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Insert 1

I open my eyes as fast as I can my palms are all sweatmy breathing has changed. My tears are on the verge of coming out.

I never thought a job interview would be this hard. I am seated on this chair dumbstruckI lost focus on what I am here for.

"Mrs Mawubeni are you going to answer my question?" says the interviewer sitting across me.

I clear my throat not knowing what I'm about to say. Well actually I got thisI need this job. I sit up straight looking him in the eye.

"I am encouraged to help South Africa have a positive impact on its citizens I have been following up on how bad our economy has fallen poverty is increasingour people turn to crime as a way of bringing food to the table If I get this opportunity to be part of your company I won't let you downI have so many ideas that will help lift our country and that will help our people take pride in their country." I say

I release my breath and look at him I keep observing his body language until I see a frown on his face.

Did I do something wrong? I'm panicking. Just in the midst of my thoughts it's happening I'm feeling my heart beat...

"I'm impressed most people that I interview don't seem to answer to my questions quite well you did well Mrs Mawubeni we will keep in touch. Have a good day Mrs Mawubeni."

I nod my head and catwalk my way out of the boardroom to the car I am scared to go on a new journey all by myself. I've always wanted to be independent now that I am starting off I feel like giving up but no my father taught me to never give up. I start the car and drive off to McDonald's to get myself something to munch on something is ringing in my bag I search for my phone until I find it. Just the man I was thinking about my hero my happiness.

I answer as quick as I can before I could even say anything he talks first.

"How did it go Nyaki?" he says with such an optimistic voice as if I have the job.

"Honestly papa even if I don't get the job I'd still be proud of myself for handling the interview well" I say relief washes through me as I realise I have overcome my biggest fear.

"That's my girl now make us proud..." before he could finish talking I hear a voice overpowering his.

"Nana how are you I miss you when are you coming back?" that's my mom I should have known.

"I am fine mommy I just miss you so much and I'll try to make

time to come over."

"Okay my baby just know that we love you so much and are proud of who you becoming."

"I love you guys tootalk later I have to go now ma." I say before I hang up

Here we gobefore I go into detail about my life let me introduce myself.

My name is Nyakallo Mawubeni 24 years old I was born in North West but moved to GautengI studied economics I got my master'sit was a hard journey to go through but I did that. I relocated to Umhlanga and of course with the help of my parents but now it's time I learn to do things on my own. Now that you know me let's get into detail about my story.

Insert 2

The sun Ray's disturb me from my sleep as the light hits my eyes I sit up straight on my bed looking at my reflection on the mirror I am in deep thoughts about where my peers could be right now while I'm still struggling to get a joboh wellthat's what you get for being overqualified. Living all by yourself in a cramped apartment tends to be lonely at time but that's better because I have my space away from my parents which enables me to think for myself. I get up from the bed and pack my CV's away I am confident enough that I will get this job after packing away my CV's I perform my morning routine and think of a way to be productive todayI might need to go out. I haven't been out in a while I search for my card which my mother gave me incase I will need it for emergency and this is an emergency a girl needs to eat. I place it on my bed while I pick an outfit.

I open my wardrobe and take out my silky black dress that shapes all my curves in the right places and with my black heels

I stand by the mirror taking mirror selfies of myself. I'm not one to carry a bag or purse with mebut for this look I might need oneI take my mini purse with me and rush to the dining

area there is no need for me to check if my cards are in there because I never take my cards out my bag unless I'm doing grocery shopping.

I head out to my car and drive away to Ocean Basket I'm a lover of seafood since I was a child. I order a prawn platter and red wine I take my favorite book just to pass time I'm so drawn into this book but I end up losing focus when I feel someone's eyes on me I turn behind me but there is no one in sight I do the same to my right and left but I still find no one maybe I'm just imagining things.

Its time for me to leave as its getting dark outside the waitress comes back to my table to give me my bill I'm searching through my bag looking for my card I'm stressing I cant find my card I look up to her she gives me a fake smile I smile and search again I look up again and she is gone she comes back a while later.

I wasn't planning on having my self care day ruined but it has to come to this.

I look up to her "I might have forgotten my card at home so uhm...I... I'll wash the dishes."

She giggles while shaking her head. What is she giggling at? I'm embarrassed! I feel like crying.

"Mam it's okay that gentleman paid for your bill." she says while pointing behind me .

I look behind me and there is no man seated behind me.

"He must have left the said I should give you this." She hands me a piece of paper and walks away.

With curiosity eating me I quickly open the paper.

"A lady never leaves her card at home enjoy your day Mrs."

Q.K

Who is this person someone is stalking me I head out of the mall as fast as I could driving like a maniac

until I reach my apartment.

Oh shit! I'm going to die! I should sleep with a knife under my pillow. Yes, I should. I need too! I might be exaggerating... of course I wouldn't do that. I tear the later up and search for my card in my bag again I cannot find it. A few minutes have passed by and I have arrived home I begin by searching for my card I cannot find it in the dining area I head to the bedroom geez at last I found it on my bed what a relief. At least my day ended on a good note now.

Insert 3

It has been a week since I went out I tend to get lonely in a foreign city with no friends.

I got a call back from the company I got interviewed at three weeks ago. I got the job finally now I have to break the news to my dear parents I'm so excited and I'm so happy. I've always wanted to work for a huge company that's doing bad in economics so I would be the one saving the company.

Ever since I got that letter from that mystery "gentleman " nothing much has happened no more stalking I guess he found another target to pry on.

Its 04:50am I have 2 hours and 30 minutes to get to work and I'm so tired I roll off the bed making my way to the bathroom to take a bath that's the thing about me I love my bath its a way of expressing my body to the warm water. Once I am done I get off the bathroom I lotion my body and walk butt naked to my wardrobe in search for a formal outfit. I find my black suit that I haven't worn since my 21st birthday I bet it wont fit me as I've gotten thicker through out the years but anyways I match it up with a white corset and black stilettos I love black so much. I check the time again and its 05:59 atleast I didn't take much time while bathing. I put some plain yogurt in a Tupperware along with a fruit salad and fruit juice I'll eat that at work.

I arrive at work around 06:40 and I must say I'm pleased to be here. I walk over to the receptionist who might seem a little bit fatigued. She looks up to me and manages to offer me her best service. A few minutes later she approaches me.

"Mr Mokwena will be here in a few minutes would you like some coffee?" She offers.

Tunes out she is not an arrogant receptionist

we exchanged introductions and talked about casual things that happen at the company.

Time went by and I must say I am confident enough that I will enjoy working here. She rushes back to her station to assist clients. I look down onto my coffee then up and see Mr mokwena.

Mr Mokwena passes by seems like he is in a rush. I look over to Slindile and notice she is occupied with a client I swiftly get up to follow Mr Mokwena. Wrong move I probably seem clingy but that's what desperation makes you do right?

I still remember my way to the boardroom unfortunately I could not find him there. I turn my heels and bump into someone.

"Ngiyaxolisa mama." He says and proceeds to walk away. I look up to where he is going rethinking of our little encounter. Who is this man?

"Ms Mawubeni." I look behind me and then it clicks my head as to what I came here to do.

"Mr Mokwena." I offer him a faint smile . He seems a bit uneasy thou.

"Your late now follow me." He says loosening his tie a bit if only this man knew how long I have been waiting for him. He introduces me to his PA she offers me a tour around the company.

For the entire day I'm shown what to do and I'm shown the statistics of the economy and how our economy has decreased due to poverty and less infrastructure in the country. It's quite saddening that 86% of our citizens live in poverty and only 14% are employed and own businesses. Public and private

businesses do try to help but it is not enough just as how our government tries to "help" improve the lives of people by offering goods and services although it has taken them years to train our people to get a better future.

I'm on my last cup of coffee for the day I am exhausted working a 9-5 hour job can be tiring since I quit my job 3 years ago at a retail store because of the low income salary I was earning.

Insert 3

I have settled in at work and I have spoken to my parents last weekend and told them about my new job. I could hear the excitement in their voice. I miss my parents so badly I'll be going home first thing first when I get my first pay check and to also thank my parents for getting me this apartment and for making sure I'm settled.

I'm at work today and I'm fascinated about how everything is going. We are still working on our GDP profit but our main focus has to be the townships and undeveloped areas as we are trying to increase jobs in formal agricultural sectors for highly skilled people as well as encourage self-employment in informal areas to decrease the unemployment rate. Mr Mokwena mentioned that we will have a special visitor today. I wonder who that'll be. I head out of my office to the board room since the meeting is about to start in a few minutes on my way to the boardroom I perceive the back of this mysterious man we meeting up with i suppose his back is faced in my direction and it seems like he is observing the cars parked outside.

"That's Mr Khumalo." says Slindile creeping up from behind me. "What does he do?" I ask without looking at her my eyes are still focused on his back.

"He is one of the companies biggest clients without him this

company wouldn't be as successful as it is right now and as for what he does I surely do not know nani only Mr Mokena knows." she says.

Well that's not it all companies are required to do a background check on their investors to know if they have a history of fraudulent activities.

" Uyashisa ukube bengikwazi bengizomdlwengula khona manje." (He is hot if I could I would ravish him right now.) she says.

"Girl you need to get laid." I reply and release a chuckle.

"I already had some last night mtase now let's get inside before Mr Mokena comes" she says pulling my way into the boardroom.

We get seated after interacting with the team just as Mr Mokwena enters the room his eyes swift from us to Mr Khumalo .

"Mr Khumalo I'm glad you made it."

"I'm a man of my word. " He replies. They handshake and Mr Khumalo proceeds to take a seat at the end of the table.

I keep feeling someone's eyes on me I assess everyone in the

room until my eyes meet his he is staring at me. Okay, what should I do?

I fiddle with my hands under the desk and shift my eyes everywhere except his direction.

"Ms Mawubeni is new to the work place she will be in charge of the microeconomic area. Ms Mawubeni please introduce yourself." says Mr Mokena.

His gaze upon me rather seems calming instead of creepy. This might not be normal as I'm feeling all sorts of way mostly anxious and nervous.

"Ms Mawubeni?" I look up to where my name is being called out and it's Mr Mokwena

I quickly snap out of my thoughts getting up from my chair and I hear a chuckle. I look up to where it's coming from and it's from him. He is still staring.

"My apologies he is still staring."

"My apologies I am Nyakallo Mawubeni. I specialise in microeconomic which also includes the redistribution of goods and services and I truly believe in making a difference for each and every citizen of South Africa." I say before I sit down. My heart is beating fast. Should I look or not? Let me not look. The board meeting went very well. I pack my things up while glancing at Mr Khumalo. He is conversing with Mr Mokwena

and whatever it is they are talking about seems to be very serious. I stop observing them and turn my body the other direction ready to get my bag off the table and head to my office just as I'm about to leave the boardroom Mr Mokwena calls out my name.

"Ms Mawubeni please come over here." he says.

What does he want? I fake a smile reaching my way to him.

"Please meet Mr Khumalo Mawubenishe is new to the team but I do believe that she will indeed grow our company as well as uplift South Africa's gross profit.

"It is an honour to finally meet you Mrs Mawubeni." He takes his hand out to handshake mine I do the same too his grip is tight his hands are rough and his cologne smells so damn good on him. I look him in the eyes and it feels as if he is searching for something in me. I quickly remove my hands from his and leave after the unhandy introduction.

Finally the day is coming to an end I'm heading over to my car but then again that smell it smells so good I turn around he is behind me.

"Nkosazana." He says.

"Mr Khumalo afternoon" why do I sound so formal? Relax Nyaki. He chuckles. "We outside the company no need to be formal Qiniso." He says We exchange pleasantries with the unhandy handshake again and this time my hand must've want more of his touch. My eyes are wondering for something on the ground I just can't bring myself to face him my knees will weaken once our eyes connect.

