga: you're sorry about what babe?

Me: this, it's over

He raises his brow

Mathonga: what?

Me: I won't lie, you've always known how I hate these disappearing acts of yours. I thought things would change when we're closer to each other, but look what you did last night . But then again , I'm breaking up with you because I cheated

He frowns

Me: I have no excuse, I slept with some guy at your house from the party last night. I'm ashamed of myself, so I think it's best we just part ways. I know what I did, and I wasn't even drunk

He just stares at me

Me: I'm sorry, you can do your disappearing acts and not worry about me cheating on you

I turn opening the small gate, I get in

Feeling tears burning my eyes, I wipe them as they drop down my cheeks

I use my keys opening the door, and it's so quite

I go into my mother's room, and just go through the medication cabinet

I know I will find the morning after pills in here

She keeps a lot of pills around

And I find them , I head downstairs

And take the pill

I make her breakfast, just simple breakfast

I hear the door opening, I peek through and it's her

Mom: did you run away?

I laugh

Me: no

Mom: I didn't think you'll get here before me

She puts her bag on the chair next to the one she sits on

I guess Mathonga left, since she's not asking about a car on her gate

Mom: how was your sleep over?

I sigh

Me: I think it must never happen again

Mom: was it that bad?

Me: no Gugu is cool, but I just think Joburg is too fast for me. I need to slow down

Mom: nothing bad happened right?

Me: not bad no

In one night, I sleep with some random guy

And my boyfriend and I are just done, just like that

But it's for the best

If someone was fucking around while with me, I would appreciate they tell me the truth

In my case, it's best he knows the truth and we go our separate ways

I just hope it doesn't make the situation awkward between Gugu and I

But we were still friends, even before she knew about me and her brother

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Gugulethu

Me: you're fuming

He looks at me

Mathonga: what happened last night?

Me: with?

Mathonga: did at some point, ltu get away from you?

I try to think

Me: nouhm yeah she did, said she was drinking with everyone downstairs

Mathonga: you're sure?

Me: yeah

He's angry, like seriously angry

Me: did something happen to her?

I've never seen Mathonga this angry

Me: what's going on? You also said you're coming back, and you didn't

He just walks away from , and I'm left stunned like what just happened?

What was that?

Now I wonder what's going on

Maybe I should ask Itu herself, or maybe they got into an argument as they were going

back to her home . I mean Mathonga was fine when they left

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INSERT 08

Mxolisi

It's been a crazy weekend

I'm glad it's done and over for

I just want this week to end, so the parents can come back and mind their kids

And I leave

I'm tired being home already

I pick up the call

Casey: baby I'm sorry

I'm so over her ditching me last minute at the night of the party

And I wasn't going to beg her to come

Casey: please let me come see you

Me: sure

She sighs

Casey: okay, I'll call when I get there

Me : okay

Casey: I love you

Me: me too

She sighs, I drop the call

Just because I'm over it, doesn't mean she must have it easy

She's ought to know that I can't take such disappointments from my own girlfriend

She could have said she won't make it, instead of just telling me later on and didn't even any sane reasoning

Especially because I asked her

And she assured me that she would come

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Itumeleng

I've been on the down low

Haven't been myself

I miss him so bad

But I know we're better off like this

Guys don't forgive cheating, honestly he will just play me and revenge if I dare crawl back to him

He hasn't called, nor texted

And to avoid texting or calling him, I've deleted his number

Me: must I come inside?

We're standing by the gate

We have a project to do, and we're paired together

Gugu: why don't you want to come inside? You even suggested we do the project at your home, what's wrong?

Ishrug

Gugu: what happened between you and Mathonga? Because even he's not himself since weekend

Me : please go change so we can leave

I laugh

I don't want to talk about her brother

Gugu: fine let me

The gate opens, and a car drives out

But stops right where we're standing

Gugu: I told you I'm taking an Uber, don't get on my case

I'm shocked seeing the guy she's talking to

His eyes are stuck on me

Gugu: I'm coming

I nod

She walks inside the gate

Him: the fuck are you doing here?

I just stare at him

Him: that was just sex, please don't get any ideas

With that being said he drives off, and I'm just left with my mind trailing off

After a while Gugu comes back

Me: uhmmy mother should still be home, I'll bring you back with her car

Gugu: no problem, we'll Uber to your home

Me : sure , uhm..... the guy who just drove out

Gugu: what about him?

Me: who is he?

She laughs with a smile

Gugu: that's Mxolisi, our bigger brother. He's doing his 5^{th} year of medicine at Wits university, he's just home because our parents are away. He's the one who threw that

crazy insane party over the weekend

Oh shit!

I slept with Mathonga's brother

I feel my knees just going weak

I mean that didn't even cross my mind at all

It was a fucking damn party

I mean, anyone and everyone fucks in the host house

Not caring if they know the owner or not

I didn't even care to look around the room

So I couldn't even tell if it was his or what

What have I done?

I hope they just never find out

I don't care about myself

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Gugulethu

Itu's place is all beautiful

And you can't say she lives there

The way she's so down

You'll think she's some middle class girl

We didn't finish, but it was getting late

And her mother will need her car for work

She's such a nice woman

I feel like the two have a sister and friend relationship

She looks and seems so free around her mother, they talk freely with each other

Me: thank you for bringing me back

Itu: it's okay, we'll finish the rest tomorrow

Me : okay

Mathonga parks at the gate, and he walks out coming towards us

Mathonga: what are you doing here?

His tone is just off

Me: why are you

Itu: I should go

Me : no , Mathonga why are you being rude ?

Mathonga: rude? I left her here and she goes on to fuck guys in our parents home, and you're telling me I'm rude?

My jaw drops

I can't believe what my ears just heard right now

Itu: bye

Me: waitwait what?

He clicks his tongue walking back to his car and he drives in

Me: what is he talking about?

Itu: it was I'm sorry I disrespected your parents house like that

Me: Itumeleng no!

I raise my voice a bit, she sighs

Me: how could you hurt my brother like that? And in our home

Itu: I'm sorry, I came clean to Mathonga and I broke things off. It's not like I planned or intended for that

Me: and that makes it right? Why did you even cheat in the first? And please don't even make alcohol an excuse, you weren't that drunk Itumeleng

Itu: I know

Me: wow I actually can't believe you right now, you fucked some guy and sat down with me. You lied and said you were drinking

This is just beyond being shocked

Me: you know what, let's finish this project and end whatever we had

Itu: Gugu

I shake my head

Me: no, this friendship is done

I turn walking inside the yard, and as I close the gate she drives off

This girl!

I just cannot believe her

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INSERT 09

Gugulethu

I'm still stunned by what Itu did

I knock in his room, and it's quite

I try opening the door, but it's locked

I didn't see him downstairs

Me: Mathonga?

I call out, but there's nothing

Me: please open

Mathonga: not now, I need to rest

I sigh

Me: should I bring you food?

Mathonga: no

I'm defeated

I walk downstairs and stumble on Mxolisi

Me: hi

Mxo: Bhabha

We sit down

Mxo: who was that girl?

Me: what girl?

Mxo: the one who was at the gate with you earlier on?

I sigh

Me: that's Itumeleng, she's my..... Well she was my friend

Mxo: was?

I nod

Mxo: the friendship died too

soon

Me : yeah well , she's too loose

for me

Mxo: what?

He pops his eyes looking at me

Me: mhm

Mxo: why would you say such a harsh thing?

Me: the night of your party, she slept with one of your party people in here. In our parents home, like where is the respect?

He sighs

Me: on top of that, she dumps Mathonga for that

He looks at me, and I can't really comprehend his expression. Mxolisi is not easily read, unless he gives in

Mxo: she's his girlfriend?

Me: was, she told him what she did and broke things off with him

Mxo: mhm!

Me: I can't keep such a friend

Mxo: you.... Who did she sleep with?

Me: I don't know, I just hope it wasn't in the parents bedroom

He clears his throat getting up

Me: teach your people manners next time they come to people's houses

Mxo: yeah

He walks out

I lie down on the couch

I can't believe I've lost a friend, I'm back to square one

I just hope my brother will be okay

I cannot imagine my boyfriend hurting me like that

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Mxolisi

Like what the fuck!

Did I have to fuck with my brother's girlfriend?

I so hope no one ever finds out that

And why would she tell him, what she did?

Are girls like really that naïve?

I mean, he's a fucking cheater himself. So she could have just used that

Or said this is not working anymore

Not this shit of telling him, she fucked up

Mathonga will never forgive me if he ever finds out that

My parents better get back so I can leave

This is getting crazy!

I didn't even think she's here for anyone, I just thought she was here for a party

I didn't even think anything about her

Even after the sex, she left

And I got dressed, and went back to the party

In the early hours of the morning, I just went to my room and slept

I didn't even bring any girl in there

Sure at some point, I wished she didn't leave

So we could have spent the night together

Because I didn't even see her anywhere out there

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Itumeleng

Mom: what's going on?

She's about to leave for work

I just cuddled up after dropping off Gugu

Me: nothing

She smiles

Mom: you know you can talk to me right?

If I tell her about Gugu, then I'll have to tell her about everything else

So it's best I just keep it all to myself, I don't want to tell her about all of that. We've just arrived here

I'm just back to school and I won't be having any friends

Me: don't worry, it'll pass

Mom: you were in the medicine cabinet, are you well? Health wise I mean

I laugh

This woman, you cannot do anything or touch any of her things and she doesn't notice someone was there

Me: that was days ago

Mom: I know

Me: I just wanted some pills, but I'm not sick

Mom: okay, eat something.

Don't be late for school tomorrow

Me : I'll set an alarm , I won't be late

Mom: okay, I'll call you just to make sure

Me: woman bye

She laughs grabbing her car keys

I get up just so I can lock up

I'll probably just fall asleep right on the couch

I'm just down

The way Gugu just went on at me

But I don't blame her

I guess this is just it

Mom: bye

Me : bye

I close the car door, and head back inside

She drives out

I know she will lock the gate

I lock the door, head back to the couch

I flip over the channels, just trying to find something to watch

I settle on a reality show

It doesn't even interest me that much

I end up just taking my phone

I go online on Facebook

Check out a few messages, nothing that interesting

I have 5 new friend requests

I check, and I'm surprised seeing a request from Mxolisi Dlamini

The profile picture is his, and he's with some white chick

Well more like she's mixed

I remove the friend request, we're not friends

He shouldn't get used to me like that

I think it's best I keep my distance from that family

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INSERT 10

Mxolisi

Casey: baby?

I look at her

Casey: shouldn't you be up?

I heave a sigh

Casey: you have morning class

Me: I know, and I'm going home after that

Casey: okay, for how long?

Me: just two days

Casey: okay, so I'll go to my place. And I'll see you when you get back, I can't stay here with Evan we'll kill each other

I laugh

Things have been better the past two months

We got over whatever shit was going on

And we're back to being us now

Me : let me get up , you'll make the bed right ?

She laughs

Me: babe

Casey: stop being lazy, but I'll do it

I get up , placing a kiss on her lips

I walk to the bathroom

I tried reaching to that girl

I just wanted her not to tell Mathonga that she slept with me

But since she ignored me, and I saw she removed my friend request

I just let her be

And I left the situation there, just the way it is

But she hasn't bothered me

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Gugulethu

Time has passed

And things have been so awkward between Itu and I

She's keeping to herself, she's not even making new friends

But I've made a friend Cleo

He's not gay, he's very much straight

But we get along just fine as friends

Itu just keeps to herself

We just greet each other and that's it

Mathonga has just been himself

I haven't seen any changes from him

So I guess he's fine with the break up

Schools are about to close for the March holidays

But we will still be attending school, we have extra classes scheduled

So it's no rest for us

Mom: Mxo is coming today

Me : oh , for the holidays already ?

She laughs

Mom: he would never, I think it's just for a few days

Me: I hope he can take me shopping

Dad: you want to suck him dry

I laugh

Me: not like that, but just to spend his money a bit

Dad: what's a bit?

Me: even a thousand

He laughs

Dad: good luck

My parents are stingy

Can't they just give me even R500? And Mxo will add on that

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Mxolisi

I get home, and only Mathonga is home

I guess my parents are at work

I don't know where Gugu is at, I know Asanda keeps in her room most times. She lives like a princess up there

Me: you okay?

Mathonga: yeah

I sigh sitting down

Me: you know Bhabha told me what happened?

He frowns

Mathonga: that was two months ago

Me: but let's be honest, did you even love that chick? Like honestly Mathonga: what do you mean?

Me: like I know you were fucking around in Eastern Cape

Mathonga: and so that meant she also has to fuck around, worse in here?

I don't know what he's angry about

The fact that she did it here, or the fact that she just did what he did

Me: young brother, when you give a woman shit. You better be ready to take it when she gives it to you

He sighs

Mathonga: doesn't matter, it's not like she knew what I was doing. But that's done

Me : so you won't reach out ?

He chuckles shaking his head

Mathonga: I would be the biggest fool, if I were to get back with her again

Me : so she's been quite ?

Mathonga: yeah, I think she even deleted my numbers . She must have cheated on me back in Bloemfontein, clearly she can't keep her legs closed. And she saw this as an opportunity to break things off , so she can do her whoering in peace. This is Joburg, and city lights do drive village girls insane

He gets up and walks into the kitchen

He's very bitter

But I guess we can all put this behind us

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Itumeleng

I finish packing her lunch box

She's working day shifts this month

And I must say, I enjoy the day shifts because we get to spend evenings together

It has just made me also put everything that happened behind me

I haven't seen nor spoken to Mathonga, ever since the break up

Gugu and I, we're just people

I'm not anyhow at her

She's made a friend, as for me I think it's best I don't even try

I'm fine on my own

She walks in , already ready and dressed for work

I wipe the counter, and place the cloth in the sink

Mom: you're up early

I am

Earlier than usual

And I still have an hour to get ready for school

Mom: did you sleep well?

Me: I was restless

Mom: I see

I look at her

Mom: you're worrying me

Me: don't be worried, some nights are just not like others

She nods, looking at me intensely

And it's like there's something she wants to say

Mom: are we going to talk about this?

She sits down

And I'm thinking she's going to grab her bag and leave

Me: talk about what?

Mom: sit down

I sit down besides her

Mom: I've noticed some changes on you

I frown with confusion

Me: what changes?

Mom: are you pregnant?

I look down, this I did not expect nor did I even see it coming

Mom: the past week, you've been throwing up in the mornings. And you haven't been eating breakfast as usual

I lift my eyes and look at her, and she sounds serious. She's not lying either, I haven't been myself

Mom: if you are, I think you're still in your early months. So tell me now

I heave a sigh

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INSERT 11

Itumeleng

Mom: I've never been anyhow towards you, and I've always told you that anything happens. You come to me first

I nod

Mom: so?

Me: I missed my periods last month

Mom: and this month?

Me: there's nothing

She sighs

There's pregnancy tests in the cabinet I know

But I've been so scared to take one

I think I know, even my body feels somehow

And the sad thing, is that this situation is just messed up

Mom: who is he?

Me: just some guy

Mom: Itumeleng

Me: the situation is justit's all just a mess

Mom: talk to me

Me: it was just a one night thing, when I went for the sleep over at Gugu's home Mom: now I know I did not raise a liar, did you even go there?

Me: I did, it happened there.
It's her brother, I didn't know.
I found out like days later

She goes quite I'm even scared to look at her

Me: II was dating her twin brother, I just made a mistake with this one . And I broke things off with the boyfriend that morning, knowing what I had done. And I felt so bad after finding out they're brother's, I kept my distance. When Gugu found out, she also didn't want the friendship anymore

I lift my eyes

Mom: does he know?

I shake my head

Me : even I'm not sure , but it's been two months

Mom: and the morning sickness?

It's not easy living with a nurse

Me: yes, but I was scared. I took the morning after pills

Mom: but between the brothers are you sure it's this one?

Me: I'm sure

I was always safe with Mathonga, like all the time

It didn't matter where we were , we would always use protection

Mom: let's go take a test, and I'll take you to the hospital for blood tests. And also, so we know exactly how far along you are. It's best we talk about something we're sure of, instead of just speculating

Me: going on the third month, it's like two months and a week

Mom: we have to tell those people

Me: must we? He will probably just deny this whole thing, and it's just going to shame me. He already told me it's waswell, and that I shouldn't get any ideas

Mom: it's done now, and you shouldn't even care about the shame . You've had two months knowing they're brother's, you're keeping this baby. And we'll let them know , they'll decide what to do . No one will force them to do anything, but they must know

This is a mess

Mom: morning pill doesn't work when one is stressed

I was sad over my relationship during that time

Mom: go take the test, and don't use water. I know the difference

I get off the chair

Me: as if I can lie to you

She laughs, I go to her bedroom

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Gugulethu

I'm shocked, that she's here and seems like she wants to talk

Me: hi

I greet her back

Itu: can we talk?

Me: about?

She sighs

Itu: I need your brothers

number?

I frown

Me: which one?

Itu: your older brother

I laugh

Me : no , move on . Mxolisi has a girlfriend

Itu: I don't

Me: it would be best that you stay away from my brother, actually both of them

Itu: okay thanks for nothing

She turns and walks away

Me: mxm! And the attitude

Cleo: ah why were you rude?

Me: rude? You have no idea what that girl did, and she has no business wanting anything to do with my brother's

Cleo: but it was just a number

Me: she won't get it from me, and mostly definitely not from me. She has some nerve

He laughs

I hope Mxo won't entertain this girl, because she will just cause a wedge between him and Mathonga

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Itumeleng

Mom: and?

I went to the hospital after school

And indeed I'm pregnant, 9 weeks

So definitely this baby is Mxolisi's baby

If I could have my way, I would keep it and stay as far away from him as I can

But unfortunately my mother is keen on telling them

Hence I asked for his numbers from Gugu

Me: she said no

Mom: oh!

She's the one who said I should ask for his number

And tell him so he can tell his family, and they can expect us

Or at least, he knows that we're coming

But I guess that won't happen

Me: can't we just let this go? I know I disappointed you but

Mom: but nothing, I'm taking you there tomorrow morning

Me: no

Mom: I already asked to arrive late at work, before we go to school we're going there

Me: butI'm almost three months, can't we just wait until first trimester?

I don't want stress

Mom: no, the sooner they know the better. And we can know where they stand

Wow!

I feel like we're going to get chased out of that house

And how will Mathonga react?

I fucked up

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Mxolisi

Casey: I thought you were coming back today?

I sigh

Me: yeah, but my mother is dead set on me staying around

Casey: baby

She's about to sulk and I can't take it

Me: I'll talk to her, even later on I can still come

Casey: mhm, I'm sleeping at my place cause you're not sure if you're coming or not

Me: okay, I'll call you

Casey: bye

The drama!.

And like for what?

Relationships are just a lot of work

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INSERT 12

Gugulethu

I open the door, and I'm just stunned seeing her and her mother

Me: uhmwhat are you doing here?

I whisper to her

But she has her head bowed down

Ms Kekana: Gugu are your parents home?

Me: uhm

Voice : Gugu please go get ready

My mother says coming down the stairs

Me : please come in

I make way for them, and they walk in

I look at my mother closing the door behind me

Mom: leave us

She says, and I don't need to be told again

I pass them walking upstairs

Passing my father going down

Dad: what's going on?

Me: I don't know

He frowns walking down, and I go to my room

I'm wondering what's Itu doing here with her mother so early

And is she not going to school?

Cause she didn't look like she's going

She was just dressed in casual

Now I can't wait to hear what's happening

If we were still friends, I'm sure I would know what bought them here

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Itumeleng

I'm sitting next to my mother

I feel like I've committed the biggest crime ever

I have my head bowed down

I'm sure Gugu has told her brother I'm here

The sooner we're done and out of this house, the better

I'm sure Mxolisi is not around

I remember Gugu saying he's at varsity, and he doesn't stay around here

Mom: I'm really sorry to just come into your house this early

Mrs Dlamini: MaKekana is anything the matter?

The way she's calling my mother, it's like they know each other

Mom: this is my daughter Itumeleng, and I've just found

out that she's with child. And your son is responsible

Mrs Dlamini: uhm..... I have two sons, which one?

Mom: what's his name again?

