

## **MY BEST FRIENDS BETRAYAL: LOVE KILLS.**

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**READ A LIFELESS SOUL S1 & 2 FIRST!!!!**

### **LETHINHLANHLA**

Ngonyama and his men helped us to our cars, but this time Nelly and I used separate cars. I arrived first and assumed she was a few minutes away. I removed the bloody clothes, took a shower, and nursed my wounds. One would expect Ngonyama to do one nice thing in his life and get us a doctor that will look at our wounds but nothing. When I got out of the shower Nelly was nowhere to be seen, I got worried for a bit then I remembered they said we are going home today so I assumed they took her home. I'm a bit sad that I couldn't even say goodbye to her, I've become very fond of her in the past few days, and I wanted to hug because she went through a lot today. I finished getting dressed and waited for Ngonyama to take me home. (chuckles) "home" where is home? I am better off here because they give me food compared to Sthembiso's house. I was disturbed by the door opening

"Come with me" Ngonyama said coldly

I wonder if this man has a wife. I followed after him and we walked into this huge ass house that just screamed money. I thought I was going home, who's house is this anyways.

“Ngonyama ngifuna ukuya ekhaya (I want to go home), what are we doing here?”

It fell on deaf ears as usual. He opened the door, and we were welcomed by this lady who looked so much like Sthembiso and her husband. She started crying and she came running to me..

“Oh mntanami” she exclaimed

No fucking way!

“You are so grown, look at how beautiful you are! Ungixolele mntanam (crying) bangithathela wena usemncane ....” (Please forgive me my child, they took you away from me when you were young)

She was speaking so fast and crying at the same time

“Hlengiwe calm down and let us sit down and speak” said her husband

“ohh I’m sorry, come my baby” she held me and attempted to walk but I just stood there

“ I thought you said I was going home” I turned and looked at Ngonyama who looked away

“Lethinhlanhla mntanami this is home” the man said

“Please take me to Sthembiso’s house” I persisted

“Ngonyama you can take her home” the man again

“Sipho CHA! Angvumi, I have lost her once and I am not losing her again. NEVER!” -Hlengiwe

She grabbed on to my arm like her life depended on it

“Please let go of me”

“Not until I explain”-Her

“I’ve had a long day I have to rest”

“You can rest in your room, I prepared it myself” she said that with so much pride and happiness

This woman doesn’t get it does she? I’ve had enough of this place. They slept comfortably in their giant beds while I was locked up and slept on the floor in the backyard. I had to endure punches, knife stabs and black eyes that I had to nurse myself. I had to kill a person while they sat comfortably in their house. Where was she when I needed her the most? My own parents sat in their living room and woke up whenever they wanted while I had a cold bucket of water thrown at my face every morning. Then they tell me this is “Home”, what bullshit is this?”

“Sir please talk to your wife” I said to the man

“Hlengiwe look at her face, she is tired she needs to rest. Let her leave and we will talk to her when she is ready”-man

“Then I am going to Durban with her”- Hlengiwe

Going to Durban? Haibo kanti where am I

“Hlengiwe!” the man warned

“No Baba, it’s either that or she is not leaving”

I chuckled, who the hell does she think she is? she can’t lock me up here without my consent. Who am I kidding! They locked me up in the backyard what would prevent them from locking me up again.

“We will go to Durban after a week. Can’t you see she is overwhelmed by all of this?” – Siphho

Hlengiwe started crying again refusing to stay behind

“Ngonyama take her home”-Siphho

With no questions asked I was in the car heading home. I couldn’t help but wonder what I’ll find when I get home. It feels like I have been away for years, I wonder if Nkosi still remembers me, if he ever looked for me. And Eric, the last time I spoke to him I told him I would kill myself, he probably thinks I’m dead. Those two witches are probably rejoicing in my absence, I thought they were the ones who had me kidnapped. uThabiso yena? Kaze usafuna ukungibulala yini. All these thoughts stayed rent free in my head.

“Yehla” -Ngonyama

“Where are we going?”

I don't know why I even bother myself asking this guy because he never answers me. I followed him and we boarded a private jet written "SZ".

"Where are we" I asked

Silence

"Ngonyama I am talking to you. You owe me that answer after everything you've put me through"

" I did it for your safety, you will thank me later"

"Where are we?" I asked again

"Cape Town, I'm taking you back to Durban now stop talking your voice is annoying"

Jerk!

## **NKOSIPHENDULE**

Two full months have passed without Lethi. I'd be lying if I said it has been easy because it hasn't. I miss her so much, each day I wake up hoping I'll receive a call from her saying I should take her to the beach or bring her food.

"Babe what are you thinking about"

Ayanda is my lady friend, I wouldn't really say she is my girlfriend, but I have been with her ever since I got back. I met her at club while I was drinking my sadness away, I took her home and one thing led to the next and now we are here. I enjoy having her here and she has helped me deal with my loss.

"Nothing babe, woza la" she giggled, and we kissed.

"We have to get going" she said

Nkosenhle organized a braai at his house in two days from now and invited the guys that we work with and their partners.

"What are going to get him?" I asked

What do you get a guy that already has everything?

"we will find something at the shops, we should buy Lisa a gift as well"-her

This is one of the reasons why I like u-Ayanda, she is a very thoughtful person and I like the fact that she knows I treat Lisa like she is mine, she comes first in everything.

"Lisa is exactly like her dad, they both have everything" I said

"But Still babe, that doesn't mean we should arrive empty handed"

"Alright Ayanda we will buy something, asambe"

We went to the mall, and we got an expensive whisky for Nkosenhle and a bunch of toys and clothes for Lisakhanya then we had lunch and I took her home and went to Thuls house.

“ntwana” Thuls said as we bumped fists

“bathini?” I asked

“Nothing much, how are you?”

“I’m hanging in there”-me

“How’s Ayanda?”

“Thuls!” I warned

“Hawu Mjita kanti why ungafuni kube iCherry yakho lengane ngoba phela iyababa” (why don’t you want this girl to be your girlfriend because she’s hot)

“That’s not the reason why I’m here, I’m here to invite you to Nkosenhles braai in two days”

“can I bring umntuzuzu (my girlfriend) along?” he asked

“Mntuzuzu?” I asked laughing

“Yes! Phela some of us are not afraid of claiming our women”

“Fuck you!, I’m leaving”

“Bazokudlela leyongane ngoba uyabhayiza” (they will take that girl away from you because you’re an idiot) he shouted after me

## **LETHINHLANHLA**

We arrived late and it was dark. He parked outside the gate and all the memories came flooding, back to being alone now, not having anyone to talk to, as weird as this may sound I actually enjoyed annoying Ngonyama with my endless questions. He gave me food and shelter, it was better being treated like an animal by him than being treated like an animal by the people who are supposed to be my family.

“what are you waiting for?” he asked

“Huh?” I replied

“Hey wena! Jump off! You wanted me to take you home and now that we are here you’re acting stupid”

Yerr uyeyisa nangu umuntu weslisa! (This guy is very disrespectful)

“wait hawu, aren’t you going to miss me?, just a little bit? ( I did that little bit with my hand)” I asked trying to annoy him one last time

He chuckled

“Lethinhlanhla leave my car before I drive off and push you out while the car is moving”

Imagine! Isihlungu esingaka

“Geez hurting me wasn’t enough and now you want to kill me, you know I could go to the police, and have you arrested” I said



He shook his head and started his car, I jumped like toast and opened the door. Ngonyama is capable of doing what he said he will do.

“Bye Ngonyama”

He drove off without even saying goodbye. I walked inside the yard and I could hear chatter going on inside.

“Father lord please help, please give me strength to face these witches”

I walked in and everybody froze

“Nomcebo hurry and get salt, yhuu nkosi izipoki ethekwini” (Ghosts in Durban) – Zodwa

Argh Nomcebo is still here, and what does she mean by “izipoki”

“Sanibona” I greeted

“wehh buyababa it talks” -Nomathemba

Nomcebo came back with salt and gave it to Zodwa

“Phuma moyomubi, phuma sathane” (go away evil spirits) she said as she threw the salt at me

What the heck is wrong with these people?

“wena Lethi ufile, we saw the bullet here (she pointed at her forehead)” Nomathemba exclaimed

“ohh Nkosi this is probably Sthembiso’s doings, she is punishing us by making us think we are crazy” Zodwa cried

I burst into laughter, so they think I’m a ghost. I decided to play along and entertain them.

“I am here to take you all with me, you have been very evil, and you do not deserve to be on earth” I said that as I tilted my head back and forth and I spoke like a possessed person, and I had my arms up like a mummy.

I’ve never seen uZodwa run like that in my life. She hopped on those stairs like they were nothing and uNomathemba yena fainted on the Couch while Nomcebo just stared at me with her mouth open not even blinking.

“Revenge is sweet” I laughed and made my way to my room, and I found everything as I left it.

These people are crazy if they think I was dead then where is the body? Or they didn’t even bother to look for it and burry it. And my room? Why haven’t they thrown my stuff away? So Nkosi probably thinks I’m dead as well, I wonder if he is okay wherever he is.

I said a short prayer, locked my door and I went to sleep without showering.

## ZODWA

“How are we going to sleep with a ghost inside” I asked

“we have to try, it’s late we have nowhere to go” -Nomathemba

“She’s not a ghost Mamkhulu” Nomcebo said

“Then explain what we just saw” -me

“remember we didn’t find her body, so we weren’t really sure if she was dead or not” -Nomcebo

“The picture, how do you explain the picture that we saw?” -

Nomathemba

“I don’t know Mamkhulu, but she is not a ghost” -Nomcebo

“You can sleep if you want but I am not sleeping, I don’t want that thing to strangle me in my sleep. I will stay awake all night and wait for it to wake up” I said

“ay I’m going to bed mina” Nomcebo got up and headed upstairs

“Into esizoythini kodwa lena sisi? Umuntu uvuka ekfeni? Wake wayizwaphi nje leyonto” (what are we going to do about this? A person waking up from the dead. Where have you ever heard of that?) -Nomathemba

“Amabhadi wodwa lawa” (It’s bad luck) I added.

## **LETHINHLANHLA**

I haven't slept like this for months, how I missed sleeping on a bed, not being woken up by cold water. I brushed my teeth and took a shower and made my bed. I looked at myself in the mirror and I have lost weight, I've got scars everywhere, my back, arms, and thighs and they are painful. It'll take a while for me to wear dresses and shorts.

As I was making my way downstairs I bumped into the little witch  
Nomcebo

"Why did you come back wena Sfebe (Bitch)" she asked

I ignored her and attempted to go down the stairs

"I'm talking to you don't you dare walk away from me" she pushed me, and I missed a step, I rolled like a bowling ball, and I banged my forehead against the wall, and I screamed in pain as blood started coming out.

"What's happening here" asked one of the witches as they ran towards me

"Nomcebo what has gotten into you?" asked Zodwa

"it was an accident I didn't mean to hurt her" she replied

"I didn't know Ghosts get hurt" -Nomathemba

"I am not a ghost" I replied

"Then what happened to you?" -Zodwa

I attempted to get up, but my leg wouldn't budge it was sore

"please take me to the hospital I think I broke my leg" I cried

"you were with a man weren't you? You faked your own death so you can open your legs for a boy. Sies you have no shame" -

Nomathemba

"that poor boyfriend of yours came here looking for you while you were busy selling yourself. Take yourself to the hospital" -Zodwa

Trust me I'd take myself to the hospital if I could but how can I drive with one leg and a sore body. I'd call the ambulance, but I don't even know where my phone is.

"Nomcebo please help me" I begged

Now my head was throbbing, and everything was blurry

She clicked her tongue and went to her room. I dragged myself to the kitchen and made my way to the gate and I managed to stand while leaning on the gate. A car approached and I hopped towards it and begged the driver to stop.

"What happened? you are bleeding" he asked

"I am sorry to disturb you, may you please take me to the hospital sir, or you could drop me halfway and I'll find a way" I cried

"Come on in" I jumped in

“What happened to you?” he asked as we made our way to Westville Hospital

“I fell down the stairs” I replied

“hmm”

Okay I don’t know what that means so I’ll keep quiet.

“what is your name?” he asked

God can he stop with the questions, I have a headache and I don’t feel like speaking.

“Nhlanhla” I replied

“nice to meet you Nhlanhla my name is Muziwokukhanya Khoza”

“I’d say it’s nice to meet you too, but I can barely see what you look like, everything is blur”

“don’t worry about it we are here” I felt his door opening and closing and the next minute my door opened

“Thank you so much for your help, I can take it from here”

“You said you can’t see so how will you take it from here” he asked with a bit of annoyance in his voice

I chuckled

“I am a big girl Wokukhanya, I’ll manage” I replied

“Wokukhanya? No one has ever called me that before” he said in a soft tone, and I could tell he was smiling

“Muzi are you going to help me in or not I’m in pain”

“so now you need my help?” he laughed

Arg this guy

I attempted to walk but he stopped me and placed my arm around his shoulder, and he held onto my waist, and I limped

“did you break your leg?” he asked, and I nodded

He gently scooped me up like a baby and carried me inside

“ I could’ve walked you know”

“Njengoba ubuhambisa kwesalkazi nje”

I laughed which made him laugh too

“I’m pretty sure people are staring at us right now, I’m glad I can’t see anything”

“ofcouse they are looking, phela I am a fine specimen. Wait till you regain your sight you will see what I’m talking about.” He spoke

“just so you know I am rolling my eyes right now”

He chuckled and we went in, and I was attended to

“does it hurt when I do this” the doctor moved my leg

“yes it hurts” I flinched

“my vision is blur and head hurts” I added

They performed a CT scan for my leg and head.

“You’ve fractured your bones and you’ll need an Orthopedic cast to stabilize and hold anatomical bones in place until healing is confirmed” -Dr

“How long will I have it on for” I asked annoyed

Now I have to limp with this thing in my leg, what if I get called for an interview and I have this thing on. I won’t be taken seriously.

“it could be as little as 4 weeks or as long as 10 weeks, it’ll depend on how fast your bones heal”

They did their thing and gave me painkillers and eyedrops for my eyes

“what happened to your leg be honest, did you really fall, or did someone break it because I noticed a lot of scars all over your body” -Dr

“I fell” totally ignoring the second part of the question

“I can organize a place for you to stay if you’re in danger” -Dr

“No, I’m good. When can I go home?” I asked

“You are not going home today, I have to keep you here and examine your headache and eyesight”



Just great! Now I have to cover this hospital bill. Nomcebo will pay for this

“How is she Dr” Wokukhanya asked as he walked in

“what are you doing here? I thought you left”

He ignored me and waited for the Dr to respond

“are you family or perhaps her boyfriend?” Dr asked

“I’m her friend” he responded

“She’ll be fine, just a bone fracture, she’ll be out tomorrow”

He nodded and the Dr excused himself

“Are you going to answer me now?”

“where do you want me to be?”

Aibo umlisa!

“I don’t know, weren’t you going somewhere before I stopped you?”

“you stopped me and now I’m here”-him

Okay!

“Or you don’t want me here?”-him

“No, I didn’t say that”

“So, you want me here?” he asked

Geez!

“Please keep quiet you’re adding to my headache” I lied

He chuckled

“What would you like to eat?” he asked

“I don’t know, what are they offering here?”

He blankly stared at me as if I offended him

“What?” I asked confused

“Nonhlanhla don’t fuck with me” he said

Yhuu people and assuming that my full name is Nonhlanhla

“My full name is Lethinhlanhla” I corrected

“I will not repeat myself” he ignored what I just said

“pop prawns and Zinger nuggets” I said shyly

“anything to drink?”

“water will be fine”

“alright I’ll be back”

He left and came back after a while with packets full of chips and sweets. This reminded me of Nkosi, he would’ve done the exact same thing and buy unnecessary things.

“why are you smiling?”

I didn’t even realize I was smiling, I miss my friend.

“I’m just looking at all these sweets you bought, you don’t want me to leave this place I see ngoba inyongo izongibuyisa la” I said

“nina zingane zaseDrobheni anichathi inkinga yenu” he responded

I burst into laughter

“I see your headache is a lot better njengoba usumemeza kangaka (that’s why you’re shouting), uzophathisa thina ngekhanda ke manje” (you want everyone to have a headache just like you) -him

“that would be great, they’ll add another bed for you here so that I won’t be bored at night”

“Haha nice try, you didn’t tell me your surname”

What do I say? Am I a Mfeka or do I say Zulu?

“Lethinhlanhla Mfeka”

“aha MaNtaka, Qwabe, Mnguni wasolwandle. You have a beautiful name”

“Thank you Mkhathini”

He beamed with excitement

“what is that? Indoda yomZulu doesn’t blush” I laughed at him

“How can I not blush usungibize kamnandi kanje”

Men and being referred to by their clan names

He stayed with me for hours and he left when I wanted to sleep

“I’ll come pick you up tomorrow”

“You don’t really have to, you’ve done enough for me”

“don’t annoy me please, I better find you here tomorrow or else we’ll have a problem”

“Fine!”

“Goodnight Princess” he kissed my forehead and left

## **NGONYAMA**

“Why are you smiling?” my dad asked

“I just saw the most beautiful girl I’ve laid my eyes on, she’s sweet and caring. It’s just sad that I had to show her the mean side of me. I didn’t want to do it, but a job is a job. She speaks a lot, and you know how I don’t like people who talk too much, but with her it was different, I could listen to her speak all day. You don’t know how hard I had to fight the urge to smile every time she’d ask me something I don’t respond, it frustrated her so much and it was cute”

“seems like you’ve fallen in love”

“A guy like me can never fall in love, especially with her” -me

“Everybody deserves love, why not her?” he asked

“she is Zulus daughter”

“so?”

“dad what do you mean so? She is off limits”

“you can’t chose who you fall in love with, Zulu will have to understand. I will talk to him”

“stay out of this dad”

“Fine! But I want grandkids”

## **LWANDILE**

“Lwandle why are you not ready?” I asked as she sat and giggled on her phone

“Ready for what?” she looked at me confused

“The Braai”

“You didn’t tell me about a braai, who’s braai is it?”

“My boss invited everyone at his house today” -me

“I don’t feel like going, can’t you go alone?”

“Don’t start with me please, everybody is going with their partners, so you are coming. Go and get dressed”

## **NARRATED**

Everybody gathered at Nkosenhles place for the braai

“is the meat and alcohol enough?” -Nkosenhle

“yah Bafo, everything is set” -Nkosiphendule

“everybody brought their plus ones but you” -Nkosinathi

“Lisakhanya is my plus 1”-Nkosenhle

“She doesn’t count”-Khanyo

“I’m a Bachelor leave me alone”-Nkosenhle

In the car Lwandile and Lwandle made their way to Nkosenhles house, guilt washed over Lwandle as she realized whose house this was as she has been visiting for some time now.

“Whose house is this?” -Lwandle

“Nkosenhles house, why are you shaking? Don’t be nervous he won’t bite”

They made their way in and Lwandile introduced Lwandle to everyone

“This is Nkosenhle, the big man, and boss this is my girlfriend Lwandle”-Lwandile

“Nice to meet you Lwandle” Nkosenhle extended his hand for handshake

“Ni..ce to meet you too” she said with a shaky voice, and she looked pale as if she wanted to faint

“Are you okay?” Nkosenhle asked her

“I’m fine”-Lwandle

“come let me get you water you looked flushed”-Nkosenhle

“No I..” – Lwandle

“Go get water Lwandle before you faint”-Lwandile

She nodded and left with Nkosenhle

“What’s wrong with you? If you continue to act like this you’ll get yourself into trouble. Stop being weird”-Nkosenhle

“You are his boss?”-Lwandle

“Yes”-Nkosenhle

“so, you knew I am his girlfriend?”-Lwandle

“How would I have known that?”-Nkosenhle

“Everything okay here? Are you feeling better now?”-Lwandile

“Yes”-Lwandle

“come let me introduce you to the ladies”-Lwandile

“you have a lovely house Nkosenhle”-Lwandle

“Thank you Lwandle” he winked at her, and her eyes popped out

He chuckled as he watched them leave.

## **AT THE HOSPITAL**

Muziwokukhanya paid for the bill and signed Lethi's discharge papers, and they left

"I'll pay you back"-Lethi

"I don't want you to pay me back"-Muzi

"but I insist"-Lethi

"I don't want your money"-Muzi

"Fine!"-Lethi

"so, when will I see you again?"-Muzi

"I don't know, you know where I live"

"aren't your parents strict? Will they be okay with my car parking outside the yard?"

"I don't have parents"-Lethi

"I'm sorry to hear that, who do you stay with?"

"Relatives"

"alright, I'll check on you tomorrow. Give me your number"

She gave him her number and they parted ways. She made her way inside the house with her crutches

"The ghost is back" said Zodwa as she laughed at her



Lethi ignored them and made her way up the stairs as it was a mission. She looked for her phone and found it under her bed with no battery. She drank her medication as she charged her phone. As soon as she opened it messages and missed calls came flooding in from Nkosiphendule.

### **AT NKOSINHLES HOUSE**

The braai was getting lit, everybody gathered in the backyard eating with flowing conversations, drinks, and laughter.

“Ayanda how long have you dated Nkosiphendule?”-Thuls

Nkosiphendule gave him a sharp eye as he knows Thuls was starting trouble

“we’ve known each other for like a month or two, right babe?” she turned and looked at Nkosiphendule, and all eyes were on him

Nkosenhle and Nkosinathi were in stitches as they know that Nkosiphendule doesn’t commit

“Uhm ..” his phone rang as he was about to answer

He froze when the name of the caller popped on his screen, his hands started to shake, and he accidentally dropped the phone with sweat dripping down his face.

“Are you okay?”-Eric asked

“No No it can’t be” Nkosiphendule shook his head in disbelief

Now everyone was worried about him

The phone rang again, and Nkosinathi attempted to pick up, but Nkosiphendule snatched it away from him

“Hello” he answered in a shaky voice

“Hey” -Lethi

“Angel is that you?”-Nkosiphendule

Now everyone was looking at him and listening to what he was saying. Ayanda felt a sharp pain in her heart as Nkosiphendule referred to another person as Angel

“Yes it’s me, I just wanted to say..” the phone went off

“NO No” he stood up and called the number back

“sorry I guess I ran out of airtime”-Lethi

“where are you, I’ve been looking for you for months?”-he asked concerned

“I am at home”-Lethi

“I am coming to fetch you right now” he said as he looked for his car keys

“You can’t have two plus one”-Nkosenhle

Everybody burst into laughter

“Nkosiphendule”-Ayanda shouted but he was long gone

“I’m sorry babe”-Lwandle

“don’t worry about it, it’s his friend whom he hasn’t seen in a while”-

Thuls

“Who is it Thuls”-Nkosinathi

“you will find out when he gets back”-Thuls

On the road Nkosiphendule drove like a maniac and within a few minutes he was parked outside her house. He called her

“I’m outside”

“come in and go straight to my room”

He hang up and made his way in

“Yey wena don’t you knock?”-Nomathemba

He ignored her and went to Lethi’s room

“Uyadelela lomfana, uphatha nesbhamu enjalo utsotsi lo” (This boy is disrespectful, he carries a gun as well, he is a criminal) -Zodwa

He couldn’t believe his eyes when they landed on Lethi. He ran to her and squeezed her and kissed her all over her face

“Ouch Nkosi be careful” she cried

“I’m sorry, what happened to your leg? Why do you have scars on your thighs? Who did this to you? They told me you were dead, where were you and why didn’t you call me I was worried.”

“One question at a time Nkosi”

“I missed you”-Nkosi

“I missed you too” a tear escaped her eye

“Don’t cry, I’m here now and I will never leave you” he embraced her, and she cried in his arms until there were no tears left.

“I’m sorry I messed up your t-shirt”

“Don’t worry about it, come on I’m taking you with me”

“Where are we going?”-Lethi

“My brother is having a braai”

“I’m not in the mood to interact with people Nkosi”

“if it was up to me I wouldn’t go either but I left my guests there and I am definitely not leaving you here. I am begging you”

“fine”

She got up and washed her face and looked for something to wear. She settled for a ripped boyfriend jean, a baby blue top and baby blue sneaker since she only has one leg and a matching light blue handbag.

“Close your eyes I have to change”-Lethi

“I’m not doing that”-Nkosiphendule

“Then I guess we are not going anywhere”-Lethi

“I don’t mind carrying you the way you’re dressed and take you to my car, the choice is yours”

She sighed and took her clothes off revealing all her scars

“Jesus Lethi who did this to you?” he was fuming with anger

“Nobody, let this go please”

“I will let it go for today but tomorrow you will tell me everything”

He carried me down the stairs into his cars while the witches made remarks behind.

## **AT NKOSENHLES HOUSE**

Nkosiphendule and Lethinhlanhla arrived at the braai

“Whose house is this?”-Lethi

“Nkosenhle, my big brothers house” he replied

“This house is enormous, how many people stay here?”

“Just him and his daughter”

“waste of money if you ask me. couldn’t he settle for like a three-bedroom house or something like that? What is he doing with a big house like this if only 2 people stay here? How many rooms are in this house? 50?” she asked

“well since we are here I can call him for you, and he can answer all your questions” he said laughing

“Don’t be stupid!, I don’t know anybody here don’t leave my side”

“Don’t worry, come let me help you inside”

He held her waist and she limped next to him, and they made their way to the background where everyone was seated, and it immediately went quiet

“why didn’t you tell me there were so many people here, I wouldn’t have come” she whispered

“That’s exactly the reason why I didn’t tell you” he laughed

“NO WAY!” Eric shouted as he ran towards Lethi, and he span her round causing her to both giggle and wince at the same time

“Eric put me down” -Lethi

“Eric be careful, and where do you know her from?”-Nkosiphendule

“Lethi how are you, I’ve been so worried about you” asked Eric totally dismissing Nkosis question

“I’m good how are you?”-Lethi

“I’m good man, I’m glad you are okay”-Eric

Nokukhanya and Nkosinathi got up from their seats as well and went to hug Lethi

“I haven’t seen you in a while babe, where have you been hiding?”-  
Khanyo

“I’ve been around” she responded

This entire time Lwandile’s eyes never left Lethi

## **LETHINHLANHLA**

Had I known that there were going to be so many people I wouldn’t have come here.

“Okay Guys, excuse Lethi she has to rest her leg”-Nkosi

“I’ll carry her”-Eric

“For what reason now? She is my guest, so I’ll do the carrying”-Nkosi

“Guys I can walk” I stopped them as they were about to go back and forth

We walked to where everyone else was and my heart dropped to my stomach when I saw Lwandile and Lwandle there, I wanted to turn around and go back home but hey I’m a big girl who can get through this. The guy from spur is here as well and a bunch of other people.

“What is she doing here?”-Lwandle

“Shut up Lwandle”-Lwandile

She clicked her tongue and focused on her drink

“I invited her here, is there a problem?” – Nkosi

“Ayanda Sisi watch your man before they take him away from you”-  
Lwandle

This Ayanda must be Nkosis Girlfriend, you could see the way she looked at me, pure disgust. If looks could kill I'd be dead by now

"You would know a lot about taking peoples boyfriends wouldn't you Lwandle?" I finally said looking at her and everybody made that "whuu"

"Bitch don't come for me" she said standing up

"Haibo have you finally grew a pair? I'd like to see you do something. In fact, I dare you to try me"

She sat down

"I thought as much, wena Lwandile put your dog on a leash before I do it for you"

"Do you guys know each other?" asked Nkosi

"NO!" I responded fast

"okay! Let me introduce you to everyone, this is Nkosenhle my big brother, well you know Eric, this is Lwandile and Lwandle, you know Nathi and Khanyo, this is Ayanda...." -Nkosi

"Ayanda the girlfriend" Ayanda cut him off

You could see the annoyance on Nkosis face

He went on and introduced the rest of the people that were there and by the time he was done I had forgotten half their names



“Hello guys nice knowing you all, you too “Ayanda the girlfriend”. I am Nhlanhla! Nhlanhla the friend”

Everybody laughed and she rolled her eyes. Everybody went back to their own conversations

“can I get you food?”-Nkosi

“Yes please”

“alright I’ll be back” he disappeared in the house

When I turned to my right Eric was smiling at me like an idiot

“what’s wrong with you? Why are you smiling like that? You look weird” I asked him

“I’m just happy to see you, what happened to your leg?” – Eric

“I fell down the stairs” I replied

“Oh, I’m sorry, when did that happen?”

“Yesterday”

“Shouldn’t you be resting? Why are you here?”-Eric

“I’d like to know as well” added Ayanda

“Ask your boyfriend, he is the one who brought me here when I said I didn’t want to come”

“Hi Lethi”-Lwandile

Lord take me now please

“Lwandile” I responded

“Guys do you mind if I talk to her?, I’ll only take a minute”-Lwandile

“Lethi do you want to talk to him?”-Eric

“Yeah sure”

We got up and went to a quiet place

“How have you been” he asked

“I’m surviving, how have you been doing?” I asked

“I’m good. Taking each day as it comes”

“That’s good. I see you’re still with your girlfriend”

“ I am sorry Lethi”

“don’t apologize for following your heart, you should always do what makes you happy” I stopped him

“I am sorry for hurting you and..”

“it’s all in the past Lwandile, can we move on from that”

“Have you forgiven me?” -him

“long ago, holding on to things will only slow down your progress in life. Have I forgiven you? Yes, will I ever forget? No.”

“Thank you” he came closer to give me a hug and I backed away

“This doesn’t make us friends Lwandile”

“I know, it’s just an innocent hug Nhlanhla”

I let him hug me, but I didn’t hug back

“I still have a long way to go hey?” -him

“I told you we are not friends, and we will never be friends”

“fair enough, I’m just glad you are talking to me now”-him

“let’s go back I’m starving”

We walked back to where everyone was and Nkosi was back with my food.

“Lwandile why did you take so long with her? Can’t you see her leg is broken which means she shouldn’t be standing for long”-Nkosi

“They were probably fucking”-Lwandle

Ey I give up with this girl

“Have you forgotten about me? It’s all about Lethi”-Ayanda

“How can I forget about you when you’re right next to me? cut the drama Ayanda! I told you I hadn’t seen Lethi in months, forgive me for wanting to catch up with her”-Nkosi

This entire time I focused on my plate, their drama has nothing to do with me. Nkosi brought me here so he will answer all the questions.

An elderly lady came running holding a crying baby. I hate it when kids cry

“Mkhwenyana I don’t know what’s wrong her she won’t stop crying”  
-elderly lady

The guy from spur (Nkosenhle) took the baby in his arms and went to the other side

“is he mute?” I asked Nkosi

“who?”

“Your brother, he hasn’t said a word ever since I got here”

“he is not mute, he probably doesn’t have anything to say” he laughed

“oh, I thought he couldn’t speak”

He came back with the crying

“What’s wrong Bafo?”-Nathi

Nkosenhle shrugged his arms

See! This guy doesn’t speak

Nathi took the baby away from him and tried to stop her from crying but she wouldn’t budge. You could see the frustration on Nkosenhles face

“Let me try”-Nkosi

They gave the baby to him but still she wouldn’t stop crying

“Give it to me” Ayanda took the baby but still nothing

Poor baby, she even had hiccups and her face was red from crying

“Give her to Lethi” said Eric

What the fuck is he saying? Give it to me? if she won't stop crying ephethwe ngubaba wakhe what makes him think she will stop when I hold her? Plus, I know nothing about babies. They should give it to Khanyo or Lwandle, both of them are mothers.

“what does Lethi know about babies? She couldn't even keep her own”-Lwandle

I'm not even going to lie that hurt a lot, I felt a sharp pain in my heart

“Nhlanhla are you okay? What's wrong?”-Lwandile

“wa..tt..er” I couldn't breathe

He ran and came back with a glass of water which I gulped on one go

“Thank you”

Lwandle took the baby and she screamed louder than she was crying

“mother of the year” I mocked her

“That's it I'm taking her to the hospital” Nkosenhle finally spoke

It's him! I recognize that voice, it's the guy who used to visit me when I couldn't wake up at the hospital

“I'm coming with you” -Lwandle

Who made Lwandle the madam of this house?

Lwandile looked at her and she looked down

“MAMA” said the little girl

Everybody seemed surprised. I was confused. What’s going on? Has she never said those words before?

“where is her mother?” I whispered in Nkosis ear

“She passed away when she was born” he replied

That’s awful!

“MAMA” she went again raising her arms looking at me

HELL NO! what is this baby doing? I’m not going to take her

Everybody turned and looked at me. Fuck!

“Give her to me” I said to Nkosenhle

“Are you sure?” asked Lwandile

I gave him a death stare and he swallowed hard

Nkosenhle handed the baby to me, and she buried her head on my chest and she calmed down a bit

“what’s wrong baby? Why are you crying?” I rubbed her back until she kept quiet, but the hiccups were still there

“WOW”-Nkosi

“she likes you”-Eric

“Get me a glass of water and stop talking nonsense Eric”

“I’ll get it”-Nkosenhle

He came back with the glass, and I made the girl drink

“What’s her name?” I asked

“Lisakhanya”-Nkosenhle

“you are a pretty girl aren’t you Lisa?” She blushed and nodded

“Pretty girls don’t cry nana, are you going to cry?”

She shook her head

“Good girl, crying makes daddy sad so don’t cry okay? Do you want daddy to be sad?”

“No sad daddy” (don’t be sad daddy)-Lisakhanya

“Are you going to cry again?”-me

She shook her head and whipped her tears

“Good girl, now go to daddy kiss him on the cheek”

She got up and he picked her up and she did as told

“Muv you daddy”-Lisa

“I love you too baby”-Nkosenhle

Ncoo so cute

“Put me down”-Lisa

She came back to me

“Muv you mommy”-Lisakhanya

Everybody went quiet and looked at me

“I love you too nana”

“kiss kiss daddy mommy” she pointed on her cheek

She wants me to kiss her dad on his cheek

Everybody laughed

“I will do it tomorrow okay. Mommy is hurt” I pointed at my leg

“hlungu la?” (does it hurt here?) she asked pointing at my cast, and I nodded

“Daddy say soli (sorry) to mommy”

Yerr this child

Nkosenhle said sorry and again everyone laughed

Nkosenhle attempted to take her, but she held on to my top

“it’s fine, you can take her when she’s asleep”

“You sure?”-Nkosenhle

“Yes”

Conversations went back to normal again and by the time Lisakhanya went to sleep half the people have already left.



“Where is her room? I think she’s asleep”

“I’ll take her”-Nkosenhle

“No, she’ll wake up”

“her room is upstairs”-Nkosenhle

“okay help me get up” he did

“Nkosi please pass me my crutch” he handed me the stick

“Are you sure about this?”-Nkosenhle

“I won’t drop your baby please relax, I didn’t drink any alcohol and I am capable of walking”

“That’s not what I meant”-Nkosenhle

Then shut up geez. I attempted to leave with Lisa on one arm and the crutch on the other..

“You should have your own baby now”-Khanyo

Lwandle burst into laughter

“She wishes she could have one”-her

Within a blink on of an eye I swung the crutch and it landed on her mouth and she started to bleed

“I’ve tolerated enough of your shit since I got here. What do you want from me? Haven’t you taken enough from me, and I didn’t even fight you, what more do you want? You’re getting on my last

nerve Lwandle, say one more stupid shit and I'll knock all your teeth out of your mouth"

She kept quiet

"Lwandile give me my crutch" he handed it to Nkosenhle

"Come I'll walk you up"

We left and I heard Lwandile asking Lwandle what has gotten into her

"do you like this house?" I asked

"ouch! Why? Is it ugly?"-Nkosenhle.

"Not at all, it's ridiculously big for two people"

He opened Lisa's room and didn't answer me. Her room is bigger than my room, it's pink with a lot of toys and butterflies on the wall. This kid has a little sitting/dining area with a couch and a tv inside the room. Must be nice having a rich daddy, I wouldn't even be surprised if she has a car in one of the garages.

"You can place her there" He pointed on the bed, he probably saw me looking around his daughters room

I carefully placed on her bed without waking her up

"Can I have some time with her please?" I begged

"uhm sure"

He left me and I went over to Lisa who was sleeping peacefully with her lips slightly pouted

“You’re one cute baby aren’t you? Siphosami would’ve been a lot younger than you, but I’m sure she would’ve been just as cute as you. I miss her so much, not a day goes by without me thinking about her, me wondering who she would’ve looked like between Lwandile and I. She’s in a better place now right? I mean look at me, I practically have no home, I was kidnapped and tortured by my own family, I wouldn’t have been able to provide for her and give her the life she deserves. Do you think I would’ve been a good mother? I’m sure your mom is watching over you, and she would’ve given everything just so she could have you in her arms. Life is not fair isn’t it? The ones we love are taken from us and evil people roam around”

This entire time tears were rolling down my cheeks. I searched for a different room because I didn’t want to wake Lisa up. I sat on the floor, and I let it all out until my chest felt tighter and tighter.

## **NKOSENHLE**

“Nhlanhla has been up there for way to long, what was she doing” -  
Nkosi

“She said she wanted some time with Lisa”

This time it was just me, Nkosi, Ayanda and Eric

I don’t know why Eric is here, he never stays this late

“You left her alone?”-Eric

“wena why are you still here? Don’t tell me you’re interested in Nhlanhla. She’s not your type”-me

“Shut up Nkosenhle, Nhlanhla is like a sister to me”

“If you say so”

“Is Mam’Donsa with her?”-Eric

“No, she’s on her own with Lisa”

“FUCK!” he ran inside, and we followed after him

“Ayanda wait for us here”-Nkosi

“Why?”-Ayanda

“Ayanda!” he warned

“Fine”

We got to Lisa’s room and Lethi wasn’t there

“No No No”-Eric

“Eric what is wrong with you? Why are you behaving like a mad person?” I asked

“We have to find her”-Eric

We searched the rooms and we found her sleeping on the floor

“Nhlanhla No what did you do?”-Eric

“Her pulse is weak, let’s take her to the sick room”

We took her there and I went to get one of my t-shirts so she can change

“Get the drip and oxygen mask”-Eric

“Help me change her first”

“NO!”-Nkosi

“No ini wena?”

“Excuse the room I’ll change her myself”-Nkosi

“Why? We won’t do anything to her”-Eric

“Nkosi there’s no time for games her we are running out of time, eric help me sit her up”

We removed her clothes, and I was shocked. She was covered with bruises and scars. What is going on with this girls life?

“This is why I didn’t want you guys to see”-Nkosi

“Nkosi what happened to her?”

“I don’t know as yet but I’ll find out”-Nkosi

Eric just clenched his jaws and didn’t say a word. You could see anger visible on his face.

We connected the drip and oxygen mask and left her to rest

“When are we going? I’m tired”-Ayanda

“I can drop you at home and come back”-Nkosi

“come back for what?”-Ayanda

“It’s fine Nkosi I’ll look after”

“No, I want to be here”-Nkosi

“She’s safe here”

“Fine! First thing tomorrow morning I’ll be here”-him

“That’s fine”

“I’ll walk out with you guys”-Eric

I took a shower and went to check on Lisa before I went to the sick room where I found her sleeping. This just reminded me of the time where I would just watch her sleep and not say a word. Why do we always find ourselves in this position? I took out the drip and oxygen mask and I went to bed.

## **LETHINHLANHLA**

I woke up and I didn’t recognize the room I was in. it was painted in white, and it had hospital machines. Last time this happened I was kidnapped. I remember talking to Lisakhanya last night and then I went to the other room and that was it.

“Fuck! Whoever took my clothes off must have seen the scars”

I looked for my clothes around the room but there were nowhere in sight.

“Great! Now I have to walk around exposing my thighs”

I went out the room and I realized I’m still at Nkosenhles house.

why am I surprised that this guy has a mini hospital in his house?

As I was walking I could hear somebody playing the piano. He was playing “No air” by Jordan Sparks and Chris Brown but nobody was singing. This is one of my favorite songs.

