

CONNIE

THE TROPHY WIFE...

ROMANCE

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ALL THOSE GLITTERS...

PRECIOUS MOLOI

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PROLOGUE

I took the napkin and put it on my lap I looked at her plate and she hasn't touched her food..

Me: You might wanna eat that Dear it's pricy

She looked at me and tried to conduct herself in a more "Respectable" way..

Her: I'm sorry but I'm confused I don't know why you asked to meet up with me

Me: You confused?

She didn't say anything..

I opened my bag and took out the white envelope I gave it to her..

Me: This should take care of that problem

Her: Problem?

Me: You need to have an abortion

She coughed..

Her: How did you know that I'm.. I mean..

Me: My husband is also gonna give you money to abort that's if he hasn't given it to you as yet..

Does he even know that you pregnant?

She shook her head..

Me: When you tell him he's going to tell you to abort.. Trust me

The waiter came to refill my glass..

Me: Thank you

I looked at her..

Me: You think you the first girl he has slept with or promised the world? If he finds out that you pregnant he's going to tell you to abort and then move on to the next thing and forget you I hope the money that he has been showering you with. You did something good with it like paying off your fees and putting some away than maintaining your fake lavish lifestyle

Her: Mrs Hlubi I.. I'm very sorry

I flashed a smile..

Me: Please don't be

The waiter walked back to me and whispered in my ear.. I looked at her..

Me: Your Uber is here

She stood up and took the envelope with like a frightened newborn chick she stumbled her way around until she made it out of the exit. I took the napkin and threw it on my plate..

Me: Damn you Zwelonke!!

My husband and I we come from the same hood Zwelonke was the last guy I had my eyes on let alone think of dating. When I was in varsity doing teaching he was that typical guy who had a car wash at the corner. I was the "it" girl who beat all odds and went to varsity which girls around hated very much. I wasn't all for going out and having fun I was mostly locked up at home and reading books or watching my favorite series than drinking and partying I very much preferred that boring life.. I was the only child born to my Parents

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my mother was a domestic worker and my father passed on when I was very young leaving me a trust fund that would later on help a lot with me going to varsity.

Zwelonke knew that he was below the belt to get with me but he kept on annoying me until I gave in. Yes he was my first I never dated in high school I didn't want to trap myself with an unplanned pregnancy which would've been a barrier for me to finish school. My mother wasn't strict but she always gave me good advices I am the woman that I am today because of her. I

really enjoyed my relationship with Zwe for some reason I found myself falling hard for him and when I graduated I was lucky to get a job right away. What I really liked about Zwe was that even though he was washing cars for a living but he had a vision he wanted to be the next thing after Apple Samsung and Huawei. He wanted to invent the most worthy gadgets in South Africa that will compete with the biggest in the game and guess what? Although his dreams seemed a bit far fetched but he did it. He made it through and I supported him all the way. He used to live with me in my flat and I was providing for us whilst he was trying to get sponsors it was difficult but someone who believed in his invention ended up investing in his dream. I remember he used to tell me that when he makes it he will give me the world for all the times that I believed in him when no one did. Funny enough he did keep his word he gave me the world. His company is worth millions and I get everything that I want but you know what? I realized at a later stage that all those glitters are not gold...My story will start

way back before this devil of a rich life found me.

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My name is Connie "Nontando" Hlubi and this is my story.

01

A FEW YEARS BACK

I don't think my Mother has ever been this proud of me let's face it making it to tertiary is almost every parent's dream when it comes to their kids. I've seen people with good results sitting at home because they couldn't find space or they don't have funding and God blessed me with both. When my father was working at some company he made it his life goal to put money for me so that I don't struggle were my education is concerned. He didn't hold a high position he was a security guard and he managed to invest R200 000 for me some of that money I'm planning to give it to my Mother. I come from a very loving home even after the passing of my father my mother remained a good parent to me..

Ma: I'm so happy Ntando you have made me

proud my baby

That's all that I want to see a smile on her face..

Me: Thank you Mom

Ma: Kodwa ke I wished that you could've went to a varsity where you'll be staying in Res and experience life a little

Me: Come on Ma Unisa is not bad

Ma: I know but you need to start living your life

Me: I can't leave you alone

Ma: Haibo Ntando you can't be around me forever

Me: I'll move out when I start working.. Deal?

Her: Deal

We heard the door opening..

Voice: Miss Varsity!!

That was my nuisance cousin Duduzile.. Dudu is not only my cousin she's also my best friend. She is a few years older than me but we get along very well.. She showed up at the lounge carrying a 6 pack of savanna she looked a bit tipsy already. She put the savanna ontop of my Mom's table..

Her: Woza la Mzala (come here cuz)

She walked over to me almost tripping then she hugged me..

Her: I'm so proud of you

My cousin works at Clicks she never wanted to go to varsity after matric and she was lucky to get this job..

Her: Mamncane (Aunty)

Ma: Duduzile

She broke the hug..

Her: I was thinking how about we go to that busy corner get some bunny chow and just chill

Me: I don't think so

Ma: Please mthathe she needs to get fresh air

Her: Uyezwa (You hear)

I gave my Mom a weird look. Dudu took the savanna and then we made our way out..

Me: You buying

Her: Of course I'm buying undithatha kancinci wena (You taking me for granted)

Me: Is it even safe to walk around with those? Won't we get arrested?

Her: We not drinking it I'm just carrying it..

Relax Ntando

Me: Yazi I was watching my favourite series

Her: You need to stop with that maan! You'll end up being a serial killer

We got to the corner I sat down whilst Dudu

went to order. They have chairs outside and a very big umbrella the car wash next door was providing music. It was a bit full so I took out my phone to keep myself busy. I went on Instagram to see what was going on

As I was sitting there busy minding my own business I heard a familiar voice..

Him: Exe

I looked at him and he was sitting across me. He was wearing his old worn out t-shirt I'm thinking he wears it when he washes cars

Me: Hi

I don't wanna lie Zwe annoys me to the core no matter how rude I am he still talks to me. He never gives up..

Him: I heard you starting school soon congrats Zwe is well spoken I heard he got 5 distinctions in matric. Why he never applied for a bursary to go to varsity I'll never know.. He took out a R100 note and handed it to me I looked at it..

Him: Maybe you can buy yourself some cool drink or airtime

Me: It looks like you need it more than I do you can have it

He chuckled..

Him: No matter how rude or difficult you can be Ntando but one day I'm going to marry you.

You'll see

Me: Keep on dreaming

Dudu came back saving me from this guy..

Dudu: Zwe mpintshi yam' (Zwe my friend)

Zwe: Wola Gazi

Dudu: Zithini lapho (How are you)

Zwe: Ang'rasi wena? (I'm not saying)

Dudu: Ngisharp

She put the savanna ontop of the table..

Me: How did you skip the queue?

Her: Ang'bhayizi phela mina (I'm not a fool)

Zwe: Seems like you girls are having fun let me not disturb

He got up..

Me: Uhm your R100?

Zwe: Ngiyiphe wena moss (I gave it to you)

He then winked at me and walked away I also noticed his old dirty and worn out all star sneakers..

Me: Aghhh

Dudu sat down..

Dudu: Yini manje? (what's wrong)

That guy bores me to death..

Dudu: Ngoba uZwe umuntu o right ke?

I rolled my eyes..

Me: Zwe passed his matric well why didn't he study further I'll never know

Her: Not everyone is as fortunate as you

Me: Agh excuses and excuses he could've applied for a bursary instead of smoking weed everyday with his friends

Her: He's hustling

Me: Hustling my left foot!!

She opened the savanna and took one she handed it to me..

Me: I don't drink

Her: Hai Mam'fundisi ungabhozi (Don't bore me)

I took the bottle and looked at it..

Her: Phuza (drink)

ZWELONKE

Sjava: Wena ikudlisile lengane ne (this girl has bewitched you)

I sat next to him..

Him: Uzofunda kanjani akakufuni (When will you learn? She doesn't want you)

Me: I know

He passed me the rolled joint..

Him: Manje usafunani? (So what do you want)

Me: Aii maan awume (wait a minute)

I took my backpack and took out my book from it I opened it and went over my design plan..

Sjava: Entlek uSerious ngalento neh? (You serious with this thing)

No one understands my vision from my family all the way to my friends. When I first had this idea and shared it everyone almost laughed.

They asked me how my phone will compete with Huawei Apple

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Apple and Samsung. They always said that my dreams are way too big for my shoes...I took out my pen and a pencil.. A car came through while playing music loud..

"Yazi ang'understandi baby why uvale iPhone manje ng'buya kubo kodwa bathi amboni ende ngicica emaclubini still ang'mtholi mhlambe u baby unyang'shayaya wathi akajoli"

Sjava hit me on my shoulder a little..

Sjava: Ntanga mhlambe u Ntando uyak'shayaya makathi akajoli (Maybe Ntando is lying to you when she said she's not dating)

We both laughed after that comment..

Me: Eyakho ke le (That one is yours)

Sjava: Usho kanje?

Me: Ya I have to finish this

Sjava: Yizo nja yam'

He got up and went to wash the car..

My parents divorced when I was young then my father remarried. A few months after getting married communication was lost between us never sent us money never bothered to check up on us and all that. Things for us got a bit difficult since my Mother wasn't working. We lived on handouts up until my big brother got himself a job. Things started to get a bit better but unfortunately he passed on when I had just finished my matric killing every dream that I had of going to school. Since I was the second born I had to step up in providing for my Mother and my sister. I wash cars for a living I make decent money to put food on the table for both my mom and little sis. People in this hood tend to look down on us a lot because we don't have much especially when my mother was still begging for food.

I would lie if I said she's a good parent to us the divorce really messed her up and my Brother's

death contributed too. She drinks a lot you'll be lucky if you ever find her at home. She's always at this other local tarven that's why I don't give her money anymore..

The driver of the Polo TSI changed the song he played one of my favorite songs. A song that always gets me through when I'm down.

"Look

If you had

One shot

Or one opportunity

To seize everything you ever wanted

In one moment

Would you capture it

Or just let it slip?"

I smiled and went back to what I was doing I would stop here and there to steal glances at Ntando. I like her I like her a lot but getting with a girl like her is going to be difficult. She's not like them other girls around here she's always indoors I'm even surprised that she's out today. Ntando is the type that you only see when she goes to church town or to the local spaza shop..

Me: "You better lose yourself in the music

The moment you own it you better never let it go.. You only get one shot do not miss your chance to blow this opportunity comes once in a lifetime..You better lose yourself in the music the moment you own it you better never let it go.. You only get one shot do not miss your chance to blow this opportunity comes once in a lifetime..

NTANDO (CONNIE)

They were now playing songs that I didn't understand next door Dudu came back with our order. I had only taken two sips from this savanna bottle I don't like it I don't like the taste..

Dudu: Nazo (here we go)

Me: Thank you

Dudu: I don't know why you don't like Zwe I mean his cute

Me: Being cute doesn't pay the bills

She looked at me..

Me: I'm enrolled at Unisa to do teaching say I get on with Zwe when I start working what are we going to eat? My money? How is he going to pay lobola? Ungadlali ngami (don't play with

me)

Dudu: Who said he's life is going to end at the car wash?

Me: His not doing anything to better himself njena cuz?

She shook her head..

Me: He's not looking for a job he is just way too comfortable at that car wash and ontop of that his mom is a well known drunk.. Yuk!

Dudu: For a church going person you very judgmental Cuz

Me: Yeah whatever.. I'm just saying that I want a good man with a good job so we can have a good life. I'm not going to provide for a man Cuz it should be 50/50

Her: Hai cha Ntando uyakhuluma (You have a big mouth)

Me: Let's eat

Her: and drink

Me: Yeah maybe

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To be continued

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02

NTANDO (CONNIE)

We chilled there until it was a bit late to be honest I started to have a bit of fun. I didn't drink much of the savanna I only clung on to that one bottle and it really got to me. Next door they were now playing better music cars were driving in and cars were driving out. I never knew they had such good clients clients who drove nice cars and showed that they were loaded in their pockets. I'm not gold digging nor would I get on with one of them. But in the future when I do decide to date I would really like to date someone who won't be a burden to me. Someone who will help out financially..

Me: You not going to work tomorrow?

Dudu: I'm on leave

Dudu was trying to hustle every guy that greeted us I kept on telling her that no one would buy us free drinks without expecting anything in return. The world doesn't work like

that.. I was starting to get a bit cold I kept on rubbing myself..

Me: Hai Dudu mele sambe manje (We have to go now)

She was left with one bottle of savanna and she was still standing Dudu is a certified drunk..I don't know what people get from drinking a lot alcohol doesn't excite me..

Me: Dudu

Her: Okay ke asambe (okay let's go)

We got up and made our way home she decided to drink her last savanna on the street. This is a mess I hope we won't get arrested because of her carelessness..

ZWELONKE

I left the car wash early today to go and get some food before heading home. I've made R350 it wasn't bad. When I got home with the full chicken chips bread and cool drink my Sister was sitting on the couch busy on her phone. Minnie is 18 years old and she's doing matric I really want her to do well but she seems to be in a world of her own. She doesn't put much effort into her school work

Me: Minnie

Her: Zwe

She didn't even look at me..

I placed the food on the table..

Me: Where is Mom?

Her: Bedroom

I went to my bedroom and put my backpack on my bed I made my way out to go and check up on my mother. I knocked but I didn't get a response. I slowly opened the door and I was met by a pungent smell of urine it had engulfed the whole bedroom. I didn't close the door I left it open. I looked at her and she was passed out on the bed I could tell that she had urinated on herself more than once. I walked out and then closed the door my mother's behaviour is very disheartening. I don't expect her to be perfect but I wish that she could get her shit together be a good mother and take care of herself. I looked at Minnie..

Me: Ngiyabuya (I'm coming back)

Her: Okay

When I'm not at the car wash I sell weed around to make extra cents.. I took my other

back pack of weed put on my hoody and then went out..

NTANDO (CONNIE)

We got home and my mom had just finished cooking I was full I'll see the food tomorrow.

Dudu: Mamncane yabona namhlanje ngilala la kwakho (Aunty tonight I'm sleeping here)

Ma: It's okay.. Ugade ungawi ke (becareful don't fall)

Dudu: Ngisayo lala (I'm going to sleep)

She made her way to my bedroom while I shook my head.. My mom laughed..

Ma: At least you guys had fun

Me: It wasn't bad

I sat down..

Ma: Yini indaba (what's wrong)

Me: Nothing much.. It's just uZwe

Ma: Umfaka ka Hlubi? (The Hlubi boy)

I nodded..

Ma: Wenzeni? (What did he do)

Me: He bores me nje Ma he doesn't wanna give up

Ma: Hau uyamchaza njena (He likes you)

Me: Hai Ma Zwe must give up

Ma: Kanti what's wrong with him?

Me: Are you serious?

She looked at me waiting for a response..

Me: He doesn't know if he's coming or going Ma he doesn't have any future plans. He is very comfortable eCar wash if we do date what exactly will he be bring to the table? I don't see him bettering his life. I don't want a man that's going to be a financial burden a man should be the one taking care of his woman and not the other way around plus his mom yeses!

Ma: Ntando!!

Me: What? I'm telling the truth! She walks up and down these streets drunk everyone knows she's a drunk and those Men there take advantage of her in exchange for another bottle of beer

She threw the swab at me..

Her: Enough Ntando! I didn't raise you like that I kept quiet..

Her: I didn't raise you to disrespect nor talk ill about elders like that it doesn't matter what her lifestyle is at the end of the day mdala and you will respect her

I still remained quiet..

Ma: I'm so disappointed in you

Me: Sorry Ma

Ma: You go to church you shouldn't be talking like that about other people just because uZwe things aren't going well for him that doesn't mean he doesn't want to make his life better. I don't want to hear you saying bad about other people here in my house do you understand me?

Me: Yebo Ma

Ma: You need to pray for your heart Ntando it's too dark

She closed the pot and then gave me one last look before disappearing to the lounge..

ZWELONKE

"Hear my words or listen to my signal of distress.. I grew up in the city and though some times we had less compared to some of my niggas down the block man we were blessed. And life can't be no fairytale no once upon a time but I be God damned if a nigga don't be tryin'.. So tell me mama please why you be drinking all the time? does all the pain he brought you still linger in your mind?

Cause pain still lingers on mine"

I had my earphones on and just sitting at the car wash I have managed to sell at least 3 small bundles so far. That's R75 it's not bad. Cars stop coming at around 20:00 that's when the guys would start packing and leaving. It was now 19:30 they only had 2 cars. I'm sure they going to call it a night after this..

Sjava threw a sponge at me I took off my earphones..

Him: Woza Baba (come)

Me: Ngi ngrand eyami (I'm good)

Him: Ithi ngiyaceda sizoyobamba ayi 2 noma ayi 3 (I'm almost done we'll go and have 2 or maybe 3 beers)

Me: sho ntwana

He washed the car until he finished then he made his way to me..

Me: Namhlanje iBusiness ayihambi kahle (my side business is not going well tonight)

Him: Intsango ayithengisi kangaka (weed doesn't sell that much)

He changed his sneakers..

Him: Wena ntwana ikasi alikufaneli (the hood doesn't suit you)

Me: Ngizophuma kungeku dala (I'll make it out soon)

Him: Yizo eyami (that's my dog)

He got up..

Him: Asambe sobuthi fafa kancance (let's go and drink a little)

Me: Asvaye (let's go)

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To be continued

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03

NTANDO (CONNIE)

The following morning I woke up very early to make my mom breakfast before she left for work I did a lot of thinking last night and realized that I was out of line. I said a lot of things that were harsh I wasn't raised that way indeed. She leaves at 4:30am to catch the first bus she has to be at work by 5:30 to prepare the kids for school. At least she doesn't work that far but I really have to make it work so that she can quit this sorry ass job that drains her a lot. I made her some rooibos tea and soft

porridge it's her favorite breakfast I hope I'll be forgiven after this..

Me: Good morning Ma

Her: Morning

She looked at the porridge and tea..

Her: Goodbye I'll see you later

Me: Ma.. Ngiyaxolisa (I'm sorry)

Her: I didn't raise you that way

Me: I know and I'm sorry

Her: I'll see you later

She walked out she must be really angry to even refuse breakfast. I looked at the food and exhaled in frustration I don't like when there's tension between us..

ZWELONKE

I was woken up by the door opening I had fallen asleep late last night busy working on my invention. I am not trying to compete with the biggest in the game I just want to make my mark. I want to put my country at the top to show the world that South Africa is also able. My phone won't be that much different if I can get funding for this one I can move on to Laptops and TVs. Smart TVs. I just need that

one person to believe in me and then fund me I still don't know what to call it. I got out of bed to check who it was I thought it was my Mother but it was Minnie she freaked out when she saw me standing there..

Her: Ungithusile (you scared me)

I folded my arms..

Me: Ubuyaphi? (Where are you coming from)

Her: I was.. I was from meeting a friend at the gate

Me: Don't lie to me you not even on your PJs. You slept out!

Her: So what? You not my father!

Me: Minnie!

I'm a very humble person I don't fight with anyone and I hate tension with all my heart.

Her: Please let me do me and you do you!

Me: You should be focusing on your school work!

She laughed..

Her: Ohw please! Kuzongimikisaphi lokho? (Where is that going to get me)

Me: Minnie listen to me

Her: Zwe vuka! This is our life we are cursed okay? I can't just sit around and do nothing

Me: I provide for you you don't have to do this!

Her: Angeke sadla imali yase car wash unomphela Zwe! (we can't rely on the small money that you make from the car wash)

Me: I'm trying

Her: Look around.. Siyintlekisa! Abantu basiphathisa okwezinja! (We are a joke people treat us like trash)

Me: If you going to live your life giving fucks about what people say you won't make it. This route that you taking is going to lead you astray you will end pregnant or sick!

Her: I'll take my chances!

She made her way to me..

Her: Askies

She pushed me out of the way and went to her bedroom.. My father only left us the house he took all his furniture and left it empty. We had to get a few things just to make it less empty all the things we have here is nothing but garbage except for the beds that my Brother bought for us. They old now

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all the things we have here is nothing but garbage except for the beds that my Brother

bought for us. They old now you can't get a peaceful sleep from them...

NTANDO (CONNIE)

My cousin woke later after I had finished cleaning all I wanted to do now was to sleep. I've been up since from 4am busy making my mother porridge that she didn't even eat I'm not used to waking up that early

Dudu: Zala

Me: Zala

Her: Kudliwa ini? (What are we eating)

Me: Ahh ungabheka (you can check)

Her: Eish I'm craving something spicy nyana maybe amagwinya ne atchaar

I didn't answer..

Her: Ukahle Zala? (Are you okay)

Me: I fought with my mom last night

Her: Why?

Me: It's nothing serious

Her: Okay

(Silence)

Me: Why do people get mad when I express myself? Why is it so wrong for me not to want to

be involved with someone like Zwe? Why can't I be honest about how I feel

Her: Eish lento futhi (This again)

Me: Yebo yena muhle kodwa sodla ubuhle?
(Yes he is cute but are we going to eat his cuteness)

She sat down..

Me: I don't want to be involved with him and it shouldn't be an issue!!

Her: Whoa Zala.. Kancane nje (Wait a minute cuz)

Me: It's just upsetting..

Her: Mawungamufuni yeka ke ukukhuluma ngaye (If you don't want him then stop talking about him)

Me: I won't because he's always annoying me

Her: Maye ngafa bo

She stood up..

Me: Where are you going?

Her: To buy iGrandpa nama gwinya before ngifa

She made her way to the door..

Me: Mxm

ZWELONKE

Minnie ended up going to school I think she only went to school just to avoid me. I decided to clean first before going to the car wash Minnie will never clean and I can't count on my Mother. As I was busy cleaning I heard her gagging I walked up to her bedroom. I knocked..

Me: Ma???

Her: Ngena (come in)

I opened the door and the smell was now intense it was both urine and vomit..

Ma: Ngicabanga ukuthi ngiyagula Zwe (I think I'm sick)

Me: It's probably hangover

Her: Mina? Ihabhalazi? (Me? Hungover?)

Me: Come on

I walked up to her and helped her to get up the vomit was also on her dress and on the bed..

Me: I'll boil you some water

She was even shaking. I walked out to boil her some water I'll be cleaning her room while she baths. Our geyser burst last year we don't have money to get a new one so we boil the kettle for hot water.. I heard her coughing..

Her: Ohhh Nkosi yam' ngiyafa (Dear God I'm dying)

After preparing her water I led her to the bathroom and then closed the door I went to sort out her bed. When I lifted the blanket it was dripping wet with urine I tried to hold myself back from vomiting. I got the blanket and the sheet down even the mattress was wet. I walked up to her wardrobe to check if she had any clean clothes she did have a clean dress. I took it out and went to put it in my bedroom..

Me: Ma

Her: Yebo?

Me: Uzogqoka ekamereni lami (you'll dress up in my bedroom)

Her: Ngiyabonga mntwanam' (thank you my child)

I went back to her bedroom to sort everything out no matter how hard I tried to downplay this but it didn't work. Tears streamed down. I am a boy and my Mother is showing me things that I'm not supposed to see I would just sit and not do anything but she's my Mother. No one will clean after her when she walks down the street she has to look clean. She's been a laughing

stock for far too long now. They say there's a God why isn't he coming through for us? I'm trying my best but it seems like my best is not good enough. I sat down on the floor crying I usually take shit in and keep it to myself but now it's too much. I can't take this any more

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To be continued

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04

ZWELONKE

I thought I would finish early but washing the blankets and cleaning her room was a lot of work not forgetting the sly comments that the neighbours were throwing at me busy calling me "Sis'bhuti". My mother was sleeping on the couch I've been busy making her to drink water hoping that her hangover would soon disappear. I was done at exactly 12:00 in the afternoon I was dead tired. I would rest a bit but there's no time for resting I need to go out and

hustle. I took a blanket from Minnie's room and put it on her because she was shivering I stood there and looked at her for a while..

NTANDO (CONNIE)

As always Dudu dragged me to the corner so that we could get something to eat and chill. I'm sure a few people from the hood were amazed seeing me sitting here. Dudu had bought a quart of flying fish she was broke to buy the 6 pack. The car wash was busy as always I kept on running my eyes there and I couldn't see Zwe I kept on seeing his friend Sjava and a few other guys that work there..

Dudu: Yabona manje they playing my songs

Me: Don't tell you gonna get up and dance please

Her: If the song allows I will

(Silence)

Her: You still shaken by the fight you had with your Mom?

I even forgot about that..

Me: Not exactly.. I don't see Zwe at the car wash

Her: For someone who hates the guy you talk about him a lot

Me: I'm just wondering that's all

Her: Yazi if you could give him a chance you two would be good together. Trust me you need someone like him as your first boyfriend

I chuckled..

Me: That won't happen Dudu

Her: I know I'm just saying you don't wanna fall for someone who will break your heart. You won't recover

Me: Ngi right Dudu

Her: Okay ke stop talking about him

She looked at the time...

Her: Ngiyabuya let me go and see if our order is ready

ZWELONKE

On my way to the car wash I bumped into Mbali she's a good friend of mine. We were in the same class in high school from grade 8 until grade 10..

Her: Zwe

Me: Skeem

Her: Vandag ngiyohlala nani eCar wash (Today I'm going to chill with you guys at the car wash)
Mbali has a bit of a reputation

Sponsored

from grade 8 until grade 10..

Her: Zwe

Me: Skeem

Her: Vandag ngiyohlala nani eCar wash (Today I'm going to chill with you guys at the car wash)
Mbali has a bit of a reputation she even dated my friend Sjava at some point. She's the type of girl that your Mother wouldn't approve of. She was very beautiful in high school most of the guys wanted her if not all. Her beauty is still a bit there but it's not as how it was back in high school. We walked to the car wash by now she had lit a cigarette and we kept on exchanging it. We didn't go straight to the car wash we passed by at the corner first she wanted something to eat. Ntando was sitting there alone busy on her phone today I ignored her. I wasn't in the best mood to be dealing with her attitude..

Mbali: Let me sit down ngikhokhe umoya

Me: I'll go and buy

I left her with my backpack while I went to order Dudu already there. It wasn't busy today. I ordered some chips half white bread and a cool drink..

Dudu: Gazi

Me: Gazi

Dudu: Namhlanje uLate (today you late)

Me: I had errands to run

Dudu: Ngizokubona (I'll see you)

Me: Sharp

I paid and then waited for our order when it came I took everything and went to sit with Mbali. I had my back against Ntando..

Mbali: Ehh Skeem

Me: Yini (What)

Her: Yazi uNtando has been giving me nasty looks

She opened the cool drink..

Her: It's like I stole her man

Me: uNtando unama moods wakhe (Ntando has her moods)

Mbali: I think she likes you

I laughed..

Me: Yeah right

Her: Usamfuna? (You still want her)

Me: Aii you know uNtando

She smiled a little..

Her: Let me try something

She got up and came to me out of the blue she kissed me then hugged me. She went back to her where she was sitting...

I wiped my lips..

Me: And then?

Her: Thula wena uzobona (You'll see)

We started eating..

NTANDO (CONNIE)

I don't know why but when Mbali kissed Zwe something deep inside of me moved..I couldn't even breath properly nor eat my Kota (bunny chow)

Me: Nx sies!!

Dudu: Yini? (What)

Me: uZwe akazithandi (Zwe doesn't respect himself)

Dudu: What are you talking about?

Me: Look at him he's now messing around with the biggest dirt in the hood

Dudu: Why do you care? I thought you didn't like the guy?

Me: Vele I don't I was just saying
I saw them getting up they took their food and
walked away. Zwe didn't even look at me

Me: I might make this a takeaway

Dudu: You not hungry?

Me: Not anymore

I looked at them as they made their way to the
car wash..

Me: Did you see that? He didn't even greet me
nor look at me

Dudu rolled her eyes..

Me: Sies yazi I thought he was different

Dudu: Please Ntando I don't wanna hear
nothing about Zwe anymore

Me: Sorry I didn't know I was boring you

Her: Well you are

Me: Mxm

This whole situation bored me to death..

.

To be continued

05

NTANDO (CONNIE)

Life went on as usual Dudu didn't stay for that
long. When she left I went back to my normal

routine being indoors and instead of watching movies I started with my school work I didn't wanna take any chances. I hardly saw uZwe because I never went back to the corner. Things between me and my mom were better now everything was just peaceful. It was a Saturday morning since we were doing 21 days fasting at church my pastor decided that we going to have a church service today. One in the morning and another one later on. I decided not to go to the morning service I had to clean but my Mom was going... My mom walked back into the house she had been outside talking to the guy who cuts our grass and clean the yard..

Mom: Ntando

Me: Ma

Her: Sengiyahamba (I'm leaving)

Me: Okay Ma

Her: So you know the drill please make some food for uZwe

Me: Huh?

Her: He will be cutting our grass and cleaning the yard

I walked up to the window Zwe was standing outside preparing everything..

Me: What happened to our usual guy?

Ma: He went home you know South Africa and Xenophobia

Me: We couldn't get anyone else?

Ma: No.. Someone told me about uZwe

Me: I didn't know ukuthi he cleans yards

Ma: Nami but ke he comes highly recommended

Me: Ohw

Ma: Remember you are redeeming yourself so be nice to him

Me: Yebo Ma

She took her bag and left. Out of everyone uZwe??..

I stood at the window and looked at him he had on a big hat. It was very sunny and hot outside. I continued with my chores then I looked at the time and he was now here for almost an hour. I exhaled and closed my eyes..

Me: Come on Ntando you can do this

I unlocked the front door and opened it he had done half of the grass because he was using a scissor instead of the machine. He had taken

off his t-shirt he was left with his hat his blue overall trouser and his old worn out all star sneakers. He was sweating I saw a trail of sweat from his chest going all the way down to his Adonis belt (V-line). His trousers were not all the way up. I took a few deep breaths and walked out..

Me: Hey

He moved his eyes from the street and then looked at me he looked more handsome with the hat on. The string extended to a bit to his chest..

Him: Ntando

I cleared my throat..

Me: Uhm.. My.. My mom said I should make you something to eat

Him: Thank you but I'm not hungry

He went back to looking at the people who were busy passing why is he so called towards me all of a sudden?

Me: Can I get you some water? Cold water?

He looked at me again...

Him: Cha ngiyabonga I'll drink from the tap
I didn't know what to say after that I went back inside the house. I tried to continue with what

was left of my chores but it bothered me that he was cold against me all of a sudden I let another hour pass and then prepared some cheese sandwiches and juice. I took the tray to him he was sitting at the doorstep now holding what looked like a book. I didn't disturb him I looked at the book and those were pretty good phone designs. I stood there until he turned and saw me he closed the book..

Me: Sorry I didn't mean to startle you

Him: It's okay

Me: I've made you some sandwiches

Him: That's sweet but I did tell you that I'm good

I turned back but I didn't get inside the house this is ridiculous!. I looked at him again..

Me: Did I do anything to offend you?

Him: Askies?

Me: You very cold towards me

Him: I don't know what you talking about

Me: Come on Zwe

He smiled and shook his head..

I went and sat down next to him..

Me: You've been working for almost 2 hours now I'm sure you hungry and you haven't even had cold water.. That's not good in this heat
He looked at me without saying anything..

Me: What?

Him: I didn't think you care

Me: Well.. My mom gave me strict orders
He nodded..

Him: Okay thank you for the sandwiches
He took the tray from me.. Before he started eating he looked at me..

Him: Anything else?

Me: Uhm no

Him: Thank you for the sandwiches
That was a polite way of him saying "You can now leave)

I cleared my throat..

Me: This is probably none of my business but..
You and Mbali? I mean shs is a well know b-.. I mean a well known loose girl around here

Him: The first line was correct

Me: I'm just wondering why a guy like you would fall for someone like her I mean she's is not your type

Him: Who is my type?

Me: I'm just saying

Him: Mbali and I we just friends.. Happy now?

That was a big relief..

Me: So what's going on in that book?

Him: It's nothing

Me: Come on

Him: It's something that I only show to my friends and people who are very close to me

Me: Ohw

Him: Ya for you to see what's inside you have to my friend or be close to me

Me: Well I.. I can be your friend

He gave me a weird look..

Him: Serious?

Me: So long you don't hit on me

He curved his lips..

Him: Okay

Me: Can I see?

Him: Wait

He passed me his phone..

Him: As my friend I need to have you on whatsApp

Now he was pushing it.. I put my number in his phone

Me: Done

You would expect Zwe to smell somehow but even with all that sweat his shower gel still made it to my nostrils.. He gave me his book and I looked at it busy paging through.

Everything was in detail this was damn good..

Me: Wow.. This is good

Him: You think?

Me: Yes please tell me more

Him: You'll just laugh

Me: I won't.. I promise

Him: Okay..

He went to tell me about his vision and to be honest I was shocked. All along I thought this guy was just wasting his time at the car wash this is a very big and good vision..

Me: So all you need is funding?

Him: Yes

Me: This is good Zwe this is very good..

Honestly speaking I would buy your phone most importantly because it's a South African invention

He looked at me without saying anything..

Me: What?

He smiled..

Him: Nothing.. I'll go and wash my hands so I can eat the sandwiches

Me: Okay

He went to wash his hands whilst I continued to look at his designs he came back and started eating. Somehow I managed to hear his story about why he never considered going to varsity he didn't get into detail with everything but I heard him. I heard most of it. When he was done eating he went back to doing his job to keep busy I decided to help him since I was done with my chores. I don't wanna lie I was having a good time with him. We were talking about basic things and he was making me laugh he has a good sense of humour. I had a refuse bag and I kept putting the grass that he had cut inside he was busy racking it in my direction until he did it forcefully that some landed on me..

Him: Yerrr askies

He did that on purpose..

Me: Can you be careful please?

He laughed..

Him: I'm sorry.. Let me help

He came and helped me to dust it off that went on until our hands somehow crossed paths. He looked at me and I looked at him he had beautiful eyes.. He broke the eye contact..

Him: Sorry

Me: It's okay

We continued cleaning and then made it to the back there were a few bricks lying around. I decided to pack them before he started sweeping.. I was very surprised at how he worked he didn't take minor breaks. After like 5min I would just stand there all tired and then start again..

Him: Let me help you with that before you hurt yourself

He was a true gentleman..

Me: I'll start sweeping

He picked up the bricks and put them against the wall I swept half of the yard and then he finished off. Finally we were done that took a very long time and I was now very tired..

Him: Thank you for helping me out

Me: It's nothing really

He went to wash his hands..

Me: I'll go get your money

I went to take the R250 on my Mom's dressing table then I went and gave it to him.

He took it and then gave me R100..

Me: That's not necessary

Him: You helped.. It's only fair

I took it..

Me: Thank you

Him: I should get going I need to home and bath again then go to the car wash

Me: You won't rest?

Him: I don't rest

Me: Okay then.. Thank you for cleaning our yard

Him: You welcome

He walked away..

Me: Hey

He stopped and looked at me...

Me: There's a church service later on you can join if you want

Him: Maybe some other time thank you

That was very stupid

Sponsored

of course he was going to say no. How can one invite someone to church? That was just below the belt..

Me: You very stupid Ntando

I went back inside I waited for him to leave then I locked the doors. I went and bathe first when I was done I went straight to bed.

ZWELONKE

I never thought that Ntando would finally give in to me I know we not dating but I've been after this girl for a very long time now. Ever since she was doing grade 11 she has never even thought of holding a decent conversation with me then. I was more taken by the fact that she didn't laugh at my dream most people laughed and discouraged me but with her she somehow believed in it..

I got home and there was no one was around I went to my bedroom to put the money I made today with the rest of the money that I'm going to deposit tomorrow. Things in my wardrobe were upside down I checked my money and it wasn't there. R1500 gone just like that..

Me: You got to be kidding me!

Minnie is everything but a thief I could leave money lying around she won't take it

without asking. The only culprit is my Mom that's my hard earned money..

