

PROLOGUE

Nqobile



"Don't wait up"

I heave a sigh

Putting my phone back on the counter

I waited and waited

Like for hours and hours

And at the last hour, just near midnight

He sends me a lousy text

Nothing , but just a lousy text

Not even a call

A single phone call

Like something that wouldn't have taken even a minute

Just passing that message through a call

But I know he doesn't give a damn

So why should he bother himself

He's been quite the whole weekend

I lean over by the counter

And look at the food warmer

I've been checking on his food

For like the past three hours

I was even scared to text or even call him

Because he would ignore me

Or just tell me off

Me: Lord! This is not what I signed up for

I shake my head slowly

And walk over to the food warmer

I take out his food, and place it on the kitchen counter

Without even covering it

If this is the treatment in this marriage

Then I will settle for it

And I'll also serve what I'm being served

I switch my phone off

And walk over to the bedroom

I'll be damned

To just succumb to this

Just because I have no one

No family to rely on

Yes, my life is messed up

I accepted this situation

Because I thought I won't have better

But now, I just don't care

Even if I don't find better, it's okay

It's not the end of the world

Something's are just not destined for people like me

I get in bed , and switch off the bed side lamp

Hopefully I can get some sleep

And not worry myself the whole night

Especially about a grown ass man

Who's probably not even giving a rats ass about me wherever he is

Clearly he's being served, where he's been since Friday

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Siya



Lisa: Mpho doesn't have shoes for creche

I look at her

Lisa: I know you're

She heaves a sigh

Lisa: baby, I appreciate you. I appreciate you being here for us, and working this hard just for us. I really do, and I understand sometimes it gets too much. We demand a lot, but that's what it takes to raise

a family . I wouldn't expect you to know anything about this, because of the life you had before us . But you have to understand now, that things are different. And we need you , I can't take care of all these kids all by myself. I need your help, my salary is close to nothing when it comes to their needs

I just nod

And she smiles

Lisa: thank you love

I get up from the bed

Me: I have to go to work

Lisa: are you going home first?

Me: no

She walks over to me

And places her hands on my arms

Lisa: baby I love you

Me: and I love you

She pecks my lips

Me: I'll see you

Lisa: come back tonight

Me: I'll send the money for the shoes

Lisa: thank you, you'll come back right?

Me: mhm, yes

She hands me my jacket

Me: bye

I take it and peck her cheek

And walk out getting into my car

Me: fuck!

I take out my phone and make a call

And it takes me to voicemail

I heave a sigh shaking my head

I drive out , just lost in thought

How the fuck did I get here?

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Hunter



Tt: is this the right one?

I look at him

Tt: he was

My phone beeps and I take it out

"She's left the house"

I read the text and respond back

"Follow her, and do your duty"

I put my phone back in my pocket

I turn and look at Tt

Tt:canl?

Me: I need to go oversee a few of my business, I'm gonna need you here. So stay put

Tt: what about him?

Me: just

I grab the knife from him, and walk over to the boy

I look at him as he cries

Begging for mercy with his eyes, with his mouth gagged

Me: why gag him? He's just a child, Tt just stop with the drama

He laughs

I slit the boys throat

Blood comes gushing out

I drop the knife to the floor

Me: mxm!

I look at Tt

And he has his brows raised

Like he's somehow shocked

Me: clean this mess, and have Gail bring me a new change of clothes

He nods

Me: take the body to the mother, just drop it at the gate or hang it over the fence.
Whatever you do with it, I just

want it out of here. And returned back to it's people, especially that woman

I walk out , just all disgusted by the blood on my hands and my t-shirt

Not that I mind it though

I just hate messy jobs

And this one, was just useless

I drive out heading to Sandton

It'll be a long drive

I've been in shadows for far too long

Its time now to just fulfil what's been awaiting me

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INSERT 01

Nqobile

I hate myself for even being here at this moment

It's like I'm just an idiot

Like I can't think for myself

I honestly feel like I'm just a pawn of some kind

Mrs Ngidi: where is my son?

You cannot miss her attitude

This woman hasn't even welcomed me in her house

And already she's questioning me

Like I'm her son's keeper

Me: probably where he spends most of his time and nights

She scoffs

Mrs Ngidi : and shouldn't that be his home ?

Me: unfortunately not, he hasn't been home since Friday. I don't know where he is, he doesn't bother to communicate with me about anything. Unless he sends me a text, near midnight. And that's it, I don't know where he is

She claps her hands once

Mrs Ngidi: weeeeh! That man dealt me, he went out there and took an orphan into my son's house. Like a whole ghetto street kid, into this family. Look at your doings, you can't even put your own house in order, you have no idea where your husband is at. What nonsense is that?

She rolls her eyes laughing

Mrs Ngidi : I have never heard of such

Me: with all due respect

Mrs Ngidi: don't you dare disrespect me young girl, you are nothing but a failure. That's why your man will go out there, where there are real woman

Me: ma please

Mrs Ngidi: I am not your mother, she's dead and I'm right here. So please don't misunderstand, yourself being in my family. Like you're my child

A lump gets stuck on my throat

Tears burn my eyes

Me: if I can't

Mrs Ngidi: no, you can't come to me . You're just a useless wife, we should go to your grandmother. And request our money back, clearly it went to waste. Now, if there's nothing else . You can vacate my property, and just leave me in peace

A tear drops

I just can't help at how her words always get to me

As much as I try to avoid her

And not let what she says get to me

It's just too much sometimes

Me: I came here, thinking you'll have some sympathy.

And just maybe sit us down, so we can

Mrs Ngidi: no, leave. I am not interested in whatever brought you here

Me: this marriage is not what I hoped it would be, I tried my best to make it work but

Mrs Ngidi: just leave, you people owed us a lot of money. Pity we got nonsense for a payment, you're not even worth every single cent owed to us

She clicks her tongue and turns back inside her house

Me: I tried to make this work

She just slams the door on my face

My heart shatters into pieces

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Hunter

Me: and?

Mlu: she had gone to the inlaws, as usual the mother inlaw wasn't welcoming at all.

She left in tears, stopped on the side of the road. I believe, to gather herself before she got back on the road

Me: now?

Mlu: she's just entered the building

Me: how does she look?

Mlu: distraught

Me: keep at it

I drop the call

As a message comes through

"Excellent service as always"

I delete the message after reading it

Switching on the TV

And the death of the boy, is the first thing I stumble upon

I pour myself a glass of water and down it

Watching the news, as they speak of the horrific events of his death

As if they were present when it happened

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Nqobile

Me: good morning Lisa

She smiles

Lisa: Mrs N

I chuckle

Me: any messages for me?

Lisa: no

Me: thanks, please hold off on all my calls

Lisa: busy day?

Me: something like that

I walk past her desk

And open my office door

I lean against the door

Just feeling like shit

I shouldn't have gone there

By now, I should know that woman would never accept me

It shouldn't hurt anymore

But it still does

I take a deep breath and gather myself

I walk over to my desk

Placing my bag on the desk

And I move over to my chair side

I look outside through the blind folds

Just watching birds fly and the busyness of morning traffic

The way people fill these streets in the morning

You'll swear there's just peace reigning

When only most of us are just trying to make it

But if you were to look into the insides of us all

You'll be left shocked

My office phone rings, I turn as it catches my attention

And I grab it answering

Me: Ngobile Ngidi hello?

I just hear him breathing, after a sigh

And my mood just gets worse than seeing his mother

I don't know what I was expecting to get from that woman

She has hated me from day one

Saw that her son deserved someone better than me

I sit down on my chair saying nothing

As he's also quite

I really thought MaNgidi will feel for me

And she will interfere into this marriage

Just to speak to her son

I guess I just hoped too high

By his silence

I take it his mother hasn't told him, that I was there

If she did

He would be going off at me right now

For even stepping foot in his parents yard

I will grant him his silence as well

He's probably home now

That's if he's bothered to even go back

After being gone all weekend

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INSERT 02

Siya

I get up from the couch

I've been on the couch for hours now

And it's not helping my situation with anything

What I need is a plan

Of which I don't have right now

I walk over to the kitchen

And look over at the plate

The food is appetizing

Or at least it would have been

I grab the plate annoyed

And throw the contents in the bin

I shake my head , placing the plate in the sink

I don't understand the message behind this plate

But it wasn't a mistake being placed there

My phone beeps, I take it out and check the message

It's from Lisa

"Don't forget to send the money"

I click my tongue

Sending her R200

I switch my phone off

As the door bell rings, and I head over to the door opening

Mom: you just married

Me: hi mom

I say with a smile

She heaves a sigh

I open the door wider

Making way for her

And she walks in

Yes of course, her eyes already wandering around

I know she has something to say

She never ever doesn't have anything to say, when she comes here

We walk to the kitchen

We sit down

Mom: I had to come here, because that wife of yours was at my house this morning

Me : she was ?

Mom: yes, and she must stop doing that. I'm not her mother

Me : it won't hurt , for you two to just get along

Mom: never! If she wanted peace between us, she wouldn't look down on you the way she does

Me: she doesn't

Mom: stop standing up for her, you were not there. You didn't hear half the things she said, that girl thinks herself very highly. And she doesn't see you with anything, no wonder she

hasn't given you any kids . I don't get what she's good for, being here as your wife. She came crying, that you haven't been home since Friday. But I get here, and here you are. Clearly, she's not a good wife for you. Your father sure dealt us, with this one

I look down rubbing my eyes

Mom: must be that big job she holds, that makes her feel so high and mighty. Even as the orphan that she is, and just a no choice of a woman. Because no man would ever go for such a woman as a wife

Me: I love my wife, so please

Mom: what do you know about love? You're just with her cause

you feel you don't have a choice, and indeed you don't.

Because your father chose this for you

This is never going to end

And she will never have anything good to say about my wife

Me: but she's not all that bad, just if she can change a few things about her . Her weight just embarrasses me, l just can't . And I don't find her appealing anymore, she just turns me off the way she looks. I am not body shaming, but I've realised I just don't like fat women

My mother smiles

Mom: that girl is just undesirable

I chuckle

Me: there's something I need to tell you

Mom : don't tell me you got her pregnant

Me: no, but I've been hiding something

Mom: yes?

Me: I have a son, and he's 2 years old now

She pops her eyes out

Me : please don't tell dad this , I'm just telling you because I know you want grandkids. And that's something that won't happen with ...

Mom: spare me, like why didn't you tell me all along? I missed a whole two years, of my grandson's life. Kodwa Siyabonga

Me : I'm sorry , I just didn't know how to tell you

Mom: where is the mother?

Me: she's around

Mom: this is great news, I need to meet her. And my grandson

Me: I will arrange that

She smiles

And I don't think I've ever seen her this happy

Mom: now that woman ...that's the woman that should be in this house, as your wife.
Raising your son together

I shake my head saying nothing

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Nqobile

My feet are killing me

I just cannot wait

To get home, take a bath and just relax

Me: sorry

She looks up, as I crouch down picking the file she dropped

As I bumped into her

Lisa: it's okay, I wasn't looking really. It's this stupid baby daddy of mine, like what man sends his own kids R200? Like

where has R200 ever fed or clothed any baby?

I wouldn't know

Lisa: all men are trash I swear, in the beginning they act all good. But just wait, until they show you their true colours

She clicks her tongue shaking her head

Me: goodbye Lisa, just be bright and early tomorrow

I say with a smile walking away

Lisa is a character on her own

I'm just keeping her as my PA

Because she's good at her job

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Hunter

Me: is everything finalized?

Tt: yes

Me: alright, keep in touch

Tt: if there's any changes, I'll let you know

Me: sure

I drop the call, and look at the estate agent

Me: I'll take the house, cash

She pops her eyes

Me: when can I have the deed of the house, and sign off?

Her: Mr Wayne, the house is

Me: I know how much it is, I saw the price

Her: and you don't want to go through the bank?

Me: you're a terrible sales agent, just be glad you made a sale. I want this townhouse, have everything ready for me in two days

I take a look one more time and walk out

Getting into my car

And my phone flashes a message

"She's home, and he's back"

I read the text as it pops up

I take a deep breath driving out

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INSERT 03

Nqobile

Siya: is this how things are going to be in this house?

Now he wants to talk to me

After going AWOL on me the whole weekend

I went to his mother

And she kicked me out like I'm a stray dog

He's back home now , I should grovel to him

I did not say anything to him or his mother yesterday

Me: why is your mother in my house?

He frowns

Me: I went to her house, and she kicked me out. Then she comes to my house

Siya: hey! Get off your high horse, this is my house. And my mother is welcome to come to my house, anytime she wants. What were you doing at her house, to even begin with?

Now he's lost that nice cool of his

Siya: you just love involving people into our marriage

Me: we're married because of them, wasn't I some payment my mother owed your parents? And because I had no one to stand with me, my grandmother just saw it fit to give me away to you people

Siya: us people?

He chuckles

I grab my bag

Siya: I am talking to you

Ngobile

Me: well I am going to work, so I can continue to maintain your house

Siya : so my mother was right ? You went there to downgrade me

Of course

That evil woman would say anything, just to be the

precious mother in front of her son's eyes

He lacks a backbone as a man

He will never stand up to her

Anything she says goes

Me: bye, I hope when I get back your mother will not be here

I head to the door

Siya: I fucking settled for nonsense

He clicks his tongue going to the bathroom

There's no love here

And there's never been

Siya has never seen me as anything, or even tried to make this marriage anyhow

I doubt he's even loyal

I walk in the kitchen

And his mother is busy making breakfast

Mrs Ngidi: what exactly does my son eat?

I grab my car keys from the key holder

Me: he eats wherever he stays

I haven't even greeted her

Already she's left a bitter taste in my mouth

Mrs Ngidi : you're a useless wife

Me: I will take your insults, in your house. But not in my house, let's not do that to each other

She laughs, and turns looking at me clapping her hands

Mrs Ngidi: heh my house? What house? This is my son's house

I shake my head

Mrs Ngidi: he should just take the woman who has given him a son, and just marry her.

Because you're just a waste of breath

Me: what?

She sips on her tea and ignores me

Me: what did you say? What womandid

Mrs Ngidi: I did not stutter, and there's no wind in here

Just then Siya walks in

He still hasn't bathed

They greet each other

Like I'm not even in here

And I'm just stuck on what his mother said

He sits down

Mrs Ngidi: let me dish up for you, because you settled for a waste of breath that can't even boil an egg for you

Me: Siya your mother says you have a child

Tears are burning my eyes

I swallow hard a lump that's stuck on my throat

He doesn't even bother looking at me

Me: you cheated on me, and went on to have a child with another woman?

He doesn't even bother to turn his gaze to me

It's like I'm not even talking

Mrs Ngidi: married for three years, yet there's no child. You're only gaining weight, just becoming more fat. Finishing my son's money

Me: your useless son who doesn't even make half or what I make? Exactly what does he give me, because even as a husband he fails to perform his duties in the bedroom

She pops her eyes, and he looks at me looking red with anger

I click my tongue and walk out

I get into my car, bursting into a sob

I am paying for things I don't even know

This is not the life I imagined for myself

I gather myself wiping my tears, grabbing my bag fixing my make up

And I drive out heading to work

Just when I think there's no way this man is loyal to me

I hear this

I'm sure his mother is very pleased with him

She's proud

I'll be surprised if she doesn't bring whoever this woman is to my house

The house she claims is her son's

Yet I've never seen him paying any bond

Or any of households needs

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Siya

Me : you shouldn't have told her that

Mom: mxm, she needed to

know. Her time here is limited

Me: this could just ruin things

Mom: what things? This girl is just dragging you down, and pulling you. There's nothing

she's adding in this marriage, she's just useless

I heave a sigh

Me: I I need to go somewhere, will you be leaving today?

Mom: are you kicking me out, because I know she doesn't want me here?

Me : of course not , I wasn't saying but asking

Mom: I don't want to leave, not without seeing the mother of your child and meeting my grandson

Me: I'll arrange that, but she can't come here

Mom: why? Because this is your house, and your son shouldn't be hidden from your family. They both should just come here, so I can meet them. We can't meet out there

Me: I'mmom we'll talk about this

I get up walking to the bedroom

I so hope Nqobile doesn't end up finding out who's this woman

Because that will just fuck things up

Things weren't supposed to escalate this much

But they have

And there's a baby now

It just complicates things

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Hunter

Mlu: when should I do it?

Me: when she knocks off, today

Mlu: uhm okay

Me: Mlu, don't hurt her. Just make sure she's just rattled

Mlu: got it

I drop the call

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INSERT 04

Nqobile

What a crappy day I've had

I barely even got any work done

I just couldn't get out what his mother said to me

And the fact that he didn't deny it

That says it's the truth

And I had to hear it from his mother

I'm sure she just couldn't wait to rub it on my face

Unless she's always known

But that would mean the baby is much older

I am hurt, I don't want to lie

I don't even want to pretend like I'm okay

I am not okay at all

I guess I should know this

Women always take the blame in marriages

When there's no kids

As if I'm supposed to get myself pregnant

I sure disgust Siya

He can't even hide that

He doesn't even bother to touch me

Unless he's in his feels

Lisa: Mrs N, are you okay?

I look at her

Me: I thought I'm alone

Lisa: oh yes, I am leaving now. I was just sorting out your files for tomorrow

Me: oh okay thank you

Lisa: don't work till late, go home. You're married, unlike us

I chuckle

Me: I might as well not be, my husband has gone and found himself a new home. He's even a father now

She coughs insanely

I even get worried

Me: Lisa?

She pats her chest a bit

And laughs nervously

Lisa: I am okayI'm okay

She clears her throat

Me : are you sure ? Can I get you some water ?

Lisa: no ...no I am good

She turns around

Lisa: I am really sorry, please be okay

Me: uhm

And she walks away

I just look at her until she disappears into the elevator

Me: wow!

That was just awkward in a way

I should just go as well

I hope that woman has left my house

I grab my bag, and walk out locking my office

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Siya

Lisa: you told her!

She raises her voice

Me : okay , just calm down

Lisa: don't tell me to calm down, that's my boss Siya Me: when you opened your legs for me, didn't you know she was your boss?

Lisa: that is not fair, and you know it

Me : well you started it , so don't blame me

Lisa: we're not high school kids

Me: don't act like one then, my mother is at our house. I told her, and as usual they got into it with Nqobile. And she told her

I heave a sigh

Me: and I don't know how long, was I supposed to hide Mpho?

She heaves a sigh

Lisa: this is not a normal baby mama issue

Me: just leave it to me

Lisa: I cannot afford to loose my job

Me : you won't lose your job , can you just breathe

Lisa: I hope you're right, because I made myself a fool in front of her. She caught me off guard, you should have told me that your mother knows and she told her

Me: what was she doing telling her PA, her marital issues?

