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The life of Nailaa by Safiah kantwela

Insert 1:

Nailaa

Dad: Nailaa

Me: Abi (dad)

As I slowly make my way to dad in the lounge, we were the only ones in the house, my brothers were all out mom was gone to her friends place. It was just myself and daddy dearest. I sit right across from him and I look at my feet since in our religion we not supposed to look men straight in the eyes.

Dad: look at me Nailaa

I look up as he slowly smiles at me and pats his side of the couch and I move to sit next to him.

Dad: ntombiyami(my girl) today is the day that I have been dragging ever since your mom was pregnant with you. I somehow knew that this pregnancy is different.

Me: different how baba(dad)?

Dad:Oh my child you taking me back...he slowly relaxes and looks at me with so much pride and petty at the same time. At this point am so confused as to what happening with my father and my 14 year old brain cant seem to understand where is this conversation going.

Dad: In 4 weeks time you going to be turning 15 years and you know that being who we are and where we come from you were suppose to be married at 11 years old right?.... he looks at me and I nod my head. I knew that this day was coming and I guess today is the day.

Dad: Well since your mother asked me to wait four more years thinking ill change my mind since we now reside in South Africa but tradition is tradition my child and its time I embark on the journey of finding you a spouse.... I looked at my dad and saw his features change and I somehow saw that this is also affecting him. Why is he doing it cause he already said so himself that we are in South Africa now, no more in Saudi. Isn't this why we moved here in the first place? My mom been telling me all about dad family and they traditions. School has been grilling us on the importance of being an honorable

muslim girl and how to take care of our husbands. My brothers have been teasing me about this all my life and telling me how lucky I am that we in South Africa and I have a little bit of freedom. So why is my dad talking to me about this and why now? Am only 15 years for heaven sake, what am I to do with a Husband???

Insert2:

Nailaa

So mom came back and saw that I wasn't okay after the conversation with my dad and lord have mercy my mom exploded when I told her about it and went into they room and spoke to dad, sadly I don't know what was discussed cause dad still on his quest to find me a husband.

Hlumelo

My name is Mark Hlumelo Meqo and am an Opharn. I stay with my my aunt and uncle and my cousins Bhongo the smart one and Ayabonga our little girl and Avuyile the rascal. My cousins are more of siblings than cousins.

Avuyile: Ey bafo... As he barges in my room without knocking.

Me: ndicinga ukuba ndifuna indawo yam ngoku(i think i need my own space now)

Avuyile: Ay suka, its not like you have a girl over. Come on utata uyakubiza(dad calling you)

Me: oh ay what do I need to verify now, what did you do?

Avuyile: aybo nothing... we slowly made our way into the main house from the out building that I share with Bhongo. You see

Avuyile is too much and sometimes the parents need me to verify a few things that Avuyile tells them and yes I do lie for the little champ.... we got in the kitchen and aunty was making lunch, I kissed her cheek.

Aunty: oh umntwana wam, ulungile?(oh my child are you okay)as she brushes my cheek like a small child and I blush..

Me: ewe mama, ndiyaphila, uphi utata?(yes mom am good,where is dad?)

She pointed to the verandah and I slowly made my way there to find the old man slouching by the recliner and drinking his scotch on the rocks.

Me: tata

Uncle: my son

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did I disturb you?

Me: no I was just about to take a nap,school was showing me flames today.

Uncle: oh how is varsity?

Me: better than I have imagined.... he chuckles

Uncle: that my boy, I knew you will adjust to change.... they was silence for sometime, it wasn't an awkward silence but the

kind that if you are looking in you will wonder what going on with these two. I was in my own thoughts and sure he was enjoying his alcoholic drink... for a few more minutes we stayed in utter silence then he gets up from a slouching position to a sitting one.

Uncle: I wanted to ask you if you working this weekend?

I scratch my head trying to think if am scheduled in for one of the two jobs that I have. Its not because I cant afford or if we poor. My uncle and Aunty are very rich but I want money of my own, yes I get an allowance plus my parents inheritance plus a few shares at Techno Tek but still want to work or else ill b joining Avuyile at every party that he attends. After a few minutes I decided am not working and if I am than ill just be sick.

Me: No am not working

Uncle: Good I want you to drive me to Newcastle, am thinking of going into transportation and there is a guy I want to talk to there about this idea.

Me: No Problem...And then we fall back to silence and he continues with his drink as am thinking about this place we going too. Am used to driving him around sometimes, Iv heard a lot about Newcastle from Ndumiso some guy we studying with, his another party animal. He always talk of Black Rock

Cassino ,Cousins and Scrap yard. I guess ill be checking out those places when I get there....

Aunty: lunch is ready guys... she shouted from the dinning area...

Uncle: I wonder what she made now... he said as we got up n I just smiled. Ayabonga and Aunty always experiment with food and we they genie pigs. Sometimes the food is good and sometimes its beyond awful. In we went to enjoy our lunch.

Insert3:

Nailaa

Me: ay ke jazzy I don't know what you want me to say ke? I was walking down the road with my best friend Yasmeen whom I call Jazzy because of her name means Jasmine.

Jazzy: your dad is simply crazy, oh ay imagine trying to find you a husband. Hello we are 14 turning 15 and this is South Africa... this is rape... yazini I think am sticking to becoming a lawyer when am done with this hell whole ,to help people like you. Maybe there is a law against this?... she looks at me waiting for me to answer and before I could she rants and rants. That Jazzy for you. She asks questions and answer them herself and she speaks so fast sometimes I get lost in her conversations but quickly find ground again....

Me: All I know am not marrying anyone here in Newcastle and be stuck for the rest of my life. Hell no!! We continued walking to the library. The distance wasn't to far but our school bags were killing our backs. When we reached there we returned the old books we took and went for new books. Now being a muslim girl means somethings you just have to read about. As much as everyone learns via Tv or have friends who tell them things, we learn with books. For sex, abuse and power we have

Virginia Henly. Crime we stick to Sharon Sala who also goes by Dinna McCall. Reading is our life, we take two different books sometimes we take the same just so we can discuss the plot at length, basically that our life. At least Jazzy dates every now and then when she goes to see her mother for holidays at Kilbarchin.

Jazzy: I want something feisty and sexy to read...she skim read books of Jude Devaraux...

Me: yazi with the amount of books you read that are feisty one will swear you auditioning for prostitution. I hide away since I have the two books that I'll be reading and will be able to hide since dad doesn't like me reading...

Jazzy: vele ngiyi prostitue ka bae(I am my man prostitute) we made our way to check out and made our way to pie city so my big brother can pick me up and drop Jazzy by the rank since her family allows her to use public transport. That another thing that my father has going, me not using public transportation. We waited 5 minutes for Araan he hooted since he has hazard light on and he's still on the road. We ran and quickly got in the car.

Araan: salaams(greetings)

Jazzy and I: salaams(greetings).... we drove in silence to the rank and dropped Jazzy off and now was just myself and him.

Araan: dad has people coming over this weekend for a visit...
Araan looked at me via rearview mirror.

Me: I so hope its not someone else who looking to marry me

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am just tired of this whole finding a husband thing, dad should just leave it and let me be in peace.

Araan: well as much as I don't agree with dad and you still small but its for the best,look at your cousins all married at 15 and living the good life and they husbands are treating them good all thanks to dad, so I trust he will find you someone that will love and cherish you cause that what you deserve.

Me: I don't even know what to do with a boyfriend and now am getting a husband, speak to him, he listens to you. We pulled in the drive through and he turned in his seat and looked right at me and smiled

Araan: look am also not happy about this but rules are rules. Now hold you head up high and put on your scarf cause this Jeep here might be our visitors... I sorted my scarf since I always take my Pradha(face covering) and scarf off when am in his car since its dim.. he opened the door and gave me a little squeeze as we walked in the house. This is what i love about all 8 of my brothers,they adore me to bit and pieces and they are loving and kind and sometimes when dad tries to be a little

extra they swoop in and save my day. Being the last born has made me so spoilt and I love it just that am not snobby or else mother will slap it out of me. When we walked into the kitchen we were greeted by my mother cooking aroma and her and the helper moving about in the kitchen

Mama: shesha uzongisiza lana(hurry up and come help me) i dropped my bag on the floor and help her marinate the meat then when i was done i let it set. I washed my hands and when to my room and took of my Abaya(muslim dress) scarf and pradha and then threw myself on the bed. I sat there looking at my purple ceiling with white dots trying my hardest to listen to the conversation by the lounge. But all I could hear was my mom shuffling about in the kitchen. The door opened and when I looked at the door I saw a guy, so I quickly jumped off my bed and moved to the side next to the curtain to hide from this strange guy standing by the door with his mouth hanging open in shock as if his stuck.

Insert4:

Hlumelo

We left for Newcastle at around 11 and got there at about 3.. we stopped at woolworths and got two bunches of flowers for my dad friends wife and I understand she has a daughter. We got some drinks and bread and all types of cakes we saw on the shelf. Its was just because we didn't want to get there empty handed. We drove to Hill-drop and saw the most beautiful ranch house by the far right. Literally they is only 15 houses in this place. We drove in the drive thru all along listening to Jazz and got to the gate and they buzzed us in. Uncle: beautiful house don't you think.

Me: yeah but its so isolated

Uncle: I love the peace and quite away from the noise of the world, is that a zebra back there.... I turned to see a zebra and just a few feet away they was an ostrich. Ay these people are living the life man. We got off and a tall colored man walked to us with a smile on his face

Uncle: aw Shabbier my man, how are you? They shake hands and hug and dad looked at me

Uncle: This is my nephew more of a son to me Hlumelo, this is Shabbier Dunga... the king of transportation in the KZN region.

Me: swabona baba(greetings) we shake hands

Mr dunga: you have a good looking nephew my friend, come on in make yourself at home.

Me: you have a beautiful home sir

Mr dunga: thank you but call me Shabbier... we walked into the most beautiful lounge ever. The right side of the wall was windows and the other wall where a tv was suppose to be was a wall full of muslim writing beautifully displayed. The couches we light blue and grey. The other wall was full of books and just in the middle was a long coffee table with scatter questions around it.

Uncle:beautiful house indeed

Mr Dunga: thank you very much. While we were settling in and they were conversing a short lady

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I guess a maid came in with muffins and juice and cold drink and place it on the coffee table and left. A car drove in and I heard some talking in the kitchen while uncle and Mr Dunga were laughing and enjoying themselves. I sat there for awhile and felt the need to go to the bathroom. I shifted a bit but couldn't keep it anymore.

Me: excuse me where the bathroom.

Mr Dunga: down the hall, fourth door on your left. I made my way there and peed than I saw a green door out off all the doors in the hall, this is the only green door and I was intrigued. I try the door and its opens and they no sound so I walk in and I see the most beautiful girl iv ever seen in my life as I move in and she hears me and looks at me them she jumps off her bed and go hide behind the curtain. I stood there still adjusting to what I have just seen and I finally get ahold of myself

Me: uhm Hi and sorry, I was looking for the bathroom

Her: its opposite my door... she answers in the most sweetest and low voice and she still hiding behind the curtain. I adjust my eyes to everything in the room and I must say its either she color blind or she just a confused person. The color skims don't match yet the decor is on point.

Me: sorry for disturbing you and thanks for the directions, I turned around and close the door and make my way to the lounge to find uncle n Mr Dunga engrossed in papers. I walk out the door to go fetch the things we brought and my mind keep going back to the beauty in the other room with long caramel hair flying as she runs to go hide.

5

Nailaa

Oh my gosh what did I just see. There was a guy in my room. Oh my freaken gosh. Its days like this that I wish I had a phone and I can call Jazzy and let her know of these events. I ran my hand through my long caramel hair and sorted it since I have untied it. I did a plain pony tail and went into my ensuite bathroom to wash my face and looked into the mirror. My green eyes stared right back at me and my heart was pounding in my chest. I stood there for few minutes then turned into my room and sat on my bed and looked at the yellow wall. I was trying to breath and I played over the events of what has just happen. The guy was handsome, he was fair but not yellow like me more of a brownish fair. He was extremely tall yet not skinny but not too buffed up. He had a masculine body structure and the most bushy eyebrows ever. His lips were thick but not too thick. I had all the view that I could get from behind the curtain and I must say he was a handsome man... he was a Micheal Early type of a guy. I changed my Abaya(muslim dress) into a light blue and I wore a dark blue scarf then I put a blue eye liner then took another blue scarf and wove it in a way that its serves as a pradha(face covering clothe) and I must say I looked kinda cute. I walked to my mom in the kitchen to find so many cakes by the counter

Me: oh mom, you went shopping without me?

Mama: no our visitors got it for us

I walked to the cabinet and got a knife and went to slice the bar one cake and sat down and undid my pradha so I could eat my cake in peace.

Mama: hawu mtanami (oh my child) you not even waiting for after dinner ke

Me: oh you know me and food. I continued to have my cake and I could hear male voices in the lounge and one of them was smooth and cold at the same time. when I was done

I washed all the dishes cause that all I do in this house then I went outside for a walk. What I love about our house is that we just behind a guest house and they have animals around it and sometimes they animals come over to our side. Yes we have an electric fence protecting from hunting animal at night but during the day I can walk through the tiny gate dividing our properties and just enjoy nature and right now that what I feel like doing. I walked to the far back with a stick I just found and I undid my pradha because no one at the forest at this point. I walked in and admired the beauty of this place. It was like I was sight seeing again. The sunflowers were very bright today and the grass looks greener and just on the far east I saw a peacock

fully displaying its pride. I stood there and watch as its makes noise n flashes its features.

"Beautiful isn't it" a smooth voice came from behind me. I quickly grabbed my scarf and adjusted it to cover my face and then turned around to find that guy from my bedroom looking straight to me

Me: you really have the oddest moment to show up.

Hlumelo: am sorry. He says not showing any signs of being sorry.

Me: its cool, by the way am Nailaa

Hlumelo: pleasure to meet you... I nodded and turned to find the peacocks gone. I moved into the forest and he followed. They was utter silence But not the awkward silence a enjoyable silence I must say. We saw few more animals and when it was beginning to drizzle a bit we made our way back still in silence. We walked back to the gate and I went in the direction of the kitchen and he went in the direction of the lounge. No one said anything to anyone, he really must think am the rudest child ever but no am not I was told never to speak to a male ever unless its family or my father or brothers are within earshot. I walked into the kitchen to find mom has changed and she has dished the food to serving bowls.

Mama: good you are here, help us go place these in the eating table and go call your two brothers from the room. I helped mom to the lounge and found my mystery guy laughing to something dad has said and his father i assume since they look so alike.

Dad: Ya waladi(oh my child) lemmie introduce you to our guest. I moved closer to my dad

Dad: This is Mr Meqo and his lovely Nephew Hlumelo who has just agreed to marrying you in 2 weeks time. My eyes shot straight out of my eyeballs as I felt tears slowly making their way down my cheeks. I heard mama taking in a breath and somewhere and I heard my brothers saying "what the fuck" Mr Meqo was smiling like a retard and so was dad. I looked right into Hlumelo eyes and he smiled then his smile dropped and he lowered his head and looked at his hands. I grabbed my Abaya and I ran out of the house into the forest and left a commotion inside the house.....

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Hlumelo

After I placed our delights in the counter Mrs Dunga thanked me and told me her daughter will be happy for the bar one, caramel cake and red velvet as they are her favorites. I smiled at her and walked back to lounge and the two old guys looked at me.

Hlumelo: Kutheni nindibona nihleka?(why are you both looking at me funny)

Uncle: akhonto nyana wam kodwa sinomcimbi esingathanda sixoxe nawe(its nothing my son but they is something that ill like to speak to you about) I sat across from both of them and looked at them expectedly.

Uncle: my friend here has a daughter that he will like for you to marry in two weeks time, iv spoken a great deal to your aunt about this and we think its best for you. You are a loner and you need someone. As much as my family and those crazy boys you call friends always there for you but you need something of your own.he looks at me and as I adjust everything he just said to me

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so this whole trip was about finding me a wife. I laughed at my stupidity and looked straight at the two guys.