"Its wonderful seeing you again Nyaki." He turns to walk to his car but stops and raises his voice a bit " I hope you have taken my advice my lady."

I'm left with only my thoughts as to what he is talking about.

Insert 4

I open my bedroom window and feel the cool breeze reach my face there is nothing more peaceful than the wind hitting your skin. I have decided to wake up a little early today just to watch the city lights turn on for people ready to get ahead with their day I take a sip of my morning coffee while I admire the work mother nature has done for us I mean the bright green trees that bring colour to life and the blue sky that brings serenity into our lives. We all dream of having peace in our lives when we have no one to run too we turn to mother nature for comfort and understanding I stay at the bedroom window for quite a long time while admiring the beauty the nature before I get to finish my cup of coffee and head to the bathroom to perform my morning routine.

I'm sitting on the couch enjoying some snacks while on a call with Sli she hasn't been to work for the last couple of days and I have been worried about her just as I was about to end the call a knock interrupts me and this person won't stop.

"Mgani I'll call you back." I say on the call. I head to the door once I open the door I see the shock of my life

"Qiniso? What are you doing here? "

"Please open up."

I fetch the keys as fast as I can I open the gate for him and move

back for him to enter my mini apartment that is filled with portraits and pieces of poems on the wall.

"What do you want and where did you get my address from?" I ask with curiosity getting the best of me.

"I couldn't resist myself it's been a month." he says while placing the bag of food on the counter i didn't even notice he brought food for us. "A month what are you talking about?"

"You might have forgotten Q.K"

Wait it was him why would he stalk me?

"It was you all along."

He goes and makes himself comfortable on my couch.

I didn't say you must sit down.I conclude in my mind.

"I brought you food you must've been hungry." he says while laying back on the couch with his eyes closed. He must've had a long day.

"Nyaki" His lips form a smile the moment he said my name

"Ngitshele njengamanje awungifuni la(Tell me right now you don't want me here) . He says still with his eyes closed.

I quickly look down he must've stood up from the couch I can feel his aura around me while I fiddle with my fingers then I notice something

"You married." It comes out as a whisper.

He covers his ring with his other hand and proceeds to get closer to me without saying a word I can hear his warm breathe on my neck.

I don't do married man right now I'm boiling with anger.

"Ungabi njalo mama" (Don't be like that)

"Hamba" (Leave) that's all I manage to say. My hands are shaking and I can't look him in the eye. It's so crazy how I haven't known him for three months but he knows how to make me weak.

"Kungekudala uzokwazi ukuthi umuntu wesifazane engizoshada naye nguwe kuphela ngizobuya nkosazana." (Soon you'll know the only woman I'll be married to is you I'll be back.)

Insert 5

I can't stop thinking about him why would he chase another woman if he is married? Nyaki wenzani?

The weekdays seem to be moving quite fast today is friday we leave work quit early on fridays around 13:00it has been two weeks since i last saw Qiniso. I was told he went to Cape Town for a business by Slindile. Right now I'm sitted in my car Im on my way to grab a shake at a local milkshake barI'm such a milkshake lover . My mind has been on Qiniso. Why would he do that to his wife? If you dont love her then leave her. I snap out my thoughts and focus on my drink before I leave to go back home.

And I've realized It's been a while since I last spoke to Sli and we made plans to hang out but we just got busy by work.

I get home and rest on the couchsleep consumes me after a long period of time. I feel at ease and this week has been draining. I try to move around the couch since my neck has been painting in one spotI've been sleeping on one side. It feels like there is something on my lapI'm tired to the point where I just dont care as long as I get my sleep. My hands reach this heavy thing laying on me it feels warm it's as if someone is breathing on my hands. I quickly wake up in a second. He is lying on me I move him a bit to wake him up but he doesn't wake up.

"Nyaki stop movingunless you uncomfortable here on the

couch I dont mind picking up your ass and taking it to the bedroom." He says My sleep vanishes immediately he said those words.

"Didn't I tell you to not come back ever again?" I say

"Unfortunately you going to have to suck it up cause you'll be seeing more of memy lady." He says while caressing my thighs slowly.

"When did you come back?" I ask.

"A few hours ago my lady." He says while caressing my thighs slowly. "When did you come back?" I ask.

"A few hours ago I thought it would be best to check up on you." he replies.

I stay quiet for a while I'm in deep thought shouldn't be be checking up on his wife first?

"Nyaki" he says

"Qiniso" I quickly reply. I disregard the topic and try not to overstep his boundaries.

He chuckles. He turns his head to look up to me he has beautiful eyes. Hazelnut eyes they tell a story behind them. I've noticed that he has a scar on his forehead one on his bottom lip too. I touch his forehead scar tracing it while he closes his eyes.

"What happened?" I ask

" I was a curse to my father he hated me with passion all because of my mother's sins." He says

I shut my mouth before I could ask more he removes my hands with his his ring is gleaming and that drops my mood which is followed by a frown on my face.

"Does your wife know what you do when you keep chasing other women?" I ask

"Nyaki .Ingabe kukhona okubi esikwenzayo?." (Are we doing

anything wrong) He asks.

"Kukhona okungalingile?" (anything wrong) You were lying on my lap whilst your wife is probably wondering where her dear husband is!" I push his head away from my thighs getting up from the couch.

"I don't want to do this with you I want you out of my life and house right now." I say

He gets up in a slow pace he then proceeds to take his car keys and stare at me for the longest of time.

"Not everybody will understand what its like to always live in the dark and when you a step closer to your light you pushed back to the darkness that ruined your chance to love." He says.

He walks out of my apartment. I get up to peep him through the kitchen window to see if he is really leaving. I feel so bad right now but I did the right thing right? I don't want to become a homewrecker. I was taught to bring love not pain in this world.

Insert 6

Back to workwork and work. I feel lonely and isolated at times because everyone thinks I'm here to steal the spotlight. I just wish people would stop judging a person before they get to know them. Slindile has been missing work and she only comes in when she feels like it. If only I was her. I've been focusing on the economical output since our inflation rate increased. I'm on my fourth cup of coffee and I might've had enough of this coffee although I am energized I pack away my books then place them in the shelf and look for my phone under the piles of paperwork on my desk my mind has been occupied on Qiniso I haven't had the time to focus on work and I am fearful if I mess this up by mixing emotions with work I might go wrong somewhere. I keep checking my cellphone to see if I have a message from him but I don't. I then proceed to switch off my phone to silent mode and head to the parking lot to get my card since I left it in the car I quickly rush to get it to get to the cafeteria. I find Sli at the parking lot flirting with one of the clients. I watch her trying her luck with this guy. Well that's the thing we receive more national clients than international and that's because of our competitor's keep outstanding greater deals. I zone out of my thoughts when I hear a loud sound coming my way. It must be Sli.

"Mngani kumele uyeke ukungicupha akuhambisani nawe."
(Friend you should stop stalking me it doesn't suit you) she says

"You just scared u got caught flirting with out clients" I say while laughing at her.

"Hai suka now tell me what's going on in your love life pela don't tell me you still a virgin." she says while holding my hand.

"we need to sit down for this conversation mgani. We head to the cafeteria and get sandwiches. Now where do I start?"

" Qiniso has been stalking me. " I say rather in a melancholy tone. She stops taking a bite from her sandwich and looks at me concernly.

"Ubani Qiniso?" (who is Qiniso) she asks.

I lean closer to her and whisper

"Mr Khumalo" I reply her eyes pop up from what she just heard and she turns her smile into a smirk.

"And? I don't think he would just stalk you out of nowhere
Mina ukube benginguwe bengizomnika ikhekhe usuku lonke."
(If I was you I would give him the cookie all day" she says.

"This is a serious matter." I say

"Then ask him what he wants from you it's easy pela this is not
you speaking it's your hunger down there speaking." she says
while giggling. I should've known better from asking Slindile
advice. I resort to silence and eat my sandwich she closes her
bottle of juice and looks at me.

" Okay I think you should sit him down and talk to him because
manje you just assuming things and it won't get you anywhere
friend." she says.

I breath out and thank her for helping me out. We get going
with our girl talks before heading back to our work places.

Insert 7

I've not received any calltexts or mysterious notes from Qiniso. I wish he could just text me but I pushed him away back to his lovers armsthat's good...I guess.

Slindile forced me to go with her to the business party it's a tradition that most business companies hold to celebrate their achievements I guess I have the weekend to prepare for an outfit how great.

Today is the day of the company's celebration I already want this day to end.

Since the party will start at 18:00 I have enough time to clean around the apartment and go for grocery shopping I also got the chance to talk to my parents. I get done cleaning and I just arrived from grocery shopping. It's now 16:45 I've done my afternoon routine I'm dressed in a rose gold knee length dress with sandals I've wrapped my dreadlocks in a messy bun and puffed my face here and there a little.

The meeting has started I'm seeing faces I've never seen before besides Slindile.

I keep searching for Qiniso I can't seem to find him. Maybe he is on his way.

"Mngani ungabhoreki khohlwa ngoQiniso"(don't be boring

forget about Qiniso) she say through the loud music.

I'm getting sloshed at this party trying to drink away my attachment with Qiniso.

"Slow down

I'm seeing faces I've never seen before besides Slindile.

I keep searching for Qiniso I can't seem to find him. Maybe he is on his way.

"Mngani ungabhoreki khohlwa ngoQiniso"(don't be boring forget about Qiniso) she say through the loud music.I'm getting sloshed at this party trying to drink away my attachment with Qiniso.

"Slow downwe dont want you blacking out or do we? " He says

"I'm just having a good time" I reply to Mr Mokwena I try to walk away from him but I keep falling.

"Let me take you homeyou not okay."

I hand him my car keys and tell him my address. We arrive to my

apartment in no time.

I turn around to thank him but instead I am welcomed by an uncomfortable kiss and an uncomfortable grip around my waist. I'm sober just like that I try to pull out the kiss but his tongue has found a way with my tongue his hands go straight to my butt and I feel his shaft poking me Why is my boss kissing me?

He stops the kiss and looks at me.

"Ngicela ngingene kuwe" (allow me to get in you please)

"Remove your hands off me." That's all I manage to say I am shocked and disgusted by my boss's behavior. The drunk sloppiness seemed to wash away.

"Leave now." He speeds off and leaves my apartment.

Insert 8

I have been dodging the need to go to work but I had to go today it has been 3 days since I haven't went to work.

Slindile barged in my office telling me to prepare for the meeting we having today. If only she knew how I'm not lookin forward to this meeting.

I arrive at the board and my eyes land to Mr Khumalo he is here but not for me. He looks so good with his trimmed beard and new cut that suits his flawless melanin skin his smile takes away all my worries.

The meeting starts I have gotten used to his stares but this time around he is not staring. Mr Mokwena didn't join the meeting today another colleague of mine had to represent our plan to Mr Kumalo since he is investing in the business.

And just like that when the board meeting is over

he walks past me. What's wrong with him I

need to speak to him. "Qiniso " I yell

He stops his tracks and turns to me

"Mrs Mawubeni " so we going formal now

"Yini ngaweyou just walked past me." As much as I have pride I just had to say this " I have been waiting for your calls"

"I have a wife whom I love i dont have time to be entertaining other woman."

Wait what!?

"If you love her so much then what were you doing at my apartment the other day?"

"Have a good day Mrs Mawubeni." That's all he says to me before he walks away."

Insert 9

I can't believe this I'm crying for a man who does not even want me the way I do. I was a fool thinking we have a connection but his married. It has been a month since I had that encounter with Qiniso. I have decided to go home today I miss my parents. I have arrived home but my parents do not know that I am here. My mom always goes all out on Sundays I find her cooking while sipping on some juice in the kitchen. How I missed this woman. I snuck up behind her and hug her "Hey mommy" I say She turns around to look at me "oh my baby you back. It has been so long" she says while touching my cheeks.