Lisa: because I asked her if she's okay, she didn't

Me: what do you care, when you're busy fucking her husband?

Lisa: don't do that with me

Me: let's leave this, you and Nqobile are not friends. You shouldn't give shit about her, I hope this was the last time you act like you give a fuck about

her . Listen my mother what's to meet you , and Mpho of course

Lisa: oh?

Me : yeah , so make some time for that

Lisa: I can't we'll talk about this bye

And she drops the call

I shake my head slowly

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Nqobile

Like what madness is this?

I can't have all four tires of my car flag

It looks like a puncher

But like how come all four?

Because they were fine this morning

Not when I drove this car, this morning

And it was okay

There was nothing wrong with this car

Right now, I am rattled

And I am scared

I keep looking around

As I hear sounds

Like there's someone here

I swallow hard

Me: hello?

I listen, and it's just freaking me out

Now the silence itself it's freaking me out

Me: is there anyone here?

There's the footsteps again

I hold tight to my bag

Saying a silent prayer

Voice : can I help you ?

I let out a slight scream

And turn around looking at this guy

He moves an inch back

Him: I'm sorry I startled you

Me: please don't hurt me

Him: I won't

Me: you can take everything, even my car but it's refusing tothe tires are all flat. Just take anything, please don't hurt me

Him: do I look like a thug to you?

No!

But thugs are not written on their forehands

Now how will I know?

They wear suits these days

And drive expensive cars

Him: can I call you someone to come help youor an Uber perhaps?

Me : no

I shake my head

Me: there's no one to call

Siya is an idiot

He would not even care to meet me halfway

Him: do you work here?

Inod

Him: then ...you'll call for a mechanic tomorrow, I'm sure your car is safe here. Let me get that Uber for you

Me: no, I'll get it myself

Him: having trust issues that much huh?

I trust no one

Not where my life is concerned

Me: thanks

I turn and walk away from the parking lot

When I get outside the building

I request an Uber

I'm just glad the street is a bit busy

So I'm not stuck all alone

In case that man follows me

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INSERT 05

Nqobile

This is just pure disrespect

I don't know why this woman is still in my house

Especially after I told Siya, she should just go

He's a nightmare to stay with

But she's just the worst

I really don't need this

I just pass them going into the bedroom

I take my shoes off , taking my phone out

I call the mechanic

Him: hello

Me: Hi, it's Nqobile Ngidi. I need help with my car, all tires are flat. Although I left it at Wayne Industries. Will you be able to come check it for me, in the morning?

Him: it won't be a problem, we'll come see the car to assess the situation

Me: thank you

I drop the call

Voice: what's this about your car tires?

I take a deep breath and turn looking at him

Siya: why didn't you call?

Is he kidding me!

Siya: for how long will you ignore me? I mean, we're married at some point we have to talk to each other. We can't just be mute

Me: I have nothing to say to you

I walk over to the bathroom, taking my clothes off

Just in case he looks at me and gets disgusted

I won't undress in front of him

I've had enough drama

With his mother being here

And spilling secrets of his son

She will make sure I understand, that I'm nothing here

And I amount to nothing

Whoever this woman is , I know she's the favourite

And maybe Siya loves her

And that's why she's carried his child

I lean by the wall, as pain strikes me

Just thinking about this

I can't help but just feel hurt

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Siya

Mom: what is she sour about?

I say nothing sitting down

Mom: anyways ...

She puts away her cup of tea

Mom: she's a none factor, when will I meet your son and his mother?

Lisa is also not happy about this

I don't know if she will be okay

With now having to meet my mother

I mean , this means there's a possibility that we'll get caught out

That Ngobile will know the truth

Me: I spoke to her

Mom: you should bring them tomorrow

Me: bring them here?

Mom: yes, why not? Do you want to meet your son, on the streets like he doesn't have a home

Me: I can't bring them here, I still have to respect Nqobile. I

Mom: exactly what are you respecting there? That girl just

needs to get out of here , she's really useless I don't see her use

She gets up and walks over to the lounge

With the way Lisa was sounding

I'm even scared to call her

I heave a sigh

I know our situation is fucked up

I'm where I am because of my father

I still don't get it

He should have just left these people

But he just couldn't

Even though he knew the woman couldn't afford to pay him

I mean, the debt was for her husband

Shouldn't it have been useless when he died?

More so, be useless

When the woman died

But he still carried out his plans

Now here we are

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Hunter

My phone rings , I look at the caller

Me: yeah

Siya: my good man

Me: you still live, when will you carry out your duties?

He laughs

Siya: tomorrow I'm on it

Me : okay , I have a thing going on at my place

Siya: still in PE?

Me: no

Siya: alright, I'll hear from you

Me: sure, I'll await a report

Siya: first thing tomorrow morning

Me: let me not remind you

Siya: come on, I won't slack

Me: alright

I drop the call

And dial Mlu

Mlu : Wayne

Me : go fix that car

Mlu: it's still there?

I take out a bottle of water from the fridge Me: yeah, make sure it's all good and ready to use tomorrow. It served its purpose

Mlu: alright

Me: from here, you can lay low for a while, I will take over

Mlu: sure

I drop the call

I walk over to my study, and stand by the door

I peek in

Looking over at the picture on the wall

I'm silent for a while

I stare at the picture

Me: I will avenge you

I turn back closing the door

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Nqobile

I left early this morning, before my usual work time

I didn't want anything to do with Siya and his mother

I just left them there

It's clear they'll just do whatever they want to do

I'm just tired of everything

I walk over to check on my car

It's still on the same spot as I left it yesterday

But strange enough , the tires look okay

I may be sounding crazy right now

But they weren't this way yesterday

I can tell now they're fixed

But isn't it too early, to have had the mechanic fix them

Especially without even letting me know

I open my car, and it's all good

Nothing has happened to it

I start the car, and it starts without any problem

But I'm not crazy

I know what happened yesterday

And how I left the car

I take out my phone as I start to freak out

I make a call and after a few rings the call is answered

Him: hello

Me: hi ...it's Nqobile Ngidi, I called you yesterday

Him: yes Mrs Ngidi, we will be there around 08:00

Me : so you haven't come ?

Him: no, not yet

Strange

Me : are you certain , that no one came to fix the car ?

Him: no, I am coming myself. So no one hasn't been sent Me: okay, thank you

I drop the call

This car is all good

Like I should just be expecting an invoice right now

But I don't know who fixed the tires

This is creepy

I lock the car, and walk inside the building

Lisa: good morning Mrs N

I'm not shocked she's in already

She always gets to work early

So it's a norm to her

Me: hi Lisa, did you see anything strange or anyone you don't recognise when you arrived. Or just anyone maybe, being near my car. Like they're working on it, or something?

Lisa: no, I just saw your car by your parking spot. The taxi dropped me that side, it was just there alone

This is really strange

Me : okay

I walk past her desk, and walk in my office

I just can't help but wonder what's going on

Or what's happening

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INSERT 06

Hunter

Lisa: Mr Wayne

I look at her

She gets up fixing her dress

Lisa: uhm

Me : is Nqobile available ?

She frowns a bit

Surely because I called her with her name

Lisa: yes she's

I turn over knocking at her door

She answers from the inside

I walk in and close the door

She lifts her head and looks at me

Popping her eyes

Clearly shocked to see me here

Me: hi

Nqobile: you ...

She gets up

Nqobile: what are you doing

here?

Me: I came to see you, you looked very rattled yesterday. I

just came to check that you're okay

Ngobile: I am fine

Me: I see that ...well good , I'll be on my way

I turn back

Ngobile: wait ...

I hold the handle looking at her

Nqobile: it'll come off strange asking you this, but you saw how I left my tires yesterday

Me: flat I believe

Nqobile: I found my car fixed this morning

Me: oh

Ngobile: I guess you wouldn't

know

Me: I wouldn't

She heaves a sigh

Me: but I know, I fixed them

Ngobile: youyou fixed them

?

Me : called over someone , I hope I didn't overstep

Nqobile: no, but why would you do that?

Me: I'll pick you up at lunch time, and I'll tell you all about it

Ngobile: I

Me : see you then

I walk out

And pass by Lisa's desk

And she's just gawking at me

I just pass

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Siya

Me: what time will you be here?

Lisa: you're really expecting me to come to your wife's house?

Me: you're bringing Mpho to meet my mother

Lisa: still, why there?

Me: because it's my house too

She heaves a sigh

Me : let me know when you'll be here

I drop the call

As my mother walks down

Me: Lisa will be coming today

She smiles

Mom: I should get on with cooking, I can't wait to meet my grandson. And the woman who made you a father

I chuckle

As she moves around the kitchen

Me: don't make a feast

Mom: oh let me be

She laughs

Mom: I am happy for you, this is good for you. You're a father

now, something every man wishes and longs for. And you've been blessed with a son

I know she will gloat about this

Because she's never liked Ngobile

My father was the one who pushed for this marriage

As a payment, from Nqobile's mother

After my family helped pay for her father's hospital bills

Her mother was just drowning in debt

Before she realised he wasn't getting better

And she finally decided to switch off the machines

But the debt was there

And long after, she passed on

Before paying it off

After having an agreement with my father

That if she fails to pay it

I'll get to marry Nqobile

My mother was always against the idea of the marriage

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Ngobile

Me : Lisa I'm busy , I don't want to be disturbed

He clears his throat and I lift my head

Me : you're back

Him: and you're not packed, lunch is an hour and a half

Me: I can't do that

Him: I'm here now, so we might as well

Me : or you can just tell me why you fixed my tires without my knowledge

Him: I said I'll tell you, at that lunch

I heave a sigh

Me: Mr

Him: my name is Hunter

What kind of a name is Hunter?

White people will never cease to amaze

Me: I still don't know you

Hunter: if I wanted to hurt you, I would have long done that

What the hell!

He walks over

And I'm just caught by that

He's definitely not that old

But I can't read if he's younger either

He has this intense walk I cannot comprehend

His Adam apple doesn't rest when he speaks

His voice is just too deep of a baritone

The tattoo are just doing him justice

And he has his dreadlocks loose

Just a whole perfection of a human being

Someone who would never look at me twice

Wait

Why am I even thinking about that ?

Gosh!

I'm a married woman

Even though it's to a douche bag

He stands besides me

And he closes my laptop and grabs my bag

I look at him

Hunter: let's go

He holds his hand out

I heave a sigh getting up not taking his hand

He shrugs and makes way as I walk past him

A knock comes at the door

Me : come in

Lisa walks in

Me: I am going out

Lisa: uhmI was here to ask if I can get away for an hour or so

Me: it's lunch?

Lisa: I might be 30 minutes late

Me: okay

She smiles and walks out

I look at Hunter

And for some reason he looks annoyed

But I wouldn't know

It's not like I know the man that well

I take my bag from him

And we walk out

I lock my office

And we walk out of the building

He heads over to the Ferrari parked right in front of the building

Like how rich can he be

To be driving such a car

He opens the door for me.

Me: can you tell me where we're going at least, I don't know you to be comfortable around you?

Hunter: lunch

He closes the door with a slight side smile

As he walks around and gets in on the drivers side

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INSERT 07

Nqobile

I'm a little scared

This man just took me to this stunning townhouse in North Cliff

Me: is this your house?

He nods

Me : it's nice , but I think this is just

Hunter: soon it'll be ours, and you can change whatever you want to change. For now, I don't want to hear your thoughts

Me: waityou cannot kidnap me, people saw you leaving with me at the office. Honestly you won't get far

Hunter: why would I even do that?

Me: what am I doing at your house? And what are you talking aboutthis being our

house soon? In case you're blind, I'm married

Hunter: to a pathetic loser, who doesn't love you. And has gone on, to bring a whore into your bed. Please spare me, I'm not interested at him

Who is this man?

Me: what

I swallow hard

Me : are you stalking me ?

Hunter: looking after the woman, my heart longs for

Shock!

I pop my eyes with a frown

Hunter: the good thing is that, I love you. So much that it hurts staying away, seeing you with him. But it's all in the past, we're here now. And I've given you a reason of why, I did what I did

This is crazy

Maybe this handsome guy

Is suffering from some mental illness

Hunter: I'm not forcing anything either, take your time and think things through. Even if you don't love me, it's all good because I love you

I have never been this speechless

Like in my entire life

He walks closer, and I slightly move back

He places his hand on my waist

And he leans forward

His face just inches away from mine

Hunter: I don't need your love, if you don't want to love me. I will love you with mine

Before I even say anything

His lips grace mine, as he slowly pulls on my lower lip

Just causing me shivers throughout my whole body

And I feel hot flushes everywhere inside of me

He tightens his grip on my waist

As he deepens the kiss

And I lose my senses as I kiss him back slowly

With his pace

It feels amazing to be back in the hands of a man

To just be held by a man

I slightly whimper, as cold liquid flushed down my panty

This is just toxic!

The body needs to release fluids , having been denied that

For months and months

I am now a mess

He slowly pulls back and pecks my lips a few times

Hunter: let me bring that lunch, just think about it

He places a kiss on my forehead

And he disappears from my sight

I'm just left stunned

About everything he said

And worse that kiss, that felt so amazing

I kissed another man

Me: oh my God!

What's wrong with me?

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Siya

Mom: oh you would make a perfect wife for my son

They both smile

I don't need to be told

I can just see that my mother is taken by Lisa, and they would surely get along

Mom: let me bring drinks, have a seat

Lisa: thank you

My mother walks to the kitchen leaving us in the lounge

Mpho is asleep

Me: did she not ask where you are going?

Lisa: she couldn't care less, because she was going out with Mr Wayne

Me: Hunter?

Lisa: yes

Me: they were going out where?

Lisa: I don't know, I couldn't exactly ask both my bosses where they were going.

Especially during lunch time, Ngobile does most her

meetings at lunch. So maybe it's one of those, she's the CEO after all. Mr Wayne has been out of the country for a while, maybe he's just checking in wanting a report

Me : are they seeing each other?

She frowns

Me: come on babe, you're
Nqobile's PA. And you work
close with her, surely you
would know something. If
maybe Hunter goes to the office
too often, and spends time
with her

Lisa: what do you care? Mr Wayne is barely there, today was the first day. I doubt she would parade an affair with the boss like that Me: but can you tell if something is going on?

Lisa: why would your wife flaunt her affair in the office like that, for everyone to see? I mean, if that's how it's done then I wouldn't be a secret as well

Me: calm down ...

Lisa: no! Don't tell me to calm down. Now I'm wondering what I actually thought I was doing, dating you and having your baby . You're just the same as the rest of my baby daddies, nothing but a deadbeat father. Thinking R200 can support and maintain a child

She gets up and almost falls down

As Nqobile throws down her bag to the floor

Mom: I got ...

I get up

My stomach is in knots

Me: baby I can explain this, please

Lisa: Mrs Ngidi, I am so sorry II ...

And she burst out crying

I pass her and walk over to my wife

I try to hold her hand but she pulls back

Me: I am sorry, she was a mistake. I didn't mean for things to go this far, to a point that we have a child . I don't love her , but I love youbaby I love you so much ..please . Please give me one last chance, and I'll do things right I promise . I will treat and love you , the way you deserve.

My heart breaks as tears stream down her face

Me: I'm sorry I love you

I pull her to my chest, giving her a tight hug

As she continues to cry

I rub her back

I don't know how I'm going to fix this

I know shit won't be easy

But I don't see Nqobile leaving me

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Hunter

Tt: won't this cause havoc?

Me: I'm cool with it

Tt: we know Ngidi on a personal level

Me: that's his business and not mine

Tt : now we have gone and done it

He shakes his head

Me : it's sad , because I do love her

He chuckles

Tt: this is twisted, I doubt you love her. Cause I don't think anyone, would go to such lengths. Worse, when you love someone

Me: it doesn't matter Tt, it all comes down to one thing. And that's how it'll end

I lean back on the chair

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INSERT 08

Nqobile

Like is this my karma right now?

For what , I don't know

Maybe because I was too happy to exchange spits

With a man I met barely a day ago

And now this is what welcomes me home

When I left his house

I decided to come home

Because my guilt was just eating me up

Not only did I kiss him

And not have any regrets about it

Because I actually enjoyed that kiss so much

I stayed a whole hour and had lunch with him

Great lunch might I add

My own PA

I move away from Siya

He looks like a kid caught stealing candy

I look at her

Lisa: Mrs Ngidi ...

Me: don't call me that, you're ungrateful. I gave you a job you don't even qualify for, and you are busy laughing behind my back. I've been a fool, for far too long. But it's okay, even today I let you leave. Only

you're coming to my house, to play happy families

Lisa: I didn't know

Mrs Ngidi: oh please, what's all this commotion? We're all adults here and we

Me: please shut up, this is my house. And in my house, when I open my mouth you close

yours. Let's not get used to each other like this, we're not friends

She's shocked out of her mind

I'm just tired of this woman

She's rejoicing I know that

But it's okay

Siya: baby pleasewe can fix this my love

Me: I am done with you lot, as for you. Consider yourself fired

She goes down on the floor wailing

As a little boy, who's an exact copy of Siya

Comes out of the bedroom

Me: I can't believe this nonsense, you had your brat sleeping on my bed?

Siya: baby he's just a child ...

Me: not my child, so please.
You should be ashamed of
yourself, you went on and gave
a mother of three already a

child. And you're flaunting that nonsense in my eyes, it's an embarrassment really. There's nothing to flaunt or flex about, especially not about her

I lean down and pick up my bag

And I turn back walking down

Siya : you can't leave , we're married ...

Me: fuck you and this stupid marriage, to think I used to cry myself to sleep. Thinking I'm not worthy of your love, only you just never deserved me

I get into my car and drive out

With tears burning my eyes

It just had to be Lisa

Someone I know

She must have looked at me, and saw a fool everyday at work

I don't even want to think of the day, I told her my husband gave another woman a child

Only it was her

No wonder her reaction

And I just didn't read too much into it

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Siya

I'm fucked

She drove out

And I have no idea where she is

I'm just praying that she's safe and okay

Lisa: so you lied to me, you fooled me. And made me believe you will leave her for me, but you were never going to leave right? I mean I heard you tell her you love her, and

how sorry you are . And that you don'tyou don't love me , this wasn't that serious . Youyou don't love me Siya ? So everything you've ever told me , was nothing but lies

Mom: oh please calm yourself down, you might have given my son a boy child. But that's where it ends, you're most definitely not suitable to be a wife to him. Why couldn't the

Other three men marry you?

No ways no! The only

connection we have with you,

it's my grandson and that's it

Me: I need some air

I get up and walk out getting into my car

I take out my phone and call her

But it rings only once

She's blocked me , like that didn't take long

I heave a sigh making another call

After a few seconds he answers

Hunter: yes

Me: man are you still on at your house?