“You miss her don’t you? You only play that song when you’re thinking about her”

That’s Nkosis voice, he is probably talking to Nkosenhle who certainly has no interest in responding. Who does he miss? It must be Lisa’s mother.

He stopped playing when I walked in

“No please continue” I begged

“No, I’m done” he attempted to get up and leave

“Ngyakucela” (please)

He looked at me for a minute then he sat down and started playing. I joined in and I sang along the beat:

*"Tell me how I'm supposed breathe with no air  
If I should die before I wake  
It's 'cause you took my breathe away  
Losing you is like living in a world with no air  
I'm here alone, didn't wanna leave  
My heart won't move, it's incomplete  
Wish there was a way that I can make you understand  
But how do you expect me  
To live alone with just me  
'cause my world revolves around you  
It's so hard for me to breathe"*

He stopped playing and I stopped singing

"You've got a beautiful voice"-Nkosenhle

"Thank you"

"I didn't know you could sing like that"-Nkosi

"There's a lot you don't know about me"

"we should do something about that"-Nkosi

"Uhm Nkosenhle where are my clothes?"

"I told Mam'Donsa to wash them sorry"-Nkosenhle

"I got you clothes"-Nkosi said as he handed me a plastic



“From where because I know stores aren’t open as yet, it’s way too early”

He kept quiet

“Are those Ayanda’s clothes?” I asked

“No”-him

“Then who’s clothes are those?”

“I found them in my house. They are clean”-Nkosi

“So, one of bitches clothes?” I turned to Nkosenhle “can you believe your brother?”

“I’m not getting involved”-Nkosenhle

“Can I please wear one of your boxer shorts. I’ll wash them and bring them back”

“Sure”-Nkosenhle

“Clean ones please angiwafuni anuka izinga” (I don’t want smelly ones that smell of your bum)

They both laughed

“ezami azinuki” (mine don’t smell)-Nkosenhle

“Won’t you shower?”-Nkosi

“I’ll shower at home, you are taking me home now right?”

“Which home?”-Nkosi

What kind of question is that? How many homes do I have?

“How many do you know?”

“Just one”-Nkosi

“so, what do you mean by which home if you only know one?”

Nkosenhle chuckled

“Shorts Nkosenhle”

“Right” he disappeared to one of the rooms upstairs and came back with the shorts, a new shirt, new toothbrush, and facecloth.

“The bathroom is on your left”-Nkosenhle

“May I please have a plastic packet for my foot”

Nkosi handed me one and I went to shower and when I came back Eric and Muzi were there eating breakfast

“Come sit next to me”-Eric

“Hi Eric” I went and hugged him

Muzi had a disappointed look on his face

“Wokukhanya what are you doing here?” I hugged him too

“Wokukhanya?”-Nkosi

The three of them (Eric, Nkosi and Nkosenhle) burst into laughter

“what’s funny? His name is Muziwokukhanya” I asked

“So, you gave him a nickname?”-Eric

“Nkosenhle are you fucking her too?”-Muzi

Whoa, hold up and then?

“Skara don’t fuck with me ekseni”-Nkosenhle

Skara? Is that his nickname or something?

“Then why else would she be walking around your house early in the morning wearing your clothes?”-Muzi/Skara

“and you” he turned to me “I thought you were a decent girl”

What is wrong with this guy? I thought he was a decent guy. So, what if I was sleeping with Nkosenhle? Why would he be bothered.

“I will not let you disrespect Lethi like that”-Eric

“Ask and you will be answered, don’t just assume”-Nkosi

“and what do you mean you thought she was a decent girl? So, all the girls I’ve been with are not decent? Is that what you mean?”-

Nkosenhle

“Nhlanhla what are you doing here?”-Muzi

“Nhlanhla what is he to you? Where do you know him from?”-Nkosi

“he was driving past my house the day before yesterday, so I stopped him and asked him to take me to the hospital to get my leg checked out and he paid for my hospital bill and took me back home yesterday”

“You saw her twice and now you think you know her?”-Nkosi

“Now can you answer my question?”-Muzi

“You don’t have to answer if you don’t want to”-Nkosi

“No, it’s fine I will answer. Nkosi invited me to the braai yesterday, we stayed until late, and I couldn’t go back home so I slept here and Nkosenhle gave me his clothes because mine are in the washing. Anything else?”

“I am sorry for accusing you”-Muzi

I ignored him and turned to Nkosenhle

“Is Lisa up?”

“No, she’s still sleeping”-Nkosenhle

“manje ngeke usangikhulumisa? (so now you won’t talk to me?)

Ngithe ngyaxolisa ntokazi” (I said I’m sorry)-Muzi

“Nkosi please take me home, I’ve lost my appetite”

“I’m not taking you back to that house”-Nkosi

“Reason being?”

“That’s something I cannot discuss with everyone here” -Nkosi

Is he being for real right now?

“Eric can you take me home?”

“eh Nhlanhla was I not clear when I said you are not going back to that house? Do you want me to say it in IsiZulu perhaps? Hlampe uzongizwa ngithi awubuyeli lapha”-(Maybe you will hear me, I’m saying you are not going back there) -Nkosi

“Then where do you expect me to stay because I’ve got nowhere else to go”

“You’ll stay with me” -Nkosi

“Yeah that’s not happening, have you forgotten you have a girlfriend? That girl has made it clear that she doesn’t like me, and I don’t want any trouble”

“You are more than welcome to come stay with me” -Eric

“Or you can stay with me” -Muzi

“First of all, I don’t even know you that well Muzi, and wena Eric thanks but no thanks I have a room in my mother’s house thank you”

“Stay here, you said it yourself that this house is way too big for two people and plus Lisakhanya would be more than happy to wake up next to you every day” -Nkosenhle

“I don’t mean to be rude Nkosenhle, but I just met you yesterday, I don’t know you and you don’t know me, matter of fact all of you don’t know me and what I’ve been through. Staying in that house is the least of my worries, I am a big girl who can take care of herself. I’m not some charity case that needs handouts. I will visit Lisakhanya whenever I get a chance, that’s if you don’t mind”

“okay fine! I will rent you an apartment and you can pay me back once you have a job”-Nkosi

Silence

“I just want you to be safe”-Nkosi

“I will pay you back every cent”

“That’s fine”-Nkosi

“Okay. let’s go to the beach, I haven’t been in there in a while”

“Eat your food first then we can go”-Nkosi

“I’m not hungry let’s go”

“The doctor said you have to take your medication”-Muzi

“You guys do know I am not a baby right?”

“The faster you finish your food the faster we can go”-Nkosi

I took my plate and ate

“are you going to the beach dressed like that?”-Eric

“I’ll start at my place and change, I have to collect my clothes vele since you all have a made a decision for me” I said rolling my eyes

Nkosenhles phone rang and after a few seconds he dropped it

“You and Nkosi are pretty close”-Muzi

“Yes we are angithi ntwana?” I replied

We fist pumped with Nkosi and within a few seconds there was a knock on the door and Nkosenhle went to open, and two police officers followed after him

“Lethinhlanhla Mfeka you are under arrest ...”

I didn’t even hear what they were arresting me for, the only thing I could think of is that they finally linked me to Khanyis death. The other police officer came and handcuffed me.

“Wait what did I do? There’s absolutely no need for the handcuffs I was going to oblige and get in the car, there’s absolutely no way I could run away with this cast on my leg”

“Hey man get those cuffs off her! She’s not a criminal”-Nkosi

“You are under arrest for the assault of Miss Lwandle Mabizela”-  
Police

Is this girl being for real right now? She provoked me and I reacted and now she pressed charges against me

“Anything you say can be used against you in...”

“Lethi I will get you out” -Nkosi

He didn't even wait for the police officer to finish his sentence. I was taken to the van and this guy was very rough

“Don't push me phela I can walk”

“Be careful can't you see her leg is broken?” Eric was pissed.

I seriously don't understand Eric, I don't even know him that well but the way he cares for me you'd swear we are old friends.

I was taken to the Van and off we went.

## **NKOSIPHENDULE**

We all got in the car and followed the police van.

“What is going on here? Who is this Lwandle that Nhlanhla assaulted?” -Vusi

“Lwandile's girlfriend” -Eric

I took out my phone and dialed a Lwandile

“sho” he picked up

“Sho wamasimba? What game are you playing with your girlfriend Lwandile? What do you want to achieve by doing this?”

“What are you taking about?” -Lwandile

“Your girlfriend pressed charges against Lethi”

“She did what? I'll talk to her, and she will drop those charges”



He Clicked his tongue and dropped the call

“uthini?”-Eric

“They will drop the charges”

“So, are you really going to let her pay rent Nkosi?”-Nkosenhle

“obviously not, but it was the only way I could get her to agree. Lethi is very stubborn, and she would’ve refused if it was any other way”

“So where will you take her?”-Nkosenhle

Why is he so invested in this? I don’t want him anywhere near Lethi, she’s been through a lot, and I will not let Nkosenhle toy with her heart.

“That’s the least of my worries now Nkosenhle. I can get her any apartment she wants, my main focus right now is to get her out of that place”

Silence

“Eric tell Khawula to meet us at the station”

Khawula is our lawyer, the best in the game.

“I already spoke to him, he is on his way”-Eric

**NARRATED**

“What game are you playing?-Lwandile

“I don’t know what you are talking about”-Lwandle

“Musa ukungenza islima wena! Why did you press those charges against Nhlanhla?”

“She shouldn’t have hit me with that stick”

“You provoked her Lwandle. She tried to ignore you the entire day, but you kept poking her eye until she reacted”

“Then she must deal with the consequences of her actions”

“You are going to drop those charges”

“I’m not doing that”

“I wasn’t asking you. It’s either you drop those charges, or you pack your bags and leave my house and my son behind. The choice is yours”

“You are giving me an ultimatum because of your ex-girlfriend? You are threatening to take my son away from me because of her? You still want her don’t you? Wake up and smell the coffee! she has moved on with Nkosi, she don’t want you”

“If she doesn’t want me then why are you still threatened by her? Why do you hate her so much? She has moved on hasn’t she? So why don’t you do the same and leave her alone?”

Silence

“Cat got your tongue now. You can’t speak? Go drop those charges if you know what’s good for you”-Lwandile

He left her there and went to shower

## **NKOSIPHENDULE**

Lwandle came to the station and dropped the charges as Lwandile promised.

“What is the deal with you and Lethi? What did she do to you?” I asked Lwandle

She just clicked her tongue and left

“This girl has issues”-Eric

Lethi came out looking drained

“Can this year end already, my god it’s one problem after the other. Yesterday I was in hospital and today I was in jail”

“Lethi don’t be dramatic, you were at the station not in jail” I corrected her

“same thing. Does this mean I’ll have a record?” she asked concerned

“That’s not something you should worry yourself about”-Eric

“still want to go to the beach?” I asked her she nodded

I dropped the others at Nkosenhles, and we went to Lethi’s house to get her clothes and important documents.

“where are you going?”-Zodwa

“Far from this place. I’ll be back and all of you will pay for treating me like trash” Lethi replied and the way she said that gave me chills

“You don’t scare me ntombazane”-Zodwa

We left her there and went to the beach

“Want ice cream?” I asked

“Nah I’m good”

“What happened?” I asked

“Where do I even begin” she chuckled

“okay let’s start with Lwandle, what’s the story?”

“That girl is crazy. I seriously don’t know what she wants from me.

Her and I were best friends in varsity, and I was dating Lwandile.

Everything was okay until one day I saw them on top of each other

and I gave them a beating of their life and they swore to me that

they didn’t have sex, few months down the line both Lwandle and I

were pregnant with Lwandile’s baby” -her

“You have a child?” I asked shocked by this

“No, I had a miscarriage, I slipped and fell, and my baby didn’t make

it”

“I’m sorry to hear that, both of them are idiots and I hate them for

playing you like that”

“it’s okay I’ve forgiven them, I don’t know why Lwandle still hates me because she has Lwandile, and I am out of the picture”

“She probably still feels threatened by you”-Me

She shrugged her shoulders

“and your family? Why are they mistreating you?”-Me

“I don’t even know what I did to those people, they just didn’t like me from the beginning. They hid food from me, and they would call me names. They hate me because of materialistic things”

“I see, and Thabiso? Tell me how were you his wife?”

“You know about that?” she asked shocked

“Yes”

“Those witches along with Sthembiso sold me to him, it’s a complicated story that I don’t wish to explain at the moment”-her

“I understand, so where were you all these months? They told me you were dead, and I saw a picture of you dead”

She looked at me confused

“what picture?” she asked

“it was a picture of you with a bullet hole on your forehead”

“I don’t know about that picture, it was probably photoshopped”-her

That picture Definity wasn’t photoshopped

“okay so where were you all those months?” I asked

“Cape town”

That’s all she said, and I wasn’t going to push. She’ll open up when she’s ready

“okay, I’m glad you are back”

“How was Cuba” she asked

“Horrible! There entire trip was draining, I was worried about you and our friendship”

She chuckled

“so, you and Ayanda? How long have you been dating?”

“we are not dating” I replied

“still can’t commit. You don’t think she’s “the one”?” she did that with her hands

“too soon to tell” I replied

“how old is she?”

“23” I replied

“You like them old” she laughed

“Yeah the younger ones play too much”

She shook her head

“so, where am I sleeping tonight?” she asked

“I still say come stay with me”

“Nkosi we went over this please don’t start, what about Ayanda? You know she already doesn’t like me”-her

“she doesn’t come often, I’ll stop bringing her to the house” I begged

“No! take me back to Sthembiso’s house then”

“No, it’s fine I’ve got a few penthouses around come let me show you and you’ll pick the one you want”

All these houses are located in Hillcrest, and they are mine, but I wasn’t going to tell her that because she’d say no to all of them

“Nkosi I said get me a flat or something cheap not these fancy apartments with double garages. How will I afford this rent? Shuthi phela wonke umholo wami uzophela la (it’s clear that all my salary will end up here) and I won’t have anything” she complained

She’s so cute, only if she knew I wasn’t going to accept her rent money

“would you just pick the one you like”

She settled for the one that’s 30 min away from my house, I’m cool with that because she’s closer to me. The apartment was fully furnished which means she only needed to unpack her clothes.

“you need food let’s go grocery shopping”

“No Nkosi you’ve done enough already I’d be taking advantage if I allow you buy me food” she cried

“Don’t be silly, I won’t have my buddy starving while I have the money to support her”

“Okay but I’ll pay you back, every cent”

I rolled my eyes and she laughed at me

“I need to fetch my car from that house”

We went shopping and we fetched her car and I left her to settle in and rest.

## **LETHINHLANHLA**

A month has passed, and I must say things have been going okay for me, I was finally at peace, and I’d like to believe I’ve healed both physically and emotionally. I haven’t had anything that caused me to be upset, I haven’t had any fights or sad thoughts and my scars have healed thanks to the ointments I’ve been using. I last saw the guys like a month back but knowing how stubborn Nkosi is he would come and check up on me every once in a while even though I told him I needed to be on my own for a while. I haven’t heard anything from Lwandle and those witches. I’m surprised Hlengiwe hasn’t come to see me because she said she was giving me a week to think before she came down here. Today is the day I get my cast removed and to say I’m excited would be an understatement, I want my life back, I



want to get a job and be able to do things for myself. No more being bullied around by those witches, I will contact the lawyer and get everything that belongs to me. Can't believe I'm getting a house and 500k, I don't even care where it comes from. At first I thought I'd leave them with that money and not be involved since she is not my mother but considering the fact that Sfiso wants nothing to do with that money and considering their shitty behavior towards me I am taking everything, they don't deserve it. Nomcebo broke my leg, and nobody bothered to help me, so they don't really deserve my kindness, I am coming for everything.

I requested an uber to take me to the hospital since I can't drive at the moment. I could've asked Nkosi or Eric to take me to the hospital and they would have gladly jumped up to the offer, but I can't because they've done a lot for me especially uNkosiphendule, God will truly bless his kind heart. I arrived at the hospital and my cast was removed.

Since this is my fresh start I decided to shave my hair, yes I want to go bald not a ladies cut or a fade I wanted all of it off. To my surprise I actually looked cute and plus I had gotten my body back. Later on, I met up with the lawyer regarding the will and I told him that Thabiso was dead so there was no way in hell I'd marry him, even if he was alive I wouldn't marry him. The will stated that if I don't die from any particular sickness I will get everything that was left for me and

hence here I am alive and well they might as well give me my stuff now, unfortunately there was a condition attached that all those assets would be given to me 12 months after the death of Sthembiso, 9 months has passed since her passing meaning that I'll get the assets in 4 months. I'll have to hope I don't die within the next 4 months.

## **HLENGIWE**

A month has passed, that's more than enough time for Lethinhlanhla to heal. Today I am going to Durban, I will sit with her and explain everything as well as answer all the questions she may have for me.

"Baba hurry up! Kunini ngithi uyaqeda, I've been waiting for more than 30 minutes now" I snapped

"I'm almost done" he says

"You've been saying that since you woke up. You don't have to go if you don't want to, I'm more than capable of going on my own. You'll find me outside in the car waiting for you and if you don't come out in the next 5min you'll find me gone"

I've been more than patient with this man, how long should I wait? I've been waiting for 21 years, as hard as it may have been I waited and now I am done. He came after a few minutes, and we headed to Durban. Eric Directed us to Lethi's house and now we were standing outside waiting for her to let us in.

“What if she doesn’t let us?” I asked worried

“Would you please just..”

The gate opened before he could even finish the sentence and I shoved him to the side and ran in before she changes her mind and closes the gate

“Hlengiwe!” he warned

I ignored him and I ran inside the house. She just stood there and looked at me without moving. I felt tears prickling my eyes and I ran towards her and hugged her.

“Sawbona sthandwa sami” I greeted not believing she’s in front of me

Baba came after me carrying our bags

“Sawubona mntanam” he went and hugged her

She still stood not even blinking, and after what seemed like forever she finally spoke

“You may come in” she made way for us “would you like anything to drink?” she asked

“No, we are good, thank you my child”

I answered for both of us, if Sipho is thirsty he’d have to wait until I’ve spoken to my child

“I am Hlengiwe your mother and this is Sipho your father” I began

She chuckled

“I don’t have a father and my mother died months back” she says

Hearing her say that hurt me

“Lethi my child please allow me to explain” I begged

“why now? Where were you all along? How long have you known about me? with all the money that you guys have you could’ve easily gotten someone to trace me and find me, but you didn’t, so now I’m asking why now?” -her

“Watch how you talk to your mother”-Sipho

“No Sipho let her speak, I will answer all her questions” I turned to her “Lethi my child I apologize from the bottom of my heart, even the lord knows that I had no idea you were mine. The day I gave birth to you they told me you died and a part of me died with you, they took you away from and all these years I have been grieving for you. I would go to your tombstone, clean it and I’d bring you flowers and talk to you until sunset. Back then mntanami we didn’t have much, but I made sure that all my children were taken care off, I made sure they went to bed with food on their stomachs. I would sacrifice everything for my kids, and it hurt me when I found out that my sisters made a decision for me, they took you from me because they thought I wouldn’t be able to look after you. They lied my baby, I’d

rather go to bed with no food than to watch my kids suffer. I would've taken care of you, the same way I took care of the others. Please believe me when I say I didn't know you were mine. I only found out about you few months before Sthembiso died and knowing her she wouldn't have let you go easily without putting a fight so I couldn't just come up of nowhere and claim you" by this time I was sobbing remembering the pain I went through when I buried her

"After her passing I couldn't cope, it was all too much so I tried to kill myself with no success. I was in a coma for some time, I stayed in the hospital, but no one came to visit me only strangers. uNkosi (she smiled) he came to visit me daily and he'd buy me flowers and teddy bears. The day I was out of the hospital I went home and found them drinking tea chatting up a storm, first time meeting them they called me names, they said I'm a prostitute who opened her legs for everyone. They didn't give me food, all of them were mean to me except for Sfiso he was the only one who was nice. They sold me to some guy, Thabiso and he threatened to kill me if I didn't marry him. Then after you guys had me kidnapped and tortured me day and night, I was stabbed, whipped, beaten up in your backyard. I almost witnessed somebody getting rapped in front of me, I had to kill a man. Now tell me mother where were you? Why would you allow all those things to happen to your daughter?"

She is saying all of these with no emotion on her face, she is just blank and me on the other hand I am a crying mess.

“Please forgive me my child” I cried

“The training was for your own good”-Sipho

She smiled and just shook her head getting up

“Anything to drink?” she asked again

“Water please”

She left and came back with a jar and two glasses

“Please say something” I begged

“I don’t have anything to say, I no longer have tears to shed. I just want to be happy even if it’s only for today”-her

I want her to be vulnerable, I want her to cry and let it all out, I want to comfort and rub her bald beautiful head and tell her everything will be okay

“May I please hug you”

She looked at me for close to 2 minutes not saying anything and then she got up and came to me with her arms opened and I hugged getting her dress all wet with my tears.

“Don’t cry, you’ll be sick. Hush now I forgive you” she rubbed my back

“Thank you my child and I promise you I will always be by your side”

This is the happiest day of my life

“So, I have a twin you say?” she chuckles

“Yes his name is Siphuthando, and he looks so much like you” -me

“You have 4 other siblings as well but 1 passed away”-Sipho

“Tell me the order”-Her

“You have 1 big brother, 2 elder sisters but the one passed away, then there’s you the twins and the last born she’s a girl”-Sipho

“You will meet them when you are ready”-me

“Do they know about me?” she asked

Sipho and I looked at each other each. I wanted to tell the kids but Sipho being stubborn he refused and said it’s not yet time

“I thought as much” she said as we failed to give her an answer

“Your big brother knows about you and the others still think you died” I replied

She just nodded and showed us our room and she retired to bed.

“Baba take me to Sthembiso’s house”

“Hlengiwe it’s late we’ll go tomorrow”

“Zulu please don’t start with me”

One thing I love about my husband is that he always agrees to my requests. God blessed me with this man, and he gave me beautiful children. We got in the car and drove to Sthembiso's house

"Baba did you see how she lit up when talked about that Nkosi boy? We should thank that boy for taking care of her"

"She is young, I don't want her dating any boys"-him

"Baba kahle, she didn't say she was dating him"

"Asazi" he responded

We got out of the car and luckily the door wasn't closed

"Yehen nangu uDelilah" she clapped her hands "We Nomathemba come see this"-Zodwa

Without even thinking twice I jumped on her and started cursing her and beating her up

"You are evil! What did I ever do to you for you to hate me like this?"

Nomathemba and my husband separated us

"You should be thanking me not this bullshit you are doing. How would you have taken care of all those kids with this loser of your husband"-her

I slapped her



“Don’t you dare disrespect my husband. You had no right to decide for me, you should’ve let me decide my children’s fate. You will pay for abusing my daughter, you will pay for taking her away from me. Trust me this is not the last of me”

“You’ve grown balls now? Who do you think you are talking to us like that?” -Nomathemba

“You will find out soon enough”

I clicked my tongue and left them there. These two think they can bully me like they did years ago. Back then I was young and naïve, not anymore.

## **LETHINHLANHLA**

Hlengiwe and Sipho spent a week and left saying the next time we meet I’ll be introduced to my siblings. Honestly speaking I don’t know how to feel or act around them, and I feel it’s too soon to be calling them mom and dad, plus that Sipho guy doesn’t seem to like me. imagine spending so many years without a father and when you finally get one he doesn’t show you any affection, it’s weird I tell you. Hlengiwe on the other hand is a good woman I can tell I would’ve been a mamas girl had I grew up with her. Anyways enough about the Zulus, today I’ve been called for an interview. I wasn’t kidding when I said I am getting my shit together. Here I am dressed in black body hugging dress that’s just below my knees matching that I put

nude stilettos and a nude coat. I was back to driving Sthembiso's car as my leg has fully healed and I could afford petrol, thanks to "mommy and daddy" for giving me a lump sum which I didn't need if you ask me. I made my way to the offices feeling very much confident, you know the feeling you get when you're dressed good and you're smelling nice? Yes! That's me at the moment. I walked into their reception, and I was directed to the boardroom where the interview took place, they asked me a lot of questions about my background and what value I'd bring to their company. I'd like to believe it went well but you never know, I was told to wait for 2 weeks and if I am not contacted by then that means my application isn't successful.

After the interview I decided to go to mug and bean and grab something to eat while I browsed for other companies where I can send my CV to. I placed my order and as I was waiting qhamukiyane (came in) uNkosenhle and Lwandle giggling and holding hands. Nkosenhle opened the chair for her, and they sat down while a waiter attended to them.

I wonder if Lwandile knows about this, who am I kidding of course he doesn't. Well, it's very foolish of them to meet up at a public place like this where they can be easily spotted, but who am I to speak because both of them are grown and they know what they are doing. I finished my food and the work I was doing, and I decided to pay

Nkosi a visit. I haven't seen him in a while, I got to his apartment, and I remembered he gave me a spare I don't know for what reason and I'm curious if Ayanda knows about this. I tried opening the door, but it was locked so I used the key to open, and I found him on the couch wearing a robe watching soccer. He was shocked to see me

"Nhlanhla what are you doing here?" he asked looking nervous

Not the kind of reaction I was looking for

"I came to say hi, it's been a while" I respond

"How did you get in?"

"You gave me a spare key. Why do you look shocked?"

"ohh I never thought you'd actually use that key" he says

"if I am not supposed use it why did you give it to me? you look uncomfortable am I disturbing you? Is Ayanda here?" I asked

"Come back daddy we've been waiting for you" two white girls appear from upstairs wearing nothing

To say I'm shocked would be an understatement. So, this guy is out here cheating on Ayanda and naye she's been hating on me little does she know ukuthi I am not a treat to her relationship.

I burst out laughing and he just looks at me feeling embarrassed

"Haibo daddy don't keep them waiting" I laughed as he looked down

"dlala Nkosi ushaya nga2 wezingamula ay uyavutha oe ushisa bhe"

He smiled a bit

“Call me whenever you are free” I gave him the keys and went to my place.

## **NKOSIPHENDULE**

I don't know how I'll face Lethi after what happened yesterday. I wanted the ground to swallow me the moment she walked in. I've never thought she would actually show up and use the keys I gave her, whenever she comes to my place she always asks me if I'm around or not. I didn't even continue with the girls I told them to leave, and I didn't even call her like she said I should.

“Nkosi would you rather be elsewhere then here?”-Nkosenhle

“huhh?”

“Udliwa yini?” (What's eating you?) -Skara

“I've got a lot on my mind” I replied

“You better clear your head because we are working tonight”-

Nkosenhle

Our team is made up of more or less than 15 guys, Nkosenhle being the leader. We inherited this business from our father along with his partner and friend Sipho Zulu who is Eric's father. They are the most feared man in the illegal business and being their offspring automatically makes us the feared group as well. We take part in

most illegal businesses such as money heist from bombing ATMs, hijacking those cars that put money in ATMs, robbing art galleries, stealing diamonds and precious jewels from exhibitions and all those things. We don't take part in hijacking people and human trafficking, we basically steal from the rich that's how we make our money and we have more than millions.

We usually have our missions every once in a while and each and every one of us have other professional jobs that bring in income. The meeting went on and on with Nkosenhle telling us not to fuck up and what not, the plan was laid out and each person knew the role they play when we work. Everybody went on to prepare and we are going to gather at night and get to work, most of our missions take place at night.

"I thought you couldn't wait for the meeting to be over so that you could go clear your head."-Nkosenhle

"I will do that later"

"You better have a clear head Nkosi, last time Tman got shot because you weren't paying attention"-him

"That was a mistake, I've already apologized for that, and I promise you it will not happen again"-me

"Good. Is everything okay with you and Ayanda?"

"Nkosenhle please don't start"

“What is wrong with you? Why do you always dismiss people when they mention Ayanda? Isn't she your girlfriend?”

“If you want me to leave your house just say so and I will gladly exit”

I responded

I really don't like to speak about Ayanda because I don't really know what it is that I feel for her. I care about her a lot but at the same time I don't know if she is what I'm looking for, I don't know if she has it in her to make me stop my ways and commit.

“Fine! How is Lethi?”

“Lethi is fine, she cut her hair, and she looks beautiful. She had her cast removed and she is a lot better now, she's happy too”

“You always light up when you talk about her, you involuntary smile and your eyes glitter.”-Nkosenhle

“She is my home girl of course I'll smile when I talk about her”

“Just your home girl?” he eyed me

“What are you trying to say?” I asked

“No nothing. I'm glad she is okay, you haven't told me which apartment you got her”-Him

“And I won't tell you. Why are you so interested in knowing about her she isn't your friend?”-Me

“What’s wrong with me asking kanti? Everyone seems to be fond of her and I wouldn’t mind being her friend, she seems to be an interesting character and maybe I can take Lisakhanya to see her someday I know she would love that”

“She’s in the apartment you got me for my 18<sup>th</sup> birthday”

Just then Lwandle walked

“Doesn’t your security notify you when there’s somebody at the gate? I didn’t hear the buzzer or your phone ring. What? Is she a regular that you’ve given permission to enter whenever she wants?”

I asked clearly annoyed

“This is my house, and I don’t answer to you” he replied

I turned and looked at Lwandle

“Does Lwandile know you are fucking his boss?”

She trembled clearly shocked by my question

“What? You can’t speak now? You sure had a big mouth kwi braai” -  
me

“Nkosiphendule!” Nkosenhle warned

“I’m leaving” I turned to Lwandle “and wena stay away from Lethi” I left them there and drove to Lethi’s house.

## **SIPHO ZULU**

We have the kids gathered here to tell them about Lethinhlanhla and in a weeks' time we will be doing a welcoming home ceremony for her and introduce her to the ancestors.

"Right, now that everyone is here I have an important announcement"

"Is it good or bad news?" -Naledi

"It's good news" Hlengiwe jumped in

"It's about Lethinhlanhla"-me

"What about her?" Siphuthando always gets defensive and uncomfortable at the mention of his twin

I narrated the entire story to them

"What? How?"-Naledi

"So, you've known this for a while now, you've even met up with her but didn't bother to tell us? To tell me at least. She is my twin sister for god sake, I am her and she is me. Now it all makes sense, all those times where I'd feel down for no reason were because of her. If she is not okay I feel it too and my spirit becomes off, people even went as far as calling me moody"-Siphuthando

"You will meet her soon"

"You are missing the point dad"-Siphuthando



“Thando!”

These kids know never to argue with me. Angeke ngiphikasane nezingane ngibe ngimdala (I won't argue with kids when I'm older). That's something I've noticed with Lethinhlanhla, she backchats a lot. You say something and she says something, she wants to have the last word which is something I will not tolerate from a child.

“Do we look alike? Can't I see her now? Where is she?”-Thando

“Yes Thando she looks very much like you. At the end of the day, you are twins. She is the female version of you and no you can't see her now because she is in Durban”-Hlengiwe

“Can't we videocall her?”-Thando

“Siphuthando you will see her next week”-Eric

“You knew about this didn't you?”-Naledi

“This is not about me”-Eric

“So, you told him about this but didn't tell us? Some parents you guys are” she just stormed off left followed by her siblings

“Well, that went well”-Me

“You're unbelievable Dad. I've got to leave right now, I've got things I need to take care off back in Durban”-Eric

“Usuyohamba kahle Ndodana ukhonze kusisi wakho” (Go well my sister, greet your sister for me)

“Tell her I love and miss her”-Hlengiwe

He left

## **LETHINHLANHLA**

Nkosi called telling me I should open for him. I thought he would get back to me yesterday, but I guess he was too occupied. He walked in looking hella cute with a fresh cut. He came in and kissed my cheek

“Hey”-him

“Sawbona” I replied

“unjani?”

“why are you being weird?” I asked

Nkosi and I never greet each other like this. This is just too formal for us, we always make fun of each other.

“About yesterday..”

I eyed him containing my laugh

“uhm so...”

I just burst into laughter. I don't understand why he has to be nervous like this

“Nkosi you don't owe me any explanations dude. It's your house and you are free to do whatever you want and plus you once told me that commitment isn't your thing so it's really okay”

I saw him breathing in and out. Poor guy was holding in his breath

“This is why I love you”-him

“You should be careful though. What if it was Ayanda that walked in? vele vele what is happening between you guys? I thought you were dating her”

He shifted a bit and became uncomfortable

“I wouldn’t say I’m in love with her”-him

“oh” I honestly didn’t know what to say

“Yes! I think I love somebody else though”-him

“oh yeah? Then what’s the problem? Why are you still with Ayanda if you love someone else? Let her go so she can find a person who’ll genuinely love her and nawe follow your heart”-me

“it’s not that easy” he says

“How so?” I ask

“The girl I think I love.. I don’t know if she feels the same. I don’t want to scare her because I care about her a lot and my friendship with her is more important than anything and I value that.”-him

“That’s sucks hey and you’ve come to the wrong person, I suck at giving advice, but I say go for it because you won’t know what she feels unless you try.”-me

He chuckled

“All in due time. Come here and give me a hug it’s been a while”

He said that with the cutest smile ever

“How can I say no to that hug?” we hugged “You are a good person Nkosi, and any girl will be lucky to have you” -me

“Don’t make me blush please” he said that fanning himself

I laughed

“Are you sure you are not gay?” I asked pushing him off me

“no, I’m not darling” he said that and did the thing with his hands

“You are an idiot ”

We continued with our silly chats while I cooked

“Help me dish”

“I can’t stay, I have to go sort out some things”-him

“at night?” I asked confused

“Yes at night”-him

“Then why did you watch me cook all this food if you knew you weren’t gonna eat?” I was beyond annoyed

“I’ll come back later and eat”-him

“Please leave my place” I kicked him out

“Hawu Lethi okay dish up for me ke but if I get into trouble with Nkosenhle I’ll tell him to contact you”-him

“Ngithe hamba!” (I said go)

“I’ll be back, don’t sleep”

He kissed my cheek and left

I dished his food and placed it in the microwave, and I sat down and ate while drinking a glass of wine

I honestly need friends or a friend that will keep me company when Nkosi isn’t available. And where the hell is he going this late? Can’t he sort out whatever it is that he needs to sort out tomorrow?

I scrolled through my WhatsApp contacts and came across Nomonde’s number. I’m sure she has forgotten about me. I decided to give her a call

She answered when I was about to drop the call

“Hello”-her

“Hey unjani?”

“NO ways! My friend is that you? Where have you been? I thought you had forgotten about me? are you good? Where are you?”

I didn’t know which question to answer first

“Calm down, yes it’s me. ey babes I’ve been around trying to get up on my feet. I’m good how are you?”

“I’m great. I’m happy you called we should meet up sometime”-her

“I would love that. You will let me know when and where”-me

“No problem babes. Have a good night”

This girl is something else, I’m the one who called her but she’s the one dropping the call.

I watched a movie and waited for Nkosi until I fell asleep on the couch.

## **NKOSENHLE**

Yesterday’s mission was a failure. When we got to the place there were police waiting for us and it was absolute chaos. Most of my guys got shot and some are badly injured. I honestly don’t know what went wrong, this looks like a setup, and I will find whoever it is that is responsible for this. Nkosi is one of the guys that are badly injured, and he was hospitalized yesterday. Eric only got a few bruises, and I was shot in the arm, but I will be fine. I am in my office at home looking at the footage from yesterday trying to find a clue as to what actually happened.

I got a call from one of the security guys saying there’s a lady who’s here to see me and I just assumed it’s Lwandle. I tightened security

and no one is allowed in here without my consent. I don't trust anybody now.

I went and opened for the person and to my surprise it was Lethi

"Hi" she says

I stepped aside for her to come in

"I got this for Lisa"

She handed me a gift

"Thank you. Would you like anything to drink?"

She shook her head

"What happened to your arm?" she asked looking at my bandage

"nothing to worry yourself about" I responded

"Oh okay" she doesn't look pleased with my response

"Hijacking" I said

"Huh?"

"My arm"

"Oh"

She looks out of it

"Lethi?"

"I'm sorry are you okay? What did they want?"-her

“I’m okay. They wanted to take my car”

“so, you decided to fight them?”-her

“well, I wasn’t going to give up my Car just like that. Do you know how expensive that car is? I wasn’t going to allow those fuckers to take my hard work just like that”

“You only have 1 life Nkosenhle. You could’ve easily bought another car, it’s really not worth umphefumulo wakho (your life)”

That was cute I kinda smiled a bit

“The important thing is that I am okay” -me

“True. Were you traveling alone?”

How do I answer this? How do I tell her that her only friend is in hospital fighting for his life?

“Nkosenhle” she snapped

“No, I wasn’t alone”

“You were with Nkosiphendule?” -her

“Him and Eric” I replied

“ho..how are they?” her voice was breaking

“Eric is fine”

“uNkosi yena?”-her

“He is at the hospital”



“is it bad?”-her

“I can take you to him”-me

“okay let’s go”

“We can use my car and you’ll take yours when you come back”-me

“your arm is broken how will you drive?”

“Lethi I’ve been driving for as long as I can remember” my arm is fine  
I can drive nje kahle futhi

“I don’t want to risk it, it’s either we use my car, or you allow me to  
drive your car, or we call a cab if you don’t trust my driving. Choice is  
yours”

“My arm is fine Lethi” I tried to explain but she wasn’t having it.

She is stubborn and I must say it’s very attractive

“Fine we can use my car” I finally gave in

“took you long enough. Let’s go”

We went to the garage and her jaws literally dropped

“Close your mouth, flies will fly in and shit inside”-me

She burst into laughter

“Are these all your cars?” she asked shocked

“Yeah”

“How many cars are in this yard?”-her

“10 I think”

She just nodded clearly defeated by what she’s seeing. I don’t blame her though I love cars and not just any cars only the expensive latest ones.

“I think we should just use my car”-her

“why?”

“Look at these cars. Imagine if was to accidently crash one of them I’d have to work for you my entire life in order to pay you off”

“You are being dramatic now pick any car you want to drive and let’s go”

She scanned through the room contemplating on which car to choose

“Are you sure you earned your license or maybe you bought it”

“Shut up Nkosenhle. Let’s take the G-Wagon, it’s the only car that’s not complicated”-Her

“All these cars are not complicated, you are just being dramatic”-me

“How old are you again?”-her

I looked at her quizzically

“ 28...why?”

“so many expensive cars at the age of 28? Nkosi told me you own businesses but even so, I doubt you’d have so much money. Are you sure they tried to kidnap you guys and it wasn’t anything else?”-her

“What are you implying?” I asked amused by all of this

“Nothing, I was just asking”-her

“so, you don’t buy the story of me owning businesses? You don’t think it’s possible for a 28-year-old to achieve all that I’ve achieved?”-me

“With the help of some illegal businesses it’s possible”-her

“I see”

well, I wasn’t going to admit to taking part in illegal businesses

“anyways asambe”-her

“Are you not afraid of crashing this one?” I asked laughing at her

She was now panicking

“I’m joking let’s go”

She drove to the hospital, and I must say she is a good driver, a bit too slow for my liking but she’s good. I took her to Nkosis ward and tears threatened her eyes as she saw him with those pipes connected to him.

“Kanti what happened Nkosenhle?” she asked crying

“They shot him”

“Y’all shouldn’t have fought. Look at him”

She went closer to him

“is he awake?” she asked, and I shook my head

She kissed his cheek and held his hand

“I waited for you yesterday, I dished the food and waited for you, but you didn’t come back. I’m no longer angry at you, all I ask is that you fight and come back. You are the only friend and family I have Nkosi please don’t leave me all alone, you promised you would be here with me always so here I am begging you to fight and come back”

She paused for a bit and looked at me

“he is going to be okay right?” she asked

I just nodded my head not knowing how to answer her

She turned back and smiled at Nkosi

“Who would’ve thought that tables would turn like this. Not so long ago I was the one fighting for my life with you encouraging me to come back and I listened ngabuya and manje sekwiskhathi sakho sokuthi ubuye (I listened and came back, now it’s your time to fight and come back). Tomorrow I will come back with flowers and teddy bears” she chuckled

We stayed until the visitation hours were over and we drove back to my place

“I should go back to my place now”-her

“come in for a drink, it’s still early and I’m sure you’ll be all sad on your own thinking about Nkosi”

“I guess you are right”

We made our way in

“What would you like to drink?”