Me: is she aware that you marrying her off? I asked her dad and he nodded his head.

Mr Dunga: its not that am marrying her off ,it is the way of our life. Yes I wanted her to marry a muslim man but you will do cause in the short time that you have been here iv been more determined then ever that you are the right fit for my daughter. Who knows maybe you might convert...

Me: well if you say she is open to marrying a stranger then i don't mind marrying here and yes uncle you and your family have been amazing to me and I do yearn for my own family. Something that belongs to me and i can proudly say that mine... the two old man smiled and I chuckled abit thinking what have I agreed too. And right there in they walked in with food in they hands. I couldnt see my future wife hands since she was wearing gloves.

Mr Dunga:Ya waladi(oh my child) lemmie introduce you to our guest. She moved closer to her dad, i was paying attention to her body language cause with the smile on Mr Dunga face i knew he will tell her the news now.

Mr Dunga: This is Mr Meqo and his lovely Nephew Hlumelo who has just agreed to marrying you in 2 weeks time. I looked down as he said his introduction and when i heard his wife breath i looked up to find my intended looking right into my eyes with nothing but fear and pain in her eyes. As tears silently

rolled down her cheeks she collected herself and ran out of the house almost bumping in to two tall guys who looked alike. Everyone spoke all at once, I lifted my hands up in a gesture of silence and everyone kept quite.

Me: ill go after her and speak to her more of this matter and come into solid ground... I didn't wait for anyone to answer. The twins were so confused. I walked out of out of the house and went the same direction that i found her at earlier on. Its the only place i could think off.i walked into the forest and walked in this drizzling rain until I got to a little pond with ducks and there she was sitting there and staring into the water. It was a picture perfect picture and I quickly took my phone and snapped a few pictures and took a deep breath and walked towards her with my hands in my pockets.

7

Nailaa

I ran and ran until my tiny feet couldn't run anymore. I stopped by the pond and cried my soul out. Wiped my tears and looked at my situation. At least the guy is hot and not some old guzzler with a big belly but still though. How could my dad do this to me and to think iv been bumping into this guy all along his going to be my husband. He must be thinking am one lose child to entertain random man like that. I sat there thinking if I ran away were would i go and what will I do. Am only doing my grade 10 now and next year am moving to grade 11. Who will want to hire a grade 10 student. I felt more tears coming through and I wiped them away, my blue scarf was a mess with my eye liner. I looked up in the sky "why me god" no answer" why did you make me the only girl in this house, if I had a bigger sister ill hv someone to help me process this, gosh why me? I cried again and simply just stopped and washed my face with the pond water and when I looked up from the ground I saw black sneakers n jeans n I looked up at him.

Hlumelo: sometimes God makes us go through things so we can be closer to him and ask him the exact questions you asking now and only get your answer later in life when you have experienced the same thing that making you cry right now.... he

shifted and sat next to me and took my cold hands in his warm hands.

Hlumelo: am not saying be happy with the situation but be happy that am not some old pervert who want to exploit you. Atleast with me we almost the same age and ill understand you better. To tell you the truth, the few moments iv spents with you have been pleasant. He tries to smile but i just look at him and i must say this guy is hot maan. His face looks hard but he has somehow soften it while speaking to me. Am staring to much .I tried to lower my gaze and he moved his hand and place it under my chin and lifted my head up and looked at me.

Hlumelo: You beautiful Nailaa even when you have been crying... all my senses came back in a bolt and I remembered that I don't have my gloves on and my pradha on and my scarf on my head has slipped back .he can actualy see my full face not just my eyes only. Lord have mercy i felt my checks heat up and he gave me the most dazzling smile as I removed my hands from his and tied my scarf in a covering way and wore my gloves.

Nailaa: uhm...uhm... I stuttered what am i even going to say to this guy... i just quickly turned and walked back home. I didnt turn around until i got in the kitchen and went straight to my room and locked myself in. I went into the bathroom while undressing and got into a shower and sat there and went over

today's event again and cried until I had no more tears. This is a pain of being born an Arabian woman. Becoming of age where your father decides your fate

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Yes we are not in Saudi anymore but try telling that to my Arabian old age father. To think a month ago, I was just his little girl and now am a woman enough to be married. What of my dreams? Why am I even in school? Will he be as sweet as he seems? What about my dreams and plans? Dear Almighty help me please!!! Why make me live, dream, wish and have hope and faith that I won't be another Arabian woman's stats and just take that away in a blink of an eye? I really thought I was different, that my fate will not be controlled by a man.. I thought South Africa will be a way to make my dreams a reality and don't suffer the same fate as my cousins. I wiped myself and opened the blankets and took two panados then dozed off.

Hlumelo

I watched her as she walked away and i stood there for a few minutes and just breathing the fresh air. This girl is going to be the end of me. She is beautiful and has a smart mouth. She is fair in complexion. Has caramel hair that touches her ass and small green eyes. Her eyes get darker when she is sad or about to cry, something that i have just noticed. She was beautiful and just medium height wise. So far am liking what i see and that she is supper shy is a bonus. I slowly shake my head to get rid of the thoughts and make my way to the house. I get in via the lounge and find everyone eating and in they own thoughts. As i walk in, all eyes turn to me.

Me: she going to be fine, she just need time to wrap her head in all of this. Her father nodded and her 4 brothers looked at me. This is the first time they have seen me but they do look familiar. I sat on one of the scatter cushions on the floor.

"So you agreed to marry my sister, you do know that she fourteen right" one of the brothers looked me in the eye

Mr Dunga: Araan lays alan alraja'(Araan not now please)

Araan:eindama 'abi , anzur 'iilaa ma qumt bih. 'ana mtakd min 'ana nayilatan takruhuna 'aynama kanat(when dad, am pretty sure that Nailaa hates us wherever she is) where is she

anyways? They turned to look at me and i could see that Araan hates the situation and he is angry.

Me:nayilat la tukrih ayana minkum , nem 'iinaha laysat ealaa ma yaram mae hdha lakunaha satafeal dhlk fi alwaqt almunasib(Nailaa doesnt hate any of you

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yes she doesnt like the situation but she will be fine) and to answer your question, i think she in her room. My uncle was shocked to know that i know Arabic and they all looked at me shocked that i can understand and speak it.

Mr Dunga: aaah you speak my tongue so well,one would say you an Arabian...he turned to his wife and kids" iv made a match in heaven"he chuckles and Mrs Dunga just gets up mumbling excuse me and went down the passage. We had dinner snd finished up and the brothers were warming up to me its was Araan who i learned is more closer to Nailaa then the others since his my age. Then its was the twins Hafeez and Hamzah and the quite one Ebrahim. My weekend there wasn't that bad and Nailaa avoided me every chance she got. It. Was now Sunday and we about to leave Nailaa was in her room and her father have given me permission to speak to her. I knocked and waited and she said come in... in I went and again the room colors caught me by surprise. She was sitting by the couch by the far right, I walked in and sat next to her.

Me: Am leaving today...okay that sounded offish even in my ears obviously she know that.

Nailaa: oh safe journey she mumbled looking at her hands.

Me: Thank you, I guess ill see you in 3 days time as I come for your dowry... she simply nodded, I got up from the chair and so did she and she walked to her small table by the corner and came back with a small blue box.

Nailaa: I made this for you, please open it when you home. Its nothing big just a tiny token. I smiled and took the box and today again she wasnt wearing any gloves and i got to see small beautiful hands and I brush my thumb over her left hand n she flinched and left the box on my hand.

Me: thank you, ill call when I get home. I backed out with the tiny blue box and left to the lounge to find the rest of the family waiting for me.

Araan: she likes you, she made you something. This means she likes you. He said eyeing the blue box.I looked at the box and Smiled.

9

Nailaa

Its Monday morning and I don't feel like doing anything today. Mom wants us to go shopping after school and I don't want to even go to school. All am thinking about is my future husband, did I mention that his supper hot and supper sweet, yet he has that don't take me for shit kinda attitude. I finally made it out of my room and ready to go to school. My dad walked in with his phone while I was busy thinking what to eat and gave it to me and mouthed something and doing a gesture with his had for me to talk on the phone.

Me: salaams(greetings)

Voice: salaams(greetings) sorry I didn't call yesterday we got home so late and i didn't want to wake your dad.

Me: oh it okay but i hope you had a safe journey. I smiled after hearing it my intended.

Hlumelo: Yeah i did, anyways lemme not keep you, hope you have a good day at school.

Me: Thank you, enjoy your day too. And then he hung up and i continued with my cornflakes and dad came after awhile and off to school we went. The next 2 days were just a blur since my aunts came through and my cousins since Wednesday its was dowry day(negotiations) then Thursday was the

Nikkah(Islamic wedding) and Friday it was the Walimah(reception). My teachers at school were briefed about my situation and they were so considerate and giving advice on everything. My mind was all over the place and i was starting to have panic attacks. It was Tuesday and i was at Jazzy home avoiding going home since everyone will be on my case.

Jazzy: I was thinking we can run away you know? She says moving from the couch and throwing herself next to me on bed...

Jazzy: we can run away to my grandma at Engongo farm and no one will know cause everyone hate my grandma. We both kept quiet thinking this thru. Then i finally turned and looked at her.

Me: I don't think think Melo will appreciate that, he seemed nice and i don't want to hurt his feelings. Her face changed as i was speaking and she laughed her head off.

Jazzy: here i am all stressed out and wena you in love already, you just gave the guy a pet name and called him "Melo" wow Nailaa you something else,come help me pack before your father comes drags us from here. I got up and started helping her pack while i was in my in head thinking of what she just said to me. Am i in-love with the guy? Or am i scared of what my father will do if i disobey? Or is it because i cant think for myself, i need dad to walk me thru this? Am so lost that i cant even recognize myself and am only 15 years old

Hlumelo

The drive back to durban was not so bad at all. I was in and out of day dreaming about my future wife. Oh shit

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what did i agree too. I looked out if the window and let everything sink in and keeping all my emotions in check. We finally reached to find everyone dead asleep.

Me: Goodnight dad will talk things through tomorrow.

Uncle: wait son.. I turned and looked at him.

Uncle: look i know this is probably not how you saw your self getting married but it the right thing to do, am not chasing you out of this family and you always welcome. I just want you to be happy son that all... he smiled at me n i nod and smiled back at him.

Me: i know dad, goodnight.I walked to my room and just dozed off the minute i threw myself in bed.

Morning came and Nailaa was the first person to cross my mind so i took my phone out and decided to call her dad since he gave me his numbers when we were leaving, its ring a few times then he answered

Mr Dunga: salaams(greetings)

Me: Good morning, i hope i didn't wake you up, was hoping to speak to Nailaa if she hasn't left for school already.

Mr Dunga: she here, one moment... they was a bit of shuffling the her sweet calm voice came through. We spoke then hung up and i must say am the most stupid unromantic guy ever. I just lost my train of thought and ended up panicking and i didn't say all the things i was thinking. I must say this was the most weird phone call ever yet am smiling like a retard .I jumped off the bed and went to the bathroom before i start my day with all the preparations i need in order to start this new journey. I quickly got ready than went into the main house to speak to dad about what we going to be on about today. As i was about to leave my room i saw the tiny shiny blue box that Nailaa said i must open when i get home, i took the box and sat down. I shake it to try hear if its something that makes noise or not and to my disappointment they is nothing, no noise whatsoever. I slowly open it and remove the tissue paper that covering blue macaroni homemade necklace. I laughed so hard that i had tears in my eyes. This is what you get for getting a 15 year old wife. Wow. I took the lid of the box and as i was about to close it i see writing on the inside of the lid and its reads "am the macaroni and you the box" what the hell is that suppose to mean. I look at my unusual gift again thinking what does this

mean? Am the box? What do boxes do? macaroni are supposed to b cooked and eaten. Am not really a fan of riddles and i suck in solving them , so right now am so confused and this is not the time to be confused. What is she getting at?

10

Nailaa

Its freakin Wednesday and I never slept a wink. I have mend-hi sleeves (traditional hand marking) and i cant move right cause of the plastic but i must say it coming out well. My mom braided my hair because the scarf am going to wear is an Arabian suafan scarf and its slips on silky hair so we hoping the braids holds it in place. Did i tell you about my awesome dress. Am wearing a light pink Abaya with silver sterlings. Its has a mini tail like a mermaid and the sterlings are at my boobs n bottom. We got it from Miss Egypt (next to fruit and veggies). Its beautiful and am in love. Dad brought me silver pumps to go with the dress. I must say am in love with it. I don't know the Nikkah dress because Melo decided to buy that for me. Jazzy woke up next to me and giggled.

Jazzy: couldn't sleep, thinking about Mr Early she says wiggling her eyebrows. That what she calls him since i described him to her.

Me: Shut up you moron. I giggled moving to the bathroom to freshen up.

Jazzy: don't let me spoil your daydreaming, i was only asking hawu. I came out of the bathroom and she went in and i got dresses in my cream-white Abaya with blue sterlings n cream-white scarf. I went to the kitchen to apply lemon juice on my mend-hi to give it that effect of being dark. My mom walked in while i was busy with that.

Mother: morning my baby. She kissed my forehead and washed her hands to get moving with breakfast since my grandma is here. Dear lord i hope i don't get a monster in law like my grandma.

Me: Hi mom, you slept good? I asked as i pulled the chair to sit down. You must be wondering why am sitting down, well i don't know how to cook all i do is chop. My parents never thought it was important for me to cook but yet am getting married. I feel sorry for Melo.

Mother: slept good baby, good thing your aunt came to help and we made a lot of things for today event, how are you feeling about all this? Jazzy walked in and sat next to me and they both looked at me.

Me: it is overwhelming and i don't know what ill say to him when he comes here, its not like i have a choice to say no to dad and i cant run away and trust me iv thought of it. My mom looks at me a little teary.

Mother: I feel so helpless my baby, trust me iv thought this through so many times but it what it is and know am always going to be here to guide you and support you the best way that i can. I love you my child very much, if they ways a way to avoid this trust me we will be doing so right now. Mum walks to me and hugs me while wiping her tears.

Mother: now let make breakfast to that Godzilla of mine. We both giggled cause we knew she was speaking about her mother in law.

Hlumelo

The last two days were the most hectic days of my life. I've been running around sorting out my life as I know it since it's about to change. I must say I'm happy or anxious or nervous. I got up and looked at the confusing box that my intended gave me and next to it was the wedding ring that I got for her. Her dad says she likes blue so I got her a ring with a blue stone. The Tanzanite 5.2 stone cost me 40000 rands alone and it's white gold with white Tanzanites surrounding the ring. It's simple yet elegant and I cannot wait to see it on her small delicate fingers. There is a knock on my door and I place my ring on my side table and go to answer the door to find Bhongo

Me: sho bafo (slang greetings)

Bhongo: mind if I come in?. He says walking in and grabbing my study chair to sit.

Bhongo: Am just here to double check if you cool? I've been watching you the past few days and I just want you to know I'm here for you

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we all are. I run my hand through my hair

Me: yeah am good, this feels right yet am so nervous. Lol do you want to know what she got me as a first gift bra? I say walking to my side table taking the cute blue box and give it to Bhongo. He looks at me confused.

Me: go ahead and open it. He opens it and places the lid on his side and move the tissue paper and boom blue macaronis. He is so confused right now and that gives me joy cause i thought i was mad by not getting it.

Bhongo: kanti unangakhi lo muntu?(how old is this girl) lol we both bust out laughing.

Me: that exactly what i said to myself, read the lid. He does so and looks at me more confused.

Me: bra i don't know what its means. I helped him pack my gift and placed it by my side table and we walked to the kitchen going through the events of today since we leaving at 8 so we can get there at 11 since the ceremony starts at 2pm. Am leaving with the whole family, my friends couldn't make it since

its a week day and its not like i want them to come anyways, i feel like this is a family event kind of a thing. Not many will understand this custom and i don't want to be made to feel like a pervert. My mom was bustling about in her kitchen and it was to much and so was my sister. What time did the wake up.