I sat down on my bed defeated she's not even going to do anything useful with the money but just blow it on alcohol. I took off my hat and threw it on the floor I can't believe she stole from me..

NTANDO (CONNIE)

I tried to sleep but I couldn't I kept on thinking about Zwe. His sweaty upper body and his beautiful eyes. I took my phone and checked him on whatsapp his last seen was at 13:00. It's now 14:00. I'm going to play this cool I'm not going to text him first.. I heard my Mom calling out I got out of bed and went to open for her..

Her: Yooh this yard looks clean he did better than our usual guy

Me: That's true I even helped out
She gave me a weird look..

Her: Serious?

Me: Yes

She laughed..

Me: What?

Her: I just can't imagine you cleaning the yard

Me: I did.. I helped him

Her: That's good

She walked to her room..

Me: Ohw and Ma guess what?

Her: What?

I followed her to her bedroom..

Me: I was wrong about him

Her: Really?

Me: Yeap.. He is not wasting his life at the car wash

She started undressing..

Me: Please don't tell anyone but he showed me his phone design if he gets funding his phone will be the biggest thing in South Africa

Ma: That's good Zwe does seem smart

Me: He is beyond the word smart he's very well spoken he is sweet and he is such a gentle man

Her: Woow it looks you two had fun

Me: Actually I did he is a good friend

Her: Friend?

Me: Ohw we friends now

She sat next to me...

Her: I've never seen you this excited about a boy at some point I thought you were lesbian

Me: Haaa Ma!

Her: I was even ready to accept you Nana

Me: I'm not lesbian Ma

Her: Well then sweetie I know that you don't have any experience in dating but please don't rush into anything and condoms are very affordable

Me: We not going to date Ma we just friends

Her: Yes of course.. What am I thinking you two are just friends

Me: I'll make you some tea

Her: Thank you baby

ZWELONKE

I bathe and made my way to the car wash my Mom really pissed me off today. From hereon I just have to deposit my money right away. I have at least R5000 in the bank when I make it to R10 000 I wanna start buying things for the house... The car wash was busy as usual I changed to my gear and went to help

Sjava: Ntwana yam' take those two cars
ngisayo bamba iBeer

Me: Sho eyam'

Sjava is a good guy he always looks out for me..

NTANDO (CONNIE)

I know I said I'm not going to text him first but I decided too..

Me: "Friend"

My message only had one tick maybe he's busy..

Me: Ma

She was dozing on the couch..

Me: Ma

She looked at me..

Me: I'm going to the corner should I get you something

Her: No Nana I'm good don't take long we going to church later on

Me: I won't

I made my out I was wearing my summer dress and sandals. I'm not big on makeup so I only used an eyeliner. My afro was nicely combed and I had a hairband.. At least the corner is not that far... I put in my order and I saw that it was busy at the car wash. I went and sat down but that didn't go so well. It was full today and these guys were busy eyeing me all drunk and being disrespectful I stood up and made my way to

the car wash with one of the drunkards following me. He was really starting to scare me now because I really didn't wanna talk to him and he didn't understand that..

When I got to the gate he grabbed my arm in a very rough way..

Him: Ai wena ng'khuluma nawe (I'm talking to you)

This is a new experience for me I didn't know how to react this guy was scaring me and his friends were standing not that far from us. They were looking at us..

Him: Ungazong'chomela wena tsek!! (don't play hard to get)

Me: Let go of my arm you hurting me!

Him: Cabanga ukuthi you important ngale English yakho your rubbish!!! (You think you important with your English)

I don't think they were from our hood it was my first time seeing them...

Me: Let go of me!

Tears were near..

Him: Buya wena noma ngizokuthela ngale beer (Come or I'll pour this beer on you)

My heart was beating way too fast..

He was pulling me..

Me: Please leave me alone (crying)

He raised up his beer bottle.. His friends were chanting "mthele" (pour it on her)

I didn't know what to do..

Voice: Ngake uqale (I would like to see you try)

He stopped pulling me then he let go of my arm. I turned back and it was Sjava he was standing with Zwe. Sjava had a chain rolled around his hand the rest of it was dangling around..

Zwe: Sizoba nenkinga? (Are we going to have a problem)

I have never seen Zwe this serious..

The guy looked at me and turned to his friends then he turned back to us..

Him: Nex Majita bengidlalisa uNgwana kphela (No we won't have a problem I was just playing with her)

Sjava: voetsek ke anigcwale indlela (Ya'll can leave now)

The guy looked at me and licked his lower lip..

Zwe: What the??

Zwe walked up to him but I stopped him halfway..

Guy: Uzoyenzani? (What are you going to do)

Zwe: Wena ufuna ukwenzani? (what do you want want to do)

Guy: Woza baba phela mina angishi (come let's fight I'm not scared)

Zwe tried to get to him but I put my hands on his chest and pushed him back..

Me: Zwe just leave him he's not worth it

Zwe: I just want to see what he's going to do that's all

He said that with a smile on his face but in actual fact he was pissed..

Me: Zwe please

Sjava also came closer.. The guy took out his knife..

Guy: Woza Baba (come)

Zwe: Don't worry nothing is going to happen I just wanna see what he's going to do that's all His friends called him..

Guy: Ayikapheli (this is not over)

Zwe: Izobonana (We will see each other again)

The guy walked up to his friends they got in their Gusheshe and started spinning around before they left..

Sjava: Nx!! Sesihamba nje sijwayelwa

Zwe turned to me..

Him: Are you okay?

I was literally shaking I put my arms around his waist and buried my face on his chest crying..

Zwe: Bakuphi vele laba fana? (where are they from)

Sjava: Ang'cavi yazi (I don't know)

They really scared me..

Sjava: Bheka manje bathuse uNgwana (Look now they've scared her)

Zwe: Nono

Me: Just walk me home please (crying)

Zwe: I'll walk you home let me just finish up here

Me: I wanna go home (crying)

Him: You will go.. How about you come chill inside the car wash then later when I'm done I'll take you home is that alright?

I nodded..

Him: Asambe ke (let's go inside then)

.

To be continued

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06

NTANDO (CONNIE)

"Isina muva liyabukwa akasekho obhek'muva shona phantsi.. Jaiva nawe moova wena uzele ukugroova shona phantsi"

For some weird reason I was having fun at the car wash with Zwe and his friends he was the one busy washing cars and Sjava was entertaining me with all his ridiculous talks and occasionally dancing. Zwe had gone to fetch my food next door I didn't even eat the whole thing. I got full quickly. I never knew these guys were so much fun I always thought that they were a bunch of low life crackheads. I was having so much fun I don't wanna lie I was being treated like a queen.

I somehow even pushed back what happened earlier to the back of my head. I kept on looking at Zwe I was taken about everything that he was doing. The way he moved around the way he laughed and smiled when he looked at me my heart would met. It was really nice...

Sjava: Wena awazi nex Ntando sibuya kude
(We come very far)

Me: Serious?

Sjava: Mina ngike nga vimba ama bullet nge halavu (I once stopped bullets coming my way with a shovel)

Me: Hai Sjava that doesn't sound right
(Laughing)

Zwe laughed too..

Sjava: Ehh wena uyadlala (You playing)

Me: Thsta something

Him: Bamba so (hold here)

He handed me the quart of castle lite..

Him: Ugade lapho ngiyabuya ngisayoshaya i six-nine (Gaurd it I'm going to pee)

Me: Okay

He got up and danced his way all to the back. I looked at it and then smelled it then I brought it closer to my lips. I just wanted to taste if it's nice because he was drinking it like a fish.. Zwe's voice freaked me out that I almost dropped the bottle..

Zwe: Wenzani? (What are you doing)

I put it down..

Me: I just wanted to taste it

He raised one of his eyebrows..

Me: Ngiyadlala I was smelling it

He continued cleaning the interior of the car while singing along to the song that was playing..

Zwe: "Isina muva liyabukwa akesekho obheka muva shona phantsi.. Jaiva nawe moova wena uzel'ukugroova shona phantsi"

I found myself smiling like a retard I can't believe I'm being smitten by this guy..I took out my phone and went on Facebook because my entertainment was gone the song changed. At first I wasn't taken by it but when I listened to it more it really hit.. I looked at Zwe after a while and he was singing along to it while looking at me..

Zwe: "Babe you in denial girl you love me so.. That's the reason you should be mine girl I love you more.."

When our eyes met he looked away and continued with what he was doing.. He looked at me again I smiled at him and he smiled back at me while singing along..

Zwe:" We a match made in heaven and you know it can't deny the fact that I fantasise everyday"

I blushed and went back to my phone. Zwe has this cute side smile that gets to me it gets to my heart then goes down to my stomach then all the way down to my V-jayjay".. The moment was interrupted by Sjava's scratchy voice. He came back to sit down while zipping his pants and with a cigarette in his mouth. I doubt he even washed his hands I passed him bottle..

Sjava: Dankie.. Dankie Mommy

I crossed my legs I was sitting on a camping chair...

Sjava: Ey baba awudlale into ekhona (Play a nice song)

Zwe kept on changing songs until Sjava found himself a Suitable song..

"Zaka zaka zaka sifuna izaka zaka zaka"

Sjava: Wazi mina ke eyam'

I am a Beyoncé and Rihanna type of girl so these songs I was hearing them for the first time but they were nice no lie. He went on to dance Zwe would join him here and there..

Sjava: Buya Ntando (Come Ntando)

Me: No no no

He came and got me from the chair I didn't wanna dance but I ended up dancing while holding my dress. I didn't even know what I was doing but the beat was nice we kept dancing like that until my phone started ringing. It was my Mother I walked to the gate to answer..

Me: Ma

Ma: Ntando kanti sowuhlala eCorner? (Ntando now you live at the corner)

Me: Ma?

Ma: Yey wena we late for church!!

Dammit I completely forgot about church..

I looked at Zwe and Sjava..

Me: Can't you go without me?

Ma: Ntando! Endlini manje (Ntando! Come home now)

Me: Okay ngiyeza (I'm coming)

I walked back to Zwe..

Me: I have to go back home

Him: I thought you were having fun?

Me: I am but I have to go to church

Him: Okay ithi ngikukhapse (I'll accompany you)

He looked at Sjava..

Zwe: I'm coming eyami.. Ngisabeka uNono amanyawo (I'm coming I'm accompanying Ntando)

Sjava: Hau Ntando kanjalo vele (Just like that)

Me: I'm going to church

Sjava: Usibeke (pray for us)

Me: Okay

Sjava: Sho Ngwana

Zwe and I started walking..

Me: I even forgot that I'm going to church

Zwe chuckled..

I held his hand

Sponsored

he didn't protest..

Me: I had fun

Him: The car wash is a lot of fun

Me: It is.. Thank you for what you did for me earlier on

Him: akuna stress

The walk home seemed a bit short I wanted to be with him spend some time with him. He stopped at the gate..

Him: Kuzomele ngijike (I have to go back)

Me: Thank you

He gave me the side smile again..

Him: Sharp friend

The "friend" situation brought me back to reality..

Me: Bye

He still stood there..

Him: I'm waiting for you to go back in

Me: Ohw ya.. Bye

Him: Sharp

I walked into the yard he waited for me to totally disappear.. I opened the kitchen door all smiling my smile disappeared when I saw my Mom standing there..

Me: Ma..

Her: Don't even say anything go get your Bible we late!

Me: Okay

I smiled and went to get my Bible..

Her: Don't forget a jacket it's cold

Me: Yebo Ma

My phone beeped it was a whatsapp text from Zwe..

"Enjoy church"

I texted back..

"Thank you"

He then sent me a smiley emoticon I sat down on my bed and smiled..

Ma: Ntando!!!

Me: Ngiyeza Ma (I'm coming Ma)

ZWELONKE

I walked back to the car wash to finish off what I was doing.. When I got there Mbali and her crew were around.. They were crowding Sjava.. I greeted them Sjava had finished off the car that I was busy with. So we split the cash..

Sjava: Eyami asambeni siye ka Zozo (My friend let's go to have fun)

I looked at them Mbali is a vulture. She's probably broke her and her friends want something with something to buy them alcohol..

Me: Ngi grand (I'm good)

Mbali: Kanti yini manje? (What's wrong now)

I packed up my things..

Sjava: Sekadlisiwe lo (They've given him a love portion already)

Mbali: Ubani? (Who)

Sjava: Ntando

Mbali: uNtando?

Me: I just have better things to do on a Saturday night

I don't do much alcohol honestly with my state of finance I don't have money to be blowing around I'd rather use that money to do something concrete. I can't compare myself with them they come from ordinary homes they don't have to worry about their next meal. Unlike me I am the breadwinner at home and I have to be working on my invention start thinking about where to get funding than wasting my time blowing money then regretting tomorrow..

Me: Sharp Eyami

Sjava: Sho Eyami

I walked home..

NTANDO (CONNIE)

If I said I was concentrating at church I would be lying. In my mind Alicia Keys teenage love affair" was playing.

"Can't wait to get home
Baby dial your number
Can you pick up the phone
'cause I wanna holla?

Daydreaming about you all day
In school can't concentrate
Want have your voice in my ear
'Til ma comes and says it's too late"
With that I kept on checking my phone until my
Mom took it she gave me a deadly look. I didn't
say anything I stood up and participated in the
praise and worship..

ZWELONKE

I saw a few kids crowding the gate at my house
only to find that they were busy poking my Mom
with sticks who was passed out at the gate.
They were busy poking her and laughing she
was gone with half of her dress up she wasn't
even wearing an underwear. I got closer and
they ran away some of their Mothers were
standing next door at the gate busy laughing at
what was happening. I looked at her and she
had pissed on herself again I picked her up she
protested..

Her: Wenzani maan (What are you doing)
I dragged her inside whilst she was busy hitting
me..

Her: Zwe?

Me: Ma

Her: Hai maan ngibisele kamaphifu (take me back to the tarven)

I ignored her..

Her: Yazi u useless uyafana nobabakho kungcono ubhuti wakho beka nceda (You are useless just like your father at your brother used to help)

I tried to ignore her comments..

Her: Bekungcono ngabe kufe wena (it would've been better if you the one who died)

I still ignored her what can you say to a drunk person that can make sense?

Her: Mina ngidla imali yam' ungazongenza so (I spend my money don't do me like this)

I went and threw her on her bed she kept on talking but she was too drunk to even get up. I banged the door on my way out and went to my room. I took out my phone and earphones I put on my earphones and laid back on my bed. I put the volume on full blast I was boiling inside..

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To be continued

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07

CONNIE (NTANDO)

The next day I did my chores a bit early at around 6am because Zwe sent me a whatsApp text that we should go to the mall for ice creams and chill a bit too. By 7am I was done there wasn't much to do around the house except for my laundry of which it was dry by 9am thanks to the tumble dryer.. When the clock hit exactly 12 I was done bathing and preparing myself for the day ahead. When I walked out Zwe was already waiting at the gate for me..

Me: Hi

Him: friend

Here we go with the friend thing..

Him: Are you ready to go?

Me: Yes I am

We walked to the taxi rank to get a taxi that dropped us off exactly at the gate of the mall. He wasn't his usual self today he seemed

somewhat distracted..I looked at him as he ate his ice cream slowly..

Me: uRight?

He looked at me and smiled..

Him: Ngi right

Me: Okay

Him: How is school going?

Me: It's not bad how is your vision going?

Him: It's not bad

I chuckled..

Me: I have a feeling that you going to make it I believe in you

Him: Thank you very much and because of that I'm going to buy you a car when I do make it

Me: Well then I hope you will be able to afford by then the latest one

Him: I hope so too

Me: Zwe

He looked at me again..

Me: I'm sorry about how I used to treat you

Him: It's okay all is forgiven

(Silence)

Him: Can I ask you something?

Me: Yes?

Him: Are we going to be friends forever?

Me: I really don't know

Him: So can I get myself a girlfriend?

I didn't say anything to that..

Me: I don't know

He looked at me without saying anything..

Me: I think we are good as friends

Him: Ntando we can't be friends forever do you know how difficult it is for me right now to be your friend when I'm very much into you? This friendship thing won't work for me you can't be my friend forever

Me: I've never dated before and relationships seem messy

Him: How do you know?

Me: Twitter

He laughed..

Him: Those are other people's experiences you can't take them and make them your own

I thought for a while..

Me: I don't wanna fall pregnant

Him: I'm not looking to have a kid either

Me: I really don't know Zwe

Him: No pressure.. Entlek forget that I said anything

Me: I like you a lot

Him: Then what's stopping you from being with me?

I didn't know what to say he went back to his ice cream..

Me: Okay then maybe we can try this dating thing

Him: I'm not forcing you into anything

Me: You not I'm just scared. We good friends and I don't want us to ruin that

Him: That's why I said let's forget about it I don't want it to seem like I'm forcing you into anything

Me: You not.. I.. Let's try it then let's try this dating thing

Him: Are you sure?

Me: I am

Him: sure sure sure?

Me: Yes I'm sure

What exactly are you doing Ntando? But I'm 20 hey most of my mates by this age are on their second relationships if not 3rd. I'm bound to date soon and maybe Zwe is a good guy for me. His financial state is not impressive but he makes me very happy makes me feel different. Maybe I should give him a chance.....

When we were done eating our ice creams we did a bit of window shopping while holding hands. My favourite part was when we went to game at the phone department and he gave that sales person a run for his reputation. He was asking questions that the sales person couldn't answer about the phones it was very impressive. I enjoyed being in the presence of this smart guy. Zwe is very smart more smarter than I gave him credit for. After what seemed like a long time of us being at the mall we went back to the hood. We chilled at the car wash a little it wasn't busy today and I was disappointed that my entertainment Sjava was not around. Zwe ended up working on his vision I leaned over his shoulder and kept on asking him questions. He kept on poking my nose occasionally with the pencil we shared not so deep kisses also. Kissing this was my first time kissing a guy and I enjoyed it. This dating thing might not be as bad as I thought.. My Mom knocks off at 16:00 and she's home exactly at 17:00. It was now 16:00 I had to go home and cook. It's a good thing that I defrosted the meat earlier on before I left.. Zwe walked me home

we were still holding hands of which people found it very odd. People in this hood they have never seen me with a guy before..

Him: And I end here

Me: I really had fun today thank you

Him: I had fun too

He snaked his arms around my waist and kissed me the kiss went on for a while now that I decided to break the moment..I wiped his lips with my thumb..

Him: I'll call you later

Me: I'd like that very much

Him: Bye

Me: Bye

It wasn't even late but he waited for me to get inside the yard. When I got inside the house I quickly went to the window to watch him slowly walking away I hate to say this but I was in love.. I started cooking whilst listening to one of my favorite songs now the song had a meaning. When I was single I used to listen to it just for fun and hoping that one day it will mean something to me or that I'll dedicate it to some and today it did..

"You the one that I dream about all day

You the one that I think about always
You are the one so I make sure I behave
My love is your love your love is my love

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your love is my love love love
Baby I love you I need you here
Give me all the time
Baby we meant to be
You got me smiling all the time"
I imagined him as I sang along his smile his
gentle touch the way he kissed me. I even
literally ran my thumb on my lower lip when he
buried his head on my shoulder with his soft lips
against my neck. They not lying when they say
love is a beautiful thing...

ZWELONKE

Business was slow today at the car wash but
my weed side business didn't fail me. Those
high school boys came straight to buy they my
biggest customers. One of them even sat with
me whilst smoking Mduduzi he's 18 and doing
matric..

Him: Zwe

Me: Ya?

Him: Ndoda why don't you sell cocaine too?

Me: Coke?

Him: Ya Ndonda it will make you a lot of money plus I wanna try it

Me: Stick to weed china

Him: Come on man

Me: I'm not going to sell cocaine to high school kids

Him: Ehh uyasala wena

That was a terrible idea.. My phone beeped it was a whatsApp message from Ntando I smiled..

*****WhatsApp*****

Ntando: Honey honey

I can see the stars all the way from here

Can't you see the glow on the window pane

I can feel the sun whenever you're near

Every time you touch me I just melt away

I was confused a little..

Ntando: Reference: Beyoncé

Me: Lol ohw I thought you now a poet

Her: Hahaha not exactly

Me: You supposed to be cooking

Her: I am

Me: You chatting

Her: I can do both
Me: Can you even cook?
Her: Yes
Me: I'd like to taste your food
Her: Tomorrow I'll bring you lunch
Me: Hmmmmm
Her: Let me finish up
Me: I'll call you later
Her: I'll be waiting

I didn't expect her to be taken this fast but now that I've got her I'm not planning on ruining it. I've wanted this girl for far too long

NTANDO (CONNIE)

My mom finally came back she found me in my room studying. She greeted then went to her room I left everything and went to her..

Me: Ma

Her: Ntando

Me: Unjani? (how are you)

Her: I'm good

Me: I'm good too

She continued undressing then she looked at me..

Her: Everything okay?

Me: I have to tell you something

Her: What is it?

Me: Don't be mad

Her: Ntando wenzeni manje? (what did you do now)

My mom and I we best friends I tell her everything..

Me: I have a boyfriend

Her: Huh?

Me: I have a boyfriend now

Her: How? I mean you always indoors

Me: It's Zwe

Her eyes widened..

Her: Interesting

Me: You not mad?

Her: I'm confused Saturday you guys were friends

Me: I know.. Now we decided to date

Her: I'm guessing tomorrow you guys are going to get married?

Me: No Ma..

Her: I'm just assuming

I gave her a defeated look..

Her: I'm sorry I'm just surprised at how fast things are moving now.. Are you sure about this?

Me: Yes

Her: Why did you decide to date him? I mean not so long you were undermining him

Me: I know and that was wrong of me but he makes me happy

Her: I can tell even the phone at church

Me: I'm sorry about that

Her: I don't have a problem so long you don't fall pregnant or neglect your school work

Me: I won't

Her: You promise?

Me: I promise

Her: Okay

Me: So the fact that he might not marry me anytime soon it doesn't worry you?

Her: What can I say Ntando I can't choose a man for you. The last thing I want is for you to be sneaking out and all that. You and adult now you have a right to make your own decisions. It's your life I've live mine. I can't tell you how to live yours but I'll always give you good advices and I trust that you will always be responsible

Me: Thank you Ma

Her: Dish up I'm very tired and hungry

Me: Okay I'll go and dish up

ZWELONKE

I went home at around 19:00 for the first time in a very long time I found my sister cooking..

Me: Am I seeing things?

Her: Don't start

Me: My bad

Her: How was your day?

Me: It wasn't bad.. Yours?

Her: It was okay

Me: How is school?

Her: School is okay

Me: Okay

I didn't push..

Me: Guess what?

Her: You won the lotto.. No wait you got a job?

Me: No.. I have a girlfriend

Her: All along you weren't dating?

Me: Not exactly

Her: Wow.. I thought you were dating

Me: No I wasn't

Her: Well good for you for reaching puberty or the adolescent stage whatever it's called

Me: You don't wanna know who she is?

Her: Ubani?

Me: Ntando

Her: Which one?

I raised my eyebrow..

Her: Wait.. Thee Ntando?

Me: Yes

Her: Miss goody two shoes? The most perfect girl in this hood? Ntando Miss universe? Ntando Miss I'm better than others? Ntando miss varsity? uMam'fundisi? Nta-

Me: Okay that's enough

Her: I'm sorry.. I'm just surprised

Me: She finally gave in

Her: And people think God doesn't exist?

Me: don't hate

Her: My lips are sealed

I shook my head... I kept her company as she cooked Minnie and I we don't talk that much.

She's hardly home so it's good that today we talking and not fighting.. Our happy Brother and Sister moment was interrupted by my Mother tonight she wasn't alone. She was with

company some man. They were holding bottles of beers my mood changed.. I saw Minnie getting irritated too..

Me: Excuse me

I walked to my room..

Ma: Zwe!!

I ignored her I locked my room..

NTANDO (CONNIE)

I was reading my Bible when Zwe's whatsApp video call came through thank God I already bathe and washed my face..

I accepted his video call..

Me: Hey you

Him: Nono

Me: How are you?

Him: I'm good.. You?

Me: I'm good too

Him: What are you doing?

Me: I was..

I looked at my Bible..

Me: I was just studying

Him: Hope I'm not disturbing

Me: No I'm actually done

Him: don't lie

Me: I'm serious

Him: School work is important I don't want you getting distracted

Me: No it's fine I'm done with school work

Him: Hope you not lying

Me: Bible

Him: Huh?

Me: Never mind

(Silence)

Me: I was actually checking my car that someone promised me

He laughed..

Him: I'll get you that

Me: I'm noting it down on my diary

Him: Do that

Me: And possibly the biggest wedding?

Him: That too

Me: A house?

Him: Yes that too

Me: I'm holding you to every word

Him: Note it down.. Remind me what are you bringing again?

Me: Love

He laughed again..

Me: And my degree

Him: And a second degree

Me: Maybe a masters

Him: Ya but I was talking about something else

Me: What is that?

Him: Never mind

I laid back on my bed as we continued talking we ended up talking about retarded that made laugh. Like really laugh I was enjoying this moment..

.

To be continued

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08

NTANDO (CONNIE)

Time passed and my relationship with Zwe only got stronger it's been a few months now since we've been dating but it's like we have been dating for years. School was also going well I wasn't falling behind on anything..

Today my Mom decided that we should invite Zwe over for Dinner together with his family.

She has seen how things are serious between us I'm actually the one who suggested that we should invite them over for dinner..

Ma: Everything is ready

Me: He texted that they on their way

Ma: Are you nervous?

Me: Not entirely I'm happy about this

Ma: Well then that's good

Zwe showed up after 5min he was with his Sister only. We welcomed them in. This is the first time that me and his sister are going to say two words to each other we never really spoken. We've always passed each other on the streets without even greeting..

Zwe: Thank you very much for welcoming us into your home

Ma: You welcome

He was dressed nice not expensive but really nice. I think he has started buying himself clothes and that's good..

Zwe: This is my Sister Minnie

Ma: Welcome Minnie

Minnie: Thank you

We all sat down at the dinning table..

Ma: I hope you guys will enjoy our food

Zwe: I'm sure we will

Ma: I thought your Mother was going to join us
Zwe and Minnie looked at each other..

Zwe: She couldn't make it I'm sorry

Ma: It's okay.. Maybe next time

Minnie: There won't be a next time

Zwe: Minnie

Minnie: My Mom is a drunk and she doesn't care about us or what goes on in our lives she calls me a whore and he calls him useless I didn't expect that things got awkward very quickly..

Zwe: That was unnecessary

Minnie: She has to know how broken our family is and what she's getting herself into

It was quiet for a few seconds..

Ma: I think we should start eating before the food gets cold

Me: That's a good idea

We all started eating. The next conversation just circled around general things Minnie seemed uninterested about everything...

Ma: Wow Zwe that's good I've always known that you smart

He was just telling my mother about his invention..

Ma: Have you started looking for sponsors?

Zwe: Not yet

Ma: You should start

Zwe: I don't even know where to start

Ma: Do research don't just sit on such brilliant ideas

My Mom and Zwe seemed to be clicking very well Minnie had gone to the kitchen and she was taking long..

Me: I'm going to check on Minnie I'll be right back

I left them as they kept on talking and I went to the kitchen Minnie was just standing there..

Me: Hey

She looked at me..

Me: Ukahle? (are you okay)

She chuckled..

Her: What is it that you want from my Brother?

Me: I'm sorry?

Her: Come on Ntando are you after the money that he is making at the car wash?

Me: Of course not

Her: Then what is it?

I kept quiet...

Her: Is it because of his "invention" that when he makes it you will cash in on it?

Me: I love your Brother

Her: I don't believe that! A girl like you will never fall for a guy like him

Me: I'm sensing you don't like me?

Her: I don't like you at all.. Me and my family we don't bother anyone I don't know why you and yours are bothering us!

With that being said she walked back to the living room....

From thereon I didn't enjoy dinner I've never had someone dislike me and say it to my face. What's there not to like about me? I'm a very nice person.. My mom gave them some scones and some of the food that was left she said it was a lot and we won't finish. I walked them out to the gate..

Minnie: Nice.. Now we a charity case

Zwe: Minnie!

She looked at us..

Her: You'll find me at home

She looked at me...

Her: Thank you your highness for the dinner

She then walked away..

Me: Your sister hates me

Him: I hate his boyfriends too

I laughed..

Me: She thinks I'm gold digging you

Him: She's just trying to be protective siblings to that a lot

Me: I supposed so

Him: Don't let her get to you

Me: I'll try not too

He kissed me..

Him: Goodnight and thank you for the dinner

Me: You welcome

Him: I love you Ntando

Me: I love you too

Him: I should get going it's late

Me: Bye

Him: Bye

I watched him leave and then I walked back to the house.. My mom was washing dishes

Me: I'll help

Ma: It's okay you can go and rest

Me: Okay

Ma: Are you okay? I've seen that halfway through the dinner you were distracted

Me: It's Minnie

She wiped her hands..

Her: What about her?

Me: She doesn't like me she thinks I'm gold digging

Her: Well their family has always been disliked by everyone and they were never treated nice I think she's just uncomfortable that someone is kind to them

Me: I guess so

Her: You need to prepare yourself because Zwe and his family are looked down upon by this whole hood I am thinking they not a very close family are you ready to take all of that in?

Me: I love Zwe and I want his family to like me I really don't care about what other people say

Her: Then that's good.. I'm really proud of you you growing up

Me: Thank you Ma (Smiling)

ZWELONKE

When we got home I decided to have a word with Minnie...

Me: That was uncalled for

Her: It was called for

Me: Ntando is a nice girl

Her: Why would Ntando fall for you? Have you ever thought about that?

Me: What do you mean?

Her: Look at us and then look at them. Ntando is not the type to fall for someone like you.

She's always been full of herself

Me: People judge her without even knowing her she's a very nice girl

My mom walked in I don't think she ever went out today..

Ma: Nikuthathephi ukudla? (Where did you get the food from)

Minnie: Intombi ka Zwe (from Zwe's girlfriend)

Ma: Yakuphi? (from where)

Minnie: uNtando

Ma: Leya ntombazana yakwa Mnguni? (That girl from the Mnguni family)

Minnie: Yena kanye

Ma: How did you get such a girl?

Me: I'm going to my bedroom

Ma: uNtando uyafunda futhi unekusasa elihle wenzani nawe? (Ntando is in varsity she has a bright future what is she doing with you)

Me: Askies?

Her: Uboneni? (What did she see)

Me: I don't know maybe she sees potential in me something that you don't see

Ma: usebenza e Car wash (You work at a car wash)

Minnie: uZwe has a vision Ma about where he wants to be.. I saw how Ntando and her Mom were taken by him

Ma: Vision?

Minnie: He designed a phone he just needs funding

My mom laughed..

Ma: Usese lapho? (You still at that)

I didn't say anything..

Ma: You need to get a real job because that thing of yours is not going anywhere

Me: I expected that from you

Ma: You want me to lie? Those are big dreams for important people Zwe awuyeke umsangano (Stop with your madness)

Me: Good night Minnie

Ma: Wangeza uMtho wafa (I don't know why my son died)

Minnie: Ma

Ma: Mtho was everything la ekhaya he was working he was supporting us.. Angazi why kungafanga uZwe.. He's useless I've let her get away with that for far too long now..

Me: Then why didn't you abort me?

Her: I should've yazi!

Me: I wish you did it would've saved me from having a humiliating alcoholic Mother!!

Minnie: Ngiyanicela (Please)

Ma: Uthini? (What are you saying)

Me: Have you asked yourself who cleans after you when you have messed up on yourself?

We an embarrassment in this hood because of you! I don't know why you don't clean up your act and actually be the Mother that we need

Her: Yeey wena izintanga zakho ziyasebenza banezindlu zabo bane zimoto wena unani?

Usahleli kwa Mawakho (Your peers are working they have houses they driving nice cars and you still staying in your mom's house)

Minnie: Ma

Ma: Thula wena!! (Shut up)

Me: Maybe I should move out how about that?

Ma: Good idea! Hamba! Futhi ngathi ungafa la uyakhona (I wish you die wherever you go)
I walked straight to my room and she followed me..

Ma: You will never amount to anything in life how long as it been since you finished school? Still you doing nothing with your life! All that you do is to make yourself the man of this house!
Hamba Zwe ungasabuyi (Leave Zwe and don't ever come back)

I got to my room and started packing my things I'm done with this shit..

NTANDO (CONNIE)

Zwe didn't call me last night nor did he text me. All my messages on whatsapp to him it was just one tick. I thought the dinner went well last night why is he ghosting me all of a sudden??

ZWELONKE

After packing up and leaving I went to Sjava he told me that I can stay with him until I get myself a room to rent. I was still upset at what my Mother said to me last night now I don't mind her calling me useless because it's not the first

time but for her to always compare me to my dead brother now that's something else. I try my outmost best to provide at home but she doesn't see that. Nothing I do is ever good enough for her..

I took my book and looked at it I've been working on this for a long time now and it hasn't even taken off. Maybe it's true these are just big dreams for someone like me. I started tearing every page it's time now to accept reality than to live in dream land..

.

To be continued

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09

NTANDO (CONNIE)

Zwe ghosted me for 2 weeks straight I even went to the car wash and Sjava didn't tell me much. I was hurt I don't wanna lie what he was doing was not good at all. This morning when I woke up he had texted me to meet up with him

at KFC my first thought was to tell him off but I wanna know his excuse. I wanna know why he has been ghosting me.

I took a taxi to town when I was in the taxi he had texted me again that he had arrived..

When I arrived I walked to KFC. I made my way in and looked around he stood up. I approached the table. He looked good he had a neat haircut he was even wearing formal. A white shirt black pants and shoes. The shirt had a logo but I couldn't read it clearly. I stood there and looked at him as he looked at me too..

Him: Hi

Me: Hi

Him: Please sit down

I sat down he sat down. I noticed a file on the table.. He closed it..

Him: First of all I want you to know how sorry I am

Me: Why did you ghost me?

Him: I was going through a lot and I shut everyone out

That was not a good enough excuse..

Me: If you didn't want me anymore you could've said so

He stretched out his hand to hold mine..

Him: That's crazy.. I'm truly sorry

Me: You hurt me Zwe

Him: I know.. I'm sorry Nono

Me: So you didn't find someone and all that?

He smiled..

Him: It was hard getting you why would I ruin it?

I am still very crazy about his smile..

Him: I'm sorry and I promise that I'll never put you through something like this ever again

Me: Relationship is all about communication you have to talk to me

Him: I know... I'm very sorry

I looked around..

Me: So what's going on with you?

Him: Well I found a job

Me: A job?

Him: Yes at this other electronics company it's not a big company but at least I'm doing what I love

Me: How did you get the job?

Him: Someone came to the car wash this other time as I was washing his car we talked a bit until he mentioned that his friend has a tech

company and he was really taken by my knowledge so he put me on

Me: Wow.. That's great

Him: Ya the salary is lousy but I really like this job

Me: I'm happy for you.. I'm very happy

Him: I've missed you

Me: I've missed you too I was even thinking of going to your house

He let go of my hand..

Him: I don't live there anymore

Me: Where do you live?

Him: I'm renting a room

Me: Why did you move out?

Him: Just issues with my Mother

Me: Ohw

Him: Ya but I'm happy where I am

I nodded..

Him: Maybe you can come and see my place sometime

Me: I'd love too

He took out a small box from his bag..

Him: And I got you this

He handed it to me..

Me: What is this?

I opened it it was a necklace..

Him: I'm sorry

Me: It's beautiful

Him: I'm glad you like it... Let me put it on

He came and put it on..

Me: Thank you

Him: You welcome

He went and sit down again..

Him: I wish I can stay for long but I only have 10min left but later on when I knock off you can come over at my place.. I'll cook something

Me: You can cook?

Him: Wait until you taste my food

Me: I can't wait

He took out his wallet..

Him: You can get yourself something to eat

He gave me R150..

Him: I'm sorry that I can't stay

Me: It's okay

He got up and took his things..

Him: I'll call you later

He kissed me on my cheek..