“Rest your arm I’ll get the drinks”-her

Only if she knew I’ve been through worse than this

she came back with a bottle of whiskey and glass for me and a bottle of red wine and glass for herself

“Aren’t you on medication?” she asked pointing at my arm “You’re not supposed to mix alcohol and medication”

“No, I’m not on any medication”

She shrugged her shoulders and nodded with her head

“How old are you?” I asked

“21, turning 22 in a few months”

“Where are you from?”

She chuckled and sipped on her wine

“I’m from around”

I shook my head and just smiled

“I see. You said you don’t have family right?”-me

“Yep”

“What happened if you don’t mind me asking”

“I don’t know my dad and my mom was killed few months back” she sipped her wine. This entire time she kept eye contact as if searching for something

“I’m sorry to hear that. Don’t you have any siblings?”

“I do but they want nothing to do with me. My story is very complicated”-her

“Alright I’ll stop asking about your family. Tell me what’s the story between you and Lwandle”

Right then Lwandle walked in

“What the fuck is going on here?”-Lwandle

I should really fire my security. I told them not to let anyone in without my consent.

“Nkosenhle here just asked me a question, and I think you’re the perfect person to answer. Come sit here” she patted the couch and she laid back with a smug on her face

“What are you doing here Lwandle?” I asked

“Uhm...i.. I came to see you”

“sit down”

She nervously sat down

“Lethi what are you doing here?”-Lwandle

“Is this your house?”-Lethi

“No”-Lwandle

“Then don’t ask me nonsense”-Lethi

There is this fiery side of Lethi that draws me to her. She’s a tiny girl but you can tell she has power, and she has a very sharp tongue.

“What happened between you guys?” I asked coz clearly there is a lot going on that I don’t know about

“Lwandle would you do us the honors”-Lethi

Lwandle became uncomfortable

“Lwandle!” I turned to her

“I don’t know. I have nothing against Lethi”-Lwandle

“I’ll tell you what happened”-Lethi

She narrated the story

“So, you took Lwandile from her?”-Me

“she still isn’t satisfied. You saw how she treated me during your braai?”-Lethi

We turned and looked at her, but she had her head facing down

“You’ve got nothing to say now? Does Lwandile know you are here?” she asked still with the smug on her face

“Uhm. I..I have to go”-Lwandle

“Don’t leave because of me. Are you guys dating?”-Lethi

“No”-me

“Mmhh”-Lethi

I don’t know what’s that supposed to mean

“Let me leave you two, it’s getting late”-Lethi

Dammit mahn Lwandle

“Hawu why are you leaving? We are still talking”-Me

“Lwandle and I can never be in the same room, that’s just a recipe for disaster, worse with alcohol involved. Ngingaze ngizithole sengimphahlaza ngaleli bhodlela ekhanda”(I don’t want to find myself breaking her head with this bottle)-Lethi

Lwandle sprung up on her toes and Lethi just laughed



“I’m joking. Sit your ass down I’m leaving” she turned to me “Thank you for the wine” she stood up and gulped the remaining wine left in her glass “nisale kahle” she attempted to leave but she turned “I’ll hang on to this, I’m sure you won’t mind” she took the wine bottle and smiled at me then winked at Lwandle and she whistled and made her way out.

What a character!

“What’s amusing you?” she asked annoyed

“What are you doing here?”

“I Always come here, and you’ve never asked me that so why start now?”-her

“You don’t usually come this late”

“would you like me to leave?”

“I did not say that. Why are you fuming?” I asked confused

“How do you expect me to react when I find you with that bitch busy giggling”

“Bitch? You stole her man so technically the bitch in this equation would be you”

“Oh, you’re insulting me now?-her

“I’m not insulting you, I was just correcting you. From what I’ve heard you are the one that wronged her yena she didn’t do anything to you”

“She didn’t do anything wrong? She shouldn’t have beat me up back then”-her

“You were under her man busy moaning and shoving your tongue down her boyfriend’s throat. I would have done the same if not worse”

“Whose side are you on?”-her

“I’m not on any side I’m just telling you the truth. I don’t even understand why you’re angry that I was having a drink with her, you and I aren’t an item remember? So, I will do stuff with people, and you can’t get mad just like how you do stuff with your boyfriend”

“Coming here was a mistake” she got up and left

I wasn’t going to run after her and stop her. Lwandle knows we are not dating. She knows I don’t do any of the dating stuff, so I don’t know what her problem is. she is starting to become clingy just like how Cindy was, and I don’t like that. If this is too much for her to handle then we can stop.

I decided to carry on with my research on finding out who is responsible for the failure of the mission. We always double check everything before going to missions so I’m pretty much confident

that someone had a hand in this. I will find them, and I will make them pay.

I must have fallen asleep because I was woken up by Eric and Nathi making noise downstairs.

“What are you doing in my house so early in the morning?” I asked making my way downstairs

“It’s 10:30 Nkosenhle”-Eric

I never sleep until this late. I must have been really out of it

“Are you sick?”-Nathi

“No, I guess I was tired”

“whose here with you?” Eric asked peeping

“Nobody”

“Mmhh”-Eric

Ayke I won’t entertain madness

“I think I know who is behind the set up?”

“Who?”-Nathi

“Ngonyama”-me

“Nope, there’s no way. Why do you suspect him?”-Eric

“I mean he is the only person I can think off right now. He is the only enemy who wants to see me fail currently”

Ngonyama and I don't get along. Him and I are like oil and water, I really don't know when or where this hatred started from, but we've never gotten along. I guess both of us are hard headed and we don't want people telling us what to do that's why we tend to bump heads all the time.

"It couldn't have been him. He knew I was on that mission, and he would never put my life in danger, him and I are like brothers"-Eric

"and besides that's really not his style. If he wanted to do something to you he would've been very direct"-Nathi

"This entire thing is frustrating me. If y'all are sure it wasn't him then we definitely have a mole within the group, and nobody can be trusted."

"we'll find him"-Eric

## **LETHINHLANHLA**

A week has passed and Nkosi is being released from hospital. I have been visiting him and bringing him flowers and teddy bears for the past week and when he woke up he complained and went on about how weird it is for guys to have teddy bears and that it's not very manly as he is "Indoda yomzulu".

"Tell me what am I supposed to do with all these dolls Lethi?" he asked looking around the room

I won't lie I really went overboard with the teddy bears. (Chuckling)

There's like 10 of them

"I don't know. You can put them on your bed for Decoration or something"

He starred at me blankly as if I said something stupid

"Okay okay you can give them to all your girlfriends on valentine's day. Do you see ukuthi I just saved you money."

"Lethi!"- he had that don't bore me face

"I'll take some and we can give Lisa the rest. Remind me never to get you anything ever again ngoba awukwazi ukubonga (because you can't say thank you)"-me

"You being here with me is all that I need. Thank you"-him

Ncoo how sweet

"I wouldn't be anywhere else. Please never ever scare me like that ever again. I thought you were going to die"-me

"I'm not going anywhere"

we shared a hug

"mmhhh" Nkosenhle cleared his throat as he walked in with Nathi

"Ready to go home?"-Nathi

"You have no idea, I miss my bed"-Nkosi

“How will you move around? Will you be able to do things on your own?”-Nkosenhle

Nkosis legs aren't functioning properly as yet, so he is using a wheelchair

“I'll be fine”-Nkosi

“Come stay with me” I blurted out

Everybody went silent.

“I don't think that's a good idea. What will Ayanda say?”-Nathi

I'm not sure hey, I don't think Nathi is fond of me

“The choice is yours Nkosi. I personally don't give a shit about Ayanda, uNkosi is my friend and I'll do everything in my power to help him”-me

“Nkosi uthini? (what do you say)”-Nkosenhle

“Are you sure? I don't want to trouble you”-Nkosi

“it's the least I could do after all you have done for me, and plus that's practically your house since you're currently paying for the rent”-Me

Nkosi and Nkosenhle chuckled

“Did I say something funny?” I asked looking at them

“Lutho Nkosazana”-Nkosenhle

“alight then I accept”-Nkosi

“Nkosenhle can you bring his clothes over? I’ll help you pack”-Me

“No problem”-Nkosenhle

They signed his discharge papers and we left. I got in my car and drove Nkosi to the house while Nkosenhle was following behind me. I dropped him off then went with Nkosenhle to Nkosis house using his car.

“I’m just gonna follow you around because I don’t know where he keeps his stuff”

We packed over light conversation

“What’s happening between you and my brother?”-Nkosenhle

“Which brother? uNkosi?” I asked

“Yes”

“Nothing is happening. Him and I close friends why do you ask?”-me

“I was just curios, y’all seem to be very fond of each other”

“We are, he is my best friend, the only friend I have”-me

“I see”

Ok weird

“Help me with that last box, I can’t reach it”-me

He was no longer wearing a bandage, so I assume he is well now. He reached for the box, and I helped him place it on the ground. I bumped into him as I got up from the ground, our bodies were touching against each

“you okay?” he asked not moving his eyes from mine

I just nodded with my head

He then brushed my cheek and held my chin bringing it towards him as he lowered his head. Our faces were so close to each other that we were literally breathing each other’s breath. He brushed his lips against mine and I swear I stopped breathing. I don’t remember when was the last time I was touched let alone be this close to a man. I wanted him to kiss me, I wanted to feel his touch, have his hands all over.

I was brought back to reality when his phone rang, we both turned towards it and Lwandle’s name flashed on the screen. I felt my inside turn. I pushed him from me and carried the bags to the car. I don’t know whether I’m angry at the fact that I didn’t get my kiss or angry at the fact that I fell for Nkosenhles charms knowing very well he is fucking Lwandle.



Nkosenhle is handsome, in fact all these guys are handsome. I don't know whether that was one of the requirements for joining the group. It's as if kthiwa if umumbi awungeni. Lwandile is hot in his own way, The Ndlovu brothers, all three of them are on their own league, Eric is a handsome light skinned gent, Skara/Wokukhanya upelepepe ngokwakhe. These niggas would make any girl drop her panties and bend backwards for them. All in all, though I really can't tell who's more handsome between Nkosenhle and Ngonyama. Bayazala abafazi ngaphandle jealous down.

He came out carrying the heavy boxes

"You sure your arm has fully healed?" I asked as I opened the boot for him

"Yes, I told you this was nothing, I've been through worse"-Him

I don't even wanna know what he means by that

"Did we get everything?" I asked looking around

"Yes let's go"

We got in the car, and he drove off

"Nhlanhla I'm sorry"-him

Sorry for what? Trying to kiss me or sorry that Lwandle disturbed?

"nothing happened so forget it"-me

"Nhlanhla"

“Nkosenhle No”

I really didn't want to talk about it

We drove in silence and found Nkosi in the kitchen making lunch

“The point of you staying here is so that I can look after you and make you food while you rest”-me

This guy should be resting

“I figured you guys might be hungry when you come back”-Nkosi

“You could've ordered something or called to tell us to bring food. I don't even know how I forgot”-me

I was busy getting wet for your brother, that's how I forgot

“It's not a train smash, I'm almost done”-Nkosi

“Go sit, I'll finish off here”-me

He wanted to say no but I insisted. I don't want to be alone with his brother

“Alright then if you say so”-Nkosi

They both went to the dining area and watched soccer. I finished what he started, dished, and served them and we had light conversation over lunch

“Remember the interview I went to last week?” I asked beaming with excitement

“You got the job?”-Nkosi

“Yes”

“Smart ass, I told you, you would get it. I’m super proud of you ntwana, when do you start?”-Nkosi

“I have to go sign the contract tomorrow then I’ll start with training in a weeks’ time”-me

“We should celebrate”-Nkosi

“Heal first and we’ll celebrate after”-me

“Congratulations MaMzimela”-Nkosenhle

“Thank you”

There was a buzzer at the door, and I went to open and Ayanda showed up fuming

“Hi..”-me

She shoved me aside and made her way in

“OKAY! Calm down Lethi” I said to myself

“what has gotten into you Nkosi? You couldn’t even pick up the phone to tell me you have been discharged”-Ayanda

“Ayanda I was going to tell you once I’ve settled in”-Nkosi

“Settled in kwamasimba. Asambe!”-Ayanda

“Don’t you dare insult me. why are you swearing? I’m not going anywhere”-Nkosi

“What do you mean by that?”-Ayanda

“I’ll be staying here with Lethi for these few weeks”-Ayanda

“I think I should leave you guys to talk, Lethi please walk me out”-  
Nkosenhle

What? No why? He knows the way out

He got up and I followed after him

“I’m really sorry if I made you uncomfortable, that wasn’t my intension”-him

“I wasn’t uncomfortable”

He raised his eyebrow

“alright, I’ll see you around”

He kissed my cheek and got in his car and left

I went back inside and went straight to my room, and I left those two to argue on their own.

After what seemed like forever Nkosi wheeled himself in my room and disturbed me as I was watching a movie

“Hey”-him

“Has the dragon lady left?” I asked laughing and he ended up joining me

“Yeah she left”

“have you sorted things out?” I asked

“ I don’t want to talk about her”-him

“Alright what do you want to do? I’m watching a movie here”

“Scooch over ngifuna ukbuka nami” (I want to watch as well)

I shifted and made space for him to join. We spent the rest of the day watching movies and eating junk food.

## **NKOSIPHENDULE**

Where do I even begin with this thing noAyanda. Her and I went back and forth, and she said she’s giving me space to decide if I want to be with her or if I choose to be Lethi’s friend. I honestly don’t know why she’s doing this to herself because Lethi and I will always be in each other’s lives. She’s my family now and if Ayanda can’t accept that then she has to go.

We watched movies until she fell asleep in my arms. God I don’t know what it is, but I feel something for this girl. Her smile, her face, her sense of humor, her voice, her heart, her everything is just pure and beautiful. I don’t know how she feels about me after she saw me with those white girls, Ayanda and the fact that I told her I can’t

commit. She probably sees me as a player. I switched off the laptop and kissed her forehead. I guess I'm sleeping in her bed tonight because I don't want to wake her up.

I must have fallen asleep while admiring her beauty as I was woken up by her moving up and down the room

"Why didn't you wake me up?"-her

"You were peacefully sleeping so I let you be"

"I'm sorry hey. You slept uncomfortably because of me, next time wake me up"-her

So, there's going to be a next time. Yes!

"It's no big deal really"

"I have to shower and go sign the contract"-her

"I'll give you your space" I jumped on my seat and wheeled myself to another room. I honestly can't wait to get out of this chair, I wanna walk again and drive myself around.

I dialed Nkosi's number, and he picked on the 4<sup>th</sup> ring

"Nkosi"-Nathi

"Bafo when am I getting out of this chair again?"

"Nkosi it's only been 2 days"-him

"and I'm already fed up"

“I told you to start your physio so that your legs can heal faster”-

Nkosi

“Set up an appointment for today, Nkosenhle will take me”

“Alright I’ll set it up for and get back to you with the time”

“sure”

I dropped the call and waited for him to send me the details. Just then Lethi walked in covered in a towel

“What would you like to eat?”

I’d have you anytime of the day

“Uhm I’m not really hungry”-me

“You sure? I was going to make you food before I leave”

“Yeah I’m sure. I’ll make a cereal if I get hungry”-me

“Alright I’ll place everything in one place for you so it could be easier”

I nodded and she left

“Control yourself Nkosi!”

Nathi sent the details and I called Nkosenhle

“Nkosi”-him

“are you busy today? I need you to take me somewhere in an hour from now”

“Can’t you ask Lethi?”-him

“No, she’s busy that’s why I’m asking you”

“Where am I taking you?”-him

“I’m starting my physiotherapy”

“so, I’m going to have to wait and watch you exercise?”-him

“Nkosenhle come on. I wouldn’t have asked you if it wasn’t important. I want to get better so I can be out of your hair” I begged

“Fine I’ll take you”

He dropped the call

“Bitch!”

I went and took a bath, I’ll be taking baths until I’m able to stand in the shower. Lethi made things easy for me by placing everything in one spot where I can reach. She also ironed all my t-shirts and hanged them along with my jeans. I got dressed and waited for this bum to come fetch me. Nhlanhla had left a few minutes ago and she placed the cereal on the kitchen counter like she said she would

“What an angel”

“Who’s angel? And why are you smiling to yourself like you just had morning sex” Nkosenhle asked walking in

“Uthanda iyndaba”



“you’re still not ready?”-him

“I am, I just need to eat bese syahamba”

“hurry up then”-him

“Yini ujahephi? Entlek why are you rushing me like this, nglokhu ngikuncenga? I’ll tell mom you are mistreating me”

“I’m taking you to your appointment ain’t i? what do you want me to do? Hold your hand?”-him

“that would be nice. I’m your little brother don’t forget that”

“Udakiwe” he laughed and threw a cushion my way

“Do your big brother duties and wash this bowl for me and place all these things away”

“Haibo Nkosi I’m not your maid. I’m not doing that”-him

“Please! I’d rather abuse you than uNhlanhla”

“I’m only doing this once”-him

“I love you too” I laughed at him

“Fuseg!”-him

He washed the dish and we left. The session went well, I was told I had to attend 3 times a week and that I’d be able to walk in no time since my legs aren’t badly damaged. We left

“manje who will be taking you to all these sessions 3 days a week?”-  
him

“usabuza?” (you still ask?)

“mxm”-him

“She’s beautiful isn’t she?”

“Who?” he asked confused

“The therapist”

“you’re focusing on the wrong things. I thought you went there so  
you could get better kanti you have another agenda”-him

“There’s nothing wrong with looking. I know you found her attractive  
too”

“No, I did not. She’s okay”-him

“Lies!”

“I’m a changed man”-him

I burst out in laughter. Changed man my foot

“who’s responsible for that change. Don’t tell me it’s that fat ass  
bitch Lwandle”

“Language Nkosi, I’m still older than you”-him

“If it’s not her then who is it?”

“stay out of my business”-him

“Are you in love? I thought you said you’d never settle”

“I won’t”-him

“Then?”

“Then nothing. You ask a lot of questions”-him

“You know I’ll find out right?”

“Shut up Nkosi”-him

“Then why are you still with that bitch? Does Lwandile know you are fucking his girl?” I asked

“The pussy is great. No, he doesn’t know”-him

“He won’t be happy when he finds out about this. You shouldn’t be smashing his girl, we’re all brothers in this business and you know that”

“I didn’t know he was dating her when we started. You know I would have never crossed that line”-him

“Well, now you know but you’re still fucking her”

“Language Nkosi!”-him

“it’s the truth”

“I’m working on it”-him

“working on what? Since when are you afraid of telling women to fuck off?”

“I’m not afraid. You just won’t understand”-him

“There’s nothing to understand here. Wena tell Lwandle to fuck off and focus on the other girl that’s making you want to commit”

“I’m afraid I’m not the only who want’s that girl. Well, I think this other gent wants her, but he is confused at the moment”-him

“What is with you and taking peoples girlfriend? You can have any single girl you want, you know that right?”

“she isn’t anybody’s girlfriend at the moment”-him

“Then go for her. It’s an open race, if she hasn’t committed to that gent as yet then you still have a shot.”

“I’ll remind you of this in the future”-him

OKAY!

“I thought you are taking me to Nhlanhla’s place. Siyaphi?”

I asked as we were taking a different route

“Warehouse”-him

“Do we have a meeting?”

“No, I found the mole who’s responsible for the condition you’re in”-  
him

“Let’s fucking go. I haven’t had fun in a while”

“you are siting this one out”-him

“Come on Nkosenhle, let me blow his head off”

I’m no stranger to taking someone’s life. I’ve been introduced to the game since the age of 16. Nkosenhle never wanted me to be involved in the killing part, but situation forced me to take someone’s life this one time and from there I’ve been doing it since. I’m not proud of it but ke it is what it is.

“No!”-him

“Mxm”

We drove in and found all the guys already waiting

“Now that everyone is here we can continue”-Nkosenhle

“What is this about?”-Skara

“We have a snitch in this group. Somebody here ratted us out to the police that’s why the mission went south. Now what I want to know is why? Why did you do it? What were you going to gain by betraying me?”-Nkosenhle asked not even looking at the culprit

“Who is the snitch?”-Lwandile

“Let’s see if he will come out on his own”-Nkosenhle

We waited for like 2 minutes, but nobody came forward

“Okay I guess we will have to do this the hard way”-Nkosenhle

He took out his gun and shot Kabelo on his shoulder. He went down screaming

“why did you do it?”-Skara

“I had to do it. Zondo left me with no choice, he has a hold over me and the only way he was gonna let me go was if I betrayed you”-Kabelo

Zondo is a Cop who's obsessed with Nkosenhle. He has been wanting to lock him up for years now with no success.

“Bullshit! You could've come to me, and we would have figured things out” Nkosenhle was fuming

“I'm sorry boss”-Kabelo

“Sorry wakho will it make uNkosi walk?”-Nkosenhle

Everybody was just silent

“Thought as much. You didn't even think twice to betray me and now you are saying sorry. I'm going to make an example of you. I want everybody to know never to mess with me”

Within a blink of an eye a bullet landed on Kabelos head

“Clean this up” he turned and wheeled me out to the car

“should've let me do it”

“Don't start”-him

We drove in silence to Lethi's Place. Nkosenhle is a chilled guy, you can joke and insult him when having a normal conversation but when he is in a work mode or if something pissed him off you don't even argue or say anything to him because he turns into this beast that has veins popping and his teeth are always clenched together, and his eyes become dark.

We made our way into the house without buzzing in because I had a spare remote. Our jaws dropped immediately after opening the door. Lethi was in a thong and bra singing while making food. All those marks that she had back then had faded, her body is gorgeous and shining. She frowned after she turned and saw us

"what are you guys doing here?"-her

Silence

"No, I mean when did you get back? I didn't hear you buzz in"-her

I probably should've mentioned the spare remote to her. What surprised me is that she didn't flinch considering she's naked.

"Uhm I'm sorry, we should've knocked"-me

"Uhm, you're.." he couldn't even say it

He probably wants to tell her she's naked

"well, can you please close your eyes so I can turn around, it's not like y'all haven't seen me in my underwear"-her

She was facing us and her buttocks were facing the other way

“What do you mean?”-Nkosenhle

“Didn’t y’all undress me the other day?”-her

“Yeah but it’s not like we were looking at your body”-Nkosenhle

“Close your eyes then so I can go and get dressed”-her

I closed my eyes and waited for a few seconds

“Have you left?” I asked after a while

“No”-her

“what are you waiting for?” I asked confused

“waiting for your brother to close his eyes and mouth”-her

“Nkosenhle!” I warned

The thought of my brother seeing Lethi naked doesn’t sit well with me. he finally closed his eyes and she left and came back wearing one of her oversized t-shirts

“I’m sorry about that, I didn’t know you will be back soon”-her

“I should’ve told you I was on my way back”-me

“It’s okay. I’ve gotten used to being on my own it slipped my mind ukuthi I have a roommate now. I’ll be careful next time. I didn’t know ubunendlela”-her

“I went to a physiotherapist”-me



“That’s great, you’ll be walking in no time then we can go to the beach”-her

“You and the beach. What are you? A fish?”-Nkosenhle

“I should’ve gotten you a place with a pool”-me

“I’m a mermaid Nkosenhle, and wena yes you should’ve gotten an apartment with a pool. 0 points for Nkosi”-her

“I have a pool in my house. You are more than welcome to go and swim”-Nkosenhle

“1 point for Nkosenhle”-her

We just laughed at her.

“Don’t worry though I won’t be staying here for too long”-her

“Oh”-me

I couldn’t even hide the disappointment

“Don’t be like that. If everything goes well I’ll have my own house in the next few months”-her

“You’re buying a house with your first salary? How much are you earning kanti”-Nkosenhle

“No, I’m not buying a house”-her

We looked at her confused and she just laughed

“Let’s just say it’s an inheritance. Everything that belongs to me will be mine and whoever wronged me will deserve everything that’s coming to them”-her

“Where is the house?”-me

I hope it’s not far in another province or something

“Ballito”-her

I’m okay with that

“At least it’s not that far, we can still be able to visit you”-me

“I just hope it has a pool”-her

“You can always get a house with a pool if you really wanted one”-  
Nkosenhle

“Not all of us are millionaires like the Ndlovu family”-her

Ay I’m not getting involved in this one

“Hawu sesenzenike thina nkosi yami” He asked amused with one eyebrow up “Kwangathi you know more about our family than we do”

“Not even. I just observe and conclude, Look at Nkosi for example he is only 22 but the cars he drives you’d swear he has been working for years. Look at this apartment he is paying for, no ordinary 22-year-old would afford this if they didn’t come from a filthy rich family”-her

“I see”-Nkosenhle

“You should give me your dads number” she said that with a smirk on her face

“Why do you want his number?”-Nkosenhle

“Just want to find out if he ain’t looking for wife number 2. I’d be your mom Nkosi imagine. You’d be asking me for money”-her

Nkosenhle burst out in laughter, and I just shook my head

“You are an idiot”-me

“What hawu, imagine having a young mom like me. wonke umuntu (everyone) would envy you and be like “Yho dawg your mommy is yummy””-her

“Lethi shut up”-me

“I was just saying”-her

## **LWANDILE**

I’ve had a lot of time to think and figure out what I want. It’s clear that Lethi has moved on and isn’t interested in getting back together with me so it’s only fair I move on with my life as well. Lwandle has been nothing but patient with me, I’ve been neglecting her but here she is still loyal to me. it’s only fair I make things right with her.

“Lwandle”

I called her as she just finished dressing Malwande

“Lwandile”-her

“I am sorry”

She looked at me confused

“Huh?”-her

“I am sorry for treating you like shit, you honestly don’t deserve that.

Yes both of us were wrong for betraying Nhlanhla but I’ve

apologized, and she has forgiven me so there’s no use holding

grudges and being angry at you for my failed relationship. I want to

thank you for being patient with me, not many people would’ve put

up with my shit, but you stood by me, and you were loyal

throughout, ngyabonga MaMkholo. If you’d give me the chance I

would like to do things right and treat you the way you deserve to be

treated.”-me

She was in tears by the time I was done

“I am really sorry babe, please don’t cry”-me

She came and hugged me

“I forgive you”-her

“I love you”

“I love you too”-her

I kissed her, I genuinely kissed her. I haven't been honest with my feelings towards her in these couple of months, but I will make it right.

“Allow me to make love to you MaNdimande”-me

She just nodded

I wiped her tears with my hands and cupped her face in my hands and I went in for a kiss, a slow hungry passionate kiss which left her wanting for more. I've been starving the both of us for months, and now I will make sure I will leave her satisfied. I carried her to bed, and I got on top of her without breaking the kiss, I removed her clothes and cupped her breasts and sucked on her titties which made her moan. I went on her neck and left wet kisses going down to her thighs and honey jar.

“Lwan..dille”-her

I ignored her and opened her legs, and I was welcomed by her shaved pussy

“I missed you so much”-me

I went full face in and ate her up, I licked I sucked and blowed. Each time I did that she would push my head further in and that's all the confirmation I needed to go on. I went on and on and soon after, her legs started to shake followed by a wave of cum that splattered on my face. I licked her clean and went back to her face and kissed her

“I love you”-me

“Lwandile please!” she begged

“What? You don’t love me?”-me

“I love you but please, I don’t want to wait anymore” she cried

“Alright sthandwa sami”-me

I inserted my finger and she gasped, I inserted another one and stroked slowly in and out of her. I fingered her hard and a second orgasm washed over her

“Lwandilleee”

She was in tears now. How adorable

I removed my clothes and got on top of her, I opened her thighs and positioned myself in between her legs

“Ready for daddy?”-me

“Yesss”

I slid in uMntungwa and she just screamed. I went in circles slowly filling her up, with each thrust her inner walls tightened hugging my dick and I just lost it. I slammed in and out of her with her screaming my name and grabbing on the sheets. I thought I would tease her a bit and stop but I couldn’t, I lost all control and released all my juices after she has released a multiple of times. I pulled out and grabbed a towel to wipe both of us.

“Ngyabonga Khumalo”-she thanked me hiding her face

“Kubonga mina kaMabizela”

She looked really tired, so I spooned her and cuddled her until she fell asleep.

## **LETHINHLANHLA**

Another week has passed, and I must say all has been well. Today is Monday and it's my first day at work, I am nervous as hell.

Apparently this weekend is my welcoming ceremony so I will be traveling to Cape Town. I still have to find a way to tell Nkosi about all of this, as far as he knows wazi ukuthi I don't have parents. I'm really draining telling him, but I'll eventually have to tell him.

He has been very consistence with his therapy sessions and according to Nathi and the Physiotherapist he should be able to walk in the next two weeks.

“Ready for work?”

He asked as he made his way in my room. He refuses to use the chair, so he uses crutches. He found me standing in front of the mirror looking at myself.

“No” I replied

“Come on, you've got this. Everyone will love you”-him

“I guess, kodwa vele I’m not going there to make friends. I’m just trying to get paper and live a soft life”-me

“Try and make at least 1 friend”-him

“I don’t need any friends, you’re enough for me”-me

I’ve been in peace without friends, I certainly do not need the stress and drama right now.

“Come give me a hug”-him

I went and hugged him, and he kissed my forehead and I left for work. I’ll be doing my training to become an Environmental officer at NM Environmental services.

I walked in the offices, and I was introduced around, my trainer is a lady by the name of Sindy, Sindy Mngomezulu. Very beautiful lady in her late 20s, very thick with a huge ass. She told all the internes that we will only see the boss once our training is over. The rest of the day went on smoothly and I went home when it was knock off time.

As soon as I entered the door the aroma filled my nostrils. Nkosi was in the kitchen cooking up a storm.

“Please don’t burn the kitchen”-me

It was a mess, dishes everywhere, food spills on the floor. It was chaotic

“Oh, you’re back”-him



“Yeah, what are you cooking?” I asked

“Normal beef stew and rice” he responded

“Nice. So, what’s the occasion? Are you expecting guests?”

“No, I just wanted to do something nice for you. Since we didn’t get a chance to celebrate I figured I’d cook you super because I knew you’d come back exhausted”-him

“That’s very sweet of you. Thank you!. I didn’t know you can cook”-me

“I don’t know how to cook”-him

I eyed him

“Mom was basically coaching me and telling me what to add” he went on and laughed

“Your mom will think I’m abusing her son, making you cook while you can’t stand for long”-me

“She was happy to see I’m moving around actually, and proud that I’m becoming a gentlemen” he said proudly

“I see. I’m very impressed as well”-me

“I aim to please ma’am” he flashed the cutest smile

“Go freshen up while I dish up”-him

“I can dish don’t worry”

“Lethi please don’t spoil this moment for me. You will never ever get this opportunity of me cooking for you ever again so I suggest you take advantage while you still can”-him

“Who am I to argue. Let me leave you to it”

I left and took a quick shower, lotioned and wore my pjs and I joined him when I was done.

I found him seated around the table waiting for me with a glass of wine in his hand

“I think I like this new Nkosi”

“I try” he blushed

We began eating over a light conversation

“This tastes really good. Tell your mom she did a good job”

“Haibo I did everything mos”-him

“With her teaching you. Without her help you would’ve burnt everything”-me

“Give me credit please”-him

“Okay, Nkosi you are a good cook. I should hire you ube iChef yami”-me

“I don’t work for free”-him

“Money is not an issue”-me

“first day at work and you’re already speaking as if you’re a millionaire”-him

“Leave me alone hawu I was joking”

We finished eating and I cleared up everything and washed the dishes then I went back to join him on the couch with a bottle of wine

“What are we watching?” I asked

“What do you want to watch?”

“Cartoons”-me

“You’re such a baby come here”

He opened his arm for me to cuddle and opened my cartoons. We sat in silence for a while with him brushing my ear

“Uhm..”-him

“What?”

“I have something to tell you”-him

I got up and sat properly facing him

“What’s up?”-me

“Promise not to get mad”-him

“I can’t promise you something I’m not sure of”

“I’ve decided to go back to my place” he finally spoke

“Oh”-me

I don't know why I'm shocked because I know he wasn't going to stay with me forever.

Silence

He was just looking at me

“When are you planning on going back?” I asked

“In the morning”-him

“Oh”

I didn't think it would be this soon

“May I ask why? Why all of a sudden? Is it because of Ayanda?”-me

“You wouldn't understand. It's best I leave kusa early and no, it has nothing to do with her. Besides I've healed, I know how to move around on my own now, so I thought it's best I move back and give you your space”-him

“I see”

I went back to the position I was in, and he went back to rubbing my ear

“Are you mad at me?”-him

“No”

“Are we cool?”-him

“Yes”

“Will you keep on answering with one-word answers?”-him

“No, I just don’t understand the sudden decision”

“Lethi trust me I have to move back”-him

“yeah I wouldn’t understand” I mimicked him

“You are stubborn”-him

“Whatever”

He moved from ear and started brushing my arm, I enjoyed this more than I should, and I think he noticed

“Would you like me to give you a massage?”-him

“Yes please”

I removed my gown, and I was left with my night wear. I let his hands do the magic

“I didn’t think your hands would be this warm”

“Ngyashisa phela mina, have you not seen me”-him

“Argh, cocky aren’t we?”

“I’m kidding”-him

He went on from massaging my neck to my shoulders

“You’re very tense. Unama knots”

“I haven’t been to the spa in a while”-me

He ironed out all the knots and I couldn’t help but moan

“Don’t do that”-him

“Ini?” (what?)

“You’re moaning”-him

Well, that’s what happens when you’re enjoying a massage

“I’m not doing it on purpose though. You have soft hands”

“Just try”-him

I rolled my eyes

He continued moving from shoulders towards my back and I moaned again, and he stopped

“Okay I’ll cover my mouth so you that you won’t hear anything” I really didn’t want him to stop

Silence

“Nkosi”

Silence

I raised my head to check what’s wrong with him. He was facing up with his eyes closed

“Nkosi are you okay?” I shook his arm, and he opened his eyes

“Mhh”-him

I sat up straight and looked at him, he was being weird

“Kwenzenjani? Are you in pain?” I was panicking now

Instead of answering he grabbed my neck and started sucking on my lower lip. I won't lie I was taken by surprise, his lips were soft and cold, and I could taste the alcohol he was drinking.

“I'm sorry, I really tried to stop but..”-him

I was brought back to my senses, and I responded to the kiss. It was a slow, gentle, and passionate kiss that left me wanting for more

“I didn't want to do this, I tried to fight it but your moans, your moans drive me crazy”

He said that biting his lips with his eyes half opened. He went back to kissing me with his hands traveling all over my body. He went to my honey spot and pushed my underwear aside and inserted his fingers inside making circles. He stopped kissing me and looked me direct in the eyes and he removed his fingers from my vagina and sucked on them. He half smiled

“You're tasty”

He attacked my neck and started sucking on it while his fingers rubbed my clit

“Nkosii”

“Lethi”

He was still busy sucking and rubbing

“I want you”-me

“I want you too” he paused and went back to kissing then spoke again “But I won’t do anything to you”

I felt like pulling my head off. What does he mean he can’t do anything to me? why would he tease me then leave me like that.

“Why?” I asked

“Because you’re not thinking straight. It’s the wine talking not you, I don’t want you to wake up regretting everything and end up resenting me”-him

“Then why did you kiss me in the first place”

“I shouldn’t have done that, I am sorry”

By this time, he had stopped massaging my clit

“Nkosiphendule”

“Lethinhlanhla” he responded

“I am horny, please don’t do this” I begged

Do you know painful being horny is?

“What would you like me to do?” he asked

Must be nice having all the power over me



“Fuck me” I answered

“I fuck bitches, are you a bitch?” he asked

I shook my head

“This is why I won’t do anything to you, I don’t want to fuck you but make love to you but only when the time is right”-him

“What am I supposed do now?” I asked not knowing what to do with myself

He raised his one eyebrow the way his brother Nkosenhle does, it’s really sexy

“Nkosi are you really acting fresh with me right now?”

He just laughed at me

I attempted to stand up and go take a shower

“wait”-him

I looked at him

“come here”-him

He made me sit on top of him and started kissing me all over again, this time it was more hungrily, I became wet instantly. I moaned again and he flipped me on the couch and removed my pants and spread my legs open. He sucked on my inner thighs definitely leaving

marks, his lips made it to my clit. He licked the living shit out of me, he licked and fingered, and I don't know how many orgasms I had.

He limped and came back with a towel and wiped me clean, embarrassment washed over me. I can't believe I just begged a guy for sex at the same time I'm glad he didn't take advantage and agree to sleeping with me

"Thank you" I said hiding my face

"Haibo what's that? Are you being shy right now? Wena wonke?" he was making fun of me

"Leave me alone Nkosi, I have to go to bed now"

"Want me to cuddle you?"-him

"I don't trust myself, I feel like I'll still wanna have sex with you" I was being honest

"Trust me I won't sleep with you under the influence"-him

"let's go then"

I gulped down the remaining wine that was in my glass and we went to bed

"Goodnight Nkosi"

"Goodnight Nhlanhla"

He pulled me closer to him making me the little spoon

“You good?”

I nodded not realizing he can't see me because the lights are off

“Lethi?”

“I'm good”-me

“I'm not”

“what's wrong?” I asked

He kissed my neck again making his way to my honey spot

“I think I'm getting addicted to your pussy, it's warm”-him

He muffed me and fingered me again then we went to sleep.

My alarm woke me up and when I turned he wasn't in bed with me. I went on and brushed my teeth and took a shower. I got the shock of my life when I saw my neck on the mirror, I had love bites all over my neck and my inner thighs as well. Who still gives love bites at this day and age my gosh?

I wrapped myself in a towel and made the bed and got dressed.

“Now how will I get rid of these marks all over my neck”

I'm not a makeup fan but today I have no choice. I applied it on my neck and to my relief it blended with my skin and the marks weren't as visible. After the makeup session I went to make breakfast but first I had to ask Nkosi if he wanted food, he is always up in the

morning you'd swear he has somewhere to be. I opened the door and to my surprise there was no one inside, I checked the bathroom but there was no one there as well. He isn't in the kitchen either, so I was confused. I opened his closets, and his things weren't there

“WOW Nkosi”

So, he left without even saying goodbye. I feel so cheap right now, I feel like a one-night stand even though we didn't have sex. He could've told me he would leave early or at least wake me up to say bye. Why is he in a hurry anyway coz he lives close by. I checked my phone and there wasn't any messages or missed calls from him.

I decided to send him a text

[Really dude?]

I made cereal and made my way to work.

## **HLENGIWE**

I am running like a headless chicken preparing for my daughters ceremony. It's still a few days from now but rather I finish everything now and not leave things for the last minute.

“Hlengiwe everything will be fine can you just stop stressing. She isn't getting married it's just a small thing for the family” Siphos been like this ever since we set a date for the ceremony.

Everybody seems to be taking this lightly, they don't understand how important this is to me.

"Is Naledi back?" I asked

"Back from where?"-Sipho

"I sent her with Ngonyama to go buy a few things for me"

Ngonyama is like a son to me, my second son. Whenever Eric is not here we turn to Ngonyama to assist us, and he has never complained. Sipho is very fond of him you'd swear he gave birth to him the way he treats him.

"I don't know, I haven't seen them around"-Sipho

"Mom I'm hungry"-Thando

"Thando go make food I am busy"

This boy is really spoilt

"where is Sis'Celiwe?"-Thando

Celiwe is our house help

"Siphuthando uCeliwe is busy with other things around the house"

"Naledi blocked my car with her car so now I can't go out. Can I use your car to go buy something?"-Thando

"There's more than enough food in this house, make a sandwich or something"

“But Mom..”

“Musa ukungifundekela!”

He left sulking.

