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1

***Noxolo ***

I look at my mother in the eyes as I couldn't believe what she was asking me really, she out of all people knows very well that I have never even had a boyfriend as old as I am.

Me: mah is that the question you should be asking me really?

Nobuhle: I just wanted to make sure my baby, you know your sister did a complete opposite of what we taught her, your father can die if you can lose your virginity before you get married.

Me: mah am 23 so am not getting married anytime soon.

She clears her throat standing up.

Nobuhle: your father asked to see you when you are done here go to him.

She walks out of my bedroom, she looks uneasy, I also stand up ,wore my shoes and went to the kitchen to find my older sister Lihle drinking something on a coffee mug.

Lihle: (sarcastically) you look ugly like Betty.

Me: fortunately Betty is not ugly sister.

Lihle: she wouldn't be called ugly Betty if she wasn't ugly, its either English is not your friend or I don't know the definition of ugly.

Me: (eye rolling) mxm what are you drinking so early in the morning.

Lihle: luckily my throat doesn't have opening time,it's open 24/7 sister, I drink anytime of the day.

Me: alcohol will kill you one day and I will be there crying for you.

Lihle: no baby girl, on my funeral I want you to get drunk with buzzing music, I don't even know where church is so don't call a pastor on me thank you.

Me: ay I give up.

Lihle : are you only giving up now? I long gave up on myself so I trust you to live on my behalf.

Skhumbuzo: Noxolo!

Me: am coming baba!

Lihle: go the old man is calling you.

I sigh leaving her there, I find my parents seating quitly ,this is unusual because there is never a quiet moment with my dad around, he be making fun of everyone like no one's business. I seat opposite of them and waited patiently for either of them to say what they called me for.

Skhumbuzo: Noxolo my girl you know I become so proud looking at the young woman I have raised, you turned out so good my girl and your father is proud but at the same time I can't help but be sad that you won't be a Zungu forever.

Me: (laughing) haw baba am still young.

Skhumbuzo: yes you will always be my little girl but nkosazane this is life we don't always get what we want, I wish to stay with you forever but I can't stop what has already been decided.

Me: what do you mean?

Skhumbuzo: the queen of Emthonjeni Kingdom is a traditional healer so she came here a week ago to inform us that the

ancestors of the Dlamini clan has chosen their next queen, so you will have to marry their son prince Nkosiyabo.

I felt like air is being sucked out of my lungs, who still arrange marriages at this time of life, don't I suppose to marry the man that I love and loves me back, am not even from a royal family for that matter.

Skhumbuzo: at first I didn't believe her myself but she got no reason to lie because she doesn't even know you at all but was just doing what she was told to do.

Me: baba is this some kind of sick joke? So am suppose to get married to the prince because some dead people choose me?! What if this guy is a serial killer or is possessed or has bipolar? No am not getting married to anyone.

Skhumbuzo: (smiling) I understand your frustrations my girl ,you know it's different when you are chosen by the ancestors, they can do absolutely anything to have you as their own if you refuse.

Me: (crying) dad you are even smiling

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are you enjoying this? What if he is abusive?

Nobuhle: what if he is a loving man that will give you his whole world and worship the ground that you walk on?

Me: stop selling me dreams mah, this is real life and as a matter of fact am doing no such thing, am not getting married to a man I don't know, why didn't they choose Lihle because she is old enough to get married?

Nobuhle: you are chosen Noxolo, you can't question why and you can't run away because you will regret it.

Me: let them do whatever they want then.

I run out of the house and out the gate, down the road to God knows where. Tears are blinding me but I don't care what I want is to be away from this madness. Who is single as me but wake up married to the mysterious prince? I will never!

My name is Noxolo Zungu, am 23 years old and I have an older sister Lihle who is my best friend by the way and both my parents who I just discovered that they don't love me one bit, who agrees to marry their little girl to the man they don't know.

Am a medium size lady with a good doze of melanin, one dimple, thick eyebrows and long eyelashes and my marble eyes that looks like they will fall out anytime. I am hairy as they can get, my hwanqa goes all the way down to meet the hair at the back of my neck, basically I look like a chimpanzee's cousin.

***Royal Palace ***

The royal family is gathered around the big dining table having breakfast. The happiness that is overwhelming the queen cannot be explained and the king is smiling seeing the joy on his wife's face.

King Mabutho: am starting to get nervous about Nkosi getting married, it looks like his wife is going to be loved more than me.

Queen Naye: just let my daughter-in-law be please, finally I will have grandchildren you know I have been waiting forever for that baba.

King Mabutho: you are right, I hope they will learn to love each other seeing that their marriage is arranged.

Queen Naye: I know they will and not forgetting that I raised a gentleman, he will treat her like a queen you will see.

King Mabutho: when is this boy getting here kanti?

The princesses laugh at their father's anxiousness, he has been asking the same question since they woke up, it's like he is expecting Nkosiyabo to fly from Durban to Port Shepstone.

Khwezi: baba he is on his way stop worrying, big brother knows his way home.

Zakithi: she is right my king he is on his way let's be patient.

Queen Naye: let's call him and hear where he is now God we are suppose to be worrying about the lobola negotiations and bringing my daughter in law home not his big head's whereabouts.

Khwezi : I think excitement will kill you mom.

Nkanyezi: I think I don't like this sister in law already, she is taking up space even before she grace us with her presence.

They laugh knowing how much of a baby she is as she is the younger twin than Khwezi. King Mabutho and queen Naye were blessed with one boy Nkosiyabo then four girls Zakithi, Khwezi and Nkanyezi the twins then the last born Minenhle.

Minenhle: (laughing) whuuu the baby is crying for mommy .

Queen Naye: leave my baby alone wena hlanyo.

King Mabutho: don't worry my princess, I also don't like this girl very much, she is becoming my wife's favorite.

All this while princess Nomathamsanqa the king's younger sister was quite listening to the family excited about the new member coming in a week and jealousy was consuming her heart as Nkosiyo is the only heir and his father's successor she was hoping to terminate him before he takes the throne so that her son Zenzele can take over but all that seem impossible now but she vowed never to let anyone stand in her way ,she doesn't care about her brother Mabutho or anyone only herself and her son.

2

***Noxolo ***

Am walking mindlessly on the road, been walking for an hour or so and I can't bring myself to sit down so I keep walking.

Am disturbed by the loud sound of a hooting car behind me. I know I should be moving away from the road but it seems like my feet are stuck on the ground, the car is nearing quickly, my brain is freezing with its speed next thing am flying in the air to the far end of the pavement road. I don't feel any pain just pressure consuming my whole body.

Breath is leaving my lungs, I feel a hand touching my forehead.

Voice: Oh shit! Please don't die on me am taking you to the hospital.

It's a man's voice, I assume he is the one that ran me over. There are other few voices speaking but I can't make out what they are saying.

Voice: man what is going on here? What happened?

It's another voice totally different from the first one, this one is soo hoarse and deep it can raise Goliath from the dead, now am fighting to open my eyes, I want to see the owner of this voice before I die, am sure he is soo handsome but God is saying "no my child that's being a hore, you didn't want to get married now you want to see handsome men".

Voice¹: I don't know man, am taking her to the hospital.

A hand touches my wrist, God that hand feels good on my skin.

Voice²: take her to the hospital, the pulse is still there hurry.

I let my body relax once it's lifted off the ground , please God don't let me die am too young please, I will get married to your son even if he looks like a gorilla with a bad breath, just spare me.

***Nkosiyabo ***

I park my car in the driveway next to the royal cars. I see my mom rushing towards the car. I wonder how she is able to run like that in her late fifties. I know she will first give me an earful about taking my sweet time to get here, they have been calling me since the wee hours of the morning but no one can blame me am in denial about this arranged marriage. I knew since I was a teenager that am not going to get married to the woman I chose but now that it's happening I don't think am ready for it.

I get out of the car and gave her the big hug, I missed them, it's been 8 months since I last saw them. Being in military is demanding but that will soon stop after getting married luckily I have a business that is doing very well and I have money to last the community for the rest of their lives.

Me: my queen how are you doing, I missed you soo much.

Queen Naye: mxm don't make me angry Nkosiyabo Ntuthuko Dlamini! Do you even have a phone?

Me: haw mah I have a phone.

It's like my mom forgets that am 30 and not a child anymore but I like the attention because soon I will miss it.

Queen Naye: so why were you ignoring our calls? Ay ay Nkosi.

She is mad! We make our way inside, my sisters almost knock me down with hugs.

Minenhle: (crying) bhuti you look old!

What?! Am the sexiest 30 year old you can ever find out there.

Me: well princess you look grown yourself, how is school going?

Minenhle: I knew you were going to ask that but school is just school bhuti nothing interesting.

Me: you better pass or you won't get any gift.

Minenhle: ah bhuti you know varsity is not easy moss.

Nkanyezi: are you going to let us talk to our brother too
Minenhle or what?

Me: ah my favorite sister in the whole world, how are you
doing my princess?

I ask the suckling Nkanyezi.

Nkanyezi: am good bhuti, the beard looks good on you by the
way am sure sister in law will be hooked.

Eish there is still that. Am nervous about this whole thing but I
flash her a smile anyway. I let my beard grow up for the couple
of weeks and am liking the looks. In everything I just hope my
chosen wife is not a lunatic who will make staying with her
impossible or even falling in love. My ancestors did a really
good job in making sure that I don't fall in love with anyone

before, like I have never been attached to a woman in a way of swearing to die for her, never.

Zakithi: of course who wouldn't be happy to get married to a snack?

King Mabutho: are you calling your brother a snack Zakithi?
Have you seen me my dear am a desert.

We all laugh, dad is a character. Of course I got the good looks from him and very dark skin but my mom is an angel in a human form, this woman is beautiful and the girls takes after her.

King Mabutho: am happy you are finally home son, I know how it feels like to get married to someone you don't know but look at where me and your mother are right now, so happy

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you will be fine.

He pat my shoulder nodding. I nod too.

Khwezi: why is your shirt have blood stains bhuti?

I look at the far end sleeve of my powder blue shirt, it has a few stains of blood.

Me: Oh on my way here there was an accident , some guy ran a girl over so I was helping.

Queen Naye: Oh my God is the girl okay?

Me: I don't know but she had a pulse, just that it wasn't strong and he took her to the hospital, I hope she will be okay though.

We sit in the sitting room.

Me: where is aunt and Zenzele?

King Mabutho: I don't know, they left immediately after breakfast.

Minenhle: bhuti are you ready to be a husband?

Me: I will never be ready but it has to be done.

Minenhle: what if your wife is ugly with a big nose?

They laugh but I don't, am actually freaking out. What if she is ugly for real, and a big nose!

Queen Naye: don't worry my boy I know she is beautiful, no queen of Emthonjeni Kingdom has ever been ugly.

She is saying that to comfort me but am not comforted, I want no ugly wife. God can't do me like that.

***Noxolo ***

Am woken up by the painful headache, I can't move it feels like I have been ran over by a truck. I was ran over except that it wasn't a truck that ran me over but atleast God spared my miserable life.

I don't remember how I got here, the doctor enters all smiles, his life must be really good who smiles like this at this time of the day.

Doctor: how are you feeling young lady?

At least someone still sees me as young not my parents who sees a grown ass woman who is ready to get married but for him to ask how am I doing is pretty dump for a doctor, how am I suppose to be feeling?

Doctor: your results are back luckily you had no internal bleeding, just two broken ribs and swallowen spine and fractured left side of your body which means you won't be able to walk for at least few weeks or even months depending on how the swallowing is coming down.

Tears makes their way out of my eyes, maybe mom was right, I can't run away because am chosen and they will do anything to have me but there was really no need for them to make me a potato even if it's for the few weeks. Am sure they are the ones who sent that car to run me over.

The door opens again and some guy walks in wearing a smile too. What is wrong with people and smiling.

Him: how is she doctor?

Aybo how is my doing got anything to do with him?!

Doctor: he is doing well, in a few weeks she will be okay completely.

Him: Oh is there someone of your family I can call because am leaving now.

I nod, I know mom will go "I told you so" on me but that's the least of my problems right now.

Him: okay give a number to call.

With the little strength am left with I give him my sister's number, my throat is burning up I feel like crying.

After talking to Lihle and explaining if he didn't see me on a road and Lihle giving him an earful he drops the call.

Him: okay it's sorted, your sister must be a dragon lady hey, she will come and am leaving, am sorry for running you over again.

I nod.

Him: okay my name is Luxolo by the way and you are?

Why isn't he leaving? Can't he see that am in pain to talk.

Me: Noxolo.

Luxolo: Oh this must be a coincidence then Luxolo and Noxolo, maybe you are my soul mate, can I please have your number just so I can check up on you.

I pretend to be in a lot of pain so that he will leave me alone.

Is this guy crazy! He should be thankful that he didn't send me to heaven and as for the name matching is crazy and childish, my soul mate is out there, I was born with a soul mate so he must chill.

Doctor: I think she needs to rest, remember her jaw was dislocated so it's painful to speak.

Luxolo: Oh that's alright I will come check on her some other time, be good.

He walks out, thanks doctor. He writes a few things down then walk out too. Now that am paralyzed I doubt this chosen husband will want anything to do with me but he will be helping me , I don't want him anyway.

3

Lihle

I can't believe someone can just run a person over, does he have eyesight problems or God gave him a small brain? I blame my parents for this, I told them that Noxolo will freak out if they tell her about this arranged marriage thing but they went ahead and told her what if she died?!

Mom is panicking like no one's business as dad drives us to the hospital.

Skhumbuzo: mkami don't worry am sure she is not that hurt.

Nobuhle: I told her that she can't run away from her destiny, now look at how they are punishing her.

Me: well they should just take a chill pill and give her time to wrap her head around this, marrying is a major step to take and she is still young.

Nobuhle: there is no time to be wrapping her head because the royals are coming to pay lobola next weekend so she will wrap her head as a married woman.

Gosh I don't think she understands the " wrap her head around " phrase but I don't care.

Me: do you guys even know the man that will marry my sister?

They look at each other then dad focuses back on the road, Jesus they are selling my baby sis to Lucifer and they are not worried, what if he will chop her up and put her in the freezer? God please don't.

Me: you do know that I will burn the whole Palace if something bad happens to my sister in there right?.

Nobuhle: bad things happen all the time Lihle.

Me: but if your son in law is responsible for that bad something am going to chop up his black balls and feed them to the dogs.

Nobuhle: Thembelihle!

Me: Sorry mom.

This drive feels long and my sanity is leaving my head really quick. We finally arrive and am literally running to the reception.

Me: hello my sister was admitted hours ago, she was ran over by the car her name is Noxolo Zungu.

Receptionist: we have a patient who was ran over by the car in ward 302 third floor miss.

Me: thanks.

My parents are following me as I make my way to the third floor, I reach the ward breathless.

Me: whuu sister you are still alive?!

I rush to give her a hug.

Noxolo: you are hurting me!

Me: Oh sorry, you know I can just send the person who did this to you straight to hell just say a word.

Noxolo: I don't want trouble Lihle, these royal people are already dealing with me traditionally, next thing they will kill me.

Me: are you saying you will get married to a stranger?!

Noxolo: (teary) do I have a choice?

Lihle: yes sister we will run away and they will never find you.

Nobuhle: Thembelihle stop poisoning my child, am not ready to bury any of you and if she doesn't do what is required of her she will die or become a potato like she is now but it will be permanent.

Mom says walking in with dad who looks sad, I know how much we are daddy's girls and this doesn't sit well with him but there is nothing he can do I hear.

Noxolo: (crying)mom you are soo mean.

Me: yes mom that's very mean of you, how can you call her a potato?

Nobuhle: am sorry baby but I told you.

Noxolo: mom if you got nothing nice to say, leave me alone please.

Skhumbuzo: don't worry my girl you will recover and it's looks like the lobola will be paid without your presence because the date has been set already and cannot be postponed but the traditional wedding will have to wait for you.

Me: looks like these people are keen on taking my sister, what do they want from her? To make her a human stew?

Noxolo just cries loud, I would too, imagine finding my sister's fingers and ears on the pot of stew!

Me: don't worry sister I have been taking karate lessons for situations like this.

Skhumbuzo: Thembelihle you are making her more anxious, can you please stop talking.

Me: am sorry baba.

Skhumbuzo: don't worry my girl I will always be there to defend you when things get hard.

See being a girls dad turns any man into a softie.

Skhumbuzo: now we have to inform the royals about the situation at hand hopefully they won't give us a hard time.

Me: they wouldn't dare, they are the ones with a moffie of a son who can't pursue a girl on his own therefore they have to find a wife for him.

Nobuhle: next thing the Dlamini ancestors will strike you dead with a lightning then we will say they are evil, you don't say that about the future king Lihle.

Me: whatever.

***Nkosiyabo ***

Am with my dad in his office discussing this marriage thing, its getting tiring to think about this and the fact that my wife might have a big nose but the old man is as excited as everyone else.

King Mabutho: so how much are you willing to pay for this girl? Keep in mind that she is a virgin and is educated too.

Me: educated to which level?

Not that I care but you can't call a person with matric educated.

King Mabutho: she has a degree in BEd senior phase.

Oh that isn't bad at all, he must have gotten the information from mom because I hear she has been keeping in touch with my mother in law to know more about my wife who she has never seen, can't she at least ask for her pictures so that I will see her too?

Me: Oh my king I don't care which amount is payed so you will give them whatever they ask for.

King Mabutho: and as for your work?

Me: there are still some things I need to sort out

I will go after the traditional wedding which is in two weeks then I will resign.

King Mabutho: how long is this sorting going to take, you can't leave your wife alone here going to Kimberly.

Me: maybe two or three months dad and I promise I will come back.

King Mabutho: better do my boy because you are not too old for me to rearrange your face, you can't starve the poor girl because she will go get serviced by someone else.

Me: dad am not having this talk with you.

He chuckles shaking his head, no one will get between my wife's thighs except for me. Mom gets in the office out of breath, she looks scared.

King Mabutho: my queen what is wrong?

Now we all standing wanting to hear what is chasing her? My mom being a sangoma sometimes scares me.

Queen Naye: (teary) I got a call from Nobuhle, she says Noxolo was involved in a car accident and is in hospital. My God my daughter is going to die before I even meet her.

Oh so my mother in law is Nobuhle and my wife is Noxolo.

Me: what happened?

Queen Naye: I don't know Nkosi what I know is that am going to the hospital now with you my king to see her.

Me: am also coming.

This is a perfect chance to get to see her before we get married.

Queen Naye: no you are not, it's against the tradition. Let's go my king.

Just like that they leave me standing there like a lost puppy. Well I hope she pulls through.

***Noxolo ***

Am lying like a potato that I am in the bed with Lihle braiding my big afro since it looks like I will be here longer than I expected, its about 5pm and this sister of mine doesn't look like she wants to leave and the parents are still here too. My mom went to talk to the phone an hour ago with the royals and everything seems cool.

Lihle: your hair looks like a wig.

Me: so is yours.

Lihle: Yeah but I ruined mine by relaxing it now I envy your afro, it's so healthy.

Me: and also painful.

Lihle: (whispering in my ear) not as painful as it will be when the prince pulls you by it fucking you from behind.

Me: (Shocked) Lihle!

I look at mom and dad, thank God for her whispering skills they didn't hear that.

Lihle: what am telling the truth.

I don't know what am I doing but my cheeks are burning up, I think am blushing.

Me: am scared though.

Nobuhle: ah my baby don't be scared you will do just fine I know.

Me and Lihle laugh, she thinks am scared of getting married, no mother am scared of a dick. The door swings open and some man and woman gets in. The woman is so beautiful, so yellow and chubby and judging from their attire I conclude that they are royals.

Why didn't mom tell me they are coming?!

Queen Naye: good afternoon.

Nobuhle: ah my queen you made it, good afternoon.

Queen Naye: how could I have slept not knowing how my daughter-in-law is doing, how are you my dear?

Her smile is contagious, she touches my cheek gently.

Me: am good my queen.

Queen Naye: nonsense just call me mom and you my daughter?

That is directed to the shocked Lihle, am shocked too this woman looks like she bathes with milk and wipe with cheese and as for the king, the man looks scary and demands respect just by looking at you but the softness of his eyes can't be missed and also the looks are there.

Lihle: am good mah.

Queen Naye: am glad.

King Mabutho: we are sorry about what happened to you my child and we had to meet under such circumstances but all is well.

Queen Naye: Yeah it is a pity that we had to meet like this but hopefully you will be better when meeting your husband.

Am getting nervous all over again to the mention of the suppose husband but I can't disappoint this cute chubby face by not showing interest because she looks like she is going to burst with happiness so I just smile.

Lihle: she will be so much better.

Check! She has won Lihle's heart but I know she will be by my side when am missed treated there.

King Mabutho: let's leave the ladies alone Zungu so that they can kiss each other in peace.

We laugh as the men walk out chatting about God knows what.

Lihle: so my queen if you don't mind me asking, where is the husband to be? This one has been dying to see him .

Really now, I never asked to see anyone but the look that the queen is giving me makes me blush.

Queen Naye: (laughing) you are not supposed to see each other until the day of the wedding that's why we left him at home.

Lihle: even in the picture?

Nobuhle: yes Lihle even in the pictures.

Lihle: I bet he has one eye. What does he do for a living?.

Queen Naye: he is a lieutenant colonel and a business man.

Lihle: see I told you that he has one eye, everyone in the force has either one eye, one ear or is crippled.

Nobuhle: kodwa Jesus Lihle nothing that comes out of your mouth is matured.

The queen is red from laughing. So am getting married to a man I'll probably see twice a year, its get even worse. The queen spends another hour then they left promising to pay for my medical bills so that i will recover faster, my family leaves too after them. Now I really wonder how my husband looks like if his parents got such looks.

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***Queen Naye ***

On our way to the palace I keep bubbling about what I will do on the wedding, the preparations and all and Mabutho is just nodding to whatever am saying.

Me: my king did you see how beautiful she is , my son will be happy, her big eyes are soo cute I want my grandkids to have those eyes and be hairy like her.

King Mabutho: Yeah she is beautiful.

Me: tomorrow am meeting up with the wedding planner, I want everything to be perfect and the interior designer said Nkosi's house is coming on well.

King Mabutho: that house was perfect and they could have stayed in the mension if they wanted.

Me: no darling they need their space and when they have children it will be much easier to raise them in that house, it has four bedrooms including the master bedroom with three ensuite bathrooms with closets, a kitchen, dining room and sitting room, a playroom and three garage parking spaces.

He knows what am telling him but saying it again makes me so happy, what was once a dream is becoming a reality. I know Noxolo is a good girl for my boy and they will be happy together.

I hope she will be much better on her wedding day.

*** 2 weeks later ***

*** Nkosiyabo ***

Outside the gates of the Zungu homestead, my father and uncles are frustrated, they have been standing there since 6am in the morning, now it's 8:30am but they can't risk leaving, it's the queen that we came here for but lucky me am in the car watching them standing as a small boy about 6 or 7 years keep going from them to the house and back to them.

The wife is still in the hospital and yes I still don't know her but she is getting discharged today afternoon because tomorrow is our traditional wedding, it was suppose to be next week but the elders decided on tomorrow which is Sunday.

This one time I turned from the hospital gate wanting to see her but then decided otherwise, what if I will have bad luck in my life after breaking the tradition?

A few minutes to 9am they finally let them in. Now I will just sit here waiting for updates.

Two..three hours pass and finally I hear alulatis from the women inside after that I get a message from dad telling me that it's done and yes am officially broke.

Am called inside to eat! Jesus loves everyone, I can never say no to free food .

The food was amazing and all and I got to meet my father in law, what a humble man he is and my wife's forward sister who is beautiful so there is hope for my wife to be beautiful too but she is a lunatic.

***Noxolo ***

My dad picks me up from the hospital at about 4pm

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he is so happy so I suppose everything went well. I have recovered, I can take baby steps walking and I can sit but not for long because my spine is still a bit swollen and tomorrow am getting married.

Skhumbuzo: am very proud of you my girl.

Yeah that's what it is, in an African home, the best thing that a woman can do is to get married which was once my last priority.

When we get home the tent is standing tall with half of the community walking up and down doing God knows what. I spot my sister also with the occupied crowd, I feel like crying all of the sudden, my dad holds my hand.

Skhumbuzo: all is well my child.

Me: (teary) dad you are really marrying me to an unknown man.

Skhumbuzo: I know him now, he seem like a good boy with manners you will be happy and when you become happy please come and thank me with a horse you know I always wanted one.

I smile with tears in my eyes, this old man will always be my number one, he is my first king. He helps me out of the car to the house.

Aunt Lindiwe: Oh my sister's child is getting married, who would have thought that the baby Noxolo will get married.

That's my favorite aunt, my mother's older sister, she gives me a hug and many kisses on my cheeks.

Aunt Khethiwe: the muti you are using must be strong Nobuhle, for your daughter to get married to the royal prince, ay shame you don't sleep at night.

And that's the python of the family, my father's little sister. She is bitter this one and doesn't like anyone.

Nobuhle: (sarcastically) it works hey, you should try it for your daughter, even you yourself can use it or else you will die unmarried.

And then the buckering starts, we just ignore them . Aunt Lindiwe helps me to my room to rest , I will need it for tomorrow but how will I really rest with this noise!

Aunt Lindiwe: rest my baby tomorrow is going to be a long day.

Yes it is going to be a long day leading to happiness or to hell where I will regret marrying for the rest of my life but either way I will do it hoping for the best.

5

***Nkosiyabo ***

We have been up since 4am and preparing for the wedding, my friends are all here to witness my big day but this fool Lubanzi I know he is only here to see my wife. He has been on my neck since they arrived yesterday evening.

Lubanzi: man I know being royal comes with a lot of benefits but no man I can never get married to the woman I don't know.

Me: Lubanzi can you fucken close your mouth! You talk too much.

Lubanzi: I was just saying.

Nhlonipho: don't worry man you will be fine and I think the in laws are here with your wife, its 10am already.

Me: Yeah the universe can't wait to make me a husband.

Classic: so you are really leaving the army after this?

Me: I sure am, I can't be so far away from my wife and probably see her once a year, that marriage won't survive and besides the king won't approve of that.

Nhlonipho: you are right though and you are a king in training so it's the best thing to do.

Lubanzi: (laughing) or you are scared that someone else will tap it while you're away.

The guys laugh. For some reason that fuels me up, no one can have a nerve to do that. I have 3 closest friends Lubanzi the best friend, Nhlonipho and Classic.

Me: for your own information I will be the only one tapping that just like her father made me pay 18 cows for her alone.

That man wiped out my bank account plus this luxurious traditional wedding that mom made me pay for. He told my father that his daughter is a soon to be queen who will have more responsibility than an average married woman so I gotta pay big.

My father enters the room we are using all dressed up looking diaper in royal traditional attire similar to the one am wearing just different cuts but this screams power.

King Mabutho: boys they are here so let's go, I already welcomed them the wedding needs to start.

Lubanzi: it's about time.

We do the final touches then walk out to the throne room, we kneel down next to him as he burns impepho speaking with the ancestors informing them that my chosen wife is in the royal premises, they must guide this day and make it a success. We then walk out to esigcawini where the whole thing is taking place.

The Zungu side of the family is singing, I spot the sister in law and mother in law in the crowd and between them is someone covered with a big blanket. In this scorching hot sun! I can't see her at all. My girl cousins and sisters are also singing their songs. Lubanzi is having time of his life, you should see him it's like it's his wedding.

Lubanzi: bafo your wife will faint in that blanket she has on.

Me: I know hey but it's the same, when she is a queen she will be wearing heavy attire all day everyday with no piece missing. Look at how heavily mom is wearing.

Lubanzi: that's in like five years.

When we meet the other family in the middle my youngest sister is the one who is suppose to uncover my wife so Minenhle goes to her all smiles, hold the blanket on the sides then uncovered her.

She looks up with soap bubble eyes, her dark skin so beautiful and hairy and her smile showing one dimple is literally killing my every organ. Our eyes meet and she quickly looks down shyly. She must have seen the way am looking at her that am the one not forgetting the guys jaws on the floor, were they really expecting her to have a big nose?! Her face looks familiar but I got no time to be thinking where I saw her.

My father recite our clan names while we both do the traditional dancing which am not really good at and she is not moving that much because she hasn't recovered fully yet and the guys were dead with laughter but I don't care.

She get introduced to the ancestors and all the necessary procedure was done before she changes into her traditional royal attire, I also change for the reception program.

King Mabutho: firstly I would like to thank everyone who made it today to witness my one and only son becoming a man.

Nkosiyabo am proud of you my son, now that you are married I want you to always remember that you are no longer living for yourself but for your wife and future children. I want you to be a good leader of your household and always respect your wife.

Falling in love is what I guarantee that it will happen but in marriage love alone is not enough. Trust your wife, respect her

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honor her, make her know that she is valued and cherished, love her and lastly make love to her.

The whole room is filled with laughter, I look at her next to me, she is blushing, it doesn't help that her dimpled cheek is this side. Yeah falling in love is guaranteed here and yes I will make crazy love to her.

King Mabutho: yes my boy, see these creatures are stubborn, moody and sometimes thinks they know everything. No matter how angry you get never, I mean never lay your hand on her instead lock her up on the bedroom and make love to her until she apologizes and cry saying she has had enough.

Okay I think he needs to stop this talk now, I swear if she was lite in complexion she could have been red by now because of blushing, I find myself smiling.

King Mabutho: you won't wake up a good husband but make it your mission to make her happy because a happy queen means a happy castle.

Elders take turns in speeches and her sister also speaks. Now am really convinced that her sister is crazy but fun crazy not a lunatic crazy.

***Noxolo ***

I don't know what is happening to me but I keep blushing to a point where my cheeks hurts so much.

I can feel his eyes on me as we eat but am too shy to look at him back. The silence between us is uncomfortable.

Nkosiyabo: nkosazane.

I quickly look at him, his voice is soo hoarse and deep, it sounds familiar. He gives me a smirk, he is soo handsome with his fresh cut beard, I can't completely see his head because of the prince crown he has on.

Nkosiyabo: uyaphila ntokazi?

God take me now, shivers on my spine makes me feel cold and goosebumps are selling me off.

Nkosiyabo: are you feeling cold?

Me: (whispering) no, it must be the cold drink am having.

I say quickly taking a sip of my drink.

Nkosiyabo: (smiling) maybe we should officially introduce ourselves, am Nkosiyabo Dlamini your husband.

Me: Noxolo Zungu.

Nkosiyabo: no its Dlamini now ntokazi and won't you say "your wife"?.

I blush again, we continue having small talks ,he is cool even though my underwear is soaking wet because of his voice. Am really married and there is no turning back. I hope God knows that am a good child and a believer.

6

***Noxolo ***

I just finished taking a shower, am wrapped around a white towel I don't even know if it's Nkosi's or not. It's about 11pm and yes the yard is still very full and the noise is very loud, it's not going to come down anytime soon, I don't think I will be able to sleep in this noise.

Nkosi walks in, he poses looking at me, for a moment I thought about hiding my not soo hidden thighs but then again I got no reason to hide them, he is my husband and maybe he will have me for dinner tonight.

Nkosiyabo: nkosazane.

Okay he should be arrested for making me feel like this with his voice.

Me: hey.

Nkosiyabo: mmmh I will be in the bathroom while you finish.

Me: okay I will be quick and give you space.

He smiles.

Nkosiyabo: don't worry you don't have to leave your room in my account.

Me: my room? Won't you be sleeping here?

Nkosiyabo: I will sleep here but the property is yours now not mine, oh let me do this.

He comes to me and stand very close to me, am holding my breath, his cologne is intoxicating. He takes my hands into his, I feel electrifying feeling across my body.

Nkosiyabo: my beautiful queen can you be kind enough to share your bedroom with me? I don't have anywhere to sleep.

I smile, he is sweet shame.

Me: you can sleep until you find your own.

Nkosiyabo: (smiling) thank you so much. You must be tired.

Me: I am and I think I strained myself way too much, my body is aching, I need my meds.

Nkosiyabo: Yeah am sorry, wait how did you get into an accident again?

Me: someone ran me over.

Nkosiyabo: no wonder your face is familiar, I saw you there, I helped that guy. I guess the ancestors are working overtime.

Me: (laughing) yeah, go and freshen up I need some rest.

He smiles and got into an ensuite bathroom, I apply lotion ,wore my night dress, take my meds then got under covers

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tomorrow is another day.

***Nkosiyabo ***

When I was done showering, I got into the bedroom, she is already asleep ,she must really be tired.

I wear my boxers then joined her. Today am sleeping as a married man hopefully in the future I will say happily married man.

I wake up to the loud noise of people singing outside, Noxolo's side is empty and cold so I assume she woke up long ago but why?

I make my way to the bathroom after making the bed, I take a quick shower. I don't even know what time it is but it looks close to midday.

When I was done I make a run to the royal main house.

Queen Naye: Oh look who is running to look for his wife.

Everyone laughs at me, I touch my beard smiling.

I sit next to Noxolo, she dishes up for me.

Me: (smiling) thank you. I see you couldn't wait to get away from me.

Noxolo: it's not like that, I had to wake up early to make breakfast.

Me: Oh but there are helpers responsible for that you don't have to break your back you didn't come here to slave around.

Noxolo: they were helping me so don't worry.

I nod and started eating, am trying to avoid mom's look so bad but she is making it impossible so I look at her, she has a goofy smile on.

Me: Is there a problem my queen?

Queen Naye: (smiling) you should stop calling me that Nkosiyabo am no longer your queen, yours is sitting next to you

.

And the queen sitting next to me is blushing.

Me: you are right.

The conversation is flowing with Minenhle suffocating Noxolo with a million questions which she answers with a smile.

Me: can you help me with something?

She looks at me shocked, her eyes fall into my lips, she lick hers. She doesn't realize that she is drooling until I touch her nose. She is startled and looks down in shame.

Me: (whispering) it's okay you will soon have that.

She flushes in embarrassment.

Me: so will you help me?

She nods standing up, I follow behind her. I take a full look at her behind, it looks like Sibalukhulu will be eating good here.

We walk to the garden and sit down side by side.

Me: so I wanted to discuss something with you.

She nods flicking her fingertips.

Me: so before I was working at an army, well I still am but will resign soon. I will be going away for a few months to sort some things out then resign.

Noxolo: how long is a few months?

Me: one or two even three months but I will make sure not to take more than that, I know am probably asking for too much but I promise after this am all yours.

Noxolo: when are you leaving?

Me: anytime but the sooner I leave the better, can I leave next week?

Noxolo: we just got married.

Me: I know, trust me if there was any other way I would take that but also I don't want to leave knowing you are not alright about it.

Noxolo: (sighs) I understand so next week is okay but please come back as soon as you can.

I smile taking her soft hand in mine.

Me: I will do that and I will be in touch.

She nods.

Me: can I get a hug?

She blushes then we hug warmly, she smells nice like roses. Am glad she is okay with this arrangement.

07

*** A week later ***

*** Noxolo ***

He finishes applying lotion so I pack all his toiletries in his suitcase. Today he is leaving and to be honest am really sad. I know our marriage was arranged but the past week has been good, I got nothing to complain about. He was spending time with me as much as he can even though he is a guy and can't be following me around wherever I go but that little time he has he checks up on me.

His family is amazing, the sisters are very loud and they welcomed me with warm arms but every family has a weirdo or two so same here his aunt and cousin are not a nice bunch to be around.

Every night he would cuddle me to sleep.

I sigh turning to him, he is fully dressed ready to go.

He gets closer and gives me a hug.

Nkosiyo: I will be back soon I promise.

Me: (faking a smile) three months is not soon.

Nkosiyabo: what about a month? Remember I said one to three months.

Me: I know it will take longer than that but it's fine you are not going there to die anyway.

Nkosiyabo: (laughing) no you are not getting rid of me that easily.

Me: Nkosi.

Nkosiyabo: ndlovukazi.

I just melt like wax.

Me: mmmh I.. do.. do you think am attractive?

I didn't want to ask that question but duh it's been a week and the guy never touched me, not even a kiss, just hugs and cuddles only.

Nkosiyabo: (frowning) mmmh where is that question coming from?

Me: I didn't mean to offend you I was just asking.

Nkosiyabo: well I take no offense in your question but why would you ask that?

Me: we have been married for a week but you didn't touch me at all.

Nkosiyabo: well you are very attractive maZungu but you haven't fully recovered and this week you have been too busy that by the end of each day you are always tired so I was saving that for when you have recovered, I want it to be special for both of us.

Oh that is a relief, I thought I didn't look attractive to him.

Nkosiyabo: trust me it takes everything in me not to make love to you everyday but I want you to always remember your first time.

Me: Oh I just had to ask.

He hugs me tight and plant a kiss on my forehead. Ladies and gentlemen that kiss seals everything.

Nkosiyabo: okay I have to leave now, its a long drive I will take, ngcela ungenzela into eyodwa.

Me: what is that?

Nkosiyabo: ngcela uziphathe kahle and don't be afraid to tell me if anyone is troubling you.

Me: I will, travel safely.

One last kiss on the forehead then he takes his suitcase then walk out, I don't want to see him out because I know I will cry, I feel that water work is near and I don't want anyone to see me cry.

I throw myself on the king sized bed and just take a nap, maybe I will wake up feeling better.

I don't know for how long I have slept but am woken by Minenhle.

Minenhle: sis mom said I should come and give you this.

Me: Oh thank you but I wasn't hungry.

Minenhle: well you barely ate today and bhuti Nkosi hired me to make sure you eat well so please don't make my work hardoo.