Mom: Good your are up please take everything that in the lounge and pack it in the H1 please. We will eat on the road at the bp garage just after the Hammersdale offramp. Chop chop guys we don't have all day and i don't want to be late. She wasn't even looking at us, she was busy packing whatever she had on her hands. 1 hour later we were all done, thanks to mom being our commander and we really did leave the house 8 minutes before 8. Bhongo was driving and i was on passenger seat next to him. Dad and mom behind us and the two kiddos we at the back. One will think we moving based on the amount of things we have.

Avuyile: so baba (dad)any more hot chicks that side that you can hook a brother up with?

Dad: kahle ke Avuyile(hold on Avuyile)

Avuyile: cha ngiyabuza ngoba, nakhu sisangana siya eNewcastle to get my brother hitched up, my guess is the chick is supper hot.(No, am only asking because here we are traveling to newcastle) Mom turned and smacked him playfully. This is so going to be a long drive with Avuyile in the car.

11

Nailaa

The Meqo family has arrived an hour ago. They are using the guest house just behind our house. Am in my room cause I fear getting out and bumping into them. We all going to have lunch together for introducing the families than after lunch we will have the dowry discussion. In the dowry process its just going to be my parents since am under age, with him i don't know if he will invite his parents too or it will just be him. I really don't know what ill ask him to give me as my bride price. I haven't really given this much thought i see. Jazzy came in running in my room and a little out of breath.

Jazzy: you wont believe who i just saw?

Me: who?

Jazzy: one hell of a hot guy in the guest house playing soccer with some child

Me: now tell me Jazzy, how on earth was i suppose to guess that?

Jazzy: if that your husband babes, than i wouldn't mind getting married at 15 uyababa tjo(his hot).

Me: oh shut up and go wash your hands you messing up my room.she left me with my nerves that went up to 100%. We went to help mom carry the food to the lounge and when we were done. I went to freshen up. I make my own soaps so i used the lavender smelling soap and sprayed my lavender spritz spray. Few minutes later i heard voices in the lounge then my brother came in my room.

Aran: You good?

Me: yeah am good and you?

Aran: am good, ill sit next to you okay? He hugs me then we walked together to the lounge.When we got there everyone kept quiet and i guess everyone eyes were on me. I didn't see

anything cause i was looking down and just to be extra i had the extra layer of my pradha(face cover) covering my eyes. So they couldn't see anything. I walked to where dad and mom where standing.

Mom: dramatic entrance nailed... she whispers and i giggle.

Mr Dunga: well now that everyone is here kindly take your seats and indulge in this beautiful feast my wife and sisters prepared. We all shuffled around to find our seats and i don't know how but Melo ended up sitting on my left and on my right was Jazzy and Aran was looking pissed next to dad.

Hlumelo: Hi. He mumbled while adjusting to the scatter question.

Me: Hi.. i tried to move a bit from him as his knee was touching my thigh. The was a buzz of conversation around the table and seems like no one was paying attention to us. I dished out the less messy food like samosas, pies and finger sausages. He dished out almost everything that was Indian cuisine.

Hlumelo: you look exquisitely beautiful. I smiled like a dom kop.

Me: thank you, you too. He turned pink a little.

Avuyile: yini bafo uphelephele uyababa kakhulu yini? (What up bro, is the chillies too much for you) he said so loudly and everyone just laughed so much. I turned pink. And Melo turned extra pink.

Mrs Meqo: leave my son alone Avi, she said through her smiles. And Melo was so embarrassed he just focused on eating.

Avuyile:uhm mama, just out of curiosity how on earth is she going to eat? He said looking at me curiously.

Mrs Meqo:Awuthule Avi maan(keep quiet). The all looked so embarrassed. I like this Avuyile guy

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his funny and speaks his mind. He was eating staring at me, i guess waiting to see how i eat.

Hlumelo: Please don't mind him, i dropped him a lot when he was young. I giggled then took my left hand to pick up my pradha a bit and with my right hand picked my food up and ate, then dropped the pradha. Avuyile was so shocked and i saw through the corners of my eye that actually everyone of his family members were curious just that they didn't voice it. We ate and the room continued to its buzzing feel.

Hlumelo: forgive my family, they don't know much about your traditions. This is all new to them. He says looking at his chilly bite.

Me: its okay, i cannot really remove it until we married so few more hours to go. He looks at me and smiles with his dimples showing. Wow he really is handsome i heard Jazzy choking next to me and i turned to her.

Me: uryt chommie?(are you okay friend) she quickly drank her juice.

Jazzy: yeah am good. She continued to eat.

Hlumelo: is she good? He asked with concern in his voice.

Me: Yes she good thanks. I finished my food and he was done and i sat there listening to the beautiful conversation around the table and watch them blend. Next thing i felt cold hands on my left hand drawing circular motions and i kept quite ignoring the sensational feeling that was running through my whole body. Literally my whole body was on fire and its was beginning to be hot in here.

Hlumelo: I know this is a little to much for you, if you don't want to get married tell me now and ill put a stop on everything. I looked at him straight in his eyes without a go ahead from him. I don't know what i was searching for but he looked concern, sincere as if he will stop all this madness just so i can find happiness. I let his question sink in and looked at my options. If he stops this will dad be okay? My brothers will support me no doubt but my dad though, will he be okay after this? Will he look for another guy to replace him? What if that guy isn't as nice as this one? Why do i feel so drawn into him, was Jazzy spot on about me loving this guy? Must i continue with this or just stop it and suffer the consequences? I really don't need to look at my parents to know they happy with all of this cause i can hear it in they voices. What should i do??

Hlumelo

What the fuck is wrong with me? If she says yes she doesn't want to marry me and then what? I can be so stupid sometimes. Things were going great, our journey was okay. We got here and got to the guest house behind their house. They called us in for introducing the family and might I add when Nailaa walked in I knew I was doing the right thing. She commanded the room to pay attention to her without being dramatic nor speaking. She was my mystery girl. Damn this girl got me so hooked. I saw how protective of her Aran is and I made sure that Bhongo occupy him while I shift to sit next to Nailaa. When she saw me next to her, she was shocked I saw her tense up and move. Everything was perfect until I opened my big mouth, now here we are looking into each other and my heart is pounding. Nothing exist but just us.

Nailaa: its okay, you don't have to stop anything, am fine. I slowly started breathing and I smiled at her and she turned.

Me: thank you... i still had her hand in mines and i loved how it was feeling. This woman will be the end of me. I turned to find my mom and Nailaa mom looking at us with smiles. I poured myself juice.

Mr Dunga: its lovely to have family close by in this amazing time. Nailaa am so proud of you for taking my decision head on without fear and running with it, do know i love you and i only want and pray for whats best for you. Now we beginning on a journey as a family But which later on result in you being your own family, all i can advise is listen to one another and always show respect. I raised you well my child and i don't want Mr Meqo ever complaining. I want compliments only. My house will always be your home just that now you have two of everything. You are blessed now make use of this blessing to better yourself as an individual. I squeezed Nailaa hand for reassurance.

Me: iv got you. I whispered and she squeezed my hand back.

Mr Dunga: let take this outside and get on with the dowry proceeding, Nailaa will call you when we need you for now its

just us...my dad and Mr Dunga got up,i turned and looked at Nailaa.

Me: Don't b shy to say what you want for your dowry, its your pride price... its my gift to you okay? She nods her head, i let go of her and follow the guys outside. I was really truly happy. I felt much lighter and its felt like am in control of my life. I really hope this feeling last.

Nailaa

Soon as Melo was out of earshot Jazzy came running to me.

Jazzy: oh my gosh get your father to hook me up please, he has taste. I choked on my food from drooling on your man chommie, can you believe it? She looked at me fanning her face

Me: serves you right i laughed at her as we helped clear the table.

Jazzy: nkosiyami(my god) i didn't even know what to say

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he was all eyes on you and everyone was throwing eyes at you too and you both didn't care. It was like you are in your own world, its was beautiful how he smiles, looks at you and talks to you. She was supper excited and grinning and jumping up and down. Than mother walked in while Jazzy was being crazy.

Mother: Now you can talk Yasmin? And my friend mumbled something while mom walked out laughing. Jazzy pulled me to my bedroom.

Jazzy: I heard the whole conversation, she said jumping up and down. This is what i deal with on daily basis.

Jazzy: his so sweet, he literally offered to cancel all of this just so you can be free. Ow chommie. She hugs me and screams than throws herself on my bed.

Jazzy: am so happy and i feel like am the one getting married, so what you going to ask for? She looks at me and now she calm.

Me: i don't know really, i haven't though of it. I throw myself next to her.

Jazzy: well think fast girl, don't ask for money you will sound like a skunk. She flips to her tummy. I keep quiet as i think this thru.

Jazzy

My name is Yasmin khoza but you can call me Jazzy. Nailaa is my best friend since grade 3, more like my twin. Am tall and slender in shape and very talkative. Right now am at my home girl house since her dad decided to marry her off. Its turning out to be good. The actual wedding is tomorrow but me being me i decided to pop in early. Now did i tell you how hot

Hlumelo is, i know i shouldn't be drooling but lord have mercy his amazing. The way he cares and tries to engage my nun of a friend is awesome. Am chilling with my girl in her room and we thinking what we want for our dowry... yes its our dowry.

Me: ask for a car, you know how to drive nje.

Nailaa: seriously jazzy its doesn't work like that and i cant ask for a car, not like he will make me drive.

Me:ask for a house then.. i look at her smiling since an idea popped in my head.

Me:that way i can visit you all the time and i can stay with you.

Nailaa: hold it friend that not happening, let me think in peace please. I got up from the bed and went to the kitchen and i found the other cute guy Avuyile eating cake.

Me: didnt we just eat you little pig.. i snatch the plate from him and look at him with narrow eyes.

Avuyile: aah you want a piece of me wena(you) he says smiling. I must say he is cute in away and so full of himself.

Me: i don't want you, you just wasting food that all. I flipped my hair. Yes you heard me flip my hair. Am an opposite of my friend. She goes by the book and am more of the modern muslim i guess.

Avuyile: i hear you, now come sit down and let eat this cake. I smiled to myself and sat next to him and share the cake and lord have mercy i thought i can speak but this guy can talk. In the few minutes iv learnt so much about him. His Avuyile and his 18 finishing matric and his such a clown. I had so much fun speaking to him and i guess we will be good friends. He adores his brothers and love his sister who went out with the moms to do last minute shopping. Nailaas brothers are in the garden doing the set up for the Walimah since every family member will be invited and they friends.

Me: let me leave you and check on my friend and see if she has decided what to get from your brother. I got up from my chair.

Avuyile: I wonder what she will ask for?? He says day dreaming sucking his spoon like a lollipop

13

Nailaa

While Jazzy left me alone i was running ideas in my head in regards to what am going to ask and how do i ask in a polite manner. Am really not a picky person and i hope Hlumelo understands my requests. I sat there waiting for someone to call me, but Jazzy walks in all smiles.

Jazzy: so what you going to ask?i look at her all smiles

Me: am not telling you what ill ask my intended. I giggled as she made a face. My dad called out for me and I walked to the porch and found Hlumelo smiling at me . My dad gestured for me to sit next to Hlumelo and I did.

Dad: so have you given some thought as to what you will want as part of your bride price? Dad ask looking directly at me.

Me: I don't have much to ask but ill like to study after matric. They turned and looked at me all surprised. Am not about to be one of those girls who fully depend on they man for survival.

Me: Ill also like for Hlumelo to give me whatever he desires to share with me, am not really picky, whatever you decide ill accept but my one request is to study after i finish school. I looked up to my dad and he nodded and Hlumelo shifted abit.

Hlumelo: Am okay with that. He says looking at me

Me: thank you... i got up and went to go check the garden as to how it's getting along.

Hafez: how did it go? He comes give me a hug.

Me: not bad i told them what i want and they good with it. I moved around to see the setting.

Me: this is beautiful you guys, i love it. I removed my pradha as i was getting teary. I walked to my spot and looked into the tiny

pond. Today we didn't have any ducks. Am so going to miss this place, i hope we stay at a place that has a fountain or creek or pond at least. I love nature.

I sat there and thought of how life will be moving forward.

Me: oh Almighty guide me in this new journey. I sat there and enjoyed the sun on my face and the birds chipping away and the frog that making noise far away. This is peace. Peace at its most purest form.

Hlumelo: i knew ill find you here. I turned to his voice to find him smiling his brightest smile.

Me: you always have odd timing

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i looked into the pond to divert him from staring at me. He walked up to me and turned my face to look into my eyes.

Hlumelo: Dont be shy but i have to tell you that you beautiful. I smiled and he touched my forehead with his. My body was

betraying me, all of a sudden i felt all warm and fuzzy. This is so wrong yet i love it.

Hlumelo: iv always wanted to touch you, why do you like this place so much. He ask running his hands in my hair moving it from my face.

Me: i find peace here. I can be me without being a muslim girl. I can be free and let my thoughts run wild without restrictions. I slowly move out of his heads but he hold my right arm. I turned to him

Hlumelo: funny how you find peace here yet I have found peace in your presence. You make me whole, push me to want things and do things. Iv never been affected by a woman like this and you Nailaa are everything that i need. He moves close to me still maintain eye contact and my heart is jumping out of my chest.

Hlumelo: Am going to kiss you now, don't be alarmed please and tell me to stop if you feel uncomfortable. My hands got all sweaty and my body was shaking as he made his way towards

me. I've never kissed a guy before in my life. He held both my hands and touched my forehead with his. We both staring in each other eyes not talking. He brought his face to mine and then his lips hovered above mine for a second and then he kissed me. My world stood still, all I could hear was my heartbeat and the birds my body felt like it was floating. I felt his hands slowing going up my sides and I found my hands on his chest and he deepened the kiss. My body moulded into his and I could feel heat radiating from him. He kissed the daylight out of me and I loved every single moment of it. He slowly let go and I hid my face on his chest and he placed his chin on my head and we stood like that. Me trying to calm myself and listen to his rapid beating heart beat. We stood in utter silence and him squeezing me tighter and right there I knew I am going to be just fine. This feels so right in so many forms. I am connected to him spiritually. I am connected to him with my mind.

Hlumelo: Are you good? His voice vibrated in my ear from his chest. I nodded cause I was afraid my voice will fail me. He continued to hold me. I don't know how long we stood there like this but I loved it. Jazzy was right I am in love with my future husband and I pray he loves me too....

14

Hlumelo

I must say am the most happiest guy in the world today. The kiss was beyond words even now am still touching my lips thinking about it. We had dinner alone at the guest house as a family since the rest of the family decided to make they way here. Mom called everyone in the Meqo family, I thought we agreed that this is the close family thing. I woke up feeling good and now i have to go pick up the cake with Ebrahim and i also have to pass sterns and get my lady a gift. Earnings or a watch or both, ill ask her brother to see what she is more into. I woke up took a shower and wore full black. Black jeans, black T-shirt and black Jordan's. I left my room that i was sharing with the sleeping Avuyile and Bhongo since the whole clan here. I bumped into mom at the breakfast table.

Mom:You look good son but its your wedding day and you wearing black why? I chuckled and sat down.

Me: its my get busy outfit mana. I explained while choosing what to eat.

Mom: Andazi ukuba umyeni wam uxelele le nto ngaphambili kodwa wena ungaphezulu nje komtshana kuthi. wena nyana wam ndiyakuthanda. Kwaye ndiyazi ukuba uyakukhathalela le ntombazana incinci ngentlonipho nothando oluninzi.(i dont know if my husband told you this before but you more than just a nephew to us. you my son and i love you. And i know you will take care of this little girl with respect and lots of affection.) she smiles at me beaming with being proud.

Me: ill try mama. We ate running through the plan for the day. We were paying for the Nikkah and the Dunga family paying for the walimah and am taking care of the honeymoon.