I really missed my mom she is my best friend and I missed her cooking too.

I spent dinner catching up with my family and telling them about my new job. I got to my room sat on my bed. I was in deep thoughts about the rollercoaster between Qiniso and I.

"Nana" I look up and saw my mother staring at me.

"Mama" I reply back to her "You have been zoning out at the dinner table talk to mommy ke eng nana?" She says

I told my mom about Qiniso I mentioned everything even the fact that he is married and how much I want him but will never him.

She looks at me and says "Ngwanaka love is a beautiful thing every woman dreams of falling in love and being happy. I know you guys met for a reason I cannot choose what you should and shouldn't do. If you decide to be with him there will be consequences you will have to face and you will have to live

with the fact that you breaking another womans hard earned lovetears pain and happiness. If you decide to go away you are setting yourself free from his wrath you choosing yourself you are choosing to find love. The love that will find you but what I do know nana is that you have a choice so choose wisely."

Insert 10

After last night's conversation with my mom I decided to sleep on it although I haven't decided what I am going to do. I do miss his clingy self at time but its not like he hinted that he wants me.

Today is my last day here in North West before I head back to KZN. I found it very calming to spend the day with my parents and spend quality time with them. We got home and played family gamrs. I am now on the road and back to my complicated story.

I get home and take a quick nap I struggle to find sleep as my mind doses off to Qiniso. I really miss him. I open WhatsApp just to check if he is online and he is he has been online for a while now I log off app and view my emails. I have a meeting tomorrow with the owner of Land&Property Ltd. Ever since my presentation on how to help the government settle the needs of peoplea lot of companies have been wanting to join alliances with Mokwena's conceptual Ltd. But this company is offering me a much better job opportunity they are based in Umlazi.

Its 22:50 I need to get some rest for my meeting tomorrow.

For a man that owns one of the biggest companies in South Africa sure knows how to be late for his own meeting. I check my watch to see how long I have been sitting in this restaurant and I'm quite disappointed I take the last sip of my latte before I get up to leave the restaurant.

I look up to the door and still see no sign of him and that's when I get up from my chair just as I'm about to leave two body guards make their way up to me followed by Mr Ezenkosi Lembede the man I'm supposed to meet indeed. He observes the room until he sees me sitting right at the middle of the restaurant he begins to move towards my direction.

"Mrs Mawubeni I apologize for not making it on time apology accepted?" He says while kissing my hand.

"Apology accepted Mr Lembede" I say.

"Shall we get started?" I say we get started with the meeting and honestly I'm stranded between two workplaces but who would decline a better paying job and settle for less?

Definitely not me once we were done he gives me his card and asks if we could have a proper meal non related to business some time which I am skeptical at first but agree with it.

Insert 11

It's a saturday today I'm off to get takeaways to eat at home I'm tired of cooking. Once I get my order I head back to my car but stop my tracks when his smell starts intoxicating my nose. I look back and its him.

"Qiniso" I say

"Nyaki" he says

I missed himhe has a new haircut too. His eyes melt my heart I wish I could run to him and kiss him but I gather myself when my eyes land on his ring.

"Are you follo..." before I could complete my sentence he speaks over me.

"Yes I am following you Nyaki" he says

"Why" I ask. he takes his time to answer me

He rather tells me to get in the car we going to his place.

I'm curious as to where he lives but what would his wife think off when she finds me there and worse of all we not friends nor colleagues.

We arrive at La Lucia it wasn't a long drive just a 45 minutes drive we travelled in his car he told me he'll get someone to pick it up for me.

It's beautiful I am not shocked because this is the style I imagined him having. The floor is made out of gold vein marble it looks like a palace the staircase is white the kitchen has a feminine touch which I love the most.

He takes my hand and leads me to the couch. His hands bring an electrifying feeling to my heart.

"Ever since that day I have learned to accept that I am a man with flaws my intentions may have come off in a bad way but I knew what I needed when my eyes landed on you. Nyaki I need you in my life." He says

He looks down down onto his ring then chuckles.

"My wife never got the opportunity to feel my undying love for her sweet love and sweet attachments. She made me the man I am today she was my happiness I was her savior. Sibongile died 4 years ago when she was still pregnant with our child. Angikaze ngibambe ingane yam Nyaki.(I never got to hold my baby).I miss my wife every day her joyous smile melts my heart everytime she looked at my direction.

I'm not married her joyous smile melts my heart everytime she looked at my direction. I'm not married I was but it's time I now move on and I want that to happen with you."

" Qiniso I... I'm sorry for your loss" I'm out of words I dont know what to say.

"Woza" he says

I wonder where he is taking me too.

He leads me upstairs till we reach a room that has portraits of beautiful black woman that are naked. Their faces are cut out of the frame all I could see was their bodies but there is one that captured my eyes

Hands crawl up from behind squeezing her breasts her eyes are

closed and his head is buried deep in her neck.

I snap out of my thoughts and turn around to find him leaning on his desk undressing me with his eyes.

"This room is beautiful but why did you bring me here" I say

"Ubuhle bomuntu wesifazane yinhliziyoyakhe ugqoka umzimba wakhe ngokuziqhenya nokuzethemba inhliziyoyakhe yenziwe ngenjabulo yegolide." (The beauty in a woman is her heart she wears her body with pride and confidence her heart is made of golden joy) he says coming closer to me

"Nyaki I want you to feel me in you I want this to be the first time I get to touch you (Ngizokudlwengula uze ukhale kakhulu) want this to be the first time I get to touch you (I will ravish you till you cry for more)

"Ngitshele ukuthi ufuna mina kuwe sthandwa sami" (tell me you want me in you my love.)

"Qiniso I...I uhm..." I could not tell him I need to feel him in me not now it's too soon to say.

He let go of my waist and takes a few steps back.

"Ngiyaxolisa" that's all he managed to say before he left the room.

Insert 12

He is staring again while tapping his feet. I'm sitting across him while playing with my hands we haven't spoken ever since we left the "sexual fantasy" room.

"Uhm Mr Mokwena tried to hit on me" wait why am I telling him?

I quickly look down after telling him I can feel his gaze on me I'm shaking. He stopped tapping his feet and holds his glass of whiskey tight.

He gets up from the couch and responds "hlala lapha ngizobuya" (stay here I'll be back)

He walks out of the living room but stops his tracks "Ngicela uzenze ukhululeke afterall this is your house." (Please make yourself comfortable)

I've been walking around this beautiful palace his wife had such great taste explains the interior.

On my way back to the lounge I receive a call from an anonymous number at first I reject the call but then again the

person keeps calling I answer on the third ring. Before i could even say a word the person on the other line speaks first.

"Oh well I never thought you'd pick up your phone" he says

"Excuse me who am I talking to?" I say

"Mr Lembede" he says

Oh shit! totally forgot about his business proposal. Although his company pays good money and is accessible to international clients I cannot quit my job I just got it.

"Are you still there Mrs Mawubeni " he says after a while of waiting on my response.

"Yes What do I owe this call"

"I apologize for reaching out on your cellphone instead of calling the receptionist " he says

I chuckle while leaning on the wall "Well there is no problem with that sir." I say

"Join me for dinner I insist" he says for a few minutes mind tells me to back down the offer but with curiosity eating me up I would like to hear what he has to say.

"Oh I see you not backing down on the business proposal." he says

"After all I go after what I want." he adds on.

"Well I might have to turn down your offer." I say now let's see who needs who.

"Well since you turning down my offer allow me to take you out for dinner. " He says while chuckling on the other line.

"Don't contemplate it I fact let me charm you a bit." he says.

"I would love for you to join me for dinner Mrs Mawubeni " he says

"Okay I'll take that " I say while looking down on my feet.

"Tonight 20:00I'll send my driver to come pick you up." He says

"But you do not know my address." I say and that's when I realise he hung up before the message could get through him. I wonder what this business meeting is about thou I don't want to be entertaining men when I already have one.

Insert 13

She looked heavenly her smile seems to bring his heart peace as he keeps tickling her. She was beautiful her eyes tell a story of warmth and safety when she is around him. A part of me yearns to be loved just like the way she was loved I mean he still loves her. He will always love her. I could feel that he is in the room his presence speaks for himself. My back is turned to his face yet I feel the connection without our eyes intertwining . I guess I'm just waiting for him to call me "Nyaki" the way he says it just melts my heart. I turn around to face him his eyes are on the screen his beaming eyes tell a story of nostalgia. No woman would ever take her place.

"Uhm... I need to get going" I say while walking past him but stop when I remember we drove with his car.

"I'll drive you home." He says without looking at me.

The drive to my apartment was unpleasant. We were both lost in our own bubbles. He must be upset seeing a stranger upload private tapes of the memories he shared with his deceased wife. I turn to face him his eyes are on the road his face shows no emotions.

We finally reach our destination I step out the car in a rush to get to my apartment. I struggle getting the right key to open the door my hands are trembling I feel warm hands on top of mine. He takes the keys away from me.

"Which one is the right key" he says without looking at me. I point out the right key that opens the door. We get in my cramped apartment.

"Thank you for the ride." I reply while looking down.

"Ngibheke" I look up to him this is not the the sweet man longing to hold his wife this is a man in drought of a woman that will replace his sweet lover. He folds his arms while looking at me. After a while I finally hear his sweet voice utter words that I did not expect.

"Ngeke aphinde akuhluphe" (He will not bother you again.) He says I figured he was talking about Mr Mokwena.

"What did you do?" I reply.

"Bengingakamenzi lutho."(I did not do anything to him as yet)
He comes closer to me and kisses me on my forehead I close my eyes wishing it could be more than just a forehead kiss. He sighs before he could talk.

"Sleepwell sthandwa saam." (My love)

"Do you love me?" I mistakenly blurted these words out without thinking! Damn it! Of course he doesn't he is still inlove with his wife. He stops his hand from opening the knob of the door and slowly turns back to me. He comes closer to me while grabbing my waist.

"I loved you the day my eyes landed on you that was the day you could not pay the restaurant bill." He says while chuckling and placing a strand of my hair behind my ear. I laugh while hugging onto him. I close my eyes and engulf his smell as it takes over my nostrils.

"I need you Nyaki I know I'm a complicated man with baggage but I know what I want." He says. I've been in this position for probably hoursokay I'm exaggerating. I do not know what to say. He raises my head up.

"Please say something Lerato laka" he says. I take a deep breath before I blurt my words out.

"I'll be patient with you I need you too." I say. He presses his forehead against mine.

"Ngiyabonga Mama." (Thank you)

Insert 14

Qiniso stayed up with me until I fell asleep I can still smell his cologne on my sheets as if he is with me right here. I have hope in him in us. We going to make this work. There is something I have to do though I can't put my head to it. I get up from bed and perform my morning routine. I haven't eaten since I got home last night I find a note placed on the counter.

"Lerato laka I was called in at the office I'll pick you up for dinner at 20:00."

Oh shit the meeting I have with Mr Lembede I don't know what to do. I'll try to postpone the meeting with Mr Lembede no that's a bad idea perhaps I'll postpone with Qiniso I cannot stand working for a man that keeps trying to get a way with me. I wonder what Qiniso meant when he said Mr Mokwena won't bother me again. Did he threaten him? Or worse kill him? I grab my bag from the couch and head out to work. I'm occupied with work but I can feel someone staring at me I look up and I notice it's Mr Mokwena. I'm hesitant whether I should get up or not. "Don't leave at my account." He says walking towards me. At this point I wish Qiniso could barge in my office and stop all this madness. For fucks sakes I just got this job and my employee is trying to get in my pants.

"Uyisebenzi esingcono kakhulu esake satholwa yinkampani yami eminyakeni emibili edlule ngangicabanga ukuthi ngizolahlekelwa yinkampani yami."(You are the best employee my company has ever received two years ago i thought I was going to lose my company.) He stops talking and stares at me.