I don't know if it's me or teenagers like Nigerians, I was also crazy about Niger music and accent when I was a teenager.

Me: (laughing) Okay miss let me eat thank you.

I take the tray and started eating and as always she is bubbling nonstop.

When I was done I insist on taking the dishes back to the main house, to be honest I don't think we needed such a big house when it's just me and Nkosi, we don't even use most of it, just the master bedroom with its ensuite and closet, then the sitting room, the rest of the rooms are just there to finish up the space.

Queen Naye: I was starting to get worried my dear, are you okay?

Me: yes mah am okay, just took a nap and ended up sleeping for more hours.

Queen Naye: Oh that's better I thought you are sick.

Me: no mah.

Queen Naye: okay my dear, oh I didn't see you binding your husband goodbye when he was leaving.

Me: I had already done that mah.

Queen Naye: that's good then. Come join me for a cup of tea.

I join her, she is a beautiful woman inside out makes me miss my own mother, just my whole family

I miss them terribly.

***Zenzele ***

I walk in the main house to the queen and Nkosiyo's wife. I stand by the door making sure that they don't see me and just admire God's work.

Nkosi is one lucky motherfucker, for him to get such a beauty is a miracle.

I look at her as she talks to the queen, laughing occasionally showing her one dimple, I feel my dick twitch as she throws her head back laughing. Her big eyes looks beautiful in her melanin skin and that hwanqa is driving me crazy.

I need to take some steam off, am lucky that Nkosi is not around, maybe that is a sign that I should have her.

I have been seeing her alot for the past week but has never really talked to her because she is never alone, if she was not with the other women she was with Nkosi so this is my chance to let myself be known.

I walk in and went to sit with them.

Queen Naye: you surely disappear Zenzele, where were you?

This one and thinking she is my mother! She gets on my nerves.

Me: I was out with my friends, hello beautiful lady.

I say to the wife, I don't even know her name because no one uses it, she is sisi to the girls, dear to the folks then ndlovukazi to Nkosi.

Noxolo: (smiling) Hello, mom is right you do disappear, I can count the number of times I have seen you.

Her voice is soft and damaging on the man's inside .

Me: am around here most of the time but you won't see me as you can see that the palace is very big.

She is listening and blinking too much in between, I put my hand in my pocket when I feel my dick getting hard so that they won't notice.

Noxolo: that's good hey ,everyone gets very busy around here to notice anyone but you should say hi when you see me.

Trust me you will be seeing more of me from now on my lady.

Me: I will sure do that, so how are you planning to cope with husband so far away for this long?

She smiles again then take a sit of her tea. The way her lips are on that cup is turning me on, I swallow my spit.

Noxolo: well I have been without my husband for 23 years so three months shouldn't be a problem, I will miss him but he promised to keep in touch.

Me: that's cool. Let me leave you ladies I have some work to do.

I quickly stand up and disappear to one of the bathrooms, I take out my dick, close my eyes and just imagine those small lips around my dick, I move my hand until I cum. This woman is driving me crazy. I have to find ways to have her, Nkosi won't know. My name is Zenzele Khumalo, the son of the only Dlamini princess of Emthonjeni Kingdom, am 29 years old, just a few months younger than Nkosi and I think I got a new mission to accomplish.

8

*** Noxolo ***

Am just chilling in my sitting room reading a book, Nkanyezi walks in with a big box, its huge I can barely see her.

Me: and then what's going on?

Nkanyezi: I come bearing gifts sister.

Me: what's in there?

She put the box on the coffee table in front of me, she is even sweating Jesus!

Nkanyezi: well the delivery guy said I must give this to Mrs Dlamini junior and you are the only one so it's yours.

Me: (frowning) from who?

Nkanyezi: we are about to find out, let's open it.

Me: (laughing) aybo girl it's mine now is it not?

Nkanyezi: no you can't expect me to suffer carrying this heavy thing and then get nothing in return.

I shake my head, she is something else shame. I take the knife from the kitchen then cut open the box. Inside is a baby pink 6 foot human size teddy bear. A cute sleeping jumper and a giant box of lindt chocolate, Nkanyezi quickly take an envelope I didn't notice and take out a piece of paper.

Nkanyezi: " ndlovukazi yami I know you are not okay with me being away, please hold on to this teddy bear until I come back home, and I hope this chocolate will make you feel better". Well it seems like bhuti sent this for you it's soo cute.

My heart is pounding, so he is thinking about me?

Nkanyezi: for my reward sis I think I will have a piece of chocolate.

Me: okay that's fine.

We help ourselves to the chocolate until we have had enough.

Nkanyezi: my brother is soo sweet though.

Me: Yeah let's go I need to start cooking.

We walk to the main house together.

*** 5 weeks later ***

*** Zenzele ***

Am with my friend Themba just having a few drinks, my mind is not here, I keep thinking about Nkosi's wife.

Themba: okay man out with it now, what is bothering you? You have been quiet all this time.

I sigh not knowing whether to tell him or not but he is my best friend and I know the won't snitch on me.

Me: do you remember Nkosi's wife?

Themba: ah man I saw her a bit on the wedding I wasn't paying much attention to her but I did see her.

Me: what do you think about her?

Themba: I don't know her to be thinking anything about her.

Me: I mean physically nje not her personality.

Themba: (laughing) Well Nkosi found himself some beautiful melanin there, she is very beautiful.

Me: I think I feel something for her, her presence makes my whole world stand still

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the way she talks man her body, her everything makes me so drawn to her I feel like am going crazy.

Themba: that's because you are crazy, she is your brother's wife for heaven sake, don't let Nkosiyoabo hear you say that about his wife because you know how crazy he can get.

Me: that is the problem man, Nkosi is not around, he went away and now I get to be close to the wife.

Themba: I don't know man what I know is that you are applying for death, u Nkosi akayihleki into engahlekisi you know that, he might be a cool guy with a big heart but don't test him because he will forget that you are his cousin.

I brush my head in frustration, maybe Nkosi doesn't love this woman I mean what are the chances for him to fall in love with

her so quickly, he will have to forgive me I tried to hold myself but it seem impossible with every passing day, I always service myself everyday with no one else but her on my mind.

Themba is right though, Nkosi can be crazy if provoked, he is very nice and caring but trust me you wouldn't want to mess with him.

Themba: man just leave this, don't ruin your relationship with Nkosi.

Well it was long ruined with my mom wanting to kill him so that I can take the throne and I grew up knowing him as a competition maybe it's my time to shine like him, he always get good things and me am just the black sheep with no father or identity.

Maybe taking his wife will make him realize that he is not all that.

Me: Yeah man you are right, I will leave her alone.

That's a lie tonight i will have her on my bed no matter what.

9

*** Noxolo ***

Nkosiyabo: so you are saying that you don't miss me?.

Am on a call with Nkosi, this is the third time he is calling me in one day but am not complaining.

Me: well am saying that I have gotten used to being alone. How is everything going?

Nkosiyabo: everything is good and I might be back sooner than I expected.

Me: (excitement) really? When are you coming back?

Nkosiyabo: (laughing) I said I might maZungu but maybe in a week or two I will be done with everything.

Me: Oh that's great than.

I see Zenzele walking in with a glass of juice, I know I am not a hater but this guy is not really my favorite, he is too comfortable around me and I hate it.

Nkosiyabo: okay ndlovukazi yami I will call you later to say goodnight.

Me: (laughing) haw Nkosi it's already 7pm so you can say that now.

Nkosiyabo: no I will call you by 9pm to say that.

Me: ay I give up.

Zenzele is looking at me like I have his favorite food, its uncomfortable really.

Me: bye for now then.

He says bye then hung up, I clear my throat, he jumps a little then smile. If it were someone else I would have smiled back but not with him.

Zenzele: I brought you this, I thought you might need it.

Me: Zenzele I told you before that this is my house, I don't appreciate you coming in and out as you please and there is something called knocking.

Zenzele: my apologies my queen it slipped my mind but next time I will knock.

He hands me the juice, I don't want to seem rude so i take it and take a sip.

Me: if that is all you came here for please close the door on your way out. He clears his throat, nods then walk out, I drink all my juice then went to my bedroom and changed to my pjamas.

I scroll through my phone waiting for Minenhle to arrive, she has been sleeping with me here for the past five weeks because am scared to sleep in this giant house alone but I think I will get used to it but until then am not sleeping alone.

Minenhle: (singing) my favorite holiday is when I get to sleep in my brother's bed!

Me: you are making noise Minenhle, am too sleepy girl now so am sleeping you can watch today's episodes, I will catch up tomorrow.

Minenhle: you are boring.

I pull the covers and doze off

I didn't even take a bath but it's fine I don't stink anyway. Nkosi mustn't call me because I will be sleeping by then.

*** Zenzele ***

I notice that the house is dark from outside, I take the spare keys from my back pocket and opened the door.

I knows she is already passed out, she won't feel me do anything at all.

The way am so happy my dick is already hard ready for work, I open the bedroom door, luckily it wasn't locked so I let myself in but I was never prepared for what I saw.

Me: shit what is this fool doing here now?!

This girl Minenhle is sleeping next to her, the TV is still on.

Me: what am I going to do now? I will carry her to my house then bring her back. Ah no that's risky, I can't do that without being seen by the royal guards.

I pause still looking at them fast asleep, her phone flashes on her side board drawer, I go and check who was calling ' '

Mzizi' is written on the screen. It takes a lot from me not to smack this phone on the wall.

Me: maybe I should carry her to one of the rooms here and do as I please then bring her back.

As am about to place the phone down the message pop up at the top and it reads " I suppose you are asleep my queen, I just wanted to let you know that I have already decided to come back next week" .

Me: (Annoyed) nx why is he coming back now, he was supposed to be away for three months for fuck sake. Minenhle moves, placing her leg and arm on top of Noxolo.

Me: shit this girl is annoying, now it's totally impossible to take her without waking Minenhle up. You got lucky today beautiful queen but I will have you before your lovely husband comes back.

I go close to her and kiss her lips, they are soft, now I will sleep with her on my mind, I even get wet dreams about her. I walk out before am caught.

10

*** Nkosiyabo ***

I pack my car in the driveway, the guards are the only ones in the yard, I ask one of them to take my suitcase to my house and I got into the main house. There is noise in the kitchen, I take a peek and my heart swells in joy as I see the girls getting so along soo good I got no doubt that my wife was happy while I was away. They are baking.

Minenhle: sis I don't even know what happened in that episode, I also passed out, and for you to sleep like that! I thought you were dead.

Noxolo: I also don't know what came over me but I became so sleepy after drinking the juice that Zenzele gave me, I saw your brother's missed call today and he said he is coming back next week.

Nkanyezi: are you excited?

Noxolo: of course I missed him.

Zakithi: of course you did sister, you went 5 weeks without getting laid am sure there is a spider web down there.

They all laugh at her, I shake my head. These creatures never run out of things to talk about.

Khwezi: so if I may ask how is sex with my brother?.

Shoot me now, so am the topic now. I watch her blushing.

Noxolo: am not doing this with you Khwezi.

Khwezi: well am your older sister so you must tell me if you are not happy.

Older sister where, she is just one year older than Noxolo.

Noxolo: aybo that is not something to just talk about and he is your brother I don't want you to give him funny looks.

I get in the kitchen, Minenhle sees me first but I make her keep quiet as I go hug Noxolo from behind.

Noxolo: what the!!

She jump away from me, when our eyes meet she freezes, I smile.

Me: haw come and give your husband a hug, didn't you miss me?

Noxolo: you said you will come back next week.

Me: I wanted to surprise you and lucky me you are surprised.

I walk to her and plant a soft kiss on her forehead, she finally hugs me tight, I feel my t-shirt getting wet, is she crying.

Me: (whispering) why are you crying, are you okay?

Noxolo: I missed you.

I sigh in relief, i was ready to fuck anyone up who hurt her.

Nkanyezi: welcome back prodigal son.

Me: (laughing) am no prodigal son wena.

Noxolo is still in my arms, she doesn't want to let go and I think the girls get the message that they are getting no hugs today , I keep brushing her back in comfort.

Khwezi: so you are never leaving again?

Me: for the same purpose yes, everything is sorted and I resigned.

Just that moment Zenzele gets in the kitchen, he is shocked to see me, shocked more than he should and I already know he is not happy to see me but I give no two fucks about that, am not the one to get excited to see another man anyway.

Zenzele: (clearing his throat) oh you are back? Welcome.

I give him a nod, his eyes falls on Noxolo who is holding me for dear life, I think she needs some cuddles. His eyes become red instantly, I wonder what is wrong with him. Am asking a dump question myself, everything about this guy is wrong.

Me: let us leave you girls please do continue with whatever you were doing am stealing my wife.

Nkanyezi: but she is the one who was teaching us to make this cheese cake.

Me: well you will figure it out on your own let's go maZungu.

I escort her to our house holding her hand. It's been long since I last released I need her so bad. I lock the door to our bedroom and kiss her lips gently sucking her bottom lip. She is kissing me back with the same energy.

I lift her up placing her gently on the bed, her floral dress makes the job easier for me as her thighs and underwear are fully exposed. I stop kissing her and take off the dress, followed by an underwear , her boobs are small so she wasn't wearing any bra

I try parting her thighs but she clamps them together.

Me: It's okay you can relax okay?

She nods I kiss her lips again then gently part her thighs, her pussy is staring at me all shaved and clean, I use my fingers to part her lips. Looking at her clit and pink cunt drives me crazy, I have veins popping on my forehead, that's how turned on I am but I want to be gentle and not rush her.

I kiss her neck going down to her boobs, I suck one nipple while playing with the other one, she let out a soft moan, I go down

to her flat stomach leaving wet kisses all over until I reach the paradise heaven, she is already dripping wet . I first lick all her juices then started sucking her clit.

Noxolo: mmh yess oh god it's good!

I continue sucking and gently biting her clit, I circle my tongue in her opening a few times until I feel her body vibrating. She cums in my mouth. I lick my lips going to her face. There are tears in her eyes and they are red, I kiss her nose.

I take off my clothes and sibalukhulu is fully hard with veins popping and pre-cum dripping, I position myself in her opening while kissing the hell out of her, I rub her clit.

Noxolo: shit yes that's good baby!

I don't want to burst her bubble so I continue rubbing it looking straight at her vulnerable face she looks hopeless under me. As I feel that she is about to cum again, I begin pushing my dick into her stopping every minute until she adjust.

Me: (whispering) look at me and don't close your eyes okay, it will hurt a bit.

She nods, I push all of it in when she wasn't expecting.

Noxolo: ahhh!

She hit my back as tears stream down her eyes.

Me: the worst is over my love.

She bite her bottom lip nodding, I thrust in and out slowly, she is flinching and hitting my back but I can't stop because she will feel more pain. I pull her to the edge of the bed, open her legs wider and just started rubbing her clit with my thumb that's when she started going wild.

Me: you like that?

Noxolo: yesss baby don't stop..it..it's so good!!

I pick up my pace without stopping rubbing her clit, her pussy muscles tighten around my dick as she cums screaming my name. I don't want to overwhelm her with different positions so I stick to missionary until I feel myself getting close.

Me: fuck my love you're soo good!

We cum at the same time, I feel my body getting weak but I have to keep my balance, I kiss her lips, forehead then pull out. I pull her to lie on my chest.

Me: thank you ndlovukazi yami.

With that we both pass out in each other's arms.

*** Noxolo ***

I wake up to strong arms holding me tight, I try to get out of his grip but moguy is not having it.

Me: Nkosi I need a bathroom.

Nkosiyabo: Oh ncese themba lami.

Is it even legal for someone to make you feel like this? From ndlovukazi yami to themba lami. He let me go and I stand up limping to the bathroom, the pains in between my thighs are out of this world.

I take a pee which left me in tears, am never having sex again it's painful I can't even pee like a normal person.

I return to the bedroom to find Nkosi taking the stained sheets, am so embarrassed right now.

Nkosiyabo: how are you feeling my love.

Me: am still sore but I will be fine don't worry.

Nkosiyabo: it will get better with time.

Me: what are you doing with those?

I ask pointing the sheets. He smiles.

Nkosiyabo: I will hand them to the queen, its tradition that when we first have sex those sheet must be given to the elders.

Well that a crazy tradition then, I say to myself.

Me: Oh okay.

Nkosiyabo: you must be hungry, I will ask the helpers to make something for us, come here.

He envelopes me in his arms then kiss my forehead. His dick pokes my abdomen but decided to ignore it, it's big and black with pinkish like tip.

Nkosiyo: today was amazing and I will never forget.

I smile, my husband is not scared to show affection and I might join him because am now more comfortable around him.

11

***Nkosiyabo ***

Me: ah mah don't do that.

Queen Naye: what did I do because am just being happy, is that a sin?

Me: no its not but please don't say anything to her, you know she is shy please control yourself.

Queen Naye: okay I will try but am not promising anything.

Gosh this woman is impossible sometimes, I just gave her the bloodied sheet and she is over the moon wanting to see Noxolo who is locked up in our house because apparently people will see her with a duck walk, her words not mine so I have been a chef since morning but am not complaining.

Me: ay am out of here.

I walk to my house, Noxolo is watching some women show, I join her even though I know I will probably be bored by what she is watching. She smiles at me then concentrated on the TV.

Me: I gave mom the sheets.

She looks at me not knowing what to say so she just nods.

Me: and I was thinking here.

She gives me her full attention, I like how she always listens then raise suggestions that a kind of woman I need.

Me: I have a house in Ballito, I moved there 7 years ago and my whole life is there, I have a business there and as you know am no longer working but I need to do something so I was thinking that we both move there, I don't want to leave you behind because you are my wife not my parent's wife so what do you say ndlovukazi yami?

Noxolo: well if there is nothing important to do here then I see no problem with that too, and if you got no problem I would also like to do something for myself.

Me: okay that's great then, you can also work if you want too but you don't have to because I will provide and support you always and for so you keep this in mind, we are not moving there permanently maZungu, when it's time to take the throne we will have to come back.

Noxolo: I know so when are you planning for us to go?

Me: I don't know but soon, I will let you know when everything is sorted.

She nods, maybe we will have to come back permanently in 5 years or less if under certain circumstances.

Me: It's sorted then, oh another thing ndlovukazi, I know that we recently got married and we haven't settled especially because I was away but i wanted to ask you to please give us a

chance, not for the sake of being married but I want us to be partners. I don't know about you but me I know I have fallen deep for you, I know that every time I think of you, I just want to love you and protect you. Yes we still have a long way to go into getting to know each other and am far away from being perfect but am willing to do that while loving you so themba lami, do you give us a chance at love?

Noxolo: well if I can say I want a perfect man then that will mean I have to get married to God himself, I don't want you to be perfect but just promise me that you will never lay your hand on me, If I did anything wrong I'd appreciate it if you talk to me. Even if we didn't feel anything for each other Mr we still had to make it work, am your chosen one remember? So I will give us a chance.

I attack her with a deep kiss, she kisses me back moaning, I pull her to sit on top of strangling me, am loving this floral dress she has on, it gives me excess to my property easily.

Me: (whispering)why aren't you wearing an underwear maZungu?

Noxolo: (giggling) I wanted to let it breathe.

I pull her closer, she feels my hard dick and started moving her waist in circular motion, she is moaning louder with each passing second, she is grinding me like a maniac, this track pant am wearing is helping her alot but it causes a lot of friction which may cause her to have sores so I pull it down to give her skin to skin.

Wrapping her arms around my neck she goes wild when her clit meet my veined dick, her mouth is slightly open and her lips are trembling

she looks like she is going to cry any second.

Me: (whispering) you like that?

She nods quickly, tears stream down her cheeks as she squirts hard while trembling. When her orgasm subsides a little I insert my dick into her tight small hole, I guess she is still swallowen from last night.

Noxolo: mmmh Dlamini.

Me: themba lami.

Noxolo: (shyly) I don't know how to do it when on top, can you come on top?

Me: yes I can, we will learn together don't feel bad, I will teach you some other time.

She nods, I wipe her tears then flip her to lie on her back on the couch, I open her legs wide, you can tell that she is still fucken horny by looking at her swallowen clit. I rub it with my fingers while kissing her for a while then stopped inserting myself again. Leaning toward to her level I start to thrust, giving her slow deep thrusts, occasionally french kissing her.

Me: (groaning)you are so fucken good mami..yes shit!

Noxolo: move faster baby..please I wanna cum, yessss fuck!

I obey moving faster, hitting the right spots, her legs vibrates then she squirts again, am no one minute noodle but looking at her face as she cums killed me, I pound a few times then shot my load deep inside her. I kiss her forehead pulling her into my chest. We stay quiet with me brushing her black healthy hair and her face down to my chest.

Noxolo: won't you ask me why I peed on you?

I chuckled holding her tight.

Me: no baby I love that so much, looking at your clit twitching while you squirt is what I like so much and you weren't peeing on me, your body was just loving what I was doing down there.

Noxolo: Oh, yeah I liked it but it's draining, am tired, I feel like I have been ran over again.

I laugh, I can never get tired of her so she must embrace getting tired because am still gonna very much make love to her.

*** Lihle ***

Me: talking about a sister who gives no two fucks about me.

Noxolo: stop being dramatic Lihle, you know I was still adjusting to married life and everything.

Me: well since you haven't called me crying then I guess the husband is doing a good job or at least he is behaving.

Noxolo: I know I have only known him for a couple of weeks but it's safe to say he is a great guy and treats me well so far.

Me: well he knows that your sister doesn't play, but if you're happy then am the happy one my sister.

Noxolo: actually I called you to inform you that I will be moving to Ballito with Nkosi in a few days.

Me: (screaming) Oh my God Noxolo that is a great place, it's beautiful I have no doubt that you will be living a life there, my sister just go and enjoy your life because when you become a queen there will be a lot on your plate, am happy for you.

I have surely seen Ballito in pictures but never went there in person, I can't be selfish and expect Noxolo to stay here for the sake of wanting to see her and hung out more often, she is a married woman now and has to be with her family.

Noxolo: thank you Lihle you are the best, I will make sure to be in contact as much as I can and I will visit wherever I can I promise.

Me: I will hold you into that, where is hubby anyway?

Noxolo: he just walked out.

Me: okay nana be good and make a lot of babies there, my son gets bored.

Noxolo: (laughing) It will happen whenever it happens I won't rush the process.

Me: if you and hubby agreed on that then it's cool, bye I love you.

Noxolo: I love you too, let me call the folks and tell them about this.

Me: do that please, Bybee.

She drops the call I miss her so much but we wouldn't have been glued to each other now could have we? But it's cool she is happy which makes me happy too.

12

***Noxolo ***

I wake up early today because Mr is going back to work he is still sleeping so peacefully next to me with his one arm at the back of his head. He is the only person I have ever seen who sleeps on his back facing up, I swear I can get nightmares all night.

It's been three weeks since we moved here and I must say this place is so beautiful and so peaceful, I don't even know our neighbors and I doubt I ever will, everyone here is minding their own businesses, my husband has been so good to me to a point where am scared that at some point I will mess things up for us, yes we have been taking our time to know each other and connecting but you know I can't stop life from happening.

I take a good look at his handsome dark chocolate face, his dark full lips and neatly shaved beard looks good on him, I perk his lips careful not to wake him up, its too early for him to wake up. I get out of bed naked, this man is a sex freak, he doesn't get tired at all, after four rounds yesterday I had to beg him to let me sleep because I was really tired and I have to go see the

doctor for prevention soon otherwise I will be walking around pregnant for the next 9 months which I think am not ready for.

I brush my teeth then take a quick shower then just wore a simple dress and sleepers, I make my way downstairs to have my morning coffee. I make Nkosi some lunch to take to work just some left over white rice, marry me chicken, steamed broccoli with some shredded parmesan cheese, for his fruits I pack him some cantaloupe slices, blueberries and grapefruit slices his favorite, he eats grapefruit every morning, after lunch and after dinner and for dessert I pack him some banana bread I baked yesterday. I pack everything in his lunch bag then made him breakfast which is protein pancakes, hem and cheese omelet, grapefruit and a glass of ice cold water.

After a few minutes he walks in looking diaper in his navy blue custom made suit and brown shoes. I look at him coming, now am hesitant about him going to work looking like that, I didn't realize I was drooling until I feel his warm lips on mine, I try to pull away but Mr pull me closer devouring me straight.

Nkosi: (smiling) morning themba lami.

Me: (blushing) morning Dlamini.

Nkosi: uyishiyeleni indoda yodwa embhedeni, you know I love having you for breakfast.

Me: well Mr I made you breakfast and you need to keep sane for work.

I serve him his breakfast.

Me: and I made you lunch for work.

Nkosi: (smiling) that lunch won't make it to my office gate, i will eat it on my way there

Me: bese udlani during lunch time?

Nkosi: (Smirking) ngizobuya ngizodla wena.

I blush returning to the kitchen to take my breakfast.

Me: God your son needs some deliverance.

He laughs at my statement, we continue having small talk while eating.

Nkosi: am leaving now my love, I don't know when I will be back but probably after 5pm because there is a lot to be done but I will call if it's later than that.

I nod, he comes to give me last kiss that left me soaking wet down there. I watch him drive off, now I will be alone in this giant house the whole day but daddy gotta work so I will be fine.

***Nkosiyabo ***

I park in my own parking space at the office and take out my briefcase and lunch bag, I have never taken lunch to work, I buy

in the cafeteria sometimes I don't eat all day but things change, married man will understand me.

I was procrastinating to come to work

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I didn't want to leave my wife alone, she will get lonely especially with no friends but at some point I had to work.

My employees are surprised to see me back.

Nonhle: good morning sir, it's good to have you back.

That is the receptionist, I know I can stay home for the whole year and my company will be running smoothly because I know I built a strong team here so I was zero worried and it will be the first time working here full time, I used to work occasionally when I can or when on leave.

Me: good morning Nonhle I hope you guys were working here in my absence.

Nonhle: (laughing) we were sir you know Mr Nxumalo is good at what he does but I hear you will now be working here full time.

Me: Yeah you heard right.

Nonhle: well then welcome and congratulations on your marriage I know I should have come but I had some things at home that needed my attention.

Me: thank you and don't worry I understand It was done quickly, everyone got the last minute invitation but the white wedding is coming so I hope you will be there.

Nonhle: definitely, hope I will be meeting Mrs Dlamini soon then.

Me: (smiling) you will surely, let me run.

She nods, I take an elevator to the third floor where my office is, I first pass by Nhlonipho's office.

Me: my man.

He smiles getting up to give me a bro hug. For so you know Nhlonipho owns 35% of the shares here, I sold them to him because he was interested in this business and he is doing the most, I might sell him another 5% soon.

Nhlonipho: my man I didn't think you will make it, you have been postponing coming back for the past three weeks, wifey is giving it to you good I see.

I laugh sitting on the couch.

Me: (laughing) don't talk like that about my wife but yes it was hard leaving her.

Nhlonipho: I should come visit with Mpume some time maybe they will get along.

Me: you should do that man maybe this weekend or so, whenever you don't have anywhere important to go.

Nhlonipho: Yeah I will officially meet the Mrs, I only saw her at the wedding and we were never introduced.

Me: she will be happy, let me get to work man so that I will be done early.

Nhlonipho: (laughing) is that a lunch bag you are carrying?

We both laugh, I leave his lunatic ass there and go to my office, its squeaky clean which is a relief. I hope I will be done early really.

*** Zenzele ***

Me: ay mah stop this what is it now?

She annoys me so much these days.

Nomathamsanqa: what is wrong with you these days, you are always grumpy, don't you want to do this again?

Me: that's the problem mother, I want to do this but plans need to change, we can't kill his wife, its him we want the wife did nothing wrong.

Nomathamsanqa: are you mad! You know that she will take over even when Nkosiyo is dead she is his wife.

Me: what is a queen without a king?

Nomathamsanqa: we can't leave her, In fact we have to start with her.

Me: no mom we will kill Nkosi then I will marry his wife then take the throne.

She looks at me like I said the Russians are coming to South Africa. I have thought this through, I want that wife to myself, they have already made it difficult for me to have her by moving but I will have her no matter what.

Me: I know you think am crazy but mom that woman is driving me crazy, I want her soo bad and we have to do something about it.

Nomathamsanqa: I don't think Mabutho will agree to marry his daughter in law to you even when Nkosiyabo is dead.

Me: that old hang will die soon so don't worry we will do this our way, that woman will be mine.

I have decorated my room with her pictures that I took whenever she wasn't looking, no one is allowed to enter my room and the feelings of masturbating looking at her big eyes is out of this world so am thinking how it will feel with her in my arms naked with me deep inside her hole, that burstad Nkosi is living a good life which won't last for long.

MaZungu am coming for you, you will be my ndlovukazi.

Nomathamsanqa: okay then we have to visit makhosi to block the queen from seeing anything before we start working with those two, we will make the wife fall for you then end Nkosi's miserable life.

There is that woman too who sees danger from afar, she will be the problem too. Her ancestors will show her what we are about to do then she will block us before we get to those two so we have to block her visions.

I can already imagine my life with the dark bone by my side.

13

***Noxolo ***

I look at the time, what! It's 3am and I don't wake up in the middle of the night because am a deep sleeper so am scared, I turn on the light disturbing Nkosi from his sleep, he rubs his eyes in confusion.

Nkosi: are you okay my love?

Me: I don't know I just don't feel good babah but I don't know what is wrong with me.

Nkosi: do you want me to hold you, come I will cuddle you.

I shake my head, I don't want any cuddles.

Me: let's pray Nkosi, I feel like praying so let's pray.

He is hesitant but nods anyway, I get down from the bed and kneel down. Nkosi kneels on the other side of the bed.

Me: God I come before you, I know am the sinner, I sin before you all the time , I come to beg you to please take anything out of my life that is not brought by you, take away anything that takes me away from your presence, lead me lord in all the confusion, the fear and uncertainty I decide to let you guide me in everything, please take the first step and I shall follow suite for I know you will never lead me to a wrong path, I pray that you be with my husband all the time guide him into doing things according to your will, I cover him in your blood that anything bad that was meant for him doesn't locate him, fight for us in every battle because you are the God (crying) you are the living God that never fails, you hear, you see and you answer, please look into my heart and do your will in the mighty name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth I pray.

Nkosi: amen.

I open my eyes to find Nkosi next to me, I doubt he was praying but he looks concerned, he wipes away my tears then kiss my forehead.

Nkosi: everything will be okay my love, trust in the Lord.

He switches off the lights. We both get back to bed and he throws his arms around me and cuddles me, he kiss my neck and slept immediately, I guess he is tired. It takes a while for me to fall asleep but I finally did.

***Nkosiyabo ***

Am deep in my sleep when I hear my phone ringing, who got the nerve to call me at this time?

Me: hello.

Am ready to shit at whoever that is calling me if they are calling for nonsense.

Zenzele: aw gazi you are still sleeping?

Me: It's 5am Zenzele of course am still sleeping what do you want?

Am so annoyed firstly because he never calls me but rather always have an attitude so I know he wants something from me.

Zenzele: eish gazi am broke lately so I was thinking of looking for work so I was thinking if you could accommodate me while I look, I promise I won't stay for long.

I sigh, is this guy crazy, at 29 he got no shit on his name, was just chowing my father's money which I don't mind but was he really thinking he will suck our blood for the rest of his life?

I look at my wife next to me, she is still sleeping, I wonder when she fell asleep after the prayer, I wanted to stay awake but I was too tired to keep my eyes opened so the good I could have done is to cuddle her.

Me: am going to have a talk with my wife and I will get back to you later.

Zenzele: so she is already pulling you by your nose and it haven't been a year.

Me: look if you're going to insult me I suggest you look for a flat to stay because I won't have that in my house with my wife.

Zenzele: am sorry gazi, it just slipped my tongue.

Me: as I said I will talk to the queen first then get back to you.

I drop the call, this guy annoys me, I don't know how he is my cousin with such a small brain

a part of me is wishing for Noxolo to refuse, I don't want anyone especially not Zenzele invading our space.

Now gone is my sleep so I just get out of bed and go to brush my teeth, i will bath later, its Saturday so am not going anywhere.

When I was done I just played some game on my phone while in bed. Noxolo wakes up a few minutes past 7am. She looks so beautiful with her sleepy face, she rubs her eyes.

Me: (smiling)sawubona muntu omuhle.

Noxolo: (smiling) good morning Dlamini.

And yes I feel the little Dlamini twitch down there. She gets out of bed, her night dress is lifted up on the back to almost showing her underwear.

Me: no morning kiss no nothing for your husband Mrs Dlamini?

She winks shutting the bathroom door, am left smiling like an idiot, who would have thought that in just a few months I will be madly in love with my chosen one, I have to kill a cow and two goats thanking my ancestors for giving me Noxolo I don't want to lie am happy with her and it just comes naturally.

I decided to just go and make us breakfast because I know she is bathing in there, she never starts a day without bathing but I just can't seem to adapt her habit, if am not going anywhere I will just brush my teeth and bath whenever I feel like it. I make some cream cheese toast, scrambled eggs and some bacon.

I almost drop the tray when I walk into her bended applying lotion on her legs, her pussy is showing from the back, I clear my throat and guess what Satan made her do! She part her legs looking at me between them, she laughs looking at my shocked face.

Noxolo: Mr put that tray down because you will clean the mess if you drop it.

She wears an underwear and put on her silk summer gown and joins me in bed.

Noxolo: mmmmh this is good thank you Sibalukhulu.

Me: (whispering) uyazi if you keep moaning like that
uzobhebheka straight.

She laughs out loud almost choking .

Noxolo: you are dirty minded shame love.

Me: and you love me like that.

She nods smiling.

Me: Oh themba lami my cousin called me earlier, he was asking
if we could accommodate him for a few whatever until he gets
a job. I told him that I will talk to you first then get back to him.

She stops eating, her big eyes on me.

Noxolo: don't you have one cousin?

Me: Yeah I have one and am talking about him, Zenzele.

She looks down and continues eating, she doesn't look happy about this request.

Noxolo: I am not really comfortable around him, he is weird but he can come if he is going to stay for a few days or weeks.

Me: he doesn't have to come if you are not comfortable, you cannot be uncomfortable in your own house, he will look for accommodation.

Noxolo: no its fine he can come he won't be around the house that much anyway because he will be looking for work.

Me: are you sure about that?

She nods but she is not really but I hope it's not because of something that fool did, Zenzele is not likable but I don't think my wife is a hater, he needs to steam that one akhiphe isigcwagcwa.

***Zenzele ***

Nomathamsanqa: you do remember what you need to do right?

Me: yes mom I remember everything.

Nomathamsanqa: you do one thing wrong everything goes wrong, this woman is strong and their love can't be broken easily so don't mess our plans.

Me: I know mom, I know can I go now.

Nomathamsanqa: and please control yourself around that woman, don't allow temptation to get the best of you.

Me: It's not temptation mom it's love so you better start loving her too because she is going to be your daughter in law.

Nomathamsanqa: whatever just go.

I sigh, finally. My mom has been preaching the same thing over and over again, I meet the queen on my way out.

Queen Naye: where are you going Zenzele?

Me: am visiting a friend of mine, I will be back in a few weeks.

Queen Naye: Oh that's good, you need to visit some other places, drive safely.

Me: thank you malumekazi.

Another thing is that I envy Nkosi so much, he was raised well by both loving parents, was homeschooled with his siblings and has his own company now he is married to a beautiful woman that could have given him beautiful kids, I know without doubt that he is going to be a great father someday just not with my woman's kids, I will father those.

I get into my car and drive to Ballito, I will be there in a few hours. I hope everything goes well, I can't let Nkosi be happy with the woman that I love so much and judging from how his voice lowers when he talks about her he also loves her but I doubt he loves her as much as I do.

14

*** Noxolo ***

Am making dinner, Zenzele arrived about three hours ago and has been with Nkosi the whole time, I need to make some friends or else I will go crazy especially with my sister far away.

The urge to pray hasn't left my body, I have been asking God to protect us from whatever that he is trying to warn us about.

I dish up for us then set the table, I call them to eat, Nkosi is next to me as always.

Zenzele: makoti thank you for allowing me to stay here, I won't stay long I promise.

Me: don't sweat it and you can't be sure about not staying for long or you have someone who already promised you work?

Zenzele: no not at all I will look.

Nkosi: I doubt it will be that easy especially with no qualification, I don't know why you dropped out of university.

I give Nkosi a " don't " look and he keeps quite.

Me: am sure you will find something soon.

We continue eating, I would notice Zenzele staring at me from time to time which made me really uncomfortable so I decided to clear the table when they were done eating.

Nkosi: thank you for the nice dinner themba lami.

Me: you're welcome.

I load the dish washer, clean the kitchen then went upstairs, Nkosi is not in our bedroom so I guess he is with his cousin, I take a warm bath, I prayed then got under covers.

*** Nkosiyabo ***

Me: I know finding work with no qualification is close to impossible unless you want to be working at grocery stores so am giving you this as a start up, you will be on the entry level architecture, I know it's not something one can do without experience but you will learn, you will be working with professional architectures meaning you will be payed half the salary for training if you are interested, that's the only thing I can offer I hope I don't regret this in the future.

Zenzele: I promise you won't regret it gazi, thank you.

I nod standing up, I go to my room, Noxolo is already sleeping I thought I will find her reading a book or something, I take a quick shower then got into bed with her, she is only wearing a night dress ,her whole ass is displayed for me, I hate to disturb her while sleeping but I can't help myself.

I brush her thigh. Holding one leg in the air I insert my already hard dick. I make sweet love to her.