Hunter: yeah

Me: I'll pull up through, I just need a get away

Hunter: alright

Me: sure

I drop the call, and send her a text message

But it bounces back

Me: mxm!

I drive out heading to Hunter's townhouse

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Hunter

I open the door for her

She walks in , looking like a beautiful mess

Nqobile: I am so sorry, I didn't know what

I pull her in , and peck her forehead

Hugging her briefly

Me: let's not do that with each other, come on in

I take her hand and we walk upstairs to my bedroom suite

I open the door for her and she walks in

I take her hand leading her to bed

Nqobile: I just didn't know where to go or who to call, I've just never felt so stranded in this city not knowing what to do

Me : you knew where I am , and you came

I peck her lips

Me : you know what that means ?

She heaves a sigh, taking a deep breath

Nqobile: I'm a mess Hunter, and I don't believe a man like yourself can feel anything for a woman like myself Me : you have no idea

Nqobile: but right now ...things are just a mess, and I don't even know what's what. My marriage is over, I don't know if that's possible seeing I was just some payment. And I fired my PA

Hunter: you served her right, but I'm not getting involved in your domestic issues. I know

you can handle all of this, so it's no bother for me

Ngobile: do you understand that they can refuse to let me go, because my mother was owing his father money that was used to pay for my father's hospital bills . Now both my parents are gone, his father is just distant . I'm just stuck with his evil mother, and my annoying grandmother. Who

didn't have a problem whatsoever, just giving me off to those people. As much as they say my mother owed them, I still believe that woman got something. She was just too happy to give me away

Me: you got me, and just know that I love you. I'm here

I lean over giving her a kiss, that she gladly returns

I lean down with her on top of me

Me: I want you so bad, but I will wait. I've waited long enough, but I'll wait some more because I want you to be okay

She shyly smiles

I peck her cheek

I cuddle her tightly into my arms

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INSERT 09

Hunter

Me: sure

Siya: hey man

I sit down

Siya: heard from Tt you really came through

Me: yeah, it was about time

Siya: I needed this breather

Me: troubles?

Siya: you can say that

Me: mhm

I left Nqobile asleep in my room

I cuddled her until she fell asleep

I just hope the noise won't wake her up

But my room is sound proofed

Siya: I heard something, that I've been meaning to ask you

Me: what?

Siya: heard you were at the company, and you and my wife left together

I chuckle

Me: yeah

Siya: I don't have to worry man, do I?

Me: do you?

He heaves a sigh

Shaking his head

Siya: I know we're good, but her and I are not in a good place right now. Considering the shit I've done, I'm sure she won't hesitate to do anything just to hurt me

Me: is that so?

Siya: women are vindictive

Me : yeah

Siya : but I know you won't deal me

Me: is she your wife or just some payment?

Siya: things haven't been the best between us, I don't know what I feel for her. She's a good woman sure, and any man would be lucky to have her. I'm

just not that man, and I also just don't want to see her with another man

Me: that's crazy, you're talking nonsense right now. You know she's my CEO, so I'll see her almost all the time. Especially now that I'm back, I mean she's handling my billions

I get up

Me : see the guys

He nods

I walk back upstairs

This isn't some party

I'm just hosting a few guys, nothing but just business

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Nqobile

I turn over and I'm all alone in bed

I can't believe I slept this much

Looking over at the time

It's just after 22:00

And I'm hungry now

My eyes hurt like crazy

I get up , and look around a bit

I find the bathroom

I pee first before I go on to wash my face with just cold water

Just to wake myself up

I use his towel to wipe my face

I rinse my mouth a few times

And walk out

Walking out of the bedroom

I can hear sounds, more like voices of men talking

Like there's people in the house

Maybe I should just turn back

Seeing that he has company

I walk over the stairs slightly

And my eyes better be deceiving me

What is Siya doing here?

He's taking to two guys

I move back just as he lifts his head

And his eyes land on me

The shock on his face

Meets my shock

Asking myself what is he doing here?

And how can he possibly know Hunter

He walks away from the guys

Coming my way

I want to walk out of here so bad

Siya: you're fucking your boss now, as what? Revenge to get back at me

What does he mean I'm fucking my boss?

Siya: don't sell yourself this cheap, you

Voice: you're up?

I turn to my side

As he walks out on the next room

And he puts his phone in his pocket

Three more guys walk out behind him

They nod passing

Hunter: I'm sorry I left you, I was just handling business

Who handles business at this time of the night?

Like what kind of business is that

Especially at ones house

He leans over and pecks my lips

I close my eyes briefly

Siya: what the

Hunter: take your drama elsewhere, not in my house.
Touch her, and I will break you apart

Okay!

Things just got tense here

Siya moves back a bit

Wait ...

Is he that scared of Hunter?

This is kind of funny

Hunter: you have shit, but you will not bring it into my house.
I'll fuck you up, so bad

That doesn't sound like a threat

But more like a promise

And the kind to say, you know I mean what I'm saying

Judging by Siya's reaction

Siya: she's my wife despite everything

Hunter : she's my woman in my house

What

Siya pops his eyes, in just fury

Hunter turns and looks at me

And his face softens up

Like he just wasn't spitting fire a few seconds ago

Hunter: are you okay?

I nod , just words being stuck on my throat

He chuckles

Me: I'm hungry

Hunter: I got you food, come

He takes my hand and we turn back upstairs

Siya: my mother was right about you... you're nothing but a whore, and you don't know...

Hunter clenches his jaws

I tighten my grip around his hand

He heaves a sigh

Siya is a not worth any drama

Because he's just drama himself

Hunter: see yourself out

He says as we head up

And we go back to his room

He closes the door

And I let out the breath I've been holding

Not even being aware

That I was hoping it

Me: how do you know Siya?

Hunter: he works for me

Me : Siya doesn't work

Hunter: more like I give him piece jobs here and there

Me: what ...what kind of piece jobs?

Hunter: you don't want to know such things sweetheart, you said you're hungry. Come eat

Me: are you using me, because of him? Maybe you want to settle some score with him, and I'm just your way to get to him. Because if that's the case,

you're wasting your time . He doesn't give shit about me

Hunter: a man like myself, can never have a score to settle with the likes of him. My love for you, has nothing to do with him. I don't even think about Siya, not even when I'm bored sweetheart

I involuntary laugh slightly

Hunter: come eat

This is now stressing me

More than just meeting a man

And he says he loves you

Now I find out he knows the so called husband, that I have

No ways this is with pure intentions

I would be a fool to believe so

The question is do I take a leap of faith

And wait to see how this pans out

Like what's his plan

But I just feel like, all this is just a disaster in the making

That will be hurting me in the end

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INSERT 10

Siya

I am not angry

Nor am I hurt

I'm just pissed

Like I'm pissed beyond the word pissed

Like who the fuck does Hunter think he is?

Flaunting my wife like that

And what the fuck was she doing in his house

So they were or rather arehaving an affair

She doesn't even hide it

With her own damn boss

And knowing Hunter

I know he knows she's my wife

But he has no problem whatsoever with her

Opening her legs for him

Like why the fuck would they both do that ?

If it was to get my attention

Then they surely fucking got it

I couldn't stay at his house another second

I just left

And she had no shame at all

Leaving with another man

And going into his bedroom

I'm sure she was even coming from his bedroom, when she came down

It's clear they've fucked

Hunter is no Saint

He's just a fucker

And a man like the rest of us

I don't know what Nqobile is hoping to get out of this

I dial her number

I barely slept a wink

It rings quite a few rings before she answers

Ngobile: hello

Me: don't you fucking dareand if you know what's good for you, you'll come home right this instant. My mother was right about you, you're just nothing but a whore . Who the fuck do you think you are? Thinking you can fuck around with me like that, especially with Hunter? Is that how you

got that fucking job, because you opened your fat legs for your fucking boss . Well , get your ass here. Before I lose my cool, because you don't want to know or see what will happen to you . And just so you know, that fucker doesn't love you . Ain't no man that can love a woman like yourself, be glad you're even called a wife today. Because no man, can ever look at you twice

I drop the call clicking my tongue

I look over as my mother clears her throat

With her arms folded

Mom: she's cheating on you?

Me: Mom please, not now

Mom: I heard everything ...so don't even try and defend her

Me: well it's rude to listen to people's conversations, especially in their own houses

Mom: fact remains, she's never been a good wife. And clearly she'll never be, get your act together. Go apologize to

the mother of your child, make things right with her . And tell her whatever you said to her was confusion . I don't like her , because she bares a child for every man she opens her legs for . But she's still a better option, than Ngobile. You can't throw away, something beautiful as that . Over that girl , you don't even love . She's not even half a woman

I get up and walk upstairs leaving her there

My mind is all over the place

I seriously don't need this lecture

I just want Nqobile home

So we can end all this shit and nonsense

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Nqobile

I look at him

And he looks so unfazed

I couldn't sleep

Not knowing what Siya will do

Or what he'll say to his family

It was kind of troubling for me

To spend the night here

But Hunter didn't want to hear me

He wasn't having any of that

By dawn I was already up

And here he is having breakfast

He heard the whole phone call, from Siya

And it's like he wasn't even here

Me: I should go

Hunter: eat

I look at the food

And I'm not even hungry

It looks all appetizing and all

But I doubt I can stomach anything

Hunter: you want something lighter?

Me: I'm not hungry

Hunter: there's no such, just

eat

I pull the plate closer

And just take a few bites with the fork

Hunter: are you going to work?

Inod

Hunter: you will tell me where to from here

He says getting up , placing his plate in the sink

Me: what's your deal?

Hunter: with?

Me: me ...what do you want from me, because clearly you and Siya know each other. I don't want to believe that you didn't know about me.

Hunter: I knew, so what?

I heave a sigh

Me: are you trying to use me

Hunter: I already told you no

I find it very hard to believe that there's nothing here

And that Hunter is genuine

About everything he said to me

Even about his feelings

I feel like this is just a disaster awaiting to happen

And what does Siya mean , he's my boss ?

Like ...that doesn't make sense

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Hunter

Tt: so what now?

I look at him.

Me: about what?

Tt: this whole situation that you just told me about

Me : nothing , I will fuck Siya up so bad

Tt: why are we doing this to him? Isn't she the one you've always wanted?

Me: she's attached to him, and he fucking hurt her. So he might as well, just pay for that pain and her tears

He laughs

Tt: for what?

Me: the fact that I actually do love her

Tt: so that's real?

Me: yeah, so stop with the 21 questions

Tt: it's just hard to believe, that you really love her as you say

Me: mhm!

Tt: your plans are just ..

Me: leave it, I will attend to this the way I've planned to.
And well, you need to take care of that boy, let his mother know what happens to people who go around fucking with people on their path

He gets up with a nod

Me: get to it Tt, and make sure it's well executed. Tell me if you can't do it, I'll do it myself

Tt: these kids are just suffering for the sins of their parents

Me: and so says the good book

He laughs walking towards the door

Me: alert me when it's done

Tt: sure

He walks out

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INSERT 11

Nqobile

I know being tested

But this is crazy

And way more than just being tested

Hunter came through for me

He went out to get me clothes

And toiletries

So I didn't even bother to go back to that house

But I plan to

Because I want my things

Arriving at work

Here is this whore

Right at her desk

I wonder if she missed what I said to her

Or she's just being ignorant

I look at her

She gets up, fixing her dress

As her eyes glisten with tears

Me: you better be here, to gather your shit and leave

Lisa: pleaseI know I've wronged you, but I need this job. You know I have kids, whose father's don't support. Including Mpho who's Siya's child, I....

Me: leave, before I get security to drag you out. You don't want to cause stares on yourself

Lisa: please

And she moves from her desk

Standing in front of me

She goes down on her knees

Lisa: please ... I am begging you, I'll do anything just don't fire me

Me: you have 10 minutes

I turn and walk to my office

I can hear her crying from outside my office

I will not stand for this nonsense

I've been made a fool by her

For far too long

And she will not share the same space as me

The door opens and she walks in

Looking like a mess

Her make up all ruined

And she still has tears streaming down her face

Lisa: you cannot fire me over personal reasons, I will take you to CCMA. Because this is unfair dismissal

I look over behind her

Just as Hunter stands behind her

Hunter: get out of my company, and do whatever the fuck you want to do

She gets startled and moves in

She slowly turns and looks at him

He has on one death blank stare

It even scares me

Lisa: Mr Wayne

Hunter: get out, this is simple English. You don't even need a qualification to understand it She doesn't wait to be told again

As she walks past him

And I can hear her crying

Like she's packing and clearing her desk

There's movement of things

I watch as she walks past the door, with her box of things leaving

Me: wow ...you should have gotten here earlier

He lets out a side smile

And walks further in

Me: Mr Wayne ...when were you going to tell me that you're my boss?

Hunter: here ...you're the boss

I shake my head

Me: this is crazy

Hunter: there's no such, I'm going to Pretoria. I'll be back in

the afternoon, if you get home and I'm not there. Don't worry, I'll come before you miss me

Me: I was thinking of going to fetch my things, and go book into a hotel

Hunter: fetch your things, but go home

He says home

Who said I want to do a sit in with a man

I've barely just met

That I'm not even sure what I'm doing with him

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Siya

I watch as Hunter gets into his car and he drives out

I called Tt

And asked him if Hunter will be available today

And he told me, he's leaving

So knowing him

I know he won't be back anytime soon

I walk in her office

Nqobile: what did you forget?

She lifts her head and looks at me

Me: your lover is gone

She goes back to clicking on her laptop

Me: exactly for how long do you intend to disrespect me like this?

I walk over to her desk

Me: I know I fucked up, but what man hasn't? And it's not like our marriage, was a serious relationship. Lisa was a mistake, there's nothing I can do right

now because there's a child involved. But we can still look past this, and just

Nqobile: I fired your baby mama, so you can follow her. Because you know very well where she is

Me: I don't give a shit about her, whatever you do. I just don't care, just stop this whoering business you're doing . Come back home

Nqobile: I am done with you Siya, that's just plain and simple English. Surely that's something you can understand. You cannot be that stupid

Me: don't insult me Ngobile

I walk over to her side

I lean down, and grab her jaw with my hand

Me: don't you fucking dare

Nqobile: you're hurting me

She blinks, as a tear streams down her face

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Hunter

Tt: what?

Me: you heard me

Tt: I thought ...

Me: I know what I said, and now I'm telling you this

Tt: I don't

Me: Tt ...hurt him so bad , that he should fucking know it was me

Tt: maybe we can talk this out

Me: I am not talking shit with anyone, while at that just do what I already told you to do. This week shouldn't end,

before you've taken care of that boy . If you can't , let tell me and I'll do it myself

I drop the call, and go on to watch the video from the live stream in her office

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Nqobile

I'm in so much pain

I don't even want to scream, or let out a loud cry

Because I'll just be causing myself stares

Me: Siya

More tears just stream down my face

His phone rings, and he takes it out

He heaves a sigh before he answer

Siya: what

He listens and pops his eyes.

As he loosens his grip on my jaw

Siya: what do you mean he's missing ...how the fuck do you lose my son in your presence? Don't fucking tell me that nonsense Lisa, we better find him. Or elseI will kill you with my bare hands

He drops the call and clicks his tongue

He lets go of me and walks out in a hurry

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INSERT 12

Hunter

Tt: he's here

I open the door and walk inside

There's the boy

He's sitting down on the floor

And he's playing with a toy car

He clearly has no idea what's happening

He doesn't even look bothered

I walk over to him

Tt: must I be here? Like should I be here, to witness such?

I don't even bother looking at him

I crouch down and look at the boy

He lifts his head and looks at me

Tt: I think I'll ...

Me: stay there

I grab the boy with his neck

As he struggles to get out of my grip

And he wails, wiggling himself

I throw him on the small table

And he tries to get off of it

I pin him down

As he goes on to continue crying

Me: make sure they get all of this

He sighs taking out his burner phone

Tt: you're good to go

I know he's fucking sharp with angels

He always gets the job done to perfection

To the best of his abilities

I stomp the boys head with my shoe

And he lets out a scream of a cry

Peeing on himself

As I take out my pocket knife

I rip his clothes off

And his scream doesn't die out

He even has hiccups now

I cut off all of his fingers on his hands

As his scream is piercing through my ears

The more he just screams and cries

The more he's just fuelling me more

I go on to cut his toes and fingers

And inflict insane wounds on his tiny body

Just as he's about to give up because of the pain

I snap his neck with my bare hands

And his head is left leaning over the table

With blood gushing down

From his body

All over the table, to the floor

I look at Tt

Me: make sure they get their parcel

I grab a cloth and wipe the blood off the knife

I slide it back to my pocket

And get out, going into my car

I get in and drive out headed to my house

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Siya

Me: this doesn't make sense, like how do you lose him?

Lisa: I just looked away for a second, putting his bag in the car. And he was gone

Me : a child just can't disappear just like that Lisa

Lisa: I don't know what you want me to say, because I'm telling you what happened.
What do you want to hear

Me: nonsense, and you better make sure that my son is found. Because if not

Lisa: stop with your stupid threats, he's also my son. I'm a mess right now

Me: I don't give a fuck!

I walk out slamming the door

Getting into my car

I drive out of her place

As my phone rings and it's my mother

Me: mom

Mom: where are you? You need to get here, so we can discuss a way forward about what to do

Me: about what?

Mom: that so called wife of yours, she must come back here...I don't need drama with your father. If it comes to it, then we should go back to her grandmother

Me: I don't need all of this, Mpho is lost. My concern right now, is finding my son

Mom: what do you

Me: Lisa was fetching him from creche, and he was gone as she was putting his bag in the car

Mom: how does that happen? Wasn't she watching him?

Me: I don't know, I wasn't there. She says she was watching him, because he was next to her. She just looked

away for a mere second, and he was gone

Mom: that's

Me: mom please ...we will talk, I'm driving

I drop the call

As my insides turn

Just thinking of the worst that could happen to my son

I can't help but worry

Where is he?

Who took him, if someone did take him

Or maybe he wandered off on his own

I'm going insane right now

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Nqobile

A call from my grandmother

What does she want?

Hunter: sweetheart your phone

I look at him

He arrived a while back

And went on to take a shower

Hunter: is it him?

I shake my head

Hunter: answer it

I heave a sigh grabbing the phone

I answer the call

Me: Makhulu ...(grandmother)

Makhulu: what is this I hear about you, leaving your marital home?

Me: what? Likewho told you that?

Makhulu: you better not embarrass me, just go back home and ...

Me: I am not going back there, I will come see you then we'll talk

I drop the call, and switch off my phone

Hunter: are you okay?

