

MY BEST FIENDS BETRAYAL: LOVE KILLS S2.

BY: NOMFUNDO AYANDA NTAKA

Previously

“Let go of me wena” I tried kicking my way out, but they injected me with something, and it was lights out.

Narrated

“Sis’Lethi! Sis’Lethi are you okay? Lethi! What did you do to her? Please let us go” cried Phiwo but her cries fell on deaf ears.

They took them to an abandoned building, and they placed them opposite each other

“what did you do to her? She’s not moving”-Phiwo

Silence

“Please take her to the hospital please” she cried her eyeballs out but they didn’t pay attention to her

She sat flat on the concrete, and she let her tears fall

AT LETHI’S HOUSE

“They should be here by now, I called them, and they said they’re on their way. Baphi?”-Sipho

“Calm down they will be here”-Hlengiwe

“When? Our flight will leave soon”-Sipho

“You can always call Mo to come fetch you with the jet”-Eric

“Did you call them?”-Sipho?

“They are not picking up”-Eric

“Tell Thando to call them maybe they will pick up”-Sipho

Eric dialed Thando and he told him what his father said, and he dropped the call

After a few seconds he called back letting him know that they are not picking up

He decided to call Nkosenhle

“Eric”-Nkosenhle

“Sure, uhm can you please check if you can get ahold of Nhlanhla”-Eric

“I called her a few minutes ago and she said she was on her way home”-Nkosenhle

“Please call again and find out how far she is”-Eric

“Okay, I’ll get back to you”-Nkosenhle

They dropped the phone

“Who was that?”-Hlengiwe

“A friend”-Eric

Nkosenhle called him back

“Are they almost here?”-Eric

“She is not picking up”-Nkosenhle

“It’s been like that for close to 30 minutes now, even Thando can’t reach them”-Eric

“Eric don’t fuck with me man, what do you mean?”-Nkosenhle

“I’m telling you”-Eric

“I’m coming with Nkosi, we will track her phone since it’s still on”-Nkosenhle

“Okay, I’ll call Thando and tell him to come back”-Eric

They dropped the Call

“What is happening Eric? Where are my kids?”-Hlengiwe

Eric ignored her and called Thando

“Did you get them?”-Thando

“come back home now!”-Eric

“Eric I’m busy”-Thando

“Thando if you know what’s good for you you’ll get your ass here in the next 5 minutes”-Eric

He dropped the call

“Eric what is going on?”-Naledi

She regrets what happened yesterday, she allowed alcohol to control her and now she wishes she had come out earlier to see her sisters

“I don’t know Naledi, angazi”-Eric

Nkosi and Nkosenhle knocked, and Eric opened for them, they got in and greeted the elders

“Hawu Nkosenhle it’s good to see you, how is my grandchild?”-Sipho

“She is well Baba”-Nkosenhle

“Good”-Sipho

Nkosi took out his laptop and connected whatever needed to be connected

“Please find my kids”-Hlengiwe

“Track her phone, she said she went to Gateway”-Nkosenhle

Just then Thando walked in

“What’s going on”-Thando

“Her phone is still around that area, look at the coordinates” Nkosi showed them the screen

“She’s not moving” -Thando

“Let’s go there and find out, Nkosi take your laptop with you”-Eric

The four of them (Nkosenhle, Thando, Eric and Nkosi) got in Eric’s car and they drove like maniacs to the location

Nobody was saying a word, each of them were lost in their thoughts

“Eric you are slow”-Nkosenhle

“I can’t go any faster than this Nkosenhle”-Eric

“This can’t be happening, I can’t lose her”-Nkosenhle

“Come down, we will find her”-Nkosi

“Why isn’t she picking up her phone?”-Nkosenhle

Silence

“That’s her car over there” Thando shouted and pointed at the car that was surrounded by police

Eric drove there and they went out of the car before it could even stop properly. They all rushed in, but police stopped them

“Let go of me you idiot” said Nkosenhle pushing the police out of his way

“Nhlanhla! Baby I’m here” he shouted as he got to the car

“You’re not supposed to be here” said one of the police officers

“Where are they? Where did you take them?”-Nkosenhle

The rest of the guys finally shoved their way in and saw the empty car

“The car is not badly damaged, I doubt they got hurt”-Nkosi

Thando went inside the car, and he found their phones

“Their phones are here”-Thando

Nkosenhle grabbed one of the police officers by his shirt

“Where are they? Which hospital did you send them to?”-Nkosenhle

“The car was empty when we got here”-Police

“All of you are useless”-Eric

They went back to their car

“Nkosi give me your laptop and I’ll check the cameras”-Thando

Nkosi handed over the laptop and he typed something and was able to get access to the camera

“What time did you call her?”-Thando

“Like an hour ago and she said she was almost done”-Nkosenhle

He rewinded the camera

“This might take a while because we’re not sure of the exact time she left”-Thando

They watched the footage for about 20 minutes and a black Rubicon appeared

“Is that not her car?”-Eric

They looked closely and indeed it was her car, they saw the car that crashed into her car

“That’s them coming out”-Nkosi

They saw them come out of the car and black SUV that came right after

“Fuck! Somebody took them”-Nkosenhle

“Can you get the number plate of the SUV?”-Nkosi

Thando zoomed in

“The car doesn’t have a number plate and we can’t see these peoples face”-Thando

Nkosenhle bowed his head to his knees, he was defeated. They all felt useless

“I failed her, where do I even begin looking for her?”-Nkosenhle

“We’ll find her”-Nkosi

“who didn’t she get along with?”-Nkosenhle

“Zodwa!”-Thando

“Nx that bitch better not try me, I warned her. Let’s go find out”-Eric

They drove to Zodwa’s house and found them seated outside. Eric took out his gun and they followed after him

“Zodwa what do you want from us hey? How many times must we tell you to leave Lethi alone? You don’t listen hey? Maybe you’ll realize I’m serious once you have a bullet hole in your leg”-Eric

Zodwa had her hands up

“I didn’t do anything to her I promise you, I swear on my mother’s grave.”-Zodwa

“Then where is she?”-Eric

“Ask Nomathemba maybe she knows, she is the one who wanted her dead when I said I wanted nothing to do with it”-Zodwa

Eric shifted the gun from Zodwa to Nomathemba

“Talk! Where did you take her?”-Eric

She just peed herself

“I will not ask you again”-Eric

“It’s true I wanted to hire people to finish the job, but I hadn’t gotten a chance as yet. Please believe me when I say it wasn’t me, I didn’t do it and I won’t do it”-Nomathemba

Thando went up to her and strangled her

“Tell the truth!”-Thando

“I swear Thando I didn’t do it”-Nomathemba

“She didn’t do it Thando, she would’ve told me if she followed with her plan”-Zodwa

Thando took the gun from Eric and shot Nomathemba’s leg, and she cried while Zodwa and Nomcebo looked shocked

“Next time all of you will think twice before plotting against my sister and if I find out that the three of you have a hand in this I swear to god I won’t use a gun to kill the three of you”-Thando

They went back to the car

“Another dead end”-Nkosi

“I guess we’ll have to wait for the person who has them to make contact”-Eric

“I can’t just sit and wait for those fuckers to kill her”-Nkosenhle

“There’s nothing we can do now”-Nkosi

“Eric drive us to her place, I’ve got calls to make”-Nkosenhle

He drove back to Ballito and Hlengiwe rushed out as soon as she heard the car park outside

“Are they here? Did you find them? Where is her car? Are they driving behind you?”-Hlengiwe

“Somebody took them”-Thando

“Took them where?”-Hlengiwe

“We are still yet to find out, they took them in an SUV and left her car behind”-Eric

Hlengiwe broke down and cried

“Find my babies Eric please” she cried

“I’ll do my best Ma”-Eric

“We have to go”-Nkosenhle

Him and Nkosi left

LETHINHLANHLA

I woke up to a sore body and my eyes are heavy

“Sis’Lethi are you okay?”-Phiwo

Then it all came back to me, one minute we were driving, and a car hit us and the next minute we were being rushed to another car.

“Sis’Lethi!” she cried

“I’m okay Phiwo, are you okay? Did they touch you?”

“No, they didn’t. I’m okay”-her

I looked around and I didn’t recognize this place, it’s an old building that nobody uses, how will anyone find us here. My biggest concern right now is Phiwo, I would’ve been fine had I been kidnapped on my own. They can beat me up and do whatever they want, I can take it because Ngonyama trained me and got me used to violence, but Phiwo is just a kid who probably has never even been slapped by another kid so can you imagine her being beaten up by a grown man or woman or having a whip piercing through her back skin.

A guy came in wearing all black, he stood in front of me, and a smile crept up his face

“Lethinhlanhla”-him

I don't recognize him

“Please let her go, you can keep me here but please let her go she's just a child” I begged

He slapped me so hard I fell on my bum

“No, please don't hit her” Phiwo cried

“Do you know who I am?” he asked, and I shook my head

“When I talk you will respond do you hear me?”-him

I chuckled and answered

“I don't know who you are”-me

“You are Zulus daughter correct?”-him

“Yes”-me

He nodded and attempted to leave

“What do you want? Is it money? I can give you money”-me

He looked at me one more time then walked out

NKOSENHLE

It's been 3 days now and still no news from Lethi, I am honestly losing my mind. I'm worried about her safety, the reason why I told her not to drink at her party and why I always tell her to be careful when driving is because I suspect she is pregnant, and she isn't aware. Lethi and I have never used protection when being intimate and I honestly don't know how we always forget. Lately she's been clingy, and she has gained a bit of weight and she cries a lot which is something she never does hence I suspect she's pregnant. After her party I wanted to give her pregnancy test so I can be sure. I don't know how I will live with myself if anything happens to them.

"Nkosenhle!"-Nkosi

I hadn't even realized that I wasn't alone, we're at my house, myself, Lwandile, Nkosi, Nathi, Thando, Skara and Eric

"What?" I asked

"Have you eaten? Or showered? You look horrible"-Nathi

I haven't done anything since the day she has been captured, how can I eat when I don't know if she has eaten or not. I don't even sleep, I stay up all night and look for clues.

"I'm not hungry"-me

"You have to eat something"-Nathi

“Leave me alone please”

Eric got up and went outside then came back with Ngonyama after a few minutes

“The two of you better not bullshit me, I’m really not in the mood to entertain your nonsense, please don’t try me because it won’t end well. Ngonyama please get the fuck out of my house before I blow your head off”-me

“Listen here I’m not here for you, I just want to assist in finding Lethi”-Ngonyama

“Nkosenhle please, we need all the help we can get”-Eric

“I don’t need his help”-me

“Again, I say, I’m not doing this for you”-Ngonyama

My phone rang before I could answer

“What?” I answered

“Cicici is that how you answer your phone Ndlovu?”-Caller

“I don’t have time for your bullshit, what do you want?”-me

“I have someone who wants to say hi to you”-caller

I froze and my throat immediately went dry

I quickly put the phone on loud speaker, and everybody gathered around

“I’m listening”-me

“Nhlanhla somebody wants to talk to you” it was silent “Yey wena sfebe I said talk!” silence “You don’t want to talk hey? I’ll make you talk” there was noise in the background “Please don’t hit her”

That was Phiwo at the back crying

“I swear to god I will find you and I will kill you”-Thando

“Well, your bitch doesn’t want to talk, she has attitude. I’m not surprised though she’s a Zulu after all and having an arrogant ass like you as her boyfriend doesn’t help also. I’ll send you a short clip in a second I’m sure I’ll have her screaming my name”-caller

He dropped the call

“What does he mean?”-Skara

I felt my soul living my body, the thought of whoever this is touching her is killing me

“Why does she have to be stubborn, can’t she just comply with whatever they say so that they won’t hurt her”-Nathi

“She’s not the submissive type, Lethi is a tough girl”-me

My phone vibrated and a video came up

“I don’t want to open this”-me

“We have to in order to see if she’s okay”-Eric

“I’ll connect it to the screen so that we can all be able to see”-

Thando

He did his thing and it appeared on screen. There she was locked up in what looks like a cell, she looks drained, and her left side of the face looks swollen.

NARRATED

They all turned their faces to watch the video

“Your boyfriend is watching, say hi to him”-Caller

“what do you want from me?”-Nhlanhla

“You did something to my family long time ago”-Caller

“What did I do? who are you?”-Nhlanhla

“Do you remember Khanyi?”-Caller

Lethi clenched her jaws

“What about her?”-Nhlanhla

“I’d like to know what happened to her”-Caller

“How would I know?”-Nhlanhla

“so, you didn’t kill her?”-Caller

“Let my sister go and you and I can talk. She has nothing to do with this”-Nhlanhla

“Oh, but she does, I despise your father and what better way to get revenge on him other than having his favorite child”-Caller

“You are a coward! Using a little girl to fight your battles”-Nhlanhla

He slapped her again

Nkosenhle and Ngonyama flinched while watching

He walked over to Phiwo and touched her face

“You look beautiful, innocent and beautiful. I’m sure you’re still pure, infact I know you are still pure because I know that idiot brother of yours Eric would never allow you to date”-Caller

“Leave me alone”-Phiwo

“I’ll be your first, I won’t be intimate with you today, but you’ll blow me”-Caller

“I’m not doing that”-Phiwo

He punched her nose

“I wasn’t asking you, it’s either you do, or I’ll shoot you” he grabbed her by her hair and pulled her towards him while removing his pants

“NOO NOO” Eric screamed

“Leave her, I’ll do it”-Lethi

“Big Sister coming to the rescue” he walked over to her

“Sis’ Lethi please don’t do it”-Phiwo

“If she doesn’t then you’ll die”-Caller

“Phiwo close your eyes”-Lethi

She just cried and closed her eyes and ears

“Good girl”-Caller

“Nkosenhle I’m sorry”-Lethi

She went down on her knees and took the man inside her mouth and pleased him until he released himself inside her mouth

“If you know what’s good for you you’ll swallow”-Caller

She had no choice but to swallow with tears streaming down her face

“now I see why Nkosenhle and Lwandile don’t want to let you go”-
Caller

He turned to camera and chuckled “I hope you enjoyed that, this is nothing compared to what I’ll do next”

The Camera stopped

“How will I look at my sister in the eye after this? I just witnessed her giving a blow job to some stranger who probably has a dirty penis”-

Thando

“This person clearly knows who we are, how does she know about my relationship with Nhlanhla?”-Lwandile

“Who is Khanyi?”-Ngonyama

“I don’t know”-Eric

“Nkosenhle don’t be angry at her when she gets back, she had no choice”-Nathi

“How can I be angry at her? She should be angry at me, I just watched her do that and I couldn’t even do anything to save her. What do you call that? Who knows what else he’ll do to her while I’m stuck here with no information. It would’ve been better had that fucker requested money or something, but he doesn’t want anything. He has an agenda, and he is out for revenge”-Nkosenhle

“Do you recognize that place?”-Skara

Nkosenhle shook his head

“I’ll go search and find out boss man”-Skara

He left the house

“Nkosi and Thando did you run the face recognition scan?”-

Nkosenhle

“We did but can’t find anything, this person made sure he is not traceable”-Thando

“find information on this Khanyi person”-Ngonyama

“There are so many people named Khanyi, how will we know which Khanyi we are looking for”-Thando

“Dig information on Lethi, use all resources I’m sure we will find who Khanyi is”-Nkosenhle

“Okay, Nkosi contact your people and I’ll contact mine”-Thando

“I’ll notify dad. He is responsible for part of this mess too”-Eric

They stayed in Nkosenhles house until the early hours of the morning searching for any clues. They didn’t sleep at all, they just drank coffee to stay awake

“I got the file on her”-Nkosi

“What does it say”-Nkosenhle

“Let’s see.. it says Nhlanhla is the daughter of Sthembiso, she went to UKZN, dated Lwandile and fell pregnant by..”

“Get to the point”-Nkosenhle interrupted him, this thing of Lwandile and Lethi irritates him

“Let him finish so that we won’t miss anything”-Lwandile

“As I was saying before I was rudely interrupted, she dated Lwandile and fell pregnant uhm then it says Sthembiso dated a guy called Bhekikhaya Dlamini who was divorced to a lady named Khanyisile. Khanyisile had an argument with Sthembiso which led to her death and Nhlanhla’s miscarriage, Nhlanhla then got a gun from a guy named Sabelo and she killed her. I tried to summarize everything”-Nkosi

They all cringed at the thought of Lethi killing a person

“Is that how she knew about the guns the other day”-Nathi

“How do you guys get such deep stuff about people?”-Lwandile

“We have our ways”-Eric

“But it says Nhlanhla’s mother is Sthembiso, Eric your mother’s name is not Sthembiso”-Nathi

“and it will still stay like that for her own safety”-Eric

“Safety my foot, is she safe now?”-Thando

Silence

“Now we have the name and surname search for her kids”-

Ngonyama

Thando typed something on his Computer

“She only had a daughter who died the same day she died”-Thando

“Fuck!”-Ngonyama

“Search for Bheki and find out if he has any kids”-Nkosenhle

“okay”-Nkosi

Nkosenhle called Skara to find out if he has any information about the place where Lethi is captured

“What did he say?”-Eric

“He hasn’t found anything”-Nkosenhle

Just then a live video link popped up in Nkosenhle’s phone

NKOSENHLE

“It’s him”-Nkosenhle

We all gathered around the screen

“would you like to see your little girlfriend?”-Caller

“Fuck you!”-me

“Careful I might just fuck her while you watch”-Caller

“Let them go and come face me”-me

He ignored me and walked over to where Lethi and Phiwo are

“Prisoners”-Caller

“Can we please have something to eat, anything please my stomach hurts. I can even settle for plain bread”-Nhlanhla

Hearing her beg for food like that breaks my heart

“You would love that wouldn’t you?”-caller

“for how long will you keep us locked up?”-me

“My brother is coming today, we’ll find out from him”-him

“Baby girl you good?” he asked Phiwo who just ignored him

“I swear to god you will die a slow painful death”-Nhlanhla

“Just like how you killed Khanyi?”-Caller

“No that was fast and easy” she chuckled “I could’ve done a better job, too bad I was naïve back then”-Nhlanhla

He punched her on her nose, and she bled instantly

“you don’t scare me I’ve been through worse. If I were you I’d shoot me because if you let me go I swear I’ll make your life a living hell”-Nhlanhla

“Are you threatening me?”-Caller

“I’m promising you, wangiyekele ngizokubalala kancane kancane (if you let me go I’ll kill you little by little”-Nhlanhla

She said that with no emotion on her face. This just proved to me that I know nothing about the girl I’m in love with

“My brother is here, let the show begin”-Caller

A male figure walked in, he wore all black and a black jacket and cap. He had his face facing the floor. Just then the camera moved away from his direction, and it showed Lethi

“Yoo..uu, it’s you” she couldn’t even speak and just then they cut the sound so that we couldn’t hear what’s happening

“What the fuck who is that? She seems to know him”-Ngonyama

LETHINHLANHLA

I couldn't believe my eyes when he walked in

"Surprised?" he asked

"Wokukhanya it's you? What did I do to you? I thought we were friends"-me

"trust me we were until I decide to do some research on you and found that you killed my step mother"-Wokukhanya

"I had a reason for doing that, she killed my mother, and she was the cause of my miscarriage"-me

"You could've reported her to the police, not take the law into your own hands"-Wokukhanya

"I did exactly what you are doing right now. Nawe you could take me to the police and have me arrested but here we are"-me

He took out his jacket and took a wrap and covered his face then he came close to me. That's it, I am finally dying today, I just closed my eyes and waited for him to do whatever he is planning to do

NKOSENHLE

I switched my mic off so they couldn't hear what we're saying

"Who is this guy?"-Thando

"are we able to zoom closer?"-me

“Yes”-Nkosi

He zoomed in closer

“He covered his face”-Thando

“Wait Nkosi go back to the angle you showed just now and zoom in”-
me

He zoomed in to his tattoo

“No fucken way, that’s Skara’s tattoo”-me

“Skara messed with the wrong person. Nkosi find his location and
pause the camera to make it seem as if we’re still watching so that
he won’t notice any movement”-Eric

“I know how to do that, I’ll make it look like a video so that it won’t
be too obvious”-Thando

“I got the location of his car”-Nkosi

“Skara is an idiot, why would he use his car?”-Nathi

“Because he didn’t think we’d catch him. He made it look as if he is
on our side, did you see how early he left yesterday? He said he
would find the location, but he hasn’t because he didn’t look for it in
the first place. Skara will regret this, I treated him like one of my
brothers and this is how he repays me?”-me

“Let’s get going”-Ngonyama

“We can’t use 1 car”-me

“Thando and I will use my car, you and Eric can use another car which you’ll share with MaZulu and Phiwo then Nkosi, Lwandile and Nathi can use another”-Ngonyama

LETHINHLANHLA

“I won’t do anything to you as yet so open your eyes”-Wokukhanya

“Nkosenhle and Eric will find you, why are you doing this to them?”-me

“Nkosenhle took you away from me so don’t tell me about him and they are both clueless, they’re seated on their ass waiting for god knows what. I wanted you but you chose him”

He got close to me and forced a kiss which I refused, and he ended up biting my lip

“Get off me” I pushed him

He came closer and kicked me on my stomach and I winched in pain

“Please leave her alone, I apologize on her behalf please don’t hit her”-Phiwo

He didn’t listen to her, he continued to kick me all over as I curled up into a ball on the floor and held my stomach

“I took you to hospital” he kicked “I stayed with you and bought you food, I paid for your hospital bill and what did you do?” he kicked and kicked again “You went and chose Nkosenhle, what did he do for you? What does he have that I don’t have?”-him

By the time he was done I was bleeding all over and I had blood running down my legs. Did he just break my vagina?