Me: let me leave Ebrahim just sent me a text his outside. I got up and kissed her and went with Ebrahim to fetch the cake and a few decor.

Nailaa

I woke up feeling great today. I guess today is the day that i turn into a woman i guess. Oh my gosh am getting married at 15 years. Its my birthday tomorrow. Ill be a married person hence we doing Walimah celebrations tomorrow to count in my birthday. My emotions are all over the place and frankly i don't know how to feel and how to act. I went and took a shower while Jazzy was still sleeping and got dressed in black track pants and T-shirt and scarf. Mom came in and looked me up and down.

Mother: wazila nje?(why black) she says waking up Jazzy who wasn't getting up.

Me: are we not going to be busy today with prepping for later on.

Mother:yes but black pho?.. she pulls the blanket and pinch Jazzy ears and tells her to go bath. She reluctantly goes to the bathroom

Mother: come let go to the lounge we want to speak to you about something with the ladies. Mom ushers me outside my room and boom in the lounge everyone is there. We walked to the lounge and boom all my female relatives were there. I sat down nervously and lord have mercy the things they were saying about marriage life. I told myself ill do my best to take the positives out of they lives experiences and try to incorporate them in mines as of the sex topic, well let just say i come from the family of freaks and i highly doubt ill do anything they said. Wow my mom is to much though she was more into details. They gave me so many Lengerie and gifts its was like a bridal shower per say and we had breakfast laughing and enjoying the conversation.

Mother: lastly my child no matter how angry you are never raise your voice to your husband. You can do everything but never shout

if you feel heated just leave or ask for a recess but never shout at him even if he shouts at you. They all nodding and i nodded back but i swear i heard aunt Thola shouting at uncle Siphos the other day but what do i know am new at this. Jazzy and Ayabonga came and help me pack my things in my wardrobe.

Jazzy picked up one of my things its was a red and black thong with a bra that covers nipples only.

Jazzy: what the fuck is this?i snatched the items from Jazzy and Ayabonga was laughing none stop.

Me: control yourself Jazzy half the things here are beyond imagination and i wont wear ill b spieling out of it,so calm your horse. I hid the rest before she has a heart attack.

Aya: I heard my brothers talking about sex last night when they thought am sleeping and bhuthi Hlumz was all shy and laughing at the story bhuthi Avi was saying.

Me: i don't even want to know. I said closing my ears.

Jazzy: i want to know. She looked straight at Aya.

Me: oh not in my room, hambani(go). They left my room and they were giggling.While i was sorting out my items i heard mama screaming and a lot of noise from the kitchen. I ran there to find Ebrahim and Hlumelo walking in with a cake and lord behold my cake was beautiful. Its was exactly what i asked mom to tell Jameela Vadwa to make. She makes the most amazing cakes ever. We got to her all the time for our pastry food. Its was a cream white naked cake, four tier and its has edible branches and leaves and lilies around it. Its was perfect

and my eyes got teary, i don't know when and how but Hlumelo was right next to me.

Hlumelo: Hy its only just a cake babe. He says engulfing me in a hug.

Me: its amazing and beautiful. Thank you so much for everything today, i know you are paying for it. You really making my day right now. I smiled and wiped my tears

Hlumelo: Anything for you. He hugged me lightly and then went out to help with other things.

Mother: you are such a cry baby. She herself was crying and she hugged me.

Me: its so beautiful remind me to call her and say thank you. She side hugged me and continued with whatever she was doing before the cake arrived.

15

Nailaa

I walked to my room to finish up with the gift i was plaining to give Hlumelo. His been really great and supportive in all this. Taking my emotions into consideration. While i was so engrossed in what i was doing mom walked in ushering me to go bath, i used my lavender soap and shampoo my hair. My hair was long till in between my shoulders and mom was going to braid it in a up do kind of style to give my scarf dramatic effect. I wrapped myself in a towel and went to where mom was laying out the most beautiful royal blue dress was on my bed. Its had a gold scarf and light blue safara to go over it. Its had full studs on the chest in colors of blue, gold and crystal. Its was truly the most beautiful dress iv ever see" This is the first step to a life with glitz and glam but mostly filled with unconditional love" with love your intended."I really had tears in my eyes, this guy was so extra yet i loved it so much. This is turning out to be one of the best days of my life. My mom came in and blow dry my hair and braided it up. She than helped me wear my dress and scarf properly.

Mom: These are your great grandmothers bangles its has been passed from generations to generations and today they are yours and one day you will have a moment like this with your daughter and you will know exactly how am feeling now. I love you so much Nailaa" she kisses my cheek. After i was dressed and dried up from crying, my cousin came through to do some touch ups on my face and do a natural look kind of a thing. When that was done, we were putting on my gold pumps when Ayabonga walked in with a small box in her hands and a note.

Aya: You look amazing... she came and hugged me and handed me the box. I opened it and found the most cutes ankle bracelet with cute trinkets on it. They was a rabbit, tree, leave, horse and two small bells that jingle and make tiny noise when moved. I opened the small note "your steps are now music to my ears". I unwrapped it fully and wire the anklet .This guy was really doing the most for me right now and an trying so hard not to cry and mess up my make up.

Mother: Enough now Nailaa.. she scolds bit even she is crying her eyeballs out. And in walked my big brother Sayeed. His one of those people that we have no idea what they do with they lives but are fully loaded. I guess its legit because he has never spent a day in jail according to my knowledge.

Sayed: so its true, my little girl getting married today. He came and gave me a hug and squeezed me then made me swirl so he can see me properly.

Sayed: you look beautiful little fairy. He kisses my forehead and quickly leaves, i swear i saw him tear up and Just as my brother left my dad came in wearing his light blue kurta and must i say he looked amazing.

Dad: you look amazing my angel

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just came to see what made my oldest son cry and now i know. My dad had glassy eyes. We shared one of the longest hugs at this point we were both openly crying and when we were done. My cousin had to come back and re-apply my make up. And my mom was panicking cause i had red eyes from crying to much. My mom went out to check on dad and i was trying so hard to breath. This is becoming to much and am being so emotional right now. My aunt came in to tell me that everyone is ready outside and the groom is there waiting for me and he is a little

nervous. I smiles when i hear about Hlumelo. We got up and made our way out of the house with my mom crazy side of the family making so much noise and singing and dancing in front of me. You could see me properly but when we got through to the entrance i was so shocked to see the beautiful work my brothers did. They were all wearing light blue kurtaz like dad and four on each side creating an aisle like. They hooked fairy butterflies and they all shined in different colors. There was logs turn into benches and all my family members and people i don't know i guess they were my in-laws. Up at the front was Hlumelo looking so handsome next to the Maulana(priest). Yes he was nervous but he managed to smile at me. He had on a royal blue suit that had a black collar and brown shoes. I smiled back at him and made my way to him and the little bells were twinkling and must i say that kind of eased my walk to him. My eyes were glued to him, wow his handsome. Truly handsome i must say. When i finally got to them we started with Duaa(prayer) and the Moulana continued with the Nikkah rights and when that was done he looked at both of us and asked for the rings. He took a box from his pocket and my mom came and gave me a box that i didn't knew I had.

Hlumelo: uhm(cleared throat)... sho this is harder then i thought, well where do i begin? I want to thank my uncle from tricking me to driving him here in Newcastle little did i know that he is bringing me to a piece that i never knew that i

needed in my life. Nailaa, we don't know much about each other but am glad i have meet you. In the few days iv been around you i feel so much peace and contentment and i want that for the rest of my life. We have a lifetime to learn each other laughs, smiles, giggles and chuckles cause that how i wanna spend my life doing with you. I want to be your friend mostly before any other of the many titles i will carry. With these rings i pledge respect, happiness but mostly i pledge my unconditional love to you. He slips the rings in my finger and at this point am a mess with tears mom came and gave me wipes. At this point my hands are shaking and my voice is awful due to crying so much.

Me: uhm(cleared my throat). Well we both know you were a surprise(everyone laughed) but my surprise was bigger when i found myself falling for you in so many ways. I love how considerate you are, how thoughtful you have been through this whole journey but mostly I love how all of this makes me feel. This is a feeling that i don't want to lose and i hope in this new journey we grow together but never apart. So with this ring i pledge to be a constant in your life, i pledge to give myself with mind, body and soul and lastly i pledge to always be your peace" i slipped the ring in his shaking fingers and then he wiped my tears.

Maulana: well they isn't much i can say after this. May you both always have each other back and never forget the Almighty. You are now husband and wife. Everyone stood up and clapped they hands and they was whistles everywhere. Than all of a sudden everyone was chanting kiss kiss and Hlumelo looked at me and soon as our eyes locked everyone and everything disappeared. Its was just us too as he tipped his head, closed my eyes and he kissed the daylights out of me. He kissed me for a while and than he let go and smiled shyly, I was pink myself. We went down to mingle with everyone and he introduced me to his family. I meet his uncles and aunts and cousin and they all a lovely loving bunch and i took him to meet my family and my brothers hugged him which warmed my heart because that meant they welcomed him into the family. We mingled until mom told us to go to the other section of the forest to have dinner.....

16

Hlumelo

Well iv been running up and down trying to make this day amazing for my future with. I planed surprises for her that i know they will mean a lot to her. Ebrahim has been helpful with the planning and Aran and Hafez has the decor on lockdown. Time was so not with me when i had to rush and go bath and get ready. Ebrahim took the dress and my note to Nailaa and i had Aya to send the gift. Things were all going according to plan. After sorting myself out i went to go check the venue and its was filling in with family and i greeted a few and then went to wait for Nailaa. When she walked down that brown carpet and she had her eyes only for me, lord have mercy iv never been so proud and happy than seeing her walk towards me with that beautiful smile. I was so nervous and yet when she was next to me everything made sense and become calmer. I didn't want to cry but i was just emotional seeing her emotional. But when she said her vows wow, this child is a lady of many words. She even got me a black and blue wedding band.

Nailaa

We made our way further into the forest and the first thing i saw was the tree with a big hope decorated to show our mark. And on the left side was the sitting area and its was beyond

beautiful. I really loved everything from the fairies in the glass. To the center pieces but the most amazing part was at the small corner where there was a Harp and a choir humming. I don't know what exactly but it was amazingly sweet. we went and sat down by our chairs and the waiters brought our starters. While we were eating and having full blown conversations. I saw that Hlumelo family was having wine and well our family with juice, i don't think anyone in my family was going to dare touch wine in front of dad even if they wanted too. Jazzy stood up banging the glass a bit.

Jazzy: Thank you all for coming to this beautiful event. Uhm if you don't know me yet am Yasmin but everyone calls me Jazzy. A friend, sister that Nailaa never had. I just wanted to say a few words on this special day of yours my friend. She clears her throat and smiles at me.

Jazzy: you have been a friend when i needed one

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a sister when i was in trouble but mostly a mother when i go astray. You are a beautiful person inside out and have amazing qualities that i myself wish to have one day. You have inspired me to want to be more in life, to work hard on myself and to always have a forgiving heart. I hope in this new journey you never lose yourself. I hope you rub off to the new people you will meet in a positive way. I wish you nothing but happiness. I

wish the smile that you have right now last forever in your marriage life. I hope you take your mother teachings and use them to make a better and comfortable home for you and your family. But mostly I want you to love hard and live hard like you have never had before, because this is it, this is why we been reading and studying our asses off. I wish you two the best and a happy ever after. I was in tears and so was everyone. Who knew that my clown can be like this. She sat down while everyone was clapping. The harp and orchestras were playing a more relaxing tune and everyone was slow dancing and giggling. We sat there watching everyone enjoying themselves.

Hlumelo: Are you good? He asked looking right at me.

Me: Yes am good just a little tired. He gets up and gives me his hand to get up and i did and he walked us out of the forest area. I think no one noticed or if they noticed they were acting like they was not. He held my hand to the car and opened the door for me and i got in no question asked. He drove in silence to Tramonto Boutique Hotel. When we got there my heart skipped a beat a bit since this is one of the most expensive hotels in Newcastle. Its was beautiful. We parked and he got off and opened the boot took my bag and his. I looked at bag all confused because i don't remember packing.

Hlumelo: You cousin packed all that you need. We got in with the assistance if the valet and they showed us our suite. He

booked a suite for us. They were rose petals everywhere. The lights were dim. We both walked in after the valet holding hands. He bowed and left.

Hlumelo: Would you like to bath first or should i?

Me: ill bath first. I took the bag with me and went to the bathroom.

Hlumelo

To say the dinner wasn't a success will be an understatement. She loved the small touches i did for her and she noticed. She very observant. We are now at the the hotel and i can sense that she is nervous right now hence i suggested she showers to untie the knots. Wow am married. I looked at my ring and i must say she has taste. I ordered something for us to drink to calm her nerves and some snacks. After twenty minutes she was still wasn't out, i went to knock on the door to see if she is okay. Behind the door i heard some sniffing and i knocked. No answer. I knocked again.

Hlumelo: Are you okay? I asked my voice panicking. And still they was no answer but more sniffing.

Hlumelo: Please open the door, whatever it is we can talk about it you know. No need to shut me out Nailaa. I knocked again on the door and this time around with my heart on my throat.

17

Nailaa

I walked into the bathroom showered and undid my hair and opened my bag to find something to wear since i was done. To my surprise all they was were sexy lengerie. They was a lacy pink gown, light pink with fluffs and they was a short red one. The nighties were the worse. I had a black and red nightie. Its has red fluffs over the breast and its was short and black. They was lacy panties and thongs. They was this black and purple nighty. Its was fully open and has a purple like cover over the boobs and they was a slit at the back and the bums were exposed. I ended up wearing a short bum short like jump suit that the only one that looked a little decent and had less lace. I looked myself in the mirror and i just got emotional and started crying and shaking. After trying so hard to calm myself i heard that Hlumelo was knocking and his voice had a hint of panic.

Me: uhm Am good. I lied

Hlumelo: You sure i think you crying? Do you mind letting me in or come out. I shoved everything in my bag and wore the red

short gown that not really covering anything. I slowly opened the door and peaked at him standing there looking worried.

Me: I don't have decent clothes on. I mumbled looking at his feet.

Hlumelo: what do you mean you don't have decent clothes on. He asked all confused.

Me: I really don't know how to explain this. Turn around so i can walk out and you can see for yourself what i mean when i say i don't have decent clothes on. He moved from the door and turned around. I slowly walked out of the bathroom and stood in the middle of the room behind him.

Me: Okay turn around slowly. I closed my eyes as i wait for him to tell me what he thinks of this miss fortune that has happen.

Hlumelo

I slowly turned from where i went to stand when she asked me to turn around. I looked at her for awhile with her eyes closed. If i can say i have seen a goddess than this was it. She has her hair curly. Her long lashes and soft pink lips. She was in a short gown that was a see through. Her tiny curves made me hard on the spot. Her breast perfectly in place and her tiny nipples slowly visible. My dick was throbbing in my pants by the sight that is in front of me. I was tongue tied. I was frozen and i didn't know what to say or do but yet my mind was running a million things that can be done. Am in trouble here.

Nailaa

I opened my eyes since Hlumelo was silent. I looked at him just staring at me. His eyes filled with desire and when i quickly looked down i saw the uncomfortable bulge in his pants and that just made my mouth dry and my whole body to have goosebumps.

Me: uhm I really don't know what they were thinking. I mumbled now fidgeting with my hands. He walked closer to me and touched my faces and slowly trailing his finger to the small knot in the front. He tugged at it and it let loose. My gown opened and He ran his hands all over my body making breathing a little difficult for me.

Me: Hlumelo... I whispered but his eyes were glued to my body. He brought me closer to him and i felt his bulge poking my belly. He brought his face closer to mine and looked me in my eyes with so much desire.