“Your son Siphoh”

“You baby that boy way too much”-Siphoh

Naledi came back after a while and Ngonyama followed after her

“Oh, You’re back”

Ngonyama went to the study with Siphoh

“why are you blushing like a teenager?”

“It’s nothing mom”-Naledi

“Kwenzenjani? You know you can talk to me”

I am very open with my kids, they share everything with me

“Okay come”-Naledi

We went to her room

“I have a crush on Ngonyama, have you seen how handsome he is”-

Her

“Yhuu hhay Naledi I don’t know”

The last thing a mother wants is for her daughters to be in love with criminals. I love Ngonyama but not for my daughters, he is a dangerous man with a lot of enemies. I don't want my daughter to be exposed to that kind of life, not being able to sleep at night not knowing where her husband is or waking up in the middle of the night to treat gunshot wounds or being told to go to the police station because your husband has been arrested. That's the kind of life I've been living, that's the kind of life you get used to when you date somebody who is in this line of business.

"Hawu Mah"

"Angazi Naledi, angazi ufuna ngithini (I don't know what you want me to say). Ngonyama is like a big brother to you so I honestly don't understand how you can fall for him"-me

"We don't choose who will fall in love with"

"I know that. How does he feel about you?"-me

"I don't know, he hasn't said anything to me. hlampe he sees me as his little sister I don't know"

"Good! Because you are his sister"-me

"I'm not, him and I are not related"

"Hhay Naledi angazi, your dad will not agree to this"-me

She just shrugged her shoulders, and I left the room

## **LETHINHLANHLA**

It's now Friday and till this day Nkosi hasn't responded to my text. I honestly don't understand what's happening with him. I wanted to tell him I'm going to Cape Town and that I'll be back after a while.

I had booked a flight for tonight and Hlengiwe said they will send a driver once I've arrived at the airport that side. I was packing my clothes when I had buzzer at the gate, I went to open and Nkosenhle walked in.

What is he doing here? I swear this guy thinks we're friends or something.

"Nkosenhle"-me

"Nhlanhla"

I rolled my eyes. When I called his name, I meant he must tell me ukuthi ufunani (what he wants)

"Ngingakusiza?" (can I help you?)

"May I please come in"-him

Geez!

I made way for him and went to sit

"Going somewhere?" he asked as he saw the clothes and bag all over the place. I like to pack while I watch tv



“I’m sure you’re not here for that”

“Why are you being mean to me?”-him

“I am going on a trip”-me

“Business or leisure?”-him

“Nkosenhle!”

“Okay sorry”-him

Silence

“Again, I ask, ngingakusiza?”

“May I please have a glass of water”

“Nkosenhle I am in the middle of something, I’ve got to finish packing as I have a plane to catch. I’m sure you didn’t come all this way to ask for water”

“Hawu Lethu sengaze ngife ukoma ungincisha amanzi” (do you want me to die of thirst just because you don’t want to give me water)-  
him

Clearly this guy is here to waste my time. I fetched his glass of water and gave it to him

“Thank you. You said you have a plane to catch hey, where are you going?”

Silence

I won't entertain his madness

"Did you cook yesterday? I'm hungry"-him

"Angithi uyangibona ngiBusy" (you can see I'm busy right?)-me

"I can pack for you while you warm food for me"-Him

"Couldn't you have gone to Lwandiles house and ask your girlfriend to give you food?"

"Is that why you're being mean to me, because of Lwandle?"-him

"I don't give a shit about you or her, what I want to know ukuthi uzothini la?" (what are you here to say)

"Ouch that hurts. Well, she's not my girlfriend"

He grabbed my t-shirts on the couch, and he began folding my clothes

I warmed him leftovers from yesterday and served him

"Thank you"

He ate while I finished packing. The time I was done with everything naye beseqedile nokuwasha isitsha abedla ngaso (he was done eating and washing his dish)

"Done?"-him

"Yeah"

"Are you driving to the airport?"-him

“No, I was going to request”

“Asambe, I’ll take you there”

Well, there’s no use arguing with this one, he always gets what he wants.

We got in the car, and he drove away

“Where is your brother? Is he okay?”

“Which brother?”-him

I gave him a bored face

“What hawu, I’ve got two brothers”-him

“uNkosi”

“Oho, he is at his place. I went to see him before I came here and yeah he is fine”-him

“I see”

So, he is ignoring me on purpose

“why?” -him

“Nothing, I was just wondering”

“mmhh”

We drove in silence for a while

“You still haven’t told me what you want”-me

“I wanted to see you is that wrong?”

“Mmhh”

He just smiled

“We don’t have to take our clothes to have fun” by Ella Eyre came on  
and I started singing

*“Not a word from your lips*

*You just took for granted that I want to skinny dip, oh*

*A quick hit, that’s your game*

*But I’m not a piece of meat, stimulate my brain, no*

*The night is young, and so are we*

*Let’s just get to know each other slow and easily, oh*

*Take my hand, let’s hit the floor*

*Shake our bodies to the music*

*Maybe then you’ll score*

*So come on baby, won’t you show some class*

*Why do you have to move so fast?*

*We don’t have to take our clothes off*

*To have a good time, oh no*

*We could dance and party all night*

*And drink some cherry wine, oh-oh*

*Just slow down if you want me*

*A man wants to be approached cool and romantically,*

*Oh-oh*

*I've got needs, I'm just like you*

*And if the conversation's good*

*Vibrations through and through, oh"*

"You've got a beautiful voice"-him

"Thank you"

We reached the airport

"When are you coming back?"-him

"When I've had enough of those people"

"which people?"-him

"Bye Nkosenhle"

"Wait, at least tell me where you are going"-him

"Cape Town"

"Okay I'll call you later to check if you arrived safely"-him

"I don't remember giving you my number"

"I have a way of getting things" he said that with a smirk on his face

“Thank you for the ride”-me

“Anytime”

He left and I boarded the plane and arrived in Cape Town. I called Hlengiwe

“Hello”-her

“Hello, it’s Nhlanhla, I have arrived”

“Alright dear I’ll tell the driver to contact you”-her

She dropped the call and I waited for a few minutes and a call came through

“Hello”-me

“You’ll find me at the first entrance in a black Mercedes”

He dropped the call. Arg! It’s that handsome jerk Ngonyama

Nkosiyami I carried my bag and asked people to direct me to the first entrance. I spotted his car, and he flashed his lights as if I hadn’t seen him. To think he’d get out of the car and open the door for me at least lutho uGuy just sat there. I got in at the back and placed my bags aside.

“Hi”-me

“I’m not doing this with you again”-him

I don’t know what he is on about

“Excuse me?”-me

“Get your ass in the front, I’m not an uber driver or a chauffeur”-him

I took my ass to the front as instructed

“Still arrogant I see”-me

He shook his head and drove off

The car started making that “ti ti ti ti” sound indicating I should put my seatbelt on. I decided to leave it like that and annoy him. I could see the veins visible across his forehead and the gritting of his teeth showed he was annoyed. I smiled with satisfaction

“I don’t know whether you are deaf or just plain stupid”-him

“did you say something?”-me

I decided to play stupid

“Can’t you hear that sound?”-him

“What sound?”

“Lethinhalanhla!” he warned

“Oh, that sound, I hear it now. What does it mean?”

“Put your seatbelt on”-him

“How do you do that?”

“Don’t fuck with me”-him

“angazike” (I don’t know then)

“Would you like me to stop this car in the middle of the road and cause an accident to other vehicles?”-him

Knowing him, he will do that

“No, of course not. Why would you do that?”

“Put your fucken seatbelt on”-him

I did as told, and it was silent

“Can you put music on at least mawuzolokhu uba ismungulu” (if you’re going to be mute) -me

He half smiled and immediately composed himself, but I saw it. The only language Ngonyama understands is when you insult him back. When you talk nicely to him he treats you like an idiot.

“Play music in your own car”-him

“Had I known they were going to send you I would have requested or taken a bus”-me

“You can still jump off and take the bus, want me to pull over?”-him

“Mxm”

Just then my phone rang, and it was an unknown number

“Hello”

“Nkosazana enhle”-caller



I rolled my eyes

“Nkosenhle how can I help you”

The car swerved on the road, but he managed to put it back in place

“What the fuck was that? Are you trying to have us killed?”-me

He just ignored me and tightened his grip on the wheel

Jeez!

“Lethi are you okay? What just happened”-Nkosenhle

“I’m fine, the driver lost control of the car for a bit but we’re good now”

“Tell that idiot to be careful. Did you request?”-Nkosenhle

“No, a driver was allocated to pick me up”-me

Ngonyama chuckled

“You still haven’t told me uyokwenzani lapho” (what you’re going to do there) -Nkosenhle

“It’s none of your business”-me

“I can make it my business”-Nkosenhle

“I’m here to get married”-me

“I see, so you didn’t even invite your friends”-Nkosenhle

“which friends?”-me

“Me”-Nkosenhle

“You’re not my friend”-me

He Chuckled “Okay if you say so, I’ll call you before you sleep”-him

“You don’t have to”-me

“I’ll call you before you sleep!” he dropped the call

What’s with these men around me? first it was Nkosi behaving like a kid, then it’s this one thinking him, and I are friends then there’s this one next to me who behaves like a little bitch.

“I’m not a driver”-Ngonyama

“Angzwanga?”-me

“You said “a driver was allocated to me”, I’m not a driver”-him

“Well, you are driving me home right now isn’t that so?, so you are my driver”-me

He kept his mouth shut. I opened my phone and played music since he refuses to play with his car. He let me be, we drove in silence until we arrived. The same place they had me kidnapped

“Still can’t believe you once kidnapped me”-me

“Yehla emotweni yami Lethi” (get out of my car)-him

Arg. I grabbed the bags from the car and attempted to leave

“You look very beautiful, short hair suits you”-him

Wait What? What did he just say?

“Huh?”

I must have heard incorrectly. Ngonyama giving me a compliment instead of insulting me?

He opened his door and walked out leaving me alone. To say I'm scared would be an understatement, I don't know what to expect behind those walls, what if the kids don't like me and they treat me poorly? I've already experienced that with oZodwa and I've moved on and made peace with it, I don't want to go through that again. I decided to seat outside and breathe for a bit before walking in, a part of me wanted to go back to Durban. I know if I called Nkosenhle he would make a plan to come fetch me.

Hlengiwe approached me, he was walking with Ngonyama

“Ngonyama what is wrong with you ngempela? I asked you nicely to go fetch her and bring her here not leave her outside. Take her bag inside”

He huffed and puffed and took the bag and walked in

“My child welcome”

He embraced me and I hugged back

“Let's go inside”-her

“I'm scared”-me

“Don’t be, this is your home”

She smiled, reassuring me all will be well

I held her hand and we walked in together. I did a short prayer  
before she opened the door

“WELCOME HOME!!!”

Everybody screamed and I almost peed my pants

I hate surprises my god

Everybody seemed happy to see me, unfortunately I couldn’t say the  
same for me. I don’t know any of them.

“Hi Lethi, I’m Naledi your older sister” she hugged me and was all  
over my face nje.

“Let her breathe”-Eric

I ran and hugged him. At least there was someone I know

“What are you doing here?” I asked confused

He is probably dating this Naledi girl, or he is friends with one of the  
people here

“I live here”-Eric

Everyone was quiet looking at us. Ngonyama stood at the back with  
his hands in his pocket. Yeses this guy is something else

“Oh, so you work here like Ngonyama?”

I think he stays here too

“No, I don’t work here”-Eric

“Oh”- me

Everybody could see I was confused

“Eric is your brother”-Hlengiwe

NO! No fucking way

“No, he can’t be” I shook my head

“Yes, I’m your elder brother. The first born of Siphos and Hlengiwe”-

Eric

“So, you knew all this time that I was your sister, but you didn’t say anything? You knew about Nomathemba and Zodwa and how I was treated, and you still didn’t say anything”-me

“I wanted to say something trust me, but the timing wasn’t right”-

Him

Unbelievable

“Do your friends know?”-me

“No, they don’t”-him

“I can’t believe you right now”-me

“I’m sorry”-Eric

I shook my head and stepped away from him

“Let me formally introduce you to everyone. This is Eric your big brother, this is Naledi your big Sister, this is Phiwokuhle the last born, and you know Ngonyama over there”-Hlengiwe

I rolled my eyes when she mentioned Ngonyama, and I think he saw that because he laughed

“Nice to meet you everyone, I’m Lethinhlanhla Mfeka. You have beautiful kids”-me

Everybody just smiled

“Lethinhlanhla Zulu”-Sipho

Urgh!

“Uhm, you’ve mentioned everybody but the person I’ve been longing to see”-me

“Ouch that hurts”-Naledi

“Sorry” I just laughed

“Who is that?”-Hlengiwe

This women! I rolled my eyes again

“The other me”-me

“Turn around” said a voice behind me

I turned and saw a resemblance of myself. He is tall and he is the same skin colour as me, long legs like mine as well.

I just smiled and he opened his arms for me

I went in for a hug and I just broke down. I don't know what was happening, but I just felt like letting it all out. I felt at peace, like I was complete. Shame poor guy just held me and let me cry while rubbing my back.

"I'm sorry for wetting your t-shirt"-me

"Don't worry you will wash it tomorrow"-Thando

He laughed and I punched him lightly

"I'm Thando, your brother"-him

"Thando? Isn't that a girl's name?" I teased him

"Siphuthando"-he emphasized

"I'm kidding. I'm Nhlanhla"

"Isn't that a guy's name?" he mocked me

"You're an idiot"

"We should trade names. I'll be Nhlanhla and you'll be Thando"-him

"Ew no thank you"

"Why uthi ew? My name is very cute"-him

"Hello, the rest of us are here"-Naledi

I totally forgot about them, talking to Thando felt so right

“Kahle Naledi yeka umona”-Thando

“Ngzokuqhumisa ngempama wena” (I will slap you)-Naledi

“Stop it you too, let’s go eat I’m sure you’re hungry”-Hlengiwe

“I know I am”-Thando

“You’re always hungry. Take Nhlanhla’s bag to her room”-Sipho

“Nhlanhla save me a seat next to you” he ran up with my bag

We sat down and Eric attempted to sit next to me

“that’s Thandos seat, tell Ngonyama to move if you want to sit next to me” I don’t know why Ngonyama sat next to me honestly

“Ngonyama there’s a seat next to me”-Naledi

“I’m not getting up”-Ngonyama

“Eric sit next to Naledi. You’ve been with Lethi all this time, let her twin be with her”-Hlengiwe

Thando came back and kissed my cheek

“Thank you”-him

“Sure”

“You’re beautiful”-Phiwo

“Of course, she is, she looks like me”-Thando

“Shut up Thando”-Phiwo



“Thank you Phiwo, shuthi nawe umuhle because I look like you”-me

She just blushed

“How old are you?” I asked

“Turning 17 in November”-her

“Eric is 28, Naledi is 24, then you guys who are 21, then Phiwo is 16 and Ngonyama is 29”-Hlengiwe

“Lerato would’ve been 26 this year”-Sipho

“Is Ngonyama your child as well?” I asked rolling my eyes

He pinched my arm

“I’m joking hawu”

Dinner was lovely, Thando gave me a tour of the house and I can honestly say these people are filthy rich. I thought the Ndlovu’s had all the money, but I was wrong, the Zulus are just as rich. This house is huge, who the heck has elevators in their house? There’s an indoor and outdoor pool, there’s an upper and lower lounge, there’s even a games room. I asked about that because there aren’t any kids around and they said it’s for their grandchildren that will soon come, and it’s for Lerato’s daughter. Apparently She lives in Durban with her dad, and she usually comes during the holidays. The passing away of my sister is really said hey, she passed away on the same day

she gave birth. I can just imagine how the poor guy handled all the pressure of being a single dad to a new born at that time.

“I’ll be back”-Thando

“No, where are you going? Dude come on, I just got here and you’re already leaving me on my own” I cried

“Leaving you on your own kanjani in a house full of people? Not just any people but your own blood”-him

“Yeah I know but I connect with you more”-me

“Take this as an opportunity to connect with the others as well”-him

“mxm. Where are you going? -me

“outside, I want to smoke”-him

Should’ve seen me beam with excitement

“Weed?” I asked

He raised his eyebrow

“What do you know about weed?”-him

This one seems to forget that him and I are the same age, I’m not his little sister

“Don’t bore me”-me

“Yeah weed”-him

“Let’s go”

“Go where? You smoke weed?”-him

“Only when I want to relax”-me

“What’s stressing you out”-him

“Aibo am I in court? What’s with all the questions?”

He raised his hands up in defeat

“Let’s go”

I followed him and went to the back, opposite where Ngonyama kidnapped me, and everything came back. Here I am sitting and eating with the same people who had me locked up in the backyard. Does Thando know I was a prisoner in this yard, does he know I was tortured and ill-treated by his dad? My dad who ordered Ngonyama to beat me up and had Nelly stab me. Did Thando also go through the same thing? Naledi as well?. Does Eric know where I was in the past month. How did he look Nkosi in the eye and pretend not to know where I was? Speaking of Nkosi, he hasn’t said a word till this day.

“ey wena you shouldn’t have come with me if you’ll just stare in space when I’m talking to you”-Thando

I zoned him out as I was deep in thought

“Don’t blame her because you do the same thing”-Eric jumped in walking with Ngonyama

Argh! What is he doing here?

“am I this annoying as well?”-Thando

“Yeah”-Eric

I took the joint from Thando

“You smoke?”-Ngonyama

I rolled my eyes, he sees the weed in my hand mos so why is he asking me stupid questions

“here and there”-me

“Yazi your dad would kill you if she saw you giving your sister weed”-

Ngonyama said looking at Thando

“What’s with that guy vele?”-me

“Which guy?”-Eric

“Your dad”-me

“That guy pho? Is he not your dad as well?”-Thando

“I don’t have a dad”-me

“Come on Nhlanhla don’t be like that. Give them a chance, they are trying”-Eric

I chuckled

“Trying by locking me up?”-Me

“What are you talking about?”-Thando

Ncoo man poor twinnie doesn't know. Ngonyama clenched his jaws and Eric just looked down.

“Don't worry about it. Is he like that vele? Strict and lack showing affection I mean or is he just like that with me?”-me

“He is like that with everyone, he is soft with Phiwo as she is the last born”-Thando

“Mhh”

“So, tell me, what was it like growing up?”-Thando

“Don't bombard her with questions on her first day here”-Eric

“Hawu I'm just trying to get to know her, is there anything wrong with that Lethi?”-Thando

“Nothing wrong at all. I'll tell you everything you need to know about me someday but not today”-me

“Alright, I'm cool with that. Is this your first time in Cape Town?”-Thando

“Yoh Thando ngeke” Eric was getting irritated now which shows he knew about my kidnapping

“Leave him alone Eric, No Thando, it's not my first time here”-me

“Oh, which part of Cape Town did you go to?”-Thando

“I forgot the place, I came with an old friend long ago” I lied

“Oh alright, after the entire thing is over I’ll show you around”-him

“I’d love that. Are your Mamkhulus coming?” I asked with a bored face

“I don’t know, but Sfiso is coming in the morning”-Thando

“Great, I haven’t seen him in a while”-me

“You know him?”-Thando

“Yeah, I stayed with him for like a few days then he left”-me

“Nice! He is a chilled guy, doesn’t talk much”-Thando

“I wish you two were like him, yerr don’t y’all get tired of talking?”-  
Ngonyama

“Let’s go inside”-Eric

“You two can go, I want to have a word with Nhlanhla”-Ngonyama

They left us

“Do you hate me?”-Ngonyama

“Why would I hate you?”

“Because I had you kidnapped, and I caused you pain”-him

“I don’t hate you Ngonyama, you were just doing your job following instructions as you had been told”-me

“You’re very wise for your age”-him

“I’ve been told”

“Did you ever go for counseling?”-him

“What for?”

“Lethi you killed a person and went through so much, I can still see that it troubles you, as much as you can try hide it izohlezi ikhona. Speak to your brother and let him help you out”-him

“would you like me to give you a microphone so that everyone can I hear that I killed a person? I don’t know what you are talking about Ngonyama, I am perfectly fine”

“Alright then. I am sorry”-Ngonyama

“For what exactly? Being mean to me and or having me locked up?”

“Having you locked up, even though it was for your own good. You’ll thank me one day”-him

“I doubt but okay, I forgive you”-me

“Good let’s go back inside, here take this”

He gave me gum

“You stink of weed”-he left

Yep that’s Ngonyama for you. Only he would apologize then insult you right after

I followed after him and made my way in, the rents were in bed by now. I bumped into Naledi as I was walking to my room

“Hey were you outside?”-Her

“Yeah”

“Do you also smoke? Your eyes are red”-her

“Nah, that happens to me whenever I chill with people who smoke” I lied

“Oh okay. I saw you walking in with Ngonyama, was it just the two of you?”-her

“Nah I was with Thando, then him and Eric showed up and he asked to talk to me hence you saw us walking back in together”-me

“Alright” she smiled “He is cute isn’t he?”-her

“Who”

“Ngonyama”-Naledi

OKAY!

“Yeah I guess, he is very rude”-me

“He is like that with everyone. Do you have a boyfriend?”-Naledi

Lord I just want to go to bed

“No, I don’t”-me

“Are you still a virgin?”-Naledi



“Oh my god Naledi goodnight” I left her there and she just laughed  
I changed and wore my night dress and got into bed. A knock came  
through a few minutes after getting into bed.

What do these people want from me!

“Come in” I shouted

Phiwo walked in

“Can I sleep with you?”

What? Well, I can't say no can I? this bed is huge enough to fit 10  
slim people

“Come”

She closed the door behind her, and we slept.

I was woken up by somebody humming, when I opened my eyes I  
was met by her eyes. She was staring at me while I slept. Who does  
that?

“You sing?” I asked

She smiled “A little bit”-Phiwo

This child is weird

“Why are you up this early” I looked around and the windows were  
open

“It's not early”-her

“What time is it”

“5 am”-her

Is she mad?

“5 am is not early? Are you hearing yourself?”-me

“Yeah, everybody wakes up around that time in this house. We’ve gotten used to it. What time do you usually wake up kanti?”-her

“If I don’t have work I usually wake up around 10 or just after 8am”

Her jaws dropped

“Your dad would never allow us to sleep till that late”-her

Another reason why this man and I won’t get along

“Let me get up then before he comes here”

“He doesn’t enter our rooms, but mom does”-Phiwo

We got up and she went to her room to prepare while I took a shower and got dressed. I was given a dress to wear, apparently it was hand made by Hlengiwe. It’s a pretty dress, just below the knee, it’s tight and long sleeve with a bit of African print design, I covered with iphinifa as I didn’t want it to get dirty before the actual ceremony. I went downstairs and it was just chaotic, everybody was running up and down like headless chickens setting up the place.

“Oh, good you’re up”-Hlengiwe

“How many people are you expecting kanti? I thought it was gonna be us only”

“Few of your fathers family are on their way as well as my sisters”-  
Hlengiwe

“Come again, I didn’t hear the last part”-me

“I’m sorry baby but they are family”-Hlengiwe

Wow!

“I just hope you are aware that this won’t end well”-me

“Don’t be negative”-her

“Don’t say I didn’t tell you. What can I help with?”-me

She instructed and I did as told. By 10am more and more people have filled up. To be honest I was very uncomfortable, I just felt out of place. How does one adjust from having a single parent to having a mansion filled with relatives? I went and laid behind the house in the grass facing up just so I could breathe, I’d roll a joint to calm myself had I brought my own weed.

“I knew I’d find you here, why are you hiding?”-Ngonyama

“I’m not hiding, I just needed some time to myself. Everything is overwhelming”-me

“Understandable. Mind if I join you?”-him

“I don’t know whether it’s English that you don’t understand or what, but when I say time to myself it means I want to be alone”-me

He chuckled

“I won’t trouble you”-him

“You can stay only if you promise to keep your mouth shut”-me

“You do know I’m older than you right? So, mind your language. You should refer to me as Bhut’Ngonyama”

I burst out in laughter

“Glad I could make you laugh”-him

“Where are you from?”-me

“I Thought you said you wanted silence”-him

“Uzohamba phela”

“I’m from around”-him

“I see. So, you work as a driver here?”-me

“I am not a driver, I was just helping out as everyone was busy. I own companies in most provinces”-him

“That’s nice, in Durban as well?”

“In Durban as well”-him

“Nice. You also train people to kill?”-me

“I wouldn’t put it like that. No, I do not train people, I was told to teach you survival skills”-him

“Mmhh. Did the other kids train as well or was it just me?”-me

“Lethi!”-him

“No, I just want to know.”

“Yes, they were trained except for Phiwo as she is young”-him

“By you?”

“By Eric”-him

“Why was I trained by you and not him?”

“They feared he would be soft on you as you’re his newly found sister”

“So, they got you to do it because you’re heartless”-me

“I’m not heartless”-him

“Right. Do you know where I can find Nelly, her number maybe?”-me

“Who’s that?”

“That girl you sent to train with me”-me

“I don’t know where she is. I don’t keep tabs on people, I paid her, and she went on with her life”

“When am I getting my cut?”-me

“Let’s go back inside you’re beginning to hallucinate”

We got up and headed inside

“Where were you, everyone is here” -Hlengiwe

I removed iphinifa and the ceremony started. Sfiso, the Mamkhulus as well as Nomcebo were there too, along with Sipho’s twin and other brothers. The ceremony went well I won’t lie, I was introduced to the ancestors and family, and I was welcomed to the Zulu family with warm hands. Now everybody was gathered around the table

“My child come here let me see you” Sipho’s twin called me. what do I refer to him as? BaboMncane, Baba or BaboMdala?

“You look so much like Sthembiso, you resemble Hlengiwe as well but more of Sthembiso” -him

I don’t how to respond to that

“She’s so beautiful” -one of the aunts

“Beautiful my foot, she looks like a boy with that short hair. She looks horrible” -Zodwa

This one can’t even pretend to like me just for one day

“Zodwa respect my daughter and my house” -Hlengiwe

“Respect your daughter? The one that opens her legs for everyone?” -Zodwa

Everybody gasped

“Haibo”-people

“What did you say?”-Hlengiwe

“You heard me well. Did she tell you she moved out of the house and she’s now staying with a guy?”-Zodwa

“Haibo is that true? Uhlala nendoda? (you stay with a man?)”-  
BaboMncane (the twin)

“It’s true I moved out but le yokuhlala nendoda angiyazi (I don’t know about staying with a man). I stay on my own. Why don’t you tell them why I moved out Zodwa?”-me

“Because you wanted to whore around”-Zodwa

Trust me if I wanted to whore around I would do it right in front of her. I have no respect for her, I can’t respect someone who doesn’t respect me.

“Why did you move out of your home”-BaboMncane

“Yena noSis’wakhe uNomathemba didn’t give me food, they would cook and dish up for themselves and Nomcebo. I didn’t mind them not cooking for me because mom taught me how to cook, problem started when they would lock the food wanting me to starve, starve in my own mothers house imagine. They used to call me names each

and every day and I was fed up with that hence why I moved out”-  
me

“Your mother’s house? Sthembiso isn’t your mother”-Nomcebo

“Don’t start with me wena ngoba ngzokunyisa. Sthembiso wasn’t my mother right? That’s why I wasn’t allowed to eat? then why are you eating my mother’s food? This is not your mother’s house but here you are shoving you face. Tell them what you did, tell them how you pushed me down the stairs and broke my leg and didn’t even take me to hospital when I begged y’all. I was in pain and my head was bleeding but y’all didn’t care. I had to walk around nokhonkolo for inyanga yonke. All of you were horrible to me for reasons I do not know, the only person who didn’t have a problem with is Sfiso”-me

“Yey You two are evil, why did you even bring them here Hlengiwe. Ihlukumeziwe lengane, come to me”-Babomncane

He hugged me. I love this guy already, for the first time ever I experienced a fathers embrace, something Sipho failed to do as my father. I’ll shift from calling him BaboMncane to calling Baba

“All will be well now, you will never go through what you went through. Your family is here, and we love you very much”-him

I love him too

Out of nowhere Naledi jumped on Nomcebo, and she was pulling her hair and kicking her. To say I’m proud will be an understatement



“Who are you to mistreat my sister like that” she asked as she kicked Samthandi kanje uDade, knowing your sister has your back is one of the best feelings ever

“Naledi let her go, I did not teach you to be violent”-Sipho

Look who’s talking

Naledi let her go

“It’s not over, you better sleep with one eye open today”-Naledi

“Naze nawumosha umcimbi wengane”(You have ruined this child’s Ceremony)-one of the Aunts

I told Hlengiwe that it would end like this, but she didn’t listen

“Can we just tolerate each other for the rest of the day, just for Lethi’s sake please”-Eric

I’m not going to tolerate bullshit mina and sit with the same people who denied me food and pretend like everything is okay. I excused myself and sat outside in the front yard this time and as expected Hlengiwe’s kids followed me. umuntu can’t have peace in this house, angisakwazi noksuza. (I can’t even fart)

“I’m sorry you had to go through all of that”-Thando

“It’s okay”-me

Phiwo just hugged me. This kid is obsessed with me and it's cute, I'll definitely miss her

Sfiso joined us after a while

"Hey are you good? It's been a while"-me

"I'm fine how have you been?"-him

"I've been hanging"-me

"That's good"-him

"Thank you for being kind to her"-Thando

"Don't mention it"-Sfiso

They fist pumped

"Is anybody thirsty?"-Naledi

We all turned and looked at her

"What? You didn't think we'd have umcimbi and not have alcohol did you?"-her

"Dad doesn't want his kids to drink"-Phiwo

Yhoo this dad will be the death of me

"What your daddy doesn't know won't hurt him"-Naledi

"We can go to Eric's room or the upper lounge, dad doesn't go there"-Thando

“Let’s go”-Naledi

We all followed one another and went to the upper lounge

“Niyaphi?” Siphos shouted as we walked up stairs

“Let the kids be. Hambani zingane zami”

See why I love uBaba?

Ngonyama and Eric came back with the drinks, I don’t know how they managed to hide them. Him and Eric are the only ones allowed to drink, apparently they are old enough. Here I was thinking that once you’re 21 with a degree you’re allowed to do whatever you want as long as you are responsible. Phiwo was told to go to bed early because she’s a child, shame man she looked at me with pleading eyes and I really tried to fight for her, but they overpowered me. We sat and drank until the wee hours of the morning, Naledi and I were sloshed, and we were each carried to our rooms, and we slept.

## **NKOSIPHENDULE**

I have been an awful friend. I ghosted Lethi for days, it’s not that I didn’t want to talk to her, I just needed some time to think clearly and be on my own. I went to her place yesterday and today and it was locked. I tried calling but she wasn’t picking up, I guess that’s her way of trying to get back at me for ignoring her for so long.

“Thuls I fucked up”-me

“Tell me something new, what did you do this time?”

We were driving to Nkosenhles house

“I ignored Lethi”-me

“Okay carry on”

“Her and I were intimate the other day then I woke up early the next morning and I left without telling her”-me

“Intimate? You fucked that girl? I knew you couldn’t just be friends with her. That girl is hot, and I saw it coming that eventually you’ll want to tap”

“I didn’t sleep with her”-me

“Not yet. Why did you leave?”

“Come on dude. I honestly don’t know, I guess I was afraid of facing her. Not that I was ashamed of what we did no, I just don’t know what it is that I feel for her. I’m afraid I’ll fall deeply and end up hurting her. She’s been through a lot, and she deserves somebody who will treat her right. I know for sure that I can provide for her, I can give her whatever she wants but at the same time I know I am capable of hurting her and breaking her fragile heart, but then again I don’t want her to be with anyone else. I’m really confused

“Wena what’s wrong with you? Why can’t you commit?”

“I don’t know dawg, it’s like I’m cursed or something. It’s the money bro, I feel like having this much money has given me this power that makes me feel superior, knowing I can just flash it around and have girls lining themselves up for me is what fucked me up. I’m not humbled, I feel as if I didn’t have money I’d be humbled and be able to respect women the way they deserve to be respected”-me

“So, the only way for you to settle is if you didn’t have money?. Well, you know that’s not going to happen. You know what I think?”

“No, but I’m sure you’ll tell me”-me

“I just think you haven’t found the one for you. If you truly love a women you’d do everything in your power to protect her and keep her happy. Hack you won’t even have to try, it’ll come naturally to you”

“I hear you dude”-me

We got to Nkosenhle’s place, and we found him with Lisa, she was coloring her book.

“Nkosi look, yaCrayona mina”

she ran to me showing me her book, she was coloring everything going beyond the lines, it was just messy and horrible

“That’s beautiful, did daddy help you?”-me

She shook her head “Daddy can’t do it”-her

“Daddy doesn’t know how to colour?”-me

She shook her head again. This child

“Bad daddy”-me

“I’ll do it for Mamiza, daddy said she is coming soon”-Lisa

“That’s good, she will love it”-me

Mamiza is Nhlanhla I assume.

She went back to her work

“This one is growing way too fast for her age”-me

“Tell me about it”-Nkosenhle

“manje uMamiza ubani?” (who is Mamiza)-Thuls

“Nhlanhla”-Nkosenhle

“I see. I can’t wait to have my own kids”-Thuls

“Speaking of Lethi, has she come to see Lisa? I’ve been looking for her”-me

“No, she hasn’t been here. She went to Cape Town”-Nkosenhle

“Oh, she told you that?”-me

“Yeah, after seeing you I went to her house yesterday just to greet since I was around, and I found her packing her clothes. I then offered to take her to the airport. She asked about you and asked if you’re okay and if your phone was working”-Nkosenhle

I really fucked up

“What is she doing there?”-me

“I don’t know, she didn’t tell me”-Nkosenhle

“When is she coming back?”-me

“I don’t know. Call her and find out”-Nkosenhle

“She’s not answering”-me

“She’s probably busy. What are you two doing here?”-Nkosenhle

“So, a brother can’t visit his brother?”-me

“You spend way too much time here, why don’t you go to Nathi and leave me alone to breathe. Njalo uwena-Nkosenhle

“We’ll only allow you to breathe once you get married. Time to yourself for what?”-Thuls

“Even when he is married we won’t leave him alone. The wife would have to understand”-Me

He took out beers and we watched soccer

## **LETHINHLANHLA**

“Hhay hhay Nhlanhla wake up what is this? It’s 9 am and you’re still sleeping”-Hlengiwe

“Just 10 more minutes”-me

“What were you thinking drinking all night”-her

“How do you know about that? We weren’t drinking”-me

“who do you think cleaned all those bottles you guys were drinking in the lounge?”-her

“Did your husband see the bottles?”

“No, I woke up early so that he wouldn’t notice”-her

“You are the best” I hugged her, and she smiled

She is trying shame, really is. It’s time I fully forgive her and let her in my life

“Please make my bed for me while I shower” I flashed a smile trying to convince her

“Haibo Lethi!”-her

“Please mom, or call Phiwo she’d be more than happy to do it I’m sure”

“You called me mom”-her

“You are my mom aren’t you?” I smiled

She hugged me

“How can I say no when you just called me mom, I’ve been waiting for that for years”

I knew it would do the trick. I went to shower while she made the bed and ironed my clothes



“You didn’t have to iron the clothes”-me

“I don’t mind. Dress up and come downstairs to eat”

She left and I finished dressing and went down. Nomcebo and her mother’s left this morning along with Sihle.

“How’s the hangover? I’m dying”-Naledi

She looked horrible

“Drink black coffee”-me

“It doesn’t work, I’ve had two cups already”-her

“You need to drink alcohol, you’ll be fine” I whispered in her ear

“you really are my sister”

We laughed

“Finish up so we can go”-Thando

“Go where?”-Me

“I’m showing you around remember?”-Thando

“I’m coming along”-Naledi

“No, you’re not”-Thando

“Nhlanhla”-Naledi

“Ay ay don’t involve me please”

“Asambe, we’ll have breakfast somewhere”-Thando

“You’re treat?”-me

“Yes, just this once”-him

I could never say no to free food

We left Naledi busy complaining

“Whose car is this?” I asked

“Mine”-Thando

“You drive a Golf 7R?” I asked confused

“Why are you being weird? Yes I drive this car. Which car do you drive?”-him

“Where did you get money to buy this car? Where do you work? trust me you don’t want to know which car I drive, it’s nothing compared to this one”-me

Maybe this is why Nkosenhle refused to get in my car the other day because it’s cheap

“I got it as a birthday gift for my 21<sup>st</sup>, I’m an IT specialist”-him

Must be nice

“Which car does Naledi drive?”-me

“BMW M4”-Thando

I almost dropped on the ground. How much money do these people have?

“Can I drive?”-Me

“Aibo njani?”-Thando

“Please” I begged

“No, and besides you don’t know the place. I’ll let you drive someday”-him

“Mxm”

We got in the car and drove

“Where are you taking me?” I asked

“Table Bay Mall to eat and maybe shop”-him

“Maybe?”

“Yeah maybe, it’ll depend on my mood”-him

“Are you sure we’re twins?”-me

“mxm”

We continued chatting until we reached the mall

“where do you want to eat?”-him

“I’m craving sea food”-me

“Aysuthisi leyonto”

“But I want it”-me

“Fine asambe”

We sat down and ate

“You do know I’ll be hungry by the time we leave this place”-him

“we could’ve taken takeaways and buy something else”

“No, it’s fine. Today is about you, we’ll do whatever you want”

Then stop complaining

“Is everything okay here? would you like anything else?”-waitress

She couldn’t keep her eyes off Thando since the moment we stepped foot here

“May I please have pop prawns”-Me

“and you sir?”

“I’m good”-Thando

She nodded and left

“Did you see that?”-me

“What?”

“The way she looked at you”-me

“I’ve gotten used to it”-him

“Arrogance doesn’t suit you”

“I’m not being arrogant. I’m just being honest with you, girls turn heads whenever I show up and it doesn’t help having the car I drive”- him

“Isn’t that the reason why you got that car? So, you can get girls?”- me

“I’m not a player Lethi, I don’t change girls like most guys do. Once I love, I love hard and I’m all for that person and that person only. Hence why you don’t see me entertaining this girl”-him

“Do you have a girl friend?”

He laid back on his chair and smiled

“Currently I do not have one”

“Then why are you smiling?”-me

“No reason. Do you have a boyfriend?”

“No, I don’t”

“A baby?”-Him

“I don’t have a baby. I had a miscarriage like 9 months ago”

He look pained

“What happened?”

I explained the story to him, and he got up and hugged me

“Enough now people are staring”-me

“Let them stare”

He went back to his seat

“You have been really through a lot, I can’t even imagine what it must have been like losing Mamkhulu Sthembiso and my Niece on the same day. I am really sorry you had to go through all of that on your own. I promise you, you will never go through any of that ever again. I am here for you and futhi if it was up to me you’d stay this side and not go back”-Thando

“Thank you, I’ve healed I suppose. You know I can’t reside this side, I just started working”

“You can always transfer this side”-Thando

“Thando stop”

“Ay it’s fine I’ll come visit you.” -Thando

“I’d love that”

“What was her name? my niece that is”-Thando

“Siphosami (my gift)” I smiled

“we’ve got enough Sipho’s in our family ay”-Him

“I didn’t even know about you guys when I named her”

“Where is her father?”-him

“Around, he has another baby”

“I’m sorry”-Thando

“Don’t be”

“So that lady that killed Mamkhulu, did she go to jail?”-him

“Uhm no, she died”

“Good, I hope it was slow and painful”-him

“Thando!”

“Don’t Thando me, in fact we should go dig her body and allow me to kill her again. She killed my niece, I don’t feel anything for her”

His rage was visible across his forehead

“Ay let’s go shop, we’re done here”

He paid and we went shopping

“What’s the limit for this shopping spree?” -me

“There’s no limit but don’t shop like you’re mad”-Thando

You never tell that to a lady, she can shop the entire mall if she’s not given any limits.