"First of I would like to apologize for the incident that occurred at the party First of I would like to apologize for the incident that occurred at the party it was unprofessional of me to force myself on you please accept my apology." He says

"Apology accepted." I say do I really accept his apology?

"Would that be it Sir" I say my heartbeat keeps beating rapidly I just want him to leave. I don't even know if I will have peace working for a pervert.

"Actually No." He replays.

"I want you to leave my company you can no longer work here it would be unprofessional working with you while there is sexual tension between us" he says

Haibowhat sexual tension you not even in my category. He can't

fire me just like that!

"I received this job not so long ago I really need this job." I say.

"I have made myself clear." He says.

I get up from my chair and lean towards him.

"You will soon realize I was the best employee in this damn company and once you do it will be too damn late!"

I walk arrogantly out of his office my mind is heavy right now this is written Qiniso all over it. This was supposed to be a new start of my independence but where is it now?

Insert 15

He clinks his glass softly to get my attention I didnt realize I was zoning out.

I snap back to reality and look at this beautiful creature right in front of me. I titter while drawing circles on my glass.

"You've been zoning out care to share Miss?" He says

I can't seem to control my emotions it might be the wine I want to ravish him to release my frustrations but I stop myself from thinking afar.

"Let's not dwell too much about me let's talk about you so...who is Mr Lembede." I say he takes a moment to think about what I asked him.

"As you have figured I am a businessman a father and a man in search for his woman. " he says while taking a sip from his whiskey.

"Well that's surprising you don't look like the type to be a father." I say we chuckle while looking at each other. My phone starts ringing I read the caller ID and my mood instantly changes. I reject the call and flip my phone over.

"It would be such great interest to get to know you." He says.

"I am an economist I do not have kids that's all to know about me." I say "That's sad a beautiful woman like you would make such a great mother." He says

"How would you know that?" I say my phone starts ringing again I switch my sound mode to mute.

"Aren't you going to answer that?" He says

"No I switch my sound mode to mute.

"Aren't you going to answer that?" He says

"No it's not important just these insurance companies." I say trying to clear the awkwardness between us.

"You don't need to act as if you are okay I can see right through you let me drive you home." He says

"No I'm okay shall we order dessert?" I say

"I insist let me take you home." He says

It was clear I would not win this with him. We get to his car and drive to my apartment he play music that goes perfect with the atmosphere.

"I didn't think you would be the type to listen to Jasmine Sullivan." I say while laughing shockingly.

"You judging me already My playlist is probably better than yours." He says while laughing that's all we have been doing laughing and getting to know each other. We drive in comfortable silence whilst listening to music. We finally reach my apartment but sit quietly in the car.

"Please think about it my company can offer you more than what you are earning." I remain silent for a few minutes considering his offer." He says.

I nod my head trying to reach an agreement of which is better for me in my head. I'm in deep thoughts and I cannot hear what he has to say until he suddenly caresses my jawline softly I look up to him.

"I just can't stop myself." He says.

He comes closer to me I know I shouldn't be doing this but I just crave to know how he tastes this wine has definitely taken over my hormones.

He smashes his lips on mine I place my hand on his cheek he slips his tongue in my mouth and goes in slow motion. I could say I am enjoying the kiss till I realised he placed his hand under my dress I try to break off the kiss but he does not let go. I need to stop this I try removing his hand but he refuses to let go.

He finally let's go.

"I'm sorry about that." That's all he manages to say."

Insert 16

"What are you doing here? ungethusile." (You scared me) I say my zulu may not be good but I have been getting a hang of it since I'm surrounded by Zulu's everyday. Seeing Qiniso right here makes me regret what just happened what if he saw me kissing another man.

"Ngizamile ukukufonela kodwa awuzibambi izincingo zami.(I tried calling you but you didnt pick up my calls.) He says while getting up from the couch walking towards me.

"I know." I say

"Is that all you going to say woman!" He says at this point I have two choices either scream for my neighbors to hear me or lie my way out of this. He is scaring me. He takes a step back and exhales.

"Do you know how many women get raped and killed every hour in South Africa!?" He says

My tears keep falling I shake my head to answer him. Damn it my

tears have no timing.

"Ngibuke uma ngikhuluma nawe."(look at me when i talk to you)
He says

I slowly look up to him.

"Why you crying? Did I hit you? Did I threaten you?" He says

I shake my head continuously.

"Listen I may come over as controlling but I'm doing this to help you if you do go out atleast tell me where you are baby. I just dont want anything bad happening to you." He says

I wipe my tears and walk towards him.

"I'm deeply sorry I was mad I lost my job and it feels as if I lost my independence its all my fault if I didn't tell you then I wouldn't have lost my job."

He holds my hands and kisses them. I shouldn't be crying it's my entire fault if I didn't tell you then I wouldn't have lost my job."

He holds my hands and kisses them. I shouldn't be crying this is actually his fault. He got me fired. I let go of my hands and walk towards the door while opening it.

"I'm out here blaming myself while you here acting as if you care if you care so much do something but for now I want you out of my house." I say

"Are you done talking?" He says. I don't know if I should be mad or intimidated by his question.

"I got you fired and if I had to do it again I'd do it all over again Umsebenzi wami ukukuvikela ekulimaleni kungaphula inhliziyo yami ukukubona wephuka."(Its my job to protect you from harm it would break my heart to see you break.) He says

"I get that you care but I can take care of myself I'm a grown womanI dont need your help." I say "You dont need my help because you stubborn Nyaki if I had to tell you how men like Vulani operate you would repel working with such men." He says.

I've figured Mr Mokwena is Vulani.

"I don't want you to get hurt but if you have to see it for yourself then you just walked in the Lion's den." He says. He walked out my apartment but stops to take a look at me for the last time.

"I'll be there to save you" he says then leaves the building.

A week has past by I have not spoken to Qiniso. My pride won't let me I have decided to let go of the Mr Mokwena issue. It would be a shame to find out about his nonsense. I've been sitting in my car outside his house contemplating whether I should go on with this. I hold the steering wheel ready to start my car but remove my hands and unlock my sit belt. I have to do this.

"Sorry bhuti ngicela ukungena." (May I please get in.) I say

"Ungubani sisi?" (Who are you) he says.

"Mina ngingudadewabo kaQiniso." (I'm Qiniso's sister) I say.

I hope this security guard believes me that's stupid of me to say he obviously knows his boss doesn't have a sister right?

He takes out his walkie talkie and walks further away from me. I can here a few words.

"Boss kukhona intokazi lana ethi ungudadewenu." (Boss there is a lady here claiming to be your sister.) He says. He turns around to look at me while talking on his walkie talkie. He walked closer to me.

"Thatha lapha umphathi ufuna ukukhuluma nawe." (Take here the boss wants to talk to you.) He says. He hands over the walkie talkie. I exhale before I could talk.

"Qiniso." I say.

"Abuyisele ucingo kuSbusiso." (Give the phone back to Sbusiso.)

"Qiniso ngicela sikhulume nje." (I just want us to talk.)

"We talking aren't we?" He says. I have been way too patient with this man. I give back the walkie talkie to the security guard and walk away to my car. I step in my car about to make a U-turn. He is full of nonsense. My phone starts ringing. I look at the caller ID and answer my phone .

"I don't have time for your games!" I say. I hear him chuckle a bit.

Such a grown man playing games hai.

"Unga hambani." (Don't leave) he says.

"I'm coming to fetch you." He says.

"Okay I'm waiting outside." I say. I get so weak everytime he commands me. He gets outside the gate looking all sorts of yummy. His beard is black and shiny his lips are pink I bet they soft too.

"You can stop drooling now. " he says.

"Don't be full of yourself." I say trying to stop myself from blushing.

"Asambe ke." He says.

I get out of the car holding his hand. I am surprised by my actions. He takes the car keys from me and hands it over to Sbusiso.

"Asingene ngaphakathi" (Let's get inside.) He says.

We get inside the house and sit close to each other. He kisses my hands and runs his hands with mine.

"You have soft skin." He says while drawing circles on my hands. I find myself blushing from his words. I missed this I missed him. I crave his touch. He let's go of my hand and looks deep in mesearching for my soul to hear his. His eyes roar with fire.

"Khuluma nami" (talk to me) he says. I get up to face him on the couch. I place my knee in between in his legs and kiss his neck slowly.

"I need you in me." I whisper in his ear.

Insert 18

He grabs my neck to bring my face closer to his. I can feel the rhythm of our breathe. My heart is aching for this moment. He moves his hands to my hair and massages my scalp I let out a quiet moan. I place my other leg on the couch and rest my butt on his thigh. I face him while unbuttoning his shirt I quickly shy away when I realise he is staring too much. He lifts my chin up to face me then places his hands on my butt. I bite my lip while my eyes crave a touch of his love on me. Sweat to sweat.

"Angicabangi ukuthi ungilungele." (I don't think you ready for me.) He says

"Try me" I say. He smashes his lips on mine while grabbing my butt. I remove my blouse and unhook my bra. I spread my legs wide to capture his thighs in between my cookie jar. I remove his shirt he lifts me up while kissing me. I can feel his boner pressing against me. He places me on the bed and caresses my thighs with soft kisses. I open my thighs to give him more access my cookie the smell of my womanhood intoxicates the room. He removes my underwear with his teeth while engulfing my smell. "You smell amazing" he says. His eyes are full of lust. He brings his head closer to my cookie. I moan outloud when I feel his tongue doing wonders on my clitorishe proceeds into putting

his tongue in my hole. I can feel myself getting more wet as he circulates his tongue in my hole I hold his head and grab the sheets with my other hand as I feel my body tensing up from the pleasure. He continues sucking on my hole while rubbing my clit with his thumb. I roll my eyes back while releasing my orgasm. Oh damn we far from ending yet I feel such pleasure from this gorgeous human being.

I take a deep breathe then exhale after the immense orgasm he reaches my face and that's when it happens. Our eyes poured out what we have always wanted. He smashes his lips onto mine while caressing my body with his handshe stops to look at me in the eyes.

"We haven't even started." He says

He removes his pants and damn I might've gotten more wet when I saw how huge he is. He comes closer to the bed.

"Ungesabi angilumi."(Don't be scaredI don't bite.) He says I nod my head while looking at him.

He kisses my shoulders gently.

"Khululeka Makhumalo." (Relax Makhumalo.) He says.

He rubs his tip on my vulva ah fuck the pleasure just kicked in. I could not resist moaning his surname softly. He places his dick inside of me.

"Ukhululekile ngokwanele?" (Comfortable enough) He says

"Yes" I reply .

He moves in me slowly with passion staring at me whilst I roll my eyes backwards enjoying every stroke. I spread my legs wide allowing his cock all in me.

He brings his forehead towards mine and licks my lips I hold his head while pouring out my emotions to him with my eyes. He holds my breasts and squeezes them I flinch a bit nevertheless I enjoy the pleasure I receive from this man. I bring him closer to me with my thighs I want to feel him deep in me. He moves gently in me.

"Ahh Mbulazi" I moan in his ear.

"Say it again" he says while getting deeper in me.

"Ah...Mbulazi." I say.

He removes himself and places my legs on his shoulders he massages his dicks with his hand which is filled with my cum he places it back inside giving me fast strokes. I hold on to my boobs as they keep moving.

"Makhumalo." He groans as he is about to reach his climax. I clench my vulva to tighten his grip in me and rub my clit with my hand.

"What are you doing to me?" He says all I could do was moan my words could not get out due to the immense pleasure.

He finally reaches his climax then lies next to me putting my head on his shoulders.

"Ngiyaothanda." (I love you.) He says then pulls me closer to him.

Insert 19

"I feel so vulnerable when I'm with you what do you have on me?" He says I giggle lazily.

"I have your love." I say.

He intertwines his hand with mine.