Him: I love you

Me: I love you too

He left. That was a bomb I didn't expect that. Though I'm happy he has found a job more especially because he's doing what he loves. I got myself a twister and small chips I kept myself company by checking Facebook until I was done eating. Then before I left I got myself some treats..

ZWELONKE

I got myself a job at this other electronics company Adley electronics. They not a big company but at least I'll be getting R3000 a month and I'm doing something that I enjoy. It was time that I got something concrete. I no longer sell weed but I still work at the car wash only on weekends. I work in the cellphone department I like it because it gives me time to play around with the phones and check what's what and what phone is crap and which one is trying..

Phumla: Hey

Me: Hey

Her: How was your lunch?

I had taken lunch early to meet up with Lethu

Her: Did she like the necklace?

Her: Very much

She smiled..

Her: That's good

I have a few ideas on how we can improve on other things but my boss Mr Adley is very rude and arrogant. He will shut me down..

Phumla: I need your signature on these documents I've already signed I need a second signature

Me: I'll get on with it

Him: Thank you Zwe

Me: You welcome

NTANDO (CONNIE)

When I was walking home I saw a crowd just a few houses away from mine. Other people had their phones out I wonder what was happening. I made my way there to see what was going on and I couldn't believe what I was seeing. Mrs Ndlovu was whipping Zwe's Mother with a sjambok

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and I couldn't believe what I was seeing. Mrs Ndlovu was whipping Zwe's Mother with a sjambok who was sitting on the pavement

naked. She had bruises on her face and she was bleeding from her mouth. Most people who were there were busy encouraging Mrs Ndlovu to beat her more whilst others took videos..

Mrs N: Cabanga nje into enje ngiyithole embhedeni wami (Just imagine I found this thing in my bed)

Mrs Ndlovu is too old to be doing this. I asked what was happening I needed the full story. Someone told me that Mrs Ndlovu's husband who drinks at the same Tarven as Zwe's Mom brought Zwe's Mom to sleep with her in his house. Mrs Ndlovu found them this morning on her matrimonial bed after she had gone to visit her sister who was gravely ill. Apparently Zwe's Mom has been sneaking in ever since Mrs Ndlovu left last week. This was a gruesome sight to see the bruises on her body were starting to bleed too and Mrs Ndlovu wasn't backing down even when Zwe's mom kept on apologizing. She only stopped when some woman told her that she's going to get arrested for what she's doing and that she has beat her enough. Mrs Ndlovu swore that she will kill her if she ever finds her with her husband again.

She then left with her friends following her other people still remained to laugh and mock Zwe's Mom. She tried to get up but she fell her thighs were wet. I think she had peed on herself. As some people were leaving I got closer to her and stretched my hand out to her.. She looked at and held my hand I helped her to stand up.. I looked at everyone..

Me: Shame on you guys!

They were stunned at what I was doing I mean this woman gets no respect from anyone in this hood. We started walking and I noticed that she was limping I glanced down at her foot and her big toe was bleeding. She told me someone threw a brick on her foot how can people be this evil??

I walked with her to my house with a few people following us and throwing sly remarks I think by now it was clear that Zwe and I were an item. News travel fast I even heard someone saying: "Ntando you a respected girl in this hood this is very beneath you" for the first time I didn't care I didn't care what they said..

We got to the door and she stopped I looked at her..

Her: Angifanelanga ukuthi ngibe la (I'm not supposed to be here)

I looked at her confused..

Her: Abantu abafana nami they not welcomed in other people's houses

Me: It's okay Ma

I unlocked the door and helped her to walk inside I then closed the door and locked it..

She looked around..

Her: Kungaba ngcono mhlambe mangingaya ekhaya (It's better if I go home)

Me: Uzoya ekhaya uma sowugezile wagcoka (You will go home when you have bathe and dressed up)

I saw tears streaming down..

Her: No one has ever shown me such kindness are you sure that you want me here?

I nodded..

Me: Yebo Ma

I left her there and went to my Mother's room I took one of her gowns and went to the kitchen with it..

Me: Ungagcoka nakhu ngizokwenzela amanzi (You can put this on while I prepare your bath)

Her: Cha sisi (No)

Me: It's okay

With her hands trembling she took it she tried to fight back tears but she couldn't..

Her: Ngizoma la.. I don't wanna make your house dirty

The alcohol smell couldn't be avoided..

Me: Ungeza uzohlala ngapha (you can come and sit in the living room)

She tried to wear the gown but it fell I picked it up and helped her..

Her: Ngiyaxolisa ukuthi akwaze kwaba nomuntu ongibonisa umusa (I'm sorry I have never had someone showing me kindness)

She was really breaking my heart I don't wanna lie I held her hand and walked her to the living room. She stopped at the door..

Me: It's okay Ma

I opened the chair for her and then she sat down..

Me: Can I make you something to eat while I run your bath water?

Her: Cha.. Angifuni ukuba wuhlupho (No.. I don't wanna burden you)

Me: It's okay you not burdening me

Her: Usually my Son is the one who..

She paused..

Her: Ngiyabonga (Thank you)

I slightly nodded and then walked to the kitchen to make her something to eat I couldn't stop the tears from falling.. How can people be so cruel??

.

To be continued

10

NTANDO(CONNIE)

Zwe's Mother ended up sleeping on my bed after she had eaten and bathe. I'm sure bathing was not easy with all the bruises that she sustained I'm thankful that we have a first aid kit at home. I don't think the band aid will work better on that toe she might have to consult at some point to prevent an infection.. I stood at the door and looked at her she was sleeping peacefully. I was even done cleaning after her.. The door opened and my Mom walked in I quickly closed the door of my bedroom and went to her..

Ma: Ntando

Me: Ma

Ma: Kunjani? (How are you)

Me: Ngiyaphila wena unjani? (I'm well how are you)

Ma: Ngiyaphila ukukhathala nje (I'm well just tired)
She looked around...

Her: Am I smelling bleach?

Me: Ya

Her: It's only now that you've cleaned?

Me: No

She looked at me..

Her: What's going on?

I took my phone and showed her the video. It had already been uploaded on Facebook..

Ma: Haibo uMa Ndlovu

Me: It was terrible she said uMa ka Zwe slept with her husband

Ma: Manje why is she attacking another woman?
She should've dealt with her husband. Everyone knows that her husband is a cheater uzitholele nje la
I followed her to the bedroom...

Me: I took uMa ka Zwe I brought her here at home
She looked at me without saying anything..

Me: I made her something to eat then she bathe

Ma: Uphi manje? (Where is she)

Me: In my bedroom

She walked out of her bedroom and went to my bedroom she opened the door and looked at her.
Then she closed the door and looked at me..

Ma: That's my gown

Me: I know I'll buy you a new one

Ma: No it's okay

She walked to her Bedroom..

Ma: I'm proud of you

Me: Thank you Ma

My phone beeped..I checked it it was Zwe..

Me: I have to go and see uZwe Ma I'll be back

Ma: Manje what am I to do with umawakhe when she wakes up?

Me: Uhm I'm not sure I didn't think everything through

Ma: Can't you call uZwe?

Me: I'll tell him

Ma: Okay.. I'll see you later then don't stay out until late

Me: I won't

I made my way out to the address that he texted me it was a walking distance from my place but thank Goodness it's not late. I'm still safe I hate walking at night.....

Where Zwe stays it's just a yard with rooms a big yard. I think they took two yards. I searched around until I found his room I knocked..

Him: I'm coming

I waited and then he opened..

Him: Please come in

I made my way in he closed the door behind me.

There wasn't much in his room just a bed a couch a wardrobe small cupboard and a bar fridge. It was clean though I mean some other guys their rooms are a mess..

Him: Welcome to my little space

Me: A nice little space

Him: Thank you

I went and sat on the bed..

Him: I know I said that I'll cook but..

There was a pizza box ontop of the counter..

Me: No it's okay

He dished up for us in one plate then poured cool drink and came to join me..

Me: Thank you

(Silence)

Him: What's on your mind?

I looked at him..

Me: It's nothing

Him: Don't lie are you still mad about me ghosting you?

Me: No.. I'm no longer mad

I didn't know what to tell Zwe what do I say? He is going to want to see the video. Seeing his mom in that state is going to affect him no one should see their Mother in that state.

Me: Okay I'm still mad but just a little

Him: It was stupid of me to ghost you I'm deeply sorry

Me: Forgiven

I'm going to have to fake being okay until I go I can't show him that I'm not okay he will keep on pushing.. I ended up warming up a little as we continued talking. We were really having a nice time I won't lie talking about random things and not even checking the time and what not. I'd like to think that things were now getting back to normal.....

We only noticed the time when he touched his phone it was now 19:30...

Him: I should walk you home it's getting late

Me: I told my Mom where I am I think I can stay for another hour or so

Him: Okay then I just don't want her killing me
I laughed..

Me: I don't think so

We were laying in bed just talking I had my head on his chest and he had his hand on my thigh. I was wearing a dress..

Me: How was work?

Him: Work was okay I'm starting to get used to the environment

Me: That's good

Him: Can you look at me for a second
I raised my head up and looked at him..

Him: I love you

Me: I love you too

He kissed me. Usually our kisses don't last that long but this time the kiss was long. Maybe it was because we were in a more comfortable environment away from the public eye. Just the two of us.. He got ontop of me as we were kissing then he ran his hand on my thigh. He broke the kiss and looked at me..

Him: Stop me if you no longer feel comfortable
I nodded.. He kissed me again I think I had an idea of what was going to happen I think I had an idea of what was going to happen I mean at some point we bound to have sex. I knew we were going to have sex but I didn't know when and I didn't know how..
He took off my dress and his t-shirt he looked at me..

Him: Are you still okay?

Me: I'm okay

I wouldn't say that I'm clueless about what was happening I've watched porn before preferably "virgin porn". Those guys weren't gentle at all I would see traces of blood from the girl's vagina because they held out nothing. I wonder if I'm going to bleed I wonder if he's big and if it's going to be painful. I'm sure Zwe has had sex before what if he finds sex with me boring and disappointing? A lot was just going through my mind. He brought me back from my thoughts when he kissed me I wasn't wearing a bra. I don't really have big tits.

He kissed me while cupping my left breast and massaging it it was a nice feeling. That tender touch and massage aroused me more. He took off his pants while we were still kissing I felt the his dick hardening more and pressing against my innocent cookie. Okay I'm not so innocent I've rubbed my clit a few times when I masturbated. Are we going to use a condom? We should I'm not ready for a baby. I mumbled the words "condom" under that kiss. He broke it and smiled at me then he got off to go and get the condom. Seeing his manhood hard through those briefs made me a bit scared but I'm not going

to show him. Come on girl people say sex is nice I'm sure it won't be that bad. He didn't come with the condom only he brought a small bottle with..

Him: It's a lube

This guy is prepared it was like he had planned this night for us. He unwrapped the condom and then took off his briefs Mr Man greeted me. He was circumcised and he was thick. Would this thing fit inside of me? I wondered. When he had rolled the condom on his dick he opened the lube. He put some on his fingers then he instructed me to take off my underwear. I didn't shave for this occasion but my pubic wasn't a lot though I hope not. He spread one leg with his other hand and then placed his wet fingers right on my clit. He played around there for a while what was tense turned into pleasure. I thought I could contain myself but I couldn't everything was just spontaneous. I grabbed the pillow while biting my lower lip so that I don't make too much noise he leaned closer to sucking my tit. The pleasure increased as I tried to grab on his hair that wasn't there instead I put my hand on his neck and pressed him hard against my tit...

Me: Ohw Zweeeee...

He moved up and kissed me while gently pulling my lower lip I don't know but now I wanted him to be inside of me now. I was yearning for him. He moved from my clit to the entrance and rubbed me there if this guy doesn't enter me anytime soon I might do terrible things to him. And I mean terrible things. When he saw that my body was responding well to him he finally went for it pressing in gently while sucking my tit to keep the pleasure on. As much as I wanted to focus on the stinging pain I couldn't. The pleasure possessed me to consume all of it.

He was finally in he was deep inside and he started going in and out gently. He pulled my hair back and looked at me then he kissed me in between. He went on to wet my neck I heard his hard breathing next to my ear my screams didn't leave him and I was digging through his back. His lucky I don't have long else or else I'd leave scary marks.. We went on until I was numb that's when he increased the speed the screams visited my lips again.. I clung on to him for dear life he went harder than when we first started. I heard him mumbling a few cussing words he pressed my hands against the bed as if like "If you stop me or disturb me they'll be hell to pay" he went for it and after his loud groan he collapsed

ontop of me while catching his breath. I caught mine too it was official. I wasn't a virgin anymore but I regret nothing. Instead I really enjoyed it...

.

To be continued

11

NTANDO (CONNIE)

I woke up the following day and Zwe was not sleeping next to me but he had left me a note and R100 that I should get myself breakfast he had to rush to work..

Today I woke up with a big smile on my face last night it was a bliss. It was a night to remember. I consider myself blessed my boyfriend is beyond the word "Perfect". He's great and I'll forever be grateful. I woke up and quickly got dressed then I rushed home I had a lot of missed calls from my Mother..

I looked for the key where we usually hide it because I left mine last night and I couldn't find it. The security door was open meaning that she might be home. I opened and walked in I was a bit scared. She was sitting in the lounge I stood at the door..

Me: Ma ngiyaxolisa (I'm sorry)

She didn't say anything she looked at the TV. I know that when she's like this she's beyond the word "Angry"...I slowly walked up to the bathroom to bath..

ZWELONKE

We had an early meeting at work before we could start anything. Our boss was the one who called the meeting this is the first meeting I've ever attended ever since I started in this place..

Him: Good morning

We all greeted him back..

Him: I won't take up much of your time

He looked at us...

Him: It looks like this month the phone department is picking up with sales we halfway through the month and already the turnover can't be ignored. He looked at me..

Him: Congratulations

Everyone started clapping..

Me: Thank you

Him: We wish to keep you in our family for a long time

They clapped again..

Him: We can now go back to work and I'm hoping that the other departments will also pick up..

We went back to our stations..

Phumla: Congratulations

Me: Thank you

Her: Customers like you you should tell me your secret

Me: Then I won't be making much sales

Her: Agh don't be like that

We both work at the cellphone department..

Her: Congratulations again lunch is on me today

Me: Thank you very much

We went back to work I think I'm going to like it here..

NTANDO (CONNIE)

There was too much tension in the house after bathing I decided to go to Zwe's house to check up on his mother. She welcomed me in her house was a bit untidy. I ignored that..

Me: Ma

Her: Ntando

Me: I just came to see how you are holding up

Her: I'm well thank you

She was still limping..

Her: I would offer you something to drink but..

Me: Not it's okay

We went to sit in the living room. The living conditions here were not impressive they only had one couch in the lounge that was worn out

Sponsored

and a few buckets of paints that I'm thinking they use for chairs..

Her: Ngizwe bathi you are dating my son

Me: That's true

Her: Unjani? (how is he)

Me: He is well.. You don't talk to him?

She shook her head no...

Her: That night when he moved out we had a big fight

Me: I'm sure as time goes on things will workout he is your son

She nodded..

Me: I can talk to him for you

She shook her head..

Her: Cha ngiyabonga (No it's okay)

I looked around again..

Me: Mhlambe uMa ngingamsiza ukuthi aphuthe nyana (maybe I can you clean a bit)

She smiled..

Her: Hai ke we should pay lobola very soon

I blushed a little....

I got up and she directed me where the cleaning things were so that we could start cleaning..

ZWELONKE

Lunchtime came and Phumla stuck to her words she brought me lunch.. I didn't go out of the office I ate at the back whilst calling Ntando..

Her: Love

Me: I'm sorry I wasn't around when you woke up

Her: No it's okay love I understand

Me: What are you doing?

I heard a familiar voice at the background. It was my Mother

Her: I'm with your Mother we cleaning and doing laundry together with the blankets. I'm just from the shop to buy a washing soap with the R100 you gave me this morning

Me: You what?

How did this happen??

Her: I'm just helping her

Me: You don't have too do you know that?

Her: I know but I want too

I have been very uneasy with Ntando being where I stay my plans were that I'll buy some furniture first and try to make my house look presentable before she could step foot in there..

Right now all of this was making me uneasy..

Her: Love I have to go you will come and collect the key from me when I knock off

She didn't even give me a chance to say "Goodbye" she hung up immediately..

NTANDO(CONNIE)

There was a lot to do around here I have never worked this hard but at least we were getting there..

Me: I think you should sit down and rest a little I can see that your leg is giving you a problem

Her: Angifuni ukukuyekelela (I don't want you to do everything)

Me: Ngizoba right Ma (I'll be okay)

Her: Ngiyabonga (Thank you)

Me: Can I get you anything?

Her: No thank you I'm fine

She smiled..

Her: Thank you Ntando for loving my son.

Ngiyazi ukuthi it's not easy loving someone who is from such a background

Me: Zwe is a very good person and he is full of love I'm the lucky one for having him in my life

Her: Kneel down before me

Me: Sorry?

Her: Go ahead

This was weird but I did as she asked. She put her hand on my head..

Her: May God bless you with everything that your heart desires may nothing but happiness and good fortune follow you. May you and Zwe grow old together may your love surpass anything that the devil might plot in your way..

You have my blessing

I got up..

Me: Thank you very much

Her: No thank you thank you for ukuzokhanyisa la ekhaya

I've heard a lot of not so good things about Zwe's Mother. This is a perfect example of

"Don't judge a book by its cover". This woman has been through a lot but underneath it all she is a good person. I wish that me and her we will have a healthy relationship going forward I truly love her Son and loving him means loving his family too.. I am here to stay..

.

To be continued

12

NTANDO (CONNIE)

[A FEW YEARS LATER]

I was starring at my graduation pic it was me my mom Dudu and Zwe..

Dudu walked in with the last box..

Dudu: Yoooh hai Ntando unomuthwalo (You have a lot of things)

Me: Thank you cuz

Dudu was helping me move in into my flat that I'll be sharing with Zwe. Tomorrow I'm starting work I was a bit excited and nervous at the same time..

Dudu: Yho haikhona

Me: Sit down and rest?

Her: On which chair?

Me: Hai wena I'll buy furniture month end
Things between Zwe and I were stronger than ever
now I can say that I love him with all my heart and
soul. He still has issues with his Mother
unfortunately she's still at it with the drinking. My
relationship with her is good though I love her to the
moon and back..

Dudu: I'm proud of you finally you out of your
mother's house!!

Me: Haibo wena!!

Her: I'll get the champagne

Me: You bought champagne?

Her: You'll pay me month end it was expensive

Me: I'll see

Her: Manje you guys will be splitting rent?

Me: I'll be paying the rent and all the other bills

Her: All on your own?

Me: Yes.. Zwe is not making much money so it's
only fair that I pay everything because I'll be earning
more than him

Her: You going to be the one providing?

Me: Yes

I could see that she had a lot to say..

Her: Ntando are you sure about this? Providing for a
man can be dangerous

Me: I know but Zwe is not like that. Zwe loves me and I know that when he starts being financial stable more he is going to take over

She shook her head..

Me: I'm not expecting you to understand

Her: I'm just wondering what happened to my cousin who uses to say "I'll never provide for a man"

Me: Things change it's life

Her: Hai let me keep quiet before I say things that are going to be offensive

Me: Maybe get the champagne now

Her: I'll do so

ZWELONKE

I walked in on Phumla crying at the back..

Me: I'm sorry I just needed a few files

Her: It's okay

Phumla and I we now good friends she's a cool chick..I thought of going out but it will seem rude I pulled a chair and sat next to her..

Me: What's wrong?

She took the tissue and wiped her tears..

Her: It's nothing

Me: You crying no one can cry just for fun

She chuckled through those tears..

Her: It's nothing serious just some boyfriend issues
I nodded...

Her: He's cheating. I've been in a relationship with
this bastard for 6 years now he's leaving me for a girl
that he was cheating on me with
I whistled...

Her: Why do guys do that? I was the best girlfriend!
gave him sex whenever he wanted it cooked cleaned
for him!

Me: He just doesn't know what he wants he seems
confused

Her: Would you ever do that to Ntando?

Me: I don't see myself doing that to her

Her: Why? You a man aren't you?

Me: Look as much as the world has Jerks! But
there's also good guys out there. Same goes for
women not all women are cheaters. There's still a
few good women out there

Her: He has broken me for the next guy to come

Me: It's going to take a while to get over him but
he's not worth your tears and your hurt. Don't even
give the satisfaction of seeing you hurt he's going to
gloat over that and use that to confuse you more
She shook her head..

Me: He's planning on paying lobola for her. He has been seeing her for what? 5 months and already he is wifing her. I've been with him for 6 years

Me: Clearly he had no intentions of marrying you

Sponsored

I'm truly sorry

Her: I hate guys now.. No offence

Me: None taken

I looked at the time..

Me: Well you'll have to pick yourself up because I have no intentions of working alone we busy today

She laughed..

Her: Let's go

She wiped her tears..

We both stood up she gently grabbed my arm before I could even move..

Her: Thank you

Me: Anytime

NTANDO (CONNIE)

Dudu was now helping me unpack when my mom's phone call came through..

Me: Ma??

Her: Ntando

Me: Aren't you working?

Her: I took a break phela I'm mostly alone in this house. The kids are at school and the parents are at work

Me: You working nice

Her: How is everything?

Me: Dudu is helping me to unpack good for Zwe because he brought his things over last weekend so everything of his is fine

Ma: I told you to move your stuff last weekend too

Me: If I don't finish up I'll finish tomorrow when I knock off

Ma: I'm so proud of you Ntando

Me: Thank you Ma

Ma: Just enjoy being independent

Me: I'll do that

Ma: Let me go and finish up I still have a lot to do

Me: How about you quit your job Ma

Ma: Hai Ntando just because you working it doesn't mean I wanna be financially dependent on you you've already given me most of your money

Me: I just don't want you being overworked by those white people I will be able to provide for you

Ma: I'll think about it

Me: Yes.. Do that

Ma: Okay baby take care of yourself

Me: I will.. Bye Ma

Ma: Bye

Dudu was getting a bit tipsy from the champagne..

Me: Will you even able to go home later?

Her: Ubani? Mina? Ang'qali ukuphuza namhlanje
(This is not my first time drinking)

My phone beeped it was a text from Zwe's Mother:
"Ntando sorry to bother you but please help me out
with even R300. We don't have food in the house"

I texted her back:

"I'll transfer it"

She now has a bank account Capitec. I forced her to
open it it's more easier to send her money for food
via a bank account. I transfered R500 she texted me
after a few seconds:

"Ngiyabonga Ntando God bless you"

I put my phone away and continued with
unpacking..

ZWELONKE

Me: This one is good when it comes to the Camera
the pictures are more clear. Since taking pictures is
more important to you I'd definitely go for this one

Customer: It's R1000 extra

Me: It's definitely worth the money and it's more faster. It won't freeze the screen is big so it's worth the money

Customer: You really know your story I'll take it

Me: This way please

We went to counter so that she could pay..

Phumla made her way to us..

Her: That's what? 4th phone you selling?

Me: How many did you sell?

Her: Zero

I looked at her..

Me: Are you serious?

Her: I am not emotionally okay today

Me: Well you can have this sale

Her: Are you serious?

Me: Yeah.. Why not

Her: Thank you soo much.. I owe you one

I looked at the customer..

Me: My colleague will help you she needs a sale

Customer: Ohw no problem

Phumla took over from me...

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To be continued

13

ZWELONKE

After work I walked Phumla to the taxi..

Her: Thank you even though this was unnecessary but thank you

Me: Just want to make sure you get to your destination safe you not emotionally okay you might get lost

She laughed..

Her: Thank you very much Zwe you a good guy. Untando is very lucky to have someone like you

Me: Thank you and you should just forget about this guy and move forward he's a douche

Her: I'll consider that

(Silence)

Her: Hey how is the phone design situation going?

I did tell her about that..

Me: It's going good

Her: Why don't you tell Adley about it?

Me: Who your boss? He's already thinking that I want to take his company from him

Her: That one has an evil heart I wish you get your own and show him

Me: Yeah maybe one day

We arrived at the taxis that were parked on the side of the road..

Her: This is it

Me: This is it

Her: Thank you very much for accompanying me

Me: You most welcome

She hugged me...

Her: Thank you

Taxi driver: Girlfriend and boyfriend niyagibela?

We broke the hug..

Me: See you tomorrow

Her: See you tomorrow

NTANDO

I was still unpacking but now I was almost finishing. Dudu had left a few hours ago I called her to check if she arrived safely..

Her: Ntando

Me: ufikile? (did you arrive)

Her: Yebo kanti ungithatha kanjani? (how do you take me for)

I chuckled...

Me: Just wanted to know that you've arrived that's all

Her: I've arrived good luck for tomorrow

Me: Thank you Babe

Her: Good night

Me: Night

Zwe showed up just as I was taking a rest he brought home food...

Him: Looks like I did a good thing by bringing food

Me: You late today

Him: Was walking my female colleague to her taxi

Me: Why?

Him: Boyfriend of 6 years cheated and he's moving on with the girl he cheated on her with

Me: That's awful can't imagine something like that happening to me

Him: You shouldn't even imagine it it will never happen to you

He put the food down...

Me: I know.. You the best

He walked up to me..

Him: No you the best

He put his hands around my waist..

Him: I'm proud of you

Me: I'm proud of us we working it work

Him: I can make it work in other departments too

He squeezed my butt...

Me: I was about to take a shower

Sponsored

we working it work

Him: I can make it work in other departments too

He squeezed my butt...

Me: I was about to take a shower don't know if you wanna join

Him: How can I say no to that?

I held his hand then we walked to the shower

PHUMLA

Buhle: Your mind seems to be far away

She handed me the glass of wine..

Me: Thank you

She sat next to me..

Her: So talk to me

Me: About what?

Her: What got you all smiling

Me: It's nothing

Her: are you sure?

Buhle is my best friend and we share a two bedroom flat together..

Me: There's this guy at work his name is Zwe

Her: Hmmm I never thought it was a guy

Me: He is such a nice guy Buhle and he's a charmer

Her: Is he hitting on you?

Me: He has a girlfriend

Her: That's not a problem for you stealing boyfriends is your cup of tea

I gave her a weird look..

Her: You made a guy leave his relationship of 6 years for you when you have just known him for 6 months and he wanted to marry you and you dumped him then moved on to the next

Me: He is doing fine

Her: He is an alcoholic who lost his job you broke him

I drank my wine..

Her: I hope you won't steal this Zwe

Me: Well all in good time

Her: What do you mean?

Me: He's about to cash in soon. A handsome rich gentleman who knows how to love and treat a lady his breed is dying

She shook her head..

Her: I hope this won't come back and bite you in the back one day

Me: I hope so too in the meantime let me do me

NTANDO (CONNIE)

having sex in the shower is a bit of a challenge.

The tiles are very slippery you can't keep your balance. It's just a mess a hard mess.. We made it work though or at least we tried..

He dried my body with a towel..

Him: That was a mess

I laughed..

Me: A good mess

Him: A mess that I enjoyed

Me: A mess that I still want

I dropped the towel that was covering his lower body..

Him: And what do you know? We might as well get you some help for being a sex addict

He picked me up and placed me on the bed..

Me: In a few years time

He got ontop of me..

Him: I love you

Me: I love you more
He kissed me..

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To be continued

14

ZWELONKE

Adley: Zwe

Me: Sir?

Adley: In my office

I looked at Phumla..

Me: What is it about?

Her: I don't know

I left everything that I was doing and went to his
office..

Him: Close the door

I closed the door and sat down..

Him: You very valuable to me do you know
that?

Was that a trick question?

Me: I'd like to believe so

Him: Ever since you joined us our cellphone department has been doing very well. Better than any department here

Me: Yes sir

He sat down..

Him: When I walked in this morning I found these on my table?

He held the book at me those are my designs. How did they get in his office?

Me: Uhmm..

Him: I like them

Me: You do?

Him: Yes.. Though it's going to need a lot of money to invest in your invention

I didn't know what to say..

Him: How about you design two phones that will be actually affordable? One for R800 and one for R1400

Me: I.. I believe that I can do that

Him: We going to call them "Adley" since my store will be the one selling them. I need a share after all deductions have been done. I'll be taking 40% of the profit you make and you'll take 60%

Me: Fair enough

Him: I'll tell my lawyer to draft the contract if you happy with it you'll sign

Me: Very well sir

Him: Shake on it?

He stretched his hand.. I shook it

Me: Thank you Sir for the opportunity

Him: You welcome.. Now you can go back to work

Me: Thank you Sir

I got up and walked out..

NTANDO (CONNIE)

I walked into the staff room and a group of teachers were sitting together. I'm new here so I'm not going to go up to them and embarrass myself. I greeted them and found a corner of my own. School is supposed to start at 8am it was 7am. I'll be teaching the grade 1 class. I took out my phone and kept myself busy with it the principal is supposed to join us soon.. The principal walked in I think after 10min of us being there..

Him: Good morning

We all turned to him..

Him: I hope everyone is well

A few replied to his greeting..

Him: Last year we lost one of our own Mrs Mokoena God rest her soul. Not all is lost this year we have a new addition to our family

He looked at me..

Him: Ms Mnguni.. Connie Mnguni

He indicated that I should stand up I did..

Him: She will be teaching Grade 1s I would like her to feel welcome and please feel free to ask for help

Me: I'll do so thank you Sir

Him: Last year we got 60% pass rate I hope this year will make it 80% if not 100%. I need everyone to be on their A game this year for Mrs Mokoena

A few ladies walked in with sandwiches and tea...

Principal: This is our way of welcoming you

Me: Thank you Sir

Him: Let's all eat before we start our day

A few of the teachers got up and came to hug me..

ZWELONKE

I was still thinking of what Mr Adley said to me when Phumla interrupted my thoughts..

Her: So what was it all about?

Me: He wants me to design two phones for his business

Her: Wow

Sponsored

so sneaking in your designs in his office worked

Me: You did that?

Her: I know I'm sorry but Zwe you've got a good thing going on. I couldn't just sit and do nothing.

I understand if you mad I'm sorry

I would be mad if the meeting didn't turn out well..

Me: Well I'm happy that it went well but please don't do it again

Her: I promise

She got closer..

Her: Start drafting maybe I can help you with a few ideas

Me: Let's get started

NTANDO (CONNIE)

I stood at the door of my class and handed the kids each an apple as they walked in..

Me: Come on guys

I counted them they were 30. When they all had walked in I closed the door. All the text books books pens pencils that we going to need were on the floor. Maybe later on today when I knock off I'll start making charts..

They looked at me..

Me: I am Ms Mnguni I'll be teaching you guys this year. Why don't we all introduce ourselves we will start with you sweetheart

She stood up..

Me: Name and surname please

She started introducing herself and others followed after her.. The door opened and Mr Makhubalo walked in The Principal..

Him: I'm sorry just act as if like I'm not here. Just wanted to see how you settling in I nodded..

Me: Yes Sir

The children continued introducing themselves..

ZWELONKE

A customer walked in and we put the papers away..

Phumla: You continue I'll help the customer
don't worry I'll put it in your name

Me: Thank you

Me: You know when I make it I'm taking you
with

She smiled..

Her: I'll hold you to your word

.

To be continued

15

NTANDO

Work wasn't a total nightmare I really enjoyed
my first day with those little rascals.

When I got home later that day I started
cooking while keeping myself busy with
Facebook. The most shocking thing happened
when I went on Facebook some girl Phumla
had tagged Zwe. She uploaded some pictures
of them together at McDonald's with the caption
"Lunchtime is work time we working on
something big". I didn't know how to feel about
this but I didn't like it..

Zwe came back right after I was done cooking..

Him: How was work?

He wrapped his arms around my waist and kissed me..

Me: Work was good and on your side?

Him: Work was great I have something to tell you

He sat me down..

Him: My boss asked me to design two phones for his company

Me: That's great you showed him your designs?

Him: Actually my colleague did.. Phumla

Me: Ohw

I got up..

Him: "Ohw" that doesn't sound good

Me: You said you going to call me on my lunch break

Him: I got caught up

He came up to me..

Me: Caught up with Phumla?

Him: What's that supposed to mean?

Me: Did you check Facebook?

He took out his phone and checked..

Him: It's nothing

Me: Should I be worried?

Him: Worried about what? Am I sensing jealousy?

I looked at him..

Him: There's nothing going on between us

Me: I hope so

I went and got the plates..

Him: Don't you trust me?

Me: I trust you I just don't trust her

Him: If you trust me then that's good I'll never do you like that.

Me: I'll take your word for it

We ate dinner in silence for the first time a distance existed between us. I kept on checking the post people were commenting and Phumla was replying. I ended up commenting:

"I'm proud of you babe this is what we have been working hard for. I love you"

The comments kept on coming and she put a liked on mine then after she sent me a friend request. I accepted. I went and checked her pictures she was beautiful. It seems like she takes pride in how she looks I couldn't find a picture that was off..

After bathing I went to him he was busy..

Me: When are you coming to bed?

Him: Give me a few minutes

Me: I can't wait that long

He looked at me I only had a towel covering my naked body. I sat ontop of him and wrapped my arms around his neck. He kissed me while unwrapping the towel. I've been on prevention for a while now I only had a towel covering my naked body. I sat ontop of him and wrapped my arms around his neck. He kissed me while unwrapping the towel. I've been on prevention for a while now I take the 2 months injection just to be safe. Zwe and I have a long way to go before even thinking about starting a family of our own.. I directed his dick deep inside of me slowly as I watched him close his eyes and bite his lower lip. Having your man still enjoy you in this manner is a blessing. He held my waist as I went up and down on him with my hands now balancing on the chair he buried his face on my chest with each deep breath I felt a bit of moist. Do you know that feeling of riding your man whilst your clit tickles in the process? That was a great feeling it activated me to go down even deeper and feel him deep inside of me each time..

ZWELONKE

I walked in at work the following morning I put everything of mine under the counter except my phone. I took it and sent Ntando a good morning text since I forgot to do so yesterday:

"Have a blessed day as always knowing that you are dearly loved and that cookie of yours"

Phumla walked in she was wearing different today. A dress that hugged her body tight heels and she let her weave loose with a red lipstick..

Her: Good morning Partner

Me: Good morning

Ntando is a bit of a natural I've only seen her with braids if not her big afro. She's not big on makeup and heels..

Me: Good morning

She put her bag under the counter while leaving a scent of her perfume. She got back up and pushed her braids at the back while biting her lower lip. I stopped looking at her and tried to keep myself busy with something..

NTANDO

I walked in at the staff room and stumbled upon a colleague crying..

Me: I'm sorry I thought it was empty

She looked down while wiping her tears..

Her: It's okay I was on my way to class

She got up and I noticed that she had a black eye..

Me: Are you okay?

Her: I'm fine

She took her things and walked out Mr Makhubalo walked in. The Principal..

Me: I was ju-

Him: No it's alright please do not leave on my account

(Silence)

Him: I wish she could leave him already

Me: Sir?

Him: Marriage is supposed to be a beautiful life shared with the one you love not a boxing ring
It was clear she was talking about her..

Him: Married?

Me: Oh no.. Not yet

Him: Good think carefully before you do it
I chuckled a bit..

Me: My boyfriend is the best

Him: They all are... Until

Me: Zwe would never do something like that to me

He nodded..

Him: Then you blessed very blessed

Me: Thank you Sir

ZWELONKE

Today it was a bit difficult going through the day with Phumla looking like that what's wrong with me? I've never seen her in that way..

Me: Moving forward.. I like that

Her: All thanks to you

She stood really close to me..

Me: I didn't do anything

Her: You helped me realize that even though there's other men who are dogs but there's still a few good men out there

Me: Exactly!

She went inside her bag and came back with a rolled joint..

Her: Lunch is on me?

Me: You smoke?

Her: Only when I'm feeling good

Me: We can't do that

Her: Why? Are you scared? I've never taken you for a chicken

Me: A chicken?

Her: Prove then

Me: Okay.. Lunchtime it's me and that joint

Her: And me

I looked at her..