Hlumelo: You are perfect. And before i could say anything, He kissed me slowly and that kiss touched every fibre of my being. All my senses were on alert. My heart was beating twice its normal rate. All my senses were on high alert. And i must say it felt amazing and out of this world. He kissed me till my knees couldn't support me anymore. I leaned into him and he had his hands all over me. He kissed me senseless then picked me up and laid me on the bed. He was now kissing me all over my body and his hands were roaming everywhere and all i could do was to hold on to the sheets. His mouth found one of my nipples and a soft moan escaped. I opened my eyes in shock. He picked his head up from sucking my boob and looked me in

my eyes for a second then came up and kissed me. He then moved off me and picked me up. He sat on the bed with me on top of him.

Hlumelo: Am sorry i couldn't control myself

its just that you looked ravishing and inviting and i went mad. He lifted my chin up to look at him.

Hlumelo: Nothing is wrong with what you wearing. You a married woman now and as long as you with me, you can wear anything and everything. I think you can see now that i love what you wearing. Hell its drives me crazy. He chuckled and i smiled a little pleased with myself, he kissed my check and i relaxed a bit but i was still feeling a tingling sensation in between my legs.

Hlumelo: Today has been a long day and am sure you also need time to process what has just happened. Am going to go bath then when i come back we will get in bed and get to know each other. You can ask me anything and ill do the best to answer you. I nodded and got off him. He kissed my forehead and went to the bathroom.

Hlumelo

I got in the bathroom and closed the door. Oh my world. I don't know what got over me but i was losing it. Her body was so soft and smelled so sexual. She must have used a different body wash. Her curves and boobs are to die for. This child will kill me. I opened a cold shower to calm myself cause I must say my man was ready to tango. I stood there for 5 minutes trying to calm down and eventually i was good. I showered then wore my boxers and left the bathroom. When i got out i found Nailaa sleeping on the bed. She didn't have the gown on and she looked so beautiful. I took a picture of her then removed the duvet cover and picked her up and place her in the bed. I switched off all the lights and got in bed and moved her on top of me and closed my eyes and dozed off.

18

Nailaa

I woke up to something poking me and i tried to move it but its kept poking me. I opened my eyes to find that am on top of Hlumelo. I stayed still without moving. I looked at the time on the clock next to the bedside and its showed 4:35am. I relaxed a bit and listened to his heart beat and breathing. I wasn't aware that i was making circular circles on his chest until i saw his hand holding mines.

Hlumelo: You are awake? He asks brushing my back.

Me: Yes am up, there was something poking me. I said moving my hand down to touch what was poking me. He kept his hand over mines. We were both quiet for some time. After what felt like minutes i noticed i was now underneath him and he was on top of me. He kissed my lips and then got up and went to have a shower. I stayed there stretched and touched my lips feeling where his lips were. I got up made the bed and wore my non existing gown. Hlumelo walked out from the bathroom in a towel. I must say he left my jaws hanging. He has this beautiful lean body. Muscular but not to much muscle.His V line is to die for. Dear God take me now. He walks to me and kisses my fore head.

Hlumelo: You will get used to me walking around half naked. He walked off to his bag.

Hlumelo

While Nailaa was bathing i ordered room service then set up everything on the floor by the balcony. I placed more petals and I asked for white roses to be delivered so i placed them on the bed. I was dresses in my blue jeans and plain white T shirt. I was walking bare feet. This morning is all about knowing her before we go over to her parent house for the Walimah(feast after marriage where we celebrate the Nikkah). I connected my phone via bluetooth and played some music.

Nailaa

I walked out of the bathroom wearing a floral long dress its was white with blue flowers. I wore my pink sleepers. When i got next to the bed i found white roses. Wow this is so beautiful. I picked them up and smelled them then followed the music to the lounge and by the balcony there he was sitting on scatter cushions with food everywhere.He smiled when he saw me coming towards him.

Hlumelo: You look beautiful...he says smiling at me as he patted the cushion next to him. I sat next to him and he dished out a

few things on his plate and passed me a plate. In silence we sorted our food out.

Me: Thank you for the roses they are beautiful. I said stuffing my face with a chicken samosa.

Hlumelo: My pleasure...he shifted to a position that i was his view and he smiled while taking a bite onto his half moon pie.

Hlumelo:You really beautiful Nailaa. I smiled continuing with my eating. We ate in silence him checking me out now and then and i was busy shying away from him. When we were done he cleaned up and went and placed the dishes on the room service cart. He came back sat next to me.

Hlumelo: mind coming to lean on me. I moved up to him in between his legs with my back on his chest. He was playing with my hair and i must say the silence was comfortable and i was comfortable being in his presence.

Hlumelo: tell me about yourself? He asked out of nowhere.

Me: wow... uhm... what would you like to know. By this point our hands were entwined and i really was comfortable with being in his presence.

Hlumelo: everything that you want to share and that you think will make this journey easier for us if i knew.

Me: oh okay than... we spoke for what seemed like hours and i eventually dozed off on him.

Hlumelo

Here i was sitting at the balcony waiting for Nailaa to wake up. She dozed of on me and i must say she is very interesting. We spoke of where and what she will like to accomplish. We spoke of school, my jobs and what we hope to gain in tis relationship. She now peacefully sleeping on top of me and i like it. I love how she smells. How she laughs and how she gets shy before she speaks her mind. I simply am unconditionally in-love with her. My phone buzzed and i checked to see all the pictures my family were sharing of our day in the new group that got created. I took one of the pictures that was of our hands when we were showing the family our rings and posted it on my facebook account with the caption " Off the market...#its a marriage." I tagged my cousins that were there. I logged off and closed my eyes for a while.

Zamandonsi

I was just chilling on my couch going through my facebook and boom Hlumelo just posted a picture. The caption made me

scream so loud and i just couldn't believe it. Pinkie my sister came running to the lounge.

Pinkie: wamemeza nje yini?(why are you screaming) i couldn't breath. I was getting dizzy and fainter.

Me: its Hlumelo. I managed to say to her. She was looking all worried at me.

Pinkie: ow what did your ex do now? She asks sitting next to me.let me rewind a bit. Hlumelo and i have been dating since Matric till 2 months ago he said he needs space to sort out his life. So i said okay thinking its just going to be a week thing which later turned into a month and now its 2 months. He does not take my calls nor answer my messages and he has blocked my BBM(blackberry messenger). I love him so much his been good to me and he takes care of me financially. Ever since we broke up am always broke. I want him back and now he is married. His been playing me for the past two years... i took the phone and showed Pinkie.

Pinkie: its shows his married now.

Me: Yes, all along iv been asking myself if he found out about Tsepho, maybe that why he left but no he has been playing me and his married. Who is this bitch that he married. I snatched my phone from Pinkie and checked the list of people he tagged and its was all his cousins

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no unfamiliar names. I threw my phone on my couch and i cried and cried. My sister didn't know what to do but just to console me as i cried myself away.

Nailaa

A distant ringing woke me up only to find out it was our room phone. I lightly shook Melo up and he looked at me and smiled and kissed my nose. I giggled pointing to the house phone while it was ringing. He went to answer it and i went to go was my face. I came back to him finishing on the phone.

Hlumelo: That was the front desk saying we have visitors. I looked at him confused as to who will that be

Hlumelo: its your mother and my mom they came to help you get ready for the Walimah. Ill dress up at the guest house. They came here cause your house is full of our guest so they thought here will be less hectic. I nodded and tied my hair in a ponytail. I walked to the balcony to take the sofa cushions and scatter cushions on the floor to the lounge. When i got there i found the moms looking at the pink Hlumelo standing awkwardly. He looked so relief to see me he came kissed my check

Hlumelo: see you at the ceremony. He grabbed his keys and rushed off.

Mother: so... how are you feeling? The both looked at me with smiles on they faces and i must say they were weird.

Me: Am good mom.. i said sorting the cushions while they look at each other.

Mrs Meqo: that all you going to say? She looks at me. Now am all confused cause am not getting where they going with this.

Me: Am lost what do you two want me to say. I look at them and stop fixing the sofa.

Mother: We walked in here to a lounge with no Cushions and we see a walk in tray full of food so we were just wondering how was your first night with your husband? Mom bluntly asks. Mrs Meqo elbows her and than its dawns on me as to what exactly they asking. I went extremely red and i coughed so hard.

Mother: oh my gosh no need to choke. Its was that good, don't share any details. I coughed more. They got it all wrong but am sure as hell wasn't going to tell them nothing happened. I went to take a bath while they went to the car to get our clothes to get ready and the little make up that Mrs Meqo will apply on me. Oh wait, am also Mrs Meqo now. They came back and helped me get dressed. My pink ball gown was over the top. I must say Mrs Meqo has taste. Its was light pink and its has lace flower petals at the bottom of the dress and at the waist up its

was full lace embroidery. It had a big pink bow at the ass. I had to do an up do hair style for this look. I did Smokey eyes and applied a pink lipstick. I looked like a princess.

Me: Thank you so much, i look amazing. Mr Meqo hugged me.

Mrs Meqo: The pleasure is all mines, i see how you make my son happy so i want to do as much as possible to make this experience amazing and easier. We hugged some more and she kissed my cheek. As usual we were all in tears and smiling through it. My mom looked at the time and asked as to leave and off we went to my celebration of being a Meqo

19

Nailaa

We drove to my house and I could see that everyone was there with all the cars that was parked outside and the buzz of noise. We got to the gate and my mom hooted and all my aunts and cousins came out making so much noise, it was so festive like. I got out of the car with everyone around me and singing and clapping. We walked to the back of the yard and at the stage Hlumelo was there sitting at one of the couches looking dashing in his light grey suit. Gosh he was so handsome. I walked up to him and my family seated amongst the crowd. The ceremony began and I must say i enjoyed every single moment of it.

Hlumelo

Its was now 11pm and I was driving to Drakensberg. My wife was next to me sleeping. My wife that really has a nice ring to it. I drove for 4 hours and eventually got to my friends cabin. I went in the drive through and found my friend waiting for us in his car.

Me: Hey bro... we bro hugged each other

Friend: Hey its been awhile and congratulations he says handing me the keys.

Friend: I did breakfast shopping only for tomorrow and brought junk and filled the gas and generator for you. The rest you can go to town to get. He says moving to his car. I waved at him and made my way to my car to fetch our luggage and then went back to carry Nailaa into the cabin and placed her on the bed and took our shoes off and dozed off.

Nailaa

I woke up to someone holding me tight that i couldn't move and I so wanted to go to the toilet. I tried a couple of times to move without waking Melo up but he kept pulling me closer to him.

Me: Hlumelo

Hlumelo: hmmm... where you going? He asked turning me towards him now i was facing him.

Me: I need the bathroom fast. I moved out of his hands and walked to the bathroom did my business and refreshed my mouth with just water than walked back to the bedroom. Its was only than that I took in the beauty of the room as a whole. The way it was beautiful. I walked around form the spacious bedroom to the lounge and from there to the balcony that had

an amazing view. I loved everything about this place its was just us and the wilderness. From afar i saw a few zebra's and springbok. Hlumelo came through to the balcony patio like and found me standing next to the rail. He had two cups with him and handed me one of the cups and he stood next to me and we watched the animals and enjoyed our peace.

Hlumelo: I have never enjoyed peace this much in my life. He places his cup on the rail and looks at me smiling. His eyes are looks lighter.

Me:I love nature, thank you for every single gesture you have made for me through out this whole ordeal. I really appreciate it. I move to him and give him a light hug then i turn and pick up my tea and sip while watching a peacock from afar. I don't know how long i stood there but i looked around to find that am alone. I walked back in and to have my nose filled with wonderful aromas. I walked towards the smell and there he was setting the table.

Hlumelo: welcome back to earth... he chuckles and place the silverware properly.

Me: sorry I was just in the zone. I walk to the sink and opened the tap to rinse my cups and the water was freezing cold. I jumped back and the cup fell in the sink and broke and within seconds Hlumelo was next to me.

Hlumelo: did you get hurt?

Me: No am good. I picked the few broken glass and threw them in the bin." Its just that am not used to such called water and that threw me off a bit" i said moving back to the sink to wash off the rest of the glass fragments.

Hlumelo:I should have told you. He moves the last bit of food to the table and he draws a chair out for me to sit in. I make my way there and sit down the food looked so awesome and i was famished beyond words. He sat down and we ate and laughed and had a light conversation on yesterday events.

Hlumelo: I got mom and them to pack all our gifts in they car and go with it to Durban since you going to be staying with me. I looked up at him all shocked.What about school school, does he remember am doing grade 11 right now and i cannot afford not to finish. I have two more terms to go and then am done with 11.

Me: uhm... i placed my spoon down. "I was under the impression that am going to stay with my parents until i finish up with school" i said with my eye being a little glassy with tears. This cannot be happening to me. I cant be a drop out. He promised that ill study and that ill go to varsity at some-point. How on earth am I going to go when i only have grade 11, not even 11 just grade 10 since i fully completed that. I had so

many thoughts running through my mind and that was making my head a bit dizzy than i could breath and he looked at me all concern and i could feel myself getting hot and losing control of my body then its was light outs for me and I felt my head hitting something hard.

Nailaa

I woke up to a pacing Hlumelo and a cute white lady sitting next to me.

Me: Hi.. i whispered and Hlumelo jumped to my side and kissed me all over my face and i didn't hear half of what he was saying.

Hlumelo: Are you okay? You almost gave me a heart attack. He asked looking at me and the white lady.

Me: Am good just have a little headache... I touched where it hurt the most and the white lady got up and came back with a glass of water and some pills.

Her: here take this, you had a panic attack and you fainted, do you have history of anxiety attacks? She asks with so much concern.

Me: No none that i know off... I drank the meds and relaxed into the bed again. Hlumelo was so worried and that pained me to him so stressed.

Her: You should go to town when you are feeling stronger and go to a doctor just to check you up and see if you all good but to my knowledge you look like you will be fine. She smiles at me then calls Hlumelo on the side and they speak and she hugs him and then leaves. Hlumelo walks to me and gets in bed near me and cuddles me like a baby and i inhale his smell and i must say am feeling much better.

Hlumelo: You gave me such a fright

I had to call Angie. She my friends wife and this is they cabin.. I nodded at him and looked up at him.

Me: Am sorry for the fright, I just wasn't expecting to hear what you said to me earlier on and that gave me a shock. I snuggled closer to him.

Hlumelo: Nailaa, ill never do something to you that will make you question your decision of giving this a try. Reason we moving to Durban is cause we married and we should be living together to make this work. School wise I have called your school to get emergency transfer papers due to you relocating and you are enrolled at Orient Islamic school to further you studies there. I know how much education means to you and am not going to stand on your way of it. You never allowed me to finish my sentence and already you were panicking. By now tears were falling down and I was making his shirt wet and he just rubbed my back until I dozed off.

Hlumelo

When Nailaa fainted I think my brain went on over ride. I called Smiso and told him my situation and he sent Angela to come help. Meantime i helped Nailaa to bed and placed a cold cloth on her fore head. When Angela got here, i told her everything that happened and she injected Nailaa with something and five minutes later she woke up. We are now in bed and she is sleeping and this gives me time to think. She still fears that i might change on her or abuse her in any way. I thought i made my intentions clear but its seems like everyday i have to show it to her that she plays a vital role in my life and I want nothing but good things for her. I took my phone out to cancel all todays plan then i called her parents just to find out if all was well at they said and they were. Than i called my parents too.

Mom: Its good to hear from you son. She answered and i can just imagine the full smile on her face right now

Me:bendikujonga nje (I was just checking on you)

Mom:Enkosi mntwana wam. bendicinga ngawe kodwa andifuni ukukuphazamisa .. ulungile? uyacima. (thank you my child. i was just thinking of you but didn't want to disturb you.. are you okay? you sound off.) I took a deep breath and told my mom the morning events.

Mom: oh nyana wami(oh my child)

Me: she good now mom but i hate that she thinks am a monster and ill change on her. Iv tried my best to show her that am a good guy and ill do good to her but its like i make progress than i move two steps back. I let out all my frustrations on mom. I don't know why but i seem to do that a lot with her. She has a way of making me bare my troubles.