I just nod

And he walks over to the bed

He sits down next to me

And takes my hand into his

I just lean over on his shoulder

I'm tired!

Like I'm so tired, even my tired is tired as well

A lot has just been happening

I don't know what's what

And I know no matter what

My grandmother won't stand with me

She will side with those people

She will choose them over me

I just know that

And it hurts to be honest

Because I have no support

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INSERT 13

Hunter

After all this time

Watching Nqobile

Seeing her every move

And making sure she's working for my company

And keeping tabs on her

I've never seen her this shaken

Even yesterday, she wasn't like this when Siya was dealing with her jaws

Crying and all, she wasn't looking like this

Not when she found her car tires flat

Now I think I understand better

This relationship with the grandmother

Me : are you okay?

She nods

Me: words would hit better

Nqobile: I should be advertising for a new PA, not attending all this nonsense

Me: what's your deal with this woman?

Ngobile: she's my father's mother, they never liked my mother from when my parents were still dating . And well , I just fell into that hate . She's never liked me, or regarded me as her grandchild. This woman had no problems whatsoever, giving me off to the Ngidi's . As

much as they say, I'm with them because of my mother's debts. I believe my grandmother was given some money

Me: you hate her?

She sighs

Nqobile: she hates me

Me: sweetheart, you seem to just have a lot of baggage. I don't give a shit about that, but please be decided. What are you going to do?

Nqobile : I want my life back Hunter

I take both her hands into mine

And she gets up

Me: then get your life back, you owe no one shit.

Sometimes, it happens that parents fuck us up. But we don't have to pay for their sins

I lean over , brushing my lips over hers

And she's first to initiate the kiss

I welcome her lips gladly

As they move in sync with mine

I place both my hands on her waist

And she clings her arms on my neck

I deepen the kiss

And she lets out slight moans into my mouth

My dick is pressed just above her waist

I groan slightly, as it twitches against her stomach

Me: you're making me a mess

She giggles shyly, and slowly moves back

Me: what?

Nqobile : let me go

I peck her lips a few times

Me : take my car

She pops her eyes, but I can't miss that hidden side smile

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Nqobile

I can't believe this

The stares I am getting

Even from the road when I was driving coming here

More especially from men

Like from the first time, I set foot in that machine of a car

I pictured myself driving one

I swear, it's like Hunter read my mind

Or he saw , I was yearning for his car

My grandmother hasn't stopped, looking outside

And she's sitting right beside the window

That's looking to the gate

She has a view to the Ferrari

Me : like I said I will come , I am here ...

Makhulu : don't give me attitude

Me: I am not, but with all due respect. You must know that I will not go back there, and I want nothing to do with those people. Siya has been cheating

, and he has a child with another woman . I can accept everything , they've put me through ever since I got there . But this is beyond me , I cannot accept this

Makhulu: men cheat, it's typical of men

Me: right! So they cheat with people, who work for their wives? I should be happy, and

clap hands for Siya that he cheated with my PA and even gave her a child ? I am sorry, I will not stand for that. Not now, and not ever

Makhulu: you can't leave your home for another woman, he clearly saw her woman enough to make her a mother. Now do you want him, to believe he made a better choice with her?

This woman!

Me : I don't care , he can do or think whatever he wants. I don't care, I don't want him anymore. I will not endure nonsense, I'll rather be seen as a failure. Be called names, because my marriage failed. I don't care, it's not like I lost anything. We never even loved each other, we just tolerated each other. And that's it

She claps her hands laughing

Me: that's all I came to say, I don't want to be called to any meetings. They can go to hell, if they think I'll suffer because of choices made by my parents. They are dead, so they can go dig up their graves. That's where their money is

I get up

Me: besides, I'm with someone right now. And I'm happy

Her jaw drops

I can laugh my ass off

But I know , once she's digested everything I've said

She will have a mouthful to say

I'm just glad it's not today

Because I won't have any other day to entertain her, unless me and her can have a decent conversation

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Hunter

Tt: your love for this woman is somehow crazy

Me: shut the fuck up, I don't expect you to understand shit

He laughs

Tt: I've done my part, let me be on my way

Inod

He gets up and heads to the door

Tt: don't you think Mlu should come back? Like he's okay, with watching you doing despicable things. I can't stomach this shit

I just look at him

Tt: anyways, I hope all this in the end will be worth it. It's not like, any of it is real. In the end, you're just chasing your goal and what you want to fulfil right. But she's driving your car ...

He laughs shaking his head

Tt: this is awkward, like really awkward Wayne!

He walks out , I click my tongue shaking my head

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Siya

Mom: Siya ...what is this I just gotI just met that boy I know, but these fingers

And Lisa wails , rolling down on the floor

What the fuck!

I drop the phone

Just as the reality kicks in

And it hits hard

This is my boy

Sent to us , in a fucking cardboard

His body inflicted with knife wounds

His toes and fingers cut off, with his fingers missing

And well, now I know where they are

I came to Lisa's place after she called me

And not long after arriving, we got this box dropped right at the door

And no one saw anything

Now the community is here

The police are here

But their presence is useless

Because they just keep on asking us stupid questions

Like who would want to hurt our son

If we have any enemies

It's all just stupid

Because it's not going to help us with anything

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INSERT 14

Nqobile

Only his mother is around

She doesn't look like herself at all

Me: I'm just here to get my clothes, your son can keep everything else

She doesn't even look at me

And she says nothing

And well, it's not my business

I go on to the bedroom

And it's just a mess

Honestly, it doesn't look like a room a person can live in

But ... I'm not here for that

I open the wardrobe, and take out my clothes

Putting them into my bag

And the door opens just as I'm busy packing into the suitcase, bigger than the bag

Siya: what

He comes over and stands next to me

He looks like a mess

If I didn't know , I would say he was crying

Siya: the nerve you have, and you're going to another man

I say nothing, and finish packing

Siya: my son was killed, so you don't have to leave. Be happy, and rejoice. Stay, don't go. That's why you were leaving me

right? Because of him, well he's gone. And I have no reason to stay with Lisa anymore

I want to say something

But I'll rather not

I don't want to look somehow

I grab my bag and suitcase

Siya: Nqobile!

He roars and I turn looking at him as I get to the door

Siya: I don't want to hurt you ... please don't push me

I say nothing and walk out of the room

Mrs Ngidi : you're an evil woman ...

Me: takes one to know one

Her jaw drops, as she gasps loudly

I walk past her and walk out

I put the bags in the back, and get in the driver's seat

As I'm about to drive out, something hits the back of the car

I look back, and it's Siya

This fool, just threw something from the window of the bedroom

And whatever it is, hit the car

He did not miss

I shiver a bit , just as I remember I'm not driving my car

Me: Hunter is going to kill me

I'm sure a dent is left there

I take a deep breath driving out

Maybe I shouldn't go to his house

Maybe I can fix his car first

Fuck!

Can I even afford that?

I've seen idiots

But I've never met one like Siya

Worse he knows very well, that this is Hunter's car

I'm sure he did that deliberately

Now I'm terrified of what might be awaiting me, once I come clean

And the man sees his car

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Hunter

I look at her

She looks like she's a 5 year old child

I keep my stare

And she's keeping her distance

She's fiddling with her fingers

She keeps looking down

From time to time

She can't keep up eye contact

Me: why weren't you coming home?

She flaps her eye lids

Me: I called you, to come homeand that wasn't your plan. You were not coming here, why is that?

She tears us

And just walks over to me

As she throws herself at me

Ngobile: I am sorry, but I went to the house to fetch my clothes and Siya arrived . He didn't want me to leave, but I ignored him . I just went there , to get my clothes. He threw something at the car, I don't know what because I didn't see it. But there's a dent

I place a kiss on top of her head

Me: stop crying, because you'll just cause me to punish you.
And you did nothing, well on that part. On everything else, I don't know

She moves back, I wipe her tears off

Ngobile: I'm sorry ... I will fix it ...

I shake my head

Me : did he hurt you ?

She shakes her head

Me : okay

I peck her lips

Ngobile: he said his son was killed, I heard about it on the radio. It was horrifying

Me: mhm

Nqobile: I may hate him, but ...

She shrugs

Nqobile: I guess he's in pain

Me: yeah! They're shitty people, both with that woman ...who knows who they've pissed

off . And their son suffered for their sins

I bring her closer, and hug her tight

Me: Hove you

It's not an I love you too back

But the tight hug I get back

That's something

And yes, it does count for something

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Siya

Mom: oh just let that useless woman go, she's choosing to whore at such a time

Dad: you will not utter such nonsense in my presence

Mom: you brought this shame of a girl into our family, it's all your fault. Now she's embarrassing us, and not giving a care that we're going through a tough time. Our son just lost his child

Dad: had your son, been faithful. And kept his dick into his pants, we wouldn't be here

Mom: mxm! She's just crying for attention, at the wrong and worst time. No one has time to entertain her, Siya just lost his child. Your grandson

Dad: I will not have claims over a child I did not even know, he was kept a secret for a reason. Your son knew that he messed up, and that's why he didn't tell us any of this. How certain is he , that this was even his child! Stop with your nonsense, you're too old for this craziness

Mom shakes her head

I wish I can just walk out of here

Their arguing back and forth

Is not helping me with anything right now

I'm trying to think of what might have happened to my son

Who could have done this and why

I know Nqobile is angry

But she is not capable of such

The police are still yet to get back to us

To see if maybe this was related to ritual killings

But I highly doubt that

Mom: what are we

And the door bursts open

We all turn heads, looking at who's walking in

And it's Hunter

I'm on my feet in seconds, but he throws one mean kick to the chair

That I'm on my back on the floor in seconds

Just as fast as I got up

Groaning in pain

Hunter: you're a piece of shit, dare a man at anything. But not his woman, nor his car

Me:1...

He doesn't waste time throwing kicks at me

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INSERT 15

Nqobile

I look at him

Wanting to say something

But I just can't bring myself to

I don't want to be told off

He doesn't look like himself at all

As much as I can't describe how he's looking right now

That's not how he usually is with me

It's like something threw him off

Or he's pissed

I don't know

Maybe it could be about his car still

I couldn't help, but notice the stain on his black boots last night

It was just stains of blood

Not huge blood or anything like that

But still, it was there

And his knuckles on his left hand are bruised

He's left handed

And that much I've gathered

Me: I I have to go

Hunter: I'll take you to work

Me: why?

He gives me a blank stare

One that I cannot comprehend

Me: I'm just asking

Hunter: it's not safe out here

Me: what?

Hunter: I don't know who's targeting Siya, and you were connected to him. So anything is possible, until the police can prove the murder of the kid was connected to something else.

Something that cannot bring you any harm, I will not be at rest

I doubt this man is sweet

No!

He's anything but sweet

But this is a nice gesture

I smile

Hunter: don't blush, lets go

Ilaugh

Me: that was a smile I was not blushing, maybe you don't trust me with your car anymore. But it's totally fine, I completely understand really

Hunter: I can buy you 10
Ferrari's, sweetheart don't
insult me. You attached
yourself to an idiot, I don't give
a rats ass about a damn car

Me: I'm sorry

Hunter: you'll apologize in other means

He gets up and pulls my chair

I get up taking my bags

And we walk out

He has a metallic black Porsche Cayenne parked next to my BMW

Oh my poor baby!

This is trauma to my car

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Hunter

Mlu: he's been admitted

Me: and?

He shakes his head

I've just dropped Nqobile at work

And found Mlu waiting for me outside the building

Mlu: he's bad

Me : you're not a doctor , so please don't speak like one

He chuckles

Mlu: broken ribs, dislocated hip and shoulder. His face ...

He shakes his head with a sigh

Mlu: his jaw is dislocated, there's bleeding on his brain. So yes, it's touch and go. Looks like you wanted to kill the man

I click my tongue

Me : go study for a medical degree, don't annoy me

I open the car door

And he laughs going to his car

Me: keep an eye on him, and what his family is up to.

Especially that witch he calls a mother

He nods

And I get into my car, driving off

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Nqobile

What is happening?

First it was their child

And now it's Siya

It's all over the news, that he's admitted

And was attacked

Even though there's nothing detailing what happened to him

He's just out there, because of what happened to his son

The news of the horrific murder

Is still hot

Siya is no one, to have anyone say anything about him or even bother to make him news

Honestly, I don't know if this is bad luck or what

Or maybe karma really does exist

But I don't even want to bother myself with his issues, or any of the things that are happening to him

He's not my business nor my problem

I grab my phone making a call

There's no better time than now

To cut all ties with those people

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Hunter

Tt: I don't know what to say

I look at him grabbing a bottle of water

Tt: if I didn't know your intentions and plans about this woman, I would say this kind of love I've never seen. And it's very dangerous

I down the bottle of water

While he's staring at me

Biting his lower lip

Like he's counting his words

Before he utters them out

Tt: there's been too much bloodshed, in a short space of time. And all of that, for her

Me: I need us to take a trip

Tt: what?

Inod

Tt: where to? Like you're okay to leave her here all by herself, I mean without you being present? We don't know how long Siya will be out for, what if he tries something

Me: I said nothing about leaving her

Tt : so exactly where are we going ?

Me: grab a bag, and let's go

He chuckles shaking his head

I don't like to leave things hanging, this woman better not be a thorn

Because I'll be quick to pluck her out

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Nqobile

Me: what do you want?

Like it's only been days

But this woman looks like, she's carrying the whole worlds problems

She's even lost weight to the maximum

Lisa: pleaseI didn't know who to go to , I just....my son ...

Me: I heard, but it's not my business. Go talk to your baby daddy

Lisa: he's in hospital, in a coma . His mother says, he was

attacked in his house. A man walked in , and just started beating him . That family is not helping me with anything, his mother is just annoying me . His father is not getting involved, he doesn't want anything to do with my son or his son for that matter. He blames Siya for everything that's happening right now, I just don't know. His mother wants to go consult someone traditionally, and I

just don't believe in those things

I look at my watch as she wipes her tears

And Hunter stops the car just next to us

Me: LisaI don't know why you're telling me all of this

Lisa: they received the divorce papers you served him, I am sorry I hurt you. That I ruined your marriage, I have no excuse. I was just a fool, and I believed he loved me. I don't have means to bury my son

Me: then let the state bury him, he's your burden

I walk past her out of my way

And Hunter opens the passenger door for me

From the inside

I get in , and settle putting on the seatbelt

He drives off, leaving Lisa there still crying

Me: I contacted a lawyer, and Siya's parents received the divorce papers. They will welcome him when he wakes up

He smiles

And places his hand on my thigh

Driving with one arm

Hunter: I am visiting your grandmother

I lose the smile on my face in seconds

And for the first time ever, I hear this man's laugh

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INSERT 16

THREE MONTHS LATER

Nqobile

I get up slowly

And turn to the basin

I rinse my mouth quite a few times

And wipe my mouth

Starring myself in the mirror

Maybe I am crazy

But something just feels wrong

Something is off

I just don't know what

But I'm feeling offish as of late

The door opens and a cold breeze hits me

He hugs me from behind

I close my eyes briefly

As he plants kisses on my back

I let out a slight moan, accompanied by a chuckle

Me: baby

Hunter: I miss you

This man is crazy

He was just gone for a day

I missed him too

Because I've gotten so used to being in his presence

Like day and night

He slides his hands underneath my shirt

Me: I'll be late for work

Hunter: I'll be quick

He says leaning against my ear

And that just sends shivers down my back

He unbuckles his pants, and takes out his dick stroking it

As I feel it poking my ass, with his hand

He's already hard as a rock

He turns me slowly and makes me face him

He lifts my dress up, as he captures my lips into his and we kiss

He slightly pushes me back

And I'm backed against the wall

He pins me against the wall, and lift my leg up

And he strokes his dick on my coochie

I hold tight on him

Gripping on his arms as he slides his dick through

I moan as he goes in deeper

And he slowly thrusts through

Pressing his body against mine

With quick pace thrusts, he just rams into me

Causing my legs to shake

As I feel a wave of pleasure rushing through my body

I throw my head back, as he deep grunts

And his dick twitches inside of me

As he goes in harder, I let go screaming in pleasure

And he cums while I meet an orgasm

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Hunter

She looks at me and smiles

Nqobile: what?

Me : you're so beautiful

I say with a side smile

And she shyly smiles, and looks away for a second

I chuckle

Me: let's do lunch

Nqobile: bring something salty

Me: okay, but we're eating out

Nqobile: snack

Inod

Me : okay , I won't forget

I just watch her

Until she's done fixing herself

And her make up

She grabs her handbag and her laptop bag

Nqobile: I'll see you at lunch

Me: mhm, let me take you to work

She laughs

Me: say nothing

I get up from the bed

And take her hand

We walk out of the bedroom and head down

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Siya

I look at my mother

It looks like she hasn't eaten in years

She looks like someone who's suffered

And not just a little

But considering everything that's happened

I completely understand, why she's like this

And it breaks my heart

Considering the part I played in all of this

And what caused us to end up here

Everything has just been a mess

Nothing has been going well

I've been in a coma for two months

And it's been two weeks of therapy and physio

Because the first two weeks after waking up

I couldn't even do a single thing , nor even walk all by myself

Hunter sure did a number on me

He didn't hold back

At this point, my life is just fucked up

My father is dead

He just died under mysterious circumstances

And they ruled it under natural causes

But I doubt it was the case

So many things are just going through my head

He was buried 6 weeks ago

It breaks my heart I wasn't even there

And Mpho was also laid to rest

It broke my heart to pieces

When my mother told me, my own son was buried by the state

Lisa didn't have a funeral cover, and had no means for a funeral

And I just really never saw the need to have or take one, I just didn't think it was necessary to have a funeral cover

I guess, I didn't think that death might visit us

But I know , if I wasn't in hospital

I would have made a plan , come up with anything

I would have done something

And my son would have had a decent funeral

But I've learnt

I'll do right by my mother

The woman has suffered enough

And now, I have to make sure that she's okay

At all times

Me : I will get better

She looks at me

Mom: I just want to die

Siyabonga

This can't be!

Like why would she say such a thing?

Me : ma

She shakes her head

Mom: your father has left me in so many debts, I don't even know how I'm going go pay them off. How did I live with a man, who made so many debts

. And I don't even know for what, because I have never seen the money it is said he's owing. Not only does he owe the bank, but he owes people as well. Even in his death, your father is making my life a living hell . Even the house I live in , it's standing to be sold as we speak. It's possible, I will be homeless . That girl has served you with divorce papers, and she's moved on with her life

Me: divorce?

She nods

Me: when did that happen?

Mom: after you got admitted

Wow!

Like she's really done with me

To the core, that she will serve me with divorce papers

Even when I was on my death row bed

Like how insane is that?