“fuck you Wokukhanya, you’re not even half the man Nkosenhle is”-me

“You’re a bitch Lethi” he grabbed me by my top and made me look him in the eye “I’ll kill you”-him

I spat on his face, and he landed a punch that knocked me on the floor and caused me to cough

“Oh my god you are evil, how can you lay your hand on a women like that. Sis’Lethi I love you please be strong, we’ll get through this”-

Phiwo

“I love you too, don’t worry about me I’ll be fine”-me

“You talk too much” he took out his gun and shot Phiwo

“NNNOOOOOO” I cried my eyes out

“Phiwo! Phiwo!” I yelled hoping she’ll respond and say “I’m okay Sis’Lethi”

“Bitch is dead” he said

A part of me just died with her

Just then gunshots were fired and there was chaos. I didn't even bother to duck the bullets, I wanted to die with her. I failed my sister, I couldn't save her

"You son of a bitch! What did you do to my sisters"-Eric

Nkosenhle walked in and shot Wokukhanya followed by the other brother

I hate Nkosenhle for doing that, why did he make it so easy for them? I wanted to be the one who pulled the trigger on them. I promised them a slow painful death and he just took that away from me. where were they all this time? Why didn't they show up earlier

Thando came up to me

"Help me get up"-me

"Lethi you are bleeding"-Thando

I ignored him and walked over to Phiwo. I passed Nkosenhle who just looked at me with tears in his eyes, I don't have time to nurse over him. I kneeled in front of her body

"Phiwo wake up" I shook her "WAKE UP, it's all over now wake up! I'M SORRY"-me

Eric came and hugged me from the back and tried to drag me away, but I yanked myself off from him

“Nathi please save her, she’s not dead please save her” I cried

“I’m sorry Lethi, but there’s nothing we can do for her now. We need to get you to hospital and have you checked out”-Nathi

“She’s not dead, Thando tell them she’s not dead. She told me she loved me, she wanted to stay with me after matric. I failed her! We all failed her”-me

NKOSENHLE

I felt so ashamed of myself, I couldn’t even look at her or hug her. She is so broken and each time she cries it goes straight to my heart.

“Nkosenhle talk to her, we need to go get her checked out”-Nathi

I couldn’t move

“Nhlanhla please let’s go”-Thando

She ignored him

“Sthandwa sami please get up so we can get you help”-me

She got up and looked at me straight in the eye and grabbed me by my t-shirt

“Will that help bring back my sister? Will it fix my broken heart? Tell me I’m asking, phendula Nkosenhle (answer me Nkosenhle)”-her

I just hugged her, and she cried in my arms until her chest started acting up again and she couldn’t breathe

I scoped her up and carried her to my car

“I’ll sit with her at the back, who will drive my car?”-me

“I’m staying here until they come fetch Phiwo”-Eric

“Thando come with us, I’ll drive Nkosenhles car”-Ngonyama

I didn’t even have the energy to argue with him about driving my car

“Lethi baby please breathe, take it easy, in and out slowly”-me

She shook her head and looked at me with her red eyes

“Please, I can’t lose you too” I begged

I looked at Thando and he was out of it, his mind is not here

“Ngonyama hurry”

He drove as fast as he could, and we parked outside Nathi’s hospital, and she was rushed in.

“She’ll be fine, she is a strong girl”-Ngonyama

“Strong people reach their breaking points too Ngonyama”-me

I slid against the wall and buried my head on my knees. He sat next to me on the floor

“You’re not the only one who feels like a failure, we all failed them, but you have to be strong for her. She’ll need you”-Ngonyama

“I have to tell everyone she’s here”-Thando

We just nodded

“Can I get you guys anything to drink? Water? Coffee? Or food?”-

Nkosi

“No, I’m good”-Ngonyama

“Nkosenhle?”-Nkosi

I gave him a death stare and he nodded

After a while everybody showed up, Hlengiwe, Naledi , Nomonde, Nelly and Lwandle

Thando’s mother ran to him, and she cried in his arms

“My child is dead Thando, my little baby is gone”-Hlengiwe

He just allowed her to cry in his arms

After what felt like forever Nathi came out looking drained as ever and we all ran towards him

“How is she?”-Hlengiwe

“Uhhm can I speak to the family”-Nathi

“You can say it here Nathi, everyone will find out either way”-Thando

Just then Eric and his dad walked in

“The bruises on her body will go away after some time, the swelling will go down after a while and uhm”

He stopped talking

“Khuluma Nathi (Talk Nathi)”-Eric

“She was 2 months pregnant and unfortunately she lost the baby”-
Nathi

“No!” Nomonde cried

“Damn! Again!, what the heck is wrong with her womb”-Lwandle

Before she knew it Nomonde was on top of her kicking and slapping,
Lwandile and Nkosi had to separate them

“If you’ve got nothing to say then keep your mouth shut, what are
you even doing here?”-Nomonde

“would you like to see her?”-Nathi

“Yes”-Hlengiwe

Sipho, Hlengiwe, Eric, Naledi and Thando followed him

I attempted to leave and get in my car and just drive away when
Nomonde stopped me

“She needs you right now”-her

“I can’t face her, I can’t see her in pain”-Me

“She lost a baby Nkosenhle, I’m sure she would love to be embraced by you and be comforted. The first time she was on her own when she dealt with her miscarriage” she stopped and frowned at Lwandile who looked down then she looked back at me “Don’t make the same mistake he did, she needs you”-her

I walked into her ward where everyone gathered around

LETHINHLANHLA

“I’m sorry my baby, we failed you once again, we failed to protect the both of you”-Hlengiwe

“I failed her, I couldn’t save her. What kind of a sister am I?”-me

“You tried Nhlanhla, you protected her best as you could. You shielded her when they wanted to sexually force themselves on her. You didn’t fail her at all”-Eric

“You are her hero Lethi, she’ll always remember what you did for her”-Thando

“I could’ve done more, I could’ve fought harder”-me

“You didn’t have the energy, you were pregnant and tired, you were hungry as well so where would you have gotten the energy from?”-Eric

“Please don’t blame yourself”-Sipho

Yeah I blame you, had it been not for you they would’ve let Phiwo go

“Nathi when can I go home? Where have a funeral to prepare for”-

Me

“I have some bad news”-Nathi

Why am I not surprised

“What is it?”-me

“The reason why you sometimes find difficulty in breathing is because you also suffer from a heart condition”-Nathi

“You probably got it from me, Lerato had it and now you too. I am sorry my baby” Hlengiwe cried

“Nathi when can I leave? We’ve got a funeral that we need to prepare for”-me

“I’ll prepare your papers only if you promise to take care of yourself and not stress”-Nathi

“I promise”-me

“I’ll be back”-Nathi

He left. This entire time Nkosenhle hasn’t said anything.

“They say you were pregnant, who was responsible for that pregnancy?”-Sipho

“Me” Nkosenhle spoke up

“Ini? (What?)”-Hlengiwe

“Are you going to impregnate all my daughters now?”-Sipho

“She’s too young for you Nkosenhle, how can you date her knowing very well she is Lerato’s baby sister?”-Hlengiwe

“I only found about that later on when I’ve already fallen in love with her. I love her and I won’t break up with her”-Nkosenhle

They just shook their heads

“We have to go get ready for Cape Town and start funeral preparations”-Sipho

“Should I wait for her, or will you bring her once she’s discharged?”-Eric

“He will do no such thing, Lethi is a child therefore she will come with you. Nkosenhle should go to his house”-Sipho

I rolled my eyes

“They need to talk dad, both of them lost a child”-Eric

Sipho stormed out of the room and his wife followed after him

“I’ll bring her”-Nkosenhle

He nodded and they all left except for him, he stood by the door with his head down and his hands in his pocket.

“Did you know?” I asked

“I suspected but I wasn’t sure”-him

“Is that why you didn’t want me to drink?”-me

He nodded

“I’m sorry”-me

He looked up and his eyes were red, he is crying

He shook his head

“Yes Nkosenhle, I failed our baby. I would’ve protected my stomach had I known”-me

He came close to me

“It’s not your fault, you don’t need to apologize”-him

“I’m letting you go, go be with Lwandle she’ll be able to give you kids because clearly I can’t. I promise I won’t resent you, in fact I give you my blessings”-me

He looked at me with so much pain

“I don’t want her, I want you. You are enough for me Nhlanhla whether you give kids or not, I am happy with you, you complete me. I’m sorry you had to go through all of that, I’m sorry I took so long to find you, I’m sorry I wasn’t able to save our baby. It’s a man’s duty to protect his wife and unborn child and I couldn’t do any of that. When he forced his dick down your throat I felt so useless” He cried

I took him in my arms, and he just cried while I comforted him. I couldn't help but smile at the "wife" part. Lord knows I'd love to be his wife, but I just can't I'm too broken for anyone to love.

I kissed the top of his head

"You are not useless Sthandwa sami, I love you soo much and I know you did your best in trying to find me"-me

"I don't like what's happening with you"-him

"What's that?"-me

"You are not crying, you're not letting out all your anger and hurt. Please be vulnerable with me, I want you to let it all out. Bottling everything up will destroy you later on in life Mageba. Please allow me to get you a therapist that will help you deal with everything, you've been through a lot, not just what happened now but all you've went through since your mothers passing"-Nkosenhle

I have no intentions of doing that but because I want him to stop talking about this I'll just agree

"I'll talk to someone"-me

"Thank you"-him

He kissed me

"I'll go and find out what's taking Eric so long to get the papers"-him

He left and came back with the papers which I signed, and we left

“Do you think we would’ve gotten a girl or a boy?”-me

“Please don’t do that to yourself babe”-him

“Lisa would’ve loved a sibling, I can imagine her fussing over the baby” I couldn’t help but smile and he saw that and kept quiet

“Will you come to Cape Town with me?”-me

He nodded

“Thank you”-me

He held my hand and we continued to drive in silence until we reached my house.

We got there and everyone was there, even Lwandle. Nomonde and Nelly came to me, and they hugged me

“I’m here for you if you need everything”-Nomonde

“We heard that the funeral will be held eCape Town”-Nelly

I nodded

“Nomonde and I will be there”-Nelly

Perks of having rich boyfriends

“Thank you”-me

“Shame man Nhlanhla, it must be sad losing another baby.”-Lwandle

I just walked past her and Nkosenhle followed after me and to my surprise my car was parked in the yard.

“Who fixed my car?”-me

“Eric”-Nkosenhle

I nodded and we went inside where everyone was up and down loading bags into the car

“Lethi I hope you don’t mind but I asked Naledi to help me pack some of your clothes”-Hlengiwe

“It’s okay”-me

“Good then, we are leaving soon we’ll use your fathers private jet”-
Hlengiwe

I nodded and she disappeared somewhere, and I went to my room with Nkosenhle behind me

“Will you be okay if I leave you here? I’ll join you guys tomorrow”-
Nkosenhle

“Are you leaving now?” I asked

“Yes, I need to pack my clothes and Lisa’s clothes”-him

“Please leave when I leave, you’re the only person keeping me sane here.”-me

“Okay but we can’t be in your room, it’ll look disrespectful to your father”-Nkosenhle

“I don’t really give a shit about him, but if it makes you uncomfortable then we can go somewhere else”-me

Just then Naledi walked carrying fresh sheets. I haven’t spoken to her since the day she lashed out on me concerning Ngonyama

“Uhm Mom said I should change your sheets”-Naledi

“Don’t, my room still smells like her, so I’d like for it to stay that way”-me

“But mom said...”-her

“This is my house and what I say goes, you can go and tell that to your mom”-me

She nodded and walked out

“You didn’t have to lash out on her like that”-Nkosenhle

“If you don’t want me to lash out on you too then I suggest you be quiet”-me

I was ticked off now

“Nhlanhla!” he warned

“Don’t Nhlanhla me, who gave them the right to come change things in my house”-me

“They are just trying to help”-Him

“Trying to help by removing every memory I have of Phiwo?”-me

“They are not removing her, but they are trying to remove things that might trigger you and cause your heart condition to worsen”- him

“They must leave my house, in fact all of you should leave”-Me

“Please don’t chase us away, everyone that’s here cares for you”- Nkosenhle

“Nkosenhle please leave, I’ll see you tomorrow and please take everyone that’s out there with you”-me

“I’ll leave because I don’t want you to get angry. I love you MaZulu, I’ll call you” he kissed my forehead and walked out only to bump into Eric on the door

“Hey you good?”-Eric

“I’m okay Eric”

“I’m here for you if you need anything”-him

“I know. Is Ngonyama here?”-me

“Yes he is outside. I came to tell you that we are leaving in 10 minutes so make sure you’ve got everything you need”-him

“Okay”

We both walked out, and I went to Ngonyama who was seated on his own on one of the benches

“I guess your training helped in a way hey” I said as I walked towards him

He looked up but didn't say anything

“I didn't feel the pain when he was beating me up, I didn't cry. That's what you taught me, not to cry”-me

“I am sorry Nhlanhla”-him

“Nah don't be. I came here to talk about work, I don't know if I still have my job or what”-me

“That's the last thing you should be worrying about, what's important is that you are okay in all aspects. Once you feel you are ready than you can go back to work, your job will be waiting for you”-him

“Alright, are you leaving with us?” I asked

“I'll join you guys tomorrow”-him

I left him there and took my handbag locked my house and joined everyone outside. There were two cars outside, Ngonyama's car and Eric's car. We needed two cars because of the bags, Naledi, Siphon and Hlengiwe were in Eric's car, so I opted to join Thando in Ngonyama's car. He was only taking us to the jet then go back

“Can't stay away from me hey?”-Thando

“The necklace pulled me here”-me

He laughed and came to sit at the back with me. I held his hand, and the rest of the ride was silent until we reached the jet and the same thing happened as we all boarded, and everyone was caught up in their own thoughts until we arrived.

Upon our arrival Baba was there and he opened his arms for a hug, and I ran to him

“Phephisa mntanam, usudlule ezintweni ezinzima. I can’t even begin to imagine how it must have felt to witness your sister die in front of you. I promise to get you all the help you need”-Baba

I still say this guy should’ve been my dad and not Sipho. I connect with him more than I do with Sipho.

“Thank you Baba”-me

“Go inside and rest, the rest of the people here can slave themselves around”-him

I nodded and went to my room, and I just laid there facing up lost in thoughts when Naledi walked in

“Y’all don’t knock in Cape Town?” I asked

“I’m sorry” she stood by the door

“Come in”-me

She sat on the edge of the bed and fiddled with her hands

Yerr this one can be childish I swear. I kept my mouth and eyes shut as well and waited for her to say what she came here to say.

“You know I heard you guys singing and having fun in the morning before you left for gateway. I wanted to come and join you guys while you made food and I also wanted to join you and go shopping with you guys, but I couldn’t because I was ashamed of facing you. I behaved like a brat, I’m your elder sister Nhlanhla and I should’ve sat down with you asked nicely what was happening with you and Ngonyama. When I saw you guys together something in me just snapped, first it was Nkosenhle” she snickered “I saw him first and I had a crush on him, but he wasn’t interested in me he went for Lerato and I let them be, same thing that happened with Ngonyama, I like him Nhlanhla and when I saw you guys that close it made me think of the past, I thought history would repeat itself and that he will choose you over me. You know for the longest of time I was angry with Lerato, I ruined mine and hers relationship because of guy, her and I weren’t that close, and it was all because of me. had I told her I was crushing on Nkosenhle she wouldn’t have dated him, same thing that happened with you and me, I didn’t tell you about Ngonyama, so I had no right to be mad at you because you didn’t know. What I want to say is that I am sorry from the bottom of my heart Nhlanhla, you’re the only sister I have left, and I’d hate if we spend the rest of our lives not getting along with each other. I will

stay away from Ngonyama, my relationship with you is more important than a guy. My greed and childish behavior cost me the last few hours of Phiwo's life, she seemed happy. You made her happy, she got along with you more than she did with me. This entire experience taught me a lot about myself, it showed me how I've been a terrible sister and it took me the death of my two sisters to realize that. Please give me another chance to make things right with us"-Naledi

By the time she finished all of that she was in tears, I just comforted her until she was calm.

"Are you okay?" I asked and she nodded

"Would you like me to get you some water?"-me

"Yes please"-her

Her voice was breaking, and she had hiccups. I went to the kitchen and got her a glass which she drank in one gulp.

"I forgive you, I didn't understand what was going on and why you got so angry. Ngonyama and I didn't kiss that day, we've never kissed, and we barely talk to each other. I only talk to him when we are all together, and you know I am with Nkosenhle"-me

"Thank you, he likes you though"-her

"I love Nkosenhle"-me

“I see it in the way you look at him. I promised myself that I’ll move on from Ngonyama, I can’t be with a person who is in love with my sister. Say something happens between you and Nkosenhle, he’d jump in at the opportunity of comforting to you and that would hurt me, and I’d end up hating you hence why I say I’m done with him” she smiled

“Your situation is almost similar to mine. I was once in love with Lwandile, but Lwandle took him away, then she was or is still in love with Nkosenhle and now I took him away from her. Who knows though maybe she might win him back since I can’t have kids”-me

“Don’t say that God will grant you kids once the time is right”-Naledi

“I told him he can go back to her”-me

She gasped

“Why would you say something like that?”-Naledi

“I’m broken Naledi, I really am. You might not see me crying my eyeballs out but trust me deep down it hurts. I haven’t been okay since the day I miscarried, I thought I was fine I really did but I am not. I’ve been fooling myself, I don’t love myself so how can I expect Nkosenhle to love me? I carry so much baggage, I am angry Naledi, and he doesn’t deserve all of that”-me

“Ohh Nhlanhla you’ve been through a lot at a very young age. Please talk to someone and thank you for opening up to me”-her

She came to me, and we hugged “I’m here for you she whispered”

I just held on to her and allowed her to comfort me.

Eric walked in with his cellphone in his hand

“Nawe you don’t knock!”-me

He just ignored me

“Nkosenhle wants to talk to you” he handed me the phone

“I’ll see tomorrow, sleep well”-Naledi

She walked out

“Call me once you’re done”-Eric

“No wait for your phone I won’t be long”-me

He sat on the bed

“Nkosenhle”-me

“Sthandwa sami”-him

“Hi”-me

“Had a safe trip? I was trying to call you, but I can’t reach your phone”-him

“Yeah I arrived safely, I don’t know where my phone is”-me

“Alright I just wanted to say have a good night and that I love you”-
him

“Thank you”-me

He sighed

“Okay I’ll see you tomorrow”-him

“Bye”

I dropped the call and gave Eric his phone and he left

Memories of Phiwo in my room came flooding in, I remember the first day I came here she asked to sleep with me and when I woke up she was staring at me smiling, how she followed me around wherever I went. How happy she was when I allowed her to go on her date and how she told me she loved me before she was shot. All the memories were just too much, and my brain hurt, it felt as if somebody stabbed me with a knife and he/she was twisting it. I went to my toiletry bag and took two pain killers and two sleeping tablets, a part of me wanted to take the entire bottle but I couldn’t stress everyone more than they’re already stressed. I slept cuddling my stuffed animal.

“Eric why isn’t she waking up”-person

“Nhlanhla wake up”-another one

I can hear the people, but they sounded far

“Her pulse is there”-person

And before I knew it a bucket of water was thrown at me, and I jumped up and had a flash back when Ngonyama waked me up with cold water and that triggered something in me.

“What is going on?” I asked confused

“Oh, thank you god”-Naledi

“Naledi what is this bullshit, Thando? Eric? Why are you waking me up like an animal? If y’all don’t want me in your parents’ house then you guys should just say so”-me

They all laughed but I wasn’t

“We were worried when you weren’t waking up”-them

“It’s early in the morning you guys, people sleep in the morning. You all should try that”-me

“It’s 1 pm Nhlanhla”-Eric

I gasped, I thought it was around 9 or 10

“Who’s here?” I asked

“Just ask and stoop beating around the bush, ask if Nkosenhle is here”-Naledi

I just laughed

“They are all down stairs your friends as well even Lwandle”-Naledi

I rolled my eyes

“Zodwa, Nomcebo, the uncles, Sfiso and Nomathemba are here as well”-Eric

“Gosh, and Phiwo? Where is she? It’s unusual for her to not wake me up”-me

They all looked at me confused

“She isn’t back from school yet?” I asked

“Eric what is happening”-Naledi

“I don’t know, it seems like she has some sort of amnesia”-Eric

“Who has Amnesia? Phiwo?” I asked concerned “Let me shower and I’ll go see her, she’ll remember me”

I left them there and took a shower and when I was done there weren’t in my room. I went to Phiwo’s room, but she wasn’t there, so I decided to go downstairs, and I found everyone waiting for me with concerned faces

“Don’t tell me I forgot” I asked shocked

“Forgot what baby?”-Hlengiwe

“Phiwo’s Surprise birthday, that’s why everyone is here. She’s out with Ngonyama isn’t she?” I asked

“Phiwo is dead”-Lwandle

“Who invited you here Lwandle? Anyways I don’t have time for you, I need to bake a cake fast before she gets here” I turned to Naledi

“Come let’s bake” I grabbed her arm

“Useyahlanya bakithi (she’s gone mad)”-Lwandle

“Uhm Nhlanhla, Mom already baked the cake”-Naledi

I screamed in excitement

“Okay okay, I need to....”

Nomcebo walked in through the door as I was about to say something

“Nomcebo what the fuck dude! I just mopped the floor and now you’ve brought mud inside the house. Now I need to start all over” I screamed

“Eric, Nathi what is happening with Nhlanhla”-Nkosi

I left them there and fetched a mop to wipe where Nomcebo was walking

“Nhlanhla the floors are clean, there’s nothing there”-Thando

“Oh, did Sis’Celiwe clean while I went to get the mop?” I asked confused

“It was never dirty”-Nelly

“Oh, Nelly you’re here? I didn’t think I’d see you after our training. Come let me introduce you my twin, this is Thando and Thando this is Nelly”-me

I tuned to eric “Get me a leather I need to clean the windows”-me

“Eric what is happening?”-Thando

“She seems to be suffering from Dissociative amnesia, memory loss is a natural survival skill and defense mechanism humans develop to protect themselves from psychological damage, it helps a person cope by allowing them to temporarily forget details of the event.”-

Eric

“Oh my god”-Naledi

“Nkosenhle will you get me the leather? Because Eric doesn’t want to”-me

He just came to me and stood behind me while hugging me

“MaZulu please sit and eat, you haven’t eaten all day”-Nkosenhle

“I’ll make her something to eat” Hlengiwe ran to the kitchen

“But Ngonyama will be here any moment from now with Phiwo”-me

“I’ll call him and tell him to wait a bit, eat first”-Nkosenhle

I smiled and nodded

“Thando I hope you didn’t forget her gift”-me

“It’s in my room”-Thando

I nodded and Nkosenhle walked with me to the kitchen

I heard baba asking “Into ezothiwani le?”