Mom: My child you both may be in kzn but you two come from different worlds. Understand that first then understand the person that she is and the environment that she comes from. You need to be patient with her and clear at all times. She knows you a good person or else she wouldn't have married you. Find solace in that when things get to be to much. We love you and I know she loves you. Just be patient and put in the work that needs to be put in to make it work and you will see everything will fall into place.

Hlumelo: Thank you ill try to remember that, travel safe mother.

Mom: Thank you, Nailaa mom is packing her clothes and all her things that she values and ill do the unpacking tomorrow at your house.

Hlumelo: Thank you for the house mother it a beautiful gift cant wait to see it. I smiled at how lucky i am to have such parents.

Mom: It was our pleasure my son. Let me not keep you ill call tomorrow to let you know on how things are at your place. I hope the designers did what you asked.

Me: Thank you mom, I love you. She hung up after making kissing sounds. I must say I felt so much better after speaking to her. Am going to try my best to make things work. Am in love with Nailaa and I think it's driving me crazy because I really don't want to mess it up and end up losing her. I looked at her sleeping so peaceful on my chest and I felt a tug in my heart. I smiled and closed my eyes joining her in sleep.

20

Nailaa

I woke up and I was alone in bed. I went to the bathroom and took a long shower than wore my black track suit and wore my pink push in shoes. I went out of the bedroom in search of Hlumelo and i didn't find him anywhere so i went to the kitchen made myself some green tea and walked to the patio. The car wasn't in the drive through so i guess his not around. I sat there for awhile then i saw his car driving up the drive. I stood up went and stood at the end of the patio, i wasn't about to mess up my sleepers. He came out of the car and came to give me a crushing hug.

Hlumelo: oh ay uyalala shame(you a deep sleeper) he lifts me up in his hug then place me back on the floor.

Me: where are you coming from?

Hlumelo: went to go pick up a few things that we are going to need for the weekend that all. He moves back to the car and take out a few plastics and hands two to me. I go in while he follows with the rest. We put everything in the cabinets and when we were done he warmed up some soup for us to drink since its getting a little cold. I wonder if he knows that i cannot cook at all. My mom used to do everything yes i know the basics but i have no idea how to cook. He warmed up the garlic

bread in the oven and while he did that i stood there and watch him move around in the kitchen in silence.

Me: Hlumelo. He turns and looks at me. "Well i don't know if they told you this but i cannot cook to save my life, yes i know the basics but i have no idea how to cook from scratch" I say mumbling

Hlumelo: I know you cant cook and iv made arrangements when we get to durban we will attend cooking classes at Hillcrest for cooking classes. We can go as a couple on days that i wont be so busy on and on the days m busy you can attend alone. He takes out the bread and places it on the table and pour soup in two bowls and we sit down.

Me: That would be nice Thank you

Hlumelo: My pleasure. We did in and i must say the food was amazing and i like his company. He was busy telling me of the town and how Bergville only has one robot. We finished up and i helped by washing our dishes while he went and took a bath. His phone rang while he was in the shower.

Me: Hlumelo your phone is ringing... I stood by the bathroom door for him to no avail.

Me: Hlumelo phone hello.. They was silence "hello" i said and looked at the phone and placed it on my ear

Voice: Am looking for Hlumelo. A ladylike voice came through

Me: His in the bathroom, i can take a message? Then they hung up. Oh well i placed the phone on one of the side table than went to fetch scrabble from the lounge maybe he wont mind playing it with me.

Zamandonsi

I was pacing up and down the lounge when Pinkie walked in. I was fuming with anger. I know i had no right to but the bitch is already answering his phone. Iv never had Hlumelo phone in my hands and yena(she) already has. This is just a nightmare.

Pinkie: And then wena(you). She looks me up and down waiting to hear what bothering me.

Me:Its over Pinkie, Hlumelo is no more mine. I cried out to her

Pinkie:Its has been two months now don't you think you should move on now. She says unpacking the clothes she brought from town.

Me: You wouldn't understand. I walked out of the room to my bedroom and locked myself in. I need a plan and i need it fast before that bitch sinks her hands in my man. I need to act and i need to act fast.

Hlumelo

I came out with my towel around my waist to find Nailaa sitting next to the fire place with scrabble out. she looks up and sees me half naked then she quickly looks at her board. I grab a sweater and grey track pants and wear them and go sit where she laid the game for us.

Nailaa: your phone rang and i answered. Can you call them back. I got up and took my phone and looked at the number and i see its unknown i just let it be. If its important they will call again. I walk back to my place and sit down and enjoy a great game and conversation with her.

Nailaa

To say the weekend wasn't amazing will be an understatement. We spent our days playing board games and talking. We took a hike and went sight seeing. We went to the waterfall and took loads of pictures. We really had the most amazing time ever and now we are on our way to Durban to our new home. Mrs Meqo has been calling none stop to find out how far we are

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she was waiting for us at our new home. Hlumelo also doesn't know the house, his as anxious as i am about our new place. The drive was long and this is my first time ever going to

Durban so he was really a tour guide and he was enjoying every moment. We finally reached Durban after 3 long hours. We drove to Morning side that where he says we stay. We drove past my new school that ill be attending at from Wednesday. Navigator said we reached our destination so we drive through the drive through and in came the most beautiful house I have ever seen. There was flowers and trees everywhere but its was neat and clean. The house looked big and was glass mostly only the front had that old style brick wall. Its was a combination of the old and new. It had double door garage and they were cars outside. He stopped the car and we made our way to the door. I was wearing a long grey dress and my pink sleepers and my hair was in a ponytail and i was wearing sun glasses that Hlumelo hot for me at the store. He had grey shorts and vest and sun glasses and must i say he looked handsome. We were holding hands and he just pushed the door and they was his family standing with the welcome home banner. They came and gave us hugs and all of them speaking at once.

Hlumelo: Hy guys you'll shouldn't have. He says first bumping his cousins and then giving his mother a hug. She walked to me afterwards and hugged me like crazy.

Mrs Meqo: wow you guys look beautiful. She says walking us to the lounge were the table was packed. I didn't know i was hungry until i saw the table. We all moved there and enjoyed

the dinner while we spoke of our weekend away and they were remembering moments of our wedding. After dinner i was helping out Mrs Meqo with dishes.

Mrs Meqo: You know I promised your mom that ill always be here if you need a hand so don't forget am a call away.

Me: Yes ma'am. We continued with the dishes and the family left after awhile and its was just Hlumelo and I. Am used to it being us two. So we walked around the house seeing it for the first time. It had 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms. A lounge and kitchen and two studies. Had a walk in fridge and pantry was stacked up like its a mini mall. The theme color through out the house was black, grey and white but when we got to the main bedroom oh my world its was a mix match of colors just the way i like it. It had black, red, green and cream walls. The pillows were different colors also and the continental pillows. Its was just perfect.

Hlumelo: Do you like it?

Me: I love it so much. I walked in and touched the teddy bears on the bed. This is awesome to have a guy who irregardless his age agree to the silly things you prefer.

Hlumelo: I love your smile and i hope to keep you you smiling like this for a life time. He walks up to me n kisses me. I melted in his arms and he picked me up and laid me slowly on the bed.

21

Hlumelo

Just when I was enjoying my kiss with Nailaa my phone rang. Who is calling will just have to wait tonight is the night I consummate my marriage. But my phone was busy ringing like nobody business.

Me:Hello. I answered without checking who was calling.

Voice: How could you do this to us Hlumelo. The voice came through my phone and I felt my blood go cold as Zamandonsi voice came through the phone. I looked at Nailaa flushed face and moved from her and left the room to my study.

Me: Uyithathe phi inombolo yam? (where did you get my number) i asked as soon as i closed the door

Zamandonsi: Is this how you answer my calls now?

Me:undiphendule nje?(just answer me). I was now panicking and I just hope Nailaa doesn't read much into the privacy.

Zamandonsi: We need to talk, iv been trying to get ahold of you to no avail so we need to meet up and talk.

Me: fine, ill sms u the time and the day. Don't call me ever Zama ill call you. I hung up on her. Where did my ex girlfriend get my new number. I tried to calm myself down then went

back to our bedroom to find it empty and the shower water was on. I guess she is taking a bath then.

Zamandonsi

I have found a way to get back to Hlumelo and rock his marriage with this new chick. I don't know her but I already hate her so much. After my call with Hlumelo i was happy because he said he will b in touch with me so he does miss me right? The plan is to lie and say am two months pregnant and that the baby is his and he mist take care of it. I know no new bride wants to take care of a baby. So things will be awful causing them to break it off and me being a nightmare of a pregnant woman ill always be there. Eventually he will see that am the one for him and ask me to be his and ill gladly be his woman. Ill then have to miscarry cause of cause am mot pregnant and that will bring us closer since he has lost his child. This is a great plan and it will work. Am such a genius.

Nailaa

After Hlumelo left to his study for the call, I went to the bathroom to freshen up its been a long day and i was tired. I stood in the water for awhile to think about the steamy session we almost just had. I don't know if i should give myself to him

already pr should i just wait a bit. Technically its been 4 days since iv known him and i want us to build on that relationship before we bring in any sexual relationship. Things with him and I have been amazing and his a good person all around and his family is amazing also. So I will also like to see where all this is going before we get intimate and start having kids. I'll need to speak to him more of this and in regard to where he wants to take our relationship and his thoughts on this. I took my shower and shampoo my hair and added conditioner and its went to its natural state of being curly. I finished up and wore some PJ that i found with my clothes. I guess the Meqo family got me a dew items. I walked out of the closet and went to the lounge to find Hlumelo watching some soccer.

Me: Hey. I sat next to him and I saw he wasn't himself instantly. "Are you good?" I asked him and he put the TV on mute.

Hlumelo: Yes am good. He brushes his head. He does this a lot when he is uncomfortable iv noticed.

Me: okay..uhm they is something I want to talk to you about. I fidget with my hands a bit

Hlumelo: Go on... he looks right at me after lifting my head up.

Me: Well I was wondering can the sex part of our marriage wait? The reason i ask you this is because am new here and am starting school soon and ill be in matric next year plus am still

getting used to being with you and i want to know you first before all the sexual things and another this is am not ready to let go of my virtue yet. I slowly breath in and he smiles at me giving me his dimples.

Hlumelo: Am not Ill try to keep my hands of you. I wont lie to you and say am happy with this but Am not going to force you into something that you might not be comfortable with. I hear your points and views. Am ready to give us a shot anyway you see fit. I knew he will agree with me, he is always considerate of my feelings and making me comfortable.

Me: Another thing Is i saw you not okay after your call do you want to talk about it? I looked at him as he contemplating on telling me or not.

Hlumelo

I looked at her waiting for me to tell her what wrong. Should I make something up or should i just tell her. I really want this to work and I guess its no lying.

Me: Well before I meet you i dated and one of the girls just called. Am not sure where she got my number from because I changed it but she wanted to meet me. I looked at her and no emotions were displayed and this is not the reaction I was expecting.

Nailaa: I see and are you going to see her and find out what she will like from you? She asked so calm and cold.

Me: No tomorrow we going to the mall to get you a phone so I can be in touch with you while am at work and to get you a few things that you might need at school and ill get myself a new sim. Its a new Life am building and i did shut the door of the old one 2 months ago. I pull her closer to me and hug her and kiss her cheek . I unmute the Tv and we watch it for a bit.

2 Years later

Hlumelo

It has been two years since I have been married and its been amazing. Iv watched my wife evolve from a young sweet lady to the most fun

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funny and spontaneous soul. She is so full of life and is truly amazing. She laughs and teases me a lot and she is a spender. In the two years she been focused on her grade 11 and today is her last exam for grade 12. Am excited because am taking her to Cape town before the December rush. In the two years iv managed to start my own company where we supply hospitals with they medical equipment all around the world and that means a lot of traveling for me. Nailaa has not been

complaining much about it because if its not school holidays than she stays behind. And yes we have not been intimate in the two years we have had instances but something always stop us. We in a good space and i love everything about her. Am currently driving to the car dealer to buy her, her favorite car the Jaguar F Pace SRV. Its cost close to 2 million with all the features that i want added on. Bullet proof all around and the extra cameras. Its was close to 4 so that means that Nailaa will be home already. She usually drives my Ford Mustang GT to school since she has turned 18 and i travelled a lot this and she didn't want to trouble my cousins or friends. The first time she drove it to school they was so much drama, I had to go to the principal and explain the situation and since than all has been good. I got in at the Jaguar car dealer in Umhlanga.

Nailaa

Today was my last exams and I must say am proud of my determination. Things has been amazing the past two years. Its like am staying with my best friend than with a husband. Am no more that traditional girl am more of a modern muslim kind of girl. My dad and God will have to forgive me because i have not been really sticking to my teachings nor following the rules. My husband hasn't been complaining so i guess am not that rotten yet. I drove myself to the mall to go get dinner and yes i don't

know how to cook yet.. the food network n channel has been our saving grace for the past two years and of course the food outlets. I check the time to see its just after four let me call Hlumelo to let him know am not home as yet. After 3 rings he picks up.

Hlumelo: Ndlovukazi Yami (My queen) and automatically I blush and my face turns red.

Me: it was just letting you know that am going to the mall and I wanted to know are you good with the spur ribs? He laughs lightly

Hlumelo: Oh her goes my six pack. Yes its good. Which mall are you going to?

Me: Gateway.

Hlumelo: Okay be safe.I love you. And my heart does mini flip flops than its settles in its place

Me: I love you too.. I hung up and played my favorite Jam boom Pow by Black Eyes Peas. I got there and parked and entered via wimpy. Did shopping for Hlumelo got him new shirts and a few vests. I went to Woolworths and got a few distractions lingerie. I can now focus on the sexual part of my marriage am going to surprise Hlumelo today and hopefully his in the mood enough to get it on. I have been reading a lot about this and been doing Yoga just to be flexible.Am ready to

take things to the next level. I walked out of wimpy and went to sheet street to get a few scatter cushions cases. I pushed my trolley in and walked around.

Zamandonsi

I was busy with the customer when she walked in. For the past two years iv bern stalking her facebook and instagram. She the woman who has been driving Hlumelo all mad. He never got back to me and when I called his number it went to voicemail. I was blocked on all his account but Pinkie Wasn't. So I stalked him with Pinkies account. She looked breath taking. I finished up with the customer and walked to her.

Me:Good Afternoon ma'am. I greeted her as she was looking through some covers

Nailaa: Hi, its okay dear , am just browsing through ill let you know if i find something. She dismisses me by looking more into what she was doing. I turned around fuming. I went to the till then 5 minutes later she left without a word nor buying anything. Such a snob she is,But a beautiful snob. I really need to up my game if i want Hlumelo back. I need to give him a valid reason as to why he needs to come back to me.

Nailaa

I drove out of Gateway and went home. I got there took a shower and wore my new bra and panty and then put in my black and red see through gown. I went downstairs and put our food in the warmer while I was doing that my phone ringed.

Me: mom

Mother: oh my baby how are you? When you coming to see us? I just spoke to your mother in law she coming to see me? How were the exams baby? She was so excited to talk to me and that made me all emotional. I spoke to her answering all her questions and telling her about my life here while i was lighting candles all over our bedroom.

Mother: We need a grandchild my child, when are we getting one? We don't want the Meqo family thinking badly of us now. Here we go with the wanting a grandchild.

Me: All in due time mother. Speaking of that Hlumelo going to be home soon mom, i need to prepare a few things. She giggles and we chat a bit then we hung up. Oh how i miss my family its only been 2 months since iv seen them. Hlumelo has been an amazing husband. He allows me to do all that i want and to visit when ever i miss them. While i was busy setting up I hear Hlumelo car driving in. Am so nervous but I walk to the kitchen

and warm the plates first so they keep the food warm throughout the meal.

Hlumelo: babe. He walks in puts his briefcase by the table on the door and walks to the dinning area. He finds me already seated n kisses my forehead. " how was your exam?" He asks while sitting down.

Me: its was easy, thanks for helping me out. The trigonometry question that we worked on yesterday was there. You were right once again. I smiled at him and ate my chicken salad.