We went in every store, and I shopped from shoes to bags to clothes, I even got a few things for Phiwo

“Nhlanhla that’s enough now, you’re milking me dry. I thought we were buying your stuff, why include the entire family?”

“Entire family? I just bought a few things for Phiwo don’t be like that”

“Phiwo has more than enough things in her wardrobe”-him

“Yeah but not from me, I’ve never given her anything”

“This is not from you though, it’s my money which means I’m gifting her”-Thando

“Awkahle!”

“Let’s go home”-him

“Still don’t want me to drive?”

“No”

“Fine let’s go”-me

He drove us home

“Hmm the traitors are back”-Naledi

“You bought the entire mall I see”-Mom

“And your son paid for everything, lapho he has never even taken me out for coffee”-Naledi

“You should’ve been my twin”-Thando

“Mxm, what did you get me?”-Naledi

“Nothing, I got a few things for Phiwo”-me



“Mom are you these are my siblings?”-Naledi

“Don’t involve me in this”-Mom

“wena Naledi you have a job which means you have money”-Thando

I Stayed for another two days, and today I am going home, this time around I’m going with Eric since he is going back to Durban. I was told we’ll be using the SZ Jet I once used the other day.

“Can I visit you during the holidays?”-Phiwo

“Of course, you can, you can visit me whenever you want”-Me

“Don’t be a stranger”-Naledi

“I won’t I promise”-Me

“I still say you should relocate this side”-Thando

“I’m not doing this with you again”-me

“When will you come visit again?”-Mom

“Soon”-me

“Safe travels my child”-Sipho

“Thank you”

Ngonyama was nowhere to be seen. I hugged everyone and we boarded the jet and left.

“You’ve been avoiding me ever since you heard I was your brother”-

Eric

“What do you want me to say? You lied to me for months”

“and I’m sorry for that. I wanted to tell you, I really did”-him

“How long have you known?”

“Since the day I bumped into you at Nkosenhles pub”-him

“That pub is owned by Nkosenhle?”

“Yeah”-him

Wow

“Now it makes sense why you didn’t want me to pay for that Therapy session”

“I couldn’t let you pay, you are my sister and besides I doubt you had money at that time”-him

“Ngonyama tells me you knew about my training”

“I did. Actually, I was the one who took you from your home at night”-him

My eyes popped out

“It’s not like that. I got a call from a guy named Thabiso who wanted me to kill you. I told him I’d do it because he said if I didn’t do it he would get someone to do it. So, I went to your house and grabbed you while you slept, and I called one of my friends who does make up and I paid her money to make you look as if you had been shot

between your eyes. I thought I would stay with you for a while just to get Thabiso off your tail but then your dad sent Ngonyama to come fetch you that very same night. I called and begged dad to allow me to train you but he refused and said I'll let my emotions get the better off me so Ngonyama took you and they didn't tell me where they were taking you because they didn't want me to interfere with your training"

"What is the training for? I hear you keep saying it's for my safety and what not, but you guys are really not saying anything"-me

"Nhlanhla come on don't ask me that, ask anything but that"

"Fine! I'll find out though. What happened to Thabiso?"-me

"He died"

"Who killed him?"-me

"I don't know"-Eric

"Eric"

"I swear to god I don't know who killed him"

"Do you still have the picture?"-me

"I think so"

He paged through his phone and showed me

"Damn she's good. That's why oZodwa thought I was a ghost"

“She’s the best”

“why didn’t you come to visit me in Hospital”-me

“I would’ve given anything to be with you during that time. I wasn’t in the country that’s why I couldn’t come”-Eric

“I see”

“Am I forgiven?”-him

“Not yet”

“What do you want me to do in order for you to forgive me?”-him

“I’ll tell you once I’ve thought of something”-me

“I’m okay with that”

“will you tell your friend that we are related?” I asked

“Do you want me to? It’s up to you”

“Not yet, let me get used to it first”-me

“Whatever you want”-him

His phone rang

“Yes”-him

.....

“Okay” he dropped the call

“Thando says he can’t reach you”

“I don’t even know where my phone is. I haven’t touched it since I entered the house”-me

“Well, he wants to talk to you, call him once you find it”

We arrived in Durban, and he drove me to my place then left.

First thing I did was search for my phone and as expected it had no battery. I charged while I unpacked and once I was done I took a shower and got in bed.

Soon as I opened my phone messages and missed calls came flooding in. There’s an unknown number that called me and I called back

“Finally, why buy a phone if you won’t use it?”-Thando

“Seems like you’ve got attachment issues, what do you want?”

He chuckled

“I missed you hawu, just wanted to find out if you’re okay”-him

“I was with you not so long ago”

“So? That doesn’t mean I shouldn’t check up on you”-him

“I just got home, and my phone had no battery”

“Alright, I’m glad you’re okay. I’m coming that side next week”-him

“To do what?”

“To see you, entlek why are you being slow? Durban is not good for you”-him

“I need to get you a girlfriend fast”

“Mxm musa ukungiphaphela, I’ll call you ksasa bhabhayi”-him

“Goodnight”

“I love you”-him

“I love you too”

He dropped the call

“Lord I love this kid, thank you for giving me a brother like him”

I had a few missed calls and messaged from Nkosi

[Nhlanhla come on now that’s enough. I am sorry for being away all this time. Text or call me as soon as you can]

[Nkosenhle tells me you went to Cape Town, when are you coming back? Let me know when you are back. I miss you buddy]

“Mxm”

There was a bank notification and R10 000 was deposited in my account with the reference “Your cut for the training”

No ways! I was joking when I said I wanted that money from Ngonyama, I didn’t really think he would do it. oNgonyama have money to spend on people just like that, no wonder Nelly wanted this job and not any other jobs. I still don’t think it’s worth it, getting

stabbed and beat up for a mere R10 000? Nah fam, can miss me with that or hlampe she had more.

I dialed Thando

“Then you say I’ve got attachment issues. What do you want?”

“Send me Ngonyama’s number”-me

“Alright”

He dropped the call and sent the number and I called

“MaZulu”-him

How does he know my number?

“Why did you send me that money?”-me

“You wanted your cut, so I sent it”

“I was joking”-me

“Well, I can’t take the money back now can I?”-him

“I can send it back”

“I don’t want it”-him

“Thank you”

“Maybe you can use that money and save up for a car, uyeke leskorokoro sakho”-him

My jaws dropped. I know my car is not fancy but it's not a Skorokoro,  
I drive a VW Tiguan 2.0TSI

"How do you know which car I drive? And where did you get my  
banking details?"-me

"If that's all, goodnight"

He dropped the call

Next morning, I decided to give Nkosi a call and it's as if he has been  
waiting for as he picked up on the first ring

"Nhlanhla"

"Nkosi"-me

"Are you okay? I've been trying to call you"

"I'm good how are you?"-me

"I'm alright. When are you coming?"

"I'm back"-me

"When did you get back?"

"Last night"

"Can I see you?" he asked

"Since when do you ask?"

"Alright I'm coming"



I hung up and watched cartoons until he arrived

“Hey”-him

Kwesngaki?

“You’ve greeted over the phone already”-me

He looked nervous

“oh, sorry”

“What’s wrong? You’re being weird”-me

“Lethi I’m sorry for just leaving without telling you”

“Why did you do it?” I asked

“I honestly have no explanation. I shouldn’t have done what I did”

Unbelievable

“It’s fine”

“I’ll make it up to you I promise”-him

“You don’t have too”

“I don’t but I want too”-him

“Alright then”

“How was your trip”

I smiled just thinking about Thando

“Better than I thought It would be”-me

“That’s great, do you have any plans for today?”

“Yes actually, I want to go see Lisa. I haven’t seen her in a while”

“Alright then let me leave you to it. I have a session with my therapist in a few minutes, I’ll see you later” -him

“Wait does this mean Nkosenhle won’t be available? How will I see Lisa if he’s not there?”

“Thuls is taking me, he is waiting for me outside” -him

“Why didn’t you come in with him? Kanti unjani wena?”

“Angihlezi, I just wanted to see if you are fine that’s why he didn’t come in” -him

“Alright then”

He got in his car, and I got in mine and drove to Nkosenhles House

“Name ma’am” asked one of the security

“Nhlanhla”

He called Nkosenhle and I was allowed in

“Is there a need for so much security?” I asked walking in

“Hello to you too Nhlanhla”

I rolled my eyes

“You good?” -me

“Yes you?”

“I’m good. Is Lisa here?”-me

“and here I was thinking you came to see me”-him

“Get a girlfriend”

“Mam’Donsa is bathing her, she’ll be down in no time”-him

“I’d like to take her out if that’s okay with you”

He raised his eyebrow as always

“Where are you going?”-him

“To the mall to get ice cream and maybe a few clothes or toys I don’t know”

I’m R10 000 richer so why not

“Can I come along?”-him

“No why?”

“Hawu why not? I don’t have any plans for today”-him

“Don’t you have businesses that you have to take care of?”

“It’s a Sunday Lethi there’s no work, and plus you guys could do with protection”-him

So, this is about his daughters safety. Probably doesn't think I'm capable of being alone with her. Who am I kidding, this guy's house is guarded by security of course he'd never allow anybody to take his daughter without him being there.

"You can come, but you're paying for your own ice cream. My date is Lisa, wena you're just tagging along, third wheeling"

"That's fine with me"-him

"We're using my car"

"aw come o.."

I gave him a death stare

"I mean okay, your car is fine"-him

"Thought as much"

Lisa came down with the elderly lady and she ran to me screaming

"Mamiza". This kid is so adorable

"Don't run you will fall" -me

She hugged my legs and I picked her up

"miss you mamiza"-her

"I missed you too baby"

"Lisa go get Mamiza her present"-Nkosenhle

She ran to the kitchen

“What is it?”-me

“You’ll see”

She came back with a paper

“ina (mina) Mamiza” she handed me the piece of paper excitedly

It was a piece of paper from a coloring book, it’s a picture of princess walking with a baby girl. It’s badly colored, I don’t know how parents lie to their kids and say these things are cute. They are awful

“Is this me?” I asked pointing at the princess

She nodded

“and that’s Lisa” she pointed at the baby girl, and she clapped

“This is beautiful, I love it” -me

It wasn’t beautiful but I really love it. The effort she put in creating it just for me is what makes me happy.

“Do you want ice cream?” I asked her

She jumped around screaming “Yey ice cream”

“Can you fetch her jacket just in case she gets cold”-me

He came back with the jacket, and we went to the car

“I don’t have a car seat”-me

“See why I said we should use my car?”

“I can go fetch the car seat and you can follow us in your car”-me

“That won’t be necessary”

“Go get the seat ke”

He mumbled his was to one of his car and he came back with the seat

“That wasn’t difficult was it?”-me

He ignored me and buckled up Lisa in the back seat and he got in the passenger seat, and I drove to Pav.

“I really don’t like this place, it’s always crowded, and you always run into familiar faces and you end being forced to hold a conversation even when you don’t want to”-Him

“Then you should’ve stayed at home don’t you think?”

“Where are we getting your ice cream?”-he asked

“I want ribs as well let’s go to Spur”

He carried Lisa and we made our way there

“So how was your trip? Where’s that idiot you married?”-him

“it was fun. What idiot?” I asked confused

“You said you were getting married”

“Oh yes, my husband is well. He is sleeping at my place”-me

“I see, well if I was him I wouldn’t allow you to be going on dates with other men”

“This is not a date, you’re more like a bodyguard”-me

He just chuckled

“For real though, what were you doing eKapa?”

“I went to visit relatives”-me

“That’s good, it’s good to see you getting along with your family. I was worried when you said you didn’t have family”

“I didn’t have family at that time, these are newly found”-me

“Even better, they better treat you right or else thy will have me to deal with”-him

That won’t be necessary but okay

Our food came and I was feeding Lisa my chips

“allow me to take you out on a date”-him

“Why?”

“Why not? I enjoy spending time with you”-him

Somebody called out my name as I was about to respond

“Lethi! No way is that you?”

She looks so clean, she no longer has scars on her face

“Nelly! What are you doing here, I was just asking about you not so long ago”-me

“I’ve finally gathered enough money for school, and I decided to move this side”-her

“I’m happy to hear that, I hope you’re out of that life for good”-me

“I hope so, you never know what the world has in store for you. Circumstances might force you to go back to your old ways, but I pray it never gets to that point” she turned to Nkosenhle “Hi”

He just nodded

“You didn’t tell me you have a daughter, she’s so pretty and she looks like you”

“Thank you”-me

I wasn’t about to say she’s not mine. Also, I don’t know what she means when she says she looks like me

“Hello baby” she tried to play with Lisa, but she wasn’t having it.

I honestly don’t know how I’m lucky with this kid, she literally dislikes people

“What’s her name?”-her

“Lisakhanya”

“She’s really adorable. We should go out for lunch sometimes”-her



“Take my number”-me

We exchanged numbers

“It was nice meeting you, you too sir and the little one”-Nelly

After that she left

“Here I was thinking you didn’t have any friends”-Nkosenhle

“I don’t. I met Nelly on one of my trainings”-me

“Why don’t you have friends if I may ask”-him

“Ubuza ngoba ungazi noma uyazibuzisa”

“No, I’m just curious. You can’t just write people off because of what Lwandle did”-him

“I don’t need friends Nkosenhle”

“Can I be your friend?”-him

“We’ll see”

We finished eating and he offered to pay. We then went shopping and I got a few clothes and toys for Lisa, he offered to pay again but I refused.

The rest of the months flew by really quickly, I was 1 week away from getting my house. I’ve met up with Nelly and Nomonde a few times in the past months. Nkosi is out of the wheelchair now and we see each other weekly, still close as ever. Thando and I called each other

every day and he said he is on his way to visit for the weekend so here I am just finished tidying up everything.

My phone rang

“Big bro”-me

“Open the gate”-Eric

I opened and only Thando showed up

“Where is Eric?”-me

“Is that how you greet your brother whom you haven’t seen for months? Would you like me to go back to where I came from and tell Eric to come visit you?”-Thando

“That’s not what I meant, I thought y’all are coming together”-me

“He said he has a meeting”

I hugged him

“I missed you”-me

“That’s what you should’ve said the moment I walked in that door ay indaba zoEric”

“I’m sorry”-me

“ I’ve missed you too female me”

I took his bag to one the rooms and we sat in the living area

“anything to drink?”-me

“Nah I’m good”

“How’s everyone?” -me

“You have a phone right? You got airtime, you got data/WIFI, and you have WhatsApp. Do you see where I’m going with this?”

“You’re such an ass” -me

“What are we doing today?” -him

“Is this your first time this side?”

“No” -him

“oh, alright. Well, I’m meeting with a friend today, I would like for you to come with us if you don’t mind”

“How long have you known that I’m coming?” -he asked

“For a while, why?”

“You’ve known for a while but still you made plans to go out knowing that I’m coming” -him

“See why I say you need a girlfriend? I thought Eric would be around and I was gonna leave you with him if you refused to come with me. Besides I’ll be away for like an hour or so, I wasn’t going to stay long” -me

“Ay no it’s fine Nhlanhla, go with your friends, I’ll stay here and watch soccer”

“Don’t be like that. Okay, I’ll tell her to cancel when she gets here because she’s on her way. You will pay for the petrol she wasted coming here”-me

“I didn’t say cancel”-him

“I insist”-me

“Fine then. Whose house did you say this was again?”-him

“Well, it’s mine but a friend of mine is paying for it. I’m renting it”

“Which friend is that? The one that’s coming to fetch you?” he asked

“No, the one that’s coming here is Nomonde and the one that’s paying for this place is Nkosi”

“Nkosi? This Nkosi is a guy?”-him

“Yeah”

“Why is he paying for you? Why don’t you pay it yourself?”-him

“I wasn’t working by the time I moved in here, so he offered to pay and I’m going to pay him back”

“Are you dating this guy?”-him

“No, we’re best friends if I can put it like that”

“Mhh, so he has never tried any move on you?”-him

“Haibo Thando!”

“Hhay I was just asking. It better be friendship for real and nothing else. Futhi I want you out of this place, go stay with Eric or get another apartment we’ll pay half half” -him

“Speaking of places, I’m moving out next week”

“Good!, you’ll send me the lease agreement and I’ll be sending my half of the rent” -him

“I’m not renting”

“Don’t tell me this guy bought a house for you” he was getting annoyed

“No, I got it from your Mamkhulu”

“Mamkhulu Sthembiso?” he asked

“Yeah. She wrote me on her Will imagine. She left me her car, the one I’m using, and I’ll be getting a house and money.”

“I saw the car outside and you need an upgrade. That was very kind of her, but I think she did that because of Guilt. She shouldn’t have taken you away from us, I’ll never forgive her for that.” -him

“What’s wrong with that car? It’s still fresh and I love it. It’s all in the past now let it go”

“we lost 21years of each other’s lives Nhlanhla, you can’t just forgive that easily. Anyways, don’t you think this will cause conflict between you, Nomcebo and oZodwa?” -he asked

“I understand. It definitely will and I am ready for them”

“You should call me if they give you any sort of trouble”-Him

Just then there was a buzzer at the door

“You sure you don’t want us to go?” I asked one last time

“Yes!, you want me to listen to you guys gossip and talk about boys”-  
him

“We won’t do that”

“Nhlanhla please go with your friend, I’ll be fine. You’ll find me here  
when you get back”-him

I went and opened the gate to Nomonde, and she came in

“Mngani!” she shouted

This one is very loud

We hugged

“Why didn’t you tell me you have company” she pointed at Thando  
who had his back against us

“Come let me introduce you”

We walked over to him

“Nomonde meet Thando and Thando this is Nomonde”-me

“You..You and him..you guys” she was surprised, she couldn’t even  
construct the words properly

“We are twins” Thando extended his hand for handshake

“But how? I mean when? What? Nhlanhla”-her

“I know right. Do we look alike?” I messed with her

She just nodded

“I thought you didn’t have family”-her

“I thought so too until recently”-me

“I’m pleased to meet you Thando, but isn’t Thando a girl’s name?”-

Nomonde

“My full name is Siphuthando”

“Oh, okay makes sense now”-her

“I’m pleased to meet you too” he smiled “So where are we going?”

he asked

“Wait I thou...” he nudged me before I could finish my sentence and gave me a death stare

He said he didn’t want to come with us nje

“Florida, are you coming with us?”-Nomonde

“Yeah, if you guys don’t mind that is”-him

“of course not, right Nhlanhla?”-Nomonde

I can’t say no now can I?

“Yeah”

“Alright I’ll be right back let me go get my wallet. Where is my room Lethi?”-him

“The one on your left”

“Shots” he disappeared

“Mngani! Why didn’t you tell me you have a cute brother?” she asked peeping in his direction

“I don’t know, I didn’t think about it”

“You have some explaining to do”-her

“Right, we can go now”-Thando

We got in her car and drove to Cubana

“So Thando where are you from?”-Nomonde

“I was born here in KZN but grew up in Cape Town”-him

“Is that where you currently stay?”

“Yes ma’am, where are you from?”-him

“I’m from Richards Bay but currently stay eMlazi”-her

“I didn’t get your surname”-him

“Cele, Nomonde Cele”

“MaNdosi, how old are you if you don’t mind me asking and what do you do”-him



“I’m 21, I’m a student Nurse yourself?”

“21 as well and I’m an IT specialist”-him

“Oh nice, you’re a computer geek”-her

Had I known I would have stayed at home because now it feels as if I’m third wheeling their date. I doubt they even remember I’m here.

Our food came and they went on and on asking and answering each other’s questions while we ate

“So, Monde have you even been to Cape Town?”-Thando

Monde? Nicknames already

“No, but I’d love to go there someday”-her

“You should, you should hit me up if you do go and I’ll show you around”-Thando

“Definitely. We’ll go angithi Nhlanhla?”-Nomonde

“Yes”-me

It went on like that, both of them conversing with each other and me agreeing here and there when they ask something. I’ve never felt so out of place. Thando paid for the food and Nomonde dropped us at our place and left.

“That was fun, wasn’t it?”-him

Silence

“Nhlanhla”

“Thando?”

“What’s wrong with you?” -him

“What was fun? You guys totally forgot I was there, and wena? What happened to “Hhay no I don’t want to go and listen to you and your friend gossip and talk about boys””? -me

“Are you jealous?” -him

“I’m not jealous, I’m fine with you getting to know her, but the way you guys went about it was totally wrong. We were all supposed to engage with each other not for you two to make it all about yourselves. If you wanted to know each other’s background then y’all should’ve arranged a date just for the two of you and not involve me in there. Manje mina I was just there sitting and watching you guys talk and laugh. There was nothing fun for me lapha, did you even try to have a conversation with me? No, you didn’t so what was fun?” -me

“I’m sorry, I didn’t realize we excluded you like that”

“It’s fine Thando. Goodnight”

“Don’t be like that” -him

I left him there and went to bed

“Nhlanhla!” he shouted after me, but I ignored him and got into bed and slept

## **SIPHUTHANDO**

I honestly regret what happened yesterday, I did not mean to hijack her date with her friend. I know I planned on staying behind but when I saw that girl I just couldn't. Nomonde is a beautiful black jewel, she is a bit dark in completion, big eyes and she has these beautiful dimples when she smiles, she looks like she's a size 34 and she's short. I immediately got smitten by her hence why I decided to tag along.

I got up early and prepared Breakfast for Nhlanhla, this was easy because she loves to sleep. I asked Eric to bring me flowers since he'd be joining us for breakfast.

He buzzed and I opened for him

“First day here and you have already messed up”-him

“Please don't start”

“What did you do?”-him

“None of your business”

“Fine! Where's your sister?”-him

“Probably still sleeping or getting ready”

“Let me go wake her up”-him

He left and I placed everything on the table

“She’s coming” he said picking up bacon from the plate

“Eric!”

“Since when do you make food? I didn’t even know you could fry an egg the way you’re such a Mama’s boy”-him

“ngzosuke ngingak’phakeli”-me

“You didn’t buy this food”

“But I made it”-me

“What’s with the noise so early in the morning”-Nhlanhla

Yho but my sister is beautiful you guys

“Is it not your brother saying he won’t give me food”-Eric

“what did you do?”-Nhlanhla

“Nothing”-him

“Sit down, I’ll serve you”-me

“You know he doesn’t usually do this”-Eric

“Do what?”-Nhlanhla

“Make food for people. He barely makes food for himself that’s why I’m intrigued to know what he did”-Eric

“It’s nothing major, I’m over it”-Nhlanhla

“I got you flowers” I handed her the flowers

She just looked at them, not too pleased if I may say

“Thank you”-her

“Don’t you like them?” I asked

“They are cute. I’m just not a flowers person”-her

“Oh, I didn’t know. I would’ve gotten you something else. I thought all girls like flowers, what do you like?”-me

“I like chocolates, jewelry and cash”

She flashed a smile on the last part

“I can do with the chocolate, I don’t know about the rest” I joked

“stingy!”-Eric

“Shut up wena. Why did you buy flowers knowing Lethi doesn’t like them”-me

“I didn’t know she doesn’t like flowers. What a weird girl”-Eric

“y’all don’t know your sister? Come on guys do better”-her

“I am really sorry for what happened yesterday”-me

“I forgive you”-her

“Hug?” she got up and hugged me

“I love you”-me

“I love you too”-her

“You guys will make me cry” said Eric dramatically fanning himself

“You’re an idiot”-Lethi

“Did y’all know that Ngonyama is this side?”-Eric

“What is he doing here?”-me

“I don’t know, probably to check on his business or something”-Eric

“When are you leaving Thando?”-Lethi

“Later on, today”-me

“What do you say I make dinner and we invite Ngonyama over”-her

“I’m cool with that”-Eric

“Do you even know how to cook?”-me

“You’ll find out”-her

The rest of the day went on and we just lazed around watching cartoons. What kind of a 21-year-old still watches Cartoons? Aye my sister something else, even Phiwo doesn’t watch cartoons and she’s the baby of the family.

“Want to help me cook?”-her

“No, but I can watch you cook and keep you company”-me

Eric had left earlier, and he said he will come back later

“uyabhora yazi”-her

“You love me like this”-me

“Mxm. Did you invite Ngonyama?”-her

“Haibo who’s the host kanti?”-me

“Hawu Thando I thought you’d do it”-her

“No Sisi this is your house and Ngonyama will be your guest not mine”-me

“I’m sure Eric did”-her

“Trust me he did not”-me

She called Eric and put him on loud speaker

“Did you tell Ngonyama about the dinner?”-Nhlanhla

“Was I supposed to?”-Eric

“Yes”-her

“Isn’t that the hosts job? It’s not my house”-Eric

“Mxm” she dropped the call

“I told you”

She gave me a death stare and called Ngonyama but not loud speaker

“Hey”-her

.....

“Eric told me you’re this side”

....

“Oh okay, I’d like to invite you over for dinner with myself, Thando and Eric”

.....

“At like 18:00”

....

“Alright I’ll send you the address”

She dropped the call

“Was that difficult?”-me

She ignored me and prepared Pork Chops with vegetable fried rice and Cranberry Pecan Salad

“It smells nice, I’m not going to lie I had my doubts”-me

“What do you take me for? Sthembiso did a good job raising me”-her

I just cringe whenever she mentions that name, and the fact that she has her face tattooed on her body doesn’t sit well with me

“Let’s just hope it’s taste as good as it smells”-me

“Stop annoying me and go prepare, our guests will be here soon”-her



We went our separate ways and freshened up and went back to the sitting area

Surprisingly we wore matching outfit, all black!

“Really now? The twin thing?”-her

“Why are you asking me? I didn’t know you were going to wear black”

She just shook her head

“Help me set up the table”-her

We did the things and just after finishing they arrived chatting up a storm

“It smells nice in here, where did you order the food?”-Eric

“Haha funny”-Nhlanhla

“Hey, thank you for inviting me” Ngonyama handed her a bottle of wine

“This is what you bring when you’re invited for dinner, you bring gifts, awfiki nje uthwale ikhanda”-her

We just burst into laughter

“Thank you Ngonyama, sit I’ll dish up”-her

We sat while she did her think ekhishini and after a while we were served

“How did you know I love red wine?”-her

“I did my homework”-Ngonyama

“This is really good”-Eric

He is almost done with his plate

“Thank you Eric”-her

“Do you have left overs?”-him

“Yeah, it’s in the kitchen”-Nhlanhla

Don’t finish everything, I want a lunchbox that I’ll take with me”-me

“Lunchbox yani? It’s not like you’ll be travelling for hours”-Ngonyama

“Don’t start with me”-me

“There’s more than enough food”-her

“You’re a good cook”-me

“I want 100 cows from whoever will marry you”-Eric

“Haibo”-Her

“What’s that thing on your neck? I’ve been meaning to ask but I always forget”-me

“It’s a necklace”-Nhlanhla

“I see that, it’s horrible. Where did you get it from? It looks old like one of those grannies necklace that has a picture folded inside”-me

“I had it designed like this”-her

“Why?”-me

She removed it from her neck

“It has Sthembiso’s ashes”-her

We all looked at her as if she’s crazy

“What?”-me

“Yeah” -her

She opened it and we saw the powder inside

“Hhhay hhhay man sies Lethi, you’re making us eat with dead people”-Eric

He pretended to throw up

“I wanted to be close with her, she was the only thing I had at that time”-her

“That tattoo on your back wasn’t enough?” I asked annoyed

“Thando!” Ngonyama warned

“No Ngonyama, that women wronged us, and I don’t know why Lethi doesn’t see that”-me

“I think it’s time I let go of her. Do you think Nomcebo will appreciate her mother’s ashes?”-her

“Not in that horrible necklace”-me

“No, I have it in a vase”

“Just when I thought I’ve heard it all

“Where is it?”-Eric

“In my room”-her

“Is that normal Eric? Is it something that normal people do? Walking around with peoples ashes around their necks?”-me

“People grieve in different ways”-Eric

“Don’t analyze me Eric, I’m not one of your patients”-Her

“Well, you should be because you’re losing it now”-me

“I’ll get rid of it”-her

“Like now”-me

“Lalela phela angizwa ngawe. I’ll get rid of it”-her

“Fine” -me

“Ngonyama what are you doing this side?”-Eric

“I’m here on business”-Ngonyama

“When are you going back?”-me

“I don’t know”-him

“We should get going, Mo is waiting for us”-Eric

“My lunchbox Lethi”-me

She dished for us, and we left her with Ngonyama

## **LETHINHLANHLA**

Ngonyama stayed until late last night, and right now it's after work and I'm on my way to the lawyers office. Apparently everyone that is stated on the will should be present just to make sure there's fairness and to avoid unnecessary conflict. I arrived and found everyone waiting for me.

"You sure took your sweet time"-Nomcebo

Sfiso is here as well

"I'm not in the mood for you"-me

"I still say you don't deserve any of this"-her

"Your mama didn't think so"-me

That just fueled her anger even more

"Shall we start?"-lawyer

"Yes"-everyone

"Right, as everyone knows that today marks exactly 1 year since the passing of Sthembiso Mfeka. This means that all those stated on the Will, will be getting what belongs to them. As previously stated that the house where you all currently stay I assume belongs to Sfiso, Nomcebo and Nhlanhla, do you all agree?"-lawyer

"I don't want it"-Sfiso

"yes!"-Nomcebo

"I don't want it as well"-me

"Alright, please come sign here" he scratched out mine and Sfiso's name making Nomcebo the owner of the house

"Moving on to the second part, the car to Lethi"-lawyer

"Yes"-me

"No, she can't"-Nomcebo

"It's not up to you" he turned to me "Please sign here"

I signed

"There's 1 million to be divided between Sfiso and Nomcebo, do you agree?"-lawyer

"No"-Sfiso

He really wants nothing to do with his mom

"Yesss"-Nomcebo shouted excitedly

"So, all of the money will go to Nomcebo, please come sign"-Lawyer

I really feel sorry for because she's an idiot. Zodwa and Nomathemba will finish all this money

“There’s a house and 500k that was left for the sisters, only if Lethi was to marry Thabiso but since he is no more and Lethi is still alive all of these will fall onto Lethi. Agree?”-Lawyer

“Udakiwe! That belongs to us”-Zodwa

“Yes”-me

“Please come sign”-Lawyer

“This is not the end wena”-Nomathemba

“Kiss my ass”-me

“Nx”-Zodwa

“Lethi here are the keys to your new house and I can take you there if you wish”-Lawyer

“Please”-me

“The transactions will be made within 48 hours, are there any questions?”-him

“Mxm”

They got up and left

“After you Miss”-lawyer

We headed to my car

I called Eric

“Baby Sis”-him

“Where are you?” I asked

“my place”-him

“Can I come fetch you now, I’ll bring you back”-me

“Where are you taking me?”-him

“Ballito”-me

“is it like a date or something?”-him

“Eric I’m in a hurry stop asking questions, should I come?”

“Yeah woza”-him

“I’m on my way”

I dropped the call

“Would you mind if I pick my brother up along the way, I promise I won’t be long”-me

“It’s fine”

We picked up Eric and we were directed to the house

“Whose house is this?”-Eric

“Mine”-me

It’s a beautiful house, 3-bedroom and open kitchen and living room house. It’s all white, the kitchen counter is white, the walls are white with a bit of wooden design. It’s my little heaven, it has a garage and a nice garden and a pool at the back. Yessss a pool! I couldn’t be



happier, I couldn't help but cry. After all I've been through I am finally happy, I've got a job, I've got a car and a house. What more could I ask for?. The only thing that's left is the furniture, but that's not something I'd stress myself over. Once I get paid I'll buy furniture little by little.

"Do you love it?"-Lawyer

"Yes!. Thank you"-me

"Lethi who bought you this house? And who is this dude?"-Eric

"Sthembiso left me this house in her Will, and this is her lawyer"-me

"Oh, I'm happy for you" he hugged me and spined me around"-Him

If it was up to me, I'd move in right now

We took the lawyer back to his place and now we are parked outside Eric's house

"Look at you, your own house at the age of 21. You deserve it Sis"-  
him

"Thank you" I couldn't help but smile

"Remember I still owe you a gift for not telling you I'm your brother?"-him

"Yeah"-me

"Have you decided on what you want?"

“No not yet”-me

“Can I make you an offer”

“I’m listening”-me

“Allow me to buy your furniture, you’ll pick whatever you want, and I’ll pay”-him

“Eric No, that’s too much”-me

“It’s the least I can do. I’ve missed all the important dates in your life, all your birthdays, when you passed matric, your Graduation and 21<sup>st</sup>. I owe you this”-him

I just cried and he hugged me until I was calm

“So? What do you say?”-him

I just nodded

“You will tell me when you’re free, and we’ll go”-him

“it would have to be during the weekend”-me

“When are you planning on moving out?”-him

“As soon as possible”-me

“Alright, let’s make it this weekend”-him

“I’d love that”

I drove home and called Thando

“Me”-Thando

“Hey, how are you?”

“Good how are you? Miss me?”-him

“I’m happy. You have no idea”

“What’s got you all happy? Got a new man?”-him

“Even better”

“Tell me already”-him

“I went to my house today”

“Yes Yes, how is it?”-him

“Stunning! I love it so much”-me

“How many bedrooms? Will I have my own room?”-him

“3 bedrooms, of course you do”

“I can’t wait to visit, when are you moving in?”-him

“Once I have furniture”

“Hawu is it not fully furnished?”-him

“No, it’s empty, but Eric said he’ll cover all the furniture”

“Good, he must do his big brother duties”-him

“and wena? When will you do your brother duties”

“What do you want?”-him

“What are you offering?”

“Get back to me once you’re serious”-him

“mxm bye”

“I love you too”-him

I dropped the call showered and slept since I wasn’t hungry

## **NGONYAMA**

I’ve been in and out of my companies here in Durban just checking if business is going well.

“Kelly tell everyone to gather in the boardroom in 30 minutes”

Kelly is my PA

“Yes sir” she left

After a few minutes the door opened

“Hey, you, when did you get back”

“A few days ago”-me

“And you didn’t tell me?”

“You didn’t ask”-me

“How would I have known? I can’t be asking you ukuthi ukephi all the time”

“I’m here now ain’t I? come here ”-me

She closed the door behind her. She sat on top of me, and we kissed

“I missed you”

“I missed you too”-me

She is wearing a dress which makes it easy for me to have access to her. I opened the drawer and took a condom

“Ngonyama is there a need for that”

I ignored her and wore the condom and I turned her around and entered her from behind

“Fuck!”-her

I made her lean on the table and I entered from behind and within a few minutes we both came

“That wasn’t very passionate Ngonyama”

“I have a meeting in a few minutes you know, we’ll continue after the meeting”-me

“Fine”

She fixed her dress and left bumping into Kelly at the door

“Sir everyone is here”

“I’ll be right there”- me

I fixed myself and walked out to greet

“Good day every...”

I couldn't even finish my sentence, I looked at her with her jaws dropped. She was as shocked as I was

I quickly gathered myself and continued

"Good evening everyone, I hope everyone is good. I'm seeing some new faces here and I'm assuming you guys are our newly employed employees, I welcome you all to NM Environmental Services. I am Ngonyama Mchunu, the owner of this company. I am looking forward to working with all of you and I do hope we will work well together and achieve this company's Mission. I will be visiting each and every one of you in your different stations, you can all go back to work"-me

I couldn't even finish what I wanted to say

"Are you okay? You look like you've seen a ghost"-Sindy

"I am fine, go back to work"

She left and I went straight to her

"Did you know about this?-her

"How would I have known Lethi? I'm just as shocked as you are"-me

"That better be true, I don't want it to seem as if I got this job because I know you. I worked really hard to prepare for that interview"-Lethi

“I have no business on what’s going kwi HR, I hired them for a reason, and I guess they saw potential in you”-me

“I see”-her

“I hope we’ll work well together”-me

“Get away from me, what will people think seeing me and you talking”-her

“I can talk to any of employees”

“Mhh”-her

“You can go back to work”-me

She left and I went back to my office and Sindy walked in

“What were you discussing with Lethi?”-Sindy

“I don’t answer to you Sindy, I am your boss not the other way round”

“Sorry. I am back for round two”

She said coming in removing her dress

“Sindy I am not in the mood come on”

She ignored me and set on top of me in her underwear

“Uhm sorry to..” Lethi walked in and couldn’t even finish what she wanted to say

Fuck!

“I’ll come back some other time”

She turned back and left

“Sindy get up”-me

“Don’t worry about her she will keep her mouth shut. That’s one of the things I love about her, she knows when to mind her business”-

Sindy

“Sindy I said get up!”-me

She got up and wore her dress

“What’s wrong with you? You really got nothing to worry about, I’ll threaten her to keep her mouth shut”-Sindy

“Don’t do that, leave her alone I’ll talk to her”

“She’s really not that important you know that? We can always get a replacement”-her

Nhlanhla is not an idiot, she wouldn’t just sit back and say nothing if she was fired for no reason

“There won’t be a need for that, that’s unprofessional, you don’t just fire people just because you have the power”

“Fine” she stormed out leaving me deep in thoughts

“I’ve definitely fucked up my chances now. Dammit Ngonyama”

I yelled in frustration



## **LETHINHLANHLA**

I really have no business in what Ngonyama does, they both old enough and they know what they are doing. I went back to my desk and continued with my work.

I saw Sindy walking my direction

“If you know what’s good for you. You’ll keep your mouth shut”-her

There really wasn’t a need for her to speak like that. I was going to mind my business anyway, and who the hell does she think she is threatening me like that.

“That tone is really not necessary, what you do in this office is none of my business”-me

“Good!”

She turned and walked away

Few minutes after her Ngonyama showed up

“Can you please swing by my office before you go home”-him

I just nodded and he left. I carried on with my work and left without going to his office when it was home time. On my way home I received a call from Nkosenhle

“Hey”-me

“Hot or mild?”-him

“huh?”

“Your meat, do you like it hot or mild?”-him

“Hot”

“Alright, I’ll see you soon”

He dropped the call

“weird”

I got home and quickly showered because I assume Nkosenhle will be here any minute from now. I wore my night wear and I called Thando while I waited for him

“Female me”-Thando

“You won’t believe what happened”-me

“What?”

“Ngonyama is my boss”-me

“No way! Did he know you work there?”-him

“I doubt, he looked as shocked as I was”

“That’s crazy”-Thando

“That’s not all”

“I’m listening”-him

“I walked in on him and Sindy on top of each other naked in his office”-me

He just laughed

“That happens a lot you know”-Thando

“People should lock their offices, can you believe she threatened me”-me

“What did she say?”-him

“She said If I know what’s good for me, I’ll keep my mouth shut”-me

“What’s that supposed to mean?”

There was a buzzer at the gate

“There’s somebody at the gate, I’ll call you later”-me

“who’s visiting you this late?”-him

“Bye Thando”

“Fine”

He Dropped the call and I opened for Nkosenhle

“What are you doing here?”

“good evening to you too Lethi, my day was great how was yours?”-  
Nkosenhle

I rolled my eyes and made way for him to come in

“Since you don’t want to go out on a date with me I decide I bring dinner to you”-him

“That’s very thoughtful of you”-me

“Go sit I’ll bring plates”

“You don’t have to tell me twice”-me

He bought Nando’s and coke

“Thank you”-me

“How was work?” he asked

“Work was work, nothing much happened. How was your day?”

“It was okay, my mind has been occupied lately”-him

“what’s up?”

“You”-him

“What did I do?”