This woman, she is just putting me out there

Me: Mxolisi

I hear the father sigh

Mrs Dlamini: I hear you, and we will have to ask Mxolisi this. Because he's not home, he left very late last night

My heart is beating so fast, I just have this fear I don't understand where I'm getting it from and why do I have it

Mom: I understand, I will wait to hear from you

She takes my hand and we get up

Mom: thank you, we'll take our leave

Mrs Dlamini: can't you at least stay for tea?

Mom: no, I have to get to work she has school

Mrs Dlamini: I understand, I will ask Mxolisi home. So we can talk to him, and I will get back to you

Mom: thank you

We head to the door, and as we walk out I see Gugu and Mathonga standing by the stairs

They don't look happy at all

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Gugulethu

This is a mess

And it's about to get crazy in here

Mathonga: you knew about this?

I shake my head no, but not entirely because I'm not sure what he's asking about

Mathonga: Mxolisi couldn't find another whore to fuck? It just had to be mine

Me: Ma...

He turns going back to his room, I grab my phone calling

Mxolisi

And he doesn't answer

I call again

Me: finally!

Mxo: Bhabha, what is it?

Me: it must be nice being you, you're sleeping there. Your brothers ex girlfriend was here with her mother, and she says she's pregnant with your child. Mathonga heard all of that, and he's fuming

Mxo: fuck!

And he drops the call on me

I lean against the wall, shaking my head

This is drama!

And just trouble brewing

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Mxolisi

That girl better not be fucking with me

Especially after I told her like twice, to get a pill

And she fucking told me her mother is a nurse, and she's covered

Two months later, she shows up and she's pregnant

She better not fuck with me

I drive in at home

Casey wasn't happy when I left

But I couldn't stay there, I had to come here and find out what's going on

I walk in

Mom: ah you came, before we even called you

She says coming in

Me: where is Bhabha?

Mom: she told you?

Me: I need to speak to her

Mom: did you impregnate that girl Mxo?

Me: mom please, not now

I jog upstairs, and meet Gugu at the door of her bedroom walking out

Gugu: I'm late for school

Me: I'm taking you, let's go

We rush down

Mom: you better come back

here

Me: yes

We head out, getting into my car

Me : give me her number

Gugu: Mxo

Me: give it

She sighs taking my phone

Me: and it better be the right

now

Gugu: Mathonga is not happy

Me: oh come on! Sure I fucked him up, I didn't know. But he's also fucked her up

She looks at me with her eyes popped

Me: get out

I say stopping at the school gate

She gets out not happy nor pleased, and I drive back home

Now I have to face my parents

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INSERT 13

Itumeleng

Gugu: couldn't you just stay away from brother's?

It's after school, and girl has been giving me evil eyes all days long

And now she's giving it to me

Gugu: like do you even care that you've now caused a rift between them?

As if they're kids, they'll fucking get over it

Gugu: I wish I never met you honestly, because we wouldn't be here

Me: okay

I turn my back walking away from her

And I take a taxi today, I don't have the time and energy waiting for an uber

The taxi drops me a bit further away from home, but I walk anyways

I get in , and walk upstairs to my room

I take my clothes off, just wearing leggings and a baggy t-shirt

I grab my home work books, and walk back down

Placing them in the lounge

I walk to the kitchen, making myself something light to eat

And I walk back to the lounge, and my phone is ringing

I don't even know the number, I lean back answering

Me: hello?

Voice: listen, I don't know what the fuck you think you're doing. I told you to get a fucking pill, now you're gonna try an trap me with your baby. Go find someone else to pin that baby to not me, leave me the fuck alone

He's breathing fire

I guess they've told him already

Me: okay bye

I drop the call blocking the number that called me

Fuck these people have drama for days

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Mxolisi

Dad: I won't ask you nothing, because you know your deeds

I sigh

Me: it's not me

I say shaking my head

My father just looks at me and gets up walking upstairs

Mom: Mxolisi

Me: ma please (mom)

I get up walking upstairs

I haven't seen Mathonga

But I know he's in his room

When I got back from dropping Gugu

There was no one home, even my parents

So I had to stick around and wait for them

I knock, and it's just quite

I open the door, and it's not locked

I walk in , he's laying on the bed

Me: I'm sorry, like really for what it's worth I am sorry. I found her in the kitchen, I didn't know she was your girl . I thought she's one of the party girls, I initiated everything first . She didn't stop me or anything , I would have never slept with your girlfriend knowingly

He says nothing, he's not even looking at me

Me: I am sorry

I sigh moving back, I close the door

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Itumeleng

Mom: you don't look okay

I pick the throw covering myself

Me : can we just leave those people alone ?

She chuckles sitting down

Mom: what people?

Me: the Dlamini people

Mom: what happened?

I sigh

Me: The sister gave it to me at school, after giving me attitude the whole day. And well he called

Mom: the ex boyfriend or the father?

I cringe at just that word "father"

What baby wants a father who's rude like that guy

Me: the so called father

She laughs

Me: he said I want to trap him with the baby, and I should go pin it on someone else. And leave him alone

Mom: he did huh

Inod

Mom: well it doesn't matter, we'll make do with our edition

Me: I'm so sorry, I know I disappointed you. I'll do better I promise, I'll keep going to school. In October I'll give birth, and by November I'll go back

to write exams . I'll do my best that I don't fail

Mom: don't beat yourself about it, I won't give you a lecture. Because you're raised by a nurse, there's nothing I didn't tell you nor teach you

I nod wiping my tears off, because she's very right. She taught me everything about being safe

The only sad thing, is that I feel like I've disappointed my mother

As for everyone else, they can all go fuck themselves for all I care

Mom: don't cry

She moves over and sits next to me.

Me: I'm sorry, I'm really sorry

Mom: oh it's okay baby, don't cry you'll stress the baby

I lay my head on her chest, I can't help these damn tears

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Gugulethu

Mom: what do you want to say?

I sigh

Me: I don't believe her

She looks at me with a raised brow

Mom: who's her?

Me: Itumeleng

Mom: oh?

Me: mom, she was dating
Mathonga. And they broke up,
because she slept with Mxolisi.
Now after two months, there's
suddenly a baby. What if she
was.....

Mom: you young lady stop right there, only the mother of a child knows the father

Me : yeah but , Itumeleng cannot be trusted

Mom: Mxo sent you here?

Me: no

I don't know if he's angry or what, but he left

And after dinner Mathonga has been in his room

I think he was over this, but now the wound has been opened again

How will he be when that baby is here?

Me: I'm just saying we shouldn't account to anything, unless Mxo agrees

Mom: mhm

I don't know what that means

Does she maybe like believe Itu?

If that's the case, this would be a disaster

My brother's will never be the same again

I so hope that baby is not going to cause a drift between them

Especially knowing them

I know Mathonga will not put this behind him

And Mxo, won't think he needs to make things right with his brother

If only we could turn the hands of time

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INSERT 14

Mxolisi

Casey: baby what's wrong?

I look at her

Me: why?

Casey: you haven't been okay since you got back

I sigh

Me: it's nothing

Casey: okay, I won't drag it out of you. You'll talk when you're ready

She grabs her school bag, and places a peck on my cheek

She walks out

Evan walks in from his room

He laughs sitting down

Evan: what did she do?

Me: nothing

Evan: really?

Me: it's not her

Evan: oh? Family problems

Me: more like one night stand problem

Evan: when did that happen

Me: like months ago

And there's no way in hell that I'm telling Casey about this

Evan: indulge me

I chuckle

Me: apparently I made a baby

He laughs

Me: that's utter nonsense

Evan: wait a minute, were you safe?

Me: no

Evan: then how do you deny when you don't know for sure.

I shake my head

Evan: don't do anything you'll regret, a woman is very much capable of denying you access to the kid

I frown

Evan: don't look at me like that

Me : don't give me any

speeches

Evan: you told your girl?

Me: no, and you keep quite

Evan: it's a pity

He gets up

Evan: because I would love to see her walking out of your life

We laugh as he walks out

My parents haven't called me, they haven't said anything

And it's been days

I don't know what they're thinking

Right now , I just feel isolated from the family

I know for a fact Mathonga is not happy with me.

Surely Gugu feels like she's caught in the middle

I think I'll keep my distance for a while

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Itumeleng

We closed today

But it doesn't matter, because we still have to attend classes

It just until later on in the afternoon

I really hate that we'll be at school, from morning until noon

But I know I can't afford to slack

I'll have to put in the work and the effort, like twice as hard

I'm glad my mother hasn't spoken about these people

I hope that chapter is closed

Mxolisi denied the baby basically, and we should just let them be

This baby won't die , because the father denied him or her

My phone rings, my mother is not at work today

I reach for it, and yet again another number I don't know

Mom: you won't answer?

Me: I don't know this number

Mom: so?

I sigh

Me: the last time I answered a number I don't know, I had someone tell me I'm trying to trap him with a baby

She laughs

Mom: stop being silly, answer your phone

It amazes me just how calm she is about this whole thing

Me: hello?

Voice: Itumeleng, you're talking to Ayanda Mxolisi's mother

Wow!

Now I'm wondering what this is all about

I mean , she already spoke with my mother

And told her, that her son wasn't saying anything tangible

And my mother just told her it's fine

And that was it

Me: Mrs Dlamini

Mrs Dlamini : is it possible that we can meet ?

Me: we?

Mrs Dlamini : yes we , just me and you

I look at my mother, and she's looking at me as well

Me: when?

Mrs Dlamini : tomorrow if possible

Me: I haveI think after lunch will be fine

Mrs Dlamini: alright thank you

Me : okay

Mrs Dlamini: bye

She drops the call

Me: it was Mrs Dlamini, she's asking to meet with me tomorrow

Mom: did she say why?

I shake my head no

Mom: you should go and hear what she says

I hope it's not more drama

I guess I spoke too soon, they're not so quite after all

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Gugulethu

Me : how are you holding up ?

Mathonga: I'm fine

Me : you know , you can talk to me

He laughs

Mathonga: and say what?

I shrug

Mathonga: Mxolisi can have his happy family

Me: don't say that

Mathonga: what do you want me to say? One thing I know is that Itumeleng is not a liar, so definitely that baby is his. He can deny all he wants

I frown he laughs

Mathonga: say whatever you want to say, but she's not. See how she didn't wait to tell me what happened, she never lies nor pretend

Me: probably guilt was eating her

Mathonga: no, she's just a forth coming person. That's

just her, Mxo can deny all he wants. But that baby is his

I sigh

Me: he's your brother, he wasn't supposed to do this to you

Mathonga: it's fine, can we please stop talking about this

This is what he does, every time I try to get him to talk about this

I want him to be fine , I don't want him stressing himself

And end up being depressed over this

It's best he talks about it

Than just holding it in , and acting like all is fine . This is betrayal to him

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INSERT 15

Itumeleng

She takes a sip of her tea

I'm just like, who drinks tea middle of the day?

But I guess she does

Mrs Dlamini: thank you for seeing me.

We met in a restaurant, not so far from where I stay

Me: I was intrigued by your call

She smiles

Mrs Dlamini: thought as much

She leans back on her chair

Mrs Dlamini: I heard what happened, I'm sure it's not completely all of it. But then again, I also know I cannot keep up with you kids of today. But what has happened, has happened. And we can't undo it, we can't change the situation nor the circumstances . Yes I know it looks somehow, and both the brothers are in a

bad space with each other right now

I sigh

Hoping she's not about to give it to me, like her daughter did

Mrs Dlamini: please, don't take me wrong. I don't even want to indulge myself in your affairs

I guess that's some relief

Mrs Dlamini: how is the baby doing?

Okay!

That felt like a quick turn

Me: he's okay

She smiles

Mrs Dlamini : you're hoping it's a boy ?

Me: I grew up an only child, and being a girl. It wouldn't hurt having a boy

Mrs Dlamini : true , I just have a request here

Shouldn't like my mother be present for such things?

Me : okay

Mrs Dlamini : please , don't cut me off my grandchild's life

What the hell?

And she looks very serious

Mrs Dlamini: like I said, I don't want to indulge myself in whatever happened

Me: but..... Your son denied this baby, he called me and said I'm trying to trap him with a baby. I should go pin it on someone else, and leave him alone

She smiles

Mrs Dlamini: I know my son, and I know this baby is his . And if he wants to be crazy, then it's fine. He can be crazy on his own, and I won't help him in his craziness. I just hope, by the time he decides to get his act together it won't be too late. I don't want to miss out on a chance of seeing my grandchild grow up

I am shocked

I didn't expect this at all, like it's just coming out of nowhere

And I wonder how will Mxolisi feel, once he finds out

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Gugulethu

Cleo called me over to his crib

I was sceptical, but I came anyways

The mood in that house these days, it's just something else

So being out will do me good, I know that

Which is why I came

He got snacks, and all kinds of treats

We're watching the series of Arrow

Cleo: so what's the deal with Itumeleng?

I take the bowl of snacks

Me: in which way?

Cleo: like generally, I mean you two once looked like

friends a match made from heaven

I laugh

Me: yeah, and that was before she slept with both my brother's. And claiming that she's pregnant

Cleo: she's pregnant?

I look at him

Me: why do you sound so disappointed?

He chuckles

Cleo: I'm not, it's just that I didn't expect to hear that

Me: yeah well, it is what it is

Cleo: mhm

He darts his eyes back to the laptop

I just catch a glimpse of his side face, i smile to myself

I wonder if he doesn't have a girlfriend

We've never spoken about that

But the way he's so handsome, I doubt he would be single

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Itumeleng

Me: she just shocked me

I'm back home, and helping my mother cook

Mom: what exactly did she

want?

Me: she asked that I don't cut her off the baby's life

Mom: oh?

Me: yeah, and said she knows her son and so she knows this baby is his

Mom: did you tell her what he said?

Me: how can I not? I told her

She laughs

Mom: he really annoyed you with that

Me: he did, but she said she's not getting involved. Even on the fact that I dated the other one, she just wants to be a part of the baby's life

She nod slowly, like she's getting this

Of which I don't get

Like for a family to support a baby that their own is denying?

It's just insane for me

Mom: then let her be

Me: she said she'll keep my number, and I'll call her if there's anything I need. She really offered, and said she would like to attend doctors appointments as well

Mom: she's stepping up, that's good and great of her. This baby is a part of our lives

Me: am I crazy to think that, she's taking a burden for her son? So that if ever, of which I don't think will ever happen. But if ever he gets his act together, it'll be like they didn't abounden the baby. Because his mother would have been doing everything for the child he denied, just how I see this whole thing to be honest. I don't know what to make of it

Mom: don't let this get through to you, we're going to be fine

I hope so

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Mxolisi

I dial her number

And it doesn't even go through

I guess she's blocked me

I haven't tried to contact her again

I sigh putting my phone down

I don't even know why I was trying to call her

It's not like I have anything better to say

Me: let's go out

He looks at me

Me: what?

Even: out? It's middle of the

week

I chuckle

Me: yeah, I know it is. But it's not like we don't go clubbing middle of the week

He laughs

Me: you coming?

Evan: sure, just us guys

I chuckle

Me: I'm not taking Casey anywhere, relax!

Evan: cool let me change

He gets up walking to his bedroom

I switch off my phone

I'm leaving it behind

I don't want to be bothered by calls

And I'm most definitely not taking anyone's number

My phone is best left home

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INSERT 16

A MONTH LATER

Mxolisi

I walk in , and she's sitting by the lounge

By the look of things, it's like she's just got home

For the past month, I haven't come home

I just kept my distance

I haven't really spoken to anyone, but Gugu once in a while

Me: good.....

Mom: how do you feel?

I look at her, not understanding this question

Mom: come sit down

I sigh sitting down on the opposite couch

Mom: like I just want you to tell me how you feel

Me: about?

Mom: knowing that you're living your life out there, meanwhile you denied your own child

Shit!

Me: mom.....

Mom: don't, don't mom me

She shakes her head

Mom: like how will you feel, when Itumeleng meets another guy. And your son will grow up calling another man dad, he will know that man and not you. Like right now, she's going

through pregnancy all alone. She has cravings, there's morning sickness. Doctors appointments, mood swings and all that. And she's all alone , because you denied your own baby. Is that how you want your son to know you? I thought giving you time, will get you to use your brains. She's almost 4 months, in just a week she'll be 4 months. And

you're running away from your child like a coward

I rub my eyes

Me: I..... I might not be sure, but then the time fits

Mom: Mxolisi I know you, you're my child I know you. You're the father of that baby

Me: I don'tI'm not ready to be a father, I don't even know the slightest thing about being a father. Likeall of this is just too much

Mom: you're scared, at 24 you're scared. She's a child, imagine how she is at just 18

I sigh

Mom: be there for her, give her money or buy things she craves. Be there at every doctors appointment, pregnant women need support . I know you can do better than this, because I know I raised a better man than this . You're way so much better, and what you're doing is hurting me

Me: I'm sorry

Mom: don't apologize to me Mxolisi, just do better and step up take responsibility

I nod

Me: so it's a boy?

Mom: I think she's scared to find out, but she wants a boy

I chuckle

Me: that would be cool

She laughs

Mom: I think we need a girl, because we have enough of you

Me : come on !

Now that I'm thinking about this, it's kind of cool though

I mean, me a whole dad

I hope I survive this

Mom: and do apologize to your brother for this

I look at her

Mom: she was her girlfriend

Me: I didn't know

Mom: it still doesn't excuse anything

She's right

Mom: I won't have my son's fighting over a girl, and you can't neglect the mother of

your child because you want to spare Mathonga's feelings

Me: okay, I'll apologize

Mom: Itumeleng and the baby are going to be a part of our lives now, and there's no reason for things to be awkward. Regardless of everything, so this situation has to work for everyone

Me: I'll talk to him

I wonder how that one will go, because the last time I tried he didn't even say anything back to me

Mom: I don't want him to think, he's being treated somehow.

Or that we condone what you did, in this house we treat all

of you the same way. Don't let this drive a wedge in this family

Me: I'm sure he knows that ma (mom)

She sighs

And now I know, I really do need to make things right. This might be weighing hard on her as well

My parents only have two kids biologically, me and my younger sister Asanda

She's 9 years now

The twins were adopted, like 6 years ago

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Gugulethu

Me : are you even listening to me

His eyes are at Itu

She's showing now, and I must say

Pregnancy seems to be loving her, she's gained like in all the right places

She's left unshaken, she doesn't even care what they say behind her back

She's just a force

Me: Cleo!

Cleo: sorry

I roll my eyes

Me: you know what

Cleo: let me go talk to Itumeleng, before her Uber arrives

Me: what

And he just walks away from me just like that

Mxolisi stops by the gate, and I'm shocked seeing him

Because I haven't seen him in a month

And we've only spoken like twice

He rolls down the window, and I don't know

But his facial expression is something else as he looks at Itu and Cleo

Is he jealous?

But why would he be

I shake that thought off, heading to his car

I get in greeting him

Mxo: Bhabha who's that?

Me: that's Cleo my supposedly friend

Mxo: what's he doing with

Tumi?

Tumi?

Like no one calls her that , she's ltu to everyone

Me : he said he wants to talk to her

He frowns

Me: what's it to you?

He says nothing but drives off

Me: that was just awkward

The silence in the car is just too thick

And it's making my head run wild with thoughts

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Itumeleng

Cleo: can I take you out?

I look at him

I'm shocked, just by him approaching me and asking to have a word with me

And now he just spits that

Me: out?

He smiles

Cleo: on a date

I chuckle

Me: I know you're not blind

Cleo: sure, is the father in the picture?

I sigh

Me: no

Cleo: then I am more than ready to step up

I don't know what kind of a play this is

But I want no part of it

Me: you're way too way too young this, trust me. Shouldn't you be focusing on which girl

you'll be having on your bed tonight?

He laughs

Cleo: there's no getting on with you

I smile

Me: I'm not looking for a father for my baby

Cleo: that's cool, cause I'll just be uncle Cleo

I laugh

Me: now I've heard it all

Cleo: your uber is cutting us off, please give me your number maybe we'll talk better

I give him my number as the Uber stops next to us

Me: there you go

He smiles

Cleo: thank you, I'll call

I nod , he opens the door for me

I get it, he closes and the driver drives off

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INSERT 17

Mxolisi

Me: where is Mathonga?

She lifts her head

Gugu: in his room

I turn to walk away

Gugu: do you love her?

I turn back looking at her

Me: who?

Gugu: Itumeleng

Me: where is that coming from?