Sthembiso prepared a sandwich and juice and she left me with Nkosenhle. It was only the two of us

“I missed you, I hadn’t seen you in a while”-me

He made me sit on top of him as I ate

“Your dad won’t be happy with this”-him

“Why hawu, it’s not like you and I having sex”-me

“He is a strict person”-him

“He must relax, we should all be happy today”-me

“Yes babe”-him

“You look stressed, in fact all of you look stressed what is going on?”-me

“Baby there is no easy way to say this, but Phiwo is no more”-Nkosenhle

“I’d love to make love to you” I bit my lip

He sighed

“You don’t want to?”-me

“I do trust me but not here”-Him

“Mxm”

I gulped down my drink and walked back to where everyone was, and he followed after me. as soon as I walked back the energy changed, I felt so much weight on my shoulder and it came back.

“When is the funeral?” I asked as I snuggled next to Nkosi who voluntarily opened his arm for me to cuddle, at this point I didn’t care about Nelly and her feelings

“What happened?” Thando asked Nkosenhle who just shrugged his shoulders

“The funeral is the day after tomorrow”-Eric

“Has her body arrived this side?”-me

“It will arrive later on tomorrow”-Eric

Hlengiwe, Zodwa and Nomathemba were seated on the mattress

“Nomathemba what happened to your leg?” I asked

Thando chuckled

“Uhm, I fell”-Nomathemba

“oh, sorry”-me

Just then Ngonyama walked in, and I ran to him

“Where is she?” I looked behind him

“Who?” he asked

“Phiwo” I answered

“What?”-Ngonyama

She’s been like that all day, one minute she understands what’s going on and the next she doesn’t

“Everyone gather around, I’ll go fetch her in the car and we can all yell “SURPRISE” I’ll be back”

I literally ran to his car only to find it empty , I walked back inside

“Did you forget to pick her up?”-me

“Play along”-Thando

“She went to the mall with her friends, she’ll call me when she’s done”-Ngonyama

“Alright I’ll send her money to buy whatever she wants”-me

“I’ve sent it already”-Eric

“Oh, alright then. Ngonyama please get me a leather I need to clean the windows”-me

“Don’t worry I’ll do that later on, I don’t want you getting hurt”-

Ngonyama

I smiled and hugged him

“Thank you”-me

“No problem”-Him

I went and sat next to Nkosenhle, and I held his hand which made Lwandle roll her eyes

“What happened to you? You seem off”-Eric asked Ngonyama

“It’s Mvelo, I don’t know what has gotten in to him. He has turned to alcoholic all of a sudden”-Ngonyama

I jumped up

“Oh, no Ngonyama. How far is your house from here?”-me

“Like 10 minutes away”-him

“Please go fetch him”-me

“Why?”-Ngonyama

“Please” I begged

“Okay” he went back to his car and left

I went to make sweet water for him, and we waited, everyone was looking at me waiting for me to say something. I looked away

After what seemed like forever Ngonyama came in carrying Mvelo like a sack of potatoes

“Why are you carrying him like that?” I asked as I went to them

“He was refusing to leave the house”-Ngonyama

I looked at him and his eyes were red, he reeked of alcohol

He looked at me and tears threatened his eyes and I just hugged him and burst out in a sob which broke my heart into a million pieces

“I’m sorry baby” I brushed his back

“She left me sis’Lethi” he cried

“I know baby and I’m so sorry”-me

“You know each other?”-Ngonyama

I nodded

“Who left him?”-Eric

I signaled for them to shut up and they all sat and looked at us

“We had plans, I was going to come here and ask her parents to allow me to take her on a date this side. She was so happy when I last saw her, she couldn’t stop praising you and now she is gone. What am I supposed to do now? It hurts Sis’Lethi it hurts, please make it stop.”-Mvelo

His cries on his own made me shed a few tears, when I looked around all the females were crying except for Lwandle.

“Here drink this”, I gave him the sugar water and he drank it

“Alcohol won’t solve anything okay?”-me

“I just want to forget for a while”-Mvelo

“I know trust me I do. here take this” I took of bracelet “she bought me this bracelet when we went to the mall, the heart in there represents the love she had for me. maybe this will help you feel closer to her. She got you a gift as well, but I don’t know where the shopping bags are, but I’ll send it to once I go back home”-me

He wiped his tears

“Thank you, but what about you? She got this gift for you”-him

“I’ll take the one that was supposed to be hers”-me

He nodded with tears falling down his face

“Does your head hurt?” I asked

He nodded

“Come I’ll get you pain killers, and you can rest in her room”-me

He looked at me shocked

“Take it as a way of saying goodbye to her, would you like that?” I asked and he nodded

We went up and I gave him the pills which he drank then I showed him Phiwos room

“Please don’t do anything crazy, we can’t lose you too”-me

He smiled

“I won’t do anything crazy Sis’Lethi”-him

I nodded and left him and went downstairs

“Were they dating?”-Thando

“Yes”

“For how long?”-Ngonyama

“I don’t know”

“How do you know?”-Eric

“Phiwo told me, and he took her on a date this one time, he rented the entire restaurant for her and got her flowers. He is so romantic”-me

“Was it that day you two went out?”-Thando

I nodded

“That’s why he wanted my car and asked for money”-Ngonyama

“He is hurting, and it breaks my heart”-me

“He is in love”-Naledi

“You should see how cute they look together, I’ll ask Phiwo to send me the pictures when she gets back”-me

“Here we go again”-Thando

“Nkosenhle where is my baby?” I asked and his eyes popped out

“Which baby?”-him

“What kind of Question is that? Lisakhanya kanti how many babies do you have?” I asked annoyed

“She’s in your mothers room sleeping”-Nkosenhle

NKOSENHLE

In my 28 years never have I ever experienced something like this, how does one move from being sane to being insane then sane again? One minute she’s okay and the next minute she is not, Eric says therapy is the only thing that can help her but knowing Nhlanhla she won’t open up to anyone. She is seated next to me quietly sobbing, I can’t just sit here and watch her suffer like this, so I decided to go to Siphos and Hlengiwe and asked for permission to take her somewhere where she’ll have fresh air and they agreed and said they’ll look after Lisa.

“Baby”-me

She looked up at me with her red swollen eyes

“Come let’s go” I offered my hand so she can stand up

“Where are we going?”-Nhlanhla

She seems to be sane at the moment

“you’ll see come with me”-me

She obliged and got up, we went to my car and drove to the nearest beach. I remembered how she always begged Nkosi to take her to the beach.

“Come let’s go sit somewhere”-me

She smiled

“Let’s go sit on the sand”-her

Imagine sitting on the sand in this heat, but if it makes her happy so be it. I can burn all day I don’t mind.

“I didn’t bring a towel for us to sit on”-me

“I don’t know about you, but I don’t need one”-her

She walked in front and found a spot she was comfortable with, and she laid on her back and faced the sun with her eyes closed and a smile plastered on her face. That image warmed my heart.

“Would you like for us to talk?” I asked

“Not now, can we sit in silence for a bit? I just want to hear the waves”-her

“Alright”-me

I sat beside her and watched her face and body relax, after about an hour or so of silence she opened her eyes.

“Did you fall asleep?” I asked

She shook her head no

“Let’s go”-her

She got up and helped me get up and we walked back to the car

“Don’t you want ice cream?”-me

“No, I’m good”-her

We got in the car, and I drove to the hotel where my brothers and I booked. Soon as we arrived she took a long ass shower then joined me after, wrapped in a towel.

“Thank you Boyabenyathi, I needed that time to myself, I had forgotten how to breathe, and you reminded me of the importance of taking some time off”-her

“Are you okay now?”-me

“I don’t know hey, I’m better than how I was earlier. I doubt I’ll ever be okay, but I’ll take it as it comes day by day. I miss her so much, I see her every time I close my eyes, but I made peace with myself at the beach, I forgave myself for not being able to protect them” she smiled “It was god’s plan and who are we to question his doings. Would you like to know what I named our baby?” she asked smiling

I nodded

“Ntandoyenkosi”-her

“Ntandoyenkosi Ndlovu. I love it”-me

“I don’t mean to sound insensitive but I’m glad I didn’t know I was pregnant, it would have hurt more had I bonded and formed a relationship with my stomach but now I’m okay with the fact that there was no connection between the two of us”-her

“I understand”-me

I really do

“I’m sorry once again”-her

“Stop apologizing, bekuyintando yenkosi Sthandwa sami there’s no way we could’ve stopped it”-me

she sat on top of me, and we hugged. She decided to remain in that position and let her be.

“MaZulu” I called out

“Gatsheni” she responded in a low tone

“Look at me”-me

She got up

“Who is Khanyi?” I asked

She sighed

“Khanyi was once married to my mom’s boyfriend, she was still hung on to bab’mfihlo and one day she came to my mom’s place, and she fought with mom and pushed her so hard that she fell and bumped her head and died on the spot. I tried to run after her, but I slipped on water that was on the floor and I fell and miscarried Siphosami. After the funeral I went to her house and killed her, I forced her to make her daughter drink poison so that she wouldn’t feel the pain of losing her mother and they both died. I really didn’t want to kill the girl, but I was doing what was best for her at that point, I don’t regret killing Khanyi, if I was to be given the opportunity of killing her again I would do it”-her

Wow!

“Were you arrested?” I asked

“No, I made it look like she committed suicide and the police bought the story. I don’t know how Muziwokukhanya found out”-her

“Have you killed anyone else besides Khanyi?”-me

She looked down

“Yes, but that time around I had no choice”-her

“I’m listening”-me

“After I was released from your brothers hospital I returned back home only to find uZodwa and her sister living comfortably in my mom’s house. They mistreated me and didn’t give me food, I later found out that a Thabiso guy had paid my bride price while I was still in school and after I had gotten my degree I would’ve have married him but after my degree I fell pregnant and so they wanted to wait until I gave birth. So Thabiso came to the house and demanded that I go with him, or I pay back his money which I refused obviously then he changed his mind and said it’s either I go with him, or he kills me, and I opted for the second option. He then hired Eric to kill me but since I’m Eric’s sister he couldn’t do it, so he got to my room and took me while I was sleeping and got one of his friends who does make up and told her to make me look as if I was shot in between the head. Next minute I was in a room I didn’t recognize and Ngonyama appeared and told me I had to start my training. He would beat me up and teach me all sorts of stuff, that’s how I know about guns and knives. The last day he took Nelly and I to some building where a guy named Scelo was tied up, he told Nelly and I that it was either we kill Scelo, or he kills us. We fought with this Scelo guy, but he was just too strong, he went to Nelly and attempted to rape her, but I couldn’t allow it, so I stabbed him, and he died”-her

She wiped her tears not realizing she was crying

“Nelly? Nkosi’s girlfriend?”-me

“Yes”-her

“Those scars that you had when you first came to my house were they from Ngonyama?” I asked

“Yes, the ones from the back were caused by the whip he used to discipline me, the ones from my arms and thighs were probably from knife stabs that were exchanged between Nelly and I”-Her

I nodded, I honestly didn't know what to say to her she's been through so much, people her age are supposed to be out partying and living their lives carefree but here she is facing obstacles that no 21/22-year-old should be facing. She killed two people and acted as if nothing happened. I've had my fair share of murders and I know how difficult it is to sleep at night after taking someone's life.

“Do you hate me? I'd hate myself too, nobody wants to have a girlfriend who has murdered people”-her

“I could never hate you but instead you made me fall in love with you even more”-me

She raised her eyebrow

“You are the strongest female I know, now tell me which guy doesn't want a strong female by his side? You've been through a lot, the world has been very unkind to you but here you are alive and fighting. You are the sweetest person on earth, you're funny and

loving, nobody could tell that you have been through the most. You don't take out your anger on people, I love that about you"-me

"Thank you" she smiled

"Just promise me you won't kill again"-me

"I wanted to kill you when you killed Skara, I wanted to be the one who pulled the trigger on him. His death was too easy, I wanted him to suffer and as for Lwandle she better thread carefully"-her

She said that with no emotion

"I couldn't help myself, when I saw him my rage took control I also didn't want him to die that easily"-me

I wasn't going to comment about the Lwandle part

"Have you killed before?"-her

"I have, multiple times"-me

This is a new start for us, I don't want any secrets between us

"I see, are you also in the illegal business like Eric?"-her

My eyes popped out, I didn't know she knew about that

"Yes I am"-me

I observed her but she didn't seem moved by it

"Will I be in danger?"-her

“I’ll try my utmost best to keep you and Lisakhanya out of danger”-
me

I live for the both of them

“Why don’t you stop? I mean you have millions in your bank account
what more do you need?” she innocently asked

“It’s not that easy babe, it’s deeper than that”-me

She sighed

“As long as Lisa and I are safe then I’m okay with the life you live. Just
make sure you don’t die and leave us on our own, I’d never forgive
you Nkosenhle”-her

“I’ll make sure of it”-me

“Pinky promise” she stuck her pinky out and I joined her

“I’m glad you’re no longer crazy”-me

“What?” she looked at me confused

“I’ll explain to you some other time”-me

“Okay we should get going, it’s getting late”-her

“Cela ungipha phela sthandwa sami (can you please give me some)” I
begged

“Uphiwani? (Give you what?)” she laughed

“My medication”-me

“Which medication? The one you denied me earlier on when I asked you”-her

“I wasn’t denying you babe, I couldn’t do it at that moment”-me

“Then take your medication daddy” she said removing the towel

She didn’t need to tell me twice, I tossed her on top of the bed quickly removed my clothes and got in between her legs.

“Are you sure you’re not in any pain down there?”-me

“No, just a bit on my ribs”-her

“We don’t have to do this”-me

“I want to do it, just be gentle”-her

I nodded and went in for a long kiss, I’ve been waiting to do that for the longest of time. She bit my lower lip and held on to it for a while then she giggled and let go of it, I couldn’t help but smile. I went down and kissed her neck while my one hand massaged her clit and the other played with her boobs

“I love you sthandwa sami, I thought I had lost you”-me

“I’m not going anywhere babe”-her

I went down to her clit, and I kissed it which caused her to laugh. I went full face in and ate her up, I licked I sucked and blowed and a moan escaped her lips, went back in and harder this time and held

on to my head and curled her legs around my neck I sucked until she released then I went up to her face

“Are you ready for me?”-me

She nodded

“Please use a condom, I’m afraid of falling pregnant”-her

I went to Nkosi’s bag and took out a pack he had bought earlier, I’ll replace it. I slid it the condom on, and I slid inside her, she flinched a bit

“I’m okay” she responded before I could ask

I slid it in deeper and I stayed it in that position for a while just to make sure she’s really okay. I started moving around inside her, I moved in circles, I thrust for a while, and she released. I flipped her around and entered from behind she clenched on the sheets and called out my name, I thrust a few more times and released. I kissed her

“Every time feels like the first time with you”-me

I carried her to the bathroom, and we showered together and out of nowhere she went down and gave me the hottest blow job ever, I didn’t think she’d be able to do that so soon after what happened to her. We got dressed and I drove her back to her house, and we found the rest of the crew chilling outside.

“Me”-Thando

“Hey”-Lethi

They all looked at me and I indicated that she is fine, and they all breathed in relief. Thando got up and hugged her, he then covered his nose

“Did you shower?”-Thando

Lethi laughed and punched him

“Shut up, we didn’t do anything” she laughed

“Yeah right”-Nkosi laughed

“You have no shame, few hours ago you were crazy and now you’re riding dicks”-Lwandle

Lethi threw a shoe at her which landed on her face

“Ouch” Lwandle cried

“Good Nhlanhla, uyajwayela lo”-Nomonde

“What is wrong with you Lwandle?”-Lwandile

“She’s bitter because she’s no longer riding his dick” Nhlanhla blurted out

Shit!

“What?”-Lwandile

“I warned you Lwandle, but you didn’t listen”-Nhlanhla

“You were fucking with Nkosenhle?”-Lwandile

Lethi mouthed “I’m sorry” and I just nodded

“I’m sorry Lwandile”-Lwandle

Lwandile stood in front of me

“How could you betray me like that”-Lwandile

“At that time, I didn’t know she was your girlfriend”-me

Well, I was being honest

“When was this?”-Lwandile

“The time you went to Cuba”-me

He nodded and turned back to Lethi

“And you didn’t bother to tell me?”-Lwandile

“What are we? Ungangisanganeli mina, I didn’t owe you shit. My loyalty is not with you, you threw that away long time ago when you fucked her behind my back. The only person I’ll forever be loyal to is Nkosi so don’t come here with that bullshit. If she managed to open her legs for you knowing very well you are my boyfriend, and she is my friend what would make her stop opening her legs for your friends? Lwandle is just a thirsty whore who doesn’t know what she wants, she wants to have her cake and eat it too. Nkosenhle ended things with her but here she is still running after him while she’s still with you”-Nhlanhla

Lwandile turned to Lwandle

“When we get back I want you to pack your things and leave my house. You disgust me”-Lwandile

He stormed off and left while Lwandle cried after him

Silence

After a while Lwandle came back

“I hate you”-Lwandle

“Tell me something I don’t know” Nhlanhla said that as she walked towards me

“I didn’t mean to blurt it out like that, but your girlfriend knows which buttons to press”-her

“You are my girlfriend not her and it’s fine, it was going come out anyway”-Me

She nodded

“Where is Ngonyama” she asked

“He left earlier”-Eric

“With Mvelo?”-Nhlanhla

“Yes”-Eric

“We should get going too, it’s getting late”-Nkosi

We said our goodbyes and left. When we came here earlier I was with Nathi, Nkosi, Nelly and Nomonde but now Lwandle joined because Lwandile left her here.

We drove off and I started at the garage to get Nkosi's condoms then I drove them to the hotel where everyone went to their rooms.

"Nelly take the keys while I fetch our bags from Nkosenhles room"-
Nkosi

We got in my room, and he noticed the unmade bed

"Then she says you guys didn't do anything"-Nkosi

"Take your bags and leave please"-me

"Why is my bag open?"-him

"Here"

I handed him the condoms from back pocket

"I didn't have any, so I used yours"-me

"How come when you know you and your girlfriend are sexually active"-him

"We've never used condoms before so that's how it slipped my mind"-me

"Mhh"-him

There was a knock at the door and Lwandle walked in

“What do you want?” Nkosi asked before I could

“Lwandile doesn’t want to open for me”-Lwandle

“So, you thought you should come here and sleep in Nkosenhles room?”-Nkosi

She kept quiet

He took his bags and turned to her

“Come with me, you will sleep with Nomonde”-Nkosi

“That girl doesn’t like me, what if she attacks me in my sleep?”-Lwandle

“Then you’ll fight back, woza (come)”-Nkosi

They left together and I closed my room and slept

LETHINHLANHLA

Today is going to be a very long emotional day, Phiwo’s body is arriving later this evening, and everybody is mess. We all woke up early in the morning to clean the house as people would be entering to pay their condolences, I doubt there would be any people though because this is a rich neighborhood where everybody keeps to themselves. My duty was to make tea for the adults in the house, lord these old folks can drink tea no matter the weather outside. Every 30 minutes somebody requests for tea and scones, I’ve even

decided to stay in the kitchen and be on a look out because this up and down thing of going to my room and coming back here is not it.

“Come with me”-Naledi

I followed her to the back of the house

“Yhoo I’m tired, I’ve been working like slave since morning. Aren’t you tired?” she asked

I just laughed

“I am but I at least I get to sit and do nothing as I wait for them to want more tea”-me

“Trade roles with me” she begged

“Hell no”-me

“I’ve got something”-her

“What?”-me

She looked around and reached for something in her packet

“Here”

She handed me a bag of weed

“Where did you get this?” I asked

“I have my sources. Do you know how to do the thing?”-her

“What thing?”-me

“That thing where you make it look like a cigarette”-her

I couldn't help but chuckle

“Yes I know how to roll a joint. Have you ever tried weed before?” I asked concerned

She shook her head no

“So why now?”-me

“I just want to be high and forget my pain for a while”-her

“Did you bring a lighter?”-me

“yes”-her

We sat down and I crushed and rolled one joint for the both of us

“Who taught you this?”-her

“I've seen people do it”-me

I lit it up and we shared it

“If you get into trouble I am not responsible for this”-me

“Seems like you're forgetting that you're the kid here”-her

I chuckled and sat there in silence for a while until Thando came to look for us. Naledi quickly hid the remaining bag

“Guys don't just disappear like that without informing anyone”-

Thando

“Kahle Thando we don’t have to report to you”-Naledi

“It’s not even about that, Lethi’s kidnapping is still new, so we get worried if nobody knows y’all’s whereabouts”-Thando

“We are fine Thando as you can see”-me

“I hope you two are not planning on going inside the house looking like that”-him

“Looking like what?” she laughed

“Nhlanhla why did you allow her to smoke, mbuke manje.”-Thando

“Haibo I’m old enough to do whatever I want”-Naledi

“Let her be”-me

“Anyways your friends are here”-Thando

“We’re done here let’s go”-me

We followed each other and went to the front where we greeted everyone, I still don’t know why Lwandle is here.

“You guys should’ve waited for me”-Nelly

Nkosi gave her a death stare

“Will I have to get used to this habit of yours?”-Nkosenhle

“It’s not a regular thing”-me

“Where did you even get that?”-Eric

“Ask no questions and hear no lies”-Naledi

We sat down and they all engaged in a conversation that I had no intention of being part of. I sat there and just drowned into my own world blocking everything that could trigger pain. I was brought back by Nkosenhle who was nudging me

“Do you see what this weed is doing to you?”-him

“What do you want?”-me

“She has been calling you” he pointed at Nomcebo

“Yah?”-me

“Can we talk?”-Nomcebo

“Listen Nomcebo I’m not in the mood for your drama, I don’t want any fights”-me

“There won’t be any fighting I promise”-Nomcebo

“If you try anything funny I will break your legs ufane noMamkhulu wakho”-Naledi

“That won’t be necessary”-Nomcebo

I got up and went to the side, away from where everyone was seated

“Hey”-her

She looked nervous. Her and her Mamkhulus have been behaving ever since they got here. She managed to stay out of my way and so have I with her.