What will happen to this house now?

Because the bond is not fully paid

I know that

And clearly, with me being stuck on a wheelchair

I won't be able to go out there, and find a job

Just anything to help me get by

Shit!

I fucked up big time

And I doubt, there's a remedy to reverse all the shit I did

Everything has just gone wrong , in just a split second

My mother thinks I'm cursed

Or rather we as a family

But I don't think so

Like who would dare put a curse, on an already looking like cursed person

That would just be heartless

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INSERT 17

Nqobile

It has been nothing but just three months, of peace and love

I never saw myself with Hunter anyhow

And how I fell for him

To this, I still don't know

Because I haven't even thought of moving out of his house

And the fact that he doesn't seem to mind me being there

I'm literally just living in peace

Everything is just peaceful

Even the relationship

Like he just makes it worth it

I find no reason whatsoever why I love him

And this much

Because I'm afraid, once I don't find that reason

I might change my mind

Or my feelings might disappear

So, I'm content right now

I'm with a man I love

And I'm certain he loves me too

He never ceases to prove that to me

Like everyday

Makhulu: you're glowing

I smile

This relationship, is what it is today because of Hunter

I was scared, when he said he wants to visit my grandmother

That was months ago, and he didn't tell me why

But it paid off

The man knew what he was doing

And now, strange enough we get along

And she's never uttered anything about the Ngidi's

Or made any nasty comments, that marriage failed me

Not even when Ngidi died

Makhulu: how far are you?

Me: with what?

She laughs

Me: what?

Makhulu: are you not aware that you're pregnant?

I just look at her

Makhulu: I'm not a child, I wasn't born yesterday

No!.

This cannot be

Like I just cannot be pregnant

I can't deny the carelessness we have with Hunter

Like from when we started having sex

But I always take precautions

So there's no way

Mhm!

Damn! Who am I fooling?

I might not be gaining weight as such

But the throwing up , like almost every morning

That's been happening for the past month

I haven't seen the need to go see a doctor

I haven't gotten my periodsno!

Makhulu: Hunter is a good boy , he will be happy about this

I shake my head

Makhulu: you should stop working, that man will provide

Me: no, I love my job. And I won't stop working, for anything

My mind trails off

And I pound my head on this

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Siya

Me: my mother says, you didn't even bother to come see me while I was in hospital. And well, when I woke up I kept asking you to come. But you didn't bother

I look around the two room she now lives in

It looks so dusty

It's like there's no life around here

Me: Lisa I am talking to you

Lisa: what do you want me to say? Your evil mother didn't lie to you, and well you saw for yourself

I heave a sigh

She's not the Lisa I knew

She has changed

And has lost weight

Now this is not being slim

But she's skinny

And you can't miss that she's suffering

Lisa: why? My son is dead because of you ...

Me: that is not fair and you know it, the case is still open.
The police are still trying to find out what happened to Mpho, you can't blame me for that

Lisa: your mother accused me, of trapping you with a child. And said I ruined your marriage , you said you never loved me in front of your wife . I lost my job , I lost my child . I lost my house , and my kids are suffering . They dropped out of school, because I can't afford their school fees anymore. They now have to wait a whole year, before I can register them to a government school. You ruined

my life Siya, you sold me nothing but dreams . And I was just a fool, to fall for you. I hate you, there's nothing I want from you. Their fathers turned their backs on me, they want nothing to do with me or the kids . I ruined my life running after a married man, and this is my karma. I so wish you were left a cripple

She wipes her tears

Lisa: you brought nothing, but misery into my life

Me: I lost a child the same as you, and you can't blame me for that. You're not a child, you came onto me and ...

Lisa: go to hell, now I sell fruits and vegetables on the streets to make ends meet. You have

degraded me to the core, that woman's tears did not fall to a death ground. They did not fall down, I'm paying for what I did to her

She turns to me

Lisa: please leave, and don't ever come to my house ever again

I don't know what I was expecting to get

I don't know what I thought would happen

How my actions would end like

Now it seems like everyone around me is just suffering

They're having it hard

And I can't help but feel responsible for it

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Nqobile

My hands are shaking

My heart is beating so fast

It feels like it'll pop out of my chest

I rub my sweaty palms together

Taking a deep breath

The alarm buzzes, and 5 minutes has passed

I heave a sigh taking a deep breath

I sit down on the bed

And pick the stick

I close my eyes briefly

Looking on the stick, and It's

Me: 5 weeks pregnant

My knees go weak

Tears blur my eyes

And in seconds, they just stream down my face to my cheeks

Me : oh my God !

This cannot be happening

I am pregnant!

I look at the stick in my shaking hand

And it hasn't changed

Me: maybe this is a mistake

I should have brought maybe two pregnancy tests

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INSERT 18

Nqobile

He pushes his plate away and looks at me

I down my juice and look back at him

Hunter: are you okay?

Inod

Hunter: you look pale

Me: I'm just tired

Hunter: if something is bothering you, you know you can talk to me

Me: I know

Hunter: okay, I am going to head out for a few minutes. I'll be back

Me: it's late

Hunter: I'm just going to the gate, I need to get something from Tt

This Tt and Mlu character

I don't understand them

I don't even know what kind of people they are

Like they just scare me

Tt is even better than Mlu

That one is always serious

I've barely even seen him smile

Me : come back , we need to

talk

Hunter: okay

He gets up and pecks my cheek

He goes out

I get up heaving a sigh

I grab the plates clearing the table

I wash the dishes

And as I'm about to wipe them

He walks back in , holding a small bag

Hunter: I am coming

Inod

And he walks upstairs

After a while, as I'm clearing the counter

He walks back in

He's in sweatpants and a vest

He ties his dreadlocks

And sits down

Hunter: so?

I heave a sigh putting the dishcloth away

Me: I am thinking of getting my own place

Hunter: why?

Me: I've been doing a sit in with you, for close to four months now. It's just crazy, we're not married

I don't understand this getting along with my grandmother

That they have going on

But I know , she will come hard on me

I'm pregnant, living with a man

And I'm not legally divorced

This definitely doesn't look good at all

It sets me off

Hunter: then let's get married, because you're not going anywhere

Me : but

Hunter: no buts, I want you here with me

Me: Wayne ...you just can't say let's get married, just because I

said I can't continue to live with you while we're not married

Hunter: if marriage is what's making you leave, then let's do it so you don't leave

Me : it doesn't work like that , marriage is a commitment

Hunter: I'm committed aren't I
?

This man!

Like what exactly is he missing from what I'm saying

Hunter: you brought an issue, and I came with a solution. I believe you will start planning on that wedding

Ilaugh

Hunter: I love you too

Me: and I love you

Hunter: nice

I can't believe this

No one gets married in this manner

I'm so not taking any of this to heart

I should just go on to look for an apartment

Me: I'm thinking of going with the decision the lawyer suggested, Siya is ignoring the divorce papers deliberately

He looks at me

Hunter: he will sign those papers

That scares me a bit

Like what will he do?

Because I'm certain, he's not just saying.

And knowing Siya

I know he won't just sign

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Hunter

Me: I am taking the madam away for a few days, so get the place ready for us

Tt: the cabin?

Me: yeah, I can't drag longer.
She wants to leave, I need to
make sure that shit doesn't
happen. And I need you to visit
Siya

Tt: butokay!

He heaves a sigh

Me: have the car delivered there, and the order of the ring I put in today. It's rushed, but I'll make sure she gets a perfect one on her big day

Tt: how are you going ahead with the plan, yet you're marrying her. And you just bought her a whole Bentley?

Me: well, my business. So just leave it to me, just have

everything ready. We'll leave the day after tomorrow

Tt: sure

I drop the call and turn I've looking at her

She's sleeping so peacefully

I pull her closer, and snuggle her up

I plant a kiss on her forehead

She moves over laying her head on my chest

I run my hand down

And she's sleeping bare, with nothing on her

I grab on her ass cheek

She whimpers softly

I lift her leg up , and rub my dick on her

And slowly slide in

She lets out a slight moan

I tilt her chin, capturing her lips into mine

As I thrust through , into her warm coochie slowly

She holds onto my arm

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Nqobile

I wince in pain as he grabs on my boobs

And he rubs on my nibbles with his thumbs

I want to get off of him

But having him this deep inside of me

He's just making me feel things

The pain I'm feeling

Is nothing compared to the pleasure, he's giving me

I will just endure

I place my hands on his chest

As I go down, moving my waist in circular motion

Hunter: shit!

He deep grunts , pounding underneath me

My thighs shake against his

And an orgasm hits me hard

He holds me tight

As I fall on him

We take a few minutes in silence

Calming down from our pleasure rush

Hunter: I am asking for a week of your time, take leave

I lift my head and look at him

Hunter: you think I can get it?

Me: why?

Hunter: I am taking you

somewhere

Me: where?

Hunter: I can't tell you, it's a

surprise

Me: I don't like surprises

He laughs

Hunter: too bad, we're leaving tomorrow

Just like that

I'm just lucky we're not that busy at work

Anyone can hold the fort for me

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INSERT 19

Nqobile

Me: is this your cabin?

Hunter: yeah

Me: it's beautiful

He sits down on the bed

I've looked around the place

And it's really beautiful, for a cabin

I don't even want to ask why he has a cabin to even begin with

Rich people are just crazy

They just seem not to know what to do with their money

They have holiday houses

And stupid yacht

Like a whole lot of nonsense

Hunter: I just want you to relax this week

I smile

Me: thank you for bringing me here, I feel like I can use the break now that I'm here

Hunter: you've been working hard, you deserve it

I will just use this time

And just enjoy myself

My phone rings

He hands it to me

Me: it's my grandmother

Hunter: you two seem to be besties, tell her you're gone so she doesn't call you every hour

I laugh

Me : she's just a naughty old woman

He chuckles as I answer the call

Me: Makhulu (grandmother)

Makhulu: how are you?

Me: I am okay, and yourself?

Makhulu: I am good and not complaining

I chuckle

Makhulu: where are you?

Why is she asking me that

Like she knows something, or wants to ask something

Me: in Chobe

Makhulu: where is that?

Ilaugh

Me: Botswana

Makhulu: what are you doing there? Like that's so far away from home, and why didn't you

say you're leaving? Are you even safe there?

Me: I am safe, it was a last minute thing. Well, a surprise from Hunter. I didn't even know, we were leaving the country. But I am safe and sound, after a week I'll come see you

Makhulu: one day, men will slaughter you very far away

from home . We won't even be able to bury you , because we can't reach these far places you go to . Wild preys will feast on your body

What?

I laugh

Makhulu: it wasn't a joke, get back. And come see me, so l

can see you're still whole. And nothing is missing

Me: okay, I will bye

I drop the call and look at Hunter

He looks so tired

I don't blame him

It was a long flight

Me: let's go take a shower

He lifts his head

Hunter: and what do I get out of that?

Me: smelling fresh

He shakes his head

Hunter: I'll rather be smelling of you

Hunter should just be thanking his stars

That he met someone who matches him

Imagine, always being this sex hungry

And your person is not even there with you

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Siya

Mom: why are you still bothering yourself with that woman? She brought us nothing, but bad luck

I put my phone away

I don't want to engage in this talk

Not because she's right

Nor wrong

I meanthat's how she feels

Mom: have you signed the divorce papers? She's not asking for anything that's yours after all, all she wants is just a divorce

Me: no

Mom: no?

I say nothing

Mom: what are you waiting for?

Me: nothing!

I don't see how she's going to take me back

Even if I reach out

She's just posted on her WhatsApp status

And I'm not blind

I can see her background

I've been to Hunter's Cabin

So she's there with him

She's already going on vacations with him

He's a better man than I am

He makes more money

So, she's set

She will never choose me over him

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Nqobile

I rinse my mouth

And he takes my hand into his

Hunter: what's this?

I avoid eye contact with him

Hunter: sweetheart, you're not okay

Me: mhm it's nothing

Hunter: you can't say it nothing, when you just threw up like your insides are coming out. That can't be nothing at all

I let out a fade smile

Me: thank you

We walk to the bedroom

Hunter: no, I am not mocking you

Me: I'll be fine

Hunter: you don't look fine, I'll call in a doctor to check on you

I swallow hard

Hunter: maybe you contacted a bug or something, and I don't

want you getting worse than this

Me: no there's no need really

I can't have a doctor checking me

Especially in his presence

I will see a doctor when we get back

To confirm the pregnancy

I am not there yet

To tell him about the pregnancy test

Me: maybe it's just change of scenery, I haven't travelled far in quite a long time

Hunter: if something was wrong, you would tell me right?

Inod

Me: without a doubt

My guilt is just eating me up right now

Hunter: let's go back to sleep

We lay down

And he pulls the sheet covering us

This was a bad idea

Coming here with him

Knowing I'm not at my best

I fear what he will say, when he finds out

And he learns, I've known

Yet I've kept this to myself

I still just can't believe I'm pregnant for real

I so wish that test was wrong

I mean, that's possible

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INSERT 20

Siya

I look at the message from Tt, once again

And it's clear what he means

And I'm definitely sure, that Hunter sent him

But I will not be told by him what to do

Especially on things that have to do with the divorce

That's between Nqobile and I, it's not his business

He's just being a pest

And really annoying me

Like he's getting on my last nerve

He should go find his own fucking woman

Because that one is mine

I will not let another man disrespect me like this

What Hunter is doing, is nothing but disrespect. He's not even hiding it

He's busy with my wife

Like she's his

Just because she's entertaining him

And has given me the cold shoulder

She didn't even bother, checking up on me

When I was hospitalized

It's not that I expected that

But I thought she was a better person

I guess, I just thought wrong

She's done

But I am not there

Not like this anyways

She's just out there, flaunting her affair

I will not sign those damn divorce papers

Not before I get to talk to her

I don't even know where she stays now

Tt: what's up?

I called him over

After getting that text from him, that was definitely from Hunter

Me: where is Hunter?

He chuckles shaking his head

Tt: don't go there

Me: I'm just asking

Tt: don't get me involved in this

Me: what?

Tt: this whole fucked up situation you're in, I want nothing of it. I don't want to fuck with Hunter, after all you know what he's doing. Even if

you don't know, where he is. But you know who he's with. Just sign those papers

Me: my wife

Tt: I don't know, is she still yours? While she's busy with another man out there, I mean ...she's happy. And fucking glowing like insane, man just give it up

Me: I will not do that shit!

Tt: good luck to you, I don't know what you're hoping will happen. But you know how this nonsense will end, Hunter won't spare you if you dare try him

He gets up

Tt: don't say I didn't tell you

He walks out

I heave a sigh

Hunter might be the shit

But I'm still a man

And I intend to fight for what's mine

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Nqobile

Hunter: watch your step, don't trip

He tightens his grip on my hand

Me: what's going on?

Hunter: you'll see

I'm anxious to know what he's planned

I'm just glad the day went by

And the whole morning conversation was done with

I can only pray and hope, that I'm better the next few days Until the week is done

And we get back to South Africa

And I'll go see a doctor

Hunter: stand still

He lets go of my one hand

And unties the blindfold

I look around , and I'm just stunned

Never have I mistaken Hunter for a romantic man

Yes, he takes care of me

Takes me out on dates

And buys me random gifts

Like he's a gentle man

I think , that's one thing that pulled me to just fall in love with him

Yes!

I don't love the man

But I'm in love with him now

It's been an insane three months

And we just grew much closer to each other

Me: what ...

A tear drops down my cheek

Hunter: I am willing to go to lengths, just to keep you.
Because I don't want to loose this love, nor you

I pop my eyes as he goes down on one knee

And takes out a red velvet box, in his back pocket

He opens it

And I gasp, as I see the diamond ring

Hunter: will you marry me?

He's serious

I mean ...after I said , I will not take this conversation any seriously

Because he just said , let's get married just so you don't leave

And now here he is

With a romantic set up

By the Chobe river

With candles, and roses all over the set up

And a romantic table set up

It's all just beautiful

Hunter: my knee sweetheart

I smile, and slightly laugh through my tears

And I open my mouth to utter words

But they just fail me

I just nod repeatedly

Like I'm an insane woman

He chuckles getting up, and slides the ring on my finger

It's so beautiful, and I'm sure very expensive

Hunter: I love you

Me: and I love you

He leans over as his lips graces mine

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Hunter

Me: what?

Tt: yeah! I'm sure he's thinking of fighting back, and take you on . I told him , to sign those papers though . But he doesn't seem keen, he's dangerous like this . He knowns a lot , and he could hurt us. Not just by his actions, but with the law as well. We cannot afford to have that

I look over at Nqobile

And she's rolling her ring with her finger

Barely even paying attention to me

Me: let him come, he's just a son of a bitch. And he will get what he wants, I'll gladly give it to him. Have Mlu on his back, I need to know his schedule.

Even when he goes to pee or take a shit

I drop the call

And place my phone on the small table

I walk over to the bed

Me: sweetheart

She looks at me

Me: I'm sorry about that, no more calls

She smiles

Nqobile: you're a busy man, I understand

I get on the bed

Me: I don't want you to understand anything, you're thee priority right now. And these calls, are just disturbing

I lay down and flip her over

Getting her on top of me

I unclip her bra, and she pulls it off her arms

Me: is it just me or your boobs have gotten fuller, and more tender?

She giggles

Nqobile: maybe I'm gaining

Me: is it?

Nqobile: yeah, happiness tends to do that to people

I deep chuckle

Me: I'm fucking loving them, I just can't

I grab her boobs, and squeeze her nipples softly

Me : get over them , I'm addicted to them now

She leans down, capturing my lips into hers

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INSERT 21

Nqobile

Hunter: sweetheart, you're worrying me

This stupid morning sickness

I feel like a wreck today

I woke up well this morning

But breakfast, turned into a disaster and I don't feel so well at all

We ate well

But after that , things just took a turn

And I couldn't stomach what I've eaten

I threw up , like nobody's business

I've never cried so much in my life

It felt like my insides were really coming out

I even wanted a doctor here

But I still have to keep and maintain my pretence

Me : but I'm okay now

Hunter: you don't look okay

Me : babe please ...

He heaves a sigh

I'm just ruining this whole trip

And I feel bad about that

Hunter: I wanted us to go out, but not when you're like this

Now I feel really bad

We came here because this man had plans

And now it seems like I'm just ruining his plans

Me : we can go out

He shakes his head and heaves a sigh

Hunter: but you're not okay sweetheart

Me: I'm ... I'm okay now

Lord! I am lying

Anyone who has eyes can see that I'm not okay at all

Like , infarct I'm very far from being okay

Or even looking okay

Hunter: tell me ...

He rubs his chin

Hunter: what's your plan?
You'll keep saying you're okay,
knowing well that you're not
until when?