"I'm not letting you go." He says then kisses my forehead.

"Rest up you going to need the energy for work." He says.

"I dont have a job you practically fired me remember?" I say he chuckles.

"Ngiyayazi lala manje." (I know now sleep) He replies.

It would be useless arguing with him my stubborn Zulu man. He wraps me in his arms my safe place and sleep takes over us. Hours have passed by and I'm cuddled in bed. Qiniso is in the shower my body is still tired and the thought of getting up to get to work exhausts me more.

My phone vibrates in my hand I check the caller ID and get up. I let out a sigh before answering the call.

"Mr Lembede. " I say trying to sound formal. He chuckles right after i called him by his surname.

"Nkosazana." He says this man comes off as a creep.

"We haven't finished off from where we left off." he says.. I wonder if he is talking about work or that kiss. I stutter while trying to answer him. I can't even speak properly for heavens sake.

"Okay... My driver will pick you up tonight at 20:00." He says.

I did not even agreesuch a demanding man.

I hang up the call and bite my bottom lip whilst in deep thought I raise my head up and see Qiniso sitting across me on the couch with his intimidating aura.

I try faking a smile just to loosen him up but it does not succeed. Suddenly I feel uneasy I start looking around the room to get away from his eyes. I pull the duvet to cover my breasts as I start to feel naked and shameful to him.

"Sthandwa saamasambe." He says getting up from the couch heading towards me.

I did not go through fear just for him to call me his love.

"Right behind you." I say pecking his lips when he reaches closer to me.

Insert 20

It has never come across my mind asking Qiniso what he does this building right in front of me makes me want to question myself if I really want to work or be a housewife.

"It's beautiful." I say.

"Just like you." He says intertwining his hand with mine. We pass the reception and everyone keeps looking our way I'll never get used to people staring at me. We enter the lift heading straight to his office it's a long walk to his office as we walk on the passage I turn left to be met by a portrait of a woman in zulu attire smiling towards my direction its hermfazi wakhe. My heart seems to ache after seeing her.

"Asambe sthandwa saam." He says pulling me softly away from her with my hands. We walk into his office and I must say its beautiful the white and grey seems to blend all well it seems too good to be true that this is an office.

"What do you do exactly?" I say walking towards the couch to sit down. He comes to me hurriedly and kneels in front of me it would be every lady's impression that their getting proposed too right at this moment.

"Sthandwa saam it would be every lady's impression that their getting proposed too right at this moment.

"Sthandwa saam bring your feet here." He says. I bring my legs closer to him he removes my shoes and massages my feet. This might be exactly what I needed. I let out a quiet moan enjoying this moment.

"You'r tempting me Nyaki. " he says.

The atmosphere is filled with laughter and love. He sits right next to me and places my feet on his lap.

"I am the owner of African Legacy." That's all he says.

"Thee African legacy?" I've followed up stories about African Legacy and I must say it's one of Africa's fastest growing industry it was ranked at number 06 on Forbes Africa for producing quality goods to consumers not only that but it improves the lives of many consumers by providing health care supplies and donates homes to those living in poverty. The unemployment rate has decreased by 9% it may not be enough but the smallest change in the world makes a difference right?

"I never expected you to actually own one of the largest companies in Africa." I say.

"It's pre-eminent keeping things exclusive my love." He says. I have never been defeated hearing such big words.

"It has always been my goal to bring much change." I say.

"You will you were destined for greatness." He says leaning closer to peck my lips. I look down and notice he has taken his ring off.

"It was time." He says.

"I don't want you doing something that you will regret if I'm not the one for you please take your time I'm not going anywhere I'm here to stay." I say.

"Ngiyaothanda." He says then wraps his arm around me. I've never been sure about how this man feels about me but right here right now I'm more than happy. My heart belongs to him.

"Le nna kao rata." I say.

Insert 21

Seeing a black man achieve his dreams is inspiring we have been undermined for way too long but as we evolve so does our mentality to think beyond the picture evolves. I got so emotional hearing Qiniso's story as to how much he had to sacrifice in building Africa's Legacy all the blood and sweat was definitely made up for this beauty not only that but he managed to draft me up a new contract into working for his company I don't know how he managed to end my former contract but I'm grateful for that.

"Baby o right?" He asks. I've been zoning out thinking as to how I've made it this far he has been a blessing that I hope to have for the longest of time.

"Thank you Mbulazi this really means a lot to me." I say getting closer to him.

"This is only the beginning sthandwa saamumfazi wami akumele akhathazeke ngalutho uma enami." (my woman does not have to worry about anything when she is with me) he says.

"Well your woman appreciate's everything her man does for her." I say.

"I made dinner reservations at The blue moon today just you and me 20:00 tonight." He says.

"I'd love that." I say.

My hands have been trailing on this beautiful tailored dress that is hugging my body I look so different from how I usually look.

"Umuhle sthandwa." says Slindile behind me.

I can't help but smile at her words. My mind brings me back to Ezenkosi I have been dodging his calls since this afternoon something about him does not feel right and I'm not quite sure what it is. My phone beeps from the coffee table im quite sure that it is Qiniso.

"My driver has been waiting over an hour for you to get out Ms please don't stand me up."

I'm contemplating whether I should go or not.

The mood around the room has changed I summarize what this is about to Slindile as I'm stuck between agreeing with this or not

"Atleast tell Qiniso about your whereabouts that will put me at ease." She says.

"Friend don't worry about me." Just as she is about to talk my phone buzzes but I ignore the text message that just got in. Sometimes turning down business opportunities open up doors for better opportunities.

"Sli I'll be back and please don't worry about me just call him if I don't make me around 08:30" I say before leaving the apartment.

I have been praising his house ever since I've gotten here. I'm on my second glass of wine unwinding and releasing all my stress. I keep trying to avoid thinking about Qiniso. I need to focus as to what I came here to do.

We share little conversations in between our laughter.

"So do you have a man?" he asks while playing with his wine glass. I take time to respond rethinking if I say yes the whole mood would be awkward but honesty is what really matters.

"Yes... I do have a man" I try not to shift the question to him as that will make it seem as if I'm interested.

"I have a wife and child back in Eastern Cape." Well I'm quite surprised he has a family. He does not look like the type to have a family.

I zone out the conversation.

"Care to share." he says.

I think it's time to end this little attachment.

I open my mouth to blurt out words but nothing seems to come out he gets up with the empty glasses to refill them at his cabinet he hands me back my wine glass and this time it tastes different much more sweeter than the previous but I'm enjoying it more than I should.

We have been conversing on the couch getting to know about each other and inviting each other in the depth of our personal lives however I found it difficult to engage deeply as my hormones have been acting up I've been feeling much more needy and horny than how I usually feel and right now I just want to ravish him.

He then proceeds to place his hand on my thigh which have given my hormones the green light. I try to remove his hand self-control is the best thing in such situations.

"We can't do this" I say while trying to get my breathing pattern back to its normal state this will break Qiniso's heart.

"Why not?" he replies before he pushes his hand deeper.

"Qiniso? your wife? " I blurt out.

"Ungalisho igama lakhe I always get what I want and right now I want you. " (Don't mention his name.)

He smashes his lips on mine and spreads my legs wide open.

Insert 22

My legs are spread wide open while he soothes the tip of his dick on my vulva before placing it in. He brings my legs closer to his shoulders and pulls me towards him the rhythm of our breaths are telling us to do it continuously.

He penetrates in me slowly I can't help but scream his name in pleasure.

I squeeze my boobs tightly when he changes his pace more faster.

This might be wrong but this feels so damn right.

Qiniso's POV

I have been checking my watch and she is late it's been an hour already and there is no sign of her. I try to call her again but her phone just keeps ringing without any luck she does not pick up.

I hope she is okay though what could possibly go wrong.

I have a gut feeling that she is the one for me it may be too soon to tell but she is everything I need in a woman her smile speaks for herself her wisdom makes me fall deeper in love with her and her love melts my heart. I never got to experience this kind of love ever since my wife deceased I still think about her but sooner or later I might have to move on.

I get up from my chair and leave a few notes on the table before heading out of the restaurant.

I get in the car about to start the ignition however I'm stopped when I see a lady standing at my window she looks familiar thou. I roll down the window to hear what she has to say.

"Qiniso it's Slindile." she says I don't reply to her I rather look at her signaling her to get to the point. She fidgets with her fingers before she could talk.

"I know where Nyaki is and who she is with." she says.

Nyaki's POV

He removes my legs from his shoulders and turns me around. I think I know where this leads too.

I quickly turn around to face him

"I have never had anal sex." I say he turns my head the other way and tries to slip it in me. His grip on my neck tightens.

I scream in pain once he succeeds putting it in me.

"Stop Ezenkosi." I say hoping he will hear me out.

He continues to penetrate in me despite how much I try to stop him.

My tears begin to fall off and my lust for him has faded away.

He flips me over and continues to penetrate in me much more fast as if I'm a hooker he slaps my bum cheeks with so much aggression I let out a loud scream but that does not stop him. He continues to press down his shaft in me which causes me to scream in more pain my saliva begins to come out of my mouth from my silent cries. I gather the strength hoping he will hear me "Ezenkosi stop please" I say louder than before. Without looking at me he groans once he has reached his climax and heads to the bathroom to wipe himself.

This was never supposed to happen in the first place.

Seeing him sleep peacefully besides me makes my stomach fold. I don't quite recall what had happened and my vagina is throbbing from all the pain but with all the puzzles joined together regret and pain consumes my heart.

What did I achieve in doing this? How did this happen! I tap his shoulder softly to see if he is fast asleep once he does not respond to my touch I quickly get up and collect my belongings to leave his house. I get into my car and open my phone I've missed countless missed calls from Qiniso and text messages from Slindile. I wish I could turn back time.

Insert 23

Qiniso's POV:

"Mfowethu yeka isimanga esimnandi sokungifonela" (what a pleasant surprise of you calling me.) I say.

"Kade ngikhona inkampani iyangidinga kakhulu kunakuqala bafo" (I've been around the company needs me more than ever.)he replies

"Ufike nini" (when did you arrive) I say.

"Ezinyangeni ezimbili ezedlule" (Two months ago) he says.

I remain quiet while I pour myself a glass of whiskey.

"Ubaba uyakudinga kade engibiza ukuthi ngize kuwe" (dad needs you he has been calling me to get to you.) he says.

"Ufunani lowo doti." (what does he want) I say.

"Ufuna ukulungisa izinto." (he wants to fix things) he says

I place my legs on top of my desk while analyzing every detail of my deceased wife's body on the painting in front of me.

"Makafe ngakho konke engikukhathalelayo! " (Let him die for all that i care of!) I reply.

I hang up the phone and pour myself another drink. I gulp my drink down and collect my car keys. I need to get away from all this and Nyaki is not answering my phone calls where the fuck could she be!

Dammit!

Nyaki's POV

I've been cuddled in my sheets the entire day regretting all that has happened in the last week. Sli tried to get me to open up but I just couldn't. The events keep coming back as if it happened just right now. My phone has been switched off completely since this morning I need to get away from everybody and everything.

Suddenly I hear a bang on my door that frightens me. I keep still hoping that this person will just leave me alone.

"Nyaki vula lokhu noma ngikhahlele isicabha"(open here or I'll kick this door.) he says.

I still remain to myself although I'm agitated of what he might do.

"Vula lomnyango wena mfazi" (open this door woman) he says

I need to get away from everybody and everything.

Suddenly I hear a bang on my door that frightens me. I keep still hoping that this person will just leave me alone.

"Nyaki vula lokhu noma ngikhahlele isicabha"(open here or I'll kick this door.) he says.

I still remain to myself although I'm agitated of what he might do.