Hlumelo: Glad i could be of assistance. We ate over a light conversation.

Hlumelo

When Nailaa got up to clear the dishes my heart stopped for a minute and i sat frozen at my place. She looked amazing in her sexy black number. I thought we spoke about her tempting me. I don't know how much of this i can take now. She cleared up and washed the dishes while she was in the kitchen i decided to go to the bathroom to bath my hard on off. When i got in the room to find the room with candle lights everywhere.

Me: Nailaa.. i called out to her and she came running.

Nailaa: Yes.

Me: Am confused as to what happening. I looked at her searching her eyes then she stand on her tip toes and kissed my cheek. I held her in my arms and kissed her harder and back. I was hungry. For 2 years iv been staring at her and today she will be fully mine. Am i dreaming, i hope am certainly not dreaming at all.

Nailaa

He grabbed me and pushed me into the room. He slowly untie his shirt and all his muscles were out. I removed my gown and now i was only left with my bra n panty.He kissed me all over my body leaving wet kisses and sending tingling sensations all over my body making me shiver. He got to my panty and gave a tug and removed it and removed his pants. He kissed me all around my thighs and went to my Gucci. Good thing i shaved earlier on. He kissed it earning a gasp from me. This was so weird but somehow it was making me feel good. He place my one leg up on his shoulder and kissed me again now adding his fingers in a circular motion. This was driving me mad, he went on and on and i was moaning like some one was trying to kill me. I felt my body build up and i felt like am going to explode.

Hlumelo: Its okay Nailaa relax and let go... he whispered while fingering me and just when he inserted the second finger. I exploded and peed. I was so embarrassed that I hid my face

away with my hands and he came up to me still kissing me all over. Came to my ear and nibbled on my neck sending more liquid between my legs.

Hlumelo: Its normal to do this and for that to happen, don't be shy. He nibbled my ear sending more shivers down my spine. He went down my collarbone and fiddled with my breast.

Hlumelo: Where the hell is the hook... he murmurs and i show him in between my boobs. I was wearing the front hook bra. He fiddles with my breast than sucks on them like his life depended on it and slowly entered me again with his fingers. I was beyond myself with pleasure. I was close to the edge again and my body was vibrating with the need for me. He removed his boxers and my heart went straight to my throat.

Me: Am not sure that will fit.. i liked my lips as all of a sudden they were dry.

Hlumelo: shhh.. stay calm and relax... he went down on me and used his tongue now. This time i thought i was losing my mind. We were both naked and his head was in between my legs and lord his tongue was doing it magic. My body tensed up and i curled my toes as a wave of pleasure vibrated through out my body. I screamed his name out as the wave washed over me. He came up grinning and kissed me. He positioned the tip of his huge guy at my entrance.

Hlumelo: This is going to pain, don't move nor jump. Its will be over soon okay... I nodded closing my eyes. "No look at me" he says and as i look at him he pushes but nothing happens and he pushes again and i felt pain and as i was about to complained. He pushed harder and i think i felt my insides tear.. he kissed me all over my face as i felt my tears leaving my eyes.

Hlumelo: The worst is over babe... he nibbles my neck again and then he starts to move in and out at first i felt pain but after a few thrust i felt some pleasure creeping in. As his pace got faster i was overwhelmed by pleasure. My legs were up high on his shoulders and he was thrusting in me like his life depended on it. The faster he went the closer i got to my edge.. i relaxed my body and the wave hit me so hard and he went faster then before. I felt water coming out of me in waves as i was wetting my self over and over with every thrust. He then tensed up and exploded and groaning like an animal from the wild. He stood still for a moment then fell on my left side and took me to lie on top of him. Our heart beats were beating so fast. Our body was were sweaty from that work out. We stayed like that for a while:

Hlumelo:Are you okay? He asked concerned.

Me: Am okay. I kissed his chest and continued sleeping on top of him. After awhile he moved me to the side and left me as he

walked to the bathroom. I stayed in a curled position in the bed, i was too tired to move and my Gucci was on fire.

Hlumelo

Wow. Am speechless

this was the best making love session ever. She was so tight i felt like i was in my little heaven. Am in the bathroom now preparing a salted and foam bath so her body can relax. I walked back to the bedroom to find her curled up in a ball and i picked her up and went to the bathroom. Got her in the water. She was too quiet for my liking.

Me: you sure you good Nailaa? She has her eyes watery. I get in the bathtub with her and have her relax her back on my chest.

Nailaa: Am good its just hurts a little. She shifts to give my legs some room.

Me: Relax its will get better soon. We stayed in the tub with utter silence, its wasn't awkward we were just comfortable in each other presence. She was busy drawing circles on my thigh and that was making my little guy active.

Me: Babe.

Nailaa: Yes

Me: we need to get out now the water getting cold. She moved while i wrapped myself in a towel and went to the bedroom and removed the bloody sheets. I came to the bathroom and found she has already cleaned the bathtub. I opened water and put the sheet in to soak.

Nailaa: Oh i see i messed it. She murmurs

Me: its normal for this to happen to first timers. I kissed her cheek and carried her to the love seat in our room. I changed the bed and then carried her into the bed and snuggled with her in my arms.

Me: you don't need anything right? And she snuggled closer to me

Nailaa: I have everything that i need right here. She snuggled more closer and iv never felt so complete and content in my life then in that moment.

Zamandonsi

Pinkie:Yazi ngikathele ama moods akho mina, kwenzenjani ke today?(you know am tired of your moods)

Me: oh just leave me alone Pinkie maan. I got up and went to my bed. That bitch has everything iv ever needed and wanted. But not for long am coming for my man, house and all the

benefits. I switched of my side lamp and slept. Tomorrow is another day and ill come up with something.

Nailaa

I felt his lips kissing my neck before I even knew it was him and i felt his hands traveling down to my Gucci. I heard the sheets shuffling and next thing i was upside down with my ass in the air and my chest on the bed. His mouth was doing wonders on my Gucci and driving me nuts. As i was close to the edge he stopped and inserted his finger and then worked his magic... i was now soaking wet and moaning like a mad woman and then he stopped for a second. He blew some cold air and as that traveled up my spin in he trusted so hard making my back ache and he went faster and faster while i hang on to the sheets and biting the pillow trying not to wake my neighbors up. I don't know what time it is but i know its still dark outside. He was pumping me up and its felt so good. My throat was getting all hoarse from all the screaming i was doing. He was groaning with each thrust and i was close to my edge. He was at it hard and i was losing my mind and i felt my release wash all over me just as he exploded. He rolled to the side with me on top of him and it was lights out for me.

Hlumelo

I woke up while Nailaa was still asleep and took a shower and wore my shorts. I went to the kitchen only to find Avuyile already sitting on my counter.

Me: when did you get in here? I took out the things ill need to make English breakfast for my lady.

Avi: Around 2am, you would hear me because you were busy killing Nailaa. He laughs so hard when i pause after his remark.

Me: why the fuck are you here? You were not suppose to hear that. I move about the kitchen embarrassed.

Avi: You finally nailed it, congrats.. how was it.. he grins chowing his sausage.

Me: Am not about to discuss my night with my wife with you.

Avi: aaah bummer but by the sounds of things it was lit. I threw a towel at him and he ducked .

Me: I think i want my keys back, I gave you the keys for emergency. He laughs and moves to the Tv room to watch Tv. I finished up with breakfast and walked past the Tv room with a tray in my hand.

Me: Go home Avi... You killing my mojo.

Avi: You didnt get enough this morning, oh gosh. He got up and took my car keys and left. I locked the door and went up with the food to my lady. She was still asleep and i kissed her until she woke up and stretched.

Me: Ndlovukazi yamie(my queen) she blushed red and i helped her get up and made her comfortable. I placed the tray on top of her.

Nailaa: Thank you. She ate while I went to prepare a bath for her when she was done i picked her up to the bath tub and went to tidy up our bedroom. I took the plates to the kitchen sink and came back and dried her and picked her up to our bedroom and gave her one of my big T-shirts.

Nailaa: Thank you . She smiles and snuggle to me. I switch on our Tv and we watch comedy. I know how she loves Trevor Noah.

Zamandonsi

I woke up to my sister banging my door screaming Zethu my friend is here. I got dressed in my gown and walked out to find Zethu holding Amagwinya(fat cakes) and Artchar. I screamed and went to go make tea. We sat outside the veranda.

Zethu: usisi wakho undixelela ukuba unengxaki(your sister tells me you have a problem)

Me: Eish chomie

Zethu: Ndixelele ukuba ufuna ndikuncede ngantoni?(tell me what you want me to help with)

Me:Mendifuna uHlumelo abuye kwaye ndifuna inkosikazi ukuba imshiye. kodwa andinayo nantoni na yokubamba entlokweni yakhe. bendizokuxoka ndisithi ndikhulelwe kwiminyaka emibini eyadlulayo kodwa khang abize. (i want Hlumelo back and i want the wife to leave him. but i don't have anything to hold over his head. i was going to lie and say am pregnant two years ago but he never called.)

Zethu: Sebenzisa unyana wam njengesixhobo. Siyakuxoka sithi eyakhe kwaye ke xa esithi ufuna uvavanyo lwe-DNA siyayenza apho udadewethu esebenzela khona atshintshe uvavanyo(use my son as bait. we will lie and say his his and then if he says he wants a DNA test we do it where my sister works and change the test.) wow my friend is a gem. I was jumping up and down dancing.

Me: oh chommie. I hugged her as we smile and sit down to plan everything that we will do to get my Hlumelo back. I cant wait to see him again.

Nailaa

Today has been amazing. From last night when things got heated till now. His been extra, i never knew he could be so much extra amazing but yeah he was. I had breakfast in bed and he watched my comedy with me. We have been enjoying each other company and its been amazing. He just told me that in two days time we going to Cape Town for a week and I must say am excited.

Nailaa

Its the day before my trip with Melo so I wanted to go shopping for a few essentials and who to take with me better than Ayabonga. Melo little sister. So decided to send her a text to see if i can pick her up for shopping and lunch. She still in high school. I went to take a shower in the meantime and Melo was at the lounge catching up with one of his friend. I finished up and wore my black skinny jeans and white top and sneakers and did two mickey mouse bunnies and applied nude lipstick. Yes ladies and gents i no longer wear my traditional attire all the time, I told you am a modern muslim now so i sin a lot. I went to the kitchen took bottled water.

Me: Babe am going now... I called out from the kitchen. As much as am a modern woman now but I do shy around when his friends are over. I heard some shuffling and he came and hugged me.

Hlumelo: were you going to leave without kissing me goodbye. He kisses me and I melt. I think ever since we been intimate its just been difficult to ignore him nor the intimacy between us. And he hasn't been trying to keep his hands to himself maybe its because its been a day since we been rocking our bed. Just thinking about it sends tingles down there.

Me: babe i really have to go, I promised your sister lunch. I moved from his bear grip hug. He kissed my forehead and gave me his card and pin and i left. Drove to my in laws and reached there to find Aya at the gate. She hopped in and off we went to Gateway.

Me: why you waited outside for me Aya... I parked in front of RK's.

Aya: If mom saw you we will be shopping with her right now. She jumped off the car and we walked into the mall. We had fun and we brought our swimsuits and I got babe a few shorts.

Me: Let go to sheet street I want to get a few things I saw the other day. We walked to sheet street and i got a few beddings and i got Mrs Meqo a vase that i think she will like and we went to the till.

Aya: Zama. She sounded so shocked to see the girl that was assisting us

Zama: Hi.. she smiles at Aya "its been awhile, how are you?" She said while scanning our Items.

Aya: Good.. she was now sounding a little uncomfortable and just then my phone rang and its was Melo.

Me: Babe. I answered smiling ear to ear.

Hlumelo: Just checking in to see you still good. He lazily answers.

Me: I thought you calling to complain that iv spent too much, we good just getting a few things here at sheet street than we off to eat and am going to do a little food shopping for your mom so i can drop it off when I drop Aya.

Hlumelo: That good with me, enjoy. He hung up. I turned to find Aya and this Zama chick uncomfortable.

Me: Are you good Aya? And she answers with a nod and i take out Hlumelo card and pay for the things and then signed and we left. " are you sure you good" i asked as we left the store.

Aya: Am good, I need the bathroom. We walked to the bathroom towards the Wimpy since we going to be having our lunch there.

Hlumelo

After checking in on my wife I went to finish up on some work since am going to be gone on vacation and my phone ring it was Ayabonga.

Aya: buthi

Me: sho is Nailaa good?

Aya: besikwisitrato seshiti kwaye ndakhonkotha ndaya eZamadonsi (we were at sheet street and we bumped into Zamadonsi) I stood up from my chair

Me: kwaye ngaphezulu? (and then?)

Aya: ubuze kum ukuba akubuze ukuba uza kudibana nini nonyana wakho? (she asked me to ask you when are you meeting your son?) My mind froze for a bit and i felt my heart beat beyond my chest.

Me: utheni? (what did she say?) My mind was trying to move back on all the times iv had sex with her. She was on a pill and yes I used a condom all the time because I just did not trust that she was on the pill. "wayephi uNahila kuyo yonke lento? (where was Nailaa in all this)" I asked panicking this is not how things are suppose to be. Just 24 hours ago I was the happiest man alive. This cannot be happening right now.

Aya: ebese fowunini nawe, funeka ndihambe ngoku sitya isidlo sasemini kwaye ndimshiye yedwa ukuze ndikuxelele lento .. Ndiyakuthanda bye (she was on the phone with you, i have to go now we having lunch and i left her alone so i can tell you this.. I love you bye) she hung up on me. I ran to our closet and got dressed and then got in the car to a friend of mine who is a doctor to see if i can get a DNA done asap before this messes my chances of happy marriage. It took me two years for Nailaa

to open up to me and am not going to lose it just because of my past.

Nailaa

Aya came back and we ordered but she wasn't the same anymore and I knew it had something to do with that girl.

Me: Ill be right back babe. I left her and went back to the store and found the Zama chick not busy with any customers. I walked up to her and she looked surprised to see me.

Me: Am sorry to be up in your face but my baby sister isn't herself after she spoke to you. Do you mind repeating what you said to her to me please? I looked at her dead on. Am a kind of a person who get straight to the point.

Zamandonsi: Not to be rude but its none of your business. She says with attitude.

Me: Its becomes my attitude when her mood changes while my main objective was to make her happy with this outing. I give her the same attitude. She smiles an evil smile. Looks me up and down.

Zamandonsi: If you must know i told her to tell her brother who happens to be your husband to come see his son when he gets a chance. She smiles as I get light headed and I think my

world and breath stopped for a minute. Next thing I knew i woke up in hospital with a pacing Hlumelo. I closed my eyes and pretended to be sleeping while i replay Zamandonsi words in my mind. So all along Hlumelo has been cheating. Here i was thinking am with the best man ever and he was busy fucking another chick and making her pregnant on top of that. How can he do this to me, To us. What on earth am I going to do. Is its me who was wrong making him wait two years before getting the cookie. But i wanted to finish school with no hiccups. What am I going to say to my dad when I go back home. This is all my fault and to think just yesterday we were making love and my world was perfect now i have to deal with a baby mama who has a stinking attitude and my cheating ass husband. What am I to do. Am so young for this. I lay there thinking this over and over as tears rolled down my face.

Hlumelo

When I got a call from Aya screaming and crying on the phone. I knew something was wrong with Nailaa. I drove out with Ndumiso my friend to umhlanga he was looking at my phone tracking my wife whereabouts and it showed she is at Umhlanga hospital. I panicked and drove as fast as i could. I got there and found Aya at the waiting area crying. I rushed to her and she

hugged me. She had all the shopping bags with her and she looked a mess.

Me: Tell me what happened?