I keep quite

Hunter: and again, exactly what's your plan with this?

Me: what?

Hunter: you don't want to see a doctor

I swallow hard

Like , how long can I keep up with this secret

Hunter: do you know something I don't?

Oh God!

Me: something like what?

Hunter: I don't know, you tell me Me: there's nothing

I can't have him suspecting anything about this

Or even knowing that I know

Hunter: maybe you know what's wrong with you

Shit!

Me: I don'tbut I don't think that it's something serious, because it doesn't feel like it.

AndI'll go see a doctor, as soon as we get back

Hunter: until then, we'll stay here and do nothing

Wow!

Gone and ruined are the plans for today

Like can I just get better

So we can do whatever he has planned

Me: but we can still ...

Hunter: no!

He's not kidding

And this man's no , never turns to yes

Like never

Hunter: I love you

I look down as tears burn my eyes

Fiddling with my fingers

And I don't even know why I'm suddenly so emotional

To a point of tearing up

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Hunter

Me : cancel the delivery of the car

Tt: what happened?

Me: just do it, and have the car delivered there. I'll pay the costs

Tt: iswait man, is she okay?

Me: Tt!

Tt: I am just asking, like you barelylisten I can't help but be worried if she'll make it back from the cabin

I chuckle

Me: you can be an idiot at times, and I wonder exactly just how I keep on paying you. Like are you fucking hearing yourself right now?

Tt: at the end of the day, you need me. And you can't blame me for saying that

Me: don't say I need you, that's fucking weird

He laughs

Tt: but she's ...

Me: fuck off Tt, just do what I said and

It's sniffs that I hear

And they're from the bathroom

She's in there

She went to the toilet a while back

I wasn't even concerned

Because when she goes on the bathroom

You can sometimes even forget about her

Even when she pees

She just takes a lot of time in there

Tt: and what?

I drop the call, and rush over to the bathroom

The door is not locked

I open and walk inside the toilet

She's fully dressed

And siting on the toilet seat, crying

I crouch down in front of her

Me: what's wrong?

She says nothing

Me: sweetheart, please talk to me. Have you gotten worse, do you have any pains?

I'm seriously talking to myself right now

I won't get any answer here

I take her one hand into mine

Me: sweetheart

She slowly lifts her eyes and they meet mine

Her eyes are bloodshot red

Meaning she's really crying in pain

Like this is not just a cry

Its not for nothing

Me: what's wrong?

Nqobile: you seriously brought me here, so I can be a prisoner

I look at her with a frown, raising my brow

Me: what?

Nqobile: you had plans

Me : yes , but you're not well

Nqobile: but I am okay, please don't do this

I can't believe this

I want to laugh so bad

Like really !.

She's seriously crying over this

It doesn't even make sense why

Me: sweetheart

Nqobile: no! You're just a mean person, you cancel our plans. And you expect me, to just be okay with that. Stay in this cabin, like the whole day doing nothing

Me: I am not getting into an argument with you, if its going

to that . We'll rather go back home

As if I said cry some more, and just more louder

With more tears

Me: what

I am defeated right now

Exactly what's wrong with women?

Ain't no way, that God took our ribs and created these creature's

Like it cannot be

I refuse to believe that , it's not true

Maybe, he took leftovers from when Satan was being created

And he used them , to create a women

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INSERT 22

I turn and slowly open my eyes

My body is drained

I've never felt so tired , like how I feel right now

I gasp in shock!

My eyes are wandering around

And I see well, exactly where I am

But how?

Like this can't be , it must be a dream maybe

Me: impossible!

I sit up straight, and move my eyes around the room

Me: but how ...

The door opens and he walks in

He looks at me and walks over to the bed

Hunter: sweetheart

No!

I feel like I want to strangle him

Me: where are we?

Hunter: home

I frown

So I am not confused

I can see well, that this is his house

We're not at the cabin anymore

But what happened

When did we leave, and how did we get here?

Hunter: I didn't want us to end up being in a fight there, you were being difficult. While I worried about you, we're here now and I have to pay attention to your well being

Me: what!

Now I feel like crying

How can he do this to me

I didn't get to have any fun there So what's was the point?

It was just a trip ruined

Hunter: as soon as you're up, you're headed to see a doctor. I don't want to argue back and forth, with you about this

Me : you kidnapped me ?

Hunter: what?

Me: yes you did, I don't remember anything about leaving Botswana or how I got here. How did I get up on a plane, to end up here? Unless you kidnapped me, and I wasn't aware

He smiles

Me: don't!

Hunter: we're not doing this

Me: I don't like you very much, I want to go back there

Hunter: no! We're not going anywhere, you said you'll see a doctor when we get home. And that's what you'll be doing

Men!

I look down and looking at my bling ring

Tears just fall down my cheeks

Hunter: sweetheart ...

Me: no! Leave me alone

Hunter: but

I lay back down turning my back on him

He doesn't waste time getting on the bed

And he hugs me so tight from the back

Hunter: despite all this, I love you so much

As if he's saying just cry more

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Hunter

Me: please wake up

She turns her back on me

Me: sweetheart, let's stop this. We're not fighting

I sit down on the bed

Me : let's talk at least

Nqobile : take me back , where I was

I smile

Me: we'll go back, but now let's focus on your health

Nqobile: I'll go see a doctor, when I'm ready to

Me: now you want us to fight?

She says nothing

Me : it's okay , let's do it your way

She covers her head

Me : but wake up , I need us to go somewhere

Nqobile: I am not ...

Me: you are, if you don't want to get up on your own. I'll carry you out

She sits up and looks at me

Her face is just pale

I don't understand this at all

She is sick, yet she doesn't want to go see a doctor. That doesn't make sense

Me: let's go

Nqobile: only because I want to live, I still care for my life

Says someone who doesn't want to go see a doctor

She gets up and goes to the bathroom

Me : you want me to scratch your back ?

She shuts the door closed

I chuckle shaking my head

I will get her to see a doctor

Whether she likes it or not

Tt said the drug won't hurt her

But I can't be certain about that

I just hope it won't get picked up on her system

I had to drug her

So she doesn't wake up, and catch on that we're leaving Botswana

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Siya

I might be walking into the lion's den here

And I might regret this decision

But I know she's here

Unless she moved out

Of which I doubt

No man would allow that

When he gets to be with a woman, day and night

He won't let her out of his sight

I take a deep breath, and ring the gate intercom

No one answers

But after a while the gate opens

And I hear a car driving out

It's him

He looks at me as the gate closes

I've never seen such a look of disgust, and hatred

Ngobile despises me

She can't even hide that

Hunter gets out of the car

Me:1....

Hunter: you want to meet your maker?

Me: I came here to talk

Hunter: boy, I will fuck you up. Is it not enough?

My heart pounds

Hunter: you buried your son, and your useless father. Do you want your mother to follow?

Me: youwait

No ways!

It can't be

Me: it was you? You fucking killed my son and my father?

Hunter: finally, it took you so long. I'm actually disappointed, I thought you'll have figured it out by now

I lean over with a punch

But stagger forward, as he tilts to the side

Me: you're a doghe was a child, a fucking child!

Hunter: shut up, and don't try this shit again with me. I will kill you

Me: you're going to pay for this , I'm telling you

Hunter: try it

And he moves back getting into his car

Nqobile looks at him

And he nods at whatever she's saying

And he goes on to drive away

Tears burn my eyes

I sit down on the pavement

As pain blocks my chest

He killed my son

The more I try and block the pain

The more, it just hurts more

I burst out crying my eyeballs out

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INSERT 23

Nqobile

I am out of words

And now I really feel bad

Like this man , is just proving to be everything

Me: I'm still hurt, you kidnapped me from our trip

He smiles

I look at the car

And I feel like my eyes are just deceiving me

Me: I love it

Hunter: I'm glad you love it, now let's take your baby home

Like a whole Bentley

I'm stunned

Whatever did I do , to deserve such

Now, I feel like I should just be honest

And tell him the truth

Me: okay, let's go

He leans over and pecks my cheek

Before he gives me a kiss

Of which I gladly welcome

He's literally managed to get Siya out of my mind And the fact that , he came around just to bother me

I'm sure that's what he was there to do

Hunter: I love you

Me: and I love you, there's something I need to tell you

Hunter: okay what?

I swallow hard

Me: uhm ...I'll tell you at home

Hunter: you're no longer leaving right?

I nod with a smile

Hunter: okay, at least you're not worrying me

I laugh and he walks me to my car

Hunter: you'll drive before me

I get in , and this feels amazing

And it's a whole me

Wow!

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Siya

Me : you knew he did this didn't you ?

He just looks at me.

Me: Tt, you chose the wrong side. Because when I'm done with Hunter, you'll go down

along with him. How can you watch me suffer, when you know what happened

He chuckles shaking his head

Tt: nonsense, just let this go

Me : let this ...

I bang the table

Me: he killed my son, and you're telling me to let this go. Have you ever lost a child, do you know the pain I went through?

Tt: you fucked with the wrong man, and you know what Wayne can do. Now do you want him, to finish it? Because we both know he can, and if pushed he will

Me: fuck you! And I will finish it, he started it when he fucked my wife

Tt: good luck to you, but don't say I didn't warn you

He gets up and downs his whiskey

He puts two R200 notes on the table

I heave a sigh and look around

I grab the money, and put it in my pocket

I get up and run out of the restaurant

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Hunter

Me: where are you?

He laughs

Tt : you won't believe what happened

Me: I won't ask you

Tt: so I was with Siya, of course he's out for revenge and all. I

told him off, but you know the guy. So I leave money, for the drink I was having. And that fool stole that money, the waiter who served me knows me. So he called me back, I just left now. Because I had to settle the bill

I shake my head

Me: they know he stole it?

Tt: yeah, they even showed me the CCTV cameras. He ran, like literally ran out of the restaurant with the money

Me: idiot! Let them deal with him, you get here now

Tt: alright

I drop the call

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Siya

I will not let Hunter get away with this

He may think he's the man

But with my son he just went too far

And I'm not letting it go

My son deserves justice, for what happened to him

I look at the police officer

Me: I know who killed my son

He raises his brow , I rub my hands together

Me: it's Hunter Wayne

Officer: what?

Me: I am telling you, he admitted this to me. Right to my face, and well there's a lot I can tell you about him ...

Office: Hunter Wayne is a legitimate business man, why would he go on to hurt your child?

Me: because he's having an affair with my wife, and he didn't take it well when I confronted him

Office: Mr Ngidi, all this doesn't make sense at all

Me: it's been almost four mouths, and you've failed to find who murdered my son. I've come, and I'm telling you what happened . Still you're failing, Hunter is nothing but a wolf in sheep's clothing. He's a criminal, and he's using his businesses as a front. Just to clean his dirty money, he's no business man

Officer: do you have proof of this?

Me: I said I can tell you many more, what do you need?

Officer: all this is just your word, and it can't hold up in court.

It's your word against his, he will deny. Then what? We can't arrest someone, over he said and he said

Stupid useless cops

Just a waste of my time

Me: if you can't help me, then I will take the law into my hands. And don't come arresting me, when you're failing to arrest the biggest criminal of them all

I get up

And walk out of the interrogation room

Walking outside of the police station

I heave a sigh not knowing where to from here

I feel a sharp cold needle on my neck

I turn back, as my eyes get blurry

And I lose my vision slightly

Me: Mlu

My eyes fail me as I loose consciousness

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Nqobile

I look at him and sit down rubbing my arms down

Me: uhm

Hunter: why are you looking shaky?

Me: because I don't know how to tell you this

Hunter: what?

Me: I'mthe sickness, it's not that I'm sick but

I clear my throat

Hunter: but what?

Me: it's

His phone rings and he ignores it

Me: answer your phone

Hunter: it's not important

Me : it's okay , we'll talk when you're done

He heaves a sigh answering the call

Hunter: Mlu this better be important

He listens for a while

And his facial expression, just changes within a second

Hunter: where is he?

He drops the call and gets up

Hunter: sweetheart, we will have to finish this conversation when I get back

He walks over and pecks my lips

Hunter: I have to attend this, very quickly

Me : okay I'll go see my grandmother

He walks out

I heave a sigh of relief

I am scared

Because I don't know how he's going to react to this

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INSERT 24

Siya

I gasp, as a bucket of cold ice water is thrown at me

I look around, and I'm familiar with the room

It's the basement

At the house in Soweto

I've been here, once or twice

And I've seen this man do despicable things

I fear, I'm to suffer the same fate

Hunter: you're a piece of shit

Me:1....

Hunter: I am going to cut your balls off, the fuck you think you are? Running off to the cops, and saying shit about me

Me: they are coming after you, I told them everything. And kill me, they will know you are responsible

Mlu walks over with a hammer

Me: Hunter!

Hunter: killing you right now, is just way too easy.

Me: manyou don't have to do this, I will fucking stay away. And I'll give Nqobile the divorce, if that's what this is about

He takes the hammer from Mlu

Me: Hunter let's talk about this

Hunter: now you want to talk? You were talking shit, just

minutes ago . And now you don't trust , your own words and suddenly you want to talk

Me : youmy son did nothing to you

Hunter: you clearly, don't know me. I don't give a shit about your son, he was your son and not mine. I did not say, you must be a failure. And fail to protect your own family

He walks over to where I'm seated on the floor

He doesn't have me tied up

I know, he's not a coward to do that move

He has the hammer in his hand

It's a heavy one

And it's big too

But this is Hunter

And he's carrying the hammer, like it's nothing

Its like he doesn't even feel the weight on it

I am terrified

My heart is beating so hard against my chest

Like it'll pop out and fall off

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Nqobile

My grandmother wasn't home

So I didn't even bother staying there

I just went to see a doctor

And she confirmed, that I'm pregnant

I'm still in denial of some sort

I have never even pictured myself as someone's mother

And here I am , with a baby in my tummy

I don't know when Hunter will be back

I will just gather the strength, and be brave enough

And straight out , tell him

I will deal with his reaction later on

I just hope he will take the news better

But the man has never said anything about kids to me

So maybe he doesn't even want to have kids

Here I am with one

This is just driving me crazy

My lawyer contacted me

And we're going ahead with the default divorce

Since Siya is not signing the divorce papers

I just want this over and done with

So I can cut all my losses with Siya

And for good

This has just dragged on for so long

It's actually annoying now

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Siya

Me: Hunterplease man, please spare me

Hunter: you went to the cops?

Bloody corrupt police we have

How else did Mlu know that I was there

Unless Hunter was alerted of my presence

I guess, I was also just stupid

I rushed things

And now here I am

Definitely shit scared

I am scared, I don't want to lie

I know he will not let me go

Especially because I look like a threat of some kind right now

Me: yesI know I did, and it was just stupid of me. I acted

irrational, it was just out of anger. You just admitted to killing my son, and my father.
Right to my face, proudly so without any remorse. What was I supposed to do? I'm hurt I'm fucking hurt man ...

Hunter: so?

I heave a sigh

Me: nothing will happen, you're Hunter after all. And well, they didn't believe me or anything that I said to them. The police, didn't take my story

Hunter: what did you expect?

I shake my head

Me: I was a fool ...

Hunter: a fucking idiot! That's what you are

I just nod

Hunter: butI'll school you a bit today, you definitely don't deserve death

Me: waitrather kill me, than to hurt me. Please, I would rather be dead. I don't want to

be a burden to anyone, especially my mother. She will not be able to handle all of this, she's not well as it is.

Everything is just going south in my life, man

I look down as tears burn my eyes

Me: I am down and out, don't kick a dog while it's down

Hunter: you're annoying me

Tt gives me nothing but looks of pity

Because he knows the fate that awaits me

Hunter has no mercy

I'll be foolish to expect any

This will definitely not end well for me at all

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Nqobile

My phone rings

I'm driving to Hunter's place

I slow down, slightly going to the side of the road

And it's Hunter

I let out an involuntary smile answering the call

Me: babe

This is strange

It's nothing, but just slight air

Like it's an open room, that's almost as empty

I frown in confusion

Me: baby?

Still nothing ...

Until I hear a cry

Not just any cry

But a loud screeching cry

And it's of a man

I look at the phone

And now I'm scared

What the hell is happening?

I stop the car on the side of the road

And still the call is on going

Me: Hunter?

I raise my voice

This is telling me this a mistake call

And I'm sure his phone dialled me by mistake

But where is he

And what's happening there?

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INSERT 25

Nqobile

Right now , I feel like I'm walking into the lion's den

Ask me why I'm here

And I don't know

I have this stupid tracker app on my phone

That I installed when I was still with Siya

I downloaded it , when I first expected that he was cheating

But then again, I stopped myself from going through with it

But here I am in Soweto

I tracked Hunter's phone

That call was just unsettling

And I thought maybe he might be in danger

But I don't want to believe that something happened to him

The door wasn't locked

And I just walked in

It's quite in here

And it looks quite scary

I even dropped the call myself

When I couldn't hear anything

And it sounded like he was losing signal

I notice another door

That seems like it's going down

I take a deep breath, and head towards it

It's dark going down

But I just keep on going

I stop on my tracks, as I come into view of what's happening here

There's Siya lying on the floor

With Hunter, hammering his manhood

The man is naked

And there's blood

That's definitely his blood

Without a doubt

And there's Hunter holding a hammer

And Tt is by the corner

Just sitting there

Like he's watching some kind of a show

The way Siya is groaning is just heart piercing

I never thought I'd ever feel any pity for him

But this is inhumane

Hunter: I don't make threats, I fucking fulfil my promises

He turns and there's blood dripping from the hammer

He lifts his head

And we lock eyes

I'm just stuck where I am

He walks towards me

Without even flinching

Or looking shocked to see me here

Hunter: what brings you by?

Is he for real?

Hunter: well Sweetheart, welcome to the party

This man is sick, like what nonsense is this?

I pass him, dragging my feet

And I crouch down next to Siya

I pop my eyes

Gasping in shock, as I see how badly hurt he is

Like his private parts are definitely crushed

Without a doubt, Hunter was crushing his balls with the hammer he's holding

I turn my head and look at him

Me: what have you done?

He chuckles shaking his head

What sick nonsense is this?

Me: take him to the hospital, he's still alive!

He goes on to grab a cloth, and just wipes his hands

He's so chilled and just relaxed

Me: Hunter!

Hunter: don't raise your voice at me there's no need to be shouting, you're here now. And this will just be nice, it's a reunion of some kind

I look at him shocked

I'm definitely not understanding anything he's saying right now

What reunion, when he knows I hate Siya

And I want nothing to do with him

Hunter: it's fucked up so bad, because I actually do love you

He chuckles shaking his head

Hunter: beats me how I got there, when all I wanted was to kill you after getting my diamonds

What the hell?