Noxolo: (sleepy voice) are you ready to be a father Dlamini?

That question caught me off guard, is she pregnant?

Me: why are you asking that?

Noxolo: the way we have sex, am sure am pregnant and if not then I will have to take precautions.

Me: that will be great my love but if you're not ready to be a mother I will understand.

Noxolo: mmmhh.

She pass out after that, maybe she was dreaming, yeah I will stick to that i won't even ask her tomorrow.

I kiss my beautiful wife goodbye then we drove out with Zenzele , I don't trust this guy with anything but I know he came to me because he basically wanted a job from me. I know am really not his favorite but neither is he mine so am doing him a favor.

Nhlonipho frowns as I walk in with Zenzele.

Me: my man.

Nhlonipho: Yeah man what's up.

Me: (laughing) you remember my cousin, he is going to work here for sometime I will fill you in, Nonhle please do show him around.

Nonhle: yes sir.

Me: and am having a half day today.

Nhlonipho: why now it's only Monday aren't you supposed to have that on Fridays like we agreed?

Me: my wife has an appointment at midday so am her transport.

Yes she wasn't dreaming when she asked me about me being ready to be a father, she asked that I give her a few months then she will stop preventing which am not sure about but I can't force her to carry my child.

Nhlonipho: don't worry I will ask Mpume to take her, she is off today anyway and it's high time they meet so she won't mind at all, I will send her your address.

Me: Oh that's okay then let me get started with work, gazi hit me up if you need anything.

Zenzele nods following Nonhle to the HR department to be registered and all the necessary procedure.

I text Noxolo informing her about the arrangement.

***Noxolo ***

I wait patiently for the mysterious lady that is suppose to take me to the doctor , apparently she is Nkosi's friend's girlfriend, I hear the door bell ring, I let her in.

Her: Oh hey there you must be Noxolo, am Nompumelelo but people call me Mpume nice to meet you.

She pulls me into a tight hug, she is tall slim and very yellow, complete opposite of me but she is very beautiful with her perky lips.

Me: nice to meet you too.

Mpume: you are soo beautiful I like your eyes, they look like they are in the edge of falling, am here to take you to your appointment, girl this house is dreams shame I should visit you sometime.

She talks alot, about different things at the same time, she is giving me Lihle vibes.

Me: I was stunned too when I first got here, we can go am ready.

We get into her car driving to the doctor.

Mpume: so how old are you, you look way too younger than me and how is married life going? Am sure you are treated good your man is a nice guy, I have only known him for a few years.

I don't know whether to answer her questions or let her be, am sure she has forgotten about them too but I answer anyway.

Me: am 23 but will be turning 24 in a few months. Married life is great so far.

Mpume: it must be good, am 27 by the way, so what are you going to do to the doctor if you don't mind me asking?

Me: I think I might be pregnant, I have been feeling funny lately, like I feel nauseous all the time, if am not I will be taking precautions, we will start trying next year. I should have taken them from the get go but I was scared of Nkosi's reaction.

Mpume: so he is fine with you preventing?

Me: yes we agreed.

Mpume: if that is what you want then it's okay, you will meet my baby girl someday, she is my everything.

Me: how old is she?

Mpume: she is two years and talks too much for her age.

Me: just like you.

She laughs.

Mpume: we are here, do you want me to come with you?

Me: yes I will appreciate that.

We get into the doctor's office, am soo nervous right now, Mpume is holding my hand.

Doctor: Mrs Dlamini we first have to take pregnancy tests so that we don't make a mistake of putting you into precautions while pregnant. Take this and pee in it.

I take the stick and went to the bathroom, peed on it then come back with it.

Doctor: so if you're pregnant what is the step forward?

Me: I will keep the pregnancy.

Doctor: that is good, your husband is a great man, he will make a great father.

Everyone has something good to say about Nkosi, he must really be good hearted and nice. I hope he stays like that but people mustn't take advantage of his good heart because they will deal with me personally. The doctor and Mpume keeps making small talks but am too nervous to speak, the alarm goes off, my hands sweat as the doctor reads the pregnancy test.

Doctor: well Mrs Dlamini congratulations you are 5 weeks pregnant , will you like to do a scan?

Mpume: yes please.

I can't talk, am too shocked but then my mind goes "girl when someone have unprotected sex they fall pregnant so are you", so I got pregnant even before we moved in here, my husband was really a soldier, to knock me up in a short space of time but

then again it only takes one night. I hope I won't have serve morning sickness when they kick in.

I lie on the bed, Mpume looks like she is the one who is pregnant. The doctor apply a cold get on my abdominal area and scans me.

Doctor: you hear the heartbeat?

I wipe the tear that just cracked out of my eye, am soo happy. The doctor's smile vanishes as he moves the scan listening carefully, he looks at the screen in shock.

Mpume: what is it doctor?

Doctor: well here I count 1 2 3 babies wait wait 4 there are four babies in there so you are pregnant with quads .

Mpume: are you sure doctor?

Doctor: I have never been so sure.

Me: (crying) am going to kill Nkosi for this, how can he do this to me?! He is so heartless, he will carry these babies himself.

The doctor sprints the scan for me then

Mpume wipes the gel then hugs me tightly.

Mpume: it's okay we will get through it, you know he will be there every step of the way, just keep calm for the minions there.

I smile in tears realizing that my first time being a mom I will be a mom of four. I touch my stomach in disbelief , I hope God is not punishing me for something I don't know.

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*** Nkosiyabo ***

I drive into my yard indeed Mpume is still here . Am with Zenzele in my car and Nhlonipho parks next to me.

We get inside the house to find the ladies on the couch, I know Mpume is affectionate but I don't think there is a need for cuddles.

Me: ladies are you okay?

Noxolo lifts her head to look at me with red eyes then lie down again without even responding to my greeting.

Nhlonipho: are you ladies okay?

Me: yes, are you okay?

Noxolo stands up from the couch, coming to me with 180 speed, she has tears in her eyes, to be honest am scared

because I have never seen her like this. I move back as she comes closer.

Mpume: don't you dare get out of that door Nkosi, I dare you.

So am the problem here but I didn't do anything.

Me: what did I do?

Noxolo grabs my hand, pulling me towards the coffee table, she points at the piece of paper printed in black and white.

Noxolo: (crying) you are the famous soldier Mr Dlamini aren't you and your soldiers knocked me up, I wasn't ready to be a mom Nkosi but you just had to make it worse by putting four of your big heads in my womb!

Me: my soldiers, which soldiers? What do you mean by that?

Mpume: she mean exactly that, she is pregnant with quads Nkosi, four babies are growing in there.

I freeze, am not sure if I heard right but judging from Nhlonipho's happy face it's true am going to be a father.

I attack my wife with a hug spinning her around, am screaming the happiness cannot be described in words, I stop when she starts wailing, I put her down.

Me: what is wrong my love, don't you want the babies, our babies themba lami?

The possibility of her not wanting them makes me sad, she can't do that to me, to us because I don't think I will be fine being with her after she killed my babies.

Noxolo: (Shaking her head) I want them but how am I going to carry all of them on my own, I don't think I can, am too nervous.

Me: I know you will be carrying them physically but I will be there with you all the way my love, I will never leave you to go through all this alone and if it's gets too much to a point where you can't take it anymore then you can deliver them earlier than 9 months.

I pull her into a hug again. She is holding me tight like am going to run away, I noticed that she holds me like this when she is too emotional.

Me: (whispering) am going to be a father.

Nhlonipho: Yeah congratulations my man, you are a real man.

Me: (smiling) thanks man.

Nhlonipho: this is great news, I should call the guys to come for celebration if wifey is okay with that though, I don't want to overwhelm you.

Me: are you okay with that my love?

She nods.

Mpume: (smiling)congratulations Nkosi.

Me: thank you.

My eyes lands on Zenzele staring at my wife, the guy is not even blinking. I don't know if am seeing things or what but this guy is into my wife. Satan mustn't try me because I will kill his pathetic ass.

Me: Zenzele.

Nya ! The hell! He is still staring. Nhlonipho notices what am looking, he gives a questioning look.

Nhlonipho: Zenzele!!

He startled, Nhlonipho noticed that I was getting worked up and If I get my hands on him things will get ugly. Our eyes meet and he swallow hard breaking eye contact.

Me: is there a problem I should know about Zenzele?

Zenzele: mmm.. ay no gazi there is no problem at all.

With that he rushes upstairs. Nx pervert, now not only do I have to protect my wife from the outside world and strangers but from this fool too. He must start looking for accommodation because he is leaving my house. I don't want my wife to be stressed out, I want her to have a smooth pregnancy and maybe enjoy it a bit but I doubt she will with four babies, they will drain her period.

My mom is going to be soo happy when she hears the news. She always wanted grandchildren and now she is going to be one of four at once. I have to work my butt off for at least 3 months

I want to take a leave when she is 4 months pregnant.

Lubanzi: ah the ghosting ghost madoda.

Classic: the father of the year who killed four eggs.

Lubanzi: the fertilizing fertilizer who fertilizes all fertilizable things.

Classic: the mighty soldier with the strongest soldiers in the game.

Lubanzi: the...

Me: (laughing) guys can you stop this please, you are crazy.

Nhlonipho: that should be your clan names Nkosi the fertilizing fertilizer.

Lubanzi: aw my beautiful wife how are you ntokazi?

He says to Noxolo, hugging her. Lubanzi is crazy and his problem can't be fixed mind you Akhona his girlfriend is here too, he must stop this because she is crazy I don't want her going crazy on my wife.

Noxolo: am good how are you?

Lubanzi: now that I see you am even better. Hah ntombi ka bafo long time no see.

He is bombarding Mpume now but at least she knows how crazy he is. We leave the ladies alone after the introductions were made. We went to buy some meat and drinks for the braai.

*** Noxolo ***

Am with the ladies in the kitchen cooking, Mpume is making pap and me, Olwethu and Akhona are making the salads.

Akhona: so Nkosi really got married and we were never invited?

I don't know what to say so I just keep quiet.

Mpume: of course you weren't invited moss, its not like Nkosi is your friend and stuff.

Akhona: we are friends.

Mpume: no sis, your man is best friends with Nkosi and Lubanzi was invited so it's no problem.

Akhona: mmmh. But he really went so low down in choosing, oh my bad I almost forgot that she was chosen for him, I know Nkosi is into yellow bones.

Olwethu: and that yellow bone is you?

What now?!

Akhona: I didn't say that.

Olwethu: look Akhona we know that you got this crazy crush on Nkosi when he is your man's friend but please don't cause drama, he is now married, seems happily married at that so respect boundaries and mostly respect his wife. If Nkosi ever wanted you he could have gotten you but you kept throwing yourself at him, respect yourself.

So she is bitter because am Nkosi's wife. Well sister if she thinks she will walk all over me than she got something coming her way.

Olwethu: Noxolo you said how far are you again?

Me: am five weeks.

Olwethu: girl you are going to have a hard time carrying four babies but you will be in our prayers.

Me: thank you, I appreciate that

Olwethu: so is the arranged marriage thing working, like are you guys getting along and stuff.

Mpume: if they weren't getting along she wouldn't be standing there pregnant.

We laugh, I don't think me and Nkosi has ever been bitter towards each other because of arranged marriage.

Me: Yeah we are fine, still working our way around it and yes there are people on the way already so that should explain everything.

Olwethu: are you guys going to have more after those?

Me: mmmh am not sure, let's just say It will depend on the gender.

Olwethu: two boys and two girls will be cute though, now am broody.

Mpume: ask Classic to get you pregnant.

Me: is his real name Classic?

Olwethu: yes it's his second name though but he likes it more than the first name which is Nhlahla.

Me: Oh it's cute though, so don't you have a baby?

Olwethu: I have two, both boys.

Me: cute.

Akhona is still sour but am not craving for her engagement in this conversation, Zenzele walks in, I noticed the tension between him and Nkosi earlier I wonder what was it about.

Zenzele: ladies.

Me: bhuti.

I doubt the girls knows him because they just stare at him without saying anything.

Our eyes meet, he smiles but I don't smile back, I feel strange. I look the other way.

Zenzele: (Nkosi's voice) where are the guys?

I quickly turn to him. He smiles again. Am I going crazy? Why does he sound like Nkosi all of the sudden. He comes closer to me and asked that I pass him a glass which was in the cupboard. When I give him a glass he rubs his thumb on my hand, I feel shock.

Me: what are you doing?

Zenzele: nothing.

Me: am asking you, what the hell are you doing!!!

The ladies looks at us, Mpume is now next to me.

Mpume: what is wrong?

Me: I want this guy out off my face and be prepared to explain to your cousin why you touched me like that! Nx!

I walk out and went to my bedroom, I sit on the bed thinking about Nkosi, his hoarse deep voice that sends chills down my spine. I take off my underwear and opens my legs wide and just imagine all the times when he makes love to me, I play with my clit as I imagine his tongue nibbling my swallowen clit.

The door knob turns but luckily I locked the door, I guess it's Mpume checking up on me. I continue playing with myself until I feel Nkosi's deep groan in my ear, I cum with tears in my eyes.

I have never done that, no matter how much I miss my husband I always wait for him but I don't know what is happening to me. I clean myself and went back to the kitchen thinking I will be lucky to find Nkosi back but they're not.

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*** Nkosiyabo ***

We are all chilling enjoying the moment with Lubanzi's madness. Noxolo takes my hand into hers, I look at her smiling only to notice her red eyes, she has drops of sweat on her forehead, she keeps pressing her thighs together so I was guessing she is pressed and wants to use a bathroom.

Me: (whispering) you can go to the bathroom you know, do you want to pee?

Noxolo: please go with me.

I nod standing up, she follows me.

Lubanzi: please don't make noise in there some of us have big ears.

Me: go cut them off!

He is right though, he has big ears.

As soon as I close the bathroom door after she asks that I also get in, she attacks me with a deep kiss. She is getting really comfortable around me to be this spontaneous but I like.

I pull down my pants and boxers, my dick is dripping with pre-cum. She already undressed so I just pick her up and insert my dick, she throws her head back giving me access to her neck which I gladly kiss.

Noxolo: this is sooo ..soo good baby!!!!yees shit!!

She digs her head on my neck as I feel her pussy pulsing, her orgasm is close so I stimulate it by sucking on her nipple, she releases.

Noxolo: Nkosi!!!! Keep going baby am not done.

What?! I was already on the edge but if she is not satisfied there is no point in cumming, I pull out ,put her down and turn her, her hands on the wall and i take her from behind, I have to start my build up all over again.

I lift her one leg as I give her long deep thrusts.

Me: (groaning) you are soo warm baby...so. so good!

I thrust a few times and she cums, that was a calling for me, I was praying that she doesn't say she is not done, she take deep breaths as I part her butt cheeks. Looking at my dick going in and out of her tight pussy is soo satisfying, I shoot my load deep inside her out if breath.

I first clean her then myself with a damp towel. We wear our clothes.

Noxolo: you know I feel strange Dlamini, I just want more sex . I don't know what is wrong with me, I even played with myself when you were out with the guys.

I look at her, she looks embarrassed but I don't think it's a bad thing that she felt horny while I was not around so she played with herself.

Me: I don't think that is a bad thing though.

She looks at me with tears in her eyes, my babies are already messing with my wife's hormones, I don't like this at all, she is just an emotional wreck today.

Noxolo: (crying) I did something bad please don't get mad at me.

Me: what did you do?

Noxolo: please don't get mad.

Well I can't promise her that until she tells me what she did.

Me: what did you do, tell me.

Noxolo: I.. I started feeling so horny the time Zenzele walked into the kitchen while you were away and he touched my hand, that was after he talked in your voice, at first I thought I was crazy but now whenever he speaks I can't help but hear your hoarse deep voice, maybe am going crazy.

She wails loud, I hug her even though I don't understand what she just said, the last part to be precise, Zenzele has his normal voice. No one has a hoarse voice in this house except for me.

Me: honestly am not understanding themba lami.

Noxolo: I think your cousin needs to leave as in yesterday, I don't trust him.

Me: I don't trust him too.

Am a Zulu man and I believe in witchcraft, how can my wife hear my voice in him? maybe he is doing something to her to make himself seem like me to her and maybe sleep with her.

Why would she feel horny after he touched her not even in a sexual way!

Me: I will look into this don't worry I know you weren't yourself when you felt that way and hearing my voice in him. I will call mom maybe she will tell us something, don't be sad okay, am not mad

Noxolo: thank you, I don't want to get anywhere near him but I can't ditch our guests.

Me: I will be next to you, he won't do anything to you, let's go.

She nods, we kiss one last time.

Noxolo: I love you.

Me: nami ngiyakuthanda ndlovukazi yami.

She blush and I smile. We walk out going back to the guests, I need to talk to Zenzele, he must look for accommodation fast.

Me: what are you saying mom.

Queen Naye: am saying you need to protect your wife, your aunt and Zenzele are doing something, gradually he will look like you to her and trust me she will sleep with him thinking it's you.

I clench my jaw in anger.

Me: so what am I suppose to do mom?

Queen Naye: keep him away from Noxolo, the more she sees him the more he becomes your look alike and also pray

I will make something for you.

Me: do we need to come that side?

Queen Naye: no it will be my thing alone but you will be protected.

Me: Oh that's better, I guess that's why she has been feeling off lately asking me to pray with her.

Queen Naye: she is a strong woman though, that thing was suppose to turn Zenzele into you the first time he touched her but only the voice changed.

That motherfucker is playing with fire and i will grill him in that fire because he wants to be a grilled human being.

Me: thank you mom, please do whatever you can, I can't lose my wife especially not now.

Queen Naye: what is happening now?

Oh shit I forgot to tell her!

Me: am sorry mom I forgot to tell you but am going to be a father, my wife is pregnant, she...

She screams waking dad in the process, I can hear him in the background asking if there is a break-in or something.

Queen Naye: am going to be a grandmother Dlamini, oh God you never fails us, you are soo good all the time.

King Mabutho: Oh that is great, usebenzile ndodana.

Me:(laughing)mom you didn't even let me finish.

Queen Naye: finish what? What is more important than this Nkosi, I don't want to hear anything else.

Me: don't you want to hear that she is pregnant with four kids, we are having quads.

Saying it even now freaks me out, how are we going to cope with four newborns when they are born.

Queen Naye: ay Nkosiyabo Ntuthuko Dlamini don't play with me!

Me: am serious mom, am still shocked myself, we found out today.

She starts praying in tongues, she is being dramatic ke now but I don't burst her bubble, when she was done thanking God in a foreign language she attends to me.

Queen Naye: my boy I can't thank you enough, give Noxolo the phone I want to talk to her.

Me: she is sleeping mom, she had a long day, do call her tomorrow though she will appreciate.

Queen Naye: I will, I last talked to her last week I miss her.

Me: Yeah mom please don't forget to work on that thing it's late let me rest, sleep tight.

Queen Naye: okay my boy be good.

Me: bye my king.

King Mabutho: Mzizi.

I drop the call smiling, I look at my beautiful melanin queen next to me, she looks so peaceful and calm, I perk her lips smiling. I don't understand how someone could just walk into your life and you completely forget how you ever lived without them. I pull up her top and look at her not too flat stomach, you can't tell she is pregnant but now that I look closely it looks swallowen a bit. I kiss it.

Me: hey babies, it's daddy please don't give mommy a hard time in there, I know it's a small space to be in especially

because there is four of you but don't worry when you come out, daddy has a big house here and you will have all the space you need, I love you.

I kiss it one last time then pull the pjama top down.

Me: and I love you too, Zenzele is messing with you my love, there can only be one me in this world.

I perk her lips one last time, switch off the lights, cuddle my wife then slept, tomorrow is another day.

***Zenzele ***

Nomathamsanqa: you failed to do one thing wena, just one thing!

Me: mom don't blame me please, I did everything and I don't think it will continue working because she is pregnant.

Nomathamsanqa: what?!

Me: yes mom she is pregnant with four kids.

Nomathamsanqa: we have to kill those kids, they can't live or else everything is ruined.

Me: and I think Nkosi suspects that am up to something, he never lives his wife with me alone, I can tell he doesn't trust me.

Nomathamsanqa: that doesn't matter, just get to sleep with that girl and they will break up, he won't believe her when she tells him she thought it was him.

Me: Yeah you're right, hopefully everything will be finalized tomorrow and I will finally have her.

Nomathamsanqa: make sure that Nkosi catches you in an act.

Me: that will me risking my life but I will do it.

Nomathamsanqa: sure give me an update tomorrow.

Me: Yeah bye.

I drop the call. Nkosi won't know what hit him, I will take his wife, kill his kids and then kill him.

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***Nkosiyabo ***

With my painful dick I make my way to the kitchen. Zenzele really did something to her, she was horny the whole night. After five rounds I had to ask her to take sleeping pills because yes she is good but I was tired, she also was but just couldn't get the itchiness to go down. Another thing is am scared that I might harm the babies if we have too much sex.

I find Zenzele in the kitchen already dressed up for work.

Zenzele: aw gazi siyavuka.

Me: sho.

I grab the grape fruit from the fridge, my wife usually prepares all the fruits ahead, like wash and cut whatever that needs to be cut which makes it easier.

Zenzele: so where is makoti this morning?

The nerve of this guy, he wants to see her so that whatever he is doing to her works even more, If I don't kill him right this moment he would be very lucky.

Me: and what do you want from my WIFE?

I emphasize my wife part.

Zenzele: was just asking, she is usually the first one up.

Me: well as you know she is pregnant and needs to rest so she is doing just that?

He clears his throat looking away.

Zenzele: that is great.

Me: aren't you not going to congratulate me on that, I scored four.

Zenzele: Oh my bad congrats. Couldn't you wait for at least your marriage to be a year old then impregnate her?

Me: well it's the same thing, whether it's now or in five years she could have still got pregnant with quads.

Zenzele: you are right.

Me: and another thing I think you should start looking for accommodation, if you don't have rent money you will be payed in advance but the queen is not comfortable with you around so please do that before the day ends.

He looks at me shocked, did he really thought I will let him stay here after showing me many times that he wants my wife? He is even lucky that I haven't sent him back to God, I don't want his dirty blood on my hands and what he did this time is the last snail to the coffin.

Zenzele: just like that? But she didn't have a problem with me being here or is she catching feelings?

I don't know when I got to him but with one slap he stumble back, I accompany him to the floor with an electrifying punch. I hold his jaw tightly looking at him.

Me: say that shit about my wife again you will know exactly why am never provoked, I will kill you and your psycho mother try me, you just have to try me and see nx.

And go and tell your mother that witchcraft is not going to work on my wife, she was chosen so she is protected by the ancestors go try that to someone else.

Zenzele: you don't deserve her!

Me: and you do? If I didn't she would've fallen for me and you would've tried to be me.

Zenzele: you think you're all that?

Me: I won't argue back and forth with you am too old for that but you should make yourself a biggest favor by staying away from Noxolo or else I won't be hold responsible for what will happen to you.

You should be out of my house by the end of the day you ungrateful bastard son of a bitch.

Noxolo: aybo Sibalukhulu what is it with the cursing so early in the morning?

My wife walks in in her night gown, I turn to look at her.

Noxolo: are you okay, why are you soo angry? I could hear you shouting from upstairs.

She perks my lips, my right hand is shaking. Zenzele I wiping blood on his lip, just looking at him makes me soo mad.

Noxolo: okay my love calm down it's okay.

She kisses me again, a deep kiss this time with her tiny hands on my chest.

Noxolo: calm down.

I breath a few times then finally I was calm, she smiles revealing her one dimple that always drives me crazy.

Noxolo: feeling better?

Me: Yeah, am sorry for waking you up I know you are tired.

Noxolo: it's okay I would have wanted to see you before you leave anyway, oh good morning Zenzele, why are you guys biting each other's heads?

She is greeting him but looking at me, I guess she fears to look at him for obvious reasons.

Zenzele: ay don't worry makoti it's nothing.

She frowns but then smiles. I don't know if she still hears my voice or what.

Me: how are you guys doing?

I kiss her stomach on the gown, she giggles holding my head.

Noxolo: we are good, no morning sickness , no cravings yet so am good.

Me: that is great my nono.

Noxolo: (laughing) new nickname?

Me: you like it?

Noxolo: yes its cute. Aren't you eating breakfast?

Me: am already late themba lami, I will have grapefruit.

Noxolo: I don't like this one bit but go before you are late.

Me: Oh my love Zenzele is leaving today but am leaving with him because I don't know what goes on his mind, he might even rape you who knows.

Zenzele looks down, he is not staying here with my wife alone.

Noxolo: Oh okay that's okay then, Mpume and Olwethu are coming by to keep me company.

Me: that's great, take this and go spoil yourself I will send you the pin, I love you wena asambe.

I give her my bank card

I hope she enjoys spending her husband's money, I have never given her my card but I do send her money monthly.

Noxolo: thank you have a great day at work.

I blow her a kiss walking out with Zenzele in front of me

***Noxolo ***

Me: are you with the rents there?

Lihle: Yeah why do you ask?

Me: I want to tell you guys something.

Now am nervous, how does one tell their parents that they are pregnant?

Lihle: Oh my God did he beat you up? Send me your address now I will show that black coffee flames, I will wipe this whole

province with his pathetic ass! Oh my God I will kill him God forgive me.

Nobuhle: what is wrong Thembelihle? Why are you shouting and who is getting killed now?

I laugh, Lihle is extra shame, why is she thinking the worst and for her to call my handsome husband black coffee! Am dead shame, I should put her on sale this one.

Me: Lihle stop it please, he did no such, put me on speaker.

Lihle: Oh I was ready to put my karate skills into use.

Shame my poor sister can risk fighting with Nkosi for me and she doesn't have any karate skills, she is lying.

Nobuhle: what is it Noxolo? Why is this one going crazy?

Mom knows that Lihle was born crazy. It's in her veins.

Me: It's nothing bad mom, I just wanted to tell you that
mmmmhh that me..like you see I.. .I am.

Nobuhle: that you are what?

Noxolo: mom you see... me and Nkosi are expecting.

I hold my breath waiting for her response, Lihle screams to a point where I had to move the phone away from my ear a bit.

Nobuhle: expecting what Noxolo don't speak in tongues.

Gosh mom she is making it even harder for me, expecting sounds respectful and polite. Lihle should be saving my ass but she is screaming non stop.

Me: mom am pregnant that what I meant.

Mom starts alulating, I guess dad is not home because I don't hear him talk.

Nobuhle: Oh my baby I don't know what to say, God has blessed you with a beautiful gift my baby.

Me: I know mom but I think he went abroad with the blessing.

Nobuhle: why do you say that?

Me: am pregnant with four kids mom and am soo scared, this is a high risk pregnancy, I don't want to lose any of them but am also scared that I will lose my life mom.

Now am crying, I want my husband next too me but I don't want him to think am a nausea, am soo scared and haven't wrapped my head around this.

Nobuhle: sisi listen nothing is impossible with God, you will carry those kids and you will deliver safely, all of you will survive we will pray my girl God never fails.

Lihle: yes sis we will pray for you and the little meerkats congratulations am sure black coffee is excited.

Me: (laughing) stop calling my man that please and yes he is very excited.

Lihle: try not to think much into this and just enjoy let God take control of everything nothing will go wrong.

Me: thank you dadewethu, thank you mah I needed to hear that.

Nobuhle: yes trust in God my dear , so how is mkhwenyana, are you guys coping?

Me: yes mom he is good ,we are good.

Nobuhle: that is amazing I will tell your father the good news when he comes back.

Me: okay mah.

Lihle: tell black coffee that I will still kill his black ass for getting you pregnant with four babies, you know your vagina will be damaged.

Nobuhle: Thembelihle!

Me: (laughing) you can relax dear sister I will go with c-section, I don't think I will be allowed to natural birth anyway.

Lihle: that is better, I will come by to check on you in a few months, I know it will be hard dealing with that pregnancy but it will be worth it, just hang in there.

Me: thank you sis I love you soo much, I love you too mah.
Greet Minathi for me.

Lihle: i will miss you, we love you too, bye, greet black coffee for me.

Me: Thembelihle!!

She laughs dropping the call. Minathi is her 6 year old son who is so adorable and very respectful.

To how Nkosi got that name is still a mystery, I know that he is like two times darker than me but he is no black coffee, his dark skin doesn't overshadow his handsomeness.

I get ready and wait for the girls to arrive and pick me up since we changed the plans into shopping, am excited I hope I don't bankrupt Nkosi.

18

*** 4 months later***

***Nkosiyabo ***

If I can say the past four months has been great I would be lying, some days are better than others but lately it's even more difficult. From finding out that one of the twins is not growing, like he or she is twice small the size of the other twins, my wife has been in and out of hospitals because of that and her BP is always high and seriously am not coping but our families has been a great supports especially our mothers and siblings.

I even had to take a leave from work earlier than I planned to make sure that she is doing great, my friends has also been a great support system. Am with my wife in our house , am massaging her swallowen feet, pregnancy is really doing the most to her. This other time she had an allergic reaction to peanuts, she almost died but God as always was good.

Noxolo: am hungry, am craving some carrots with mayonnaise.

Me: you mean carrots with hummus?

Noxolo: no mayonnaise Nkosi.

Another thing that will drive me crazy are these crazy craving, she doesn't eat like a normal person and 70% of the time she will throw up immediately after eating.

I stand up going to the kitchen.

Noxolo: please make me a banana sandwich in the process!

I smile making just that. Lihle was here about a month ago, she stayed for the whole month, what I noticed is the sister love she has for her little sister, she was feeling all the pains that her sister was feeling but stayed strong for her.

I give her her food.

Noxolo: (moaning) mmmh this is good.

I smile. She gets startled by something.

Me: what is wrong?

She takes my hand, placing it on her stomach, I feel a very strong kick followed by another one. A tear escape my eye, it's their first time kicking.

Noxolo: (teary) they are kicking Nkosi.

Me: I know my love am soo happy, they are doing great, you are doing great themba lami.

We share a kiss. This is a sign that they will make it, just three more months to go, doctors said she can't go beyond that what am praying for is that the smaller twin develops so that by that time they will all be strong to be taken out.

Noxolo: let me go to the bathroom.

I help her to stand up, my hands sweat and I feel every other part of my body itch as I notice a big patch of blood on the couch. I let go of her hand holding my head, God this can't be happening to us after everything we went through for the survival of these kids and my wife won't survive this! She looks at the blood then at me in fear. I know that look, she is expecting me to be strong and ensure her that nothing is wrong.

I hold her hand with my shaking ones.

Me: (cracking voice) let's go to the hospital.

Noxolo: (crying) what is going on Nkosi?

Me: am not sure my love let's just go to the hospital.

Noxolo: am not losing my kids Nkosi, am not!!

Me: yes baby we are not but let's go to the hospital.

I look down on the bloody floor as more blood gush down from her legs. This is traumatic but I can't run away now can I?

She started crying even louder, I walk her to the car and drive to the hospital like a maniac, she hasn't stopped crying and honestly with one blink my tears will be streaming down my face.

When I get to the hospital
they put her on the stretcher.

Noxolo: I can't lose my babies Nkosi. Promise me that am not going to lose them please.

How am I suppose to promise her that? Am not God but the helplessness in her eyes makes all my insides go ice cold.

Me: I promise you my love, please be strong for them.

They put her on a ward and close the door on my face. I don't even have to fill any forms because she is a regular here. I take out my phone calling my mother, I don't want to cry but this is difficult.

Queen Naye: my boy.

Me: hello mom how are you?.

Queen Naye: am good Nkosi how are you? Why does your voice sound like that?

Me: haw mah you know I have a hoarse voice.

Queen Naye: right now it doesn't sound hoarse to me, what is wrong? Where is Noxolo?

Me: we are at the hospital mom.

Queen: hospital! Doing what in that forbidden place?

Me: I don't know what is happening mah but she was bleeding, I think she is losing the babies.

I wipe my tear.

Queen Naye: Oh my God! Nkosi you have to come back home when she gets out of there, this is not good, don't worry my boy nothing will happen to them, not while God is watching.

Me: there was so much blood mah, I fear what will happen to my wife if we lose those kids or even one of them.

Queen Naye: nothing will happen to them Nkosi, they are protected, maybe someone is trying their luck but they are royal kids and protected nothing will happen.

When she mentions someone probably trying their luck my aunt and Zenzele comes to my mind, I haven't head from those two for the past four months, I don't even know where they are.

Me: do you think Zenzele and her mom got anything to do with this?

Queen Naye: they wouldn't dare try killing the royal blood, they know the consequences of doing that but you can never be sure with those too, I will look into it.

Me: please do that.

Queen Naye: and please my boy be with your wife, oh Jesus poor Noxolo is going through a lot.

Me: you know me.

I drop the call and waited in the waiting area. After an hour the doctor comes my way, I would be lying if I can say this doctor is not trying his best but we can't stop life from happening.

Doctor Stewart: Mr Dlamini good day.

Me: good day doctor Stewart, what do you have for me?

Doctor: well your wife had a uterine rupture which is strange because she has no c-section scar but in her case I think it's because of the uterus stretching to accommodate the babies, you were very lucky that it didn't rip to the protecting tissues because we could have been talking a different story now. Uterine rupture is fatal to both mother and baby and if not treated it might cause a permanent physical damage to the mother including inability to to get pregnant in the future that's why we are keeping her for monitoring but other than that the little ones are okay and also your wife is okay, just too emotional leading to raising blood pressure which is not good for the kids.

Me: can I see them?

Doctor Stewart: yes this way please .

I follow him to the ward, she is facing up rubbing her stomach .

Me: themba lami.

She looks at me in tears, I kiss her trembling lips.

Me: It's okay my love you guys are doing great, just hang in there please.

Noxolo: they are all okay?

Me: yes they are okay, was just your body adjusting to accommodate them, don't worry about anything okay.

She nods. I kiss her forehead. This gotta be the most difficult pregnancy a woman can face.

Me: you will be spending a few days here so that they make sure that everything is good.

Noxolo: okay. Can you call my sister?

I nod, I know she will cheer her up that one with her craziness calling me black coffee can you imagine!!

19

*** Noxolo ***

I try standing up but it's impossible, I look at Nkosi who quickly hides his smile, I feel like flying to him and strangle his stupid ass, he did this to me he is suppose to feel for me not laugh!

Nkosi: my love are you okay?

Me: I need to go to the bathroom.

Nkosi: let me help you.

Yes he is suppose to do that because now am immobile, I can't do anything without wanting help even if it's a simple thing such as standing up, am soo dependent on Nkosi that it's frustrates the shit out of me. He pulls up my maternity dress releaving my not so fresh thighs with all the stretch marks and cellulites not talking about the stretch marks on my stomach, I will have a hard time removing them postpartum but am glad that my c-section scheduled to one week's time, I can't take this

anymore am always tired with swallowen feet but it's understandable am seven months and one week.

I pee and yes Nkosi helps me to wipe, I can't even reach my private part even when am bathing so it's his job to do that.

Nkosi: we should go out my love, we have been cooped in this house forever and we need some fresh air.

Me: you can go I don't feel like going anywhere.

Nkosi: but you have been here for two months straight, no baby let's go.

Me: It's just one week Nkosi and I will get back to my normal self, have you seen how ugly I look, I look like a burnt steak with big nose, what will people say.

Nkosi: you are not ugly my love and people don't have to say anything about your looks, you are pregnant remember.

Me: no you go.

Nkosi: okay we will just have late lunch by the restaurant, your favorite restaurant?

Me: okay let's go then but am not staying there for long. I won't change though this dress is comfortable and presentable.

He takes the keys and we leave for the mall, Nkosi has been the one doing all the grocery shopping and baby necessities for the past month after we came back from Port Shepstone, even the nursery is done thanks to him and his twin sisters who were very happy to help with that project while I lie there like a roasted chicken, they went with neutral colors since daddy wants the gender to be a surprise.

Me: why is it empty?

Nkosi: because I want you to be comfortable, I pulled a few strings and they cleared the restaurant, our setup is in the garden let's go there.

We walk there slowly, these babies are surely heavy but am so grateful for Nkosi to be a present husband during this hard time, I don't know how I could've coped without him.

"SURPRISE!!!!"

My heart almost stops, what are they doing here?

Me: why are you guys here?

Lihle: aybo sisi it's your baby shower don't you see?

I see a big " Mommy To Be " written in bold grey letters, I tear up, this is beautiful and I wasn't expecting it.

Nkanyezi: okay before you ruin the mood sit down and relax, we are at your service madam.

Mpume: and when you give birth sweetie you will pay for slaving us around.

I laugh at her. Olwethu and Akhona are also here, to why Akhona is here is beyond me because the lady doesn't even like my shadow and all of Nkosi's sisters are here too.

Nkosi: okay ladies am going to the guys now, please take care of my precious queen.

Zakithi: you know us bhuti.

He perks my lips and runs out, I never thought I will have a baby shower, especially such a fancy one

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am sure they bankrupted my man shwele!

***Nkosiyabo ***

Nhlonipho: so we are counting days now ?

Me: Yeah and am nervous as fuck.

Nhlonipho: I know what you are talking about, I was there two years ago but when you hold your baby you will fall in love and feel your whole world completing man, its magical.

Classic: man don't you want a child or you are gay? Or perhaps you are royal waiting for your chosen one?

Lubanzi: ay kwahle Nhlahla.

We all laugh at him, I don't know why he doesn't like his first name because it's decent and has a meaning, what does Classic even mean?

Nhlonipho: okay jokes aside, don't you want a baby man, no pressure but all of us have one now or there is something you are not telling us?

Classic: like maybe you shoot blanks.

This guy has no filter and his blabbermouth will get him into trouble one day.