“Yebo Nomcebo how may I assist you?”-me

“I’d like to apologize for how I treated you in the past”-her

“Hehehe” I chuckled

I must have heard incorrectly

“I know you may not believe me but I’m truly sorry. From a young age I’ve carried so much hate towards you, I resented you from robbing me an opportunity to grow up with a mother. It was painful Lethi, each day I sat outside and waited thinking she would come back for us, but she never did. When I was told that she was playing happy family with you I was hurt, I wondered and asked myself what was wrong with me for her to just dump me like that and never look back. I’ve realized that my resentment was directed to the wrong person, you had no idea what was happening, but I still hated and blamed everything on you. I am truly sorry for all the pain I have caused you, I know you may not forgive me, and I truly understand but I want you to know that I am sorry, and I’ll forever regret the choices I made in life. I can transfer all the money to your account in order for you to see how sincere I am.-Nomcebo

“It was never about the money Nomcebo, I don’t want your money and I never wanted it from the beginning. I understand you were hurt by what your mother did, but you could’ve at least sat me down and hear my side of the story, it’s fine though I understand you were controlled by those two hags inside. You hurt me Nomcebo, you broke my leg and treated me like dirt, I will never forget that, but I will forgive you. I really have nothing against you, and I really hope your apology is sincere and that you’re not planning anything behind my back”-me

“I really mean it Nhlanhla I give you my word. Looking at the relationship you have with your friends and siblings made me realize how lonely I am. Nomathemba and Zodwa don’t care about me, the only thing they ever cared about is the money. I destroyed the relationship I had with my brother because of them and now I really have no one”-her

“You can always fix your relationship with Sihle, I am sure he would love to build that relationship again”-me

“I will apologize to him as well, I know this may seem too soon, but can we please try to be friends. I know I’ve ruined all the chances of being close cousins with you so I can settle for a friendship, we don’t have to be besties or anything, but can we just be civil with each other”-her

She sounds sincere shame

“I can try that” I smiled, and she smiled back

“Thank you, I’ll leave you to it then”

She attempted to leave but I stopped her

“Where are you going?” I asked

“Back to the house”-her

“Are you busy with something?”-me

“No, I was going to sit with the elders or go to my room”-her

“Come chill with us, your age mates are here”-me

Her eyes glittered

“Are you sure?”-her

“I am, come” I held her hand and we walked back to where everyone was

“And then nina?”-Thando

“Let me formally introduce you guys, this is Nomcebo my cousin and Nomcebo this is everyone”-me

She smiled

“Hi everyone”-Nomcebo

“It must be the weed”-Thando

“Thando stop, Nomcebo and I have made peace with each other”-me

“qaluyiva”-Naledi

She clapped her hands

“Do not allow a snake to fool you, have you forgotten what she did to you?”-Thando

One thing I’ve noticed from Thando is that he hold grudges once you do something to him he will never forgive you.

“Give her a chance”-me

“I’m watching you Nomcebo”-Thando

She nodded. Shame I believe her

“You can go sit anywhere”-me

She went to sit, and I went back to my seat

“Are you okay?”-Nkosenhle

Just before I could answer that Baba came to us

“All of you come inside, Siphos is almost here with the body”-Baba

I just blinked my tears away and Nkosenhle helped me up and we all went inside. The elders started singing those depressing songs and after a short while all the guys walked out and came back carrying the coffin.

Hlengiwe burst into tears and Zodwa was comforting her while I comforted Naledi who was crying beside me, they continued with the singing and the crying stopped after a while. The family was allowed to go view her body, but I just stood there not being able to move, one by one they walked up to her, and the crying started all over again, this time around Naledi cried in her mother's arms and they comforted each other. Thando and Eric wiped a few drops of tears that formed in their eyes.

"Babe go up there and say your goodbye" Nkosenhle whispered in my ear

I just looked at him as if I didn't hear, I wanted to respond but words weren't coming. I blinked my tears away and he hugged me

"I don't want you to regret this after some time. Are you sure you don't want to see her for the last time?" -Nkosenhle

I shook my head

"You want to see her?" -him

I nodded

He signaled for Eric to come get me

"I think she's in shock, help her go up there" -Nkosenhle

Eric took my hand and we walked up to her, he left me there and stood on the side. I stood and stare for the longest of time not blinking or saying anything, a lump formed in my throat as my brain finally registered what was happening. There she is peacefully sleeping with a smile slightly plastered on her face, she looked so beautiful, and I couldn't believe that I would never see her again.

"Phiwo" I called out

Silence

Now everybody was looking at me

I turned to Hlengiwe and Naledi

"She's not waking up" I said

And that caused them to cry even louder

Thando stormed up and left, I looked at Nkosenhle and he had a pained expression on his face. I directed my focus back to the lifeless body Infront of me

"Oh, Phiwo why did you have to leave me so soon. Why did you make me fall in love with you knowing very well you won't stay with me for a while. What am I to do with all these plans we had together? Who will stare at me while I sleep? Who will follow me around and call me sis'Lethi? Who will I gossip with if I want to say something about Thando or Naledi? I was so looking forward to

having a new roommate next year but all of that is gone now, why didn't you fight for us Gcinoz kaMah? I am sorry I wasn't able to protect you, I have failed you and I will live with that guilt for the rest of my life. I love you and I will tell Mvelo you love him too"

After those words I burst into a loud painful sob and Nkosenhle came and hugged me

"It's okay babe"-him

"Make it stop please, the pain is too much"-me

I started to hyperventilate, everyone ran towards me and the next thing I couldn't breathe, and it was lights out of me.

When I woke up I was in bed connected to machines and Thando I was asleep on the couch

"Thando!" I half shouted and he woke up

"Hey"-him

"Why are you sleeping on the couch? Where is this place?" I asked

"I'm here to make sure you're okay. We're in the sick room"-him

"Sick room? Is this still Siphos house?"

"Yeah. You haven't explored all the rooms in the house"-Thando

"What happened to me?"

"You had a shortage of breath and you passed out"-Thando

“Where is everyone?”

“They all went to get some rest so they can be fresh for later on”-him

“What time is it?”

“00:20am”-him

They must have drugged me, there is no way I can sleep for this long

“When can I remove these things connected to my arm? You need to go to your room and get some sleep”

He removed everything and helped me off the bed

“You can go sleep, I’ll go stay in my room because I doubt I’ll be able to sleep”

He nodded and we went to our different rooms. I sent Nkosenhle a text telling him I’m okay and that he shouldn’t worry. I sat in bed and sank in thoughts.

NARRATED

“Do you remember what you have to do?”-Person 1

“Yes I do”-Person 2

“You better be careful, one slip up can cost both our lives. I’ll send you a message when it’s time so be on a lookout”-Person 1

“Okay”-Person 2

Today is sad day for the Zulu family, the church service took place at the back yard where each member said a few words about their sister. Phiwo's school mates were the one's singing all the songs, Mvelo was curled up in Lethi's arms and it was visible that they were both devastated. After the church service everybody dispersed and got into cars and a bus that led to the cemetery where she'll be laid to rest.

Lethi was standing with Nomonde and Lwandle when one of the drivers approached them

"Miss Nhlanhla, Eric assigned me to be your driver, one of your aunts is already waiting in the car"-Driver

"Are you guys not coming?" Nhlanhla asked the two ladies

"I'll go with Lwandile and Nomonde will go with Thando or the other guys and besides I'm sure your car is full considering there's already an aunt waiting for you"-Lwandle

"I'll meet you guys at the cemetery"-Nhlanhla

She left with the driver and went to his car and indeed there was a lady who was crying her eyeballs out, but her head was faced down so she couldn't see which aunt it was and besides she has too many aunts and there is no way she can keep track of all of them. The car drove out and she just looked out the window and prepared for what was about to happen. The most painful part of a funeral is when you

watch the coffin go down, that's when reality hits that the person is really not coming back.

"How long before we get there?" she asked as she noticed that they have been driving for a while and it didn't help that she wasn't familiar with the place, so she didn't know the directions.

"There's been a quick change of venues"-Driver

"What?"-Nhlanhla

Just then, the aunt attacked her with a needle on her neck and she became drowsy and light headed

"Wh..aatt is happening? W..hh.aat did you inject me with?"-Nhlanhla

She passed out

LETHIS HOME

The friends gathered outside as their cars waited for them

"Is everyone here? There shouldn't be anyone left behind because there aren't any cars available"-Eric

"Yeah everyone is here"-Lwandle

"Where is Lethi?"-Eric

"She already left"-Nomonde

"Did she take the bus?" Eric asked confused

"What do you mean? She left with the driver you sent"-Nomonde

“What driver?”-Eric

“Eric this is no time for jokes. We were standing here with Lethi when a driver came here and said you personally allocated him to drive Lethi and one of the aunts”-Nomonde

“I didn’t send any drivers”-Eric

“You guys better not bullshit me, I’m really not in the mood”-
Nkosenhle

“She’s right, I was here with them. The driver was wearing a suit like all the other drivers”-Lwandle

“Don’t tell me they took her again. Kanti what did we do to deserve this?”-Thando

“Can we all just calm down, maybe she’s at the cemetery waiting for us”-Naledi

“Who took her there because I didn’t send anyone”-Eric

“Maybe dad did, and the driver made a mistake and said Eric”-Naledi

“I really hope so”-Naledi

Nkosenhle clicked his tongue and got in the car and waited for the rest to get in their different cars and they drove to the cemetery.

“Everybody spread around and look for her”-Nkosenhle

They did as told without alarming anyone of what was happening, they all searched with no success.

“Who could’ve done this?”-Thando

“I bet it’s that bitch Nomcebo”-Naledi

She went and fetched her from the tent

“Did we not warn you yesterday?”-Naledi

“You did”-Nomcebo

“So, what’s this stunt you have pulled? It hasn’t even been 24 hours”-Naledi

“What have I done?”-Nomcebo

“Where did you take Lethi?”-Naledi

Nomcebo popped her eyes out

“What are you talking about? I last saw her at the backyard is she not somewhere around?”-Nomcebo

Naledi roughly grabbed her wrist causing her pain

“I’ll ask you one last time, where did you take Nhlanhla?”-Naledi

Tears threatened Nomcebo’s eyes

“I swear on Sthembiso death I don’t know where Lethi is, I didn’t even know she was missing. Why would I do something right after I tried to fix things with her? I’m not an idiot I wouldn’t risk my life knowing you people are capable of killing me. please believe me I had nothing to do with it”-Nomcebo

Naledi let her go

“For your sake I hope you are telling the truth”-Naledi

“ahhh” cried Thando

“Yini ngawe?”-Eric

“I just felt a sharp pain in my chest”-Thando

He bent down looking pained

“Get him water”-Nathi

Nomonde ran to the tent and came back with a bottle of water and helped him drink up.

Baba walked up to them

“What are y’all doing here? The funeral is taking place that side, all of you go and join the rest”-Baba

Because they don’t want to cause drama the rest of them went to join the others, Ngonyama, Nkosenhle, Lwandile, Nkosi and Nathi got in the car and drove back to the house to try find information on what happened.

“Where do they store their cctv footage?”-Nkosenhle

“Come with me”

Ngonyama led them as he is familiar with the house

One would expect Nkosi to work on the computer but no, Nkosenhle is doing it himself they studied the footage and saw the man leave with Lethi

“Nkosi find out who this number plate belongs too”-Nkosenhle

Nkosi got in another computer that was available and typed something

“It says it doesn’t exist”-Nkosi

Nkosenhle got up and punched the wall in frustration which caused his hand to bleed. He untied his tie and unbuttoned his shirt so that he can breathe properly.

“It hasn’t even been a full week since she got back, and they’ve already taken her”-Nkosenhle

“Do you have any idea who it could be? Maybe she might have mentioned somebody she doesn’t get along with”-Ngonyama

“No one. We killed those two fuckers who were responsible for her first kidnapping”-Nkosenhle

“Fuck?”

They all yelled in frustration

AT THE CEMETERY

It was the families turn to pour the sand in the grave and one by one they went

“Uphi uLethinhlanhla?”-Sipho

“Uhm, she wasn’t feeling well so Nkosenhle took her home”-Eric

“Did she pass out again?” Hlengiwe asked concerned

“Yes”-Naledi

“My poor child, she’ll be devastated at the fact that she couldn’t say her final goodbye”-Hlengiwe

The rest of the service went on and they all headed back home, took takeaways, and left. Only family and close friends remained behind

“That was a beautiful sendoff”-Zodwa

“Beautiful indeed”- one of the aunts

“How is Lethi feeling?”-Baba

Silence

“Naledi did you go check on her?”-Hlengiwe

Just then Nkosenhle followed by the other walked out the camera room and went to where everyone was seated

“Your hand is bleeding what happened?”-Hlengiwe

Silence

“Nkosenhle you better not have laid your hands on my daughter” she was getting worked up now

“I didn’t lay a hand on anyone”-Nkosenhle

“Then explain why you’re dripping blood all over my house”-

Hlengiwe

“Lethi is missing” Naledi blutered out

“What? Missing how when you said she wasn’t feeling well”-

Hlengiwe

“We didn’t want tom stress you out at the cemetery, Phiwo deserved a proper funeral, and we knew you would have panicked”-Eric

“Niyakhuluma kodwa angizwa nithini, nithi kwenzenjani? (Y’all are talking but I’m not hearing what you are saying, what happened)”-

Hlengiwe

“After the church service in the backyard someone came and pretended to be one of the drivers and took Lethi”-Thando

“NO! No, no not again” Hlengiwe cried

“This child needs a cleansing ceremony, there is no way such bad things could be happening to her one after the other”- one of the uncles

“She can’t be gone, Siphon I can’t bury another child why doesn’t God just take me and let my kids live? Why did I do to him for him to punish me like this? When have I ever wronged him for him to inflict this kind of pain to me? Can’t he at least give me a break for my heart to heal? I just buried my daughter a few minutes ago and he is already causing me another heartache. I am not strong for this I’m really not, I want my daughter! All of you go out and find her, don’t return to this house without her” she got up and started pushing people outside

“Hlengiwe calm down”-Siphon

“Calm down how when my daughter is somewhere out there? What if she’s lying on a ditch somewhere”-Hlengiwe

She cried and held her chest and next minute she passed out

Nathi rushed to her and felt her faint pulse

“She needs to be taken to the hospital”-Nathi

They carried her to the car and Ngonyama and Siphon left with her

LETHINHLANHLA

Whatever they injected me with seemed to be wearing off, but I was still weak and parched. My legs and hands were tied with a rope and there was a mattress that I was placed on, I’m assuming this is my bed from now on.

“Yes I tied her up like you requested”-Guy

.....

“She won’t be going anywhere, each time her dose wears off I’ll inject her with another one”-guy

.....

“Don’t worry”-guy

He dropped the call

“Couldn’t you have taken me after the funeral? Don’t you have a heart? It’s my sisters funeral for God sake and I couldn’t even send her off the right way. Would you like that if somebody did it to you?”-me

“Shut up”-guy

“Why don’t you just kill me? just kill me now, I’m sick and tired of these games. I’ve had enough!”-me

He ignored me and injected me again, but this time around I didn’t pass out, but I am out of it. My vision is blur and feels as if I am floating on air, I can’t hear or feel anything that’s happening around me. I am numb and I must say I enjoy feeling this way.

NARRATED

Eric came back looking drained as ever

“How is mom”-Naledi

“She’s being admitted, dad will keep watch over her”-Eric

“Lwandle and I have to go back to Durban, I have to get back to work and Lwandle needs to look after Malwande”-Lwandile

“It’s okay, thank you for your support”-Eric

“Nomonde and I have to go back too, but I’ll come back when i get the chance, keep us updated”-Nathi

“I’ll try put in a leave at work, I don’t know how I’ll function with my friend missing”-Nomonde

“Thank you guys, we’ll keep you updated”-Thando

“aren’t you leaving as well?”-Eric

“How can I leave when my heart is somewhere out there?”-

Nkosenhle

Lwandle rolled her eyes

“You Nkosi?”-Eric

“I’m staying”-Nkosi

“We should get going”-Nathi

They said their goodbyes and left

“When Lethi come back we are definitely putting a tracker on her”-

Thando

LWANDLE

We arrived in his house and Lwandile is still not talking to me

“For how long will you ignore me? I’m sorry Lwandile it was a mistake”-me

“A mistake is when you do something once, wena you did it a couple of times, that is not a mistake”-Lwandile

“I apologize babe, you weren’t paying attention to me, and I was lonely”-me

“So, when you’re lonely you open your legs for guys?”-him

“No”-me

“Pack your things and leave my house, don’t leave behind a single item”-him

“Lwandile no!”

He can’t do that to me, where will I go?

“You better be done in the next hour, if not I’ll personally throw your clothes outside. To actually think I was willing to take our relationship to the next step, I wanted to propose to you and buy you a house kanti I would’ve married isfebe”-him

That's a bit harsh, I am not a bitch

"Lwandile we can work things out and more than anything I would love to be your wife" I begged

"Start packing, leave behind my sons clothes because you are not taking him with you"-him

"Lwandile uyahlanya, you can't keep me away from my child"-me

"I'm not keeping you away from him, he will come and visit you whenever you want but you are not going away with him"

He left me there and went to take a shower and I just sat on the bed trying to process how I ended up in this situation. It's all because of Lethi, she couldn't keep her mouth shut! This was her aim, for Lwandile and I to break up so she can slither her way into his life. If Lwandile thinks I'm leaving this house then he has another coming, I sat and waited for him to finish his shower.

"Oh, good you're done" he said coming out the shower

I looked at him

"I hope njengoba ukhamise lapho iykhwama usuyfake emotweni"

Silence

He applied lotion and wore sweatpants and a top, he then went to the kitchen and came back with a black waste bag, and he went to my side of the closet and shoved everything he can grab.

I ran to him and took out the clothes and placed them back in the closet.

“Lwandle I don’t have time for games, its either you cooperate, or I will do this the hard way”-him

I folded my arms and looked at him

“Do you want me to take you to your father’s house or would you like to spend the night outside in the cold”-him

Silence

“Okay!”

He looked for his car keys and house key, he came to me and carried me over his shoulder, and we went outside, mind you I wasn’t wearing any shoes. He locked the house and dropped me outside, he got in his car and parked it outside the gate, and he came back to me and dragged me outside and locked the gate. He got in his car and drove off while I cried after him.

I sat outside for almost 2 hours waiting for him, he finally came back with Malwande. He got off the car and locked it and he went to open the gate, he unlocked the car and drove inside, and I followed after him, he got out of the car locked it again and dragged me outside

“Lwandile please I’m sorry” I cried

“I gave you an option, but you decided to be smart with me, now deal with your childishness. Walk to your father’s house”-him

He left me outside and locked the gate then got his son from the car and they went inside. I sat on the side of the road and cried my eyeballs out, it was now getting dark and Lwandile hasn’t opened for me, I thought he would change his mind and come back for me but nothing. Luckily I had my phone with me, so I requested an uber to take me back home and fortunately for me my uber is connected to bank card, so I didn’t have to worry about paying.

I knocked and mom answered the door

“Lwandle what are you doing here this late with no shoes?”-Mom

“Can I come in?”-me

She made way for me

“Sawbona baba” I greeted

“Lwandle what brings you here so late? Lwandile was here earlier why didn’t you come with him?”-Baba

“He kicked me out of the house”-me

“Why?”-Mom

“I don’t know mom, him and I fought, and he kicked me out”-me

“that’s not how things are done, every couples fight that doesn’t mean he should kick you out every time you don’t agree with each other”-mom

“I will call him tomorrow, he should come here and explain what is happening. When are you getting a job? You graduated but you’re sitting at home doing nothing, peers your age are driving their own cars living in their apartments not here crying over a man.”

He got up and left me here dumbstruck

“Have you eaten?”-Mom

I shook my head

“Come to the kitchen”-her

She dished for me, and I ate then went to bed

Mom woke me up in the morning notifying me that there is a delivery van outside for me

“Mr Lwandile sent us here to deliver these” he offloaded boxes from his van then drove off

I went and opened one of the boxes

“He sent me all my clothes mama” I cried

“Lwandle what did you do to anger that boy?”-mom

I can’t tell her that I slept with another man

I ignored her and took my boxes to my room, showered, and got dressed and joined them downstairs

“I called him, but he blocked all my calls”-dad

I don't know what he expects me to say

“He will come around”-me

“What about Malwande?”-mom

“He will come visit whenever we want him to come”-me

“The child deserves to grow up in a proper home with both parents”-mom

“Direct me to his house so I can talk to him”-dad

“He won't open for you dad”-me

An entire week passed and still Lwandile hasn't forgiven me, he dropped Malwande here a few days ago and now he is here to pick him up

“Hi”-me

“Is he ready?”-Lwandile

“won't you greet back?”-me

He shoved me aside and went inside

“Good you are here, I've been meaning to talk to you”-Dad

“Can’t we do it some other time, I’m kind of rushing somewhere”-
Lwandile

“It won’t take long”-dad

They both sat down

“What is going on between Lwandle and yourself? Why did you kick her out?”-Dad

“Would you like to tell them or should I?”-Lwandile

I looked down

“I kicked her out because she has been sleeping with my friend”-
Lwandile

“Yhooo”

Mom clapped her hands and dad just looked at me with disgust

“If you can excuse me I have to rush somewhere”-Lwandile

He got up took his son and left

“Get out of my face Lwandle”-dad

I went to my room packed a few of my clothes and headed out

“Where are you going with that bag?”-Mom

“I got called for a job interview” I lied

“Oh, that’s good, where?”-Mom

“Cape Town”-me

I saved up all the money Lwandile deposited in my account, so I'll manage booking into a hotel

“Have a safe trip, when are you coming back?”-mom

“In about a week”-me

We said our goodbyes and I left, I made sure I booked in the hotel where Nkosenhle booked, that way it will be easier to see him.

LETHINHLANHLA

I haven't showered for the past week, and I pee myself whenever I get pressed because he refused to take me to the bathroom, so I stopped asking, the guard no longer talks to me, the only thing he does is inject me with whatever drug that makes me drowsy. I'm sure I look like a zombie now and I've lost weight, they only give me a glass of water and porridge once a day. With Wokukhanya it was better because I knew what I was held up for but this time around I don't know anything, the person who is responsible for me being here hasn't visited he only calls to tell the guard not to forget the injections.

Today I overheard that a new guard will be taking over, apparently this one has to go back to work or something like that.

“I'll miss you”-guy

He snickered

He hasn't injected me so I could hear and see what's happening. I get injected 3 times a day, in the morning, midday and afternoon

"One thing I like about you is that you don't talk a lot"-him

I kept quiet

"Aren't you even interested in finding out who has you kidnapped?"-him

I really wasn't, they can all go to hell for all I care

"Are these drugs making you mute?"-him

He doesn't get tired of speaking

"Sho sho Puleng" said another male voice

I had my head facing down this entire time, my head was too heavy for me to look up

"Sho Katlego"-Puleng

"I'm here to take over your job"-Katlego

"She won't give you trouble, all she does is sleep"-Puleng

"She stinks"-Katlego

"She's not capable of taking a shower on her own, she's too weak for that, I doubt she can even stand"-Puleng

“So, I only inject her three times a day, give her water and porridge that’s it?”-Katlego

“Yes, come I’ll show you how to inject her”-Puleng

He injected me and I drifted off as usual. This happened for the next 3 days, I don’t know why I fooled myself thinking that this Katlego will be kind. I wonder how much they get paid for drugging defenseless girls.