She sits up on her bed

Gugu: I saw the way you were yesterday, after seeing her with Cleo

Me: does he want her?

Gugu: it's not about him, it's about you

I sigh

Gugu: Mxo don't hurt
Mathonga like that, it's bad
enough she says she's pregnant
with your baby. If you love her
, it'll be like you're just
throwing it on his face

I just look at her, because I don't know what does she want me to say

I don't know how I feel

And now I'm going to get my act together

I don't even know how she's going to receive me

Me: let me go talk to him

Gugu: please try not falling for

her

I close the door turning towards his bedroom door

I knock, and there's no answer

Me: Can I come in?

I open the door and walk in

He's on his bed

Me : can we talk?

He says nothing

I walk in to sit down on the chair

Mathonga: don't sit down

I sigh

Me: I....

Mathonga: what do you want?

Me: I just want to apologize for

Mathonga: I don't want to hear it, you slept with my girlfriend. What kind of an apology could you possibly have? That will make what you did right, or make me understand it and be okay

Me: I didn't know she was your girlfriend, I've said this. I would have never slept with her

Mathonga: it doesn't matter, do you understand that if you hadn't slept with her she wouldn't have dumped me?

I sigh slowly shaking my head

Mathonga: sure I was a fuck up, but she was my girlfriend. She didn't know shit about the things I did, so I won't even take blame for that. She dumped me because you slept with her

Me: at least she was forth coming and honest with you, and that shows she cared about you. Because if she didn't, she

wouldn't have told you because you didn't know

Mathonga: nothing you say matters to me, fact is she left me because of you. And you had to give her a child, I don't know if you've never heard of a condom

Me: okay fuck off, I am sorry yes. But I won't stand for your shit, get over yourself.

Because you were fucking her over, and I'm done staying away from my kid . Take it however you take it nxn! Get over yourself, you weren't even faithful to her . Stop washing yourself clean using me, she was going to find out eventually and leave you

I walk out leaving his door open like that

I can't beg and beg

He would be an idiot to think I'm being favoured

Because our parents have never made them feel anyhow

You can't even tell that they're not their biological kids

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Itumeleng

I decided to take my mother out for late lunch

I've just been saving my lunchbox money

She's been my rock throughout this whole thing

And I just want to thank her

Mom: you look tired

I am tired, we're preparing for June exams and it's crazy

Also being pregnant doesn't help much

I'm also pushing myself hard, so in the end I don't end up embarrassing her failing

Me: nothing a good sleep can't fix

Mom: let me use the bathroom, then we can leave

Me : okay

She gets up, and walks away

I finish my milkshake

Darting my eyes to the door, I see a group of guys walking in

And my mood just drops as I see him

A waitress walks them in , and he darts his eyes my way

He says something to one coloured guy, who smiles at whatever he's saying

And he walks my way

I take a deep breath

Mxo: hi

Me: mhm

He sighs

Mxo: uhmcan we please talk?

Me: no

Mxo: please I.....

Me: what is it that you want to talk about, that you haven't said to me already?

Mxo: please

Me: no, please learn to use your own words. When you say someone should leave you alone, it basically means you leave them alone too

He sighs

Me : leave , my mother is about to come back

Mxo: oh well

He says not moving an inch

Mxo: I was just scared, andI guess I wasn't ready

Me: and I wasn't scared, I was definitely ready okay

Mxo: that's not what I'm saying

Me: I don't even want to know what you're saying

Mxo: is it a boy or a girl?

Me: what do you care to know?

He pulls a chair and sits down

Me: I said

Mxo: this is a restaurant, and a public area

Me: fine I'll leave

My mother pulls her chair, and looks at us

I don't think she knows Mxo, I doubt she's ever even seen him Mom: am I disturbing?

Mxo: Mrs Kekana

Me: you're disturbing nothing, Mxolisi was just leaving

He raises his brow

Mom: oh this is the Mxolisi?

Me: lets go, it's not like you need to know that

Mxo: I am really sorry, to just hijack your lunch. I just wanted to have a word

Mom: okay, I can give you a few minutes

What is she doing?

Me: I don't want to talk to him

Mxo: then you can listen

I give him a bored look getting up

And I'm wearing a tight t-shirt, my tummy is showing now

I think it's too soon, but the doctor said the baby is big

And we might have to do a C-section

Mxo: once again, I'm sorry.

He says getting up as well, and his eyes are on my tummy

Mxo: please unblock me

He turns to walk away

Me: I won't

My mother laughs

Mom: you're seriously going to be a bitter baby mama, stop with this. Hear him out, it doesn't mean anything

Me: no

I take my bag, taking out the money to pay for the bill

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INSERT 18

Gugulethu

Mom: is your brother okay?

Me: which one?

She laughs

Mom: your twin

I sigh

Me: I don't know, he's keeping to himself. And he's just worse, now as Mxo is home

Mom: how long is he staying?

Ilaugh

Me : woman ! He's your child , I don't know Mom: but you two talk

Me: we do, well kind of

Mom: don't tell me, this has also caused a rift between you two?

She sighs

Mom: I love all of you, and we're not choosing anyone over anyone. Mxolisi was wrong yes, there's a baby now so what are we supposed to do? Reject the baby

She's done and convinced that the baby is his

I am still not sure about that

Mom: this rift has been going on for far too long, and I'm not going to allow it to happen any longer in my house

I don't know how she's going to take it up with her son's

I think this is just too long overdue, and it's just crazy tension when both of them are home

They need to get over this, and we can be okay as a family again

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Itumeleng

Me: you really think I'm going to be a bitter baby mama?

She laughs, as I sit down on the bar stools

Mom: what?

Me: that's what you said a few days ago, that day when we saw Mxo

Mom: you're angry at the guy

Me: with reason, he denied my child and said I should leave him alone. But now he's the one who can't leave me alone

Mom: he's the father at the end of the day

Me: some so called father he is

Mom: see what I'm talking about?

I sigh

Me: what does he want? It's not like he'll suddenly be ready to step up

Mom: maybe he is, but of course you won't know that. Because you're angry

This is not taking us anywhere

Best I just leave it

My mother has just always been too neutral about this whole situation

So I guess even now, she doesn't see nor feel anyhow about Mxo suddenly bothering me

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Gugulethu

Dinner is so awkward

Like it's too quite, and it's so unlike us in this house

But whenever Mxo and Mathonga are in the same room, it's just sour

And their energy and aura just gets to everyone

It's annoying

Asa: Mxo

He looks at her

Asa: where is your baby?

Mxolisi chuckles , I'm just stunned

Dad: did you have to tell her

that?

Mom: we were watching TV, and she must know she's going to be an aunt

Asa: I think I like the baby

Mxo: of course you do

Asa: where is the baby?

Mxo: with his mother

His?

So is the baby a boy?

And if he knows, then that means he's accepted that he's the father

Mathonga gets up

Dad: sit down

His tone is off, you can just tell this nonsense is annoying him now

Mathonga: baba....(dad)

Dad: Mathonga sit down we're eating

He sighs sitting back down

He frowns, and I look his way shaking my head

Asa: Mxo tell the mother I want the baby

Mom and I laugh

Mxo: okay, I'll tell her

Asa: she will give me right? It's my baby too

Me : sis , sit down and be humble

She frowns

Mxo: Bhabha is jealous, it's your baby yes

Asa: good, you must call the mother. I really want the baby

No like this is cute, at least she's the one person in this house who's happy about the baby really

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Mxolisi

Dad: this nonsense ends here, and today

It's like midnight, I don't even think mom and the girls know we're not home

And he woke us up, and said we must go somewhere

Then he drops us off in the middle of the N1, heading to Limpopo

For some reason, the road is empty tonight. There's cars passing, but not even that many

He's holding two guns, and I don't know what he means this ends today

Yet he's holding two guns

Dad: I'm fucking tired, your mother cries herself everyday because of this shit. She doesn't want Mathonga to feel like Mxo is favoured over him,

but she also wants to be a part of her grandchild's life. But no, she can't do that because of you two. She's now caught in between a rock and a hard place

I look at Mathonga

Me: I said I'm sorry, I don't know how many times I have to apologize. Yes I fucked up, but I didn't know Tumi was your

girlfriend. You're my brother I love you, and I would never fuck you up like that

He just scoffs

I look at my father

Me: I tried, I can't spend my whole life apologizing to Mathonga over a girl he was even cheating on. If he can't

forgive me, and we look past this there's nothing I can do. But I'm tired now, and I want to make things right and be a present father for my child

He looks at Mathonga

Dad: here, if you two can't let this shit go. Then kill each other, so we can all live in peace. Because we can't walk on eggshells, over your nonsense. It's been months now, must we go to years? Fuck no! Kill each other, and this whole nonsense you can't put behind yourselves will be done

He throws the gun to Mathonga, and he just catches it

He darts his eyes to me

Me: I don't want your gun, I won't be my brother's killer

He chuckles sliding it behind him

Dad: good luck, and if you ever become cowards. Don't come back to my house with this nonsense of yours

He says walking to his car, and I guess he's leaving us right here

As he drives off, I go to the side of the road sitting down

I don't even have my phone with

Walking from here back to Joburg is a long walk

Me: kill me now while you can, if that's what you want.

Because if you try me, I will kill you with my bare hands

Mathonga

I lean my head down

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INSERT 19

Mxolisi

It's fucking cold, and as it dawns the chilly air is doing the most

I'm still sitting still by the side of the road

He's standing by just a few feet away from me

We haven't said anything to each other

I don't even care to know if he's still holding that gun or not

If only I could get a phone, I know my mother's number by heart

And Evans number as well

I know they would come pick us up

If he doesn't get the balls to kill me, or even just gaze me

There's just something about Mathonga

He's definitely not your typical ordinary boy

So I'm not even surprised that my father had no problem giving him a gun

He's not a child

And he knew he could handle it

I'm sure he doesn't even care to know how he knows how to handle a gun

Mathonga: so just because, I wasn't faithful you think I didn't deserve her?

Inside eye him, with a chuckle

Me: I'm not doing this with you , I fuck up as well . I have a girlfriend, and don't think Tumi was the first girl I fucked nor was she the last . I wouldn't cry over Casey if she were to leave me, because I know I haven't been giving her any loyalty. And letting her go wouldn't mean I don't love her , just she can always do what she thinks is best for her. And if I'm not it

, then it's fine . The only problem here, is because Tumi didn't know you weren't loyal. So I'm just easy to blame on whatever shit happened between you two, but she's not a child. She knew she had a boyfriend, and she owed you loyalty. But she still let me fuck her, it could have been anyone

He sighs shaking his head

Me: I'm over this, if you want to hate me forever it's fine.
You're not a kid either, I wouldn't have slept with her if I knew. And I can't stress that enough

I run my hand over my head

Mathonga: shouldn't we be hiking or something?

I chuckle

Me: we just need a phone to make a call

Mathonga: let me see who will stop

He walks closer to the road

Cars are already passing by

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Gugulethu

Mom: Menzi you left my son's out there middle of the night?

She says walking down

Dad and I are having breakfast

Mom: like what is wrong with you? Something could have happened to them

Dad: I didn't leave them alone, they would have been able to protect themselves

Mom: I don't know what parenting you call this, but please Sibal'khulu not on my kids

She grabs her car keys

Dad: they're still alive, they'll come back and we'll have peace in this house. Because it was honestly starting the get annoying

I smile

Mom: what.....

I shake my head

Dad: so you're going to fetch

them?

Mom: try me again

She's angry and the man is just smiling

She looks at me

Mom: please make sure

Asanda eats

Me: yes ma'am

She sighs walking out

Me: what happened?

Dad: mhm-mhm eat and leave me alone

I burst out laughing

This man is not afraid of death, you don't poke Ayanda where her kids are concerned

Me : you my good sir are very brave

He chortles

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Mxolisi

Mom: what happened?

Me: uhm nothing

Mom: don't be twisted like your father

I sigh

Me: it's nothing really, please just let it go

She's driving back to Joburg

Mom: let it go?

I look out of the window

Mathonga is sitting in front with her

Mom: you called me with some stranger's phone, and you spent the night on the road. And I must let it go?

Mathonga: mom please, we were annoying to be honest. So don't even let this be an issue between you and dad

She sighs

Mom: this is not right

Me: at least listen to him, don't be too hard on the man

She goes quite for a while

Mom: should I pass by the drive through? You must be cold needing coffee?

Me: I'm fine

Mathonga: yeah me too, I just want to get home bath and sleep

Mom : sleep ? Don't you have school ?

He goes quite

Mom: if you can spend a night on the road, you're definitely going to school

I chuckle

He knows she's not kidding with him

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Itumeleng

Me: hello?

Cleo: hi

Now I regret answering this call

Cleo: how are you?

Me: I'm fine and you?

Cleo: also fine

He goes silent

Me : can I help?

He clears his throat

Cleo: I'm still on my request

I laugh

Me: Cleo, I'm pregnant

Cleo: I know that

Me: what makes you think I'm interested in anything?

Cleo: a baby is not a stop sign

Finish me yes

I burst out laughing

Cleo: just a date

Me: no can do

Cleo: why not?

Me: the situation is just crazy

Cleo: what's crazy exactly?

I sigh

Me : let's just say I don't want to step on anyone's toes

Cleo: I'm as single as they

come

Me: well, there's females in your life

Cleo: besides my mother, and Gu there isn't

It's nice how he calls Gugu

Me: mhm, exactly

Cleo: what? Is she going to be a problem?

Me : don't put words into my mouth

Cleo: okay fine, but we're just friends

Me: and I would rather I'm out of her circle, I don't want drama please

He sighs

Me: I'm sorry

Cleo: friends at least?

Me: no, I'm sorry

He goes silent

Me: I have to finish my assignment, bye

Cleo: girl you're hurting me, and denying your daughter a cool step father. Bye

I drop the call laughing

I can only imagine the things Gugu would tell him about me

So I'm sparing myself, I don't need all of that

I don't need that drama, I have enough of being the talk of the school

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INSERT 20

Mxolisi

Asa: Mxo where is my baby?

Yhoh!

Can I be let to rest in peace?

She's jumping on my bed, and it's annoying

I should go back to my place

Why am I still here again?

Asa: you said she's coming

Me: I didn't

She frowns

Asa is very funny, she's short and chubby with a baby face

She's 9 but she looks like she's 5

She's just cute

Me : please lay down

Asa: but the baby

Now she's sulking

Me: we'll visit the mother, and she'll give you the baby

I don't even know how that will happen

Asa: I just want the baby Mxo

Me: okay I'm sorry

She sighs sliding down my bed

I don't care to comfort her right now, just as long as she gets out of my sight

She walks out, leaving my door she found closed opened

And another one just enters with laughter

There's no peace in this house, maybe we should all spend a night by the road

Gugu: why are you lying to the baby?

Me: mxm, she doesn't know that

Gugu: I'm giving you a few days, and she's going to blow

I chuckle , just thinking of something

Me: your mother had no reason, telling Asa about the baby

She laughs

Me : come in , I want to talk to you

She closes the door and walks to the bed

She sits down

Gugu: are you two okay now?

Me: yeah

She sighs in relief

Gugu: good, because it was

too much now

I chuckle

Me: mhm, I need your help with something

Gugu: I'm your girl

Me: and I'll pay you

Gugu: whatever it is, yes I'll do it

I laugh

Money gets people agree to things they don't even know

Me: when one throws a baby shower, do we need to know the gender of the baby?

She pops her eyes in shock

Me: what?

Gugu: she wants a baby

shower?

Me: she? No I want to surprise her with one, I've been doing some research online. I hope she'll like it

Gugu: are you two even on good terms?

Me: no

Gugu: bad idea

Me : come on , I think she would like it

She shakes her head

Me: Bhabha please, I'll pay

you 5K

She smiles

Gugu: tempting

Me: come on, I can't increase that money. I'm sure it's expensive planning these things

Gugu: of course

Me : so please , help your brother out

She sighs

Gugu: Itu and I, are not even talking to each other

Me: come on, let this thing go
. We got to spend a night
middle of the road, because of

it . Don't join the bus , because they won't spare you

She laughs

Gugu: dad is savage, since yesterday all you know is your bed

Me: yeah well

She sighs

Gugu: fine

Me : so that's a yes?

Gugu: to helping you yes, nothing else

I chuckle

Me: thank you

Gugu: I think we still need to know the baby's gender, the theme has to match it. The cake as well, and of course the presents people will bring. They need to know if it's a girl or a boy

Now how do we get to know that?

Me: okay, but what's needed?

Gugu: venue, catering and the cake. Those are the most important things, and you as the father you have to buy presents as well

Me: that sounds expensive, like very expensive

She laughs

Gugu: yeah, but I can work within budget. Depending how much you're willing on spending

I nod slowly

I don't want to dip into my savings, those will now go to the baby

I can't touch them

I'll have to use the money I have on me

Me: okay it's fine, you do what you need to do. I'll find out about the gender

Gugu: okay

She looks at me holding in a laugh

Me: what?

Gugu: are you serious about this?

I chuckle

Me: yeah, I know it won't fix anything. And she probably won't come if she knows I'm responsible, but it's to make

her happy . So I'm hoping you get her there

The eye she gives me

Me : stop with that love nonsense of yours

Gugu: you want to make her happy, like you just said that yourself

Me: because mom said pregnant women don't need stress, they have to be happy all the time

She laughs

Gugu: I think it's sinking in now

Me: I don't know, but now that I think about it. It's kinda cool that I made a baby, and

well I'm just wondering who it's going to look like

Gugu: I hope me, even though I'm not stoked about being an aunt. Like the father's family is always called the witches, the aunties are the worst. Because they're the ones bewitching the brothers kids

I laugh, like what nonsense is this?

She gets up

Gugu: I can't believe you did that to me

She walks out , I'm just left laughing

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Gugulethu

I want to approach Mathonga and ask him if they're really cool

But I don't want to be ignored

That's what he's been doing the whole time, or just engage me for the sake of doing it

So I think it's best I leave him

Although I don't think he'll be happy, that I'm organising the baby shower

Of which, I also don't know how I'm going to plan or go about it

I've never planned anything in my life

What will I even say to Itu?

I mean, I do have to incorporate bits and bits of herself in there

I don't know how I'm going to pull this off

But I better do , and it better be stunning

So I'll just make do

Besides 5K is a lot of money

I'm not loosing out on that never!

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INSERT 21

Mxolisi

Me : please borrow me your phone

Mom: why?

Me: she blocked me

She laughs

Me: mom!

Mom: what? So now you want to take my phone and call her with, so she can hate me?

Me: please

She sighs

Gugu: I would help but

She shrugs

Me : just focus on what I asked you to do

Mom: and what is that?.

Gugu: baby shower, he's going all out

Mom: what?

She asks with a smile

Me: I need to know when is her next appointment so I can be there, I want to know the gender of the baby

Mom: waityou're having a baby shower for her?

Me: yes

Mom: that's nice

Me: the phone

I'm not standing up for this so called moment

Mom: don't ruin things

I frown taking her phone

I scroll through , and find her number

I can't believe my mother has been a part of the baby's life

Despite everything I said

She clearly knew I was just full of nonsense

I dial her number, it rings for a while

Tumi: Mrs Dlamini

Me : it's me , don't drop the call please

I beg in desperation

Tumi: what do you want?

Me: uhm, when is the next doctors appointment?

She scoffs

Tumi: what's it to you?

Me : because I would like to come

Tumi: what's so hard about just doing what you told me to

do , leaving you alone . Of which I've done , but you just can't seem to do it

Me: baby mama

Tumi: don't call me that!

Me: okay well can you just tell me please? Like that's all that I'm asking

Tumi: on Wednesday and I've been going to the appointments with my mother and your mother

Me: yeah well, can they not come so I can come with?

She sighs

Tumi: go ask your mother that

Ouch!

And she drops the call on me

Gugu: baby mama?

Me : and she's as rude as they come

They laugh, I hand my mother her phone back

Me : can I please

Mom: it's fine

Me: thank you

Even if her mother doesn't agree to not come

I will not say I'm not going anymore

I will go even in her mother's presence

I don't think it's even about knowing the gender

I just want to see my baby

For someone that's 4 months, her tummy is too visible

Makes me wonder if there are no two babies in there

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Itumeleng

Mom: what's wrong?

I really don't know what's happening

Or what this guy thinks he's playing at

Me: that was the so called

father

She laughs

Me: he's asking to come on the next doctors appointment

She smiles

Mom: that's nice

Me: is it?