“You are driving me crazy Lethi. I honestly tried to ignore you, but something just draws me to you. I’ve never had to beg a girl to go out with me, hack I don’t even ask girls out on dates, I just smash and pass. Yes I may seem like a jack for being with girls like that but that’s how I’ve managed to survive. When Lisa mother passed away, I made a promise to myself that I will never ever fall in love again, but you’ve changed all of that. I’m not sure what it is that I feel for you

but it's definitely different from what I feel for other girls. I don't want to just fuck you and let you go, I want to be around you, hold your hand, and listen to you talk. Just the simple things you know, I was just drawn to you the first day I saw you at my pub. I know this might be all too much for you, but I can't help it"

Yho this just totally caught me off guard

"How can you like me and be fucking Lwandle at the same time"-me

"I didn't know that you guys knew each other. I'm not in love with Lwandle, her and I are only connected by sex. I will cut all ties with her I promise please just give me a chance. I'm not saying I'll be perfect, I'm human I will make mistakes, but I promise I'll do everything in my power to treat you well"-him

"I don't know Nkosenhle, I really don't know"-me

"Just think about it, that's all I ask"

He got up kissed my forehead then left

I went to bed and slept

## **ZODWA**

"are we going to allow that girl to take all our money? And our house?"-Nomathemba

"Of course not, if she thinks she'll enjoy all that money then she has another thing coming"-me

“So, what are we going to do? we tried poisoning her, but it didn’t work”-Nomathemba

“Shut up and let me think”-me

“I’m just glad she didn’t fight for this house and that I got my money?”-Nomcebo

“Speaking of that money, we’ve run out of food”-Nomathemba

“but I’m the child here, why am I buying food for the house?”-  
Nomcebo

“Well, you’re the only millionaire in this house so I don’t understand what you mean. Nomathemba and I don’t have money, that girl took everything”-me

“Fine. But when are you guys moving back to eShowe?”-Nomcebo

“already kicking us out of your house? Are you going to allow money to change you and turn you against your own family?”-Me

“Isn’t that the same thing you did to Lethi?” Sfiso asked walking in

“What are you talking about?”-me

“You all don’t like her because she inherited money from Sthembiso, y’all hate her because of greed. Anyways I’m out” he turned to Nomcebo “Wena don’t be an idiot, wake up and smell the coffee before it’s too late”

He grabbed his bags and left

“I’ve figured it out”-me

“What?”-Nomathemba

“We’ll get people to go kill her”-me

“How will we pay for that?”-Nomathemba

I looked at Nomcebo

“What? No! I just got this money, and you already want to finish it”-  
Nomcebo

“We won’t finish a million in one day don’t be an idiot. You’ll have  
more than enough money left”-Nomathemba

“I’ll organize people”-me

**LETHINHLANHLA**

“Ngonyama would like to see you”-Kelly

“Like now?”

“Yes, come with me”-her

I dragged my feet and followed after her

“Thank you Kelly, I’ll take it from here”-Ngonyama

I sat down

“What happened yesterday? I waited for you”-him

“I’m sorry it totally slipped my mind” I lied “Did you need anything?”

“About yesterday”-him

“What happened yesterday?”-me

“When you walked in on..”

“I don’t know what you are talking about, I didn’t walk in on anything”-me

He just smiled

“Thank you”-him

“Don’t worry about it. I’ve got work to do sir, you don’t pay me just to sit and talk”-me

“Have a great day”-him

“You too”

I left his office and gathered equipment I’ll be using onsite

“Ready?” asked Mike

Mike is my partner

“Yeah, let’s go”

We left and collected water samples to be observed

“I’ll conduct the assessment then send you results to report, then the next time we go onsite you’ll assess the samples and send me results then I’ll do the report. I think it’ll be easier that way. What do you think?”-Mike



“I’m okay with that”

“I’ll get to it then”-mike

He got on with the assessment while I carried on with other work until it was knock off time. I must say I enjoy being one with nature outside then sitting in the office staring at my computer.

I got home and decided to call Nkosi, I haven’t seen him in days. He picked up on the second ring

“Ntwana”-him

“Sesaxabana yini?”

“Sibangani nje kodwa?”-him

“You tell me. I haven’t seen you in days”

“Just come out with it, tell me you miss me”-him

“Me? miss you? Never”

“Where are you?”-him

“In the house”

“Alright I’m coming”

I’m too lazy to shower today, I grabbed a blanket and laid on the couch and opened cartoons until Nkosi arrived

“Is that the only thing you watch on tv?”-him

“Yeah is there a problem?”

“Not at all ma’am”-him

We hugged

“How have you been?”-him

“I’ve been busy with work, you?”

“I’ve been around”-him

“Is everything okay?”

“Yes”-him

“Then why haven’t I seen you all these days?”

“Hawu, you’ve been busy with work nje so I was letting you rest. I was going to come see you on Friday or Saturday”-him

“You can come see me anytime you want, I’ll always have time for you uyakwazi lokho”

“From now on I’ll keep that in mind”-him

Just then there was a buzzer at the gate

“and here I was thinking this would be our catch-up session. Are you expecting anyone?” he asked

“No”

I went to the phone

I’m just praying it’s not Nkosenhle

“Who is it?”-me

“It’s me Nelly, open up”

I opened for her, and she appeared after a while

“Hey what are you doing here?”-me

“Answering questions instead of you letting me in”-her

“Sorry”

I made way for her

“How did you get here?”-me

She doesn’t have a car

“Uber”-her

“Come let me introduce you, this is Nkosi my ride or die and Nkosi this is Nelly”-me

“Nice to meet you Nelly”-Nkosi

“Nice to meet you too Ride or Die, you look familiar”-her

“I’m sure I’d be able to recognize you if I saw you somewhere”-Nkosi

“Nkosi is Nkosenhles brother, the one you saw me with the other day”-me

“Oh okay, I see the resemblance”-her

“I took Lisa out for ice cream the other day and Nkosenhle wanted to be a bodyguard for his baby, so he tagged along”-me

“Oh, alright. Let me leave you to it ladies, I’ll see you tomorrow Lethi”-Nkosi

“No please don’t leave because of me. I got alcohol let’s drink and have fun”-her

Haibo some of us have work in the morning. Who drinks on a Thursday?

she took out Vodka and iDash from her bag

“Nkosi uyaphuza right?”-her

“Uhm, yeah”-Nkosi

“Great, Lethi bring glasses”-her

“No don’t worry, I’ll get them”-him

“He is cute” she nudged me

Here we go again

“Mhh”-me

“Ride or die hey” she winked

Nkosi came back with glasses

“I’ll drink wine because I have work tomorrow”-me

“Boring! We should all take shots”-her

“Then you should’ve come here tomorrow if you wanted us to drink”-me

“Nkosi and I will drink, right?” her

He just laughed

“Sure”

She poured the Vodka and added a little bit of Dash, I’m sure that thing iyababa

“Wait let’s do shots before we start”-her

I grabbed the shooter glass

She poured Vodka and gave it to Nkosi

“Drink Drink Drink” she shouted

He gulped it down and she poured a shot for me, and I did the same

“That was fun wasn’t it?”-her

I poured my wine

“So where did you guys meet?”-Nkosi

There was some awkward silence

“Lethi?”-him

“Hmm?”-me

“Where did you guys meet?”-him

“Camp”-Nelly

“Yeah we went to some school camp way back”-me

“Hmm” -him

“Where did you guys meet?”-Nelly

“We met on a road somewhere” he laughed “She was fighting some guy”

“I guess fighting is in her genes”-her

We both burst out in laughter

“Am I missing something?”-Nkosi

“No, her and I used to fight every day at camp”-her

We burst in laughter again remembering what we went through

“She is behaving now, she hasn’t fought anyone in a while”-Nkosi

“I’m grown now, I’m behaving”-me

“Wanna bet on that?”-Her

“Shut up”-me

“Nkosi what do you do? you are cute!”-her

“I’m an IT specialist. Uh, thank you. What do you?”

“I’m in culinary school”-her

“Nice, so you know your way around the kitchen”-him

“I’m your girl”-her

He just smiled clearly impressed

“I’m glad you’re finally opening up to having friends”-him

I had this convo with Nkosenhle, I’m not doing this with him

The conversation was flowing, and we all seemed to be relaxed around each other

“Excuse me, I need to use the rest room”

I left them and did my business in the bathroom, I’m almost half way with the wine. These people will make me drink an entire bottle of wine then wake up in the morning and go to work. I went to my room to check on the time and it’s 00:30 am and it’s clear these two are not ready for bed. I walked back to living room and I found Nelly on top of Nkosi kissing each other, his hands were grabbing and squeezing her butt

“Think Nhlanhla”!

Do I go back and chill with them or do I just let them be and go to sleep? I decided to let them be and I went to bed since it’s late vele. It’s funny that not so long ago that was me and him on that couch, it doesn’t really matter now does it? If they want to sleep they can use the other room and leave in the morning I’m cool with that.

I woke up later than usual that day which was weird. I checked the time and it's 9:00 am

"Fuck! I'm late"

Then it hit me, I left my phone in the living room that's why I didn't hear my alarm go off.

I quickly showered and got dressed, grabbed my phone, and sped to work. Nkosi and Nelly were nowhere to be seen, I doubt they even slept here. I checked my phone and I had missed calls from Sindy

"Brace yourself Nhlanhla, it's going to be a long day"

I arrived and went to Sindy's office, but she wasn't there

"Mike where is Sindy?"

"Ngonyama's office"-him

Lord I hope they are not having sex

I knocked and waited for them to say come in then I walked in

"Why couldn't you wait like that last time?"-Sindy

Silence

"What game are you playing? Is this the time you arrive at work? I've been calling you all morning why weren't you answering?"-Sindy

The last thing I want is person to shout at me as if I have no brain.

Why is she shouting? I'm right next to her



“which question would you like me to answer first?”-me

Ngonyama chuckled

“Excuse me?”-her

“You asked me so many questions at once and I don’t know which to answer first”-me

“Are you giving me attitude?”-her

“No ma’am I’m simply asking a question”-me

“Do you hear this? I’m giving her a written warning. Who does she think she is talking to me like that?”-her

“There’s no need for that. Is it the first time she’s coming late to work?”-Ngonyama

“Yes”-her

“Then I’m sure there’s a good explanation as to why she is late today”-him

How do I explain that I was drinking all night and I didn’t hear my alarm go off

“I had a runny stomach and I had misplaced my phone in the house hence why I didn’t answer your calls”-me

“Mhh”-Ngonyama

Probably not believing my bullshit

“Here you have your answer Sindy, she wasn’t feeling well. I’m sure next time you will report if you are not feeling well Miss Zulu”-

Ngonyama

“Mfeka, her surname is Mfeka”-Sindy

“My apologies”-Ngonyama

“Mxm” she stormed off

“What’s wrong with her?”-me

“I don’t know. Now tell me why you are late”-him

“I forgot my phone in the living room when I went to bed, and I didn’t hear my alarm ring”-me

“Make sure that doesn’t happen next time”-him

“Yes sir. Do you have a fruit or anything I can eat? I didn’t have breakfast because I had to rush here”-me

“And whose fault is that?”-him

“Argh”-me

“I don’t have any food, now leave my office”-him

“Ass”-me

“Ngzosuke ngikusayinise leya warning ngoba uyaphapha” (I’ll make you sign that warning because you’re forward”-him

I just laughed and went back to my desk

“Check your emails I sent you the results”-Mike

“Alright”

I started working on my report with Sindy giving me dirty stares

I received a call from reception, and I went there

“These just came from you”-receptionist

It's coffee, 2 muffins and a sandwich from Mug & Bean and a small basket of fruit with a note that read

*“Next time don't make your problem my problem”*

This has Ngonyama written all over it. I took my stuff and passed by his office first and peeped my head in

“Thank you” I flashed a smile

He was busy on his laptop, and he dismissed me with his hand containing a smile

I closed his door and got on with my work while eating my food and before I knew it, it was home time.

I drove to Debonairs to buy pizza because there is nowhere in hell I'll be cooking

“Hey”

I turned and around and it was Lwandile

“Hi”-me

“What are you doing here?”-him

I just laughed at him

“Same thing you’re doing here”-me

“That was a stupid question hey?”-him

“Yeah”

“I haven’t seen you in a while, you look good”-him

“Thank you, you don’t look too bad yourself”-me

“Can we do lunch sometime”-him

“Lwandile!”

“Innocent lunch”-him

“I’ll think about it”

“Can I have your number?”-him

“No, but you’re welcome to search for it”

“I can work with that” he smiled

My order was ready

“Bye Lwandile”

“Bye Mbushuza”-him

“Greet your girlfriend for me”

His face changed

“Serves you right for calling me that”

I winked and left him there

I decided to pass by Nkosenhles place, I don't know why but I found myself driving to his direction

I stopped by security

“I'm here to see Nkosenhle can you please tell him I'm here”-me

“Name ma'am”

“Lethinhlanhla”

“Oh, you can go in”-security

“Oh, you're not going to call?”-me

“We were told to let you in whenever you arrive”-security

“Oh, thank you.”

I drove in walked in the front door, and there they were breathing each other's breaths. Lwandle's face was so close to Nkosenhle, and I honestly didn't want to see what would happen next. I just turned on my heels and went back to my car without even closing the door

So much for “I promise I will stop whatever I have with Lwandle”  
mxm I've had enough with the Ndlovu brothers. If it's not Nkosi then its Nkosenhle, they can all go to hell for all I care. I thanked the security, and I was on my way home. Few minutes driving from his

house I noticed a car following me, when I turned they turned and when I stopped they stopped.

“Don’t panic Nhlanhla, keep a cool head and try to lose them” I tried to calm myself down and I increased my speed which they did the same. I was now approaching the robot and lucky for me there was a police car on the side of the road, I ignored the red robot and drove towards the police

“Please help I’m being followed” I cried out and the car that was following me sped off

“we’ll take it from here”-Police 1

They got in the car and ran after the car, and I got in mine and drove in high-speed going to my place. I’d go to Eric’s house if it wasn’t this late. I got in the gate and literally ran inside locking the door. I’m not going to lie I am scared for my life. Who would want to get me? I haven’t done anything to anyone, maybe they wanted the car. What would’ve happened had I not seen those police on the side of the road? I’d probably be dead

I showered ate and went to sleep with one of my knives, I bought a set of very interesting knives at the mall this one time.

## NKOSENHLE

I can't believe I really poured out my heart to Nhlanhla that other day. I was very serious about what I said, I really do like her. I know this will probably cause some tension between myself, Nkosi and her but I can't help it. Nkosi said it himself that it's an open race and I've given him more than enough time to make a move if he really was into her, but he didn't. I called Lwandle here to tell her I'm ending things

"What?"-Lwandle

"Yes, we are done"-me

"but why? I mean everything is going well why do you want to end things?"-her

"I just don't feel this anymore"-me

"Nkosenhle please don't do this" she begged

"Don't do that you look desperate, and it doesn't suit you. Besides I'm doing this so you can focus on your family"

"I'll leave Lwandile, I realized I don't love him"-her

"No, please leave and don't contact me"

She got closer to me, she was literally up in my face

"Tell me you don't want me anymore, tell me you don't want all of this" she brushed my lips with her fingers

“I don’t want all of that”-me

You could see the pain visible on her face

She tried to kiss me, but I stopped her

“Don’t do that”

I couldn’t do that to Lethi, I promised her I would fix things

“Lwandle please leav.. wait I remember closing the door when you walked in”

I don’t know why it’s open

“Anyways please leave”-me

She left with tears falling down her face, she drove off and I went to the guys at the gate

“Did anyone of you guys come up looking for me?”-me

“No boss, but Lethinhlanhla was here. We told her to go up, but she immediately drove out within 10 seconds”

Shit!

“Alright thank you”

I took a shower, ate then I drove to her house grabbing her house remote. I made 3 copies when I got the apartment for Nkosi, 1 remote for me, 1 for Nathi and 1 for him, just in case there was an emergency. Nathi gave the remote back and Nkosi has it with him. As



late as it is I have to speak to her. I opened the gate and drove in, and I opened the door, and the lights were off which means she's asleep. I made my way to her room and softly removed my shoes and got in bed with her

She immediately sprung out of bed and quickly lit the side lamp while pointing a knife at me

"Jesus Nkosenhle what the fuck are you doing here? How did you get in? do you want me to have a heart attack?"-her

I didn't mean to scare her, I probably should've thought of this plan

"What are you doing with a knife?"-me

Most women sleep with Teddy bears, but not Nhlanhla, she sleeps with knives

"What are you doing here? I could've hurt you"-her

"Do you even know how to use that thing" I asked

Lethi is the type of person that wouldn't even hurt a fly

"I'll ask you one last time, what are you doing here?"-her

"Come let's sleep I'll explain in the morning"-me

"No fuck that, go to your house"-her

"Look at you, you are sleepy. Please come and sleep, I promise I'll explain everything in the morning"-me

“Go sleep in the other room”-her

“No, I’m sleeping here with you”-me

“Better not touch me”

She got in bed and turned off the light putting the knife under her pillow

I grabbed her close to me and she yanked my hands

“I told you not to touch me”-her

I ignored her and she eventually got tired of pushing my hands and we slept.

## **LETHINHLANHLA**

I was woken up by Eric's call, he was reminding me about furniture shopping. I then remembered I have an uninvited guest in my room

“Good morning” he smiled

“This is harassment, breaking into somebody’s house while sleeping without their permission”-me

“I am sorry, but I had to come see you. You wouldn’t have allowed me in had I called and asked to see you”

“If I don’t want to see you then I don’t want to see you, take the hint and don’t force things”-me

“It was wrong of me to come here unannounced, and I apologize”

“What are you doing here?” I asked again

“I came to explain what happened”

“What’s there to explain? I saw what happened”-me

“What did you see?”

“You and Lwandle kissing. Tell me why did you come here and waste my time if wazi ukuthi you’ll continue whatever you have with Lwandle?”-me

“I didn’t kiss her. I called her over to end whatever it that was going on between us. She came closer to me and tried to kiss me, but I stopped her. I promise you I didn’t do anything to her.”

“And I’m supposed to believe that?”-me

“Yes, because that’s the honest truth. I can even show you the footage if you want, I have cameras installed around my house”

“I don’t want to see any footages, you’ve said what you wanted to say now please leave my house”-me

“Lethi come on, I’m not lying to you”

“I hear that now please go I have to rush somewhere”-me

“Can I see you later at least?”

“Yeah sure”-me

He kissed my forehead and left. I showered and packed all my clothes, I'm moving in with Eric. I've had enough of Nkosenhle and his brother, what he did yesterday was the last straw. I know his brother is paying for this place and maybe he thinks this gives him permission to do as he pleases, but I will not have any of that. I respect peoples private space and I would expect them to do the same thing. After packing I made cereal and ate then loaded the bags in my car and drove to Eric's place, on the way I called Thando

"Me"-him

"Hey whatsapp?"

"Nothing much, are you okay? You sound down"-him

"I'm okay. Somebody was chasing me yesterday, I think they wanted to take my car"

"What the fuck, are you okay though? You not hurt or anything?"-him

"No, I'm good. I managed to escape"

"You should have went to Eric's house for safety, weren't you scared?"-Thando

"It was too late, and plus I didn't want to bother him. I was scared kancane"

“Scared to bother him? He is your brother Nhlanhla, you can even wake him up at 3am if you need something”-him

Thando doesn't understand that I'm still adjusting to this sibling thing. I'm not used to people having my back, I can hold my own battles

“I'll remember that”

“Where are you going?”-him

“I'm going to Erics, remember he is taking me out for furniture shopping today”

“Oh yes, don't have mercy on him. Pick the most expensive things”-him

“Mxm bye Thando”

“I'll call you later” he dropped the call

I called Eric and he opened for me, and we shared a hug

“Hey how are you?”-him

“I'm good. I have a huge favor to ask you”

“I'm listening”-him

“Would you mind if I crash here for a bit until my house is ready?”

“Did Nkosi kick you out?”-him

“No, I just need a break from everyone”

“You’re more than welcome to stay as long as you want”-him

“Thank you”

“Let’s move these inside”-him

He helped me with my bags

“Don’t you have a girlfriend?” I asked curious

“Curiosity killed a cat”

“Hawu, I want to know my sister-in-law”-me

“There’s no sister-in-law, I’m currently not seeing anyone”

“Whew thank Lord” I said whipping non existing sweat

“What is that?”-him

“No, I’m just happy I won’t be exchanging nasty looks with anyone while I’m here. Do you know how possessive girlfriends can be, they don’t even care about siblings”

“You come first, she’d have to understand”-him

“Yessss! Bring it in” I gave him my fist for a fist pump, but he just pulled me in for a hug

“I love you kid”-Him

“I love you too bro”

“Good now let’s go finish my money” he laughed

“Thando told me to milk you dry” we made conversation as we headed to his car

“That idiot with a big head, I’ll get him”-him

“I was almost hijacked yesterday”

He tensed

“Where?”-him

“Just a few minutes from Nkosenhles place”

I explained to him what happened

“I’m just glad you’re okay. Next time please call me if you don’t feel safe”-him

“Will do”

We arrived at the furniture shop, and I feel in love with everything. I wanted to buy the entire shop

“What’s the budget?” I asked

“Just pick whatever you need”

Music to my ears

I want my place to have white furniture with a touch of wood here and there for the living room, I opted for white couches, white rug and beanbag, white vase, wooden chairs for the kitchen counter, a wooden center table and living room stand and a flat screen tv and

brownish curtains. For the kitchen I wanted to play around with colors, I picked wooden cupboards they'll be built in and connected to fridge. Since my counter is white I opted for baby pink SMEG toaster and kettle, then normal plates and cups and glasses. For my bed room I opted for an off-white headboard and wardrobe for my closet and just 1 bed for my room and a smaller flat screen.

"you have 3 bedrooms"-he noticed I only picked furniture for my bedroom

"I'll buy the rest of the furniture later on in life"-me

I feel guilty already, he has bought me way too much. I can't abuse his kindness

"But I'm offering"-him

"Yeah but I haven't thought about the other rooms and the colours I want them to be"

"Okay I get that, but pick another bed then for Thando because I'm sure he'll want to visit"-him

"Fine"

I picked grey for that room, grey headboard and side wardrobe, white rug, and grey medium beanbag. The rest I'll buy myself once I've decided what I want.

"Done"-me



“Are you sure”

“Yes!”

He paid and we left, they said they’ll deliver everything today, but they can only connect the built ins and everything that needs to be connected on Monday, since I’ll be working on Monday this means I can only move to my place on Friday or Saturday once I’ve bought groceries.

“Thank you so much Eric, I don’t know how to thank you” I literally had tears

“It’s the least I could do” he gave me a smile and I hugged him

We drove to my house and waited for the delivery truck which followed after. He helped me rearrange everything around

“Lethi come on now, decide already. I’m tired of moving things to one place only for you to tell me to move it back” he complained

“It has to be perfect Eric, I need to see it in different positions until I’m satisfied with the correct spot”

We carried and worked until I was happy with the results

“Perfect!” -me

“This place is beautiful, have you ever thought of interior designing?” -him

“No, I should though neh?”

“Yeah, you’d be very good. I think I’ll hire you to renovate my place”-  
him

“Yes you should, I already have a few designs you’d love” I joked

“Wehh hhay I was joking, you already want to change my house”

“Only a few things” I teased

“Hhay let’s go and shower then head out for dinner, it’s too late to  
cook now”

We locked and drove back

## **NKOSIPHENDULE**

I honestly don’t know what happened the other day, one minute we were all talking having fun and the next minute Nelly was on top of me kissing me, and I honestly couldn’t resist. I couldn’t sleep with her in Lethi’s house, so we decided to go spend the night at my house and I called her a cab in the morning. I haven’t spoken to Lethi since that day, I don’t even know how I’ll face her. I don’t know why I tend to run away from her whenever I’ve done something wrong.

I’ve been buzzing her buzzer for more than 15 minutes now with no avail, her cellphone is off as well, I’ve been trying to reach her iWeekend yonke. I decide to use the remote and let myself in because clearly she’s avoiding me, I don’t blame her though. Right

now, I know I've ruined all chances I might have had with her, and I have nobody but myself to blame.

I made my way in and didn't find her watching tv, I knocked on her room with no response, so I decided to go in, the bed is made, and everything is in place. I checked the toilet but lutho

"Where is she"

I called her phone again and sent me to voicemail

I checked her closet, and her clothes are not there

"Fuck!" I screamed in frustration

I decided to go to Nkosenhle's place maybe he'll be able to help me

"Bafo" I greeted as I walked in

"You've been scarce lately"

"I've been busy with stuff. How have you been?"-me

"I've been okay, what brings you here"

"I think I might have pissed Lethi to the point where she decided to pack her clothes and move out without telling me"

"What do you mean move out?"-him

"Her clothes are not in the apartment and her phone is off, I've been trying to reach her"

“I tried to call her too, but I didn’t pay much attention to it, I just thought that maybe her battery died or something”-him

“Yah well she is not there. When last did you see her? Did she say anything?”-me

“I last saw her Saturday morning, I asked if can come later that day because she was going to meet up with someone so I couldn’t talk to her, and she said yes. when I got to her place later it was locked, and I just assumed she wasn’t back”-him

“Well, she left alright, and I have no idea where she is”-me

“Can’t we call her friends and find out? Maybe she decided to go to one of their places”-him

I dialed Nelly and she said she last saw her that day we were together

“any other friends?”-him

“She doesn’t have friends. We can try Nomonde, I’ll ask Nkosi for her number”-me

I called Nkosi and he gave me the number and I called Nomonde and naye she says she hasn’t spoken to Lethi

“Okay now I’m worried. Do you perhaps think she went bank to her old house? Or maybe Cape Town?”-me

“Let’s go to her house and check”-him

I drove there

“I really hope she didn’t come back here”-me

“Why? Doesn’t she get along with everyone?”-him

“Yeah, they mistreat her. Remember her broken leg? I think they had something to do with it.”

I parked and we went inside the yard. I attempted to open the door

“Haibo Nkosi, won’t you knock? You can’t just enter peoples house like this”

I rolled my eyes and knocked and after a few seconds someone opened

“Yes?”-person

“Hi, is Lethi here?”-me

“No” she attempted to close the door, but I stopped her and pushed myself inside

“Nkosi!” Nkosenhle warned but I ignored him, and he followed after me

“You again? What do you want here?”-Zodwa

“I’m here for Lethi”-me

“Lethi wani? That girl doesn’t stay here anymore. Get out!”-Zodwa

I shoved her out of the way and went to her room

“Nomcebo call the police”-Zodwa

“I’m sorry for his behavior”-Nkosenhle

I got to her room and it’s empty.

“Kanti where are you”

I went downstairs

“Next time you come here I’ll call the police. Oh, and if I was you I’d stop searching for that girl, she’s probably dead wherever she is”-

Zodwa

“Nx”

We went back to my car

“I don’t know what to do now. Do you know where she works?”-me

“I’ll call Eric and find out where he is so we can go to him”

He dialed

“Sure”-him

.....

“Where are you?”-him

.....

“Alright Nkosi and I are on our way”

....

“Alright sho”

He dropped the call

**ERIC**

“That was Nkosi and Nkosenhle, bathi they are coming here”

“I’ll be in my room, please don’t tell them I’m here”-Nhlanhla

“Kanti why are you running away from them?”

“I just need space, I want to be on my own for a while”-Nhlanhla

“Did they do something to you?”

“No, I’ll see them when I’m ready”-Nhlanhla

“So, what should I say when they ask about you?”

“Just tell them you haven’t seen me in a while, you last spoke to me the day I was chased, and you haven’t heard from me since”-

Nhlanhla

“Alright, they are here”

“Change the cartoons and put something else, call me once they’ve left”-her

I changed and went to open for them

“Eric”

“Nkosi”

"You good?"-Nkosi

"Yeah, you?"

"I'm okay"-Nkosi

"y'all look troubled, what's going on?"

"We can't find Lethi"-Nkosenhle

"Her phone is off, and she left the apartment"-Nkosi

"How do you know she left her apartment if she didn't tell you or give you the keys" I asked

"I have a spare remote, I was worried about her, so I opened and found all her clothes missing"-Nkosi

"Mhh"

"When last did you hear from her?"-Nkosenhle

"Late Friday, she called me telling me she almost got hijacked but luckily she managed to get away"

"What?"-both of them

"Yeah, so maybe she got frightened and decided to lay low for a bit"

"Do you have any idea where she could be?"-Nkosi

"No"

"I just hope she is okay wherever she is"-Nkosenhle



“Did you get the people who tried to hijack her?”-Nkosi

“I’m working on it”

“Tell us once you’ve found them”-Nkosenhle

“Sure”

“Do you know where she works?”-Nkosi

“No, I don’t”

You could see the frustration on their faces

“Y’all really care about her don’t you?”

“Yeah, she’s like a sister to me, and knowing she’s out there on her own doesn’t sit well with me, and the fact that I might have had something to do with it”-Nkosi

“What did you do?”-Nkosenhle

“I made out with her friend in her place, we were drinking then she went to pee and Nelly, and I were all over each other and I assume she saw that because she never came back from the bathroom, and I didn’t call the next day to check on her and apologize”-Nkosi

“I don’t think she would leave because of that”

“Ay, at this point I don’t know”-Nkosi

They left later on and Lethi decided to cook dinner

“Nkosi thinks he is responsible for your disappearance”

“Mhh”-her

“What’s that? Is he responsible?”

“Eric I’ve told you my reasons already” -her

“alright fine, I’ll drop it”

“Thank you”-her

“Your brother said he is coming tomorrow”

“Tomorrow is Monday, doesn’t he have work?”-her

“I don’t know, he said I should tell you because he can’t get ahold of you”

“Alright”

She finished cooking and Thando came the following day and both of them stayed in my house for the entire week.

## **LETHINHLANHLA**

Thando came on Monday and today is Saturday and I asked him to accompany me to buy groceries

“So, you really won’t turn your cellphone on? Phiwo is looking for you”-Thando

“I’ll turn it on later today”

This past week has been very relaxing, had it been up to me I would've stayed off work as well and just focus on myself. My brothers are very understanding, they left me alone when I told them I did not wish to interact, and they would just bring me food and leave

"Are we moving in today? Is everything complete now?"-Thando

"We?" I teased

"Yes we, are we moving into our new house?"-him

"There's only bed"-me

"We've shared a womb for 9 months, I doubt sharing a bed would be a problem"

"and what if I want to invite my boyfriend over?"-me

"he'll join as well and the three of us will sleep"

"You're an idiot"-me

We finished shopping and we went to Ballito

"Is this the house?" he asked

"No Thando, this is a strangers house, I just randomly drove here to waste our time"

"Musa ukuphapha (Don't be forward)"-him

We went inside and he went crazy

“No fucking way! I think I’ll move to Durban”-him

“Eww no”

“Did you design this house yourself?”-him

“Yeah, this place wasn’t furnished when I got it remember?”

“I see you took my advice and milked him dry”-him

“Not even, I felt bad dude. I left somethings out that I’ll buy using my own money. I’ll use the money I received but first I have to pay back Nkosi’s rent and food money, then I’ll use the remainder to buy whatever is left”

“Alright, show me my room”-him

“You don’t have a room”

“Haibo kanjani? There are three bedrooms here, I demand 1 of the rooms”-him

“I’m joking, come”

I showed him the room he’d be using when he is this side

“You did an amazing job with this place, it’s really beautiful. You’ve just motivated me to get my own place”-him

“What are you waiting for vele?”

“I’ve been lazy, but now I have you who will help me design it”-him

“It’ll cost you”

“Thandimali (you love money)”-him

We unpacked everything and drove back to Eric's, we'll be spending the night together then tomorrow I'm officially moving out.

## **LWANDILE**

Something strange is happening with Lwandle, she doesn't speak, she's always locked up in the room and she cries herself to sleep

“When last did you have your periods?” I asked

“What?”-her

“Are you sure you're not pregnant?”-me

“No, I'm not”

“Then explain this sudden behavior? You're always crying and staring at your phone when I ask what's wrong you dismiss me. how will I be able to help you if I don't know what's happening. You are shutting me out and I don't know why because I thought we've made up and you have forgiven me”-me

“It's nothing, I just miss my parents that's all”

I can tell she's lying

“If you miss your parents then why don't you go to them? Who's preventing you from seeing them because it's not like they live in another province. In fact, get up and get dressed I'll take you there myself right now”-me

“What?” she looked surprised

“If that will prevent you from crying day and night then I’ll do it. Vuka ugqoke sihambe (Get up and get dressed)”-me

“What about Malwande? I can’t live him alone”

“Alone? Am I not his father?”-me

“No, what I mean is..”

I cut her off

“You’ll take him with you, I’m sure your grandparents will be more than happy to spend a few days with him”-me

“Are you kicking me out of your house?”

“You said you miss your parents didn’t you? Now I’m offering to take you to your parents’ house, how is that kicking you out? You’ll come back when you’ve calmed down and when your hormones are stable”-me

“fine”

“Get dressed, I’ll pack Lwandes clothes”

I’m honestly tired of Lwandle and her childish behavior, if it was up to me we’d stay in different houses and find a way to co-parent. I honestly can’t wait for Malwande to start creche so that Lwandle can get a job and be busy with something in life coz clearly she has too much time on her hands that she doesn’t know what to do with it.

I finished packing and I waited for Madam to finish, she sure took her own time. I drove them to her father's house

"Are you not coming in?" she asked

"No, you'll call me once you've had enough of your parents, and I'll come fetch you"-me

"Dad won't like that"

"Tell him I have work or something urgent"-me

"Fine"

She opened the door and took Malwande and went in. Not even a goodbye kiss or a hug

## **LETHINHLANHLA**

I finished cooking dinner and I dished up for Eric, myself and Thando and we ate over light conversation

"Uhm I found the guys"-Eric

"What guys?"-Thando

"The ones who were after Lethi"-Eric

"Oh, how did you find them?"

"That's not important"-Eric

"So, what did they want?"

"They went sent to kill you"-Eric

I almost choked on my food

“What? Sent by who? Who’d want me dead?”

“Uhm..”-Eric

“Eric khuluma (talk)”

“They were sent by Zodwa”-Eric

“Which Zodwa?”-Thando

“Mamkhulu wenu”-Eric

I’ve had enough of these people

“Where are the guys?”

“I kept them somewhere”-Eric

“like you have them kidnapped?”

“Something like that”-Eric

“Let them go”

“What? What if they try again?”-Eric

“They won’t”

“How do you know?”-Eric

“Because I want Zodwa kidnapped, I’ve had enough of her bullshit. I told her to leave me alone but clearly she didn’t get the message”

“NICE!”-Thando



“Nice ini wena? Nhlanhla I don’t want you doing illegal things”-Eric

“She started it”

“I’m 100% behind you sis”-Thando

“Thando!” Eric warned

“No Eric, Zodwa can’t be doing as she please and not face consequences. If you don’t want to help Lethi then I’ll help”- Thando

“Fine, when do you want me to get her?”-Eric

“I’ll go with you”-Thando

“As soon as possible”

“You’ll have her tomorrow”-Eric

“Mhh”

“What’s that supposed to mean?”-Eric

“Why does that seem so easy to you? Eric what business are you involved in?”

“You said you want her, and I said you’ll have her, what more do you want from me?”-Eric

“I’ll find out”

“Stay out of it. I’m going to bed early today so goodnight babies”-Eric

“I’m not your baby”-Thando

“Don’t leave early in the morning”

“Why?”-Eric

“Don’t you want to see me off before I leave?”

“If it was up to me you’d stay here forever”-Eric

“Ukshima konke lokho”-Thando

I burst into laughter

“At least I have a house, what about you?”-Eric

“Mxm”-Thando

Eric retired to bed

“I have something to tell you”-Thando

“I’m listening”

“Have an open mind okay?”-Thando

I raised my eyebrow

“Come on Lethi”-him

“What? I didn’t say anything”

“Your eyebrow”-Thando

“Talk”

“Uhm, Nomonde and I are kinda dating”-him

“Kinda?”

“Yeah, we’re still figuring things out and getting to know each other yabo”-Thando

“Mhh”

“Yeah, I do like her, and I would really love to give this a chance and see where it goes”-him

“I see”

“What do you say?”-him

“What can I say?”

“Hawu Nhlanhla come on”-Thando

“No, serious what can I say? Both of you have decided to give this a try so there’s really nothing I can say. I wish you guys nothing but the best and I really pray your guys relationship goes far. Nomonde is a good person and I believe you will treat other good”

“Thank you”-him

“How will it work? The distance that is”

“I haven’t decided as yet, but I’m thinking of relocating this side”-him

“For her?”

“Not just her, but nje”-him

“Oh, okay”

“I’ll ask you to help me find a place once I’ve decided”-him

“I’d be more than happy to help”

“Great, yazi uNomonde is afraid of talking to you”-him

“Why?”

“because she values your friendship, and she fears that it might end because of what we have going on. She’ll come get your blessings as well”-him

“You and your girlfriend are just extra, y’all can do whatever you guys want to do”

“I’ll tell her”-him

“Alright, I’m going to bed now. I’m pretty sure I’ve got tons of messages waiting for me on that phone”

“Start with Phiwo’s first”-him

“Alright goodnight”

“Byee”

I went to bed and switched on my phone and as expected messages flooded in. It’s mostly Nkosenhle and Nkosi apologizing and asking if I’m okay and that I should get back to them as soon as possible blah blah. There was a message from Phiwo as well asking if she could visit for the holidays, I decided to text her

[You don’t even have to ask babe, you’re more than welcome to visit me whenever you want. I’m looking forward to being with you]

I slept and in the morning I was woken up by Thando and Eric arguing as always. That's the one thing I won't miss about being with the two of them. I showered and joined them

"nahlezi nikwebhana nina what's wrong with you guys? The two of you should've been twins"

"Good morning to you too"-Thando

"Hhay suka"

"what time are you leaving?"-Eric

"Kicking us out already?"

"Us? Is Thando going with you?"-Eric

"yeah"

"Alright, no I'm not kicking you out. I'll catch you guys later, I have to rush somewhere"-Eric

"Alright"-Thando

"Are your bags packed?"

"Not yet, I was waiting for you to pack for me"-Thando

"Udakiwe, I'm not your girlfriend"

"Yeah you are my sister"-him

"I'm not doing that, I have bags of my own that need to be packed as well"

“We’ll pack together then. I’ll pass the clothes to you, and you will fold and place them nicely in the bag”-him

“how is that working together If I’ll be doing most of the work?”

“Ayke I don’t know what you want from me. I’ll go place my stuff in your room then take a shower”-him

He left and I made food and ate while waiting for him. If he thinks I’ll fold his clothes then he has another thing coming. After what took like forever he came out of the shower

“You haven’t packed?”-him

“No, I was waiting for you”

“why do you hate me?”-him

“I’ll show you how to do it instead of doing it for you. How will you learn if you rely on people to do things for you”

“Fine”-him

He got dressed and we packed together

“I have to go Nkosi’s place to drop the keys”

“I’ll finally meet this guy”-him

I rolled my eyes

We placed our bags in the car and I drove to his house

I buzzed the buzzer with no success, I tried calling him and he didn't pick up

"We'll have to go to his brother's house"

"Vele vele sewazi umndeni wonke walo mjida? (So now you know all his family members?)"-him

"Just his two brothers"

"Mhh"

I drove to Nkosenhles, and the security let us in

"I'll be quick"

"You better be or else I'll walk in and come get you"-him

I let myself in

"Nkosenhle" I shouted as I went to the living room

Everybody just turned and looked at me. Everybody was there, Nkosenhle, Lwandile, Eric, Nkosi, Wokukhanya and Nathi. There were guns and knives on the table as well as stack of money. Who the hell are these guys? I feel like I don't even know my own brother

"Uhm hi"-me

Silence

"Nhlanhla!" Nkosi was surprised and at the same time shocked to see me

“How did you get in here?”-Nathi

“I opened the handle and walked through the door”-me

Eric and Nkosenhle chuckled

“Why didn’t your security tell you somebody was coming in?”-Nathi

“I told them to give her permission whenever she comes”-Nkosenhle

“Why?”-Nathi

“Why not? So, that she can come and see Lisa whenever she wants”-

Nkosenhle

“What do you want?”-Nathi

I didn’t hear his question as the guns caught my eye on the table.