Me: And you

.

To be continued

16

ZWELONKE

I thought Phumla was joking but we did hit a blunt in our lunch time we exchanged it..

Me: When did you start hitting a blunt?

Her: Back in high school then I stopped started again when I met my ex but I used to smoke it on weekends with him

Me: You've been around

Her: I've only smoked it for one reason

Me: What reason is that?

Her: It made me extremely horny after smoking we would have crazy sex. I would be dripping wet when he hit a stroke my wetness would increase. That was the best sex ever

I nodded..

Her: Have you ever had sex after hitting a blunt?

Me: I have

Her: With Ntando?

Me: Ntando would never

Her: Not even a little?

Me: She's not that type of girl

Her: She's missing out on a lot sex after hitting a blunt is heaven

Me: I'm sure it is

She looked at the time..

Her: We need to finish this food because we only have 5min left to go back to work

Me: Let's start eating

NTANDO (CONNIE)

There wasn't a lot of teachers in the staff room it was only 3 and the 2 walked out as I walked in. It was our lunch break the one I saw this morning crying was the one who was left. I sat down but not next to her I didn't want to crowd her space. I opened my lunchbox and started eating I took out my phone and kept myself busy as always..

(SILENCE)

Her: I come here because there's peace

Me: Me too

She turned and looked at me..

Her: Nkati

Me: Ntando

I moved closer..

Her: Welcome to the team

Me: Thank you

Her: Fresh from varsity?

Me: Sort off

Her: You going to like it here

Sponsored

I took out my phone and kept myself busy as always..

(SILENCE)

Her: I come here because there's peace

Me: Me too

She turned and looked at me..

Her: Nkati

Me: Ntando

I moved closer..

Her: Welcome to the team

Me: Thank you

Her: Fresh from varsity?

Me: Sort off

Her: You going to like it here except for the gossip

I laughed..

Me: I hope so

We started eating...

Me: You teaching with grade?

Her: Grade 7

Me: Grade 3

Her: Can we swap?

Me: I think I'm good with the little ones

We both laughed her phone started ringing. She looked at it and then put it face down on the table. I could see that the call made her very uncomfortable...

ZWELONKE

Phumla couldn't stop laughing..

Her: That shit was strong

Me: Maybe you should go home you going to get us busted

Her: I'm fine I'm good I can handle myself

She held my hand as we walked in. I had to do something about this if Phumla gives us out. Adley is going to fire us

I left her at the working station and headed to Adley's office..

Him: Come in

I walked in..

Me: Sorry to disturb you I was asking if Phumla could go home she's not feeling well

Him: Why isn't she here

Me: She's disoriented she doesn't wanna seem weak but I can see that she's not well

Him: If you will cope without her then she can go she can clock out

Me: Thank you Sir

We just dodged a bullet..

.

To be continued

17

NTANDO (CONNIE)

[A FEW DAYS LATER]

It was a Saturday afternoon when my Mom arrived to visit me. It was the first time stepping foot at my place and I was happy. Zwe left this morning to go and visit his family I couldn't tag along because I had so much work to do. I had charts to draft I had a bit of marking to do and other commitments.. My Mother brought the cup of tea to me...

Me: Ma I'm the one who is supposed to making tea you a guest

Ma: I don't mind.. You busy
She handed me an envelope..

Me: What's this?

Her: R10 000

Me: For?

Her: You have to buy more furniture this place
is a bit empty

Me: Ma??

Her: Ntando you gave me all your remaining
money this is only fair
I took it..

Me: Thank you

Her: What are you working on?

Me: Nothing much just things for my kids

Her: You seem to be enjoying work

Me: A lot

Her: I'm happy.. Some work environments are
toxic

Me: Mine is not. My colleagues are lovely and I
made a friend

Her: A friend? That's nice

Me: Yaa but she is going through a lot and
doesn't wanna talk

Ma: What happened?

Me: I think her husband is abusive she shows

up with bruises and she's always scared

Ma: She has to get out of that marriage before she dies

Me: I know.. She's not talking and I don't wanna push

Ma: Well Ntando if you ever find yourself in that kind of a situation please leave you have a home and you always welcome to come back

Me: Zwe would never do that to me

Ma: Zwe is one in a million

Me: I'm blessed

Ma: Truly blessed

Me: He's just amazing and perfect sometimes it even scares me

Ma: Well I'm thankful that I don't have to worry about you I trust him to protect you always

Me: And he is doing a great job

Ma: It's so boring you don't even have a TV

Me: We will get that as time goes on or maybe tomorrow

Ma: We will go shopping tomorrow

Me: We will

ZWELONKE

I was visiting my hood and Phumla had tagged

along. She had whatsapped me last night and told me that she was bored and asked what I was going to do today I told her and she asked to tag along. We met at the taxi rank and left together this morning. She was looking stunning as always I don't know how she does it. We were at the car wash it's been a while since I was last here. The crew was here we were drinking washing cars and smoking. It was a good chilled day..

Phumla was already getting through she didn't hold back. By now the boys were loving her vibe she's a ball of energy..

"Emcibini kulapho ong'thola khona"

Sjava: Manje vele later on siyakwami (Later on we going to my place)

Phumla: Keep on wishing my friend will come and pick me up later

Sjava put his hand on his chest..

Sjava: Ung'phula intliziyo (You breaking my heart)

He looked at me and I shrugged my shoulders.. I continued washing the car as she picked up the can of flying fish..

Sjava: Yabo yibo abantu ekumele sigroove

nabo (These are the people that we need to have fun with)

Phumla stood up and walked up to me she handed me the can of the flying fish after she had taken a few sips from it. This girl has downed 4 cans already but she was still standing. Phumla has been around with that tramp stamp at the back of her waist and the belly ring. It was clear that she has been around...

She started dancing Sjava joined her.. I watched them dance whilst occasionally washing the car and drinking the beer..

NTANDO

I looked at my phone no text no missed call and no whatsapp from Zwe. He told me that he was going to call when he had arrived he left at around 8am. It was 15:00 now still nothing from him. I sat down on the toilet seat and called him his phone rang unanswered. I texted him on whatsapp:

"Thought you said you were going to call"

It was one tick. That defeated me.. I thought of calling his mom but maybe I should wait he's

going to get back to me.. I heard a knock at the door..

Ma: Ntando?

Me: Ma ngiyeza (I'm coming)

I didn't want her to notice that something is wrong. I got up and flushed I wash my hands and walked out..

Her: Are you okay?

Me: Ngi right just a stomach bug

Her: That's bad drink water

Me: I'll do that

Something was smelling nice..

Me: You cooking?

Her: Yes I am.. Chicken curry

Me: My favorite

Her: I cooked a lot so that Zwe can eat tomorrow when he comes back

I nodded...

Me: That's nice Ma.. Thank you

I went back to keep myself busy with work..

ZWELONKE

We went next door to get something to eat. By now we were starting to be a bit out of it I'm glad we finished early at the car wash. It was

Me Sjava and Phumla. It was good to see that they have expanded next door there's chesanyama.. It was starting to get a bit full Phumla and I sat down as Sjava went to order..

Phumla: This place is dope I miss this vibe

Me: This is where I come to unwind and just have fun

She smiled at me...

Her: You should invite me more often

I smiled at her too..

Me: I will don't worry.. Let me go and get drinks will you be fine sitting alone?

Her: Of course not I'm coming with

We both stood up and went to get drinks..

NTANDO

I decided to call my friend Nkati just to check up on her she answered the phone sniffing.

Me: Hey Babe

Her: Hi

Me: How are you?

Her: I already put my address on the app as I was filling out everything

Me: Huh?

Her: House 3 spenika avenue it's a gated

community so just tell the security at the gate that you here to deliver my order

Me: Babe what is going on?

Her: Yes I would like my chicken hot

Me: Are you in trouble?

Her: Yes and thank you for calling to confirm my order

Me: Should I call the police?

Her: Yes please add a side maybe hot sticky wings too

Me: Nkati talk to me

Her: No problem.. Thank you I'll be waiting for the order

I heard a male voice in the background..

Him: Who are you talking too?

Her: Uber eats they lost

Him: Who did you tell that you were ordering food?

Me: Nkati

I heard her screaming before the line went dead..

Me: Nkati? Nkati?

Ma: Yini? (What's wrong)

Me: I think my friend is in trouble I need to call the police and send them to her address

I immediately called the police...

ZWELONKE

Phumla was starting to get drunk now but she tried to make herself look strong. It was also getting a bit cold I decided to call it a day with Sjava. We split the alcohol and then Phumla and I walked to my house. We took a different route just so we don't pass Ntando's street people gossip around here.. Phumla was being loud people gossip around here.. Phumla was being loud all singing and laughing. She was a lot of work because she would just stop in the middle of the road. I had to hold her hand and drag her along what did I get myself into???

We finally arrived at my place and I opened a part of me was worried. I no longer live here even though I still have the key I'm sure the house is a mess. For the first time the house was very clean I even saw some furniture. A fridge that seemed new a cupboard table and chairs. It looked so different. I went to the lounge and I saw couches I checked my Mom's room. It was clean and her bed was nicely made..

Phumla: Wow your house looks nice and it's clean

Me: It is clean

We walked to my bedroom and my bedroom was clean too Phumla threw herself on the bed. She put her hand on her flat tummy..

Her: Let's hit a blunt one last time

Me: You done you should sleep

She rose up from the bed..

Her: Come on just one blunt it's still early

Me: Phumla

Her: Please.. I came here to have fun

Me: Fine.. Let's hit the blunt

Her: And finish off our beers

Me: Probably that too

NTANDO

I was pacing up and down worried. I have been trying to call Nkati but her phone was off. I looked at the time and it was now 18:00 I wonder if the cops got there on time. I sensed that she was in trouble a lot of trouble. I called Zwe again his phone rang answered..

Me: Come on Zwe.. Pick up!!!

Ma: Ntando

I turned and looked at her she was holding her Bible..

Ma: I'm done praying

Me: Thank you Ma

Ma: You did all that you could it's all in God's hands now

Me: I'm not going to forgive myself if something happens to her

Ma: She wasn't speaking

Me: I should've asked

Ma: What if she wasn't going to tell you the truth things like this are very tricky. Women who are in an abusive marriage or relationship don't usually speak out but she did over that phone call and you did your best my child I threw myself on the bed..

ZWELONKE

Smoke engulfed the room we did one blunt then another one and drank a the remaining cans.

We were laying on the bed just staring at the ceiling.. Phumla started laughing..

Her: I swear it's moving

Me: I agree with you

We both laughed..

She turned and looked at me..

Her: Can I do something?

Me: Something like what?

She placed her hand right on my crotch..

Me: Phumla

Her: Come on I know you want it

She got ontop of me and tried to remove my jeans..

Me: Don't do this

Her: Why? Because you have a girlfriend? I won't tell if you don't tell

Me: It'll be like taking advantage of you

Her: I'm taking advantage of you

She forced to take off my jeans..

Me: Phumla stop!!

Her: Come on Zwe you think I haven't seen how you looked at me at work lately? I know you want this as much as I do

Me: Phum..

She managed to take off my jeans..

Him: And what do you know? It seems like Mr Man wants to play

She started massaging me as much as I wanted to protest but it felt good..

Her: Just relax

She took off my briefs and got down to it giving me a hand job she would deep throat and then take a break and start giving me a hand job. She let her tongue play around my tip then she took me in. The softness of her mouth the moist the warmth and the saliva did a number on me. I held her at the back of her head and made her deep throat again this time around I locked her in so I could be inside of her mouth for a bit longer. I only released her when she started gagging she wiped her tears..

Me: Waaa.. Waaait Babe we don't have condoms

Her: I came prepared they in my bag
She smiled at me and I smiled back..

NTANDO

I sobbed quietly in bed making sure that my Mother couldn't hear me. I've left him a lot of messages I've called him a few times and he wasn't picking up. I was angry and both worried Zwe is not a Person who would just ghost me without any reason. What if something happened? Is he okay? I was very worried about him.. I couldn't even fall asleep

ZWELONKE

She was ontop of me riding me her hands were on my chest and my hands were on her small round ass helping her to ride harder. Her breats were just slapping around as she increased her pace. It did feel good so much that I wanted to take her off me and hit it raw but I'm not going to risk that. Her moans and screaming was better than my girlfriend actually she was better than my girlfriend..

Her: Ohw yeesss please fuck me harder!!

I held her but and pumped her from below with weed taking it's effects it felt damn good..

Her: Ohh yees tear this pussy up!!

We went on for a few minutes until she stopped. We tried to catch our breathing..

She got off and positioned herself in a doggy style now that's what I'm talking about..

I got up and spread her butt cheeks..

Her: Wait I want you to fuck me in anus

That was a strange request..

Her: Have you done it before?

Me: No

Her: There's a first time for everything

It wasn't totally disgusting because she was clean I spat around there a few times..

Me: Are you sure?

Her: I want it deep inside my butt

I was scared that I might tear her up but she insisted so I went for it. It was a challenge at first but I finally got it in it was tighter than her pussy. I started pumping slow with her moans guiding me I increased my pace.

I started fucking her hard with her two fingers deep inside her vaginal hole I pulled out and watched her fucking herself for a while. She was dripping wet her eyes were closed and her mouth was open. I decided to change the condom as she continued I stood there and watched her in amazement this bitch knows her story. How did her ex let her go? She can take you to the heavens and back without even complaining..

.

To be continued

18

ZWELONKE

I was woken up by a nice feeling a feeling of my dick deep in moist and softness. Only to realize

that Phumla was under the blanket and having the time of her life. She removed the blanket and unwrapped the condom she slid it in and then laid next to me with her back against me. I raised her leg and she directed me inside of her she moaned as I pushed in deeper. This time around it wasn't rough just slow lazy sex on a raining morning. I kissed her neck then her back and I continued she had her hand on my balls busy massaging them..

NTANDO

I woke up early and started cleaning the flat. It was 5am and it was raining hard I don't know if we'll be able to go out and do a bit of shopping. I hope by 9am it would've stopped raining. I couldn't sleep last night I didn't get anything from Nkati or Zwelonke. I don't think anyone knows how worried I was. My thoughts were just all over the place..I stopped in between with tears streaming down I wiped them and continued..

ZWELONKE

By the time I woke up it had stopped raining but it was still cloudy. I turned on my side and Phumla wasn't there. I got out of bed and dressed up just my briefs and jeans. I walked out of the bedroom and heard something frying in the kitchen it was Phumla. She was making breakfast in nothing but my t-shirt only. I stood at the doorway and looked at her..

Her: French toast?

I nodded.. Her phone rang she took it from the table..

Her: It's my Friend she's probably worried I stood there and thought of Ntando it's now that it hit me. Fuck! I'm in a lot of trouble.. I quickly went back to the bedroom I got my phone in my back pack I checked it and it was on vibration. I had a lot of missed calls from her and text messages what am I even going to say to her? I had no explanation whatsoever... Phumla made her way in..

Her: Breakfast?

Me: We need to eat and go my mother cannot find you here or my sister

Her: Ohh I see

Me: How did I let this happen?

Her: Zwe we just had fun that's all

Me: Fun right and nothing more?

Her: Just fun and nothing more

Me: Good!!.. Now let's get going

Her: After eating and bathing I don't want you going to your girlfriend and smelling my pussy

Me: Good idea

NTANDO

We didn't really go out shopping my mother told me that she's leaving. The weather was bad it was cold now. I walked her to get a taxi..

Her: Ntando

Me: Ma?

Her: Uphi uZwe?

Me: Ukibo (he went to visit home)

Her: so why were you sobbing last night? You didn't even sleep

I stopped and looked at her..

Her: I'm your Mother I know when things are not okay

Me: He hasn't been answering my calls he didn't get back to me.. Nothing

Her: Do you think he is cheating?

Me: No.. Zwe would never do such a thing to me

Her: So why are you worried then?

Me: It's unlike him to just be quiet

Her: I won't say much because you know him better than I do if you say that he is not cheating then I'll take your word for it

Zwe can do anything to me but cheating is something that he would never do it's highly unlike him. I mean Zwe wouldn't afford another girl girls these days wouldn't give up for free. I know he is working but he is not making much why would he cheat? I'm the best thing that has ever happened to him. He wouldn't do that

Ma: And we here

Me: I'm sad we couldn't go out and do shopping

Ma: Maybe next time

She hugged me..

Ma: Know that I love you

Me: I love you too

I watched him get in the taxi I waited for it to get full. It was short with 5 people. When it got full and drove away I stood there and waves

Goodbye

After accompanying my Mother I decided to go and do a bit little of shopping just to get my mind off things. I even grabbed something to eat I stayed away from my phone..

I walked back to the flat at around 12 in the afternoon the security door was open. I opened the door and walked in I locked it and locked the door too. When I turned around Zwe was standing next to the fridge I put the plastics down and looked at him. So he is okay he couldn't even call and take me out of my misery. I made my way to the bedroom that was divided. Since it's a bachelor flat we decided to make the big room a bedroom and also a mini lounge. He gently grabbed my arm I turned and looked at him defeated.. His eyes were red I doubt he even slept.. His hand was shaking..
Him: I got caught up in having fun with Sjava we drank a lot and I just passed out

Me: Is your phone working?

Him: Yes

Me: Okay

I tried to walk away but he had a tight grip on my arm now..

Me: Ngicela ung'dedele Zwe I'm tired I just wanna lay down

Him: You angry if we don't talk about it now then later we won't be able to talk about it at all

Me: You had fun with your friends last night you forgot to call me and at least tell me that you okay. You back and you okay now I can stop worrying

I tried to get away again but he wouldn't let me..

Me: Zwe

Him: Ntando ngiyaxolisa (I'm sorry)

Me: I heard you the first time

Him: So why aren't you mad? Slap me push me yell just get angry

Me: I don't have the energy for that why should I act up? You told me you were with your friends and I believe you. Now please let go off me

He let go of me and I went to the bed. I took off my boots and laid down I faced the other way. Why didn't anyone tell me that love is going to hurt at some point? I was never prepared for this

He came and laid down behind me..

Him: Nono

I hugged the pillow very tight and I was fighting back tears.. His voice was breaking.

Him: Ngicela uringe nami (please talk to me)

He pulled me closer to him and gave me a very tight hug he rested his lips on my ear..

Him: I'm sorry.. I should've called I should've texted. I'm sorry that I'm making you cry I would have you cry for a lot of reasons but not this I shouldn't be the one making you cry

I wanted to say something but words failed me all that I could do was just tear up..

Him: I love you soo much and I'm sorry please turn around and look at me

Me: Zwe please..

Him: Please

He turned me around and I didn't protest I had no energy to fight him off. He buried my head on his chest and wrapped his arms around me I hate that I'm giving in after what he did. I should be mad I should be fighting him but I just didn't have the energy to do so.

Me: You truly hurt me Zwe

Him: I know... I'm sorry

He kissed me on my forehead..

PHUMLA

Me: My bitch!!!

Buhle looked at me..

Me: I brought wine

Her: How did you get wine? It's a Sunday

Me: I have my ways

She shook her head..

Me: Now I know that you were worried about me

Her: I wasn't

Me: Okay let's pretend that you were

Her: But I wasn't

Me: Okay whatever

She brought the glasses..

Me: In case you were wondering where I was

Her: I wasn't wondering

Me: Don't kill my vibe

She rolled her eyes..

Her: Fine tell me

Me: I had the best night ever! No make that the best day ever yesterday

Her: Who did you fuck?

Me: Zwe

Her: Your colleague?

Me: Great job.. You catching up

Her: Isn't he in a serious relationship?

Me: Girl please...

Me: Why do you go for guys that in serious relationships? Why do you break up happy couples?

Her: Because I can and it's fun.. These guys think that they are in love they happy with their boring girlfriends until they meet me and I show them a different side

Me: Job well done soon you'll be moving to the next

Her: I think I'll toy around with this one for a while I just love how their girlfriends come at me all crying.. Makes me feel good about myself makes me feel like I'm the shit in a way. You should try it it's fun. It's very fun

.

To be continued

19

NTANDO

I woke up later on I didn't even realize that I had slept for so long but I needed the sleep. I didn't get much sleep last night. Zwe was around just keeping himself busy with his own work I got out of bed..

Him: You have never slept for this long

Me: I was tired I hardly slept last night

Him: I'm sorry again about that

Me: It's okay. I'm not saying don't hang around with your friends just don't ghost me

Him: I promise

Me: Let me go and bath so I can prepare something to eat for us

Him: Okay

He kissed my hand as I passed through..

I was relieved that Zwe was okay I don't know what I'd do if something happened to him..

PHUMLA

Wine is not something that you should toy around with wine can fuck up your hormones pretty quickly.. I walked up to Buhle's room and knocked..

Her: Come in

I opened the door and made my way in..

Me: I'm going to lie down a bit I have a headache

Her: Drink lots of water and take some painkillers

Me: Thank you I'd dot that

She put her earphones on and laid back on her bed..

I went to my bedroom and locked the door. I went and took my vibrator then positioned my phone so that I could take a video. I undressed in front of the

camera my bra and bumshort were the last things I took off..

I sat on the bed with my legs wide open I licked the vibrator and then took it down to my clit and all the way down to my already wet hole. I was very horny and it wasn't funny..

ZWELONKE

As I was sitting keeping myself busy with work my phone beeped. It was whatsapp Phumla had sent me a video on whatsapp. I opened it and watched it it was a video of herself getting down and dirty. She was so wet that it took me back to last night's events. I swallowed as I felt myself getting hard under my sweat pants I wanted to have her and I wanted to have her now. I closed whatsapp as Ntando came through from the bathroom to get dressed I looked at her..

Her: So my Mom said that we should get a TV I was supposed to get it today but the rain

I wasn't even concentrating on what she was saying my mind was occupied by Phumla.

Ntando: Zwe?

I got up from the couch and walked to her I pulled her closer to me and started kissing her

Me: I've missed you

Her: I've missed you too

I kissed her and then dropped the towel I picked her up and placed her on the bed. I opened her legs wide and went down on her all in all to me I convinced myself that I was muffing Phumla. I thought about exposed cookie in that video how she played around with the vibrator and how she finger fucked herself which made her more wet. I moved my tongue to her clit and inserted two of my fingers deep inside of her. She flinched that didn't matter to me. Phumla would've just moaned and asked me to finger fuck her more and insert my fingers deep inside..

I stopped when she held my hand I looked at her..

Ntando: I don't think I like finger fucking it's very uncomfortable and painful

I sighed Phumla would've even licked my fingers in the process. I pulled her at the edge of the bed and wrapped her legs around my waist then I inserted my thick cock deep inside of her. The only difference between Phumla and Ntando is that each time when I enter Ntando it's like I'm entering her for the first again. She still has that tightness in her

PHUMLA

I kept on checking my phone it's been an hour now since Zwe viewed my video and he hasn't responded. I called him but he didn't pick up after 5min he sent me a text:

"What happened yesterday between us was a mistake. I love my girlfriend and starting from tomorrow you and I are going to have a strictly working relationship"

I threw my phone on my bed..

Me: Damn you Zwe!!!!

NTANDO

I came back from peeing it burned like crazy. I walked back to the bedroom we have had sex before but he has never went this hard on me.. He was laying on the bed..

Me: That was different

I laid next to him and laid my head on his chest..

Him: Sorry if I hurt you

Me: It's okay it was just a new experience

He kissed me on my forehead..

Him: I love you soo much

Me: I love you too

.

To be continued

20

NTANDO

Today I woke up happy I even put on my long summer dress. It had bright flowers I usually wear it when I'm in a good mood. I arrived at the staff room to a meeting I didn't know anything about a meeting..

Principal: Thank you for finally joining us Ms Mnguni

I sat down..

Him: I know that this meeting was quick and thank you to everyone for showing up I wonder what this meeting was about..

Him: We all know Mrs Radebe she's one of our family

That's Nkati..

Him: Her Mother is currently in my office Mrs Radebe was admitted last night Everyone was shocked..

Him: She's in ICU she was stabbed by her husband she's barely hanging on This is bad..

Him: I would like us to hold a short prayer for her

We all stood up..

ZWELONKE

Phumla walked in today she was wearing different. She had on tight skinny jeans her work shirt that she tied up heels and she let her hair loose or her weave loose. She walked up to the counter..

Her: Morning

I cleared my throat..

Me: Morning

She bent over and placed her bag under the counter then she walked to Adley's office. I wonder what that was about..

I continued pricing the Cell phones we had a new stock delivered on Friday before we knocked off..

Phumla walked out after 10min she was with Adley..

Adley: Attention everyone

We all looked at them..

Him: Phumla will be switching departments with Zama she'll be working with Ndumiso in his department and Zama will be working with Zwe

He looked at the time..

Him: Hurry up everyone we have to open
Phumla came to get her bag she didn't say anything to me. Then Zama walked to my station giving Phumla a weird look. Zama is very uptight she hardly talks to anyone. I've never even seen her smiling

Sponsored

I'm in for a long day..

NTANDO

I waited for her to come out of the office then I ran up to her as she made her way to the gate..

Me: Uhm sorry Mam

She stopped and looked at me..

Me: Ntando.. My name is Ntando I'm Nkati's friend

She shook my hand..

Me: I'm truly sorry about what happened

Her: I didn't know that she had friends

Me: Uhm we've grown close ever since I started working here I'm truly sorry about what happened to her

Her: Thank you my child

I didn't know what to say after that so I let her walk..

ZWELONKE

Me: So usually how Phumla and I work is that when one of us is low on sales we help each other out

She looked at me..

Her: I'm not Phumla do you and I'll do me. Get your sales and I'll get mine

Me: Ohw

Her: Thank you

A customer walked in and approached our department Zama went up to help him..

I looked at Phumla. Looks like she was having the best time of her life with Ndumiso..

NTANDO

I knocked at his office..

Him: Come in

I walked in..

Me: Sorry Sir for just budging in like this

Him: Please sit down

I sat down..

Him: You look different today

I looked at him..

Him: In a good way

Me: Ohh thank you

Him: What can I help you with?

Me: It's about Nkati I mean Mrs Radebe

Him: You and her were close I can't imagine how difficult it is for you

Me: She called me

Him: She did?

Me: She called me and I sensed she was in trouble I called the cops and sent them to her house

Him: You did a good thing friends like are you are hard to find

Me: Is he arrested?

Him: He's on the run

Me: This is bad

Him: I'm sure they will find him

Me: Me too

Him: Strength to you

Me: Thank you

I stood up..

Me: I should go to my clas

She nodded..

ZWELONKE

I don't wanna lie the station was boring without Phumla Zama and I we not connecting at all. When Phumla was free I walked up to her. She was all smiles and singing..

Me: Hey

She looked at me..

Her: Zwe

Me: What's this about?

Her: What's what about?

Me: You changing stations?

Her: I figured that it would be best if we work in different departments you know keep things strictly professional

Me: Phumla we can sti-

Ndumiso came...

Him: Zwe

Me: Ndumiso

Ndumiso: Partner I just sold a fridge

Phumla: Put it here

She high fived him..

Ndumiso: You bringing us luck with those tight jeans we going to sell a lot

Phumla: What can I say? And lunch is on me by today

Ndumiso: I like you already

They both looked at me..

Me: I should get back to my station

I walked away and they continued talking I was boiling inside..

.

To be continued

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NTANDO

I thought this day was never going to end I must admit. I spent most of my time thinking about Nkati. What animal would do something like this to another human being? I hope they find him. I hope he gets life in prison. Some other Men are monsters how do you do that to someone that you claim to love? It's sickening..

I was back at the flat cooking when I knocked off I had passed by at the furniture shop to buy a TV I asked them to deliver it.

I opened the door for him I bought it with a stand. They set everything up for me..

Me: Thank you very much

At least boredom will seize now tomorrow I must go to multichoice before I go to work.

ZWELONKE

Phumla has been very cosy with Ndumiso all day they even went out and had lunch together.. We were about to close the store.

Zama: I'm leaving

Me: Bye

She took her bag and left. I also took my things and made my way to Phumla and Ndumiso..

Me: I'm leaving

Ndumiso: Don't worry we will lock

I looked at Phumla...

Me: Yeah sure

I made my way out. I took out my phone and texted her on whatsapp:

"So it's going to be like this between us?"

When I was halfway I checked if she had replied. She didn't reply instead she blocked me. I felt like throwing my phone against the wall...

PHUMLA

I smiled after blocking him..

Ndumiso's boyfriend walked in..

Him: The store doesn't close kanti?

Ndumiso is gay I'm the only one who knows. You wouldn't even tell that he's gay he is secretive about that part of his life. Ndumiso looked at him...

Ndumiso: What are you doing here?

Him: Relax I saw that all your colleagues had left

Ndumiso: Still you not supposed to be here
Seth

Seth looked at me..

Me: Relax Ndumiso

Ndumiso: Let me get my things

Me: Is he always this uptight?

Seth: You have no idea

Me: Maybe we should all go out for drinks

Seth: I like that

Ndumiso walked back..

Seth: So Phumz suggested that we should go out for drinks

Ndumiso: All of us?

Me: It'll be fun come on no one will know that you gay

Seth and I laughed..

Ndumiso: Whatever!

NTANDO

Zwe walked in today he was a bit early..

Me: Hey.. You early today

Him: I came straight home

Me: That's good.. I'm done cooking you can freshen up so that we can eat

Him: I'll do that

Me: You won't believe what happened

Him: What?

Me: My friend Nkati

Sponsored

you can freshen up so that we can eat

Him: I'll do that

Me: You won't believe what happened

Him: What?

Me: My friend Nkati is in hospital

Him: Why?

Me: Her husband stabbed her

Him: That's sad

Me: It is.. What kind of a monster would do that to a woman he claims to love?

Him: People are sick out there

Me: Too much.. So how was your day?

Him: It was as usual

Me: Anything interesting that happened?

Him: Like what?

Me: I'm just trying to make a conversation

Him: Well don't I'm way too tired

Me: Ohw.. Then let me d-

Him: Ntando please just leave me alone for a minute okay?

I didn't expect him to snap like that I kept quiet..

Him: Fuck!

Me: I'm going out for a walk

Him: Babe I'm sorry

Me: I'll be back

I took my phone and walked out..

PHUMLA

"Come here rude boy boy

Can you get it up

Come here rude boy boy

Is you big enough

Take it take it (yeah)

Baby baby (yeah)

Take it take it (yeah)

Love me love me (yeah)"

We were at some bar having a nice time and taking some shots. I was taking pics and videos and uploading them on social media.

Ndumiso looked at the time..

Him: This should be our last round

Me: We should meet up Saturday maybe you guys can come do a sleepover my roommate is leaving for the weekend

Ndumiso: Maybe we can go out on Saturday but a sleepover I don't know about that

Seth: We will definitely go out on Saturday

Me: Yes girls!!!

Zwe's call came through I canceled it..

ZWELONKE

I saw everything that she was uploading on social media I have been calling her and she hasn't been picking up. That shit made me more mad..

Ntando walked back in... She put her phone down..

Me: I'm sorry I just had a bad day at work
She nodded..

Her: It's okay.. I understand.. I'm going to take a shower

I got up and followed her to the bathroom.

Me: Maybe I can join you

I said that while wrapping my hands around her waist she pushed me off..

Her: Not tonight

Me: Come on

I tried touching her again she pushed me off a bit harder this time around..

Her: I said not tonight

Me: Cool

I walked out. I took my phone and texted Phumla..

"We need to talk"

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ZWELONKE

A FEW DAYS LATER

That Saturday morning Phumla agreed to meet up with me yesterday she finally answered one of my calls..I watched her as she sat down..

Me: Thank you for coming

Her: What do you want Zwe?

Me: I ended whatever it was between us because I love Ntando and I don't see myself leaving her. I don't wanna lose her

Her: Look I wasn't looking for anything serious with you I just like spending time with you and I like the sex that's all. I know you have a

girlfriend and I'm not trying to break you guys up. I respect your relationship with her

Me: Are you serious?

Her: Relationships are messy they stressful and I don't want to find myself in one. I just like having fun

Me: So you and Ndumiso?

Her: Ndumiso is gay we just good friends
That was a relief..

Her: I didn't know you were jealous?

Me: I'm not

Her: So you say

Me: What are you doing today?

Her: My roomy left yesterday so tonight I'm going out with Ndumiso and his boyfriend

Me: Can't you cancel? I can come over for a weekend

Her: What about your girlfriend?

Me: Don't worry about that

Her: I don't wanna cause any problems between you two

I extended my hand to her...

Me: I like spending time with you please don't deprive me of that. I've missed you

Her: Well in that case I can go out with them
some other time

Me: I like the sound of that.. Let's order
something to eat

Her: Let's do that

NTANDO

I walked into her ward I was holding flowers
with a basket of fruits.

She was out of ICU she looked soo much in
pain though..

She lowered the oxygen and smiled at me...

Me: Good morning

Her: Ntando

I sat down..

Me: How are you?

Her: I am good.. You look good

Me: Thank you.. You look better

Her: I'm getting better

She was breathing heavily...

Me: I'm sorry.. I should've acted fast

Her: You saved my life.. Thank you

She put the oxygen mask back on..

Me: I'm glad you holding up well I'm sorry

She lowered the mask again..

Her: It's my fault. The signs were there I should've gotten out early

Me: What matters is that you out now

She smiled again..

Me: Get some rest

Her: Please don't leave

Me: I'll be here

I held her hand..

ZWELONKE

After breakfast we went and got a few things. Treats and some alcohol then we went to my flat so I can get my toiletries and a few clothes..

Her: Where is the girlfriend?

Me: She went to visit a friend

Her: I have an idea

Me: What?

Her: Let's have sex on the bed

Me: You crazy!

Her: It'll be fun come on

I looked at the bed and looked at her..

Me: Okay wait

I went out and called Ntando..

Her: Love

Me: Babe how is it going?

Her: She a bit better

Me: That's good

Her: I'll be here for a while though

Me: It's okay I understand

Her: What are you up too?

Me: Sjava called the car wash is busy I wanna go there and make a few cents

Me: That's good.. I'll see you later then

Me: I love you

Her: I love you too

I hung up and went back inside. I locked the security door and the door..

Phumla: So?

I went to her and got ontop of her...

Me: We have a few hours

Her: Let's get right on it I have condoms in my bag

Me: This condom situation

Her: I always have them

Me: For what?

Her: For such situations?

Me: Are you sleeping with someone else?

Her: If I was I wouldn't be here

Me: I hope so or this situation can get messy anytime

Her: You and your jealous tendencies

Me: I'm serious

Her: I heard you

Me: Then good!

NTANDO

My phone started ringing..

Me: Hello?

Sjava: Exe Ntando wu Sjava

Me: Ohw.. Hey

Sjava: Cava ngifuna uZwe (I'm looking for Zwe)

Me: Uhm isn't he coming down there?

Him: Where?

Me: He is coming there

Him: Hau manje makangasho (Why didn't he say so)

Me: Did you try calling him?

Him: Akabambi iPhone (he is not picking up)

Me: Maybe he is in a taxi

Him: Yebo mhlambe (Yes maybe)

Me: I'll call him

Him: Alright Ta

Me: Sharp

This was strange I tried calling Zwe but he didn't pick up..

PHUMLA

My arms were under my legs I was holding them apart as he did his thing. Zwe knows how to fuck

Sponsored

I hope this Ntando knows how lucky she is...
He pressed his hand on my throat then he went in deeper and harder...

Me: Yes! Yes! Yes! Yes

He kissed me.. Then took a breather he went again. He moved his hand from my throat and rubbed my clit the pleasure increased. I created more juices my legs started vibrating. I didn't want him to stop It was that nice..

NTANDO

Nkati woke up she looked at me...

Her: You stayed

Me: Of course I did

Her: I hope I'm not keeping you from anything

Me: I want to be here

Her: Thank you Ntando I don't have much friends

Me: It's okay

Her: What's wrong?

Me: It's nothing

Her: Something is wrong

Me: Just my boyfriend he told me that he's going to visit his friend but his friend just called me. He sounded surprised

Her: You think he lied?