Mom: yeah

Me: are we forgetting that he denied this baby?

She sighs

Mom: don't hold on that, don't deny your baby the chance of a father.

Me: but he denied him

I can't stress this enough

Mom: I'll take on my shift on Wednesday, call me after the appointment

Me: hawu!

She looks at me

Me : so you are not coming with ?

Mom: Mxolisi is going with you

Me: wow! You're dumping us

She laughs

Mom: it won't work

Now I regret telling her

I'm so not looking forward to that appointment at all

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Gugulethu

Voice: what are you doing?

I'm startled by his voice

Me: you scared me

Mathonga: sorry

He sits down next to me

Me: I thought you were out?

Mathonga: are you avoiding me?

Me: no

Mathonga: so what's that?

I sigh

Me: uhm.... Mxo asked me to help him plan a baby shower for her

Mathonga: oh?

I nod

Mathonga: so how far are you?

I look at him surprised

Me: I think a homely space will do, so far I have two hotels.

They have just the best, accommodations.

He chuckles

Mathonga: a hotel for a baby shower?

Me : yeah , he wants only the best

Mathonga: mhm

Me : so I think there's one I like better, so venue is almost

sorted . I just need to sort out the theme

Mathonga: she likes black

Me: what?

Mathonga: she likes black, so you can incorporate that with the gender. Pink and black or blue and black

Me: wow, thank you big brother

He chuckles shaking his head

Me: wow, okay. So now I just need to know who to invite, I don't even know her friends or whatever

Mathonga: she has no friends

Me: cousins?

Mathonga: they don't have a family here, you'll have to invite our own cousins. Or girls she's used to at school

Me: she keeps to herself, I doubt there's anyone

He shrugs

Me: mhm, and we're not close anymore. So I don't know how to even approach her

Mathonga: mhm

I look at him and laugh

Me: it's going to be so awkward, like even inviting her there

Mathonga: you'll figure it out

Me: yeah, I have to. I'm getting paid for this

He laughs getting up

Mathonga: I should have known you're getting money out of this

Me: come on!

Mathonga: have fun

Me: waitare you buying a present?

Mathonga: no

Okay!

Maybe I'm pushing it now

Me: okay fine

He walks back upstairs, and I think he's going to be fine eventually

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INSERT 22

Itumeleng

He came to pick me up

And I thought my mother would take me, and we would meet there

But that woman wasn't having it

I had to calm myself

Mxo: you okay?

I nod

Mxo: should I get you something to eat first?

Me: no I'm fine

I have a sigh

Because I don't get what he's being nice about

Mxo: mhm, you seem to be like very far

I look at him

Mxo: no, I just mean your tummy is bigger for someone who's like just four months

Me: hold it right there, you've already denied this baby. And if you dare accuse me of lying about my mouths, we'll have a serious problem. No one asked you to be here, or be present. Take your doubts very far away from me

Mxo: I'm not doing that, I was just saying. Unless I'm very bad at looking at pregnant women

He's not wrong, I am bigger

Mxo: I didn't mean to offend you, I'm sorry

I sigh

Me: Ithe baby is big

He looks at me

Mxo: so there's only one?

I chuckle with a nod

Me: the doctor said I might have a C-section, cause it might be impossible to push out with his weight

Mxo: so it's a boy?

He asks with a smile

Me: I don't know, I just refer to him as a him. I want a boy

He chuckles

Mxo: now that would be something

I don't know, maybe the thought of having a son has gotten him this way

But I doubt it has

Maybe his mother is forcing him do all this

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Mxolisi

Doc: you will take your prescription by the front desk

She nods

Me: what's the gender of the baby?

She looks at me

Me: I just want to know

Tumi: and I don't want to know

Me: well you can go out, and the doctor will tell me

Tumi: yhoh!

She fixes her t-shirt and walks out

Doc: most parents do have such disagreements

Me: we'll I'm throwing her a baby shower, she will know anyways

She laughs

Doc: you're having a healthy baby boy

I must say, my heart is fulfilled to the core

Like from seeing my baby, hearing his heartbeat

And now knowing that it's a boy

I sure fucked up, and I was going to miss out on all of this

Me: thank you so much

Doc: of course

I walk out, and she's by the front desk

Me : did you get your prescription ?

She nods

Me : okay , let's go

We head out going to the car

I'm stoked right now

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Gugulethu

I take a deep breath calling her

I don't even know if she'll answer my call

That's if she still has my number

Itu: hello?

I'm guessing she doesn't know it's me calling her

Me: it's me, Gugu

Itu: oh?

Wow, definitely not how I expected her to answer my calls at all. Or her reaction to be, but I guess it's not surprising

Me: uhm, can we meet?

She sighs

Itu: for what?

I'm guessing she's so done, she never even thought of us being friends anyhow anymore

Me: there's just something I need to talk to you about

Itu: when?

This won't work, I just have to choose the day of the baby shower

Take her out, pamper her for nails and hair get make up done

Beautiful dress and stunning shoes on , then I take her there

Me: uhm, I know we're preparing for exams it's crazy at school. So probably a weekend day

Itu: okay fine you'll tell me

Me: okay bye

She drops the call

Me: your baby mama is rude

He chuckles

Mxo: I told you

Me: I clearly didn't know Itu enough

Mxo: you didn't, trust me you didn't

He says with a chuckle

Me: so I think everything is pretty much done, so you have to pay

Mxo: send me the accounts details, I'll make all payments tomorrow. Like first thing in the morning

Me: and you have to pay for her dress, make up and shoes along with nails

Mxo: aibo!

Me: don't, she has to rock up there stunning. Like some slaying baby mama

He laughs

Mxo: you're just exploiting me right now

Me: no, like you don't want to be embarrassed when you bring her presents over

Mxo: what should I buy anyways?

Me: anything for the baby, clothes a bath or toiletries. Doesn't matter

Mxo: oh okay

Me: dress nicely when you bring those presents

Mxo: I'll call you to come get them outside

I laugh

Me: you're a disappointment

Mxo: okay but you'll convince her to go there right?

Me: don't worry about it

Mxo: alright

This is the longest he's been home, and I think it's because of this baby issue

So maybe this fatherhood business will suit him

And he'll be home more often

Because we barely see him around

And when he does come, it's never more than three days

This has been the longest

And it's nice having him home

He's a somewhat big brother, but he's so cool

And I enjoy spending time with him, more than I do anyone in this house

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INSERT 23

A FEW DAYS LATE	۲
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Mxolisi

Mom: what time must we be there?

Gugu: at 11:00, well you should already be there. I'll arrive around that time with Itu, so it's 8:00 now. And we have like 3 hours to get ready for everything she needs to get

done. But the salon is ready for us, so that won't take long

Mom: okay

She looks at me

Mom: are you going there?

Gugu: baby showers are for women and not men

Me: I'm the father

Gugu: don't go there

Me: I have to bring the gifts

Gugu: that I'll come and get, that's what you said. So please, let's stick to that

I chuckle

I'm actually going out with the guys

I know those kind of things are not for us guys

I got the baby a few things

It was crazy, and I might have went overboard a bit. Well maybe I did

Because I didn't know what to take and whatnot

I am left broke

Me : I'll see you later

Mom: don't get lost

I laugh grabbing my car keys going out

I call Evan, after a few rings he answers

Evan: sure

Me: we still on?

Evan: yeah

Me: okay, but I'll have to leave for like an hour or so

He laughs

Evan: don't tell me it's that girl of yours

Me: no, it's the baby shower.

I have to drop by, dropping the gifts

He knows, I told him

Even when I got my shit together, I told him

Evan: alright no sweat, we should have been invited there

I laugh

Me: I'll see you in a few

Evan: alright

I drop the call

And to think I still haven't told Casey anything about this it's crazy

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Itumeleng

Like now I'm like what's going on

We met and it was just awkward

The whole salon thing, getting hair and nails done

Which doesn't matter, because we're in Matric

So we're even allow to look like this

But the dress, and the shoes

I'm like what's going on?

Even the nails are a royal blue colour with a touch of black

And the dress is royal blue, the heels are black

I'm like I don't understand why we're dressed like this . It's just crazy

Like we're going to some fancy gala

She's also dressed up, in a black dress with blue heels

Doesn't make sense to me

And why are we even wearing make up?

Gugu: okay we're here

We both get out of the car

And I'm like what?

There's like a red carpet there, and some blue flowers

Me: what's going on?

Gugu: please come inside

I just follow suit, but now I can see all this is kind of suspicious

We haven't even exchanged much words with each other

We walk inside, and everyone just screams surprise

I'm in shock, like I'm stunned

Seeing the decoration, and just everyone here

Well a few of my cousin's, my mother and Mrs Dlamini

I see the presents there, by a big blue chair

There's a décor near there, written baby shower

And I don't know, I feel like this baby is really a boy

I mean everything is blue

Gugu: thank you for not being difficult

She says with a smile, pacing a mom to be sash on me

I don't even know why I'm getting emotional, it's crazy

Maybe because I didn't expect this like at all

Me: well thank you, for doing this. With everything that happened, I don't think I would have thought you would do anything like this for me

She laughs

Gugu: I just planned, and I got paid. Baby daddy is the one responsible

Somebody wake me up

Gugu: don't look so shocked, he did

Me: no ways, your brother hates me. He would never

Gugu: I'm sure he doesn't hate you

Me : he denied my child , why would he ?

Gugu: leave that, come and enjoy

She takes my hand and we walk to where the blue chair is at

And now looking at the cake, I can see well that it's a boy

Me: who told you the gender of the baby?

Gugu: he did

Argh!

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Mxolisi

I take my phone and make a call, it's late now

Just nearing afternoon

Gugu: brother?

Me: is she happy?

She laughs

Gugu: she seems to be enjoying her day

Me : okay , can I bring the gifts ?

Gugu: yeah, you can. Call when you get outside

Me: alright, does she look okay though?

Gugu: now yes, but she did say you hate her and that you denied the baby. So she didn't get why you would do this for her

I do have a lot of fixing to do

Me: okay bye

I drop the call

Me: I have to go

I down my beer

Evan: I'm coming with

I chuckle going out

I know he's just running away from getting drunk while I'm not here

I long placed the gifts in my car

We get in and I drive off to the venue

Even: when are you ending things with Casey?

I chuckle

Me : she can always be a step mother you know

He laughs

Evan: baby mama's can't deal with such, so if you want her.
Casey has to go, that girl won't entertain you knowing you have a girlfriend. That much I can assure you

Me : don't depress me , not today

But I do know I have to tell Casey, things are different now

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INSERT 24

Itumeleng

I watch as he walks in , and says something to Gugu

Then he walks over , she goes out

Mxo: hi

Me: hi

I dart my eyes away from him

He looks good, even though he's just wearing casual but he looks good

Black skinny jeans, black t-shirt with blue sneakers. Even he's keeping with the theme

He sits down next to me, the chair is a bit big so it can fit us both

Gugu walks in with some with that coloured guy, and they're carrying presents

Mxo: you good?

Me: yeah

Mxo: mhm, I just came to drop the presents

Me: oh okay

Mxo: I hope you'll like them

I don't know what's this

Me: I'm sure the baby will love them

He chuckles

Me: that's a lot though

Mxo: well, I couldn't help myself out there shopping

Me: I see

Mxo: can I please come pick you up when you leave?

Me: why?

Mxo: just so I can take you home

I look at him

Me: my mother is going to pick me up

They didn't stay long with Mrs Dlamini

Mxo: she can take the presents, and I'll take you

I sigh

Mxo: please

Me: are you not leaving?

Mxo: I am, but I'll be back to pick you

Me : okay fine

Mxo: thank you

He places his one hand on my tummy, leaning down he places a kiss

And lifts his face, I'm looking at him he smiles bringing his face towards me

I'm stunned as his lips touch mine, and he's not teasing but kissing me

It's the cheers and whatnot

I'm like, there's people here what's this?

But as he deepens the kiss, I find myself kissing him back

And he's making me feel things down there, like I've been dry it's been months

He slows pulls back, his eyes staring into mine

Mxo: I'll see you in a few

Words fail me, he grins

I clear my throat as he gets up

Mxo: enjoy

He winks turning and I watch him until he walks out

Voice: baby daddy is flexing

Laughter just erupts, and I don't even know who said that

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Gugulethu

To think I've asked Mxo more than once if he was in love with Itu

But he never saw the need to admit to it

But today, he just went on to kiss her in front of everyone here

How is Mathonga supposed to feel about all of this?

I'm glad it's all done, and we can all leave

Her mother long arrived, they have the gifts in the car

It was a great day

But I don't know how a relationship between them, will affect my bother again

I call Mxo, I want to leave. All this is done

Mxo: yeah

Me: I'm leaving?

Mxo: you're done?

Me: yes

Mxo: okay thanks, I'm on my way

Me: on your way where?

Mxo: to pick Tumi up

I sigh

Me: where are you taking her?

It would just be a disaster Mxo arriving with her at home

Mxo: to her home Gugu

He drops the call, he sounded annoyed

I guess I just gave out with my question

I send him all the pictures taken, before putting my phone in my bag

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Itumeleng

Me : can we please just go

Mom: but

Me: he's having fun with his friends, he's not coming. Can

we just go mom please, I had a crazy day and I'm tired

I knew he wasn't coming

Like what does he even care?

He has no business dropping whatever he's doing, just to pick me up

Mom: I think.....

Voice: I'm sorry I'm late, traffic was bad

I sigh

Mom: I'm leaving

She says to me walking away

Mxo: I'm really sorry, it's just 5 minutes

Me: I'm tired Mxolisi!

Mxo: okay I know, and I'm sorry. Let's go

He takes my hand we walk to his car

He opens the back door, and takes out a Woolworths plastic

Mxo: please

He crouches down next to me, taking my heels off

And my feet are painful

Like who wears 8 inch heels, while pregnant witch such a heavy baby like mine? That was just drama

He takes out the fluffy slippers, my heart melts and I get all emotional

Mxo: what's wrong?

He asks as he gets up

I shake my head no

Mxo: you're scaring me

Me: I'm just

Lord I cry

He engulfs me into a hug

Mxo: I'm sorry if I'm making you cry

Me: you're being too nice, and I don't even know why

He pulls back with a smile

Mxo: I'm an idiot, and that's that. I want to do things right now

I frown in confusion

He wipes my tears off

Mxo: let me redeem myself, because I know I can. And you

and our son, you deserve that much from me

Me: what happened to you?

He chuckles

Mxo: nothing, let me get you home

I'm just stunned by all this

I wonder just how long he can keep up with it

I'm not expecting him to fail, or maybe that's what I wish for or anything like that

But I don't think someone can go from denying his kid, go months without any kind of communication And when he comes back, he's just doing everything right

This just seems somehow to me

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INSERT 25

Mxolisi

And after that crying session someone just decided to fall asleep on me

And I just saw an opportunity to keep her for the night

She's probably going to kill me when she wakes up tomorrow morning

Evan: how do you plan to carry her to your room?

Me: I will

He chuckles

I lean down, carrying her

And she's fucking heavy

Evan: that's two people

And now I remember, and that this other one is also big

So yeah, this is some heavyweight

I walk in , heading to my room

I had the bedding changed before I left going home

And Casey hasn't come around here

I place her on the bed, making sure she doesn't wake up

I close the door

I take out the slippers, and try getting the dress off

Just seeing her bare body gets me somehow

Me: get a hold of yourself

I cover her, and she's really worn out. She doesn't even move a bit

I place a kiss on her forehead and walk out

Evan: you came right?

Me: yeah

I grab a beer from the fridge

Even: her bag is by the lounge

Me: thanks, I need to call her mother

I could have taken her home, but I don't need that drama with Mathonga

I walk to the lounge taking her bag, I take out her phone

And lucky for me, it doesn't have a password

I look for her mother's number, and dial her on my phone

It rings a bit

Mrs Kekana: hello

Me : sawubona ma , it's Mxolisi

Mrs Kekana : is everything okay

Me: uhm yes, I..... Can I please bring her home tomorrow morning?

Mrs Kekana : she's sending you why ?

This woman

Me: she's not, she's asleep.
She fell asleep along the way,

and I.... I just decided to bring her to my place

Mrs Kekana: your place?

Me: the apartment where I stay at

She sighs

Mrs Kekana : she doesn't even know she's there ?

Me: no

Mrs Kekana : she won't be happy about this

That much I know

Mrs Kekana: please make sure she's back home tomorrow morning

Me: I'll make sure

Mrs Kekana: okay, thank you for calling

I drop the call

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Itumeleng

I slightly move

And I can feel I'm not alone in bed

Even the scent, it's not my cocoa butter scent

It's too masculine

I move, and the hand on my tummy holds me tight

Me: wh.....

Voice: shhhh, it's okay

I sigh

Me: what are you doing in my bed?

He chuckles

Mxo: you're in my bed

Now it makes sense

Me: what.... What am I doing here?

Mxo: justmommy sleep

Oh shit!

Me: my mother is going to freak

Mxo: I spoke with her, she's okay

He says moving, and slowly getting on top of me

Not bringing his weight on

Mxo: let me help you sleep

He leans down, we kiss as his one hand trails down to my thigh

I part my knees slowly, as he slides his hand in between my thighs

He deepens the kiss, sliding my panty to the side

He fiddles with my folds parting them with his fingers

He curses under his breath, as he slides one finger inside

Mxo: you're still intact, no one has been in here since me

He moves getting in between my thighs, his finger still working in me

Me: you left your baby inside of me, what do you think?

He chuckles

Mxo: I told you to get a pill

Me: he survived it

He leans down kissing my belly, as he gets up I just feel his crotch sliding inside of me

I'm like he sleeps naked?

Mxo: that's my boy

Mxm!

He trusts in slowly, placing his hands on my knees

As he takes deep and slow thrusts

I feel that first wave of pleasure, and I know it's been months and months of starvation

I bring my thighs together a bit, as I orgasm

He slowly pulls out , just leaving in the tip

And having him inside of me is a bit insane

Because my walls want to close up and push everything out

I quite down, he slides in further

Me: it's middle of the night, don't tire me

He chuckles

Mxo: you have too much tension, you need to release

I throw my head back, as I feel him further more inside of me

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Mxolisi

She yawns, and I'm guessing even this morning she's still tired

Tumi: pass me a towel, or something to cover up

I chuckle

Me: for what? I've seen you naked, and I love the bump on you

She sighs

I chuckle, leaning over giving her a peck

Tumi: are you letting me shower so I can leave?

Me: go shower, I'll go make you breakfast. Like what do you crave?

Tumi: I eat everything and anything

Me: so no certain cravings? I mean, my mother said there's always that one thing you'll crave more than others

Tumi: not with me

Wow!

Now wonder this baby is this big

Me: okay

I give her a peck, getting off the bed

I pick up my sweatpants putting them on

Tumi: why do you sleep naked?

I smile grabbing a t-shirt putting it on

Me: I was born naked

I put on my slides walking out to the kitchen

And Evan is up already

Evan: what a night!

Oh shit

I laugh

Me: why were you not asleep?

Even: you've had sex countless times, but last night mhm-mhm! Dude, baby mama is wild

Me: fuck off

Evan: warm me next time she's here, I'm human after all. So please, do consider me

Me: don't be acting all awkward when she gets in here, and don't say this nonsense to her

Evan: like

A knock comes at the door

Me: it's too early for visitors, who are you expecting?

He gets up to open, and Casey walks in

Evan: okay!

Casey: good morning babe

Me: uhm, can we please go out and talk?

She looks at me puzzled

Me: please

I walk to the door to usher her out

Me: make something, or order

Evan: sure

I walk Casey out, closing the door

Casey: what's going on?

Me: listen, there's something I need to tell you

Casey: what? Why are you chasing me out of the house? What's wrong?

Me: remember when I went home for March holidays?

Casey: to watch your siblings yes

Me: well, at the party something happened

Casey: what?

Me: II slept with someone

She sighs shaking her head

Me: two months later, we found out that she's

Casey: Mxo no!

She tears

Me: I'm sorry, she's 4 months now and it's my baby

Casey: she's here?

Me: yes, I can't have you in there. She doesn't even know that I have a girlfriend

She chuckles annoyingly wiping her tears off

Casey: had a girlfriend, Mxo you're such a pig

Okay well!