“Is that the Glock 43x MOS and that over there the KelTec P50?”-me

They all look shocked but at this point I wasn’t interested in them, I love guns

“Can I please touch it”-Me

“What do you know about guns?”-Nkosi

I ignored him

“Eric can I please touch it?”-me

“Uhhh..”-Eric

“No!”-Nathi



“Alright. I wanted to give Nkosenhles the keys to Nkosi’s apartment because I went to his place and I didn’t find him, and I tried calling him, but he didn’t pick up”-me

“My phone is on silent sorry”-Nkosi

I took out the keys and handed them to him

“Thank you for renting the place for me, please send me the invoice so I can repay you the rent money. Thank you for everything. I’ll take my leave now”-me

I attempted to turn but Nathi stopped me

“Stop right there, you are not going anywhere”-Nathi

He pointed one of the guns at me

“Nathi what the fuck are you doing? Put that gun away”-Nkosenhle

In a second Eric pointed another Gun on Nathi’s head. It was just chaotic

“Put the gun down”-Eric to Nathi

“You are willing to shoot me for her?”-Nathi

“Yes”-Eric

“We can’t let her go, what if she goes to the police and report us?”-Nathi

“Since when do you hate me? I thought you were one of my biggest fans what changed? Why are you so cold towards me? what did I do to you?”-me

“You are evil, boyfriend snatcher”-him

“Whose boyfriend did I snatch?”-me

Guns are still pointed around

“Lwandle’s boyfriend”-Nathi

I laughed so hard

“Which boyfriend is that? Lwandile?”-me

Lwandile just looked down. Look at this mess, guns are being pointed at me because of Lwandile

“Yes”-Nathi

“And who told you that? Was it Lwandile?”-me

“Khanyo”-Nathi

“and who told her?”-me

“Lwandle”-Nathi

“That’s the problem, you go around listening to people you don’t even know. How long have you known me? and how long have you known Lwandle? So, you’ll listen to everything that people say? Why

didn't you come to me and ask me about it? And what business do you have eyndabeni zabafazi? (Women's business)"-me

"I will not allow you to disrespect me"-Nathi

"I'll give you the opportunity to find out the truth. Lwandile who stole who from who?"-me

He kept quite

"Lwandile don't annoy me"-me

"I dated Lethi first then she ended things with me because of Lwandle"-Lwandile

Just then Thando walked in, I guess I took too long

"What the fuck is goi..." he didn't even finish his sentence

He took out a gun, I don't know from where and he pointed at Nathi.

Now both Thando and Eric had their guns pointed at Nathi

"Nhlanhla are you okay?"-Thando

Everybody was shocked. This is honestly not the way I wanted everyone to find out I am a twin

"I'm okay, put your gun down. Matter of fact why the fuck do you have a gun? Where was it all along? Were you carrying it all this time I was with you?"-me

“I’ll answer all your questions later. I will not put this gun down until he does” he said pointing at Nathi

“Nhlanhla you have a twin?”-Nkosi

“Yes”-me

“Can you all just put your guns down”-Nkosenhle

Nathi decided to put his down and the rest followed

“I dare you to do that shit ever again, in fact I dare all of you to point a gun at her and y’all will know who I am”-Thando

he turned to Eric

“Here are your keys” he tossed them to him

“You know him?”-Nkosi

“Yeah, he is my younger brother”-Eric

“What?”-Nkosenhle

“Does that mean Lethi’s is your sister too?”-Nathi

“Yeah, both of them are my siblings. Why do you think I’d point a gun at you for no reason”-Eric

“How though? Nhlanhla is Mfeka and wena you are Zulu”-Lwandile

“She’s soon to be Zulu too”-Thando

“Is she..Sipho’s daughter?” that was Nkosenhle, his voice was cracking as if shocked

“Yeah”-Eric

“Nhlanhla lets go”-Thando

“This is not how I wanted everyone to find out. The day I went to Cape Town was the day where I met my family, wena (I pointed at Nkosi) I wanted to tell you about it, but you decide to be childish and you ghosted me, and wena (I turned to Nkosenhle) I didn’t know you that well for me to tell you my business, so as the rest of you”-me

“Why didn’t you say anything?” Nkosi asked Eric

“Was she at your place when we came and asked you about her?”-  
Nkosi

“Yes I was, I told him not to tell you anything and that I’d be the one who would break the news to everyone”-me

“You don’t owe anyone any explanations honestly”-Eric

“Nkosi I’ll be waiting for the invoice”-me

“Where will you be staying?”-Nkosi

“In my new house”-me

“Ballito?”-Nkosi

“Yeah”-me

“Will you send me your address?”-Nkosi

“I’ll think about it”-me

“Come on Lethi, you know we need to talk”-Nkosi

“Bye everyone”

Thando and I left them there and drove to Ballito

“Why didn’t you call me? what was all of that about?”-Thando

“Things just got out of hand. I walked in there and found what you saw on the table, I gave Nkosi his keys and attempted to leave then Nathi took out his gun and pointed at me saying I’ll report them to the police and stuff then Eric pulled out his gun and you walked in”

“That guy shouldn’t have done that”-Thando

“Why do you have a gun?”

“For protection”-him

“Protection from what?”

“Cases like this?”-Thando

“Thando what is going on? Are you guys involved in gangs or any of the illegal business?”

“Nhlanhla”-him

“No, tell me the truth. Is that why I was trained?”-me

His eyes popped out

“You were trained?”-him

“Yeah”

“By whom?”-him

“Ngonyama”

“Damn, you’re probably more experienced than I am”-him

“you’re off topic right now”-me

“Fine, just promise me you went tell them I told you”-him

“I promise”

“yeah we’re involved in some of the illegal businesses, dad being the leader”-Thando

I should’ve known

“do you kidnap people? Traffic girls and kill people?”

“No, we don’t traffic anyone and we don’t kill innocent people, we only deal with money and jewelry”-him

“Mhh”

This is just all too much, today nje was a lot

## **NKOSENHLE**

I couldn’t sleep at all last night, I’m still dumbstruck at the fact that Nhlanhla is Eric’s little sister. I was also surprised at the fact that she knows about guns, at first it was her sleeping with a knife and now it’s the guns. I’m not going to lie I was very much impressed at the fact that she’ll be able to look after herself if something was to

happen to her. I will even sleep peacefully knowing she can fight and hold her own, it's not advisable to have a weak partner in this line of business which is more reasons why I think she is the perfect person for me.

I called her a few minutes ago and asked if I could see her and fortunately she agreed and sent me her new location. I drove past Woolworths and bought her flowers, chocolates, and a bottle of wine. I drove to her place, and she came out after a while

"Hi"-her

"Sawbona Nkosazane, how are you?"

"I'm good how are you?"-her

"I'm good now, thank you for allowing me to see you"

"It's not like you were going to stop had I said no"-her

"Hawu, would you rather be elsewhere?"

"No, you wanted me to hear you out now talk"-her

Okay I guess she's still mad at me that's why she didn't invite me in

"I wanted to apologize.."

"You've done that already" she cut me off

"and I'll do it over and over until you forgive me, even though I didn't kiss Lwandle that day"



“It’s not just about Lwandle”-her

“Oh?”

“You invaded my privacy Nkosenhle, you scared me that day. I almost got hijacked then out of nowhere you sneaked in my room. I still don’t know how you did it because it was locked”-her

“I apologize for that also, I didn’t mean to scare you. I had to talk to you that day and you wouldn’t have allowed me to see you had I called so I decided to take matters into my own hands which was not a good idea and I sincerely apologize”

“What if I was naked?”-her

“Well, that wouldn’t be a train smash, I’m still going to see you naked”

She laughed, genuinely laughed which made my heart smile

“You think?” she asked

“I know”

“Chisa wena!”-her

“Have you forgiven me?”

“I don’t know, what did you get me kqala?”-her

“I didn’t know I was supposed to bring something”

“So, you came all this way to say sorry empty handed? You could’ve sent a message. Don’t you know how to sweeten a ladies heart?

When last were you in a relationship kanti”-her

“okay okay” I took out the flowers, chocolates, and Wine “will these soften your heart?” I showed her

“Well, I don’t know I’d have to taste first”-her

“If you accept these then it means you’re accepting to be my women”

“So, if I don’t then that means I’m not getting them?”-her

“Exactly”

“Angithi you do know ukuthi uWoolworths is just around the corner? I can go there and buy these things myself?”-her

“Why do you have to be difficult? Okay you can have them, no conditions attached”

She snickered

“Thank you”-her

“You’re welcome”

“I’ll accept these for today, but I’m not a huge fan of flowers”-her

“I’ll do better next time ma’am”

“Good! And sorry for meeting up in the car, my brother is inside, and I respect him”-her

It’s her house though, the brother should be respecting her

“It’s okay, your house is very beautiful”

“I try, I try” she smiled

“Can I ask something?”

“Yeah”-her

“Where did you learn about guns and knives?”

She stared blankly

“I taught myself using the internet”-her

“Do you know how to use them?”

“No, I just know the names”-her

This entire time she didn’t break eye contact

“You’re not lying are you?”

“Why would I lie?”-her

“If you say so then alright. Can I please spend the rest of the day with you?”

I’m trying my luck here, this one is hard headed

“and why would I do that?”-her

“Because I’m asking you nicely”

“Mhh”

“is that a yes?”

“Only if you take me to Nkosi’s place, I was supposed to meet with him after you”-her

“I can take you anywhere you want to go”

“When will you bring me back?”-her

“Tomorrow”

She raised her eyebrow

“Okay later on today”

“You can bring me back tomorrow it’s fine. Let me go pack an overnight bag and tell Thando”-her

My heart is doing cartwheels right now

“Alright”

She left and came back after a while

“What did he say?”

“He wasn’t pleased but he has no choice. He wants to meet the person who’s making his little sister behave like a teenage girl”-her

“Well, I can meet him whenever he wants”

“Too soon”-her

“Baby steps, got it”

“Let’s go to Nkosi’s”-her

“As you wish my queen”

I drove to Nkosi’s place and on the way I couldn’t stop smiling, this girl makes me happy without even saying anything. Just her being next to me is enough, never have I ever thought I’d fall for any other girl after Lisa’s mother passed away. Here I am falling deeply for this girl, each passing day I fall hard for her

“Heyla” she snapped her fingers

“Yes sorry?”

“Please don’t kill me, I still have a lot to achieve. Where is your head at? All your focus should be on the road when you’re driving”-her

“I was thinking of this new song I heard while driving this other day, and I would love you to hear it. It represents exactly what I feel for you”

“Is it?” she blushed

“Yes”

“Let me hear it” she said amused

I looked for it in my phone and it connected to the car, and I did something I don't usually do, YES! I sang for her

*"My mind dey for you*

*My heart beats for you*

*Every time I think of you*

*I don't know*

*I, I, I feel loved again*

*I don't want to wait for days*

*Lemme have you in my arms again*

*Please?*

*When they all said I can't have you*

*I proved them wrong I came for you*

*Any weather, any mood too*

*Omo you know I'll still come through, uh uh*

*Gimme love, yeah*

*Forever, yeah*

*I dey craze for your love"*

I looked at her and her jaw was on the floor

“Close your mouth”

She laughed

“I didn’t know you could sing”-her

“ I don’t”

“but you just did”-her

“Happens like once in a year”

“Why though, you’ve got such a beautiful voice”-her

“I just don’t like to, thank you”

She smiled and looked down

“and then?”

“Your heart beats for me?” she asked

I took her hand in mine

“In this short period of time I’ve known you, you’ve managed to break the ice that has been forming around my heart”

“If I decide to do this with you, you have to promise me you won’t cheat. Last time Lwandile promised me, and he screwed Lwandle. You’ve been with Lwandle as well which is why I find it hard to give you a chance”-her

“I’m done with her, give me a chance to prove myself”

“If you fuck up Nkosenhle I will stab you to death”

She said that in the politest manner ever, she didn't even smile to show that she's joking which made me think that she's really not joking.

“It won't get that far”

“You've been warned, balls in your court now” -her

What am I getting myself into?

“So, is that a yes?”

“let's give this a try, trial run basically” -her

My brothers would probably laugh at me had they were to find out that I am begging a girl like this

“Better than nothing, thank you for giving me a chance”

I kissed her hand and we reached Nkosi place.

“I'm going to tell him, he is my best friend, so he has to know” -her

I've been dragging this day. it's now or never

“Okay”

We walked in and he looked surprised to see me

“Bafo” -Nkosi

“Sho”



“Nhlanhla”-Nkosi

“Nkosi”-Nhlanhla

“Come on in”-him

We made our way to the dining area

“Uhm we were supposed to meet today and Nkosenhle offered to drive me”-her

“I see”-Nkosi

“You wanted to talk”-her

“Uhm yeah”-him

“Do you mind that Nkosenhle is here? He can excuse us”-her

Haibo excuse them for what reason? I’m not going anywhere

“No, it’s fine he can stay”-him

“Alright then”-her

“I wanted to apologize for what Nelly, and I did at your place, I want to apologize for disappearing as well”-him

“So, will you run from me every time you do something wrong?

That’s a bit childish don’t you think?”-her

“It is and I’m sorry. I didn’t know how to face you”-him

“I see. So why are you apologizing for what you did with Nelly?”-her

“We shouldn’t have done what we did in your house, it was very disrespectful of us, and it wasn’t our intention to send you to bed early”-him

“Are you dating her?”-her

“Uhm, no I wouldn’t put it like that”-him

“Y’all are just fucking?”-her

Yerr she’s very blunt

“Nhlanhla”-him

“No, I’m just trying to understand what’s going on”-her

“You can say that”-him

“Do you like her?”-her

“Yho your questions Lethi”-him

I wanted to laugh, Nkosi hates confrontations especially when he is being asked about girls

“I have my answer”-her

“am I forgiven?”-him

“Yeah”-her

“just like that? Mina I was asked if I came bearing gifts but uNkosi is forgiven just like that”

“Kahle Nkosenhle”-him

“You haven’t sent the invoice”-her

“there’s no invoice. I wasn’t paying your rent”-him

“What?”-her

“That’s my apartment, Nkosenhle got it for me for one of my birthdays”-him

“Oh, well I’d still like to pay you just to show my appreciation”-her

“I’ve got enough money. think of something else not money”-him

“I will. Thank you once again”-her

“Anything for you”-him

“I have to tell you something, keep an open mind”-her

Oh boy!

“Sure”-him

“Your brother and I are kinda trying to figure things out together”-her

“Which brother?”-him

She rolled her eyes

“Nkosenhle”-her

He looked at me

“You?”-him

How am I supposed to respond to that?

“Yes, I know it may seem too soon, but I really do like her. She wanted to tell you since you’re her best friend mina I don’t really need your permission”

“Nkosenhle!” she warned

I’m telling the truth, Nkosi is a child, and I don’t have to ask for his permission

“Since when?” -him

“Since the first time I laid my eyes on her. At first I was scared but then somebody gave me some advice which motivated me to try harder”

“What advice” -him

“someone close to me once said “as long as she hasn’t decided on who to date then the race is open””

He shook his head and smiled remembering his words

“You know they only thing I’ve ever wanted is for you to be happy, if you feel Nkosenhle will make you happy then so be it. I will step back and allow you to figure things out as you’ve said, although I wouldn’t have chosen Nkosenhle for you, but he is a good guy and I believe he will treat you right, in fact he better treat you well or else he’ll have

me to deal with. Just promise me we'll always be friends and that nothing will change"-him

She got up and hugged him

"Friends forever" she did that thing with her pinky and Nkosi joined his pinky

He came up to me and hugged me then whispered something in my ear

"I guess the best man won"-him

"It's nothing personal"

"Please treat her good Nkosenhle, that's all I ask from you"-him

"I will do my best"

"What about Lwandle?"-him

"What about her?"-Nhlanhla

"What will she say?"-him

"I don't give a rat's ass about her, I don't owe her any loyalty. She's dead to me"-Nhlanhla

"wena?"-him

"I'm done with her"

"You better be"

We chilled for a while then left when it was getting dark outside

“What would you like to eat” I asked

“Steers burger”-her

We got the burgers then went to my place

“Where’s my baby?”-her

“I’m right here”

“Not you, indoda endala kanje haibo, I’m talking about Lisa”-her

“wena you hate me. she’s probably sleeping right now.”

“I’ll see her tomorrow. What do you want to do?”-her

“I want to have you in my arms”

“Get a blanket so we can cuddle and watch tv”-her

She didn’t have to repeat twice, I ran to my room and got a blanket

“What do you want to watch?”

“Please don’t ask me that” she laughed “I always watch cartoons or housewives, so you can open whatever you want to open”-her

“yini engathi I’ll have two Lisakhanyas in this house”

“Cartoons are nice”-her

“I’d rather watch cartoons than to watch a bunch of women screaming and swearing each other”

She smiled and opened her cartoons

“Come closer, I don’t bite” her

I got closer to her in the couch, and she rested her head on my chest and her one hand was holding mine. I swear to god this feels so right

“don’t you want to eat first?”-her

“No not yet”

“Alright then”-her

We continued to watch her cartoons with conversations in between, we ate the burgers after a while and watched MORE cartoons.

“I’m sleepy now let’s go rest, you’ll watch your cartoons in bed”

“You are such a grandpa, sleeping so early”-her

“Who are you calling a grandpa?”

I tickled her and her giggles filled the entire house, she was even in tears

“Okay stop, please stop I don’t like being tickled”-her

I sat her on top of me

“Apologize for calling me grandpa”

“it’s the truth though”-her

I tickled her again

“so..rry... I’m ...sorr..yy Nkosenhle” she said in between her giggles, and I stopped

“What did you say?”

I can listen to her giggle for the rest of my life

“I said I’m sorry”-her

“This is what I want, I want you to always be this happy and have you giggle 100% of the times, I want all your tears to be tears of joy.

Thank you for giving me a chance”

“Just don’t hurt me”-her

“I would never, and plus I don’t want to be stabbed to death”

“Good, because I’ll do it”-her

“I know you would”

“want to know what else I can do?”-her

“Tell me”

“This”

She leaned in for a kiss and I kissed back. Her lips are tiny and so so soft, the kiss went on for a while

“Just wanted to find out if you’re a good kisser before I commit”-her

Only she would say such things

“what if I wasn’t?”

“Then I’d be out that door, imagine having a handsome boyfriend who can’t kiss”-her



“You called me your boyfriend”

“are you not?”-her

“Hack I am, come here”

I kissed her and carried her to bed

“You have soft lips”

“Thank you” she shyly responded

“I’ll give you space to change”

“Why? You said you see me naked eventually so you might as well stay”-her

“are you sure about that?”

“Scared you might get tempted?”-her

“not at all baby”

She changed and wore her night wear and got into bed

“Still want to watch your cartoons?”

“You’ll fall asleep again”-her

“I was cold, it’s warm in here”

“Hawu why didn’t you say so? We could’ve moved up her”-her

“I didn’t want to disturb you”

We got in bed and cuddled again, this time she was the little spoon, and her butt was pressed on my shaft, and it immediately went hard. Trust it to embarrass me like that, I don't think she felt it though because she only turned and faced me after a while

"Hi" she smiled

"Hi" I smiled back

I like how weird she is

"I have a question"-her

"shoot"

"Did you sleep with Lwandle in this bed?"-her

It was only when she asked me that question when I realized we were in my room, the room I shared with Lisa's mother

"No"

"Make love to me"-her

"Huh?"

I don't think I heard her properly

"Make love to me"-her

"Right now?"

"Right here"-her

"Are you sure? I don't mind waiting"

“I haven’t been touched for over a year now, I’ve waited long enough don’t you think?”-her

“You’ve only been with Lwandile?”

She nodded

Lucky bastard

“Are you sure sure about this? I don’t want you to feel pressured and think that I’m only interested in sex, it’s way deeper than that”

She got on top of me and kissed me like she did down stairs but this time it was more passionate and intense. I removed her top and she did so with mine and after a while we were both panting for air. I’ll forever cherish this moment, for the first time in I don’t know how long I made love, I felt connected, I felt a sense of belonging. It was very slow and passionate, she gave herself to me and so did I. It was at this moment where I just knew that she’s what I’ve been longing for, she’s the one who holds the key to my happiness, the only person who can fill the void in my heart.

“Thank you, that was amazing. Where have you been all my life?”

“I’ve been patiently waiting for you to come find me”-her

“Come let’s go shower”

She shook her head and closed her eyes

I got a warm towel and cleaned us up

I kissed her forehead and she slept on top of me

In the morning I got up with her sleeping next to me, I did my daily exercise, and I took a shower while she slept. I decide to make her breakfast, I found Lisa watching cartoons downstairs.

“Hello daddies Princess”

I tickled her and she giggled

“did you sleep well?”

She nodded

“I’ve got a surprise for you, want to see it?”

“Is it a new toy daddy?”-her

“Even better than that, do you want to see it?”

She vigorously nodded

“Help me make breakfast first then I’ll show you”

“Hurry up daddy” she ran to the kitchen

I made English breakfast with her just watching me do everything

“Done daddy?” she asked

“Yes”

“Show me the surprise” she covered her eyes

I just laughed

“Follow daddy”

I carried the tray and walked with her upstairs

“Don’t make noise okay?”

She placed her finger on her mouth indicating she is quiet

I opened the door, and she was still sleeping. I placed the tray on the table and placed Lisa on the bed next to her. She just looked at me not realizing who this is as she was facing the other way.

“Look at her face” I whispered

She nodded and got on top of her, and she screamed when she finally saw her

“MAMIZA” she clapped her hands and screamed

She work up immediately

“You guys gave me a scare” she turned to Lisa “Hello daddies princess” she tickled her, and they both giggled

“Come let’s watch popayi (Cartoons) Mamiza” she held her hand

“Mamiza has to eat first, go down and she will come to you when she’s finished”-me

“No daddy”-Lisa

“She will come to you when she is done, she won’t run away”-me

Tears formed in her eyes

“She can watch her cartoons here it’s fine”-Nhlanhla

“Hhay Nhlanhla I was hoping I could.. you know?”

“Could what?” she laughed

“Get yesterday’s leftovers”

“HHay Nkosenhle, there’s a kid in here”-her

“Uzohamba (She’ll leave)”

“No”-her

“Ngaze ngaysola bengimsaphi (I regret bringing her up here)”

“Don’t be silly, I’m not going anywhere. I’ll serve you whenever you’re hungry”-her

Lord I felt uGatsheni twitch

“I’m hungry right now”

“Me too daddy”-Lisa

“Hhay wena”

We burst in laughter

“Come baby let’s eat” Nhlanhla fed her some of her eggs and toast

“Lisa come with daddy, Mamiza wants to shower”-me

“I’ll be with you now now okay?”-Nhlanhla

She nodded and I walked with her downstairs. She immediately went back to her cartoons while I placed the dishes in the sink

“I’ll do those Mkhwenyana don’t worry”-Mam’Donsa

I went back upstairs and found her almost done making the bed

“But I thought you were going to dish up for me” I made a puppy face

“very cute but I have to shower and get going, I’d say join me in the shower, but you’ve showered already”

By the time she finished saying that my clothes were on the floor

“Let’s go”-me

“You’re unbelievable”-her

I carried her to the shower

“Ungangiwisi (Don’t drop me)”-her

“I could even carry you with one hand so please”

“Mxm”-her

I placed her down and she took off her clothes and Gatsheni just sprung up

“Look at what you do to me”

“I came here to shower, I don’t know what you’re doing here” she laughed

She got in the shower, and I followed her

“I like my water hot, I don’t know about you”-her

I’m not here to shower, whether the water is hot or not I don’t care

I ignored her and brought her close to me

“I think I’m getting addicted to you”

I took her in my mouth and sucked on her soft lips and she responded in no time. I carried her and pressed her against the wall, I honestly couldn’t wait any further. Her kisses nje on their own drive me to the edge.

“Please promise never to leave me”

She nodded

“I need to hear you say it”

“I’m not going anywhere”-her

I nodded and slid inside her, and she clenched her nails on my back and she held on tight

“You good?”

“Yes”-her

I slowly went in and out of her, each time I went in her walls tightened

“Baby please don’t do that, I won’t last long if you do that” I pleaded



“I didn’t do anything” she laughed

“Fuck!”

I slid in and out at an accelerated pace this time around and her grip against my body got tighter indicating she’s about to release

“Not now Babe”

I turned her around and held on the wall while I entered from behind, in and out, in and out

“Nko..ahh..Nkos..” she couldn’t even say the full name

“I swear to god I’ll kill anyone who dares come close to you, you are MINE and MINE ALONE”

“ye..ssss”

She released after saying that and was slightly sliding against the floor. I quickly caught her and held her firmly and after a few thrust I followed after her. She turned around and hugged me

“I mean it Nhlanhla, you’ve given me a second chance at love, you’ve made me taste heaven and I don’t think I’d be able to live with myself if you were to leave me”

I can’t believe a kid as young as her would make a grown man like me this vulnerable. She legit has my heart in her hands

“It all depends on how you treat me, you treat me good and I’m yours forever”-her

“I’d be a fool if I were to let you go”

We showered and got dressed

“Are you really leaving?”

“Don’t do that, I told you I’ll go back to my place today”-her

“Are you leaving like right now?”

“No, I promised Lisa I’ll join her downstairs”-her

“So, you’re only staying for Lisa?”

“I’m with you as well nje”-her

“Can’t I fetch you later a?”

“I might as well just move in here”-her

“I would love that”

“You’re crazy, never allow a girl to become your weakness”-her

“Trust me I’ve tried and succeeded all these months and years, but you came along and fucked up everything up”

“Let’s go downstairs, my baby is waiting for me”-her

“You’re just going to ignore what I just said?”

She shut me up with a kiss and held my hand and headed downstairs

Mam’Donsa was tidying up

“Oh, Mkhwenyana I’ll be done now now”-her

“No problem”-me

“Sawbona Mah”-Nhlanhla

“Yebo sawbona Makoti”-Mam’Donsa

Unbelievable! When Lwandle greeted she didn’t even acknowledge her or Sindy

We joined Lisa on the couch who climbed up and sat of top of Lethi

“Why is it that everybody likes you?”

“What’s there not to like? Look at me”-her

“We’re being cocky aren’t we?”

“I’m joking baby, I guess it’s because I’m a kind person and people can sense my energy”-her

“Yes mamiza?”-Lisakhanya

Lethi looked at her confused

“You said baby” I laughed

“Oh, not you baby, I meant your dad”-Nhlanhla

“Daddy is not baby, I’m baby okay Mamiza?”-Lisa

“Yes, thank you for correcting me”-Nhlanhla

“I am Nhlanhla’s baby” I said to Lisa

“No daddy, I’m baby angithi Mamiza?”-her

“Yes baby” she turned to me “Don’t confuse the child”

I laughed

“Fine I’ll stop”

They cuddled together and watched their cartoons with Lisa explaining god knows what. This is a beautiful sight to see, I took a picture of them when they weren’t looking, and I quickly made it my wallpaper. Both my babies under one roof. We sat for a while until Lisa fell asleep and I drove Nhlanhla to her place.

“Don’t you want to get a place around Hillcrest?” I asked

“Hell no, you Ndlovu brothers can be too much at times”-her

“But I always want to be next to you”

“Then you’ll drive here, or I’ll come to you”-her

“Is there no way I can change your mind?”

“No sir”-her

“so, when will I see you?”

“I don’t know”-her

“Tomorrow?”

“No problem. We have to tell Eric about us”-her

“I’ll talk to him”

“Alright, let me go inside” we kissed

“Ngiyakthanda Nkosazana”

She looked at me and I winked

She smiled and went inside, and I drove back home

## **LETHINHLANHLA**

As soon as I entered Thando started singing

*“Dick, Dick*

*na na na na*

*She not with him tonight*

*She not with Jim tonight*

*She in the gym tonight*

*Workout in that pussy (ayy)*

*I’m getting’ ripped tonight*

*R.I.P that pussy (ayy)”*

I laughed so hard

“You are an idiot, what is “na na na” if you don’t know the song then just shut up”

“Phela I don’t know all the lyrics, look at you , you are glowing. I don’t know how I feel about my sister having sex”-him

“Who said I was having sex?”

“It’s written all over your face”-him

“You’re talking nonsense”

“as long as he not old and married with kids”-him

“He is not married”

“Yah and? You’re supposed to say he doesn’t have kids and he is not old”-Thando

“Well depends on how old is old”

“Not more than 5 years older than you”-him

“Uhm”

“Nhlanhla No”-him

“He is 7 years older than me”

“He is the same age as Eric, what happened to your age mates Nhlanhla? I’d even settle for that Nkosi boy I saw the other day because he is young”-him

“I know, we don’t choose who we fall in love with”

“and kids? Does he have kids?”-him

“He has a daughter, she’s 2”

“Hhay Lethi I honestly don’t know what goes on in your head, why would you insert yourself in that situation? Are you prepared to fight his baby mamma all the damn time?”-him

“I won’t be fighting anyone”

“klungile, as long as you’re happy I’ll accept the dude. He better treat you right or else”-him

“Or else what?”

“Just tell him I said that”-him

I got up and hugged him

“I love you”

“hhay get away from me you smell” he said covering his nose

“Oh please, I showered and plus I didn’t do anything”

“I’m not sleeping here tonight”-him

“Where are you going?”

“To see my girl”-him

“and me? you’re leaving me on my own?”

“Look who’s talking, you left me on my own yesterday”-him

“Is this payback?”

“No”-him

“I shouldn’t have came back”

“You don’t want to come back to your house now because of Grandpa?”-him

“Shut up Thando, I honestly can’t with you”

Lord knows how much I love this person

“Eric is on his way”-him

“Uzothini?”

“uzobona wena”-him

“Alright”

I went to my room and placed my stuff away

“would you like something to eat?” I asked

“Nah, I’m good I ate earlier”

I made myself toasted cheese sandwich and Eric walked in

“Hey little ones” he took a slice from my plate

“Hhay Eric isinkwa sami” I cried

“You’ll make another one”-him

“we’re not your babies”-Thando

“Whatever, I have Zodwa”-Eric

“Huh?”-me

“You said you wanted Zodwa kidnapped”-Thando

Shoot I totally forgot about all of that

“Oh”-me



“What do you mean oh? Don’t tell me I did this for nothing. What’s wrong with you?”-Eric

“Grandpa is driving her crazy” Thando mumbled

“What was that?”-Eric

“Nothing”-Thando

“are we going or what?”-Eric

“Uhm yeah we can go, I honestly forgot about her. I don’t have a plan”-me

“Yabonake Lethi”-Eric

“Let’s go”

We got in his car, and he drove to where his warehouse is located

“Why do you have a warehouse?”-me

“You talk too much”-Thando

“Have you killed people before?” I asked

They both ignored me, and I chuckled, seems like I’m not the only Zulu child who has taken someone’s life

We got to the warehouse where she was tied in a chair

“Zodwa Zodwa Zodwa, Hi”-me

“What is wrong with you kids?”-her

“so, you thought we’d let you go after plotting to have me killed?”-  
me

“What?, I don’t know what you’re talking about. I did no such thing”-  
Zodwa

I slapped her and her eyes popped out

“I’ve had enough of your bullshit. What do you want from me? what  
did I ever do to you for you to hate me this much? What benefit  
would you gain from having me dead?”-me

“Lethi I’m sorry”-her

“You haven’t answered any of my questions”-me

She cried and her tears angered me more. There’s nothing I hate  
more than a person who plays the victim, now that she’s crying she  
thinks I’ll forgive her and let everything go?

“I will not repeat myself”

“You are the cause for our poverty back at home. Sthembiso took  
you and she stopped sending money”-her

“Whose idea was it to have me taken?” I asked

Silence

I kicked her on her stomach, and she cried

“It..it was my idea”-her

“So now what’s the problem? She did what you told her to do, and she took me with her so why hate me? had you not been selfish none of this would have happened. So, if she wasn’t sending you money back at home why couldn’t you go out and find a job to feed yourself? You are the eldest, but you expect your younger siblings to provide for you while you sit your fat ass down ugone amabele and shove food down your throat. What’s wrong with you?”

She just cried

“Look at them” I made her face Thando and Eric “I lost 21 years of their lives because your selfish reasons, you took that away from and I suppose that wasn’t enough for you hence why you wanted me dead, you wanted to take me away from them again? Haven’t I suffered enough from you? Have you not taken enough from me? are you not satisfied? You starved me and called me names, I decided to move out and let you be but still that wasn’t enough for. When will it stop? Once I’m dead?”

Silence

“I’ll have you locked up here for a week without food, I’ll give you water but no food. I want you to think about what you’ve done and think about what you want to do after. once you’ve decided you’ll let me know”

“Lethi please, nyakcela ngane kaHlengiwe. I promise I’ll stop plotting against you. Please let me go I promise I will go back Eshowe”

I wasn’t planning on keeping her here for a week, I just said that just to scare her. She’s an elder and I respect my elders even though she has fucked me up over and over again.

“Lethi I promise please” she cried

I went back to Thando and Eric

“What do y’all think? Should I let her go or keep her in for 1 more night?”-me

“Keep her here. I hate that women”-Thando

Thando knows how to hold a grudge

“She slept here last night, you can let her go. I think she has learnt her lesson”-Eric

“Mxm”-Thando

I went back to her

“I swear to god if you try your stupid shit again I will kill you and I am not joking”-me

“I’ll stop I’ll stop”-she cried

I untied her

“Thank you” she wiped her tears

“Get out of here”

She half ran and turned back

“I don’t know where I am, and I don’t have money to get home”-her

“Futsek!” Thando shouted and she ran out clearly shocked by

Thando

“I didn’t know you were brutal”-Thando

“That wasn’t brutal at all”-me

“I fear for the person who will marry her”-Eric

“Don’t start please. Zodwa did this to herself”-me

We drove back home

## **2 MONTHS LATER**

These past 2 months flew by very quickly. Nkosenhle and I are still together, our love keeps growing stronger each day. He is amazing and I can’t seem to separate from him these days, I get emotional whenever we have to part ways. He asked me to move in with him so that I’ll be next to him all the time, but I refused. Today he said he is going to talk to Eric and tell him about us, he has been avoiding him all these months. Nkosi and I are still tight, he is even getting along with Thando which makes me happy, both of them mean so much to me. Nomonde finally had the courage to face me, and she told me

about her relationship with Thando, both of them are really in love and her and I have become close thanks to Thando. He still stays with me whenever he is this side.

“Sis Nhlanhla I’ve been shouting at you for 2 minutes now, where’s your head at?”-Phiwo

Phiwo has been here for almost a week now. She came to visit as well as celebrate mine and Thando’s birthday which is 2 days from now. She refuses to sleep in the spare room, she sleeps with me, and I must say she’s a good child. We’ve gotten pretty close, I even taught her how to drive, apparently Sipho doesn’t want her to drive because she’s young. The rest of the family will come tomorrow, Mom and Sipho will sleep at Eric’s place and Naledi will use the spare room.

“Sorry, what were you saying”-me

“Uhm can I talk to you”-her

“Sure, what’s wrong?”-me

“Can I talk to you about anything? Like you won’t go tell mom and Sis Naledi or Bhut’Thando?”-her

“I won’t tell anyone if you don’t want me to”

“Okay come” she pulled me into our room

“Do you have a boyfriend?” she asked

“Yes I do”

She smiled

“Okay so this will be easy because you understand”-her

“Okay” I raised my eyebrow

“May I please go out tomorrow”-her

“Go where?” I asked

“To a date, uhm” she looked down and played with her hands “I kinda have a boyfriend and he is visiting this side as well and he asked me to go out with him tomorrow”-her

“How old is this boy? And what is his name?”-me

“He is my age, his name is Mvelo”-her

“I see, so where do you know him from?” I ask

“We go to the same school, and he is...”

“he is what?” I asked

“He is Bhut’Ngonyamas little brother”

“Ngonyama has a brother?”

She nodded

“Alright so what do you need from me?” I asked

“I need you to cover for me, I want it to look as if you and I are going out so that bhut’Thando won’t ask any questions”-her

“I can do that only if you promise me one thing”-me

“Anything”-her

“I don’t want you having sex and falling pregnant”-me

“No sex, I promise”

“Then you can tell your boyfriend his got himself a gorgeous date”-me

She screamed and hugged me

“Thank you so much” she kissed me all over my face

“Okay okay, let’s go cook”-me

“Did I tell you how beautiful you look?”-her

“I said I’ll help you out, there’s no need for you to suck up to me now”

“No, I’m serious, you look beautiful, and you are glowing. Happiness looks good on you”-her

“Thank you” I smiled

“Wozake let’s cook”

We took out food that we’ll prepare

“Want me to watch you guys cook?” Thando asked walking in



“Help us cook”-Phiwo

“No, thank you I’ll watch you guys. You should let Lethi do all the running around the house, she’s getting fat”-him

“Fuck off Thando”-me

We chopped Veggies and Phiwo was humming a song

She does that a lot, she hums instead of singing. This is what connects the both of us, we both love music

“Why don’t you sing?”-me

“I don’t know, I prefer singing in my head”-her

“She’s got a beautiful voice”-Thando

“I want to hear it too come on”-me

“Fine we can sing the song I was humming to, do you know the lyrics?” she asked

“Yes I do”-me

We began

*“Is this thing on? (word)*

*So what we get drunk*

*So what we smoke weed*

*We’re just having fun*

*We don't care who sees (shit)*

*So what we go out*

*That's how it's supposed to be*

*Living young and wild and free"*

I kept quiet and let her finish the rap

*"Uh, uhm, so what u keep 'em rolled up*

*Saggin' my pants, not caring what I show*

*Keep it real with my niggas*

*Keep it player for these hoes"*

She stopped when she realized I wasn't singing

"I thought we were doing this together"-her

"I wanted to hear your voice"

"You guys should enter idols" said Thando who was recording the entire thing

"and have people judge us? Never"-Phiwo

"You guys are good singers, that was beautiful"-him

We carried on cooking while singing and chatting

I love my siblings

## **NKOSENHLE**

I just arrived at Eric's place, I have to get this over and done with

"you always deliver bad news whenever you come here" -Eric

"Is that how you welcome your friend?"

"Come in" -him

I followed him inside

"What brings you here?" -him

I got up and grabbed a beer from the fridge

"I have to tell you something, your sister has been breathing down my neck asking me to come here and talk to you"

"What's wrong?" -him

"Nothing is wrong, I don't know how you'll receive these news, but I'd like to think they're good news"

"I'm listening" -him

"I've been seeing your sister these couple of months"

"Seeing her where?" -him

"Lethi and I are dating"

He just looked at me

"For like 2 months now" I added

“Is this a joke?”-him

“No, I love her”

“Nkosenhle she’s way too young for you”-Eric

“I know that, but I love her, and I can’t help it. I tried to fight my feelings, but they are just too strong”

“Does she know?”-Eric

“Not yet”

“When are you planning on telling her?”-him

“I need time”

“You had the entire two months, that’s the first thing you should’ve mentioned when you asked her out. Now she has fallen for you, what will she say when she finds out you were once engaged to her late sister? When she finds out that the child she loves so much, Lisakhanya is actually her niece. Tell me Nkosenhle what will she say? How will she feel?”-him

“I was scared of losing her man, that’s why I didn’t say anything”

“And you won’t lose her now? Do you think Siphos allow you to date his daughter?” he asked

“Come on Eric, it’s not like I’ve ever mistreated Lerato. You know very well I treated her like a queen because she was my queen, she was always happy, so I don’t understand why you’re making it seem as if I was a bad partner. I love your sister and it’s unfortunate that her and Lerato are siblings, I didn’t even know they were related when I fell for her”

“You’re on your own on this one. I suggest you tell her before the party because Naledi will be there, and she knows you unlike Thando who is clueless”-him

“I’ll talk to her”

He chuckled

“What do you see in my sisters?”-Eric

“If you want me out of your house then you should just say so, ungangigudli by asking me stupid questions”

I got up in attempt to leave

“Talk to her”

he laughed and I said my goodbyes and drove home

upon my arrival I found Lwandle outside my house

“I’m not about to deal with this nonsense again”

I drove towards her, and I lowered my window

“What do you want?” I asked

“Is that how you greet me?”-her

“What do you want?”