Lubanzi: Akhona says she is not ready for a baby so I can't force her.

Classic: then switch her contraceptives and knock her up.

Nhlonipho: no don't do that man, you don't want your child to have a mother who resents them and I hate to tell you this but I don't think Akhona loves you.

The same thing that I was thinking, that girl doesn't love him, she loves someone else.

Lubanzi: then why is she with me?

Classic: moola man.

Nhlonipho: seriously you will never be happy if love is one sided, think about it.

He nods, we continue chilling out till its late around 6pm, the call that I have been waiting forever finally comes, I asked Zakithi to call me when they are done so that I will pick them up because they are spending the night and going back home tomorrow.

Me: are you guys done?

Khwezi: (crying) bhuti... she..she has....

Me: what is wrong Khwezi?

I stand up sweating, I don't know what is happening but I know it's about my wife, I drop the call, take my car keys running to my car, Nhlonipho gets inside not asking anything, Classic and Lubanzi follows in another car. My phone keeps ringing but I don't want to answer or else we will have an accident with the speed am using one mistake we will be dead.

When we get to the restaurant everything is all over the place, Lihle has Noxolo's head on her lap while Zakithi tries to give her some air, when I get closer I wished I didn't. She is swallowen, I mean swallowen on her whole face with big rash patches.

Me: what is happening here?

Mpume: we don't know, I think it's an allergic reaction, after she ate prawns she said she doesn't feel good and then struggled to breathe

To how I picked her up is still a mystery but I did again with Nhlonipho driving we rush to the hospital, Lihle is also in my car crying. The doctors quickly put her on the stretcher when we

got there rushing her to the ward, after a few minutes the doctor comes our way.

Doctor Stewart: this is critical am afraid we have to do an emergency c-section to save the babies because she is not getting enough oxygen on her lungs.

I just stare at him, I don't know what to say.

Nhlonipho: do whatever you can doctor to save them.

He rushes off to the ward, minutes later a nurse gives me papers to sign, I don't know if am signing my wife's death warrant or what but I did. The other ladies got in also in panic, I hope the operation will be a success, I can't lose them.

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***Nkosiyabo ***

We have been waiting for over two hours now, they couldn't let me in nor are they giving me updates, am frustrated to be honest.

Nkanyezi: calm down bhuti.

Me: these people have been there for over two hours what does that even mean, are they dead?!

Zakithi: aybo don't say that bhuti, be faithful.

Mpume: I hope they survive this.

Two doctors and four nurses walk out of the theater room, I rush meeting them half way.

Me: what's going on?

Doctor Stewart: (smiling) calm down first before we have to admit you too father of four.

Me: father of four? You mean..

He nods with a wide smile. My sisters scream taking turns in hugging me, I wipe the tear as Nhlonipho bro hugs me.

Me: doctor you mean they are all alive and my wife is fine too?

Doctor Stewart: (sighs) your wife is in a critical condition, she lost a lot of blood plus an allergic reaction that almost killed her, she is still unconscious but we are hoping that she responds to the medication but for now we can only pray and trust in God and one of the twins is in critical condition.

I sigh, couldn't she deliver safely like any normal person?

Me: can we see them?

Doctor Stewart: only one person at a time, so follow me please.

Lubanzi rubs my shoulder in comfort and I follow the doctor to the ward.

Looking at the machines connected to my wife breaks my heart.

Doctor Stewart: the babies are in the other ward, the nurse will take you there when you are done here.

He leaves, I seat on the chair near the bed and take her cold hand into mine.

Me: my love.. you have fought for our babies lives. I know you can't fail this, you will fight for us, please fight for us themba lami can't raise these kids alone I need you, please fight for us my love, I love you and thank you for the beautiful gifts you have gifted me with, I will forever be grateful for that maZungu.

I kiss her forehead.

Me: please take me to the kids.

I say to the nurse, she nods leading the way. We got into another ward, it's soo warm in here I wonder why.

I look at my little babies in incubators, they are so small and kinda red.

Nurse: (smiling) It's three girls and one boy, the boy is in a critical condition but he is a fighter.

I put my hand in the first incubator and hold her little hand, I figured its a her because she is wrapped in a pink blanket .

Me: (smiling) hello baby girl, welcome to the world maDlamini omuhle. Can I hold them, just for a few minutes.

She nods opening the first incubator, I lift her into my arms, she is so tiny I think she will slip out my hands and fall, her wrist band has twin B on it.

Me: Lumnene uthando losibalukhulu Dlamini.

I think it's best to name them then my wife will give them second names.

I kiss her forehead, the nurse put her back into an incubator and takes out the second one who is twin A.

Me: welcome sthandwa sa babah, you are Zamazizi lezizintombi Dlamini.

I also kiss her forehead then move to the third incubator twin C also a girl.

Me: (laughing) I see you girls were already bullying your brother in there, were you fighting for space in mommy's

stomach? Mmmh baby girl, welcome Golide la babah,
ngiyakuthanda maDlamini omuhle.

I sigh moving to my boy who had machines all over him, the nurse refused to get him out because he has breathing problems which I understand but that doesn't stop me from holding his little hand, he looks smaller than the three, I assume he was the twin who wasn't growing.

Me: Dlamini, Sibalukhulu, mdlovu, mzizi, malandela,
magaduzela, Malaga kaNsele, wena owashisa umuntu
ngesikhuni esibunjini kwaze kwasa eyobayoba

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mgoqo ovimb'esangweni nansi impi, Izwe lafa ngathini na?
wena Owabonela empunzini ukuthi kuyabalekwa ngoba yona
yabaleka yaziphosa icingweni, mdineka, sihlangu sinye ,wena
Waka fozo kaNombewu ,sobhuza, buhlal'obude, Dlamini!.

I feel good praising him, I praise him because he will stay a
Dlamini forever but the girls might get married someday.

Me: wena mfana wami ungu Akhumzi wako Sibalukhulu Dlamini.

Nurse: those are beautiful names Mr Dlamini, I will rewrite them, twin A is Zamazizi Dlamini, twin B is Lumnene Dlamini, twin C is Golide Dlamini and twin D is Akhumzi Dlamini.

I nod smiling, I personally don't think it's necessary for twins to have rhythmic names, they will have different meanings at the end of the day, I can't believe am a father of four, I can't wait to hear them call dad me for the first time. Nhlonipho was right my world is complete now, I have a beautiful wife and four kids, maybe we will have more in the future but this satisfies me.

*** Queen Naye ***

After speaking to Zakithi on the phone, me and the king decide to drive to Ballito, I can't believe Noxolo had to have an emergency c-section, she was supposed to deliver in a weeks time but now that this has happened I have to be there with them to help with the kids, Nobuhle is also on her way there.

Me: this pregnancy was very hard on my daughter in law.

King Mabutho: Yeah she was in and out of hospitals, it was hard.

Me: and my son was so stressed but this should teach him a lesson to make sure that his soldiers hit the target not whatever they find.

He laughs at my statement, for the first time in the Dlamini royal history, he is the first one to have quads, its such a blessing, it was even by luck that I had twins but here is this boy shooting the shots.

We got there and find the girls with Nkosi's friends and Noxolo's sister in the waiting area.

Me: hello everyone.

Them: greetings my queen and king.

Yes even outside of Emthonjeni Kingdom am addressed as a queen to those who knows me.

Me: any updates?

Zakithi: yes mom, sis Noxolo is in a critical condition, the babies are okay just a twin boy who is not doing good, bhuti went to see them.

King Mabutho: what happened?

Nkanyezi: allergic reaction.

I spot Nkosi coming to us, his smile is brighter than a shining star, my boy is happy it's written all over his face.

Nkosi: mah when did you get here?

Me: just now how are they?

Nkosi: my three baby girls are good, the boy is fighting and my wife (sighs) we are praying.

King Mabutho: so you got three girls and one boy?

Nkosi: yes dad, my girls are Zamazizi, Lumnene and Golide and the boy is Akhumzi.

King Mabutho: those are beautiful names ndodana, am proud of you Sibalukhulu.

Lubanzi: you should get a degree in child naming Nkosi, you give beautiful names.

Classic: he sure does, remember he named both my boys because I didn't know what to name them.

They laugh at him.

Olwethu: you are a bore shame, you wanted to name my baby Makhosi as in a traditional healer!!

They laugh even more while he scratches his head.

Mpume: and then Nkosi saved the day with Zwelemfundo and Swelihle.

Me: those are indeed beautiful names. Nkosi is everything set back home? The babies have everything right?

Nkosi: yes mom they have everything, they will be here for a month or so they will monitor their progress.

We spend almost two hours there with Nobuhle, she got here a few minutes after us. The babies are fine but my heart bleeds for Noxolo, I hope she pulls through.

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***Noxolo ***

I put him on my chest after breastfeeding him, he is doing well. My heart still swells in happiness when I hold them in my arms. I gained consciousness two days after they were born I swear I almost died on that day.

Nkosi walks in all smiles, he is the happiest man alive if you ask me.

Nkosi: my beautiful queen.

He perks my lips then my forehead. I give him the baby to burp him while I breastfeed one of the girls.

Me: so what inspired the names that you gave them?

I just had to ask, they are beautiful and unique but I wanna know what came into his mind in order for him to give them such names.

Nkosi: my love the royal children are not just named in the air but it has to align closely with royal culture, history or beliefs, it has to be a name with a strong meaning so you see this champ will be my successor when I step down from the throne so he will build the new generation of the royal family hence Akhumzi. Zamazizi is just a name that can be given to any Dlamini princess, it's from the clan name Mzizi. Lumnene, (smiling) you know she is the first one I held in my arms when I came to see them and I just fell in love, I felt my heart swelling with love, so my love is gentle and that's how she is supposed to be loved with gentle and kind love. Lastly Golide lami, she is precious to me and needs to be protected because she is a precious gold that will be wanted by many but can only be mine.

The way he explains you can see that he is proud of himself, they are beautiful names and I don't think I want them to have second names, they are just perfect.

Me: I love them they are so beautiful.

Nkosi: don't you want to give them second names?.

Me: no these ones are perfect, they are just the meaning of their destiny and I don't want to twist that.

Nkosi: thank you soo much maZungu for making me a dad, I can never thank you enough.

Me: I know you will be the dad that any child can wish to have and the one I will be proud off.

He puts Akhumzi on his little cot, yes they are out of incubators, they have been out for a week now and they are doing great, he takes Golide who was also done sucking the life out of me to burp her. I don't think I will breastfeed for long, they are a lot and they eat too much, I will put them on formula when they are three months.

Me: when are we getting discharged? I don't want to be here anymore.

Nkosi: the doctor said soon, I don't know when, are the pains on your abdomen better?

Me: yes and the stitches have dissolved so I don't think I will get a hard time recovering at home and moms are there to help us with these four. Mmmm you are full now you are pooping on me miss.

I say to Lumnene, Nkosi offers to change her diaper, I wonder who taught him that.

Me: who taught you how to change a diaper?

Nkosi: I saw one of the nurses doing it this other time, am a fast learner you should know that by now ndlovukazi yami.

I smile, am very lucky to have this man in my life, my mother was right I know Nkosi will give his whole world for us and he worships the ground am walking on, I remember something and started laughing.

Me: you know what my dad said when they were telling me about our arranged marriage, he said when I become happy in this marriage I should buy him a horse as a form of thanking him.

Nkosi: (laughing) father in law wants a horse, father in law shall get a horse. I will find the best horse and give it to him.

Me: the horse is expensive babah it's around R70 000 how are you going to buy that?

Nkosi: your man is a royal business man, money is no problem, I will get that horse soon, the best bred I can find.

Ay they will sort that out on their own, am not getting involved shame.

***Lubanzi ***

I keep thinking about what Nhlonipho said

now that someone has pointed it out to me I can't help but notice the same thing.

Me: we should try for a baby Akhona, you know am not getting any younger, I need a child.

Akhona: and you are not getting any younger you should get married.

Me: then marry me.

She turns to look at me in shock, I can't read out the reason to be shocked but am not backing down from this.

Me: yes marry me, its what you want right, then marry me.

Akhona: what with the sudden request?

Me: yazi I don't understand you, we have been together for 6 years but you don't want to give me a child nor do you want to

marry me, what exactly so you want? Tell me I can't be held back by you, life is not waiting for me.

Akhona: I...I look Lubanzi I will marry you but not now.

Me: why exactly?

Akhona: because am not ready got it, am not ready!

Me: okay then you should stay like that unready me am moving on I can't wait for you my whole life, I will find someone mature and ready to share the rest of my life with.

Akhona: aybo what does that mean?

Me: it means am breaking this off, go be unready somewhere else not near me, am tired of you. Do you even love me?

Akhona: what kind of question is that?

Me: a straight forward question Akhona, do you love me or you don't?!

Akhona: hey don't shout at me am not your child. You want the truth right then I will tell you I don't love you and I never did, I just dated you in order to be closer to your friend Nkosi, he is the one that I love unfortunately he doesn't even notice me and he is now married. I loved him even before you met me, do you think it was a coincidence that we met at that park on that day? No I followed you and you fell into the trap, I love Nkosi so much but can never have him.

I go pale same time, she is not even trying to filter her words and to say she loves my best friend is even worse, so all this time I waited for nothing, I wasted 6 years for nothing! I wipe the tear in my eye before it makes it way down my cheek. I look at her not in hatred but in pity, she loves someone she will never have even in the next life.

Me: okay I think this is it, pack your bags and leave my house, am giving you two hours to do that.

She places her hand on her mouth, didn't she hear herself saying she doesn't love me?

Akhona: (teary) Lubanzi baby I didn't mean it like that, look I love you it just slipped my tongue please baby..

She tries to touch me but I move away.

Me: you now have 1 hour 58 minutes.

I leave her there crying. I won't get mad at Nkosi because I know he doesn't know shit about this and besides he is happily married, I won't even bother him he just became a father, his hands are full so I will deal with this on my own but maybe Classic and Nhlonipho can give me company in the meantime just to take my mind off things. Out of all people Akhona just had to love my friend, that's why she always insist that I invite them over or we go to Nkosi's house, I just thought she wanted to hang out with Noxolo but no she just wanted to see Nkosi.

Not meaning to sound weird but yeah my friend got the looks, we all do but Nkosi seals everything man, his dark skin gives him that signature handsomeness that draws the chicks to him, his wife is lucky to be honest and yes am very straight, I like myself some huge ass and pussy so don't look at me like that.

*** Akhona***

What have i done?! I was doing very good in hiding my feelings for Nkosi, of course at some point when I was drunk I spilled the beans to Mpume and Olwethu but that was 5 years ago am sure they thought I got over the crush I had on Nkosi but nope instead I loved him more with each passing day that why I got cheeky on Noxolo and I never liked her, she has what was suppose to be mine.

But now I have ruined all my chances of ever seeing Nkosi's beautiful smile on his perfect face, that man is perfection I tell you and I get so jealous of Noxolo. Now Lubanzi has kicked me out and I don't even know where to go. The hurt in his eyes will haunt me until I die, falling in love with someone else while in a relationship is not bad but falling for the person that means so much to your partner is not okay but we can't control who we fall in love with and as a matter of fact, I saw Nkosi first this one time with the other soldiers 7 years ago at Kruger National Park and I fell in love with him.

I did a little digging on him, maybe not a little but yes I found so much about him and the fact that he only comes home once or twice in a year and that he is a single prince. I really wanted him so I stalked his best friend and yes he noticed me and we started dating. It was suppose to be until I see Nkosi again but when he finally came back the guy saw me and wasn't shaken at all. Years went by and I took comfort in knowing that I will be seeing him no matter what when he comes back from the army when he meets up with Lubanzi but him suddenly getting married took me off and I realized how much I actually love the guy that now chances of getting him are 0.0001% because he is married, I made it worse by my confession to loving him maybe I even destroyed the brotherhood they have.

I pack a few clothes just in case Lubanzi forgives me, do I love him? No I don't but I have grown to know the kind guy he is and I know I will regret losing him if he really doesn't take me back. I can't go to any of the girls houses because they stay with their men so I guess a hotel will do for now. I get in my car with one suitcase and drive to the nearest hotel.

When I get there all i want to do is to lie in bed and start typing a long paragraph to Lubanzi to apologize but am welcomed by Nkosi's stories and reels on Instagram. I open one of the reels, its Noxolo sleeping with one of the girl twins on her chest. This

woman! Did she really had to give birth to four children at once!

Another it's him with all four children on his chest, they are small so they all fit. Does he have to be married and this handsome? But marriage doesn't mean anything, maybe I can still shoot my shot and win him while his wife is immobile, I know he won't be getting any for at least two months, that will be my chance to shine Lubanzi will have to forgive me or rather us but am not letting this chance slip out my hands like that, I did it before but it won't happen again.

*** Nkosiyo ***

Me: you're ready?

I ask my wife when I walk in to her zoned out, she is getting discharged and I couldn't be more excited to have my family under the same roof.

She fakes a smile and nods.

Me: we will have to talk about that.

She says nothing, I wonder why she is behaving like this, she was fine when I left her yesterday afternoon but now she is off, maybe she is anxious about being home with newborns.

I take the babies all at once, I wonder how am I going to do that when they are grown , she follows me with their bags to the car, I buckle them up on their car seats

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luckily I have had this Range Rover sport for a year now and it's perfect for car seats. My mom and mother in law were already waiting for us when we got home, at least we will rest and let the grannies take over just like they are already all over them.

Noxolo: I will go take a bath and rest.

I help her upstairs, her c-section scar has healed but I don't want any mistake, she is just a week from being fully well.

Me: are you okay my love?

I can't bare seeing her like this, did I do something wrong and she is mad at me or she is having a bad day or she is tired? You'll never know with women.

She nods again, she makes her way to the bathroom but I hold her wrist, not too tight just enough to stop her.

Me: did I do something wrong?

Noxolo: did you?

O..k..a..y.. what is that even suppose to mean.

Me: you know I don't have any supernatural powers so if you don't talk to me about what is bothering you I will remain unaware and I don't like this silent treatment so tell me what did I do before I muff you back to your senses.

She looks at me shocked and am not even joking, I know she has stopped bleeding and she can't have sex so that is what I will do fast fast if she fucks with me.

Me: soo?

Noxolo: (sighs) where is Akhona?

Me: am I suppose to know where Akhona is?

Noxolo: no but do you know where she is?

Me: no, why do you ask?

Noxolo: why did she break up with Lubanzi?

Me: my love why are you asking me that, I got no business in knowing why my friend's relationship didn't work.

Noxolo: well Mpume said they broke up because of you, apparently she loves you and couldn't keep her feelings to herself and went on on Twitter saying am a black cat not worth

of you and that since you've ruined my body you're going to leave me.

Me: (sighs) so what exactly am I being accused of?

Noxolo: that you will leave me, she long said I wasn't your type anyway and you're into yellow bone girls.

Me: in the past year you've known me maZungu have I ever given you a reason to doubt my love for you? Or made you feel worthless?

She shakes her head looking down, i lift her head up with my finger.

Me: I love you never doubt that and I won't leave you for the world themba lami and I don't appreciate you accusing me of something I didn't do but I understand, let it not happen again, when you're mad talk to me unless you unleash the power of reading minds in me.

She smiles her cute smile, we kiss for sometime.

Me: and I love all of you, your body is not damaged, it gave me my children, am a father because of you, you're my only queen.

Noxolo: am sorry I was just upset.

Me: I understand, go take that bath and rest, the kids will be with the grannies unless they want to eat.

She nods and continue walking to the bathroom. I guess we just had our first fight, or was it a misunderstanding? But either way she looks so crazy hell sexy when she is mad.

***Noxolo ***

I wake up from my nice sleep, I slept like a baby, wait oh my God my babies! I get out of bed rushing to the nursery, it's empty, how can I be so careless like this, I slept through out the night not even once did I wake up to check on my babies. Mother in law advised that I pump milk for them I suppose it lasted them the whole night or they are giving them formula.

I walk in a rush downstairs, the sight that welcomed me warms my heart, Golide and Zama are on their father's chest quietly sucking on their little fingers, Akhumzi is with my mother while Lumnene is with mother in law. I snap a picture before making my presence noticed.

Queen Naye: I was starting to get worried, did you sleep well?

Me: yes mah I didn't know I needed that, I hope these ones didn't give you too much trouble, I overslept.

Queen Naye: don't worry they weren't that fussy but I already sense someone is already picking favorites.

I already know who she is talking about, Golide is just daddy's girl, she even prefers him over me her mother who carried her for 7 months! This child!

Nkosi: don't hate on me please, I have gentle hands, right baby girl? Daddy has magic hands and he is a cool dad right? right?

Me: Oh please don't start I should be everyone's favorite here.

Nobuhle: you will get used to it my baby, we carry these humans and they come out looking like strangers they have never met before like you and Lihle.

I laugh, mom is exaggerating, yes we look like dad but not to a point where you can say we are female visions of him but she is right with these four, you can just tell that they will have dark skin, they look like Nkosi no doubt.

Me: they all took my eyes though.

Nkosi: they couldn't have escaped the binoculars now could they have?

They all laugh at the sulking me.

Nkosi: I love you too themba lami.

Me: stop please, come to mama wena baby girl.

I take Zama

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they already bathed them, she smell so good of baby powder.

When they all fall asleep we put them in the cots downstairs that way we won't have to keep going upstairs.

Am hungry so I make my way to the kitchen to find my mother there washing the bottles.

Me: mah.

She smiles acknowledging me.

Nobuhle: I know I don't have to ask this question because the answer is right in front of me but we as parents we never stop worrying so are you happy in your marriage?

Me: am happy mah am not complaining about anything , Nkosi is the best thing that has ever happened to me, he treats me well and always acknowledges my feelings in everything, he loves me too.

Nobuhle: you know if it's like that then you are expected to give in return.

Me: I know mah and it's comes naturally, submitting to a man you know loves you and can kill or die for you is easy.

Nobuhle: and keep in mind that things will sometimes get tough, your love will be tested but stand by him, am not saying

take nonsense but you know supporting him and holding his hand in times of need, they have needs too.

Me: I will do that mah.

Nobuhle: (laughing) and give him more kids.

Me: (laughing) haw mah ngeke am not having more kids or at least not now maybe when the kids are 6 or 7 then I will consider.

Am not having more kids these ones almost killed me Nkosi will have to understand my fears.

***Zenzele ***

I look at the pictures she just posted on Instagram using my fake account, I created one immediately after leaving Nkosi's house just to stalk her and lately she only posts pictures and videos of her kids, when I first saw a picture I couldn't believe she really gave birth to four children but it's what it is what's

even worse is that there is a prince there so looks like I will have more blood on my hands now because I can't kill Nkosi and leave his son, he will be a successor to the throne anyway.

Not to lie but Nkosi is a real man now with a wife and beautiful children. My phone rings its that chick I forgot her name but she got good news.

Me: talk to me.

Girl: the plan has come together so we have to meet.

Me: I still think we should do this the traditional way, see those people are royals we can't just pull this off, it will come back to bite our asses.

Girl: I don't think it will be a problem.

Me: well it is, they have tight security plus personal guards protecting them 24/7.

Girl: don't think am stupid, I know all of that that's why I got one security guard in our roll, he will be our ticket to inside without being seen, you just get ready.

Me: okay but don't say I didn't warn you about this and remember I will be killed if it comes out that I did something to the future king.

Girl: whatever stop being a chicken.

Me: okay but we will have to go to the traditional healer first so that she helps us to be strong.

Girl: okay.

She drops the call, this bitch is crazy am not doing anything like that unless I want to of course die young, besides the fact that they have guards guarding their premises all the time Nkosi is a former soldier, he knows guns like he knows his name, he doesn't miss.

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Narrator

The security guy watched as the car drives out, he takes out his phone and types a message.

Security ²: what are doing man?

Security ¹: nothing, why do you ask?

Security ²: nothing was just asking, you see the boss man is so happy these days, he is even giving us raise next month just imagine man, 30% raise, that's crazy.

He looks at him shocked.

Security ¹: that's not true.

Security ²: I heard boss lady is the one who said we should get raise.

He scratches his head thinking hard.

Security ¹: I need to make a call real fast.

He rushes off going far away from others, he takes out his phone dialing fast.

Nkosi: Muzi.

Muzi: boss man.

Nkosi: talk to me.

He battles on how to tell him to return fast without sounding suspicious.

Muzi: boss man mmmh..boss lady fell off the stairs please hurry back she is bleeding soo much.

Trying his best to sound convincing and stabilizing his trembling voice.

Nkosi: what! She couldn't just fall off the stairs, what happened?

Muzi: I don't know sir, the queen asked that I call you, be here fast please.

Other guards are on the other side not paying attention to what is happening.

He drops the call sweating, guilt creeping on him, if Nkosi gets here he will have a lot of questions to answer, he is sure fired because there is no way he will be trusted again. Minutes passes by, just as Nkosi car get inside the gate, three men carrying a body walks out.

On his back Nkosi pulls a gun, bullets starts flying around, they security guard ² try to cover Nkosi because he was the one near the scene but the bullet has already made contact with his skin, he groans kneeling down. With two dead bodies on the floor the third guy manages to run away while Muzi watches from the distance in awe, he didn't think things will get this bad.

Two guards attends to Nkosi while two attends on an unconscious Noxolo.

Security ²: boss man let's get to the hospital.

With his last strength Nkosi moves his head looking at Noxolo on the floor with slipped blood all over her, he groans in anger.

Nkosi: my..m..my wife (breathing) the..themba lami.

They pick him up to go to the car

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other guard follows up with Noxolo.

*** Mpume ***

I answer my ringing phone that was on the pedestal.

Me: (smiling) you can't keep yourself away from me now can you Mr Nxumalo?

Nhlonipho: yes but now that's not why I called, I was called by the hospital Nkosi was shot in his house and Noxolo is admitted, the guards says they don't know what happened to the queen and Noxolo's mom and the babies, I sent my guys there and they say they were also unconscious please go there and look after the kids, I will get back to you for updates.

Me: Oh my God what happened?

Nhlonipho: we are about to find out, Lubanzi is doing the searching.

Me: how is Nkosi and Noxolo?

Nhlonipho: Noxolo is okay because she was just unconscious but Nkosi I can't say, we are still waiting but it's bad.

Me: Oh my God this is not good, who would want to kill Nkosi?

Nhlonipho: I don't know babe please go there don't worry you'll be safe my guys are there to guard until further notice.

Me: okay, do update me.

Nhlonipho: okay.

He drops the call, who would want to kill Nkosi such an amazing guy, they want his newborns to be fatherless, people are cruel shame.

I get there, there are guys in black walking around with big guns, I greet them making my way inside.

Me: Oh you're here too?

Olwethu: yes I heard what happened shame poor Nkosi, people are cruel but maybe he will pull through.

Me: we don't know on that but he have to pull through, Noxolo can't raise these kids alone.

I take one of the girls, these kids are just the cutest shame.

Olwethu: true that but the mothers will be back soon they just went to the hospital for checkups.

Me: that's better.

I feel for Noxolo shame, did the person who did this wanted the kids? Or it was a break-in but how with soo many guards in this yard, this matter needs binoculars really.

My name is Nompumelelo Mthembu am 27 years old soon to be 28,am slim, light and tall and am engaged to this amazing guy Nhlonipho Nxumalo a friend to Nkosiyabo and we have a two year old daughter who is my everything.

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***Noxolo ***

I wake up to the the white room with beeping sounds, the headache that I have can wake Goliath from death I tell you. The last time I checked I was being kidnapped by whoever but now am here, maybe we got into an accident while driving to the location where I was going to be killed then my husband came to my rescue, I smile thinking about him, I got myself a superman there. My mother in law walks in looking tired but even when tired she still looks dashing like a million bucks, this woman is beautiful people no lie. I wonder how Nkosi would have looked like if he took after her.

Queen Naye: my baby how are you feeling?

Me: I have this severe headache but it's nothing I can't take, how did I get here?

Queen Naye: one of the guards drove you here.

Me: Oh then where is Nkosi? Is he waiting outside?

She looks at me with pity in her eyes, I don't like that look one bit, if Nkosi is not here at this time I won't get mad so she mustn't worry, he must be busy where he is.

Queen Naye: Nkosi was shot, he came before the kidnappers took you so there was shooting and he got shot.

I place my hand over my mouth trying to muffle my sobs, no this can't happen, Nkosi wouldn't dare make me a widow at 24 with four babies, how am I suppose to survive without him, he is my everything, my life he can't leave me.

Me: (sobbing) no mah he is not dead, my husband is not dead, he is not dead! He can't just die leaving me alone not when I love him so much, he loves me too to leave me here .

Queen Naye: Noxolo he is...

Me: (crying) he is not dead, he is not dead!

Queen Naye: yes he is not dead, the bullet missed his heart by an inch so he is in a critical condition and we don't know if he will pull through or not.

Me: mmmh? He is not dead, where is he? Please take me to him.

I say already on my feet tying the hospital gown. I walk out and the queen follows behind me. We get into another ward, it's a single ward so he is alone connected to soo many machines, I rush to his bedside. I wipe the tears streaming uncontrollably down my cheeks taking hold of his hand, maybe he will know am here.

Me: (sniffing) sthandwa sami, Dlamini, babah am here with you, please fight for me I still need you and you promised me a white wedding, you can't just die with that, we made plans remember? please don't do this to me not when you made me so addicted to you please pull through.

I can't hold myself anymore I just break down holding tight on his hand, this man was a soldier and was shot so many times before I came into his life and didn't die why would he decide to die when he is a husband and a father! My mother in law brushes my shoulders in comfort, I only want him to wake up and tell me that he is not going to leave me no matter what, only he can do that right now.

Me: (crying) please wake up my love I promise to give you more kids in the future just don't leave me.

Queen Naye: you know he can hear you

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by crying you are putting him in distress please try to be strong for him.

I nod wiping my messy face, I kiss his cheek leaning on him trying to hear his heartbeat, I can't hear it but I know it's beating.

Me: (low voice) I will be here when you wake up my love, I love you.

Am not leaving him here alone I will stay here until he wakes up.

Queen Naye: my baby you are discharged so we can leave.

Me: am not leaving him here alone.

Queen Naye: (sighs) I know it's hard but remember you have two months olds that you are still breastfeeding, the kids needs you too.

This is hard, my babies I totally forgot about them, I kiss him one more time and exit the door, that man better wake up because if he dies I will dig him up and bury him again.

*** Zenzele ***

Me: what did you do wena masaka?

Muzi : sir I didn't do anything at all. I thought boss man was gone, he might have forgotten something then came back.

Me: you take me for a fool wena, you know how dangerous Nkosi is, am sure even on his death bed he got someone sniffing around about the accident and if they find anything linking to me am a dead chicken.

Muzi: ay vele you are a chicken, who wants to kill their own cousin and then take his wife, don't you know how to court a girl on your own but you want people's wives, boss lady won't fall for you even when you sell your soul to the devil for her, that woman loves her husband.

Me: shut up!! You know nothing about Noxolo, Nkosi doesn't deserve her!!

He is talking nonsense, Noxolo will be mine, I missed this time but not next time.

Muzi: you are saying that because of envy, have you ever sat down at a distance and observed how they treat each other, those people will never break up, they were made for each so just get that through your skull and let boss lady be.

Me: she is mine I love her.

Muzi: that is no problem, if you love her then let her go, you know she is happy in her marriage, if you seriously love her then let her be happy, do you think she will be happy with boss man dead? No that will crush her so bad, am sure even now she is feeling helpless with him in coma, stop this you will regret it.

Me: you are not the one to tell me what to do, you don't know me.

Muzi: (raising his hands) I don't but I will be sad to hear that you are dead in the future. Pray that boss man doesn't wake up in that coma because you too in your heart you know that he will make you a grilled human being.

Me: don't exclude yourself, you are in this too.

Muzi: don't worry I already know my fate but at least I will die knowing that I wasn't responsible for someone innocent dying because of me.

He walks away after saying that, why didn't Nkosi just die and made my job easier, I was going to take Noxolo then came back to kill him. That girl that was planning this with me pulled back on my plan because my goal is to kill Nkosi and his son, she said she can never kill an innocent baby. She said she will find another way to do whatever she wanted to do so am on my own since even my mother can't help me much on this.

Me: Noxolo ndoni yamanzi we will happy together, you will be happy that fool was lying and I know you will love me just as much as I love you.

I say looking at her picture displayed on my wallpaper on my phone, she is everywhere with me and I love it.

***Noxolo ***

I wipe my tears trying to calm Golide down and it's impossible, she is just screaming her little lungs out and I don't know what to do anymore, she doesn't want to be feed or she just doesn't want me. Mpume gets in looking worried.

Mpume: what is wrong Noxolo, is she okay? Are you okay, why are you crying?

Me: (crying) she doesn't want to stop crying, I don't know what to do anymore.

She takes her from me placing her gently on her chest trying to shush her. She walks around the room with her until she calms down, she places her on her cot when she was asleep.

Mpume: you know babies are very sensitive, she can sense that you are stressed, try to calm down so that they can mimick your mood.

Me: this one just doesn't like me that much but I understand.

Mpume: (laughing) I know that kind, she is her daddy's girl but trust me she might outgrow that in the future. What are their names again, I can't keep up with them shame, they are a lot.

Me: this one is Golide, the one in baby pink is Lumnene then Zamazizi and you know the boy Akhumzi.

Mpume: they are beautiful shame I still say, when I get pregnant in the future I want Nkosi to name my baby.

Me: (sadly) that if he wakes up.

She hugs me tightly, I cry wetting her shoulder but she doesn't seem to mind at all.

Mpume: that is a die hard sisi, he was shot more than I can count in the army but he survived. You know the king his father

was against him going to military because it was too risky but Nkosi stood his ground and did what made him happy.

Me: he can be stubborn if he wants to, what was going to happen to the kingdom if he died, his father only has him as a successor, he was being unreasonable.

Mpume: but here he is strong and healthy, he is going to survive this trust me.

My phone rings, its my father, the smile creeps on my face. To be honest I don't think Golide will outgrow being a daddy's princess, I have always been one even now as a married woman I still love my father and see him as my superhero.

Me: hello baba.

Skhumbuzo: my girl how are you?

I just feel like crying all over again.

Me: (whispering) am well baba how are you?

Skhumbuzo: (sighs) you mother told me what happened, am sorry maZungu he is going to be okay just pray for him, you know God never disappoints. I will come to see you tomorrow be strong my girl.

Me: (sniffing) Okay dad I will be waiting for you.

Skhumbuzo: how are my grandchildren though you know I have never met them before because it is said that am not supposed to see them until they look like real humans.

Me: (smiling) dad they were humans even way before they were born.

Skhumbuzo: no baby looks like a real human when born, they look like these scary creatures that are potatoes.

I couldn't hold myself, dad can kill a person with laughter, so he was secretly thinking my babies look like aliens from another planet! I can't believe this.

Me: dad!

Skhumbuzo: (laughing) to tell you the truth am scared of newborns, when you and your sister were newborns I was avoiding you at all costs so I'd make an excuse to be out of the house.

This man though! His sense of humor is on another level, who becomes scared of their children, am glad Nkosi was not because I could've forced them down his throat, aybo they are his too.

Me: (laughing) kodwa baba kids are cute when born.

Skhumbuzo: ay ngiyala ntombi yami but ke my grandkids were born before time so it was reasonable, your mother never fails

to send me their pictures every week, they are much bigger now and they look nothing like you.

Me: they decided to betray me those ones even my trusted girls.

Skhumbuzo: it's like that my girl, I was checking on how you are doing knowing the situation ka ndodana kodwa uphile ke ntombi I will see you tomorrow your sister can't make it tomorrow but she will come whenever to check on you.

Me: thank you so much dad I love you.

Skhumbuzo: I love you too sisi.

He drops the call, am thankful for this man in my life, he always has my back

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if anything mom gave us a great dad. Nkosi you have to wake up your kids will need you in their lives just like I will always need my dad.

Mpume: your dad is a character shame.

Me: can you imagine he indirectly said my babies looked like aliens when they were born.

Mpume: well that's no secret that babies look scary when born but you can see their cuteness in the few months.

Me: (laughing) yeah neh so he is coming here tomorrow am soo excited I know he will make me feel better.

Mpume: you are lucky you still have him, my dad passed away when I was 19, he was a great man too but his time on earth was cut short.

I brush her shoulder, I don't know how it's like losing a parent and I don't want to know.

Mpume: let's go eat am sure Olwethu is done cooking.

We exit the nursery, I take the baby monitor with me. I will never be grateful enough to these ladies, they took care of my babies so well, maybe it's because they are mothers themselves but am still grateful.

***Nhlonipho ***

My head is about to burst, Lubanzi and Classic gets inside .

Me: what do you have?

Lubanzi: i hacked Nkosi's phone to check the calls he made around that time, I saw that he got a call from one of his security guards, I had to listen to that conversation so apparently the guy lied saying Noxolo fell on the stairs when Nkosi got there he was shot.

Classic: we watched the cctv footage and Noxolo was carried by three guys but they met Nkosi at the entrance but we got no idea how they got in in the first place.

Me: do you think the security guy has a hand in this?

Lubanzi: he might or not but why would he lie about Noxolo being hurt?

Classic: maybe he was payed to switch of the cameras and to get Nkosi on the scene but where they were taking Bambi?

Me: (laughing) Nkosi will wake up from the dead and smack your ass for calling his wife that.

Lubanzi: (laughing) He wants to follow him to the grave, but back here there was one guy who escaped, two died I think we should look for him, he will tell us who is messing with us.