Hunter: sit down sweetheart, and be comfortable

Me: kill me?

I ask in shock!

Me: whatwhat diamonds?

Hunter: you see, the same way your stupid useless father killed my parents in front of my eyes. I just wanted to avenge them,

by killing you . And taking back what belongs to me

No!

I'm just struck by shock

As I move back

And I make contact with the wall

With one of my heels coming off

Me: Hunter

It comes off as a whisper

This feels like a tale of some kind

And it's a lot at once

I am not believing what my ears are hearing me

Its just lies

It cannot be true

My father?

No ways!

No, it can't be

My father was a lot of things

But he definitely wasn't no killer at all

It just cannot be

And what of this diamonds?

Hunter is lying

How did my father even come to have such things on his possession?

Hunter: shut up, I'm the one talking now. Your lover won't die, it's just his useless dick that he failed you with. He will live, but I will do this my way. Not what you're telling me

Me: I don't ...

Hunter: I told you to shut up, so do that

I swallow hard

As tears burn my eyes, and they stream down my cheeks

Silently

I shiver, he walks towards me

Me: please don't hurt me

Hunter: your father was a piece of shit, and he crossed people in his path. While he was busy trying to be a man, he fucked up with the wrong ones . And he died like a dog , the fucking dog that he was . You paid for his sins, and became some damn payment to this fools patents. While he managed to

cross my father, and not only that. But he stole from my father as well, because of greed. And he saw it fit, to bomb my parents to ashes. He didn't even leave me bones to bury, it's

He shakes his head

Hunter: it's a pity, no one even gives a fuck about you. I kill you, and none of your family

members will even shed a tear. So I can give you some courtesy, and burn you to ashes as well. It'll save you the hurt, of seeing no one giving a damn about you

Me: Hunter pleaseplease don't hurt me

Hunter: no sweetheart ...

He sits down

Right in front of me

Me: please

Hunter: I'm sure my parents begged too, pity your mother was nothing but a whore. And she laughed, she actually laughed in my face when I took her life. And saw her taking her last breath, she only shed tears

and cried at the end of it all.
But that wasn't satisfying at all,
besides she was useless
because she didn't have a clue
about the diamonds. But you
....

He smiles letting out a chuckle

With his finger pointing at me

Hunter: you're not so useless ...

He nods slightly

Hunter: you know about my diamonds, and by the time we're all done here. You would have told me where they are, and we'll part ways nicely. On the other hand, you'll greet your parents for me on the other side

Me: Hunterbaby , I don't know anythingI don't know anything about the ...the ...the diamonds. And my fatherplease, if you're telling the truth. Then I clearly didn't know the kind of man, that he was . But please I don't know anything

He laughs

Hunter: you're smart

The look he's giving me

It has me cold in my stomach

Hunter: you'll say anything, just to save your ass

He takes out a pocket knife, I've never been this scared my entire life

Me: I AM PREGNANT!

I close my eyes, shouting that on top of my lungs

And the whole room, just becomes still

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INSERT 26

Nqobile

I lift my head, opening my eyes

Right now I'm hoping for a miracle

I'm praying and hoping that he spares me

This child is his blood

His eyes are not giving anything

And his face is just blank

It's like I didn't say anything

Or he didn't hear me

Me: Baby, I am pregnant.
That's why ...why I've been sick,
I was just scared to tell you

Hunter: see how much I love you? To a point that I've even

given you a child , like that's fucking big

Oh my God!

This guy is just insane

How can he still say he loves me

After everything he's just said

That my father was a murderer

He stole from his father

He himself killed my mother

He didn't even have remorse saying that

This man, the man that I have come to love so much

I even hate myself for that

To an extent that I've even agreed to marry him

He killed my mother

And telling me that he's going to kill me

Me: we can talk about this, if you think I know aboutthe diamonds. Then you can help

me, help me help you find them. I willI will do my best

Hunter: I won't do shit, but you'll give me what I want. Without even working hard for it, because you know exactly where they are . Sick , I didn't even have to pretend to love you . It came naturally , and I thought it was just fucked up. But then, matters of the heart sweetheart. Just that mine to

yours, were nothing but sinister intentions

What the fuck!

What kind of a love is that?

A love with sinister intentions

Me: no! You don't love me, you've never loved me. I was just a pawn, and your end

game was to kill me . I was just a fool , because I actually fell for you andI love you damnit!

I burst into a cry

As my heart aches so bad

Me: Hove you

A lump of pain, just chokes me

And I feel my chest closing up

Hunter: you're not dying, not like this. I'll take you out, by my own hand. Just calm down, sweetheart. Take a deep breath, and relax

Lord!

What have I gotten myself into?

If I thought I wasn't God's favourite

Well, now I now the man hates me to the core

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Siya

I am hearing bits and pieces of what he's saying

Even though some things , I cannot hear

It sounds like he's so far

It's when I lose my consciousness

When it comes back, I'm able to pick up what he's saying

I'm in so much pain

And I can't believe, he's going to sit here

Tell tales, and speak of his revenge

And killing people

While I'm on a cold cement floor

Feeling my soul, slowly leaving my body

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Nqobile

I'm so close to peeing on myself right now

Like I'm pressed

Hunter: see, I told you you'll be okay. Now, where were we?

Me: Hunter, please

I don't even know why I'm still begging him

Because it's clear, this is my fate

This is what he has decided

And he's been planning all along

Me: okay ...okay

I take a deep breath

Me: it's clear, that you're going to kill me. But please, not our baby. Spare the baby, keep me until I give birth. And you let

my baby live, even if you give him away it's fine. Just don't kill me pregnant with our child, please I am begging you. My father killed your parents, and left you're an orphan. You killed my mother

Now I'm wondering if he didn't kill my father as well

Me: you took away the only parent I was left with, and I

suffered. We both suffered, because of our parents. What they did to each other, I'm asking you. Don't put our child through that, don't make him turn out like me and you. That he dies, because I'm paying for my parents sins

He smiles

And I hate that it's so damn cute

I shouldn't even be seeing him like this

Not when things are like this

And he's planning to kill me

Hunter: how clued up are you about the Bible?

What the hell?

I wipe my tears off, as more just keep on falling

I just shake my head

Hunter: I'll take that as a no, and well that's too bad

He rubs his chin, as he flips the knife between his fingers

Causing me to let out a slight scream

Hunter: relax!

He bites his lips, like he's thinking of something

Hunter: just as everyone chooses, what verse they love and favours them. There's one that says "I will punish the

children for the sins of their parents"

What kind of Satanism is this?

This cannot be normal

It's just demonic

What kind of an animal is this man?

And to think I love him

Hunter: so take a wild guess, I have no nightmares whatsoever taking souls of the young ones

Lord no!

Not with my child, please

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Hunter

Tt: we're not civilized citizens, we're most definitely not good for the community we don't even fit into society morals. But this ...

He shakes his head, with a slight heavy sigh

Me : are you saying something ?

Tt: you say you love this woman ...and I've never understood this love. It doesn't make sense to me, and it never has

Me:so?

Tt: man ...she said she's pregnant, and you know that's your child. How can you ..mm

He haves a heavy sigh

Tt: I can't watch this, because I will never be able to live with myself. Knowing a pregnant woman died, and I sat still and did nothing

He gets up

And looks at Nqobile

Tt: I don't know why you're here, or how you got here. I'm just sorry, that you got caught up in this

I saw that damn call

My phone must have pressed itself

Calling her in the process

Beats me how she knew I was here

Because I never uttered that

So it can't be she heard from the call

Tt: I am sorry

He walks past me and heads to the door

Me: Tt

He sighs and bows his head

Tt: Hunter please

There's a strain of pain in his voice

And that's a first

From every murder I've ever done

And he got to witness

He's never reacted in this manner

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INSERT 27

Nqobile

Hunter must be crazy

After Tt talked to him

He just left

I don't know if he'll be back or not It's not like he told me where he's going

Or why he's leaving me here with Tt

And an unconscious Siya, still bleeding on the floor

I've never seen a person die

But I think this is the day

So many thoughts are going through my head

And I can't believe this

I fell for such a man

First it was the marriage to Siya

And now this with Hunter

I feel cursed

I find it very hard to digest everything he said

More especially about my father

That man was the sweetest man ever

Like literally

He loved his family, more than anything

He's never failed us, not even once

He was a provider, and he proved to be a man

He took care of us

We never lacked anything

He showed us love without fail

I feel pain, as I recall how his death affected us

More especially my mother

And I always thought, she died because of a broken heart

Now I hear she was killed

By the same man , that I've been sharing a bed with

A man whom I love

And I'm carrying his child

How messed up can my life be

Now I'm stuck, with questions I do not have answers to

With no one to answer them

What kind of a man was my father?

And did he really kill Hunter's parents

In such a cruel some way

That he left him without parents

And the Diamonds

They just confuse me worse

What was my father thinking?

And how did he get himself involved in such things?

Was he a criminal?

The man I grew up looking up to

Telling myself, that's the kind of a man I want to marry

The kind that will put his family first

Without fail

And this is what I end up with

I sniff wiping my tears off

Tt: you love him don't you?

I lift my eyes looking at him

I nod as words fail me

Me: am I an idiot?

Tt: no!

He chuckles

Tt: if anything, he's an idiot.
Because he claims to love you,
and he always has. But ...

He shakes his head

Tt: I just don't understand

Me: I know nothing

Tt: I believe you, but maybe your father left you a clue somewhere

Me: you think?

Tt: these people are unpredictable

Me: maybe if he got his diamonds, he will let me go

Tt: I can't say for certain, but I guess it's crazy that he loves you

Me: no, he doesn't. Hunter cannot be mentally stable, this is not normal. Is this what he does?

Tt: he's complicated

Me: he has a company, one that's doing so well might I say. What reason, does he have to be doing such things?

Tt: Ihe's always been this Hunter, for as long as I've known him. I can't say anything He gets up from the chair

Tt: I'll go get you some food

He walks out

I dart my eyes to Siya

And fear just strikes me

He could be laying there dead

And I'm here with him

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Hunter

Me: you idiot! You left her there, with that fool?

Tt: you left first

Me: with you not alone

Tt:wellI....

Me: Tt, you're a fool. And I better find her still alive, or else you'll take her place. I will strangle you with my bare hands, and watch your soul leave your body

Tt: but

Me: fuck off! I am here dealing, with cops interrogating me.
Because that fool, opened his filthy mouth

Tt: your plan is to kill her anyways, so what do you care how she dies? Cause you just want her dead

He shrugs

Me: leaving her to die on her own, and actually doing it myself are two different things

Tt: I'll go

Me: stay away, take that fool away from there and remove her car from that house

He nods walking out

I click my tongue

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Nqobile

I watch as Tt grabs Siya

And he just drags him across the floor

Me: I am cold

He looks at me

And I'm shivering

Without a doubt, it's night now

And I can feel the coldness from the cement floor

Me: please, can I have something to warm up

Tt: there's no blankets here

Me: just anything please, I don't want my baby to catch the cold. I don't want to harm my child

He heave a sigh

Tt: I'll see what I can do

Me: where is Hunter?

The look he's giving me

Says Hunter won't be back here

But he just won't tell me

Me: he's really going to kill me, isn't he?

And all I get is silence

Tt: let me take care of this, I'll try and bring you something to keep warm

He walks out with Siya

The trail of blood, where he dragged Siya is just stomach upsetting

I bring my knees up

Just rocking myself back and forth

I just hope Tt will come back with something to cover up

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INSERT 28

Nqobile

I turn

And to my surprise, I'm on a bed

It's the comfort that's getting me up

This cannot be the cold floor

That I remember from last night

I open my eyes

And sit up straight slowly

Me: what

Shock overcomes me

This is Hunter's townhouse

But how did I get here?

Because I was still at that house in Soweto

Tt came with a fleece

Said that's all he could find

Me: Hunter?

I call him out

But it's just silence

There's no answer

I get up and head to the bathroom

I am very pressed, and it's very uncomfortable

I pee , and wipe myself flushing the toilet

I wash my face and walk out

Just as he walks in the bedroom

With a tray of breakfast

Nothing fancy

Just fruit salad and plain yoghurt

Hunter: come eat, I hope it's nothing that will trigger your morning sickness. There's no fats and oils

Is he insane?

I am not eating his food

Hunter: sweetheart

I look at him sitting down on the bed

Hunter: do you want to die of hunger?

Me: I'll rather, die of hunger.
Than to eat your poisonous
food

He smiles

Hunter: I still want my diamonds, so you're not dying

I shake my head slowly

This one must be out of his mind

Me: I don't know what you're talking about

Hunter: you will know

He takes the food and eat half of it

My stomach just grumbles

I am hungry, no lies!

Hunter: see, I am fine

Me : maybe you're planning to take an antidote

He laughs

And it's just annoying me

Because I am not trying to me funny here

Especially not with him

Hunter: okay, go make yourself food then

I just ignore him

Hunter: okay, starve. But you'll tell me, how long have you known that you're pregnant. And you kept it to yourself?

Now he cares to know

Me: you didn't care to spare my child, now you care?

Hunter: how was I supposed to know, when you kept this to yourself?

Me: I didn't know how you'll feel about this

Hunter: smart, you saw it fit to use it to your advantage

Me: do whatever you want to do with me, but leave my child out of it. That's all I'm asking

I'm just wondering if this means he won't kill me anymore

Seeing that I'm in his house

Hunter: eat, the doctor is

coming

I guess I'm here, because he wants the doctor to confirm that I'm pregnant really

Wow!

Me: you will not leave my side, if I eat the food. We will die together, along with this child. YOUR CHILD!

He smiles

Hunter: no need to be rude

Honestly, I fell for an idiot of a cold blooded killer

I take the bowl and start eating

I finish it in less than 5 minutes

I grab the yoghurt

And he laughs

Hunter: being stubborn, doesn't always help

Me : don't talk to me , I hate you right now

Hunter: too bad, I still fucking love you. More than the first day, I fell for you

Me: you must not be from this planet, you just used me. And you knew the sinister intentions you had about me

Hunter: and there's love

Me: what kind of a love, with sinister intentions as this?

Hunter: our kind

Sick!

I don't even want to ask about Siya

Or what Tt did with him

I might just be accused of something else

He already called him my lover

Me: whatever we had is broken , I cannot trust a man who threatened to kill me to my face . A man who clearly , is a mess . Something that's just dangerous , and definitely not a man I thought you were . After this doctor leaves, we can go our separate ways . Because I don't even know anything, about the diamonds you spoke of . So I am just useless, and won't help

you with anything . I want nothing to do with you

Hunter: there's no such

To what?

Me: you hurt me Hunter, you hurt me so bad. And I hate myself for loving you, and thinking you love me too.

When that wasn't the case for

you, I am stupid! I fell for you, after being dealt by Siya. I should have known, men are nothing but just devilish creatures. Honestly hell was created for your kind, you don't deserve any peace. If my father was able to put us through all this, then all men are the same .. because he did not think of what his actions will do to us. Or how they'll affect us, he didn't care. Today my mother is

dead, because of him. And I'm yet to suffer the same fate as her, and all because of him. In the hands of a man, who lured me in with nothing but lies

Hunter: the only difference here, is that I actually do love you. No matter how hard you find it to believe

I chuckle bitterly

Me: even now, you still see me as a fool. I am nothing but just your pawn, you should have killed me at first chance

Hunter: that's ...

The gate intercom goes on

Hunter: that's the doctor

Me: let him in, from in here

He smiles

Hunter: okay

He gets up , grabbing the gate remote

I take a deep breath, closing my eyes briefly

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Hunter

Me : so is everything okay , with the baby ?

Doc: yes, but she really needs to reduce her stress levels. That cannot be good, for both mother and child

Me: mhm

Inod

Doc: but so far, she's coming well okay. Monitor that she takes her meds well, and in a week or so her stress levels should be coming down

Me: well thank you doc

He smiles and walks out

I turn and she's looking at me

She's clearly pissed with me

And I don't blame her, I would be too in her situation

Me : that was one strong heart beat

Nqobile: what do you want to do with me now?

Me: we will work out, on how I get my diamonds and where they are

Ngobile: how many times do I have to

Me: uh-uh sweetheart, the doctor said no stress. So we will

do this sweet, without stressing no one

She rolls her eyes clicking her tongue

Me: you'll definitely be the one person causing stress here

I walk past her, going to the kitchen

But as I get to the door, a knock comes on the lounge door

I turn back

She gets up and opens the door, so fast there's no way I can even get to her

I just stand still, as she moves back in shock

And the stupid cop, who questioned me about Siya walks in

I heave a sigh

Me: fuck!

And curse under my breath

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INSERT 29

Hunter

One thing about cops

They're stupid

And very much incompetent

They cannot do their jobs

That's one thing they fail at miserably

But whisper in their ears

It'll definitely plant doubt

And this is what has happened

Me : can I help you ?

He looks at me

Him : can we have a talk Mr Wayne ?

Me: talk

Him: privately, if you don't mind

Me: man, just speak I don't have the whole day

He looks at Nqobile

She clears her throat

Nqobile: I'll excuse myself

She walks towards the stairs

I head over to her

She stops on her tacks

Me: talk!

Him: okay, I called you

Me: a lot of people call me

Him: about Siya Ngidi

Me: mhm

Him: Mr Wayne, Mr Ngidi has gone missing and his mother has reported the case

Me: a grown ass man is missing?

Him: do I have reason, to believe that you're responsible for that? Considering what I told you, and what he told us

Me: just do your job, since when does hearsay even hold up to the police?

Him: I'm just here to ask you to come to the station again, seeing that you chose not to listen to me yesterday

Me : and again , I won't listen to you

Him: then, I will be forced to arrest you

Me: do it

Ngobile: Hunter no!

I look at her

Nqobile: just go with him

please

Me: no

Nqobile: I don't need this, if he goes with you. You won't arrest him right?

She asks him

Him: it's just for questioning

Nqobile : please go

Me : you want me to

Nqobile: the man said he's just going to question you

Me: he's crazy!

Him: Mr Wayne, you leave me no choice. Right now, I'm arresting you because you're defeating the ends of justice

Me: touch me

He walks closer to me, I look down making sure no harm will come to Ngobile

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Nqobile

There's no time to even scream

Hunter throws one mean punch to the police man

That he staggers back, loosing all balance

Making contact with the wall so hard

And within a split second

Hunter has the man pinned against the wall

And he's punching the life out of him

I snap out of it, when I see blood gushing from his face

Without even thinking twice

I get closer to them

And try to pull Hunter away from him

But he's not even moving an inch

Me : let him go

I am not being heard here

He's beating this cop to a pulp

He's definitely going to get arrested for this

Wether the man dies or that he lives

This one is going to jail

Why does the thought alone scare me?