Casey: after everything we've been through, being together for two years. And this is what you do to me? Over a mere stupid party I couldn't attend, you thought it best to fuck around

Me: can we just not do this right now, she's pregnant and doesn't need any stress

Casey: wow!

More fresh tears flow down her cheeks

Casey: I got the message loud and clear, baby mama is in and I'm out

Me: it's not even like that

Casey: don't bother

She runs to her car, and drives out in high speed

I sigh, taking a minute and I walk back in

She's now in the kitchen, Evan is cooking

She has on a cup of tea

Me: uhm

She's staring at me intensely

Evan: is she gone?

I dart my eyes to him

Even: is Casey gone?

This fool

Evan: for all our sakes in here, I hope you got rid of her. I told you to stop hooking me up with crazy chicks, I don't want that girl. She was just a good fuck, she must be gone

I chuckle

Me: yeah I got it, no more hooking you up

I pull a chair next to Tumi, placing a kiss to the side of her head

I hope she buys this nonsense

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INSERT 26

Gugulethu

Mathonga: how was it?

I look at him

He's been quite all of yesterday, and this morning as well

I thought as much, that the baby shower got to him. And it really must have

Me: it was good

Mathonga: was she happy?

Gosh!

Can we not do this?

I wish he can just let go of Itu, because he's just going to hurt himself

Me: she was

Mathonga: mhm

He sits down

Mathonga: and he came

Okay, that's a statement

So I say nothing

Mathonga: he posted the pictures on socials, like Facebook WhatsApp even Instagram

Me: oh

Mathonga: yeah, it's literally her. And there's some where he's at

I didn't even see that

Like if he's posted her, what does it mean?

Are they together now? Like a real couple

And I hope no pictures of them kissing are posted there

Me: it was a great event

He picks the remote saying nothing

Me: you're over her right?

Mathonga: mhm

Me: Mathonga?

He sighs

Me: would you be hurt, if something happens between them?

Mathonga: something has already happened between them, and they're even having a whole human being to show

for it . So exactly what do you mean ?

I don't know this

Is he hurt about the breakup?

Or he's hurt because it was his brother?

He doesn't seem like he's over this at all

But at least he's pretending well, because dad hasn't said anything about them

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Itumeleng

Mom: why is Mxolisi calling me?

She says walking in

Her phone is ringing

Me: why do you have his number?

Mom: because he's the one who calls me when you sleep out

Me: it was a once off, I wasn't even aware of

Mom: take this call

She passes me her phone and walks away

Me: hello

I heave a loud sigh

Mxo: please unlock me

What the hell?

Me: why are you calling my mother?

Mxo: unblock me please, so I can call you

I shake my head

Me : stop calling her

Mxo: unblock.....

I drop the call

This drama is just too much

Why does he even have her number?

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Mxolisi

Mom: you just left

Me: I didn't, and I'm back today

Mom: after three days

Does it matter?

Me: Sibal'khulu I need to have a word with you

He looks at me

Me: I I want to go and pay damages for my son

Mom: what?

She asks shocked

Me: I mean like, that's a thing

right?

Dad: do you have money?

I'm broke as fuck!

Me: how much will they want?

Mom: how much do you have?

Me: ma! (Mom)

She laughs

Dad: most families request R2000, and R5000 minimum when the baby has grown a bit. They only go far when the child has grown into years, that's when they charge more

Me: I see

Mom: okay and how much do you have?

Me: 1.5K

I won't even lie about that

I have to go hustle for another 1.5K, and just hope that they don't ask beyond that

She's still pregnant

I just want to do right, and be able to see my son whenever I want

And I also for him to use my surname when he's born

That's why I thought of doing this

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Itumeleng

Me: uhmwhat?

Mxo: can you tell your mother that my family would like to come pay damages this weekend

I thought I didn't hear him the first time

So yeah , I unblocked his number

Just so he can stop calling my mother

Mxo: did you hear me?

I wonder what happened with this guy

Me: yeahuhm, why do you want to do that?

Mxo: because it's the right thing to do

Wow!

Me: I know nothing about that , I'll talk to my mother and hear what she says. Please wait to hear what she says, before you

tell your people to come here without hearing what she says

He laughs

Mxo: okay

Me: mhm bye

Mxo: wait, how's my boy?

Me : you're not depriving me sleep bye

I drop the call

I wonder what my mother will say about this

But knowing that woman, anything is very much possible

She might just shock me

And agree to this whole thing

I've heard of damages and such , it's not a new thing

But then again, I don't really believe in that

Like I know for a fact that I'm not damaged

So I don't understand the whole damages concept thing

What's exactly damaged that's being paid?

It just doesn't make sense to me

We'll talk tomorrow, right now I just want to sleep

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INSERT 27

A WEEK LATER

Itumeleng

So it was happening today

My mother was all for the damages idea

She agreed, and today the Dlamini uncle's came to pay the so called damages. Of which I'm still not for, and not understanding

We had cooked, and just gotten booze for them

Now they're sitting outside, along with my two uncle's who came

I'm a bit upset right now

Because I've just heard that my son will use the Dlamini surname when he's born . I wasn't even told that when they arrived

To my knowledge, I thought they were just paying damages

But no , they also paid Lobola for the baby

They married this child, so basically this baby is theirs and not mine

Like!

They should have told me all of this before, I really wouldn't have agreed. It's like I've just given them my baby

I'm in my bedroom , I'm really annoyed

I didn't even want to be with any of those people

A knock comes at the door, he gets in before I even answer

I don't even want to know how he knew where my room was

Mxo: 1.....

Me: I don't remember saying I want to give my baby up, or give him to your family

He closes the door and walks in further

He sits down on the bed

Mxo: I know that

Me: then what was that?

Mxo: please calm down

Me: don't!

I take a deep breath

Me: honestly if you Dlamini people think I'm going to give you my son, you have another thing coming. That baby is mine, he's not your family's baby

Mxo: that's not what I was trying to do

Me : you should have told me Mxolisi

Mxo: okay I'm sorry

I feel like I'm going crazy all alone

Mxo: he's going to live with you, I'll just come to see him. You can bring him over at home

, just to visit them . I'm not taking your child away from you , I would never do that to our son . I just wanted him to use my surname , and I'll do right for him when he's born . We'll have an imbeleko for him

I sigh

Mxo: lesson learnt, next time I'll be sure to tell you everything before I do it

I just look at him

I'm just trying to figure this sudden change in him

My phone rings

Mxo: who's Cleo?

He asks with a frown

Me: what's it to you?

He grabs my phone, I hold my hand for it

Me: tisa (give)

He just stares at me, and I can't comprehend his look

Me: he's Gugu's friend

Mxo: why is that boy calling you?

What does he care?

Mxo: can he just respect the fact that I'm here, and I'm not about to let you be with another man while you're carrying my baby

Me: let me?

Mxo: what I mean is, he should just stay far away

He drops the call

I need my sanity, and I'm not about to entertain Mxolisi right now

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Gugulethu

Me: and then?

Cleo: she declined the call

I so hate what he's doing

I really don't get what's the fuss about Itu

First it was Mathonga, then Mxolisi. And now it Cleo

It's just annoying

Like I don't even remember the last time a guy looked my way

Yet she has three guys, going crazy over her

In just a short space of months, worse she's even pregnant

Cleo: I mean, is she together with your brother?

Me: they're having a baby together

Cleo: doesn't mean they have to be together

I roll my eyes looking away from him

Me: she probably declined that call because she's with Mxo

He shakes his head with a sigh

Mxm!

Why can't he just see me? I've been his friend, we get along just fine

Is there a need to drag up Itu?

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Itumeleng

Mxo: I wish I could sleep over

I frown at that

Mxo: what?

He laughs

Me: you're not sleeping in my mother's house, and I'm going nowhere with you

Mxo: the baby wants me to sleep over

Stupid!

Me: you and the baby will go and sleep outside

Mxo: you're a pussy blocker no lies

Me: that was the first

Mxo: the second

Must he?

I give him a bored look

Me: the second and the last time we slept together

Mxo: I don't know about that

I don't see how we can end up in one bed again, and end up having sex again

Me: remember how rude you were to me? Telling me about how you have a girlfriend and all, where I she now?

He chuckles

Mxo: she dumped me

Me : oh so you thought you can ...

Mxo: wait a minute, she dumped me because I told her I'm going to be a father

That curvy smile says it all

Me: still doesn't mean ...

Mxo: yes it doesn't, but then you're carrying my son. So during this pregnancy, I'm availing myself to helping you in everything that has to do with you having a blissful pregnancy

Wonders shall never cease to amaze

Me: I don't care what you're saying, but you're not sleeping

here . Not in my mother's house

I'm sure she would freak, and kick me out

Mxo: okay, you should come over

Me: no

That's not happening

Mxo: you do love being difficult don't you?

Me: takes one to know one

Mxo: mhm, fine

He gets up

Mxo: I'll call you

I say nothing as he puts his jacket on

He pecks my lips, and leans for a kiss

I kiss him back briefly

He pulls out with a smile, and moves back

He kisses my tummy

Mxo: daddy loves you

He moves back heading to the door going out

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INSERT 28

Itumeleng

Mom: you were not happy

That was days ago, I'm better now in a way

Me: I just wish I was told what it means

Mom: you didn't tell me the other thing, you just said damages. And that's what I said to your uncle's, when they wanted to pay bogadi for the baby they just agreed because they thought we knew

Me: it's fine, it doesn't matter now it's done. There's nothing we can do about it

Mom: this doesn't make you feel like he chose his child over you right? I mean a lot of women, don't always agree for the baby to paid for alone.

They want to be married along

Does it?

Mom: like do you feel like an outcast somehow when it comes to their family?

Me: I don't know, I have no business actually feeling anything about them.

Especially because I don't even know those people much

She puts the cloth down on the counter

And pulls a chair besides me sitting down

Mom: you and Mxolisi are not together?

Me: no, that will never happen

Mom: but that's not what I see

I laugh

Me: woman I don't know what you think you're seeing, but

Mxolisi is still the same Mxolisi he was two months ago

She laughs

Mom: you need to let that thing go

Me: I can't, that's the thing.

And that's what's upsetting me, I don't understand how he can do and say what he did and said

. And turn around , and just do this

Mom: he's trying

I heave a sigh shaking my head

Mom: you have to find some common ground, and coparent well together

Me: mhm

Mom: I hold nothing against him, I had told you this from the beginning. If they take responsibility that's good, and if they don't we won't force them. My word still stands

Me: yeah I hear you

Mom: what are you going to do about the presents?

Me: I will keep the cot in my room, and maybe one rocking chair. The other one can come down here, for when I'm in here. I don't know which room we'll turn into a nursery, I was thinking this one

Mom: why downstairs?

Me: it's just much easier

Mom: during the day yes, but once he starts using the room. At night he'll be down here, and you'll be up there

I laugh

That won't work

Me: okay, I didn't think about that. Alright

Mom: use the room opposite yours

Me: okay, I'll get it done. I do have the weekend free, no classes. So I'll put it to good use

Mom: don't lift heavy things

Me: Ng ng I won't

I grab my cup of tea and take a sip, and it's getting cold now

Not so nice anymore

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Gugulethu

Me: do you think friendships turned into relationships work better?

Cleo: for some yeah

Me: andwould that be something that works for you?

He puts his phone in his pocket and looks at me

Cleo: definitely not

Ouch!

I didn't think that would sting that much

Me: why not?

Cleo: I learnt hard, friendships relationships tend to get a bit somehow. And if the relationship doesn't work, you end you loosing the friend as well. So it's just a lose lose situation, and you'll end up hating the relationship for why

it even happened cause now it has cost you a friend. Things will just never be the same

Wow!

Me: butpeople are not the same

Cleo: true, but I will never date someone I'm friends with. I value my friendships

I do regret asking now

But I wanted to see if I would get rejected if I tried first approach

Me: but then what would happen, if you do fall for your friend?

Cleo: end the friendship simple

There's no winning here

Me : okay

He chuckles

Cleo: why are you asking?

Me: just

Cleo: mhm okay

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Mxolisi

Casey: wasn't I enough for you ?

I heave a sigh

Girl rocked up here this morning

After not talking to each other for so long

And I thought she moved on , or whatever

But I guess not

Casey: I'm sure it wasn't even the first time you cheated on me, but you had to make a child this time. Do you love her

that much that you left your seed inside of her? What does she have that I don't?

Me : please just go , cause this is

Casey: you don't get to hurt people like this Mxolisi, and think you can just live your life however you want it. You just don't

Me: I apologized, what more must I say?

Casey: and you think your sorry is going to fix anything? All the pain and hurt that you've caused me, when all I've done was to love you. And you just throw all of that in my face, and I'm just supposed to be okay with that?

Me: I didn't say I want anything fixed, I'm just sorry I hurt you that's

Casey: you're not even sorry, you don't care! You've never loved me clearly. I do feel sorry for that baby mama of yours, I hope she sees you for the trash and dog that you are

Me: okay

I walk back closing the door locking

Casey: hey! Fucking open this door

She bangs the door screaming her lungs out

This is an episode of a mad woman

Evan: after everything, do I still look crazy for not liking her?

I laugh

Evan: I mean, what kind of a girl is she refusing to get dumped?

I shake my head

I didn't even think Casey was this crazy

Casey: open the door Mxolisi before I break it down!

She screams banging harder on the door

Casey: you won't get away with this

What crime exactly did I commit?

Evan: we do need that Cape

Town trip

Me: your girl is keen?

He smiles

Evan: for once she's keen on doing something

Me: does she know Brandon, and Collin are coming with?

Evan : yeah

Me: okay that's good

Evan: it will.....

We're startled by the window breaking, and whatever broke it hitting the kettle on the opposite counter

Casey: I am not done, you don't get to play me like that

I walk towards the door

Evan: fuck no! Leave her, you don't want an assault case

He stands in front of me, stopping me from going outside

Me: she broke our window

Evan: it's just a window, she's not damn worth it. It's a window

I try getting past him

Evan: let's not fight, I know you're much stronger than me. It's just a window, we'll fix it

We hear the car driving out, and no doubt it's her

Even : she's gone , just let her be

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INSERT 29

Itumeleng

Me: what do you want?

Mxo: can I come in?

No, like I feel like my mother is too soft on this guy

And that's why he thinks he can even come here

Me: if you wanted to talk, you could have just called

Mxo: you're rude over the phone, is your mother home?

Me: no

Mxo: great then, it'll give us a time to talk

I sigh making way for him to walk in

Mxo: you okay?

Me: yeah

I walk to the kitchen, and he follows

Me: I'm busy, what do you want?

He smiles

Mxo: busy with what?

Me: the nursery

Mxo: oh, can I see it?

I take out a packet of lays chips, and just stare at him

Mxo: I'll help

Me: opposite my room

He chuckles turning going upstairs

I take a bottle of juice, and follow him

These stairs tire me out, if only there was another way to just avoid them

Mxo: where is the cot?

Me: In my room, it's going to stay in there until he's big enough to be on his own

Mxo: then we can give him a little sister or something

I laugh walking in

Me: you must be bored or something

He chuckles

Mxo: I'll come see this after the weekend, let me put the cot together

We walk to my room , I sit down on the bed while he gets busy

Mxo: are you free this weekend?

Me: why?

Mxo: I would like you to come with me to Cape Town

Me: what?

Mxo: please

Me: whywhat's happening in Cape Town?

Mxo: just a weekend away with friends, it'll just be 8 people if we agree to go

Me : so you were taking your girlfriend ?

Mxo: no, this idea came up after we broke up

He turns looking at me

Mxo: I also think it'll do you good, I'm sure exams have been stressful

They have been

Me : go ask my mother

He nods with a sigh, going back to putting the cot together

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Mxolisi

Tumi is difficult

But I'll just have to do what I have to do

Tumi: Mxolisi would like to have a word with you, he was putting the cot together. And the nursery job is now his

Oh wow!

Mrs Kekana: okay

She turns going to the lounge leaving me and her mother in the kitchen

Me: I..... There's a trip to Cape Town this weekend, just me and my friends. Nothing big though, just 4 friends. And I asked Tumi to come with, but she said I should ask you on her behalf.

Mrs Kekana: a trip so far, won't that be a strain to her?

Me: no, maybe the jet lag yes.
But I'll make sure she gets a
massage, and that she's fine

My phone rings

Me: it's my father, I have to take this

She nods, I walk away taking the call

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Itumeleng

Mom: so you sent him to ask me why?

Me: I can't just agree to go with him

Mom: but you could have, and then told me

I sigh

Mom: so it all depends on what I say?

I have a feeling she will not disagree

Mom: do you want to go?

Me: no

She pops her eyes

Mom: why?

How do I even put this in words , without even sounding like I'm insane

Me: this is the same guy who denied this pregnancy, today he's doing everything right.

And I don't even know why, or what happened. But I do know I don't want to get my hopes high, I don't want to get hurt

Mom: but then why did you say he must ask me? A way to get yourself out?

I laugh

Me: no, even if you say yes.
I'll tell him myself that I don't
want to

She sighs

Mom: do you love Mxolisi?

I laugh

Me: what do you mean love?

Mom: don't act with me, do you love him?

Me: I've never thought about Mxolisi like that

Mom: maybe you do love him, and he hurt you when he denied the baby. Then he comes around, and you have no idea what he's doing . But then there's also that bogadi and damages issue, that didn't sit well with you. Maybe it made you feel like, he's excluding you . Now you're scared of opening yourself to him, because he will see you for what you feel for him. And

there's nothing wrong about being attracted to him

Is she not going like too far? I mean I don't think it's that deep

Mom: he's doing something

And he walks in pressing his phone

But I don't know, his face is saying he heard

Mxo: I have to get going, my father needs me home. I'll come finish the nursery after the weekend

Mom: okay not a problem, and you can go to Cape Town with Itumeleng. I don't mind

This woman!

I know it's not to spite me though, she means well

Mxo: thank you

She smiles

Mxo: can you please walk me out?

I walk him out, he leans against his car

Mxo:so?

Me: I'm not going

Mxo: baby please, like I'm not saying it's a must or anything. But please just think about it

Did he just call me baby?

Mxo: I'll come on Friday morning, and if you've changed your mind we'll go. I hope you do change your mind, for whatever reason you feel that you don't want to go with me

He leans forward pecking my lips, his one hand brushing my tummy

He moves back getting into his car, I open the big gate for him as he drives out

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INSERT 30

Mxolisi

Evan: you look sour

I chuckle

Me: I might not go

Evan: why?

I heave a sigh

Evan: but you packed

Me: yeah, but baby mama is not interested

He laughs

Evan: did you beg?

Me: I could even crawl, if she's not keen she won't bother

Evan: you're being dealt

Me : tell me something I don't know

He chuckles

Evan : so what now ?

Me: I'll go over check on her, if I miss the flight just know I'm not coming. So you might as well just leave without me

Evan: that sucks, we all might as well not go

Me: yeah, but if she's not going. I'll rather not go. That doesn't stop you though

Evan: but you can get anyone to come with, even there you can grab someone

I chuckle

Me: yeah, but I want her

Evan : are you in love ?

Me: who me?

We laugh

Evan: yeah no, it's not you

I shake my head

Evan: who are we trying to convince?

He sits down

Evan: I've never seen you like this

Me: I don't know, maybe she's luring me in. I've never even looked at her like that, but that day of the baby shower something changed

He just stares at me

Evan: okay, you know what?

Me: what?

Even: we have an hour before we leave, so take your keys go check on that woman

Me : so you want me to finish myself?

He laughs

Evan: if she doesn't wanna go, tell her we want the baby

I chuckle

Me: she denied me a sleepover, even after using the baby

Evan: come on!

I get up grabbing my car keys on the coffee table

Me: I'm not taking my bag, if she's coming we'll pass by here

Evan: alright

I get out heading to my car, I drive to Hyde Park

The gate is opened, if I didn't know any better I would say it was left opened for me

I park on the driveway, get out of my car

I knock at the door, her mother opens

We greet each other

I'm even sceptical to ask her if she's coming or not

Mrs Kekana: she was lazy waking up today, she'll be down soon

Me: okay

I sit down on the couch

And minutes just go by, and she's not coming

Her mother is in the kitchen

Like 30 minutes has gone by

Voice: mama! (Mom)

She calls out from upstairs

Her mother shows up by the door

Mrs Kekana: please go help

I get up as she walks back to the kitchen

I head upstairs to her room

The door is opened, I walk in and she's sitting on top of a suitcase

Me: hi momma

She sighs, I smile

Me: you called

Tumi: my mother

Me: and she sent me

Tumi: I can't close this

Me : did you pack your whole closet ?