Me: and the security guy should be held hostage for the time being trust me he knows something.

Lubanzi: that will work, we shouldn't worry about the culprit getting to Nkosi and finishing him off for now, his dad sent a private guard team and they will be guarding there 24/7 and also to his house because looks like "Bambi " was also a target.

Classic: at least I won't die alone now when Nkosi decides to ghosts on us.

Me: you guys are crazy, we should go there to check on them, they must be really scared.

Lubanzi: Yeah we should go now.

Classic: that dude needs to wake up, who will raise his kids if he dies? smunqamunqa will get remarried and leave his seeds alone because he is weak.

We all laugh, he is crazy this one.

Lubanzi: you know I have a gun here with me I can shoot you then let's see if you are strong.

Classic: aybo what if I die who will I leave my shandapha with?

Lubanzi: mxm you are a chicken.

We got in our cars and drove to Nkosi's house, when we got there indeed there were guys all over the place in black clothes, they look scary and big.

Classic: I don't feel good about this, our women are surrounded by so many testosterone.

Lubanzi: are you scared that Olwethu will leave your weak ass and take one of them.

Classic: wee maye I will smack these fools.

Me: you know these guys can fold you to nothing with their bare hands you wouldn't even get a chance to fight back.

Classic: mxm.

We laugh again, I wouldn't dare try and fight these guys, they are as big as Goliath I tell you. We make our way inside and we are welcomed by little cries all over the house, the rascals are giving the ladies the hard time it's like they can sense that something is wrong.

Lubanzi: who is killing my kids here?

He says taking a baby from Olwethu, its one of the girls and I can't tell them apart they look so much alike for my liking especially the girls they are just the same person in different bodies.

Classic: Bambi let me take that one.

Noxolo laughs giving him the second girl.

Noxolo: I wonder what is the meaning of that name.

Classic: (laughing) never mind the meaning, so who is this one?

Noxolo: that one is Lumnene.

I take the third girl because she was also crying, baby boy was just sucking his little fingers minding his own businesses, such a calm soul just like his dad.

Me: and the one am carrying?

Noxolo: Golide, Lubanzi you have Zama there.

Lubanzi: and I think she just did number 2 here.

He looks freaked out, we all laugh at him.

Olwethu: maybe that's a sign that you should start practicing being a dad so you can change her there.

She points at the far end of the sitting room where four cot beds were placed nicely. Lubanzi looks like he has seen a ghost but he goes there anyway, we are all looking at him making faces as he takes out the dirty diaper, you should see him messing the poor baby with poop all over Noxolo just had to take over on this one, we are dead with laughter and yes Classic isn't disappointing because he is taking a video of the scene, Nkosi will have to see this one.

They are cute babies with clearly dark skin, I mean both their parents are dark so they were bound to take their complexion. We just hang out with the ladies and the babies having a good time, Nkosi is one lucky guy here, to have such a beautiful humble wife with a calm inviting spirit and loving and then he was blessed with four kids at once!

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*** Noxolo ***

I wake up and did my morning routine, Mpume and Olwethu also spent the night and looks like they won't be leaving soon. I put on my nice bodycon knee-length dress and sandals and make my way to the nursery, my babies are still peacefully sleeping after keeping us awake half the night, I kiss them then make my way downstairs to find everyone already there.

Me: good morning lovely people.

Nobuhle: you are awake good morning my baby, how did you sleep?

She worries a lot about me to a point where I have to constantly reassure her that am good, this too shall pass.

Me: I slept good mah except that the minions were abusing us of course.

Mpume: thinking about those sleepless nights makes me back down from wanting another baby we!

Queen Naye: but you will miss them when they grow up and trust me that time is not far.

Olwethu: I also can't believe that I was breastfeeding just 3 years ago and now my babies are 4 and 7.

Sometimes I just forget that her and Classic have two handsome boys and Mpume only has one daughter.

Queen Naye: baby Swelihle grew up too fast and also Azande, I can't believe she will be turning 3 in a few months.

Swelihle is Olwethu's 4 year old and Azande is Mpume and Nhlonipho's daughter. What I have learnt is that queen Naye is like a mother to everyone who is close to Nkosi and they have known each other for years so she knows them very well.

Me: I don't think am ready then for that flying time.

Nobuhle: no one is ever ready, you can never be ready to see your children grow from infants to toddlers to kids and then teenagers and after that they will be living their lives away from you, getting married and starting their own families, time just goes by so fast.

I can see that she is getting emotional, I just touch her hand, this is my queen, my pillar of strength and my everything.

Nobuhle: who knew that I will be a grandmother of 5 at this age.

Yeah me too I never imagined myself as a mother of 4 at 24 but then am married it's not like am having soo many kids out of wedlocks.

Olwethu: breakfast is served before you all cry on me it's too early people.

We laugh, yes we are all getting emotional, this breakfast is a lot because they also made some for the guards that arrived yesterday.

Me: I will go to the hospital to check on my husband after this.

Queen Naye: do that my baby we will look after the babies.

Me: thank you mah.

I feel like a real queen now that I drive with four guards in the car and two cars are escorting us to the hospital, it was mother in law's orders. Walking to the hospital the stuff is giving me looks as I walk in the middle of four guards, two walking in the front and four following behind in black, to be honest I feel powerful but I don't smile I just go to where my husband is, four guards are standing at the door. They bow as I approach. Ladies and gentlemen here I present to you Queen Noxolo of Emthonjeni Kingdom.

Them: my queen.

Me: good morning.

One opens the door for me and I walk in to the doctor examining him, he still looks like yesterday but am not giving up.

Doctor Stewart: Oh Mrs Dlamini good morning.

This doctor knows his story trust me, he was there when I delivered safely my babies, in God I trust that he will give him power to save my husband he is Jehovah Rapha anyway, the God that heals.

Me: good morning doctor, how is he today? Any progress?

Doctor Stewart: yes, am happy to say that he is responding well to the medication and he didn't lose too much blood so we are hopeful.

Me: that's good news am happy.

Doctor Stewart: (smiling) please do invite me to your guys coronation when you are crowned a queen and king I already see the traits there.

He says pointing at the door, I guess he is talking about the guards

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I don't even know when that time will come but hopefully its not too soon because am not ready for the responsibility, I just want to focus on my marriage and raising my kids.

Me: (smiling) I will sure keep that request in mind.

Doctor Stewart: I will give you space your highness.

He does a little bow jokingly and walks out leaving me smiling. I turn to Nkosi walking closer to his bed.

Me: hey, am here my love please wake up or at least give me a sign that you can hear me because am worried.

I touch his cold hand .

Me: you have to wake up because Golide is showing us flames, she is giving us a hard time so wake up she might be missing you who knows just like I do.

I don't know what to say anymore so I will just stay here staring at him until am satisfied, he looks peaceful and a little pale but still very handsome, I won't survive without this person in my life.

***Nkosiyabo ***

I can feel a hand holding into mine tight, am trying to hard to open my eyes but it's impossible shame. I know it's my wife who is here, I can never mistake her voice to anyone else's.

She wants me to give her a sign that I can hear her but how when all of the sudden my body is stiff, it's like the whole

elephant is sitting on my chest and I can't breathe properly, there are loud peeping sound.

My wife screams for the doctor, I hear someone with a deeper voice than mine, his can crack the grounds I here my wife what is wrong, she is crying she can't even answer. I feel hands all over me I guess it's the doctor and nurses but why can't I move my body. After fighting the devil that was trying to make me blind and disabled I finally open my sore eyes, I quickly close them again so that I will adjust to the bright light in the room, I slowly open them again.

They just land on my sobbing wife on the floor, a big guy is trying to make her stand but she is refusing, my heart breaks, nothing hurts more than seeing her like this not even this wound that feels like someone is slaughtering a pig in it.

Doctor Stewart: Oh welcome back Mr Dlamini.

Noxolo quickly raise her head, snot and tears have messed her beautiful face but I manage to give her a faint smile, she springs up rushing to give me a tight hug hurting me in the process but

I don't flinch, I missed her in my arms, when she kisses my lips I can taste the salty snot and tears but I absolutely don't care. It's true when you love a person you can do anything to see them happy even if it's eating their mucus.

Noxolo: Oh my God you are awake!

She can't believe her eyes, the doctor gives her wipes to wipe her face.

Noxolo: don't ever do that to me Nkosi because I will kill you myself next time.

Aybo she is threatening me right now, shouldn't she be making plans for giving me more kids like she promised?

Me: am sorry themba lami.

She hugs me again but had to give the doctor a chance to examine me so she steps back, happiness is written all over her face, I didn't know I was loved this much but now I do.

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*** Noxolo ***

Me: (laughing) aybo I said nothing like that musa ukungisukela.

Nkosi: (smiling) haw so you are saying angel Gabriel was talking to me? Or maybe I was hallucinating?

Me: I don't know what I know is that am not carrying a human in my womb again.

Nkosi: we will have to see about that Mrs Dlamini.

I have been laughing like a crazy person I know it's happiness and Nkosi hasn't stop bugging me about the promises I was making while begging him to wake up, he is crazy am not having more children.

Nkosi: how are my babies?

Me: they are good except for that Golide doesn't like people very much and was crying half the time she is awake.

Nkosi: these people needs to discharge me soon my kids can't be crying for daddy like he is dead, am a die hard.

Me: please don't play about death Nkosi, it's not funny.

Losing him still freaks me out and he keeps making jokes about it like his friends were yesterday, I already called them and told them the good news so they must be on their way.

Nkosi: am sorry ndlovukazi yami.

I blush, its been long since he called me that and I didn't realize how much I missed being called that.

Me: you know coming here I was escorted by 10 guards and I felt like a real queen, you should have seen me walking like I own the world with the stuff frowning at me like I didn't look like a queen.

He breaks into a fit laughter that he even hurt himself.

Me: take it easy Mr.

Nkosi: well my queen with the dress you are wearing I was also going to frown at you, I must buy you a set of queen's attires so that people won't frown.

Me: aybo what is wrong with my dress?

Nkosi: nothing is wrong it's very beautiful but you know how a queen's attire looks like.

That moment mother in law walks in with Mpume and Olwethu, my mother must have stayed behind with the kids.

Nkosi: you see how a queen dresses like?

Yeah he is right, with this dress am wearing I look like am going to a picnic, I look nothing like a queen.

Mpume: aw the never die has risen from the dead.

Nkosi smiles as they took turns hugging him careful not to hurt him.

Olwethu: you scared us there.

Nkosi: I wouldn't dare die leaving all this, who will be tapping that when am dead, aybo izinkomo zami lezi.

They laugh, mom pinch his ear.

Queen Naye: usuyahlanya Nkosiyabo?

Nkosi: haw mah I was just saying but ke it's true vele, do you remember when dad was involved in a car accident that crippled him for almost a year, he was hospitalized for 4

months but he refused to die because he was scared of leaving all those hips.

This man though! We all laughing even the queen, Nkosi is crazy shame, it was just not his time to die not because wayengafuni ukushiya izinkomo zakhe as he puts it.

Queen Naye: you are crazy it wasn't his time to die.

Exactly! We are distributed by the guys barging in making soo much noise whistling. Classic goes straight to Nkosi pressing his wound. I scream scared. What is he doing, I only stop when Nkosi laughs while flinching. Boys doesn't know how to play with each other!

Classic: you are weak man!

Nkosi: Lubanzi do you have a gun there? I want to shoot this fool so that we will see who is weak between us.

Lubanzi: that what I wanted to do.

Classic: ay kwahle qhaqhazela

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you know man if you died I was going to take Bambi as my second wife and leave the country.

Nkosi: now am convinced that I have to kill this guy, stop calling my wife that, maybe it's a wild animal.

Nhlonipho: (laughing) I will help you with that.

Nkosi: why are is he calling you qhaqhazela?

We all laugh remembering yesterday's incident, Classic takes out his phone showing Nkosi the video he took of Lubanzi changing Zama's diaper, Nkosi is in stitches.

Nhlonipho: you should have seen him shaking like he was about to be a state's witness.

Classic: he is such a chicken.

Nkosi: my baby was traumatized here, you were bathing her in poop.

They are exaggerating right now! Only her bum, privates and thighs were messed up but it's soo funny to watch.

Lubanzi: I don't know how to change diapers but I will be practicing on them.

Nkosi: you are crazy, you are not practicing on my kids.

They are a fun bunch to be around, their spirits are happy and just welcoming you just enjoy being around them. I get a message from my dad saying he is driving to Ballito now, I send him location.

***Zenzele ***

This guy is shiting on me right now, they couldn't do one simple thing I asked them to do now he is here almost shiting his pants because he is scared that they are going to find him and kill him, why didn't he die on the scene too like the other two? Now they will have someone to look for I guess I will have to kill him myself before they get to him and he starts singing.

Guy: they won't find me because they didn't see my face and there is nothing linking what happened to me.

Me: do you know who we are dealing with here or you just read about him on the newspapers as this calm humble and kind prince of Emthonjeni Kingdom?

Guy: of course I read about him.

I laugh mockingly, this guy doesn't know who Nkosi is I see.

Me: I can tell, you know once he get his hands on you or his friends you will know that he is not just kind hearted but can kill too especially anyone who is messing with his loved ones and

looking at this situation his wife, mother and mother in law were involved so he won't be lenient with you.

Guy: why are you saying me? It's you who will be in trouble.

I take out my gun and put a bullet on his skull, he was going to sell me anyway and I can't have that, next person to die is that security guy because he is also a suspect in this.

I look at his dead body, I spit on him then walk out leaving the abandoned house that we always meet up at. Nkosi thinks he is smart they will never find the mastermind behind this until I strike again.

I haven't been to the kingdom for almost a year now, no one knows where I am and am not planning on going back until my mission is accomplished and I will be crowned king.

*** Nkosiyabo ***

I move to the edge of the bed making space for my wife, she has been sitting for hours she must be tired, she lies by my right side placing her head on my shoulder, I miss these cuddles but not getting them in the hospital bed but at home comfortably in our king sized bed.

Noxolo: you know I can't wait for you to be discharged and come home I hate sleeping alone but mostly I hate what am doing to my kids, I just want them to breastfeed and stop at 5 months but with my visits here I always have to bump milk for them.

Me: you know am recovering well themba lami and you don't have to be here all the time am much stronger now.

Noxolo: but your arm still gets a bit swallowen and you can't move it very much so you need help with most of the things.

Me: that's where the nurses comes in, they will help me.

Noxolo: what?! Am not letting anyone see you naked, it's only me who is supposed to see that.

I laugh at her, yeah I can barely move my left arm because some nerves were disturbed and it's gets very swallowen so she helps me with bathing and massages my arm everyday, I have been out of coma for three days now.

Me: are we jealous now?

Noxolo: am not letting anyone see what is meant for my eyes only.

I continue laughing, I kiss her forehead and minutes later she doze of, its always happens I guess she gets tired having to jungle between the kids and me everyday am just grateful to have people who are willing to help us with the kids.

Lubanzi walks in looking frustrated.

Me: am now?

Lubanzi: you know it's taking long to find this person, we found the guy that escaped dead in some abandoned house but we got bullet caps, four of them so we are hoping they lead us somewhere.

Me: that's better, if it was before I would have said let's lay low but we are not going to do that because many lives are at stake here.

Lubanzi: don't worry we will find him.

Me: and you know what to do when you get him.

Lubanzi: nakanjani phela siyamcisha, the security guy is with Classic he will be doing the questioning today, maybe he will talk.

Me: even if he doesn't, we will make him.

Noxolo moves a little flipping her long eyelashes opening her dark brown binocular eyes. My wife is beautiful people and I won't get tired of saying it but right now am worried if she heard us or not.

Me: that was a quick nap.

Noxolo: Yeah what time is it? Oh hi Lubanzi when did you get here?

Lubanzi: makoti I just got here.

Me: It's just a few minutes past four.

Noxolo: am leaving now I miss my babies.

I sigh in relief, she did not hear us. I wouldn't want my wife to know that I can get my hands dirty now would I?

We share an intimate kiss with our tongues twirling together, she tries to pull away but I pull her closer by her waist and just devour her lips until the sexiest moan escape her lips, I finally pull away because I can feel Sibalukhulu twitching down there. Lubanzi is just looking at us smiling. She rushes out blushing.

Lubanzi: you wanted to make me witness you finishing each other right here?

Me: shut up!.

He laughs, its no lie that I miss her so much, it's a pity that I will not have her even when go home because she is still recovering and I don't want to rush her.

Lubanzi: was just saying let me go man to check on the guys maybe they have something new.

We fist bump then he exit the door too. This place is just depressing I want to get out of here.

***Noxolo ***

I was pushing the trolley to check out when I felt someone tap my shoulder, I turn to Akhona looking at me with a wild smile. I frown, why is she smiling at me like that, did she win lottery?

Akhona: why are you giving me that look? Aren't you happy to see me?

Am I suppose to be happy to see her? Is she my friend that I never knew off or my long lost sister?

Me: Akhona hi.

Akhona: Oh my bad, how are you girl long time no see.

Me: am good.

She looks different like she has had it all in this life, you can slaughter me If I can tell you that you are just looking at a 26 year old.

Akhona: I see baby fat is refusing to go away.

I look at myself confused

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I have not gone back to my normal body and the stomach is showing me flames but I don't think I look bad, or maybe I am just in denial.

Akhona: I wonder how Nkosi feels about you looking like the mega bus.

She laughs but I don't, I just stare at her insulting me. Trust me I really wanna be petty and tell her off but the holy spirit in me is refusing so I will endure her insult and not allow her her to get to me.

Me: he must be feeling really bad hey but at least he can tolerate me because his babies made me this way.

Akhona: Yeah you are right he doesn't have a choice anyway because you were forced down his throat.

Me: mmmmh absolutely but at least I didn't force myself down his throat, someone else did that for me so I still have a bit of dignity don't you think?

Akhona: your words not mine, I should come and visit you sometime.

Say what now? Dude she just roasted me alive just now and she wants to visit me! But then again being a Christian gets the best of me so I just give her my famous smile making sure that my dimple is in full display.

Me: that will be lovely hey but I don't think it's a good idea because Lubanzi loves coming in my house too to check on the minions and Nkosi will be there too.

At this point am trying to make sure that she gets the point that she can't be in the same space as her ex boyfriend and a supposed crush.

Akhona: it has been a while since I saw Nkosi, am sure he will be happy to see me too, how is he anyway I heard he was shot.

Now I think Satan is going full force in testing my patience but I still keep my cool.

Me: (frowning) how do you know that he was shot?

She swallows first.

Akhona: (stuttering) you know he is famous so I saw on social media.

Me: the last time I checked it was kept private and I have not seen even one post on any social media talking about him.

Akhona: Oh yeah you are right but Olwethu told me this one time.

I don't believe her but I nod. It was my turn so I leave her standing there looking like a zombie and went to pay, I wonder how she knows about Nkosi being shot, I know Olwethu wouldn't have told her so she is lying.

I meet my dad coming out of Ballito Baby store, it sells all the cute baby stuff and guess what the grandpa got his hands full with multiple plastics of things am pretty sure my babies won't be needing.

Me: (laughing) dad did you want to buy the whole store?

Skhumbuzo: leave me alone, you know I thank God for keeping me till this day and I can see my grandchildren and that are yet to come.

Me: (laughing) am sure those ones will be coming from Lihle, am done with babies am not having more.

Skhumbuzo: (laughing) i doubt Dlamini will be so happy to hear that.

I smile because I know he is not happy and keeps telling me that he will knock me up again, I swear I will divorce his ass.

Me: he got no choice.

We get inside his car that we are using and yes the guards are in our noses like they always are.

Skhumbuzo: you look and sound happy my girl am glad your husband is recovering well.

My dad went to check on Nkosi a couple of times and I can tell they are getting along pretty well, Nkosi's dad king Mabutho is also in my house, so I got a house full am glad that we got a big house with 6 bedrooms with ensuite bathrooms otherwise I

would have not been able to accommodate all of them because I have both our parents, Mpume and Olwethu, the guys sometimes also spends the night but am enjoying their company not to lie.

Me: I am dad and he is getting discharged soon, I can't wait for him to come home.

Skhumbuzo: (smiling) do you remember what you promised me when you got married?

Me: (laughing) kodwa baba you forced me to make that promise, but yes I told Nkosi about your request and he said he will happily buy you a hoarse.

Am disturbed my my ringing phone, it's Nkosi.

Me: my love.

am soo shy to speak with my father just staring at me.

Nkosi: themba lami unjani?

Me: am good how are you?

Nkosi: am not good I miss you so much, where are you?

Me: was at the mall with my dad but we are heading home now.

Nkosi: that's good I talked with the doctor and he said I can be discharged tomorrow.

Me: (happily) that's great news babah, I will come early in the morning to pick you up.

Nkosi: okay maZungu, I will call you later okay, ngiyakuthanda ndlovukazi yami.

the way am blushing and the way my dad is looking at me will send me straight to the grave.

Me: nami ngiyakuthanda Dlamini.

He chuckled and dropped the call, am soo embarrassed to look at the man that brought me into this world.

Skhumbuzo: (laughing) nice life you have there, and sisi get used to calling your husband by his surname or clan name or at least baba will be great.

Me: (blushing) but I do call him that.

Skhumbuzo: (laughing) am not talking about the fancy "babah " like some spoilt kid but " baba" the respectful one.

Me: It one and the same thing baba and I don't think he minds.

Skhumbuzo: if you say soo, looks like I will be getting my hoarse sooner than I expected.

I laugh, I wonder how he will take care of a horse.

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***Nkosiyabo ***

Me: are you ready to talk now man?

Muzi: boss man I have nothing to say anymore I already told you what you needed to know.

Nhlonipho: don't give us that how can you work with someone you don't know, don't make us fools, start talking before you eat your brains right now!

This mam thinks we are joking here, he has been in Classic's basement for a week now, and we have taken him to an abandoned house, I had to make an excuse to my wife to be here and he is just wasting our time.

Me: you know you are wasting our time, you had a whole week to think about this, do you really want to die on behalf of a "stranger"?

How much stupid can one get really, who agrees to work with someone they don't know? I pull a chair and sit down facing him, maybe he couldn't see that am not joking because am tall but now am in his level, he should get the message.

Me: let's do this again, who are you working for?

Muzi: I don't kn...

With a lightning speed I pull out a pocket knife and stab his thigh then pull the knife out, blood oozes out of the wound while he is screaming his life away.

Me: let me ask for the last time, I want a straight forward answer or I send you straight forward to hell. You get me?

He nods with tears in his eyes. Lubanzi is standing on my left side, by the way he is breathing I know he just want to blow this guys head but we can't do that, he will have to talk or else we won't know who attacked me.

Classic is killing the chewing gum, I swear he wants to paralyze his jaws by the way he is chewing that thing and I hate it and he knows it.

Me: so who are you working for, you called me lying that my wife was hurt and when I get there I was shot, how did that happen?

Muzi: (crying) boss man I made a mistake and I realized that so when the guys arrived to take boss lady I called you so that you can stop them, I had no idea that things will get out of hand and there will be shooting.

Me: (calmly) you are not answering my question.

Muzi: (sniffing) I was sent by your cousin, the one who stayed with you for sometime last year. He asked me to switch off the cctv cameras so that his guys can get in to kidnap boss lady, she was the target not you.

I wipe my face in frustration, that fool has forgotten who I am really, first he wanted to try his luck with my wife now he wants to kidnap her, to do what to her really?

Lubanzi: that guy is full of shit I tell you, the day I will get my hands on him he will see his father satan.

Me: so what made you change your mind?

Muzi: I couldn't just do that boss man at first I wanted anything to make quick cash because my daughter has asthma and she is on treatment I couldn't afford that's why I agreed.

Me: so when you look at me you see this unapproachable monster who can be so cruel and couldn't spare a few thousands for his employee who is in need? Why didn't you ask me for money.

Muzi: boss man you are married with four newborns all depending on you, I couldn't just ask that much from you.

Me: now you see where your thinking on my behalf brought you? Do you think I can trust you after this? Can I trust that my family will be protected in my absence with you there?

Muzi: I don't expect you to accept me back boss man but I was just desperate for money.

Me: mmh okay I hope you have a plan after this on where you will be working to be able to afford your daughter's treatment.

I have a heart after all which will always be my downfall because people can take advantage of my kindness and think am weak but am putting myself on his shoes right now, am a father myself, how can I feel if my baby is sick and i can't afford their treatment?

Lubanzi: aybo aren't we killing him?

Me: (standing up) no we are not untie him and let's go.

I walk to the door with Lubanzi biting my head off.

Lubanzi: why? You know my blood is boiling, I need to realize some steam.

Me: I wouldn't want to make an innocent little girl fatherless just like that fool that almost made my kids fatherless. I will deal with Zenzele, he is the culprit here.

It's high time I deal with that fool, he has gotten too comfortable around me that he thinks he knows me, I will show him what am made off real quick because my wife is in danger as long as he is still out there roaming around.

Me: please set the IT team

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we are in haunt for Zenzele, I want him in one piece with no single hair in him cutted off, am leaving I miss my wife.

I get inside my car, they will all use one car because am going straight home. I answer the call from my sister Nkanyezi, they must be thinking I don't love them anymore but am occupied

there is a lot going on at this point but I do miss them like crazy.

***Akhona ***

I look at Nkosi's car as it starts moving, I was part of the plan of taking Noxolo but then I pulled back when that fool of a guy told me that his goal was to kill Nkosi. When I saw Noxolo that day at the mall it wasn't a coincidence because am really good at stalking people without them knowing that's how I knew that she will be at the mall so while her and her bodyguards which I can also get used into having as Mrs Dlamini of course went to the store they left the car unattended so I was able to install a tracker that's how I know where Nkosi is right now in the shady place, but I have seen the shadiest places you can ever find in Africa as a whole. I have to say Noxolo looks beautiful people, her dark hairy skin just seals everything and when she smiles the whole world stands still and just stare at her single dimpled smile. Her big eyes lights up the moon and am jealous of her, a part of me understands why Nkosi fell for her, she is a beauty any man can fall for her even that punk of a cousin he has fell right on her feet. I know I can't compete with her but trying my luck won't kill anyone.

I take the gravel rd to meet him on the main road, I park on the side and get out of the car with my phone, I see as his car approaches, I wave my hand like the person looking for help, he stops looking confused.

Me: Oh my God Nkosi thank you so much for stopping.

Nkosi: what are you doing here Akhona it's in the middle of nowhere.

Me: my car broke down so I need help, can you check on it please.

He looks at his wrist watch, runs his tongue on his bottom lip while touching his beard, I feel myself yearning for him even more. He nods taking his watch off and his crispy white t-shirt, he gives them to me and he is left bare chested with his strong arms and abs all out in display, I press my thighs together because the things am feeling down there are forbidden to feel towards somebody's husband.

He opens the car bonnet looking at what God knows what, I quickly steal a snap of his things on my hand and also him busy on the bonnet, he looks so freakin handsome, some women are lucky out there.

Nkosi: I don't see anything wrong here.

Me: Oh I must have been hallucinating then but the car was making funny noise.

Nkosi: maybe you were hallucinating, look Akhona it was nice meeting you but am rushing home.

He wears his things.

I can't let this chance pass me like that so I quickly pull him and kiss his lips not forgetting to quickly take a snap before he aggressively pushes me away looking so annoyed and disgusted. To say am hurt by his look would be an understatement am crushed, he looks like he is about to puke.

Nkosi: wenzani Akhona?

His hoarse voice has just gotten more hoarse and deeper, am scared.

Me: I.. I am sorry it was a mistake.

Nkosi: don't annoy me wena why would you kiss me, am not an aggressive person but do that again I will smack your face so hard you will remember why Adam and Eva ate the forbidden fruit.

I have never seen him so mad, he must be really offended but I don't regret what I did, I will mark my territory with that.

Me: am sorry Nkosi.

Nkosi: " am sorry Nkosi " my left disabled foot nx!

He jumps on his car then drives off in full speed, am left smelling like him, that man is dreams I tell you. He is handsome, got money, smells nice, has a great sense in fashion and just everything you can ever need in a man. I get inside my car and drives off. I know some people may think am crazy, well am crazy about Nkosiyabo Dlamini and I won't rest until I have him.

***Noxolo ***

I hear my beeping phone on top of the side table, I put down the sleeping Golide, I just finished breastfeeding all of them. I don't think my boobs will look the same as before after this but it's all worth it.

It's the whatsapp message from an unknown number, am hesitant to open it but eventually I did ,its just pictures with an " say he loves you again " caption with laughing emojis. I impatiently wait for the pictures to upload. Am welcomed by Nkosi and Akhona kissing.

I feel air leaving my lungs immediately, I swipe to the next picture, Nkosi is busy with a car I know very well with nothing on top, all his abs are showing, even his scar by the lower back is out in display.

I can't believe that Nkosi can do this to me, am refusing to believe that he can cheat on me just like that with Akhona at that. It's just been a year and a few months and he is already cheating on me, I don't think "till death do us apart" will work

here. Maybe I should just wait for him to come back, he will sure have an explanation for this. Maybe Akhona just wants to get to me.

I wipe my tears making my way downstairs. Just as I was drinking water I hear a car driving in am pretty sure it's him. I try to slow my breathing as he calls out to me.

Nkosi: love!

I don't want to respond but then again..

Me: in the kitchen!

He gets in rushing to me.

Me: you are back.

Nkosi: yes I couldn't stay away from you for long you know that.

I fake a smile nodding, I think I should just do this now before I give him time to think about the lies he is going to tell me.

Me: mmmh, where are you coming from?

Nkosi: from the guys, we had something that we had to take care of.

Me: something like?

Nkosi: don't worry your beautiful self about it.

He comes to me trying to perk my lips but I look away. Am not letting him kiss me after kissing someone else.

Nkosi: (frowning) and then what is wrong?

Me: shouldn't I be the one to ask that question?

Nkosi: what do you mean?

Me: I mean to ask you again where are you coming from Nkosi?

Nkosi: am coming from the guys.

Me: Akhona is a guy?

He looks at me shocked with a hint to fear in his eyes but he quickly hides it with a frown.

Nkosi: Akhona?

Me: don't open your mouth Nkosiyabo if you are going to lie to me

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were you with the guys or you go around kissing Akhona behind my back and come here acting innocent.

I can feel my voice raising but one thing I don't want to do is to disrespect him and raise my voice at him because he is my husband and I should mind the way I speak to him.

Nkosi: whatever you heard or saw maZungu it's not true, I was with the guys earlier and on my way here I saw Akhona by the side road and she said her car broke down so I offered to help and she kissed me my love I promise I didn't kiss her back, I will never hurt you like that.

I just look at him hoping for him to look away with shame but no moguy just returned the intense stare.

Me: so you were not going to tell me if she didn't send me those pictures? Are we having secrets now?

Nkosi: to be honest themba lami I was not going to tell you, I didn't cheat but I knew how much that was going to hurt you so I was not going to tell you.

Me: and if it keeps on happening?

Nkosi: I got no business with Akhona, I know it wasn't a coincidence that she was there, she planned it and its never to happen again.

Me: mmmh.

Nkosi: yazi mkami this is not the first time we are fighting about Akhona and I don't like it. I want this to be the last time we are fighting about her, she is crazy and mostly I will never, I mean never cheat on you with anyone and I will never break that promise.

He tries to kiss me, I look away once again, he chuckled and kiss my forehead.

Nkosi: am sorry about what happened.

Me: It's not your fault.

Nkosi: am still sorry, it will never happen again.

Me: It's okay.

Nkosi: so you forgive me?

Me: Yeah.

Nkosi: (nibbling my ear) I can't wait to have you beg me to go deeper and faster, just one month baby and I will show you how much I have missed you.

I feel my inner thighs getting warmer as I blush to what he just said. This man got no filter in his mind and he is corrupting me as well.

Nkosi: let me go check on the kids.

He kiss my cheek and walks out. I have to deal with that Akhona because she is a problem and she will never know me if I don't show her what am capable off, am tired of her walking all over me and my marriage.

I take my phone and send her a message, I just wrote how good he looks half naked, I know that will work her up.

NOXOLO

It's long overdue now, I think I must pay this girl a visit, a well deserved one at that, who does she thinks she is.

Nkosi: mmmmh where are you off too ndlovukazi yami looking so beautiful, you know am jealous.

I give him a smile knowing that am about to lie to him, for the first time since we got married so, I just hope the car I will be using doesn't have a tracker, I don't want to be explaining myself to anyone.

Me: Oh am meeting Mpume for lunch, we will be just catching up.

The smile am giving is a bit manipulating, I know he won't ask further.

Nkosi: okay let me drive you there.

Say what!

Me: you don't have too Dlamini I will take one of the guards to drive me there, you can just keep an eye on the kids.

We got a stay in nanny to help us with the kids since everyone has left and we were not coping shame, she is just a very humble lady in her late forties. The queen helped us to get her

because apparently royal kids are not supposed to be left with just anyone, they might be stolen, her words not mine.

Nkosi: Oh ay enjoy yourself.

I perk his lips and walk out, you'd swear am going to an exclusive event, am soo beautiful in my black jumpsuit and cream heels that matches my handbag.

I get at the back after the door was opened for me and the guard drives. Two cars with bodyguards follow behind us. I asked Nkosi to decrease the number of bodyguards I have, but he made me see reason, am the queen next in line and he can't take any chances with that.

Getting there I get out of the car like queen Elizabeth feeling all powerful and in control. I ask the guard to wait in the car. I knock. She takes her sweet time to open but I have the whole day.

Me: (smiling) Oh hey, can I come in? It's rude to make the queen stand like this.

She hesitantly move out of the way making space for me to pass, I look around a bit then turn to look at her. She is still surprised with a hint of fear in her eyes.

Me: what a pleasant surprise isn't? I have been wanting to come here for a long time to talk to you woman to woman since we are sister wives right?

She swallows hard. I sit on the couch and cross my legs, she sits down too on the opposite couch still looking at me.

Me: let us not waste anymore time, so tell me what business do you have with Nkosi?

Okay so let me enlighten you on what happened, so since the saga of her kissing Nkosi was blueticked she saw that as her calling to do more, from sending my husband messages everyday with different numbers, last week she went abroad and sent him nudes, by nudes I mean fully naked with her legs wide open inviting him to come and have fun. Nkosi showed me like he has been doing, I pretended not to care since I know it's not his fault but in my heart I was boiling with anger so here am i today because I see that am being under estimated here.

Me: I mean you know he is married, not just married but to me, do you really disrespect me like that to send my husband such pictures?

Akhona: look Noxolo I know he is your husband but you should just look at this this way, am older than you, am mature than you, am beautiful than you and am definitely sexier than you, maybe am doing you a favor.

I chuckled realizing that Satan is really tempting me. Is she really calling throwing herself to someone's husband mature?! I

must go back to school and learn the definition of mature, maybe am the problem after all.

Me: (smiling) your point being?

Akhona: it's obvious, he might be hooked to you now but he will realize that you are just a naive kid that is excited by the "queen " title and leave you with your four puppies.

Am still smiling not wanting to give it away that the volcano in my stomach is about to come out and burn this entire house. I take my bag and take out a gun, I hope Nkosi doesn't notice because it will obvious that it's me who took it, I didn't even know he had a gun until he accidentally asked me to take some documents for him from his safe.

Akhona looks shocked, she starts shaking. To be honest I know nothing about guns and this thing is heavy. I hold it in a way I think is correct and stand up walking to her.

Me: ay ay ay... don't you dare test me Akhona, i will blow your brains now now, try me.

I say when she tries to stand up and run away. Am glad this flat is soo small, just an open plan small kitchen connecting straight to the sitting room where we are then it's the bedroom and bathroom.

Me: you think I came here to play i see, lead the way to your bedroom.

Shaking she walks to the direction of her bedroom, am in her tail with my handbag in my had, we are about to have fun.

I lock the door after me, am glad this bedroom is soo small, you can't even walk properly without bumping into something. She sits on the bed, now with tears in her eyes, mxm I don't care.

I put my bag and gun next to it, I take out a little black plastic with buzzing sound in it, I laugh thinking of how crazy this idea was.

Me: now my dear Akhona we are about to find out who is mature between me and you. You know knowing that you have a crush on my husband was one thing but continuously disrespecting me showing him your nasty vagina with ears just makes me so angry.

Akhona: (crying) am sorry Noxolo, i meant no harm.

No harm! the only fights I have with my husband are because of her which "no harm" is she talking about?

Me: well me too, I mean no harm, am just here to give you a warning, a friendly one but I will hate to come back here about the same thing.

She nods quickly. I take out the handcuffs, I came here prepared, I won't be ruled by a senseless person. Not in this life.

I demand that she gives me her hands, now am not smiling, I look too cute and harmless when am smiling.

Her bed has the rails on the headboard, so I drag her there and cuff her.

Akhona: Noxolo you don't have to do this please, I will stay away from Nkosi I promise.

Even if you didn't promise, you were still going to stay away from him either way.

Me: am glad to hear that my dear, now this is what is going to happen, you will stay in this bedroom for a few days, I will see when am free then come and uncuff you. No food, no nothing, at least you will be able to lie down. Oh and this...

I go and close the window and curtains. I switch on her fire place, tell you what it's scorching hot here you can't even sleep with the blanket on, this fire will make it impossible for her to even close her eyes.

Me: and I bought you little friends so you won't be bored, you see am considerate am I not?

I say waving the black plastic in the air, I myself need to get out of here, am starting to sweat. I put the gun back to the bag and go stand by the door.

Me: (smiling) see you in a few days.