It’s in the morning and he just gave me my porridge to eat

“Can you please give me my water later on not now” I begged

That’s the first time I’ve ever spoken to him, I haven’t even seen what he looks like.

“Sure”-him

I finished my porridge, and he took the dish away

“I have to inject you now so how will I know if you need water?”-him

“Can you not inject me? just for today please I beg you, I already don’t have energy I won’t trouble you at all I’ll sleep and keep my mouth shut” I begged

“I can’t do that, the boss is coming here today”-him

“Please I beg you, I won’t say anything to your boss I won’t even say a word to your boss. Just for today please”-me

"I don't know hey, I don't think that's a good idea"-him

"I'll just pretend like I'm drugged please"-me

"I swear to god if you try something funny I'll overdose you"-him

"I won't I promise"-me

"What's your name?"-him

"Lethinhlanhla Zulu"-me

Even my voice is tired

"Lethinhlanhla?"-him

"Yes"-me

"Look at me"-him

That's going to be a mission hey, it took a minute for me to finally
look up

"You don't look good hey"-him

How will I look good if they keep injecting me with substances

"You look familiar, where are you from?"-him

"I'm from Durban but my parents stay here in Cape Town"-me

I looked down

"Wait look at me again"-him

Jesus! I have no choice now do I? I really have to follow whatever he says so that he won't inject me

I looked up

"You said your surname is Zulu?"-him

"Yes"-me

"No man, I know someone who is a Zulu, he looks like you, but it can't be. It's even hard to tell with those bags under your eyes and your dry white lips"-him

"I don't know who that could be, but I have a twin brother, his name in Siphuthando" I said faintly

"Siphuthando Zulu, the one who does IT?"-him

"Yess that one, do you know him?" I asked hopeful

"Me and him went to school together"-him

"Yes, we found out this year that we are twins"-me

"Shame man, what did you do to anger the boss?"-him

"I don't even know who your boss is, I got captured at my sisters funeral and I have been locked up here ever since"-me

His phone rang

"Yes"-him

.....

“Yes”

.....

“Okay I’m coming” -him

He dropped the call

“The boss is coming and for your sake you better not say anything” -
him

“I promise I won’t” -me

He left and came back with someone

“There she is” -Katlego

“She stinks” -her

There’s no way in hell it could be her, these drugs must be playing
games with me

“Did you inject her today?” she asked

“Yes I did” -Katlego

“Is she awake?” -her

“She is” -Katlego

“Can she hear me?” -her

“No, she can’t hear anything, and her vision is blur” he lied

I listened to her speak and I was out of words, I kept on hoping that my ears were deceiving me but no it's really her

“Well, well well, look who we have here”-Lwandle

She laughed

“The mighty Nhlanhla, you thought you were untouchable , you thought you're the big shot. What did you think was going to happen when you caused trouble for me and Lwandile? You thought you could take Nkosenhle away from me just like that?”-Lwandle

I took all of me not to say fuck you to her, but I remembered I promised Katlego that I won't get him into trouble and besides I need for him to trust me so that I can convince him to let me go.

“All your friends are clueless, they don't know where to find you and they don't have any suspects. You will be here for a while, I've turned you into a drug addict that even when you come out Nkosenhle won't want anything to do with you”-Lwandle

I must say I underestimated her, I knew she was evil, but I never thought she'd go to this extent. Look at me betrayed by own best friend and she's willing to kill me because of love.

“Your twin brother is not so tough after all, you should see how miserable he looks, in fact all of them even that puppet of yours uNkosi, you always managed to make him weak angiphathike eya Nomonde she's no longer that blabber mouth. As for uNkosenhle

shame he has turned into alcohol to help deal with your case, I will replace you Nhlanhla, you'll curse the day you decided to go after what is mine. Right now, I'm going to Nkosenhle, would you like me to say hello?"

She burst out into laughter

"Oh, I almost forgot, your sisters funeral was so beautiful it's a pity you missed it"-her

My heart sank

"And your mother is in hospital, the news of your disappearance caused her heart condition to worsen"-her

So, the purpose of her visit is to gloat

"Can't she look up?" she asked Katlego

"She's weak, she can't do anything"-Katlego

"Too bad, I wanted her to look me in the eye and see that I won"-her

The fight just began Lwandle I said to myself

"Let me get going, I'll come again maybe tomorrow or in two days I'm not sure. I came with new doses so that you don't run out"-

Lwandle

"I'll safely store them"-Katlego

"Bye bye Lethi darling"

She laughed and left me with a boiling heart

“I had my doubts, I thought you’d say something”-Katlego

“I made a promise that I wouldn’t get you into trouble and besides you’ve given me a break from the injection so I’m grateful”-me

“You know I’m not an evil person, I’m doing this for the money. My grandmother is sick, and I have to pay school fees for my siblings, I don’t earn a lot where I work”-him

“I can get you a job that pays well, and I can guarantee you permanent employment”-me

“In exchange for what?”-Katlego

“My freedom”-me

“Why should I trust you?”-Katlego

“Why shouldn’t you? You know my brother and I’m sure you know he is a good person. I come from a well of family so money means nothing to me, my boyfriend has millions in his account. Besides the person who hired you doesn’t even work, the money she is paying you will run out soon”-me

“Do you give me your word?”-him

“I promise you”-me

“Fine, but I won’t release you right now because you are weak, and you can’t get very far. I’ll stop drugging you so you can gather enough strength to run, I can only let you go once she’s seen you for the second time, I don’t want to raise suspicions” -him

“Thank you” -me

My heart smiled, I’m going home

NARRATED

Lwandle left Lethi and went back to her hotel, she was pleased with what she has accomplished. Now that Lethi is no longer a factor in her life there is nothing stopping her from going after Nkosenhle, she took a long bath and waited for the sun to set so she can go knock in Nkosenhles room. She wore lingerie beneath her gown and headed to Nkosenhles room and knocked

He stumbled and went to open

“Lwandle what brings you here, when did you get back?” -Nkosenhle

“Won’t you let me in?” -Lwandle

“That’s not a good idea” -Nkosenhle

“I just want to talk nothing else” -Lwandle

“You have two minutes” -Nkosenhle

He made way for him

“Nkosenhle what has gotten into you? Are you an alcoholic now?”

she asked as she scanned the room

“Say what you came here to say and leave my room”-Nkosenhle

“How are you holding up?”-Lwandle

“What do you think?”-Nkosenhle

Silence

“What are you doing here in Cape Town?” he asked

“I got called for an interview” she lied

“Now what is it that you wanted to say?”-Nkosenhle

She got closer to him

“Lwandle leave my room”-Nkosenhle

“Come on Nkosenhle, don’t fight this I know you want it as much as I do”-Lwandle

She went in for a kiss and at first he didn’t respond but she deepened it and he ended up giving in and kissed her back, a moan escaped her lips

“I love you Nkosenhle”-Lwandle

“I love you too MaZulu”-Nkosenhle

That fueled Lwandle and she cursed under her breath asking herself while he’s thinking of Lethi

She ignored him and pushed him to the bed removing their clothes

There was a knock at the door

“Nkosenhle open up”-Nkosi

“Ignore him”-Lwandle

“Nkosenhle open up” he persisted

“Fuck! Lwandle get off me”-Nkosenhle

Nkosi decided to call him, and his phone rang inside

“Nkosenhle vula” Nkosi shouted

“Did you lock the door?”-Lwandle

“No”-Nkosenhle

“NKOSENHLE!” he tried the handle and it opened

“I’ve been shouting why didn’t you...”

He stopped on his track when he saw the two of them

“What is she doing here?”-Nkosi

Silence

He charged for Nkosenhle and started punching him

“I warned you Nkosenhle, I told you never to hurt Lethi and you promised me you wouldn’t. we are all out here searching for her

wena uBusy cheating behind her back, worse you're cheating with this thing what is wrong with you?"-Nkosi

He turned to Lwandle

"Get your ass out of here before I break your neck"-Nkosi

She grabbed her gown and ran out

"Go take a shower you disgust me"-Nkosi

Without arguing he went and took a shower while Nkosi Prepared coffee for him

LETHINHLANHLA

Two more days have passed and like he promised he hasn't injected me with anything, and I must say there is some sort of difference, I haven't fully recovered, I'm still weak but now I'm able to hold my head up high.

"She's coming today, you know what that means?"-Katlego

"Yeah, don't worry I won't speak"-me

"That too, but that's not what I'm talking about"-Katlego

"What are you talking about?"-me

"You are going home today"-Katlego

I smiled

"Thank you for helping me out"-me

“She’s here, pretend as if you’re sleeping”-Katlego

I went back to the position she found me in the last time

“Each day the stench keeps getting worse” she said coming in

“Is she still the same?”-her

“She’s getting worse each day”-Katlego

“You won’t believe where I was two days back”-her

She laughed

“I was in Nkosenhles room, and we made out, if it wasn’t for Nkosi we could’ve gone far, who knows maybe I would’ve been lucky and carry his seeds because you failed”-her

Silence

“I want you to increase her dose, inject her every 2 hours”-her

“That could be dangerous, she could die”-Katlego

“I don’t care”-Lwandle

“Yes boss”-Katlego

“Good, I won’t be coming here for a while but keep me updated”-her

“Sure”

She came and stood beside me, she kicked me in my stomach and spat on me

“I hope you die you stupid bitch”

With that said she left, and I groaned holding my stomach

“I’m sorry for that”-Katlego

“Don’t worry her day is coming, how are we doing this? Will you just let me go like that?”-me

“If you promise me my safety then yes”-Katlego

“How far is this place from Llandudno”-me

“One and half hour drive”-Katlego

THANDO

We all gathered at home to discuss our progress, these meetings are pointless if you ask me, there’s no lead we have nothing. A part of me has given up, I’ll never find my sister.

“Lwandle what are you doing here?”-Naledi

“I came to offer support, I came here for a job interview, and I decided to come by and offer my support.”-Lwandle

“Does Lwandile know you are here?”-Naledi

“Lwandile and I broke up”-Lwandle

“So now you have free access to Lethi’s man”-Naledi

Nkosi clenched his jaw and I noticed

“No, not at all”-Lwandle

“Mmh”-Naledi

My phone rang and it was a number I didn't recognize, I let it ring

“Any information?”-Eric

We all sighed

“I followed a lead, but it led me nowhere”-Nkosenhle

My phone rang again, and it was the same number

“I hope that's not Nomonde that you're running away from”-Naledi

I gave her a bored expression and answered my phone

“Sho” I answered

Silence

“Sho!”-me

“Don't call out my name it's Nhlanhla play it cool”-her

My heart skipped a bit

“Yeah” I tried not to draw attention to myself, I really wanted to scream her name and ask her where she is

“Is everyone with you?”-Nhlanhla

“Yes”-me

“Can you come get me?”-Nhlanhla

“Do you even have to ask?”-me

“Okay I’ll send you the location”-Her

“Is there no one who can revive the system? Mandla knows about crashed systems”-Me

She laughed

“Would you look at that, my brother isn’t dumb after all”-her

“Tsek I’ll be there now”-me

I couldn’t help but smile to myself

“I have to rush to the office, I’ll be back”-me

“Is there a problem?”-Eric

“Yes the system crashed, and everything is on standstill, apparently there’s no one available at the office to fix it”-me

She sent me the location and I literally ran to my car and drove to where she is.

LETHINHLANHLA

“He is on his way, when he gets here please don’t mention Lwandle’s name”-me

“Why not?”-Katlego

“Because I want to deal with her myself”-me

“Okay”-Katlego

We waited for a while and Thando arrived

“Nhlanhla” he screamed as he ran inside

“Don’t come any closer” I stopped him

“Why? What’s wrong” -Thando

“I stink” -me

He ignored me and hugged me spinning me around

I felt light headed as I was still weak

“Thank you for helping her” he said to Katlego

“No problem” -Katlego

“Wait I know you” -Thando

“We went to school together, but I dropped out because I couldn’t continue any further” -Katlego

“I promised him employment” -me

“of course! he doesn’t have to worry. I’ll save your number and I’ll contact you” -Thando

“Thank you” -Katlego

“What did they do to her?” -Thando

“They injected her with drugs that’s why she’s like that” -Katlego

“Give me the name” -Thando

“Don’t worry about it, the guy is dead” -me

“If he was dead you wouldn’t have told me to keep quiet in front of the others. Who had you kidnapped?”-Thando

“Promise me you won’t do anything to that person, I will deal with them personally when I’ve fully recovered”-me

“I don’t know”-Thando

“Then I’m not saying anything”-me

“Fine I won’t do anything”-Thando

“Don’t treat them differently futhi, I don’t want any suspicions”-me

“Fine!”-Thando

“It’s Lwandle”-me

He laughed

“Okay try again”-Thando

I know right! I couldn’t believe it myself

“I’m serious”-me

“So, she has back bone after all, well she signed her death wish, uzenzile akakhalelwa”-Thando

“She’ll pay for this”-me

“Shall we get going?”-Thando

“Yeah”-me

“Katlego I’ll send you money as soon as I get home”-Thando

“No problem, you will have to carry her, she can’t walk nor stand. I doubt she’ll be able to do things on her own for a while as she was heavily drugged, the next few days will be difficult for her because her body has gotten used to the drugs”-Katlego

“Thank you”-Thando

He carried me to his car and laid me at the back since I couldn’t sit up straight for a while

“Do you need a lift? Where are you going?”-Thando

“No don’t worry, I live close by”-Katlego

We drove off

“I’m so happy you’re back, I had lost hope in finding you”-Thando

“I’m here by god’s grace” I smiled faintly

“How was the funeral?”-me

“I’m sorry Nhlanhla”-Him

I’m tired of hearing that word

“Is mom back from the hospital?”-me

“Yes”-him

“How is she?”-me

“She’s not coping, I’m sure she will be fine now that you are back”-
him

I couldn’t say the same, I doubt I’ll be ever fine

“We are here”-Thando

“Already? I didn’t even feel the ride”-me

“Yes”-Thando

“Where is everyone?”-me

“They are in the front which means we’ll have to walk past them”-
Thando

“Is Lwandle here?”-me

“Yes”-Thando

“Keep your cool, she doesn’t know I know that she is responsible for
this.”-me

“Okay”

He got out and opened for me and carried me in his arms, he didn’t
mind that stench. We walked in and everyone stood up shocked, I
look at Lwandle and shock washed over her face

“Nhlanhla!” Naledi ran towards us and hugged me

“Where did you find her?”-Eric

“An hour and half away from here”-Thando

“What happened to her? She’s still wearing the same clothes she was wearing the day of the funeral”-Naledi

“She was drugged from the day they took her”-Thando

“Do you know who is responsible for that?”-Lwandle

I chuckled a bit

“Yeah some fucker, he is dead now”-Thando

Relief washed over her

“Thando take me inside I need to shower”-Me

“She can speak?” Lwandle asked with her eyes popped out

“Why wouldn’t she speak?”-Thando

“I thought you said she was drugged, so I thought that maybe she’s not aware of her surroundings”-Lwandle

“So, you trying to say people that are drugged are mute? Don’t be an idiot”-Naledi

“Drugs wear off after some hours so she’s able to talk and recognize what is happening currently until she’s drugged again”-Thando

I am actually surprised by Thando, I didn’t think he would be able to maintain his cool like this.

“Oh okay”-Lwandle

She looked relived again

I looked over at Nkosenhle and he couldn't even look at me, I looked at Nkosi who was looking at me with so much worry and concern, I winked at him to indicate that I am okay, and he smiled.

"Yazi I thought Nomcebo was responsible for this"-Naledi

"I forgive you"-Nomcebo

Thando carried me inside and as soon as Hlengiwe laid her eyes on me she literally ran to us and kissed me all over not minding that I stink

"Thando bring her here, place her on the couch" she ran to the couch

"Zodwa move so that my daughter can rest"-Mom

I couldn't help but laugh, this lady is so dramatic

"She wants to shower first"-Thando

"I'll run a bath for her"-Zodwa

"No, you will not, Thando come I will run the bath for her" she ran to the bathroom

"Hlengiwe don't run!"-Sipho

Thando and I burst into laughter, we followed after her

"The water is ready, I'll be standing here outside if you need anything"-Hlengiwe

“You’ll have to wash her, her body isn’t functioning properly because of what she’s been through”-Thando

“Oh umntanami kodwa, you don’t have to worry, I’ll do everything”-
Hlengiwe

Thando placed me on top of the toilet seat

“Go prepare her bed, we’ll be done soon”-Hlengiwe

“No, I don’t want to lay in bed, I want to sit up on the couch”-me

“No problem, Thando grab as many big pillows as you can get”-
Hlengiwe

I wanted to protest but there’s no winning with this lady, I guess taking care of me like this makes her happy, she missed 22 of years of my life so to her this is her second chance, she never got the opportunity of bathing, getting me dressed up.

Thando left

“I’m sorry to be troubling you”-me

“Nonsense, this is no trouble at all Nhlanhla, it’s my job to look after you. Even if I had to take care of your poop I’d do it with a smile on my face”-her

“Let’s hope it won’t get to that” I laughed, and she joined me

She helped me take my clothes off and she bathed me and helped me wear a gown and yelled for Thando

“My room is not far from here, I think I can manage”-me

“Are you sure? I don’t want you to strain yourself, Thando is available and if he gets tired Eric will take over”-Her

“I want to get used to doing things myself”-me

“Alright let’s go”

We slowly walked to my room, lotioned and got dressed in warm pjs

“You can call Thando, I don’t think I’ll be able to walk downstairs, I’m feeling light headed”-me

“Are you sure you don’t want to rest? Your friends can come tomorrow, and you will explain everything to them”-Hlengiwe

“No, I’ll be fine”

She walked out and came back with Thando who was more than happy to assist. We went downstairs and everyone was seated, there was a couch specially reserved for me and there were pillows all over the place

“Really Thando?”-me

“Your mom requested the pillows”-Thando

He laid me on the couch and Hlengiwe fluffed the pillows

“I’ll prepare food for her to eat”-Sis’Celiwe

“Don’t worry I’ll do it, anything that has to do with Lethi I will do it myself”-Hlengiwe

“Don’t overwork yourself Hlengiwe”-Sipho

Ay this guy! How is looking after your daughter overwork?

“I’m fine”-Hlengiwe

She went to the kitchen and warmed up food and came back

“I think I can feed myself”-me

She nodded

“Thando go sit somewhere else, I’ll sit next to her”-Hlengiwe

Thando shook his head and sat somewhere else and now all eyes were on me

“Ay stop looking at me like that, I’ll choke on my food”-me

They all laughed

“What happened to you”-Eric

To think they’ll allow me to finish my food first. I wanted to throw the entire bowl on Lwandle’s face

I took a deep breath and began

“On the day of the funeral a driver came up to me and said he was sent by Eric to take me to the cemetery, I got in the car and there was a lady who was crying her eyeballs out, I didn’t pay much

attention to her because well everyone was crying on that day. The driver drove for a while and when I asked how far is the cemetery he told me there was a change of venue and out of nowhere the lady who was next to me injected me with something, when I woke up my legs and arms were tied and every day since that day I was injected 3 times a day with whatever drugs they were injecting me with. I only had one meal a day and that was soft porridge in the morning, and I was given 1 glass of water, I wasn't allowed to go to the bathroom so whenever I had to pee I had to do it right there and I'd stay wet until it dried"

"Who would be so evil to do that to another human being"-Hlengiwe

I looked at Lwandle and she swallowed hard

"I wasn't aware of my surroundings once they injected me, I couldn't feel anything nor see, everything came back to normal once the drug wore off and they would inject me again that's how the cycle went"-me

Sis'Celiwe came back with Lisakhanya who shouted as soon as she spotted me

"Mamiza"-her

She raised her arms indicating I should pick her up

"Mah please pick her up and place her next to me"-me

She did that

“I miss you Mamiza”-her

“I missed you too baby”-me

She smiled and kissed me on cheek and snuggled close to me

Lord knows how much joy this child brings to my life

“So Lethi who was responsible for this?”-Naledi

“I don’t know, Thando saw the person” I lied, I hope Thando will think on his feet

“I don’t know him, I reacted on instinct”-Thando

“You should’ve at least found out what he wanted”-Eric

“I didn’t have time to think about all of that, my main concern was to make sure that Lethi is okay”-Thando

He nodded

“I hope he is rotting in hell”-Hlengiwe

“I can’t believe somebody could be so heartless, to kidnap me on my sisters funeral? No matter how much I have wronged them they could’ve waited until after at least. I’ll never forgive them, even after death god will punish him”-me

I looked Lwandle and she looked down

“I’m just glad you are okay ntwana”-Nkosi

“I’m not going anywhere” I smiled

“Mamiza let’s watch cartoons”-Lisakhanya

They opened cartoons for her

“It’s all in the past now, let’s just thank god you are back and safe”-
Hlengiwe

“You’ll need to go to the hospital to drain the drugs out of your
system”-Eric

“I’ll take her tomorrow”-Thando

“Let’s leave you kids to sleep, Nhlanhla I’m sleeping with you until
you get better. Lisakhanya let’s go”-Hlengiwe

The rest of the adults retired to their rooms

“No, I’ll sleep with Mamiza”-Lisakhanya

“We’ll bring her up when she’s asleep”-Me

“Alright, don’t stay up for too long”

She left

“Daddy come sit next to me”-Lisakhanya

Nkosenhle got up and joined us in the couch

“Nomcebo I’m sorry you got questioned for something you didn’t
do”-me

“It’s okay, I don’t blame them honestly it’ll take some time before everyone can fully trust me”-Nomcebo

They continued to chill, and everyone engaged in their own conversation

“You’ve got nothing to say to me?” I asked the one next to me who hasn’t said anything since I got here

“I don’t even know where to begin”-Nkosenhle

“Mxm”

I shifted my focus onto Lisa , I spoke to her until she fell asleep

“Naledi can you take her to my room, mom is there”-me

“Thando did you tell Nomonde that I’m back?”-Me

“Yes, she wanted to call but I told her to do it tomorrow”-Thando

“Alright, I don’t even know where my phone is”-me

“It’s somewhere in your room”-Thando

“Who’s turn is to take me to bed between the two of you?” I asked

Thando got up

“Are you going to sleep now?”-Nkosenhle

I ignored him, I couldn’t even stand being in the same room with him and Lwandle. Had it not been for Nkosi they would’ve fucked, and it doesn’t help that I can’t confront him about it as yet

I said my goodbyes to everyone and Thando carried me to bed, and I slept with my baby and mother. There's no need for Hlengiwe to be here if you ask me, I'm sure Siphos will hate me even more for taking his wife away from him.