Me: I don't know.. I tried calling him he's not picking up maybe he's in a taxi

Her: Maybe

Me: I don't wanna believe that he's up to no good

Her: Why?

Me: It's not like him he loves me too much. He wouldn't do that to me do you know how hard it was for him to get me? He was a nobody when he got me. I helped build him up

Her: What does he do?

Me: He works at some electronics shop

Her: What makes you think that he will never cheat?

Me: I don't see any girl falling for him he is not well stable

Her: You did fall for him when he was still a nobody what makes you think another girl won't fall for him?

Me: It's..

Her: A man can embarrass you never think you are better than the next woman. I used to be like that until he started sleeping with the maid

Me: Zwe would never do that to me

Her: Zwe is a man Zwe can do it. I'm not saying he's doing it. I don't know your relationship with him but don't ever think you he will never cheat on you you not better than the next woman

The Nurse walked..

Nurse: It's time to eat and then drink your medication

23

NTANDO

Later on I went back to the flat it was dark I switched the lights on. I looked around and Zwe wasn't around I took out my phone and called Sjava..

Him: Ntando?

It was a bit noisy where he was..

Me: I'm looking for Zwe ulapho?

Him: Nex mntwana. Akekho (He is not here)

Me: Ohw I see.. Thank you

Him: Sharp

I hung up. I called Dudu..

Dudu: Cuz

Me: Cuz

Her: Unjani? (How are you)

Me: Not good

Her: Yini? (what's wrong)

Me: I think Zwe is cheating

Her: Why?

I told her the story she kept quiet for a while.

Her: Yazizi uZwe uyanya (Zwe is full of it)

Me: I can't believe he's doing this to me

Her: It does sound suspicious and we not sure if he's really cheating. Don't call him don't even ask him where he comes from even when he comes back. I know it's bad but act as if like you don't care

Me: If Zwe is really cheating I don't know what I'm going to do. After everything we've been through after everything I've done for him

Her: He is ungrateful that bastard! From here on he is no longer my favorite person
I exhaled..

Me: Thank you Cuz I'll call you again

Her: No problem mntwana sekhaya

Zwe cheating on me I still csnf believe it..

ZWELONKE

Phumla and I we were having fun as always. Just drinking smoking and eating. I've never felt this alive this happy and comfortable with someone. Phumla let's loose she is a lot of fun and I'd rather be here now than be anywhere else..

Her: So you won't be calling her girlfriend and letting her know where you are

Me: No... I don't owe Ntando any explanation

Her: Wow!

Me: Don't kill the fun

Her: Let's have fun then

NTANDO

The whole weekend Zwe didn't call he didn't text. He actually didn't say anything to even alert me that he is okay or check up on me. The

most person I communicated with was Dudu she even told me that when I sleep with him I should use a condom so that I can always protect myself.. To even say I was "Heartbroken" would be an under statement Zwe is the same guy who used to bother me everyday and I never gave him the time of the day. He was like a puppy always running at my feet and begging me to give him a chance when I did he goes and does something like this. This is below the belt why would he ruin the good thing that we having? Who is he messing around with? Is she better than me? Is she more beautiful? Does she work? Those thoughts were running through my mind and they were driving me crazy. Each time when I laid my head down on the pillow I would get chest pains tears would fill my eyes and I'll have no choice but to sit up and let it all out. I couldn't eat I couldn't do anything. Even when my Mother called I ignored her calls I had a lot of questions in my mind that I doubt he was even going to answer. Dudu said I shouldn't confront him she said I shouldn't confront the girl too should I ever find out that he is indeed cheating.

This is my first heartbreak from someone who is meant to love me more than life itself. I was shattered..

I didn't go to work that Monday morning I took a day off. I decided to go down and visit home luckily I had called my Mom and she told me that she was around. I passed by at the car wash

Sponsored

luckily I had called my Mom and she told me that she was around. I passed by at the car wash to talk to Sjava..

Him: Hau Ntando fede?

Me: Ngi sharp wena?

Him: Ngi grand

Me: Can I please talk to you? If you not busy?

Him: Sure.. K'hambani (what's going on)

Me: Sjava I want to talk to you about something and please be honest with me

Him: Ringa (talk)

Me: Is Zwe cheating on me?

Him: Ehhh

Me: Please

Him: Uringile naye? (did you talk to him)

Me: No.. That's why I'm talking to you

Him: Ntando mina angifuni ukuzingena (I don't wanna interfere)

Me: Please Sjava

Him: Zwe is my friend manje ung'beka endaweni enzima (You putting me in a difficult position)

Me: I promise that I won't tell him.. Please I need to know

He looked at me..

Me: I won't tell him it's you I promise

He nodded..

Him: Kona uyadlala nenye nje intombazana bebazile last weekend (He is messing with someone he was here with her last weekend)

I swallowed..

Me: Who is she?

Him: bathi uPhumla basebenza bonke (Her name is Phumla they work together)

I nodded repeatedly..

Him: Cava Ntando. UZwe uyak'thanda ukuthi nje sometimes singamajita sinokuzidala (Look Ntando. Zwe loves you sometimes as guys we can go astray)

Me: Thank you Sjava I promise that I won't rat you out

I walked away and left him there I didn't even hear what he was saying behind me. Halfway through I stopped my chest was closing in and I couldn't breath. Tears burned my eyes I was shaking and felt light headed at the same time. It's like the earth was closing in on me my mind was clouded. I was brought back to reality when I heard cars hooting I was standing in the middle of the road. The drivers were swearing at me some attempted to get out of their cars. I looked at them then I looked around..

Me: Sorry

I walked straight and sat on the big rock that was on the corner. I let it all out..

ZWELONKE

I put my keys on the counter and yawned I was very tired. I wasn't going to be able to go to work today I was very hungover and tired. I took out my phone and surprisingly the only missed calls I had from Ntando were for Saturday. No missed call from her yesterday and no missed call from her this morning. Not even a phone

call that's weird. I expected her to blow up my phone like crazy. I texted her:

"I'm sorry my love you know how it is with Sjava. I tried leaving but I couldn't I'm deeply sorry I'm still at home and I'll come back later on. I love you and enjoy your day"

I threw my phone on the couch and went to sleep on the bed..

NTANDO

I read his text and my heart started beating fast he is lying. Zwe is lying now I have no doubt that he is really cheating on me. I went on Facebook and Phumla had uploaded a few pictures of herself. The caption read:

"Great weekend with Someone 

 My King"

After that I texted my Mother to come and fetch me from the corner I felt like I was going to have a heart attack and die there..

.

To be continued

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NTANDO

I opened my eyes and I realized that I was in my bedroom. My mother did come to fetch me from the corner when we got home she gave me some pills to help me sleep because I was very disoriented. I sat up straight and searched for my phone I couldn't find it. I got out of bed and walked out of my room I had this terrible headache. My mother was in the lounge watching TV...

Me: Ma

She looked at me..

I was still feeling drowsy..

Her: Nana

I walked in and sat down on the couch opposite her..

Me: Zwe is cheating on me

She sighed..

Me: With some girl from his workplace

Ma: Are you sure or you just assuming?

Me: I'm sure

She nodded..

Her: What are you planning on doing now?

Me: I don't know.. I'm confused I'm hurt. A lot is just happening

Her: I understand.. I'm just surprised

Me: Me too

Her: Whatever you decide let it be the best decision for you

I nodded..

Her: Maybe spend a night here you will go back to the flat tomorrow morning. You'll leave when I leave

Me: Have you seen my phone?

Her: Here

I went and took it from her..

Me: Thank you

Her: Should I make something for you?

Me: Uhm no.. I just wanna rest a bit

Her: Okay Sisi

I walked back to my bedroom..

ZWELONKE

I woke up I have been sleeping ever since I got back. I looked at the time and Ntando was an hour late she's supposed to be home by now. I tried calling her but her phone was off this is unlike her. Maybe she got held up or maybe she went to visit her friend..

PHUMLA

Adley: Where the hell is Zwe?

We all looked at him. When this man losses it he doesn't care about customers...

Adley: Where is Zwe?

Me: Uhm he didn't show up for work today he called in sick

Adley: Who did he call? I didn't receive any call from him

Me: He.. He told me on whatsapp

Him: Are you his boss now?

Me: No sir

Him: I wasn't born yesterday

Sponsored

he must've gotten really wasted over the weekend. Tell him to get his shit together!

Me: Yes Sir

He disappeared to his office..

NTANDO

Tears streamed down as I checked Phumla's photos. She was beautiful more beautiful than me. She has a beautiful slim body and she knew how to dress up for it. What is a girl like this doing with Zwe? She looks like she's money minded.. Dudu's call came through...

Me: Cuz?

Her: Cuz how are you? Aunty called me

Me: He's cheating on me Dudu it's confirmed
She exhaled..

Me: And she's very beautiful more than me

Her: Zwe can go to hell after everything that
you've done for him? I didn't think he was one
of those guys. Guys who turn on their girlfriends
when they start to get some cents at least he
showed you his ass early. He can go to hell!!!
You don't need him!

Me: But I love him

Her: I know sweetheart

Me: Kubuhlungu Dudu (It's painful)

Her: Ntando.. Don't cry

Me: I feel like dying

Her: It will get better it's not fatal

(Silence)

Her: I have to go back to work I'll call you again

Me: Okay.. Bye

Her: Bye

ZWELONKE

I looked at the time again she was very late. I tried to call her this time around her phone was on but she didn't pick up..

Me: Dammit Ntando pick up the phone!

Phumla's call came through..

Me: Hello

Her: Adley is mad

Me: What did he say?

Her: You know him

Me: I'll deal with him tomorrow

Her: Are you good?

Me: I am just a bit tired

Her: Okay let me get back to work I'll talk to you later

Me: Cool

She hung up..

I sent Ntando a text:

"Where are you? I'm worried"

.

To be continued

25

NTANDO

Later on my Mother and I went to church I didn't wanna go but she forced me. I was feeling very

heavy inside no matter how much I tried to be strong. I couldn't all I wanted was to just drop dead and die. Betrayal from someone that you trust with all your heart is deadly I was losing my mind. I just wanted to know why he was doing this to me. Why would he hurt me this much?

After church we walked back home church came out at around 20:00. When we got home my Mother dished up for us..

Me: Thank you Ma but I'm not hungry

Ma: You need to eat Ntando you haven't eaten anything the whole day

I had no appetite with all these chest pains that I was having. I don't think the food would go down well..

Me: Can I have the pills again? I just wanna sleep

Ma: When you leave tomorrow morning I'm going to be worried about you you not in the right state

Me: I'll be fine Ma

Ma: Have something to eat then even if it's little just so you can drink the pills

I tried to eat...

ZWELONKE

I got back home from my walk thinking that she would be around but she wasn't I took out my phone and checked. I didn't have any messages from her. I don't have her Mother's number I didn't know who to call. So is this what she goes through when I don't come back home? Where could she be? Ntando doesn't have friends. I know her routine she's not someone who would just sleep out. I called her again she didn't pick up I don't know how many messages I sent her.. I don't know if I'll be able to sleep.....

NTANDO

With the help of my Mom's pills I was able to sleep she woke me up very early in the morning. I only brushed my teeth and washed my face then we left to the bus stop. The bus will start from her workplace then it will proceed and go to Johannesburg CBD.

I had switched off my phone last night even now I didn't switch it on. My mom and the

others stood up as the bus approached their stop she hugged me..

Her: I will call you later

I nodded..

Her: Be good Ntando

Me: I will Ma

She walked out of the bus and then the bus took off. Being in the bus with all my thoughts was nothing but torture I turned my head and stared out as tears streamed down. I didn't wanna go back to the flat

Sponsored

I would rather be somewhere else than in that place. It's no longer warm it's no longer welcoming. It is embedded with nothing but pain it doesn't feel like home anymore...

I got off at CBD and then made that long walk to the flat. I hope he won't be around when I get there I don't wanna see him. I opened the security door and unlocked the door I opened and made my way in. He was standing at the kitchen against the fridge with a cup of coffee he was already prepared for work. I looked at him for a while as he looked at me too I walked

in and closed the door. He stood there waiting for an explanation I didn't have any. I didn't wanna talk to him I didn't wanna see him. I made my way to the bathroom he grabbed my arm.

Him: Excuse you?

I looked at him...

Him: Where the hell have you been? I was worried about you

Me: I was out

Him: Out where Ntando? Where did you sleep

Me: I'm tired Zwe I just wanna bath and go to work

He put the mug down..

Him: Where have you been?

Me: I was out I told you!!!

I yanked my arm from his grip and walked to the bathroom he followed me..

Him: Out where?

Me: It's none of your business!!!!!!

He snatched my phone from me..

Me: What are you doing?

I tried to get it back but he pushed me and I fell on the floor. He switched it on and waited for a while. Then he looked at me..

Him: What's your password?

I got up from the floor..

Him: What's your password?

Me: Give me back my phone

Him: I swear Ntando if you fuc-

Me: What are you going to do? What are you going to do?

Him: What's wrong with you?

Me: What's wrong with me? Are you serious?

His phone started ringing I ran first to get it from the couch..

Me: Look at that it's Phumla

I answered..

Me: Hello?

She kept quiet..

Me: Hi?

Him: Give me back my phone?

Me: I know you fucking him okay? I know everything!

Zwe: Wtf?

She hung up. I threw his phone against the wall I think I unleashed a beast that was buried deep within him. He slapped me twice the second clap sent me falling back on the couch. He got ontop of me and pinned my arms against the

couch so that I don't break free he continued slapping me...

PHUMLA

Me: Dammit!

Ndumiso: Are you okay?

Me: Yes I think so

I put my phone away..

Him: And we waited for you last weekend

Me: I got busy I'm sorry

Him: You should've called and told us that you were busy

Me: I said I was sorry.. Geez!

I walked away..

NTANDO

After that whole incident he took his things and walked out. Banging the door behind him

I laid on the couch crying my face was burning.

I put both my hands on my face and cried for dear life...

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NTANDO

I had to apply a lot of makeup to hide the underlying bruises. Being light skinned comes with it's own disadvantages in times like this my face was actually red and a bit swollen. But the swelling was getting better.

I thought that being at work would distract me but it actually made everything worse I couldn't concentrate. The kids were also making noise and suffocating me more.

When frustration crept in I hit the table a few of them freaked out..

Me: Niyarasa maaan!!!

They all kept quiet and looked at me..

Me: Yenzani umsebenzi wenu niyeke ukubanga umsindo!! (do your work and stop making noise)

They still remained quiet..

Principal: Ms Mnguni

I didn't even realize that he was standing at the door. I walked up to him he looked at me.

Him: Are you okay?

My eyes kept on wondering around because I felt like he could see what happened to me.

Me: I'm fine

Him: You don't lash out like that

Me: I'm okay Sir

Him: If you ever want to talk please feel free to come to my office

Me: Yes Sir.. Thank you

He walked away...

ZWELONKE

Adley: What happened to you yesterday?

Me: I wasn't feeling well

Him: Zwe you are very important to my business and I think you know that since you came the cellphone department has improved

Me: I know Sir

Him: Don't let me think that you are now way in over your head

Me: That's not true Sir

Him: You have a good vision don't lose focus. If you could work a bit harder you will go far

Me: Thank you Sir

Him: You can go back to work I'll take it as if like yesterday it was your day off

Me: Yes Sir thank you

I walked out to my station..

Zama: Yesterday I made a lot of sales

Me: Good for you

Her: Don't think I'll give you mine today just because you were absent yesterday

Me: I didn't ask you too

Her: I was just saying

Me: Look at me and tell me if I give a fuck?

Her: Geez I was trying to make a conversation

Me: Listen here! I don't like working with you and I don't have a choice. Stick to your shit and I'll stick to mine

She kept quiet..

Me: Good girl!!!

NTANDO

I asked if I could be released early I wasn't feeling well. The principal didn't give me a hard time he actually said I can take 2 days off.. I didn't waste time I went to visit Nkati. I feel she's the only person who can understand me now. When I got to the hospital I told her everything while breaking down I could see that it was affecting her

Me: I don't even know what to do I don't wanna turn him in because I don't wanna be the

reason why his life is going to be ruined. At the same time I don't wanna be a statistic

Her: I understand. Love can make one a fool sometimes but believe me when I tell you that it's only going to get worse. Yes some Men do clean up their act at times but some they become worse. If you forgive him and if he truly loves you he will change but if his one of those Men he will just keep on and keep on until he breaks you down completely. Ntando you are your own person you not dependant on him you can still walk out while it's still this early

Me: I just don't understand why he would do this to me

Her: It's not your fault you did nothing. Zwe is showing you his true self and he did it early. He's showing you now who he is imagine if it was at a later stage

Me: It seems serious between him and this girl I don't wanna wake up one day and Zwe has made it and this chick is benefiting from what I helped him build whilst I was with him when he was still nothing. I mean I am well stable he is living off me why would he ruin that? This chick will leave him unless he makes it

Her: I see what's killing you. It's pride you don't wanna admit that Zwe can actually love someone else other than you just because you are his source of stability right now. Ntando you need to sit down and ask yourself what you really want do you wanna be in this kind of relationship? A relationship where you always gonna cry and be hurt? Honey you going to go crazy at some point

Me: I really don't know Nkati I'm confused

Her: I won't judge you because I was naïve at some point only you can make that decision for yourself. We can talk and talk but it's all up to you you know exactly how you feel and what you want. If you choose to stay yes he can change but at the same time he won't. Stop making it all about him

Sponsored

it's about you! What do you want? Screw him because he has shown you who he is. It's no longer about him anymore but about you always remember that

ZWELONKE

I went out for lunch with Phumla..

Her: What happened? How did she find out?

Me: I don't know

Her: Zwe I don't want problems

Me: I'm suspecting she's also cheating

Her: This is a mess serious it was not supposed to turn out like this! I just wanted to have fun that's all I didn't want to be caught in the middle of this. Maybe we should just break it off

Me: Are you insane?

Her: Zwe

Me: I don't wanna break it off. I am into you I enjoy spending time with you. For the first time in my life someone treated me better yes

Ntando is a good person but.. Ntando made me feel useless at some point in my life she thought of herself as this goddess like she's with me because she's only doing me a favour. Everyday I'm reminded by her actions that she's the best thing that has ever happened to me the only best thing

Her: Shuuuuuu I didn't know

Me: It's cool let's talk about something else

Her: Yes please

NTANDO

I stayed with Nkati until late it was good spending time with her. She made me feel a bit better about everything..

It was exactly 17:00 when I left I took a taxi home and when it dropped me halfway I walked to the flat. I took a long walk to the flat when I got inside it was 18:30. Zwe was not around.. I took a bath and then made myself some sandwich I only ate half of it and then put it away. I kept my mind busy by watching TV until Zwe came back.. Seeing again the hurt started all over again..

Zwe: Good evening

Me: Evening

Him: Did you cook?

Me: No

Him: I brought us something to eat

Me: Thank you

His phone beeped and he checked it I saw a smile. At that moment my chest closed in on me. I took my phone and went to Facebook first

thing I checked was Phumla. She had uploaded her pictures with the caption:

 King_Bae

Already she had 30 comments and a lot of likes I checked the likes and reactions. Zwe had reacted with a "♥" and a few people were asking "King_Bae is treating you well you glowing" there way she replied to their comments it showed that she was happy she seemed very happy fooling around with my man. Zwe came back he had bought some chips chicken rolls and a cool drink for us to eat. He was occupied by his phone whilst eating. I kept on looking at him until he noticed...

Him: You not going to eat?

Me: I'll eat later I'm not hungry

He nodded.. I took my phone and went to the bathroom I called Dudu and talked to her. I didn't tell her that he beat me up..

Dudu: Ntando you need to leave him

Me: I can't

Dudu: Why not? Why do you wanna stay whilst he treat you like trash?

Me: Because I still love him. If I walk away now I'm going to kill myself. I wanna learn how to unlove him first while I'm still with him so that when I walk away it won't hurt anyone

Her line cut..

Me: Dudu?

I wiped my tears and walked out to him on a phone call..

Zwe: Now I can't concentrate

He laughed..

Zwe: I think I like the red one more

He noticed me..

Him: I have to go.. Bye

I stood there and looked at him..

Him: Are you okay?

Me: Why?

Him: Why what?

Me: Why are you doing this to me?

He didn't say anything. I tried to hold back my tears but I couldn't..

Me: You hurting me Zwe!!

He sighed and got up from the couch he walked pass me..

Me: Where are you going?

Him: To get fresh air because you irritating me right now

Me: You going to see her?

Him: Ntando not now.. This is starting to irritate me please

Me: What does she see in you? This girl looks like she's into flashy guys! Where do you even sleep with her? How are you able to afford her lifestyle whilst you have nothing! How can you cheat on me? Me? Ntando Mnguni? You stay in my flat I do everything for you! You were nothing when I met you! You still nothing!

He looked at me..

Him: Wow

He was on his phone for a while then he put it next to his ear..

Him: Babe

He made his way to the door..

Me: Zwe?????????

He walked out and banged the door I looked around. He had left his keys I went and locked the door...

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To be continued

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NTANDO

A week passed by then another one and things weren't getting better. Instead of Zwe changing he only got worse. What hurt me the most was that I didn't know what I did to him. I have been very good to him I don't know why he was hurting me this much. I thought by now all those things he was doing to me would've made me to stop loving him but the heart wasn't taking any of that. I couldn't eat couldn't sleep I was losing my mind and losing a lot of weight. Even at work I wasn't concentrating well it was bad...

That morning I walked into the Principal's office. I was feeling very dizzy and drained.

I sat down..

Me: You wanted to see me

He looked at me..

Him: Yes

He looked at me for a long time..

Him: You don't look well

Me: I've been a bit sick

Him: Have you consulted?

Me: Not yet

Him: I'm not happy with your performance lately. You leave work early you come in late at some point you missed a few days without reporting

Me: I've been going through a lot lately

Him: I think you should consult so that you can take a sick leave you are one of the best teachers and I don't want to report you. I don't want to have you dismissed. Whatever it is that you going through please get help

I nodded..

Me: Thank you but.. I need to be here work is my only escape.. Please

Him: I want you here but you not in the right state to be here. There way that you treating your learners I don't want parents reporting you please get some help

Me: I'll do that

I got up..

Him: Maybe you should go home now

Me: I will

I held on to the chair as I felt very dizzy.

Him: Are you okay?

Me: I just need some few seconds

Him: Please sit down I'll call an ambulance

He got up as I sat down..

ZWELONKE

I was really enjoying whatever it is that I was having with Phumla. I think I was falling for her hard.. Things between me and Ntando weren't good she irritates me a lot now. All the crying the moods she was very irritating.

Phumla was back in my department..

Her: How is it going with your designs?

Me: Actually I'm done just submitted them to Adley and everything is going well

Her: You go partner!!

Me: We need to talk

Her: Sounds serious

Me: Yeah it is

She looked at me..

Me: I'm going to leave her

Her eyes widened..

Me: I'm going to leave her for you

Her: Zwe...

Me: I know that this started off as just having fun but I've fallen for you

Sponsored

I want to be with you

Her: Are you sure about this?

Me: Yes I'm sure

She smiled at me..

Her: Okay... We can try

Me: Are you serious?

Her: Very serious

I smiled..

Her: For now... Let's get back to work

Me: Yes Mam

NTANDO

I went to the hospital the Principal came along with my bag. The first thing they did was to give me an IV Dr said I was too dehydrated.

Me: You shouldn't have come along

Him: It's okay... They can survive one day without me

Me: Thank you

Him: We take care of our own

The Dr walked back in..

Dr: How are you feeling?

Me: This thing is painful my arm is numb

Dr: Just one more to go

Principal: Is she going to be okay?

Dr: She's showing signs of severe stress and depression

I looked down..

Dr: We will have to keep you here for a few days and also get you some professional help and I'll also get speak to the dietician

Me: All of that sounds expensive

Principal: Good thing you have a medical aid

Dr: Are you her husband? I will have to ask you a few questions

Principal: I'm actually her boss but thanks for the compliment

I looked at the Dr..

Me: And more like a father to me

Principal: Are you saying I'm that old?

Me: You saying it not me

Principal: I'll go get you something to eat I'm very offended

He walked out..

Dr: I'll have the Nurse come and prepare you

Me: Thank you Dr

I took out my phone and texted Zwe..
"I just got admitted"

PHUMLA

I'm not into relationships at all but Zwe I think I can make it work with him. He's about to go big since he signed his new deal with Adley he will be making reasonable money soon. I got my phone and went on Facebook to upload a photo of us with the caption:

"A relationship in progress"

I tagged him. This one I'm not letting him go

NTANDO

I looked at the Nurse..

Me: Thank you

She smiled at me..

Her: I'll get you something to eat

Me: Thank you

She walked out. I took my phone and logged in on Facebook. I was welcomed by a picture of Zwe and Phumla. She had uploaded it and also made it her profile picture Zwe even had the decency to comment:

"I love you soo much"

My chest closed in on me. My hand started shaking I put my phone away. I closed my eyes as I couldn't breath I opened them and tears started streaming down. God why me? Why is he doing this to me?

The Principal walked in..

Him: I struggled to get this

He looked at me..

Him: Are you okay?

Me: Why? Why is he doing this to me?

Him: What are you talking about?

Me: I want it to stop the hurt is too much. I can't take it anymore.. Somebody! Anybody please make it stop!!

I struggled to breath.. He put the fruits down

Him: I'm going to get the Dr

I took the IV out and got out of bed. I struggled to breath it felt like I was going to die. My mind told me that I was going to die.

I tried to find my way around but it was difficult I collapsed on the floor

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To be continued

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PHUMLA

Zwe and I went to his flat after we knocked off he assured me that his girlfriend is not around. Indeed she wasn't around. We made something to eat and chilled a bit before getting it down this time around he opted that we don't use a condom. I think we have reached that level of trust with each other. I don't think anyone understands the joy I get from all of this knowing that I can dethrone those girls who think that their boyfriends will never cheat on them and the boyfriends who think that they are madly in love with their girlfriends and would never cheat this was blowing my mind. I would've dropped Zwe like a hot potato by now since he has fallen for me but Zwe has potential. Zwe is about to make it big soon so why not? Why not really commit to the rich life? It's sad that these girls build their Men only for

another woman to take them it's life she will recover.

NTANDO

The first thing I did when I woke up was to check my phone Zwe hasn't responded since I last sent him that message. My mouth called I didn't pick up. I have been dodging her calls lately. A lot is happening and I don't want to be judged I don't want people telling me that "I'm a fool" especially if they don't understand what I have been through with this person and also what I'm going through.

The Principal walked in...

Me: Thought you would be gone

Him: I did go I went to freshen up

He sat down..

Him: How are you feeling?

Me: I don't know.. I really don't know

Him: At least the Dr said you had a panic attack it's not deadly

Me: I wish it was a heart attack

Him: I know it's none of my business but.. What is happening? What is wrong?

(Silence)

Me: My boyfriend is cheating on me I know what you going to say. Why don't I just walk out

Him: Why don't you?

Me: It doesn't make Sense. Zwe loved me he loved me more than anything in this world and then one day he woke up and just turned on me. He became a different person someone that I don't recognize anymore. I want to walk away but I don't know how. I still love him I love him a lot and walking away is just going to hurt more. I won't survive I won't make it

Him: Love is meant to be a beautiful thing love is not meant to put you here. You are the one who is suffering he is living his best life. Does he know you here?

Me: I sent him a message

Him: And?

Me: He hasn't responded

Him: Is he cheating?

I nodded..

Him: The reason why you finding it hard to walk away is because you concentrating on the good that you guys once shared. It's no longer like that the more you concentrate on that the more you become blind to the hurt and the hurt

consumes more and he only gets worse. There has to be a person that you love more than you love him is it fair for that person to lose you to someone who doesn't care about you? He doesn't care. If he did he wouldn't be doing this to you. Your first love is the most tricky it's the one that hurts the most and in most cases it doesn't last. It's an experience and a lesson. Pick up the lesson and use it so that when you get into your next relationship you know what you have been through and you won't take shit from anyone. Men cheat yes but a man that loves you would never put another woman above you. He would never choose the next woman over you whatever it is that he is doing. He is showing you that he doesn't care anymore and you need to let him go. Think of him as death you mourn you cry but you move on

Me: It hurts so much

Him: It hurts because you letting it hurt. You choosing him over you you making it about him. When is it going to be about you? Why care about someone who doesn't care about you? You say you love him right?

I nodded..

Him: Then let him go let him be happy with whoever he is with right now because clearly it shows that he is no longer happy with you.

Whether his fling is real or not that's none of your business anymore his life is none of your concern anymore your life is. Everything happens for a reason

Sponsored

his life is none of your concern anymore your life is. Everything happens for a reason and if you want him to change you need to show him that you can walk out. It's not like you can't live without him you just don't want too. Let him go and let it go. You are an amazing person and he is changing you to becoming this bitter human being that you not enough is enough! Choose you. Choose life and choose happiness. It hurts but it's not lethal you won't die from it unless you really trying hard to die from it

I chuckled..

Him: You still very young don't let him win.. We don't know each other that well but if you ever want to talk you can talk to me. Right now I

want you to stop bothering him if you feel like you wanna vent. Vent on me don't let him see you this broken because it's only going to boost his ego. He doesn't deserve it. When you think about him think of this moment think of what he put you through and ask yourself if you deserve it? If you deserve to be in a relationship where you don't feel appreciated. Concentrate on the ones that love you you not gonna be on antidepressants just because of a boy who doesn't know what he wants.. It's not fair on you make a choice. Either you walk out now while it's still early or you stick with him and he breaks you down slowly and slowly until you don't recognize yourself anymore. The choice is yours

ZWELONKE

Phumla and I went to the pharmacy to get her a morning after pill. At least the pharmacy closes at 18:30. I took out my phone and checked Ntando's message again I texted her back: "Ohh I'm sorry speedy recovery"
I then put my phone back in my pocket..
Phumla: Okay I've got it let's go

We walked out..

Her: I think we should get something at McDonald's don't worry I'll buy. I put my arm around her shoulders. Phumla is the girl I see myself spending the rest of my life with she makes me very happy. She hasn't judged me hasn't made me feel less of a man doesn't remind me of what she has done for me and all that crap. She was even the one who told Adley about my designs she took that leap of faith on my behalf. I'd be a fool if I let her go..

NTANDO

I looked at his message and my eyes welled up I went to check him on Facebook and he has checked in at McDonald's with her. He has even changed his profile picture on whatsapp and put her picture. I closed my eyes and tears fell..

Me: Please God help me.. I don't wanna feel like this I don't wanna go crazy. I want this pain to end I can't take it anymore. I can't do this please help me. I don't know how I'm going to do this on my own I need your help. If it's not meant to be then help me give me strength and

guide me. I can't I can't love him more than I love myself. Please God help me I need you to make it stop...

ZWELONKE

Me: Last one

Her: Okay

I took the picture..

Me: It's beautiful... You beautiful

Her: Thank you (Smiling)

(Silence)

Her: Did I tell you my roommate is moving out?

Me: Why?

Her: Her and her family are moving to another province

Me: Is that good?

Her: It's okay I'm not complaining.. The rent is going to be steep but I like my own space

Me: Maybe get a roommate

Her: Maybe be my roommate

I looked at her..

Her: You leaving her so why not move in with me?

I cleared my throat..

Me: Uhm... Ya I'll think about it

Her: Don't take too long

Me: I won't

She smiled..

.

To be continued

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NTANDO

I received a call in the morning from the Principal...

Him: I'm sorry hope I didn't cross the line. I won't make it till a bit later today

Me: No it's okay

Him: How are you holding up?

Me: I'm trying

Him: At least you still breathing that's good would be a problem if you stopped breathing I laughed..

Me: Well I'm still breathing

Him: That's good that's how it should be. Get through each day

I exhaled..

Him: I don't know if you a firm believer but I want to send you an affirmation on whatsapp I want you to read it every morning and every night before you go to sleep. I want you to say it everyday until you start to believe it

Me: I'll try

Him: In that case I'll send it every morning and every night to remind you

Me: I'd truly appreciate that thank you

Him: You welcome.. For now let me leave you I'll speak to you later

Me: Bye

Him: Bye

A few seconds later my phone beeped. I checked it was a whatsapp message from an unknown number. The message read:

"You are going to be okay"

Somehow those words hit me deep inside something deep inside of me moved a little. I felt a sense of warmth from deep within.

"I'm going to be Okay"

ZWELONKE

The following morning I woke up first before Phumla. I bathe and decided to prepare her some breakfast. Someone knocked that's probably the Landlord. I went to open to my shock it was Ntando's Mother..

Me: Ms Mnguni

She hit the security door a little..

Her: Open up

Me: What are you doing here?

Her: Zwe open

Me: Ntando is not here she was admitted last night

Her: Zwe please open up

I swallowed. With my hands trembling I opened for her

Sponsored

she made her way in. I closed the door... She looked around first without saying anything then she looked at me..

Her: What is going on with my Daughter?

I didn't say anything..

Her: You promised me that you were going to take care of her

Him: We've been going through a rough patch lately

Her: Please explain to me because I don't understand

Him: No relationship is perfect we having some problems

Her: I see

She walked out of the kitchen to the main room. I put my hand on at the back of my head..

Her: Ohh I see the problem

Me: Ms Mng-

She looked at me..

Her: In my Daughter's flat? On her bed?

Me: Ms Mnguni this has nothing to do with you She pointed at Phumla..

Her: Wake her up I want her out and I want you out!

She opened her bag and took out her phone..

NTANDO

My phone rang it was my mother. I looked at it for a while debating with myself if I should answer or not. She's probably worried about me I will have to speak to her at some point.

Me: Ma

Her: Ntando!

Me: Ma I know that th-

Her: I am at your flat

I heard Zwe in the background..

Zwe: Ms Mnguni please leave

Ma: Why? Because I busted your other girl on my daughter's bed?

Me: What? What's going on there?

Zwe: No leave because this has nothing to do with you!!!!

Me: What the hell? Ma give him the phone

My Mom handed him the phone..

Me: You will never speak to my mother like that ever again!

Zwe: This has nothing to do with her! What the fuck does she want here?

Me: She is my Mother and this is my flat!

Ma: Young girl wake up!! This is not a hotel!

Zwe: Ms Mnguni..

Me: Zwe!!! You brought her into my flat? You let her sleep in my own bed?

He hung up on me..

Me: Dammit!!!!

PHUMLA

I felt someone pulling the bed covers from me as if like that was not disrespectful enough she gently hit me on my shoulder..

Her: Vuka uhambe (Wake up and leave)

I looked at Zwe..

Zwe: Ms Mnguni

Her: Yeeey ungalinge.. Ungalinge (Please don't)

I was still naked on the bed..

Her: Have you no shame? Sleeping in another woman's bed?

I didn't know what to say...

Her: Do you even know how much this bed cost? Make that do you know who bought everything in this flat and you have the audacity to come and sleep in my Daughter's bed! Get out!!!

I was frozen.. She literally grabbed my arm and pulled me off the bed..

Her: Ngithe Phuma!! (I said get out)

Zwe: This is unacceptable!!!

Zwe did the most disturbing thing she pushed this woman and she fell on the floor. I have never seen him this upset. He looked at me..

Him: Get dressed we leaving I'll pack my things in the meantime!

This woman looked at him with tears forming in her eyes..

Her: May God forgive you may God forgive you for what you just did to me

NTANDO

The Nurse walked in on me getting dressed..

Her: What are you doing?

Me: I need to go

Her: Go where?

Me: I need to leave

Her: You can't leave the Dr didn't discharge you

Me: I'm discharging myself... It's an emergency!

I was beyond the word "Angry" how can Zwe disrespect my mother like that?

.