I try to pull his arm, but his elbow lands on my stomach

Landing me down on the floor

I scream in pain, and that gets him to leave the man alone

He's on my side, touching my hand

He picks me up into his arms

I just close my eyes, letting the pain swallow me

As I feel slight liquid coming down my thighs to my legs

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Hunter

Tt: how did we get here?

I run my hand through my dreadlocks

Me: did you call Mlu?

Tt: he's at the house as we speak, but Hunter ...

He shakes his head

With a heavy sigh

Tt: things are just being more messier as of late

Me: I am not an amateur, I know what I'm doing

Tt: this? Beating a cop like that

Me : just

My phone rings, and it's Mlu

Me : yeah

Mlu: he's dead

Great!

Me: take him to the butcher

The eye that Tt gives me

But I ignore his eyes on me

Mlu: alright

Me: erase that man, make sure there's no trace. This better not come back to me

Mlu: definitely

I drop the call

Tt: you know this won't end well, this man was a cop. And well, they will do all their best to find him. And find out what happened to him, you may make him disappear. But they will not overlook that

Me: shut up, if you have nothing better to say

Tt: right now, you need a reality check. And I will be

honest with you, I'll give it to you

Me : do you want to join him ?

He heaves a heavy sigh

Tt: spilling blood, is not always the way to go. How do you think Nqobile will look at you now? What happens when she looses her baby? the one thing

she wanted to keep so much, more than anything. She will definitely hate you, without a doubt

I turn and look at him

He moves back slightly

Me : okay Tt , you're starting to annoy me right now

Tt: half the time, you're always annoyed. It's nothing new, you're just angry at the world

Me: I do not have fucking issues

Tt: yeah, you ...

He finally gets to shut his mouth

As the doctor walks to us

I just rushed Nqobile to the hospital

I can admit , I got a little scare when I saw her bleeding

Doc : Nqobile Ngidi ?

Me: it's Wayne now, get your facts straight. Tell me is she okay?

He frowns

Me: I don't have all day

He clears his throat, and looks at the file he's holding

Me : she's pregnant

Doc: I am well aware but

Tt gets up and walks away from us

I look at the doctor, awaiting him to tell me what's going on

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INSERT 30

I thought I had drama in my life before

But nothing has ever come to this

This is definitely beyond me

And I feel like I'm way in over my head

I look at him

Me : you're not yet in jail ?

Hunter: why would I be in jail?

Me: you beat up a cop

Hunter: and who knows I did?

Wow!

Me: do you think he didn't tell anyone he was coming to see you?

Hunter: well then, he would have been an idiot if he did

Would have been?

No!

I pop my eyes as the possibility of what he's saying hits me

Me : you killed him didn't you ?

Hunter: he died on his own

Me: how? When you're the one who beat him

Hunter: Heft him there alive, and brought you herepity when Mlu got there he was dead

I shake my head in fear

I cannot believe this!

Like exactly who is Hunter Wayne?

A man who thrives on spilling blood

And killing people like flies

Me : please leave

Hunter: you ...

Me: I don't want to hear anything, you have to say. I don't want you anywhere near me and my child, in fact I don't want you anymore. Leave me alone, and let me be. Go find your stupid diamonds all by yourself, because I am done with you . I almost lost my child because of you, I hate you Hunter . If I had doubts that you don't love me, well now I am certain. You just proved how much you don't love me, and never did. You don't even feel any remorse over what you did, and it's actually disgusting. You're nothing but a murderer, a despicable satan!

Hunter: I didn't mean to hurt you, I wasn't aware you were behind me. I am sorry sweetheart Me : leave , I never want to see you again

I turn over , giving him back

As tears stream down my face

I don't know who I wronged

But Lord this is too much

I almost lost my baby

Hunter is nothing but just bad news

And I don't need this

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Hunter

Me: what are you doing here?

He sits down

Me : are you done with your princess tantrums ?

He laughs

Tt : sometimes you really annoy me as well

Me: mxm!

Tt: is the baby okay?

Me: yeah, but she's being put on bed rest. And being kept at the hospital, for a week the most

Tt: I guess that's not all bad, she can use being away from you

Me: shut up!

Tt: your love for that woman is just toxic

Me: says who?

Tt: me, and definitely she's seeing that as well. I don't understand what kind of love is this, I may be clueless. But I don't think this is how love is

supposed to be, if it's love then you're really bad at it. And just doing everything wrong

Me: you have no idea of what you're talking about, but you can tell me where is Siya?

Tt: Mluwhat you've turned that guy into , is not nice

Me: answer me

Tt: he's still alive, if that's what you're asking

That wasn't so hard to say

Tt: when he's well, we will let him go. But for now, I have Mlu monitoring the situation.
And I believe you don't even need to know where he's being held, but he's still alive

Yeah, Tt can be dramatic when he likes to

And this is one of those times

My phone rings

I heave a sigh just annoyed

Me: what?

Doc : Mr Wayne , we have a situation

Me: what are you talking about?

Doc: Ms ...it seems like Mrs Wayne has disappeared

Me: don't fuck with me

Doc : Sir please

Me: don't you fucking dare call me Sir, how do you loose a whole human being?

Doc: she wanted to be discharged in the afternoon, I was against that. And this morning she was gone

Me : you better find her , before I get there . If you know what's good for you, trust me you don't want to see me there without my fucking wife in your sight

I drop the call

Me: find her

Tt: I so hope, no harm came onto her. And that she's just outsmarted you, and ran away

He gets up, pressing his phone

This woman will have me on a death bed, before my fucking time

And this idiot is feeling amused

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Nqobile

Makhulu: what are you saying?

Me: that I am leaving, and you must not tell Hunter that I am here

She laughs

Me: I am being serious, I just need to spend a night here.
Only one night, and I'll be gone

Makhulu: are you hearing yourself?

Me: yes please

Makhulu : you said you love this man

Me: I doI mean, I did. But right now, I cannot be here. I need to leave, and he must

never find me . So please don't tell him anything

Makhulu: oh but you will see this through, wether you like it or not

Me : see what through ?

Makhulu: you were married to the Ngidi's

Me : please don't tell me about those people

Makhulu: well you will listen, because you came here and claimed that you're in love with someone else and that you're happy. That you want nothing to do with the Ngidi's, and I should just let you be . Now you got what you wanted, being with this scary boy who looks like he feeds on people's blood. He was your choice, stick with him. Where are you going, while you're pregnant with his child? Do you think he will let you be?

Me: that's why I'm asking you to let me sleep here, and tomorrow morning I'll be gone

Makhulu: no!

Argh!

I did not need that lecture

It was just unnecessary

I just came here , after leaving the hospital

More like, running away

I just couldn't risk being on the road

Or booking into a hotel, anywhere where he might have found me

But now , I see I might have made a mistake

Because this one, seems capable to betray me

And we'll have Hunter walk in through that door

I can't take that risk

I need to be out of here before he finds me

For the sake of my child and my safety

Hunter is not the kind of a man I want to be with

He goes on to kill people, and his life just goes on

That's normal to him

And I don't think anyone normal

Would be okay, after doing such things

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INSERT 31

Nqobile

Makhulu: are you sure about what you're doing?

Me: yes

I grab my bag

Me: I can't stay here

Makhulu: what did he do?

Me: he uhmnothing

She laughs

Makhulu : you think I was born yesterday ?

Me: no

Makhulu: something big is going on here, and nothing ever stays hidden forever

Maybe I should tell her

So that if I wind up dead

Then she will know he's responsible

But what if , I'll be putting her life in danger?

Hunter is unpredictable

He's capable of anything

He might even kill her

And that would be on me

She's better off not knowing

Makhulu: if that man comes here looking for you, and he harms me for keeping you here. That will be on your hands

Me: Makhulu! (Grandmother)

Makhulu: no, I am telling you

Wow!

I wouldn't he surprised even if he threatened her

So she can be nice to me

Because when he came here

I didn't come with him

Next thing , my grandmother is calling me

And being all nice to me

Me: I have to go, once I'm safe. I'll make contact, and let you know

Makhulu : did he threaten to kill you ?

Me : no

My phone beeps, and it's a message from my lawyer

The divorce is finally done and finalized

I heave a sigh of relief with a smile

Now I can go on , and start my life

Without Siya or Hunter

I will not walk into the lion's den

With my eyes wide opened

And staying here

Marrying Hunter

It means exactly that

Me: bye, and take care of yourself

I'm surprised he still hasn't come here

Or maybe he thought I wouldn't come here

Knowing he'll come looking for me

This is hiding in plain sight

I just figured , he will go around looking for me

I take out my sim card and break it

I don't need any of my past following me

Once I get to Mozambique

I'll figure out a plan

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Hunter

Me: where?

Mlu: around Joburg

Me: is it possible, that she went to her grandmother?

Tt: she wouldn't go there, knowing that we will go look for her there

Me: and maybe she's there, that's exactly what she wants us to think. That she would never go there

Tt: I doubt

Me: my woman is anything, but not an idiot

Tt : so you saying we should go there ?

Me: that's where we should have started

Tt: I think that would just be a waste of time

Me : just go Tt , Mlu will go around

Tt: alright

They both get up and walk out

I call her, and her number doesn't go through

I shake my head with a chuckle

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Nqobile

Having too much luggage won't work

So I only have a small sports bag

And my handbag

Fear is just striking me

As I walk inside the airport

I avoid darting my eyes around a lot

I take out my passport, heading to check in

I'm startled by a figure standing in front of me

I let out a gasp

Feeling my heart pounding

Mlu: don't make noise

Shit!

Me: Mlu pleaseplease let me go, if he's anywhere near here

I look around

But I don't see him

Me: please just let me go, don't tell him. Tell him you didn't find me

Mlu: one thing my boss knows about me is that i am not incompetent, I do get the job done

Me: Mluplease, I am begging you. Hunter will kill me, and harm my child

Mlu: that's also his child, keep me out of your situation. Let's not cause a scene, let's go

I shake my head

Me: I am not going anywhere, touch me and I'll create the biggest scene you have ever seen. Just try me

Voice: there won't be a need for that

Fuck!

I am doomed

He takes a deep breath behind me

Mlu walks away

Hunter: are you seriously running away with my child?

Mxm?

His child

Like he gives a damn

He was willing to kill me

Along with this child inside of me

Now he's claiming, that it's his child

Hunter: mhm ...let's not do this

He takes my hand

I close my eyes

Is this really it?

Do I just give in and turn back with him

Turn back to my death

I turn slowly and look at him

He looks so calm , like nothing is happening

Me : please let go

Hunter: let's go home, you're not going anywhere

Me: Hunter I don't want you anymore

Hunter: that's fine, but you're not leaving with my child

Now he's just testing me

Me: this child is better off without you, what child wants a father of a murderer? He'll rather be without one, because

what exactly will he learn from you?

Hunter: I am not doing this with you, don't force my hand

Me: just do your worst

He smiles

And now I fear what will follow

Sometimes my mouth, doesn't say the smartest things

And this is one of those times

How can I dare a murderer?

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INSERT 32

SEVEN MONTHS LATER

Siya

I look around

As every fibre in my body is drained

My whole body is in pain

Voice : Siyabonga , you're awake

I turn over , hearing my mother's voice

And it's her

She looks like she has aged ten years older

Mom: oh my baby, God is great. You're alive, you woke up. After 7 months of being hospitalized, and in a coma. You are alive

I'm slightly confused

Being out of place

Feeling out of touch with reality

Mom: I know it will be hard for you, having to adjust your life back and everything. But you'll make it just fine, I know it. I prayed day and night, so I can live for you

Me: what ...what happened?

My throat hurts

And it's very dry

Me: water

Mom: okay, let me get you

some water

She takes the jug of water next to the bed

She pours in a glass

And helps me to drink

Mom: sorry ...

I nod , as she moves the glass away

Me: why am I here?

Mom: you don't ...

She heave a sigh and sits down

Mom: you don't remember?

I shake my head no

Mom: this is hard

Me: mom please, you said I've been in a coma for 7 months. Why?

Mom: please don't get upset, you were involved in an

accident. That left you badly hurt, and doctors had to do a very complicated surgery to save you ...

She tears up

I'm guessing whatever this is

Cannot be easy

I try to sit up, but I can't get up

Me : mom ! I can't feel my lower body

I try moving my legs

And they can't

Like my whole lower body

Me: mom!

Mom: you ...the injury, caused damage to your legs. You can't ...

Me : nono !...no !

I let out a cry

Mom : Siya

Me: I cannot be disabled ...mom no

Mom: I am sorry, but the doctors said you'll never be able to walk again

Me: no!

What kind of damage is this?.

Me: the accident, what happened? And is the person responsible arrested?

Mom: there's no case, there never was. We don't know what happened to you, you were found on the side of the road

I can't stop my tears

Mom: yourfor all this to happen, you were badly hurt on your private parts. And they

had to remove your manhood to save your life

I remove the hospital sheet

And look at myself

This is pain

Not only am I a cripple, but I I've lost my manhood as well

Mom: I am sorry

Me: sorry is not going to change anything! I am a cripple, why did you let them do this to me?

She sighs whipping her tears off

Me: I hate you, I hate you so much. This is all your fault! You let them do this to me

I sink down on the bed , crying my eye balls out

What did I do to deserve such?

What man am I?

Without my manhood , I am nothing but just a living vessel

One that's even useless

To a point that , I'll be attached to a wheelchair for the rest of my pathetic life

This is not life

Even death is better than this

Yes!

I should have just died

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Nqobile

Me: you're full now, and I've changed your diaper so please sleep

He sides smile

I can't help but laugh slightly

He's got the sweetest smile ever

It always warms my heart

Now this is what I call fulfilment of life

Every little missing piece is just filled

There's no void

And all I needed, was just this little tiny small person

There's just enjoyment in being a mother

No lies!

Me: okay, my bad

And that just causes him to open his eyes wider

Me: we'll go watch Bluey then, cause there's no sleeping here

I pick him up , and walk to the lounge

I lay him down on the carpet

Balancing his back with the small cushion

My phone rings, and I pick it up

Me: Makhulu (grandmother)

And all I'm just hearing is noise of ululations

I frown in confusion

After what feels like forever, her voice comes through

And she's laughing

You cannot miss just how happy she is

Me: what's going on?

I am so lost and confused

She didn't say anything about attending a wedding

Makhulu: you should have told me, I would have prepared well for your in-laws. But nonetheless, everything went well

Me: what?

I pop my eyes

Just as a knock comes at the door

Me: I swear if you sold me again, like you did with oNgidi. I will not take that nonsense anymore

I drop the call with a click of my tongue

I open the door

And his smile just graces me

I heave a sigh letting him walk in

Hunter: you good?

Me : you could have said that you're coming

He walks over and picks Liam up

Hunter: hey buddy

He giggles

Grabbing his father's dreadlocks

They sit down, I close the door and head over to the one sitter couch

He goes on to talk to his son

He's just another one , I don't know how to get rid of in my life

But for Liam's sake, he's here

But my mind just trails off to my grandmother

And what she said

What in-laws?

I swear, the good for nothing relationship we have will come to an end

I won't stand this again

I got burnt once

I don't want to see it again

Especially not in this way

I look at Hunter

He's just preoccupied with Liam

I can't deny the great and amazing father that he is

Because he's always been there

Throughout the whole pregnancy

And this person is just 3 weeks old now

But he never misses a day

Without seeing him

Even though we're living separately

And not under one roof

And seeming to be done with each other

Things have quite down between us

Right after he burnt down my parents house

Kicking my aunt's and uncles out of it

And digged one crazy hole where the house was

And he got his diamonds

I guess, I understood why he was so crazy

Because it was blood diamonds

And well

The value of those will have any man going insane and out of his mind

After interrogating me

And I just happened to remember my father used to say, sometimes houses are just built on diamonds

That never even made sense to me

Because I never understood what he meant

That was just something so meaningless to me

Hunter got his diamonds

And he just let me be

I was still under his roof, at that time

But I wanted to get away from him

He got me a house

And that's where Liam and I are staying

We're not together no!

But I would be lying if I said , I don't love him anymore

I guess love is stupid like that

Or maybe I am just stupid, that's all

Because this man, is not your ordinary man

Did my grandmother not laughed her ass off

When she found out, I was stopped at the airport

And I never even made it out of the country

That was crazy

Hunter: you're so far away

He brings me out of my thoughts

Me: it's my grandmother

Hunter: she's dead?

I gasp

Hunter: joke

Me: well a very bad one

Hunter: okay sweetheart, I'm

sorry

I heave a sigh

Hunter: talk to me

Me: I swear that old hag sold me again

And he burst out laughing

Now I am annoyed

Because he's amused by this

And well, I am not

It cannot be funny at all, maybe he has a dry sense of humour ..of which I don't

Hunter: okay ...

He gets up and puts Liam down on the carpet

He walks over to me and crouches down in front of me

He takes my hands into his

I shake my head annoyed

The bastard is still handsome as ever

And being a father has just somehow groomed him

He looks slightly matured

Even his body, like he's appearing to the eye

Mxm!

Listen to me

Hunter: you know I am a fuck up, and I don't think there's anyone who knows me like that like you do . Sure l've fucked up , and I've hurt you so much . Things I cannot take away, but I can learn from . To never repeat ever again in future, not even in my dreams . But sweetheart ,

it's just you . It's always just been you, and it'll always be you. There's no one else, you've given me the greatest gift of life . And for that , I'll forever cherish you . There's just no getting away, because as fucked up and messy as I am my heart only beats and longs for you . And I've seen that I can be better , I can do better . Not only for you, and our son. But for myself as well, I can be a

better person. It wouldn't hurt , I mean I got reasons to live for now . And I want that , I want you and him . There's nothing I want, more than the three of us here. So please, can you have me as your husband ...not just your baby daddy. And some fucking white dude, you're stuck with . It doesn't make sense, even to fools like Tt. But that's the one certain thing in my life, and I'm

content with . My love for you , no matter how unbelievable it can be . But feelings never lie

Gosh!

I'm a crying mess

Hunter: please ...I should have told you, but I was scared you'll reject me. So I sent my people to your grandmother

He lets go of my one hand, and grabs a small box from his jacket pocket

He opens it

And my jaw is on the floor

This ring, is even more stunning than the first one

I still have that one

It's kept with my things

I just couldn't bring myself to throw it away

Or part ways with it

Hunter: I'm a mess yes, but I'm your mess

May the heavens and the ancestors, and all creatures of the universe be with me

Because this.....

It says something about my mental state

Me: you and your love with ...

Hunter: don't say it

We laugh and he slides the ring on my ring finger

He leans over , his lips gracing mine

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THE END