In the morning I was woken up by Lisa's tiny hands all over my face

"Lisa go back to sleep" I cried

"Cartoons mamiza"-Lisa

Hlengiwe walked in

"Oh you're up"-her

"Lisa just woke me up"-me

"I can go down with her and allow you to rest"-Hlengiwe

"I doubt she'll agree"-me

"Lisa come with me, I'll open cartoons for you"-Hlengiwe

"No gogozi, I want Mamiza"-Lisa

"I told you"-me

Thando walked in

"Get ready, I'm taking you to the hospital"-Him

"Hospital?" I asked confused

"Yeah, you need to get checked out"-him

“Okay”-me

“15 min”-him

“Aibo!”-me

“30 min ke!”-him

“40”-me

I don't really need 40 minutes I just didn't want to agree with him

“Fine”

He left after that

“Come I'll help you up”-Hlengiwe

“No it's okay, I want to try and do it on my own”-me

“Are you sure?”

“Yes”-me

“Okay I'll be standing outside just incase you need me”-her

“Lisa Mamiza is going to shower okay? Stay here with Gogozi”-me

She nodded and I went to shower, and to my surprise I managed to do it on my own this time. Slowly but surely I am getting my strength back, I got dressed and waited for Thando to take me downstairs, I don't fully trust myself with those stairs I might just get light headed and roll down and injure my head or break my bones.

“what would you like to eat?”-Hlengiwe

“Cornflakes are fine, I’m not hungry”-me

“Alright”

She got busy in the kitchen and her husband walked in and sat on the couch without greeting, I looked at Thando who just shrugged his shoulders.

“Sawbona Baba”-Thando

Sipho nodded

“Where’s the remote?”-Sipho

“On the table”-Thando

He didn’t even ask if he could change the channel he just did

“Where’s Lisa?”-me

“Celiwe is bathing her”-Thando

Mom came back with the cereal, and I dived in and gulped it all within minutes, I just wanted to be away from Sipho, I’m never free around him

“Asambe (let’s go)”-me

He scooped me up and carried me to his car

“There’s no need for that yazi, I only have a problem with stairs”-me

“Stop whining”

He got on the road

“What’s happening between you and Dad?”-him

“I’ve been saying this ever since I got here, that nigga doesn’t like me. Did you see how he just walked in without greeting? Yes I understand he is an elder, but you have to greet when you find people already sitting in the dining area”-me

“He doesn’t hate you”

“Yeah right”-me

“and what’s happening between you and Nkosenhle? I thought you’d be excited after seeing him, you guys barely talked yesterday”-him

“Him and I are fine”

“You know you can’t lie to me right?”-him

“I don’t want to talk about it Thando”

“Okay I won’t push, you’ll tell me when you’re ready. What’s the plan with Lwandle?”-him

I involuntary smiled

“Now you’re talking, I am going to have so much fun with that one”-me

“Let me in on the plan”-Him

“All in due time bro, all in due time” I whistled

“You’re weird”-him

“I know”-me

We got to the hospital, and I was taken to a room where they flushed out the drugs from my system

“Are they all out now?”-Thando

“Not all, she’ll have to drink water every day to flush out whatever is left, the next days will be difficult for her as her body has to adjust to not having any drugs , just make sure she avoids any sort of tablets until I give her the go ahead if she starts to act up give her water only. I’ll set up another appointment for her to come and see me so I can examine her”-Dr

“Alright thank you Dr”

We left and headed to some office

“Ay Thando what is this now?”-me

“we’ll be quick”-him

We went inside and there was a guy there

“Thando my guy” they fist bumped

“This must be the beautiful female Thando” the guy said to me extending his hand for a handshake

“Hi I’m Nhlanhla”

“Nice to meet you Nhlanhla I am Siya”-Siya

“Nice to meet you too Siya”-me

“Is my thing ready?”-Thando

Siya took out a tiny box

“Right here”-Siya

“Please have an open mind okay?”-Thando to me

“What’s inside the box?”-me

“A tracker”-Thando

“Who’s privacy are you invading now?”-me

“Yours”-Thando

“What?”-me

“Don’t put it like that, I just want to know that you’re safe. It happens that you get taken again I’ll be able to locate you and find you”-Thando

“Thando No, that was the last time I got taken. She waited for me to be vulnerable and weak”-me

“There’s no harm in knowing where you are Lethi, I won’t be tracking your day to day activity I’ll only check when you’re in danger”-

Thando

“Fine! Where will you put it?”-me

“In your necklace”-Thando

I took it out and gave it to Siya who walked away with it and the tracker and came back after a while

“All done”-Siya

“Is it active?”-Thando

“Let’s find out”-Siya

He took out his laptop and typed something then a red dot flashed on the screen

“Yes it is”-Siya

“Thank you my guy”-Thando

They handshake and we left

“Always wear this”-Thando

I rolled my eyes

“Did you pay that guy who helped me out?”-me

“Yes I did”-Thando

“Thank you. I’ll ask Nkosenhle to get him a job in one of his companies, I’m sure he can find something for him”-me

He drove us back home

As soon as we entered Hlengiwe bombarded us with questions

“She’s fine Mah, the doctor said the next few days will be difficult and that she needs to drink water daily”-Thando

“I’ll go get her bottle as we speak” she left and came back with the bottle and waited for me to drink which I did

“I’ll be fetching you a bottle every now and then”-Hlengiwe

In the lounge seated is Thando, Myself, Eric, Nomcebo, Zodwa, Nomathemba, Sipho, Baba and Hlengiwe.

“What is this I hear about you dating your sisters Fiancé?”-Sipho

Here we go again

“Baba this is not the right time, can’t you see she is not well”-Mom

“uLethinhlanhla nje has brought nothing but trouble to this house, it wasn’t enough that Phiwo got killed because of her, she then went on and dated her elder sisters husband and not so long ago I almost lost my wife due to her heart condition which increased because of her”-Sipho

I chuckled

“Sipho!” Baba warned his brother

“Dad No”-Eric

“Sipho what is wrong with you? How can you say that?”-Mom

“Is that how you feel? Let me enlighten you daddy, Phiwo didn’t die because of me, she died because of you and your evil doings. I begged them to let her go and torture me, but they refused and said they only kept her there to teach you a lesson since she is your

favorite child. I did everything I could to protect her, I would've given up my life to spare hers, I would've taken all the beatings for her and all the sexual harassments, and wena what did do to find her?

Absolutely nothing! So don't come here and judge me and blame me for failing your daughter. As for Nkosenhle I love him, and I won't break up with him to please you! I don't need you in my life, I've never needed you! And if you believe that I only bring trouble in your house then I'll leave, I won't stay in a place where I'm not welcomed, I'm not homeless, I've got my own house"-me

"Don't talk to me like that!" he roared

"Mxm Thando take me to my room I need to pack my clothes"-me

"Nhlanhla No, this is your home please don't leave, who will take care of you in Durban? I am here and I enjoy taking care of you"-
Hlengiwe

"I can't be in a house where I'm not welcomed, what kind of a father is he? How can he be so cruel and say Phiwo died because of me? am I not his daughter? Why doesn't he treat me like one?"-me

"Sipho don't make me chose between my kids and you because you will not like the results"-Hlengiwe

"Mom you don't have to choose, I don't want you to choose. He is your husband, and you should stay with him, next minute he'll blame me if your marriage fails, and I can't have that. I will visit you

whenever I get a chance, I just won't step my foot in this house, I'll book into hotel, and you can see me there or you can fly down and see me in my house"-me

"Who will look after you?"-Hlengiwe

"I'll look after myself, I'm fine or I can go to Eric or Nomonde's place for a while"-me

"If you don't mind I can help you out until you're fully healed"-
Nomcebo

Ay I don't know how I feel about that, I've forgiven her, but I don't fully trust her

"I'll come with you, Nomcebo you don't have to worry"-Thando

"See perfect, let's go pack"-me

"I honestly don't know what is wrong with you Sipho, Hlengiwe are you sure Lethinhlanhla is his child?"-Baba

Sipho clicked his tongue and left, and we followed after him and I packed my clothes and Lisa's as well

"You don't have to come along you know that right? I'll be fine and if it gets too much I can always call Nkosenhle or Nkosi"-me

"I want to come"-Thando

"Alright then how will we travel?"-me

“We’ll use the private Jet”-him

“I don’t want anything that belongs to that man”-me

“Nhlanhla come on”-Thando

“No Thando!”

I took out my phone and called Nkosenhle

“Sthandwa sami”-him

I felt like throwing up when he said that

“Hey, can you do me a favor”-me

“anything”-him

“Can you arrange a jet for Thando, Lisa and Myself”-me

“Where are you going?”-him

“Back home”-me

“Durban?”-him

“Yes”-me

“Alright I’ll make some calls and I’ll get back to you”-him

“Thanks” I dropped the call

“He’ll get back to me”-me

“Okay”-Thando

We finished packing and after like an hour Nkosenhle called letting us know that he is outside

“Let’s go”-me

I carried Lisakhanya and Thando carried our bags

“Is Mo taking you?”-Eric

“No”-me

“Here take these and make sure she drinks water as the doctor instructed”-Mom

“Will do”-Thando

“I still don’t agree with this, Lisakhanya you shouldn’t be leaving, this is your house you should sit down with your dad and address this”-Baba

“I will not stay in a place where I am not welcomed Baba”-me

He shook his head and folded his arms

“I’ll join you guys in a couple of days, I still have a few things to sort out”-Eric

We said our goodbyes and got in Nkosenhles car, and he took us to another, I knew he would come up with a plan, it’d be unlikely to find that the Ndlovu’s don’t own a jet if not jets.

Upon arrival everyone was there, Nelly, Nkosi and Lwandle. I looked at Thando who signaled that I should calm down. What is Lwandle doing here? I took a deep breath and got inside and sat in between Nkosi and Thando, I didn't want to be anywhere between Nkosenhle and his girlfriend.

"I missed you"-Nkosi

"Ofcouse you did, I mean why wouldn't you?"-me

"Still cocky I see"-Nkosi

"I'm joking I missed you too"-Me

Lwandle cleared her throat

"Do you guys think that's proper? To flirt like that in front of Nelly"-
Lwandle

I counted till 10 in my head to cool down

"How is it flirting?"-me

"I mean both of you saying you miss each and all"-Lwandle

"We're not lying though so where's the problem? Everybody here knows how close Nkosi, and I are, and why are you the one who has a problem with this?"-me

"I was just saying"-Lwandle

"How about you keep your mouth shut for the rest of the trip?"-me

“What is your problem with me? you should be thanking me that I’m here supporting you”-Lwandle

I laughed so hard which caused Lisa to laugh

“I should be thanking you? Thanking you that..”

Thando squeezed my thigh

“I didn’t ask you to come here, I don’t even know why you’re here because last time I checked we weren’t friends”-me

“You’re ungrateful”-her

I ignored her

“I had planned on visiting Phiwos grave before I went back”-me

“I’m sorry you couldn’t send her off”-Nkosi

“You shouldn’t be sorry Nkosi, you did nothing wrong. I’ll be fine trust me”-me

“we could’ve started there before boarding the jet”-Nkosenhle

“No not today, I couldn’t do it today. I’ll come some other time”-me

“Why the sudden decision to leave? I mean it was so random”-Lwandle

“How is that any of your business?”-Thando

Quiet

“weren’t you warned to keep your mouth shut for the rest of the trip?”-Nkosi

“Mxm”-Lwandle

The rest of the ride was silent, and we finally landed back home and there were two cars waiting for us, Nkosi and His girl got in one and it left.

“I don’t see a 3rd car”-me

“3rd car for what, we’ll fit in this one”-Lwandle

“3rd car for you because you’re definitely not getting in this one, I suggest you catch an uber or taxis or whatever”-me

“Haibo what do you mean? Nkosenhle” she called out

“Lethi it’s just a ride..”-Nkosenhle

“Don’t start with me, if you want to travel with her then it’s cool my brother and I will request, balls in your court”-me

The audacity this guy has to speak up for Lwandle

“That won’t be necessary, I’ll call her a cab”-Nkosenhle

“You will do no such thing, Lwandle has a cellphone she can call her own cab. Please get in the car I want to go sleep and put Lisa in bed”-me

I left them there and joined Thando in the car and Nkosenhle joined after, and we headed to my house.

“It’s dark outside and I can’t allow you to travel with a child, spend the night”-me

“You too better not be loud”-Thando

“Shut up Thando”-me

“It only makes sense I call my girl over so we can have a competition”-Thando

Thando is unbelievable, I left him there and placed Lisa in the spare bedroom and I went to mine and changed into Pjs, I don’t have time to shower.

Nkosenhle and Thando walked in, “here drink this” Thando handed me a bottle of water

“Give me your car keys so I can go buy food”-Thando

I looked for the key and handed it to him and he left

I drank the bottle while Nkosenhle sat on the side of the bed

“Are you upset with me?”-him

“Should I be?”

Let’s see if he will man up and confess to what he did

“Things haven’t been okay with us since you got back”-Nkosenhle

“I’ve noticed”-me

“I am sorry”-him

.....

“When they took you again I just lost it, you are my weakness Nhlanhla, I’m unable to function without you. They took you twice and I couldn’t find you, that made me feel useless and you can only imagine how tough that was for a guy like me, a guy who was on top of things few months ago, a guy who didn’t fear anything, and that all changed when you came along, I turned soft and turned into a bitch, I was consumed by a lot of emotions and the only thing that kept me sane was alcohol, I turned into alcohol to keep me numb so that I wouldn’t feel like loser. This other day Lwandle came into my room and said that she wanted to say something then leave, I allowed her in so she can say what she needed to say but instead she closed the door and kissed me, and I kissed back, I am really sorry Nhlanhla but that’s where it stopped I promise, we didn’t do anything else”-him

Yeah because Nkosi walked in, had he not you would’ve fucked her

Out of nowhere I smacked the shit out of him and fell of the bed

“You disgust me! I was out there being drugged day and night and you were busy shoving your tongue down her throat. You don’t respect me Nkosenhle, alcohol or not you shouldn’t have allowed her in your room. What’s the one thing I said you shouldn’t do when we first started dating?”-me

“You said I should not cheat”-him

“Exactly I said do not cheat, especially with her and wena what did you do?”

“I cheated”-him

“You cheated, tell me what am I supposed to do with you?”-me

“Baby I’m sorry”-him

“I’ll allow you to stay here for the night, tomorrow morning I want you out of my house”-me

“Nhlanhla baby please don’t be like that, I fucked up and I’m sorry”-him

“Not only did you kiss her you went on and invited her to travel with us, you didn’t stop there but you went as far as defending her when I said she should use a different car, what is wrong with you?”-me

“It wasn’t like that”-him

“Tomorrow morning I want you out before the sunrise, don’t come to my house and don’t call me”-me

“Are you breaking up with me?”-him

“I’m giving you space to decide who is it that you want between Lwandle and I”-me

“I want you, I don’t need space to decide that”-him

“Can you please close the door on your way out or if you decide to stay inside switch off the lights”-me

I didn’t even give him a chance to reply, I got in bed and faced the other way and I heard the door closing after.

In the middle of the night I was sweating and shivering at the same time, my head was throbbing, and I’ve never felt anything like that

“Baby you are shaking what is wrong? Where does it hurt?”-

Nkosenhle

I couldn’t speak tears just voluntarily escaped my eyes

He ran out and came back with Thando

“The Dr said that this would happen, her body has gotten used to the drugs they fed her and now it’s reacting because she hasn’t had any in a while”-Thando

“How do we help her?”-Nkosenhle

“by giving her water”-Thando

He ran to the kitchen, and they helped me sit up and drink the water, but the pain wasn't subsiding

"Please get me painkillers" I cried

"No the Dr said you shouldn't take any medication"-Thando

"Thando please just one tablet, it really hurts"-me

"No"-Thando

"Nkosenhle please" I begged

He just took me in his arms and hugged me until I fell asleep again.

NKOSENHLE

Seeing Lethi like this breaks my heart, I wanted to give in and give her the painkillers she wanted so that the pain could go away but I couldn't, I want her to be better and not depend on any drugs.

"Nkosenhle what are you doing here? Didn't I tell you that I wanted you out of my house soon as the sun comes up?"

That's the first thing she says after opening her eyes

"Morning to you too Sthandwa sami, yes you did say I should leave in the morning but how can I leave you like this?"-me

"You don't have to worry about me, I am fine"-her

"No you are not, please allow me to be here for you. That's the least I can do"-me

“Thando is here, he’ll look after me”-Nhlanhla

“Thando wasn’t with you last night, he was fast asleep. How will he be able to hear you when he is in a different room?”-me

“So you want to stay in my house for how long?”-her

“I don’t have to stay in your house if you don’t want me to, we can always go to my house, and you can stay for as long as you want”-me

She kept quiet for a while

“Fine you can stay here but this doesn’t mean you and I are fine”-her

“That’s fine, my priority right now is to make sure that you’re okay. The rest will work itself out”-me

“Just because we’ll be sleeping together does not mean we’ll have sex”-her

I chuckled

“I’m serious”-her

“I didn’t say anything”

“You’re smiling”-her

“Is that what you really want?”

“Yes”-her

“Okay then, no sex”

“Good!”-her

She went to shower

While I made the bed then went to check on Lisa who was cheerfully watching cartoons with Thando eating Candy

“Candy in the morning Thando?”-me

“Let the kid be Nkosenhle, whatever she wants she’ll get”-Thando

“When she becomes too much to handle she’ll be your responsibility”-me

“Go take care of your big baby while I take care of mine”-Thando

I raised my hands in surrender

“Please give Lethi a bottle of water”-Thando

“Sure”

I grabbed the bottle and went back to the room, and she was still not out

“Nhlanhla” I shouted

....

I went and opened the door and there she was naked and rolled up in a ball covering her ears shivering

“Baby what’s wrong?”

Tears fell down her eyes and there were drops of blood flowing down her wrist

“Nhlanhla what did you do?”

“I wanted it to stop”-her

I scooped her up and wrapped a towel around her and tucked her in bed

“You’ll get better I promise you, the pain will go away, and you will be yourself again. Please be patient my love”-me

She got closer to me and held me tight while her head buried on my chest

I brushed her back until she calmed down

“I’m sorry you have to go through this but cutting yourself is not the answer. Please promise me you won’t do it again”-me

“It helps numb the pain”-her

“We can find another way”-me

Silence

“I don’t want to lose you Nhlanhla”-me

She nodded

“Drink up” I handed her the bottle, and she drank it

I went and took a wet towel and wiped the blood from her wrist

“Come I’ll make you something to eat”-me

“I’ll make something don’t worry”-her

She went to the kitchen, and I went to Thando

“I’m worried about her”-me

“What happened?”-him

“She cut herself”-me

“what was she doing? I’m sure it was an accident”-Thando

“No, she cut her wrist”-me

“What?”-him

“She did the same thing a year back and she ended up in a coma. I thought she was fine, but I see there is a lot happening in her mind and she is far from being fine”-me

“It’s understandable for her to not be okay considering all that has happened since the death of Sthembiso”-Thando

“I’ve tried to get her to talk to someone, but she isn’t interested”-me

“I’ll talk to her as well”-Thando

“we need to remove all sharp objects around this house, anything she might use to hurt herself should be removed”-me

“Alright”

Lethi came to us

“Hello baby”-Nhlanhla

“Hello Mamiza”-Lisa

“Did you eat?”-Nhlanhla

Lisa nodded

“What did you eat?”-Nhlanhla

“sweets”-Lisa

Nhlanhla turned to us, and I pointed at Thando

“Sweets only?”-Nhlanhla

“Of cos not, I made her cornflakes”-Thando

“Tell me when you’re hungry okay?”-Nhlanhla

“Okay Mamiza, Lisa not hungry”-Lisa

“Her English is cute”-Nhlanhla

“It’s funny”-Thando

“I’ll bath her when I’m done eating, where are her bags?”-Nhlanhla

“I’ll place them in your room”-Thando

He got up and left

LETHINHLANHLA

I finished bathing Lisa and I found Nkosi

“Hey stranger, I didn’t know you were coming”-me

“Had you answered your phone you’d have known”-Nkosi

“I don’t know where it is”-me

“You never know where your phone is”-Thando

“Shut up”-me

“Can I talk to you?”-Nkosi

“Sure”-me

We went to my room

“How are you?”-Nkosi

“I’m not okay hey, those drugs really fucked me over and it doesn’t help that I can’t take any painkillers as yet”-me

“I’m sorry ntwana, it’ll be over soon”-him

“I guess, how are you?”-me

“I don’t know, I’m not okay knowing that I’m keeping a secret from you”-him

“What’s up?”-me

“Promise you won’t get mad”-Nkosi

“Nkosi”-me

“Promise me”-him

“Fine”

“Okay so uhm, back in Cape Town I found Nkosenhle and Lwandle on top of each other kissing. I know you are going through a lot, and this will probably add to your stress kodwake you had to know”-him

“What? They did what”

I stood up and paced around the room

“Nhlanhla you promised you won’t get mad, please calm down before your heart acts up”-Nkosi

He seemed so worried shame I felt back

“I was just kidding ntwana, Nkosenhle confessed to me”-me

“you scared me. oh he did? That’s good then, now I can sleep peacefully at night”-him

“Thank you for having my back, you told on your brother for the sake of our friendship”-me

“I told him that he should treat you right because you’re very important to me, so yes when he fucks up I’ll tell on him, and he knows that”-Nkosi

I got up and hugged him

“You’re appreciated, I’ll take you out one of these days”-me

“I’ll hold you on to that”-him

We went back and joined the rest

“I bought meat, let’s have a braai I’ll prepare the pap and chakalaka while Thando and Nkosenhle braai the meat”-Nkosi

“I’ll invite Nomonde, she wanted to come see you Lethi”-Thando

I'm really not in the mood for a crowd

"Alright"-me

Nkosi went to the kitchen while Thando disappeared somewhere around the house

"Are you okay?"-Nkosenhle

"Yeah"

"How's the headache?"-him

"It's not there"-me

"When last did you drink water?"-him

I eyed him

"Noma ungangibuka kanjalo kmele uphuze amanzi" (even if you look at me like you have to drink water)-him

Nkosi appeared

"Haibo Lethi don't you have knives in this house?"-him

How can I not have knives when I'm literally fascinated by them

"What do you mean? Check in the drawers"-me

"I did and they are not there"-Nkosi

"I swear if I find them there I'll use one of them to stab you"-me

"woza (come)"-Nkosi

“Don’t worry I’ll show him”-Nkosenhle

They disappeared together and Nkosenhle came back with a bottle of water

“You’re not going to escape that easily”-Nkosenhle

I gulped down the bottle

“Would you like me to take you to the doctor tomorrow?”-
Nkosenhle

“I would like for you to go back to your house”-me

“Yeah that’s not happening”-Nkosenhle

“I want to go back to work”-me

“You don’t really have to work, I will give you money”-Nkosenhle

“Meaning I’d have to be dependent on you? So if every time I run out of things I’d have to report to you and ask for money?”-me

“No, I’ll give you money monthly or you can have my card and use it whenever you want”-Nkosenhle

“and if we break up? What will happen then?”-me

“we won’t break up, soon you’ll be my wife and you’ll own whatever I own”-him

I couldn’t help but blush

“Yeah I’m not doing that”-me

“Which part? You won’t be my wife?”-him

“I’m not quitting my job”-me

“so you do want to marry me?” he smirked

“Is that your way of proposing?”-me

“I can go get a ring right now”-him

“You’re an idiot”-me

We both laughed

“Seeing you laughing makes me happy”-him

“aren’t you supposed to be helping Thando with the meat?”-me

“I’d rather be here with you”-him

“mina I don’t want you here ke so go”-me

“I’ll be back”-him

He kissed my forehead and left and after a few minutes my headache started

I went to my room and all my razors were not there, I went to the kitchen and as Nkosi had said the knives were not there.