"Vula lomnyango wena mfazi" (open this door woman) he says his tone keeps getting more aggressive. I quickly put on my

sleepers and run through the passage to get the keys for a few minutes I'm contemplating if I should do this and just to save my life I open the door and I'm met by an angry soul in a form of Qiniso...my Qiniso.

"Vula" he says.

I open the gate that separates us and give him more access into my apartment. Please don't hit me please don't hit me please don't hit me is all that is running through my mind. He knows dammit! I've concluded. His face begins to show worry and confusion I've hurt a man that truly loves me.

"Asambe siye endlini yami" he says

He grabs me gently on my waist and leads me outside the apartment showing no care with what I am wearing.

Insert 24

Qiniso has not forced what me to blurt out what I have been hiding instead he has been gentle with me I have taken the time to forget about Ezenkosi and his sexual demons I'm excited on meeting his brother well according to him that is his only family. The day he took me from my place was the day he allowed me to enter his home I've been doing sleepovers here and there it has not been confirmed as to us living together.

I've prepared food and I am quickly freshening up before his brother arrives lately I've been demanding sex from Qiniso and whenever we done havin it I feel a sudden regret and shame in my body I'm slowly losing myself.

I hear voices all the way down stairs this is my que to leave the bedroom to introduce myself to his brother I catch a glimpse of his back while I walk downstairs.

I'm met by two different people that look from different worlds they do not look like they siblings for that matter.

"Kuyinjabulo ekugcineni ukuhlangana nawe" (It's a pleasure to finally meet you) he says while leaning for a handshake.

I return back the energy to Sfundu as I was proceeding to introduce myself my eyes land on Ezenkosi's back while he is on a call.

My hands start to tremble in fear but nevertheless I remain calm trying to be on the safe zone.

"And here comes my business partner Ezenkosi please meet Nyakallo my brothers soon to be wife." he says I turn instantly to Qiniso out of shock I'll be his wife soon I guess... Well I hope.

"The dinner was lovely

I haven't had a home cooked meal in months." says Sfundu I shy away receiving the compliment. "Bafo Sinemibhede eminingi woza uzohlala nathi okwamanje ngabe kulungile yini lokho sithandwa

sami?" (we have a lot of unused beds come live with us in the meantime would that be okay my love?) says Qiniso. I reply as I have no problem with Sfundu living with after all he needs to connect with his brother.

" Cha mfowethu lokho kungaba kakhulu futhi ngaphandle kwalokho ngisehhotela 30 minutes away akunankinga mfowethu".(No brother that would be too much and besides I reside at a hotel 30 minutes away.) "Our home is your home never forget that." replies Qiniso. After a while of observing the love Qiniso has shed with his brother and myself I just realized he is the best thing that has ever happened to me and I have concluded that tonight is all about Qiniso and his happiness. I return the plates to the kitchen but on my way I feel a sharp pain in my stomach

and I begin to feel nauseated this is the first time I've felt this disgusted it was probably the food I had eaten.

I clear up the table while the man are catching up and getting to know more about their personal life experiences I turn to my left and I'm met by a salivating Ezenkosi I gobble down my saliva not believing my sight.

"Umuhle." he says coming closer to me.

"I miss being inside of you did you enjoy it." he says. I wanna cry.

"Leave me alone this won't end well." I say. He places his hands on my stomach and chuckles.

"You would look beautiful being the mother of my child." he says. I remove his hand from my stomach and breath rapidly.

"We should do it again." he says and nibbles my ear before joining the squad.

Insert 25

3 weeks later.

Qiniso's POV:

I'm staring at the wedding ring I gave my wife 6 years ago it's diamonds still shine bright like her smile used too I'm standing on her grave bed prepared to say my last goodbye this is it. It's time I move on.

Nyaki's POV:

I've been having these bad cramps that have been occurring regularly some days I could bear the pain and some days it was too hard for me to bear. I've decided to visit the doctor just to get a checkup with what is really going on.

"Congratulations you going to be a mother." says the doctor sitted in front of me. I can feel my hands shaking my heart is beating uncontrollably and I'm losing my breath.

"Breath Follow my lead." she says getting up from her chair directing me how to breath properly.

"It's just a small panic attack." she says smiling as if this is not new to her.

I slightly feel embarrassed after my attack I shake my head in disagreement with a smile plastered on my face as a way to fool the doctor. This cannot be true.

But how? I have not experienced any symptoms such as morning sickness and mood swings even worse an unbalanced appetite. My mind is all over the place but the question that sticks out for me is "who is the father?"

It's evening the rain keeps pouring with thunder in between Qiniso just got back from work he looks so angelic in his sleep I try touching his cheek but return my hand when the tears start to fall. Within a second he brings my head closer to his chest as if he could sense I'm in need for help I struggling breathing and I sniff uncontrollably I need to tell him he has been faithful to me I do not deserve his love.

I continue to bang my head on his chest while screaming his grip on my hear is so tight as if he is telling me he is not going anywhere.

"I... I'm... Pregnant." I say in between my sniff. He brings my face closer to his so I can see his eyes. His eyes soften up.

"Mama Phinda osanda kukusho." (repeat what you just said)

he says. This time my sniffs

and cries are much more controllable. My words come out as a whisper.

"I'm pregnant." I say once more.

"Ngiyabonga nkosi ngiyathembisa ukukuthanda kanye nengane

yethu kuze kube phakade." (Thank you lord I promise to love you and our child till infinity. " he says his words come out as a if his wish has came true.

" Ngiyabonga Nyaki. " he says holding me tighter.

I pull myself away from his embrace to finish what I intended to say.

"I don't know whose the father ." I say as more tears begin to fall off and my mind traces back to the puzzles I joined that specific morning.

He stares at me hoping I'd say this is a prank or something else.

He gets off bed and continues to dress up.

"Qiniso." I call out his name while shaking my head.

He just looks at me and goes a few steps back.

"Get dressed." he says.

"I want you outside my house within 30 seconds and if not..." he says while picking up a gun that came from God knows where.

Insert 26

The clouds have changed its navy color turned into its darkest version. I am standing in front of Qiniso with my head bowed down like a servant. He puts his gun down and holds my waist tightly and whispers in my ear.

"I know who he is you tried to trick me Nyaki" he says and walks away from me in circles as if he is going crazy.

"I loved you dammit! I WORSHIPPED YOUR FUCKING GROUND!"
He says.

He walks closer to me I try walking back but in such rapid speed he grabs my hair tightly and brings my face closer to his till I can feel his breathe on me.

"I'm sorry." I say as a whisper hoping I don't earn a beating for my apology even though it won't make a difference.

"It's too late." he grabs my hair and pushes me out the house I'm not wearing any shoes and my feet keep making contact with the cold water that is on the ground.

He instructs his security team to open the gate the look on their faces show curiosity and confusion but with one look from Qiniso their curiosity fades away.

"I never want to see you step into this house ever again you are no different from a prostitute!" those words right there pierced right through my heart he looks at me with disgust the rain has gotten heavier and so has his anger with every pour on us. He continues to spit on my face.

"Take your bastard child away from me you deserve no pity and no love." he says and proceeds to walk back into his house.

I call on his name screaming for forgiveness but it seems as if my apology falls on deaf ears. The rain keeps pouring on me and I can now feel the coldness running on my spine. I get up and try running to the gate screaming Qiniso's name I am not giving up on him and on us what I did was stupid I was blinded by lust but that does not mean I don't love him I do I really do.

turn to look at his security team but all I see is pity eyes landing on me. I turn to walk away from the gate with faith in me that there is mobile phone around here although there are high chances that there isn't as this is the suburbs. I'm shivering and my eye lids keep closing from time to time. I have no where to go and no where to run too. I keep taking small steps but stop when I hear a voice calling my name it's him It's Qiniso.

I turn to look back and I'm approached by one of the security guards.

"Umphathi wami ubengeke avume ukuthi ngenze lokhu kodwa sebenzisa lokhu ukufonela othile azokulanda." (My boss would not approve of me doing this but use this to call someone to come pick you up.) he says.

I look at him unbelievably and take his phone to call Slindile. I keep dialing her number but it keeps taking me to voice mail for a minute I lose hope on calling her but I keep trying until I hear her voice on the other line. She finally picks up her phone hearing her voice makes me tear up. I try to explain what happened but I keep stuttering luckily she catches up in what I was saying.

"Okay hold on for a few minutes I will be there okay" she says through the line in a worried tone.

I nod my head vigorously as if she is seeing me hang up the call and give it back to the security guy and thank him. He

offers to stand with me and share his umbrella with me I can't help it but break down. I face my head down trying to escape this man's pity eyes for me.

"Eish Noma ngabe yini obhekene nayo ngiyethemba ukuthi uzophila angikaze ngimbone umphathi wami ohlanya kanje." (Whatever you are going through I hope you will live I have never seen my boss so crazy.) he says. He must've stop talking when I didn't reply to his statement. A while later Slindile arrives she hops out of her car and runs towards me in the rain she thanks the security guard and takes me to her car. My tears can't stop falling I don't know what I did to deserve this i feel a sharp pain on my abdomen but that does not stop me from crying.

Insert 27

Mbatha's POV:

If this is what a broken father has to do to mend things with his son then he has no choice I wronged Qiniso from a young age I'm trying to right my wrongs he did not have to suffer from Sinokuhle's mistakes. If I could turn back time then I would it doesn't feel right living in this big house spending all this money with no happiness in my heart I have torn my family part.

****Flashback ****

"I am a married man what happened between us was lust my wife does not need to go through such pain about the child I'll give you all the diamonds and bling you want in the world." I say while facing down with my elbows placed on my knees.

"Mbatha you know I cannot do that you are going to be a father atleast I'm giving you something your wife failed to give you... A son." she says her voice sounds like it's breaking.

"Sinokuhle's ngithini? angimfuni lo mtana." (I Dont want that child)

"I'm not going to abort my child." she roars at me. With such speed I did not even realize how my hands landed on her soft skin anger took the best of me she deserved to feel slight pain in order to become fearful of what I might do if she does not abort the damn fetus.

That night when I got home I found my wife waiting for me in the lounge with my favorite silky lingerie on her body hugging her tight fire desire and lust ran through my mind immediately but washed off when I traced back to Slindokuhle if she might not have got rid of it.

"Hau Mbatha I put all this effort to looking this good for you but you don't look impressed." she says with her lips curved sadly as if she is about to cry.

I walk to her to reassure her that I am more than impressed.

"Cha Sthandwa saam you look amazing." I twirl her around just to get a closer view on her sexy body.

"What's the occasion love." I whisper to her ear. She turns to look at me with tears in her eyes.

"Yini baby khuluma Nami." (talk to Me) I say to her.

She shakes her head and laughs while her eyes pierce like pearls ready to land on my hands.

"I'm pregnant Mbatha Nkulunkulu answered our prayer." she says. I should be happy we finally going to have a child our first child after we tried for 9 years at some point I wanted to take a second wife just to get a heir but for this woman right here i knew that would break her. I hold onto her with my eyes closed this is a blessing that had took time to land on us I'm grateful for this.

"Ngiyaothanda yezwa Makhumalo." I peck her lips ready to devour her. end of flashback.

I look at the frame on my desk and smile seeing my wife's gorgeous smile my family is not complete without Qiniso. I have wronged Sinokuhle but I was not going to lose my family over my lustful desires.

Nyaki's POV:

Slindile has been very welcoming. She allowed me to stay with her for the time being although all I want to do is curl myself in

my bedroom until this dream comes to an end. I miss him I wish I had enough time to tell him what happened right there at the spot lost myself I lost my dignity and my pride.

"Eat up here this will calm you down." Sli says handing me a bowl filled with soup. I refuse to eat but with her pity eyes for me I just allow myself too.

"You deserve to be happy I'm sorry about it all friend." she reassures me.

"I might've told Qiniso where you were on Saturday." she hesitantly says.