Aya: she left me in Wimpy and said she will be back,after awhile I noticed she he wasn't coming back so i asked them to pack up our food, i wasn't in the mood anyways. I had a feeling she went to Zama she saw i wasn't okay and my guts were right when i found her there and Zamandonsi had that evil grin and she said something that made Nailaa faint. I rushed in and called the hospital and here we are. I hugged her while Ndumiso went to find out what was happening with her. I decided to call mom just to let her know that her favorite daughter in law was in hospital.

Me: Don't Repeat anything that happened to the family ill sort it out before they know it. You know nothing. Do you hear me Ayabonga? She nodded. We sat there and waited. After a while Ndumiso and some white doctor who later introduced himself as doctor Steven came.

Dr Steven: You must be the husband. Your wife will be okay, we running some tests but she should be up in an hour tops and I shall have my results than to let you know what next.

Me: Can I see her?

Dr Steven: Yes you may... he walked me into her room and found her peacefully sleeping. We sat for a while waiting for her to wake up and mom and dad, Avi and Bhongo walked in.

Mom: What happened she asked hugging us and kissing our cheeks.

Me: she fainted while out with Aya. Aya looked down and said nothing. Mom looked at us suspiciously but let it slide.

Mom: You look awful. Have you eaten? She asked me hugging me again. I nodded cause my mouth got dry and I was close to crying. I really don't know how ill sort this out but i need too.

My mom let me be and i was getting anxious more and more resulting in me pacing around.

Dad: I think Nailaa is crying. My dad voice brought me back to find Nailaa eyes closed and yet tears were falling. I rushed up to her. Held her hand.

Me: There is an explanation for this. And they was silence in the whole room.

A pen could drop and we all could hear it.

Nailaa: Please leave Hlumelo... leave and never look back. Go to your son. She didn't even open her eyes and my mom gasp. I heard uncomfortable shuffling from my family.

Me: Baby let me explain. She quickly let go of my hand and opened her eyes. They were red and puffy. Her nose was pink and she looked so angry.

Nailaa: Hlumelo am not going to repeat myself, get out of my room NOW.

Dad: what happening Hlumelo. I looked down so embarrassed to even look up. The pain in my wife eyes was unbearable.

Nailaa: I want to be alone, can everyone get out please. She said in a quiet voice and we all stood.

Nailaa: NOW and her machine started making noises and we all got out so fast as the nurses came in rushing to her closing the door behind dam.

Hlumelo

I stood outside as the machines were beeping like crazy and my heart was racing. My mom was in tears and holding onto Ayabonga. Dad looked at me.

Dad: khuluma(speak)) he looked crazy mad. I told them everything and when i was done my mom slapped me for the first time ever in my life and she walked away with Aya. Dad looked at me for a long time and turn. I was left with Avi and Bhongo.

Bhongo: Maybe am wrong but I know that baby is not yours. You are a planner, i know if you wanted a baby you will not take precautions and you were damn cautious when it came to her. Whatever you need am in. He hugged me and ever since Aya called i felt a little bit of peace. The nurses came out and looked at me.

Nurse: your wife bp is too high sit. Its dangerously high we need to manage it. She looks at me with so much pity. She walks away and leaves the door open and just as I was about to walk in my mom stops me with her hand.

Mom: I need you to go to Gateway, find that girl and solve this. Don't come back here until you have solved this.

Me: Can I see her just for a second mom. She nods and I walk in to find her curled up in a ball. I could her sniffing to know she crying.

Me: Nailaa. She was silent. " I know you don't want to hear this but Iv never lied or cheated on you. The past two years have been amazing and the most iv ever lived. You are my best friend first before being my wife. Iv watched you grow into this amazing person that you are and in that process iv grown into a better man. I made vows to you that I aim to keep and I know right now its seems like iv tarnished what we have but I have not. I don't have proof yet but am going to get and am going to show it to you that iv been faithful and devoted to you only

ever since I bumped into you at the forest. That baby is not mines." I walked up to her and held her hands and wiped the tears and kissed her nose.

Nailaa: Its hurts to think I might have caused this to happen. Am questioning if I was a good wife? Is this how you get to punish me? Is this Almighty way of showing me that iv wronged? Just the thought of you with someone else hurts. I got into bed with her and hugged her rocking her to sleep. She cried herself to sleep and that hurt so much. I sat there for awhile and looked up to find my mom in tears in my dads arms. I got off the bed and out of the room without looking behind.

Zamandonsi

After the ambulance came and took Hlumelo wife i was beyond ecstatic. Little bitch had a heart attack. Now if she dies ill be there to hold Hlumelo hand through it all. My boss gave me 15 minute to reciprocate and I took my phone and went to call Zethu.

Me:oh umhlobo wam icebo lisebenzile(oh my friend the plan worked) I told all the juicy details.

Zethu:kulungile mhlobo wam, uyagula lungiselela unyana wam ukuba akutyelele ukususela namhlanje ndiyazi ukuba uHlumelo uza kufuna ukumbona.(that good my friend, ill get my son ready to visit you from today i know Hlumelo will want to see him.)

Me: thanks, let me get to work ill buy Pizza chomie and wine to celebrate. I hung up and did a little celebration dance. I walked back to the store and did what i was paid to do. I heard Ndumiso voice long before I saw the angry Hlumelo walk into the store. I fixed my hair and before i knew it Hlumelo had his grip on my throat and was squeezing the life put of me. I felt tears sting at the back of my eyes. My boss and everyone was moving in slow motion and for a second there i saw my life flash right before my eyes. I don't know when Mr Meqo came

in but he saved my life cause all he had to do was call Hlumelo name an his hand left my throat. I was trying so hard to breath but it was painful and my chest felt like it was going to explode. I was coughing uncontrollably.

Mr Meqo: start talking young lady. I don't know how i spoke or what made me speak but i found myself telling the old man my full plan and why i was doing it. Everyone listened to my shaking voice without interrupting me and when i was done. Hlumelo looked at me with so much hatred.

Hlumelo: If I see you anywhere near my wife, you are dead. If you see me, you walk the other way. If my wife ever faints or cries because of you or something you did or plan to do in future. Ndiza kukubulala ngezandla zam ntombazana(I will kill you with my bare hands) do we understand each other? He looked right into my soul and I whispered "yes" he left me there and walked out of the store with his troop following him earning a few eyes along the way.

Nailaa

I woke up to an empty room. I was not going to call my parents cause knowing dad he will call my in laws. I took my clothes and went to change out of the hospital gown. I don't have any friends that i can crash at or anywhere for that matter without

my husband finding me but i need some time to think if i want to deal with this anymore or if i don't want too. To think of my marriage future. I got out dressed and paged the nurse. She came in and looked at me up and down.

Me: bring all the proper documentation am discharging myself. I walked to take everything that mine. Good thing they left my phone and wallet. I called Garden court and booked myself a room charging it to my card. Giving Hlumelo a hard time. I checked for my car keys and didn't find them so I ordered uber and walked to the front desk to sign and go. Off i went to the hotel. I got there and check in and got into the room ordered food and ate and drank my pills and dozed off.

Hlumelo

I walked put of the mall fuming with anger and got in the car to go check on my wife. I got there and walked to her room without checking in with the receptionist to my disbelief the room was empty. I walked to the receptionist.

Me: room 432 had my wife and she not there now

Receptionist: she checked herself out less than a hour ago. I banged the table and walked out to the car. Tried breathing but it was getting to much. I felt my head get dizzy

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i opened the windows and breathed. After a few minutes i was in control. I texted my family that Nailaa discharged herself. I dialed my guy to see if he could track her phone only to find it switch off. I called my back to find out when last i swapped my card only to find out its was at sheet street. I asked for them to check any other cards connected to our active accounts was used. She answered that the one under my wife was used at garden court. I drove out to there and got to the reception and gave them a tip showed them my ID and told them am here to surprise my wife. They walked me the door and swapped me in. I got in saw the food and walked to bed to find her dead asleep. I took off my shoes and left with my underwear and got in bed with her. She snuggled closer to me. I got my hand under her top and pressed on her boob and instantly my guy got alert. She moved her ass to my guy in a circular motion and my breath got hitched this woman was driving me insane. I slowly moved my hand to her little laid and slid my fingers slowly and i heard her moan and that seriously got me losing my mind in less than a minute her clothes were flying everywhere and she was now fully awake and alert. I took one of her breast in my mouth and devoured her. I went down on her and muffed her so hard that she screamed out my name vibrating and just when the last bit of her orgasm washed over her. I entered her slowly not to my fullest length and stop and she had her eyes flew open.

Me: look at me... she lazily looked at me. " don't you every leave me again, do you hear" she nodded and i moved in slower. " i cant hear you " she answered "yes" i fully enter her and she arches her back giving me more room to slide in.

Nailaa

I felt my whole body come alive when he was in but I never expected what came next. He was fucking me and its was real raw and hot. This was no love making. He wasn't tender but it was more a punishment and make up sex all at once. He cane out of me and carried me to the wall and smashed into me with my back against the wall. I was like jelly and just before i could come he stopped and take me to the table and bent me over and ravish me throughly. He moved from the table to the floor, to the corner of the bed and always when am about to come he will stop and change positions. My whole body was jelly, my voice was gone from all the screaming and moaning. My legs were weak. We were now on the bed with my legs on his neck and he was pounding to me like they was no tomorrow. All i could hear were my screams and his groans and than we both finally came and he got of me and took me with and placed me on top of him.

Hlumelo: I haven't really told you this but I love you so much, ill never do something that will hurt you intentionally. You are my

life and without you in my life am good as dead" my heart warmed up to his words. It took 2 years and zama for us to finally realize that we love each other.

Me: I love you more Hlumelo Mark Meqo. I meant every word. I knew that no one will come between us and not even Zama. I knew that this was no longer about my dad or religion or tradition. This has now become a personal fight. A fight for my happiness. A fight for unconditional love but mostly a fight for a sense of belonging. To know I belong to someone with my mind, body and soul. To know that in this world with so many people I have this one person who will do anything and everything in their power to make me happy. I was content but mostly I was thoroughly fucked and I slept with a grin knowing that my limbs and my most important organ will be complaining later on. I am in the arms of my loving husband and we are ready for the world.

25

2 years later

Nailaa

Its been two days since I have been having period pains yet no periods. My head is buzzing and The pain is getting worse. Hlumelo is making tea with lemon to help. Am now rolling around the sharp pain that just made my whole body vibrate. Am trying so hard not to panic since Hlumelo is doing all the panicking. He walked in after a few minutes carrying a tray with tea and a warm bean bag to help relax my muscles.

Hlumelo: You going to be fine, take the pills and sleep it off. He handed me the pills and i drank them then had tea and slept on top of the hot bean bag with him massaging my back. I dozed off but woke up to excruciating pain.

Hlumelo: Ay ngeke ngikuyisa kwa doctor(No ways am taking you to the doctor) he picked me up and took me to his car and we drove to doctor Govender. We waited a few minutes than we walked in.

Dr Govender: Good afternoon what brings you here? She smiles and opens my file.

Hlumelo: She usually have period pains but these are different and they painful so I was wondering if they is something she can take for it? The doc moves to me and checks me.

Dr Govender: Did you have periods last month?

Me: 3 days but lighter than usual and its was the shortest am usually a 7 days kind of a person. She hands me a bottle.

Dr Govender: please pee in it

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use the bathroom there? She points to a closed door. Hlumelo helps me down I go in and pee and come back hand her the tub. She dips a paper in it than place it on a sheet and walked to throw away my urine.

Dr Govender: so what am doing here is a pregnancy test. She looks at us dead on and we are shocked.

Me: Why?

Dr Govender: Just to cover all bases and to see what might be causing these serve pains. She looks at the paper strip and shows it to us. Two pink lines are visible. "This shows that you are pregnant" we both looked at her and didn't know what to say to her.

Me: how? I was shaken and i looked at Hlumelo only to see him smiling like a retard.

Hlumelo: Fuck yeah we having a baby. This is awesome. Oh thank God. He kisses my face all over and hugs me. Iv never seen him so happy in my life. His happiness was starting to rub

of me. But pain shot through me and i grabbed my tummy and he picked me up and placed me on the bed. Than i just started bleeding. I looked at my pants to find it soaked in less then a minute. The doctor called his team and i was rushed out to another room. All i could see was the fear in Hlumelo face as the male nurse held him back as they wheeled me off.

Hlumelo

I was panicking now Nailaa has been taken by the doctors for two hours now. Iv called my family and they are here but they not much they can do. Am pacing up and down the waiting room trying to calm myself.

Mrs Meqo: Am going to get something to eat anyone wants anything? Just than doctor Govender comes in

Dr Govender: Mr Meqo. I rush to her. "Mind stepping this side so we can talk" i look around and see my family and i nod for her to continue.

Dr Govender: They is no easy way to say this but two different eggs were fertilized. That means you were having Dizygotic twins. That means at that some point your wife produced more than one egg resulting in this pregnancy. The reason she bleeding so much is that while the eggs were traveling one was stuck in the tube causing an ectopic pregnancy. We need to

terminate the pregnancy since its a high risk pregnancy. The ectopic pregnancy puts your wife and unborn child life at risk. We cannot save the other twin life sine they has been scaring in the tubes and lots of bleeding we need to suck out the excessive blood in the womb and that results in a termination of the pregnancy. If we do nothing your wife tube will bust causing her to lose her life. We have less than an hour to proceed with this. She looks at me waiting for a go ahead. I nodded and she gave me some papers and i signed and she left. I turned to look at my family, my mom was crying silently and my brother tried to come to me but i lifted my hands us and wales to the bathroom. I closed the door and i cried. I cried to the top of my lungs. I did not care if they hear me or not but i cried. Iv just agreed to terminate my own children. I cried till i could feel no more tears than went to wash my face and walked out of the bathroom to my family who were trying so hard to not look at me. My dad just placed his hands on my shoulders and some how i heard my mother praying.

Nailaa

I woke up feeling a little foggy and when i turned my head found Hlumelo sleeping by the couch next to my bed. Just then a nurse walked in carrying a try of medicine.

Nurse: Mrs Meqo you are up... she smiles and brings up the bed then pages the doctor in and right than Hlumelo wakes up. I love my husband but he looked awful. His eyes were puffy from crying. He was pink and he looked dead. He smiled but his smile didn't reach his eyes.

Hlumelo: Baby... he kissed my fore head. Dr Govender checked me and gave the nurse my clipboard. She injected some pain medicine than walked out. Only the Doctor and my husband were with me.

Me: uhm... am a big girl.. tell me what causing my husband to not look me in my eyes doc.. he snapped his head up and i saw tears falling from his face. Right there i knew it was bad. When Dr Govender told me about what happened and the procedure that took place to save my life. I wailed. We cried so much and the doctor excused herself. Hlumelo kept apologizing but it hurt. It hurt so much that my first time experience of being a mother was snatched from me before i could even be one. Yes we never planned for this pregnancy but I was willing and ready to be a mother. I saw what joy it brought to my husband and how much he wanted to be one. I cried thinking if God was punishing me for the sins iv been doing. Or maybe his punishing me for losing my traditions and teachings that my father has instill on me. But whatever this was whether is was a lesson or solely an experience that my husband and I had to go through. I

knew from the bottom of my heart that we going to be fine. Its may not be today or its may not be tomorrow but we were going to be fine. I knew this because I have a wonderful husband that I adore and that adores me too and we both in this for life.

5 years later

Nailaa

I woke up to the smell of coffee and i slowly opened my eyes to find white roses on the side of my bed and a card. I woke up and open the card:

" To the most beautiful woman that iv ever laid my eyes on. Thank you for your love and support and for making my dull life a whole lot colorful. Thank you for our two beautiful kids" and just as I close the card i heard little foot steps. In came my son holding a tray with pancakes and the most cuties smile ever. He gave it to me.

Son: happy woman's day mommy". He kisses me and than Hlumelo walks in carrying a tray with 3 cups and a sipping cup for our daughter who had the cutest smile carrying a small tray with one muffin. I smiled with tears rolling down my eyes. This

is what I've been blessed with. Beautiful kids and a wonderful husband. Life couldn't be any greater.

.....**The End**.....

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