Fuck! This has Nkosenhle written all over it

“Think Lethi Think!” I said to myself

I opened the cupboard and took a glass, and I ran to the other side of the house

I carefully smashed it making sure it doesn't smash into tiny pieces, I picked up the tiny piece that fell and pressed it against my wrist and just then they ran towards me, the three of them.

"Lethi Stop"-Nkosenhle

I was so annoyed

"How did you know I was here?"-me

"We heard the glass break"-Nkosi

"Lethi you are scaring me, what's wrong talk to me"-Thando

"It's nothing"-me

"What do you mean it's nothing? You're suicidal"-Nkosenhle

"I'm not suicidal, I'm just trying to minimize the pain"-me

"from now on I'm not leaving your side"-Nkosenhle

"Honestly Lethi, do we have to hide everything from you?"-Thando

"Well this is my house, nobody has the right to hide anything" I mumbled

"What did you say?"-Thando

"Nothing"-me

"asambe (let's go)"-Nkosenhle

We walked back inside and found Nomonde waiting for us

“My friend!” she ran towards me and hugged me

“How are you?”-me

“I should be asking you that”-her

“I’m okay, I just have a terrible headache”-me

“Did you take painkillers?”-her

“Don’t give her any medication”-Nkosenhle

I rolled my eyes

“It’ll go away after a while”-me

We chilled and ate over a light conversation

NKOSENHLE

The guys and I were dishing up the food for everyone, I don’t want Lethi anywhere near the kitchen

“This think of hers is getting serious, we should tell Eric maybe he’ll know what to do”-Thando

“I hate to say this, but we need to send her to a psychiatric center or any place that will help suicidal people”-Nkosenhle

“will you be okay with sending her there?”-Nkosi

“I don’t want to but if it’ll help her then I can live with it, it won’t be for long vele”-Nkosenhle

“She won’t agree to it, y’all know how stubborn she is”-Thando

“She won’t that’s why we’ll force her, she’ll be angry at first but eventually she’ll forgive us once she’s had help. We can’t take care of her here”-Nkosenhle

We went back and ate over a light conversation, and we retired to bed while Nkosi went home

“Babe”-me

“yah”-her

“I love you”-me

“I know, I love you too”-her

“please talk to me”-me

“I am nje”

“No like tell me what’s going on, talking helps”-me

“I don’t know what you’re talking about”

“You’re not okay”-me

“I am”

“I want to help you”-me

“Nobody can help me”

“That’s not true”-me

“how can they help me? can they bring back my dead babies? Will they bring Phiwo back? Will they unkill the people I’ve killed? Will they take away the memories of the time I was kidnapped? Will they be able to restore happiness in my life again? Will they?”

She burst out and I was left for words

“I’m sorry you had to go through that babe, you can go for counseling, and we can always try again for kids”-me

“So I can lose that baby like I did with the others? Why don’t you see that I don’t deserve you? I don’t deserve anyone. Who would want to be with a woman who can’t give children?”

“Me! it’s fine with me if you can’t give me children, I love you and I know in the future we’ll be able to have our kids”-me

“You don’t know what you’re talking about Nkosenhle”

She covered herself and slept

“Sthandwa sami you are shutting me out and I don’t like that”-me

“Goodnight Nkosenhle”

I pulled her close to me and we slept

In the morning I woke and told Eric to book Lethi into any centers where depressed people go for help and at first he wasn’t happy with this, but he ended up agreeing. Now the big issue is telling Lethi. Nkosi and Eric will be here so we can all talk to her together.

I jogged and got back took a shower and prepared breakfast for Lethi, Nkosi and Eric walked in together and Thando joined us as well

“I’ll go wake her up”

I left them there and went to the room, but she wasn’t in bed so I’m guessing she’s showering. I sat and waited for until I heard a glass break in the shower, and I rushed to her, but the door was locked.

“Nhlanhla!” I shouted but no response

“Nhlanhla!” I shouted again

Everybody rushed in

“What’s going on?”-Thando

I ignored him

“I’ll count to three and for your sake you better be far away from this door because I will kick it open”-me

“1...2...3”

I kicked it and it opened and there she was her hand drenching in blood, she had punched the mirror

“Nhlanhla!”-Eric

She watched the blood in her hand, and she smiled to herself

What weird shit is this?

She was still wearing her pjs which meant she hasn’t showered

I cleaned her hand and I bathed her then we joined the rest in the dining area

“Nhlanhla we are worried about you, this thing of yours cutting yourself doesn’t sit well with us. We’ve tried multiple times to get you to open up to either one of us, but you have refused so we’ve decided that it’s best we send you into a mental institution”-Eric

“I’m not crazy”-Nhlanhla

“A mental institution is not just for crazy people, so long as you are feeling really sad or if you are feeling out of control or if you have physical symptoms from self-harm or having thoughts of hurting yourself or others you can be admitted”-Eric

“You also want to have me locked up with crazy people?” she asked looking at me

“If it’ll benefit you then yes. you won’t be locked up, we’ll make sure you get the best care and if you don’t want to share a room then we can organize you your own room. All we want is for you to engage in group exercises and talk to someone who will be able to assist you and help you deal with whatever that is troubling you”-me

She turned and looked at Nkosi and Thando who just looked the other way

“well I guess you’ve all made a decision for me and there’s nothing that I can really do. all I know is that I am not crazy nor am I danger to myself or anyone. I will go to this mental institution of yours only on one condition”-Nhlanhla

“Okay we are listening”-Eric

“This is directed to Nkosenhle”-Nhlanhla

“I’ll do anything”-me

“I need you to give somebody a job, no questions asked just do as I say”-Nhlanhla

“How do I find that person?”-Me

“Thando will give you his number”-Nhlanhla

“okay”-me

“A proper job, not those shady jobs y’all are involved in”-Nhlanhla

We all chuckled

“Alright ma’am that’s a small favor to ask”-me

“when am I going?”-Nhlanhla

Silence

“I asked a question”-Nhlanhla

“Today”-me

“Y’all can’t wait to get rid of me”-Nhlanhla

“it’s not like that”-Me

“It’s whatever, Eric please let Ngonyama know that I can’t return to work and honestly speaking I wouldn’t be surprised if I come back jobless.”-Nhlanhla

“That should be the least of your worries”-Me

She rolled her eyes

“Thando can you please help me pack?”-Nhlanhla

“sure”-Thando

They walked away together

“Are you guys sure about this?”-Nkosi

“There’s no other way”-Eric

“I don’t know about this”-Nkosi

“Nhlanhla will be fine, we’ll be able to visit her daily so long as the visit doesn’t clash with her daily activities”-Eric

“we have a mission coming up in two days, maybe that will help distract you a little”-me

LETHINHLANHLA

“So you guys are really doing this?”-me

“I’m sorry Sis but it has to be done. we can’t leave you on your own because we fear what you might do. what if you end up cutting one of your veins and end up dead how would we deal with that? I’m tired of burying my sisters Lethi I can’t do it anymore”-Thando

He shared a tear, and I felt my heart drop to my stomach

“I am not going to die Thando, I’m not going anywhere. I will do this because I love you and I don’t want you to feel like this, I am sorry I put you guys through this as it was never my intension. Just be patient with me, I will get help when the time is right just trust me on that”-me

“When the time is right? What do you mean by that?”-Thando

“That I’ll be fine”-me

He eyed me

“This journey will be easy since I’ll have you by my side” I showed him the necklace

“I love you kid”-him

“I love you too”

“Let’s get going”-him

“Go I’ll meet you outside”-me

He carried my bag to the car and left

I quickly made a call to the guy who had got me a gun when I needed it for Khanyi

“Nhlanhla!”-him

“Sure I need you to rent me a two room house anywhere around Mlazi, I’ll pay whichever amount they need. Keep the keys with you and I’ll contact you soon”-me

“Alright sho”

I dropped the call and went to the others outside

“May I please have a word with you”-Nkosenhle

We went to the side

“I know you’re not happy with this, and please don’t think we are deserting you by sending you away. I know I’ve done wrong by kissing Lwandle and trust me I regret it, I promise you that I will not do anything with anyone while you are away. I will earn your trust again and we will pick up from where we left off, I’ll be waiting for you, Lisa and I will be waiting for you when you get back. I LOVE YOU!”-Nkosenhle

“I love you too”

He pulled me in for a hug and kissed me

“Let’s get going”-Eric

I hugged all of them

“I’ll miss you”-Nkosi

“won’t you come and see me?”-me

“I will”-Nkosi

“Then you won’t miss me”

We hugged and I got in the car with Eric and Nkosenhle and they drove me to the place

“so this is it?”-me

“We’ll visit you, you’ve got your own private space here, so you don’t have to worry”-Eric

“Bye”-me

I left them and went to check in the reception, they showed me around then I was taken to my room. I was told that dinner is at 18:00 and prayer is at 19:00 after that everyone goes to bed. I put my bag down and I went to the garden for some fresh air. I can’t believe that this is my life for the next I don’t know how many weeks.

A girl approached me, and she stood in front of me

“Hi” the girl says

“Hi” I reply

“My name is Mbalenhle and this is my house” she burst into laughter

See why I didn’t want to be admitted in this damn place?

“okay, nice to meet you Mbali”-me

“What’s your name?”

“uhm my name is Lerato”-me

“okay, you are going to be stuck with me forever. Nobody gets out of here, I know all the exits in this place, but nobody believes me. they all think I’m crazy”-Mbali

“I don’t think you are crazy”-me

Her face lit up

“Really?”-her

“Yes”

“I knew one day someone would believe me” she burst into laughter again

“so you know all the exits of this place?”-me

“I know everything that happens here, come I’ll show you around ”-
Mbali

I followed her around

“Do you see that fence there? I recently created a way out just beneath it and it doesn’t really have much security as it’s far at the back and nobody is allowed to come this side”-her

“Then why haven’t you tried to escape?”-me

“It’s no use, I try to run but my family always returns me back here, so now I just create exists for fun”-her

“Why haven’t you told the others about this place?”-me

“They would get caught immediately, these medications they take make them very slow and besides this specific exit requires a strong individual who’ll be able to jump across buildings and hide from cameras”-Mbali

“can you exit and come back the same way?”-me

“yes but it’ll be harder to get back in”-Mbali

“I see”-me

We walked back to where everyone was

“Mbali what are you doing outside? You’re not supposed to be here” one of the nurses or caregivers said

Mbali burst out of laughter

“Don’t mind anything she says, she hallucinates a lot especially when she hasn’t taken her medication”-nurse

I don't think she was joking about the exit she created, well if she is then I guess I'd have to find out by going there at night. It's too bad they took her before I could get more information about this place and the times suitable to try and escape.

We were called in the dining area for Lunch and Mbali wasn't there.

"hi" I said to the person next to me

Silence

Alright then, I kept my mouth shut and focused on my food. After a while she replied

"Hi"-her

I rolled my eyes

"Hi, Do you know where I can find Mbali?" I asked

"That crazy one, what business do you have with her? I suggest you stay away from her if you don't want any trouble"-Girl

"Alright thank you"

I went to the sister in charge of us and told her I'm not feeling well meaning I won't be joining them for supper. She agreed and I retired to my room and waited for supper time which felt like forever. I heard the siren, and everyone got out their rooms and went to the dining hall. I got dressed in leggings and one of Nkosenhles overlapping top, a hoodie and running shoes. I stuffed two pillows in

my bed and placed one of my weaves to make it seem like I'm sleeping. I know this is the oldest trick in the book, but I'll take anything at this moment. I went to the back where Mbali had shown me earlier

"Lethinhlanhla I can't believe you're willing to risk it all by believing that girl. What if she's really crazy and there's no way to escape this place? Well there's only one way to find out" I comforted myself

I had scanned the cameras in this place and I'm aware of where the cameras are located so I'm doing everything in my power to avoid them. Mbali had mentioned earlier that this place doesn't have much security and considering the fact that everyone is eating this should be easy for me because they won't really pay much attention because they would think everyone is in the dining hall eating.

I successfully made it to where the hole in the fence was and to my surprise it was there, problem is that it wasn't wide enough for a person to slide out which meant I had to slither my way out which will come with a lot of bruises but that's a small price to pay. I made my way out and as expected I had cuts on my legs and my leggings were torn on the sides.

"Right where do I go from here? Think Lethi Think"

I made my way to one of the fences surrounding buildings and I successfully jumped. I lowered my hoodie to not look like a criminal and draw attention to myself Infront of people. This place has a weak security if you asked me, Eric and Nksosenhle didn't do a proper research on this place. Lucky for me there was a garage nearby and I had a few R100 notes that Nkosenhle gave me in case I needed to by something in the cafeteria. I asked one of the petrol attendance to request me an uber to my place and he easily complied. I told the driver to park a few houses away from mine, I paid him his money and I made way to my house. The entire time I'm praying Thando isn't home.

I Jumped the gate and made it to the back door, the lights are off which means Thando isn't home. I picked one of the rocks on the floor and I broke the door handle using the rock and made my way inside. This is the good thing about not having cameras and an alarm in your house or else I'd be in trouble now. I went to my room and quickly dialed the guys number

"I'll meet you at your place in like 15 minutes"-me

"Make sure you have my money"-him

"I'll transfer your money now"

"Sure"

I dropped the call and transferred his money, I switched off my phone grabbed my Jeep car keys and I messed the place up to make it look like someone broke in and I left heading to his place.

Flashback of myself and Phiwo singing in this car came flooding in, but I had to push those thoughts away and focus on the task at hand.

I arrived at his place

“I need something to make someone sleepy fast and a rope, I don’t have all day. also I need you to come with me so that you can remove the tracker in this car and keep it with you until I contact you again”-me

“what are you up to now?”-him

“Ask no questions and hear no lies. Can you do those simple things for me”-me

“Anything for you”-him

“Good! Give me the rope and chemicals as well as the house keys so we can go. I have to rush somewhere”-me

Without wasting anytime we were on the road to Lwandle’s house mind you it’s late at night

“I’m not sure if I’ll find the person I’m looking for here”-me

“Then why are we here if you didn’t do your research”-him

“It’s now or never”-me

“You could’ve asked me to check for you”-him

“Yah well I didn’t so here we are. I’m going in”-me

I went in her parents’ house and carefully picked the door with a knife, the problem is spotting which room is hers. There are two rooms here which means I have to do a try and error and open both rooms to check. I tried to open the first room and it was locked, I moved to the second one and gently opened and fortunately for me it was her room, and she was fast asleep. This girl is really crazy, she has a bunch of Nkosenhles pictures all over her table. I quickly removed the liquid chemical and poured it on the cloth and jumped for her mouth and nose covering her with the cloth, so she doesn’t make noise. She tried to fight by kicking herself free, but the chemical was too strong, and her body willingly gave in. I gave her a piggyback which was a mission considering she is bigger than me, but I managed to make it to the car.

“Geez Nhlanhla! TF! You didn’t tell me you were coming to kidnap someone”-him

“Open the door and stop talking shit”-me

He rushed to the back and helped me load her in

“Who is this?” he asked

“someone who’s going to pay for what she did to me”-me

“Geez I don’t wish to be her right now”-him

“What time is it” I asked

“00:20 am”-him

“Shit we don’t have much time. I’m sure Thando is with Nomonde, so he hasn’t figured out I went to the house and took the car. I need to go drop this girl at the house I said you should get for me, and I need to go back to the center, and you need to remove the tracker in this car and keep the car with you”-me

“What center? Ehh Nhlanhla what is going on?”-him

“Sabelo I don’t have time to explain. Which section are we going to?”-me

“Mlazi ka V”-him

“Lord I hope we’ll be able to make it on time”-me

I speed off to Umlazi with Sabelo giving me instructions, at this point I didn’t care about the speeding tickets I’ll receive at the end of the day. we made it to kaV and lucky for me the house was a bit distant from other houses which meant I won’t have trouble with people spotting anything happening.

He helped carry Lwandle to the house and we tied her to a chair and tightly gagged her mouth so that she wouldn’t scream when she wakes up.

“Can you come here later on today and give her water? I’ll meet you later on and get the keys from you”-me

“Sure”-Sabelo

We left Lwandle there and I drove back to the center. I was going to sneak in the same way I snuck out

“what I need you to do right now is to take this car somewhere and remove the tracker and drop it wherever, take out the number plate and keep it with you as well as the car. Also I need you to check on Thando, he is my brother, check on his movement for today and please meet me here with the car around 19:30”-me

“what is this place?”-Sabelo

“Sabelo!” I warned

“Okay fine”-him

I jumped off and went back to my room without being noticed, took off my clothes wore pjs and slept.

NARRATED

The next day Lwandle woke up tied to a chair in a house she wasn’t familiar with. The last thing she remembers was plotting on how to get Nkosenhle back. She looked around but couldn’t find anything to untie herself with, it didn’t help that she couldn’t scream for help, so

she just allowed her tears to flow and just then Sabelo walked in with a bottle of water.

“Why are you crying?” he asked

.....

“Ohh shoot you can’t speak because of that thing on your mouth” he laughed “My bad, if you try to scream I won’t give you water or food for the rest of your days here okay?”-Sabelo

She nodded

“Good girl”

He removed the gag on her mouth, and she silently cried

“Please don’t do this, my boyfriend has money. I’m sure you know him, his name is Nkosenhle you can do your research on him, and he can pay you whatever amount you want”-Lwandle

“You messed with the wrong person, I feel for you”-Sabelo

“What did I do to you?”-Lwandle

“Not me but a friend of mine if I can put it that way”-Sabelo

“Who is that friend?”-Lwandle

“You’ll find out later today, drink up”-Sabelo

“Please!” she begged

“If you don’t want water then say it so I can put that thing on your mouth, I don’t have all day”-Sabelo

She complied and drank the water as she had hiccups from crying and after she finished Sabelo gagged her again and left her to question who she messed with this time around.

LETHINHLANHLA

Supper came sooner than I thought which meant I had to come up with another lie to avoid dinner. The siren went on and we all gathered in the dining hall and this time around Mbali was there. It took so much of me to not run into her and hug the day light out of her.

I went and sat next to her

“My friend how are you?”-me

Silence

“Mbali!”-me

She was out of it staring into space

“don’t bother talking to her, she’s high on medication”-Girl

Oh well, it’s time to execute my plan. I grabbed my tray of food and had two full spoons and sprung up rushing to the toilet pretending to go throw up and as I expected the Nurse in charge of us ran after me.

“Are you okay?” she asked

I vigorously shook my head

“What’s wrong?”-Nurse

“I’ve been throwing up all day and I feel really weak and tired”-me

“would you like me to take you to our clinic?”-her

“No but I would like to lie down, hopefully I’ll wake up feeling better”-me

“Okay come I’ll walk you to your room”-her

We walked together and I got in bed

“have you been drinking water? Your family told us that you should drink water daily”-her

Hebana! Isn’t that the reason why I’m here? For them to be the ones reminding me of water and ensuring that I drink it in front of them?

“No I haven’t, maybe that’s why I’m not feeling well”-me

She got up and came back with bottled water

“Drink this, I’ll come check on how you feeling later”-her

“Thank you”-me

She left and I quickly changed into comfortable clothing and waited for a few minutes before heading out. I used the same route I used last time and smoothly escaped and found Sabelo waiting for me as I instructed.

“Hey”-me

“Sho”

“Did you do everything I asked you do?”-me

“yes”

“and Thando? Where is he?”-me

“He was with his girlfriend last night and today he’ll be at your brothers place apparently they’ve got a job tonight”-Sabelo

“Perfect, I’ll drive you home”-me

We changed seats and I drove him home first then I went to my place, I took a note pad and left a note for Thando

“Hey Me, just wanted to let you know that I am okay wherever I am and please do not look for me. I will come back when I’ve sorted things out.

I Love you

Female you”

I removed the necklace since it has a tracker and I left it on top of the note in my room, grabbed the set of knives I bought and took one of Lisakhanya car seat and a toy that Nkosenhle left behind and I headed out to Lwandile’s house, this should be easy since Eric has a mission that means Lwandile won’t be home as well and maybe the nanny will be there if he has one. I parked 1 house away from his

house and walked the remaining distance. I easily broke into his house without damaging the door and it wasn't a mission since I'm familiar with the place. I took one of the knives and placed it in my back pocket and I covered my face and walked in, and I was welcomed by a bunch of toys all over the floor which weirdly made me smile as my mind instantly went to Lisakhanya. I went to his bedroom, and I found Malwande peacefully sleeping in his baby cot. This is the first time seeing him in person and he looks so much like Lwandile it's crazy. I have to be out of here as quickly as possible, so I gently picked him so that he won't wake up and start crying. As I was about to open the door I heard the toilet door closing and a phone rang

"Yes!"