I walk closer, she gets off and I close it

Tumi: I'm pregnant, you told me about a trip the day before. There was no time for shopping for it

I swear we're going to use the baby's savings

Me: thank you for coming

Tumi: yeah

I take the suitcase, we walk out heading down

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Itumeleng

He gets back in , after placing his bag in the back

Mxo: I'm going to drive like insane, we have 20 minutes to get to the airport

Me: what happened to that window?

I ask as he drives out

Mxo: crazy ex girlfriend

He says so casual like its nothing

Mxo: if I fuck up, don't ever deal me like that

I laugh

Me: I have no business being insane with you, do what you do. It doesn't concern me

Mxo: ouch! You know how to hurt me, like you've mastered this

Mxm!

We get to the airport, just safe by 10 minutes

I don't even know what got me going

I just woke up today, and decided to pack

Voice: and the baby is going to Cape Town

This guy!

We turn looking at him, and I see like this is a lot of people

Is this a couple's retreat?

What is Mxo doing dragging me to such things?

Doesn't make sense to me

Mxo: this is Collin and Brandon, and this is

He stares at me and blushes like what the hell?

The guys laugh

Collin: someone is in love, we know this is baby mama

Brandon: hi

Me: hey

Collin: it's finally nice to meet you, this is my girl Mpumi

She waves I wave back

Evan: uh let's not do this, this is Amahle and Sibo

I don't know who's who there, but okay

Brandon: you're jealous

The flight gets called , they grab their bags

Mxo grabs ours

Good thing, because I can't carry that

It's not a big suitcase though, it's a small one. But fully packed

And I'm tired

I'm just wondering, just how tired will I be when I'm 9 months

That's if we get there, if someone doesn't decide to come sooner

Cause there's a possibility of that happening, so anything just goes here

This baby, better go back to normal size once he's here

At this rate, he will just tire people when they carry him

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INSERT 31

Gugulethu

Me: I'm jealous

She laughs

Mom: what?

Me: Mxo just posted a video on his Insta, he's on a flight with baby mama heading to Cape Town

Mom: he did say he's going

Me: yeah but he didn't say he's going with her

Mom: ah it doesn't matter

This is more than just baby mama and baby daddy business

They look so cosy on this video

And seems like Itu was the one taking it

The smile she gives him, I don't even know what he was saying to her

Because he's playing a song on the video

And knowing Mathonga is going to see this, I doubt he'll be in a good mood

Mom: please, make sure your sister stays away from the pool

Me: will do

Mom: okay baby, I love you

Me: I love you

She grabs her bag and walks out

Me: wow, people are living

And I can't even score a boyfriend

Cleo made it clear we won't happen

Now I won't even dare make a move, I know he will shut me down

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Mxolisi

We've just arrived at Sky hotel

And she looks tired

The others have gone to check out their rooms

She sits down on the bed, taking out her shoes

I place her slippers down

Me: you hungry?

Tumi: no, I ate a lot on the plane. You made sure of that

I chuckle

Me: because you eat a lot

She laughs

Tumi: your son does

I lean forward giving her a kiss

Me : of course he does

Tumi: I just need a shower

Me: I'll go run you a bath

I peck her lips

She pulls me in for a deeper kiss, of which I welcome

But as soon as my dick reacts, I slowly pull out

Tumi: where are you going?

Me: let me go run you a bath, it's much better than a shower

She pulls me down for a kiss, I chuckle

Me: you're getting me horny

She plays ignorant to that , like she's not hearing me

I'm guessing it's because she can take care of it

I won't say no to that

She moves up a bit, taking my t-shirt off

She runs her hands on my chest going down to my lower stomach

She holds tight on my waist, I pull her dress off. Exposing her fully blown boobs, and she has on a boyleg panty

I slide my finger down her thighs, she parts her legs bringing her knees up I unbuckle my pants, lowering them down along with my briefs

I stroke my dick out, she lays back as I rub my finger on her coochie above her panty

Seeing the moist dampening the panty, I let out a groan

I slide her panty to the side, sliding my dick in slowly

She lets out a moan, closing her eyes having a slight frown on her face

I know just how I fill her, she's tight and so I stretch her

She's able to grip, and just hold my dick tight intact and in place

To be honest, she's the best I've ever had

And trust me, I've been around

But I've never come across such

I take slow deep strokes, picking her legs up a bit placing my hands on her thighs

I look down, seeing just how creamy she's covering my dick

I go in deeper, letting go of her one leg

It drops on the bed

I rub on her clit . And she's very much aroused

She grabs on the sheets, as she orgasms and I slowly pull out letting her have her pleasure

As she calms down, I lean down giving her a brief kiss

I get on the bed, getting in from behind her

I lift her one leg up, sliding my dick inside of her

As she welcomes me, I place a few pecks on her shoulder blades going up to her neck

I trail my hand to her boobs, rubbing on her nipples

Her moans increase, my dick tightens as I shoot up my seed inside of her

I lean over, pecking her lips

Me : give me one more

She giggles, putting her leg over mine

I thrust in picking up my pace going faster

She tilts her face, and we kiss

After a few deep fast paced thrusts, we cum

She tilts her head back, I slowly pull out my dick out of her

Giving her a full blown kiss

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Itumeleng

We fell asleep, and it's late in the afternoon now

I've been awake for a while

This big baby is hungry

And this one, has his head on my chest

I'm cuddling him like he's a baby as well

I run my hand on his head, just admiring his handsome face

and the tattoo over his shoulder

I smile with a slight chuckle

Me: I don't know how or when we got here, but it feels so right. Why?

I have a sigh

Mxo: it's love

He startles me , cause I didn't think he's awake

He lifts his head slowly, and looks at me with his lazy eyes

I can't help but smile

Mxo: you two are hungry?

I laugh nodding

Mxo: let me

He leans over reaching for his phone, but it rings as he takes hold of it

Mxo: these people

He lays back on my chest

Mxo: yeah

Voice: we're all refreshed, and the city is calling us

I didn't even see he's putting the phone on speaker, until I hear Evan talk

Mxo:so?

Evan: dude what do you mean so? We have to get going

Mxo: mhm-mhm, you go

Evan: what about you?

He looks at me and laughs

Evan: baby mama is not giving me permission, and man the baby doesn't want me to leave

Evan laughs

Evan: fuck! Now you're going to use this baby as an excuse for everything

Mxo: mhm, go have fun. We'll see you guys tomorrow morning

Evan: but

He drops the call

Me: that was rude

Mxo: yhoh!

He runs his hand on my tummy

Mxo: what are you eating?

He just declined going out there and having fun

And he doesn't even look bothered

I'm surprised

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INSERT 32

Gugulethu

It's so fun and happening in Cape Town, like I am very much envious

I'm even stalking the people

Cause I don't want to miss even a single post

And this morning, Mxo posted a snap of Itu

In a white fancy fluffy gown, and girl is glowing

Her face is so cute and chubby, pregnancy is doing her good as well

Cause she gained weight on her already chubby self

It was clearly a romantic breakfast set up on the room balcony, and you can see the sea behind her

She has a cup on her hands, clearly about to take a sip

She's smiling, it's so evident that she's happy

Mom: but what does he mean when he says "my view"

I laugh

The woman is also stalking Cape Town people with me, we're so busy and jealous

As soon as I held my phone, and she saw what I was doing she was gawking

Me: it's a way of flexing

Mom: what's flexing?

Me: like he's actually boasting

She frowns

I laugh

Me: not in a bad way, just to say that's what he's looking at right now. Meaning she's his view

Mom: oh that's cute, but he could have just said that

Woman!

Me: trust me, his audience on Instagram are getting what he's saying

Mom: one can't keep up with you kids

I react on the picture, and scroll down to nothing else

Just people living their lives out there

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Itumeleng

I'm all refreshed

And all ready to just do whatever everyone is doing

I just hope it's nothing too hectic because that one I cannot do

I don't want to do things that will tire me out

Mxo: so we're going to Table Mountain, but that's like a bit later

Me: okay

Mxo: now, we're heading to the beach

I take my phone

Mxo: waityou don't want to go?

I sigh

Me: see how big I am? Those girls are going to be flaunting, and I'll be in clothes covering

Mxo: clothes coveringwhat the hell? Not my woman, and definitely not my baby mama.

You're going to fucking flex there, with your bump and all. I got you a bikini

I laugh so unintended

But like what's this?

I'm just going to look like an elephant in a bikini

Mxo: you'll fucking show them

He gets off the bed and walks to the bathroom, he comes back with the bikini

And it's a two piece, it's royal blue

Me : can I even fit in that ?

Mxo: yeah I know your size

I frown

Mxo: we know even deeper sizes, so that's noting to even know about

Me: you're nasty though

Mxo: I'm pulling shorts and slides, I think a shirt will do. I don't handle the sun well

I don't blame him, he sure took both his parents complexion

They look mixed, more especially his mother

Me : okay , let me put that on and see

I take the bikini from him, and undress

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Mxolisi

I take a few snaps of her, and post some on my WhatsApp status

I told her she will flex in this, she put on a kimono on top

Brandon: is this what they call relationship goals?

I chuckle

Me : you leave me the fuck alone

Collen: he's so wasted and gone, there's no coming back for him

Evan: baby mama took out the whoering ways out of the window

They laugh

Collin: what happened with Casey?

Evan takes a sip of his beer

Evan: don't mention her, she broke our window. I still haven't gotten over her crazy

Collin: fuck!

Brandon: she's going to cut your balls when she sees this

Me: I will fuck her up, I don't take lightly when it come to this woman. So she better not start me there, anything else is fine

She just crept into my heart, and I don't even know how that happened

And just changed all in one night

Just seeing her there having fun in the water, she's happy and enjoying herself

Who wouldn't be content with such?

Now I'm fully committed and excited

I can't even wait to meet our son

I guess I was just scared for nothing

There's no manual for this, you learn and figure things out as you go along

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Itumeleng

Amahle: how did you meet Mxo?

After the day at the beach, we just came back and chilled at the hotel

We're done getting ready for table mountain

The guy are somewhere, we're just waiting on them

Me: at a party

Amahle: oh

This one has crazy attitude, even though she plays all nice

Amahle: I never thought I will ever see him with another girl

Me: another girl?

Amahle: don't take offence, just that him and Casey were couple goals

Casey?

The very same Casey they said was Evans crazy hook up?

Me : oh well I don't even know who that is

Amahle: it's just a shock, and you're even expecting. Those two had dreams and plans, they were just that couple we looked up to. What people would call goals and all of that, they were just it

Sibo: yhoh Mahle come on

She laughs

Amahle: what? I'm just making conversation, that relationship was no secret. Like a whole two years, you don't just let go of that and you're suddenly in love with the new thing.

Me: new thing is me?

Sibo: it doesn't matter, you don't make conversations

about such . Rather get to know Tumi, than talking about her man's ex

Amahle: oh well

Sibo: would you be happy, if anyone's suddenly brought up the girls Evans used to fuck with? No girl would be okay with that, not even you

Amahle: I'm not making drama, it's no big deal. And like are you not so young for him?

The laugher of the guys erupts, and she takes a sip from her drink

Like she wasn't just spitting nonsense to me right now

Collin: is everything okay?

Amahle: yeah

They get up, taking their bags and walking out with the guys

Mxo helps me up

Mxo: are you okay?

Me: oh I'm fine

He holds my waist, and we lock eyes

Mxo: what happened?

Me: let's go

Mxo: we're not going anywhere until you tell me what's wrong? You weren't like this, when you left the room

I take a sigh, darting my eyes away from him

Mxo: okay, we're staying right here

He says turning taking my side bag, back inside

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INSERT 33

Mxolisi

She walks in , with a sour cute face

I'm sitting on the bed , holding my phone

I place it down looking at her

Tumi: did I just ruin a moment there?

Me: you ruined nothing

Tumi: then let's go, everyone is leaving

Me: let them leave

Tumi: but I was looking forward to going there

Me: as broke as I am, I can still afford to take my son and woman to table mountain

She sighs sliding her sandals off

Tumi: the whole point was going with everyone else

Me: what happened?

She keeps quite

I lean down taking my sneakers off, and slide back on the bed

Bringing the pillow down, I lay down

Tumi: you're serious?

Me: when I ask something I would just like to be answered

Tumi: oh well, Amahle was just telling me about how amazing you and Casey the so called Evans crazy hook up were. How you were the it couple, everyone knew and

looked up to you two. How you had plans and whatnot, oh and also how young I am for you

I lift my head looking at her, she's still leaning against the door

My phone rings, and I know its Evan

Me: what?

Evan : come on dude we have to go

Me: you can go

Even: don't tell me you're staying in again, you missed out last night

Me: we are

Evan: but what happened? We were all going, it was agreed

Me: sure it was, but I would rather my woman be in a space where my ex's won't be thrown in her face

Evan: what?

I say nothing

Evan: we should have fucking left these girls behind, what's the point having fun when you two are not?

Me: don't worry about us, we'll just do us with our fun

I drop the call

I lift up sitting straight, I look at her

Me: Casey is my ex, and yes I lied about her being Evan's hook up. She came that morning, and I came clean to her. I told her I'm going to be a father, and I don't want you being stressed about girlfriends and all

I sigh

Me: I was scared that you would leave angry, and want nothing to do with me . And for some reason, I felt like if you knew the truth I wouldn't stand a chance . That day of the baby show changed everything for me, and the night sealed it. I didn't know how to react when she showed up, I'm sorry I wasn't forthcoming and honest about it or her to you

She walks over sitting down on the couch

Me: I'm done and over her, yes we were together for two years. But I've come to know, it's not about the years you've spent with someone. Because someone you met a week ago, can have something more valuable than someone you met a month ago does . It's not about the baby alone, it goes

beyond that . I laugh more , and I'm more happier than I've been in years . I can be vulnerable, and just be myself with you . You let me lay on your chest, and you sooth me. It's not that, a man is the one who has to cuddle his woman. You cuddle me, it's just the care and everything else. It's how you don't go out of your way, being someone you're not just for me to see you

anyhow . I know you don't take nonsense, and I will never deal you that . Because you've shown me that, that's not you. Casey is a past I've left there, and I'm trying to build this. Because one thing I'm certain of , is that I can't fight my feelings for you . I won't rush you either, but I'm sticking around for however long it takes

I look at her, and she's looking down

Me: what I had with her, is definitely not what I have with you or what I want with you. I don't even need that two years I had with her, the weeks I have had with you have been enough

I tilt her chin, we lock eyes

And her eyes are glistening

Me: it was just fear, but it doesn't excuse my lie and I'm sorry for that. I should have been honest

She blinks and a tear drops on her cheek, I wipe it with my thumb

Tumi: she's the one who broke the window?

I nod, and she heaves a sigh

Me: you shouldn't have been in a position like that, I could have done better

I peck her lips, bringing her head to my chest

Me: I'm sorry

Tumi: it's okay, I'm sorry I ruined the day

I chuckle

Me: you did no such, women are bitter and they'll carry fights and battles of another. Just for the sake of it, and being dramatic. I did not sign

anything, to be stuck with Casey

Tumi: now what?

Me: now, you tell me what you two want to do and we get it done

She giggles, I lift up kissing her forehead

Where a group of women are together, things just never end well

I don't want to take it up with the guys

So best they do what they want to do, and we'll figure ourselves out. It's not like there's nothing we can do around here

Tumi won't be comfortable around them, knowing they can just call out Casey any second

And I want her to enjoy herself, so it's best and better this way

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Itumeleng

There was no changing his mind

I gave in as well

I guess the mood just really changed for him, I feel bad though

Now his friends will think I'm the reason he's not doing anything they planned together to do

I really don't care what their girlfriends think

We had a great time at the beach, everything was fine

I don't understand why Amahle had to bring the Casey thing up

Being cooped up in the room, he said we should take a drive

And we stumbled upon this nice restaurant, bakery thing

It's called Ledi's sweet delights

It's fancy and classy

My sweet tooth just couldn't help itself

I just had to indulge on all these sweet treats

It's not a table mountain experience, but then again

It's still damn worth it

Mxo: no wonder the baby is big

I laugh

Me: for your information, I eat this much because of him

He smiles

Mxo: of course, while he's still in there and can't speak anything for himself. Let's just blame him for everything, and anything we want to. It's all fine, he doesn't even know so it's alright

Me: I'm better, at least I don't use him to get sleepovers and sex

He chuckles

Mxo: ah!

It's no lies

Mxo: are you going to school on Monday?

Me: yeah after 12:00

He sighs

Me: what's wrong?

Mxo: I wanted to move our flight, to later in the afternoon

. I want to take you to table mountain in the morning

Isn't he just going out of his way, and all just for me

Mxo: now, I don't want you worn out from jet lag on Monday

Me: it's okay, you can change the flight

Mxo: are you sure?

I'm probably going to regret, when I have to go to school

Me: I'll be sure that I get enough rest tomorrow evening , and Monday morning

I've already disappointed him today, I cannot do it again

Because I feel like he's trying, and he's actually showing it

Even his words, he sure came out with them today

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INSERT 34

Itumeleng

Voice: hi

I look over, and it's the most cutest baby girl I've ever seen

And I don't even know how many babies I've seen

But lord!

I've never seen one this cute, and she's all so chubby

You can literally just eat her up

Okay!

Not literally, but okay. Why is she so cute?

Me: hi baby

She smiles as I greet her with a smile

Her: I'm London

Strange

Okay, I know people name their kids anything and everything

But you don't think a girl could have a name, like London

That's for boys, well mostly

Me: well I'm Itumeleng, but you can just call me Tumi

She giggles

Me: where are your parents?

She's maybe 4 years, I don't know I could be wrong

What do I know?

London: mom is in the back

Me : oh okay

She looks at my tummy, and just goes all quite

It's creepy and strange

Maybe she's never seen a pregnant person before

I look at Mxo, and he has on just a funny look

London: you're going to have a very nice baby, and he's loving too

She says with a smile, looking directly into my eyes

I find myself smitten, rubbing my tummy

London: you see, he loves it when you two are together like

this. People fall in love for all different kinds of reasons, even when others don't like it

Okay!

Child you're being creepy now, what does she know about love and falling in love?

Mxo: should we be listening to a child say such things?

I chuckle at just how he's saying this

London: it's okay to let your heart love him, at least he's good for you

Mxo chuckles shaking his head

And this is just amusing me

London: so much love, I hope I will meet your son some day

Voice: London!

I dart my eyes to the voice of the woman, she walks over to us

Her: oh I am so sorry

I grace her with a smile

Her: what did I say about disturbing customers?

London: but I wasn't

Me: she really wasn't, you have a beautiful daughter really

She smiles

Her: oh thank you, she's a

handful

Me: aren't all kids like that?

Her: wait until he's here

We laugh

Her: I'm Paris

Okay!

Paris and London

I've never met people with such names

Me: I'm Itumeleng, this is my baby daddy Mxolisi

He just nods with a side smile

Praise: once again, I'm sorry she came onto you like that. I was held up in the kitchen

Me : oh this is your place ?

Paris: my grandmother's actually, I just decided to run it after her passing. It has been in our family for years, her name was Dikeledi. And I kept everything just as she had it, even the recipe's and all

Me: wow, it's actually stunning. Don't get me started on the treats, I can't get enough. You should have something like this in Joburg, even if it's a small one

Paris: oh well, I might just. One customer brings others

Me : definitely

She looks at her daughter

Paris: apologize

Poor kid!

London: I am sorry, I'll go get you a free cookie

Oh she's too sweet

Me: thank you baby

She smiles, placing her tiny hand on my belly

Me: Ohhh!

Mxo: what's wrong?

In seconds he has his eyes popped out

London: oh this baby is so happy

She giggles running away

And I'm left stunned

Paris: uhmare you okay?

Do you need anything?

Me: I'm fine

Mxo: are you sure?

Me: yes

I slightly laugh

Me: the baby just kicked

Mxo: what?