“I came to see you”-her

“Regarding?”

“Us, I’ve given you enough time to think and I’m sure you’ve come back to your senses”-her

This girl is unbelievable

“Lwandle I don’t want you, let me say it in Zulu ANGIKUFUNI”

“You don’t mean that”-her

“Trust me I do. Does Lwandile know you are here?”

“No”-her

“I suggest you go back to him”

“I want you”-her

“and I want somebody else”

“Who?”-her

“That’s not your business, please just go home and don’t ever come here”

I drove inside and left her there wiping her tears. I honestly care about her, but I care about Lethi more so if it means I have to be mean towards her then so be it.

I got in bed and decided to call Lethi, and she picked up almost immediately

“Sthandwa sami”-me

She sniffed

“Babe what’s wrong? Are you crying”

Silence

“Nhlanhla!”

“Yes” she finally spoke

“What’s wrong?”

“I miss you, I thought you’d come and see me”-her

She weeps a lot these days, I honestly don’t know what’s wrong with her

“Do you want me to come fetch you?”

Silence

She’s probably shaking her head forgetting I can’t see her

“Nhlanhla use your words”

“No, I’ll come to you tomorrow”

“Stop crying then, drop the call so I can video call”

She dropped and I called back

“Hey”

Her eyes look puffy

“You are scaring me, what’s wrong? What upset you?”

“Nothing, I’m just stressed about the party”-her

“Everything will go well don’t stress”

“Nothing ever goes well when a lot of people are together” -her

“Just relax please, it’s just a get together no need to stress”

She nodded

“Where is your little roommate?”

“She’s taking a shower, she’ll be out any minute from now”-her

“Alright let me leave you to it then, get some rest I love you”

“I love you too”-her

“Goodnight”

She dropped the call and I slept

## **LETHINHLANHLA**

I was woken by Phiwo who was just staring at me and smiling

“Hhhay Phiwo, I’m still sleeping go away”



“Sis’Lethi get up, I have to get ready”-Phiwo

“What time is it?”

“11 am”-her

“What time is your date?”

“Around 13:00, angithi y’all don’t want me to stay out until late”-her

“Go shower then and I’ll be up now now”

“We both know you won’t wake up if I leave you here”-her

“Just two more minutes”

“Nhlanhla no get up”-her

“Fine”

She went to shower, and I dragged myself out of bed and looked for an outfit

I settled for a smart casual dress, I don’t have to dress up because I’m not the one going on a date.

She came out after a while, and I went in the shower and when I got out she was seated on top of the bed lost in thoughts

“You did not just wake me up for nothing, why are you sitting and not getting dressed?”

“I’m not going anymore”-her

“Why not?”

“I don’t have anything to wear”-her

“You said you don’t know where he is taking you?”

“Yeah”-her

“Let’s have a look”

I went through her clothes and settled for a boyfriend jean, a white t-shirt, and a yellow blazer

“I have matching high heels, we wear the same shoe size right?”

“Size 4?”-her

“Yeah”

“Yes”-her

I went and looked for them then I gave her

“Do you know how to do your own make-up?” I asked

“Yes”-her

“Alright get ready”

She hugged me

“Thank you”

I hugged her back

We got dressed and headed down to eat

“I don’t think I can eat, I don’t want to be full when I get to him”-her

“Have a yoghurt or fruit at least, I don’t want you fainting”

She settled for a yoghurt

“Is this your first date?” I asked

“Yes”

I can tell by the way she’s so nervous

“Where are you two going all dressed up” asked Thando walking in

“We’re going on a date”-me

“Why didn’t you tell me, wait for me I want to go with you guys”-him

Phiwo started to sweat a little and she looked at me hoping I say something. I wanted to laugh at her, she’s really scared of Thando

“We didn’t tell you because you are not invited”-me

“Hawu kahle Lethi”-him

“No, it’s just us two”-me

“Nawe Phiwo you don’t want me to come?”-him

She shook her head

“Fine, next time then. Y’all look beautiful”-him

“Thank you”-us

“Hurry up eating so I can take a picture”-him

We did as told, and we took a lot of pictures

She looked very pretty

“He sent the location” she whispered

“Let’s go”-me

“Where are you going?”-Thando

“Ask no questions and hear no lies, we’ll see you later Thando”-me

“Bye”

We got in my car and drove to where the date is

She was quiet

“would you stop stressing”

“I’m trying”-her

“Everything will be fine”

She nodded

I parked at the location, and it was a restaurant eMhlanga

“You got enough cash just in case? I asked

“Yes”

I gave her R400

“Thank you”-her

“Call me when you’re done, and I’ll come fetch you”

“Okay”-her

“Give me his number in case I can’t reach you”

She sent me the number

“Call him and tell him you’re here, I want to see him. I can’t leave you here with a stranger”-me

“Hawu Sis’Lethi he’ll think I’m a baby”-her

“It’s either that or we drive back home”

“Fine” she mumbled and called him

“You look ugly when you sulk”-me

She just laughed

He came after a few minutes. Cute boy, he was wearing a jean, white sneakers, a tight muscle t-shirt and a watch that looked very expensive. He smelled good

We stepped out of the car, and he came to shake my hand

“I’m Mvelo and I’m pleased to meet you Sis’Lethi”-him

“I’m pleased to meet you. You guys look so cute , let me get a picture”-me

“Ayy No”-Phiwo

“Just 1 please”-me

She huffed and puffed, and they stood together, and I took a picture

“Take care of my baby”-me

“I promise I will”-Mvelo

Phiwo came to give me a hug and she whispered “Thank you once again”

“He looks good, you’ve got good taste” I whispered back

“Enjoy babies”

They left and I drove to Nkosenhles place, and I found him busy in his study

“I’ll be with you right now”-him

I sat on the couch opposite him and waited for him to finish whatever he was doing on his laptop

“Done” he said after what felt like forever

He gave me a kiss

“Sawbona sthandwa sami”-him

“Unjani muntu wami”-me

“I’m good now that you’re here. You look good”-him

“Thank you, I had to dress up for Phiwo” I said

He raised his eyebrow

I explained the story to him

“Why are you allowing the child to date”-Him

“She was already dating vele. We must allow kids to be, it’s best they do these things Infront of us then for them to do it behind our backs, in this way I’ll be able to guide and advise her on certain things”

“I see”-him

“Look at how cute they look”

I showed him their picture

“How old is this boy?” he asked

“18”

He nodded

“He looks like somebody I know”-him

“I wouldn’t know”

“Come let’s go to our room, I have to tell you something”-him

“What is it?”

“You’ll find out. Do you want anything to eat before we go up?” he asked

“Just juice”-me

He grabbed a juice and glass, and we went up

We got in and he locked the door and placed his key in his pocket, and he went and locked the bathroom as well

“Why did you do that?” I asked confused

“I don’t want you running out while we talk”-him

“Why would I do that?”-me

“because I don’t know how you will react to what I will tell you”-him

“I swear to god if this has to do with Lwandle I will..”

“It’s not about Lwandle” he cut me off

“Alright then talk”

“Kiss me first”-him

He kissed me and left me wanting for more, but I had to focus on what he was about to say. I have a feeling I won’t like it

I sat on the bed, and he sat opposite me

“it’s about Lerato”-him

“Who’s Lerato?” I asked

He looked at me

“Nkosenhle are you having an affair with someone else?”

“No”-him

“Then who is Lerato?”

“Your late Sister”-him

My eyes widened

“You knew my sister?”



He nodded

“From where? Oh, through Eric. What about her? Were you guys friends? How was she? Her personality. They don’t really talk much about her at home, can you believe I’ve never seen her picture”-me

He half smiled

“She was a kind person, a bit crazy but kind and very beautiful”-him

“Mhh, so what about her?”

“She is my ex-fiancé, Lisa’s mother”-him

I swear to god I went deaf for a second, I looked at him waiting for him to say he is joking but nothing

“What did you say?”

“I was engaged to your late sister” he repeated

I felt the room spin and I couldn’t breathe, he called after me, but it sounded as if he was far away

“Nhlanhla baby please breathe” he was holding my hand while my other hand was hold my chest

“In and Out, In and out”

I did as he said, and I managed to calm down a bit

Tears threatened my eyes and I just cried, trust me after Ngonyama had me kidnapped I didn't have any more tears left in me, I was confused to see me wail like that

"So, you came after me knowing very well you were married to my sister"

"I wasn't married to her, we were engaged"-him

"You were going to get married though"

"I didn't know she was your sister when I approached you, please believe me"-him

"So, what will happen now? What will my family say? What will people say? They will think I went after my sister's husband. what will Lisakhanya say when she's older? She'll think I took you away from her mom. Nkosenhle why is this happening to me? just when I thought everything was going well between us then this happens, why?"

"I'm sorry baby but nothing has to change between us, I love you Nhlanhla and I am going to fight for you. Please fight for us, don't let anyone break us up"-him

I honestly don't know how to feel about this entire thing, what do I do from here? Where does our relationship stand? He loved my sister more than anything, what if he is with me because he sees my sister in me

“You loved her”

“and I love you now, please don’t give up on us. Had I known you were siblings I honestly would have tried to fight my feelings and stay away so that I won’t complicate your life but it’s too late now”-him

It really is, I have fallen for this guy. He makes me happy, and I don’t think I can let him go

“I love you Nhlanhla”-him

“I love you too”

“Please stop crying, seeing you like this breaks my heart”-him

“You’re such a softie”

“For you I can be anything”-him

“Kiss me”

“eww sula amafinyila kqala (wipe your snot first)” he laughed

I lightly punched him

“I’m joking come here”

He removed my dress and placed it aside and he made me lie on my back and got top of me and started kissing me all over, he went down to my stomach, and he kissed it then smiled

“You’re such a weird person, why are you smiling like that”-me

“You make me happy”-him

I rolled my eyes and he chuckled

He went down to my honey, and he ate me up, he positioned himself on top of me and he made sweet love to me. he made me cum a multiple times then he cuddled me after

“Does this mean I’m forgiven?”-him

“I don’t know Nkosenhle, we’ll see what happens”

“I spoke to Eric yesterday and he said as long as you are okay with this entire situation then we have his blessings”-him

“Is that why he told you to give me Lisakhanya the day she was crying on your braai, he knew she would keep quiet because ngiwumamncane wakhe. It all makes sense now”

“I guess”-he

“He should’ve told me though, when I was in Cape Town they told me that Lerato’s kid is somewhere in Durban, never have I ever imagined it would be Lisa”

“I would’ve told you had I known”-him

“Arg mahn Nkosenhle, you had sex with my sister in this bed and now me”

He laughed

“It’s different beddings nje sthandwa sami, and it was a long ago”-  
him

“but still, who else did you bring in this room?”

“Only the two of you”-him

Just then a message from Phiwo came in saying I should fetch her, I  
checked the time, and it was 18:30 pm

“I have to go”

“So soon?”-him

“Yeah Phiwo wants me to fetch her, her date is over”

“Alright”

I got dressed and he walked me out

“Drive safely please, call me when you’re home”

He made me wear my seatbelt and I drove off

I found both of them where I left them

They hugged and Phiwo got in while Mvelo came to my side

“Thank you for allowing her to come to me Sis’Lethi”-Mvelo

“No problem, how are you getting home?”

“My brother gave me his car to use, I wanted to drop Phiwo off, but  
she told me she didn’t want any trouble with Thando”-him

“Alright, drive safely. Don’t speed and don’t text and drive”-me

“Thank you”-him

We drove off

“So...”

“So what?” she blushed

“How was it? What did you guys do?” I asked

Her eyes glittered

“He booked the entire restaurant for the two of us imagine, it was so Nice Sis’Lethi, he got me flowers, but I couldn’t take them because of bhut’Thando and Sis’Naledi since she is coming today. He hired a band and we danced together, it was so amazing, and I didn’t want it to end”-her

She looked at me

“Why are you such a cry baby”-her

I was crying again Gosh!

“I’m glad you had fun, he seems like a good kid. I should tell him to give my boyfriend tips on how to treat a lady. When are you seeing him again?” I asked

“If it was up to me I’d see him every day , he is going back to Cape Town early tomorrow, so I’ll see him that side”-her

“Alright then, I wish you guys all the best. I’m here for you whenever you need anything”

We arrived at my place

“I almost sent out a search party for you guys”-Thando

“Why didn’t you guys wait for me? we could’ve done dinner or something”-Naledi

“I just wanted some quality time with Phiwo”-me

“How was it?”-Thando

“It was fun”-Phiwo

“Is everything ready for tomorrow? The food? Booz?”-me

“Yeah, everything will arrive tomorrow”-Thando

“What are we doing?”-me

“Lunch with the family then later on they will go to Eric’s place, and we’ll turn up here”-Naledi

“I can’t believe we’ll be celebrating our birthday together”-Thando

“Best believe it brother, the first of many”-me

“I’m excited, what did you get me?”-Thando

“Was I supposed to get you something?”-me

He looked at me shocked

“Don’t look at me like that, I didn’t get the memo” I teased

“ayke shuthi nawe you’re not getting anything”-him

“Two wrongs don’t make a right”-me

“I have two bottles and ciders, let’s get lit”-Naledi

Naledi is the alcoholic of the family

“Is Ngonyama coming tomorrow?”-Naledi

“I sent the invite to him, I don’t know if he’ll make it or not”-Thando

“Alright let’s drink”-Naledi

“you guys can drink I’ll join you after showering”-me

“Phiwo go sleep”-Thando

“Haibo Thando let the child be, Thando is a responsible 18-year-old. She’s almost done with her matric and besides she’s drinking with us here, she is safe”-me

“Okay fine, she’ll always be my little sister”-him

“Your little sister who is growing, soon she’ll be dating”-me

“Never!”-him

“Let her breath man”-me

“She can chill and drink”-Thando

Phiwo mouthed a thank you and I winked at her



“Wena why are you too hard on her? Who was hard on you?” Naledi asked Thando

I left them when they were about to argue

I took a shower and wore comfortable night wear, I was feeling tired.

I decided to call Nkosenhle

“Sthandwa sami”-him

“Hey, I’m home”

“Okay, I’m glad you’re safe. Are you about to sleep?”-him

“No, I’m going to join my siblings they are drinking in the lounge”

“You shouldn’t be drinking alcohol”-him

“Aibo why?”

“Because uhm because you have to be fresh for tomorrow”-him

“I’ll be fresh don’t worry, a few ciders won’t hurt”

“Have two at least”-him

“I’ll have as many as I want”

“Please don’t be stubborn”-him

“Bye Nkosenhle”

I dropped the call. who does he think he is telling me what to do?

this is the thing with dating someone older than you, they suddenly think they have some control over you

He called me back

“What?”

“Why did you drop the call?”-him

“Why are you trying to dictate my life”

“That’s not what I’m doing”-him

“Then explain”

“I’m sorry, have fun”-him

“Thank you”

“Good bye”-him

“So, you don’t love me now? You’re not going to say you love me?”

He chuckled

“nawe nje you didn’t when you dropped my call”-him

“So, you’re paying back?”

“No, I love you Mageba” -him

“I love you too, sleep well”

“Bye”-him

I dropped the call and joined the others.

“Why aren’t you drinking?”-Naledi

“I am”

“You’ve been holding that 1 bottle for almost 2 hours now”-her

I don’t feel like drinking

“She’s probably nervous about tomorrow”-Thando

we sat until late, Phiwo was drunk, and we just laughed at her. It’s better she gets drunk with us then to get drunk with strangers who will take advantage of her. We all went to bed, Thando carried Phiwo to my bed and we slept.

I woke up earlier than everyone, I wanted to be the first one to wish Thando a happy birthday. I went to his room, and he was asleep

I jumped on top of him and started singing the Happy birthday song

He got up and joined me, now we were both jumping on the bed singing

“happy birthday me”

“happy birthday to you too female me” he hugged me

“So, who’s making who breakfast today?”-me

“I’ll make yours and you’ll make mine”-him

“hhay wena you’ll make me cornflakes while I prepare something fancy for you”

“Fine let’s go make something together”-him

We went to the kitchen

“I’ll make pancakes”-me

“okay, I’ll make fruit salad and other stuff”

There’s no other stuff, he’ll only make the fruit salad

“Are your parents joining us?”-me

“No, only for lunch”

We gathered everything and made food for the 4 us, the other two joined us later

“It’s our birthday but here we are serving you guys food”-Thando

“Happy birthday Twins”-Naledi and Phiwo

“I don’t feel so good”-Phiwo

“That’s what you get for drinking alcohol”-Thando

“Never again yho”-Phiwo

“You need to drink again, and you’ll be fine”-Naledi

## **ZODWA**

“Where are you coming from dressed in yesterday’s clothes? You should’ve told us that you weren’t going to sleep at home. Do you understand how worried we were?”-Nomathemba

“Don’t start with me please”

“You look horrible. Where were you?”-Nomathemba

“I was kidnapped”

“By whom? What did they want?”-Nomcebo

“Hlengiwe’s kids, Eric and the twins”

“What? Isn’t Lethi dead?”-Nomathemba

“Those two idiots failed. I’ve never been so terrified in my life, those kids are evil. They had me locked up and tied to a chair in this dark room. They called me all sort of names and each and every one of them took turns in beating me up”

“I told you we needed professionals, I know a friend who can organize someone for us”-Nomathemba

“Did you not hear what I said? They had me locked up, do you want me to die? Leave her alone please, I value my life”

“She was just trying to scare you, she won’t do anything to you”-  
Nomathemba

“If you have a death wish then go ahead I will burry you. You should’ve seen the coldness in that girls eyes, it was like she was being controlled by the devil himself and that boy Siphuthando, you should’ve seen how he shouted at me when I asked for transport money”

“You’ll get over it, don’t be a chicken”-Nomathemba

“You and Nomcebo can go ahead, mina I am not interested”

I really mean it, those kids can kill and leave me to rot in a ditch somewhere and that's not the life I want for myself

"I don't want to be part of it as well"-Nomcebo

"Shut up wena"-Nomathemba

## **HLENGIWE**

"It feels like a dream, I can't believe I'm celebrating this day with both my kids. I've never seen Siphuthando this excited on his birthday, all the other years he tried to pretend that he's happy, but I could always tell that deep down he was hurting, this day always reminded him of his twin sister and today she is here with him. I thank god each and every day for giving my family another chance with you Lethinhlanhla. I love both of you guys very much and I pray god fulfills all y'all's wishes and dreams. May he continue to bless both of you, and may he keep and tighten this bond you both have. Always be there for each other, even when you fight at the end of that you should both know that you are one. Siphuthando here is your gift (I handed him an envelope) and you Lethi, your gift will be delivered to you later on in the evening. Thank you"

I sat down and allowed for the others to exchange their gifts

"I have something for Thando"-Lethi

"May we all turn to the screen"-her

A video appeared with music in the background, it was the day I gave birth at the hospital. Both of them were in bed together before they were switched, it goes on with their individual baby video and pictures that were somehow merged to make it look as if they were together in the same place. She had asked me for pictures a few months back, but I thought she just wanted to look at them. The video played for a while and by the time it ended I was in tears

Thando got up and hugged her

“How did you do that?”-Thando

“I asked Nkosi to merge the videos and pictures. Do you like it?”-  
Lethi

“I love it, angithi I’m keeping this?”-Thando

She nodded

“I want a copy too”-me

“I’ll make one for you”-Thando

“I got you a gift too” he handed her a small box “Open it”

She opened it and it was a gold necklace with an S-shaped pendant

“I made you throw away that horrible thing that was around your neck earlier on in the year, so I decided to replace it with this one. The S represent Siphuthando, by wearing this I want you to always remember that I am with you always and that you are not alone,

whenever you face difficulties in life I want you to know that you can always come to me. I got this as well” he took out his car keys and there’s a small chain around the key “The L in this chain represents Lethinhlanhla and this is a reminder to me as well that you are always with me. I love you female me”-Thando

“I love you too” she said in between her tears

He helped her with the necklace

“I love it”-Nhlanhla

We took pictures and we ate then my husband and I left

## **LETHINHLANHLA**

People started arriving 1 by 1 after the parents left and it was getting full by the minute. There were some people I’ve never seen before, and I assume they are Thando’s friends.

“Is the meat ready” I asked Thando

“I told you not worry about that”-Thando

“She stresses too much”-Nomonde

“I have to stress friend, I don’t want people bad mouthing me”-me

“Happy birthday Best friend” said a voice hugging me from behind

“Thank you bestie” I hugged him properly

He is with Nelly, I assume they are an item now



“This is for you”-Nkosi

He handed me a gift

“Happy birthday bafo” he said to Thando

They bro hugged, I love their friendship

“Happy birthday Nhlanhla”-Nelly

I hugged her “Thank you, this is Naledi and Phiwo my sisters,  
Nomonde my friend and this is Thando and Eric my brothers”

They hugged each other

“Where’s your boyfriend” asked Nkosi

“Right here” he answered walking in

I couldn’t hide my excitement I hugged, and baby kissed him

“Haibo haibo” everybody shouted

“Boyfriend?” asked Naledi

Oh boy

“Hello Naledi”-Nkosenhle

“What game are you playing Nkosenhle?”-Naledi

“I will explain to you tomorrow, can we not ruin Nhlanhla’s day”-

Nkosenhle

“Fine”-Naledi

“Let me formally introduce you to my brother, Thando this is Nkosenhle and Nkosenhle this is Thando”-me

“You forgot to add that he is Lisakhanyas father”-Naledi

“Naledi stop it”-Eric

“What?”-Thando

“Can all of you just go inside and talk about this because this day won’t end well if you guys carry on like this. I will stay with Nelly and Nomonde”-Nkosi

We went to my room

“Nhlanhla explain yourself”-Naledi

“with all due respect, I don’t have to explain myself to anyone, but I’ll do it just for the sake of peace. I met Nkosenhle long before I even met you guys, he didn’t know I was related to Lerato same way I didn’t know Lisa is Lerato’s child. I only found about this yesterday”-me

“I fell for Lethi way before I found out that she and Lerato are siblings, and I can’t just unlove someone within a blink of an eye. It was never my intention to cause chaos and bring drama to her life, I love her, and I will not let her go because of this situation”-Nkosenhle

“Eric you knew about this, but you didn’t say anything”-Thando

“I didn’t know they would fall for each other, when we got back from Cape Town Lethi asked me not to say anything to the guys because she wanted to be the one who would do it”-Eric

“It’s not like you guys showed me Lerato’s picture maybe I would’ve seen the resemblance between her and Lisa. All of that doesn’t matter now, Nkosenhle and I are together, and we won’t separate”-me

“I believe when you both say you didn’t know about this, it was evident when we went to his house, and he was shocked when he found out that you are a twin and that you are related to Eric. What’s done is done now and I support you, if you think he is the one for you then that’s okay with me.”-Thando

“Mxm this is nonsense”-Naledi

“ayke Naledi I don’t know what you want us to say”-me

“Mom and dad won’t agree with this”-Naledi

“Okay! Can I get back to my guests?” -me

She stormed off and left the room

“She’ll come around”-Eric

“I don’t care honestly”-me

We went back outside and joined the rest

“Come sit next to me”-Nkosi

Trust him to be clingy like this with Nelly here, this reminds me of the time where he did the same thing with Ayanda

“Why would she do that?”-Nkosenhle

“The two of you please don’t start”-me

“I know you did not invite this girl here”-Nomonde

We turned towards the direction she was looking at and there stood Lwandile and Lwandle, I turned and looked Nkosenhle, and his jaws were clenched.

“did you invite her here?”-Thando

I told Thando and Nomonde about Lwandle and what she did with Lwandile

“Do you want me to chase them away?”-Thando

“No there’s no need for that. I don’t want any drama”-me

“Where there is Lwandle, drama follows”-Nkosi

They walked towards us, and it went quiet

“Hi everyone, Nhlanhla this is for you, happy birthday” he hugged me, and I hugged back

“Thank you”

“Am I seeing double? You’re a twin”-Lwandle

“You’re seeing double”-Nomonde

She has made it clear that she doesn't like Lwandle

"I'm a twin"-me

"Since when?"-her

"what kind of question is that?"-Nkosi

"Since I was born"-me

Everyone just burst into laughter

She rolled her eyes

"Hi Nkosenhle"-Lwandle

He nodded

They sat down and awkwardness filled the room

"So, what's your name?" Lwandle asked Thando

"Thando" he replied

"Mmh, so how does it feel being her twin?"-Lwandle

"Amazing"-Thando

"Phiwo please come help me serve everyone food"-me

She nodded

"I'll come assist too"-Nomonde

"Same here"-Nelly

We left them there and went inside

“Your friend is handsome oh my god” Phiwo whispered in my ear

“Which friend?” I asked

“The one who came with the loud girl”-her

“Oh uLwandile, he is isn’t he?” I laughed

She nodded

“I’ll tell Mvelo you are eyeing other men” I teased

“There’s nothing wrong with looking hawu, as long as I don’t touch and besides Mvelo has my heart and he knows that”-her

“Who has your heart?” asked Naledi walking in

“No one”-me

“Hiding things from me now?”-Naledi

“So, you can go blabber to Thando when you’re in his chest”-me

“and pluzike, I tell him everything” she giggled

“mxm get out of here”-me

We dished and served everyone then we went outside and to my surprise Lwandle was in my seat next to Nkosenhle who looked very uncomfortable

I stood in front of her

“Can I help you Lethi?”-her

“Yeah, you’re in my seat”-me

“I don’t see your name here”-her

“Didn’t your boyfriend tell you that this is my house?”-me

She looked surprised

“your house? Isn’t this Eric’s house?”-her

“Even if it was his house it would still make it my house”-me

“Lwandle what is with you? Manje njalo sohlezi sikhuzana nawe?”-

Lwandle

“I don’t understand why she would want to sit here, there are so many seats available”-Lwandle

“When you walked in who was sitting there?, in fact why am I even going back and forth with you? This is the last time I’ll say this, get out of my seat!”-me

She got up and went to her seat

“Why did you sit there in the first place ngoba phela your boyfriend is this side. Wena uphaphe too much”-Nomonde

“Who are you?”-Lwandle

“Can both of you just stop with the drama, we are here for Lethi and her brother so can we please just enjoy. Let’s DRINK and get Drunk”-

Nelly

“Yabona wena, you speak my language”-Naledi

“Eric can you turn up the music”-Naledi

“In just a minute”

“Nhlanhla's gift is almost here”-Thando

Ngonyama walked in with Sindy

“Is Ngonyama my gift?” I asked confused

“Don't be an idiot, of course not” they laughed at me

“Oh, nithi ngithini phela sekthushuka uNgonyama makhiwa my gift is almost here”-me

“Happy birthday MaZulu”-Ngonyama

I got up and hugged him

“Thank you”-me

He went to Thando and hugged him as well

“Ndlovu”-Ngonyama

“Ngonyama”-Nkosenhle

It became tense

“Can we not have drama today”-Eric

“As long as Ngonyama stays in his lane”-Nkosenhle

Ngonyama chuckled “I'm here for Nhlanhla and Thando not you”



“Gift is here” Thando shouted

“Here wear this” Eric handed me a blind fold

“Everybody follow me”-Thando

He held me my hand and we followed her

“What is this? I don’t like surprises”-me

“On the count of three you may remove the blind fold”-Naledi

Oh, she’s no longer moody now

“This is from Mom and Dad”-Eric

“Count already, the suspense is killing”-me

“You’ve never been patient”-Lwandile

Everybody laughed

“Shut up Lwandile”-me

“Ready?”-Thando

“I’ll remove this thing if you don’t count”-Me

“Okay okay, 3..2..1 Remove the blindfold”-Thando

I removed it but still kept my eyes shut

“Open your eyes phela”

I opened them and there stood the beast in front of me, a black Jeep Rubicon with a red ribbon with a number plate written “S.SAMI”

HAPPY BIRTHDAY NHLANHLA Mom and Sipho shouted on the phone,  
I guess Phiwo video called them

I just cried and Thando hugged me

“Thank you so much, I don’t know what to say. I love it”-me

“I’m glad you do”-Mom

“How did you know about the number plate?”-me

“Thando told us”-Mom

“Thank you once again”-me

“I love you”-mom

“I love you too”-me

They dropped the call

“What is S.SAMI? is it sthandwa sami?”-Nelly

“No, it stands for Siphosami”-Thando

“and who’s that?”-Nelly

“My daughter”-me

It went silent

“you said she isn’t your daughter nje”-Nelly

“Not that one, that’s Nkosenhles daughter. I had a miscarriage a year ago”-me

I looked at Lwandile and he just looked down

“I’m sorry to hear that”-Nelly

“It’s okay, let’s go get lit”-me

“YESS” everybody shouted, and they went back inside

“Congratulations MaZulu, you won’t be driving that old car anymore”-Ngonyama

“My car is not old, and I’ll be driving it”-Me

“Still stubborn”-Ngonyama

“Did you see Nelly?”-me

He raised his eyebrow

“I did”-Ngonyama

“And?”-me

“and what? What do you want me to do? ngimgqogqoshe? (carry her)”-Ngonyama

I just laughed

“as funny as this may sound I missed your insults. So Sindy?”-me

“Ay bye, I’m going to Eric because you’re talking nonsense now”-  
Ngonyama

“Hey, kanti usale lana. I was looking for you” Naledi to Ngonyama

“Yeah do you need something?”-Ngonyama

Naledi looked at me indicating I should leave

“I’ll see you guys inside”

I left them and went inside

## **NARRATED**

“Nkosenhle what are you doing here? I haven’t heard from you in a while”-Sindy

“I’m here for Lethi, what are you doing here?”-Nkosenhle

“I came with Ngonyama, I’m Lethi’s manager at work”-Sindy

“From where do you know Ngonyama?”-Nkosenhle

“Ngonyama is my boss”-Sindy

“Mh”-Nkosenhle

“I miss you”-Sindy

“Stop that”-Nkosenhle

“Let’s go to one of the rooms”-Sindy

“No”-Nkosenhle

“What’s going on here?”-Lwandle

“What do you want?”-Nkosenhle

“To talk to you”-Lwandle

Nkosenhle noticed Lethi walking in, and he left these two and went to her

“Sthandwa sami why are you ignoring me”-Nkosenhle

“I’m not, I was talking to Ngonyama”-Nhlanhla

“From where do you know him?”-Nkosenhle

“He is a family friend”-Nhlanhla

“Okay walk with me, I want to get something to drink from inside”-Nkosenhle

They walked inside where it was quiet. She made her sit on the kitchen counter

“I miss you”-Nkosenhle

“I miss you too” she blushed

“Did I tell you how beautiful you look today”-Nkosenhle

She shook her head

“You look breathtaking Mageba”-Nkosenhle

“Ngyazibongela Gatsheni”-Nhlanhla

“and congratulations on your new baby”-Nkosenhle

“Thank you”-Nhlanhla

“Can I get a kiss?”-Nkosenhle

“You don’t have to ask”-Nhlanhla

They kissed and Lwandle walked in, and she dropped the glass that was in her hand

“Wh..what are you doing?” she asked

“Kissing” Nhlanhla replied

“You ended things with me just so you could be with her?”-Lwandle

“karma is a bitch hey” Nhlanhla winked at her

“So you did this on purpose? Was this your plan? Nkosenhle can’t you see she is using you?”-Lwandle

“Not even, Lwandle I’ve got nothing against you, I don’t even care about you let alone compete with you. Nkosenhle and I just happened”-Nhlanhla

“That’s bullshit, you know very well what game you’re playing at”-Lwandle

“Yah carry on and shout so that Lwandile can hear you”-Nhlanhla

Phiwo walked in

“Sis’Lethi someone said I should call you”-Phiwo

“Nkosenhle let’s go”

The three of them walked out leaving Lwandle alone

## **OUTSIDE**

“how can I help you Naledi”-Ngonyama

“Who is that you came with?”-Naledi

“Her name is Sindy”-Ngonyama

“That’s all you going to say? Just Sindy?”-Naledi

“You asked who she is, and I just told you”-Ngonyama

“What is she to you?”-Naledi

“My personal life has nothing to do with you Naledi”-Ngonyama

She leaned closer and kissed him, but he didn’t respond

“I like you Ngonyama”-Naledi

He shook his head and walked away leaving her embarrassed

## **ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE YARD WHERE EVERYONE WAS SEATED**

Everybody was enjoying themselves dancing and drinking

“My friend I miss you, Nomonde took Nelly from me, look at them dancing there”-Nkosi

“You disturbed us for that?”-Nkosenhle

“Don’t tell me you two were fucking”-Nkosi

“No, we weren’t”-Nhlanhla

“Mxm”-Nkosenhle

“Are you two dating?”-Lwandile

“Yes”-Nkosenhle

“Oh, congratulations”-Lwandile

“Thank you”-Nhlanhla

“Come let’s talk”-Nkosi

They moved to the side

“Are you okay?”-Nkosi

“I’m okay how are you?”-Nhlanhla

“Nhlanhla”-Nkosi

“It’s Lwandle, it seems like she’ll cause trouble whenever I’m around”-Nhlanhla

“Don’t let her get to you, this is your day you should be enjoying and getting sloshed”-Nkosi

“I can’t get sloshed because I have to make sure everyone is okay since I’m the host”-Nhlanhla

“Nonsense! Come I’ll get you drunk”

She grabbed her hand and they walked into the house

“Where’s the cold room?”-Nkosi

“at the back”-Nhlanhla



“Stay here I’ll be back”-Nkosi

He left bumping into Ngonyama at the door

“Why are you seated on your own?”-Ngonyama

“I’m waiting for Nkosi, he is going to fetch something”-Nhlanhla

“I’ll wait with you”... “I hear that you and Nkosenhle are dating”-  
Ngonyama

“News travel fast hey”-Nhlanhla

“They sure do, what do you see in that fucker?”

He asked getting closer to her

“You’d be happier with me”

They were now facing each other

“Ngonyama what are you saying”-Nhlanhla

“That I like you, but don’t worry I’ll step away, not because I’m  
scared of Nkosenhle but because I don’t want to confuse you. He will  
fuck up and I’ll be here waiting”-Ngonyama

“What’s going on here” Naledi asked walking in

“I was just having a chat with your sister”-Ngonyama

“It wasn’t enough that you took Lerato’s boyfriend, now you’re after  
mine. I hate you!”

She ran to her room

“What the fuck was that? Are you dating her?”-Nhlanhla

“I’m not”-Ngonyama

Nkosi walked in

“You took so long! Let’s get me drunk or else I’ll go crazy”

She grabbed Nkosi’s hand, and they walked out leaving Ngonyama inside

## **LETHINHLANHLA**

Nelly and Nomonde were done dancing, they were seated along with Lwandle

“You drink ciders now?” Nkosenhle asked Nkosi

“No these are for Nhlanhla, it’s her birthday and she should get sloshed”-Nkosi

“I agree” shouted Thando, Nomonde and Nelly

Nkosi handed me a can

“Nhlanhla please don’t drink” Nkosenhle whispered in my ear

I looked at him, he doesn’t usually call me Nhlanhla unless something serious is happening

“What’s wrong?” I asked

“I’ll explain tomorrow please don’t”-Nkosenhle

“I’ll only have a pack, I won’t get drunk”-me

“you can have two”-him

“Nkosi won’t allow that”-me

“I don’t care about Nkosi”-him

“Fine, tomorrow you better tell me what’s happening”-me

He kissed me

“I promise I will”-him

“Get a room”-Lwandle

“You can say that again”-Sindy

“who’s stopping you from kissing Lwandile? Please leave my friend alone”-Nomonde

Lwandle clicked her tongue

“and nawe go to Ngonyama”-Nelly

“What’s wrong with these two vele?”-Nomonde

“Why are you here because it seems like you don’t get along with Nhlanhla?”-Nelly

“Leave me alone”-Lwandle

We sat until late, Nkosi, Thando and Nomonde complained about me not drinking and I told them to take it up with Nkosenhle. Everybody left early in the morning, and I slept for an hour then woke up

“Your friends can drink Yho”-Phiwo

I don't even know when she went to bed

"You can never keep up with those ones, especially Nelly"-me

"I like her, she's fun"-Thando

"Where is Sis'Naledi?"-Phiwo

"she went to bed early and that's not like her"-Thando

I just kept quiet

"Should I check on her?"-Phiwo

"Nah leave her, she'll come out when she wants to come out"-

Thando

"Nhlanhla"-Thando

"don't you have anything to add?"-Thando

I shook my head

"What happened"-Thando

"I don't know, Ngonyama and I were talking after you guys handed me my car then she came up to us and asked to speak to Ngonyama and I excused them, then later on Nkosi went to get me something to drink and Ngonyama walked in he stood in front of me then Naledi walked and said first I took Lerato's boyfriend and now I'm taking hers"-me

"Who is her boyfriend?"-Thando

“I don’t know, I asked Ngonyama if they were dating, and he said no”-me

“I’ll talk to her and find out what’s going on”-Thando

“I think she likes Ngonyama and Ngonyama doesn’t like her.”-me

“weird”-Thando

“Sis’Lethi can we go shopping today before I leave for Cape Town?”-Phiwo

“Sure, Thando are you coming with us?”-me

“No, I’m meeting up with Nomonde”-Thando

“That one is crazy, tell her she needs to visit me soon, there’s a lot I want to share with her”-me

“You have cellphone send her a text or call”-Thando

“Mxm, let’s go shower so that we can come back early and not miss your flight”-me

We got ready and Naledi was still locked up in her room

“When are you leaving Phiwo?”-Thando

“Our flight is at 18:00”-Phiwo

“I doubt I’ll see you when you come back, have a safe trip Kiddo. I’ll see you soon”-Thando

They hugged

“are we using your new car?”-Phiwo

“NO, not yet”-me

“Hawu why not, I love that car”-her

“Fine we can use it, let’s go”

She stood beside the car, and I took pictures of her, and She took pictures of me

We drove to Gateway, and she took more pictures and videos

“What are we looking for here?” I asked

“Clothes”-her

“Who’s paying?”-me

“You of Couse”-her

“Mh”

We went in and out of stores with her trying on everything, we walked till my feet hurt

“Ay Phiwo I’m tired now and so is my bank card” I complained

“Okay one more store and we can go eat then go home”-her

We went to Cotton on, and she picked a few items then we headed to tashas for food

“I’m going to miss you”-her

“I’ll miss you too, but I’ll see you soon”-me

“I want to study this side so I can stay with you”-her

“Don’t you want to go to UCT?”

“No, I want to go to UKZN so I can stay with you”-her

“You don’t want to stay at Res?”

“I can stay at res I’m fine with that, as long as I’m closer to you”-her

“Whatever you want baby, my house is your house and you’re free to come anytime”-me

Nkosenhle called me

“Sthandwa sami”-him

“Gatsheni”

“Are you guys done?”-him

“Almost, we just finished eating and I’m waiting to pay”-me

“Alright, I’ll come see you later okay?”-him

“Alright”

“Drive safely, I love you”-him

“Okay, I love you too”

We dropped the call

“You and your boyfriend look good together”-Phiwo

“Thank you”-me

“He looks scary though which is weird because when he is with you he is soft”-Phiwo

“He is a big softie towards me but hardcore to the others”-me

“Did you see how they looked at each other with Bhut’Ngonyama? I thought they were going to take their guns and start shooting at each other”-Her

“I don’t know what’s going on between those two”-me

I paid the bill and we left, Sipho called complaining that they will be late wara wara

KO’s song came up and we both mumbled the lyrics

*“Gaz’lam yazi kdala sizabalaza*

*Yaz’ kdala sizabalaza*

*Namhlanje sithi Kwazi bani?*

*Maybe sjaiva kwama last*

*Maybe sjaiva kwama last*

*Uphila kay1 phila kay1*

*Phila jay1..One time*

*Maybe sjaiva kwama last”*