I open the the plastic and all the bees come out in full force, I rush out and lock the door from outside before they bite me. She will be their feast for a few days. I smile and walk out of the house, making sure that I leave her bedroom keys on the coffee table.

I text Mpume asking if she is available for lunch, luckily she is so I wasn't lying that much to Nkosi.

Akhona will learn to respect people, mxm.

QUEEN NAYE

Me: kodwa baba they have been there for only close to two years now, let's give them a little bit more time.

King Mabutho: ayi mkami they need to come back and start learning the ways of the kingdom, am turning 60 this year and I want to retire, Nkosiyabo must take the throne.

I sigh, he is not going to change his mind I know but am also being unfair here, he did say way before we even had Nkosi that he is to retire and step down at the age of 60, I just think that time went by so fast.

Me: okay baba I will call him and inform him about that.

King Mabutho: I think it's best they do really, so that they will learn with both of us still here and be able to ask if they need help, what will happen if we don't wake up tomorrow, how will

they learn? He refused to learn early and went to the military, now he is married, he got no reason to drag the process.

He got a point there, now they must leave everything behind and come to start afresh here, what makes me happy in this situation is that my grandchildren will be close, I miss them terribly.

Me: you got the point Dlamini, I will call Nkosi before today ends, in a month we want them here.

King Mabutho: Yeah only a month to move and he will start the training with me, makoti will be on you.

I nod again, I will be very happy to help, I know she will lead like a true queen, all the traits are there.

Me: I will get the helpers to clean there thoroughly.

I stand up and go to the library, I have a lot of meetings today but at least I will have a helper then step down. I have no doubt that Noxolo will do all the work, she is very smart, lovely and has a heart of gold, I don't doubt that she will be loved by our people.

Am excited it's like she will be coming here for the first time, they will be celebrating their 2nd year anniversary here though, it's a big thing.

AKHONA

I can't believe Noxolo, she is soo heartless and cruel, how can she do this to another woman!

Am here sweating and I don't even know what to do, I hoped she meant she will come back after a few hours but no its the second day with me stuck here, hungry, pressed and stinking. I tried to scream hoping someone will hear me but, no one has showed up.

But that's not the worst part, the bees that has been biting me all day long, my whole face is swallowen and painful, I will never forget what she did to me. For a dick she is doing this to me!

I will be hospitalized after this and yes I will stay as far as I can from her. It doesn't help that this room is soo small so the heat is in the air. With the painful body, heat, being hungry and wanting to go to the toilet, I don't know which one to focus on.

I thought she was going to shoot me ,now if she did I was going to open a case against her, even though I know she wouldn't have spent a day there. She is taking this "I am the queen " thing seriously and it's annoying. Nkosi spoils that charcoal of his.

I hope Jesus sees her through with her cruelty.

NKOSIYABO

2 WEEKS LATER

Things have been crazy with the moving and stuff, surprisingly my wife had no problem with going back to Port Shepstone, was just sad that she will leave the ladies that she has made friends with but she can visit, they too can.

I have been driving to and from Port Shepstone like crazy, moving with kids is a nightmare but my guys have been very helpful. Now with my Fortuner we are driving to Port Shepstone after saying sad goodbyes to our friends. We are leaving with the nanny sis' Gloria, I won't address her as mah because she is just 47.

Me: do you think you are ready to be queen?

Noxolo: I have been since we got married but am just nervous about many things, leading people is no child's play but mostly how will they receive me as their new queen.

Me: (smiling) there is only one trick here my love which it's already everything that you are, you smile more, laugh more, love more, you are kind and lastly you treat people like humans no matter what, trust me that's a good leader.

Noxolo: (smiling) thank you so much.

Me: and also you do not have to smile at nonsense and be kind if people are starting to misbehave.

She smiles again. It feels like we are taking a journey to a totally different world, a world where it won't just be us, but thousands of people depending on us for shelter, food, clothing and judgment but I grew up in royal grounds, I know how things are done, with the beautiful queen I know i won't fall on my knees.

Queen Naye: (smiling) so since our queen wasn't introduced to our staff formally I'd like to do the honors of that. I know some hasn't even met her before.

She says with Noxolo next to her smiling.

Queen Naye: so in this palace my dear we have the total of 110 staff members, 20 of them are kitchen staff which I assume you can see which ones are those.

Yes they are wearing those fancy aprons in different colors and underneath its always black they have to wear.

Queen Naye: 25 of them are cleaning staff, they are responsible for cleaning houses in the palace, 10 of them works in the gardens, 30 of them are security staff including the bodyguards, 15 are drivers. And 10 of them are assisting staff

like PAs and right hand men. Each one of these departments have their own managers they report too if they have a problem, and the managers will report to the assistants then to you and your husband.

That is a long process to get to the queen and king.

Noxolo: so they won't be able to talk to me directly?

Queen Naye: if you are comfortable with that, it's up to you really I personally talk to anyone. So that is Portia your assistant who is responsible for anything concerning you, will draw your schedule, make and cancel appointments and set meetings for you. And oh since there are kids, with sis' Gloria Phumla will be helping her with them.

Noxolo: I understand. Mmmmh I'd like to thank all of you for welcoming me, before we get to work I want to tell you that you are deeply appreciated by the royal family, we see all of you and to me you can come anytime to talk to me or ask for anything, my door is always open and I hope we will have a good relationship.

They thank her with smiles and mom dismiss them. Portia is standing there not knowing what to do.

Queen Naye: that was good my dear, oh the king and I and the whole council we decided that coronation will be held next month.

Now they are too much, next month!

Queen Naye: I think you will do great.

She touches her cheek before walking out with her assistant.

There is literally no privacy in the palace, there is too many staff plus there is always 5 or more community members here, to do what? Ask the Rock because I don't know.

She smiles looking at me.

Noxolo: I'll have the hard time knowing all these people, where were they even because it's only now that am seeing them, some faces I know though.

Me: (smiling) they were always here my love, maybe just a few new staff but most of them are always here. Let me leave you, the king called for me.

She nods, I kiss her forehead and walked to my dad's office.

Now it's a bummer that I will be king in a month!

NOXOLO

I sigh, when I turn I see my assistant, she is standing there looking nervous.

Me: (smiling) hey.

I just want to put her at ease.

Portia: (bowing) my queen.

Me: don't be silly, call me Noxolo. Do I have something planned for today?

Portia: no my queen but got really busy schedule for tomorrow.

Me: okay so long, can you be kind to show me around? How long have you worked here?

Portia: mmmmh I only came here last week when the queen mother said she needs an assistant for you, had to do a few tests though.

Me: that's great.

Portia: let me show you around.

Yeah I really do need to be shown around, you wouldn't tell I stayed here for 4 months when I got married this place is big and i haven't even seen the girls, they must be out.

She walks me around, am wearing a long beautiful dress with sandals and a head wrap. The guards stop talking as we appear on them, they bow their heads.

Me: don't mind us, we are just walking around.

I say with a smile. I don't want them to be scared of me. Portia is not talking much, maybe she just needs time to get to know me.

Portia: I have already set your alarms according to your schedule, they will ring 15 minutes before and on the dot of each meeting, I will be notified too, please do tell me if you would like to cancel any.

Me: okay dear I will do just that.

What a long day, I miss my babies. I know that from now on I will have little time with them, I will be soo busy.

Me: you can take the rest of the day off Portia since I won't be needing you, I will go be with my kids so long.

She thanks me with a smile and left. God I will need you as am starting this journey, please show up for me and my husband, you entrusted us with this, give us wisdom.

NOXOLO

The alarm goes off at 7am, I sigh trying to detect my phone with my hand, this is my life now. When I check next to me Nkosi is not here, he must be bathing because I can hear water running.

I get off the bed and go to the nursery, my babies are still sleeping so I walk back to my room and made the bed.

Sis' Gloria and Phumla are sleeping here in the other rooms just to be closer to the kids.

Nkosi: good morning ndlovukazi yami.

I smile turning to him, he looks hot with just a towel wrapped around his waist.

Me: good morning Sibalukhulu.

Nkosi: I have a long day ahead, I doubt I will even see you, there are renovations taking place in the great hall and dad wants me there.

Me: Oh good luck with that, queen mother wants me to take over the fundraising for the orphanage project, we will be meeting with the sponsors today.

Nkosi: that is lovely, am just sad I won't see my kids the whole day.

Me: Yeah once we are settled we need to build up a routine at least, I don't want to be there for everyone else except my kids.

Nkosi: Yeah that's true but am very certain that sis' Gloria and Phumla will do well with them, but just for extra safety I put cameras here and they are connected to both our phones directly so we will see what is happening no matter where we are. I did that because the security room is occupied with all the cameras around the palace.

Me: (smiling) that was very thoughtful of you, let me go and take a shower.

Nkosi: where are you having your first meeting?

I grab the iPad with my weekly schedule that Portia sent me yesterday.

Me: mmmmh it's in the Chapel, the New York wing.

I laugh after saying that, to why they decided to name it New York is beyond me, he laughs with me, yes people we have New York here in the Dlamini Kingdom Palace.

Nkosi: okay, go and bath you'll be late.

I walk to the bathroom and take a quick one, breakfast is at 8h30am in the main house, all of us need to have breakfast there.

When I get out Nkosi is already dressed, he goes to check the kids who were screaming through the baby monitor.

I wear my below the knee tight dress, it's looks like my second skin, it has a slit on the front exposing my left thigh, well it would have been exposed completely thanks to the lace closing the gap halfway through, the same lace is on the sleeves of the dress, I complete my look with teal colored heels, thank God I had a weave installed just a week ago so am good to go.

I take my iPad and phone then walk out to the nursery. My babies are all bathed they are making noise excited over daddy.

Me: hello cute babies, hello. Sanibonani.

I take Lumnene while greeting sis' Gloria and Phumla.

Phumla: my queen, good morning .

I respond with just a smile. I can't believe they are growing up to be so big, just 7 months old but they are soo chubby and cute not to mention that they look more like their father with each passing day, what a betrayal. I turn to Nkosi looking at me like am eatable.

Me: (smiling) what?

Nkosi: you look so beautiful, you look brand new, pity I won't be seeing more of you today.

Me: (blushing) thank you.

Phumla finish feeding Zama then we all get into the car, trust me from the main house to this one is a complete 5 minute drive, moving around needs a car especially with kids, you can walk if you want for more than 10 minutes though. They will be spending the rest of their day in the main house so we need to bring everything they will need.

As soon as I make my way, Portia comes to me smiling, such a cute baby faced 25 year old

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she looks like a teenager.

Portia: good morning my queen.

Me: good morning Portia, ready for the day?

Portia: yes, your babies look cute.

Me: Oh thank you even though they would have looked more cute if they looked like me.

The only thing that's tricking people to think they look like me are the eyes. She laughs, Phumla takes Lumnene from me and we go and have breakfast.

NKOSIYABO

I enter the kitchen wanting to get my grapefruit, I guess they forgot I eat that all the time. I find most of the kitchen staff there, they are gossiping and they don't see me.

Staff¹: do you think she will be nice, am scared about this transaction, the queen mother was okay but am not sure about the new one.

Staff²: that's because you got here when she had already left, she is very lovely, she was even cooking with us when she got married .

Staff¹: Oh now am at peace, you know what they say about royal people, that they are cruel and heartless, I guess it's a different story with them.

Kitchen manager: you will see for yourself, she is very nice.

Staff⁴: I want her to be my friend.

The others laugh, I chuckle too, I'll have to tell my wife that she is interesting some people.

Staff⁴: what's funny?

Staff³: do you really think a whole queen will have time to be making friends with helpers, she has four kids, a husband and will be crowned soon, there is a lot on her plate.

Staff⁴: well am telling you that by the end of the week, I would have spoken to her in person , i like her so much.

Okay I must stop eavesdropping or else I will be late, I clear my throat before walking in, they instantly keep quiet bowing their heads.

Kitchen manager: my king can I help you with something?

Me: no don't mind me, am here to take something from the fridge.

I take the grapefruit then walk out, I can hear them whispering asking each other if I heard them or not. They are lucky they weren't saying anything bad. I kiss my wife before following dad and his right hand man, mine was already waiting outside, I don't even know his name but I trust dad's judgment.

ZEKHETHELO

I see the queen walking out with her assistant and I smile, a fond one. You know that feeling of being fond of someone you barely know, I just like her.

Oh and before you frown at me, am a full woman, am attracted to men not women so don't look at me like that.

I really wish I can at least get a hug from her.

Cebile: why are you smiling like that?

Me: (sighs) do you really think the queen is nice and won't tell me where to get off if I go to her?

Cebile: I don't think she will do that but at least get her at the least busy time, today is definitely not the day to be wanting to fuss around her.

Me: I wish I was working closely with her, maybe the nanny or something, or maybe cleaning because I would have always wanted to clean her house.

Cebile: and she will be here always to eat so you will see her everyday don't worry.

I smile nodding, I can't believe me, Zekhethelo Ntshangase is working for the royal family! I never thought in a million years that I will be rubbing shoulders with the mighty Dlamini's but here am I loving the queen more than the unlimited food here, WI-FI all over, drinking filtered water and sleeping comfortably in the staff chambers, its amazing.

NKOSIYABO

Me: dad you are being extreme now, why shoving everything down my throat all at once?

King Mabutho: that's because that comes with being a king ndodana, I know its too much but I trust you soo much with this.

God this is too much, our coronation is just a week from now and dad is telling me that after it he and mom are leaving to explore! Can you imagine they want to explore the world and leave me and Noxolo here all alone, I thought they will help us.

Me: I don't know dad.

King Mabutho: I know you will do just fine, I raised you like that, I can already see progress even your mother is happy with how makoti is doing.

Yeah she tells me about how well the orphanage fundraising is going but I don't know how she will receive the news of doing all the queen duties on her own.

King Mabutho: and don't worry, we are not going forever, we will come back maybe twice a month to check how you are doing.

It doesn't make any difference, ruling such a big kingdom is hard but am comforted by the fact that our people are not a hard bunch to manage.

Me: (sighs) I hear you my King, let me go to that meeting. By the way the orphanage project is starting soon, the sponsors gave the total of 15 million.

King Mabutho: how many sponsors are we talking about here?

Me: about 9 or so am not sure.

King Mabutho: (smiling) and you're sulking because we are leaving, Your wife is very smart trust her.

I smile a proud smile, she was so excited when telling me about that you could've seen her literally jumping on the bed. When it's done we will get a lawyer, register it, get an FCRA registration and get the staff to work there, it's a lot but I know her and her team will outdo themselves. We will start with just a small number of children, maybe 30-40 then it will grow as years goes by.

Me: of course she is.

I stand up then walk out. I take an elevator, I can't be going up and down the million stairs all day between three floors.

I go to the main kitchen, finding my wife and the kitchen staff packaging big brown boxes with lot, I mean a lot of sandwiches

and snacks, when did they buy all that. They are busy laughing not noticing me.

Noxolo: I hope these will be enough hey.

I notice the lady that said she will be friends with her laughing at the top of her lungs, you can just tell that happiness is in the air.

Her: am sure they will be enough.

Noxolo: that being said, we will be out the whole day driving around the village.

Kitchen manager: next you will be addressed as sandwich car.

The all laugh. Why I didn't get notified about the sandwich distribution again. I make myself known as I grab one sandwich from the big tray, they are packed in disposable sandwich bags.

Noxolo: Oh no love that's not for you, please put it back.

I frown because I have already took a bite of the very fancy sandwich with cheese, ham, lettuce and tomatoes, I can taste cream cheese in there too. She sighs with a smile.

Me: what are you ladies up to?

Noxolo: Oh we are driving around the kingdom giving away these and also the nearest village. The drinks are already packed in the cars.

There are drinks too?! I get closer to her biting my lower lip, I smash my lips on her, she tries to pull away but I deepen the kiss biting gently on her lower lip, I know the staff is watching but I couldn't resist, she finally pulls away.

Noxolo: (whispering) kodwa Dlamini there was no need for that.

Me: (smiling) and why I wasn't told about this?, sandwich lady. She giggles turning away from me.

Noxolo: the king got nothing to do with sandwiches.

Me: well I can lend a hand you know.

I say coaching down to tape close the 15 boxes full of sandwiches, there are chips and chocolate bars is some. When I was done three bodyguards helps with putting them to the cars. They are taking the royal SUVs I don't like these cars they are black and when they are following each other its looks like they are headed to the funeral.

Noxolo: (whispering) I will come back to give you something warm and juicy.

Without being noticed she grabs my dick gently and gave it a little squeeze then walks away with the seductive smile, now my dick is standing, I put my hands in my pockets to hide the huge dick print as I watch her get into the car with that friend

lady, her assistant and 2 bodyguards and a driver. Another 5 staff members get on another car with one bodyguard and a driver. The third car follows with 3 bodyguards and a driver. Yeah that's my queen in there, she doesn't go anywhere without bodyguards.

I rush to my meeting, with a painful dick, I will get her for doing this to me and I bet she will be on my mind the whole day.

NOXOLO

Me: so you have been working in the palace for a few months how are you finding everything?

I ask Zekhethelo who I noticed has been loving me, Nkosi told me the other day that there is a lady wanting to be my friend, I laughed because I didn't believe him but then Zekhethelo was just sooo determined to see me and talk to me everyday until she came clean saying she likes me and would like to be friends.

I was honestly shocked I agreed mindlessly so now it's safe to say besides her Portia is a nice friend too, we will need to work on that but am always enjoying their company.

Zekhethelo: work is good my queen I like everything just that sometimes I really miss home.

Me: am glad to hear that hey.

They do get three days off every month, taking turns.

Hhu thank God 4 boxes are done, people are really appreciative of the kind gesture.

I grab my vibrating phone and check a whatsapp message from Nkosi.

Me: what the!!

I quickly place it on my thighs faced down with my eyes wide open, Nkosi is not okay upstairs.

Bodyguard¹: are you okay my queen?

I nod still traumatized, I don't even know how I will respond to that message with anyone seeing because am in the middle. I bring my phone soo close to my face.

" what is wrong with you!!" I send the message and quickly switch it off. Can you believe him, he just sent me a picture of his hard rock dick, gosh am glad no one saw that.

He can't be that hard even now because of that little touch, this man though!

Zekhethelo: if you don't mind me asking my queen, how old are you?

Me: (smiling) am turning 25 this year.

She nods, we stop at town to catch some lunch, no am starving mind you it's way pass 3pm and I last ate the fruit salad for

breakfast. We walk to the restaurant, the 2 bodyguards stand by the door while 2 follows to stand right behind me. The people are turning their heads looking at us with shock. I notice waiters and waitresses running around, before we can find the table some lady stops us bowing.

Her: (shaking) good afternoon my queen, how can I be of service.

Why is she shaking now?

Me: (smiling) Oh please get us just a waiting table, we will be getting take aways.

I don't think it will be convenient for anyone to just rock up and ask for the table for 17 people, it will be unfair, we will just eat in the car.

Her: Oh please follow me.

She leads us to the table of 4, the bodyguards opt to stand. She takes our huge order then rush away. I can hear her throwing orders in the kitchen asking for the staff to hurry up. People are just weird towards royals, aren't we humans?

In less than 10 minutes her and two waiters comes our way with everything. I pay using Nkosi's black card, she holds her mouth shocked, its just a black card girl chill, I tip them then we all walk out. Let me tell you this, am in the middle of Zekhethelo and Portia with two guards behind us. We meet

those standing that an entrance, they walk in front of me. Such drama! now am in the middle of everyone like am not suppose to be seen. Queen mother didn't hint me on this one.

"Oh I thought I was seeing things, hi Noxolo, remember me?" Says a guy who just stopped us, am i supposed to remember him? The guards get on defensive mode when they see my frown and confusion.

He looks at everyone and then frowns back at me.

"Don't you remember me? Luxolo, the guy that ran you over, I took you to the hospital that day"- he says.

Oh now he looks familiar, I smile at him.

Me: now I remember, how have you been?

Luxolo: I have been around hey, I didn't know you were married, and what's up with the bodyguards?

As I was about to answer..

Portia: my queen we will wait in the car.

I nod, her and Zekhethelo leaves leaving me with the guards.

Luxolo looks like he has seen a ghost.

Luxolo: you are the queen ?!!

Me: not yet but soon.

Luxolo: I didn't know you were the queen to be crowned next week!

Me: Yeah I am.

Luxolo: we should meet up sometime just to catch up .

Is he my friend now?

Me: Oh no I don't think I will be available, was nice meeting you Luxolo, take care.

I started to walk so the guards also move along. Catch up with someone else's wife! What kind of nonsense is that, he doesn't know Nkosi that one I see.

The guards and drivers are shocked when I tell them to eat with us, they must be really hungry too.

ZENZELE

I look at my mother, we have been here for so long, in our minds we know very well that the king and Nkosi took no effort to try and find us because with the connections they would have without even trying now my mother wants us to go back, am not going back there unless I want to die.

Me: am not going there, well you never wronged them you just ran away to support me because you know you are the one who put me through this.

Nomathamsanqa: don't you dare blame me, I never asked you to lust over Nkosi's wife, you did that on your own and I used it to our advantage.

Me: okay but am still not going back.

Nomathamsanqa: they are getting crowned soon we need to be there as family.

Now she is forcing her family down my throat like she always do, ever since I was young I never knew my father's side nor him I just know that am a Khumalo, I even hate that surname with all my gut.

Me: so you are going to go there as the loving sister and aunt and pretend like you don't want to destroy them and take over

the throne which mother I don't see happening, we have three generations now on that throne. If we kill Nkosi, the king will remain king until Nkosi's son grows and takes over.

Nomathamsanqa: you think negatively, the little boy is a non factor.

Me: mom this has been going on ever since I can remember, am tired of living like this, am tired of living under your shadow, if you want the throne go on and make a plan but I want out, I don't want to die.

Nomathamsanqa: fine I will do this on my own then, don't come running when I succeed.

Me: no you should be saying if you succeed, you are not sure if you will, percentage is maybe 2% trust me you will only die.

Am seriously tired of mom using me for the bad to get the riches, I don't want to experience the consequences of killing the royal blood since am not royal, I have tried to take her mind off this but she is determined so I will just grieve for her before she even dies.

Nomathamsanqa: so you are not going back, until when will you hide here?.

Me: on second thought am going, but to apologize to Nkosi and make mends in our relationship I know he might not want me

near him or his family but I will apologize anyway from the depth of my heart.

I hope the thing I thought I was feeling towards his wife is dead, I can't afford to apologize but still be in love with his wife in secret, temptation is a real thing.

Nomathamsanqa: mmmmh.

Me: and please remember my words when whatever plan you are cooking backfires, don't say I didn't warn you.

I walk out leaving her there. All the hate I had cooking up in my heart she is the one that installed it, she made me hate Nkosi from the very young age. I agree that am at fault too because I continued to allow the same hate rule me even when I was older and was able to make my own decisions but now I see my wrong.

That guy has never treated me anything less than his very own brother, he always had my back and encouraged me even when I didn't want to be encouraged which is why I never went to varsity because I didn't see the need to go, in my mind I already had this wealth and inheriting all the Dlamini wealth cooking up. I always saw myself living a good life I never worked for.

Whereas on the other side Nkosi and his sisters all went to varsity and made something for themselves outside the kingdom, he obtained Honors degree in business management

and opened his own business that's thriving as we speak, he went to work in the military by choice because he wasn't a moffie like me. I on the other side who has nothing to do with throne and kingdom was sticking my nose on it full force, it all comes to an end. I will work hard for myself even though am 31 now but anything is possible.

I zip my fully packed suitcase, I hope i get the forgiveness am looking for, I don't want any bad blood between my cousin and I.

NKOSIYABO

A WEEK LATER

The palace is still buzz with people because yes am officially the king of Emthonjeni Kingdom in hand with Queen Noxolo of Emthonjeni Kingdom. How good does that sound really?

All the neighboring kingdoms were here yesterday to witness the big day. But back to the problem at hand

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am wearing all this heavy attire and the proud smile on dad's face can not be scaled to anything with my queen of course wearing hers, she looks radiant as she walks around tall like she owns the world, but these things are heavy.

I sigh then look at Zenzele in front of me, the last person I expected to see yesterday and his mother who has been extra nice but am not buying anything, I know how that woman is.

Zenzele: (nervously) congratulations by the way.

Me: thank you, now where have you been hiding all along?

Am genuinely asking. He disappeared after pulling that stunt off trying to kidnap my wife but that was long ago, I don't hold grudges against people I just forgive and keep my distance from them.

Zenzele: I have been around.

He still looks nervous.

Me: you said you would like to talk.

He asked to talk to me yesterday but I couldn't, I was too occupied and I said we will talk today and as a man that keeps his word I had to show up.

Zenzele: (sighs) gazi I know am the least of your favorites right now, first i would like to apologize for everything I have ever done to you to drag you down, am not going to blame it on my mother because am a grown ass man with brains. After a lot of thinking and trying to figure out where you wronged me for me to hate you like i did I didn't find anything.

He sighs again facing down.

Zenzele: instead of coming to you for advice I hated you for everything you have but now I realize how wrong I was to do that or just want everything you have even your wife. To be honest I don't think I loved her it was just envy and hope to find something to mock you with when I take her from you, I thought that will give me control a bit but no it ended making our relationship worse than it was. If anything I would like to thank you soo much for all the brotherly love you gave me over the years even though I was shitty towards you, I'd like to say sorry, from the depth of my heart I apologize.

For the first time I hear this guy talk like this let alone being appreciative or admitting his wrong am actually touched.

Zenzele: you got no reason to forgive me Nkosi because what I did especially to your wife can never be reversed, if I succeeded in kidnapping her that day I would have taken advantage of her and thats not something am proud off and I regret it, I wish I can apologize to her as well.

Me: I know Zenzele the kind of person you challenged yourself to be, I know pride was your middle name, I know for you to come here and humble yourself, make yourself feel small and bruise your ego took everything in you so I know you really mean all that you have said. In general it takes a lot for a person to come clean and admit their wrongs but am really appreciative of your apology. Zenzele you are actually the only

male I grew up with as kids, we played together and everything and in my heart I know you are not a bad person but was just blind to the truth.

To be honest I long forgave you, but you asking for an apology makes that worth it, I don't think I would've though if you ever abused my wife. I know from the drifting that happened over the years it will be difficult to just come together again but let's hold on to we are cool, if you will be around we can gradually work on that.

He wipes his tears nodding.

Zenzele: thank you so much.

Me: you will be staying here aren't you?

Zenzele: no gazi am actually leaving soon, I want to put my life together and see where it takes me but I will visit whenever I can.

Me: Oh good luck with that hey, don't hesitate to ask for help if you need it though, I'll be very happy to help.

Zenzele: am grateful for that, please do pass my apologies to your wife.

Me: (smiling) I will don't worry.

Zenzele: (smiling) I haven't seen the little minions, they must be very grown.

Me: yes they are, you might see them sometime.

Zenzele: let me not keep you for long, I really appreciate the forgiveness gazi it means a lot.

I stand up and we bro hug. I hope he will really change his ways and be sane.

Me: le me go, I have a meeting soon, I'll see you around.

He nods I walk out with a smile too. When someone wronged you and they apologize it closes the gap, am glad I will not have to be cautious about him, aunt Nomathamsanqa did him really bad, I saw her yesterday busy pulling her face as we were crowned, mxm she will die of heart attack that one.

*NOXOLO**THREE MONTHS LATER*

I wipe their mouths after feeding them. Being a mother a wife and a queen is one hella difficult job I tell you but I would give anything to my family honestly.

Golide: ma ma!.

She says opening her arms for me to pick her up, the other two started crying for my attention too, am glad that Akhumzi is the calm one who doesn't cry all the time for no reason unless he is sick so he is just looking around with his big eyes minding his own business.

" they are troublesome these ones, need any help my queen?"

I turn to Zenzele who was looking at me with a smile, Nkosi told me what transpired between them months back and am glad he is not going to be a weirdo anymore. He went away and now is here to visit apparently.

Me: (smiling) I will really use another set of hands thank you.

He sits down on the carpet with his legs crossed and takes both of the girls to his lap. They keep quiet, one playing with his chains eating them and wetting him with saliva in the process while Zama is focused on the beard.

Oh sis' Gloria and Phumla I asked them to have a little lunch break and not worry about the kids since I also have an hour to spare.

Zenzele: how have you been?

Me: I've been trying bhuti, still getting my head around a few things but it's nothing to kill the soul. And how is life going on your side?

Zenzele: (smiling) better than I expected, am still taking a few courses to give me a head start and I applied to some sales company and I got the tender.

Me: that is great hey, what are you hoping to do with that?

Zenzele: will just work there for a few months, maybe I can open my own sales company in a few years.

Me: that's very brilliant, am sure your brother is happy for you.

Zenzele: he is, he offered to look through my business plan sometime and tell me what he thinks, I know he is business minded. How is the orphanage going?

Me: very well, actually we hired about 300 people to build it, last month they were done with everything and now the furnituring is taking place.

Zenzele: that's great to hear. Can I take the little man to play, we will just be in the garden, I want to teach him football.

I laugh hard, no he wants to abuse my baby boy.

Me: do you understand right that he is just 11 months old.

I can't believe even saying it, they are turning one next month and am a very sad mother because soon they will be toddlers and you know how troublesome are those, they are already saying a few words like mama, dada and gogo, when they want something they just point at it and you will get it.

Zenzele: haw indoda leyo, umuntu osegijima indlu yonke, you and the king should try for another baby bakhulile labantu.

I continue laughing, he doesn't know how difficult bedtime is with these four not to mention bathing them! It's a nightmare even though am trying to push the difficulties at the back of my mind because I know i will miss these moments.

Me: (laughing) getting pregnant now is the last thing on my mind, maybe when they are 4 then we will try. You can take him with, do bring him back though in an hour, its their nap time.

Zenzele: I will my queen.

He puts the girls down and take Akhumzi who started babbling something I don't hear.

Am happy that he changed his mindset, that is a powerful thing that can destroy a person completely and yes I trust that he won't do anything to my Akhumzi, he wouldn't try me.

NOMATHAMSANQA

I watch as Zenzele walks with the little boy, this boy has totally ditched me and there is nothing I can do to change his mind. From the person I know he looks totally different and I hate to admit that it's a good different, he looks more calmer, more approachable and more happier, he even smiles more. I've seen how Nkosi is with him in the past three months

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its like he never wronged him, they even go out together on the days he is not busy, was I really stopping all that bond between them?

But i care about no bond here, the senior King and Queen left the country and it has been two months now and I have been cooking up a plan to get what is mine.

I turn and walk to the great hall where all the magic happens, there are guards outside guiding it because not everyone is allowed here. I reach them already with the biggest smile on my face, I know i look ridiculous because trust me they know I don't smile at nonsense.

Me: permission to get in, the queen asked me to get some files for her.

They look at me like am crazy, they mustn't try and spoil my plan!

Me: are you going to let me in or not?

One guard open the doors for me, as soon as am inside, I rush to the office within, I know Nkosi keeps everything in there regarding the kingdom since it was Mabutho's private office. Luckily I have the codes to enter there, yes there are about 4 codes before you get access, how dramatic can people be!!

Am finally here, there are many shelves with different big files but I spot the section written " FINANCES" I rush to that section and started flipping the files searching for something useful.

Me: this gotta be a joke!!!

I can't believe this! There are pending huge amounts of money to be received for what? Oh for building sewages, installing water in every household and guess what, funding the matriculants for bursaries in this kingdom!!! They are crazy no funding will be done.

87 million is the total amount to be received to do all those things from sponsors, how come they are able to win so many sponsors with deep pockets? This is ridiculous, I need to get my hands on this money real quick.

I close the file and put it back and make my way to the computer, if I can get the banking details of the bank they are using, my life will so nice. They won't even notice because they are just mere things who knows no shit about ruling. I press the computer fast.

Me: the gods are by my side.

I say to myself as I land on exact what I was looking for, I guess he forgot to log out. I take my phone out real quick to call someone.

" hello"

Me: listen I got something I need you to send me your banking details as in this minute hurry.

I drop the call and a minute later a message pops up with the account number. I change the one on the screen with mine. They won't kn...

"Oh okay, I will bring it to you don't worry" I hear someone says with footsteps nearing, it's the queen I know her voice. Shit what is she doing here?

I hide behind one of the shelves but making sure that I can see her, the only thing am praying for now is that she doesn't notice the open computer screen, she will just know that someone was here. The door opens.

I watch as she goes straight to the finance section.

Noxolo: love are you talking about the blue file? Oh yes I can see it.

She takes the exact file I was looking at. Doesn't she get tired of wearing heels!

Noxolo: okay babah,(blushing) stop doing that..of course I knowdon't overwork yourself there you know you got more working to do at night.

She says in a seductive voice, mxm that's what she knows , having sex and having a thousand kids at 25! I continue listening to the one sided conversation.

Noxolo: (giggling) I will hold you up for that....okay I can't wait to see it live you know you scared me the other day, it looked so scary (laughing)...okay I love you too.

She hungs up blushing, these youngsters got no shame! As she was getting ready to leave, she notice the computer screen making her turn to look at it, shit am in shit. After a few minutes of looking she walks out with a frown on her face, I hope she noticed nothing strange. Am sure the guards will give me looks when they notice the queen with the file that I said am going to get for her but they are nobodies to me, they can go and die for all I care.

NOMATHAMSANQA

Me: you are not getting it now do you? Don't you want to be powerful more than them?

"I do want that but I think you are going on about this the wrong way, won't we get caught?" he asks worried.

Mxm he should just grow a pair of balls and stop being a sissy.

Me: so you are scared of a little boy! This will give you so much power they won't even know it's you, you know how much your kingdom is suffering.

"Okay I will do it but we need a lot of planning, I don't want to die as yet" him.

Me: and when are you going to tell your wife about us? Am tired of this I can't die a princess I need some class.

" you know even if I do marry you you won't be a queen, there can only be one queen in each kingdom, you will just be my second wife" he says.

Somehow that fuels me up, did he really had to throw it on my face like that like I don't know. I already feel like a whore for sleeping with the married man as old as I am but i grew to really love him and I care so much about him that's why am

doing this for us, for our future. What future again, am 52 for heavens sake there is no future than the one am in.

Me: I know that Hlabani now can you stop reminding me, so I will come so that we can plan this thoroughly with no disturbance.

"If this backfires I won't be there to save you" he drops the call on me, the nerve of this man! Nothing will backfire here I have brains so I know that we will win and he will thank me one day.

He didn't want to do this but i talked him into it, he kept complaining about how my brother is an amazing man and doesn't deserve my cruelty, busy asking why I hate him so much. I don't hate my brother I just want to make a name for myself and be known, I want people to bow down to me as they do to that little 25 year old with four kids, the respect she gets! You don't ask that she is in the room, as soon as she walks in people bow and she will just give them the smile that annoys me to hell, why does she even smile and sit down to chit chat with helpers, I will never do that.

NKOSIYABO

I rub her clit slowly as tears stream down her eyes, she bites her lower lip seductively. I know how much she loves it when I touch her clit, she just explodes.

Me: fuckkk yes shit umnandi sthandwa sami!!!

That's the groan coming from the deepest pit of my stomach, I think that sends her to the edge as her legs shake. I thrust a few times and I offload deep inside her.

I had to install soundproofs in our room because sis' Gloria and Phumla are just in the other rooms, I don't want to disrespect and traumatize them because well my queen is a screamer, I do lose control of my voice too when I feel too much pleasure, phela mnandi umfazi wami bafethu.

You know making love to my wife is one of the most important things I look forward to after a long stressful day like today, after spending time with my kids of course which doesn't always happen because sometimes I arrive after they long went to bed but that little time and bonding I get with her everyday keeps us going through our busy lives.

I pull her closer to me feeling her smooth skin against mine and we just hold on to each other in comfortable silence. My heart still does a flip flop whenever she stares at me with her big glassy eyes while playing with my beard.

Me: (smiling) why are you looking at me like that?

Noxolo: am just thinking Sibalukhulu, you know I was very mad at my parents for marrying me off without my consent but now I think that's the best thing they could've ever done to me.

Me: I knew I was going to get married to the stranger at 14 when my dad started to drag me with him whenever he was going to do kingdom duties

I was prepared but when time came I was soo nervous, you know us men the kind of woman you marry determines everything going forward and am grateful I got you ndlovukazi yami, my heart still go duff duff for you.

She giggles, that's the best sound ever, you know when my wife is happy I just find peace in her smile showing her dimple and bubble bath eyes that I still get lost to.

Noxolo: so is mine my love, I know it won't always be roses but I will never let go of your hand.

Me: tell me,... are you happy with me, in this marriage?

That took a lot of courage to ask.

Noxolo: am very happy in every aspect Dlamini, there is nothing that you don't do for me or I can complain about saying you are slacking please remain like that.

I place a long warm kiss on her forehead, she is my everything. It's totally true when they say a woman you are in the relationship with is the complete reflection of you as a man. If you don't treat her right she will do wrong and if you treat her like the queen the whole world will see. I think it's one of the reasons other woman go for married men or those in stable

relationships, they just judge the character and appearance of the spouse and are able to come to the conclusion about how you treat your wife and wants that for themselves.

This one here indlovukazi yami that I will paint this whole city red if she gets hurt by something, when it comes to her, I don't play.

KING HLABANI

I get the shock of my life as I look at the screen of my phone, this woman is on another level of crazy and obsession. She really wants me to steal 50 million from the most powerful and successful kingdom! 50 million!!

Her point being it's not their money, they are sponsored, it doesn't matter its still a lot of money, she just wants to start an unnecessary war between the two kingdoms.