Inod

Me: like for the first time ever, I've actually felt the kick

He smiles

I look at Paris

Me: you really must be having a special child

She laughs a bit nervous

I don't know, maybe she thought something was wrong with me

Paris: she's one of a kind, let me go see what she's doing. She is capable of burning that kitchen out, for your cookie

We laugh, she walks away

Mxo: talk about strange and awkward kids

I laugh

Me : don't be silly , she's just a child

Mxo: a very strange child, she will never meet my son

What's the drama about?.

Me: I think she was cute

He laughs

Mxo: it's hormones

Idiot!

I wish I had them , so I can just act out about everything

Mxo: that baby cannot be human, at her age what does she know?

Not a human! Ah, that's taking it a bit far

Me: but she knew he's a boy

He raises his brow

And I'm like oh shit! She knew, and we didn't even tell her

Even the mother knew

Me: uhm

I have a sigh , just from shock

Mxo: I told you, we need to get out of here

Lord!.

Me : come on ! Maybe she just called it out

Even I don't believe my own words

Mxo: try convincing yourself first, maybe it might just work. Cause right now it's definitely not working, they're not

normal. I mean you can't tell me you don't think so too

I'm just left wondering like what was that?

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INSERT 35

Mxolisi

Evan: so we're leaving

Me: yeah

I rub my eyes

Evan: rough night?

I chuckle, because I know exactly what he's asking

Evan: you wasn't here when we got back last night

Me: took my people out

He sighs

Evan: I'm sorry about the whole Amahle thing

Me: yeah, your girl is a problem bruh

Evan: I know, Sibo told
Brandon. And he then told me
what happened, like it was all
just uncalled for and really
unnecessary

Me: next time we gotta do something together, and I keep my woman away from y'all girls don't feel anyhow. I had to come clean about the Casey thing

Evan: whoa I'm sorry, but like did she freak out? Like are you two okay, even after you told her the truth?

Me: Nah, she barely said anything. And I honestly don't know how she's feeling about it

Evan: maybe she doesn't care, cause it's the past

Me: yeah but she was already in the picture, and man girls can't stand ex drama. What if she pulls away now, and keeps on just being baby mama and nothing

Evan: but I think that girl loves you

I sigh

Me: I don't know that, I've been pretty much clear and out there about my feels

He pats my shoulder with a slight chuckle

Evan: it's new, and you fucked up first time. Maybe she's just assessing the whole situation

I hope it's just that

Cause if she doesn't feel the same, I don't know what then

Me: yeah maybe

Evan: let me get going, I'll see you when you get back

Me: sure

Voice: uh hi guys

We look at her

Me: sure

Mpumi: is Tumi around?

Me: what do you want?

Evan: sure she is, you're not bringing drama are you?

She smiles

Mpumi: no, l'm not

Me: she's inside

I make way, she knocks and walks in

Me: what the fuck?

He laughs

Evan: these girls are not fucked up like my girl

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Itumeleng

Me:hi

Mpumi: sorry to bother

Me: it's okay

Mpumi: we're leaving, I just came to apologize for yesterday

Says the girl who was quite the whole time

Me: but you did nothing

Mpumi: I could have said something

I laugh

Me: don't worry about that, you had no business to. And it's cool

Mpumi: it was just annoying, Mahle just ruined the whole thing for us

Me: it's okay, I'm over it. And I know not everyone will like me

Mpumi: still, I hope now you don't think we're just like her

Me: not at all

I would be crazy to even think that

Everyone is responsible for their own thing

And they didn't carry her, so I have no reason to think anyhow about them. Or think they're just like her, when they have been nice to me

Mpumi: uhm, I got you this last night

She hands me the gift bag

Me : can I ?

She nods

I open it , and it's a beautiful cup . Written beautiful woman

Me: ah thank you

Mpumi: when you're back in Joburg, we can always hook up for a cup of coffee. I'm such an introvert, I don't even know how to make friends. Collin laughed at me, when I came here

We laugh

Me : give me your number , I'll definitely call you

I hand her my phone

Mpumi : I called my phone just in case

Me : oh well , doesn't matter . Just as long as it's us Mpumi: ah definitely, I just know the other girls because our boyfriends are friends

Me: well, Mahle can relax. I'm not looking to befriend her or anything, I'll just be civil with her because I'm a decent human being

She laughs, Mxolisi walks in

Mpumi: let me go

Me: travel safe

Mpumi: yeah, you too

She walks out, he closes the door behind her

Mxo: what was that?

He's so annoyed

Me: bringing me a new and bigger cup of coffee, apologies for yesterday

Mxo: oh okay

He walks to the bathroom, I laugh

I'm sure he was ready for me to act out, or look somehow

I finish packing his bag, keeping the clothes he's going to wear now and later when we leave on the bed

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Gugulethu

Cleo: is that Itu in Table

Mountain?

Inod

Cleo: wow, I didn't know she was together with your brother like that

Me: mhm, it seems like they are

Cleo: very much so, it's just cool things

Cool things?

Me: are you not bruised?

He laughs

Strange enough he called me today, and asked that we go out

I was a bit surprised, because he's never asked me out like that

But I'm not getting my hopes high for nothing

Cleo: bruised? No babe, I mean I tried I won't lie. But she made it clear, her baby ain't looking for no step father. And it was cool like that, I guess it's because she knew where her heart was

Me: I guess, I'm just worried about my brother though

Cleo: ah come on! Don't tell me you think Itu will hurt the nigga, they seem to be in love really

Me: I'm not talking about Mxo, he's an adult. And he knows what he's doing, and as they always say you lose them how you get them

Cleo: he took her from someone?

Me: his own brother

He pops his eyes

Cleo: your twin?

I nod

Me: had a party, they fucked under my parents roof. That's how they made that baby, and she dumped Mathonga because she slept with Mxo.

Cleo: girl is brave, like brothers?

Me: she didn't know, thought it was some random guy. But still doesn't excuse her for cheating like that

He chuckles

Which puzzles me, cause he's even shaking his head

Cleo: oh but come on!

Mathonga is a man whore, I

don't see what's his hurt

Me: what?

Cleo: I'm not saying what happened was cool, but your brother was no saint. Actually he's no saint, because he fucks around . So we guys , have no problem whatsoever taking a girl you don't appreciate. Big brother is doing it better, than your brother was

I'm just left stunned

Cleo: no offence

Me: mhm, can we just stop talking about this

Cleo: no sweat

I don't want to think, Mxo took
Itu just to spite Mathonga or
show him that he can do it
better

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INSERT 37

Mxolisi

After dropping Tumi at her home last night

I came home

I guess I was too lazy to go to my place

The parents have gone for work

Gugu is at school, she said something about an assignment before her noon classes

Only Mathonga is home

Asanda is with her nanny

I'm making myself coffee as he walks in

And looks like he had a busy night

Cause he's holding some white chick

This boy!

Sure I've brought girls to my parents house, but I'm sure I don't even match his count

I look at them, as they just passes

Poor girl is so embarrassed, she even has her head down

I'm sure she wouldn't even know how to greet, even if she wanted to

He opens the door for her

Mathonga: I'll open the gate, your Uber is waiting

He says leaning against the door frame

He stands there for while, and eventually closes the door

Mathonga: sure

Me: yeah Casanova

He chuckles shaking his head

He walks over and pours himself a cup of coffee as well

He slides on the counter and takes a few sips

He heaves a sigh

Mathonga: Cape Town was insane

Me: you were there?

Mathonga: mxm, you shared every moment. It was spoken about in this house, so literally it made us all feel like we was there

Ilaugh

Mathonga: so you're within there, and there's no going back?

Me: I'm not about to discuss my baby mama with you

Mathonga: fair enough

He slides off the counter

Mathonga: I so wish she stayed in free state forever, and we wouldn't be here

He walks out of the kitchen

I laugh

Cause what the hell!

I don't know how long it takes guys to get over girls

But damn, this boy is over exceeding it

He just needs some good warm pussy, and he'll be over her

With something new that he's obsessed about

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Itumeleng

I open the door annoyed

Because I have school and I'm tired

I could use some sleep sham

And he just graces me , looking as tired as I feel

He leans against the door frame and smiles

Me: what?

Mxo: why are you angry?

Me: I'm tired! And I have to go to school

Mxo: I'm sorry

I turn back grabbing my bag from the couch

Mxo: are you leaving now?

Me: yeah, what brings you by ? I told you I do have school

Mxo: I'm here to take you to school

I laugh

I was about to Uber now

Mxo: what's the joke?

Me: you

I switch off the TV

Me : you're up here playing some boyfriend

He laughs taking my bag, locking the door we walk out

Mxo: am I winning?

Me: I don't know

He sighs

Mxo: I think I'm getting there

I laugh, we get outside. I lock the gate

He opens the door for me, I get in

He puts my bag in the back seat, and gets in his seat

He drives off

I notice the patch on his ring finger

Me: what happened there?

He looks at it

Mxo: I went to get a tattoo, with Evan this morning

Me : oh can I see it?

He smiles

Mxo: not yet, it's still painful.

Maybe after a few days, I have
one on my chest as well

Me : just a sneak peak

Mxo: what do I get out of it?

I pout , he laughs

Mxo: mhm?

Me: why must you get something? I'm just asking to see

Mxo: give me a kiss

I lean over pecking his cheek

Me : so let me see , even the finger one alone

Mxo: that was a peck

Me: but you're driving

Mxo: not for long

There's no winning, I lean back on the seat

After a while he arrives at school, and parks by the gate

Mxo: iza ke (come here)

The things we do , just for being nosy

I lean over, taking his lips into mine and we kiss

Mxo: take it off

I laugh pulling out

Mxo: your mind is rotten

And I see just how his bulge is growing

Me: you better go home and self service yourself please, I don't want diseases

Mxo: I'm a good boy

I laugh

Mxo: I'm going to wait for you until you come back from school

Mxm!

Me: I won't hurt you?

Mxo: no

I take his hand, removing the patch from his finger

It's an infinity tattoo, with one strange date

But it gets me feeling all sorts of emotions

Mxo: it's the same with the one on the chest, just that it's slightly bigger and you can see everything well

It's the date of the day I convinced

This probably will be nothing to someone, but it's definitely something to me

I look at him, he wipes my tear off

Mxo: I love you

That catches me off guard, overwhelmed my emotions

I snuggle to him, he kisses my forehead hugging me back

Could this be?

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INSERT 38

A MONTH LATER

Itumeleng

Going on the 6th month

And I'm taking it one step at a time

This baby is going to tire me down

But one thing I'm happy about, is that he's healthy

And growing up well

The way I'm looking, it's like I'll pop him out anytime soon

My belly is big, it's just insane

The doctor is saying, maybe at 8 months he might have to operate

I wish he makes it to 9 months

Even though, the 8 months he would have fully developed

I just want to carry him full term

But I've also made peace with whatever

So if he will be out at 8 months , it's fine

I'm keeping my stress levels very well

The only thing worrying me, was the June results

But I did well, even though I slacked on Physical Science

Like I got a level 4, when everything else was 6 and 7

I was so sad, but my mother assured me that I did well

I don't intend on taking a gap year next year

Even though I can't go anywhere because of this person

I've applied to universities around Joburg

Cause I have to be closer to home

If I do get accepted, this person will still be a baby just a few months old

So it's best I attend, while I'm living at home

Evan: baby mama

He smiles sitting down

And he looks like hell, I guess he had a busy wild night

Me: thank you for coming

Evan: yeah, can I have that?

I just nod

He takes my drink, and downs it

Calling over a waiter, and he orders. Just chilly things, greasy and meaty

Me: wow!

He laughs

Evan: wild night, don't judge. I'm partying for the both of us now, since your man has ditched me . He would rather spend a night cuddled with you on a couch, than out there with me . So I'm doing it for the both of us, I can't let my boy down

I laugh

Me: that's just insane

Evan: I know, so what's up?

Me: it's his birthday on

Saturday

Evan: mhm

Me: I want to do something for

him

Evan: something like, maybe a present?

Me: I'm very bad at buying presents, I want to plan something.

Evan: okay, so what do you need?

Me : your apartment

He laughs

Evan: and lord, she kicks me out

Me: just for Saturday, you'll be back on Sunday

Evan: you're pregnant, how freaky and wild do you want to get? That you even want the whole house

Me: sies!

We laugh

Me: just a romantic dinner, and yes I do need the whole apartment

I'm spending a lot of money on this, just basically my life savings I just need everything to go well

Evan: you know I got you, leave me left over food

I laugh

This one is a character, but Mxo sure does have a true friend in him

And it's just amazing to see

Me: thank you

Evan: anything for the baby mama, I yes your touch girl.
Cause even that guy, dances to your tune now

I don't know about that

But he's definitely not the same Mxo I met 6 months ago, there's changes

And it's great ones

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Mxolisi

Mom: are you doing something on weekend?

I just came home to see them

Me: no

Mom: it's your birthday

Me: yeah I'm getting old I

know that

Asanda laughs

Me: uhleka nton? (What are

you laughing at)

Asa: sothenga i'cake (we'll buy a cake)

Me: andityi (I don't eat)

Asa: mama mkhuze (mom stop him)

This kid!

Mom: it's okay baby, we'll buy a cake

Asa: of course

She gets off her chair and walks out

Me: what was that?

She laughs

Mom: the drama queen!

I shake my head

Me: was there something?

Mom: I thought maybe you can come home, but doesn't Itu have plans with you?

Does she even know it's my birthday?

Me: I don't know

Mom: okay, let us know

Me: mhm will do, if plans do come out of nowhere I'll just be going out with the guys

Mom: rather come home, and spend time with your family

Dad walks in

Dad: he's always home, it's very suspicious

Me: hawu ndoda!

He laughs giving her a kiss

Dad: you should invite your baby mama for dinner

Whoa!

Me: when is that?

Dad: when she can, doesn't matter when

Mom: oh baby that's nice

Should I be listening to my parents calling each other obaby?

Dad: she's a part of this family, and we haven't even taken time to get to know her

Mom: of course, it's a great idea. I hate that I didn't think of it, but do invite her

Me: I will

Mom: sorted, and I'll wait to hear about Saturday

Me : okay

Dad: you're not getting any money out of me this time

Me: I haven't held any shifts at the hospital, my stipend is just

I shrug

Me: I'm about to be a father, babies are expensive throw in a few thousands

And they laugh at me

And I'm very serious that time

Dad: if you can manage to make a baby, it means you can afford it

Me: I wasn't intending on making a baby, that nigga survived a morning after pill

What's with the laughter? I'm having a conversation here

Me: without my stipend, I literally have no source of income. And I can't possibly hold another job

Mom: how much do you need?

Dad: why are you even asking him? We don't have thousands to spare

Me : speak for yourself

Dad: this is a marriage boy, what's mine is hers and what's hers is

Me: hers

He raises his brow

Me: so mom?

Mom: I won't buy a present, I'll give you money

Me: thank you wife

Dad: you're getting nothing from me

Me : at least have your Mrs give me piece job at her practice

She laughs

Mom: oh it's not happening Sibal'khulu, forget about it I was just saying, cause I would take advantage

I cannot take a job , I would drown with school work

I should have known better choosing medicine

That just takes your whole life and time

Many years of studying, and you never get a breather

Me: fine

Dad: you're a chancer boy

Me: doesn't hurt anyone

Dad: doesn't work for you

They laugh, I guess I came to be a joke today

Some parents I have

Me : let me go , I don't know when I'll be back

Dad: sulking doesn't suit you either

Me: yhoh! When you have fun getting on my nerves, like you literally just make sure

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INSERT 39

Itumeleng

Me: morning

She looks at me

Me: what?

Mom: you slept home?

This woman!

Me: whoa!

Mom: what's shocking you?

Me: What do you mean?

She shrugs

Me: don't kid me like that, I sleep at home always

She laughs

Mom: what's always?

Me: like every night

Mom: where were you the night before yesterday?

We're not talking about that

Mom: just because I was at work, it doesn't mean I don't know

Me: Mxo was helping me with physical science

Mom: I just hope criminals don't break into my house

Honestly, I don't know how she would feel if she were to know he's been sleeping here as well

But of course, it's on nights she works night shifts

Me: well can I just ask since we're on that

She looks at me

Me: it's his birthday on Saturday, and I would like to take him out to dinner

Mom: he would rather spend his birthday with you, than being with his family having cake?

Ilaugh

And to think I haven't even asked him, maybe he will be going home

I have to ask him, cause I plan to go shopping tomorrow

Mpumi will be accompanying me

I can't spend my money for nothing

If he's going home, I'll just buy him a present

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Gugulethu

My phone wakes me up from sleep

I slept early, because the parents had a function at dad's work

And they said they'll come in the morning, they'll spend a night at the hotel

I'm stunned seeing it's Cleo calling me

And it's just after 21:00, and I thought it was later than this

But it's late, so why is he calling me

Me: hello?

Cleo: I need to see you

Whoa!

Me: what?

Cleo: I need to see you, I'm parked outside your house

Is this a prank of some sort?

Me: what's going on?

Cleo: please come

Me: wait dudedid you see the time?

Cleo: it's late I know

Me: then come back tomorrow

Cleo: I can't sleep I need to see you

Lord help me

Me: can't you just tell me what's wrong?

Cleo: Babe nothing is wrong

Wow!

And this babe calling me, the first time he did it I just ignored him and didn't pay attention to it

Me: yhoh!

Cleo: can't you just sneak? So your parents don't see you, I won't be long

Me: they're not here, I'm coming

Cleo: okay, don't drop the call though

This is crazy

I get off the bed, putting on my slippers

I grab my gown putting it on

I know Asanda is in bed

I don't know about Mxo if he's around, and also Mathonga

I get down, the lights are on

But I'm not surprised, because most nights they're just left on

I grab the small gate key

I get to door, and unlock slowly making sure I don't make noise

I get out and close back, rushing down the drive way to the gate

I open the gate, and he's leaning against his car in this coldness

Me: what's

Cleo: come let me hold you, it's cold

He's drunk

Yes!

He's drunk

No wonder he came to see me at this time

I sigh, walking closer to him, he holds me I relax as I feel his body against mine

Cleo: look at me

I lift my eyes

Me : you're drunk

Cleo: tipsy is the word

I find myself smiling

Cleo: just look how beautiful your eyes are under the moonlight and stars

Me : okay ! Let's not , why are you here ?

He heaves a sigh

Cleo: okay, I can't do this anymore

Me: do what?

I ask a bit sad

I'm like, I'm about to lose another friend

Cleo: be your friend

I try pulling back from him , just feeling my heart sink

But he holds me, and I tear up

Me: you could have just sent a message, no need to call me out I..... I know I.....

I just break down

He cups my face, and just stares into my eyes as tears stream down my face

Cleo: I love you, and I'm tired of being your friend. I want to be your man now, and you be mine

I gasp in shock

He leans down just capturing my lips into his

Not even caring about the tears and all

I find myself kissing him back, just stunned

I feel his dick throbbing against my thigh

And that gets me into my sane mind

Cleo never looked at me anyhow, and he said we would stop being friends if we fall for each other

I pull out

Me: wait... Wait you're drunk, and you'll probably wake up

not remembering any of this tomorrow. Go home, call me so I know you arrived safe. Sober up

Cleo: I'm horny cause I'm drunk, and I have you this close against me

How did he know I pulled back because of feeling him?

Cleo: but my feelings are not drunk, the past month has been hell because I've been trying to fight this

This is not happening

I'm sure I'm back inside, just dreaming

Because I've long wanted Cleo

Cleo: now you know how I feel, I'll go and call you tomorrow morning. You'll tell me where we are

He leans down giving me a kiss again, of which I gladly accept

After a while he pulls out

Cleo: go back, I'll watch until you're inside

So that just happened, like for real?

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INSERT 40

Gugulethu

I sit up straight answering the call

I barely slept after everything

Me: hello

Cleo: hey babe

Wow!

Me : so you're sobered up ?

He chuckles

Cleo: I just woke up, and I figured I should call you. Since I said I will

Me: Ohhh, so you still remember your deeds?

He laughs

Cleo: yeah

I smile

Me: I thought it was the

alcohol

Cleo: there's no such thing, it's just a misconception. Actually

when people are drunk, that's when they speak the truth

Me: I see

Cleo: breakfast?

Me: where?

Cleo: I don't know babe, anywhere you want. Just as long as I'm seeing you

Me: okay, I'll text you. I still have to get up, and see that my sister is well

Cleo: alright, I'll wait for you

text

Me : okay

Cleo: I love you

And it's happening, like no it's really happening

I just giggle smitten, he chuckles dropping the call

Me: ahhhhhh!