To be continued

NTANDO

I had no choice but to rush to my flat for a moment I forgot about my own problems my heartbreak and everything that Zwe did to me. When I heard him talking to my Mother like that he ignited anger that I never thought I had deep inside of me. My Mother was sitting on the couch with her leg on the small table. She told me the story she told me how Zwe pushed her and how her leg is hurt. From her hip. I didn't know what to say but to shed tears he's a bastard yes! But to do this to my Mother? I'll never forgive him. That hurt he caused me turned into anger I felt nothing but anger towards him. I wanted to kill him I wanted every bad thing on earth to happen to him. After making my mother something to eat I washed the bed linen. Hell dare I even sprayed the mattress with some water and soap then wiped it. I cleaned the bathroom thoroughly I needed her scent and her presence to be out of my flat. When I took a few breaks in between I blocked him and his girlfriend on Facebook I blocked him on every social media and then I sent him a text message. This will be the last message he

gets from me thank goodness he took his everything. I never wanna see him again!!

ZWELONKE

I was still upset at how Ntando's Mother reacted. She had no right invading our private space like that. Phumla didn't come to work she called in sick. She was pretty upset at what happened humiliated would be the best description. I took my phone and Ntando had sent me a message which read:

"I hate you and I will never forgive you"
I deleted it and then put my phone away.

NTANDO

Ma: Ntando

Me: Ma?

She was limping

Her: You need to take a break

Me: I'm almost finished

Her: I'll cook something

Me: You don't have too.. I'll cook when I'm done

She looked at me breaking down..

Me: I'm sorry.. I should've let him go when this first happened I shouldn't have let him disrespect you like that

Her: It's not your fault. Zwelonke is old you can't be responsible for his actions

Me: I'll never forgive him for this

Her: You will have to try. Hating him is only going to hurt and destroy you he doesn't deserve your hate or anger. If you hate him that means he will still have a hold on you. Let him go and let it go. Karma will take care of his actions

I nodded..

Me: I almost lost my job because of him I almost lost my mind. I couldn't recognize who I was anymore because I allowed him to hurt me over and over I almost lost my worth Ma

Her: We all learn the hard way. People come into our lives for 2 reasons they are either a lesson or a blessing. Zwe was your lesson. The next time you get into another relationship

Sponsored

they are either a lesson or a blessing. Zwe was your lesson. The next time you get into another

relationship don't give it your all. Don't make a man your everything

I shook my head..

Me: I will never date again from here on I'm done with Men

She laughed..

Her: We all said that at some point
(Silence)

Her: I'm proud of you I'm proud of you for walking out before he destroyed you. You are young beautiful independent. There's going to be a guy out there who is going to love you better Zwe is not the end of you

My phone started ringing. I wiped my hands and went to get it it was Nkati..

Me: Hi girl

Her: Thank goodness you still alive!

I chuckled..

Me: How are you?

Her: I'm good just got discharged

Me: That's good news

Her: I have a lot of home healing to do

Me: You going back to your house?

Her: Absolutely not that's why I called you

Me: Yes?

Her: I need you to help me get a flat

Me: Well you can come and stay with me in the meantime until you get one

Her: Don't you live with your boyfriend?

Me: I left him more like he left me

Her: Wow! I'm proud of you.. Just don't go back after 2 weeks

Me: He attacked my Mother I don't think I'll ever go back

Her: Ouch! I'm sorry

Me: I'll text you my address.. Then you can come

Her: I'll appreciate that a lot

I hung up and texted her my address..

Ma: Who was that?

Me: My friend Nkati she got discharged. She is looking for a place to stay I told her to come live with me for a while

Ma: That's good... You need to live with someone for now until you are emotionally stable

Me: Ya she's a good person

Ma: I'm sure she is

ZWELONKE

On my lunch break I decided to call Phumla

Me: Hey

Her: Hey

Me: How are you holding up?

Her: After 2 glasses of wine I started feeling better

Me: I'm really sorry

Her: It's okay.. It's not your fault

What happened was very embarrassing as a man I felt embarrassed and disrespected. In front of my girlfriend..

Me: I'll bring you something to eat later on

Her: Okay thank you

Me: I'll check you later.. I love you

Her: I love you too

She hung up..

NTANDO

Luckily Nkati arrived just when I was finished cleaning. I went down to the gate to fetch her a taxi just dropped her off. Since she wasn't well I held her luggage bag for her then we went up to my flat. My Mother was cooking..

Me: And welcome

Nkati: Thank you.. Thank you very much

Me: Mom this is Nkati and Nkati this is my Mother

Nkati: It's nice to meet you

Ma: Nice to meet you too.. Please go have a seat

I went and put her luggage bag in the room..

Nkati: Thank you for letting me stay with you

Me: Don't even mention it

My phone beeped it was a whatsapp message from the Principal..

"Your are going to be okay"

I read it out loud..

Me: You are going to be okay

ZWELONKE

I left earlier than my usual time I passed by at McDonald's to get Phumla her favorite meal then I went straight to the flat after.

She was up and watching TV with a bottle of wine. I sat next to her and kissed her..

Her: How was work?

Me: It was good

Her: Adley didn't say anything?

Me: Nope.. He didn't say anything

Her: Guess what?

Me: Yeah?

Her: Your girlfriend..

Me: Ex

Her: She blocked me

Me: I think she blocked me too

Her: Well then good riddance to rubbish

Me: From hereon it's just you and me we going to make this work

Me: Yes.. We going to make it work

I kissed her again..

Me: I love you

Her: I love you more

NTANDO

We were eating and my Mom was telling us funny stories from when she was still young.

Nkati: I don't think I've ever laughed like this

Ma: Those were the days

Me: I've always thought that you were a good girl

Ma: I've been around

Me: I can see that now

We continued eating until my phone started ringing..

Me: I have to take this

I stood up and walked out..

Me: Hello

Principal: I'm at the hospital they told me that you asked to be discharged this morning

Me: Yes.. Sorry I should've told you

Him: It's okay.. Are you okay though?

Me: I think I'm going to be okay

Him: That's the spirit... Keep it moving

Me: Thank you again for being there when I needed someone

Him: You very welcome

Me: I have to go my Mother is around

Him: I'll check up on you tomorrow then

Me: Okay.. Bye

Him: Bye

I hung up and took a deep breath I think I'm ready to move on from this..

.

To be continued

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NTANDO

[2 MONTHS LATER]

Me: So how do I look?

Dudu: Wait let me take a few pictures

They always say the road to healing is messy and I'm a firm example of that. Some days are better some days I just find myself crying uncontrollably because I still don't know where I went wrong and my stupidity got my Mother hurt in the process. One thing I'm proud of is that I don't call him haven't texted him or unblocked him. I'm walking through this journey as if like he is dead to me and I'll never be with him. Ever again..

Nkati and I we moved from my old flat we now renting a 2 bedroom flat and she has been my pillar of strength. When I'm weak I draw strength from her. Things were going good at work I was even gaining weight getting back to how I used to be. I laugh a lot now and I focus more on what makes me happy than what makes me sad..

Nkati: Wow.. Skinny jean and heels? Who are you?

Me: I just wanted to try on something different from my usual image

Nkati: You look beautiful he's going to go crazy

Dudu: Isn't he like old?

Me: We just friends

The Principal and I we good friends. He also played a major role in my recovery..

Dudu: So you look this beautiful for all your friends?

Nkati: Not for me I always see her in oversized t-shirts.. She's selective

We heard a knock at the door..

Dudu: I'll get it

She got up and took her flying fish can to go and open the door..

Me: The can?

Dudu: He must know very well that we drink

Me: "We"

Dudu: I drink!

I rolled my eyes...

ZWELONKE

Dudu had uploaded a picture of Ntando on her Facebook with the caption:

"Isn't my cousin a snack? 😊"

I looked at the picture and she was beautiful. She was putting on weight in all the right places her face was a bit chubby or her cheeks rather. She had this beautiful smile and an amazing glow. Honestly speaking I thought she would still be crying and hurting I didn't expect her to move on from the pain in such a short space of time. My heart bled a little at the thought of Ntando possibly seeing someone else I mean she never looked this good and yummy when we were still together. Whoever came into her life is making her bring about this happiness that I never knew she had deep within her. She looked very happy. I logged out then logged in with my fake account. I searched her and the privacy on her Facebook frustrated me even more I sent her a request. She looked good on her profile picture she had on a very wide smile and a very short dress that exposed her thick yellow thighs. Her perfect white teeth and her thin long braids. The red lipstick on her thick

lips she really looked nice.. I miss her I won't lie
I miss her a lot.

Things between Phumla and I

Sponsored

I miss her a lot.

Things between Phumla and I are no longer the same. That spark and excitement that we had for each other is gone all we do lately is fight a lot. What's making us fight most of the time is money with my small change that I get at work I can't afford the life she wants us to live. The problem started when my designs failed apparently there was a lot of mistakes with the phones that were meant to be on the shelves. Then Adley revoked the contract that's when Phumla started changing towards me. I tried to redo the designs again but I couldn't figure out how to rectify the mistakes I'm under a lot of stress to even be focusing on that right now....

NTANDO

Him: You look beautiful

Me: Thank you

Him: The flowers are for you

Me: Thank you very much
Dudu took them..

Him: Are you ready to go?

Me: Yes I am

I looked at Dudu..

Me: I'll see you guys later

This was officially our first date as friends me and the principal. He asked me out and since I had nothing to do on a Saturday morning I agreed to the date. I'm not looking for any relationship right now and I'm happy he feels the same way too. Ever since he's wife passed on a few years ago he hasn't really been out with a woman or taken any interest in dating again... We walked up to his Toyota CH-R he opened the door for me and I got in..

Me: Thank you

He closed the door. I took out my phone and Dudu has sent me a text on whatsapp:

"Remember you fertile".

I laughed at that and went to Facebook I had 5 requests and I accepted them all..

ZWELONKE

Phumla was not around. She left last night said she's attending a friend's birthday party today and will only be back Sunday late. I made my way to the kitchen to make something to eat we didn't have bread and I had no money. We have a lot of bills and the rent is expensive...

I looked in the cupboard and I found instant porridge I settled for that. I sat down and went on Facebook Ntando had accepted my request and uploaded a few pictures of herself in a car. I put the bowl next to me I just lost my appetite. I went through a few pictures of hers I didn't see anything about a new man although a few guys were on her comments busy stating how beautiful she is and also to tell her boyfriend how lucky he is to have her. I can't believe she put on so much weight on her thighs and ass I looked for her old pictures but I couldn't find any. I think she was creating new memories hence the recent pictures. I got chest pains just by looking at her pictures and seeing how happy she is. I truly thought that she was still going to be bothering me with calls and texts but nothing seems like she has forgotten about me. I noticed that the flat looked different from

ours ohw so now she even moved in with him? Is she pregnant? Are they that serious? I locked my phone and put it next to me I got up from the couch and went to wash my face in the bathroom..

PHUMLA

Zwe is becoming a liability and a burden to me. His phone invention that was supposed to put him on the map has failed dismally and he doesn't even know how to go about with everything. This is the reason why I don't like relationships now what am I to do with him? We barely making ends meet with both our salaries that's not the kind of life I wanted for myself. I really thought he was going to make it but he disappointed and I don't know what to do with him. That's why I spend most of my time away from the flat partying and clubbing just to forget about our current miserable life..

.

To be continued

NTANDO

I thought we were going out to a restaurant or something but he drove out to a park. We got out of the car and walked to where everything was set up there was a lady who was standing there and guarding the place. She left when we got there. Everything was planned out beautifully...

Him: Disappointed?

Me: No.. Just didn't expect this I didn't know people still did this

Him: I wanted to do something different
I took out my phone and took a few pictures.

Me: It's beautiful... Thank you

Him: You welcome

I sat on the cushion as he did too..

Him: I bought juice cranberry.. Something told me that you don't drink

Me: I don't

Him: Is it by choice?

Me: Yes.. Alcohol tastes bitter

Him: I understand

Me: Thank you again for this

Him: You welcome you needed some fresh air

Me: Thank you

ZWELONKE

The security at the gate didn't want me to go in..

Me: I used to live here

Him: I understand Sir but you no longer live here I'll only let you in if you tell me the person that you here to visit

Me: Ntando.. Ntando Mnguni

Him: Okay... Wait a second

He went and checked then he came back..

Him: I'm sorry.. She moved out

Me: Where too?

Him: I don't know Sir

Me: Did she move out with someone?

Him: I don't know.. We don't keep that kind of information

Me: Of course.. I'm sorry

I turned back and took out my phone I went straight to Facebook and she had uploaded a few pictures. It looked like a romantic picnic now I am very sure that she's seeing someone...

PHUMLA

I switched off my phone I had 3 missed calls from Zwe already..I sighed

Zoe: Everything alright?

Me: No

Her: What's wrong?

Me: I think I just fucked myself over

Her: Why? Is that issue with that guy?

Me: Yes

Her: Why don't you just leave him?

Me: I don't know how.. You know I thought he was close to making it until he fucked up

Her: So what are you going to do now? You can't run away from him forever

Me: I seriously don't know

Sponsored

this is not how I imagined my life to be

Zoe: You can't stay here forever my husband is coming back soon

Me: I'll leave Monday morning

Her: Okay

NTANDO

The whole picnic situation wasn't bad I enjoyed the food and the company..

Me: This was nice.. Thank you

He helped me to get up..

Him: Getting fresh air is important

Me: That's very true

We walked to his car..

Me: Aren't we going to take everything?

Him: No.. They will come back for everything

Me: Okay

Him: Maybe we can go to the mall

Me: I don't need to buy anything

Him: It's on me

I looked at him..

Him: It's a one time offer

I've never had a man buy me anything Zwe
didn't really have much so I got used to spoiling
myself until today..

ZWELONKE

I decided to go to the hood staying at the flat is
only going to depress me more.. I didn't go
home I started at the car wash to see the guys.
Sjava was pleased to see me...

Him: Ehhh mehlo madala

Me: Zkhiphani? (What's going on)

Him: Uyazi moss (You know)

I sat down..

Me: Can I help? But I need a blunt first

Him: Uright eyami?

Me: I made a mistake

He sat next to me..

Him: Ringa nami (Talk to me)

Me: I made a mistake a big mistake

Him: Qhubeka (Go on)

Me: I left Ntando for Phumla

Him: Ini?

Me: Ngimjindile for lestshatsha uPhumla (I left her for that hoe Phumla)

Him: Kanjani? (How)

Me: I made a stupid thing worse manje ngathi she found someone else

I took out my phone and showed him her pictures he whistled..

Him: uNtando lo?

I nodded..

Him: Ehh yini uzithwele wanona so?

Wabamuhle so? (Is she pregnant with all this weight gain and glow)

Me: Ang'cavi (I don't know)

Him: Manje uzoyenzani? (What are you going to do)

Me: Mele ngimbuyise lo mntwana (I need to get her back)

Him: Ya neh.. Umoshile (You messed up)

Me: Big time

Him: Girls like Phumla uyashaya nje udlule Amantombazana wamanje awasafani no Ntando ntwana bajola left right and center (Girls like Phumla you just smash and pass. Girls like Ntando are difficult to find these days girls now cheat like crazy)

Me: I fucked up eyami big time

Him: Mina ngithi asthole le Bari azwana nayo kqala (I say let's find the fool that she's dating now)

I chuckled..

Him: Siqala ngayo (we start with him)

I thought about it..

Him: Simthuse nyana (Then threaten him)

A car drove in..

Me: I'll take this one

.

To be continued

PHUMLA

Later on my friend and I decided to go out to some lounge just get a few drinks and have some fun. With everything that's been happening I need some fresh air. I need some time to clear my head. Zoe's husband is a businessman he's hardly around but his money is always around. Zoe is cheating on him basically us going out we going to meet up with her side who will come with his friend so that I don't get bored. I was always focused a struggling nigga was never on the top of my list but when Zwe came. I really thought he was going to make it I thought my future would be taken care of. This is a downgrade a serious one..

NTANDO

I was back at the flat it's been hours since I've been back. Nkati and Dudu couldn't wait to check out all the shoes I bought they weren't a lot. Just 3 pairs of heels..I didn't wanna

overstep my boundaries I held back on the shopping..

Dudu: Manje vele you guys are now dating? Is it official?

Me: No we just friends

Dudu: I have male friends but they have never bought me shoes

Me: Maybe change your friends

Nkati laughed..

Nkati: It's good that you out and about but don't make the same mistake. I feel like you need some time alone after everything that has happened. You need time to deal with the pain the heartbreak and the trauma

Dudu: Babe the only way to get over a man is to get another one.. It works for me

Me: We not all like you

Dudu: I'm just saying

Me: He knows what I've been through and he's not pushing we just good friends. I'm not looking for any relationship

Nkati: Don't get emotionally attached

Me: I went in with my toe this time not with my heart

Nkati: That's good

My phone started ringing it was an unsaved number.. I answered

Me: Hello?

It was a bit noisy and the person on the other line didn't say anything..

Me: Hello? Who is this?

Nkati and Dudu looked at me...

Me: Hello?

The person still didn't say anything.. I hung up...

Me: That's strange

Nkati: Who was that?

Me: I don't know the person was quiet

Dudu: Anyway can I take some of your old heels?

Me: I wear all of them

Dudu: Donate Babe donate

Me: I'll check for you

PHUMLA

We got there first and we bought 12 ciders. It was a good place I liked it it was all white and very sophisticated. Dress code included heels for ladies and no sneakers for men..

It was expensive though 12 ciders cost us R650. That's nothing to Zoe though..

Zoe: He just texted me that they on their way he's bringing along his friend Rodney

Me: What does his friend do?

Zoe: He's a forex trader

Me: Is that thing even real?

Zoe: Yes.. He is very loaded the last time we were here we spent R30 000 in this place

Me: Not too bad

Zoe: At all..

Me: Is he Single?

Zoe: No.. But he fools around a lot we spent R30 000 in this place

Me: Not too bad

Zoe: At all..

Me: Is he Single?

Zoe: No.. But he fools around a lot which I don't think you will mind hooking up with him since you don't really do Relationships

Me: Being a side to a loaded nigga is my cup of tea

Zoe: So have you decided what you going to do with that guy?

Me: I don't wanna talk about him for now I don't wanna ruin my mood

Zoe: let's not talk about it then

ZWELONKE

The boys and I were just chilling and having fun at the car wash we might open until late today. Already I was a bit sloshed I drank a few beers and smoked a joint. Themba borrowed me his phone again that's after I saw Ntando's latest post where she uploaded a picture of shoes with the caption:

"When you appreciated 🥰"

I walked away from the noise and dialed her number again. When I called her earlier I didn't know what to say when she picked up but now I think I have a few words..

She picked up..

Her: Hello

Me: Ntando it's me

Her: Zwe?

Me: Yes

Sha didn't say anything..

Me: How are you?

Her: What do you want?

Me: I'm just checking up on you

Her: For what? I don't need you to be checking up on me

Me: So are you already fucking him?

Her: How is that any of your business?

Me: It's my business because you are mine!

Yes we might be having a few problems right now but Ntando uthi mina!

Her: Usuyasangana (you are losing it)

Me: Do you trust him? Have you already fallen in love with him?

Her: Zwe please leave me alone

Me: Ntando Yekela lento oyenzayo

izomlimazisa (Stop what you doing you going to get hurt)

Her: Let's understand each other my life is none of your concern! Ayikufuni!

Him: I know how guys are they just going to take advantage of you

Her: Speaking from experience?

Him: This is not like you

Her: Zwe bye please don't ever call me!

Him: Ntando if you hang up on me I swear..

She hung up on me..

Me: Ntando?? Ntando???

NTANDO

I walked back into the flat my mood has just gone from a 100 all the way to 0..

Dudu: What is the Principal saying?

Me: It was not him

Dudu: Who was it?

My phone rang again same number. I looked at it..

Me: It was Zwe

Dudu: Is he the one calling again?

I nodded..

Dudu: Letha la (give it to me)

She snatched my phone from me and answered..

Dudu: Zwe! Leave my cousin alone wena nja uyezwa???.. Uyezwa??

She looked at it..

Dudu: He hung up

Nkati: That was quick I didn't expect him to come back so soon

Me: What does he want? I'm happy I'm at peace why is he coming back now?

Nkati: Because you happy and you at peace
he's probably stalking you on Facebook
Dudu: Adlelele le kude loyo!! (He must play
very far)

PHUMLA

The boys arrived I was impressed by how well
dressed they were. Zoe stood up and they
made made their way to our table. My eyes
were on Rodney his watch impressed me. He
might just have money Zoe wasn't lying. Zoe's
side is Thabiso I've met him once a few months
ago..

Zoe: Hey Babe

They Hugged..

Thabiso: Sorry we late

Zoe: It's okay

Rodney hugged her too..

Zoe: This is my friend Phumla I think you still
remember Thabiso and this is his friend

Rodney

Thabiso: I still remember her how do you do?

He hugged me..

Me: I'm doing well thanks and you?

Him: I'm good

Rodney hugged me too he was smelling really good..

Him: Rodney..

Me: Thabiso

Thabiso: Babe let's go get more drinks

He looked at Rodney..

Thabiso: The usual?

Rodney: Yeah the usual

Zoe: I'm coming back

Me: Okay

They walked away with Thabiso's arm around her waist..

Rodney: So.. Zoe never told me that she has a beautiful friend

I blushed..

Me: She never told me about you too

Rodney: I'm offended

Me: Same here

Rodney: Still early to get your number?

Me: Let's see how the evening goes if you impress me then I might just give you my number

Rodney: I'm guessing you single?

Me: Very single

He chuckled..

Him: Yeah a chick has never been this easy with her numbers before

Me: So you saying I'm easy?

Him: I'm just saying it's good that you single

Me: Thank you

Him: You welcome

Maybe this night won't be bad after all..

NTANDO

I received a lot of texts from that number:

"If you don't end whatever craziness you doing it's going to get you really hurt"

.

"I'm going to fuck him and fuck you up"

.

"Pick up your damn phone if you know what's good for you!"

.

"I'm going to track you down with your number I hope where you staying security is tight because if I get my hands on you I'll make sure that you don't breath another day"

.

"He doesn't love you he just wants to get in your pants!"

.

"You never really loved me did you? It took you 2 months to get over me and move in with another guy"

.

"You a whore now you showing your true colours.. I'm going to fuck you up so bad!"

The messages kept on coming I ended up switching my phone off. Zwe was really losing it and it was starting to freak me out He has changed. I don't know him anymore.

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PHUMLA

Rodney and I ended up going to his place later that night. He had a flat but I don't think that he stays here maybe he has another place where his girlfriend visits him. I know these guys I've been in this game to know exactly how they operate. This flat didn't have much of his things his clothes and sneakers were countable.. It's

always like this there's never free drinks and if you want a bit of money for the following day. You will have to give it up for that night and I was giving it up. It's a small price to pay trust me.

We get judged yes but then at least some of us we not giving it up for free. We get spoiled we get money and we afford shit..

He had a tight grip around my neck he was deep inside of me and he was bigger than Zwe. I was enjoying it you know alcohol can spike up your hormones. I'm just glad we were using a condom can't afford any sleep ups. He pulled out and rolled down the condom he got on the bed and splashed his semen on my face. I rose up and licked what remained on his tip...

NTANDO

To say I slept peacefully last night would be a lie when I switched my phone back on I stumbled upon a lot of messages from him. He was insulting me he was threatening me even threatening to kill me. This guy I don't know him anymore and trusting him would be a big

mistake what if he does carry out one of his threats? What if he kills me?

Nkati didn't take this sitting down I was waiting for her to finish bathing so that we could go to the police and report him. I really didn't want to do this but his pushing me if he gets arrested then it'll be all on him...

ZWELONKE

I was woken up by my Mother yelling I tried closing my eyes again but her voice was loud. I slowly got out of bed with a pounding headache and made my way to the kitchen.

She was washing dishes and yelling

Sponsored

I tried closing my eyes again but her voice was loud. I slowly got out of bed with a pounding headache and made my way to the kitchen.

She was washing dishes and yelling seems like she was on a phone call because she was balancing her phone with her shoulder. I leaned against the door frame..

Me: Ma

She ignored me..

I cleared my throat because my voice was scratchy..

Me: Ma

She wiped her hands and then hung up she turned and looked at me..

Me: I'm trying to sleep Ma

Her: This is my house Zwe!

Me: I know

Her: Awusho.. Umenzeni uNtando? (What did you do to Ntando)

I didn't know what to say..

Her: Umumoshile angithi? (You have messed up)

Me: Ma Ntando and I we just going through a rough patch that's all

Her: Rough patch? uNtando has never ignored my calls

Me: Ma...

Her: Zwe if you messed up then I give up on you you will never find a girl like uNtando.

UNtando loved you when you had nothing do you know that such girls are hard to find?

UNtando was taking care of me making sure that la ekhaya we have something to eat! How many girls would respect your mother? She

saw me at my worst never not even once did she take advantage of that to disrespect me. If you want to build a home one day that's the girl you need! She's a diamond
I sighed..

Me: Ngiyakuzwa Ma (I hear you)

Her: Between you and Minnie angazi nje!

I walked back to my bedroom and left her still yelling.

NTANDO

We left Dudu at the taxi rank then drove straight to the police station in Nkati's car.

When we got there I showed the officer all the messages that Zwe sent me last night...

Him: You say this is your ex?

Me: Yes

Him: You two broke up?

Me: Yes

He gave me back my phone..

Him: It will blow over he's just mad that you have moved on let him heal then he will leave you alone

Nkati: Excuse me?

Him: Mam' we have seen such cases okay?
Tomorrow she's going to go back to him they
going to fix things then we going to look like
fools

Nkati: He is threatening her

Him: He won't kill her he is just hurt and Angry
that she has moved on

Me: Let's go Nkati this is a waste of time

Nkati: My ex husband almost killed me he is still
on the run

Him: There's nothing we can do for now

Nkati: You'll only do something when she's
dead?

Him: If he was serious about this he would've
long acted. He's just trying to scare her that's
all

Me: Waste of time!

Nkati: You are a disgrace to that uniform

Me: Let's go Nkati

I can't believe this!

PHUMLA

I woke up alone on the bed Rodney was not around. Next to me I saw a few notes and a note that read:

"Thank you for last night I'll be calling you soon"

I counted the money and it was R5 000 I smiled. I'm back in the game. I laid back on the pillow and closed my eyes

NTANDO

Nkati: This is unacceptable!

Me: There's nothing we can do

Nkati: We can go to another police station

Me: Nkati he hasn't texted me this morning maybe he was drunk plus I heard music in the background when he called

Her: You no longer know this guy that sweet Zwe you once knew he is gone!

Me: There's nothing we can do

Her: We are driving to another police station!

Nkati is taking this way too personal

.

To be continued

PHUMLA

Later on I was back at the flat. I had bought myself a tiramisu cake at Woolworths and a few other things for a nice Sunday meal. Then I went down to this other bottle store owned by some Indian family they open on Sundays too. I bought myself two bottles of wine to keep me going for a few days. Zwe was not around thank goodness he wasn't around. I can't have him breathing down my neck honestly speaking he bores me to death now. I was chatting with Rodney on whatsapp whilst cooking it wasn't a serious conversation. He was asking when we going to meet again he would like to spend time with me again.. I'm happy that my sex game is always on point if it wasn't he wouldn't be hitting me up right now..

NTANDO

The principal was here helping me to do a few charts for my learners. Nkati had gone out for a bit. I told him about this Zwe situation he was

also upset at how the cops handled the situation..

Him: It's disappointing

Me: It is.. But he hasn't contacted me today so maybe he has let it go. I believe he was drunk

Him: I admire how you still have hope in that guy but keep in mind that he has shown you who he is. When people are in need they tend to be the sweetest. Once their situation changes you will see their true colours. You will see them for who they are. Right now he's doing this not because he still loves you and genuinely wants back. He's ego is bruised and he just realized now that he lost his security blanket you were his security blanket and nothing more

Me: I hear what you saying.. Thank you

Him: I didn't mean to offend you

Me: No you actually telling the truth

Him: I think this one is good what do you think?

Me: I think so too.. It looks beautiful

Him: The kids are going to love it

Me: Very much.. Thank you

Him: You welcome

Me: Just a few more to go

Him: Well it's a boring Sunday afternoon so these charts are keeping me busy and killing my boredom

Me: I'm glad

We continued with the charts...

PHUMLA

Zwe walked in when I was almost finished with the salads. The atmosphere immediately changed

Sponsored

what do you think?

Me: I think so too.. It looks beautiful

Him: The kids are going to love it

Me: Very much.. Thank you

Him: You welcome

Me: Just a few more to go

Him: Well it's a boring Sunday afternoon so these charts are keeping me busy and killing my boredom

Me: I'm glad

We continued with the charts...

PHUMLA

Zwe walked in when I was almost finished with the salads. The atmosphere immediately changed my mood got ruined.

He put his keys on the counter..

Him: Hi

Me: Hi

Him: How are you?

Me: I'm good and you?

Him: I'm well

I continued doing my salad..

Him: Where have you been? I've been trying to get a hold of you all weekend

Me: Told you I was at a friend's place we celebrated her birthday yesterday

Him: You were so busy that you couldn't answer my calls?

Me: Yes

Him: Phumla what's happening?

Me: Zwe please don't start

Him: No I need to know! Not so long ago we were happy we were in love and now things have changed

Me: I don't wanna do this with you okay?

Him: No we going to do this!

I kept quiet..

He hit the counter..

Him: I'm talking to you!!!

I freaked out a bit..

Him: What is happening?

Me: I don't wanna do this anymore! I don't wanna do this okay?

Him: Don't wanna do what?

Me: This!! Us!! I don't wanna do it anymore

Him: Wait I don't understand.. You loved me

Me: Zwe please... I loved you because.. Look a relationship that is not financially secure I can't deal with it yes at first this was nice but now I don't wanna do it anymore I'm tired!

Him: Are you seeing someone else?

I swallowed..

Him: I left my girlfriend for you! I gave up my serious relationship for you!!!! (Shouting)

Me: I didn't ask you too!!!

Him: Fuck you Phumla!

Me: I don't wanna do this anymore okay? We done.. This is done

I turned and continued with the salad..

Him: We going to be done when I say we done!

He grabbed me by my hair..

Me: Zwe what are you doing?

He dragged my ass across the floor all the way to the bedroom. He let go and then locked the door..

Him: I gave up everything for you and now you wanna leave me for another dude?

Me: Don't do this Zwe it won't end well for you

Him: I don't care!!

He got his belt..

I don't care!!!

I was wearing my t-shirt and my underwear only he started with my thighs. He was swinging that belt so hard that I felt it tearing my skin I never knew a belt could be this painful..

NTANDO

Me: I'm sorry that we didn't cook could've sorted out a plate for you

Him: It's okay

Me: Maybe next time

Him: Maybe next time

I walked him up to the door..

Him: Please tomorrow get a pepper spray

Me: I'll do that

Him: Goodbye

Me: Bye

He leaned over and kissed me gently I didn't fight him off I allowed him to kiss me..

Him: Have a lovely day

Me: You too

He walked away and I closed the door smiling..

PHUMLA

When he was tired he sat on the bed and lit up a cigarette. I was on the floor crying my eyes out my thighs were the most affected.

I was in pain my body was aching..

Him: Phumla get up

I still laid down there..

Him: Baby come on get up

He got up and made his way to me when he helped me up from the floor I flinched. Every part of my body was aching I looked at him and he looked at me..

Him: I'm sorry I... Let's work things out okay?

He put his hands on my face..

Him: We going to work this out right?

I nodded repeatedly..

Him: We going to be okay we going to work this out

He hugged me very tight and kissed me on my head..

Him: We going to work this out
How did I get myself into this?

.

To be continued

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NTANDO

Nkati came back she was still a bit upset I made her some camomile tea to calm her down..

Her: I went to another police station they said the same thing

Me: I don't think there's anything we can do

Her: It pisses me off! My husband almost killed me his on the run! I can't even get him for divorce I'm still married to him! I'm still called by his surname

Me: I'm so sorry

Her: I am scared when I go out thinking that he has people watching me he still has a hold on me because these damn cops ain't doing their job!

Me: It's sad women are dying in the hands of people who were supposed to love them. We not safe at all someone that you have known for years you wake up one day and he is a total different person. He breaks you down he messes up your mentality then thinks that he can come back whenever he wants

She sighed..

Me: I'm truly sorry Nkati for everything that you have been through.. I wish there's something that I can do

Her: Don't go back to him he will never change. He will only change for that time being and then go back to his old self he's only going to be worse. He's going to come back vulnerable as ever and make you think that he has changed but underneath he is still that same old bastard!!

Me: I have no intentions of going back to him not after everything that he has done!.. I promise

PHUMLA

We were laying side by side my leg was ontop of him. He had a tight grip on my ass and his

other hand had a tight grip on my hair. He was deep inside of me and for the first time sex wasn't nice. It was all painful

My tears didn't even stop him my cries only made him worse. He was enjoying putting me through so much pain he felt dominant. He felt in charge and he wanted me at his mercy. He wanted me to beg him he wanted act God on me he wanted to feel superior..

My hand was running on his chest he was more stronger than ever. He kisses my tears in between I could feel his breath hitting my ear his moan. How was he enjoying this? How can he be enjoying this??

Me: Zwe please (crying)

Him: I love you.. You my girlfriend and I have every right to be inside of you right now. You have been gone all weekend I was starving. I could've fucked any girl but I didn't. I didn't because I love you and I respect you

He moved his hand and ran it on my thigh the same part that endured most bruises I flinched..

Me: I'm sorry (crying)

Him: I'm sorry too

All I wanted was for him to be done the same part that endured most bruises I flinched..

Me: I'm sorry (crying)

Him: I'm sorry too

All I wanted was for him to be done all I wanted was for him to finish...

NTANDO

I looked at her as she peacefully slept..

My phone rang it was my Mother..

Me: Ma

Her: Ntando Kunjani?

Me: I'm well and you?

Her: I'm good Ma

Her: Listen I'm with Zwe's Mom she doesn't want to leave my house

Me: What does she want?

Her: She wants to talk to you and she won't leave

She didn't wait for me to ask further questions she gave her the phone..

Her: Ntando

Me: Ma

Her: Ntando unjani? (how are you)

Me: I'm well how are you?

Her: I'm good.. Ntando what happened? What happened between you and Zwe?

Me: He didn't tell you what he did?

Her: What did he do?

Me: Please ask him

Her: Ntando

Me: I'm sorry Ma but I would appreciate it if you don't talk try to talk to me anymore

I hung up..

PHUMLA

When he was done he put on his boxers and jeans then he went out for a smoke. That's when I got my phone and went to lock myself in the bathroom. I sat on the shower floor and cried. I was still naked with his sperm running down my thighs I cried for dear life. This has never happened to me I am Phumla and no nigga has treated me this way. I went down my call log I still had Ntando's number. He once called her using my phone I actually saved her number. I sent her a text:

"I know I'm the last person you wanna hear from but please we need to talk it's Phumla please get back to me. I will send you something just don't show anyone"

I took a few pictures of the bruises on my thighs and sent her on whatsapp..

ZWELONKE

I checked out what Ntando had posted on Facebook using my fake account but the last time she posted was when she uploaded the pictures of her shoes. I sent her an inbox..

"You beautiful I swear I've never came across such beauty before. Whoever he is he is very lucky"

When I had sent that inbox I searched for pictures of any random guy on Instagram and uploaded one of the pictures as my profile picture...

NTANDO

I looked at the pictures with my mouth slightly open. She was online then she sent a message..

"I don't know what to do"

I put my phone on the table and closed my eyes whilst swallowing. My heart was beating way too fast what human being does that to another human being?

My phone beeped again it was a message from her..

"I'm scared he's going to kill me you know him better than I do please help me. I'm so sorry Ntando I should've never done that to you" I swear that I didn't know what to say I was shocked..

PHUMLA

I sent one last message:

"Please don't call if you do wanna talk to me please text me"

I heard the door opening and closing. My heart jumped. My chest closed I struggled to breath. I kept quiet but my breathing was way too unstable for me to be dead silent..

Him: Phumla!!!!