I know us neighboring kingdoms envy what they have and how they do things especially with the new people ruling, things have been blossoming for them with all the projects that I have heard off, but this is just being pure greedy. I know king Mabutho stepped down, we were there on his son's coronation but I still don't want to be on his bad books, that boy is a former soldier, does she wants him to call an army on my kingdom and destroy everything I've worked soo hard for?

I don't even know why I love this lunatic, yes i love her and I still don't know how am i going to tell my wife about her. I love my current wife but I got eyes too and I got tempted, its not a big deal.

I sigh and walk to my bedroom, what have I gotten myself into? Seeing how she is determined to get this money, she will just kill all the plans and projects of Emthonjeni kingdom and guess who will be blamed? The king and queen of course because the while council knows about the money coming in and going out, this will ruin the king's image not to mention mine if i get caught.

"And what if you don't get caught and get all that money to change the state in your kingdom?" my subconscious says at the back of my brain.

How bad can stealing and doesn't get caught be vele?

NKOSIYABO

I look at this one shitting on me, I give her an intense stare that I myself gained one from my wife because she doesn't like how am looking at my elder, but she must also learn to control her runny mouth or she will be on my bad books.

Nomathamsanqa: you know I was just saying.

Well that's non of her business, why is she even here? She disappeared for months with no trace and I know my dad never asked her anything about where she was and why.

Me: well aunt you can relax we have everything sorted.

I just feel annoyed by little things these days but do you blame me? I have a lot on my plate and I can't focus on one thing. What makes me mad again is that the paperwork should have been done about a week ago and the money transferred by the beginning of this week but I haven't seen any action, work is supposed to start as soo as possible.

Me: can I have yogurt and maple syrup please.

I ask the helper who was just passing by. I turn to my wife who was looking at me like I grew horns, not only her but my sisters too, even Zenzele is giving me looks, what did I do wrong now?

Noxolo: mmmmh are you sure my king that you want that?

Me: Yeah I am, is there a problem in eating yogurt?

I ask the obvious, of course it's a problem because I don't eat yogurt, yes I don't like it, it just tastes too fine like its baby foods, I can't be eating yogurt and my kids too but here I am wanting it, I just want a taste they must chill, am not dying.

Noxolo: no there is no problem, it's just that I know you don't like yogurt but its okay.

Me: I just feel like eating something cold.

She nods and continues with her breakfast. My yogurt came, I put a lot of maple syrup in it and stir. I can still feel some eyes on me but am ignoring them, can't a man just explore and try new food? I am what they call picky eater, am very selective about the food I eat, I have always been like that because I want a healthy strong body, I want to be around for my wife and kids for the longest time

I take a few scoops and feel my insides turning, my stomach is not used to this. Bile is literally racing for my mouth and I don't like what is about to happen. I quickly stand and rush to the bathroom, mxm I knew I shouldn't have ate that nasty thing, my wife enter the bathroom looking worried as I rinse my bitter mouth.

Noxolo: are you okay, what is happening to you?

What is happening is that I ate a kid food and it all came back along with all my breakfast that I was literally shoving down my throat because I didn't want to eat. Now am hungry all over again and am not going back to those greasy eggs and sausages, did they use canola oil to make those! Gosh my intestines almost came out.

Noxolo: aybo Dlamini are you okay?

I even forgot about her.

Me: am okay themba lami, ngicabanga ukuthi inyongo nje don't worry about it.

I remember when mom would flush us as kids, she would literally put caster oil into the yogurt, imagine I hate yogurt but she didn't care, then after that the traffic that will be on the bathrooms was crazy, it's funny now when I think about it though.

I must flush this bile before i die.

Noxolo: Oh do you want me to help you with anything?

Me: don't worry I will ask one of the helpers maybe your assistant to go get me caster oil, I hate that thing but am desperate, I can't be feeling like this.

Noxolo: okay i will notify her.

Me: and some pain tablets please, I got a terrible headache.

She nods, she really looks worried about this, am not the type to get sick really, you'd think am immune to all bugs, I can count the number of times I was really sick to sleeping down now what is this nonsense!

She kisses my cheek then walks out.

I hope after flushing I will feel like a human being. I write a message to my right hand man Senzo and ask him to cancel all my meetings for today

I don't want to be vomiting on people's faces.

NOXOLO

I only attended one meeting and asked Portia to cancel the rest, I can't be running around speaking with people while my husband is really not doing well. He flushed the bile two days ago and still today he is running to and from the bathroom but he is worse instead of getting better.

So here I am getting to our bedroom to walk in on him lying there like a dead person, I panic and rush to him, I know he likes sleeping facing the ceiling but no man he looks dead.

Me: (panicking) Nkosi, Nkosi!!!

I shake him roughly, he groans like he is in pain, I sigh in relief why would he scare me like that though.

He opens his bloodshot red eyes, am really scared, why is he this sick?

Me: Oh my God Nkosi am calling the doctor, this is not good at all.

I touch his forehead and he is burning up, it's like he will burst and the volcano will come out.

Nkosi: (whispering) I will be fine themba lami, it's just flu.

Me: not until the doctor confirms that it's flu then am not letting you die on me.

I press my phone looking for the doctor's number. He actually picks up on the first ring.

Me: good morning doctor.

Doctor: my queen good morning, how may I be of help?

Me: my husband is not feeling well please come here as soon as you can it's an emergency.

Am not risking anything with him shame, even if it's really flu I just want him to get better, you can see my poor man he looks like a zombie with red eyes, puffy face and dry lips.

Doctor: okay I will be there in 30 minutes.

I hung up and attended to my volcano man. As I sit on the bed next to him he springs up almost falling and make a run to the bathroom. I follow him.

Nkosi: (whispering) where are you going am doing number two.

He is sitting on the toilet seat, he is running out of energy, he just looks tired.

Nkosi: please pass me the bucket, please please.

I quickly take the bucket that was near the bathtub and gave him and yes he vomits, now he is vomiting and doing number two all at once. It's soo smelly in here but I can't leave him alone, what if he dies! No God please don't make me a widow, am just 25.

What is even worse is that he is just vomiting water that has been keeping him alive and breathing for the past two days because he isn't eating either.

Nkosi: please step out I want to wipe.

I nod leaving him, I hope he gets better. That's what they say about people who doesn't get sick very often, that when they do, they get sick for the whole country all in one. He walks out and throws himself on the bed. I brush his back in comfort.

Me: you will be okay.

Just then the doctor walks in with Zakithi who looks just as worried. The doctor gets on with him and injected him.

Doctor: well my queen there is nothing major wrong with him, it's just the cold bug, he should be fine soon, I will prescribe the medication for him, make sure he eats a bit of food 30 minutes before taking the medication, he must finish the whole course so that the bug won't come back.

I nod and he gives me the piece of paper with the prescription.

Zakithi: I will go buy the medication sis just stay with him.

I thank her. The doctor places a cold cloth on his forehead just to get him to cool down a bit. After 30 minutes he leaves promising to come check on him in a few days, hopefully he will be better.

I cover him with the light blanket and perk his lips, he mustn't ever get sick again, he is a terrible sicker, is there even something like that?

Me: get better for me Dlamini please my love.

He gives me a faint smirk. After the few minutes he was completely out of it.

My phone rings while am staring at my husband, I love how his face is structured, so strong and his jaws looks sexy..it's mother in law calling.

Me: sawubona ma.

Queen Naye: hello my dear how are you?

Me: am okay ma but Nkosi is not, he has been feeling off for the past three days, the doctor says its just flu.

Queen Naye: Oh am sorry sisi he will get better soon have him steam with vicks too it will clear his chest.

Me: I will ma, am just worried.

Queen Naye: I was calling to check up on you guys.

We continue talking for the long time until Zakithi came back.

We say our goodbyes and I take care of this sick man of mine.

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NKOSIYABO

Am trying to breathe through my nose but it's impossible therefore I need to sleep with my mouth open which causes me to snore so badly. The past few days has been hell I tell you, this sickness is draining all my energy that I can't even move now from this bed anymore, my wife helped me to bath in the morning now am here feeling like crap with dry sore throat, tight chest, watery eyes and painful butt.

Trust me going to the toilet 10 times a day is no fun I even regret taking castor oil to flush, it's making my life miserable.

Noxolo enters our bedroom after two hours of being away, I know am sick but the work mustn't stop on my account, there is a lot to be done.

Noxolo: how are you feeling?

Me: (whispering) better.

That's a lie I literally feel like crying, I hate being sick but more than anything am scared of being sick it's like life is coming to an end and am so powerless.

Noxolo: Oh that's better than, look baby I was looking at the files not so long ago, it says that the funds should have been transferred at the beginning of the week but no it hasn't been

done, I called the sponsors and guess what they said, they sent the money when the paperwork was done that was two days ago.

I have been worried about that too, now am even more worried why haven't we received the money if they sent it.

Me: are they sure?

Noxolo: yes they sent me proof, please look at this maybe we messed up the details when putting the information there.

She gives me the printed paper with the proof of payment that was done two days ago.

Me: mmmmh I don't know baby, please go with Senzo to the great hall and try to match all the info in the computer with the one on the paper, take my iPad too just to confirm if everything is correct and the banking details.

Noxolo: okay I will get back to you later, I will get Nkanyezi to bring you food.

She kisses my forehead then walks out in a rush. What could be wrong? Nothing like this has ever happened, I was sure we put everything correctly, even Senzo confirmed. Something doesn't add up.

NOMATHAMSANQA

Hlabani sent me the message informing me that he has received the payment and it's more than what he expected, he sounded happy so am happy, now what's left is for me to make my disappearance like the other time, am sure they won't even notice that am not here anymore.

I can't believe we did it so easily soo and these fools haven't even noticed, I pump into one of the workers talking to the phone.

"No the queen checked and the banking details and they were completely wrong,I think someone changed them the king wouldn't have messed up all the numbers....yes someone is behind this but that's a lot of money they stole.....yes it's 87 million for the projects....the queen called the IT team to trace the owner of the bank account where money was sent...I hope so bye" she drops the call and turns to find me standing there

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I thought she was going be jumpy, I've seen her with the queen most of the time.

Me: what was that on the phone?

Am fishing here, my life might be at risk and I don't want that, I will be banished from this kingdom or I will never see light ever again.

Her: Oh was just talking to someone that the queen asked me to call, any problem?

I fake a smile, am shaking in my boots, if they trace the account then we re busted.

Me: Oh okay what happened if I may ask.

Her: nothing you should be concerned about my princess the queen is on top of this.

She walks away, am so tempted to pull her back and threaten her but that will just throw me under the bus, at least it wasn't my account I used, I need to alert Hlabani for us to run away for sometime until this cools off.

NOXOLO

Am with the IT team, Portia and Senzo, they have been trying to trace the bank account for the past 2 hours now, honestly am soo anxious about this, how did this even happen because no one enters this office without the king's permission.

IT guy¹: my queen we managed to trace it, it's not registered under anyone's name .

What? How is that even possible.

IT guy²: and we saw that the money has already been splited into different accounts which one of them belongs to H.L Hlabisa.

Me: who is that?

IT guy²: since it's the only account with reference we will trace it and see where it leads us.

I nod, who is this Hlabisa guy? Is it a guy or a woman? How did he get the money to be transferred to him, there must be someone dishing out the information, this was private only us and the council knows of this.

Am just too stressed, my husband is on the sick bed and now this!!!

I sigh, I hope this Hlabisa guy got a good explanation to why that money got to his bank account.

NOMATHAMSANQA

I make sure that I leave when it was starting to get dark, only the guards saw me leave and I know they are non factor.

This is just the beginning of everything, little by little I will win and get everything that I deserve , am tired of being under people's shadows, it's my time to shine bright like this kingdom, everything in it will be mine you just have to watch and see.

KING HLABANI

The guard walks in rushing, he bows before me.

Guard: my king there are people looking for you.

People, what people? I didn't expect to get visitors today. Another visitor that came uninvited is that Dlamini princess lunatic, she just showed up here at night and demanded that I allow her to stay here.

Where is she ? Well she is in the visitors chambers, I can't just allow her to roam around just like that, she has been here for three days and I haven't gathered enough strength to tell my wife about her maybe I will end up not even telling her.

So the money we received was split between 5 different bank accounts so that it wouldn't be suspicious to anyone, no one knows about this except for me and Nomathamsanqa.

Me: who are those people?

Guard: they are the royals, they say it's urgent to see you.

Royals? I stand up and walk to the waiting room with two guards and my right hand man. When I enter the waiting room my wife is there and what!!

I turn to walk away fast....

" Oh king Hlabani I wouldn't do that if I was you, we come in peace so please do take a seat and let us talk" he says so ever calmly. My heart is pounding out of my chest, what did I get myself into?

I walk slowly and sit in front of them, there are six guards behind them, I look at his wife and she gives me the smile that will rise the dead, she is soo beautiful but can be my daughter's age.

King Nkosiyabo: my king I believe you have what belongs to us.

I clear my throat, his wife is still smiling, what is here to smile about even.

Me: what a pleasant surprise to be visited by you in our kingdom king Nkosiyabo, I'd like to call this my lucky day.

He is not smiling at all, in fact I can see that he is very pissed, if he doesn't kill me, I'll thank my lucky stars.

Queen Nomaciko: yes my king we are very honored to have you in our kingdom, what did we do to earn this visit?

Shame she got no idea that she might be a widow by the end of this day, I had a bad feeling about this from the get go but I ignored it.

Queen Noxolo: (smiling) Oh we come in peace, it happened that king Hlabani mistakenly took what doesn't belong to him so we are here to get it.

Any other day I'd be drooling over her, this is a true definition of indoni yamanzi, ay muhle umntanomuntu, her long eye lashes and big bubble eyes that looks glassy and a dimple, I wouldn't mind having this one just to be my trophy wife, I can win a lot of tenders with just her smile, I don't want to mention when she let me in between her thighs gosh some man ar.....

" (banging the table) am not going to sit here and watch you undress my wife with your eyes, just give us what you took and we will be on our way " he looks even more angry, what is wrong with me? Am in trouble but am busy imagining dirty things with a kid.

Me: mmmmh I don't understand, what did I take from you? I mean I last came to your kingdom on the coronation day.

King Nkosiyabo: I don't want to be aggressive with you, you stole from us R87 million, care to explain how did that happen?

Queen Nomaciko: (shouting) what!! Listen here boy you are not going to come here and accuse my husband of such, how can you even think that!

Queen Noxolo: okay I understand your frustration and that you are clueless maybe but don't you ever, not even in your dreams yell at my husband, we will have serious problems.

She is looking her straight in her eyes so fearlessly, she looks fierce and soo delicious, okay I need to stop this before I get killed on the spot.

Queen Noxolo: are we clear?

My wife nods, she wasn't even shouting but she made her shiver.

Queen Noxolo: so my king please we have a lot to do so please just give us our money, we don't want things to get ugly.

Right that moment the council members walks in, all 9 of them, who called them! Now am in bigger shit, I am not looking forward to what is about to happen. They greet them politely also surprised to see them.

Chief: we didn't know we will be graced by your presence king Nkosiyoabo, it's our honor.

King Nkosiyoabo: it is except for that we don't come with good news.

So he started to explain to them why they are here, when he was done they were so angry and looking at me with soo much anger, I look down ashamed.

Chief: my king care to explain this nonsense we are hearing?
How can you steal so much money from the kingdom that has had us with their teeth for years, you know how much king Mabutho helped this kingdom to get to where it is and you are here stealing.

Me: I was doing this for you!! Don't you dare act like you would've done the same if you were in my shoes, I stole that money for us, to make a better living for this kingdom!

I won't be called senseless in front of my wife who is already looking broken, I have broken trust of many people.

Chief: okay but you know you aren't ruling this kingdom alone you wronged the Emthonjeni Kingdom and did what is against the rules, stealing is the biggest offense.

Elder ²: yes we are disappointed in you, a decision will have to be made and soon, you know how things work.

If you are capable of stealing who knows what else you are capable of doing.

No they aren't doing this to me, not after so many years of ruling this kingdom, I don't even have a successor take after me because I got no son.

Me: am not going to allow that just because I did this, why do they have to get everything good, hospitals, clinics, schools, sewages, running water and everything but we are struggling!

Chief: you can just ask for an advice from them not steal.

King Nkosiyoabo: okay we would really like to stay and listen to you talk but we don't have time, we must get back to our kingdom so will all due respect...

Mxm I know the kind of disrespect that comes after that line.

King Nkosiyoabo: I would like to be given what is mine with no fights or anything.

They went ahead in assuring him that his money will be transferred before the day ends, it's a long process to transfer this big amount of money but then again who am I kidding these people are very powerful they can get anything they want at anytime which makes me even more angry!

When they stand up and turn to walk out after shaking hands with the council members, king Nkosiyoabo puts his arm around his wife's waist, that ass is soo huge, I feel myself getting hard. Ay bayadla kahle abanye abafana. Back to my troubles that I put myself into.

NOXOLO

I look at him, he looks angry and keeps sighing. After two days of looking for that H.L Hlabisa we finally found him but am still asking myself, how did he got hold of that money?

I take his hand in mine, he is still not okay physically but had to do this, he looks at me.

Me: don't be stressed, we will get it my love.

He sighs again, I pull him for a deep kiss, I spot the driver adjusting the rear view mirror but we don't stop, I just want him to feel better.

He pulls out smirking and pulls me closer to him.

Nkosi: (whispering) ufuna ngikwenzeni kahle kahle MaZungu?

Me: (smiling) surprise me.

I put my hand on his already hard dick, I can feel it getting hard and harder, mind you am not even moving my hand, I just placed it.

We are risking it but that's what makes sex fun, doing it in the most compromisable spaces, I don't know if that's the word they use, it wouldn't hurt being spontaneous with the driver and Senzo on the front seat clearly stealing glances at us.

Nkosi: that's a very dangerous game you're trying to play mkami, you know how much of a screamer you are.

After whispering that he bites my earlobe gently sending shivers all over my body. Now I just wish to fly home so that I can have him.

Nkosi: mmmh guys you can leave I want to talk to my wife.

He says when we get to the palace, Senzo gives us a knowing smile, gosh am embarrassed ke now. He locks all doors and was all over me breathing heavily, am glad that the windows of this car are dim.

Nkosi: you're going to be the end of me sthandwa sami.

He is thrusting deep to my core, you know the rush to cum because you might get caught, yes that one is killing me right now and it's makes my body cry out in pleasure. We cum at the same time out of breath.

Nkosi: you are unbelievable yazi?

He kiss my sweaty forehead and pull out, after he wiped us we get out looking so innocent.

I look at the pregnancy test for the 15th time now and yes it's still two lines, I sigh I wasn't ready for this at all, how am i going to manage with 5 kids all under 2 years old?

Nkosi gets in all smiles, at least He is much better now, no running to the toilet but has been complaining about severe headaches and vomiting.

Nkosi: shandapha lami.

Me: mmmmh.

Nkosi: are you okay?

Me: (teary) no am not okay, am pregnant again Nkosi, how am I going to take care of all these kids?

Nkosi: what! Are you for real themba lami?

I nod, he jumps up and down like a small kid, it's funny to watch shame, he attacks me with a kiss.

Nkosi: thank you so much baby, oh God am so happy.

What is he so happy about?

Me: Nkosi 5 children are a lot.

Nkosi: no they are not, we will manage just fine my love you'll see, I didn't expect to hear this, thank you soo much my love.

I don't want to burst his bubble so I'll get excited with him.

KING HLABANI

I run my eyes between all of them in anger, why do they have to be hard on me like I stole their whole kingdom? They have been on my neck ever since the king and queen left.

Elder³: I can't believe am saying this my king but you have just brought the bad name for the kingdom, out of all the kingdoms you could've stole from you choose Emthonjeni?

Well I didn't choose but it was shoved down my throat, I can't even say that aloud because it will cause another unnecessary havoc.

Queen Nomaciko: my king couldn't you at least run this through me? Now look at where you put us.

Me: I am sorry for what I did, it was just a spare of a minute thought and I took harsh actions.

Chief: how did you even know about the money?

I was praying to my lucky stars that they don't ask that, now what am I going to say, I am fucking the one and only princess of that kingdom and she wants me to marry her?

Me: mmmmh you know I know some people who knew about the money.

Elder⁴: this is not the first time you are embarrassing our kingdom like this, you should be fighting to make relationships with other successful kings but you just behave like a senseless child and drag us to your nonsense again.

Elder⁵: it's high time we get a new king.

Chief: yes I think that's a good idea.

I knew he was going to back him up because he has been wanting this position ever since I can remember, am only human and am allowed to make mistakes, where are they going to get the perfect king to rule this kingdom? Another thing I understand that my family was previously not royals, my father was the first to be king and passed away after ruling for only 5 years, I was 37 by then and I took over.

Me not having a boy child is another story so I guess this wasn't meant for my family, the king that was ruling before my father dies on an airplane crash with his 2 sons and 2 daughters so now we are here.

Me: am not going to step down from this throne you can just forget about it, I have been doing good and feeding all of you for 21 years am not just going to watch you throw me out like nothing, am the king of this kingdom and I rule you all, it shall remain like until I die.

I stand up and walk out so annoyed, there is no way am losing the little I've built because of that little man with a sexy wife. I find myself walking into the guest chambers where Nomathamsanqa was, I know am risking it because there is a high possibility that my wife will follow me. My pants are a tent now thinking about that beautiful queen.

Nomathamsanqa: Oh I thought you were never going to come, so when are we leaving? You know we can't be here.

Rich coming from her, she is the one who put me to this mess.

Me: you might as well run to your brother's kingdom because they have found out that I have their money but as the gentleman that I am I didn't want to throw you under the bus, I might even lose the crown because of you now please leave.

Nomathamsanqa: am not going anywhere, you promised to marry me so you will do just that.

Me: are you that desperate for marriage? If your brother finds out about this you know you will be banished from the kingdom for siding with outsiders instead of your own people.

Nomathamsanqa: well then you don't have to be an outsider, we will just take out the king and that little kid of his and then you will rule, you don't have to lose your dignity on these people, soon you will rule the most powerful kingdom.

I keep quiet for a bit, I know am hungry for power but I don't think am that heartless to even kill because of it at the same time ruling Emthonjeni Kingdom can be one of the most successes in my entire life, as 58 as I am I still want that. Now I see how senseless she is, she wants to take out the Dlamini Kingdom and she is a Dlamini, nx.

I look at her and walk out, she just loves trouble, it's like it's her middle name, if we take out king Nkosiyabo and his prince then crown myself as the new king I will get so many advantages one of them which is having that queen Noxolo all to myself. Am not going to fight for this failing kingdom, I will fight for something tangible.

NOXOLO

I take my phone with tears in my eyes, I can't take this anymore, why does this have to happen to me, God am I your stepdaughter? It's rings for the couple of minutes and when I hear her voice I just break down wailing.

Queen Naye: what is wrong my dear, why are you crying, are you okay? Are my grandchildren okay?

Me: (crying) mah am going to kill your son I swear, you will be son-less soon and this time am not even joking, he will know what am made of.

Queen Naye: what did he do my child, please calm down and tell me so that we can come up with the solution.

Me: (crying) there is no solution to this mah other than I cut off his balls because he is misusing them.

I can't believe Nkosi right now.

Queen Naye: what did he do? Did he cheat?

Me: no mah he didn't cheat but I don't think he loves me, Nkosi doesn't love me mah and it feels to terrible, he just brought me here to abuse me that's all.

I don't know what am talking about, she keeps sighing trying to calm me down but all I want to do is to kill him in cold blood.

Queen Naye: are you guys fighting there? Do you want us to come back for a while?

They shouldn't have left in the first place, busy traveling Hawaii and sleeping comfortably in hotels stress free while am here suffering because of someone they call a son.

Me: just wait for the call mah informing you that your son is dead

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that's all you can do right now.

I hear the king asking her what is happening, she calls him over to listen.

Me: if isn't him that got me pregnant again mah, I know I wasn't planning on getting pregnant now but I was starting to get excited because he was soo happy but now I wish to send him back to his maker.

Queen Naye: (screaming) you are pregnant?

I wail louder and she stops screaming immediately, why is everyone happy about my misery.

Me: (crying) that's not even the worst part now, so I found out last week that am pregnant, today he insisted that we go to the doctor to check how the baby is doing so we found out that am a month pregnant.

Queen Naye: that is great my baby, am so happy.

Me: you shouldn't be mah, he got me pregnant with three kids this time, triplets on top of the four kids we have! What am I going to do with 7 kids at this age?

I don't even think she head me no more after saying triplets, yes am pregnant with three children, Nkosi wants to make my life a living hell.

Queen Naye: are you sure my baby? Oh my God blessed is your womb baby am soo happy for you my children.

So she has forgotten about me wanting to kill her son about this and is congratulating me for it, 7 kids are too too much, am already having a hard time with the 4 that I have, can't Nkosi's sperm be normal and just fertilize the target!!

I drop the call and just sink into my misery. Thinking about all that I went through when I was pregnant with the quads makes me cry even more, that was the most difficult and painful pregnancy, I don't want to go through that again and with three kids growing in me that's exactly what is going to happen!!!!!!

He enters with food since I last ate breakfast and am hungry. He rushes to me when he sees me wailing sitting on the carpet.

Nkosi: themba lami what's wrong? why are you crying like this?

I ignore his pathetic ass.

Nkosi: you know you are pregnant ndlovukazi yami please stop crying, you are stressing out my kids.

Yes that's all everybody cares about, kids!! He doesn't even care about me, only his kids, he thinks am a vending machine.

Me: get away from me Nkosi before I kill somebody's son and go to jail for it.

Nkosi: i know you are overwhelmed by this my love but am here with you, I will support you every step of the way, just lean on me.

Me: (crying) you don't understand Nkosi, am scared of what I will go through, my first pregnancy was a nightmare on its own and going through that for the second time will kill me, am scared.

He folds me in his big arms and kiss my forehead, am really scared that my body will fail to take another round of multiple pregnancy and I will die.

Nkosi: everything will go well my love, the babies and you will be fine, just hold on for me for just 6 months themba lami, you did great last time and I know you can do it again, am right here to hold your hand and I won't miss anything, not for the world.

I sigh as he wipes my tears mixed with sweat and mucus. He kiss my lips.

Nkosi: I got you, you will do great and all of you will come out alive okay?

I know he is not God but somehow I find comfort in those words.

Nkosi: (smiling) now let's feed you 4, I can't believe am a father of 7! God never ease to amaze us. He is busy feeding me like am a child and babbling about all the things he will do with his seven meerkats, am a mom of 7! Lihle will faith when she hears this.

QUEEN NAYE

My husband keeps on laughing about how Noxolo was renting about being pregnant, I can't believe she is pregnant with multiples again.

King Mabutho: I don't know how that boy does it but am proud of him, he managed to score himself seven kids in two pregnancies.

Me: Yeah they are truly blessed but I understand why she is acting like this, she is going to have a hard time with this pregnancy too, she is just scared.

King Mabutho: Yeah it's justified, we can go back for a few months if you want, we can continue with our traveling after she delivers.

Me: yes I'd like that just to give them moral support, am soo happy though, this is big.

King Mabutho: I am too, I even miss the 1 of 4s

Yes that's how he calls the quads, especially the girls since he can't tell them apart, no one can actually except for their mother.

We agree on leaving next week and we will be home for the year just to help with the kids.

King Mabutho: (laughing) they don't call us when they are having sex but we have to get involved when one is pregnant and wanting to kill the other.

I laugh, i was even scared for my son shame.

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THANDEKA

Oh God I can't believe this!!

I try running after the bus but takes a corner and yes for the 9th time this month I miss the only cheap transport I can afford to town, now I have to take a taxi that has bern boring holes in my shallow pockets. Mama Winnie will kill me this time around, am even lucky that am her favorite otherwise I would have been long fired. She even suggested that I at least rent a room nearby town to make my life easier, she doesn't know what that 1000 for rent would do for me and my family.

I sigh in frustration, a car honk disturbing me from my thoughts, it's a beautiful Grey range rover evoque, yes I know it because it's my dream car, the guy roll down the window already smiling, I think I can see his molars.

"Where are you off too beautiful lady?" He is still smiling the smile I don't return.

Me: am off to work in town.

Him: well hop in and I will drop you off.

I don't want to but maybe he is nice and won't let me pay, I'll save my R39, yes you heard me right it's that much far and the bus is only R26 so you get why I was crying.

I swallow my pride and got in, it's so warm in this car and it's smells nice.

Him: (smiling) so were you waiting for someone to pick you up?

No you fool, not all of us are rich or got rich boyfriends who drives range rovers and be looking like a million dollar.

Me: no i was waiting for the taxi, I missed the bus.

Him: I didn't think this area has such beautiful woman, am in this area for the first time but I already met my soul mate.

I knew that was coming, am even lucky he is not from here, guys with money are players and thinks that they can flash their money and you will drop your panties.

Me: so where are you from? And where are you headed to?

I decide to change the topic, he chuckled.

Him: am from the neighboring kingdom was just passing time driving around but I see why I just decided to drive to this village, my ancestors works overtime.

Next thing he will tell me how he dreamt about us together in the garden of Eden.

He continues telling me about all kind of nonsense until we reach town which is already buzzing at least am not late.

Me: well thank you so much you were of great help.

I take out R20 to pay, he probably doesn't even need this but just a good gesture but he shakes his head refusing it. Thank God, you love everyone.

Him: go well I'll see you around Thandeka.

Of course my name it's written on the shirt.

See me around is he mad, I work at Woolworths for God's sake not Gucci that he is wearing right now. I just nod and get out, I cross the road in full speed, I want mama Winnie my supervisor to see that am not late today, when I was on the other side of the road I hear a honk, I wave at him.

"Who was that?" that's of course my noisy colleague Phindile, she just can't keep it to herself sometimes and it's gets boring.

Me: I just got a lift from someone, I don't know him.

Phindile: girl that guy is driving range rover evoque don't you care about knowing him?

Me: of course I don't, he is way out of my league.

I leave her there babbling about how am old fashioned and don't know things, I'd rather not know things than get played by the rich guy.

It's soo busy today you'd swear it's month end but it's not, people got money outside to be buying winter clothes for kids at this time of year when everything is in its original price, I can never i love my sales bathong.

"We meet again Thandeka" I quickly raise my eyes to the range rover guy, he smiles at me seeing my shocked face, what is he even doing here?

Me: what are you doing here?

Him: isn't this a store open to everyone? Am here to buy.

It's only now that am noticing the big pile of clothes in front of me that belongs to him, what is he going to do with soo many clothes! It's baby clothes in different colors and sizes, girls and boys. I notice that the newborn clothes are unisex colors while the ones between 9-12 months most of them are girls clothes matching in three sets, everything is three by three and boys clothes.

Me: Oh okay.

I started scanning this huge pile one by one, is he buying this for charity?

Me: you must be so nice to buy so many baby clothes, which orphanage are you donating too?

Am smart like that, I don't want to ask him straight. He chuckled shaking his head, he got nice looks even, I don't even know the guy's name.

Him: I have a wife back at home you know that?

Men are trash, wasn't he talking about soul mates in the morning? Now he got a wife!

Me: that's nice hey, so why many clothes, you know babies outgrow these in a few months.

Him: (smiling) I have a huge family, I have four kids and three on the way.

Me: how many wives do you have kanti?

Him: just two.

Me: so one of your wives is pregnant with twins?

Him: are you?

Me: mmmmh?

Hime: I mean are you pregnant with twins? You are my second wife remember?

No I don't remember anything, am not getting involved with a married man, those are off limit, am not a home wrecker.

Me: I think you should focus on your wife and thousand kids.

He actually looks too young to have that many kids, so it's four plus three which makes 7

gosh I can never his wife is a baby making machine.

He laughs, what's so funny about what I said? Am seriously not interested in talking to him now first because he is married and secondly because he got million children, I won't be mothering all those mina.

Him: don't worry my wife doesn't bite, she will definitely like you so I will pick you up when you knock of.

If he didn't mention having a wife and kids I would have been happy to get a free ride but no am not going to ride back with him, I will sneak and go to the taxi rank and just forget about him.

NOMATHAMSANQA

KING Hlabani: so how are you planning to go about this?

Me: call on the war, so I know all the corners of the palace, this comes with sacrifice though, if you want this we need to go the harsh way around.

KING Hlabani: what's the hard way?

Me: your guys will go by the right wing, 3 kilometers east of the Chapel that's where the king's house is so I have a few grenades that they will use, everything that is inside will be history.

I say with the proud smile showing him the map of the palace, yes its soo huge you do need a map when walking around there, this will be so easy we will hit two birds with one stone, Nkosi and his whole minions will die and the whole kingdom will mourn for them sad, then we will attack my brother before things cool down to make the process quicker.

KING Hlabani: I don't think we should kill his whole family, his wife and girl children can stay.

No they cannot, they are Dlamini's so they will inherit everything their father owns which is the whole kingdom and its golds.

Me: we will do this my way Hlabani and since your wife is divorcing your ass I will be the queen.

KING Hlabani: the last time we did things your way I was left to be in trouble alone and was stripped off my right, I can never trust you that much again.

He can be frustrating sometimes! What's hard about what I just said, am helping him here, he should be grateful.

Me: I don't know how are we going to get them to be alone ke now but am telling you, this will backfire.

THANDEKA

Me: seriously!!

He just popped up 15 minutes before I knock off, now there is no chance am going to escape, maybe I should just tell him where to get off, maybe his wife is even a lunatic.

He smiles at me eating amakikip like really, this guy is soo handsome to be eating amakikip.

And why is he even here at this time? Isn't he working or he is working around here too?

Him: am waiting for you nkosazane.

Now my female colleagues are drooling over someone's husband, busy looking at him like he is a snack, well he is a snack but not mine to have.

Me: you know am grateful for your lift in the morning but please do move along I will catch a taxi.

Him: well tomorrow you might miss the bus again, that money will be soo useful.

He is telling the truth, every rand in me counts but I can't count it on him, he is married , his wife has been calling him asking where he is am sure and here he is annoying me.

I pack my bags after realizing that he won't leave me alone and he is drawing unnecessary attention to me.

Him: that wasn't hard now is it?

He says when we get to the car, I sigh, am causing trouble for myself and my mother will be so disappointed to hear i was entertaining the married man.

Me: do you work around here too?

Him: no I had somethings I had to sort out for my brother and get my wife's pregnancy supplements, you know those things.

The nerve of this guy, he is not even afraid to mention his wife while in the car with another woman.

Me: so why were you buying clothes in the same sizes and same color?

Him: I got quads which are three girls and a boy, they are turning 1 soon, now my queen is pregnant with triplets.

I gasp for air, what ! quads, how did she carry all those children and now triplets, this guy is a beast, more reason to stay away from him.

Him: I should invite you for dinner sometime, everybody will be happy to see you.

Well I don't know any woman who can be happy about her husband bringing girl home, how many people is he even staying with?

Me: how many people do you stay with?

Him: a few tens. 13 tens if am not mistaken.

What does that even mean, what is 13 tens?

Me: what is 13 tens?

Him: 130.

I choke on my saliva and he is dead with laughter, who stays with 130 people, does he have a mention or he stays in a castle?

Me: who are you? I didn't even ask your name?

Him: so much for caring about your future husband , just call me my love or maybe my king and am joking about the 13 tens, I only stay with my wife, kids and 2 nannies.

He is crazy, this is probably the last time am seeing his married ass with 7 kids and stays with 13 tens, I don't want trouble in my life.

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THANDEKA

I was lying when I said I was going to see the range rover guy for the last time on that day, guess what? He has been driving me to and from work for the last two weeks but I still don't know his name. What I know about him is that he talks about his family like crazy especially his brother, wife and kids.

I don't know what he tells his wife but am starting to enjoy his company for real. I know I don't need to disappoint my mother like this and disgrace her like that other day I announced that I was no longer a virgin, a week prior to umemulo.

She was soo disappointed but not like she will be when she finds out about this.

As usual his car stops in front of me just minutes past 7am. He is punctual that's what I've noticed about him.

Me: (smiling) good morning.

He smiles back his panty dropper smile. I need to ask him what are we exactly, this guy loves his family it's soo clear and I don't want him to string me along.

Him: it's really is a good morning Thandeka, how are you?

Me: am good.

Him: my kids are turning 1 tomorrow and I'd love it if you can come and celebrate with us.

Me: what about your wife?

He smiles.

Him: what about her?

Me: I don't think she will like that, I don't want to intrude, which brings me to this, what are we exactly? You keep driving me around and you don't even want to tell me your name, I don't know anything about you except that you are an unfaithful man to your wife with 7 children and a brother oh and 4 sisters.

Which is a turn off for me, you know how sister in laws be hating on their brother's wives like they feed us. Mxm he is not even my husband, I shouldn't worry.

Him: (smiling) you know if you know those things about me, you know me inside out, and to respond to your question, well you are my second wife I did tell you that when we first met.

Me: am not a home wrecker, I won't be dating another woman's husband, for what really?

Him: am sure she won't mind at all, she is very nice.

Does this man know women? Does he know the kind of witchcraft that takes place in polygamy, I don't want to be turned into a frog mina.

Me: clearly you don't know women I see. Back here though, what is your name.

Maybe if I can get his name I will search for him on social media and stalk him. He just chuckled and ignores me once again.

What if he is a wanted man that's why he isn't giving away his name or at least in which kingdom he is from, he always tells me it's the neighboring kingdom, doesn't it have a name.

Me: okay can you show me at least a picture of your family, even if it's one.

Him: if I show you you are going to come to the party right?

Me: well i don't know where you stay remember?