"Mgani I'm sorry but I was worried about you I tried calling but you didn't pick up I thought you were in danger." she worriesly says I nod my head to show her that I am not mad at her she did what any other worried friend would do.

I open my mouth to speak but nothing gets out besides the tears rolling down my face.

"Qiniso." that's all I say before breaking down and allowing my sobs to be the music to my ears. She gently brushes my back hushing me.

Insert 28

Mbatha's POV:

My son is not a weakling he will never love no woman just as much as he loved Sibongile she will pass and go. I was hoping this lands me back into his life so I can right my wrongs I don't have enough time. I can feel my time coming to an end the countless ins and out of the hospital have become a norm to me.

"I hope you used protection when you slept with her." I say then gulp down my whiskey.

"I did everything you said I should do." he says.

"Not everyone will understand why I am doing this but you surely did Ezenkosi." I say facing him. Everyone has a price that's no lie he had his already.

I hand him a brown envelope filled with stacks of money to thank him.

It's no lie Ezenkosi is rich but his company has been struggling for a while which has been quite difficult to get the resources he needs to build his company again.

He fixes his buttons before taking the money and leaves.

I heave out a sigh a father's love is just as equivalent to a mother's love men have a connection with their sons through emotions. I am hoping to connect with my son he has no where to go he needs his father more than ever and I am going to step up for him. I'm hopeful he will let me in.

Qiniso's POV:

What is it that I do wrong I have been faithful to her in this short period of time we were together. I thought we were in love. Anger fills my heart and replaces the shame I have for myself for being a weak men. I slam the empty bottle of brandy on the wall and charge anything in my way. This is all Sibongile's fault. WHY DID SHE LEAVE ME TO BE ALONE!

My tears keep strolling down my face the more I remove them with the back of my hand the more my sobs get loud. I thought I was going to be happier. She had much more resemblance to Sibongile. Her innocence her laughter and her eyes made me be her puppet.

"I HATE YOU NYAKI." I scream at the top of my lungs hoping for this pain to go away.

"Why Sibongile? Why did you leave me in this world huh."

"SIBONGILE!!! " I say while landing on the staircase.

I hear the knob of the door turn but my mind is occupied to look out to who it is.

" Bafo" he says trying to find a way to get to me through the glass and broken items on the floor.

"Ngi la manje khala bafo." he says placing my head on his chest. Sfundu has been my only family since I have been labeled a disgrace by my father. My mother always reminded me of how much I ruined her life when my father poured acid on her face since she saw it ideal to blackmail Mbatha when she was pregnant with me. I would get locked outside the house and only be allowed back in the following day as I was a reminder I have my father's features and that always triggered her to hate me with passion.

"Why am I being punished in the name of love Nam ngafuna." I say with my head buried under my legs.

"You will receive love you deserve it." he says.

"All this money doesn't mean anything to me when I have no family to love no kids to hold and no pride in my heart." I say. All I ever wanted was to have a family. "And you will have that I got

your back just hang in there." he says.

Nyaki's POV:

I keep checking his socials but nothing has popped up he blocked my number. It has been a week of heartbreak and torture.

I just wish I could find a way to reach out to him how will this even work cause I even work for him.

I get up from bed and head to the bathroom to perform my routine when I get back I wear a formal skirt and blouse with black stilettos.

"Good morning Amy I know I'm quite late but I was hoping to speak to Mr Khumalo . Is he in his office?"I ask the receptionist.

" Good morning Ms Mawubeni unfortunately he has not been to work this whole week His P. A Sharol will be taking over till he comes back. " she says I was hoping to find him here but nothing.

" Veronica has been asking about you there is a lot that you need to do and she is quite upset because you have been missing work too. " she informs me. Good thing I wore a decent

outfit today as I could say I was on my way to my working station.

"I'm quite sorry about that let me go talk to Veronica." I say.

"You do not just get up and do as you please you work for us abide by the rules or leave... You Understand?" she says with her eyes fixated on the paperwork on her desk.

I nod my head obnoxiously

"Yes mam I'll make sure I don't repeat that mistake again." I say.

"We have missed two important clients that were supposed to give us the green light of building shopping centers in the Free State find a way to bring them back by the end of this week!"she commands.

" I'll do just that. " I head out of her office to resume back to my work space I wish Slindile was working here I feel lonely.

Insert 29

Nyaki's POV:

I have been distracting myself from this whole ordeal work is going quite well although I creep here and there so Qiniso does not see me. My baby bump is not visible as yet. Oh damn I have to tell my parents about this as well as Slindile. A part of me feels really guilty as I have not made any effort to reach out to my parents. I'm such a bad daughter hey.

I'm packing away the stacks of files that are untidy on my desk ready to go home I have to do something about my hair my dreadlocks have so much growth when they not plaited. I might need to go to the salon this weekend.

I mightve rushed a little to have someone on this life journey with me but being independent has always been my goal more than anything. I open my door and switch off the light in my office lately I have been staying late in the office catching up on what I have missed. My coat is in my arms winter is approaching soon I always carry my coat in case I feel cold. I have a few paperwork packed in my bag so I can finish my work at home. I get out my car keys from my bag to unlock the car. I see Sharol opposite me what is she doing here I'm usually

the last employee to leave the building.

"Oh hey Sharol didnt see you there." I say giving her a smile. She stares at me and fakes a smile.

"Well what can I say." she says... Okay I'm guessing she does not like me.

"You broke him Nyakallo." she adds.

I'm shocked how does she know what happened.

"What?" that's all I say.

"You brought him back into a dark place he had been trying to get out after his wife past." she says.

"I didn't do anything." I say.

"And with Ezenkosi really? You never deserved a good man like Qiniso." my tears are already out really? You never deserved a good man like Qiniso." my tears are already out I don't know what to say to her.

"You are nothing like Sibongile you surely used him to get this job." she says.

"I love Qiniso I would never do anything like that to hurt him I was drugged okay!" I say defending myself.

"Oh please one day I hope you suffer for all that you have done may the same pain you caused unto him be brought back to you." she says then gets in her car and speeds off.

"Mama I Dont like it here I want to come home." I cry to her

"What happened why you crying?"she asks. I couldn't consume my tears any longer I let them out with a loud sob that follows. I calm down and explain to my mom what happened.

" Maybe you should come home for a while I don't like it when you dealing with so much alone. " she says.

" I hear you." I say removing my tears with my hands.

"How do you feel about resigning?" she says.

"Mrs Molapa opened a new business here it's going really well they just need someone who is experienced to help them and you have the qualifications Nana." she adds.

I don't know how to feel about this.

"I'll think about it." I say. We continue talking about casual things before ending the call. She really tried cheering me up and I'm more than grateful for having here with me.

Insert 30

Meetings after meetings it's quite hectic not only that but the floors of this building are something else sometimes the elevators are occupied and I have to take the stairs which is quite draining. I'm entering the second month of working here and my heart is still not at ease I haven't seen Qiniso in such a long time. I try my level best not to stand in Sharol's way cause she clearly has a way with her mouth why is she even concerned about Qiniso like that?

A knock goes through my door I look up and see Amy she is so sweet she has made it a habit by bringing me coffee every morning I do the same too by bringing her lunch and we chat a storm during our break time.

"I hope I did not catch you at a wrong time." she says coming forward with two cups of coffee.

"Not at all I was just checking the statistics." I say.

"Okay well I'm that case... I see the little bun is starting to come out." she teases well I'm that case... I see the little bun is starting to come out." she teases we laugh lightly.

"It does not even show that much I just can't wait to finally meet my baby." I say caressing my stomach.

"Judging by your character you going to be a great mother." she says. That melted my heart.

"I just wish I could raise my baby with the father present in his life." I say.

"Have you tried talking to him?" she asks.

"He blocked me and he hasn't been to work in the longest of time and plus Sharol has made it her duty to make him recover." I say.

"She has always been like that I know you hate being pitied but just so you know I'm here for you always." she says.

"Thank you." I take her hands and wrap them with mine.

"Do you atleast have an idea when he will be coming back to work?" I ask.

"He has not informed me he just canceled all his meetings and gave most of his duties to Sharol." she says.

I heave out a sigh and take my coffee bringing it closer to my lips.

"I'll leave you to yet busywe will talk after work hours." she gives me a hug then disappears.

I needed the toilet I drank too much liquids which almost caused my bladder to pop. I get out the toilet and I bump into Sharol she looks at me and walks off. I pass by Amy's work

Station as there seems to be commotion.

"Unfortunately Mr Khumalo is not available today." says Amy.

"Make the damn phone call or tell me about his whereabouts."
says the angry man.

"That goes against our work ethics." she responds.

I take a look at this man and he has the same features as Qiniso.

"Ngizo buya and he better be here." he says.

Once he leaves the building I reach out to Amy.

"What was that all about?" i ask.

" Probably one of his clients that are upset about him ditching
work. " she says.

" That could probably be so. " I respond

We chat up a bit before I head back to my station.

But who could that be?

I'm on my way to the doctor for a check up my bump seems to be appearing for a mother on her first trimester. It's true when they they pregnancy does change a woman's physical features my lips have become much more bigger than before and my complexion has become more lighter in all honesty I think it suits me quite well. I'm sitted in the doctors room waiting for Ms Naidoo to arrive and examine how my baby has been doing so far. A part of me wishes it could be a boy and I hope he has his father's features maybe in that way Qiniso will accept the child.

"Good afternoon Ms Mawebeni." says the doctor behind me. I turn my head to face her return the gesture and give her a warm smile.

"I see the baby is ready to pop any minute now." she says while releasing a slight chuckle.

"Not yet doc." i say smiling and caressing my stomach.

" Well in that case let's get you checked out." "she says. I get up

from my chair and walk to where she is leading me.

She leads me to a changing room as soon as I'm done changing I return to the main room to get a scan.

" Hold on now the gel is quite cold. "she says before applying it on my belly.

And indeed it is cold I thought it wouldn't be this cold.

I flinch a but and giggle after that.

While she is moving the ultrasound I keep staring at the screen looking at my unborn baby. I can't believe it the beauty of our dead love is here. A tear drops on the pillow of the bed but nevertheless my eyes are still stuck on the screen.

"I see the head." she says. I nod my head while my eyes are still fixitated on the screen.

We are back in her office she is drafting up my file on how my checkup went.

"So when will I know the gender

"I ask.

She smiles.

"In our next checkup that's when you will know the gender." she says. I nod my head and continue waiting for her to finish up.

"I advise that you stop stressing cause it affects the baby." she says while handing me pills.

"That will be it for today Ms Mawubeni." she adds.

I take the pills and head out of her office.

Once I have reached my apartment she is drafting up my file on how my checkup went. "So when will I know the gender

"I ask.

She smiles.

"In our next checkup that's when you will know the gender." she says. I nod my head and continue waiting for her to finish up.

"I advise that you stop stressing cause it affects the baby." she says while handing me pills.

"That will be it for today Ms Mawubeni." she adds.

I take the pills and head out of her office.

Once I have reached my apartment I look around it for the last time this might be the right decision for me. This is for my baby and me.

I was never good enough for him his only true love was Sibongile.

Amy's POV

Being a receptionist can be draining having the same basic routine by smiling and offering to help rude customers can be a drag sometimes.

Right after the encounter with that mysterious man im left at my desk stacking up the client's files in such a foul mood.

People can be disrespectful at times when they don't get what they want.

"Hello!" yells a lady in front of me. I look up and stare at her.

I quickly get up from chair and give her an apology she looks irritated I guess.

"Good day Madam." I say.

"Good afternoon." she says.

"I'm looking for Qiniso where can I find him?" she asks looking in all directions hoping he jolts up.

"Unfortunately he is not at the office mam would you like me to pass the message to him?" I ask.

"Where can I find him" she asks.

"I have no clue mam would you like me to pass the message" I ask again.