.....

"The mission is on tonight, they are on their way there as we speak"

....

"I am not playing with you Zondo, Nkosenhle will be there, and he is all yours"

....

"everything is happening just outside Bluff mall as we speak"

....

“you better not miss hey because if you do he will come for me and kill me”

....

“Alright good, I trust you’ll do the right thing”

He dropped the call, and I hid behind the door, and I quickly attacked him with a knife (making sure I don’t kill him of course, I just want him out of my way) as soon as he opened the door, and I made a run for the door before he can get up and run after me. The running caused the baby to wake up and start crying but I didn’t have time for that, I quickly buckled him and drove off in high speed.

“Baby please stop crying, I won’t do any harm to you I promise you”

I begged but he didn’t stop. I gave him the toy and I started singing for him and he seemed to calm down a bit.

“I’ll take you to meet a friend first okay? Then when I come back I’ll take you to mummy”- me

I drove to Nkosenhles place, I know it’s not okay to dump mam’Donsa with a baby she doesn’t know but I can’t go save Nkosenhle with a baby in the car, what will I say if there are bullets being fired and one lands on Malwande, and he dies on the spot? Nope I have enough blood on my hands

I drove past his security without a hassle, and I found mam'Donsa with Lisakhanya in the dining room watching cartoons. Lisakhanya ran to me as soon as she spotted me

“Mamiza” she raised her arms up for me to pick her

“Mamiza can't pick you up right now because of the baby okay?”-me

“No Mamiza pick me up”

She wasn't having it. I placed Malwande down and picked up Lisa and she kissed me on my cheek

“Makoti sawubona”-mam'Donsa

“sawbona Mah. I need a huge favour, Nkosenhle is in trouble, and I need to go pick him up. Can you please watch over the little guy, and I'll take him when I get back I promise I'll pay”-me

“You don't have to pay me Makoti, I will look after him and besides Mkhwenyana pays me more than enough so this is the least I can do”-mam'Donsa

“Thank you so much, I have to rush now”

I placed Lisa down and ran towards the door before she starts crying and I made my way to bluff.

“Lord please save my brothers and friends. Let no harm happen to them”

I said a short prayer as I drove to bluff. I can't believe Lwandile would risk their lives like this. I know he is angry at the fact that Nkosenhle slept with his girl, but this is not the way to take revenge, there are other people's lives involved in this not just Nkosenhle. I swear if anything happens to my brothers, and Nkosi I will make him pay for this.

"Lord I don't know what I'll find when I get there but please give me the strength to face it all"

I made it to the mall and there were police vans everywhere

"where will I find them in this mess?" I was frustrated

One of the police officers came to my car and I rolled down the window

"Ma'am what are you doing here?"-Police

"I am trying to go back to my house, and this is the route I normally take as it is quicker. What is going on here?"-me

"Please use a different route before you get hurt, you can quickly go down the street and take the right exit and use a different route"-
Police

Just then gun shots were fired, and people were running

"lady please leave NOW!" he shouted, and my heart just raced to Nkosenhle

I slowly drove towards the direction he said I should use, as I'm driving I'm scanning the area searching for anyone of them. As I was nearing the right exit I was told to take I noticed two people running towards the left exit and one of them fell down while the other ran for his life. Without thinking twice I drove towards the left, and I prayed it wasn't any of the people I was looking for. I stopped the car and jumped running towards the person on the floor and it was him, he had been shot on his leg and arm that's why it was impossible to run.

"I need you to work with me here okay, I need you to help me get you in the car as fast as possible before the police get here."-me

He grunts but doesn't move

"Dammit Nkosenhle I can't carry you because you are heavy, work with me please, we don't have much time" I shout at him, and he looks up almost out of breath

"Sthandwa sami" he manages to say

I clicked my tongue in frustration and I pulled him towards the car, at this point I didn't care if I was hurting him or not because if we spend another second there we both would've been caught. It seemed like his brain was working again because he was able to lift himself and get in the back seat and drove off

"Nkosenhle where are the others?" I asked panicking

“every... man for himself.. always run and never go back for another guy”

He managed to say before passing out and I was left confused by what he said. I drove him to the house, and I called Ngonyama on the way

“MaZulu”-Ngonyama

“are you in Cape Town or Durban? I need help”-me

“Durban what’s up?”-him

“please send a doctor that you trust to Nkosenhles house, he was shot and I’m not sure where Thando and Eric are”

I was on the verge of crying

“Nhlanhla calm down, where are you now?”-Ngonyama

“I’m driving from Bluff going to Nkosenhles house”-me

“I’ll look for your brothers don’t stress, and I’ll send a doctor”-him

“Thank you”

We dropped the call

“Nkosenhle please stay with me, help is on the way”-me

Silence

“Nkosenhle! Baby please wake up” I tried to wake him up with one hand while the other was holding the steering the wheel.

“I love you Sthandwa sami, always remember that”-Nkosenhle

“Nkosenhle NO! Don’t sleep!”-me

I called Ngonyama again

“Nhlanhla”-him

“How far away is the doctor? I’m losing him Ngonyama”-me

“I told you to calm down”-him

“don’t tell me to calm down! I’m 5 minutes away from the house and when I get there the doctor better be waiting for us”-me

He chuckled and dropped the call and I continued driving until I reached the gate. There was a car parked outside and I rushed to it

“Told you to calm down”-Ngonyama

It was Ngonyama and the doctor

I spoke to security, and they let all of us in and they rushed him to the mini hospital upstairs

“will he be okay?”-me

“We’ll have to wait for the doctor to come out and tell us the news”-
Ngonyama

“Thank you”-me

“I can’t believe I’m helping that idiot live, if it was up to me I would’ve left him to die so that I can be with you, but I see that you care for this fucker, and he seems to make you happy”-Ngonyama

“Ngonyama please! Just don’t. Any news on the others?”-me

“They are fine, they all managed to escape. Do you know what happened?”-Ngonyama

“I don’t know anything”-me

“then how did you know they were in danger?”-Ngonyama

The Dr walked out as I was about to answer

“How is he?”-me

“He is not in a good state, but he will live. I managed to remove the bullets so he should get some rest, I suggest you get someone who will look after him for the time being until he gets better”-Dr

“Thank you so much Dr, is he awake?”-me

“No, I gave him medication which will knocked him out”-Dr

“Thank you so much”-me

“Take care” he stepped out

“Well I need to take him home”-Ngonyama

“Can you do one last favor for me please”-me

“HHay engathi you’re starting to become a nuisance”-Ngonyama

“Trust me I wouldn’t be asking you if I had another option”-me

“What do you want?”-Ngonyama

“Can you please find Nkosi and tell him to come look after Nkosenhle and please don’t mention my name”-me

“Can’t you do that?”-Ngonyama

“I’m not supposed to even be here”-me

“What have you done?”-him

“Nothing as yet”-me

“Nhlanhla don’t do anything stupid”-Ngonyama

“I’ll try. Can you do what I asked you to do?”-me

“I wanna do something else right now”-him

“what’s that?”-me

“I want to kiss the daylights out of you”-him

“Ngonyama I don’t have time for games, will you be able to do what I asked you to do?”-me

“yes ma’am”-him

“Thank you, you can go now”-me

“a lady who gives out orders, definitely a turn on for me” he smirked and licked his lips

I shook my head and left him there and I went to see Nkosenhle

“Baby”-me

Silence

“I have to go now okay, I’ll see you soon” I kissed his lips “I love you and please get better soon”

With that said I thanked Mam’Donsa for watching of Malwande then I left heading to Umlazi. I made sure my phone was off because I don’t want people tracking me.

I arrived and she was tied to a chair as I instructed, her head was facing down not sure if she’s asleep or trying to make a fool of me. I walked in with Malwande on my arm, I’m surprised he isn’t asleep this late. I grabbed a bucket and sat in front of her. I waited for her to raise her head up because I’m sure as hell that she heard me walk in.

I removed her gag, and She finally raised her head and shock washed over her, not sure whether it was because she wasn’t expecting me or whether it’s because I’m with Malwande.

“You scream and he dies okay?”

“whhhaat... whhhhaat are you doing here. What are you doing with my child? Are you responsible for this? Lethinlanhla let me go what is wrong with you?”-Lwandle

“One question at a time Lwandle. Which question would you like me to answer first?”-me

“What are you doing with my son?”-her

“I needed some company while I drove all the way here, it gets lonely in the car, so I thought why not get Lwande. Besides I’ll be killing two birds with one stone”-me

“What’s that supposed to mean? Why do you have me locked up?”-her

“Are we going to play the idiot game? Pretend to not know why you are here?”-me

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

“Don’t worry I’ll help you remember” I said getting up from the chair and grabbing my set of knives

“Whhat are you doing with those?”-her

“You know I’ve always wanted to start my life over, have a fresh start you know? Me and you being equal. No boyfriends, no kids, just you and me and maybe we could be friends again and we could start over and not screw each other up”-me

“Nhlanhla please no, you can have Lwandile just don’t hurt my son”-her

“I can have Lwandile? I don’t give a rats ass about Lwandile. I can have him??? Why did you take him away from me from the beginning?”-me

“Nhlanhla I’m sorry, I was young and jealous back then I wasn’t thinking straight”-her

“So you’ve grown now?”-me

“yess please believe me”-her

“is that why you are after Nkosenhle? Is that what wise and grown people do? kidnap people during a family members funeral? Is that what you call grown?”-me

Her eyes shoot up

“Whh...aatt? I didn’t do that”-her

I placed the knife near Lwandes neck

“Okay okay Nhlanhla I’m sorry”-her

“you remember now?”-me

She just cried

“No I’ll wait for you to finish this dramatic show you’re putting up”-me

“Please let my son go, he has nothing to do with this”-her

“Do you know what I want?”-me

Silence

“I want you to feel the same pain I felt the day you had me kidnapped. I want to kill this charming prince of yours in front of you then I’ll go attend his funeral without you. Then I’ll have both Nkosenhle and Lwandile over my side holding me while I cry for your baby”-me

she burst into a loud sob which gave me the greatest satisfaction ever

“I mean there’s nothing stopping me. you weren’t considerate of my feelings when you did all those horrible things to me so why should I feel sorry for you?”-me

“Please forgive me”-her

“You called me names, made fun of the fact that I couldn’t have babies, you said I had a loose womb, you had me drugged for days. I had to depend on drugs and when I tried to stop I had massive headaches. Do you have any idea of how you’ve fucked me over? Then you ask for forgiveness? You must be out of your damn mind”-me

“Nhlanhla please! I promise if you let us go we’ll go far far away, and I will never bother you again”-her

“You’re right about one thing, when you leave here you’ll never bother me again, matter of fact you won’t be able to do simple shit for yourself. I feel sorry for your baby but at least Lwandile will be able to look after him, well only if Nkosenhle hasn’t killed him by the time he gets better. You and your boyfriend like to start shit, if it’s not you causing trouble then it’s him, vele vele you two have a death wish? I should just adopt this child and make him mine. We’ve been here for a few minutes, and he hasn’t even cried indicating you should take him then you have the audacity to say I’m an unfit mother. But who am I kidding? Why would he cry for you when you barely spend time with him ngoba uBusy running after Nkosenhle, you’re constantly choosing dick over your own son”

“That’s not true! I love my son and I would do anything for him, and he knows that”-her

“well not this time around, this time you failed him. You failed to save him”-me

“What do you mean?”-her

“he is dying tomorrow, when you wake up he won’t be here”-me

“Lethi please don’t do this”-her

“Why did you kidnap me during the funeral? Couldn’t you wait for me to bury my sister first then do what you did?”-me

“I’m sorry Lethi it was stupid of me”-her

“You’ve been saying sorry ever since I got here. I don’t want you to say sorry, I want you to give me answers. Tell me why did you do it?”-me

“It was the only opportunity I had. I saw that you were at your weakest point, and I decided to act on the opportunity because I knew you didn’t have the energy to fight. Had I not taken you at that moment you would’ve fought me when I tried, and we both know I wouldn’t have succeed”-her

“I’ve got to give it to you, you played me really good. You had everyone fooled, Nobody suspected you”-me

NKOSENHLE

I was woken by chatter that was happening around me

“The fuck! Can’t a guy get some rest”-me

That’s when I came back to reality, the events of yesterday flashed before my eyes

“what happened yesterday should never ever happen again”-Nkosi

“It was just messy”-Thando

Thando, Nkosi, Eric and Nathi were in my room

“What really happened?”-Nathi

“We were set up, that’s for sure”-Eric

“I received a call from Ngonyama letting me know that I should come check on you”-Nkosi

“How did he know?”-Thando

“Nhlanhla”-Me

“Nhlanhla who?”-Thando

“Lethinhlanhla your sister”-me

“What? How?”-Eric

Just then Lwandile walked in breathing fire

“I know you did it, bring back my son Nkosenhle I’m not playing with you”-Lwandile

“What?”-me

“I know you had something to do with it”-Lwandile

“Lwandile can you see the condition I’m in? what business will have in taking your son? What would I do with him? Why would I take him?”-me

He just slid down the wall and started crying

“Somebody took my son, they came to my house, stabbed me then ran away with him”-Lwandile

“Would you calm down, we’ll find your son”-me

“Did you report the case to the police?”-Thando

“No because I thought Nkosenhle had him”-Lwandile

“Lwandile why would I take your son? I don’t have a problem with you”-me

“I thought that maybe this was you getting revenge for being angry at the fact that I got angry when I found out you were sleeping with Lwandle”-Lwandile

“I was wrong for doing that and I apologize, but I’m over Lwandle. My heart is with Lethinhlanhla now”-me

“Sorry for accusing you. I should go report to the police, maybe they will find something”-Lwandile

“We’ll be on the lookout as well”-Eric

“Thank you guys”-Lwandile

He left

“What the heck is going on here?”-Nkosi

“It’s Nhlanhla”-Thando

“What did she do?”-Eric

“She took the baby”-Thando

“Somebody explain to me how Nhlanhla rescued Nkosenhle and Took Lwandiles baby while she’s locked up in that center”-Eric

“Nkosenhle are you sure she is the one who saved you? How did she know where you were?”-Nathi

“I am 100% sure, she called Ngonyama and asked him to get a doctor for me because she couldn’t find you”-me

“Okay okay fine I get that she might have saved you, but why would she take Lwandiles baby?”-Eric

“I didn’t want to be the one doing this, but I have no choice”-Thando

“Talk”-Eric

“Remember when she was kidnapped during Phiwos funeral?”-

Thando

“Yeah”-Everyone

“Don’t tell me Lwandile was responsible for that”-Nkosi

“Not Lwandile but Lwandle”-Thando

“What??”-me

“Yeah, she has known this since she was kidnaped but she didn’t want to say anything because all of you would overreact and do something to Lwandle kanti she wanted to get revenge on her own”-

Thando

“How long have you known about this?”-Nkosi

“That Lwandle was the one who kidnapped her?”-Thando

“Yes”-Nkosi

“Since the day I found her”-Thando

“But why would she take the kid and not Lwandle”-Nathi

“I wouldn’t be surprised if she has Lwandle as well”-Thando

“She won’t do anything to the child”-Nkosi

“from what I’ve heard she’s not mentally stable so I wouldn’t be surprised”-Nathi

“she won’t do anything to the kid”-Me

“she has killed a kid before so...”-Nathi

Silence

“Wait I’m confused, and you guys seem to be forgetting the fact that Nhlanhla is locked up in that center”-Eric

“Phone the center and find out”-Thando

Eric called and put them on loud speaker

“Sizakala wellness center how may I assist you”-person

“You’re speaking to Eric Zulu, I had brought my sister a few days ago and I’d like to check on her progress”-Eric

“Oh yes Mr Zulu we’ve been trying to get ahold of you for the past few hours, Miss Lethinhlanhla Zulu somehow escaped”-person

“How can a person escape? What’s the security for kanti? Is it not your duty to make sure everyone is receiving the help they require?”-Eric

”Mr Zulu I don’t have all the answer...”

Eric dropped the call

“Nx!”-Eric

“How did she escape?”-Eric

“Dude she was trained by Ngonyama so I’m sure escaping a mental institution isn’t difficult for her. It’s probably one of the easiest things she’s ever done”-me

“I don’t see this relationship of your working out, both of you are criminals how will that work?”-Nathi

“She’s a tough female who’s able to look after herself, that’s the main reason why I’m in love with her”-me

“Where is she Thando?”-Eric

“I don’t know”-Thando

“Thando don’t lie”-Nkosi

“I’m serious, get me a laptop so I can track her”-Thando

Nkosi went out and came back with a laptop and gave it to him

“I’m sure she removed the tracker in her car”-me

“I’m not tracking her car”-Thando

“Then what are you tracking?”-Eric

“The necklace I gave her, it has a tracker in case she goes missing again”-Thando

“Does she know about it?”-Me

“She does”-Thando

“It’s unlike her to agree to something like that”-Eric

“I’m just as shocked”-me

“It’s a twin thing, you wouldn’t get it”-Thando

“Oh please!”-Nkosi said as he rolled his eyes

“I found her”-Thando

“Where is she?”-me

“In her house”-Thando

“How’s that possible? Why would she be in her house?”-Eric

“Well she’s not really hiding is she? What is she hiding from? It’s not like she escaped from prison”-Nkosi

“But still she escaped, and she stole a baby and kidnapped someone”-Nathi

“We’re not sure about that”-Eric

“Of course you’ll say anything to protect your sister”-Nathi

“What is wrong with you? What do you have against her?”-Eric

“Stop it you two”-me

“Shall we go?”-Nkosi

“I’m coming with you guys”-me

“You have to stay in bed”-Nathi

“I wasn’t starting a debate, I am coming with you and that’s it”-me

I got up wore comfortable clothing and I met them outside and we left heading to Lethi’s house

“Her car is not here”-Thando

“I told you she is not here, Lethi is not stupid”-Eric

We walked in and went to her room, and it was trashed, we found the necklace and the note she left.

“Don’t look for me, she doesn’t want to be found”-Eric

“I’ll come back when I’ve sorted things out, she’ll come back when she has killed her”-Nathi

“I’d do the same”-Thando

“Thando!”-Nkosi

“What? Lwandle deserves this, what was she thinking having her kidnapped on the day she was supposed to bury her sister not only did she stop there but she fed her drugs. I hope she punishes her before killing her”-Thando

“What I want to know is how did she know we needed saving”-me

“she’s the only one who can provide those answers”-Eric

“I’d be dead if it wasn’t for her”-me

Silence

LETHINHLANHLA

Last night Lwandle was screaming her lungs out apologizing nonstop and begging me to not kill her son. Of Course I wouldn’t do anything to the little dude, and I feel really horrible for taking him, but I had no choice. I took Malwande to the car while Lwandle was fast asleep, I don’t understand that girl honestly how can you peacefully sleep while tied to a chair, anyways I strapped him in the seat and went back to gag Lwandle.

“Where is my son Nhlanhla? What did you do to him?”

She shouted

“Where do you get the energy? So early in the morning and you’re screaming”-me

“Don’t start with me please, where is my son”-Lwandle

“In the backyard”-me

“Whatt? You left him alone at the back?” her eyes shoot up

“I doubt he’s alone, I saw a few skulls while digging”-me

“What are you talking about?” she seemed to be out of breath

“What am I talking about? I thought we were talking about little Lwande, may his soul rest in peace”-me

“No you did not, my son is not dead”-me

“It was so sad watching the little dude take his last breath in my arms, had I not twisted his neck further he’d be here , I got carried away and we have no one but you to blame. Worry not now I’m sure he is up there playing with Siphosami, you see we are equal now, both childless, both boyfriendless, both horrible people with issues you get my chat?”-me

She just cried, shame man poor child, only if she knew how her tears fuel up my anger

“If I were you I’d save those tears, you’ll need them for later”

With that said I left her there and went to Lwandile’s house, luckily there weren’t any police

I knocked and he opened

“Malwande! Thank you Jesus, where did you find him?”-Lwandile

Lwandile is an idiot, he'll believe any lie I tell him

"He was outside my house, there was a note attached to him"-me

"What did it say?"-him

"Tell your boyfriend to be careful or else.."-me

"That's crazy"-Lwandile

"Whoever it is got the wrong house, the message should've went to Lwandle because I'm not your girlfriend and what shit have you gotten yourself into this time?"-me

"I didn't do anything I swear"-him

"If you say so, I've got to go"-me

"How's Nkosenhle? I saw him yesterday and I was a bit rude to him "-
Lwandile

"Why?"-me

"I thought he was responsible for Lwandes disappearance, so I confronted him, and he said he had nothing to do with it"-him

"He is fine, where did you see him?"-me

"In his house along with your brothers and his brothers"-him

"oh is it, that's good well bye"-me

"Wait don't you want coffee?"-him

"next time, I'm rushing somewhere"-me

“Fair enough, thank you for bringing him here”-him

“Don’t mention it, say hi to your mom for me”

I drove back to eMlazi

“Nhlanhla I need to use the bathroom I think my periods have started” she shouted as I got in

“that’s a shame, did you instruct your men to allow me to use the bathroom whenever I needed it?”-me

Silence

“I thought as much, from now onwards don’t ask me anything okay? Whatever you ask the answer is no”-me

“May I at least have painkillers?”-her

“What did I just say to you?”-me

“Please”-her

“You’re getting too comfortable, I need to get this over and done with before they start to look for you, so what do you say? Ready for some fun?” I laughed

“Nhlanhla please, you’re a kind person don’t do this”

I slapped her across her face

“Nhlanhla is dead, y’all killed that bitch long time ago call me TATIANA”-me

“Nhlanhla please” she cried

I punched her

“Did you not hear what I said?”-me

“I’m sorry”-her

“What’s my name?”-me

“Tatiana”-her

“Good girl, what kind of punishment should I start with?”-me

“You killed my son, isn’t that punishment enough?”-her

“Nah that was nothing, that was the easiest thing ever it didn’t satisfy me at all, it was too quick. Do you know what satisfies me?”-me

Tears made their way down her cheeks

“BLOOD! Blood satisfies me, the sight of it makes me happy, worse if it belongs to one of my enemies”-me

“You are sick, you need help”-her

“I do, they had sent me into a rehab center two/three days ago, but I escaped just for you. You’ve been wanting my attention ever since and now you got it baby, I’m yours and you’re mine”-me

I got up and returned with my knives