I take the sheet muffling my screams

I can't believe this!

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Itumeleng

Mxo: why are you wearing that?

I look at him with a frown

Mxo: it's cold

Me: yeah so? I want to wear this

Mxo: ndicela ungandiphambanisi (please don't drive me insane)

I laugh

Me: yhoh! When you start speaking your Xhosa you think you're so dangerous

He laughs

Me : you annoy me , I don't want to lie

He gets up walking towards me

He wipes the tears on the sides of my eyes

Mxo: but it's cold, I'm serious. So if you want to catch a cold, leave my son behind

Me: there's no my son here, we're a package

He chuckles

Mxo: I'm not kidding with you

Me: I know, I'm going to put a coat over

Mxo: okay, my dad invited you over for dinner

That's a shock!

Me: when?

Mxo: whenever you can, but it can't be tomorrow

Me: why what's happening tomorrow?

Can he please not tell me that he has plans

I'm going to meet with Mpumi now, and do the shopping for his birthday dinner

He leans down, helping me put on my sneakers

Mxo: nothing, but I don't want to go home tomorrow

Me : okay , well can I come here ?

He gets up with a smile, pecking my lips

Mxo: you don't need to ask that

Me : okay

I just hope Evan can get him out, even for like an hour or so

My phone rings, I reach for it

Me: babe?

The eye that I get , I burst out laughing

Mpumi: stop toying with Mxo

Me:sorry

Mpumi: I'm at the gate

Me: okay, I'll open

Mpumi: alright

I drop the call

Me : please pass me my black coat , Mpumi is outside

He shakes his head opening his wardrobe, he takes the coat out and helps me putting it on

Me: I'm going home when we come back, I'll see you tomorrow

Mxo: give me a kiss

I lean over, and we kiss

Me: I love you

We lock eyes, and he smiles

Mxo: I still make you blush even today

Me: mxm!

He laughs, I turn my back on him

Mxo: I love you more

He follows me out

Me: please open

He opens the gate, Mpumi walks in

They greet each other, she walks over to the car

Me: let's go

She gets in the car

Mxo: mommy I love you

I laugh looking at him sulking at the door

Me: you don't know where your mother is at?

He smiles

Mxo: hayhiiii! You don't have to be mean

He walks inside closing the door

I get in the car shaking my head, Mpumi is still laughing

Me: girl!

Mpumi: I swear when a man is in love, he loves loudly. I've never known Mxo to be like this, he even laughs out of nowhere. Just because it's with you

Me: I'm pregnant and very hormonal, don't start with me. I'll cry

We laugh as I drive out

Mpumi: so tomorrow?

Me: something romantic, simple of course. Because Mxo doesn't like fussing over things, unless he's the one doing it. I got him a leader watch crafted his initials, and the rest of the presents will just be everything

and anything . I'm even bad at these things

Mpumi: no girl! Hats off to you, I've never spent so much on Collin

I laugh

Me: I don't know, I just feel like when a man goes all out for you. When it's your turn, don't

hold back. Like from the baby shower, to everything else he's done. I'm not even feeling anyhow spending on him

Mpumi: I'm learning, indeed keeping good crowds will teach you something. Even things you considered somehow

We laugh

We've gotten close since that Cape town trip

She's a bit shy yes, but she's cool to be honest

And I never thought we would get here

Where we could talk about almost anything

It's not everything yes

But we have gotten to know each other better in a space of a month

And we are so content with each other

Without worries, that what is said between us will be heard being spoken of out there

After Gugu, I honestly never thought I could have any friends

But I'm all I'm for this friendship that's blooming

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INSERT 41

Mxolisi

I walk in , and I smell something different

The mood is just somehow

The room even feels different

I turn and look at her

Tumi: what?

Me: what's going on?

She just smiles, she's been nervous the whole way here

I didn't even want to ask her

In the morning she called and said I should come pick her later

And Evan asked we go out for a few drinks

I wasn't even keen , but I just went for his sake

I didn't even drink much

She called that I should come pick her

And I just went there before coming home

Tumi: walk in

I know she won't tell me anything, she doesn't look like she wants to tell me

I walk in further, and the corridor heading to the lounge from the kitchen has roses on the floor

Me: what

I chuckle walking to the lounge just curious, and what welcomes me just stuns me

Tumi: happy birthday

She says behind me, I turn slowly cupping her face

We kiss briefly

I didn't even get a happy birthday text from her

And I didn't think much about it , I thought she doesn't know

Me: I love you so much

She smiles

I lean down giving her a hug

Like I don't even want to think of how much she spent on this just for me

And the set up itself

The balloon that has my name and happy birth, bruh even my age

The whole romantic picnic set up on the lounge floor

I'm just stunned, and for once I have no words

Tumi: come see this

Me: you still need a father for this baby

She laughs

Tumi: don't be dramatic! Just come, and we can come eat. We're hungry

I laugh following her to the bedroom

She opens the door, and it's just gift bags on the bed

With red roses, and these scented candles on the floor

I walk in sitting down on the bed

She smiles, and I just look at her out of words

No one has ever done anything like this for me, like ever.

Home birthdays are nothing like this, they cannot be compared

Tumi: I want you to see this first, I hope you like it

She hands me the nicely wrapped small box

Tumi: open it

Like right now, anything is possible and I'm trying to gather myself

Because I'm just overwhelmed

I open the box, and heave a sigh my eyes getting all blurry

From these fucking tears I'm trying to fight, and they're burning my eyes

I lift the watch, and as I see my initials engraved on it

The tear drops, I place them on the bed getting up on my feet

Me: fuck!

I wipe it off

Me: I can't..... I can't do this

She wraps her hands behind my back

Tumi: I love you

I pull back cupping her face, I don't even care that she's seeing me cry right now

Or that she's wiping my tear off

Me: I did absolutely nothing to deserve you and this, how do I even begin appreciating this much? Like what are you doing to me though?

She smiles, her eyes sparkle.

Just how happy she is

Tumi: you know my daughter in-law, did say that this was so much love

We laugh

Me: don't mention that evil baby in my presence

Tumi: stop being silly, let's go eat. You'll open everything later

Me: woman! You have finished me, I don't even have words to thank you. I did not expect this at all, I didn't even think you knew

Tumi: they say that a person teaches you how they want to be loved, with everything you've done for me. I know you love me, and I'm just doing

what you do to me in return. To show you that I love you

I would be a fool, if I doubt after all this that she's it for me.

And that she does love me

It's no longer about the fact that we made a baby together, and we're in each other's lives

But it's our hearts finding each other

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Itumeleng

Me : are you okay?

Mxo: mhm

I smile running my hand on his head

We're cuddling in bed

Dinner went great, so overall I can say the birthday went great

I mean except him being this overwhelmed by emotions

I did not expect that one

I just thought he will be happy

But he exceeded my expectations on that one

Not even the money his parents sent him got the kind of reaction my little dinner got

Me: we should sleep

Mxo: I'm sad

Me: that was fast

He laughs

Mxo: all of those great moments, and they didn't get captured

Mxo is dramatic, and he sure can act out

Me: I captured everything, don't worry

Mxo: you did?

Me: yeah, I'll send you

He's more of a socialite than I am

So he posts everything

Mxo: what will I even do on your birthday? I doubt

anything, can top what you did for me

Me: who said I want anything?

He chuckles

Mxo: you've set the bar

Ilaugh

Me: move back, I want to sleep

He moves a bit, I guess I'm cuddling and babying him tonight

But that's fine

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Gugulethu

Mom: Mxo says Tumi is coming for dinner tonight, he will come with her

What?

I look at Mathonga, and his expression is something else

Dad: it's about time

So he knows?

Mathonga: must we be here?

How long will he get over Itu?

Mom: yes everyone

And I had plans with Cleo

Like I'm loving this relationship, and I want to avail myself for him

Dad: I'll be back in time before dinner

Mom: okay

She walks him out

Me: what's with the sour face? Don't be awkward during dinner, dad will flip. And he will do worse than just leaving you middle of the road this time around

Mathonga: what are you talking about?

Me: mhm, pretend like you didn't hear me . I don't get why you're still hung up on Itu, just let her be . She's with Mxo, and they're in love. The romantic dinner she did for him last night was insane, your brother woke up flexing this morning. Just let all this go,

because I heard you weren't so clean yourself

Mathonga: so Mxo is talking about my business?

I laugh picking my bowl

Me: no, I didn't hear from him
. And I guess if he knows, then
it's true

Mathonga: then who told you?

Me: it doesn't matter, you were just playing Itu

Mathonga: don't talk about things you know nothing about , your brother took my girlfriend. He doesn't even regret it at all

I laugh walking to the kitchen, he should just give it up

I call Cleo, after a few rings he answers

Cleo: baby

Me: I'm sorry, mom said Itu is coming for dinner later. And we all have to be there

Cleo: talk about awkward situations, but it's okay I understand

Me: I'll make it up to you, and I hope I can survive the whole dinner

Cleo: you'll be fine, let me know when it's done. I'll call

Me: okay, I love you

Cleo: I love you too baby

I drop the call with a smile

This relationship is going well, still early days

And I don't want to jinx anything

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INSERT 42

Itumeleng

I'm a bit nervous

I don't even know how I'll be welcomed

And I haven't seen Mathonga since the day we broke up

So that's another thing

I wanted to decline this invitation, but then again I didn't want to seem somehow

Mxo: relax

Me: what if

Mxo: don't do that, if you want to leave or you get uncomfortable you can just tell me and we'll leave

Me: I don't want to seem rude

Mxo: please lets walk in, you're going to be fine. I love you, I'm here for us. And if anyone has a problem with that, then that's their own problem and I don't care

He opens the door

Voice: ah Mxo!

The little person runs to him, and he picks her up with such laugher

Her: I still want

She looks at me, and slides down off of him

Her: hi, I'm Asanda

She reminds me of the cute little London

Me: I'm Itumeleng

Asa: Mxo is your friend?

Like child!

How old are you?

Me: he's

I look at him

Mxo: she's the mother of the baby

She gaps placing her tiny hands on her mouth

Asa: finally yes!

So much excitement, and I'm so lost

Asa: where is the baby?

Mxo: in here

He says brushing my tummy

Asa: but

She looks at us both confused

Asa: but I just want the baby

Okay!

Now what's this?

She's becoming all sad

Asa: Mxo mkhiphe (take him out)

Voice: he can't do that

I look up and the whole family is here

Along with Mathonga who has his eyes stuck on me

Mrs Dlamini: it's not yet time for the baby to come out

She sighs

Asa: I just want the baby

She walks away

And I guess she's not a happy person anymore

Mxo: I'm sorry, she's just been going crazy wanting the baby.

Apparently it's her baby too

I smile, like that's just cute

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Gugulethu

Dinner hasn't been as awkward as I thought it would be

Like there were conversations going around

Even though , the little miss skipped it

Because she's sad about the baby issue

She wanted the baby, not the mother

Mathonga hasn't said much, nor has he shown any kind of reaction

I think he's handling this well

He was my only worry tonight

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Itumeleng

Dinner was great

Even Asanda came down and ate

Even though everyone had already finished eating

And it's late now

The parents have gone to sleep

Gugu disappeared to her room, she was smitten talking on her phone

As for Mathonga, he left even before dinner was done completely

Mxo and Asanda are watching TV

I'm in the kitchen getting water

I also want to sleep

And it doesn't seem like we'll be leaving tonight

I've already called my mother

Cause I don't want her worrying

She only knew me not coming back yesterday because I asked

Tonight was just something unplanned

And it's awkward, I hope we're leaving

Cause I don't know if I'll be comfortable to sleep at this house with Mxolisi

Voice: hi

I stand still at the sound of his voice

My back is turned against him

He walks over , I hear his footsteps approaching

He stands next to me

Mathonga: you look good

Me: I've been good

He sighs

Mathonga: at least that makes one of us

He better not try

Me: if you don't respect me at all, at least just respect your brother

Mathonga: you were mine before

Me: I'm a human being, not some possession and I don't belong to anyone

Mathonga: I didn't mean

Me: get over it, honestly I've apologized. And I won't stay there forever, feeling bad about what I did. It happened, and I'm over it. I'm happy now, and I love Mxolisi. Despite how we met, and everything

that happened. We're making this work, so please respect that

I turn and Mxolisi is standing by the door, leaning against the door frame

Mxo: don't drop the glass

I look at him with a smile, placing the glass on the counter

I walk over to him

Me: I want to sleep

Mxo: we're sleeping here, Asa wants to spend some time with you

It wouldn't be Mxolisi using kids to get what he wants

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Mxolisi

Mathonga just walked out on me

I guess this is what I'll have to deal with, every time he sees Tumi

It's not even about to say he loved her, or he's sad that he lost her the way he did

It's about the fact that , I'm loving her better than he did

Too bad for him

I'm not backing down, and I have long stopped feeling bad that I slept with his then girlfriend

She giggles bringing me out of my thoughts

And Asa looks like she wants to open her up

Tumi: girlfriend, what are you doing?

She laughs

Asa: I'm taking the baby out

Shame poor kid

Tumi: ah you think that will work?

She shrugs

Me: you have to wait a bit before the baby can come out, just for a while

Asa: that's a lot

I don't know what's a lot but okay

Me: let's go to sleep

Asa: tuck me in, dad is already sleeping. The duvet will fall off, when I turn at night. And I'll be left cold

This child!

I get up helping Tumi up, I switch off the TV. Leaving the lights on

We all walk upstairs

Me: you know the room right?

She nods

Me: I'll be there now

I take Asanda's hand, and we walk to her bedroom as Tumi goes to mine

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INSERT 43

Itumeleng

I'm back home

I told Mxo to bring me back, as we left his parents home

He wished I could go with him to his place

But I've just been away for too long

Not literally

But two days is a long time for me, being away from home

Mom: and how was the diner?

She just got back from work

I'm busy making supper

Me: less awkward than I thought it would be

Mom: I guess all went well

Me: yeah, even though
Mathonga was a bit somehow.
But no drama occurred, that
was just too much

Mom: I'm just glad, the parents have finally decided to welcome you in

Me: yeah, and Mr Dlamini is actually not as a scary as I thought he would be

Mom: that's good, all this is good. Because even the baby will be born, and know his father's family

Me: yeah, it's good

Mom: things still sour between you and Gugu?

That's another thing

Me: mhm kind of okay, but I'm sure none of us are looking for any friendship

Mom: okay, let me go bath.
I'm sure you'll be done, when I
finish

Me: mhm, I'm almost done

She gets up and walks upstairs

I clear up where I was working on the counter

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Mxolisi

Mathonga: you know I didn't mean anything by that right?

I look at him

Mathonga: I'm sorry

Me: no you're not, but you'll help me and stop trying to piss me off

He sighs

Mathonga: I didn't come here for a fight

Me: you cannot hold a fight with me Mathonga, best you get that in your head and you understand it. Stay in your lane, I don't want to look at you and see you somehow

Mathonga: yeah it's noted, I'll keep distance

Me: all in good spirits, for two months I was nowhere near Tumi. If you really wanted her back, you could have used that time and reached out. You didn't, I'm here. Stop with your nonsense

Mathonga: yeah but my approach was innocent

Me: very innocent, saying how she was yours before I took her? Likes a piece of something

He sighs

Me: let's not bother each other

Mathonga: yeah, I'm sorry. It won't happen again

He gets up and walks past me going out

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Itumeleng

I grab my bag walking out of class

I'm so tired

If school doesn't kill me this year, I would have survived

Voice: hi

I close my eyes for a brief moment

I turn my head and look at her

Me: hi

Gugu: how are you?

Okay

Me: I'm fine, and you?

She smiles

Gugu: I'm great

Inod

Not sure what's this, or what's going on now

Gugu: uhm, I know things didn't end well between us

Me: it's fine really, I'm so over that. Friendships comes and goes

She looks down for a second

Gugu: oh uhmanyways, I just wanted to say there's no bad blood

Me: absolutely

She goes quite just staring at me

Me: okay bye

I turn back continuing with my walk, heading outside the school gate

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Gugulethu

I guess that friendship long sailed

She looked so uninterested, it was just embarrassing on my side

Because I'm the one who approached her

And only to be brushed off like that

I guess I'm the aunt, and nothing else

I just thought we could talk, and be civil towards each other

Honestly it sucks not having a friend

Like I had Cleo , I used to tell him things

But now that he's my boyfriend, it's not that easy

I just long for a friend, someone I can tell everything to

Even about Cleo and I

I'm in a relationship, I'm in love

Yet I have no one to tell about that

It's just sucks being me period

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INSERT 44

THREE MONTHS LATER

Mxolisi

Mom: you're here?

She asks walking in the ward

Me: yeah

Mom: but we've been trying to call you

Me: my phone is probably

dead

Mom: how did you know?

So many questions, and I'm so tired

Me: I was working, they called me when she arrived

Mom: oh, so you've been here the whole night?

I nod

Mom: at least, but how did they know?

Me: she put me on her file

Mom: the baby is well?

I chuckle

Me: they're both fine

Mom: that's better

She sits down next to me

Preparing for November exams

I've been assigned shifts at the hospital

And I was holding a shift last night, when I got called by my supervising doctor

That she was in labour

And I almost went insane there, because her doctor gave us next week as the due date

But she really was giving birth

And provided the situation of her pregnancy

Her doctor had to be called in middle of the night

Contractions were not going anywhere

And as they checked her, they saw there was no way she can push the baby out

So her doctor was called to come and perform the C-section

He's the one who's been treating her, and he knew her condition better

That's why he came to operate, and not just any doctor from the hospital

The door opens, they walk in wheeling the bed

And my boy follows

He's big alright, his mother was just happy that he got to 9 months

Even though he didn't fully close it

That's why he's not even in the NICU, he's breathing well on his own. Even his weight is not a problem

I get up and take him from the nurse

He's all clean now, and washed. He smells so good

And he's sucking on his fist

Me: I've always known you love food

They laugh

Mom: Ohhh he's so perfect

Mxolisi

Someone is getting emotional

Me: and he's heavy

Mom: don't be silly

She takes him from me

Doc: I'll be back to check on you two in an hour

They all walk out ,I head towards the bed

Me : you did it

She smiles, I lean down giving her a kiss

She giggles

Tumi: your mother is here

Me: she's not even paying us attention, we made a baby.

She laughs

Tumi: we did

This shit is too cool for me

Me: he looks like me

Tumi: I'm sure he does

Her mother walks in holding Asanda

I didn't even know she's here

Asa: oh mother! Let me see the baby

Okay!

My mother laughs sitting down , she sits down next to her

Asa: oh she's so beautiful

I turn back just to watch intensely, as she holds her tiny hands out

Mom: don't let him fall

Asa: it's a boy?

She asks surprised, because she just called him a she

Mom: yes

Asa: oh well, it's fine. I still

love him

Now that's cute, even the laughter attest to it that it's cute

Asa: he's heavy

Mom: yes, for a baby he's very big

Asa: he's small, but chubby mommy

We laugh

Mom: yes he is

Asa: I can't hold him longer

Shame poor thing

Mom takes the baby

Asa: what's his name?

I look at Tumi she shakes her head with a frown

We haven't really spoken about a name

Me: Muzikayise

They look at me and laugh

Mom: sizo hamba kuphi? (Where are we going to walk)

Tumi: why would you name him that? He's going to deal us, and just be rude as they come. Feeling entitled to everything

They continue to laugh

Me: there's no such thing as that

Muzikayise Dlamini makes very much sense to me

Asa: I love Muzi

Me: yeah me too

Mom brings him over

Mom: let him feed before he

cries

I take him , while Tumi sits well on the bed

I hand him to her, and she takes him

He sure loves food, he doesn't waste time sucking on her as soon as that nipple touches his tiny mouth

Tumi: the Cape Town girl would really love to see him

She whispers, the mothers are sitting on the far couch conversing with each other

Me: don't start

Tumi: but we should take him when he's like old enough to travel

She smiles

Me: no

She laughs, he opens his eyes looking at her

Me: I don't want that evil baby anywhere near my son

Tumi: I feel like they will meet

Me: okay stop, right now you're just being awkward. It's like you're talking about two different worlds colliding, it sounds creepy like that evil girl

Tumi: overthinking

She laughs changing sides, breastfeeding on the other boob

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THE END