Me: God please... Please (whispering)

It was quiet for a while my phone beeped. After a few seconds he was banging on the door..

Him: Phumla open!!

Me: God please (crying)

Him: If you thinking of calling the cops it'll take forever to get here and it'll take me only 5min to make you a statistic

I cleared the chat with Ntando..

Him: I said open this fucken door!!

He started banging on the door trying to open it I covered my ears with my hands.

Me: God please.. God please help me (crying)

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NTANDO

[A WEEK LATER]

Nkati and I we were sitting in my classroom having lunch we were discussing the whatsapp messages that Phumla sent me. I never replied to her I blocked her right away.

I do sympathize with her no woman should go through what she went through and is going through. At the same time Zwe left me for her. She shouldn't drag me into their issues..

Nkati: I'm glad you didn't reply the next thing you will be dragged back to Zwe

Me: How can someone just change overnight? Zwe was never like this

Her: He is fighting demons of his own it has nothing to do with you. Just keep it moving and forget about them you have come very far with your healing don't let them get to you. She must deal with her monster

Me: That's very true

Her: So what's happening now between you and Makhubalo?

Me: He confessed his feelings for me last night

Her: And?

Me: I really don't know

Her: You not ready to start dating again?

Me: It's not that just that the age difference

Her: If a man wants to love you and treat you right fuck the age

We both laughed..

Her: If you feel the same way about him go for it babe.

Me: Hai I'll see

PHUMLA

Client: I am still torn between the two

Me: I'd take this one

Him: Yes you would say that because you want me to spend more money

Me: It's not that the more expensive the phone the better the performance (Laughing)

Him: How can I say No to such a beautiful lady

Me: So you taking this one?

Him: Yes

Me: Perfect

I went to get it from the back then we went to the counter for him to pay..

Me: Hardcore cash or you going to swipe?

Him: I'm going to swipe

Me: Okay no problem

Zwe made his way in from his lunchbreak..

Client: Would be nice if I could have your pictures on my phone

I laughed again..

Me: I don't wanna cause any problems between you and your wife

Him: I'll say that you are some celebrity or model

Me: Don't play with me

Him: Serious I'm not playing with you

Zwe: Can I help?

Me: Yes please.. Active the phone

Zwe looked at the client..

Zwe: Ekse Mate

The client greeted him back..

Me: That would be R2500

Client: Even if you make it R3000 I'll still pay because it's you

Me: Daylight robbery (Laughing)

Him: It's not if I'm offering

He paid for the phone and then Zwe finished activating it for him..

Zwe: Here you go

Client: Thank you very much

Me: Have a lovely day Sir

Client: You too Mam'

He took his things and then walked away.

Me: I'm going on my lunch break

Things haven't been good between us since he requested me to come back to my department I try to avoid him at all costs.

I took my phone and my card then made my way out.

Just when I was outside I received a text from Rodney..

"I miss you can we hook up tonight?"

I texted him back..

"No problem I'd like that"

I need some fresh air from everything that has been going on between Zwe and I..

NTANDO

I looked at my learners as they made their way in.. Principal Makhubalo made his way to me..

Him: Hey

Me: Hi

Him: How are you?

Me: I'm well and you?

Him: I'm well.. Why do I feel like I'm being avoided?

Me: I'm not avoiding you

Him: Did you get my text last night?

Me: Yes I did

Him: And?

Me: I really don't know.. Honestly speaking I've come very far with my healing I don't want anything disturbing my peace

Him: Anything meaning me?

Me: You know what I mean

Him: Take what happened between you and your ex as a lesson and don't give up on love. Love doesn't hurt people who don't know how to love right are the ones that hurt you. You cannot shelter yourself forever from being hurt it's life just be vigilant next time

Me: I know it's just that I almost died. That pain was almost fatal

Him: But here you are again alive and kicking I chuckled..

Me: That's true

Him: So what do you say?

Me: How is it going to work out? You my boss remember?

Him: We adults remember? I'm sure we can handle it

I nodded..

Me: Okay then.. I think we can do it

Him: Are you sure?

I took a deep breath..

Me: I'm sure

He looked around and then came closer he closed the door as we were still standing outside. Then he kissed me.. His hands were around my waist and my hands were on his chest..

Me: Good going on keeping it professional between us

Him: I don't think anyone saw us

Me: I hope not

PHUMLA

I called my friend Zoe..

Her: Bitch

Me: Bitch

Her: You went AWOL on me

Me: I know I've been dealing with a lot

Her: A lot like what?

Me: Zwe

Her: You still with that fool?

Me: He has lost it

Her: How?

Me: He hit me

Her: What? You let that good for nothing broke nigga hit you? At least tell me that he is behind bars

Me: No

Her: Why not?

Me: I feel sorry for him in a way I let him leave his true love only to be played. Jail is going to destroy him

Her: Are you kidding me?

Me: I'll handle it

Her: You better handle it because this is very embarrassing I'm even embarrassed to call you my friend right now. Niggas beat you and apologize with a car or a pair of expensive shoes. Niggas don't beat you and apologize with a hotdog you losing your touch. Right now it reflects bad on me that you my friend

Me: I'll handle it Zoe

Him: We shall see!

.

To be continued

NTANDO

Later that day Makhubalo decided to invite me for dinner at his house. I did not decline the invite he knows my flat and now that we have decided to date I think it's only fair that I see where he stays. He told me that his wife passed on so I wasn't surprised when seeing their pictures around the house.

Me: She was beautiful

Him: Thank you

Me: What happened to her?

Him: He had a cardiovascular disease passed on about 5 years ago

Me: I'm so sorry

I looked at the picture of his kids they were okd enough. A boy and a girl. The boy seemed like he could be my age or so..

Him: I've prepared dinner

Me: You cooked?

Him: I'm a bachelor I always cook for myself

I don't really know how old he is but I'm estimating that he could be in his mid 50s. He wasn't a turn off he still looked good.

Me: Wine?

Me: Yes please

He poured me a glass of wine.

Me: Your house is beautiful

Him: I have a helper but I cook for myself

Me: That's good

I like spending time with him he is mature yes and also a bit of fun. He is very charming and I like how he dresses here I am in a relationship with a man old enough to be my father..

PHUMLA

I left work early to prepare myself for my date with Rodney I wasn't going to let Zwe ruin my night out. I made sure to switch my phone off when we were at the restaurant.

Him: How is your meal?

Me: It's nice thank you

We were at a fancy Italian restaurant.

Him: You very beautiful

I smiled..

Me: Thank you

I couldn't keep my eyes off his fancy watch nor his expensive suit..

Him: How is work going?

Me: Tiring!.. Other than trading what else do you do?

Him: I have 2 companies

Me: Wow that's nice

So he was more loaded than I thought..

ZWELONKE

I looked at her makeup scattered on the dressing table her perfume smell was still engulfing the room. I checked her on Facebook she had checked in at some Italian restaurant. She didn't say the name but she posted "Night out with someone's Son". After that she had posted a picture of her hand being held by a hand with a Rolex watch so she is indeed having an affair and she wasn't hiding it. After that I checked Ntando she had changed her status to "In a relationship". I checked her recent photo she was smiling. She was looking more and more beautiful I won't lie. Those chubby cheeks the glow her beautiful smile. My eyes welled up I lost a good woman and I realized that I still loved her. I loved her more than I thought I did. I rolled up a joint and

started smoking my bank balance was embarrassing. I had R10 and there wasn't any food around the flat.

NTANDO

We had a nice dinner just eating and talking. I looked at the time it was 20:00..

Me: I should get going it's late

Him: And here I am thinking that you were going to spend a night

Me: Spend a night?

Him: Just my useless expectations

I laughed..

Me: I didn't bring my toiletries and tomorrow I'm expected to be at work

Him: You can get a day off I'll talk to your boss

Me: I don't like this relationship already I'll talk to your boss

Me: I don't like this relationship already making me skip work

Him: My bad

A song was playing in the background Practice what you Preach by Berry white. He got up and came to me..

Him: May I please have this dance?

Me: What is this? The 70s? (Laughing)

Him: A nice song is playing and I have a beautiful lady in the room why not?

Me: I don't even know how to dance

Him: I don't think this is going to be hard after all we on a date aren't we?

I gave him my hand then he helped me to get up he wrapped his arms around my waist. I wrapped mine around his neck..

I laid my head on his shoulder as we danced slowly..

"Cause you keep telling me this and telling me that

You say once I'm with you I'll never go back

You say there's a lesson that you want to teach

Well here I am baby practice what you preach"

PHUMLA

After dinner we went to that same flat

He took off his watch and put it on the table with his wallet and car keys I walked up to the window and stared out. The view was nice the lights and everything it was beautiful. He came

and stood behind me he hugged me from the back..

Me: The view is beautiful

Him: You could look at it every day

Me: What does that mean?

Him: You could be mine then move in and enjoy the view everyday

I turned and looked at him..

Me: Do you really mean that?

Him: If you want

I looked at him..

Him: There's just only one condition

Me: Yes?

Him: You not allowed to see other guys

I looked down..

Him: Is it serious with your boyfriend?

Me: Not exactly.. Things were long over between us he just doesn't want to let me go

Him: In what way?

Me: He.. Uhm.. Let me show you

I got my phone and showed him the pictures.

Him: He did that to you?

I nodded.. He clenched his Jaws..

Me: I thought I was going to die he threatened to kill me

Him: Where is he now?

Me: We share a flat but I really want out if I go back to the flat I feel like he's going to kill me

Him: You never going back there

He put my phone down..

Him: Give me the details I'll go fetch your things tomorrow you never going back there ever again

I nodded again. He walked over to pour himself a glass of whiskey..

Him: Tell me more about him

NTANDO

The dancing led to an unexpected moment we started kissing. Another song was still playing now Take a Ride by the Isley Brothers..

"Take a ride Win me baby

On a highway that leads to love

Come with me sail free under the sky way

Just both of us"

We continued kissing with my hands now on his chest and his still around my waist. The kissing led to him unbuttoning my shirt then we proceeded to taking the rest of our clothes off..

Me: Do you have any condoms?

Him: I think I do every man has to have condoms for such moments

What's really the harm in what we doing? A girl has been off the game for a while. He increased the volume then picked me up and took me to the bedroom. He laid me on the bed and took off my bra and underwear he laid ontop of me still wearing briefs. His body was betraying his age other than his chest hair. What am I saying? I spotted some gyming gear.. He kissed me then went on to suck my already hard tits whilst rubbing his hand against my clit. I ran my hands on his back.

"Relax enjoy the ride

Cuz soon we will be there

Leave troubles way behind

Cuz joy is waiting there

So hold on to my hand

Picture us on a island

Making love on the pouring rain

You and me will be like cast away"

.

To be continued

39

NTANDO (CONNIE)

The following morning before he left for work he dropped me off at the flat. He gave me a day off I told myself that I'm going to rest and nothing more then later maybe do my laundry. We had a good time last night the sex wasn't bad and he didn't disappoint. It was actually nicer than I thought. Since we couldn't do breakfast he gave R300 to get something to eat. Makhubalo knows very well how to treat a lady.. When I got to the flat Nkati wasn't around I took a bath and then went to bed.

ZWELONKE

Phumla didn't sleep at home last night I thought with our last encounter she would've thought twice about this bitchy behaviour clearly I didn't get my point across. I prepared myself for work then when I was about to leave I heard the door unlocking. I looked at the time

Instead of Phumla walking in three guys walked in...

Me: Who are you?

The light skinned one looked at me..

Him: Are you Zwe?

Me: Who's asking?

Him: It's him

He locked the door and then the other 2 guys made their way to me. They started beating me up..

Him: May that be the last time you raised your hand up to her from hereon she's mine and if you repeat that shit again I'm going to kill you!. From today don't walk next to her don't even look at her let alone breath next to her. I'll kill you!!

PHUMLA

Last night Rodney and I talked briefly about my job he wanted to to quit. Said he's going to get me a better one so today I'll just stop by and submit my resignation letter. I took my phone and called Zoe..

Her: Phumla

Me: I spent a night at Rodney's place

Her: So?

Me: Rodney and I we decided to hit it off

Sponsored

so today I'll just stop by and submit my resignation letter. I took my phone and called Zoe..

Her: Phumla

Me: I spent a night at Rodney's place

Her: So?

Me: Rodney and I we decided to hit it off I'm done with Zwe

Her: That's the best thing I've heard

Me: He asked me to move into his flat and that I should quit my job

Zoe: This is how we do things we roll with guys who have paper not what you were doing

Me: What was I even thinking?

Zoe: At least you came back to your senses even with Rodney please don't go in fully.

Remember it's just about the money and a good life

Me: I'll remember that

NTANDO (CONNIE)

I kept on tossing and turning in bed I couldn't sleep. So I called my Mother..

Ma: Ntando

Me: Mama

Ma: Unjani (How are you)

Me: I'm well and you?

Ma: I'm well

Me: Was just greeting you

Ma: Hau ngiyabonga (Thank you)

I don't wanna tell her about Makhubalo I mean how is she going to take it? She is his age group..

Me: I was thinking of coming down there this weekend

Ma: Please do I miss you

Me: I'll come and see you

Ma: Thank you very much and thank you for the call

Me: You welcome

ZWELONKE

After beating me up he went to take Phumla's things. Everything that was hers he took it and then they left leaving me on the floor. I got my phone from my pocket and called Adley..

Adley: Hello?

Me: I don't think I'll be coming to work today

Adley: Why?

Me: I got mugged and beaten

Him: Are you okay?

Me: I don't know I don't think so

Him: Where are you?

Me: They actually came in my flat and attacked me

Him: Do you know them?

Me: No

Him: Text me your address I'll stop by

Me: I'll do so

I wasn't going to go to the police he hinted that if I do he will force Phumla to open a case against me. I have a lot to lose so right now it's best I just let everything go. Including Phumla she was my Karma and there's nothing I can do about it.

.

To be continued

ZWELONKE

[2 MONTHS LATER]

With everything that has happened I decided to clean up my act. That day I was admitted almost ended up with a few broken bones. Adley handled my hospital bill then when I got discharged I decided to swallow my pride and Ego and moved back home. I apologized to Phumla for everything I put her through I also apologized to Ntando. Phumla replied that she forgave me but Ntando never replied. I still work at Adley and I started afresh to work on my two phone designs I submitted them. The designs were approved and they currently being manufactured. Adley opted that we should go for China since they good with making phones I mean Apple their phones are made in Foxconn which manufacturers iPhones in it's Shenzen China location Foxconn maintains factories all across the world. In places such as China Thailand Malaysia and and the list is endless. I really wanted mine to be made in South Africa so we went on a search for a worthy company that can manufacture my phones and we did

find it. They not popular but they very good even the software for my phones is not Android nor IOS. I created one that is also good. We signed a contract since Adley believed in my dream and invention he will be getting 60% of the profits and I'll walk away with 40%. He spent a lot of money in this even took out a loan so it's only fair.. The phones will be hitting the shelves soon Mtn is the only network that has agreed to sell our phones too so far. Vodacom and cell c are still pending. Once upon a time all of this seemed like a dream one that I was never going to reach. Here I am today about to make it big. I was promoted to run the electronics department I'm the manager and my pay is better now. R8000..

Things at home are also good my mom is no longer a drunk. She decided to turn her life around. She is currently attending AA meetings she also goes to church the same church that Ntando's Mom attends. My Mother and I also went to apologize to her on my behalf she forgave me. I'll forever be grateful for that.. I am currently single with everything that has

happened I'm focused on my work and nothing more..

NTANDO (CONNIE)

Things between Me and Makhubalo are good so far things at work are also good. Zwe sent me a friend request a while back after I have unblocked him he is no longer with phumla I don't think he is with anyone now.

He mostly posts about his work and I see he has done well for himself. He has changed Zwe was always handsome but now since money is flowing he is twice more handsome. A part of me was broken I was meant to live this dream with him. I mean I was there when he didn't believe in himself I motivated him and believed in him. Now another woman is going to benefit off him someday I don't know why life has to be like this. It's not right. He mostly reacts on my pictures but the last picture I posted he commented. He commented with "My future

wife 😍". It felt a bit good knowing that he still sees me that way..

I was at the staff room reading his message that he sent me a long time ago apologizing I never responded so I decided to respond now by unblocking him on whatsapp.

"It's okay I long forgave you it's all in the past now. We good"

I checked his profile picture and he was standing against the company car wearing formal. A white shirt maroon pants and maroon casual shoes. He had on a gold watch and his hair cut was fresh and looked good on him. I sighed and went to Facebook.

ZWELONKE

I was sitting in my cubicle working on some documents and monitoring what was going down on the floor. Adley hasn't been well he was diagnosed with prostate cancer and he is hardly around but I always keep things running

for him. He was on sick leave and I am overseeing everything..

Lebo: Boss

I looked at her..

Her: Signature please

Me: What is this?

Her: Customer complaint

Me: About what?

Her: Tablet that needs to go for repairs

Me: Okay

I signed..

Me: Done

Her: Thank you

She walked away. I picked up the phone and called Adley..

Him: What's happening? Is my company still intact?

Me: We are fine was just checking how you holding up

Him: I should be in my office

Me: You need to rest

His wife Karen spoke in the background..

Her: Hello pookie

Me: Hello Karen

Her: Thank you for relieving him

Me: No problem

Adley and his wife never had any children they spent most of their lives raising other kids..

Me: We will talk again get some rest

I hung up before he could say anything..

PHUMLA

Zwe was really making it did I let him go too soon?. Things between Rodney and I were okay but he doesn't love me. We not in a relationship. He is in a serious relationship and he just engaged his girlfriend and also paid lobola they will be getting married soon. I don't know why this arrangement was getting to me all of a sudden is it because Zwe was the very first guy I experienced love with? A

relationship?. Now I'm looking for that with Rodney and he is just not into it.

We have seized going out together on dates because he doesn't wanna ruin things between him and his fiancé I am being treated like the Slay Queen that I am. Sometimes I just want us to spend time together you know cuddle talk go

out. With him it's all about business sex then he provides me with a good lifestyle. It gets to me at times I am very lonely and it's not good

ZWELONKE

I checked my phone and I almost fell out of my chair when I saw that I received a whatsapp message from Ntando. I checked her profile picture and damn she looked good she was getting more and more thicker and it seemed like she was taking good care of her body because it was not that type of thickness that would put a nigga off.. I texted her back.

"Stole your profile picture please don't sue"
I put my phone down and it beeped..

*****Whatsapp*****

Her: I am already building a concrete case against you! Lol

Me: Don't overreact oh

Her: You violating my privacy Sir

Me: It's public though don't forget

Her: Yeah whatever!

Me: How have you been?

Her: I've been good and you?

Me: I have been good too

Her: I see you making it

Me: Yes! All thanks to you for once believing in me

Her: I did nothing

Me: You did a lot and I would've really liked to give you the world someday

Her: Ncooh aren't you just so sweet

Me: You really deserve the best you are an amazing woman

Her: Shuuuuuu you going to make me cry

Me: Not my intention 😊

Her: I have to go thank you for reaching out

Me: No thank you for giving me a chance to reach out

Her: 😊

Me: Check you later sweets

Her: Bye!

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To be continued

NTANDO (CONNIE)

When I arrived home after work I wanted to lay down a little because I had a terrible headache. I drank a cup of warm water and pain killers then I laid down. I closed my eyes but I couldn't get any sleep so I decided to check my whatsapp only to stumble upon Zwe's comment on my whatsapp status. I had posted a picture and captioned it "Terrible headache"..

Zwe:

"Is that your way of wanting ice cream"

I laughed and replied:

"I really have a headache"

It didn't take him long to reply:

"I am driving around maybe I can get you some ice cream"

I thought about that for a second.

"okay here is my address..."

After the address he didn't reply..

I got a call from him 10min later I looked at my phone ringing then took a deep breath before answering. The last time I answered his call was when he swore at me..

Me: Hello

Him: I'm at the gate I doubt they'll allow me in without you signing me in

Me: Okay I'm coming

I first went to check myself in the mirror I did a few touch ups here and there. I tied my braids way up high then made my to the gate. I was wearing a skinny Jean a t-shirt and my sleepers. From a distance I spotted his car parked close to the gate. My heart started beating fast. I went out of the gate and approached the car he got out and looked at me. I looked at him too..

For a second we just looked at each other without saying anything it's been a while.

Him: Hey

I smiled to make the moment less tense..

Me: Hey

Him: You look good

Me: You look good too

Him: I actually didn't buy the ice cream

I frowned..

Him: Okay here is the frown

He laughed..

Him: I came to get you so that we can go and buy it

Me: I left my phone

Him: We won't take long

I sighed..

Him: Unless you don't want it

Me: I thought you have changed you still sleek

He laughed..

Him: So?

Me: Yeah it's fine

Sponsored

you still sleek

He laughed..

Him: So?

Me: Yeah it's fine we can go

He opened the door for me and I got in..

PHUMLA

I was having drinks with Zoe but my mind was far away..

Zoe: So this weekend we going out to a game resort I have already called the girls. They game

I didn't get that..

Her: Phum?

I looked at her...

Me: Sorry.. What?

Her: Game resort this weekend?

Me: Ohw ya.. Sure

Her: What's wrong with you?

Me: It's nothing

Her: Really? Don't do that

Me: I.. I was checking up on Zwe going through his facebook

She rolled her eyes..

Me: Just forget about it

Her: No I'm listening

Me: No it's okay

Her: I thought we were done with him

Me: We are

Her: Rodney is a good guy

Me: Yeah he is.. Forget I said anything.. Tell me more about the game resort

NTANDO (CONNIE)

We went to woolies the first thing he did was to go to the clothes department and checked baby clothes..

Me: You got someone pregnant?

Him: Yeah.. We having a baby boy

That was disappointing..

Me: Ohw congrats

Him: Thank you

He chuckled..

Him: I'm joking I'm getting a few baby clothes for my sis

Me: Minnie is pregnant?

Him: Yes she is

I helped him pick out a few clothes then when we were done with Minnie's purchase we moved to the food department to get the ice cream. He stood behind me as we stood in the queue. It wasn't long. We paid for the tin roof ice cream and headed back to his car

The drive back to the flat we just talked about our jobs. I was happy to hear that finally his phone designs were approved.

He dropped me off at the gate..

Me: Thank you for the ice cream

Him: Anytime

He waited for me to walk in the gate then he drove off..

When I got to the flat the first thing I did was to check my phone. I had a missed call from

Makhubalo. I typed him a message:

"Was sleeping I have a terrible headache"

I then put the ice cream in the freezer. My phone vibrated I thought it was Makhubalo but it was a whatsapp message from Zwe:

"Shit!!! You flipping hoooooot!!"

For some weird reason that made me smile like a retard before even replying to that message he sent another one

"Excuse my language I meant you very beautiful"

I put my phone on the counter and leaned against the fridge still smiling like a retard.

To be continued

42

ZWELONKE

I was Happy seeing Ntando again and spending that short borrowed time together was amazing. She looked so damn hot her thick thighs that phat ass. I am very sure that she is dating though she doesn't post much about him..

Ma: Thank you for buying baby clothes for your sister

Me: So long she goes back to school next year and complete her matric

Ma: I will make sure she does

(Silence)

Ma: You look happy

Me: I was with Ntando

Ma: You two are talking now?

Me: Yes

Ma: That's good

Me: With everything that has happened I've learned my lesson. With things going well for me. I need a stable woman Ntando has always been there. I trust a lot and I love her with all my heart

Ma: If you going to play her again then don't waste her time

Me: I won't play her I promise

Ma: Good.. I'm going to church

Me: I'll drive you

Ma: Thank you

NTANDO

Makhubalo was here we were having dinner. He was talking with Nkati and my mind was far away..

Nkati: Ntando are you alright?

Me: I'm good (Smiling)

Makhubalo's phone rang..

Him: Excuse me

He got up and walked out..

Nkati: What's wrong with you?

Me: Nothing.. I'm fine

Her: You not fine

Me: Really I'm fine

Her: How are things between you and him?

Me: We good we very good

She nodded..

PHUMLA

Rod: I was thinking that maybe this weekend
we can go out

Sponsored

we very good

She nodded..

PHUMLA

Rod: I was thinking that maybe this weekend
we can go out you can choose any place but it
has to be here in SA

Me: I'll check

Him: Are you okay?

Me: I'm fine... Ohw I don't think we can go this weekend maybe next weekend. I'm going out to a game reserve with the girls

Him: Next weekend I won't make it my fiancé and I we have plans so it will have to be this weekend

Me: I'll call and Zoe and let her know

Him: If you wanna go you can go but know that it will take a while for us to go out anywhere

Me: I understand

NTANDO

I walked him to the door..

Him: Dinner was nice thank you for inviting me

Me: Anytime

He kissed me..

Him: I love you

I hesitated for a while..

Me: I love you too

Him: Good night

Me: Night

I closed the door..

Nkati: Ntando your phone is ringing

Me: I'm coming

I went to get it it was Zwe..

Me: Hey

Him: Hope I didn't catch you at a bad time

Me: No.. Not at all

Him: How is the headache?

Me: It's gone now

Him: All thanks to the ice cream

I laughed..

Me: All thanks to the ice cream

Him: How about you come down this side for the weekend

Me: Actually I was planning on visiting my Mother this coming weekend

Him: That's good! I'll see you then

Me: Okay

Him: Good night

Me: Night

He hung up..

Nkati: He's the reason why you have been off with Makhubalo?

Me: What are you talking about?

Her: Zwe called you

Me: I don't think it's right to pry on my calls

Her: Ntando look I know that you have bad experience with Men and your Ex husband was a jerk but not all Men are like that. Zwe made a mistake

Her: Cheating is not a mistake it's a choice. Zwe is only doing this because Phumla is gone. It's always like that. Has he even apologized for how he treated you?

Me: Zwe made a mistake and it's not like we dating we just good friends and I would really appreciate it if you could stay out of my business!

Him: I'm sorry I'll stay out

.

To be continued

43

NTANDO

A week passed by fast maybe that's because I have been busy. Work Makhubalo and Zwe. Friday after work I went home for a visit that I promised my Mother..

Her: How are you?

Me: I'm good and you?

Her: I'm good too I'm so happy to see you

Me: Me too

Her: How are things going?

Me: everything is going well can't complain.. On your side?

Her: This month is my last month at work

Me: How come?

Her: The family is moving back to Switzerland

Me: That's sad I know how much you liked that job

Her: It is what it is

Me: Mina I'm happy though now you can relax

Her: Actually no.. Zwe's mom and I we have decided to start our own cleaning company.

Zwe will help get it online

Me: Ma?

Her: Ntando I don't wanna be dependent on you yes you can still send me money kodwa nawe there's things that you have to do for yourself like buying a house and a car. My child since you have started working you have nothing to show for it. Are you even saving nyana?

Me: I will start saving

Her: You can't keep on renting all your life rent increases. If you can buy through the bank and pay the bank the same money that you were paying rent with. When I die rent this house to make money

Me: Wow

Her: I just want you to have your own things and not be dependent on any man

Me: That's true.. So you and Zwe's Mom

Her: We good friends she's a wonderful woman and she's really trying hard to better herself

Me: Zwe and I we have started talking again

Her: That's good forgiveness is good

Me: That's true

PHUMLA

Rodney decided to bail out on me last minute

Sponsored

forgiveness is good

Me: That's true

PHUMLA

Rodney decided to bail out on me last minute
I'm glad that the Game reserve trip is still on
with the Ladies. I was packing my things when
Zoe showed up..

Her: Are you ready to go?

Zoe is always preaching "Get the money" but
bitch is getting both. Money and love and here
she stands discouraging me about love

Me: Just getting a few things

Her: You don't look Happy

Me: Rodney canceled on me last minutes

Her: Ohw so that's why you mad?

I shrugged my shoulders..

Her: He's giving you money and a good life
what more do you want kanti?

Me: I didn't say anything so don't make me feel
bad

Her: If you going with that attitude then stay
don't ruin our weekend! I don't know why you
sulking do you know how many women would
want to be in your shoes right now? Ungabhor!

NTANDO

Zwe stopped by I didn't expect him..

Him: Hey

Me: Hi

Him: Is your Mom around?

Me: Yes but she's sleeping

Him: Ohw please give her this

He gave me my Mother's medication..

Him: I stopped by at the pharmacy to get it for her she asked me too

Me: Thank you.. I will give it to her

He folded his arms and leaned against the door..

Him: Wanna go out tonight?

Me: Where?

Him: Don't worry about that

Me: I don't know

Him: So what you going to do this weekend?
Just stay in doors?

I looked at him..

Him: Come on let me make your weekend

Me: Okay then we can go out

He smiled..

Him: I'll come and pick you up later

Me: later it is

My phone rang it was Makhubalo..

I put it face down..

Him: Your boyfriend?

Me: Uhm.. Yes

Him: So why aren't you answering?

Me: It's not important

Him: Ouch! I'd be offended if I was him

Me: He doesn't know

We both laughed..

Me: It's not like you going to tell him

Him: of course not

He squeezed my cheek..

Him: I'll pick you up later then

Me: Okay

We remained standing there he came close.

Really close. He put his arm around my waist I pushed him off..

Me: Zwe

Him: It's just a kiss

I looked at him then he looked at me he went for it. He kissed me and I don't know what came over me at that moment but I wrapped my arms around his neck and we continued kissing. I broke the kiss when his hands made it to my butt..

Me: I think that's enough

Him: Okay I'll see you later

I wiped the lipstick from his lips.

Me: Bye

He bit his lower lip..

Him: Bye

.

To be continued

44

NTANDO

Zwe fetched me at around 18:00 my Mother didn't have a problem with us going out. Well that's because she doesn't know that I have a boyfriend I still don't know how I'm going to explain to her that I'm dating someone who is old enough to be my Father. Makhubalo is even older than my Mom..

I thought Zwe was going to take me out to a restaurant or so but we went straight to the car wash. What an embarrassing moment because I was a little overdressed. Sjava and his crew were there I don't wanna lie. They were happy to see us. Zwe got the camping chair for me and I sat down. He put his hands on the armrest and looked at me.

Me: You should've told me that we were coming here I would've put on a normal outfit

Him: I think you look great

I rolled my eyes. He kissed me on my cheek.

A polo was playing my favorite song with all the doors wide open. Sjava was cleaning it.

"I've seen you moving

The way that you do things

Heaven sent depending

Our fantasies trailing

How much more could I love you

Through all that you've been through

And you need me

Here to show you

I'm telling you the truth

Way in (Waaaaay in)

I'm way in (Waaaaay in)

Way in (Waaaaay in)

I'm way in (Waaaaay in)

Way in (Waaaaay)"

Zwe sat next to me as Sjava handed me a can of flying fish. The last time I attempted to drink Zwe wasn't happy I looked at him and he gave me a serious look. I opened it anyway and started drinking he frowned.

Sjava: Yazi masenibuyelane so ngiyajabula (I'm happy that you guys are back together)

Zwe: Khohlwa eyam' uNtando une boyfriend
(Forget it Ntando has a boyfriend)

Sjava: Boyfriend yani manje?

Me: Well if your friend here didn't do me dirty I'd probably be still with him

Zwe didn't answer to that.

PHUMLA

We stopped at a garage for refreshments. It was Me Zoe Fifi and Anelise. A group of Slay Queens. I leaned against the car busy checking my Instagram Fifi stood next to me holding a glass of champagne.

Fifi: You don't seem happy

I kept quiet..

Fifi: You always the life of the party! You make road trips fun you haven't even had a glass of champagne yini kanti?

She was busy flaunting her Brazilian weave whilst chewing a gum..

Me: I didn't even wanna come I didn't expect to spend my weekend at a game reserve

Her: Come on

Me: We driving to Kruger national park

Sponsored

I didn't expect to spend my weekend at a game reserve

Her: Come on

Me: We driving to Kruger national park couldn't we find a nearby place?

She rolled her eyes. Zoe came to us.

Zoe: Is everything okay?

Fifi: I think Phum is on her periods

Zoe: What's with you?

I ignored her. She snatched my phone.

Me: Hey!

Her: Zwe doesn't want you anymore just suck it up! If you don't wanna join us hike and go back! What you not about to do is ruin our weekend understood?

I snatched my phone from her.

Me: Crystal clear boss!

Zoe: I don't like your attitude suck it up!

Me: Don't tell me what to do you not my boss!

Fifi: Guys please

Zoe: No maan I've been patient with this bitch!

If you don't wanna be a part of the crew just go!

We will find a replacement it's not that difficult

Me: Fuck you Zoe!

Zoe took the glass from Fifi and splashed the champagne on my face..

Fifi: Zoe!

I slapped her across the face..

Zoe: Wtf?

She returned the clap and we started fighting.

Anelise got out of the car..

Anelise: Guys stop it!

We continued and fell on the ground.

Zoe: You are such a dumb bitch!

She scratched me on my face with her nails.

Fifi: Guys!!

Zoe: I made you bitch! I made you and I can also break you!

MAKHUBALO

I tried calling Ntando but her phone rang unanswered. I stopped calling and went to her face the latest post she was tagged by her ex. He checked in at some car wash. There were no comments as yet just likes and reactions. My Daughter's text came through:

"Dad check your Emails"

PHUMLA

We were back on the road and Zoe was bitching as always. I could go back but I didn't have money on me we were halfway through to Phalaborwa..

Zoe: This bitch had the nerve of putting her hands on me!!! (Yelling)

She was sitting at the front and I was at the back with Fifi. Anelise was driving.

Fifi: This was supposed to be another fun road trip!

Zoe: Tell it to that ghetto bitch next to you!
I laughed..

Anelise: But Phum you know that we don't physically attack each other

Me: She poured champagne on my face!

Zoe: Because you a dumb bitch!

Fifi: Zoe calm down!

Zoe: I'm not going to calm down! This triffling b-

Me: Triffling? Wow!

Her phone rang she answered.

Zoe: Hey honey

Out of the blue the little brat started crying.

Zoe: Phumla put her hands on me! She fucken hit me!

Me: Here we go

She tried to reach out to me..

Zoe: I will fuck you up busy disturbing me on the phone with my husband

Fifi: I think we should pull over and get some fresh air

Anelise: Good idea

We pulled over. I got out of the car Fifi came to me..

Fifi: Hey

Me: So I'm the bad guy because I can't blackmail people with tears nor throw tantrums?

Fifi: Let it go don't let the little princess get to you.. Here let's have a smoke

I exhaled..

Fifi: Just enjoy this weekend okay? Let go of everything you will see it back when we return to Gauteng

At least Fifi is here and Anelise I won't have to be forced to talk to that bitch!

NTANDO

Some girls came over to chill with us I was uncomfortable with the fact that Zwe was now ignoring me and talking to one of them. Why did he ask to go out with me if he was going to

ignore me like this? I'm not going to be embarrassed like this! Not again!

I got up and started walking away..

Girl: Your girlfriend is leaving

Zwe: Ntando

I kept on walking until he caught up with me he grabbed my arm.

Him: Kanti yini manje?

Me: Why did you bring me here if you going to ignore me?

Him: I'm not ignoring you I tried talking to you but you kept on giving me attitude

Me: So you thought that you could embarrass me again like how you did with Phumla?

Him: Where is this coming from now? I thought you and I were just friends so why are you acting like this?

Me: Wow! Goodbye Zwe

I tried walking away but he stopped me again.

Him: Ntando maan awuyeke izinto ezi snax
(stop acting up)

Me: I don't wanna be your friend okay?

He sighed..

Me: I can't be your friend! I still love you and I can't stand seeing you like that with another girl

so I think we should just stop whatever it is that we doing

Him: I still love you too but what am I supposed to do? I'm not the one in a relationship remember? My hands are tied. Would you leave him if I asked you too?

I didn't say anything..

He chuckled..

Him: Goodbye Ntando

Me: Yeah go sleep with her! That's what you want angithi?

He continued walking without saying anything. I walked up to him and started pushing him..

Me: You a bastard and you'll never change! You are a dirty bastard!!!

He turned and held my hands tight..