Him: I will pick you up.

This is really happening to me, I always run away from married man but this one is impossible to ignore, come to think of it he doesn't wear a wedding band, when I asked him about it he told me that they had a traditional wedding and soon to have white one when his wife gives birth which I count 8 months if that's when she will deliver.

Me: okay I will come.

I hope I don't get killed in an unknown kingdom, it's even by luck that it's Saturday tomorrow and am not working.

He takes out his phone and put on the password, he runs through picture folders quickly and then gives me his phone after clicking to one folder. Am welcomed by four toddlers who looks so beautiful, they are smiling at the camera. Yes it's three girls and one boy who you can tell that he is gonna break hearts that one once he is older.

There are more when they are messed up with yogurts and some really cute videos when they are dancing to some music, his kids are cute no lie, I bet they look like their mother.

Me: (smiling) what are their names?

I just fell in love, am now watching a video of him playing football with his boy, he is just running after the ball and picking it up, it's soo adorable, why would he want to mess all of this for himself, he looks like he has it all.

Him: the boy is Akhumzi, the girls are Zamazizi, Lumnene and Golide and don't ask me which one is which because only my queen can tell them apart.

When he addresses his wife as "my queen " which happens all the time my heart breaks a little, what am I and why isn't he leaving me alone, he already has a queen, he doesn't need a side dish because that's clearly what I am.

I nod then continue scrolling until I stumble on the picture of a very very beautiful woman, she is dark in complexion, with big, so big if you ask me eyes and a dimple as she is smiling, she has big black afro that looks like a weave, she is just so beautiful, am not even quarter of what she is, I will definitely not be competing with the goddess herself, this woman doesn't look like she is from this planet, she must be God's favorite daughter, no person looks this flawless and so fresh, didn't she play and fall hurting her knees when she was young?

The power and confidence oozes around her, its no doubt that she knows that she is beautiful. I sigh a little then scroll through other pictures of him and I assume his brother, they look nothing alike. The brother is even more handsome, I guess good genes runs through the family, I even see his sisters who are soo beautiful too. I will feel completely left out if ever I go to that family.

I give him back his phone when he drops me off, the picture of his wife is still very clear on my mind, is this what am signing up for? Beautiful kids that looks soo happy and three on the way, I don't want to be bitter but I do want that for myself too.

NOMATHAMSANQA

THE PARTY DAY

Me: I think this is just the right time to strike, they won't know what hit them and besides the yard is buzzing with people, no one will be paying attention.

KING Hlabani: yes I think it's okay to do this this way, no one will get hurt unintentionally, we will just hit our target and its done.

Me: Yeah so I will take my leave just to show face so that they won't suspect anything.

He nods, I get inside my car and drive out of the lounge

yes he is staying at the lounge because the council members kicked him out of the palace, talk about ungrateful people and his wife wants nothing to do with him.

The guards open the gate for me and I drive in, the yard is already buzzing with a lot of kingdom kids, the biggest jumping castle is up, and the pool, you'd swear it's a 5 year old's birthday party, why did they waste so much money on kids that doesn't even know what is happening! I notice that there are more guards than any usual day, it's the same guards that were guarding on the coronation day, there are soldiers even, might be his friends.

Zakithi: Oh aunty you are back?

What?

Me: (smiling) what are you talking about, I was here all the time.

If they noticed that am not around then it's a problem, I will be the first suspect. Everyone will ask why I arrive and people dies.

Zakithi: no you were not, I saw your car driving in, I wonder where are you even staying. Knowing you aunty please respect yourself don't spoil the kids birthday, bye.

That just ruined all my plans, now what? Everybody will just know it's me and I might get stoned to death for killing the royals. I notice my brother walking from the distance, when did they come back, this is messed up.

I dial Hlabani...

King Hlabani: yes.

Me: change of plans, it's guarded here full force, we are going with plan B.

I switch off my phone, I don't want him asking alot of questions and be annoying me, we should have went ahead with my plan from the get go, we wouldn't be here, mxm.

THANDEKA

The forbidden day has finally come and here am I all dressed up lying to my mother about having a braai at work so that I can go be with the married man, how disappointing is that.

I walk to my usual taxi spot to wait for him, he shows up after 5 minutes of waiting looking rather soo happy than usual, probably happy that I will get killed by his wife, I get inside the car and he speeds off.

Him: are you ready to meet my family?

Am not sure if am ready to be called a whore and a home wrecker, some people really dislike people like me but I don't blame them, I dislike myself too but I can't help falling for the guy.

Me: I think I am.

Him: okay it's gonna be so much fun you will see, my brother had to leave to collect the cakes, he must be on his way back.

Me: which kingdom do you stay in again? I don't want any surprises.

Him: today you will get surprises until I drive you back, or you are sleeping over?

He is forcing it ke now, we are not even dating why would I sleep over?

Me: no am not.

Him: well then am not telling you where we are going, I want it to be a surprise.

I let him be, he drives for more than 40 minutes, if he stays this far, what was he doing in my kingdom on that day?

He takes a road and from afar I notice a big palace and moguy is driving straight to it, what is happening here? I watch in confusion as guards open the gate of the palace, the whole palace is buzzing with people, mxm maybe he was invited, there is no way he stays here.

This is by far the most beautiful and classy palace I've ever see, there are even soldiers roaming around with big guns!

Me: (shocked) What are we doing here?

Him: we are here for my kids 1st birthday party aren't we? Let's go I can't wait to introduce you to everyone.

Me: what does that mean? You stay is the palace? Who are you exactly?

He smiles which just annoys me, why can't he answer one simple question!

Him: let's go unless you want to stay in the car all day.

Me: are you from the royal family?

Him: maybe.

This guy was sent to mess up my mind, what is maybe, the answer I was looking for is yes or no.

Me: what is this kingdom?

Him: Emthonjeni Kingdom.

What! That is the most powerful kingdom in all of Port Shepstone and beyond, the richest in all zulu nation and what relation does he have with the royal family. I never saw this kingdom but a lot of people knows it and they can't stop talking about it.

Him: let's go there is my brother the party is about to start and I want to introduce you before it does.

I got no choice but to just get out and follow him like a lost puppy, I notice people bowing a little when we walk pass, what the hell!!

Him: Oh there is the queen let's go to her first.

He points at her from a distance, she is wearing a beautiful white dress and heels, really now, I can't walk in heels to save my life and her she walks like she is wearing flats. She has one baby girl on her hip in pink frozen dress with princess crown and angel wings. We get closer and my knees are shaking, am dying today thanks to this mysterious guy.

Him: Oh my queen.

She turns and flashes the smile I know so very well showing her dimple, the baby girl stretches out her arms wanting him to

take her which he does, now that am seeing his wife live it's like a fairytale, she looks nothing human, her small lips are soo cute not to mention the body, meat in all the right places, she doesn't even look pregnant maybe it's because she is not even 2 months but with triplets you will never know. The girl is talking to her father something I don't understand, am sure he doesn't too but he is giggling with her. She is chubby and looks like a billionaire's daughter with all the glitters on her face and neck, her big eyes looks like her mother's.

Him: where are the others my queen?

Her: they are with the grannies and Lihle.

Shwele there are even grannies, you know how judgemental those ones are.

Him: Oh I wanted to introduce you to my woman Thandeka, Thandeka this is the queen.

Her: WHAT??!!!!

The shock on her face will haunt me till I take my last breath I tell you, I feel the world spinning, what have I done to people's marriage.

Please leave a comment below on what do you think is going to happen 🤔❤️

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NOXOLO

I look at him so shocked, he was smiling from ear to ear, he even kiss her cheek, this might be big.

I look at the woman and she looks scared, she even has tears in her eyes, why is she crying now? Was she kidnapped? I don't think so.

Me: mmmmh hello am Noxolo and you are?

Her: Thandeka.

I look at Zenzele who was busy kissing Golide all over her face while she made cute giggles, he isn't even paying attention to his guest and ask what is wrong with her.

Zenzele: well sthandwa sami that's her name but you can only call her queen.

She looks even more confused, I see Nkosi with Akhumzi coming towards us, thank God he will save me from all this awkwardness.

Zenzele: Oh here meet my king, the brother I was telling you about?

Thandeka: (whispering) why are you calling them king and queen.

Me and Nkosi look at each other in total confusion.

Nkosi: am Nkosi don't mind him beautiful lady.

He smiles, I need to walk away from this madness, I didn't know that Zenzele has a girlfriend! now this is interesting no wonder he was barely here for the past week but ke looking at how confused Thandeka is she wasn't told who we really are, I wonder what lies he told her.

Nkosi: Oh themba lami the king and queen wanted to take pictures with the kids before the party starts.

Me: Oh that's good mmmmh Thandeka let me show you around and I will introduce you to the ladies.

Nkosi perks my lips and left with Zenzele on his tail. I walk with Thandeka to where the ladies were.

Me: ladies meet Thandeka Zenzele's woman, and Thandeka these are my sisters and friends, that is Lihle, Mpume, Olwethu and these are sister in laws, Zakithi, Nkanyezi, Khwezi and Minenhle.

Lihle: well Zenzele is full of surprises, I didn't think he had it in him but hello Thandeka, good to see you I hope you enjoy yourself.

Thandeka: thank you.

THANDEKA

Can someone really shoot me right now because am dump. So the guy's name is Zenzele. What was so hard about telling me his damn name, now am standing in front of these beautiful ladies clueless.

Did he really lie to me saying he has a wife and kids, I can't believe him right now. So I almost died of guilt and he was lying! This is his brother's wife!

Me: if you don't mind me asking, why was he addressing you as queen?

They all look at me like I grew horns, am just sking jeez. She smiles at me then clears her throat.

Noxolo: don't mind him, I think he will tell you when he is ready.

Mpume: Oh darling that's because she is the mother hen, I still can't believe Nkosi got you pregnant again, I swear I would've cut his balls.

They all laugh.

Noxolo: I was heading there, it took a lot of self control to spare him, I still can't believe it even now.

Olwethu: you should have heard the praises he was getting from the guys, they were even asking for tips on how he does it.

Noxolo: I already know who was asking for tips, Nhlonipho would never do that.

Mpume: Yeah phela my man is the sane one in that group.

Olwethu: so Thandeka how long have you guys been dating?

How do I tell them that we are not dating, I'll just cook up a lie.

Me: (smiling) just a few weeks.

We all walk out to where the party was taking place, after this Zenzele got a lot of explaining to do, he won't just lie and get away with it.

Nothing much was done except the little speeches from the parents and grandparents who were showering them with blessings. Now there is soo much noise as kids are playing all over the place. We are in one of the rooms and there is alcohol everywhere

judging from their voices they are getting drunk, me too but I mustn't forget that I am in a foreign place so I must be alert at all times.

Noxolo: that's what am saying, I like enjoying sex without feeling like am being used or getting killed.

Olwethu: (laughing) I remember when Classic tied me on the stair rails, it was good no lie but after that I was immobile, my whole body was in pain.

Mpume: what the!! What kind of kinky dark shit do you get up to there, stair rails!!

Am just listening to them giving each other tips but i can't give any tips because in my whole 26 years of living I've only had sex twice and it was terrible, I don't like it at all but hearing them talk like this makes me think there must be more to it than what I know.

Noxolo: I just love that with every round, I learn something new, Nkosi has been so patient with me teaching me woman on top, I almost broke his dick when I did it the first time.

We all laugh at her.

Me: so your husband was your first?

Noxolo: yes girl, now he compliments me every time I do it.

Zakithi: (laughing) I must close my ears here, I won't ever look at my brother the same way.

Noxolo: he is my beast that one that's why am standing here right now pregnant again, 7 children in just two years.

Lihle: black coffee is too much, he must pay me for making you have so many kids.

I guess black coffee is Nkosi, yeah I would call him black coffee because he is soo dark shame, handsome dark.

Noxolo: aybo why must he pay you, am I not the one who is pregnant?

Lihle: I will be suffering with you though.

To think of it they look alike just that Lihle doesn't have dimple and an afro.

That minute Nkosi walks in, what a dark handsome man. He goes straight to his wife and kiss her forehead with her blushing.

Olwethu: Oh my king are you lost?

Nkosi: (smiling) yes am lost in the eyes of my own queen, can I steal her for a minute please.

Lihle: we all know that line ends up with me having a pregnant sister, black coffee I don't run a creche you know.

If Nkosi is really the king then why is Lihle addressing him like it's her friend.

Nkosi: (laughing) I still will get you for that. Themba lami let's go.

She stands up and they walk out, power couple am telling you.

ZENZELE

Sh has been on my case ever since we got into the car, it was funny seeing her confused there, I got her real good.

Thandeka: am waiting for you to start explaining Zenzele.

Me: (smiling) Oh you know my name?

That fuels her even more.

Me: okay let me explain, I have a brother or rather a cousin, his dad and my mom are siblings and he is married and has 7 kids, am not married neither do I have kids.

Thandeka: what about the palace?

Me: (sighs) am just an extended family member of the royal family, Nkosi is the king of Emthonjeni Kingdom and ruling with his wife, they were crowned recently since my uncle stepped down.

Thandeka: and why am I hearing this now that you are royal? Did you really thought it was an amazing idea to make me believe you are married?

Me: I was just pulling your leg.

Thandeka: do you know what I will pull?

I shake my head.

Thandeka: I will pull myself away from you since you are a liar, this is the last time am seeing you, don't call me, don't text me and save your patrol, you don't have to bother driving me to work.

She tries to open the door but it was locked.

Thandeka: open this door.

Me: not until we resolve this, you know the queen will be on my case asking me about you from today, am sorry for lying but it's not much of a big deal you know.

Thandeka: well to you it's not.

Me: I really like you Thandeka, I won't say I love you because I don't know what that is myself and I'd like you to give us a chance and see where this takes us. I will drive you to work on Monday.

Thandeka: can I go now?

I nod and unlock the doors, she really looks hurt, I didn't think my lying will be this much of a drama.

NARRATOR

In the deep hours of the night, few kilometers from the palace, Nomathamsanqa, king Hlabani and their guys are sitting on their car doing the final touches on their plan.

Nomathamsanqa: I think its time now, here you will go around to the darker side so that you will not be seen.

Guy¹: but you said our target house is about 5 kilometers from here, how are we going to get there?

Nomathamsanqa: (Annoyed) were you even listening to me?! I said to you, you guys don't have to be near there, these are the spigot- type 22 mm rifle grenade launchers, you will stand at the distance of 2 kilometers then when I give you the word, you will fire.

Guy²: what about the night guards?

Nomathamsanqa: that where the 300 Winchester magnum comes in, they have wooden bullets like those ones of grenades but they don't kill, they contain the poppers which will make the guards fall asleep in less than a minute.

They nod understanding, all this while king Hlabani was quite trying to process what they are about to do right now.

Somehow he felt bad but he also can't let them off the hook as

they have ruined his reputation and now he is a wanted man because he stole money.

Their 8 guys takes their guns assigned to each one of them as they will be doing different things, they take positions as they planned. It is hard not to be seen coming to the palace because of all the bright lights but they managed to get on the darker side and aim at the parading royal guards, yes at 2am they are parading.

IN THE CAR

King Hlabani: if this doesn't go as planned you know we are dead tight?

Nomathamsanqa: you got little faith in me nothing will go wrong, we used a lot of money hiring these guns from USA that all can't go to waste.

King Hlabani: and let me bring this to your attention for just we are in the same page, how are you going to convince the council to crown me as king after this? Mostly because I have bad history now.

Nomathamsanqa: we don't have to convince them, we just need to scare them into giving you this crown, we worked so hard to be held back by old hangs.

King Hlabani looks at her, he has never seen a woman with the darkest heart like her, it scares him at times because if she can

plot a hit on her own nephew and brother with no hint of guilt and remorse that's means she won't think twice about killing him also and take all the riches.

At first he was defending her thinking maybe it's anger of being outcasted from the royal family, which may not even be true because he knows the kind of man king Mabutho is but now he sees that she is just hungry for power that she is willing to kill the only brother she has for it.

He sighs shaking his head, this won't end well for them.

After pointing at the target guards one of the guys shoot, making the biggest gunshot sound ever.

They all look at each other in fear as they see other guards running around making calls calling the other guards to join them.

Guy¹: wasn't that gun supposed to have silencers?

Guy²: that is what I thought.

Now they are shaking in their boots, they run closer to the target wing, from the distance they can hear guards after them.

Guy³: I will thank God if we come out of this alive.

They hear shooting making them run faster. After running for almost 10 minutes they finally get to where they were sent, with shaking hands Guy 4 aims at the king's house a kilometer from them.

Nomathamsanqa: what is happening there, why do I hear the gunshots?

That her asking from the earpiece that they had on.

Guy²: these guns doesn't have silencers, we will be busted.

Nomathamsanqa: what is that? What are silencers?

They ignore her, a few seconds later the grenades were fired, making the biggest explosions as the king's house caught fire and burning down.

One guy falls not far from them, they turns to be welcomed by the rain of gunshots. Since they were in the dark, two of them managed to escape while the other six were left there dead.

Nomathamsanqa: they are not communicating, what is happening.

Her heart is pounding very fast, if they get their hands on the guys then she knows very well that they will sing to save their lives.

King Hlabani: this is bad.

That came out as a whisper

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while caught up on their thoughts, they hear a knock on their window. Everything in their bodies go cold.

Nomathamsanqa: START THE CAR!!!!

She yells at the shocked Hlabani, he starts it reversing, more gunshot were fired. With his eyes wide open in shock ,he sways the car and tries to drove away but the tires were shot making the car roll a few times on the steep slope.

King Hlabani: (teary) God this is not happening to me, Noma!!

The power of trying to get out of the car faced upside down runs out as the image of Nomathamsanqa with a bullet on her forehead is still stuck on his mind and he let it out.

This turned out so bad. In His mind he knew the chances of getting caught were high but to actually die didn't cross his mind.

When he was trying to run away one guard managed to shoot and ended Nomathamsanqa's life.

He holds her hand and closes his eyes then darkness takes over him as well.

NOXOLO

Senzo gets in where we were, you can tell that he was running. Am so scared holding on to two babies as they are crying their eyes out. Sis' Gloria and Phumla are with me here also trying to calm the other two down.

When Nkosi heard the massive gunshot he panicked and brought us here behind the cabin there is a safe room which is a few minutes from our house. That was before him and Senzo went outside after being informed by one of the guards that there is an attack, after a few minutes we heard more gunshots followed by an explosion.

Me: (crying) Senzo where is Nkosi, where is my husband?

Am thinking of the worst, why is he here alone when he left with someone. Zenzele appears behind him with blood on his t-shirt.

Me: Zenzele where is Nkosi?

Zenzele: Oh he....

Just then he rushes in and comes straight to me and gives me a hug, God I was so scared for him.

Me: (crying) I thought something has happened to you.

He holds my face in his hands.

Nkosi: am sorry about this ndlovukazi yami but we will find out who did this.

Me: what happened?

Nkosi: someone is after us, or rather me because our house is burnt down, am grateful to God for making me even think of taking you out of the house because we would have been talking a different story.

He takes Zama from me, my heart is pounding so fast, who could be after his life and why? We almost died, all of us for that matter!

I break down and cry again, this is the scariest thing that can ever happen to someone.

Two guards get in, I close the kids eyes, this is not the sight I want them to see, with all the big guns.

Guard ¹: my king we found the people who did this, they were trying to run away but we caught them, their car is by the Matimofu stream but it's bad so we called the police because they look dead.

Nkosi: did you see who they are?

Guard ¹: no my king but it's a woman and a man.

Nkosi: okay.

More family members get in including king Mabutho and mother in law, she takes Zama from Nkosi as they go out again to check on the culprits I think.

Queen Naye: (brushing my shoulder) don't stress too much sisi, you are pregnant remember.

I take a few breaths to calm myself down then nod, I wouldn't want to lose my babies because of stress.

NKOSIYABO

Am with Senzo and Zenzele in the car with the few guards as we are headed to where the car was. We get there to more guards with guns and police surrounding the car.

I know I probably shouldn't be here but am a former soldier, am not about to shy away from something I did for years.

Police officer: my king with your permission can we take the bodies out and see who they are.

I nod, after a lot of work trying to take the bodies out they finally did and I was never prepared for this.

From the corner of my eye I see Zenzele holding his chest.

What nonsense is this? Did aunt Nomathamsanqa really wanted to kill me and my family, but why? The guards are exchanging looks knowingly.

Zenzele: how can she do this?

I can't see him clearly but judging from his voice he is crying, I can't even comfort him right now, I almost died because of her. She was my aunt but I feel no pain to her passing. So all along she was working with king Hlabani, they first stole the money and now they wanted to kill me! God forbid I cover myself with the blood of Jesus.

Police officer: we are going to call the mortuary to come take the bodies, we will take it from here my king.

My dad will be shattered by this, the way he loved his sister but you can't do anything to someone who doesn't want help, for years my dad was always on her tail trying to bring her closer but she turned into something we don't recognize, call me heartless but good riddance to bad rubbish, mxm.

NKOSIYABO

Me: so how are you feeling?

I ask Zenzele, even though I didn't care about his mother, but the past months he has been the brother I always wanted and was soo supportive so the best I can do now is to lend him an ear, it was his mother after all.

Zenzele: I know she wasn't the best person out there but she is the only parent I had and knew. I wish she had changed her ways because look at where she is now.

I brush his shoulder in comfort.

Zenzele: am sorry she did that to you, you could've lost your family but we thank God it didn't get to that.

Me: you don't need to apologize and my parents are your parents too Zenzele, you know before isolating yourself my parents were literally raising you.

Zenzele: Yeah it's painful that she is gone and I will never see her again but nothing bad we do will go unpunished.

I sigh. Another person who was beyond hurt is my dad, I literally saw tears in his eyes as he went on the scene to find her there with a bullet hole on her forehead. One of the guards confessed into being the one who shot her but we are not

about to punish him, he was just doing his job, whether it was her or anyone else who was caught on the firing line could have been dead.

Me: we will get over it bafo together, know that am always here to listen and give advice if you want me to, you are not alone.

He nods facing down probably wanting to hide his tears but I already saw them and it pained my heart. I pull him for a hug then left him to digest and just be alone to think things through.

I find my wife in the kitchen cooking with the kitchen staff, it's soo quite and the tension can be felt in the air, usually when they are together they will be laughing and making jokes.

The community members have been coming in and out like crazy to pass their condolences and some to help because the funeral is in two days. Yes that's what my dad said because my aunt was royal and it's how things are done. Royals don't stay at the mortuary for soo long.

I go to her, she looks like she is miles away, she only notices me when I kiss her cheek.

Me: are you okay?

She nods stirring at the pot, she doesn't have to do this but she insisted and I don't even try to talk her out of it because she probably loves being with other ladies.

Me: (whispering in her ear) don't you want to take a nap maybe, tomorrow is going to be busier you will need all the energy and plus I think my kids need a bit of rest themba lami.

She is showing a bit now that there are people growing in there and am obsessed with her little baby bump.

Noxolo: I don't think I can fall asleep.

Me: but you do need some sleep you have been up since 2am.

She chuckled, have I told you guys that morning sickness and cravings decided to come for me, yey they are killing me and fatigue is the worst, am just holding on because am the king and I can't just disappear at a time like this, I need to show face.

Noxolo: I think you are the one who needs sleep Sibalukhulu.

My heart skip a beat, it always happens when she addresses me like that.

Me: yes I do so are you let's go, we will just take a 30 minute nap, no one will notice.

She nods sighing.

Me: ladies please do continue with everything.

Kitchen manager: we will my king.

I pull her away to one of the rooms here since we don't have a house anymore, I fold her in my arms ,I don't know what I could have done have i lost them.

My t-shirt gets wet a bit and I hear sniffs.

Me: what's wrong baby?

Noxolo: I can't believe I almost lost my kids, I wouldn't have survived that Nkosi.

Me: I know I know take some rest and we will talk when you wake up.

We fall asleep into each other's arms in comforting silence, as long as she is in my arms, I have everything.

ZENZELE

I park my car at the usual stop where I always pick her up. I don't even know how I got here because tears are just streaming down my cheeks uncontrollably that they are blinding me.

I just wish she had listened to me when I warned her about such ways, am sure I would have been dead too had I not left her and her plans.

Somewhat I feel like I failed her

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like I was supposed to do more than just wanting to take myself out of the equation, I feel like had I forced her to let this go she still would be alive, had I snitched on her to uncle Mabutho maybe he would have found a way to sort this out.

But I was selfish and took myself out and left her in the dark hole, now am motherless and the pain am feeling is out of this world, I didn't even know I loved and cared for her this much until I saw her lying lifeless like a bag of potatoes with a bullet wound on her forehead and her eyes wide open.

I fish for my phone in my pocket and dial her number with shaking hands, I can't even steady my breathing.

"Mzilikazi" she answers.

Any other day I would be over the moon with my heart jumping in joy but instead hearing her voice makes my heart beats slowly as pain chokes me when I try to swallow the lump on my throat.

Me: (sniffing) please come at the taxi stop.

Thandeka: what's wrong, are you crying?

Me: please come.

I drop the call. I hold on to the steering wheel and I weep like a small baby, I would never see my mother ever again, her

beautiful smile, yes she was a goddess, just that her personality hid all that but she was so beautiful. After a few minutes the door opens and she gets in. I don't even look up to see her, I don't want her to see me like this.

Thandeka: sthandwa sami why are you crying, did something happen at home?

Had she been social she would have known what happened because it's all over social media, the journalists were buzzing in the palace asking about the incident, Nkosi had to attend to them even though he didn't say exactly what happened but they assumed and came up with a story full of nothing but lies. Even now they are still fishing for information not caring that we lost a family member. Their king and queen even came to give their condolences in the early hours of the morning like all of the leaders of other kingdoms.

Thandeka: Zenzele you are scaring me, what happened ?

Me: my mother...she...she passed away this morning.

Am still faces down but she forces me to look up at her with red eyes and snotty face, I look like a mess, she pulls me for a hug and I bury myself in her chest starting my cry all over again.

It was better knowing she is out there troubling whoever she was troubling but dead is a different story, I can't call her and ask how she is doing.

Thandeka: am sorry my love, am so so sorry.

It's even pains me that she didn't get a chance to meet the woman who stole my heart and want to spend the rest of my life with, she probably wouldn't have approved of her but I would have been happy knowing they met.

Thandeka: am so sorry, you never spoke so much about your mother but I can imagine how painful it is to lose her, what happened?

Me: she was shot.

She brushes my back like am a baby, with each brush I feel myself calming down, I knew she is all I needed, my girl cousins tried consoling me but it didn't work, Noxolo tried and everyone else even my uncle but it didn't work, now that am in her arms I feel a little better, of course the wound of loss is still fresh and more tears will be shed on her funeral but it's a phrase all of us will go through some day and it passes, this too shall pass.

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NKOSIYABO

5 MONTHS LATER

Am glad that I was granted a chance to be here this time around as my wife is delivering via c-section, am trying to distract her as am talking to her about anything at all. My mom and her mom are just in the waiting area.

Me: is it painful?

Noxolo: no its not its just that I feel soo much pressure but it's not bad.

I kiss her forehead, this pregnancy was not as hard as the first one besides that I was the one dying but am glad we are finally welcoming our babies to the world at 7 months, she was worried about the quads being only 17 months and now we are welcoming new borns I know it will be hard but its worth it.

Doctor: ah welcome to the world baby boy.

She shows us the small baby who was crying, it's feels like am a first time dad all over again. She gives the nurse the baby and continues taking another boy again, then last it was the girl.

Me: (teary) thank you so much themba lami.

Noxolo: we are not having more after this remember?

I smile nodding, yes she is getting her tubes tied before getting stitches, we agreed on that a month ago, she asked if it's okay and I had no problem with it, I mean it would be selfish of me to want more kids after this.

Noxolo: (smiling) I thought it will be two girls and one boy.

Me: sorry to disappoint you but boys won this time around.

Noxolo: what are you gonna name them?

Me: don't you want to do the naming this time?

Noxolo: am not really good in that department, I don't even know what to name them.

Me: okay the boys will be Sethu and Yakhani and my princess will be Snakhokonke. Sethu is a warrior and Yakhani is to build something but in a plural form as he got brothers who he will be working hand in hand with and Snakhokonke means we have everything that we wanted maybe even more.

I think those are the perfect names and by her smile I know she approves of them so me King Nkosiyo of Emthonjeni Kingdom is a father to Zamazizi, Lumnene, Akhumzi, Golide, Sethu, Yakhani and Snakhokonke Dlamini I wouldn't ask for more.

The doctor excuse me so that they will do their job before transferring her to the recovery room.

Me: yess mom it's two boys and one girl this time.

Queen Naye: (teary) I can never thank you my children enough, this is the best gifts to us.

Nobuhle: I can't believe that am a grandmother of 8, God is good, her sister will come by sometime next week to check up on her.

We wait there until the doctor allow us to enter where she was with the kids, the doctor said they will keep them in the incubators for at least a week since they got no complications but just pre mature.

NOXOLO

Me: if you don't stop lecturing me I swear I will leave.

Wedding planner: okay am sorry my queen but the wedding is in the few days and everything needs to be done and ready to go by then.

Me: am sorry for being slow it's just that my emotions are all over the place, I don't even know why am scared because he is husband of almost three years.

Wedding planner: its okay so the dress check, the decor and music check, the cake check the food check, the husband's suit check even the after wedding, the king asked me to plan your

honeymoon too so after the wedding of you guys go to Bali, it's gonna be lit.

I sigh. So the past few months have been a bliss, from welcoming my triplets to recently my quads turning 2 then planning my white wedding to Zenzele proposing to Thandeka who has been a sweetheart to my sister Lihle getting a job and moving to Cape Town with her son Minathi and to a new royal mention being built and I think I love it more than the one that was burnt down and everything in between.

Me: okay since we are done here let me go and get some things done.

She nods and Portia who I have grown to really adore and take as my sister more than anything gets in smiling.

Portia: the car is ready with everything my queen

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let's go, Zekhethelo is also coming with us and 5 kitchen staff.

I smile and we walk out of the library that the king assigned to me to have everything meeting and queen duties in, of course my favorite the Chapel in New York wing.

We meet him by the entrance with Snakho and Lumnene in his arms, I swear if he could he can divide himself into pieces to be able to carry all of them at once.

Nkosi: ahh my sandwich lady.

I laugh, he has been calling me that lately because I decided to start a program where every Thursday we will be distributing food around the kingdom, not necessarily the sandwiches but he calls me that anyway and by Saturdays we go to the orphanage that was opened two months ago and we already have 26 kids there, I have been loving helping where I can, King Mabutho and mother are back into traveling for a living but will pop up for our wedding.

Me: (blushing) my king.

Nkosi: off to sell sandwiches looking this sexy?

He just never runs out of things to say and he is making me blush.

Me: (laughing) am not selling anything, hello Nakho kamama, hello baby girl.

I try to take her but she holds on to her father making him laugh, am not her favorite I have learnt that, I take Lumnene kissing her all over her face making her giggle. I am the favorite to my boys that's for sure and Lumnene prefers me than her dad Zama just go with the flow, I swear that one can be stolen easily, she goes to anyone who calls her but she is the sweetest of them all.

Nkosi: and am coming with today.

I look at him shocked, he never show interest in this, he just gives me a weekly budget and let me do my thing and I had no problem with it but now that he says this I feel my heart fills with joy.

Me: that will mean so much to me my love.

Nkosi: (smiling) I know that's why am doing this now stop crying and come here.

He pulls me closer to him by my waist making my blood rush, he smash his lips on mine kissing the daylight out of me not caring that the guards and staff were walking around, I feel knot at the pit on my stomach, Lumnene separates us crying, shame my baby thinks am getting killed, we both laugh and she just looks at us with her cute big eyes. I never failed in the eye and hair department with my kids, the triplets look nothing like me but also took my eyes, surprisingly they don't look like their dad either but rather looks like his twin sisters Khwezi and Nkanyezi.

Me: (whispering) now I need to go clean myself Mr because there is a pool down there.

I bite my lip seductively, I know am just teasing him because he aren't getting some but am not joking about the pool part, am soaking, I give him Lumnene and rush to the bathroom leaving him like he will jump on me and eat me alive.

I do my business, changing the panty liner and wiping myself down and walk out.

" don't leave me behind please "

I turn to see Thandeka struggling with 24 bottles filled with water, to why she is not asking the guards to take that I don't know but I laugh and help her to load it in the car and we all get inside and off we go to " sell sandwiches " as Nkosi puts it.

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NOXOLO

Skhumbuzo: you have grown so much my girl, I can't believe I gave birth to the queen of the most successful kingdom.

Me: dad you gonna make me cry.

Skhumbuzo: look at how beautiful you are, if gorgeous had a surname it would have been you, I don't want to lie am so so happy to be here today, to get a chance to walk you down the aisle even though I gave you to your husband years back this feels different.

I attack him with a hug with tears falling from my eyes. My dad was my first protector, my first love, my first cheerleader, my first therapist, my first king, that was before he gave me away to the most wonderful man on earth who is all of the above and beyond.

Skhumbuzo: I know things gets hard in marriage sometimes but remember if you feel like you are fighting alone for your marriage and he doesn't appreciate you like he does now and you are more sad than happy, you still have a home to run back to.

Me: I will keep that in mind dad, thank you so much.

He walks out giving us space to finish dressing up with Lihle yelling at everyone for being slow, I just roll my eyes, she is so dramatic.

Olwethu: when you get a heart attack I don't want anyone asking me what happened.

We laugh, she is right, next thing she will faint here.

Lihle: am just nervous on you behalf dear sister, please try to have less sex oe I can't handle you getting pregnant again, your black coffee doesn't even want to pay me for being umamkhulu.

Thandeka: (laughing) and she is telling a married woman that.

Mpume: says someone who sees the meerkats once in three months, what do you want him to pay you for exactly?

Lihle: for being beautiful.

Me: sorry to disappoint you but I do get paid for being beautiful.

Lihle: mxm let's go before mom comes and drag us out.

I look at myself in the mirror, I look soo beautiful with just minimum makeup, Lihle puts on the veil, I don't know why am wearing this because am a mother, but mother in law insisted because apparently I only have kids with Nkosi so am supposed to wear it.

We walk out to meet my dad by the door, we are having the wedding at the palace by the way, I sigh, am getting married to him for the second time and am over the moon.

IN BALI

Nkosi: I know why your parents named you Noxolo.

I lift my head and look at him smiling, he got passion for interpreting names.

Me: (smiling) why?

Nkosi: because you have been my peace themba lami from the first day of our traditional wedding, when I was away in Kimberly I couldn't wait to come back home to you, I didn't know why but something in me was replaced by peace when Minenhle took that blanket of your head and you looked up smiling brighter than the shining star and I knew that moment that I will protect you with my life, even through hard times I knew what I was looking forward to at the end of the day after a rough day, to cuddle you and just feel at ease with peace overwhelming me.

From that day everything I thought I knew changed for the good and am very happy and can stand on top of the mountain and scream how happy I am in my marriage and i can't help but notice the peace and success that has been in our kingdom everybody loves you and wants a piece of you.

Me: (smiling) are you willing to share.

Nkosi: to share your kindness, your peace, your beautiful heart, your perseverance and intelligence yes am willing to share but there are some things that I will never share if you know what I mean.

He winks at me making me laugh, he is not good at winking one bit, it's like there is something in his eye.

Me: and what is the meaning of your name? Am sure there is more to it than just the king part.

Nkosi: I don't know why my parents named me Nkosiyabo but if I were to name my child that it would simply mean "born to be a leader" not everyone can lead different kinds of people out there, angry people, rude people, warm people, funny people, possessed people, shy people, weird people, extra people and as a leader you have to meet and accommodate all of those people under your wing and it's not an easy thing to do but with me it comes naturally that's why I think am a born leader, the king to everyone.

Me: I wonder why you look into the deeper meaning of names.

Nkosi: that's because a name defines who you are and who you become in life, I would be surprised if you were a lunatic and a crazy ass like your sister but your name is Noxolo.

I laugh when he mentions Lihle.

Me: you know right that her name is Thembelihle?

Nkosi: (smiling) well being hopeful and having faith is a good thing but if you drop your child and they hit their heads and starts going crazy you will still be faithful right, your parents were just hopeful that her problem will be solved maybe by prayer but no the damage was too much that she needs God himself to lie his hand on her to recover from whatever sickness she has.

I literally can't hold myself, I even have tears in my eyes, whenever Lihle is around she causes Nkosi the headache demanding luxury things that I myself have to bend my back until it's breaks with him fucking the daylight out of me and flipping me like a pancake and be feeling like my insides are on fire and his dick is touching my heart in order to get, the nerve of her and when Nkosi refuses she will be calling him black coffee until she forgets and moves to the next request.

Nkosi: and guess what is interesting?

Me: what?

Nkosi: you are the queen of Emthonjeni Kingdom, you lead them but to me I am your only king and can lead you and you themba lami you are my queen that is suppose to be vulnerable and trust in me for guidance, uyindlovukazi yami wena.

I look deep into his eyes and saw nothing but kind love, patient love, repairing love, tender love, sweet love that holds me with care like am the most precious thing in the world and nourishing me and there is my king that I will always respect and cherish for as long as I live.

Nkosi: ungizwile angithi ukuthi ngitheni?

I heard very clearly but I shake my head anyway.

Nkosi: uyindlovukazi yami.

Am his Queen and I can never be happier to hold that title in his life, am a queen, not just any queen, HIS QUEEN and my name is Noxolo Dlamini.

.....**THE END**.....

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