"No thank you that would be it." she says before leaving the building.

She turns before reaching a distance away from me.

"Tell him Nolwazi was here." she says before disappearing.

But who is she thou?

Insert 32

Nyaki's POV:

3 months have passed by and I still haven't seen Qiniso right now my attention has been on my child. I've decided that going back home will be the best decision for me. I won't be on my toes trying to not get on any body's head. This week is my last before I get with packing.

I get in the building and head to my station a few paperwork needs to be filled. I get busy with work and snack on some fruits Slindile forced me to eat.

"Good morning mommy to be." she says entering my station with a cup of tea and coffee on her hands.

"Well good morning." I say without looking at her.

"Seems like you have a busy day ahead of yourself." she says. I sigh.

"Indeed and it's going really bad I still need to hand in my resignation letter." I reply.

She puts her cup on the desk. I guess it's time for the serious talk.

"Are you sure about your decision though." she asks.

"I took some time to think about it I just came here to find work this place doesn't have much in store for me." I say.

"But you have me." she says.

"I know and I'm very thankful for you being in my life but I have to complete my journey with my baby." I say.

She nods and takes back her coffee.

"I see your baby bump is growing quite big." she says.

"I'm really happy you didn't go ahead with abortion no matter who the father of the baby is." she says.

"I would not do that to my baby no matter what the outcome is I still choose to look out for my child through it all." I say.

I look at the drafted letter in front of me I guess I'm really doing this. I get up from my sit and head to Sharol's office.

On my way there my abdomen seems to be in pain I stand a little and balance myself on the wall waiting for the pain to go away. A while later the pain goes away I continue walking till I bump into someone I stand a little and balance myself on the wall waiting for the pain to go away. A while later the pain goes away I continue walking till I bump into someone I look up to who it is. I cannot believe it he is back.

"Qiniso" I say. He looks at me then looks at my bump with disgust. I cover up my stomach even though it won't help cause I look like I'm carrying a balloon in me. He proceeds to walk away.

"I came to drop off my resignation letter." I say. She looks at me and smirks before taking it in.

"And why is that?" she asks.

"I'll be going home and I think that's the best decision for me." I say.

"Finally." she says.

"What exactly is your problem with me?" I just had to ask her.

"I have no problem with you Mawubeni you just need to learn to keep your hands to yourself not everything needs you and definitely not everyone." she says.

"Well I suggest you do the same cause you were never involved to begin with." I say.

She keeps quiet and gets busy on her laptop.

"Enjoy the rest of the day... Sharol." I say then head out of her

office.

This is it it's done. I've just been granted to finish this week off and receive my last pay check before leaving well that's what has been mentioned in my contract. I head to my office and pack my belongings.

"Do you need help with anything." I turn around and see Amy standing at the door.

"Oh no I'm done I just need to put this in my car." I say.
"I'll carry that you a pregnant woman not a machine." she says.
I look at her and think about how sweet she has been towards me. I'm going to miss her as well as Sli.

"Thank you Amy for all that you have done." I tell her unexpectedly.

"Like I said I'm always here." she says.

We put the boxes in the boot before I could get into the driver's seat I give her a hug before leaving the building I'll just be carrying my laptop bag and a few documents with me till Friday and submit them.

Insert 33

Qiniso's POV:

"Kahle kahle Yini lena oyifuna kimi" (what do you want from me?)i ask him.

"Son" he says proudly coming near me. I back away and give him a death stare which restrains him.

"I want to fix things." he says.

"You are a joke there is nothing that will ever be fixed." I say.

"Qiniso ngiyaxolisa Ngiyazi ukuthi nginecala kukho konke yingakho ngifuna ukulungisa izinto." (I know I'm guilty of everything and that's why I want to fix things.) he says.

"stay away from me you were the buildup of my mother's hatred."i say.

"I can't so... "I stop him before he could finish talking.

"Don't call me that.

"You killed my Sinokuhle this scar right here will always be a reminder of how undeserving I was to Sinokuhle. " he stops to think for a second I am losing my patience right here. They will always be a reminder of my pain I'm glad Sinokuhle is dead otherwise I would've killed her myself.

"Can't you see that I'm trying here!?" he says.

" You are supposed to be here with me son things didn't go well for you and that woman because you need to connect with your father son! "he adds.

How does he know that?

" What are you talking about? "

" You should be thanking me Nyakallo is out of your life she was going to be a problem this is our chance to mend things. " this old man is crazy.

" You trapped her? "

" It was the only way." he says. I walk away slowly this is our chance to mend things. " this old man is crazy. " You trapped her? "

"It was the only way." he says. I walk away slowly all this time I blamed the wrong person what have I done?

It's been long since I have entered this place it feels new to me being here and reclaiming my success.

I need to talk to Sharol and keep up on what I have missed.

"Is this Mrs Waltz file" I ask going through it this is shitty so much is been missing in this file.

"Where is the rest of the document?"i ask.

" It's all in there. "she says.

" There is nothing here I want this file complete! "I say.

" Well how about you go ask Nyakallo she is the one that handled all the files. "she says. She got a mouth now.

" This is nonsense I want you to complete it and I want it in my office. "I demand.

" Sir you know that's impossible. "she says.

" Watch what you say complete the damn file. "I demand before leaving her office.

On my way to my office I bump into her.

She is glowing much more beautiful than ever.

I look at her stomach she really is pregnant.

This is bigger than me I walk away from here till I hear her sweet voice calling out my name.

"Qiniso." she says.

I continue walking although I wish I could go back and just hold her tight and tell her I'm never leaving her side.

Insert 34

Nyaki's POV:

B

Telling Slindile I'm leaving had to be the hardest thing I had to do we cried till there were no tears left in our eyes. She will always be my day one she welcomed me and made my stay happy here.

I'm back in my apartment packing my luggage.

"I'm going to miss you" she says standing at the door.

"I'm going to miss you too." I reply.

"I'm just a call away." I reassure her.

"It won't be the same life without you will be so difficult." she says.

"Oh wow friend." I say.

"I never thought my journey would end this quick." I say.

"Don't say it like that it's rather much more of a new beginning."
she says.

"A new beginning I guess so."

A new journey ahead of us my baby and I.

We need this a new start of fresh air and new found happiness.

A knock interrupts our conversation Slindile goes to check it out
while I pack.

She comes back to the room.

"You might need to see this." she says.

I'm now worried.

I head to the lounge and I find him sitting on the couch.

"I'll be outside if you need me." she says and walks out of the apartment.

"What are you doing here." I ask this time I don't hesitate or feel any electrifying feeling this is the same man that threw me out of his house.

"I came for you." he says.

"I don't need you." I reply as quick as I can.

"I want to do right by you I know I did you wrong but in here to fix it I want to be a part of your life and my child's life." he says. So now he claims the child.

"This is not your child." I say.

" The moment you threw me out you knew what you were doing I was like dirt to your face. "I say.

" We don't need you. " I add.

" Nyaki please unyagilimaza. "(you are hurting me) he says.

" This was not even love to begin with unyagilimaza. "(you are hurting me) he says.

" This was not even love to begin with you just wanted someone to replace your wife and I was that person. "I say with teary eyes.

" I was never enough to have your heart all by myself I was never perfect enough your heart belonged to Sibongile not me. "I say with the last drops of tears falling from my face.

" I want to move on from that a part of me was taken from her death but that does not mean I'm not ready to love. "

" I want to love with you by my side I carry a lot of baggage but I'll do whatever it takes to show you I'm here with you through it all you make me feel vulnerable and young. " he says.

" Let me in your heart again

ma

"he says.

" It's too late for that. "I say.

He comes closer to me and wraps his hands around my back.

"I need you Nyaki. "he says.

He brings his lips closer to mine and tries to kiss me I want to resist It all but I'm falling for it too.

" Let me in you sthandwa saam. "he says.

" I can't do that. "I say.

" I'm leaving "

" You can't leave me here I need you Nyaki. "

" It's too late what's done is done. "I conclude.

" I have to get packing please leave. "I say.

" Nyaki please I'm sorry sthandwa saam. "he says.

" I'm sorry too but I'm not sorry for choosing myself this time. "I say.

"Please get out. "I say.

He loosens his hands from my waist and kisses my forehead.

" I'll forever love you. "he says before leaving.

I put my hand on my phone to stop myself from sobbing out loud.

I just want it to go away.

I love him I still do but I'm just not good enough... I never was.

Insert 35
5 Years Later

I'm standing outside the supermarket while holding Babalwa's hand grocery shopping is not my thing and with my little one always wanting things makes it hard for me to refuse. We complete our shopping with mostly packets of sweets for her. "Mommy aunty Slindile." she says pointing on my cellphone screen. I slide answer and put her on loud speaker while I unpack the plastics.

"Godmother." I say.

"Eish mother unjani?" she says.

"We are doing well right Babalwa?" I ask.

My daughter replies with a yes before running off to the lounge to watch TV.

"How is North West treating you?" she asks.

"It has been good its just my daughter and I hey how is it that side?"i ask

" Siyasha la ai"(we are burning here)

I laugh lightly.

"Eish I miss you Yaz." I say.

"I miss you more I'll be coming in to visit very soon." she says.

"Bring a bottle of wine with you when you come." I say.

"Haibo don't you live with your parents?" she asks.

"No friend I got myself aini apartment the view is gorgeous." I say.

"Chesa Wena girl." she says. We close the chat off with casual stuff and I resume my duties in the kitchen before I clean the house. Being back home has taught me a lot mostly that being patient with myself and my future putting myself first and thinking ahead. Ever since that day I have not heard from Qiniso I miss him at times I always try stopping myself from calling him. He has never reached out to Me I guess moving on

has been going smooth for him while I'm still attached to him. I'm in the bathroom cleaning shower and packing over the mess Babalwa made she reminds me of him. Qiniso. They have the same eyebrows and lips I'm really happy it got to be his child and not Ezenkosi's. Speaking about it I've never heard from Ezenkosi besides the fact that his company was going broke if it wasn't for Mr Mbatha heloi g him out he would definitely be begging for a job. My phone rings again from the counter. I wipe my hands with a towel and fetch it. Two calls in one day I feel so important.

"Hey Amy" I say.

"Mommy ka Babalwa." she says. Zulu is rubbing off her in a good way thou since she is white. I'll never get used to this.

"Yes it is how are you sweetheart?" I ask.

"Besides work I am in need of something to help me get rid of this salt." she says. I laugh never knew she had this side.

"What about you yoh supposed to be getting laid." she asks.

"Yoh no I don't have time for that we have toys Amy." I say while laughing in between.

"I could never cope I would need the real thing." she says.

I was about to speak till she told me to hold on for a second.

"Good afternoon I'm here to see my husband is he in his office?" says the person on the line.

"Mr Khumalo is in a meeting but you may go through." Says Amy.

Wait what am I hearing correctly?

"Nyaki" she says.

I zip my mouth for a while while trying to process it all.

"I know you heard it all." she says.

I close my eyes it all sinks in now he moved on.

"Is he married?" that's all I ask.

"Girlfriend don't do this." she says.

"Amy is he married?" I ask again.

"Yes he is." she finally gives me.

"How long had he been married for?" I ask.

"3 years." she replies softly in some sense you could say she didn't want me to hear that.

"I'll call you later." I say before hanging up.

I walk back to the lounge and look at my daughter watching TV.

I am your mother and father I am going to be here to protect you always.

I love you Babalwa.

I search up for his marriage and its everywhere how did I miss this?

Do I know this woman?

I zoom into their wedding pictures and he really is married.

She looks beautiful maybe she is much more enough than what I could have been.

I zoom into their wedding rings and her ring seems to be so expensive.

But why Qiniso? I ask myself.

Maybe I was never enough yes in fact I wasn't enough for him. I don't need him in my life

From now on it's my daughter and I till the end and that's my promise to keep.

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