Him: Stop it okay? Just stop it!

I kept quiet..

Him: Dammit Ntando

Tears streamed down...

Him: I'm sorry that I've hurt you I wish I can go and fix everything

Me: Then why did you? You chose her over me Zwe! Why did you do that? Why did you hurt me like that?

Him: I'm sorry.. If I could fix everything I would but I can't! I regret everything that I put you through

Me: You hurt me! You crushed me! You even pushed my Mother and for what? For a bitch that left you afterwards?

Him: You know what? Maybe we should just forget about everything. Obviously we can't get through this I'll always be a constant reminder of everything that I've put you through. You see why I didn't want you to drink? I knew this was going to happen

Me: Yes let's blame it on the alcohol

Him: Go home Ntando.. Go home and just forget about this! Forget about all of this!

He let go of my hands..

NKATI

I heard a knock at the door.

Me: I'm coming

I went to open it was Makhubalo.

Him: Nkati

Me: Good evening Principal

Him: Sorry to just show up like this

Me: No it's okay but Ntando is not here

Him: I know.. I wanted to talk to you about

something

Me: Ohw.. Please come in

He walked in..

Him: I know that this is going to be awkward for you seeing that you and Ntando are friends

Me: Uhm okay

He exhaled..

Him: Nkati is Ntando back with her ex?

That was a question that I didn't want to answer..

.

To be continued

45

NTANDO

I didn't go straight home I stopped by at Zwe's house. His Mother and his Sister were so happy to see me..

Ma: Ntando kudala ngakugcina (It's been a while since I last saw you)

Me: Ngikhona Ma (I'm around)

She was so happy I even saw tears in her eyes..

Her: I'm so happy

Zwe's house has changed it was now very appealing to the eye..

Minnie: uMakoti wethu

I looked down..

Minnie: I don't care what happened between you guys but wena owasekhaya

Ma: Iqiniso lelo

Me: I was with him at the car wash

Ma: That's good

Minnie: You guys are back together?

Me: I was thinking of giving him a chance but I'm scared. Zwe was ignoring me and entertaining some girls

They were disappointed.

Minnie: What is he doing? Girls around here can't be trusted they after his money

Ma: Ungenwe yini mara (what has gotten to him)

Me: He might even bring her over here

Minnie: Hau ngeke!

Ma: Awuhambi nex sizobona where that girl is going to sleep not here in my house!

Me: Just to think that I have been single all along with the hope that we might get back together

Minnie: You were the best thing that has happened to him! Why would he want someone else? He will never find someone else like you

Ma: Zwe is very disappointing

Me: Can I get a glass of water?

Ma: I'll get it for you

Me: It's okay I'll get it

I went to the kitchen and opened the fridge I saw a 6 pack of flying fish. I opened it and took one then went back to the living room.

Me: Ma do you mind? I'm not feeling well

Ma: It's okay Sisi you can even drink them all

Minnie: Anye nyi!

We all laughed..

Ma: Thina here we don't know anyone other than you so whatever girl he's going to bring over asazi who is going to accept him

Me: What are you watching?

Minnie: Nigerian movies

Me: Hai I don't like those

Minnie: You can watch anything you want

She gave me the remote and I changed the channel.

Me: Since I'm sleeping over please borrow me your phone I left mine home. I don't want my Mother getting worried

Minnie: No problem

Ma: We have built a good relationship with your Mother now Zwe wants to ruin it? Hai cha not today!

Minnie: And not even tomorrow!

I was so happy to see that his family were on my side..

PHUMLA

We decided to stop and go to some restaurant to get something to eat. I was damn hungry!.

Fifi was sitting next to me I have been talking to her and Anelise. I have been ignoring Zoe with her tantrums..

Fifi: These Pasta dishes look appetizing

Me: I want one too

Fifi: Okay get this one and I'll get this one then we can eat from each other's dishes too

Me: Good idea

Zoe: Let's start off with their bottle of champagne the most expensive one

Anelise: Let's lay off on alcohol I am tired of driving someone must take over

Zoe: Don't worry we got you

Anelise: You guys are tipsy

Sponsored

I am tired of driving someone must take over

Zoe: Don't worry we got you

Anelise: You guys are tipsy maybe Phum can drive

I didn't wanna drive Zoe's car..

Me: I didn't bring my license

Zoe: Don't worry An we got you

Fifi: We so getting arrested here

Zoe: No one is going to arrest us! I'll call Baby
I rolled my eyes..

Anelise: So how are we going to sleep?

Fifi: We can share rooms to save money

Zoe: I can have my own room I can afford it!

Me: I'll share a room with Fifi

Fifi: Yes please! We will drink all night and dance

Me: That's the plan

Zoe: No!

We looked at her..

Zoe: Anelise is boring I can't share with her

Fifi: Okay we will share a room together

Zoe: No I wanna share with my best friend

She looked at me..

Anelise: I don't wanna get thrown out of the hotel!

Fifi: Ya you two shouldn't be sharing a room together

Zoe: We just had a fight okay? Friends fight all the time but it's behind us now.. Right Phum?

Me: Yeah whatever

NKATI

Me: I really don't wanna be caught in the middle of your issues

Him: You won't be caught I just wanna know

Me: She went to visit her Mom that's what she told me

Him: You guys are friends I'm sure you talk a lot

Me: Well Zwe hasn't been here I doubt they talk unless they talk on the phone and I don't know

Him: Nkati you don't promote such things I know you. Please don't protect her
Me: I'm sorry I really don't wanna be involved
He nodded..
Him: I understand I'm so sorry
Me: It's okay.. Just talk to her about it
Him: I will and thank you
He walked to the door..
Him: Good night
Me: Night

PHUMLA

I walked out to answer Rodney's call..
Him: How is the trip going?
Me: It's not bad just Zoe throwing tantrums
He laughed..
Him: The drama Queen
Me: How are things going with you and the fiancé?
Him: We agreed not to talk about my relationship remember?
Me: Yeah sorry

Him: Do you have enough money in your account?

Me: Yes thank you

Him: Okay... I'll call you tomorrow

Me: Okay bye

I turned back and Zoe was standing behind me
I walked passed her..

Her: Phum

I stopped..

Zoe: This is crazy we shouldn't be fighting

Me: It's cool Zoe

Zoe: I think you should apologize you were very hurtful

I turned and looked at her..

Her: You were wrong Apologize so we can put it behind us!

Me: You are soo unbelievable!

I turned back and walked inside..

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To be continued

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NTANDO

Zwe got back a bit late by then I was already passing out in his bedroom. He was shocked to see me laying on the bed with only just my bra and underwear he was alone..

Him: Shouldnt you be at home?

Me: I stopped by to visit your Mother and Sis we were having a good time and I decided to sleep over because it was already late

He nodded..

Him: I'll sleep on the couch

Me: Zwe

I got out of bed and went to him he ran his eyes around trying to avoid looking at my body..

Me: I'm sorry about earlier

He looked at me..

Him: It's okay you had every right to do that. I did hurt you a lot and I'm not proud of my actions

I pulled him a little closer by his hoodie..

Him: Ntando

Me: I love you and I want you

Him: This is not you you have a boyfriend. Don't do this

I wrapped my arms around his waist..

Me: I want you

I stood on my toes and kissed him at first he was reluctant but he kissed me back...

Me: I want you so bad

He ran his hands around my body..

Me: Please make love to you

He kissed my neck with my hand at the back of his neck..

Me: Make love to me

PHUMLA

I stared at the ceiling the room was dark..

Zoe: Phum are you sleeping?

Me: No

Her: I'm sorry about earlier

Me: It's okay

Her: You really did love this guy didn't you?

Me: Kinda

Her: He beat you up he is broke! Love doesn't pay bills

Me: It's over now

Her: I hope so.. You can't lose Rodney over this broke guy

Me: He's not broke anymore

Her: But I'm sure he doesn't have Rodney money

Me: Sort off

Her: This is our life this is what we do

Me: You married

Her: I have a side dish remember

Me: Why did you marry him?

Her: For his money.. Only for his money

NTANDO

At least he had condoms I don't wanna find myself with an unplanned pregnancy. I had decided to take the lead on this one he was laid back on the bed and I was ontop of him. He was squeezing my butt as I tried my best to satisfy him. I was squeezing my breasts and biting my lower lip I was going up and down and then just swaying my waist sideways too. I am not an expert but I could see that he was enjoying he was really enjoying.. I put my hands on his chest as I pumped harder he squeezed my ass for dear life trying not moan loud. I was

also trying not to scream loud and disturb his Mom and Sister..I leaned over and gently bit his neck that's when he lifted my butt and pumped from underneath...

Me: Yes Baby right there.. Ah ah ah ah

Him: Ohh shiiit (Moaning)

I kissed him on his lips.. I've missed this I've missed his dick..

Him: Fuck I love you soo much!!

Me: I love you too

He continued pumping...

Him: Do you love him?

Me: No I love you... I love you so much
That made him to pump me more harder..

Me: Ohh my word Zwe

Him: Then why did you let him fuck my pussy?
That question was too difficult for me to answer
he spanked my ass hard.. Then grabbed it and
continued fucking me..

Me: I... I.. I don't wanna talk about him

Him: I don't want him fucking my pussy
anymore you hear?

Me: Yes.. Yes.. Yes

He kissed me on my neck..

PHUMLA

The following day we prepared ourselves to go to Kruger national park but we started at Spur to have breakfast..

Fifi: Ohw my word you guys are trending

Me: What?

Me: Let me see

She gave me the phone..

Me: Who took the video?

Anelise: The were people there

I passed it to Zoe..

Zoe: This is so bad

Fifi: And funny

Anelise: #SlayQueensFighting

Zoe: The comments they thinking that we fighting for a man

Me: It's insane!

Zoe: This is soo no good for my image!

NTANDO

My pussy was on fire Zwe didn't have any mercy on me last night. He almost fucked me the whole night and this morning I was woken by him fucking me. I was burning and it's like my hole closed again. He was behind me holding my leg a bit up high and deep inside of me. He didn't use a condom this time around but we have agreed to go get a morning after pill. His lips were on my ear he was moaning softly and he wasn't going hardcore. He was very gentle but it was still painful...

Me: Zwe kubuhlungu (It's painful)

Him: You showed up at my house last night to spend a night here you didn't want me sleeping on the couch baby what did you think was going to happen?

Me: Chama ke (Just come already)

Him: No.. Ang'funi

I wet my two fingers and started rubbing my clit it got a bit better..

Ma: Ntando.. Zwe

She knocked at the door..

Me: Zwe stop (Whispering)

Him: No..

Ma: Ntando

She tried to open but the door was locked..

Him: Phendula Ntando uMa uyak'biza

Me: Maaa

He started pumping hard I covered my mouth with my hand..

Her: I made breakfast

Me: Awww (whispering).. Okay Ma ngiyeza (I'm coming)

Her: Okay

Me: Zwe ceda ngiyak'cela

He ignored me and continued pumping me hard I took the pillow and covered my face with it so my screams cannot be heard.

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To be continued

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NTANDO

Later on Zwe walked me home I must say that I had a great time at his house despite our fight yesterday. When we got to my place Dudu was helping my Mother with laundry..

Me: Sanibonani

Mom greeted back..

Zwe: Ma I brought her back

Ma: Thank you very much

He hugged me and kissed me..

Him: I'll call you

Me: Okay

Him: I love you

Me: I love you too

He said his goodbyes and then left..

Ma: Seems like a lot happened yesterday

Me: Can I help?

Ma: Yes please

Me: Okay

Ma: Let me go make myself something to eat

Me: Okay

She walked back into the house..

Dudu: So you back with him? You and

Makhubalo are done?

Me: No

Her: You playing two Men against each other?

Me: I'll break it off with Makhubalo

She laughed..

Her: You really going back to him?

Me: I know that Zwe did me dirty but he apologized he has changed

Her: The reason why he "Changed" it's because that girl showed him flames! If she didn't they would still be together

Me: I don't expect you to understand it's my life by the way

Her: That's very true don't expect me to understand because vele I don't qha qwaba!

PHUMLA

We were getting a few things for the day I think people from around here noticed that we weren't from here. The eyeing was on another level of steroids. It's a small town so maybe everyone knows everyone..

Me: Alcohol is forbidden

Zoe: We will bribe the person at the gate

Fifi: You can't do that alcohol is forbidden for a reason. Plus you get out of control when you drunk Zoe so we don't want you getting out of the car and having a lion eat you alive

Anelise laughed..

Zoe: Fuck you!

Me: Fifi is right let's rather be safe than sorry please. I value my life

Zoe: Whatever I am getting alcohol ill see how I stash it

Me: They search the car

Zoe: I'll see how to get away with it

I shook my head..

Fifi: Anelise buy us some juice or something

Anelise: Okay

Me: I'll go get rolls and snacks

Zoe: please get meat too charcoal and wood

Me: Wood will buy at the Garage

Zoe: Okay

NTANDO

When we were done hanging I walked back to the house to check my phone. I had missed calls from Makhubalo. I exhaled in frustration and called him. He answered..

Him: Hello

Me: Hi

Him: How are you?

Me: I'm well and you?

Him: I'm good

Me: I got your missed calls sorry I didn't get back to you. My mom and I had a bonding moment yesterday

Him: It's okay.. How is home?

Me: Actually home is not bad

Sponsored

I'm enjoying. It's a good place to unwind

Him: Glad to hear that what are your plans for tonight?

Me: We going shopping just finished doing laundry

Him: Okay that's great

Me: What are your plans for today?

Him: I'm waiting for the kids we going to do visit my wife's grave

Me: Ohw I'm sorry

Him: No it's okay don't be
(Silence)

Him: I miss you

Me: I miss you too

Him: When are you coming back?

Me: Monday morning I'll take a taxi and go straight to work

Him: I'll see you then

Me: Let me not keep you

Him: We will talk again later

Me: Okay

Him: I love you Ntando

Me: I love you too

He hung up. This was heartbreaking Makhubalo is a good man he doesn't deserve this. I sat on my bed..

ZWELONKE

Ma: Zwe

Me: Ma

Ma: We need to talk

I sat down..

Ma: If you going to break Ntando's heart again I think you should leave her alone

Me: I'm not going to break her heart again

Ma: I don't want you to keep on embarrassing me especially not now that Ntando's Mom and I are friends

Me: I really want a solid thing with her now Ma. I love her and I won't hurt her again. I'm just waiting to make enough money then save up and pay lobola

She smiled..

Ma: I'm happy that you seeing things that way

Minnie: I'm happy too

She walked in..

Ma: We love uNtando la ekhaya and we have already accepted her

Me: I know

I looked at them..

Me: Are you guys ready to go?

Minnie: Let me change

We were going to do some grocery shopping.

Looking at my family now I'm happy with where we are. We've come a long way and honestly speaking I never thought things would get to this point. My mom was a terrible person I'm grateful that she got up and dusted herself.

She's becoming a Mother that I want her to be..

NTANDO

Dudu: Let's go buy something to drink then come back and chill

Me: Okay I'm buying

Dudu: Wola!

My phone rang it was Zwe.. I looked at Dudu she rolled her eyes and walked out...

Me: Hi

Him: "Hi" kubani?

Me: Hi Babe

Him: How are you Muntu wami?

Me: I'm good and you?

Him: Ngi right especially after last night
I clicked my tongue..

Him: Don't act like you didn't enjoy

Me: What do you want Zwe?

Him: I'm driving the family to town wanna tag
along?

Me: I can't Dudu and I we going to chill and
drink

Him: Ayingithandi lento yakho yokuba
yisdakwa

Me: We will be drinking la ekhaya

Him: Noo ku grand

Me: So now you mad?

Him: No I'm good

Me: If you act like that then I won't come for a
sleepover

Him: No do have fun with your cousin at least
you guys are drinking indoors

Dudu: Ntando asambe so!!! (yelling)

Me: Dudu doesn't like you

Him: Yeah I know

Me: I have to go.. We'll talk later

Him: Alright sharp

Me: Bye

Him: I love you

Me: I love you more

He hung up..

.

To be continued

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NTANDO

Dudu left later on then Zwe came to fetch me.

We bought a few snacks first before going to his place. We were going to have an indoor quiet movie night and I know that I'm going to like it. More especially since I love movies. Our first movie was "Something borrowed" it's my old time favorite. After this one we going to watch a movie chosen by Zwe..

My phone rang it was Makhubalo. I looked at the call and Zwe looked at it too..

Zwe: Are you not going to take that?

Me: It's not important

Makhubalo kept on calling until Zwe got irritated..

I put it on silent..

Zwe: Ntando

I looked at him..

Him: Vele where is this going?

Me: Where is what going?

Him: I'm not going to be a side nigga either you wanna be with him or you wanna be with me

Me: You know I wanna be with you

Him: Then why don't you break this off with him?

Me: It's not that easy

Him: Then maybe we should just forget about us because this won't end well

Me: I will break things off with him then

Him: When?

Me: When I go back to work

Him: You know I'm not forcing you to do anything I just don't wanna be in a 3 way relationship

Me: I know.. I will break it off. For now can we please enjoy movie night without talking about him?

He nodded

PHUMLA

We were back at the hotel after our trip. We had fun I won't lie Zoe and I didn't fight at least. We were drinking and just having fun this trip is not bad. Not bad at all..

My phone rang I didn't recognize the number. I got up and went to answer outside

Me: Hello?

I didn't get a reply..

Me: Hello?

Girl: Is this Phumla?

Me: Yes.. Who is this?

Girl: I am Rodney's fiancé

I didn't not expect this..

Her: Are you dating my fiancé?

I kept quiet..

Her: Please I need to know I'm about to get married to him. If he is really cheating I need to know so that I don't make the biggest mistake of my life. Please I need to know..

I exhaled..

Her: Please.. Please tell me I need to know

Me: Yes.. I'm seeing him

She didn't say anything..

Me: Anything else?

Her: No that was all.. Thank you

She hung up..

I went back to the bedroom..

NTANDO

I was trying to keep my eyes open but Zwe's action movie was boring me. I kept on dozing..

Me: Babe I'm sleeping this movie is boring

Him: That's not fair I stuck throughout your movie

Me: I know but..

He stopped the movie and closed his laptop.

I got under the covers as he switched off the lights.. He came and laid behind me wrapping his arm around me..

Me: Zwe

Him: Talk to me

Me: Please don't hurt me

He sighed..

Him: I'm sorry about what happened to us

He kissed me at the back of my neck..

Him: I'm not prepared to ruin what we have now
I promise. I'll spend everyday showing you that I
have changed. I am not going to lose you
again.. I love you

Me: I love you too

His hand moved and got under the covers it
went down to my thigh. I'm glad that we did get
a morning after pill this morning before he took
me home I don't think I'm ready to have a baby
as yet

I lifted up my leg a bit as his hand got in
between my thighs and made its way up to my
cookie..

Him: I love you soo much

He kissed my neck..

Me: I love you too

He started massaging my clit

Sponsored

I don't think I'm ready to have a baby as yet
I lifted up my leg a bit as his hand got in
between my thighs and made its way up to my
cookie..

Him: I love you soo much

He kissed my neck..

Me: I love you too

He started massaging my clit I got my hand down on him and rubbed his crotch..

PHUMLA

The following morning I woke up with a huge hangover we were on the road exactly at 6am. I was tired all that I wanted to do was to get to my place and sleep. We were all hungover. I kept myself busy with my phone I searched the number that called me last night on Facebook the Facebook account appeared.

"Mica Ndlovu"

I left Facebook and went to Instagram I searched her and I found her. She was beautiful no lie but her latest update was unsettling. She had posted a picture of herself and Rodney then captioned it:

"Just to think I was going to marry him Men are indeed trash"

So she's calling off the wedding? That's a bit extreme..

NTANDO

We woke up the next morning and prepared breakfast. Zwe's Mother and Minnie had left for church. I even helped Zwe tidy up..

When my phone rang I went and answered it outside. It was Makhubalo..

Me: Hello?

Him: Ntando

Me: Yes

Him: Tell me the truth please

Me: What truth?

Him: Are you back with him?

Me: Huh?

Him: He posted a picture of you on his Facebook you were sleeping in his bed!

I swallowed..

Him: Are you with him right now?

Me: I'm so sorry

He kept quiet..

Me: I didn't mean to hurt you

Him: What hurts more is that you lied to me at least if you told me the truth

Me: I didn't know how

Him: The same way you decided to cheat should've been the same way you told me the truth

Me: I'm truly sorry.. I didn't mean for this to happen

Him: It's okay.. I love you and I wanna see you happy if he makes you happy then there's nothing I can do. It's just best to call it quits now because you will continue embarrassing me and making me a fool

Me: I understand

Him: Just remember one thing "Lapho amanzi ake wama khona azophinda ame futhi"

He hung up. I went on Facebook and checked the picture that Zwe uploaded. Makhubalo wasn't lying he even captioned it:

"Ngiyashada la bafwethu"

I closed my eyes..

Me: Damn Zwe!

I didn't want Makhubalo finding out like this.

.

To be continued

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NTANDO

I must admit that I enjoyed my weekend at home with Zwe. I enjoyed how we reconnected and reminded of what we once shared. I enjoyed being alive again in a relationship don't get me wrong Makhubalo is a very good man but maybe our relationship was just based on the fact that I needed someone at that moment. I needed someone to help me through my pain and he was there. He was there doing it all and I am grateful. One thing about the heart is that it is very stupid it doesn't care what happened before. If the love is still there it will lead you straight to that person over and over again until it gets tired. I didn't mean for things to happen this way I didn't mean to hurt him.

That Monday morning we had a staff meeting it was very awkward for me especially after what happened between Makhubalo and I. He was addressing us and kept on looking at me here and there my eyes would wonder around trying to not keep a lengthy eye contact. He seemed fine he looked fine. I hope this won't put a strain on our working relationship. He asked me to come to his office as everyone either made tea or went about their business..

I sat down..

Him: Good morning

Me: Good morning

Him: How are you?

Me: I'm good and you?

Him: I'm well

(Silence)

Me: I would like to apolo-

Him: I want you to resign

Me: Sorry?

Him: I will give you a good reference and letter of recommendation

Me: I don't understand

Him: I think it's the least you can do for me after what you did

Me: Resigning that's a bit extreme

Him: I know and I'm sorry but I need you to resign

Me: I won't resign

He put his hands deep inside his pockets..

Him: If you don't I'm going to make sure that you get dismissed. I have friends in high places and you will never get a job in teaching ever again!

Me: That's not fair

Him: Exactly what you also did to me that's not fair

He shook his head..

Him: This boy is going to hurt you something that you won't understand and I don't wanna be there to pick up the pieces again and restore your sanity only to have you back in his arms when you okay. Have you forgotten what he put you through? How you almost died and how your life was almost ruined? I care deeply for you and I don't wanna witness that again.. If you ever felt something for me please resign. It's the last thing you can consider doing for me especially after what you've put me through. You have only 1 week to think about it

ZWELONKE

I enjoy work now better than before. Being in charge is very good especially considering the fact that I've always wanted to run a ship of my own this is the perfect time to do so..

Driver: Sir you've called for me

Me: Yes I need you to run a quick errand for me

Him: I'm listening

Me: You will pass by at this shop they will give you a basket of chocolates and a red rose I need you to deliver the basket at this school to this Person

I passed him the piece of paper..

Him: I know that you have a delivery already but please do this favour for me

Him: It won't be a problem Sir

Me: Thank you

Just as he walked out Phumla walked in.

She smiled at him..

Her: Good morning Boss

I smiled at her too..

Me: Good morning

She walked in and sat down..

Her: Wow! Look at you

Me: Look at me indeed

Her: Who would've thought?

We both laughed..

Her: You had it coming though you always had big dreams

Me: What can I say?

Her: Ya.. This is really nice

Me: How are you holding up?

Her: I'm good can't complain.. Met this wonderful man I'm in a better place

I nodded..

Me: I'm glad

Her: I see you and Ntando are back together

Me: Yes we are

Her: I'm glad

Me: All thanks to you

Her: I don't understand

Me: You made me realize that I almost lost a diamond busy chasing the thrill. Honestly speaking if it wasn't for you I wouldn't have realized how important she was to me

Her: Perfect love story

Me: Indeed

Her: I'm proud of you.. You really doing good for yourself

Me: Thank you

Her: Let me go and greet the crew

Sponsored

hope you don't mind

Me: Not at all go ahead

She stood up and walked out..

NTANDO

Makhubalo was right after everything that I've done to him. I shouldn't expect him to continue working with me it'll be too much pain for him. I drafted the letter right away in his office when I was done. I handed it back to him..

Him: Thank you

Me: Again I'm truly sorry.. I didn't mean for this to happen

Him: It's okay.. I understand you can go back to work

I got up and walked out I saw Nkati in the staff room I made my way in..

Her: Hey Roomy

Me: Hey

I sat down..

Her: You okay?

I sighed..

Me: I resigned

Her: What?

I shook my head..

Me: He made me to resign

Her: Why?

Me: I'm back with Zwe

Her: Ohw I see but what does that have to do with you resigning?

I looked at her..

Her: Ohw he can't work with you anymore

I nodded..

Her: This is difficult but still it's not right he shouldn't have made you to resign

Me: Ahh what can we say I truly understand where he is coming from

Her: Ya this is difficult

Me: I will move out month end I'm sorry

Her: Don't even mention it I totally understand

Me: I will move back home and I would like it if we still keep our friendship. I really value you as a friend

She smiled..

Her: Don't worry we still going to be friends

Me: Thank you (smiling)

PHUMLA

I didn't stay for long my former colleagues had to go back to work. It was good being back here and seeing everyone honestly speaking they made me to miss this place.

It was good seeing Zwe again and I'm glad that he was making it he has always been focused and I appreciate that about him.

I went back to my place and Rodney showed up. He didn't look good..

Me: Hey

Him: Did you talk to my fiancé?

Me: She called me when I was at the hotel

Him: And what did you say?

Me: She asked me if we seeing each other

Him: What did you say?

Me: I said yes

He looked at me and then cleared everything from the counter..

Him: She fucken canceled the wedding!!

I swallowed..

Him: Why did you say that? Couldn't you deny?

Me: How could I deny when she had my number? I don't even know where she got it from

He put both his hands on the counter..

Him: We can't do this.. We can't do this anymore

Me: What?

He looked at me..

Him: I'm not going to lose her I need to make her see that she is important to me.. I can't do this with you anymore I'm sorry

Me: Rodney don't do this

Him: She is my fiancé and soon to be wife you nothing! You don't mean that much to me I can't lose her so I need you to move out! By month end you should be gone I'm sorry Phumla This was not happening to me..

NTANDO

I called Zwe after receiving that basket of chocolates..

Me: I got the chocolates

Him: I'm glad

Me: Thank you

Him: Don't mention it

Me: Are you busy?

Him: For you.. Not at all

Me: I resigned

Him: What?

Me: I was dating the principal so after breaking up with him he forced me to resign

Him: That is very wrong

Me: It's fine.. It's the least I could do for him after everything that I've put him through

Him: I understand

Me: I'll get another job plus it's not like I'm broke broke broke. Had some money saved up

Him: You'll be moving back home?

Me: Yes

Him: Everything is going to be well sweetheart I promise

Me: Let me not keep you talk later

Him: Okay I love you soo much baby

Me: I love you too

I hope I'm not making the biggest mistake of my life by choosing Zwe..I just lost a good job bec of our relationship this should be a better start for us. Better than what we had previously

.

To be continued

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CONNIE (NTANDO)
[PRESENT DAY]

I watched the interview..

Presenter: How did it all start?

Zwe: It started with a vision. I had a book that I had with me all the time and that vision went on and manifested years later

Her: So it all started with a vision?

Zwe nodded..

Her: Did you ever think that it was all going to come true one day?

Zwe: Of course not.. I just had high hopes I wanted it to work and it did

The Nurse walked in..

Her: Good morning Mrs Hlubi

Me: Morning

Her: Are you ready for your bath?

Me: I think so

She looked at the TV..

Me: It's an old interview they replaying it

Her: So how does it feel? Being married to the richest handsome man in SA?

I laughed..

Me: It's no different from the very first time when I met him

Her: You are very blessed

Me: Thank you

Another Nurse walked in with flowers..

Her: Good morning Ladies

We greeted her back..

Her: Delivery for Mrs Hlubi

Nurse 1: He still keeps the tradition going

Me: Flowers every morning

Nurse 2: You very fortunate

Nurse 1: I was just telling her

ZWELONKE

I picked up the phone and called Samantha.

Her: Mr Hlubi

Me: Did you have the flowers delivered?

Her: Yes Sir

I looked at the time..

Her: 10am you going to the hospital I've cleared you from any meeting and also at 14:00

Me: Thank you.. Remind me to call her at 8:00

Her: Yes Sir

Adley passed on a few years ago he signed off the company to me and his wife. When it picked up I bought the wife off and became the sole owner of the company. In his memory I decided

to not change his name. Also our phones laptops and TVs are named The Adley to honour his memory. It's like he blessed me from the grave because currently our expensive phone is number 4 on the list of good phones. Ranked with Samsung iPhone and Huawei.. Ntando and I things have been good between us I paid lobola and when we were about to plan our wedding she fell pregnant then had an ectopic pregnancy. They unfortunately had to remove her fallopian tube because it had ruptured. She'll be getting discharged a few days from now..

NTANDO

After bathing I went to bed again..

Nurse: I'll bring you your breakfast

Me: Thank you

She walked out.. My phone rang it was Zwe.

Over the years from when I gave him that second chance he ended up loving me as if like I gave him a life portion. He never cheated from thereon and he has never done anything to hurt me..

Me: Hun

Him: How are you feeling today?

Me: I'm feeling better

Him: Did Sammy send the flowers?

Me: Yes she did

Him: Sad for me thought she forgot and I was going to fire her

Me: Just because she forgot?

Him: My wife comes first she knows that I laughed..

Me: I liked the flowers

Sponsored

thank you

Him: I will see you at 10am

Me: Babe you don't have to come I'm sure you have a lot of work

Him: My wife comes first

I smiled..

Him: I love you soo much can't wait to see you walk down the aisle

Me: Me too.. I'm sorry that I lost our baby

Him: I'm just grateful that I didn't lose you in the process

Me: It's going to be difficult to get rid of me

He laughed..

Him: My Trophy Wife

Me: That title is going to stick with me for a long time

Him: Them damn journalists

I laughed...

Our lives have changed so much. We have journalists always watching our everyday move sniffing anything that they could benefit from.

We are known as the power couple our story has inspired a lot of people so much and gave them hope that true love exists. Most women even went on to say that they will stick by their broke boyfriends then some you know are busy saying he's still going to cheat and leave me.

I've come to realize that not everyone is going to be for you and that's okay...

Him: I love you soo much

Me: I love you too

PHUMLA

I know everything about Ntando and Zwe now. From when he bought her the Mercedes Benz and said that that's the first thing he promised to buy her when he makes it. Their beautiful 3mill

house. How he talks about her constantly how he puts her on a high pedestal. They are the power couple and sweethearts of the country. They very admired and made their life known. To think that they were normal people a few years ago and now they known globally. I laughed and shook my head. If it wasn't for that damn Zoe it would've been me right now. Ntando is living my dream. She doesn't even go by Ntando anymore she's Connie now..

I snapped out of those thoughts when my first customer came. I have since been working at some butchery and I now have been degraded to humble beginnings. I am renting a fucken backroom living like another typical struggling woman. My current boyfriend works at Mr Price I'm only with him because he did IT and looking to work at Adley...

NTANDO

My Mom and Zwe's Mother walked in..

I smiled at them..

Ma: There she is

Me: I'm so glad to see you guys

Zwe's mom looked around..

Her: This looks like a hotel room

Me: It's a private suite he wanted me to be here to keep the Journalist away. We haven't gone public about the ectopic pregnancy or else my phone would be ringing nothing stop

Ma: That's good

Zwe's Mom: Privacy is very important at this time

Me: That's true

Ma: How are you feeling?

Me: I'm better today

Their cleaning company didn't go nowhere Zwe decided that they should just sit back and enjoy the fruits of his labour. He is supporting both families without even complaining.. Especially since I'm not working.. I am truly blessed

.

To be continued

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CONNIE (NTANDO)

When Zwe arrived My Mother and his Mother left to give us some space. He stayed for a while. He laid down on the bed with me..

I laid my head on his chest as he checked his Emails.. He had a lot of them.

He sighed..

Him: I'll check them later

Me: They might be important

He kissed me on my forehead..

Him: There's nothing more important than this moment

He played with my hand..

Me: I'm happy that you here

Him: Where would I be?

Me: I love you so much

Him: I love you more

He kissed me on my forehead again..

Him: Tell you what let's do this..

He got his phone and went to the internet.

Him: How about we check a few wedding venues or anything that has to do with the wedding. Then when you come back home planning a wedding will keep you busy so that you don't overthink unless it's too much for you

Me: No it's okay I think it's going to be a good way to get my mind off things

He went to the internet..

Him: Let's see

Before he could type anything his phone rang. It was his assistant he put her on loud speaker..

Him: Sammy I thought I said I don't wanna be disturbed

Her: I know Sir but this is very important

Me: What is it?

Her: Mrs Adley is here

Me: What? She didn't call me

Her: Says it's important

He exhaled..

Him: Okay I'm coming

He hung up.. He looked at me..

Me: It's okay go..

Him: I'll come back later

Me: I know

He kissed me goodbye..

PHUMLA

I decided to take an early lunch then I met up with my boyfriend Ncedi at hungry lion..

Me: How is job hunting at Adley going?

Him: I uploaded my CV online they will consider me should they have any openings

I nodded..

Him: This seems very important for you

Me: It's a good company you will earn reasonable money there

Him: Yeah I know

Sponsored

you will earn reasonable money there

Him: Yeah I know but let's not forget. It's a big company I'm sure they have a lot of people applying

Me: Have faith it will workout

I live with him in that backroom that we renting I've been degraded from bathing in a bathtub to bathing in a basin..

Him: What are we going to eat tonight?

Me: I'm not sure

Him: I have R30 we can buy chicken necks or chicken feet

I exhaled in Frustration..

Him: If you want something else you can add to the money then we'll get some decent meat

I hate that Ncedi is a bit stingy he goes by 50/50. I wish he was in the company already.

CONNIE (NTANDO)

I decided to call Nkati she's now a deputy principal and her husband finally got arrested.

He was arrested for 30 years with no parole..

Me: How is Miss Deputy Principal doing?

Her: I'm doing well and how are you?

Me: I'm holding up well

Her: Still at the hospital?

Me: Yes but getting discharged tomorrow

Her: I will come when you settled I don't wanna overwhelm you

Me: It's okay I'll be overwhelmed already by the wedding preparations

Her: You starting with the wedding preparations?

Me: Yes.. It will keep my mind busy and it's another good thing to look forward too the only good thing to look forward too now

Her: Of course.. Wow you and Zwe have come a long way

Me: We have I don't wanna lie

Her: I misjudged him he truly loves you

Me: He does indeed.. Let me let you get back to work we will talk later

Her: Okay Babe.. Bye

Me: Bye

ZWELONKE

She looked at her Husband's picture hanging on the wall..

Me: I wanted to honour his memory

Her: Of course

She turned and looked at me..

Her: Wow this company is..

She looked at me..

Her: Thank you

Me: You welcome

Her: I'm here to tell you that I'm moving back to Scotland moving back to be with my family

Me: I understand

Her: There's only one one favour that I would like you to do for me

Me: Anything

Her: In one of my orphanages this girl Agnes was one of my kids there. She recently

graduated at Wits and she's looking for a job. Was wondering if you could maybe find something for her I know it's too much but she has no one and she's been struggling to make ends meet. I don't wanna leave and have her sleeping under the bridge

Me: You don't even have to explain can she come tomorrow with her CV?

She smiled...

Her: I will let her know

Me: 8am sharp

Her: Thank you.. How is the wife holding up?

Me: We can discuss over some tea

Her: I think that's a good idea

We walked out..

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